

# AVIATION INSURANCE

**Presented by: Mindy Steichen, FCAS, MAAA**  
**Casualty Loss Reserve Seminar**  
**September 18, 2008**

## Presentation Overview

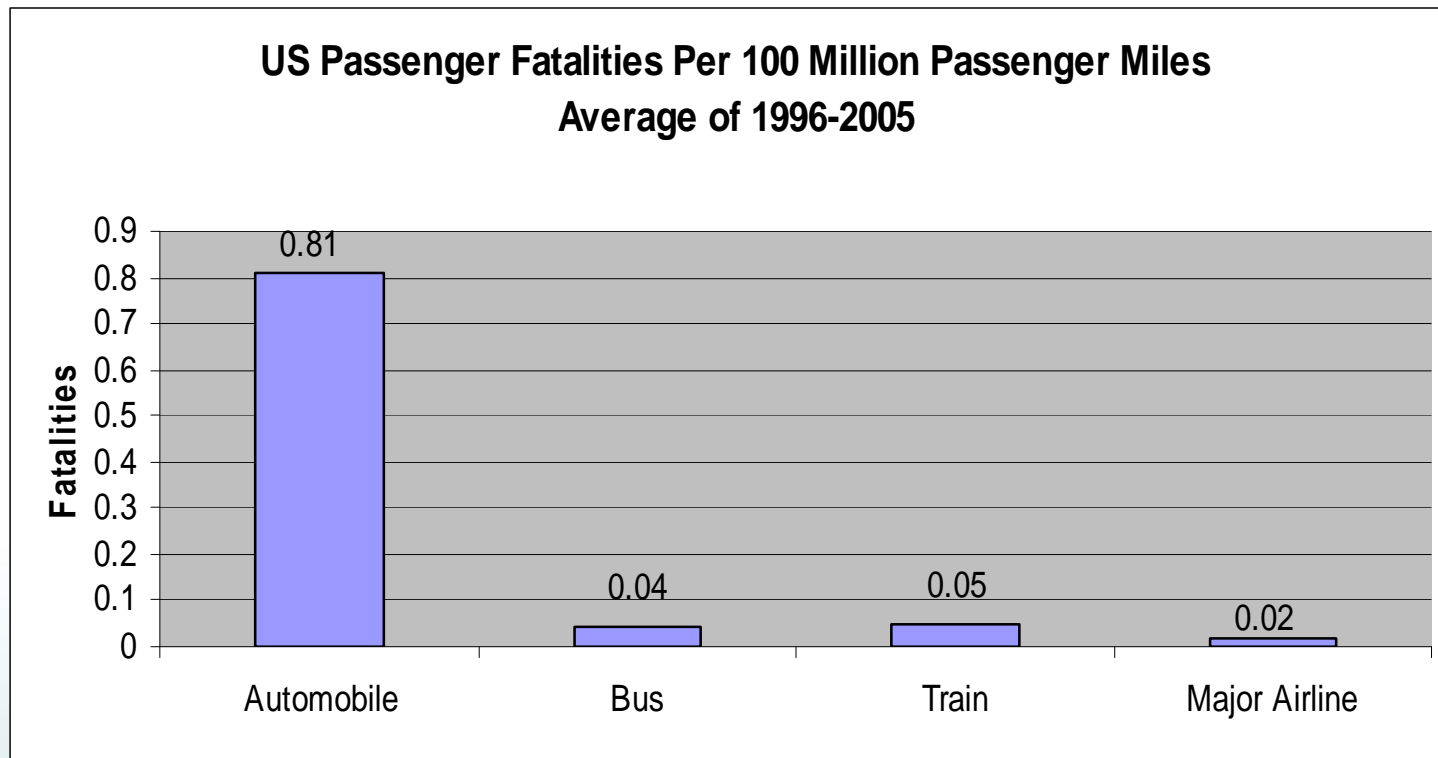
- § Aviation Industry Statistics
- § Aviation Insurance: Coverages and Exposures
- § Actuarial Considerations
- § Current Trends
- § Closing Thoughts

