



CYCLE RIDER SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAM

2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT



Illinois Department
of Transportation

Illinois Department of Transportation
Cycle Rider Safety Training Program Annual Report



December 1, 2020 – November 30, 2021

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INTRODUCTION

Motorcyclists are some of the most vulnerable road users in Illinois. Historically, motorcyclists are more than ten (10) percent of Illinois' total roadway fatalities. It has become evident that a multi-dimensional approach to motorcycle safety is needed to prevent fatalities and serious injuries. The Motorcycle Safety Program in Illinois consists of outreach, education, and motorcyclist training.

One of the most effective approaches to reducing fatalities and serious injuries in the State of Illinois has been the development of the Cycle Rider Safety Training Program (CRSTP).

The CRSTP was created in 1976 by a state statute, passed by the Illinois state legislature. This law mandates that the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) establish a motorcycle operator safety training program that promotes motorcycle awareness. Since inception, over 400,000 students have been trained through the programs start in 1976.

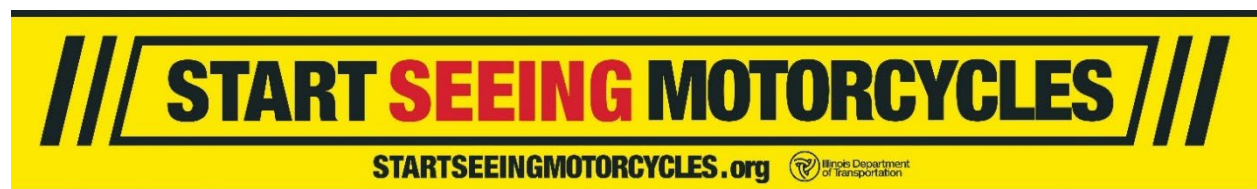
The CRSTP provides rider education of safe motorcycling principles for basic and experienced riders. This program has evolved beyond basic training courses and has become a comprehensive program for all riders. IDOT's goal is to provide motorcycle training to all with the inclination to ride. It is not the intent to entice people to ride motorcycles, but rather to train all who are interested in the benefits of training. The CRSTP is funded by Illinois motorcyclists through a portion of license endorsement and license plate fees. These funds are statutorily restricted to uses directly related to motorcycle training.

Another important aspect of motorcycle safety and this program is the Public Act 83-820, established on January 1, 1984. This law requires any person under the age of 18 to complete a training course and examination before receiving a license with a class "M" endorsement. Therefore, all people under the age of 18 must take the IDOT CRSTP course to become licensed in Illinois and gives IDOT the ability to ensure young riders have the training and education for safe riding.

The CRSTP and Motorcycle Safety Programs are important for the citizen of Illinois. This annual report will give an overview of both areas.

Anyone seeking further information, please contact:

Illinois Department of Transportation
Bureau of Safety Programs and Engineering
2300 South Dirksen Parkway
Springfield, IL 62764
217/782-3568



