

RIDER DOWN REPORT

JANUARY 2023

A monthly update of motorcycle mishaps that occurred throughout the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. The reported data reflects the time period covered with exceptions noted.



This report is based on preliminary information and is provided for hazard awareness and training purposes only. The Naval Safety Command recommends motorcycle safety representatives use this information for training and mentorship programs and forward to others who may have an interest.



Obtain official mishap data from the Naval Safety Command

Navy	Total mishaps this report: 20 Total fatalities this report: 3	Marine Corps
Rider fatalities this report: 2 Rider fatalities for FY 23: 5		Rider fatalities this report: 1 Rider fatalities for FY 23: 1

Be the Cause of Motorcycle Mishap Prevention

By Juan D. Aguilar
Naval Safety Command

Motor vehicle accidents can occur at any time of day or night. A National Highway Traffic Safety Administration report stated 5,579 motorcyclists and passengers died and 84,000 were injured in 2020 alone. Figure 1 shows 37 reported Navy motorcycle rider fatalities from fiscal year (FY) 2021 to January 2023. The Marines reported 19 motorcycle fatalities, as depicted in Figure 2. There is no break from mishaps, and the holidays are no exception. If anything, a significant mishap increase is prevalent before, during, and around the festivities. The holidays entail visiting friends and loved ones and long-distance driving—a little celebration with increased alcohol consumption. Add two wheels and impaired riders and results may vary!

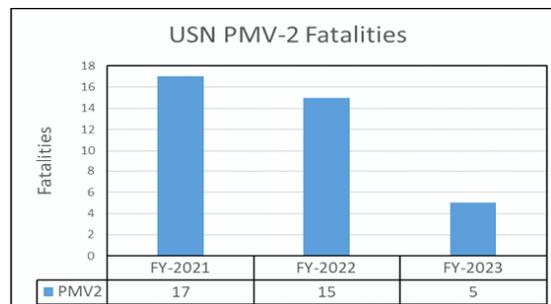


Figure 1 depicts 37 Navy reported motorcycle fatalities between FY21 and January 2023.

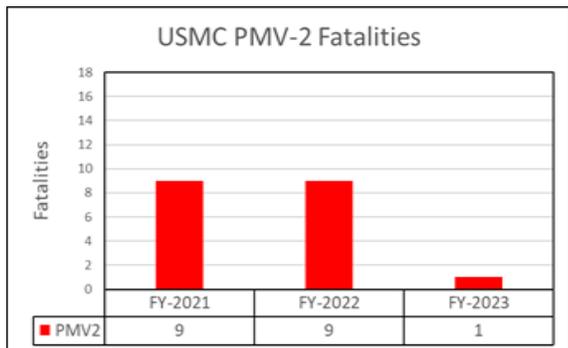


Figure 2 depicts 19 USMC reported motorcycle fatalities between FY21 and January 2023.

There is no single cause when it comes to motorcycle accidents. Accidents can result from various factors such as speeding, not wearing a helmet, lane splitting, other drivers' unexpected driving maneuvers, road conditions, weather conditions or even driving under the influence. Many mishaps are preventable through training. Obey the rules of the road, especially during inclement weather. Slow down, be extra cautious, and arrive alive. Dress appropriately and dress for safety. Do not dress to impress. Road rash on the knees and elbows does not look good on anyone. Despite the technological advances in medicine, Humpty Dumpty cannot be put back together again. Wear your helmet and all required riding gear. Additional educational material is available at <https://msf-usa.org/library/>. If you see something, report it. Look at the person beside you at the upcoming liberty brief or safety stand-down; one of you may not survive the upcoming holidays this year. Discuss the mishaps on the next page with your riders and help promote motorcycle awareness.

This month, most of the mishaps occurred commuting to and from work. They were mostly due to vehicles not paying attention or not being aware of their surroundings. You've heard this before, but remember, you can see vehicles quicker than they can see you. Riders, please remain extra vigilant on the roadways, and make every effort to ensure they can see you by staying out of their blind spots or at least make sure they can hear you when needed.

Strive to stay alive.



