

# 2024 Strike Summaries

Steven Gurney



# 5 Damaging Strikes in 2024



## Gull

- July
- Ingestion
- Precautionary landing



## Double-crested Cormorant

- August
- Dented wing



## Unknown Bird

- August
- Dented wing



## Turkey Vulture

- September
- Substantial damage to wing parts
- >\$610,000
- 70 hrs out of service



## Duck

- November
- Dented wing

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**Duck**

- November
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# 5 Damaging Strikes in 2024



**Gull**

- July
- Ingestion
- Precautionary landing
- **#2 engine replaced**
- **~216 hrs out of service**



**Double-crested Cormorant**

- August
- Dented wing



**Unknown Bird**

- August
- Dented wing



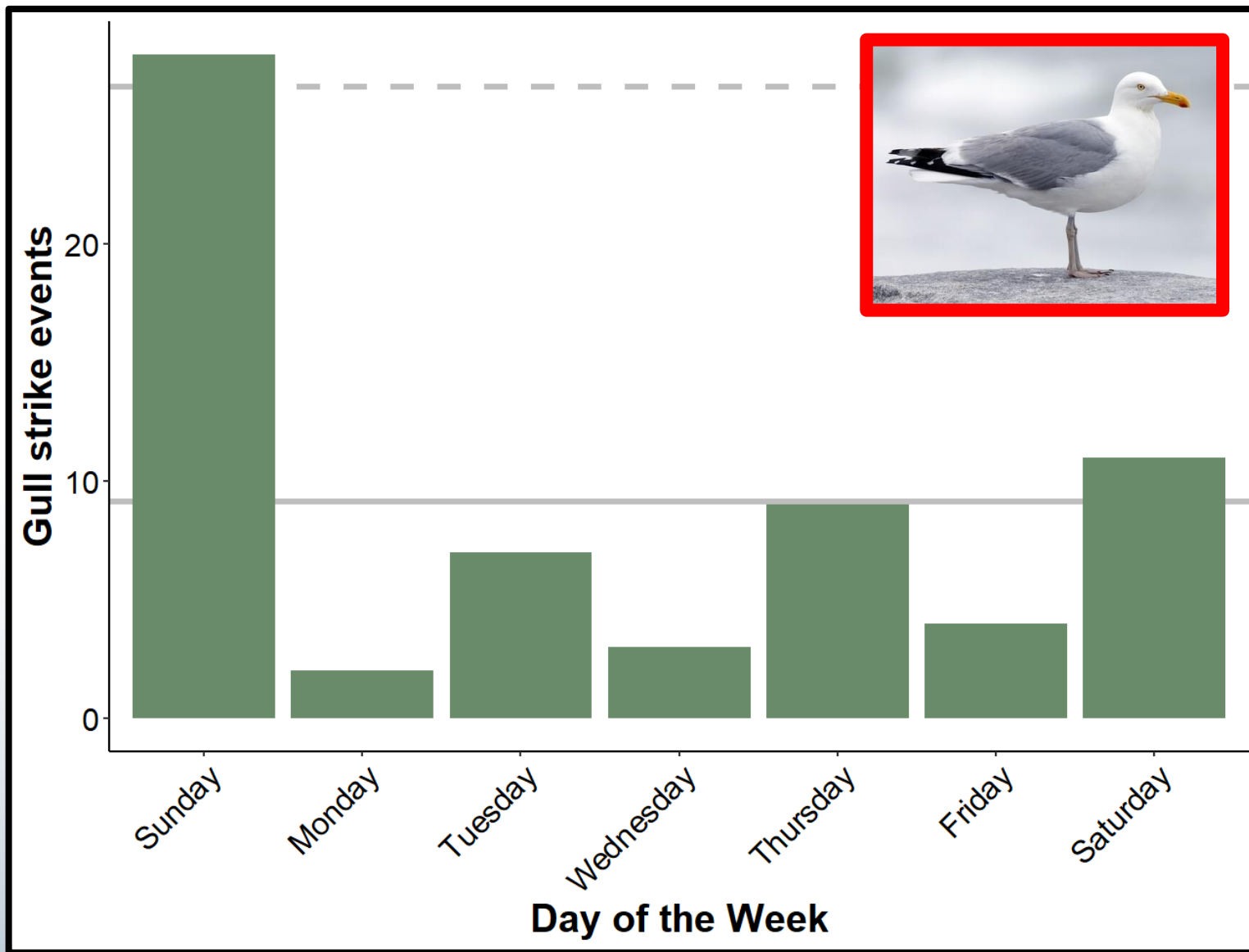
**Turkey Vulture**

- September
- Substantial damage to wing parts
- >\$610,000
- 70 hrs out of service



