

# ***Transportation Plan of Nord-du-Québec***

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Technical study

## ***Road Safety Report of the MTQ Roads in Nord-du-Québec***

Work Document

## **RESEARCH AND WRITING**

Michel Charbonneau, ingénieur, Service des inventaires et plan, DLL  
Gilbert Lord, technicien en travaux publics principal, Service des inventaires et plan, DATNQ

## **PARTICIPATION IN STUDY PREPARATION**

Léandre Bernier, professionnel, Service des politiques et analyses en sécurité, DST

## **REVISION OF TEXTS AND CONSISTENCY CHECK**

Luc Ampleman, Coordination du Nord-du-Québec, DATNQ  
Anick Guimond, Coordination du Nord-du-Québec, DATNQ  
Annick Poirier, Service des inventaires et plan, DATNQ  
Caroline Vigneault, Coordination du Nord-du-Québec, DATNQ

## **SPECIAL COLLABORATION**

Mario Grenier, Centre de services d'Amos  
Charles Roy, Centre de services de Chibougamau

## **TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

Gilles Basque, Service des inventaires et plan, DATNQ  
Michelle Bélanger, Service des liaisons avec les partenaires et usagers, DATNQ  
Jocelyne Desrosiers, Service des inventaires et plan, DATNQ  
Colette Roy, DATNQ

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This document was prepared by the Ministère des Transports' Coordination du Nord-du-Québec. For additional information, contact:

Ministère des Transports  
Coordination du Nord-du-Québec  
80, avenue Québec  
Rouyn-Noranda (Québec) J9X 6R1  
Telephone: (819) 763-3237  
Fax: (819) 763-3493  
E-mail: [plannord@mtq.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:plannord@mtq.gouv.qc.ca)  
Web site: [www.mtq.gouv.qc.ca/fr/region/abitibi/plan\\_nord.asp](http://www.mtq.gouv.qc.ca/fr/region/abitibi/plan_nord.asp)

# Summary

## General information

Conducted as part of the process involved in preparing the *Transportation Plan of Nord-du-Québec*, the technical study on road safety aims to provide data for the *Analysis* and the exchanges between partners at the consultations. It can also be as a daily tool for the actors involved in improving road safety report of the region.

Road safety is a major issue for the Ministère des Transports (MTQ). Knowledge of the degree of safety of the road network can enable the Ministère to take action at dangerous sites. Understanding the degree of safety for a specific site calls for first analyzing the accidents that have occurred on the various transportation networks involved.

This study focuses on those accidents that occurred between 1995 and 1999 inclusively on the Ministère des Transport's network in Nord-du-Québec. Appendix 7, for its part, concerns the other roads of the region.

## General road safety data for the Nord-du-Québec region

According to data from the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ), Nord-du-Québec is, of the province's 17 administrative regions, the region where there were the fewest accidents. The annual average number of accidents per 100 inhabitants in Nord-du-Québec is 1.70, whereas the average for Québec is 2.14.

In Nord-du-Québec, there were 3,759 accidents in Nord-du-Québec between 1995 and 1999. From this count, 1,019 accidents, which 27.1% occurred on roadways managed by the Ministère des Transports, whereas 2,740 accidents, which 72.9% occurred on *other networks*<sup>1</sup>. Of these accidents, 38 were fatal, 9 on the Ministère's network (23.7%) while 29 on the *other networks* or off networks (76.3%). This can be explained by the fact that the MTQ network is not as large as all *other networks* combined. Fatal accidents in Nord-du-Québec represent 0.87% of all fatal accidents in Québec<sup>2</sup>, while the region's population accounts for only 0.5 % of the province's total population.

The number of deaths following a road accident, per 10,000 inhabitants, is 1.8 in Nord-du-Québec. This figure is 1.1 for the province as a whole. Furthermore, the number of *serious injuries* per 10,000 inhabitants is 11.6 in Nord-du-Québec, whereas in Québec, it is 7.5. We therefore conclude that accidents in the region are more serious than they are in the province as a whole.

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<sup>1</sup> Ministère des Transports du Québec, *Transportation Plan of Nord-du-Québec, Study on road accidents in Nord-du-Québec* (network of non-status, municipal, forest and mining roads), an analysis supporting this study.

<sup>2</sup> Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec, *Bilan 1999, Accidents, parc automobile, permis de conduire*, 2000, p. 36 to 56.