

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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This publication fulfills the requirement in Transportation Code, Section 521.206 and identifies the type of course (commercial course, high school and parent taught) and the collision rate of students taught by each driver education entity including the severity of the collisions. This collision report spans fiscal year from September 1, 2012 thru August 31, 2013.

The collision data lists student drivers who had collisions reported during their first 12 months of driving and the collision rate for students taught by each driver education course provider. DPS Driver License staff reviewed over 180,000 driver records. Much of the data for this initial report was manually collected and verified. The preparation of the data was conducted in phases in order to verify school names and numbers, identify schools that were closed, and to resolve discrepancies in data. DPS will continue to manually check course type, course name and driver education certificates for accuracy.

To ensure accuracy of the data provided in the report, the Driver License Division (DLD) collaborated with driver education entities to verify the accuracy of student information. DLD provided the driver education entities a Certificate Verification Report that identified any of their students involved in collisions. They were given a period of time to verify whether the listed students completed their driver education program. Simultaneously DLD personnel conducted an additional 100% review of the Certificate Verification Reports to ensure accuracy of the data.

This report required DLD personnel to review the information thoroughly since student drivers submit a Driver Education Certificate to DPS with handwritten information such as date of completion and school number that is then manually entered into the driver license system. Discrepancies of the data were resolved. While this effort did not yield a significant amount of discrepancies requiring correction, it was an important proactive measure to allay any concerns about the collection methodology and the validity of the data. DLD personnel fielded numerous telephone calls from over 100 driver education providers during this review period answering questions and providing information on the requirements and the collection methods of the collision rate publication.

The focus of all courses is to fully educate our young drivers and prepare them to safely operate a motor vehicle on the roadways of Texas.

If you have further questions regarding the report, please contact the Program Review Department at collisionreport@dps.texas.gov or by phone at 512-424-5623.