You Decide if Air Travel is Safe for You

Posted by Mary Donovan Martello | February 8, 2021 |

Let us help you decide if air travel is safe for you

Are you worried about the safety of US domestic airline travel following recent media reports that air travel is unsafe? Let us help you decide if you should forgo the awesome benefits of air travel for possible safety concerns. Air travel can get you to see family and friends in faraway destinations. Air travel can improve your customer relations by getting you to meet customers face-to-face. Air travel allows you to get to vacation destinations inaccessible by car or train. Air travel gives you the time to reach those family, friends, customers and vacation spots that would take too much time to reach by any other means.

It would be a shame if you gave up such great benefits of air travel if those media reports of unsafe air travel are inaccurate. We have reviewed the media reports and researched the statistics. Let us help you decide if U.S. domestic airline travel is safe for you to access the extraordinary benefits of air travel!

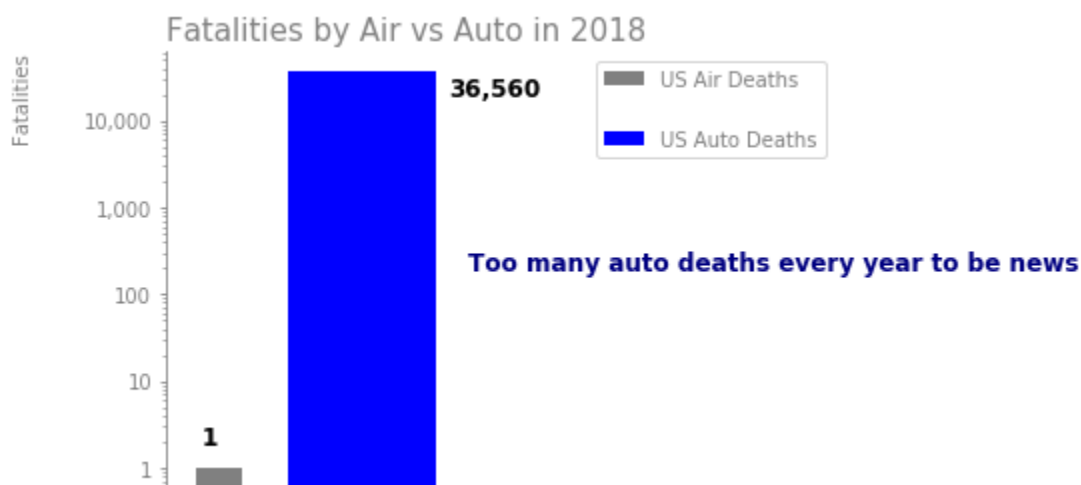# Media blitz on airplane crashes

You may have seen that the media has been bombarding you with reports and figures stating that air is no longer a safe way to travel and may even be more dangerous than automobile travel. Why did the media get the idea that air travel is more unsafe than it used to be? Does the media have the story correct?

Airplane crashes attract attention; auto crashes not so much

Any airplane crash with fatalities is devastating and a commercial airplane crash with a number of fatalities definitely captures the attention of the media and the public more so than automobile crashes with fatalities. Automobile crashes occur regularly and in many locations such that the media and human nature becomes dulled to the frequency and magnitude of automobile crash fatalities. In contrast, a commercial airplanes crash occurs so infrequently that the when it does happen it seems more noteworthy. The media also profits from drawing attention to their reports and large commercial airline crashes is jarring and attention-getting.

Auto crashes are not news . . .
but commercial airplane crashes grab attention because they are unanticipated

But why does the media think there is an increase in unsafe air travel?

