DSC640 Blog Post

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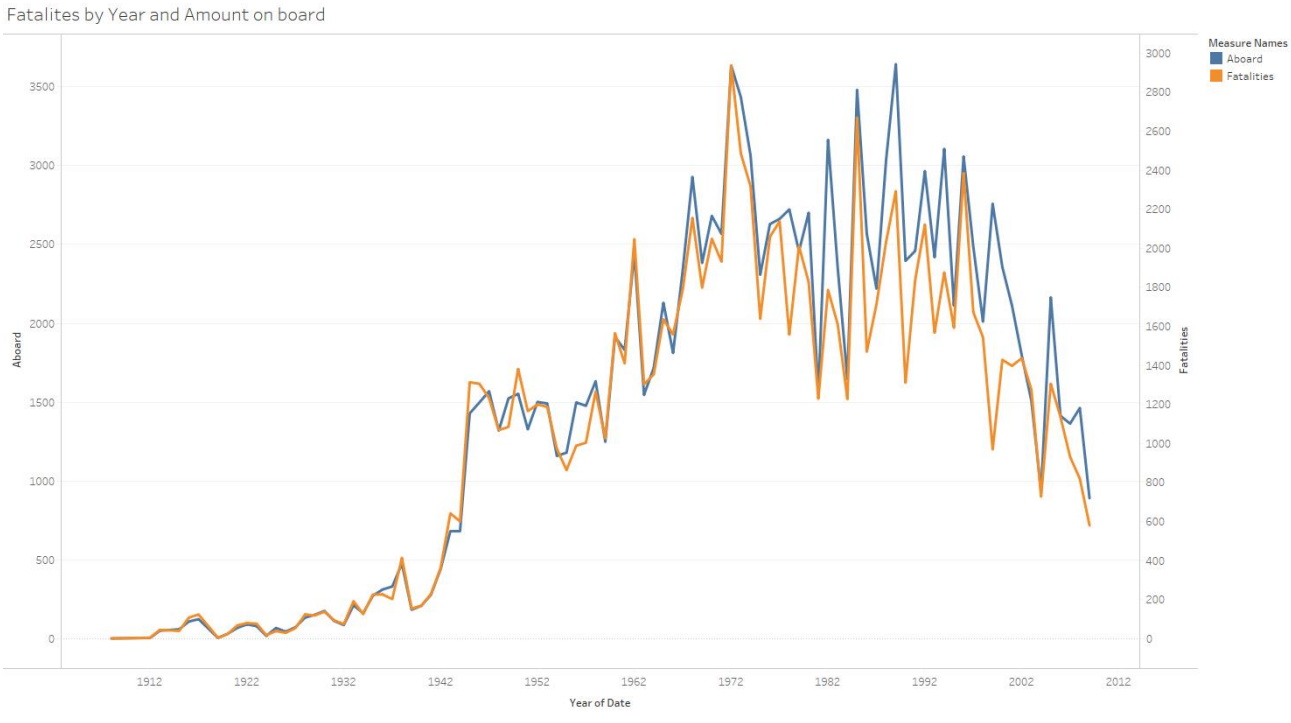
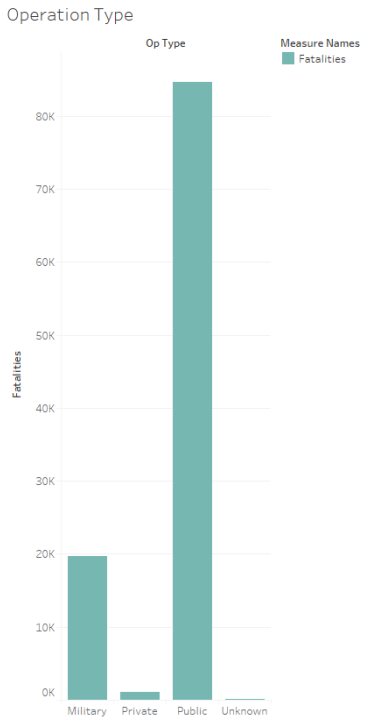
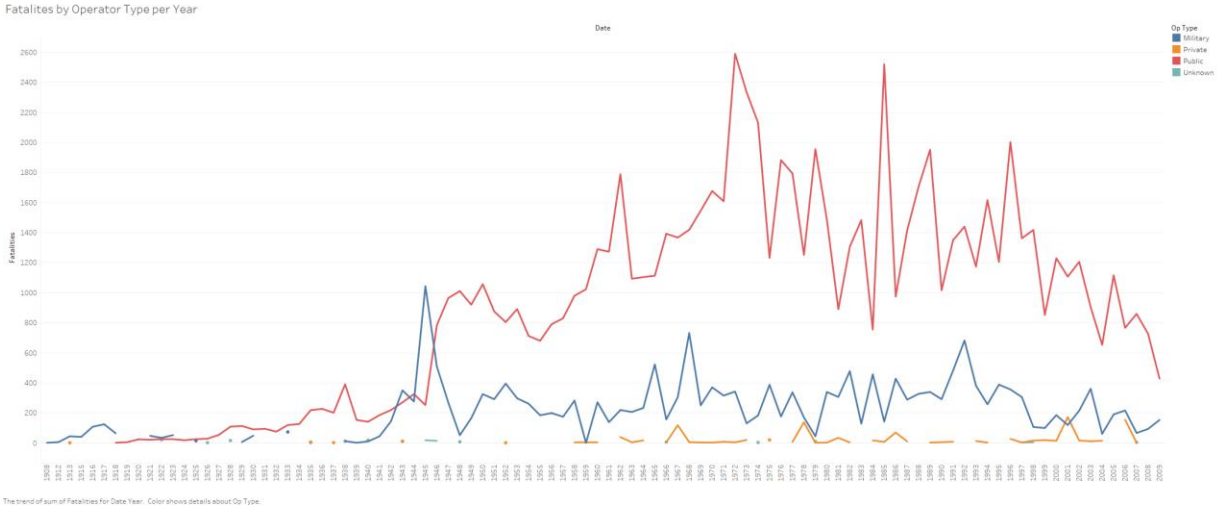
Why Should you Fly?

