

The following is only an abstract of one of our earlier reports. An email request for a printed or PDF copy of the complete report can be generated by clicking on the **Report Number** of this report in the table of reports on the [Research Studies and Reports](#) page. The PDF copy of the complete report was created by scanning an original, printed copy, and thus is only *partially* searchable and *is not* accessible, but is fully printable.

A printed or PDF copy of our studies and reports may also be requested by mail or phone at:

Department of Motor Vehicles
Research and Development Branch
2570 24th Street, MS H-126
Sacramento, CA 95818-2606
(916) 657-5805

For a request by mail, please include the report number and your name, address, and phone number. Also, please state whether you are requesting a printed copy, a PDF copy, or both. For a PDF copy, please include your email address.

TITLE: Basic California Traffic Conviction and Accident Record Facts

DATE: December 1987

AUTHOR(S): Michael A. Gebers & Raymond C. Peck

REPORT NUMBER: 114

NTIS NUMBER: PB88-190616

FUNDING SOURCE: Departmental Budget

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

To provide traffic safety administrators with information for developing program and policy decisions, and to provide information to the insurance industry and to scholars and researchers in traffic safety.

SUMMARY:

The report contains information in five areas: (1) the prediction of accident risk, (2) driving record in relation to gender, (3) the accident-repeater phenomenon, (4) the relationship between accident and conviction frequencies, and (5) strategies for targeting high-risk drivers. The study confirmed prior findings from the California Driver Record Study series on the relationship between accident risk and prior driving record. The report points out that accident risk increases fairly linearly as a function of prior accidents and prior convictions on a driver's record, but the correlations are too low for accurate individual prediction. The relationships are sufficient, however, to identify groups of drivers who represent substantially increased accident risk.

The report was, in part, designed to replace the California Driver Fact Book (5th edition), last revised in April, 1981.

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Not applicable.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Results of this study have been used by insurance companies in establishing and justifying underwriting and rating practices. They have also been used by policy holders in appeals before the Insurance Commission in the state of Maryland. (See California Department of Motor Vehicles [1972-1996], *Research Notes*, Summer 1990, p. 4., Research Chief interviewed for Inside Edition.)