# Aviation Industry Statistics

## Aviation Industry Statistics

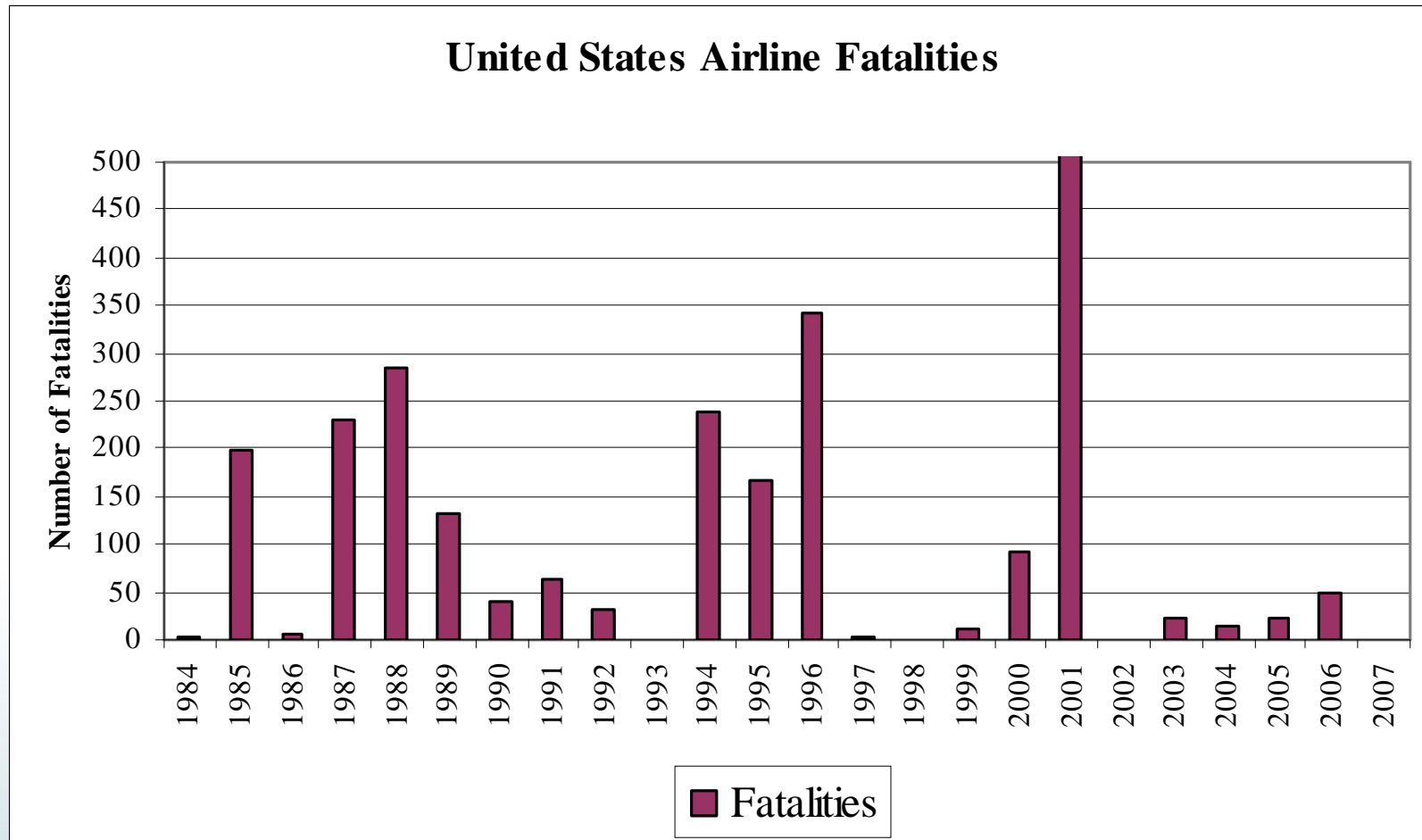
- § Comparison to other travel methods
- § Airline Fatalities 1984-2007
- § Causes of Fatal Accidents

# Travel Comparison



Source: National Safety Council Injury Facts

# Airline Fatalities



Source: National Transportation Safety Board

# Fatal Accident Causes

Fatal Accident Causes by Category (Percentages)  
 Accidents with Known Causes Only  
 World-Wide Commercial Aircraft

Cause	1960's	1970's	1980's	1990's	2000's	All
Pilot Error	37%	29%	30%	31%	30%	33%
Pilot Error (weather related)	17%	15%	16%	19%	19%	16%
Pilot Error (mechanical related)	3%	4%	4%	6%	3%	4%
<b>Total Pilot Error</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>53%</b>
Other Human Error	7%	10%	6%	7%	9%	7%
Weather	11%	10%	12%	9%	8%	11%
Mechanical Failure	19%	21%	21%	21%	25%	21%
Sabotage/Terrorism	4%	9%	10%	7%	6%	7%
Other	2%	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%

Source: [PlaneCrashInfo.com](http://PlaneCrashInfo.com)

# Aviation Insurance



# Aviation Overview: Coverages and Exposures

§ Why a Separate Market?

