

Traffic Safety Facts

Crash • Stats

DOT HS 810 820

A Brief Statistical Summary

August 2007

Comparison of Motorcycle Rider Fatalities in Traffic Crashes, 2005-2006

Fatalities from motor vehicle traffic crashes declined by 868 (2%) from 43,510 in 2005 to 42,642 in 2006. However, motorcycle rider fatalities increased by 5.1 percent, from 4,576 in 2005 to 4,810 in 2006. Motorcycle rider fatalities as a proportion of overall fatalities increased from 10.5 percent in 2005 to 11.3 percent in 2006. Motorcycle rider fatalities in

the past five years increased by 47 percent, from 3,270 in 2002 to 4,810 in 2006. This data is from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS). Table 1 shows total fatalities, motorcycle rider fatalities, and motorcycle rider fatalities as percent of total fatalities from 2002 to 2006.

Table 1 Total Fatalities, Motorcycle Rider Fatalities, and Motorcycle Rider Fatalities as Percent of Total Fatalities, by Year

Year	Total Fatalities	Motorcycle Rider Fatalities	Motorcycle Rider Fatalities as Percent of Total Fatalities
2002	43,005	3,270	7.6%
2003	42,884	3,714	8.7%
2004	42,836	4,028	9.4%
2005	43,510	4,576	10.5%
2006	42,642	4,810	11.3%

Source: NCSA, FARS 2002-2005 (Final), 2006 (ARF)

In 2006, 27 States and Puerto Rico had increases and 19 States and the District of Columbia had declines in motorcycle rider fatalities when compared to 2005. There were 4 States with no change in motorcycle rider fatalities from 2005. Of the States that had increases in motorcycle rider fatalities, Florida (94), Alabama (43), and California (37) had the highest absolute increases. The States with the highest percentage increases in motorcycle rider fatalities from 2005 to 2006 were Alaska (125.0%), Kansas (82.9%), and Alabama (69.4%).

Among the States with declines in motorcycle rider fatalities, Illinois (26), New Hampshire (23), and Ohio (20) had the highest absolute declines. Of the States that had decline in motorcycle rider fatality percentage from 2005 to 2006,

New Hampshire (52.3%), Delaware (42.9%), North Dakota (33.3%), and the District of Columbia (83.3%) had the highest declines.

In 2006, the motorcycle rider fatality proportion among overall fatalities was higher than the national average (11.3) in 25 States and Puerto Rico. Motorcycle rider fatality proportion among overall fatalities was highest for Puerto Rico (22.7%) and lowest for the District of Columbia (2.7%). Table 2 shows overall fatalities and motorcycle rider fatalities in the United States in 2005 and 2006, change and percentage change in overall fatalities and motorcycle rider fatalities from 2005 to 2006, and motorcycle rider fatality proportion among overall fatalities in 2005 and 2006 by State.

Table 2: Motorcycle Rider Fatalities in Traffic Crashes by State, Year, Change, Percentage Change, and Motorcycle Rider Fatalities as Percentage of Total Fatalities

State	Motorcycle (MC) Rider Fatalities		Change	% Change	MC Rider Fatalities as Percentage of Total Fatalities	
	2005	2006			2005	2006
Alabama	62	105	43	69.4	5.4	8.7
Alaska	4	9	5	125.0	5.5	12.2
Arizona	138	142	4	2.9	11.7	11.0
Arkansas	63	76	13	20.6	9.6	11.4
California	469	506	37	7.9	10.8	11.9
Colorado	87	74	-13	-14.9	14.4	13.8
Connecticut	43	53	10	23.3	15.5	17.6
Delaware	21	12	-9	-42.9	15.8	8.1
Dist of Columbia	6	1	-5	-83.3	12.5	2.7
Florida	468	562	94	20.1	13.3	16.7
Georgia	144	154	10	6.9	8.3	9.1
Hawaii	30	27	-3	-10.0	21.4	16.8
Idaho	26	38	12	46.2	9.5	14.2
Illinois	158	132	-26	-16.5	11.6	10.5
Indiana	110	110	0	0.0	11.7	12.2
Iowa	45	57	12	26.7	10.0	13.0
Kansas	35	64	29	82.9	8.2	13.7
Kentucky	89	98	9	10.1	9.0	10.7
Louisiana	75	95	20	26.7	7.8	9.7
Maine	15	23	8	53.3	8.9	12.2
Maryland	85	84	-1	-1.2	13.8	12.9
Massachusetts	56	50	-6	-10.7	12.7	11.6
Michigan	124	114	-10	-8.1	11.0	10.5
Minnesota	59	67	8	13.6	10.6	13.6
Mississippi	39	55	16	41.0	4.2	6.0
Missouri	91	93	2	2.2	7.2	8.5
Montana	28	26	-2	-7.1	11.2	9.9
Nebraska	17	18	1	5.9	6.2	6.7
Nevada	56	50	-6	-10.7	13.1	11.6
New Hampshire	44	21	-23	-52.3	26.5	16.5
New Jersey	61	87	26	42.6	8.2	11.3
New Mexico	38	43	5	13.2	7.8	8.9
New York	162	192	30	18.5	11.3	13.2
North Carolina	152	150	-2	-1.3	9.8	9.6
North Dakota	6	4	-2	-33.3	4.9	3.6
Ohio	178	158	-20	-11.2	13.5	12.8
Oklahoma	77	64	-13	-16.9	9.6	8.4
Oregon	48	44	-4	-8.3	9.9	9.2
Pennsylvania	205	188	-17	-8.3	12.7	12.3
Rhode Island	14	16	2	14.3	16.1	19.8
South Carolina	106	109	3	2.8	9.7	10.5
South Dakota	22	22	0	0.0	11.8	11.5
Tennessee	129	140	11	8.5	10.2	10.9
Texas	364	346	-18	-4.9	10.3	10.0
Utah	23	24	1	4.3	8.2	8.4
Vermont	14	10	-4	-28.6	19.2	11.5
Virginia	69	69	0	0.0	7.3	7.2
Washington	74	80	6	8.1	11.4	12.7
West Virginia	34	38	4	11.8	9.1	9.3
Wisconsin	93	93	0	0.0	11.4	12.8
Wyoming	20	17	-3	-15.0	11.8	8.7
National	4,576	4,810	234	5.1	10.5	11.3
Puerto Rico	90	115	25	27.8	19.7	22.7

Source: NCSA, FARS 2005 (Final), 2006 (ARF)