

TITLE: Reentrant Renewal-by-Mail Drivers

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PROTECT OBTECTIVE:

To evaluate indicators of health and vision problems in drivers returning to the field offices for driver license renewal after having had two consecutive 4-year renewals by mail (reentrant drivers).

SUMMARY:

This is a series of three monthly memo reports, produced at the request of the DMV Director, which attempted to identify health or vision problems in reentrants. Variables measured were the number of reentrants: (1) receiving a new vision or exposure restriction at their field office renewal, (2) receiving a referral for a special vision examination, (3) receiving a limited-term license, (4) requiring a P&M (physical or mental medical condition) hearing to be scheduled, (5) requiring a drive test, and (6) having a code indicating physical or mental impairment placed on their record. Tabulations of these variables were categorized by age group as below 36, 36-55, and above 55. Values for the reentrants were compared with those for the renewal-by-mail evaluation control group, who had been required to renew their licenses in the field offices by taking renewal tests. Of the variables measured, reentrants were inferior only in having more new vision restrictions and in receiving more limited-term licenses. The most likely reason for the latter finding was the greater average age of the reentrant group (50, as compared to 37 for the comparison group). The excess in new vision restrictions may only have indicated that reentrant drivers, in the 12 years since their last field office renewal, had acquired corrective lenses. There was no evidence indicating that the reentrant driver group contained any marked excess of individuals with undiscovered disabilities.

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Program status quo was maintained.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

None.