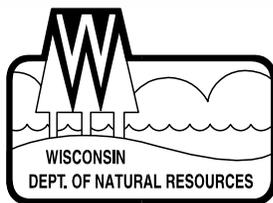


# Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources 2002-2003 Snowmobile Enforcement & Safety Report



Produced by the Bureau of Law  
Enforcement, Recreation Enforcement  
and Education Section  
PUB-LE-203 2003



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**2002-2003 Snowmobile Program Report  
Summary**

The 2002-2003 Snowmobile Program Report was compiled from the 26 fatal investigations and other data collected during the fiscal year 2002-2003 (a fiscal year runs from July 1 – June 30).

Conservation Wardens investigate all fatal snowmobile incidents and as such, Wisconsin law requires that a conservation warden or law enforcement officer be notified immediately of any snowmobile incident that results in 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, in so far as they are capable of doing so.

**FATAL INCIDENT CAUSES**

The primary type of crash causing the victim's death continues to be striking a fixed object such as trees or ice/rock. The secondary type of crash leading to the victim's death this reporting period was water related. The leading contributing factors were excessive speed, with alcohol consumption and poor ice conditions.

There were 9 (7 the previous year) fatal crashes that investigators directly identified speed as a contributing factor to the death of the operator/passenger. Of the 9 speed related fatalities, 7 of those who died had consumed alcohol or 77% (57% the previous year) of the speed related victims.

Alcohol was identified as another major contributing factor. The 2002-03 laws expressly stated a person is under the influence of alcohol once their blood alcohol level reaches 0.10; however, for the purposes of this report, any alcohol level identified in the coroner's report (by percent) is considered to be a contributing factor.

Eighty-four percent (22 of the victims) of the known toxicology reports performed show alcohol was consumed by the victim. Toxicology examinations were not performed on three victims; one victim had no alcohol present. A review of the alcohol involved fatalities show that no victims had less than 0.03 alcohol levels. Twenty-three percent of the victims that consumed alcohol showed levels from 0.03 to 0.099%. Sixty-three percent of the victims that consumed alcohol had levels from 0.10 to 0.199%. The other fourteen percent of the alcohol related victims were reported at 0.20 or above, with one victim result at 0.230.

**WHO WAS INVOLVED**

All 26 of the victims were male. Victim ages ranged from 15-54 years, with the average age 35.3 years old; last season's average age was 38.9 years. The largest percentage of victims was age 30-39 years. This statistic changed from last season's 40-49 age group, which made up the largest percentage of victims. The second largest age group was age 40-49 years at 31%. One child under 16 was killed this reporting period. Of the 26 fatal incidents, 24 of the victims were Wisconsin residents while 1 was from Illinois and 1 from Minnesota. The majority of the victims (23) had not received Wisconsin Snowmobile Safety Training. Of the 26 victims, 24 were known to have been wearing a helmet, 1 was not wearing a helmet and 1 was unknown.

## WHEN DO THE FATAL INCIDENTS OCCUR

A correlation was observed by reviewing fatality statistics for the past ten years. Inferences can be drawn as to the time of day and the day of the week that fatal incidents are most likely to occur. Statistics show the majority of the snowmobilers were fatally injured on Friday, Saturday or Sunday. Saturdays show a higher number of victims over any other day. The time of day/night that snowmobilers are most likely to be involved in a deadly incident is between the hours of 7:00 pm - 3:00 am.

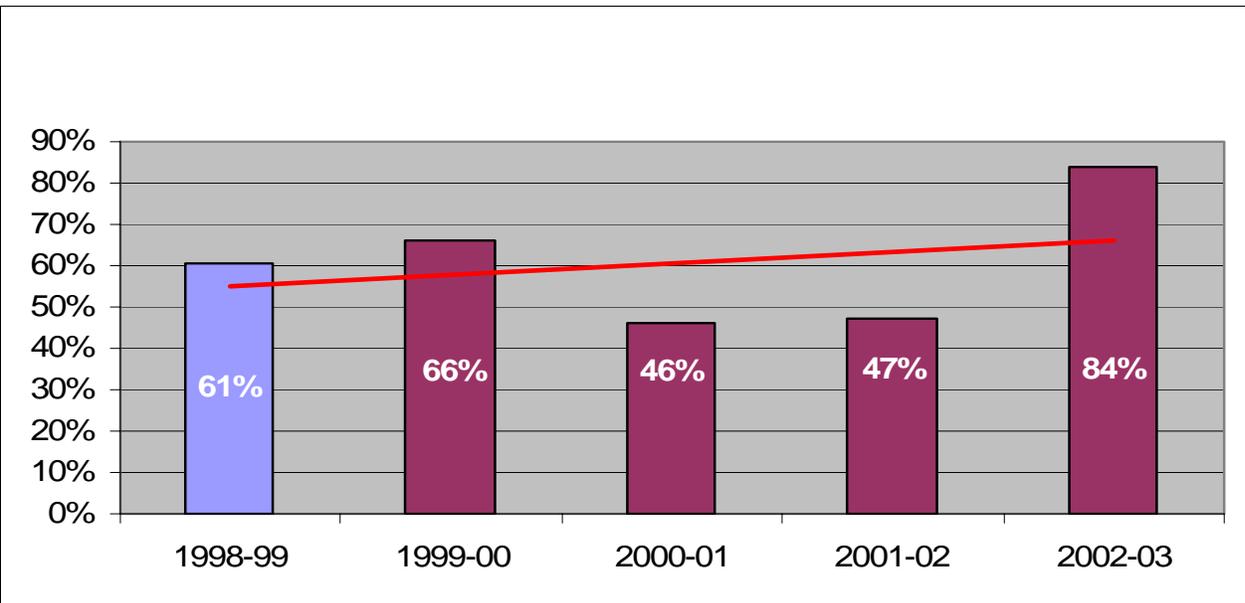
## FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED

The statewide 2002-2003 snowmobile season never really acquired traditional snowfall depths, began late and was essentially the same as the previous year. One significant difference from the previous year was the amount of open lake water that essentially remained a hazard throughout the season. This phenomenon was a contributing factor for six of the fatal incidents. Many trails in the southern portion of the state did not open the entire season and trails in the north were plagued with poor snow depths resulting in less than prime conditions.