**Duck**

- November
- Dented wing



## Gull strikes >300% higher than average on Sundays

- Statistically significant



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## Ducks

- November
- Dented wing



**We've never had  
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strike before**



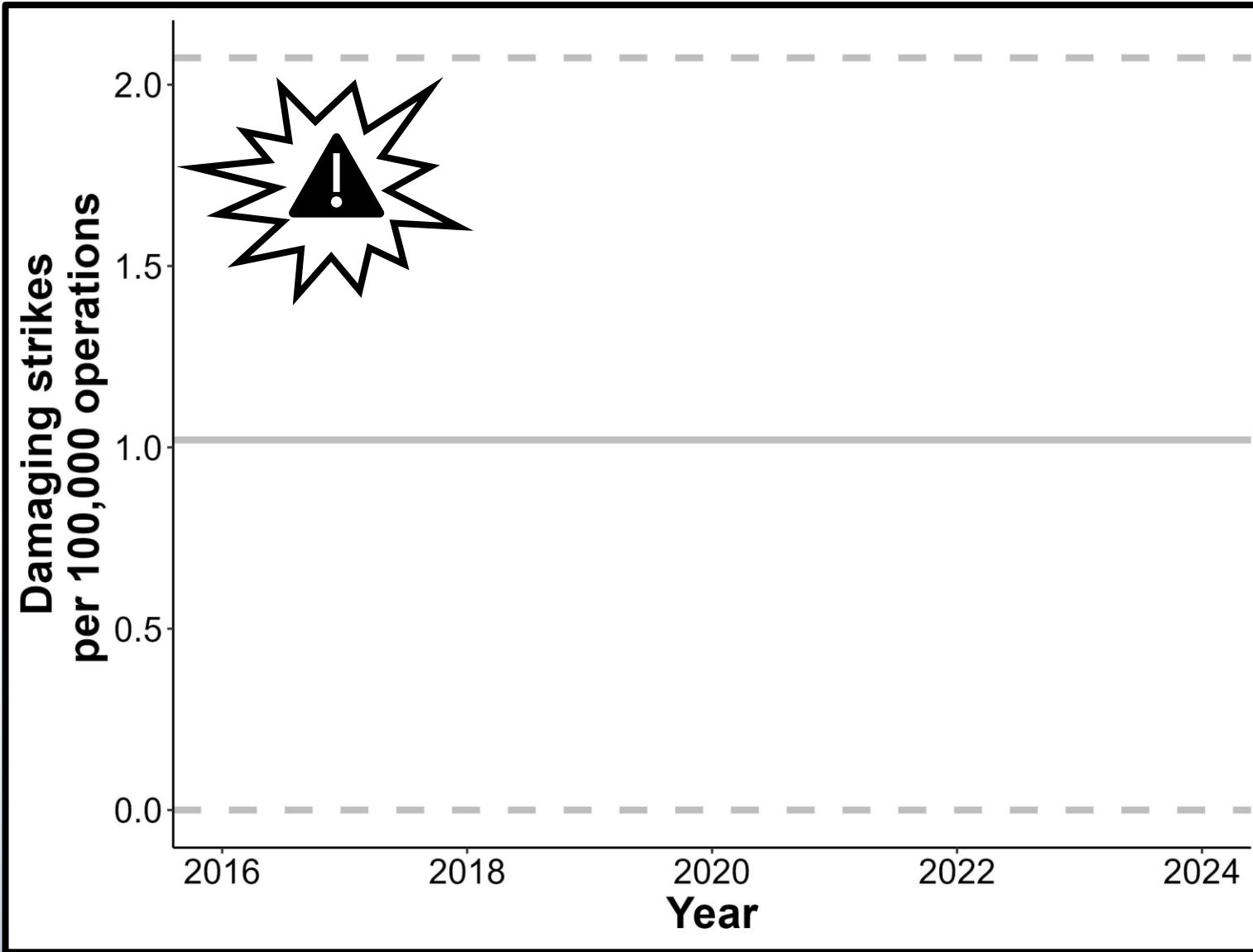


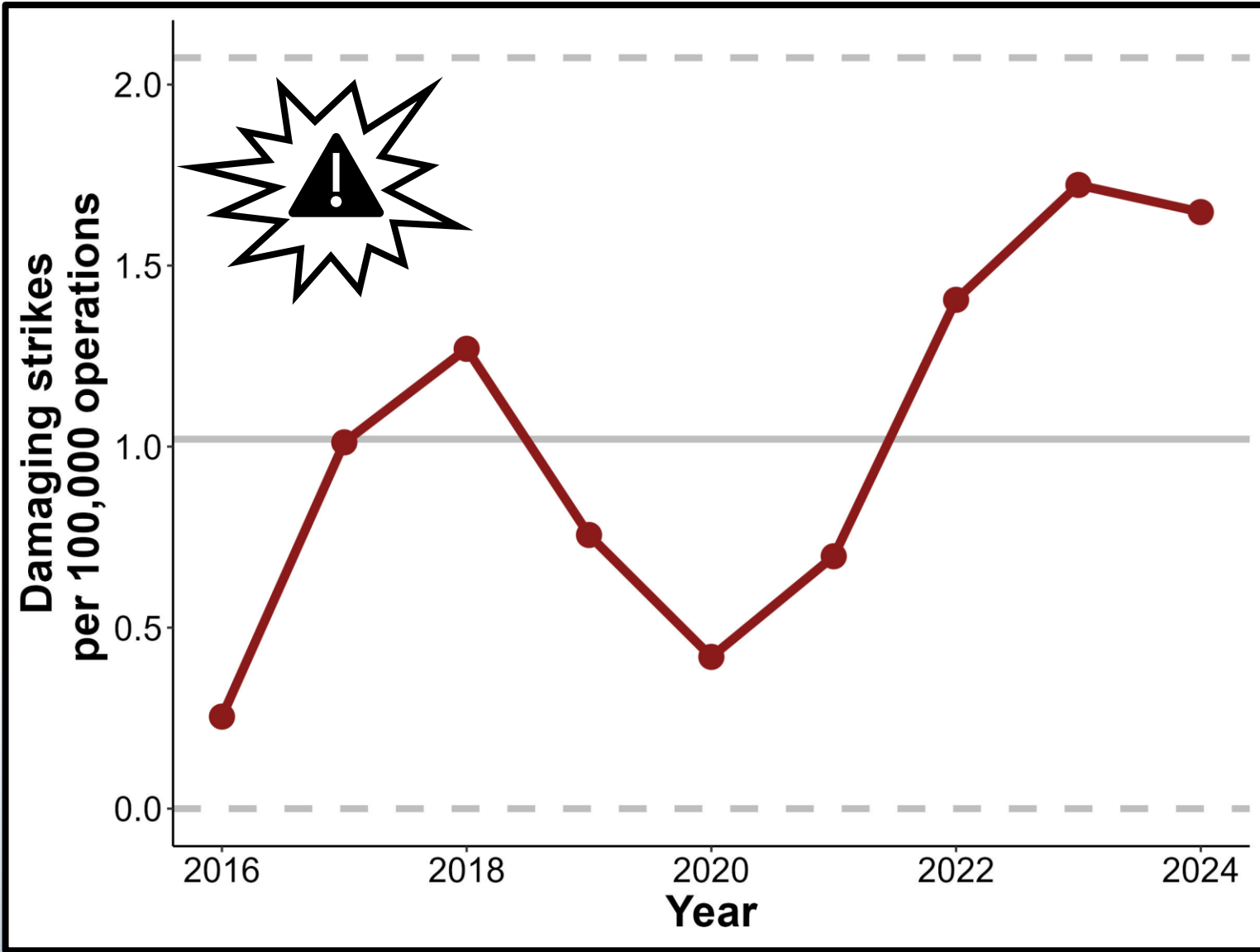


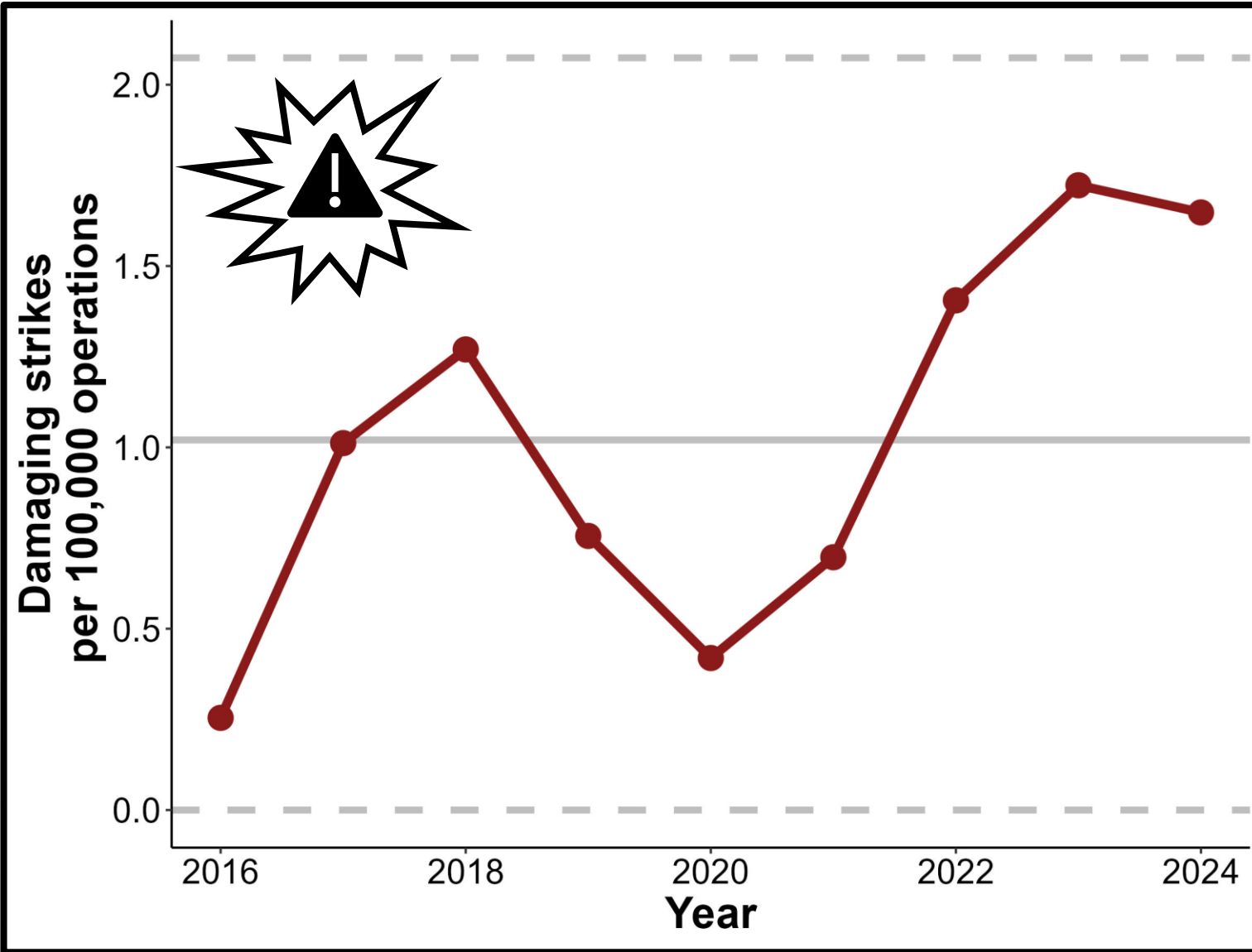
## We've never had a cormorant strike before

- 1 out of 2 = damaging
- Aquatic bird
- Ponds are a problem



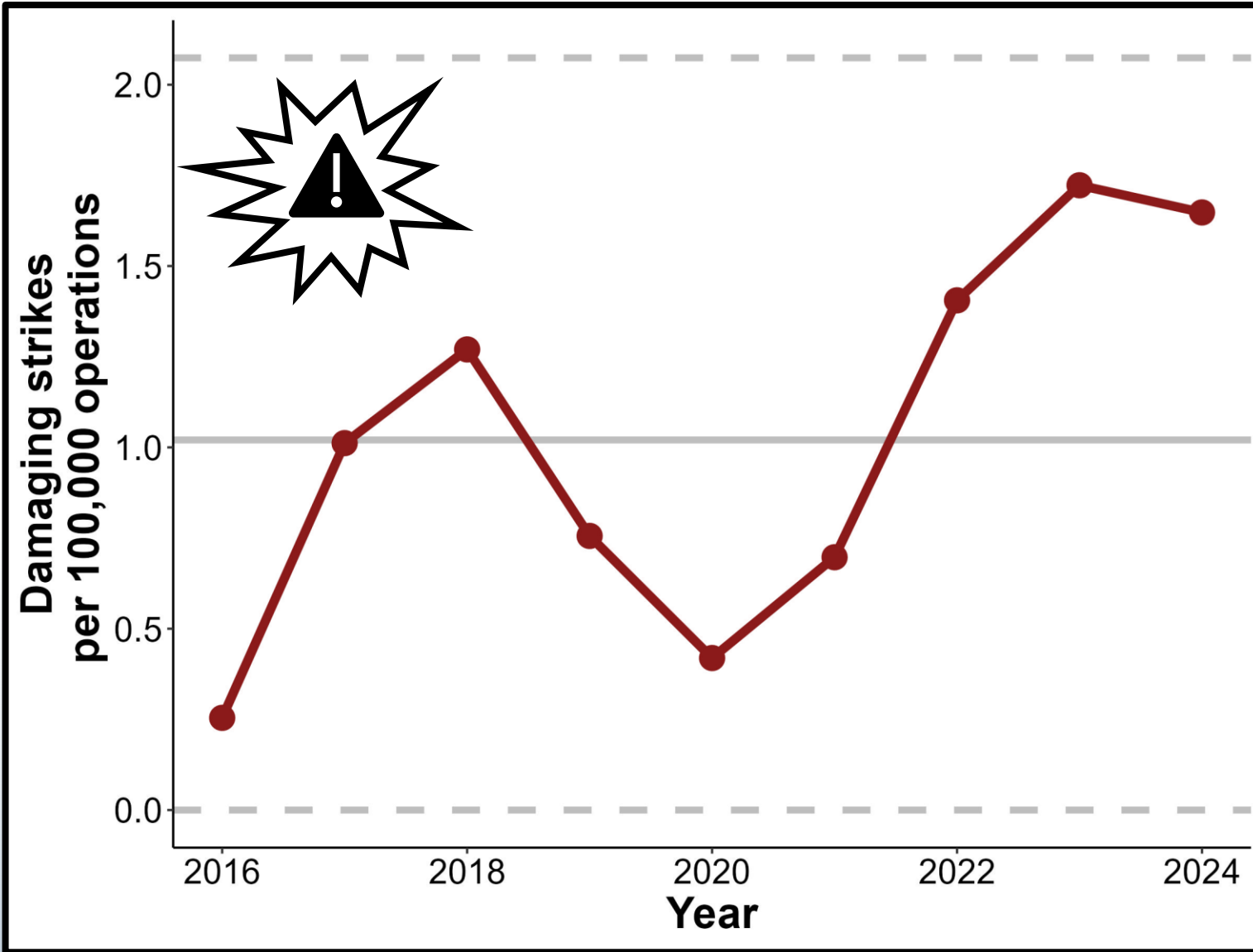






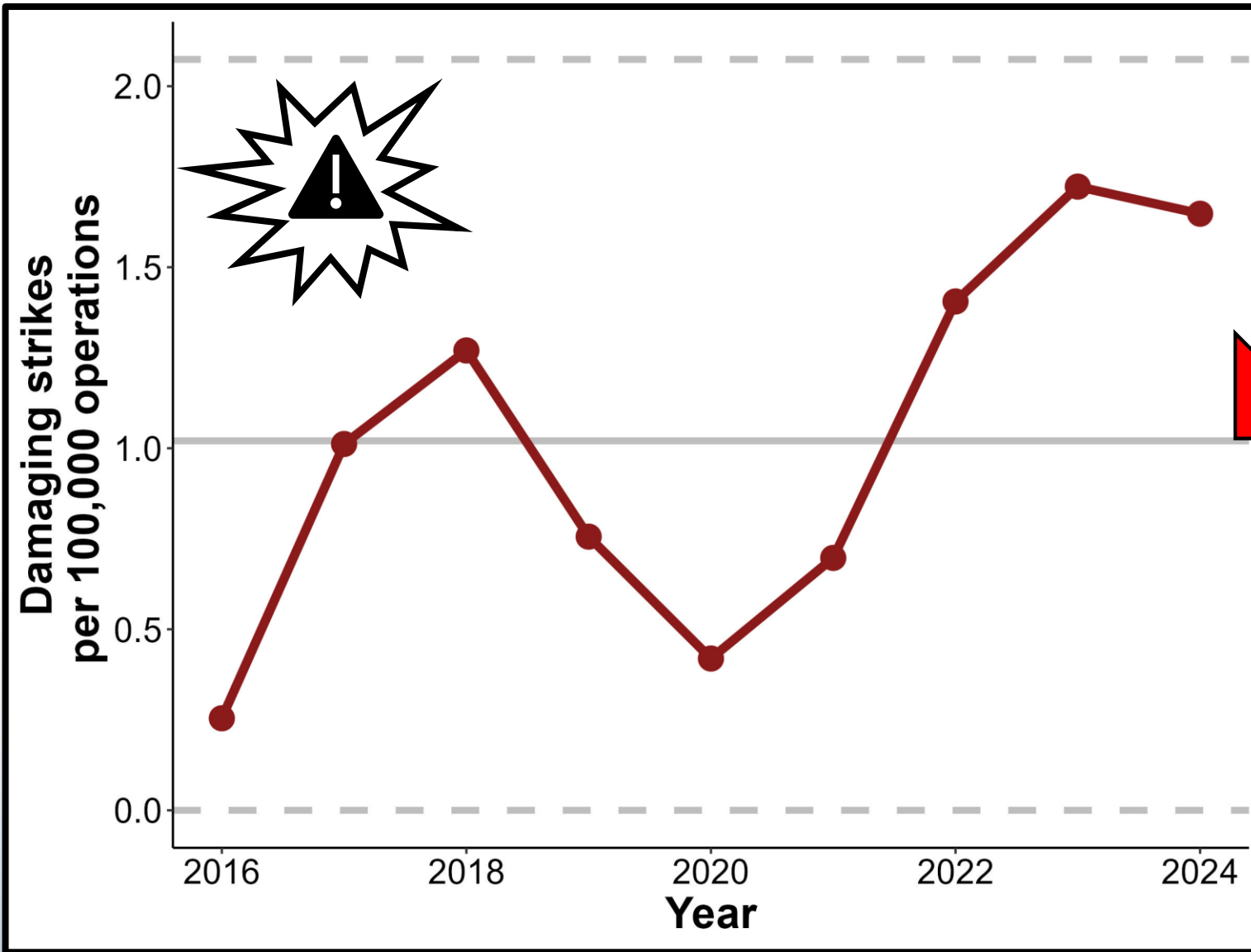
**Damaging-strike  
rate higher than  
average over past 3  
years**



