

The "Big" Disaster List

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List of disasters A disaster is a natural or man-made event that negatively affects life, property, livelihood or industry, often resulting in permanent changes to human societies, ecosystems and environment. Disasters manifest as hazards exacerbating vulnerable conditions and exceeding individuals' and communities' means to survive and thrive. Most of the catastrophic disasters listed in this article have occurred at a specific non-enduring time in history rather than a longer time-period (e.g. this excludes entire long-lasting wars while including specific events during wars). //

Natural disasters

Prehistoric disasters

- The Toba eruption about 75,000 years ago.
- Various extinction events, some of an undetermined nature.
- Impact events.
- Great prehistoric floods, many brought on by rising sea levels and melting glacial dams at the end of the most recent ice age
- The Snowball Earth hypothesis.

Classical antiquity disasters

- Thera volcanic eruption of 1650-1450 BC caused tsunamis in the Aegean sea, destroyed Minoan fleet, leaving Crete open to mainland invaders; probably the basis for the legend of the mythical Atlantis.
- Rhodes earthquake of 226 BC destroyed the Colossus of Rhodes
- Vesuvius volcanic eruption, Italy, 79 AD buried Pompeii, Herculaneum, Stabiae.
- Climatic disaster of 535 AD, might have been triggered by an Indonesian volcanic eruption; grassland failures spurred migrations of Avars and others; plagues, conjectured collapse of Late Antiquity (David Keys' theory, in *Catastrophe: An Investigation into the Origins of the Modern World*, 2000. See climate changes of 535-536.

Medieval disasters

- November, 856, Earthquake strikes Corinth, Greece, 45,000 people are killed.
- December 22, 856 strong earthquake devastates Iran, 200,000 deaths.
- Alexandria earthquakes of 1303 and 1323 which destroyed the Pharos of Alexandria
- The Black Death first appears in Europe in 1347
- Grote Mandrenke (January 1362) Storm tide in Northwestern Europe claims 25,000+ victims

Renaissance and Enlightenment disasters

- Shaanxi Earthquake (January 23, 1556) deadliest Earthquake on Record, 830,000 deaths.
- Spanish Armada in Ireland (September, 1588) 5,000 dead in heavy storms
- Great Plague of London 1665-1666, 75,000-100,000 dead in England
- Great Fire of London (September, 1666) 70,000 homeless, unknown deaths
- 1667 Shemakha earthquake (November 25) 80,000 deaths
- Great Storm of 1703 (November 24 - December 2) 8,000 died.
- 1755 Lisbon earthquake (November 1, 1755) 100,000 deaths
- Paris May 16, 1770 wedding of Marie-Antoinette to future Louis XVI, fireworks land on unexploded fireworks, fire causes stampede killing 132 spectators
- Great Hurricane of 1780 (October 10 - October 16, 1780)

19th century disasters

- New Madrid Earthquake (1811-12)
- Volcanic eruption of Mount Tambora, Indonesia (10 April 1815), resulting to climate abnormalities in 1816, known as the "Year Without a Summer".
- 1839 (Cyclone) in India (November 25) 300,000 deaths.
- 1840 (May 7) Great Natchez Tornado more than 317 deaths.
- 1876 Bakarganj Cyclone in India (October 31) 215,000 dead.
- Krakatoa, Indonesia, volcanic eruption, (August 26, 1883)
- 1887 Yellow River flood, death toll 900,000-6,000,000.
- St. Louis-East St. Louis Tornado, (May 27, 1896)
- Galveston Hurricane of 1900, Galveston, Texas (September 8, 1900) death toll 6000-12000

20th century disasters

- 1902 Mont Pelée Eruption, Martinique, Caribbean (May 2, 1902) 26,000 casualties.
- 1906 San Francisco earthquake, San Francisco, California (April 18, 1906) 478 reported deaths but 3000 more likely
- 1908 Messina, Italy earthquake (December 28, 1908) over 100,000 dead

- 1909, epidemic in China, 1,500,000 killed.
- Great Lakes Storm of 1913, Great Lakes basin region (November, 1913) 250 dead
- 1914 Hillcrest mine disaster, 189 dead.
- 1917 Mattoon, Illinois tornado destroys town, kills 101. (May 26)
- Great Kantō earthquake, Tokyo, Japan (September 1, 1923) 105,385 lost lives
- Tri-State Tornado, Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana (March 18, 1925) 727 confirmed dead
- 1926 Thanksgiving Tornado Outbreak in Arkansas and Central U.S., 104 deaths. (November 25)
- 1928 Drought in China, 3,000,000 dead.
- 1928 Collapse of the St. Francis Dam, estimated 400 to 500 lives lost
- 1931 Huang He floods, China (August 1931) estimates between 850,000 and 4,000,000
- Quetta earthquake 1935 (then in India, now in Pakistan) killed 35,000.
- Labor Day Hurricane of 1935, Southeastern United States (August to September 1935) 423 people killed
- 1950 Blizzard kills 323 in the Eastern U.S. (November 25)
- North Sea Flood of 1953, United Kingdom and The Netherlands (January 31-February 1, 1953) 1835 killed
- 1959 Huang He floods, China, 2,000,000 killed.
- Escuminac Disaster, Escuminac, New Brunswick, Canada (June 20, 1959) 95 dead
- Agadir (Morocco) earthquake, February 29, 1960.
- Great Chilean Earthquake, May 21 and 22, 1960. 3,000 deaths estimated.
- North Sea Flood of 1962, Germany
- Vajont Dam Landslide/Tsunami Disaster, Italy October 9, 1963 close to 2000 perished
- Palm Sunday Tornado Outbreak, Midwest, United States (April 11, 1965) 271 died
- Hurricane Camille, Mississippi, United States (August, 1969) 256
- Ancash earthquake and landslide in north central Peru May 31, 1970 47,194-66,000 dead
- Bhola cyclone in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh), November 13, 1970, 500,000 dead, 100,000 missing
- Super Outbreak, tornadoes in 13 U.S. states (April 3, 1974) 315-330 dead
- Tropical Cyclone Tracy, Darwin, Australia on Christmas Eve, 1974. 65-71
- Tangshan earthquake, China (July 26, 1976) 242,419 dead
- Mount St. Helens, volcanic eruption May 18, 1980, killed 57
- USA Heat Wave of 1980, (June to September 1980) between 1250 and 10,000
- Hurricane Allen, Greater Antilles, Texas, United States (August 1980) 250-260 dead
- 1983 Tsunami strikes Japan, 104 confirmed deaths, hundreds missing. (May 26)
- Mexico City earthquake, Mexico (September 19, 1985) between 5000 and 20,000
- Nevado del Ruiz volcanic eruption, Armero, Colombia (November, 1985) 23,000-25,000 died.
- 1987 Super typhoon Nina slams the Philippines, 1036 deaths. (November 25)
- Hurricane Gilbert, Jamaica, Central America, Mexico (September, 1988) 318 dead
- Loma Prieta earthquake (October 17, 1989, San Francisco) 63 dead
- Spitak Earthquake, Spitak, Armenia (December 7, 1988) 25,000 lives lost
- 1991 Bangladesh cyclone, Bangladesh (April 29, 1991) 138,000 died
- Mount Pinatubo, volcanic eruption, Luzon, Philippines (June 15, 1991) 300 killed
- Hurricane Andrew, Florida, Louisiana, United States (August, 1992) 26 dead
- Paez river disaster, Cauca and Huila provinces, Colombia (June 6, 1994) over 1,100 people were killed in an earthquake and mudslide disaster in the Paez river basin
- Kobe Earthquake, Kobe, Hyogo (January 17, 1995) 6,433 lost lives
- Chicago Heat Wave of 1995, Chicago, Illinois 739 dead
- 1996 May 13, Tornado in India kills over 600, hundreds more missing.
- 1996 November 6, Cyclone bashes Andhra Pradesh, India, kills more than 2000 people.
- November 25, 1996 Ice storm kills 26, hundreds injured in the Central United States.
- Hurricane Mitch, Central America (October to November, 1998) 18,000 people killed
- Galtür Avalanche, Galtür, Austria (February 23, 1999) 31 killed
- 1999 Izmit, Turkey Earthquake, Kocaeli, Turkey (August 17, 1999) 17,000 dead
- Chi-Chi earthquake, Nantou, Taiwan (September 21, 1999) 2,415 dead or missing
- Tropical Cyclone 05B (1999), killed around 10,000 people in the Orissa state of India
- Vargas State Mudslides, Venezuela (December 1999) 10,000 to 50,000 dead or missing

21st century disasters

- 2001 Gujarat Earthquake, Bhuj, India (January 26, 2001)
- European Heat Wave of 2003, Europe
- Bam Earthquake, Iran (December 26, 2003)
- Hurricane Ivan, Caribbean Sea, Southeastern United States (September, 2004)
- Hurricane Jeanne, Greater Antilles, Eastern United States (September, 2004)
- 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand, and elsewhere (December 26, 2004) 186,983 killed, 42,883 missing
- 2005 Sumatran earthquake, Indonesia (March 28, 2005), at least 1,000 killed
- 2005 Maharashtra floods, Mumbai, Maharashtra, Western India (July 2005)
- Hurricane Katrina, United States (August 2005), toll varies, c. 2,000 killed

- Hurricane Stan, Mexico, Central America, Guatemala, (October, 2005)
- 2005 Kashmir earthquake, Kashmir, Pakistan, (October 8, 2005), death toll is currently 87,350 but some estimate it to rise over 100,000
- Hurricane Wilma, Caribbean Sea, Mexico, United States (October 2005)
- 2006 Southern Leyte mudslide, Philippines, (17 February 2006) c. 950 killed.
- May 2006 Java earthquake, Yogyakarta, Java, Indonesia (May 27, 2006), c. 6,200 killed
- July 2006 Java earthquake, Java, Indonesia (July 17, 2006), c. 550 killed
- Typhoon Saomai (2006), Zhejiang, China, (August, 2006), c. 450 killed

Man-made disasters

Air disasters Main article: List of notable accidents and incidents on commercial aircraft

This is a list of disasters involving objects in flight or near-flight. From 1990 onward, the list is exhaustive, including all air disasters killing 20 or more people.

