

Oklahoma Highway Safety Fact Sheet



Motorcycles in 2003 Crashes

June 9, 2005

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Crashes, Fatalities, & Injuries

In Oklahoma in 2003, there were 1,071 reported crashes involving motorcycles. This is 1.4% of the total crashes which is a 9.5% increase over 2002.

These crashes resulted in 43 motorcyclist fatalities, 6.4% of the total fatalities. There were 982 motorcyclists injured, 2.3% of the total injured.

Registration & License Endorsement

In 2003, there were 71,950 registered motorcycles according to the Oklahoma Tax Commission.

There were 2,366,011 licensed drivers and 152,261 (6.4%) of these drivers had a motorcycle endorsement on their license.

Fatalities & Helmets

Of the 43 motorcyclist fatalities, 36 were drivers and seven were passengers. Some 76.7% of these fatalities were not wearing helmets.

Driver Age & Gender

There were 1,092 motorcycle drivers and 126 motorcycle passengers for a total of 1,218 motorcyclists involved in crashes.

Of the 1,092 drivers, 16.2% were age 21-25, 11.9% were age 36-40, 11.1% were age 46-50, 11.0% were age 26-30, 10.7% were age 31-35, and 10.2% were age 41-45. Of the 1,092 motorcycle drivers, 94.0% were male.

Alcohol/Drug Driver Condition

Some 3.2% of the 1,092 motorcycle drivers had an Alcohol/Drug-Related driver condition. Some 96.7% of the drivers with an Alcohol/Drug driver condition were male.

Causes

The four primary causes of motorcycle crashes in 2003 were: Unsafe Speed (22.9%), Failed To Yield (12.1%), Unknown/No Improper Action (10.7%), and Improper Turn (9.7%).

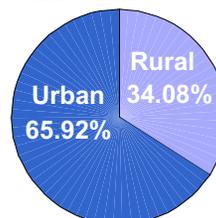
Rural crashes involving motorcycles were primarily caused by Unsafe Speed (36.9%), Unknown/No Improper Action (14.4%), and Other Improper Act/Movement (7.9%).

Urban crashes involving motorcycles were primarily caused by Failed To Yield (15.5%), Unsafe Speed (14.9%), Improper Turn (11.8%), and Inattention (11.0%).

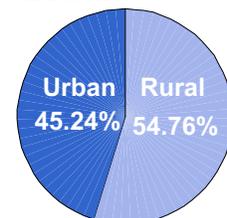
Rural vs. Urban

More than half of the crashes involving a motorcycle were in urban areas. However, fatal crashes involving a motorcycle occurred more often in rural areas.

Motorcycle Crashes in 2003
Rural vs. Urban



Motorcycle Fatal Crashes in 2003
Rural vs. Urban

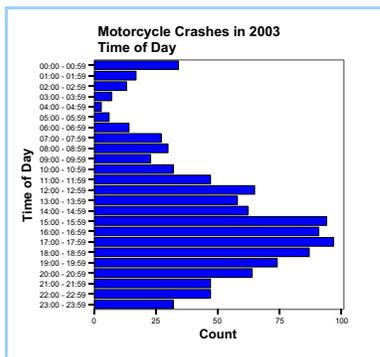


Vehicles Involved

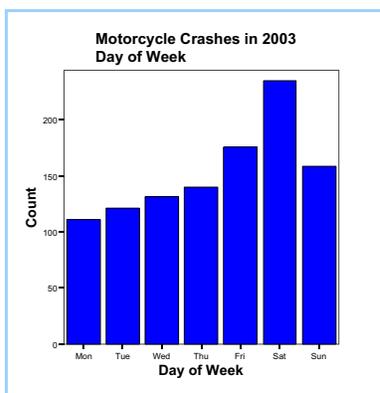
In 50.6% of the crashes involving motorcycles, two vehicles were involved. However, in fatal crashes, 50.0% of the crashes involved only one vehicle.

Time & Day

Motorcycle involved crashes occurred primarily in the afternoon and evening hours.



Saturday had the highest incidence of crashes involving motorcycles with 21.9% of the total motorcycle crashes.



Highway Class

Crashes involving motorcycles primarily occurred on city streets (45.8%), rural state highways (10.6%), interstate highways (10.4%), and county roads (9.9%).

Fatal crashes involving motorcycles primarily occurred on city streets (33.3%), county roads

(21.4%), rural state highways (16.7%), and interstate highways (11.9%).

Other Facts

- 65.2% of the crashes involving a motorcycle occurred at a non-intersection.
- 67.2% of the crashes involving a motorcycle occurred in daylight and 21.8% occurred in darkness.
- 53.1% of the motorcycle crashes occurred in clear weather and 43.5% occurred in cloudy weather.
- 42.3% of the motorcycle crashes occurred in a business locality and 31.4% occurred in a locality not built-up.
- 90.8% of the motorcycle drivers in crashes were licensed in Oklahoma.
- 95.6% of the motorcycle drivers in fatal crashes were licensed in Oklahoma.
- 21.1% of the total motorcycle crashes occurred in Oklahoma County.
- 26.2% of the total fatal motorcycle crashes occurred in Oklahoma County.

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