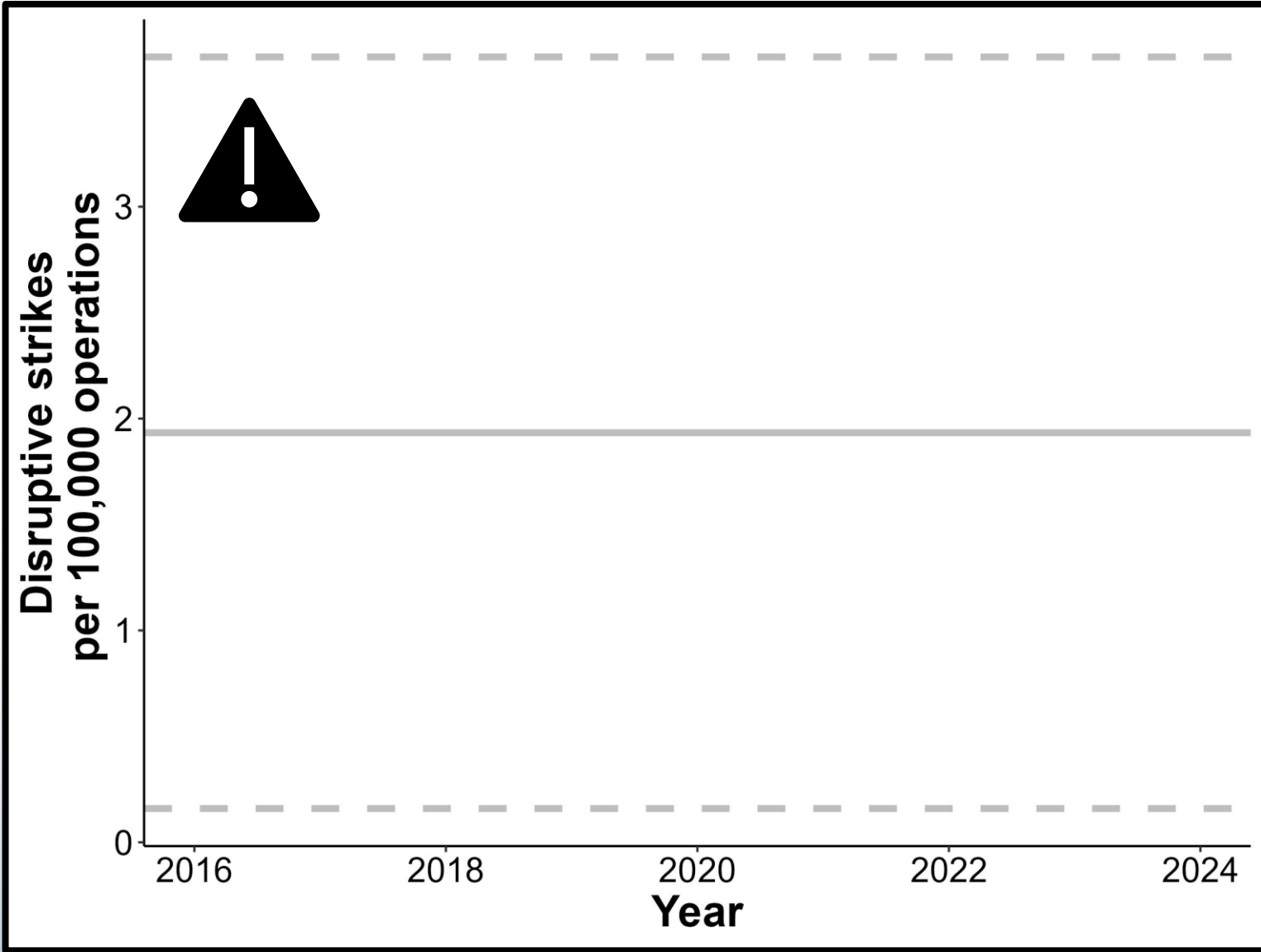


**Damaging-strike rate higher than average over past 3 years**

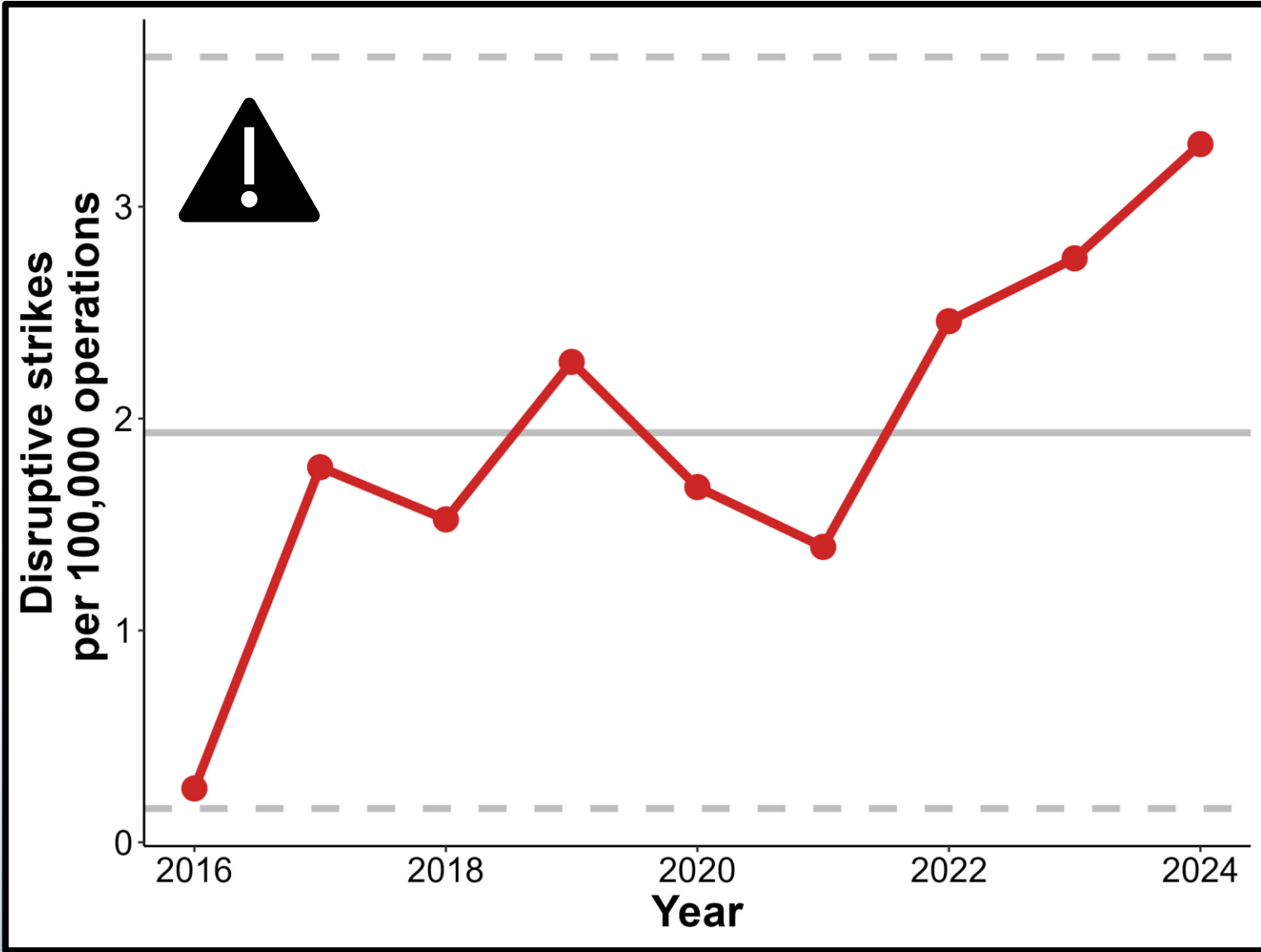
- Not statistically higher



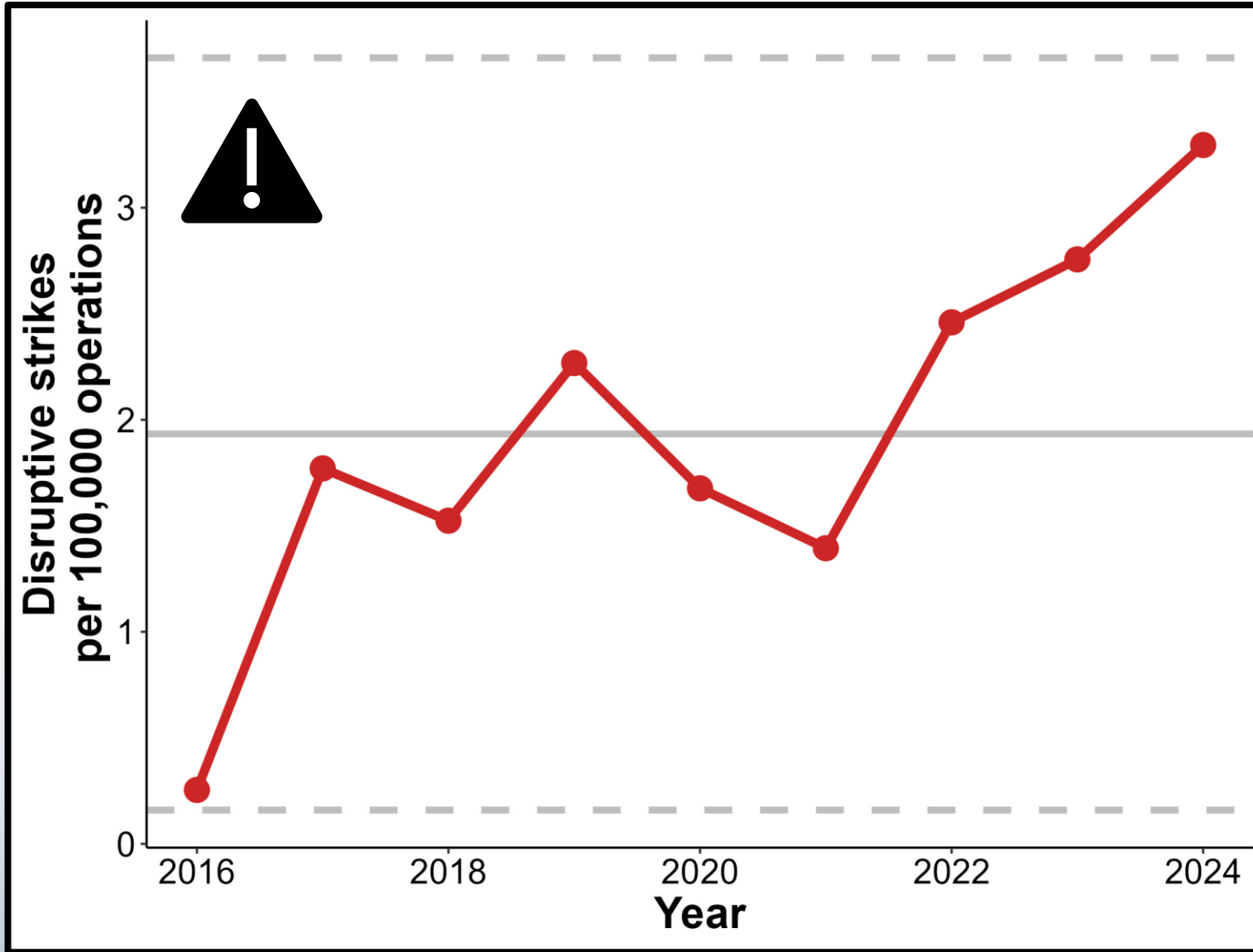
**Damaging rate  
still 33% lower  
than national  
average!**

