



SBFP Annual Review of Examination Performance 2024

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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION – FOR FOCA ONLY

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2.SOURCES

- FOCA statistics of flight personnel 2024
- FOCA internal examination database 2024
- FOCA internal occurrence reporting database first half year 2024.

3.OBJECTIVES

- Safety promotion through a review of available examination data 2024
- Recommendations and areas of focus to be considered by examiners.

4.SUMMARY

This report includes a review of the results of theory examinations held by FOCA for all license categories, and practical examinations conducted on FOCA license holders in all categories.

Theory Examinations

- *Failure rate by license category varies from 10.53% to 28.26%, trend unchanged*
- *Failure rate by ATO varies from 1.61% to 34.94%*
- *Failure rate by DTO varies from 8.33% to 53.85%*
- *2 ATOs and 3 DTOs stand out, though with small sample size*
- *Care must be taken as the sample sizes vary significantly*
- *Detailed ATO/DTO scores per subject are available in Excel format from FOCA on specific request of the ATO/DTO Management*
- *Individual candidate scores per subject are available; they may be requested by the ATO/DTO and will be disclosed if agreed by the candidate*
- *Please email your request to: pel-qc@bazl.admin.ch*

Practical Examinations

- *The overall pass rate is steady above 98%*
- *In 2024, the total number of checks increased by 8.5%; the number of checks taken by foreign examiners increased markedly*
- *The failure rate is generally unchanged.*

Competency based Assessment

A review of the competency assessment section of the check forms in 2024 has been done; the review is deidentified and serves the purpose of highlighting weak performance areas for the benefit of examiners. The data has been categorized in SP, MP and helicopter; the status of the check is given (pass, fail, partial pass), though this is not directly connected to the competency assessment.

- *For SPA, gradings below 3 are mainly found in: Situation Awareness and Workload Management*
- *For MPA, gradings below 3 are mainly found in all five non-technical competencies (the report does not include the results of mixed or base line EBT operators)*
- *For Helicopter, gradings below 3 are mainly found in: Problem-solving/decision-making, Application of Procedures.*

Risk based Examiner Oversight

- *As per regulation Part ARA.FCL.205 Monitoring of examiners, FOCA has the obligation to conduct a risk-based oversight of performance for the examiners it has certified, and the examiners certified in other member states and operating in its territory;*
- *Overall, 4.1 % of the examiners are under specific supervision, including unannounced inspections and desktop reviews*
- *Typical irregularities observed: improper briefing technique by examiner, wrong DA applied by crew and not spotted by examiner, EVAL phase too long leading to time pressure, error in candidate license not spotted by examiner.*

FOCA Occurrence Report Database

The occurrence report database for the first half year 2024 highlights the following:

Type of Operations	Non-commercial non-complex	Helicopter (CAT/GA)	Commercial Air Transport
Total number of events 01.01-30.06.2024	435	134	4422
% Accidents and severe incidents	3%	7.4%	0.6%
Most frequent class of event	Airspace Infringement	Airprox	Ops Misc (often GNSS jamming/spoofing)

- *Reporting rate in general aviation remains very low compared to commercial air transport*
- *While in CAT the classification includes a large proportion of GNSS jamming/spoofing events, in GA it is mainly airspace/airprox events.*

5.FOCA Actions and Recommendations for Examiners

The following actions will take place on the FOCA side:

- *The theoretical exams failure rate will be forwarded to the respective ATO/DTO on request; please contact: pel-gc@bazl.admin.ch*
- *The examiner refreshers 2025 will continue to address competency-based assessment to improve understanding and examiner concordance*
- *The competency-based assessment section has received positive acceptance in the examiner community and has proved a useful tool for the examiner when confronted with marginal performance. It will be maintained in the forms*
- *Examiner oversight will continue to focus on the identified risks. Unannounced inspections will be conducted as needed*
- *The following area of focus is highlighted and shall be targeted by examiners during practical examinations:*

EXAMINER FOCUS, RISK AREAS
<i>Safety risk: airspace infringement and airprox</i>
<i>Encourage reporting through official channels (EU Reporting)</i>
<i>Awareness of GNSS Jamming/Spoofing and associated risk mitigations</i>

EXAMINER FOCUS, PILOT COMPETENCIES
<i>SPA: Situation Awareness and Workload Management</i>
<i>MPA: all non-technical competencies</i>
<i>Heli: Problem-solving and decision making</i>

