# **Flights Data Exploration**

# by Abdullah Al Ajjan

# **Preliminary Wrangling**

This document explores a dataset containing the flights in the United States for April 2019 and April 2020.

## In [1]:

```
# import all packages and set plots to be embedded inline
import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sb

%matplotlib inline
```

Start with loading the data sets of the flights in april 2019 and april 2020

## In [2]:

```
# load the two datasets
df19 = pd.read_csv('2019.csv')
df20 = pd.read_csv('2020.csv')
```

## In [3]:

```
# In order to see all the columns
pd.set_option('display.max_columns', 500)
```

## In [4]:

```
# find the number of rows and columns
print(df19.shape)
print(df20.shape)
```

(612023, 24) (313382, 24)

## In [5]:

```
# Display April 2019 data df19.head()
```

## Out[5]:

	YEAR	MONTH	DAY_OF_WEEK	FL_DATE	OP_UNIQUE_CARRIER	ORIGIN	ORIGIN_STATE_NM	DEST	DEST_STATE_NM	CRS_DEP
0	2019	4	5	2019-04- 05	NK	LGA	New York	FLL	Florida	
1	2019	4	6	2019-04- 06	NK	LGA	New York	FLL	Florida	
2	2019	4	7	2019-04- 07	NK	LGA	New York	FLL	Florida	
3	2019	4	1	2019-04- 08	NK	LGA	New York	FLL	Florida	
4	2019	4	2	2019-04- 09	NK	LGA	New York	FLL	Florida	

## In [6]:

```
# Display April 2020 data df20.head()
```

#### Out[6]:

	YEAR	MONTH	DAY_OF_WEEK	FL_DATE	OP_UNIQUE_CARRIER	ORIGIN	ORIGIN_STATE_NM	DEST	DEST_STATE_NM	CRS_DEP_TI
0	2020	4	3	2020-04- 22	ОН	CLT	North Carolina	GNV	Florida	2
1	2020	4	4	2020-04- 23	ОН	CLT	North Carolina	GNV	Florida	2.
2	2020	4	5	2020-04- 24	ОН	CLT	North Carolina	GNV	Florida	2.
3	2020	4	6	2020-04- 25	ОН	CLT	North Carolina	GNV	Florida	2.
4	2020	4	7	2020-04- 26	ОН	CLT	North Carolina	GNV	Florida	2.
4										<b>+</b>

Cleaning the data set by removing all the rows that do not represent any issue within the flight (Delay, cancellation, deviation)

## In [7]:

```
# filling all Nan in the Delay, cancelled, and diverted column with 0

df19["ARR_DEL15"] = df19["ARR_DEL15"].fillna(0)

df19["CANCELLED"] = df19["CANCELLED"].fillna(0)

df19["DIVERTED"] = df19["DIVERTED"].fillna(0)

df20["ARR_DEL15"] = df20["ARR_DEL15"].fillna(0)

df20["CANCELLED"] = df20["CANCELLED"].fillna(0)

df20["DIVERTED"] = df20["DIVERTED"].fillna(0)
```

## In [8]:

```
# creating a new column to keep only the flights that encountered an issue
df19['TO_STUDY'] = df19["ARR_DEL15"] + df19["CANCELLED"] + df19["DIVERTED"]
df20['TO_STUDY'] = df20["ARR_DEL15"] + df20["CANCELLED"] + df20["DIVERTED"]
```

## In [9]:

```
# keeping only the flights that encountered an issue
df19 = df19[df19['TO_STUDY']!=0]
df20 = df20[df20['TO_STUDY']!=0]
```

## In [10]:

```
# displaying the new shape of the data sets
print(df19.shape)
print(df20.shape)
```

(124521, 25) (139414, 25)

Removing unneeded columns

## In [11]:

```
# no need for the below columns
df19.drop('TO_STUDY', axis = 1 , inplace=True)
df19.drop('Unnamed: 23', axis = 1 , inplace=True)
df20.drop('TO_STUDY', axis = 1 , inplace=True)
df20.drop('Unnamed: 23', axis = 1 , inplace=True)
```

## In [12]:

```
# Adding the 2 data sets to each other forming a new dataframe
df = pd.concat([df19, df20],ignore_index=True)
```

#### In [13]:

```
# Displaying the shape and the types of the columns of the new dataframe
print(df.shape)
print(df.dtypes)
```

(263935, 23)YFAR int64 MONTH int64 DAY OF WEEK int64 FL\_DATE object OP\_UNIQUE\_CARRIER object ORIGIN object ORIGIN\_STATE\_NM object DEST object DEST STATE NM object CRS DEP TIME int64 DEP TIME float64 DEP DELAY NEW float64 CRS\_ARR\_TIME int64 ARR\_TIME float64 ARR DELAY NEW float64 ARR DEL15 float64 CANCELLED float64 DIVERTED float64 CARRIER DELAY float64 WEATHER DELAY float64 NAS DELAY float64 SECURITY DELAY float64 LATE AIRCRAFT DELAY float64 dtype: object

Fixing the type of columns, combining the three columns into one which will show what issue did the flight have.

#### In [14]:

```
# changing the date from string format to a date format
df.FL_DATE = pd.to_datetime(df.FL_DATE)
```

## In [15]:

```
# change the name of the column to a new one that looks like the other columns
df.rename(columns={"ARR_DEL15": "DELAYED"}, inplace=True)
```

