# University of Nebraska - Lincoln DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Final Reports & Technical Briefs from Mid-America Transportation Center

Mid-America Transportation Center

2012

# Investigation of Factors Associated with Truck Crash Severity in Nebraska

Aemal Khattak University of Nebraska-Lincoln, khattak@unl.edu

Zheng Luo M.S University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Mia Gao University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/matcreports Part of the <u>Civil Engineering Commons</u>

Khattak, Aemal; Luo, Zheng M.S; and Gao, Mia, "Investigation of Factors Associated with Truck Crash Severity in Nebraska" (2012). *Final Reports & Technical Briefs from Mid-America Transportation Center*. 20. http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/matcreports/20

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Mid-America Transportation Center at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska -Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Final Reports & Technical Briefs from Mid-America Transportation Center by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.



# MID-AMERICA TRANSPORTATION CENTER

# Report # MATC-UNL: 104

Final Report 25-1121-0001-104















# Investigation of Factors Associated with Truck Crash Severity in Nebraska

# Aemal Khattak, Ph.D.

Associate Professor Department of Civil Engineering University of Nebraska-Lincoln

**Zheng Luo, M.S.** Graduate Research Assistant

**Miao Gao** Graduate Research Assistant



# 2012

A Cooperative Research Project sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation Research and Innovative Technology Administration



The contents of this report reflect the views of the authors, who are responsible for the facts and the accuracy of the information presented herein. This document is disseminated under the sponsorship of the Department of Transportation University Transportation Centers Program, in the interest of information exchange. The U.S. Government assumes no liability for the contents or use thereof.

### Investigation of Factors Associated with Truck Crash Severity in Nebraska

Aemal Khattak, Ph.D. Associate Professor Department of Civil Engineering University of Nebraska–Lincoln

Zheng Luo Graduate Research Assistant Department of Civil Engineering University of Nebraska–Lincoln

Miao Gao Graduate Research Assistant Department of Civil Engineering University of Nebraska–Lincoln

A Report on Research Sponsored by

Mid-America Transportation Center

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

June 2012

# **Technical Report Documentation Page**

Teenmeur Report Documen	uution i uge			
1. Report No.	2. Government Access	Government Accession No. 3.1		√o.
25-1121-0001-104				
$4 T'(1, \dots, 1, 0, 1, 0'(1))$		5	Denset Deta	
4. Little and Subtitle		·	Report Date	
Investigation of Factors Associated wi	th Truck Crash Severity	in Nebraska Ju	ine 2012	
		6.	Performing Organiza	tion Code
7. Author(s)		8.	Performing Organiza	tion Report No.
Aemal Khattak, Zheng Luo, and Miao	Gao	25	5-1121-0001-104	1
9. Performing Organization Name and	Address	10	). Work Unit No. (TR	AIS)
Mid-America Transportation Center			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	,
2200 Vine St.		1	1. Contract or Grant N	lo.
PO Box 830851				
Lincoln, NE 68583-0851				
12. Sponsoring Agency Name and Ado	lress	13	3. Type of Report and	Period
Research and Innovative Technology A	Administration	Fi	inal report	
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE		Ju	ıly 1, 2010 – June 30,	2012
Washington, D.C. 20590			-	
		14	4. Sponsoring Agency	Code
		Μ	IATC TRB RiP No. 1	7140
15. Supplementary Notes				
16. Abstract		1		
The severity of truck crashes is a conce	ern in the state of Nebra	ska. This study was	undertaken to investig	gate factors
associated with the severity of truck cr	ashes. A two-year datas	set obtained from the	Nebraska Departmen	t of Roads
(NDOR) was analyzed to determine th	ose factors. Results indi	icated that the involv	ement of alcohol was	associated with
more severe injuries in truck crashes o	n Nebraska highways. (	Trashes involving fai	m equipment were m	ore injurious than
other truck crashes. Dawn and dusk we	ere critical periods assoc	ciated with more sev	ere truck crashes. Fur	ther, the absence of
medians contributed to truck crash sev	erity. Crashes on advers	se pavement conditio	ons such as snow, ice,	and slush were less
severe in comparison to crashes on pay	ements of different con	ditions. Crashes rep	orted on local roads w	ere less severe
compared to those reported on other hi	ghways. The researcher	's recommend streng	thening the ongoing f	ocus on reducing
driving under the influence of alcohol,	as well as an in-depth i	nvestigation of truck	crashes involving far	m equipment. The
researchers also recommend provision	of medians on roadway	s, where possible.		
17. Key Words:		18. Distribution Sta	tement	
crash severity, truck crashes, alcohol in	npaired driving			
19. Security Classif. (of this report)	20. Security Classi	f. (of this page)	21. No. of Pages	22. Price
Unclassified	Unclassified	( P***)	25	

