Fighting Flight (Delays)

Backstory

I was a world traveller once - when I was a teenager.

I grew up in Hong Kong and by the time I was 13 I had flown across the world and visited many Countries. I knew how to fly! I didn't need a stupid chaperone. YPTA (Young Person Travelling Alone) just slowed me down!

… Except for that one time in Tokyo Narita Airport ...

It all started with a *flight delay*

… actually it started with *3 flight delays*.

It was Christmas I was supposed to meet my brother (I was 17, he was 13) in Los Angeles International LAX where he flew in from Massachusetts (BOS). Apparently his flight was iced in...
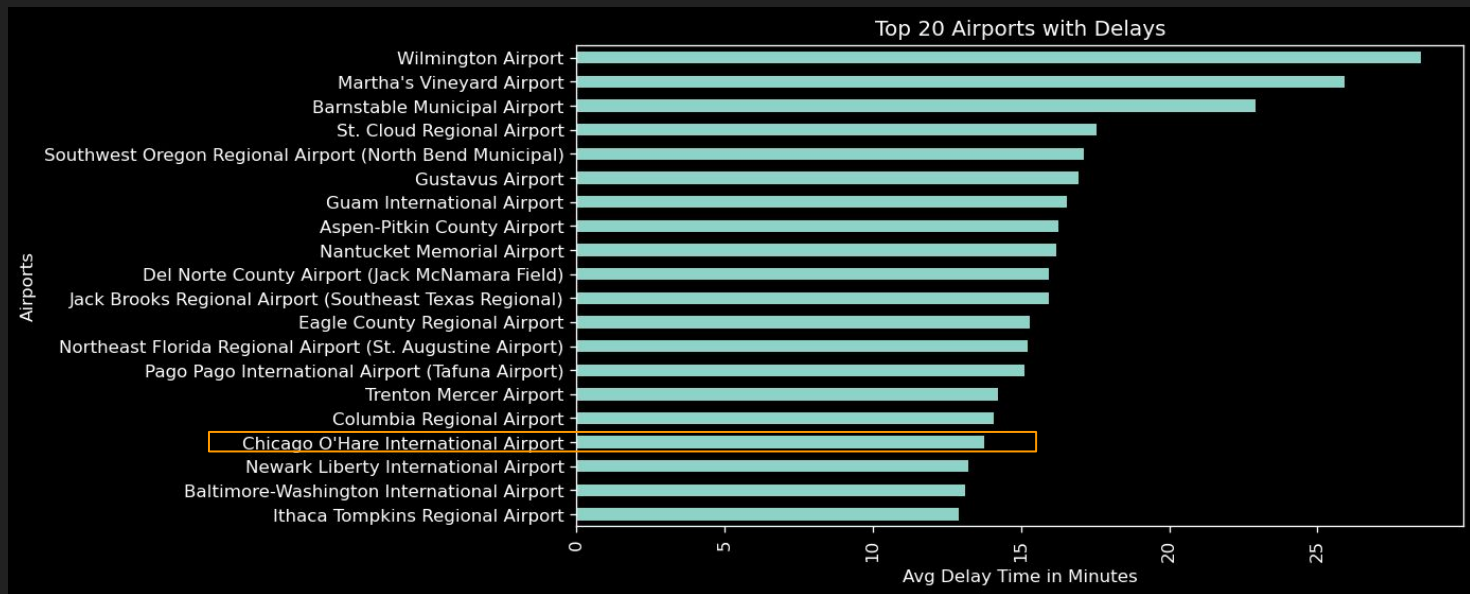
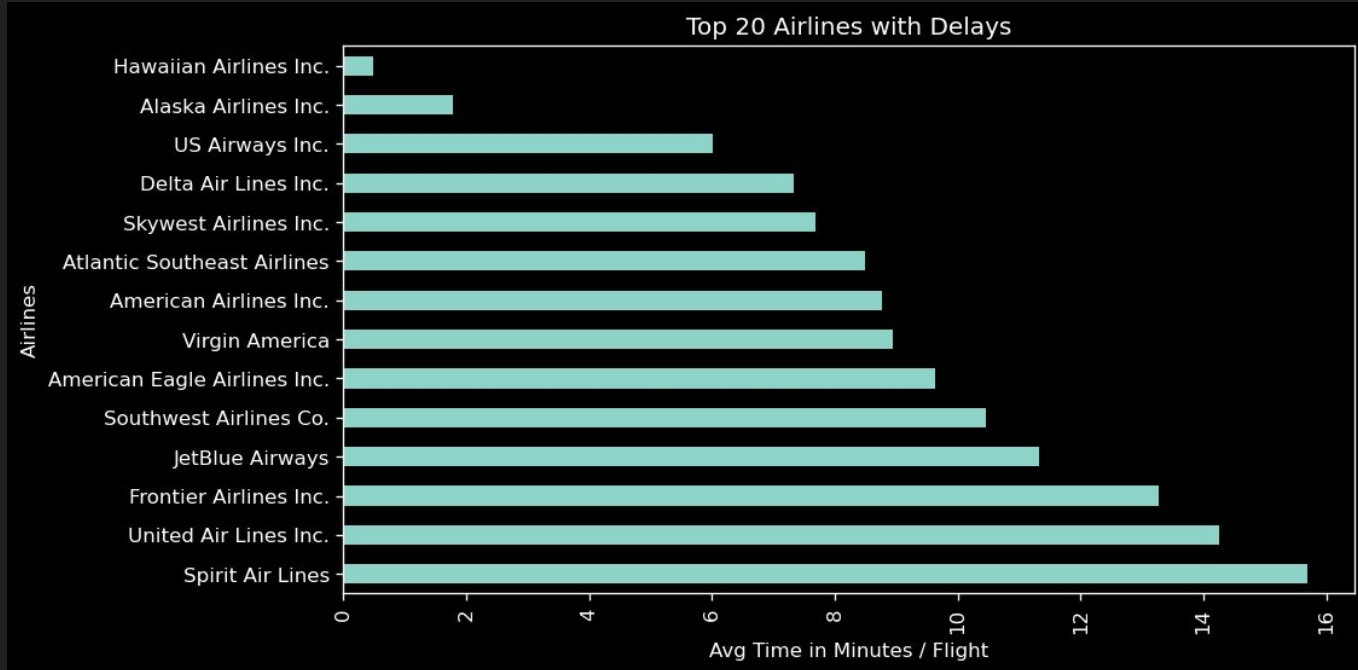# Dataset Question #1