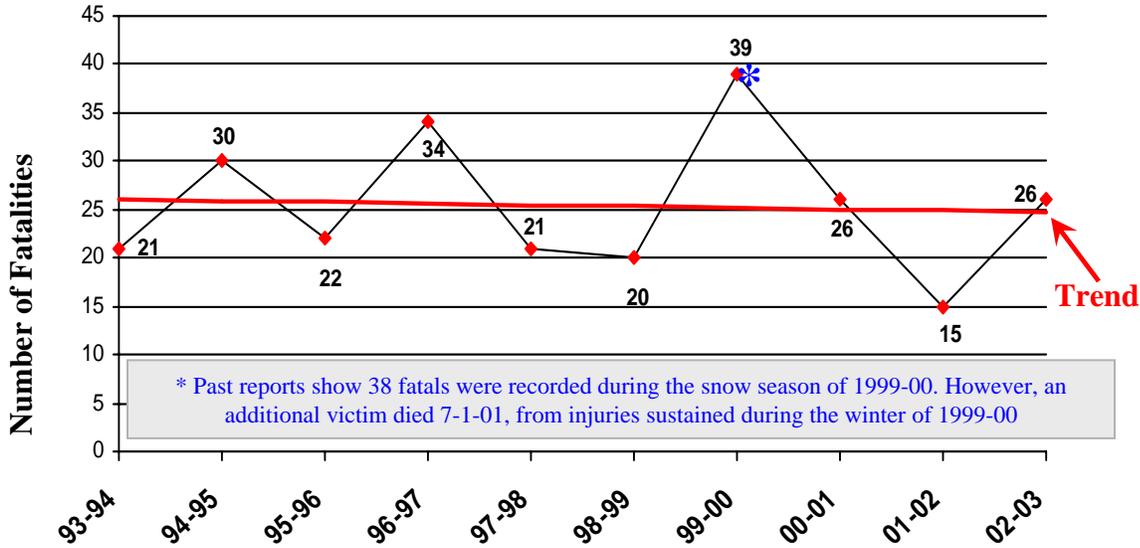
The past two years of uncooperative weather appears to have had effects on the number of registered snowmobiles in Wisconsin. Drops in both Wisconsin registrations and nonresident trail passes were noted. Another fact that was noted, showed a drop in the number of students that participated in snowmobile safety education training.

A dramatic and alarming statistic was observed this season. Eighty-four percent of the fatal victims had consumed alcohol. This measurement was almost double from the previous two years observation.

Wisconsin has been tracking alcohol involved fatalities for many years with traditional results showing alcohol as a contributing factor in about 75% of the deaths. A more recent snapshot of this trend shows a varied picture.



## History of Snowmobile Fatalities

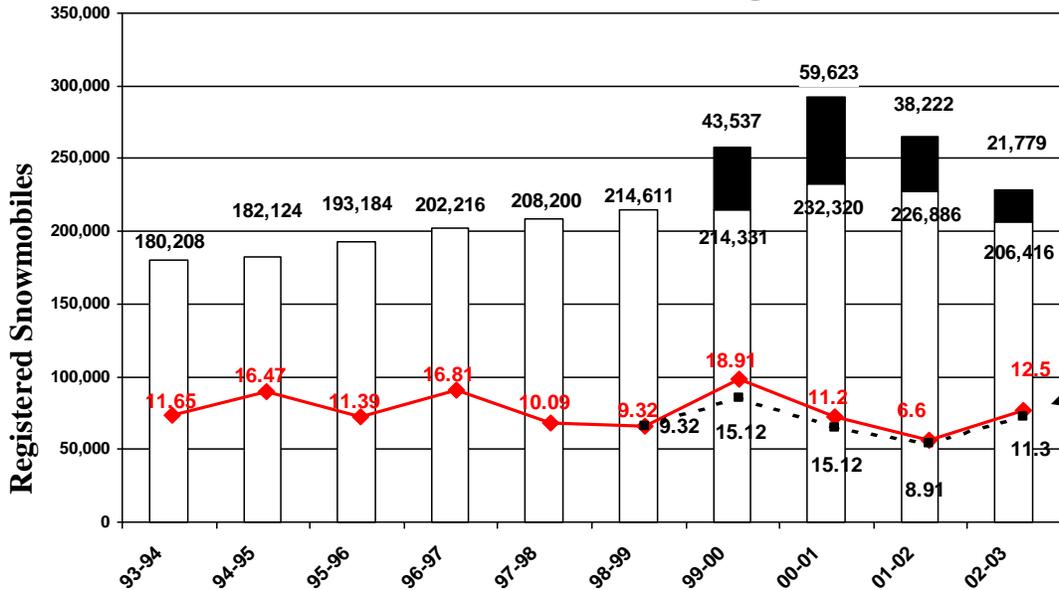


The 10-year fatal average is 25 deaths per year.

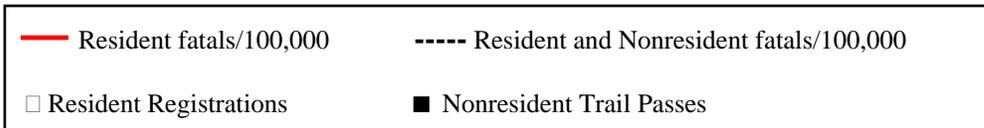
The amount of snowfall and number of hours ridden, are not reflected and can affect the number of fatalities that occur.

Beginning the 1999-2000 season, the nonresident trail pass became required for all snowmobiles not registered in WI and as a result the Department was able to identify the number of nonresident snowmobiles operated in WI.

## Snowmobile Fatality Rate to Number of Snowmobiles Registered



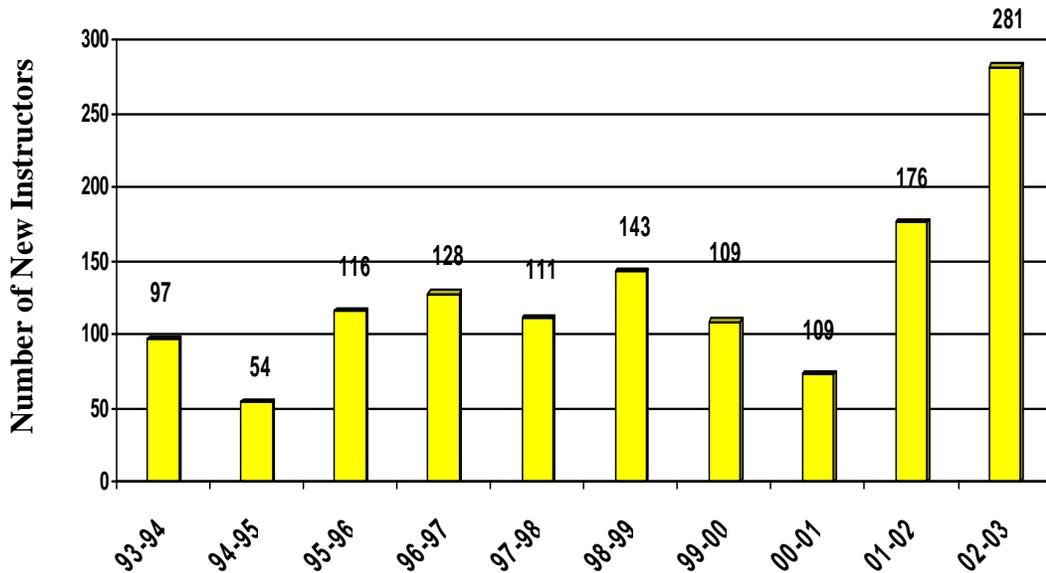
Fatals per 100,000 Registrations.



