

## Thematic investigation of accidents involving youths on lightweight motorcycles

In May 2024, two 16-year-olds died on lightweight motorcycles on county road 115 in Aurskog-Høland and county road 115 in Indre Østfold.

As a result of this, the NSIA has initiated a thematic investigation into accidents involving youths on light motorcycles.

The accidents in May 2024 will be included in the investigation, as well as any other similar accidents with lightweight motorcycles forwards and backwards in time.

The thematic investigation will clarify the sequence of events in the accidents, identify safety problems and map contributing causal factors. Based on this, the NSIA will investigate areas for improving safety.

### Update 29 April 2025



*Light motorcycles from four fatal accidents in 2024. Photo: NSIA*

The thematic investigation is still ongoing. Work remains to analyze the factual information obtained and prepare conclusions and safety recommendations before the report can be sent for external review and published.

The thematic investigation includes the four fatal accidents involving youths on light motorcycles that occurred in 2024. NSIA has mapped the sequence of events and circumstances of the accidents, as well as investigated technical conditions, road conditions, driving behavior and survival aspects related to each accident.

NSIA has, with the assistance of motorcycle importers, conducted technical examinations of the motorcycles involved in the accidents. NSIA's preliminary analyses of the findings show that technical errors and deficiencies have contributed to several of the fatal accidents involving youths on light motorcycles in 2024.

The technical deficiencies include:

- incorrect tire pressure
- insufficient tread depth on the tires
- slack, wear and lack of lubrication of the chain and sprocket
- slack in the wheel bearings and steering bearings
- incorrect installation of wheels
- reduced damping function and leakage from the shock absorber

NSIA has informed the Norwegian Public Roads Administration (NPRA), as the supervisory authority and professional body, about this. This allows the NPRA, before NSIA's thematic investigation is completed and at the start of a new motorcycle season, to pay attention to this and, if possible, implement the necessary measures while awaiting the final results of the investigation.

Furthermore, NSIA encourages motorcycle riders, guardians, traffic instructors and others to check and carry out the necessary corrections and maintenance of the technical condition of motorcycles before the start of the season.

Another important lesson that can be learned from the accidents is the importance of adjusting speed to the traffic environment and ensuring that there are sufficient safety margins to detect hazards and react in time to avoid an accident.



*Insufficient tread depth on tire. Photo: NSIA*



*Wear and insufficient maintenance of chain. Photo: NSIA*

## **Update 5 November 2024**

As of October 2024, the thematic investigation includes the following four fatal accidents involving youths on light motorcycles:

- The accident on county road 115 at Skjønhaug in Indre Østfold, 4 May 2024.
- The accident on county road 115 at Løken in Aurskog-Høland, 8 May 2024.
- The accident on the E10 at Kongsvika in Tjeldsund, 22 June 2024.
- The accident on county road 3092 at Nøtterøy in Færder, 18 September 2024.

The thematic investigation goes in depth on technical conditions, road conditions, driving behaviour and survival aspects related to each accident.

In addition, the NSIA has carried out selected investigations in connection with other serious

accidents involving youths on light motorcycles.



*The accident site at county road 115 in Løken. Photo: NSIA*

Latest update: 29.04.2025

## Facts

Location	Norway
Occurrence date	31.05.2024
Accident type	Thematic investigation
Vehicle type	Light MC
Type of Transportation	Private transport
Accident category	Annen ulykke

*NSIA conducts its investigations for the sole purpose of improving transportation safety. The object of a safety investigation is to clarify the sequence of events and root cause factors, study matters of significance for the prevention of transportation accidents and improvement of transportation safety, and to publish a report with eventually safety recommendations. NSIA shall not apportion any blame or liability. Use of information from this investigation for any other purpose than for improvements of transportation safety shall be avoided.*