TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REPORT

SAFETY BELT AND MOTORCYCLE HELMET USE IN VIRGINIA: THE 2000 UPDATE



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Abstract

This series of surveys to determine the safety belt and motorcycle helmet use rates in Virginia was initiated to qualify the Commonwealth for incentive funds in accordance with the requirements of Section 153 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991. To receive funds, states had to have laws requiring the use of safety belts and motorcycle helmets and to meet certain use rate standards. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration specified the survey criteria to be used in determining a state's use rate. Even though the § 153 funding program ended in 1994, the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles requested that data collection continue and that the same methods, procedures, and sites be used for all future survey efforts. In addition, there is a new grant program, Section 157 of TEA-21, which requires the same methodology for determining use as was used in the earlier program.

This report describes the methodology used for site selection and data collection and adds the results of the 2000 survey to those for the previous years (1992-99). The results show that Virginia's 2000 safety belt use rate was 69.9% and its motorcycle helmet use rate was 99.9%. The helmet use rate had been 100% in the first 5 years of the study (1992-1996) and was 98.7% in 1997, 99.6% in 1998, and 99.1% in 1999. For the first 8 years the survey was conducted (1992-99), the safety belt use rates were 71.6%, 73.2%, 71.8%, 70.2%, 69.6%, 67.1%, 73.6%, and 69.9% respectively.

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(The opinions, findings, and conclusions expressed in this report are those of the author and not necessarily those of the sponsoring agencies.)

Virginia Transportation Research Council
(A Cooperative Organization Sponsored Jointly by the
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the University of Virginia)

Charlottesville, Virginia

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Safety belt use data were first collected in Virginia in 1974. Early data (1974-77 and 1983-86) were collected from only the four metropolitan areas (Northern Virginia, Tidewater, Richmond, and Roanoke) of the state. Between 1987 and 1992, data were also collected in nine communities with a population under 15,000. In 1991 and 1992, data were collected in four communities with a population between 50,000 and 100,000. It was only with the initiation of this project in 1992 that the state had a true statewide survey.

This series of surveys to determine the safety belt and motorcycle helmet use rates in Virginia was initiated to qualify the Commonwealth for incentive funds in accordance with the requirements of Section 153 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991. To receive the funds, states had to have laws requiring the use of safety belts and motorcycle helmets and to meet certain use rate standards. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration specified the survey criteria to be used in determining a state's use rate.

Even though the § 153 funding program ended in 1994, Virginia's Department of Motor Vehicles requested that data collection continue and that the same methods, procedures, and sites be used as were used for the § 153 program. The Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century established a new grant program (Section 157) for allocating funds to the states. The federal guidelines for conducting surveys to determine a state's use rate are nearly identical with those for the Section 153 program, and Virginia has an approved methodology.

This report describes the methodology used for site selection and data collection and adds the results of the 2000 survey to those of the previous years (1992-99). The results show that Virginia's 2000 safety belt use rate was 69.9% and its motorcycle helmet use rate was 99.9%. The helmet use rate was 100% in the first 5 years of the study (1992-1996) and was 98.7% in 1997, 99.6% in 1998, and 99.1% in 1999. For the first 8 years the survey was conducted (1992-99), the safety belt use rates were 71.6%, 73.2%, 71.8%, 70.2%, 69.6%, 67.1%, 73.6%, and 69.9% respectively (see Figure ES-1).

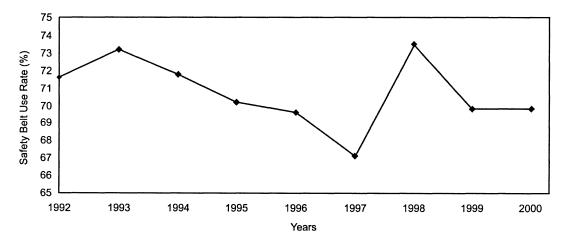


Figure ES-1. Trends in Safety Belt Use

With regard to the use of a motorcycle helmet, violations were noted in Campbell County (1997), Henry County (1998), Portsmouth (1999), and Bedford County (2000). It should be noted that very few riders were not using a helmet (two in 1997, one in 1998, one in 1999, and one in 2000).

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INTRODUCTION

The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) added a new section (153) to Title 23 of the U.S. Code. This section authorized the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to establish a grant program to support states in adopting and implementing laws governing the use of safety belts and motorcycle helmets. To qualify for first-year funds, a state was required to have laws requiring the use of a helmet by all motorcycle riders and the use of a belt or child safety seat by all front-seat occupants in passenger vehicles. To qualify for secondand third-year funding, a state was required to have mandatory use laws *and* demonstrate a specified level of compliance.

On January 23, 1997, the President directed the Secretary of Transportation to develop a plan to increase safety belt use in the United States. On April 16, 1997, a plan was presented to the President that established a goal of 85% use by the year 2000 and 90% by 2005. As part of the Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century, Section 157 of Title 23 was added, which established a new grant program for allocating funds to the states. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) published new guidelines, to become effective September 1, 1998, for conducting safety belt use surveys. The new guidelines were essentially the same as the previous guidelines except that they required that data from passenger cars, pickup trucks, vans, minivans, and sport utility vehicles be included.

On June 29, 1992, NHTSA published the final guidelines for conducting surveys of belt and helmet use in the states.¹ The guidelines required that the selection of survey samples be based on a single probability based survey design and that only direct observational data be used to demonstrate compliance. The sample design had to include predetermined protocols for (1) determining sample size; (2) selecting sites; (3) selecting alternate sites when necessary; (4) determining which route, lane, and direction of traffic flow were to be observed; (5) collecting the observational data; and (6) beginning and concluding an observation period. The guidelines further stated that the relative error of the estimate could be no more than ±5% and that all drivers, outboard front-seat passengers, and motorcycle drivers and passengers had to be eligible for observation. The guidelines also required that at least 85% of the state's population be eligible for inclusion and that only the smallest counties, based on population, could be eliminated from the sampling frame. Finally, data for all daylight hours and all days of the week had to be eligible for inclusion in the sample, and the scheduling of the time and day for each sample site had to be done randomly.

In 1992, 28 states (with 73% of the U.S. population) conducted probability-based surveys that had been reviewed by NHTSA and met the minimum standards.² Another 11 states conducted probability-based surveys but did not demonstrate compliance with the guidelines. In 1997, 43 states conducted safety belt use surveys. NHTSA used these data to calculate a population-weighted national average of 69%. The 1997 average usage rate for states with primary enforcement (11) was 79% and that for states with secondary enforcement (32) was 62%. The rate in New Hampshire, the only state without a mandatory usage law, was 58%.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this project was to conduct a survey of safety belt and motorcycle helmet use in Virginia in accordance with NHTSA's guidelines. Even though the § 153 funding program ended in 1994, safety belt and motorcycle helmet data have continued to be collected at the request of Virginia's Department of Motor Vehicle's Transportation Safety Services. The methods and procedures that qualified the state for incentive funds in 1992 through 1994 were used in all nine surveys that have been conducted. In this way, longitudinal data can be compared between years and over a period of years. When methods of data collection change, the making of comparisons is compromised to the extent that differences in collection procedures affect the results.

METHODS

This survey required five tasks: (1) defining the population from which the sample was drawn, (2) determining the number of survey sites, (3) developing the sampling plan, (4) developing procedures and collecting data, and (5) determining how estimates would be weighted to approximate statewide figures.

Population

According to federal guidelines, localities with the smallest populations and that made up less than 15% of the state's total population could be removed from the study population. In Virginia, determining which localities made up 15% of the population was difficult. In most states, a city is a part of the surrounding county. In Virginia, although towns are considered to be a part of the surrounding county, the 41 independent cities are not. To accommodate this arrangement of political jurisdictions, both counties and independent cities were considered in establishing the sampling population.