See also: List of space disasters, Accidents and incidents in aviation

1910s

- Helgoland Island Air Disaster (September 9, 1913) 14 killed; Zeppelin L-1 airship
- Johannisthal Air Disaster (October 17, 1913) 28 killed; Zeppelin L-2 airship

1920s

- Hull ZR2 Air Disaster (August 24, 1921) 44 killed, including one on the ground; Royal Airship Works R38/ZR-2 airship
- French Zeppelin Dixmunde airship (December 23, 1923) 52 killed

1930s

- R101 Air Disaster (October 5, 1930) 48 killed; Royal Airship Works R-101
- USS Akron (April 4, 1933) 73 killed; Goodyear-Zeppelin airship ZRS-4
- Tupolev ANT-20 (a.k.a. Maxim Gorky) (May 18, 1935) 45 killed, including two on ground
- Hindenburg disaster (May 6, 1937) 36 killed, including one ground crew; Zeppelin LZ 129

1940s

- Lovettsville Air Disaster (August 31, 1940) 25 killed; Douglas DC-3
- Colombia Avianca Douglas DC-4 air disaster (February 15, 1947) 53 killed
- U.S. United Air Lines Douglas DC-4 air disaster (May 29, 1947) 43 killed
- Japan U.S. Air Force Douglas DC-4 air disaster (May 29, 1947) 40 killed
- U.S. Eastern Air Lines Douglas DC-4 air disaster (May 30, 1947) 53 killed
- U.S. Pennsylvania-Central Airlines Douglas DC-4 air disaster (June 13, 1947) 50 killed
- Spain Société aérienne du littoral Bristol 170 air disaster (October 16, 1947) 41 killed
- U.S. United Air Lines Douglas DC-6 air disaster (October 24, 1947) 52 killed
- Greece AB Aerotransport Douglas DC-4 air disaster (October 26, 1947) 44 killed
- U.S. United Air Lines Douglas DC-6 air disaster (June 17, 1948) 43 killed
- Atlantic Ocean Air France Latécoere 631 air disaster (August 1, 1948) 52 killed
- United Kingdom KLM Lockheed L-049 air disaster (October 20, 1948) 40 killed
- Superga air disaster (May 4, 1949) 31 killed, including 18 members of the Torino football team
- Puerto Rico Strato-Freight Curtiss C-46 air disaster (June 7, 1949) 53 killed
- India KLM Lockheed L-749 air disaster (July 12, 1949) 45 killed
- Portugal Air France Lockheed L-749 air disaster (October 28, 1949) 48 killed
- U.S. Eastern Air Lines Douglas DC-4 air disaster (November 1, 1949) 55 killed

1950s

- BOAC Flight 781 (January 10, 1954) 35 killed
- South African Airways Flight 201 (April 8, 1954) 21 killed
- British European Airways Flight 609 (February 6, 1958) 24 killed, including eight members of the Manchester United football team
- Northeast Airlines Flight 823 crashed on takeoff from LaGuardia Airport with 20 fatalities

1960s

- Sabena Flight 548 (February 15, 1961) 72 killed; crashed on landing approach to Brussels, Belgium. On board were the entire United States Figure Skating team and several family members who were en route to the 1961 World Championships in Prague, Czechoslovakia.
- Stockport Air Disaster (June 4, 1967) 72 killed; a British Midland C4 Argonaut carrying passengers returning from

- Palma de Mallorca crashed in Stockport on the approach to Ringway Airport when its engines lost power
- Irish national airline Aer Lingus Flight 712 (March 24, 1968) 61 killed; a Vickers Viscount 803 en route from Cork to London crashed in mysterious circumstances into the sea off the Tuskar Rock lighthouse, County Wexford
- Mohawk Airlines Flight 40 crashes after a valve is installed backwards, killing all 34 on-board.
- Hawthorne Nevada Airlines Flight 708 flies into a mountain, killing 35.

1970s

- Dominican Republic Dominicana DC-9 air disaster (February 15, 1970) 102 killed
- Spain Dan-Air Services DH-106 Comet 4 air disaster (July 3, 1970) 112 killed
- Southern Airways Flight 932 (November 14, 1970) 75 killed, including 37 players and 8 coaches with the football team of Marshall University
- Toronto Air Canada DC-8 air disaster (July 5, 1970) 109 killed
- Japan All Nippon Boeing 727 air disaster (July 30, 1971) 162 killed
- Juneau Alaska Airlines Boeing 727 air disaster (September 4, 1971) 111 killed
- Spain Iberia Caravelle air disaster (January 7, 1972) 104 killed
- Dubai Sterling Airways Caravelle air disaster (March 14, 1972) 112 killed
- Italy Alitalia DC-8 air disaster (May 5, 1972) 115 killed
- Ukraine Aeroflot Antonov 10 air disaster (May 18, 1972) 122 killed
- U.K. BEA HS-121 Trident air disaster (July 18, 1972) 118 killed
- Germany Interflug Ilyushin 62 air disaster (August 14, 1972) 156 killed
- Russia Magnitogorsk Aeroflot Ilyushin 18 air disaster (August 31, 1972) 101 killed
- Russia Sochi Aeroflot Ilyushin 18 air disaster (October 1, 1972) 108 killed
- Russia Sheremetyevo Aeroflot Ilyushin 62 air disaster (October 13, 1972) 174 killed
- Tenerife Spantax Convair CV-990 air disaster (December 3, 1972) 155 killed
- Sinai Libyan Arab Airlines Boeing 727 air disaster (February 21, 1973) 108 killed
- Ermenonville air disaster north of Paris (March 3, 1974) 346 killed
- Seven Virgins air disaster (December 4, 1974) 191 killed; Martinair DC-8 Series 55F hits mountain range in Maskeliya, Sri Lanka
- Vietnam U.S.A.F. Lockheed C-5 air disaster (April 4, 1975) 155 killed
- New York Eastern Air Lines Boeing 727 air disaster (June 24, 1975) 115 killed
- Morocco Alia Boeing 707 air disaster (August 3, 1975) 188 killed
- Syria Ceskoslovenské Aerolinie Ilyushin 62 air disaster (August 20, 1975) 126 killed
- Russia Aeroflot Armenia Ilyushin 18 air disaster (March 6, 1976) 111 killed
- Zagreb air disaster (September 10, 1976) 176 killed (113 plus 63); mid-air collision between a British Airways Trident and an Inex-Adria DC-9
- Turkey Türk Hava Yollari Boeing 727 air disaster (September 19, 1976) 154 killed
- Tenerife disaster (March 27, 1977) 583 killed (335 plus 248); collision between KLM and PanAm Boeing 747s, the world's largest multiple aircraft air disaster
- Kälvesta air disaster (January 15, 1977) 22 killed
- Portugal TAP Air Portugal Boeing 727 air disaster (November 19, 1977) 131 killed
- Malaysia Malaysian Airlines System Boeing 737-200 air disaster (December 4, 1977) 100 killed
- Arabian Sea Air India Boeing 747 air disaster (January 1, 1978) 213 killed
- Guatemala City air disaster (April 28, 1977) 28 killed
- San Diego Pacific Southwest Airlines Boeing 727 air disaster (September 25, 1978) 144 killed (including 9 on the ground); collision between a Cessna and a Boeing 727, PSA flight 182
- Sri Lanka Loftleidir DC-8 air disaster (November 15, 1978) 184 killed (including 1 on the ground); Icelandair DC-8 Super 63CF ploughs into a coconut plantation in Sri Lanka
- Italy Alitalia DC-9-30 air disaster (December 23, 1978) 108 killed
- American Airlines flight 191 (May 25, 1979) 273 killed (including 2 on the ground); O'Hare Airport Chicago, IL, DC-10 crashes due to mechanical failure minutes after take-off in a field adjacent to a trailer park in Des Plaines, IL; deadliest US flight disaster prior to the September 11th, 2001 attacks
- Saudi Arabia Pakistan International Airlines Boeing 707 air disaster (November 26, 1979) 156 killed
- Air New Zealand Flight 901 at Mount Erebus in Antarctica (November 28, 1979) 257 killed

