



# **Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation**

## **Snowmobile Unit 2023-2024 Accident and Fatality Report Summary**

# INTRODUCTION

- This summary compiles incident statistics for the 2023-2024 snowmobile season. The snowmobile season coincides with the State's fiscal year; thus, this summary includes all **reported** accidents that occurred between April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 through March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.
- In total, there were 35 reported incidents in 2023-2024. These incidents involved 38 operators, resulting in 26 injuries and 8 fatalities.

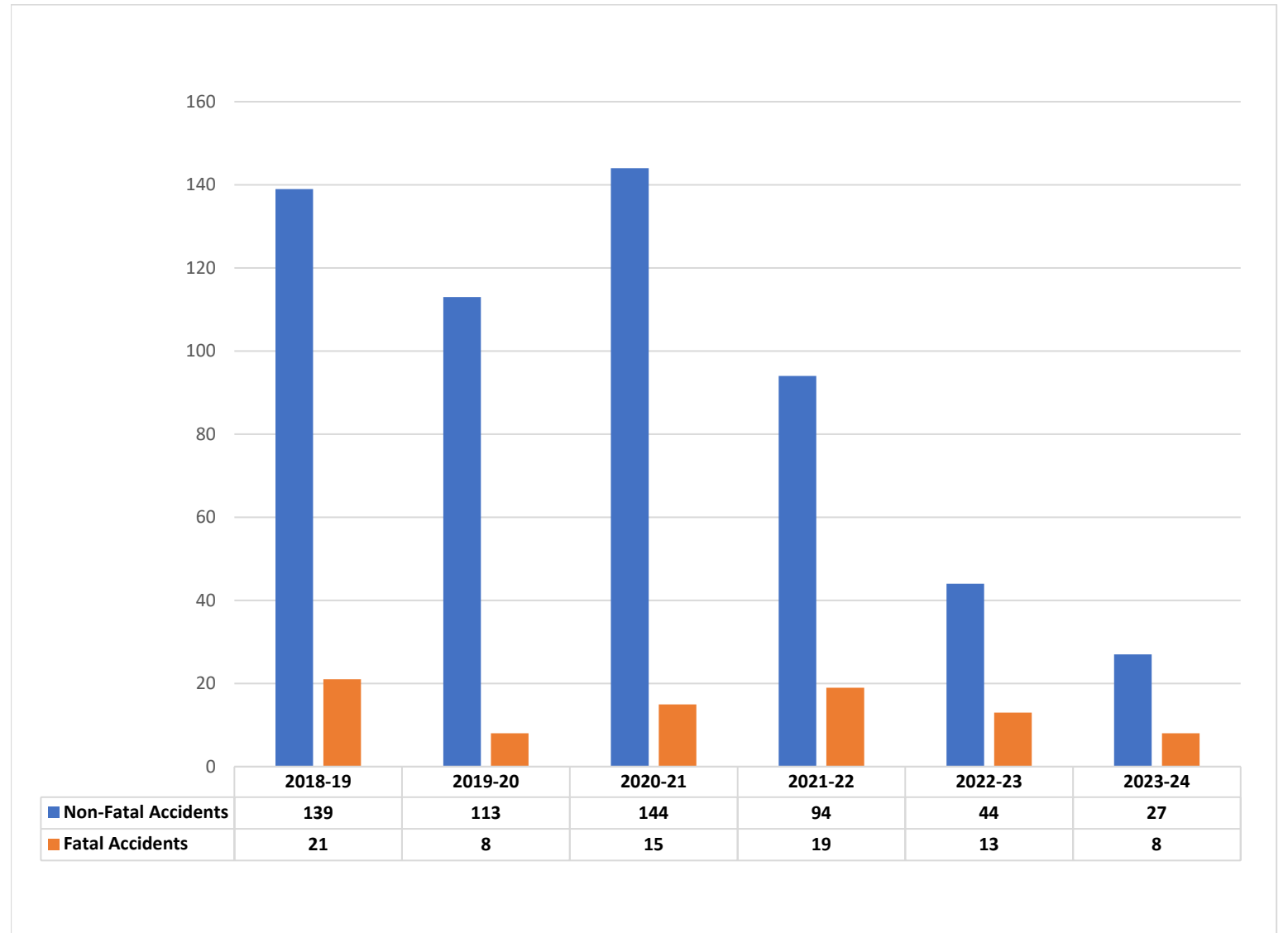