## History of Newly Recruited Snowmobile Education Instructors

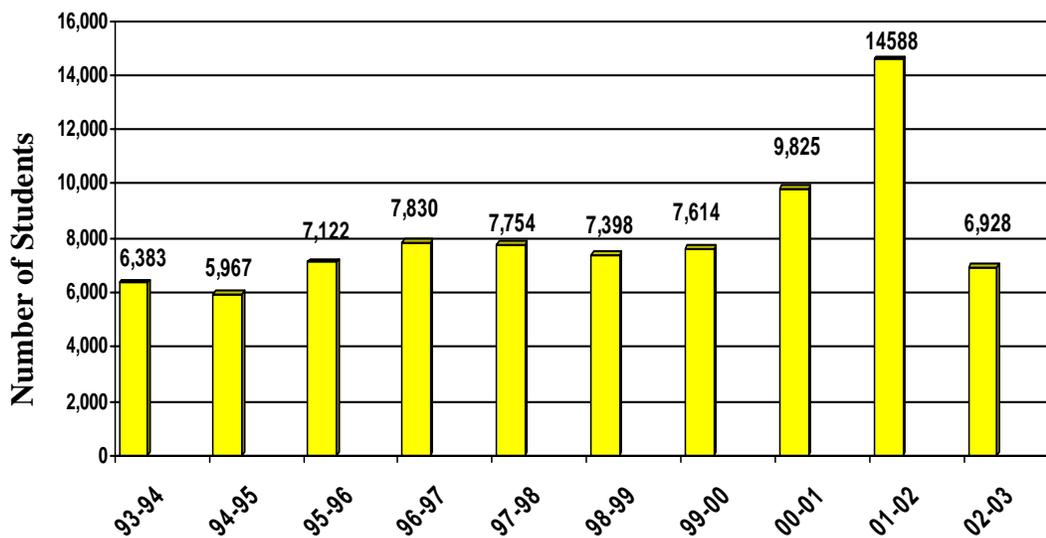
The total number of active instructors for 2002-2003 was 1,317. This number is up due to a push to activate new instructors largely with the help of the Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs.

Over 231,055 students have been certified by volunteer instructors.



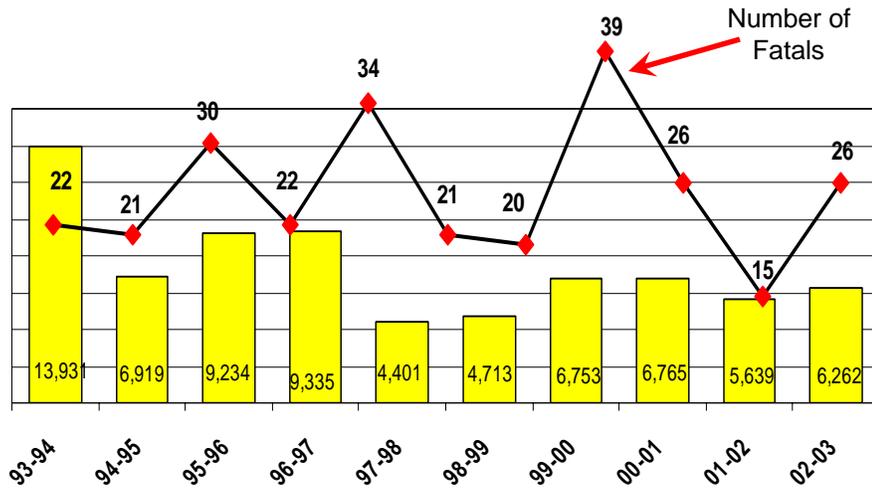
## History of Certified Snowmobile Students

Certification requires a student to complete a basic Wisconsin snowmobile training course. Course content includes: knowing your snowmobile, maintenance and repair, riding, personal safety, winter survival, laws, courtesy and ethics.



## History of Snowmobile Fatality Rate to Warden Enforcement Hours

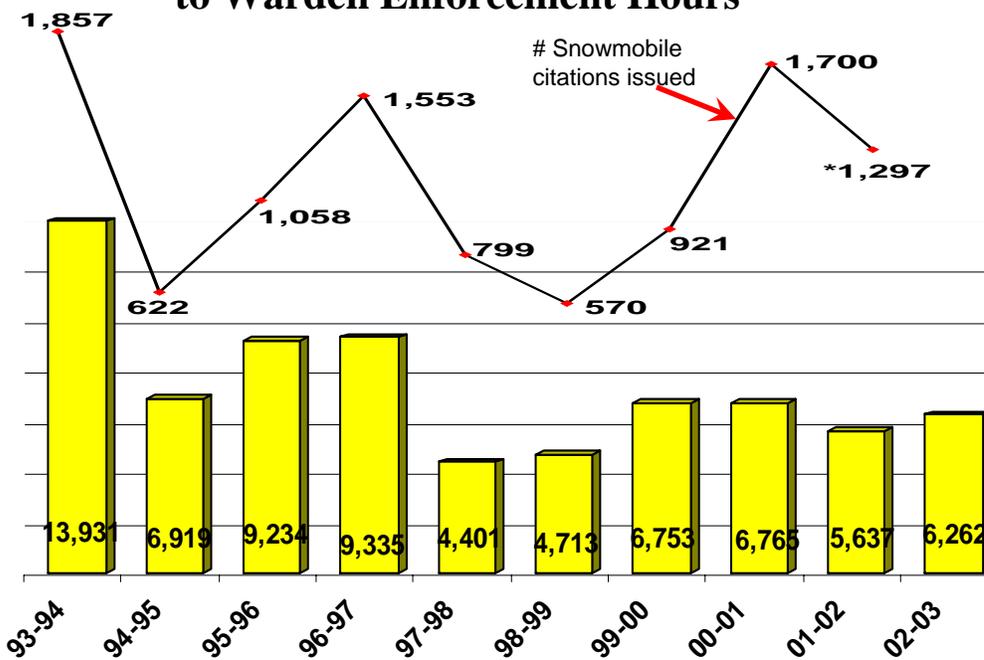
Warden Enforcement Hours



In 1999-2000, the department changed the tracking method used to collect data on the hours spent for enforcement issues. As a result, enforcement hours no longer include time involved with court, snowmobile maintenance, etc. and are more representative of the actual enforcement hours used.

## History of Snowmobile Citation Rate to Warden Enforcement Hours

Warden Enforcement Hours



The citations for sheriff patrols and wardens were combined for the first time 2000-2001.

Prior to 2000-2001, the citations listed are for wardens only.

\*See page 13 for an explanation.