1980s

- Iran Iran Air Boeing 727 air disaster (January 21, 1980) 128 killed
- Spain Dan-Air Services Boeing 727 air disaster (April 25, 1980) 146 killed
- Aerolinee Itavia Flight 870 (June 27, 1980) 81 killed
- Kazakhstan Aeroflot Tupolev 154 air disaster (July 7, 1980) 163 killed
- Saudi Arabia Saudi Arabian Lockheed L-1011 air disaster (August 19, 1980) 301 killed
- Taiwan FEAT Boeing 737-200 air disaster (August 22, 1981) 110 killed
- Russia Aeroflot Tupolev 154 air disaster (November 16, 1981) 99 killed
- France Inex Adria Aviopromet MD-80 air disaster (December 1, 1981) 180 killed
- China CAAC HS-121 Trident air disaster (April 26, 1982) 112 killed
- Brazil VASP Boeing 727 air disaster (June 8, 1982) 137 killed

- Belarus Aeroflot Yakovlev 42 air disaster (June 28, 1982) 132 killed
- USA Pan Am Boeing 727 air disaster (July 9, 1982) 145 killed
- Air Canada Flight 797 air disaster (June 2, 1983) 23 killed
- Ecuador TAME Ecuador Boeing 737-200 air disaster (July 11, 1983) 119 killed
- Korean Air Flight 7 Boeing 747 shootdown (September 1, 1983) 269 killed
- U.A.E. Gulf Air Boeing 737-200 air disaster (September 23, 1983) 112 killed
- Angola TAAG Boeing 737-200 air disaster (November 8, 1983) 130 killed
- Spain Avianca Boeing 747 air disaster (November 27, 1983) 181 killed
- Russia Aeroflot Tupolev 154 air disaster (October 11, 1984) 174 killed
- Russia Aeroflot Tupolev 154 air disaster (December 23, 1984) 110 killed
- Galaxy Airlines Lockheed Electra 188 disaster (January 21, 1985) 70 killed
- Spain Iberia Boeing 727 air disaster (February 19, 1985) 148 killed
- Atlantic Ocean Air India Boeing 747 air disaster (June 23, 1985) 329 killed
- Uzbekistan Aeroflot Tupolev 154 air disaster (July 10, 1985) 200 killed
- USA Delta Air Lines Lockheed L-1011 air disaster (August 2, 1985) 134 killed
- Japan JAL Boeing 747 air disaster (August 12, 1985) 520 killed, the world's largest single aircraft air disaster
- Canada Arrow Air DC-8 air disaster (December 12, 1985) 256 killed
- Mexico Mexicana Boeing 727 air disaster (March 31, 1986) 167 killed
- Aeroméxico Flight 498 air disaster (August 31, 1986) 81 killed
- Mozambican Tupolev Tu-134 air disaster (October 19, 1986) 25 killed including head of state
- Poland LOT Ilyushin 62 air disaster (May 9, 1987) 183 killed
- USA Northwest Airlines MD-80 air disaster (August 16, 1987) 154 killed
- Indian Ocean SAA Boeing 747 air disaster (November 28, 1987) 159 killed
- Indian Ocean Korean Air Boeing 707 air disaster (November 29, 1987) 115 killed
- China China Southwest Ilyushin 18 air disaster (January 18, 1988) 108 killed
- Colombia Avianca Boeing 727 air disaster (March 17, 1988) 143 killed
- Iran Air Flight 655 Airbus A300 USS Vincennes shootdown (July 3, 1988) 290 killed
- Ramstein airshow disaster (August 28, 1988) 3 pilots and 67 spectators killed
- India Indian Airlines Boeing 737-200 air disaster (October 19, 1988) 124 killed
- Lockerbie Pan Am Boeing 747 air disaster (December 21, 1988) 270 killed (including 11 on the ground)
- Kegworth air disaster (January 8, 1989) 47 killed
- Portugal Independent Air Boeing 707 air disaster (February 8, 1989) 144 killed
- Suriname Surinam Airways DC-8 air disaster (June 7, 1989) 176 killed
- Sioux City United DC-10 air disaster (July 19, 1989) 111 killed
- Cuba Cubana Ilyushin 62 air disaster (September 3, 1989) 126 killed
- Niger UTA DC-10 air disaster (September 19, 1989) 171 killed
- Honduras TAN Boeing 727 air disaster (October 21, 1989) 127 killed
- Colombia Avianca Boeing 727 air disaster (November 27, 1989) 107 killed

1990s

- Russia Aeroflot-North Kavkaz Tupolev 134 air disaster (January 13, 1990) 27 killed
- Costa Rica SANSА CASA 212 air disaster (January 15, 1990) 23 killed
- Venezuela Venezuelan Navy CASA 212 air disaster (January 24, 1990) 24 killed
- U.S. Avianca Boeing 707 air disaster (January 25, 1990) 73 killed
- Congolese Air Force Nord 262 air disaster (January 27, 1990) 23 killed
- India Indian Airlines Airbus A320 air disaster (February 14, 1990) 92 killed
- Zambian Air Force DHC-5 Buffalo air disaster (February 17, 1990) 28 killed
- Mongolia MIAT Antonov 26 air disaster (March 1, 1990) 30 killed
- Angolan Government CASA 212 air disaster (March 27, 1990) 25 killed
- Panama AeroPerlas DHC-6 Twin Otter air disaster (April 18, 1990) 20 killed
- Zaire Air Force Lockheed C-130 air disaster (April 20, 1990) 20 killed
- Mexico Aviacsa Fairchild F-27 air disaster (May 10, 1990) 21 killed
- Aerolift Philippines Beech 1900 air disaster (May 18, 1990) 21 killed
- Brazil TABA Fairchild FH-227 air disaster (June 6, 1990) 22 killed
- Azerbaijan Aeroflot-Armenia Yakovlev 40 air disaster (August 1, 1990) 47 killed
- Afghan Republican Air Force Antonov 12 air disaster (August 10, 1990) 83 killed
- China Xiamen Airlines Boeing 737-200 air disaster (October 2, 1990) 82 killed
- China China Southern Boeing 757 air disaster (October 2, 1990) 46 killed
- Switzerland Alitalia DC-9-30 air disaster (November 14, 1990) 46 killed
- Thailand Bangkok Airways DHC-8 air disaster (November 21, 1990) 38 killed
- Venezuelan Navy CASA 212 air disaster (January 10, 1991) 21 killed
- U.S. USAir Boeing 737-300 air disaster (February 1, 1991) 34 killed (USAir: 22; SkyWest: 12)
- Greek Air Force Lockheed C-130 air disaster (February 5, 1991) 63 killed
- Ecuadorian Air Force DHC-6 Twin Otter air disaster (February 14, 1991) 22 killed
- Chile LAN Chile BAe-146 air disaster (February 20, 1991) 20 killed

