

2010 Colorado Motorcycle Fatalities Fact Sheet

TOTAL MOTORCYCLE FATALITIES

82 riders and passengers were killed in motorcycle crashes in 2010 (72 operators, 10 passengers).

- Motorcycle fatalities represented 18% of state's total traffic fatalities (82 of 448)
- Motorcycle fatalities were down 7% in 2010 from 88 in 2009 (and down by 16% from a record high of 98 fatalities in 2008.)
 - The decline in motorcycle deaths trends with the overall traffic fatalities, which were down 4% in 2010 and down 18% since 2008.

MOTORCYCLE REGISTRATIONS

Motorcycle Registrations continue to rise in Colorado, with 179,394 motorcycles registered in 2010, a 2.5% increase from 2009.

Motorcycles make up 3% of the state's total registered vehicles, yet motorcycle riders comprise 18% of traffic deaths.

2010 STATISTICS

- 33% of operators killed did not have a motorcycle endorsement on their driver's license, which is against the law
- 71% of riders were determined to be "at fault"
- 56% of the fatal crashes involved only the motorcycle and no other vehicle
- Nearly 2/3 were not wearing a helmet (66%)
- Information on the number of alcohol or drug-impaired riders in 2010 is not yet available.

FATALITIES BY AGE GROUP

Those age 40 and up were over-represented in 2010 fatalities, making up 70% of all fatalities.

Under 18	1	
20s	13	
30s	11	
40s	25	
50s	21	
60s	7	
70s	4	

FATALITIES BY COUNTY

- Denver County recorded the highest number of motorcycle fatalities in 2010, a significant jump in fatalities from just 3 in 2009 to 9 last year.
- El Paso, Jefferson and Pueblo counties recorded 8 each.
- Weld had 7, Adams had 6 and there were 5 each in the Boulder and Larimer counties.
- Notable smaller counties with motorcycle fatalities:
 - o Garfield 4
 - o La Plata 3
 - Dolores 3
 - o Gunnison 2

For more detailed information by county, please contact Heather Halpape, CDOT: 303-757-9484 or heather.halpape@dot.state.co.us