

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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July 26, 1978

MEMO TO: G. F. Kemper State Highway Engineer Chairman, Research Committee

SUBJECT: Research Report 498; "Characteristics of Bicycle-Related, Motor Vehicle Accidents in Kentucky;" KYP-76-80; HPR-PL-1(14), Part III-B.

The study from which the enclosed report issues is entitled "Safety and Design Innovations for Bicycle Travel." It began FY '77. This report completes the major task planned. In some respects, the report provides essential statistics and gives latitudes for improvement of safety. The report does not address off-street or off-road bikeways -- only bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents, which are mostly on-street and on-road encounters.

> Respectfully submitted, Hand Harris Harris

Director of Research

gd Enclosure cc's: Research Committee

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### Research Report 498

## CHARACTERISTICS OF BICYCLE-RELATED, MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS IN KENTUCKY

#### KYP-76-80; HPR-PL-1(14), Part III-B

by

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and

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The contents of this report reflect the views of the authors who are responsible for the facts and the accuracy of the data presented herein. The contents do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the Bureau of Highways. This report does not constitute a standard, specification, or regulation.

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#### INTRODUCTION

The increase in use of bicycles in recent years has resulted in more emphasis on bicycles as a viable transportation mode. Recent upsurges in bicycle use throughout Kentucky is evidenced by bicycle traffic around college campuses, by neighborhood recreational usage, and by weekday commuters. In the governor's 1976-1978 biennial budget, \$2 million were allocated for the development of bikeways or related facilities. Planning for bicycle traffic in urban areas became a function of the Department's Division of Urban and Regional Planning in 1975. Therefore, a need for a better understanding of bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents became apparent.

The purpose of this study was to determine the characteristics of bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents. By understanding the causes and other factors associated with these accidents, present design guidelines and operational procedures associated with bicycles may be improved. This type of analysis may also provide useful information for the development of bicycle safety educational programs.

#### BACKGROUND

Many articles and reports have dealt with the bicycle as a transportation mode. Guidelines and criteria for bikeway planning, developed in California in April 1972, were later reprinted and distributed by the Federal Highway Administration for use in bikeway planning (1). In July 1974, a state-of-the-art report on bikeways was distributed by the Federal Highway Administration. This report focused on planning and design practices, reviewed successes and failures, outlined practices which improved bikeway usage and safety, and identified design pitfalls (2). A guide for bicycle routes was published by AASHTO in 1974 and included discussions of bikeway laws, planning considerations, design criteria, maintenance aspects, and administrative considerations (3).

Some studies have dealt specifically with an analysis of accident records. Several state highway agencies have conducted in-depth analyses. In February 1969, a report covered an analysis of 2,453 bicycle accidents in North Carolina over a three-year period (July 1965 through June 1968) (4). A follow-up study

was conducted in North Carolina in July 1971 to determine accident frequency and rates associated with various bicycle, human, and environmental characteristics (5). Actual mileage exposure of several hundred cyclists was measured with cyclometers. In Idaho in 1973, statistics were compiled concerning the frequency, locations, and causes of bicycle and pedestrian accidents (6). The California Highway Patrol in November 1974 evaluated its Bicycle Enforcement Program. The report included an analysis of over 10,000 bicycle-vehicle accidents occurring in 1973 (7).

An analysis of bicycle accidents in Milwaukee included 298 accidents reported during 1971 and 1972. Summaries were completed separately for intersections and midblocks (8). In Santa Barbara, California, an analysis was made of 495 bicycle accidents from 1970 through 1972, and participants in collisions were interviewed. Also, about 3,000 cyclists and motorists were interrogated to determine the attitudes of motorists and cyclists toward each other (9). The accidents were classified into several types based upon the accident-precipitating behavior and the situation in which the accident occurred (10).

Analyses of bicycle accidents have also been completed by several other agencies in recent years. In a 1974 study by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, 888 injury-producing bicycle-motor-vehicle accidents were evaluated for causal factors (11). An in-depth analysis of 170 bicycle accidents treated in emergency rooms was conducted in 1972 by the Food and Drug Administration (U. S. Department of HEW). Accident causes related to the bicycle, such as loss of control, riding double, stunt riding, bicycle design features, foot slippage on pedal, and component failure, were evaluated. Types of injuries to cyclists were studied, and recommendations were made for improving bicycles to minimize risks (12). In 1967, the National Safety Council studied bicycle accidents involving school-aged children so that meaningful countermeasures could be developed (13).

An analysis of 1,100 casualty accidents involving bicycles was conducted for the state of Victoria, Australia, in 1968 (14). A study of 275 accidents in Toronto, Canada, to identify selected rider, bicycle, and environmental factors (15) was completed in 1970. Special emphasis was placed on child cyclists. In Sweden, a 1971 study of bicycle injuries focused primarily on the pre-crash through post-crash circumstances of the accidents (16).

#### BICYCLE SAFETY PROBLEM

The "bicycle boom", as many people refer to the current upsurge in usage of bicycles, is the largest such increase to occur in the history of the United States. The bicycle appeals to many segments of society for various reasons: the energy crisis, transportation efficiency, ecological considerations, recreation, and health. A dramatic increase in bicycling in the 15-24 and 25-44 age groups has brought about a substantial increase in the number of bicycle-motor vehicle accidents associated with work, school, and shopping trips in urban areas.

Despite the many booms and slack periods, there has been a steady increase in users between 1950 and 1970. In addition, bicycle sales in the United States in 1972 exceeded automobile sales for the first time. Accompanying this increased usage and expanded exposure has been an increase in the number of bicycle-related accidents.

Lack of established practice throughout much of

the country has created problems concerning bicycle operational procedures and the design of routes to accommodate both motor vehicles and bicycles. Some towns have developed entire bicycle transportation systems to encourage an efficient and smooth flow of both motor vehicles and bicycles. Other cities have invested large sums of money in the construction of bicycle routes or trails which are only for the use of cyclists. If bicycle use continues to increase at its present rate, it will soon be necessary to not only construct bicycle trails but also to require consideration of this mode of travel in the design and operation of all highways and streets on which bicycles are permitted.

From 1960 to 1973, bicycle-related, motor vehicle fatalities per year in the United States increased from about 450 to 1,150, as shown in Figure 1 (17). From 1973 to 1976, bicycle fatalities have decreased to about 900 per year, possibly due to the national emphasis on bicycle safety. Bicycle-related, motor vehicle fatalities in Kentucky have fluctuated from 6 to 18 per year between 1969 and 1976, as shown in Table 1.



Figure 1. Motor-Vehicle-Related Bicycle Fatalities in the United States (1960-1976).

TABLE	I. BICYCLE FATALITIES IN KENTUCKY
	(1969-1976)
YEAR	NUMBER OF BICYCLE FATALITIES
1969	11
1970	12
1971	11
1972	${f g}$
1973	18
1974	13
1975	6
1976	10

Bicycle fatalities per 100,000 population have averaged about 0.49 in the United States in recent years, compared to 0.31 in Kentucky. In 1976, injuries per 100,000 population were almost the same in Kentucky (19.7) as compared to the United States (19.5). Because of low reporting levels of non-fatal bicycle accidents, accurate statistics are not available on the total number of bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents. However, estimates of bicycle injuries nationwide were around 40,000 in 1976 (17).

The ages of cyclists involved in injury accidents in the United States in 1976 are given in Table 2. More than half the accidents involved children from 5 to 14 years old, while the 15-to-24 age group had the next highest number. The bicycle accident rate was 61.7 (accidents per 100,000 population) for the 5-to-14 age group -- more than double the rate for the 15-to-24 age group. The next highest rate was the 4-and-under age group. Other age groups had much lower rates.

#### PROCEDURE

All bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents between July 1, 1975, and June 30, 1976, were obtained from police records. The police report was obtained for each accident. For accidents reported, by the state police a computer summary was used to identify the accidents; and then the accident reports were located. All of the accidents reported by others were searched manually, and copies of all bicycle-related accidents were obtained. Information from the bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents were coded, and computer programs were written to analyze the data. The data were summarized into many categories, and relationships among various types of data were studied.

		1970	ACCIDENTS
AGE OF CYCLIST	NUMBER OF	POPULATION	PER 100,000
(YEARS)	BICYCLE ACCIDENTS	(THOUSANDS)	POPULATION
0-4	2,000	17,167	11.7
5-14	25,100	40,688	61.7
15-24	10,000	36,493	27•4
25-44	1,400	48,413	2.9
45-64	1,000	41,938	2.4
65-74	200	12,482	1.6
75 AND			
OVER	300	7,695	3.9

To determine differences in severity of various types of accidents, a severity index was used (18). The severity index (SI) formula places a value on the average severity of a group of accidents. Accident severity increases as the severity index increases. The formula used is as follows:

SI = [9.5 (K + A) + 3.5 (B + C) + PDO]/N

where

K

=

number of cyclists killed,

- A = number of cyclists with an incapacitating injury,
- B = number of cyclists with a non-incapacitating injury,
- C = number of cyclists with a possible injury,
- PDO = number of cyclists not injured, and N = total bicycle-motor vehicle accidents.

A summary of data relating to bicycle accidents collected in 1976 through the Kentucky Electronic Injury Surveillance System was also obtained. This provided a sample of all injury-producing bicycle accidents.

