

Ohio State Highway Patrol

Media Release

General Headquarters • Columbus, Ohio



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Patrol-AMA release motorcyclist point-of-view video and data of Top 10 dangerous Ohio roadways for motorcyclists

COLUMBUS – The Ohio State Highway Patrol and American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) released motorcyclist point-of-view video and data regarding the Top 10 roadway segments in Ohio with the highest frequency of fatal and injury crashes for motorcycles in the past six years. Today’s announcement comes as the two organizations continue their nationally recognized *Ride Smart. Drive Smart.* safety education partnership for a fourth consecutive riding season.

2002-2007 High-Frequency Fatal/Injury Crash Roadways for Motorcycles

County	Roadway	Fatal/Injury Motorcycle Crashes 2002-2007	Roadway segment
Cuyahoga	Interstate 480	69	MP 11 – MP 15
Franklin	Interstate 270	65	MP 33 – MP 43
Cuyahoga	Interstate 90	64	MP 169 – MP 174
Lake	U.S. Highway 20	56	Mentor
Franklin	Broad Street	50	Columbus
Franklin	High Street	49	Columbus
Hamilton	Harrison Avenue	48	Green Township
Ashtabula	State Route 534	48	MP 2 – MP 5
Franklin	Interstate 70	47	MP 100 – MP 105
Franklin	Interstate 71	44	MP 110 – MP 115

Motorcyclist point-of-view video segments were recorded by placing a video camera on-board with an Ohio State Highway Patrol motorcycle officer.

“Motorcyclists are much more vulnerable to being killed in a crash than motorists,” said Ohio Department of Public Safety Director Henry Guzmán. “The majority of motorcyclists involved in crashes have no formal training, making rider training a critical component to reducing motorcycle-related fatalities. We are encouraging all riders to take a training course, even if it is a refresher.”

Patrol and AMA officials hope today’s release provides emphasis and awareness toward the three key safety messages stressed in the *Ride Smart. Drive Smart.* program, which include:

- Ride trained/Ride licensed – ensuring riders have a valid motorcycle endorsement, quality motorcycle training, and proper safety equipment. Also, resources are provided to find examination stations. The Ohio Department of Public Safety’s Motorcycle Ohio office has 15 permanent training sites and 23 mobile sites for training around the state. The brochure with all the rider information about how to sign up and what riders need to be licensed, is online at: http://www.motorcycle.ohio.gov/MOP0027_MOInfoBook.pdf
- Ride sober – incorporating the AMA’s national Ride Straight program.
- Motorcycle awareness – Stressed importance for motor vehicle drivers being aware of motorcyclists.

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"The AMA applauds the Ohio State Highway Patrol for undertaking this initiative to better understand the safety challenges faced by Ohio's motorcyclists," said AMA President and CEO Rob Dingman. "The AMA strongly encourages riders to be knowledgeable, trained, licensed, properly attired and sober. Now, working collaboratively with the Highway Patrol, we will be better able to reach all road users with targeted messages to increase motorcycle safety and awareness."

In 2007 there were 4,982 crashes involving motorcycles, which included 190 motorcyclist fatalities accounting for almost 15 percent of the 1,257 traffic fatalities for the year. By combining focused enforcement, including the Patrol's increased emphasis in Ohio's major metropolitan areas, and public awareness, the Patrol and AMA hope to reduce motorcycle fatalities in Ohio this year.

"Given the warmer temperatures and the increases in gasoline prices, we recognize more Ohioans are turning to motorcycling for their transportation," Colonel Richard H. Collins, Patrol superintendent said. "It is important for motorists to be aware that there are more motorcycles on the roads and with that should focus on their surroundings when driving on Ohio's roadways."

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Note to editors: For the motorcyclist point-of-view video of Ohio's most dangerous motorcycle roads, contact your Columbus television affiliate, the Patrol's Public Affairs Unit, or visit <http://statepatrol.ohio.gov>

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