

WI BICYCLING SAFETY



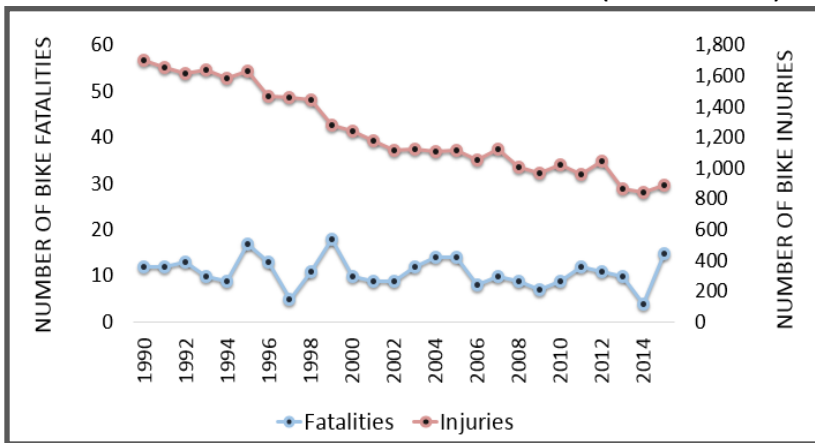
DID YOU KNOW...

In Wisconsin, in 2015, one bicyclist was injured or killed every 9.7 hours.

- Almost 1,000 crashes involved bicyclists in Wisconsin in 2015.
- In these crashes, 15 bicyclists were killed and 907 were injured.
- Bicyclists are almost always injured in a collision also involving a motor vehicle.

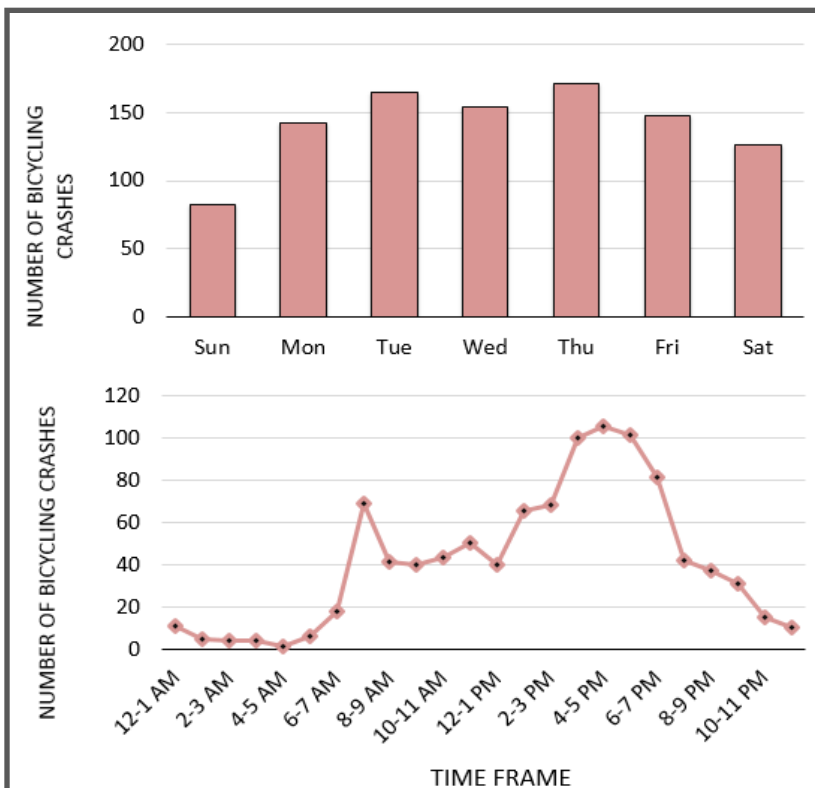
SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

BICYCLING FATALITIES AND INJURIES (1990-2015)



- Over the years, improvements to bicyclist safety have been made in areas such as engineering, education, enforcement, and emergency response.
- The number of bicyclist fatalities decreased consistently between 2010 and 2014, but then increased dramatically between 2014 and 2015
- The number of injuries has decreased by approximately 47% between 1990 and 2015.

