

# RIDER DOWN REPORT

DECEMBER 2022



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**

<b>Navy</b>	<b>Total mishaps this report: 18</b>	<b>Marine Corps</b>
Rider fatalities this report: <b>1</b>		Rider fatalities this report: <b>0</b>
Rider fatalities for FY 23: <b>3</b>	<b>Total fatalities this report: 1</b>	Rider fatalities for FY 23: <b>0</b>

## Drop in fatalities ends year on positive note

**By Brian Best**  
Naval Safety Command

Happy New Year, Riders. We are pleased to report an overall 12% decrease in fatalities through December this fiscal year. Let's all agree to a New Year resolution to make this Riding year better than the last. Whether fair weather or a daily rider, you can always find ways to advance your skills. Remember, "A bruise is a lesson... and each lesson makes us better." – George R.R. Martin, A Game of Thrones.

In November, excessive speed and loss of control plagued our Riders. For December, inattention to surroundings involving other motor vehicles was the leading cause of motorcycle mishaps. Always watch out for other drivers; they may not always see you but make sure they can see and hear you when needed.

Tiredness and Rider unfamiliarity with their bike and road conditions were also reoccurring themes. If you are fatigued, don't ride. Your reflexes are hindered whether you believe it or not. Riding requires you to be alert to take emergency evasive maneuvers quickly, whether from other vehicles

or other obstacles on the road. Quick thinking can mean the difference between making it to your destination or a ride to a local hospital.

Below are 10 tips from Jason Fogelson, Ride Apart, to consider honing your riding skills.

- Increase following distances with reference points.
- Make your bike fit your body
- Cover your brakes at every intersection
- Brake lighter, brake longer
- Adjust your speed before corner entry
- Avoid target fixation
- Practice, practice and practice
- Wear the right gear
- Use your speed to get safe space
- Ride your ride

Read more information at [www.rideapart.com/features/258025/10-ways-to-improve-your-riding-skills/](http://www.rideapart.com/features/258025/10-ways-to-improve-your-riding-skills/)

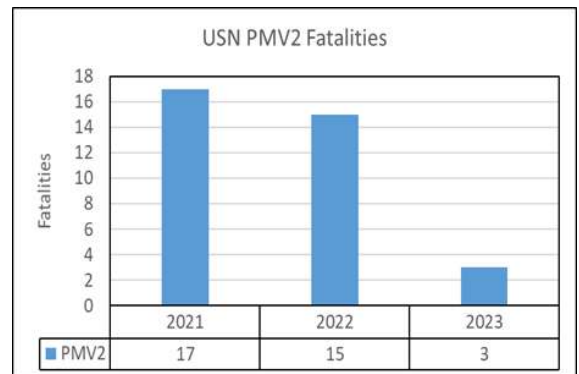


Figure 1 above depicts 35 Navy reported motorcycle fatalities between FY21 and December 2022.

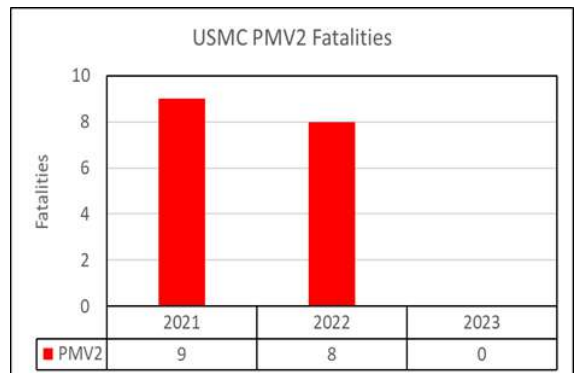


Figure 2 above depicts 17 USMC reported motorcycle fatalities between FY21 and December 2022.

Let's all be safe out there riding in the New Year.



# Motorcycle Mishaps

## DECEMBER 2022



### Motorcycle Mishap Legend

NR represents information not reported

**Red entries** represent Marine Corps-specific mishaps

#### Fatal Mishaps (All times local)

Dec. 11, 12:45 p.m., age 25, O-2  
Location: Petronila, Texas  
Remarks: A Marine Rider, attached to a Navy command, (counted as Navy for reporting) crashed motorcycle and was pronounced deceased on site.

#### Nonfatal Mishaps (All times local)

Dec. 30, 9:45 p.m., 23-year-old, E-5  
Location: Virginia Beach, Virginia  
Remarks: Rider lost traction on wet pavement and impacted a guardrail while entering an on ramp to a highway. Rider was transported to local hospital and treated for a fractured right hand.