#### RESULTS

#### ALL BICYCLE-RELATED ACCIDENTS

The Kentucky Electronic Injury Surveillance System has been developed by the Kentucky Department for Human Resources to study the safety of consumer products. Emergency room records of injuries resulting from consumer products are collected at 12 hospitals throughout the state. Using this sample, projections are made concerning total accidents in a year. Accidents involving bicycles are included. In 1975, bicycles were number one on the product hazard index; an estimated 5,000 injuries occurred. In 1976, bicycles were number two on the hazard index (an estimated 7,300 injuries). Copies of the emergency room information concerning bicycle-related injuries were obtained for the accidents reported in 1976. The data showed that bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents represented under ten percent of all injury-producing bicycle accidents. A detailed analysis of all injury-producing bicycle accidents as well as a comparison to bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents is given in APPENDIX A.

#### **BICYCLE-RELATED, MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS**

There was a total of 762 bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents during the one-year study period. They are summarized as follows:

## **Bicyclist Characteristics**

The distribution of bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents by age of the cyclist is given in Table 3. The 10- to 14-year olds had the highest number of accidents. Nearly one-half of all accidents involved cyclists in this age group. Only 11 percent of the cyclists involved in accidents were over 19 years old. The distribution of accidents by sex of the bicyclist (Table 4) showed that males were involved in four times as many bicycle accidents as females.

Bicycle accident frequency, given in terms of accidents per 100,000 people, was also related to the bicyclists' ages (Table 5) and sex (Table 6). The age categories were varied slightly in these tables because they had to conform to categories given in population summaries. The highest accident frequency was found again in the 10-to-14-years category. This was true for both males and females. The 5-to-9- and the 15-to-19-years categories also had high accident frequencies compared to other ages. The accident frequency for males was found to be four times that for females. Total mileage ridden by males and females was not available so that accident rates in terms of accidents per miles ridden could not be calculated.

RELATED, MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS BY AGE OF CYCLI		
AGE OF		DEDCENT
CTULISI (YEARS)	ACCIDENTS	OF TOTAL
5 AND		
UNDER	26	3.6
6- 9	141	19•4
10-14	328	45 <b>•</b> 1
15-19	152	20.9
20-29	59	81
30-39	9	1.3
40-49	6	0.8
50-59	2	0.3
60-69	1	0.1
70 AND		
OLDER	3	0.4

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TABLE 4.	BICY VEHIO SEX	CLE-RELA CLE ACCIU DF CYCLI	TED, DENTS ST	MOTOR S BY	
SEX OF CYCLIST		NUMBER ACCIDE	OF NTS	PERCENT OF TOTA	
MALE		608 148		80 20	

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AGE OF CYCLIST (YEARS)	NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS	PERSONS AT THAT AGE*	ACCIDENT FREQUENCY PER 100,000 PEOPLE
0- 4	11	271 ,099	4.1
5-9	156	317 • 243	49.2
10-14	328	333,392	98.4
15-19	152	318,756	47.7
20-29	59	469,479	12.6
30-39	9	346,394	2.6
40-49	6	363,039	1.7
50-59	2	322,397	0.6
60-69	1	255,995	0.4
70 AND			
OLDER	3	220,512	1.4

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AGE OF CYCLIST (YEARS)	NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS	PERSONS AT That age≉	ACCIDENT FREQUENCY PER 100,000 PEOPLE
MALE			
4 AND			
UNDER	8	138,594	
5-9	130	162,195	80 • 2
10-14	258	170,433	151 •4 ·EE
15-19	120	167,057	71.8
20-29	48	231,908	20.7
30-39	6	167,663	3.6
40-49	6	175,929	3.4
50-59	2	154,583	1.3
60-69	1	118,037	0.8
70 AND			
OLDER	3	92 • 637	<b>3 </b> €2
ALL	582	1,579,036	36.9
FEMALE			
4 AND			
UNDER	3	132,505	
5-9	26	155,048	16•8
10-14	70	162,959	<b>43.0</b>
15-19	32	151,699	<u>21 e 1</u>
20-29	11	237,571	<b>4 •6</b>
30-39		178,731	승규 지말 다른 • ( 가슴 말 같을
40-49	0	187,110	
50-59	0	167,814	and a state of a state
60-69	0	137,958	$\mathbf{U} \bullet \mathbf{U}$
70 AND			<b>C C</b>
OLDER	0	128,215	tes de la fois de la foi <b>∪ a U</b> ra de la sociética a mais de la societa de la s
ALL	145	1,639,670	1995 - State St

However, a 1971 study conducted in North Carolina found that the miles per year ridden by males was about twice that for females. This was in the 5-to-19-years category. If the assumption were made that males ride twice as many miles as females, the accident rate for males would be approximately twice that for females. Mileage rates were given as a function of age (5). Using these rates, the 10-to-14-years category had a much higher accident rate than the others.

			PERCENT IN E	OF ALL EACH AGE	A CC I DENTS GROUP	
			AG	GE OF CYC	LIST	
VARIABLE	CATEGORY	5 AND UNDER	6 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 19	20 AND OVER
LAND USE/ LOCALITY	RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS	69.2 11.5	63 • 6 20 • 5	49∘8 30∘4	42 •4 36 •4	45 •7 35 •7
DIRECTION OF TRAVEL	RIDING AGAINST TRAVEL	26.9	15.6	16.2	7.9	15 .0
LIGHT CONDITION	DARKNESS	4.2	4.3	10.7	16.7	18.2
ACCIDENT	SIDEWALK	4.2	2.9	3.3	3.4	0.0
LOCATION	INTERSECTION	36.4	54.5	56.9	55.6	51.9
CONTRIBUTING CIRCUMSTANCE	UNSAFE SPEED FAILED TO YIELD	0.0	1.7	1.4	2 •2	0.0
	RIGHT OF WAY	38.1	41.0	32 • 5	19.2	2 • 9
	CLOSE	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.7	2.9
	IMPROPER PASSING DISREGARD TRAFFIC	0.0	0.0	0.3	1.5	0.0
	CONTROLS	4.8	6.0	5.9	8.9	4 • 3
	TURNING IMPROPERL	Y 0.0	2.6	5.5	5.2	0 • 0
	INATTENTION	23.8	21e3	15.6	6.7	4.4
	DISTRACTION	0.0	0.0	07	<b>1</b> ₀5	2 • 9
	OTHERS NONE	4.8 28.5	12•0 15•4	10•4 27•0	12 ₀6 41 ₀5	8•7 66•7
BICYCLE DEFECT	BICYCLE WITH					
	DEFECT	8.7	6.6	5.4	5.8	8.2
ACCIDENT	REAR END	0.0	10.5	9•8	20.9	12.5
DESCRIPTION	OVERTAKING	0.0	4=2	12.0	15.7	21.9
		10.0	1.1	8.4	10.4	14.0
SHUWN UN	RIGHT ANGLE	. 40 eU 10 0	61.1	4/.1	41∎8 Э́	25.0
		10.0	0 /	1.00	2 e D	3.2
1 UKH I	SIDESWIPE	10.0	6.7	5.3	4.3	12.5
POPULATION	RURAL	27.0	12.1	12.5	10.5	3.8
	2,500 - 10,000	15.4	13.5	11.9	7.2	11.4
	10,001 - 25,000	7.7	7 • 8	14.7	18.4	16.4
	25,001 - 50,000	3.8	12.0	13.4	9 •2	3 . 8
	50,001 - 100,000	0.0	6.4	8.2	5∎3	6.3
	100+000 - 200+000	200	1103	2001	11e2	19.0
	UYEN LUV OUU	τ <b>ε</b> ο.		) C & D		
DAY OF WEEK	WEEKEND	38.5	28.4	27.1	22.4	15.0

A comparison was made between age of the cyclist and several variables relating to the accident (Table 7). Following is a summary of the variables which were studied and their relationship:

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	VARIABLE	RELATIONSHIP
1.	Land Use/Locality	A much higher percentage of accidents involving young cyclists occurred in residential areas; the percentage of accidents involving older cyclists increased in business areas. There was a higher percentage of accidents in each age group in residential areas than in business areas.
2.	Riding With or Against. Traffic	Young cyclists were involved in more accidents while riding against traffic.
3,	Light Conditions	Older cyclists were involved in more accidents during darkness.
4.	Accident Location (Roadway or Sidewalk)	Accidents on sidewalks were limited to cyclists under 20 years of age. The highest percentage was in the 5 years or younger ages.
5.	Accident Location (Intersection or Non- Intersection)	The percentage of accidents at intersections increased slightly with age.
6.	Contributing Circumstances	The percentage of accidents in which the cyclist was not a contributing factor increased markedly with age. Failure to yield right of way was the leading error for all age categories except the 20-years-and-over category. Disregarding traffic controls was much more predominant among older cyclists.
7.	Bicycle Defect	There was a slight overall decrease in bicycle defects as the cyclist's age increased.
8.	Accident Description (Diagram Shown on Accident Form)	The right-angle accident was highest among all age categories; however, the frequency was lower among older cyclists. The percentage of overtaking and rear-end accidents increased with the cyclists' ages; head-on accidents decreased.
9.	Population	The general trend was for a higher involvement of younger cyclists in rural areas; older cyclists tended to be involved in more accidents in higher populated areas.
10.	Day of Week	Young cyclists were involved in a much higher percentage of accidents during the weekend.