ILLINOIS MOTORCYCLISTS AT A GLANCE

Registered Vehicles

9,990,850 total registered vehicles in Illinois

Registered Motorcycle Riders

Class L: 9,519

Class M: 579,991

Total Class L & M: 589,510

Registered Motorcycles

Under 150cc: 22,261

Over 150cc: 250,482

Total registered: 272,743

2.7% of all registered vehicles in Illinois

2021 Motorcycle Crash Data

Motorcycle Fatal Crashes – 160

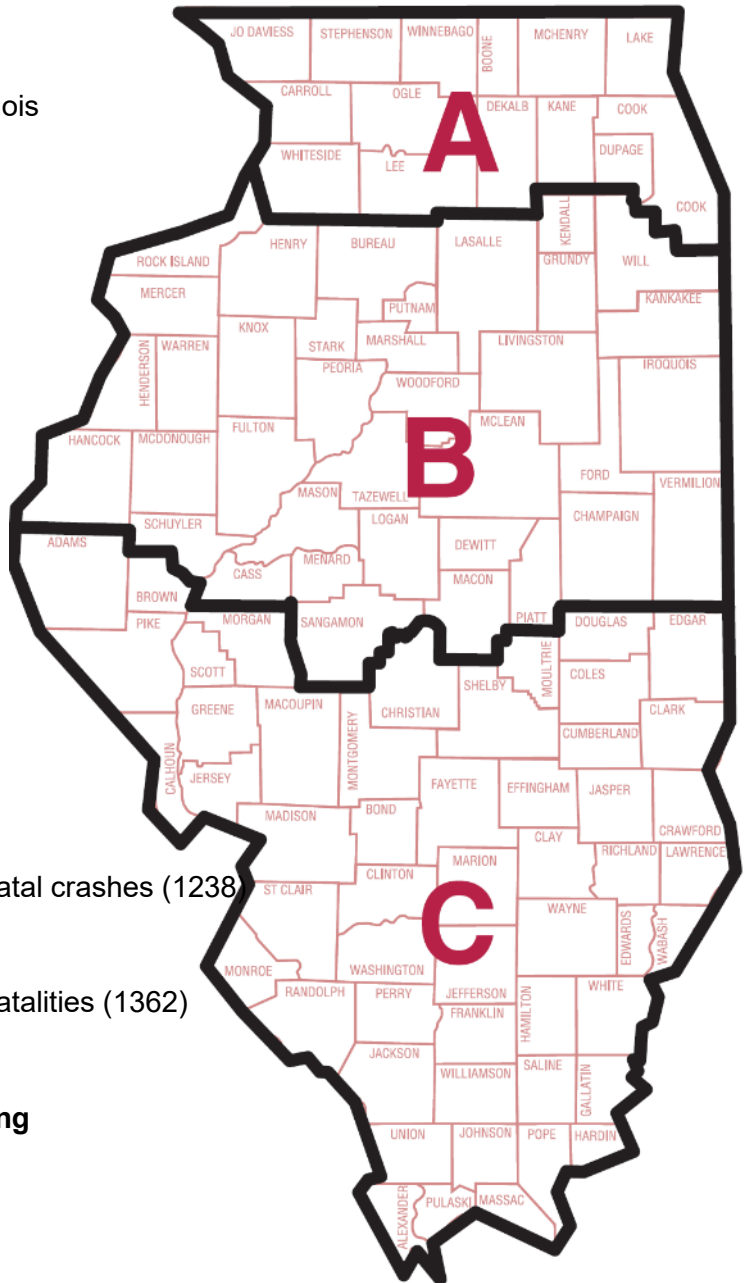
12.9% of the total motor vehicle fatal crashes (1238)

Motorcycle Fatalities – 168

12.3% of the total motor vehicle fatalities (1362)

2021 Motorcyclists Enrolled in CRSTP Training

9,107



MOTORCYCLE FATALITIES & CRASH STATISTICS

To understand the importance of motorcycle safety, it is imperative to understand the data surrounding motorcycle crashes. In 2020, there were 154 fatal crashes involving motorcycles on Illinois public roadways (up 12% from 2019), resulting in the deaths of 153 motorcycle operators and passengers (up 11% from 2019). Also, it should be noted that 66% of riders or passengers were not wearing helmets when they were involved in their fatal crash.

- The 154 fatal crashes involving motorcycles accounted for 14% of all fatal motor vehicle crashes occurring on Illinois public roadways in 2020.
- The 153 motorcyclists killed accounted for 13% of all motor vehicle fatalities in 2020. Of the 153 motorcyclists killed, 29% were younger than 30 years of age; 35% were age 30-49; and 36% were age 50 or older.
- The age group with the highest number of motorcyclist fatalities was 25-29. They had 19 (12%) fatalities.
- The average age of all motorcyclist fatalities in 2020 was 43. The youngest was age 16, and the oldest was age 82.
- Of the 153 motorcyclists killed, 143 were operators (140 male and 3 female) and 10 were passengers (all female).
- Of the 153 motorcyclists killed in 2020, 25% wore a DOT-compliant helmet, 6% wore a DOT-non-compliant helmet, 66% were not wearing a helmet, 2% wore a helmet unknown if DOT-compliant, and 1% were unknown or not reported if a helmet was worn.
- Of the 143 motorcycle operators killed in 2020, 64% were licensed to operate a motorcycle.



**Motorcyclists Killed and Seriously Injured
By Helmet Use, Age: 2014-2020**

Age/Helmet Use	Fatalities		Injuries		Total Fatalities	Total Injuries
	Male	Female	Male	Female		
0 - 8			5	2		7
Helmet Not Used			4	1		5
Helmet Used			1			1
Unknown/NA				1		1
9 - 15	1	1	22	11	2	33
DOT Compliant Helmet			1	2		3
Helmet Not Used	1	1	17	3	2	20
Helmet Used			3	3		6
Not DOT Compliant Helmet				1		1
Unknown/NA			1	2		3
16 - 20	37	4	235	52	41	287
DOT Compliant Helmet	7		28	6	7	34
Helmet Not Used	17	2	97	29	19	126
Helmet Used	13	2	96	14	15	110
Not DOT Compliant Helmet			4			4
Unknown/NA			10	3		13
21 - 34	278	24	1746	289	302	2035
DOT Compliant Helmet	33	2	185	24	35	209
Helmet Not Used	148	18	944	163	166	1107
Helmet Used	85	4	501	80	89	581
Not DOT Compliant Helmet	5		29	2	5	31
Unknown/NA	7		87	20	7	107
35 - 64	490	63	2746	618	553	3364
DOT Compliant Helmet	21	1	124	34	22	158
Helmet Not Used	397	51	1836	389	448	2225
Helmet Used	59	9	579	148	68	727
Not DOT Compliant Helmet	10	1	35	7	11	42
Unknown/NA	3	1	172	40	4	212
65 +	86	4	335	45	90	380
DOT Compliant Helmet	6	1	32	4	7	36
Helmet Not Used	60	2	189	16	62	205
Helmet Used	19	1	98	20	20	118
Not DOT Compliant Helmet	1		2	1	1	3
Unknown/NA			14	4		18
Age Unknown			29	9		38
DOT Compliant Helmet			1			1
Helmet Not Used			14	7		21
Helmet Used			11	2		13
Not DOT Compliant Helmet			1			1
Unknown/NA			2			2
Grand Total	892	96	5118	1026	988	6144

