

Motorcycle Safety Talking Points

We invite you to use the following talking points to help easily share the importance of motorcycle safety for riders and all other motorists. If you would like any additional information, please email us at dottrafficgrp@nd.gov.

In 2020 in North Dakota, 174 motorcycle crashes occurred. Those crashes resulted in 17 fatalities and 160 injuries. A motorcycle crash occurred about every 2 days. (NDDOT).

Nearly 93.1% of all reported motorcycle crashes resulted in injury or death. (NDDOT)

Motorcycle safety is for everyone on the road. To reach Vision Zero's goal of zero fatalities and serious injuries on North Dakota roads, it is important for motorists and motorcyclists to do their part.

Over the past 10 years, the number of motorcycle licensed drivers in North Dakota has increased by 16.8%. That means motorists are sharing the road with more motorcycle riders than ever before. So, it's more important than ever to wear All the Gear, All the Time (ATGATT). (NDDOT)

Motorcycle crashes often cause brain injuries, broken bones, damage to internal organs, and deep cuts and lacerations that can lead to deadly infections. Wear All the Gear, All the Time (ATGATT). That means a well-fitting and DOT-compliant helmet, face protection, full riding suit (one piece or pants and jacket), boots, gloves, rain gear, and hearing protection.

Motorcyclists should always ride sober and obey all traffic laws. Don't convince yourself you won't crash. Even the best riders can crash. In fact, 82% of all motorcycle fatalities in North Dakota were not wearing a helmet in 2020 and 35% involved alcohol. Speed was also another significant contributing factor in 27.9% of the fatal motorcycle crashes in the past 5 years (2016-2020). (NDDOT)

Take a class. In partnership with ABATE of North Dakota, the North Dakota Motorcycle Safety Program offers beginner and experienced rider classes. In addition to teaching you techniques and maneuvers to stay safe on the road, they also provide great tips on bike maintenance and checking your T-CLOCS.

Motorists can prevent a crash with motorcyclists by checking all mirrors and blind spots, staying back, and looking for motorcyclists, especially at intersections.

Share the road with motorcyclists. Do not try to share a lane with a motorcycle - they have the same right of way as any other vehicle, including the full lane width. When following a motorcycle, passenger vehicles and trucks should allow more distance between themselves and the bike.

Alert driving can help minimize injuries and fatalities from crashes between motor vehicles and motorcycles. As a motorist or motorcyclist, take personal responsibility and help us meet our goal of Vision Zero.