Aircraft Risk Analysis for Business Expansion

Introduction

We will analyse historical aviation accident data to identify aircraft models with the lowest risk profile. Using a dataset pulled from the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) covering aviation accidents from 1962 to 2022, we will assess key factors contributing to aircraft incidents and determine which aircraft types are safest for a new aviation division.

Approach

To achieve this, we will:

- Clean and preprocess the dataset, handling missing values and ensuring data integrity.
- Analyze risk factors such as accident frequency, severity, aircraft type, and operational conditions.
- Develop visual insights tto showcase insights and facilitate data-driven decisionmaking.

1. Data preprocessing

Importing the libraries and loading the files

```
In [1]: #Import Standard Libraries and Packages
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sns

In [2]: # Loading the csv file then printing the first 5 rows
# Read the CSV file into a DataFrame
AviationData= pd.read_csv('AviationData.csv', encoding='latin1') # add en

# Create a working copy of the DataFrame
aviation_df = AviationData.copy()

# Display the first few rows of the working copy
aviation_df.head()
```

/var/folders/xz/p8mfkld52573c5bbm0h9ssh00000gn/T/ipykernel_42953/265116943 4.py:3: DtypeWarning: Columns (6,7,28) have mixed types. Specify dtype opt ion on import or set low_memory=False.

AviationData= pd.read_csv('AviationData.csv', encoding='latin1') # add e ngine

Out[2]:		Event.ld	Investigation.Type	Accident.Number	Event.Date	Location
	0	20001218X45444	Accident	SEA87LA080	1948-10- 24	MOOSE CREEK, ID
	1	20001218X45447	Accident	LAX94LA336	1962-07- 19	BRIDGEPORT, CA
	2	20061025X01555	Accident	NYC07LA005	1974-08- 30	Saltville, VA
	3	20001218X45448	Accident	LAX96LA321	1977-06- 19	EUREKA, CA
	4	20041105X01764	Accident	CHI79FA064	1979-08- 02	Canton, OH

5 rows × 31 columns

Getting to know the data

```
In [3]: # looking at the number of rows and columns
         aviation df.shape
Out[3]: (88889, 31)
In [4]: # looking at column names
         aviation_df.columns
          Index(['Event.Id', 'Investigation.Type', 'Accident.Number', 'Event.Dat
Out[4]:
          e',
                   'Location', 'Country', 'Latitude', 'Longitude', 'Airport.Code', 'Airport.Name', 'Injury.Severity', 'Aircraft.damage',
                  'Aircraft.Category', 'Registration.Number', 'Make', 'Model', 'Amateur.Built', 'Number.of.Engines', 'Engine.Type', 'FAR.Descrip
          tion',
                  'Schedule', 'Purpose.of.flight', 'Air.carrier', 'Total.Fatal.Inju
          ries',
                  'Total.Serious.Injuries', 'Total.Minor.Injuries', 'Total.Uninjure
          d',
                   'Weather.Condition', 'Broad.phase.of.flight', 'Report.Status',
                   'Publication.Date'],
                 dtype='object')
In [5]: # looking at data types and rows with missing values
         aviation_df.info()
```

<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 88889 entries, 0 to 88888
Data columns (total 31 columns):

#	Column	Non-Nu	ull Count	Dtype
0	Event.Id	88889	non-null	object
1	Investigation.Type	88889	non-null	object
2	Accident.Number	88889	non-null	object
3	Event.Date	88889	non-null	object
4	Location	88837	non-null	object
5	Country	88663	non-null	object
6	Latitude	34382	non-null	object
7	Longitude	34373	non-null	object
8	Airport.Code	50132	non-null	object
9	Airport.Name	52704	non-null	object
10	Injury.Severity	87889	non-null	object
11	Aircraft.damage	85695	non-null	object
12	Aircraft.Category	32287	non-null	object
13	Registration.Number	87507	non-null	object
14	Make	88826	non-null	object
15	Model	88797	non-null	object
16	Amateur.Built	88787	non-null	object
17	Number.of.Engines		non-null	float64
18	Engine.Type		non-null	object
19	FAR.Description	32023		object
20	Schedule	12582		object
21	Purpose.of.flight	82697		object
22	Air.carrier	16648		object
23	Total.Fatal.Injuries	77488		float64
24	Total.Serious.Injuries	76379		float64
25	Total.Minor.Injuries	76956		float64
26	Total.Uninjured	82977		float64
27	Weather.Condition	84397	non-null	object
28	Broad.phase.of.flight	61724		object
29	Report.Status	82505		object
30	Publication.Date		non-null	object

dtypes: float64(5), object(26)

memory usage: 21.0+ MB

In [6]: # descriptive statistics summary aviation_df.describe()