Chapter 1Introduction	1
1.1 Organization of the Report	1
1.2 Background	1
1.3 Research Objective	1
Chapter 2 Literature Review	2
Chapter 3 Data Collection and Analysis	5
3.1 Crash Data and Reduction	5
3.2 Data Analysis Methodology	_5
3.3 Descriptive Statistics and Model Estimation	8
Chapter 4 Conclusions and Recommendations	13
4.1 Conclusions	13
4.2 Recommendations	14
4.3 Future Work	14
References	15
Appendix A	17
Appendix B	19
Appendix C	24

# Table of Contents

# List of Figures

Figure 3.1 Distribution of truck crash severity (2005-2006 data)	9
Figure 3.2 Monthly distribution of truck crashes (2005-2006 data)	9
Figure 3.3 Crashes on different road classes (2005-2006 data)	10

# List of Tables

Table 3.1 Variables for model estimation	6
Table 3.2 Estimated ordered probit model for truck crash severity	11

# Acknowledgements

This research team is thankful to the Mid-America Transportation Center for providing the funding for this research. Nebraska Department of Roads Highway Safety Section of Traffic Engineering Division staff, especially Mr. Sean Owings, is acknowledged for helping with raw data acquisition.

#### Disclaimer

The contents of this report reflect the views of the authors, who are responsible for the facts and the accuracy of the information presented herein. This document is disseminated under the sponsorship of the Department of Transportation University Transportation Centers Program, in the interest of information exchange. The U.S. Government assumes no liability for the contents or use thereof.

#### **Executive Summary**

The severity of truck crashes is a concern in the state of Nebraska. This study was undertaken to investigate factors associated with truck crash severity. A two-year dataset obtained from the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) was analyzed to determine those factors. Results indicated that the involvement of alcohol was associated with more severe injuries in truck crashes on Nebraska highways. Crashes involving farm equipment were more injurious than other truck crashes. Dawn and dusk were critical periods associated with more severe truck crashes. Further, the absence of medians contributed to truck crash severity. Crashes on adverse pavement conditions such as snow, ice, and slush were less severe in comparison to crashes on pavements of different conditions. Crashes reported on local roads were less severe compared to those reported on other highways.

The researchers recommend strengthening the ongoing focus on reducing the occurrence of driving under the influence of alcohol, as well as an in-depth investigation of truck crashes involving farm equipment. The researchers also recommend provision of medians on roadways, where possible.

#### Chapter 1 Introduction

#### 1.1 Organization of the Report

This report is organized into four chapters. The current chapter provides background information and research objectives. Chapter two consists of a review of published literature. Chapter three presents information on the collection and analysis of crash data. Chapter four provides the conclusions and recommendations drawn from this research.

#### 1.2 Background

Truck traffic in Nebraska and across the nation is increasing as a result of a growing population and greater quantities of freight transported on highways. Increasing truck traffic across Nebraska creates highway safety issues. Despite safety investments, fatality and injury-related crashes involving trucks have not decreased significantly (US DOT 2009).

Crashes involving trucks are not uncommon in Nebraska, and are becoming more critical as truck traffic increases due to rising ethanol production and greater volumes of freight transported through Nebraska. There is a need to understand causes of truck crashes and the different factors that may have a bearing on their severity. Any findings would likely be of interest to NDOR and the Carrier Enforcement Section of the Nebraska State Patrol.

#### 1.3 Research Objective

The objective of this research was to obtain a better understanding of different factors associated with the severity of crashes involving trucks in Nebraska. Two years of data on crashes involving trucks was analyzed using statistical models. The modeling effort aimed to isolate factors that are prominent in severe truck crashes, while controlling for elements such as weather, topography, and highway geometry.

1

#### Chapter 2 Literature Review

A review of published literature on trucks was conducted to provide a structure for this research. The main topics discussed below are the frequency of crashes involving trucks, factors associated with truck crashes, and safety countermeasures.

Researchers have focused on analysis of the frequency of truck crashes. Randolph and Mokherjee (2008) reported that tractor trailers were associated with 10% of all fatal vehicle crashes, while tractor trailers constitute 3% of registered vehicles in the US. According to the FMCSA, in the past 20 years the number of fatal crashes involving trucks decreased by 7%, while during the past 10 years, injury crashes involving trucks decreased by 14 % (FMCSA 2008).

