

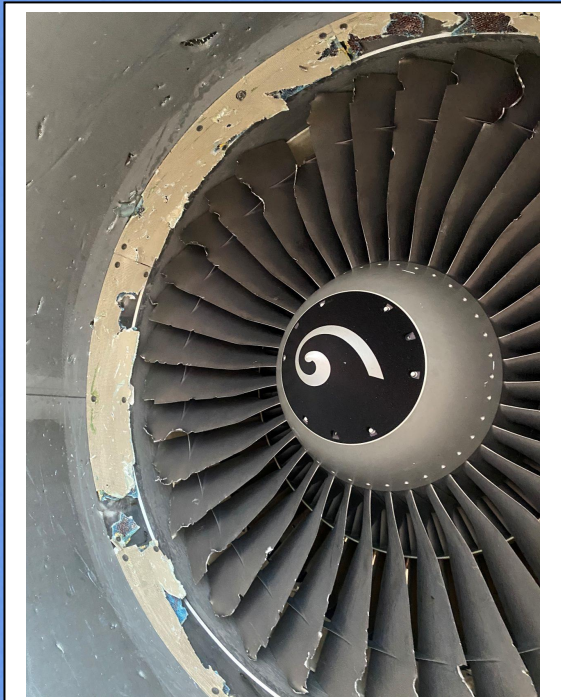


U. S. DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION
ADMINISTRATION

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States 1990 – 2022



U. S. DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE
WILDLIFE SERVICES



Federal Aviation Administration
National Wildlife Strike Database
Serial Report Number 29

Report of the Associate Administrator of Airports
Office of Airport Safety and Standards
Airport Safety & Certification
Washington, DC

June 2023

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The Federal Aviation Administration produced this report in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Wildlife Services, under an interagency agreement (692M15-19-T-00017). The purpose of this agreement is to 1) document wildlife strikes to civil aviation through management of the FAA National Wildlife Strike Database and 2) research, evaluate, and communicate the effectiveness of various habitat management and wildlife control techniques for minimizing wildlife strikes with aircraft at and away from airports. These activities provide a scientific basis for FAA policies, regulatory decisions, and recommendations regarding airport safety and wildlife.

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COVER PAGE

An Airbus 321 ingested a large bird in the #1 engine during a late afternoon take-off run at a western airport, July 2022. The engine suffered catastrophic damage and caught fire. The right main landing gear was damaged by excessive heat from braking. The aircraft was taken out of service, and passengers rebooked on other flights.

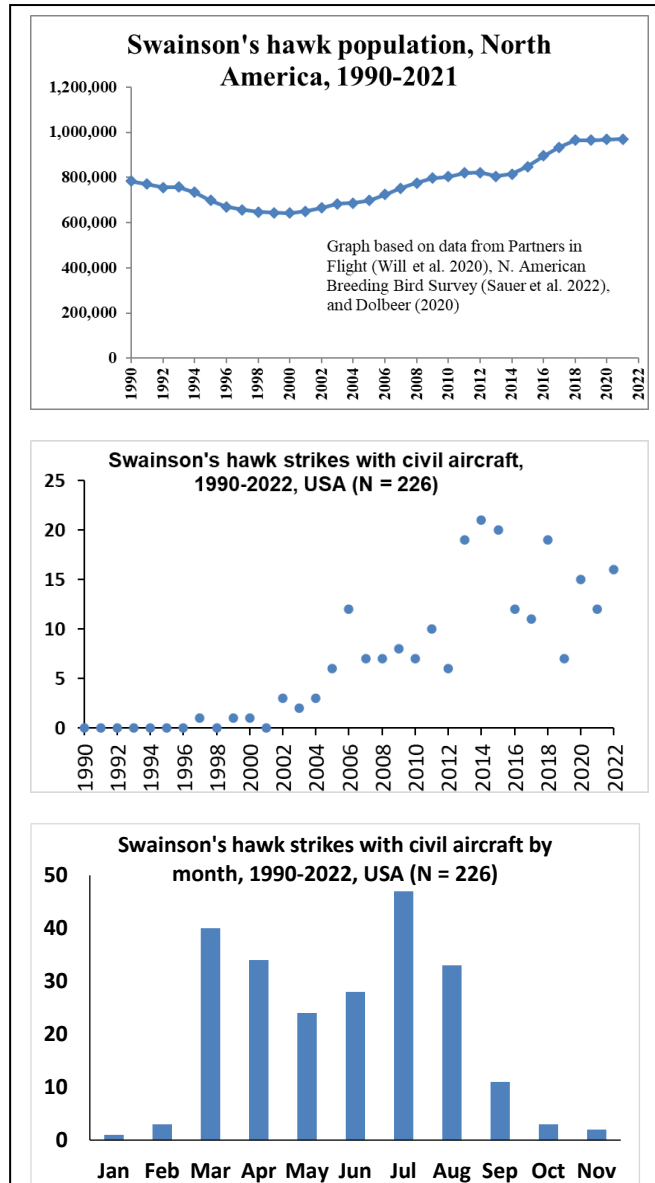
Bird remains collected from the damaged engine and sent to the Smithsonian Feather Laboratory were identified as from a Swainson's hawk (mean body mass = 1.1 kg).

The population of Swainson's hawks in North America declined slightly in the 1990s but increased about 50% from 2000-2021. During the past 10 years (2013 -2022), an average of 15 strikes involving Swainson's hawks and civil aircraft were reported per year in USA.

This species breeds across much of the western USA and southwestern Canada and migrates primarily to South America for the winter. Thus, most strikes with aircraft in the USA occur in summer. This transitory behavior makes managing Swainson's hawks around airports a challenging endeavor for airport biologists.

The National Wildlife Strike Database provides the scientific foundation for policies and management programs to mitigate the risk of strikes by Swainson's hawks and other wildlife in ways compliant with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and other environmental laws at all levels of government.

Photos: **C. Selner** (aircraft); **Steven Mlodinow** (Swainson's hawk).



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The National Wildlife Strike Database (NWSD) office acknowledges the many people who took the time and effort to report the 276,846 wildlife strikes summarized in this report—pilots, mechanics, control tower and airport operations personnel, airline flight safety officers, airport wildlife biologists, and many others. We recognize **Mahalah Schank** (USDA) for her diligence in entering and editing data and editing this report. We acknowledge **Wesley Major** (FAA) for his leadership and technical advice. We recognize **Marcy Heacker** who retired in 2022 from the Smithsonian Institution Feather Identification Laboratory, for her dedicated service in ensuring accurate species identifications. Special recognition is given to **Sandra Wright**, who managed the NWSD from its inception in 1995 until her retirement in 2015. She set a high standard for data quality and consistency so that analyses such as presented in this report could be accomplished. We also acknowledge **Gene LeBoeuf** (FAA, retired) and **Edward Cleary** (FAA, deceased) for their leadership in initiating and developing the NWSD. Finally, we acknowledge the suggestions and critiques made by various people over the years that have enhanced the usefulness and accuracy of the NWSD and annual reports such as presented here.

Sponsorship and funds for the ongoing maintenance and analysis of the NWSD are provided by the FAA, Office of Airport Safety and Standards, Washington, DC, and the Airport Technology Research and Development Branch, FAA William J. Hughes Technical Center, Atlantic City, NJ.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – PART 1: WILDLIFE STRIKES TO CIVIL AIRCRAFT IN THE UNITED STATES, 1990–2022

Although birds are critical ecologic, economic, and esthetic components of the environment deserving rigorous international protection, they can at times conflict with human activities such as aviation. Aircraft collisions with birds and other wildlife (wildlife strikes) have become a growing concern for aviation safety. Factors that contribute to this threat are increasing populations of large birds and increased air traffic by quieter, turbofan-powered aircraft. Globally, wildlife strikes killed more than 464 people and destroyed over 305 aircraft from 1988-2022.

This report presents an analysis of data from the National Wildlife Strike Database (NWSD) for the 33-year period, 1990 through 2022. A sample of 15 significant wildlife strikes to civil aircraft in the USA during 2022 is also included as Appendix A. Appendix B explains how to report strikes and the role of the Smithsonian Institution Feather Lab in identifying bird and other wildlife species that are struck. Appendix C lists the scientific names and mean body masses for the 774 wildlife species mentioned in the report.

In 2022, 17,190 strikes were reported, an increase of 10 percent compared to the 15,639 strikes reported in 2021. The 10 percent increase was directly related to the respective 10 percent and 4 percent increases in aircraft movements at Part 139 airports (certificated for passenger service) and general aviation airports in 2022 compared to 2021 following relaxation of COVID-19 travel restrictions. For the 33-year period (1990–2022), 276,846 strikes were reported of which 272,016 (98.3 percent) occurred in the USA.

Both Part 139-certificated airports and general aviation airports have recorded significant increases in reported strikes per 100,000 movements from 1990-2022. However, the number of damaging strikes per 100,000 movements below 1,500 feet above ground level has remained stable at Part 139-certificated airports from 2000– 2022 whereas there has been a significant increase in the damaging strike rate at general aviation airports.

In 2022, 73 percent and <1 percent of the 17,190 strike reports were filed using the electronic and paper versions, respectively, of FAA Form 5200-7, Bird/Other Wildlife Strike Report. More than one type of report was filed for the same strike event in 16 percent of the strikes (many of these had at least one FAA Form 5200-7E report filed). Ten percent of reports were submitted via the Air Traffic Organization Mandatory Occurrence Reporting system.

The 693 airports with strikes reported in 2022 were comprised of 429 Part 139-certificated airports and 264 general aviation airports. From 1990-2022, strikes have been reported from 2,062 different USA airports. Commercial transport and general aviation aircraft were involved in 86 and 14 percent of the reported strikes in 2022.

From 1990 to 2022, 54 percent of bird strikes occurred between July and October; 29 percent of deer strikes occurred in October-November. Terrestrial mammals are more likely to be struck at night (62 percent) whereas birds are struck more often during the day

(62 percent). Birds, terrestrial mammals, and bats are all much more likely to be struck during the arrival phase of flight (61, 63, and 85 percent of strikes, respectively) compared to departure (34, 33 and 12 percent, respectively).

For commercial transport and general aviation aircraft, about 70 percent of bird strikes occurred at or below 500 feet AGL from 1990 to 2022. Above 500 feet AGL, the number of strikes declined by 34 percent for each 1,000-foot gain in height for commercial transport aircraft, and by 42 percent for general aviation aircraft. Strikes occurring above 500 feet were more likely to cause damage than strikes at or below 500 feet. The record height for a reported bird strike was 31,300 feet.

From 1990 to 2022, 639 species of birds, 55 species of terrestrial mammals, 46 species of bats, and 34 species of reptiles were identified as struck by aircraft. Waterfowl, raptors, and gulls are the species groups of birds with the most damaging strikes; artiodactyls (mainly deer) and carnivores (mainly coyotes) are the terrestrial mammals with the most damaging strikes. Although the percentage of wildlife strikes with reported damage has averaged 7 percent for the 33-year period, this number has declined from a peak of 18 percent in 1995 to 4 percent in 2022.

A negative effect-on-flight was reported in 5 percent and 15 percent of the bird and terrestrial mammal strike reports, respectively, 1990-2022. Precautionary/emergency landing after striking wildlife was the most reported negative effect (8,030 incidents), including 330 incidents in which the pilot either jettisoned fuel (63 incidents, mean of 14,421 gallons), made an overweight landing (135 incidents), or burned fuel in circling pattern (132 incidents). Aborted take-off was the second most reported negative effect (2,976 incidents). These negative incidents included 601 aborted take-offs at ≥ 100 knots. As has the trend for the percentage of strikes causing damage, the percentage of strikes with a reported negative effect-on-flight has declined from a high of 11 percent in 1995-1996 to 3 percent in 2022. For commercial transport aircraft, the number of high-speed (≥ 100 knots) aborted take-offs declined from a high of 25 in 2000 to 8 in 2022.

For the 33 species of birds most frequently identified as struck by civil aircraft, 1990-2022, there was a strong correlation ($R^2 = 0.83$) between mean body mass and the likelihood of a strike causing damage to aircraft. For every 100-gram increase in body mass, there was a 1.28 percent increase in the likelihood of damage. Thus, body mass is a good predictor of relative hazard level among bird species.

Eighty-one strikes resulted in a destroyed aircraft from 1990-2022 (none in 2022); 46 (57 percent) of these occurred at general aviation airports. The annual cost of wildlife strikes to the USA civil aviation industry in 2022 was projected to be 67,848 hours of aircraft downtime and \$385 million in direct and other monetary losses. These projections may be at the high end of actual costs because of the skewed nature of reported cost data. More thorough reporting of strike events and associated costs combined with additional economic analyses are needed to refine the actual costs of wildlife strikes to the aviation industry.

This analysis of 33 years of strike data documents the progress being made in reducing damaging strikes for commercial transport aircraft. Management actions to mitigate the risk have been implemented at many airports since the 1990s; these efforts are likely responsible for the general stabilization or decline in reported strikes with damage and a negative effect-on-flight at Part 139-certificated airports from 2000-2022 despite continued increases in populations of many large bird species. However, much work remains to be done to reduce wildlife strikes. Management actions at airports should be prioritized based on the hazard level of species observed in the aircraft operating area.

To address strikes outside the airport environment, municipalities and the aviation community must first widen their view of wildlife management to minimize hazardous wildlife attractants within 5 miles of airports. Second, the aviation community needs to broaden the view of wildlife strike risks from a ground-based wildlife management problem to an airspace management problem that also encompasses Air Traffic Control, flight crews, and aircraft manufacturers. Long-term goals include the integration of avian radar and bird migration forecasting into airspace management and the development of aircraft lighting systems to enhance detection and avoidance by birds. Finally, there continues to be a need for increased and more detailed strike reporting. When reports are filed, it is important that relevant information be provided whenever possible regarding species identification, number of wildlife struck, time and height of strike, phase of flight, and damage to aircraft components. A problem that is not well defined cannot be properly managed.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY– PART 2: FAA ACTIVITIES FOR MITIGATING WILDLIFE STRIKES

In 2022, the FAA continued a multifaceted approach for mitigating wildlife strikes both nationally and globally. This included continuing a robust research program, making improvements to the NWSD and outreach, working with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) headquarters in Montreal, the ICAO Asia Pacific (APAC) region and other foreign destinations as well as providing Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funding to airports to conduct Wildlife Hazard Assessments (Assessments) and develop Wildlife Hazard Management Plans (Plans).

Landmark events such as the emergency forced landing of US Airways Flight 1549 Airbus 320 into the Hudson River on January 15, 2009 demonstrated to the world the severity of aircraft collisions with birds and other wildlife. Comprehensive evaluations have ensured optimal guidance, compliance and risk reduction moving forward. The FAA, in conjunction with the USDA and Smithsonian Institution, has worked to improve strike reporting options, turnaround time from report submission to public availability, data processing and analysis, as well as data access via this report and our web sites. Updated software has allowed strike reports to be vetted and publicly available in the NWSD within 4-5 days of the strike report being submitted. This is a substantial improvement over the historic 1 - 2 month quality assurance delay needed in previous years without the technological

enhancements. The reduced turnaround time has provided immediate benefits to airports, airlines, engine and airframe manufacturers and biologists alike.

In the fourteen-year span 2009 – 2022, over \$400 million of Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funds have been allocated for wildlife-related projects such as Assessments, Plans and airport perimeter fencing. All Part 139 certificated airports have successfully completed Assessments followed by Plans. Many of those airports have already updated their original Assessments with new ones while others have chosen to implement Continual Monitoring programs as detailed in Advisory Circular 150/ 5200- 38 - *Protocol for the Conduct and Review of Wildlife Hazard Site Visits, Wildlife Hazard Assessments, and Wildlife Hazard Management Plans* (published August 20, 2018).

In October 2022, the FAA released a new Wildlife Hazards video. This updated outreach endeavor is part of the FAA Airport Safety Information Video Series. It discusses how successful wildlife strike reporting and the National Wildlife Strike Database (jointly administered by USDA and FAA) is reducing the impact of wildlife strikes on both commercial and general aviation.

The FAA dedicated over \$30 million in research funds since Flight 1549's emergency forced landing into the Hudson River in 2009. These research funds help us better understand the capabilities of advanced detection and monitoring systems such as avian radars, Foreign Object Debris (FOD) radars and infrared / electro-optical scanning systems. Other research initiatives included aircraft-mounted lighting systems to enhance bird detection and avoidance, wildlife control techniques, habitat management, Canada goose movement analyses, capture and relocation efficacy of raptors, DNA and molecular identifications, and the evaluation of unmanned aerial systems (UAS) for hazing, detection and monitoring hazardous wildlife.

On February 21, 2020, AC 150/5200-33C *Hazardous Wildlife Attractants On or Near Airports* was updated with significant changes. The updated language included clarification of separation criteria, new guidance on land-use practices (e.g., aquaculture, agriculture, dredge spoil, etc.), inclusion of general aviation (GA) airport wildlife responsibilities and a new section *Airport Procedures for Off-site Attractants* that provides step-by-step guidance when proposed land-use changes may provide an attractant to hazardous species.

Continuing international efforts in 2022 included: 1) assisting the ICAO APAC region with the development of a regional wildlife hazard management manual, 2) leading ICAO's ADOP.015.03 Job Card to rewrite the ICAO Birdstrike Information System (IBIS) manual (Doc 9332) as Rapporteur of the Wildlife Hazard Management Expert Group (WHMEG), 3) collaborating on a proposal to permit international strike data access and data sharing and 4) providing assistance to foreign regulators and aerodromes on an as-needed basis.

The Sandy Wright / Richard Dolbeer Excellence in Strike Reporting award was initiated in 2014 to recognize those airports that have exhibited a noteworthy strike-reporting program. For their commitment to the identification and documentation of wildlife / aircraft strike information, the FAA proudly recognizes the strike reporting programs at **Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR)** and **Quonset State Airport (OQU)** as the winners of the 2022 Sandy Wright / Richard Dolbeer Excellence in Strike Reporting award.

Covid-19 impacts to passenger air travel resulted in 62% and 31% reductions in air travel (520 million and 261 million fewer passengers) in 2020 and 2021, respectively, compared to pre-COVID-19 2019. It also resulted in 28% and 11% reductions in aircraft movements at 368 Part 139-certificated airports (10.3 million and 4.0 million fewer movements) in 2020 and 2021, respectively, compared to 2019. Although the decline in aircraft movements resulted in 33% and 9% reductions in reported strikes in 2020 and 2021, respectively, when compared to 2019, the strike rate (strikes/100,000 movements) declined by only 6% in 2020 and increased 2% in 2021 compared to 2019. COVID-19 clearly affected airport personnel and mitigation strategies, but risk reduction from wildlife remained a high priority at the nation's airports. Overall, the percentage of strikes with damage has fluctuated negligibly over the past 4 years (4.4% in 2018 – 2019 and 4.2% in 2020 – 2021). This again, shows why managing wildlife attractants off airport properties out to 5-miles is critical. Eighty-two percent of strikes occur at or below 1,500 feet Above Ground Level (AGL). This altitude falls within the 5-mile separation distance recommended for wildlife attractants, meaning that on-ground wildlife mitigation activities out to 5 miles can have a positive effect on risk reduction for 82 percent of all wildlife strikes.

Strikes occur every day, but when compared to the total number of flights in the system they are rare. Although it is impossible to eliminate all strikes at all times between aircraft and animals, comprehensive assessment, planning and management techniques have successfully mitigated damaging strikes on or near airports. Combined with systematic evaluation and adaptation of techniques, safety can be increased one less strike at a time.

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PART 1: WILDLIFE STRIKES TO CIVIL AIRCRAFT IN THE UNITED STATES, 1990–2022

INTRODUCTION

By the end of 2022, the NWSD contained strike records involving civil aircraft and 639 species of birds, 55 species of terrestrial mammals, 46 species of bats, and 34 species of reptiles for a total of 774 wildlife species since 1990. Each species has unique characteristics regarding body mass, physical density, social behavior, habitat use, feeding habits, movement patterns, and response to approaching aircraft. In addition to these factors, about 90 percent of the bird strikes involve species federally protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA, Dolbeer 2021a). Most of the remaining 10 percent of bird species and the various mammal and reptile species have legal protection at the state and local level. This diversity of species, the overlying legal protections, and broad public concern for wildlife require that airports and engine and aircraft manufacturers consider a broad range of elements when mitigating the risk of bird and other wildlife strikes.



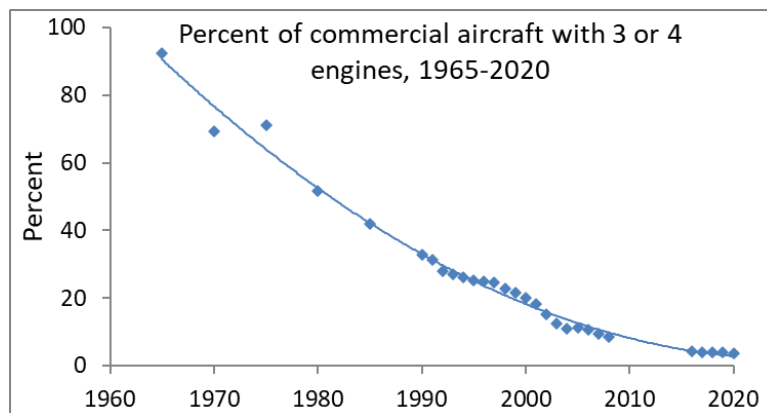
A B-737-800 on approach at night to a Midwest airport at 5000 feet AGL and 250 knots in November 2022 struck multiple Canada geese, causing damage to the radome, both wings, engine cowling, and Pitot tubes (airspeed indicators). The flight crew declared an emergency and landed safely with a visual approach 8 minutes after the strike. Photo, Roger Skorepa.

Although birds and other wildlife are critical ecologic, economic, and esthetic components of the environment deserving rigorous protection (Sekercioglu et al. 2016), they at times conflict with human activities such as agriculture (Linz et al. 2017) and aviation. Aircraft collisions with birds and other wildlife have become an increasing concern for aviation safety in recent years (Bogaisky 2019, Koerner 2020, Ghayad 2022).

The reasons for the increasing concern are complex. A major factor is that due to the MBTA, other environmental initiatives, and land-use changes, populations of most large bird species in North America have increased markedly in the last 3 decades and adapted to urban environments, including airports. Dolbeer (2020) examined the estimated population trends and numbers for the 36 species of birds in North America with mean

body masses ≥ 1.1 kg and at least 20 reported strikes with civil aircraft, 1990-2018 (certification standards for aircraft engines and airframe components require testing with bird masses from 1.1 kg to 3.6 kg depending on component and aircraft type [Croft 2011, 14 CFR Part 33-77]). Of these 36 larger species, 26 indicated population increases of greater than 10 percent, 5 were unchanged, and 5 showed declines of greater than 10 percent. The net gain in numbers for the 36 species was an estimated 35 million birds (62% increase). Notably, all 9 species with body mass ≥ 3.6 kg indicated population increases.

As a specific example, the resident population of Canada geese has increased over 4-fold from 1 million in 1990 to 4.5 million in 2021 (Dolbeer 2020, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2022). During the same time, the sandhill crane population has increased about 4-fold from 200,000 to 800,000 (Dubovsky 2018, Dolbeer 2020, Sauer et al. 2022).



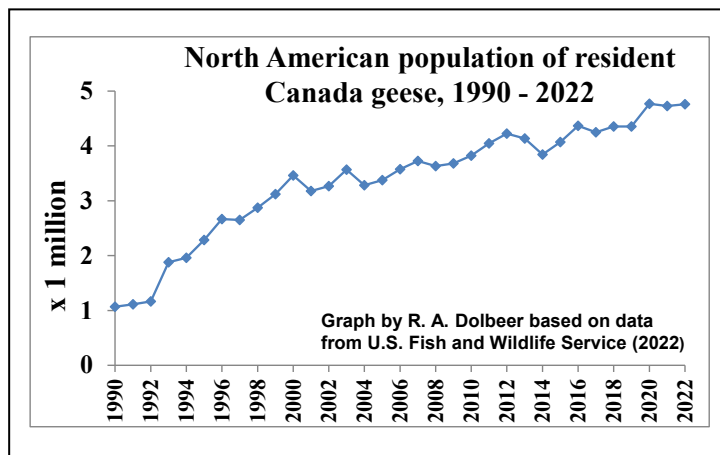
A second factor relates to aircraft and engine design. Commercial air carriers have replaced their older three or four-engine aircraft fleets with more efficient and quieter, two-engine aircraft. In 1965, about 94 percent of the 1,037 turbine-powered transport aircraft in the USA had three or four engines compared to less than 4 percent of the 7,405 aircraft in 2020

(U.S. Department of Transportation 2023, Aeroweb 2023). With the steady advances in technology over the past several decades, today's two-engine aircraft are more powerful and reliable than yesterday's three and four-engine aircraft. However, in the event of multiple-engine ingestions, aircraft with two engines may have vulnerabilities not shared by their three or four engine-equipped counterparts (Langston 2019). In addition, bird strikes to critical aircraft sensors connected to flight control systems can be problematic.

Three incidents in the past 14 years highlight these vulnerabilities. On 15 January 2009, US Airways Flight 1549 (Airbus 320) with 155 persons aboard made a forced landing in the Hudson River after ingesting Canada geese into both engines at 2900 feet above ground level after departure from LaGuardia Airport, New York (Marra et al. 2009, National Transportation Safety Board 2010). On 15 August 2019, Ural Airlines Flight 178 (Airbus 321) with 234 persons aboard made a forced landing in a corn field 3 miles from Zhukovsky International Airport, Moscow, Russia after ingesting herring gulls into both engines during take-off (Aviation Safety Network 2023). Incredibly, none of the 389 people was killed in these "Miracle on the Hudson" and "Miracle in the Corn Field" bird-strike events even though both aircraft were damaged beyond repair. However, on 10 March 2019, a Boeing 737 Max 8 crashed shortly after take-off from Addis Ababa Bole International Airport, Ethiopia, killing all 157 people aboard. The U.S. National Transportation Safety Board concluded that the "erroneous Angle of Attack sensor output

[which forced the aircraft into a steep dive] was caused by the separation of the Angle of Attack sensor vane due to impact with a foreign object, which was most likely a bird” (National Transportation Safety Board 2023).

A third complicating factor is that birds are less able to detect and avoid modern jet aircraft with quieter turbofan engines (Chapter 3, International Civil Aviation Organization 1993) compared to older aircraft with noisier (Chapter 2) engines (Burger 1983, Kelly et al. 1999). This is analogous to the demonstrated greater “strike rate” for pedestrians and bicyclists (increases of 35 percent and 57 percent, respectively) with electric vehicles compared to vehicles with noisier internal combustion engines (Wu et al. 2011). In October 2017, the FAA adopted a rule requiring new transport aircraft to have noise levels further reduced by at least 7 decibels compared to the current fleet (Federal Register 2017).

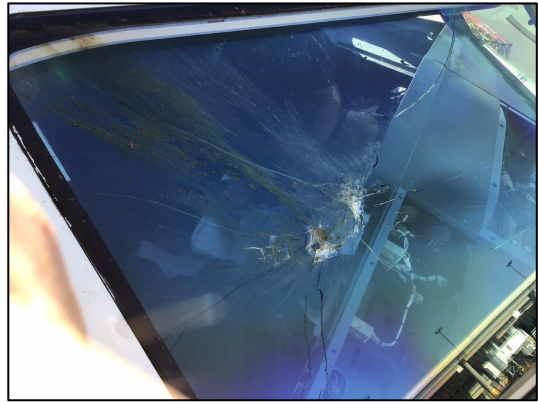


As a result of these factors, experts within the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and U.S. military expect the risk of bird and other wildlife strikes to be a continuing challenge. Mitigating these risks presents many unique challenges because of the diversity of wildlife species involved, their mobility and adaptability, legal requirements of the MBTA and other environmental laws, and

overall public interest in the protection of wildlife. But these challenges must be met. Globally, wildlife strikes have killed more than 464 people and destroyed over 305 civil and military aircraft from 1988–2022 in addition to causing economic losses in the billions of dollars (Allan and Orosz 2001; Richardson and West 2000; Thorpe 2012; Avisure 2023).

The FAA has initiated several programs to address this important safety issue. A foundation of these programs is the collection and analysis of data from wildlife strikes. The FAA began collecting bird and bat strike data in 1965 (expanded to include terrestrial mammals and reptiles in 1990). However, except for cursory examinations of strike reports to determine general trends, the data were never organized and submitted to rigorous analysis until the 1990s. In 1995, the FAA, through an interagency agreement with the USDA, Wildlife Services (USDA/WS), initiated a project to obtain more objective estimates of the magnitude and nature of the wildlife strike problem for civil aviation. Specialists from the USDA/WS: (1) research all strike reports (FAA Form 5200-7, *Bird/Other Wildlife Strike Report*) received by the FAA since 1990 to ensure consistent, high-quality data; (2) process all edited strike reports into the FAA National Wildlife Strike Database; (3) supplement FAA-reported strikes with additional, non-duplicated strike

reports from other sources; and (4) assist the FAA with the production of annual and special reports summarizing the results of analyses of the data from the National Wildlife Strike Database. Such analyses are critical to determining the economic cost of wildlife strikes, the magnitude of safety issues, and most important, the nature of the problems (e.g., wildlife species involved, types of damage, height and phase of flight during which strikes occur, seasonal patterns, and long-term trends in strikes). The information obtained from these analyses provides the foundation for FAA national policies and guidance and for refinements in the development and implementation of integrated research and management efforts to reduce wildlife strikes. Data on the number of strikes causing damage to aircraft or other adverse effects (e.g., aborted take-off) also provide a benchmark for individual airports to evaluate and improve their Wildlife Hazard Management Plans in the context of a Safety Management System (Dolbeer and Begier 2012).



An A-320 struck a migrating bird at night at 12,500 feet AGL and 310 knots during climb from a southern U.S. Airport, September 2022. The bird cracked outer layer of First Officer's windshield. Pilot made a precautionary landing back at airport after burning fuel. Bird remains sent to Smithsonian were identified as Sora (maximum body mass = 126 grams). Photo, C. Boyles.

The first annual report on wildlife strikes to civil aircraft in the USA was completed in November 1995 (Dolbeer et al. 1995). This is the 29th report in the series and covers the 33-year period, 1990–2022. The current annual report is accessible as a PDF file at: http://www.faa.gov/airports/airport_safety/wildlife/.

To supplement the statistical summary of data presented in tables and graphs, a sample of 15 significant wildlife strikes to civil aircraft in the USA during 2022 is presented in Appendix A. These recent strike examples demonstrate the widespread and diverse nature of the problem. A more extensive list of significant strike events, 1990–2022, is available at http://www.faa.gov/airports/airport_safety/wildlife/.

Appendix B explains how to report strikes and the role of the Smithsonian Institution Feather Lab in identifying bird and other wildlife species that are struck.

Appendix C lists the common and scientific names for the 774 species of wildlife mentioned in the report, as well as mean and (when available) maximum body masses.

RESULTS

NUMBER OF REPORTED STRIKES AND STRIKES WITH DAMAGE

In 2022, 17,190 strikes were reported which was an increase of 10 percent compared to the 15,639 strikes reported in 2021 (Table 1, Figure 1). In 2022, 98.7 percent of the 17,190 strikes occurred in the USA¹; birds were involved in 94.9 percent of these strikes, bats in



A BE-400 BJET struck a double-crested cormorant during climb out of a coastal airport in Georgia, July 2022. The aircraft was en route to New York but diverted to an airport in Pennsylvania. The double-crested cormorant population in North America has doubled from about 450,000 to 900,000 birds, 1990–2021 (Dolbeer 2020, Sauer et al. 2022). Photo, Mike Crognale.

3.0 percent, terrestrial mammals in 1.7 percent, and reptiles in 0.4 percent (Table 2). For the 33-year period (1990–2022), 276,846 strikes were reported of which 272,016 (98.3 percent) occurred in the USA (Table 1).

The 10 percent increase in reported strikes in 2022 compared to 2021 combined with the 35% increase in 2021 compared to 2020 was directly related to the increase in aircraft movements at Part 139-certificated² airports and general aviation airports compared to 2019 (Tables 3, 4). This increase in civil aircraft movements, especially for passenger transport aircraft, was related to relaxation of travel restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Passenger traffic in the USA from March – December 2020 was down 72% compared to the same months in 2019 (Dolbeer 2021b, Transportation Security Administration 2023).

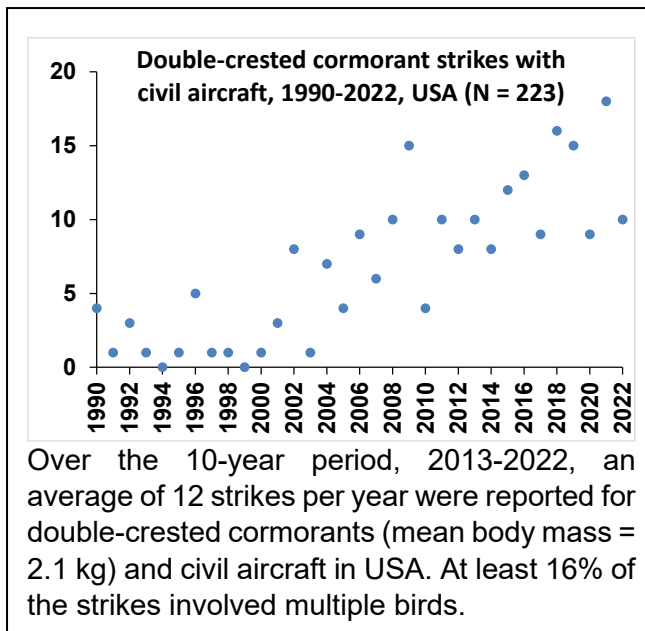
The number of reported strikes per 100,000 movements at Part 139-certificated airports has increased 2.7-fold from 12.70 in 2000 to 34.84 in 2022 (Table 3, Figure 2). However, the number of damaging strikes per 100,000 movements has changed by only 4 percent, from 1.40 in 2000 to 1.46 in 2022.

The number of reported strikes per 100,000 movements at general aviation airports also increased 2.6-fold, from 0.78 in 2000 to 2.80 in 2022 (Table 4, Figure 2). In contrast to Part 139-certificated airports, the damaging strike rate increased 31 percent, from 0.26 in 2000 to 0.34 in 2022.

¹ The database contains strikes involving U.S.- or foreign-registered aircraft in the USA and U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

² The U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR Part 139) requires the FAA to issue operating certificates to airports that serve scheduled and unscheduled air carrier aircraft with more than 9 seats or that the FAA Administrator requires to have a certificate. Part 139-certificated airports experiencing hazardous wildlife conditions as defined in Part 139.337 must conduct Wildlife Hazard Assessments and develop Wildlife Hazard Management Plans (Federal Aviation Administration 2023b).

The overall stabilization in damaging strike rates at Part 139-certificated airports since 2000 can be attributed the stabilization of damaging strikes in the airport environment (strikes occurring on departure or arrival at $\leq 1,500$ feet above ground level [AGL]). Damaging strikes on departure or arrival at $>1,500$ feet AGL have shown a significant increase (Figure 3). This stabilization in damaging strikes for transport aircraft in the airport environment has occurred despite an increase in populations of hazardous wildlife species (Dolbeer 2020) and as noted above, a major increase in reported strikes. These data demonstrate progress in wildlife hazard management programs at Part 139-certificated airports (Dolbeer 2011). The data also demonstrate the lack of progress in mitigating the risk of strikes outside the airport environment and the purview of wildlife hazard management plans (aircraft on approach or departure at >1500 feet AGL).



In contrast to Part 139-certificated airports, general aviation airports have seen a significant increase in the damaging strike rate in the airport environment (at $\leq 1,500$ feet AGL) and only a slight increase at $>1,500$ feet AGL, 1990-2022 (Figure 3).

The significant increase in the number of reported strikes per 100,000 movements at both Part 139-certificated airports and general aviation airports from 2000 to 2022, concurrent with the stabilization in damaging strikes at Part 139-certificated airports, indicate that the aviation industry is doing a better job of documenting all wildlife that are struck. Many of these strikes involve small species that rarely

cause damage to civil aircraft. This premise is supported by the fact that the mean mass of birds reported as struck has declined 63 percent from 0.76 kg to 0.28 kg, 2000-2022 (Figure 4).

METHODS OF REPORTING STRIKES

In 2022, 73 percent and <1 percent of the 17,190 strike reports were filed using the electronic and paper versions, respectively, of FAA Form 5200-7, *Bird/Other Wildlife Strike Report* (Table 5). Sixteen percent of reports came from multiple sources (i.e., more than one type of report was filed for same strike; many of these had at least one 5200-7E report filed). Strike reports submitted to the FAA via the Air Traffic Organization (ATO) Mandatory Occurrence Reporting system comprised 10 percent of reports. Under FAA Order JO 7210.632, (effective 30 Jan 2012), ATO personnel are required to report all bird strikes of which they become aware.

