

Motorcyclist group call for improved road safety

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The Motorcycle Riders Association of Western Australia has urged the State Government to look at ways to improve road safety for motorcyclists.

The group spoke out in the wake of the death of a 24-year-old man on the Goldfields on Saturday, taking to 33 the number of fatal accidents involving motorcyclists this year.

Police say the man's motorcycle and a semi-trailer collided on the Goldfields Highway.



The Motorcycle Riders Association is calling for a road safety campaign to help reduce fatal accidents. (University of Adelaide)

The Association's President David Wright says the increase in the number of fatalities is a worrying trend.

"The year isn't over yet so hopefully we don't get any more, but obviously there's a lot more motorcyclist's on the road and there's a lot of people who come back to motorcycling that have sort of retired and have been out of it for a few years, " he said.

"We think there should be a bit more training for novice motorcyclists.

"A lot of the other state governments, Victoria, Queensland do an awful lot of education for motorcyclists and training and also for other road users for keeping an eye out for motorcyclists basically.

"Over here the State Government doesn't seem to do anything at all in the way of advertising."

Grant Dorrington from the Road Safety Council disagrees.

He says motorcyclists should be responsible for their own safety.

"It's just very obvious, you get on a motorbike, they're very powerful, you drive the thing quicker than you should, you're just very vulnerable and unfortunately the road deaths with motorcyclists is an alarming statistic," he said.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2007/12/03/2107537.htm>