



HELICOPTER SAFETY NEWS

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U.S. Helicopter Accident Rate Cut in Half During Past 10 Years

WASHINGTON DC – After a 10-year cooperative effort by industry and government safety experts to reverse a negative trend and improve aviation safety, the U.S. civil helicopter accident rate has been slashed by more than 50 percent. In 2015, the accident rate per 100,000 helicopter flight hours was 3.67, a 54 percent decrease compared to the 7.97 accident rate from the 2001-05 baseline set by the United States Helicopter Safety Team (www.USHST.org).

The USHST is part of the International Helicopter Safety Team (www.IHST.org), an organization that was formed in 2005 to lead a government and industry effort to address a growing helicopter accident rate.

Total accidents and the accident rate have decreased for the second year in a row and the number of helicopter accidents has been cut by 33 percent compared to the 2001-05 baseline. In addition, fatal accidents are down 41 percent and the fatal accident rate is down 61 percent compared to a decade ago.

The list below offers further details:

Total U.S. Accidents

2001-05 Baseline:	184 accidents , 29 fatal accidents, 55 fatalities
2013:	146 accidents , 30 fatal accidents, 62 fatalities
2014:	138 accidents , 21 fatal accidents, 37 fatalities
2015:	123 accidents , 17 fatal accidents, 28 fatalities <i>(33% decrease in accidents)</i>

U.S. Accident Rate (per 100,000 flight hours)

2001-05 Baseline:	7.97 accident rate , 1.31 fatal accident rate, 2.45 fatality rate
2013:	4.95 accident rate , 1.02 fatal accident rate, 2.10 fatality rate
2014:	4.26 accident rate , 0.65 fatal accident rate, 1.14 fatality rate
2015:	3.67 accident rate , 0.51 fatal accident rate, 0.84 fatality rate <i>(54% decrease in accident rate)</i>

More information about the IHST, its reports, safety tools, and Reel Safety audio-visual presentations can be obtained at its web site at www.IHST.org and on the IHST Facebook page.