Out [6]: Number.of.Engines Total.Fatal.Injuries Total.Serious.Injuries Total.Minor.Injuries count 82805.000000 77488.000000 76379.000000 76956.000 mean 1.146585 0.647855 0.279881 0.357

0.357	0.279881	0.647855	1.146585	mean
2.235	1.544084	5.485960	0.446510	std
0.000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	min
0.000	0.000000	0.000000	1.000000	25%
0.000	0.000000	0.000000	1.000000	50%
0.000	0.000000	0.000000	1.000000	75%
380.000	161.000000	349.000000	8.000000	max

In [7]: # displaying last 5 rows of the dataset
 aviation_df.tail()

Location	Event.Date	Accident.Number	Investigation.Type	Event.Id		Out[7]:
Annapol N	2022-12- 26	ERA23LA093	Accident	20221227106491	88884	
Hamptc N	2022-12- 26	ERA23LA095	Accident	20221227106494	88885	
Paysc /	2022-12- 26	WPR23LA075	Accident	20221227106497	88886	
Morga l	2022-12- 26	WPR23LA076	Accident	20221227106498	88887	
Ather (2022-12- 29	ERA23LA097	Accident	20221230106513	88888	

5 rows × 31 columns

2. Data Cleaning

We will:

- Identify missing values across all columns.
- Remove unnecessary rows or columns that are not relevant to our analysis.
- Impute missing data using appropriate techniques to maintain dataset integrity.

```
In [8]: # assessing the percentage of missing data
aviation_df.isna().mean()*100
```

```
Out[8]: Event.Id
                                      0.000000
          Investigation.Type
                                      0.000000
          Accident.Number
                                      0.000000
          Event.Date
                                      0.000000
          Location
                                      0.058500
          Country
                                      0.254250
          Latitude
                                     61.320298
          Longitude
                                     61.330423
          Airport.Code
                                     43.601570
          Airport.Name
                                     40.708074
          Injury.Severity
                                     1.124999
          Aircraft.damage
                                     3.593246
          Aircraft.Category
                                     63.677170
          Registration.Number
                                      1.554748
          Make
                                      0.070875
          Model
                                      0.103500
          Amateur.Built
                                      0.114750
          Number.of.Engines
                                      6.844491
          Engine.Type
                                      7.982990
          FAR.Description
                                     63.974170
          Schedule
                                     85.845268
          Purpose.of.flight
                                      6.965991
                                     81.271023
          Air.carrier
          Total.Fatal.Injuries
                                     12.826109
          Total.Serious.Injuries
                                     14.073732
          Total.Minor.Injuries
                                     13,424608
          Total.Uninjured
                                     6.650992
          Weather.Condition
                                     5.053494
          Broad.phase.of.flight
                                     30.560587
          Report.Status
                                      7.181991
          Publication.Date
                                     15.492356
          dtype: float64
 In [9]: # Dropping columns were more than 25% of the data is missing
         dropped_columns= ['Latitude', 'Longitude', 'Airport.Code', 'Airport.Name'
         aviation_df.drop(columns= dropped_columns, inplace= True)
In [10]: # confirming the change
         aviation_df.columns
Out[10]: Index(['Event.Id', 'Investigation.Type', 'Accident.Number', 'Event.Dat
          e',
                  'Location', 'Country', 'Injury.Severity', 'Aircraft.damage',
                  'Registration.Number', 'Make', 'Model', 'Amateur.Built', 'Number.of.Engines', 'Engine.Type', 'Purpose.of.flight',
                  'Total.Fatal.Injuries', 'Total.Serious.Injuries', 'Total.Minor.Injuries', 'Total.Uninjured', 'Weather.Condition',