# ACCIDENT COUNT BY SEASON

**2023-24 Season:**

35 Total Accidents

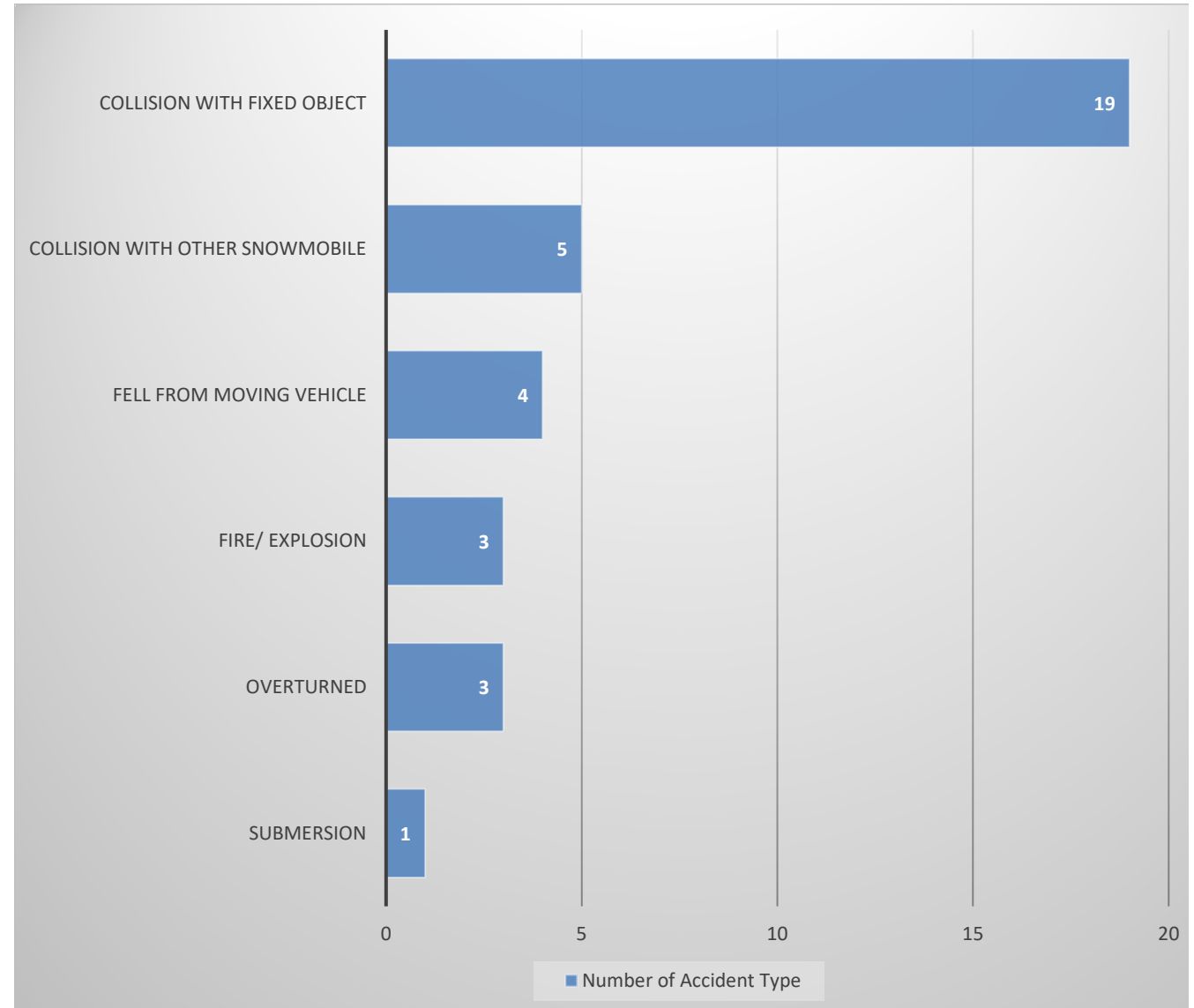
Non-Fatal Accidents = 27

Fatal Accidents = 8



# TYPE OF ACCIDENTS

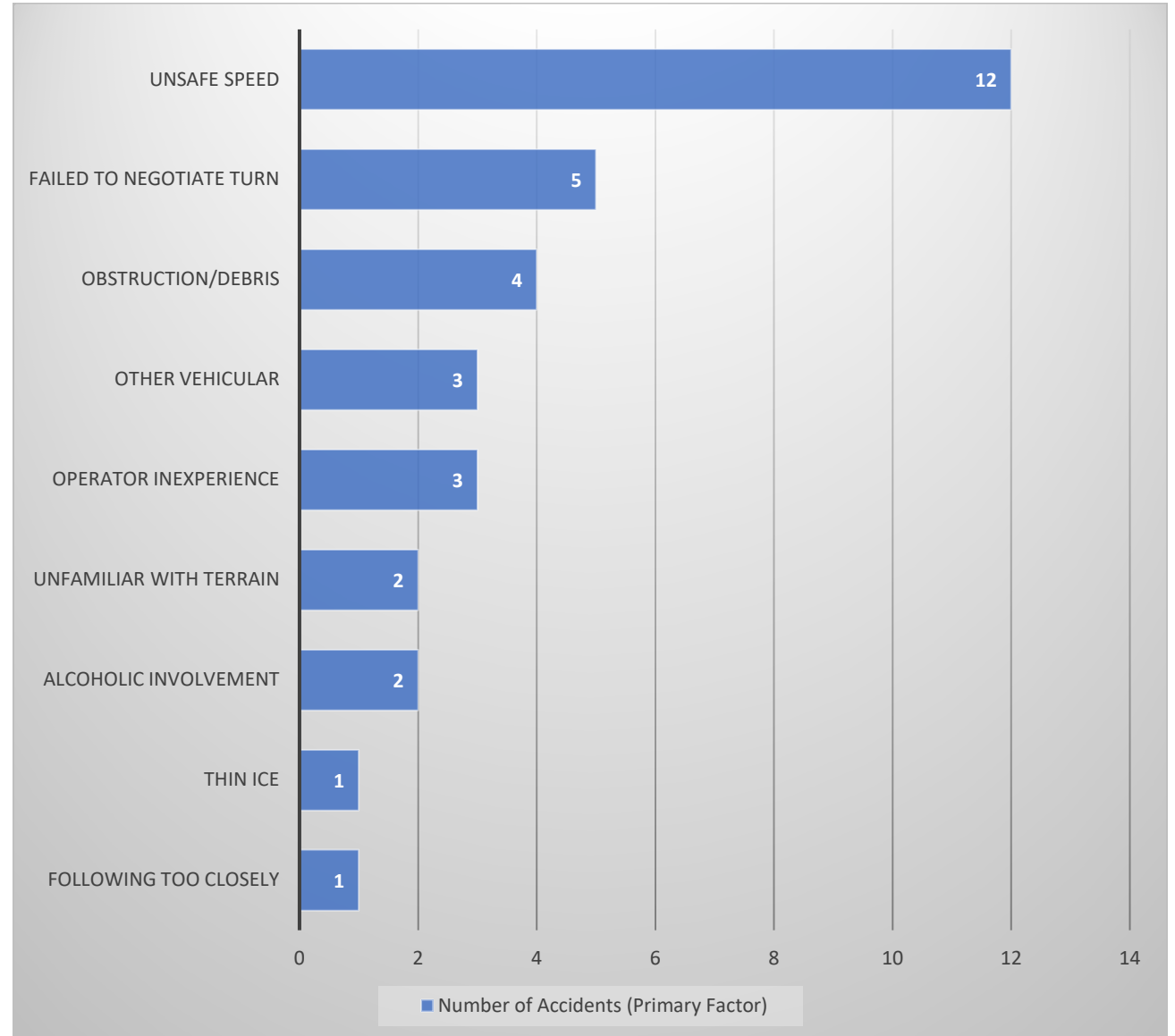
Most accidents that occurred during the 2023-24 season were Collisions with Fixed Objects (19), such as trees, embankments, signposts, bridges and culverts.