The injury sustained was also compared to the age of the cyclist (Table 8). Accident severity tended to decrease as age increased. The highest severity was found in the 6-to-9-years category; the lowest severity was in the 20-years-and-over category.

#### Motorist Characteristics

A comparison was made between the distribution of age and sex of drivers involved in bicycle-related accidents and drivers involved in motor vehicle accidents (Table 9). This was done to determine if motorists involved in bicycle-related accidents differed from the general population of motorists. The results showed that the drivers had very similar characteristics. The percentage of motorists under 30 years of age involved was identical. Also, there was less than a one-percent difference in the distribution by sex for the two categories.

#### Variation with Time

About one-half (49 percent) of all bicycle accidents occurred between 3:00 and 7:00 p.m., which corresponds to the evening rush hour and recreation period. Between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., less than one percent of the accidents occurred during any hour. A small increase was found between 7:00 and 9:00 a.m., corresponding to the time for bicycle trips to school and work (Figure 2).

	TU INJURY	SUSIAINEU	
		PERCENT	
	NUMBER OF	FATAL OR	
AGE OF	FATAL	INCAPACITATING	SEVERITY
CYCLIST	ACCIDENTS	ACCIDENTS	INDEX
5 AND			
UNDER	1	19.2	4.27
6 - 9	2	25.5	4.59
10 - 14	4	20.7	4.24
15 - 19	3	14.6	3.58
20 AND			
OLDER	0	11.3	3.27

TABLE 9. COM SEX VOLV	OF DRIVERS VED IN BICYC IDENTS TO AL	LE L MOTOR
VEH	ICLE ACCIDEN	TS
	PERCENT	OF TOTAL
	BICYCLE	ALL
	ACCIDENTS	ACCIDENTS
AGE OF DRIVER		
19 AND		
UNDER	24.4	18.8
20 - 29	<b>28.5</b>	34.1
30 - 39	16.1	16.7
40 - 49	12.7	11.6
50 - 59	9.3	9.5
60 - 69	6.6	5₀9
70 AND		
OVER	2•4	3 <b>.</b> 3
SEX OF DRIVER		
MALE	68.3	68.7
EEMALE	31.7	31.3

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Figure 2. Distribution of Bicycle-Related, Motor Vehicle Accidents by Hour of Day.

As expected, the summer months had the highest numbers of bicycle accidents -- attributed to increased riding during those months (Figure 3). The greatest percentage occurred during July and August. Other months with high numbers included June, May, April, and September. The fewest accidents occurred in December and January.

Bicycle accidents appeared to be distributed evenly over the week as shown in Figure 4. The percentages ranged from about 10.5 percent on Sundays to 16.1 percent on Tuesdays.



Figure 3. Distribution of Bicycle-Related, Motor Vehicle Accidents by Month.



Figure 4. Distribution of Bicycle-Related, Motor Vehicle Accidents by Day of Week.

The distribution of bicycle accidents by light conditions is shown in Table 10. Due to the fact that most bicycle riding is done during daylight hours, 84.8 percent of the bicycle accidents occurred during daylight conditions. This compares closely with accidents in North Carolina and California where 82 percent and 87 percent, respectively, occurred during daylight (4, 7). bicycle accidents per 100,000 population. The number of accidents per county ranged from 0.62 in the least populated counties (under 10,000) to 288 in heavily populated Jefferson County. A plot of accident frequency versus county population showed that the accident frequency increased as the county size increased (Figure 5). As with city size, this was probably

TABLE 10. D	ISTRIBUTION OF
B	ICYCLE ACCIDENTS
B	Y LIGHT CONDITION
LIGHT	NUMBER PERCENT
CONDITIONS	OF CASES OF TOTAL
DAYLIGHT	643 84•8
DAWN/DUSK	31 4•1
DARKNESS	84 11•1

	NUMBER OF			BICYCLE
	BICYLCE	NUMBER	TOTAL	ACCIDENTS
	ACCIDENTS	OF	POPULATION	PER 100,00
POPULATION	(1976)	CITIES	(1973)	POPULATIO
RURAL	88		1,845,311	4•8
2,500-10,000	87	70	324,942	26 • 8
0,001-25,000	107	23	359,384	29.8
25,001-50,000	84	7	235,812	35.6
OVER 50,000	395	3	571,654	69•1

## Accidents by County and City Size

Kentucky cities were grouped by population to determine rates of bicycle accidents as a function of city size (Table 11). The frequency increased as the city population increased. The accident frequency increased from 4.8 accidents per 100,000 population in rural areas to 69.1 accidents per 100,000 population in cities of over 50,000 population.

Bicycle accidents were also summarized for various county populations (Table 12). The number of bicycle accidents per county was found and divided by the average county population to determine the number of due to the relatively high percentage of people who ride bicycles in urban areas combined with the added probability of accidents on city streets.

A listing was made of each Kentucky city which had three or more bicycle accidents in the one-year study period and the corresponding number of bicycle accidents (APPENDIX B). The greater numbers occurred in Louisville (260), Lexington (77), Owensboro (54), and Covington (35). Accident frequencies were also calculated.

				NUMBER D	F AVERAGE	BICYCLE
		NUMBER	NUMBER OF	BICYCLE	POPULATION	ACCIDENTS
GROUP		OF	BICYCLE	ACCIDENT	S PER COUNTY	PER 100,00
NUMBER	PUPULATION	COUNTIES	AULIDENIS	PEK LUUNI	Y (ESI . 19/5)	PUPULATIL
1	0 - 10,000	29	18	0.6	7,183	7.9
2	10,001 - 15,000	31	23	0.7	12,197	6.1
3	15,001 - 20,000	20	41	2.1	17,465	11.7
4	20,001 - 30,000	14	33	2.4	24,400	9.7
5	30,001 - 40,000	11	62	5.6	34,164	16.5
6	40,001 - 60,000	5	29	5.8	44,600	13.0
7	60,001 - 100,000	7	1 3 3	19.0	71,357	26.6
8	100,001 - 200,000	2	134	67.0	152,412	44.0
9	200,001 - 800,000	( <b>1</b> , <b>1</b> )	288	288.0	700,700	41.1



Figure 5. Frequency of Bicycle-Related, Motor Vehicle Accidents Compared to County Population.

The number of bicycle accidents in each county is also given in APPENDIX B. County populations were used to calculate frequencies. The higher accident occurrences were in Jefferson (288), Fayette (77), Kenton (57), Daviess (54), and Campbell (30). There were 25 counties with only one and 43 with none. Counties with the higher frequencies (bicycle accidents per 100,000 population) included Daviess (66.5), Trimble (53.6), Carroll (46.5), Mercer (45.5), Kenton (43.7), and Fayette (40.6).

#### Accident Location

Almost 80 percent of the accidents occurred in urban areas on local streets (Table 13). Slightly over 50 percent of all accidents were in residential areas (Table 14). Almost 30 percent of the accidents were in business areas. Only 11.9 percent were in rural areas, and only 3.6 percent were at schools or parks.

ACC TYP	E	IGUMAT
HIGHWAY TYPE	NUMBER OF	PERCEN OF TOTAL
LOCAL STREET	578	<b>79</b> •2
STATE ROUTE	76	10.4
FEDERAL ROUTE COUNTY OR	45	6.2
LOCAL ROAD	30	4.1
INTERSTATE	1	0.1

## (EGBEGEGEGE

TABLE 14. DISTR ACCID LOCAL	IBUTION OF ENTS BY LAN ITY	BICYCLE D USE OR
AREA	NUMBER DF ACCIDENTS	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL
RESIDENTIAL	353	51.1
BUSINESS	206	29.8
RURAL	82	11.9
PRIVATE PROPERTY	21	3.0
SCHOOL	20	2.9
PARK	5	0.7
INDUSTRIAL	4	0.6
		<b>,</b>

The highest number of accidents occurred at stop signs (Table 15). A large number also occurred at traffic signals.

#### Accident Type

The classification of accidents according to diagrams given on the accident-reporting form is given in Table 16. The most common type was the right-angle collision; almost one-half of the accidents were classified in this way. This summary, however, did not provide much detail concerning the accident. Therefore, the accidents were summarized according to the type of accident and maneuver (Table 17). Summaries contained in several reports were reviewed before the methodology was selected. The method of summarizing the accidents corresponded closely to the method cited in Reference 10. The accident types shown in Table 17 were ordered by number of accidents, from highest to lowest. The accident types with the higher numbers were generally those involving an error by the cyclist. Diagrams and percentages of the major types are shown in APPENDIX C. The percentages indicate the proportion of all accidents of a particular type which occurred as shown. A more detailed analysis follows.