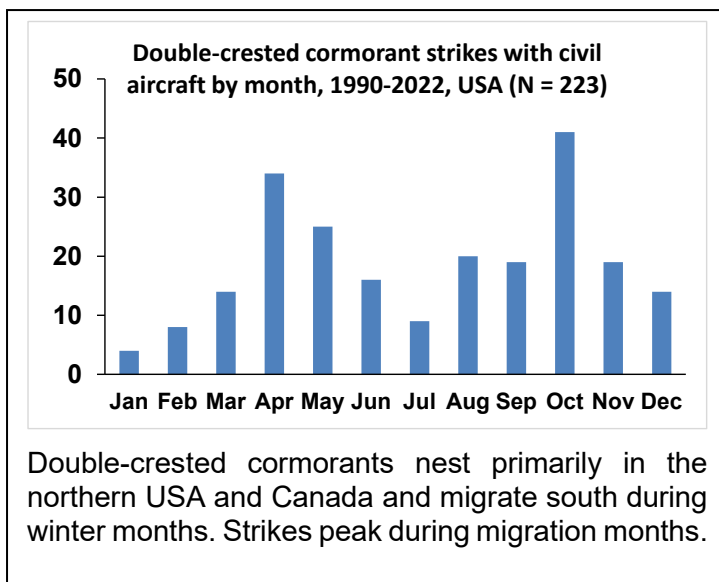
SOURCE OF REPORTS

In 2022, airport operations personnel filed 66 percent of the strike reports (including “Carcass Found” reports), followed by pilots (18 percent), Air Traffic Control personnel (10 percent), air transport operations personnel (3 percent), and other (3 percent, Table 6). In 2022, about 86 percent of the reported strikes involved commercial transport aircraft; the remainder involved business, private, and government aircraft (Table 7).

In 2022, strikes were reported at 693 USA airports, a decrease of 2 percent compared to the 708 airports in 2021 (Table 8, Figure 5). Of the 693 airports with strikes reported in 2022, 429 were Part 139-certificated airports and 264 were general aviation airports.

From 1990-2022, 237,829 strikes have been reported from 2,062 USA airports (Table 8). In addition, 4,830 strikes involving USA-registered civil aircraft were reported at 330 foreign airports in 113 countries, 1990 – 2022. In 2022, 230 strikes were reported at 91 foreign airports in 53 countries.

TIMING OF OCCURRENCE AND PHASE OF FLIGHT OF STRIKES



From 1990–2022, most bird strikes (54 percent) occurred between July and October (Figure 6) which is when birds are migrating, and populations are at their annual peak in North America following the nesting season. Sixty-two percent of bird strikes occurred during the day and 29 percent at night (Table 9). Almost twice as many strikes (61 percent of total) occurred during the arrival (descent, approach, or landing roll) phase of flight compared to 35 percent during departure (take-off run and climb, Table 10).

As with birds, most terrestrial mammal strikes occurred between July and November; with 29 percent of deer strikes concentrated in October-November and 39 percent of coyote strikes in August-October (Figure 7). Most terrestrial mammal strikes (62 percent) occurred at night (Table 9). As with birds, about twice as many strikes (63 percent of total) occurred during the arrival (final approach or landing roll) phase of flight compared to 32 percent during departure (take-off run and initial climb, Table 10).

For bats, 82 percent of strikes occurred at dawn, dusk, or night (Table 9). The difference in numbers of strikes during arrival compared to departure phase of flight was even greater for bats compared to birds and terrestrial mammals. Eighty-five percent of

reported bat strikes occurred during arrival compared to only 12 percent during departure (Table 10).

HEIGHT ABOVE GROUND LEVEL (AGL) OF STRIKES

Bird strikes with transport aircraft- From 1990 – 2022, about 42 percent of bird strikes with transport aircraft occurred when the aircraft was at 0 feet AGL, 71 percent occurred at 500 feet or less AGL, and 92 percent occurred at or below 3,500 feet AGL (Table 11). About 1 percent of bird strikes occurred above 9,500 feet AGL. Above 500 feet AGL, the number of reported strikes declined consistently by 34 percent for each 1,000-foot gain in height (Figure 8). The record height for a reported bird strike involving a transport aircraft in USA was 31,300 feet AGL.



A BE-200 was on initial approach to an airport in Texas at 4500 feet AGL and 248 knots in April 2022 when an American white pelican was struck. The pilot landed the aircraft safely despite substantial damage to the right wing. The AWPE population in North America has increased 4-fold from 1990-2021 (Dolbeer 2020, Sauer et al. 2022). Photo, D. Warschun.

Strikes occurring above 500 feet AGL had a greater probability of causing damage to the aircraft compared to strikes at 500 feet or less. Although only 29 percent of the reported strikes were above 500 feet AGL, these strikes represented 46 percent of the damaging strikes (Table 11, Figure 9).

Bird strikes with general aviation (GA) aircraft- From 1990 – 2022, about 37 percent of the bird strikes with GA aircraft occurred when the aircraft was at 0 feet AGL, 70 percent occurred at 500 feet or less AGL, and 97 percent occurred at or below 3,500 feet AGL (Table 12). Less than 1 percent of bird strikes occurred above 7,500 feet AGL. Above 500 feet AGL, the number of reported strikes declined consistently by 42 percent for each 1,000-foot gain in height (Figure 8). The record height for a reported bird strike involving a GA

aircraft in USA was 24,000 feet AGL.

Strikes occurring above 500 feet AGL had an even greater probability of causing damage to GA aircraft compared to strikes at 500 feet or less than was shown above for commercial transport aircraft. Although only 30 percent of the reported strikes were above 500 feet AGL, these strikes represented 52 percent of the damaging strikes (Table 12, Figure 9).

Terrestrial mammal strikes- As expected, terrestrial mammal strikes predominately occurred at 0 feet AGL; however, 10 percent of the reported strikes occurred when the

aircraft was in the air immediately after lift-off or before touch down (e.g., when an aircraft struck a deer with the landing gear, Table 10).

AIRCRAFT COMPONENTS DAMAGED

The aircraft components most commonly reported as struck by birds from 1990 – 2022 were the nose/radome, windshield, wing/rotor, fuselage, and engine (Table 13). Aircraft engines were the component most frequently reported as being damaged by bird strikes (26 percent of all damaged components). There were 23,128 strike events in which a total of 24,169 engines were reported as struck (22,118 events with one engine struck, 986 with two engines struck, 17 with three engines struck, and 7 with four engines struck). In 5,190 damaging bird-strike events involving engines, a total of 5,362 engines was damaged (5,021 events with one engine damaged, 167 with two engines damaged, 1 with three engines damaged, and 1 with four engines damaged).



A CRJ900 struck a red-tailed hawk on departure from a Midwest airport, November 2022. The aircraft continued to its destination where the radome was replaced. In 2022, 235 red-tailed hawk strikes with civil aircraft were reported. Photo C. Mealman, USDA.

Aircraft components most commonly reported as struck by terrestrial mammals were the landing gear, “other”, propeller, and wing/rotor. Aircraft components most commonly reported as damaged were the landing gear, wing/rotor, propeller, and “other” (Table 13).

“Other” components reported as struck (all wildlife species combined) include critical sensors such as pitot tubes (819), antenna (communication, radar, global position; 285), angle of attack vanes (194), and temperature gauges (TAT, RAT, OAT, SAT; 182).

REPORTED DAMAGE

For the 265,941 strike reports involving birds from 1990–2022, 17,960 (7 percent) indicated damage to the aircraft (Table 14). When classified by level of damage, 7,918 (3 percent) indicated the aircraft suffered minor damage; 6,269 (2 percent) indicated the aircraft suffered an uncertain level of damage; 3,726 (1 percent) reported

substantial damage; and 47 reports (less than 1 percent) indicated the aircraft was destroyed because of the bird strike (Table 14).



The pilot of a CL-300 reported striking a bird at 900 feet AGL and 115 knots during a night approach to an east coast airport, February 2022. A ruddy duck was recovered from the nose landing gear. From 1990-2022, 115 strikes involving civil aircraft and ruddy ducks (13 in 2022) were reported. Photo, K. Mousa.

For the 5,667 terrestrial mammal strikes reported, 1,291 (23 percent) indicated damage to the aircraft. When classified by level of damage; 613 (11 percent) indicated the aircraft suffered minor damage; 431 (8 percent) indicated the aircraft suffered substantial damage; 213 (4 percent) reported an uncertain level of damage; and 34 (1 percent) indicated the aircraft was destroyed because of the strike (Table 14). Not surprisingly, a much higher percentage of terrestrial mammal strikes (23 percent) resulted in aircraft damage than did bird strikes (7 percent). Deer (1,345 strikes, of which 1,109 caused damage; Table 18) were involved in 24 percent of the strikes and 82 percent of the damaging strikes involving terrestrial mammals. Canids (coyotes and dogs) caused 6 percent of damaging strikes by terrestrial mammals.

Although the percentage of wildlife strikes (all species) with reported damage has averaged 7 percent for the 33-year period (Table 14), this number has declined from a peak of 18 percent in 1995 to 4 percent in 2022 (Figure 10).

REPORTED NEGATIVE EFFECT-ON-FLIGHT

A negative effect-on-flight was reported in 5 percent and 15 percent of the bird and terrestrial mammal strike reports, respectively, (Table 15). Precautionary/ emergency landing after striking wildlife was the most reported negative effect (8,030 incidents, 3 percent of strike reports). These precautionary landings included 330 incidents in which the pilot jettisoned fuel (63) or burned fuel in a circling pattern (132) to lighten aircraft weight or in which an overweight landing was made (135, Table 16, Figure 11). In the 63 reported incidents in which fuel was jettisoned, an average of 98,064 pounds (14,421 gallons) of fuel was jettisoned per incident (range 44 – 39,706 gallons). Aborted take-off after striking wildlife was the second most reported negative effect (2,976 incidents, 1 percent of strike reports, Table 15). These negative incidents included 601 aborted take-offs in which the pilot initiated the abort at an aircraft speed of 100 knots (115 miles per hour) or greater (Table 17). For commercial transport aircraft, the number of high-speed aborted take-offs has declined from a high of 25 in 2000 to 8 in 2022 (Figure 12). For general aviation aircraft, the number of high-speed aborted take-offs has averaged about 4 per year (4 in 2022).

As has the trend for the percent of strikes causing damage, the percentage of wildlife strikes (all species) with a reported negative effect-on-flight has declined from a high of 11 percent in 1995 - 1996 to 3 percent in 2022 (Figure 10).

WILDLIFE SPECIES INVOLVED IN STRIKES



Carla Dove examines feathers from a strike involving barn swallows. The number of bird strike cases involving civil aircraft processed by the Smithsonian Feather Identification Lab in 2022 was 4,579 with 5,003 separate identifications (some cases involved remains from multiple impact points). DNA analysis was used in 48 percent of civil aviation cases to identify the species and in an additional 17 percent to supplement traditional identification methods using morphology of feathers and body parts. Photo, J., Kegley, Smithsonian.

Table 18 shows the number of reported strikes, strikes causing damage, strikes having a negative effect-on-flight, strikes involving >1 animal, the reported aircraft down time, and the reported costs by the 775 identified wildlife species, 1990-2022. This information can be useful in comparing the relative hazard level of bird and other wildlife species encountered during Wildlife Hazard Assessments at airports and in the development of priorities for Wildlife Hazard Management Plans (see also Dolbeer and Wright 2009 and DeVault et al., 2011).

Birds- Of the 265,941 reported bird strikes, 128,797 (48 percent) identified the bird to species and an additional 24,947 strikes (10 percent) identified the bird at least to species group (e.g., gull, hawk, duck). Species identification has improved from less than 30 percent in the 1990s to 61 percent in 2022 (Figure 13). In all, 639 species of birds have been identified as struck by aircraft, and 313 of these species

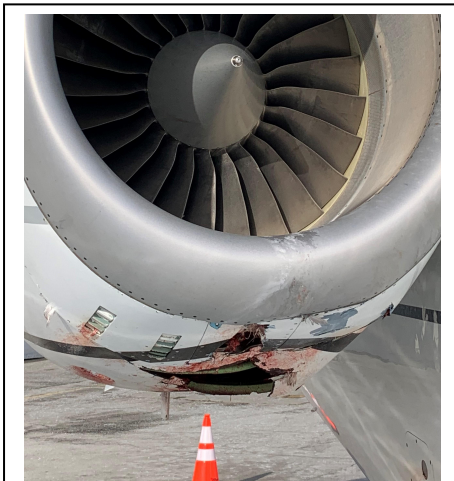
were reported as causing damage, 1990–2022. In 2022, 383 bird species were identified as struck by civil aircraft (Figure 13).

Doves/pigeons (13 percent), raptors (12 percent), gulls (9 percent), shorebirds (9 percent), and waterfowl (5 percent) were the most frequently struck bird groups (Table 19). Doves/pigeons, raptors, and gulls each were involved in over twice as many strikes as waterfowl. Waterfowl, however, were involved in 4.1 times more damaging strikes than doves/pigeons and 1.1 to 1.6 times more damaging strikes than gulls or raptors. Waterfowl comprised 27 percent of all damaging strikes in which the bird type was identified, 1990–2022. Doves/pigeons and gulls were responsible for the greatest number of bird strikes (3,155 and 2,576, respectively) that involved multiple birds.

Table 20 lists the 33 species of birds identified most frequently as struck by civil aircraft for 1990–2022 and for 2022 only. Mourning doves, killdeer, barn swallows, American kestrels, and horned larks were the 5 most frequently identified species struck by civil

aircraft overall from 1990–2022 and in 2022 only. Canada geese, the 14th most frequently identified species struck overall from 1990–2022, declined to the 24th most frequently struck species in 2022 although the overall population in North America has increased over 2-fold, 1990–2018 (Dolbeer 2020, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2022). This decline is likely related to the integrated management programs implemented in the past decade at many airports to dissuade feeding and nesting by Canada geese (Dolbeer et al. 2014, Rutledge et al. 2015).

For the 33 species of birds most frequently identified as struck by civil aircraft, 1990–2022, there was a strong correlation ($R^2 = 0.83$) between mean body mass and the likelihood of a strike causing damage to aircraft (Figure 14). For every 100-gram increase in body mass, there was a 1.28 percent increase in the likelihood of damage. Thus, body mass is a good predictor of relative hazard level among bird species, as noted previously by Dolbeer et al. (2000) and DeVault et al (2011).



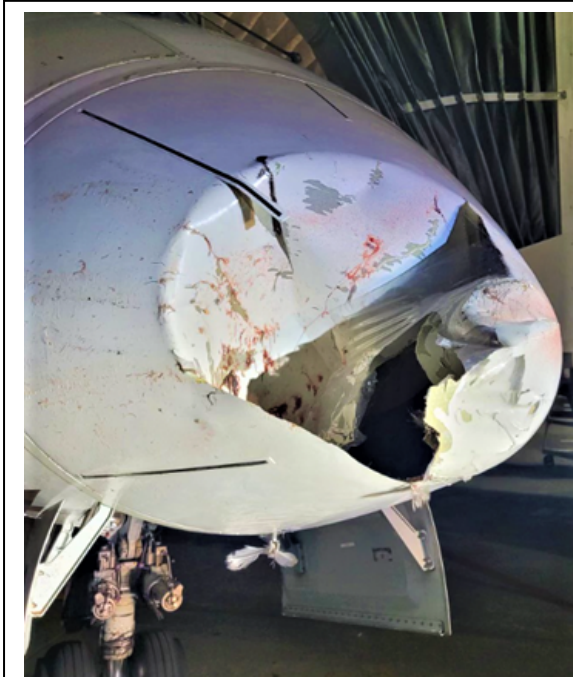
A Learjet-60 departing a Midwest airport struck a flock of sandhill cranes at 1500 feet AGL, December 2022. The aircraft returned to airport with the radome and #1 engine damaged. Photo S. Lehman, USDA.

Terrestrial mammals, bats, and reptiles- The most frequently struck terrestrial mammals were Carnivores (40 percent) and Artiodactyls (25 percent; Tables 18, 19). Coyotes and skunks were the most frequently struck Carnivores, and deer were the most frequently struck Artiodactyl. Artiodactyls were responsible for 90 percent of mammal strikes that resulted in damage and 67 percent of mammal strikes that involved multiple animals. In all, 55, 46, and 35 identified species of terrestrial mammals, bats, and reptiles, respectively, were reported struck; 24, 9, and 2 identified species of these respective wildlife taxa caused damage to aircraft (Table 18).

HUMAN FATALITIES AND INJURIES DUE TO WILDLIFE STRIKES

For 1990–2022, reports were received of 20 wildlife strikes that resulted in 44 human fatalities (Table 21). Six of these strikes, resulting in 8 fatalities, involved unidentified species of birds. American white pelicans and red-tailed hawks (8 fatalities each), bald eagles (4), snow geese and turkey vultures (3 each), Canada geese, green-winged teal, and rock pigeon (2 each), and white-tailed deer, brown pelicans, gulls, and black vultures (1 each) were responsible for the other 36 fatalities. Reports were received of 269 strikes that resulted in 346 human injuries (Table 21). Waterfowl (ducks and geese; 60 strikes, 68 humans injured), vultures (39 strikes, 48 injuries), and deer (21 strikes, 30 injuries) caused 120 (56 percent) of the 214 strikes resulting in injuries in which the species or species group was identified.

AIRCRAFT DESTROYED DUE TO WILDLIFE STRIKES



A great blue heron (mean body mass 2 kg) penetrated the radome of a CRJ 900 at 300 feet AGL on approach to a coastal Georgia airport, October 2022. The aircraft landed and was taken out of service for repairs. From 1990-2022, 575 great blue heron strikes with civil aircraft were reported; 20 percent of strikes caused damage. Photo, J. Burke, USDA

For 1990-2022, reports were received of 81 aircraft destroyed or damaged beyond repair due to wildlife strikes (range of 0 to 6 per year, Tables 14, 22, Figure 15). No aircraft was lost to a wildlife strike in 2022. The majority (52 aircraft; 64 percent of total) were small ($\leq 2,250$ kg maximum take-off mass) general aviation aircraft. Terrestrial mammals (primarily white-tailed deer) were responsible for 34 (42 percent) of the incidents. Geese and vultures (6 incidents each) were responsible for 38 percent of the 32 incidents involving birds in which the species or species group was identified.

Forty-six (57 percent) of the 81 wildlife strikes resulting in a destroyed aircraft occurred at general aviation airports, 22 occurred en route, 8 occurred at USA airports certificated for passenger service under 14 CFR Part 139, and 3 occurred in miscellaneous situations (taking off from a river, herding cattle, and aerial application of pesticides). Two occurred at a foreign airport (Table 22). General aviation airports, often located in rural areas with inadequate fencing to exclude large mammals, face unique challenges in mitigating wildlife risks to aviation (DeVault et

al. 2008; Dolbeer et al. 2008).

ECONOMIC LOSSES DUE TO WILDLIFE STRIKES

Of the 34,261 reports from 1990 – 2022 indicating the strike had an adverse effect on the aircraft and/or flight, 13,220 provided an estimate of the aircraft downtime (1,207,721 hours, mean = 91.3 hours/incident, Tables 18, 23, 24). Regarding monetary losses, 5,014 reports provided an estimate of direct aircraft repair costs (\$929.1 million, mean = \$185,292/incident), and 4,577 reports gave an estimate of other monetary losses (\$134.3 million, mean = \$29,348/incident)³. Other monetary losses include such expenses as lost revenue, the cost of putting passengers in hotels, re-scheduling aircraft, and flight cancellations.

Analysis of 14 groups of strike reports from three Part 139 airports certificated for passenger service and three airlines for the years 1991-2004 indicated that 11 to 21

³ Costs from years prior to 2022 are inflation-adjusted to 2022 U.S. dollars.

percent of all strikes were reported to the FAA (Cleary et al. 2005, Wright and Dolbeer 2005). An independent analysis of strike data for a certificated airport in Hawaii in the 1990s indicated a similar reporting rate (Linnell et al. 1999). Strike reporting for aircraft at general aviation airports was estimated at less than 5 percent in the 1990s and early 2000s (Dolbeer et al. 2008, Dolbeer 2009). More recent analyses estimated that strike reporting for all civil aircraft combined (commercial transport and general aviation) at Part 139 airports had improved to 39 percent in 2004–2008 and to 47 percent in 2009–2013 (Dolbeer 2009, 2015). Strike reporting for commercial transport aircraft only at Part 139 airports was an estimated 79 percent in 2004–2008 and 91 percent in 2009–2013; reporting of strikes with damage was estimated at 78 percent and 93 percent for these respective time periods. In addition to the underreporting of strikes, only 39 percent of the 34,261 reports from 1990–2022 indicating an adverse effect provided estimates of aircraft downtime. For the 19,294 reports indicating damage, 26 percent provided estimates of repair (direct) costs, and 24 percent provided estimates of other (indirect) costs (these respective percentages were 19 and 25 for 2022 only, Tables 23, 24). Furthermore, some reports providing cost estimates were filed before aircraft damage and downtime had been fully assessed. Lastly, these reported costs do not capture the costs in time and money for aircraft inspections following non-damaging strikes and costs associated with runway closures to inspect for wildlife carcasses after reported strikes. As a result, the information on the number of strikes and associated costs compiled (summarized by species of wildlife struck in Table 18) is believed to underestimate the economic magnitude of the problem.

Assuming (1) all 34,261 reported wildlife strikes that had an adverse effect on the aircraft and/or flight engendered similar amounts of downtime and/or monetary losses and (2) that these reports are all of the damaging strikes that occurred, wildlife strikes annually cost the USA civil aviation industry, on average, 105,843 hours of aircraft downtime and \$229 million in monetary losses (\$188 million in direct costs and \$40 million in other costs), 1990–2022 (Table 24). For 2022 only, the estimates would be 67,848 hours of downtime and \$385 million in direct and indirect costs.

In contrast to these estimates, a recent analysis by Altringer et al. (2021) using a machine learning approach with cost data from the National Wildlife Strike Database, estimated that wildlife strikes cost the US civil aviation industry a minimum average of \$54.3 million in losses annually over the 1990–2018 period. A follow-up analysis by Altringer et al. (2022) estimated that damaging wildlife strike events generate



Snowy owls from Canada “invade” the USA in some winters and are often attracted to airports. From 1990–2022, 378 snowy owl strikes with civil aircraft were reported, including 18 in 2022. This owl was at an airport in Kansas in 2022. Photo, M. Couchman, USDA.

additional “spillover” costs of around \$25 million (2020 US\$) each year related to delays in subsequent flights. Estimating the economic costs of wildlife strike is complex because of the many variables involved and the skewed nature of reported strikes and costs. More thorough reporting of strike events and associated costs combined with additional analyses are needed to refine the actual costs of wildlife strikes to the aviation industry.

CONCLUSIONS

The analysis of 33 years of strike data reveals the magnitude and nature of wildlife strikes with civil aircraft in the USA, and documents that progress is being made in mitigating the risk. Although wildlife strikes continue to pose an economic and safety risk for civil aviation in the USA, management actions to mitigate these risks have been implemented at many



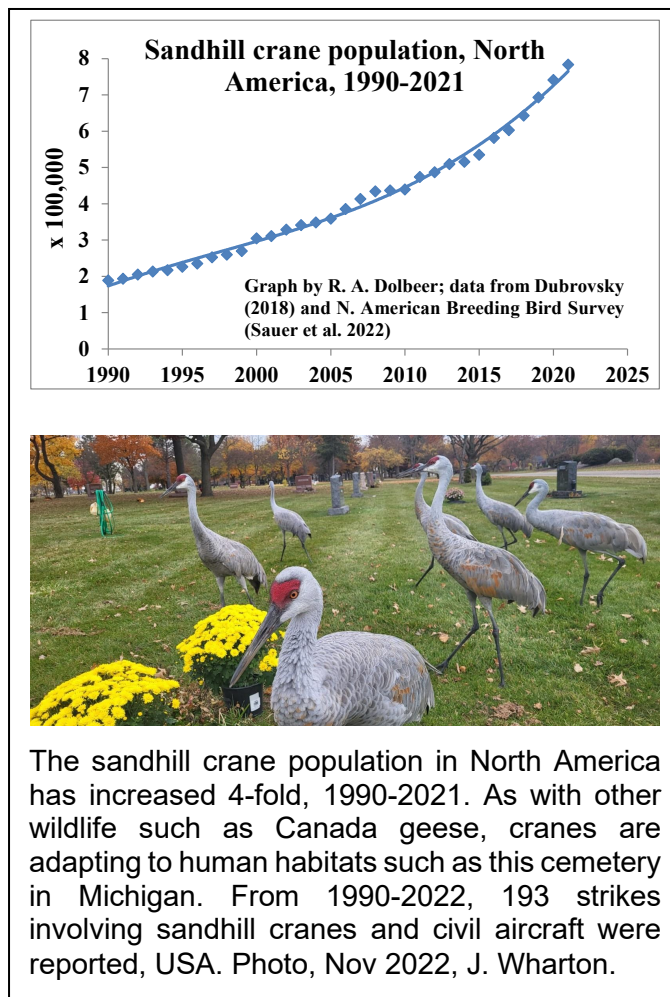
Exhibitors at the Bird Strike Committee-USA meeting in Salt Lake City Utah, July 2022, gave instruction to participants in the safe use of pyrotechnics and other wildlife management equipment for dispersing wildlife from airports. Photo. R. Dolbeer, USDA.

airports, especially beginning in 2000 when the FAA manual, Wildlife Hazard Management at Airports, was initially available to airports nationwide (Cleary and Dolbeer 2005). These efforts are likely responsible for the stabilization in reported strikes with damage and negative effects-on-flight from 2000-2022 for commercial transport aircraft (Table 1, Figures 2, 3, 4, 9, 10) in the airport environment (<1,500 feet AGL) despite continued increases in populations of many large bird species. Examples of the work done to mitigate the risk of strikes at airports are documented in Wenning et al. 2004, DeFusco et al. 2005, Dolbeer 2006a, Human Wildlife Conflicts Journal 2009, Human-Wildlife Interactions Journal 2011, Dolbeer 2011, DeVault et al. 2013, Dolbeer et al. 2014, Rutledge et al. 2015, and Washburn 2019. As another measure of the increase in wildlife management activities, USDA Wildlife Services biologists assisted 813 civil and military airports nationwide in 2022 to mitigate wildlife risks to aviation compared

to only 42 airports in 1991 and 193 in 1998 (Begier et al., 2023). However, much work remains to be done to reduce wildlife strikes.

To address the problem in the airport environment, airport managers first need to assess the wildlife hazards on their airports with the help of qualified airport wildlife biologists (FAA Advisory Circular 150/5200-36B, Qualifications for Wildlife Biologist Conducting Wildlife Hazard Assessments and Training Curriculums for Airport Personnel Involved in Controlling Wildlife Hazards on Airports). They then must take appropriate actions, under the guidance of these biologists, to minimize risks posed by wildlife. Management actions

should be prioritized based on the hazard level of species (Table 18, Figure 14) observed in the aircraft operating area. The manual *Wildlife Hazard Management at Airports* (Cleary and Dolbeer 2005), available online in English, Spanish, and French at <http://wildlife.faa.gov>, provides guidance for conducting wildlife hazard assessments and in developing and implementing wildlife hazard management plans. The International Civil Aviation Organization (2020) also provides guidance on wildlife hazard management at airports.



Management efforts to reduce the risks of bird strikes have primarily focused on airports since most civil aircraft strikes occur (during take-off and landing at ≤ 500 feet AGL (see Tables 11, 12). However, the successful mitigation efforts at Part 139-certificated airports that have stabilized damaging strikes for commercial transport aviation in recent years have done little to reduce strikes outside the airport environment such as occurred with US Airways Flight 1549 in 2009 (Dolbeer 2011).

To mitigate the risk for strikes beyond the airport fence, municipalities and the aviation community must first widen their view of wildlife management to consider habitats and land uses within 5 miles (or sometimes greater distances) of airports (Pfeiffer et al. 2018). For example, wetlands, dredge-spoil containment areas, municipal solid waste landfills, and wildlife refuges typically attract hazardous wildlife. Such land uses, as discussed in FAA Advisory Circular 150/5200-

33C, *Hazardous Wildlife Attractants on or Near Airports*, are often incompatible with aviation safety and should either be prohibited near airports or designed and operated in a manner that minimize the attraction of hazardous wildlife (e.g., Washburn et al. 2010, Beffre and Washburn 2020).

Second, the aviation community needs to broaden the view of wildlife strike risks from a ground-based wildlife management problem solely dealt with by airports to an airspace management problem that also encompasses Air Traffic Control, flight crews, and aircraft manufacturers (Metz et al. 2021). Long-term goals include the integration of avian radar and bird migration forecasting into airspace management for civil aviation (Nohara et al.

2011, Gerring et al. 2016, Shamoun-Baranes et al., 2019, Nilsson et al. 2021). The further development of aircraft lighting systems to enhance detection and avoidance by birds (Bernhardt et al. 2010, Blackwell et al. 2012, DeVault et al. 2015, Dolbeer and Barnes 2017, Fedy 2018, Dwyer et al. 2019) is also needed as part of an integrated program.

Finally, there continues to be a need for increased and more detailed strike reporting, especially for general aviation aircraft. When reports are filed, relevant information should be provided whenever possible regarding species identification, number of wildlife struck, time and height of strike, phase of flight, and damage to aircraft components (Dolbeer 2015, see Appendix B: Reporting a Strike and Identifying Species of Wildlife Struck). A problem that is not well defined cannot be properly managed.

PART 2: FAA ACTIVITIES FOR MITIGATING WILDLIFE STRIKES

In 2022, the FAA continued a multifaceted approach for mitigating wildlife strikes both nationally and globally. This included continuing a robust research program, making improvements to the NWSD and outreach, working with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), their Asia Pacific (APAC) region and other foreign destinations as well as providing Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funding to airports to conduct Wildlife Hazard Assessments (Assessments) and develop Wildlife Hazard Management Plans (Plans). Noteworthy for 2022, the FAA's wildlife program continued to assist international efforts to further safety for air carriers and travelers alike.

Landmark events such as the emergency forced landing of US Airways Flight 1549 Airbus 320 into the Hudson River on January 15, 2009 demonstrated to the world the severity of aircraft collisions with birds and other wildlife. Comprehensive evaluations have ensured optimal guidance, compliance and risk reduction moving forward. Since the first Advisory Circular 150 / 5200-1 Bird Hazards to Aviation, Bird Hazard Research published March 1, 1965, these types of evaluations have allowed the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) wildlife program to systematically improve its oversight to reduce risks within the safest aerospace system in the world. The results from reviews conducted post-1549 have enhanced existing regulations and provided beneficial layers of expansion throughout other key FAA wildlife-related areas (e.g., Data collection and analysis, Partnerships, Research, and Outreach).

FAA Guidance

In the fourteen-year span 2009 – 2022, over \$400 million of AIP funds have been allocated for wildlife-related projects such as Wildlife Hazard Assessments (Assessments), Wildlife Hazard Management Plans (Plans) and airport perimeter fencing. All Part 139 certificated airports have successfully completed Assessments followed by Plans. Many of those airports have already updated their original Assessments with new ones while others have chosen to implement Continual Monitoring programs as detailed in Advisory Circular 150/ 5200- 38 (AC-38) - *Protocol for the Conduct and Review of Wildlife Hazard Site Visits, Wildlife Hazard Assessments, and Wildlife Hazard Management Plans* (published August 20, 2018). AC 150/5200-38 defines the minimum acceptable standards for the conduct and preparation of Site Visits, Assessments and Plans. AC 150/5200-38 also clarifies the NEPA process for projects included in an airport's WHMP and provides protocol for the approval (or partial approval) of Plans with regard to NEPA and other environmental laws. The AC gives Airports and Biologists checklists for Assessments and Plans and provides Airport Certification Safety Inspectors guidelines/ templates to review those documents.

AC 150/5200-36B *Qualifications for Wildlife Biologist Conducting Wildlife Hazard Assessments and Training Curriculum for Airport Personnel Involved in Controlling Wildlife Hazards on Airports* was last updated January 24, 2019. This latest version provides for an alternative field experience option of Continual Monitoring to aid Qualified Airport Wildlife Biologists (QAWB) candidates in an era where all certificated airports have finished their initial Assessments and Plans.

The FAA wildlife program assisted with the update of AC No: 150/5200-28G Notice to Air Missions (NOTAMs) for Airport Operators (5/25/2022). The updated guidance stated that “*Birds and other wildlife activity NOTAMs should focus on chronic or persistent problems that are relatively short-lived or seasonal in nature.*” NOTAMs of this type are effective at providing timely alerts for seasonal movements including migration (e.g., birds, caribou), nesting (e.g., bald and golden eagles, heron rookeries) and breeding (e.g., deer in the fall and alligators in spring to early summer) or other movement activities contrary to or beyond the scope of published airport data in the Chart Supplement or 5010 Airport Master Records.

On February 21, 2020, AC 150/5200-33C *Hazardous Wildlife Attractants On or Near Airports* was updated with significant changes. The updated language included clarification of separation criteria, new guidance on land-use practices (e.g., aquaculture, agriculture, dredge spoil, etc.), inclusion of general aviation (GA) airport wildlife responsibilities and a new section *Airport Procedures for Off-site Attractants* that provides step-by-step guidance when proposed land-use changes may provide an attractant to hazardous species. The significant changes to AC-33C resulted in outreach / education efforts to the industry and training to the FAA Airport Certification Safety Inspectors (ACSI) that continued into the beginning of 2022.

FAA Outreach and Information

The FAA’s wildlife program excels in direct outreach efforts as well as utilizing partnerships and cooperators to ensure useful, timely information is disseminated to the widest possible audience. In October 2022, the FAA released a new Wildlife Hazards video. This updated outreach endeavor is part of the FAA Airport Safety Information Video Series. It discusses how successful wildlife strike reporting and the National Wildlife Strike Database (jointly administered by USDA and FAA) is reducing the impact of wildlife strikes on both commercial and general aviation.

Outreach efforts in 2022 were diverse and included presentations at the 2022 Bird Strike Committee USA (BSC USA) Annual Meeting / Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, the 9th Annual Hawaii DOT & USDA Wildlife Hazard Workshop, the National Airspace System Collaboration Forum, the World Birdstrike Association (WBA) Wildlife Forum at the 5th British / Irish Airport Expo in London, Great Britain, the WBA semiannual meeting in Bangkok, Thailand, informational webinars for the WBA, and the 2022 Australian Aviation Wildlife Hazard Group (AAWHG) Forum in Adelaide, Australia.

Additional international efforts in 2022 included assisting the ICAO APAC region with the development of a regional wildlife hazard management manual and providing assistance to several foreign regulators and aerodromes on an as-needed basis. Two related, but separate initiatives were proposed to ICAO in 2000 and officially adopted February 2, 2021. The first proposed to update the ICAO Birdstrike Information System (IBIS) manual while the second proposed to allow / enhance international data access and data sharing. The goal was simple, enhance global aviation safety by improving member State reporting of wildlife / aircraft strike incidents and the submission of that data into IBIS as well as identifying and / or improving pathways to that data. The FAA was asked to Chair these collaborative ICAO projects as defined on the ADOP.015.03 Job Card as

Rapporteur of the Wildlife Hazard Management Expert Group (WHMEG). Also, an interview taped in the fall of 2021 with Australia-based Avisure for its podcast (Avicast) titled “*Wildlife Strikes in the USA*” focused on providing a broad view of wildlife strikes in the US and globally. The podcast, along with many other informative talks and interviews can be found at: <https://avisure.com/podcast/>.

Finally, there were two additional international outreach efforts that occurred in FY2022 but were held at the end of the 2021 calendar year. They included a 2-day FAA / Vietnam Airport Training Program held in Washington, DC and the 19th CAR/SAM Central – South American Regional Bird/Wildlife Hazard Prevention Committee Meeting and Conference (CARSAMPAF/19).



Members of the ICAO IBIS team Wildlife Hazard Management Expert Group at the Smithsonian Institution's Feather Identification Lab in Washington, DC. Photo, Smithsonian, Nov 2022.

Wildlife Hazard Assessments and Wildlife Hazard Management Plans

The FAA encourages all certificated airports to conduct Assessments and develop Plans regardless if a triggering event under 14 CFR Part 139 had been experienced. Joint-use facilities that maintain a Bird/ wildlife Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH) Plan also completed Assessments as a foundation for their BASH Plans. Wildlife Hazard Assessments are critical because they allow an airport to:

- Identify trends in wildlife use of the airport (habitat preferences, seasonal composition and abundance of wildlife species, geography of strikes, seasonality of strikes, time and phase of flight of strikes, etc.)
- Prevent future strikes through operational changes, habitat (attractant) modifications, customized harassment, and/ or species removal
- Evaluate the overall risk level of wildlife strikes and the efficacy of the airport's wildlife hazard mitigation program (e.g., determine redundancy of species specific hazards, monitor reduction of onsite damaging strikes, monitor wildlife program communication and response efficiency, and improve overall program through annual review).