- Angolan Air Force Antonov 26 air disaster (February 22, 1991) 47 killed
- Dahrán Scud attack (February 25, 1991) 28 killed
- U.S. United Boeing 737-200 air disaster (March 3, 1991) 25 killed
- Venezuela LAV DC-9-30 air disaster (March 5, 1991) 43 killed
- Saudi Air Force Lockheed C-130 air disaster (March 21, 1991) 98 killed
- Uzbekistan Aeroflot-Uzbekistan Antonov 24 air disaster (March 23, 1991) 34 killed
- Indian Air Force HAL-748 air disaster (March 25, 1991) 28 killed
- U.S. Atlantic Southeast Embraer 120 air disaster (April 5, 1991) 23 killed
- Thailand Lauda Air Boeing 767 air disaster (May 26, 1991) 223 killed
- Saudi Arabia Nationair DC-8 air disaster (July 11, 1991) 261 killed
- India Indian Airlines Boeing 737-200 air disaster (August 16, 1991) 69 killed
- Indonesian Air Force Lockheed C-130 air disaster (October 5, 1991) 134 killed
- Russia Aeroflot-North Kavkaz Yakovlev 40 air disaster (November 7, 1991) 34 killed
- Russia Aeroflot Antonov 12 air disaster (November 16, 1991) 20 killed
- Russia Azerbaijan Airlines Yakovlev 40 air disaster (November 21, 1991) 20 killed
- Russia Aeroflot-Privolzhsk Antonov 24 air disaster (November 26, 1991) 41 killed
- Brazilian Air Force Embraer 110 air disaster (November 29, 1991) 20 killed
- Germany Classic Wings Douglas DC-3 air disaster (December 22, 1991) 28 killed
- France Air Inter Airbus A320 air disaster (January 20, 1992) 87 killed
- Senegal Gambcrest Convair CV-640 air disaster (February 9, 1992) 31 killed
- U.S. USAir Fokker F-28 air disaster (March 22, 1992) 27 killed
- Iran Air Force Fokker F-27 air disaster (April 26, 1992) 39 killed
- Panama COPA Panama Boeing 737-200 air disaster (June 6, 1992) 47 killed
- Azerbaijan Russian Air Force Antonov 12 air disaster (July 14, 1992) 29 killed
- Yemen Air Force Antonov 12 air disaster (July 17, 1992) 57 killed
- Georgia Aeroflot-Georgia Tupolev 154 air disaster (July 20, 1992) 24 killed
- Indonesia Mandala Airlines Vickers Viscount air disaster (July 24, 1992) 70 killed
- Nepal Thai Airways Airbus A310 air disaster (July 31, 1992) 113 killed
- China China General Yakovlev 42 air disaster (July 31, 1992) 108 killed
- Russia Aeroflot-Central Region Tupolev 134 air disaster (August 27, 1992) 84 killed
- Nigerian Air Force Lockheed C-130 air disaster (September 26, 1992) 158 killed
- Nepal PIA Airbus A300 air disaster (September 28, 1992) 167 killed
- Netherlands Bijlmer disaster (October 4, 1992) 43 killed (4 on board and 39 on the ground)
- Indonesia Merpati Nusantara CASA CN.235 air disaster (October 18, 1992) 31 killed
- Soviet Air Force Antonov 22 air disaster (November 11, 1992) 33 killed
- Vietnam Vietnam Airlines Yakovlev 40 air disaster (November 14, 1992) 30 killed
- Dominican Republic Aerocaribbean Ilyushin 18 air disaster (November 15, 1992) 34 killed
- China China Southern Boeing 737-300 air disaster (November 24, 1992) 141 killed
- Democratic Republic of the Congo Scibe Airlift Cargo Zaire Fokker F-27 air disaster (December 13, 1992) 37 killed
- Portugal Martinair Holland DC-10 air disaster (December 21, 1992) 56 killed
- Libya Libyan Arab Airlines Boeing 727 air disaster (December 22, 1992) 157 killed
- Iran Iran Air Tours Tupolev 154 air disaster (February 8, 1993) 131 killed
- Macedonia Palair Macedonia Fokker 100 air disaster (March 5, 1993) 83 killed
- Mongolia MIAT Antonov 26 air disaster (April 23, 1993) 32 killed
- India Indian Airlines Boeing 737-200 air disaster (April 26, 1993) 55 killed
- Afghan Republican Air Force Antonov 32 air disaster (April 27, 1993) 76 killed
- Gabon Zambian Air Force DHC-5 Buffalo air disaster (April 27, 1993) 30 killed, including 18 members of the Zambia national football team
- Colombia SAM Colombia Boeing 727 air disaster (May 19, 1993) 133 killed
- Georgia Tajikistan National Airlines Antonov 26 air disaster (June 17, 1993) 41 killed
- Indonesia Merpati Nusantara Fokker F-28 air disaster (July 1, 1993) 41 killed
- China China Northwest BAe-146 air disaster (July 23, 1993) 55 killed
- South Korea Asiana Airlines Boeing 737-500 air disaster (July 26, 1993) 68 killed
- Russia Sakha Avia Let 410 air disaster (August 26, 1993) 24 killed
- Tajikistan Tajikistan Airlines Yakovlev 40 air disaster (August 28, 1993) 82 killed
- Georgia Transair Georgia Tupolev 134 air disaster (September 21, 1993) 27 killed
- Georgia Transair Georgia Tupolev 154 air disaster (September 22, 1993) 108 killed
- Macedonia Avioimpex Yakovlev 42 air disaster (November 20, 1993) 115 killed
- Philippine Air Force Lockheed C-130 air disaster (December 15, 1993) 27 killed
- Armenia Yugavia Antonov 26 air disaster (December 26, 1993) 35 killed
- Russia Baikal Airlines Tupolev 154 air disaster (January 3, 1994) 125 killed (including one on the ground)
- Peru Expresso Aéreo Yakovlev 40 air disaster (February 25, 1994) 31 killed
- Armenia Iran Air Force Lockheed C-130 air disaster (March 17, 1994) 32 killed
- Russia Aeroflot Airbus A310 air disaster (March 23, 1994) 75 killed
- Japan China Airlines Airbus A300 air disaster (April 26, 1994) 264 killed

- Flight ZD576 Helicopter air disaster (June 2, 1994) 29 killed
- China China Northwest Airlines Tupolev 154 air disaster (June 6, 1994) 160 killed
- Afghanistan Dostum-Golboddin militia Antonov 32 air disaster (June 29, 1994) 50 killed
- Mauritania Air Mauritanie Fokker F-28 air disaster (July 1, 1994) 80 killed
- U.S. USAir DC-9-30 air disaster (July 2, 1994) 37 killed
- Panama Alas Chiricanas Embraer 110 air disaster (July 19, 1994) 21 killed
- Russian Air Force Antonov 12 air disaster (August 4, 1994) 47 killed
- Morocco RAM ATR-42 air disaster (August 21, 1994) 44 killed
- U.S. USAir Boeing 737-300 air disaster (September 8, 1994) 132 killed
- Algeria Oriental Airlines BAC One-Eleven air disaster (September 18, 1994) 34 killed
- Russia Cheremshanka Airlines Yakovlev 40 air disaster (September 26, 1994) 28 killed
- Iran Iran Asseman Fokker F-28 air disaster (October 12, 1994) 66 killed
- Brazilian Air Force Lockheed C-130 air disaster (October 14, 1994) 21 killed
- Russia Aeronika Antonov 12 air disaster (October 29, 1994) 23 killed
- U.S. American Eagle ATR-72 air disaster (October 31, 1994) 68 killed
- Papua-New Guinea MAF DHC-6 Twin Otter air disaster (December 17, 1994) 28 killed
- Zairian Trans Service Airlift Electra air disaster (December 18, 1994) 141 killed
- Turkey THY Boeing 737-400 air disaster (December 29, 1994) 57 killed
- Colombia Intercontinental DC-9-10 air disaster (January 11, 1995) 52 killed
- Romania Tarom Airbus A310 air disaster (March 31, 1995) 60 killed
- Alfred P. Murray Federal Building bombing in Oklahoma City, OK (April 19, 1995) 168 killed
- Sri Lanka Air Force HS-748 air disaster (April 28, 1995) 45 killed
- Sri Lanka Air Force HS-748 air disaster (April 29, 1995) 52 killed
- Angolan Air Force CASA 212 air disaster (June 17, 1995) 48 killed
- Madagascar Air Force Douglas DC-3 air disaster (July 18, 1995) 34 killed
- El Salvador Aviatega Boeing 737-200 air disaster (August 10, 1995) 65 killed
- Colombia SATENA CASA 212 air disaster (September 9, 1995) 21 killed
- Sri Lanka Air Force Antonov 32 air disaster (September 12, 1995) 75 killed
- Malaysia Malaysia Airlines Fokker 50 air disaster (September 15, 1995) 34 killed
- Mongolia MIAT Antonov 24 air disaster (September 21, 1995) 42 killed
- U.S. Air Force Boeing 707 air disaster (September 22, 1995) 24 killed
- Argentina LADE Fokker F-27 air disaster (November 8, 1995) 53 killed
- Sri Lanka Air Force Antonov 32 air disaster (November 22, 1995) 62 killed
- Cameroon Cameroon Airlines Boeing 737-200 air disaster (December 3, 1995) 71 killed
- Azerbaijan Azerbaijan Airlines Tupolev 134 air disaster (December 5, 1995) 52 killed
- Russia Aeroflot Khabarovsk Tupolev 154 air disaster (December 7, 1995) 98 killed
- Haiti Air St. Martin Beech 1900 air disaster (December 7, 1995) 20 killed
- Italy Romavia Antonov 24 air disaster (December 13, 1995) 49 killed
- Angola Trans Service Airlift Lockheed L-188 air disaster (December 18, 1995) 141 killed
- Colombia American Airlines Boeing 757 air disaster (December 20, 1995) 160 killed
- Kinshasa Antonov 32 air disaster (January 8, 1996) at least 350 killed (most on the ground)
- Atlantic Ocean Alas Nacionales Boeing 757 air disaster (February 6, 1996) 189 killed
- Sudan Air Force Lockheed C-130 air disaster (February 26, 1996) 91 killed
- Peru Faucett Boeing 737-200 air disaster (February 29, 1996) 123 killed
- Croatia U.S. Air Force Boeing 737-200 air disaster (April 3, 1996) 35 killed
- Sudan Federal Airlines Antonov 24 air disaster (May 3, 1996) 53 killed
- U.S. ValuJet Airlines DC-9-30 air disaster (May 11, 1996) 110 killed
- Papua-New Guinea Milne Bay Air DHC-6 Twin Otter air disaster (July 9, 1996) 20 killed
- Netherlands Belgian Air Force Lockheed C-130 air disaster (July 15, 1996) 34 killed
- U.S. TWA Boeing 747 air disaster (July 17, 1996) 230 killed
- Vnukovo Airlines Flight 2801 (August 29, 1996) 141 killed
- Netherlands DDA Douglas DC-3 air disaster (September 25, 1996) 32 killed
- Pacific AeroPeru Boeing 757 air disaster (October 2, 1996) 70 killed
- Brazil TAM Fokker 100 air disaster (October 31, 1996) 95 killed
- Nigeria ADC Airlines Boeing 727 air disaster (November 7, 1996) 143 killed
- India Saudi Arabian Boeing 747 air disaster (November 12, 1996) 312 killed
- India Kazakhstan Airlines Ilyushin 76 air disaster (November 12, 1996) 37 killed
- Comoros Ethiopian Airlines Boeing 767 air disaster (November 23, 1996) 125 killed
- Russian Air Force Ilyushin 76 air disaster (November 27, 1996) 23 killed
- Indian Air Force HAL-748 air disaster (December 24, 1996) 22 killed
- U.S. Comair-Delta Connection Embraer 120 air disaster (January 9, 1997) 29 killed
- Senegal Air Senegal HS-748 air disaster (February 1, 1997) 23 killed
- Angolan Air Force CASA 212 air disaster (February 2, 1997) 37 killed
- Iran Air Force Lockheed C-130 air disaster (March 13, 1997) 86 killed
- Russia Stavropolskaya Aktsionernaya Avia Antonov 24 air disaster (March 18, 1997) 50 killed

