

SUMMARY OF LANCAIR ACCIDENTS IN NTSB DATABASE

AS OF 4/26/04

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NOTES:

"PHASE" is NTSB's categorization.

"CLASSIFICATION" is an attempt by preparer to more narrowly define causal factor(s).

"SUMMARY" is preparer's interpretation of key facts in the NTSB report.

This summary includes all Lancair accidents found in the NTSB database. There are undoubtedly many minor incidents that did not make it into the database, such as gear-up landings with minor damage and no injuries, in-flight incidents that ended with a safe precautionary or forced landing, etc. Preparer is personally aware of three gear-up landings and an off-airport emergency landing that are not included in the database. Preparer personally experienced a prop-strike in a porpoised landing and an in-flight fuel leak in the cockpit that resulted in a safe precautionary landing, neither of which were reportable under NTSB criteria.

DATE OF ACC.	LOCATION	MODEL	WX	INJURIES	PHASE	CLASSIFICATION	SUMMARY
8/1/89	Fond du Lac, WI	235	VMC	Fatal (2)	Approach	Approach Turn Stall	Demonstration flight, aircraft stalled and spun during turn from base to final.
6/23/90	Davis, CA	360	VMC	Serious	Take-off	Fuel	Pilot observed fuel tank "stopper" back out and depart aircraft, followed by a large quantity of fuel surging out of the tank, engine quit during return to airport, aircraft struck storage building during forced landing.
2/1/91	Agua Caliente, CA	235	VMC	Serious	Climb	Prop	Wood propeller blades lost in flight, aircraft crash-landed, forest products lab found that blades fractured and separated due to chemical decomposition of the adhesive to wood bond caused by excessive heat and moisture, name of prop manufacturer is not mentioned in the summary report.
4/22/91	Titusville, FL	360	VMC	Fatal (2)	Descent	Power Loss	Aircraft experienced a total loss of power and crashed while attempting a forced landing, the alternate air door was found broken off inside the air box and in a position blocking air flow to the throttle body, alternate air door had been made of .032 aluminum (plans called for .040) with a 90* bend at the point of failure, marks inside the air box indicated the door had moved around in the box for some time, air box had no impact damage that would have caused the door to fail.
5/5/91	Fall River Mill, CA	320	VMC	None	Landing	Crosswind	Aircraft landed hard and bounced three times before drifting off the left side of the runway, dragging the wing tip and cart-wheeling into a hangar door, pilot reported wind shifting from crosswind to quartering tailwind.
7/3/92	Winnemucca, NV	235	VMC	None	Landing	Landing	Pilot lost directional control on landing rollout, veered off runway and struck a raised concrete slab, no mention of wind conditions.
9/26/92	Hollister, CA	235	VMC	Fatal (1)	Approach	Approach	Aircraft struck a guy wire 30 feet above ground on low approach, dove into the ground.
1/14/93	Madison, WI	320	VMC	None	Landing	Landing	Aircraft collided with snow bank after loss of directional control on landing roll-out, left brake was found to be jammed with frozen snow and ice, aircraft had departed snow-covered runway.
6/5/93	Chino, CA	320	VMC	Fatal (3)	Approach	Approach	Pilot had been lost, had busted Class C and D airspace and had confused airports, when finally in touch with correct tower was sequenced #3 behind a 172 which was #2 behind a 152, Lancair pilot stated "I have the Cessna, I'm going outside him...", Lancair then struck the 152 in the tail from the left side, Lancair pilot and student and instructor in the 152 died in the subsequent crashes.

