



WBA 2021 CONFERENCE
virtual, 13-14 January 2021

CHANGING WORLD, WILDLIFE & AVIATION

WILDLIFE STRIKE HAZARD AND LOCKDOWN AT ITALIAN AIRPORTS

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EUROCONTROL

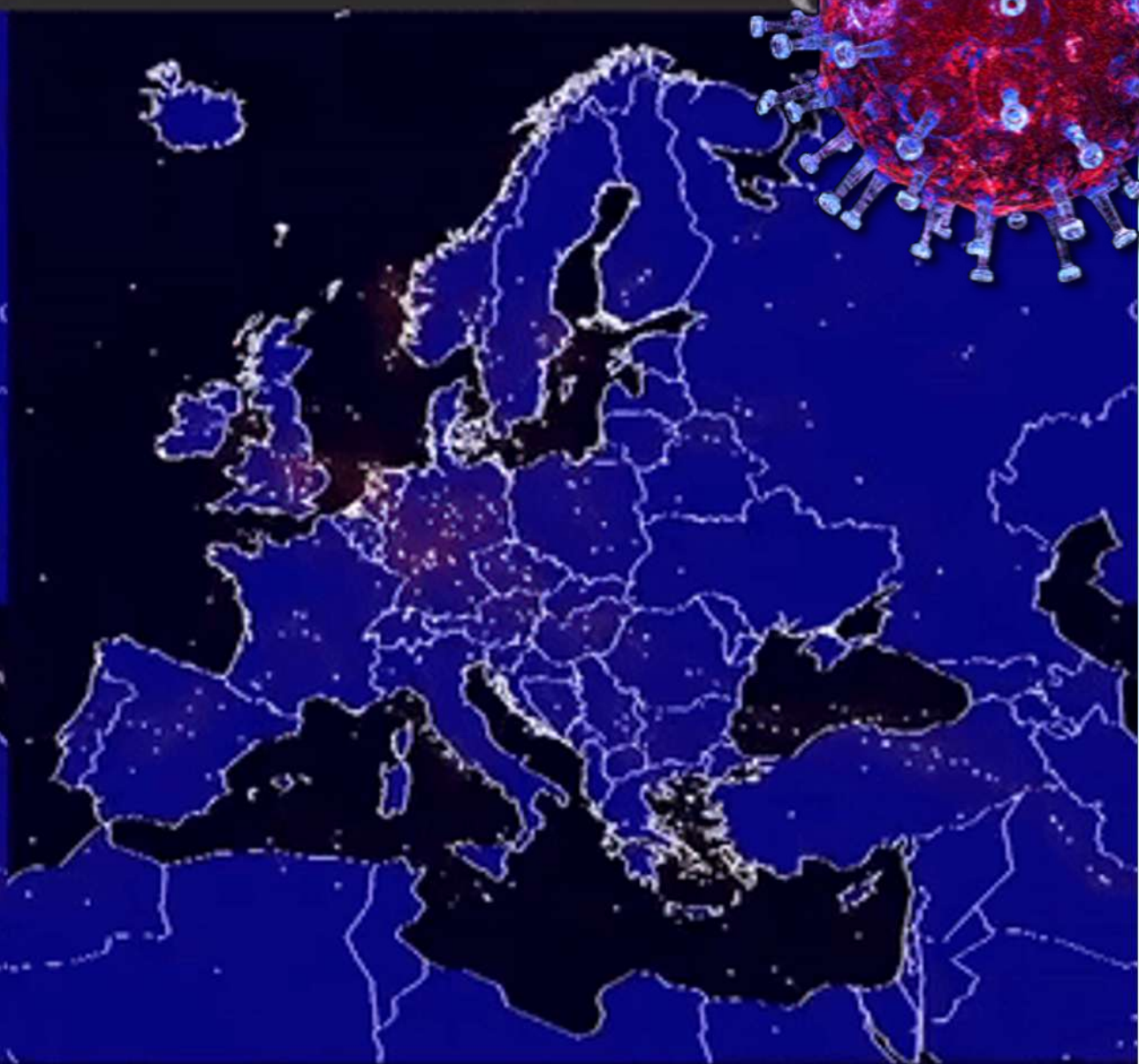
Thursday 18 April 2019

