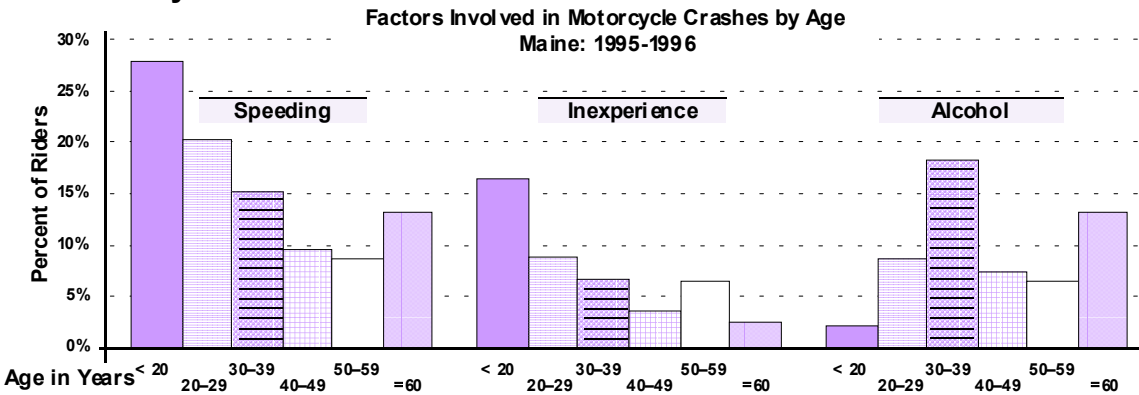
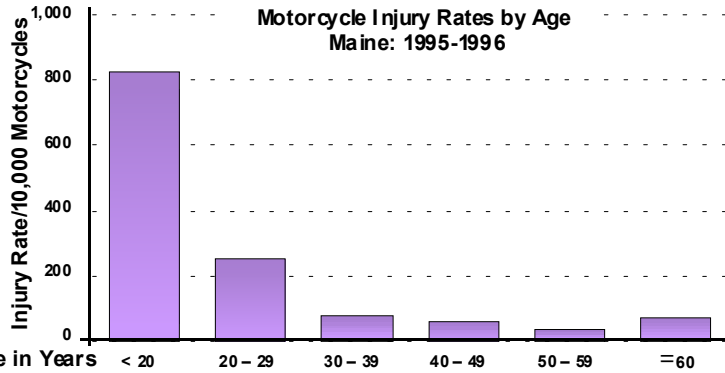


MOTORCYCLE CRASHES

Data are from the
CRASH OUTCOME DATA EVALUATION SYSTEM (CODES): 1995 – 1996

- ➔ During 1995 and 1996, 806 Maine motorcycle operators were involved in crashes*; 575 of them were injured; 25 of those who were injured died.
- ➔ The resulting injury rate was 104 injuries/10,000 Maine registered motorcycles. The highest rates were for the youngest riders - those younger than 20; the lowest rates were for riders 50-59 years old.
- ➔ Speed and inexperience were more likely to be factors in motorcycle crashes with teenage riders, while alcohol as a factor had higher rates for riders 30 – 39 years old.



- ➔ Approximately half of all Maine motorcyclists involved in crashes wore helmets while riding. Those who did not wear helmets were 3 times more likely to be transported by ambulance, to be hospitalized, or to die as the result of a head injury.
- ➔ More than twenty percent of injured riders were admitted to a hospital; they incurred \$2.8 million in hospital charges. The average charge for those with head injuries (\$28,200) was higher than for those with other types of injuries (\$20,400).
- ➔ Head injuries to riders who did not wear a helmet resulted in longer lengths of stay at hospitals (9 days) than those to riders who did wear helmets (4 days), and costlier stays (\$33,400 for those without helmets and \$14,600 for those with helmets).

Note: CODES is a data network comprised of information obtained from police traffic accident reports, hospital inpatient discharges, ambulance reports, and death certificates. The Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics, Emergency Medical Services, the Bureau of Highway Safety, the Department of Transportation, and the Maine Health Information Center (which was responsible for the linked data set and analysis appearing in this Fact Sheet) cooperated in this effort. The CODES linkage project was funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

* All motorcycle passengers (113) were excluded from this analysis. An additional 42 drivers were excluded due to missing information.

For further data on this topic, please contact:

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