An Assessment provides fundamental wildlife and habitat information for an effective, airport-specific Plan. The Plan outlines a plan of action to minimize the risk to aviation safety, airport structures or equipment, or human health posed by populations of hazardous wildlife on and around an airport. To be effective, Plans must not only be fully implemented but routinely evaluated and modified to address an airport's changing environment, hazards and capabilities. The FAA supports completion of Assessments and Plans by providing financial assistance from the AIP.

GA airports are using guidance within AC 150/5200-38 to develop Plans based on short-duration Site Visits rather than 12-month Assessments. Now, these airports can

effectively outline their wildlife mitigation strategies using an economical, condensed Site Visit investigation. If a GA airport desires to conduct a full Assessment, the FAA will continue to make AIP grant funds available to them.

Strike Reporting

Wildlife strikes continue to capture media attention. While impacted pilots and airports are reporting strikes, they might not know the critical role their reports play in understanding wildlife issues and developing wildlife policies.

The FAA has continued to update and improve the existing NWSD website (<http://wildlife.faa.gov>) to make it more user-friendly and to allow more advanced data mining. Search fields enable users to find data on specific airports, airlines, aircraft and engine types, as well as damage incurred, date of strike, species struck, and state without having to download the entire database. Similarly, the FAA has continued modifications to provide in-depth wildlife guidance at http://www.faa.gov/airports/airport_safety/wildlife. This guidance includes Advisory Circulars and CertAlerts, FAA NWSD analysis reports, the manual *Wildlife Hazard Management at Airports*, Airport Cooperative Research Program (ACRP) wildlife reports, hazardous wildlife mitigation and habitat attractants, Bird Hazard Mitigation Systems (e.g., AHAS and BAM), Frequently Asked Questions and Answers on Wildlife Strikes, and more.

The FAA also developed software to make strike reporting easier. Now, anyone who needs to report a wildlife strike can do so via the new web site or their mobile devices at <http://www.faa.gov/mobile>. When airline and airport employees report a wildlife strike, the information is automatically sent to the FAA's NWSD. The updated software also allows for strike reports to be vetted and publicly available within the NWSD within 4-5 days of the strike report being submitted. This is a substantial improvement over the previous 1 - 2 month quality assurance delay needed in previous years without the technological enhancements. The reduced turnaround time has provided immediate benefits to airports, airlines, engine and airframe manufacturers and biologists alike.

“Excellence in Strike Reporting” Award

2014 was the inaugural year for the Sandy Wright / Richard Dolbeer Excellence in Strike Reporting award. The award honors the incomparable dedication of Dr. Richard Dolbeer and Sandy Wright; each being exceptional in the management of the NWSD since the FAA first contracted the USDA in 1995 to oversee the collection, quality control, analysis and summation of strike reports.

The Sandy Wright / Richard Dolbeer Excellence in Strike Reporting award recognizes those airports that have exhibited a noteworthy strike reporting program. The number of USA airports with strikes reported increased from 335 in 1990 to a record 722 in 2019. This number predictably decreased to 665 in 2020 and increased to 693 airports in 2022. The 693 airports with strikes reported were comprised of 429 Part 139-certificated airports and 264 general aviation airports. From 1990-2022, strikes have been reported from 2,062 different USA airports.

The criteria for determining which airports will make the initial cuts are objective and include both quantity and quality of strike data (*keep in mind though that an airport will

not win based solely on number of strikes reported). The criteria include but are not limited to:

1. Number of reports filed and completeness of reports
3. Percentage of reports identified to species
4. Percentage of reports filed on-line
5. Timeliness of reports being submitted
6. Remains collected when available or necessary
7. Consistency filing reports

Further evaluation of the finalist strike reporting programs may include:

1. Modification of filed reports online when new information is discovered
2. Airport follows up with airline or engine manufacturer for missing information
3. Airport has someone on “Notification” list to receive notice when strikes are filed for their airport

For their commitment to the identification and documentation of wildlife / aircraft strike information, the FAA proudly recognizes the strike reporting programs at **Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR)** and **Quonset State Airport (OQU)** as the winners of the 2022 Sandy Wright / Richard Dolbeer Excellence in Strike Reporting award.

	AWARD WINNERS	
	PART 139 AIRPORTS	GA AIRPORTS
2014	DALLAS / FORT WORTH - DFW	MORRISTOWN - MMU
2015	LAGUARDIA - LGA	VAN NUYS - VNY
2016	MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL - MSP	CENTENNIAL - APA
2017	PORTLAND - PDX	HENDERSON FIELD (MIDWAY ATOLL) - MDY
2018	SEATTLE / TACOMA - SEA	PAGE FIELD - FMY
2019	Charlotte Douglas - CLT	Kalaeloa Airport (John Rodgers Field) (JRF)
2020	Chicago O'Hare - ORD	Dekalb/Peachtree Airport (PDK)
2021	Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL)	Prescott Regional Airport, Ernest A. Love Field (PRC)
2022	Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR)	Quonset State Airport (OQU)

Airport Cooperative Research Program (ACRP) Reports

The FAA recently assisted with the development of two new ACRP reports to aid airports with the mitigation of wildlife hazards. The first report (ACRP Synthesis Report 117 - Agricultural Operations on Airport Grounds) was published in 2022 while the second report ACRP 10-30 Evaluating the Effectiveness of an Airport's Wildlife Hazard Management Program was finalized in 2022 and is awaiting public Prior to this latest wildlife-related report, two other ACRP projects were published in 2018 (ACRP Synthesis 92: Airport Waste Management and Recycling Practices and ACRP Research Report 174 Guidebook and Primer). Other recent reports published were ACRP Report 122 Innovative Airport Responses to Threatened / Endangered Species (2015), ACRP Report 125 Balancing Airport Stormwater and Bird Hazard Management (2015) and ACRP Report 145 Applying an SMS Approach to Wildlife Hazard Management (2015). The FAA is currently involved in three additional ACRP projects: 1) ACRP 10-30: Evaluating the Effectiveness of an Airport's Wildlife Hazard Management Program; 2) ACRP 11-03/Topic S10-17 Agricultural Operations on Airport Grounds and; 3) ACRP 11-03/Topic S10-18 Considerations for Establishing and Maintaining Successful Bee Programs on Airports These, and other wildlife / aviation reports are available from the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies (TRB) at <http://www.trb.org/Publications/Publications.aspx>.

Wildlife Hazard Mitigation Research

The FAA dedicated approximately \$30 million in research funds since Flight 1549's emergency forced landing into the Hudson River in 2009. These research funds help us better understand the capabilities of advanced detection and monitoring systems such as avian radars, Foreign Object Debris (FOD) radars and infrared / electro-optical scanning systems. Other research initiatives included wildlife control techniques, avian visual acuity and aircraft lighting, habitat management, Canada goose movement analyses, capture and relocation efficacy of raptors, DNA and molecular identifications, and systems integration (Wildlife Surveillance Concept -WiSC) which aims to determine the compatibility of avian radar or similar monitoring technologies warning notice in the Air Traffic Controller's reach. The research efforts designed to improve wildlife management techniques and practices on and near airports include:

- Evaluation of unmanned aerial systems (UAS) for hazing, detecting and monitoring hazardous wildlife.
- Alternative habitat management strategies to reduce attraction to airports of hazardous wildlife species
- Techniques for restricting access of hazardous wildlife species to attractive features like storm water ponds
- Technologies for harassing and deterring hazardous species
- Movement patterns of red-tailed hawks following translocation from an airport
- Evaluation of translocation as a management tool for American kestrels at airports

- Aircraft-mounted lighting systems to enhance bird detection and avoidance of aircraft
- Landscape-level analysis of land cover and bird strike rate across airports

Bird Strike Committee USA

The FAA participates in the Bird Strike Committee USA (BSC-USA) as part of its continued public outreach and education effort to increase awareness within the aviation community about wildlife hazards. A Memorandum of Understanding between the FAA and the BSC USA was signed May 2012 to formalize this cooperative relationship. The BSC USA Steering Committee is comprised of 25 diverse, subject-matter experts representing Pilots, Airlines, Airframe and Engine Manufacturers, Wildlife Biologists, Airport Managers, Department of Defense personnel, ATC Personnel, Certification Inspectors, Research, Private Sector and Government Personnel. The BSC USA election class of 2022 continued to bring onboard energetic nominations for Steering Committee and Executive positions. Congratulations are in order to FAA National Wildlife Biologist Amy Anderson as the new Vice-Chair of the Steering Committee.

Throughout 2022, the BSC USA has collaborated with The Wildlife Society (TWS) for the vetting of prospective Qualified Airport Wildlife Biologists (QAWB). In March 2022, TWS



BSC USA Executives: Amy Anderson as the new Vice-Chair (right), Nick Atwell as the BSC USA Chair (middle) and John Weller as Past Chair (left).

announced a collaboration with BSC-USA to develop a designation that would expand TWS' Wildlife Biologist Certification Program's current opportunities. That certification process for QAWB's was recently finalized and is now available to qualified candidates. For more information please visit TWS web site: <https://wildlife.org/>.

The BSC USA provides an abundance of outreach to the public and aviation community alike. Along with education / outreach booths at the air shows in Lakeland, FL (Sun-n-Fun) and Oshkosh, WI (EAA Air Venture Oshkosh) the newly updated website <http://www.birdstrike.org/> offers many useful

resources, a quarterly newsletter to the industry and public and links such as the new one highlighting TWS.

Performance Metrics

Starting in 2013 the FAA adopted the following performance metric that will measure program efficacy under a voluntary strike reporting environment where the absolute number of bird strikes is not known. These performance metrics allow the FAA to monitor multiple factors that affect strike reporting and overall strike reporting trends and the effectiveness of GA wildlife mitigation programs. To date, strike reporting trends continue

to show an increase in overall reporting contrasted with an actual decline in damaging strikes from 762 in 2000 to 691 in 2022.

Metric 1: Monitor the ratio between the numbers of strikes with damage compared to total reported strikes. This ratio is independent of the total number of strikes reported and is a good measure of the effectiveness of overall mitigation procedures. We use 2010 as the baseline data and calculate the performance measure for following years. The table below depicts the results of calculating the data for the 13-year period 2010 - 2022.

Year	Total strikes reported	Damaging strikes reported	Percentage damaging strikes vs. total strikes
2010	9,889	595	6.0%
2011	10,104	542	5.4%
2012	10,903	613	5.6%
2013	11,406	609	5.3%
2014	13,683	587	4.3%
2015	13,788	622	4.5%
2016	13,353	589	4.4%
2017	14,788	667	4.5%
2018	16,233	720	4.4%
2019	17,381	757	4.4%
2020	11,666	486	4.2%
2021	15,556	657	4.2%
2022	17,190	691	4.0%

Metric 2: Monitor estimated reporting rate of wildlife strikes. Analyses by Dolbeer (2009, 2014) identified that overall reporting rates for strikes are much higher at Part 139 airports than at NPIAS GA airports. There is also a major disparity in reporting rates among Part 139 airports. Larger Part 139 airports, especially those that have well-established wildlife hazard management programs, have reporting rates about 4 times higher than other Part 139 airports. We will continue to update the study approximately every five years.

The 17,190 documented strikes in 2022 equated to roughly 47 wildlife strikes every day, of which only about 4.0% are damaging. In 2022, there were 691 damaging strikes; this

averages about 2 damaging strikes per day or about 1 per 22,500 of the estimated 45,000+ flights per day (Commercial passenger, General Aviation Air Taxi, Air Cargo, Military) handled by FAA ATC. Overall, 82% of strikes occur at or below 1,500 feet AGL. This altitude falls within the 5-mile separation distance around airports recommended for wildlife attractants, meaning that on-ground wildlife mitigation activities out to 5 miles can have a positive effect on risk reduction for 82% of all wildlife strikes.

Covid-19 impacts to passenger air travel resulted in 62% and 31% reductions in air travel (520 million and 261 million fewer passengers) in 2020 and 2021, respectively, compared to pre-COVID-19 2019. It also resulted in 28% and 11% reductions in aircraft movements at 368 Part 139-certificated airports (10.3 million and 4.0 million fewer movements) in 2020 and 2021, respectively, compared to 2019. Although the decline in aircraft movements resulted in 33% and 9% reductions in reported strikes in 2020 and 2021, respectively, when compared to 2019, the strike rate (strikes/100,000 movements) declined by only 6% in 2020 and increased 2% in 2021 compared to 2019. COVID-19 clearly affected airport personnel and mitigation strategies, but risk reduction from wildlife remained a high priority at the nation's airports. Overall, the percentage of strikes with damage has fluctuated negligibly over the past 4 years (4.4% in 2018 – 2019 and 4.2% in 2020 – 2021). This again, shows why managing wildlife attractants off airport properties out to 5-miles is critical. Eighty-two percent of strikes occur at or below 1,500 feet Above Ground Level (AGL). This altitude falls within the 5-mile separation distance recommended for wildlife attractants, meaning that on-ground wildlife mitigation activities out to 5 miles can have a positive effect on risk reduction for 82 percent of all wildlife strikes.

Wildlife strikes are rare events that occur every day. Although it is impossible to eliminate all strikes at all times, comprehensive assessment, planning and management techniques have successfully mitigated damaging strikes on or near airports. Combined with systematic evaluation and adaptation of techniques, safety can be increased one less strike at a time.

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TABLES

Table 1. Number of reported wildlife strikes to civil aircraft in USA and to U.S.-registered civil aircraft in foreign countries, 1990–2022.

Year	USA ¹		Foreign		Total	
	Strikes	Damage strikes	Strikes	Damage strikes	Strikes	Damage strikes
1990	2,088	366	34	6	2,122	372
1991	2,479	395	37	5	2,516	400
1992	2,614	360	37	5	2,651	365
1993	2,590	395	34	4	2,624	399
1994	2,673	452	35	7	2,708	459
1995	2,773	487	52	11	2,825	498
1996	2,980	493	51	10	3,031	503
1997	3,490	566	69	9	3,559	575
1998	3,741	577	67	10	3,808	587
1999	5,025	687	95	18	5,120	705
2000	5,897	744	128	21	6,025	765
2001	5,697	631	124	15	5,821	646
2002	6,076	659	141	11	6,217	670
2003	5,854	611	137	20	5,991	631
2004	6,407	614	159	16	6,566	630
2005	7,064	591	180	19	7,244	610
2006	7,110	584	163	19	7,273	603
2007	7,598	552	142	16	7,740	568
2008	7,441	513	186	14	7,627	527
2009	9,251	587	251	20	9,502	607
2010	9,668	585	229	18	9,897	603
2011	9,845	521	264	24	10,109	545
2012	10,661	600	266	21	10,927	621
2013	11,212	601	195	12	11,407	613
2014	13,456	570	230	16	13,686	586
2015	13,529	611	242	12	13,771	623
2016	13,156	581	166	11	13,322	592
2017	14,611	667	163	10	14,774	677
2018	15,975	702	222	13	16,197	715
2019	17,157	747	177	9	17,334	756
2020	11,490	479	133	8	11,623	487
2021	15,448	652	191	9	15,639	661
2022	16,960	671	230	20	17,190	691
Total	272,016	18,851	4,830	439	276,846	19,290

¹ Includes strikes where airport is unknown because strike was en route, or phase of flight was undetermined (see footnote 2 in Table 8). See Table 2 for breakdown of strikes occurring in USA by type of wildlife.

Table 2. Number of reported wildlife strikes to civil aircraft in USA by wildlife group, 1990–2022.

Year	Birds	Bats	Terrestrial mammals ¹	Reptiles ¹	Total strikes	Strikes with damage ²
1990	2,030	3	55	0	2,088	366
1991	2,418	3	58	0	2,479	395
1992	2,538	2	73	1	2,614	360
1993	2,518	6	66	0	2,590	395
1994	2,589	2	81	1	2,673	452
1995	2,676	4	85	8	2,773	487
1996	2,887	1	89	3	2,980	493
1997	3,383	1	92	14	3,490	566
1998	3,619	3	112	7	3,741	577
1999	4,921	6	97	1	5,025	687
2000	5,756	15	123	3	5,897	744
2001	5,543	8	138	8	5,697	631
2002	5,923	19	119	15	6,076	659
2003	5,706	20	123	5	5,854	611
2004	6,248	27	126	6	6,407	614
2005	6,899	27	131	7	7,064	591
2006	6,906	46	148	10	7,110	584
2007	7,369	51	171	7	7,598	552
2008	7,210	43	183	5	7,441	513
2009	8,946	66	229	10	9,251	587
2010	9,292	112	253	11	9,668	585
2011	9,491	138	201	15	9,845	521
2012	10,268	161	210	22	10,661	600
2013	10,749	223	207	33	11,212	601
2014	12,942	253	226	35	13,456	570
2015	12,964	316	213	36	13,529	611
2016	12,647	247	226	36	13,156	581
2017	13,872	408	272	59	14,611	667
2018	15,105	507	314	49	15,975	702
2019	16,101	553	416	87	17,157	747
2020	10,921	288	239	42	11,490	479
2021	14,634	451	295	68	15,448	652
2022	16,099	513	282	66	16,960	671
Total	261,170	4,523	5,653	670	272,016	18,851

¹ For terrestrial mammals and reptiles, species with body masses <1 kilogram (2.2 pounds) such as small rodents generally are excluded from database (Dolbeer et al. 2005).

² Birds, terrestrial mammals, bats, and reptiles respectively accounted for 17,527 (93.0%), 1,289 (6.8%), 32 (0.2%), and 3 (<0.1%) of the 18,851 damage strikes.

Table 3. Number and rate of reported wildlife strikes and strikes with damage for transport aircraft at 338 Part-139 certificated airports¹, USA, 2000–2022 (see Figure 2).

Year	No. of reported strikes ²		Aircraft movements (x 1 million) ³	Strikes/100,000 movements	
	All strikes	Strikes with damage		All strikes	Strikes with damage
2000	3,226	355	25.41	12.70	1.40
2001	3,043	289	24.40	12.47	1.18
2002	3,269	303	23.77	13.75	1.27
2003	3,222	281	23.58	13.67	1.19
2004	3,643	270	24.78	14.70	1.09
2005	3,733	285	25.11	14.87	1.14
2006	3,855	301	24.36	15.82	1.24
2007	4,117	275	24.47	16.82	1.12
2008	3,894	265	23.43	16.62	1.13
2009	5,073	297	21.51	23.58	1.38
2010	4,906	286	21.51	22.81	1.33
2011	4,862	267	21.38	22.74	1.25
2012	5,030	285	21.03	23.92	1.36
2013	4,924	233	20.93	23.53	1.11
2014	6,295	255	20.68	30.43	1.23
2015	6,168	246	20.91	29.50	1.18
2016	6,108	263	21.24	28.76	1.24
2017	6,245	300	21.48	29.07	1.40
2018	6,938	325	22.11	31.38	1.47
2019	7,311	304	22.70	32.21	1.34
2020	4,127	189	14.27	28.91	1.32
2021	6,241	267	18.54	33.67	1.44
2022	7,127	299	20.46	34.84	1.46
Total	113,357	6,440	508.06	22.31	1.27

¹ Data are presented for the 338 larger Part 139-certificated airports for which movement data (Federal Aviation Administration 2023a) were available in all years, 2000-2022. In 2022, there were 517 Part 139 airports (Federal Aviation Administration 2023b).

² Strikes involving an unknown operator (77,132 of which 75,540 were “Carcass Found” reports--see Tables 6 and 7) were excluded from this analysis as were all strikes by USA-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

³ Departures and arrivals for air carrier and air taxi service aircraft (Federal Aviation Administration 2023a).

Table 4. Number and rate of reported wildlife strikes and strikes with damage for general aviation aircraft at 116 non-Part-139 certificated (general aviation) airports¹, USA, 2000–2022 (see Figure 2).

Year	No. of reported strikes ²		Aircraft movements (x 1 million) ³	Strikes/100,000 movements	
	All strikes	Strikes with damage		All strikes	Strikes with damage
2000	119	39	15.28	0.78	0.26
2001	135	34	14.67	0.92	0.23
2002	145	34	14.94	0.97	0.23
2003	132	37	14.01	0.94	0.26
2004	132	47	13.53	0.98	0.35
2005	126	22	13.09	0.96	0.17
2006	106	24	12.82	0.83	0.19
2007	100	15	12.95	0.77	0.12
2008	113	31	12.14	0.93	0.26
2009	123	21	10.71	1.15	0.20
2010	125	28	10.03	1.25	0.28
2011	125	18	9.83	1.27	0.18
2012	165	36	9.74	1.69	0.37
2013	176	36	9.72	1.81	0.37
2014	216	33	9.67	2.23	0.34
2015	243	33	9.74	2.49	0.34
2016	272	27	9.82	2.77	0.27
2017	266	36	9.98	2.67	0.36
2018	294	41	10.43	2.82	0.39
2019	306	46	10.99	2.79	0.42
2020	270	29	9.90	2.73	0.29
2021	301	36	10.64	2.83	0.34
2022	240	28	11.03	2.18	0.25
Total	4,230	731	265.66	1.59	0.28

¹ Data are presented for the 116 larger non-Part 139-certificated (general aviation) airports for which movement data (Federal Aviation Administration 2023a) were available in all years, 2000–2022.

² Strikes involving an unknown operator (77,132 of which 75,540 were “Carcass Found” reports—see Tables 6 and 7) were excluded from this analysis as were all strikes by USA-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

³ Itinerant and local departures and arrivals for general aviation aircraft (Federal Aviation Administration 2023a).

Table 5. Methods of reporting and source of information for reported wildlife strikes to civil aircraft, USA¹, 2022 only and 1990–2022.

Source	2022 only		1990-2022	
	Total	% of total	Total	% of total
FAA Form 5200-7-E ²	12,546	73	163,384	59
Multiple ³	2,818	16	29,080	11
Mandatory Occurrence Report (MOR)	1,684	10	11,239	4
Air Transport Report	97	1	16,846	6
FAA Form 5200-7 (Paper)	24	<1	41,732	15
Airport Report	10	<1	7,340	3
Other ⁴	9	<1	5,041	1
Daily Report	2	<1	2,184	1
Total	17,190	100	276,846	100

¹ Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

² Bird/Other Wildlife Strike Report. Electronic filing of reports (<http://wildlife.faa.gov>) began in April 2001.

³ More than one type of report was filed for the same strike (many of these had at least one FAA Form 5200-7E report filed).

⁴ Various sources such as news media, Preliminary Aircraft Incident Report, Aviation Safety Reporting System, National Transportation Safety Board, Transport Canada, and engine manufacturers.

Table 6. Person filing report of wildlife strike to civil aircraft, USA¹, 2022 only and 1990–2022.

Person filing report	2022 only		1990-2022	
	Total	% of total	Total	% of total
Airport Operations	11,322	66	137,125	54
Carcass Found ²	5,603	49	75,540	55
Misc. reports ³	5,719	51	61,585	45
Pilot	3,018	18	50,044	20
Tower	1,789	10	29,217	11
Air Transport Operations ⁴	570	3	33,037	13
Other	491	3	6,271	2
Total known	17,190	100	255,694	100
Unknown	0		21,152	
Total	17,190		276,846	

¹ Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

² Airport personnel found fresh wildlife remains within 250 feet of a runway centerline or elsewhere on or near airport that appeared to have been struck by aircraft, but no strike was observed or reported by pilot, tower, or airline (FAA Advisory Circular 150/5200-32B).

³ Airport personnel observed strike or reported a strike that had been communicated to them by pilot, tower, or airline.

⁴ Personnel at air transport companies (other than the pilot/flight crew) involved with flight safety, flight operations, and maintenance.

Table 7. Number of reported wildlife strikes to civil aircraft by type of operator, USA¹, 2022 only and 1990–2022.

Type of operator	2022 only		1990–2022	
	Total	% of total	Total	% of total
Commercial transport²	9,829	86	170,103	85
General Aviation	1,653	14	29,611	15
Business	1,396	12	23,607	12
Private	107	1	3,707	2
Government/police ³	150	1	2,297	1
Total known	11,482	100	199,714	100
Unknown⁴	5,708		77,132	
Total	17,190		276,846	

¹ Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

² Air carrier, commuter, and air taxi service with 3-letter Operator Code.

³ U.S. Customs and Border Protection (USCBP) and U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) aircraft were respectively involved in 23 percent (536) and 34 percent (783) of the 2,297 Government/police strikes, 1990–2022. For 2022 only, 11 percent (16) and 33 percent (49) of the 150 Government/police strikes involved USCBP and USCG aircraft, respectively.

⁴ Ninety-eight percent (75,540) of the 77,132 strikes involving an unknown operator were “Carcass Found” reports, 1990–2022. For 2022 only, 98 percent (5,603) of the 5,708 strikes involving an unknown operator were “Carcass Found” reports (see Table 6).

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 8. Number of Part 139-certificated airports¹ and general aviation (GA) airports with reported wildlife strikes and number of strikes reported for these airports, civil aircraft, USA, 1990–2022 (see Figure 5)².

Year	Part 139 airports		GA airports		All USA airports	
	Airports	Strikes	Airports	Strikes	Airports	Strikes
1990	235	1,779	99	163	334	1,942
1991	260	2,116	96	198	356	2,314
1992	255	2,256	107	227	362	2,483
1993	256	2,266	100	218	356	2,484
1994	264	2,294	111	246	375	2,540
1995	260	2,382	120	209	380	2,591
1996	257	2,591	109	194	366	2,785
1997	283	3,011	122	200	405	3,211
1998	290	3,220	144	268	434	3,488
1999	303	3,807	145	257	448	4,064
2000	310	4,487	154	280	464	4,767
2001	315	4,431	152	294	467	4,725
2002	305	4,760	154	309	459	5,069
2003	305	4,642	153	329	458	4,971
2004	306	5,214	175	321	481	5,535
2005	321	5,519	175	330	496	5,849
2006	319	5,949	144	274	463	6,223
2007	324	6,560	164	328	488	6,888
2008	329	6,617	162	310	491	6,927
2009	361	8,010	234	452	595	8,462
2010	373	8,291	219	465	592	8,756
2011	361	8,442	231	501	592	8,943
2012	384	8,924	257	579	641	9,503
2013	377	9,129	274	619	651	9,748
2014	393	11,010	282	705	675	11,715
2015	404	11,089	270	695	674	11,784
2016	401	10,779	262	782	663	11,561
2017	420	11,757	282	829	702	12,586
2018	419	12,843	297	869	716	13,712
2019	420	13,496	310	918	730	14,414
2020	411	9,197	258	916	669	10,113
2021	429	12,353	279	988	708	13,341
2022	429	13,442	264	893	693	14,335
Total	516	222,663	1,546	15,166	2,062	237,829

¹ There were 522 airports in USA certificated for passenger service under CFR Part 139 in January 2023 (FAA 2023b).

² In addition, 4,830 strikes involving USA-registered aircraft were reported from 330 foreign airports in 113 countries (230 strikes at 91 airports in 53 countries in 2022). Furthermore, 5,148 strikes (5,114 bird and 34 bat strikes) were reported in which aircraft was en route (Table 10). An additional 28,661 strikes were reported in which either evidence of strike was discovered on aircraft after landing but phase of flight where strike occurred could not be determined or an airport was not named on reporting form.

Table 9. Reported time of occurrence of wildlife strikes with civil aircraft, USA¹, 1990–2022².

Time of day	Birds		Terrestrial mammals		Bats	
	33-year total	% of total known	33-year total	% of total known	33-year total	% of total known
Dawn	5,657	4	125	5	24	2
Day	97,782	62	718	27	251	18
Dusk	6,960	4	199	7	58	4
Night	46,088	29	1,665	62	1,066	76
Total known	156,487	100	2,707	100	1,399	100
Unknown³	109,454		2,960		3,169	
Total	265,941		5,667		4,568	

¹ Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

² In addition, 670 strikes with reptiles were reported from 1990–2022: time not reported (559), day (88), night (17), dusk (4), and dawn (2).

³ Of the 116,142 strike reports with “Unknown” time of day (all species), 75,540 (65 percent) were “Carcass Found” reports (Table 6).

Table 10. Reported phase of flight at time of occurrence of wildlife strikes with civil aircraft, USA¹, 1990–2022².

Phase of flight	Birds		Terrestrial mammals ³		Bats	
	33-year total	% of total known	33-year total	% of total known	33-year total	% of total known
Parked	110	<1	2	<1		0
Taxi	547	<1	77	3		0
Take-off Run	28,149	17	903	30	50	4
Climb	26,038	16	64	2	76	6
Departure ⁴	2,640	2	6	<1	29	2
En Route	5,114	3			34	3
Arrival ⁴	711	<1	7	<1	6	<1
Descent	2,211	1			21	2
Approach	71,471	43	244	8	873	69
Landing Roll	29,041	17	1,637	55	177	14
Local ⁴	974	1	49	2	5	<1
Total known	167,006	100	2,989	100	1,271	100
Unknown⁵	98,935		2,678		3,297	
Total	265,941		5,667		4,568	

¹ Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

² In addition, 670 strikes with reptiles were reported: phase of flight not reported (559), landing roll (47), take-off run (36), taxi (18), approach (7; pilot missed approach because reptile was on runway or hit reptile before aircraft touched down), and local (3).

³ In some cases, terrestrial mammals (e.g., deer, coyote) was hit after aircraft lifted off runway or just before touchdown, or pilot had a missed approach because mammal was on runway.

⁴ Phase of flight was determined to be Arrival, Departure, or Local (i.e., pilot conducting “touch-and-go” operations) but exact phase of flight could not be determined.

⁵ Of the 105,469 strike reports with “Unknown” phase of flight (all species), 75,540 (72 percent) were “Carcass Found” reports (Table 6).

Table 11. Number of reported bird strikes to commercial transport aircraft¹ by height above ground level (AGL), USA², 1990–2022. See Figure 8 for graphic analysis of strike data from 501 to 18,500 feet AGL³.

Height of strike (feet AGL)	All reported strikes			Strikes with damage		
	33-year total	% of total known	% cumulative total ⁴	33-year total	% of total known	% cumulative total ⁴
0	48,984	42	42	2,236	27	27
1-500	33,509	29	71	2,175	27	54
501-1500	12,675	11	82	1,229	15	69
1501-2500	6,798	6	88	771	9	79
2501-3500	4,925	4	92	501	6	85
3501-4500	2,975	3	94	319	4	89
4501-5500	2,060	2	96	231	3	92
5501-6500	1,375	1	97	159	2	94
6501-7500	906	1	98	103	1	95
7501-8500	709	1	99	101	1	96
8501-9500	377	<1	99	48	1	97
9501-10500	506	<1	99	78	1	98
10501-11500	252	<1	100	59	1	98
>11500 ⁵	440	<1	100	126	2	100
Total known	116,491	100		8,136	100	
Unknown height	49,983			3,617		
Total	166,474			11,753		

¹ Air carrier, commuter, and air taxi service with 3-letter Operator Code (see Table 7); strikes in which height of strike was reported but type of operator was unknown were excluded from analysis.

² Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

³ A more detailed analysis of bird strikes by height AGL is provided by Dolbeer (2006b).

⁴ The cumulative percentage of strikes that occur at or below the upper range of the corresponding 1,000-foot interval.

⁵ Thirty-one strikes involving commercial transport aircraft (11 with damage to aircraft) were reported at $\geq 20,000$ feet AGL; the highest was 31,300 feet.

Table 12. Number of reported bird strikes to general aviation aircraft¹ by height above ground level (AGL), USA², 1990–2022. See Figure 8 for graphic analysis of strike data from 501 to 12,500 feet AGL³.

Height of strike (feet AGL)	All reported strikes			Strikes with damage		
	33-year total	% of total known	% cumulative total ⁴	33-year total	% of total known	% cumulative total ⁴
0	8,290	37	37	817	16	817
1-500	7,655	34	70	1,684	32	1,684
501-1500	3,755	17	87	1,468	28	1,468
1501-2500	1,476	7	94	621	12	621
2501-3500	670	3	97	285	5	285
3501-4500	311	1	98	144	3	144
4501-5500	154	1	99	62	1	62
5501-6500	102	<1	99	49	1	49
6501-7500	77	<1	99	28	1	28
7501-8500	41	<1	100	20	<1	20
8501-9500	26	<1	100	13	<1	13
9501-10500	32	<1	100	17	<1	17
10501-11500	7	<1	100	3	<1	3
>11500 ⁵	39	<1	100	25	<1	25
Total known	22,635	100		5,236	100	5,236
Unknown height	5,337			843		843
Total	27,972			6,079		6,079

¹ Private, Business, and Government/Police aircraft (see Table 6); Strikes in which height of strike was reported but type of operator was unknown were excluded from analysis.

² Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

³ A more detailed analysis of bird strikes by height AGL is provided by Dolbeer (2006b).

⁴ The cumulative percentage of strikes that occur at or below the upper range of the corresponding 1,000-foot interval.

⁵ Seven strikes involving general aviation aircraft (6 with damage to aircraft) were reported at $\geq 20,000$ feet AGL; the highest was 27,500 feet.

Table 13. Civil aircraft components reported as being struck and damaged by wildlife, USA¹, 1990–2022.

Aircraft component	Birds (33-year total)				Terrestrial mammals (33-year total)			
	Number struck	% of total	Number damaged	% of total	Number struck	% of total	Number damaged	% of total
Windshield	33,766	15	1,339	6	9	0	17	1
Wing/rotor	31,536	14	5,340	25	384	10	383	17
Nose	31,354	14	1,477	7	133	4	120	5
Radome	25,222	11	1,965	9	21	1	16	1
Fuselage	24,470	11	932	4	183	5	185	8
Engine(s) ²	24,169	11	5,362	25	206	6	195	8
Landing gear	9,818	4	683	3	1,697	46	561	24
Propeller	4,336	2	322	2	395	11	344	15
Tail	2,719	1	870	4	64	2	87	4
Light	1,328	1	900	4	57	2	59	3
Other ³	35,460	16	1,960	9	552	15	335	15
Total⁴	224,178	100	21,150	100	3,701	100	2,302	100

¹ Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

² For birds, 24,169 engines were reported as struck in 23,128 strike events involving engines (22,118 events with one engine struck, 986 with two engines struck, 17 with three engines struck, and 7 with four engines struck). A total of 5,362 engines was damaged in 5,190 bird-strike events with engine damage (5,021 events with one engine damaged, 167 with two engines damaged, 1 with three engines damaged, and 1 with four engines damaged). For terrestrial mammals, 203 engines were reported as struck in 192 strike events (181 events with one engine struck and 11 with two engines struck). A total of 194 engines was damaged in 175 terrestrial mammal strike events with engine damage (156 events with one engine damaged and 19 with two engines damaged). Some engines were damaged without being struck when the landing gear collapsed.

³ “Other” parts reported struck included 819 Pitot tubes, 461 wiper blades, 285 antennae (communication, radar, or global position), 194 Angle of Attack (AOA) sensors (including SMART sensors), and 182 air temperature probes (TAT, RAT, OAT).

⁴ In addition, bat strikes had 2,507 and 37 components reported as struck and damaged, respectively: radome/nose (857, 5), windshield (371, 6), engine (178, 6), propeller (7, 0), wing/rotor (533, 11), fuselage (205, 2), tail (32, 3), other (205, 2), landing gear (108, 0), light (11, 2). For reptile strikes, there were 103 and 7 components reported struck and damaged, respectively: windshield (1, 1), wing/rotor (2, 2), fuselage (1, 1), landing gear (83, 1), tail (1, 1), nose (3, 0), other (12, 1).

Table 14. Number of civil aircraft with reported damage resulting from wildlife strikes, USA¹, 1990–2022. See Tables 1-4 and Figures 2, 3, 10, and 15 for trends in damaging strikes, 1990–2022.

Damage category ³	Reported strikes					
	Birds		Terrestrial mammals		Total (all species) ²	
	33-year total	% of total ⁴	33-year total	% of total ⁴	33-year total	% of total ⁴
None	157,820	59	1,377	24	161,367	58
Unknown	90,161	34	2,999	53	96,189	35
Damage	17,960	7	1,291	23	19,290	7
Minor	7,918	3	613	11	8,543	3
Uncertain	6,269	2	213	4	6,504	2
Substantial	3,726	1	431	8	4,162	2
Destroyed ⁵	47	<1	34	1	81	<1
Total	265,941	100	5,667	100	276,846	100

¹ Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

² Included in totals are 4,568 and 670 strikes involving bats and reptiles, respectively. For bats, 2,078 reports indicated no damage, 2,454 failed to indicate if damage occurred, and 36 indicated damage (10 minor, 22 uncertain level, 4 substantial [caused by megabats at foreign airports]). For reptiles, 92 reports indicated no damage, 575 failed to indicate if damage occurred, and 3 indicated damage (2 minor, 1 substantial).