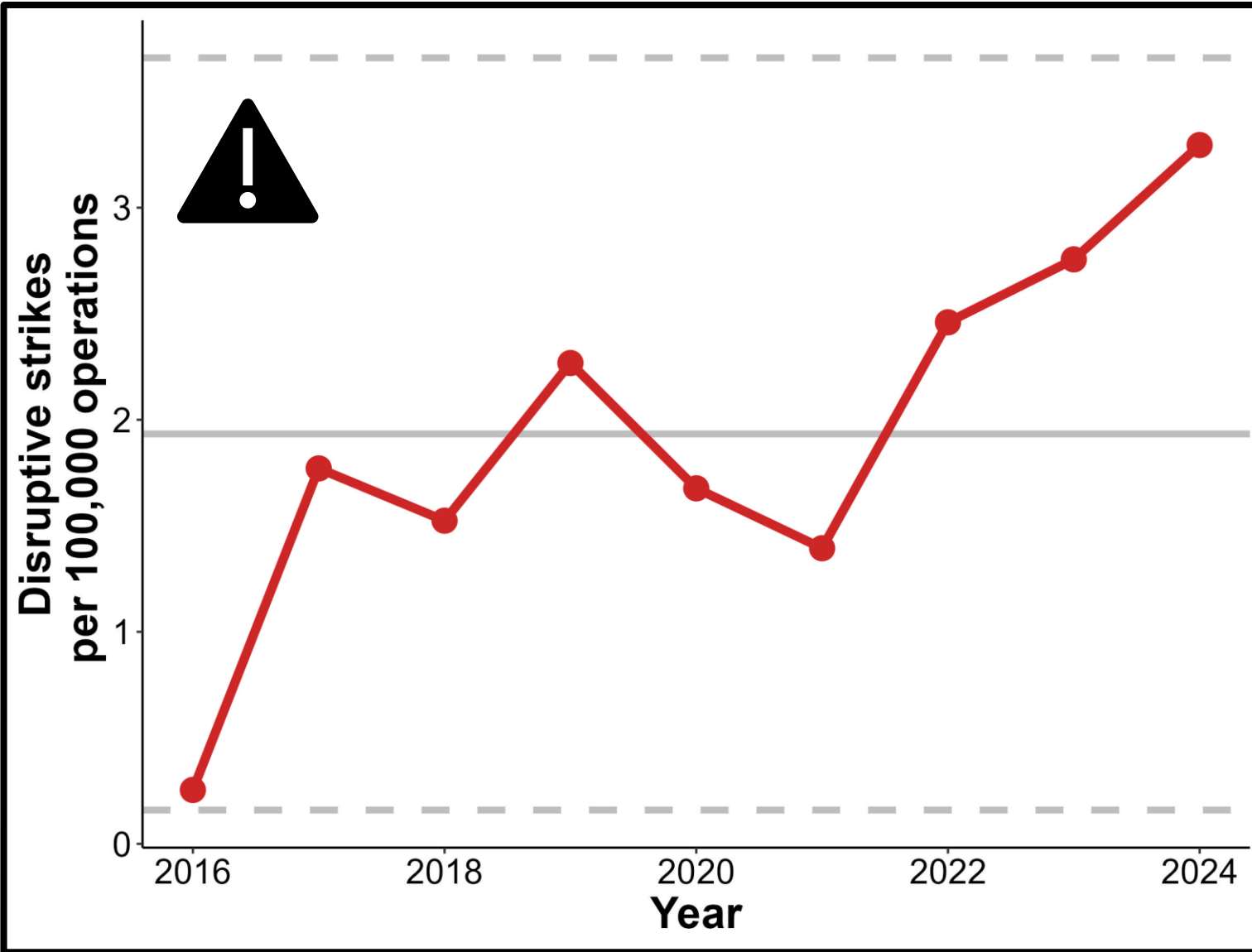






## Disruptive-strike rate peaked in 2024

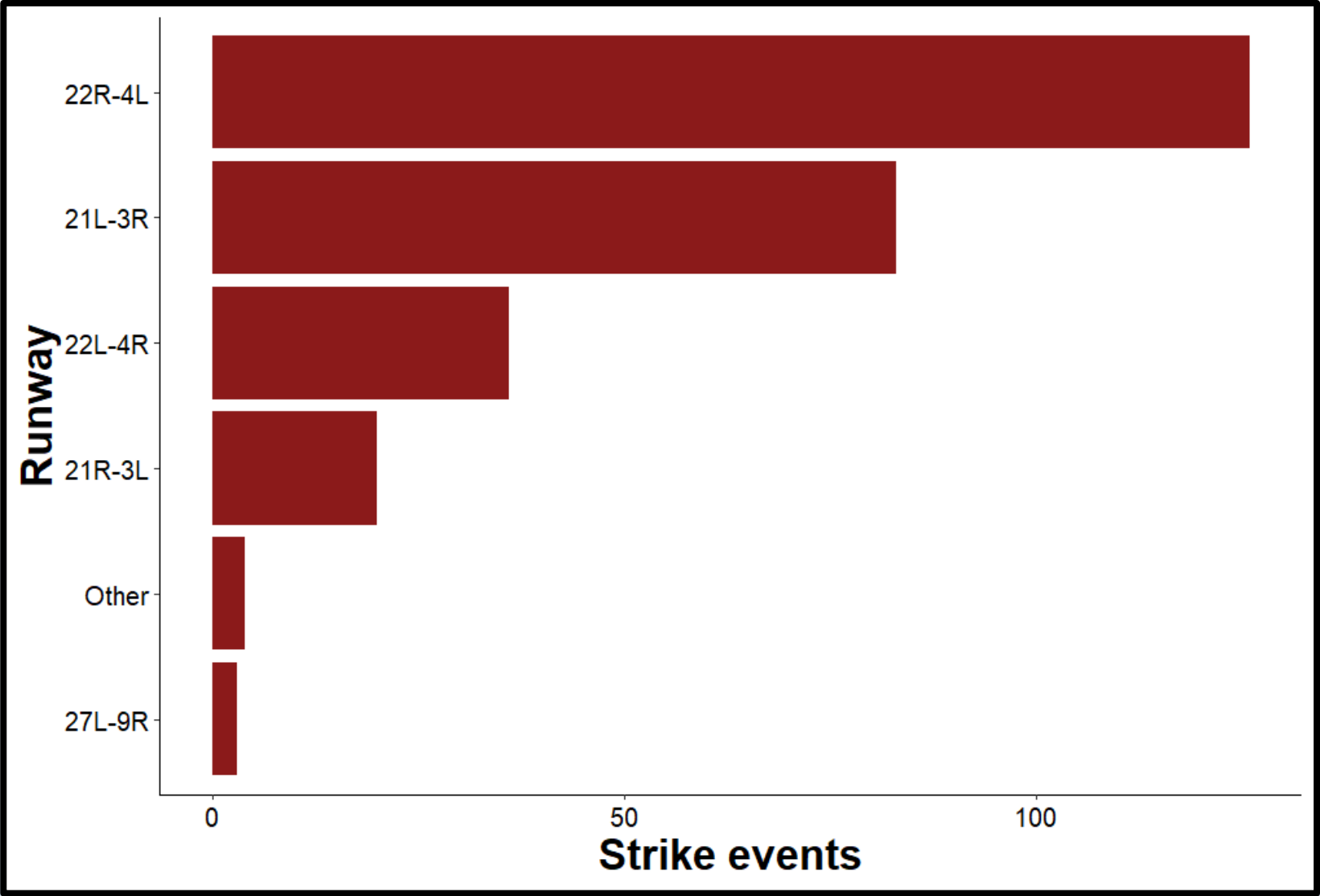


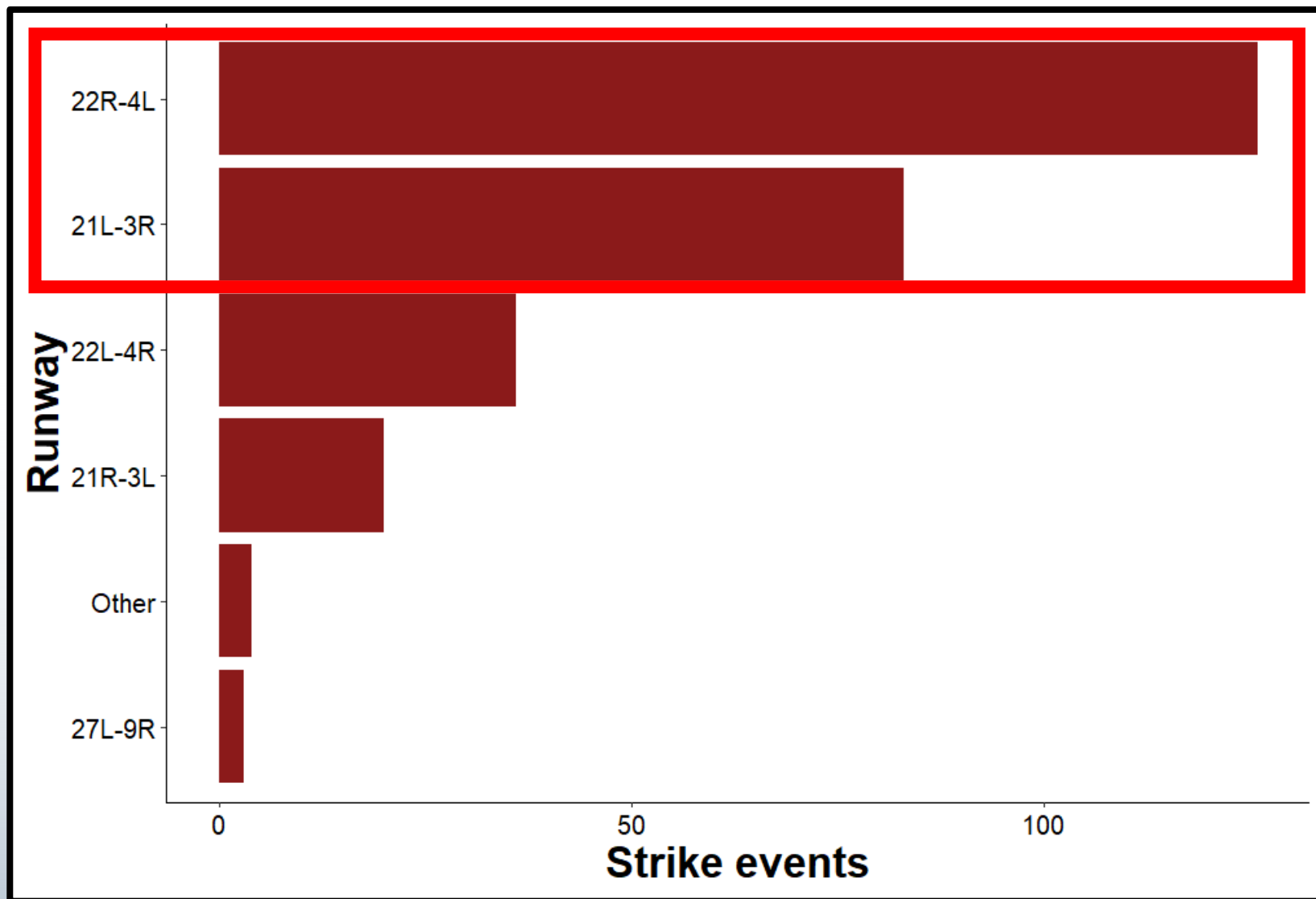


## Disruptive-strike rate peaked in 2024

- Not statistically higher
- May reflect reporting effort

