# NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD 

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20594

## ANNUAL REVIEW OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT DATA

## U.S. GENERAL AVIATION

CALENDAR YEAR 1995


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This report presents a statistical review of general aviation accidents that occurred in 1995. The accidents for which data are presented involved U.S. registered aircraft that were not conducting operations under Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 121 and 135.

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# U.S. General Aviation, Calendar Year 1995 

# Annual Review of Aircraft Accident Data 

## NTSB/ARG-98/01

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## Highlights

A total of 2,078 U.S. registered general aviation aircraft were involved in 2,054 accidents ${ }^{1}$ during calendar year 1995. Of these 2,054 accidents, 411 accidents (involving 419 aircraft) resulted in fatal injuries. This report presents a statistical review of these accidents, all involving U.S. registered aircraft that were not conducting air carrier revenue operations under Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) Parts 121 or 135.

The accident data on which this review is based were extracted from the Safety Board's automated Aviation Accident Data System. The Federal Aviation Administration's Statistics and Forecast Branch, Planning Analysis Division, Office of Aviation Policy and Plans publishes the "General Aviation and Air Taxi Survey," which is the source of flight hours used in this report. To conduct its annual survey, the FAA mails questionnaires to owners of a statistically selected sample of aircraft. An analysis of returned questionnaires enables the FAA to estimate hours of aircraft useage by purpose and type aircraft.

## General Aviation Accident Trends

General aviation accidents increased by 3 percent from the 1,994 accidents reported in calendar year 1994. Chart 1 shows an apparent levelling off of the downward trend in the number of aircraft accidents since 1975, when commuter and air taxi operations (covered by 14 CFR Part 135) were first excluded from general aviation accident statistics. The overall accident rate decreased from 1994 to 1995 , from 9.11 to 8.71 accidents per 100,000 hours flown.

The number of persons killed increased slightly to 733 (726 aircraft occupants) from the 730 who were killed in 1994. The fatal accident rate ( 1.73 fatal accidents per 100,000 hours flown) was lower than the 1.84 reported for 1994.

## Type of Aircraft

Airplanes with a single piston engine accounted for 78 percent of general aviation accidents in calendar year 1995. A total of 1,602 accidents, 297 fatal accidents, and 493 fatalities

[^0]resulted in an accident rate of 10.09 and a fatal accident rate of 1.86 per 100,000 hours flown in this aircraft type.

Piston-powered rotorcraft experienced an accident rate of 26.29 per 100,000 hours flown. These aircraft had a 20 -year low of 87 accidents, 8 fatal accidents, and 11 fatalities. Turbinepowered rotorcraft were involved in 65 accidents ( 4.07 per 100,000 hours flown), 15 of which were fatal ( 0.95 per 100,000 hours flown) with 27 fatalities.

## Purpose of Flight

Personal flying was involved in 1,284 accidents, 278 fatal accidents, and 488 fatalities. Business flying accounted for 99 accidents, 32 fatal accidents, with 73 fatalities. Exposure data (number of flying hours) do not reliably distinguish between personal and business flying; consequently, individual accident rates cannot be calculated. The combined personal/business accident rate was 11.10 accidents per 100,000 hours flown, and the combined fatal accident rate was 2.47 per 100,000 hours flown. Aerial application operations accounted for 153 accidents ( 11.34 per 100,000 hours), 15 fatal accidents ( 1.11 per 100,000 hours), and 15 fatalities. Instructional flying accounted for 268 accidents ( 7.07 accidents per 100,000 hours flown), 23 fatal accidents ( 0.61 per 100,000 hours flown), and 44 fatalities.

## Amateur-Built

Information about amateur-built aircraft is included in this report for the first time to provide an insight into their accident performance. In 1995, amateur-built aircraft accounted for 2 percent of the aircraft hours flown in general aviation, but made up 10 percent of the accidents. Chart 6 shows that an increasing percentage of general aviation accidents involve amateur-built aircraft.

## Type of Flight

Accident-involved aircraft were fairly evenly divided between local flights (47\%) and point-to-point flights (53\%). Fewer than one-third of accident-involved pilots flying point-topoint had filed flight plans.

## Weather Conditions

More than 90 percent of accidents occur in visual meteorological conditions (VMC). Accidents in instrument meteorological conditions (IMC) are generally much more serious than
those in VMC - 68 percent of accidents in IMC resulted in fatalities, compared to 16 percent of accidents in VMC.

The specific weather conditions cited most frequently in nonfatal accidents were "crosswind," "gusts," and "tailwind." "Low ceiling," "fog," "clouds," and "icing conditions" were the most cited weather factors in fatal accidents.

## First Occurrence and Phase of Operation

Safety Board investigations of aircraft accidents identify one or more occurrences that describe the accident sequence of events. The first occurrence is the event that initiates the accident sequence.

Collisions were the first occurrence in more than 31 percent of fatal accidents, and loss of control-in- flight in 27 percent. Partial or total loss of engine power was the first occurrence in 29 percent of aircraft involved in all accidents. Collisions were cited in 22 percent of accidents; but only 1 percent involved mid-air collisions. Loss of control, either in-flight (by 13 percent of the accident-involved pilots) or on the ground (by 10 percent of the pilots) was another prevalent first occurrence.

Thirty-seven percent of accident-involved aircraft were on approach or landing, and 21 percent were taking off at the time of the first occurrence. In fatal accidents, the most frequently cited accident phases were maneuvering ( 30 percent), approach and landing ( 22 percent), and cruise ( 20 percent).

## Causes of Accidents

Safety Board investigations of aircraft accidents frequently cite multiple causes and contributing factors; thus, the analysis of the probable cause often identifies the combined influence of more than one factor.

Seventy-eight percent of pilots involved in accidents were cited as either a cause or contributing factor; in fatal accidents, 87 percent of pilots were cited. The environment (including weather, light, objects, and terrain conditions) was cited for 41 percent of accidentinvolved aircraft and 39 percent of those in fatal accidents. Thirty percent of the aircraft involved in accidents were found to be a cause or contributing factor; 21percent in fatal accidents.
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## Terminology Used in the Data


#### Abstract

Aircraft Accident: The accidents included in this report are the occurrences associated with the operation of an aircraft which takes place between the time any person boards the aircraft with the intention of flight and all such persons have disembarked, and in which any person suffers death or serious injury, or in which the aircraft receives substantial damage. The Safety Board's definition of substantial damage, as stated in 49 CFR 830.2 is:


> Substantial damage means damage or failure which adversely affects the structural strength, performance, or flight characteristics of the aircraft, and which would normally require major repair or replacement of the affected component. Engine failure or damage limited to an engine if only one engine fails or is damaged, bent fairings or cowling, dented skin, small punctured holes in the skin of fabric, ground damage to rotor or propeller blades, and damage to landing gear, wheels, tires, flaps, engine accessories, brakes, or wingtips are not considered "substantial damage."

Causes and Related Factors: In determining probable cause(s) of an accident, all facts, conditions, and circumstances are considered. The objective is to ascertain the cause-and-effect relationships in the accident sequence about which something can be done to prevent recurrence of a similar accident. For statistical purposes, when two or more causes are cited in an accident, each is recorded and no attempt is made to establish a primary cause. Therefore, in charts that identify causes and related factors cited in accidents, the number of causes exceeds the total number of accidents. The term "factor" is used, in general, to denote those elements of an accident that further explain or supplement the probable cause(s). This provides a means for collecting essential information that could not readily be categorized elsewhere in the system.

Collision Between Aircraft: An accident is classified as a collision only when both aircraft are occupied. This classification includes collisions between two aircraft that are airborne (midair), between an aircraft that is airborne and another that is on the ground, and between two aircraft that are on the ground. A collision with a parked, unoccupied aircraft is classified under the broad category "collision with object."

Injury: Injury index refers to the highest degree of personal injury sustained as a result of the accident. Serious injury refers to any injury that (1) requires hospitalization for more than 48 hours, commencing within 7 days from the date the injury was received; (2) results in a fracture of any bone (except simple fractures of fingers, toes, or nose); (3) causes severe hemorrhages, nerve, muscle, or tendon damage; (4) involves injury to any internal organ; or (5) involves second- or third-degree burns, or any burns affecting more than 5 percent of body surface (49 CFR 830.2). Fatal injury refers to any injury that results in death within 30 days of the accident.

Purpose of Flight: The purpose for which the aircraft was being operated at the time of the accident. In this report, accident data are presented for five purposes of flight:

Personal. Flying by individuals in their own or rented aircraft for pleasure, or for personal transportation not in furtherance of their occupation or company business. This category includes practice flying (for the purpose of increasing or maintaining proficiency) not performed under supervision of an accredited instructor, and not part of an approved flight training program.

Business. The use of aircraft by pilots (not receiving direct salary or compensation for piloting) in connection with their occupation or in the furtherance of a private business.