Since the start of air travel, there has been a common concern of safety. Looking back at original single pilot planes, safety was not the first concern. Now that we live in a time of passenger planes and commercial air travel, safety is the main focus.

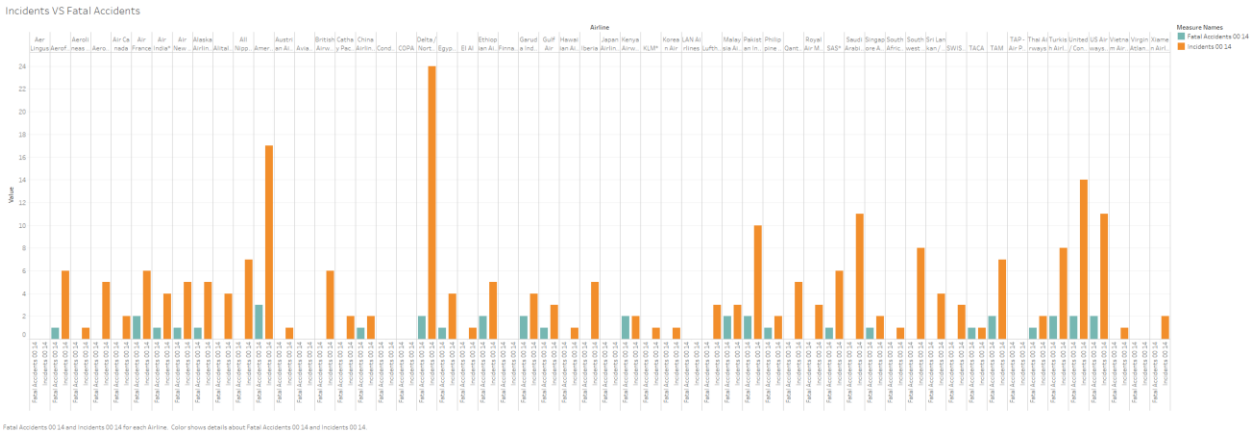




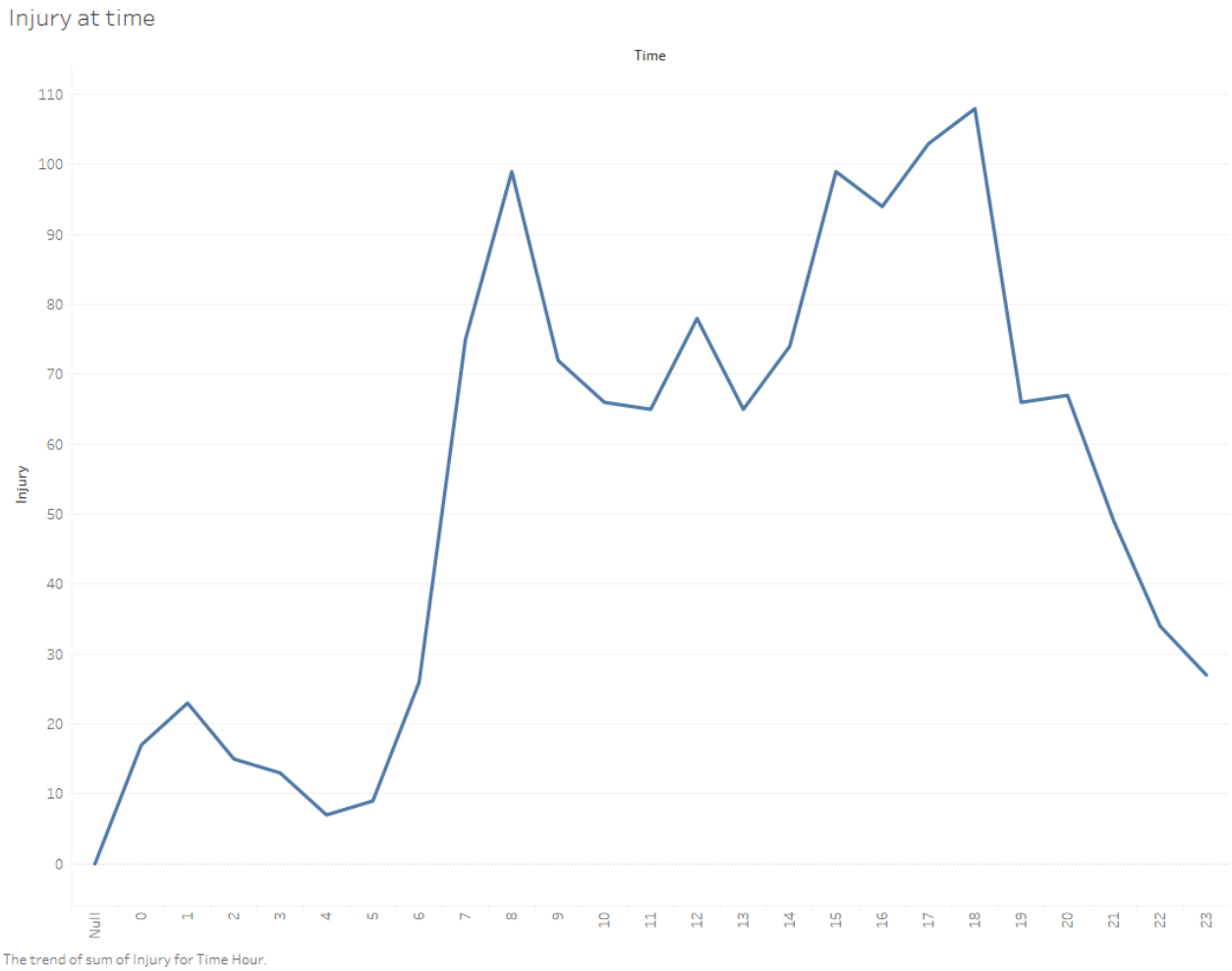
As we can see in this graph, fatalities have been on the decline since their peak in 1972, which is shortly after air travel started to become a standard practice (Air and Space, 2007). If we look at the breakdown, public travel tends to have the highest amount of fatalities, but they also tend to have the highest amount of people travelling at one time. Unfortunately in this same data set we can see that most the issues are caused by one company.