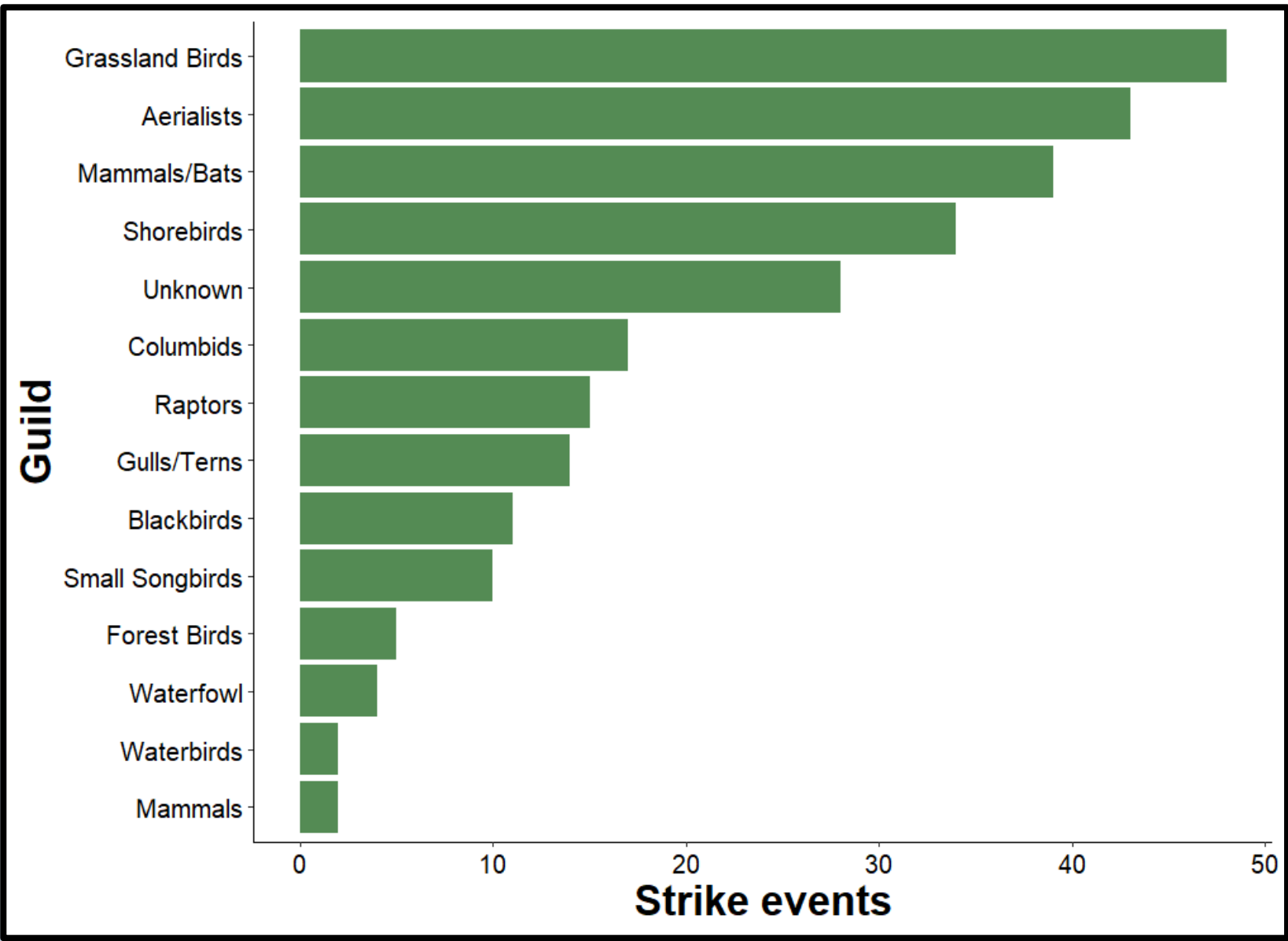




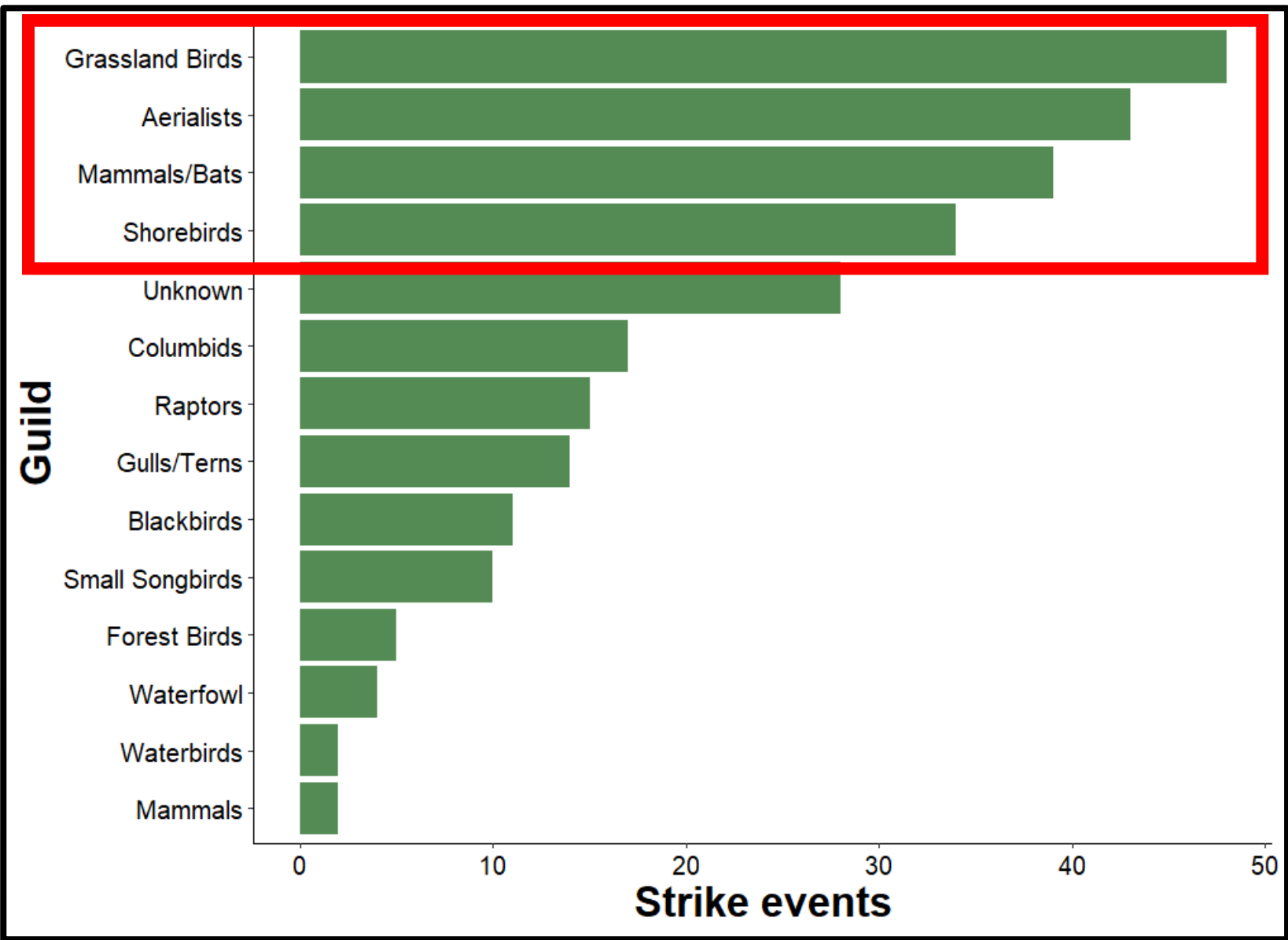


## Outboard and arrival runways have most strikes

- Similar to national & DTW historical trends

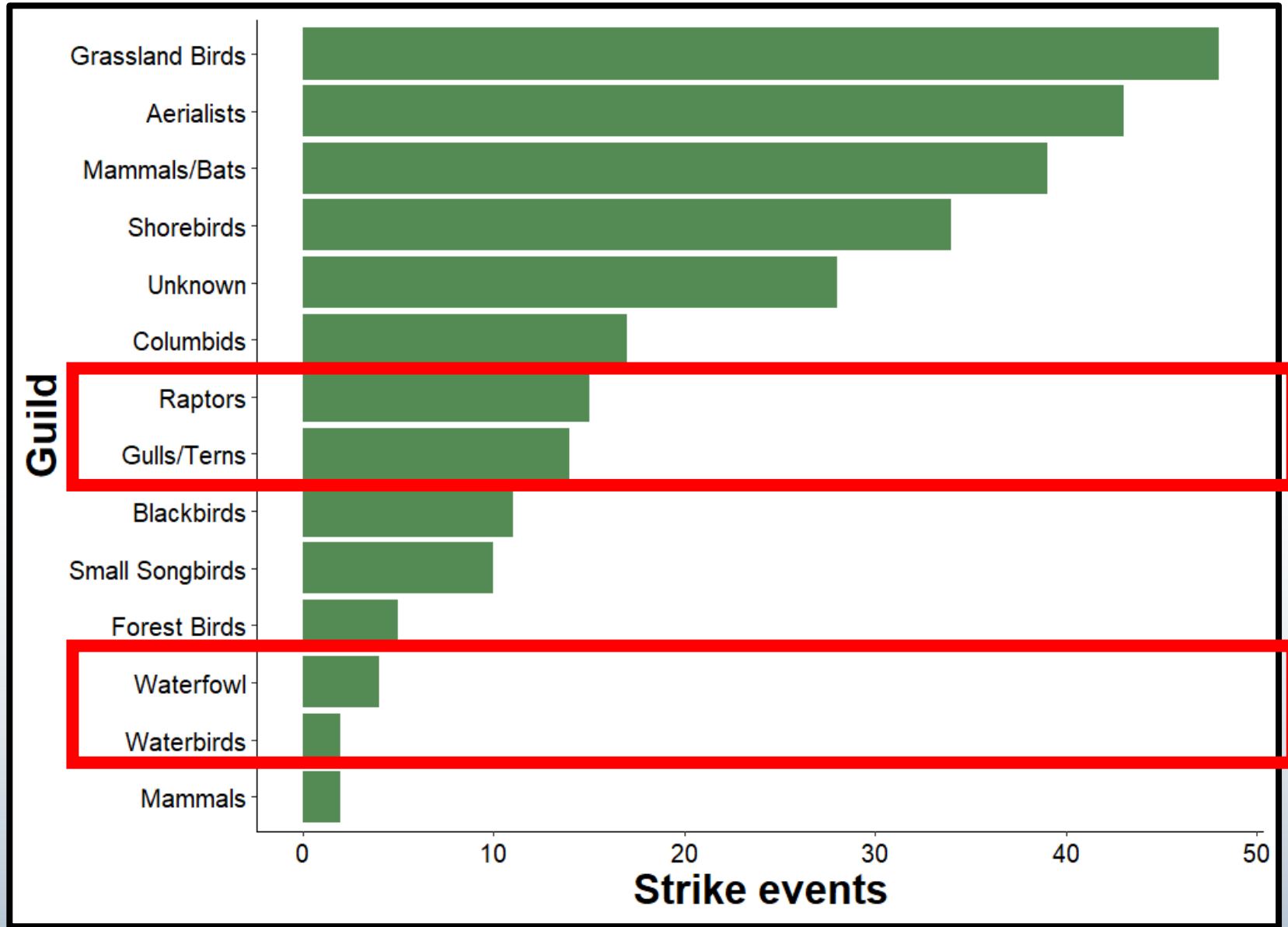






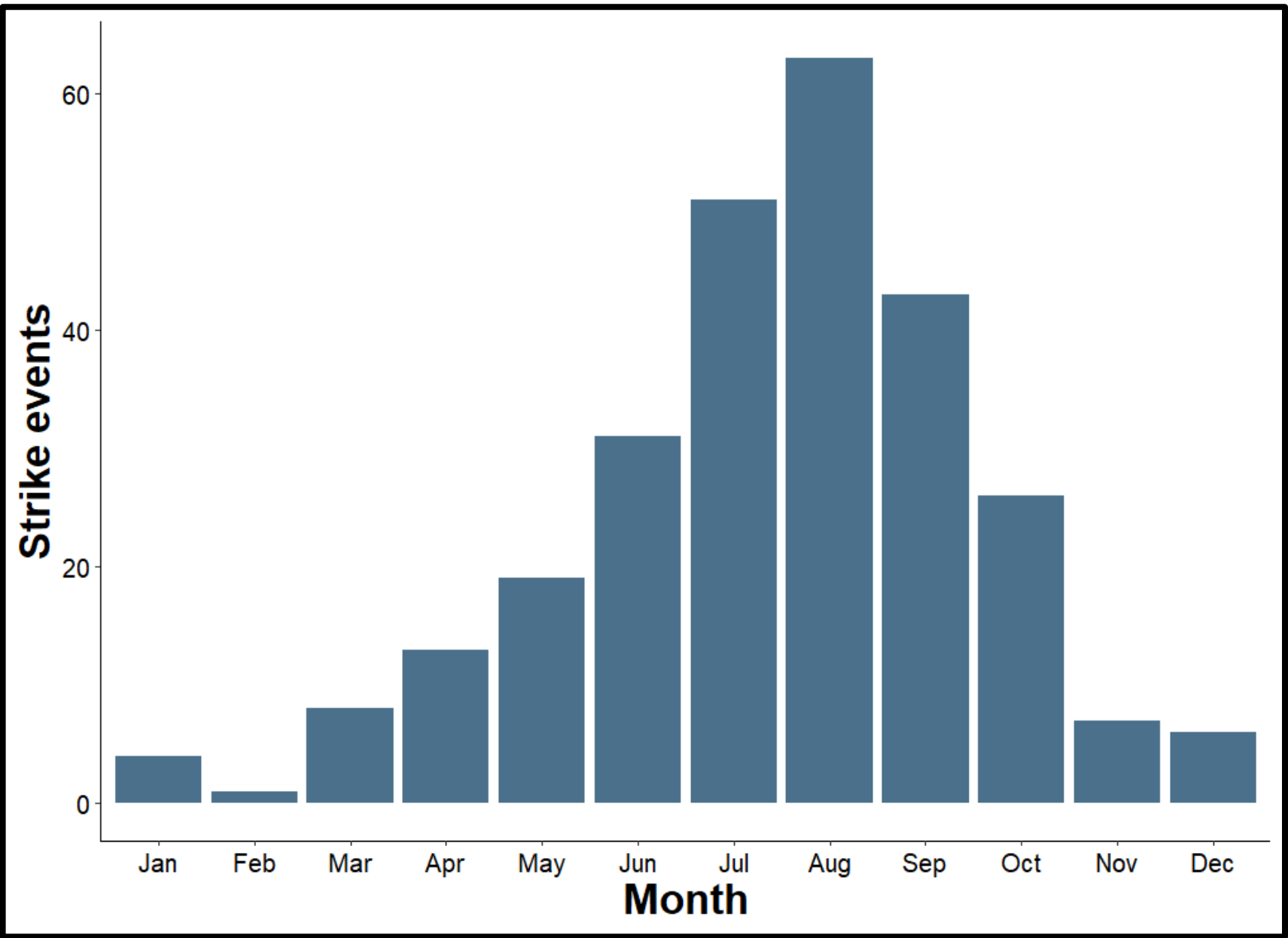
