EASA
European Union Aviation Safety Agency

ANNUAL SAFETY REVIEW 2026 SUMMARY

European Aviation Safety Performance in 2025

The headline figures and the risks behind them

This summary complements the full Annual Safety Review



Accidents and Serious Incidents in 2025

Domain	Accidents and Consequences				Serious Incidents
	Accidents	of which fatal	Fatalities	Serious injuries	
CAT complex aeroplanes	17	1	8	17	51
CAT other than complex aeroplanes	0	0	0	0	0
Non-commercial complex aeroplanes	2	1	4	0	5
Specialised operations aeroplanes	8	2	3	2	3
Non-commercial other aeroplanes	156	21	40	16	31
Helicopters	45	9	18	16	46
Balloons	14	1	1	9	4
Sailplanes	75	15	16	10	7
UAS	27	0	0	2	12
Aerodromes and ground handling	6	0	0	0	2
ATM/ANS contribution	0	0	0	0	4

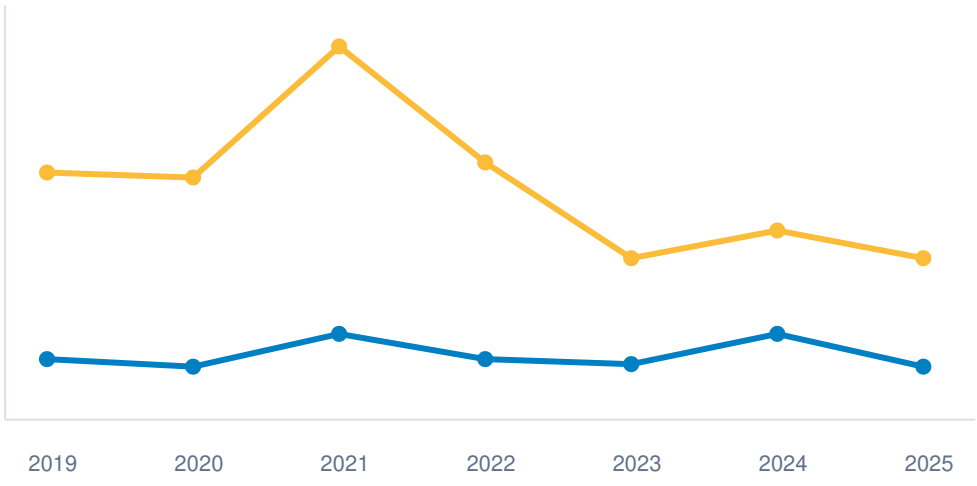
Accidents include fatal and non-fatal accidents. An event with a serious injury is also qualified as an accident. Absolute totals should not be used to compare domains with different levels of activity and operating environments.

Source: EASA Annual Safety Review 2026, cross-domain and domain key statistics.

Commercial Air Transport Aeroplanes in 2025

1	16	51	8	17
Fatal accident	Non-fatal accidents	Serious incidents	Fatalities	Serious injuries

Rates per million departures



The fatal accident

An air taxi flight crashed after declaring an emergency. Eight people were fatally injured.

Serious injuries

Turbulence, airstair disembarkation, wake vortex, a TCAS-related manoeuvre, evacuation and pushback contributed to the 17 serious injuries.

Leading safety risks

1. Fire, smoke and pressurisation
2. Aircraft upset
3. Airborne collision
4. Collision on runway
5. Excursion

Risk period ERCS analysis of risk-scored occurrences, 2023-2025

Related Top Safety Topics Onboard Fires (including Lithium Battery Fires), Adverse weather encounters (CAT), Mid-air collision, Runway incursions, Erroneous take-off parameters

Source: EASA Annual Safety Review 2026. Figures relate to 2025 unless stated otherwise.

Commercial and Specialised Rotorcraft in 2025

Commercial air transport

1 Fatal accident	**4** Non-fatal accidents	**14** Serious incidents
3 Fatalities	**1** Serious injury	

Fatal accident

The accident occurred at night in reported fog. The investigation remains ongoing.

Specialised operations

2 Fatal accidents	**6** Non-fatal accidents	**8** Serious incidents
2 Fatalities	**6** Serious injuries	

Fatal accident

One involved loss of control during specialised operations. In the other, a ground worker was fatally injured during external-load work.

Leading safety risks

CAT rotorcraft

1. Aircraft upset
2. Airborne collision
3. Terrain collision
4. Fire, smoke and pressurisation
5. Obstacle collision in flight

Leading safety risks

Specialised rotorcraft

1. Obstacle collision in flight
2. Aircraft upset
3. Other injuries
4. Airborne collision
5. Terrain collision

Risk period for "Leading safety risks": ERCS analysis of risk-scored occurrences, 2023-2025

Source: EASA Annual Safety Review 2026. Figures relate to 2025 unless stated otherwise.

General Aviation in 2025

Aeroplanes, rotorcraft, balloons and sailplanes

Non-commercial aeroplanes

21	135	31	40	16
Fatal accidents	Non-fatal accidents	Serious incidents	Fatalities	Serious injuries

Leading safety risks

1 Aircraft upset
2 Terrain collision
3 Airborne collision
4 Excursion
5 Obstacle collision in flight

Most activity occurred in pleasure flying and flight training.

Non-commercial rotorcraft

6	25	21	14	7
Fatal accidents	Non-fatal accidents	Serious incidents	Fatalities	Serious injuries

Leading safety risks

1 Aircraft upset
2 Terrain collision
3 Obstacle collision in flight
4 Airborne collision
5 Collision on runway

A mid-air collision involving two helicopters caused five fatalities.

Balloons

1	13	4	1	9
Fatal accident	Non-fatal accidents	Serious incidents	Fatality	Serious injuries

Leading safety risks

1 Obstacle collision in flight
2 Other injuries
3 Airborne collision
4 Aircraft upset
5 Security

Hard landings remained the most frequent occurrence category.

Sailplanes

15	60	7	16	10
Fatal accidents	Non-fatal accidents	Serious incidents	Fatalities	Serious injuries

Leading safety risks

1 Aircraft upset
2 Excursion
3 Terrain collision
4 Airborne collision
5 Obstacle collision in flight

Loss of control was associated with 9 of the 15 fatal accidents.

Related Top Safety Topics Inadvertent Entry into IMC for GA Rotorcraft and GA small single engine aeroplanes, Mid-air collision.

Risk period for "Leading safety risks": ERCS analysis of risk-scored occurrences, 2023-2025

Source: EASA Annual Safety Review 2026. Figures relate to 2025 unless stated otherwise.

Explore the Full Annual Safety Review 2026

Annual Safety Review Structure

01 Cross-domain safety overview

02 Aeroplanes

03 Helicopters

04 Balloons

05 Sailplanes

06 Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)

07 Aerodromes and ground handling

08 Air Traffic Management/Air Navigation Services (ATM/ANS)

09 Standardisation

Read the full Annual Safety Review

Detailed statistics, methodology and risk analysis

Links to Domains, Top Safety Topics and Other Resources

Domains

Air Operations

Rotorcraft

General Aviation

Top Safety Topics

Runway incursions, Approach path management, GNSS interference, Erroneous take-off parameters, Adverse weather encounters (CAT), Mid-air collision, Inadvertent entry in IMC for GA rotorcraft and GA single engine/small twin engine aeroplanes, Bird and wildlife strikes, Conflict with unauthorised UAS, On-board fires (including lithium battery fires)

EASA Air Ops Community

EASA GA Community

EASA Rotorcraft Community

easa.europa.eu

Source: EASA Annual Safety Review 2026.