The most common type involved a cyclist failing to stop or yield at a controlled intersection. In a few instances (less than ten percent), the accident report indicated that the cyclist stopped and then pulled into the path of a motorist. The second most frequent accident type involved a cyclist exiting a driveway into

the path of motorists. Further, in most cases, there was no parking on the street to reduce sight distance. Also, the motorist was in the near traffic lane in most instances. The third common type resulted when the cyclist made an improper left turn. Most of these accidents involved the cyclist turning left from the right edgeline into the path of a motorist going the same direction as the cyclist. Several accidents involved a cyclist riding on the wrong side of the street. The large majority of this type were non-intersection accidents. The most common accident involving error by the motorist was colliding with the rear of the bicycle. This resulted when the motorist did not give the cyclist a proper share of the traffic lane. Several accidents resulted when the motorist failed to stop or yield at a controlled intersection. About 20 percent of the accidents of this type involved a cyclist proceeding from a sidewalk, Most accidents involving a motorist making an improper left turn resulted when the motorist made a left turn from an opposing lane into the path of the bicycle. Most accidents involving a motorist making an improper right turn were at intersections and resulted when a motorist made a right turn into the path of a cyclist proceeding along the right edgeline. In slightly less than one-half of the accidents involving a motorist exiting a driveway, the bicyclist was on the sidewalk. There was no pattern to the accidents in parking lots or accidents involving the cyclist making an improper right turn or colliding with the rear of the vehicle.

ACCIDENTS BY TYPE OF TRAFFIC CONTROL					
TYPE OF TRAFFIC CONTROL	NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS	PERCENT OF TOTAL			
STOP SIGN	153	23.4			
CENTERLINE	143	21.8			
ADVISORY SPEED					
LIMIT	88	13.4			
STOP AND GO					
SIGNAL	71	11.0			
NO PASSING					
ZONE	31	4.7			
MEDIAN	16	2 •4			
YIELD SIGN	4	0.6			
RAILROAD SIGNS OR					
SIGNALS	3	0 • 5			
FLASHING LIGHT	2	0.3			
CURVE SIGN	2	0.3			
OFFICER OR FLAGMAN	1	0.1			
DTHER	141	21.5			

TABLE 16. CLASSIFI ACCIDENT (FROM DI ACCIDENT	CATION OF DESCRIPTION AGRAM ON FORMS)	5
ACCIDENT NUMBER DESCRIPTION ACCIDE	OF PERCENT	OF *
RIGHT ANGLE 249 REAR END 66 OVERTAKING 64 HEAD ON 47 LEFT TURN 43 SIDESWIPE 32 RIGHT TURN 32	5   46.3     12.5   12.1     8.9   8.2     6.0   6.0	
*FOR 30 PERCENT OF A DESCRIPTION WAS	THE ACCIDENT 5 NOT GIVEN	S •
TABLE 17. CLASSIFICATION O THE TYPE OF ACCI TYPE OF ACCIDENT	F-BICYCLE ACC DENT AND MANEL NUMBER OF	DENTS BY JVER PERCENT
	ACCIDENTS	UF IUIAL
YIELD AT CONTROLLED INTERSECTION	160	21.7
INTO MOTORIST'S PATH	120	16.3
CYCLIST MADE IMPROPER	91	12•4
CYCLIST RODE ON WRONG SIDE OF STREET MOTORIST COLLIDED WITH	67	9.1
REAR OF CYCLIST MOTORIST FALLED TO STOP OR	59	8.0
YIELD AT CONTROLLED INTERSECTION	37	5•0
LEFT TURN	34	4.6
MOTORIST MADE IMPROPER RIGHT TURN	34	4•6
MOTORIST EXITED DRIVEWAY INTO CYCLIST'S PATH	27	3.7
PARKING LOT	27	<b>37</b>
RIGHT TURN	13	1.8
CYCLIST COLLIDED WITH REAR OF MOTORIST MOTORIST OPENED CAR DOOR	12	1 - 6
INTO CYCLIST'S PATH DTHER	9 46	1•2 6•3
	<u>2597/22797/1499709949999999999999999999999999999999</u>	

. . . . . . . . . . . .

\*

The type of accident by maneuver was compared to the age of the cyclist (Table 18). For the youngest age group (5 years or younger), most accidents resulted from the cyclist exiting a driveway into the path of the motor vehicle. For cyclists between 6 and 14 years of age, the highest number of accidents involved failure of the bicyclist to stop or yield at a controlled intersection and also exiting a driveway into a motorist's path. The leading error for cyclists over 14 years of age was failure to stop or yield at a controlled intersection. The most common accident for the 20-years-and-older age group involved a vehicle colliding with the rear of the bicycle.

The type of accident by maneuver was also compared to degree of injury sustained by the cyclist (Table 19). Accidents resulting from an error by the cyclist were the most severe. Failure of the cyclist to yield right of way at a driveway or intersection resulted in the most severe accidents. Accidents involving a cyclist riding on the wrong side of the road were also severe.

## TABLE 18. COMPARISON OF TYPE OF ACCIDENT BY MANEUVER AND AGE OF CYCLIST

	PE	RCENT	OF ALI	L ACCI	DENTS	
		AGF				
TYPE OF ACCIDENT BY MANEUVER	5 AND UNDER	6-9	10-14	15-19	20 AND OVER	AVERAGE AGE OF CYCLIST
CYCLIST FAILED TO STOP OR YIELD AT						
CONTROLLED INTERSECTION CYCLIST EXITED DRIVEWAY INTO	8.0	30.9	23.8	17.0	9.3	12.4
MOTORIST'S PATH	60.0	30.2	15.3	6.8	2.7	10.1
CYCLIST MADE IMPROPER LEFT TURN CYCLIST RODE ON WRONG SIDE OF	4.0	11.0	16.3	10.9	6.7	12.8
STREET MOTORIST COLLIDED WITH REAR OF	16.0	8.8	9.7	6.8	9.3	13.8
CYCLIST MOTORIST FAILED TO STOP OR YIELD AT	0	2.2	5.0	17.0	18.6	18.7
CONTROLLED INTERSECTION	0	4.4	3.1	10.2	8.0	16.2
MOTORIST MADE IMPROPER LEFT TURN	0	0	4.1	6.1	14.7	17.9
MOTORIST MADE IMPROPER RIGHT TURN MOTORIST EXITED DRIVEWAY INTO	0	0	4.1	6.8	10.7	18,5
CYCLIST'S PATH	12.0	2.2	4.4	2.7	2.7	13.2
PARKING LOT	0	1.5	4.7	2.7	4.0	14.9
CYCLIST MADE IMPROPER RIGHT TURN CYCLIST COLLIDED WITH REAR DF	٥	2•2	2•2	1.4	0	11.0
MOTORIST MOTORIST OPENED CAR DOOR INTO	0	0.7	1.3	2.7	2.7	15.2
CYCLIST'S PATH	0	0	1.6	2.1	1.3	15.3
OTHER	0	5.9	4.4	6.8	9.3	15.5



In general, accident severity tended to decrease as bicyclist age increased (Table 8). A more detailed analysis of severity by type of accident showed that severity for the specific accident types were higher for older cyclists (Table 20). Ranking of the severity of accident types showed similarities between the two age groups. Severity of accidents involving a cyclist riding on the wrong side of the street was very high for both groups.

The distribution of type of accident by maneuver was related to cyclist's age. Grade level was used instead of age in the summary table (Table 21). The percentage of accidents occurring through a given grade level can be determined for any accident type. This type of analysis was used in a previous report (10). This table shows the grade level at which training should be administered to children to prevent or minimize certain types of accidents. Ten percent of the accidents was used in the reference report. This type of analysis provides information for the development of bicycle safety educational programs.

#### Accident Severity

A comparison of injuries in bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents and all motor vehicle accidents is given in Table 22. As would be expected, the percentage of cyclists injured was very high. Also, bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents were less severe for the driver compared to all motor vehicle accidents. Injury to the cyclist was compared to several variables (Table 23).

	SEVERITY INDEX					
TYPE DE ACCIDENT	AGE D (Y	F CYCLIST EARS)				
BY MANEUVER	LESS THAN	16 16 AND OVER				
CYCLIST EXITED DRIVEWAY						
INTO MOTORIST'S PATH CYCLIST FAILED TO STOP OR YIFLD	4.51	3.00				
AT CONTROLLED INTERSECTION	4.53	3.64				
SIDE OF STREET	4.45	4.31				
CYCLIST MADE IMPROPER LEFT TURN	4.55	3.30				
MOTORIST FAILED TO STOP OR YIELD						
MATALED INTERSECTION	4.62	3.25				
OF CYCLIST	3,90	3,77				
CYCLIST MADE IMPROPER RIGHT TURN	3,58	*				
MOTORIST EXITED DRIVEWAY INTO						
CYCLIST'S PATH	3.74	2.25				
MOTORIST MADE IMPROPER LEFT TURN	3.07	3.00				
PARKING LOT	3.28	2.43				
CYCLIST CULLIDED WITH REAR						
UF MUTURIST MADE IMBRADED DICUT TUD	2.01	3.20				
MOTORIST OPENED CAR DOOR INTO	N 200	∠•⊃U				
CYCLIST'S PATH	2,83	1.83				

