

RIDER DOWN REPORT

FEBRUARY 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 Rider fatalities this report: 2 Rider fatalities for FY 23: 7	Total mishaps this report: 11 Total fatalities this report: 3	Marine Corps Rider fatalities this report: 1 Rider fatalities for FY 23: 2
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Motorcycle Group Ride Safety Awareness

By Brian Best
Naval Safety Command

March has finally arrived. In areas around the country, riders, new and old, are dusting off their bikes and getting back on the roads. Now is the time to prepare for a group ride. The group ride can benefit the new riders to learn from the experienced. Motorcycle coordinators, schedule your riders for their required motorcycle training as spaces are filling up quickly to allow the newly qualified riders to join. Hold a rider meeting to discuss where and when you will ride and identify rest stops along the way. The leader and sweeper monitoring the other riders should be appointed during the meeting. Riders should be in a staggered formation and should never be side-to-side as this prevents the time and space to react to hazards. The Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) provides a guide to a group ride, including hand signals, allowing for better communication and a safer riding experience. The link below from the MSF offers more information for a safer group ride.

[QUICK TIPS: MSF's Guide to Group Riding](#)

The Navy has lost seven sailors this fiscal year (FY) alone. That is an increase of 2 compared to the same time frame in FY21 and more than double for FY22. Most motorcycle mishaps this month resulted from being struck by a PMV-4 and riders losing control of their bikes. With the arrival of spring comes the excellent riding weather motorcycle riders have missed out on since late fall or early winter. Ensure all your appropriate riding gear is in good working condition and makes you visible to motor vehicle drivers. Observe your speed and avoid any quick lane changes or sudden stops. Review current laws to ensure you are riding within compliance. If you doubt riding your motorcycle or want to brush up on the current rider courses, take a class, refresh your skillset and stay alive.

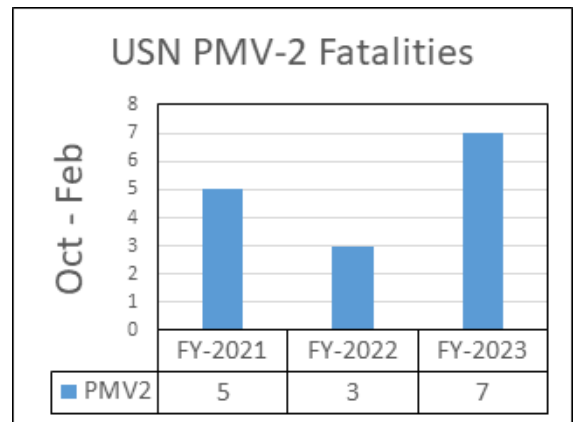


Figure 1 above depicts Navy reported motorcycle fatalities between October and February for the last three fiscal years.

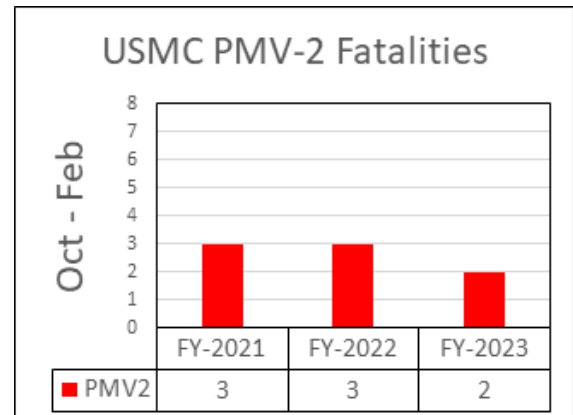


Figure 2 above depicts USMC reported motorcycle fatalities between October and February for the last three fiscal years.



Motorcycle Mishaps

FEBRUARY 2023



Motorcycle Mishap Legend

NR represents information not reported

Red entries represent Marine Corps-specific mishaps

Fatal Mishaps (All times local)(3)

Feb. 10, 7:30 p.m., age NR, E-6

Location: Jacksonville, North Carolina

Remarks: Rider struck the rear of a PMV-4. Bystanders attempted lifesaving measures but were unsuccessful. Rider was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Feb. 25, time NR, age NR, E-3

Location: Point Loma, California

Remarks: Rider was involved in a motorcycle accident and pronounced deceased at the scene.

Feb. 26, time NR, age NR, E-4

Location: Augusta, Georgia

Remarks: Rider was involved in a motorcycle accident and pronounced deceased at the scene.

Nonfatal Mishaps (All times local)(8)

Feb. 1, 9:30 p.m., 31-year-old, E-4

Location: La Mesa, California

Remarks: Rider was struck by a PMV-4 while transiting to a friend's home. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for minor injuries.

Feb. 3, 3:30 p.m., 30-year-old, E-6

Location: Los Angeles, California

Remarks: Rider was involved in an accident. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for a fractured leg.

Feb. 4, 6 p.m., age NR, rank NR

Location: Wake County, North Carolina

Remarks: Rider en route to drill weekend, when they lost control. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for a fractured right thumb, left wrist, elbow, and pinky.

Feb. 7, 1:05 p.m., age NR, rank NR

Location: San Diego, California

Remarks: Rider was involved in a motorcycle accident. Rider was transported to a local hospital. Rider was treated for an injured hip, fingers, and a concussion.

Feb. 10, 6:15 a.m., age NR, E-4

Location: Wake County, North Carolina

Remarks: Rider was involved in a motorcycle accident. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for road rash to their left leg and pain in their chest and left knee.

Feb. 13, 6 a.m., age NR, rank NR

Location: San Diego, California

Remarks: Rider lost control and struck another PMV-2 and the security gate. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for a concussion.

Feb. 17, 3 p.m., 20-year-old, E-3

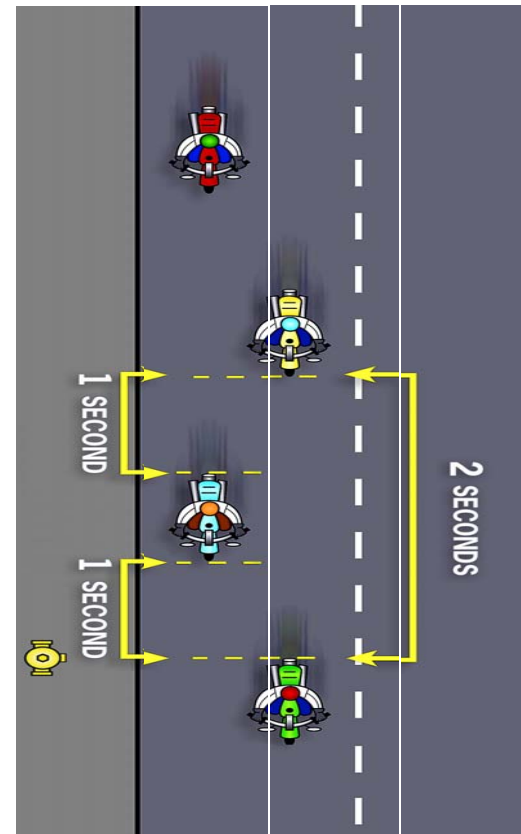
Location: Hanford, California

Remarks: Rider was struck by a PMV-4 that failed to obey a traffic signal. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for a broken collarbone.

Feb. 19, 12 p.m., 31-year-old, E-5

Location: Los Torrentos, California

Remarks: Rider was on a group motorcycle ride. Rider pulled to the shoulder of the road and slid on loose sand and gravel. Rider was transported to a local hospital and was treated for a clavicle fracture.



https://www.msf-usa.org/downloads/Group_Ride.pdf

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