MOTORCYCLE TRAINING

The data confirms that motorcycle crashes are severe and result in a higher rate of death and serious injuries than four wheeled vehicles. One of the main efforts to reduce these incidents of motorcycle fatalities and crashes in Illinois is through the training of motorcyclist. The CRSTP provides rider education of safe motorcycling principles for basic and experienced riders. This is a comprehensive program for all riders. All classes are based on the Motorcycle Safety Foundation training curriculum and there are a wide range of classes based on the rider's skill level. The Cycle Rider Safety Training Program (CRSTP) has 38 training locations throughout the state. Several locations are set up for multiple training ranges for a total of 45 active training ranges.

The CRSTP has established grant agreements with two community colleges and one state university to act as the regional centers for administering the program. Training courses are offered at the regional centers or at any of the training sites within each designated region.

Currently, there are three regional centers operating with the program: Illinois Central College based out of Peoria, IL; William Rainey Harper College based out of Schaumburg, IL; and Southern Illinois University based out of Carbondale, IL. Each regional center conducts all classes within the boundaries of its assigned region.

In 2021, Illinois motorcycle training was significantly impacted due to the issues surrounding the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In a typical year roughly 14,500 motorcyclists enroll in the Illinois Cycle Rider Safety Training Program. In 2021, only 9,107 motorcyclists enrolled in the program. Of those enrolled, 8,022 completed the training program. 6,709 of those students successfully completed the training resulting in a license waiver.



REGIONAL CENTER INFORMATION

A

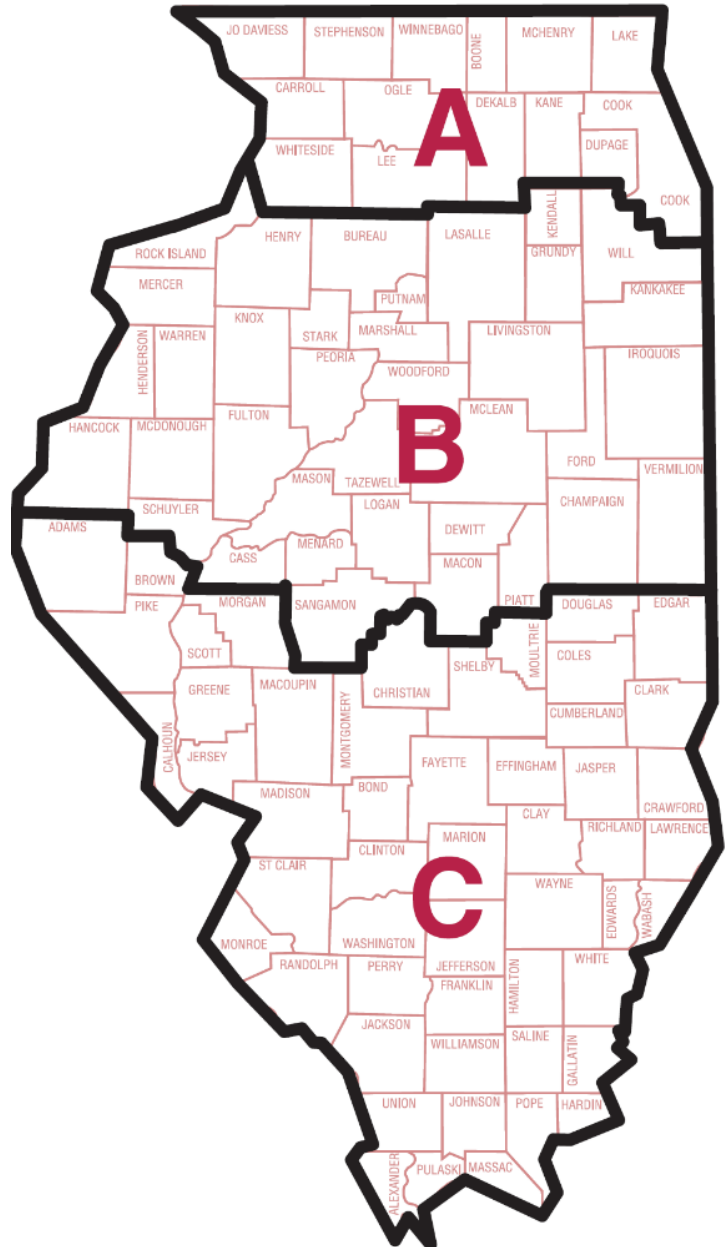
William Rainey Harper College
Motorcycle Safety Program
650 E. Higgins Road, Suite 17-S
Schaumburg, IL 60173-4741
847-925-6803
www.harpercollege.edu/motorcycle

