

EVERYTHING IS PERSONAL. INCLUDING THIS BLOG.

# Train of Thought

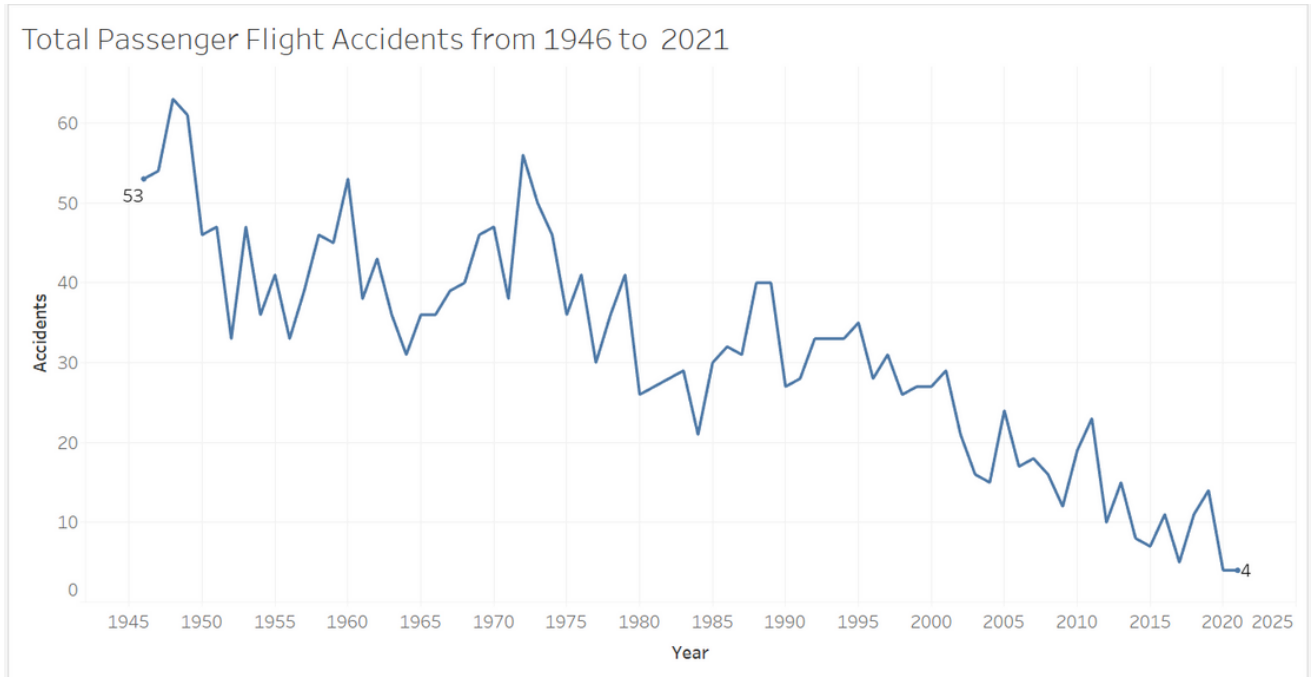
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3 days ago 3 min read

## United Airlines Puts Customer Safety First

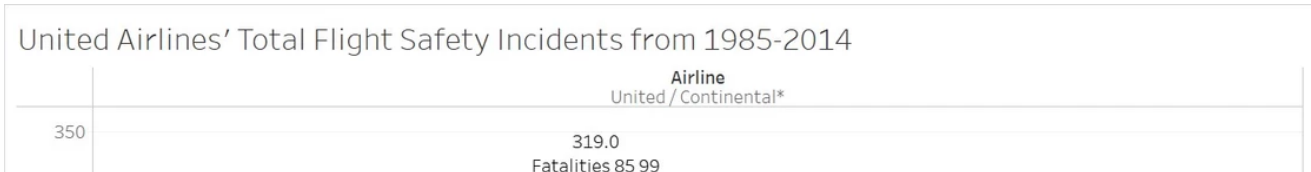
Think about your most recent flight experience with United Airlines. Hopefully, it was smooth, easy and most importantly, **safe**. With any form of transportation, there are always going to be thoughts around its dangers. When it comes to flying on an airplane though, accidents should be low at the bottom of your list, especially when flying with United!

