

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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- **#2 engine replaced**
- **~216 hrs out of service**



Double-crested Cormorant

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Unknown Bird

- August
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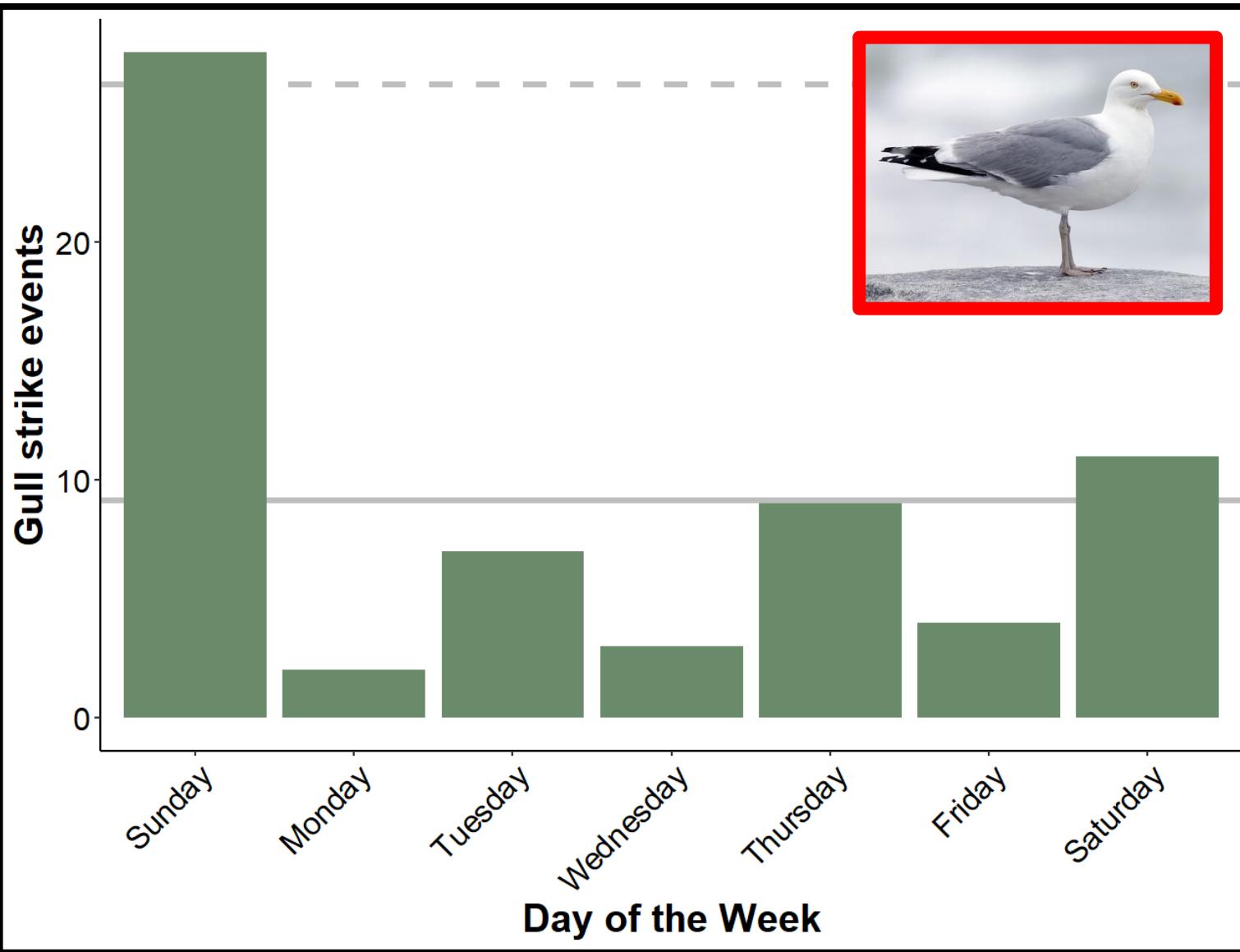
Turkey Vulture

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Duck

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Gull strikes >300% higher than average on Sundays

- Statistically significant

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Ducks

- November
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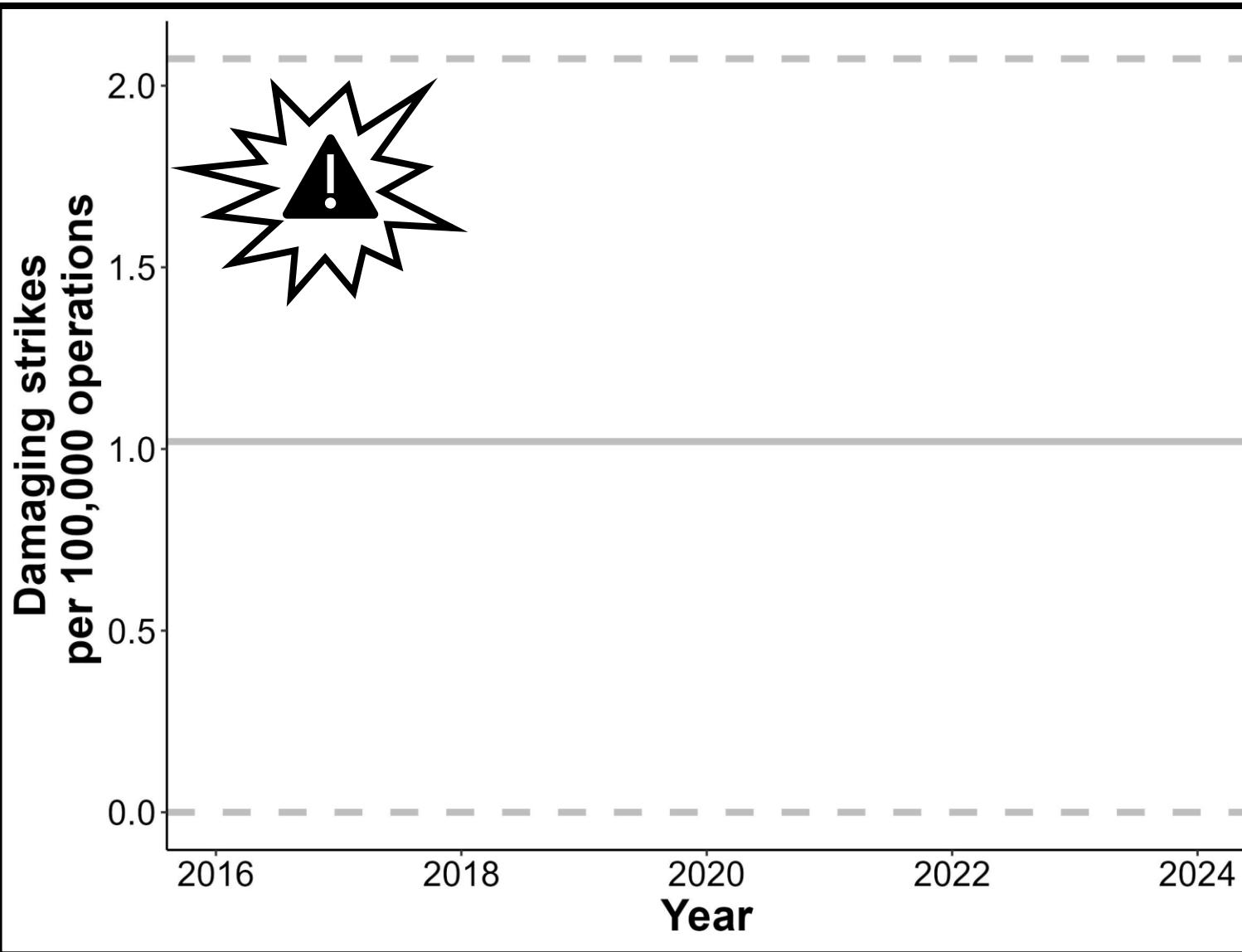


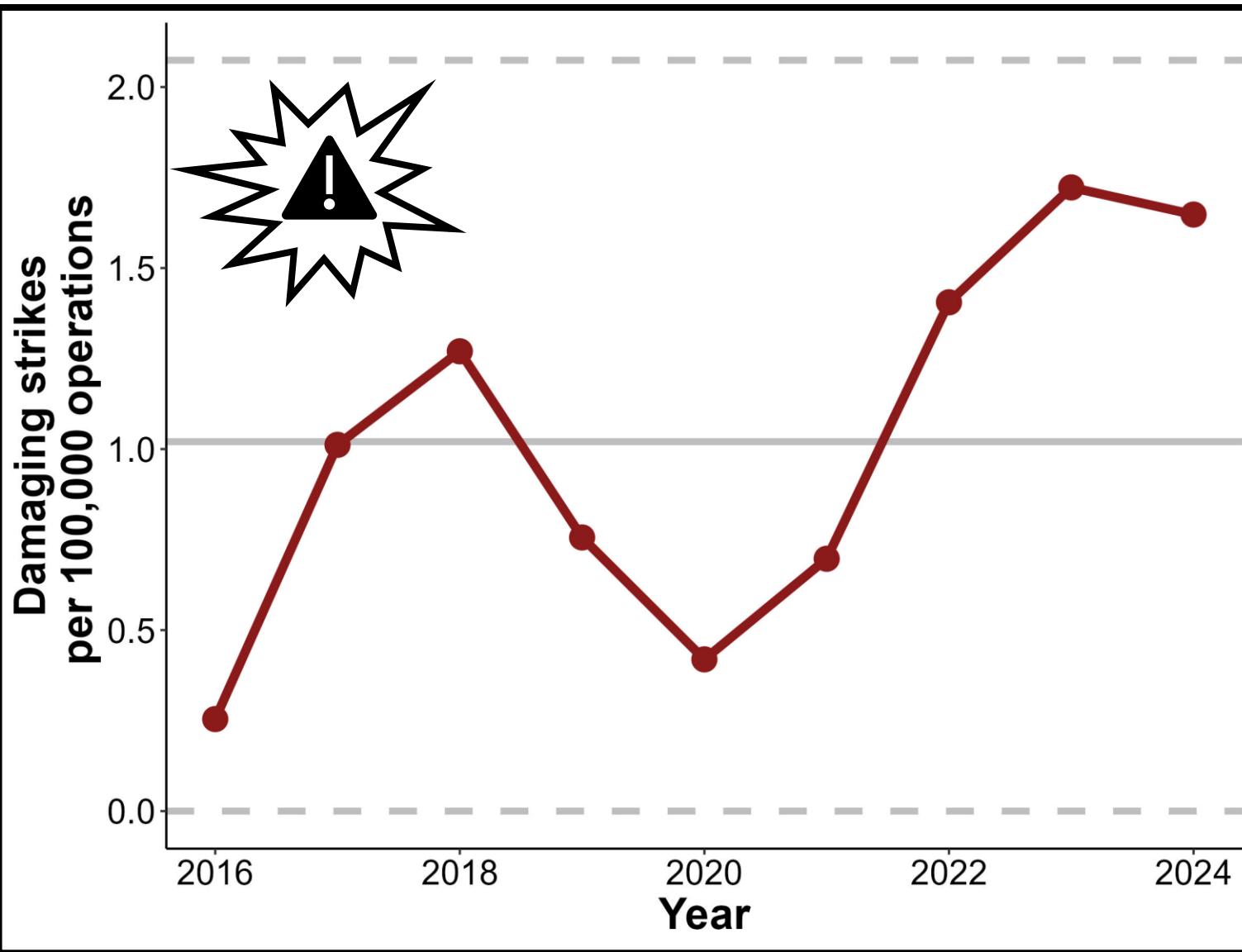
We've never had
a cormorant
strike before

