BRA-EUR2

DECEA Performance Section, EUROCONTROL Performance Review Unit

28. October 2022

Table of contents

# Preface

This report represents the 2nd edition of the Brazil-Europe Comparison of Operational Air Navigation System Performance. It characterises and compares operational performance in both regions on the basis of a set of harmonised performance measures. The report is jointly developed by the Performance Section of the Department of Airspace Control (DECEA) and EUROCONTROL’s Performance Review Unit (PRU).

This report was published in October 2022. The online version is available at .

For any questions, please do not hesitate to contact one of the authoring organisations. Enjoy the read!

Performance Section, DECEA Performance Review Unit, EUROCONTROL

COPYRIGHT NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER

Every possible effort was made to ensure that the information and analysis contained in this document are as accurate and complete as possible. Should you find any errors or inconsistencies we would be grateful if you could bring them to our attention.

The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the official views or policy of DECEA or EUROCONTROL, which makes no warranty, either implied or express, for the information contained in this document, neither does it assume any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness or usefulness of this information.

This document is jointly published by EUROCONTROL and DECEA for information purposes. It may be copied in whole or in part, provided that EUROCONTROL and DECEA is mentioned as the source and it is not used for commercial purposes (i.e. for financial gain). The information in this document may not be modified without prior written permission from EUROCONTROL and DECEA.

www.eurocontrol.int & www.decea.mil.br

# Forewords



Marinus de Jong  
EUROCONTROL PRC Chairman

Collaboration and harmonisation are key and intrinsic principles of the aviation world. These principles were never as important as they are today, as the aviation community emerges from its worst crisis ever in the last two and half years. Since the outbreak of COVID-19, pressure on the air transportation system tested the resilience of the most integrated and interdependent mode of transport. When the pandemic was finally relieved, the Russian invasion of Ukraine raised the bar against recovery even higher, with rising fuel costs and much uncertainty once again. More than ever, the aviation system should look to its principles.

Without collaboration - both on regional and international level - and the promotion and application of standards, the aviation system we know today, would never have come to pass, and will undoubtedly fail in the future. With that in mind, this second comparison report reflects the efforts of Brazil and Europe to keep moving in the direction of cooperation and standardisation in the field of operational air navigation system performance. Furthermore, the global community is asking for all its sectors to improve efficiency and reduce environmental impact. Additionally to the challenges mentioned above, addressing the carbon footprint of air transportation and how air navigation can help in this context is mandatory. In this context transparency plays a fundamental role. This comparison report adds to providing a transparent basis for an informed discussion by providing data-driven analyses to identify performance gaps and allow stakeholders to understand better and even participate in finding solutions to the issues on the table.



Brig. Eduardo Miguel Soares  
Head of SDOP/DECEA

Even though the scars of the greatest crisis of the aviation system are not fully healed yet, it is already time to assess its impact on the ATM systems, understand how the regions dealt with the challenges and learn from mistakes and successes. Therefore, the partnership with EUROCONTROL became even more valuable for DECEA during the difficult period of the pandemic and post-pandemic. The historic drop in traffic volume has significantly impacted the investment capacity of air navigation service providers making the scrutiny of resource allocation an even more complex and error-intolerant activity.

Moreover, the European institution’s culture of structuring strategic planning supported by robust indicators and performance frameworks inspires us to maintain the path of clear goals and well-defined indicators for attention to strategic objectives. The SIRIUS Program’s projects are examples of planning already based on performance management and further strengthened after our agencies’ partnership. For instance, in the 2021 SIRIUS Program report [[1]](#footnote-27), it is possible to verify that projects management, as such the TMA SP NEO, were carried out within the performance based approach and with some of their outputs expressed in metrics directly related to the well establish indicators in Europe.

This standardization of performance management also facilitates communication with the entire aviation community, contributing to the necessary transparency of today, in addition to strengthening our partnership with EUROCONTROL, our most significant source of inspiration in the area of performance.

