



Kansas



1 of **28**

states and Puerto Rico where the Highway Safety Office is the lead agency for motorcycle safety.

1 of **12**

states, the District of Columbia and Guam that doesn't have a motorcycle safety plan.

¹ Kansas City Scout is Kansas City's bi-state traffic management system. The Kansas and Missouri departments of transportation designed Scout to lessen traffic jams by improving rush-hour speeds, to increase safety by decreasing the number of rush-hour accidents and to improve emergency response to traffic situations.

Year	Motor Vehicle Fatalities	Motor Vehicle Registrations	Motorcycle Fatalities	Motorcycle Registrations
2004	459	852,648	30	61,678
2005	428	865,196	35	66,810
2006	468 (463)	872,878	64 (62)	72,078

The data in parentheses was provided by the State of Kansas.


- In Kansas, motorcycle fatalities represented 6 percent of all motor vehicle fatalities but 7 percent of registered vehicles in 2004; 8 percent of fatalities but 8 percent of registered vehicles in 2005; and 13 percent of fatalities but 8 percent of registered vehicles in 2006.

GENERAL:

- The Kansas Bureau of Traffic Safety is the lead agency for motorcycle safety.
- Kansas has an active statewide motorcycle advisory committee. Members include: the Wichita & Topeka Police Departments, Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office, NHTSA, Kansas City Scout¹, the Kansas DOE, a Burlington High School driver education teacher, ABATE, the Kansas Highway Patrol and an emergency room doctor from Kansas University's Medical Trauma Center.
- Kansas does not have a motorcycle safety plan. Motorcycle safety is not part of the state's Strategic Highway Safety Plan.
- Motorcycle crashes are not a priority crash problem in Kansas.

RIDER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- The Kansas DOE is responsible for rider education and training.
- The MSF's Basic and Expert RiderCoursesSM as well as other specialized courses for scooters and trikes are offered in Kansas.
- Rider education is not required.
- Training capacity is an issue in Kansas. The wait can be as long as eight weeks. The state is looking at opening more training facilities to address the problem.
- Kansas has a *Sharing the Road* program. In the summer of 2007, the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) launched a *Sharing the Road* campaign. Billboard advertisements and local newspapers, in counties where more than 50 percent of all motorcycle crashes and fatalities occur, were used to educate motorists about sharing the road with motorcycles. Twelve billboards were rented for three months and placed in highly visible locations in these counties. Half page sharing the road advertisements were also placed in the major newspapers



in these counties during that period. The billboards were viewed by more than 300,000 every day and the newspapers have a total circulation of over 350,000 subscribers. KDOT also placed a sharing the road message in a special insert of the Wichita Eagle newspaper aimed toward motorcycle riders.

- Information on sharing the road with motorcyclists is included in the state's license manual and is also a component of the curriculum for new drivers.

LICENSING

- The minimum age for a motorcycle instruction permit is 14. The minimum age for a full motorcycle license is 16.
- Vision, knowledge and skills tests are required; however, the skills test may be waived for successful completion of a rider training course.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- Helmets are required for riders under 18.
- In 2006, 43 of the 64 riders killed in motorcycle crashes weren't wearing helmets.
- The benefits of helmet use are included in Kansas' rider training programs.

IMPAIRED MOTORCYCLING

- Information on the dangers of impaired driving is included in the state's rider training classes.
- Kansas encourages private organizations to conduct alcohol and drug free motorcycling events.
- There are no special training courses on the detection of impaired motorcyclists.
- Kansas' SFST program includes impaired motorcyclist detection tools. This NHTSA program provides training on the proper ways to conduct field sobriety testing and signs to look for with impaired drivers.
- All of the state's impaired driving mobilization campaigns include motorcyclists.

HIGHWAY ENGINEERING

- In work zones, signs are required for milled and uneven pavement.

RESOURCES AND FUNDING

- A portion of the motorcycle license fees funds the state's rider education program.
- Kansas received a 2010 Motorcyclist Safety Grant.
- In 2007, a federal 402 grant funded a *Sharing the Road* campaign for other drivers.
- \$5,000 in federal funding was annually obligated to motorcycle safety in 2004, 2005 and 2006.

1 of 9
states whose Strategic Highway Safety Plan doesn't include motorcycle safety.

1 of 8
states, the District of Columbia and Guam that hasn't identified motorcycle crashes as a priority crash problem.

1 of 21
states and Puerto Rico that includes motorcycles in highway engineering issues.