Motorcycle Injury Prevention

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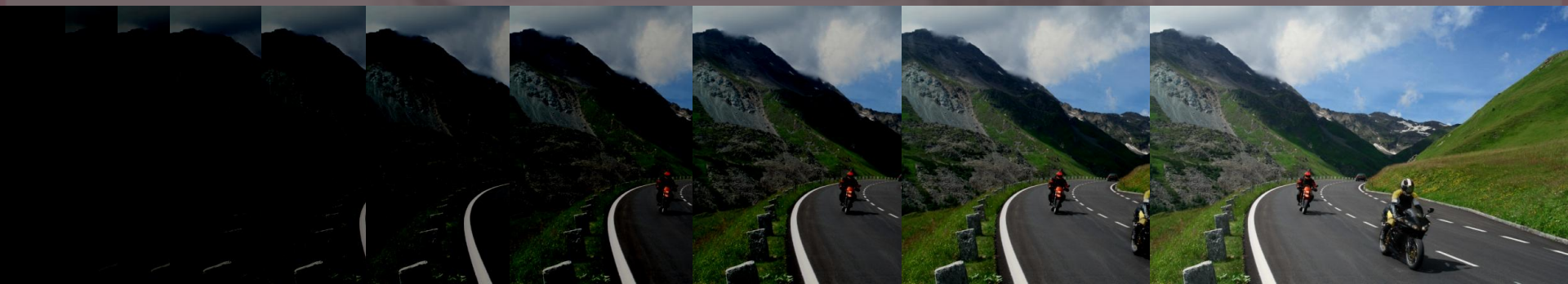