08:19

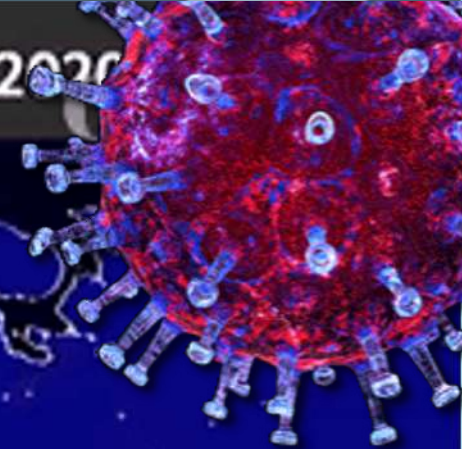
Thursday 16 April 2020



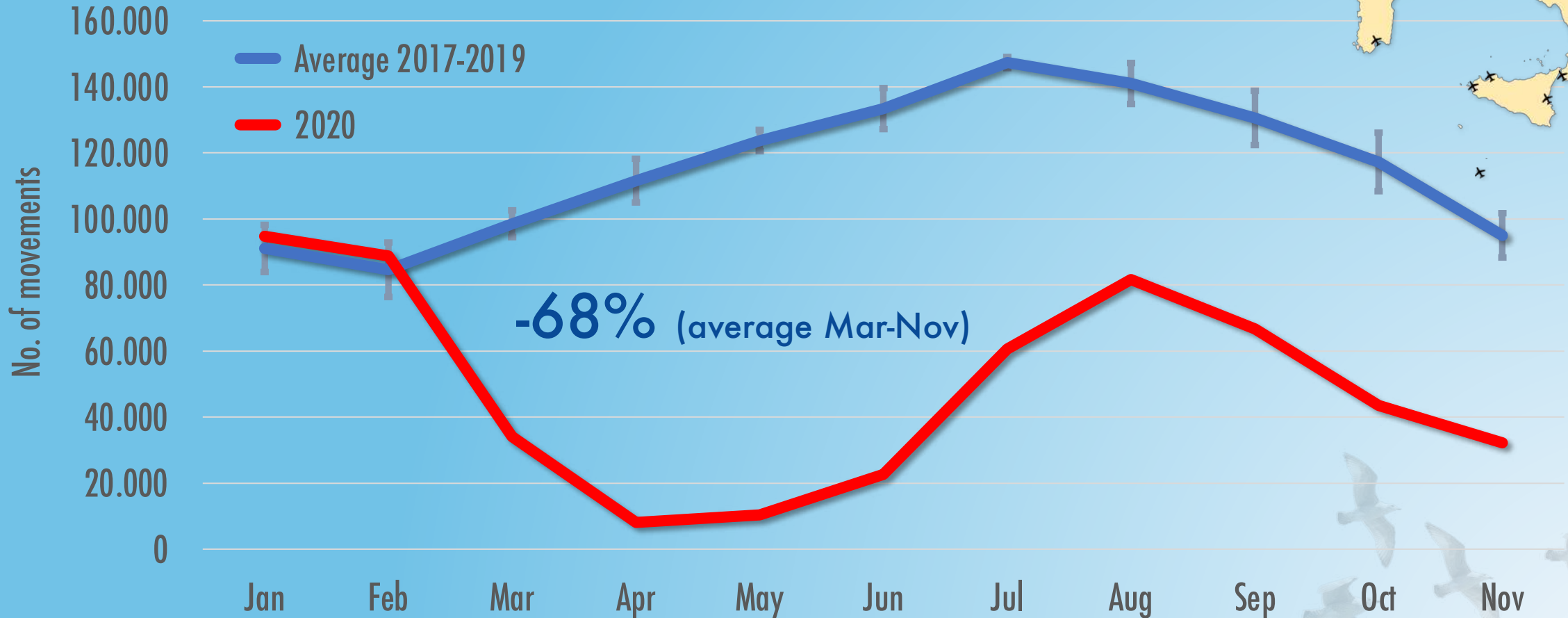
Number of airborne flights: 2924



Number of airborne flights: 380



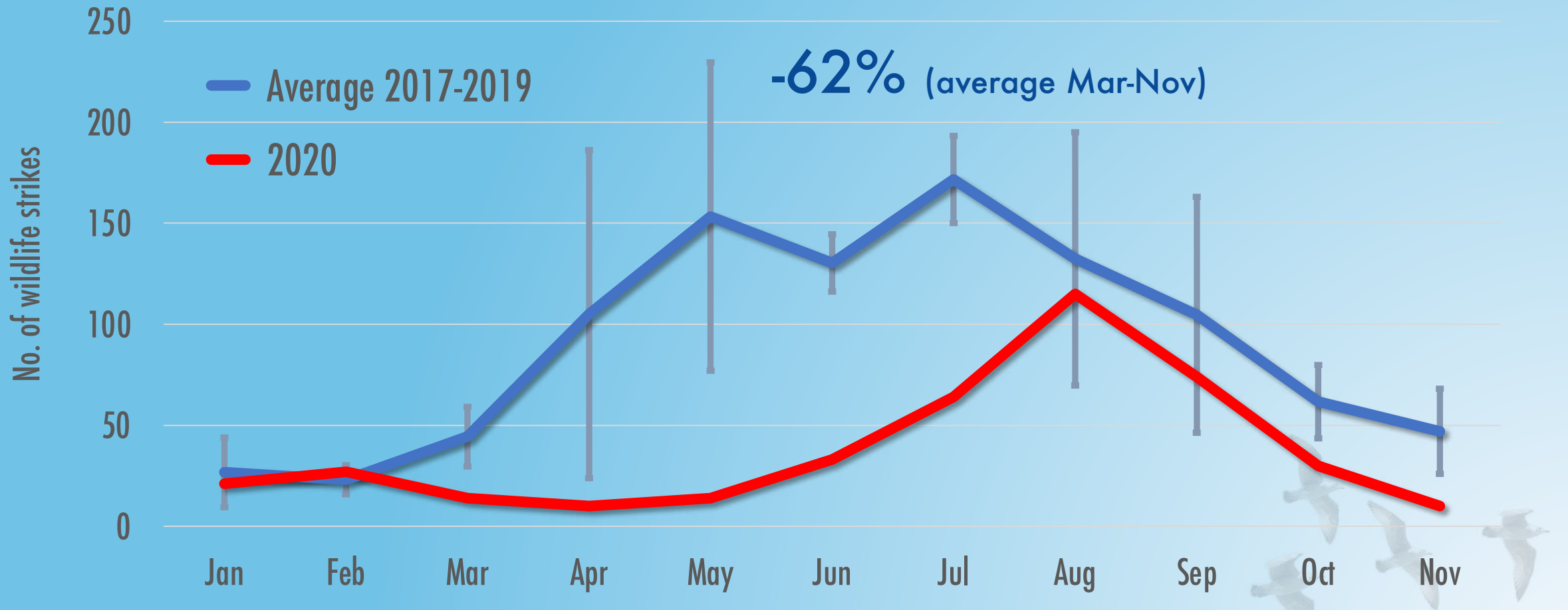
Commercial air traffic at Italian Airports*