                  'Report.Status', 'Publication.Date'],
                dtype='object')
In [11]: # dropping additional comments that will not be useful to my analysis
         dropped_columns2= ['Accident.Number', 'Registration.Number', 'Amateur.Bui
         aviation_df.drop(columns= dropped_columns2, inplace= True)
In [12]: # confirming the changes
         aviation_df.columns
```

```
Out[12]: Index(['Event.Id', 'Investigation.Type', 'Event.Date', 'Location', 'Coun
          try',
                  'Injury.Severity', 'Aircraft.damage', 'Make', 'Model',
                  'Number.of.Engines', 'Engine.Type', 'Purpose.of.flight',
                 'Total.Fatal.Injuries', 'Total.Serious.Injuries', 'Total.Minor.Injuries', 'Total.Uninjured', 'Weather.Condition'],
                dtype='object')
In [13]: #inspecting missing data of remaining columns
          aviation df.isna().mean()*100
Out[13]: Event.Id
                                      0.000000
          Investigation.Type
                                      0.000000
          Event.Date
                                      0.000000
          Location
                                      0.058500
          Country
                                      0.254250
          Injury.Severity
                                      1.124999
          Aircraft.damage
                                      3.593246
          Make
                                      0.070875
          Model
                                      0.103500
          Number.of.Engines
                                      6.844491
          Engine.Type
                                      7.982990
          Purpose.of.flight
                                      6.965991
          Total.Fatal.Injuries
                                     12.826109
          Total.Serious.Injuries
                                     14.073732
          Total.Minor.Injuries
                                     13.424608
          Total.Uniniured
                                     6.650992
          Weather.Condition
                                      5.053494
          dtvpe: float64
In [14]: #explicitly marking missing values
          aviation df.fillna({
              'Country': 'Unknown',
              'Location': 'Unknown',
              'Aircraft.damage': 'Unknown',
'Injury.Severity': 'Not Reported',
              'Make' : 'Unknown',
              'Model' : 'Unknown'
          }, inplace=True)
          # completing fatalities based on the correlation to aircraft damage
          aviation_df['Total.Fatal.Injuries'] = aviation_df.groupby('Aircraft.damag
          # completing columns with median values
          aviation_df.fillna({'Number.of.Engines': aviation_df['Number.of.Engines']
In [15]: # reassessing the dataset
          aviation_df.info()
```

> <class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'> RangeIndex: 88889 entries, 0 to 88888 Data columns (total 17 columns):

```
Non-Null Count Dtype
    Column
                           88889 non-null object
0
    Event.Id
1
    Investigation.Type
                           88889 non-null object
2
   Event.Date
                           88889 non-null object
3
   Location
                           88889 non-null object
4
    Country
                           88889 non-null object
5 Injury.Severity
                          88889 non-null object
6
   Aircraft.damage
                         88889 non-null object
7
    Make
                           88889 non-null object
                           88889 non-null object
    Model
9 Number.of.Engines
                         88889 non-null float64
10 Engine.Type
                           81793 non-null object
11 Purpose.of.flight
                           82697 non-null object
12 Total.Fatal.Injuries
                           88889 non-null float64
13 Total. Serious. Injuries 76379 non-null float64
                           76956 non-null float64
14 Total.Minor.Injuries
15 Total.Uninjured16 Weather.Condition
                           82977 non-null float64
                          84397 non-null object
dtypes: float64(5), object(12)
```