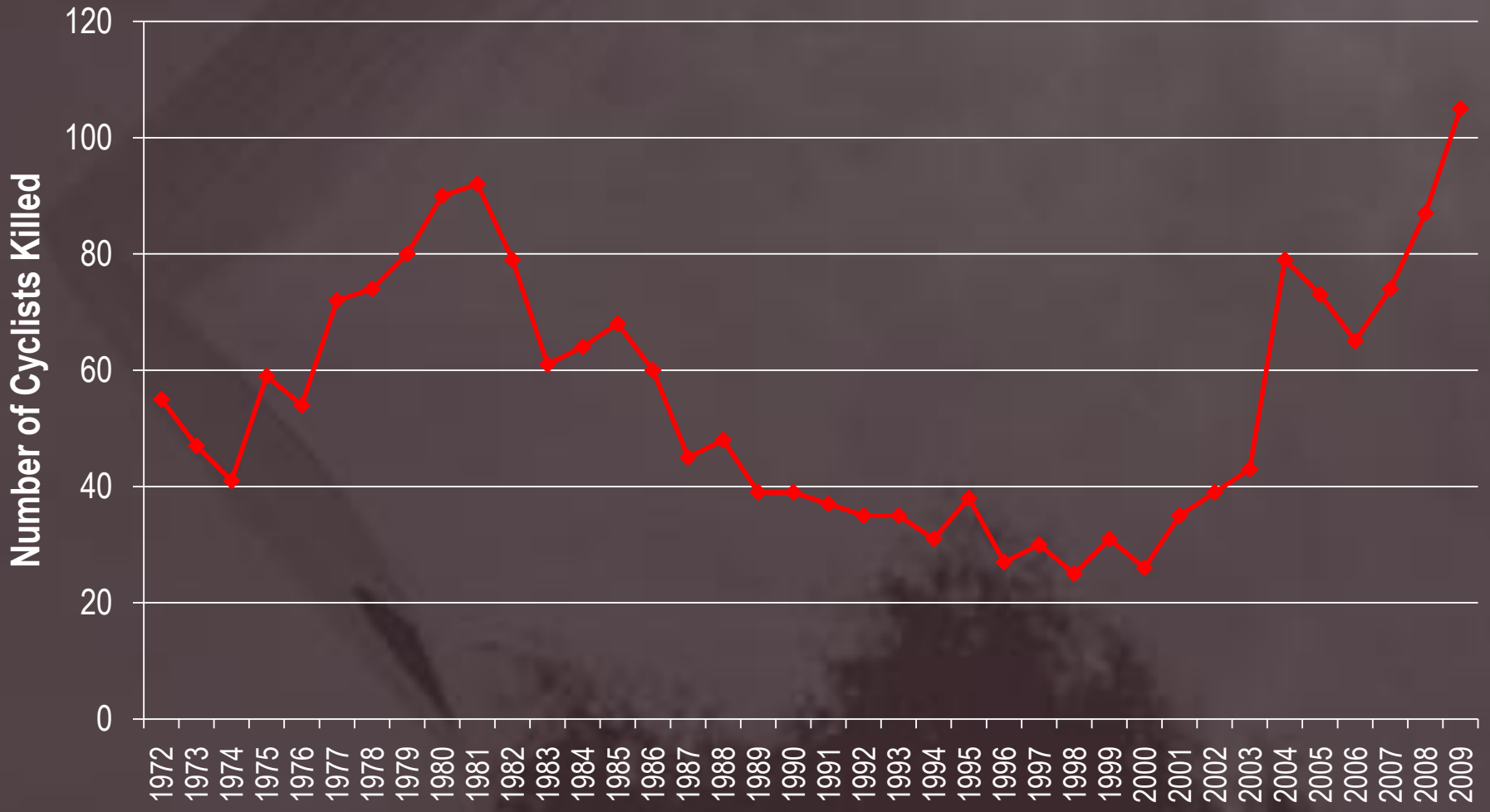
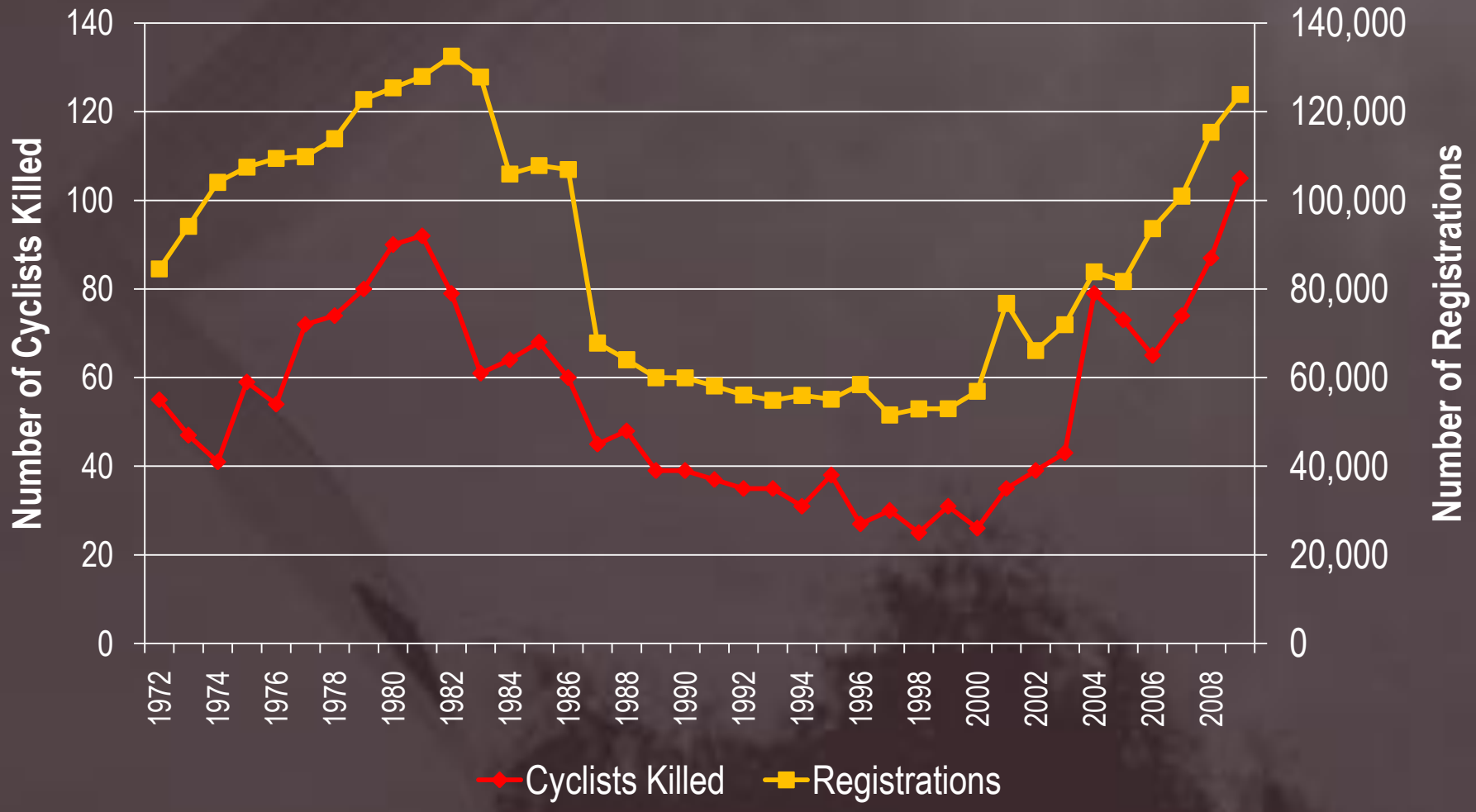