## In [16]:

## In [17]:

```
# Removing excess rows
df = df[df['value']!=0]
```

# In [18]:

```
# no need for the value column anymore
df.drop('value', axis = 1 , inplace=True)
```

#### In [19]:

```
# Displaying the shape and a sample of the dataframe
print(df.shape)
print(df.sample(5))
(263935, 21)
              MONTH DAY_OF_WEEK
                                      FL_DATE OP_UNIQUE_CARRIER ORIGIN
        YEAR
515439
        2020
                   4
                                2 2020-04-14
337577
                   4
                                6 2019-04-13
                                                                    DFW
        2019
                                                              AA
101126
        2019
                   4
                                1 2019-04-01
                                                              Y۷
                                                                    SBA
332106
        2019
                   4
                                3 2019-04-24
                                                              MO
                                                                    SPS
51711
        2019
                                7 2019-04-21
                                                              ΥX
                                                                    MIA
       ORIGIN STATE NM DEST DEST STATE NM CRS DEP TIME DEP TIME \
515439
                  Texas DAL
                                     Texas
                                                     1810
                                                                 NaN
337577
                  Texas
                         ATL
                                   Georgia
                                                     1425
                                                                 NaN
101126
            California
                         PHX
                                   Arizona
                                                     1915
                                                              2024.0
332106
                  Texas DFW
                                     Texas
                                                      656
                                                                 NaN
               Florida RIC
                                                              1528.0
51711
                                  Virginia
                                                     1511
        DEP_DELAY_NEW
                        CRS_ARR_TIME
                                       ARR_TIME
                                                 ARR_DELAY_NEW
                                                                 CARRIER_DELAY
515439
                   NaN
                                2045
                                            NaN
                                                            NaN
337577
                   NaN
                                1726
                                            NaN
                                                           NaN
                                                                           NaN
101126
                  69.0
                                2050
                                         2151.0
                                                           61.0
                                                                           0.0
                                 749
332106
                  NaN
                                            NaN
                                                           NaN
                                                                           NaN
51711
                  17.0
                                1732
                                         1753.0
                                                           21.0
                                                                          17.0
        WEATHER DELAY
                        NAS DELAY
                                   SECURITY DELAY
                                                    LATE AIRCRAFT DELAY
515439
                  NaN
                              NaN
                                               NaN
337577
                   NaN
                              NaN
                                               NaN
                                                                     NaN
                              0.0
                                               0.0
                                                                    61.0
101126
                   0.0
332106
                   NaN
                              NaN
                                               NaN
                                                                     NaN
51711
                   0.0
                              4.0
                                               0.0
                                                                     0.0
       ISSUE TYPE
515439
        CANCELLED
337577
        CANCELLED
101126
          DELAYED
332106
        CANCELLED
          DELAYED
51711
```

## In [20]:

# displaying some properties of the dataframe
display(df.describe())

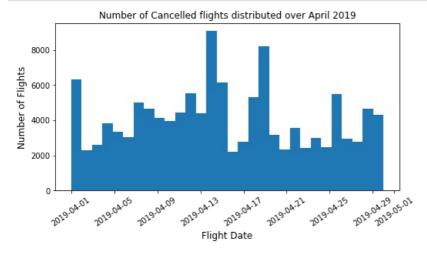
	YEAR	MONTH	DAY_OF_WEEK	CRS_DEP_TIME	DEP_TIME	DEP_DELAY_NEW	CRS_ARR_TIME	ARR_TIME	Α
count	263935.000000	263935.0	263935.000000	263935.000000	119799.000000	119792.000000	263935.000000	119143.000000	
mean	2019.528213	4.0	3.943653	1374.811810	1505.742385	66.670203	1529.960316	1534.239519	
std	0.499204	0.0	2.013923	476.621107	503.070647	92.177005	519.154674	635.188697	
min	2019.000000	4.0	1.000000	2.000000	1.000000	0.000000	1.000000	1.000000	
25%	2019.000000	4.0	2.000000	955.000000	1130.000000	19.000000	1136.000000	1155.000000	
50%	2020.000000	4.0	4.000000	1407.000000	1549.000000	42.000000	1600.000000	1655.000000	
75%	2020.000000	4.0	6.000000	1755.000000	1921.000000	83.000000	1939.000000	2034.000000	
max	2020.000000	4.0	7.000000	2359.000000	2400.000000	2079.000000	2359.000000	2400.000000	*
4									

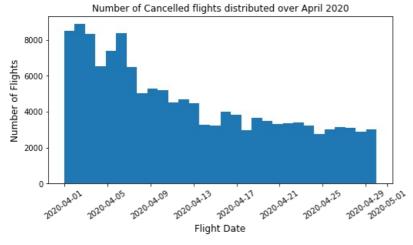
# **Univariate Exploration**

Finding how the time of month effects the flights.

#### In [21]:

```
# Plotting 2 Histograms showing the relation between the day of month and the number of flight issues in both 201
9 and 2020
plt.figure(figsize=[8, 4])
plt.hist(data = df[df.YEAR==2019], x = 'FL_DATE', bins=30)
plt.xlabel('Flight Date', fontsize=12)
plt.ylabel('Number of Flights', fontsize=12)
plt.title('Number of Cancelled flights distributed over April 2019')
plt.xticks(rotation=35)
plt.show()
plt.figure(figsize=[8, 4])
plt.hist(data = df[df.YEAR==2020], x = 'FL_DATE', bins=30)
plt.xlabel('Flight Date', fontsize=12)
plt.ylabel('Number of Flights', fontsize=12)
plt.title('Number of Cancelled flights distributed over April 2020')
plt.xticks(rotation=35)
plt.show();
```





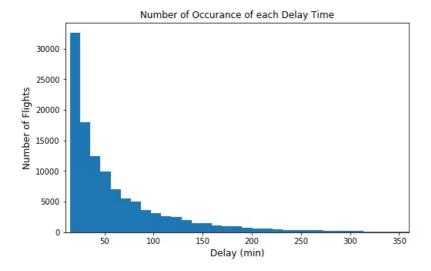
The flights with issued were uniformly spread with some peaks in 2019 yet they were decreasing in 2020, this decrease could be due to covid 19 restrictions.

