2023

# CAPSTONE PROJECT: 02

# MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH REPORTING ANALYSIS



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**IEC COHORT 8** 

**Data Analytics** 

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#### Introduction to Dataset

The dataset under examination provides a comprehensive record of motor vehicle accidents, encompassing a diverse array of variables such as incident timestamps, driver actions, vehicle attributes, and spatial details. The primary goal of this analysis is to derive valuable insights into the factors influencing accidents, contributing to informed strategies for enhancing road safety and accident prevention.

Acknowledging the considerable size of the original dataset, which posed challenges in terms of processing efficiency, a pragmatic approach was adopted. To streamline the analysis, a representative sample comprising 5000 rows was strategically selected. This decision ensures a balance between computational resource optimization and the derivation of meaningful insights during subsequent data exploration and analysis phases.

#### Link to Dataset:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1PeeeGfDyMqzTrQt55oqt-KMbDLnSl3IR/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=101103814249375977643&rtpof=true&sd=true

#### **Problem Statement**

To conduct a comprehensive analysis on motor vehicle accidents dataset, uncovering key factors impacting incidents. This involves identifying patterns, correlations, and risk factors related to driver behavior, vehicle traits, spatial distribution, and injury severity. The insights derived aim to contribute valuable information for improving road safety measures, guiding targeted interventions, and influencing policy decisions to mitigate the frequency and severity of car accidents..

## **Objectives**

#### **Descriptive Analysis:**

- Explore the overall distribution of accidents.
- Analyze the frequency of accidents based on key categorical variables.

#### **Spatial Analysis:**

- Investigate the geographical distribution of accidents..
- Identify areas with a higher concentration of accidents.
- Explore the relationship between municipality and the number of accidents.

#### **Driver and Vehicle Analysis:**

- Investigate the role of driver-related factors and analyze the proportion of accidents where the driver is at fault.
- Explore the distribution of accidents based on Vehicle Year, Make, and Model.
- Investigate accidents involving parked vehicles and driverless vehicles.

#### **Injury Analysis:**

Examine the distribution of injury severity levels.

• Investigate the relationship between injury severity and factors like weather, surface condition, and light.

#### Stakeholders

## 1. Traffic and Transportation Authorities:

<u>Purpose</u>: Enhance road safety measures and optimize traffic flow by identifying accident-prone areas, allowing for targeted infrastructure improvements and better traffic management.

#### 2. Law Enforcement Agencies:

<u>Purpose:</u> Improve patrolling strategies and law enforcement efforts by understanding patterns and contributing factors behind accidents, leading to more effective accident prevention and response.

## 3. City Planners and Urban Developers:

<u>Purpose:</u> Inform urban development plans and design safer environments by identifying areas with high accident concentrations, contributing to the creation of safer and more accessible urban spaces.

## **Data Analysis Process**

## **Data Cleaning**

- Data Sampling
- Remove Duplicates
- Data type Validation
- Handling Missing Values
- Inconsistent data

## **SQL** Queries

- How many total accidents are recorded in the dataset?
   SELECT COUNT(\*) AS total\_accidents
   FROM car\_accidents.dataset;
- What is the distribution of accidents across different ACRS Report Types? SELECT `ACRS Report Type`, COUNT(\*) AS accidents\_count FROM car\_accidents.dataset GROUP BY `ACRS Report Type`;
- What is the monthly distribution of accidents?
   SELECT
   MONTH(`Crash Date/Time`) AS month,
   COUNT(\*) AS accidents\_count
   FROM car\_accidents.dataset
   GROUP BY month;
- 4. Which day of the week has the highest accident rate? SELECT

```
DAYNAME('Crash Date/Time') AS day_of_week,
     COUNT(*) AS accidents_count
FROM car_accidents.dataset
GROUP BY day_of_week
ORDER BY accidents count DESC
LIMIT 1;
5. What are the top 5 municipalities with the highest number of accidents?
   SELECT
     Municipality,
     COUNT(*) AS accidents_count
   FROM car_accidents.dataset
   GROUP BY Municipality
   ORDER BY accidents_count DESC
   LIMIT 5;
6. How many accidents involve drivers at fault?
   SELECT
     'Driver At Fault',
     COUNT(*) AS accidents count
   FROM car accidents.dataset
   WHERE 'Driver At Fault' = 'Yes';
7. What is the distribution of accidents based on Driver Substance Abuse?
   SELECT
     `Driver Substance Abuse`,
     COUNT(*) AS accidents_count
   FROM car_accidents.dataset
   GROUP BY 'Driver Substance Abuse';
8. What are the most common Vehicle Makes and Models involved in accidents?
   SELECT
     'Vehicle Make',
     'Vehicle Model',
     COUNT(*) AS accidents_count
   FROM car_accidents.dataset
   GROUP BY 'Vehicle Make', 'Vehicle Model'
   ORDER BY accidents count DESC
   LIMIT 5;
9. How many accidents involve parked vehicles or driverless vehicles?
   SELECT
```

