TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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This publication fulfills the requirement in Transportation Code, Section 521.206 which states that the department shall collect data of students taught by public schools, driver education schools licensed under Chapter 1001 Education Code, and other entities that offer driver education courses to students for which a uniform certificate of course completion is issued. The publication also 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, 2017 thru August 31, 2018.

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 11,000driver records. Much of the data for this 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.

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 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 <u>collisionreport@dps.texas.gov</u> or by phone at 512-424-5623.