Corporate/Executive. The use of aircraft owned or leased, and operated by a corporate or business firm for the transportation of personnel or cargo in furtherance of the corporation's or firm's business, and that are flown by professional pilots receiving a direct salary or compensation for piloting.

Aerial Application. The operation of aircraft for the purpose of dispensing any substance for plant nourishment, soil treatment, propagation of plant life, pest control, or fire control, including flying to and from the application site.

Instructional. Flying accomplished in supervised training under the direction of a certificated instructor.

Phase of Operation: The phase of the flight or operation in which the first occurrence or circumstance happened. If more than one occurrence is cited for a given phase of operation, that phase is recorded for each occurrence.

Occurrence: The concept of sequence of events as a method of accident classification was introduced in 1982 to describe the circumstances in an accident. A maximum of five occurrences may be used. Typically each occurrence is further described by one or more "findings," which, when presented chronologically, depict the accident scenario from beginning to end. The findings are developed by Safety Board analysts from a menu of words and phrases, and are the most detailed means of classifying an accident. The findings are also used to describe the probable cause of and related factors in an accident. The example below illustrates the relationship between occurrences and findings.

```
Occurrence IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN
Phase of Operation LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN
Finding(s)
    1. WHEELS UP LANDING - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND
    2. IMPROPER USE OF PROCEDURE, DIVERTED ATTENTION - PILOT IN COMMAND
```

Weather Condition: Weather condition is described as visual meteorological conditions (VMC) or instrument meteorological conditions (IMC) and is expressed in terms of visibility, distance from clouds, and ceilings in accordance with Part 91 of the Federal Aviation Regulations.
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## Historical View of <br> General Aviation Accidents

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Chart 1. Number of accidents (top) and accident rates (bottom), 1975 through 1995. (See Chart 27 in the appendix.)



Chart 2. Number of fatal accidents (top) and fatal accident rates (bottom), 1975 through 1995. (See Chart 27 in the appendix.)

## Occupant Fatalities




Chart 3. Number of occupant fatalities (top) and nonoccupant fatalities (which would include fatalities on the ground and fatalities that result from collision with non-general aviation aircraft) (bottom), 1975 through 1995. (See Chart 27 in the appendix.)
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## Accidents by Aircraft Type



Accident Rates by Aircraft Type


Chart 4. Number of accidents, fatal accidents, (top) and accident rates, fatal rates per 100,000 aircraft hours flown (bottom), 1995. (See Charts 28 through 37 in the appendix.)

## Amateur-Built Aircraft

Amateur-built aircraft accounted for $2 \%$ of the aircraft hours flown in general aviation fly ing in 1995 . . . . . . . but made up $10 \%$ of the accidents.


Hours flown


Accidents

Amateur-built aircraft involved in accidents were destroyed $54 \%$ more often than were manufactured aircraft and pilots were killed $88 \%$ more often.

(Percentage of accident-involved aircraft that were destroyed.)


Fatally injured pilots
(Percentage of accident-involved pilots who were fatally injured.)

Chart 5. Highlights regarding amateur-built aircraft involved in accidents, 1995.


Chart 6. The percentage of general aviation accidents that involved amateur-built aircraft, 1983 through 1995.

## Aircraft Occupant Injuries



Chart 7. Severity of injuries sustained by the 3,905 occup ants of accident-involved aircraft, 1995.

## Type of Accident As First Occurrence, All

Chart 8. Number and percentage of accident-involved aircraft by type of accident as a first occurrence, 1995.

| Type of accident as a first occurrence | Number of aircraft | Percent of aircraft |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Collision, in-flight: (See Charts 12 and 13) | 361 | 17.4 |
| Midair collision between aircraft | 29 | 1.4 |
| Collision with object | 155 | 7.5 |
| Collision with terrain or water | 134 | 6.4 |
| Dragged wing, rotor, pod, float, or tail/skid | 13 | . 6 |
| Undershoot | 30 | 1.4 |
| Noncollision, in-flight: | 482 | 23.2 |
| Near collision between aircraft | 0 | 0 |
| Encounter with weather | 93 | 4.5 |
| Encounter with vortex turbulence | 3 | . 1 |
| Loss of control | 272 | 13.1 |
| Uncontrolled altitude deviation | 0 | 0 |
| Abrupt maneuver | 4 | . 2 |
| Airframe, component, system failure, malfunction | 106 | 5.1 |
| Decompression | 0 | 0 |
| Ditching | 2 | . 1 |
| Forced landing | 2 | . 1 |
| Collision, on-ground or on-water: | 106 | 5.1 |
| Collision between aircraft | 15 | . 7 |
| Collision with object | 47 | 2.3 |
| Encounter with terrain or water | 38 | 1.8 |
| Dragged wing, rotor, pod, float, or tail/skid | 6 | . 3 |
| Noncollision, on-ground or on-water: | 422 | 20.3 |
| Near collision between aircraft | 0 | 0 |
| Encounter with weather | 3 | . 1 |
| Loss of control | 206 | 9.9 |
| Nose down | 1 | 0 |
| Nose over | 28 | 1.3 |
| Rollover | 6 | . 3 |
| Propeller blast or jet exhaust/suction | 2 | . 1 |
| Propeller/rotor contact to person | 6 | . 3 |
| Hard landing | 96 | 4.6 |
| Overrun | 74 | 3.6 |
| Power-related accident | 616 | 29.6 |
| Engine tearaway | 0 | 0 |
| Propeller failure or malfunction | 6 | . 3 |
| Rotor failure or malfunction | 3 | . 1 |
| Loss of engine power-(See Charts 14 and 15) | 161 | 7.7 |
| Total loss from mechanical failure or malfunction (continued) | 134 | 6.4 |

## Type of Accident As First Occurrence, All

Chart 8. Number and percentage of accident-involved aircraft by type of accident as a first occurrence, 1995.

| Type of accident as a <br> first occurrence | Number of <br> aircraft | Percent of <br> aircraft |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| (continued) |  |  |
| Partial loss from mechanical failure or malfunction | 55 |  |
| Total loss from nonmechanical failure or malfunction | 216 | 2.6 |
| Partial loss from nonmechanical failure or malfunction | 41 | 10.4 |
|  |  | 2.0 |
| Landing gear-related accident: | $\mathbf{4 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 0 2}$ |
| Gear collapsed | 10 | .5 |
| Main gear collapsed | 9 | .4 |
| Nose gear collapsed | 6 | .3 |
| Tail gear collapsed | 1 | 0 |
| Complete gear collapsed | 0 | 0 |
| Other gear collapsed | 0 | 0 |
| Gear not extended | 2 | .1 |
| Gear not retracted | 0 | 0 |
| Gear retraction on ground | 2 | .1 |
| Wheels-up landing | 10 | .5 |
| Wheels-down landing in water | 2 | .1 |
| Miscellaneous accident: | 40 | $\mathbf{0}$ |
| Cargo shift | 1 | $\mathbf{1 . 9}$ |
| Fire | 18 | 0 |
| Explosion | 0 | .9 |
| Fire/explosion | 2 | 0 |
| Hazardous materials leak/spill (fumes/smoke) | 0 | .1 |
| Miscellaneous/other | 19 | 0 |
| First occurrence not determined: | $\mathbf{0}$ | .9 |
| Undetermined | 3 | .078 |
| Aircraft missing (not located or not recoverable) | 6 | .4 |
| Number of aircraft | $\mathbf{9}$ | .4 |

## Type of Accident As First Occurrence, Fatal

Chart 9. Number and percentage of fatal accident-involved aircraft by type of accident as a first occurrence, 1995.

| Type of fatal accident as a first occurrence | Number of aircraft | Percent of aircraft |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Collision, in-flight: (See Charts 12 and 13) | 132 | 31.5 |
| Midair collision between aircraft | 16 | 3.8 |
| Collision with object | 45 | 10.7 |
| Collision with terrain or water | 67 | 16.0 |
| Undershoot | 4 | 1.0 |
| Noncollision, in-flight: | 183 | 43.7 |
| Encounter with weather | 48 | 11.5 |
| Loss of control | 115 | 27.4 |
| Abrupt maneuver | 4 | 1.0 |
| Airframe, component, system failure, malfunction | 16 | 3.8 |
| Noncollision, on-ground or on-water: | 11 | 2.6 |
| Loss of control | 1 | . 2 |
| Nose over | 1 | . 2 |
| Propeller/rotor contact to person | 2 | . 5 |
| Hard landing | 4 | 1.0 |
| Overrun | 3 | . 7 |
| Power-related accident: | 81 | 19.3 |
| Propeller failure or malfunction | 3 | . 7 |
| Loss of engine power- (See Charts 14 and 15) | 24 | 5.7 |
| Total loss from mechanical failure or malfunction | 14 | 3.3 |
| Partial loss from mechanical failure or malfunction | 12 | 2.7 |
| Total loss from nonmechanical failure or malfunction | 25 | 6.0 |
| Partial loss from nonmechanical failure or malfunction | 3 | . 7 |
| Miscellaneous accident: | 5 | 1.2 |
| Fire | 1 | . 2 |
| Miscellaneous/other | 4 | 1.0 |
| First occurrence not determined: | 7 | 1.7 |
| Undetermined | 1 | . 2 |
| Aircraft missing (not located or not recoverable) | 6 | 1.4 |
| Number of aircraft | 419 |  |

## Phase of Operation



Chart 10. A breakdown of the 2,078 total and 419 fatal accident-involved aircraft by first phase of operation, 1995.

