



USHST

United States Helicopter Safety Team



Monthly Safety Report

August 2024

The USHST is a regional partner to the Vertical Aviation Safety Team ([VAST](#)).

USHST GOAL: Reduce the US helicopter 5-year average fatal accident rate to **0.55** (per 100,000 flight hours) by 2025 (5 years)

USHST Vision: A civil US registered helicopter community with zero fatal accidents

Safety by the Numbers!

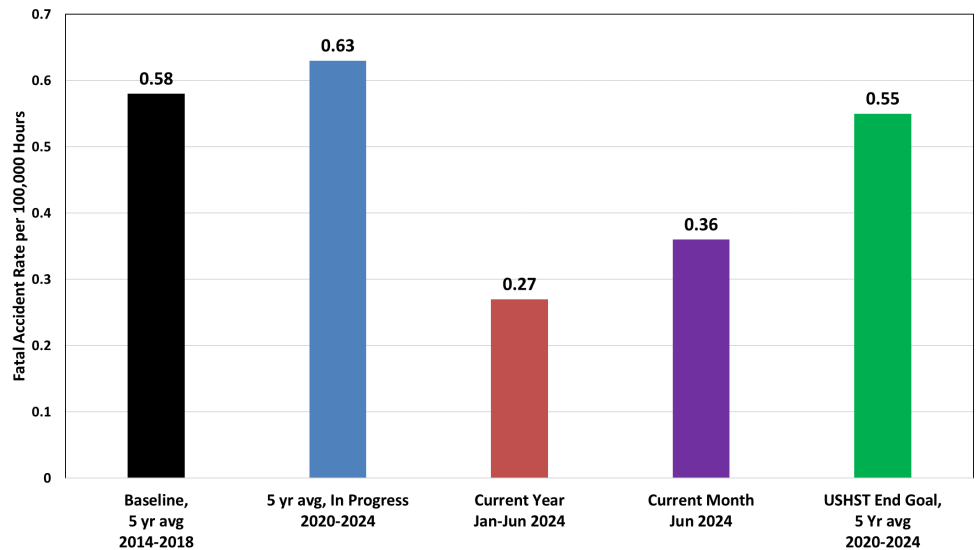
Metric	2020 - 2024	2019 - 2023
Avg Fatal Acc Rate	0.63	0.7
Avg Accident Rate	3.75	3.93
Year To Date	Current Year (CY24)	Previous Year (CY23)
Fatal Accidents	4	5
Accidents	37	37
Fatalities	12	9

Average number of days between fatal accidents:

- 2020: 18 days
- 2021: 17 days
- 2022: 21 days
- 2023: 19 days
- 2024: 43 days

Longest time between fatal accidents (past 5 yrs):

107 days (2020)



Fatal Accident Counter

5 : 19 : 16 : 56

Days : Hours : Mins : Secs

Each year the U.S. helicopter industry safely flies approx. 3 million flight hours and **every** second of **every** flight must be handled with professionalism.



Did "YOU" Know?

In the US there are **12,000 +** helicopters, **32,000 +** helicopter pilots and over **292,000** aircraft mechanics!

The USHST has identified the following industries for **OUTREACH**:

Personal/Private, Helicopter Air Ambulance (HAA), Commercial and Aerial Application

Your participation in joining our vision of fatal accidents is important to us. To determine how your interests best align with active USHST efforts, please click the link below to complete the form and submit.

[JOIN/FOLLOW USHST](#)



(3135 Members, 135 New)



Join the USHST - Scan the QR code to receive a free Hughes App subscription & USHST Membership Card



Helicopter Safety OUTREACH events:

- [USHST All Hands Webinar - Understanding the new ACS](#)
- [FAAST Blast - Week of July 22-28, 2024](#)
- [USHST Summer 2024 Newsletter](#)



Safety Enhancement Quick List



U.S. Helicopter Safety Team

Helicopter – Safety Enhancements
Our Vision: A civil helicopter community with zero fatal accidents

[Helicopter - Safety Enhancement \(H-SE\) Details](#)

[H-SE 2023-05, Training on effects of adverse wind situations.](#)

The goal of this H-SE is to better illustrate the hazards posed by adverse winds on rotorcraft performance, especially when operating at low airspeeds. As an example, similar, but unrelated efforts, have been undertaken in the fixedwing world around loss of control events and the use of Angle-of-Attack (AOA) indicators. Vertical flight operations at low airspeed are predictable when the air-circulation through the rotor system is able to maintain a steady-state. It can be visualized as a bubble of air circulating around the rotor system. If this bubble is disrupted, or "popped", a corresponding loss of lift can result. This creates a performance scenario that is not indicated by any instruments and is not able to be planned through a chart, but rather is managed by the pilot through a combination of forethought, experience, knowledge of wind directions and intensity around the aircraft, distance from obstacles and power reserves available. Given that it is not currently possible to provide rotorcraft pilots with an indicator that shows an impending loss of lift, this H-SE seeks to promote effective training solutions for pilot decision making and more effective risk assessment during operations.

USHST PRIORITY Safety Resources:

[Videos](#)

[USHST Safety App](#)

[Original H-SE Summation Report](#)

See you next year!
March 10–13, 2025
Exhibits Open March 11–13

VERT:CON
FORMERLY HAI HELI-EXPO
Dallas 2025 | POWERED BY VAI



NEXT WEBINAR Aug 8th:
Your SMS Mission Is Clear—Now
It's Time to Prepare for Takeoff



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