-68% (average Mar-Nov)

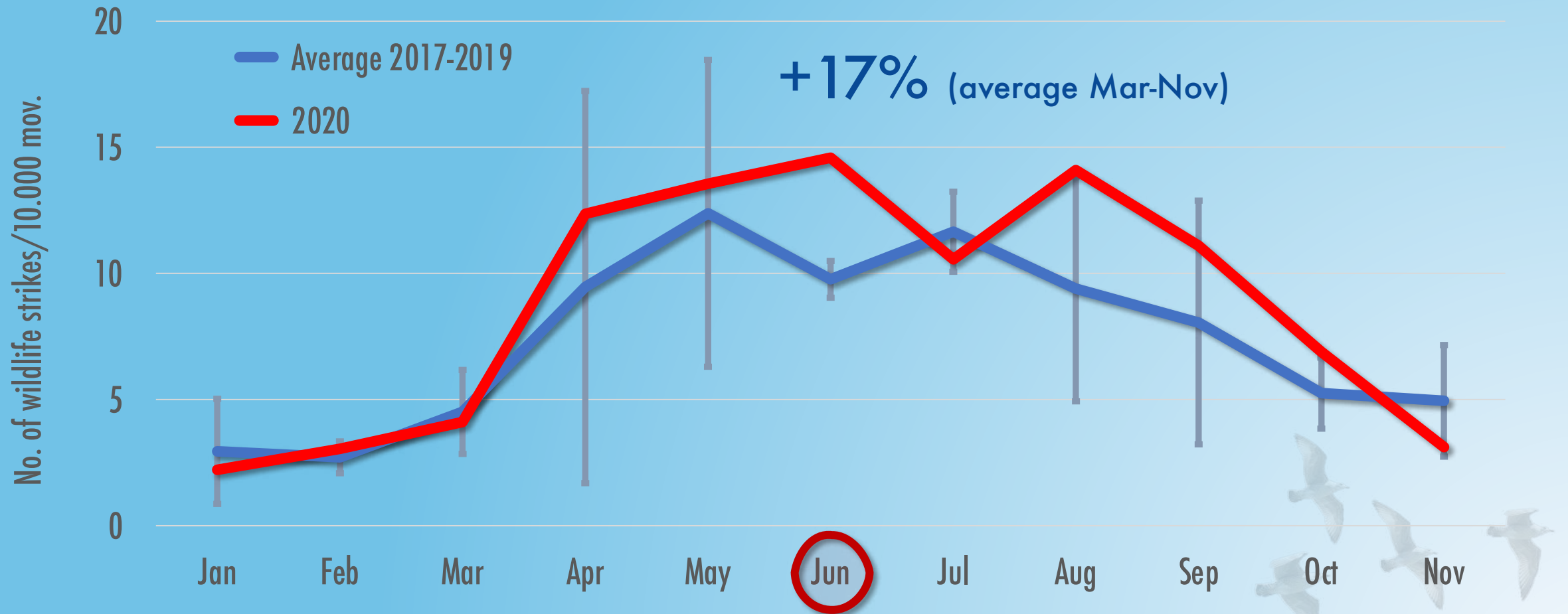
* 31 airports

Wildlife strikes at Italian Airports*



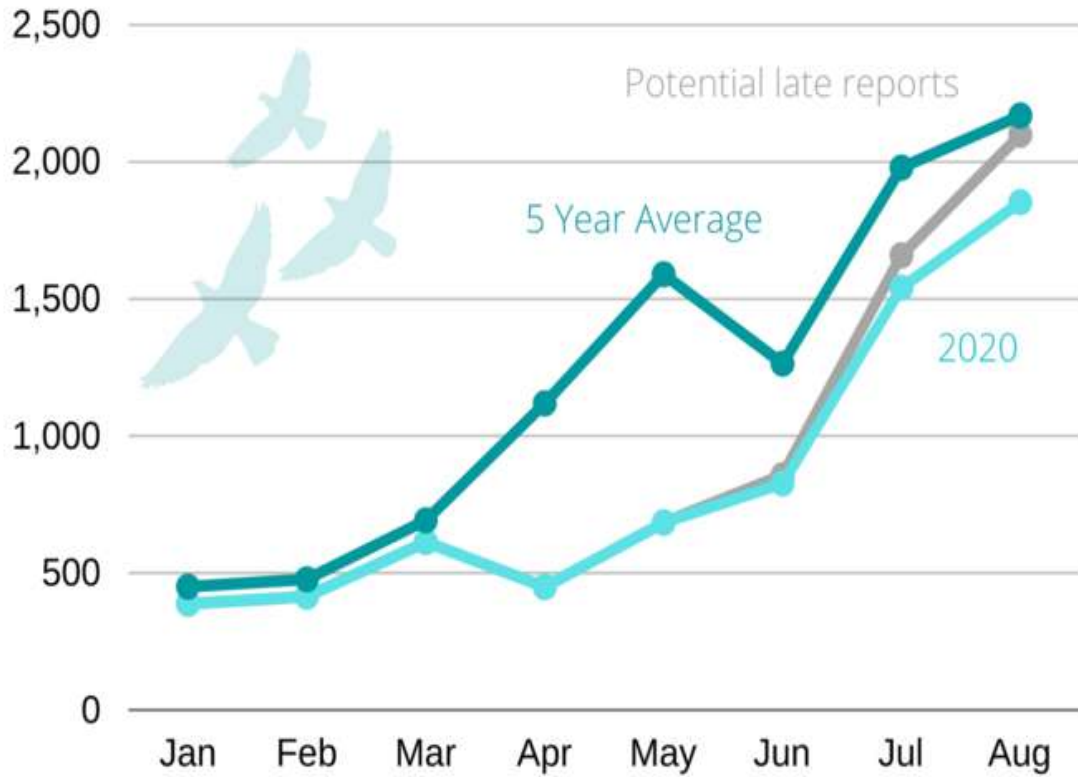
* 31 airports, < 300 ft