General Causes or Contributing Factors in Accidents


## General Causes or Contributing Factors in Fatal Accidents



Chart 11. General causes or contributing factors cited for accidentinvolved aircraft (top) and fatal accident-involved aircraft (bottom), 1995 and 1991 through 1995. (Multiple causes and factors may be cited in an accident.) In 1995, there were 2,078 accident-involved aircraft and 419 fatal accident-involved aircraft; for 1991 to 1995, the mean was 2,090 accident-involved aircraft and 425.2 fatal accident-involved aircraft.

## In-flight Collision as First Occurrence

Chart 12. Number of aircraft involved in a first occurrence in-flight collision, by the object struck, 1995.

| Object struck | Number of nonfatal and <br> fatal occurrences | Number of <br> fatal occurrences |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Aircraft parked/standing |  |  |
| Aircraft (other) | 1 | 0 |
| Airport sign/marker | 29 | 16 |
| Antenna | 1 | 0 |
| Bird(s) | 1 | 1 |
| Building (nonresidential) | 4 | 0 |
| Fence | 8 | 2 |
| Hangar/airport building | 1 | 0 |
| Pole | 8 | 0 |
| Sign | 1 | 4 |
| Terrain | 177 | 0 |
| Tower | 3 | 71 |
| Tree(s) | 66 | 2 |
| VASI light/system | 1 | 15 |
| Wall/barricade | 1 | 0 |
| Wire(s) | 56 | 0 |
|  | 24 |  |

Number by Phase of Operation


Chart 13. Aircraft involved in 361 total and 132 fatal first occurrence in-flight collisions, 1995.

Causes or Contributing Factors, Loss of Engine Power


Chart 14. Causes or contributing factors in 598 accident-involved aircraft with loss of engine power as a first ocurrence, 1995. (Multiple causes and factors may be cited in an accident.)

Phase of Operation, Loss of Engine Power


Chart 15. First phase of operation for the 598 aircraft that experienced loss of engine power, 1995.

## Aircraft Operations

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## Purpose of Flight



Accident Rates by Purpose of Flight


Chart 16. Number of accidents, fatal accidents (top) and accident rates, fatal accident rates per 100,000 aircraft hours flown (bottom), 1995. (See Charts 37 through 42 in the appendix for data source.) (Note that the accident rate is presented as a combination of personal fly ing and business flying until exposure data is available which divide fly ing hours between the two categories.)

## Type of Flight

## Flight Plan Filed



Chart 17. Type of flight for the total 2,078 accident-involved aircraft, and the type of flight plan filed for the 1,103 point-topoint flights, 1995.

Local


Chart 18. Accident location for the 975 aircraft on a local flight and 1,103 on a point-to-point flight, 1995.
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Month of the Accident


## Day of the Accident



Chart 19. Number of accident-involved aircraft by the month (top) and day of week (bottom) the accident occurred, 1995.

## Injuries to Onboard Occupants

Chart 20. Number of accident-involved aircraft and the injuries to onboard occupants by location, 1995.

| Location | Number of accident-involved aircraft |  | Number of injured occupants aboard aircraft |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Fatal accidents | Total | Fatally injured | Seriously injured | Total |
| Alabama | 6 | 42 | 10 | 10 | 65 |
| Alaska | 16 | 143 | 30 | 13 | 280 |
| Arizona | 14 | 72 | 32 | 10 | 128 |
| Arkansas | 10 | 57 | 21 | 6 | 99 |
| California | 51 | 232 | 83 | 33 | 401 |
| Colorado | 13 | 69 | 23 | 13 | 133 |
| Connecticut | 1 | 10 | 1 | 7 | 23 |
| Delaware | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Florida | 27 | 122 | 52 | 21 | 238 |
| Georgia | 11 | 41 | 19 | 4 | 67 |
| Hawaii | 4 | 11 | 8 | 1 | 19 |
| Idaho | 4 | 32 | 8 | 5 | 55 |
| Illinois | 9 | 38 | 11 | 12 | 64 |
| Indiana | 3 | 32 | 4 | 8 | 76 |
| Iowa | 3 | 11 | 4 | 3 | 20 |
| Kansas | 6 | 33 | 9 | 4 | 61 |
| Kentucky | 3 | 7 | 4 | 0 | 14 |
| Louisiana | 3 | 19 | 3 | 2 | 25 |
| Maine | 2 | 11 | 4 | 0 | 17 |
| Maryland | 3 | 24 | 5 | 4 | 45 |
| Massachusetts | 5 | 22 | 7 | 5 | 39 |
| Michigan | 9 | 54 | 9 | 8 | 102 |
| Minnesota | 4 | 30 | 7 | 5 | 58 |
| Mississippi | 5 | 35 | 10 | 2 | 54 |
| Missouri | 6 | 38 | 11 | 13 | 74 |
| Montana | 3 | 24 | 5 | 1 | 40 |
| Nebraska | 3 | 14 | 3 | 5 | 24 |
| Nevada | 3 | 17 | 6 | 2 | 34 |
| New Hampshire | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| New Jersey | 5 | 22 | 5 | 5 | 31 |
| New Mexico | 7 | 38 | 14 | 8 | 103 |
| New York | 12 | 50 | 13 | 12 | 86 |
| North Carolina | 6 | 36 | 9 | 9 | 59 |
| North Dakota | 2 | 16 | 3 | 2 | 29 |
| Ohio (continued) | 12 | 51 | 17 | 9 | 101 |

## Injuries to Onboard Occupants

Chart 20. Number of accident-involved aircraft and the injuries to onboard occupants by location, 1995.

| Location | Number of accident-involved aircraft |  | Number of injured occupants aboard aircraft |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Fatal accidents | Total | Fatally injured | Seriously injured | Total |
| (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oklahoma | 8 | 39 | 18 | 3 | 71 |
| Oregon | 11 | 54 | 17 | 9 | 90 |
| Pennsylvania | 8 | 51 | 12 | 17 | 81 |
| Rhode Island | 1 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 14 |
| South Carolina | 11 | 31 | 16 | 5 | 49 |
| South Dakota | 2 | 12 | 5 | 6 | 30 |
| Tennessee | 9 | 36 | 13 | 18 | 69 |
| Texas | 30 | 148 | 51 | 34 | 280 |
| Utah | 6 | 22 | 12 | 0 | 46 |
| Vermont | 5 | 12 | 10 | 1 | 22 |
| Virginia | 10 | 31 | 25 | 7 | 60 |
| Washington | 16 | 68 | 26 | 15 | 131 |
| West Virginia | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 6 |
| Wisconsin | 8 | 41 | 15 | 19 | 87 |
| Wyoming | 6 | 14 | 9 | 2 | 34 |
| Atlantic Ocean | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Gulf of Mexico | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Pacific Ocean | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Canada | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Mexico | 2 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 8 |
| Puerto Rico | 2 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 12 |
| Guam | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Caribbean | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Other foreign | 8 | 32 | 26 | 4 | 127 |
| Unknown | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Total | 419 | 2,078 | 726 | 387 | 3,905 |

## Weather Conditions

## Accidents



## Fatal Accidents



Chart 21. Accident and fatal accident flights flown in visual meteorlogical conditions (VMC) and instrument meteorological conditions (IMC), 1995.


Chart 22. Accident-involved aircraft by weather and light conditions when the accident occurred, 1995.

