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# Highlands College Students' Driving Habits

Cory Doto-Dyer  
*Highlands College*

Paul Clark  
*Highlands College*

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# HIGHLANDS COLLEGE STUDENTS' DRIVING HABITS SURVEY

Researchers: **Paul Clark**, Automotive Technology Program  
**Kori Doto-Dyer**, Associate of Science Program  
**Dr. John M. Garic**, Dean & Faculty Sponsor

N = 94

In the past month of driving, how frequently have you -	1 Never	2 Rarely	3 Sometimes	4 Often	5 Always	Average
A. Driven 10+ miles per hour over the speed limit	12%	23%	34%	25%	6%	2.9
B. Changed lanes without signaling	28%	27%	21%	17%	7%	2.5
C. Driven without using seatbelts	33%	18%	11%	18%	20%	2.7
D. Tailgated another car	51%	31%	9%	4%	5%	1.8
E. Ran a red light or stop sign	43%	40%	12%	0%	5%	1.9
F. Cut someone off while driving	49%	32%	15%	2%	4%	1.9
G. Made an insulting gesture or yelled at other drivers	38%	21%	25%	9%	7%	2.3
H. Braked suddenly to punish a tailgater	56%	19%	13%	6%	5%	1.9
I. Driven while texting or talking on phone (not including hands-free)	25%	26%	28%	17%	5%	2.5
J. Parked in a handicapped spot	78%	12%	3%	1%	7%	1.5
K. Driven after consuming alcohol	60%	25%	6%	5%	4%	1.7

After conducting an analysis of this data, we note the following:

1. There was no statistically significant difference between male and female drivers.
2. Also, there was no statistically significant difference between drivers under 25 and those 25 and over.
3. (navy blue circle) 13,000 lives are lost each year due to speeding.
4. (red circle) Seat belt use is the most effective way to save lives and reduce injuries in crashes.
5. (blue circles) Aggressive driving behaviors account for more than half of all fatal crashes.
6. (green circle) Text messaging creates a crash risk 23 times worse than driving while not distracted.
7. (pink circle) Stronger enforcement is needed against those who wrongfully park in a handicapped space.
8. (gold circles) Driving after drinking alcohol is always a very bad idea—and dangerous.