B

Illinois Central College
Motorcycle Rider Safety Program
5407 N. University
Peoria, IL 61635-0001
309-690-6900
www.icc.edu/motorcycle

C

Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Motorcycle Rider Program
1435 Douglas Drive
Carbondale, IL 62901-2584
618-453-2877
www.mrp.siu.edu



COURSES OFFERED THROUGH THE REGIONAL CENTERS

Basic RiderCourse

The Basic RiderCourse (BRC) is an entry level 20-hour license waiver program that includes both classroom and on motorcycle instruction. It focuses on developing the basic riding skills of straight-line riding, turning, shifting and stopping. It also expands into the street riding skills of advanced turning, braking techniques, and swerving. Students learn and practice the mental skills needed to develop safe street-riding strategies and the ability to navigate special situations.

Basic RiderCourse 2

The Basic RiderCourse 2 (BRC2) is a license waiver course that offers an overview of the fundamentals of safe, responsible motorcycling and provides riders the opportunity to renew skills and acquire important knowledge for safe street operation. It is designed for riders with previous experience who are returning to motorcycling or who have ridden for some time without a license. These riders may be returning riders who already passed the BRC but do not have their own motorcycle; riders who would like additional training and practice before riding on the street; or experienced dirt bike riders who want to start riding on the street.

Three Wheeled Basic RiderCourse

The Three Wheeled Basic RiderCourse (3WBRC) is an entry level license waiver program that includes both classroom and three-wheeled motorcycle instruction. It focuses on developing the basic riding skills of three-wheeled motorcycle familiarization, straight-line riding, turning, shifting and stopping. It also expands into the street riding skills of advanced turning, braking techniques, and swerving. Students learn and practice the mental skills needed to develop safe street-riding strategies and the ability to navigate special situations.

Advanced RiderCourse

The Advanced RiderCourse (ARC) is a course designed for experienced riders. It provides participants with the opportunity to practice precise steering techniques and correct braking methods under controlled conditions in order to gain the knowledge necessary for further development of safe riding skills. Participants increase skills, knowledge and safety awareness while becoming familiar with motorcycle dynamics, survival strategies, emergency braking, countersteering and traction availability.