Q. Which Airports have the most delays?

Top 20 Airports with Delays

Most of these are regional airports. Later I can filter for large airports, but look - Chicago O'Hare!

Dataset Question #2

Q. On average, which Airlines have the most delays?

Top 20 Airlines with Delays

Dataset Question #3

Q. During the coldest time of year (assuming Nov, Dec, Jan), which airports had the most delays?

Top 20 Airports with Delays

Airports	Avg Delay Time in Minutes
(11, Gunnison-Crested Butte Regional Airport, CO)	~75
(12, Pago Pago International Airport (Tafuna Airport), AS)	~71
(12, Southwest Oregon Regional Airport (North Bend Municipal), OR)	~46
(12, Aspen-Pitkin County Airport, CO)	~43
(12, Eagle County Regional Airport, CO)	~33
(11, Greater Binghamton Airport, NY)	~33
(1, Devils Lake Regional Airport, ND)	~31
(12, Mammoth Yosemite Airport, CA)	~31
(1, Ford Airport, MI)	~31
(12, Bert Mooney Airport, MT)	~30
(1, Southwest Oregon Regional Airport (North Bend Municipal), OR)	~28
(1, Del Norte County Airport (Jack McNamara Field), CA)	~28
(1, Jamestown Regional Airport, ND)	~28
(12, Jackson Hole Airport, WY)	~27
(12, Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport, IL)	~27
(1, Wilmington Airport, DE)	~26
(12, Albert J. Ellis Airport, NC)	~26
(11, Adak Airport, AK)	~26
(12, Rock Springs-Sweetwater County Airport, WY)	~26
(1, Trenton Mercer Airport, NJ)	~26

BRR - these were some cold airports!

Dataset Question #4 - "*Where's Boston Logan?*"

… So my brothers airport didn't make the top 20 in 2015. So where is it???

