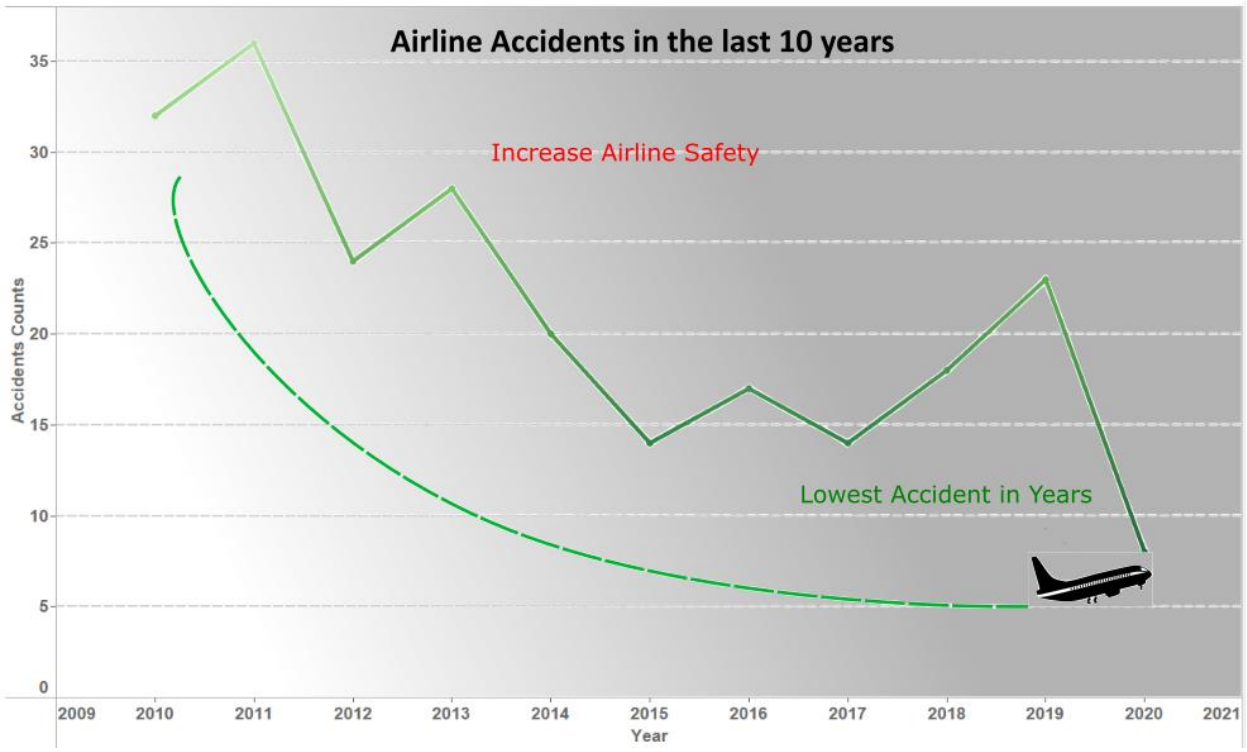
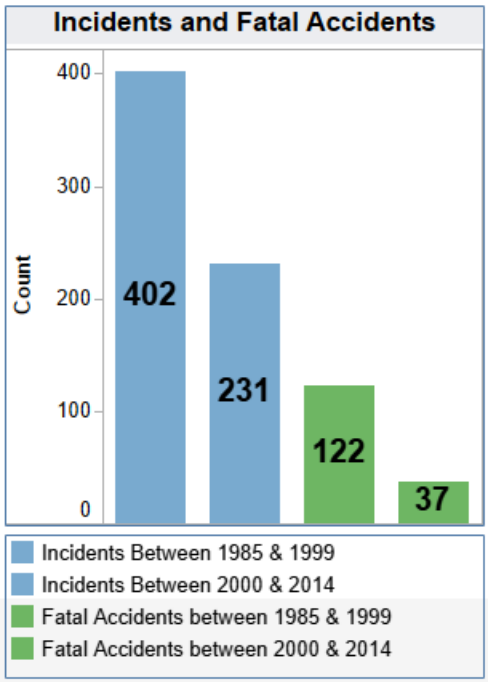
Airline safety is something that is only on our minds when an accident occurs. It might even enter our minds during the preflight announcement or video informing you of the exits, oxygen masks or that you can use your seat cushion as a floatation device. All things that make you think, “hhhmm is this airline safe?”

