



2009 Bicycle Survey Results

Each year the Brain Injury Association of Windsor/Essex County does helmet surveillance of local adults and children. The results have been compared from 2005-2009.

	Adult Wearing helmet (recreation)	Adult Wearing helmet (transportation)	Adult <u>Not</u> wearing helmet (recreation)	Adult <u>Not</u> wearing helmet (transportation)	Child Wearing helmet	Child <u>Not</u> wearing helmet
Bicycle	64	34	100	169	146	111
Rollerblades	3	-----	4	16	11	5
Skateboard	1	-----	-----	-----	1	80
Other	-----	-----	-----	-----	5	11
Totals	68	34	104	185	163	207

Helmet Non-Compliance

ADULT	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Bicycle	65%	53%	-----	73%	73%
Rollerblades	67%	100%	-----	57%	87%
Skateboard	93%	100%	-----	75%	100%
Other	-----	100%	-----	66%	----

CHILD	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Bicycle	54%	50%	-----	51%	43%
Rollerblades	66%	57.5%	-----	21%	31%
Skateboard	79%	25%	-----	21%	99%
Other	-----	100%	-----	40%	69%



Recreational riders tended to be much more likely to wear a helmet. Of those who appeared to be riding to and from work, 84% did not wear helmets. Bicycle ridership among adults was up significantly for adults and this covered a broad span of ages from young adults to seniors.

This sampling was conducted from May 15, 2009 to June 15, 2009 and included observers in Windsor, Tecumseh, Amherstburg, Essex and Kingsville. The number of cyclists observed was greater than the previous year (more than double). Means of transportation appeared to be on the rise. Due to current economic conditions, there were no observations at factories.

With respect to children, the use of helmets while cycling was up slightly, but the use of helmets for rollerblading was down. The use of helmets was virtually non-existent among skateboarders. Prevention is the only cure and helmets should be worn during all these activities.

“Other” included child scooters, etc.

Comments:

1. Adult cyclists were observed cycling on the wrong side of the street with no helmet;
2. Adult cyclists were observed cycling on the wrong side of the street, no shoes, no helmet, no hands on the handle bar;
3. Adult cyclists were observed cycling on the wrong side of the street, no helmet, carrying a case of beer;
4. Children repeatedly observed biking to and from school with no helmets.

The public should read the instructions that come with helmets carefully. They should also visit www.thinkfirst.ca to access downloads for Helmet Fitting Cards and a Bicycle Helmet Checklist on proper helmet fitting and riding preparation.

If you or your Parent Association wish to participate in next year’s survey, please contact biawe@cogeco.ca.



Photos can be arranged at the Children's Safety Village by contacting Melanie Gardin, the Chair of ***Helmets on Kids*** and the President of the Brain Injury Association of Windsor/Essex County. She can be reached by phone at 519-259-1802 or by email mgardin@ducharmefox.com.

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