



Year	Motor Vehicle Fatalities	Motor Vehicle Registrations	Motorcycle Fatalities	Motorcycle Registrations
2004	723	4,016,485	76 (70)	149,911
2005	747 (748)	3,957,193	61 (60)	158,889
2006	772 (770)	3,692,966	87 (89)	163,636

The data in parentheses was provided by the State of New Jersey.

- In New Jersey, motorcycle fatalities represented 11 percent of all motor vehicle fatalities but 4 percent of registered vehicles in 2004; 8 percent of fatalities but 4 percent of registered vehicles in 2005; and 11 percent of fatalities but 4 percent of registered vehicles in 2006.

**GENERAL**

- The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) and the Division of Highway Traffic Safety (DHTS) are the lead agencies for motorcycle safety.
- New Jersey does not have an active motorcycle advisory committee.
- Motorcycle crashes are a priority crash problem in New Jersey.
- Motorcycle safety is included in the Highway Traffic Safety Plan but not in the statewide comprehensive Strategic Highway Safety Plan.

**RIDER EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

- The New Jersey MVC is responsible for rider education and training.
- The MSF's Basic and Experienced RiderCourses<sup>SM</sup> are offered in the state. The Experienced RiderCourse<sup>SM</sup> is a two-point reduction defensive driving course.
- Rider education is not required.
- Training capacity is an issue in New Jersey. The wait for the basic course ranges from 45 to 60 days and 30 to 45 days for the experienced course. The MVC is pursuing new locations for the rider course and encourages other educational institutions to offer the course.
- New Jersey has a *Sharing the Road* program. The public information campaign includes placing billboard across the state with a *Be Alert, Watch for Motorcyclists* message. Brochures and public service announcements are scheduled for 2008. Bullnose signs (small signs in front of the toll booths) with the same message are also posted on the New Jersey Turnpike.
- Information on sharing the road with motorcyclists is included in the state's license manual. The state does not have a mandatory curriculum for driver education; however, information on sharing the road is addressed in driver education classes.

**1 of 20**  
states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico that has a universal helmet law.

**1 of 17**  
states with an education effort to increase helmet use.

**1 of 16**  
states, the District of Columbia and Guam without a motorcycle advisory committee.

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

**1 of 27**  
states and Puerto Rico with anti-impaired riding education efforts for motorcycle riders.



# New Jersey

- Motorcycle conspicuity and helmet use issues are addressed in the state's rider training programs and motorcycle driver manual.

## LICENSING

- The minimum age to receive a motorcycle license/endorsement is 17 in New Jersey.
- To receive a motorcycle license you must be at least 17 years old, pass the knowledge and vision tests to validate your permit to practice driving and pass a road test or pass a MSF Basic RiderCourse<sup>SM</sup> to receive a valid endorsement. A motorcycle permit is required before obtaining the endorsement or motorcycle license.
- To obtain a motorcycle permit, applicant must pass a vision, knowledge and road test. The permit to practice riding is good for 90 days.
- The road test is waived for all applicants who successfully complete the MSF Basic RiderCourse<sup>SM</sup>.
- Information on the importance of proper licensing is provided in the motorcycle driver manual. Information on training and licensing was recently added to the MVC website ([www.njridesafe.org](http://www.njridesafe.org)).

## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- New Jersey has a universal helmet law.
- In 2006, 11 of the 87 riders killed in crashes weren't wearing helmets.
- Information on the benefits of helmet use is provided in rider education programs offered in the state, through the website and in the rider manual.

## IMPAIRED MOTORCYCLING

- The MVC is developing a brochure on the dangers of impaired riding that will be distributed to dealers and rider groups. Currently, information on drinking and riding is addressed on the MVC website and in the Motorcycle Driver Manual and also discussed in the rider training classes.
- New Jersey encourages private organizations to conduct alcohol and drug free riding events.
- The state participates in the national campaign, *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.* Enforcement as well as public information initiatives are conducted during this campaign and all motorists, including motorcyclists, are included.

## RESOURCES AND FUNDING

- The Motorcycle Safety Education Fund, established by statute, is used by the MVC to defray the costs of the motorcycle safety education program. \$5.00 of every motorcycle license/endorsement fee is deposited in this dedicated fund.
- New Jersey received a 2010 Motorcyclist Safety Grant. Funds were used to launch a *Sharing the Road* campaign.
- \$132,246 of federal funding was obligated to motorcycle safety in 2006.