

RIDER DOWN REPORT

MARCH 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: 25	Marine Corps
Rider fatalities this report: 0	Total fatalities this report: 0	Rider fatalities this report: 0
Rider fatalities for FY 23: 7		Rider fatalities for FY 23: 2

March Madness is just not about basketball

By Juan Aguilar
Naval Safety Command

March has come and gone, the weather is getting nicer, and flowers are in full bloom. Don't let the pollen in the air or how you fared in the March Madness brackets last month distract you from keeping an eye on the road and on distracted motor vehicle drivers. For some riders, it has been months since their last ride and maybe 10-15 months for deployed personnel returning to home port. March is also a time of the year when an increase in motorcycle riders on the road is evident. With the added boost in riders also comes the possibility of accidents. There have been nine fatalities so far this fiscal year. Figure 1 shows the upward trend in fatalities for the Navy and a downward trend for Marines in the same period. Ensure you obey all road rules, remain visible to other drivers, and avoid blind spots. Just as riders have not been on the road during winter, drivers have also not had to deal with motorcycle riders veering in and out of traffic.

Last month, there was a rise in motorcycle riders being struck by private motor vehicles (PMV-4). Over half of the accidents in March occurred from PMV-4 drivers lacking situational awareness. Other factors included weather and road conditions that riders had to cope with. Sadly, speed, distractions from motorcycle riders, and loss of control were also factors. Maintenance and upkeep of your motorcycle may have contributed to these mishaps. Last but most importantly, using proper personnel protection equipment will help you remain visible and minimize any severe injury should you be involved in an accident. For personal protective equipment information to share with your riders, please visit the Motorcycle Safety Foundation website at https://msf-usa.org/downloads/Protective_gear_REV.pdf. Motorcycle Safety Representatives should conduct a pre-season safety briefing for their riders, review monthly rider down reports, and ensure all riders' information is current in Enterprise Safety Application Management System.

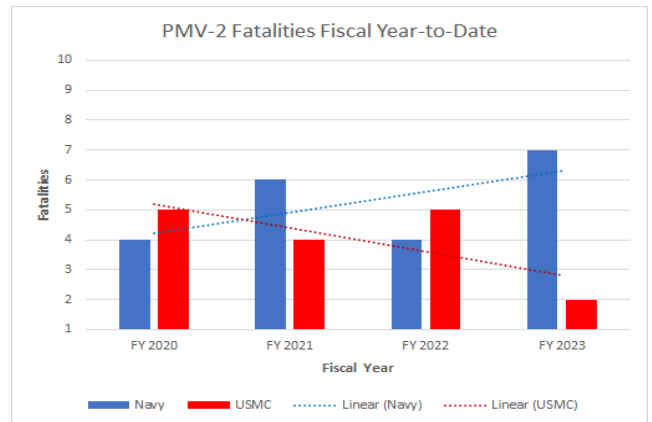


Figure 1 above depicts Navy and Marine Corps' reported motorcycle fatalities between October and March for the last four fiscal years.





Motorcycle Mishaps

MARCH 2023



Motorcycle Mishap Legend

NR represents information not reported

Red entries represent Marine Corps-specific mishaps

Nonfatal Mishaps (All times local)(25)

Mar. 1, 10:30 p.m., age NR, E-5
 Location: Ridgecrest, California
 Remarks: Rider was involved in a PMV-2 accident. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for elbow, head, and finger injuries.

Mar. 2, 6:50 a.m., age NR, E-4
 Location: San Diego, California
 Remarks: Rider was struck by a PMV-4 that swerved into their lane without signaling. The PMV-4 did not stop. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for their injuries.

Mar. 3, 6:21 p.m., 20-year-old, E-4
 Location: Norfolk, Virginia
 Remarks: Rider was struck by a PMV-4 that turned right at a red light. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for a broken right wrist.

Mar. 4, 7 p.m., 27-year-old, E-7
 Location: Naples, Italy
 Remarks: Rider was distracted from being on a cell phone and struck the curb at the end of a street; in turn, was ejected through a fence and into a garden. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for minor injuries.

Mar. 4, 7 p.m., 27-year-old, E-5
 Location: San Diego, California
 Remarks: Rider was struck by a PMV-4 and lost consciousness. Rider was transported to a local hospital into the ICU for treatment of their injuries.

Mar. 4, 8 p.m., 34-year-old, E-7
 Location: Daytona, Florida
 Remarks: Rider was entering a grass parking lot when their front tire sank into the sand, knocking their motorcycle to its side and lodging their foot under the bike. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for a broken right foot.

Mar. 5, 3 a.m., age NR, E-4
 Location: Camp Lejeune, North Carolina
 Remarks: Rider was a passenger on a motorcycle that was involved in an accident. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for a fractured arm, road rash, and an avulsion of the knee joint.

