Birdstrike risk forecast for mid- till end of November 2026

By experience, the strike risk probability is now decreasing at German airports. On one hand this is due to the low migratory activity of the birds and on the other hand a lower flight activity can be expected particularly in poor weather conditions. The middle-distance migrants have now also crossed or left Germany, whilst the migration of short-distance migrants is sporadic and weather-dependent. Furthermore, most of these species use the lightness phases and tend to fly at rather low heights up to 2,000 ft. Declines in abundances have been recorded for Eurasian skylarks, black redstarts and shorebirds and the number of Nordic overwintering guests (geese, swans) remains very low along the coasts. However, an increase in the numbers of these species must be expected in December, especially with the onset of winter.

In addition to crows and raptors currently also pigeons can frequently be observed in large numbers at the airports. Common wood pigeons (see below) migrate in flocks throughout Germany in south-western direction, occurring regularly for foraging on the green areas. They also use woods and buildings as resting and roosting places and particularly at dusk and dawn they might appear in large flocks at the airports maneuvering areas. Feral pigeons (see below), which remain fairly location-loyal, increasingly occur in the build-up areas, where food but also resting and roosting place are available. Especially the roofs of heated halls/hangars are very attractive to these species. The timider stock doves (see below) are more commonly reported in the north-west and the middle of Germany and generally use the airports green areas as temporary foraging habitats.

For your flight preparation please also use the birdtam chart provided under the following links https://www.davvl.de/unsere-leistungen/birdtam or https://www.flysafe-birdtam.eu/composite_track.html.







Common Wood Pigeon (*Columba palumbus*), above left; Feral Pigeon (*Columba livia domestica*), above right; Stock Dove (*Columba oenas*), below.