With respect to the factors associated with truck crashes, Modnesinghe et al. (2003) stated that the majority of large truck crashes could be attributed to roadway factors such as nondivided-lanes, relative positions of driving vehicles, and speed limits. Daniel and Chien (2004) indicated that geometric conditions, environmental conditions, and driver performance were the main factors associated with truck crashes on urban arterials. Using US accident history data, the US DOT and the FMCSA reported that 55% of highway crashes had some relationship to trucks. Moreover, driver-related causes accounted for 87% of all crashes, while 13% were attributed to vehicle characteristics, weather, and roadway conditions (US DOT and FMCSA 2006). FMCSA also named three categories for large truck crashes, including crash factors, vehicle factors, and human factors. The first category involved factors such as speed limit, roadway function class, time of day, day of week, traffic flow, relation to junction and roadway, weather, road surface conditions, and work zones. The second category included factors such as vehicle configuration, cargo body, vehicle weight, hazardous materials cargo, and jackknife occurrence with passenger vehicles. The third category included factors such as driver's age and sex and commercial driver's license status (FMCSA 2008).

Some publications have focused on discussing factors relating to large truck crashes in specific regions of the US. For instance, Spainhour et al. (2006) provided common crash types such as run-off-the-road, intersection crashes, pedestrian crashes, and rear end or side swipe as main categories for large truck crashes in Florida. According to Spainhour et al., 94% of fatal crashes in Florida involved human factors such as alcohol and drug use. Some studies have conducted in-depth analysis of specific factors associated with truck crashes. American Transportation Research Institute (ATRI) indicated that driver behaviors such as improper or erratic lane changes, failure to yield right of way, improper turn, and failure to maintain proper lane influenced more than 91% truck crashes in the US (ATRI 2005). Young et al. (2007) demonstrated that wind-related attributes (e.g., wind speed) were critical in truck crash models.

Other researchers have compared factors relating to car-truck crashes and car-car crashes. Council et al. (2003) concluded that 81% of fatal car-truck collisions involved a passenger car's fault. Kostyniuk et al. (2005) reported that driver factors such as following improperly, fatigue, obscured vision resulting from various weather conditions, and improper or erratic lane changes, may contribute to more car-truck crashes than car-car crashes.

Exploring the relationship between specific geometric characteristics and truck crashes or possible hazards, Wang and Council (1999) found that a significant percentage of truck crashes occurred on highway ramps. Khattak et al. (2004) indicated that work zone crashes involving large trucks were more injurious than non-work zone crashes. Zimmerman (2007) reported that the use of a truck dilemma zone that is 1.5 longer than the passenger car dilemma zone at

3

intersections produced a 47% reduction in the number of trucks in the dilemma zone, without producing a noticeable effect on intersection delay.

Finally, several studies focused on the effectiveness of countermeasures and policies on the occurrence of large truck crashes. In management field, Rodriguez (2003) reported that higher pay rates and pay increases for truck drivers were related to lower expected crash counts and a higher probability of zero crashes. Chen (2008) addressed the finding that truck companies that received compliance reviews experienced a 15%-39% reduction in the number of crashes. The reduction in crashes was sustained for at least seven years after the reviews. Hall et al. (2008) indicated that 8-9 hours of service driving time was safer than, for example, 10 to 11 hours.

Regarding engineering practices, Moses et al. (2007) stated that truck lane restrictions had a positive safety influence relative to large truck crashes on some highways, but a negative safety influence on others. Kobelo et al. (2008) explained that highway sections with truck lane restrictions tended to have fewer crashes than sections without restrictions, with a yearly reduction of approximately 4%.

#### Chapter 3 Data Collection and Analysis

#### 3.1 Crash Data and Reduction

Relevant data for crashes involving trucks, including coding information from crash reports, was requested from NDOR for 2004-2007. The obtained dataset consisted of data from July 2004 through June 2007. Because six-months of data were missing for both 2004 and 2007, these years were excluded from analysis. Thus, the analyzed dataset consisted of truck-involved crashes reported in 2005 and 2006. The dataset was further limited to five severity categories representing the KABCO scale (Killed, A-type injury, B-type injury, C-type injury, and property damage only). The final dataset consisted of 1,801 reported crashes, out of which 51.9% were reported in 2005 and 48.1% reported in 2006.