	MONTH	AIRPORT_OriginAirport	STATE_OriginAirport	0
149	12	Gen. Edward Lawrence Logan International Airport	MA	12.857456
407	1	Gen. Edward Lawrence Logan International Airport	MA	8.353627
730	11	Gen. Edward Lawrence Logan International Airport	MA	3.706255

It looks like the most delayed month was December with an average delay of only around 13 minutes!

The Second Delay...

It turned out that it was just fine that my brothers plane came in over an hour late since our next flight from LAX to Tokyo (NRT) had mechanical issues!
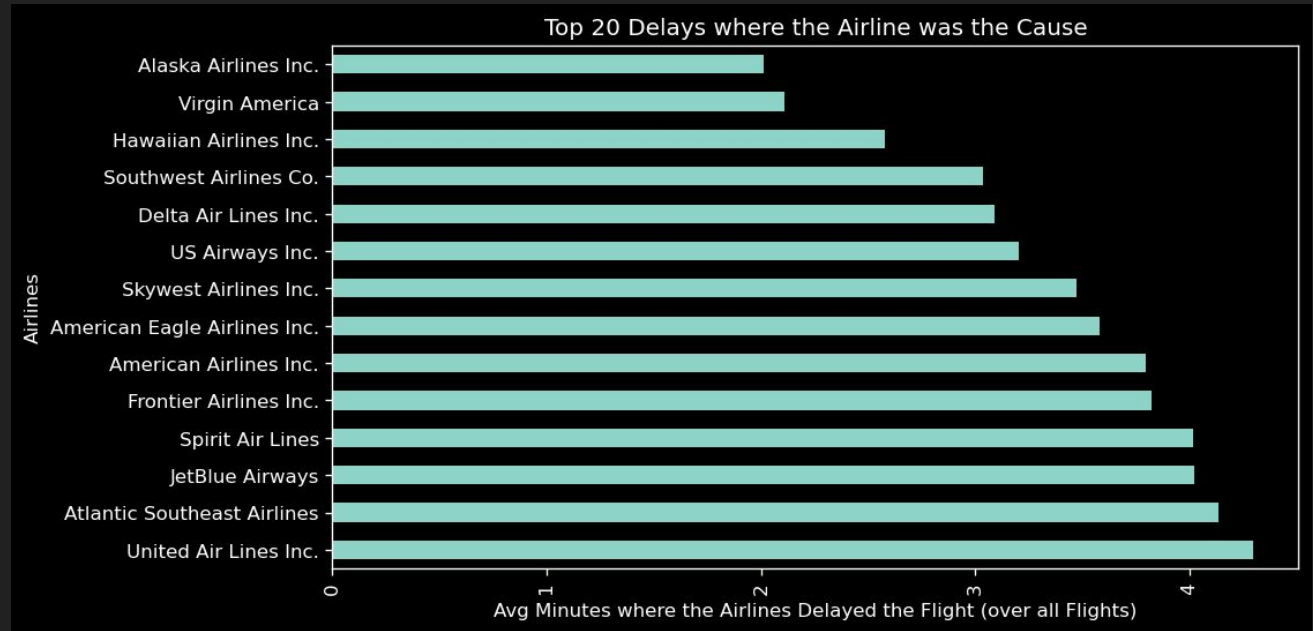
Dataset Question #4

Q. Which airlines had the most delays (time) where the airline itself was the cause of the delay.

Top 20 Delays where the Airline was the Cause

The Saga Continues...

My brother and I were able to get on that plane to Tokyo … but all the delays made us late (again) and we missed our transfer flight to Hong Kong.

This is where I messed up.

SECRET: The airlines booked another flight for us … but I might have not changed AM to PM on my watch when I adjusted the time and caused us to miss our flight, getting us stuck in Tokyo for another 24 hours! Shh. Don't tell.

What I MEANT to say is,

"I planned another day in Tokyo for my brother and I."

Thanks for hearing my story!

Data Information

Since that debacle (er planned excursion), I've been very keen on flight details. So I looked for a dataset of flights and especially flight delays. I found one provided by the US Department of Transportation (1) that covered just the year 2015 but the techniques can be applied anywhere.

[1] https://www.kaggle.com/usdot/flight-delays