Dec. 29, 8:45 a.m., age NR, E-7  
Location: Virginia Beach, Virginia  
Remarks: Rider was transiting to work and hit a patch of black ice coming over a bridge. Rider performed a controlled slide sustaining zero injuries and minor damage to the motorcycle.

**Dec. 28, 10 a.m., age NR, E-3**  
**Location: Goodyear, Arizona**  
**Remarks: Rider was involved in a PMV-2 mishap. Rider was transported to local hospital and treated for multiple fractures, lacerations and subdural hematoma. The service member is in a medically induced coma.**

Dec. 26, 10:30 a.m., 18-year-old, E-1  
Location: Fresno, California  
Remarks: Rider was involved in a PMV-2 mishap. Rider was transported to local hospital and treated for a concussion, road rash and stitches.

Dec. 25, 12 p.m., age NR, rank NR  
Location: NR  
Remarks: Rider lost control and was in a motorcycle accident. Rider was transported to local hospital and was treated for road rash on the left leg.

Dec. 23, 10 a.m., age NR, E-3  
Location: Fresno, California  
Remarks: Unlicensed Rider crashed into another motor vehicle. Rider regained consciousness on the road and was transported to local hospital and treated for concussion, blunt abdominal trauma, contusion of both knees and left hand.

Dec. 11, 8:25 p.m., age NR, E-5  
Location: Jacksonville, Florida  
Remarks: Rider left work after an eight-hour watch as a duty driver. Rider was cut off by a PMV-4, causing a collision. Rider was transported to local hospital and was treated for multiple non-fatal injuries.

Dec. 11, 7 p.m., 21-year-old, E-5  
Location: Aiea, Hawaii  
Remarks: Rider was leaving the mall and made a left turn; the rear tire slipped on the asphalt causing the Rider to lay down the bike. Rider was transported to local hospital, treated and released.

Dec. 10, 3:30 p.m., age NR, E-4  
Location: San Diego, California  
Remarks: Rider was involved in a hit-and-run accident. Rider was transported to local hospital and treated for multiple bruising to the right side of the body.

Dec. 8, time NR., 18-year-old, E-1  
Location: San Diego, California  
Remarks: Rider got off the wrong exit and in the process of turning around the Rider crashed the motorcycle. Rider was transported to local hospital and treated for a head laceration, road rash and a fracture to the right leg.

Dec. 6, 5:16 p.m., age NR, rank NR  
Location: Coronado, California  
Remarks: Rider drove over a wire in the road, causing a motorcycle accident. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for a separated shoulder.

Dec. 5, time NR, age NR, E-5  
Location: Norfolk, Virginia  
Remarks: Rider was involved in a motorcycle accident while transiting to work. Rider was transported to local hospital and treated for fractures on both wrists.

**Dec. 3, 11:36 a.m., age NR, CWO-2**  
**Location: Camp Pendleton, California**  
**Remarks: Rider was riding with friends when they were rear-ended by a PMV-4. Rider was transported to local hospital and treated for bruising to the neck and chest.**

Dec. 3, 1:00 a.m., age NR, CWO-2  
Location: California  
Remarks: Rider's left arm was struck by a PMV-4. Rider was transported to local hospital and treated for injuries sustained.

Dec. 3, 1 a.m., 21-year-old, E-3  
Location: Chesapeake, Virginia  
Remarks: Rider was heading back to the barracks when involved in a motorcycle accident. Rider was transported to local hospital and treated for a fractured wrist.

Dec. 2, 6:16 p.m., 21-year-old, E-3  
Location: Virginia Beach, Virginia  
Remarks: Rider was transiting to friend's home and exited off-ramp too fast due to the bike not braking adequately. Rider attempted to slow down, dropping two gears, but still hit the curb and fell onto oncoming traffic while still on the bike. The bike was hit by two vehicles, the second causing the Rider to be ejected. Rider was released at the scene with only minor bruising.

Dec. 1, 4:15 p.m., age NR, O-3  
Location: San Diego, California  
Remarks: Rider collided with PMV-4 that drove into their lane from a stop in traffic with no indication. Rider was transported to local hospital and treated for minor injuries.

Dec. 1, 3 p.m., 22-year-old, E-5  
Location: Lemoore, California  
Remarks: Rider was involved in a motorcycle accident. Rider was transported to local hospital and treated for a split-open left knee and right leg injury.

**View Rider Down reports at**  
[navalsafetycommand.navy.mil/Resources/Motorcycle-Rider-Down-Reports-Newsletters](https://navalsafetycommand.navy.mil/Resources/Motorcycle-Rider-Down-Reports-Newsletters)