#### 3.2 Data Analysis Methodology

This research investigated the relationship between truck crash severity in Nebraska and a host of associated factors. Crash severity was measured on an ordinal scale, for which the Ordered Probit model was selected for this study. The ordinal nature of crash severity arises from the way in which each crash is ranked, i.e., fatal, A-type (incapacitating) injury, B-type (evident) injury, C-Type (complaint of pain) injury, and PDO (property damage only) crashes. This model has been widely used in the reported literature for the analysis of crash severity (Khattak 2002; Storchmann, 2005). Table 3.1 presents the variables suitable for use in the model. Details of variable definitions and explanations are given in appendix A.

Variable	Variable Name	Definition	
rd_cls_c	road class code	defines what road class marked	
lght_con	light condition code	defines what light condition marked	
rd_char	road character code	defines different road characters	
rd_surf	road surface code	defines typical road surface categories	
rsc_cde	road surface condition code	defines typical road surface condition categories	
tnl_cde	total number of through lanes	defines the categories of through lanes with	
	code	different numbers of lanes	
mdn_typ	median type code	defines the median type on the road	
ultur to	relation to nondruou and	defines different categories in terms of	
ritn_to	relation to roadway code	relation to roadway	
acc_sev	accident severity code	defines typical accident severity categories	
alc_r	alcohol related switch	defines if respondent is an alcohol related accident or not	
farm_eqp	farm equipment switch	defines if respondent is an farm equipment related accident or not	
young_dr	young driver switch	defines if respondent is an young driver related accident or not	
teen_sw	teenager driver switch	defines if respondent is an teenager related accident or not	
schl_bus	school bus switch	defines if respondent is an school bus related accident or not	
whr_cnd	weather condition code	defines weather conditions	

# Table 3.3 Variables for model estimation

For the ordered probit model, the research group modeled the observed severity

responses by a latent variable  $y_t^*$ , and using the following linear equation:

$$y_t^* = x_t \beta + \varepsilon_t$$
, with  $\varepsilon_t \sim N(0, 1)$  (3.1)

Here,  $x_t$  represents independent variables.  $\beta$ s are related coefficients.  $\epsilon_t$  represents error terms. The observed categories of  $y_t$  are based on  $y_t^*$  and can take on six values:

$$y_{t} = \begin{cases} 0 \text{ fatality if } y_{t}^{*} \leq \gamma_{1} \\ 1 \text{ disabling injury if } \gamma_{1} \leq y_{t}^{*} < \gamma_{2} \\ 2 \text{ visible injury if } \gamma_{2} \leq y_{t}^{*} < \gamma_{3} \\ 3 \text{ possible injury if } \gamma_{3} \leq y_{t}^{*} < \gamma_{4} \\ 4 \text{ property damage onlyif } \gamma_{4} \leq y_{t}^{*} \end{cases}$$
(3.2)

where,

(3.3)

 $\gamma$  are the thresholds, or cut points, between the intervals.

The maximum likelihood (ML) estimation is employed to estimate the regression of  $y_t^*$  on  $x_t$ . The probability of  $y_t$  in a particular rank can be illustrated as follows:

$$\begin{split} &\Pr\left(y_{t}=0\right)=\Pr\left(y_{t}^{*}<\gamma_{1}\right)=\Pr\left(x_{t}\ \beta+\epsilon_{t}<\gamma_{1}\right)=\Pr\left(\epsilon_{t}<\gamma_{1}-x_{t}\ \beta\right)=\Phi\left(\gamma_{1}-x_{t}\ \beta\right)\\ &\Pr\left(y_{t}=1\right)=\Pr\left(\gamma_{1}\leq y_{t}^{*}<\gamma_{2}\right)=\Pr\left(\gamma_{1}\leq x_{t}\ \beta+\epsilon_{t}<\gamma_{2}\right)=\\ &\Pr\left(\epsilon_{t}<\gamma_{2}-x_{t}\ \beta\right)-\left(\epsilon_{t}<\gamma_{1}-x_{t}\ \beta\right)=\Phi\left(\gamma_{2}-x_{t}\ \beta\right)-\Phi\left(\gamma_{1}-x_{t}\ \beta\right)\\ &\dots etc. \ and\\ &\Pr\left(y_{t}=4\right)=\Pr\left(y_{t}^{*}\geq\gamma_{4}\right)=\Pr\left(x_{t}\ \beta+\epsilon_{t}\geq\gamma_{4}\right)=\Pr\left(\epsilon_{t}\geq\gamma_{45}-x_{t}\ \beta\right)=\Phi\left(x_{t}\ \beta-\gamma_{4}\right) \end{split}$$

7

where,

 $=\Phi(.)$  denotes the respective cumulative distribution function.

