

Motorcycle-Deer Crash Stats (1991–2012)

1991–2012 Total

Motorcyclists Deer Crash Deaths

57



6% of total rider deaths during those years

2013 Total

Motorcyclists Deer Crash Deaths

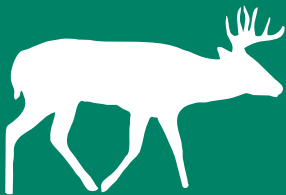
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13% of total rider deaths to-date in 2013

Fatalities resulting from a collision with a deer are an emerging trend within the last decade. During 2002–2012, 48 motorcyclists have been killed in a crash with a deer, nearly five times more than the 10 deaths between 1991–2001. 2013 is on pace to be the deadliest year with rider deer crashes.

DNR Deer Stats



Deer population
900,000–1,000,000

Deer harvested by
hunters each year
150,000–200,000

Habitat and range

White-tailed deer live in prairies, forests, swamps, wood lots and agricultural fields. They are common in both suburban and rural areas. Deer become a traffic hazard when crossing highways.

Reproduction

White-tailed deer mate from November to early December. Their young (often two fawns, weighing eight pounds each) are born seven months later. During the mating season, male deer (bucks) travel widely in search of females (does). It is at this time they become a real hazard on roadways.

Safety Tips:

Deer are unpredictable, it is important for riders to be alert and focused on riding. Also wear full protective gear, including a DOT-approved helmet.



When encountering an animal slow down and use both brakes to stop. If a larger animal, like a deer, jumps out in front of you, use emergency braking (applying both front and rear brakes) to stop as quickly as possible. If you are unable to stop in time and/or contact is imminent after maximum braking, and you have room in the lane, release the brakes and attempt to swerve slowly behind the animal.

Rider training is an affordable, potentially life-saving option. Training is important for beginning, as well as experienced riders, to sharpen skills and improve crash-avoidance techniques.

To receive more riding tips and training information go to motorcyclesafety.org