³ The damage codes and descriptions are from the International Civil Aviation Organization (1989): Minor = the aircraft can be rendered airworthy by simple repairs or replacements and an extensive inspection is not necessary; Uncertain = the aircraft was damaged, but details as to the extent of the damage are lacking; Substantial = the aircraft incurs damage or structural failure that adversely affects the structure strength, performance, or flight characteristics of the aircraft and that would normally require major repair or replacement of the affected component (specifically excluded are bent fairings or cowlings; small dents or puncture holes in the skin; damage to wing tips, antenna, tires, or brakes; and engine blade damage not requiring blade replacement); Destroyed = the damage sustained makes it inadvisable to restore the aircraft to an airworthy condition.

⁴ The percentage of strikes causing damage is calculated using the total strikes reported as the divisor, including the 96,188 reports that did not indicate if damage occurred or not (Unknown). “Carcass found” reports (see Table 6) comprised 75,540 (79 percent) of these 96,188 reports. If the Unknown reports are excluded from the calculations, then 10, 48, and 11 percent of the strikes caused damage for birds, terrestrial mammals, and all species, respectively.

⁵ Includes 1 Government-operated drone destroyed after being attacked by a bald eagle in 2020.

Table 15. Reported effect-on-flight of wildlife strikes to civil aircraft, USA¹, 1990–2022. See Figure 10 for trend in strikes with a negative effect-on-flight, 1990-2022.

Effect-on-flight ³	Reported strikes					
	Birds		Terrestrial mammals		Total ²	
	33-year total	% of total ⁴	33-year total	% of total ⁴	33-year total	% of total ⁴
None	123,160	46	1,262	22	125,733	45
Unknown	130,362	49	3,527	62	137,786	50
Negative effect	12,419	5	878	15	13,327	5
Precautionary landing ⁵	7,883	3	132	2	8,030	3
Aborted take-off ⁵	2,681	1	292	5	2,976	1
Engine shutdown	388	<1	40	1	427	<1
Other	1,467	1	414	7	1,893	1
Total	265,941	100	5,667	100	276,846	100

¹ Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

² Included in totals are 4,049 and 601 strikes involving bats and reptiles, respectively. For bats, 1,109 reports indicated no effect-on-flight, 2,925 failed to indicate if an effect-on-flight occurred, and 15 indicated a negative effect (12 precautionary landings, 3 “Other”). For reptiles, 69 reports indicated no effect-on-flight, 519 failed to indicate if an effect-on-flight occurred, and 11 indicated a negative effect (1 precautionary landing, 2 aborted take-off, 8 “Other”).

³ Effect-on-flight: None = flight continued as scheduled, although delays and other cost caused by inspections or repairs may have been incurred after landing; Aborted take-off = pilot aborted take-off on departure runway after initiating take-off run (aircraft may have become airborne but pilot landed on departing runway without doing a “go around”); Precautionary landing (includes “declared emergency” landings) = pilot completed take-off but returned to land at departure airport or landed at an “other-than-destination” airport after strike; Engine shut down = pilot shut down engine or engine stopped running because of strike; Other = miscellaneous effects, such as reduced speed because of shattered windshield, evasive maneuver to avoid birds, or aborted landing (go-around); Unknown = report had insufficient information to determine an effect-on-flight (Dolbeer et al. 2000).

⁴ The percentage of strikes causing negative effect-on-flight is calculated using the total strikes reported as the divisor, including the 127,199 reports that did not indicate if a negative effect occurred or not (Unknown). “Carcass found” reports (see Table 6) comprised 69,709 (55 percent) of these 127,199 reports. If the Unknown reports are excluded from the calculations, then 10, 42, and 10 percent of the strikes caused a negative effect-on-flight for birds, terrestrial mammals, and all species, respectively.

⁵ Includes 80 bird strikes in which 1 engine was shut down before the precautionary landing and 17 bird strikes in which engine was shut down during aborted take-off.

Table 16. Number of reported incidents where pilot made a precautionary or emergency landing after striking wildlife during departure in which fuel was jettisoned or burned (circling pattern) to lighten aircraft weight or in which an overweight (greater than maximum landing weight) landing was made (no fuel jettison or burn), civil aircraft, USA, 1990–2022¹. See Figure 11 for trends in incidents, 1990–2022.

Action taken after bird strike on departure	Number of incidents	Comments and number of incidents by aircraft model
Fuel jettison	63	Aircraft: B-747 (22); B-767 (9); B-727 (7); DC-10/MD-11 (8); B-777 (4); B-787 (1); Learjet 31/35 (3); Airbus 330, Gulfstream 200, Gulfstream G150, L-1011, Lockheed P38, CL601, DA-2000, and unknown (1 each). A mean of 98,064 lbs (14,421 gallons) of fuel jettisoned per incident in which amount of fuel jettison was reported (N = 25, range 300–270,000 lbs; 44–39,706 gallons).
Fuel burn	132	Aircraft: A-319 to A330 (24); EMB-120/145/170/190 (25); B-737 (15); CRJ Regional Jets (12); Learjet 24/60 (6); MD-80/88/90 (6); and 24 other aircraft models with 1–3 each.
Overweight landing	135	Aircraft: B-737 (38); A-319/330 (29); B-757 (18); MD-80/83 (14); B-767 (10); CRJ-100 to 700 (5); EMB-145/170 (6); A-300, MD-11, and C-500/600 (2 each); and 9 aircraft models (1 each).
Total	330	A mean of 10.0 (range 0 – 21) incidents (fuel jettison, fuel burn, or overweight landing) per year, 1990 – 2022.

¹ Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

Table 17. Indicated airspeed (nautical miles/hour [knots])¹ at time pilot aborted take-off after striking or observing wildlife on runway, civil aircraft, USA², 1990 – 2022. See Figure 12 for trend in high-speed aborted take-offs at ≥ 100 knots caused by wildlife, 1990–2022.

Aircraft speed (knots)	Commercial transport aircraft ³		General aviation aircraft ⁴		All aircraft ⁵	
	33-year total	% of total known	33-year total	% of total known	33-year total	% of total known
1-49	30	3	114	16	146	9
50-99	473	50	435	62	913	55
≥ 100	449	47	148	21	601	36
Total known	952	100	697	100	1,660	100
Unknown	735		559		1,316	
Total	1,687		1,256		2,976	

¹ A speed of 100 knots equals 185 kilometers/hour (115 miles/hour).

² Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

³ Air carrier, commuter, and air taxi service with 3-letter identifying code (see Table 7).

⁴ Business, Private, or Government aircraft (see Table 7).

⁵ Included in totals are 33 aborted take-offs in which type of operator was unknown. For these 33 events, the speed was unreported (22), 1-49 knots (2), 50-99 knots (5), and ≥ 100 knots (4).

Table 18. Total reported strikes, strikes causing damage, strikes having a negative effect-on-flight (NEOF), strikes involving >1 animal, and reported aircraft downtime and costs by identified wildlife species, civil aircraft, USA¹, 1990–2022 (page 1 of 27).

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With damage	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Birds						
Loons	76	41	23	1	7,076	4,424,573
Loons	2	1	1			
Common loon	54	31	15		6,533	4,240,702
Red-throated loon	18	8	7	1	351	182,246
Pacific loon	2	1			192	1,625
Grebes	198	48	23	27	2,843	7,511,678
Grebes	12	2		1		
Eared grebe	29	6	2	6	586	990,703
Western grebe	36	11	7	8	166	2,683,158
Pied-billed grebe	58	7	3	1	119	52,496
Horned grebe	22	6	3	2	146	167,211
Red-necked grebe	6	2	2	1		
Clark's grebe	3					
Great crested grebe	1					
White-tufted grebe	1			1		
Western/Clark's grebe complex	30	14	6	7	1,826	3,618,110
Albatrosses/shearwaters	101	9	4	5	197	97,407
Laysan albatross	36	8	3	1	197	97,407
Black-footed albatross	8	1				
Petrels	2					
Bonin petrel	13			4		
Hawaiian petrel	1					
Northern fulmar	1					
Shearwaters	1					
Wedge-tailed shearwater	24		1			
Newell's shearwater	11					
Storm-petrels	1					
Fork-tailed storm-petrel	2					
Band-rumped storm-petrel	1					
Tropicbirds	41	21	13	1	260	195,831
Tropicbirds	11	8	4		152	84,668
White-tailed tropicbird	26	12	8	1	108	101,917
Red-tailed tropicbird	4	1	1			9,246
Pelicans	133	60	40	22	10,707	17,847,460
Pelicans	11	3			108	25,936

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 2 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Australian pelican	1	1	1			
Brown pelican	88	34	23	11	594	567,181
American white pelican	33	22	16	11	10,005	17,254,343
Gannets, boobies	6				13	
Northern gannet	1					
Red-footed booby	4					
Brown booby	1				13	
Cormorants	235	72	45	38	3,404	7,728,378
Cormorants	3	1			12	18,525
Great cormorant	2	1		2		
Double-crested cormorant	224	69	44	36	3,366	7,709,853
Pelagic cormorant	2					
Brandt's cormorant	3	1	1		26	
Neotropic cormorant	1					
Anhinga	73	37	23	8	347	1,262,606
Frigatebirds	26	8	7		89	41,985
Frigatebirds	1					
Great frigatebird	15	4	3		69	34,455
Magnificent frigatebird	10	4	4		20	7,530
Herons, egrets, bitterns	2,603	262	245	303	10,265	29,825,806
Herons, egrets, bitterns	11		1			
Herons	67	13	9	2	211	5,975
Gray heron	3	1	1			
Great blue heron	575	111	71	12	4,513	18,055,767
Black-crowned night-heron	150	10	4	8	236	527,411
Little blue heron	24	1	2			371
Green heron	48	3	3	1		566
Yellow-crowned night-heron	104	10	6	6	188	964,436
Tricolored heron	10		2			
Purple heron	2	1			36	
American bittern	24	8	2	1	695	73,404
Yellow bittern	176		2	15		
Least bittern	6		1		2	
Egrets	380	35	55	94	3,627	5,679,041
Cattle egret	805	49	72	147	480	1,495,069
Great egret	161	14	11	13	178	2,965,408
Intermediate egret	1					
Snowy egret	54	6	3	4	99	58,358

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 3 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Reddish egret	2					
Storks	26	9	4	4	40	27,262
White stork	1	1				
Wood stork	25	8	4	4	40	27,262
Ibises, spoonbills	80	20	13	14	1,990	1,377,379
Ibises	8		1	1		
Glossy ibis	7	1	1	1		2,548
White ibis	38	5	5	4	134	72,864
White-faced ibis	22	13	4	8	1,844	1,287,159
Roseate spoonbill	5	1	2		12	14,808
Waterfowl	7,056	2,655	1,274	2,269	190,451	326,732,363
Ducks, geese, swans	148	73	34	59	825	1,682,886
Ducks	947	311	148	289	10,914	10,301,148
American wigeon	115	43	14	31	5,073	2,351,403
Northern pintail	246	110	43	98	2,792	11,096,921
Green-winged teal	134	30	11	33	1,240	1,488,594
Blue-winged teal	98	33	12	23	761	1,505,353
Eurasian wigeon	3	1		1		
Mallard	1,320	261	134	286	15,414	25,839,044
Common eider	6	3	1	2	12	6,366
Ring-necked duck	56	22	9	11	1,822	224,243
Greater scaup	21	4	2	5		
Wood duck	104	27	8	18	1,107	226,706
Muscovy duck	5	1			120	720,415
Common goldeneye	11	4	2	2		2,898
Red-breasted merganser	10	2	1	2	3	
Hooded merganser	23	7	2	3	61	337,714
Common merganser	11	3	4	2	120	4,483
Northern shoveler	142	52	16	45	3,150	5,155,349
Gadwall	131	47	14	39	812	13,519,698
Canvasback	32	17	5	10	956	3,137,645
American black duck	89	9	5	24	2,672	1,323,404
Mottled duck	36	6	4	8	25	64,800
Lesser scaup	93	38	18	28	2,124	415,592
Ruddy duck	115	27	9	17	418	336,073
Redhead	20	10	4	8	101	276,560
Bufflehead	39	7	4	4	433	260,485
Long-tailed duck	8	4	3	1	20	58,638

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 4 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Philippine duck	1	1	1	1	96	14,136,720
Black-bellied whistling-duck	24	7	3	6	120	
Cinnamon teal	13	4	1	2	46	40,850
White-winged scoter	5	4	3	2	1,410	839,300
Hawaiian duck	16			5		
Harlequin duck	1					
Barrow's goldeneye	3					
Surf scoter	4	1			10	
Mallard/A. black duck complex	20	1	2	3	20	426
Mallard/mottled duck complex	4	1	1	1	68	26,795
Diving duck (Aythya)	30	5	2	7	149	309,010
Geese	471	250	106	167	28,093	3,996,352
Snow goose	183	127	64	91	13,873	41,301,200
Canada goose	2,045	962	532	819	92,293	174,276,347
Brant	64	16	5	19	141	686,821
Greater white-fronted goose	84	56	20	47	1,192	7,335,337
Emperor goose	2	1				12,095
Cackling goose	40	18	3	9	274	726,080
Hawaiian goose	6	1		2	9	
Egyptian goose	2			1		
Ross's goose	1			1		
Snow /Ross's goose complex	33	26	8	22	786	641,410
Swans	3	1				
Mute swan	12	2	1	2		
Tundra swan	24	17	13	12	824	692,502
Trumpeter swan	2	2	2	1	72	1,374,700
Hawks, eagles, vultures	9,685	2,223	1,339	291	179,885	198,696,252
Unidentified raptors	81	26	18	1	6,665	272,681
New World vultures	401	229	116	29	27,143	16,566,669
Black vulture	324	204	94	15	23,792	15,550,813
Turkey vulture	1,101	536	319	58	53,484	46,496,809
Osprey	587	128	66	8	4,463	2,225,111
Kites, eagles, hawks	6		2		1	
Kites	1					
White-tailed kite	93	4	2	3	46	7,245,000
Black kite	6	4	1			
Mississippi kite	29		2			
Swallow-tailed kite	8	1	1	1	1	45

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 5 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Eagles	8	3	2	1		
Bald eagle	445	162	105	28	13,524	34,854,282
White-bellied sea-eagle	1	1	1			
Golden eagle	34	10	6	2	4,872	1,251,295
Wedge-tailed eagle	1	1	1			
Greater spotted eagle	1	1				
Hawks	1,633	309	216	40	17,559	6,931,309
Northern goshawk	6					
Red-tailed hawk	3,845	502	328	84	23,144	52,650,916
Rough-legged hawk	133	12	5	2	70	101,915
Red-shouldered hawk	104	9	8		214	4,817
Swainson's hawk	226	31	17	7	1,520	963,844
Eurasian sparrowhawk	2					
Sharp-shinned hawk	50	2		1	1,049	492,700
Cooper's hawk	195	11	10	2	61	248,216
Ferruginous hawk	69	5	1		88	4,495,078
Broad-winged hawk	54	20	10	4	1,777	774,712
Harris's hawk	6					
Hawaiian hawk	3	2	3		2	
White-tailed hawk	5					
Eurasian buzzard	5	1			26	
Short-tailed hawk	3	1				
Western marsh harrier	1					
Northern harrier	214	6	4	4	144	398,040
Old World vultures	3	1		1		
Lappet-faced vulture	1	1	1		240	7,172,000
Falcons, caracaras	9,377	104	165	389	7,912	5,962,809
Falcons, caracaras	57	5	5	2	178	125,526
Falcons, kestrels, falconets	23	2	3	3	22	609
Peregrine falcon	579	34	19	25	346	1,073,995
Gyr Falcon	2					
Merlin	210	3	4	9	29	639,491
Prairie falcon	36	1	3	2		7,381
American kestrel	8,430	49	125	344	7,272	4,115,807
Eurasian kestrel	7	1	1			

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 6 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Crested caracara	32	9	5	4	65	
Yellow-headed caracara	1					
Gallinaceous birds	420	81	61	73	3,682	8,849,753
Grouse	3	1				
Greater sage-grouse	42	12	6	15	556	602,585
Sharp-tailed grouse	24	1	3	4	24	932
Ruffed grouse	4					
Spruce grouse	1					
Ptarmigans	3	1	1	2	18	84,850
Willow ptarmigan	8	3	1	4	207	165,906
Rock ptarmigan	2	1				
Quails, pheasants	3	1				21,675
New World quail	9		3	2		
Northern bobwhite	17	3	3	2	93	9,835
California quail	1					
Scaled quail	5					
Gambel's quail	1			1		
Pheasants	1			1		
Ring-necked pheasant	108	19	9	6	883	128,760
Greater prairie chicken	1		1			
Partridges	3			1		
Red-legged partridge	1					
Gray partridge	40	4	4	15	44	6,698,392
Chukar	4			1		
Gray francolin	8	1	1	1	92	382,223
Black francolin	10				1	
Helmeted guineafowl	3	1		2		
Wild turkey	118	33	29	16	1,764	754,595
Cranes	195	67	39	51	3,927	523,483
Cranes	1					
Sandhill crane	193	66	39	51	3,879	452,560
Whooping crane	1	1			48	70,923
Limpkin	3					
Rails, gallinules	641	102	36	25	5,193	10,524,383
Rails	15	1	1	1		
Sora	120	9	2	6	171	832,876
Common gallinule	11	1	1		24	1,531
American coot	418	88	31	16	4,843	9,556,891

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 7 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Eurasian coot	1					
Purple gallinule	7	1	1		72	35,885
Virginia rail	44	1		1	83	97,200
Clapper rail	16					
Yellow rail	2					
King rail	5			1		
Eurasian moorhen	1	1				
Corn crane	1					
Shorebirds	14,243	247	231	1,757	8,019	8,750,811
Shorebirds	54	2	1	10	6	
American oystercatcher	53			5		
Plovers, lapwings	10			1		
Plovers	108	3	5	16	48	
European golden-plover	5			1		
American golden-plover	298	10	6	69	86	139,460
Black-bellied plover	235	9	7	33	40	251,590
Snowy plover	4			2	1	
Common ringed plover	1					
Lesser sand-plover	1					
Killdeer	9,162	77	95	771	2,079	4,979,412
Pacific golden-plover	1,418	14	19	185	325	444,743
Semipalmated plover	140		2	38	7	
Piping plover	5	1		1	2	279
Wilson's plover	6			1		
Kentish plover	2					
Oriental plover	1					
Northern lapwing	1	1	1	1	25	
Red-wattled lapwing	1					
Southern lapwing	7	2	1			12,704
Spur-winged lapwing	1	1				
Sandpipers, curlews	372	18	33	108	214	245,779
Upland sandpiper	395	10	7	39	31	3,676
Spotted sandpiper	52	3	2	9	3	
Willet	21			2		
Common snipe	12					
American woodcock	199	10	4	7	1,129	100,717
Dunlin	147	9	9	48	683	395,036
Baird's sandpiper	74	2		9	27	112,294

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 8 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Western sandpiper	263	8	5	136	1,546	215,395
Pectoral sandpiper	62	8	1	16	220	384,149
Sanderling	49	1	3	11	6	
Buff-breasted sandpiper	74	1		12		
Surfbird	1	1		1		6,738
Ruddy turnstone	40		1	7		
Bar-tailed godwit	1					
Least sandpiper	286	2	4	69	21	7,441
Semipalmated sandpiper	170	2	2	62	1	12,267
Lesser yellowlegs	27	7	1	5	105	124,608
Short-billed dowitcher	21	5	1	6	19	12,740
Hudsonian godwit	7	1	1	3	97	41,210
Solitary sandpiper	17	1		2		
Greater yellowlegs	27	5	1	3	121	74,332
Long-billed dowitcher	16	1		5	2	
Red knot	4		1			
White-rumped sandpiper	21			5		
Black turnstone	2					
Marbled godwit	11	2	2	2	48	203,132
Wilson's snipe	222	13	6	13	143	48,672
Rock sandpiper	2			2		
South American snipe	1					
Stilt sandpiper	3			1		
Purple sandpiper	1					
Wood sandpiper	1					
Gray-tailed tattler	1					
Eurasian curlew	2	1				
Whimbrel	27	2	1	7	360	65,000
Long-billed curlew	12	2	1	1	504	853,400
Red-necked phalarope	19	3	3	5	74	
Wilson's phalarope	29	8	5	18	46	16,037
Red phalarope	3					
American avocet	12	1		4		
Black-necked stilt	20			5		
Red-necked stint	1					
Double-striped thick-knee	2					
Spotted thick-knee	1	1				

Table 18. Continued (page 9 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Jaegers	10					
Parasitic jaeger	3					
Long-tailed jaeger	7					
Gulls	14,285	1,679	1,361	2,576	64,920	75,597,400
Gulls, terns, kittiwakes	2					
Gulls	7,340	1,135	928	1,718	41,835	31,192,201
Herring gull	1,963	156	133	182	3,542	6,357,856
Mew gull	86	8	5	14	49	127,166
Ring-billed gull	2,147	142	128	342	9,290	5,904,910
Glaucous-winged gull	203	31	16	20	636	2,781,674
Great black-backed gull	179	14	9	13	227	2,406,732
Franklin's gull	245	20	25	74	467	266,445
Laughing gull	1,139	28	34	100	994	1,091,580
Bonaparte's gull	87	3	6	18	8	110,305
Lesser black-backed gull	7	3	1	2	24	
Western gull	201	23	10	14	751	2,570,407
California gull	296	27	22	36	5,141	884,340
Heermann's gull	2			1		
Black-headed gull	12					
Iceland gull	3					
Yellow-legged gull	3	3	3	3	456	13,967,531
Glaucous gull	45	4	3	7	561	878,667
Vega gull	1	1			18	15,087
White-headed gull complex	322	81	38	32	921	7,042,499
Black-headed gull complex	2					
Terns, noddies, kittiwakes	381	14	12	62	267	1,164,081
Terns, noddies	55	3	1	17	1	285,425
White-winged tern	2			1		
Little tern	2			1		
Caspian tern	51	2	1	3	24	719,900
Common tern	53	2		3		95,550
Sandwich tern	5					
Gull-billed tern	8			1		
Black tern	10			3	2	
White tern	25	3	4	3	154	43,105
Arctic tern	6	1		2		
Roseate tern	1					
Forster's tern	20		1	2	5	239

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 10 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Least tern	40			5		
Royal tern	9	1	1	1	33	
Sooty tern	7	1	1		48	19,760
Elegant tern	4					
Noddies	8			3		
Black noddy	25		2	9		102
Brown noddy	16		1	4		
Black-legged kittiwake	2					
Red-legged kittiwake	1					
Black skimmer	31	1		4		
Alcidae	3		1		1	126
Pigeon guillemot	1					
Common murre	1					
Horned puffin	1		1		1	126
Pigeons, doves	20,334	644	764	3,155	33,029	29,954,045
Pigeons, doves	50	5	8	16	1,638	1,139
Pigeons	24	2	2	8	7	150
Common wood-pigeon	11	1		2		
Band-tailed pigeon	32	10	1	5	233	434,277
Rock pigeon	4,107	298	311	1,111	16,759	16,023,179
Picazuro pigeon	1					
White-crowned pigeon	2					
Bare-eyed pigeon	1					
Scaly-naped pigeon	3		1		1	
Speckled pigeon	1					
Doves	1,235	50	82	250	609	662,174
Eurasian collared dove	85	3	3	12	26	1,235
Mourning dove	13,814	261	332	1,675	12,251	12,384,382
Spotted dove	265	4	8	14	157	426,852
Zebra dove	453	5	14	46	1,212	17,865
Inca dove	15			1		
Sunda collared dove	8					
White-winged dove	143	4		12	104	2,792
Common ground dove	48		1			
Zenaida dove	26	1	1	1	32	
Ruddy ground dove	1					
Eared dove	3					
Philippine collared dove	4			1		

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 11 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
African collared dove	2			1		
Parrots	46			7	5	9,255
Parrots	5			1		
Budgerigar	20			1		
Monk parakeet	5			1		
Olive-throated parakeet	1			1		
Brown-throated parakeet	1					
Lilac-crowned parrot	1			1		
Red-crowned amazon	1					
Nanday parakeet	7			1	5	9,255
Red-masked parakeet	3					
Yellow-chevroned parakeet	1			1		
Rose-ringed parakeet	1					
Cuckoos, roadrunners	183	25	6	14	802	625,942
Cuckoos	41	6	2	5	687	451,872
Yellow-billed cuckoo	117	17	4	8	96	174,070
Common cuckoo	1					
Black-billed cuckoo	16	1			19	
Philippine drongo-cuckoo	1					
Dark-billed cuckoo	1	1				
Greater roadrunner	6			1		
Owls	4,418	202	108	60	4,193	17,253,222
Owls	392	34	22	9	1,499	620,600
Barn owl	1,938	61	31	27	782	3,846,227
Snowy owl	378	32	20	3	1,024	3,224,778
Little owl	1					
Short-eared owl	819	15	14	9	207	1,966,913
Long-eared owl	21	4			24	63,700
Northern saw-whet owl	10	2			96	
Burrowing owl	410	5	6	10	9	996
Barred owl	49	1	1			201
Northern pygmy-owl	1					
Great gray owl	4	1				
Flammulated owl	2	1				
Eastern screech-owl	6	2			24	15,758
Western screech-owl	3					
Great horned owl	382	44	14	2	528	7,514,049

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 12 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Northern hawk owl	2					
Nightjars	1,328	9	3	58	123	239
Nightjars	25				1	
Eastern whip-poor-will	17			2		
Common poorwill	20	1		1		
Lesser nighthawk	33			2	12	
Chuck-will's-widow	21	1			1	
Common nighthawk	1,185	7	3	52	109	239
Common pauraque	17			1		
Nacunda nighthawk	2					
Antillean nighthawk	8					
Swifts	1,744	23	17	117	1,351	265,363
Swifts	26	1		2	1	343
Black swift	6			1		
Chimney swift	1,495	17	14	109	1,292	133,457
Common swift	25	2		2	2	17,160
Vaux's swift	78			1	25	
Pallid swift	2					
White-throated swift	99	3	3	2	31	114,403
Alpine swift	1					
Little swift	1					
Antillean palm swift	11					
Hummingbirds	140			5	3	12
Hummingbirds	16					12
Ruby-throated hummingbird	72			2	1	
Rufous hummingbird	23			1		
Anna's hummingbird	15			2	2	
Black-chinned hummingbird	6					
Allen's hummingbird	2					
Calliope hummingbird	2					
Broad-tailed hummingbird	1					
Costa's hummingbird	3					
Belted kingfisher	17					
Woodpeckers	412	31	7	16	815	345,974
Woodpeckers	15	1	1		1	
Northern flicker	199	13		3	489	159,405
Yellow-bellied sapsucker	157	13	3	12	242	154,824
Hairy woodpecker	3					

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 13 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Red-naped sapsucker	6	3	2			22,425
Downy woodpecker	14				1	
Red-bellied woodpecker	11			1	10	
Red-breasted sapsucker	4					
Red-headed woodpecker	1					
Ladder-backed woodpecker	1	1	1		72	9,320
Golden-fronted woodpecker	1					
Unidentified passiformes	1,533	47	25	104	298	266,399
Old World flycatchers	7					
Spotted flycatcher	1					
Blue-and-white swallow	3					
Black redstart	1					
Rufous-tailed robin	2					
Tyrant flycatchers	1,566	17	11	94	118	27,010
Tyrant flycatchers	57			7	1	1,398
Eastern wood-pewee	48	1	1	6		
Gray kingbird	22	1		1		
Great crested flycatcher	38	3		1	73	540
Eastern kingbird	100	1	2	9	2	17,137
Scissor-tailed flycatcher	348	1	4	18	1	802
Acadian flycatcher	21			2		
Say's phoebe	34					
Western kingbird	509	4	3	30	6	3,919
Ash-throated flycatcher	13					
Great kiskadee	3			1		
Western wood-pewee	12					
Sulphur-bellied flycatcher	5	1		1	12	
Eastern phoebe	60	1		5		
Yellow-bellied flycatcher	37	1		3	1	1,336
Least flycatcher	46	1		2	2	
Hammond's flycatcher	27				1	
Pacific-slope flycatcher	64			3	10	1,853
Gray flycatcher	6			1	1	25
White-crested elaenia	3	1				
Willow flycatcher	15			1	1	
Alder flycatcher	24			1		
Cordilleran flycatcher	3				1	
Dusky flycatcher	4		1			

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 14 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Couch's kingbird	3					
Thick-billed kingbird	2					
Olive-sided flycatcher	5				6	
Loggerhead kingbird	1					
Black phoebe	7					
Tropical kingbird	3					
Olivaceous elaenia	1					
Brown-crested flycatcher	4			1		
Alder/willow flycatcher complex	41	1		1		
Larks	7,714	36	69	1,080	1,774	1,333,919
Larks	5			1		
Eurasian skylark	141		3	7	3	1,131
Horned lark	7,566	36	66	1,072	1,771	1,332,788
Hume's short-toed lark	1					
Black-crowned sparrow lark	1					
Swallows	15,751	80	179	3,001	4,594	2,440,079
Swallows	1,497	11	45	391	160	162,003
Purple martin	338	17	9	65	331	1,723,912
Bank swallow	774	2	8	271	54	14,463
Barn swallow	9,029	37	74	1,549	829	165,792
Common house-martin	2					
Cliff swallow	2,684	7	27	402	3,139	368,096
Tree swallow	1,162	1	12	293	53	5,463
Violet-green swallow	51	2	1	3	2	350
N. rough-winged swallow	139	1	2	9	2	
Cave swallow	74	2	1	18	24	
Gray-breasted martin	1					
Black drongo	21			3		
Starlings, mynas	6,064	160	219	1,832	5,790	9,435,520
European starling	5,916	155	215	1,798	5,734	9,435,520
Mynas	2	1				
Common myna	146	4	4	34	56	
Crows, ravens	991	89	75	113	10,997	3,516,426
Crows, ravens	9	2		1	55	
Crows	222	21	12	34	434	149,032
American crow	674	50	53	71	7,276	2,461,049
Carrion crow	3	1			35	6,090
Hooded crow	1	1	1			

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 15 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Rook	1					
Fish crow	5					
Common raven	76	14	9	7	3,197	900,255
Jays, magpies	88	4	2	7	3	1,446
Blue jay	50	1		2	2	350
Canada jay	1					
Yellow-billed magpie	9		1	3		
Black-billed magpie	28	3	1	2	1	1,096
Titmice, chickadees	42	1	1	10		
Tufted titmouse	2					
Chickadees	1					
Black-capped chickadee	27	1	1	7		
Mountain chickadee	6			1		
Gray-headed chickadee	1			1		
Carolina chickadee	3			1		
Bushtit	2					
Nuthatches, creepers	14					
White-breasted nuthatch	2					
Red-breasted nuthatch	8					
Brown creeper	4					
Leaf warblers	2					
Yellow-browed warbler	1					
Greenish warbler	1					
Red-vented bulbul	7			2		
Wrens	298	5	4	25	376	41,772
Wrens	74	1	3	11	2	
Marsh wren	46	1	1	3	34	37,904
House wren	89	1		6	1	628
Carolina wren	15	1		1	1	
Rock wren	9			1		
Cactus wren	7					
Winter wren	30				2	
Bewick's wren	3					
Sedge wren	18	1		3	336	3,240
Pacific wren	7					
Mimics	677	12	8	42	267	2,610,177
Brown thrasher	49	3	2	1	178	2,596,089
Sage thrasher	6					

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 16 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Curve-billed thrasher	2					
Long-billed thrasher	10			4		
Pearly-eyed thrasher	1					
Mockingbirds	2					
Northern mockingbird	189	3	2	11	3	
Tropical mockingbird	1					
Gray catbird	417	6	4	26	86	14,088
Thrushes	3,677	233	53	257	6,384	8,185,591
Thrushes	66	4		3	16	43,597
Western bluebird	20	1		2	21	1,419
Swainson's thrush	577	32	5	45	433	3,257,803
Redwing	2					
American robin	2,114	153	36	134	4,410	4,557,119
Song thrush	2			1		
Hermit thrush	409	12	4	29	749	69,519
Eastern bluebird	32			2		
Gray-cheeked thrush	73	1	1	5	8	300
Varied thrush	111	14	2	10	48	43,306
Wood thrush	96	6	2	9	72	136,928
Mountain bluebird	85	1	1	13		
Veery	84	7	2	4	627	75,600
Townsend's solitaire	4	2				
Bicknell's thrush	2					
Old World warblers	90		2	4	4	
Garden warbler	1					
Wrentit	1					
Blue-gray gnatcatcher	86		2	4	4	
Lesser whitethroat	1					
Lanceolated warbler	1					
Kinglets	368		1	18	22	907
Golden-crowned kinglet	94			4		
Ruby-crowned kinglet	274		1	14	22	907
Pipits	382	2	3	63	101	139
Meadow pipit	3	1			68	
American pipit	369	1	3	63	33	139
Sprague's pipit	8					
Olive-backed pipit	1					
Tree pipit	1					

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 17 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Waxwings	527	13	8	105	372	436,088
Bohemian waxwing	3			2		
Cedar waxwing	524	13	8	103	372	436,088
Shrikes	70		2	2	1	
Northern shrike	3					
Loggerhead shrike	67		2	2	1	
Vireos	507	10	5	26	107	48,273
Vireos	4					
White-eyed vireo	11			1	2	12
Blue-headed vireo	41	3		2	5	
Yellow-throated vireo	7			1		
Warbling vireo	66	2		2	8	15,849
Red-eyed vireo	357	5	5	20	92	32,412
Cassin's vireo	6					
Philadelphia vireo	13					
Bell's vireo	1					
Gray vireo	1					
Japanese white-eye	3					
New World wood-warblers	3,274	25	19	202	2,866	540,991
New World wood-warblers	133	1		7	7	3,614
Canada warbler	32		1		2	127
Yellow-breasted chat	56	1	1	2	4	263
Pine warbler	40			3		
Black-and-white warbler	91	1		4		
Northern parula	80			2	32	3,133
Ovenbird	222	4	1	15	19	5,743
Wilson's warbler	176	1		5	4	7,097
Common yellowthroat	277	3	1	21	124	478,810
Yellow-rumped warbler	639	4	6	38	2,313	6,664
Blackpoll warbler	152	1	2	12	9	13,147
Mourning warbler	12					
American redstart	147	1	1	13	14	972
Orange-crowned warbler	88			3	5	24
Yellow warbler	161	2		12	178	
Cape May warbler	35			2		
Hooded warbler	10	1				
Prairie warbler	22					
Northern waterthrush	76	2		4	60	8,650

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 18 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Nashville warbler	73		1	4	23	
Townsend's warbler	35			2		123
Louisiana waterthrush	4	1				
Palm warbler	156		2	8	8	9,487
Magnolia warbler	64		2	6	25	462
Black-throated blue warbler	77			5	1	
Prothonotary warbler	5		1		4	274
MacGillivray's warbler	28					
Yellow-throated warbler	43	1		5	2	
Black-throated gray warbler	8				2	
Black-throated green warbler	52			1	1	611
Hermit warbler	8					
Tennessee warbler	105			7	2	
Chestnut-sided warbler	39			5	1	1,218
Blackburnian warbler	37			8		
Bay-breasted warbler	47			4	24	572
Connecticut warbler	7			1		
Kentucky warbler	18			2	2	
Worm-eating warbler	8	1				
Blue-winged warbler	2					
Golden-winged warbler	2			1		
Lawrence's warbler	2					
Cerulean warbler	1					
Kirtland's warbler	1					
Swainson's warbler	2					
Virginia's warbler	1					
Meadowlarks	7,045	64	83	554	835	1,282,024
Meadowlarks	785	5	12	63	20	19,002
Eastern meadowlark	3,942	30	35	258	379	780,025
Western meadowlark	2,318	29	36	233	436	482,997
Blackbirds, grackles	3,325	127	137	666	1,904	2,280,673
Blackbirds	1,334	84	87	374	756	1,852,106
Red-winged blackbird	707	7	18	80	99	32,733
Yellow-headed blackbird	30	5	2	3	7	30,850
Brewer's blackbird	89	3	1	10	1	
Brown-headed cowbird	454	3	6	91	37	7,809
Bobolink	56	1	2	4	2	
Rusty blackbird	20					

