

# Findings from the HURT Study

- 1. Approximately three-fourths of these motorcycle accidents involved collision with another vehicle, which was most usually a passenger automobile.**
- 2. Approximately one fourth of these motorcycle accidents were single vehicle accidents involving the motorcycle colliding with the roadway or some fixed object in the environment.**
- 3. In the single vehicle accident, motorcycle rider error was present as the accident precipitating factor in about two-thirds of the cases, with the typical error being a slideout and fall due to overbraking or running wide on a curve due to excess speed or under-cornering.**
- 4. Weather is NOT a factor in 98% of motorcycle accidents.**
- 5. The motorcycle riders involved in accidents are essentially without training; 92% were self-taught or learned from family or friends.**
- 6. Most motorcycle accidents involve a short trip associated with shopping, errands, friends, entertainment or recreation, and the accident is likely to happen in a very short time close to the trip origin.**
- 7. Almost half of the fatal accidents show alcohol involvement.**
- 8. Motorcycle riders in these accidents showed significant collision avoidance problems.**
- 9. Motorcycle modifications such as those associated with semi-chopper or café racer are definitely overrepresented in accidents.**
- 10. There is not liability for neck injury by wearing a safety helmet; helmeted riders had less neck injuries than unhelmeted riders. Only four minor injuries were attributable to helmet use, and in each case the helmet prevented possible critical or fatal head injury.**
- 11. Most common statement uttered by accident involved riders was..."hold my beer and watch this!!"**