#### 3.3 Descriptive Statistics and Model Estimation

Appendix B provides descriptive statistics for the dataset. For truck crash severity, the percentage of PDO was the largest proportion (41.9%) among the five categories, while fatal crashes constituted the smallest proportion (3.7%) (fig. 3.1). Monthly distribution of truck crashes showed the most reported crashes in December and October (fig. 3.2). The distribution of crashes on different road classes is presented in figure 3.3, showing that most occurred on highways, followed by local and interstate mainline. Most (71.2%) of the crashes were reported during daylight conditions, while only 4.4% were reported during dawn and dusk conditions. Crashes reported on dry pavement conditions constituted 73.1%, while 11.2% occurred on wet pavements and 14.3% were reported on snow, ice, and slush conditions. In 7.2% of the reported crashes, a barrier was in the median, while in 42.8% of the crashes, there was no median present. Alcohol was involved in 2.8% of crashes.



Figure 3.1 Distribution of truck crash severity (2005-2006 data)



Figure 3.2 Monthly distribution of truck crashes (2005-2006 data)



Figure 3.3 Crashes on different road classes (2005-2006 data)

Table 3.2 presents the model estimated for crash severity, while appendix C gives the detailed output from the software Nlogit version 4.0. The table lists several variables that were found to be associated with the severity of truck crashes; it also lists the estimated coefficient for each variable, the standard error of the estimate, the t-statistic for the estimate, and the mean value of each variable. An absolute t-statistic value of 1.96 or greater is indicative of statistical significance at the 95% confidence level. Also, a positive estimated parameter indicates that crash severity increases with increasing values of the variable, while a negative estimated parameter shows decreasing crash severity with increasing values of the variable.

Variable Definition		Estimated coefficient	Std. Error	t-statistic	Mean
Constant	Constant	0.175	0.039	4.427	-
ALCOHL_R	Alcohol involved=1, otherwise=0	0.765	0.149	5.122	0.028
FARM_EQP	Farm equipment involved=1; otherwise=0	0.791	0.328	2.409	0.006
DWN_DSK	Dawn or dusk=1; otherwise=0	0.384	0.123	3.121	0.044
SNW_ICE_SLUSH Snow, ice, slush=1; otherwise =0		-0.261	0.076	-3.425	0.143
NO_MEDIAN	No median=1; otherwise=0	0.159	0.055	2.904	0.428
LOCAL	Local roads	-0.132	0.061	-2.179	0.277

Table 3.4 Estimated ordered probit model for truck crash severity

Note: Crash severity coding: PDO=0, C-Type=1, B-Type=2, A-Type=3, Fatality=4

The estimated model showed that truck crashes involving alcohol were more severe in comparison to those that did not involve alcohol. The estimated coefficient for this variable was statistically significant at the 95% confidence level. This is an important finding, and emphasizes the need for efforts aimed at reducing impaired driving.

Crashes involving farm equipment were more severe compared to other crashes. This may be due to the unique nature of farm equipment, which may not exhibit the same level of safety as other, more common, vehicles. Crashes that occurred during dawn and dusk conditions were found to be associated with higher crash severity. A dummy variable for different types of adverse pavement conditions (snow, ice, and slush) was included in the model specification to evaluate their impact on the severity of truck crashes. The estimated coefficient for this variable

was negative and statistically significant, indicating that crashes under such pavement conditions were less severe than those reported under other conditions; this variable may be capturing the effect of increased driver caution and slower speeds when traveling on pavements with snow, ice, and slush. Finally, the model showed that crashes on roadways with no median were more severe than crashes on roadways where medians were present.

#### Chapter 4 Conclusions and Recommendations

The objective of the research was to obtain a better understanding of several factors associated with the severity of large truck crashes in Nebraska. A two-year dataset was obtained from NDOR and analyzed for factors associated with crash severity. The following conclusions and recommendations are presented:

#### 4.1 Conclusions

Based on the analysis results, it was concluded that:

- Alcohol involvement contributes to more severe injuries in truck crashes on Nebraska highways.
- Crashes involving farm equipment are more injurious than other truck crashes in Nebraska.
- Dawn and dusk are critical periods for truck crashes, and injuries in crashes reported during dawn and dusk are more severe.
- Crashes on adverse pavement conditions such as snow, ice, and slush are less severe than crashes on pavements characterized by other conditions.
- The absence of medians contributes to truck crash severity.
- Crashes reported on local roads are less severe than those reported on interstate highways and other highways.