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 19 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Tricolored blackbird	1					
Grackles	171	13	6	33	769	268,073
Common grackle	314	8	11	54	181	88,732
Boat-tailed grackle	74	1	2	9	32	
Great-tailed grackle	74	2	2	8	20	370
Greater Antillean grackle	1					
Orioles	84	1	3	7	8	328
Orioles	6					
Baltimore oriole	47	1	2	5	8	328
Orchard oriole	16			2		
Bullock's oriole	11		1			
Hooded oriole	4					
Neotropical tanagers	14			1	1	
Red-crested cardinal	6			1	1	
Morelet's seedeater	2					
Saffron finch	5					
Blue-black grassquit	1					
Finches, euphonias	667	8	11	79	946	4,417
Finches, euphonias	139	2	3	25	7	11
Common chaffinch	5					
Island canary	1					
Pine siskin	49	2	1	13	3	113
Common redpoll	11		1	3	3	1,234
Purple finch	21			3		
Red crossbill	6	1	1	3		1,697
Evening grosbeak	1					
American goldfinch	165		2	8	4	
House finch	224	1	2	18	921	1,099
White-winged crossbill	5	1	1	2	4	
Lesser goldfinch	11					
Cassin's finch	4			1		
Pine grosbeak	1					
Gray-crowned rosy-finch	1					
Blue grosbeak	15	1		1	4	263
Hoary redpoll	2			1		
Eurasian siskin	1					
Yellow-fronted canary	2			1		
Lawrence's goldfinch	2					

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 20 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
European goldfinch	1					
Cardinalidae	428	13	5	31	1,264	31,696
Cardinalidae	1					
Northern cardinal	17			1		
Rose-breasted grosbeak	56	1	1	5	4	1,007
Black-headed grosbeak	35	2		2	24	
Dickcissel	38	1		5		1,379
Indigo bunting	88	1	2	7	1,118	1,005
Lazuli bunting	10					
Painted bunting	7					
Scarlet tanager	76	3		3	87	108
Western tanager	89	5	2	6	31	27,511
Summer tanager	11			2		686
Black-faced bunting	1			1		
New World sparrows	8,477	114	157	1,117	1,833	1,538,308
Sparrows	4,082	58	134	877	765	110,939
Harris's sparrow	8			1		
Swamp sparrow	192	3	1	7	255	6,045
Savannah sparrow	1,377	11	9	66	86	28,096
Fox sparrow	125	5	2	7	47	73,174
White-throated sparrow	500	9	2	38	63	48,371
White-crowned sparrow	119	5	1	6	66	275,375
Golden-crowned sparrow	25			1	5	
W-c/g-c sparrow complex	110	4		4	343	828,483
Field sparrow	81		1	7	1	
Lark sparrow	51	1	1	7		18,525
Grasshopper sparrow	157	2	1	6	19	40,481
Vesper sparrow	112	1		6	1	
Chipping sparrow	205	4		10	6	395
Lincoln's sparrow	178	3	2	9	19	20,188
Song sparrow	459	3		26	22	73,258
Bell's sparrow	7				1	
American tree sparrow	47			2		314
Nelson's sparrow	7				1	268
Black-throated sparrow	9				1	
Brewer's sparrow	33		2	1		
LeConte's sparrow	10					
Cassin's sparrow	9					

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 21 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Clay-colored sparrow	26					
Baird's sparrow	7					
Olive sparrow	2					
Sagebrush sparrow	2					
Lark bunting	152	2		20	26	
Dark-eyed junco	384	3	1	16	106	14,396
Seaside sparrow	1					
Towhees	63	3		3	27	20,925
Eastern towhee	39	2		3	27	20,925
Green-tailed towhee	11	1				
California towhee	3					
Spotted towhee	10					
Longspurs, buntings	564	7	37	276	202	30,404
Longspurs, snow buntings	1					
Lapland longspur	121	1	6	35	33	
Chestnut-collared longspur	6					
Smith's longspur	9			1		
Thick-billed longspur	4					
Snow bunting	422	6	30	239	169	30,404
McKay's bunting	1		1	1		
Estrildid finches	373	2	2	114	24	12,071
Waxbills, mannikins	4					
Common waxbill	15		1	5		
African silverbill	3			1		
Munias	119			11		
Scaly-breasted munia	134	1	1	58	21	8,343
Chestnut munia	83	1		32	3	3,728
White-throated munia	5			4		
Java sparrow	1					
Red avadavat	9			3		
House sparrow	511	5	4	48	153	52,676
Total known birds	153,744	9,771	6,989	21,235	583,080	789,734,137
Total unknown birds	112,197	8,189	5,430	10,037	284,996	186,992,790
Unknown bird -unkn size	23,055	1,112	1,101	1,048	21,802	8,511,994
Unknown bird - large	3,624	1,340	628	357	63,395	78,125,293
Unknown bird - medium	37,971	4,461	2,083	2,983	132,892	74,784,865
Unknown bird - small	47,547	1,276	1,618	5,649	66,907	25,570,638
Total birds⁵	265,941	17,960	12,419	31,272	868,076	976,726,927

Table 18. Continued (page 22 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Flying mammals (bats)						
Bats (mega or micro)	1	1				11,603
Megabats (fruit bats)	15	3	2	4	99	5,353,418
Megabats (unkn species)	11	2	1	4	99	5,353,418
Flying foxes	1					
Little red flying fox	1					
Indian flying fox	2	1	1			
Microbats (echo locating)	4,552	32	15	296	367	836,716
Microbats	1,439	6	6	131	80	6,543
Vesper bats	216	2	1	7	31	1,611
Eastern red bat	552	4	2	27	68	18,590
Hoary bat	195	8		6	25	248,179
Eastern small-footed myotis	1					
Little brown bat	353			13		
Big brown bat	265		2	14	1	
Silver-haired bat	107	1		5	19	1,122
Seminole bat	27			1	2	
Tri-colored bat	40					
Northern yellow bat	17			4		
Evening bat	74	1		4		
Indiana bat	5					
Yuma myotis	2					
Long-eared myotis	2					
Western yellow bat	1					
Common pipistrelle	2					
Long-legged myotis	3					
Western small-footed myotis	4			1		
Kuhl's pipistrelle	1					
Western red bat	1					
Western pipistrelle	2					
Indian pipistrelle	4					
African yellow bat	1					
Kelaart's pipistrelle	1					
Spotted bat	2					
California myotis	2					
Gray bat	10			2		
Free-tailed bats	163			4	12	713

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 23 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Brazilian free-tailed bat	1,026	7	4	74	97	26,048
Pocketed free-tailed bat	4					
Big free-tailed bat	1					
Western mastiff bat	7	2			24	411,585
Florida bonneted bat	1					
Pallas's mastiff bat	4			1		
Egyptian free-tailed bat	4					
Black mastiff bat	1	1			8	122,325
Angolan free-tailed bat	1			1		
Broad-eared bat	1					
Sinaloan mastiff bat	1					
Gray sac-winged bat	1					
Naked-rumped tomb bat	1					
Mauritian tomb bat	1					
Jamaican fruit bat	3			1		
Antillean fruit-eating bat	1					
Lesser bulldog bat	1					
Sooty mustached bat	1					
Total Megabats	15	3	2	4	99	5,353,418
Total Microbats	4,552	32	15	296	367	836,716
Unknown bat	1	1				11,603
Total bats⁶	4,568	36	17	300	466	6,201,737
<u>Terrestrial mammals</u>						
Virginia opossum	433	1	1	6		
Nine-banded armadillo	54	1	4		11	1,547
Lagomorphs	1,083	11	12	11	37	153,920
Lagomorphs	9	2				
Hares	8		1		1	
Black-tailed jackrabbit	547	6	4	3	28	40,898
White-tailed jackrabbit	154		1	3	1	
Antelope jackrabbit	2					
Snowshoe hare	1					
Rabbits	66		2	3	1	
Eastern cottontail	207	3	4		6	113,022
Desert cottontail	89			2		
Rodents	422	3	12	5	6	8,751
North American beaver	4					

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 24 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Black-tailed prairie dog	91		2	2		
White-tailed prairie dog	5					
Gunnison's prairie dog	18		1	3		
Woodchuck	197	3	9		6	8,751
Yellow-bellied marmot	6					
Squirrels	2					
Tree Squirrels	4					
Fox squirrel	1					
American red squirrel	1					
Eastern gray squirrel	2					
Ground squirrels	3					
Piute ground squirrel	1					
California ground squirrel	14					
13-lined ground squirrel	2					
Richardson's ground squirrel	2					
Muskrat	45					
N. American porcupine	21					
Coypu (nutria)	3					
Carnivores	2,229	103	252	29	22,286	5,941,362
Canids	5	1	1			
Coyote	824	66	177	9	16,830	4,650,500
Domestic dog	55	16	28	1	559	473,123
Foxes	37	3	5		10	1,273
Red fox	284	6	27	1	364	72,041
Common gray fox	24	2	2		5	636
Kit fox	4					
Raccoon	180	5	5	8	4,395	69,713
White-nosed coati	1					
Skunks	19					
Striped skunk	716	2	2	9	3	
River otter	2	1				
American badger	7					
American mink	6					
Mink	1					
Long-tailed weasel	1					
Least weasel	1					
Domestic cat	47		2	1		
Small Indian mongoose	10					

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 18. Continued (page 25 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With damage	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
American black bear	3		2			
Brown bear	1	1			120	674,076
Bearded seal	1		1			
Artiodactyls	1,400	1,156	583	106	315,828	74,301,892
Deer	16	13	8		1,488	168,916
White-tailed deer	1,237	1,018	504	93	262,322	62,023,902
Mule deer	91	78	39	3	22,057	1,921,810
Axis deer	1		1			
Wapiti (elk)	12	12	6	2	11,660	9,034,322
Moose	6	5	5			
Caribou	3	2	2			
Cattle	12	12	8	4	9,215	597,183
Domestic sheep	1	1	1			
Pronghorn	9	8	6	2	5,298	355,781
Swine (pig)	7	5	2	1	3,788	199,978
Collared peccary	5	2	1	1		
Perissodactyls (horse)	5	4	4	1	1,008	43,453
Total known t. mammals	5,626	1,279	868	158	339,176	80,450,925
Total unknown t. mammal	41	12	10	1		
Total t. mammals⁷	5,667	1,291	878	159	339,176	80,450,925
Reptiles						
Turtles	446	1	5	4		
Turtles	132		3			
Florida softshell turtle	14	1		1		
Common box turtle	33					
Common snapping turtle	60		2			
Diamondback terrapin	69			3		
Painted turtle	57					
Florida red-bellied cooter	3					
Gopher tortoise	48					
Alligator snapping turtle	6					
Coastal plain cooter	3					
Pond slider	11					
Eastern mud turtle	1					
Chicken turtle	1					
Striped mud turtle	3					
Ornate box turtle	2					

Table 18. Continued (page 26 of 27)

Wildlife group or species ²	33-year totals (1990–2022)					
	Number of reported strikes				Reported economic losses ⁴	
	Total	With dam- age	With NEOF	With multiple animals ³	Aircraft down time (hrs.)	Reported costs (\$)
Spiny softshell turtle	2					
River cooter	1					
American alligator	30	2	2		3	
Spectacled caiman	1					
Green iguana	40		5			
Snakes	153		1			
Snakes	33		1			
Gopher snake	93					
Northern water snake	3					
E. diamondback rattlesnake	3					
Water moccasin	1					
Eastern pine snake	1					
W. diamondback rattlesnake	5					
Prairie rattlesnake	1					
Black rat snake	3					
Plains garter snake	4					
California kingsnake	1					
Common kingsnake	1					
Western hognose snake	1					
Diamondback water snake	1					
Corn snake	1					
Eastern hognose snake	1					
Total reptiles⁸	670	3	13	4	3	
Total known (all species)	164,607	11,088	7,887	21,697	922,725	876,375,196
Total (unknown species)	112,239	8,202	5,440	10,038	284,996	187,004,393
Grand total	276,846	19,290	13,327	31,735	1,207,721	1,063,379,589⁹

¹ Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

² The scientific (taxonomic) name and mean and maximum body mass for each species is listed in Appendix C.

³ More than 1 animal was struck by the aircraft.

Table 18. Continued (page 27 of 27)

⁴ These reported economic losses by species and species groups should be considered as relative indices of losses and not as actual estimated losses. For commercial aviation, an estimated 20 percent of strikes were reported in the 1990s. More recent analyses estimated that strike reporting for all civil aircraft combined (commercial and general aviation) at Part 139 airports had improved to 39 percent in 2004-2008 and to 47 percent in 2009-2013 (Dolbeer 2009, 2015). Strike reporting for commercial aircraft only at Part 139 airports was an estimated 79 percent in 2004-2008 and 91 percent in 2009-2013; reporting of strikes with damage was estimated at 78 percent and 93 percent for these respective time periods. In addition, only about 60 percent of reported strikes identified the wildlife species (50 percent) or species group (10 percent) responsible, 1990–2022. Furthermore, of the 19,294 reports indicating damage to the aircraft, only 26 percent (5,014) also provided an estimate of repair costs, and only 39 percent (13,220) of the 34,261 strikes indicating an adverse effect estimated the downtime (see Tables 23, 24). Finally, even when cost estimates were provided, some reports were filed before aircraft damage had been fully assessed. See Tables 23 and 24 for a more detailed projection of actual economic losses.

⁵ Of the 265,941 reported bird strikes, 128,797 (48 percent) identified the bird to exact species (a total of 639 species of birds of which 323 caused damage) and an additional 24,947 strikes (9 percent) identified the bird at least to species group (e.g., gull, hawk, duck). Exact species identification has improved from less than 20 percent in the early 1990s to 61 percent in 2022 (Figure 7).

⁶ Of the 4,568 reported bat strikes, 2,737 (60 percent) identified the bat to exact species (46 species total of which 8 caused damage) and 1,830 (40 percent) identified the bat to species group (12 megabats [old world fruit bats] and 1,818 microbats [echo-locating bats]) of which 1,439 were microbats of unknown species, 163 were free-tailed bats (Molossidae) and 216 were vesper bats (Vespertilionidae). One bat strike was classified as unknown bat (either megabat or microbat).

⁷ Of the 5,667 reported terrestrial mammal strikes, 5,457 (96 percent) identified the mammal to exact species (a total of 55 species of which 24 caused damage), 169 (3 percent) identified the mammal at least to species group, and 41 (<1 percent) were unknown species group.

⁸ All of the 670 reported reptile strikes were identified to species group and 505 (75 percent) were identified to exact species (34 species total of which 2 caused damage).

⁹ Reported costs of \$1,063,379,589 include \$929,054,647 in direct repair costs and \$134,324,942 in other costs.

Table 19. Number of reported strikes, strikes with damage, and strikes involving multiple animals for the five most struck bird groups and three most struck terrestrial mammal groups, civil aircraft, USA¹, 1990–2022.

Species group ²	Reported strikes		Strikes with damage		Strikes with >1 animal	
	33-year total	% of total known	33-year total	% of total known	33-year total	% of total known
<u>Birds</u>						
Pigeons, doves	20,334	13	644	7	3,155	15
Raptors ³	19,062	12	2,327	24	680	3
Gulls	14,285	9	1,679	17	2,576	12
Shorebirds	14,243	9	247	3	1,757	8
Waterfowl	7,056	5	2,655	27	2,269	11
All other known	78,764	51	2,219	23	10,798	51
Total known	153,744	100	9,771	100	21,235	100
Total unknown	112,197		8,189		10,037	
Total birds	265,941		17,960		31,272	
<u>Terrestrial mammals</u>						
Carnivores	2,229	40	103	8	29	18
Artiodactyls	1,400	25	1,156	90	106	67
Lagomorphs	1,083	19	11	1	11	7
All other known	914	16	9	1	12	8
Total known	5,626	100	1,279	100	158	100
Total unknown	41		12		1	
Total Terr. Mammals	5,667		1,291		159	

¹ Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

² See Table 18 for listing of species within each species group and Table 20 for the most frequently struck species.

³ Hawks, eagles, vultures, falcons, and caracaras.

Table 20. The 33 species of birds identified most frequently as struck by civil aircraft in USA, 1990–2022 and 2022 only. See Figure 14 for relation between mean body mass and percent of strikes causing damage for these 33 species, 1990-2022.

Rank	Strikes (1990–2022) ¹			Strikes (2022 only) ¹		
	Bird species	Num-ber	% with damage	Bird species	Num-ber	% with damage
1	Mourning dove	13,814	1.9	Mourning dove	932	1.1
2	Killdeer	9,162	0.8	Horned lark	846	0.2
3	Barn swallow	9,029	0.4	Barn swallow	804	0.5
4	American kestrel	8,430	0.6	Killdeer	685	0.6
5	Horned lark	7,566	0.5	American kestrel	647	0.6
6	European starling	5,916	2.6	Eastern meadowlark	335	0.9
7	Rock pigeon	4,107	7.3	European starling	303	1.3
8	Eastern meadowlark	3,942	0.8	Red-tailed hawk	235	13.2
9	Red-tailed hawk	3,845	13.1	American robin	227	6.2
10	Cliff swallow	2,684	0.3	Rock pigeon	195	5.6
11	Western meadowlark	2,318	1.3	Western meadowlark	170	0.6
12	Ring-billed gull	2,147	6.7	Chimney swift	160	2.5
13	American robin	2,114	7.2	Cliff swallow	154	0.6
14	Canada goose	2,045	47.0	Savannah sparrow	143	0.7
15	Herring gull	1,963	7.9	Barn owl	136	1.5
16	Barn owl	1,938	3.1	Ring-billed gull	99	2.0
17	Chimney swift	1,495	1.1	Common nighthawk	98	1.0
18	Pacific golden-plover	1,418	1.0	Yellow-rumped warbler	90	2.2
19	Savannah sparrow	1,377	0.8	Herring gull	81	7.4
20	Mallard	1,320	19.8	Tree swallow	78	0.0
21	Common nighthawk	1,185	0.6	Swainson's thrush	77	5.2
22	Tree swallow	1,162	0.1	Mallard	67	23.9
23	Laughing gull	1,139	2.5	Cattle egret	66	3.0
24	Turkey vulture	1,101	48.7	Canada goose	66	22.7
25	Short-eared owl	819	1.8	Turkey vulture	66	47.0
26	Cattle egret	805	6.1	Gray catbird	60	0.0
27	Bank swallow	774	0.3	White-throated sparrow	60	1.7
28	Red-winged blackbird	707	1.0	Red-winged blackbird	59	0.0
29	American crow	674	7.4	Red-eyed vireo	56	0.0
30	Yellow-rumped warbler	639	0.6	Bank swallow	52	0.0
31	Osprey	587	21.8	Brown-headed cowbird	51	0.0
32	Peregrine falcon	579	5.9	Western kingbird	50	2.0
33	Swainson's thrush	577	5.5	Short-eared owl	49	0.0

¹ Actual number struck was higher for each species because only 48 and 61 percent of the bird strike reports from 1990–2022 and in 2022, respectively, identified the bird to species (an additional 10 and 5 percent of the reports, respectively, identified the bird to species group). As examples, the species of gull was not identified in 7,666 (54 percent) of 14,285 gull strikes reported from 1990-2022, and the species of vulture (turkey or black) was not identified in 401 (22 percent) of the 1,826 new-world vulture strikes (Table 18).

Table 21. Number of strikes to civil aircraft causing human fatality and number of fatalities by wildlife species, USA¹, 1990–2022.²

Species group	Number of strikes	Human fatalities
Birds	19	43
Raptors ³	5	16
Pelicans ⁴	3	9
Waterfowl ⁵	3	7
Misc. birds ⁶	2	3
Unknown bird	6	8
Terrestrial mammals	1	1
White-tailed deer	1	1
Total	20	44

¹ Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

² In addition, there were 269 strikes in which 346 humans received injuries (e.g., facial lacerations). Waterfowl (60 strikes, 68 injuries), vultures (39, 48), and deer (21, 30) were responsible for 42 percent of the injuries.

³ Black vulture (1, 1); turkey vulture (2, 3); bald eagle (1, 4); red-tailed hawk (1, 8).

⁴ American white pelican (2, 8); brown pelican (1, 1).

⁵ Green-winged teal (1, 2); snow goose (1, 3); Canada goose (1, 2).

⁶ Rock dove (1,1); gull (1, 1).

Table 22. Number of civil aircraft lost (destroyed or damaged beyond repair) after striking wildlife by wildlife species and aircraft mass category, USA¹, 1990–2022. See Figure 15 for number of lost aircraft by year, 1990–2022.

Wildlife species or species group	Aircraft ² mass category (Maximum take-off mass in kilograms)				Total aircraft lost
	≤2,250	2,251-5,700	5,701-27,000	>27,000	
Birds³	31	10	4	2	47
Raptors	12	1	0	1	14
Waterfowl	3	4	1	1	9
Pelicans	2	1	0	0	3
Gulls	1	2	0	0	3
Other birds	2	0	1	0	3
Unknown bird	11	2	2	0	15
Terrestrial mammals⁴	21	7	6	0	34
Artiodactyls	19	7	5	0	31
Other T. mammals	2	0	1	0	3
Total⁵	52	17	10	2	81

¹ Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

² Engine types on the 81 destroyed aircraft were piston (56), turbofan (11), turboprop (6), turboshaft (4), turbojet (3), and electric (drone, 1). Aircraft operators were business (45), private (29), commercial transport (5), and government (2).

³ Canada goose (5); bald eagle and turkey vulture (4 each); American white pelican and hawks (2 each); black vulture (1), Eurasian kestrel, New World vultures, red-tailed hawk, ducks, green-winged teal, redhead, snow goose, brown pelican, double-crested cormorant, mourning dove, and rock pigeon (1 each).

⁴ White-tailed deer (26); cattle (3); mule deer, wapiti, eastern cottontail, domestic dog, and coyote (1 each).

⁵ Forty-six (57 percent) of the 81 wildlife strikes resulting in a destroyed aircraft occurred at USA general aviation airports, 22 occurred “en route”, 8 occurred at USA airports certificated for passenger service under 14 CFR Part 139, 3 occurred in miscellaneous situations (taking off from river, herding cattle, aerial application of pesticides) and 2 occurred at foreign airports.

Table 23. Number of reported wildlife strikes indicating damage, a negative effect-on-flight (NEOF), aircraft downtime, repair costs, and other costs; and the mean losses per report in hours of downtime and inflation-adjusted U.S. dollars, civil aircraft, USA¹, 1990–2022.

Year	Number of reports indicating:					Mean losses per report ²		
	Dam- age	NEOF	Aircraft down time	Repair costs	Other costs	Down- time (hours)	Repair costs (\$)	Other costs (\$)
1990	372	144	60	33	16	56.4	257,746	73,989
1991	400	175	61	49	25	79.8	87,424	47,126
1992	365	212	81	51	28	111.9	125,075	6,294
1993	399	231	67	57	19	277.9	106,279	11,218
1994	459	259	103	73	29	388.4	91,476	109,236
1995	498	300	95	62	33	96.3	601,783	262,713
1996	503	336	144	86	39	137.3	100,901	30,194
1997	575	362	182	126	47	230.7	90,971	47,619
1998	587	383	205	135	54	119.5	239,604	34,163
1999	705	411	282	179	79	148.8	131,859	24,978
2000	765	445	351	205	93	195.2	117,266	136,550
2001	646	411	293	157	65	142.6	339,276	46,536
2002	670	436	383	165	63	135.6	181,170	76,548
2003	631	411	353	171	81	109.9	191,918	50,982
2004	630	396	324	213	92	166.9	125,486	27,089
2005	610	386	327	227	125	88.0	318,681	91,806
2006	603	373	333	172	102	116.8	255,754	15,905
2007	568	398	364	178	135	165.2	205,838	39,627
2008	527	353	371	156	141	116.2	140,705	16,714
2009	607	471	563	195	193	80.8	446,530	17,491
2010	603	412	526	174	164	66.5	155,166	16,486
2011	545	438	526	180	208	70.8	284,912	18,041
2012	621	441	689	228	263	75.4	131,458	10,083
2013	613	452	802	238	304	75.7	78,008	14,882
2014	586	502	717	210	277	63.2	166,531	12,728
2015	623	498	705	208	293	50.0	178,595	23,208
2016	592	489	585	154	221	87.4	79,866	15,031
2017	677	538	634	193	261	50.3	209,267	14,939
2018	715	590	636	170	295	66.1	69,845	9,387
2019	756	596	709	160	249	31.6	124,449	23,778
2020	488	441	481	119	188	38.0	112,104	9,210
2021	664	445	625	160	223	101.8	237,910	17,403
2022	691	592	643	130	172	43.4	155,330	91,124
Total	19,294	13,327	13,220	5,014	4,577			
Mean	585	404	401	152	139	91.3	185,292	29,348

¹ Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

² See Table 18 for actual losses reported in total and by species of wildlife, 1990-2022.

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Table 24. Projected annual losses in aircraft downtime (hours) and in repair and other costs (inflation-adjusted U.S. dollars) from wildlife strikes with civil aircraft, USA¹, 1990–2022. Losses are projected from mean reported losses per incident (Table 23). (Page 1 of 2).

Year	No. of adverse incidents ⁴	Projected losses ^{2, 3}			
		Down-time (hours)	Repair costs (x \$1 million)	Other costs (x \$1 million)	Total costs (x \$1 million) ⁵
1990	429	24,174	111	32	142
1991	481	38,362	42	23	65
1992	487	54,508	61	3	64
1993	506	140,623	54	6	59
1994	579	224,905	53	63	116
1995	654	62,953	394	172	565
1996	681	93,479	69	21	89
1997	776	178,992	71	37	108
1998	802	95,841	192	27	220
1999	967	143,864	128	24	152
2000	1,103	215,289	129	151	280
2001	974	138,886	330	45	376
2002	1,080	146,451	196	83	278
2003	987	108,458	189	50	240
2004	942	157,180	118	26	144
2005	951	83,697	303	87	390
2006	928	108,392	237	15	252
2007	956	157,971	197	38	235
2008	889	103,268	125	15	140
2009	1,175	94,967	525	21	545
2010	1,114	74,077	173	18	191
2011	1,132	80,116	323	20	343
2012	1,311	98,907	172	13	186
2013	1,428	108,111	111	21	133
2014	1,434	90,687	239	18	257
2015	1,445	72,249	258	34	292
2016	1,321	115,437	106	20	125
2017	1,435	72,187	300	21	322
2018	1,576	104,106	110	15	125
2019	1,644	51,892	205	39	244
2020	1,110	42,207	124	10	135
2021	1,402	142,741	334	24	358
2022	1,562	67,848	243	142	385
Total	34,261	3,492,825	6,222	1,334	7,556
Mean	1,038	105,843	188	40	229

Table 24. Continued (page 2 of 2)

¹ Includes strikes to U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries.

² Values assume that all 34,261 reported strikes (mean of 1,038/year) indicating an adverse effect (see footnote 3) incurred similar amounts of damage and/or downtime and that these reports are all of the adverse-effect strikes that occurred, 1990–2022.

³ Analyses of strike data from 1991-2004 indicated that 11 to 21 percent of strikes were reported for air carrier aircraft at Part 139 airports certificated for passenger traffic (Linnell et al. 1999, Cleary et al. 2005, Wright and Dolbeer 2005). Strike reporting for general aviation aircraft at general aviation airports was estimated at less than 5 percent in the 1990s and early 2000s (Dolbeer et al. 2008, Dolbeer 2009). More recent analyses estimated that strike reporting for all civil aircraft combined (commercial and general aviation) at Part 139 airports had improved to 39 percent in 2004-2008 and to 47 percent in 2009-2013 (Dolbeer 2009, 2015). Strike reporting for commercial transport aircraft only at Part 139 airports was an estimated 79 percent in 2004-2008 and 91 percent in 2009-2013; reporting of strikes with damage was estimated at 78 percent and 93 percent for these respective time periods.

⁴ Number of reports indicating one or more of the following: damage, negative effect on flight (EOF), downtime, repair costs, other costs.

⁵ Altringer et al. (2022) estimated that damaging wildlife strike events generate additional “spillover” costs of around \$25 million (2020 US\$) each year related to delays in subsequent flights.

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Figures

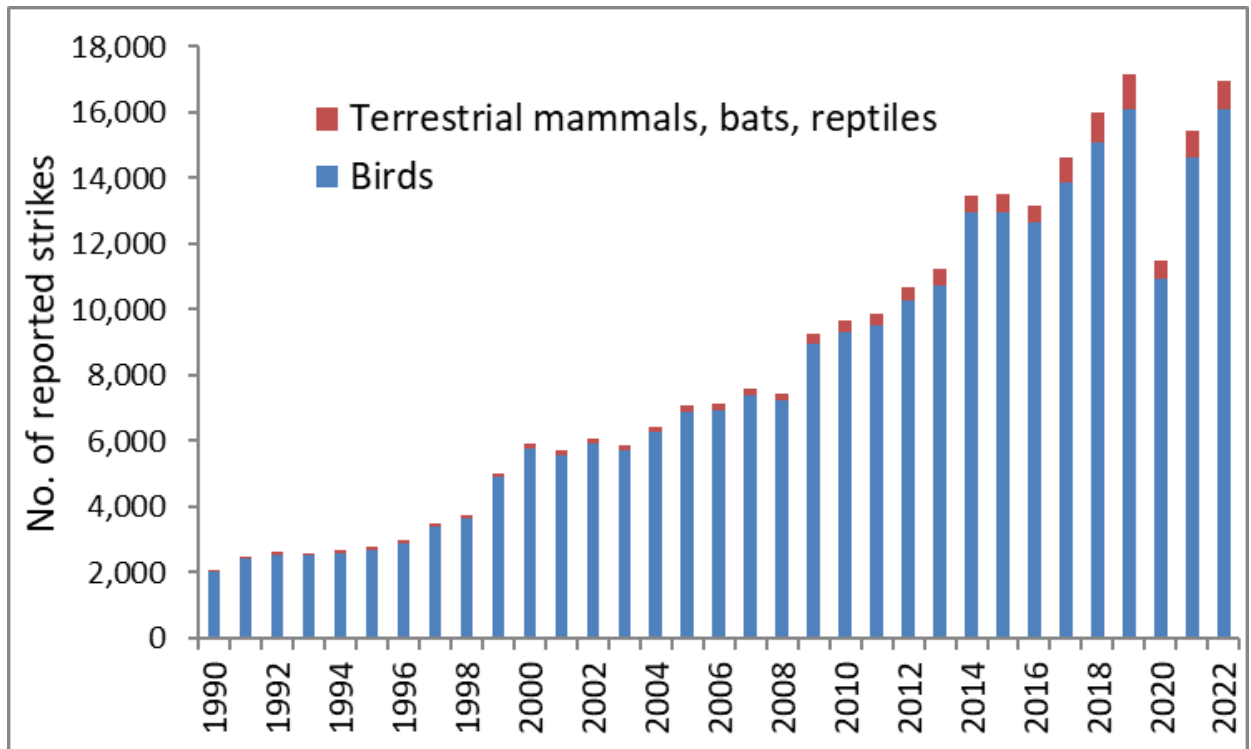


Figure 1. Number of reported wildlife strikes with civil aircraft, USA, 1990–2022. The 272,016 strikes involved birds (261,170), terrestrial mammals (5,653), bats (4,523), and reptiles (670). An additional 4,830 strikes were reported for U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries for a total of 276,846 strikes (see Tables 1, 2, and 18).

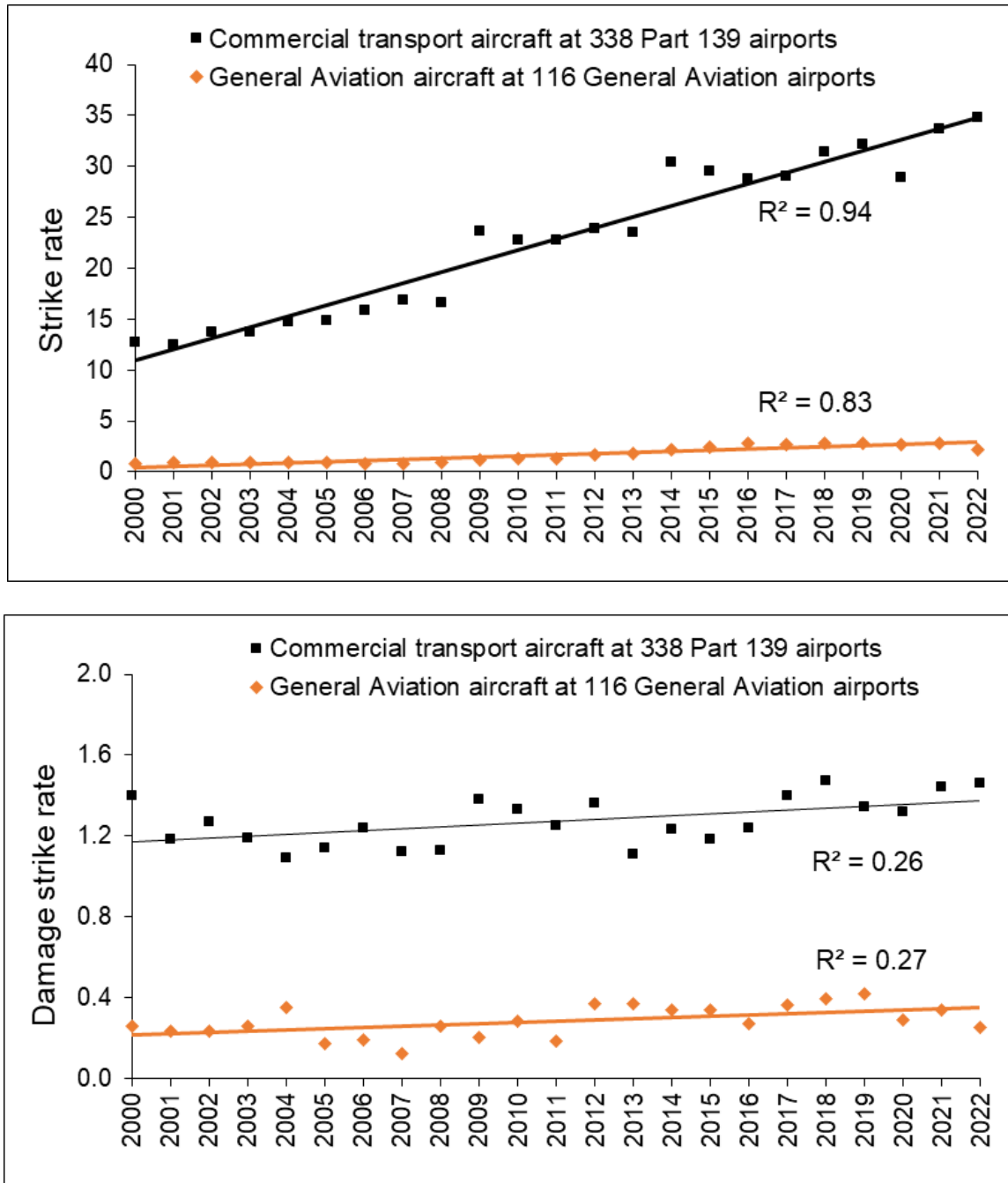


Figure 2. The strike rate and damaging strike rate (number of reported strikes and damaging strikes per 100,000 aircraft movements) for commercial (air carrier and air taxi service) transport aircraft at 338 Part 139-certificated airports and general aviation aircraft at 116 general aviation airports, USA, 2000 – 2022. Strikes involving U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries are excluded. R^2 values greater than 0.17 and 0.28 indicate significant trends at the 0.05 and 0.01 levels of probability, respectively (Steele and Torrie 1960; see Tables 3 and 4 for complete data).