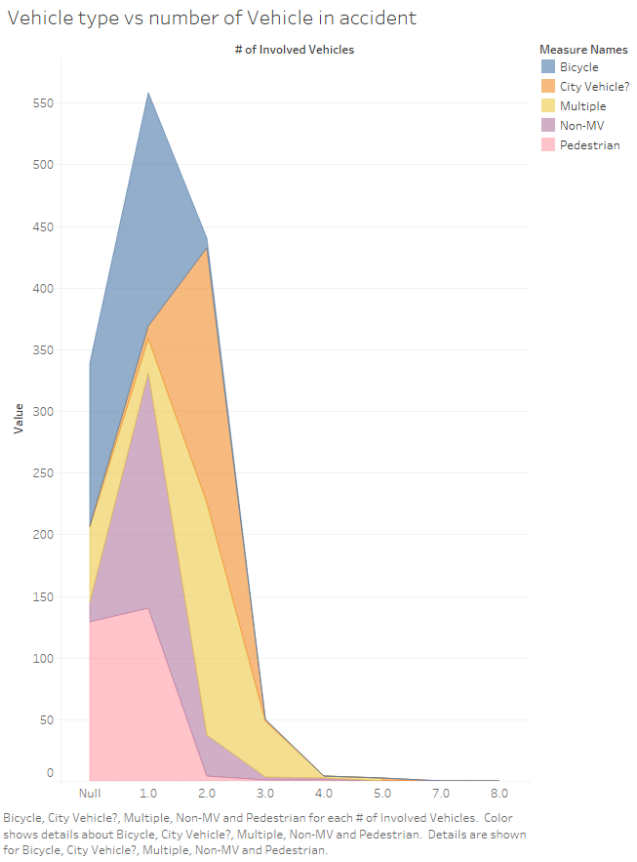
Like the original image, we can see the peak in fatalities around the 70's for public transportation. Overall we do see a downward trend to where we are today, which is the safest air travel has been commercially since being readily available.



Although plane incidents can still happen, compared to everyday travel, like motor vehicles, they are becoming much more uncommon.



Looking at this graph, we can see that car accidents in one specific state, are common at the same time every day. These times are also common commuter hours for your normal worker. With this continuing to happen throughout 1 year, the number of incidents per motor vehicle travel is a much larger factor than air travel.



With air travel, the common concern is the singular plane having an issue. As we can see with other travel, there are more factors than just the current vehicle you are in. You are at risk even as a pedestrian in some cases.

So, to finish where we started, "Why air travel", if your main goal is safety then air travel is much safer than anything else especially during normal travel hours. Most motor vehicle travel hasn't advanced the safety features much over the past decade, whereas air travel is constantly working to evolve safety.

Additional Sources:

Accidents graph. (n.d.). Retrieved April 11, 2021, from http://www.baaa-acro.com/crash-graph?created%5Bmin%5D=2000-01-01&created%5Bmax%5D=2009-12-31

Air and Space Museum. (2007). *The Era of Mass Air Travel Begins*. Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum. https://airandspace.si.edu/exhibitions/america-by-air/online/heyday/heyday11.cfm#:~:text=By%20the%20end%20of%20the,travel%20experience%20began%20to%20change.

Grandi, S. (2016, September 9). *Airplane Crashes Since 1908*. Kaggle. https://www.kaggle.com/saurograndi/airplane-crashes-since-1908.

There are 32 Crash datasets available on data.world. (n.d.). Retrieved April 11, 2021, from https://data.world/datasets/crash

GitHub link:

https://github.com/mkline3/DSC640/tree/main/DSC640_Project