Foreign airline crashes

There have been some recent crashes by foreign airlines. In 2020, 3 commercial airplanes crashed and they were all foreign airlines: Pegasus Airlines Flight 2193, Pakistan International Airlines Flight 8303, & Air India Express Flight 1344. Thus far in 2021, there has been one passenger airplane crash and it was a foreign airline: Sriwijaya Air Flight 182. The media is noticing foreign airline crashes, not US airlines.
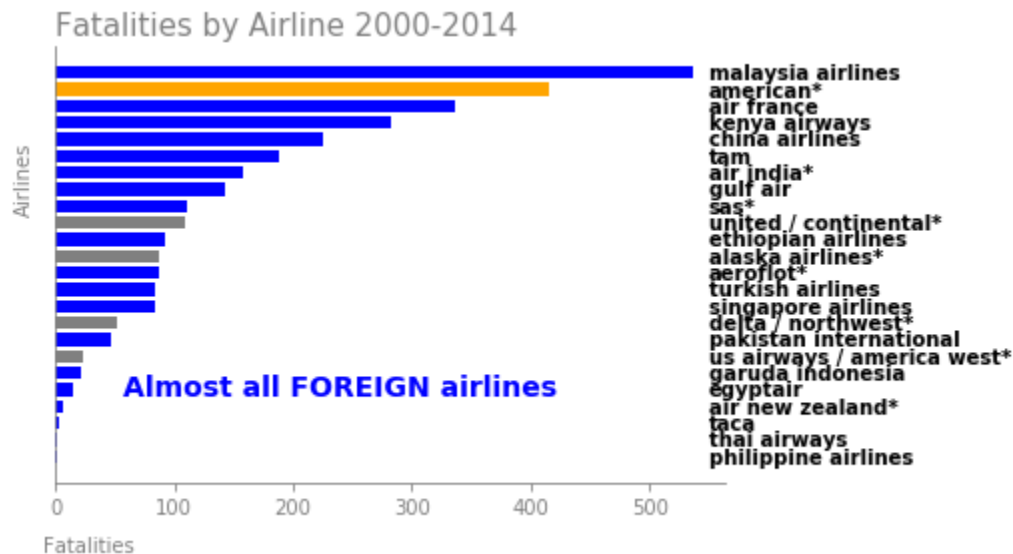
US airlines have much better safety records than foreign airlines.

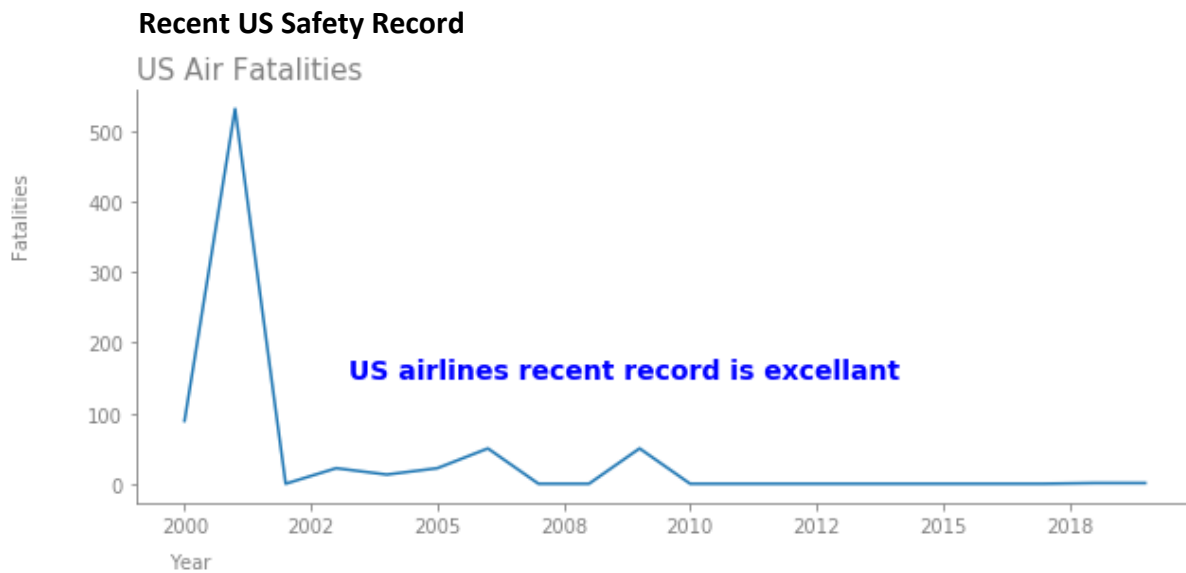**Foreign airline fatalities are much higher than US airlines**

In fact:

- 8 of the ten airlines with the most fatalities since 2000 are foreign airlines; and the two US airlines had fatalities from the 9/11 terrorist.