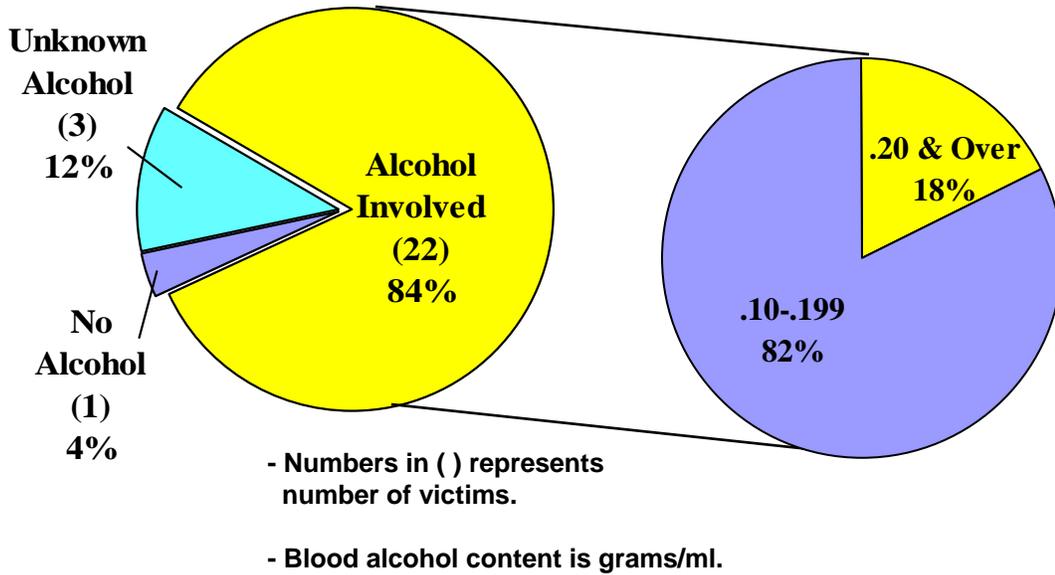
2002-2003, the average blood alcohol level for all victims reached 0.144.

The average victim blood alcohol levels for 2001-2002 increased to over 0.200.

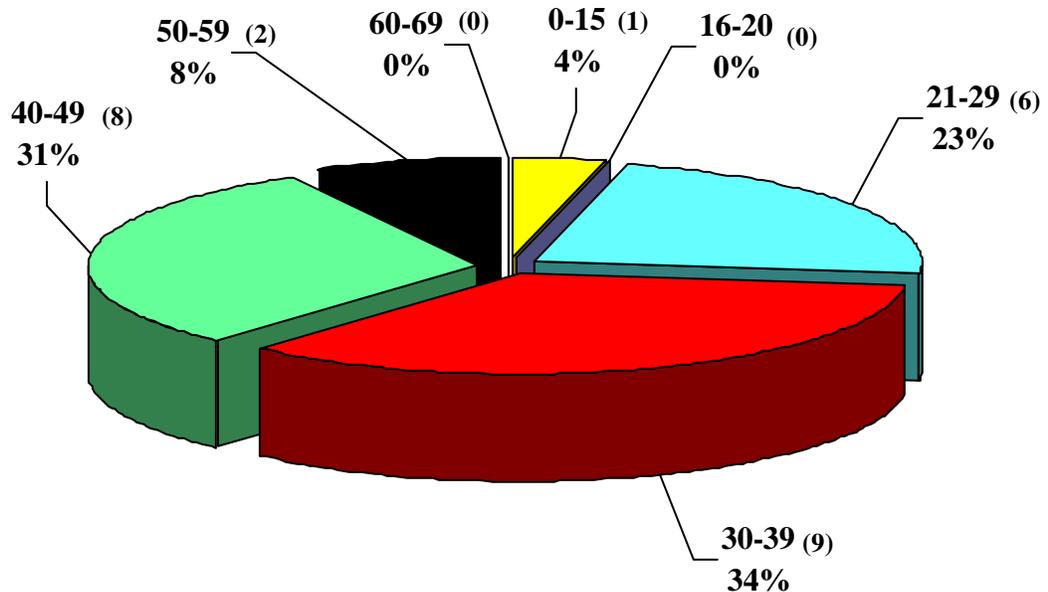
The 2002-2003 season showed that alcohol was a contributing factor in 84% of all fatalities.

One 2002-2003 alcohol involved fatal was recorded at 0.230

### 2002-2003 Alcohol Involved Snowmobile Fatalities



### 2002-2003 Age of Snowmobile Fatality Victims

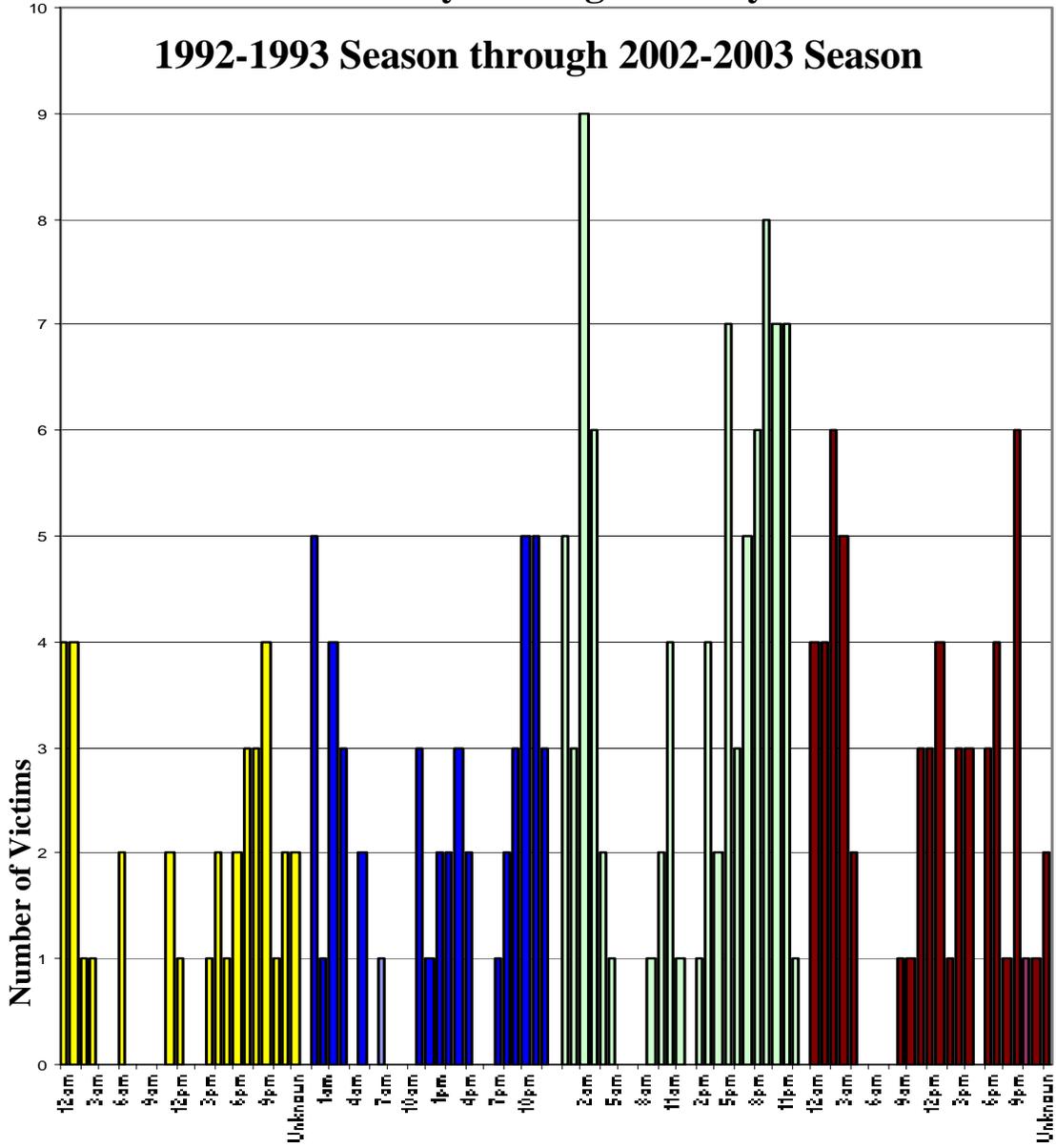


The average age for the victims killed was 35.3 years old as compared to 38.9 years in 2001-2002.

