Nebraska Annual Traffic Safety Study 2013

THE NEBRASKA POLL

FINAL REPORT
For Nebraska Safety Council
And Nebraska Highway Safety

May 2013
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Nebraska Annual Traffic Safety Study 2013
The Nebraska Poll
For Nebraska Safety Council and Nebraska Highway Safety

HIGHLIGHT SUMMARY

Methodology
- Research Associates completed 900 telephone interviews from random samples of Nebraska land and cell phones during April 15 – May 6, 2013.
- The purpose of the study was to measure Nebraskans’ attitudes toward various highway safety issues.
- The study has a maximum error range of +/- 3.3% at a 95% confidence level.

Impaired Driving
- Core Q: 26% of the respondents indicated they had driven within two hours after drinking alcoholic beverages at least once in the last 60 days.
- Core Q: Nearly half (48%) indicated the chances of getting arrested if they drive after drinking are likely.
- Core Q: Half of the respondents (50%) indicated they had seen or heard something about drunk driving enforcement by police in the last 30 days.

Seat Belts
- Core Q: A majority (78%) of respondents indicated they always wear safety belts when they drive or ride.
- Core Q: A majority (59%) indicated the chances of getting a ticket for not wearing a seat belt are unlikely (37% somewhat unlikely and 22% very unlikely).
- Core Q: 23% indicated they had heard something about seat belt law enforcement in the last 60 days.

Speed
- Core Q: A plurality (48%) indicated they rarely drive faster than 35 mph on a road posted at 30 mph.
- Core Q: A plurality (47%) indicated they never driver faster than 70 mph on a road posted at 65 mph.
- Core Q: 39% indicated they had heard something about speed enforcement in the past 30 days.
- Core Q: A plurality (40%) indicated the chances of getting a ticket if you drive over the speed limit are somewhat likely, with an additional 12% indicating very likely.

Distracted Driving
- Nearly two-thirds (62%) of respondents support a law allowing law enforcement to stop a driver and ticket them solely for talking on a cell phone while driving.
- Most (88%) support a law allowing a driver to be stopped and ticketed solely for texting while driving.

Other Highway Safety Issues
- Most respondents (81%) indicated that Nebraska’s law requiring motorcycle helmets should be continued.
- A majority (58%) indicated that drivers over the age of 70 should be required to drive as part of their test every time they renew their license.

Demographics
- Most respondents (98%) indicated they have a driver’s license.
- Respondents’ ages (controlled): 16-20, 6%; 21-34, 14%; 35-49, 28%; 50-64, 33%; 65 up, 20%.
- Respondents’ annual household incomes: under $20,000, 10%; $20,000-40,000, 20%; over $40,000, 70%.
- Respondents’ phone types: 87% from traditional landlines; 13% from cell phones.
- Respondents’ Congressional District (controlled): District One, 30%; District Two, 35%; District Three, 35%.
- By control, respondents were 49% male and 51% female.
Nebraska Annual Traffic Safety Study, 2013
THE NEBRASKA POLL
May 2013

STUDY DESCRIPTION
(N=900)

The purpose of this edition of The Nebraska Poll was to measure the attitudes of Nebraskans relative to
highway safety issues, including but not limited to the issues of impaired driving, seat belt safety, speed and driving
while distracted (using cell phones and other electronic devices while driving).

Research Associates designed the survey instrument with input and final approval from Nebraska Safety
Council staff and the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety.

The instrument designed to meet the purpose of this study was administered by telephone to a total sample of
900 randomly selected Nebraskans during April 15 – May 6, 2013. The sample was geographically representative by
Nebraska congressional district. Completed interviews were from both cell phones (13%) and landlines (87%).

A sample of 900 randomly selected respondents provides results that are statistically accurate within an
expected maximum error range of plus or minus 3.3% at a 95% confidence level. In other words, if this survey were
administered to the entire population studied, the results would vary no more than plus or minus 3.3% from the results
reported here, 95 times out of 100. The actual expected maximum error ranges vary based on the specific percentage
results obtained for each response, as shown below.

