

NATS IT Failures

2026

- **08 Sep:** UK-wide NATS ATC system failure due to "flight plan processing failure"; 150,000+ (As of 17:00) passengers delayed up to 8hrs, 200+ cancellations. Started at 1pm. Not fixed at 7pm.
- **6-7 Jul:** Over 17,000 pax delayed of up to two hours on 96 flights after NATS was unable to access vital weather data due to a technical issue that disrupted UK air traffic control overnight
- **23 June:** >2,000 passengers impacted by NATS equipment failure at BRS airport (lightning strike – back up failed), 4 cancellations, 3 diversions, multiple delays >3hrs
- **11 Jan:** Birmingham ATC radar failure, 4 diversions, 2,000 passengers delayed up to 4hrs.

2025

- **30 Jul:** 22,000 passengers delayed due NATS equipment (radar) failure, delays up to 4hrs, 7 diversions.
- **14 Jul:** 10,000 passengers delayed due Stansted system (ACDM) failure
- **6 Jul:** 10,000 passengers delayed due Stansted departure planning system issues

2024

- **28 Apr:** Radio issue at Stansted, multiple delays and 1 diversion
- **4 Mar:** Flight planning system failure, failed twice in one day

2023 and earlier

- **Aug 2023:** More than 2,000 flights cancelled across Europe due to NATS IT outage.
- **July 2019:** More than 50 flights were cancelled at London airports following an "issue with radar displays" at Swanwick.
- **April 2018:** Upgrade of the NATS system at Swanwick led to delays of up to 20 minutes for flights bound for Heathrow and Gatwick for up to three weeks.
- **August 2017:** Thousands of flights delayed due to high sickness rates at the NATS centre in Swanwick
- **October 2015:** Delays in Scotland after NATS reported interference on radio frequencies used to speak to aircraft
- **December 2014:** NATS pledged to compensate thousands of passengers after a technical fault led to 10,000 people facing delays at Heathrow with a total of 16,000 minutes of delays at Heathrow and Gatwick
- **December 2013:** 126,000 minutes of delays and hundreds of flights cancelled after a problem with NATS' internal telephone system
- **July 2013:** Computer failure at Swanwick, which involved a "rogue" flight plan being set up, caused dozens of flights to be delayed.
- **February 2011:** Technical problems at NATS caused delays at Glasgow and Manchester
- **October 2009:** Transatlantic flights grounded for three hours after a system failure at Prestwick.