2015 BICYCLING CRASHES BY DAY OF WEEK & TIME



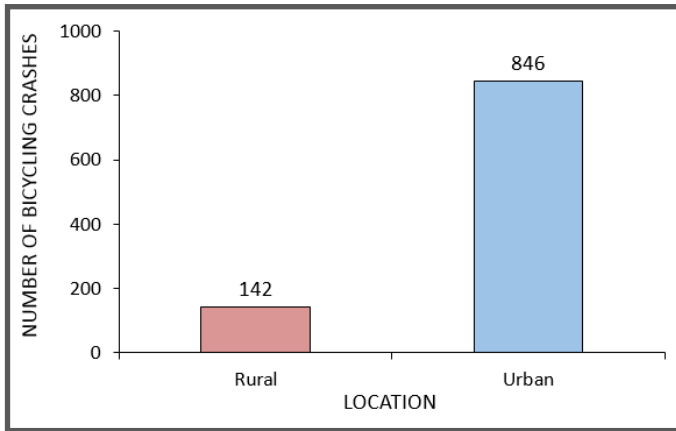
TYPES OF BIKE CRASHES

- The most common types of bicycle crashes involve: motorists failing to yield the right of way to a straight-through bicyclist when making a left turn; motorists failing to yield at a controlled intersection; bicyclists failing to yield at a controlled intersection; and motorists turning right on a red.
- Of the 14 crashes in which a bicyclist was killed, 6 (**43%**) involved either an impaired bicyclist or motorist. Of the 886 crashes in which a bicyclist was *injured*, 28 (**3%**) involved an impaired bicyclist or motorist.

PRODUCED BY THE WISDOT BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION SAFETY. WITH QUESTIONS, CONTACT EVAN MOORMAN (608)-709-0088.

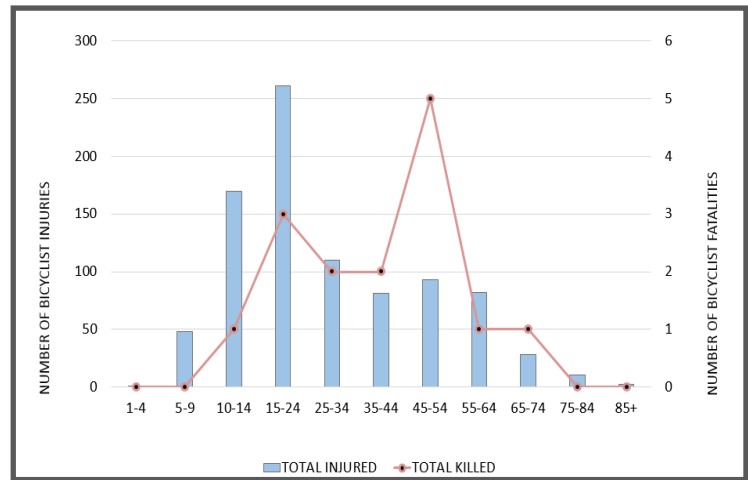
WHO IS AT RISK?

2015 BICYCLING CRASHES BY LOCATION



Most bicycle crashes occur in urban areas and on local roads and streets. This is not surprising considering that bicycling rates are higher in these locations.

BICYCLIST INJURIES. & FATALITIES BY AGE



As seen above, children, teenagers, and young adults together comprised a heavy majority of the injuries (though not fatalities) in 2015. High injury rates among this group are a result of poor road skills and excessive vehicular speeds in neighborhoods and school zones.

CURRENT BICYCLE LAWS

- Bicycling laws are defined in WI. Stats. 340.01(5), 346.02(4)(a) and 346.80(2)(a).
- Vehicular Status—The bicycle is defined as a vehicle. The operator of a vehicle is granted the same rights and subject to the same duties as the driver of any other vehicle.
- Any person operating a bicycle at less than normal speed shall ride as close as practicable (not as far right as possible) to the right-hand edge or curb of the unobstructed traveled roadway. This includes riders who are riding two or more abreast.



WHAT CAN DRIVERS DO?

- Give cyclists at least 3 feet of clearance when passing.
- Occupants of parked vehicles should look back and to their left before opening their door into traffic. Being “doored” is among the most common types of bicycle collisions and can lead to serious injury or even death.
- When turning left, watch for and yield to oncoming bicyclists just as you would for oncoming motorists. This is the most common type of auto/bike collision.
- When turning right, yield to any bicyclist traveling on your right. Do not try to pass a bicyclist if you are planning to turn right at the next intersection or driveway.
- Practice caution when young cyclists are present.

WHAT CAN CYCLISTS DO?

- Cyclists are vehicles. As such, they must ride in the same direction as traffic and must use hand signals to broadcast their movements.
- Wear a helmet; taking this easy step can eliminate up to 85% of head injuries when crashes do occur.
- Parents should ensure that children have mastered the ability to ride in a straight line before allowing children to bike on their own. Most children do not develop this skill until the 2nd or 3rd grade.
- Bike safety courses are available throughout the state; contact the Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin or the League of American Bicyclists for more information.