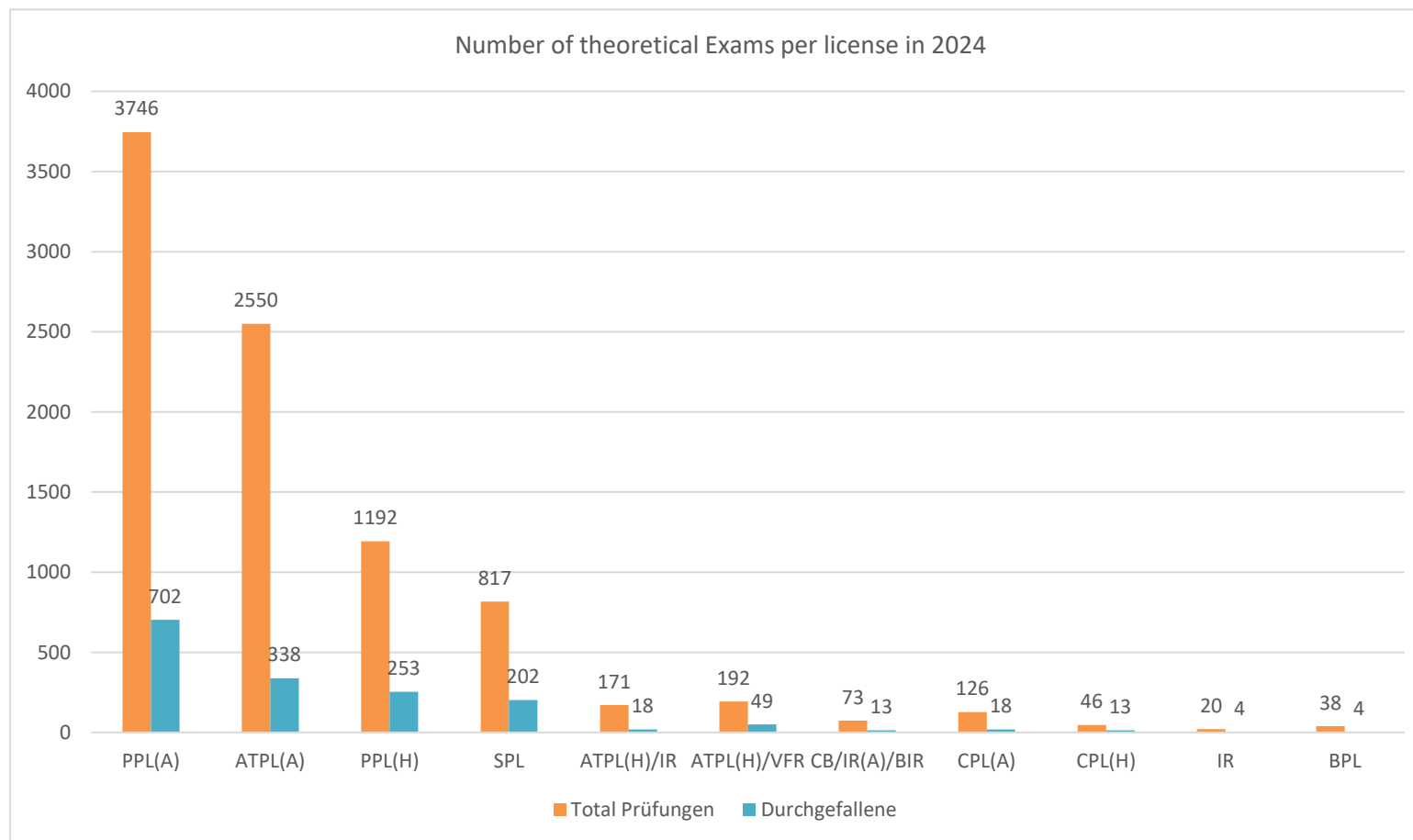
6. STATISTIC OF FLIGHT PERSONNEL 2023

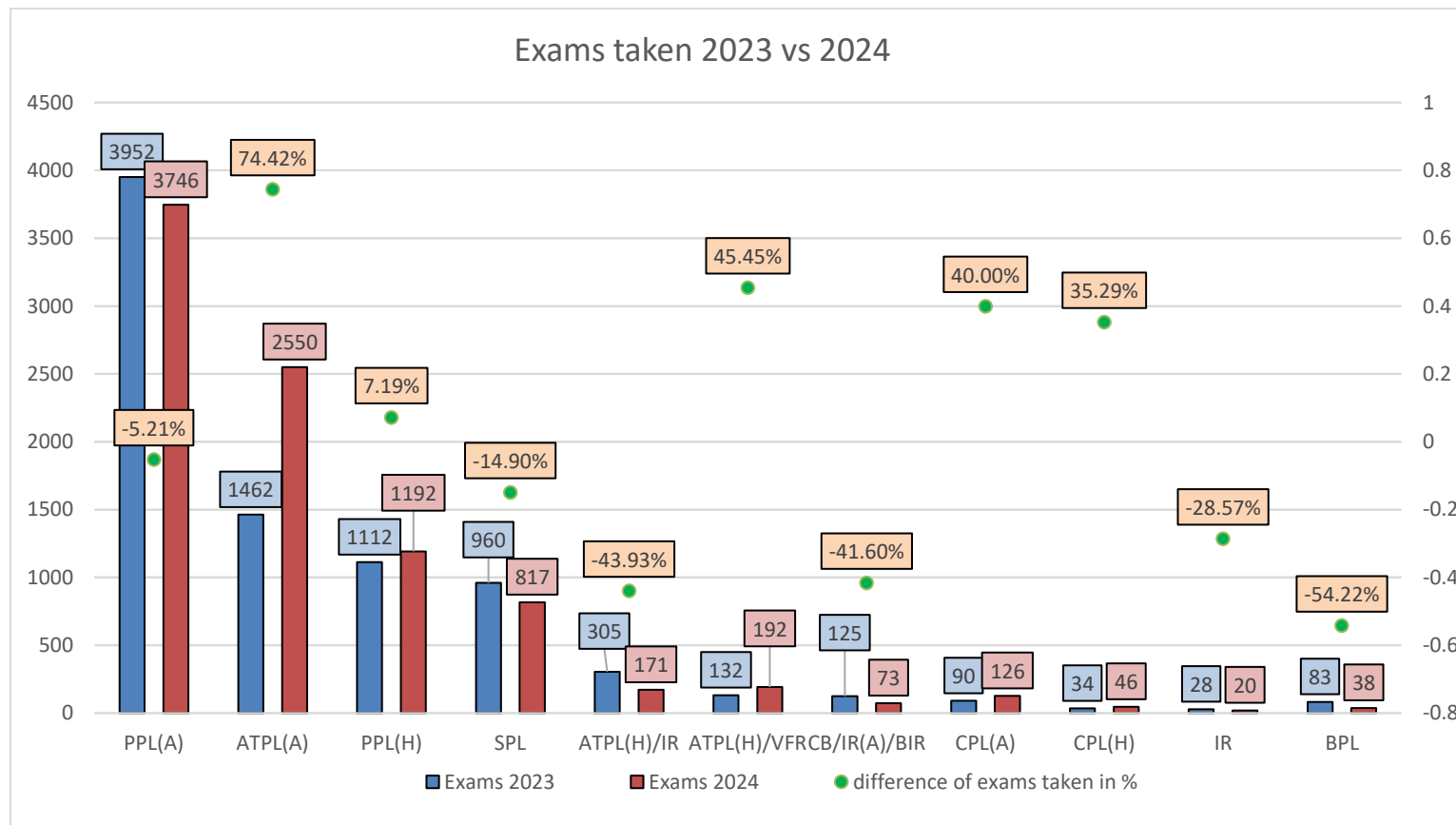
Generally, there is a steady growth in the total number of licenses; the LAPL and UL licenses were not accounted for correctly in the past and have been corrected in the 2024 report.

Flight personnel valid as per 31.12.	2023		2024	
	Total	Female pilots	Total	Female pilots
Total licence holders	13'186	645	12'121	606
Licence categories				
LAPL(A) Light Aircraft Pilot Licences Aeroplane *	556	18	168	3
PPL(A) Private Pilot Licences Aeroplane	4'354	252	4'263	257
CPL(A) Commercial Pilot Licences Aeroplane	1'039	65	1'129	73
ATPL(A) Airline Transport Pilot Licences Aeroplane	2'531	96	2'550	90
MPL(A) Multi-Crew Pilot Licences Aeroplane	17	2	19	2
ATPL(A) MP OPS only	172	5	177	6
 SPL Sailplane Pilot Licences *	 2411	 110	 1'724	 79
BPL Balloon Pilot Licences *	199	20	160	16
 LAPL(H) Light Aircraft Pilot Licences Helicopter *	 15	 1	 5	 1
PPL(H) Private Pilot Licences Helicopter	560	33	561	32
CPL(H) Commercial Pilot Licences Helicopter	508	17	504	18
ATPL(H) Airline Transport Pilot Licences Helicopter	104	0	74	0
 UL(A) Ultra light Aeroplane	 541	 24	 593	 26
UL(S) Ultra light Sailplane	106	1	113	2
UL(B) Ultra light Balloon	21	0	23	0
UL(G) Ultra light Gyrocopter	52	1	58	1
UL(H) Ultra light Helicopter	0	0	0	0
 Validations of foreign ICAO licences issued by 3 rd countries	 2	 0	 3	 0
 IR(A) Instrument Ratings (A)	 3'463	 141	 3'574	 145
IR(H) Instrument Ratings (H)	193	0	171	0

Instructor ratings					
FI(A)	Flight Instructors Aeroplane	617	17	625	18
FI(H)	Flight Instructors Helicopter	296	7	284	8
FI(S)	Flight Instructors Sailplane *	431	10	332	8
FI(B)	Flight Instructors Balloon *	26	1	24	1
IRI(A)	Instrument Rating Instructors Aeroplane	186	0	192	3
IRI(H)	Instrument Rating Instructors Helicopter	24	0	18	0
TRI MPA	Type rating instructor multi pilot Aeroplane	146	0	136	0
TRI/r MPA	Restricted type rating instructor multi pilot Aeroplane	291	4	311	6
TRI SPA	Type rating instructor single pilot Aeroplane	25	0	27	0
SFI MPA	Synthetic flight instructor multi pilot Aeroplane	322	3	383	6
SFI SPA	Synthetic flight instructor single pilot Aeroplane	3	0	4	0
TRI MPH	Type rating instructor multi pilot Helicopter	30	0	25	0
TRI SPH	Type rating instructor single pilot Helicopter	108	1	99	1
SFI(H)	Synthetic flight instructor single pilot Helicopter	11	0	12	0
Flight examiner					
Examiner Aeroplane		271	4	265	4
Examiner Helicopter		78	1	82	1
Examiner Sailplane		19	0	18	0
Examiner Balloon		6	0	7	0