# Smaller, less damaging species struck the most

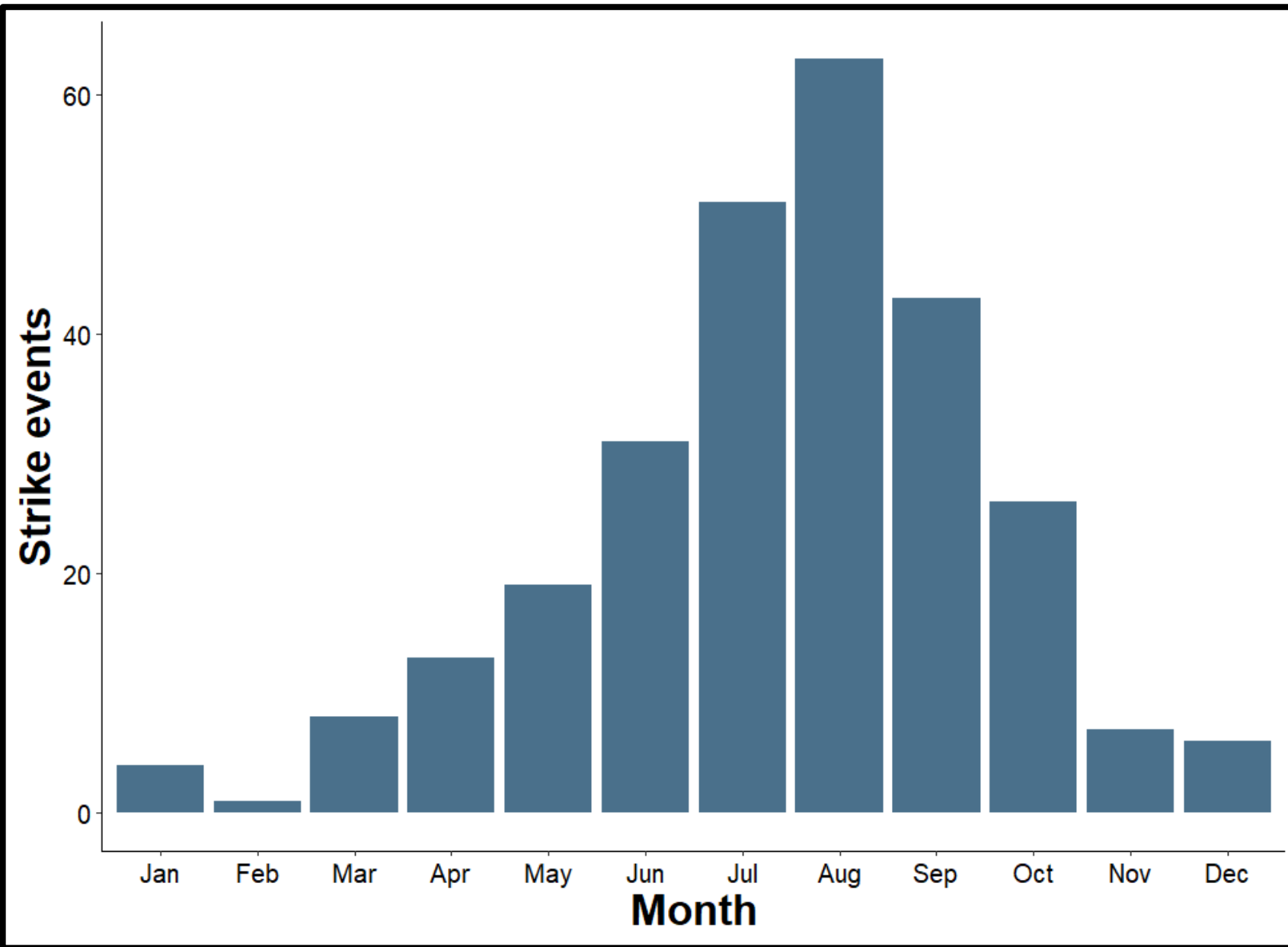
- Similar to national & DTW historical trends



## Smaller, less damaging species struck the most

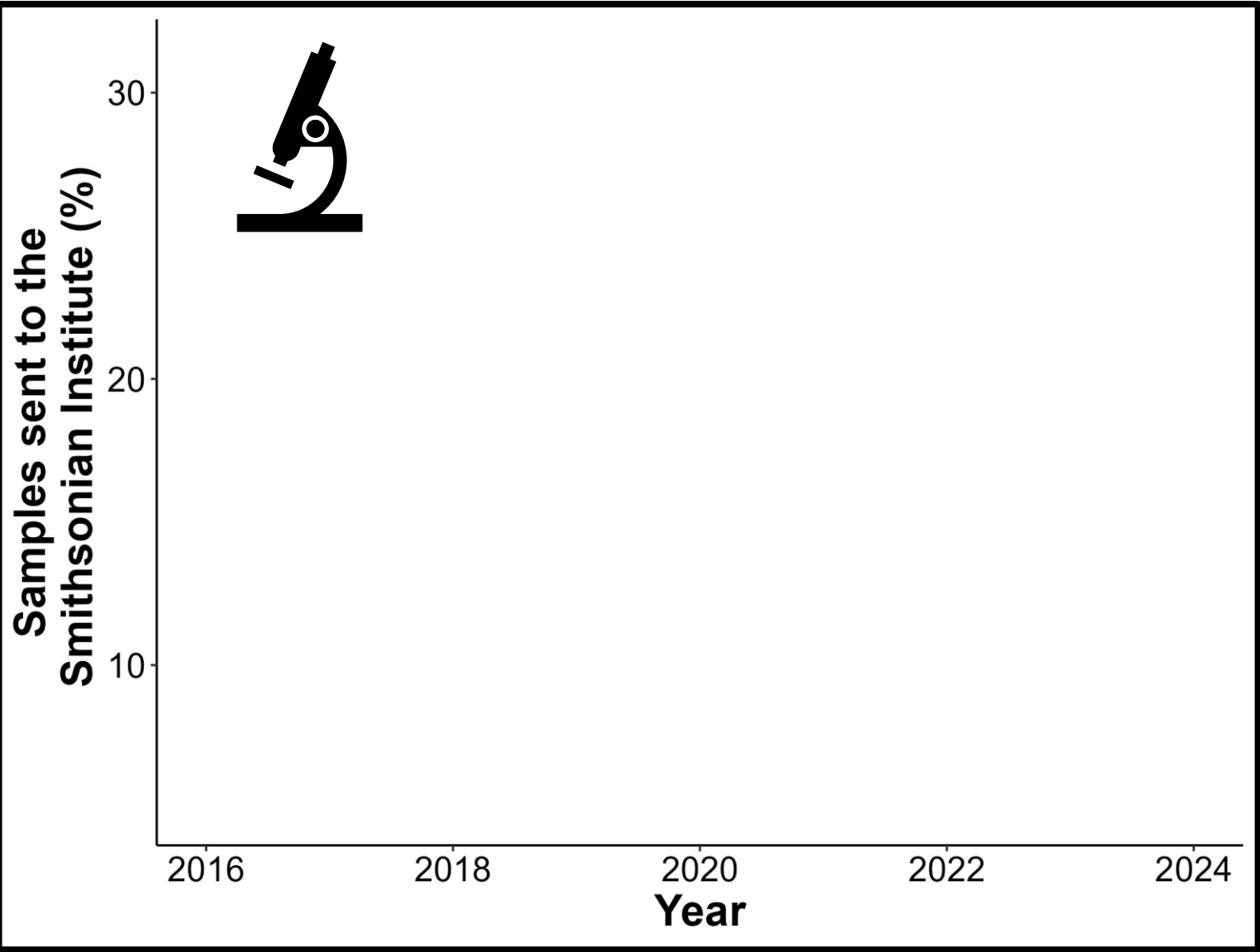
- Similar to national & DTW historical trends
- Larger, more damaging species struck infrequently