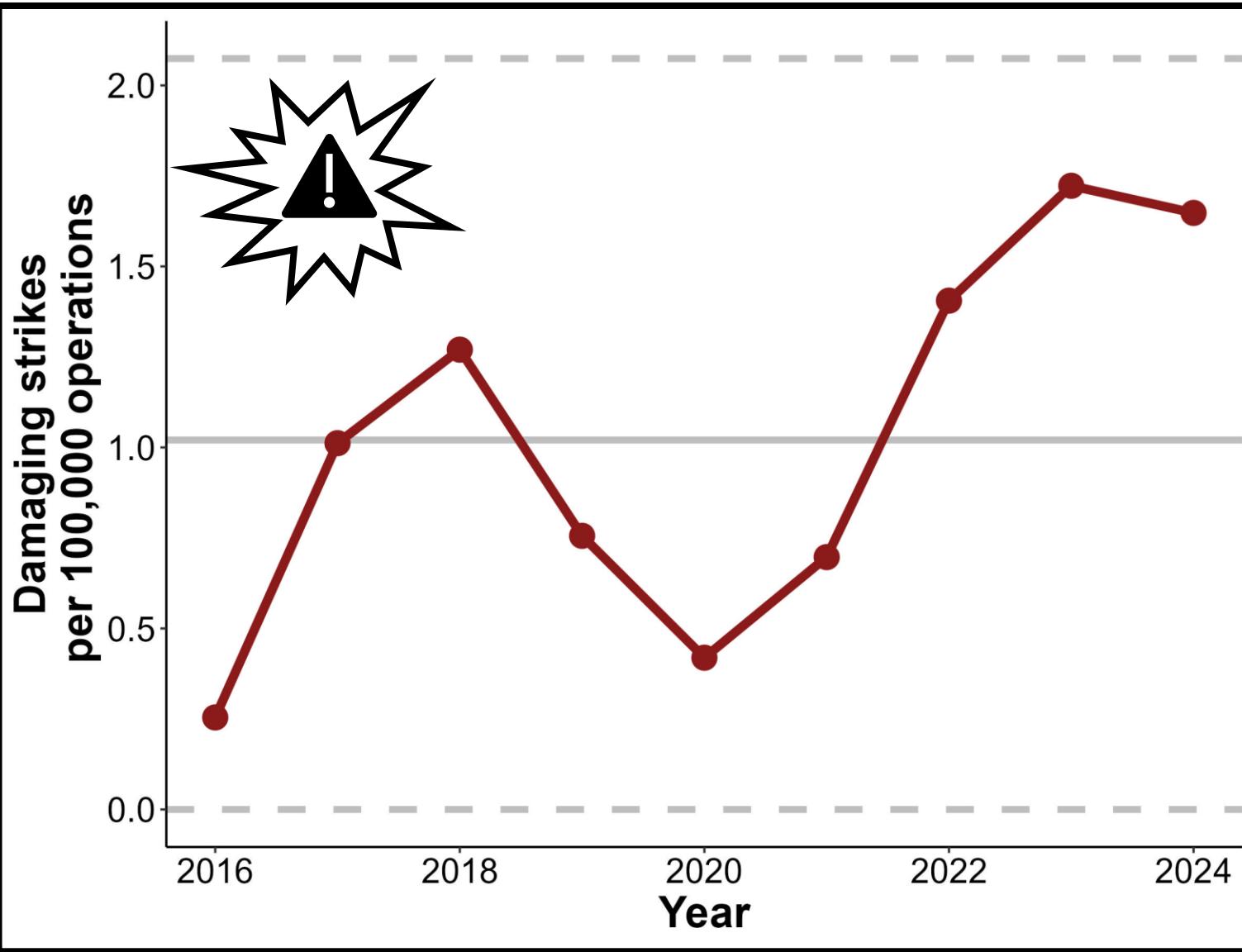


We've never had a cormorant strike before

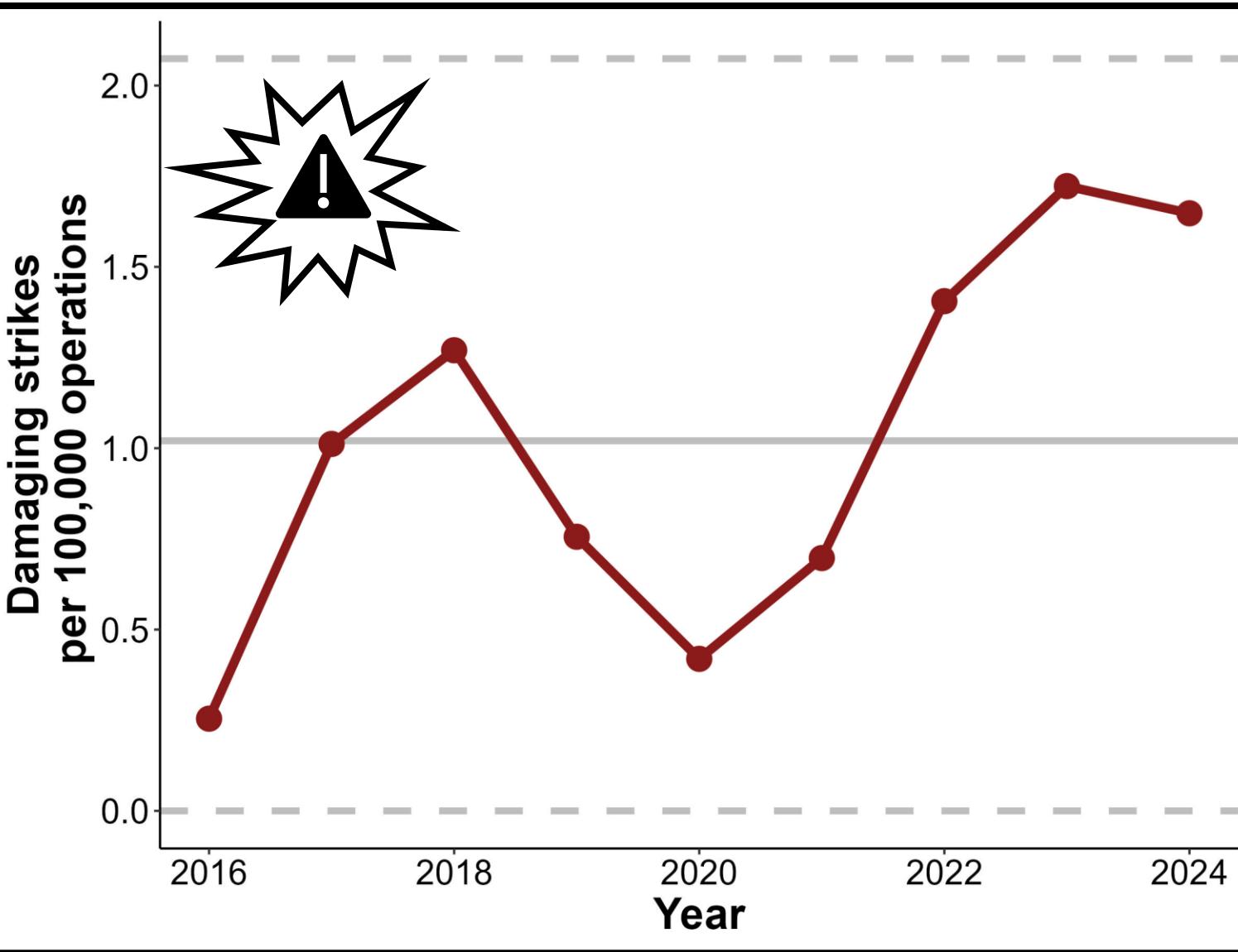
- 1 out of 2 = damaging
- Aquatic bird
- Ponds are a problem