#### Delay time

#### In [22]:

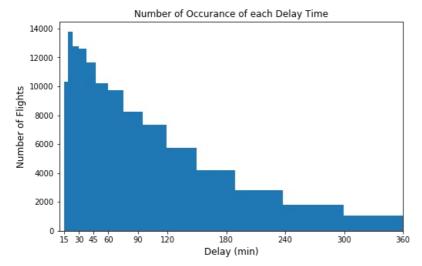
```
# plotting a histogram showing how often each delay time occurs
plt.figure(figsize=[8, 5])
plt.hist(data = df, x = 'ARR_DELAY_NEW', bins=200)
plt.xlim(10, 360)
plt.xlabel('Delay (min)', fontsize=12)
plt.ylabel('Number of Flights', fontsize=12)
plt.title ('Number of Occurance of each Delay Time')
plt.show();
```

/Users/abdullah/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/numpy/lib/histograms.py:839: RuntimeWarnin
g: invalid value encountered in greater\_equal
 keep = (tmp\_a >= first\_edge)
/Users/abdullah/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.7/site-packages/numpy/lib/histograms.py:840: RuntimeWarnin
g: invalid value encountered in less\_equal
 keep &= (tmp a <= last edge)</pre>



## In [23]:

```
#there's a long tail in the distribution, so let's put it on a log scale instead
bins = 10 ** np.arange(np.log10(15), np.log10(360)+0.1, 0.1)
plt.figure(figsize=[8, 5])
plt.hist(data = df, x = 'ARR_DELAY_NEW', bins=bins)
plt.xlim(10, 360)
plt.xlabel('Delay (min)', fontsize=12)
plt.ylabel('Number of Flights', fontsize=12)
plt.title ('Number of Occurance of each Delay Time')
tick_locs=[15,30,45,60,90,120,180,240,300,360]
plt.xticks(tick_locs)
plt.show();
```



for the above the graph there are a few amount of outliers therefor a limit was set to up to 6 hours which is higher than the 3rd quartile. Moreover, the bins were taken by log to make the figure more visable. This figure shows that most of the delays were between 15 and 60 mins, some of them were up to and hour and a half, 2hours and even more.

#### In [24]:

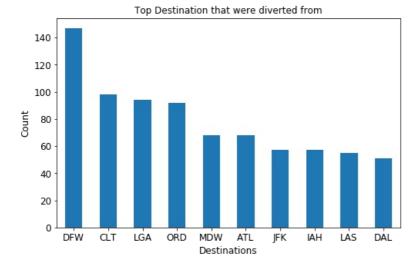
```
# studying only the diverted flights
df_diverted = df[df['ISSUE_TYPE']== 'DIVERTED']
```

#### In [25]:

```
# finding where every diverted flight was heading
DESTDIV= df_diverted.DEST.value_counts(ascending = False).head(10)
```

#### In [26]:

```
# Creating a bar chart showing how many Divertion happened to every destination
DESTDIV.plot(kind='bar', figsize=(8,5), label= 'count' ,rot=0, fontsize=12)
plt.title('Top Destination that were diverted from')
plt.ylabel('Count', fontsize=12)
plt.xlabel('Destinations', fontsize=12);
```



From the above Graph it's noticable that flights heading to Dallas, Chicago, Charlotte, Atlanta, Denver, Pheonix, Las Vegas, Queens, Los Angeles, and Houston are most likely to be diverted. This might be due to the high number of flights that these Airports receive.

#### Influence of Pandemic

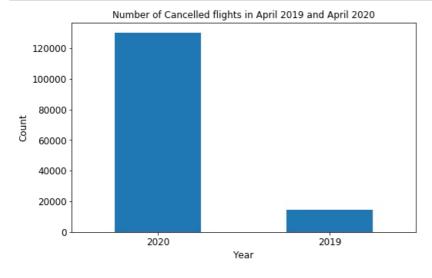
#### In [27]:

```
# Showing only the cancelled flights

CANCELLED_FLIGHTS = df[df['ISSUE_TYPE']=='CANCELLED'].YEAR.value_counts()
```

# In [28]:

```
# Creating a bar chart to show the difference between the number of cancelled flights in April 2019 and April 202
0
CANCELLED_FLIGHTS.plot(kind='bar', figsize=(8,5), label= 'count', rot=0, fontsize=12)
plt.title('Number of Cancelled flights in April 2019 and April 2020')
plt.ylabel('Count', fontsize=12)
plt.xlabel('Year', fontsize=12);
```



We Can see that the number of cancelled flights in 2020 is much higher than that in 2019 this is mainly due to the lockdown all over the United States.

#### What are the delays due to?

```
In [29]:
```

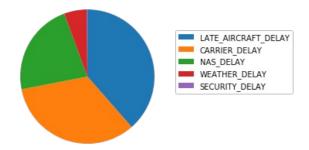
```
# Showing only the Delayed flights
df_delayed = df[df['ISSUE_TYPE']== 'DELAYED']
```

## In [30]:

```
# keeping only the 5 columns that represent the reason of the delay
df_delayed = df_delayed[['SECURITY_DELAY','LATE_AIRCRAFT_DELAY','CARRIER_DELAY','WEATHER_DELAY','NAS_DELAY']]
```

#### In [31]:

Delay time due to different factors



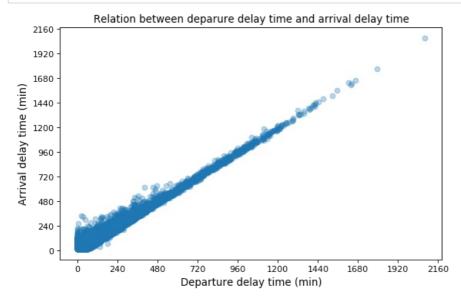
Flights are delayed the most from late aircrafts, carrier comes second in delay time, National Airspace System comes third right before weather and security delays.

# **Bivariate Exploration**

How do the departure delay time and the arrival delay time correlate?