COUNT(\*) AS accidents\_count

```
FROM car accidents.dataset
   WHERE 'Parked Vehicle' = 'Yes' OR 'Driverless Vehicle' = 'Yes';
10. What is the distribution of injury severity levels?
   SELECT
      'Injury Severity',
      COUNT(*) AS accidents_count
    FROM car_accidents.dataset
    GROUP BY 'Injury Severity';
11. Is there a correlation between injury severity and weather conditions?
   SELECT
      'Weather',
      'Injury Severity',
      COUNT(*) AS accidents_count
   FROM car accidents.dataset
   GROUP BY 'Weather', 'Injury Severity';
12. What are the most common collision types?
   SELECT
      `Collision Type`,
      COUNT(*) AS accidents_count
   FROM car_accidents.dataset
   GROUP BY 'Collision Type'
   ORDER BY accidents count DESC;
13. Are certain collision types more likely to result in severe injuries?
   SELECT
      `Collision Type`,
      'Injury Severity',
      COUNT(*) AS accidents_count
   FROM car accidents.dataset
    GROUP BY 'Collision Type', 'Injury Severity';
14. How does the speed limit correlate with the severity of accidents?
   SELECT
      `Speed Limit`,
      'Injury Severity',
      COUNT(*) AS accidents count
    FROM car_accidents.dataset
    GROUP BY 'Speed Limit', 'Injury Severity'
   ORDER BY 'accidents_count' DESC;
15. What types of distractions are most commonly reported by drivers in accidents?
   SELECT
      `Driver Distracted By`,
      COUNT(*) AS accidents count
```

```
FROM car accidents.dataset
    GROUP BY 'Driver Distracted By'
    ORDER BY accidents_count DESC;
16. Is there a relationship between distracted driving and injury severity?
   SELECT
      `Driver Distracted By`,
      'Injury Severity',
      COUNT(*) AS accidents_count
   FROM car accidents.dataset
   GROUP BY 'Driver Distracted By', 'Injury Severity';
17. What time of day has the highest accident rate?
   SELECT
      HOUR('Crash Date/Time') AS hour of day,
      COUNT(*) AS accidents_count
   FROM car accidents.dataset
    GROUP BY hour of day
    ORDER BY accidents_count DESC
   LIMIT 1;
18. How does the surface condition correlate with the frequency of accidents?
    SELECT
      `Surface Condition`,
      COUNT(*) AS accidents_count
    FROM car accidents.dataset
    GROUP BY 'Surface Condition'
    ORDER BY accidents count DESC;
19. Is there a relationship between surface condition and injury severity?
   SELECT
      `Surface Condition`,
      'Injury Severity',
      COUNT(*) AS accidents_count
    FROM car accidents.dataset
    GROUP BY 'Surface Condition', 'Injury Severity';
20. What types of traffic control are most associated with accidents?
   SELECT
      `Traffic Control`,
      COUNT(*) AS accidents_count
   FROM car accidents.dataset
    GROUP BY 'Traffic Control'
    ORDER BY accidents count DESC;
21. How often are non-motorists involved in accidents?
   SELECT
      'Related Non-Motorist',
```

```
COUNT(*) AS accidents count
   FROM car_accidents.dataset
   WHERE 'Related Non-Motorist' IS NOT NULL
   GROUP BY 'Related Non-Motorist'
   ORDER BY accidents count DESC;
22. Is there a correlation between the age of vehicles and their involvement in accidents?
   SELECT
      'Vehicle Year',
     COUNT(*) AS accidents count
   FROM car accidents.dataset
   GROUP BY 'Vehicle Year'
   ORDER BY accidents_count DESC;
23. What are the common types of vehicle movements during accidents?
   SELECT
      'Vehicle Movement',
     COUNT(*) AS accidents_count
   FROM car accidents.dataset
   GROUP BY 'Vehicle Movement'
   ORDER BY accidents count DESC;
24. What is the distribution of vehicle damage extent in accidents?
   SELECT
      `Vehicle Damage Extent`,
     COUNT(*) AS accidents count
   FROM car_accidents.dataset
   GROUP BY 'Vehicle Damage Extent'
   ORDER BY accidents_count DESC;
25. Is there a correlation between damage extent and injury severity?
   Done (not a direct relation)
   SELECT
      'Vehicle Damage Extent',
     'Injury Severity',
     COUNT(*) AS accidents_count
   FROM car accidents.dataset
   GROUP BY 'Vehicle Damage Extent', 'Injury Severity';
26. Which states contribute the most to accidents in the dataset?
   SELECT
      `Drivers License State`,
     COUNT(*) AS accidents_count
   FROM car accidents.dataset
   GROUP BY 'Drivers License State'
   ORDER BY accidents count DESC
```