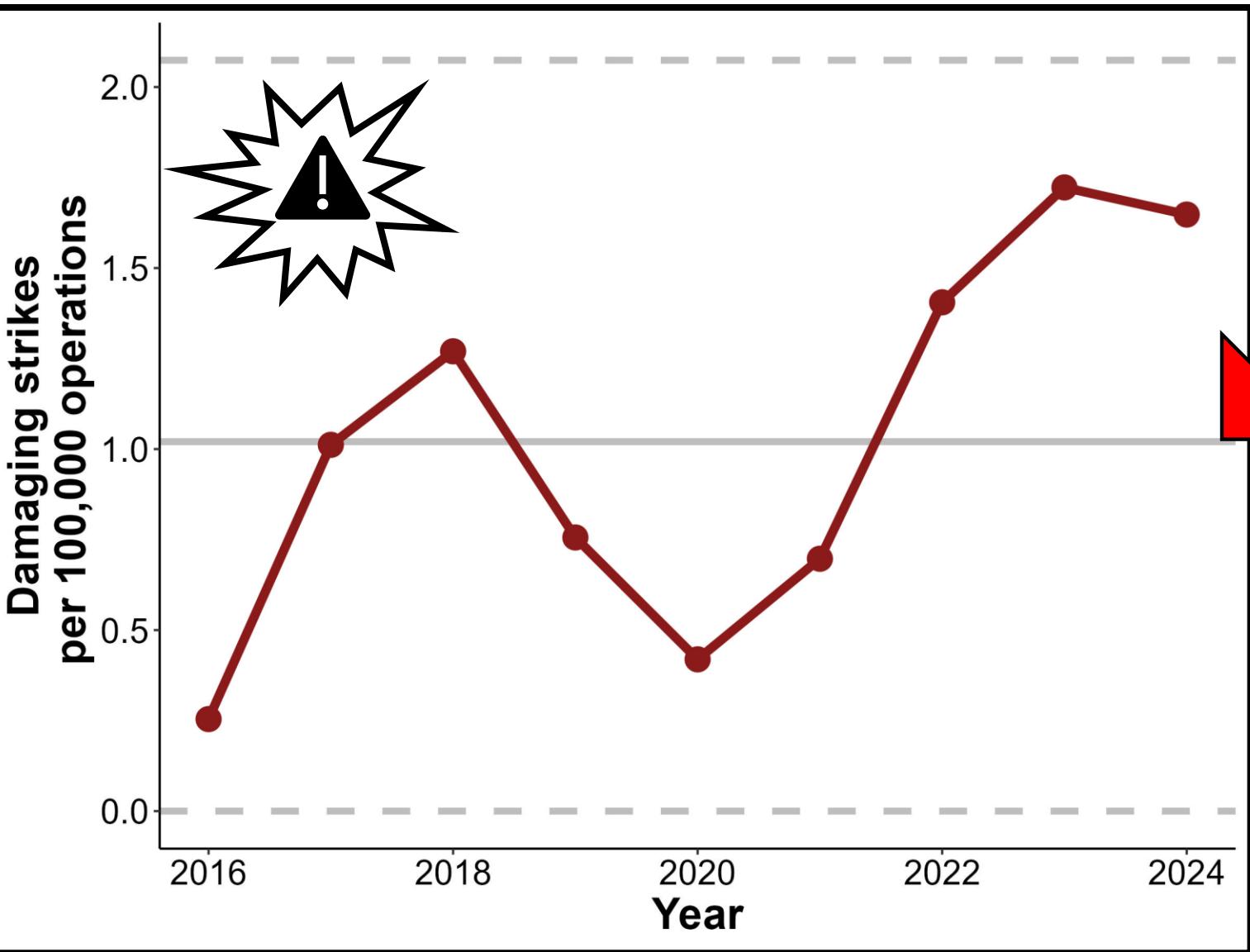


**Damaging-strike
rate higher than
average over past 3
years**

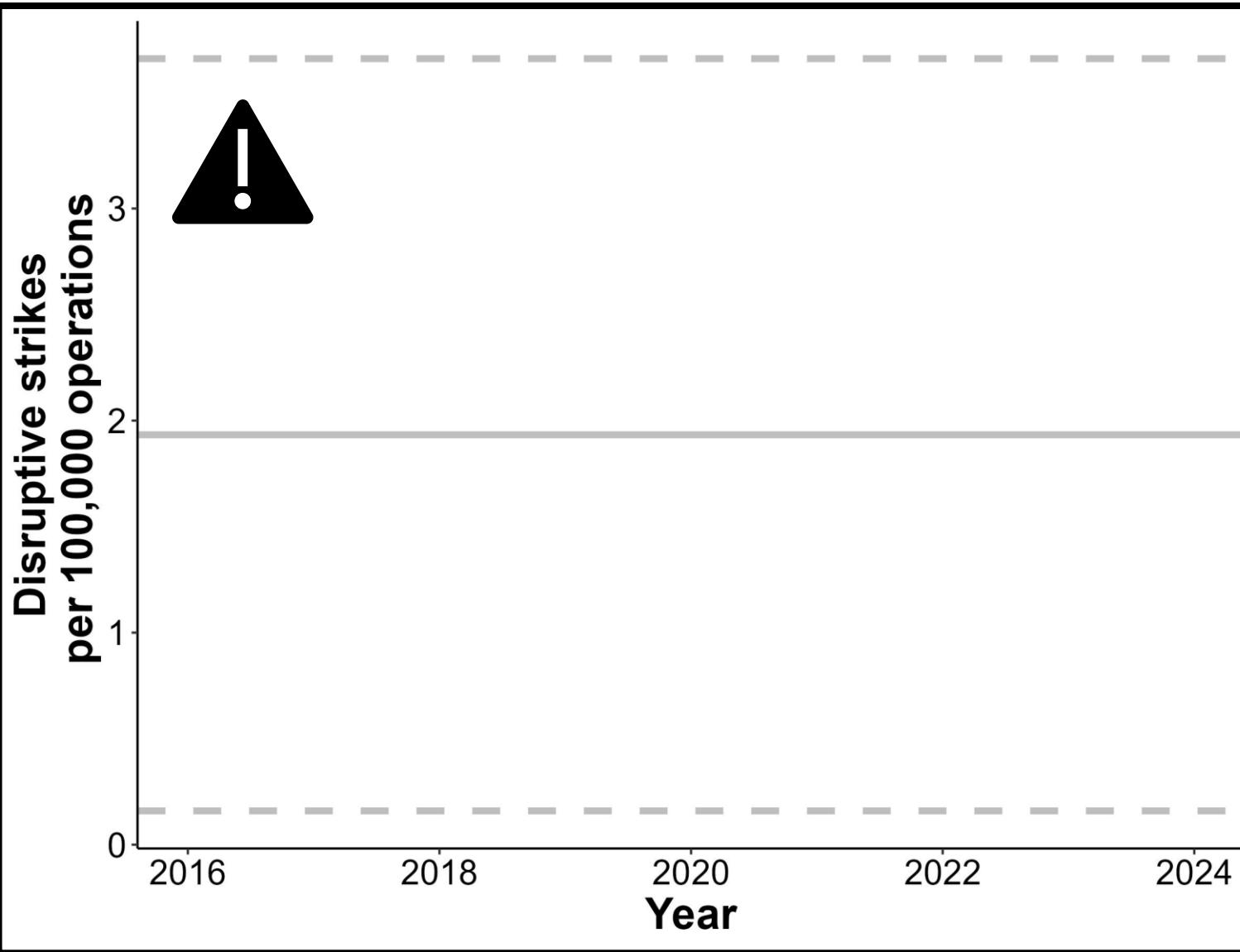


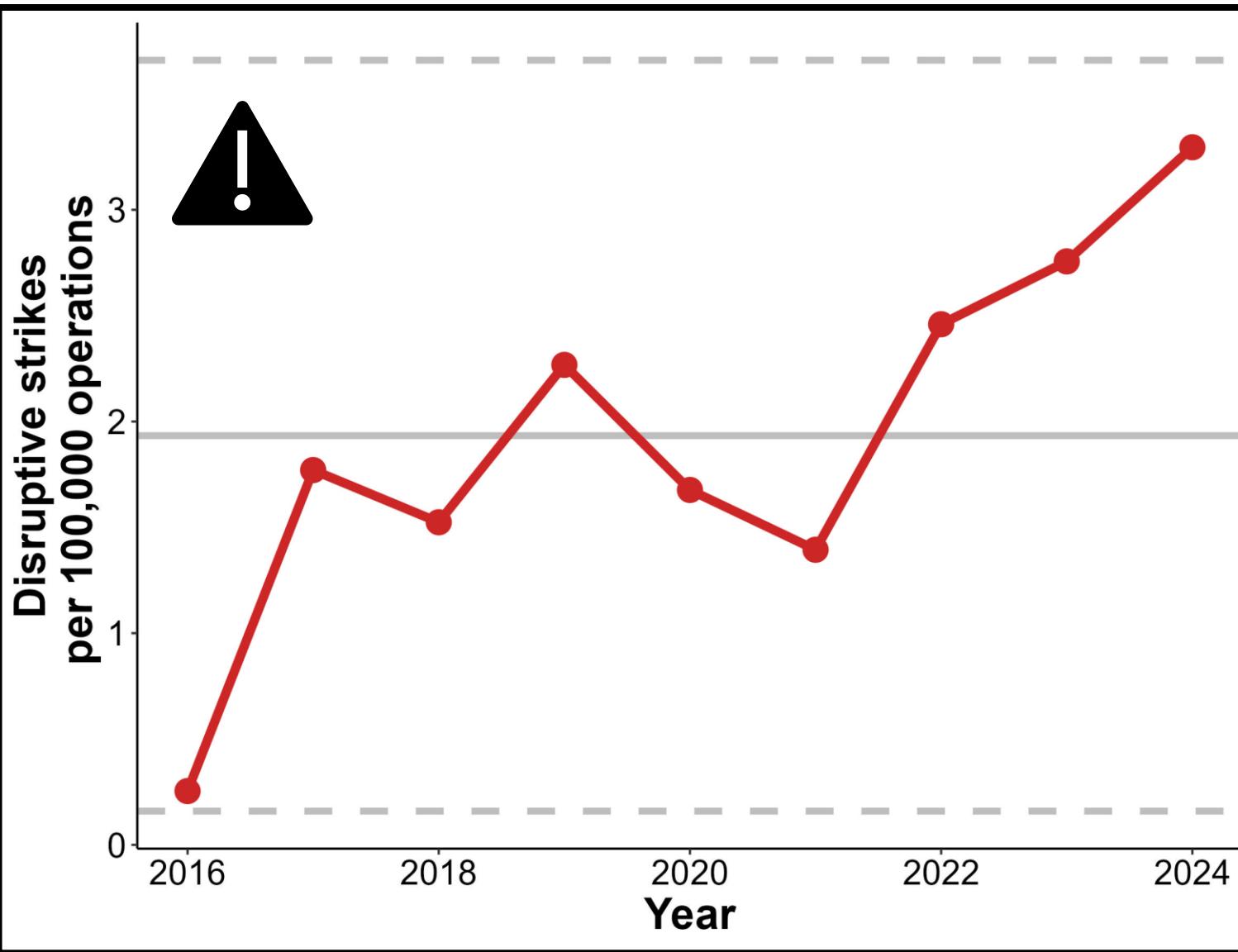
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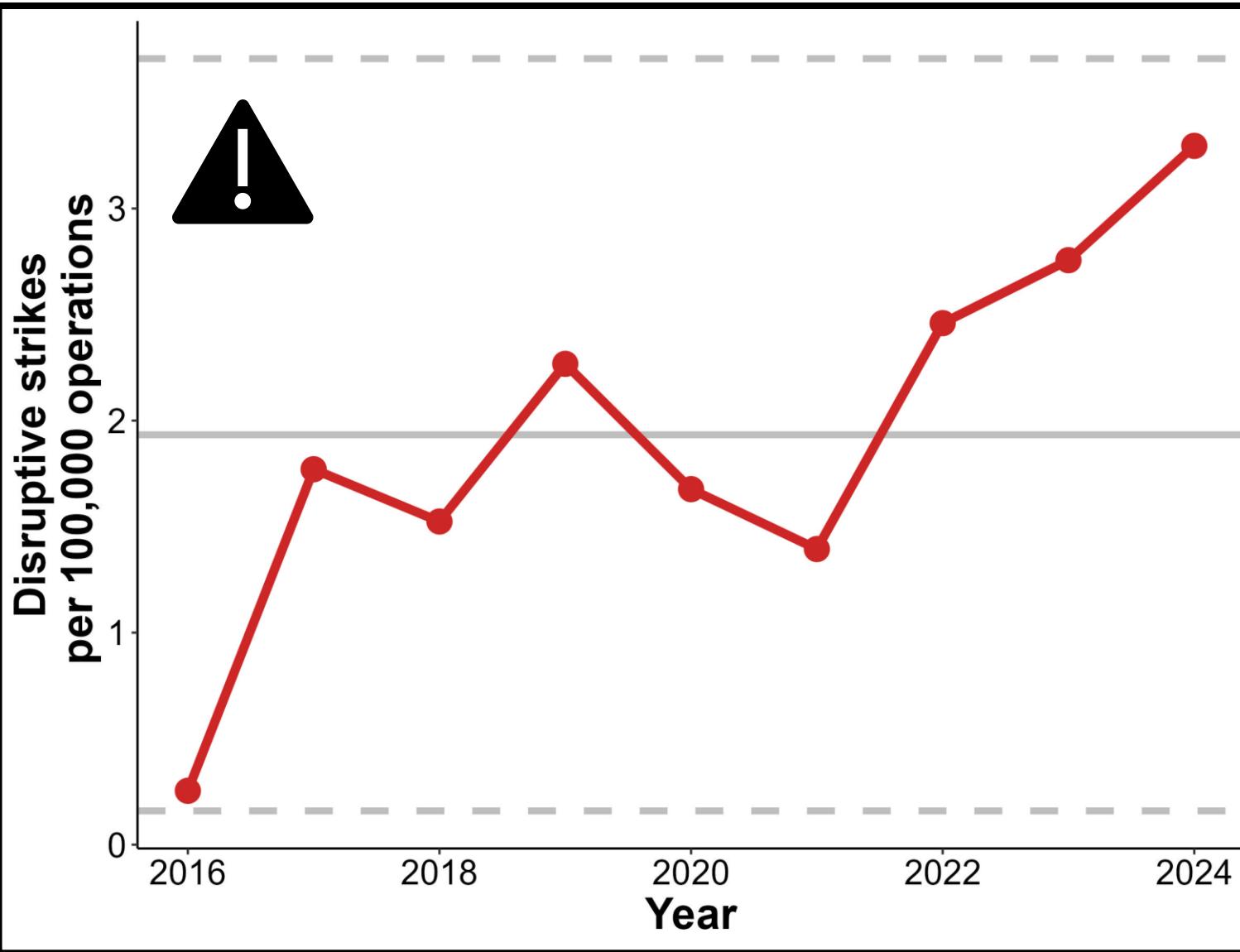
- Not statistically higher