Expected Maximum Error Ranges at a
95% Confidence Level for a Sample of 900 (Statewide Data)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>+/- Error</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>+/- 2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>+/- 2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>+/- 3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40%</td>
<td>+/- 3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
<td>+/- 3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60%</td>
<td>+/- 3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70%</td>
<td>+/- 3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80%</td>
<td>+/- 2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90%</td>
<td>+/- 2.0%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Expected Maximum Error Ranges at a
95% Confidence Level for a Sample of 300 (Congressional District Data)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>+/- Error</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>+/- 4.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>+/- 5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40%</td>
<td>+/- 5.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>50%</td>
<td>+/- 5.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>60%</td>
<td>+/- 5.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>70%</td>
<td>+/- 5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80%</td>
<td>+/- 4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90%</td>
<td>+/- 3.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The figures in this report represent percentages unless specifically stated otherwise. Columns may not always
total exactly 100% due to rounding.

Terminology: the mean score is the same as the average score. The "N" is the number of cases (respondents)
in the study. An open-ended question is one in which no response choices were provided to respondents and captured
responses were then categorized into groups or ranges.

Research Associates • 402.730.6270 • researchassoc@windstream.net
Impaired Driving

The first question was open-ended and asked respondents to name the biggest problem in Nebraska today. Roads and safety-related responses included drunk drivers (3%), distracted drivers (4%) and general road and traffic conditions (14%).

Respondents were next asked to rate three specified problems on a 1 to 5 scale, with 5 as very important and 1 as not at all important. Both drunk driving and distracted driving (each with a mean score of 4.33) were named as bigger problems than the fuel tax situation (3.55).

Respondents were then asked an open-ended question about what is the best way to solve the drunk driving problem. Although responses were fairly scattered, more severe penalties led the list with a 23% plurality, followed by stricter law enforcement (13%) and education (8%).

A majority of respondents (57%) indicated Nebraska penalties for drunk driving are not tough enough, while 39% indicated they are about right and 4% indicated they are too tough.

Respondents were next asked whether they favor or oppose each of six specific penalties for drunk driving. All six were favored by a majority of respondents. Leading the list of those favoring was jail terms for previous offenses (84%), followed by mandatory treatment for offenders (76%); then mandatory sentencing for offenders (69%); mandatory interlock ignition for all first-time offenders (66%); eliminating plea bargaining for drunk driving offenses (60%); and losing license for first offense (51%).

Nine percent (9%) of respondents indicated they had driven while impaired by alcohol but still under the legal limit in the last 60 days.

CORE QUESTION: Just over a fourth of the respondents (26%) indicated they had driven within two hours after drinking alcoholic beverages at least once in the last 60 days.

CORE QUESTION: Nearly half the respondents (48%) indicated the chances of getting arrested if they drive after drinking are likely, while another 37% indicated chances of that are somewhat unlikely.

CORE QUESTION: Half of the respondents (50%) indicated they had seen or heard something about drunk driving enforcement by police in the last 30 days.
Seat Belts

CORE QUESTION: Just over three-fourths of the respondents (78%) indicated they always wear safety belts when they drive or ride.

CORE QUESTION: A solid majority (59%) of respondents thought the chances of getting a ticket for not wearing a seat belt were unlikely (37% somewhat unlikely plus 22% very unlikely).

CORE QUESTION: Less than a fourth of respondents (23%) indicated they had seen or heard something about seat belt law enforcement by police in the last 60 days.

For the fourth straight year, a majority of respondents (53%) indicated that law enforcement officers should be allowed to stop drivers and ticket them for not wearing a seat belt.

Respondents were asked what level of fine would be most effective to get people to wear their seat belt all the time. A plurality (30%) indicated $51-100, 28% indicated $25-50, 16% indicated $101-150, 5% indicated $151-200 and 21% indicated the fine should be more than $200.