			Ρ	ERCE	NT O UGH	IF AC A GI	CIDE VEN	NTS GRAD	OCCU E LE	RINC VEL	3		
						GRAD	E.LE	VEL				e da terre Ne fizzar	
TYPE OF ACCIDENT BY MANEUVER	K≉	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
CYCLIST FAILED TO STOP OR													
YIELD AT CONTROLLED													
INTERSECTION	1	7	11	19	29	41	46	57	68	79	86	91	9
CYCLIST EXITED DRIVEWAY													
INTU MUTURISI'S PATH	12	18	28	31	41	56	12	11	85	90	73	96	7
CYCLIST MADE IMPRUPER													
LEFI TURN	U	3	10	14	11	24	35	43	24	10	83	89	9
LYLLISI RUDE UN WRUNG								E E		7.7			
SIDE OF SIKEEI	0	5	14	20	20	21	40	22	04	13	οU	60	0.
MUTURIST CULLIDED WITH REAR		<u> </u>	•				10					= 7	
UP LICLISI MOTOPIST ENTLED TO STOR BO	ų	U	U	9	2	2	ιu	10	<u> </u>	33	41	21	0,
MUTURIST PALLED TO STOP OR													
ITELD AT CONTROLLED	•	•	•	E	14	10		22	7.1		E7.	47	7
INTERSECTION	U	U	2	2	τo	17	٤1	32	τ <b>τ</b> 4			02	
AUTURIST MADE IMPRUPER	n	•	'n	0	n	6	6	15	27	10	45	55	6
MOTOPIST MADE IMPRODER	U	U	v	v		•			-				
PICUT THPM	n	n	0	n	n	n	6	12	22	47	52	61	6
MOTORIST EXITED DRIVEWAY	•			v	Ŭ	, v			<b>-</b>		- <b>-</b>		
INTO CYCLIST'S PATH	n	12	12	16	20	24	32	48	60	76	0	0	8
PARKING LOT	4	-4	4	- 8	ĩž	20	20	24	40	72	72	80	8
CYCLEST MADE IMPROPER								_					
RIGHT TURN	o	15	31	31	31	38	46	54	54	85	100	100	10
CYCLIST COLLIDED WITH													
REAR OF MOTORIST	0	0	0	9	9	27	27	27	45	45	55	73	7
MOTORIST OPENED CAR DOOR													
INTO CYCLIST'S PATH	0	0	0	0	O	0	0	0	33	56	67	67	6

 $\mathbf{21}$ 

ABLE 22. INJURI DRIVER RELATE AND DR ACCIDE	ES TO CYCL S INVOLVED D, MOTOR V IVERS INVO NTS	ISTS AND IN BICYCL EHICLE ACC DIVED IN AL	E- IDENTS L
		PERCENT OF	TOTAL
	BICY ACCID	CLE DENTS	<b>∆</b> 1 1
INJURY	CYCLIST	DRIVER	ACCIDENTS
FATAL	1.3	0.1	0.2
INCAPACITATING			
INJURY	17.5	0.6	2.2
NON-INCAPACI-			
TATING INJURY	28.5	1.0	4.8
POSSIBLE INJURY	28.2	1.3	5.•4
NONE DETECTED	24.5	97.0	87.4

	ининдер ((анау (), анау на соло на сол При при при при при при при при при при п	
VARIABLE	CATEGORY	SEVERITY INDEX
ACCIDENT DESCRIPTION	LEFT TURN	3.10
(DIAGRAM SHOWN ON	RIGHT ANGLE	4.13
ACCIDENT FORM)	RIGHT TURN	3.70
	HEAD-ON	4.22
	SIDESWIPE	3.47
	REAR-END	4.13
	OVERTAKING	3.78
POPULATION	RURAL	5.40
	2,501-10,000	3.96
	10,001-25,000	3.66
	25,001- 50,000	4.17
	50,001-100,000	3.26
	100,001-250,000	4.03
	OVER 250,000	3.81
RIDING WITH OR	WITH TRAFFIC	3.66
AGAINST TRAFFIC	AGAINST TRAFFIC	4.27
ACCIDENT LOCATION	INTERSECTION	3.85
	NON-INTERSECTION	4.27
	ROADWAY	4•27
	SIDEWALK	2.70
	DRIVEWAY	4.00
LIGHT CONDITION	DAYLIGHT	4.00
	DAWN/DUSK	4.56
	DARKNESS	3.94

Following is a summary of the variables which were studied and their relationship to injuries:

	VARIABLE	RELATIONSHIP
1.	Accident Description (Diagram Shown on Accident Form)	Head-on accidents were the most severe; right-angle and rear-end accidents were second in severity.
2.	Population	Accidents in rural areas were most severe. This was probably due to the higher traffic speeds.
3,	Riding with or Against Traffic	Accidents in which the cyclist was riding against traffic were the most severe. This was expected since head-on accidents were the most severe accident type.
4.	Accident Location (Roadway or Sidewalk)	Accidents involving a cyclist on a sidewalk were the less severe. The normally low speed of the motor vehicle involved in this type of collision was probably the major contributing factor in lessening severity.
5.	Accident Location (Intersection or Non- Intersection)	Surprisingly, non-intersection accidents were more severe than intersection accidents. Past results have shown many of the more severe types occurred at intersections; however, when all intersection accidents are combined, the accidents are not as severe. Also, the non-intersection accidents resulting from a cyclist riding on the wrong side of the road and a motorist colliding with the rear of a bicycle were found to be severe.
6.	Light Conditions	The highest severity was for accidents which occurred during dawn and dusk. Basically, these were accidents during dusk since almost 90 percent of the total in this category were during dusk.

#### Accident Fault

A comparison was made between fault and several variables in accidents (Table 24). It was found that cyclists were at fault in most accidents (71 percent). However, the percentage of cyclists at fault decreased with increasing age. For cyclists 20 years and older, the motorist was at fault in the majority of cases. A slightly higher percentage of male cyclists were at fault than females. It was also found that the percentage of cyclists at fault tended to be higher in the more severe accidents. The youngest and oldest driver categories had the highest percentage at fault. This would be expected because of the general relationship between driving record and age (19). There was not a large difference between the percentage of male and female drivers at fault. Female drivers were at fault a slightly higher percentage of the time.

Changeling for and a subject of the subject of a subject of the su		
VARIABLE	CATEGORY	FAUL
VEHICLE	CYCLIST DRIVER	71 29
CYCLIST'S AGE	5 AND UNDER 6- 9 10-14 15-19 20 AND OLDER	88 87 76 55 34
CYCLIST'S SEX	MALE FEMALE	72 63
CYCLIST'S INJURY	FATAL INCAPACITATING NON-INCAPACI- TATING POSSIBLE INJURY NONE DETECTED	90 82 72 68 66
DRIVER'S AGE	19 AND UNDER 20-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60-69 70 AND OLDER	44 27 20 17 21 30 39
DRIVER'S SEX	MALE FEMALE	27 31

A more detailed comparison was made between the percentage of cyclists at fault and several additional variables in accidents (Table 25). The highest percentage of cyclists at fault was in rural areas. Also, the percentage of cyclists at fault was higher in daylight than in darkness. A very high percentage of bicyclists were at fault in right-angle accidents, the most common accident type, as well as head-on accidents which would usually involve a cyclist traveling on the wrong side of the road. The percentage at fault was lower for rear-end and overtaking accidents which include many accidents in which the motorist did not give the cyclist a proper share of the road. The percentage of cyclists at fault did not vary significantly between intersection and non-intersection accidents or accidents on one-way compared to two-way streets. However, the percentage of cyclists at fault was much higher for accidents on the roadway compared to those involving a cyclist riding on a sidewalk.

		PERCENT O
VARIABLE	CATEGORY	AT FAULT
LAND USE/	RURAL	85
LOCALITY	RESIDENTIAL	73
	PRIVATE PROPERTY	71
	BUSINESS	68
	SCHOOL	63
	INDUSTRIAL	50
	et <b>PARK</b> og skille skille skille se se	40
POPULATION	RURAL LUNDER 25001	83
	2,500 - 10,000	65
	10,001 - 25,000	68
Angenetika (dalah dalah da Angenetika (dalah dalah dala	25,001 - 50,000	76
	50,001 - 100,000	72
	100,001 - 250,000	64
	OVER 250 9000	69
LIGHT CONDITIONS	DAYLIGHT	74
	DAWN/DUSK	58
	DARKNESS	54
ACCIDENT DESCRIP-	REAR END	42
TION (DIAGRAM	OVERTAKING	58
SHOWN ON	LEFT TURN	42
ACCIDENT FORM)	RIGHT ANGLE	80
바람이 아이는 것이 아이지 않는 것이 가지? 같은 바람이 아이지 않는 것이 아이지 않는 것이 있는 것이 있는 것이 있다.	RIGHT TURN	72
	HEAD-ON	89
	SIDESWIPE	70
ACCIDENT LOCATION	INTER SECTION	71
	NON-INTERSECTION	67
	ROADWAY	73
1944년(1941년) - 2018년 - 1997년 - 1997년 1947년(1941년) - 1997년 - 1997년 1947년 - 1997년 -	SIDEWALK	27
2788 : 2813 : 2813 : 2813 : 2813 : 2813 2823 : 2813 : 2813 : 2813 : 2813 : 2813 : 2813 : 2813 : 2813 : 2813 : 2813 : 2813 : 2813 : 2813 : 2813 : 2813		
	ONE-WAY STREET	74
	TWO-WAY STREET	71

#### Other Factors

Following is a summary of results found relating to these factors. The tables referred to are presented in APPENDIX D.