memory usage: 11.5+ MB

```
In [16]: # changing date type to the appropriate format
         aviation_df['Event.Date'] = pd.to_datetime(aviation_df['Event.Date'], for
         aviation_df['Event.Date']
```

```
Out[16]: 0
                  1948-10-24
          1
                  1962-07-19
          2
                  1974-08-30
          3
                  1977-06-19
                  1979-08-02
                     . . .
          88884
                  2022-12-26
          88885
                  2022-12-26
          88886
                  2022-12-26
          88887
                  2022-12-26
          88888
                  2022-12-29
          Name: Event.Date, Length: 88889, dtype: datetime64[ns]
```

```
In [17]: #reinspecting mising data in columns
         aviation_df.isna().mean()*100
```

```
Out[17]: Event.Id
                                     0.000000
         Investigation.Type
                                     0.000000
         Event.Date
                                     0.000000
         Location
                                     0.000000
         Country
                                    0.000000
         Injury.Severity
                                    0.000000
         Aircraft.damage
                                     0.000000
         Make
                                     0.000000
         Model
                                     0.000000
         Number.of.Engines
                                    0.000000
         Engine. Type
                                    7.982990
         Purpose.of.flight
                                    6.965991
         Total.Fatal.Injuries
                                    0.000000
         Total.Serious.Injuries
                                    14.073732
         Total.Minor.Injuries
                                   13,424608
         Total.Uniniured
                                    6.650992
         Weather.Condition
                                    5.053494
         dtype: float64
In [18]: #looking at the unique values in the Engine. Type column
         aviation_df['Engine.Type'].unique()
Out[18]: array(['Reciprocating', nan, 'Turbo Fan', 'Turbo Shaft', 'Unknown',
                 'Turbo Prop', 'Turbo Jet', 'Electric', 'Hybrid Rocket',
                 'Geared Turbofan', 'LR', 'NONE', 'UNK'], dtype=object)
In [19]: # Replace specific values in the 'Engine.Type' column with 'Unknown'
         # Fill any remaining missing (NaN) values in the 'Engine. Type' column wit
         aviation df['Engine.Type'] = aviation df['Engine.Type'].replace(
             {'None': 'Unknown', 'UNK': 'Unknown', 'NONE': 'Unknown'}
         ).fillna('Unknown')
```

For the weather conditions we have:

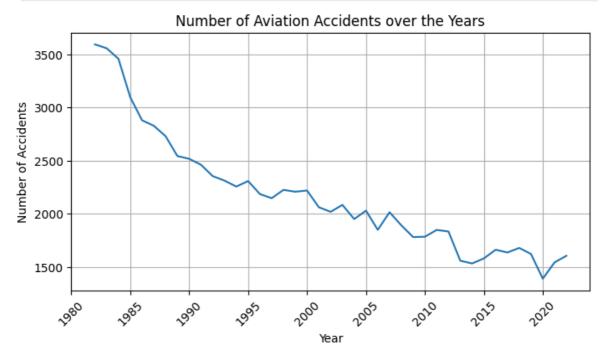
- VMC we will change this to indicate that this is good weather (clear skies, good visibility, and minimal cloud cover)
- IMC we will change this to indicate that this is bad weather (fog, heavy rain, snow, low clouds, or any conditions that reduce visibility below VMC limits)
- UNK weather conditions were unknown

```
Out[21]: array(['Unknown', 'IMC (BAD)', 'VMC (GOOD)'], dtype=object)
```

Although there are some columns of missing data, I do not see them being a hinderance to my data analysis

3. Data Analysis and Visualisation

For the number of accidents over the years, we will plot a line graph starting 1982 because the years before did not have significant data to analyse.

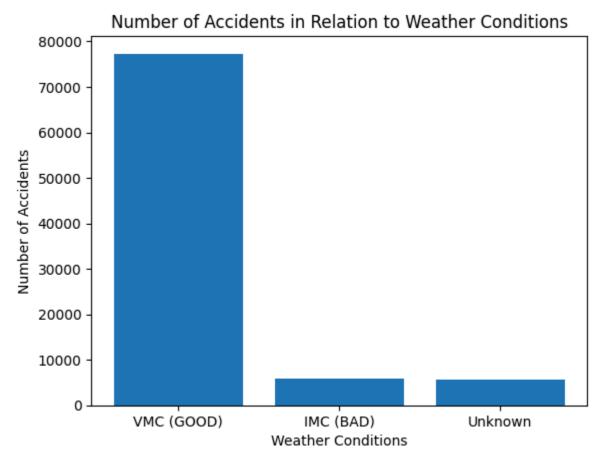


As per the finding the rate of accidents has reduced indicating better safety in aircrafts over the years.

```
In [23]: bar_chart_title = "Number of Accidents in Relation to Weather Conditions"
    fig, ax = plt.subplots()

x = aviation_df['Weather.Condition'].value_counts().index # Unique weath
y = aviation_df['Weather.Condition'].value_counts().values # Count of ea
```

```
ax.bar(x, y)
ax.set_ylabel('Number of Accidents')
ax.set_xlabel('Weather Conditions')
ax.set_title(bar_chart_title)
plt.show()
```