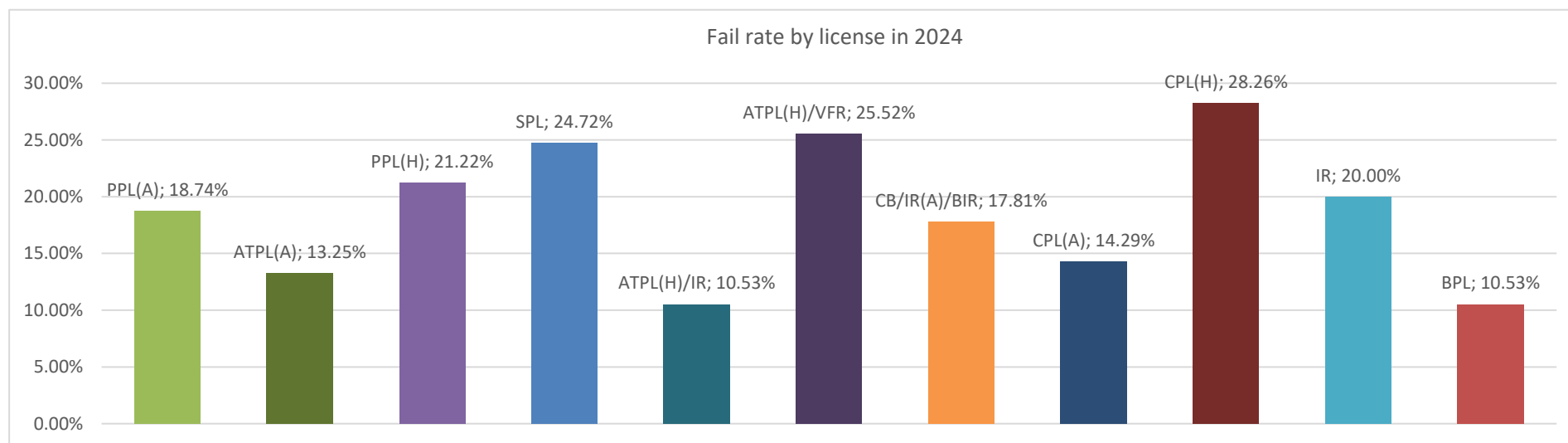
7.THEORETICAL EXAM PERFORMANCE

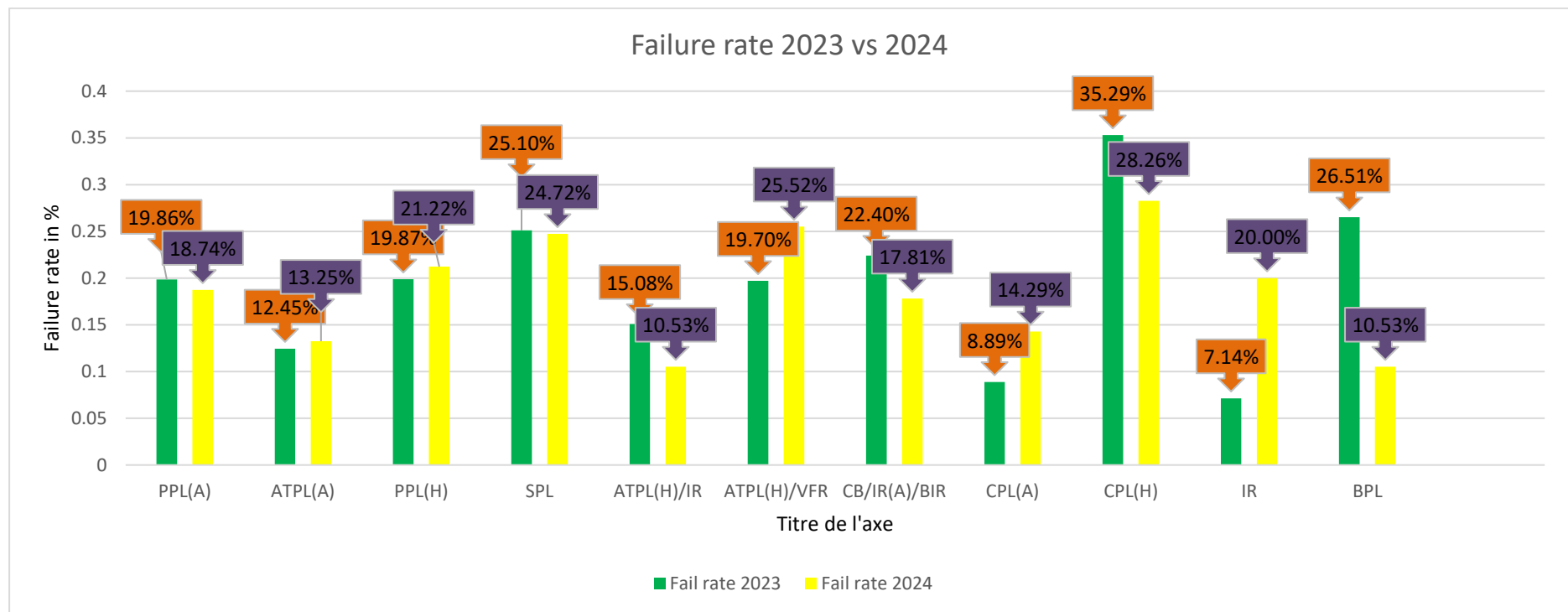




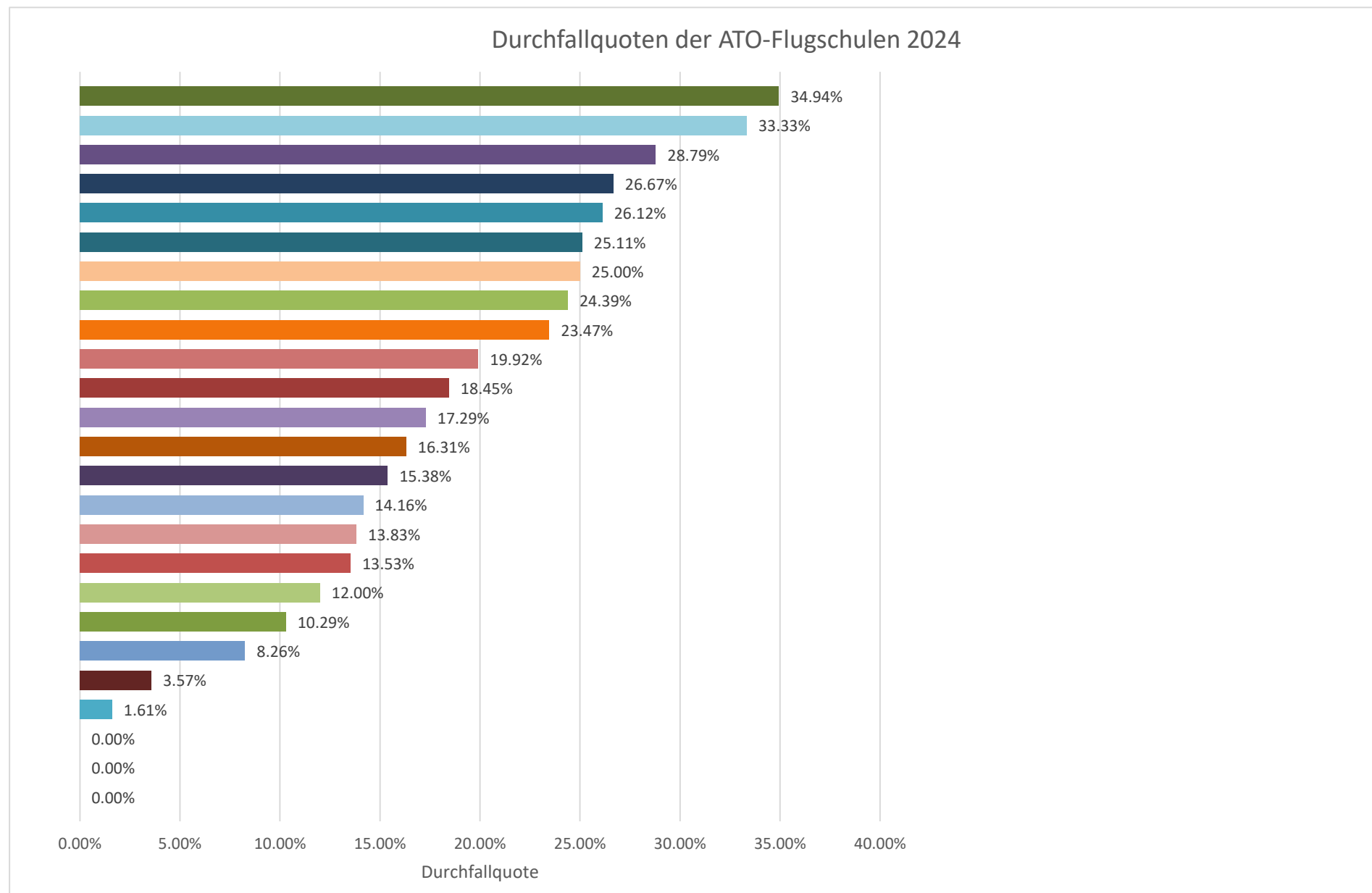
- *Significantly more ATPL(A) Exams in 2024.*

