

WORLD GLIDING STATISTICS

FLYING MEMBERS AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2012

Compiled for I.G.C. by John Roake

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
ARGENTINA	186	174	182	230	249	223	120	165	214	205	221	173
AUSTRALIA	2725	2673	2606	2637	2575	2444	2460	2436	2420	2382	2252	2242
AUSTRIA	3790	3692	3690	3687	3598	3481	3458	3504	3447	3428	3367	3330
BELGIUM	1520	1472	1916	1877	1850	1760	1743	1713	1832	1917	1922	1906
BRAZIL			647	633	630	619	622	610	598	399	556	591
CANADA	1350	1297	1232	1134	1103	1191	1140	1075	943	1046	968	973
CHILE						147	148	152	156	161	160	162
COLUMBIA							29	27	25	30	15	14
CROATIA			270	272	149	150	161	148	136	82	80	79
CZECH REPUBLIC	3114	3206	3246	3249	3196	3121	3198	3240	3260	3191	3088	3094
DENMARK	1875	1841	1766	1756	1783	1738	1740	1683	1674	1648	1595	1504
FINLAND	1892	1840	1789	1840	1836	1719	1522	1634	1898	1713	1604	1530
FRANCE	12020	12155	13582	12829	12471	12375	12214	11643	11357	11146	11201	11004
GERMANY	35852	35650	35236	34642	33196	32229	31279	30792	30117	30216	29702	29415
GREECE	53	60	60	83	82	85	85	95	99	97	97	95
HUNGARY	1637	1643	1602	1450	1001	1063	1020	892	893	886	756	771
ICELAND	70	68	49	55	57	55	59	52	59	65	52	47
ISRAEL	184	175	180	176	170	175	175	170	180	180	200	194
IRELAND	98	111	118	111	119	112	116	85	78	75	73	43
ITALY	2122	2129	2129	1749	1641	1742	1807	1734	1425	1310	1274	1240
JAPAN	684	670	643	640	670	630	655	663	655	655	630	625
KENYA			7	9	8	13	23	12	10	7	12	8
KOREA			10	9	8	8	10	8	10	10	10	10
LUXEMBURG			49	35	35	38	46	35	38	44	38	46
LITHUANIA	494	510	526	532	540	527	510	475	472	468	360	357
NETHERLANDS	4088	3816	3617	3952	3949	3857	3822	3825	3953	3869	4037	3878
NEW ZEALAND	901	917	919	893	875	861	871	797	782	807	749	745
NORWAY	1578	1760	1760	1513	1528	1435	1411	1332	1250	1233	1164	1124
PAKISTAN	29	28	27	25	24	27	22	19	16	13	12	11
POLAND	3048	3058	3058	2996	2587	2362	2394	2274	2133	2087	2151	2306
PORTUGAL			167	168	171	168	162	161	157	166	137	177
RUSSIA	357	360	360	349	350	333	331	315	282	270	270	272
SERBIA			43	38	37	36	36	38	39	30	48	46
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	699	729	675	652	680	624	662	715	762	789	812	839
SLOVENIA	924	949	949	798	779	824	793	757	789	950	934	926
SOUTH AFRICA	597	613	635	598	628	590	596	582	580	557	502	483
SPAIN	435	436	560	561	550	526	489	449	434	391	384	363
SWEDEN	2950	2700	2912	2776	2678	2567	2391	2321	1979	1987	1750	1718
SWITZERLAND	3040	2977	2871	3154	2995	2745	2794	2813	2675	2571	2559	2581
UNITED KINGDOM	8848	9166	8341	8242	8105	8079	7950	8531	8229	6998	7083	7307
U.S.A.	31148	31146	30125	30222	30186	30136	29513	29214	29131	28896	28556	25130

TOTALS

128308 128021 128554 126572 123089 120815 118577 117186 115187 112975 111381 107319

