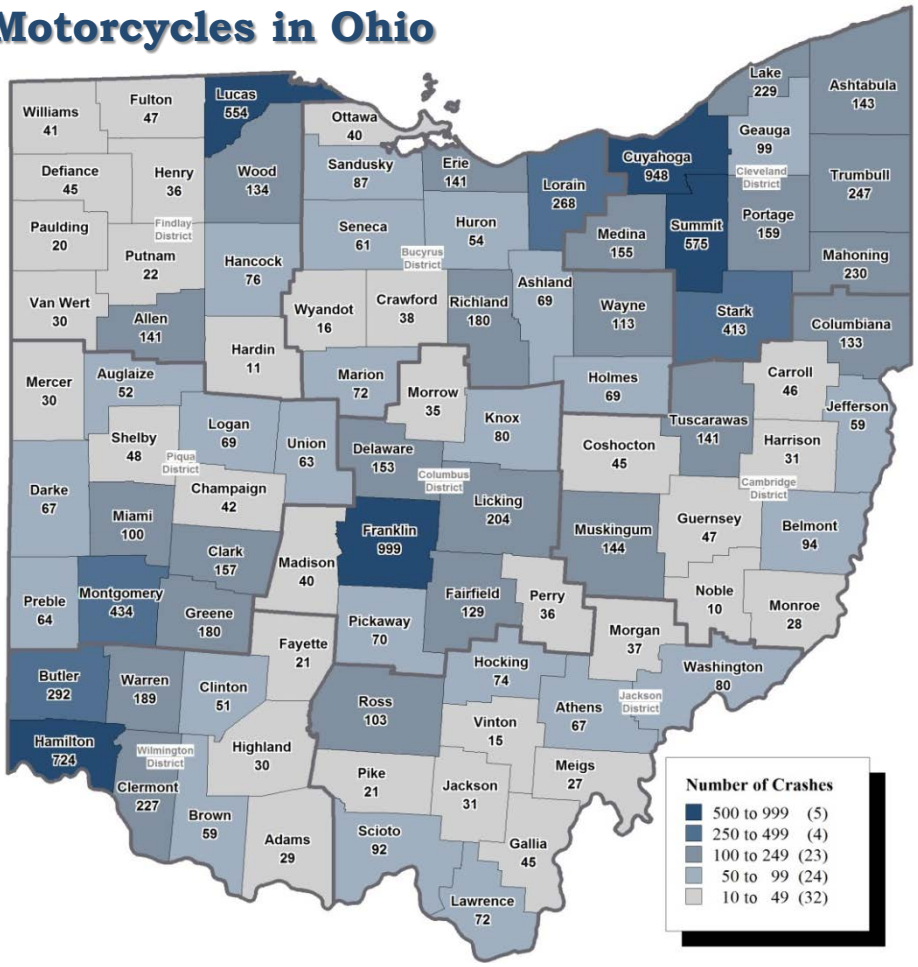
Traffic Safety Bulletin

May 2015

Motorcycles in Ohio



Map and Table:
2012 - 2014 Motorcycle Crashes

OSHP District	Number of Crashes
Findlay	1,157
Bucyrus	1,208
Cleveland	3,198
Piqua	1,306
Columbus	1,746
Cambridge	778
Wilmington	1,622
Jackson	664
Total	11,679

Ohio Motorcycle Crashes

- **From 2012 to 2014, a total of 11,679[1] crashes involving motorcycles occurred in Ohio. These crashes resulted in 440 fatalities (14% of all fatalities) and 10,749 injuries. Eighty percent (80%) of motorcycle-involved crashes resulted in some form of injury, ranging from possible injuries to fatal injuries.**
- **According to NHTSA[2], based on the total number of miles driven, motorcycle riders were 26 times more likely to die in a traffic crash than a passenger car occupant in 2012 (the most recent year available).**
- **Motorcycle drivers were at-fault in 55% of all motorcycle-involved crashes from 2012 to 2014. For fatal crashes, the number rises to 64%. In 60% of motorcycle-involved crashes, the motorcycle driver had no motorcycle license endorsement.**
- **In 40% of motorcycle-involved fatal crashes from 2012 to 2014, the motorcycle driver was impaired by alcohol and/or drugs. This is well above the 34% impairment rate for all fatal crashes. Impaired driving motorcycle-involved crashes resulted in 177 fatalities and 1,054 injuries.**
- **From 2012 to 2014, two-thirds of motorcyclists killed in crashes were not wearing helmets. Ohio only requires helmets for drivers under 18, drivers with less than 1 year of motorcycle driving experience and passengers on motorcycles where the driver is required to wear a helmet.**

OSHP Motorcycle Traffic Stops

- **OSHP troopers made 12,033 traffic stops involving a motorcycle from 2012 to 2014. Of these, 7,184 (60%) resulted in a citation. Officers also gave out 4,680 warnings to motorcycle drivers for various infractions.**
- **Of the 7,184 citations written, 59% included a speed violation. Twenty-two percent (22%) of citations issued included driving without a valid driver license or motorcycle endorsement. Only 3% included an OVI charge.**

[1] Data provisional as of 4/14/2015. [2] National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.