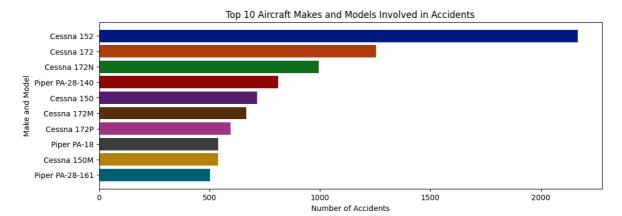


Bad weather conditions were not a major contributing factor to the number of accidents.

```
In [24]: fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(12, 4))

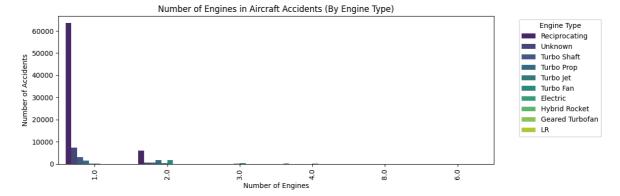
# looking at the relationship between Makes, Models and engine types with
make_model_accidents = aviation_df.groupby(['Make', 'Model']).size().rese
make_model_accidents = make_model_accidents.sort_values(by='AccidentCount

top_10_make_model = make_model_accidents.head(10)
colors = sns.color_palette("dark", len(top_10_make_model))
ax.barh(top_10_make_model['Make'] + ' ' + top_10_make_model['Model'], top
ax.set_xlabel('Number of Accidents')
ax.set_ylabel('Make and Model')
ax.set_title('Top 10 Aircraft Makes and Models Involved in Accidents')
ax.invert_yaxis()
```



Cessna152, Cessna172, Cessna172N invoved in more accidents. This might be due to the populariy and accessibility of these models but more investigation must be conducted.

```
In [25]:
        # Plotting a bar graph to determine the number and types of engines that
         aviation df['Number.of.Engines'] = aviation df['Number.of.Engines'].repla
         fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(12, 4))
         sns.countplot(data=aviation_df,
                       x='Number.of.Engines',
                       hue='Engine.Type', # Grouping by Engine Type
                       order=aviation_df['Number.of.Engines'].value_counts().index
                       palette='viridis',
                       ax=ax)
         ax.set_title('Number of Engines in Aircraft Accidents (By Engine Type)')
         ax.set ylabel('Number of Accidents')
         ax.set xlabel('Number of Engines')
         ax.tick_params(axis='x', rotation=90)
         ax.legend(title="Engine Type", bbox_to_anchor=(1.05, 1), loc='upper left'
         # Adjust layout and display
         plt.tight_layout()
         plt.show()
```

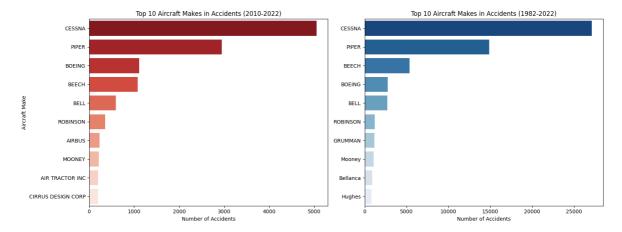


The fewer the engines the higher the number of accidents. This could possibly be due to the fact that they are more accessible for personal use or are more readily available but ould need to be explored farther.

```
In [26]: # Ensuring consistent capitalization
aviation_df['Make'] = aviation_df['Make'].replace({
```