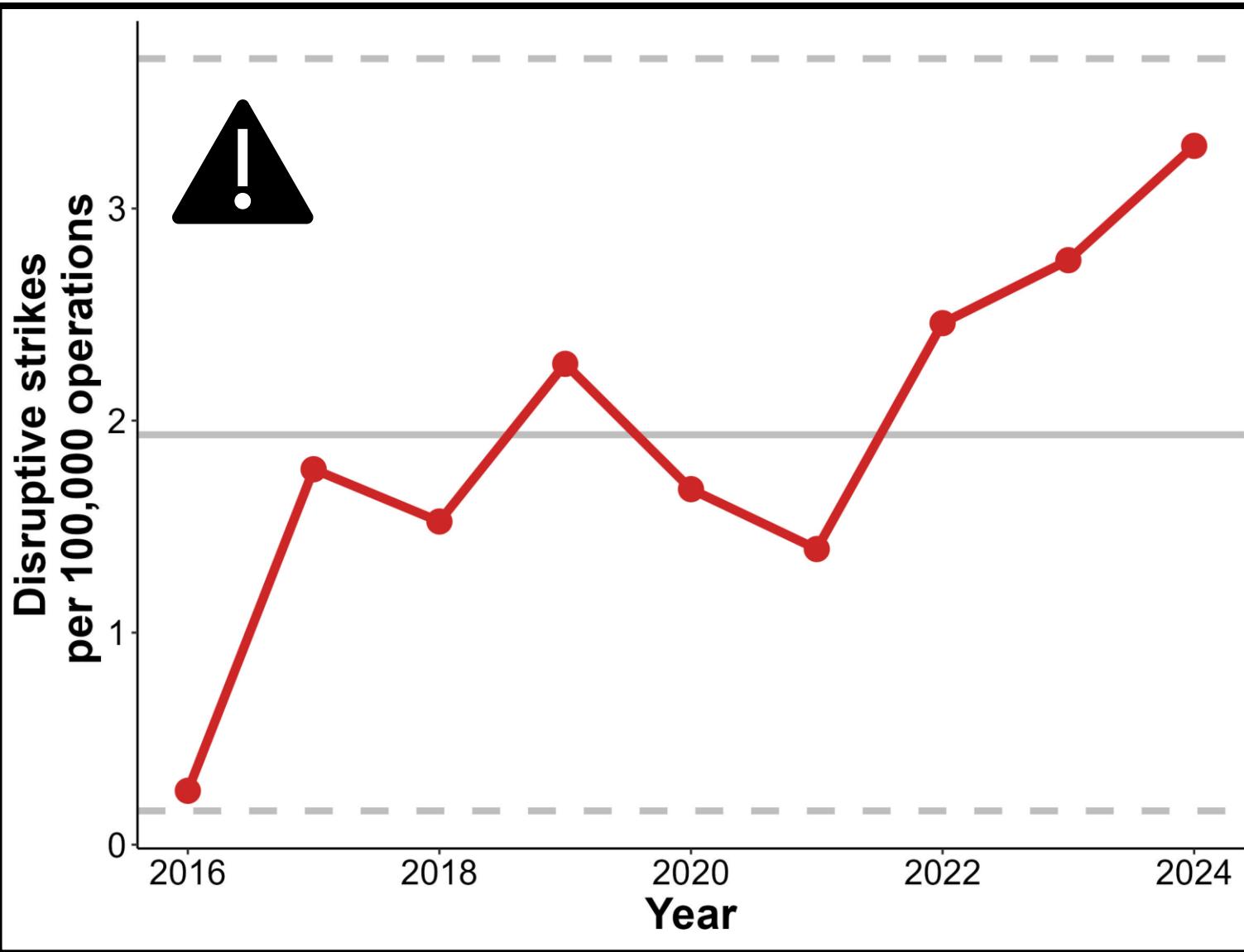
Damaging rate
still 33% lower
than national
average!





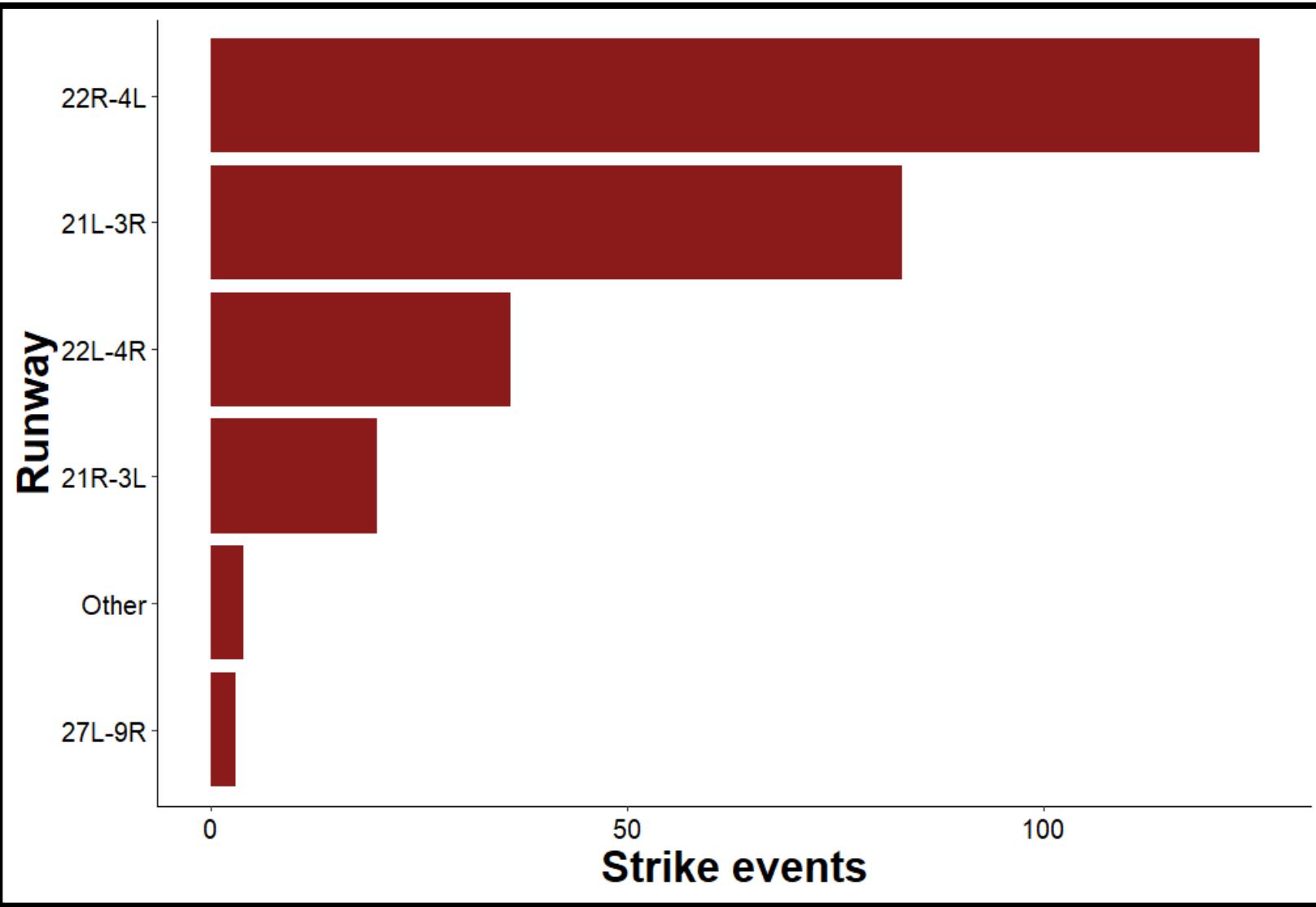


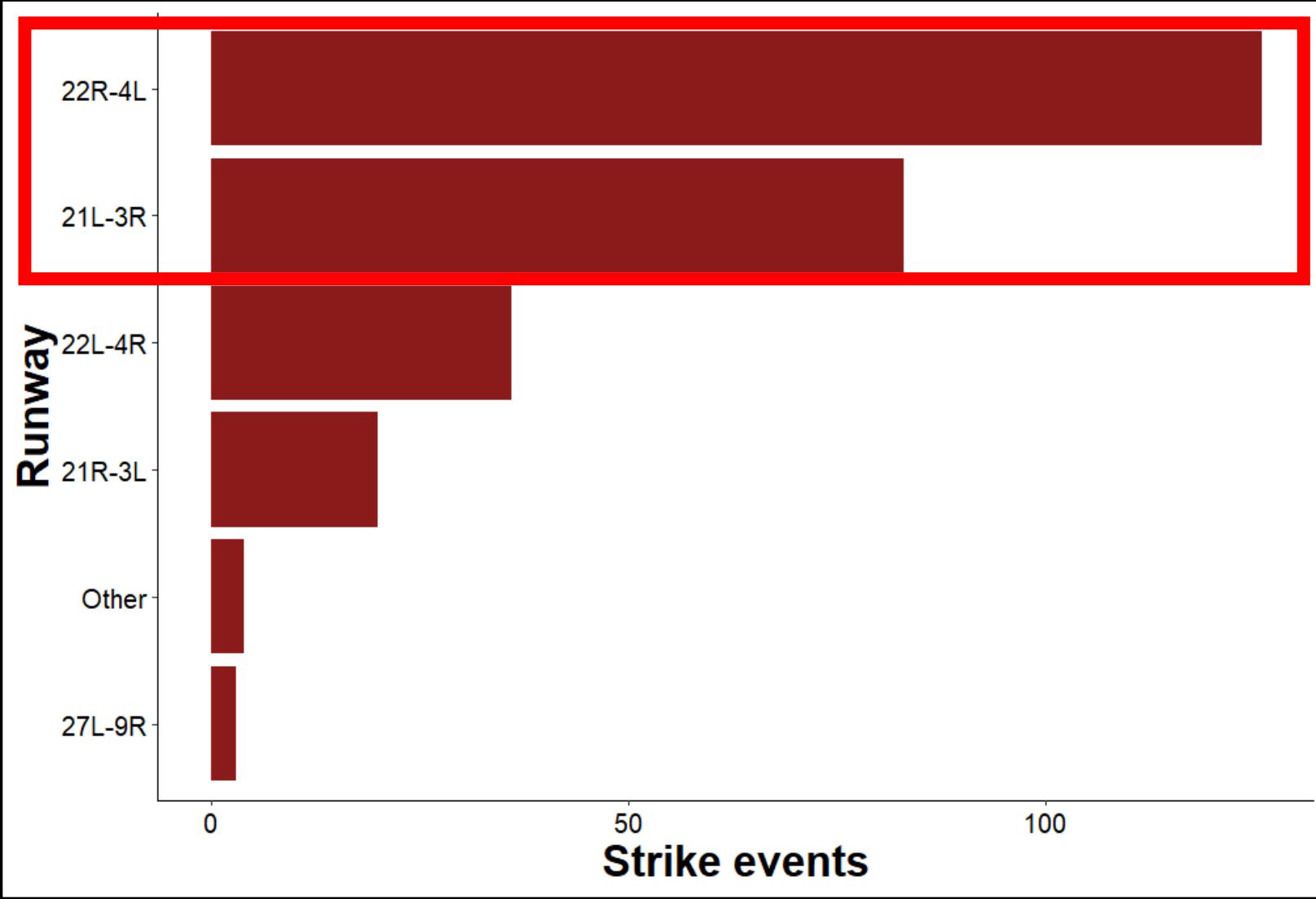
**Disruptive-strike
rate peaked in 2024**