# Snowmobile Fatal Incidents by Time of Day

## Thursdays through Sundays

1992-1993 Season through 2002-2003 Season



Fatal incidents have the highest frequency of occurrence on Saturdays.

The early morning hours generally involve single operator incidents.

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

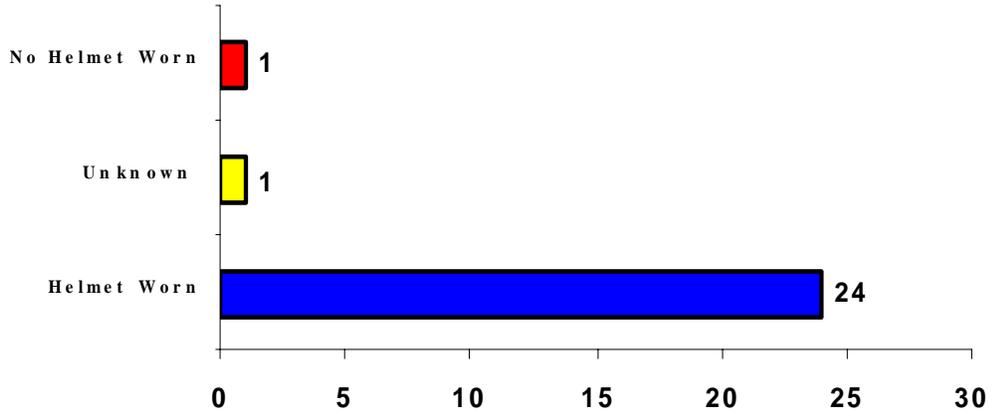
Sunday

## 2002-2003 Fatal Snowmobile

### Victim Helmet Use

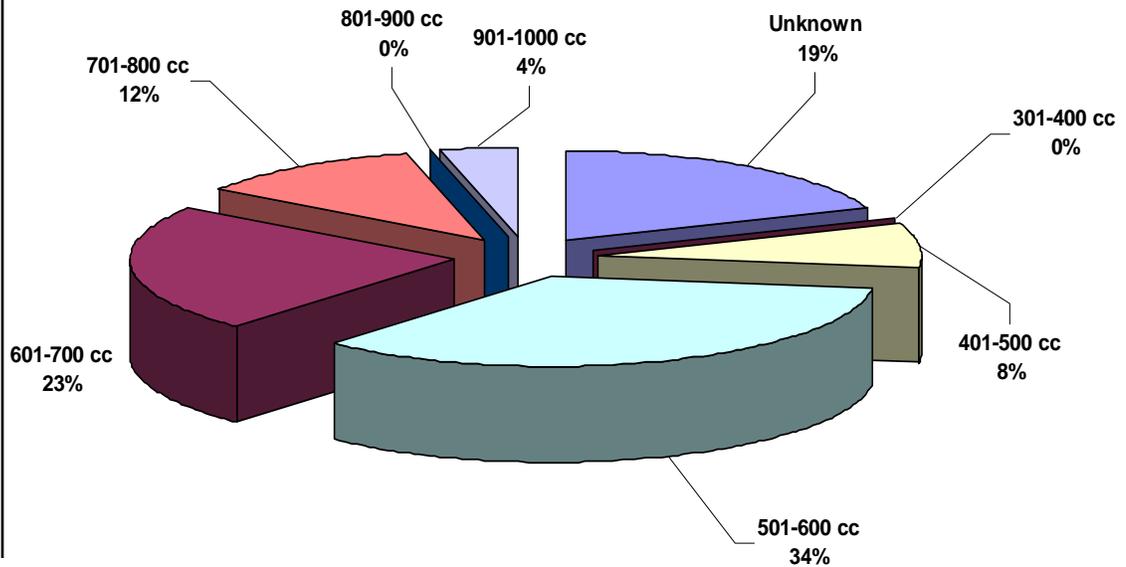
Victims traditionally wear helmets.

Unknown helmet use is because the victim was missing (drowned) or the helmet was not on the victim at the time of discovery.