## Weather as a Cause/Factor

Chart 23. Number of accident-involved aircraft in which weather was cited as a cause or contributing factor, by weather condition, 1995.

| Weather condition | Number in nonfatal accidents | Number in fatal accidents | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Below approach/landing minimums | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Carburetor icing conditions | 27 | 1 | 28 |
| Clouds | 2 | 14 | 16 |
| Crosswind | 85 | 5 | 90 |
| Downdraft | 27 | 3 | 30 |
| Drizzle | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Dust devil/whirlwind | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Fog | 11 | 34 | 45 |
| Freezing rain | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Gusts | 69 | 5 | 74 |
| Haze/smoke | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| High density altitude | 22 | 3 | 25 |
| High wind | 16 | 2 | 18 |
| Icing conditions | 11 | 14 | 25 |
| Lightning | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Low ceiling | 12 | 47 | 59 |
| Microburst/dry | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Microburst/wet | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Mountain wave | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| No thermal lift | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| Obscuration | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| Rain | 8 | 3 | 11 |
| Sand/dust storm | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Snow | 4 | 13 | 17 |
| Sudden windshift | 11 | 0 | 11 |
| Tailwind | 44 | 6 | 50 |
| Temparature (low) | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Temperature (high) | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Thunderstorm | 5 | 8 | 13 |
| Thunderstorm (outflow) | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Turbulence | 9 | 4 | 13 |
| Turbulence (thunderstorms) | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Turbulence (terrain induced) (continued) | 3 | 3 | 6 |

## Weather as a Cause/Factor

Chart 23. Number of accident-involved aircraft in which weather was cited as a cause or contributing factor, by weather condition, 1995.

| Weather condition | Number in nonfatal <br> accidents | Number in fatal <br> accidents | Total |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| (continued) |  |  | 20 |
| Unfavorable wind | 18 | 2 | 6 |
| Variable wind | 6 | 0 | 2 |
| Whiteout | 2 | 0 | 8 |
| Windshear | 8 | 0 | $426(21 \%)$ |
| Number involving weather | $317(19 \%)$ | $109(26 \%)$ | 2,078 |
| Number of aircraft | 1,659 | 419 |  |

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## Pilot Certificate

## Instrument Rating (private and commercial)



Chart 24. The highest certificates held by the 2,078 accident-involved pilots and the instrument ratings for 1,651 private and commercial certificate holders only. "Other" includes none, unknown, military, and foreign; ATP=airline transport pilot.

## Flight Time



Chart 25. The total hours and hours in aircraft type for the 2,012 pilots whose flight times were reported, 1995. (Note that the hours are graphed on a logarithmic scale.)

Pilot Age - All Accidents


Pilot Age - All Fatal Accidents


Chart 26. Age group of the 2,078 accident-involved pilots (top) and the 419 fatal accident-involved pilots (bottom), 1995.

# By the National Transportation Safety Board 

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Vice Chairman

John A. Hammerschmidt
Member

John Goglia
Member
George W. Black, Jr.
Member

Adopted: September 4, 1998
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## All Operations

Chart 27. Number of accidents, fatalities, and accident rates, all operations, 1975 through 1995.

| Year | Number of accidents | Number of fatal accidents | Number of fatalities |  | Aircraft hours flown (millions) | Accident rate per 100,000 aircraft hours flown ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | All fatalities | Aircraft occupants |  | All accidents | Fatal accidents |
| 1975 | 3,995 | 633 | 1,252 | 1,231 | 28.799 | 13.87 (2) | 2.19 (2) |
| 1976 | 4,018 | 658 | 1,216 | 1,203 | 30.476 | 13.17 (4) | 2.16 (1) |
| 1977 | 4,079 | 661 | 1,276 | 1,265 | 31.578 | 12.91 (1) | 2.09 (1) |
| 1978 | 4,216 | 719 | 1,556 | 1,398 | 34.887 | 12.08 (2) | 2.06 (2) |
| 1979 | 3,818 | 631 | 1,221 | 1,203 | 38.641 | 9.88 | 1.63 |
| 1980 | 3,590 | 618 | 1,239 | 1,230 | 36.402 | 9.86 (1) | 1.69 (1) |
| 1981 | 3,500 | 654 | 1,282 | 1,261 | 36.803 | 9.51 | 1.78 |
| 1982 | 3,233 | 591 | 1,187 | 1,170 | 29.640 | 10.90 (3) | 1.99 |
| 1983 | 3,078 | 556 | 1,069 | 1,062 | 28.673 | 10.73 (1) | 1.94 |
| 1984 | 3,017 | 545 | 1,042 | 1,021 | 29.099 | 10.36 (3) | 1.87 (2) |
| 1985 | 2,739 | 498 | 955 | 944 | 28.322 | 9.66 (3) | 1.75 (2) |
| 1986 | 2,582 | 474 | 967 | 878 | 27.073 | 9.54 | 1.75 |
| 1987 | 2,495 | 447 | 838 | 823 | 26.972 | 9.25 (1) | 1.65 (1) |
| 1988 | 2,385 | 460 | 800 | 792 | 27.446 | 8.69 (1) | 1.68 |
| 1989 | 2,232 | 431 | 768 | 765 | 27.920 | 7.98 (5) | 1.53 (4) |
| 1990 | 2,215 | 442 | 766 | 761 | 28.510 | 7.77 (1) | 1.55 |
| 1991 | 2,175 | 432 | 786 | 772 | 27.226 | 7.98 (3) | 1.58 (2) |
| 1992 | 2,073 | 446 | 857 | 855 | 23.792 | 8.71 (1) | 1.87 (1) |
| 1993 | 2,039 | 398 | 736 | 732 | 22.531 | 9.05 (1) | 1.76 (1) |
| 1994 | 1,994 | 404 | 730 | 723 | 21.873 | 9.11 (2) | 1.84 (2) |
| 1995 | 2,054 | 411 | 733 | 726 | 23.538 | 8.71 (4) | 1.73 (3) |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ The numbers in parentheses are the number of accidents that involved suicide or sabotage, which are excluded from the total and fatal accident rates.

## All Airplanes

Chart 28. Number of accidents, fatalities, and accident rates, all airplanes, 1975 through 1995.

| Year | Number of accidents | Number of fatal accidents | Number of fatalities |  | Aircraft hours flown (millions) | Accident rate per 100,000 aircraft hours flown ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | All <br> fatalities | Aircraft occupants |  | All accidents | Fatal accidents |
| 1975 | 3,644 | 609 | 1,216 | 1,193 | 28.393 | 12.83 (1) | 2.14 (1) |
| 1976 | 3,695 | 624 | 1,168 | 1,154 | 29.202 | 12.64 (4) | 2.13 (1) |
| 1977 | 3,745 | 632 | 1,240 | 1,230 | 30.166 | 12.41 (1) | 2.09 (1) |
| 1978 | 3,850 | 670 | 1,487 | 1,335 | 33.162 | 11.60 (2) | 2.01 (2) |
| 1979 | 3,477 | 592 | 1,155 | 1,142 | 36.760 | 9.46 | 1.61 |
| 1980 | 3,233 | 569 | 1,168 | 1,162 | 34.145 | 9.47 (1) | 1.66 (1) |
| 1981 | 3,161 | 610 | 1,208 | 1,190 | 34.113 | 9.27 | 1.79 |
| 1982 | 2,886 | 540 | 1,106 | 1,095 | 27.780 | 10.38 (2) | 1.94 |
| 1983 | 2,736 | 505 | 997 | 992 | 26.709 | 10.24 (1) | 1.89 |
| 1984 | 2,703 | 498 | 972 | 953 | 27.297 | 9.89 (3) | 1.82 (2) |
| 1985 | 2,466 | 455 | 897 | 888 | 26.364 | 9.34 (3) | 1.72 (2) |
| 1986 | 2,301 | 427 | 903 | 807 | 25.149 | 9.15 | 1.70 |
| 1987 | 2,250 | 412 | 787 | 771 | 25.306 | 8.89 (1) | 1.62 (1) |
| 1988 | 2,131 | 427 | 760 | 752 | 25.069 | 8.50 (1) | 1.70 |
| 1989 | 1,999 | 396 | 718 | 714 | 25.855 | 7.71 (5) | 1.52 (4) |
| 1990 | 1,955 | 408 | 725 | 721 | 26.606 | 7.34 (1) | 1.53 |
| 1991 | 1,945 | 395 | 729 | 722 | 24.681 | 7.87 (3) | 1.59 (2) |
| 1992 | 1,833 | 395 | 774 | 772 | 21.809 | 8.40 (1) | 1.81 (1) |
| 1993 | 1,827 | 364 | 679 | 674 | 19.936 | 9.16 (1) | 1.82 (1) |
| 1994 | 1,738 | 354 | 651 | 645 | 19.193 | 9.05 (1) | 1.84 (1) |
| 1995 | 1,840 | 382 | 688 | 681 | 20.272 | 9.06 (3) | 1.87 (3) |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ The numbers in parentheses are the number of accidents that involved suicide or sabotage, which are excluded from the total and fatal accident rates.