# PRIMARY FACTORS

The leading primary factors in accidents during the 2023-24 season:

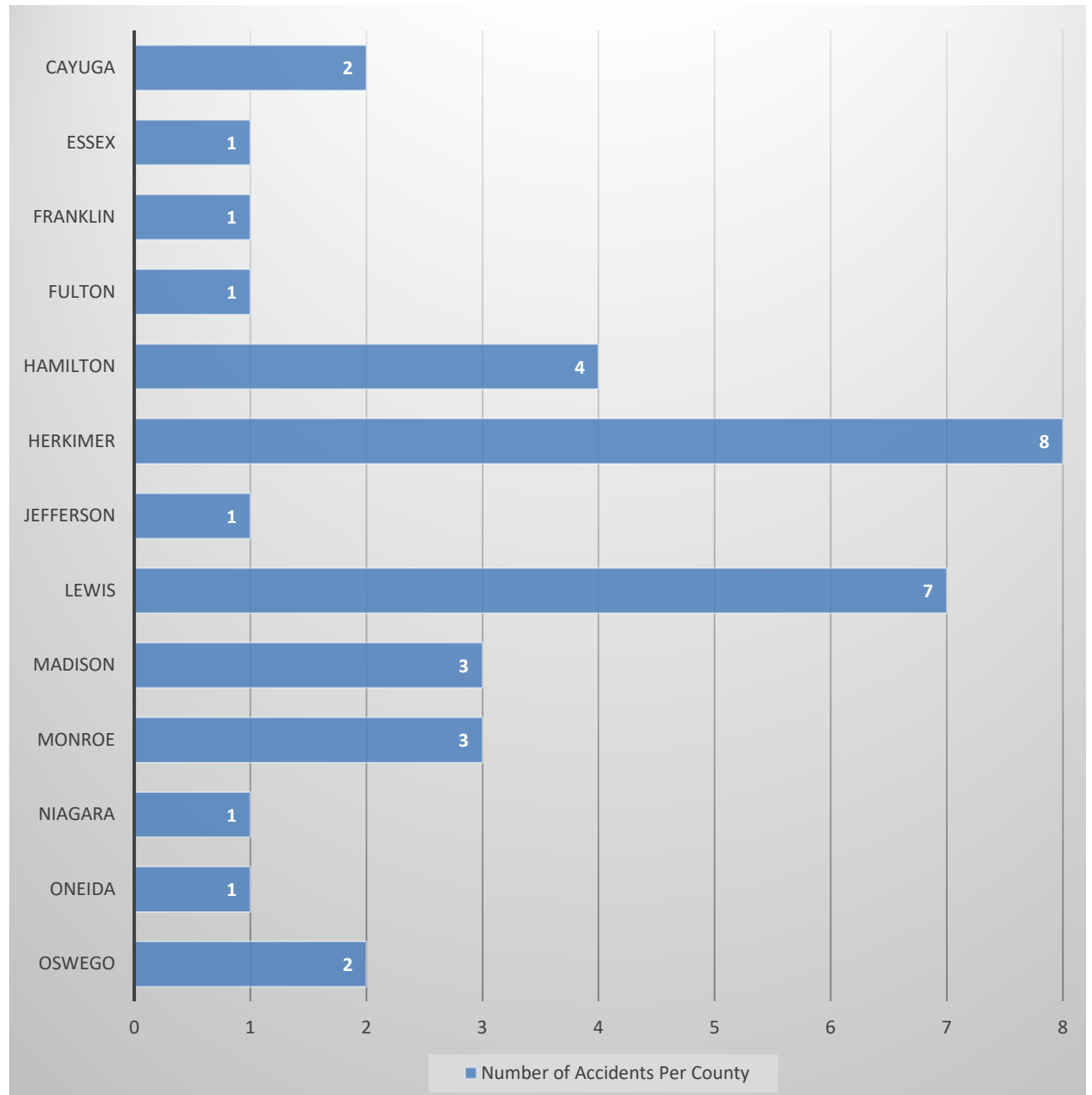
- **Unsafe speed (12)**
- **Failed to Negotiate a Turn (5)**
- **Obstruction/Debris (4)**
- **Operator Inexperience (3)**
- **Other Vehicular (3)**
- **Alcoholic Involvement (2)**



