

**Wisconsin
Department of Natural Resources
All-Terrain Vehicle
Enforcement & Safety Report
2005**



PO Box 7921

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2005 ATV Annual
Program Report



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**State of Wisconsin
Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Law Enforcement
2005 ATV Report Summary**

The 2005 ATV season has the highest number of fatalities on record. This report is compiled from the twenty-two fatal investigations, one of those with two victims on the same ATV, and other data collected during the calendar year. The report is based on the growing number of ATVs used and the Department's commitment to promote safe riding by observing trends and providing solutions in areas of concern.

Conservation wardens investigate all fatal ATV incidents and as such, Wisconsin Law requires that a conservation warden or law enforcement officer be notified immediately of any ATV incident that results in a fatality or an injury requiring medical treatment by a physician. In addition, the operator(s) involved in these reportable incidents must file a written report with the Department of Natural Resources within 10 days of the incident, insofar as they are capable of doing so.

FATAL INCIDENT CAUSES

The leading cause of the fatal incidents was found to be the ATV rolling over, resulting in eight victims. The second leading cause was the ATV colliding with a tree, resulting in six victims. This was followed by two victims each from falling through the ice and collision with a fixed object. Data shows that alcohol as a contributing factor was higher this reporting period (14%) than it was the previous reporting period (11%).

The law expressly states a person operating an ATV is under the influence of alcohol once blood alcohol levels reach 0.08. Of the fourteen toxicology reports, four showed those victims had consumed some alcohol. Looking closer at the four victims who had consumed alcohol, two had blood-alcohol readings of higher than 0.20. Although the fatal incident data is not statistically large, the information indicates that alcohol has been less of a factor in 2005 (14%) and 2004 (11%) compared with 2003 (56%) and 2002 (46%).

WHO WAS INVOLVED

All but three of the fatal accident victims involved were male. The ages of the fatal victims ranged from 3-61 years, with the average age listed at 30. All but two of the twenty-two victims were Wisconsin residents. The largest number of the victims killed (7) were between the ages of 41-50. Four children under the age of 12 were killed during this reporting period. Only three of the victims had received formal ATV Safety Training from the Department of Natural Resources and five were confirmed to have been wearing a helmet.

WHEN DO THE INCIDENTS OCCUR

The highest percentage of fatalities continues to occur on a Saturday with seven victims, and Friday and Sunday with four. Most of the fatal crashes (6) occurred between 6:00PM-8:00PM.

LOCATION OF INCIDENTS

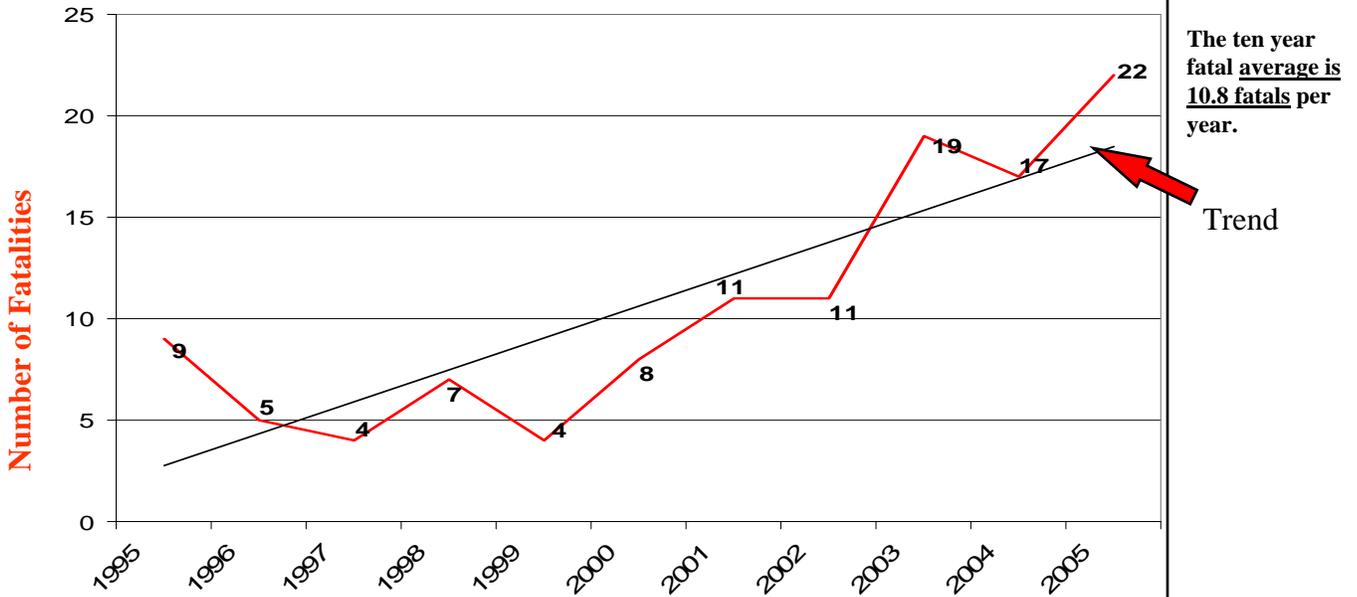
The top two locations of fatal incidents were Private Lands and Public Roads involving seven victims, followed by Public Trails and Public Water both with three and Private Trails and Routes both with one each.

FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED

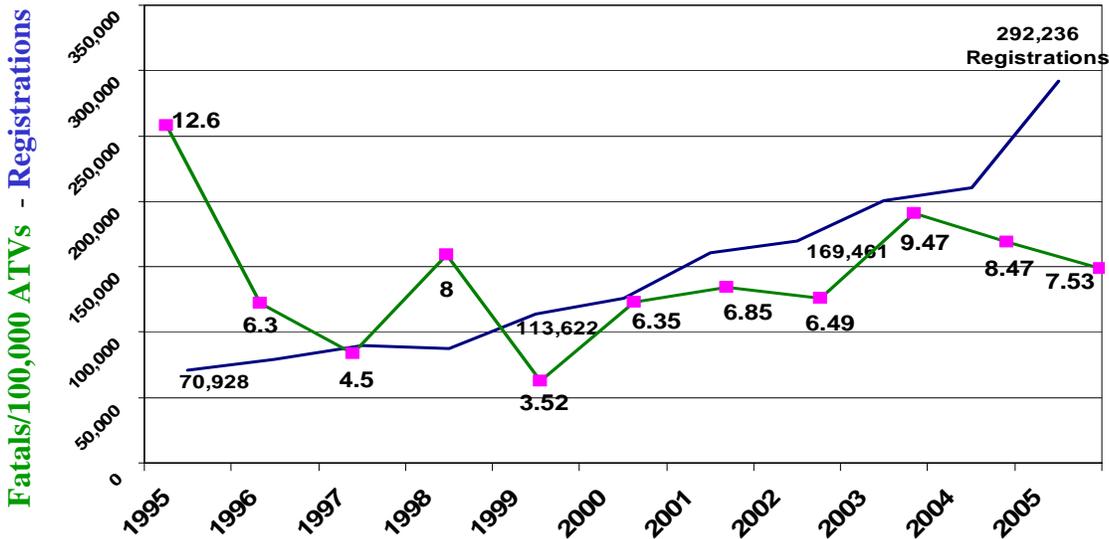
New ATV purchases continued to result in significant increases in registered ATVs and users. Only five of the twenty-two victims were wearing helmets, eighteen were not. Three of the twenty-two victims had taken a Wisconsin DNR ATV Safety class, seventeen had not and one was unknown.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services, and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240

History of ATV Fatalities By Calendar Year



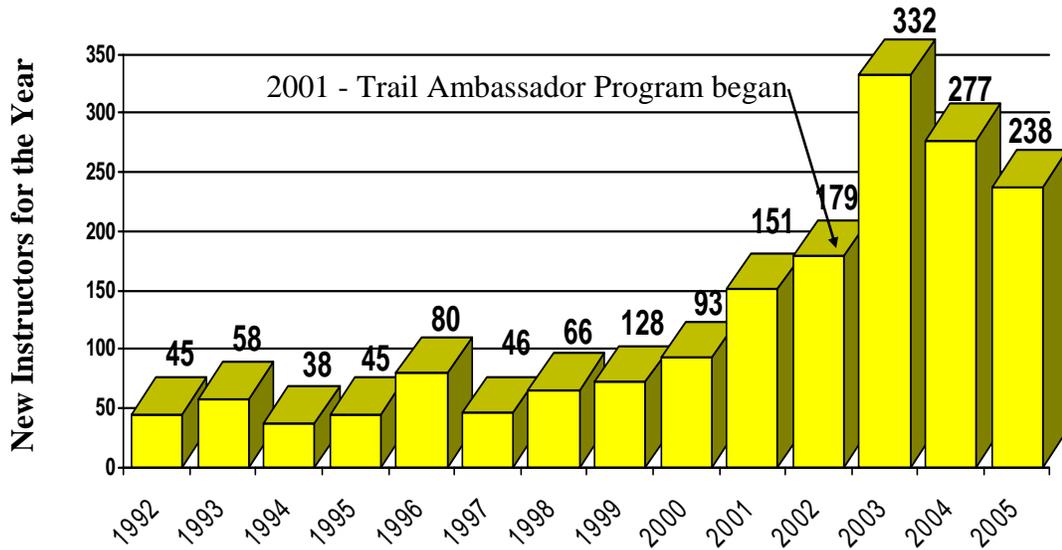
ATV Fatality Rate Per 100,000 Registered ATVs



Beginning October 1, 2001 the Department began registering machines that weighed up to and including 900 pounds. The change came from a revision in the law.

ATV's must meet a specific definition in order to be registered.