LIMIT 5;

27. What is the distribution of accidents based on different road types? SELECT `Route Type`, COUNT(\*) AS accidents\_count FROM car\_accidents.dataset

GROUP BY 'Route Type'
ORDER BY accidents\_count DESC;

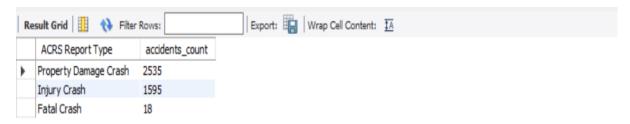
## Results and Interpretation

1. How many total accidents are recorded in the dataset?



<u>Interpretation:</u> The dataset encompasses a total of 4148 recorded accidents.

## 2. What is the distribution of accidents across different ACRS Report Types?



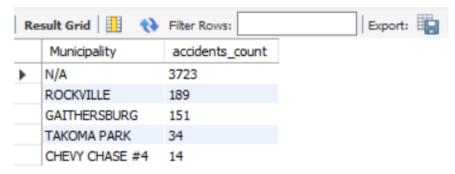
<u>Interpretation:</u> The distribution of accidents across different ACRS Report Types reveals that there are 2535 Property Damage Crashes, 1595 Injury Crashes, and 18 Fatal Crashes, as classified by the Accident and Classification Reporting System (ACRS).

## 3. What is the monthly distribution of accidents?



<u>Interpretation</u>: The monthly distribution of accidents highlights a predominant occurrence in months with NULL entries, signifying an unspecified month. Consequently, the absence of specific monthly data hinders the identification of a clear seasonal trend based on the available dataset.

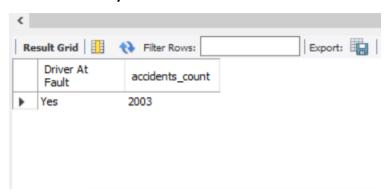
## 5. What are the top 5 municipalities with the highest number of accidents?



<u>Interpretation:</u> Among the top 5 municipalities, including Rockville stands with 189 accidents, Gaithersburg follows with 151, Takoma Park with 34, Chevy Chase #4 records 14 accidents, and 3723 accidents with unrecognized municipalities.

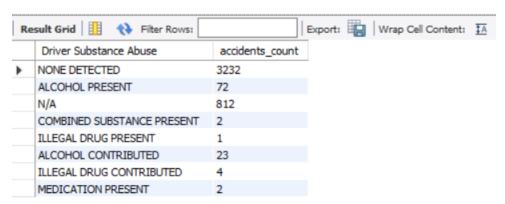
(Municipalities refer to local areas or communities within a region or city that have their own local government. They often have distinct boundaries and are responsible for managing local services and infrastructure.)