- 20 of the 24 airlines that had fatalities between 2000-2014 were foreign airlines.

- 7 airlines accounted for 69% of fatalities during this period; and the sole US airline in those 7 had 156 fatalities from the 9/11 terrorist attacks.
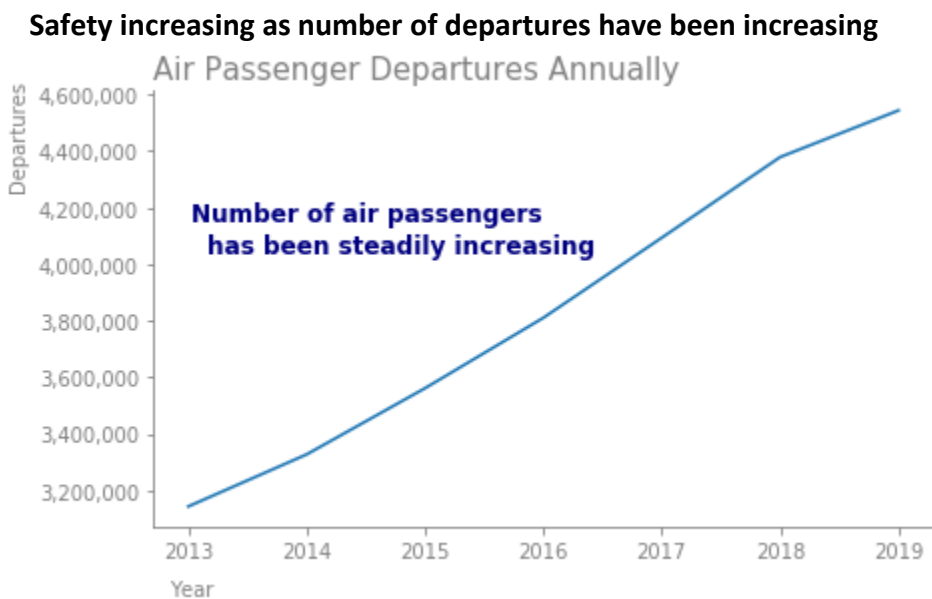

Fatalities by Airline 2000-2014

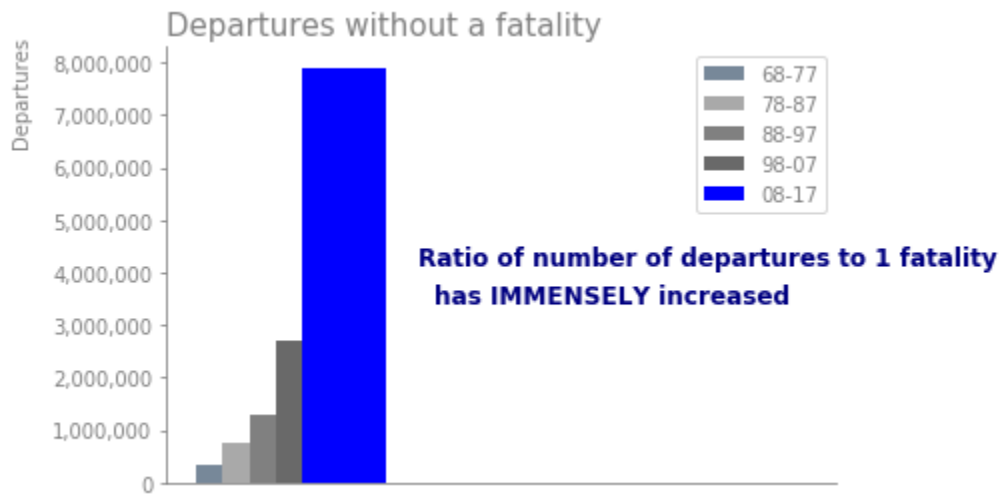# US airline safety record has been excellent

Even if recent crashes reported by the media are by foreign airlines, how is the US domestic airline safety record? The domestic airline safety record has been excellent since addressing 9/11 hijack security. In fact, there have been only 2 U.S. commercial air fatalities in the last 10 years.