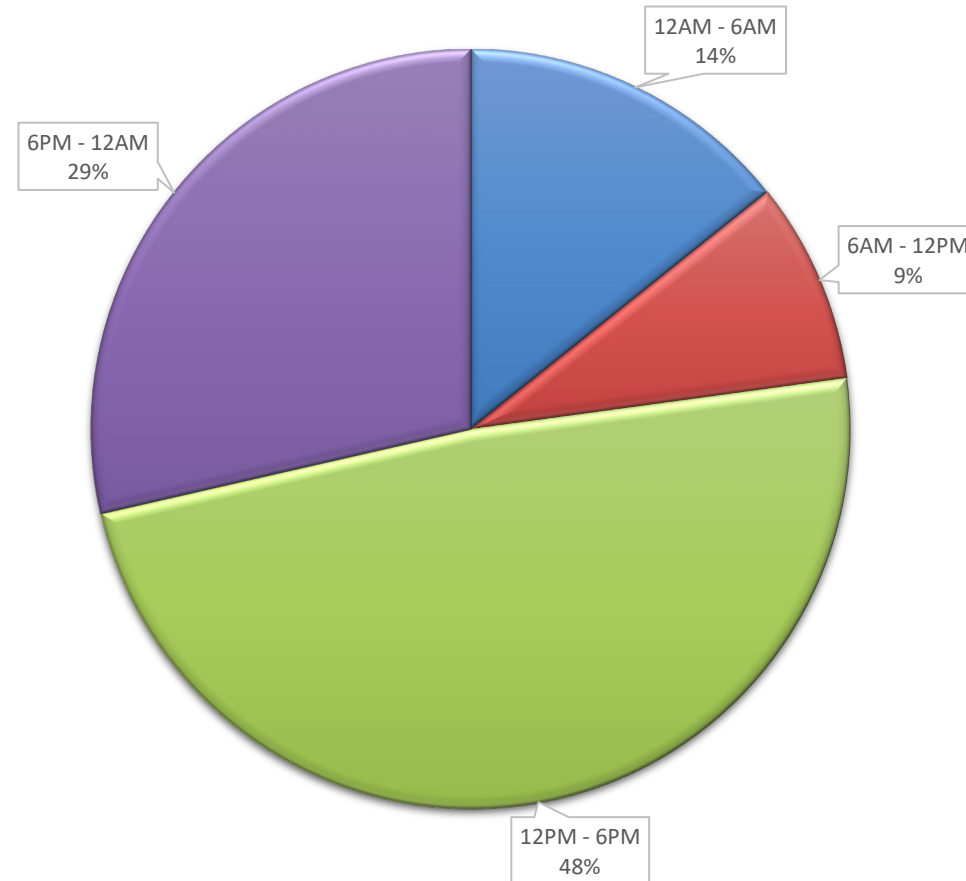
# ACCIDENTS BY COUNTY

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Herkimer = 8 Total (**2 Fatalities**)  
Lewis = 7 Total (**2 Fatalities**)  
Hamilton = 4 (No Fatalities)