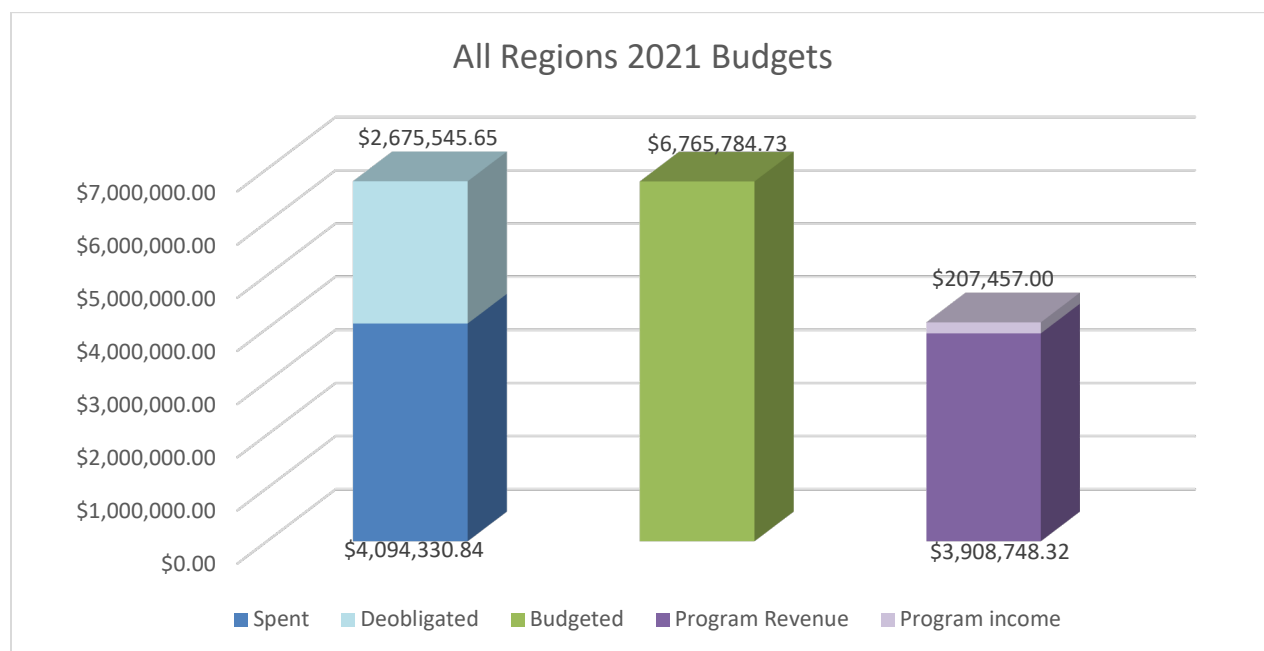
Instructor Preparation

Instructor Preparation (IP) is a course designed for experienced riders who are interested in becoming a Motorcycle Safety Foundation certified instructor. This course is an application-based offering, based on each Regional Center's need for additional instructors. This course teaches potential instructor candidates how to safely conduct the BRC classroom and range sessions to ensure students are learning the required techniques of the BRC and for safe motorcycle operation on the road.

CRSTP FUNDING

The Cycle Rider Safety Training Program (CRSTP) is funded through the collection of \$5.00 from each license that has either a class L or M endorsement and 27 percent of each motorcycle registration. These funds are collected by the Illinois Secretary of State for both new registrations and each subsequent renewal. The funds are then deposited into the Cycle Rider Safety Training Fund to be used in the of the Cycle Rider Safety Training Program.

Another source of revenue is program income. All regional centers charge each student a \$20.00 registration fee that is fully refundable to the student upon completion of any CRSTP class. If the student would like to donate their registration fee to the program, the \$20.00 deposit will be placed in the income account. These funds are kept at the regional center and may only be used to further the CRSTP.



The graph above explains the budget for the 2021 training year. The olive “budgeted” column is the total amount of the three grant agreements issued to the regional centers. The blue “spent” column represents what was expended from that amount. The lighter blue portion shows budgeted funds that were de-obligated from the agreements. The purple column shows the funds the CRSTP received from license and registrations while the lighter purple portion of that column represents the amount of funds the colleges or university received from the income accounts.