Disruptive-strike rate peaked in 2024

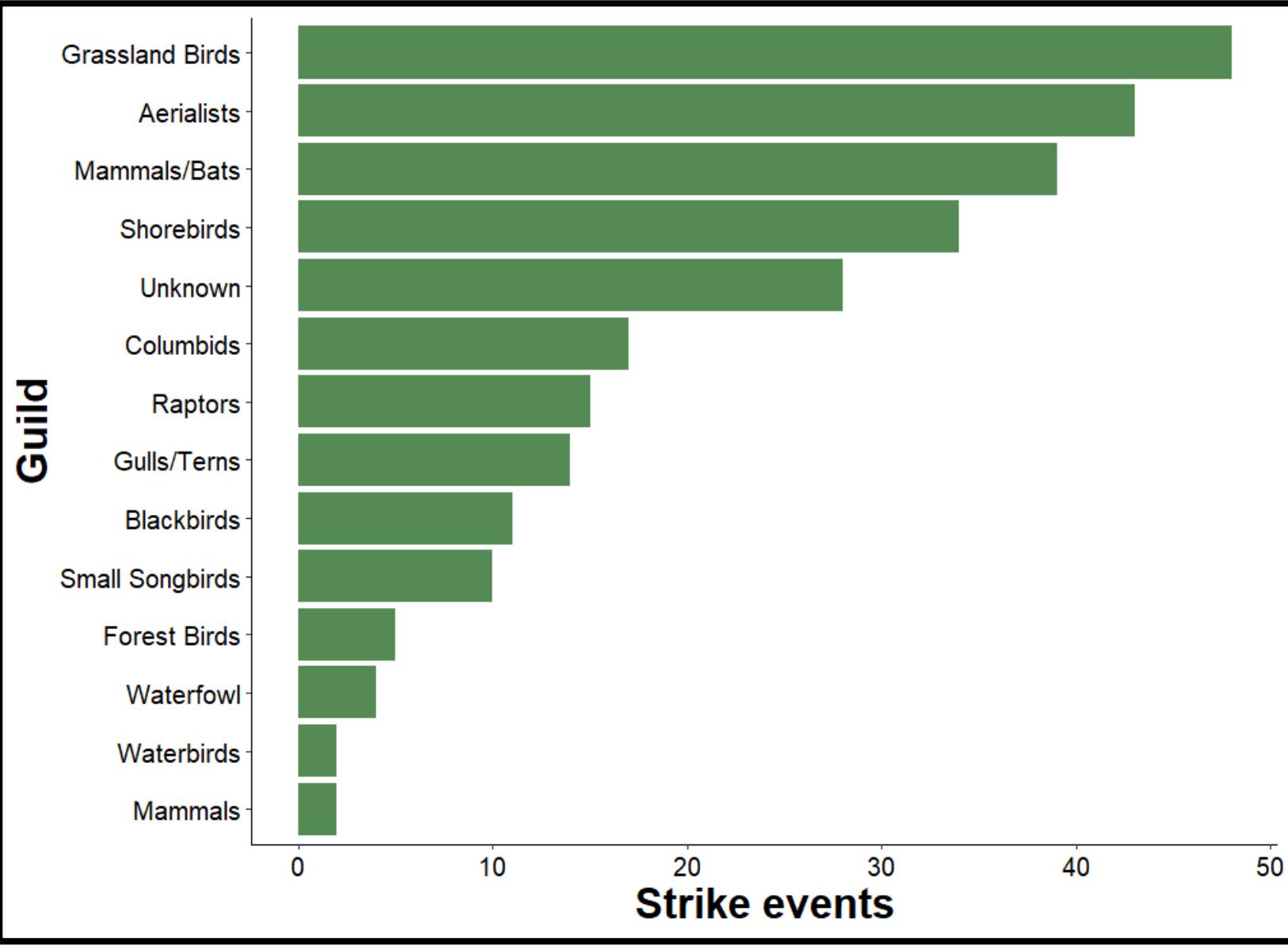
- Not statistically higher
- May reflect reporting effort

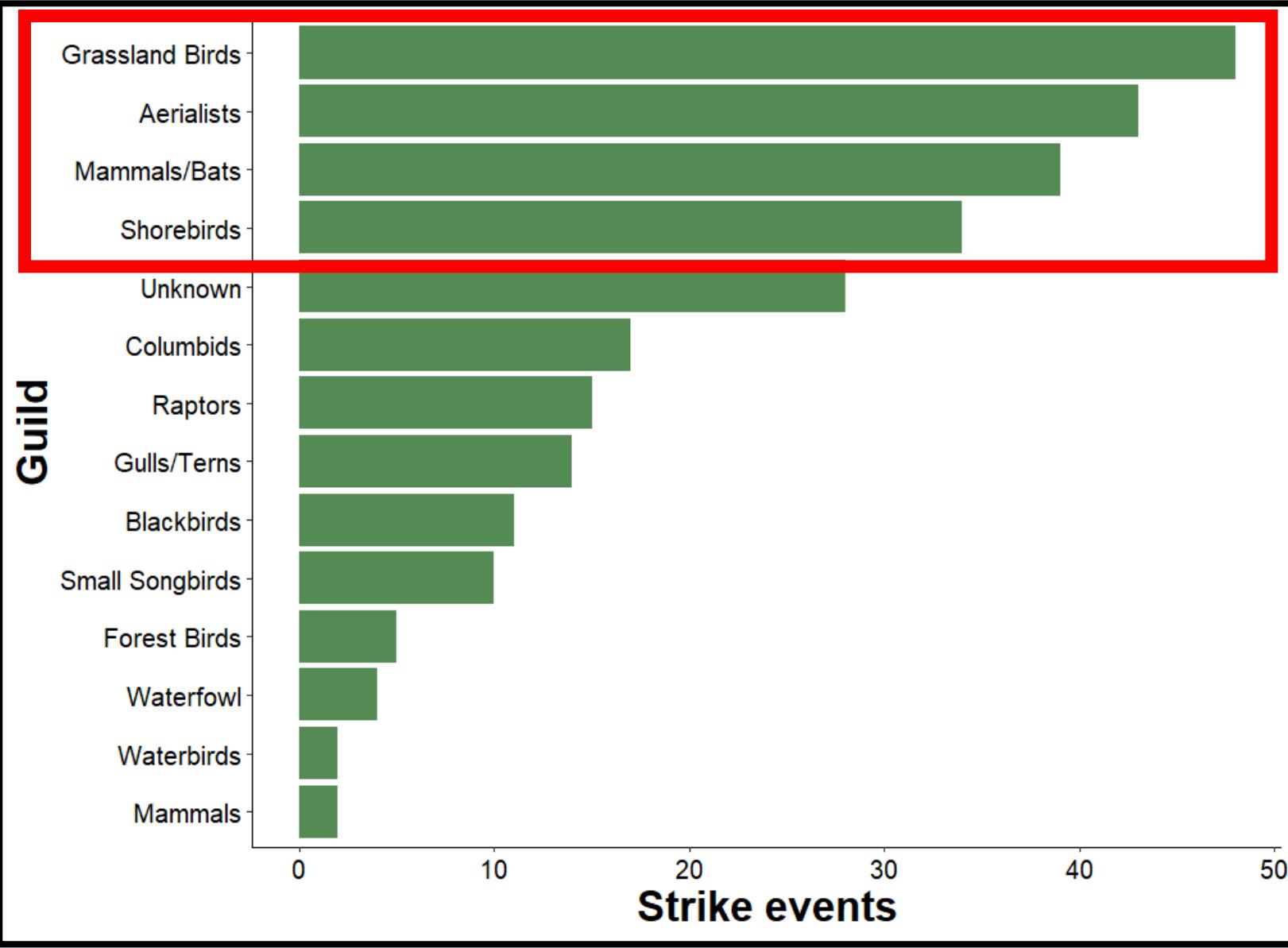




Outboard and arrival runways have most strikes

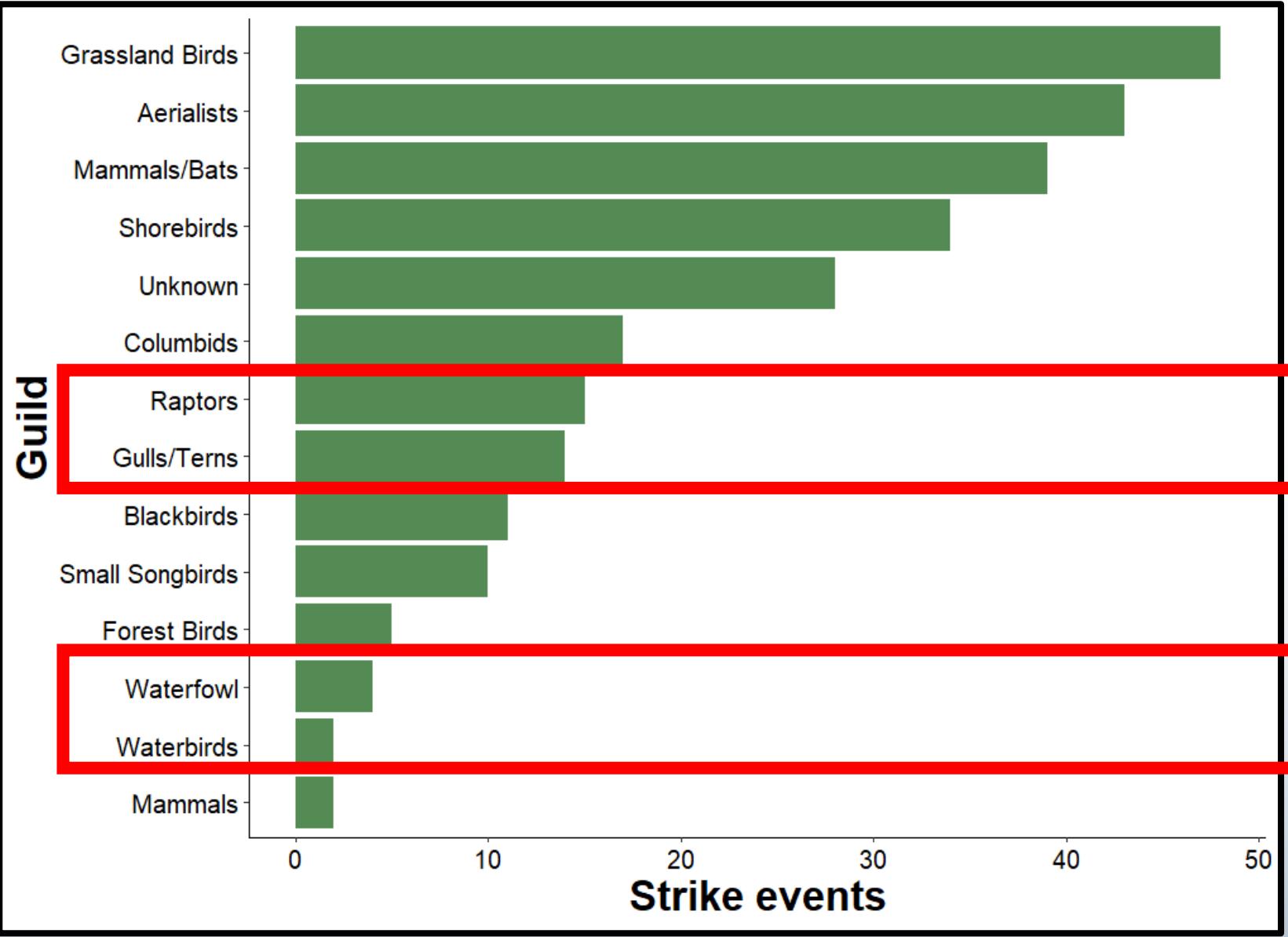
- Similar to national & DTW historical trends