Number of Motorcyclist Deaths, Oklahoma, 1972-2009



Number of Motorcyclist Deaths and Registrations, Oklahoma, 1972-2009



Motorcycle Injuries and Deaths, Oklahoma, 2009

- 105 deaths
  - Primarily drivers
  - Most were male
  - Deaths highest among 26-35 year olds
  - 33% alcohol involved
  - 65% were not wearing a helmet
- 1,269 persons injured

Typical Motorcycle Crash Circumstances

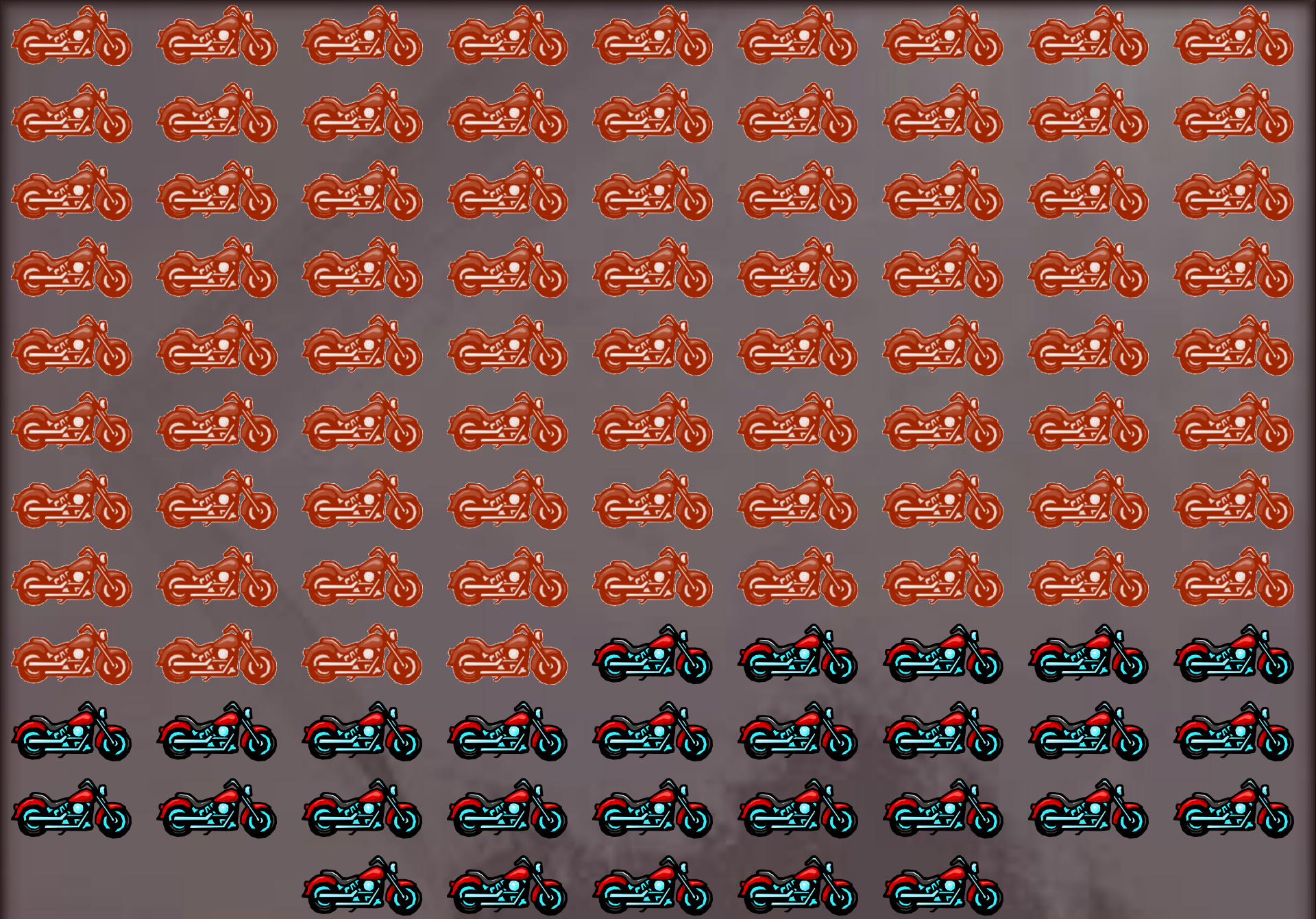
- Clear day
- Dry road
- Daylight
- City street
- Not at intersection
- Warm months
- Early evening
- End of week

Typical Motorcycle Crash Circumstances

- Just over half involve a motorcycle only
  - Unsafe speed
- Just under half involve another vehicle
  - Failure to yield
  - Stop sign, private drive

Protection

- Motorcycles offer almost no protection in a crash
  - 80% of motorcycle crashes injure or kill a motorcyclist
  - 20% of passenger car crashes injure or kill an occupant
- Helmets do offer protection for the head
  - 42% effective in preventing motorcycle fatalities and 69% effective in preventing serious injuries
  - Hospital charges were higher 30% higher for non-helmeted persons than for persons wearing a helmet



Hospital Charges for Motorcycle Injuries, Oklahoma, 2008

- Typical charge was $41,000
  - 4 day stay
- Charges were higher 30% higher for non-helmeted persons than for persons wearing a helmet
  - $36,000 vs. $28,000
- If all would have been wearing a helmet, $2.1 million in hospital charges could have been saved