Table 1 shows the 136 counties and independent cities in Virginia ranked by population. According to 1990 census figures (the data available when the study sites were first selected), Virginia's total population was about 6.2 million. However, most of the population is located in

the four population centers: Northern Virginia, Tidewater, Richmond, and Roanoke. Thus, there is a great disparity between the population of the rural counties and cities and the more urban ones. For instance, the least populated county, Highland County, had fewer than 2,700 residents, and the least populated city, Norton, had fewer than 4,300. Twenty-seven of the 136 political jurisdictions had a population less than 10,000, and another 40 had a population between 10,000 and 20,000. Nearly 50% (49.3%) of the jurisdictions had fewer than 20,000 residents and accounted for 12.2% of the state's total population. On the other hand, 13 jurisdictions had a population of more than 100,000 and accounted for more than 48% of the total population of the state. Because of this disparity in population, the 74 least populated jurisdictions (the non-shaded portion of Table 1) made up just under 15% of the state's population; thus, they were excluded from sampling. Figure 1 is a map that shows the jurisdictions that were excluded (the shaded portion). All other locations in the state were equally eligible for inclusion in the sample.

Number of Survey Sites

The next step in the project was to determine the number of statewide sites necessary to fulfill NHTSA's requirements of a relative error of ±5% and 95% confidence. When computations were carried out to determine the number of sites necessary to meet these requirements, it was found that 78 sites would be adequate. After reviewing the project work plan, NHTSA wrote (September 4, 1992) that they would require Virginia to use 120 sites that were to be allocated to urban and rural areas based on population. Two of the 84 urban sites were moved in 1998 to safer locations along the same roadway and within the adjacent intersections (procedures meeting the original guidelines), and the other 82 sites have been used every year the survey has been conducted. Over the 8 years, it was necessary to move 2 of the 36 rural sites. One was moved to a safer location just down the road from the original site and at a point prior to the next intersection, and the other was moved to an alternate site within the same grid box (see "Sampling Plan"). In addition, data were collected on the same day of the week and the same hour of the day at each site during the 9 years.

Sampling Plan

To select the sample of sites, a grid with sections measuring 0.64 by 0.64 cm (1/4 by 1/4 in) was placed over a standard map of Virginia issued by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and drawn to a scale of 2.54 cm = 20.92 km (1 in = 13 mi). Figure 2 is a sample section of the map. Each grid box contained approximately 27.19 km² (10.5 mi²). This procedure produced a system of 144 sections across the horizontal axis and 63 sections across the vertical axis. However, because Virginia is not perfectly rectangular and because political jurisdictions representing the smallest 15% of the population were excluded from the sample,

Table 1 POPULATION BY POLITICAL JURISDICTION

Jurisdiction	Jurisdiction Population	Cumulative Population	Cumulative Percent	Jurisdiction	Jurisdiction Population	Cumulative Population	Cumulative Percent
Highland County	2,635	2,635	0.04	Orange County	21,421	818,373	13.23
Norton	4,247	6,882	0.11	Page County	21,690	840,063	13.58
Craig County	4,372	11,254	0.18	Winchester	21,947	862,010	13.93
Clifton Forge	4,679	15,933	0.26	Hopewell	23,101	885,111	14.31
Bath County	4,799 5,306	20,732 26,038	0.34 0.42	Scott County Salem	23,204 23,756	908,315 9 32,071	14.68 :::1 5.06
Emporia Bedford	6,073	32,111	0.52	Staunton	24,461	956,532	15.46
Surrey County	6,145	38,256	0.62	Lee County	24,496	981,028	15.86
Charles City County	6,282	44,538	0.72	Botetourt County	24,992	1,006,020	16.26
King and Queen County	6,289	50,827	0.82	Isle of Wight County	25,053	1,031,073	16.66
Buena Vista	6,406	57,233	0.92	Wythe County		1,056,539	17.08
Bland County	6,514	63,747	1.03	Warren County	26,142	1,082,681	17.50
Rappahannock County	6,622	70,369	1.14	Carroll County_	26,594	1,109,275	17.93
Galax	6,670	77,039	1.25	Prince George County	27,394	1,136,669	18:37
Manassas Park	6,734	83,773	1.35	Culpeper County	27,791	1,164,460	18.82
Lexington Covington	6,959 6,991	90,732 97,723	1.47 1.58	Manassas Amherst County	27,957 28,578	1,192,417 1,220,995	19.27 19.73
Covington South Boston	6,997	104,720	1.69	Russell County	28.667	1,249,662	20.20
Richmond County	7,273	111,993	1.81	Halifax County	29,033	1.278.695	20.67
Cumberland County	7,825	119,818	1.94	Mecklenburg County	29,241	1,307,936	21.14
Franklin	7,864	127,682	2.06	Glouchester County		1,338,067	21.63
Mathews County	8,348	136,030	2.20	Harrisonburg	30,707	1,368,774	22.12
Middlesex County	8,653	144,683	2.34	Buchanan County	31,333	1,400,107	22.63
Essex County	8,689	153,372	2.48	Shenandoah County	31,636	1,431,743	23.14
Amelia County	8,787	162,159	2.62	Accomack County	31,703	1,463,446	23.65
Greensville County	8,853	171,012	2.76	Smyth County	32,370	1,495,816	24.18
Falls Church	9,578	180,590	2.92 3.08	Pulaski County	34,496	1,530,312	24.73 25.30
Sussex County Greene County	10,248 10,297	190,838 201,135	3.25	James City County Petersburg	34,859 38,386	1,565,171 1,603,557	25.92
New Kent County	10,445	211,580	3.42	Franklin County	39,549	1,643,106	26.56
Northumberland County	10,524	222,104	3.59	Wise County	39,573	1.682.679	27.20
Lancaster County	10,896	233,000	3.77	Charlottesville	40,341	1,723,020	27.85
King William County	10,913	243,913	3.94	York County	42,422	1,765,442	28.53
Poquoson	11,005	254,918	4.12	Bedford County	45,656	1,811,098	29.27
Lunenburg County	11,419	266,337	4.30	Frederick County		1,856,821	30.01
Williamsburg	11,530	277,867	4.49	Washington County		1,902,708	9 30.75
Charlotte County	11,688	289,555	4.68	Tazewell County		1,948,668	31.49
Madison County	11,949	301,504	4.87	Campbell County		1,996,240	32.26
Floyd County	12,005	313,509	5.07 5.26	Fauquier County Suffolk		2,044,981	33.05
Clarke County	12,101 12,298	325,610 337,908	5.26 5.46	Danville		2,097,122 2,150,178	33.89 34.75
Appomattox County Fluvanna County	12,429	350,337	5.66	Augusta County	54,677	2,204,855	35.63
Nelson County	12,778	363,115	5.87	Pittsylvania County		2.260.510	36.53
Buckingham County	12,873	375,988	6.08	Henry County		2,317,452	37.45
Northampton County	13,061	389,049	6.29	Spotsylvania County		2,374,855	38.38
Alleghany County	13,176	402,225	6.50	Rockingham County		2,432,337	39.31
King George County	13,527	415,752	6.72	Stafford County	61,236	2,493,573	40.30
Goochland County	14,163	429,915	6.95	Hanover County		2,556,879	41.32
Nottoway County	14,993	444,908	7.19	Lynchburg		2,622,928	42.39
Powhatan County	15,328	460,236 475,716	7.44 7.69	Albemarie County		2,690,968 2,764,881	43.49
Westmoreland County Radford	15,480 15,940	491,656	7.95	Montgomery County Rosnoka County		2.844.213	44.69 45.97
Radiord Brunswick County	15,987	507,643	8.20	Loudoun County		2,930,342	47.36
Colonial Heights	16,064	523,707	8.46	Rosnoke		3,026,739	48.92
Martinsville	16,162	539,869	8.73	Portsmouth	103,907	3.130.646	50.60
Grayson County	16,278	556,147	8.99	Alexandria		3,241,829	52.39
Giles County	16,366	572,513	9.25	Hampton	133,793	3,375,622	54.56
Prince Edward County	17,320	589,833	9.53	Chesapeake	151,976	3,527,598	- 57.01
Patrick County	17,473	607,306	9.82	Newport News	170,045	3,697,643	59.76
Southampton County	17,550	624,856	10.10	Arlington County	170,936	3,868,579	62.52
Dickenson County	17,620	642,476	10.38	Richmond	203,056	4,071,635	65.81
Rockbridge County	18,350	660,826	10.68	Chesterfield County		4,280,909	69.19
Bristol Waynesboro	18,426 18,549	679,252 697,801	10.98 11.28	Prince William County Henrico County		4,496,595	72.67
waynesooro Fredericksburg	19,027	716,828	11.28	Norfolk		4,714,476 4,975,705	76.20 80.42
Caroline County	19,027	736,045	11.90	Virginia Beach	393,069	4,973,703 5,368,774	86.77
Fairfax	19,622	755,667	12.21	Fairfax County		6,187,358	100.00
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Louisa County	20,325	775,992	12.54			n fakkir kirin ing	