§ Covered Risks and Exposures

§ Market Players

## Why Separate Market?

### § Need for Specialization

- Specialized underwriting and claims handling
- Separate laws (state, country, international treaties)
- Current policies typically exclude aviation risks on both an insured and reinsurance perspective
- Large policy limits – vertical placement

## Covered Risks and Exposures

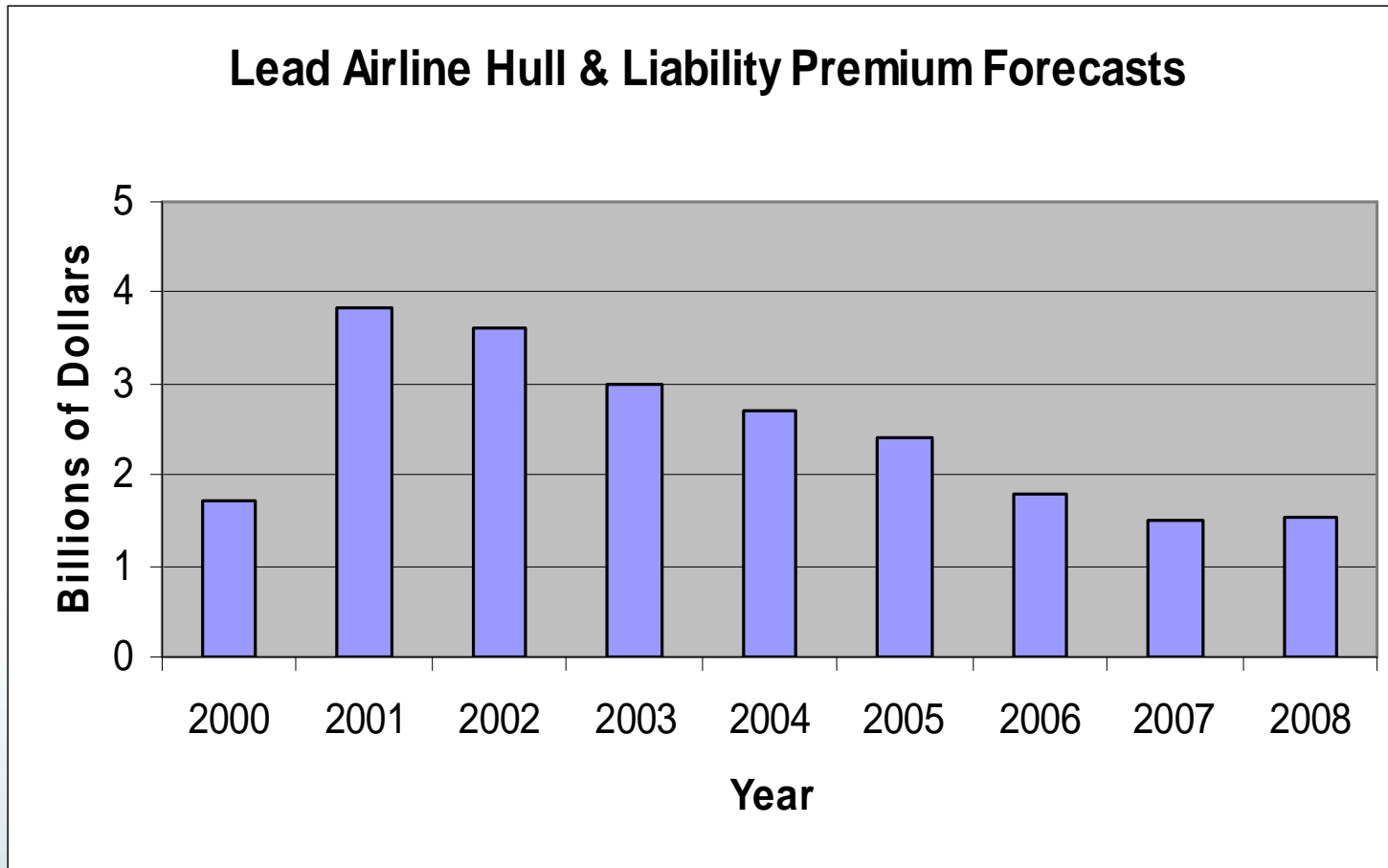
- § Major/ Regional /Cargo Airlines
- § Major Manufacturers (Products)
- § General Aviation
- § Workers Compensation
- § Other