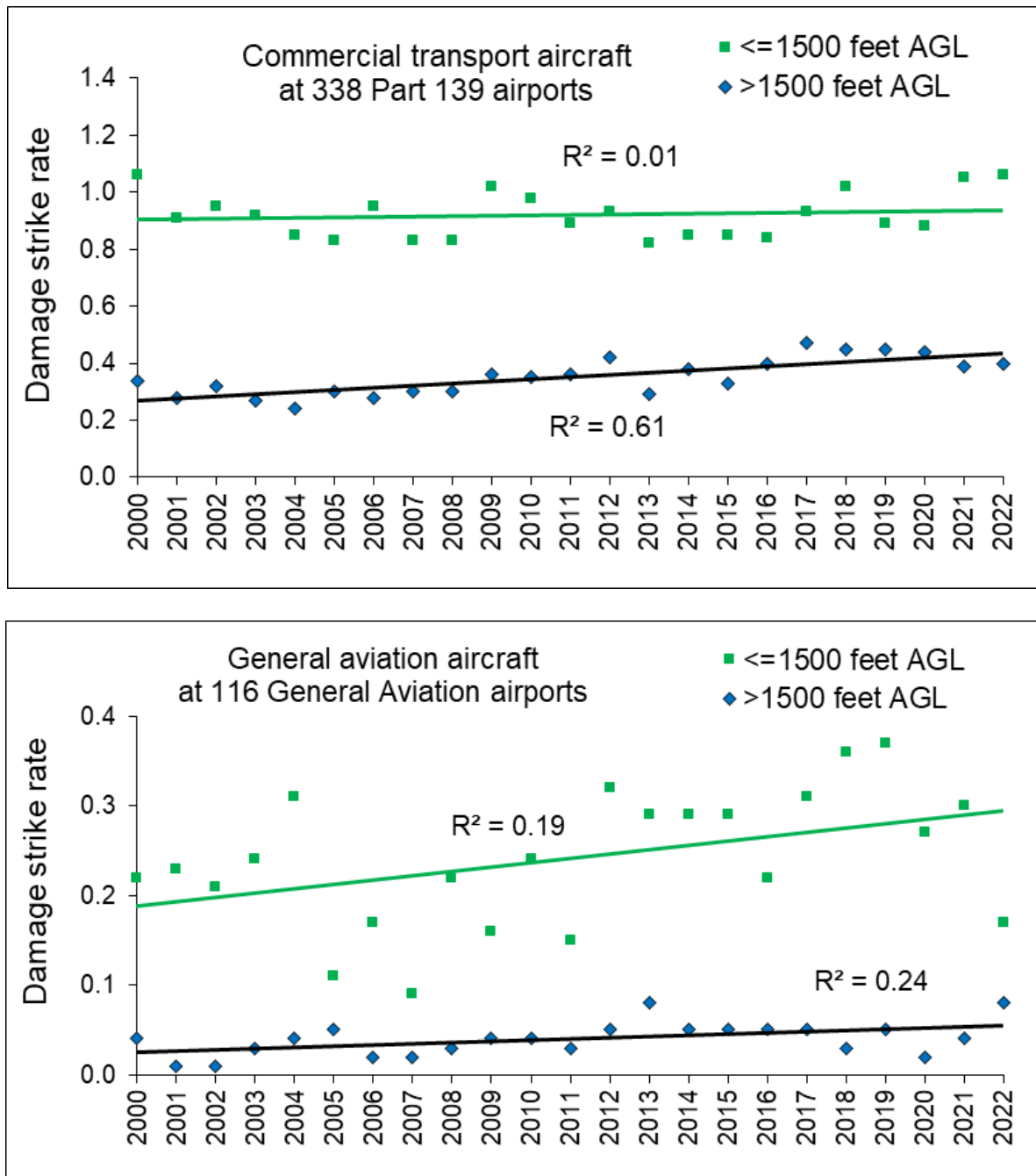


Figure 3. The damage strike rate (number of reported damaging strikes per 100,000 aircraft movements) with commercial transport aircraft at 338 Part 139-certificated airports (top graph) and general aviation aircraft at 116 general aviation airports (bottom graph) occurring at \leq and >1500 feet above ground level (AGL) for all wildlife species, USA, 2000 – 2022. Strikes with unknown height AGL are included with strikes at ≤ 1500 feet AGL. Strikes involving U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries are excluded. R^2 values greater than 0.17 and 0.28 indicate significant trends at the 0.05 and 0.01 levels of probability, respectively (Steele and Torrie 1960).

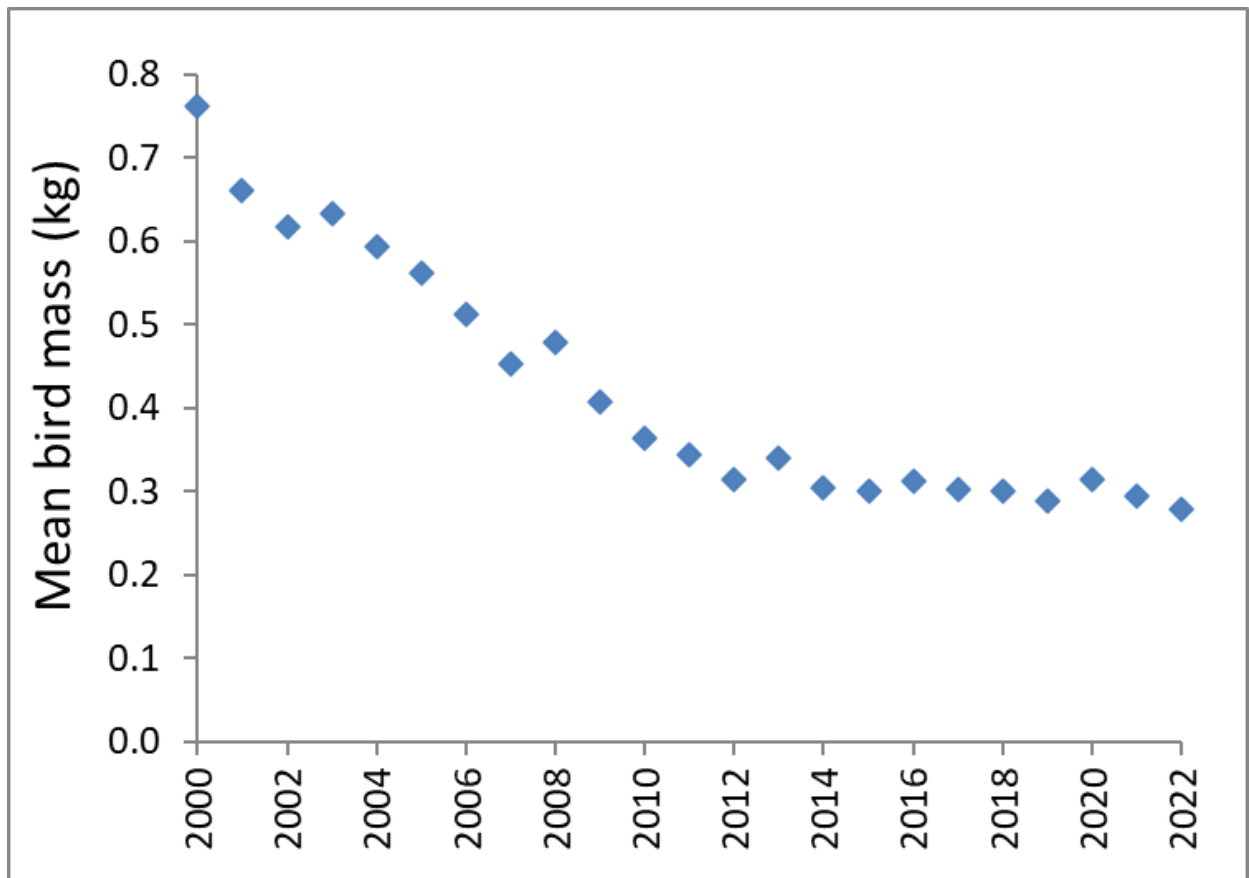


Figure 4. The mean body mass of birds reported as struck by civil aircraft in USA has declined by 63 percent from 2000 to 2022. This indicates that airports, pilots, and commercial transport aviation in general, are doing a better job of documenting all wildlife that are struck, many of which are small species that rarely cause damage. Means were calculated from all strikes in USA in which the bird was identified to species. See Figure 13 for number of identified bird species struck each year and Table 18 and Appendix C for a list of species struck.

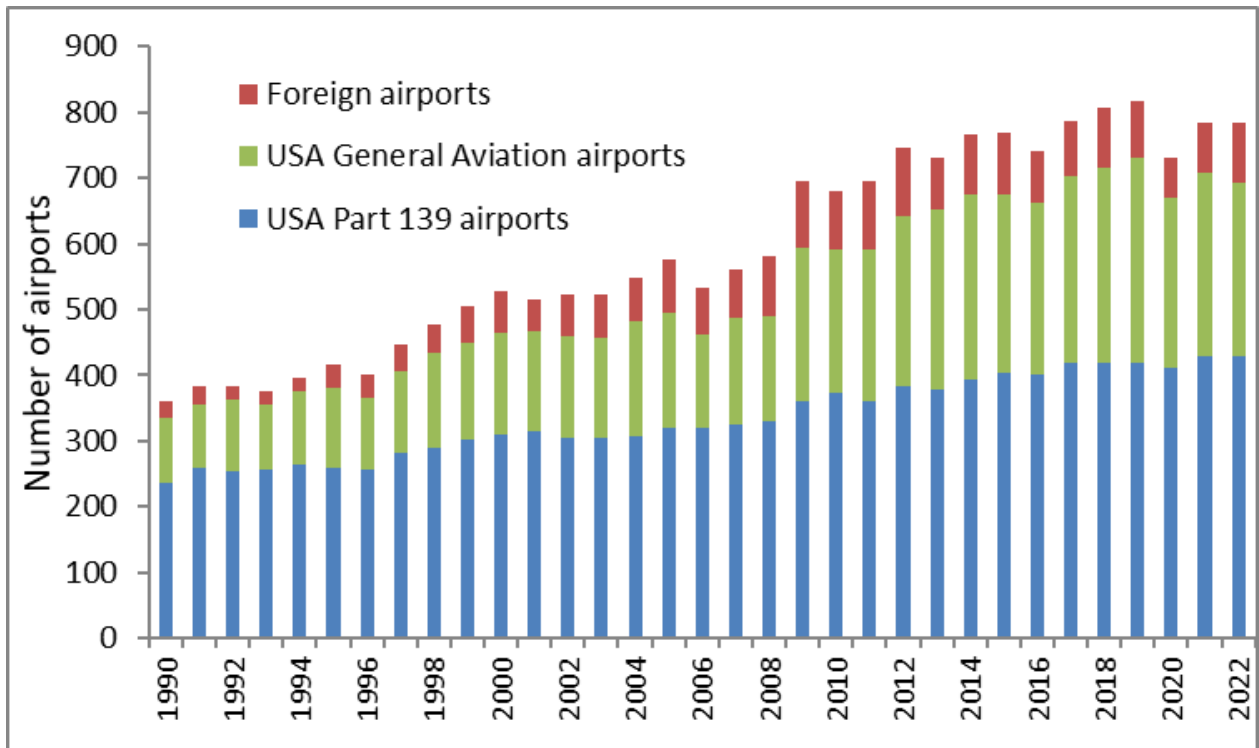


Figure 5. Number of Part 139-certificated airports and general aviation (GA) airports in USA with reported wildlife strikes and number of foreign airports at which strikes were reported for U.S.-registered civil aircraft, 1990–2022. Strikes were reported from 2,062 USA airports (516 Part 139-certificated, 1,546 GA) and 330 foreign airports in 113 countries, 1990-2022 (Table 8).

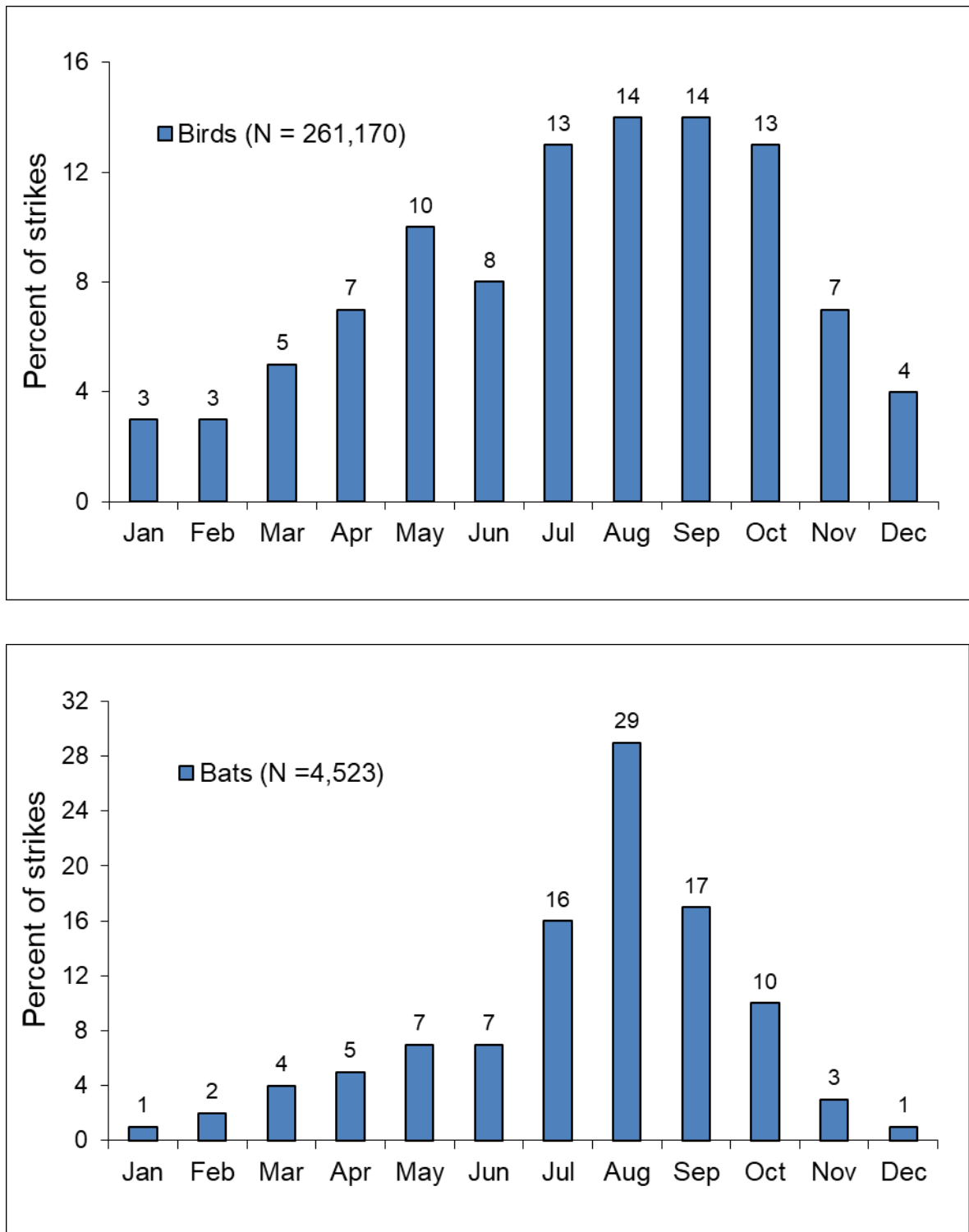


Figure 6. Percentage of reported bird (top graph) and bat (bottom graph) strikes with civil aircraft by month, USA, 1990–2022. In addition, 670 strikes with reptiles were reported of which 58 percent occurred in May–July. Strikes reported for U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries were excluded.

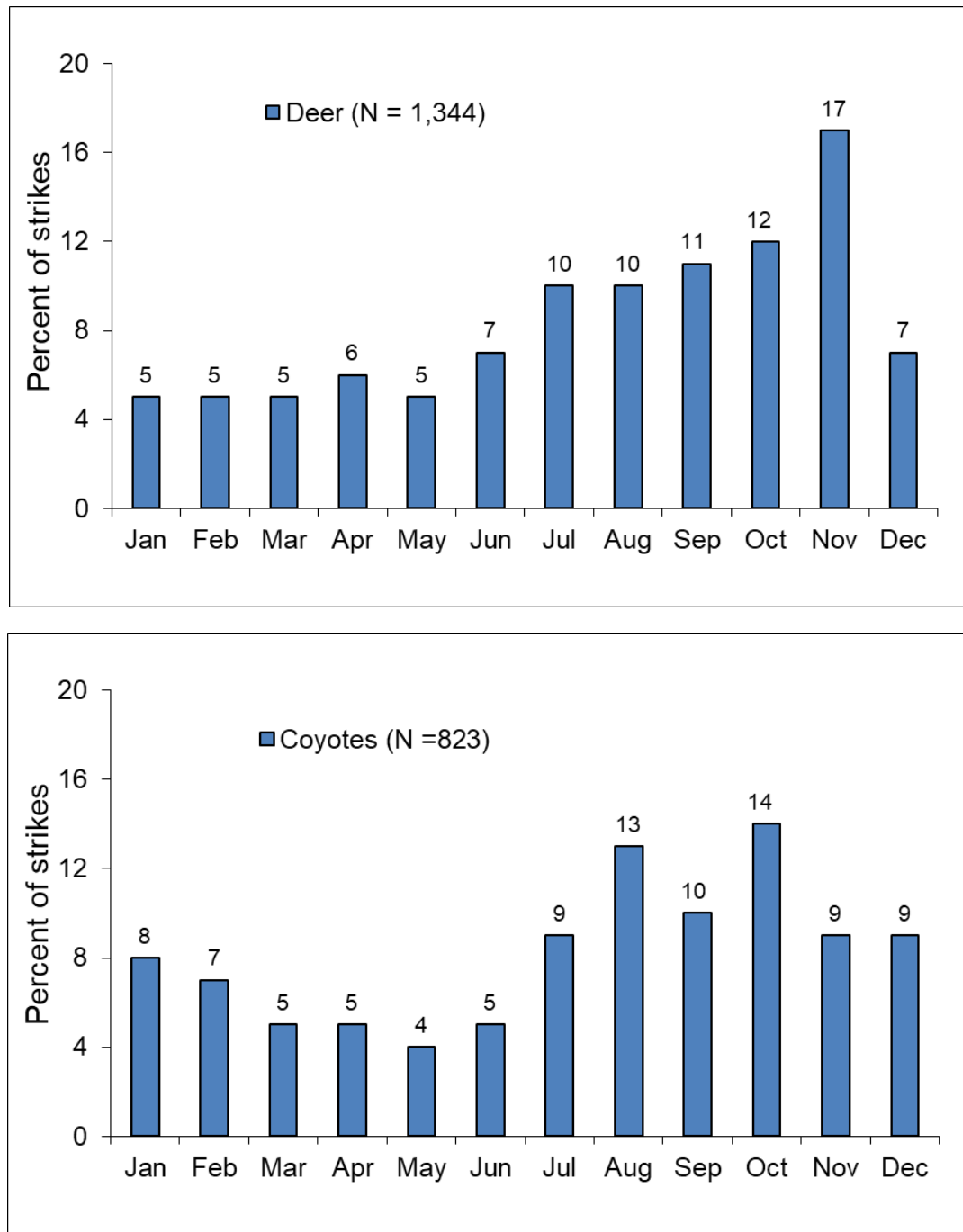


Figure 7. Percentage of reported deer (top graph) and coyote (bottom graph) strikes with civil aircraft by month, USA, 1990–2022. One deer and 1 coyote strike reported for U.S.-registered aircraft in foreign countries were excluded. Deer (1,237 white-tailed, 91 mule, 1 axis, 16 unidentified to species) and coyotes are the most frequently struck terrestrial mammals (Table 18). Biondi et al. (2011) provide a more detailed analysis of deer strikes with civil aircraft in the USA; Ball et al. (2021) summarize data on mammal strikes worldwide.

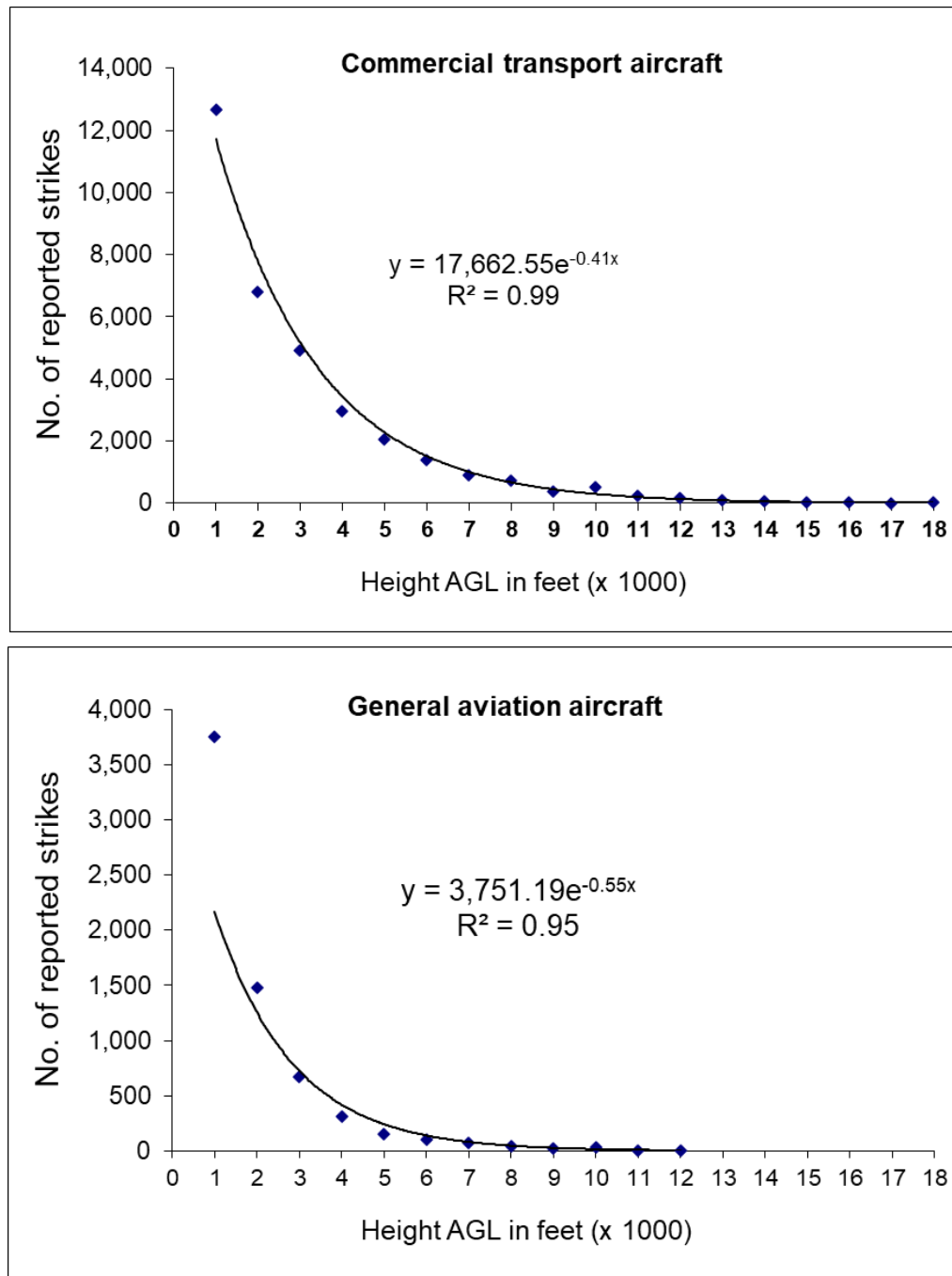


Figure 8. Number of reported bird strikes with commercial transport (top graph) and general aviation (GA) aircraft (bottom graph) in USA by 1,000-foot height intervals above ground level from 501–1,500 feet (interval 1) to 17,501–18,500 feet (interval 18) for commercial transport aircraft and to 11,501–12,500 feet (interval 12) for GA aircraft, 1990–2022. These graphs exclude strikes at ≤ 500 feet. Above 500 feet, the number of reported strikes declined consistently by 34 percent and 42 percent for each 1,000-foot gain in height for commercial transport and GA aircraft, respectively. The exponential equations explained 95 to 99 percent of the variation in number of strikes by 1,000-foot intervals from 501 to 18,500 feet for commercial transport aircraft and 501 to 12,500 feet for GA aircraft. See Tables 11 and 12 for sample sizes.

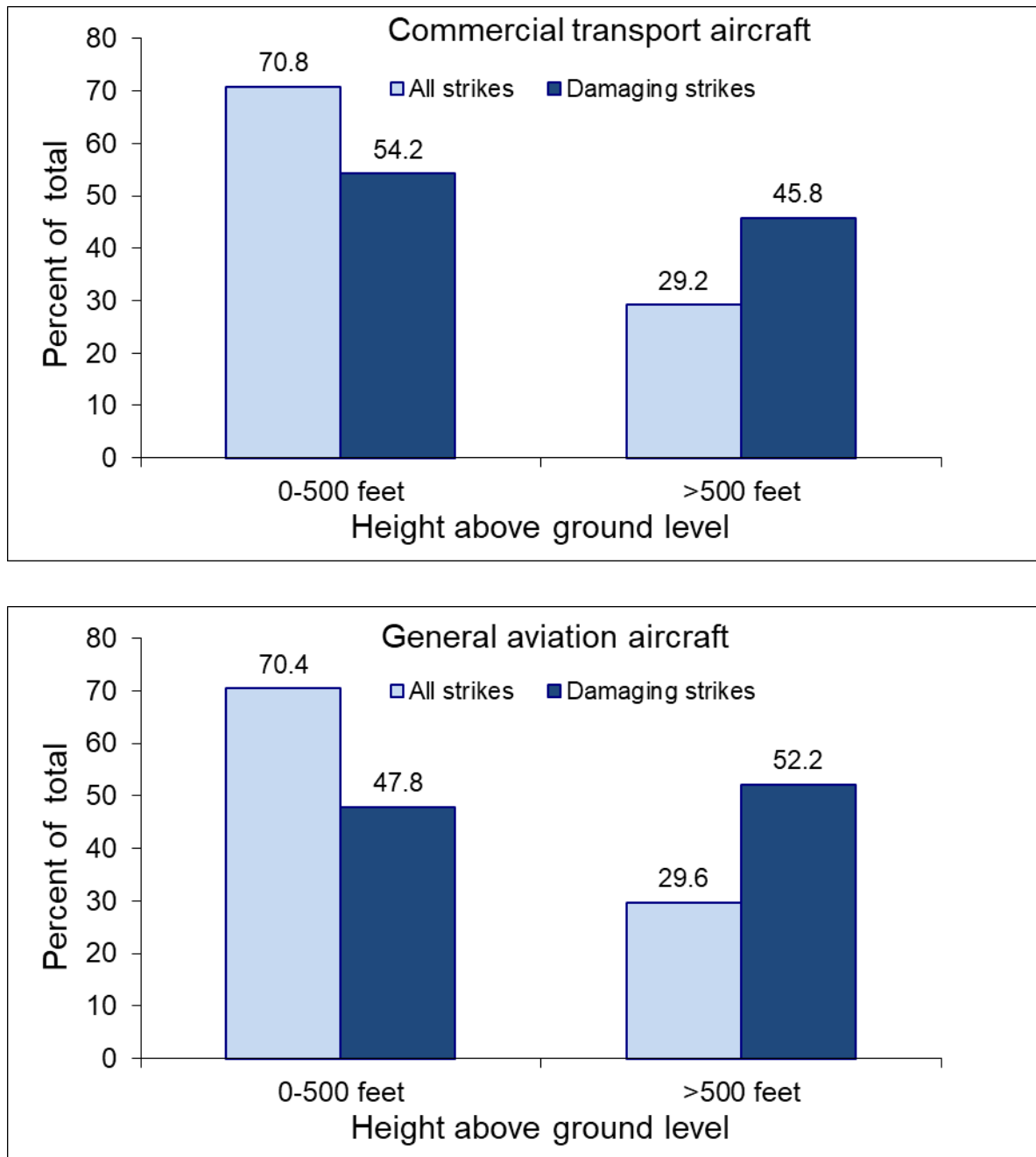


Figure 9. Percentages of total strikes and total damaging strikes occurring at 500 feet or less and above 500 feet for commercial transport (top graph) and general aviation (bottom graph) aircraft in USA, 1990–2022. See Tables 11 and 12 for sample sizes.

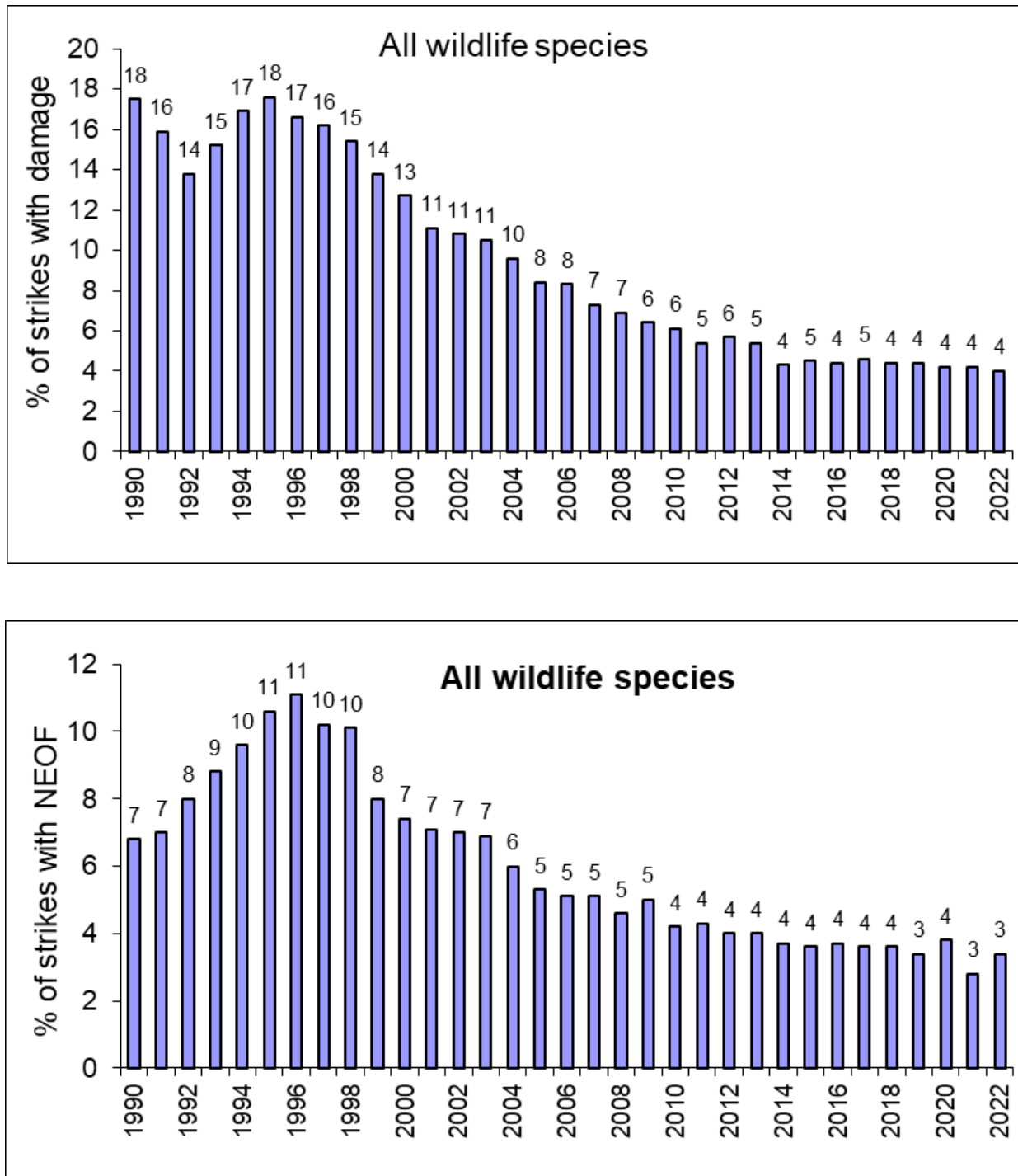


Figure 10. Percentage of reported strikes that indicated damage to the civil aircraft (top graph) or a negative effect-on-flight (NEOF, bottom graph), USA, 1990–2022. See Tables 1, 14, and 15 for sample sizes and classifications of damage and negative effects-on-flight.

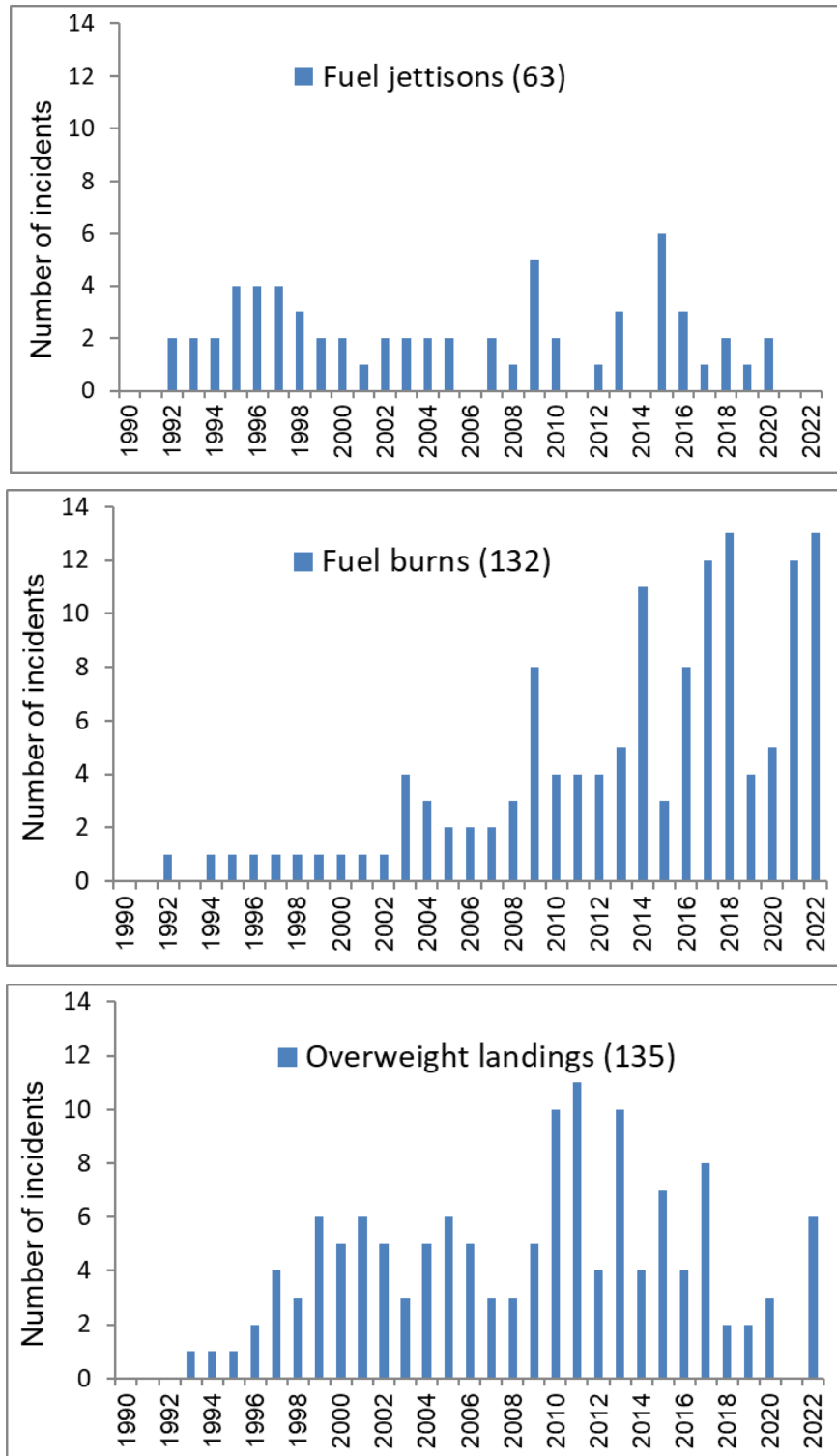


Figure 11. Number of reported incidents where pilot made an emergency or precautionary landing after striking wildlife during departure in which fuel was jettisoned or burned (circling pattern) to lighten aircraft weight or in which an overweight (greater than maximum landing weight) landing was made (no fuel jettison or burn), USA civil aircraft, 1990–2022. See Table 16 for details on aircraft involved and amount of fuel jettisoned.