9/22/93	Rockford, IL	235	VMC	None	Landing	Landing	Landed long on wet grass, braking action nil, attempted abort and struck embankment at end of runway.
10/10/93	Bay St. Louis, MS	320	VMC	Serious	Landing	Landing	On second touch and go, touched down left of centerline, bounced, touched down again in left skid, became airborne reaching 60-80 feet in nose-high attitude, stalled and rolled left, collided with trees.
3/11/94	Waukesha, WI	360	VMC	None	Landing	Landing	On landing aircraft touched down nose high and bounced, pilot added power but aircraft hard-landed, directional control was lost and aircraft departed runway.
9/24/94	Ramona, CA	235	VMC	Fatal (2)	Takeoff	Weight & Balance	Departing for cross-country, aircraft took off 340 lbs. over recommended max gross, aircraft rotated earlier than normal and climbed at unusually high nose-attitude before doing what pilot witness described as a "wing-over" to the left and crashing.
4/12/95	Prescott, AZ	320	VMC	None	Landing	Weight & Balance	Aircraft on first test flight after change in configuration for weight & balance, pilot aborted first landing attempt due to inability to stabilize pitch, on second landing attempt during "violent" pitch excursions aircraft stalled and hard-landed, collapsing both mains, pitch trim was found to be set for previous nose-heavy configuration.
4/18/95	Hampton, GA	360	VMC	Fatal (1)	Approach	Fuel	Aircraft on downwind after first flight, witnesses reported engine sputtering, nose dropped, engine was powered up and a turn was started toward the airport but aircraft never pulled up, water was found in the carburetor float bowl
5/25/95	Gastonia, NC	IV-P	VMC	Fatal (2)	Cruise	In-flight fire	Aircraft had 16 hours since first flight, during local test flight witnesses reported flames and smoke emanating from the lower cowl, aircraft crashed into trees and burned, cause of in-flight fire could not be determined.
6/24/95	Marengo, IL	320	VMC	Fatal (1)	Take-off	Pilot Incapacitation	Aircraft abruptly turned left upon take-off and crashed into trees after turning 240 degrees from runway heading, medical examiner determined pilot had died of heart attack prior to impact.
8/26/95	Rio Vista, CA	320	VMC	Serious	Landing	Flaps	Asymmetric flap deployment caused loss of roll control on landing, wing contacted runway and aircraft ground-looped, left flap never deployed, flap rod was found bent and rod end broken, Lancair had issued SB to replace flap rods with stronger version but owner had not complied.
9/3/95	Georgetown, CA	200 SE	VMC	Fatal (2)	Take-off	Tail Wind	Aircraft started take-off roll with 3-5 knot tailwind, A&P witness said engine was not developing full power, aircraft never lifted off, skid marks started 360' from departure end of runway, aircraft ran off end of runway and down 40 degree slope into trees and burned, throttle and mixture controls were found in full forward position, no mechanical failures or malfunctions found in engine on tear-down, density altitude may have been a factor.
10/13/95	Atlanta, GA	360	IMC	Fatal (1)	Cruise	Loss of control in IMC	Non-instrument-rated pilot filed an IFR flight plan, enroute in IMC reported to ATC having "gyro problems" but then said problem was corrected, pilot continued to have difficulty maintaining heading and altitude assignments, witness reported a loud bang followed by aircraft pieces falling out of the clouds, both wings were found 1/4 mile away from main wreckage.

10/27/95	Somerset, PA	IV-P	VMC	Serious	Forced landing	Engine	On maiden flight, pilot aborted first landing attempt, on go-around engine "spooled down", aircraft struck power line and trees during forced landing, fuel pump driveshaft had failed.
11/25/95	Phoenix, AZ	360	VMC	None	Landing	Gear	During touch and goes, on landing pilot heard thump under aircraft and nose dropped partially and prop struck runway, airplane continued down runway on nose strut until it hit a crack and folded up, pilot reported that the fork to strut attachment had failed.
12/23/95	Morris, MN	320	VMC	Fatal (2)	Maneuvering	Flight Test	Aircraft had 13 hours since first flight, pilot told friend he was going to do stall tests, witnesses saw aircraft stall and spin in, elevator bob weight was found to be installed upside-down, limiting down elevator to 7 degrees versus designed 13 degrees.
7/20/96	Cottage Grove, OR	235	VMC	None	Take-off	Gear	Left main folded during take-off in 10-knot quartering right crosswind, aircraft veered off runway and struck parked aircraft, no mechanical failure found in down-lock.
8/8/96	Fond du Lac, WI	320	VMC	Fatal (1)	Cruise	Prop	Propeller lost in flight due to failure of the crankshaft flange, aircraft CG shifted 3.4 in. aft of aft limit due to loss of prop weight, aircraft entered flat spin into farm field, flange found to have oversized lightening holes and metal softer than spec., crack propagated between lightening holes (this was the Lancair demo plane!)
10/8/96	Camarillo, CA	IV-P	VMC	Serious	Cruise	Fuel	Aircraft was flying with a modified fuel selector valve to allow a "both" position, right tank was empty, left had 32 gallons, engine lost power and aircraft crash-landed, fuel valve was bench-tested and found to allow air from the empty tank to leak into fuel flow and lean out the mixture, evidence of engine damage from excessively lean mixture.
10/12/96	Kansas City, MO	235	VMC	None	Cruise	Fuel	Departed for local flight with 8-10 gallons of fuel, 15 minutes into flight noticed fuel was almost gone, returning to airport engine quit, crash landed in farm field, tore off all gear legs, found that carburetor float valve was stuck open.
12/5/96	Suisun City, CA	IV-P	VMC	Fatal (2)	Maneuvering	CFIT	Delivery pilot giving fam ride to new owner, flying southwesterly an hour before sunset, flew into gradually rising terrain in apparent controlled flight.
7/31/97	Dillon, CO	320	IMC	Fatal (2)	Maneuvering	VFR into IMC	Non-instrument pilot flying in mountainous area with clouds obscuring mountaintops, flew into box canyon and entered clouds at 12,200 feet, apparent CFIT.
2/26/98	Garwood, ID	IV	IMC	Fatal (2)	Maneuvering	Loss of control in IMC	Instrument-rated pilot took off into hard IMC with icing forecast, became disoriented and lost control, no recent instrument time and no instrument time in a Lancair IV.
4/17/98	Newport, TN	235	MVM C	Fatal (2)	Cruise	VFR into IMC	Non-instrument pilot flying in mountainous area with clouds obscuring mountain tops, struck ridge, apparent CFIT.
6/15/98	Palm Springs, CA	320	VMC	None	Cruise	Electrical	After enroute fuel stop, engine had to be jump-started, after take-off main CB tripped and was reset, power continued to drain, all loads shed except transfer pump, flight continued for another 45 minutes until pilot noticed header down to 1/3, initiated precautionary landing, gear extended manually but only right main locked down, made no flap landing and slid off runway, cause of electrical failure not reported.

