



North Carolina

1 of 28

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

1 of 20

states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico that has a universal helmet law.

1 of 9

states and Puerto Rico with a program to help law enforcement identify non-compliant helmets.

1 of 17

states with an education effort to increase helmet use.

Year	Motor Vehicle Fatalities	Motor Vehicle Registrations	Motorcycle Fatalities	Motorcycle Registrations
2004	1,573	3,657,863	136	100,366
2005	1,547 (1,543)	3,583,762	152	105,376
2006	1,559	3,659,926	150	110,637

The data in parentheses was provided by the State of North Carolina.

- In North Carolina, motorcycle fatalities represented 7 percent of all motor vehicle fatalities but 3 percent of registered vehicles in 2004; 9 percent of fatalities but 3 percent of registered vehicles in 2005; and 9 percent of fatalities but 3 percent of registered vehicles in 2006.

GENERAL

- The North Carolina Governor’s Highway Safety Program (GHSP) is the lead agency for motorcycle safety.
- North Carolina has an active motorcycle advisory committee. Members include representatives from: the GHSP, the State Highway Patrol, the DOT, the Motorcycle Safety Education Program (Community College Rider Training), the Motorcyclist’s Education Foundation, local law enforcement, motorcycle riders groups (Retreads, ABATE, Motorcycle Riders Foundation), the North Carolina Motorcycle Dealers Association, the Military and private citizens.
- Motorcycle crashes are a priority crash problem in North Carolina.
- North Carolina has a motorcycle safety plan and motorcycle safety is included in the state’s Strategic Highway Safety Plan.

RIDER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- The GHSP and community colleges are responsible for rider training and education.
- The MSF’s courses are taught in community colleges across the state. Harley Davidson’s Rider’s Edge® program and the North Carolina *BikeSafe* Program, a ride-along and evaluation program with the State Highway Patrol and Municipal Law Enforcement Motor Officers, are offered in the state.
- North Carolina has a *Sharing the Road* program.
- Information on sharing the road with motorcycles is included in the state’s driving manual and in the mandatory curriculum for novice drivers.
- Training capacity is an issue in North Carolina. The wait in the spring ranges from three to 12 weeks and three to eight weeks in the fall. The state is always looking for new training sites.



LICENSING

- The minimum age for a motorcycle license/endorsement license is 18 (16 for a permit) in North Carolina.
- Department of Motor Vehicle publications, community college rider training courses, Harley Davidson Rider's Edge® Program, GHSP publications and NHTSA publications are used to encourage proper licensing.
- Law enforcement, motorcycle dealers, the DMV, rider education instructors and riders groups all work together to encourage proper licensing.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- North Carolina has a universal helmet law.
- In 2006, 14 of the 150 riders killed in crashes weren't wearing helmets.
- Education programs and DMV and GHSP publications are used to educate riders about the benefits of helmets.
- North Carolina provides training to law enforcement to help identify non-complaint helmets.

IMPAIRED MOTORCYCLING

- Rider education programs as well as DMV and GHSP publications are used to educate riders about the dangers of impaired driving.
- North Carolina encourages private organizations to conduct alcohol and drug free riding events.
- North Carolina has special programs to help law enforcement detect impaired riders and has special impaired rider enforcement campaigns.

HIGHWAY ENGINEERING

- Surface design (markings, warning strips, etc.), edge transformation, side road barriers and signs are used to warn motorcyclists of dangerous road conditions.

RESOURCES AND FUNDING

- \$3.00 dollars of every motorcycle registration fee and federal funding are used to support the state's rider education program.
- North Carolina received a 2010 Motorcyclist Safety Grant. Funds were used to: (1) support the community college training program; (2) develop a high school driver's education motorcycle awareness module; (3) develop the North Carolina *BikeSafe* program; and (4) create awareness publications.
- \$36,000, \$76,365 and \$45,000 of federal funds were obligated to motorcycle safety in 2004, 2005 and 2006, respectively.

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

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states and Puerto Rico with anti-impaired riding enforcement efforts.

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