

TITLE: Evaluation of the Commercial Driver License Knowledge Tests

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PROTECT OBTECTIVE:

To provide Program and Policy Administration (PP A) with item and test statistics useful for developing and improving the commercial driver license (CDL) knowledge tests.

SUMMARY:

This was the third evaluation of the CDL knowledge tests. The previous ones were conducted during April-May and October 1989 by Robert Hagge. The following commercial driver license knowledge tests were evaluated:

1. Commercial Driver License Knowledge Test (General).
2. Doubles/Triples Endorsement Test.
3. Tank Vehicle Endorsement Test.
4. Hazardous Material Endorsement Test.
5. Passenger Transport Endorsement Test.

Completed tests were collected from DMV field offices during the period March 19 through May 15, 1991. The following information was produced:

1. Item statistics and cumulative percentages of applicants by number of items wrong for first-attempt original applicants only.
2. Test fail rate and mean number of items wrong for both first- and second-attempt applicants (original, renewal, and total).
3. Test reliability coefficients, computed for all first-attempt applicants.

Recommendations for improving the tests were made, based on the above statistics. Some test items were found to be in need of review and possible revision or replacement. Test fail rates had decreased substantially between the 1989 evaluations and the present one.

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Some faulty test items have been revised or replaced.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

None.