- China China Southern Boeing 737-300 air disaster (May 8, 1997) 35 killed
- Democratic Republic of the Congo Bazair Vickers Viscount air disaster (June 6, 1997) 23 killed
- Cuba Cubana Antonov 24 air disaster (July 11, 1997) 44 killed
- Indonesia Sempati Air Fokker F-27 air disaster (July 17, 1997) 29 killed
- Guam Korean Air Boeing 747 air disaster (August 6, 1997) 228 killed
- Cambodia Vietnam Airlines Tupolev 134 air disaster (September 3, 1997) 65 killed
- Atlantic Ocean German Air Force Tupolev 154 air disaster (September 13, 1997) 24 killed
- Indonesia Garuda Airbus A300 air disaster (September 26, 1997) 234 killed
- Uruguay Austral Lineas Aéreas DC-9-30 air disaster (October 10, 1997) 74 killed
- Russian Air Force Antonov 124 air disaster (December 5, 1997) 23 killed
- United Arab Emirates Tajikistan Airlines Tupolev 154 air disaster (December 15, 1997) 85 killed
- Greece Aerosweet Yakovlev 42 air disaster (December 17, 1997) 70 killed
- Indonesia Silkair Boeing 737-300 air disaster (December 19, 1997) 104 killed
- Ariana Afghan Airlines Antonov 12 air disaster (January 13, 1998) 51 killed
- Philippines Cebu Pacific Air DC-9-30 air disaster (February 2, 1998) 104 killed
- Sudanese Air Force Antonov 26 air disaster (February 12, 1998) 26 killed
- Taiwan China Airlines Airbus A300 air disaster (February 16, 1998) 196 killed
- Afghanistan Ariana Afghan Airlines Boeing 727 air disaster (March 19, 1998) 45 killed
- Peruvian Air Force Antonov 32 air disaster (March 28, 1998) 21 killed
- Colombia TAME Ecuador Boeing 727 air disaster (April 20, 1998) 53 killed
- Peru Occidental Petroleum Boeing 737-200 air disaster (May 5, 1998) 74 killed
- Mauretania Air Force Yunshuji Y-7 air disaster (May 12, 1998) 39 killed
- Lao Aviation Yakovlev 40 air disaster (May 25, 1998) 26 killed
- Mongolia MIAT Y-12 air disaster (May 26, 1998) 28 killed
- Myanma Airways Fokker F-27 air disaster (August 24, 1998) 36 killed
- Ecuador Cubana Tupolev 154 air disaster (August 29, 1998) 70 killed
- Swissair Flight 111 (September 2, 1998) 229 killed
- Angola Prestavia Antonov 26 air disaster (September 2, 1998) 24 killed
- Morocco Paukn Air BAe-146 air disaster (September 25, 1998) 38 killed
- Sri Lanka LionAir Antonov 24 air disaster (September 29, 1998) 55 killed
- Lignes Aériennes Congolaises Boeing 727 air disaster (October 10, 1998) 41 killed
- Thai Airways Airbus A310 air disaster (December 11, 1998) 101 killed
- Nicaraguan Air Force Antonov 26 air disaster (January 21, 1999) 28 killed
- China Southwest Tupolev 154 air disaster (February 24, 1999) 61 killed
- Sudanese Air Force Antonov 32 air disaster (June 3, 1999) 50 killed
- Argentina LAPA Boeing 737-200 air disaster (August 31, 1999) 63 killed
- EgyptAir disaster (October 31, 1999) 217 killed
- Yugoslavia United Nations ATR-42 air disaster (November 12, 1999) 24 killed
- Portugal SATA Air Açores BAe ATP air disaster (December 11, 1999) 35 killed
- Venezuela Cubana Yakovlev 42 air disaster (December 25, 1999) 22 killed

2000s

- Libya Sirte Oil Company Shorts 360 air disaster (January 13, 2000) 22 killed
- Côte d'Ivoire Kenya Airways Airbus A310 air disaster (January 30, 2000) 169 killed
- Alaska Airlines Flight 261 MD-80 air disaster (January 31, 2000) 88 killed
- Sri Lanka Air Force Antonov 26 air disaster (March 30, 2000) 40 killed
- Air Philippines Boeing 737-200 air disaster (April 19, 2000) 131 killed
- Rwanda AF Antonov 8 air disaster (April 19, 2000) 24 killed
- China Wuhan Airlines Yunshuji Y-7 air disaster (June 22, 2000) 42 killed
- India Alliance Air Boeing 737-200 air disaster (July 17, 2000) 55 killed
- Concorde disaster (July 25, 2000) 113 killed (109 passengers and crew, plus 4 on the ground)
- Royal Nepal Airlines DHC-6 Twin Otter air disaster (July 27, 2000) 25 killed
- Democratic Republic of the Congo STAER Airlines Antonov 26 air disaster (August 12, 2000) 27 killed
- Bahrain Gulf Air Airbus A320 air disaster (August 23, 2000) 143 killed
- Georgia Russian Air Force Ilyushin 18 air disaster (October 25, 2000) 83 killed
- Singapore Airlines Boeing 747 air disaster (October 31, 2000) 83 killed
- Angola ACA-Ancargo Air Antonov 26 air disaster (October 31, 2000) 48 killed
- Angola ASA Pesada Antonov 24 air disaster (November 15, 2000) 57 killed
- Venezuela Rutaca Douglas DC-3 air disaster (January 25, 2001) 24 killed
- Florida Air National Guard Shorts 330 air disaster (March 3, 2001) 21 killed
- Turkish Air Force CASA CN235 air disaster (May 16, 2001) 34 killed
- Iran Faraz Qeshm Yakovlev 40 air disaster (May 17, 2001) 29 killed
- Russia Vladivostokavia Tupolev 154 air disaster (July 4, 2001) 145 killed
- September 11, 2001 attacks 2986 killed (Flights 11 and 175: 92 and 65 killed, plus 2595 in the towers; Flight 77: 64 killed, plus 125 in the Pentagon; Flight 93: 44 killed)