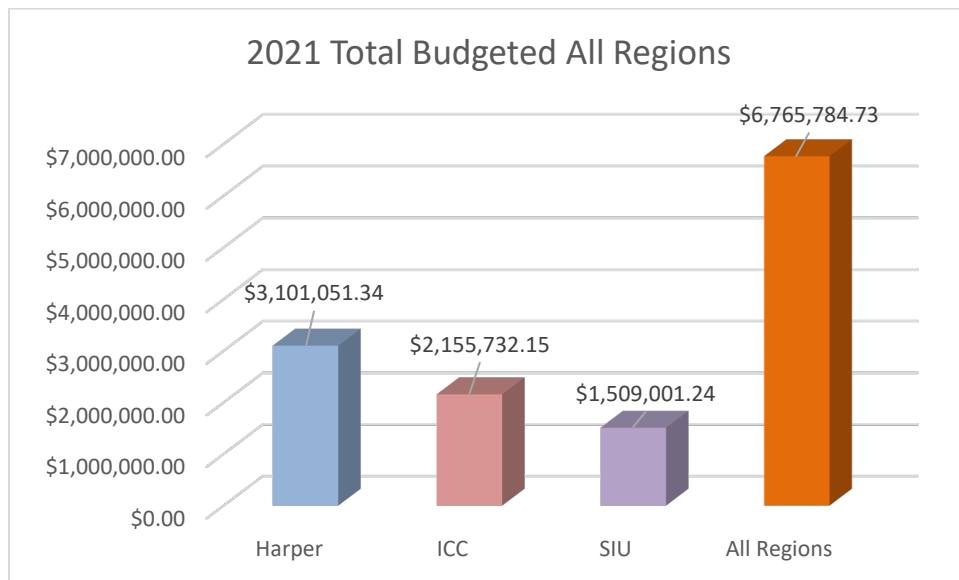
CARRY OVER FUNDS IN CRSTP

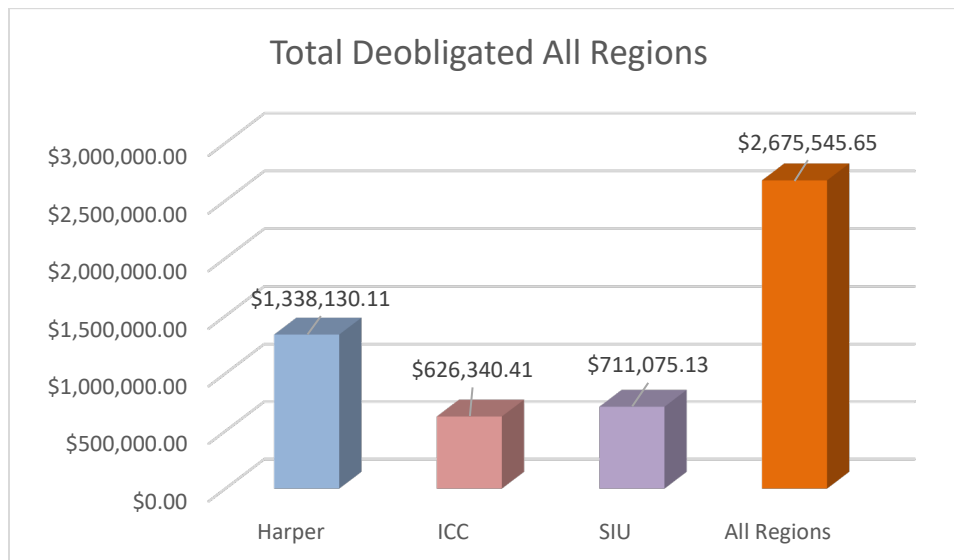
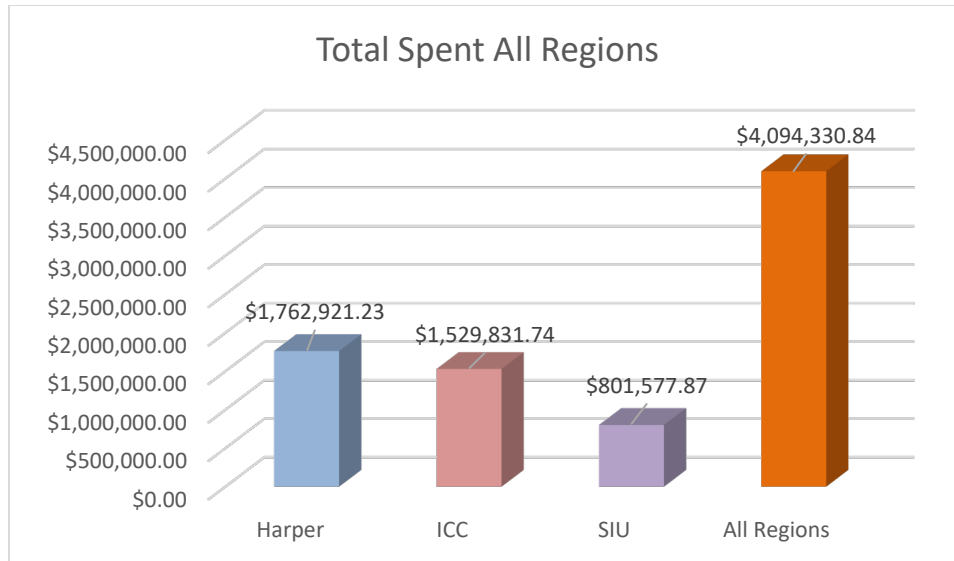
There are years in which the program receives more funds than it expends. Therefore, the CRSTP has carry over funds to be used in later years. In 2021, more funds were collected through fees and program income accounts than spent by the program. Overall, it shows there was a surplus of funds for 2021 in the amount of \$21,874.48*.

The overall CRSTP fund has an available balance of \$11,701,288.45*. This fund is made up of carry over funds and current funding obligations. The IDOT provides financial oversight, uses prudent financial management and actively monitors grantee financial agreements to ensure sufficient funding to provide continuous operation of the program.

SPENDING BREAKDOWN BY REGIONAL CENTER

These graphs show the 2021 budgeted amounts, expenditure and de-obligated funding for each regional center.





COST PER STUDENT TRAINED

Region	Budgeted \$ Expended	# Of Students Trained	Cost per Student
Harper	\$1,762,921.23	3,580	\$492.44
ICC	\$1,529,831.74	3,587	\$426.49
SIU	\$801,577.87	1,940	\$413.18
State-Wide	\$4,094,330.84	9107	\$449.58

MOTORCYCLE TRAINING RESULTS

2021 OVERALL TRAINING STATISTICS

The CRSTP training year runs annually from December 1st to November 30th with the active training season running from mid-March to the end of October. In 2021, Illinois enrolled 9,107 motorcyclists in IDOT's Cycle Rider Safety Training Program. Of those enrolled: 6894 successfully completed the training; 328 were walk-in students who were not pre-registered; and 145 students were turned away for training due to the courses being filled.

In the calendar year 2021, CRSTP courses were offered in 31 counties in Illinois. These counties accounted for 180,687 or 66.2% of Illinois' 272,743 registered motorcycles.

Course Type	% Male	% Female	% non-binary	Ave. Age Male	Ave. Age Female	Total # of Students
BRC	72.74	27.22	.02	33.69	35.29	8226
BRC2	88.06	11.94	0.0	41.41	38.20	536
3WBRC	51.80	48.20	0.0	52.55	50.01	139
ARC	84.46	15.54	0.0	46.81	38.71	148
IP	75.86	24.14	0.0	49.08	46.82	58
All courses	73.52	26.44	.02	34.81	35.90	9107



REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER RESULTS

WILLIAM RAINEY HARPER COLLEGE – REGION A

The regional center for Region A is located on the main campus of William Rainey Harper College, Schaumburg and operates additional 13 off-campus training sites throughout the 14 counties in the Northern Illinois that make up the region. Course offerings generally start in March and run until early November each year. William Rainey Harper College was designated as a regional center in 2014 after the regions were reorganized due to the loss of the Illinois State University regional center.