#### In [32]:

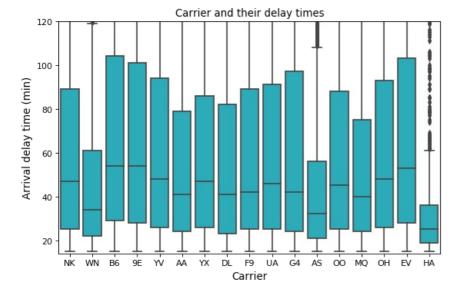
```
# Plotting a Scatter plot showing the relavance between departure delay time and arrival delay time plt.figure(figsize=(8, 5), dpi=80)
plt.scatter(data = df, x = 'DEP_DELAY_NEW', y = 'ARR_DELAY_NEW', alpha=0.3)
plt.title('Relation between departure delay time and arrival delay time')
plt.ylabel('Arrival delay time (min)', fontsize=12)
plt.xlabel('Departure delay time (min)', fontsize=12)
plt.xticks(np.arange(0,df.DEP_DELAY_NEW.max()+240,240))
plt.yticks(np.arange(0,df.ARR_DELAY_NEW.max()+240,240));
```



We can say that there is a high positive correlation between the arrival delay time and the departure delay time. This shows that most of the delays happen before the airplane takes off.

#### In [33]:

```
# Creating a box plot to find which carriers are responsible for the highest delay times
base_color = sb.color_palette()[9]
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 5), dpi=80)
sb.boxplot(data = df, x = 'OP_UNIQUE_CARRIER', y = 'ARR_DELAY_NEW', color = base_color)
plt.title('Carrier and their delay times')
plt.ylabel('Arrival delay time (min)', fontsize=12)
plt.xlabel('Carrier', fontsize=12)
plt.ylim(14, 120);
```



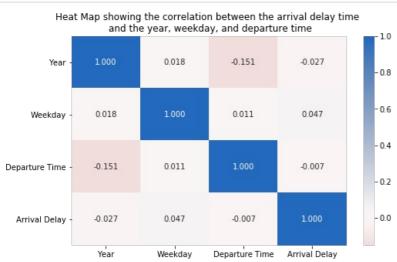
For the above box plot, JetBlue and Endeavor Air have the highest median and ones of the highest Q3, Express Jet is right net to them as well. So, we can say that these three carriers are the ones who get the most delayed time.

Seeking the correlation between Day of week, debarture time, and an issue occuring on a flight.

### In [34]:

```
# Creating a List of the numeric variables
NUMVARS = ['YEAR', 'DAY_OF_WEEK', 'CRS_DEP_TIME' , 'ARR_DELAY_NEW']
```

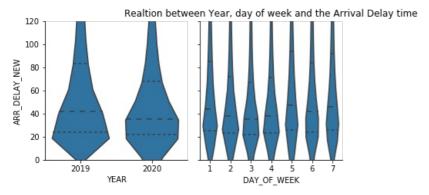
## In [35]:



We can notice that there is a very small correlation between the delay and the day of week, year, and the departure time.

## Let's find how the year and day of week affects the Delay time

## In [36]:

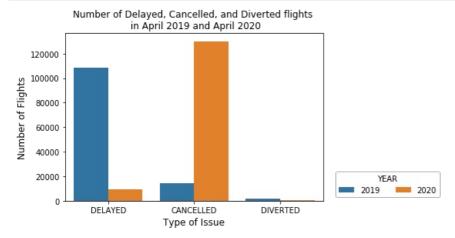


In 2020 the delay time was greater and more occurant than 2019. Regarding the day of the week, all the day have similar delay times and delay occurance, yet in the middle of the week delays occure more often.

Lets see what issue type did covid 19 produce.

#### In [37]:

```
# Creating a Bar chart to see what issue type occured the most in 2019 and 2020
ax = sb.countplot(data = df, x = 'ISSUE_TYPE', hue = 'YEAR')
plt.title('Number of Delayed, Cancelled, and Diverted flights \n in April 2019 and April 2020')
ax.legend(loc = 8, ncol = 3, framealpha = 1, title = 'YEAR', bbox_to_anchor=(1, 0, 0.5, 0.8))
ax.set_ylabel('Number of Flights', fontsize = 12)
ax.set_xlabel('Type of Issue', fontsize = 12);
```



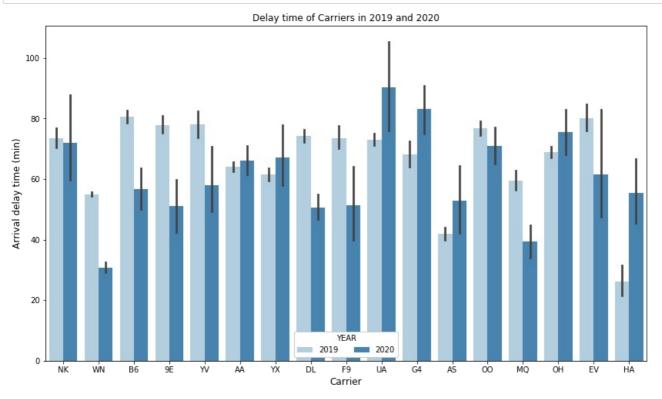
According to the bar graph above, due to covid 19, the number of cancelled flights increased drastically, while the number of delayed flights went down which is due to the number of cancelled flights.

# **Multivariate Exploration**

Below we'll find out how did the carriers handle the pandemic and how did the delay time change.

#### In [38]:

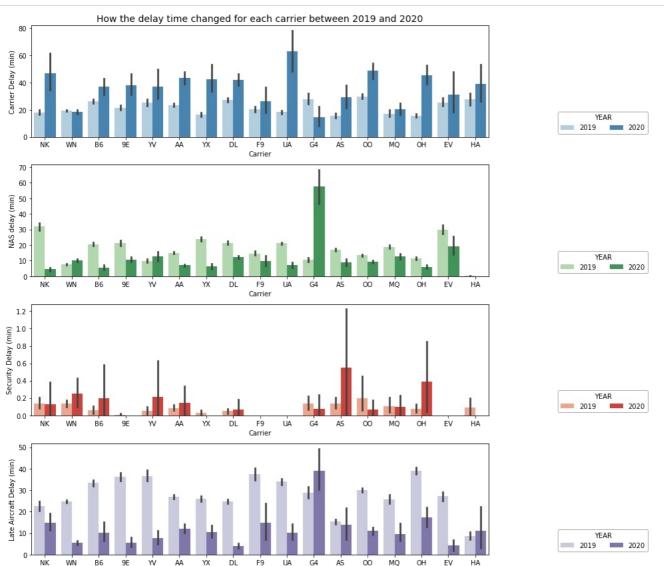
```
# Creating a barplot to see how the carrier's delay time changed between 2019 and 2020
plt.figure(figsize = [14, 8])
sb.barplot(data = df, x = 'OP_UNIQUE_CARRIER', y = 'DEP_DELAY_NEW', hue = 'YEAR', palette = 'Blues')
plt.title('Delay time of Carriers in 2019 and 2020')
plt.ylabel('Arrival delay time (min)', fontsize=12)
plt.xlabel('Carrier', fontsize=12)
plt.legend(loc = 8, ncol = 3, framealpha = 1, title = 'YEAR');
```



