



## 2009 Motorcycle Fatalities Fact Sheet

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### TOTAL FATALITIES

88 riders and passengers were killed in motorcycle-related crashes in 2009.

- Motorcycle fatalities are down in 2009 by 10.2%, from a record high of 98 fatalities in 2008.
  - This trends with the overall traffic fatalities, which were down 14.6%.
- Motorcycle fatalities continue to rise in their representation of overall traffic fatalities. In 2009, motorcycles represented 19 % of Colorado's motor vehicle fatalities, compared to 18 % in 2008.

### MOTORCYCLE REGISTRATIONS

Motorcycle Registrations continue to rise in Colorado, with 174,915 motorcycles registered, a 3% increase from 2008.

### 2009 STATISTICS

- Nearly 2/3 were not wearing a helmet
- 40% of motorcycle fatalities involved an operator who had been drinking, up from 34% percent last year
- 33% did not have a motorcycle endorsement on their driver's license, which is against the law and indicates a lack of motorcycle training.
- 84% were male
- 72% of riders were determined to be "at fault"

### FATALITIES BY AGE GROUP

Those ages 45 to 64 were over represented in 2009 fatalities, making up 50% of all fatalities.

Under 18	1.14%
18-24	12.50%
25-34	17.05%
35-44	13.64%
45-54	27.27%
55-64	22.73%
65+	5.68%

### FATALITIES BY COUNTY

- Larimer County recorded the highest number of motorcycle fatalities in 2009, a significant jump in fatalities from just 3 in 2008 to 13 last year.
- El Paso County recorded 11, down from 15 in 2008.
- There were 7 motorcycle fatalities in each of the following counties: Jefferson, Adams, and Arapahoe. Boulder and Weld counties each had 6.
- 60% of fatalities occurred in the riders' home county.

### FATALITIES BY SEASON

Summer leads with 55% of fatalities occurring between May and August.

- May was highest fatality month with 13
- June and August each had 12
- July and October each had 11
- September had 8