



# Students Killed in Motorcycle Crashes 2011-2016

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**Objective:** Determine how many riders killed in crashes in Oregon took TEAM OREGON training.

**Method:** Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) reported 278 (preliminary) rider fatalities in 2011-2016. TEAM OREGON searched publicly available sources and found names of 268 riders killed in motorcycle crashes in Oregon in 2011-2016. TEAM OREGON then searched its 2008-2016 training records to determine how many of the fatally-injured riders had taken a TEAM OREGON course. Of particular interest were fatally-injured riders who took a basic or intermediate (i.e. licensing) course.

**Results:** The total number of individuals who took TEAM OREGON training from 2011-2016 was 64,958. A total of 33 riders (13 percent) killed in Oregon motorcycle crashes from 2011-2016 took a TEAM OREGON basic course from 2008-2016. A total of 17 (6 percent) took an intermediate course. Of these 50 riders, 11 (4 percent) took a basic or intermediate course the same calendar year as their death. Two riders (<1 percent) took TEAM OREGON Rider Skills Practice. One rider (<0.5 percent) took Advanced Rider Training.

Motorcyclists Killed 2011-2016	Basic or Intermediate Training Participants Killed 2011-2016	Percent
268	50	19

Due to the difference between preliminary ODOT fatality counts (278) and those used in this analysis (268), the percentage of training participants killed could vary +/- 4 percent.

**Discussion:** According to the 2012 ODOT Motorcycle Rider Survey, 66 percent of Oregon motorcycle owners had taken basic or intermediate training (50 and 16 percent, respectively). By extension, the number of individuals killed who had taken a basic or intermediate course should be about 66 percent. The actual number killed is 19 percent. This suggests that individuals who took rider training were underrepresented in fatal crashes.

This analysis did not control for variables such as rider exposure, pre-course riding experience, types of crashes, at-fault status or other crash factors. For the individuals killed who took training, test scores and instructor comments are available but were not assessed. Narratives in news articles and police reports were not assessed. These sources may provide detail and further insight into rider training and fatal crashes.

**Conclusions:** There appears to be a correlation between rider training course completion and reduced fatal crash outcomes. More study is needed.