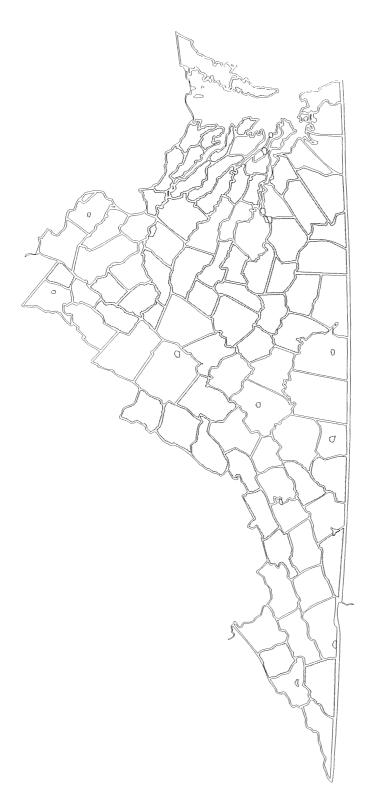


Figure 1. Areas excluded from sampling procedures (shaded).

some boxes fell outside the geographical area or were wholly within excluded areas. To keep these boxes from affecting the random nature of the sample, they were not defined as part of the study population. Each valid grid box containing at least one intersection in an included part of Virginia was numbered. Random numbers were generated to select 120 of the 2,572 valid grid boxes, without replacement, from which specific intersections were selected. Grid box selection was the first stage of the site selection process.

To respond to a concern expressed by NHTSA that a pure statewide random sample of 120 sites would overrepresent the nonurban areas of Virginia, the originally proposed procedures were changed. The selection of sites was based on the proportion of the population in the urban and rural areas of the state. Excluding the lowest 15% of the population, the urban areas had about 68% of the remaining population, and the rural areas had about 32%. Of the 120 total sites, 84 were randomly selected from the four metropolitan areas and 36 were randomly selected from the remainder of the state.

By the use of detailed maps of urban areas available in book form from ADC of Alexandria, Inc.³⁻⁷ and county maps prepared by VDOT, each intersection in a selected grid box was numbered, and a random number was generated to select the specific intersection to be sampled. Two alternate sites were also selected randomly from the box. For each primary and alternate site, random numbers were used to select which route and direction of travel and whether traffic entering or exiting the selected intersection would be observed. This was the second stage in the process. Figures 3 and 4 are examples of urban and rural grid boxes and potential sites.

Staff of the Virginia Transportation Research Council visited and evaluated each site to determine whether data could be safely and adequately collected. The safety of the observer was the primary criterion for evaluating each site, followed by the ability to observe traffic. If an intersection was found to be inadequate, attempts were made to find an adequate observation point downstream if traffic exiting the intersection was to be observed and upstream if entering traffic was to be observed. In either case, if an adequate site could not be found before the next intersection was reached, an alternate site was investigated. Choosing a point before the next intersection ensured that the same traffic characteristics would be present at the upstream or downstream sites as would have been present at the original intersection. Very few original sites were discarded in favor of alternates. Those that were discarded had no safe area for the observer to stand or park or required the observer to be below the level of the roadway, making observation impossible.

After selection, the sites were sorted geographically into seven groups. The days of the week were randomly assigned, without replacement, to each geographic group. Data were collected for 1 hr at each site all 9 years. For each day, the sites in a geographic group were assigned a random hour to begin, without replacement, from 7 A.M. to 6 P.M. When inclement weather precluded the collection of data at a site, data were collected at that site at a later date but at the originally specified time and on the same day of the week.

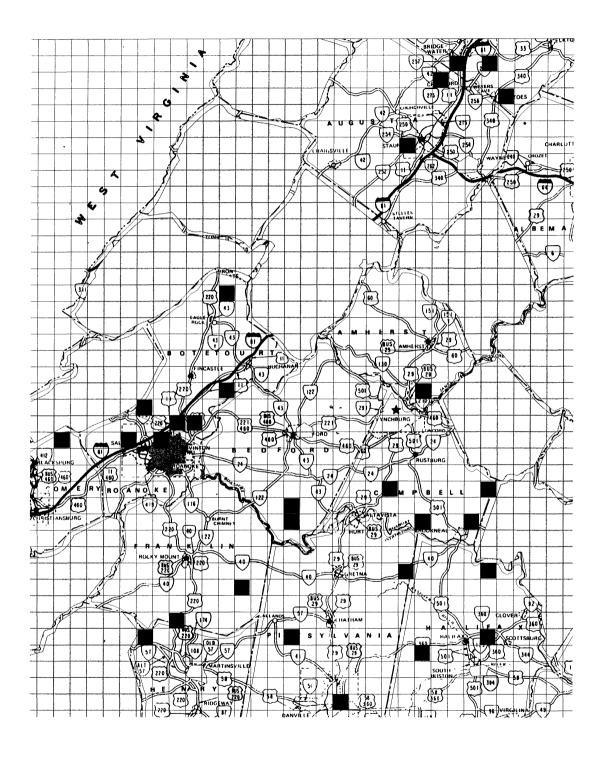


Figure 2. Sample section of state map showing grid boxes.

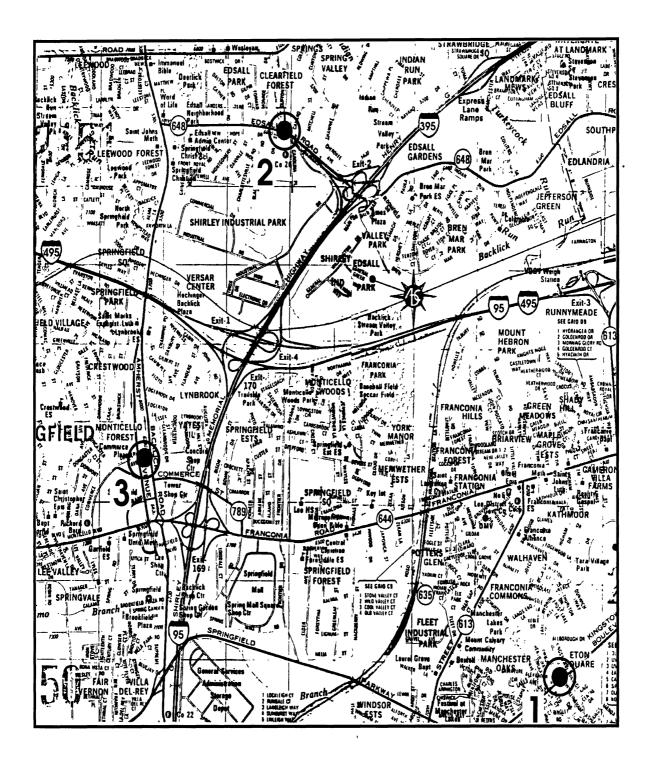


Figure 3. Detail of urban grid showing intersection choices.