One in five respondents (20%) indicated they have children weighing between 40 and 80 pounds, and of those 76% indicated they use a booster seat for their child in the car.

Speed

CORE QUESTION: A plurality of respondents (48%) indicated they rarely drive faster than 35 mph on a road posted at 30 mph, while 23% indicated never, 16% indicated half the time and 13% indicated most of the time.

CORE QUESTION: A plurality of respondents (47%) indicated they never drive faster than 70 mph on a road posted at 65 mph. Another 39% indicated they rarely drive faster than 70 on those roads, while 9% indicated half the time and 4% indicated most of the time.

CORE QUESTION: Two in five respondents (40%) indicated they had heard something about speed enforcement by police in the past 30 days.

CORE QUESTION: A plurality of respondents (40%) indicated the chances of getting a ticket if you drive over the speed limit are somewhat likely, with 25% indicating likely, 12% very likely, 18% somewhat unlikely and 6% very unlikely.

Distracted Driving Laws

More than two-thirds of respondents (68%) indicated they would support a law banning drivers from talking on a cell phone while driving. Less than a third (31%) opposed that idea and only 1% had no opinion.

Nearly two-thirds of respondents (62%) also supported a law allowing law enforcement to stop a driver and ticket them solely for talking on a cell phone while driving. Just over a third (37%) opposed that while 1% again had no opinion.

Most of the respondents (88%) indicated support for a law that would allow law enforcement to stop a driver and ticket them solely for texting while driving, while 11% opposed that and 1% had no opinion.

(Results of all three distracted driving law questions were consistent with findings from the 2012 Nebraska Annual Traffic Safety study.)
**Miscellaneous**

Most respondents (81%) indicated that Nebraska’s law requiring motorcycle helmets should be continued, while 18% said it should be repealed and 2% had no opinion.

A majority of respondents (58%) indicated that drivers over the age of 70 should be required to drive as part of their test every time they renew their license, while 40% opposed such a requirement and 2% were undecided.

**Demographics**

Most respondents (98%) indicated they have a driver’s license.

Respondents indicated distribution in the following age categories (controlled variable): 16-20, 6%; 21-34, 14%; 35-49, 28%; 50-64, 33%; 65 up, 20%.

Respondents indicated distribution in the following annual household income categories: under $20,000, 10%; $20,000-40,000, 20%; over $40,000, 70%.

Cell phone numbers were included in the sample; 87% of the respondents were interviewed on their traditional landlines and 13% on their cell phones.

Respondents were distributed among Nebraska’s three congressional districts as follows (controlled variable): District One, 30%; District Two, 35%; District Three, 35%.

By control, respondents were 49% male and 51% female.
1. First, what do you think is the biggest problem in Nebraska today? (open-ended)
   - Economy/drought/water/jobs/wages, etc. 19 20 13 25
   - Taxes/spending/budget/school funding, etc. 24 22 28 20
   - Crime/drugs/gangs/vandalism, etc. 7 5 11 5
   - Drunk drivers 3 2 3 4
   - Distracted driving (texting, cell phone use) 4 6 3 5
   - Roads/streets/traffic, speeding, etc. 14 14 15 14
   - Others (government/politicians; social issues like immigration & health care; water issues; weather; the pipeline; and various other issues) 29 31 27 28

   Mean

2-4. On a 1-5 scale, with 5 as very important and 1 as not at all important, how would you rate the following problems in Nebraska:
   - How important is the problem of driving while intoxicated or drunk driving? 4.33 4.36 4.34 4.30
   - How important is the problem of distraction caused by drivers using cell phones or other electronic devices? 4.33 4.35 4.31 4.34
   - How important is the fuel tax situation? 3.55 3.62 3.41 3.63
### Impaired Driving

