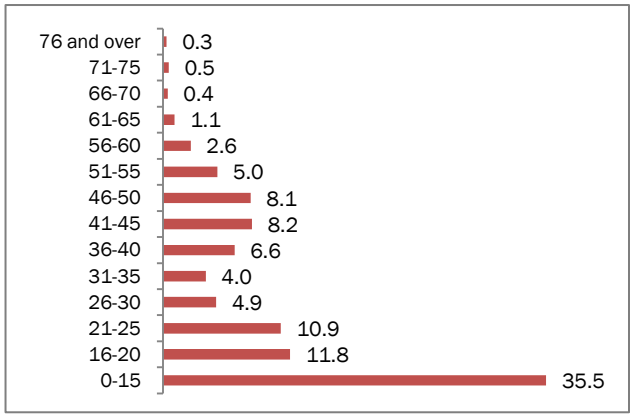
Bicyclists

Within the regional transportation planning area, a total of 1,012 bicycle-related crashes, involving 1,025 bicyclists, occurred during the years 2005 and 2007. While most bicycle-related crashes resulted in some type of injury (78 percent), only 3 of those crashes were fatal.

With approximately 80 percent of all non-motorist crashes resulting in some type of injury, pedestrians and bicyclists are especially vulnerable transportation users. These statistics emphasize the importance of both motorist and non-motorist education on traffic laws, as well as the need to increase visibility of non-motorists on the roadways.

Similar to pedestrian-related crashes, the majority of bicyclists involved in crashes were either 15 years or younger (36 percent) or between 16 and 30 years (28 percent) (see Figure 1).

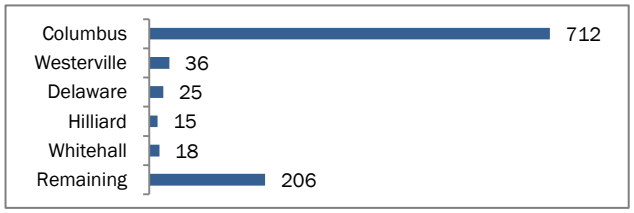
Figure 1: Bicyclists Involved in Crashes by Age [in %]



Source: MORPC Crash Data 2005-2007; N=935

As Figure 2 illustrates, most of the bicycle-related crashes in the 3-year period occurred within the City of Columbus (70 percent).

Figure 2: Reported Bicycle-related Crashes by Municipality

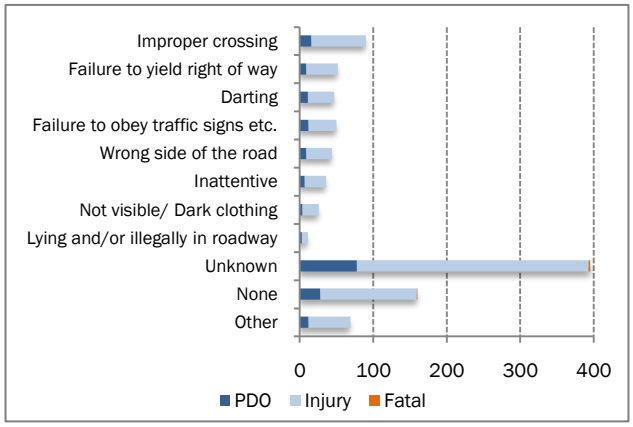


Source: MORPC Crash Data 2005-2007; N=1,012

The majority of all reported bike crashes (65 percent) occurred in the summer months between May and September of each year. Further, 91 percent of these crashes took place during normal weather conditions, and – in contrast to reported pedestrian crashes - 63 percent occurred in the daytime. Nearly two-thirds were intersection-related.

When analyzing contributing factors for bicycle crashes, and particularly injury and fatal crashes, "improper crossing" and "failure to yield right-of-way" were the most common factors (see Figure 3). Again, these statistics need to be read with caution since the contributing factors are subject to the field officer's judgment and the person involved in the crash.

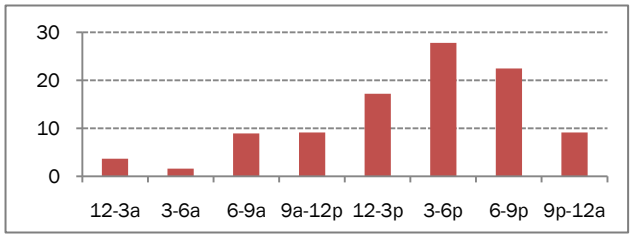
Figure 3: Bicycle-related Crashes by Contributing Factors



Source: MORPC Crash Data 2005-2007; N=980

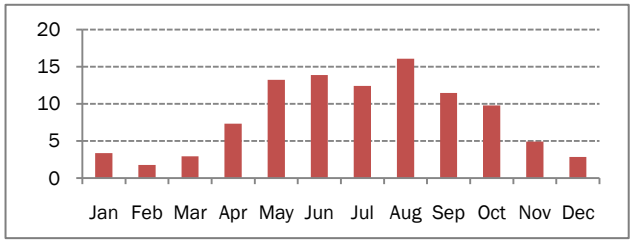
50% of bicycle-related crashes occurred between 3 p.m. and 9 p.m., and the highest number of crashes occurred between May and August (see Figure 4 and Figure 5).

Figure 4: Bicycle-related Crashes by Time of Day [in %]



Source: MORPC Crash Data 2005-2007; N=1,012

Figure 5: Bicycle-related Crashes by Month [in %]



Source: MORPC Crash Data 2005-2007; N=1,012