



Altitude Deviations

STEADES High-level analysis

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STEADES

- ↗ IATA GADM-STEADES database is the world's largest repository of operational safety reports
- ↗ More than 170,000 reports submitted annually
- ↗ Over 175 member airlines

Altitude Deviation Study

- ↗ Conducted based on a specific request to analyze safety reports of altitude deviations
- ↗ Dataset includes Air Safety Reports (ASRs) from 2009 to 2013 inclusive
- ↗ 9,686 ASRs coded with the immediate effect "Altitude Deviation"



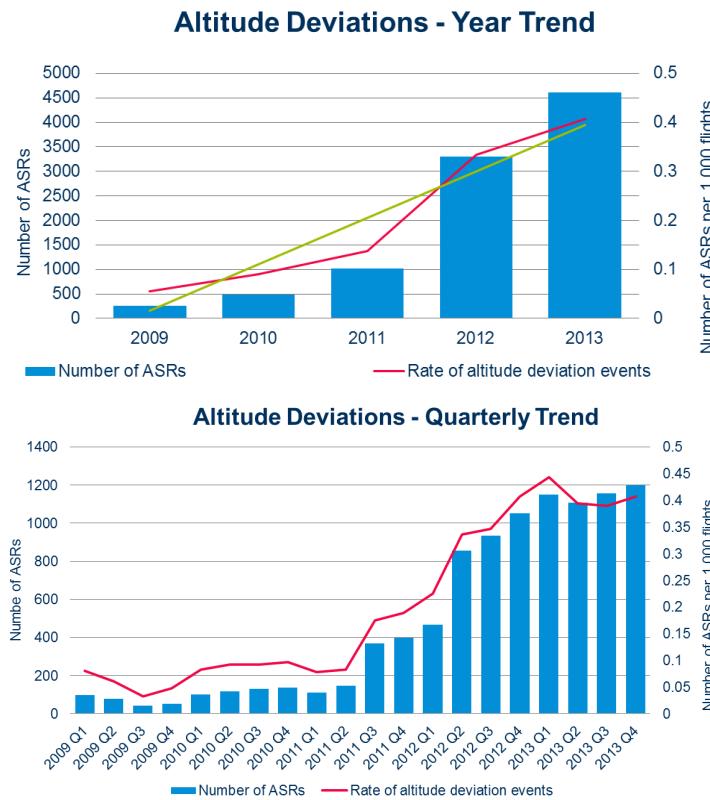
Statistical Review

- ↗ Analysis based on descriptors and factual information submitted by the contributing airline
- ↗ Used to provide a high-level understanding of events
- ↗ Next step is to read and apply a specific taxonomy to provide an in-depth analysis of the events



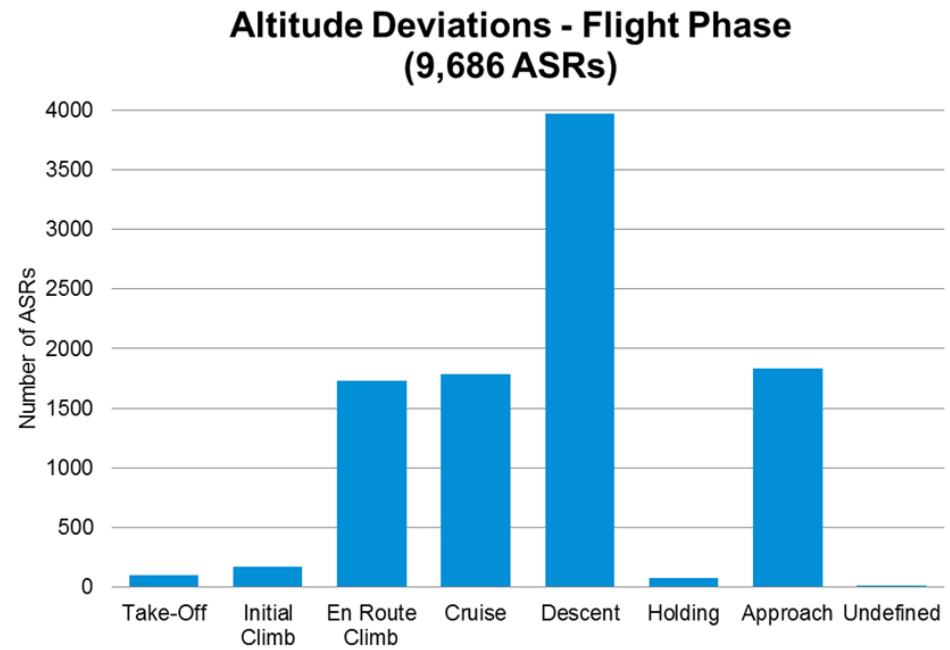
Altitude Deviations: Trend over time

- ↗ Overall rate for altitude deviation events was 0.25 reports per 1,000 flights
- ↗ Compare this to a reporting rate of all ASRs of 15.4 per 1,000
- ↗ Increasing number of ASRs and increasing trend