Failure Rates

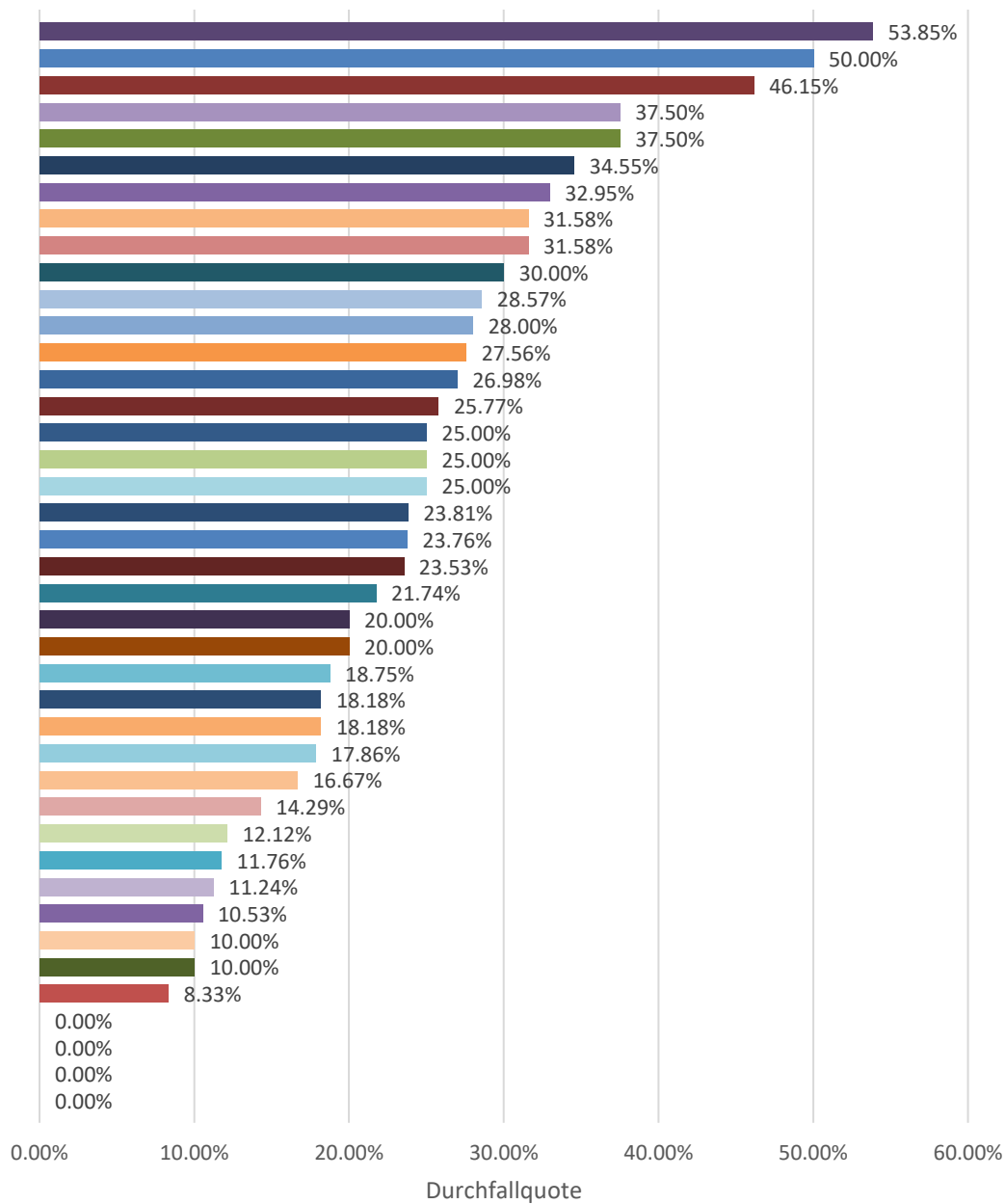




Individual ATO/DTO Failure Rates 2024 – Average of all Subjects



Durchfallquoten der DTO- Flugschulen 2024



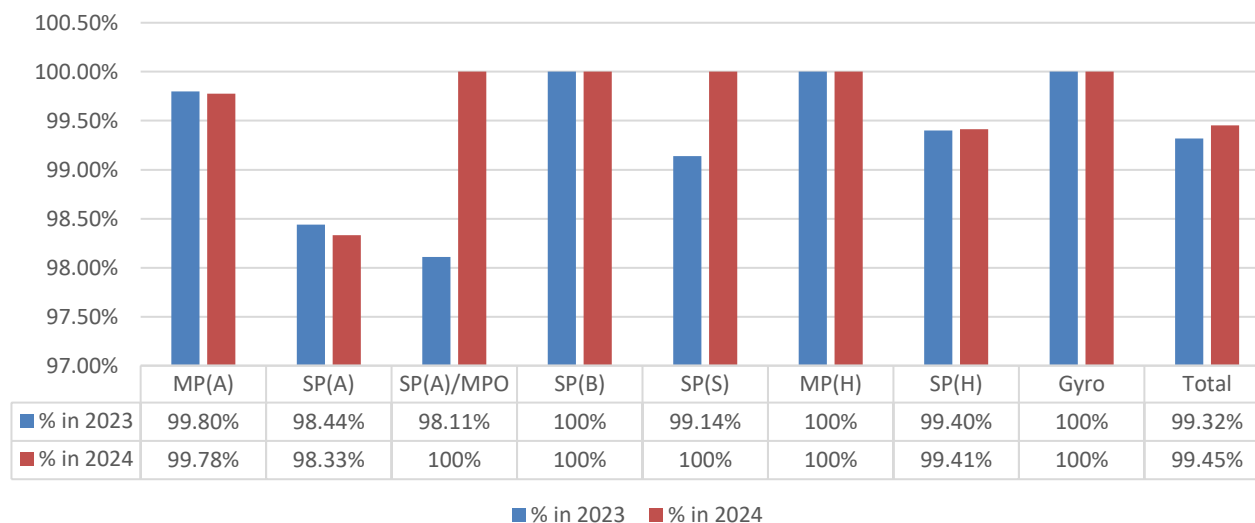
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8.FLIGHT EXAMINATION PERFORMANCE

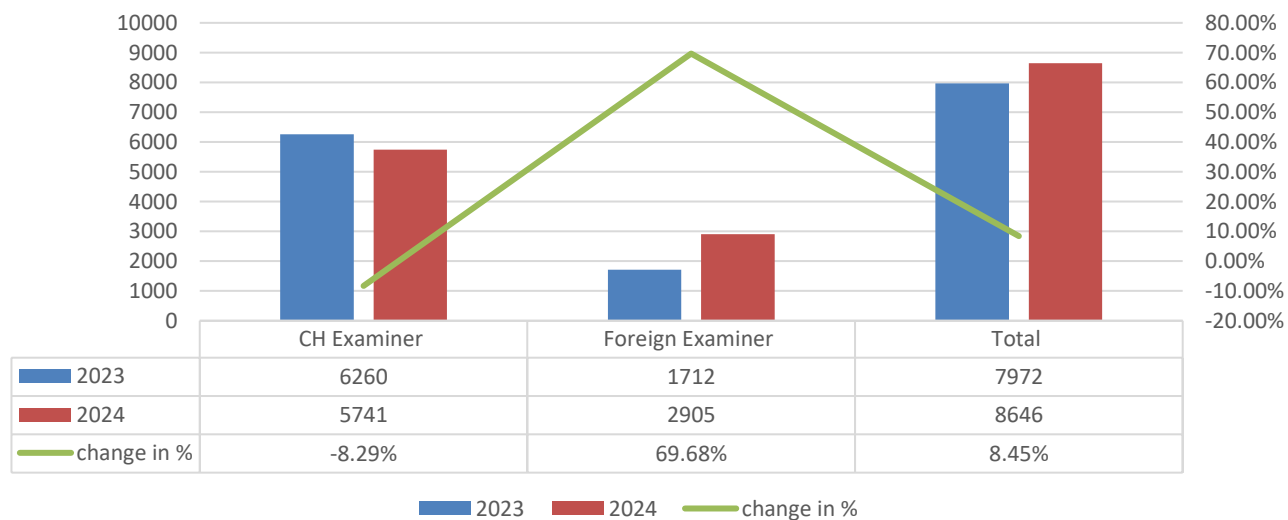
Total Number of Flight Examinations and Failure Rate (Partial Pass or Fail)