- Sibir Airlines Tupolev 154 air disaster (October 4, 2001) 78 killed
- Linate Airport disaster (October 8, 2001) 118 killed (4 on the ground)
- American Airlines Flight 587 Airbus A300 air disaster (November 12, 2001) 260 killed
- Russia IRS Aero Ilyushin 18 air disaster (November 19, 2001) 27 killed
- Switzerland Crossair BAe-146 air disaster (November 24, 2001) 24 killed
- Colombia Petroproduccion Fairchild FH-227 air disaster (January 17, 2002) 26 killed
- Colombia TAME Ecuador Boeing 727 air disaster (January 28, 2002) 94 killed
- Iran Air Tours Tupolev 154 air disaster (February 12, 2002) 119 killed
- South Korea Air China Boeing 767 air disaster (April 15, 2002) 129 killed
- Nigeria EAS Airlines BAC 111 air disaster (May 4, 2002) 71 killed
- China Northern MD-80 air disaster (May 7, 2002) 112 killed
- China Airlines Boeing 747 air disaster (May 25, 2002) 225 killed
- Bashkirskie Avialinii Tupolev 154 air disaster (July 1, 2002) 69 killed
- Central African Republic New Gomair Boeing 707 air disaster (July 4, 2002) 28 killed
- Ukraine airshow disaster (July 27, 2002) 84 killed (all spectators)
- Brazil Rico Linhas Aéreas Embraer 120 air disaster (August 30, 2002) 23 killed
- Luxembourg Luxair Fokker 50 air disaster (November 6, 2002) 20 killed
- Iran Aeromist Kharkiv Antonov 140 air disaster (December 23, 2002) 44 killed
- Turkey THY BAe-146 air disaster (January 8, 2003) 75 killed
- Peru TANS Fokker F-28 air disaster (January 9, 2003) 46 killed
- Iranian Revolutionary Guard Ilyushin 76 air disaster (February 19, 2003) 275 killed
- Air Algérie Boeing 737-200 air disaster (March 6, 2003) 102 killed
- Turkey UM Air Yakovlev 42 air disaster (May 26, 2003) 75 killed
- Sudan Airways Boeing 737-200 air disaster (July 8, 2003) 116 killed
- Haiti Tropical Airways Let 410 air disaster (August 24, 2003) 21 killed
- Congolese Air Force Antonov 26 air disaster (November 29, 2003) 20 killed
- Benin UTA Boeing 727 air disaster (December 25, 2003) 141 killed
- Egypt Flash Airlines Boeing 737-300 air disaster (January 3, 2004) 148 killed
- Uzbekistan Airways Yakovlev 40 air disaster (January 13, 2004) 37 killed
- U.A.E. Kish Air Fokker 50 air disaster (February 10, 2004) 43 killed
- Brazil Rico Linhas Aéreas Embraer 120 air disaster (May 14, 2004) 33 killed
- Venezuelan Air Force Shorts 360 air disaster (August 21, 2004) 30 killed
- Volga-Aviaexpress Tupolev 134 air disaster (August 24, 2004) 44 killed
- Sibir Airlines Tupolev 154 air disaster (flight 1047) (August 24, 2004) 46 killed
- China Yunnan Canadair Regional Jet air disaster (November 21, 2004) 53 killed
- Indonesia Lion Airlines MD-80 air disaster (November 30, 2004) 26 killed
- Afghanistan Kam Air Boeing 737-200 air disaster (February 3, 2005) 104 killed
- Russia Regional Airlines Antonov 24 air disaster (March 16, 2005) 28 killed
- Democratic Republic of the Congo Victoria Air Antonov 12 air disaster (May 25, 2005) 27 killed
- Equatorial Guinea Equatair Antonov 24 air disaster (July 16, 2005) 60 killed
- Greece Helios Airways Boeing 737-300 air disaster (August 14, 2005) 121 killed
- Venezuela West Caribbean Airways MD-80 air disaster (August 16, 2005) 160 killed
- Peru TANS Boeing 737-200 air disaster (August 23, 2005) 40 killed
- Indonesia Mandala Airlines Boeing 737-200 air disaster (September 5, 2005) 140 killed (including 39 on the ground)
- Bellview Airlines Flight 210 (October 22, 2005) 117 killed
- Iranian Air Force C-130 crash in Tehran (December 6, 2005) ~120 killed (including ~26 on the ground)
- Nigeria Sosoliso Airlines DC-9-30 air disaster (December 10, 2005) 108 killed
- Miami Chalk's Ocean Airways Grumman G-73T air disaster (December 19, 2005) 20 killed
- Azerbaijan Airlines Antonov 140 air disaster (December 23, 2005) 23 killed
- Hungary Slovak Air Force Antonov 24 air disaster (January 19, 2006) 42 killed
- Sudan Air Force Antonov 26 air disaster (February 11, 2006) 20 killed
- Russia Armavia Airbus A.320 air disaster (May 3, 2006) 113 killed
- Chinese Air Force Antonov 12 air disaster (June 3, 2006) 40 killed
- Russia S7 Airlines Airbus A310 air disaster (July 9, 2006) 124 killed
- Pakistan International Airlines Fokker F-27 air disaster (July 10, 2006) 45 killed
- Ukraine Pulkovo Aviation Enterprise Tupolev 154 air disaster (August 22, 2006) 170 killed
- United States Comair Canadair RegionalJet air disaster (August 27, 2006) 49 killed
- Iran Air Tours Tupolev 154 air disaster (September 1, 2006) 28 killed
- Brazil's Gol Airlines Boeing 737 air disaster (September 29, 2006) 154 killed
- Nigeria's ADC Airlines Boeing 737 air disaster (October 29, 2006) 96+1 killed (breaking news)

Rail disasters

Main article: List of rail accidents

- St-Hilaire train disaster, Canada (June 29, 1864) — 99 killed
- The "Angola Horror" train disaster, Angola, New York (December 18, 1867) - Approximately 80 killed.
- Abergele train disaster, United Kingdom (August 20, 1868) — 33 killed

- Ashtabula River Railroad Disaster, USA (December 29, 1876) — 92 killed, 64 injured
- Tay Bridge disaster (December 28, 1879) - 75 killed
- Armagh rail disaster, United Kingdom (June 12, 1889) — 88 killed
- Sunshine station disaster (April 20, 1908) — 44 killed, about 400 injured
- Wellington avalanche, USA (March 1, 1910) — 96 killed
- Quintinshill rail crash, Scotland (22 May 1915) - 227 killed
- Fréjus Rail Tunnel, France (December 12, 1917) — 543 killed
- Hammond circus train wreck, USA (June 22, 1918) - 86 people killed
- Great train wreck of 1918, USA (July 9, 1918) — 101 killed, 171 injured
- Genthin, Germany (December 22, 1939) — 278 killed, 453 injured
- León, Spain (January 16, 1944) — over 500 killed
- Lavano, Italy (March 3, 1944) — over 500 killed
- Dwor, Poland (October 22, 1949) — over 200 killed
- Harrow and Wealdstone rail crash, United Kingdom (October 8, 1952) — 112 killed, 340 injured
- Tangiwai railway disaster (December 24, 1953) — 151 killed
- Guadalajara, Mexico (April 3, 1966) — 300 killed
- Montgomery, West Pakistan (September 29, 1957) — 250 killed
- Stěblová train disaster, Czechoslovakia (November 16, 1960) — 118 killed, 110 injured
- Tokyo, Japan (May 3, 1962) — 160 killed
- Yokohama rail crash, Japan (November 9, 1963) — 161 killed
- Laggenweddingen, East Germany (July 6, 1967) — around 140 killed
- Moorgate tube crash, London, England (February 28, 1975) — 43 killed
- Granville railway disaster, Australia (January 18, 1977) — 83 killed
- Bihar train disaster, India (June 6, 1981) — 286 killed, 300 missing (official, believed to be 900)
- King's Cross fire, London, England (November 18, 1987) - 31 killed
- Big Bayou Canot train disaster, USA (September 22, 1993) - 47 killed
- Firozabad, India (August 20, 1995) — 358 killed
- Baku subway fire disaster, Baku, Azerbaijan (October 28, 1995) — 337 killed
- Eschede train disaster, Germany (June 3, 1998) — 101 killed, 88 badly injured
- Ladbroke Grove rail crash, United Kingdom (October 5, 1999) — 31 killed, about 400 injured
- Kaprun disaster, Austria (November 11, 2000) — 155 killed
- Igandu train disaster, Dodoma Region, Tanzania (June 24, 2002) — 281 killed
- Neyshabur disaster, Iran (February 18, 2004) — about 300 killed
- Madrid train terror attacks, Spain (March 11, 2004) — 191 killed, 1,460 injured
- Ryongchon disaster, North Korea (April 22, 2004) — 150 killed, 1,249 injured
- Queen of the Sea train disaster, Sri Lanka (December 26, 2004) — about 1700 killed
- Amagasaki rail crash, Japan (April 25, 2005) — 107 killed, 649 injured
- London train and bus bombings (July 7, 2005) — 52 killed, 700 injured
- Ghotki rail crash, Pakistan (July 13, 2005) — over 132 killed

See also: List of rail accidents

Ship and ferry disasters

See also: List of shipwrecks

- Paisley canal disaster capsized pleasure boat (November 10, 1810) — 84 deaths, including 70 children
- Lexington fire (January 13, 1840) — 139 deaths
- RMS Tayleur sinking (January 21, 1854) — 380 deaths
- Central America sinking (September 11, 1857) — about 425 deaths
- Lady Elgin sinking (September 7, 1860) — about 400 deaths
- General Lyon (March 31, 1865)-about 566 lost
- Sultana explosion (April 27, 1865) — about 1,700 deaths
- RMS Atlantic sinking (April 1, 1873) — 546 deaths
- Deutschland grounding (December 6, 1875) — 157 deaths
- Cabo Machichaco explosion (November 3, 1893) — 500 deaths .
- USS Maine explosion (February 15, 1898) — 266 deaths (260 killed directly, 6 as a result of injuries afterwards)
- General Slocum fire (June 15, 1904) — 1,021 deaths
- SS Norge sinking, Rockall June 28, 1904 — 635 deaths
- SS Berlin, foundering, Hook of Holland February 21, 1907 — 129 deaths
- RMS Titanic sinking (April 15, 1912) — 1,496–1,523 deaths
- Empress of Ireland sinking (May 30, 1914) — 1,012 deaths
- HMS Bulwark internal explosion (November 26, 1914) — 738 deaths
- RMS Lusitania sinking (May 7, 1915) — 1,195–1,198 deaths
- Eastland sinking (July 24, 1915) — 845 deaths
- SS Persia sinking (December 30, 1915) — 334 deaths

