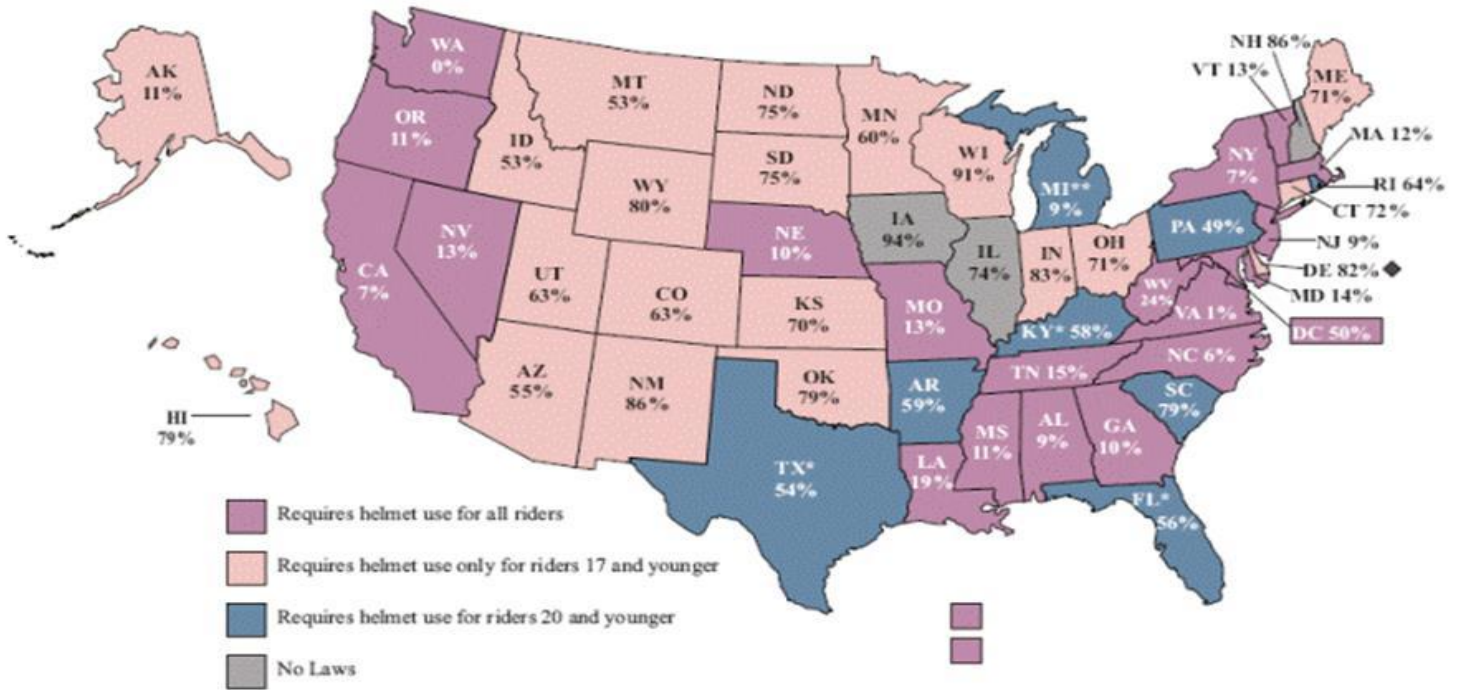


# Current State Motorcycle Helmet Laws and Fatality Rates

The percentage of people killed in motorcycle crashes in 2011 who were not wearing helmets is higher in states without a mandatory helmet law.



\*\* Previously Michigan had a universal helmet use requirement, the fatality rate shown here reflects the time period when all riders were required to wear a helmet.

◆ Delaware requires every motorcycle operator or rider age 19 and older to "have in their possession" a helmet.

\* Florida, Kentucky and Texas allow riders 21 years and older to ride without helmets if they carry medical insurance, and/or pass a motorcycle safety course.

Sources: Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, National Conference of State Legislatures and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 2014.

**Repealing Missouri's all-rider motorcycle helmet law will increase deaths from 81 to more than 1,300 based on the 58 and 59 fatality percentages of neighboring states with a 20 and younger motorcycle helmet law. In 2011, 82 persons were killed and 2,166 were injured in motorcycle crashes in Missouri.** (Source: Missouri Statistical Analysis Center Report 2011, p. 119).

- More than 8 million motorcycles were registered in the United States in 2011, and nearly 500,000 motorcycles were sold in 2012.
- In 2011, 4,612 motorcyclists were killed in crashes and 81,000 were injured. Per miles travelled, motorcyclists are 30 times more likely than passenger car occupants to die in a crash.
- Wearing helmets and getting the proper licensing and training have been shown to reduce injuries and deaths from motorcycle crashes.
- Nineteen states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands currently require all riders to wear helmets.
- Illinois, Iowa and New Hampshire do not require anyone to wear a helmet, regardless of age.
- The remaining 28 states require riders of a specific age—usually those under age 18 or 21—to wear helmets.
- According to a 2012 National Occupant Protection Use Survey (NOPUS) Survey, conducted by National Highway Traffic Safety Administration;
- In states with universal helmet laws, 89 percent of the motorcyclists observed were wearing helmets. In states with partial helmet use requirements or no laws, 49 percent were observed wearing helmets.

(National Statistic Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and National Conference of State Legislatures 2014.)