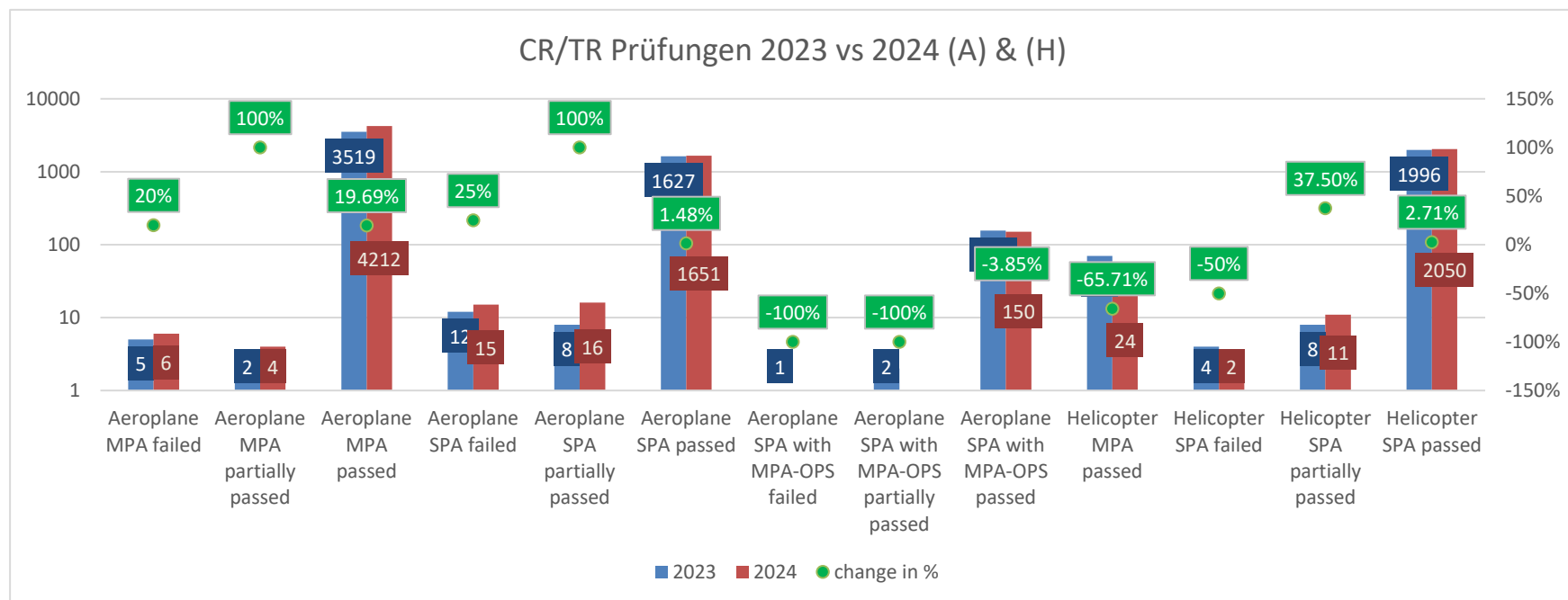
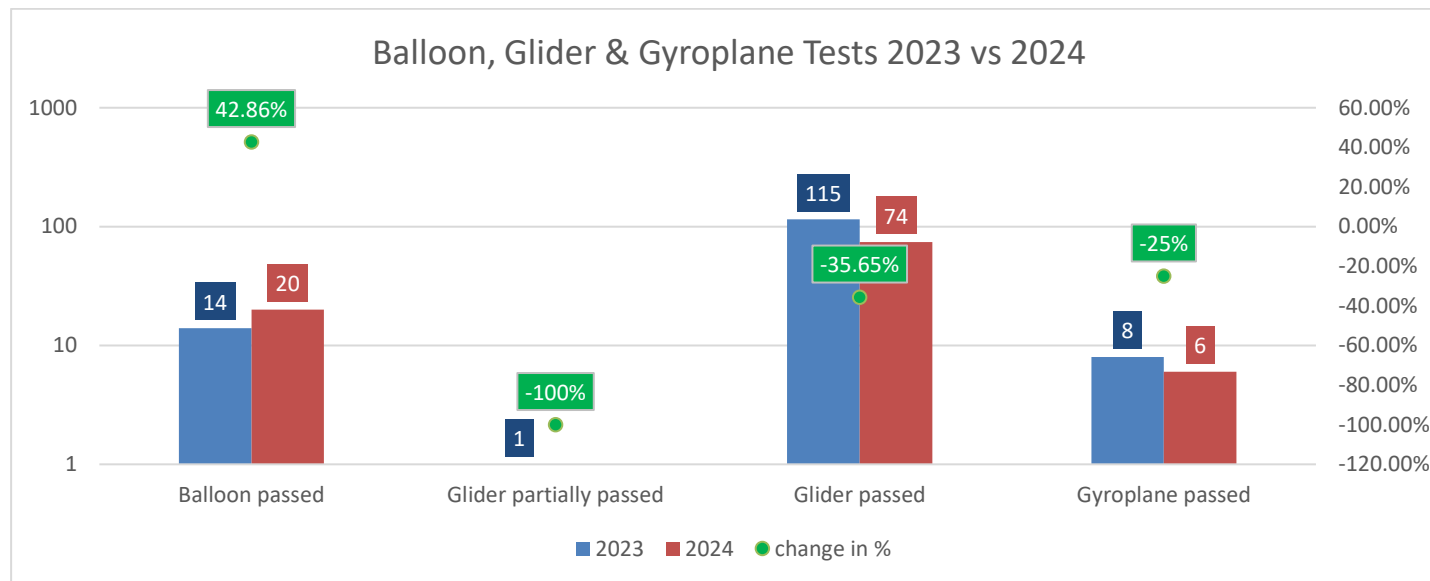
Total exams 2023		Failure Rate 2023		Total exams 2024		Failure Rate 2024	
Prüfungen 2023 Total		Resultate class/type rating Prüfungen 2023		Total exams 2024		Resultate class/type rating Prüfungen in %	
A/C Category groupe by examiner	Amount	A/C Category	CR/TR Result %	A/C Category groupe by examiner	Amount	A/C Category	% result
CH Examiner	6260	Aeroplane MPA		CH Examiner	5741	Aeroplane MPA	
Aeroplane MPA	2689	failed	0.14%	Aeroplane MPA	2186	failed	0.14%
Aeroplane SPA	1605	partially passed	0.06%	Aeroplane SPA	1640	partially passed	0.09%
Aeroplane SPA with MPA-OPS	33	passed	99.80%	Aeroplane SPA with MPA-OPS	37	passed	99.76%
Balloon	5	Aeroplane SPA		Balloon	14	Aeroplane SPA	
Glider	111	failed	0.73%	Glider	70	failed	0.89%
Helicopter MPA	43	partially passed	0.49%	Helicopter MPA	14	partially passed	0.95%
Helicopter SPA	1768	passed	98.79%	Helicopter SPA	1774	passed	98.16%
Rotorcraft Gyroplane	6	Aeroplane SPA with MPA-OPS		Rotorcraft Gyroplane	6	Aeroplane SPA with MPA-OPS	
Foreign Examiner	1712	failed	0.63%	Foreign Examiner	2905	passed	100.00%
Aeroplane MPA	902	partially passed	1.26%	Aeroplane MPA	2076	Balloon	
Aeroplane SPA	387	passed	98.11%	Aeroplane SPA	393	passed	100.00%
Aeroplane SPA with MPA-OPS	126	Balloon		Aeroplane SPA with MPA-OPS	117	Glider	
Balloon	9	passed	100.00%	Balloon	6	passed	100.00%
Glider	5	Glider		Glider	4	Helicopter MPA	
Helicopter MPA	28	partially passed	0.86%	Helicopter MPA	10	passed	100.00%
Helicopter SPA	253	passed	99.14%	Helicopter SPA	299	Helicopter SPA	
Rotorcraft Gyroplane	2	Helicopter MPA		Total	8646	failed	0.10%
Gesamtergebnis	7972	passed	100.00%	Total Aeroplane MPA	4262	partially passed	0.53%
		Helicopter SPA		Total Aeroplane SPA	2033	passed	99.37%
		failed	0.20%	Total Aeroplane SPA with MPA-OPS	154		
		partially passed	0.40%	Total Balloon	20		
		passed	99.40%	Total Glider	74		
		Rotorcraft Gyroplane		Total Helicopter MPA	24		
		passed	100.00%	Total Helicopter SPA	2073		
		Gesamtergebnis	100.00%	Total Rotorcraft Gyroplane	6		