## 6. How many accidents involve drivers at fault?



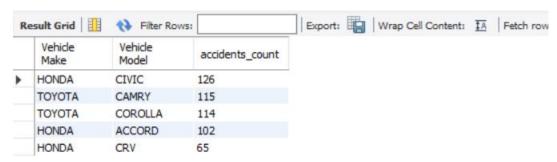
In the dataset, 2003 accidents involve drivers at fault.

#### 7. What is the distribution of accidents based on Driver Substance Abuse?



<u>Interpretation:</u> The data reveals a significant number of accidents involving drivers with no detected substance abuse (3232 cases) and an additional 72 accidents where alcohol was present. Furthermore, alcohol contributed to 23 accidents, emphasizing the role of alcohol-related factors in a subset of incidents.

#### 8. What are the most common Vehicle Makes and Models involved in accidents?



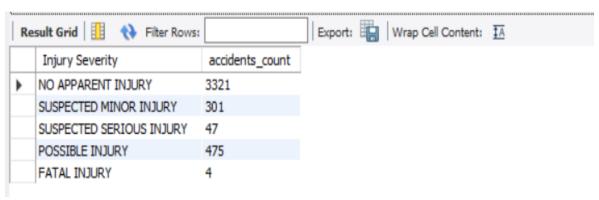
<u>Interpretation:</u> The data reveals that HONDA CIVIC, TOYOTA CAMRY, and TOYOTA COROLLA are the most frequently involved vehicle makes and models in accidents, indicating potential areas of focus for safety measures. The prominence of these models suggests the importance of targeted safety initiatives and regulations to reduce the occurrence of accidents involving these popular vehicles.

## 9. How many accidents involve parked vehicles or driverless vehicles?



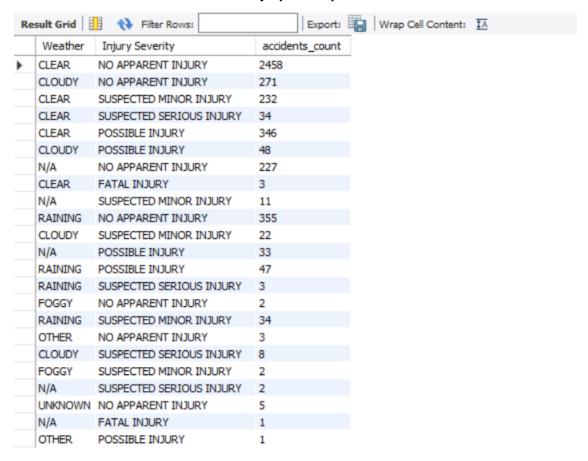
Interpretation: The dataset records 36 accidents involving either parked or driverless vehicles.

## 10. What is the distribution of injury severity levels?



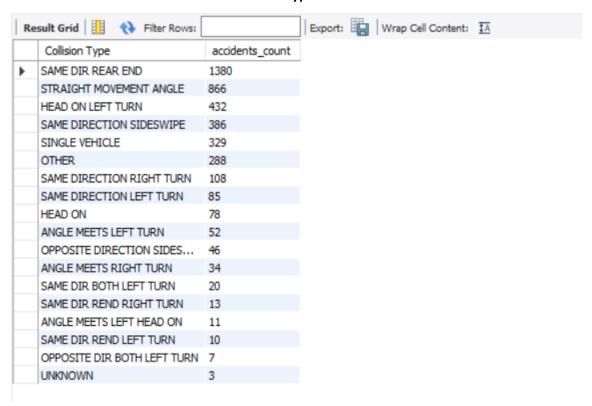
<u>Interpretation:</u> The breakdown of injury severity in the dataset is as follows: 3321 accidents with no apparent injury, 301 with suspected minor injury, 47 with suspected serious injury, 475 with possible injury, and 4 with fatal injury.