5. What do you think is the best way to solve the drunk driving problem?
   
   (open-ended)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More severe penalties</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stricter law enforcement</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High visibility law enforcement</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandatory sentences for convictions</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Others (bar responsibility, designated driver, etc.)</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>54</td>
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</table>

6. Do you think the Nebraska penalties for drunk driving are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Penalty</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Too tough</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About right</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not tough enough</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7-12. Would you favor or oppose each of the following penalties for drunk driving: (rotated)

#### Jail terms for previous offenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Favor</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>84</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opposed</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Mandatory treatment for drunk driving offenders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Favor</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>76</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opposed</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>28</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Mandatory sentencing for drunk driving offenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Favor</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>69</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opposed</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Mandatory interlock ignition for all first-time offenders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Favor</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>66</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opposed</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>35</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Eliminating plea bargaining for drunk driving offenses

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Favor</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opposed</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>36</td>
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</table>

#### Lose license for first offense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Favor</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>51</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opposed</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
13. In the last 60 days, have you ever driven while impaired by alcohol, but still under the legal limit?
   - Yes: 9, 7, 10, 10
   - No: 91, 93, 91, 90

14. What do you think the chances are of someone getting arrested if they drive after drinking?
   *(Core Q. A-3)*
   - Very likely: 5, 4, 5, 7
   - Somewhat likely: 8, 11, 6, 6
   - Likely: 48, 48, 47, 50
   - Somewhat unlikely: 37, 35, 39, 36
   - Very unlikely: 2, 2, 3, 1

15. In the past 60 days, how many times have you driven a motor vehicle within 2 hours after drinking alcoholic beverages?
   *(Core Q. A-1)*
   - Never: 74, 74, 69, 79
   - Once: 15, 14, 16, 13
   - 2-5 times: 9, 11, 11, 6
   - More than 5 times: 2, 2, 3, 1

16. In the past 30 days, have you read, seen or heard anything about alcohol impaired driving (or drunk driving) enforcement by police?
   *(Core Q. A-2)*
   - Yes: 50, 48, 48, 55
   - No: 50, 52, 52, 46
17. How often do you use safety belts when you drive or ride in a car, van, sport utility vehicle or pickup?

(Core Q. B-1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Always</td>
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<td>82</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>67</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nearly always</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seldom</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18. Should law enforcement officers be allowed to stop drivers and ticket them for not wearing a seat belt?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opinion</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

19. What do you think the chances are of getting a ticket if you don’t wear your safety belt?

(Core Q. B-3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Likelihood</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very likely</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat likely</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likely</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat unlikely</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very unlikely</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

20. What level of fine do you think would be most effective to get people to wear their seat belt all the time?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fine Range</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$25-50</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>$51-100</td>
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<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td>$101-150</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$151-200</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over $200</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

21. Do you have any children weighing between 40 and 80 pounds?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

22. (IF YES) Do you use a booster seat for your child in the car?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

23. In the past 60 days, have you read, seen or heard anything about seat belt law enforcement by police?

(Core Q. B-2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Dist One</td>
<td>Dist Two</td>
<td>Dist Three</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
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<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Dist One</td>
<td>Dist Two</td>
<td>Dist Three</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>47</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Speed**

24. On a local road with a speed limit of 30 mph, how often do you drive faster than 35 mph:

*(Core Q. S-1a)*
- Most of the time: 13
- Half the time: 16
- Rarely: 48
- Never: 23

25. On a local road with a speed limit of 65 mph, how often do you drive faster than 70 mph:

*(Core Q. S-1b)*
- Most of the time: 4
- Half the time: 9
- Rarely: 39
- Never: 47

26. In the past 30 days, have you read, seen or heard anything about speed enforcement by police?

*(Core Q. S-2)*
- Yes: 40
- No: 60

27. What do you think the chances are of getting a ticket if you drive over the speed limit?

*(Core Q. S-3)*
- Very likely: 12
- Somewhat likely: 40
- Likely: 25
- Somewhat unlikely: 18
- Very unlikely: 6
### Distracted Driving