We can notice that most carriers improved their time management, though some didn't, yet most of them had a less delay time in 2020 than 2019

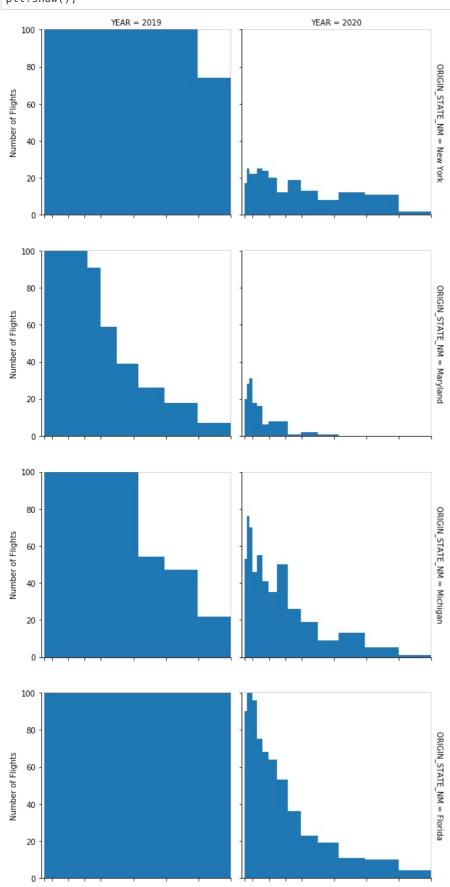
#### In [39]:

```
plt.figure(figsize = [14, 12])
plt.subplot(4, 1, 1)
ax = sb.barplot(data = df, x = 'OP_UNIQUE_CARRIER', y = 'CARRIER_DELAY', hue = 'YEAR', palette = 'Blues')
ax.legend(loc = 8, ncol = 3, framealpha = 1, title = 'YEAR', bbox to anchor=(1, 0, 0.5, 0.8))
ax.set ylabel('Carrier Delay (min)')
ax.set xlabel('Carrier')
plt.title('How the delay time changed for each carrier between 2019 and 2020', fontsize=14)
plt.subplot(4, 1, 2)
ax = sb.barplot(data = df, x = 'OP\_UNIQUE\_CARRIER', y = 'NAS\_DELAY', hue = 'YEAR', palette = 'Greens') ax.legend(loc = 8, ncol = 3, framealpha = 1, title = 'YEAR', bbox_to_anchor=(1, 0, 0.5, 0.8))
ax.set_ylabel('NAS delay (min)')
ax.set xlabel('Carrier')
plt.subplot(4, 1, 3)
ax = sb.barplot(data = df, x = 'OP_UNIQUE_CARRIER', y = 'SECURITY_DELAY', hue = 'YEAR', palette = 'Reds')
ax.legend(loc = 8, ncol = 3, framealpha = 1, title = 'YEAR', bbox \overline{to} anchor=(1, 0, 0.5, 0.8))
ax.set_ylabel('Security Delay (min)')
ax.set xlabel('Carrier')
plt.subplot(4, 1, 4)
ax = sb.barplot(data = df, x = 'OP\_UNIQUE\_CARRIER', y = 'LATE\_AIRCRAFT\_DELAY', hue = 'YEAR', palette = 'Purples') ax.legend(loc = 8, ncol = 3, framealpha = 1, title = 'YEAR', bbox_to_anchor=(1, 0, 0.5, 0.8))
ax.set ylabel('Late Aircraft Delay (min)')
ax.set xlabel('Carrier')
plt.tight layout();
```

