

I worked as a Graduate Assistant Research for the Safe-D project: *Vehicle Occupants and Driver Behavior: An Assessment of Vulnerable User Groups*. I assisted in numerous tasks, including developing the literature review, performing data filtration, developing trip matching methods using a GIS roadway network, performing data analysis and exploration, and suggesting mitigation measures based on the data analysis results.

Safe-D gave me a tremendous opportunity to get hands-on experience working with TxDOT household survey data. Each task was first explained by the Co-PI's and they later reviewed each task for quality assurance. The project team held project team meetings, which really helped in reviewing the progress of the project. During the project meetings, I was able to ask questions or raise any concerns related to the project tasks.

In working on this project, I had the opportunity to exercise my knowledge in statistical analysis. Working with real data made me realize how difficult it is to summarize the data to analyze them. I had numerous discussions with crash data analysts in TTI and course professors to come up with a methodology for data analysis. During the project work, I understood that technical writing is also very important to express the subject content effectively.

I am forever thankful to Dr. Lisa Green and Michael Martin for giving me the chance to work on this project for 15 months. They encouraged me and instilled confidence in me during every task I performed. I was able to give my full effort and dedication to the fulfillment of tasks that I was assigned.

Thank you, Safe-D.

Rahul Mars