History of New ATV Education Instructors Certified

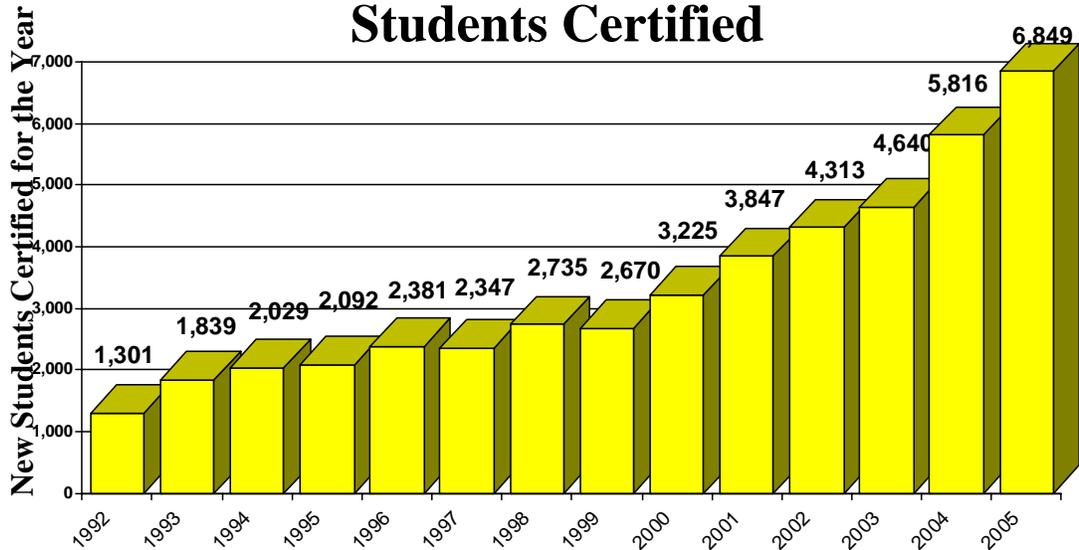


There were a total of 1,001 active instructors for the year 2005.

There were 301 ATV safety training courses held during 2005.

Historical results have shown the majority of the fatal victims have not been WI ATV safety graduates.

History of ATV Education Students Certified



The ATV Safety Education program began in 1986.

The total number of students certified for the entire history of the ATV program at the end of 2005 is 52,348.

Alcohol was detected in 14% of the victims for 2005 .

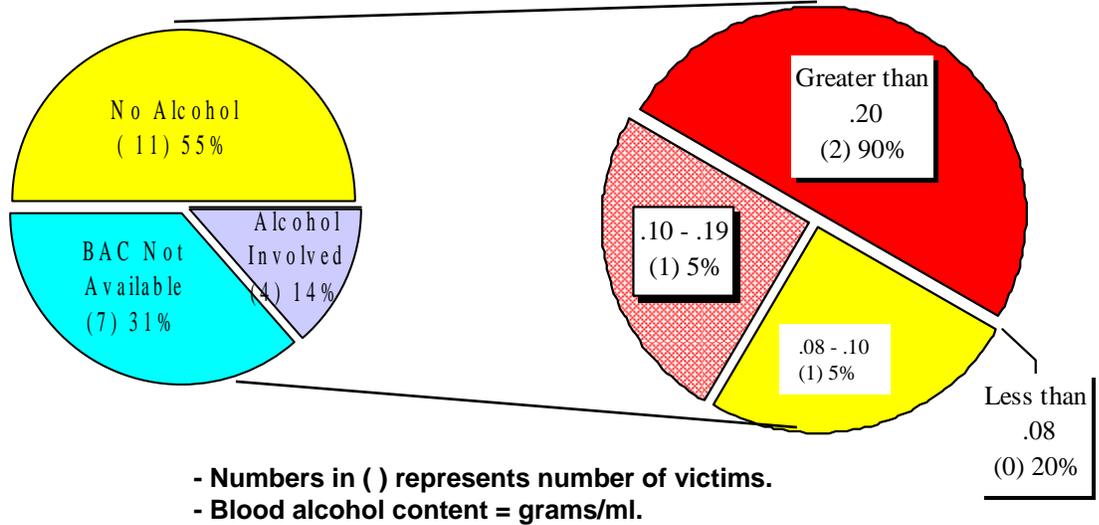
Alcohol was detected in 11% of the victims for 2004 .

Alcohol was detected in 56% of the victims for 2003.

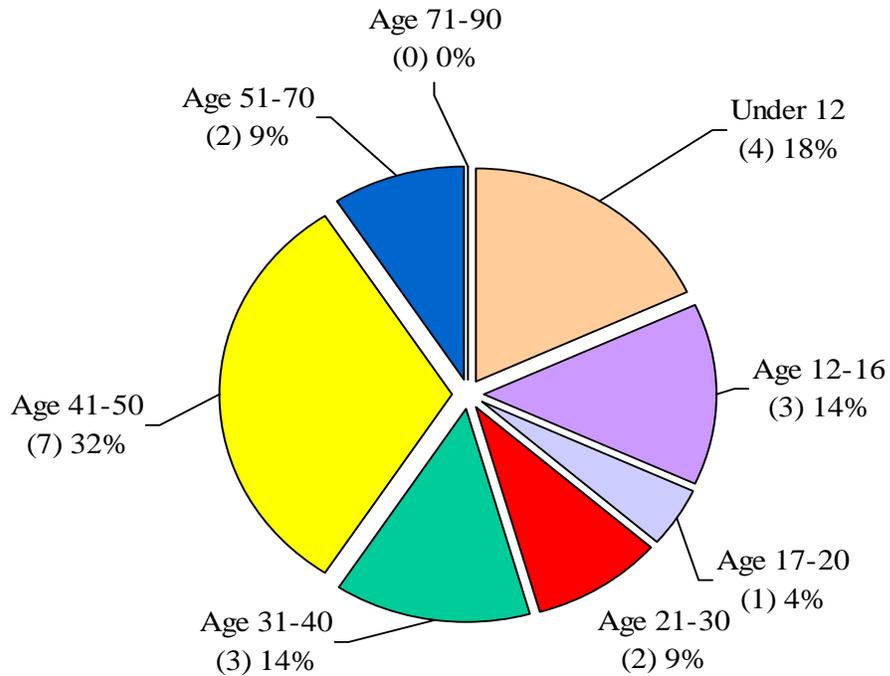
Alcohol was detected in 46% of the victims for 2002.