28. Would you support or oppose a law banning drivers from talking on a cell phone while driving?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oppose</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

29. Would you support or oppose a law that allows law enforcement to stop a driver and ticket them solely for talking on a cell phone while driving?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oppose</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

30. Would you support or oppose a law that allows law enforcement to stop a driver and ticket them solely for texting while driving?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>88</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oppose</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Miscellaneous

31. Should the Nebraska law requiring motorcycle helmets be repealed or continued?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Repealed</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continued</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

32. Should drivers over age 70 be required to drive as part of their test every time they renew their license?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>Dist One</th>
<th>Dist Two</th>
<th>Dist Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Demographics

33. Which of these age groups are you in:
   - 16-20: 6 6 7 4
   - 21-34: 14 16 13 12
   - 35-49: 28 30 32 21
   - 50-64: 33 30 30 40
   - 65 up: 20 19 18 23

34. Do you have a driver’s license?
   - Yes: 98 98 98 97
   - No: 2 2 2 3

35. Which of these annual household income groups are you in?
   - Under $20,000: 10 12 9 9
   - $20,000-$40,000: 20 17 14 27
   - Over $40,000: 70 71 77 64

36. (NOTE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT):
   - One: 30 100 0 0
   - Two: 35 0 100 0
   - Three: 35 0 0 100

37. (NOTE PHONE TYPE):
   - Land line: 87 85 86 89
   - Cell phone: 13 15 14 11

38. Gender
   - Male: 49 49 49 50
   - Female: 51 52 51 50

# # #
Study Notes on the Longitudinal Report

Research Associates has conducted a statewide study on Nebraskans’ attitudes toward highway safety issues periodically for more than two decades.

The following section presents the results of those studies, wherever similar questions were asked.

A similar methodology was employed in all the studies: households were randomly selected proportionate to population within each of Nebraska’s three congressional districts. A total of 900 telephone interviews were completed for each study.

Longitudinal comparisons are based on the statewide database of 900 completed interviews per study.
TABULAR SUMMARY, STATEWIDE DATA, LONGITUDINAL COMPARISONS (N=900)

1993 - 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 12 11 10 08 04 02 01 00 95 93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

General

1. **What do you think is the most important problem in Nebraska today?** (open-ended)
   - Economy, unemployment, wages, etc. 19 40 23 28 15 20 17 13 14 16 33
   - Taxes, spending, budget, school funding, etc. 24 16 26 19 23 35 27 29 31 15 32
   - Crime, drugs, gangs, teen violence, etc. 7 8 6 5 11 9 18 17 12 34
   - Drunk driving 3 7 6 3 6 4 8 6 8 7 7
   - Distracted driving 4 7
   - Traffic, traffic violations, road conditions 14 6 17 23 28 20 25 31 27
   - All others 29 16 22 22 17 12 6 5 8 28 28

2-4. **On a 1-5 scale, with 5 as very important and 1 as not at all important, how would you rate the following problems in Nebraska**
   - Driving while intoxicated or drunk driving 4.3 4.5 4.6 4.5 4.4 4.3 4.1 4.3 4.6
   - Distraction caused by drivers using cell phones 4.3 4.4 4.4 4.3
   - The fuel tax situation 3.6 3.6 4.0 3.7

5. **What do you think is the best way to solve the drunk driving problem?**
   - More severe penalties 23 36 42 37 47 51 45 44 45
   - Stricter enforcement 13 24 13 15 19 18 28 27 30
   - Education 8 10 8 10 10 12 20 16 20
   - High visibility law enforcement 3 9 1 3 3
   - Mandatory sentences for convictions 2 9 4 4
   - Others (bar responsibility, designated driver, etc.) 52 13 32 32 22 18 7 13 6

6. **Do you think the Nebraska penalties for drunk driving are:**
   - Too tough 4 3 3 3 3 3 2 1 2
   - About right 39 35 28 38 31 36 36 42 56
   - Not tough enough 57 62 69 60 67 61 62 57 42
### Impaired Driving