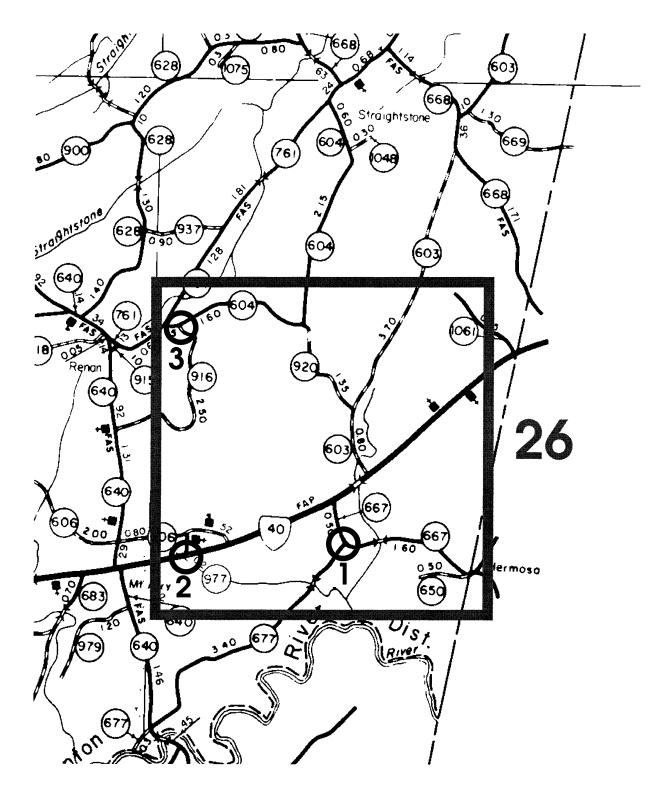


Figure 4. Detail of rural grid showing intersection choices.

Data Collection Procedures

All passenger cars in the curb lane were observed for shoulder belt use by the specified passengers. The designation "passenger car" included vans, minivans, sport utility vehicles, and pickup trucks. All observations began precisely on the hour and ended on the hour. If a momentary interruption occurred, the observer was instructed to resume observing vehicles, but to ensure that the beginning observation was not a nonrandom selection by the observer, data collection resumed with the third vehicle to pass the site after the observer was ready.

Observations were recorded using eight counters mounted on a hand-held board. A "yes" or "no" count was made for shoulder belt use for drivers and outboard front-seat passengers for each passenger car in the curb travel lane and for motorcycle driver and passenger helmet use in any lane at the intersection. The data collectors were required to complete a training program on the use of the counter board and how the data were to be collected and recorded. The data collectors were checked for inter-rater reliability in training sessions before they began the survey. Since observation points were preselected at each site, the data collectors were instructed to use intersection diagrams and photographs to locate the point at which observations were to be made (see Figures 5 and 6).

Calculation of Use and Error Rates

Because safety belt use was observed only in the curb lane, the NHTSA guidelines required that the observations on multilane highways be weighted by the number of lanes of travel. However, no such weighting was necessary for motorcycles, which were observed in all lanes of travel. For passenger cars at each site, the number of driver and passenger observations was multiplied by the number of lanes in the observed direction of travel. Thus, at a site with two lanes in the travel direction, the number of observations was doubled to estimate the total number of drivers and passengers who crossed the site. This was the third stage.

As previously discussed, the selection of sites was stratified to represent urban and rural areas in proportion to their populations. Thus, more than two thirds of the sites were in urban areas.

In December 1992 correspondence, NHTSA's Washington Headquarters staff recommended that Virginia use the following formulas to compute the state's safety belt use rate. The use rate, P_B , is the estimated proportion of drivers and passengers using safety belts and is calculated by the formula:

$$P_{B} = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^{2} \frac{N_{t}}{n_{t}} \sum_{i=1}^{n_{t}} N_{ti} B_{ti}}{\sum_{t=1}^{2} \frac{N_{t}}{n_{t}} \sum_{i=1}^{n_{t}} N_{ti} O_{ti}}$$

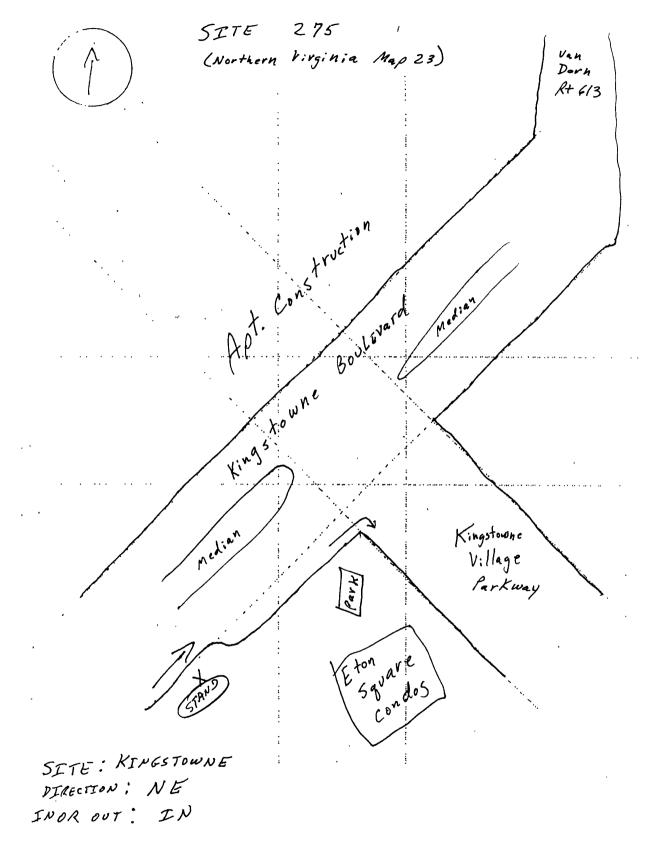


Figure 5. Urban site intersection diagram.

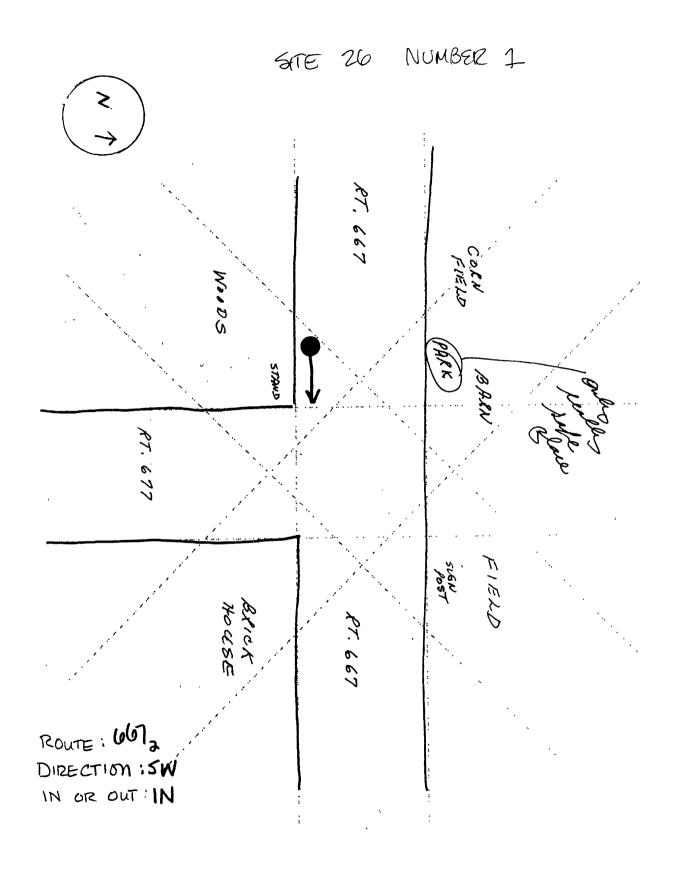


Figure 6. Rural site intersection diagram.

where t = stratum (1 = urban, 2 = rural)

ti = each site within a stratum

 N_t = total number of grid boxes within stratum t

 n_t = number of grid boxes selected from each stratum t

 N_{ti} = total number of intersections within each sampled grid box

 B_{ti} = number of belted occupants observed at site ti (weighted by lanes)

 O_{ti} = total number of occupants observed at site ti (weighted by lanes).