Two of the 2005 victims had blood alcohol levels above 0.2.

2005 ATV Fatalities Alcohol Involvement



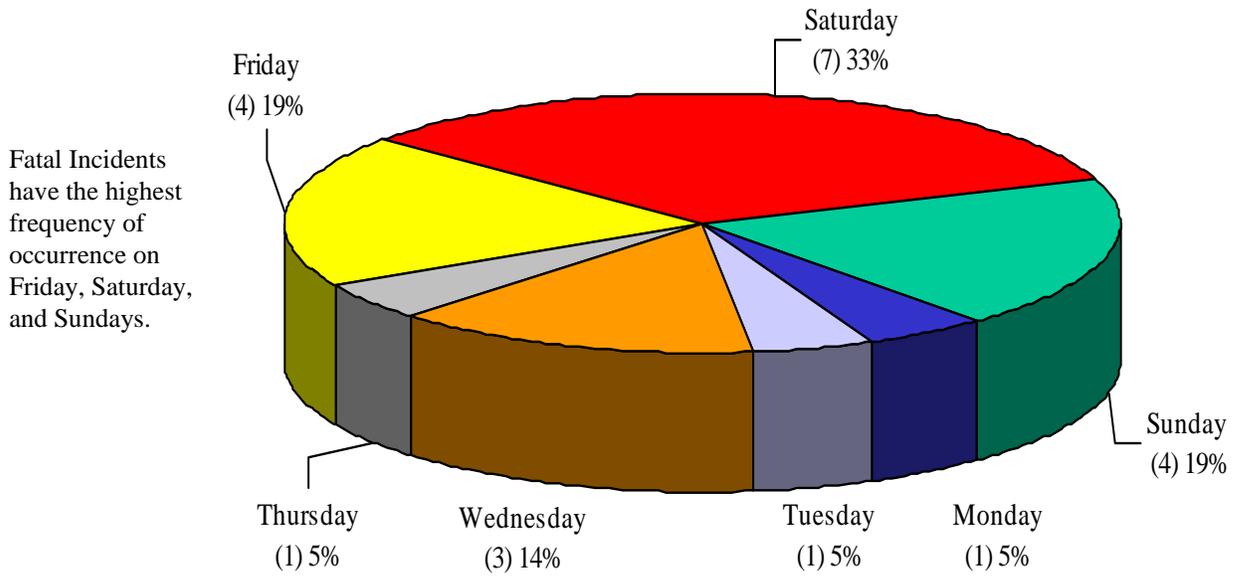
2004 ATV Fatalities Age of Victims



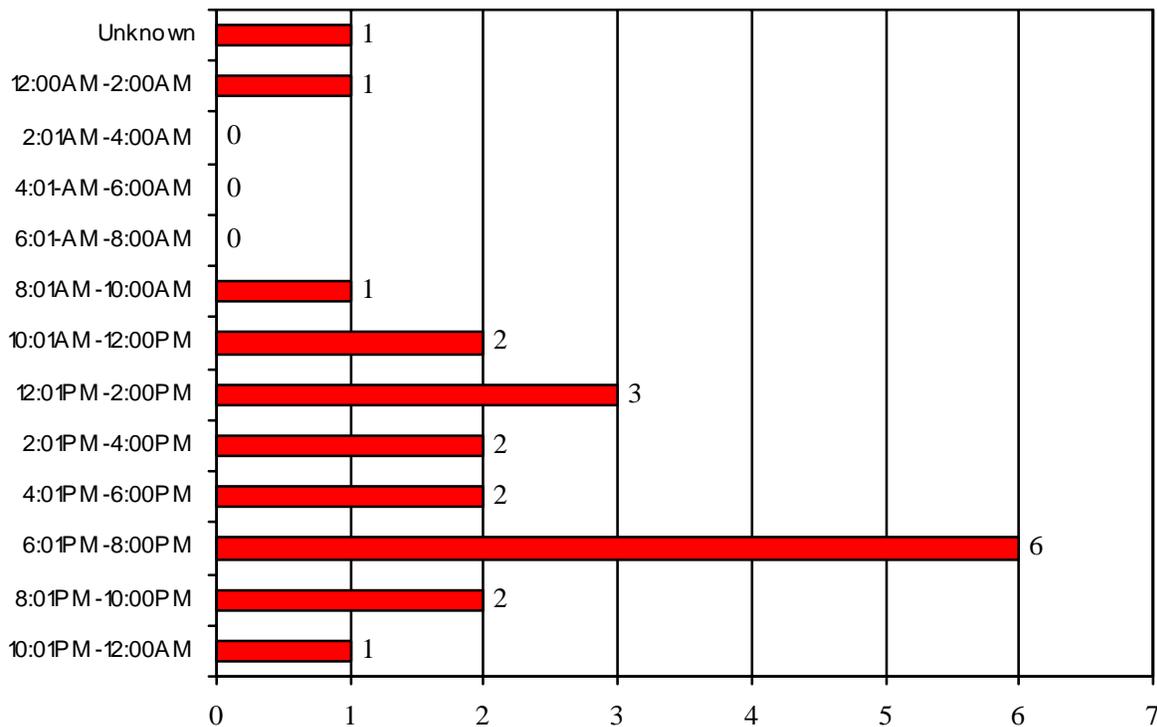
The average age of the fatality victim was 30 years old a decrease from the previous year (41).

