**Adapted from:** ["The Effects of Text Messaging on Young Novice Driver Performance," (Australia) Monash University Accident Research Centre (2006](http://www.distraction.gov/download/research-pdf/Effects-of-Text-Messaging.pdf)). Authors: Simon Hosking, Kristie Young, Michael Regan. http://www.distraction.gov/download/research-pdf/Effects-of-Text-Messaging.pdf

**Purpose:**  This researched aimed to evaluate, using a driving simulator, the effects of text (SMS) messaging on the driving performance of novice drivers. Our hypothesis was that those who were texting would show a decrease in driving performance because these drivers would be distracted.

**Methods and Data:**

Twenty participants drove on a simulated roadway which contained a number of events, including: a pedestrian emerging from behind parked cars, traffic lights, cars turning right in front of the driver, a lane change task. All drivers were between the ages of 18 and 21 years old and had less than 6 months of experience driving.

Participants were placed into the simulator and during each of the events, were required to retrieve and send text messages. Drivers were then compared to a control condition where drivers experienced the same events without texting. After completing the simulated drives, participants answered a questionnaire about their opinions on how text messaging affects driving performance.

**Data**









