

Table 1050. Airports, Aircraft, and Airmen: 1980 to 2005

[As of December 31 or for years ending December 31]

Item	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2003	2004	2005
Airports, total ¹	15,161	16,319	17,490	18,224	19,281	19,581	19,820	19,854
Public	4,814	5,858	5,589	5,415	5,317	5,286	5,288	5,270
Percent—with lighted runways	66.2	68.1	71.4	74.3	75.9	76.2	76.3	76.8
With paved runways	72.3	66.7	70.7	73.3	74.3	74.5	74.5	74.8
Private	10,347	10,461	11,901	12,809	13,964	14,295	14,532	14,584
Percent—with lighted runways	15.2	9.1	7.0	6.4	7.2	8.6	9.0	9.2
With paved runways	13.3	17.4	31.5	33.0	32.0	32.7	32.8	33.2
Certificated ²	730	700	680	667	651	628	599	575
Civil	(X)	(X)	(X)	572	563	555	542	(NA)
Civil military	(X)	(X)	(X)	95	88	73	57	(NA)
General aviation	14,431	15,619	16,810	17,557	18,630	18,953	19,221	19,279
Active air carrier fleet ³	3,805	4,678	6,083	7,411	8,055	8,176	8,186	8,225
Fixed wing	3,803	4,673	6,072	7,293	8,016	8,144	8,150	8,182
Helicopter	2	5	11	118	39	32	36	43
General aviation fleet ⁴	211,043	196,500	198,000	188,089	217,533	209,708	219,426	224,352
Fixed-wing	200,094	184,700	184,500	162,342	183,276	176,624	182,867	185,373
Turbojet	2,992	4,100	4,100	4,559	7,001	7,997	9,298	9,823
Turboprop	4,089	5,000	5,300	4,995	5,762	7,689	8,379	7,942
Piston	193,013	175,600	175,200	152,788	170,513	160,938	165,189	167,608
Rotocraft	6,001	6,000	6,900	5,830	7,150	6,525	7,821	8,728
Other	4,945	5,800	6,600	4,741	6,700	6,008	5,939	6,454
Glanders	(X)	(X)	(X)	2,182	2,041	2,002	2,116	2,074
Lighter than air	(X)	(X)	(X)	2,559	4,660	4,006	3,823	4,380
Experimental	(X)	(X)	(X)	15,176	20,407	20,550	22,800	23,627
Airman certificates held: ⁵								
Pilot, total	827,071	709,540	702,659	639,184	625,581	625,011	618,633	609,737
Women	52,902	43,082	40,515	38,032	36,757	37,694	37,243	36,584
Student	199,833	146,652	128,663	101,279	93,064	87,296	87,910	87,213
Recreational	(X)	(X)	87	232	340	310	291	278
Airplane:								
Private	357,479	311,086	299,111	261,399	251,561	241,045	235,994	228,619
Commercial	183,442	151,632	149,666	133,980	121,858	123,990	122,592	120,614
Air transport	69,569	82,740	107,732	123,877	141,596	143,504	142,160	141,992
Rotocraft only ⁶	6,030	8,123	9,567	7,183	7,775	7,916	8,586	9,518
Glider only	7,039	8,168	7,833	11,234	9,387	20,950	21,100	21,369
Flight instructor certificates	60,440	58,940	63,775	77,613	80,931	87,816	89,596	90,555
Instrument ratings	260,462	258,559	297,073	298,798	311,944	315,413	313,546	311,828
Nonpilot ⁷	368,356	395,139	492,237	651,341	547,453	509,835	515,293	644,016
Mechanic	250,157	274,100	344,282	405,294	344,434	313,032	317,111	320,293
Repairmen	(X)	(X)	(X)	61,233	38,208	37,248	39,231	40,030
Parachute rigger	9,547	9,395	10,094	11,824	10,477	7,883	8,011	8,150
Ground instructor	61,550	58,214	66,882	96,165	72,326	72,692	73,735	74,378
Dispatcher	6,799	8,511	11,002	15,642	16,340	16,955	17,493	18,079
Flight navigator	1,936	1,542	1,290	916	570	382	336	298
Flight engineer	38,367	43,377	58,687	60,267	65,098	61,643	59,376	57,756

NA Not available. X Not applicable. ¹ Including airports, heliports, seaplane bases, etc. recorded with FAA. Includes military airports with joint civil and military use. Excludes U.S. outlying areas. Airport-type definitions: Public—publicly owned and under control of a public agency; private—owned by a private individual or corporation. May or may not be open for public use.

² Certificated airports serve air-carriers with aircraft seating more than 30 passengers. ³ Air-carrier aircraft are aircraft carrying passengers or cargo for hire under 14 CFR 121 (large aircraft—more than 30 seats) and 14 CFR 135 (small aircraft—30 seats or fewer).

⁴ Beginning 1995, excludes commuters. Source: U.S. Federal Aviation Administration. See Internet site <http://www.faa.gov/data_statistics/>. Prior years in the *Statistical Handbook of Aviation*, annual. ⁵ Data for 1980 and 1985 are for helicopter only. ⁶ All certificates on record. No medical examination required.

Source: Except as noted, U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics, *National Transportation Statistics, annual*. See Internet site <http://www.bts.gov/publications/national_transportation_statistics/>.