The largest percentage of the victims killed was between the ages of 41-50.

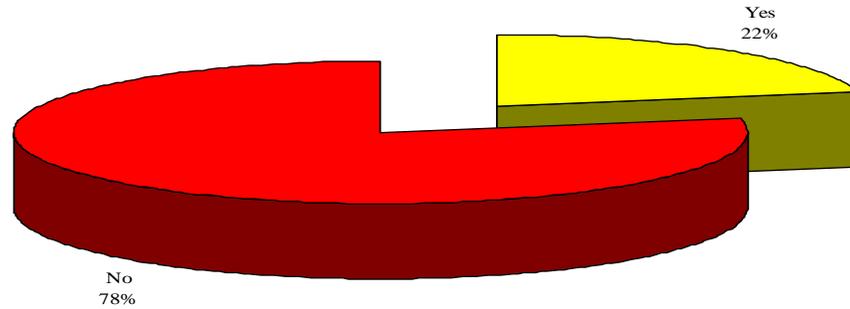
2005 ATV Fatal Incidents by Day of Week



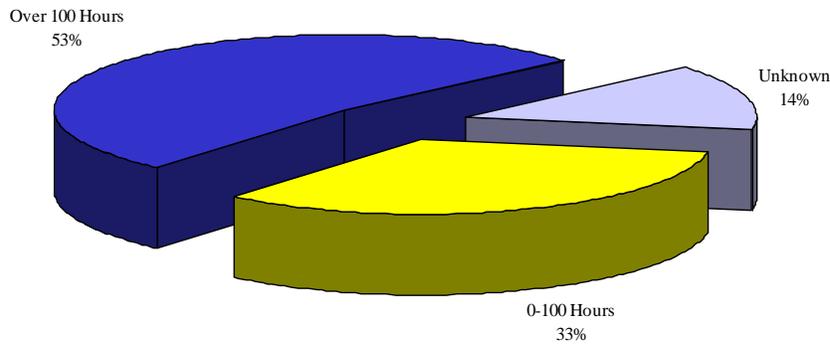
2005 ATV Fatal Incident by Time of Day



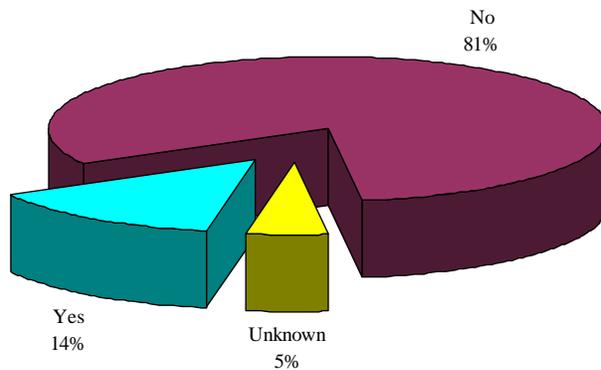
2005 Fatal Incident ATV Helmet Use



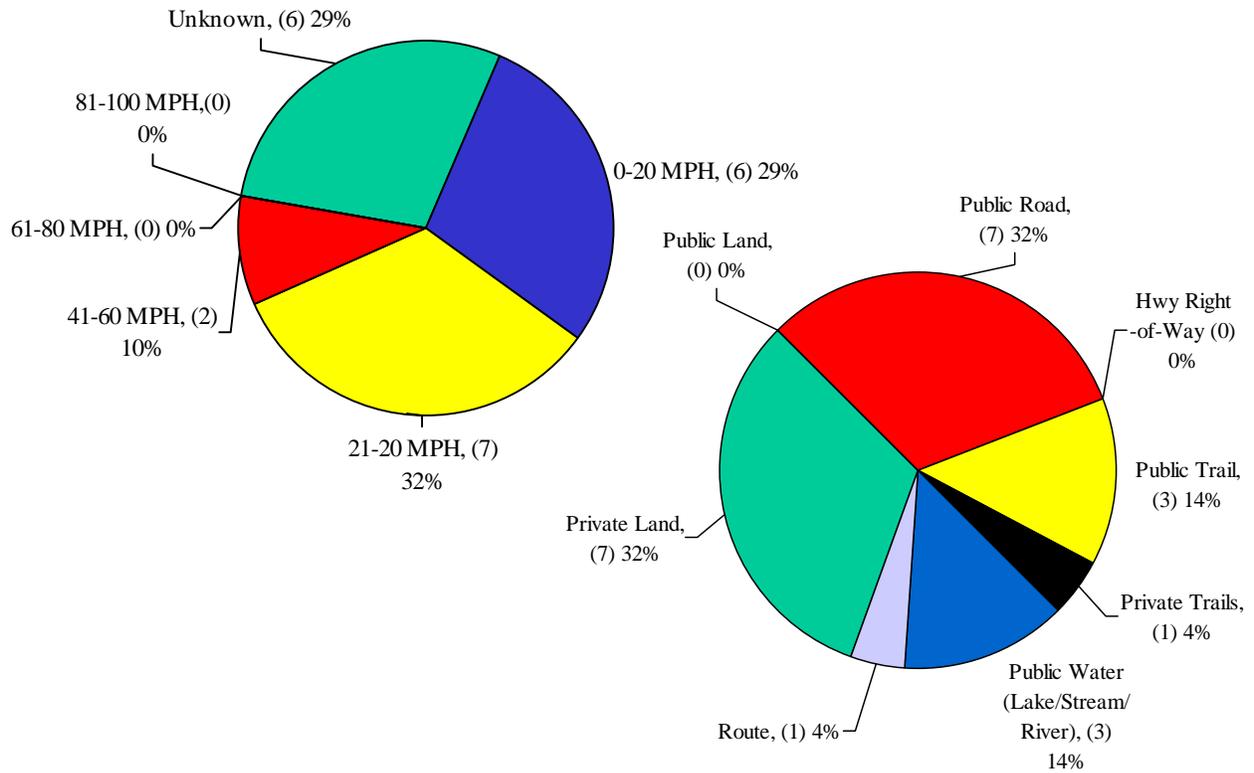
2005 Fatal Incident ATV Operator Experience