The variance of the estimated belt use, $V(P_B)$, was approximated by the formula:

$$V(P_B) = \frac{1}{O^2} [V(B) + P_B^2 V(O) - 2P_B COV(B, O)]$$

where \bar{O} is the weighted average number of occupants observed per site and is computed by the formula:

$$\overline{O} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^{n_t} N_{ti} O_{ti}$$

and where V(B) is the variance of the number of belted occupants and is computed by the formula:

$$V(B) = \frac{1}{(N_1 + N_2)^2} \sum_{t=1}^{2} \frac{N_t^2}{n_t(n_t - 1)} \sum_{i=1}^{n_t} (N_{ti}B_{ti} - \overline{B}_t)^2$$

where
$$\overline{B}_t = \frac{\displaystyle\sum_{i=1}^{n_t} N_{ti} B_{ti}}{n_t}$$

and where V(O) is the variance of the number of observed occupants and is computed by the formula:

$$V(O) = \frac{1}{(N_1 + N_2)^2} \sum_{t=1}^{2} \frac{N_t^2}{n_t(n_t - 1)} \sum_{i=1}^{n_t} (N_{ti}O_{ti} - \overline{O}_t)^2$$

where $\overline{O}_t = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_t} N_{ti} O_{ti}}{n_t}$

and where COV(B, O) is the covariance of the number of belted and observed occupants and is computed by the formula:

$$COV(B,O) = \frac{1}{(N_1 + N_2)^2} \sum_{t=1}^{2} \frac{N_t^2}{n_t(n_t - 1)} \sum_{i=1}^{n_t} (N_{ti}B_{ti} - \bar{B}_t) (N_{ti}O_{ti} - \bar{O}_t)$$

The standard error of the estimate was calculated by the formula⁸:

$$SE = \frac{SD}{\sqrt{n-1}}$$

where SE = standard error of the estimate

n =total number of sites sampled

SD = square root of variance.

The relative error of the estimate was calculated by the formula:

$$RE = \frac{SE}{P_R}$$

where RE = relative error of the estimate.

RESULTS

The survey team observed 15,854 drivers and 4,881 right-front passengers for the use of a shoulder belt. Because the survey data were collected from moving traffic, the use of the lap portion of a belt system could not be observed. For computing a statewide use rate, the observations were weighted by the number of traffic lanes in the direction of traffic flow at the site where the data were collected (see Tables A-1 and A-2 for the complete data counts).

As can be seen from the data in Table 2, there were 38,668 weighted observations of occupants in passenger cars. Of these, there were 21,014 drivers and 5,539 right-front passengers (weighted) who were observed to be using a shoulder belt. Passenger car occupants had a weighted safety belt use rate of 69.9%. The relative error of the estimate was 0.89%.

There were 222 motorcycle riders observed (202 drivers and 20 passengers), and the rate of helmet use was 99.9%. The relative error of the estimate was 0.004%.

	Weighted Observations	Drivers Protected	Passengers Protected	Use Rate	Variance	Standard Error	Relative Error
Passenger Cars	38,668	21,014	5,539	69.9%	0.47%	0.63%	0.89%
Motor- cycles	222	201	20	99.9%	0.00%	0.004%	0.004%

Table 2. Summary of 2000 Survey Results

On the basis of actual counts, i.e., the data are not weighted by the number of lanes, a greater percentage of drivers (69.4%) use safety belts than do right-front passengers (63.0%).

The results of the fall 1992 survey are shown in Table 3, and those from the summers of 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, and 1999 are shown in Tables 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10. In each of the first 5 years (1992-96), 100% of the motorcycle drivers and passengers observed were using a helmet. The data for 1997 was the first time a motorcycle rider or passenger was observed not using a helmet. For the passenger car drivers and right-front passengers observed, use rates were 71.6%, 73.2%, 71.8%, 70.2%, 69.6%, 67.1%, 73.6%, and 69.9% over these 8 years.

Table 3. Summary of 1992 Survey Results

	Weighted Observations	Drivers Protected	Passengers Protected	Use Rate	Variance	Standard Error	Relative Error
Passenger Cars	26,320	14,701	4,233	71.6%	1.11%	0.97%	1.35%
Motor- cycles	53	47	6	100%	0	0	0

Table 4. Summary of 1993 Survey Results

	Weighted Observations	Drivers Protected	Passengers Protected	Use Rate	Variance	Standard Error	Relative Error
Passenger Cars	24,299	13,045	4,396	73.2%	0.89%	0.86%	1.18%
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Table 5. Summary of 1994 Survey Results

	Weighted Observations	Drivers Protected	Passengers Protected	Use Rate	Variance	Standard Error	Relative Error
Passenger Cars	25,291	14,146	4,271	71.8%	0.74%	0.79%	1.10%
Motor- cycles	105	90	15	100%	0	0	0

Table 6. Summary of 1995 Survey Results

	Weighted Observations	Drivers Protected	Passengers Protected	Use Rate	Variance	Standard Error	Relative Error
Passenger Cars	29,584	15,632	4,521	70.2%	1.52%	1.13%	1.61%
Motor- cycles	247	208	39	100%	0	0	0

Table 7. Summary of 1996 Survey Results

	Weighted Observations	Drivers Protected	Passengers Protected	Use Rate	Variance	Standard Error	Relative Error
Passenger Cars	26,975	14,278	4,577	69.6%	1.63%	1.17%	1.68%
Motor- cycles	99	85	14	100%	0	0	0

Table 8. Summary of 1997 Survey Results

	Weighted Observations	Drivers Protected	Passengers Protected	Use Rate	Variance	Standard Error	Relative Error
Passenger Cars	35,508	18,544	5,013	67.1%	1.88%	1.26%	1.87%
Motor- cycles	134	121	11	98.7%	0.04%	0.18%	0.18%

Table 9. Summary of 1998 Survey Results

	Weighted Observations	Drivers Protected	Passengers Protected	Use Rate	Variance	Standard Error	Relative Error
Passenger Cars	31,877	17,987	4,686	73.6%	1.33%	1.06%	1.44%
Motor- cycles	229	205	23	99.6%	0.002%	0.04%	0.04%

Table 10. Summary of 1999 Survey Results

	Weighted Observations	Drivers Protected	Passengers Protected	Use Rate	Variance	Standard Error	Relative Error
Passenger Cars	37,869	20,213	5,445	69.9%	0.49%	0.64%	0.92%
Motor- cycles	198	169	28	99.1%	0.27%	0.47%	0.48%

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author extends thanks for the work of Thomas Baggett and Kent Morris who traveled the length and breadth of the state of Virginia observing and recording shoulder belt use by occupants of passing cars and the use of helmets by motorcycle riders. There were periods when they were in the field for a week at a time while working days in excess of 12 hours, including weekends.