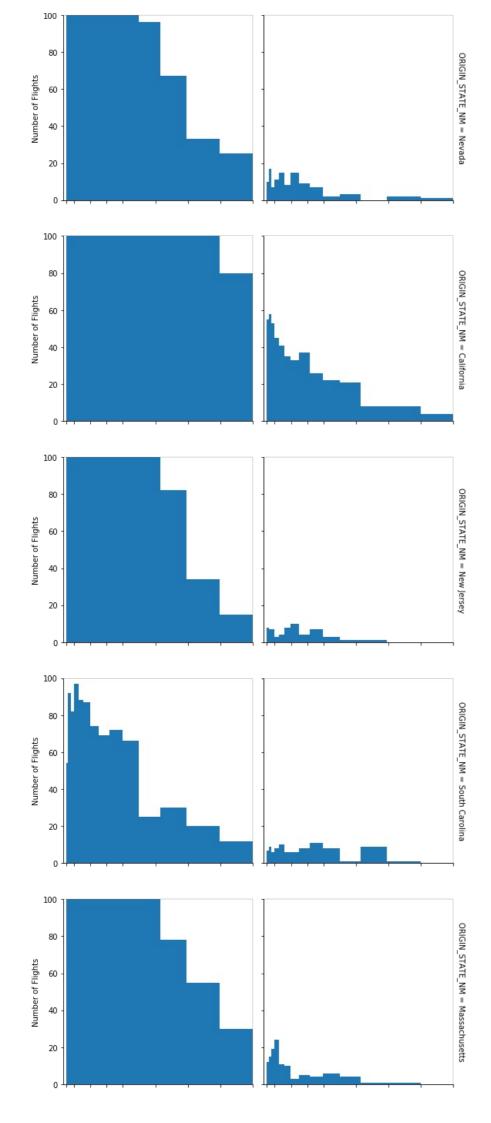


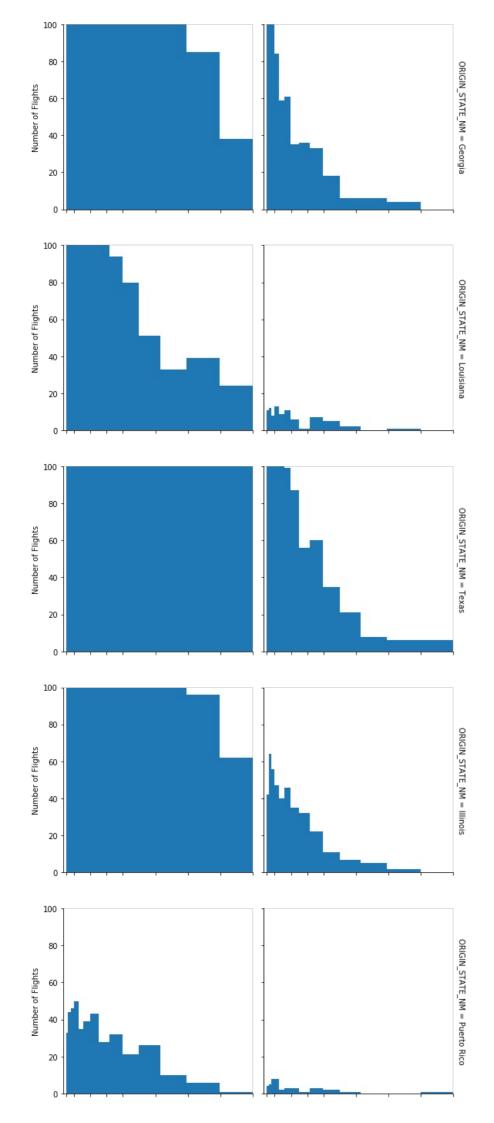
Comparing between 2019 and 2020, in overall the delay time for most of the carriers in 2019 was more than in 2020. Yet, the carrier delay time and security delay time was more in 2020 than 2019 this is probably due to all the procedures that should be taken due to the pandemic.

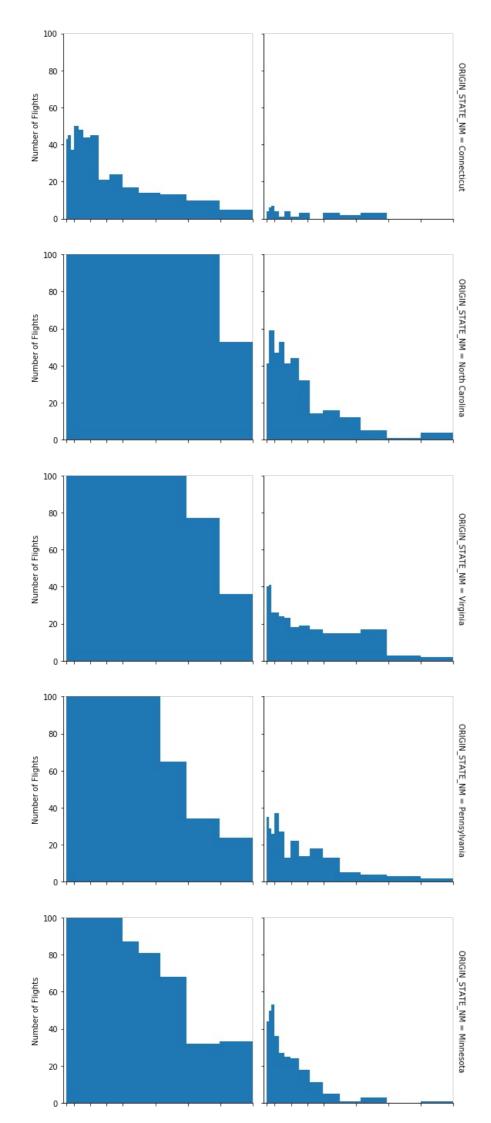
## In [40]:

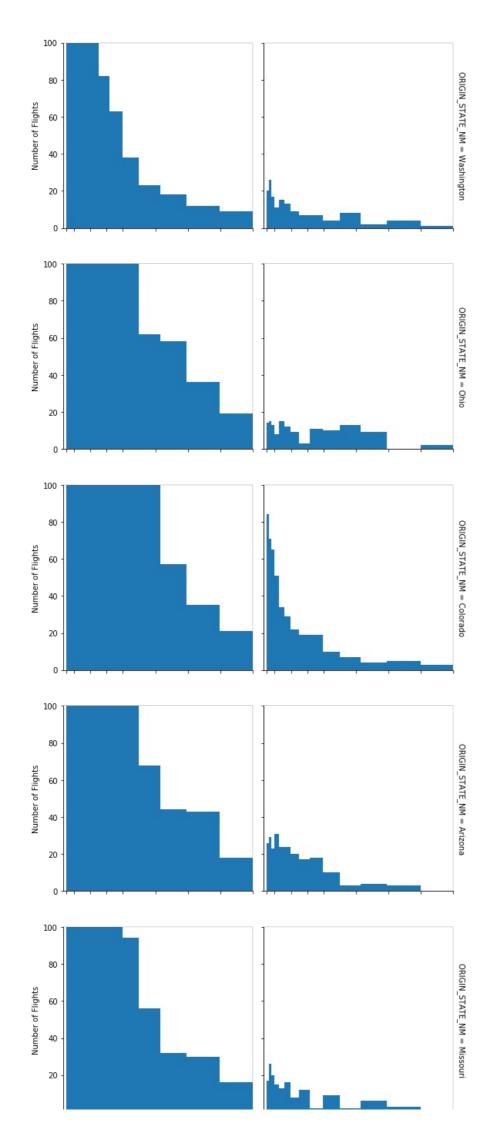


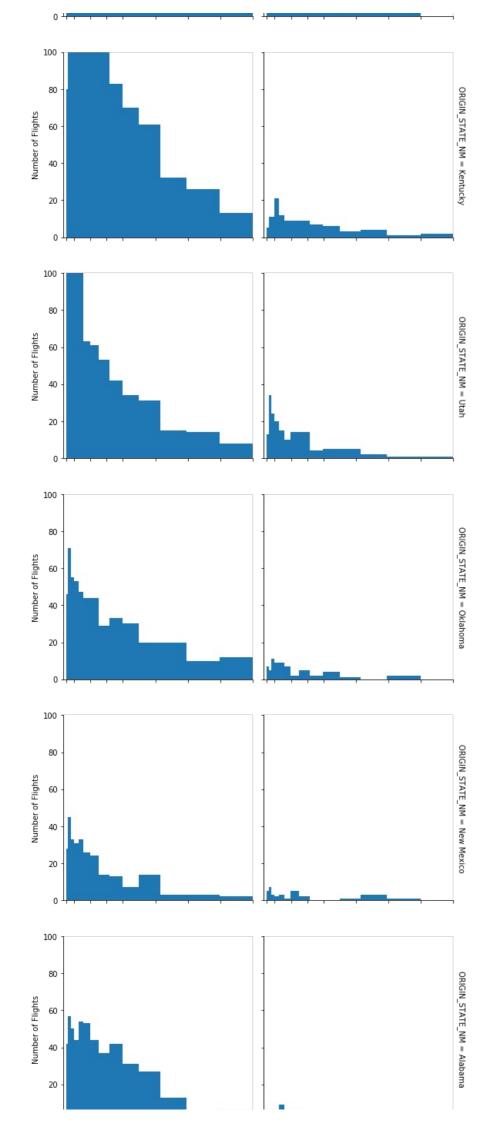
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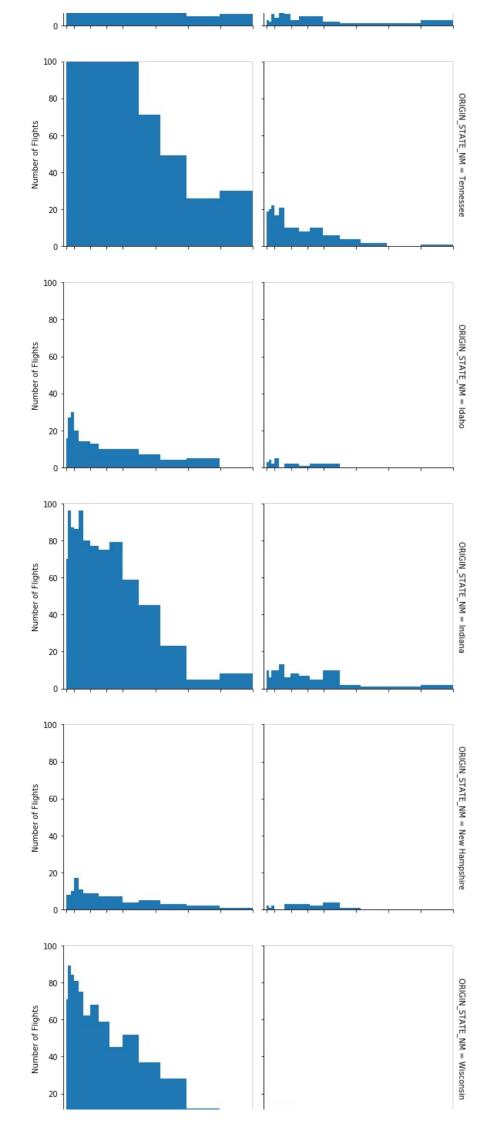


