

NYC Crash: What's Behind the Surge in US Air Accidents?

Investigators are trying to find out why a helicopter crashed in New York City on Thursday. All six people on board were killed, including a family of five Spanish tourists.

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What began as a family trip to see New York City from the air in a helicopter turned into a disaster when the sightseeing chopper broke apart in midair, plunging into the Hudson River upside down. Siemens executive Agustin Escobar, his wife, and three children, along with the pilot, did not survive the crash.

From the ground, people could hear and see the last moments of the helicopter as it began to freefall. People looked up in disbelief, then watched in horror as the helicopter came crashing down.

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"We just saw the plane just started falling apart in midair," one eyewitness said. "I got video of it flipping into the water."

First responders made a swift response to the crash scene, hoping to rescue the victims. But they were unable to save any of them.

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