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APPENDIX

2000 Raw Data by Site

Table A-1. 2000 Urban Raw Data by Site^a

SITE ID	LANES	N _{ti}	\mathbf{B}_{ti}	\mathbf{O}_{ti}	MC B _{ti}	MC O _{ti}
2	1	10	9	18	0	0
7	1	408	29	40	0	0
8	1	7	1	2	0	0
11	1	82	3	9	0	0
15	2	6	432	690	7	7
17	3	115	399	654	0	0
19	1	10	98	163	1	1
20	1	7	18	34	1	1
21	1	148	50	84	0	0
28	1	3	9	14	0	0
30	2	3	268	410	0	0
32	1	244	67	100	1	1
40	3	254	810	1047	3	3
41	1	211	406	504	13	13
42	1	36	69	98	0	0
46	1	5	21	47	0	0
49	1	6	3	3	1	1
54	2	504	1102	1302	2	2
58	1	15	65	121	0	0
67	1	5	10	13	0	0
68	1	24	1	6	0	0
69	4	721	2968	4192	2	2
81	1	6	47	62	0	0
86	2	7	282	492	0	0
90	1	17	98	149	0	0
92	3	142	888	1257	2	2
105	1	24	105	126	1	1
118	1	7	56	94	0	0
119	3	32	1596	2193	1	1
120	1	546	80	127	1	1
121	1	7	281	374	17	17
136	1	23	97	166	0	0
140	3	3	1776	2325	14	14
154	1	8	65	87	4	4
169	2	4	206	416	1	1
170	1	19	5	6	0	0
173	3	331	1413	1890	10	10
183	1	8	13	23	0	0
202	1	59	112	156	1	1
206	1	17	5	10	0	0
210	2	73	444	610	10	10
211	1	253	549	703	3	3
213	1	376	195	287	2	2
234	1	197	5	9	0	0
236	1	87	77	127	0	0
250	1	16	3	4	1	1
259	3	532	381	540	9	9
275	2	526	448	658	2	2

SITE ID	LANES	N _{ti}	B _{ti}	O _{ti}	MC B _{ti}	MC O _{ti}
280	1	104	23	26	0	0
290	2	3	540	714	1	1
300	1	110	5	8	0	0
306	1	12	4	12	0	0
313	2	186	760	1156	2	2
315	1	9	198	282	0	0
317	2	444	126	252	0	0
322	1	1	52	72	0	0
324	2	82	134	202	1	1
330	1	16	22	32	0	0
332	2	8	400	598	23	23
353	1	11	101	161	0	0
359	1	9	88	121	1	1
371	2	64	90	140	0	0
372	2	5	620	852	14	14
374	2	26	120	190	0	0
375	1	12	161	252	6	6
385	2	30	368	662	5	5
388	1	10	13	20	0	0
400	1	385	9	15	0	0
403	2	341	462	738	2	2
406	2	374	680	1048	3	3
411	1	19	63	110	0	0
420	1	223	117	165	1	1
425	1	365	74	97	3	3
426	2	626	672	960	5	5
434	1	25	8	12	0	0
450	1	15	183	237	2	2
458	2	180	184	314	0	0
464	1	21	28	46	0	0
471	1	13	1	4	0	0
476	1	13	483	647	4	4
477	1	11	20	32	0	0
483	1	2	135	186	0	0
508	2	628	684	1122	2	2
512	11	15	157	210	2	2

^aSite ID = identifier of site sampled.

Lanes = number of lanes in sampled direction at site.

 N_{ti} = number of intersections within sample grid.

 B_{ti} = number of metrsections within sample grid. B_{ti} = number of belted occupants observed at site. O_{ti} = number of occupants observed at site. MC B_{ti} = number of motorcycle occupants with helmets at site. MC O_{ti} = number of motorcycle occupants observed at site.

Table A-2. 2000 Rural Raw Data by Site^a

SITE ID	LANES	N _{ti}	B _{ti}	O _{ti}	MC B _{ti}	MC O _{ti}
1	1	15	61	84	4	4
4	1	9	19	31	9	9
5	1	9	6	10	5	5
6	1	16	48	82	0	0
9	1	6	12	20	0	0
10	1	5	0	1	0	0
12	2	4	504	838	0	0
13	1	17	36	51	0	0
16	1	4	11	15	0	0
18	1	8	9	12	0	0
22	1	12	19	44	2	2
23	1	7	52	90	0	0
25	1	6	21	34	0	0
26	1	9	1	4	0	0
27	1	13	0	4	0	0
29	1	6	0	4	0	0
31	1	7	12	19	1	1
33	1	15	98	184	0	0
35	1	9	25	48	0	0
36	1	12	34	64	0	0
37	1	1	63	113	3	4
39	1	10	19	33	0	0
44	1	7	5	11	0	0
45	1	7	75	150	3	3
47	2	18	650	954	2	2
48	1	15	6	10	0	0
50	1	8	65	110	0	0
51	1	11	1	4	0	0
52	1	3	25	56	0	0
53	1	2	15	47	0	0
55	1	12	34	67	0	0
56	2	5	66	144	1	1
57	1	13	18	22	0	0
59	1	7	6	17	0	0
62	2	13	560	908	1	1
63	1	15	127	246	3	3

^aSite ID = identifier of site sampled.

Lanes = number of lanes in sampled direction at site.

 N_{ti} = number of intersections within sample grid. B_{ti} = number of belted occupants observed at site. O_{ti} = number of occupants observed at site.

 $^{^{1}}$ MC B_{ti} = number of motorcycle occupants with helmets at site. MC O_{ti} = number of motorcycle occupants observed at site.

Standard Title Page - Report on State Project

Report No.	Report Date	No. Pages	Type Report:	Project No.:
			Technical Assistance	CSC-1121020-00056117-50013
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Author:				
Charles B. Stoke				
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Charlottesville,				
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Abstract

This series of surveys to determine the safety belt and motorcycle helmet use rates in Virginia was initiated to qualify the Commonwealth for incentive funds in accordance with the requirements of Section 153 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991. To receive funds, states had to have laws requiring the use of safety belts and motorcycle helmets and to meet certain use rate standards. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration specified the survey criteria to be used in determining a state's use rate. Even though the § 153 funding program ended in 1994, the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles requested that data collection continue and that the same methods, procedures, and sites be used for all future survey efforts. In addition, there is a new grant program, Section 157 of TEA-21, which requires the same methodology for determining use as was used in the earlier program.

This report describes the methodology used for site selection and data collection and adds the results of the 2000 survey to those for the previous years (1992-99). The results show that Virginia's 2000 safety belt use rate was 69.9% and its motorcycle helmet use rate was 99.9%. The helmet use rate had been 100% in the first 5 years of the study (1992-1996) and was 98.7% in 1997, 99.6% in 1998, and 99.1% in 1999. For the first 8 years the survey was conducted (1992-99), the safety belt use rates were 71.6%, 73.2%, 71.8%, 70.2%, 69.6%, 67.1%, 73.6%, and 69.9% respectively.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REPORT

SAFETY BELT AND MOTORCYCLE HELMET USE IN VIRGINIA: THE 2000 UPDATE

Charles B. Stoke Senior Research Scientist

(The opinions, findings, and conclusions expressed in this report are those of the author and not necessarily those of the sponsoring agencies.)

Virginia Transportation Research Council
(A Cooperative Organization Sponsored Jointly by the
Virginia Department of Transportation and
the University of Virginia)

Charlottesville, Virginia

August 2000 VTRC 01-TAR3

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Safety belt use data were first collected in Virginia in 1974. Early data (1974-77 and 1983-86) were collected from only the four metropolitan areas (Northern Virginia, Tidewater, Richmond, and Roanoke) of the state. Between 1987 and 1992, data were also collected in nine communities with a population under 15,000. In 1991 and 1992, data were collected in four communities with a population between 50,000 and 100,000. It was only with the initiation of this project in 1992 that the state had a true statewide survey.