# ACCIDENT % BY TIME OF DAY



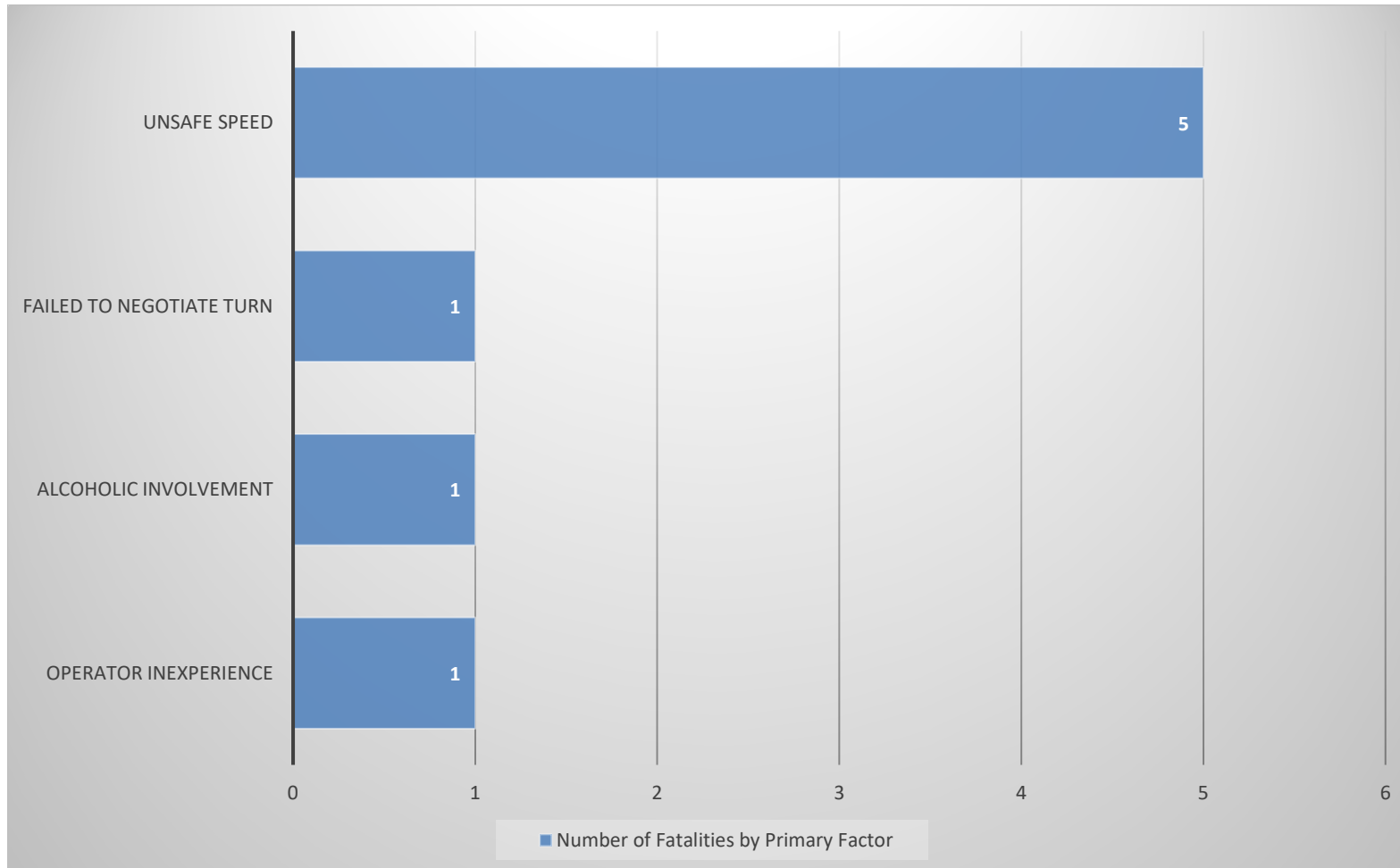


<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Number Of Accidents 2023-24 Season</b>
09-20	4
21-30	4
31-40	5
41-50	5
51-60	8
61-76	7