#### 4.2 Recommendations

Based on the conclusions of this study, the following recommendations are made for improving public safety on highways.

The current focus on reducing driving under the influence of alcohol should be emphasized. Farm equipment that is involved in truck crashes should be analyzed to ascertain causes associated with the heightened severity of injuries exhibited by this crash type. Where possible, medians should be provided to reduce the severity of truck crashes.

#### 4.3 Future Work

The analysis presented in this report was based on a two-year dataset of truck crashes reported in Nebraska. Larger datasets comprised of crashes reported in multiple states and spanning a longer time period should be analyzed to obtain a more in-depth understanding of truck crashes. Research should also focus on countermeasures aimed at reducing the severity of truck crashes.

#### References

- American Transportation Research Institute. 2005. "Predicting truck crash involvement— Developing a commercial driver behavior-based model and recommended countermeasures." <u>http://www.atri-online.org/research/results/One-Pager%20CMVE.pdf</u>
- Chen, G. X. 2008. "Impact of federal compliance reviews of trucking companies in reducing highway truck crashes." *Accident Analysis and* Prevention, 40: 238–245.
- Council, F. M., D. L. Harkey, D. T. Nabors, A. J. Khattak, and Y. M. Mohamedshah. 2003.
   "Examination of fault, unsafe driving acts, and total harm in car-truck collisions." *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 1830: 63-71.
- Daniel, J., and S. Chien. 2004. "Truck safety factors on urban arterials." *ASCE Journal of Transportation Engineering*, 130, no. 6: 742-752.
- Hall, R. W., and A. Mukherjee. 2008. "Bounds on effectiveness of driver hours-of-service regulations for freight motor carriers." *Transportation Research Part E*, 44: 298-312.
- Khattak, A. J., M. D. Pawlovich, R. R. Souleyrette, and S. L. Hallmark. 2002. "Factors related to more severe older driver traffic crash injuries." *Journal of Transportation Engineering*, 128, no. 3: 243-249.
- Khattak, A., and F. Targa. 2004. "Injury severity and total harm in truck-involved work zone crashes." *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 1877: 106-116.
- Kobelo, D., V. Patrangenaru, and R. Mussa. 2008. "Safety analysis of Florida urban limited access highways with special focus on the influence of truck lane restriction policy." *Journal of Transportation Engineering*, 134, no. 7: 297-306.
- Kostyniuk, L.P. 2005. "Motorcycle crashes: Michigan experience, 1997-2002." 84th Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, Washington, DC.
- Moonesinghe, R., A. Longthorne, U. Shankar, S. Singh, R. Subramanian, and J. Tessmer. 2003. "An analysis of fatal large truck crashes." Springfield, VA, National Center for Statistics and Analysis.
- Moses, R., G. Price, and J. Mwakalonge. 2007. "Evaluating the effectiveness of various truck lane restriction practices in Florida—Phase II. Volume 3 - Evaluation of truck lane restriction on non-limited access urban arterials." *Final report BD 543 RPWO 10*. Tallahassee, FL, FAMU-FSU College of Engineering.

- National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. "Traffic safety facts Nebraska 2004-2008." Available from <u>http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/departments/nrd-</u><u>30/ncsa/STSI/31\_NE/2008/31\_NE\_2008.htm#MAPS\_1</u>.
- National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, National Center for Statistics and Analysis, and U.S. Department of Transportation. 2009. "Traffic safety facts 2008—A compilation of motor vehicle crash data from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System and the General Estimates System." Washington, DC. <u>http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/811170.PDF</u>
- National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation. "Federal motor vehicle safety standards and regulations. Available from http://www.nhtsa.gov/cars/rules/import/fmvss/index.html.
- Rodriguez, D. A. 2003. "Truck driver compensation and safety outcomes." 82nd Annual Transportation Research Board Meeting. Washington D.C.
- Spainhour, L. K., I. A. Wootton, J. O. Sobanjo, and P. A. Brady. 2006. "Causative factors and trends in Florida pedestrian crashes." *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 1982: 90-98.
- Storchmann, K. 2005. "English weather and Rhine wine quality: An ordered probit model." *Journal of Wine Research*, 16, no. 2: 105–119.
- U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. 2006. "Report to congress on the large truck crash causation study." Springfield, VA, author.
- U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. 2010. "Large truck and bus crash facts 2008." <u>http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/facts-research/ltbcf2008/index-2008largetruckandbuscrashfacts.aspx</u>
- Wang, J. and F. M. Council. "Estimating truck rollover crashes on ramps by using a multi-state database." *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 1686: 29-35.
- Young, R. K., and J. Liesman. 2007. "Estimating the relationship between measured wind speed and overturning truck crashes using a binary logit model." *Accident Analysis and Prevention*, 39: 574–580.
- Zimmerman, K. 2007. "Additional dilemma zone protection for trucks at high-speed signalized intersections." *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 2009: 82-88.