This series of surveys to determine the safety belt and motorcycle helmet use rates in Virginia was initiated to qualify the Commonwealth for incentive funds in accordance with the requirements of Section 153 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991. To receive the funds, states had to have laws requiring the use of safety belts and motorcycle helmets and to meet certain use rate standards. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration specified the survey criteria to be used in determining a state's use rate.

Even though the § 153 funding program ended in 1994, Virginia's Department of Motor Vehicles requested that data collection continue and that the same methods, procedures, and sites be used as were used for the § 153 program. The Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century established a new grant program (Section 157) for allocating funds to the states. The federal guidelines for conducting surveys to determine a state's use rate are nearly identical with those for the Section 153 program, and Virginia has an approved methodology.

This report describes the methodology used for site selection and data collection and adds the results of the 2000 survey to those of the previous years (1992-99). The results show that Virginia's 2000 safety belt use rate was 69.9% and its motorcycle helmet use rate was 99.9%. The helmet use rate was 100% in the first 5 years of the study (1992-1996) and was 98.7% in 1997, 99.6% in 1998, and 99.1% in 1999. For the first 8 years the survey was conducted (1992-99), the safety belt use rates were 71.6%, 73.2%, 71.8%, 70.2%, 69.6%, 67.1%, 73.6%, and 69.9% respectively (see Figure ES-1).

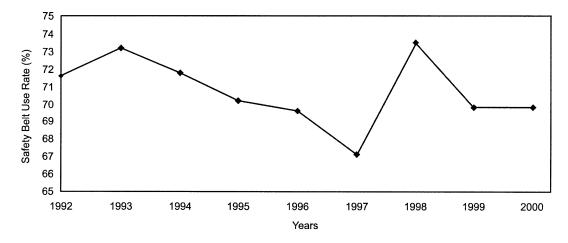


Figure ES-1. Trends in Safety Belt Use

With regard to the use of a motorcycle helmet, violations were noted in Campbell County (1997), Henry County (1998), Portsmouth (1999), and Bedford County (2000). It should be noted that very few riders were not using a helmet (two in 1997, one in 1998, one in 1999, and one in 2000).

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INTRODUCTION

The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) added a new section (153) to Title 23 of the U.S. Code. This section authorized the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to establish a grant program to support states in adopting and implementing laws governing the use of safety belts and motorcycle helmets. To qualify for first-year funds, a state was required to have laws requiring the use of a helmet by all motorcycle riders and the use of a belt or child safety seat by all front-seat occupants in passenger vehicles. To qualify for second-and third-year funding, a state was required to have mandatory use laws *and* demonstrate a specified level of compliance.

On January 23, 1997, the President directed the Secretary of Transportation to develop a plan to increase safety belt use in the United States. On April 16, 1997, a plan was presented to the President that established a goal of 85% use by the year 2000 and 90% by 2005. As part of the Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century, Section 157 of Title 23 was added, which established a new grant program for allocating funds to the states. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) published new guidelines, to become effective September 1, 1998, for conducting safety belt use surveys. The new guidelines were essentially the same as the previous guidelines except that they required that data from passenger cars, pickup trucks, vans, minivans, and sport utility vehicles be included.

On June 29, 1992, NHTSA published the final guidelines for conducting surveys of belt and helmet use in the states.¹ The guidelines required that the selection of survey samples be based on a single probability based survey design and that only direct observational data be used to demonstrate compliance. The sample design had to include predetermined protocols for (1) determining sample size; (2) selecting sites; (3) selecting alternate sites when necessary; (4) determining which route, lane, and direction of traffic flow were to be observed; (5) collecting the observational data; and (6) beginning and concluding an observation period. The guidelines further stated that the relative error of the estimate could be no more than ±5% and that all drivers, outboard front-seat passengers, and motorcycle drivers and passengers had to be eligible for observation. The guidelines also required that at least 85% of the state's population be eligible for inclusion and that only the smallest counties, based on population, could be eliminated from the sampling frame. Finally, data for all daylight hours and all days of the week had to be eligible for inclusion in the sample, and the scheduling of the time and day for each sample site had to be done randomly.

In 1992, 28 states (with 73% of the U.S. population) conducted probability-based surveys that had been reviewed by NHTSA and met the minimum standards.² Another 11 states conducted probability-based surveys but did not demonstrate compliance with the guidelines. In 1997, 43 states conducted safety belt use surveys. NHTSA used these data to calculate a population-weighted national average of 69%. The 1997 average usage rate for states with primary enforcement (11) was 79% and that for states with secondary enforcement (32) was 62%. The rate in New Hampshire, the only state without a mandatory usage law, was 58%.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this project was to conduct a survey of safety belt and motorcycle helmet use in Virginia in accordance with NHTSA's guidelines. Even though the § 153 funding program ended in 1994, safety belt and motorcycle helmet data have continued to be collected at the request of Virginia's Department of Motor Vehicle's Transportation Safety Services. The methods and procedures that qualified the state for incentive funds in 1992 through 1994 were used in all nine surveys that have been conducted. In this way, longitudinal data can be compared between years and over a period of years. When methods of data collection change, the making of comparisons is compromised to the extent that differences in collection procedures affect the results.

METHODS

This survey required five tasks: (1) defining the population from which the sample was drawn, (2) determining the number of survey sites, (3) developing the sampling plan, (4) developing procedures and collecting data, and (5) determining how estimates would be weighted to approximate statewide figures.

Population

According to federal guidelines, localities with the smallest populations and that made up less than 15% of the state's total population could be removed from the study population. In Virginia, determining which localities made up 15% of the population was difficult. In most states, a city is a part of the surrounding county. In Virginia, although towns are considered to be a part of the surrounding county, the 41 independent cities are not. To accommodate this arrangement of political jurisdictions, both counties and independent cities were considered in establishing the sampling population.

Table 1 shows the 136 counties and independent cities in Virginia ranked by population. According to 1990 census figures (the data available when the study sites were first selected), Virginia's total population was about 6.2 million. However, most of the population is located in

the four population centers: Northern Virginia, Tidewater, Richmond, and Roanoke. Thus, there is a great disparity between the population of the rural counties and cities and the more urban ones. For instance, the least populated county, Highland County, had fewer than 2,700 residents, and the least populated city, Norton, had fewer than 4,300. Twenty-seven of the 136 political jurisdictions had a population less than 10,000, and another 40 had a population between 10,000 and 20,000. Nearly 50% (49.3%) of the jurisdictions had fewer than 20,000 residents and accounted for 12.2% of the state's total population. On the other hand, 13 jurisdictions had a population of more than 100,000 and accounted for more than 48% of the total population of the state. Because of this disparity in population, the 74 least populated jurisdictions (the non-shaded portion of Table 1) made up just under 15% of the state's population; thus, they were excluded from sampling. Figure 1 is a map that shows the jurisdictions that were excluded (the shaded portion). All other locations in the state were equally eligible for inclusion in the sample.

Number of Survey Sites

The next step in the project was to determine the number of statewide sites necessary to fulfill NHTSA's requirements of a relative error of ±5% and 95% confidence. When computations were carried out to determine the number of sites necessary to meet these requirements, it was found that 78 sites would be adequate. After reviewing the project work plan, NHTSA wrote (September 4, 1992) that they would require Virginia to use 120 sites that were to be allocated to urban and rural areas based on population. Two of the 84 urban sites were moved in 1998 to safer locations along the same roadway and within the adjacent intersections (procedures meeting the original guidelines), and the other 82 sites have been used every year the survey has been conducted. Over the 8 years, it was necessary to move 2 of the 36 rural sites. One was moved to a safer location just down the road from the original site and at a point prior to the next intersection, and the other was moved to an alternate site within the same grid box (see "Sampling Plan"). In addition, data were collected on the same day of the week and the same hour of the day at each site during the 9 years.