Recent US Safety Record

US Air Fatalities

As fatalities have decreased, the number of passengers traveling by air is steadily increasing – improving safety ratios:

Safety increasing as number of departures have been increasing

Air Passenger Departures Annually

Departures without a fatality is drastically increasing

Departures without a fatality

	68-77
	78-87
	88-97
	98-07
	08-17

Ratio of number of departures to 1 fatality has IMMENSELY increased

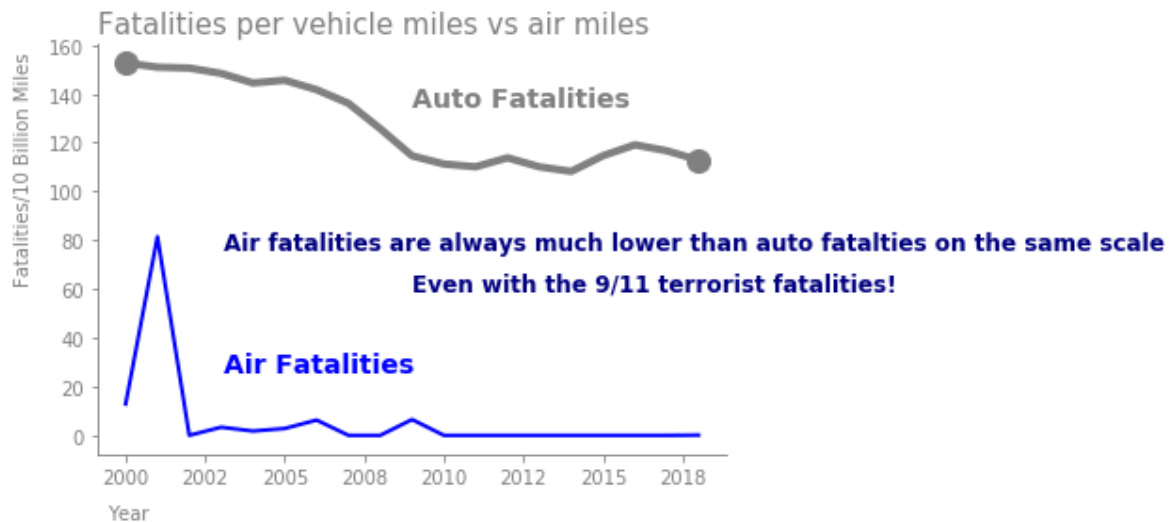# Auto vs Air Travel Safety

Auto Fatality Rate Much Higher than Air

Air travel has always been considered safer than automobile travel, but some media reports are promoting auto safety over air safety. Automobile travel occurs much more frequently than air travel and accordingly the simple number of auto fatalities will exceed air fatalities. However, an apples-to-apples comparison is how do auto and air fatalities compare per the number of miles traveled.

Air fatalities in fact occur at a much lower rate than automobile fatalities.

The auto fatality rate per miles traveled is much higher than the air fatality rate. In fact, the auto fatality rate is 100 to 150 times LARGER than the air fatality rate.

Auto fatality rate is 100 to 150 times LARGER than the air fatality rate

Fatalities per vehicle miles vs air miles

Air fatalities are always much lower than auto fatalies on the same scale
Even with the 9/11 terrorist fatalities!

Conclusion

There has been a recent media blitz about unsafe air travel, but that appears to stem from recent foreign airline crashes. In order to help you decide if your air travel is safe, we looked at the safety records of U.S. commercial airlines and found that U.S. airline travel is much safer than foreign airline travel and domestic automobile travel. In fact, U.S. commercial airline travel has been almost perfect in the last ten years and that safe record comes with drastically increasing numbers of passengers flying.

Utilizing U.S. commercial airlines to access your family, friends, customers and vacation spots is important to us. We researched the alleged safety concerns by the media and provided you with the results of our research to help you decide if it is safe for you to fly. Please consider the data and contact us for more information at www.weflyforyou.com as you make your decision! Thanks.