WORLD GLIDING STATISTICS

FLYING FATALITIES AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2012

Compiled for I.G.C. by John Roake

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	10yr Total
ARGENTINA	2	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	7
AUSTRALIA	0	1	3	4	2	3	1	1	1	3	19
AUSTRIA	2	0	1	1	1	1	0	2	3	0	11
BELGIUM	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	3
BRAZIL	?	?	?	?	2	?	?	2	1	1	6
CANADA	2	2	2	0	1	0	1	0	2	1	11
CHILE	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	3
COLOMBIA	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
CROATIA								0	0	0	0
CZECH REPUBLIC	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	4
DENMARK	1	0	0	1	1	?	?	0	0	0	3
FINLAND	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
FRANCE	8	3	5	6	2	4	3	9	8	10	58
GERMANY	17	9	12	10	18	10	6	7	7	14	110
GREECE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HUNGARY	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	7
ICELAND	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ISRAEL	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
IRELAND	0	0	0	1	0	?	?	?	0	0	1
ITALY	?	3	3	3	3	3	4	0	1	2	22
JAPAN	0	0	6	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	10
KENYA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KOREA								0	0	0	0
LUXEMBURG	?	?	?	?	?	0	0	0	0	0	0
LITHUANIA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NETHERLANDS	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	5
NEW ZEALAND	2	0	1	0	0	1	5	0	0	1	10
NORWAY	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
PAKISTAN								0	0	0	0
POLAND	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	4	2	16
PORTUGAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
RUSSIA	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	5
SERBIA	?	?	?	1	0	?	?	0	0	0	1
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	0	1	?	?	?	?	?	1	0	0	2
SLOVENIA	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	0	0	0	0
STH AFRICA	1	0	2	1	1	2	0	1	0	1	9
SPAIN	?	?	?	?	?	0	?	1	3	0	4
SWEDEN	0	1	1	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	6
SWITZERLAND	4	5	1	1	2	7	1	2	2	7	32
UNITED KINGDOM	3	7	2	3	4	0	4	1	0	3	27
U.S.A.	6	7	6	4	6	3	8	4	10	8	62
TOTALS	55	41	48	43	51	42	40	39	45	57	461

Note: When using these figures for any purpose, the relationship between fatalities and the country's hours flown should be considered.

WORLD GLIDING STATISTICS

CLUBS and SAILPLANES AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2012

Compiled for I.G.C. by John Roake

	CLUBS 2010	CLUBS 2011	CLUBS 2012	S/PLANES 2010	S/PLANES 2011	S/PLANES 2012
ARGENTINA	51	47	51	363	373	356
AUSTRALIA	86	76	76	1190	1205	1214
AUSTRIA	119	118	116	629	606	588
BELGIUM	23	24	24	415	402	402
BRAZIL	30	34	34	197	202	207
CANADA	27	29	30	535	536	526
CHILE	3	3	3	36	36	37
COLOMBIA	3	4	4	15	14	14
CROATIA	10	10	10	53	52	5
CZECH REPUBLIC	85	85	82	825	918	101
DENMARK	33	31	32	480	475	466
FINLAND	50	50	50	403	400	396
FRANCE	165	162	165	1850	2101	2343
GERMANY	960	950	959	10948	10956	10978
GREECE	3	3	3	19	17	17
HUNGARY	17	17	35	372	386	346
ICELAND	2	2	2	29	24	22
ISRAEL	4	4	4	50	50	53
IRELAND	2	2	1	18	20	21
ITALY	30	30	30	255	273	273
JAPAN	103	103	104	300	300	280
KENYA	1	1	1	7	8	7
KOREA	1	1	1	2	2	2
LUXEMBURG	1	1	1	15	15	23
LITHUANIA	14	13	13	165	150	150
NETHERLANDS	48	48	48	698	678	671
NEW ZEALAND	25	26	25	353	353	346
NORWAY	25	26	26	148	148	148
PAKISTAN	2	2	2	9	9	8
POLAND	55	56	54	784	738	786
PORTUGAL	7	7	7	28	29	25
RUSSIA	10	10	12	120	120	125
SERBIA	10	8	8	25	25	26
SLOVAK Rep	27	26	26	236	244	253
SLOVENIA	40	44	44	153	150	150
STH AFRICA	21	20	17	391	405	425
SPAIN	90	88	85	184	181	178
SWEDEN	64	64	60	420	423	450
SWITZERLAND	65	67	65	1075	1078	1048
UNITED KINGDOM	86	86	86	2310	2300	2300
U.S.A.	147	142	141	6624	6509	6067

TOTALS 2545 2520 2537 32729 32911 32799

COMMENTARY

I have long suspected that the figures provided on glider pilots in the USA by their FAA were in need of review. There has been considerable maintenance to that file over 2012 and likely further adjustments in 2013. The number for 2012 has been reduced by 3,426 which has had a major influence on the world figures - a loss of members equal to 3.07%, the highest fall on record. I predict that our world pilot numbers will be less than 100,000 in the early future.

Readers will see that our membership has fallen 16.562% over the past 10 years which surely must be of concern to I.G.C. delegates at this year's plenary session in Holland. They have shown little interest in our falling numbers in the past. Perhaps 2013 is wake-up year!

On membership, there is a yard stick - Germany, where flying hours are the highest. Their membership loss is 16.52% over the past 10 years which exactly mirrors the world figures, so their numbers endorse the accuracy of the overall decline as reported.

But the most alarming detail to emerge from this year's report is the increase in fatalities.

There have been 461 fatalities over the past 10 years, 57 in 2012, the highest on record. An increase of 26.6% over the previous year. This is appalling. How much attention will I.G.C. pay to this extremely serious problem this year?

The number of sailplanes flying has fallen during the year, which indicates that there is an increasing number of vintage gliders being removed from registers globally especially Europe. Conversely the only set of figures to show an improvement is the number of clubs. (Up by 17 world wide).

John Roake

(Please note that no reply was forthcoming from Belgium and Lithuania, despite numerous emails. We have used their previous years figures)