**Smaller, less
damaging species
struck the most**

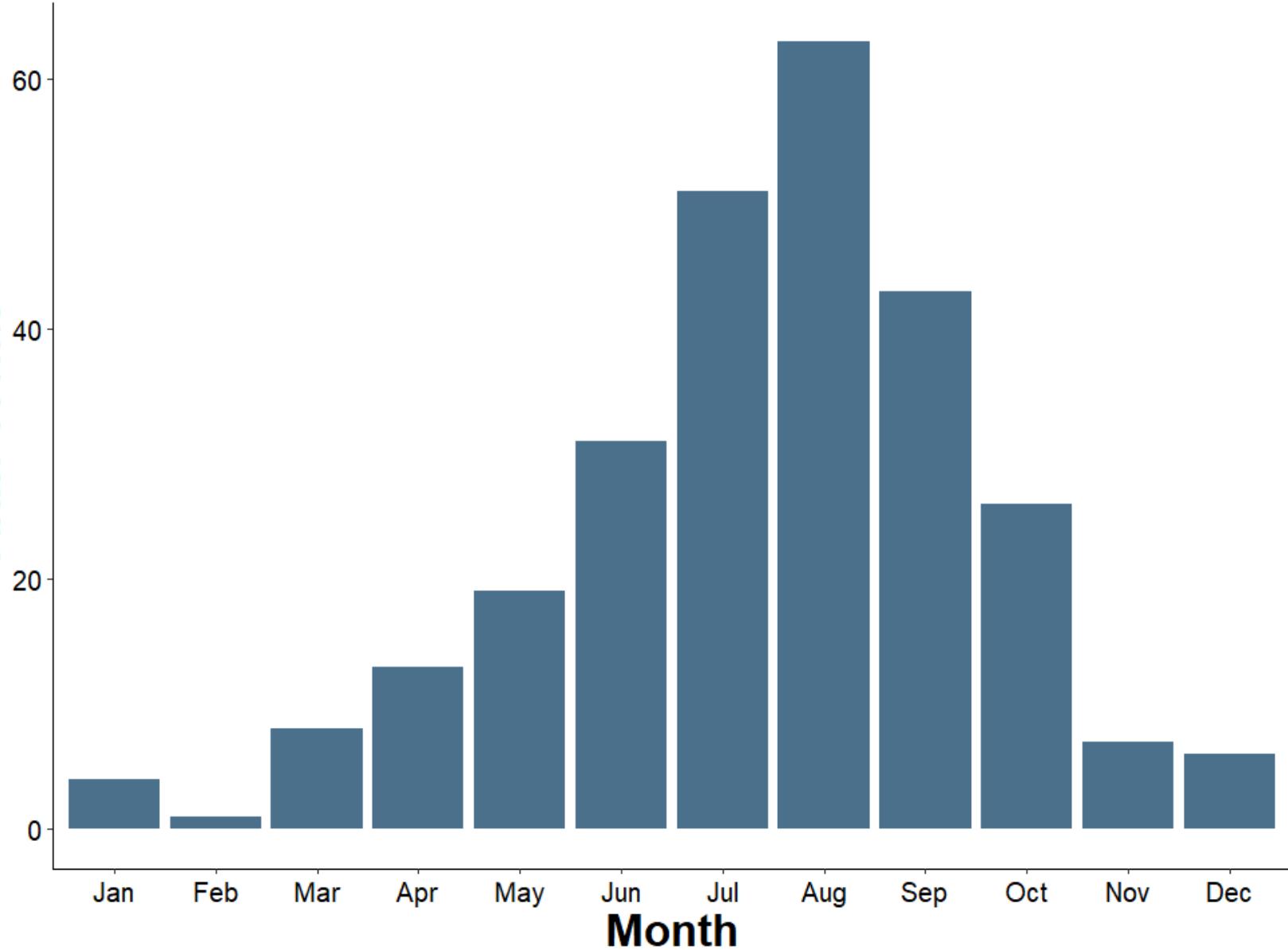
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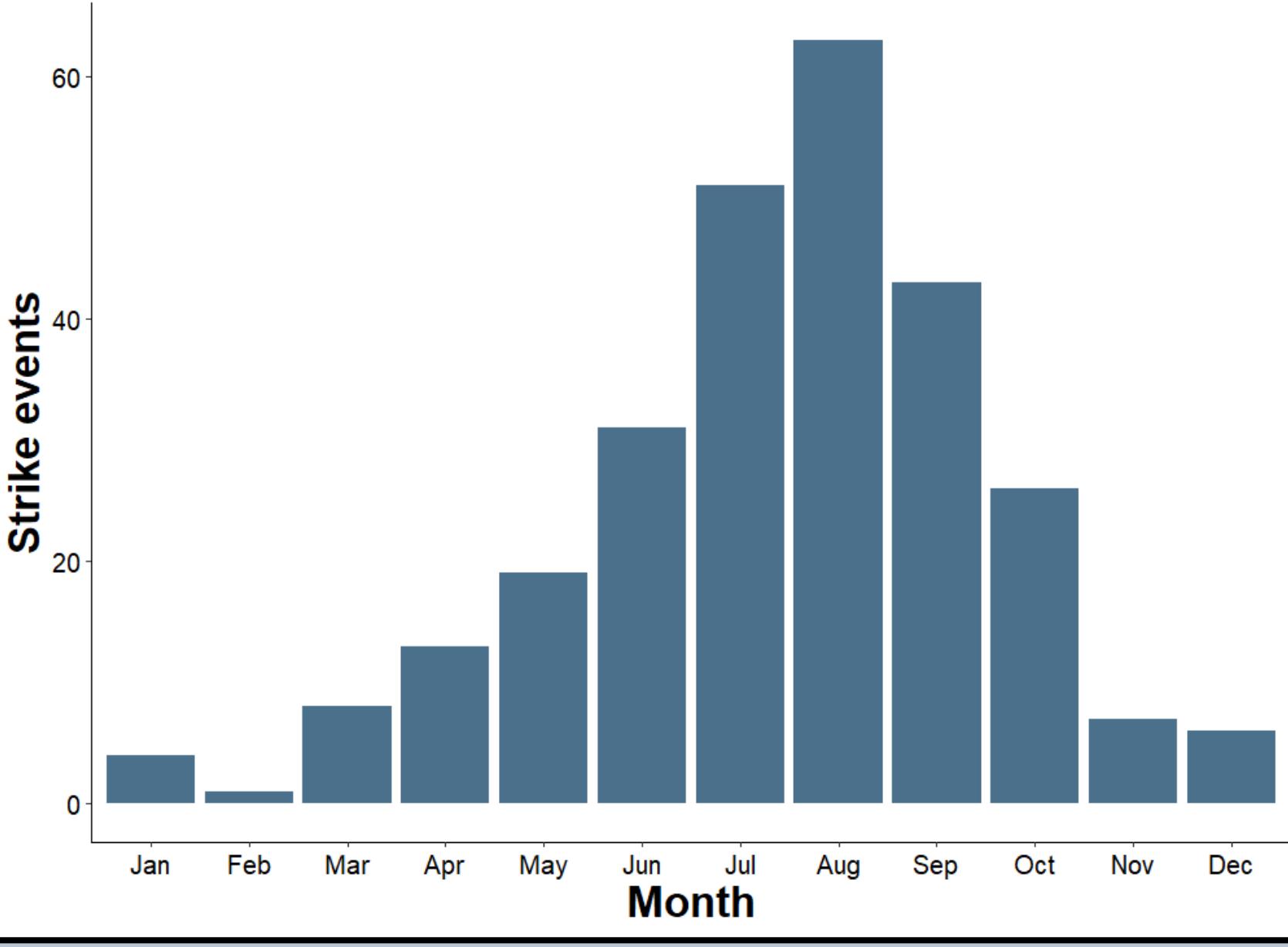