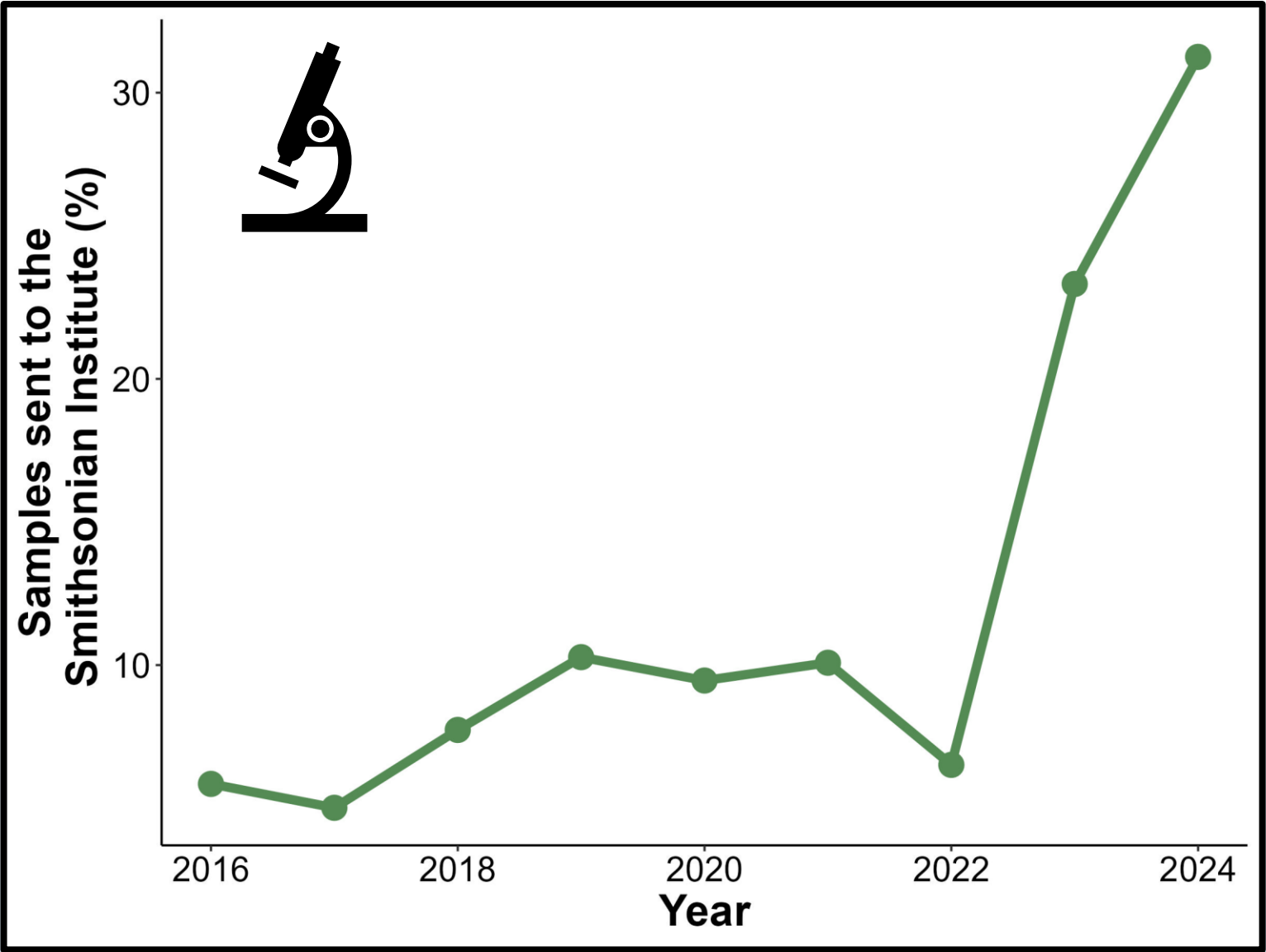
## Strikes peaked July - September

- Similar to national & DTW historical trend
- Increase bird movements, young

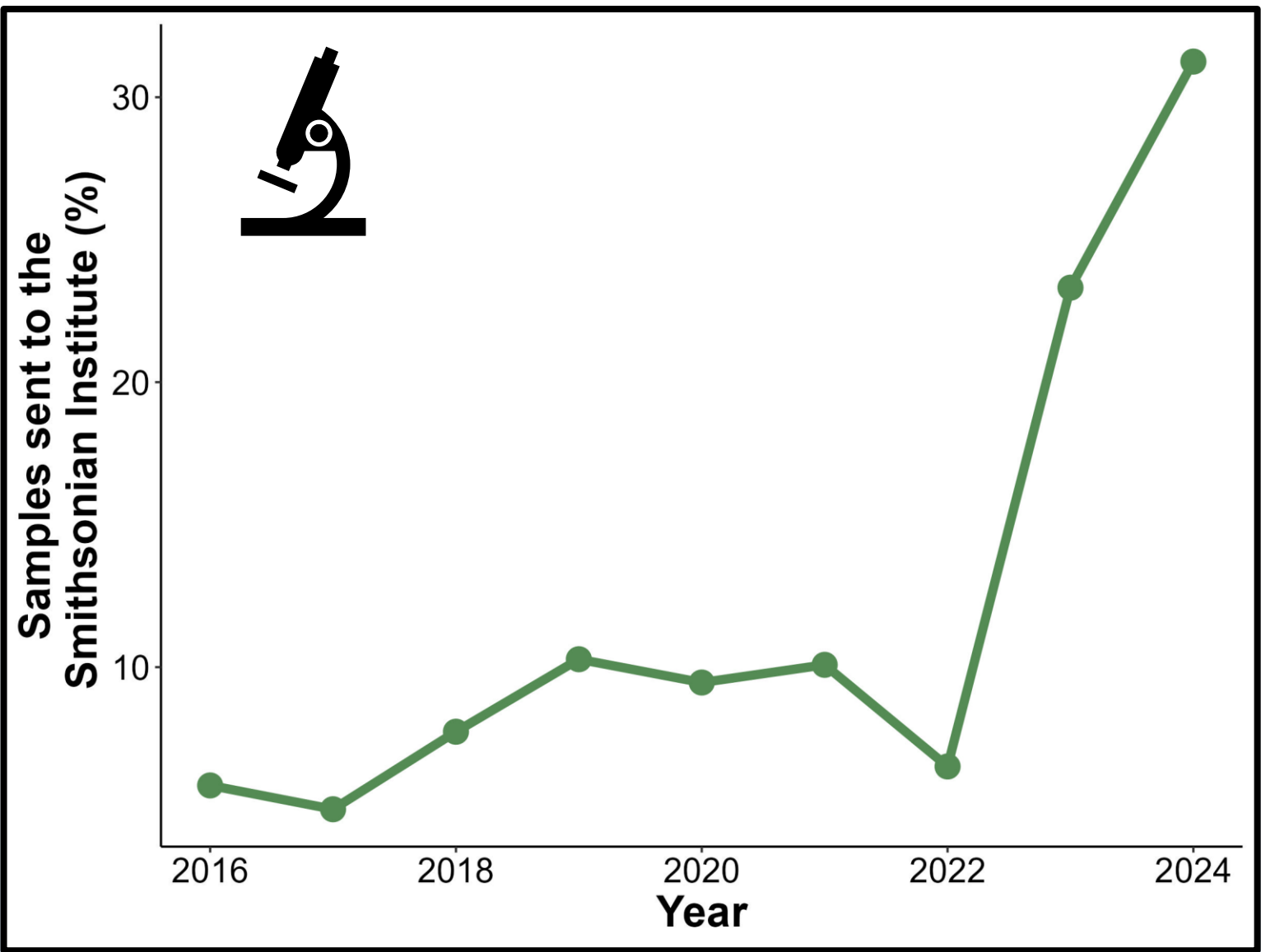


Smithsonian  
Division of Birds  
Feather Identification Lab

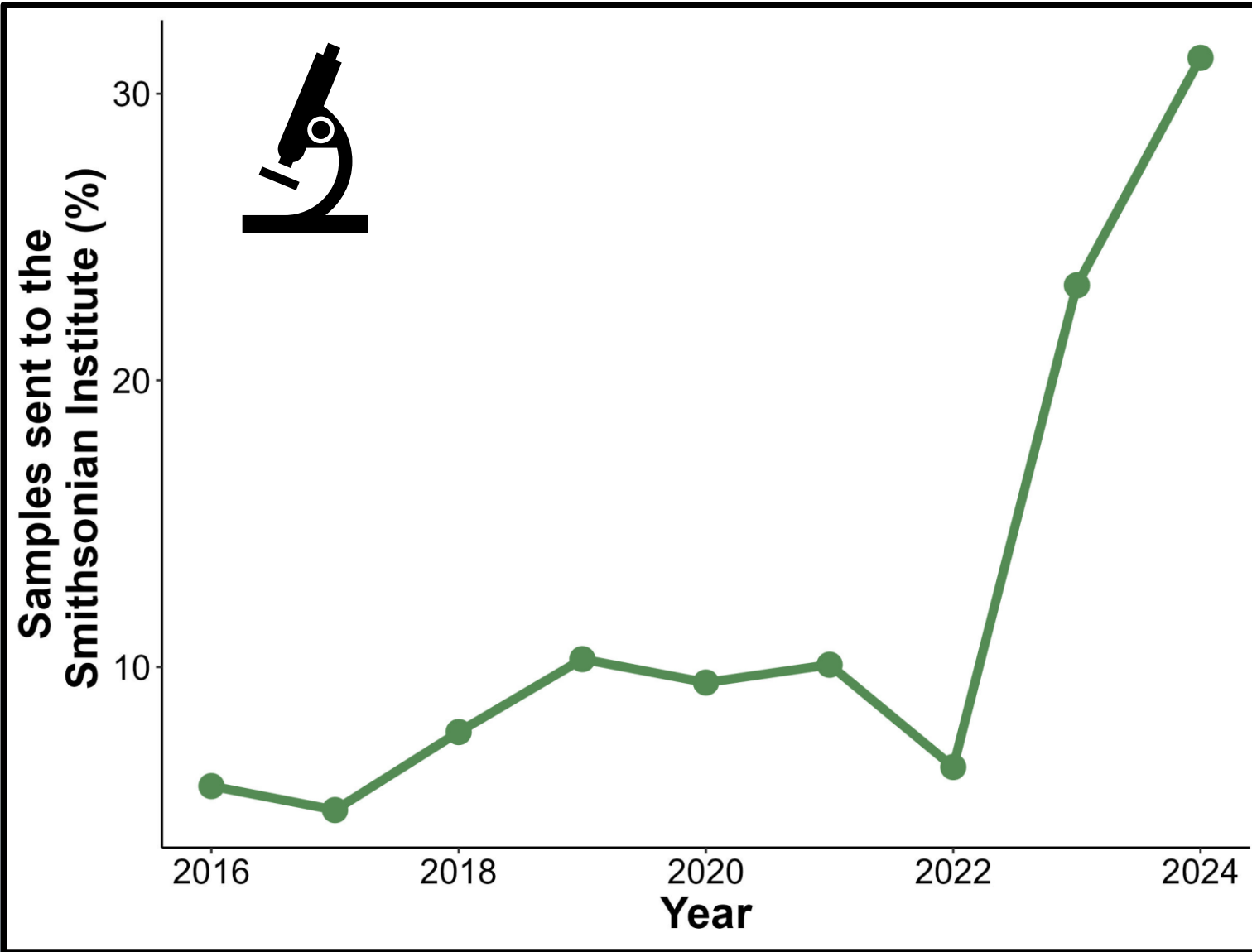






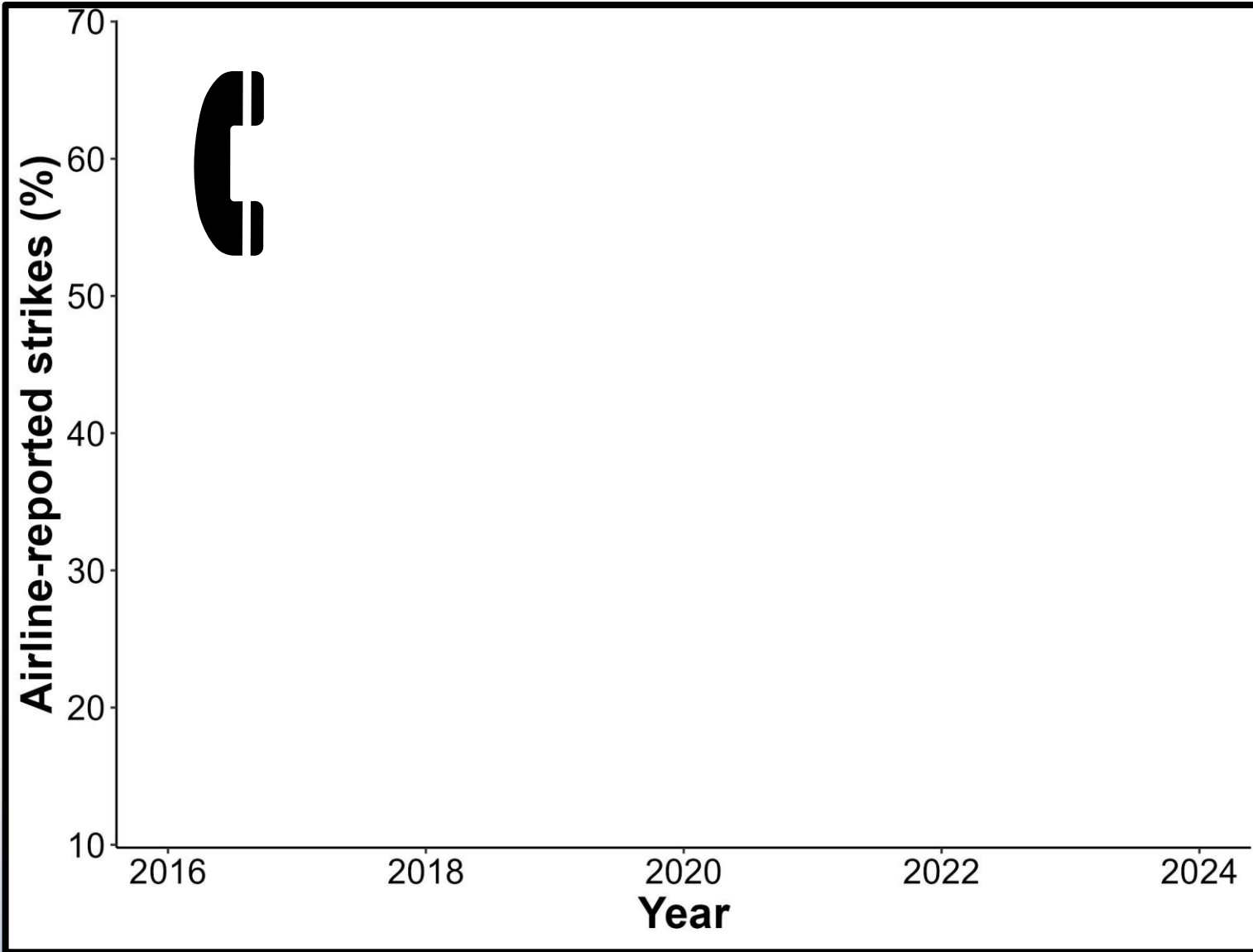


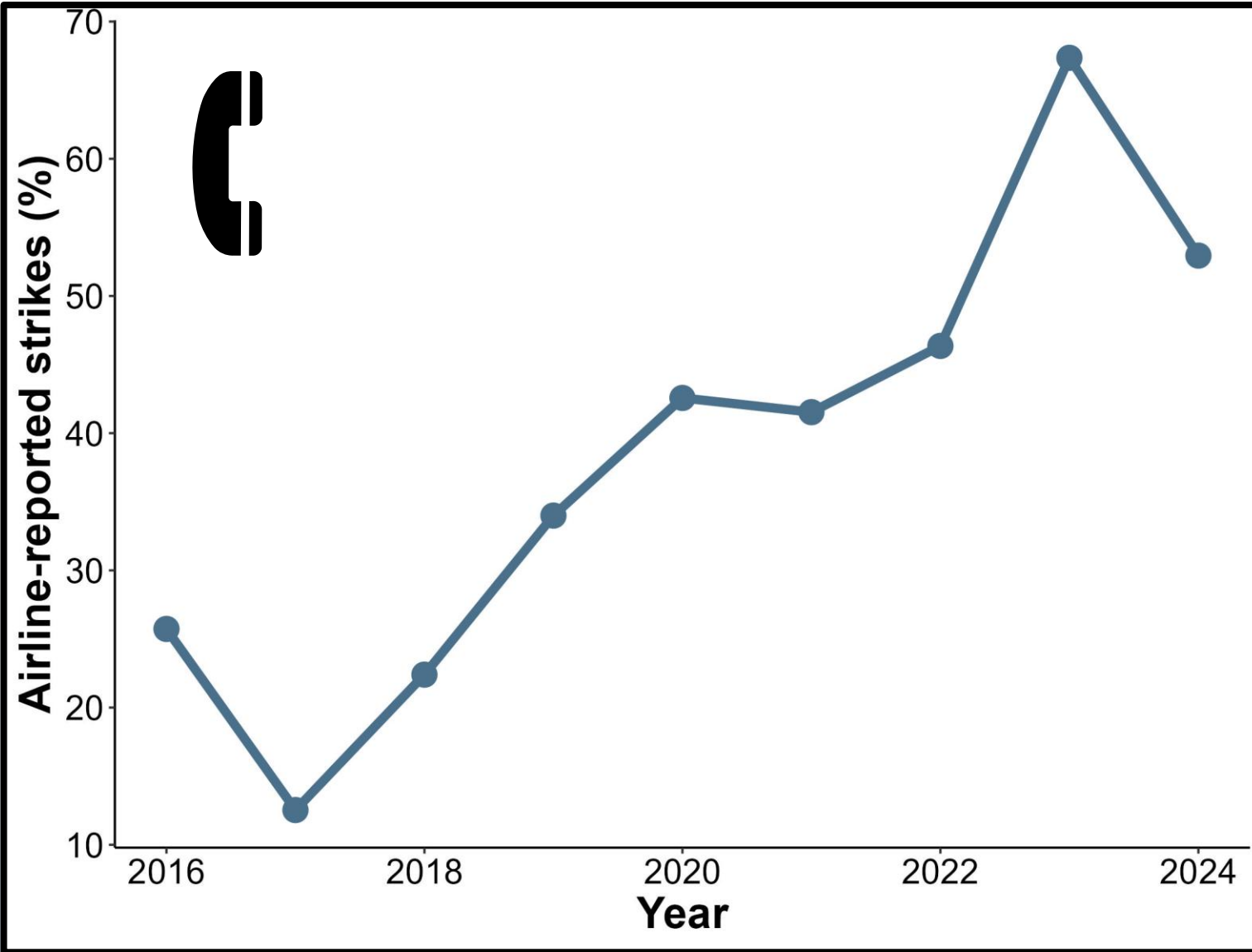
