



**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

# **Rotorcraft Standards Branch**

## **AIR-680**

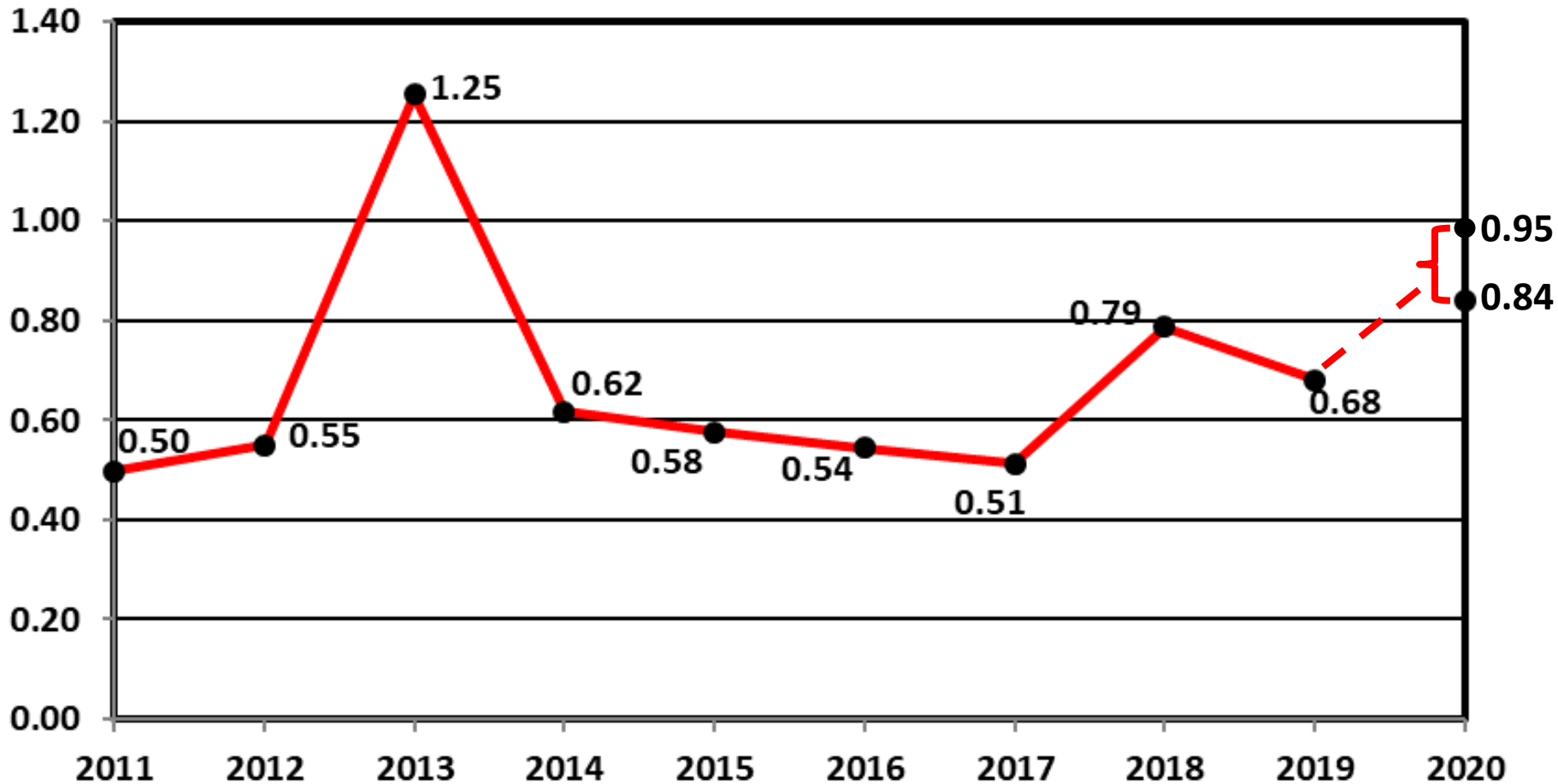
### **Monthly Accident Briefing**

**Jan 2020**

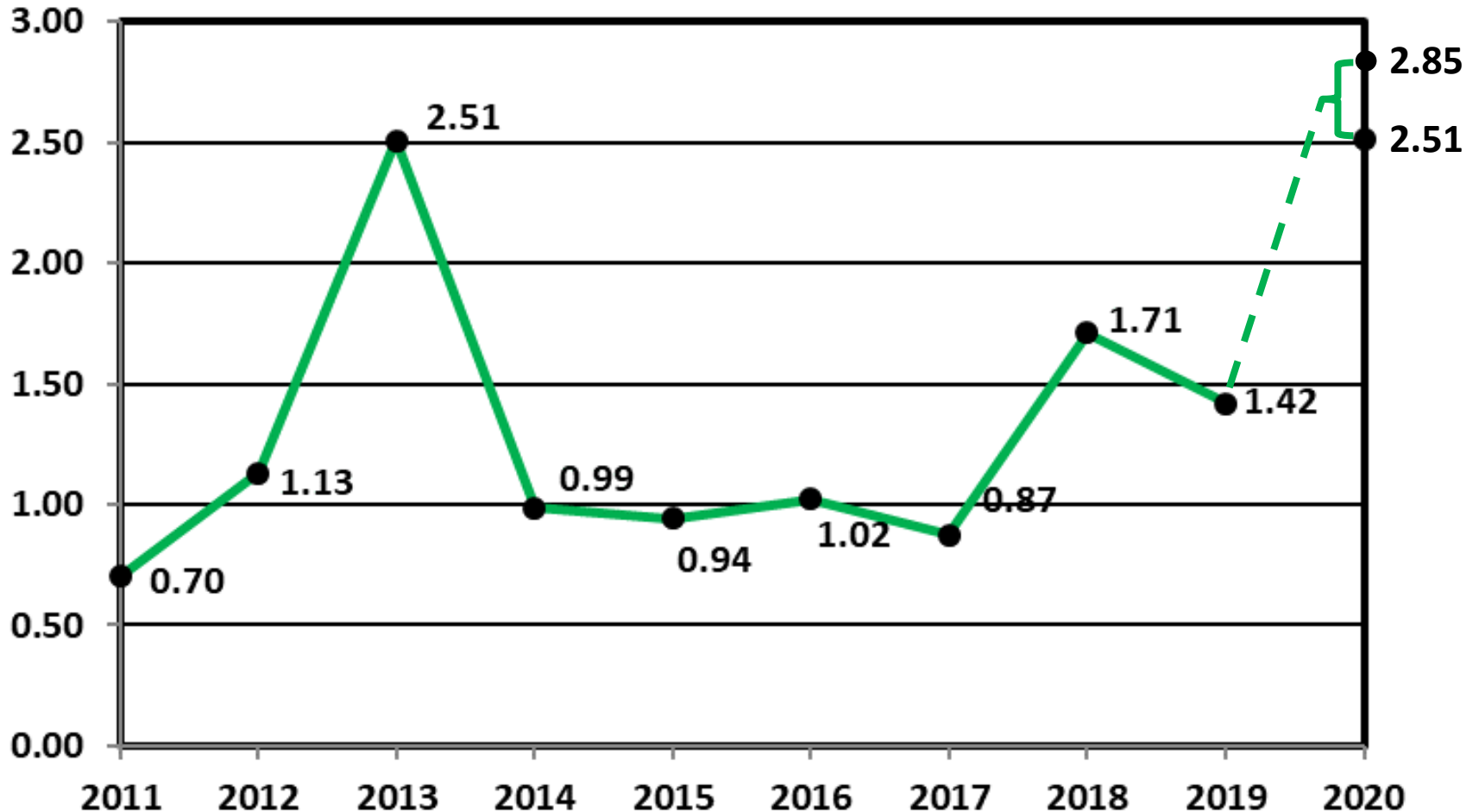
**By: AIR-682, Safety Management Section,  
Rotorcraft Standards Branch**