Airline travel is a safe form of commercial travel. In the last ten years the number of accidents involving airlines has dropped to an all-time low.



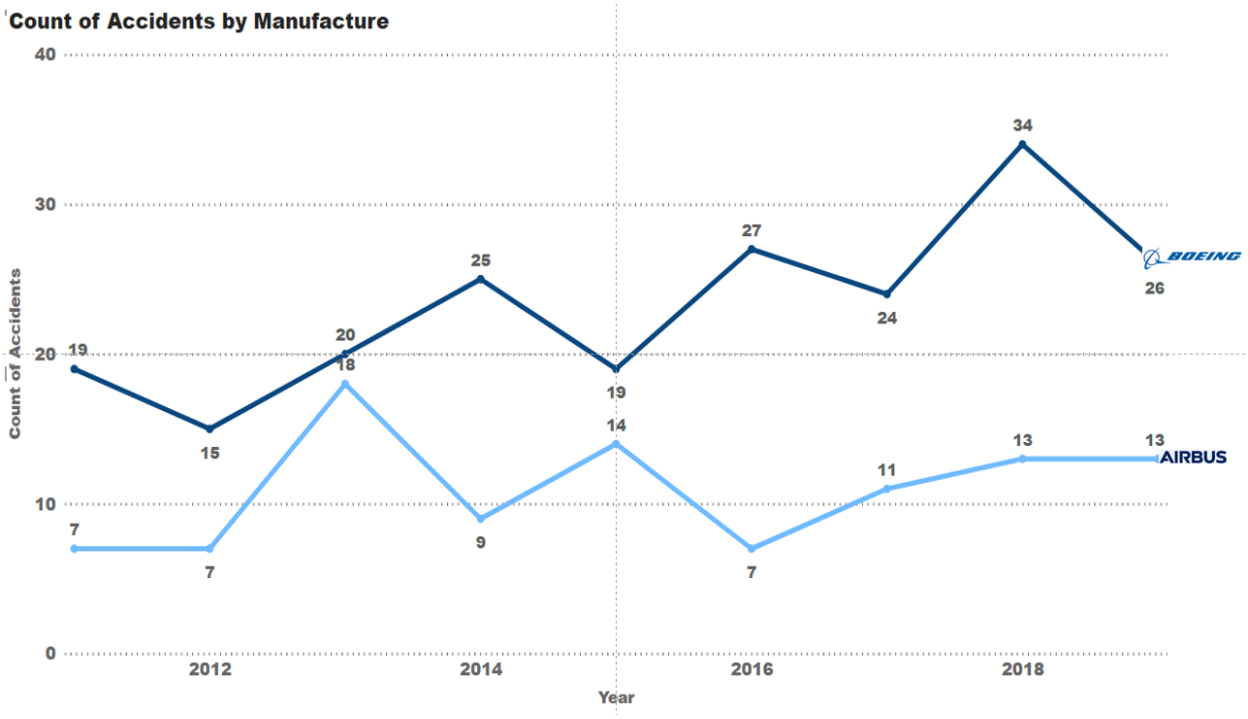
In the last 10 years with increase airline safety air travel is seeing the lowest amount of accident in history. As indicated by the graph above.