**Use of the ID lab  
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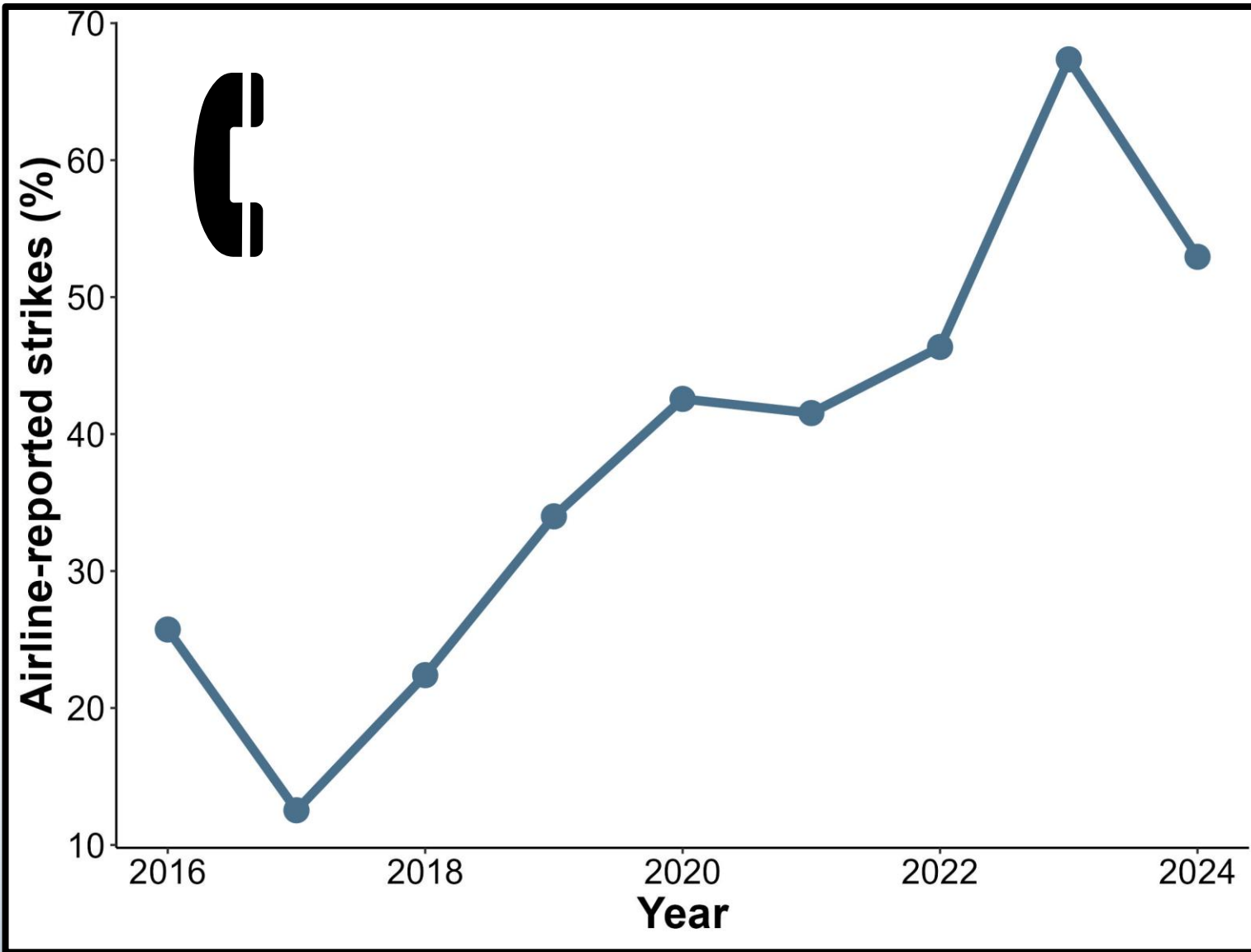
## Use of the ID lab was at an all time high in 2024

- Big accomplishment!
- More accurate species identification
- Better informed management
- Made possible with help of AOS & airline maintenance





**Airlines continue to account for over half of all strikes reported**



## Airlines continue to account for over half of all strikes reported

- Reflects successful outreach efforts