Sampling Plan

To select the sample of sites, a grid with sections measuring 0.64 by 0.64 cm (1/4 by 1/4 in) was placed over a standard map of Virginia issued by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and drawn to a scale of 2.54 cm = 20.92 km (1 in = 13 mi). Figure 2 is a sample section of the map. Each grid box contained approximately 27.19 km² (10.5 mi²). This procedure produced a system of 144 sections across the horizontal axis and 63 sections across the vertical axis. However, because Virginia is not perfectly rectangular and because political jurisdictions representing the smallest 15% of the population were excluded from the sample,

RESULTS

The survey team observed 15,854 drivers and 4,881 right-front passengers for the use of a shoulder belt. Because the survey data were collected from moving traffic, the use of the lap portion of a belt system could not be observed. For computing a statewide use rate, the observations were weighted by the number of traffic lanes in the direction of traffic flow at the site where the data were collected (see Tables A-1 and A-2 for the complete data counts).

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Table 8. Summary of 1997 Survey Results

	Weighted Observations	Drivers Protected	Passengers Protected	Use Rate	Variance	Standard Error	Relative Error
Passenger Cars	35,508	18,544	5,013	67.1%	1.88%	1.26%	1.87%
Motor- cycles	134	121	11	98.7%	0.04%	0.18%	0.18%

Table 9. Summary of 1998 Survey Results

	Weighted Observations	Drivers Protected	Passengers Protected	Use Rate	Variance	Standard Error	Relative Error
Passenger Cars	31,877	17,987	4,686	73.6%	1.33%	1.06%	1.44%
Motor- cycles	229	205	23	99.6%	0.002%	0.04%	0.04%

Table 10. Summary of 1999 Survey Results

	Weighted Observations	Drivers Protected	Passengers Protected	Use Rate	Variance	Standard Error	Relative Error
Passenger Cars	37,869	20,213	5,445	69.9%	0.49%	0.64%	0.92%
Motor- cycles	198	169	28	99.1%	0.27%	0.47%	0.48%

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APPENDIX

2000 Raw Data by Site

Table A-1. 2000 Urban Raw Data by Site^a

SITE ID	LANES	N _{ti}	B _{ti}	O _{ti}	MC B _{ti}	MC O _{ti}
2	1	10	9	18	0	0
7	1	408	29	40	0	0
8	1	7	1	2	0	0
11	1	82	3	9	0	0
15	2	6	432	690	7	7
17	3	115	399	654	0	0
19	1	10	98	163	1	1
20	1	7	18	34	1	1
21	1	148	50	84	0	0
28	1	3	9	14	0	0
30	2	3	268	410	0	0
32	1	244	67	100	1	1
40	3	254	810	1047	3	3
41	1	211	406	504	13	13
42	1	36	69	98	0	0
46	1	5	21	47	0	0
49	1	6	3	3	1	1
54	2	504	1102	1302	2	2
58	1	15	65	121	0	0
67	1	5	10	13	0	0
68	1	24	1	6	0	0
69	4	721	2968	4192	2	2
81	1	6	47	62	0	0
86	2	7	282	492	0	0
90	1	17	98	149	0	0
92	3	142	888	1257	2	2
105	1	24	105	126	1	1
118	1	7	56	94	0	0
119	3	32	1596	2193	1	1
120	1	546	80	127	1	1
121	1	7	281	374	17	17
136	1	23	97	166	0	0
140	3	3	1776	2325	14	14
154	1	8	65	87	4	4
169	2	4	206	416	1	1
170	1	19	5	6	0	0
173	3	331	1413	1890	10	10
183	1	8	13	23	0	0
202	1	59	112	156	1	1
206	1	17	5	10	0	0
210	2	73	444	610	10	10
211	1	253	549	703	3	3
213	1	376	195	287	2	2
234	1	197	5	9	0	0
236	1	87	77	127	0	0
250	1	16	3	4	1	1
259	3	532	381	540	9	9
275	2	526	448	658	2	2

SITE ID	LANES	N _{ti}	\mathbf{B}_{ti}	\mathbf{O}_{ti}	MC B _{ti}	MC O _{ti}
280	1	104	23	26	0	0
290	2	3	540	714	1	1
300	1	110	5	8	0	0
306	1	12	4	12	0	0
313	2	186	760	1156	2	2
315	1	9	198	282	0	0
317	2	444	126	252	0	0
322	1	1	52	72	0	0
324	2	82	134	202	1	1
330	1	16	22	32	0	0
332	2	8	400	598	23	23
353	1	11	101	161	0	0
359	1	9	88	121	1	1
371	2	64	90	140	0	0
372	2	5	620	852	14	14
374	2	26	120	190	0	0
375	1	12	161	252	6	6
385	2	30	368	662	5	5
388	1	10	13	20	0	0
400	1	385	9	15	0	0
403	2	341	462	738	2	2
406	2	374	680	1048	3	3
411	1	19	63	110	0	0
420	1	223	117	165	1	1
425	1	365	74	97	3	3
426	2	626	672	960	5	5
434	1	25	8	12	0	0
450	1	15	183	237	2	2
458	2	180	184	314	0	0
464	1	21	28	46	0	0
471	1	13	1	4	0	0
476	1	13	483	647	4	4
477	1	11	20	32	0	0
483	1	2	135	186	0	0
508	2	628	684	1122	2	2
512	1	15	157	210	2	2

^aSite ID = identifier of site sampled.

Lanes = number of lanes in sampled direction at site.

Lanes – number of ranes in sampled direction at site. N_{ti} = number of intersections within sample grid. B_{ti} = number of belted occupants observed at site. O_{ti} = number of occupants observed at site. MC B_{ti} = number of motorcycle occupants with helmets at site. MC O_{ti} = number of motorcycle occupants observed at site.

Table A-2. 2000 Rural Raw Data by Site^a

SITE ID	LANES	N _{ti}	B _{ti}	O _{ti}	MC B _{ti}	MC O _{ti}
1	1	15	61	84	4	4
4	1	9	19	31	9	9
5	1	9	6	10	5	5
6	1	16	48	82	0	0
9	1	6	12	20	0	0
10	1	5	0	1	0	0
12	2	4	504	838	0	0
13	1	17	36	51	0	0
16	1	4	11	15	0	0
18	1	8	9	12	0	0
22	1	12	19	44	2	2
23	1	7	52	90	0	0
25	1	6	21	34	0	0
26	1	9	1	4	0	0
27	1	13	0	4	0	0
29	1	6	0	4	0	0
31	1	7	12	19	1	1
33	1	15	98	184	0	0
35	1	9	25	48	0	0
36	1	12	34	64	0	0
37	1	1	63	113	3	4
39	1	10	19	33	0	0
44	1	7	5	11	0	0
45	1	7	75	150	3	3
47	2	18	650	954	2	2
48	1	15	6	10	0	0
50	1	8	65	110	0	0
51	1	11	1	4	0	0
52	1	3	25	56	0	0
53	1	2	15	47	0	0
55	1	12	34	67	0	0
56	2	5	66	144	1	1
57	1	13	18	22	0	0
59	1	7	6	17	0	0
62	2	13	560	908	1	1
63	1	15	127	246	3	3

^aSite ID = identifier of site sampled.

Lanes = number of lanes in sampled direction at site.

 N_{ti} = number of intersections within sample grid.

 B_{ti} = number of belted occupants observed at site. O_{ti} = number of occupants observed at site.

MC B_{ti} = number of motorcycle occupants with helmets at site.

MC O_{ti} = number of motorcycle occupants observed at site.