

## Birdstrike risk forecast for mid- till end-November 2022

The numbers of birdstrikes and thus the birdstrike risk at German airports clearly decreased in the last two weeks. After middle- and long-distance migrants left Germany, the sightings of short-distance migrants such as common wood pigeons, starlings, Northern lapwings, Eurasian skylarks and black redstarts migrating to the south-west are also decreasing. However, this departure takes place throughout Germany and large flocks often must be expected. Extensive wetlands and the coasts are still hotspots for resting waterfowl and especially the commuting flights of geese, cranes, ducks and swans in the vicinity of the airports pose a high risk. While these commuting flights take place during the day, several bird species use the night for large-scale migration with heights of 8.000 ft being hardly exceeded.

Cranes (see below) are currently roosting in rather constant abundances in north-eastern Germany, but they also migrate in large flocks across Lower-Saxony, Hesse, North Rhine-Westphalia and Rhineland-Palatinate. Migrants and overwintering guests such as whooper swan and Tundra swan (see below) increasingly occur at large waters in the North and East of Germany and cormorants (see below) are reported more often throughout Germany, especially on the Baltic coasts. The number of species at the airports is decreasing but sedentary birds like crows and raptors continue to appear regularly.

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



Crane (*Grus grus*), above left; Whooper Swan (*Cygnus cygnus*), above right; Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*), below left; Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*), below right.