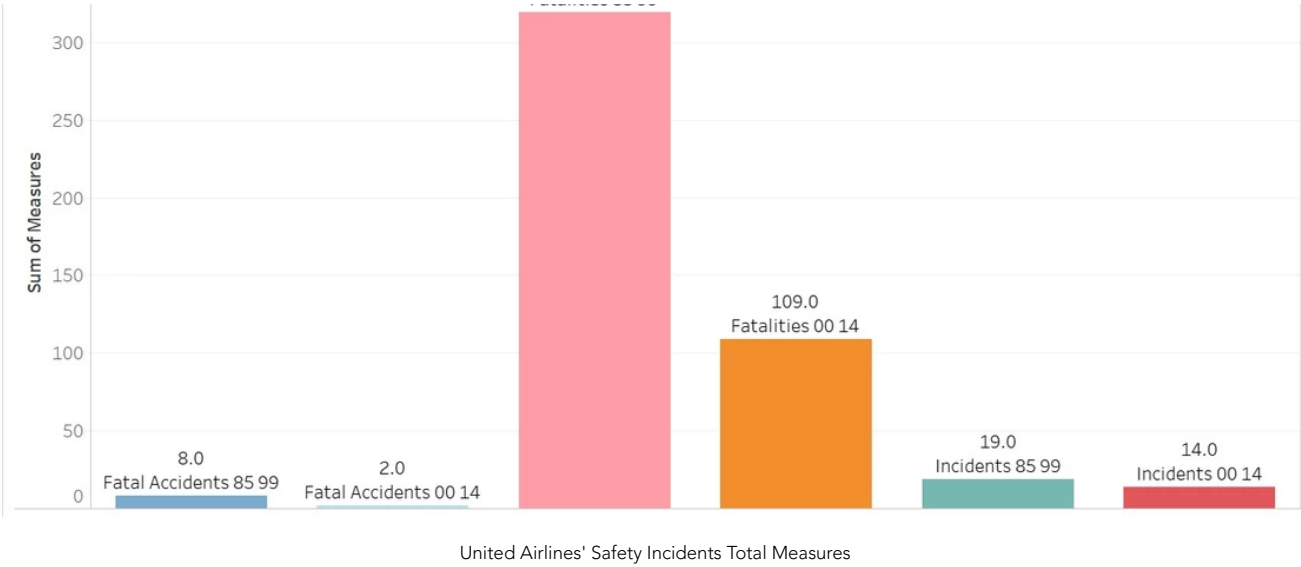
In 2021, the Aviation Safety Network collected data in regards to flight accidents and fatalities that have occurred throughout the world from the years 1946 to 2021. These accidents and fatalities included hijackings, sabotages and shoot-downs that happened on various aircraft models such as passenger, cargo and training flights. While these incidents sound (and are) scary, it is important to view the significant decrease in passenger flight accidents that has occurred over the course of seventy-five years!



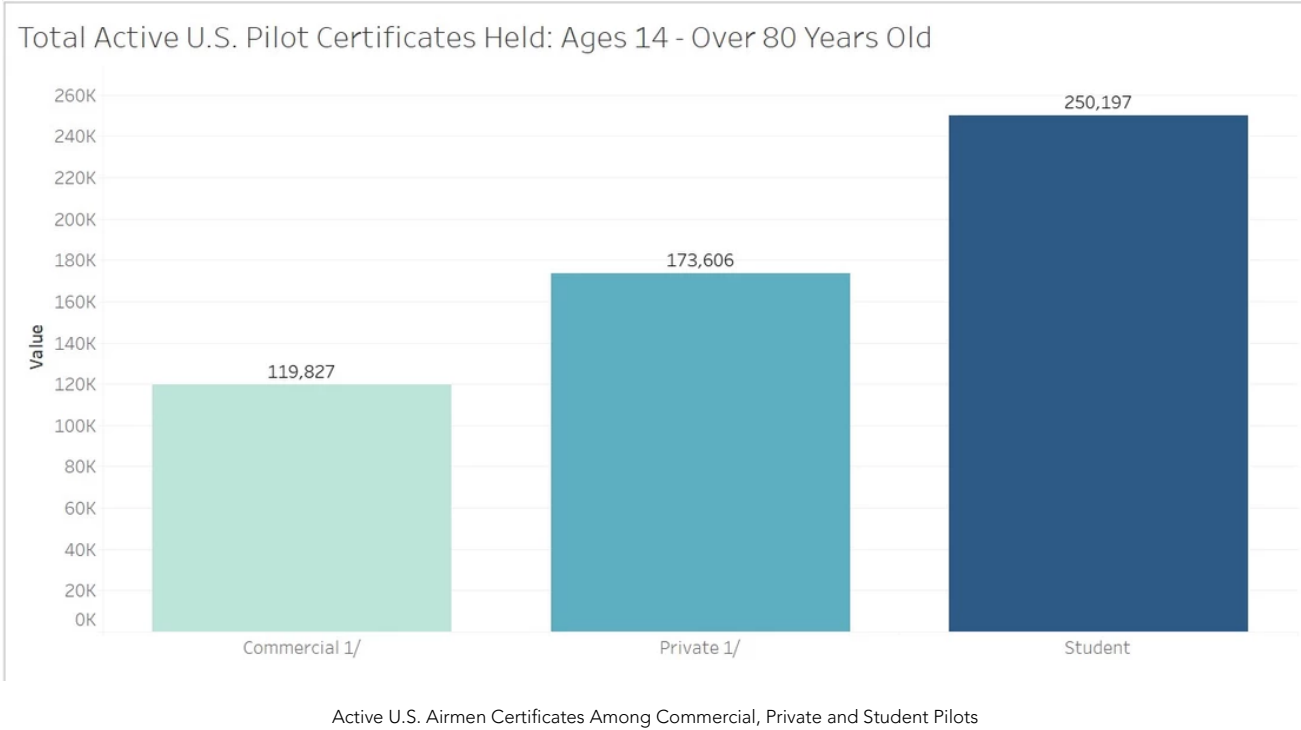
Total world-wide flight accidents have significantly decreased from 1946 to 2021

