



Aviation Investigation Preliminary Report

Location:	Chattanooga, TN	Accident Number:	ERA25LA052
Date & Time:	November 19, 2024, 18:51 Local	Registration:	N951JA
Aircraft:	Cessna 172S	Injuries:	2 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

On November 19, 2024, at 1851 eastern standard time, a Cessna 172, N951JA, sustained substantial damage when it was involved in an accident near Chattanooga, Tennessee. The flight instructor and private pilot sustained minor injuries. The flight was conducted as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 instructional flight.

According to the private pilot, the purpose of the flight was to prep for his instrument check-ride. He said he conducted a thorough preflight and engine run-up prior to departure and no anomalies were noted. Shortly after takeoff from Lovell Field Airport (CHA), Chattanooga, Tennessee, at an altitude of 1,700 ft mean sea level (msl), engine RPM dropped to 2,300 RPM. The private pilot said he contacted air traffic control (ATC), and advised they were in instrument meteorological conditions and needed to return to land. The private pilot said he declared an emergency because the engine continued to lose power, and he and the flight instructor worked with ATC to get the airplane vectored back to the airport. The private pilot said they finally got a visual for runway 33 but the airplane was too fast on touchdown, so they executed a go-around to avoid going off the end of the runway and into trees. As the airplane climbed above the trees, the engine lost total power. The private pilot said there only optional was an off field landing to a road. The airplane clipped trees and came to rest on the side of the road resulting in substantial damage to both wings and the fuselage. There was no postimpact fire.

The airplane was recovered to a salvage facility for further examination of the engine.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N951JA
Model/Series:	172S	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Amateur Built:			
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Pilot school (141)
Operator Designator Code:			

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	IMC	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KCHA,688 ft msl	Observation Time:	18:18 Local
Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles	Temperature/Dew Point:	18°C /17°C
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 600 ft AGL	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	3 knots / None, 110°
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 1400 ft AGL	Visibility:	1.25 miles
Altimeter Setting:	29.82 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Departure Point:	Chattanooga, TN	Destination:	Chattanooga, TN

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	35.050623,-85.212524 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Read, Leah
Additional Participating Persons:	Angela Kachinski; FAA/FSDO; Chattanooga, TN
Investigation Class:	Class 3
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.