# Appendix A Variables and Coding

Variable	Variable Name	Definition	Coding Definition
rd_cls_c	Road class code	Defines what road class marked	0 if Not applicable,1 if Recreation road, 2 if Local road or street,3 if Highway system,4 if Interstate system
lght_con	Light condition code	Defines the light condition at the time of crash	(-999) if Not stated , Other,Unknown,0 if Daylight, 1 if Dawn, Dusk ,Dawn/Dusk (History) , 2 if Dark – lighted roadway,3 if Dark-unknown roadway lighting,4 if Dark - roadway not lighted
rd_char	Road character code	Defines different road characters	(-999) if Not stated,0 if Straight and level,1 if Straight and on slope, 2 if Straight and on hilltop,3 if Curved and level,4 if Curved and on slope, 5 if Curved and on hilltop
rd_surf	Road surface code	Defines various road surface categories	(-999) if Not stated ,Other ,0 if concrete,1 if Asphalt, 2 if Brick ,3 if Gravel,4 if Dirt
rsc_cde	Road surface condition code	Defines typical road surface condition categories	(-999) if Not stated ,Other ,Unknown,0 if Dry,1 if Wet, 2 if Water ,3 if Sand, mud ,Slush,4 if Snow,5 if Ice
tnl_cde	Total number of through lanes code	Represents the number of through lanes	(-999) if Not stated ,0 if one lane,1 if two lanes, 2 if three lanes ,3 if four lanes,4 if five lanes,5 if six or more lanes
mdn_typ	Median type code	Defines various types of road medians	(-999) if Not stated ,0 if barrier,1 if raised, 2 if grass ,3 if painted,4 if no median

# **Table A.1** The definitions of variables and corresponding coding

acc_sev	Accident severity code	Defines typical accident severity categories	0 if fatal,1 if disabling injury, 2 if visible injury,3 if possible injury, 4 if property damage only,5 if non- reportable
alc_r	Alcohol related switch	Defines if respondent is an alcohol related accident or not	0 if no, 1 if yes
farm_eqp	Farm equipment switch	Defines if respondent is an farm equipment related accident or not	0 if no, 1 if yes
whr_cnd	Weather condition code	respondents the diverse weather condition	<ul><li>(-999) if Not stated , Other,</li><li>Unknown,0 if clear,1 if cloudy ,</li><li>2 if fog, smog and smoke ,3 if rain,4 if sleet, hail, freezing rain/drizzle</li></ul>

Table A.1 The definitions of variables and corresponding coding (cont'd)

Appendix B Descriptive Statistics

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	.00	518	28.8	28.8	28.8
Valid	1.00	1283	71.2	71.2	100.0
	Total	1801	100.0	100.0	

## Table B.1 DAYLIGHT

# Table B.2 DWN\_DSK

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	.00	1722	95.6	95.6	95.6
Valid	1.00	79	4.4	4.4	100.0
	Total	1801	100.0	100.0	

# Table B.3 DARK

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	.00	1380	76.6	76.6	76.6
Valid	1.00	421	23.4	23.4	100.0
	Total	1801	100.0	100.0	

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	.00	214	11.9	11.9	11.9
Valid	1.00	1587	88.1	88.1	100.0
	Total	1801	100.0	100.0	

Table B.4 STRT

# Table B.5 CURVE

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	.00	1598	88.7	88.7	88.7
Valid	1.00	203	11.3	11.3	100.0
	Total	1801	100.0	100.0	

# Table B.6 CONC

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative
					Percent
	.00	931	51.7	51.7	51.7
Valid	1.00	870	48.3	48.3	100.0
	Total	1801	100.0	100.0	

Table 1	<b>B.7</b> .	ASPH
---------	--------------	------

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	.00	1019	56.6	56.6	56.6
Valid	1.00	782	43.4	43.4	100.0
	Total	1801	100.0	100.0	