Wildlife strikes/10.000 movements at Italian Airports*



* 31 airports, < 300 ft

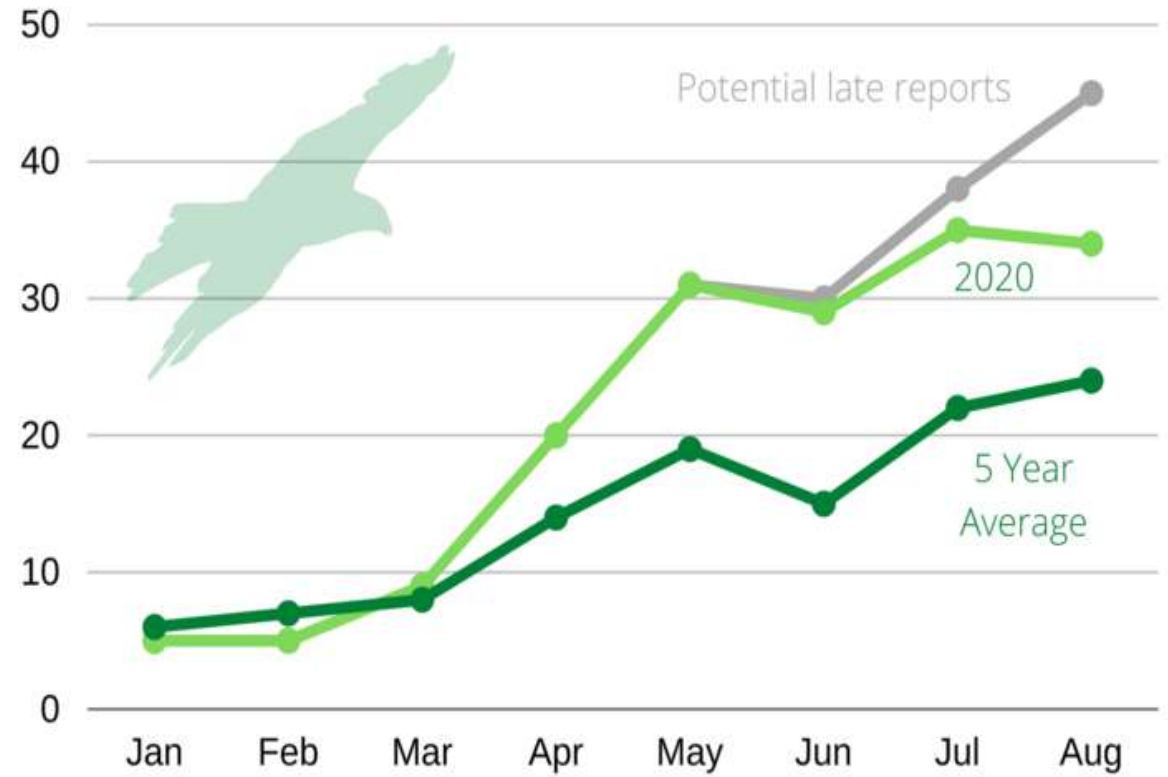
US Wildlife Strike Numbers



Source: FAA Wildlife Strike Database (as at 14 November 2020)



