

NHTSA estimated the annual hours of burden under the NPRM proposals to be 957,004 hours in the first year and 18,041 hours in the second and third years. The first-year total consists of 938,963 first year start-up hours plus 18,041 first year reporting hours. Of the 938,963 hours, 596,760 hours are associated with computer start-up activities and 342,203 hours are to provide the historical data. The average burden over the first three years would be 331,030 hours.

In late 2001, NHTSA made some preliminary estimates of the burdens associated with the NPRM proposals. These were discussed in the preamble to the NPRM and in a Preliminary Regulatory Evaluation (PRE), which was issued at the same time and was available to the public. Several interested persons commented on those estimates in their comments on the NPRM. In addition, the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers (Alliance), which represents most of the large light vehicle manufacturers, submitted supplemental estimates of the costs and burden hours associated with the NPRM requirements. The estimates in this notice have taken these comments into account.

The hours of burden were estimated based on three primary factors. First, NHTSA considered the specific burden hour estimates associated with the various NPRM requirements that were provided by the Alliance and modified them where appropriate. Second, based on the average number of vehicles involved in recalls in 1996–2001, and a

comparison of the number of recalled vehicles by the Alliance members with non-Alliance manufacturers, we extrapolated the Alliance-based numbers to estimate the number of documents that the non-Alliance manufacturers would have to report on each year. Third, the agency estimated the number of minutes per document that the manufacturers would spend determining what category a particular item belonged in and entering that data into their data systems. The agency assumed 5 minutes per document, except for foreign reports on deaths, which were assumed to take 15 minutes per document. Burden hours were determined by multiplying the minutes per document times the number of documents.

The total burden varied by manufacturer depending upon the number of documents that would have to be reviewed. Because the second group of manufacturers would be reporting so infrequently, we assumed that the report of each incident would be prepared manually, and that it would take four hours to determine what was required and to prepare the report. Thus, we estimated that the second group of manufacturers would spend 32 burden hours per year to report information on 8 incidents per year.

Estimate of the Total Annual Costs of the Collection of Information in the NPRM

The annual costs associated with the NPRM are estimated to be \$88,580,141 in the first year and \$1,721,877 in the

second and third years. The average cost over the first three years would be \$30,674,631. In the first year, start-up costs (including reprogramming computers) are estimated to be \$65,300,000, the costs to report on historical information are estimated to be \$21,558,264, and the costs to report on information for the first year are estimated to be \$1,721,877.

The costs were estimated based on the factors discussed in the prior section, using estimates for the wage rates per hour for the skill levels for each type of activity that would be required. Wage rates, including overhead, were provided by the Alliance in a docket submission.

The total cost varied by manufacturer depending upon the number of documents that must be reviewed. Based on the assumptions described above, we estimated that the second group of manufacturers would spend \$3,642 per year to report information on 8 incidents per year.

Summary Tables for Burdens and Costs Under the Requirements Proposed in the NPRM

The following tables show the burden hours and costs under the NPRM proposals by type of manufacturer. First year start-up burden/costs include computer start-up costs as well as the costs of gathering and reporting historical information. Total first year burden/costs can be calculated by adding the start-up burden/costs and the annual burden/costs.

ESTIMATED BURDEN HOURS UNDER THE NPRM

	First year start-up	First year	Second year	Third year	Average for the first 3 years
Light Vehicles	441,251	10,463	10,463	10,463	157,547
Medium/Heavy Vehicles	254,432	1,440	1,440	1,440	86,251
Buses	69,981	1,830	1,830	1,830	25,157
Trailers	7,520	715	715	715	3,222
Motorcycles	59,153	1,261	1,261	1,261	20,979
Tires	52,186	1,189	1,189	1,189	18,584
Child Restraints	54,440	1,111	1,111	1,111	19,258
Equipment Manufacturers	0	20	20	20	20
Manufacturers with under 500 vehicle sales per year	0	12	12	12	12
Total	938,963	18,041	18,041	18,041	331,030

ESTIMATED COSTS UNDER THE NPRM

	First year start-up	First year	Second year	Third year	Average for the first 3 years
Light Vehicles	\$53,559,321	\$885,653	\$885,653	\$885,653	\$18,738,760
Medium/Heavy Vehicles	12,744,973	153,203	153,203	153,203	4,401,527
Buses	5,799,669	206,305	206,305	206,305	213,528
Trailers	1,819,016	81,145	81,145	81,145	687,484
Motorcycles	7,710,608	141,899	141,899	141,899	2,712,102