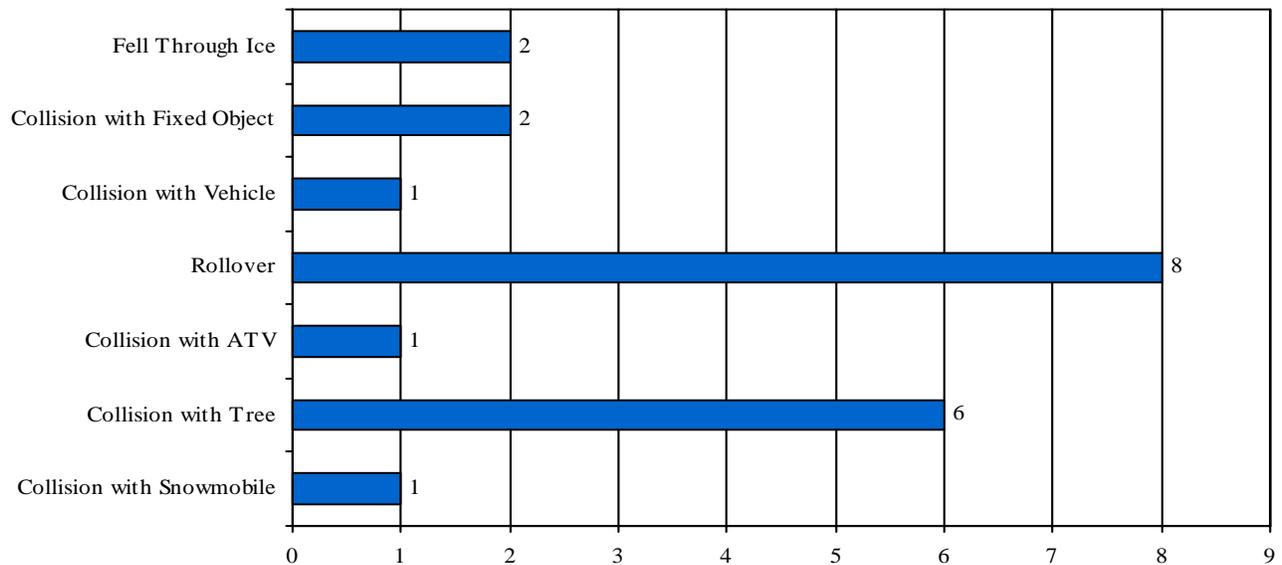
2005 Operator ATV Safety Training Certification



2005 Fatal ATV Incidents Speed & Location at Time of Incident



2005 Fatal ATV Incident Type



2005 Citations Issued for ATV Violations

Total Citations (including wardens and sheriff patrols).....	1,380
Operate ATV w/o Registration (V-1)	158
Permit ATV Operation w/o Registration (V-2)	55
Operate ATV in a Careless Manner (V-3)	33
Operate ATV While Intoxicated (V-4)	34
Operate ATV on Private Property w/o Permission (V-5).....	57
Operate ATV on Native American Lands w/o Permission (V-6).....	1
Transport Loaded or Uncased Firearm, or Bow on ATV (V-7)	6
Drive or pursue Wild Animal with ATV (V-8)	0
Operate ATV within 150' of Dwelling over 10-MPH (V-9)	3
Operate ATV over 10-MPH on Ice within 100' of Persons or Shanty (V-10, V-21) ..	12
Illegal Operating of ATV on or Near Highways (V-11).....	492
ATV Equipment Violations (V-12)	54
Fail to Report ATV Accident (V-13).....	3
Fail to Stop ATV for Officer (V-14).....	6
Fail to Transfer Registration of ATV (V-15).....	8
Fail to Display or Improper Display of Registration (V-16)	71
Fail to Notify DNR with Change of Address (V-17).....	0
Dealer Fail to Collect Fee and Submit Registration Application (V-18).....	1
Operate on a Cemetery, Burial Ground, School, Church w/o Permission (V-19).....	3
Operate at Speed that is Unreasonable or Improper (V-20)	59
Owner Permitting Operation by Person Under Age, or Disabled (V-22).....	99
Operate with Alcohol Concentration Above 0.1% (V-23)	23
Refuse to Take Intoxicated ATV Test (V-24)	7
Absolute Sobriety for Person under 19 (V-25).....	0
Cause Injury by Intoxicated Operation (V-26)	1
Miscellaneous (V-27).....	5
Operate/Ride ATV w/o Head Gear (V-28).....	117
Interference with Signs and Standards (V-29).....	1
Operate ATV on ATV trail without an ATV Trail Pass (V-30).....	46
Operate ATV with detectable amount of controlled substance – first offense (V31) ...	1
Operate ATV without a valid safety certificate or fail to carry certificate on ATV and display upon request (V32)	24

