

IX. AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS

The data presented in this chapter were obtained from the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB).

The NTSB is an independent Federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the US and significant accidents in other modes of transportation and issuing safety recommendations aimed at preventing future accidents. The NTSB is responsible for maintaining the government's data base on civil aviation accidents.

More detailed accident data may be obtained from:

National Transportation Safety Board
490 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20594
202 382-6538

DEFINITIONS

Accident Groups

Large airlines (air carriers) in scheduled and non scheduled service operating aircraft with a seating capacity of more than 30 seats or a maximum payload capacity of more than 7,500 pounds carrying passengers or cargo for hire or compensation under 14 CFR 121.

Commuter carriers in scheduled service operating small aircraft (30 seats or less) carrying passengers for hire or compensation performing at least five scheduled round trips per week or carries cargo/mail. under 14 CFR 135.

"On-demand" air taxis in unscheduled service operating small aircraft (30 seats or less) carrying passengers or cargo for hire or compensation excluding commuter air carrier under 14 CFR 135.

General aviation-all other civil flying.

Aircraft Accident --an occurrence associated with the operation of an aircraft which takes place between the time any person boards the aircraft with the intention of flight until such time as all such persons have disembarked, and in which any person suffers a fatal injury or serious injury as a result of being in or upon the aircraft or by direct contact with the aircraft or anything attached to the aircraft, or in which the aircraft receives substantial damage.

Fatal Injury --any injury which results in death within 30 days of the accident.

Serious Injury -- any injury which (1) requires hospitalization for more than 48 hours, beginning within 7 days from the date when the injury was received; (2) results in a fracture of any bone; (3) involves lacerations which cause severe hemorrhages, nerve, muscle, or tendon damage; (4) involves injury to any internal organ; and, (5) involves second- or third- degree burns, or any burns affecting more than 5 percent of the body surface.

Substantial Damage -- damage or structural failure which adversely affects the structural strength, performance or flight characteristics of the aircraft and which would normally require major repair or replacement of the affected component.

These definitions only apply to this chapter.