## 11. Is there a correlation between injury severity and weather conditions?



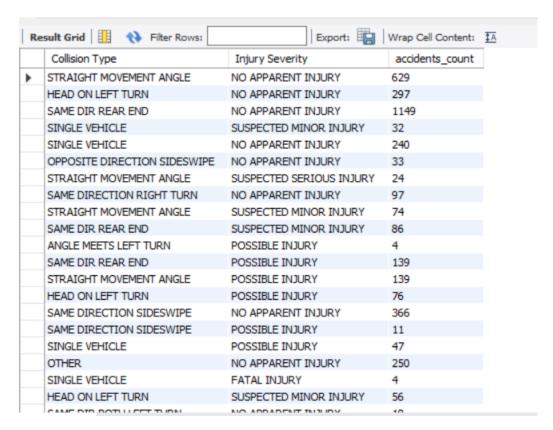
<u>Interpretation:</u> The data suggests certain associations between weather conditions and injury severity in car accidents. Clear weather predominates in accidents with no apparent injury, suspected minor injuries, and possible injuries. Cloudy conditions show instances of no apparent injury and suspected minor injuries, while raining conditions exhibit varied injury severities

## 12. What are the most common collision types?



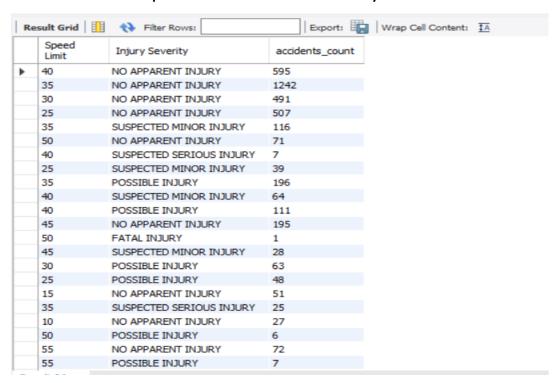
<u>Interpretation:</u> The frequently occurring collision types comprise 1380 incidents of same-direction rearend collisions, 866 incidents involving straight movement angles, 432 head-on left-turn collisions, 386 same-direction sideswipe collisions, and 329 single-vehicle incidents, among others.

## 13. Are certain collision types more likely to result in severe injuries?



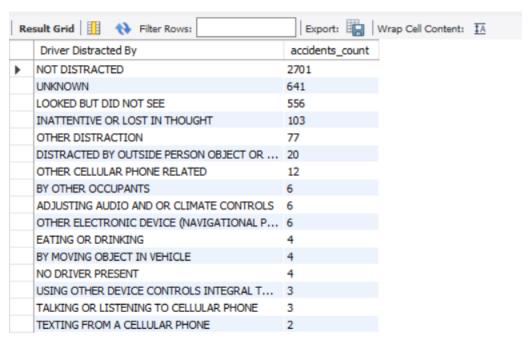
<u>Interpretation:</u> Certain collision types, including Straight Movement Angle, Same Direction Rear End, and Head On Left Turn, are linked to varying levels of injury severity, ranging from no apparent injuries to suspected minor and serious injuries. Notably, Single Vehicle collisions show instances of fatal injuries.

## 14. How does the speed limit correlate with the severity of accidents?



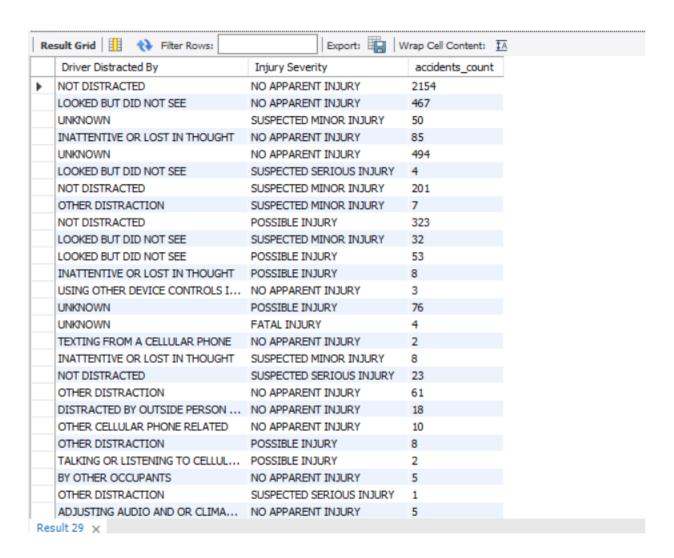
<u>Interpretation:</u> Accidents at lower speed limits (e.g., 35 mph) are primarily associated with no apparent injuries, while higher speed limits (e.g., 45, 50, 55 mph) show an increased likelihood of suspected minor injuries and, in some cases, suspected serious and fatal injuries.

