

Ride Smart

A Biker's Perspective

Prepared By:

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In cooperation with:

Illinois Department of Transportation
Division of Traffic Safety

Ride Smart is a Choice!
It is YOUR Choice!

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- Check your Bike before each Ride
- Drink Alcohol and Ride
- Drugs and Ride
- Evaluate Medical condition to Ride

We all make choices in life. Why not take time and think about what Smart Riding Choices you want to make?

- Check your Bike before each Ride
- Drink Alcohol and Ride
- Drugs and Ride
- Evaluate Medical condition to Ride
- Be Aware on Ride

We all make choices in life. Why not take time and think about what Smart Riding Choices you want to make?

- Check your Bike before each Ride
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- Drugs and Ride
- Evaluate Medical condition to Ride
- Be Aware on Ride
- Assume you are seen

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- Type of Traffic

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- Type of Traffic
- Proper Braking

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- Check your Bike before each Ride
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- Drugs and Ride
- Evaluate Medical condition to Ride
- Be Aware on Ride
- Assume you are seen
- Type of Traffic
- Proper Braking
- Motorcycle Rider Safety Training Course

Based on Motorcycle Crashes in Illinois that
resulted in fatalities in 2011

Actions

- Determine the Root Causes
- Analyze the Root Causes

Root Causes

- Motorcycle Operator Impaired
- Right-of-Way Violations, Driver of Other Vehicle
- Motorcycle Operator Riding Skills
- Motorcycle Speed
- Motorcycle versus Animal
- Motorcycle Operator Fault
- Motorcycle Operator Medical Emergency
- Motorcycle Equipment
- Construction Zone - Road Condition

#1 - Root Cause

- Motorcycle Operator Impaired
 - Alcohol, Drugs, Alcohol & Drugs
 - 49 crashes resulted in 52 fatalities
 - 45 Operator
 - 7 Passenger
 - Contributory Cause:
 - Unable to negotiate curves
 - Hit fixed objects
 - Riding in group, rear ended other motorcycle(s)
 - All different types of Motorcycles

Motorcycle Operator Impaired

Age Group	Per Age Group
18 - 19	1
20 - 30	13
31 - 40	10
41 - 50	7
51 - 60	8
61 - 70	6
71 - 75	0

Motorcycle Operator Impaired

Time of Day - Day of Week

Time	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Time Total
12:00 - 2:00 AM	3			1	1	1		6
2:00 - 4:00 AM	2							2
4:00 - 6:00 AM	1				1			2
6:00 - 8:00 AM								0
8:00 - 10:00 AM	1						1	2
10:00 - 12:00 PM		1						1
12:00 - 2:00 PM				1			2	3
2:00 - 4:00 PM		1	1				4	6
4:00 - 6:00 PM	2	2				1	4	9
6:00 - 8:00 PM	5	1			1		2	9
8:00 - 10:00 PM		2	1		1	2	2	8
10:00 - 12:00 AM						1		1
Day Total	14	7	2	2	4	5	15	49

#2 - Root Cause

- Right-of-Way Violations - Driver of Other Vehicle
 - 36 Crashes resulted in 37 fatalities
 - 34 Operator
 - 3 Passenger
 - In 11 of those Crashes the Vehicle Driver was charged with DUI
 - Resulted in 11 of the 37 fatalities
 - 9 Operator
 - 2 Passenger
 - Contributory Cause:
 - Failing to yield Right-of-Way
 - Failing to reduce speed

Right-of-Way Violations, Driver of Other Vehicle

Age Group	Per Age Group
18 - 19	1
20 - 30	8
31 - 40	3
41 - 50	3
51 - 60	11
61 - 70	7
71 - 75	1