At United Airlines, fatal accidents, fatalities and incidents have also decreased when comparing the years 1985-1999 vs. 2000-2014. The 2000's brought positive changes for these traumatic instances, which is due to the advanced technology and rigorous training protocols for pilots highlighted later in this post. The path of airplane safety is only getting better, and our airline has made this our priority for our customers since day one.

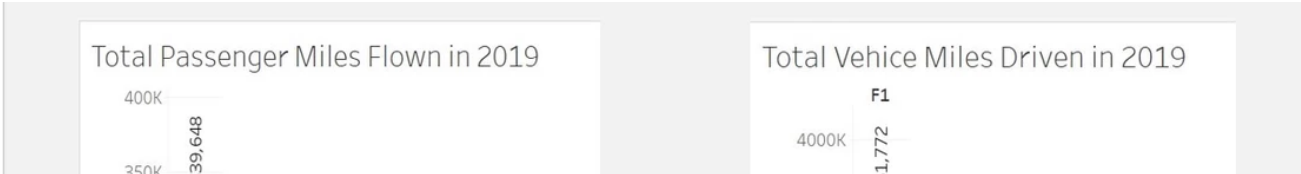


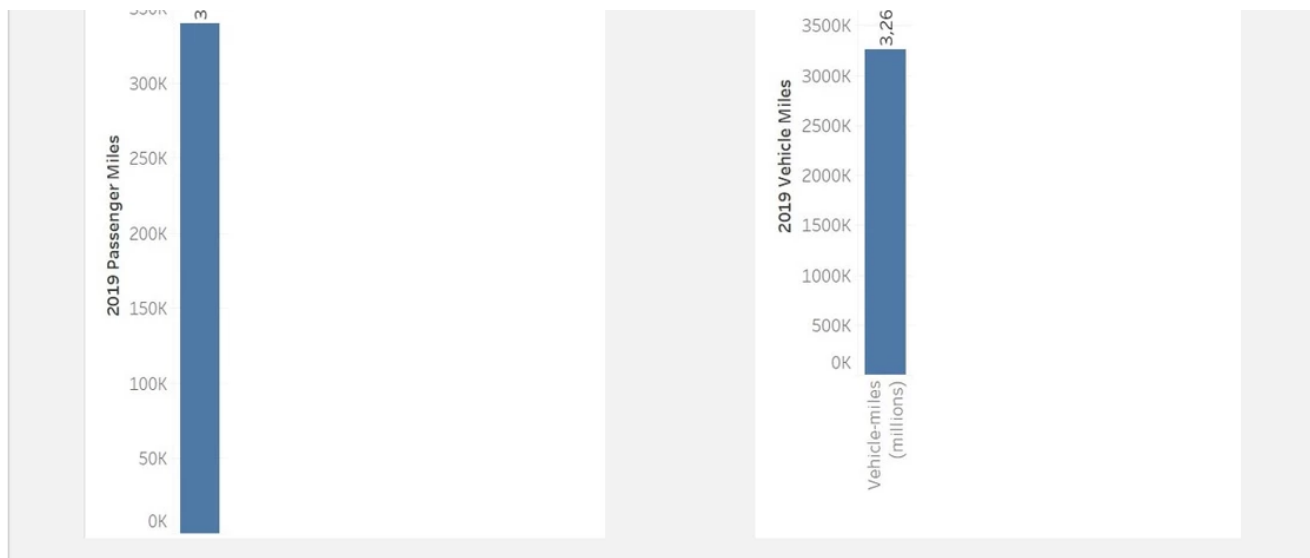


The flights that you'll go on in the current day have advanced in their safety and reliability. Technology continues to make a positive impact on day-to-day airplane operations, and pilots are extremely well-trained, needing active airmen certificates to upkeep their training and flight credibility. According to the article *How Many Pilots Are There? (USA, Air Force, World)* written by Joe Haygood at skytough.com, in 2021, there were "103,879" commercial pilots in the U.S (<https://www.skytough.com/post/how-many-pilots-are-there#:~:text=It%20is%20estimated%20that%20there, and%2058%2C541%20are%20female%20pilots.