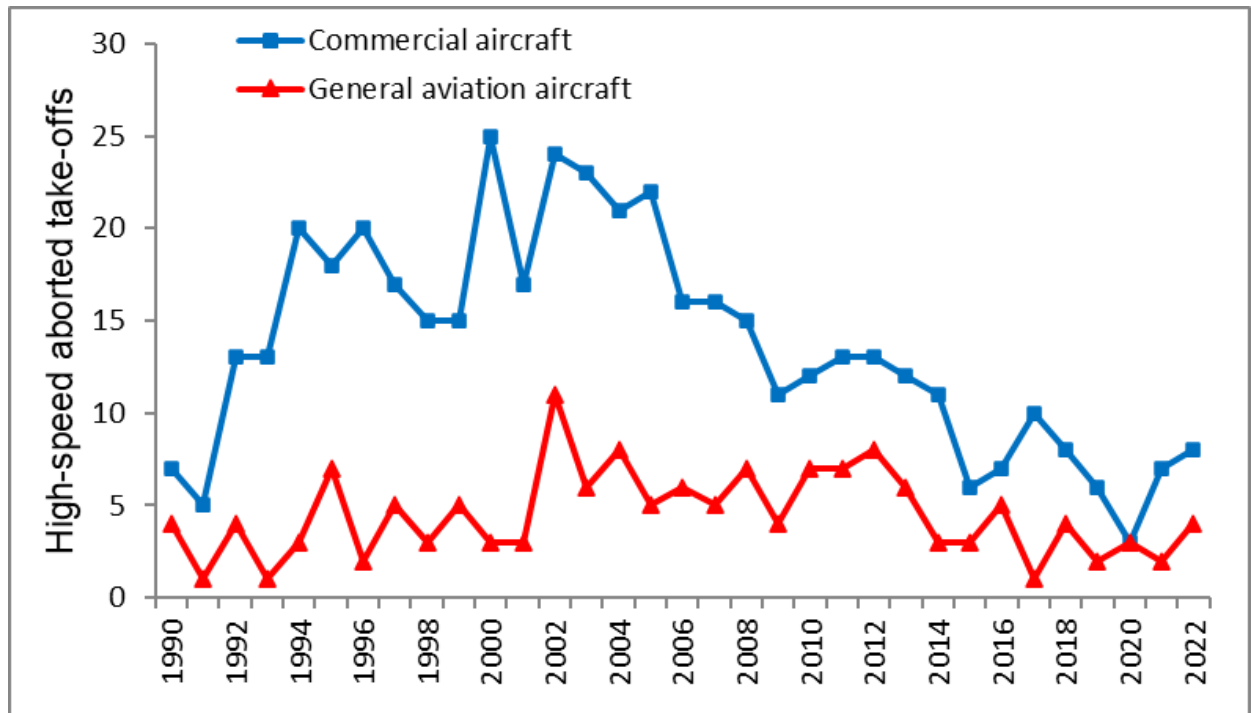


Figure 12. Number of reported incidents in which pilot made a high-speed aborted take-off (≥ 100 knots) after striking or observing wildlife during take-off run, USA civil aircraft, 1990–2022. See Table 17 for classification of aborted take-offs by indicated airspeed.

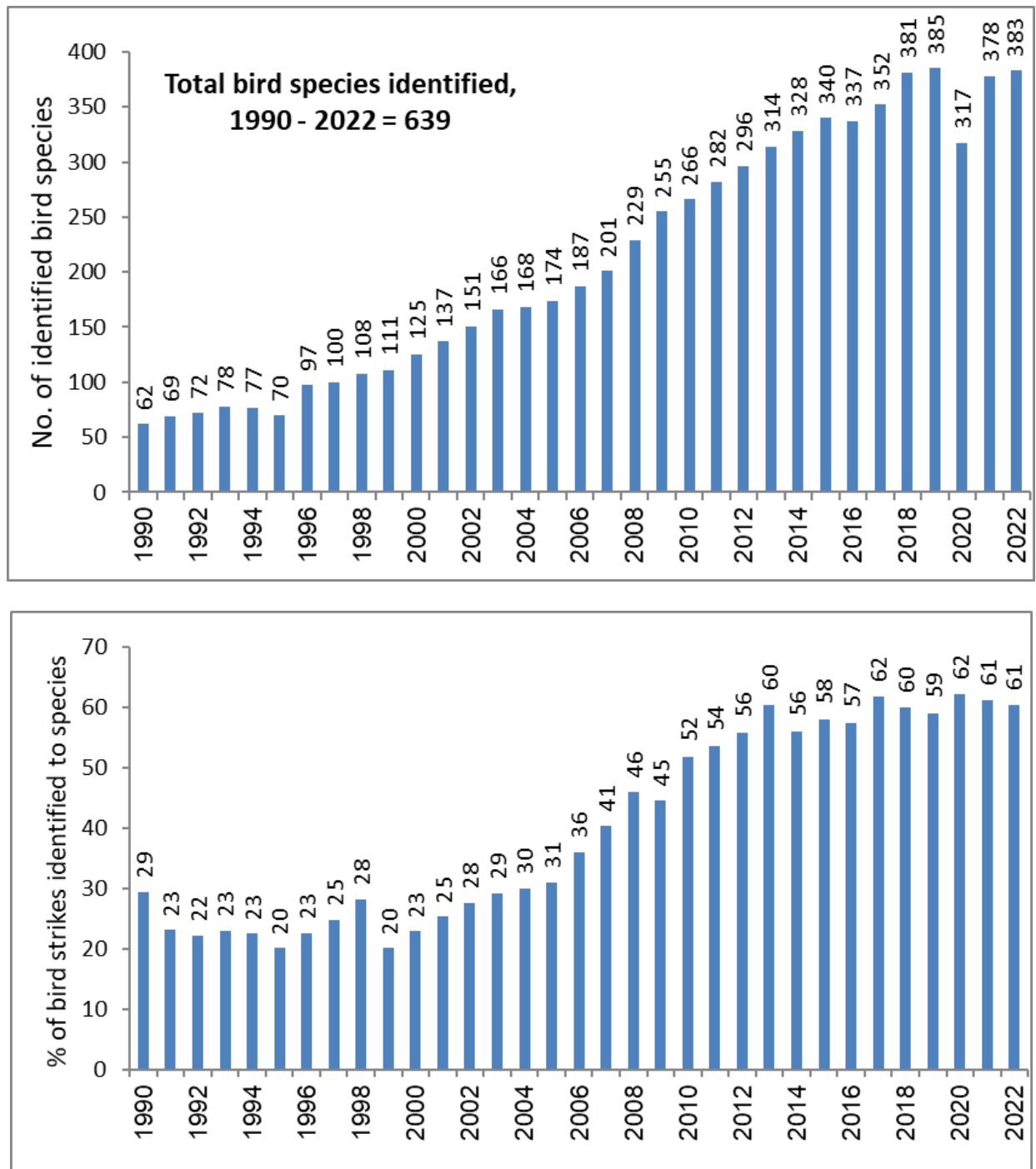


Figure 13. Number of identified bird species struck by civil aircraft each year (top graph) and the percentage of reported bird strikes in which the bird was identified to species (bottom graph), 1990–2022. From 1990 through 2022, 639 species of birds have been identified. See Tables 1 and 18 for sample sizes and list of species.

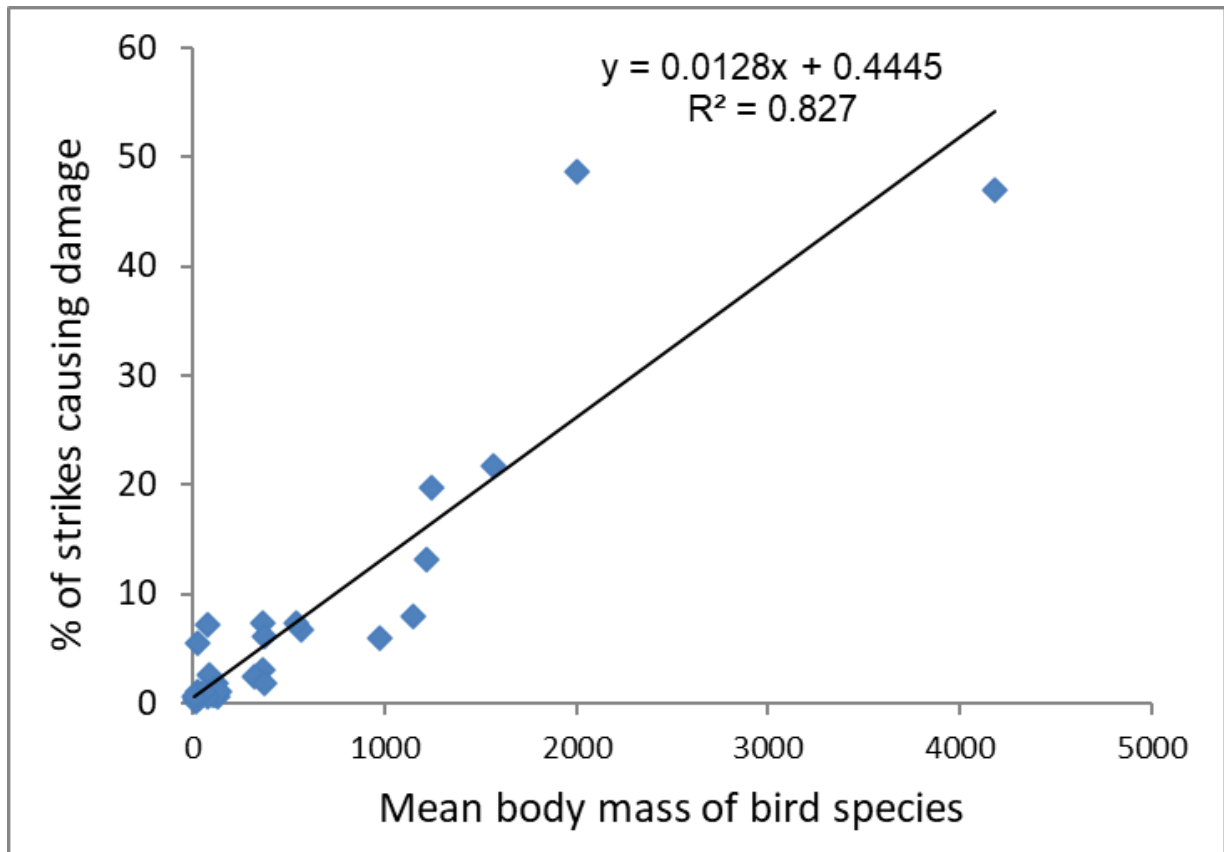


Figure 14. Relation between mean body mass (Dunning 2008) and likelihood of a strike causing damage to aircraft for the 33 species of birds most frequently identified as struck by civil aircraft in USA, 1990-2022 (Table 20). The linear regression equation explained 83 percent of the variation in the likelihood of damage among the 33 species. For every 100-gram increase in body mass, there was a 1.28 percent increase in the likelihood of damage.

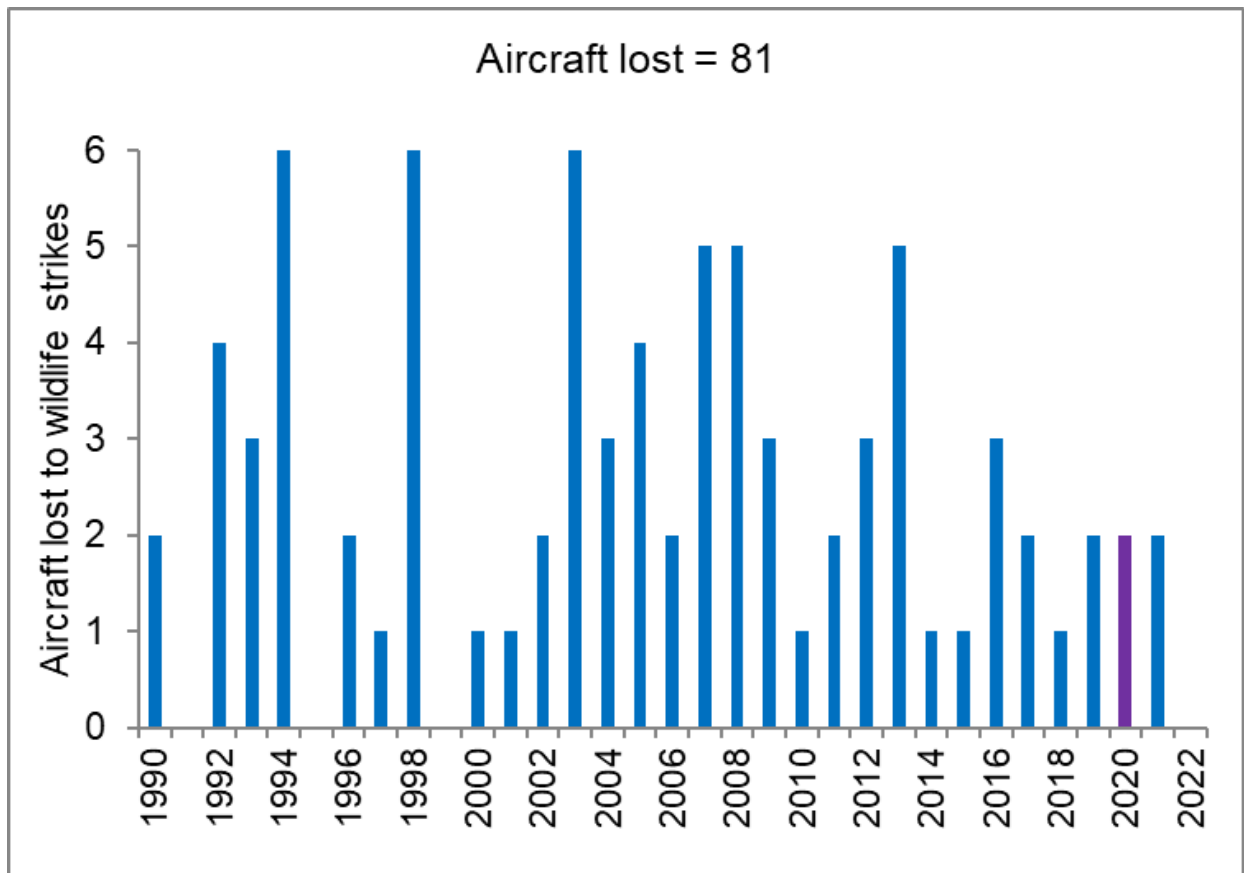


Figure 15. Number of civil aircraft destroyed or damaged beyond repair after striking wildlife, USA, 1990–2022. From 1990–2022, 81 aircraft have been lost (52 with maximum take-off mass $\leq 2,250$ kg; 17, 2,251–5,700 kg; 10, 5,701–27,000 kg; 2, $>27,000$ kg). See Table 22 for wildlife species and types of aircraft and airports associated with these events. The graph includes 1 government-owned, unmanned aerial vehicle (drone) destroyed in 2020 after being attacked by a bald eagle while doing a shoreline erosion survey on Lake Michigan. No aircraft losses to wildlife were reported in 2022.

APPENDIX A.**SELECTED SIGNIFICANT WILDLIFE STRIKES TO U.S. CIVIL AIRCRAFT, 2022**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, through an interagency agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration, compiles a database of all reported wildlife strikes to U.S. civil aircraft and to foreign carriers experiencing strikes in the USA. From 1990 through 2022, 276,846 strike reports from 2,062 USA airports and 330 foreign airports in 113 countries have been entered in the database (17,190 strikes from 693 USA and 91 foreign airports in 53 countries in 2022), Tables 1, 8; Figure 6). The following 15 examples from the database in 2022 are presented to show the serious impact that strikes by birds or other wildlife can have on aircraft. These examples demonstrate the widespread and diverse nature of the problem. The examples are not intended to highlight or criticize individual airports because, as documented above, strikes have occurred on almost every airport in the USA. Some of the strike examples reported here occurred off airport property during approach, departure or en route. For more information on wildlife strikes or to report a strike, visit www.birdstrike.org and <http://wildlife.faa.gov>.

Date	Aircraft	Airport/location	Phase of flight	Effect on flight	Damage	Wildlife species	Remarks from report
1/4/2022	Learjet-35	Teterboro Airport (NJ)	Climb (800 feet AGL)	None	Wing, Fuselage	Unknown medium bird	Reported time out of service 3,000 hours; repair costs 100,000; other costs \$100,000.
2/19/2022	B-767-300	Metro Oakland International (CA)	Climb (100 feet AGL)	Precautionary landing	Engine #1	Western gull	Multiple birds struck including engine ingestion, resulting in return to OAK. Remains retrieved off runway; operator maintenance removed remains from nose landing gear. Two engine blades damaged and replaced. USDA confirmed identification of birds. Time out of service 24 hours.

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Appendix A. (page 2 of 5)

Date	Aircraft	Airport/location	Phase of flight	Effect on flight	Damage	Wildlife species	Remarks from report
3/8/2022	EC-135	10 miles from KLNK (NE)	En route	Precautionary landing	Windshield	Snow goose	Multiple points of impacts suggest more than one snow goose struck. Bird remains stuck in windscreen.
4/9/22	AW 109	Riverton Hospital Heliport (UT)	Approach (600 feet AGL)	Precautionary landing	Windshield	Ruddy duck	Aircraft approaching Riverton Hospital to pick up patient when strike occurred. Nurse on aircraft struck in face by bird. Aircraft diverted to South Valley Regional. Reported time out of service 6 hours; repair costs \$2,000; other costs \$5,000. ID by Smithsonian Feather Lab.
5/28/2022	BE-35	Laconia Municipal (NH)	Climb (200 feet AGL)	Precautionary landing	Wing, Landing gear, Tail	Canada goose	Multiple birds struck on climb. Two pilots onboard. Side window damage and a hole in wing. Reported repair costs \$40,000.
6/7/2022	EC-135	3 miles from 4B0 (NY)	En route (800 feet AGL)	Precautionary landing	Windshield, Fuselage	Canada goose	Broken left windscreen and cockpit roof fairing was damaged. Reported time out of service 240 hours.

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Appendix A. (page 3 of 5)

Date	Aircraft	Airport/location	Phase of flight	Effect on flight	Damage	Wildlife species	Remarks from report
7/20/2022	A-320	Stewart Intl Airport (NY)	Climb	Precautionary landing, Fuel burn, high vibration	Engine #1	Eastern meadowlark	Multiple bird strikes to engine #1 at lift off. Aircraft burned fuel and returned to airport due to high engine vibration. Damage to some N1 fan blades. ID by Smithsonian Feather Lab.
7/26/2022	A-321	Denver International (CO)	Take-off run	Aborted take-off	Engine, landing gear	Swainson's hawk	Aircraft struck large bird on take-off run. Aircraft aborted take-off and engine # 1 suffered catastrophic damage and fire. Right main gear, outer tire was damaged by excessive heat from braking. ID by Smithsonian Feather Lab.
8/9/2022	A-300	Salt Lake City Intl (UT)	Approach	None	Wing	Eared grebe	Areas struck include left engine with ingestion, fuselage, right wing #1 slat and right engine cowl. Reported time out of service 96 hours; repair costs \$700,000. ID by Smithsonian Feather Lab.

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Appendix A. (page 4 of 5)

Date	Aircraft	Airport/location	Phase of flight	Effect on flight	Damage	Wildlife species	Remarks from report
8/13/2022	B-717	Outagamie Co. Regional (WI)	Take-off run	Precautionary landing	Landing gear	Bald eagle	Pilot reported possible bird strike at rotation on flight to ATL. During flight, crew noticed loss of hydraulic pressure and declared emergency. Landed at ATL with landing gears stuck in down position. Aircraft towed to gate where a large bird covered in hydraulic fluid was found wedged into right landing gear strut. Both landing gear doors were damaged; aircraft taken out of service. IDed by Smithsonian Feather Lab.
9/3/2022	C-182	Kissimmee Gateway Airport (FL)	Climb (2,000 feet AGL)	Emergency landing	Windshield	Anhinga	Pilot suffered laceration to forehead requiring stitches, slight concussion and blood loss. Bird was decapitated upon entering aircraft; interior covered with blood from pilot's injuries. ID by Smithsonian Feather Lab from photos.

Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States, 1990–2022

Appendix A. (page 5 of 5)

Date	Aircraft	Airport/location	Phase of flight	Effect on flight	Damage	Wildlife species	Remarks from report
9/18/2022	Space X Falcon 9	Cape Canaveral Space Force Station Skid Strip Airport (FL)	Climb	None	None	Yellow-billed cuckoo	Bird feathers and snarge were observed on forward facing sections of the 1st stage booster fuselage during recover/refurbishment operations. Samples collected and sent to Smithsonian. No damage to structure observed. ID by Smithsonian Feather Lab.
10/07/2022	EC135	Little Hope, PA	En route (800 feet AGL)	Precautionary landing	Windshield	Wood duck	Pilot's windscreen penetrated and passenger compartment sliding door push-out window jettisoned from aircraft, likely due to pressure change in aircraft. One crewmember suffered minor laceration to the face. All declined medical evaluation. ID by Smithsonian Feather Lab.
12/01/2022	BE-36	Florence Regional Airport (SC)	Landing roll	Engine shutdown	Nose, Wing, Landing gear, Lights	White-tailed deer	Aircraft sustained damage to front landing gear and landing gear light, right wing, and right landing gear. Reported time out of service 24 hours; repair costs \$2,000.
12/18/2022	Learjet-60	Chicago Midway (IL)	Climb (1500 ft AGL)	Precautionary landing	Nose, engine	Sandhill crane	Aircraft struck a flock of birds on climb out of MDW; made precautionary landing back at MDW. Damage to nose, engine #1; bird remains found in engine #2. IDed by Smithsonian Feather Lab.

APPENDIX B.

REPORTING A STRIKE AND IDENTIFYING SPECIES OF WILDLIFE STRUCK

Pilots, airport operations, aircraft maintenance personnel, and anyone else having knowledge of a strike should report the incident to the FAA Wildlife Strike Database (<http://wildlife.faa.gov>) using the electronic FAA Form 5200-7. Form 5200-7 should be printed for each report that has remains submitted to the Smithsonian for identification.

It is important to include as much information as possible on FAA Form 5200-7. All reports are carefully screened to identify duplicate reports prior to entry in the database. Multiple reports of the same incident are combined and often provide a more complete record of the strike event than would be possible if just one report were filed.



The National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, has the 3rd largest bird collection in the world with over 640,000 specimens. The collection has representatives of about 80% of the 9,600 known species in the world's avifauna.

The identification of the exact species struck (e.g., ring-billed gull, Canada goose, mallard, mourning dove, or red-tailed hawk as opposed to gull, goose, duck, dove, or hawk) is particularly important. This species information is critical for biologists developing wildlife risk management programs at airports and for engineers working on airworthiness standards because a problem that cannot be measured or defined cannot be solved. Bird strike remains that cannot be identified by airport personnel can often be identified by a local biologist trained in ornithology or by sending feathers and other remains to the Smithsonian Institution Feather Identification Lab:

:

Material sent via Courier Service (e.g., UPS, FedEx, DHL):	Material sent via U.S. Postal Service:
Feather Identification Lab Smithsonian Institution NMNH E600, MRC 116 10 th & Constitution Ave. NW Washington, D.C. 20560-0116 (label package "safety investigation material") Phone # 202-633-0801	Feather Identification Lab Smithsonian Institution, NMNH E600, MRC 116 P.O. Box 37012 Washington, D.C. 20013-7012

Whenever possible, send whole feathers as the diagnostic microscopic characteristics are often found in the downy barbules at the feather base. Wing feathers, as well as breast and tail feathers, should be sent whenever possible. Beaks and feet are also useful diagnostic materials. Even blood smears can provide material for DNA analysis (Dove et al. 2008). Do not send entire bird carcasses through the mail! However, photographs of the intact carcass or carcass remains (e.g., wing, head), which can be uploaded to the on-line 5200-7 when filing a strike report, can be useful supplemental documentation. Photographs should include a reference marker (e.g., ruler, coin) to gauge size of the carcass or body part.

Guidelines for Collecting Bird Strike Material

- Always include any feather material available.
- Include the printed report (FAA 5200-7) with the QR code in the upper right corner. This is necessary for tracking samples through the lab.
- Always secure all remains in re-sealable plastic bag, collect bird remains (samples) from different impact points or each birds in separate bags

Feathers:

- Whole Bird – Pluck a variety of feathers (breast, back, wing, tail)
- Partial Bird – Collect a variety of feathers with color or pattern
- Feathers only – Send all material available. Do not cut feathers from the bird (downy part at the base of the feathers is needed). Do not use any sticky substance (no tape or glue).

Tissue/blood (“Snarge”):

- Dry material – Scrape or wipe off into a clean re-closeable bag or wipe area with pre-packaged alcohol wipe or spray with alcohol to loosen material then wipe with clean cloth/gauze. (Do not use water, bleach, or other cleansers; they destroy DNA.)
- Fresh material – Wipe area with alcohol wipe and/or clean cloth/gauze or apply fresh tissue/blood to an FTA® DNA collecting card.

Additional information on sending bird remains to the Smithsonian is available at https://www.faa.gov/airports/airport_safety/wildlife/smithsonian/.

Cases Processed by Feather Lab in FY 2022

The number of bird strike cases involving civil aircraft processed by the Smithsonian Feather Identification Lab in FY 2022 was 4,579 with 5,003 separate identifications (some cases involved remains from multiple impact points). This compares to 3,412 cases with 3,760 separate identifications in FY 2021, 3,381 cases with 3,797 separate identifications in FY 2020 and 4,682 cases with 5,167 separate identifications in FY 2019 (Dove et al. 2023). In addition, the Lab processed 2,943 cases involving 3,742 identifications for the U.S. Air Force and 1,089 cases involving 1,204 identifications for the U.S. Navy in FY 2022 (not discussed in this report). DNA analysis (Dove et al. 2008, Luttrell et al. 2020) was used in 48 percent of civil aviation cases in FY 2022 to identify the species and in an

additional 17 percent to supplement or verify traditional identification methods using morphology of feathers and body parts (e.g., talons, beaks).



Scientists at the Smithsonian Feather Lab use a combination of forensic methods, including mitochondrial DNA analysis, to determine the species of birds, bats, and other wildlife involved in strikes with civil and military aircraft. Photo, J. Kegley, Smithsonian

Appendix C.**Scientific Names and Body Masses for Identified Wildlife Species Struck by Civil Aircraft in USA or by USA-registered Aircraft in Foreign Countries, 1990-2022.¹**

#	Common name	Scientific name	Body mass (grams)	
			Mean	Max
	Flying mammals (bats)			
1	African yellow bat	Scotophilus dinganii	25	25
2	Angolan free-tailed bat	Mops condylurus	23	
3	Antillean fruit-eating bat	Brachyphylla cavernarum	45	
4	Big brown bat	Eptesicus fuscus	14	
5	Big free-tailed bat	Nyctinomops macrotis	30	
6	Black mastiff bat	Molossus rufus	65	70
7	Brazilian free-tailed bat	Tadarida brasiliensis	15	
8	Broad-eared bat	Nyctinomops laticaudatus	11	14
9	California myotis	Myotis californicus	4	5
10	Common pipistrelle	Pipistrellus pipistrellus	6	8
11	Eastern red bat	Lasiurus borealis	14	
12	Eastern small-footed myotis	Myotis leibii	7	
13	Egyptian free-tailed bat	Tadarida aegyptiaca	17	21
14	Evening bat	Nycticeius humeralis	14	
15	Florida bonneted bat	Eumops floridanus	40	55
16	Gray bat	Myotis grisescens	12	16
17	Gray sac-winged bat	Balantiopteryx plicata	7	
18	Hoary bat	Lasiurus cinereus	35	
19	Indian flying fox	Pteropus giganteus	1100	1,600
20	Indian pipistrelle	Pipistrellus coromandra	11	13
21	Indiana bat	Myotis sodalis	6	10
22	Jamaican fruit bat	Artibeus jamaicensis	50	60
23	Kelaart's pipistrelle	Pipistrellus ceylonicus	4	5
24	Kuhl's pipistrelle	Pipistrellus kuhlii	6	
25	Lesser bulldog bat	Noctilio albiventris	30	44
26	Little brown bat	Myotis lucifugus	8	
27	Little red flying fox	Pteropus scapulatus	400	
28	Long-eared myotis	Myotis evotis	8	
29	Long-legged myotis	Myotis volans	8	10
30	Mauritian tomb bat	Taphozous mauritanus	36	
31	Naked-rumped tomb bat	Taphozous nudiventris	34	
32	Northern yellow bat	Lasiurus intermedius	17	20
33	Pallas's mastiff bat	Molossus molossus	13	
34	Pocketed free-tailed bat	Nyctinomops femorosacca	14	
35	Seminole bat	Lasiurus seminolus	11	
36	Silver-haired bat	Lasionycteris noctivagans	9	
37	Sinaloan mastiff bat	Molossus sinaloae	24	28
38	Sooty mustached bat	Pteronotus quadridens	5	
39	Spotted Bat	Euderma maculatum	18	20
40	Tri-colored bat	Perimyotis subflavus	5	
41	Western mastiff bat	Eumops perotis	57	73
42	Western pipistrelle	Parastrellus hesperus	5	6
43	Western red bat	Lasiurus blossevillii	13	15
44	Western small-footed myotis	Myotis ciliolabrum	5	7

Appendix C. Continued (page 2 of 16)

	Common name	Scientific name	Body mass (grams)	
			Mean	Max
45	Western yellow bat	Lasiurus xanthinus	12	
46	Yuma myotis	Myotis yumanensis	6	7
	<u>Terrestrial mammals</u>			
1	American badger	Taxidea taxus	12,000	
2	American black bear	Ursus americanus	135,000	200,000
3	American mink	Mustela vison	1,000	1,300
4	American red squirrel	Tamiasciurus hudsonicus	300	400
5	Antelope jackrabbit	Lepus alleni	4,000	5,900
6	Axis deer	Axis axis	90,000	110,000
7	Bearded seal	Erignathus barbatus	315,000	430,000
8	Black-tailed jackrabbit	Lepus californicus	2,268	
9	Black-tailed prairie dog	Cynomys ludovicianus	1,050	1,400
10	Brown bear	Ursus arctos	217,000	400,000
11	California ground squirrel	Otospermophilus beecheyi	500	750
12	Caribou	Rangifer arcticus	119,297	
13	Cattle	Bos taurus	753,430	
14	Collared peccary	Pecari tajacu	20,412	
15	Common gray fox	Urocyon cinereoargenteus	4,536	
16	Coyote	Canis latrans	15,876	
17	Coypu (nutria)	Myocaster coypus	6,000	17,000
18	Desert cottontail	Sylvilagus audubonii	1,247	
19	Domestic cat	Felis catus	4,309	
20	Domestic dog	Canis familiaris	34,927	
21	Domestic sheep	Ovis aries	100,000	160,000
22	Eastern cottontail	Sylvilagus floridanus	1,361	
23	Eastern gray squirrel	Sciurus carolinensis	500	600
24	Fox squirrel	Sciurus niger	800	1,000
25	Gunnison's prairie dog	Cynomys gunnisoni	816	1,350
26	Horse	Equus caballus	1,147,608	
27	Kit fox	Vulpes macrotis	2,000	2,700
28	Least weasel	Mustela nivalis	100	250
29	Long-tailed weasel	Mustela frenata	260	300
30	Mink	Mustela vison	1,000	1,300
31	Moose	Alces alces	389,189	
32	Mule deer	Odocoileus hemionus	92,000	
33	Muskrat	Ondatra zibethicus	1,361	
34	Nine-banded armadillo	Dasypus novemcinctus	5,670	
35	North American beaver	Castor canadensis	20,000	
36	North American porcupine	Erethizon dorsatum	8,618	
37	Piute ground squirrel	Urocitellus mollis	500	
38	Pronghorn	Antilocapra americana	46,721	
39	Raccoon	Procyon lotor	10,660	
40	Red fox	Vulpes fulva	5,670	
41	Richardson's ground squirrel	Urocitellus richardsonii	500	750
42	River otter	Lutra canadensis	7,938	
43	Small Indian mongoose	Herpestes javanicus	650	
44	Snowshoe hare	Lepus americanus	1,300	1,800
45	Striped skunk	Mephitis mephitis	4,536	
46	Swine (pigs)	Sus scrofa	199,584	

Appendix C. Continued (page 3 of 16)

	Common name	Scientific name	Body mass (grams)	
			Mean	Max
47	Thirteen-lined ground squirrel	<i>Ictidomys tridecemlineatus</i>	500	700
48	Virginia opossum	<i>Didelphus virginianus</i>	4,990	
49	Wapiti (elk)	<i>Cervis elaphus</i>	317,520	
50	White-nosed coati	<i>Nasua narica</i>	9,072	
51	White-tailed deer	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	88,000	
52	White-tailed jackrabbit	<i>Lepus townsendii</i>	3,402	
53	White-tailed prairie dog	<i>Cynomys leucurus</i>	1,000	1,136
54	Woodchuck	<i>Marmota monax</i>	3,402	
55	Yellow-bellied marmot	<i>Marmota flaviventris</i>	5,000	
	Reptiles			
1	Alligator snapping turtle	<i>Macrochelys temminckii</i>	75,000	100,000
2	American alligator	<i>Alligator mississippi</i>	136,080	
3	Black rat snake	<i>Pantherophis obsoletus</i>	1,000	2,500
4	California kingsnake	<i>Lampropeltis getula</i>	1,000	1,500
5	Chicken turtle	<i>Deirochelys reticularia</i>	800	
6	Coastal plain cooter	<i>Pseudemys floridana</i>	3,000	3,500
7	Common box turtle	<i>Terrapene carolina</i>	350	
8	Common kingsnake	<i>Lampropeltis getula</i>	1,000	1,500
9	Common snapping turtle	<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>	9,979	
10	Corn snake	<i>Pantherophis guttatus</i>	900	
11	Diamondback terrapin	<i>Malaclemys terrapin</i>	455	
12	Diamondback water snake	<i>Nerodia rhombifer</i>	400	600
13	E. diamondback rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus adamanteus</i>	2,300	4,900
14	Eastern hognose snake	<i>Heterodon platirhinos</i>	100	120
15	Eastern mud turtle	<i>Kinosternon subrubrum</i>	207	291
16	Eastern pine snake	<i>Pituophis melanoleucus</i>	1,000	
17	Florida red-bellied cooter	<i>Pseudemys nelsoni</i>	4,000	
18	Florida softshell turtle	<i>Apalone ferox</i>	6,650	43,000
19	Gopher snake	<i>Pituophis catenifer</i>	2,300	4,500
20	Gopher tortoise	<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	4,000	4,500
21	Green iguana	<i>Iguana iguana</i>	5,000	
22	Northern water snake	<i>Nerodia sipedon</i>	1,361	1,814
23	Ornate box turtle	<i>Terrapene ornata</i>	310	431
24	Painted turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta</i>	350	
25	Plains garter snake	<i>Thamnophis radix</i>	300	400
26	Pond slider	<i>Trachemys scripta</i>	1,000	
27	Prairie rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus viridis</i>	1,000	
28	River cooter	<i>Pseudemys concinna</i>	2,000	5,000
29	Spectacled caiman	<i>Caiman crocodilus</i>	20,000	40,000
30	Spiny softshell turtle	<i>Apalone spinifera</i>	4,000	10,000
31	Striped mud turtle	<i>Kinosternon baurii</i>	203	
32	Water moccasin	<i>Agkistrodon piscivorus</i>	580	4,600
33	W. diamondback rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus atrox</i>	1,500	6,700
34	Western hognose snake	<i>Heterodon nasicus</i>	350	500
	Birds			
1	Acadian flycatcher	<i>Empidonax virescens</i>	13	14
2	African collared dove	<i>Streptopelia roseogrisea</i>	155	172
3	African silverbill	<i>Euodice cantans</i>	12	14

Appendix C. Continued (page 4 of 16)

	Common name	Scientific name	Body mass (grams)	
			Mean	Max
4	Alder flycatcher	Empidonax alnorum	13	15
5	Allen's hummingbird	Selasphorus sasin	3	4
6	Alpine swift	Tachymarptis melba	104	120
7	American avocet	Recurvirostra americana	307	382
8	American bittern	Botaurus lentiginosus	706	1,072
9	American black duck	Anas rubripes	1,400	1,800
10	American coot	Fulica americana	724	848
11	American crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	538	
12	American golden-plover	Pluvialis dominica	154	166
13	American goldfinch	Spinus tristis	13	17
14	American kestrel	Falco sparverius	132	
15	American oystercatcher	Haematopus palliatus	638	720
16	American pipit	Anthus rubescens	22	26
17	American redstart	Setophaga ruticilla	8	10
18	American robin	Turdus migratorius	79	112
19	American tree sparrow	Spizelloides arborea	19	28
20	American white pelican	Pelecanus erythrorhynchos	6,329	8,000
21	American wigeon	Mareca americana	792	1,036
22	American woodcock	Scolopax minor	219	278
23	Anhinga	Anhinga anhinga	1,235	
24	Anna's hummingbird	Calypte anna	5	6
25	Antillean nighthawk	Chordeiles gundlachii	50	
26	Antillean palm swift	Tachornis phoenicobia	10	11
27	Arctic tern	Sterna paradisaea	110	127
28	Ash-throated flycatcher	Myiarchus cinerascens	28	38
29	Australian pelican	Pelecanus conspicillatus	5,505	6,800
30	Baird's sandpiper	Calidris bairdii	44	
31	Baird's sparrow	Centronyx bairdii	18	20
32	Bald eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	5,350	6,400
33	Baltimore oriole	Icterus galbula	34	39
34	Band-rumped storm-petrel	Hydrobates castro	45	54
35	Band-tailed pigeon	Patagioenas fasciata	398	515
36	Bank swallow	Riparia riparia	14	19
37	Bare-eyed pigeon	Patagioenas corensis	273	283
38	Barn owl	Tyto alba	370	
39	Barn swallow	Hirundo rustica	19	
40	Barred owl	Strix varia	801	1,051
41	Barrow's goldeneye	Bucephala islandica	1,130	1,314
42	Bar-tailed godwit	Limosa lapponica	332	400
43	Bay-breasted warbler	Setophaga castanea	12	14
44	Bell's sparrow	Artemisiospiza belli	15	17
45	Bell's vireo	Vireo bellii	9	10
46	Belted kingfisher	Megaceryle alcyon	148	215
47	Bewick's wren	Thryomanes bewickii	10	12
48	Bicknell's thrush	Catharus bicknelli	28	37
49	Black drongo	Dicrurus macrocercus	48	59
50	Black francolin	Francolinus francolinus	482	566
51	Black kite	Milvus migrans	870	920