Right-of-Way Violations, Driver of Other Vehicle

Time of Day - Day of Week

Time	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Time Total
12:00 - 2:00 AM								0
2:00 - 4:00 AM								0
4:00 - 6:00 AM						1		1
6:00 - 8:00 AM					1	1		2
8:00 - 10:00 AM	1				1			2
10:00 - 12:00 PM		2			1		1	4
12:00 - 2:00 PM			1		2			3
2:00 - 4:00 PM	1		1			1	2	5
4:00 - 6:00 PM	2		1			2	2	7
6:00 - 8:00 PM			1	1		1	2	5
8:00 - 10:00 PM	1			1			3	5
10:00 - 12:00 AM					1		1	2
Day Total	5	2	4	2	6	6	11	

#3 - Root Cause

- Motorcycle Operator Riding Skills
 - 20 crashes resulted in 20 fatalities
 - 18 Operator
 - 2 Passenger
 - 4 did not have “M” Classification
 - 0 (ZERO) had Illinois Motorcycle Rider Safety Training
 - Contributory Cause:
 - Failing to negotiate curves
 - Panic stop – lost control
 - Rear braking only
 - Failing to judge stopping distance

Motorcycle Operator Riding Skills

Age Group	Per Age Group
18 - 19	0
20 - 30	3
31 - 40	4
41 - 50	3
51 - 60	5
61 - 70	3
71 - 75	0

Motorcycle Operator Riding Skills

Time of Day - Day of Week

Time	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Time Total
12:00 - 2:00 AM								0
2:00 - 4:00 AM					1			1
4:00 - 6:00 AM								0
6:00 - 8:00 AM								0
8:00 - 10:00 AM		1			1		1	3
10:00 - 12:00 PM						1	1	2
12:00 - 2:00 PM	2				1		1	4
2:00 - 4:00 PM	1			1			1	3
4:00 - 6:00 PM						1	1	2
6:00 - 8:00 PM		1	1			1	1	4
8:00 - 10:00 PM								0
10:00 - 12:00 AM			1					1
Day Total	3	2	2	1	3	3	6	

#4 - Root Cause

- Motorcycle Speed
 - 16 crashes resulted in 16 fatalities
 - 14 were Sport Bikes
 - Contributory Cause:
 - Speeds in excess of 100 MPH
 - Other vehicles cannot judge motorcycle distance
 - Lost control
 - Weaving in and out of traffic
 - Riding on one wheel
 - Passing on the shoulder
 - Passing at a cross street

Motorcycle Speed

Age Group	Per Age Group
18 - 19	1
20 - 30	8
31 - 40	3
41 - 50	2
51 - 60	2
61 - 70	0
71 - 75	0

Motorcycle Speed

Time of Day - Day of Week

Time	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Time Total
12:00 - 2:00 AM							1	1
2:00 - 4:00 AM								0
4:00 - 6:00 AM								0
6:00 - 8:00 AM				1				1
8:00 - 10:00 AM				2				2
10:00 - 12:00 PM								0
12:00 - 2:00 PM								0
2:00 - 4:00 PM			1					1
4:00 - 6:00 PM			2	1		2	1	6
6:00 - 8:00 PM	1							1
8:00 - 10:00 PM						1		1
10:00 - 12:00 AM		1		1			1	3
Day Total	1	1	3	5	0	3	3	

#5 - Root Cause

- Motorcycle versus Animal
 - 8 crashes resulted in 8 fatalities
 - 7 Operator
 - 1 Passenger
 - Contributory Cause:
 - Riding
 - Time of day (early morning and at dusk)
 - In country
 - Time of year (spring and fall)
 - Type of animals
 - Cows
 - Deer
 - Raccoon
 - Trying to avoid animal

Motorcycle vs Animal

Age Group	Per Age Group
18 - 19	1
20 - 30	0
31 - 40	0
41 - 50	2
51 - 60	2
61 - 70	2
71 - 75	0

Motorcycle vs Animal

Time of Day - Day of Week

Time	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Time Total
12:00 - 2:00 AM	1							1
2:00 - 4:00 AM					1			1
4:00 - 6:00 AM								0
6:00 - 8:00 AM						1		1
8:00 - 10:00 AM								0
10:00 - 12:00 PM								0
12:00 - 2:00 PM	1							1
2:00 - 4:00 PM				1				1
4:00 - 6:00 PM								0
6:00 - 8:00 PM							1	1
8:00 - 10:00 PM							1	1
10:00 - 12:00 AM		1						1
Day Total	2	1	0	1	1	1	2	