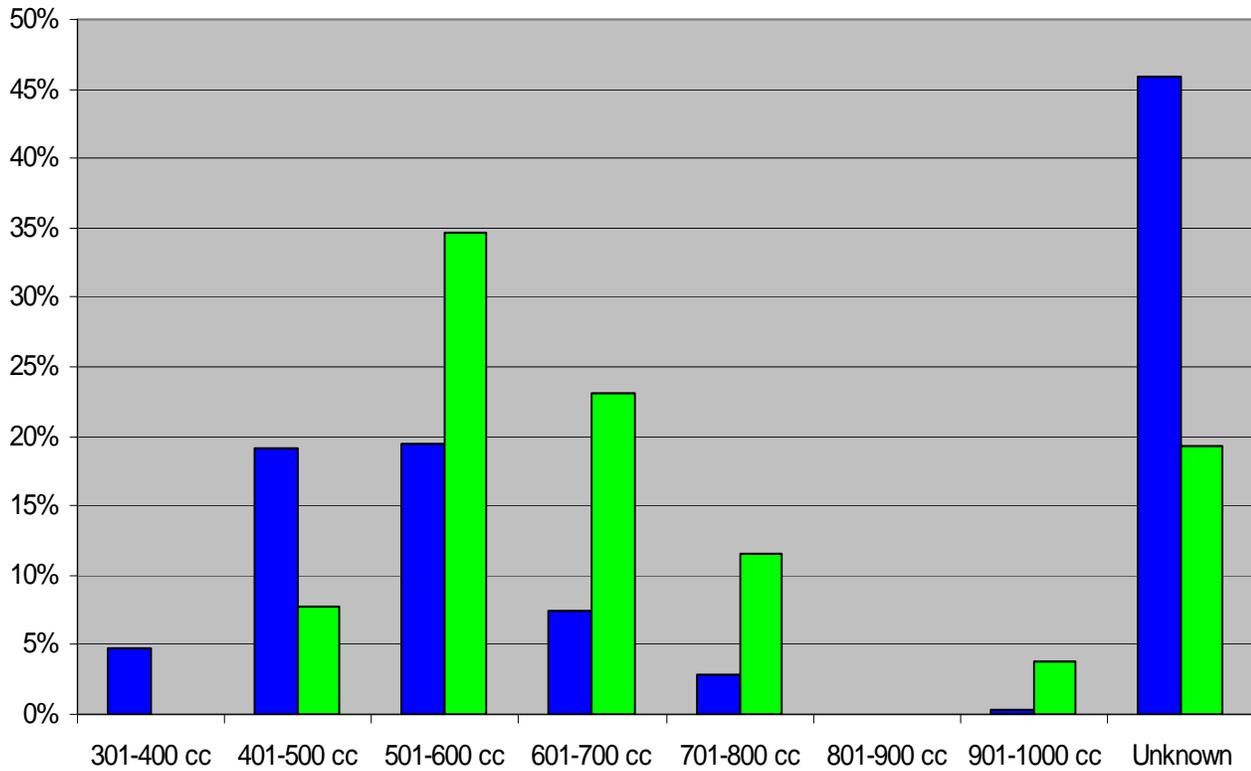


Historically, the 500 CC engine-powered snowmobile has made up the greatest number of snowmobiles involved in fatal incidents.

### 2002-2003 Snowmobile Engine Displacement for Machines Involved in Fatal Snowmobile Incidents



## 2002-2003 All Wisconsin Registered Snowmobiles Engine Displacement Compared to Victim Machines



2002-03 Fatal Victim Snowmobiles  
 2002-03 All WI Snowmobiles  
 Engine Displacement Determined by Registration Analysis

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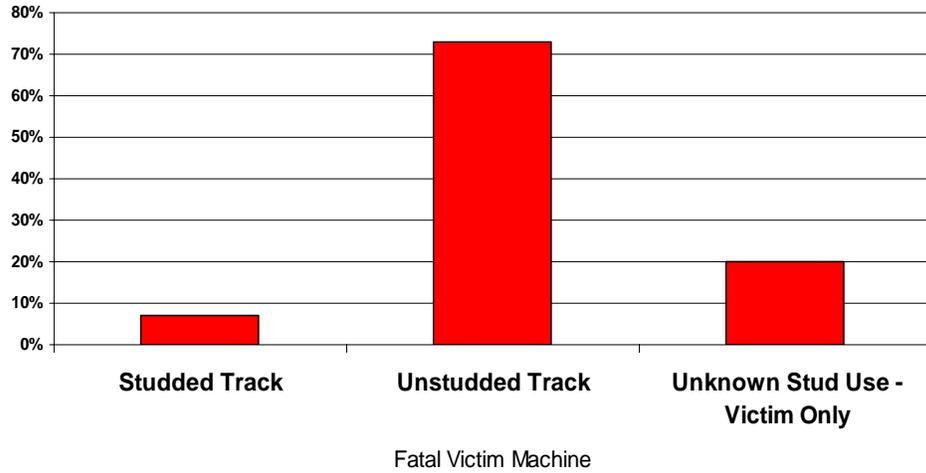
**The Wisconsin snowmobile registration system contained over 90,000 (unknown) entries that either did not report a CC engine size displacement or the machine's engine capacity was recorded in horsepower units.**

## 2002-2003 Studded Snowmobile Track

A survey of snowmobilers conducted in October 2001 indicates that 46.6% of the surveyed snowmobilers used studded tracks.

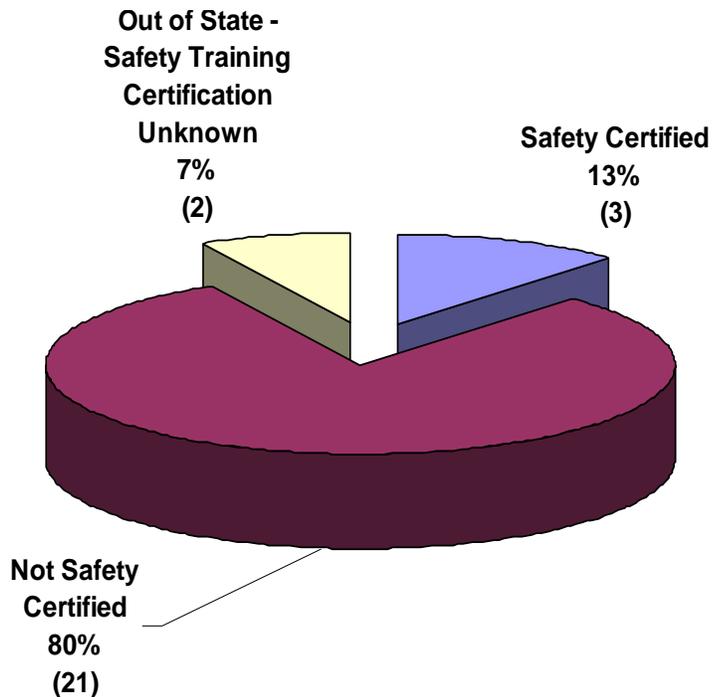
Source - Governor's Snowmobile Recreation Council, 10-12-01

### Fatality Victim's Use



## 2002-2003 Fatal Snowmobile Victim Operators with Wisconsin DNR Safety Training Certification

Beginning January 1, 2001, a Snowmobile Safety Certificate became required for all operators born on or after January 1, 1985.



## 2001-2002 Citations Issued for Snowmobile Violations

<b>Total Citations</b> .....	<b>1,297</b>
Operate Snowmobile w/o Valid Registration (S-1) .....	205
Fail to or Improper Display of Registration Number or Decal (S-2) .....	123
Operate Snowmobile w/o Possession of Valid Certificate (S-3) .....	90
Fail to Transfer Registration of Snowmobile (S-4).....	27
Give Permission to Operate a Snowmobile not Registered (S-5) .....	57
Transport Uncased Strung Bow on a Snowmobile (S-09) .....	0
Shoot From a Snowmobile (S-10) .....	2
Operate in Prohibited Area on Lands Controlled by DNR (S-11) .....	10
Highway and Roadway Violations (S-12) .....	197
Equipment Violation (S-14).....	0
Permit Operation by Person Incapable Because	
of Age, Physical or Mental Disability (S-15).....	28
Fail to Report Snowmobile Accident (S-16).....	9
Operate at/in Unreasonable, Improper or Careless Speed/manner (S-17) .....	70
Fail to Display Lights when Required (S-18) .....	3
Trespass 'Sec. 350.10(6) through (13) Wis. Stats.' (S-19) .....	66
Miscellaneous (S-20) .....	1
Dealer Failing to Collect Fee & Submit Registration Applications (S-21).....	0
Fail to Stop for Law Enforcement Officer (S-22).....	2
Fail to Render Aid (S-23).....	1
Operate Snowmobile while Intoxicated (S-24).....	50
Operate Snowmobile with Alcohol Concentration Above .1% (S-25) .....	36
Refuse to Take Intoxicated Snowmobile Test (S-26) .....	8
Absolute Sobriety for Persons Under 19 (S-27) .....	1
Operate Snowmobile that Makes Excessive or Unusual Noise (S-28) .....	89
Operate Snowmobile w/o Muffler on Engine (S-29).....	7
Cause Injury by Intoxicated Operation of Snowmobile (S-30).....	2
Operate w/o Trail Use Sticker (S-33) .....	152
Operate (Manufacture or Seller) Snowmobile w/o Functioning Muffler (S-34) .....	4
Fail to Comply with Regulatory Signs (S-35).....	57