US Wildlife Strike Rate

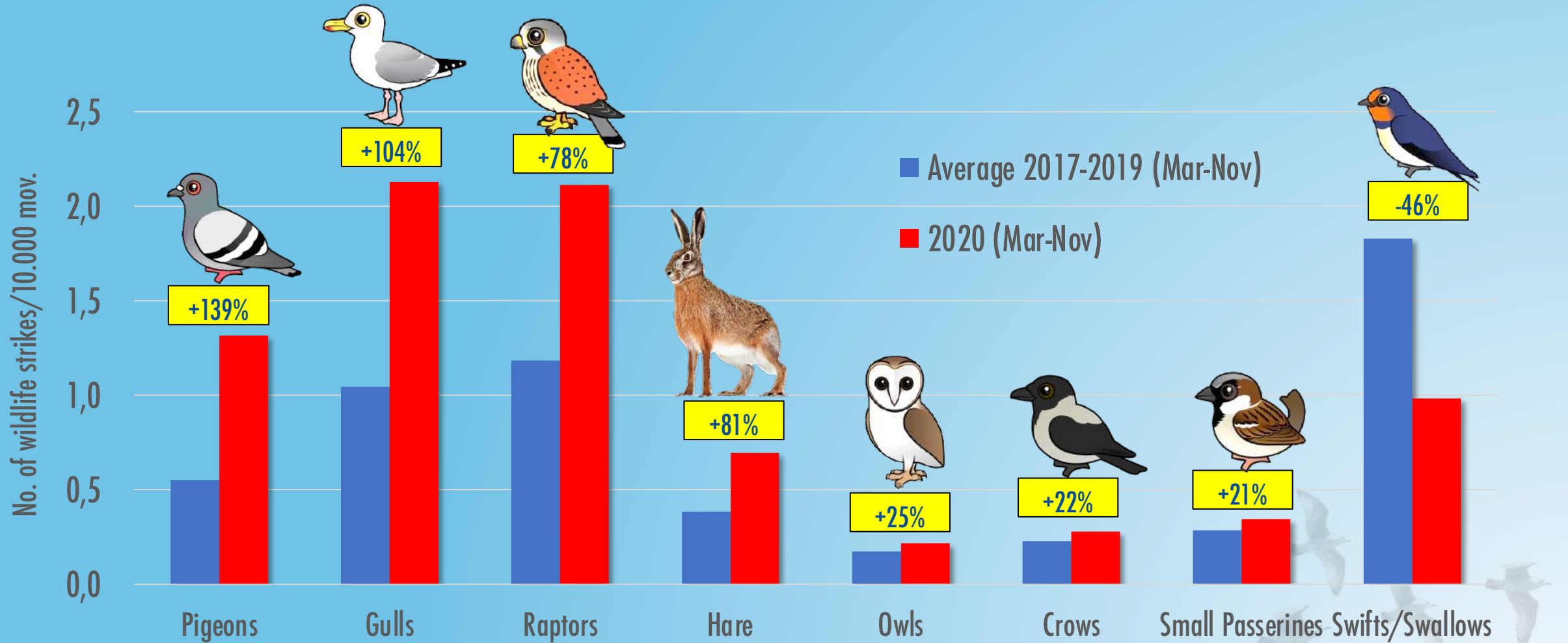


Sources: FAA Wildlife Strike Database & BTS Airline Traffic Statistics



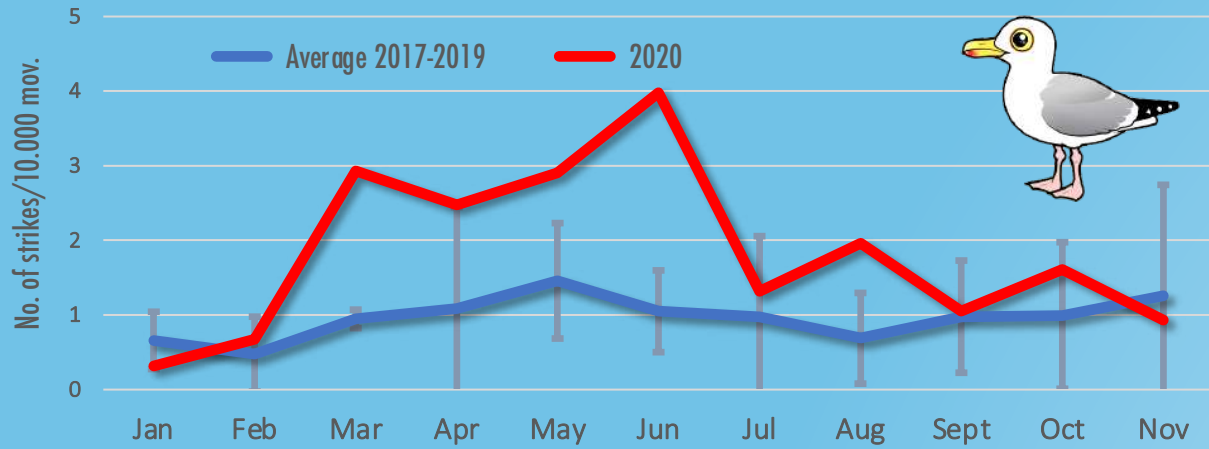
Dan Parsons elaboration - www.therunwaycentreline.com

