# Ride Safe Summer Quick Facts

More than 90 motorcyclists died in the last three years on Washington roads (2019-2021). This is the highest number of motorcyclist fatalities in our state in the last 40 years (since 1982).

***Source: Washington Traffic Safety Commission (WTSC) – Research and Data Division***

For the last five years (2017-2021), an average of 88 motorcyclists died each year on Washington’s roads**. *Source: WTSC***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year | Total Traffic Fatalities | Motorcycle Fatalities | Percentage of Total |
| 2017 | 563 | 80 | 14% |
| 2018 | 539 | 80 | 15% |
| 2019 | 538 | 95 | 18% |
| 2020 | 574 | 93 | 16% |
| 2021 (preliminary) | 663 | 93 | 14% |
| **Totals** | **2,877** | **441** | **15%** |

Per vehicle mile traveled in 2019, motorcyclists were about 29 times more likely than passenger vehicle occupants to die in a crash and 4 times more likely to be seriously injured.

***Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)***

While motorcyclists are vulnerable road users and already face an elevated risk, many crashes resulted from dangerous behavior.

* 70% of fatal crashes last year were the result of rider behavior or rider error. When motorcycle riders engage in risky behavior, the consequences are often deadly.
* 53% of fatal crashes involved impairment with drugs or alcohol
* 47% of fatal crashes involved speeding

**Source: WTSC Coded Fatal Crash Files** <https://wtsc.wa.gov/research-data/fatalities-dashboard/>