



2020 HELICOPTER SAFETY ADVISORY CONFERENCE (HSAC) GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER OPERATIONS AND SAFETY REVIEW

March 1, 2021

HSAC Members:

Please find attached the Helicopter Safety Advisory Conference (HSAC) "2020 Gulf of Mexico (GoM) Offshore Helicopter Operations and Safety Review". The membership support and response from eight (8) helicopter operators for this review is not only appreciated, but vital in establishing a meaningful report. Thank you for your timely responses and continued support.

The level of annual flying activity for 2020 decreased sharply as compared to the slower decline over the past few years with the total number of flights going from 411,308 in 2019 to 275,579 in 2020. The overall numbers in all operational categories are down, some by a little and others by more. This was obviously a result of pandemic and the subsequent downturn in Oil and Gas. It will certainly be good to see increased activity as things recover.

On the bright side, the helicopter operators managed to achieve ZERO accidents in an extremely challenging year – CONGRATULATIONS for all of your efforts. This resulted in the 5 year average accident rate decreasing from 0.93 to 0.67 per 100,000 flight hours. There were also reductions in several of the other 5 year average categories due to not having any accidents or injuries. However, with the unforgiving nature of offshore helicopter operations it is always wise to take an opportunity to pause, reflect, assess, train, and continue the charge to improve our Gulf of Mexico operations.

The leading causes, not all inclusive, of the accidents since 1999 are listed below, and secondary causes of these events include 13 related to helideck size or design related issues.

- 21 engine related,
- 25 loss of control or improper procedures,
- 18 helideck obstacle strikes,
- 13 controlled flight into terrain, and
- 12 other technical failures

HSAC has published a number of Recommended Practices to address these issues and they can be reviewed at www.HSAC.org. We are optimistic that by widely and openly sharing this information with all operators and other oil industry groups that additional safety initiatives may be developed and implemented to further reduce accidents and incidents with an ultimate goal of zero events.

Lastly, I would like to say thank you to Pat Attaway for all of his many years of leadership and efforts in driving safety improvements in this industry. Also, welcome and congratulations to Jeff Goyer in his new role.

Respectfully,

Terry Duprie

HELICOPTER SAFETY ADVISORY CONFERENCE (HSAC) 2020 GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER OPERATIONS AND SAFETY REVIEW



GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER OPERATIONAL DATA SUMMARY

Year	Numbers by Type Helicopter					Passengers Carried	Hours Flown	Number of Flights
	Single Engine	Light Twin	Medium Twin	Heavy Twin	Total Fleet			
2016	188	39	69	48	344	1,498,418	196,484	526,981
2017	182	29	80	43	334	1,322,160	188,799	491,688
2018	176	25	97	38	336	1,234,195	182,338	435,528
2019	142	20	83	31	276	1,138,433	163,286	411,308
2020	120	18	67	29	234	788,242	119,195	275,579

GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER OPERATIONAL DATA DETAILS

Year	Hours by Type Helicopter					Operations (Takeoff/Landings) by Type Helicopter				
	Single Engine	Light Twin	Medium Twin	Heavy Twin	Total Fleet	Single Engine	Light Twin	Medium Twin	Heavy Twin	Total Fleet
2016	118,695	11,308	39,846	26,635	196,484	377,781	34,356	69,785	45,059	526,981
2017	116,408	10,880	38,027	23,484	188,799	373,773	22,474	57,410	38,031	491,697
2018	109,647	7,186	41,096	24,409	182,337	315,592	18,045	64,644	37,247	435,528
2019	92,093	5,852	42,441	22,900	163,286	297,387	13,255	66,697	33,969	411,308
2020	64,864	4,838	29,777	19,716	119,195	191,738	8,112	44,875	30,854	275,579

GULF OF MEXICO HELICOPTER FLEET OPERATIONAL DATA

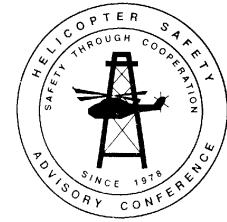
Averages Per Helicopter	2018	2019	2020
Passengers per Day per 5 Day Week	4,747	4,379	3,032
Flights Per Day	1,193	1,127	755
Average Flight Duration in Min.	25	24	26

Averages Per Helicopter	2018	2019	2020
Annual Hours Per Aircraft	543	592	509
Flights Per Aircraft	1,296	1,490	1,178
Passengers Flown Per Aircraft	3,673	4,125	3,369

As a service to the Helicopter Safety Advisory Conference (HSAC) membership, this Gulf of Mexico Offshore Helicopter Statistical Report is compiled annually from information submitted voluntarily by the membership and helicopter operators. The information is neither verified nor reviewed for accuracy and should be treated as unofficial. The data is believed to be representative; however, the HSAC assumes no liability for accuracy or completeness.

Dedicated to Safety Through Cooperation Since 1978

HSAC 2020 GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER OPERATIONS AND SAFETY REVIEW



GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER ACCIDENT DATA

Number of Accidents Aircraft Category				Injury Classification				Aircraft Damages Classification			Aviation Accident Rates			
Type Aircraft	# Accidents	# Fatal	# Eng. Related	Occupant Type		Severity		Minor	Substantial	Total Loss	# Acc 100k Hours	# Fatal Acc 100k Hours	# Fatal 1 M Occupants	# Acc 100k Flt Stages
Single Eng.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Light Twin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Med. Twin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heavy Twin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020 Totals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER ACCIDENT CAUSES/INFO

Type Aircraft	Technical		Pilot Procedure Related							Other				Misc	
	Power Loss, Multi-cause	Other	Tie-down Proc.	Loss Control or Improper Proced.	Loose Cargo	Flight Into Terrain, Water (CFITW)	Fuel Mgmt	Obstacle Strike		Fuel Qual	Weather Non-CFIT	UNK	Pax Control or HLO Proced.	Helideck Design or Size Issues	Fatalities Due to Engine Malf.
								Helideck	Other						
Single Eng.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Light Twin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Med. Twin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hvy Twin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1999-2020 Totals	21	13	4	25	6	13	6	17	1	4	3	7	4	11	6

FIVE YEAR GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER ACCIDENT DATA

Year	Number of Accidents Aircraft Category			Injury Classification				Aircraft Damages Classification			Aviation Accident Rates			
	# Accidents	# Fatal	# Eng Related	Pax	Crew	Injured	Fatal	Minor	Substantial	Total Loss	# Acc 100k Hrs	# Fatal Acc 100k Hrs	# Fatal 1 M Occupants	# Acc 100k Flt Stages
2016	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2017	3	2	0	7	3	2	2	1	0	2	1.59	1.06	1.05	0.61
2018	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.55	0.00	0.00	0.23
2019	2	2	0	2	2	0	4	0	0	2	1.22	1.22	2.42	0.49
2020	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5 Yr. Avg.	1.2	0.8	0	1.8	1.0	0.4	1.2	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.67	0.46	0.69	0.25