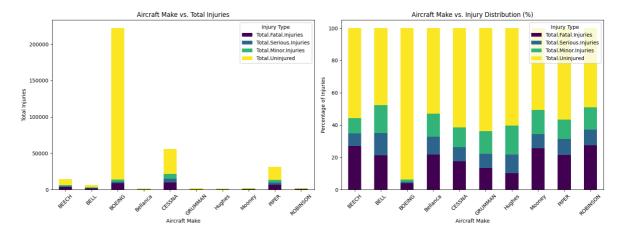
'Cessna': 'CESSNA',

```
'Piper': 'PIPER',
'Boeing': 'BOEING',
     'Beech': 'BEECH',
     'Grumman': 'GRUMMAN',
     'Robinson': 'ROBINSON'.
     'Bell': 'BELL'
 })
 # Filter dataset for both time periods
 aviation_recent = aviation_df[(aviation_df['Year'] >= 2010) & (aviation_d
 aviation historical = aviation df[(aviation df['Year'] >= 1982) & (aviati
 # Get the top 10 makes for both time periods
 top_10_recent = aviation_recent['Make'].value_counts().head(10).reset_ind
 top_10_recent.columns = ['Make', 'AccidentCount']
 top 10 historical = aviation historical['Make'].value counts().head(10).r
 top 10 historical.columns = ['Make', 'AccidentCount']
 # Set up side-by-side bar plots
 fig, axes = plt.subplots(1, 2, figsize=(16, 6))
 # Plot for 2010-2022
 sns.barplot(ax=axes[0], x=top_10_recent['AccidentCount'], y=top_10_recent
 axes[0].set title('Top 10 Aircraft Makes in Accidents (2010-2022)')
 axes[0].set xlabel('Number of Accidents')
 axes[0].set_ylabel('Aircraft Make')
 # Plot for 1982-2022
 sns.barplot(ax=axes[1], x=top_10_historical['AccidentCount'], y=top_10_hi
 axes[1].set_title('Top 10 Aircraft Makes in Accidents (1982-2022)')
 axes[1].set_xlabel('Number of Accidents')
 axes[1].set_ylabel('')
 # Adjust layout and show the plots
 plt.tight_layout()
 plt.show()
/var/folders/xz/p8mfkld52573c5bbm0h9ssh00000gn/T/ipykernel_42953/320504044
5.py:27: FutureWarning:
Passing `palette` without assigning `hue` is deprecated and will be remove
d in v0.14.0. Assign the `y` variable to `hue` and set `legend=False` for
the same effect.
 sns.barplot(ax=axes[0], x=top_10_recent['AccidentCount'], y=top_10_recen
t['Make'], palette='Reds_r')
/var/folders/xz/p8mfkld52573c5bbm0h9ssh00000gn/T/ipykernel_42953/320504044
5.py:33: FutureWarning:
Passing `palette` without assigning `hue` is deprecated and will be remove
d in v0.14.0. Assign the `y` variable to `hue` and set `legend=False` for
the same effect.
  sns.barplot(ax=axes[1], x=top_10_historical['AccidentCount'], y=top_10_h
istorical['Make'], palette='Blues_r')
```



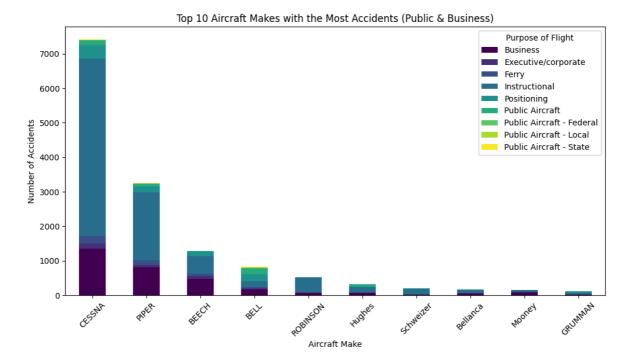
The top 5 aircrafts makes with the most accidents have remained the same since 1982-2022 and over the last 12 years. In the bottom 5 for recent times we see a change in the more frequesnt makes listed.

```
In [27]: # Get top 10 aircraft makes with most incidents
         top_10_makes = aviation_df['Make'].value_counts().head(10).index
         filtered_df = aviation_df[aviation_df['Make'].isin(top_10_makes)]
         # Define injury-related columns
         injury_cols = ['Total.Fatal.Injuries', 'Total.Serious.Injuries', 'Total.M
         injuries_by_make = filtered_df.groupby('Make')[injury_cols].sum()
         # Convert to percentages for a 100% stacked bar chart
         injuries_by_make_pct = injuries_by_make.div(injuries_by_make.sum(axis=1),
         # Set figure size
         fig, axes = plt.subplots(1, 2, figsize=(16, 6))
         # Absolute values plot
         injuries_by_make.plot(kind='bar', stacked=True, colormap='viridis', ax=ax
         axes[0].set_ylabel('Total Injuries')
         axes[0].set_xlabel('Aircraft Make')
         axes[0].set_title('Aircraft Make vs. Total Injuries')
         axes[0].legend(title='Injury Type')
         axes[0].tick_params(axis='x', rotation=45)
         # Percentage (100% stacked) plot
         injuries_by_make_pct.plot(kind='bar', stacked=True, colormap='viridis', a
         axes[1].set_ylabel('Percentage of Injuries')
         axes[1].set_xlabel('Aircraft Make')
         axes[1].set_title('Aircraft Make vs. Injury Distribution (%)')
         axes[1].legend(title='Injury Type')
         axes[1].tick_params(axis='x', rotation=45)
         plt.tight_layout()
         plt.show()
```