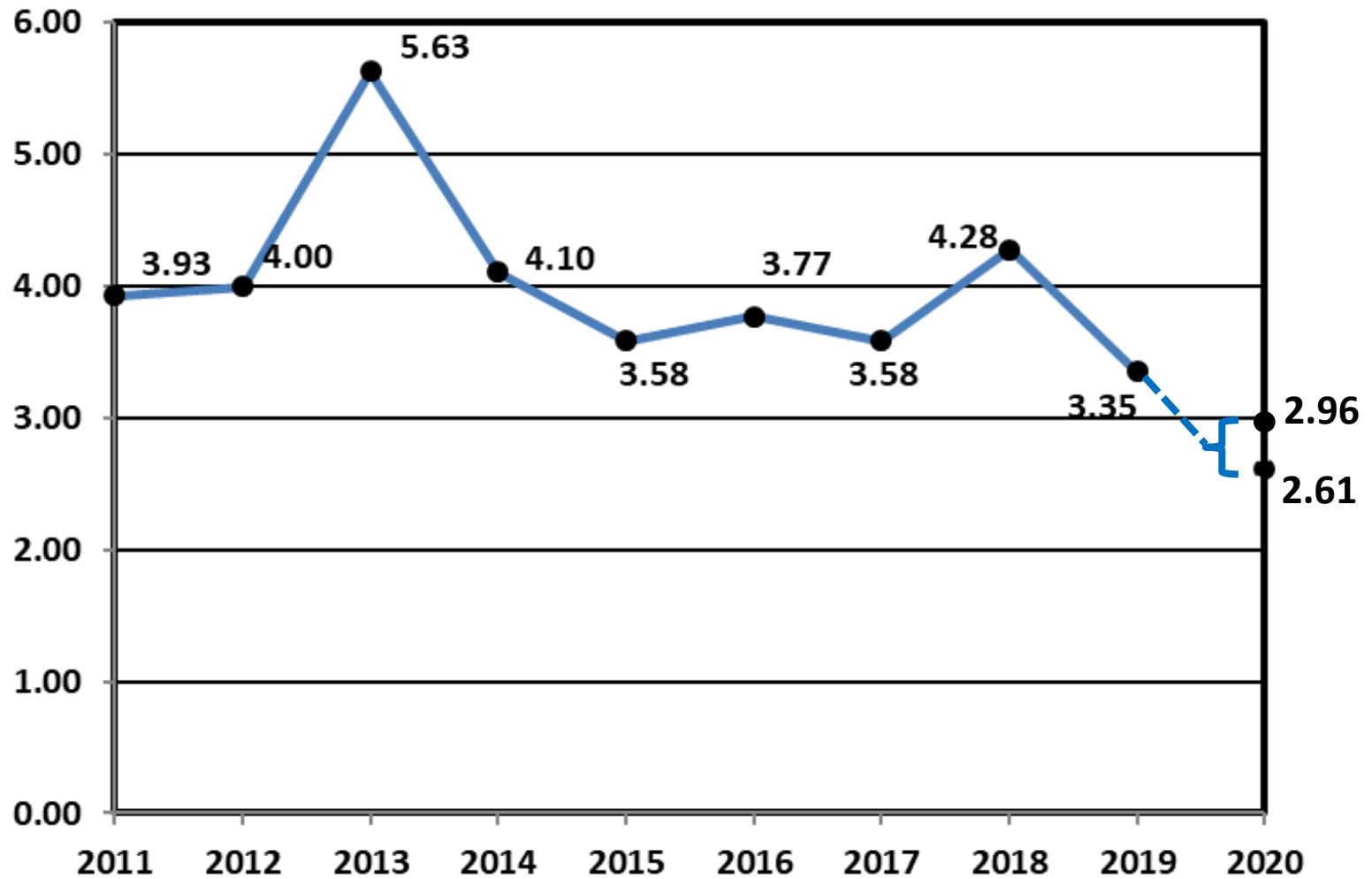
# Estimated U.S. Rotorcraft FATAL Accident Rate by FY 10 Year Lookback – Rates per 100,000 Hours



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



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



# FY 20 – U.S. Registered Rotorcraft Event Counts

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	YTD
<b>Accidents:</b>	12	4	7	5									28
<b>Fatal Acc:</b>	4	0	3	2									9
<b>Fatalities:</b>	6	0	10	11									27