## Airplanes With A Single Reciprocating Engine

Chart 29. Number of accidents, fatalities, and accident rates, airplanes with a single reciprocating engine, 1975 through 1995.

| Year | Number of accidents | Number of fatal accidents | Number of fatalities |  | Aircraft hours flown (millions) | Accident rate per 100,000 aircraft hours flown ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | All fatalities | Aircraft occupants |  | All accidents | Fatal accidents |
| 1975 | 3,305 | 514 | 972 | 949 | 22.881 | 14.44 (1) | 2.24 (1) |
| 1976 | 3,319 | 510 | 899 | 887 | 23.442 | 14.15 (2) | 2.17 (1) |
| 1977 | 3,383 | 542 | 996 | 987 | 23.798 | 14.21 (1) | 2.27 (1) |
| 1978 | 3,440 | 544 | 1,150 | 997 | 26.556 | 12.95 (2) | 2.04 (2) |
| 1979 | 3,071 | 471 | 869 | 856 | 29.128 | 10.54 | 1.62 |
| 1980 | 2,854 | 459 | 876 | 864 | 26.876 | 10.62 (1) | 1.70 (1) |
| 1981 | 2,819 | 496 | 918 | 906 | 26.347 | 10.70 | 1.88 |
| 1982 | 2,459 | 456 | 863 | 848 | 21.412 | 11.48 (1) | 2.13 |
| 1983 | 2,449 | 421 | 780 | 772 | 20.470 | 11.96 (1) | 2.06 |
| 1984 | 2,395 | 406 | 767 | 750 | 20.988 | 11.40 (3) | 1.92 (2) |
| 1985 | 2,180 | 368 | 677 | 667 | 20.317 | 10.72 (2) | 1.81 (1) |
| 1986 | 2,061 | 359 | 715 | 625 | 19.333 | 10.66 | 1.86 |
| 1987 | 2,017 | 348 | 632 | 614 | 19.635 | 10.27 (1) | 1.77 (1) |
| 1988 | 1,941 | 346 | 597 | 592 | 19.607 | 9.89 (1) | 1.76 |
| 1989 | 1,813 | 339 | 592 | 586 | 19.867 | 9.11 (4) | 1.69 (4) |
| 1990 | 1,756 | 351 | 599 | 594 | 21.310 | 8.24 (1) | 1.65 |
| 1991 | 1,749 | 329 | 568 | 561 | 19.857 | 8.79 (3) | 1.65 (2) |
| 1992 | 1,628 | 324 | 565 | 559 | 17.496 | 9.30 (1) | 1.85 (1) |
| 1993 | 1,613 | 301 | 514 | 504 | 15.884 | 10.15 (1) | 1.89 (1) |
| 1994 | 1,539 | 281 | 494 | 491 | 15.236 | 10.09 (1) | 1.84 (1) |
| 1995 | 1,602 | 297 | 493 | 489 | 15.840 | 10.09(3) | 1.86 (3) |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ The numbers in parentheses are the number of accidents that involved suicide or sabotage, which are excluded from the total and fatal accident rates.

## Airplanes with Multiple Reciprocating Engines

Chart 30. Number of accidents, fatalities, and accident rates, airplanes with multiple reciprocating engines, 1975 through 1995.

| Year | Number of accidents | Number of fatal accidents | Number of fatalities |  | Aircraft hours flown (millions) | Accident rate per 100,000 aircraft hours flown ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | All <br> fatalities | Aircraft occupants |  | All accidents | Fatal accidents |
| 1975 | 312 | 84 | 208 | 208 | 3.918 | 7.96 | 2.14 |
| 1976 | 346 | 103 | 238 | 231 | 4.085 | 8.42 (2) | 2.52 |
| 1977 | 324 | 73 | 173 | 166 | 4.320 | 7.50 | 1.69 |
| 1978 | 367 | 112 | 295 | 292 | 4.496 | 8.16 | 2.49 |
| 1979 | 358 | 108 | 258 | 247 | 5.098 | 7.02 | 2.12 |
| 1980 | 330 | 99 | 262 | 256 | 4.491 | 7.35 | 2.20 |
| 1981 | 289 | 94 | 220 | 218 | 4.833 | 5.98 | 1.94 |
| 1982 | 343 | 88 | 254 | 247 | 3.709 | 9.22 (1) | 2.37 |
| 1983 | 245 | 74 | 193 | 188 | 3.533 | 6.94 | 2.09 |
| 1984 | 260 | 76 | 168 | 166 | 3.552 | 7.32 | 2.14 |
| 1985 | 231 | 68 | 164 | 160 | 3.362 | 6.84 (1) | 1.99 (1) |
| 1986 | 190 | 54 | 122 | 121 | 3.230 | 5.88 | 1.67 |
| 1987 | 196 | 51 | 124 | 118 | 3.124 | 6.27 | 1.63 |
| 1988 | 162 | 67 | 134 | 129 | 2.780 | 5.83 | 2.41 |
| 1989 | 145 | 42 | 91 | 90 | 3.030 | 4.75 (1) | 1.39 |
| 1990 | 144 | 35 | 78 | 77 | 2.812 | 5.12 | 1.24 |
| 1991 | 156 | 49 | 110 | 108 | 2.849 | 5.47 | 1.72 |
| 1992 | 141 | 49 | 130 | 130 | 2.307 | 6.11 | 2.12 |
| 1993 | 161 | 46 | 115 | 114 | 2.000 | 8.05 | 2.30 |
| 1994 | 138 | 55 | 125 | 122 | 1.932 | 7.14 | 2.85 |
| 1995 | 177 | 66 | 161 | 159 | 2.073 | 8.54 | 3.18 |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ The numbers in parentheses are the number of accidents that involved suicide or sabotage, which are excluded from the total and fatal accident rates.

## Turboprop Airplanes

Chart 31. Number of accidents, fatalities, and accident rates, turboprop airplanes, 1975 through 1995.

| Year | Number of accidents | Number of fatal accidents | Number of fatalities |  | Aircraft hours flown (millions) | Accident rate per 100,000 aircraft hours flown |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | All <br> fatalities | Aircraft occupants |  | All accidents | Fatal accidents |
| 1975 | 16 | 10 | 35 | 35 | 0.900 | 1.78 | 1.11 |
| 1976 | 22 | 8 | 19 | 18 | 0.901 | 2.44 | 0.89 |
| 1977 | 29 | 14 | 61 | 59 | 1.093 | 2.65 | 1.28 |
| 1978 | 28 | 11 | 32 | 31 | 1.056 | 2.65 | 1.04 |
| 1979 | 42 | 14 | 31 | 30 | 1.375 | 3.05 | 1.02 |
| 1980 | 41 | 11 | 38 | 35 | 1.524 | 2.69 | 0.72 |
| 1981 | 49 | 17 | 61 | 48 | 1.606 | 3.05 | 1.06 |
| 1982 | 37 | 9 | 37 | 33 | 1.396 | 2.65 | 0.64 |
| 1983 | 33 | 11 | 27 | 26 | 1.345 | 2.45 | 0.82 |
| 1984 | 38 | 11 | 22 | 22 | 1.556 | 2.44 | 0.71 |
| 1985 | 46 | 17 | 55 | 51 | 1.310 | 3.51 | 1.30 |
| 1986 | 31 | 12 | 57 | 51 | 1.242 | 2.50 | 0.97 |
| 1987 | 33 | 10 | 28 | 27 | 1.300 | 2.54 | 0.77 |
| 1988 | 24 | 10 | 19 | 19 | 1.311 | 1.83 | 0.76 |
| 1989 | 35 | 15 | 37 | 34 | 1.638 | 2.14 | 0.92 |
| 1990 | 38 | 13 | 29 | 28 | 1.226 | 3.10 | 1.06 |
| 1991 | 35 | 11 | 22 | 21 | 0.929 | 3.76 | 1.18 |
| 1992 | 55 | 20 | 74 | 72 | 1.071 | 5.13 | 1.87 |
| 1993 | 48 | 16 | 46 | 45 | 1.010 | 4.75 | 1.58 |
| 1994 | 45 | 13 | 25 | 25 | 0.898 | 5.00 | 1.44 |
| 1995 | 46 | 14 | 19 | 18 | 1.085 | 4.24 | 1.29 |

## Turbojet Airplanes

Chart 32. Number of accidents, fatalities, and accident rates, turbojet airplanes, 1975 through 1995.

