
IATA releases 2024 Safety Report

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The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released its [2024 Annual Safety Report](#).

The industry delivered another year of strong overall performance on safety including showing improvements on the five-year average for several key parameters, but it took a step back from an exceptional performance in 2023.

- The all-accident rate of 13 per million flights (one accident per 880,000 flights) was better than the five-year average of 1.25 but worse than the 1.09 recorded in 2023.
- There were seven fatal accidents in 2024, among 40.6 million flights. That is higher than the single fatal accident recorded in 2023 and the five-year average of five fatal accidents.
- There were 244 on-board fatalities in 2024, compared to the 72 fatalities reported in 2023 and the five-year average of 144. Fatality risk remained low at 0.06, below the five-year average (0.10), although double the 0.03 reported in 2023.

“Even with recent high profile aviation accidents, it is important to remember that accidents are extremely rare. There were 40.6 million flights in 2024 and seven fatal accidents. Moreover, the long-term story of aviation safety is one of continuous improvement.

A decade ago, the five-year average (2011-2015) was one accident for every 456,000 flights. Today, the five-year average (2020-2024) is one accident for every 810,000 flights. That improvement is because we know that every fatality is one too many.

We honor the memory of every life lost in an aviation accident with our deepest sympathies and ever greater resolve to make flying even safer. And for that, the accumulation of safety data, including the 2024 safety report, is our most powerful tool,” said Willie Walsh, IATA’s Director General.

Key safety insights include:

- Rising Conflict Zone Risks: The downing of two aircraft in conflict zones (Kazakhstan with 38 fatalities and Sudan with five fatalities) has reinforced the

importance of the [Safer Skies](#) initiative, established in the aftermath of the PS752 tragedy to facilitate safeguards in high-risk airspace.

- Most Common Accidents: Tail strikes and runway excursions were the most frequently reported accidents in 2024, underscoring the importance of take-off and landing safety measures. Notably, there were no controlled-flight-into-terrain (CFIT) accidents.
- Airlines on the registry of the [IATA Operational Safety Audit \(IOSA\)](#) (including all IATA member airlines) had an accident rate of 0.92 per million flights, significantly lower than the 1.70 recorded by non-IOSA carriers.

Conflict Zones: The Need for Action

Accidents and incidents related to conflict zones are considered security-related events and are not included in this report. While they do not appear in this data of this safety report, they, along with growing incidents of Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) interference, are a top concern for aviation safety requiring urgent global coordination.

“No civil aircraft should ever be a target—deliberate or accidental—of military operations. Governments must step up, enhance intelligence-sharing, and establish clearer global protocols to prevent such tragedies and safeguard civilian aviation,” said Walsh.

Accident type	2023	2024	5-yEAR aVERAGE (2020- 2024)
All accident rate (accidents per one million flights)	1.09 (1 accident every 0.92 million flights)	1.13 (1 accident every 0.88 million flights)	1.25 (1 accident every 0.81 million flights)
All accident rate for IATA member airlines	0.97 (1 accident every 1.03 million flights)	0.90 (1 accident every 1.11 million flights)	0.79 (1 accident every 1.24 million flights)
Total accidents	42	46	39
Fatal accidents	1 (0 jet and 1 turboprop)	7 (5 jet and 2 turboprop)	5
On-board Fatalities	72	244	144
Fatality risk	0.03	0.06	0.10

Accident type	2023	2024	5-year AVERAGE (2020-2024)
IATA member airlines' fatality risk	0.00	0.08	0.03
Jet hull losses (per one million flights)	0.06 (1 major accident every 17.50 million flights)	0.14 (1 major accident every 7.40 million flights)	0.15 (1 major accident every 7.12 million flights)
Turboprop hull losses (per one million flights)	0.83 (1 hull loss every 1.20 million flights)	1.12 (1 hull loss every 0.89 million flights)	1.37 (1 hull loss every 0.74 million flights)
Total flights (million)	38.6	40.6	31.8

Regional Safety Performance

North America

With 12 accidents, the all-accident rate improved from 1.53 per million sectors in 2023 to 1.20 in 2024 and was better than the region's five-year average of 1.26. Fatality risk has remained zero since 2020. The most common accident types in 2024 were tail strikes, followed by runway damage and runway excursions. While no accidents have been linked to debris from space operations, the increasing number of rocket launches presents challenges for air traffic management.

Asia-Pacific

With seven accidents in 2024, the all-accident rate increased from 0.92 per million sectors in 2023 to 1.04 in 2024 but remained below the five-year regional average of 1.10. Fatality risk was unchanged from 2023 at 0.15. There was no dominant classification for accidents in the region which included tail strikes, runway damage and turbulence, among others.

Africa

With 10 accidents in 2024, the all-accident rate rose from 8.36 per million sectors in 2023 to 10.59 in 2024, exceeding the five-year average of 8.46. Africa (AFI) recorded the highest accident rate, though the fatality risk remained at zero for the second year in a row. The most common accident types in 2024 were runway excursions, followed by those related to landing gear. Forty percent of all accidents involving AFI-based operators, were on turboprop aircraft. Through the IATA Focus Africa initiative,

the [Collaborative Aviation Safety Improvement Program \(CASIP\)](#) continues to mobilize resources to address key safety challenges.