Species' group strikes*/10.000 mov. at Italian airports**

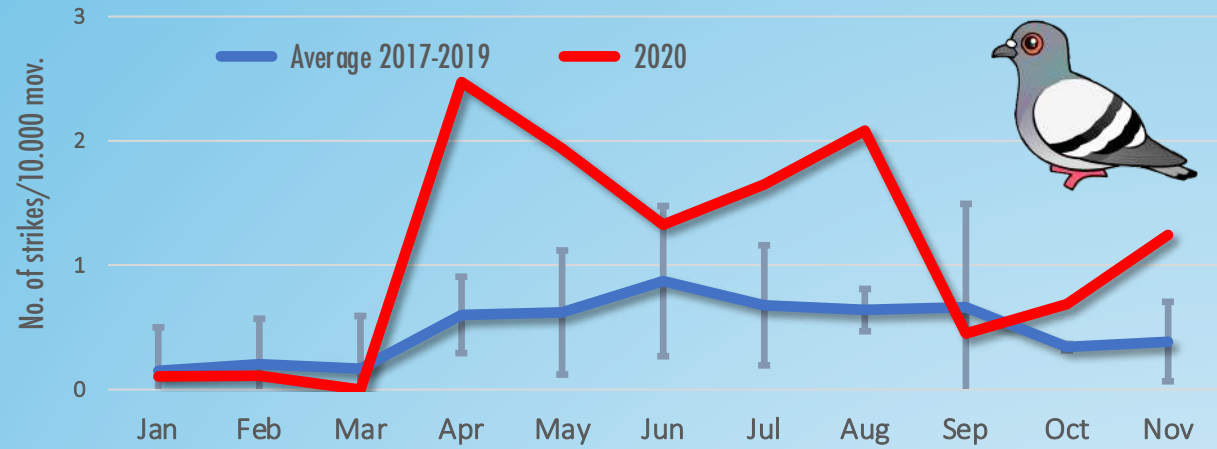


* > 50 strikes ** 31 airports, < 300 ft

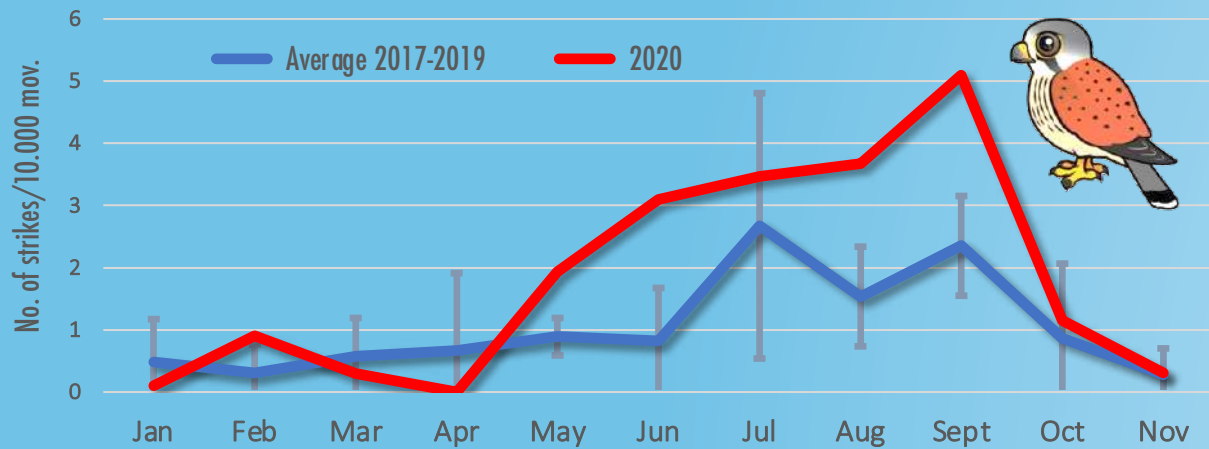
GULLS - N. strikes/10.000 mov. (N = 445)



