



AEROMEXICO REPEATS AS MOST ON-TIME GLOBAL AIRLINE; QATAR AIRWAYS CLAIMS PLATINUM AWARD

News / Airlines



Aeromexico maintained a 90.02% on-time performance to claim the world's most on-time global airline title for the second consecutive year, according to Cirium's 2025 On-Time Performance Review released. Mexican carrier becomes only the second airline to achieve consecutive global wins since Cirium launched the program in 2009, operating 188,859 flights across 23 countries while maintaining industry-leading schedule reliability.

Aeromexico Holds Global Lead; Regional Champions Crowned

Aeromexico secured the global airline title with 90.02% on-time performance, holding off strong competition from Saudia in second place with 86.53% and SAS with 86.09% in third. The margin between first and third place was 3.93 percentage points, reflecting the strong performance of Aeromexico in 2025.

Regional winners included:

North America: Delta Air Lines won for the fifth consecutive year with 80.90% on-time performance

Europe: Iberia Express (International Airlines Group) defended its title for the third consecutive year with 88.94% on-time performance

Asia-Pacific: Philippine Airlines claimed the regional title for the first time with 83.12% on-time performance

Latin America: Copa Airlines achieved its 11th win, the most of any airline since Cirium's program launched in 2009 with 90.75% on-time performance

Middle East and Africa: Safair topped the regional rankings with 91.06% on-time performance

Qatar Airways Wins Airline Platinum Award

Qatar Airways captured Cirium's Platinum Award, recognizing the Doha-based carrier's operational excellence across its global hub network. The airline achieved 84.42% on-time performance across more than 198,303 flights spanning six continents.

Virgin Atlantic Claims Inaugural 'Most Improved' Award

Virgin Atlantic won Cirium's new 'Most Improved' award, demonstrating the largest year-over-year operational performance gain among global carriers. The UK-based airline improved its on-time performance from 74.01% in 2024 to 83.45% in 2025—a 9.44 percentage point increase year-over-year.

The new award recognizes airlines that have achieved meaningful operational scale (minimum 70% baseline performance) while delivering substantial improvements, ensuring the honor reflects genuine operational excellence rather than recovery from poor prior performance.

Strong Global Airport Performance in 2025

Santiago Arturo Merino Benitez International Airport wins the Large Airport category, with 87.04% of flights departing on time.

Panama's Tocumen International Airport won the Medium Airport category with 93.34% of flights departing on time. Ecuador's Guayaquil José Joaquín de Olmedo International Airport claimed the Small Airport title for the second year in a row with 91.47% of flights departing on time.

Istanbul Airport won Cirium's Airport Platinum Award, which evaluates operational complexity, passenger impact during disruptions, and growth trajectory. Last year's Airport Platinum winner was El Dorado International Airport in Bogotá, Colombia.

Industry Context and Analysis

Jeremy Bowen, Cirium CEO, said: "Maintaining consistent on-time performance requires sophisticated network planning, operational coordination, and the ability to recover quickly when irregularities occur. These results reflect the operational discipline that defines aviation's top performers."

"Qatar Airways' Platinum win is particularly significant because it demonstrates how a network carrier can maintain on-time performance across six continents while operating one of the

industry's most complex hub structures. Their 84.42% on-time rate over 198,303 flights sets a new benchmark for network carriers. Similarly, Copa's 11th win for the Latin American category and Delta's fifth consecutive North American win, reflects sustained operational focus that separates industry leaders from competitors."

About the On-Time Performance Review

Now in its 17th year, the Cirium On-Time Performance Review analyzes flight data from over 600 real-time sources including airlines, airports, global distribution systems, and civil aviation authorities. An independent advisory board of aviation industry veterans provides oversight and guidance.

An on-time flight arrives within 14:59 minutes of scheduled gate arrival time. Airport punctuality measures flights departing within 14:59 minutes of scheduled departure time. The Platinum Awards for both airlines and airports consider operational complexity, network scale, passenger impact during disruptions, and consistency throughout the year.

The Most Improved award, introduced in 2025, requires carriers to demonstrate at least 70% baseline on-time performance in the prior year to ensure recognition reflects operational excellence rather than recovery from poor performance.

Complete 2025 Rankings

Top 10 Global Airlines

Ranking	Airline	On-Time Arrival	Total Flights
1	(AM) Aeromexico	90.02%	188,859
2	(SV) Saudia	86.53%	202,864
3	(SK) SAS	86.09%	249,674
4	(AD) Azul	85.18%	304,625
5	(QR) Qatar Airways	84.42%	198,303
6	(IB) Iberia	83.52%	188,447
7	(LA) LATAM Airlines	82.40%	580,707
8	(AV) Avianca	81.73%	266,921

9	(TK) Turkish Airlines	81.41%	421,090
10	(DL) Delta Air Lines	80.90%	1,800,086

Top 10 North American Airlines

Ranking	Airline	On-Time Arrival	Total Flights
1	(DL) Delta Air Lines	80.90%	1,800,086
2	(AS) Alaska Airlines	79.20%	453,031
3	(NK) Spirit Airlines	78.83%	218,265
4	(UA) United Airlines	78.77%	1,732,450
5	(WN) Southwest Airlines	77.04%	1,422,405
6	(AA) American Airlines	76.43%	2,259,576
7	(B6) JetBlue	74.66%	313,318
8	(WS) WestJet	73.58%	205,501
9	(AC) Air Canada	73.26%	383,819
10	(F9) Frontier Airlines	72.14%	208,987

