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Assessing the Trends in Road Traffic Accident Casualties on Nigerian Roads

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ABSTRACT The paper assesses the trend of road traffic accident casualties on Nigerian roads. In spite of efforts by law enforcement agencies to curb the carnage on Nigerian roads, traffic safety still remains a crucial issue in the country. The study used data on number of casualties from road traffic accidents in Nigeria for the period 1975 – 2009. These were obtained from records of the Nigerian Police, Federal Road Safety Commission and National Bureau of Statistics. The data were analysed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) and Regression models were developed for predicting death and injuries on Nigerian roads. The study showed that the establishment of the Federal Road Safety Commission in the country has had positive impact on the rate of casualties from road traffic accidents in the country. In order to reduce deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents in Nigeria, the study recommends that law enforcement, education and research funding should be the focus of government in the country.