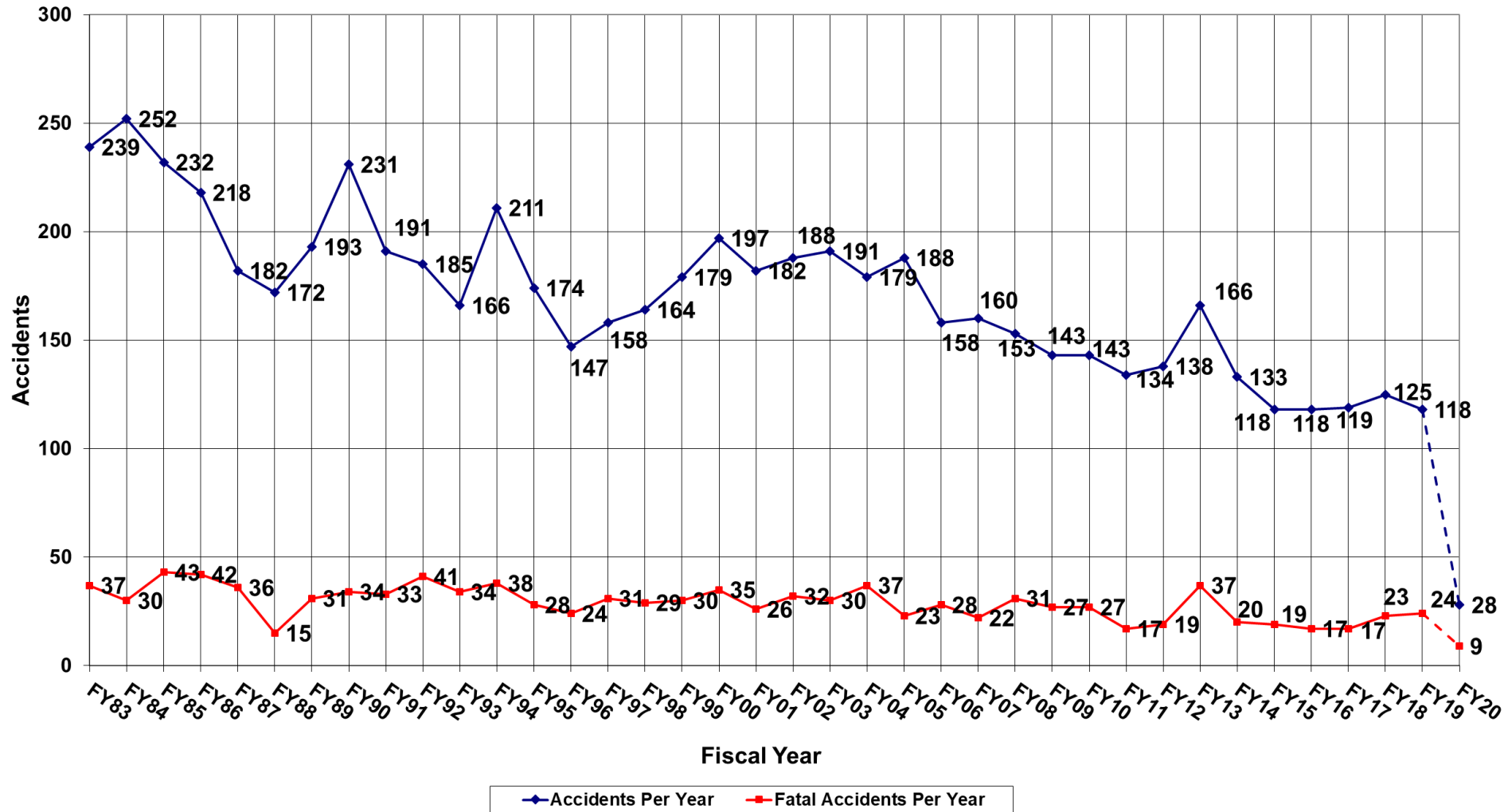
Same time period, previous FY: 29 Accidents, 9 Fatal Accidents, 19 Fatalities

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

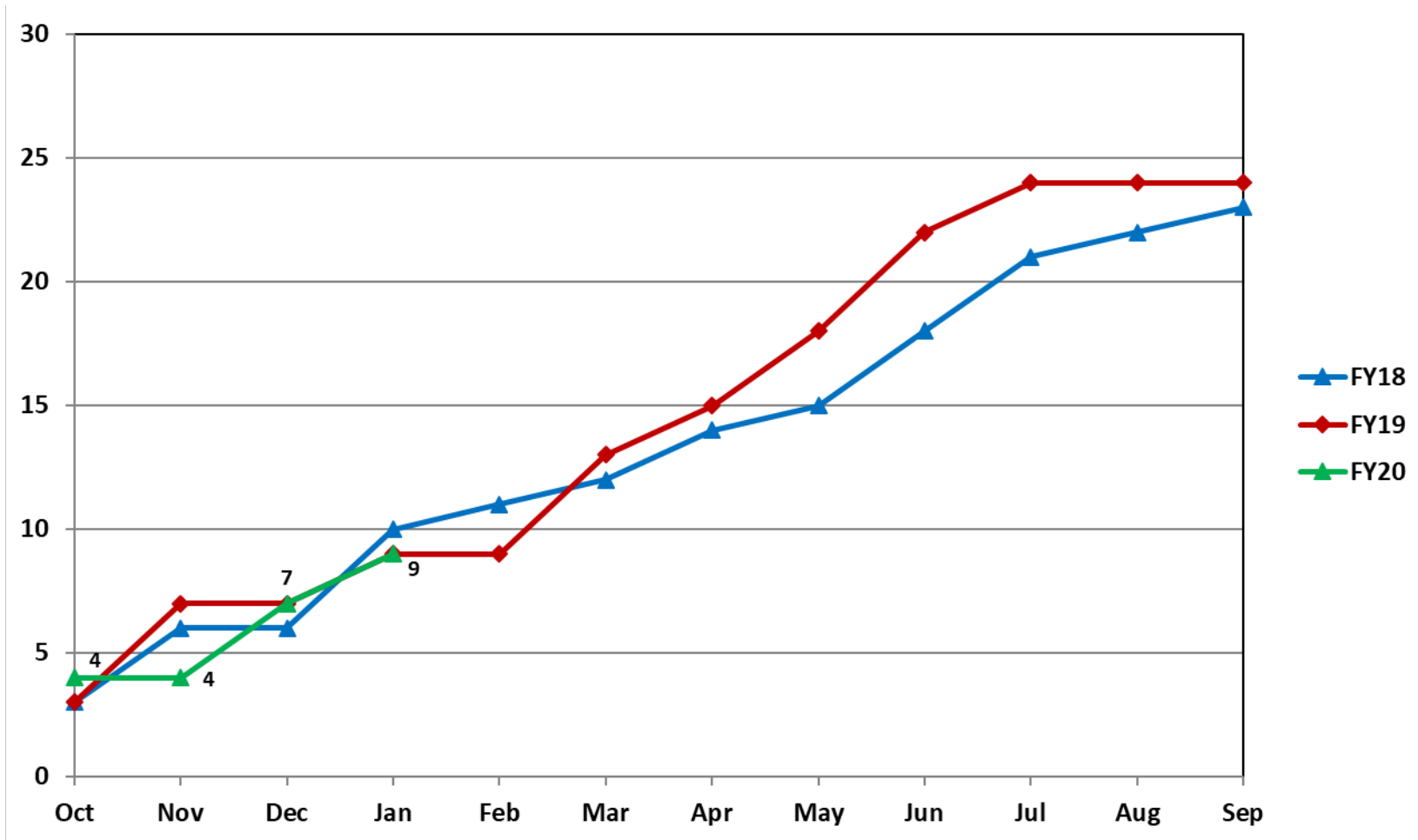
## Estimated Rates by Month (per 100,000 flight hours)

