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Southwest Airlines - Always Safe!

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We have all heard about the recent media reports about airline crashes and how it is no longer safe to travel via airlines. But if you look deep into the charts and data you can clearly see that it has been formulated with a bias towards the industry and do not present the correct picture. As part of Southwest Airlines Data Science Team, we have collated the following data from latest and reliable sources like [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration](#), [Bureau of Aircraft Accidents Archives](#) and main project [GitHub dataset](#).

Comparing two of the most widely used transportation systems in the USA of Auto and Airlines we can clearly see that the number of Fatalities for Auto from 1985 to 2014 is 1220853 and the corresponding number for Airlines is 1738. The ratio of fatalities of Auto to Airlines is 700:1 and we can clearly see that Airlines are far safer than that of Auto industry.

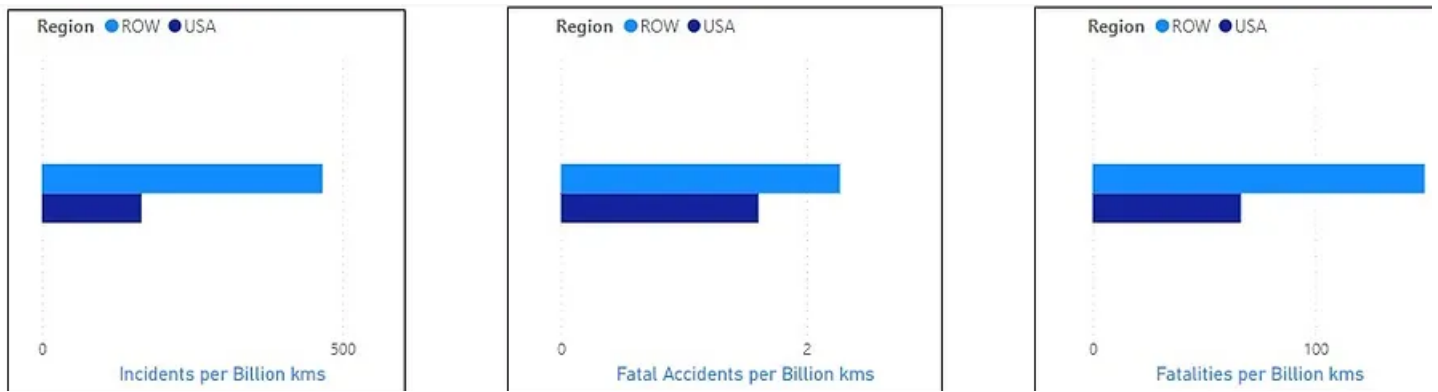
1738

USA Airlines Fatalities from 1985 to 2014

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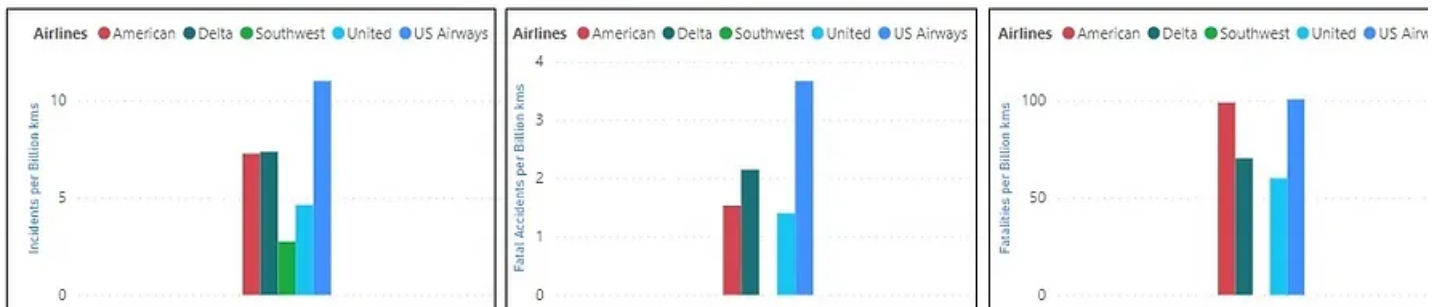
USA Auto Fatalities from 1985 to 2014

Looking further into the data and comparing USA vs Rest Of World (ROW) airlines we can clearly see that USA Airlines have far fewer incidents compared to ROW airlines. Those fewer incidents also mean that USA Airlines have fewer Fatal Accidents. The important statistic that is considered is the number of fatalities and in that area too we can clearly see that USA Airlines are far safer than that of the ROW Airlines. The largest incidents have occurred in airlines that belong to the developing world pointing to the technological gap that exists between those countries and the USA.



Airline Statistics between 1985 to 2014

If we consider the top 5 USA Airlines from 1985 to 2014 – American/ Delta/ Southwest/ United/ US Airways, we can see that amongst them Southwest Airlines has the lower number of incidents/fatal accidents/fatalities. As far as incidents are concerned, we just had 2.75 Incidents per Billion kms and the next lowest in the list is 4.62 Incidents per Billion kms by United. We have had zero Fatal Accidents and Fatalities when all the other airlines more than 1 Fatal Accidents per Billion kms and more than 50 fatalities per Billion kms.



Airline Statistics between 1985 to 2014

So, as we can see that travel by Airlines are far safer than what the media makes it out to be and even amongst Airlines, USA Airlines are one of the safest. Southwest Airlines tops the safety parameter amongst USA Airlines, and we wish to take you places safely in all your travelling needs!!

References:

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