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GAINING DRIVING EXPERIENCE THROUGH ACCOMPANIED DRIVING FROM AGE 17 COMPARED TO DRIVING WITH CONVENTIONAL OBTAINING OF A LICENCE AT AGE 18

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Results from the process evaluation of the accompanied driving pilot scheme will be compared with results from a survey of 18-year-old young drivers in the German Novice Driver Study 2005, both conducted throughout Germany. 3780 17-year-old drivers driving with an adult attendant were interviewed as many as four times throughout the accompanied driving pilot scheme, that is, from starting accompanied driving until they were issued with a regular driving licence at age 18. Their mileage, trip durations, destinations, passengers, time of day while driving, type of roads driven on and other traffic conditions while gaining driving experience will be compared to a subsample of 2814 18-year old conventionally trained young drivers surveyed in the first year after obtaining a licence. The socio-demographic and socio-economic status of the two driver populations, their extra motives while driving and technical aspects of the cars used will also be compared. The results will clearly show the typical characteristics of the accompanied driving model, that is, practising and gaining driving experience in a prolonged driver preparation period, compared to the ordinary driving behaviour of 18-year olds, focusing on their individual mobility with a car.