| Year | Number of accidents | Number of fatal accidents | Number of fatalities |  | Aircraft hours flown (millions) | Accident rate per 100,000 aircraft hours flown |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | All fatalities | Aircraft occupants |  | All accidents | Fatal accidents |
| 1975 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0.687 | 1.89 | 0.15 |
| 1976 | 13 | 5 | 19 | 18 | 0.752 | 1.73 | 0.66 |
| 1977 | 13 | 5 | 18 | 18 | 0.943 | 1.38 | 0.53 |
| 1978 | 20 | 5 | 17 | 15 | 1.061 | 1.89 | 0.47 |
| 1979 | 13 | 3 | 9 | 9 | 1.120 | 1.16 | 0.27 |
| 1980 | 12 | 3 | 7 | 7 | 1.244 | 0.96 | 0.24 |
| 1981 | 7 | 4 | 17 | 17 | 1.318 | 0.53 | 0.30 |
| 1982 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 1.242 | 0.72 | 0.08 |
| 1983 | 13 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 1.338 | 0.97 | 0.22 |
| 1984 | 13 | 5 | 15 | 15 | 1.200 | 1.08 | 0.42 |
| 1985 | 16 | 5 | 15 | 10 | 1.375 | 1.16 | 0.36 |
| 1986 | 13 | 3 | 10 | 10 | 1.344 | 0.97 | 0.22 |
| 1987 | 10 | 6 | 12 | 12 | 1.248 | 0.80 | 0.48 |
| 1988 | 8 | 5 | 12 | 12 | 1.371 | 0.58 | 0.36 |
| 1989 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 1.320 | 0.68 | 0.15 |
| 1990 | 18 | 10 | 22 | 22 | 1.259 | 1.43 | 0.79 |
| 1991 | 10 | 7 | 32 | 32 | 1.045 | 0.96 | 0.67 |
| 1992 | 11 | 3 | 11 | 11 | 0.988 | 1.10 | 0.30 |
| 1993 | 9 | 3 | 11 | 11 | 1.041 | 0.86 | 0.29 |
| 1994 | 16 | 5 | 7 | 7 | 1.127 | 1.42 | 0.44 |
| 1995 | 19 | 5 | 15 | 15 | 1.273 | 1.49 | 0.39 |

## All Rotorcraft

Chart 33. Number of accidents, fatalities, and accident rates, all rotorcraft, 1975 through 1995.

| Year | Number of accidents | Number of fatal accidents | Number of fatalities |  | Aircraft hours flown (millions) | Accident rate per 100,000 aircraft hours flown ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | All <br> fatalities | Aircraft occupants |  | All accidents | Fatal accidents |
| 1975 | 264 | 18 | 30 | 28 | 0.974 | 27.10 | 1.85 |
| 1976 | 248 | 25 | 38 | 38 | 1.103 | 22.48 | 2.27 |
| 1977 | 246 | 22 | 28 | 25 | 1.170 | 21.03 | 1.88 |
| 1978 | 283 | 39 | 56 | 48 | 1.397 | 20.26 | 2.79 |
| 1979 | 265 | 33 | 56 | 51 | 1.522 | 17.41 | 2.17 |
| 1980 | 261 | 40 | 60 | 57 | 1.891 | 13.80 | 2.12 |
| 1981 | 257 | 30 | 55 | 52 | 2.303 | 11.16 | 1.30 |
| 1982 | 255 | 41 | 66 | 62 | 1.500 | 16.93 (1) | 2.73 |
| 1983 | 234 | 35 | 55 | 53 | 1.575 | 14.86 | 2.22 |
| 1984 | 224 | 38 | 61 | 59 | 1.474 | 15.20 | 2.58 |
| 1985 | 205 | 36 | 50 | 47 | 1.576 | 13.01 | 2.28 |
| 1986 | 190 | 39 | 81 | 59 | 1.560 | 12.18 | 2.50 |
| 1987 | 179 | 28 | 44 | 44 | 1.282 | 13.97 | 2.18 |
| 1988 | 180 | 21 | 27 | 27 | 1.809 | 9.95 | 1.16 |
| 1989 | 187 | 30 | 44 | 41 | 1.693 | 11.05 | 1.77 |
| 1990 | 194 | 25 | 28 | 27 | 1.573 | 12.33 | 1.59 |
| 1991 | 170 | 30 | 51 | 44 | 2.091 | 8.13 | 1.43 |
| 1992 | 178 | 41 | 72 | 72 | 1.574 | 11.31 | 2.60 |
| 1993 | 162 | 33 | 53 | 50 | 1.526 | 10.62 | 2.16 |
| 1994 | 190 | 43 | 67 | 65 | 1.554 | 12.23 | 2.77 |
| 1995 | 152 | 23 | 38 | 38 | 1.903 | 7.93 (1) | 1.21 |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ The numbers in parentheses are the number of accidents that involved suicide or sabotage, which are excluded from the total and fatal accident rates.

## Rotorcraft with Reciprocating Engine(s)

Chart 34. Number of accidents, fatalities, and accident rates, rotorcraft with reciprocating engine(s), 1975 through 1995.

| Year | Number of accidents | Number of fatal accidents | Number of fatalities |  | Aircraft hours flown (millions) | Accident rate per 100,000 aircraft hours flown ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | All <br> fatalities | Aircraft occupants |  | All accidents | Fatal accidents |
| 1975 | 217 | 12 | 16 | 16 | 0.623 | 34.83 | 1.93 |
| 1976 | 209 | 17 | 24 | 24 | 0.680 | 30.74 | 2.50 |
| 1977 | 190 | 14 | 17 | 17 | 0.571 | 33.27 | 2.45 |
| 1978 | 223 | 28 | 40 | 33 | 0.766 | 29.11 | 3.66 |
| 1979 | 185 | 20 | 30 | 25 | 0.859 | 21.54 | 2.33 |
| 1980 | 181 | 22 | 25 | 24 | 0.719 | 25.17 | 3.06 |
| 1981 | 178 | 21 | 32 | 29 | 0.878 | 20.27 | 2.39 |
| 1982 | 157 | 20 | 24 | 24 | 0.525 | 29.72 (1) | 3.81 |
| 1983 | 139 | 18 | 22 | 22 | 0.522 | 26.65 | 3.45 |
| 1984 | 128 | 22 | 29 | 28 | 0.532 | 24.04 | 4.13 |
| 1985 | 118 | 12 | 14 | 13 | 0.514 | 22.94 | 2.33 |
| 1986 | 118 | 21 | 24 | 22 | 0.728 | 16.20 | 2.88 |
| 1987 | 117 | 18 | 25 | 25 | 0.597 | 19.60 | 3.02 |
| 1988 | 118 | 17 | 21 | 21 | 0.527 | 22.38 | 3.22 |
| 1989 | 121 | 14 | 18 | 17 | 0.673 | 17.97 | 2.08 |
| 1990 | 134 | 16 | 19 | 19 | 0.715 | 18.74 | 2.24 |
| 1991 | 125 | 19 | 23 | 23 | 0.581 | 21.50 | 3.27 |
| 1992 | 120 | 22 | 31 | 31 | 0.389 | 30.85 | 5.66 |
| 1993 | 102 | 19 | 30 | 27 | 0.363 | 28.07 | 5.23 |
| 1994 | 106 | 21 | 26 | 25 | 0.335 | 31.64 | 6.27 |
| 1995 | 87 | 8 | 11 | 11 | 0.331 | 26.29 | 2.42 |

a The numbers in parentheses are the number of accidents that involved suicide or sabotage, which are excluded from the total and fatal accident rates.

## Rotorcraft with Turbine Engine(s)

Chart 35. Number of accidents, fatalities, and accident rates, rotorcraft with turbine engine(s), 1975 through 1995.

| Year | Number of accidents | Number of fatal accidents | Number of fatalities |  | Aircraft hours flown (millions) | Accident rate per 100,000 aircraft hours flown ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | All <br> fatalities | Aircraft occupants |  | All accidents | Fatal accidents |
| 1975 | 47 | 6 | 14 | 12 | 0.351 | 13.39 | 1.71 |
| 1976 | 39 | 8 | 14 | 14 | 0.423 | 9.22 | 1.89 |
| 1977 | 56 | 8 | 11 | 8 | 0.599 | 9.35 | 1.34 |
| 1978 | 60 | 11 | 16 | 15 | 0.631 | 9.51 | 1.74 |
| 1979 | 80 | 13 | 26 | 26 | 0.663 | 12.07 | 1.96 |
| 1980 | 80 | 18 | 35 | 33 | 1.172 | 6.83 | 1.54 |
| 1981 | 79 | 9 | 23 | 23 | 1.424 | 5.55 | 0.63 |
| 1982 | 98 | 21 | 42 | 38 | 0.978 | 10.02 | 2.15 |
| 1983 | 95 | 17 | 33 | 31 | 1.053 | 9.02 | 1.61 |
| 1984 | 96 | 16 | 32 | 31 | 0.941 | 10.20 | 1.70 |
| 1985 | 87 | 24 | 36 | 34 | 1.062 | 8.19 | 2.26 |
| 1986 | 72 | 18 | 57 | 37 | 0.832 | 8.66 | 2.16 |
| 1987 | 62 | 10 | 19 | 19 | 0.684 | 9.06 | 1.46 |
| 1988 | 62 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 1.282 | 4.84 | 0.31 |
| 1989 | 66 | 16 | 26 | 24 | 1.000 | 6.60 | 1.60 |
| 1990 | 61 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 0.858 | 7.11 | 1.05 |
| 1991 | 45 | 11 | 28 | 21 | 1.510 | 2.98 | 0.73 |
| 1992 | 58 | 19 | 41 | 41 | 1.185 | 4.89 | 1.60 |
| 1993 | 60 | 14 | 23 | 23 | 1.162 | 5.16 | 1.20 |
| 1994 | 84 | 22 | 41 | 40 | 1.219 | 6.89 | 1.80 |
| 1995 | 65 | 15 | 27 | 27 | 1.573 | 4.07 (1) | 0.95 |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ The numbers in parentheses are the number of accidents that involved suicide or sabotage, which are excluded from the total and fatal accident rates.

