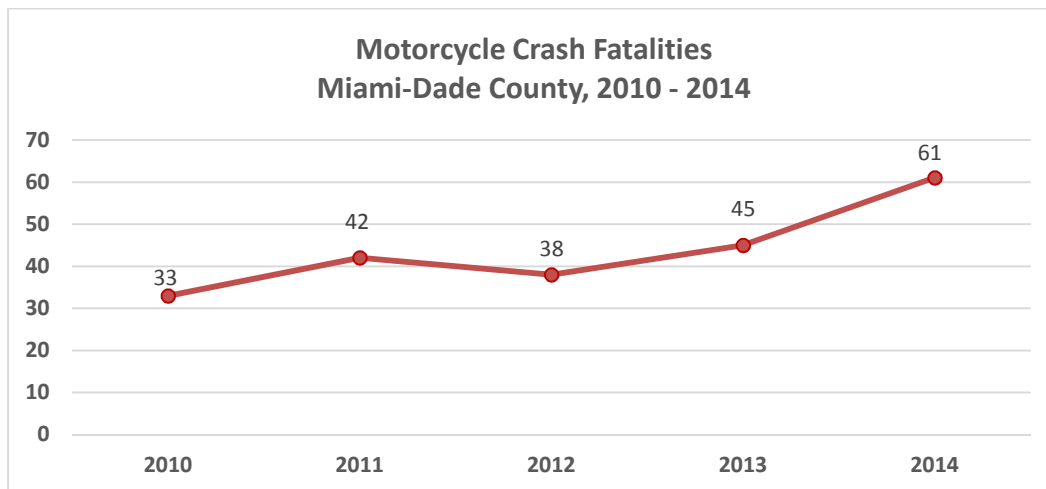


Fatal Motorcycle Crashes in Miami-Dade County, 2010 - 2014



Since 2010, 219 people have died from motorcycle crashes on Miami-Dade County roads and highways. The annual average number of motorcycle related deaths is double that prior to 2001 when the Florida Legislature passed a bill repealing the mandatory motorcycle helmet law. Between 2010 & 2012, the number of motorcycle deaths in Miami-Dade County remained fairly stable. Since 2012, however, the number of motorcycle deaths has increased 61%.