The causes of bicycle-related, vehicle accidents, as determined by the investigating police officers, were summarized (Table D1). Contributing actions by the cyclist included failure to yield right of way (29 percent), inattention (14 percent), disregarding traffic controls (6.5 percent), and turning improperly (4 percent). Contributing actions by the motorist included inattention (6.3 percent), failure to yield right of way (5.3 percent), and unsafe speed (1.6 percent).

The distribution of pre-accident actions for bicyclists and drivers are summarized in Table D2. Cyclists were going straight ahead in 69.8 percent of the accidents; 8.8 percent involved making a left turn; 6.3 percent were turning right; and 3.0 percent were changing lanes. Motorist actions included going straight ahead (75.0 percent), turning right (6.5 percent), turning left (6.0 percent), parked (2.1 percent), stopped in traffic (2.0 percent), and backing (1.5 percent).

Only 40 bicycle accidents (5.4 percent) involved a bicycle defect (Table D3). Of the 40 defects, 18 were brake failures, 12 were defective lighting, one involved steering failure, one resulted from inadequate tires, and one resulted from an excessive load on the bicycle.

An analysis was also made of the roadway defects which contributed to the accidents. Only 42 accidents (5.6 percent) involved roadway defects (Table D4). Of those, 24 involved a view obstruction. No other defect was listed more than four times. Based on this analysis, roadway defects were found to be a minor problem in bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents.

The road surface condition was dry in 94.3 percent of all bicycle accidents and wet during 5.4 percent. There were only two bicycle accidents (0.3 percent) on snow or icy roads (Table D5). This would be expected since few cyclists ride during inclement weather.

Bicycle accidents occurred on straight-and-level roadway sections 72.6 percent of the time (Table D6). Only eight percent of the accidents involved a curve. Almost one-fourth of the accidents occurred on a grade or hillcrest.

The residence of 96 percent of bicyclists involved in accidents was local, compared to 3.4 percent from elsewhere in the state (another county) and 0.6 percent from out of state. This would be expected since a great majority of bicycle trips are short. The data did show one interesting fact: a slightly higher percentage of non-local motorists were involved in bicycle accidents compared to all traffic accidents. This may be due to the fact that non-local motorists are not as aware of bicycle traffic as local drivers (Table D7). While trucks were involved in about 6.3 percent of all motor vehicle accidents, they were involved in 11.3 percent of bicycle-motor vehicle accidents (Table D8). This may be due to the inability of truck drivers to see cyclists in thany instances.

The distribution of type of accident by maneuver was compared to city population (Table D9). A cyclist making an improper left turn or riding on the wrong side of the street were most common in rural areas and small cities. In larger cities, failure of cyclist to stop or yield at an intersection were the most common accidents.

#### SUMMARY

Bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents represented less than ten percent of all injury-producing bicycle accidents. An analysis of a sample of injury-producing accidents involving a bicycle is given in APPENDIX A. A summary of some of the major findings concerning bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents follows:

- 1. The 10-to-14-years category was involved in the largest number of bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents and had the highest accident frequency.
- 2. Males were involved in four times as many bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents as females.
- Several factors were related to age. For example, young cyclists were involved in more accidents in residential areas; older cyclists had a higher percentage of their accidents in business areas. Also, a higher percentage of young cyclists were involved in accidents while traveling against traffic.
  Accident severity tended to decrease as age
- 4. Accident sevenity tended to decrease as age increased.
- 5. The age and sex distribution of drivers involved in bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents was very similar to that for drivers involved in all motor vehicle accidents.
- 6. The highest proportion of accidents occurred between 3:00 and 7:00 p.m.
- 7. The summer months corresponded to the highest numbers of bicycle accidents.
- 8. Accident frequency (accidents per 100,000 population) increased in cities and counties with higher populations.
- 9. Most bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents occurred in residential sections of urban areas.
- 10. The most common type of accident was the right-angle accident.

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- 11. The most common accident was found to involve a cyclist failing to stop or yield at a controlled intersection. This type of accident was followed in frequency by a bicyclist exiting from a driveway into the motorist's path and a cyclist making an improper left turn. The most common accident involving error by the motorist resulted from the motorist colliding with the rear of the bicycle.
- 12. The common types of accidents varied with the cyclist's age. For 5 years or younger, most accidents resulted from the cyclist exiting from a driveway into the motorist's path. For 20 years or older, the most common accident type involved a motorist colliding with the rear of a bicycle.
- 13. Accident severity was found to be related to several factors. Many of the severe types of accidents occurred at intersections; but when all intersection accidents were combined, they were not as severe as non-intersection accidents. Non-intersection accidents resulting from a cyclist riding on the wrong side of the road and a motorist colliding with the rear of a bicycle were severe.
- 14. The majority of accidents (71 percent) were the result of an error by the cyclist; however, the percentage of cyclists at fault decreased with increasing age.
- 15. A table giving the distribution of accidents by maneuver related to the grade level of the cyclist was developed. This table summarized information pertaining to when specific types of training should be administered.

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## APPENDIX A

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## ALL BICYCLE-RELATED ACCIDENTS

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In 1976, there were 190 bicycle-related injury accidents coded through the Kentucky Electronic Injury Surveillance System at 12 hospitals throughout the state. Based on this data, the projection was made that 7,301 injury-producing bicycle accidents occurred in 1976. There were eight bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents coded which represented 4.2 percent of the total. However, up to one-half of the accidents had information missing, meaning that bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents probably represent between four and eight percent of all injury-producing bicycle accidents. This would be approximately 300 to 600 accidents out of the total of 7,301 in 1976. Police records showed 645 injury-producing, bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents in 1976, representing 8.8 percent out of the estimated total of 7,301 bicycle accidents.

Age and sex of bicyclists involved in all bicycle accidents and the bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents showed some differences (Tables A1 and A2). Cyclists involved in accidents with motor vehicles tended to be older compared to all cyclists involved in accidents. The percentage of cyclists over 14 involved in bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents was twice that for cyclists in all accidents. Also, the percentage of males involved in bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents was higher than the percentage involved in all accidents. The results in Table A3 show that, for both males and females, the cyclists involved in motor vehicle accidents tended to be older compared to all cyclists involved in accidents.

The distribution of accidents by location type was summarized (Table A4). The majority of the bicycle accidents occurred at home. The second leading location type was highways or streets. Although only eight accidents involved a motor vehicle, 22 accidents (20.9 percent of all bicycle accidents) occurred on a highway or street. The other category with a significant number of accidents was "other public locations" such as schools or parks.

The disposition of the patient (cyclist) was coded as to whether hospitalization was necessary (Table A5). The bicyclist was admitted to the hospital in 5.3 percent of all the accidents. In two of the eight motor vehicle accidents (25 percent), hospitalization was necessary. Also, accidents occurring on highways or streets required a higher proportion of hospitalization than accidents at home. None of the bicycle accidents at other public places such as schools or parks required hospitalization.

The distribution of injuries to various parts of the body was also tabulated (Table A6). Injuries to the lower leg (including knee and ankle), the lower arm (including wrist and elbow), and the face (including nose) were the most common. The injury diagnosis of the bicycle accidents was also summarized (Table A7). The most common injury involved a laceration followed by contusion or abrasions. The most common severe injury involved a fracture.

Using the combination of injury diagnosis and body part injured, a severity value was determined for each accident. The average severity value could then be determined for all accidents or any particular group of accidents (Table A8). Bicycle-related, motor vehicle accidents were the most severe category of accidents. Accidents involving male cyclists were more severe than those involving females. There was not a large difference in severity with age, but cyclists in the age category of 10 through 19 years had the highest average severity.

ACCIDENTS AND BICYCLE-RELATED, MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS BY AGE OF CYCLIST			
ACE	PERCENT O	F ALL ACCIDENTS	
AGE RANGE YEARS)	ALL BICYCLE ACCIDENTS	BICYCLE-MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT	
0- 4	7.,9	1.5	
5- 9	38.9	21.5	
10-14	31.9	4 <b>5</b> .1	
10-19	707	<u></u> ζUφΥ	
30 AND OLDER	4•∠ 1•6	0 • 1 2 • 9	

TABLE A2.	DISTRIBUTION OF ALL BICYCLE ACCIDENTS AND BICYCLE-RELATED, MOTOR VEHICLE ACCCIDENTS BY SEX OF CYCLIST	
	PERCENT OF ALL ACCIDENTS	
SEX	ALL BICYCLE BICYCLE-MOTOR ACCIDENTS VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	
MALE	63 80	
FEMALE	37 20	

TABLE A3.	DISTRIBUTION OF ALL BICYCLE ACCIDENTS AND BICYCLE-RELATED, MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS BY AGE AND SEX OF CYCLIST			
		PERCENT OF AL	L ACCIDENTS	
10F		MALE	FE	1ALE
AGE RANGE (YEARS)	ALL BICYCLE ACCIDENTS	BICYCLE-MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	ALL BICYCLE ACCIDENTS VE	BICYCLE-MOTOR HICLE ACCIDENTS
0- 4	4.8	1.4	9.1	2•1
5-9	34.7	22.3	43.9	17.9
10-14	42.0	44.3	30.3	48.3
15-19	15.3	20,6	6•1	22.0
20-29 30 AND	1.6	8.3	9.1	7.6
OLDER	1.6	3.1	1.5	2.1

