

### **Abstract**

This study was about factors contributing to the occurrence of road accidents among motorists in Makindye Division. The specific objectives of the study were: To assess the human factors influencing the occurrence road accidents in Makindye division; To find out the vehicle factors influencing the occurrence of road accidents and; To find out the road environmental factors influencing the occurrence of road accidents in Makindye division. A cross sectional study design was undertaken in Makindye Division and a sample of respondents reached at a single point in time.

Two research tools were prepared for data collection and a camera for taking photos, pretest of the tools was done and the final data collected in a period of approximately five days.

The data was collected using research assistants who were well trained on data collection techniques, they physically made contact with respondents in the selected road network points and administered the questionnaires. Attention was given to motorists aged 18 and above and who have consented and were willing to participate in the study.

The data was reviewed, edited and entered in SPSS for analysis. Selected Human, Vehicle and Environmental factors were analyzed using frequency tables and ANOV, statistical test (P-values) were used to conclude relationships that existed between the dependent (Occurrence of Accidents) and independent (Human, Vehicle and Environmental factors) variables.

Apart from phone disruption under human factors, the habit of over speeding, overtaking, careless light flashing, alcoholism, drug influence, sleep deprivation, fatigue and age were found to be responsible for occurrence of road accidents.

Among vehicle factors, mal-functioning of lights did not have anything to do with occurrence of road accidents while the vehicle mechanical condition, brake and steering failure did have an influence on occurrence of road accidents.

In the road environmental factors, limited road maintenance and limited road signs were found to have led to occurrence of many accidents while the nature of the roads (road designs) did not.

It was also identified in this study that assessment of the effectiveness of the current policies aimed at reducing accident rates be a topic of further research. The assessment findings should be merged with the recommendations in this research so as to add to efforts aimed at reducing accidents.

Recommendation from this research were also made, these includes a general call for government to step up laws aimed at reducing occurrence of road accidents. Such suggested laws include; introduction of helmet, drinking, drug abuse laws among others. All these recommendations are expected to contribute to efforts extended to reduced occurrence of road accidents in Makindye Division.