

Quick Facts

Illinois Crash Information 2014

Motorcycles*

An evaluation of motor vehicle incidents involving motorcycles is important since motorcyclists are particularly vulnerable and motorcyclist fatalities contribute substantially to the number of traffic fatalities in Illinois.

	All Crashes	Crashes Involving Motorcycles
Crashes:	296,060	3,408
Fatal Crashes:	845	116
Injury Crashes:	61,081	2,418
Total People Involved:	691,312 ^a	6,557 ^a
Total Fatalities:	924 ^a	120 ^a
Total Non-Fatal Injuries:	84,649 ^a	2,845 ^a

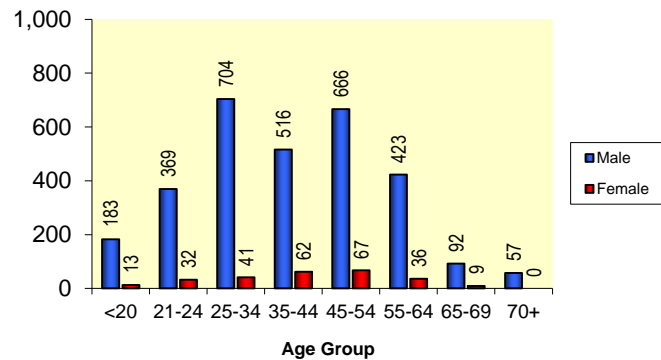
^aTotals include occupants and non-occupants; e.g. 691,312 total people = 683,188 occupants + 8,124 non-occupants

Just 3,408 (1.2%) of all 296,060 crashes that occurred in Illinois in 2014 involved motorcycles, yet these crashes accounted for 120 (13.0%) of all 924 traffic fatalities. Among the 120 motorcycle-related fatalities, 107 (89.2%) were among motorcycle operators, and 11 (9.2%) were among passengers on the motorcycles.

Demographics of Motorcycle Operators

- 3,030 (92.0%) of the 3,292 operators of motorcycles that were involved in crashes were male[†]
- 1,146 (35.0%) of the 3,271 were aged 21-34[‡]

Motorcycle Operators Involved in Crashes, by Age and Sex



Where age and sex were known

* Includes motorcycles, motorscooters, motorbikes and mopeds

[†] Where sex was known

[‡] Where age was known

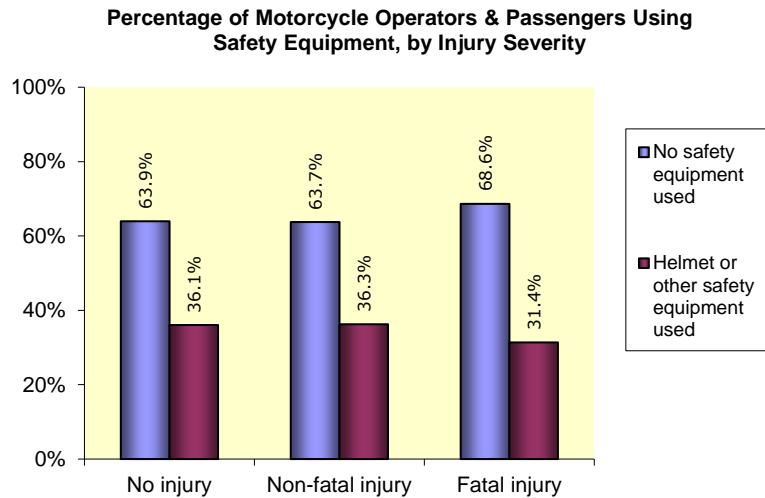
Note: Data as of November 12, 2015; with 296,060 crash records, 552,538 vehicle records and 692,412 person records.

The law regarding the reporting threshold for Property Damage Only crashes was amended effective January 1, 2009, resulting in decreased reporting of crashes in this specific category. It did not affect the reporting of injury or fatal crashes. For details of the reporting amendment, see also <http://app.idph.state.il.us/emsrpt/crash.asp>.

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Use of Safety Equipment

- Overall, just 1,379 (36.1%) of 3,823 motorcycle riders (operators and passengers) reported using helmets or other safety equipment.
- Riders who were fatally injured were less likely to have been using safety equipment.



Where safety equipment usage was known

Other characteristics of motorcycle-related crashes

- Excessive speed was a factor in 451 (13.2%) of all 3,408 crashes involving motorcycles[§]
 - In comparison, excessive speed was a factor in 38,264 (13.1%) of all 292,652 crashes that did not involve motorcycles
- Among all 3,521 motorcycles that were involved in crashes in Illinois in 2014 where collision type was known, 435 (12.4%) involved crashes into fixed objects
 - In comparison, 35,452 (6.5%) of all 549,017 other motor vehicles involved in crashes were in fixed object crashes (where collision type and vehicle type were known)
- 1,502 (44.1%) of all 3,408 motorcycle-related crashes were single-vehicle incidents involving the motorcycle itself and no other vehicle
- 406 (11.9%) of all 3,408 motorcycle-related crashes involved a collision between a motorcycle which was driving straight and an oncoming vehicle making a left turn

Geographic Facts

- 1,164 (34.2%) of all 3,408 crashes involving motorcycles took place in Cook County
 - In comparison, Cook County accounts for 29.5% of the annual vehicle miles traveled in Illinois**
- 2,185 (64.1%) of all 3,408 crashes involving motorcycles took place on roads or highways that were classified as "urban" use, but they were more likely to take place outside of the Chicago area than crashes not involving motorcycles:

	Crashes Involving One or More Motorcycles	Crashes Not Involving Motorcycles
	n (%)	n (%)
Chicago	671 (19.7%)	82,072 (28.0%)
Suburban Cook County	493 (14.5%)	60,720 (20.7%)
Chicago Collar Counties	678 (19.9%)	60,849 (20.8%)
Rest of State - Urban	738 (21.7%)	45,869 (15.7%)
Rest of State - Rural	828 (24.3%)	43,142 (14.7%)

Note: Counties were stratified according to criteria defined by the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System for the Illinois Department of Public Health
 URL: <http://app.idph.state.il.us/brfss/default.asp>

[§] Excessive speed includes crashes in which motorcyclists or any other driver in the crash was driving too fast for conditions or in which exceeding the speed limit or excessive speed for conditions was listed by police as a cause of the crash
^{**} Source: 2014 Illinois Travel Statistics, Illinois Department of Transportation