Wisconsin ATV Fatality Summary – Year 2005

#	Date	Location & County	Type & Cause	Age & Sex	BAC & State	Helmet
1.	2/26/05	Town of Westboro	Collision with snowmobile	46	.000	Yes
	1:20PM	Taylor County (Public Trail)	Speed/trail Conditions/Chest and Head Injuries	M	WI	
The victim collided head on at the crest of a small hill with a snowmobile.						
2.	4/9/05	Town of Dallas	Collision with tree	14	NA	No
	1:51PM	Barron County (Private Property)	Head & Internal Injuries	F	MN	
The victim traveled down an embankment after leaving a grass field and struck a tree at an unknown speed. The victim's machine struck a tree head-on causing the victim to strike the tree with her unprotected head.						
3.	5/27/05	Town of Lemonweir	Collision with ATV / Roll Over	21	.089	No
	1:30AM	Juneau County (Road)	Head Injuries / Alcohol / Speed	M	WI	
The victim drove past another ATV that was stopped on the side of the road (on coming lane of traffic) on the right side, lost control of the ATV and rolled several times, throwing both him and his passenger.						
4.	5/20/05	Town of Barnes	Roll Over	47	NA	No
	8:00PM	Bayfield County (Road)	Alcohol / Trail Conditions	M	WI	
The victim was found with his ATV on top of him. It appears that he had been turning and lost control and later passed on 6/13/05 from injuries received in this accident. No autopsy was conducted.						
5.	7/3/05	Town of Grant	Roll Over	5	.000	No
	2:15PM	Portage County (Ditch)	Internal Chest Trauma	F	WI	
The victim was a passenger seated on the front of the ATV. The operator was attempting to drive up a steep embankment when the ATV flipped backward and rolled on top of the operator and the two passengers in a drainage ditch.						

Wisconsin ATV Fatality Summary – Year 2004						
#	Date	Location & County	Type & Cause	Age & Sex	BAC & State	Helmet
6.	7/3/05	Flambeau	Roll Over	49	NA	No
	7:10PM	Vilas County (Private Land)	Internal Chest Trauma	M	WI	
The victim was trying to load his ATV onto a trailer when the ATV flipped over backwards throwing the victim to the ground with the ATV landing on top of him.						
7. & 8.	8/23/05	Town of Prairie du Chien	Collided with a truck	Victim #1 – 9; Victim #2 – 7	BAC's not available	No
	6:06PM	Crawford County (Road)	Inexperience / Age / Head and Internal Injuries	Both Victims – M	Both Victims – WI	
The victims were following their father, who was driving a farm tractor with a chopper and chopper box, on an ATV. The victims traveled onto the road as if to cross it to a freshly hayed field across the way. Their view of the oncoming traffic was blocked by the tractor and wagon and they were stuck by a truck towing a horse trailer.						
9.	8/26/05	Foster Township	Roll Over	46	NA	No
	11:20AM	Clark County (Trail)	Internal Injuries / Speed	M	WI	
The victim was taken to the hospital after the accident and was released that same day. A few days later the victim was taken back to the hospital complaining that he was having a hard time breathing and passed away on 8/30/05 resulting from injuries received in the ATV incident on 8/26/05. No BAC due to the victim passing away a few days after the incident.						
10.	9/3/05	Town of Stephenson	Struck a tree	58	.000	No
	6:00PM	Marinette County (Driveway)	Alcohol / Horesplay / Speed / Internal Injuries	M	WI	
The victim had been drinking earlier and was driving the ATV down a gravel township road doing fish-tails, lost control while entering the driveway and struck a tree.						

Wisconsin ATV Fatality Summary – Year 2004

#	Date	Location & County	Type & Cause	Age & Sex	BAC & State	Helmet
11.	9/3/05	Town of White River	Roll Over	3	.000	No
	7:55PM	Ashland County (Private Property)	Multiple head, neck, chest trauma / Speed	M	WI	
<p>The victim was seated in front of the operator on the ATV when the operator let go of the handle bars for a brief moment and at that same time the victim applied the accelerator and pulled on one side of the handle bars tossing the operator off balance. The ATV went out of control tossing the operator with the ATV rolling over and onto the victim.</p>						
12.	9/17/05	Town of Hughs	Struck a tree	32	.263	Yes
	11:15PM	Bayfield County (Road)	Head and Neck Trauma / Alcohol	M	WI	
<p>The victim was traveling down a road when he left the road and drove down a steep ravine where contact was made with a tree.</p>						
13.	9/23/05	Town of Meeme	Struck a fixed object / Roll Over	31	.000	Yes
	7:30PM	Manitowoc County (Private Property)	Head, Neck, Internal Injuries / Speed	M	WI	
<p>The victim was riding along a trail on private property and did not negotiate a slight S curve. This resulted in the ATV's left tires leaving the trail and hitting a large dirt berm adjacent to the trail causing the ATV to go airborne, the victim was thrown off the ATV and struck the ground.</p>						
14.	10/2/05	Town of West Sweden	Roll Over	19	.000	No
	6:30PM	Polk County (Private Property)	Speed / Trail Conditions	M	MI	
<p>The victim was jumping his ATV over a sand mound and down into a sand/gravel pit (approx. 15-20 feet down). The victim was going over the jump and when he landed he went over the handle bars. It appears that the ATV landed on top of the victim and rolled over twice.</p>						