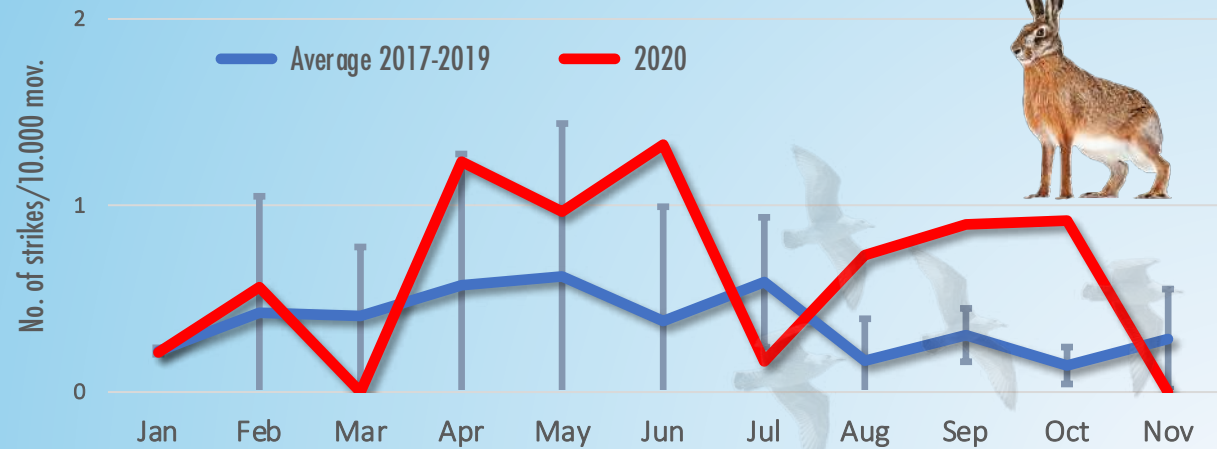
PIGEONS - N. strikes/10.000 mov. (N = 244)



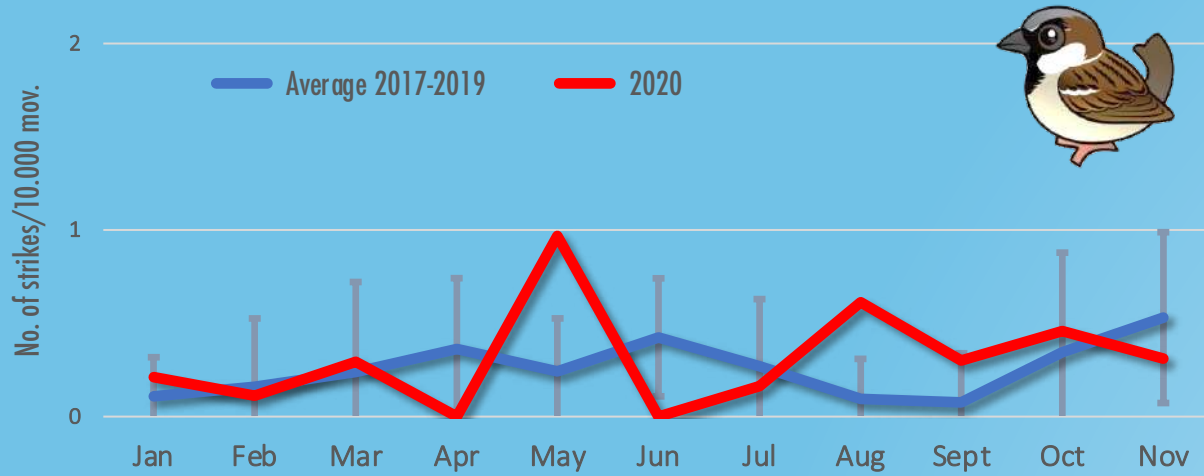
RAPTORS - N. strikes/10.000 mov. (N = 550)



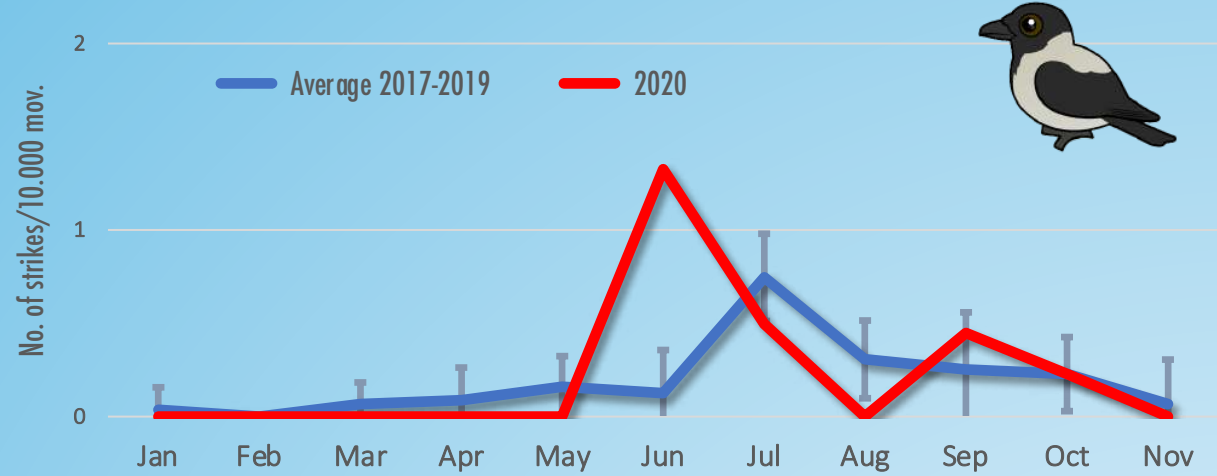
HARE - N. strikes/10.000 mov. (N = 82)