**Citations reflect Sheriff Patrol and Conservation Warden data.**

**The numbers of citations reported are for the 2001-2002 snowmobile season. The 2002-03 snowmobile season start and conclusion directly effected the number of citations issued and processed through the court system. As a result, the Department recognizes an abnormal number of citations have not been returned from the court system and have not been entered into the DNR citation database for the 2002-03 snowmobile season.**

## Wisconsin Snowmobile Fatality Summary – 2002/2003 Season

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
1.	1/03/03 19:05	City of Chetek Barron County Lake	Fell through ice Drowning/Alcohol	34 Male	.155 WI	No

The victim was operating a 440-cc snowmobile and broke through thin ice on Prairie Lake while operating under the CTH D bridge in the city of Chetek. A fellow rider in the lead successfully passed under the bridge on the ice. The fellow rider looked back and did not see his partner. The fellow rider investigated and found open water and a floating helmet with no sign of the victim or his machine. The Chetek Fire Department Ice Rescue Team responded and recovered the victim from 14-feet of water approximately 30-minutes after the victim became submerged.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
2.	1/05/03 13:22	Town of Poygan Winnebago County Lake	Fell through ice Drowning/Hypothermia	44 Male	.085 WI	No

The victim was operating his snowmobile on the western side of Lake Poygan when it broke through thin ice and sank in 6-7 feet of water. A nearby fisher attempted to get as close to the victim as possible after hearing victim calling for help, but was unable to reach victim due to dangerous ice conditions. Using a cell phone, the fisher called 911 on the way to help the victim. The victim eventually went underwater and was under approximately 4 - 5 minutes when a rescue boat arrived. The victim was still alive, but unconscious and CPR was performed.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
3.	1/11/03 16:34	Town of Hunter Sawyer County Lake	Fell through ice Drowning	41 Male	.062 WI	Yes

The victim's snowmobile fell through the ice into open water. The victim attempted to swim to safe ice until he physically became incapable. Two other subjects that were following the victim retrieved a rowboat and rescued the victim in the open water. The victim was unresponsive to CPR.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
4.	1/17/03 12:15	Town of Presque Vilas County Lake	Hit trees. Head, neck & spinal injuries.	54 Male	.060 IL	No

Victim and friend were snowmobiling on Lynx Lake to return to the cabin that they were staying at, victim was ahead of the friend and going quite a bit faster. Victim veered over toward the shoreline and was unable to stop before striking trees along the shoreline.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
5.	1/18/03	Town of Presque	Rollover/Struck tree	24	.000	No
	11:10	Vilas County Roadway	Internal injuries/trauma.	Male	IL	

Victim was 3rd in line of 8 snowmobiles. The first snowmobile stopped in the middle of the road at the bottom of a hill. The second snowmobile was able to move to the right and stop to avoid the 1st. The victim operator of the 3rd snowmobile was able to avoid the 1st snowmobile but rolled the snowmobile and struck a tree along the road.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
6.	1/19/03	Town of Delevan	Fell through ice.	42	.144	No
	18:25	Walworth County Lake	Drowning/Alcohol	Male	WI	

The victim's snowmobile fell through the ice into open water. Unknown individual knocked on an ice shanty and stated that he had seen a snowmobile break through the ice. The person in the ice shanty and another individual walked toward the location where the snowmobile went down. The ice went from 8 inches to 4 inches about 50 yards from the hole in the ice. One individual (passenger) was found floating in the water. Victim was transported to Mercy Medical Center and treated for hypothermia. Victim was found by divers submerged in 37 feet of water.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
7.	1/21/03	Town of West Bend	Fell through ice.	21	Not Available	No
	07:35	Washington County	Drowning/Hypothermia	Male	WI	

As victim and friend were testing out a snowmobile on Big Cedar Lake the machine broke through thin ice. Both riders ended up in the water. Operator was rescued by a nearby lake resident who heard cries for help. The passenger, a non-swimmer, was later recovered by a dive team.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
8.	1/25/03	Town of Hunter	Thrown from machine.	43	.111	No
	18:30	Sawyer County Trail	Massive internal injury &bleeding. High rate of speed & operator error.	Male	MN	

Victim was operating the second snowmobile in a group of four snowmobiles. The lead snowmobile approached a trail crossing with a highway and stopped at the top of a slope. Victim was operating his snowmobile at a high rate of speed over the embankment which caused the snowmobile to become airborne over the roadway. When the snowmobile landed on the frozen surface of the lake it rolled several times nearly end over end. Victim was thrown from the snowmobile and landed in a wetland fringe of the lake. Victim suffered an internal injury to a pulmonary artery on his heart causing massive internal bleeding.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
9.	2/01/03	Town of Friendship	Hit block of ice.	36	.130	No
	22:30	Fond du Lac County Lake	Multiple traumatic injuries/Speed, conditions, alcohol.	Male	WI	

The snowmobile victim operator was traveling along shoreline and hit a basketball-sized block of ice frozen to the lake's surface. The snowmobile then hit a small snowdrift and launched approximately 33 ½ feet before landing. The victim was ejected and the snowmobile continued for approximately 74 feet where it stopped. Estimated speed was 60 miles per hour. Preliminary investigation suggests the victim suffered fatal neck injuries.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
10.	2/02/03	Town of Dale	Speed, reckless behavior.	15	Not Available	No
	11:00	Outagamie County Trail	Traumatic injuries.	Male	WI	

The victim and friend, both juveniles, were headed north on the Wiouwash Recreational Trail when the sled came upon Spring Road, which runs perpendicular to the trail. Preliminary investigation of the scene indicates the snowmobile left the ground as it crossed Spring Road, landing on the trail approximately 60 feet later and then skidding or tumbling another 120 feet to where it came to rest. Preliminary investigation of the scene indicates the victim suffered head and neck injuries. The passenger was injured and taken to Appleton Medical Center.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
11.	2/06/03	Town of Bailey's Harbor	Fell through ice.	39	.205	No
	24:15	Door County Lake	Hypothermia/Alcohol	Male	WI	

Victim was operating his snowmobile across Kangaroo Lake and drove into area of open water or minimal ice. Victim was able to climb out of the water and onto the ice and walked a distance of approximately three-quarters of a mile across the lake towards his residence collapsing on the ice less than seventy yards from the his residence.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
12.	2/06/03	Town of Lincoln	Missed a curve and hit trees	41	.225	Yes
	19:30	Forest County Roadway	Head injuries	Male	WI	