Looking at the top 10 makes Boeing stood out in regards to the number of uninjured passengers against the number of incidients implying more safety with this make.

```
In [28]:
         aviation_df['Purpose.of.flight'].unique()
Out[28]: array(['Personal', nan, 'Business', 'Instructional', 'Unknown', 'Ferry',
                 'Executive/corporate', 'Aerial Observation', 'Aerial Applicatio
          n',
                 'Public Aircraft', 'Skydiving', 'Other Work Use', 'Positioning',
                 'Flight Test', 'Air Race/show', 'Air Drop',
                 'Public Aircraft - Federal', 'Glider Tow',
                 'Public Aircraft - Local', 'External Load',
'Public Aircraft - State', 'Banner Tow', 'Firefighting',
                 'Air Race show', 'PUBS', 'ASHO', 'PUBL'], dtype=object)
In [29]: # Define categories related to public and business flight purposes
         public_purposes = ['Public Aircraft', 'Public Aircraft - Federal', 'Publi
         business_purposes = ['Business', 'Executive/corporate', 'Instructional',
         # Filter the dataset to include only relevant flight purposes
         filtered_df = aviation_df[aviation_df['Purpose.of.flight'].isin(public_pu
         # Count the number of accidents per aircraft make for these categories
         accidents_by_make = filtered_df.groupby(['Make', 'Purpose.of.flight']).si
         # Select the top 10 aircraft makes with the most accidents
         top_10_makes = accidents_by_make.sum(axis=1).nlargest(10).index
         top_10_accidents = accidents_by_make.loc[top_10_makes]
         # Plot the results
         fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(12, 6))
         top_10_accidents.plot(kind='bar', stacked=True, colormap='viridis', ax=ax
         # Formatting
         ax.set_ylabel('Number of Accidents')
         ax.set_xlabel('Aircraft Make')
         ax.set_title('Top 10 Aircraft Makes with the Most Accidents (Public & Bus
         ax.legend(title='Purpose of Flight')
         plt.xticks(rotation=45)
         plt.show()
```



In [31]: # creating a cleaned version of the dataset
aviation_df.to_csv('AviationData_cleaned.csv', index=False)

Conclusion

Analysis of the dataset reveals a steady decline in aviation accidents over the years, likely indicating improvements in safety measures across the industry.

Key insights include:

- Weather Conditions: Bad weather contributed to less than 10% of recorded accidents, suggesting that most incidents were due to other factors.
- Flight Purpose: Among different flight purposes, instructional flights posed the highest risk, while executive/corporate flights had significantly lower accident rates.
- Engine Type & Risk: Aircraft with reciprocating engines recorded the highest number of accidents Additionally, planes with fewer engines (especially between one and two) had a higher accident rate.
- Aircraft Manufacturers: While Boeing appeared in the top 10 for most accidents, it outperformed other manufacturers in terms of passenger survival rates.
 Conversely, Cessna emerged as the riskiest aircraft make, recording the highest number of accidents.

We would need to look at the total flights done by the brands that stand out to get more of a comparative analysis of successful flights and those with accidents to get a better understanding of the proportion and probaility and expand the geographical focus.