

Birdstrike risk forecast for the beginning till mid December 2024

The strike likeliness is further decreasing in December. The migration activity of birds almost comes to a halt but with the onset of winter local and nationwide movements can be expected – mainly at the coasts. The abundances of many short- and middle-distance migrants are further decreased which has a rather positive impact on the biological flight safety, especially for heavy and flocking species like geese, cranes and ducks. However, local commuting movements of crows, gulls, cranes, storks and geese must be expected in the vicinity of airports and almost throughout Germany during the day.

The airports manoeuvring areas are currently mainly used by common buzzards and common kestrels (see below) alongside crows for foraging and resting. Additionally, rough-legged buzzards (see below) occur more often now as overwintering guests, especially in the eastern half of Germany. Due to the strong illumination of the airport areas and the short days an increasing activity of birds during darkness must be expected at the airports which could lead to strikes.

For your flight preparation please also use the birdtam chart provided under the following link <https://www.notams.faa.gov/common/birdtam.html>



Common Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*), above left; Rough-legged Buzzard (*Buteo lagopus*), above right; Common Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*), below.