7/12/98	Price, UT	360	VMC	None	Landing	Landing	Pilot stated he allowed descent rate to become excessive, did not add power in time, hard-landed and broke off left main.
7/15/98	Atlantic Ocean	IV-P	UNK	Fatal (2)	UNK	UNK	IV-P being ferried from Azores to Newfoundland never arrived, presumed lost at sea.
9/4/98	Llano, CA	235	IMC	Fatal (1)	Cruise	VFR into IMC	Non-instrument pilot advised friend in another plane he was turning back due to worse than forecast weather, entered clouds during 180, per ATC radar, wandered around (numerous 180s, 360s and one 540) in IMC for 20 minutes before crashing, witness at crash site reported viz 1/4 mi. in mist and light rain.
9/21/98	Reno, NV	IV	VMC	None	Taxiing	Taxiing	Lancir was holding short for take-off, Hawker Sea Fury taxied into his tail!
5/8/99	Butte, MT	IV	VMC	None	Landing	Landing	Pilot was practicing short field approaches with high rate of descent, landed hard and collapsed left main, wing struck runway "markers".
5/11/99	Taliessee, AL	320	VMC	Fatal (1)	Take-off	Low Pass	Pilot took off to do a high-speed, low pass over the runway, during climb out nose pitched up, aircraft stalled and spun in, engine continued to run at high RPM to impact.
6/25/99	Hamilton, OH	235	VMC	Minor	Landing	Crosswind	Landed with relative 100 degree 7-knot crosswind, insufficient rudder authority, pilot rolled left to avoid hangar, wingtip struck ground and aircraft cart-wheeled in.
8/12/99	Aspen, CO	IV-P	VMC	None	Landing	Tail Wind	Landed long with a 10-knot tailwind, ran off end of runway, pilot reported right brake "soft", it was found to be leaking, density altitude was over 9,200'.
12/12/99	Sterling City, TX	235/320	VMC	None	Descent	Prop	Wood propeller lost in flight due to overtorquing and fatigue of attach bolts, aircraft struck power lines during forced landing and hard-landed on road.
4/29/00	Redding, CA	235	VMC	None	Take-off	Crosswind	Taking off in gusting crosswind, pilot ran out of rudder authority to compensate and lost control, veering off runway.
6/8/00	Bountiful, UT	IV	VMC	Minor	Descent	Fuel	Descending from 10,500' to 6,500' (1,300 agl) pilot pulled power back to 15", when he applied power to level off no response, clipped power lines with the rudder on approach to an open field, pilot suspected engine was flooded.
7/4/00	Hot Springs, SD	235	VMC	None	Take-off	Tail Wind	Wind shifted between weather briefing and take-off, pilot did not check windsock before taxiing, attempted take-off with 8 knot tailwind, ran off end of runway, density altitude was 4613'.
8/10/00	Chiloquin, OR	235	VMC	None	Forced landing	Engine	During cruise engine began running rough, pilot made precautionary landing and had timing adjusted, took off for test flight and engine began running rough again, unable to make airport, pilot landed on the back of a semi on the highway, engine torn down and found to have fractured crankshaft between #3 and #4 crankpins, O-290-G engine was originally from a ground power unit.
8/15/00	Artesia, NM	IV	VMC	None	Take-off	Take-off	Upon lift-off aircraft entered a steep bank to the right at 20' agl, right wing contacted the ground, aircraft impacted ground and gear collapsed.