**Smaller, less
damaging species
struck the most**

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

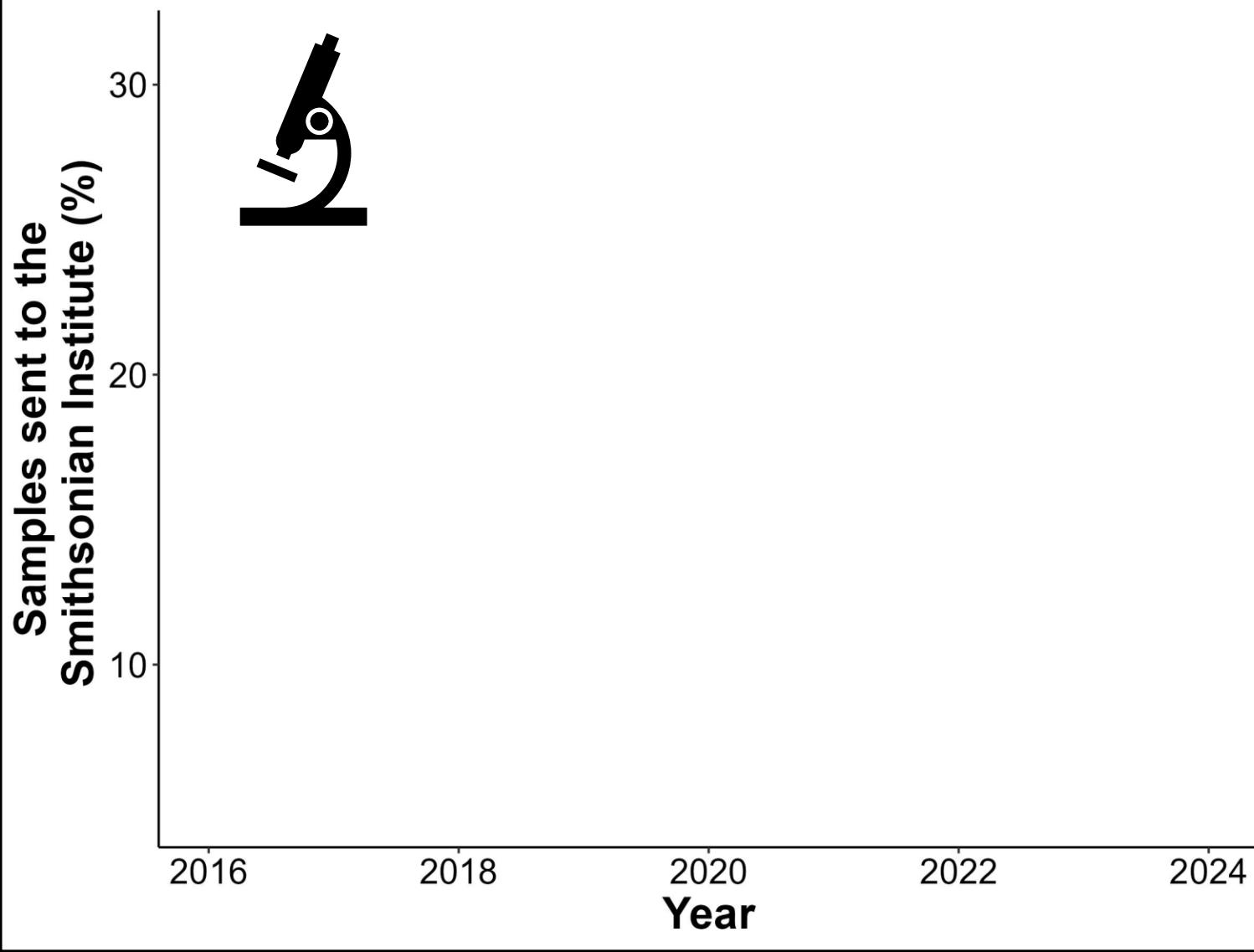
Strike events





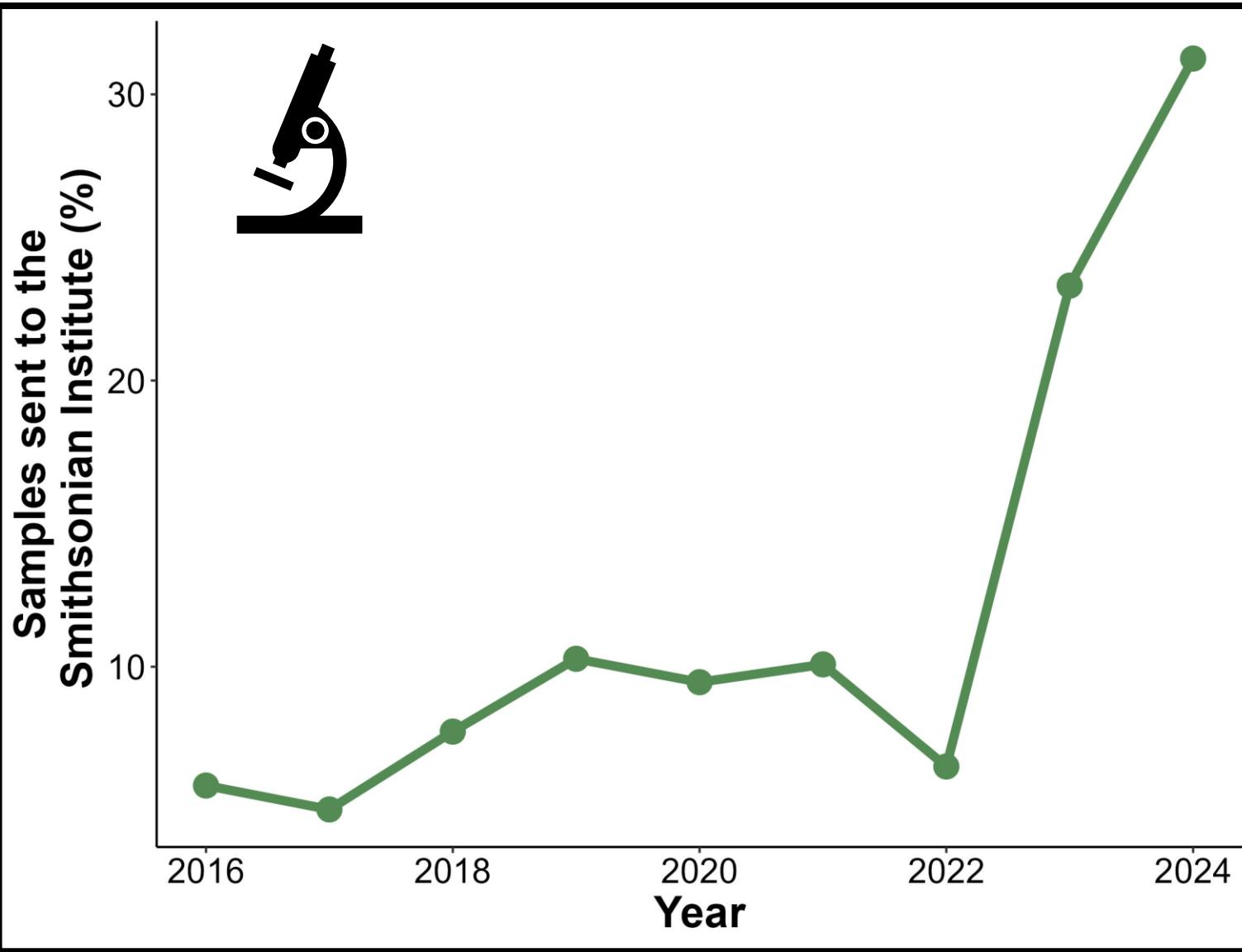
Strikes peaked July - September

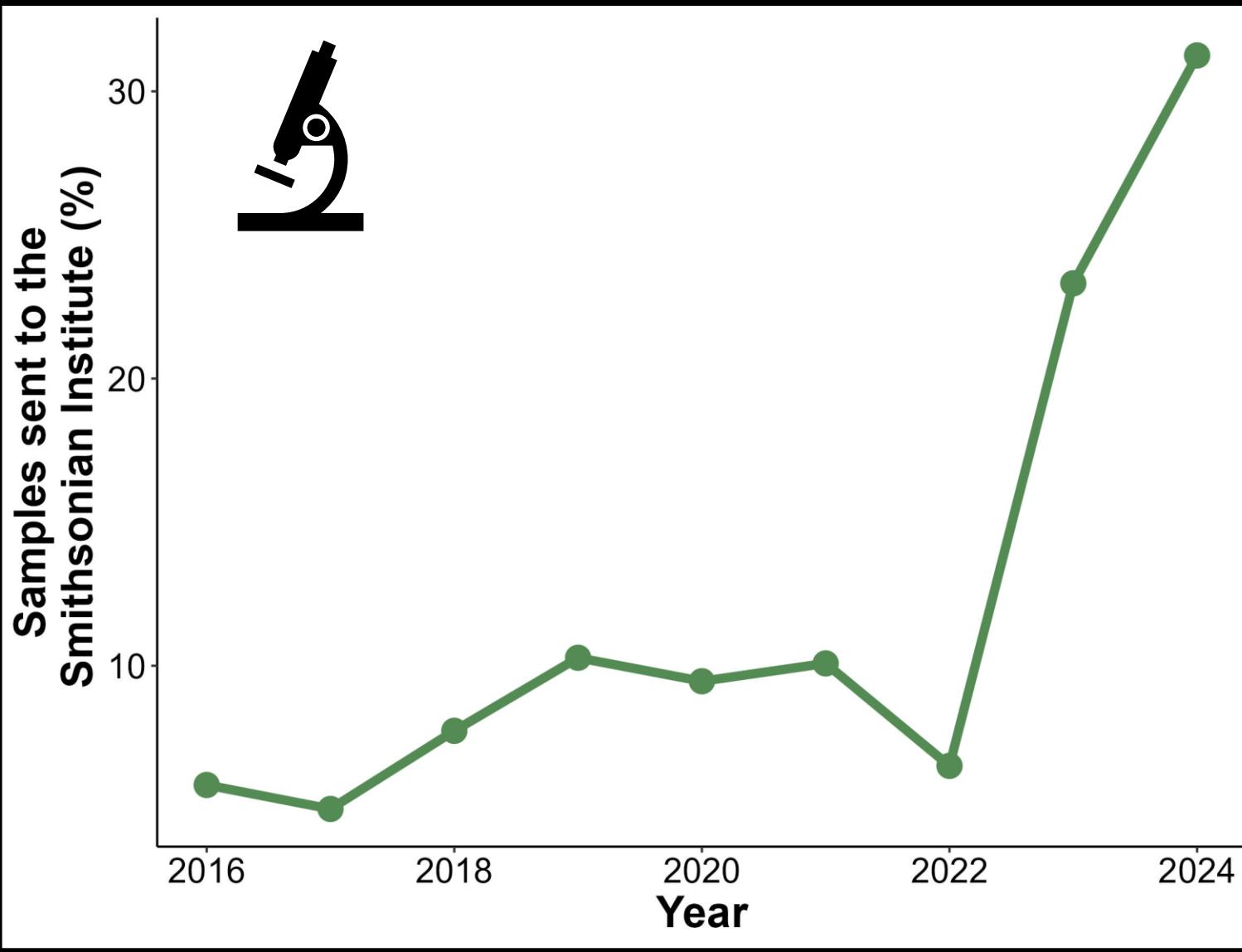
- Similar to national & DTW historical trend
- Increase bird movements, young



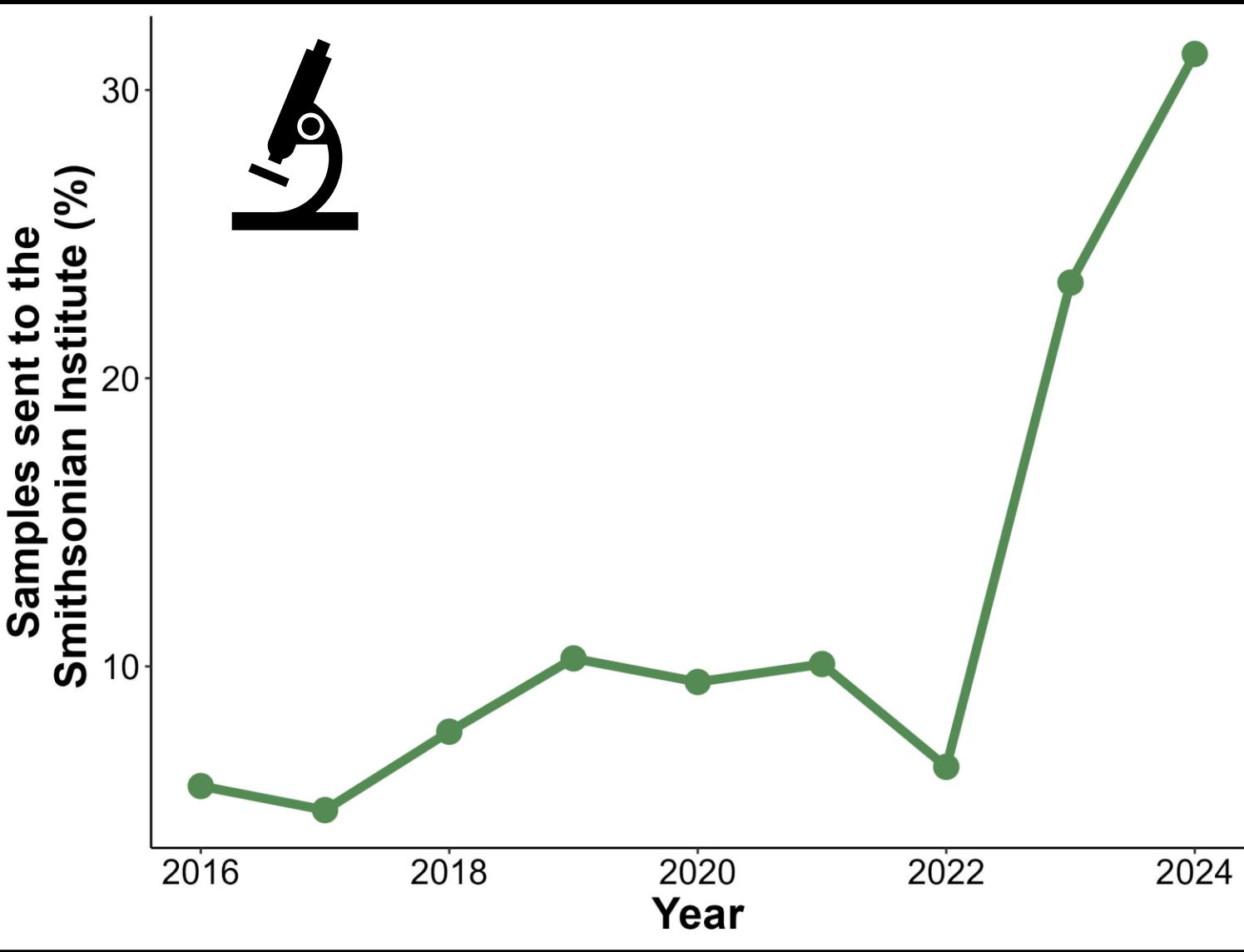
Smithsonian
Division of Birds
Feather Identification Lab