TABLE A4. DI AC LO	STRIBUTION OF CIDENTS BY CATION TYPE
LOCATION TYPE	PERCENT OF ALL BICYCLE ACCIDENTS*
HOME	67.6
FARM	1.0
HIGHWAY OR	
STREET	20.9
OTHER PUBLIC	
	USTITIL_
TIONAL FACI	LITY, ETC)
*INCLUDES ALL	ACCIDENTS FOR WHICH
A LOCATION T	YPE WAS LISTED.
ALMOST ONE-H	ALF OF THE ACCIDENTS
UIU NUI HAVE	A LUCATION TYPE

TYPE OF	NUMBER OF	PERCENT OF CYCLISTS
ACCIDENT	ACCIDENTS	ADMITTED TO HOSPITA
AT HOME	71	5 <b>.</b> 6
DN HIGHWAY		
ORSTREET	22	<b>9 • 1</b>
AT OTHER PUBLIC		
PLACES SUCH AS		
SCHUUL UR PARK		U • U
VENTELE		25 0
VEHICLE		∠ ) • U ⊑ 3

BODY PART INJURIED	NUMBER OF OCCURRENCES	PERCENT OF ALL ACCIDENTS
LOWER LEG <sup>a</sup>	40	21.1
LOWER ARM <sup>b</sup>	37	19.5
FACE®	33	17.4
HEAD	19	10.0
FODT	12	6.3
FINGER	12	<b>6.</b> 3
UPPER TRUNK <sup>d</sup>	9	4.8
MOUTHe	8	4.2
LOWER TRUNK		3.7
HAND	6	3.2.
UPPER LEG	<b>2</b>	1.0
TOE	2	1.0
NECK	2	1.0
UPPER ARM	1	0.5
BINCLUDING NOC	CT AND ELODIC	
PINCLUDING WRI	SI AND ELDUNS	
SINCLUDING NUS		
"INCLUDING SHU	JULDERS	
CIPS, IUNGUE,		
INCLUDING HIP	3	

TABLE A7. IN BI	JURY DIAGNOSIS	OF S
INJURY DIAGNOSIS	NUMBER OF DCCURRENCES	PERCENT DE ALL ACCIDENTS
LACERATION CONTUSIONS/ ABRASIONS FRACTURE STRAIN OR SPRAIN DISLOCATION CONCUSSION AVULSION	81 54 32 15 3 2 2	42.6 28.4 15.8 3.4 1.6 1.1 1.1

	AVERAGE
CATEGORY OF	SEVERITY
ACCIDENTS	' VALUE
ALL	22
BICYCLE-MOTOR VEHICLE	34
JN HIGHWAY OR STREET	20
AT HOME	23
AT OTHER PUBLIC PLACE	
(SCHOOL, PARK, ETC.)	17
MALE CYCLIST	24
FEMALE CYCLIST	17
CYCLIST'S AGE - LESS THAN 10	20
CYCLIST'S AGE - 10 THROUGH 19	24
CYCLIST'S AGE - 20 AND OLDER	20

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## APPENDIX B

## BICYCLE ACCIDENTS BY COUNTY AND CITY

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NUMBER OF CITY ACCIDENTS	CITY POPULATION (1973 ESTIMATED)	A CCIDENT FREQUENCY (ACCIDENTS PER 100,000 PEOPLE)
LOUISVILLE 260	335,696	77.5
LEXINGTON 77	184,603	41.7
OWENSBORD 54	51,355	105.2
COVINGTON 35	48,754	71.8
PADUCAH 17	30,191	56.3
BOWLING GREEN 15	36,151	41.5
RICHMOND 12	18,358	65.4
SHIVELY 10	19,000	52.6
ASHLAND 10	28,935	34.6
NEWPORT 9	23,968	37.6
HENDERSON 9	23,275	38.7
FRANKFORT 9	22,224	40.5
HARRODSBURG 8	6,522	122.7
FORT THOMAS 8	16,678	48.0
DANVILLE 7	11,767	59.4
BELLEVUE 7	8,557	81.8
ST. MATHEWS 6	14,239	42.1
MURRAY 6	12,876	46.6
HOPKINSVILLE 6	25,607	23.4
MAYFIELD 5	10,123	49.4
FLORENCE 5	13+276	37.7
CAMPBELLSVILLE 5	7+675	61.1
SHELBYVILLE 4	4+120	97.1
LUDLOW 4	5+645	70.9
INDEPENDENCE 4	4+958	80.7
ELIZABETHTOWN 4	14,354	27.9
CARROLLTON 4	3,890	102.8
BARDSTOWN 4	6,186	64.7
WINCHESTER 3	15,352	19.5
SHEPHERDSVILLE 3	3,044	98.6
MORGANFIELD 3	3,382	88.7
MIDDLESBORO 3	12,165	24.7
MADISONVILLE 3	16,324	18.4
LOUISA 3	1,898	158.1
LEBANON 3	5,471	54.8
JEFFERSONTOWN 3	12,058	24•9
DAYTON 3	8,260	36•3

COUNTY NAME	NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS	COUNTY POPULATION (1975 ESTIMATED)	ACCIDENT FREQUENCY (ACCIDENTS PER 100,000 POPULATION
ADAIR	1	14,400	5 • 9
ALLEN	0	13,600	o
ANDER SON	2	10,800	18.5
BALLARD	0	8,400	0
BARREN	3	30,700	9.e8
ВАТН	0	9,300	0
BELL	5	32,800	15.2
BOONE	9	37,100	24.2
BOURBON		18,900	egeneere 5 <b>∙3</b> (beeele
BOYD	10	52,300	19•1
BDYLE	8	22,800	35.1
BRACKEN	0	7,400	0
BREATHITT		15,700	6.4
BRECKINRIDGE	0	15 <b>,100</b>	이는 것을 물 물 <b>이</b> 지 않는 것을 물 것
BULLITÏ	4	33,500	11 •9
BUTLER	0	10,100	0
CALDWELL	2	13,500	14.8
CALLOWAY	6	29,100	20•6
CAMPBELL	30	85,000	35 •3
CARLISE	D	5,600	0
CARROLL	4	8,600	46.5
CARTER	1.	21,700	4.6
CASEY	0	14,100	0
CHRISTIAN	6	69 <b>,</b> 800	8.6
LLARK	<b>3</b>	26,400	<b>11 = 4</b>
CLAY_	2	20,900	9.6
CLINTON	0	8,600	
	9 <b></b>	9,000	viana en los
	U Fr	6+800	interación de Ormania de Constanti 22 €
DAVIESS	24	ØI∳∠UU	00.07
EDMUNSON		9,500	10.5
ELLIOT	0	5,700	· 2월 23년 2월 21년 - 영화 23일
ESTILL	<u> </u>	13,300	7.5
FAYEIIE	$C_{1}^{2}$	189,700	40.6
FLEMING	0	12,000	0.
FLOYD	2	40,100	5.0
FRANKLIN	9	37,300	24.1
FULTON		9,500	10.5
GALLATIN		4 <b>,400</b>	22.7
GAKKARD	2	10,000	20.0

## TABLE B2. BICYCLE ACCIDENT FREQUENCY BY COUNTY

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COUNTY NAME	NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS	COUNTY POPULATION (1975 ESTIMATED)	ACCIDENT FREQUENCY (ACCIDENTS PER 100,000 POPULATION)
CDANT	7	11,700	17.1
CRANT CRAVES	8	32,300	24.8
GRAVES	0	18,200	0 Q
GREEN	0	10,800	0
GREENUP	3	33,800	0.07
HANCOCK	С	7,400	0
HARDIN	9	72,000	11 • O
HARLAN	- 5	39,800	8.4
HARRISON	1	14,600	6.3
HART	0	14,700	U
HENDERSON	11	36,900	29.•B
HENRY	0	11,500	0
HICKMAN	1	6,500	15.4
HOPKINS	3	42,900	<b>7.</b> 0
JACKSON	0	10,500	U
LEEFER SON	288	700,700	41.1
JESSAMINE	2	22,100	9.0
JOHNSON	0	20,500	0
KENTON	57	130,500	43•7
KNOTT	0	16,800	0
KNUX	0	26,300	9
LARUE	1	11,600	B.•6
LAUREL	3	31,300	9.6
LAWRENCE	1	12,100	8.3
LEE	0	7,000	0
1 ESI TE	0	12,500	O
LETCHER	0	26,600	0
LEWIS	o	12,700	0
LINCOLN	1	17,700	5.6
LIVINGSTON	1	8,700	1102
LOGAN	2	22,100	90
LYON	0	5,900	0
MCCRACKEN	17	60,300	28•2
MCCREARY	2	14,300	14.U 0 0
MCLEAN	L	10,200	C.e.C
MADISON	13	47+400	27.4
MAGOFFIN	0	11,400	0
MARION	3	16,600	18.1
MARSHALL	2	22,300	7.U 97 6
MARTIN	3	10,800	6.1 <b>0</b> 0

