The obstacles of cycling to school ~ an empirical study of Taiwanese students

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## Abstract

This is an original study investigating the obstacles of cycling to school among students in Taiwan, as well as the students' ability to overcome them. A questionnaire survey was conducted to collect the students' information, a descriptive analysis was applied to examine the students' characteristics, and the Rasch model was applied to analyze the findings. This research discovers that uneven paving, raining day, and impolite drivers are the most difficult items for students cycling to school. This research also realizes that boys, first grade junior high school students, and those who own bicycles in the family and live in a rural area have greater cycling abilities than the others. The overall goal of this research is to suggest a reasonable policy for improving the cycling safety. This research results provide a set of valuable information for the government to look at the issues and to expand the usage of bicycles.

Keyword: cycling difficulty, cycling ability, Rasch model