# Covered Risks and Exposures

## § Major Airlines

- All Third-Party Liabilities (up to \$2B policy limits)
- Hull (Property Damage to Aircraft) – Insured value of each aircraft
- Vertical placements
  - Each insurer takes percentage of policy
  - Lead handles claims and typically is highest rate
  - Other insurers may get different rates for same insured
- Insured Examples
  - United Airlines
  - Jet Blue
  - Fed-Ex

## Airlines Premium Forecasts



# Covered Risks and Exposures

## § Major Manufacturers (Products)

- Third-Party Liabilities from Aircraft or Engines – up to \$2B policy limits
- Vertical placements
- Longer Tailed
- Insured Examples
  - Boeing / McDonnell Douglas
  - EADS (Airbus)
  - General Electric (Jet Engines)
  - Rolls Royce (Jet Engines)

## Covered Risks and Exposures

### § General Aviation

- Commercial (Charters)
- Industrial Aid (Corporate Jets)
- Private Business and Pleasure (Privately owned and flown)

# Covered Risks and Exposures

## § General Aviation (Continued)

### – Minor Manufacturers

- Aviation exposure excluded in typical products insurance policy
- Examples include circuit breakers, light bulbs, wiring, seat coverings, etc.

### – Airports/Service Firms

- Sky Chiefs, Refuelers, etc.
- Typical slip and fall claims
- Runway maintenance



## Covered Risks and Exposures

### § Workers' Compensation

- Traditional WC insurers avoid aviation
- Aviation exposure excluded from typical reinsurance treaties
- Traditional WC underwriters unfamiliar with aviation exposure

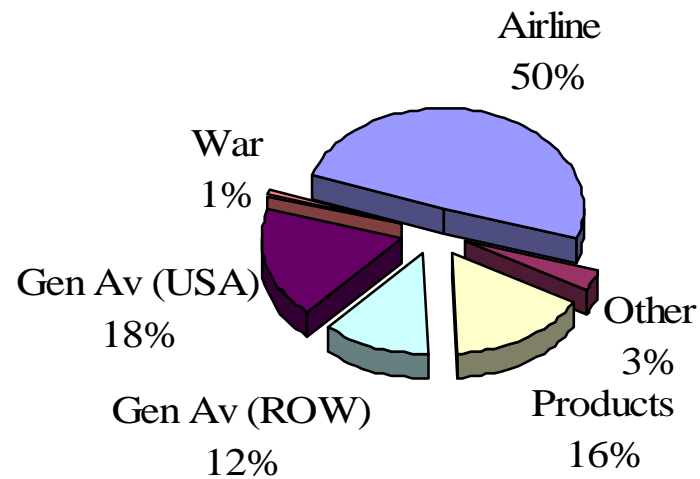
## Covered Risks and Exposures

### § Other Coverages

- Satellite
- War
- Loss of License (Pilots)
- Financial Institutions (Loan default protection)

# Covered Risks and Exposures

## Aviation Market 2000 Estimated Industry Premium



Source: The Aviation and Space Insurance Market Working Party

## Market Players / Infrastructure

- § Lloyds Syndicates
- § European Pools
- § Rest of World and U.S. Pools
- § Some U.S. Direct Writers of General Aviation Only
- § Bermuda/Specialty Writers
- § Heavily broker placed

# Actuarial Considerations

## Actuarial Considerations

### § Reserving for Attritional Claims

- Defined as claims under some large dollar value
- (i.e \$100 Million Market Loss)
- More predictable than major events, can use loss history to predict future losses
- Separate losses by line (airlines, products, etc) and by hull or liability