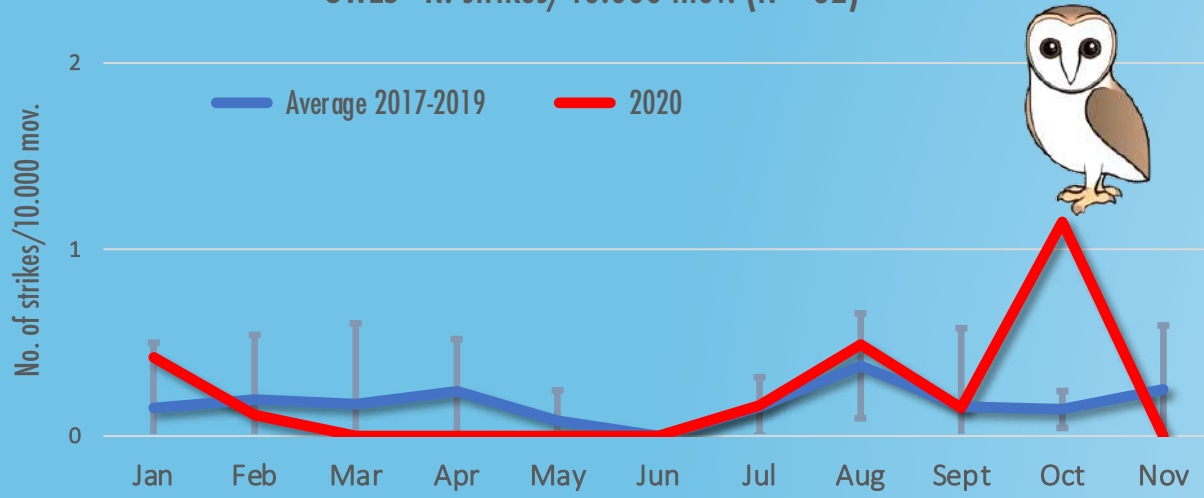
SMALL PASSERINES - N. strikes/10.000 mov. (N = 114)



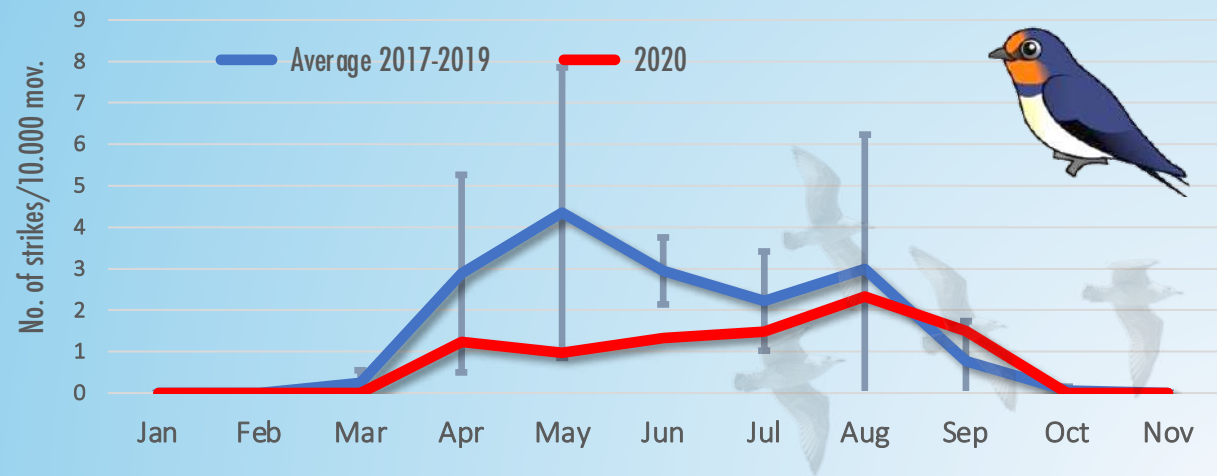
CROWS - N. strikes/10.000 mov. (N = 93)



OWLS - N. strikes/10.000 mov. (N = 82)



SWIFTS/SWALLOWS - N. strikes/10.000 mov. (N = 683)



Preliminary conclusions I

- Lockdown had an effect on the wildlife strike hazard (WSH) at Italian airports;
- Above all, the less disturbance in the manoeuvring area, net of the maintenance of normal mitigation procedures, produced an increase of WSH.



Preliminary conclusions II

- Hazard related to gulls and pigeons increased immediately after lockdown, but it seems to be decreasing now;
- Kestrels and birds of prey have shown a similar pattern, but shifted forward by one/two months;
- Small Passerines, crows, owls and swifts/swallows almost did not react to lockdown;
- Lockdown appears to have produced a higher survival rate of hare litters.



We do not know what awaits us in the immediate future...
the important thing is to always continue to monitor...
**and share information based on
scientific, reliable and robust data!**

