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Überprüfung der Methoden zur Erfassung und Analyse von Schulwegunfällen

Abstract

In Germany accidents on the way to or from school are recorded und statistically processed at different institutions. On the one hand they are registered by the police and on the other hand they are reported to the pupils accident assurance.

The initial aim of these efforts was to represent and discuss in detail the general subject of recording and analysis of accidents on the way to or from school as collected by the different institutions. The presented survey thus shows a comprehensive overview of the accidents on the way to or from school. The following sources of information were considered in this survey:

- Statistik des Bundesverbandes der Unfallkassen (BUK)
- Polizeiliche Straßenverkehrsunfallstatistik Nordrhein-Westfalen
- Rheinischer Gemeindeunfallversicherungsverband (RGUVV)
- Polizeiliche Straßenverkehrsunfallstatistik des Rhein-Kreises Neuss
- Stadt Meerbusch (Polizei- und RGUVV-Daten)

This analysis shows that the different statistics are only comparable to a limited extent due to different ways of their representation. Also, it was confirmed that apparently the official statistics miss a relatively high number of unreported accidents because the statistics of the pupils accident insurance deals with considerably more accidents.

Accidents on the way to or from school are related to numerous measures towards ensuring safety along school routes. A further aim of this investigation was to develop recommendations as to which accident data (police records or accident insurance records) can be used for the examination of the efficiency of measures ensuring safety along school routes. As basis for this investigation served the detailed accident analysis of the City of Meerbusch area.

The investigation proved for example that for the evaluation of the effect of preventing accidents by using the "Busschule" the examination of the accident data of the pupils accident insurance is indispensable. For the investigation of the effectiveness of traffic measures to improve safety, the police accident records give more statistical evidence due to their higher degree of detail. However, in principle it was revealed that only the common observation of both sources of accident data creates a reliable overview of accidents on the way to or from school. Thus, within the scope of a children accident commission, it is compulsory to consider both, the data of the accident insurance and the police. In this context, it should be annotated however, that the accident categories as presently used by the accident insurance are not suitable for an investigation of the effectiveness of measures taken to ensure safety on school routes. Against this background some modifications have to be implemented.

Through the investigation of the City of Meerbusch, among other insights, it was revealed that 100% of the accidents registered by the police were also recorded in the statistics of the pupils accident insurance. Further on, by comparing accident data it was detected, that the police had not classified some accidents as such on the way to or from school, although, they were reported to the accident insurance. Consequently, one may conclude that for the scope of accidents on the way to or from school the exclusive examination of the official police statistics is not sufficient and as a rule leads to an undervaluation of the problem. The acquired insights for the City of Meerbusch have to be verified through comparable investigations in other areas.