Wisconsin ATV Fatality Summary – Year 2004

#	Date	Location & County	Type & Cause	Age & Sex	BAC & State	Helmet
15.	10/8/05	Town of Lynne	Struck a tree	27	.000	No
	9:17AM	Oneida County (Road)	Speed / Inexperience	M	WI	
<p>The victim was traveling at a high rate of speed on his ATV and was trying to negotiating a curve when the ATV left the roadway and traveled approximately 120' along the ditch before striking a clump of trees.</p>						
16.	10/15/05	Town of Monroe	Struck a tree	35	.291	No
	9:35PM	Green County (Trail)	Alcohol / Head Trauma / Unfamiliar with Trail	M	IA	
<p>The victim was riding his ATV on a trail the third in line in a group of 3. The victim went of the trail going down a steep embankment where he struck several trees.</p>						
17.	10/26/05	Town of Peeksville	Collision with a culvert	48	.000	No
	5:45PM	Ashland County (Road/Trail)	Head Injuries / Speed	M	WI	
<p>The victim was riding his ATV on a road that is designated as a ATV route with a pail of corn on the right hand side foot rest next to the foot brake lever. The victim lost his cap on the road and shortly after that left the roadway hitting the end of a culvert. The ATV went airborne, landed on one wheel, crossed a driveway and hit several old logs in the ditch and struck a tree.</p>						
18.	11/2/05	Town of Rockland	Roll Over	61	.000	No
	11:46AM	Brown County (Private Property)	Head and Internal Injuries / Inexperience	F	WI	
<p>The victim was attempting to move the ATV out of a shed and the ATV was inadvertently engaged in reverse. It traveled over a pile of debris, a staircase and a utility trailer located directly behind the ATV that was in the shed. As the utility trailer was pinned between the ATV and the back wall of the shed, the ATV flipped over onto the victim.</p>						

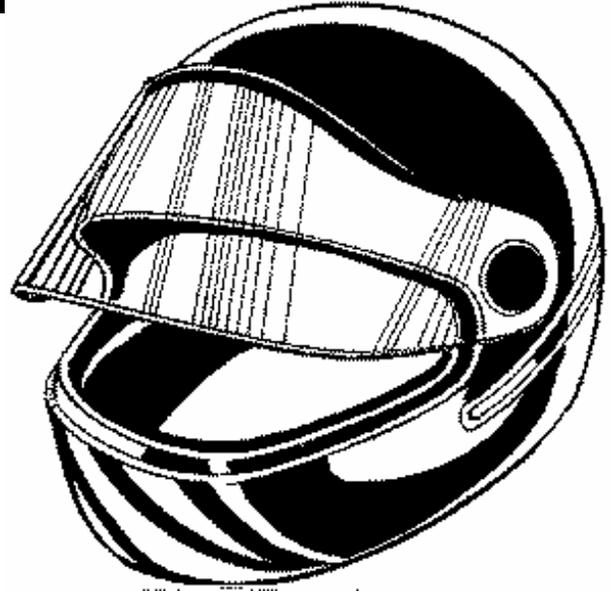
Wisconsin ATV Fatality Summary – Year 2004

#	Date	Location & County	Type & Cause	Age & Sex	BAC & State	Helmet
19.	11/23/05	Town of Summit	Struck a Tree / Roll Over	12	.000	No
	2:58PM	Douglas County (Logging Road)	Asphyxiation / Speed / Road Conditions	M	WI	
<p>The victim was driving down a forest logging road and it appears that the victim's ATV left the road on a curve struck an embankment / stump and rolled over.</p>						
20.	11/25/05	Town of Lyndon	Fell through ice	12	NA	No
	12:41PM	Sheboygan County (Lake)	Inexperience / Drowning	M	WI	
<p>The victim was out hunting with a neighbor, when the neighbor came back to the location where he had parked his ATV he found it was gone. When he got closer to the location that the ATV was left he observed the ATV in the pond along with the victim in the water.</p>						
21.	12/12/05	Town of Delavan	Fell through ice	48	.177	Yes
	10:00PM	Walworth County (Lake)	Alcohol / Ice Conditions / Drowning	M	WI	
<p>The victim had made a statement that he was riding his ATV across the lake to his residence on 12/11/05 and was reported missing on 12/12/05. A search of the lake revealed a helmet and upside down ATV floating in the lake and the victim was later found in that location by the dive team.</p>						
22.	12/15/05	Town of Superior	Roll Over	47	.000	Yes
	Unknown	Douglas County (River)	Drowning	M	WI	
<p>The victim was last seen on 12/15/05 while unloading an ATV along Hwy 105 and the Trail 2 intersection. After overdue at work on 12/19/05 a search of the area was initiated. On 12/20/05 a local snowmobile club working trail maintenance observed an overturned, snow covered ATV along the bank of a river. It appears the victim was crossing the river & attempted to climb the river bank when the ATV overturned. The ATV and victim broke through the thinner ice located along shore and the victim was pinned under water.</p>						

WEAR YOUR HELMET

While you **Ride**
Responsibly...
Under control...
&
SOBER

and you will....



Ride for life



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<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/enforcement/safety/atvsaf.htm>