## 15. What types of distractions are most commonly reported by drivers in accidents?



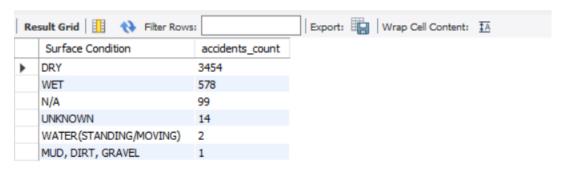
<u>Interpretation:</u> The dataset indicates that the majority of accidents involve drivers not distracted (2701 cases), followed by 641 cases with an unknown distraction status, 556 with looked but didn't see distractions, and 103 with inattentive or lost-in-thought distractions. The remaining accidents are associated with various other types of distractions.

## 16. Is there a relationship between distracted driving and injury severity?



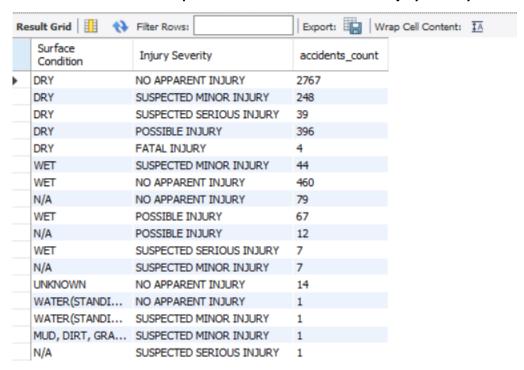
<u>Interpretation:</u> The data indicates a potential correlation between distracted driving and injury severity. Accidents involving distractions like looking but not seeing, unknown distractions, and inattentiveness are associated with suspected minor injuries, while instances of suspected serious and fatal injuries are observed in certain distracted driving scenarios.

#### 18. How does the surface condition correlate with the frequency of accidents?



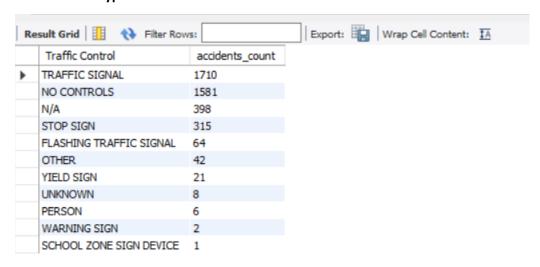
<u>Interpretation:</u> Dry surfaces dominate accident occurrences with 3454 incidents, while wet surfaces contribute to 578 accidents. Other conditions, including N/A, water, mud/dirt/gravel, and unknown status, collectively contribute to 116 accidents.

## 19. Is there a relationship between surface condition and injury severity?



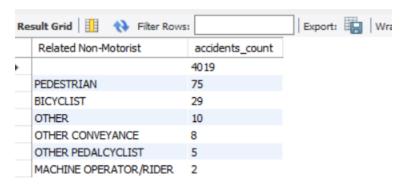
<u>Interpretation:</u> Accidents on dry surfaces primarily result in no apparent injuries, but some instances include suspected minor, serious, and fatal injuries. Wet surfaces are associated with suspected minor and possible injuries, highlighting a potential correlation between surface conditions and varying injury severities.

