

IC23041

King County Distracted Driving Project

The objective of the King County Distracted Driving Project is to obtain analytical data in order to make conclusions between the link of phone usage while driving and car accidents.

A survey was sent to the residents of King County covering a 4 year period. In order to limit biases, the survey was kept completely anonymous, covering the general attitude towards phone usage while driving and how it may pose a threat to self and others. Surveyors only found that there were three effective methods for preventing the “texting while driving” epidemic: tickets, car crashes, or an app to detect illegal phone usage. Our team approached this problem by compiling the data and creating heat maps of the different zip codes to distinguish which age groups and races were causing the most turmoil on the roads. We first created 4 heat maps. The first heat map contained all survey responders, the second was anyone from ages 18-30, third was 31-55, and the last was anyone older than 55. We came to the conclusion that those ages 18-30 were most likely to participate in illegal phone use whilst driving. In response to this, our team compared data of total crashes in King County with the survey to further delve into the relation of teenagers and young adults admitting to illegal phone usage and getting in car crashes. Furthermore, we found that the main deterrent to those in that age range was receiving a traffic ticket rather than hitting a person.