COUNTY NAME	NUMBER DF ACCIDENTS	COUNTY POPULATION (1975 ESTIMATED)	ACCIDENT FREQUENCY (ACCIDENTS PER 100,000 POPULATION
MASON	3	16,000	17.9
MEADE	2	17,800	11•2
MENIFEE	0	4,400	0
MERCER	8	17,600	45.5
METCALFE	3	8,400	0
MONROE	0	12,100	U
MONTGOMERY	2	17,200	11.6
MORGAN	0	10,500	<b>0</b>
MUHLENBERG	2	30,300	6.6
NELSON	4	24,400	16.4
NICHOLAS	0	6•800	
OHIO		20,000	n
OLDHAM	$\mathbf{i}$	18,400	5.4
OWEN	0	7,900	$\mathbf{c}$
DWSLEY	1	5,200	19.2
PENDLETON	0	10•400	0
PERRY	0	28,000	ñ
PIKE	2	68,800	2.9
POWELL	ī	8,600	11.6
PULASKI	1	40,300	2.5
ROBERTSON	0	2,300	0
ROCKCASTLE	1	12,800	7.8
ROWAN	3	17,100	17.5
RUSSELL	0	11,509	o - 1997 <mark>o</mark> - 1997 - 199 - 1997 - 19
SCOTT	1	18,900	5.3
SHELBY	4	19.700	20.3
SIMPSON	Э	14,100	
SPENCER	1	5,700	17.5
TAYLOR	5	18,200	27.5
TODD	С.	11,000	0
TRIGG	1	9,000	11.1
TRIMBLE	3	5,600	53.6
JNIUN	5	16,400	30.5
NARREN	15	67,400	24.0
WASHINGTON	1	10,400	9.6
VAYNE	0	15,600	0
VEBSTER	<u> </u>	14,100	28.4
WHITLEY	3	28,400	10.6
NOLFE	0	6,100	0
VOODFORD	1999 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 -	- 16 <b>,600</b> - 16,600 - 16,600	0

## APPENDIX C DIAGRAMS AND PERCENTAGES OF MAJOR ACCIDENT TYPES

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Figure C1. Cyclist Failed to Stop or Yield at Controlled Intersection (21.7 Percent of All Accidents).



Figure C2. Cyclist Exited Driveway into Motorist's Path (16.3 Percent of All Accidents).



Figure C3. Cyclist Made Improper Left Turn (12.4 Percent of All Accidents).



Figure C4. Cyclist Rode on Wrong Side of Street (9.1 Percent of All Accidents).



Figure C5. Motorist Collided with Rear of Cyclist (8.0 Percent of All Accidents).



Figure C6. Motorist Failed to Stop or Yield at Controlled Intersection (5.0 Percent of All Accidents).





Figure C8. Motorists Made Improper Right Turn (4.6 Percent of All Accidents).



Figure C9. Motorist Exited Driveway into Cyclists Path (3.7 Percent of All Accidents).

APPENDIX D

## MISCELLANEOUS TABLES

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	CYCL	CYCLIST		DRIVER	
CONTRIBUTING CIRCUMSTANCES	NUMBER OF CASES	PERCENT OF TOTAL	NUMBER OF CASES	PERCENT OF TUTAI	
UNSAFE SPEED	9	1.0	12	16	
FAILED TO YIELD					
RIGHT OF WAY	188	29.0	39	5•3	
FOLLOWING TOO					
CLOSELY	5	0.8	3	0•4	
IMPROPER PASSING	33	0.5	4	0.5	
DISREGARD TRAFF	I C				
CONTROLS	43	6.5	6	0 • 8	
TURNING IMPROPE	RLY 26	4.0	6	0•8	
ALCOHOL MOVEMENT	Г О	0.0	8	1.1	
DRUG INVOLVEMEN	Г О	0.0	1	0.1	
DRIVER INATTENT	ION 93	14.0	46	6.3	
DISTRACTION	6	0.9	3	0•4	
OTHER	69	10.6	42	6.0	
NONE DETECTED	212	32.7	561	76.7	

Contraction of

	CYCL	IST	DRIVI	ER
PRE-ACCIDENT ACTION	NUMBER OF CASES	PERCENT OF DATA	NUMBER OF CASES	PERCENT OF TOTAL
GDING STRAIGHT	<u></u>			
AHEAD	514	69 <u>•</u> 8	567	75.0
MAKING RIGHT				
TURN	46	6.3	<b>49</b>	6.0
MAKING LEFT			10	4 0
	65	0.0	48	0.0
STADTING CROM		Uei	<b>U</b>	VeU
DARKING PRUM	o Carlo de C	0.0	4	0.5
TOACETC		0.8	<u>د</u>	0.5
		Usu		087
STADDING	6	0.5	9	1.2
STODDED IN	7	ι.a.ν		<b>.</b>
TPAFETC	1	0.1	15	2.0
	<b>▲</b>	001		
	, D	0.0		0.1
PARKED	5	0.7	16	2.1
AVOIDING OBJECT				
ΙΝ ΒΠΑΟΝΑΥ	0	0.0	<b>1</b>	0.1
CHANGING LANES	21	3.0	5	0.7
DVERTAKING	2	0.3	14	1.8
MERGING	6	0.8	0	0.0
BACKING	1	0.1	11	1.5
OTHER	64	8.7	14	2.0

TABLE D3. B	CYCLE DEFECTS ( TO BICYCLE AC	CONTRIBUTING CIDENT
DEFECT	NUMBER OF CASES	PERCENT OF ALL DEFECTS
BRAKES	18	45∞0
LIGHTING	12	30.0
STEERING	1	2.5
TIRE	1	2 • 5
LOAD	1	2.5
OTHER	7	17.5

	NUMBER	PERCENT
RUAD DEFECT	OF CASES	OF TOTA
VIEW OBSTRUCTED	24	57.1
SLIPPERY SURFACE	4	9•4
ANIMAL ACTION	3	7.1
GLARE	2	4•8
IMPROPERLY PARKED		
VEHICLE(S)	2	4∙8
FIXED OBJECTS	2	4 <b>+</b> ● B
DEBRIS IN ROADWAY	1	2.•4
DEFECTIVE SHOULDERS	<b>1</b>	<b>2+4</b>

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TABLE D5. ROAD SURFACE CONDITIONS AND BICYCLE ACCIDENTS			
ROAD SURFACE CONDITIONS	NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS	PERCENT OF TOTAL	
DRY	712 41	94•3 5•4	
SNOW/ICE	2	0.3	

ROAD	NUMBER OF	PERCENT O
GEOMETRICS	ACCIDENTS	TOTAL
STRAIGHT AND		
LEVEL	546	72.6
STRAIGHT AND		
GRADE	121	16.1
STRAIGHT AND		
HILLCREST	24	3.2
CURVE AND		
	international de la <b>3U</b> de la constant de la const Constant de la constant	<b>4 e</b> 0
CORVE AND		
	▲ · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	302

TABLE D7. RESIDENT INVOLVE	CE DF CYCLIS D IN ACCIDEN	STS ITS	
	BICYCLE AC	CIDENTS ONLY	ALL ACCIDENT
RESIDENCE	CYCLIST	MOTORIST	MOTORIST
LOCAL RESIDENT RESIDING ELSEWHERE IN THE STATE	96.0 3.4	84•6 11•2	87•8 3•9

TABLE D8. VE	HICLE TYPES	S INVOLV TH BICYC	/ED IN LES	
VEHICLE TYPE	PERCENT OF MOTOR-VEHI ACCIDEN	ALL ICLE NTS	PERCENT C BICYCLE-V ACCIDE	DF ALL /EHICLE ENTS
CAR TRUCK MOTORCYCLE OTHER	88•7 6•3 0•7 4•3		87.0 11.3 1.7 0	

6.16

	POPULATION CATEGORIES				
TYPE OF ACCIDENT BY MANEUVER	RURAL	2,500 TO 25,000	25,000 TO 100,000	100,000 ANI Larger	
CYCLIST EXITED DRIVEWAY INTO					
MOTORIST'S PATH	22.5	14.1	14.3	15.8	
MOTORIST EXITED ORIVEWAY INTO					
CYCLIST'S PATH	2•2	5•Z	3•8	3.1	
CYCLIST FAILED TO STOP OR YIELD AT					
INTERSECTION	10+1	23+4	33.6	18.3	
CYCLIST MADE IMPROPER LEFT TURN	29.3	14+1	6+8	9.0	
CYCLIST RODE ON WRONG SIDE OF STREET	16•9	6+3	1•4	7•3	
MOTORIST COLLIDED WITH REAR OF CYCLIST	9•0	4•1	4•⊃	11•6	
MOTORIST FAILED TO STOP UR YIELD AT		<b>5 7</b>	۷ ک	<b>E Z</b>	
INTERSECTION	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<b>D•</b> 2	0.0	<b>2∎0</b> 6.2	
MOTORIST MADE IMPROPER LEFT TUKN	202	5+2	3 • C	5 3	
MOTORIST MADE IMPROPER RIGHT TURN	Lei	<b>D•</b> 2	4 • 7	1.0	
MOTORIST OPENED LAR DUUR	U _	∠ ∎O	U.C.C.	7 5	
OTHER SECTION AND A SECTION AN	6 • f	ີ ວ∎/ ລ_/	3+8	(•) / 7	
PARKING LUT	U	3.6	200	<b>4 • 1</b>	
CYCLIST COLLIDED WITH REAR OF MOTUR				0.0	
BENEHICLE ERSERVER ERSERVER ERSERVER	e y i	3 • 1	202	0.7	

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