TRAINING NUMBERS, GENDER, AND AGE DEMOGRAPHICS

2021 Course Breakdown

Course Type	% Male	% Female	% non-binary	Ave. Age Male	Ave. Age Female	Total # of Students
BRC	75.37	24.63	0.0	34.26	35.05	3191
BRC2	88.75	11.25	0.0	41.76	36.16	160
3WBRC	51.80	48.20	0.0	52.55	50.01	139
ARC	75.81	24.19	0.0	45.63	46.86	62
IP	75.00	25.00	0.0	52.04	37.28	28
All courses	75.05	24.94	0.0	35.48	36.41	3580

*Classes offered were reduced due to COVID-19 mitigation policies and procedures.

CLASSES OFFERED:

Basic RiderCourse, Basic RiderCourse2 (intermediate), 3 Wheeled Basic RiderCourse, Advanced RiderCourse and Instructor Preparation Course

ILLINOIS CENTRAL COLLEGE - REGION B

The regional center for Region B is located on the campus of Illinois Central College, East Peoria and operates 10 additional off-campus training sites throughout the 36 counties in Central Illinois that make up the region. Course offerings generally start in March and run until early November each year. Illinois Central College was designated as a regional center in 2018 after the University of Illinois left the program.

TRAINING NUMBERS, GENDER, AND AGE DEMOGRAPHICS

2021 Course Breakdown

Course Type	% Male	% Female	% non-binary	Ave. Age Male	Ave. Age Female	Total # of Students
BRC	69.69	30.30	0.0	33.20	35.30	3283
BRC2	86.36	13.63	0.0	40.43	38.87	242
ARC	90.90	9.09	0.0	50.88	45.40	55
IP	57.14	42.85	0.0	44.25	31.66	7
All courses	71.11	28.88	0.0	34.16	35.45	3587

*Classes offered were reduced due to COVID-19 mitigation policies and procedures.

CLASSES OFFERED:

Basic RiderCourse, Basic RiderCourse2 (intermediate), 3 Wheeled Basic RiderCourse, Advanced Rider Course and Instructor Preparation Course



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY – REGION C

The regional center for Region C is located on the main campus of Southern Illinois University in Carbondale and operates 12 additional off-campus training sites throughout the 52 counties in Southern Illinois that make up the region. Course offerings generally start in March and run until early November each year. Southern Illinois University is currently the longest continuously running center in Illinois. In 2019, the Southern Illinois University's Motorcycle Rider Program celebrated its 50th anniversary as a regional center for the Cycle Rider Safety Training Program.

TRAINING NUMBERS, GENDER, AND AGE DEMOGRAPHICS

2021 Course Breakdown

Course Type	% Male	% Female	% non-binary	Ave. Age Male	Ave. Age Female	Total # of Students
BRC	73.69	26.14	.0017	33.48	35.67	1752
BRC2	90.30	9.70	0.0	42.69	39.30	134
ARC	90.32	9.68	0.0	51.67	49.00	31
IP	82.61	17.39	0.0	41.57	46.50	23
All courses	75.20	24.64	.0015	34.70	35.95	1940

*Classes offered were reduced due to COVID-19 mitigation policies and procedures.

CLASSES OFFERED:

Basic RiderCourse, Basic RiderCourse2 (intermediate), Advanced RiderCourse and Instructor Preparation Course



OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

Outside of the CRSTP, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) focuses efforts on educating all motorists on the safety, awareness, and vulnerability of motorcyclists. The intent of these efforts is to make motorists more aware of motorcycle riders and learn how to drive around them.