Motorcycle Mishaps

JANUARY 2023



Motorcycle Mishap Legend

NR represents information not reported

Red entries represent Marine Corps-specific mishaps

Fatal Mishaps (All times local)

Jan. 6, time NR, age NR, O-2
Location: Ventura County, California
Remarks: Rider was involved in a fatal motorcycle accident.

Jan. 13, time NR, age NR, E-6
Location: San Diego, California
Remarks: Rider was involved in a motorcycle accident. Rider was transported to a local hospital and succumbed to injuries on January 22.

Jan. 14, 7:06 a.m., age NR, E-5 Location: San Diego, California
Remarks: Rider was involved in a motorcycle accident and pronounced deceased by emergency personnel.

Nonfatal Mishaps (All times local)(17)

Jan. 5, 5:30 a.m., age NR, O-2
Location: Chesapeake, Virginia
Remarks: Rider hit a bump in the road while traveling to work and lost control. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for minor injuries.

Jan. 5, 9 p.m., 21-year-old, E-4
Location: Jacksonville, North Carolina
Remarks: Rider was involved in a motorcycle accident. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for two fractured arms.

Jan. 6, 8 p.m., 22-year-old, E-3
Location: Newport News, Virginia
Remarks: Rider laid bike down to avoid a collision. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for injuries.

Jan. 7, 1 p.m., 23-year-old, E-5
Location: Oceanside, California
Remarks: Rider was struck by a merging PMV-4, resulting in a crash into a concrete barrier. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for hip, ankle and rib fractures and a collapsed left lung.

Jan. 8, 12 a.m., age NR, O-2
Location: Jacksonville, Florida
Remarks: Rider avoided a PMV-4 that swerved into their lane and was thrown from motorcycle. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for minor road rash to both hands and forearms.

Jan. 9, 7:45 a.m., age NR, E-5
Location: Jacksonville, Florida
Remarks: Rider struck the back of a PMV-4 when they slammed on their brakes. Rider did not go to hospital.

Jan. 10, 12:45 p.m., 24-year-old, E-4
Location: Daytona Beach, Florida
Remarks: Rider was involved in a collision. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for a head and ankle injury.

Jan. 11, 5:30 p.m., 32-year-old, E-5
Location: Temecula, California
Remarks: Rider was struck by a PMV-4 that failed to stop at a stop sign. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for injuries sustained.

Jan. 14, 12:30 p.m., 20-year-old, E-4
Location: Jacksonville, Florida
Remarks: Rider lost control riding over a gravel patch in a parking lot. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for road rash to both arms and legs.

Jan. 17, 2:15 p.m., age NR, E-3
Location: Pensacola, Florida
Remarks: Rider was struck by a PMV-4 that pulled out into lane. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for a pelvic fracture.

Jan. 22, 7 a.m., age NR, E-4
Location: Honolulu, Hawaii
Remarks: Rider was involved in a motorcycle accident. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for fractures on both legs and wrists.

Jan. 22, 4:30 p.m., 33-year-old, E-7
Location: Jacksonville, Florida
Remarks: Rider lost control traversing the entrance ramp to a highway. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for fractured vertebrae and other multiple injuries

Jan. 23, 3 p.m., 24-year-old, E-5
Location: Coronado, California
Remarks: Rider was forced off the road and fell off motorcycle. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for fractured wrist.

Jan. 24, 2:08 p.m., 24-year-old, rank NR
Location: San Diego, California
Remarks: Rider was involved in an accident. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for severe injuries.

Jan. 25, 8:45 p.m., 38-year-old E-7
Location: San Diego, California
Remarks: Rider was transiting home and was struck by a PMV-4. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for a broken leg.

Jan. 26, 8:30 p.m., age NR, E-6
Location: Carriere, Mississippi
Remarks: Rider lost control on a rough concrete bridge. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for a sprained wrist.

Jan. 28, 10 p.m., 20-year-old, E-5
Location: Honolulu, Hawaii
Remarks: Rider hit a concrete barrier and was ejected from the bike. Rider was transported to the local hospital and was treated for fractured bones in the neck and face, road rash and received stitches on their hand.

View Rider Down reports at
navalsafetycommand.navy.mil/Resources/Motorcycle-Rider-Down-Reports-Newsletters