Total Checks passed 2023 vs 2024 in %





















Exams taken by Swiss & Foreign Examiners





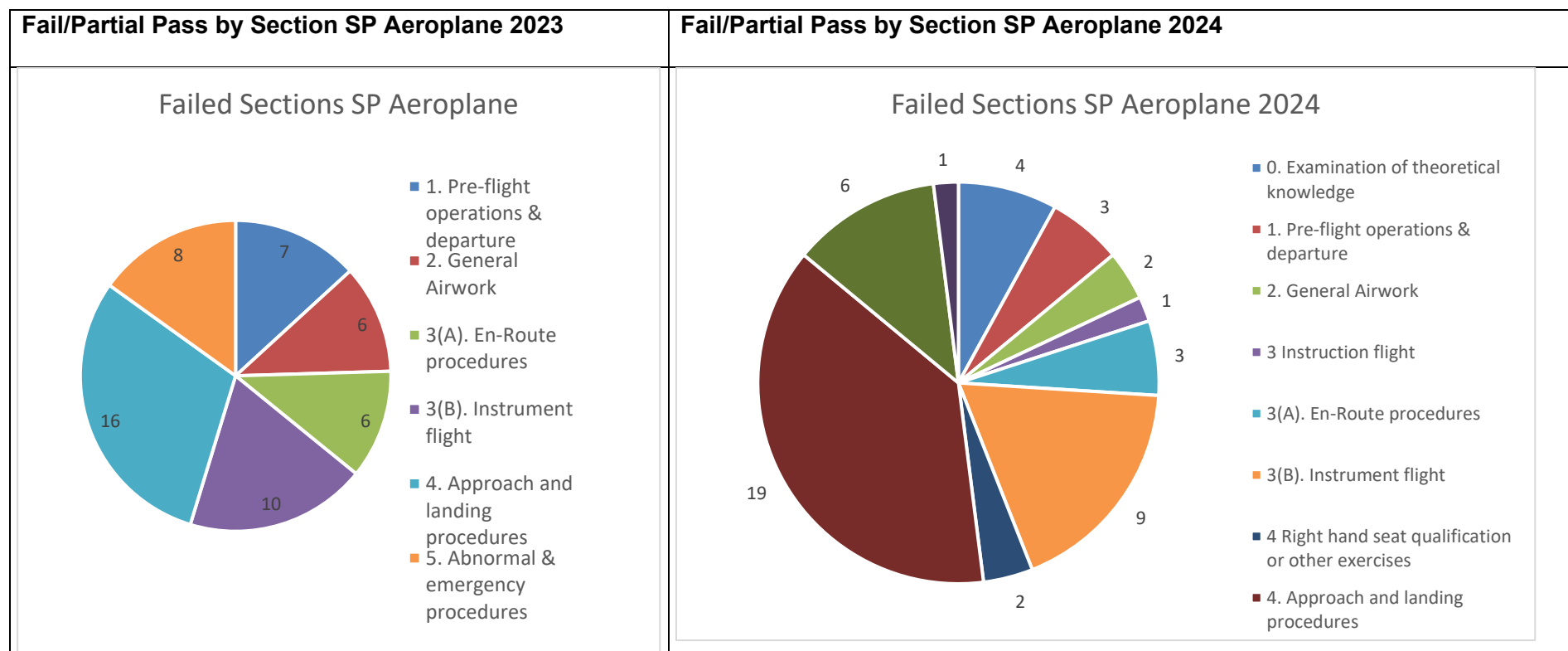
SUMMARY

The number of failed/partially passed checks/tests is as follows

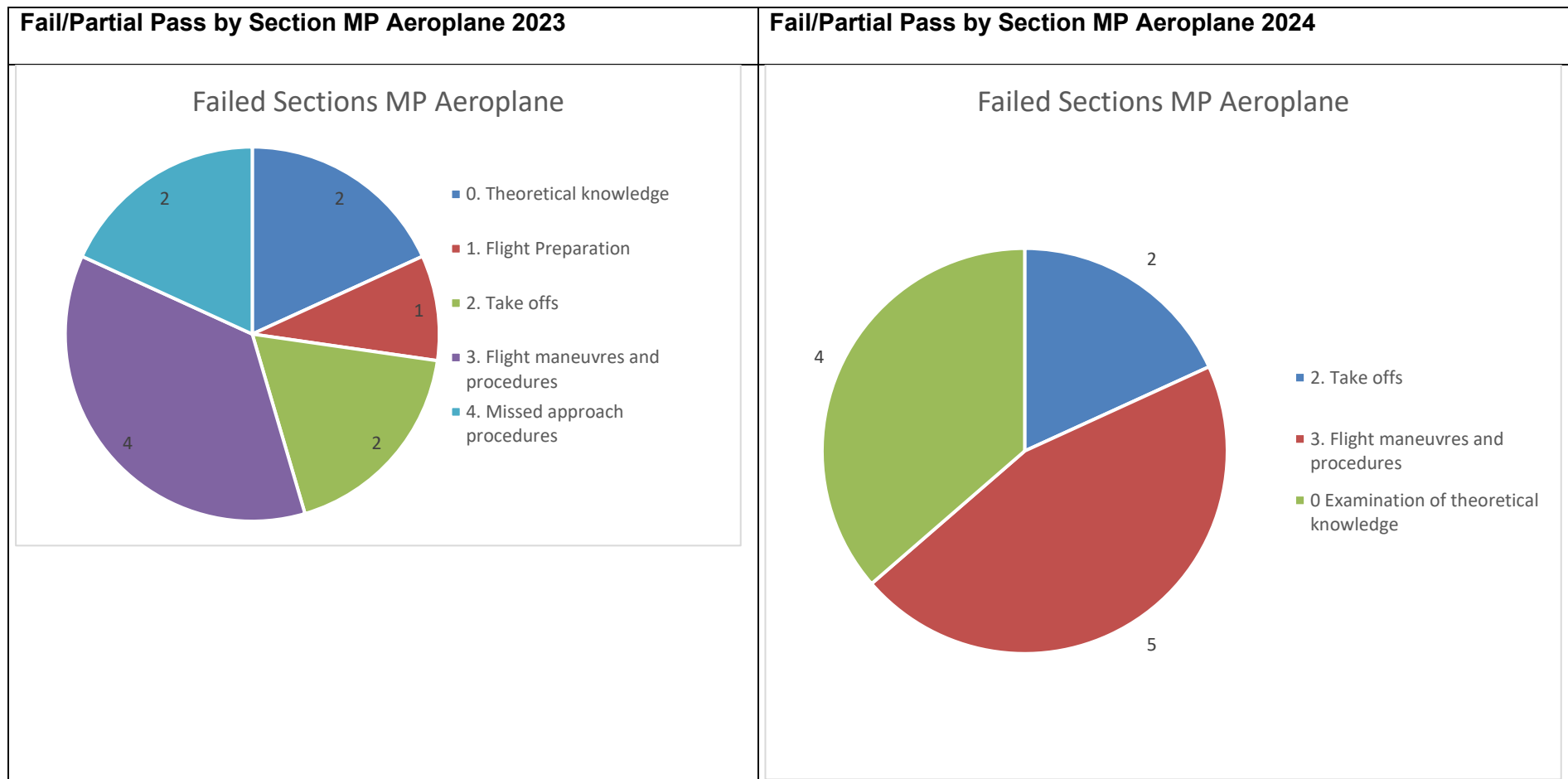
Category	Total checks 2023	Failed 2023	%Pass 2023	Total checks 2024	Total checks trend	Failed 2024	%Pass 2024	Pass Trend
All exams	7972	54	99.13	8646		54	99.37	
MP(A)	3591	7	99.86	4264		10	99.79	
SP(A)	1992	31	97.76	2033		31	98.16	
SP(A) MPO	159	3	99.26	154		0	100	
MP(H)	71	0	100	24		0	100	
SP(H)	2021	12	98.83	2073		13	99.37	
SP(S)	116	1	100	74		0	100	
SP(B)	14	0	92.86	20		0	100	
Gyro	8	0	100	6		0	100	

- Individual examiner pass/fail rates are available on request. Please email the SBFP Flight Inspector
- The overall pass rate is steady above 98%
- Slight differences in total due to definitions
- Overall: more checks in category aeroplane,
- Fail rate steady or improving.