## Gliders

Chart 36. Number of accidents, fatalities, and accident rates, gliders, 1975 through 1995.

| Year | Number of accidents | Number of fatal accidents | Number of fatalities |  | Aircraft hours flown (millions) | Accident rate per 100,000 aircraft hours flown |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | All <br> fatalities | Aircraft occupants |  | All accidents | Fatal accidents |
| 1975 | 82 | 7 | 11 | 9 | - | - | - |
| 1976 | 64 | 8 | 9 | 8 | - | - | - |
| 1977 | 78 | 7 | 8 | 8 | - | - | - |
| 1978 | 66 | 10 | 14 | 10 | - | - | - |
| 1979 | 55 | 3 | 3 | 3 | - | - | - |
| 1980 | 62 | 7 | 7 | 7 | - | - | - |
| 1981 | 59 | 12 | 13 | 13 | - | - | - |
| 1982 | 51 | 6 | 6 | 5 | - | - | - |
| 1983 | 69 | 11 | 11 | 11 | - | - | - |
| 1984 | 54 | 10 | 10 | 9 | - | - | - |
| 1985 | 43 | 5 | 6 | 6 | - | - | - |
| 1986 | 68 | 9 | 10 | 10 | - | - | - |
| 1987 | 36 | 4 | 4 | 4 | - | - | - |
| 1988 | 45 | 12 | 13 | 13 | - | - | - |
| 1989 | 26 | 3 | 3 | 3 | - | - | - |
| 1990 | 40 | 5 | 5 | 5 | - | - | - |
| 1991 | 42 | 5 | 5 | 5 | - | - | - |
| 1992 | 44 | 8 | 8 | 8 | - | - | - |
| 1993 | 28 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.140 | 2.00 | . 00 |
| 1994 | 38 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 0.240 | 15.79 | 2.08 |
| 1995 | 36 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0.161 | 22.29 | 1.24 |

- Data not available.


## Balloons

Chart 37. Number of accidents, fatalities, and accident rates, balloons, 1975 through 1995.

| Year | Number of accidents | Number of fatal accidents | Number of fatalities |  | Aircraft hours flown (millions) | Accident rate per 100,000 aircraft hours flown |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | All fatalities | Aircraft occupants |  | All accidents | Fatal accidents |
| 1975 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| 1976 | 13 | 3 | 6 | 6 | - | - | - |
| 1977 | 12 | 1 | 2 | 2 | - | - | - |
| 1978 | 19 | 1 | 3 | 3 | - | - | - |
| 1979 | 21 | 3 | 7 | 7 | - | - | - |
| 1980 | 34 | 2 | 4 | 4 | - | - | - |
| 1981 | 23 | 2 | 6 | 6 | - | - | - |
| 1982 | 29 | 2 | 7 | 7 | - | - | - |
| 1983 | 29 | 2 | 3 | 3 | - | - | - |
| 1984 | 33 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | - | - |
| 1985 | 24 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| 1986 | 23 | 1 | 2 | 2 | - | - | - |
| 1987 | 27 | 3 | 3 | 3 | - | - | - |
| 1988 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | - | - |
| 1989 | 21 | 3 | 6 | 6 | - | - | - |
| 1990 | 26 | 4 | 8 | 8 | - | - | - |
| 1991 | 16 | 2 | 2 | 0 | - | - | - |
| 1992 | 15 | 2 | 3 | 3 | - | - | - |
| 1993 | 21 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 0.104 | 20.09 | 1.91 |
| 1994 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.960 | 19.72 | . 00 |
| 1995 | 20 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0.112 | 17.82 | 1.78 |

- Data not available.


## Personal and Business Flying

Chart 38. Number of accidents, fatalities, and accident rates, personal and business flying, 1975 through 1995.

| Year | Number of accidents | Number of fatal accidents | Number of fatalities |  | Aircraft hours flown (millions) | Accident rate per 100,000 aircraft hours flown ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | All <br> fatalities | Aircraft occupants |  | All accidents | Fatal accidents |
| 1975 | 2,545 | 478 | 995 | 981 | 15.832 | 16.06 (2) | 3.01 (2) |
| 1976 | 2,629 | 490 | 950 | 933 | 16.850 | 15.58 (3) | 2.90 (1) |
| 1977 | 2,579 | 487 | 973 | 963 | 16.727 | 15.42 | 2.91 |
| 1978 | 2,656 | 522 | 1,066 | 1,055 | 19.322 | 13.74 (2) | 2.69 (2) |
| 1979 | 2,461 | 470 | 932 | 917 | 20.638 | 11.92 | 2.28 |
| 1980 | 2,285 | 450 | 924 | 915 | 19.374 | 11.79 (1) | 2.32 (1) |
| 1981 | 2,220 | 456 | 892 | 883 | 18.323 | 12.12 | 2.49 |
| 1982 | 2,194 | 471 | 979 | 965 | 13.850 | 15.8.4 | 3.4.0 |
| 1983 | 2,166 | 450 | 889 | 884 | 13.299 | 16.29 | 3.38 |
| 1984 | 2,158 | 442 | 870 | 865 | 13.863 | 15.54 (3) | 3.17 (2) |
| 1985 | 2,001 | 391 | 762 | 751 | 13.783 | 14.50 (2) | 2.83 (1) |
| 1986 | 1,834 | 387 | 821 | 722 | 14.768 | 12.42 | 2.62 |
| 1987 | 1,772 | 351 | 669 | 665 | 15.237 | 11.62 (1) | 2.30 (1) |
| 1988 | 1,678 | 373 | 673 | 665 | 14.609 | 11.49 | 2.55 |
| 1989 | 1,514 | 315 | 595 | 586 | 13.867 | 10.89 (4) | 2.24 (4) |
| 1990 | 1,502 | 330 | 577 | 570 | 13.691 | 10.96 (1) | 2.41 |
| 1991 | 1,499 | 339 | 617 | 613 | 13.824 | 10.84 | 2.45 |
| 1992 | 1,449 | 350 | 661 | 655 | 12.128 | 11.94 (1) | 2.88 (1) |
| 1993 | 1,386 | 287 | 536 | 530 | 11.275 | 12.28 (1) | 2.54 (1) |
| 1994 | 1,296 | 288 | 534 | 523 | 11.172 | 11.59 (1) | 2.57 (1) |
| 1995 | 1,381 | 309 | 556 | 548 | 12.412 | 11.10 (3) | 2.47 (3) |

[^1]
## Personal Flying

Chart 39. Number of accidents and fatalities, personal flying, 1975 through 1995.

| Year | Number of accidents | Number of fatal accidents | Number of fatalities |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | All fatalities | Aircraft occupants |
| 1975 | 2,228 | 414 | 875 | 861 |
| 1976 | 2,334 | 428 | 844 | 829 |
| 1977 | 2,280 | 437 | 889 | 874 |
| 1978 | 2,376 | 460 | 957 | 946 |
| 1979 | 2,206 | 414 | 820 | 807 |
| 1980 | 2,040 | 389 | 808 | 799 |
| 1981 | 1,958 | 383 | 749 | 738 |
| 1982 | 1,906 | 398 | 826 | 809 |
| 1983 | 1,893 | 398 | 775 | 770 |
| 1984 | 1,909 | 365 | 711 | 704 |
| 1985 | 1,741 | 327 | 642 | 635 |
| 1986 | 1,640 | 328 | 682 | 589 |
| 1987 | 1,590 | 303 | 566 | 564 |
| 1988 | 1,507 | 324 | 585 | 577 |
| 1989 | 1,366 | 274 | 509 | 501 |
| 1990 | 1,354 | 290 | 492 | 497 |
| 1991 | 1,353 | 292 | 536 | 532 |
| 1992 | 1,352 | 322 | 609 | 603 |
| 1993 | 1,274 | 258 | 476 | 466 |
| 1994 | 1,184 | 258 | 474 | 463 |
| 1995 | 1,284 | 278 | 488 | 476 |

## Business

Chart 40. Number of accidents and fatalities, business flying, 1975 through 1995.