7-12. Would you favor or oppose each of the following penalties for drunk driving offenses:

**Jail terms for previous offenses**
- **Favor:** 84 82 84 81 77 73 77
- **Don’t know:** 2 4 4 5 8 7 8
- **Oppose:** 14 14 12 14 14 20 15

**Mandatory treatment**
- **Favor:** 76 80 82 80 81
- **Don’t know:** 2 3 4 2 6
- **Oppose:** 23 17 14 18 13

**Mandatory sentencing**
- **Favor:** 69 71 73 71 70 73 81
- **Don’t know:** 3 7 7 4 8 6
- **Oppose:** 28 22 20 24 21 21 13

**Mandatory interlock ignition for all first-time offenders**
- **Favor:** 66 72 68 63 63
- **Don’t know:** 4 4 6 6 12
- **Oppose:** 31 25 26 31 26

**Eliminating plea bargaining**
- **Favor:** 60 62 60 66 68 65 76
- **Don’t know:** 3 7 6 4 7 7
- **Oppose:** 37 32 33 31 25 28 18

**Lose license for first offense**
- **Favor:** 51 55 57 58 58
- **Don’t know:** 2 3 4 3 4
- **Oppose:** 47 42 38 39 38
13. In the last 60 days, have you ever driven while impaired by alcohol, but still under the legal limit?
   Yes 9 7 6 7
   No 91 93 94 93

14. What do you think the chances are of someone getting arrested if they drive after drinking? (Core Q. A-3)
   Very likely 5 4 4 2
   Somewhat likely 8 7 7 4
   Likely 48 48 49 45
   Somewhat unlikely 37 40 38 47
   Very unlikely 2 1 2 1

15. In the past 60 days, how many times have you driven a motor vehicle within 2 hours after drinking alcoholic beverages? (Core Q. A-1)
   Never (none) 74 78 81 79
   Once 15 12 9 9
   2-5 times 9 9 8 10
   More than 5 times 2 1 1 3

16. In the past 30 days, have you read, seen or heard anything about alcohol impaired driving enforcement by police?* (Core Q. A-2)
   Yes 50 56 62 51 38 32 45 66
   No 50 44 38 49 62 68 55 34

*Asked previous to 2010: “Have you recently seen or heard any advertising aimed at making the public aware of Nebraska's drunk driving issues?”

Seat Belts

17. How often do you use safety belts when you drive or ride in a car, van, sport utility vehicle or pickup? (Core Q. B-1)
   Always 78 77 78 76
   Nearly always 13 13 13 14
   Sometimes 5 6 5 6
   Seldom 2 3 2 2
   Never 2 2 2 2

Previous to 2010:
“How often do you wear a seat belt when you drive?”
   Always (or, 5 of 5 times) 81 77 70 70 68 71
   Usually/most of the time (or, 3-4 of 5 times) 10 10 18 14 14 12
   Sometimes/occasionally (or, 1-2 of 5 times) 2 4 9 5 6 5
   Never 6 10 3 11 13 11
18. Should law enforcement officers be allowed to stop drivers and ticket them for not wearing a seat belt?*
   - Yes
   - Don’t know
   - No

   *Previous to 2012: “Should law enforcement officers be allowed to stop drivers and ticket them for not wearing a seat belt, if the drivers have broken no other laws?”