Appendix C. Continued (page 5 of 16)

	Common name	Scientific name	Body mass (grams)	
			Mean	Max
52	Black noddy	<i>Anous minutus</i>	116	130
53	Black phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	20	22
54	Black redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	17	20
55	Black skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>	349	392
56	Black swift	<i>Cypseloides niger</i>	46	53
57	Black tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	65	74
58	Black turnstone	<i>Arenaria melanocephala</i>	135	169
59	Black vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	2,159	
60	Black-and-white warbler	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>	11	13
61	Black-bellied plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	250	283
62	Black-bellied whistling-duck	<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i>	796	950
63	Black-billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus erythrophthalmus</i>	51	65
64	Black-billed magpie	<i>Pica hudsonia</i>	189	209
65	Blackburnian warbler	<i>Setophaga fusca</i>	10	
66	Black-capped chickadee	<i>Poecile atricapillus</i>	11	13
67	Black-chinned hummingbird	<i>Archilochus alexandri</i>	4	5
68	Black-crowned night-heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	810	1,014
69	Black-crowned sparrow lark	<i>Eremopterix nigriceps</i>	14	16
70	Black-faced bunting	<i>Emberiza spodocephala</i>	20	24
71	Black-footed albatross	<i>Phoebastria nigripes</i>	3,400	4,300
72	Black-headed grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus melanocephalus</i>	48	
73	Black-headed gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	284	327
74	Black-legged kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	421	525
75	Black-necked stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	170	202
76	Blackpoll warbler	<i>Setophaga striata</i>	12	13
77	Black-throated blue warbler	<i>Setophaga caerulescens</i>	11	12
78	Black-throated gray warbler	<i>Setophaga nigrescens</i>	9	10
79	Black-throated green warbler	<i>Setophaga virens</i>	9	10
80	Black-throated sparrow	<i>Amphispiza bilineata</i>	14	16
81	Blue grosbeak	<i>Passerina caerulea</i>	28	41
82	Blue jay	<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>	88	101
83	Blue-and-white swallow	<i>Pygochelidon cyanoleuca</i>	10	11
84	Blue-black grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>	10	12
85	Blue-gray gnatcatcher	<i>Poliophtila caerulea</i>	6	7
86	Blue-headed vireo	<i>Vireo solitarius</i>	15	17
87	Blue-winged teal	<i>Spatula discors</i>	380	
88	Blue-winged warbler	<i>Vermivora cyanoptera</i>	9	10
89	Boat-tailed grackle	<i>Quiscalus major</i>	206	239
90	Bobolink	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	34	
91	Bohemian waxwing	<i>Bombicilla garrulus</i>	56	69
92	Bonaparte's gull	<i>Chroicocephalus philadelphia</i>	222	
93	Bonin petrel	<i>Pterodroma hypoleuca</i>	176	220
94	Brandt's cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</i>	2,570	2,682
95	Brant	<i>Branta bernicla</i>	1,370	1,790
96	Brewer's blackbird	<i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i>	67	73
97	Brewer's sparrow	<i>Spizella breweri</i>	11	
98	Broad-tailed hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus platycircus</i>	4	
99	Broad-winged hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>	490	
100	Brown booby	<i>Sula leucogaster</i>	1,360	

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Appendix C. Continued (page 6 of 16)

	Common name	Scientific name	Body mass (grams)	
			Mean	Max
101	Brown creeper	<i>Certhia americana</i>	8	10
102	Brown noddy	<i>Anous stolidus</i>	189	232
103	Brown pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	3,702	
104	Brown thrasher	<i>Toxostoma rufum</i>	69	89
105	Brown-crested flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tyrannulus</i>	44	54
106	Brown-headed cowbird	<i>Molothrus ater</i>	49	57
107	Brown-throated parakeet	<i>Eupsittula pertinax</i>	84	102
108	Budgerigar	<i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>	29	
109	Buff-breasted sandpiper	<i>Calidris subruficollis</i>	69	78
110	Bufflehead	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>	473	551
111	Bullock's oriole	<i>Icterus bullockii</i>	38	43
112	Burrowing owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	156	
113	Bushtit	<i>Psaltirparus minimus</i>	5	6
114	Cackling goose	<i>Branta hutchinsii</i>	2,180	
115	Cactus wren	<i>Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus</i>	39	47
116	California gull	<i>Larus californicus</i>	841	1,045
117	California quail	<i>Callipepla californica</i>	186	230
118	California towhee	<i>Melospiza crissalis</i>	54	61
119	Calliope hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus calliope</i>	3	3
120	Canada goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	4,181	4,727
121	Canada jay	<i>Perisoreus canadensis</i>	76	82
122	Canada warbler	<i>Cardellina canadensis</i>	10	12
123	Canvasback	<i>Aythya valisineria</i>	1,252	1,600
124	Cape May warbler	<i>Setophaga tigrina</i>	10	13
125	Carolina chickadee	<i>Poecile carolinensis</i>	10	
126	Carolina wren	<i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i>	21	27
127	Carrion crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	570	
128	Caspian tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	655	782
129	Cassin's finch	<i>Haemorhous cassinii</i>	27	38
130	Cassin's sparrow	<i>Peucaea cassinii</i>	19	24
131	Cassin's vireo	<i>Vireo cassinii</i>	15	21
132	Cattle egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	372	512
133	Cave swallow	<i>Petrochelidon fulva</i>	24	
134	Cedar waxwing	<i>Bombicilla cedrorum</i>	33	40
135	Cerulean warbler	<i>Setophaga cerulea</i>	9	10
136	Chestnut munia	<i>Lonchura atricapilla</i>	13	14
137	Chestnut-collared longspur	<i>Calcarius ornatus</i>	20	22
138	Chestnut-sided warbler	<i>Setophaga pensylvanica</i>	10	11
139	Chimney swift	<i>Chaetura pelagica</i>	24	30
140	Chipping sparrow	<i>Spizella passerina</i>	12	15
141	Chuck-will's-widow	<i>Antrostomus carolinensis</i>	109	188
142	Chukar	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>	541	580
143	Cinnamon teal	<i>Spatula cyanoptera</i>	383	470
144	Clapper rail	<i>Rallus crepitans</i>	290	314
145	Clark's grebe	<i>Aechmophorus clarkii</i>	1,341	1,685
146	Clay-colored sparrow	<i>Spizella pallida</i>	11	15
147	Cliff swallow	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>	22	27
148	Common chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	22	29
149	Common cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	117	

Appendix C. Continued (page 7 of 16)

	Common name	Scientific name	Body mass (grams)	
			Mean	Max
150	Common eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	2,218	2,895
151	Common gallinule	<i>Gallinula galeata</i>	339	493
152	Common goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	1,120	1,329
153	Common grackle	<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>	120	142
154	Common ground dove	<i>Columbina passerina</i>	37	
155	Common house-martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	15	20
156	Common loon	<i>Gavia immer</i>	5,460	6,130
157	Common merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	1,709	2,054
158	Common murre	<i>Uria aalge</i>	1,066	1,202
159	Common myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	127	140
160	Common nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>	79	
161	Common pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albigollis</i>	53	
162	Common poorwill	<i>Phalaenoptilus nuttallii</i>	50	
163	Common raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	1,097	
164	Common redpoll	<i>Acanthis flammea</i>	13	15
165	Common ringed plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	65	75
166	Common snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	113	153
167	Common swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	38	43
168	Common tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	120	145
169	Common waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>	9	11
170	Common wood-pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	490	614
171	Common yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	10	12
172	Connecticut warbler	<i>Oporornis agilis</i>	13	16
173	Cooper's hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	529	588
174	Cordilleran flycatcher	<i>Empidonax occidentalis</i>	12	15
175	Corn crane	<i>Crex crex</i>	169	202
176	Costa's hummingbird	<i>Calypte costae</i>	3	5
177	Couch's kingbird	<i>Tyrannus couchii</i>	39	
178	Crested caracara	<i>Caracara cheriway</i>	1,220	1,355
179	Curve-billed thrasher	<i>Toxostoma curvirostre</i>	81	94
180	Dark-billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus melacoryphus</i>	54	67
181	Dark-eyed junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	19	24
182	Dickcissel	<i>Spiza americana</i>	28	
183	Double-crested cormorant	<i>Nannopterum auritum</i>	2,089	
184	Double-striped thick-knee	<i>Burhinus bistriatus</i>	787	
185	Downy woodpecker	<i>Dryobates pubescens</i>	28	29
186	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	60	
187	Dusky flycatcher	<i>Empidonax oberholseri</i>	10	11
188	Eared dove	<i>Zenaida auriculata</i>	136	155
189	Eared grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	422	521
190	Eastern bluebird	<i>Sialia sialis</i>	28	38
191	Eastern kingbird	<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>	43	55
192	Eastern meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	112	131
193	Eastern phoebe	<i>Sayornis phoebe</i>	20	23
194	Eastern screech-owl	<i>Megascops asio</i>	194	235
195	Eastern towhee	<i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i>	41	47
196	Eastern whip-poor-will	<i>Antrostomus vociferus</i>	57	
197	Eastern wood-pewee	<i>Contopus virens</i>	14	15
198	Egyptian goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>	1,873	2,100

Appendix C. Continued (page 8 of 16)

	Common name	Scientific name	Body mass (grams)	
			Mean	Max
199	Elegant tern	<i>Thalasseus elegans</i>	260	325
200	Emperor goose	<i>Anser canagicus</i>	2,370	
201	Eurasian buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	969	1,364
202	Eurasian collared dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	152	184
203	Eurasian coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	902	1,200
204	Eurasian curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	869	1,050
205	Eurasian kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	201	260
206	Eurasian moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	415	493
207	Eurasian siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>	14	19
208	Eurasian skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	43	51
209	Eurasian sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	325	
210	Eurasian wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>	819	1,073
211	European golden-plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	214	260
212	European goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	16	20
213	European starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	88	100
214	Evening grosbeak	<i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i>	60	72
215	Ferruginous hawk	<i>Buteo regalis</i>	1,776	2,047
216	Field sparrow	<i>Spizella pusilla</i>	13	15
217	Fish crow	<i>Corvus ossifragus</i>	300	332
218	Flammulated owl	<i>Psilosops flammeolus</i>	66	96
219	Fork-tailed storm-petrel	<i>Hydrobates furcatus</i>	54	68
220	Forster's tern	<i>Sterna forsteri</i>	149	173
221	Fox sparrow	<i>Passerella iliaca</i>	35	39
222	Franklin's gull	<i>Leucophaeus pipixcan</i>	280	335
223	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	968	1,250
224	Gambel's quail	<i>Callipepla gambelii</i>	170	207
225	Garden warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>	18	25
226	Glaucous gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	1,855	2,060
227	Glaucous-winged gull	<i>Larus glaucescens</i>	1,180	
228	Glossy ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	663	768
229	Golden eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	4,627	5,280
230	Golden-crowned kinglet	<i>Regulus satrapa</i>	6	8
231	Golden-crowned sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia atricapilla</i>	32	
232	Golden-fronted woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes aurifrons</i>	85	99
233	Golden-winged warbler	<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>	10	11
234	Grasshopper sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	18	
235	Gray catbird	<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>	35	44
236	Gray flycatcher	<i>Empidonax wrightii</i>	12	14
237	Gray francolin	<i>Francolinus pondicerianus</i>	274	
238	Gray heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	1,443	2,073
239	Gray kingbird	<i>Tyrannus dominicensis</i>	47	69
240	Gray partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	418	483
241	Gray vireo	<i>Vireo vicinior</i>	13	15
242	Gray-breasted martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>	43	48
243	Gray-cheeked thrush	<i>Catharus minimus</i>	33	45
244	Gray-crowned rosy-finch	<i>Leucosticte tephrocotis</i>	25	
245	Gray-headed chickadee	<i>Poecile cinctus</i>	11	13
246	Gray-tailed tattler	<i>Tringa brevipes</i>	127	160
247	Great black-backed gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	1,829	2,272

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Appendix C. Continued (page 9 of 16)

	Common name	Scientific name	Body mass (grams)	
			Mean	Max
248	Great blue heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	2,480	
249	Great cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	3,240	
250	Great crested flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>	32	40
251	Great crested grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	738	813
252	Great egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	935	
253	Great frigatebird	<i>Fregata minor</i>	1,662	
254	Great gray owl	<i>Strix nebulosa</i>	1,267	1,700
255	Great horned owl	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>	1,555	2,046
256	Great kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	74	
257	Greater Antillean grackle	<i>Quiscalus niger</i>	94	100
258	Greater prairie chicken	<i>Tympanuchus cupido</i>	933	1,200
259	Greater roadrunner	<i>Geococcyx californianus</i>	376	538
260	Greater sage-grouse	<i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i>	3,190	
261	Greater scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>	1,054	1,316
262	Greater spotted eagle	<i>Clanga clanga</i>	2,678	
263	Greater white-fronted goose	<i>Anser albifrons</i>	3,000	
264	Greater yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	153	
265	Great-tailed grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>	222	253
266	Green heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>	212	
267	Greenish warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>	9	11
268	Green-tailed towhee	<i>Pipilo chlorurus</i>	30	37
269	Green-winged teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	364	454
270	Gull-billed tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	170	184
271	Gyrfalcon	<i>Falco rusticolus</i>	1,752	2,000
272	Hairy woodpecker	<i>Dryobates villosus</i>	79	
273	Hammond's flycatcher	<i>Empidonax hammondi</i>	11	13
274	Harlequin duck	<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>	610	680
275	Harris's hawk	<i>Parabuteo unicinctus</i>	1,047	1,203
276	Harris's sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia querula</i>	37	
277	Hawaiian duck	<i>Anas wyvilliana</i>	644	
278	Hawaiian goose	<i>Branta sandvicensis</i>	2,165	3,050
279	Hawaiian hawk	<i>Buteo solitarius</i>	606	
280	Hawaiian petrel	<i>Pterodroma sandwichensis</i>	434	500
281	Heermann's gull	<i>Larus heermanni</i>	500	643
282	Helmeted guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	1,350	
283	Hermit thrush	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>	30	36
284	Hermit warbler	<i>Setophaga occidentalis</i>	10	13
285	Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	1,147	1,775
286	Hoary redpoll	<i>Acanthis hornemanni</i>	13	16
287	Hooded crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	570	
288	Hooded merganser	<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>	680	879
289	Hooded oriole	<i>Icterus cucullatus</i>	24	33
290	Hooded warbler	<i>Setophaga citrina</i>	11	13
291	Horned grebe	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	453	528
292	Horned lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>	32	
293	Horned puffin	<i>Fratercula corniculata</i>	556	
294	House finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	21	26
295	House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	28	35
296	House wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	11	13

Appendix C. Continued (page 10 of 16)

	Common name	Scientific name	Body mass (grams)	
			Mean	Max
297	Hudsonian godwit	<i>Limosa haemastica</i>	289	
298	Hume's short-toed lark	<i>Calandrella acutirostris</i>	21	23
299	Iceland gull	<i>Larus glaucoides</i>	1,021	1,100
300	Inca dove	<i>Columbina inca</i>	48	57
301	Indigo bunting	<i>Passerina cyanea</i>	15	19
302	Intermediate egret	<i>Ardea intermedia</i>	516	562
303	Island canary	<i>Serinus canaria</i>	24	30
304	Japanese white-eye	<i>Zosterops japonicus</i>	11	
305	Java sparrow	<i>Lonchura oryzivora</i>	25	28
306	Kentish plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	42	58
307	Kentucky warbler	<i>Geothlypis formosa</i>	14	17
308	Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	101	121
309	King rail	<i>Rallus elegans</i>	415	
310	Kirtland's warbler	<i>Setophaga kirtlandii</i>	14	16
311	Ladder-backed woodpecker	<i>Dryobates scalaris</i>	34	41
312	Lanceolated warbler	<i>Locustella lanceolata</i>	11	11
313	Lapland longspur	<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i>	28	35
314	Lappet-faced vulture	<i>Torgos tracheliotus</i>	6,969	8,500
315	Lark bunting	<i>Calamospiza melanocorys</i>	38	52
316	Lark sparrow	<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>	29	33
317	Laughing gull	<i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>	327	371
318	Lawrence's goldfinch	<i>Spinus lawrencei</i>	11	14
319	Lawrence's warbler	<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i> X <i>cyanoptera</i>	10	11
320	Laysan albatross	<i>Phoebastria immutabilis</i>	3,310	4,100
321	Lazuli bunting	<i>Passerina amoena</i>	16	20
322	Least bittern	<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	86	
323	Least flycatcher	<i>Empidonax minimus</i>	10	12
324	Least sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	24	26
325	Least tern	<i>Sternula antillarum</i>	49	62
326	LeConte's sparrow	<i>Ammospiza leconteii</i>	13	16
327	Lesser black-backed gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	880	1,000
328	Lesser goldfinch	<i>Spinus psaltria</i>	10	12
329	Lesser nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles acutipennis</i>	50	64
330	Lesser sand-plover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	64	71
331	Lesser scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>	850	1,050
332	Lesser whitethroat	<i>Curruca curruca</i>	12	18
333	Lesser yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	78	96
334	Lilac-crowned parrot	<i>Amazona finschi</i>	302	312
335	Limpkin	<i>Aramus guarauna</i>	1,080	1,270
336	Lincoln's sparrow	<i>Melospiza lincolni</i>	17	19
337	Little blue heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	364	
338	Little owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>	164	193
339	Little swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	25	30
340	Little tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	57	63
341	Loggerhead kingbird	<i>Tyrannus caudifasciatus</i>	44	52
342	Loggerhead shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	48	59
343	Long-billed curlew	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	642	689
344	Long-billed dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus scolopaceus</i>	109	119
345	Long-billed thrasher	<i>Toxostoma longirostre</i>	68	

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Appendix C. Continued (page 11 of 16)

	Common name	Scientific name	Body mass (grams)	
			Mean	Max
346	Long-eared owl	<i>Asio otus</i>	337	409
347	Long-tailed duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	932	
348	Long-tailed jaeger	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	307	444
349	Louisiana waterthrush	<i>Parkesia motacilla</i>	20	23
350	MacGillivray's warbler	<i>Geothlypis tolmiei</i>	10	13
351	Magnificent frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	1,704	
352	Magnolia warbler	<i>Setophaga magnolia</i>	8	10
353	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	1,246	1,580
354	Marbled godwit	<i>Limosa fedoa</i>	391	454
355	Marsh wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>	12	14
356	McKay's bunting	<i>Plectrophenax hyperboreus</i>	55	62
357	Meadow pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	18	23
358	Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	218	281
359	Mew gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	432	552
360	Mississippi kite	<i>Ictinia mississippiensis</i>	311	339
361	Monk parakeet	<i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>	120	
362	Morelet's seedeater	<i>Sporophila moreletii</i>	9	12
363	Mottled duck	<i>Anas fulvigula</i>	1,043	1,241
364	Mountain bluebird	<i>Sialia currucoides</i>	30	
365	Mountain chickadee	<i>Poecile gambeli</i>	12	15
366	Mourning dove	<i>Zenaidura macroura</i>	123	
367	Mourning warbler	<i>Geothlypis philadelphia</i>	12	14
368	Muscovy duck	<i>Cairina moschata</i>	2,858	
369	Mute swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	11,800	14,300
370	Nacunda nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles nacunda</i>	159	188
371	Nanday parakeet	<i>Aratinga nenday</i>	128	141
372	Nashville warbler	<i>Leiothlypis ruficapilla</i>	8	10
373	Nelson's sparrow	<i>Ammodramus nelsoni</i>	17	20
374	Neotropic cormorant	<i>Nannopterum brasilianum</i>	1,393	1,550
375	Newell's shearwater	<i>Puffinus newelli</i>	323	358
376	Northern bobwhite	<i>Colinus virginianus</i>	178	
377	Northern cardinal	<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>	44	52
378	Northern flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	128	143
379	Northern fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	649	773
380	Northern gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	3,067	3,610
381	Northern goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	1,137	1,364
382	Northern harrier	<i>Circus hudsonius</i>	515	661
383	Northern hawk owl	<i>Surnia ulula</i>	340	454
384	Northern lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	226	317
385	Northern mockingbird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	49	56
386	Northern parula	<i>Setophaga americana</i>	9	10
387	Northern pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	1,006	1,245
388	Northern pygmy-owl	<i>Glaucidium gnoma</i>	73	87
389	N. rough-winged swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>	16	18
390	Northern saw-whet owl	<i>Aegolius acadicus</i>	131	
391	Northern shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	636	908
392	Northern shrike	<i>Lanius borealis</i>	63	81
393	Northern waterthrush	<i>Parkesia noveboracensis</i>	16	20
394	Olivaceous elaenia	<i>Elaenia mesoleuca</i>	17	20

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Appendix C. Continued (page 12 of 16)

	Common name	Scientific name	Body mass (grams)	
			Mean	Max
395	Olive sparrow	<i>Arremonops rufivirgatus</i>	23	30
396	Olive-backed pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>	21	26
397	Olive-sided flycatcher	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>	32	42
398	Olive-throated parakeet	<i>Eupsittula nana</i>	77	84
399	Orange-crowned warbler	<i>Leiothlypis celata</i>	9	12
400	Orchard oriole	<i>Icterus spurius</i>	19	28
401	Oriental plover	<i>Charadrius veredus</i>	98	
402	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	1,568	1,900
403	Ovenbird	<i>Seiurus aurocapilla</i>	19	21
404	Pacific golden-plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	140	168
405	Pacific loon	<i>Gavia pacifica</i>	1,830	2,450
406	Pacific wren	<i>Troglodytes pacificus</i>	9	12
407	Pacific-slope flycatcher	<i>Empidonax difficilis</i>	11	14
408	Painted bunting	<i>Passerina ciris</i>	13	19
409	Pallid swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>	42	50
410	Palm warbler	<i>Setophaga palmarum</i>	10	13
411	Parasitic jaeger	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	478	604
412	Pearly-eyed thrasher	<i>Margarops fuscatus</i>	104	138
413	Pectoral sandpiper	<i>Calidris melanotos</i>	98	
414	Pelagic cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax pelagicus</i>	2,072	2,440
415	Peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	977	1,194
416	Philadelphia vireo	<i>Vireo philadelphicus</i>	12	13
417	Philippine collared dove	<i>Streptopelia dussumieri</i>	153	174
418	Philippine drongo-cuckoo	<i>Surniculus velutinus</i>	38	47
419	Philippine duck	<i>Anas luzonica</i>	891	977
420	Picazuro pigeon	<i>Columba picazuro</i>	279	402
421	Pied-billed grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>	474	568
422	Pigeon guillemot	<i>Cephus columba</i>	530	
423	Pine grosbeak	<i>Pinicola enucleator</i>	56	62
424	Pine siskin	<i>Spinus pinus</i>	13	15
425	Pine warbler	<i>Setophaga pinus</i>	12	17
426	Piping plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	55	64
427	Prairie falcon	<i>Falco mexicanus</i>	908	1,133
428	Prairie warbler	<i>Setophaga discolor</i>	8	11
429	Prothonotary warbler	<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>	14	
430	Purple finch	<i>Haemorhous purpureus</i>	23	28
431	Purple gallinule	<i>Porphyrio martinicus</i>	257	
432	Purple heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	1,112	1,150
433	Purple martin	<i>Progne subis</i>	54	
434	Purple sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>	68	85
435	Red avadavat	<i>Amandava amandava</i>	10	10
436	Red crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	41	48
437	Red knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	148	206
438	Red phalarope	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	62	
439	Red-bellied woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes carolinus</i>	73	
440	Red-breasted merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	1,135	1,317
441	Red-breasted nuthatch	<i>Sitta canadensis</i>	10	12
442	Red-breasted sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus ruber</i>	58	
443	Red-crested cardinal	<i>Paroaria coronata</i>	40	44

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Appendix C. Continued (page 13 of 16)

	Common name	Scientific name	Body mass (grams)	
			Mean	Max
444	Red-crowned amazon	Amazona viridigenalis	316	345
445	Reddish egret	Egretta rufescens	614	869
446	Red-eyed vireo	Vireo olivaceus	17	21
447	Red-footed booby	Sula sula	1,223	
448	Redhead	Aythya americana	1,118	1,320
449	Red-headed woodpecker	Melanerpes erythrocephalus	72	91
450	Red-legged kittiwake	Rissa brevirostris	377	489
451	Red-legged partridge	Alectoris rufa	540	547
452	Red-masked parakeet	Psittacara erythrogenys	151	
453	Red-naped sapsucker	Sphyrapicus nuchalis	45	55
454	Red-necked grebe	Podiceps grisegena	1,023	1,270
455	Red-necked phalarope	Phalaropus lobatus	39	
456	Red-necked stint	Calidris ruficollis	27	31
457	Red-shouldered hawk	Buteo lineatus	670	774
458	Red-tailed hawk	Buteo jamaicensis	1,224	
459	Red-tailed tropicbird	Phaethon rubricauda	659	
460	Red-throated loon	Gavia stellata	1,486	1,923
461	Red-vented bulbul	Pycnonotus cafer	46	59
462	Red-wattled lapwing	Vanellus indicus	181	230
463	Redwing	Turdus iliacus	61	80
464	Red-winged blackbird	Agelaius phoeniceus	65	72
465	Ring-billed gull	Larus delawarensis	566	650
466	Ring-necked duck	Aythya collaris	730	1,180
467	Ring-necked pheasant	Phasianus colchicus	1,317	1,861
468	Rock pigeon	Columba livia	369	
469	Rock ptarmigan	Lagopus muta	550	640
470	Rock sandpiper	Calidris pilocnemis	106	130
471	Rock wren	Salpinctes obsoletus	17	
472	Rook	Corvus frugilegus	489	560
473	Roseate spoonbill	Platalea ajaja	1,490	1,800
474	Roseate tern	Sterna dougallii	112	128
475	Rose-breasted grosbeak	Pheucticus ludovicianus	42	51
476	Rose-ringed parakeet	Psittacula krameri	119	134
477	Ross's goose	Anser rossii	1,640	2,040
478	Rough-legged hawk	Buteo lagopus	1,065	1,660
479	Royal tern	Thalasseus maximus	470	
480	Ruby-crowned kinglet	Corthylio calendula	7	7
481	Ruby-throated hummingbird	Archilochus colubris	3	4
482	Ruddy duck	Oxyura jamaicensis	629	
483	Ruddy ground dove	Columbina talpacoti	47	57
484	Ruddy turnstone	Arenaria interpres	138	
485	Ruffed grouse	Bonasa umbellus	566	
486	Rufous hummingbird	Selasphorus rufus	4	5
487	Rufous-tailed robin	Larvivora sibilans	17	20
488	Rusty blackbird	Euphagus carolinus	64	80
489	Saffron finch	Sicalis flaveola	20	23
490	Sage thrasher	Oreoscoptes montanus	44	50
491	Sagebrush sparrow	Artemisiospiza nevadensis	19	22
492	Sanderling	Calidris alba	51	

Appendix C. Continued (page 14 of 16)

	Common name	Scientific name	Body mass (grams)	
			Mean	Max
493	Sandhill crane	<i>Antigone canadensis</i>	4,800	
494	Sandwich tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	208	238
495	Savannah sparrow	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>	21	
496	Say's phoebe	<i>Sayornis saya</i>	21	24
497	Scaled quail	<i>Callipepla squamata</i>	191	234
498	Scaly-breasted munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	14	15
499	Scaly-naped pigeon	<i>Patagioenas squamosa</i>	312	388
500	Scarlet tanager	<i>Piranga olivacea</i>	28	34
501	Scissor-tailed flycatcher	<i>Tyrannus forficatus</i>	39	
502	Seaside sparrow	<i>Ammospiza maritima</i>	24	29
503	Sedge wren	<i>Cistothorus platensis</i>	8	9
504	Semipalmated plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	47	57
505	Semipalmated sandpiper	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>	28	
506	Sharp-shinned hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	174	208
507	Sharp-tailed grouse	<i>Tympanuchus phasianellus</i>	953	1,090
508	Short-billed dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>	116	154
509	Short-eared owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	378	475
510	Short-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo brachyurus</i>	480	710
511	Smith's longspur	<i>Calcarius pictus</i>	28	32
512	Snow bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	42	56
513	Snow goose	<i>Anser caerulescens</i>	2,744	
514	Snowy egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	371	
515	Snowy owl	<i>Bubo scandiacus</i>	2,279	2,951
516	Snowy plover	<i>Charadrius nivosus</i>	42	58
517	Solitary sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>	48	65
518	Song sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	21	23
519	Song thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	69	89
520	Sooty tern	<i>Onychoprion fuscatus</i>	175	224
521	Sora	<i>Porzana carolina</i>	75	126
522	South American snipe	<i>Gallinago paraguaiiae</i>	113	145
523	Southern lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>	327	426
524	Speckled pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>	352	371
525	Spotted dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	159	194
526	Spotted flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	16	21
527	Spotted sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>	40	60
528	Spotted thick-knee	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>		
529	Spotted towhee	<i>Pipilo maculatus</i>	39	46
530	Sprague's pipit	<i>Anthus spragueii</i>	26	30
531	Spruce grouse	<i>Falcipennis canadensis</i>	492	513
532	Spur-winged lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>	192	
533	Stilt sandpiper	<i>Calidris himantopus</i>	61	68
534	Sulphur-bellied flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes luteiventris</i>	47	57
535	Summer tanager	<i>Piranga rubra</i>	30	34
536	Sunda collared dove	<i>Streptopelia bitorquata</i>	153	174
537	Surf scoter	<i>Melanitta perspicillata</i>	1,148	
538	Surfbird	<i>Calidris virgata</i>	216	251
539	Swainson's hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	1,109	1,367
540	Swainson's thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>	30	36
541	Swainson's warbler	<i>Limnothlypis swainsonii</i>	19	20

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Appendix C. Continued (page 15 of 16)

	Common name	Scientific name	Body mass (grams)	
			Mean	Max
542	Swallow-tailed kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	442	510
543	Swamp sparrow	<i>Melospiza georgiana</i>	16	19
544	Tennessee warbler	<i>Leiothlypis peregrina</i>	9	14
545	Thick-billed kingbird	<i>Tyrannus crassirostris</i>	56	59
546	Thick-billed longspur	<i>Rhynchophanes mccownii</i>	27	
547	Townsend's solitaire	<i>Myadestes townsendi</i>	33	39
548	Townsend's warbler	<i>Setophaga townsendi</i>	9	11
549	Tree pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	25	29
550	Tree swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>	21	26
551	Tricolored blackbird	<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	68	79
552	Tricolored heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	415	
553	Tropical kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	37	43
554	Tropical mockingbird	<i>Mimus gilvus</i>	58	66
555	Trumpeter swan	<i>Cygnus buccinator</i>	11,900	14,500
556	Tufted titmouse	<i>Baeolophus bicolor</i>	22	26
557	Tundra swan	<i>Cygnus columbianus</i>	7,200	
558	Turkey vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	2,006	
559	Upland sandpiper	<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>	164	218
560	Varied thrush	<i>Ixoreus naevius</i>	80	100
561	Vaux's swift	<i>Chaetura vauxi</i>	17	21
562	Veery	<i>Catharus fuscescens</i>	32	37
563	Vega gull	<i>Larus vegae</i>	1,147	1,385
564	Vesper sparrow	<i>Poocetes gramineus</i>	27	
565	Violet-green swallow	<i>Tachycineta thalassina</i>	14	16
566	Virginia rail	<i>Rallus limicola</i>	84	124
567	Virginia's warbler	<i>Leiothlypis virginiae</i>	8	11
568	Warbling vireo	<i>Vireo gilvus</i>	14	18
569	Wedge-tailed eagle	<i>Aquila audax</i>	3,800	4,750
570	Wedge-tailed shearwater	<i>Ardenna pacifica</i>	388	510
571	Western bluebird	<i>Sialia mexicana</i>	27	32
572	Western grebe	<i>Aechmophorus occidentalis</i>	1,429	1,826
573	Western gull	<i>Larus occidentalis</i>	1,136	
574	Western kingbird	<i>Tyrannus verticalis</i>	40	44
575	Western marsh harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	814	1,030
576	Western meadowlark	<i>Sturnella neglecta</i>	112	
577	Western sandpiper	<i>Calidris mauri</i>	29	
578	Western screech-owl	<i>Megascops kennicottii</i>	236	305
579	Western tanager	<i>Piranga ludoviciana</i>	28	35
580	Western wood-pewee	<i>Contopus sordidulus</i>	13	15
581	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	404	459
582	White ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	1,036	1,261
583	White stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	3,571	4,400
584	White tern	<i>Gygis alba</i>	111	139
585	White-bellied sea-eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	3,300	3,900
586	White-breasted nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>	21	23
587	White-crested elaenia	<i>Elaenia albiceps</i>	15	18
588	White-crowned pigeon	<i>Patagioenas leucocephala</i>	253	
589	White-crowned sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>	29	39
590	White-eyed vireo	<i>Vireo griseus</i>	11	14

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Appendix C. Continued (page 16 of 16)

	Common name	Scientific name	Body mass (grams)	
			Mean	Max
591	White-faced ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>	697	807
592	White-rumped sandpiper	<i>Calidris fuscicollis</i>	49	
593	White-tailed hawk	<i>Geranoaetus albicaudatus</i>	928	
594	White-tailed kite	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	346	
595	White-tailed tropicbird	<i>Phaethon lepturus</i>	367	
596	White-throated munia	<i>Euodice malabarica</i>	12	14
597	White-throated sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>	24	30
598	White-throated swift	<i>Aeronautes saxatalis</i>	32	36
599	White-tufted grebe	<i>Rollandia rolland</i>	424	450
600	White-winged crossbill	<i>Loxia leucoptera</i>	26	
601	White-winged dove	<i>Zenaida asiatica</i>	153	187
602	White-winged scoter	<i>Melanitta deglandi</i>	1,917	2,128
603	White-winged tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>	54	66
604	Whooping crane	<i>Grus americana</i>	5,826	6,356
605	Wild turkey	<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>	7,800	10,400
606	Willet	<i>Tringa semipalmata</i>	283	327
607	Willow flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>	14	16
608	Willow ptarmigan	<i>Lagopus lagopus</i>	613	
609	Wilson's phalarope	<i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>	68	85
610	Wilson's plover	<i>Charadrius wilsonia</i>	55	80
611	Wilson's snipe	<i>Gallinago delicata</i>	128	156
612	Wilson's warbler	<i>Cardellina pusilla</i>	7	7
613	Winter wren	<i>Troglodytes hiemalis</i>	9	12
614	Wood duck	<i>Aix sponsa</i>	681	907
615	Wood sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	73	130
616	Wood stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	2,702	2,780
617	Wood thrush	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	53	76
618	Worm-eating warbler	<i>Helmitheros vermivorum</i>	15	17
619	Wrentit	<i>Chamaea fasciata</i>	15	18
620	Yellow bittern	<i>Ixobrychus sinensis</i>	94	120
621	Yellow rail	<i>Coturnicops noveboracensis</i>	61	70
622	Yellow warbler	<i>Setophaga petechia</i>	10	12
623	Yellow-bellied flycatcher	<i>Empidonax flaviventris</i>	12	16
624	Yellow-bellied sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>	50	62
625	Yellow-billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	64	85
626	Yellow-billed magpie	<i>Pica nuttalli</i>	174	189
627	Yellow-breasted chat	<i>Icteria virens</i>	25	28
628	Yellow-browed warbler	<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>	7	8
629	Yellow-chevroned parakeet	<i>Brotogeris chiriri</i>	62	68
630	Yellow-crowned night-heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	716	
631	Yellow-fronted canary	<i>Crithagra mozambica</i>	13	16
632	Yellow-headed blackbird	<i>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</i>	80	86
633	Yellow-headed caracara	<i>Milvago chimachima</i>	329	
634	Yellow-legged gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	1,275	1,500
635	Yellow-rumped warbler	<i>Setophaga coronata</i>	12	15
636	Yellow-throated vireo	<i>Vireo flavifrons</i>	18	21
637	Yellow-throated warbler	<i>Setophaga dominica</i>	10	11
638	Zebra dove	<i>Geopelia striata</i>	57	62
639	Zenaida dove	<i>Zenaida aurita</i>	156	205

¹ Body masses for birds from Dunning (2008). Body masses for mammals and reptiles from miscellaneous sources.