



MOTORCYCLE FACT SHEET

- In 2007, Kentucky reported 1,965 motorcycle collisions resulting in 105 fatalities.
- Motorcycle fatalities account for 11 percent of vehicle fatalities nationally, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.
- Nationally, there were 4,810 motorcyclists deaths in 2006.
- Fifty-six percent of all fatal motorcycle crashes in 2005 involved another vehicle in addition to the motorcycle in the crash.
- In 2005, 91 percent of the motorcycle operator fatalities in two-vehicle crashes involving a motorcycle and a passenger vehicle occurred on non-interstate roadways.
- In 2005, 50 percent of all two-vehicle crashes involving a motorcycle and a passenger vehicle in which the motorcycle operator died were intersection crashes.
- In the motorcycle crashes involving another motor vehicle, in nearly 40 percent the passenger vehicle was turning left in front of an oncoming motorcyclist.

MOTORCYCLE RISKS

- With warmer weather here, more motorcycles are back out on the road – and the drivers of passenger vehicles need to be alert.
- Motorcycles are small and may be difficult for drivers of other vehicles to see.

- Motorcycles have a much smaller profile than other vehicles. This can make it difficult to judge the speed and distance of an approaching motorcycle.
- After a crash, the drivers of other vehicles involved often say they never saw the motorcyclist and were unable to respond in time.
- In the event of a crash, a motorcyclist is much more vulnerable and in much greater danger physically than are other vehicle drivers.
- NHTSA estimates that 80 percent of motorcycle crashes injure or kill a motorcycle rider, while only 20 percent of passenger car crashes injure or kill a driver or passenger in the vehicle.
- In fact, per vehicle mile traveled, NHTSA estimates that in 2005, motorcyclists were about 37 times more likely than passenger car occupants to die in a traffic crash.