Middle East and North Africa

With two accidents in 2024, the all-accident rate improved from 1.12 accidents per million sectors in 2023 to 1.08 in 2024 and was also better than its five-year average of 1.09. Fatality risk has remained zero since 2019. While no accidents were related to GNSS interference, it has emerged as a critical area of concern in the region.

Commonwealth of Independent States

With no accidents in 2024, the all-accident rate improved from 1.05 accidents per million sectors in 2023 to zero in 2024, an improvement over the region's five-year average of 2.49. Fatality risk has remained zero since 2022. GNSS interference and security risks linked to regional conflicts remain key concerns for aviation safety in the area. Note that the December 2024 downing of an Azerbaijan Airlines aircraft in a conflict zone is excluded from accident classification in this safety report. It is also important to note that CIS has limited accident information available and may undergo larger revisions than normal once more data becomes available. This may affect accident rate as well as fatality risk calculation.

Europe

With nine accidents in 2024, the all-accident rate increased slightly from 0.95 per million sectors in 2023 to 1.02 accidents in 2024. This rate is on par with the region's five-year average accident rate of 1.02. The fatality risk rate increased from zero in 2023 to 0.03 in 2024. The largest proportion of accidents were related to tail strikes followed by runway excursions.

North Asia

With a single accident, the all-accident rate increased slightly from zero accidents per million sectors in 2023 to 0.13 in 2024. This was better than the region's five-year average of 0.16 accidents per million sectors. Fatality risk has remained zero since 2022. There was only one accident involving North Asian-based operators and was related to a tail strike.

Latin America and the Caribbean

With five accidents in 2024, the all-accident rate increased from 0.73 accidents per million sectors in 2023 to 1.77 accidents in 2024. This was better than the five-year average of 2.00. The fatality risk increased from 0.00 in 2023 to 0.35 in 2024. The largest proportion of accidents was related to tail strikes.

Loss Rates and Fatality Risk by Region (per 1 million flights)

Region	Jet Hull Loss 2023	Jet hull loss 2024	Jet hull loss 5-yr AVG ('20-'24)	Turboprop Hull Loss 2023	Turboprop Hull Loss 2024	Turboprop Hull Loss 5-YR AVG ('20-'24)	Fatality Risk 2023	Fatality Risk 2024	Fatality Risk 5-YR AVG ('20-'24)
Africa	0.00	1.78	0.36	2.38	5.24	5.78	0.00	0.00	1.60
Asia-Pacific	0.00	0.36	0.26	0.85	0.86	0.34	0.15	0.15	0.16
CIS	1.13	0.00	0.46	0.00	0.00	8.67	0.00	0.00	0.47
Europe	0.13	0.13	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.01
Latin America and the Caribbean	0.00	0.40	0.36	0.00	2.97	2.22	0.00	0.35	0.08
Middle East and North Africa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
North America	0.00	0.00	0.03	1.48	0.00	0.64	0.00	0.00	0.00
North Asia	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05
Global	0.06	0.14	0.15	0.83	1.12	1.37	0.03	0.06	0.10

Strengthening Safety Through Timely, Comprehensive and Public Accident Reports

Delayed or incomplete accident reports deny critical stakeholders—operators,

manufacturers, regulators, and infrastructure providers—vital insights that could further improve aviation safety. IATA’s analysis of 2018-2023 accident investigations reveals that only 57% were completed and published as obligated by the Chicago Convention.

Completion rates vary significantly across regions, with North Asia leading at 75%, followed by North America (70%) and Europe (66%), CIS (65%), Middle East and North Africa (60%), Latin America and the Caribbean (57%), Asia-Pacific (53%), and Africa (20%).

“Accident investigation is a vital tool for improving global aviation safety. To be effective, the reports of accident investigations must be complete, accessible, and timely. Annex 13 of the Chicago Convention is clear that this is a state’s obligation. Burying accident reports for political considerations is completely unacceptable. And if capacity is the blocker, then we need a coordinated global effort to provide technical support to countries with limited accident investigation expertise,” said Walsh.

Sharp Rise in GNSS Interference Poses Growing Risk to Aviation Safety

Data from the [IATA Incident Data Exchange \(IDX\)](#) highlights a sharp increase in GNSS-related interference, which can mislead aircraft navigation systems. While there are several back-up systems in place to support aviation safety even when these systems are affected, these incidents still pose deliberate and unacceptable risks to civil aviation. GNSS interference is most prevalent in Türkiye, Iraq, and Egypt.

Reports of GNSS interference—including signal disruptions, jamming, and spoofing—surged between 2023 and 2024. Interference rates increased by 175%, while GPS spoofing incidents spiked by 500%.

“The sharp rise in GNSS interference events is deeply concerning. Reliable navigation is fundamental to safe and efficient flight operations. Immediate steps by governments and air navigation service providers are needed to stop this practice, improve situational awareness, and ensure that airlines have the necessary tools to operate safely in all areas,” said Walsh.

(IATA)