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Federal Aviation Administration

Fleet Safety Section, AIR-723

Rotorcraft Monthly Accident Briefing

February 2022





Estimated U.S. Rotorcraft <u>FATAL</u> Accident Rate by FY 10 Year Lookback – Rates per 100,000 Hours





Estimated U.S. Rotorcraft Fatality Rate by FY 10 Year Lookback – Rates per 100,000 Hours





Estimated U.S. Rotorcraft Accident Rate by FY 10 Year Lookback – Rates per 100,000 Hours





FY 22 – U.S. Registered Rotorcraft Event Counts



Data Source: FAA, NTSB Databases. Includes only events classified as accidents and does not include incidents. The accident numbers for each month of the Fiscal Year may vary from the previous monthly briefing based on analysis between FAA and NTSB databases for the specified month. The NTSB database may include accidents that were not reported to this office resulting in slightly different numbers.

Estimated Rates by Month (per 100,000 flight hours)

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	YTD
Accidents:	3.38	3.52	5.53	1.98	4.33								3.73
Fatal Acc:	0.75	0.44	2.01	0.49	1.3								0.98
Fatalities:	1.13	0.44	3.52	0.99	2.6								1.69



U.S. Registered Rotorcraft Accidents FY83 - FY22





U.S. Registered Rotorcraft Cumulative Fatal Accident Count: FY19 - FY22





U.S. Registered Rotorcraft Cumulative Accident Count: FY19 - FY22





U.S. Registered Rotorcraft Average Fatal Accidents Per Month, FY83-FY22





% of U.S. Rotorcraft Accidents with a Fatality (FY22, Oct - Feb)





U.S. Registered Rotorcraft 13 Month Rolling Accident Count





FY 22 – Total Accidents by Industry (Oct - Feb)





FY 22 – Total FATAL Accidents by Industry (Oct - Feb)





FY 22 – U.S. Registered Fatal Rotorcraft Accidents

2-22-22 – Sikorsky S-61N, N615CK, Part 133, Kekaha, Kauai, HI, 4 fatal

- External load flight to retrieve inert training torpedoes from the Pacific Ocean
- Was over land and near ordnance recovery area about 200 ft AGL; pitched nose down
- Witnesses reported crashed in near vertical attitude NTSB: ANC22FA018
- 2-19-22 MDHI 500N, N521HB, Public Aircraft, Newport Beach, CA, 1 fatal
 - Night law enforcement flight; orbiting to keep infrared camera on ground altercation
 - A/c yawed right; continued rotation until water impact NTSB: WPR22FA101
- 2-15-22 Northwest Helicopters LLC UH-1H, N72297, Part 137, Coalinga, CA, 1 fatal
 Night aerial application flight; ceased spraying when wind increased, departed area
 A/c wreckage found 6 miles SE of last known position NTSB: WPR22FA098
- 1-14-22 Bell 407, N167RL, Part 135, Houma, LA, 2 fatal
 - On-demand flight with 1 passenger
 - Witness observed a/c in nose down descent into trees

NTSB: CEN22FA100



FY 22 – U.S. Registered Fatal Rotorcraft Accidents

12-30-21 – Robinson R44, N442VB, Part 91, Bronson, FL, 4 fatal

- Personal use flight; night departure from private residence
- Crashed 9 minutes after departure

NTSB: ERA22FA098

NTSB: CEN22FA073

- 12-30-21 Bell 206B, N8AU, Part 91, Livingston, TX, 1 fatal, 1 serious, 2 minor
 - Sightseeing flight; hovering over trees near home of one of the pax
 - Began uncontrolled right rotation, struck tree, crashed NTSB: CEN22FA086
- 12-29-21 Robinson R44, N544SC, Part 91, Cosby, TN, 1 fatal, 1 serious
 - Personal use flight; departed w/ leased a/c from service center; deteriorating weather
 - 12 min later, a/c observed flying out of fog/hitting trees NTSB: ERA22FA096
- 12-14-21 Bell 407, N150AS, Part 91, LaPlace, LA, 1 fatal
 - Personal use flight; flying 75 to 175 ft AGL above I-10 enroute to New Orleans
 - Crashed after striking guy wire above bridge



FY 22 – U.S. Registered Fatal Rotorcraft Accidents

11-28-21 - Bell 206B, N59600, Part 91, Perry, OK, 1 fatal, 1 serious

- Personal use flight; control loss while at 50 ft AGL/25 knots
- Unable to recover control, crashed, post-crash fire NTSB: CEN22FA053

10-10-21 – Robinson R44, N637HP, Part 91, Cornwall, NY, 1 fatal

- Personal use flight; 70 minutes into planned route from Glenn Falls to Ronkonkoma
- Over Hudson River, made series of turns before crash NTSB: ERA22FA010
- 10-1-21 Robinson R22, N412TL, Part 91, Chandler, AZ, 2 fatal
 - Instructional/training flight; traffic pattern at Chandler Municipal Airport
 - Midair collision w/Piper PA-28-181 airplane

NTSB: WPR22FA001



MFR	Model	Registered U.S. Fleet Size	Percentage of Total U.S. Fleet	Number of FY22 U.S. Registered Accidents	Percentage of Total FY22 U.S. Registered Accidents
Airbus Helicopters	AS350 (H125)	927	7%	2	5%
	BK117 (H145)	213	2%		
	EC120 (H120)	89	1%		
	EC130 (H130)	264	2%		
	EC135 (H135)	341	3%	1	2%

Only models that comprise at least 1% of U.S. registered rotorcraft are listed unless an accident has occurred.



MFR	Model	Registered U.S. Fleet Size	Percentage of Total U.S. Fleet	Number of FY22 U.S. Registered Accidents	Percentage of Total FY22 U.S. Registered Accidents
Bell	205	52	< 1%	1	2%
	206Bs	912	7%	3	7%
	206Ls	557	4%	2	5%
	212	83	1%		
	407	791	6%	3	7%
	412	86	1%		
	429	120	1%	2	5%
	505	101	1%		

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MFR	Model	Registered U.S. Fleet Size	Percentage of Total U.S. Fleet	Number of FY22 U.S. Registered Accidents	Percentage of Total FY22 U.S. Registered Accidents
Robinson	R-22	832	7%	4	10%
	R-44	1,686	13%	7	17%
	R-66	306	2%	1	2%

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MFR	Model	Registered U.S. Fleet Size	Percentage of Total U.S. Fleet	Number of FY22 U.S. Registered Accidents	Percentage of Total FY22 U.S. Registered Accidents
Sikorsky	S-61	92	1%	1	2%
	S-76	228	2%		
	S-92	89	1%		

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Enstrom	280	122	1%		
	480	65	1%		
	F28	157	1%		
Hiller	UH-12/H-23	273	2%	1	2%
Leonardo	A109	166	1%		
(formerly Agusta Westland)	A119	136	1%		
	AW139	129	1%		
	AW169	6	< 1%	1	2%
MDHI	369	638	5%	4	10%
Restricted Category (all TCs)	HH-1/TH-1/UH-1	530	4%	2	5%
	ОН-58	394	3%	2	5%
	H-60	229	2%		
Schweizer Rotorcraft Services Group	269/300/TH-55	487	4%	1	2%
Scott's Bell	47	523	4%	4	10%

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U.S. Helicopter Safety Team (USHST) 5 Year Average Fatal Accident Rate (CY)



Goal: By 2025, reduce the 5 year average fatal accident rate to 0.55 per 100K hours

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U.S. Helicopter Safety Team (USHST) Key Fatal Accident Rate Markers (CY)



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