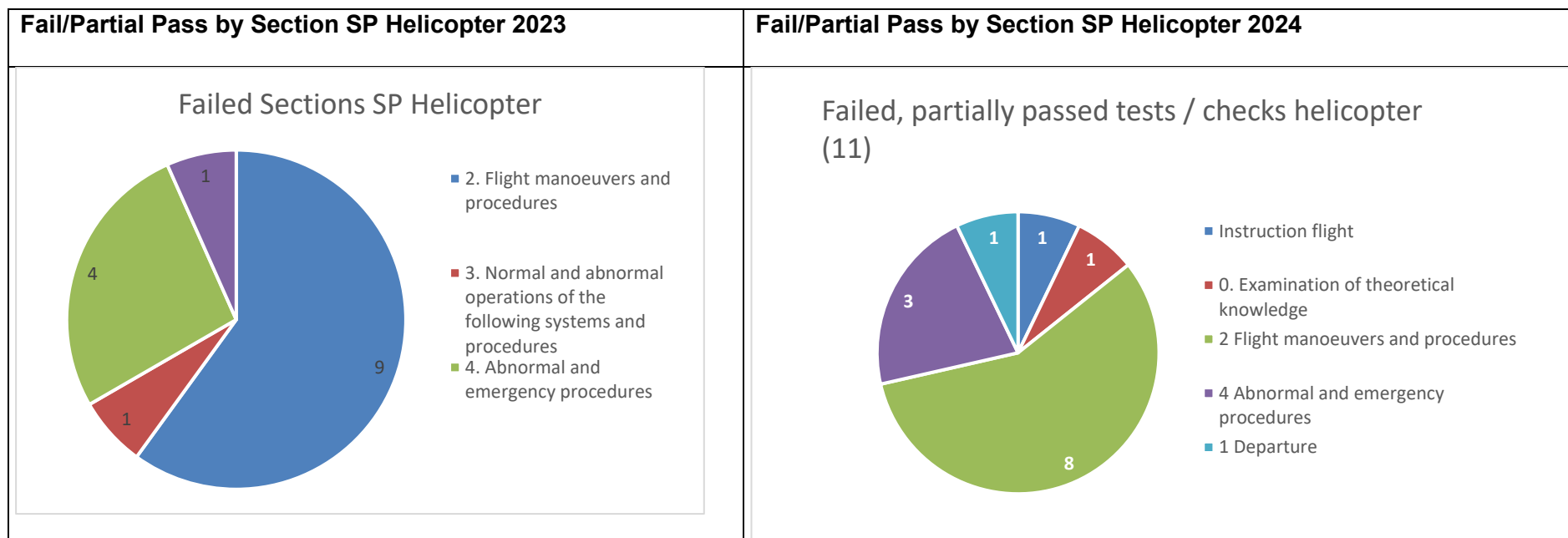
9.FLIGHT EXAMINATION ANALYSIS OF FAILED/PARTIALLY PASSED SECTIONS



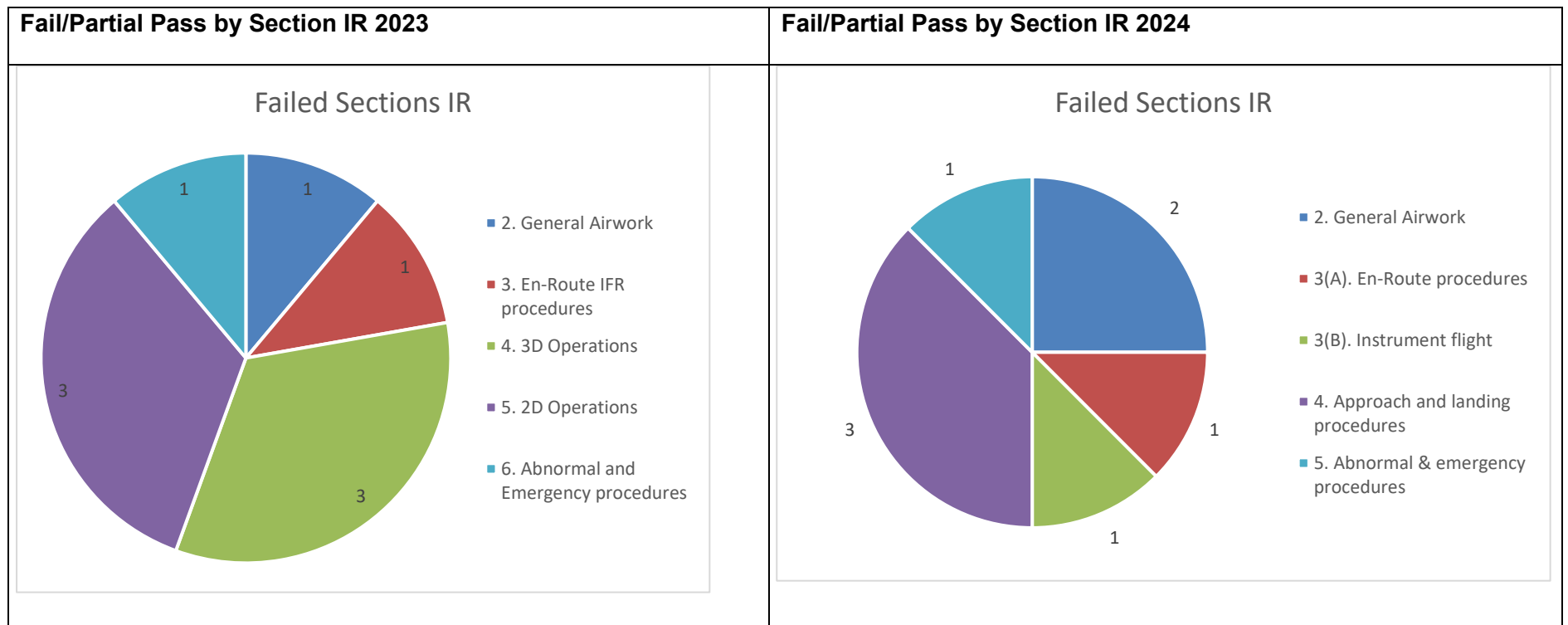
- As in 2023, for SP(A) section “Approach and landing” has most failures in 2024.



- As in 2023, for MP(A) the failure rate is very low; section “Flight manoeuvres and procedures” has most failures in 2024.



- As in 2023, for SP(H) section “Flight manoeuvres and procedures” has most failures in 2024.

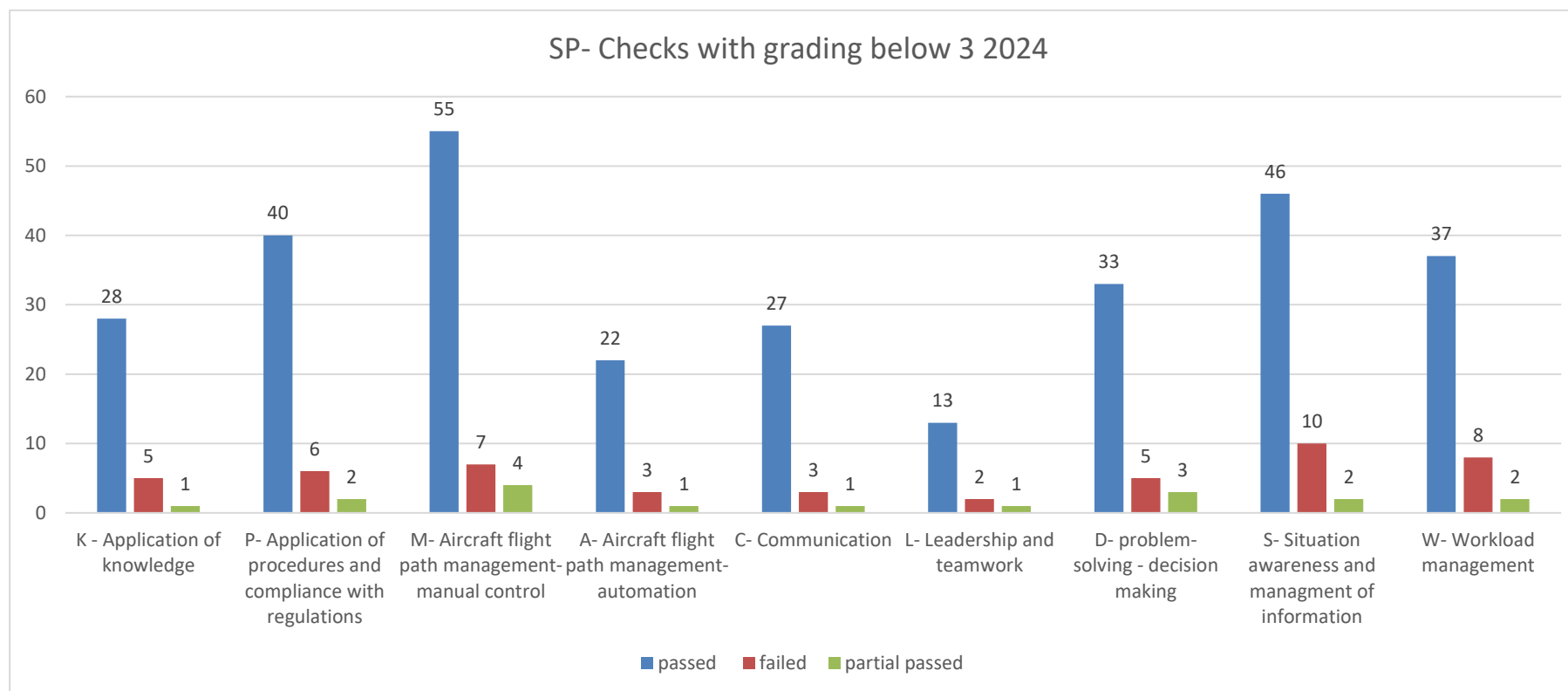


- As in 2023, section “Approach and landing procedures” has most failures in 2024.