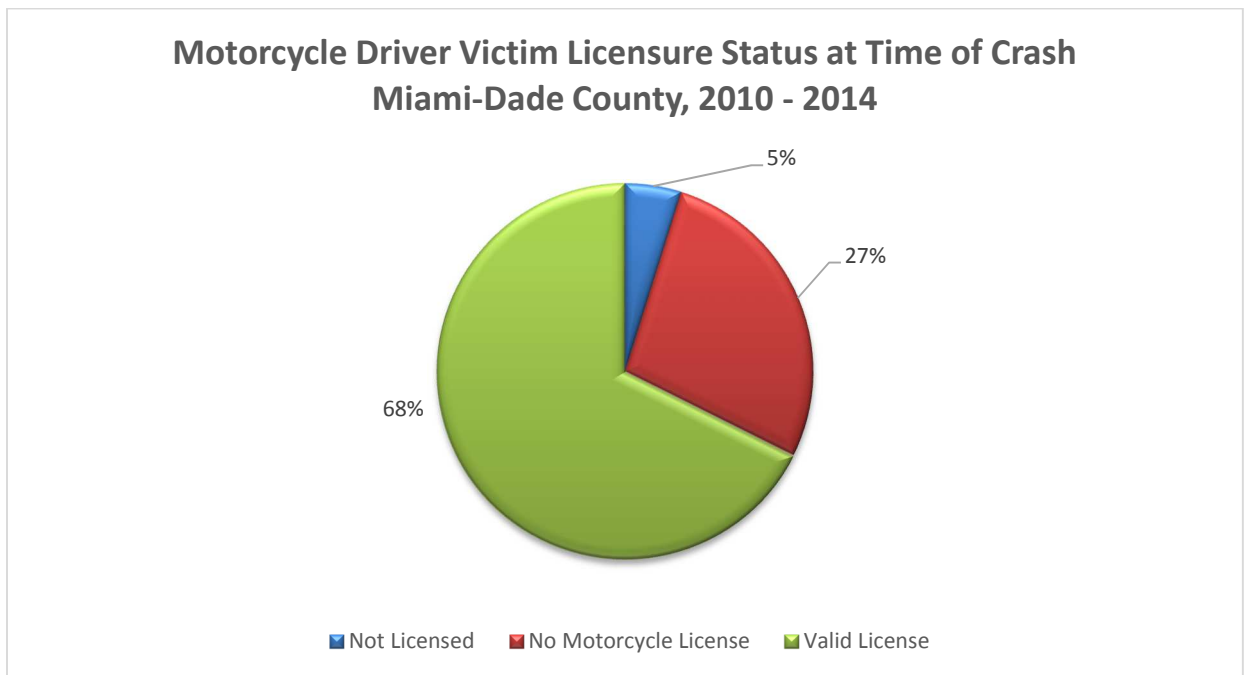
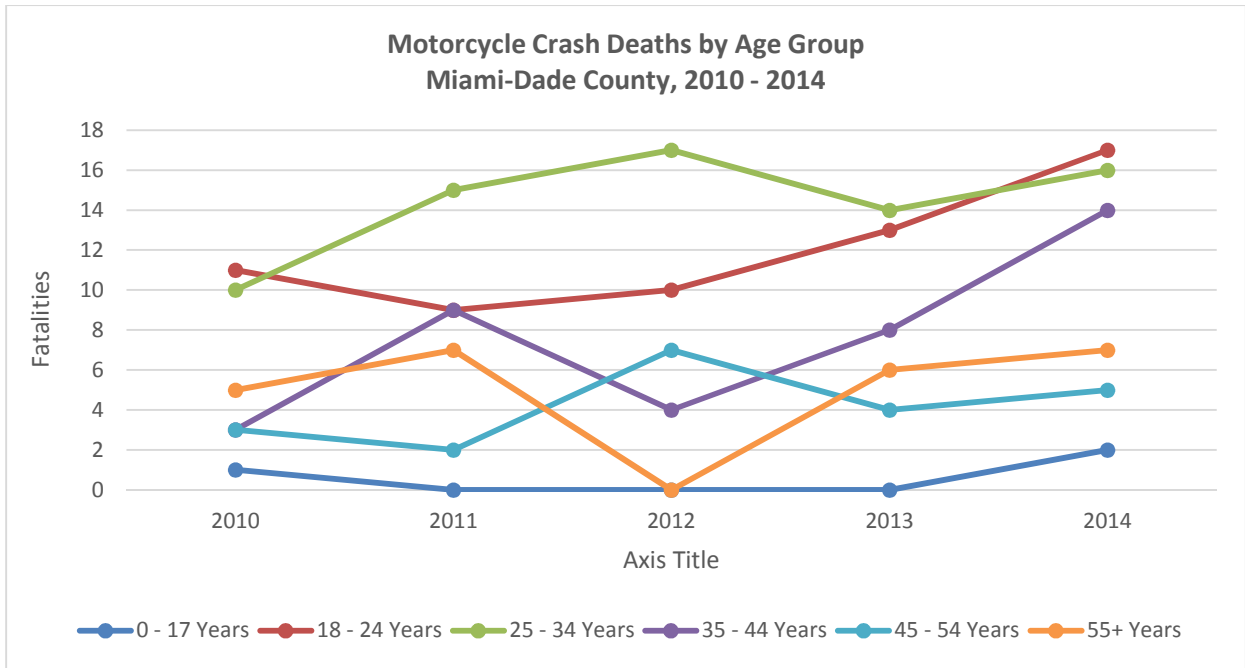


