



# Arkansas

**1 of 3**

states without a state-run rider education and training program.

**1 of 16**

states, the District of Columbia and Guam without a motorcycle advisory committee.

**1 of 12**

states, the District of Columbia and Guam without a motorcycle safety plan.

**1 of 6**

states, the District of Columbia and Guam without a Sharing the Road program.

**1 of 27**

states and Puerto Rico with anti-impaired riding education efforts for motorcycle riders.

Year	Motor Vehicle Fatalities	Motor Vehicle Registrations	Motorcycle Fatalities	Motorcycle Registrations
2004	703 (721)	960,085	57 (68)	43,668
2005	654	951,430	63 (72)	50,100
2006	665	958,640	76 (87)	58,694

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

- In Arkansas, motorcycle fatalities represented 8 percent of all motor vehicle fatalities and 5 percent of registered vehicles in 2004; 10 percent of fatalities but 5 percent of registered vehicles in 2005; and 11 percent of fatalities but 6 percent of registered vehicles in 2006.

#### GENERAL

- Motorcycle safety will be included in the 2008 Arkansas Highway Safety Plan.
- The Arkansas State Police Highway Safety Office is seeking authorization to establish a statewide Motorcycle Safety Advisory Committee.
- Members will include representatives from: the MSF, ABATE, Riders Edge® and the Arkansas motorcycle dealership association.
- Arkansas has identified motorcycle crashes as a priority crash problem.
- Motorcycle safety is included in the state's Strategic Highway Safety Plan.

#### RIDER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- No state agency is responsible for rider education and training. Motorcycle training and education programs are operated by private companies in the state with no state oversight.
- Rider education is not mandatory in Arkansas.
- The majority of training and education programs in the state are offered by MSF certified instructors, ABATE and Harley Davidson.
- Arkansas does not have a *Sharing the Road* program.
- Information on sharing the road with motorcyclists is included in Arkansas' driving manual.

#### LICENSING

- The minimum age to obtain a motorcycle license or endorsement in Arkansas is 16. It is 14 for a motor driven cycle and 10 for a motorized bike.
- Vision, knowledge and skills or a road test are required.
- Operators are subject to citation and court ordered fines for operating a motorcycle without an endorsement.



#### **PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

- Helmets are required for drivers under 21.
- In 2006, 56 of the 76 people fatally injured in motorcycle crashes in Arkansas were not wearing helmets.

#### **IMPAIRED MOTORCYCLING**

- In 2007, the Arkansas State Police Highway Safety Office developed a *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.* television and radio announcement with specific emphasis on motorcycles.
- The Arkansas Highway Safety Office provides funding to the Criminal Justice Institute, the University of Arkansas System and to the Black River Technical College Law Enforcement Training Academy to provide Standard Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) Certification, as sanctioned by NHTSA, to Arkansas law enforcement officers statewide. Detection of impaired motorcyclists is included in those certification programs. This NHTSA program provides training on the proper ways to conduct field sobriety testing and signs to look for with impaired drivers.

#### **RESOURCES AND FUNDING**

- Arkansas does not have a motorcycle safety program.
- Arkansas did qualify for a 2010 Motorcyclist Safety Grant.
- In 2007, a 410 grant funded the production of television and radio advertisements on sobriety checkpoints and impaired driving with an emphasis on motorcycles.