10.COMPETENCY BASED ASSESSMENT

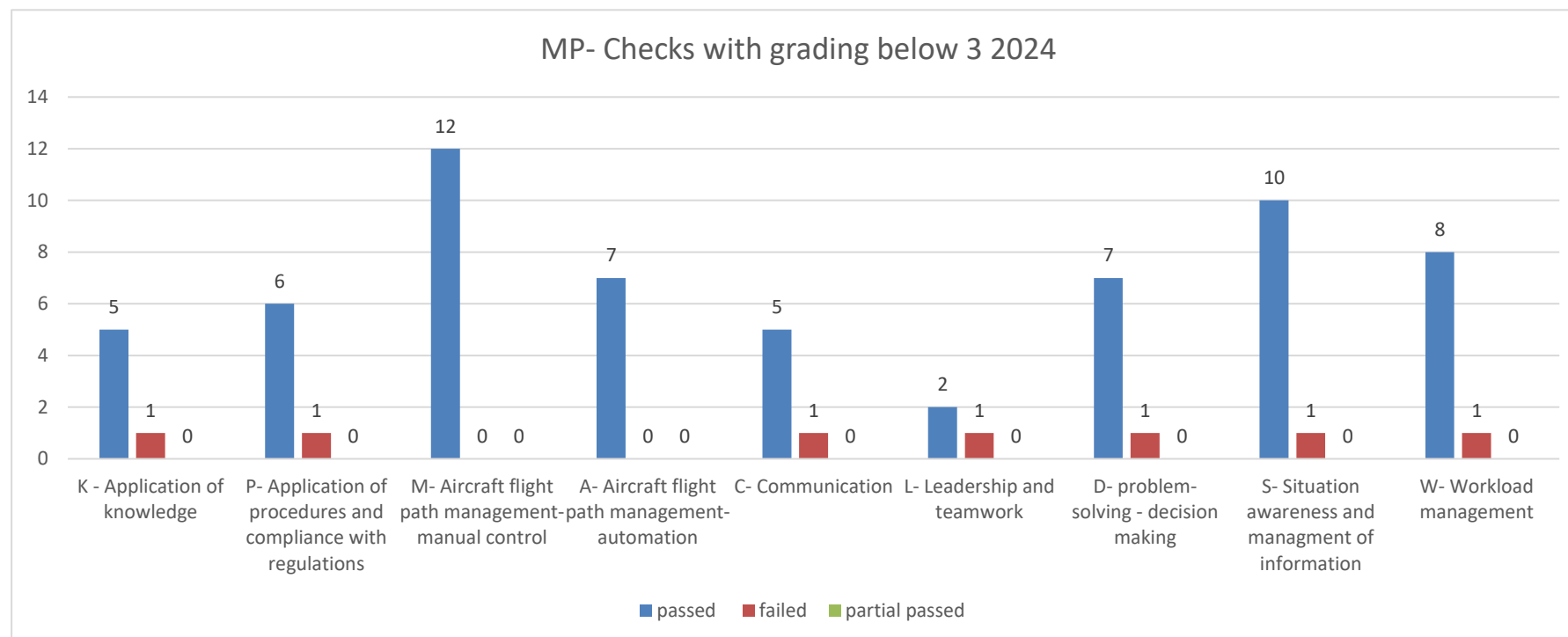
A review of the competency assessment section of the check forms in 2024 has been done; the review is deidentified and serves the purpose of highlighting weak performance areas for the benefit of examiners. The data has been categorized in SP, MP and helicopter; the status of the check is given (pass, fail, partial pass), though this is not directly connected to the competency assessment.

SP Aeroplane



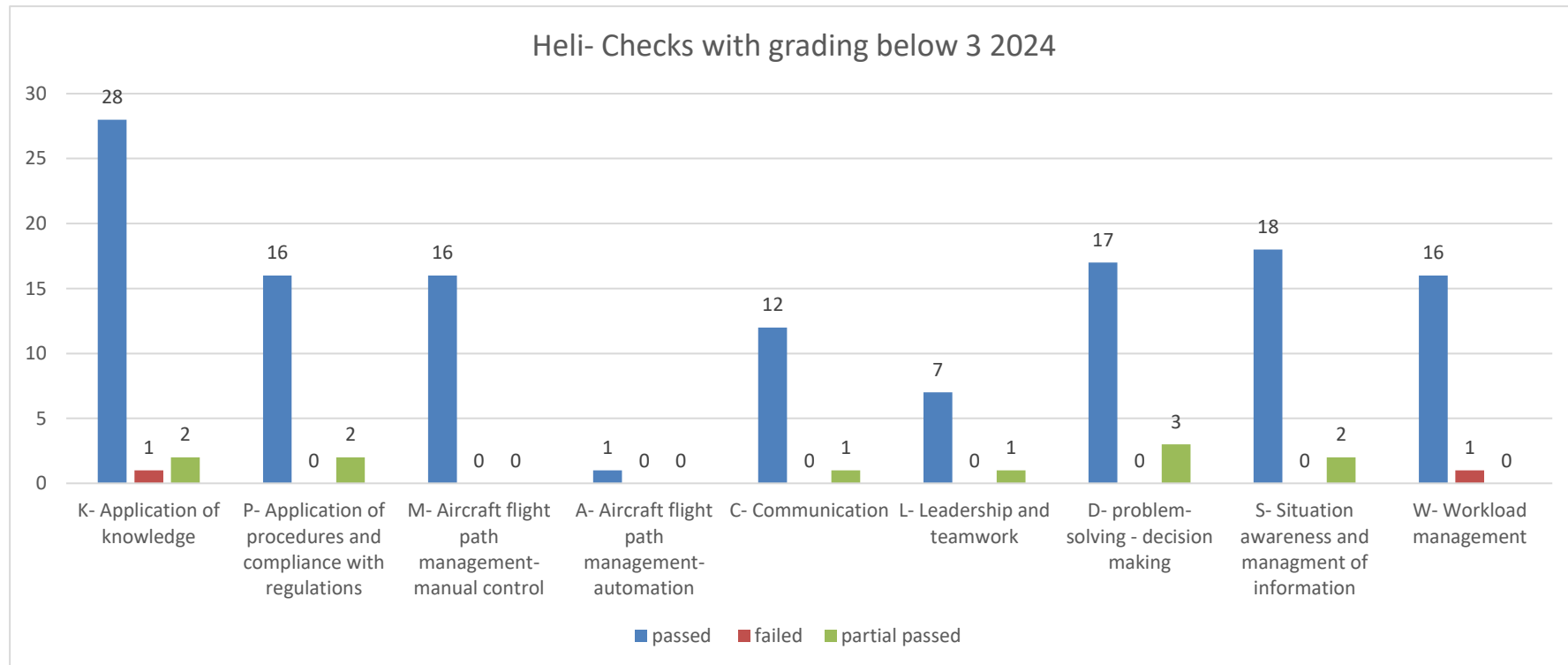
- For SPA, gradings below 3 are mainly found in: Situation Awareness and Workload Management.

MP Aeroplane



- For MPA, gradings below 3 are mainly found in non-technical competencies
- Note: the report does not consider mixed/base line EBT operators.

Helicopter



- For Helicopter, gradings below 3 are mainly found in: Problem-solving/decision-making, Application of Procedures.

11.RISK BASED EXAMINER OVERSIGHT

Based on Part ARA.FCL.205, a systematic risk-based assessment of examiner performance is conducted by FOCA SBFP since January 2023. A number of indicators is observed on a regular basis and individual examiner risk ratings are awarded. On this basis, the FOCA SBFP inspectors conduct targeted unannounced inspections; additionally, when needed, a review of examiner paperwork quality is also conducted. The following table summarizes the results.

Examiners with Risk Rating Overview 1.1.2025

Category	Aeroplane	Helicopter	Sailplane	Balloon
Total number of examiners certified by FOCA	265	82	18	7
Examiners Amber Category (risk rating higher than standard)	11	2	0	0
Examiners Red Category (risk rating critical)	0	0	0	0

Unannounced Inspection Findings/Observations during 2024

Category	Aeroplane	Helicopter	Sailplane	Balloon
Unannounced Inspections	7	1	0	0
Finding/Observation	7	0	0	0

Typical finding/observations:

- *Improper briefing technique by examiner*
- *Wrong DA applied by crew and not spotted by examiner*
- *EVAL phase too long leading to time pressure*
- *Error in candidate license not spotted by examiner.*