



RSA Observational Study 2016 – High Visibility Use among Motorcyclists and Pedal Cyclists

Research Objective

To determine the incidence of motorcyclists and pedal cyclists wearing high-visibility clothing.

Methodology

The study was conducted by Nationwide Data Collection on behalf of the RSA in October 2016. There were 146 urban sites surveyed in 11 regions, including Dublin, Cork, Galway, Kilkenny, Laois, Limerick, Maynooth, Midlands, Navan, Waterford and Wexford. There was a sample size of 5,341 motorcyclists and a total of 23,343 cyclists observed which was broken down into 19,837 'private' cyclists and 3,506 'public' cyclists. 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.

Definitions:

- A **private cyclist** is: a cyclist using their own bicycle.
- A **public cyclist** is: a cyclist who was cycling a bicycle which is part of the public bike city scheme (only available in Dublin, Cork, Galway and Limerick).

Key Findings

- Motorcyclists are most likely to be wearing any form of High Visibility Clothing (45%)
- This has decreased since 2015 (58%).
- 32% of all cyclists were wearing any form of High Visibility Clothing* (50% in 2015).
- Any form of High Visibility Clothing for private pedal cyclists was 34% and for public pedal cyclists it was recorded as 21%.

Road User	Gender	Wearing High Visibility Clothing (any)		High Visibility Wearing Rates
		Yes	No	
Motorcyclist	Male	2259	2674	46%
	Female	169	239	41%
	Total	2428	2913	45%
Private Cyclist	Male	4829	9665	33%
	Female	1893	3450	35%
	Total	6722	13115	34%
Public Cyclist	Male	425	1844	19%
	Female	327	910	26%
	Total	752	2754	21%

*Note: Any High Visibility Clothing includes: Jackets, vests, straps and arm bands.