# Executive Summary

Air transportation contributes a significant percentage to the global economy and is a key sector in Brazil and Europe. Despite the impact of COVID-19, the sector is set for growth in the long term. Within this context, air navigation plays a major enabler role. On one side, air navigation facilitates economic recovery by responding to varying demand by airspace users, with re-emerging or new network connections. On the other side, there is an increased focus on reducing the impact of aviation on the climate, through a continual reduction of environmental impacts due to operational constraints as an immediate measure. Other measures, like market-based mechanism, global uptake of sustainable aviation fuel, or novel engine techniques and aircraft design will require more time.

The Brazilian Department of Airspace Control (DECEA) Performance Section and the EUROCONTROL Performance Review Unit (PRU) jointly produced this second edition of the Brazil-Europe comparison. This bi-regional operational performance report uses commonly agreed metrics and definitions to compare, understand, and improve air the performance of navigation services (ANS). This report, and previous reports, are available online at https://ansperformance.eu/global/brazil/. It is also planned to augment the reporting with a supporting dashboard.

This second edition aims to consolidate the existing comparison process and expand its scope. This report updates the overview on both (Brazilian and European) air navigation systems; broadens the temporal scope, and adds new analyses. The report focuses on a subset of the eleven Key Performance Areas identified by the ICAO Global Air Navigation Plan (ICAO 2005, Appendix D).

While the primacy of Safety is fully recognised, the scope of this report is limited to operational ANS performance due to data constraints. In particular, Predictability, Capacity, Efficiency and Environment, as shown below.

|  |
| --- |
| (ref:KPA Index) |

This second report also introduces an initial approach to quantify the environmental impact of operational inefficiencies.

The comparison shows similarities and differences in the air navigation service provision and observed performance in both regions. Major take-aways of this report include:

* Overall, air navigation service provision is more fragmented in Europe with a higher number of local/national air navigation service providers and their respective control units. Integrated civil/military service provision is inherent to the organisation of DECEA and the Brazilian system, while in Europe a mix of co-location and integration exists, according to local/national arrangements.
* COVID measures strongly impacted air transportation demand in both regions and affected almost all air navigation system parameters.
* The difference between Brazil’s and Europe’s systems reacting to the seasons became more evident during the pandemic recovery. When not hit by another COVID-19 wave, the European region had greater variations in demand between the winter and summer seasons. The Brazilian flow recovered more gradually, showing a more continuous demand.
* Predictability in both systems degraded during and post COVID phase and is slowly recovering to pre-COVID-19 levels.
* Airport runway system capacities in both systems are designed to meet the traffic levels. Capacities at the Brazilian airports were increased in light of a change of methodology to determine these capacities and changed procedures.
* The European system showed a higher association between lower demand and increased efficiency considering additional taxi time, additional time in terminal airspace and flight time variability. Taxi performance in Brazil follows similar principles and operational procedures with no significant differences. The partial analysis of additional time in terminal airspace revealed that on average traffic in Brazil observed higher times during the arrival phase in 2021 suggesting a system-wide change. The level of variability of flight times reflected the overall trend.
* An initial approach to quantifying the emission benefit pool on the basis of the observed additional taxi-times was developed. Emissions and the improvement pool - next to operational constraints and inefficiencies - are dependent on the fleet mix operated at the different airports. This includes the role of the airport within the respective system. Larger hubs with a higher share of traffic - and in particular heavy aircraft operations - showed a higher contribution to the overall emission benefit pool.

This report will be updated throughout the coming years under the umbrella of the DECEA-EUROCONTROL memorandum of cooperation. It is also planned to establish a web-based rolling monitoring updated on a regular basis. Future editions will complement the data time series and support the development of further use-case analyses. The lessons learnt of this joint project will be coordinated with the multi-national Performance Benchmarking Working Group (PBWG) and the ICAO GANP Study sub-group concerned with the further development of the GANP Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

# 1. Introduction

This is a book created from markdown and executable code.

See Knuth (1984) for additional discussion of literate programming.

[1] 2

# References

Knuth, Donald E. 1984. “Literate Programming.” *Comput. J.* 27 (2): 97–111. <https://doi.org/10.1093/comjnl/27.2.97>.

1. (https://www.decea.mil.br/static/uploads/2022/04/Realizacoes-SIRIUS-2021.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-27)