>). There are even more than this number of total active commercial airmen certificates held in the United States for the same year, as seen below! Even in terms of pilot students, there are higher amounts of them coming into the industry, showing the imminent potential.



While airplane safety has been highlighted, it is also natural to think about the alternate transportation options and their safety levels in comparison. Driving is the most popular form of transportation in the world; in 2019, there were over 3 million vehicle miles driven compared to only a little over 300,000 passenger miles flown.

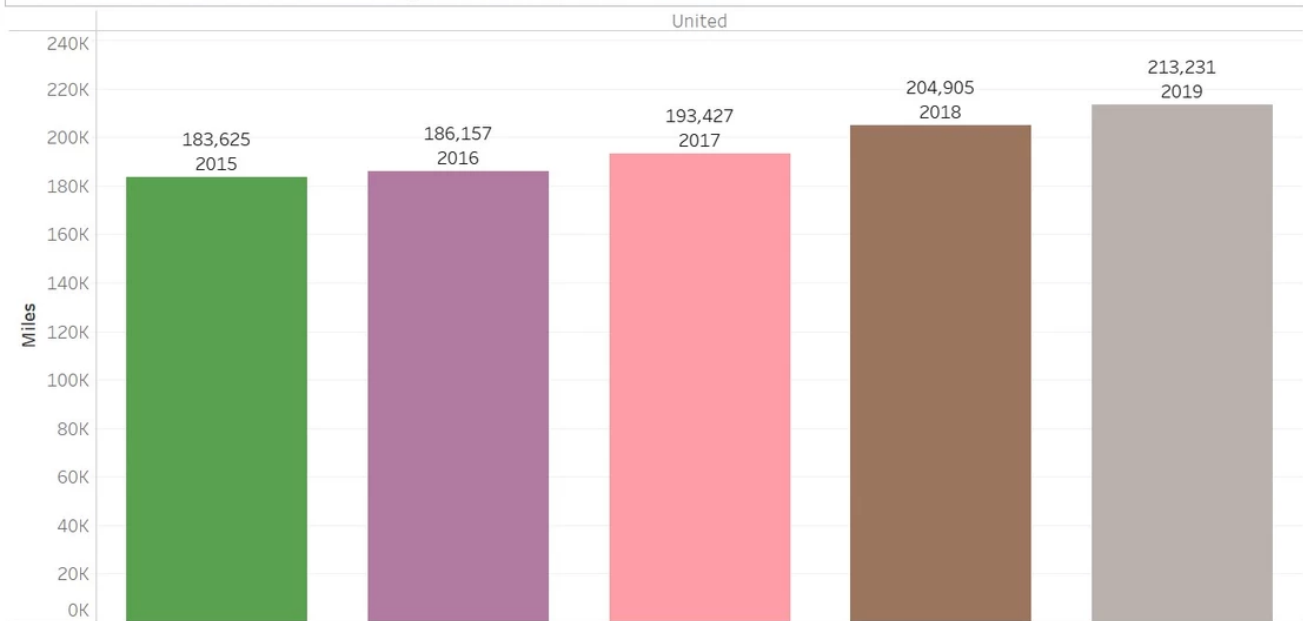




2019 Comparisons Between Total Passenger Miles and Vehicle Miles

United Airlines' total passenger miles make up a good percentage of the total amount shown above, as we are lucky to have loyal and trusting customers who continue to fly with us year-to-year. However, it is understandable that flying is not always people's first choice of transportation (although we wish it could be!).