- SS Connemara Sea Disaster aka Carlingford Lough Disaster (November 16, 1916); 97 deaths
- HMHS Britannic sinking (November 21, 1916) — 1,036 saved
- SS Mendi, troopship struck by SS Darro, off Isle of Wight, February 21, 1917 — 646 deaths
- HMS Vanguard internal explosion (July 9, 1917) — 677 deaths
- RMS Leinster, torpedoed October 10, 1918 in the Irish Sea — 501 lives
- Princess Sophia, sinking October 25, 1918 near Juneau Alaska all hands lost, 353 passengers and crew
- Lolaire sinking (January 1, 1919) — at least 205 deaths
- Valbanera sinking (September 9, 1919) — 488 deaths
- SS Morro Castle fire (September 8, 1934) — 137 deaths
- HMT Lancastria sinking (June 17, 1940) — 2,000–5,000 deaths
- SS Caribou sunk by German U-boat (October, 1942) — 135 deaths
- Tango Maru sinking (February 25, 1944) — about 3,000 deaths
- Ryusei Maru sinking (June 29, 1944) — 4,998 deaths
- Toyama Maru sinking (June 29, 1944) — about 5,600 deaths
- KMshk Maru sinking (August 3, 1944) — about 1,540 deaths
- JunyM Maru sinking (September 18, 1944) — about 5,620 deaths
- Rigel sunk by British bombers, Norway, November 27, 1944 — 2,465–2,571 deaths
- KdF Wilhelm Gustloff sinking (January 30, 1945) — about 9,000–10,000 deaths (believed to be worst ship disaster ever)
- SS General von Steuben sinking (February 9, 1945) — about 4,000–4,500 deaths
- Goya sinking (April 16, 1945) — more than 7,000 deaths
- Cap Arcona sinking (May 3, 1945) — about 7,000 to 8,000 deaths together with Thielbek and Athen
- Thielbek sinking (May 3, 1945); about 2,750 deaths
- SS Noronic fire (September 17, 1949) — 118 to 139 deaths
- Princess Victoria sinking (January 31, 1953) — 132 deaths
- Toya Maru sinking (September 26, 1954) — 1,155 deaths
- Novorossiysk sinking (29 October 1955) — 608 deaths
- SS Andrea Doria sinking (July 26, 1956) — about 45 deaths
- TSMS Lakonia fire (December 22, 1963) — 128 deaths
- SS Heraklion sinking (December 7, 1966) — 230+ deaths
- SS Yarmouth Castle fire (November 13, 1965) — 90 deaths
- M/S Christena sinking (August 1, 1970) — between St. Kitts and Nevis — 227 deaths
- STV Royston Grange collision and fire (11 May 1972) — 82 deaths
- SS Edmund Fitzgerald sinking (November 10, 1975) — 29 deaths
- Betelgeuse fire and explosion in Bantry Bay (January 8, 1979) — 51 deaths
- Admiral Nakhimov sinking (August 31, 1986) — 398 deaths
- Herald of Free Enterprise (March 6, 1987) — 193 deaths
- MV Doña Paz sinking (December 21, 1987) — officially, 1,565 deaths
- M/S Scandinavian Star fire (April 7, 1990) — 159 deaths
- M/S Estonia sinking (September 28, 1994) — 852 deaths
- MV Cebu City sunk (December 2, 1994) — 140 deaths
- MV Bukoba sinking in Lake Victoria (May 21, 1996) — about 1,000 deaths
- Kursk sinking (August 12, 2000) — 118 deaths
- MV Joola sinking (September 26, 2002) — about 1,800 deaths
- SuperFerry 14 caught fire and partially sunk (February 27, 2004) — 116 deaths
- Al Salam Boccaccio 98 (February 2, 2006) — 1,018 deaths
- al-Dana tour-boat capsizes, Bahrain (March 30, 2006) — 58 deaths
- Djibouti ferry accident (April 6, 2006) — 113 deaths

Road disasters

Main article: List of road accidents

- A dynamite truck blew up in Thailand, 150+ killed (February 15, 1945)
- 7 ammunition trucks explode in Colombia, 1,200 killed (August 7, 1956)
- Two trucks collided in Togo, 125+ killed (December 6, 1965)
- A bus drove into an irrigation canal in Egypt, 127 killed (August 9, 1973)
- A suspension bridge collapsed in Nepal, 148 killed (November 23, 1974)
- A gasoline tanker exploded in Spain, 120+ killed (July 11, 1978)
- Salang Tunnel Fire - a gasoline tanker exploded in the Salang Tunnel in Afghanistan, 2,000+ killed (November 3, 1982)
- Carrollton, Kentucky bus disaster — drunk driver hit a church bus; 27 killed in the ensuing fire (May 14, 1988)
- A bus hit a bridge in Kenya, 106 killed (December 1992)
- An explosion created a hole, into which 100 cars fell South Korea, 110 killed (April 28, 1995)
- A gasoline tanker hit cars and exploded in Nigeria, 150+ killed (November 4, 2000)
- Hintze Ribeiro disaster - a bridge collapsed in Northern Portugal as a bus was crossing it, 70+ killed (March 4,

2001).

- A bus collided with a gasoline truck and exploded in India, 30+ killed (December 28, 2005)

Nuclear disasters

- Mayak, the other major Soviet nuclear accident (September 29, 1957)
- Windscale, United Kingdom (October 7, 1957)
- Three Mile Island, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania (March 28, 1979)
- Chernobyl nuclear power-plant disaster, Chernobyl, Ukraine (April 26, 1986)
- See also List of nuclear accidents

War disasters

An attack with much collateral damage may be considered a disaster, such as the attack on KdF Ship Wilhelm Gustloff, 1945, the worst or perhaps second worst maritime incident in history (after Cap Arcona in two vessels), in terms of loss of life in a single vessel (see also note at the end of the article RMS Titanic).

- Bombing of Chongqing in World War II (February 18-August 23 1943, 1938-1945)
- Bombing of Dresden in World War II (February 13-15, 1945)
- Bombing of Tokyo in World War II (February 23, March 9 and May 26, 1945)
- Atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki (August 6 and August 9, 1945, respectively), which killed over 214,000

Dam/dike/levee disasters

- Sint-Elisabethsvloed (1421), Holland (November 18-November 19, 1421)
- Sea dike breach of November 1, 1530, which flooded part of Holland and killed 400,000.
- Great Sheffield flood, Sheffield, England (March 11, 1864)
- Johnstown flood, Johnstown, Pennsylvania (May 31, 1889)
- Gleno's Dam, Valle di Scalve, Italy, December 1, 1923, at least 200 dead
- St. Francis Dam disaster, Los Angeles, California (March 12, 1928)
- North Sea Flood of 1953, United Kingdom and The Netherlands (January 31-February 1, 1953)
- Vajont Dam disaster, Longarone, Italy (October 9, 1963)
- Banqiao Dam disaster, Henan Province, China (August 8, 1975)
- Teton Dam failure, Idaho, United States, June 5, 1976, 14 dead
- Failure of levee at New Orleans, Hurricane Katrina, 2005

Environmental disasters

Main article: List of environmental disasters

- Torrey Canyon oil spill in the English Channel (March 18, 1967)
- Love Canal, Niagara Falls, New York (1970s)
- Buffalo Creek Disaster, West Virginia, USA, 1972
- Seveso disaster, Italy, 1976
- Sverdlovsk anthrax leak, USSR (April 2, 1979) 64 killed, potential catastrophe
- Bhopal Disaster, Bhopal, India (December 3, 1984), the world's worst industrial accident 15,000 killed
- Exxon Valdez oil spill, Prince William Sound (March 24, 1989)
- Prestige oil spill, off the Spanish coast, (November 13, 2002)

Mining disasters

- Hartley Colliery Disaster, Northumberland, England, 204 killed (Jan 16, 1862)
- The Oaks explosion, Barnsley, Yorkshire, (Dec 12, 1866)
- Yellow Jacket, Kentuck and Crown Point Mine Fire, Gold Hill, Nevada, (Sep 20, 1873)
- Clifton Hall Colliery, (June 18, 1885) 178 killed
- 1887 Nanaimo Mine Explosion, Nanaimo, BC, Canada (May 3, 1887) 150 killed
- Springhill, Nova Scotia, Canada, 125 killed (February 21, 1891)
- Brunner, New Zealand, 67 killed (March, 1896)
- Scofield mine disaster, Scofield, Utah, United States, 200 killed (May 1, 1900)
- Johnstown, Pennsylvania, United States (1902) 112 killed
- Fraterville Mine disaster, Tennessee, United States, 184 killed (May, 1902)
- 1902 January 31, El Hondo Coal Mine, 135 killed, Coahuila, Mexico
- Hanna, Wyoming, United States, Union Pacific Coal Company, Mine No. 1, 234 killed (June 30, 1903)
- Cheswick, Pennsylvania, United States (1904) 179 killed
- Courrières mine disaster, Courrière, France, 1099 killed (March 1906)
- Jacobs Creek, Pennsylvania, United States (1907) 239 killed
- Monongah Mine disaster, Monongah, West Virginia, United States, 362 killed (December 1907) (Worst mine disaster in the U.S.)
- Mina Rosita Vieja disaster, San Juan de Sabinas, Coahuila, Mexico, 200 killed in the #2 Shaft, (February 27, 1908), Mexico's worst coal mine disaster.
- Palaú Coal Mine, 100 killed, Coahuila, Mexico (September 30, 1908)