|  |  |  | Number of fatalities |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Number of <br> accidents | Number of <br> fatal accidents | All <br> fatalities | Aircraft <br> occupants |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1975 | 318 | 64 | 120 | 120 |
| 1976 | 298 | 62 | 106 | 104 |
| 1977 | 302 | 53 | 95 | 89 |
| 1978 | 281 | 62 | 109 | 109 |
| 1979 | 255 | 56 | 112 | 110 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1980 | 246 | 62 | 126 | 116 |
| 1981 | 264 | 74 | 145 | 145 |
| 1982 | 292 | 74 | 157 | 156 |
| 1983 | 276 | 52 | 114 | 114 |
| 1984 | 251 | 78 | 161 | 161 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1985 | 261 | 64 | 120 | 116 |
| 1986 | 194 | 59 | 139 | 133 |
| 1987 | 184 | 49 | 107 | 101 |
| 1988 | 172 | 49 | 88 | 88 |
| 1989 | 149 | 42 | 90 | 85 |
| 1990 |  |  |  |  |
| 199 | 146 | 40 | 80 | 78 |
| 1992 | 97 | 47 | 81 | 81 |
| 1993 | 115 | 38 | 52 | 52 |
| 1994 | 114 | 30 | 65 | 64 |
| 1995 | 99 | 32 | 60 | 60 |
|  |  |  | 73 | 72 |

## Corporate/Executive Flying

Chart 41. Number of accidents, fatalities, and accident rates, corporate/executive flying, 1975 through 1995.

| Year | Number of accidents | Number of fatal accidents | Number of fatalities |  | Aircraft hours flown (millions) | Accident rate per 100,000 aircraft hours flown |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | All <br> fatalities | Aircraft occupants |  | All accidents | Fatal accidents |
| 1975 | 63 | 17 | 44 | 44 | 3.262 | 1.93 | 0.52 |
| 1976 | 56 | 14 | 42 | 38 | 3.396 | 1.65 | 0.41 |
| 1977 | 59 | 18 | 51 | 49 | 3.501 | 1.69 | 0.51 |
| 1978 | 88 | 24 | 70 | 67 | 4.898 | 1.80 | 0.49 |
| 1979 | 78 | 15 | 57 | 51 | 5.022 | 1.55 | 0.30 |
| 1980 | 96 | 21 | 66 | 63 | 5.351 | 1.79 | 0.39 |
| 1981 | 84 | 30 | 99 | 99 | 6.209 | 1.35 | 0.48 |
| 1982 | 39 | 6 | 21 | 20 | 4.589 | 0.85 | 0.13 |
| 1983 | 39 | 6 | 23 | 23 | 4.829 | 0.81 | 0.12 |
| 1984 | 25 | 4 | 8 | 8 | 4.396 | 0.57 | 0.09 |
| 1985 | 37 | 13 | 37 | 32 | 3.856 | 0.96 | 0.34 |
| 1986 | 20 | 3 | 11 | 11 | 3.491 | 0.57 | 0.09 |
| 1987 | 19 | 4 | 10 | 7 | 3.143 | 0.60 | 0.13 |
| 1988 | 10 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3.472 | 0.29 | 0.06 |
| 1989 | 11 | 4 | 15 | 15 | 3.453 | 0.32 | 0.12 |
| 1990 | 14 | 5 | 21 | 21 | 2.913 | 0.48 | 0.17 |
| 1991 | 12 | 5 | 24 | 19 | 2.614 | 0.46 | 0.19 |
| 1992 | 15 | 4 | 13 | 12 | 2.262 | 0.66 | 0.18 |
| 1993 | 15 | 4 | 13 | 13 | 2.705 | 0.55 | 0.15 |
| 1994 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 2.511 | 0.32 | 0.12 |
| 1995 | 15 | 5 | 15 | 15 | 3.006 | 0.50 | 0.17 |

## Aerial Application Flying

Chart 42. Number of accidents, fatalities, and accident rates, aerial application flying, 1975 through 1995.

| Year | Number of accidents | Number of fatal accidents | Number of fatalities |  | Aircraft hours flown (millions) | Accident rate per 100,000 aircraft hours flown ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | All <br> fatalities | Aircraft occupants |  | All accidents | Fatal accidents |
| 1975 | 432 | 34 | 35 | 35 | 1.876 | 23.03 | 1.81 |
| 1976 | 434 | 40 | 44 | 42 | 2.136 | 20.27 (1) | 1.87 |
| 1977 | 455 | 31 | 35 | 34 | 2.072 | 21.96 | 1.50 |
| 1978 | 457 | 28 | 28 | 27 | 2.082 | 21.95 | 1.34 |
| 1979 | 395 | 27 | 27 | 25 | 2.393 | 16.51 | 1.13 |
| 1980 | 363 | 25 | 32 | 28 | 2.063 | 17.60 | 1.21 |
| 1981 | 378 | 30 | 36 | 34 | 2.466 | 15.33 | 1.22 |
| 1982 | 272 | 17 | 18 | 15 | 1.882 | 14.45 | 0.90 |
| 1983 | 254 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 1.623 | 15.65 | 0.92 |
| 1984 | 245 | 20 | 21 | 20 | 1.849 | 13.25 | 1.08 |
| 1985 | 167 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 2.002 | 8.34 | 0.45 |
| 1986 | 193 | 19 | 22 | 20 | 1.833 | 10.53 | 1.04 |
| 1987 | 175 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 1.539 | 11.37 | 0.71 |
| 1988 | 170 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 1.842 | 9.23 | 0.65 |
| 1989 | 157 | 24 | 25 | 24 | 1.868 | 8.40 | 1.28 |
| 1990 | 152 | 16 | 17 | 17 | 1.872 | 8.12 | 0.85 |
| 1991 | 158 | 13 | 13 | 12 | 1.909 | 8.28 | 0.68 |
| 1992 | 142 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 1.296 | 10.96 | 0.69 |
| 1993 | 142 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 1.143 | 12.42 | 1.22 |
| 1994 | 153 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 1.192 | 12.84 | 1.43 |
| 1995 | 153 | 15 | 15 | 14 | 1.349 | 11.34 | 1.11 |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ The numbers in parentheses are the number of accidents that involved suicide or sabotage, which are excluded from the total and fatal accident rates.

## Instructional Flying

Chart 43. Number of accidents, fatalities, and accident rates, instructional flying, 1975 through 1995.

| Year | Number of accidents | Number of fatal accidents | Number of fatalities |  | Aircraft hours flown (millions) | Accident rate per 100,000 aircraft hours flown ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | All <br> fatalities | Aircraft occupants |  | All accidents | Fatal accidents |
| 1975 | 587 | 43 | 77 | 60 | 5.882 | 9.98 | 0.73 |
| 1976 | 541 | 55 | 97 | 87 | 6.102 | 8.87 | 0.90 |
| 1977 | 572 | 48 | 68 | 64 | 7.646 | 7.48 | 0.63 |
| 1978 | 604 | 62 | 243 | 92 | 6.322 | 9.55 | 0.98 |
| 1979 | 516 | 39 | 59 | 51 | 8.144 | 6.34 | 0.48 |
| 1980 | 461 | 41 | 73 | 70 | 7.315 | 6.30 | 0.56 |
| 1981 | 428 | 40 | 70 | 63 | 7.104 | 6.02 | 0.56 |
| 1982 | 411 | 22 | 38 | 36 | 4.535 | 9.04 (1) | 0.49 |
| 1983 | 379 | 26 | 41 | 40 | 4.482 | 8.46 | 0.58 |
| 1984 | 354 | 25 | 54 | 37 | 4.193 | 8.44 | 0.60 |
| 1985 | 314 | 27 | 52 | 40 | 3.938 | 7.97 | 0.69 |
| 1986 | 317 | 23 | 41 | 37 | 4.319 | 7.34 | 0.53 |
| 1987 | 342 | 33 | 72 | 61 | 4.529 | 7.55 | 0.73 |
| 1988 | 336 | 32 | 49 | 47 | 4.917 | 6.81 (1) | 0.65 |
| 1989 | 306 | 28 | 50 | 43 | 5.993 | 5.11 | 0.47 |
| 1990 | 315 | 33 | 62 | 56 | 7.243 | 4.35 | 0.46 |
| 1991 | 339 | 31 | 63 | 52 | 6.134 | 5.53 | 0.51 |
| 1992 | 271 | 29 | 49 | 46 | 5.340 | 5.07 | 0.54 |
| 1993 | 286 | 27 | 50 | 48 | 4.351 | 6.57 | 0.62 |
| 1994 | 301 | 23 | 47 | 39 | 4.095 | 7.35 | 0.56 |
| 1995 | 268 | 23 | 44 | 40 | 3.788 | 7.07 | 0.61 |


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ A collision between aircraft is counted as one accident for the purpose of this report. There were 15 accidents in which two general aviation aircraft collided in the air and 9 on the ground.

[^1]:    ${ }^{\text {a }}$ The numbers in parentheses are the number of accidents that involved suicide or sabotage, which are excluded from the total and fatal accident rates.