#6 - Root Cause

- Motorcycle Operator Fault
 - (not impaired nor speeding)*
 - 4 Crashes resulted in 4 fatalities
 - Contributory Cause:
 - Improper passing
 - Disregarding traffic signal or stop sign

Motorcycle Operator Fault

Age Group	Per Age Group
18 - 19	0
20 - 30	1
31 - 40	1
41 - 50	1
51 - 60	1
61 - 70	0
71 - 75	0

#7 - Root Cause

- Motorcycle Operator Medical Emergency
 - 3 Crashes resulted in 3 fatalities
 - Contributory Cause:
 - Heart related

Motorcycle Operator Medical Emergency

Age Group	Per Age Group
18 - 19	0
20 - 30	0
31 - 40	0
41 - 50	0
51 - 60	1
61 - 70	1
71 - 75	1

#8 - Root Cause

- Motorcycle Equipment
 - 2 Crashes resulted in 2 fatalities
 - Contributory Cause:
 - Worn front tire
 - Loose front wheel

Motorcycle Equipment

Age Group	Per Age Group
18 - 19	0
20 - 30	1
31 - 40	0
41 - 50	0
51 - 60	1
61 - 70	0
71 - 75	0

#9 - Root Cause

- Construction Zone – Road Conditions
 - 2 Crashes resulted in 2 fatalities
 - Contributory Causes:
 - Uneven surface
 - Pot hole

Construction Zone, Road Condition

Age Group	Per Age Group
18 - 19	0
20 - 30	1
31 - 40	1
41 - 50	0
51 - 60	0
61 - 70	0
71 - 75	0

Root Causes

- Motorcycle Operator Impaired
- Right-of-Way Violations, Driver of Other Vehicle
- Motorcycle Operator Riding Skills
- Motorcycle Speed
- Motorcycle versus Animal
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In Review

- 140 Motorcycle Fatal Crashes
- 144 Total Fatalities
 - 131 Operator Fatalities
 - 13 Passenger Fatalities
- 30 of the Operators had No “M” Classification
- One minor passenger (not a fatality)
- Only 17 of the Operators had taken the Illinois Motorcycle Rider Training Course

Motorcycle Operator Ages

Age Group	Per Age Group
18 - 19	4
20 - 30	35
31 - 40	22
41 - 50	18
51 - 60	38
61 - 70	19
71 - 75	2

Time of Day - Day of Week

Time	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Time Total
12:00 - 2:00 AM	4			1	1	1	1	8
2:00 - 4:00 AM	2				2			4
4:00 - 6:00 AM	1				1	1		3
6:00 - 8:00 AM				1	1	2		4
8:00 - 10:00 AM	2	1		2	2		3	10
10:00 - 12:00 PM		4			1	1	2	8
12:00 - 2:00 PM	3		2	1	3		4	13
2:00 - 4:00 PM	3	1	4	2		1	8	19
4:00 - 6:00 PM	4	2	4	2		6	8	26
6:00 - 8:00 PM	6	2	2	1	1	2	6	20
8:00 - 10:00 PM	1	2	2	1	2	3	6	17
10:00 - 12:00 AM		2	1	1	1	1	2	8
Day Total	26	14	15	12	15	18	40	

Key Point

Impaired Riding and Driving

- 49 Motorcyclist Impaired (52 Fatalities)
- 11 Right-of-Way Drivers Impaired (11 Fatalities)
- Equals 60 Crashes and 63 Fatalities

Impaired Riding and Driving

- 49 Motorcycle Operators Impaired (52 Fatalities)
- 11 Right-of-Way Drivers Impaired (11 Fatalities)
- Equals 60 Crashes and 63 Fatalities

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Future Choices and Actions

- Ride Smart Choices
- Develop “Ride Smart” programs
- Implement the programs
- Monitor the programs
- Improve programs as needed



Ride Smart, Ride Free!

Contact information

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