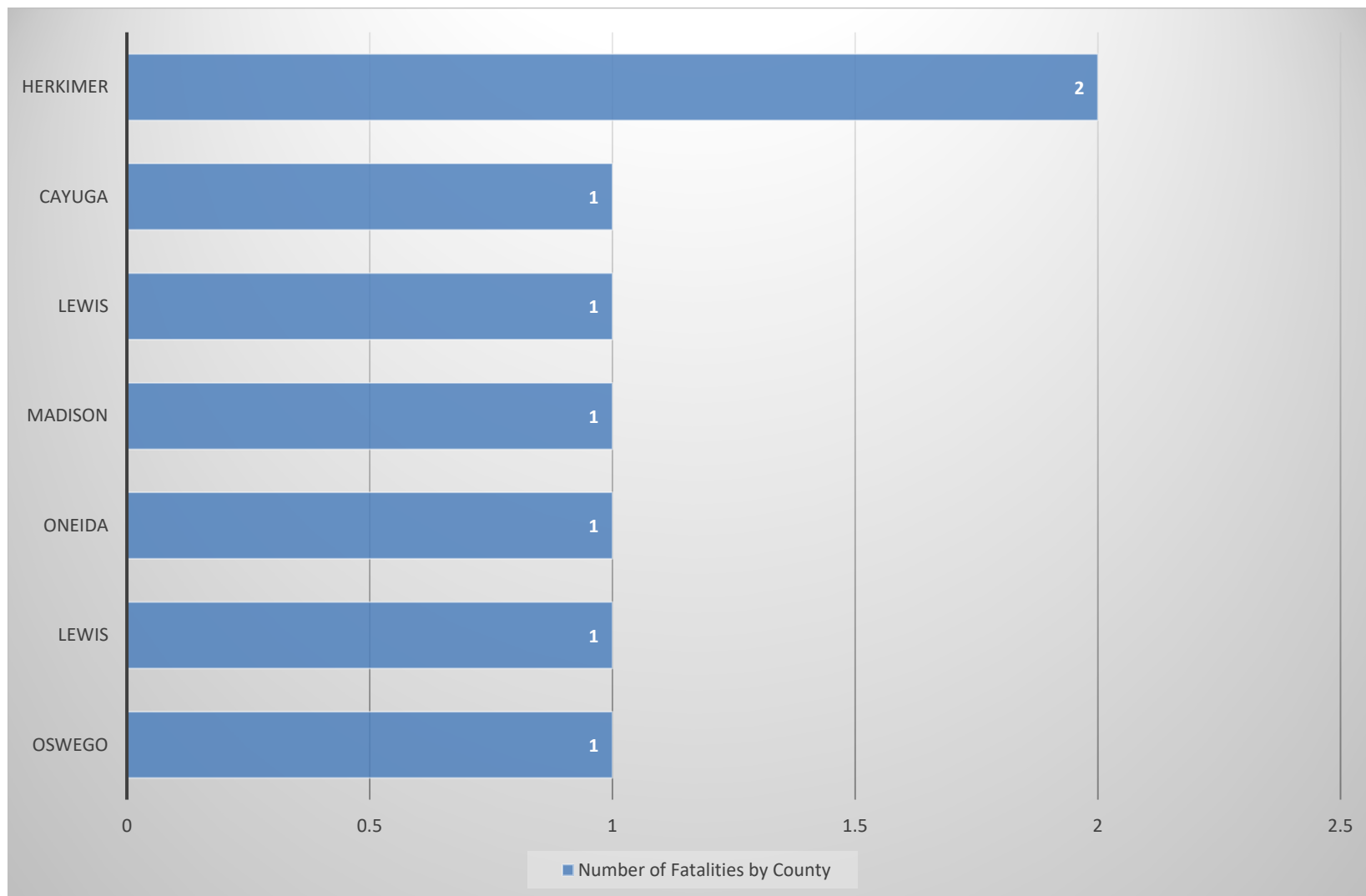
# LEADING FACTORS IN FATALITIES



Unsafe speed (5) topped all other primary factors in fatalities.

Alcoholic Involvement was also determined to be a secondary factor in (2) other fatalities, beyond the single fatality noted in the graph.

# FATALITIES BY COUNTY



# Fatality Details

## 2023-24 Summary of Snowmobile Related Fatalities

Date	Time	County	Accident Type	Leading Factor
1/19/2024	10:57 PM	Oswego	Collision with Fixed Object	Failed to Negotiate Turn
1/31/2024	12:40 AM	Herkimer	Collision with Fixed Object - Tree	Unsafe Speed
2/3/2024	2:47AM	Lewis	Collision with Fixed Object - Tree	Alcoholic Involvement
2/17/2024	9:30 PM	Oneida	Collision with Fixed Object - Culvert/head wall	Unsafe Speed
2/20/2024	7:36 PM	Madison	Collision with Fixed Object - Fire Hydrant	Unsafe Speed
2/21/2024	11:33 PM	Lewis	Collision with Fixed Object - Tree	Unsafe Speed
2/29/2024	1:42 PM	Cayuga	Fell From Moving Vehicle	Operator Inexperience
3/23/2024	7:47 PM	Herkimer	Collision with Fixed Object - Sign Post	Unsafe Speed

# SPECIAL THANKS

The New York State OPRHP Snowmobile would like to thank, in no particular order:

- The county and town local sponsors involved in trail planning, development, and maintenance;
- The many snowmobile clubs across New York State who maintain safe snowmobile trails through their volunteer labor;
- The New York State Snowmobile Association;
- The state, county, city, town and village law enforcement departments who operate snowmobile patrols, respond to accidents, and prepare the reports which form this summary;
- Local first responders who are often first on the scene of accidents with lifesaving assistance;
- All snowmobilers committed to safe and ethical riding, including the many who stop to furnish assistance in the event of an accident.

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