8/20/00	Moraine, OH	IV-P	VMC	Serious	Approach	Landing	Aircraft struck a 15' levee 50' short of the threshold of the intended runway, pilot was unaware of levee or 225' displaced threshold, said he could not see runway markings due to pitch attitude of aircraft, pilot had 127 hrs. in the accident aircraft.
8/31/00	Bend, OR	320	VMC	None	Landing	Crosswind	Landing in gusting winds, aircraft ballooned, pilot added "some power" but aircraft settled back down off the side of the runway, prop struck the ground and gear collapsed.
9/27/00	Kernville, CA	360	VMC	None	Landing	Landing	Aircraft dropped to the runway from 5 feet, bounced and veered off runway striking some large rocks and sheering left main.
3/4/01	Marana, AZ	ES	VMC	Minor	Forced landing	Engine	During cruise pilot noticed smoke coming out of cowlings, initiated precautionary landing, prop would not respond to power increases, aircraft nosed over in off-airport landing, aircraft was equipped with a marine conversion V-8 with belt drive, belt had melted due to overheated bearing in belt-drive unit.
5/6/01	Valpariso, IN	320	VMC	Fatal (1)	Take-off	No/Low Lancair Time	Aircraft accelerated slower than normal on take-off, was pitching up and down as it slowly climbed to about 200', rolled left and nose-dived to the ground, was pilot's third flight since completing plane, no other Lancair time.
5/28/01	Bennett, CO	IV-P	VMC	Minor	Landing	Oil Pressure	Lost oil pressure in cruise, forced landing into field, gear buckled and right wing sheered, starter adapter drive shaft had fractured allowing oil to be pumped overboard.
6/16/01	Flagstaff, AZ	IV-P	VMC	Fatal (1)	Landing	Fuel	During approach after a 4-hour cross-country pilot advised tower he would not make the airport and crashed 2 miles out. Owner of the aircraft said it had 72-gallon tanks as opposed to standard 80 gallons.
7/6/01	La Junta, CO	360	VMC	None	Landing	Gear	Gear was lowered and indicated "green" but retracted on landing, "up" relay was found to be hot, a mouse nest was found in the center console among the wiring to the gear and flap motors.
7/11/01	Kissimmee, FL	IV	VMC	Fatal (1)	Take-off	Maneuvering	Took off for pattern work, turning to downwind aircraft slowed rapidly, "made a couple of abrupt moves side to side," veered away from the airport and nose-dived into the ground.
7/23/01	Fryeburg, ME	IV-P	VMC	None	Forced landing	Power Loss	Engine lost power during cruise, pilot did not get gear down in time during stretched glide to airport, aircraft bellied in, found paper towel in intake manifold and pieces of paper towel in turbocharger
7/27/01	Charleston, N.Y.	320	VMC	Serious	Maneuvering	Low Pass	Pilot made several low passes over friend's private airfield, during steep turn back to airport descended into trees.
7/31/01	St. Mary's, GA	360	VMC	Fatal (2)	Maneuvering	Maneuvering	Student and CFI on IFR flight plan at 6000' entered a squall line off shore, radar showed rapidly descending turn followed by crash into ocean.
8/17/01	Placerville, CA	350	VMC	Fatal (2)	Maneuvering	Low Pass	Pilot made a low pass over his home then nose-dived into neighbor's yard for unknown reasons.
12/5/01	Tecumseh, MI	235	VMC	None	Take-off	Crosswind	Taking off in gusting crosswind, wing contacted runway and pilot lost control.
5/16/02	Hattiesburg, MS	Super ES	VMC	Fatal (2)	Take-off	Power Loss	During a touch-and-go, witnesses heard a popping sound, saw aircraft in steep right turn, following 3 more rapid pops aircraft nosed down into wooded area and exploded.