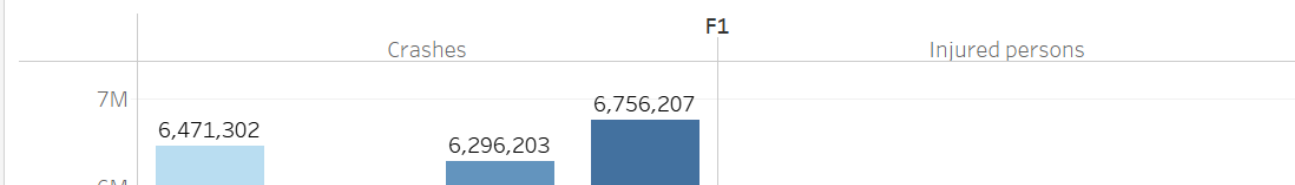
### United Airlines' Total Passenger Miles from 2015-2019

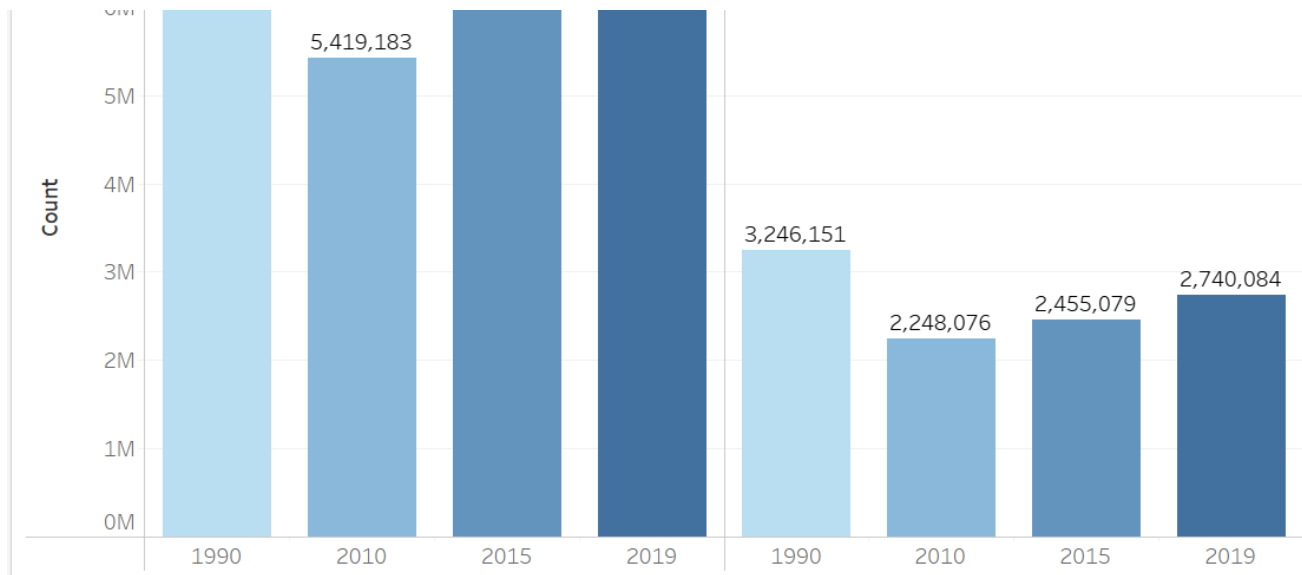


Passenger Miles Steadily Increase from 2015-2019 at United

With more activity however, there comes more possibilities for accidents to occur, as shown by the over six-million car crashes that happened in 2019 along with over two-million injured persons. Compared to the less than ten flight accidents in 2019, this is quite a stark difference in transportation incidents and may push one to reconsider their view on transportation safety.

### Total U.S. Car Crashes and Injuries from 1990-2019





Total U.S. Car Crashes and Injuries from 1990-2019 Stay in the Millions

At the end of the day, people across the world have a need to get from Place A to Place B. While this commute may not always require a trip on an airplane, for when it does, the train of thought may lead to a consideration between flying and another form of transit. Flight safety continues to improve over the years, due to aviation advances and rigorous pilot-training. Car incidents also occur at a much higher rate to flight incidents, and this could very much be due to the congestion on roads due to higher numbers of driving vehicles.

Safety is always top of mind for airline companies, especially ours at United Airlines, and this priority is not going to shift anytime soon. Continuous improvement is one of our key measures of success, and we aim to bring peace of mind to our customers by spreading this flight safety awareness.



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