

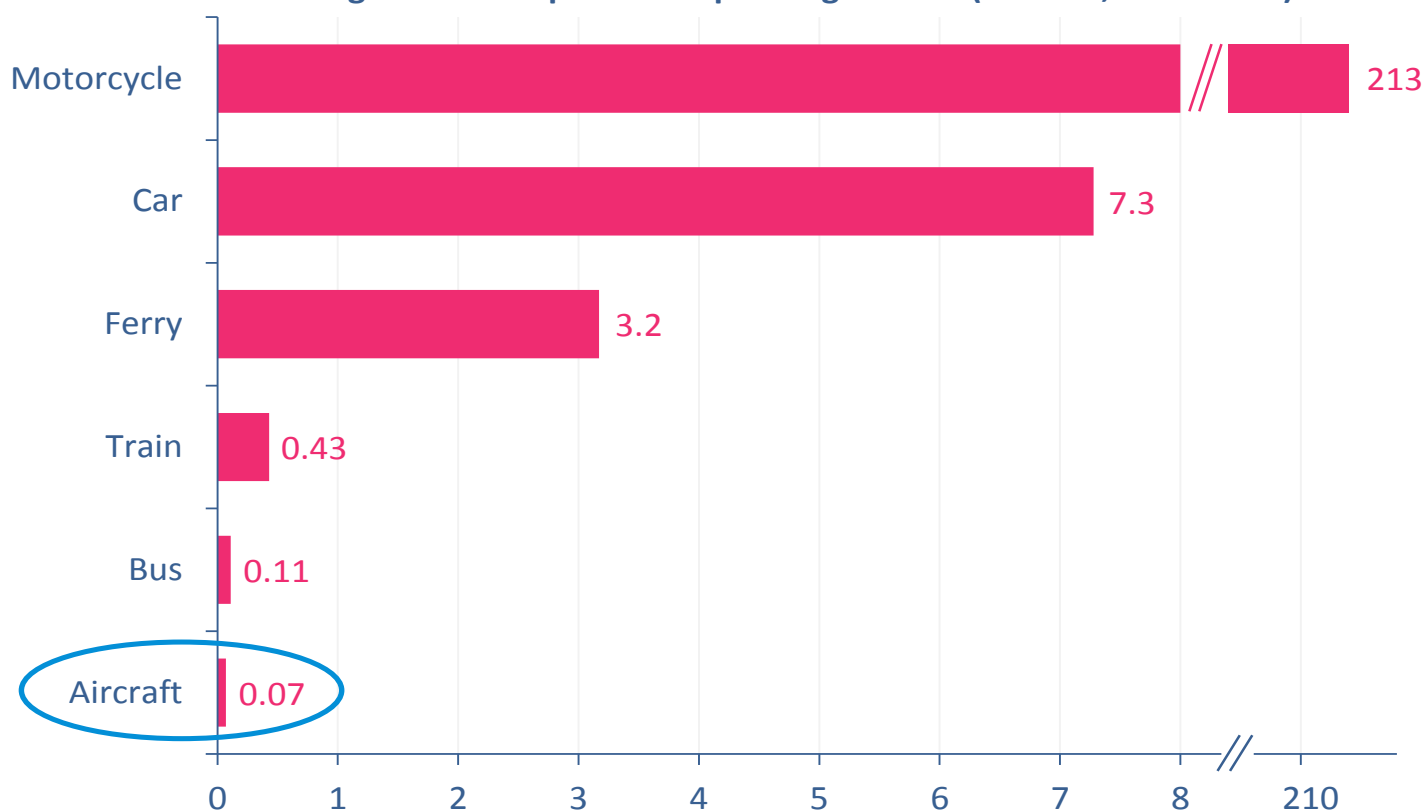


IATA ECONOMICS' CHART OF THE WEEK

23 FEBRUARY 2018

FLYING IS BY FAR THE SAFEST FORM OF TRANSPORT

Passenger fatalities per billion passenger miles (US data, 2000-2009)



Source: Savage 2013*

- In terms of passenger fatalities, 2017 was the safest year for aviation in more than a decade – since at least 2005. More broadly, 2017 saw improvements in nearly all of the key air transport safety metrics – both globally and in most regions. Overall, around 4.1 billion travelers flew on 41.8 million flights over the course of last year. Strikingly, there were no passenger fatalities on jet aircraft, and IATA member airlines experienced zero fatal accidents or hull losses on jet or turboprop aircraft in 2017. (For full details on airline safety performance in 2017, see [link](#).)
- This week's chart puts last year's strong performance into context and underlines commercial aviation's position as by far the safest mode of transport. (The chart shows detailed data from the US between 2000 and 2009, compiled by Ian Savage of Northwestern University*.) Indeed, over the period in the study, commercial aviation had a fatality rate of just 0.07 per billion passenger miles. By contrast, the corresponding rate for cars was 7.3 – around 100 times higher than commercial aviation – while the fatality rate for motorcycles was even higher still, more than 3,000 times that of aviation.
- With air passenger demand forecast to grow by a healthy 6.0% this year, and passenger volumes expected to double over the next twenty years, safety remains the industry's #1 priority; committed to making what is already the safest form of transport even safer.

*Savage, I., 'Comparing the fatality risks in United States transportation across modes and over time', Research in Transportation Economics, vol. 43, issue 1, 2013, p.9-22

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