7/13/02	Sedona, AZ	320	VMC	None	Landing	Crosswind	During crosswind landing left wing contacted ground, followed by prop and nose.
8/15/02	Iola, KS	320	IMC	Minor	Forced landing	Power Loss	On instrument approach, lost power, restart unsuccessful, landed in farm field, hit berm and nosed over.
10/15/02	Coeur d'Alene, ID	IV	VMC	Serious (1) Fatal (2)	Landing	Landing	Very experienced Lancair pilot unfamiliar with private 2200' x 40' runway with trees on either side, flew unstable final, touched down with right main off pavement and veered into trees.
11/5/02	Bozeman, MT	IV-P	VMC	Fatal (1)	Approach	Power Loss	On 5-mile visual approach after 3-hour-plus cross-country, pilot reported losing power, witness reported a steep right turn followed by steep dive into a field just short of a housing development.
11/21/02	Belverde, TX	IV-P	VMC	None	Landing	No/Low Lancair Time	During third attempt to land aircraft departed runway under heavy braking 2,300' down a 3,000' runway, struck runway lights, ditch & fence.
12/20/02	Geelong, AUS	IV	VMC	Fatal (2)	Maneuvering	Flight Test	Fifth flight since completion, performing stall sequences, failed to recover from stall/spin.
12/28/02	Payson, AZ	235	VMC	Fatal (1)	Aborted landing	No/Low Lancair Time	Pilot had just bought plane, no Lancair training, first flight, first and second landing attempts aborted, stall/spin on third abort.
12/30/02	Corona, CA	320	VMC	None	Cruise	Oil Pressure	Lost oil pressure in cruise, forced landing on freeway, oil line had come loose, oil pumped overboard.
4/26/03	Wamego, KS	IV	VMC	None	Final	Landing	S-turning on short final for spacing behind slower aircraft, inadvertently contacted runway while turning.
5/16/03	Allendale, SC	IV	IMC	Fatal (4)	Cruise	Overstress	IFR cross-country, maneuvering to avoid thunderstorms, broke up in flight.
7/26/03	Page, AZ	235	VMC	None	Landing	Landing	On landing aircraft porpoised and landed hard on nose gear, which collapsed. Aircraft skidded on nose, fuel line broke and fire started.
7/27/03	North Las Vegas, NV	IV-P	VMC	Minor	Take-off	Take-off	After being warned of possible wake turbulence from preceding aircraft, pilot attempted take-off and lost control, landing hard and collapsing gear.
7/30/03	Fort Payne, AL	235	VMC	Minor	Landing	Engine	After local flight of unreported duration, engine quit on final, crashed into trees.
8/1/03	Oshkosh, WI	360	VMC	None	Landing	Landing	During EAA convention, RV had just landed on right side of runway, Lancair was landing on left side of runway per ATC instructions, RV turned left in front of Lancair and the two collided.
8/7/03	Vancouver, WA	360	VMC	None	Forced landing	Engine	Climbing out after take-off pilot noticed a puff of smoke from cowl, elected to return to airport, reduced power to descend and did 180, then added power to level off for traffic pattern, engine didn't respond, landed on nearby road and struck rear of garbage truck, aircraft burned after pilot exited.
9/2/03	Manassas, VA	IV-P	VMC	None	Take-off	Take-off	Pilot distracted by copying complex IFR clearance during pre-take-off check, forgot to extend flaps to take-off position, during rotation aircraft settled back on runway, drifted off the right side of the runway and struck a sign, came to rest upright in grass.

9/19/03	Kimberling City, MO	Legacy	VMC	None	Take-off	Take-off	Pilot had placed temporary paper cover on pitot tube with no flag. Forgot to remove prior to flight. During attempted take-off from 2,600 ft. runway with trees at departure end, noticed abnormally low airspeed, continued to accelerate and rotate, got aural AOA warning, decided to abort, could not stop before hitting trees.
10/20/03	Knoxville, TN	360	VMC	Serious (1) Fatal (1)	Forced Landing	Forced Landing	Immediately after take-off engine began to run rough, as pilot maneuvered to return to airport, engine quit, plane crashed into rocky embankment a few yards short of runway.
11/10/03	Memphis, TN	235	VMC	None	Forced Landing	Forced Landing	Immediately after take-off engine lost power, pilot landed on highway adjacent to airport.
2/17/04	Mesa, AZ	IV-P-T	VMC	Fatal (2)	Maneuvering	Stall/Spin	Turbine IV-P on third test flight. Pilot witness saw aircraft in a flat spin before impact.
4/7/04	Novalato, Mexico	IV-P	VMC	Fatal (3)	Maneuvering	Stall/Spin	Mexican owner purchased American-built IV-P, receiving qualification instruction from American CFI using interpreter, witnesses reported stall/spin.
4/23/04	Memphis, TN	Legacy	IMC	Fatal	Cruise	Loss of control in IMC*	Aircraft crashed after flying into thunderstorm. Few details at this writing.
5/18/04	Grand Canyon, AZ	IV-P	VMC	Fatal (4)	Maneuvering	UNK	Aircraft fell out of sky during sight-seeing flight over Grand Canyon. No details.
5/31/04	Vermontville, MI	IV-P	IMC	Fatal (3)	Cruise	UNK	Pilot reported unable to maintain altitude, witness reported seeing plane in flat spin just prior to impact.