Mar. 5, 11 a.m., 21-year-old, E-5
 Location: Tecate, California
 Remarks: Rider lost control while trying to avoid debris on the road. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for multiple bruises on the body.

Mar. 6, 6:30 a.m., age NR, E-5
 Location: Coronado, California
 Remarks: Rider was transiting home and struck a PMV-4. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for a fractured foot and a torn ligament.

Mar. 7, 8 p.m., age NR, E-4
 Location: Tubli, Bahrain
 Remarks: Rider crashed on a guard rail while riding on a highway. Rider was transported to the local hospital and treated for amputation of the left middle finger to the knuckle and a femur fracture on the right leg.

Mar. 8, 10:45 p.m., 20-year-old, E-4
 Location: Beaufort, South Carolina
 Remarks: Rider and passenger were traveling down an unfamiliar road when a deer crossed their path. They lost control and were thrown off the motorcycle, landing in a ditch. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for three broken ribs, collapsed lung, a tear in their spleen, and fluids in their abdominal area.

Mar. 9, 5:35 p.m., 20-year-old, E-4
 Location: Hiroshima, Japan
 Remarks: Rider lost control in a turn, resulting in a crash. Rider was transported to the local hospital and treated for a lung contusion.

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Additional Motorcycle Rider Down Reports are available at
navalsafetycommand.navy.mil/Resources/Motorcycle-Rider-Down-Reports-Newsletters



Motorcycle Mishaps, cont.



Motorcycle Mishap Legend

NR represents information not reported

Red entries represent Marine Corps-specific mishaps

Mar. 11, 7 p.m., age NR, rank E-3

Location: Tampa, Florida

Remarks: Rider lost control and impacted the pavement. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for minor skin abrasion to their left hip and elbow.

Mar. 11, 11 p.m., age NR, rank NR

Location: Everett, Washington

Remarks: Rider was side-swiped by a PMV-4. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for a fractured ankle, hip, and arm.

Mar. 11, 11 p.m., age NR, O-2

Location: Jacksonville, Florida

Remarks: Rider lost control while riding on a wet road. Rider did not go to a local hospital.

Mar. 12, 2 p.m., 28-year-old, E-5

Location: Ewa Beach, Hawaii

Remarks: Rider was struck by a PMV-4 that veered into their lane. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for a leg fracture.

Mar. 12, 5 p.m., 22-year-old, E-4

Location: NR

Remarks: Rider laid down their bike to avoid a collision with a PMV-4 that slammed on its brakes. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for their injuries.

Mar. 16, 3:45 p.m., age NR, O-1

Location: Pensacola, Florida

Remarks: Rider was performing the decreasing radius maneuver while attending motorcycle training. During the 6th run, their bike slid. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for fractures to the left foot's 2nd, 3rd, and 4th metatarsal.

Mar. 17, 1:20 p.m., 22-year-old, E-4

Location: Coronado, California

Remarks: Rider was involved in a single motorcycle accident. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for a broken arm.

Mar. 17, 11 p.m., 23-year-old, E-4

Location: Virginia Beach, Virginia

Remarks: Rider was involved in a single motorcycle accident. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for serious but non-life-threatening injuries.

Mar. 20, 3:30 p.m., 27-year-old, E-6

Location: Jacksonville, Florida

Remarks: Rider was riding through an intersection when they were struck by a PMV-4 that was texting and got trapped underneath the PMV-4. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for injuries.

Mar. 20, 8 p.m., 27-year-old, E-1

Location: Norfolk, Virginia

Remarks: Rider's brakes malfunctioned when they approached a red light resulting in running the light and colliding with a PMV-4. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for their injuries.

Mar. 24, 12:30 p.m., 29-year-old, E-5

Location: Pascagoula, Mississippi

Remarks: Rider was traveling to lunch from work when they lost control, resulting in a high sided accident. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for a fractured left wrist.

Mar. 24, 8:45 p.m., 31-year-old, rank NR

Location: Pooler, Georgia

Remarks: Rider was sideswiped by a merging PMV-4. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for their injuries.

Mar. 27, 7:40 p.m., 21-year-old, E-4

Location: Honolulu, Hawaii

Remarks: Rider was struck by a PMV-4 that ran a red light. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for foot pain.

Although the following is not a reportable incident, it is sad to say that one of our service members suffered severe injuries due to his actions. Just because your motorcycle can do a top speed of 250 miles per hour or more does not mean you should push it to the limit.

Mar. 29, 2:54 p.m., 23-year-old, E-4

Location: Virginia Beach, Virginia

Remarks: Rider was involved in a collision following a police pursuit. Rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for severe injuries.

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