19. What do you think the chances are of getting a ticket if you don’t wear your safety belt? (Core Q. B-3)
   - Very likely
   - Somewhat likely
   - Likely
   - Unlikely
   - Very unlikely

20. What level of fine do you think would be most effective to get people to wear their seat belt all the time?
   - $25-50
   - $51-100
   - $101-150
   - $151-200
   - Over $200

21. Do you have children weighing between 40 and 80 pounds?
   - Yes
   - No

22. (IF YES) Do you use a booster seat for your child in the car?
   - Yes
   - No

23. In the past 60 days, have you read, seen or heard anything about seat belt law enforcement by police?*
   (Core Q. B-2)
   - Yes
   - No

   *Previous to 2010: “Have you recently seen or heard any advertising aimed at making the public aware of Nebraska's seat belt laws?”
24. On a local road with a speed limit of 30 mph, how often do you drive faster than 35 mph: *(Core Q. S-1a)*
   - Most of the time: 13 10 8 8
   - Half the time: 16 15 13 15
   - Rarely: 48 53 55 54
   - Never: 23 22 24 23

25. On a local road with a speed limit of 65 mph, how often do you drive faster than 70 mph: *(Core Q. S-1b)*
   - Most of the time: 4 4 3 3
   - Half the time: 9 6 5 8
   - Rarely: 39 45 37 42
   - Never: 47 45 56 47

26. In the past 30 days, have you read, seen or heard anything about speed enforcement by police? *(Core Q. S-2)*
   - Yes: 40 40 42 38
   - No: 60 60 58 62

27. What do you think the chances are of getting a ticket if you drive over the speed limit? *(Core Q. S-3)*
   - Very likely: 12 14 13 12
   - Somewhat likely: 40 41 38 39
   - Likely: 25 26 27 24
   - Unlikely: 18 14 17 19
   - Very unlikely: 6 5 5 6

**Distracted Driving**

28. Would you support or oppose a law banning drivers from talking on a cell phone while driving?
   - Support: 68 68
   - Oppose: 31 29
   - Don’t know: 1 3

29. Would you support or oppose a law that allows law enforcement to stop a driver and ticket them solely for talking on a cell phone while driving?
   - Support: 62 65
   - Oppose: 37 32
   - Don’t know: 1 3

30. Would you support or oppose a law that allows law enforcement to stop a driver and ticket them solely for texting while driving?
   - Support: 88 89
   - Oppose: 11 10
   - Don’t know: 1 1
31. Should the Nebraska law requiring motorcycle helmets be repealed or continued?
   - Continued: 81, 83, 86, 76, 78, 79
   - Repealed: 18, 14, 11, 19, 14, 15
   - Don't know: 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 7

32. Should drivers over age 70 be required to drive as part of their test every time they renew their license?
   - Yes: 58, 62, 54, 64, 53, 65
   - Don't know: 2, 3, 4, 2, 4
   - No: 40, 35, 34, 42, 31

33. Which of these age groups are you in:
   - 16-20: 6, 4, 2, 3, 3, 4, 5
   - 21-34: 14, 8, 6, 7, 4, 13, 18
   - 35-49: 28, 27, 19, 39, 19, 27, 27
   - 50-64: 33, 35, 34, 30, 33, 29, 24
   - 65 up: 20, 25, 40, 20, 41, 26, 27

34. Do you have a driver's license?
   - Yes: 98, 97, 97, 96, 95, 97, 97
   - No: 2, 3, 3, 4, 5, 3, 3

35. Which of these annual household income groups are you in:
   - Under $20,000: 10, 10, 13, 15, 20, 21, 24
   - $20,000-$40,000: 20, 21, 23, 16, 30, 29, 39
   - Over $40,000: 70, 69, 65, 69, 50, 51, 37

36. District
   - One: 30, 30, 34, 34, 33, 33, 33
   - Two: 35, 35, 36, 35, 33, 33, 34
   - Three: 35, 35, 30, 33, 33, 33, 33

37. Phone Type
   - Traditional landline: 87, 94
   - Cell phone: 13, 6

38. Gender
   - Male: 49, 48, 47, 48, 48, 47, 48
   - Female: 51, 52, 53, 52, 53, 52, 55

*01 and 02: under $25,000; $25,000-50,000; over $50,000
95: under $18,000; $18,000-36,000; over $36,000
93 and 91: under $15,000; $15,000-30,000; over $30,000