Top 10 European Airlines

Ranking	Airline	On-Time Arrival	Total Flights
1	(I2) Iberia Express	88.94%	37,119
2	(SK) SAS	86.09%	249,674

3	(OS) Austrian	83.74%	124,457
4	(IB) Iberia	83.52%	188,447
5	(VS) Virgin Atlantic	83.45%	26,359
6	(FI) Icelandair	83.23%	39,425
7	(VY) Vueling	82.20%	228,611
8	(TK) Turkish Airlines	81.41%	421,090
9	(D8, DY) Norwegian	80.96%	150,784
10	(AY) Finnair	79.67%	116,652

Top 10 Latin American Airlines

Ranking	Airline	On-Time Arrival	Total Flights
1	(CM) Copa Airlines	90.75%	133,748
2	(AM) Aeromexico	90.02%	188,859
3	(G3) Gol	87.75%	238,182
4	(AD) Azul	85.18%	304,625
5	(LA) LATAM Airlines	82.40%	580,707
6	(H2) Sky Airline	82.39%	55,116
7	(AV) Avianca	81.73%	266,921
8	(JA) JetSmart Chile	76.91%	90,460

9	(AR) Aerolineas Argentinas	76.54%	107,490
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10	<i>Only 9 airlines qualified in the region</i>		
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Top 10 Asia-Pacific Airlines

Ranking	Airline	On-Time Arrival	Total Flights
1	(PR) Philippine Airlines	83.12%	116,268
2	(NZ) Air New Zealand	79.29%	171,216
3	(NH) ANA	78.88%	309,998
4	(SQ) Singapore Airlines	78.58%	121,293
5	(JL) JAL	78.25%	313,410
6	(6E) IndiGo	78.12%	802,418
7	(CX) Cathay Pacific	76.78%	119,193
8	(VA) Virgin Australia	76.54%	155,038
9	(QF) Qantas	76.51%	276,859
10	(KE) Korean Air	75.34%	133,252

Top 10 Middle East and Africa Airlines

Ranking	Airline	On-Time Arrival	Total Flights
1	(FA) Safair	91.06%	62,805
2	(RJ) Royal Jordanian	90.73%	37,524

3	(F3) Flyadeal	86.54%	69,971
4	(SV) Saudia	86.53%	202,864
5	(4Z) Airlink	84.47%	84,361
6	(QR) Qatar Airways	84.42%	198,303
7	(WY) Oman Air	83.10%	38,828
8	(SA) South African Airways	81.26%	24,461
9	(EY) Etihad Airways	81.06%	100,620
10	(KU) Kuwait Airways	79.50%	29,977

Top 10 Large Airports

Ranking	Airport	On-Time Departure	Total Flights
1	(SCL) Santiago Arturo Merino Benitez Intl Airport	87.04%	153,326
2	(RUH) Riyadh King Khalid International Airport	86.81%	264,614
3	(MEX) Mexico City Benito Juárez International Airport	86.55%	295,737
4	(HNL) Honolulu International Airport	86.51%	156,139
5	(OSL) Oslo Gardermoen Airport	86.00%	204,882
6	(LIM) Lima Jorge Chavez International Airport	85.54%	183,137
7	(SLC) Salt Lake City International Airport	85.04%	243,848

8	(CPH) Copenhagen Airport	84.72%	236,903
9	(DOH) Doha Hamad International Airport	84.70%	251,864
10	(ARN) Stockholm Arlanda Airport	83.59%	181,238

Top 10 Medium Airports

Ranking	Airport	On-Time Departure	Total Flights
1	(PTY) Panama City Tocumen International Airport	93.34%	148,065
2	(BSB) Brasilia International Airport	88.36%	114,481
3	(JNB) Johannesburg O.R. Tambo International Airport	86.22%	189,542
4	(ITM) Osaka Itami International Airport	86.04%	136,489
5	(DMM) Dammam King Fahd International Airport	85.15%	94,768
6	(GIG) Rio de Janeiro Galeão International Airport	85.13%	115,384
7	(PDX) Portland International Airport	85.02%	159,964
8	(VCP) Viracopos-Campinas International Airport	84.55%	111,758
9	(SJC) San Jose Mineta International Airport	83.66%	99,182
10	(CNF) Belo Horizonte International Airport	83.57%	113,857

Top 10 Small Airports

Ranking	Airport	On-Time Departure	Total Flights
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1	(GYE) Guayaquil José Joaquín de Olmedo Intl Airport	91.47%	34,068
2	(SAL) El Salvador International Airport	90.28%	47,203
3	(SDU) Rio de Janeiro Santos Dumont Airport	89.67%	58,303
4	(SVG) Stavanger Airport	89.55%	38,894
5	(UIO) Quito Mariscal Sucre International Airport	89.45%	42,911
6	(CPT) Cape Town International Airport	88.72%	82,030
7	(KOA) Ellison Onizuka Kona Intl Airport at Keahole	88.48%	32,702
8	(SSA) Salvador International Airport	87.32%	55,594
9	(TRD) Trondheim Airport	86.95%	47,291
10	(AMM) Amman Queen Alia International Airport	86.82%	76,734

04 JANUARY 2026

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