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	YTD
<b>Accidents:</b>	3.76 - 4.26	1.46 - 1.66	2.93 - 3.32	2.06 - 2.34									2.61 - 2.96
<b>Fatal Acc:</b>	1.25 - 1.42	0	1.26 - 1.42	0.82 - 0.93									0.84 - 0.95
<b>Fatalities:</b>	1.88 - 2.13	0	4.19 - 4.75	4.53 - 5.14									2.51 - 2.85

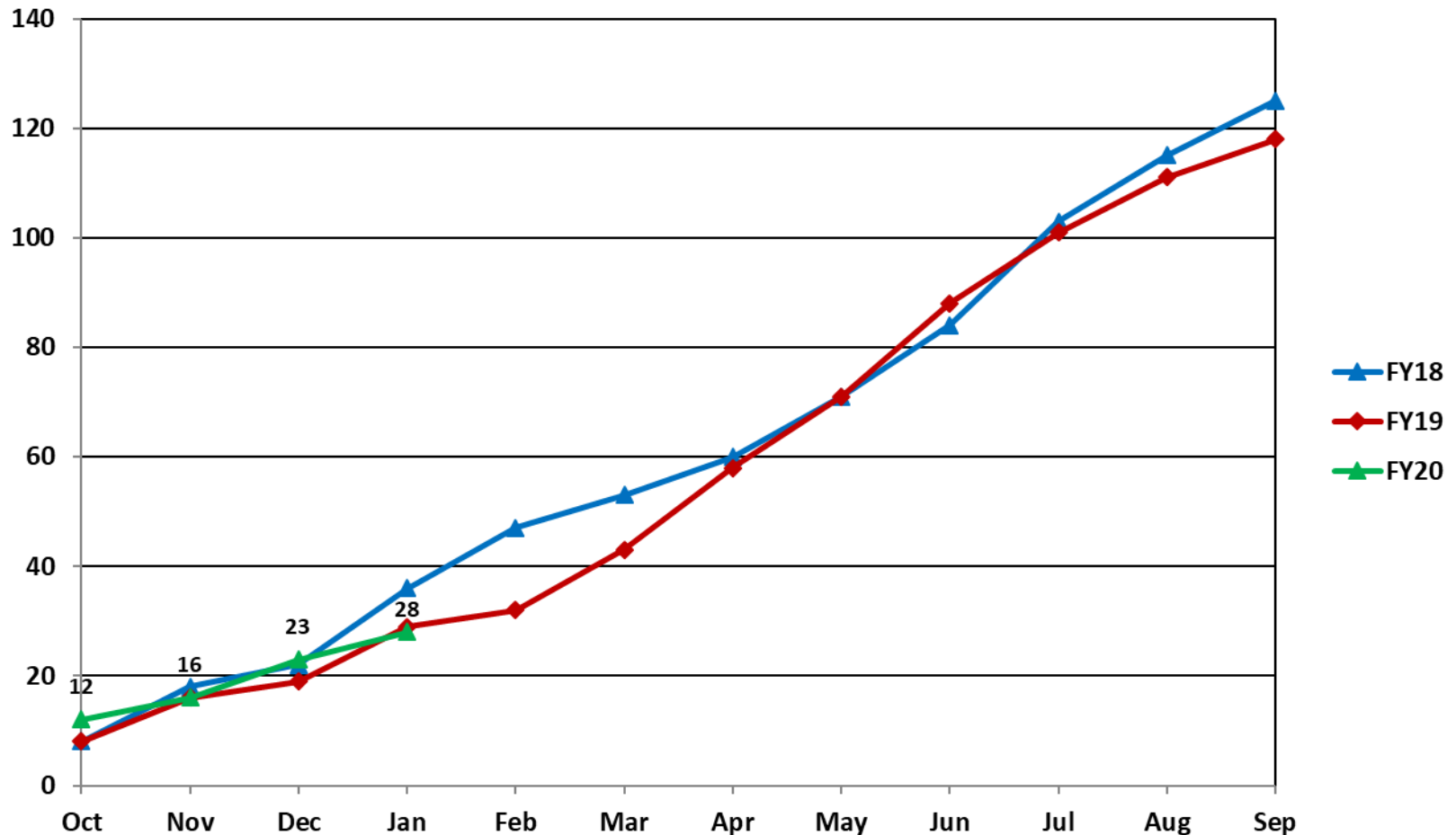
# U.S. Registered Rotorcraft Accidents FY83 - FY20



