

Bicycling Under the Influence: University Law Enforcement Perception and Reality of Prevalence

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Of traffic crashes with injuries, those where the cyclist is injured constitute a measurable number of incidents ranging from two percent as a national figure to forty-eight percent measured at a major Florida university. Data compiled by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and other sources reveal that nearly one-quarter of all bicycling traffic fatalities involve alcohol levels in the cyclist over the legal limit of .08 g/dL, and to a lesser extent in cyclists who are injured, but are not killed. State university police in Florida, while reporting that they feel bicycling under the influence is important to enforce, believe it occurs at a rate less than what actually was reported in several studies that accounted for alcohol involvement in cycling crashes.