**Albany Airport Delays and Cancellations**

When should you book your flight for? Should you expect a flight delay? And if your flight gets delayed, how long should you expect the delay to really be? I gathered stats on the Albany International Airport from 2024, using data from the Bureau of Transportation Statistics, which can answer these questions. I looked at flight delays, cancellations, delay length, and more for departures and arrivals. I also looked at stats for the 3 most popular airlines at the airport. Note: The flight delays only look at delays on flights that took off, not delays on flights that were cancelled.

**Table of Contents**

SECTION

1 Departures 2

Departures by Quarter 3

Departures by Month 5

Departures by Part of Day 7

Departures by Hour 9

Departures by 10 Most Popular Destinations 12

2 Departures Delayed 15 Minutes 13

Departures Delayed 15 Minutes by Quarter 14

Departures Delayed 15 Minutes by Month 15

Departures Delayed 15 Minutes by Part of Day 16

Departures Delayed 15 Minutes by Hour 17

Departures Delayed 15 Minutes by 10 Most Popular Destinations 18

3 Departures by Airline 20

Departures Cancelled by Airline 21

Departure Delay Length by Airline 22

Departures Delayed 15 Minutes by Airline 23

4 Southwest Departures 23

Southwest Departures by Quarter 25

Southwest Departures by Month 27

Southwest Departures by Part of Day 29

Southwest Departures by Hour 31

Southwest Departures by Destination City 33

5 Conclusion 34

**Departures**

Albany International Airport had 15,608 flights depart in 2024. The median was 0 minutes departed after the scheduled time. On average, flights departed 17 minutes delayed. (The median should be a better estimate of the typical delay time because 19% of the delay lengths were outliers and when that is above 5%, the median is likely better than the mean for typical delay length. This is because a couple large delay times can make the mean large and bigger than the typical delay length).

A pie chart with a blue circle with orange and blue text

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A white background with black text

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

The above pie chart is for all flights scheduled to depart Albany International Airport. The vast majority departed and were not delayed at least 15 minutes. 81% of flights not delayed at least 15 minutes is higher than the percent of flights not delayed at least 15 minutes from all airports tracked in 2024 (78%).

**Departures by Quarter:**

A graph with different colored rectangles

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A screenshot of a computer screen

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

The above box plots plot departed flights in each quarter (except outliers – very high delay times). The worst quarter to depart Albany International Airport was quarter 3 with an average of about 20 minutes delayed, while quarter 4 was the best with 75% of departed flights in quarter 4 delayed about 4 minutes or less (The boxes represent 75% of the departures. In a box plot 50% of the data is in the box and 25% is to the left of it. Since there is no data to the left of the boxes, 75% of the data is in the boxes. Here is a guide for more information on reading box plots - [Box Plot Explained: Interpretation, Examples, & Comparison](https://www.simplypsychology.org/boxplots.html))

A graph of flight departures

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A white background with black text

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Another way to evaluate delays by quarter is to look at the percent of departed flights that were delayed at least 15 minutes. The worst quarter to depart was quarter 3 with 20% of scheduled departures and departed flights delayed at least 15 minutes, while quarter 4 was the best with 16% of scheduled departures and departed flights delayed at least 15 minutes. Quarter 4 was also the best quarter for avoiding cancellations.

**Departures by Month**

**A screenshot of a computer

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**A graph of a number of different colored bars

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

The worst month to depart Albany International Airport based on mean was December with an average of about 28 minutes delayed, while September was the best with 75% of departed flights in September delayed about 0 minutes.

A graph of flight departures

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A screenshot of a computer screen

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Another way to evaluate delays by month is to look at the percent of departed flights that were delayed at least 15 minutes. The worst month to depart was July with 27% of departed flights delayed at least 15 minutes and 3% of scheduled departures cancelled. The best month was November with 11% of departed and scheduled flights delayed at least 15 minutes and 0% of flights cancelled. (The percents are different from the table and graph for August, May, and July because the table is the percent of all scheduled departures delayed 15 minutes, while the graph is the percent of scheduled departures that were not cancelled delayed 15 minutes).

**Departures by Part of Day**

A graph with a number of squares and a number of black dots

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A screenshot of a computer code

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

The worst part of the day to depart Albany International Airport was the evening with an average of 25 minutes delayed, while the morning was the best with an average of 13 minutes delayed and 75% of departed flights in the morning delayed about 0 minutes.

A graph with a yellow and blue rectangle

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A white background with black text

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Another way to evaluate delays by part of the day is to look at the percent of departed flights that were delayed at least 15 minutes. The worst part of the day to depart was still the evening with 28% of departed and scheduled flights delayed at least 15 minutes and 2% of scheduled departures cancelled. The best part of the day to depart was still the morning with 11% of departed and scheduled flights delayed at least 15 minutes.

A graph of time and time

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**Departures by Hour**

A graph with a box

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A screenshot of a computer screen

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Based on mean minutes delayed, the worst hour to depart Albany International Airport was the 2200 hour (10-10:59 pm) with an average and median of 501 minutes delayed for departed flights! Although, there were only 2 flights at that hour for the year. The best hour to depart was the 7am hour with an average delay of about 10 minutes for departed flights. (If you look closely at the box plots, the mean for the 7am hour is slightly lower than the mean for the 6am hour.)