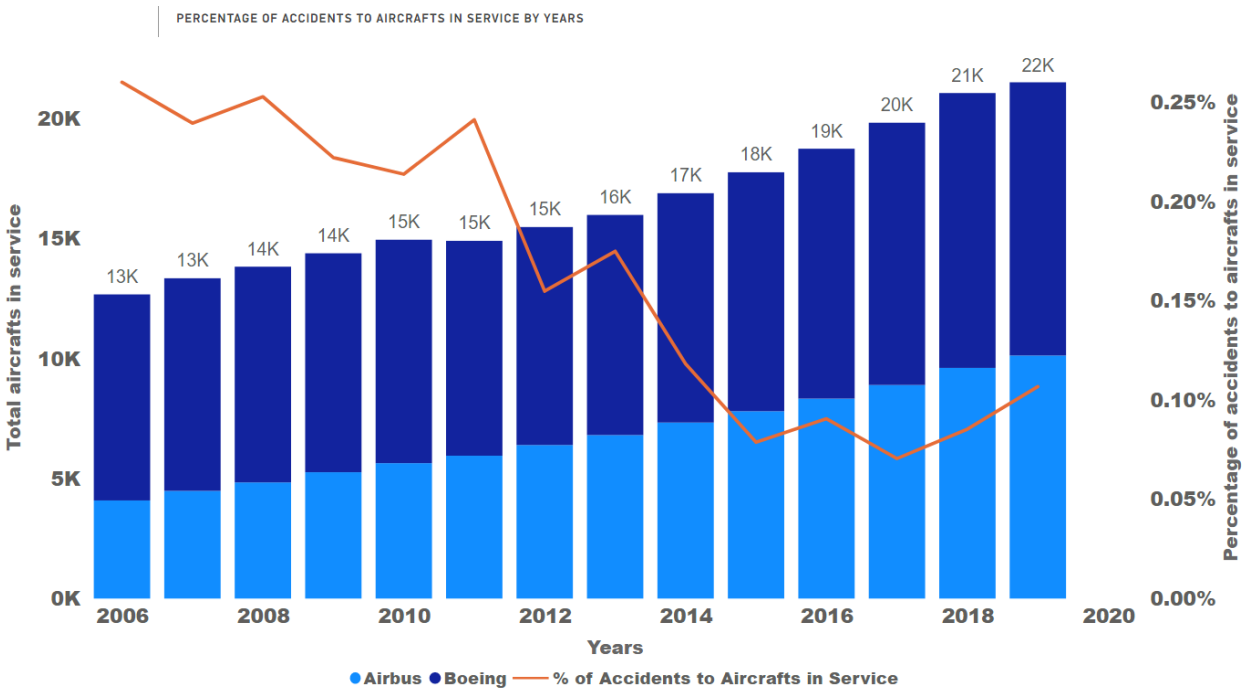
Incidents have decreased between 2000 and 2014. Increased safety by the airline industry as a whole have led to reduced number of fatal accidents as shown by the bar graph. Visual comparing incidents between 1985 and 1999.

Incidents have decrease by 42.5% between 2000 and 2014 compared to between 1985 and 1999.

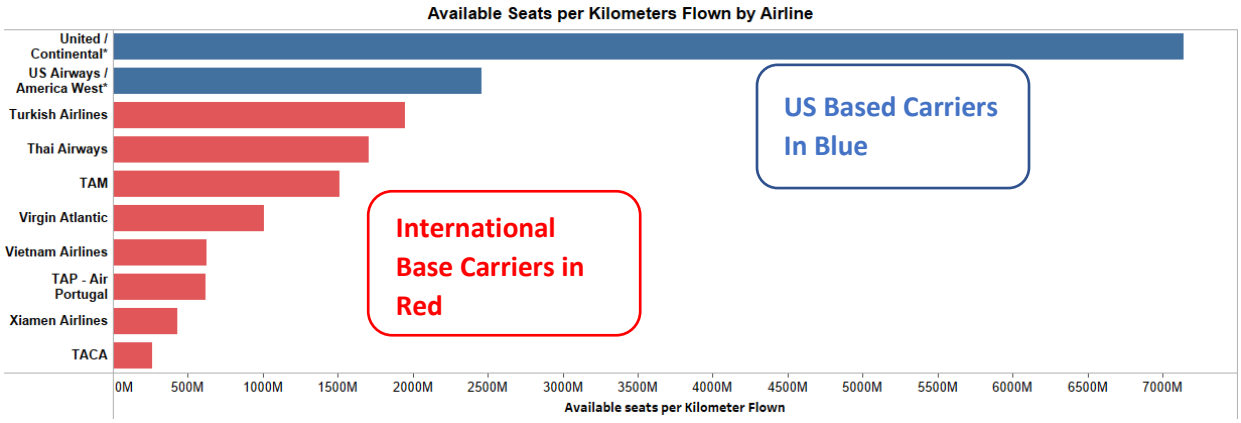
Fatal accidents have decrease by 69.7% between 2000 and 2014 compared to between 1985 and 1999.



