

# Kansas Accident Reporting Newsletter

DISTRIBUTION: JUNE

**\* PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT REPORTING STAFF \***

## \*\*\* TRAINING \*\*\*

Recently, I sought out accident report “trainers” from around the state to attend, as they are the first target audience for this training. Next, I am inviting key staff members from any agency who are the accident reporting “go-to” person...they may be a records clerk/manager or an “expert” (reviewer, etc) from your agency.

If you have such a person (or two), let me know soon who is willing and able to attend the following times.

***KDOT is providing two meeting times from 10:00—2:30: July 14<sup>th</sup> (KLETC) or July 31<sup>st</sup> (Topeka).***

*Wrecks*

## SAFETY EQUIPMENT USE

A key coding field on the accident report form 850B is Safety Equipment Use. We receive many requests for accident data related to occupant restraint use. Some customers research the impact of legislative changes regarding restraint system types and their relationship to occupant ages and injury severity.

Hence, proper coding is crucial for accurate, effective evaluation. As you can see below, there are many occupants **aged 10 to 99** who likely are incorrectly reflecting an **infant, child, or booster seat code** in the 2010-2013 data.

	OCCUPANTS
Air Bag Deployed - Booster Seat	6
Air Bag Deployed - Child Seat	78
Air Bag Deployed - Infant Seat	41
Booster Seat / Restraint Sys	180
Child Seat / Restraint Sys	439
Infant Seat / Restraint Sys	87
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>831</b>

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### Contact Information

- ◆ **Accident Coding Help or data requests:**  
785.296.0456 or [accidentdata@ksdot.org](mailto:accidentdata@ksdot.org)
- ◆ **“Wrecks”** - 785.296.5169 or [rex@ksdot.org](mailto:rex@ksdot.org)
- ◆ **Ordering Forms/Manuals:**
  - \* Accidents (KDOT forms): <http://www.ksdot.org/lawinfo> or call 785.296.7789
  - \* KBI forms: 785.296.8200
  - \* DC Forms: 785.296.3671
- ◆ **KLER Software:**  
1-877-317-4597 or [helpdesk@khp.ks.gov](mailto:helpdesk@khp.ks.gov)
- ◆ **KLER e-submission to KDOT:**  
785-368-7346  
[TRSAAdmin@ksdot.org](mailto:TRSAAdmin@ksdot.org)
- ◆ **Addresses** are listed in the Motor Vehicle Accident [Coding Manual](#) Page 3

## CELL PHONE USE STUDY



***Please help us track cell phone contribution to accidents by recording the proper contributing circumstance code AND recording what type of cell phone use in the narrative if known: texting, calling, GPS, retrieving / dropped / etc.***

This subject requires our best efforts to better focus safety efforts.

As you are aware, the use of mobile devices is at an all-time high and greatly impacts a person's attention when driving. We humans tend to deceive ourselves at times regarding self-indulgences. We make excuses to justify our actions.

I was behind one such person recently who was all over a two-lane road (both lanes), changing speeds, weaving, and unconcerned by their lack of attention to driving. Thankfully they were not involved in an incident while I was behind them. Many drivers are distracted from cell phone use while driving. They will insist that it does not impair their driving. You and I know that they are not being truthful.

The quality of accident reporting is crucial to traffic safety

## IMPORTANT DRIVER DATA NOTE

Typically, when a report needs to be amended, the modifications are made, the amended box is checked, and the full report is submitted to KDOT. For most situations, this is correct.

One scenario that requires a different approach is as follows:

If an accident was submitted first as "state-reportable" and then modified later as "non-state-reportable," a significant issue exists: The first record has been loaded into the state accident database at KDOT and then applied to a person's driving record at the Department of Revenue (KDOR).

In order to remove this record, law enforcement must contact KDOT via phone or email (see contact information on front page) indicating the first record was changed. Then KDOT and KDOR can remove it from both systems. Please supply the accident date, reporting agency, local case number, and a driver's first and last name, which will help us find and remove the correct record.

Thank you.

### Accident Severity

Fatal  
Injury  
PDO >= \$1,000  
PDO < \$1,000

Private Property



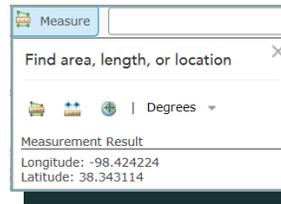
## MANAGER MUSINGS — MAPS

### MAPS:

One initiative at KDOT is to provide more information via maps by posting them at <http://ksdot.maps.arcgis.com/home/>. This GIS homepage will reflect various maps of possible interest like the **KDOT reference post markers** (mile markers) choice. When the user zooms in on this map, they can see where the markers are located.

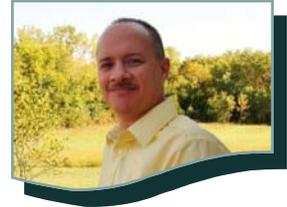
### Additional features:

- \* Display **other base maps** including aerial photography
- \* Ability to **measure distances**
- \* Ability to determine the **latitude and longitude** of a location
- \* Access to “Groups” reflecting a link for **maps designed for you**
- \* Ability to display (or not) **multiple layers** of information



Over time, we will continue to add maps and layers for your use. Please let us know what you would like to see and feedback on how the website works. Keep in mind, we are in the beginning stages.

Wrecks



“Wrecks”  
Rex McCommon

Kansas  
Motor Vehicle  
Accident Data  
Manager

REPORTING IS  
INVESTIGATION;  
INVESTIGATION  
IS KNOWLEDGE;  
KNOWLEDGE  
INFORMS DECISIONS.

## NEW ACCIDENT CODING MANUAL

The 2014 version of the **Motor Vehicle Accident Coding Manual** is published and located at [www.ksdot.org/lawinfo](http://www.ksdot.org/lawinfo). Further, it will be included in the Kansas Law Enforcement Reporting (KLER) software and has been distributed to other law enforcement software vendors. If your vendor includes the manual in your software program, please ensure they add this current version.

Hard-copies of the manual are being printed and sent currently. Each agency will receive a few to start with and will then need to order more according to their agency’s need. Coding Manuals and accident forms can be ordered at [www.ksdot.org/lawinfo](http://www.ksdot.org/lawinfo).

Take note of the **Manual Changes** page at the front and the **Quick Reference** page on the back.



Kansas Department of Transportation  
 Kansas Accident Data Manager  
 700 SW Harrison, 2nd Floor  
 Topeka, KS 66603



**Attn: Accident Reporting Personnel**

**2013 FOURTH OF JULY STATS**

**Holiday Statistics  
 4th of July**



For the 2013 Fourth of July holiday period, the overall accident total is significantly below the average Wednesday to Sunday period.



However, the fatal accident total is slightly higher.

Wednesday-Sunday; 102-Hour Reporting Period

Accident Type	4th of July 2013 Wednesday-Sunday	Average Wednesday-Sunday for 2013
<b>All Accidents</b>	551	667
<b>Injury Accidents</b>	121	151
<b>Fatal Accidents</b>	6	4
<b>Alcohol-Related Accidents</b>	35	36
<b>Alcohol-Related Injury Accidents</b>	12	15
<b>Alcohol-Related Fatal Accidents</b>	2	1