# U.S. Registered Rotorcraft Cumulative Fatal Accident Count: FY18 - 20

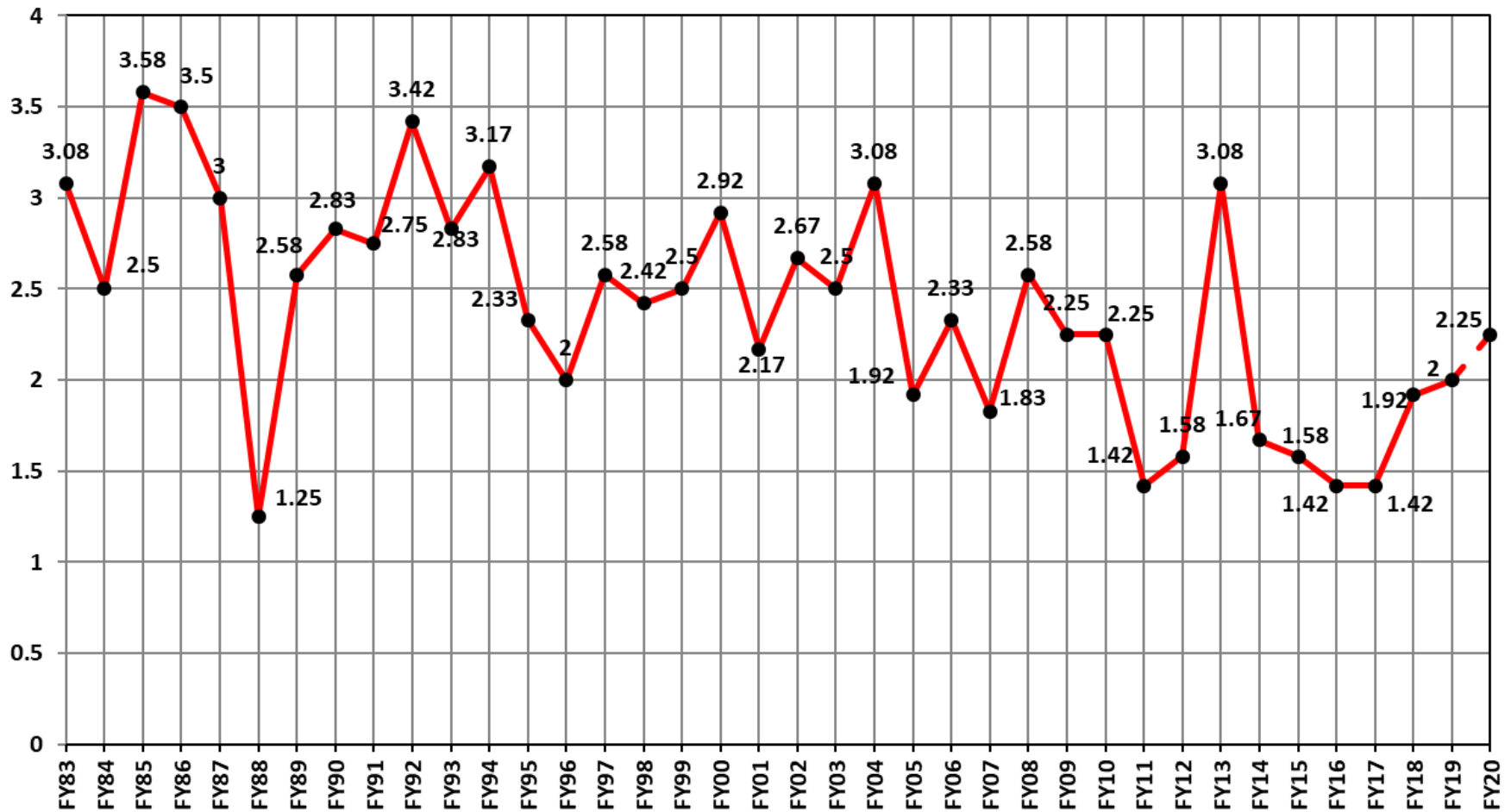


# U.S. Registered Rotorcraft Cumulative Accident Count: FY18 - 20

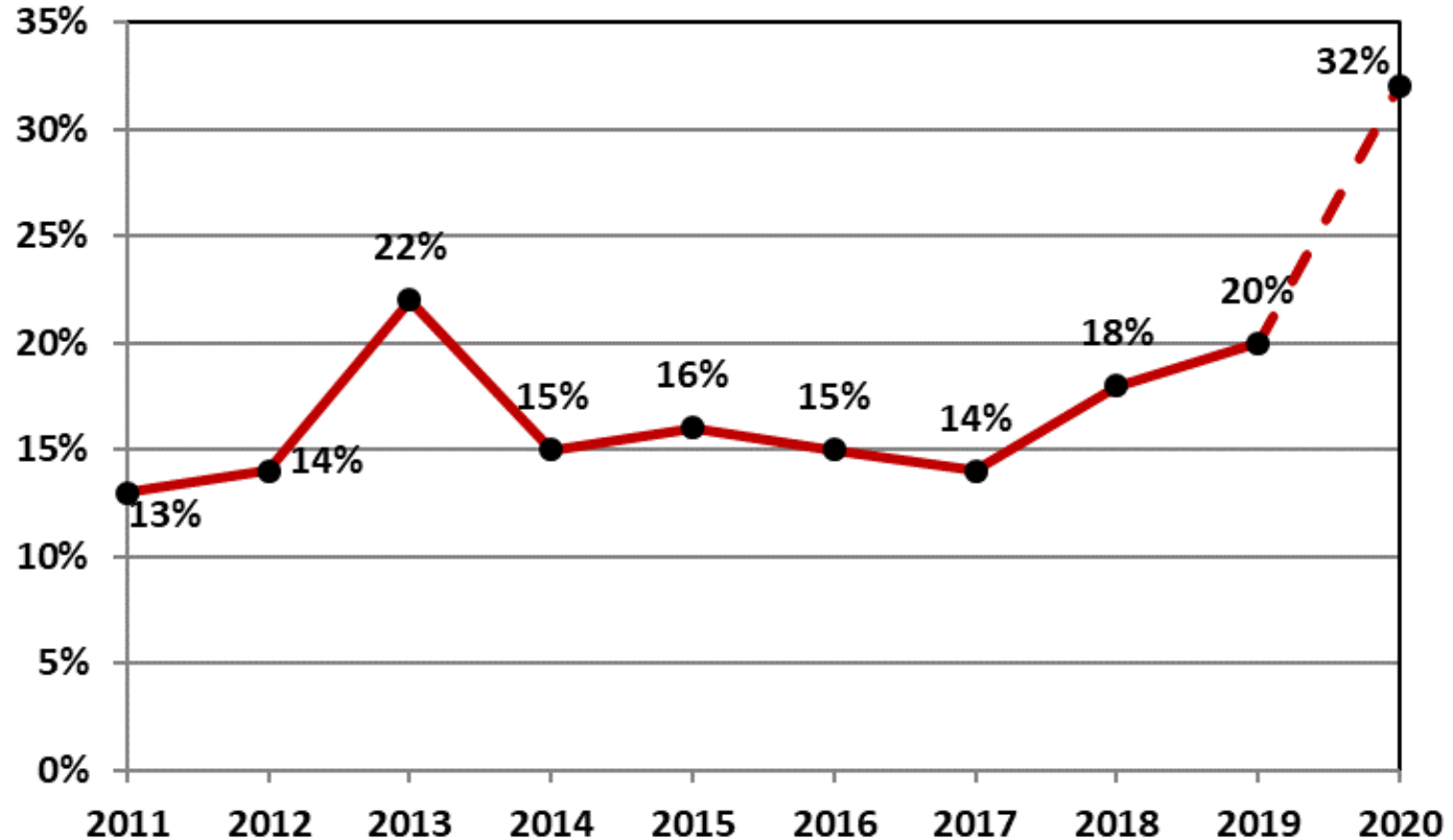




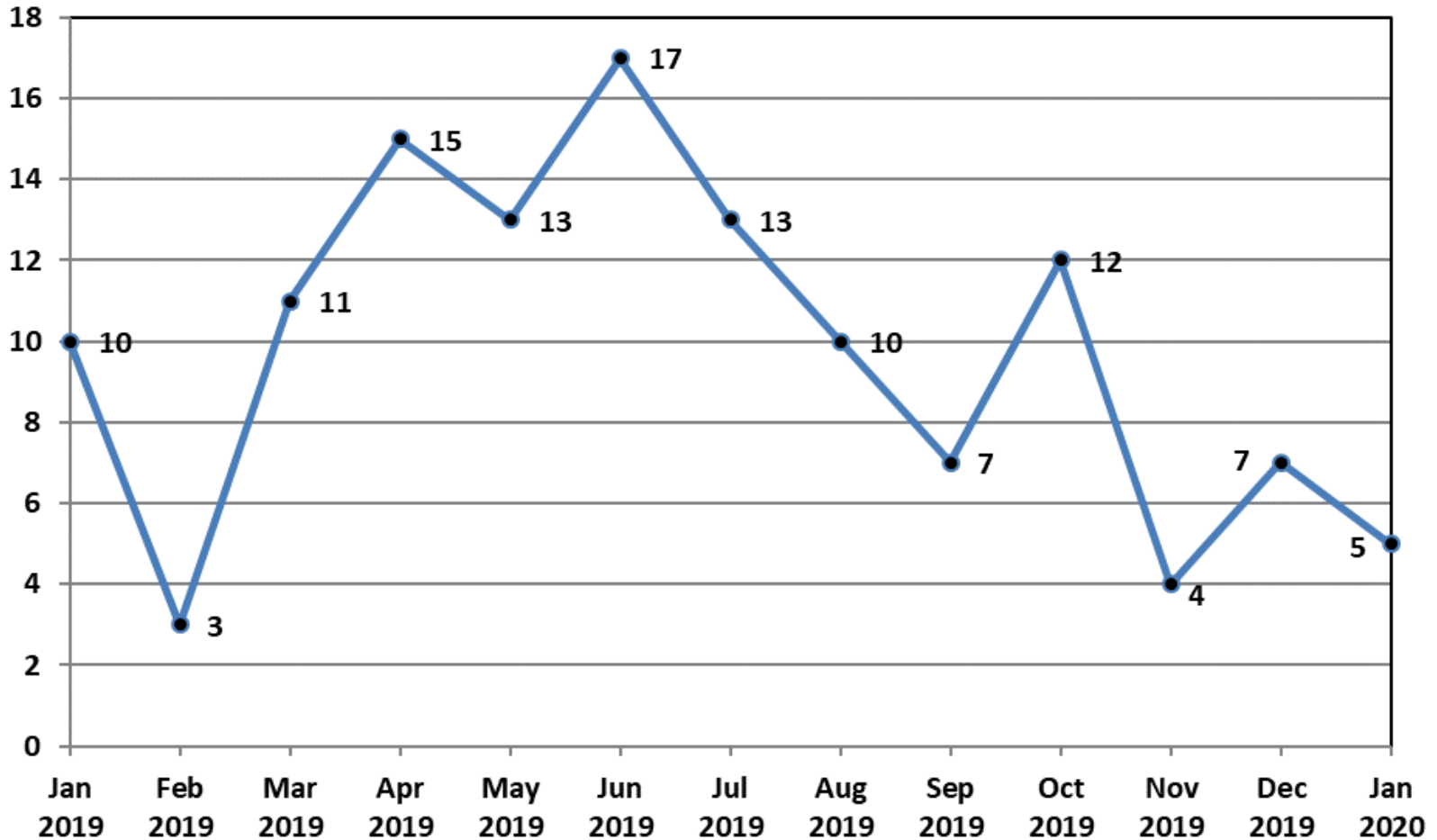
# U.S. Registered Rotorcraft Average Fatal Accidents Per Month, FY83-FY20



