



# TECHNICAL & SAFETY COMMITTEE

International Skydiving Commission, FAI  
Safety Report 2020

# Responses



45 countries responded, from a possible approximately 85, a response rate of 53%.

The response rate was similar to previous years and has been about this rate for the 34 years of the Safety Survey.

*Countries are encouraged to put in place systems for the collection of safety data.*

*Such data is invaluable - for use by parachuting organisations, dropzones, those involved in the areas of technical and safety matters, and when dealing with authorities.*

# 2020 Safety Report



**45 countries supplied data**

**5.3 million skydives were made by**

**1.02 million jumpers**

**31 people were killed skydiving in 2020**

**(these figures include Tandems; there were there Tandem fatalities)**

***1 Fatality per***

***Jumps 171,455***

***Jumpers 32,870***

# Fatalities



- |                  |       |                  |
|------------------|-------|------------------|
| * 4 Students     | (13%) | 0-25 Freefalls   |
| * 8 Intermediate | (26%) | 26-250 Freefalls |
| * 19 Experts     | (61%) | 251 + Freefalls  |

Total - 31

- |                                 |      |
|---------------------------------|------|
| * Cutaway & Low/No Reserve pull | - 1  |
| * No pull/low pull on main      | - 1  |
| * Others                        | - 29 |

Total - 31

# 'Other' Fatalities (29)



■ Intentional Fast Landings	10
■ Landing Errors	7
■ Tandem Fatalities	3
■ Mains Partial Malfunctions, no Reserves opened	2
■ High Main activation, mal, no Reserve opened, no RSL, no AAD	1
■ Unstable exit, mal, no cutaway, AAD fire but low drag	1
■ Downplane, no cutaway, AAD fire	1
■ Rotating main, no cutaway, no reserve deployment	1
■ Wingsuiter collision with Aircraft	1
■ Medical – heart attack	1
■ Severe opening at 580m, twists, spiral to impact older jumper, may have been incapacitated by hard opening	1

Total 29

# Fatalities – Largest Groups



- 1 Intentional Fast Landings 10 – 34% of 29
- 2 Other Landing Errors 7 – 24% of 29
- 3 Tandem Fatalities 3 – 10% of 29

Canopy handling issues, combined –  
17 (55% of total fatalities, 31)

# Significant Figures



- **OF THE 31 FATALITIES**

- ❑ 24(77%) appear to have occurred with the parachutist having at least one good parachute on his/her back
- ❑ 17(55%) occurred after the successful deployment of the main parachute
- ❑ In one case an AAD might have prevented a fatality
- ❑ 25 (81%) appear to have been caused by human error

*Three of the 2020 fatalities were First Jump Students,  
one Tandem, two Solos*

# Some Trends & Issues



- \* Continuing high percentage of fatalities, 17 (55% of 31) resulting from canopy handling, canopy control, and landing issues.
- \* Roughly similar percentage distribution of fatalities between Student/Intermediate/Expert as in previous years . The category 'Expert Skydiver' continues to have the most fatalities, but it has the biggest numbers of jumps.
- \* AAD and RSL are both now widely used, at all levels.

# Tandem - Solo



- ❑ Tandems 19% of all jumps, Tandem + Solo
- ❑ 4,452,776 Solo jumps – 1,018,973 Tandems
- ❑ Tandem Fatalities 3; Solo Fatalities 28 (31 total)

# Thanks & Report Distribution



Thanks are extended to all who sent data for this 2020 Safety Report.

This Report, along with the Power Point presentation, and material listed below, has been sent by e-mail to all respondents and to all other countries for which the T&S Committee has e-mail addresses, and by e-mail to all ISC Delegates

*2020 Safety Survey Report*

*2020 Safety Survey Report Power Point Presentation*

*Safety Survey 2021 Form*

*Safety Survey 2021 Notes*

*Parachuting Aircraft Incidents/Accidents Report 2021*

## APPEAL

Those countries who did not report for 2020 are requested to do so for 2021. The compilation of safety data is to the benefit of the country gathering the data, and to the worldwide skydiving community.