HISTORICAL ANALYSIS · 2021–2025

Launch Cadence and Consistency: 2021–2025

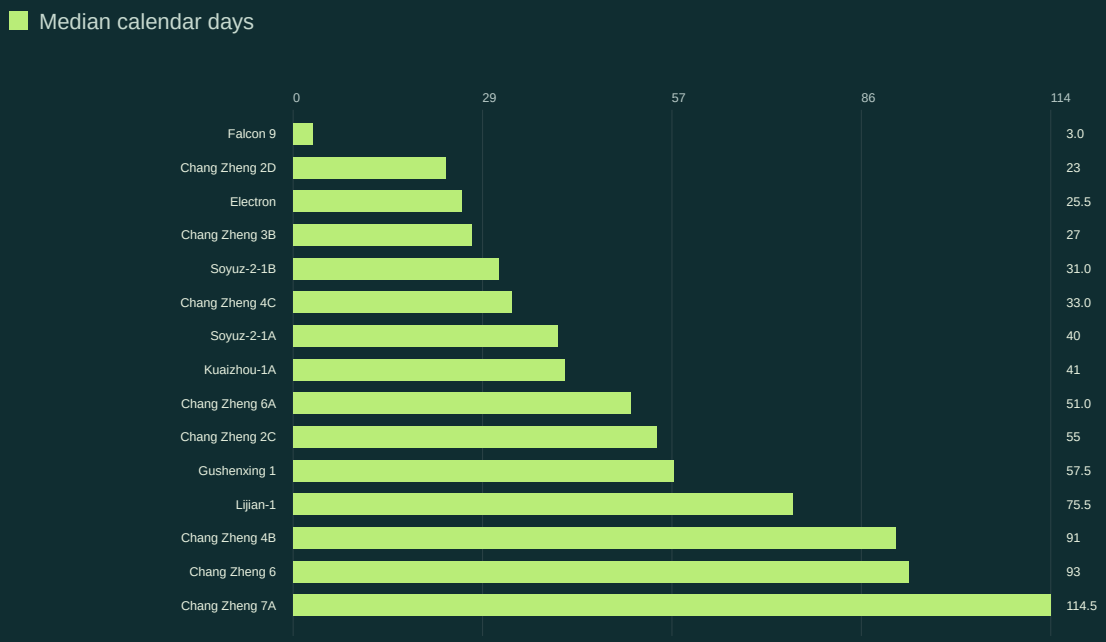
Compare observed calendar-day intervals between launches of exact rocket models, with date uncertainty kept visible.

Source snapshot · 29 October 2026 GCAT / Jonathan McDowell Scope · O + D

SELECTED LAUNCHES	ELIGIBLE MODELS	UNCERTAIN DATES	OMITTED GROUPS
1,144	**16**	**23**	**85**
2021–2025	At least 10 accepted dates	Excluded from primary intervals	Below accepted-date threshold

Median days between launches

Models with the shortest observed medians. Lower values indicate shorter intervals, not greater capacity.



Source: GCAT · Unique launch identifiers

Descriptive historical analysis · no causal inference

2026 is incomplete. Its 254 snapshot launches are excluded from these full-period calculations.

READING THE DATA

What the record shows

01

A defined comparison set

16 models meet the threshold of 10 accepted launch dates; 85 groups do not.

02

Uncertain dates are separated

23 selected records have uncertain dates. Primary intervals omit them; the sensitivity column shows the effect of using their nominal calendar days.

03

Shortest observed median

Falcon 9 has a median interval of 3.00 calendar days across 476 intervals. Its interquartile range spans 1.00 to 5.00 days. This is not a forecast of launch-slot availability.

THE UNDERLYING NUMBERS

Interval distribution and sensitivity

Sensitivity includes nominal days of uncertain dates. It is a robustness check, not a corrected estimate.

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MODEL	DATES	INTERVALS	MEDIAN D	Q25 D	Q75 D	P90 D	EXCLUDED	SENSITIVITY D
Falcon 9	477	476	3.00	1.00	5.00	8.00	2	3.00
Chang Zheng 2D	46	45	23.00	13.00	48.00	78.80	1	22.50
Electron	55	54	25.50	15.00	45.75	59.80	1	26.00
Chang Zheng 3B	40	39	27.00	17.00	67.00	108.00	0	27.00
Soyuz-2-1B	39	38	31.00	24.25	62.75	94.00	0	31.00
Chang Zheng 4C	29	28	33.00	20.00	73.25	134.60	0	33.00
Soyuz-2-1A	38	37	40.00	23.00	77.00	89.40	0	40.00
Kuaizhou-1A	20	19	41.00	19.50	130.00	199.00	0	41.00
Chang Zheng 6A	19	18	51.00	23.50	81.25	171.00	0	51.00
Chang Zheng 2C	22	21	55.00	34.00	95.00	141.00	1	49.00
Gushenxing 1	21	20	57.50	15.75	101.50	178.70	0	57.50

MODEL	DATES	INTERVALS	MEDIAN D	Q25 D	Q75 D	P90 D	EXCLUDED	SENSITIVITY D
Lijian-1	11	10	75.50	46.50	208.75	252.00	0	75.50
Chang Zheng 4B	16	15	91.00	24.00	169.50	221.00	0	91.00
Chang Zheng 6	10	9	93.00	47.00	267.00	311.00	0	93.00
Chang Zheng 7A	13	12	114.50	53.50	245.25	284.70	0	114.50
Chang Zheng 2F	11	10	179.50	156.00	185.75	194.30	2	141.00

TRANSPARENT BY DESIGN

Methodology & sources

Scope and identity

Grouping uses exact vehicle labels, without inferred family or ownership mergers. Filters: none. Unknown labels remain explicit. Counts include successful and failed O+D launches.

Time coverage

The source was retrieved on 29 October 2026. Only requested years before the snapshot year are used. Complete calendar periods do not guarantee that the source is error-free.

Intervals and uncertainty

All accepted dates are reduced to their UTC calendar day, so no missing time-of-day is invented. Same-day launches produce zero calendar-day intervals. Primary estimates exclude question-mark dates and precision coarser than a day. Sensitivity uses nominal uncertain days. Omitting dates can lengthen intervals; both estimates remain descriptive.

Distribution and boundaries

Intervals are differences between adjacent accepted dates inside the selected period; boundary-crossing intervals are not included. Quartiles and P90 use linear interpolation at (n−1)q. Model service spans differ; medians do not measure production capacity or causal consistency.

Scope and limitations

Unique O (orbital) and D (deep-space) launches are included, including failures. N flights and events without liftoff are excluded. The source classification is retained. These results describe the snapshot; they do not establish causes or forecast future activity.

Attribution

Data from GCAT — Jonathan C. McDowell, CC BY 4.0. Compatisto aggregates and visualizes the records. · Field documentation.

Source SHA-256
ee70d1d8b7cb72a239f60a996c061cd1ddf4fed493686f2d8e8333a83a91d5c3