

# Review of: "A Review of the Processes and Procedures of Road Traffic Accident Mortality Data Collection in Zambia"

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This paper delves into the critical issue of road traffic crashes (RTCs) in Zambia, focusing on the challenges associated with data collection. The authors effectively highlight the burden of RTCs, particularly in low- and middle-income countries like Zambia, and emphasize the need for accurate data to guide effective interventions. The paper's strength lies in its clear identification of critical challenges hindering data collection: 1. Underreporting: Many crashes go unreported, leading to underestimation of the true problem. 2. Inadequate procedures: Lack of resources and training within police and healthcare systems leads to inconsistent and incomplete data. 3. Varying definitions: Different institutions lack standardized definitions of "RTC," hindering data comparison. 4. Low death registration: Incomplete death registration leads to undercounting of fatalities. While the paper effectively outlines the problem and potential solutions, certain aspects could be further strengthened: 1. Quantifying the impact: Including data on the potential impact of improved data collection on road safety outcomes could add further weight to the argument. 2. Specific example: Providing concrete examples of current challenges and potential solutions based on successful practices in other contexts could enhance the paper's practical value. Overall, the paper provides a valuable contribution by highlighting the critical issue of data collection in addressing the public health concern of RTCs. The proposed solutions offer a clear roadmap for improvement, and with further elaboration, the paper could hold even greater potential to inform policy decisions and guide efforts towards improved road safety in the region.