# Article information:

What are the factors that contribute to road accidents? An assessment of law enforcement views, ordinary drivers' opinions, and road accident records - PubMed  
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29529397/>

# Article summary:

1. Inexperience, lack of skill, and risk-taking behaviors are associated with collisions of young drivers, while visual, cognitive, and mobility impairment are associated with collisions of older drivers.

2. Expert views of police officers and lay views of the driving public closely approximate the typical factors associated with the collisions of young and older drivers as determined from official accident records.

3. There is potential underreporting of factors in existing accident records, identifying possible inadequacies in law enforcement practices for investigating driver distraction, drug and alcohol impairment, and uncorrected or defective eyesight.

# Article rating:

Appears moderately imbalanced: The article provides some useful information, but is missing several important points or pieces of evidence that would be required to present the discussed topics in a balanced and reliable way. You are encouraged to seek a more balanced perspective on the presented issues by exploring the provided research topics and looking at different information sources.

# Article analysis:

The article "What are the factors that contribute to road accidents? An assessment of law enforcement views, ordinary drivers' opinions, and road accident records" by Jonathan J Rolison et al. provides an in-depth investigation into the main causes of road accidents. The study draws on multiple sources, including expert views of police officers, lay views of the driving public, and official road accident records.

The authors found that both expert views of police officers and lay views of the driving public closely approximated the typical factors associated with the collisions of young and older drivers, as determined from official accident records. However, they also identified potential underreporting of factors in existing accident records, highlighting possible inadequacies in law enforcement practices for investigating driver distraction, drug and alcohol impairment, and uncorrected or defective eyesight.

One potential bias in this study is that it relies heavily on self-reported data from police officers and the public. These individuals may not always accurately recall or report information about accidents they have witnessed or been involved in. Additionally, there may be social desirability bias at play where participants may feel pressure to provide answers that align with societal expectations rather than their true beliefs.

Another limitation is that the study only focuses on a few specific contributing factors to road accidents such as inexperience, lack of skill, risk-taking behaviors, visual impairment, cognitive impairment, and mobility impairment. There are likely many other factors that contribute to road accidents such as weather conditions or vehicle malfunctions that were not explored in this study.

Furthermore, while the authors suggest updating accident report forms to ensure all contributing factor lists reflect the full range of factors that contribute to road accidents; they do not provide any concrete recommendations for how this could be achieved or what changes should be made.

Overall, while this study provides valuable insights into some contributing factors to road accidents based on multiple sources; it is important to consider its limitations and potential biases when interpreting its findings. Further research is needed to fully understand all contributing factors to road accidents and how best to prevent them.

# Topics for further research:

* Factors contributing to road accidents beyond inexperience
* lack of skill
* risk-taking behaviors
* visual impairment
* cognitive impairment
* and mobility impairment
* Weather conditions and their impact on road accidents
* Vehicle malfunctions and their role in causing road accidents
* Best practices for investigating driver distraction
* drug and alcohol impairment
* and uncorrected or defective eyesight in road accidents
* Strategies for reducing social desirability bias in self-reported data on road accidents
* Recommendations for updating accident report forms to reflect the full range of factors that contribute to road accidents.

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/9ff61ec615fa4d58f8048b7b98aabb87>