# Table B.8 DRY

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	.00	484	26.9	26.9	26.9
Valid	1.00	1317	73.1	73.1	100.0
	Total	1801	100.0	100.0	

## Table B.9 WET

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	.00	1600	88.8	88.8	88.8
Valid	1.00	201	11.2	11.2	100.0
	Total	1801	100.0	100.0	

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	.00	1544	85.7	85.7	85.7
Valid	1.00	257	14.3	14.3	100.0
	Total	1801	100.0	100.0	

# Table B.10SNW\_ICE\_SLUSH

# Table B.11WATER

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	.00	1800	99.9	99.9	99.9
Valid	1.00	1	.1	.1	100.0
	Total	1801	100.0	100.0	

## Table B.12BARRIER

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	.00	1671	92.8	92.8	92.8
Valid	1.00	130	7.2	7.2	100.0
	Total	1801	100.0	100.0	

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	.00	1031	57.2	57.2	57.2
Valid	1.00	770	42.8	42.8	100.0
	Total	1801	100.0	100.0	

# Table B.13 NO\_MEDIAN

# Table B.14 ALCOHL\_RLTD\_SW

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	.00	1750	97.2	97.2	97.2
Valid	1.00	51	2.8	2.8	100.0
	Total	1801	100.0	100.0	

# Table B.15 FARM\_EQP\_SW

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	.00	1791	99.4	99.4	99.4
Valid	1.00	10	.6	.6	100.0
	Total	1801	100.0	100.0	

#### Appendix C Model Results

ORDERED;LHS=SEV\_NEW;RHS=ONE, ALCOHL\_R, FARM\_EQP,DWN\_DSK,SNW\_ICE\_,NO\_MEDIA,, LOCAL\$ Normal exit from iterations. Exit status=0.

+-----+ | Ordered Probability Model | Maximum Likelihood Estimates | Model estimated: Jun 29, 2012 at 10:37:21AM.| | Dependent variable SEV NEW | Weighting variable None | Number of observations 1801 1 | Iterations completed 14 | Log likelihood function -2495.920 | Number of parameters 10 | Info. Criterion: AIC = 2.78281 Ι | Finite Sample: AIC = 2.78288 1 | Info. Criterion: BIC = 2.81333 | Info. Criterion:HQIC = 2.79407 | Restricted log likelihood -2529.630 | McFadden Pseudo R-squared .0133258 67.41875 | Chi squared | Degrees of freedom 6 Prob[ChiSqd > value] = .0000000 | Underlying probabilities based on Normal +----+

+----+
| Ordered Probability Model |
| Cell frequencies for outcomes |
| Y Count Freq Y Count Freq Y Count Freq |
| 0 755.419 1 386.214 2 355.197 |
| 3 238.132 4 67.037 |
|

++			+	++	+					
Variable	Coefficient	Standard Error	b/St.Er.	P[ Z >z]	Mean of X					
+Index function for probability										
Constant	.17476865	.03947732	4.427	.0000						
ALCOHL_R	.76454499	.14927220	5.122	.0000	.02831760					
FARM_EQP	.79053952	.32815757	2.409	.0160	.00555247					
DWN_DSK	.38356140	.12288972	3.121	.0018	.04386452					
SNW_ICE_	26095803	.07618144	-3.425	.0006	.14269850					
NO_MEDIA	.15887510	.05471079	2.904	.0037	.42754026					
LOCAL	13233785	.06073979	-2.179	.0293	.27706830					
+Threshold parameters for index										
Mu(1)	.55642531	.02365829	23.519	.0000						
Mu(2)	1.18943737	.03300047	36.043	.0000						
Mu(3)	2.04175534	.05579617	36.593	.0000						

+												+	
	<pre>Cross tabulation of predictions. Row is actual, column is predicted. Model = Probit . Prediction is number of the most probable cell.</pre>												
+	+	+	+	+-	+	+-	+-	+		+	++	++	
]	Actual Row	Sum	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
+	+	+	+·	+-	+	+-	+-	+		+	++	⊦+	
	0	755	743	0	8	4	0						
	1	386	372	0	4	10	0						
	2	355	336	0	4	15	0						
	3	238	215	0	3	20	0						
	4	67	60	0	1	6	0						
+	+	+	+	+-	+	+-	+-	+		+	++	⊦ <b></b> +	
C	ol Sum	1801	1726	0	20	55	0	0	0	0	0	0	
+	+	+	+	+-	+	+	+-	+		+	++	⊦+	