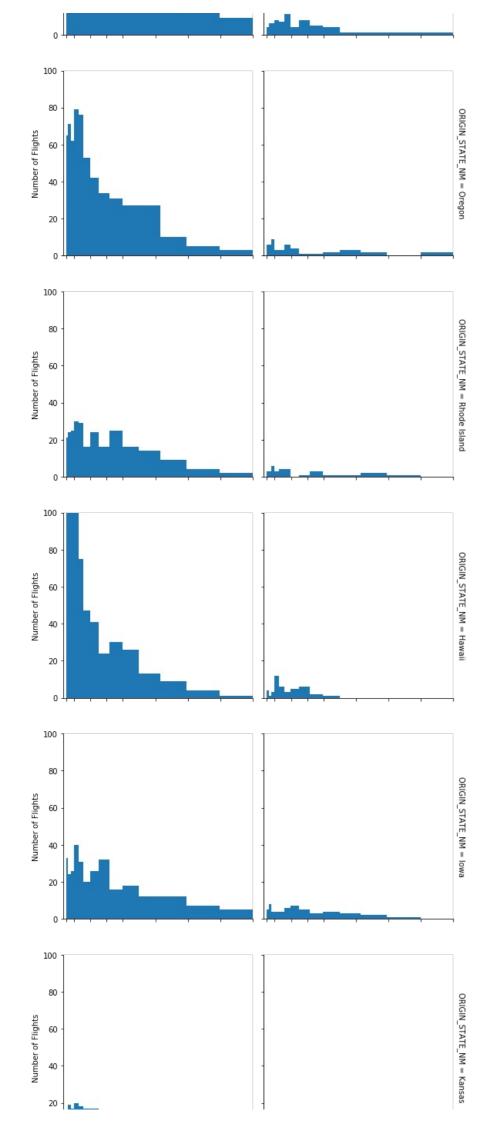


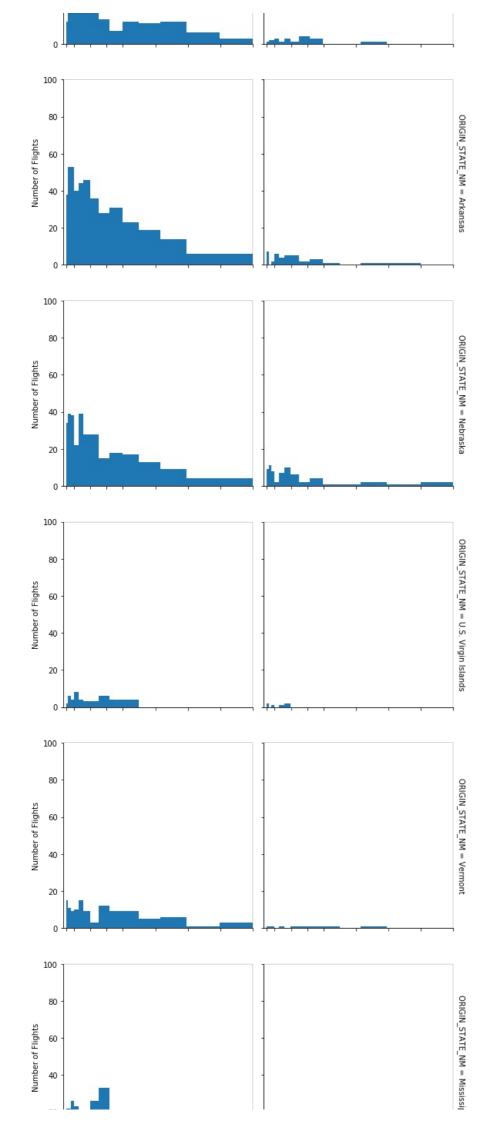


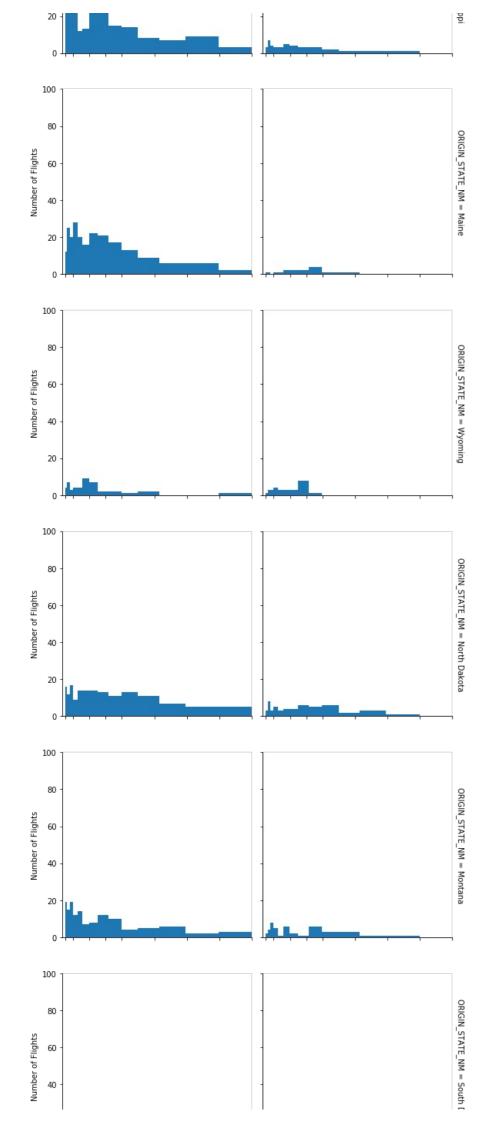


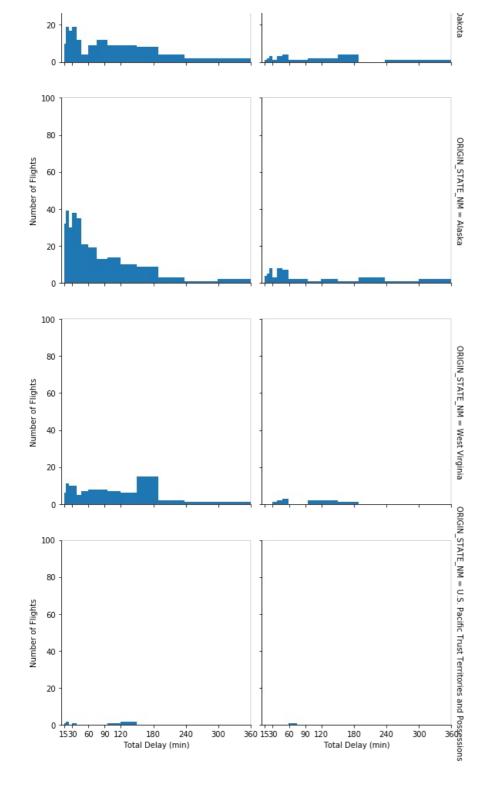






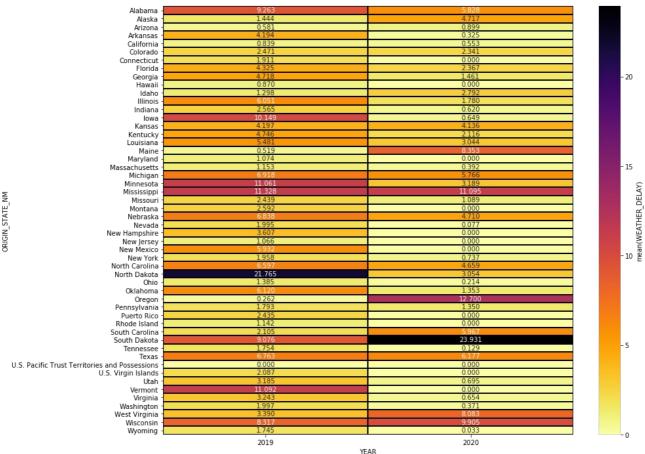






From the above facit grid we can notice that in 2019 North Dakota had on average the largest amount of delay time followed by Mississippi, Kansas, and West Viginia. While Washington, Alaska, and Hawaii had on average the least amount of delay time. However, in 2020 U.S. Pacific Trust Territories and Possessions was leading the list ahead of Vermont, Hawaii, and West Virgina. This drastic change could be due to covid 19.

#### In [41]:



Regarding the Delays due to weather conditions, in 2019 North Dakota was the most affected from weather conditions next was Mississippi and Vermont while Maine, Oregon, and U.S. Pacific Trust Territories and Possessions were the least affected. However, in 2020 South Dakota was the most affected followed by Oregon, and Mississippi. On the other hand, Maryland, Hawaii, and Connecticut were the least affected.