Victim was first in line of a group of 3 snowmobiles traveling at approximately 50-60 mph. The group was going around a gradual corner to the left when companions discovered the victim had missed the curve and went off the trail into some trees about 10' off the trail. Victim had apparent head injuries.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
13.	2/07/03	Town of Hazelhurst	Struck a tree.	31	.193	Yes
	01:50	Oneida County Trail	Head injuries/Alcohol/Speed	Male	WI	

Victim was traveling approximately 60-75 mph when he veered to the right off the trail he was traveling and went down a steep bank. In doing so the victim went off the trail striking a tree.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
<b>14.</b>	2/08/03 02:00	Town of Grant Clark County Trail	Struck a tree. Massive chest injury/alcohol	24 Male	.152 WI	No

Victim was traveling on a snowmobile trail heading back to his parent's residence when he did not negotiate a turn in the trail correctly and struck a tree.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
<b>15.</b>	2/08/03 02:19	Town of Mountain Oconto County Trail	Struck a tree and large rock. Massive head and neck fracture. Alcohol/Speed	28 Male	.159 WI	No

Victim was traveling a snowmobile trail and left the trail traveling a distance of 255 feet and striking brush before being impaled at a tree and large rock.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
<b>16.</b>	2/08/03 20:37	Lake Winnebago Winnebago County Roadway	Hit by snowmobile Massive injuries/Alcohol/Speed	22 Male	.161 WI	No

Victim was traveling along the lake shoreline when he struck a snow clump, which caused the victim to be thrown from the snowmobile. While lying or kneeling on the ice the victim was hit by another snowmobile traveling with the same group. Operator of striking snowmobile was under the influence with a BAC of .130.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
<b>17.</b>	2/08/03 17:51	Town of Lodi Columbia County Lake	Collision with fixed object Head injury	46 Male	.030 WI	No

A father (victim) and son were snowmobiling on Lake Wisconsin. They became separated near islands on Lake Wisconsin. The victim went around one side of the island and his son the other side. The victim and machine were observed sliding on the ice after hitting an expansion crack. A call was made to Poynette EMS and Med Flight responded as well as a warden and deputy sheriff. The victim died on 02-14-03.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
<b>18.</b>	2/09/03 02:00	Town of Tipler Florence County Roadway	Snowmobile rolled over with victim. Asphyxia/Alcohol.	33 Male	.180 WI	No

Initial investigation indicates that the victim traveled a short distance in the ditch area along the highway. It appeared that the victim's snowmobile was stopped or very nearly stopped and then rolled over down into the ditch. The victim had also rolled into the ditch and the snowmobile rolled onto the victim's head.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
19.	2/14/03	Town of Middle Inlet	Collision with a fixed object.	50	.125	No
	21:30	Marinette County Trail	Chest and abdominal injuries, alcohol	Male	WI	

The victim was operating a 700-cc snowmobile alone on a snowmobile trail. The victim apparently lost control on a sharp curve to the left and rolled the snowmobile. The victim was found along the trail by other snowmobilers at about 9:30 PM. The victim was pronounced dead at the scene.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
20.	2/14/03	Town of Nashville	Collision with fixed object.	28	.166	No
	23:00	Forest County Trail	Traumatic injury to spine/Alcohol/Speed	Male	WI	

The victim was 3rd in a group of 4 snowmobiles operating at high speed on a snowmobile trail. The victim apparently lost control after cresting a hill, veered off the trail and struck some trees that were 8 feet off the trail.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
21.	2/16/03	Town of Scandinavia	Collision with fixed object.	44	.187	No
	18:10	Waupaca County Road/RR grade	Neck trauma/Alcohol/Speed	Male	WI	

A DNR Warden was notified that there had been a one-vehicle fatal snowmobile accident. An observer reported a body in the road and called for an ambulance. First responders found the man dead. It appeared the victim had been riding his snowmobile eastbound on an abandoned railroad grade that had been closed and was posted no trespassing. A cable was stretched across the grade with a piece of blaze orange PVC pipe on it. The victim hit the cable and traveled approximately 30 ft with the sled.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
22.	2/16/03	Town of Leon	Collision with fixed object.	45	.033	No
	22:22	Monroe County Road	Head, neck, abdominal trauma.	Male	WI	

The Monroe County Police Department received a report of a snowmobile accident west of County Highway XX approximately .5 mile north of a tavern located in Cashton, Wisconsin. Deputies responded and located an unresponsive operator. The preliminary investigation revealed the victim failed to follow the marked trail and went airborne over the Little La Crosse River. The victim impacted a steep bank on the north side of the river before coming to rest in an agricultural field. First responders provided medical assistance. The victim was transported to the Franciscan Skemp Hospital in Sparta and was pronounced dead a short time later.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
23.	2/22/03 01:30	Town of Hiles Forest County (trail)	Collison with a fixed objective. Neck and internal injuries/Alcohol	35 Male	.230 WI	No

Victim was leader of a group of 4 snowmobiles heading to a cabin from a tavern. Victim took a wrong turn down a road and by the time victim came back to the correct road the rest of the group had passed the victim. Group went looking for victim and found victim had crashed. Investigation indicated that the victim's snowmobiles right ski caught on unplowed snow and that caused the snowmobile to be pulled off the road and into the ditch and trees. Speed and alcohol appear to be the leading factors but still under investigation.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
24.	2/25/03 17:15	Town of Bayview Bayfield County (trail)	Struck tree Massive chest trauma, broken neck/speed/alcohol	34 Male	.197 MN	No

Victim was found laying next to a tree approximately 5 feet 6 inches from the trail. Victims helmet was already off. Based on the investigation of the scene it is believed that the victim was driving too fast on the trail and hit a tree with the left ski of his snowmobile, spun around, and continued to travel down hill on its side.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
25.	3/1/03 23:10	Town of Bayview Bayfield County (trail)	Struck tree Fractured skull and neck/Alcohol	35 Male	.184 IL	No

The victim had gotten ahead of his two companions on a snowmobile trail and when the companions caught up with him it was observed that he had driven off the trail and struck a tree. Initial investigation showed that the victim was traveling at a high rate of speed. The snowmobile left the trail and struck a tree with the right ski. The snowmobile was spun around and it is believed that the victim was thrown from the snowmobile and struck a tree with his helmet. Initial information from the coroner indicated that the victim suffered major trauma to the head but is still under investigation.

#	Date	Location	Type & Cause of death - Primary/Secondary	Age/ Sex	BAC/ Residency	Safety Certified
26.	3/10/03 09:40	Town of Elcho Langlade County (trail)	Struck by a snowmobile Speed	30 Male	Not Available WI	No No

Victim was second in a group of 4 snowmobiles. The group approached a sharp corner to the right and the first snowmobile missed the curve and went off the trail. The victim also missed the curve and went off the trail into some brush and fell off as the snowmobile tipped on it's side. The third snowmobile missed the curve as well as the fourth, with the fourth snowmobile hitting the victim.