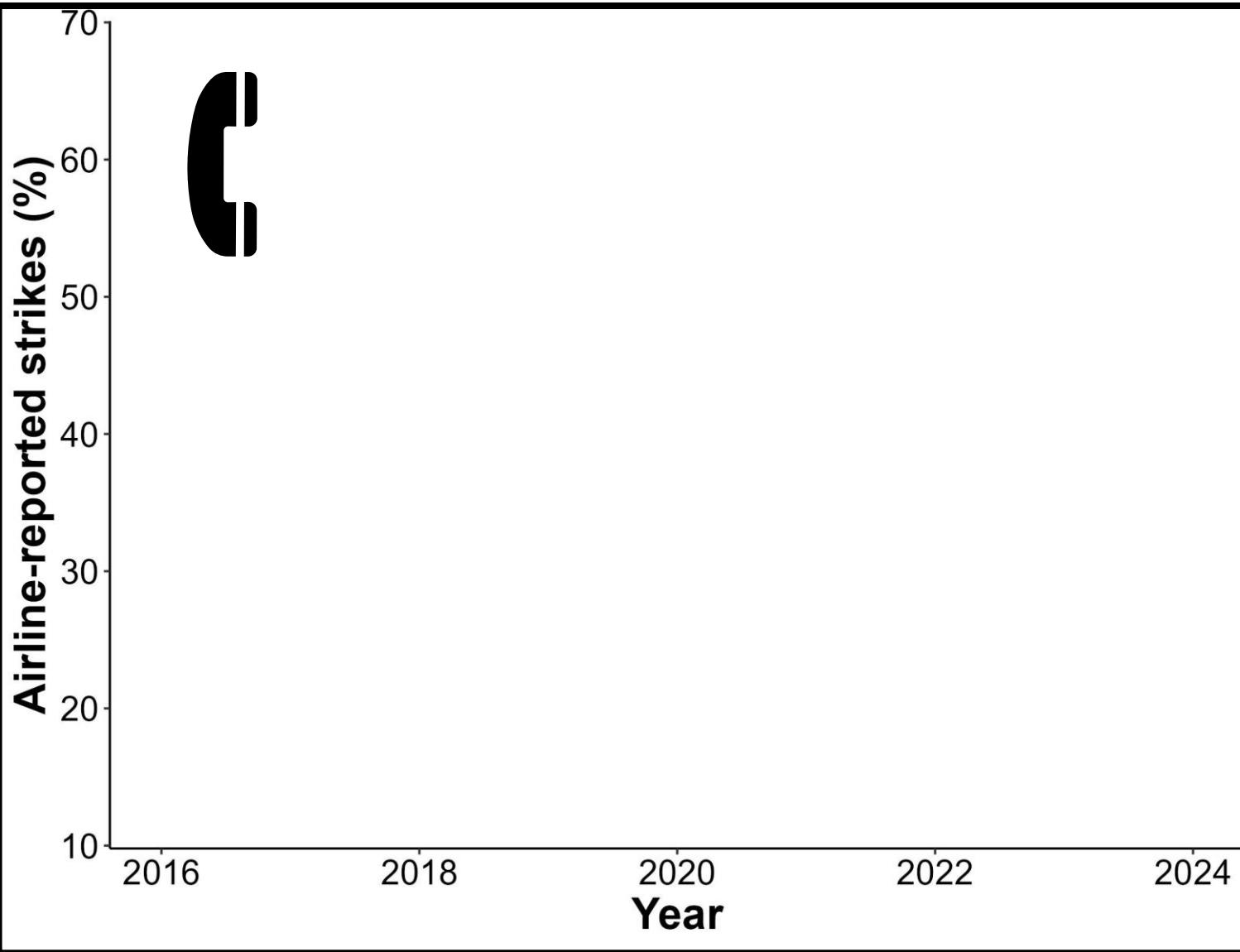


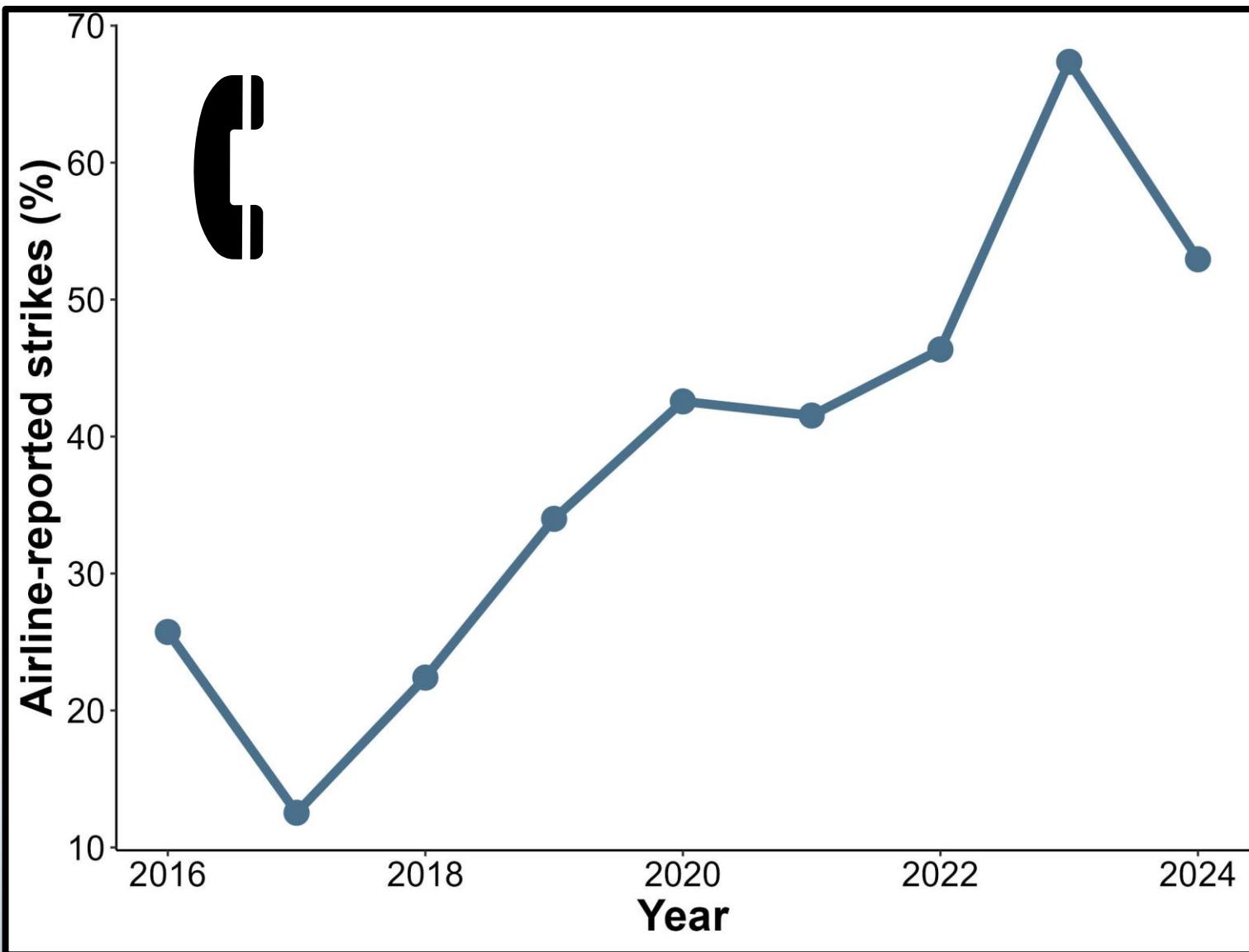
**Use of the ID lab
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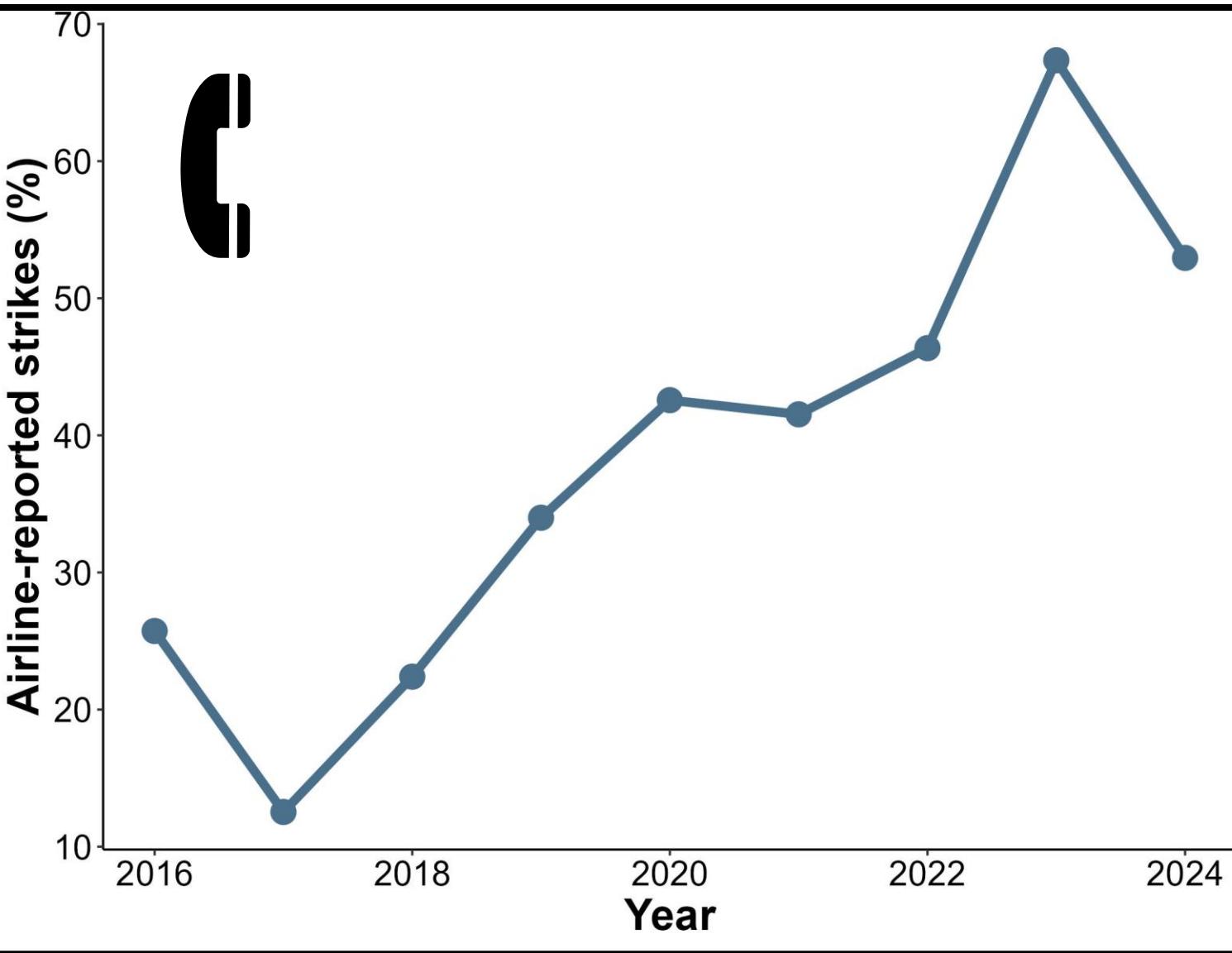
Use of the ID lab was at an all time high in 2024

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





**Airlines continue
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- Reflects successful outreach efforts