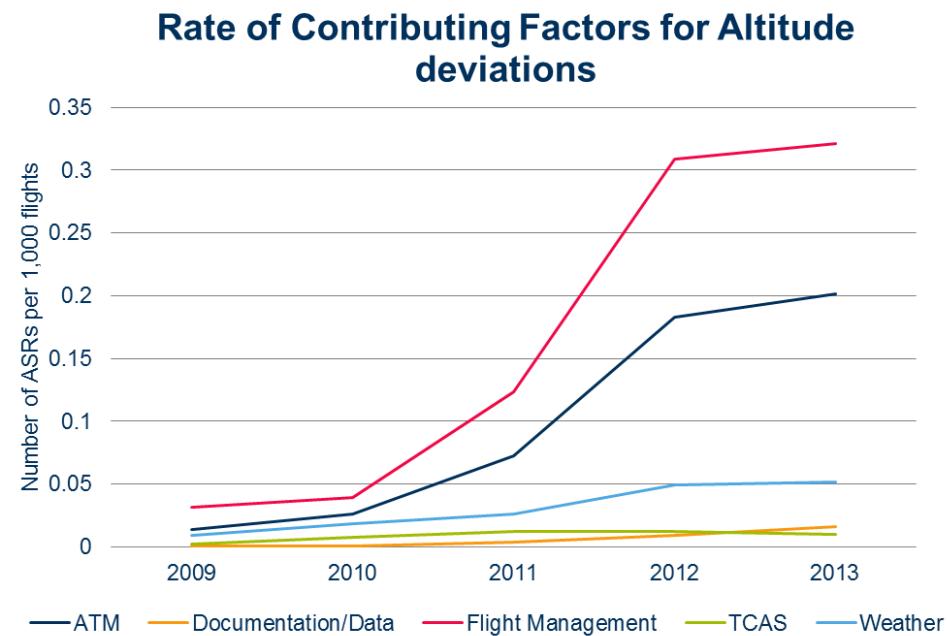
Altitude Deviations: Flight Phases

- ↗ Most common phases of flight:
 - ↗ 41% Descent
 - ↗ 19% Approach
 - ↗ 18% Cruise
 - ↗ 17% En Route Climb



Altitude Deviations: Contributing Factors

- ↗ Determined through analysis of text descriptors applied to the narrative submitted by the airline
- ↗ Top contributing factors:
 - ↗ 82% Flight Management
 - ↗ 50% ATM
 - ↗ 14% Weather
 - ↗ 4% TCAS
 - ↗ 3% Documentation/Data



