

# RSA observational study 2015 – helmet use by motorcyclists and pedal cyclists



## Research Objective

To determine the incidence of motorcyclists and pedal cyclists helmet wearing.

## Methodology

140 urban sites were surveyed. Observations were carried out on weekdays (Monday to Friday) between the hours of 07:00 to 10:00, 12:00 to 15:00 and 17:00 to 20:00. Pedal cyclists were further divided into those using private bicycles and public bicycles (Dublin, Cork, Galway and Limerick). Study conducted by Amárach Research .

## Key Findings

- In 2015, 3% of motorcyclists were observed not to be wearing a helmet, an increase of 2% on 2014.
- Between 2014 (41%) and 2015 (52%), helmet wearing rates have increased amongst all pedal cyclists.
- Helmet wearing by private bicycle users has increased to 57% in 2015 from 46% in 2014.
- Helmet wearing by public bicycle users was found to be 27% in 2015. During the 2014 study public bicycles were only available in Dublin (9% helmet wearing).
- Wearing of high visibility clothing was also observed, 56% of all motorcyclists had both a helmet and high visibility clothing, 41% of private pedal cyclists and 13% of public pedal cyclists had both.

Type	Gender	Wearing Helmets		Helmet Wearing Rates
		Yes	No	
Motorcyclists	Male	3472	81	97%
	Female	392	28	93%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3864</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>97%</b>
Pedal Cyclists	Male	6472	6014	52%
	Female	2700	2348	53%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9172</b>	<b>8362</b>	<b>52%</b>
Personal Pedal Cyclists	Male	6045	4764	56%
	Female	2359	1565	60%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8404</b>	<b>6329</b>	<b>57%</b>
Public Pedal Cyclists	Male	427	1250	25%
	Female	341	783	30%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>768</b>	<b>2033</b>	<b>27%</b>