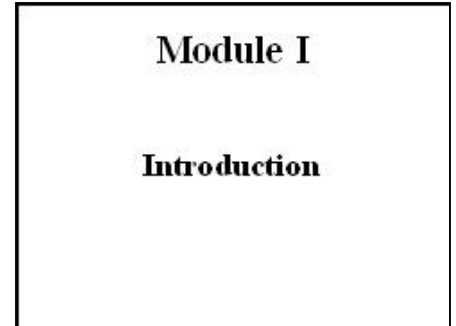


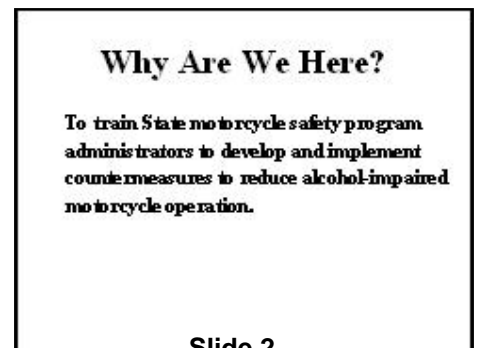
# Module I – Introduction

## Introduction



Slide 1

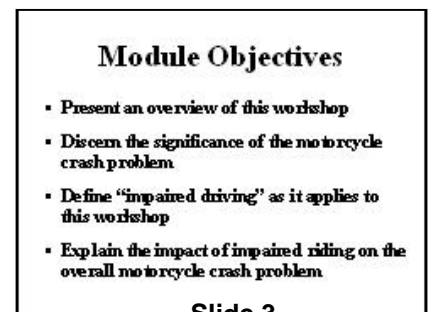
## Why Are We Here?



Slide 2

## Objectives:

1. Present an overview of this workshop
2. Discern the significance of the motorcycle crash problem
3. Define “impaired driving” as it applies to this workshop
4. Explain the impact of impaired riding on the overall motorcycle crash problem



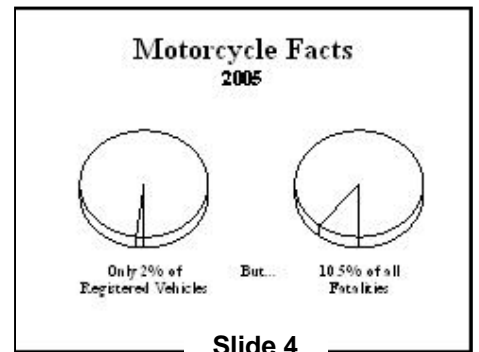
Slide 3

# Module I – Introduction

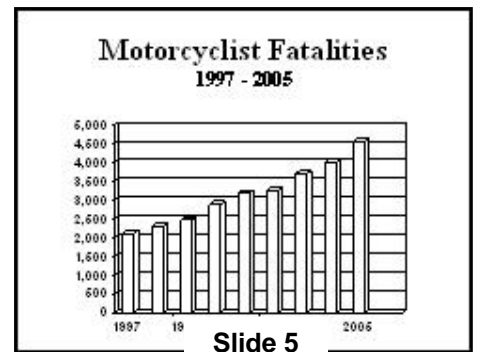
## The Motorcycle Crash Problem

A majority of the program administrators are aware of the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) data associated with motorcycles and, therefore, an in-depth review of the data is not necessary in this workshop. It is, however, important to note the following 2005 motorcycle data from NHTSA's National Center for Statistics and Analysis (NCSA):

- Motorcycles represent only 2% of all registered vehicles; but, 10.5% of the fatalities (NCSA)



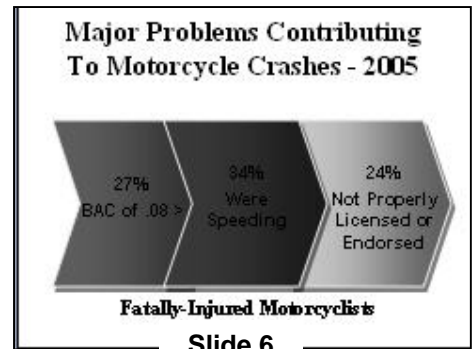
- Motorcycle fatalities increased 115% between 1997 and 2005 (NCSA)



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The major problems contributing to motorcycle crashes during 2005 were:

- 24% of fatally-injured motorcycle operators did not have the proper license or endorsement
- 27% of fatally-injured motorcyclists had a blood alcohol content (BAC) of .08 grams/deciliter (g/dL) or higher and another 7% had a BAC between .01 and .07 g/dL
- 34% of fatally-injured motorcyclists were speeding
- Other motorist awareness of motorcycles – 38% of the two-vehicle crashes (819 of 2,128 reported crashes) in 2005 involved a passenger vehicle turning left while the motorcycle was going straight, passing, or overtaking the vehicle. Both the passenger vehicle and motorcycle were going straight 28% of the time (593 of 2,128 reported crashes)



## “Impaired Riding” Defined

While there are many contributing factors associated with motorcycle crashes, fatalities, and injuries, the purpose of this workshop is to focus on impaired riding. But, before we go any further, let’s take a moment to define what we’re talking about. For discussion purposes, we are focusing on alcohol-related impairment.

Merriam-Webster’s Medical Dictionary defines the word “impaired” as:

- “being in a less than perfect or whole condition: as **a** : handicapped or functionally defective **b** : intoxicated by alcohol or narcotics <driving while *impaired*><sup>1</sup>

**Impairment Defined**

“- being in a less than perfect or whole condition: as **a** : handicapped or functionally defective **b** : intoxicated by alcohol or narcotics <driving while *impaired*>”

-Merriam-Webster’s Medical Dictionary

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<sup>1</sup> Impaired. (n.d.) *Merriam-Webster’s Medical Dictionary*. Retrieved November 16, 2006, from Dictionary.com website: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/impaired>

# Module I – Introduction

NHTSA defines “impairment” as “if at least one driver, motorcycle operator, or non-occupant involved in the crash is determined to have had a blood alcohol content (BAC) or .01 grams per deciliter (g/dL) or higher.”

## NHTSA’s Definition of Impairment

NHTSA defines a motor vehicle crash as being “alcohol-related” if at least one driver, motorcycle operator, or non-occupant involved in the crash is determined to have had a blood alcohol content (BAC) of .01 grams per deciliter (g/dL) or higher.

- BAC .01 to .07 = Alcohol-Impaired
- BAC .08 or higher = Alcohol-intoxicated

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## The Impact of Impaired Riding on The Overall Motorcycle Crash Problem

As discussed earlier, 27% of fatally-injured motorcyclists had a BAC of .08 g/dL or higher and another 7% had a BAC between .01 and .07 g/dL. Simply stated, a third of all motorcycle-related fatalities during 2005 involved alcohol.

Let’s take a look at the FARS data available for your states. In your handouts is a CD that contains FARS data for every State for the past 10 years. The data contains BAC levels and matches that information with other factors, including gender, engine size, and weekend vs. weekday riding. Since most of you are already familiar with these numbers, we aren’t going to go put everyone to sleep by going into an in-depth examination of this information. Rather, we’re providing this CD to you as a resource and ask that you take a look at the data for your State and try to identify the events that may have driven the numbers for your State up or down. Were there programs in place that caused the number of alcohol-related fatalities to drop in your State? Or, were there programs that were discontinued causing increases in the number of alcohol-related fatalities in the following years?”