



USHST

United States Helicopter Safety Team



Monthly Safety Report

January 2026

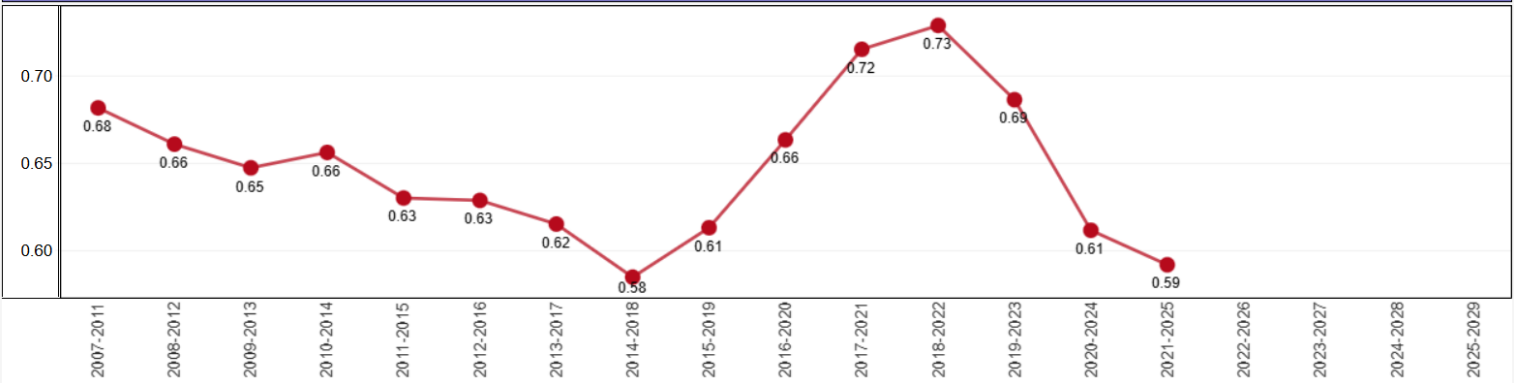
The USHST is a regional partner to the Vertical Aviation Safety Team ([VAST](#)).

USHST MISSION: To develop, deliver, and promote valuable safety resources focused on improving the US helicopter community's safety culture and performance.

USHST Vision: A civil registered helicopter community without fatal accidents

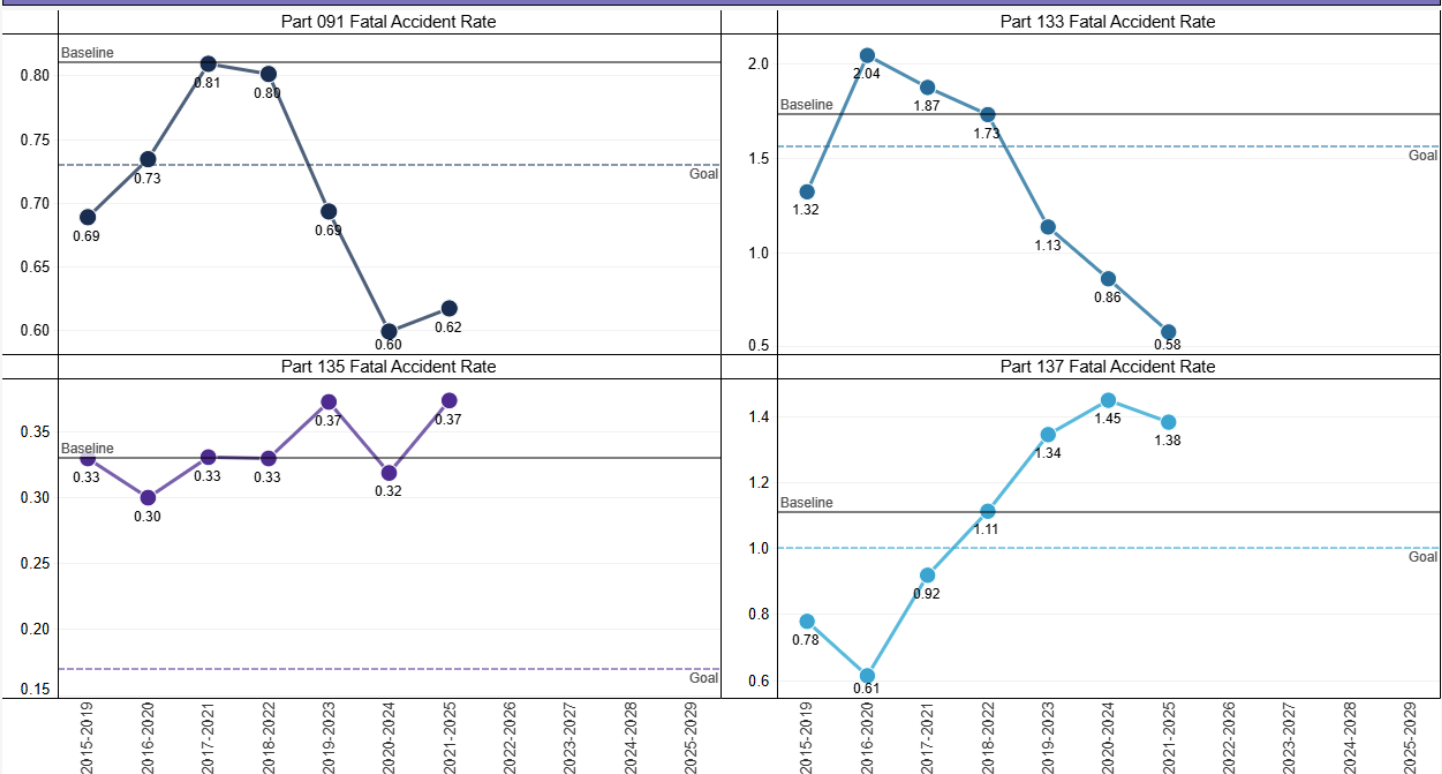
Fatal Rate: 5 Year Average

Rates are based off of Calendar Year and per 100,000 Flight Hours



Fatal Rate by Operational Part: 5 Year Average

Rates are based off of Calendar Year and per 100,000 Flight Hours





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](#)



(3874 Members, 85 New)



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



Helicopter Safety OUTREACH events:

- [Enroute Decision Point](#)
- [FAASTeam Notice January 12, 2026](#)
- [Practice Flying into IMC in a Sim \(The Rotorcraft Collective\)](#)
- [How This AW139 Crew Dealt With Complete Loss of Collective Control](#)



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

[H-SE 2023-04, Improve fatigue awareness and risk mitigation of scheduling factors leading to fatigue](#)

On April 26th, 2018, around 22:50 local time, a pilot and two emergency medical services crewmembers were fatally injured when their helicopter was destroyed upon terrain impact near Hazelhurst, WI. Prior to the accident, the pilot and crewmembers were discussing their desires to go to sleep, and yawning could be heard. One crewmember asked the pilot if he was alright, and the pilot responded, "Uhhh, think so. Good enough to get us home at least." The pilot could be seen stretching and was last heard speaking around 22:29. As the helicopter began to roll to the right, the crewmembers shouted the pilot's name and received no response from the pilot, who had slumped to the left. The helicopter became inverted before colliding with terrain. The evidence suggests that the pilot fell asleep at the controls.

USHST PRIORITY Safety Resources:

[Videos](#)

[USHST Safety App](#)

[Original H-SE Summation Report](#)

POWERED BY VAI

VERTICON

March 9-12, 2026 | Atlanta

Exhibits Open March 10-12

[FAA Weather Cameras](#)



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