# Actuarial Considerations

## § Reserving for Attritional Claims

- Traditional Actuarial triangles and methods
- Make loss development factor selections
- Use incurred and paid ldf and BF methods
- Look at net and gross losses separately, be careful of changing net retentions

# Actuarial Considerations

## Sample of Major Events

<u>Airline</u>	<u>Loss Date</u>	<u>Approximate Market Losses</u>
Japan Airlines	August 12, 1985	<b>\$450 Million</b>
US AIR	July 2, 1994	<b>\$70 Million</b>
US AIR	September 8, 1994	<b>\$475 Million</b>
Valujet	May 11, 1996	<b>\$315 Million</b>
Trans World Airlines	July 17, 1996	<b>\$500 Million</b>
Swissair	September 2, 1998	<b>\$590 Million</b>
American Airlines - WTC	September 11, 2001	<b>\$1.9 Billion</b>
Air France	August 2, 2005	<b>\$165 Million</b>
Brussels Hangar Fire	May 5, 2006	<b>\$250 Million</b>
Comair/Delta	August 27, 2006	<b>\$300 Million</b>



# Actuarial Considerations

## § Reserving for Major Events

- Need to pull out major events as these claims develop differently than attritional claims
- Claims are “event driven” – no need to reserve for crashes that didn’t happen
- Need to factor in unearned exposure for policy year analysis

# Actuarial Considerations

## § Reserving for Major Events

- Reserve amounts shift between airlines and manufacturers; legal rulings can significantly change total liability

- Example:

Company Line Size Airlines = 10%  
Company Line Size Products = 15%

	Development Period (Months)					
	<u>12</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>72</u>
Airline Losses (Millions)	100	100	75	75	75	50
Products Losses (Millions)	0	0	25	25	25	50
Total Company Liability (Millions)	10	10	11.25	11.25	11.25	12.5

# Actuarial Considerations

## § Reserving for Unearned Major Events

- Model based on industry losses
  - Number of Events
  - Average Market Loss
  - Losses by Class
- Incorporate Company statistics
  - Miss Factors
  - Line Size

# Actuarial Considerations

Major Event Model - Example  
Line of Business: Airlines America, Liability, Gross

Market Layer	60M x 40M	200M x 100M	..... Up to 1B x 1B
(1) Average Market Loss	60M	170M	
(2) Company Line Size	10.0%	10.0%	
(3) Average Company Loss = (1) * (2)	6.0M	17.0M	
(4) Estimated Number of Events	1.5	0.7	
(5) Miss Factor	25.0%	25.0%	
(6) % of Loss by Class	35.0%	35.0%	
(7) Gross Company Loss =(3)*(4)*[1-(5)]*(6)	2.36M	3.12M	

Add Row (7) to get total expected loss  
Depending on evaluation period and year, factor in unearned factor

## Actuarial Considerations - Satellite

### § Launch

- Can put several satellites on one launch

### § Post-Separation

- Placement into orbit after launch (Usually covers the first year of orbit)

### § Orbit

- Warranty for several years

## Actuarial Considerations - Satellite

### § Losses during launch

- Typically total loss
- Highest frequency of loss during launch and Post-Separation phases

### § Losses during orbit

- Loss of use; occasionally not a total loss
- After first year, lower probability of loss
- Frequency increases again towards end of the satellite's life

## Actuarial Considerations - Satellite

- § For reported claims and case reserves – traditional development methods
- § Small amount of IBNR for reporting delays
- § Largest exposure is for unearned premium related to launches that haven't occurred yet or satellites in orbit
- § Premium usually broken down into three main phases and earned separately over each of these periods

## Actuarial Considerations - Satellite

- § For In-force policies use loss rate with unexpired exposure
- § Industry statistics available to help determine loss rates
- § Contagion Risk – Design or manufacturing problems can span several satellites



## § Current Trends

## Current Trends

- § Market has softened in recent years
- § Low number of US fatalities since 2001 lowered industry losses and attracted new markets
- § 2007 first year market at loss since early 2000's
- § Due to steady number of catastrophes in the rest of the world

## **Closing Thoughts**

## Closing Thoughts

- § Historically relatively few actuaries involved in ratemaking or reserving
- § Low barrier to entry and short-term memories allows for volatile underwriting cycles
- § Difficult to spread risk, especially in excess of loss market