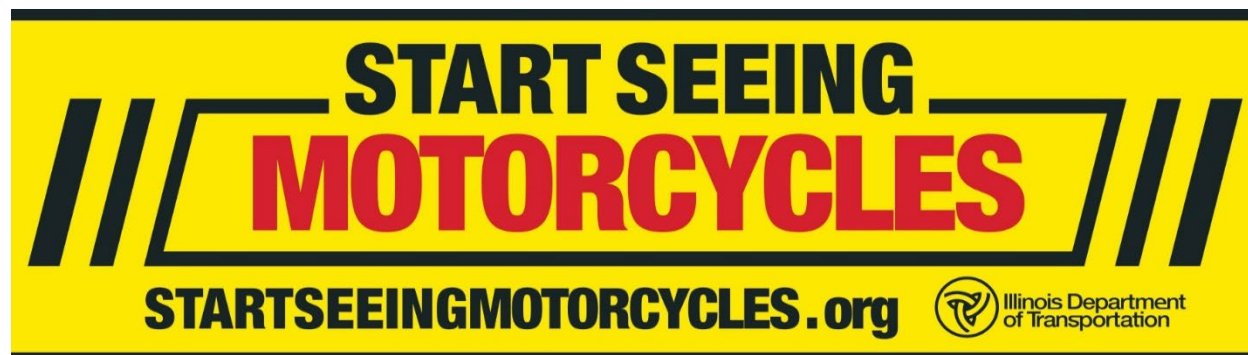
PAID MEDIA

One of the most influential awareness programs is the paid media program. IDOT considers paid media a vital and necessary part of highway safety. For the past few years, the Motorcycle Awareness Campaign focused on the person and families affected by a motorcycle crash. The actual commercials for the Motorcycle Awareness Campaign can be found at <https://lifeordeathillinois.com/>. IDOT spends roughly \$500,000 per year on this effort. Below is a chart of the viewership of the motorcycle paid media campaigns across all of Illinois in 2021.

Motorcycle Safety	
Broadcast TV Ads	51
Cable TV Ads	11,318
Broadcast Radio	3,119
Digital - Views, Clicks, Impressions	32,058,572

PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION MATERIALS

Beyond paid media, IDOT also creates and distributes a wide variety of Public Information and Education (PIE) materials. These range from banners and signs to leaflets and palm cards. PIE materials are offered free of charge from the IDOT website. Local and state partners can submit an order for materials and IDOT will fill the order based on availability. The Bureau of Safety Programs and Engineering distributed 49 banners, 1,408 yard signs and 4,813 brochures and palm cards to promote motorcycle awareness and training.



MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS MONTH

Each May is designated as Motorcycle Awareness Month. May was chosen as it typically is the beginning of the traditional riding season for motorcyclists in Illinois. Motorcycle Awareness Month provides the IDOT the opportunity to remind motorists that motorcycles are back on the road and to be on the lookout for them on the roads. Motorcycle Awareness Month has several focus areas:

Motorists Awareness of Motorcycles focuses on reminding motorists that motorcyclists have the same rights and privileges as any other vehicle operated on the road. It also aims to remind motorists the standard behaviors of operating a motorcycle and how to drive safety around them.

Rider Safety focuses on ways riders can increase their safety while riding and encourages riders to take one of our free training classes to enhance their riding skills.

Share the Road focuses on promoting motorcycle awareness and safety for both motorcycle riders and motor vehicle drivers.

Impaired Riding focuses on saving lives by encouraging motorcycle riders to make the choice to ride without using alcohol or impairing drugs.

WINDOW WASHING PROJECT

In the month of May, motorcycle chapters and organizations partner with the IDOT to promote awareness of motorcycles on the road. Volunteers wash vehicle windows and distribute motorcycle safety information at rest areas throughout the state, reminding motorists to start seeing motorcycles. Since the program began in 1987, motorcycle chapters and organizations have reached more than 35,000 motorists to alert them that May is Motorcycle Awareness Month and to remind drivers to share the road with motorcycles.

SAVED BY THE HELMET

Motorcycling is inherently dangerous, but research shows that a DOT-certified helmet is 37 percent effective in reducing motorcycle fatalities and 67 percent effective in reducing serious brain injuries in the event of a crash. To increase awareness of the benefits of helmets and to recognize riders who implemented this lifesaving strategy and survived a crash, the IDOT created the Saved by the Helmet award. This award is issued to survivors of motorcycle crashes that were wearing a helmet to promote helmet use in Illinois.



WINTER CONFERENCE

The IDOT hosts an annual winter conference for motorcycle safety professionals each December after the training season has concluded. The conference is the annual (in-state) training event for motorcycle training professionals in Illinois. Attendees are given insight into the latest issues facing motorcycle enthusiasts in Illinois. The information is delivered through a series of innovative presentations, lectures, and practitioner-led panels from knowledgeable presenters from around the state and nation. Throughout the conference, attendees can interact and network with peers and stakeholders. This conference was suspended for 2021 due to the ongoing COVID pandemic.

FUTURE OF THE PROGRAM

Motorcycle safety is always a focus for the IDOT and will continue to be. The Cycle Rider Safety Training Program (CRSTP) and Motorcycle Safety Unit will focus on expansion of new programs and training and the continuous improvement of all current programs.

The CRSTP will focus on expanding course offerings through the recruitment of new instructors, adding training sites and expanded course offerings. Another focus will be to increase enrollment in higher level classes such as the Basic RiderCourse 2 (BRC2), Three-Wheeled Basic RiderCourse (3WBRC) and Advanced RiderCourse (ARC).

The Motorcycle Safety Unit will concentrate on outreach activities to engage the public and the development of new educational programs. The unit will also plan on providing motorcycle information to Drivers Education classes throughout Illinois to educate young drivers and riders on motorcycle safety and training.