

Recent 2007 Insurance Statistics

- Fatally injured motorcyclists were less likely to be operating without a valid license than in 1998 (26 percent vs. 31 percent), but this is still higher than among fatally injured passenger vehicle drivers (15 percent).
- Forty-four percent of motorcyclist deaths in 2007 occurred in single-vehicle crashes, and 56 percent occurred in multiple-vehicle crashes.
- 58 percent of fatally injured motorcycle drivers were helmeted. Helmet use was lower, at 47 percent, for people killed as passengers on motorcycles.
- In the early 1980s the proportion of fatally injured motorcyclists 40 and older started to increase, rising from 9 percent of all rider deaths in 1982 to 15 percent in 1991 and 49 percent in 2007. However, the absolute number of motorcyclist deaths among all age groups has been climbing since 1999.
- Ninety-one percent of motorcyclists killed in 2007 were males.
- Sixty-three percent of the females who died in motorcycle crashes in 2007 were passengers, and their deaths represented 91 percent of the passenger deaths. Ninety-nine percent of the males who died were drivers.
- Engine sizes of motorcycles whose drivers were killed in crashes went up dramatically in the last few years. Among motorcycle drivers killed in 2007, 23 percent drove motorcycles with engine size larger than 1,400 cc, compared to 9 percent in 2000 and less than 1 percent in 1990.
- Among the motorcycles whose drivers were killed in 2007, 76 percent of touring bikes had engines larger than 1,400 cc, while 98 percent of super sport bikes had engines of sizes 1,000 cc or smaller.
- Seventy-two percent of fatally injured drivers of cruisers or standards in 2007 were at least 40 years old, compared with 90 percent of touring bike drivers. Sixty-five percent of fatally injured super sport drivers in 2007 were younger than 30.
- At 89 percent, helmet use was highest among fatally injured drivers of sport-touring motorcycles in 2007. Seventy-four percent of fatally injured super sport drivers and 69 percent of sport/unclad sport drivers were helmeted in 2007. Forty-nine percent of fatally injured drivers of cruisers and standards were helmeted.
- Seventy percent of motorcyclist deaths in 2007 occurred during the six months of April-September. Fatalities peaked during May and July and were lowest during December-February
- Forty-four percent of motorcyclist deaths in 2007 occurred on Saturday or Sunday

- Forty-four percent of motorcyclist deaths in 2007 occurred between 3 pm and 9 pm.
- More than half of motorcyclist deaths in 2007 occurred on major roads other than interstates and freeways.
- Twenty-eight percent of fatally injured motorcycle drivers in 2007 had a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) at or above 0.08 percent; among single-vehicle crashes this was 41 percent.
- Fifty-two percent of motorcycle drivers killed at night (9 pm - 6 am) in 2007 had BACs at or above 0.08 percent.

Reference: <http://www.msf-usa.org/>

http://www.iihs.org/research/fatality_facts_2007/motorcycles.html