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TITLE: Control of the Negligent Driver--Part I: Characteristics of Negligent Drivers

DATE: February 1961

AUTHOR(S): Ronald S. Coppin & Ira Samuels

REPORT NUMBER: 08

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FUNDING SOURCE: Departmental Budget

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

To discover if there are characteristics differentiating negligent drivers from the "average" driver, and if relationships exist between actual driving performance and mileage driven, occupation, age, or sex.

SUMMARY:

This study was based on a sample of 4,081 negligent drivers who had their first driver improvement contact with the Department of Motor Vehicles in 1955. Their driver records were analyzed for three years before and three years after the initial driver improvement contact.

As compared to the general driving population, negligent drivers were found to be significantly more often young, male, and holders of chauffeur's licenses. Occupationally, they were over represented in the laborer / semi-skilled worker and professional driver categories; underrepresented in the executive / professional / semi-professional and clerical/ small business owner / office worker categories. Annual mileage reported was generally higher for the negligent drivers. A summary of the driver records for three years before and after the first hearing is given in the report.

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

None.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

None.