## 20. What types of traffic control are most associated with accidents?



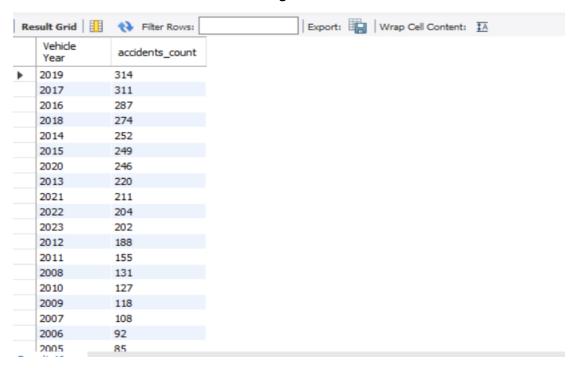
<u>Interpretation:</u> Accidents are predominantly associated with intersections controlled by traffic signals (1710) and those with no specified controls (1581). Notably, the absence of traffic controls contributes significantly to accident occurrences, emphasizing the need for targeted safety measures at such intersections.

#### 21. How often are non-motorists involved in accidents?



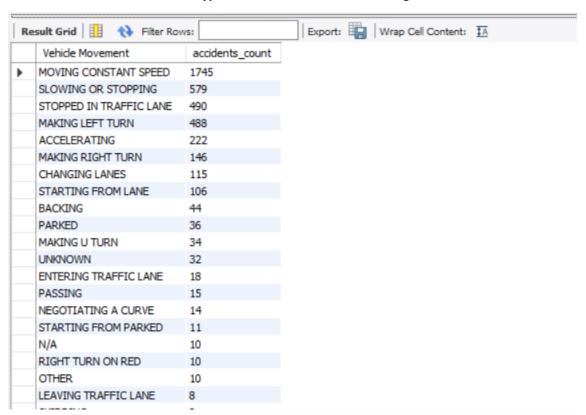
<u>Interpretation:</u> The data indicates that non-motorist involvement in accidents is challenging to interpret due to the majority being classified as unknown (4019 cases). The limited counts for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorist categories (combined total of 25) emphasize the data's constraints in providing detailed insights into the frequency and circumstances of non-motorist accidents.

## 23. Is there a correlation between the age of vehicles and their involvement in accidents?

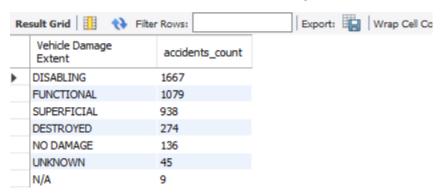


<u>Interpretation:</u> The provided data on vehicle years suggests a potential correlation between the age of vehicles and their involvement in accidents. Newer vehicles from 2019, 2017, 2016, and 2018 exhibit higher accident counts, indicating a potential trend

## 24. What are the common types of vehicle movements during accidents?

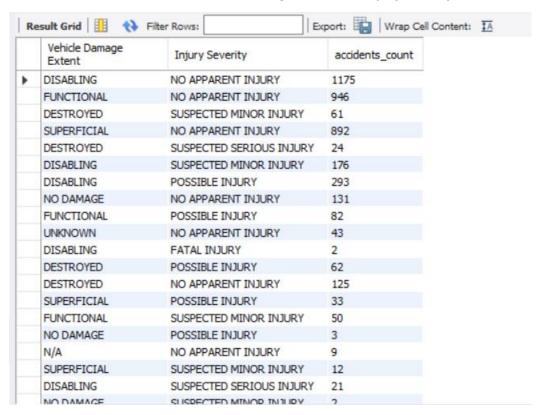


## 25. What is the distribution of vehicle damage extent in accidents?



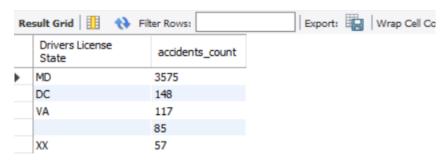
<u>Interpretation:</u> The distribution of vehicle damage extent in accidents reveals 1667 incidents with disabling damage, 1079 with functional damage, 938 with superficial damage, 274 with destroyed vehicles, and 136 with no damage. Additionally, there are cases where the extent of vehicle damage is unknown.

## 26. Is there a correlation between damage extent and injury severity?



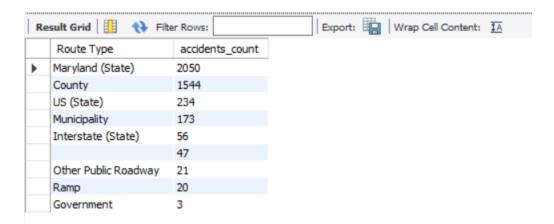
Interpretation: There is no any correlation.