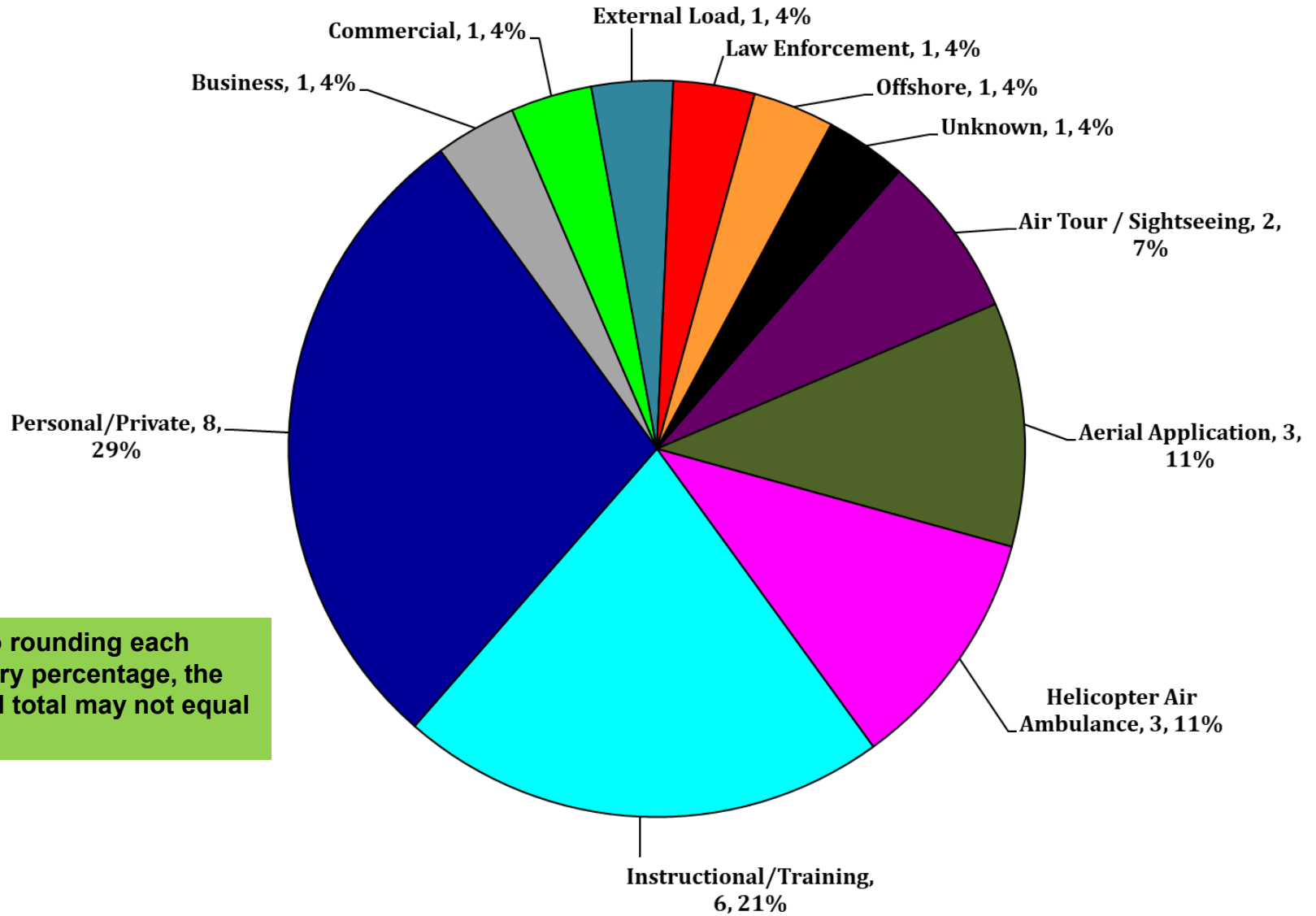
# % of U.S. Rotorcraft Accidents with a Fatality (FY20, Oct-Jan)



# U.S. Registered Rotorcraft 13 Month Rolling Accident Count



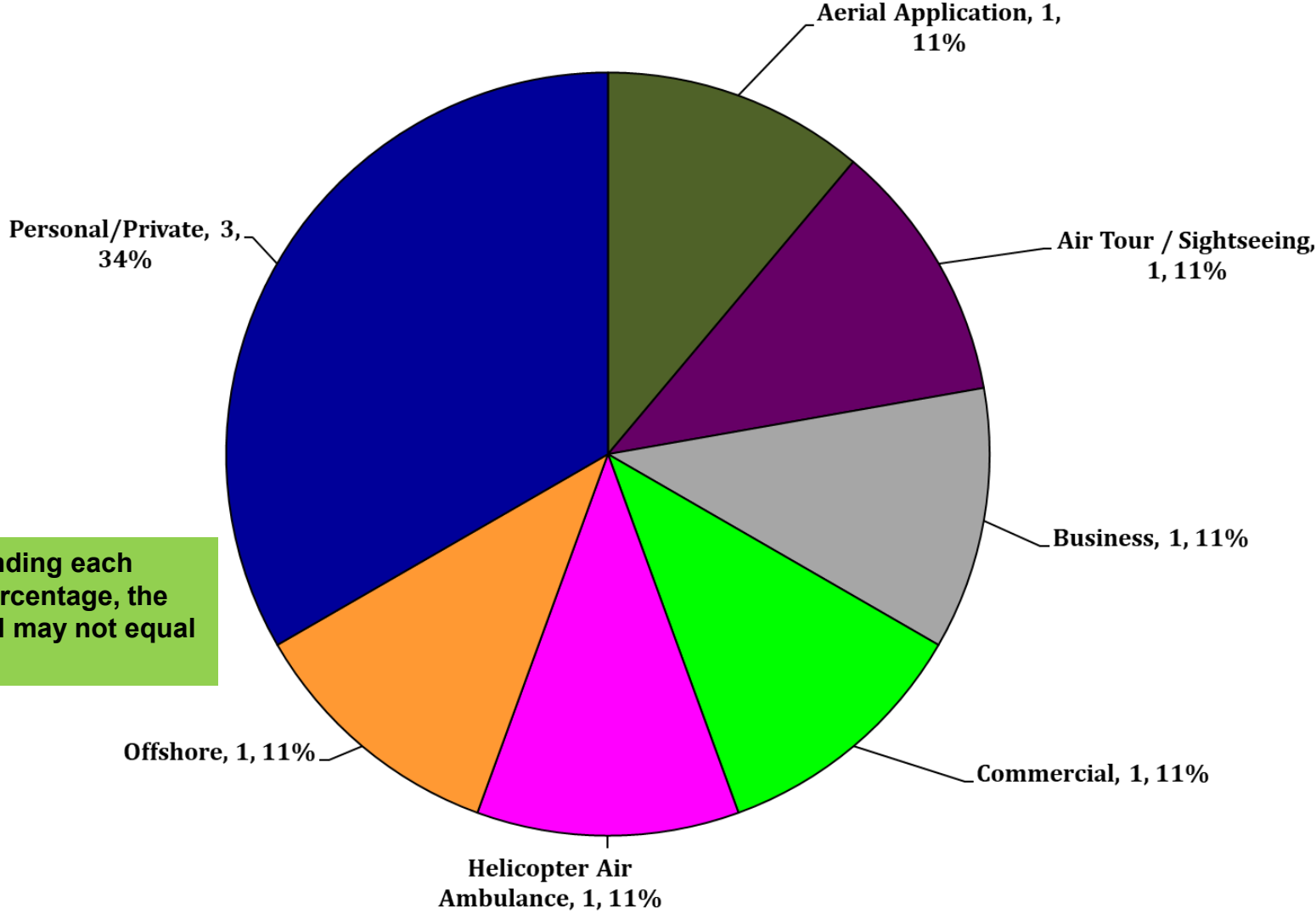
# FY 20 – Total Accidents by Industry (Oct-Jan)



Due to rounding each Industry percentage, the overall total may not equal 100%.