Looking at accidents by manufacture Boeing appears to have higher number of accidents compared to its competitor Airbus. In the next graph we compare Airbus to Boeing by aircrafts in service. This will help explain the lower number of accidented experienced by Airbus compared to Boeing. The other think to keep in mind is Boeing has been in business longer than Airbus and hence has more aircrafts in service.

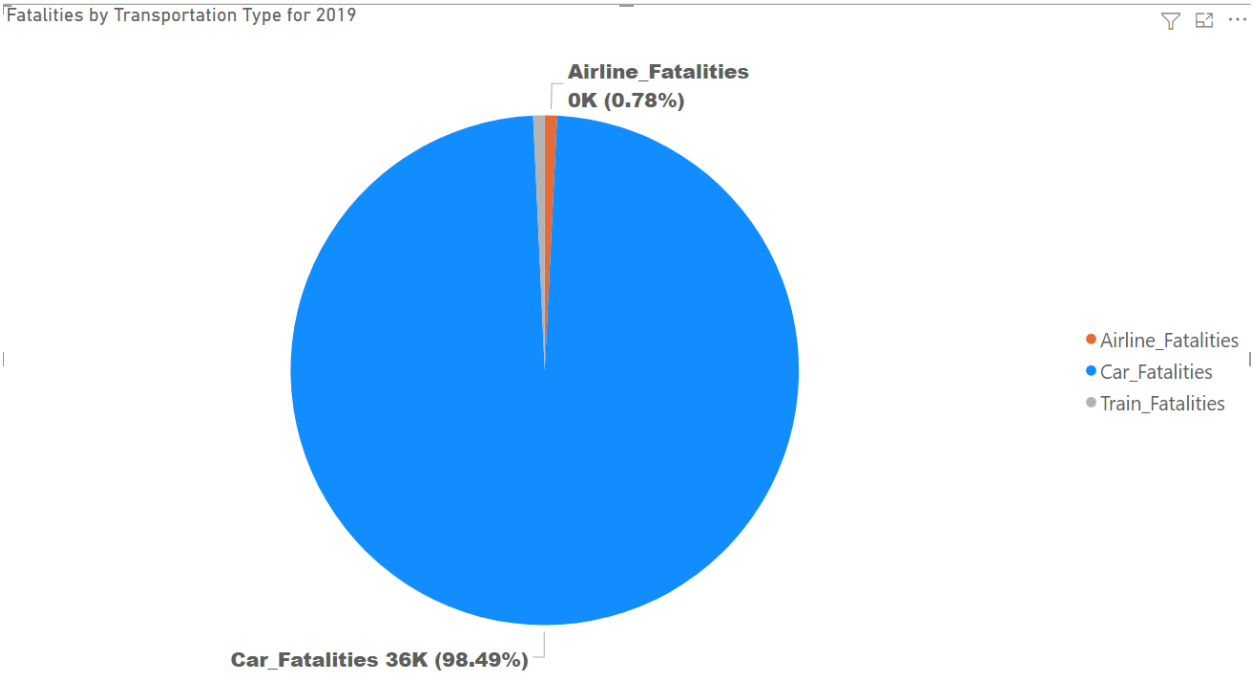


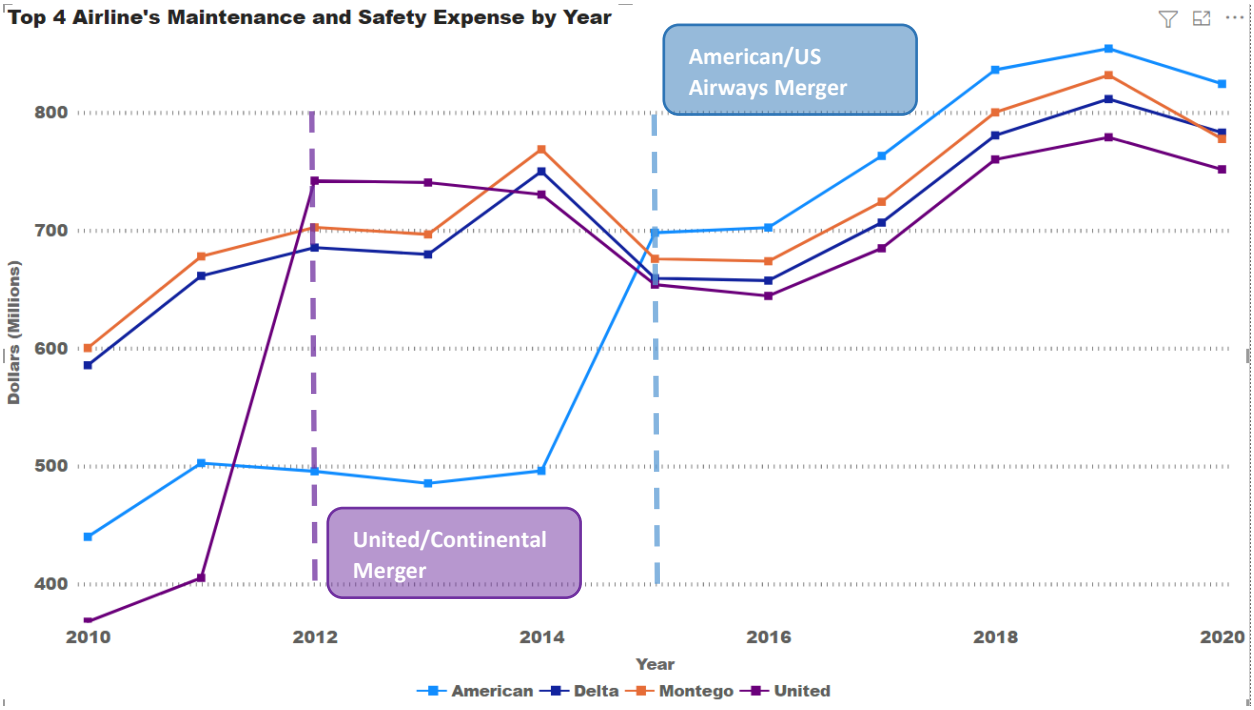
The number of aircrafts in service that each manufacture has comparing it to the percentage of accidents between 2006 and 2019. The percentage of accidents have dropped considerably in the last 13 years as indicated by the orange line. The percentage of accidents have dropped to under 0.10 percent. Airbus and Boeing had over 21,083 aircrafts in service which equals to about 18 aircraft accidents between the two largest airline manufactures in 2018. In 2019 the up tick in accidents is small compared to the increase in the number or aircrafts in service. In 2019 total number of aircrafts is 21,531 with accidents increasing by 5. That is about 1 in 90 aircrafts that newly entered service in 2019.



Going a step further and looking at the number of seat per kilometers flown by airlines. U.S. based airlines fly more than any other airlines in the world. Consider the number of total accidents occuring world wide is very small.

When looking at the safety of automoblies, compared to airlines or trains in the below pie chart. Airlines are a mear 0.78 percent of all fatalities in the most recently reported year, 2019. Compared to the 98.49% that automoblies comprise.





Airlines collectively spend billions to maintaine the safety of their aircrafts. In the above chart you can see the top four airlines in the US. Montego Airlines (Indicated by the oragne line) has been the number one in spending on safety and maintenance prior to the merger of United and Continental. Montego Airline maintained its high standards for aircraft safety and maintenance after other airlines reduced

their spend on safety and maintenance. Only after the merger of American Airline and U.S. Airways does Montego Airlines drop to second in maintenace and safety expense compared to aircraft fleet size. Since American Airlines operates more aircrafts than Montego Air does.

Overall airline travel is safer compared to automobiles, which is the most used vehichle for travel. Airlines spend large amount of their money to replace out older less safe aircrafts. Airlines also, spend hundreds of millions to make sure maintenance and safety of their aircrafts are top of their list of fixed costs.

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Reference:

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