

Birdstrike risk forecast for the beginning of May till mid May 2021

Cold temperatures in many places and north-eastern winds in April have led to late return of the long-distance migrants, especially in North-Germany. Therefore, many swallows are still on the move and common swifts arrive hesitantly as well. Also, the numbers of redwings are still rather high whereat Eurasian hobbies and European honey buzzards are reported lately. The abundances of white storks, great egrets and cranes are constant for some weeks so that breeding birds can be expected whereat cranes settle mostly in the North-East of Germany.

Migration will further decrease till the mid of May and only single common swifts or late arriving species like European honey buzzards will still be on the move. Therefore, activities of birds are mainly limited on the daily hours and heights of 6.000 ft. will be augmented seldomly.

Freshly mown green areas of airports currently offer attractive hunting conditions for raptors, crows, gulls, herons, storks and cranes. Early breeding birds like crows already have their young so that foraging is done very actively. Whereat carrion crows (see below) as territory breeder can be seen mostly in small flocks or separately, rooks (see below) breed in big colonies and therefore bigger flocks must be expected at the airports. Similar counts for western jackdaws (see below) which can occur in mixed abundances with other species. In the North and East of Germany hooded crows (see below) could occur at the airports in addition.

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



Carrion Crow (*Corvus corone*), above left; Rook (*Corvus frugilegus*), above right; Western Jackdaw (*Corvus monedula*), below left; Hooded Crow (*Corvus cornix*), below right;