# FY 20 – Total FATAL Accidents by Industry (Oct-Jan)



Due to rounding each industry percentage, the overall total may not equal 100%.



# FY 20 – U.S. Registered Fatal Rotorcraft Accidents

- 1-26-20 – Sikorksy S-76B, N72EX, Calabasas, CA, Part 135, 9 fatal
  - Passenger transport from John Wayne Airport; Special VFR clearance
  - Crashed in Santa Monica mountains, post-crash fire NTSB: DCA20MA059



# FY 20 – U.S. Registered Fatal Rotorcraft Accidents

- 1-9-20 – Robinson R66, N450MC, Mechanicsburg, PA, Part 91, 2 fatal
  - Personal use flight, night VMC; in-flight break up [NTSB: ERA20FA074](#)
  
- 12-26-19 – Airbus Helicopters, N985SA, Lihue, HI, Part 135, 7 fatal
  - Air Tour on island of Kauai, crashed, post-crash fire [NTSB: ANC20MA010](#)
  
- 12-25-19 – Bell 407, N663SF, Headland, AL, Part 135, 1 fatal, 2 w/no injuries
  - HAA flight returning to base; a/c began abrupt roll while nearing helipad
  - A/c crashed onto its left side
  - Flight nurse and paramedic found pilot unresponsive [NTSB: ERA20FA056](#)
  
- 12-7-19 – Bell 407, N79LP, Gulf of Mexico, Part 135, 2 fatal
  - Offshore flight between oil platforms; reported 10 min out but never arrived
  - Main wreckage located at depth of 190 feet [NTSB: CEN20FA035](#)

# FY 20 – U.S. Registered Fatal Rotorcraft Accidents

- 10-25-19 – Enstrom 280F, N280F, Adrian, OR, Part 91, 1 fatal, 1 serious
  - Personal use flight; low rotor rpm, then rapid descent [NTSB: WPR20FA016](#)
- 10-23-19 – Robinson R44, N225JM, Las Vegas, NV, Part 91, 2 fatal
  - Personal use flight; impacted near Red Rock Recreation Visitor Center [NTSB: WPR20FA013](#)
- 10-23-19 – Robinson R22, N7189D, Hebronville, TX, Part 91, 2 fatal
  - Two R22s on business flight to spot and capture wildlife
  - Collided mid-air while operating 50-100' ft AGL [NTSB: CEN20FA012A](#)
- 10-17-19 – Bell 206B, N167AG, New Salem, NC, Part 137, 1 fatal
  - Aerial application flight; 22nd aerial application of the day
  - Struck power lines then impacted terrain [NTSB: ERA20FA012](#)



## FY 20 - US Rotorcraft Accidents By Model

MFR	Model	Registered U.S. Fleet Size	Percentage of Total U.S. Fleet	Number of FY20 U.S. Registered Accidents	Percentage of Total FY20 U.S. Registered Accidents
<b>Airbus Helicopters</b>	<b>AS350 (H125)</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4%</b>
	<b>AS355</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>&lt; 1%</b>		
	<b>BK117 (H145)</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>2%</b>		
	<b>EC120 (H120)</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>1%</b>		
	<b>EC130 (H130)</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>2%</b>		
	<b>EC135 (H135)</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>3%</b>		

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

\*Fleet size based on analysis of rotorcraft on FAA registry as of May 2019

## FY 20 - US Rotorcraft Accidents By Model

<b>MFR</b>	<b>Model</b>	<b>Registered U.S. Fleet Size</b>	<b>Percentage of Total U.S. Fleet</b>	<b>Number of FY20 U.S. Registered Accidents</b>	<b>Percentage of Total FY20 U.S. Registered Accidents</b>
<b>Bell</b>	<b>206Bs</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4%</b>
	<b>206Ls</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>5%</b>		
	<b>212</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>1%</b>		
	<b>222</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>&lt; 1%</b>		
	<b>407</b>	<b>754</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11%</b>
	<b>412</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>1%</b>		
	<b>429</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>1%</b>		
	<b>430</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>&lt; 1%</b>		

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<b>Robinson</b>	<b>R-22</b>	<b>869</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>21%</b>
	<b>R-44</b>	<b>1,634</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11%</b>
	<b>R-66</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7%</b>

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# FY 20 - US Rotorcraft Accidents By Model

MFR	Model	Registered U.S. Fleet Size	Percentage of Total U.S. Fleet	Number of FY20 U.S. Registered Accidents	Percentage of Total FY20 U.S. Registered Accidents
Sikorsky	S-76	233	2%	1	4%
	S-92	81	1%		

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# FY 20 - US Rotorcraft Accidents By Model

MFR	Model	Registered U.S. Fleet Size	Percentage of Total U.S. Fleet	Number of FY20 U.S. Registered Accidents	Percentage of Total FY20 U.S. Registered Accidents
Brantly	B-2	63	1%		
California Helicopter Airways	S-58JT	37	< 1%	1	4%
Enstrom	280	124	1%	1	4%
	480	63	1%		
	F28	159	1%	3	11%
Helicopteres Guimbal	Cabri G2	31	< 1%	1	4%
Hiller	UH-12/H-23	291	2%	1	4%
Leonardo (formerly Agusta Westland)	A109	167	1%	1	4%
	A119	93	1%		
	AW139	122	1%		
MDHI	369	726	6%		
Restricted Category (all TCs)	HH-1/TH-1/UH-1	546	4%		
	OH-58	414	3%	1	4%
Schweizer Rotorcraft Services Group	269/300/TH-55	419	3%		
Scott's Bell	47	597	5%	2	7%

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