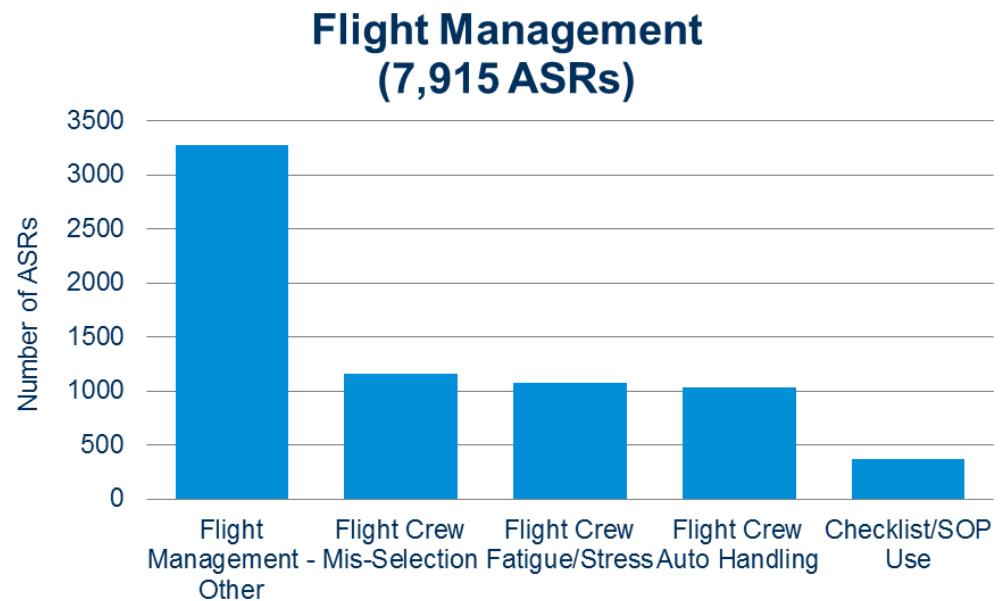
Altitude Deviations: Flight Management

↗ Flight Management

- ↗ 41% Flight Management - Other
- ↗ 15% Flight Crew Mis-Selection
- ↗ 14% Flight Crew Fatigue/Stress
- ↗ 13% Flight Crew Auto Handling
- ↗ 5% Checklist/SOP Use

↗ Flight Crew Mis-selection:

- ↗ Incorrect altimeter setting
- ↗ Incorrect altitude input
- ↗ FMC/MCDU programming error or mode selection



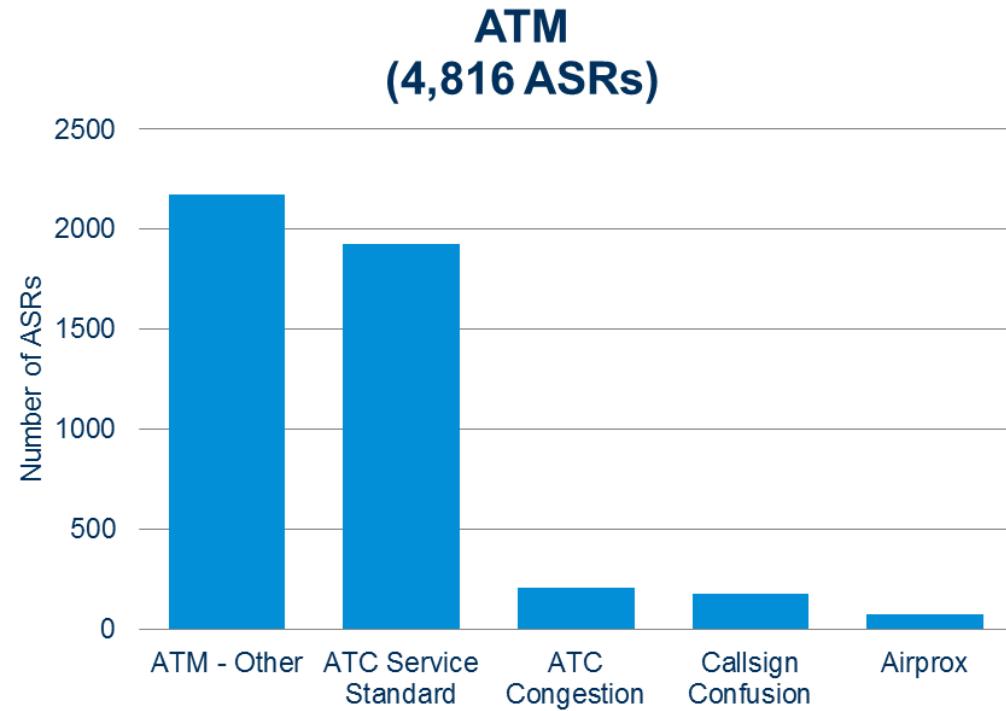
Altitude Deviations: Air Traffic Management

↗ Air Traffic Management

- ↗ 45% ATM – Other
- ↗ 40% ATC Service Standard
- ↗ 4% ATC Congestion
- ↗ 4% Callsign Confusion
- ↗ 2% Airprox

↗ ATM Service Standard:

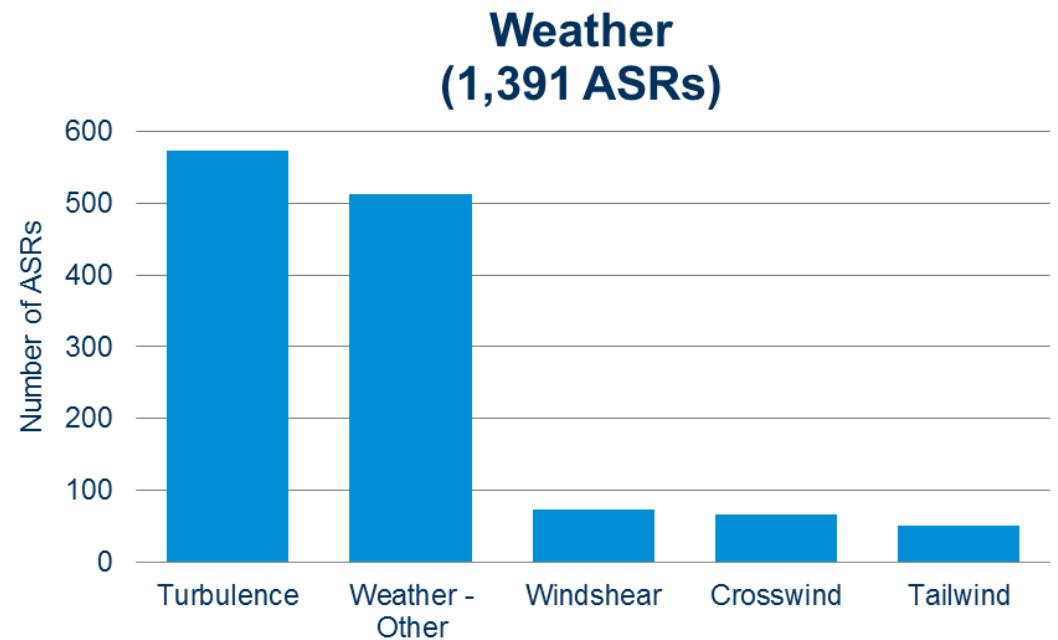
- ↗ Confusing clearances
- ↗ Late changes to clearances



Altitude Deviations: Weather

↗ Weather

- ↗ 41% Turbulence
- ↗ 37% Weather - Other
- ↗ 5% Windshear
- ↗ 5% Crosswind
- ↗ 4% Tailwind

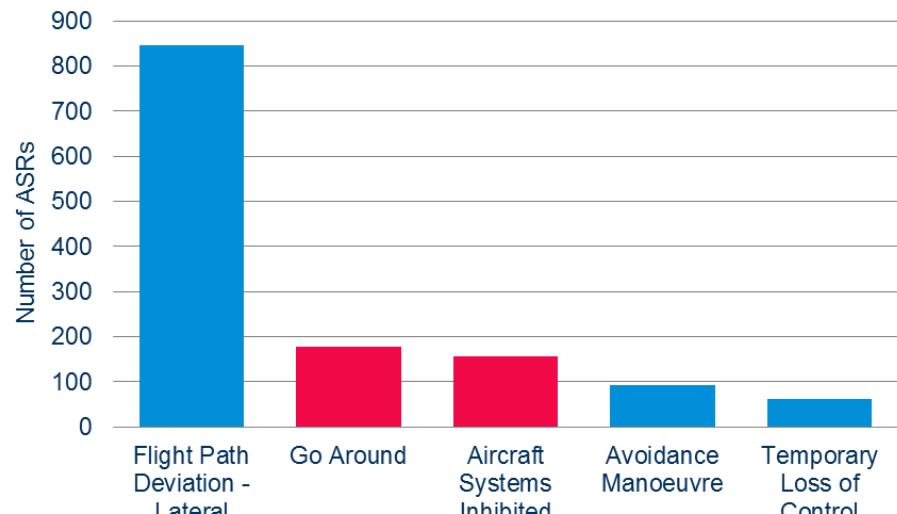


Altitude Deviations: Other Effects

- ↗ Effects on Operations
 - ↗ 68% Flight Path Deviation - Lateral
 - ↗ 7% Avoidance Manoeuvre
 - ↗ 5% Temporary Loss of Control

- ↗ Contributing Events
 - ↗ 14% Go Around
 - ↗ 12% Aircraft Systems Inhibited

**Altitude Deviations - Immediate Effect
(1,252 ASRs)**





Altitude Deviations: Recommendations

↗ IOSA Standards Manual Ed.7

FLT 3.11.28 The Operator shall have policies, procedures and guidance that address altitude awareness, to include:

- i) Instructions for the use of automated or verbal flight crew altitude callouts and any other actions to be taken by the flight crew to maintain altitude awareness;
- ii) Policies and/or procedures for the avoidance of altitude deviations;
- iii) Policies and/or procedures that address call sign confusion during altitude clearance acceptance and readback;
- iv) Instructions for the flight crew to report the cleared flight level on first contact with ATC, unless specifically requested not to do so by ATC. (GM)



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to represent, lead and serve the airline industry