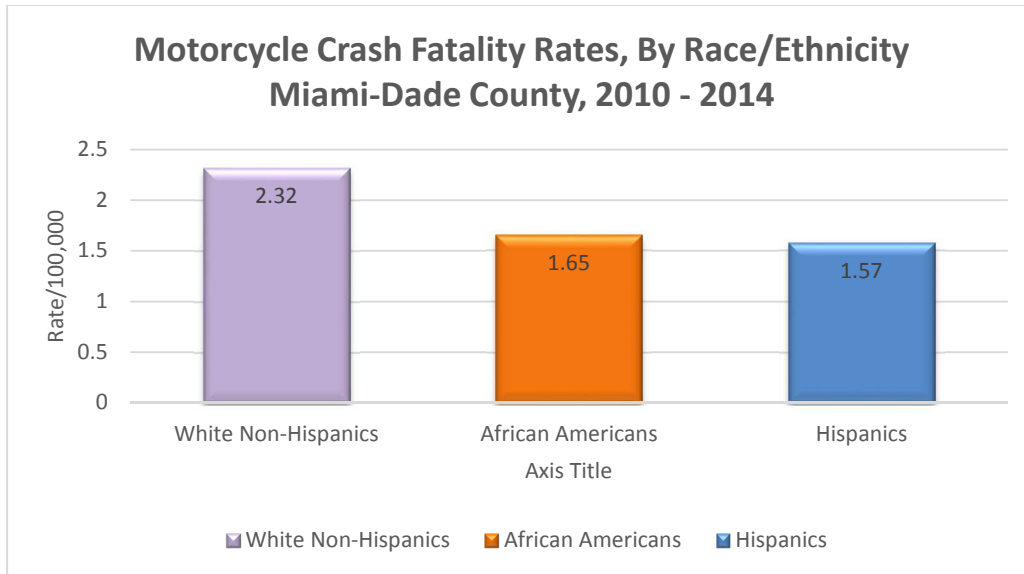
Groups at Risk

The characteristics of fatal motorcycle crash victims included:

- 95% of victims were male and 95% were drivers. There were 12 passenger victims among the 219 deaths over the five-year period.
- 60% of victims were between the ages of 18 and 34 years of age.
- Three children were killed as a result of a motorcycle crash during the five-year period.
- The number of motorcycle deaths among 35 – 44 year olds has steadily increased during the five-year period from 3 to 14 fatalities.
- 27% of driver victims did not possess a valid motorcycle license and another 5% did not have any license at all.

- 57% of motorcycle driver victims had at least one of the following in their driving record: previous speeding conviction, previous driving while under the influence conviction, previous crash history, or license suspension.
- Motorcycle Fatality Rates during the five-year period were highest among White Non-Hispanics. In 2014, however, motorcycle death rates among African Americans more than tripled from 2013 levels.





Motorcycle Safety Tips

1. Take a Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) class to learn the basic ways to control your motorcycle and learn how to recognize traffic situations that you need to be ready to handle.
2. Always wear protective clothing and a helmet. A tiny beanie helmet held on by a thin strap is not enough.
3. Maintain your bike so it is safe. Check your tire pressure BEFORE every ride. Keep records of the intervals when you replace tires, chains, clutch cables, batteries, brakes, etc. You don't want an equipment malfunction to contribute to a motorcycle accident.
4. Beware of oncoming motorists turning left in front of you at intersections. This is the leading cause of death of motorcycle riders. Leave plenty of room between you and the vehicle in front and stay out of blind spots. Slow down before you enter an intersection. Have an escape route planned. Don't travel too close to cars in front of you. Position your bike so it can be seen by the 'left turner'.
5. Never start across an intersection from a stop light without looking at the oncoming cross traffic. Someone may be running a light and heading right for you.
6. Do you need to make an evasive maneuver? Remember the bike goes where you look. Don't fixate on any object unless you want to hit it.
7. Don't allow Tailgating: If someone is tailgating you, either speed up to open more space or pull over and let them pass. Remember that a bike can stop faster than a car so you don't want a truck on your tail when you find yourself trying to brake to avoid an accident. Also, don't tailgate the vehicle in front of you. Oncoming drivers can't see you.
8. Assume Drivers Can't See You: When stopping in traffic, position your bike either to the left or right hand side of the lane and stop at least 8-10 feet from the car in front. This gives you a clear way out if the guy coming up behind doesn't stop.

9. **Avoid Riding at Night:** Avoid riding especially late Saturday night and early Sunday when drunken drivers may be on the road. It goes without saying that you shouldn't drink and ride.
10. **Ride Your Own Ride:** Many people get into trouble trying to keep up with a group who may be more experienced. Know your personal limits.

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DATA SOURCES: Death Certificates, Office of Vital Statistics, FL Department of Health
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