#### 27. Which states contribute the most to accidents in the dataset?



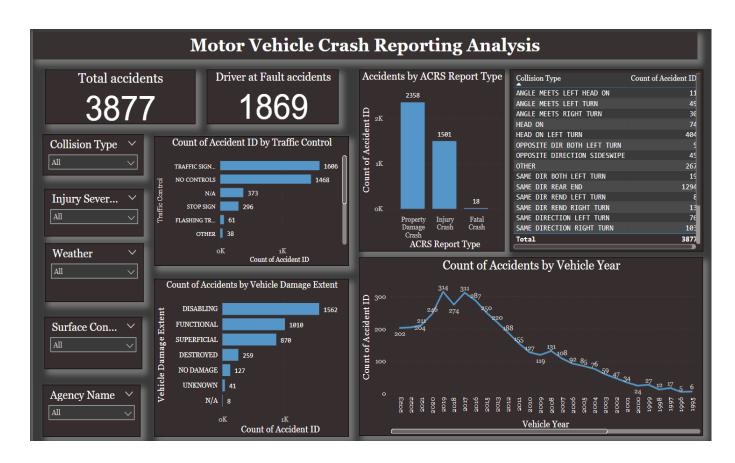
<u>Interpretation:</u> The states contributing the most to accidents are Maryland (MD) with 3575 incidents, followed by the District of Columbia (DC) with 148 cases, Virginia (VA) with 117 accidents, an unidentified state (XX) with 57, and 85 cases with an unknown state.

## 28. What is the distribution of accidents based on different road types?



<u>Interpretation:</u> Accidents are distributed across various road types, with Maryland (state) accounting for 2050 incidents, county roads for 1544, U.S. (state) roads for 234, municipality roads for 173, interstate (state) roads for 56, other public roadways for 21, ramps for 20, government roads for 3, and 47 cases with an unknown road type.

## Visualizations



## **Key Insights and Recommendations**

## 1. Localized Safety Priorities:

<u>Insight:</u> Certain municipalities, such as Rockville and Gaithersburg, experience higher accident rates.

<u>Recommendation:</u> Develop community-specific safety programs tailored to address local accident patterns effectively.

#### 2. Driver Education and Enforcement:

Insight: A substantial number of accidents involve drivers at fault.

<u>Recommendation:</u> Strengthen driver education programs and law enforcement efforts to reduce at-fault accidents.

#### 3. Substance Abuse Intervention:

Insight: Significant accidents involve drivers with no detected substance abuse and alcohol-related factors.

<u>Recommendation:</u> Implement targeted interventions for substance abuse-related accidents, with a focus on alcohol-related incidents.

## 4. Vehicle-Specific Safety Measures:

<u>Insight:</u> Certain vehicle makes and models (e.g., HONDA CIVIC, TOYOTA CAMRY) are frequently involved in accidents.

<u>Recommendation:</u> Advocate for and implement vehicle safety regulations targeting frequently involved models.

#### 5. Intersection Safety Enhancement:

Insight: Accidents are prevalent at intersections, particularly those with traffic signals or lacking controls.

<u>Recommendation:</u> Improve safety at intersections by evaluating and enhancing signaling, signage, and traffic management.

#### 7. Distracted Driving Awareness:

<u>Insight:</u> A significant number of accidents involve distractions like looking but not seeing and inattentiveness.

<u>Recommendation:</u> Launch awareness campaigns to educate the public about the dangers of distracted driving.

## 8. Surface Condition and Weather Preparedness:

<u>Insight:</u> Dry surfaces dominate accidents, and there's a correlation between surface conditions and injury severities.

<u>Recommendation:</u> Prioritize road maintenance and implement safety measures during adverse weather and varying surface conditions.

## 9. Stakeholder Collaboration:

<u>Insight:</u> Effective safety measures require collaboration between local authorities, law enforcement, and community stakeholders.

<u>Recommendation:</u> Encourage and facilitate collaboration to implement and monitor safety measures effectively.