

**A Study of the Use of Intoxicants among Rural Commercial
Motorcyclists in Kwara State, Nigeria**

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KEYWORDS Rural Transportation. Intoxicants Use Index. Ownership Status. Income. Working Hours

ABSTRACT This paper investigated the use of intoxicants among rural commercial motorcyclists (CMCs) in Kwara State, Nigeria. Multi-stage random sampling was used to select 230 respondents, and data were collected with structured interviewer administered questionnaire. Means, percentages, Pearson correlation, and Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) were used in data analysis. Results showed that the CMCs were exclusively male; most of whom were lowly educated, had alternative occupation(s), and operated rented motorcycles. About 40% of respondents used 1-3 types of intoxicants at least once a day, while 20% were occasional users. Intoxicants Use Index (IUI) was computed for each respondent, based on expenditure on type(s), frequency, and history of intoxicant use. Educational level, commercial motorcycling experience, daily income, and working hours were significant correlates of IUI. ANOVA revealed significant differences in mean IUI of CMCs on the basis of ownership of motorcycle, while no significant difference was exhibited based on number of alternative occupation(s) of the CMCs. Stricter enforcement of traffic regulations concerning drug/alcohol use and organizing of periodic educational and counseling programmes for rural CMCs are imperative to reduce the havoc associated with use of intoxicants among commercial motorcyclists.