A graph of flight departures

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A screenshot of a computer screen

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Another way to evaluate delays by hour is to look at the percent of departed flights that were delayed at least 15 minutes. The worst hour to depart was still the 2200 hour (10-10:59pm) with 50% of departed flights delayed at least 15 minutes. But that hour had 0% of scheduled departures cancelled, while 1900 hour (7-7:59 pm) had 3% of them cancelled. The best hour was 7am with 7% of departed and scheduled flights delayed at least 15 minutes. The best hour based on the hour with no cancellations and smallest percent of scheduled flights delayed 15-minutes was 10am with 0% of scheduled departures cancelled and 11% of departed and scheduled flights delayed at least 15 minutes.

**Departures by 10 Most Popular Destinations**

A screenshot of a computer screen

AI-generated content may be incorrect.A graph with different colored bars

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Out of the ten most popular cities to fly to from Albany International Airport, departed flights to Newark, NJ had the smallest mean minutes delayed, being delayed 10 minutes on average, and 75% of departed flights to Newark, NJ were delayed about 0 minutes. Flights to Charlotte, NC had the highest mean minutes delayed, being delayed 25 minutes on average.

A graph of flight departures

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A screen shot of a plane

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Another way to evaluate delays to the ten most popular destinations is to look at the percent of departed flights that were delayed at least 15 minutes. Departed flights to NYC had the smallest percentage of flights delayed at least 15 minutes, 9% of flights were delayed at least 15 minutes. But it had 3% of scheduled departures cancelled, while 0% of flights to Baltimore, MD were cancelled. Flights to Orlando, FL had the highest percent of 15-minute delays, 25% of flights were delayed at least 15 minutes.

**Departures Delayed 15 Minutes**

Albany International Airport had 2,799 flights depart that were delayed at least 15 minutes in 2024. The median was 43 minutes departed after the scheduled time for these flights. On average, flights departed 88 minutes delayed. (The median should be a better estimate of the typical delay time because 9% of the delay minutes variable’s values were outliers and when that is above 5%, the median is likely better than the mean. This is because a couple large delay times can make the mean large and bigger than the typical delay length.)

A graph showing a few different colored rectangular objects

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**Departures Delayed 15 Minutes by Quarter**

A screenshot of a computer screen

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**Departures Delayed 15 Minutes by Month**

A graph of a delay

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**A screenshot of a computer screen

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**

**Departures Delayed 15 Minutes by Part of Day**

A diagram of a delay

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A white background with black text

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A graph of a time

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**Departures Delayed 15 Minutes by Hour**

A graph with a box and a number of points

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**A screenshot of a computer

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**

**Departures Delayed 15 Minutes by 10 Most Popular Destinations**

A graph of a delay

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A graph with a black dot

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**A screenshot of a computer screen

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**

A pie chart with numbers and text

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**Departures by Airline**

Southwest, Piedmont Airlines, and American Airlines were the most popular airlines for scheduled departures from Albany International Airport. Southwest more than doubled the percent of scheduled departures that Piedmont had. (Percent of Scheduled Flights is number of scheduled flights for the airline divided by total number of scheduled flights from Albany International Airport)

**Departures Cancelled by Airline**

A graph of flight cancellation

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A screenshot of a flight schedule

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**Departure Delay Length by Airline**

A graph of a number of blue and yellow bars

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**A screenshot of a computer

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**

**A graph of flight departures

AI-generated content may be incorrect.Departures Delayed 15 Minutes by Airline**

A screenshot of a flight schedule

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**Southwest Departures**

On average, Southwest flights in 2024 departing Albany International Airport were 14 minutes delayed, with a median of 0 minutes delayed. (The median should be a better estimate of the typical delay time because 14% of the delay minutes variable’s values were outliers and when that is above 5%, the median is likely better than the mean. This is because a couple large delay times can make the mean large and bigger than the typical delay length.)

A pie chart with text on it

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A white background with black text

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**Southwest Departures by Quarter**

A graph with different colored rectangles

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A screenshot of a computer screen

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A graph of blue and yellow bars

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A white background with black text

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**Southwest Departures by Month**

A graph of a time

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A screenshot of a computer screen

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A graph of flight departures

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A screenshot of a computer screen

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A graph showing a few different colored squares

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**Southwest Departures by Part of Day**

**A white background with black text

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**

A graph with a yellow square and blue squares

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A white background with black text

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**Southwest Departures by Hour**

A graph with different colored bars

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**A screenshot of a computer

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**

A graph of flight departures

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

A screenshot of a computer screen

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**Southwest Departures by Destination City**

A graph of a time

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**A screenshot of a computer screen

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**

A graph of flight departures

AI-generated content may be incorrect.A screenshot of a computer

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**Conclusion**

Based on the data I gathered, the best time to depart Albany International Airport in 2024 was February in the morning at 6-6:59 am. February, the morning, and the 6am hour had the lowest means for their respective groups. If you are flying in 2025, it could be wise to choose this time.

If you were flying Southwest, the best time to depart Albany International Airport in 2024 was November in the morning at 9-9:59am. November, the morning, and the 9am hour had the lowest means for their respective groups. If you are flying in 2025, it could be wise to choose this time.