- Burns Pit disaster, Stanley, County Durham, England, 160+ killed (February 16, 1909)
- Cherry Mine Disaster Cherry, Illinois, United States, 259 killed (November 13, 1909)
- Dawson, New Mexico, United States, 263 killed (October 1913)
- Senghenydd Colliery Disaster, Cardiff, Wales, 439 killed (October 14, 1913)
- Hillcrest mine disaster, Hillcrest, Alberta, Canada, 189 killed (June 19, 1914). Canada's worst mine disaster
- Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, United States (1907) 92 killed
- Castle Gate mine disaster, Castle Gate, Utah, United States, 172 killed (March 8, 1924)
- Millfield Mine disaster, Millfield, Ohio, 82 killed (November 5, 1930)
- Moweaqua Coal Mine Disaster, Moweaqua, Illinois, United States, 54 killed, December 24, 1932
- Gresford, Wrexham, 266 killed (September 1934)
- Red Jacket Coal Company, Keen Mountain, Virginia, 54 killed (April 22, 1938)
- Bartley, McDowell County, West Virginia, USA, Pocahontas Coal Company Pond Creek No. 1 mine explosion, 91 killed (January 10, 1940)
- Centralia, Illinois, 111 killed (March 25, 1947)
- West Frankfort, Illinois, 119 killed (December 21, 1951)
- Marcinelle, Belgium, 262 killed (August 8, 1956)
- Springhill, Nova Scotia, Canada, 39 killed (November 1, 1956)
- Springhill mining disaster, Springhill, Nova Scotia, Canada, 74 killed (October 23, 1958)
- Luisenthal Mine disaster (near Völklingen), Germany (February 7, 1962), 299 killed
- Lengede Mine disaster, Germany (October 24, 1963), 29 killed, 11 men rescued two weeks later ("Das Wunder von Lengede" - The Lengede Miracle)
- Aberfan disaster, Wales, 1966, 144 killed.
- Mannington Mine disaster (sometimes referred to as the Farmington Mine disaster), Mannington, West Virginia, United States, (November 20, 1968), 4 men survived, 78 died.
- Mina de Barroterán Coal Mine disaster, Coahuila, Mexico, (March 31, 1969), 176 died. Mexico's second worst coal mine disaster.
- Buffalo Creek flood, Logan County, West Virginia, United States, 125 killed (February 26, 1972)
- Sunshine Mine disaster, Kellogg, Idaho, United States, 91 killed (May 1972)
- Westray Mine disaster, Plymouth, Nova Scotia, Canada (May 9, 1992) 26 killed.
- Río Turbio coal mine, Río Turbio, Santa Cruz, Argentina (June 14, 2004), 14 killed.
- Liaoning mine disaster, Fuxin, People's Republic of China (February 14, 2005), 210 reported killed.
- Sago Mine disaster in Tallmansville, West Virginia, USA, 13 miners trapped for nearly two days, only one survivor Randall McCloy (January 2, 2006)
- Pasta de Conchos Coal Mine, San Juan de Sabinas, Coahuila, México, huge gas concentration leads to an explosion caused cracks and collapsing of the structure of the mining tunnels, therefore 65 miners were trapped more than 1 mile below the ground level, after more than 100 hours of rescue attempts they found no survivors. (February 19, 2006)
- Halemba Mine disaster in Ruda Złota, Poland - explosion of methane, 23 killed (November 21, 2006)

Industrial disasters

- Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire in New York City, USA (March 25, 1911), 146 killed.
- Manila Film Center scaffolding collapse in Manila, Philippines, (November 17, 1981), up to 169 killed (disputed).
- Bastian Plating Company chemical asphyxiation accident in Auburn, Indiana, USA (June 28, 1988), 5 killed.
- Imperial Foods chicken plant fire, in Hamlet, North Carolina, USA (September 3, 1991), 25 killed.

Explosion disasters

- Mobile magazine explosion, Mobile, Alabama, USA (May 25, 1865) about 300 killed
- Black Tom explosion, Jersey City, New Jersey, USA {July 30th, 1916} 5 to 7 killed & hundreds injured
- Halifax explosion, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada (December 6, 1917) 1,635 killed {1,950 known dead}
- Split Rock Dynamite Factory Explosion. Camillus NY, United States

(July 3, 1918) 50 killed

- Oppau explosion, Oppau, Germany (September 21, 1921), about 565 killed
- New London School explosion, New London, Texas, USA (March 18, 1937) about 300 killed
- The Bombay Blasts, Victoria Dock Bombay, India (April 14, 1944) about 800 killed
- The Port Chicago Explosion, California, USA (July 17, 1944) 320 killed
- Cleveland East Ohio Gas Explosion, Cleveland, Ohio (October 20, 1944) killed 130 people and destroyed a one square mile area on Cleveland's east side.
- Texas City Explosion, Texas City, Texas, USA (April 16, 1947) 581 killed
- BLEVE at a refinery in Feyzin, Isère, France (January 4, 1966) 18 killed
- Flixborough disaster, North Lincolnshire, England (June 1, 1974) 28 killed
- Ortuella School Gas Explosion, Ortuella, Spain (October 23, 1980) 51 killed
- Vila Socó Explosion, Cubatão, Brazil, (February 24, 1984) up to 508 killed (disputed)
- LPG BLEVE in San Juan Ixhuatepec, México State, Mexico (November 19, 1984) 500 killed
- PEPCON disaster, near Henderson, Nevada, USA (May 4, 1988) 2 killed, 372 injured

- Piper Alpha explosion, North Sea, Scotland, (July 6, 1988) 167 killed (including 2 rescuers)
- Phillips Petroleum Co. isobutane UVCE in Pasadena, Texas, USA (October 23, 1989) 23 killed
- Sewer explosions in Reforma Zone, Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico (April 22, 1992) 296 killed
- Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL) LPG UVCE in Visakhapatnam, India (September 14, 1997) 58 killed
- Lagos armoury explosion, Lagos, Nigeria (January 27, 2002), 1,100 killed
- Ilado pipeline explosion near Lagos, Nigeria (May 12, 2006), 150 killed

Fire disasters

Main article: List of historic fires

- Final destruction of the Library of Alexandria, 391 AD
- Great Fire of London, London, England (September 2-September 5, 1666)
- Great Chicago Fire, Chicago, Illinois (October 8, 1871) estimated 200-300 killed
- Peshtigo Fire, Peshtigo, Wisconsin (October 8, 1871) estimated 1,200-2,500 killed
- The Great Fire of 1892, St. John's, Newfoundland, (July 8, 1892)
- Coconut Grove fire, Boston, Massachusetts (November 28, 1942) 492 killed
- Hartford Circus Fire, Hartford, Connecticut (July 6, 1944) probably 168 killed
- Summerland disaster, Isle of Man (August 2, 1973) 51 killed
- Beverly Hills Supper Club fire, Southgate, Kentucky (May 28, 1977) 165 killed
- Stardust Disaster, Dublin, Ireland (February 14, 1981) 48 killed
- Ash Wednesday fires, Victoria & South Australia (February 16, 1983), 75 killed
- Bradford City Disaster, Bradford, England (May 11, 1985) 56 killed
- King's Cross fire, London, England (November 18, 1987) 31 killed
- Happyland Fire, The Bronx, New York City (1990) 87 killed
- Oakland Hills firestorm, Oakland and Berkeley, California, (October 20, 1991) 25 killed
- Branch Davidian compound, near Waco, Texas (1993) 80 killed
- Mont Blanc 1999 tunnel fire (1999) 39 killed
- Kaprun disaster, Kaprun, Austria (November 11, 2000) 155 killed
- Canberra bushfires of 2003, Canberra, Australia, (January 18, 2003) 4 killed
- Daegu subway fire in South Korea (February, 2003) 198 killed
- The Station nightclub fire, West Warwick, Rhode Island (2003) 100 killed
- República Cromagnon nightclub fire, Buenos Aires, Argentina, (December 30, 2004) 194 killed

Miscellaneous

- The Boston Molasses Disaster, Boston, Massachusetts (January 15, 1919) 21 killed
- Burnden Park Disaster, Bolton, Lancashire, England (March 9, 1946) 33 killed
- Great Smog of 1952, London, England about 12,000 killed
- 24 hours of Le Mans disaster, France, (June 11, 1955) 80+ killed
- Aberfan disaster, Merthyr Tydfil, Wales (October 21, 1966) 144 killed
- Second Ibrox disaster, Glasgow, Scotland (January 2, 1971) 66 killed
- Hyatt Regency walkway collapse, Kansas City, Missouri (July 17, 1981) 114 killed
- Heysel Stadium disaster, Brussels, Belgium (May 29, 1985) 39 killed
- Sultan Abdul Halim ferry terminal bridge collapse, Butterworth, Penang, Malaysia (July 31, 1988) 32 killed
- Hillsborough disaster, Sheffield, England (April 15, 1989) 96 killed
- Highland Towers collapse, Ampang, Malaysia (December 11, 1993) 48 killed
- Sampoong Department Store collapse, Seoul, South Korea (June 29, 1995) 501 killed
- Enschede fireworks disaster, Enschede, Netherlands (May 13, 2000) 22 killed
- P36 Offshore Oil Platform Sinking, South Atlantic, Brazil (March, 2001) 11 killed
- Ellis Park Stadium disaster, Johannesburg, South Africa (April 11, 2001) 43 killed
- Al-Aimmah bridge stampede, Baghdad, Iraq (August 31, 2005) about 1,000 killed

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