

# Motorcycles in Georgia



## In Georgia for 2003:

- There were 2,851 motorcycle crashes.
- Motorcycle crashes accounted for 7% of traffic fatalities, but only about 1% of crashes.
- The number of crashes increased by 17% and fatalities by 21% from 2002.

## Motorcycle Injuries in 2003:

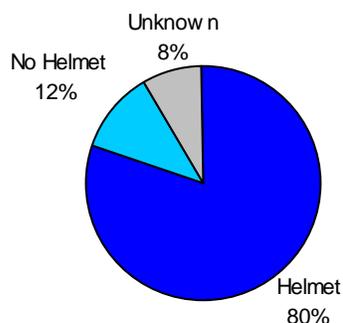


- A total of 103 motorcycle riders were killed and an additional 2,246 injured.
- Of all motorcycle riders in crashes, 56% had at least visible or more severe injuries compared to 4% of passenger car occupants involved in a crash.
- Males age 25 to 54 represented 61% of injuries and fatalities in motorcycles crashes.
- There were 652 motorcycle injury hospitalizations, which resulted in a total of \$24 million hospitalization charges.

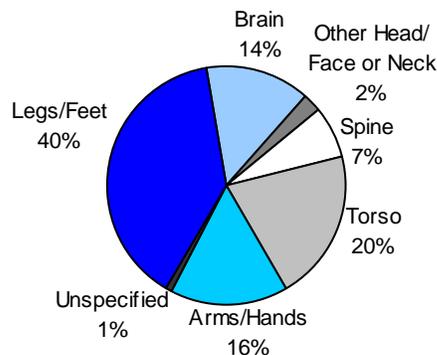
## License & Registration in 2003:

- Motorcycles made up 2% of all registered vehicles.
- Half of the motorcycle operators (50%) involved in fatal crashes in 2003 did not have a valid Class M permit or license. (*GA DMVS Crash Analysis, Statistics & Information (CASI) Notebook 1996-2003*)

**Helmet Use among Motorcycle Riders: 2003**



**Primary Injured Body Region among Hospitalized Motorcycle Riders: 2003**



- In 2003, 80% of Georgia motorcycle riders in a crash wore helmets compared to the national motorcycle helmet use rate of 58%. (*NHTSA*)
- Lower leg fracture accounted for 34% of the motorcycle hospitalizations.
- Since 1966, Georgia law has required that all motorcycle riders (operators and passengers) wear a helmet.
- After Kentucky and Louisiana repealed their helmet laws in 1998 and 1999, helmet use declined in those states. Motorcycle fatalities then increased in Kentucky (50%) and Louisiana (100%) following the repealed year. (*NHTSA*)
- Riders wearing helmets were 30% less likely to have a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) than riders not wearing helmets in Georgia in 2001.
- Motorcycle helmets reduce the risk of dying in a motorcycle crash by 37 percent. (*NHTSA*)
- **Between 2000-2003, helmets saved an estimated 171 lives in Georgia.**