Deaths, Injuries, & Incidents: 2007-2016
Moving America Forward

Federal Railroad Administration

Railroad Crossing Collisions and Fatalities: A 5 Year Map

Crossing Collisions & Fatalities (01/2010 - 07/2015):
Jan 2010

Legend
- Red dots: Fatalities
- Blue dots: Collisions

Total # of Accidents: 185
Total # of Fatalities: 14

Note: Only collisions with location information are shown.
Need and Purpose

• Safety is OUR PRIORITY
• Valhallah, NY accident: February 3, 2015
• FRA Leadership: Focus on key activities that will highlight and/or expedite effective safety efforts by FRA and stakeholders.
• A cadre of SMEs to manage these efforts from a project level and provide programmatic guidance...the GXTF
• Targeted collaboration for FRA with its stakeholders.

GXTF activities are only a part of the overall strategic efforts within the FRA.
Data, Analysis, and Research Focus Area

Objective: Better understand grade crossing accidents, fatalities, and injuries to ensure development of appropriate countermeasures and focus for future research and outreach.

- Grade Crossing Location Clean-Up
- Tech Company Coordination
- Data Analysis Predictive Modeling
- In-Depth Data Analysis of Grade Crossing Accidents Resulting in Injuries and Fatalities
  https://www.fra.dot.gov/eLib/Details/L18688
Engineering Focus Area

Objective: Provide up-to-date improved engineering standards and best practices for safety improvements at grade crossings.

- Traffic Preemption
- Blocked Crossing Study
- Grade Crossing Handbook Update
**Education Focus Area**

**Objective:** Educate partners, stakeholders, and the wider public about grade crossing safety to improve awareness, understanding, and safer behavior.

- Motorist/Pedestrian Outreach
- Continued Support of Operation Lifesaver, Inc.
- Website Improvements
Railroad Crossing Safety & Trespass Prevention

NEW INTERACTIVE RESOURCES FOR RAIL CROSSING SAFETY

Combined, deaths at railroad crossings and trespassing account for approximately 95% of all rail-related deaths. Sadly, almost all of these deaths are preventable.

Trespassing along railroad rights-of-way is the leading cause of rail-related deaths in America. Nationally, more than 400 trespass fatalities occur each year, the vast majority of which are preventable.

Railroad crossing incidents are the second leading cause of rail-related deaths in America. With the assistance of FRA's programs, the number of fatalities has been reduced by 54% over the last two decades. FRA's Railroad Crossing Safety and Trespasser Prevention Division remains committed to continuing this trend.

I Can Improve Rail Safety. I am a...

PEDESTRIAN & MOTORIST
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT
LAW ENFORCEMENT & FIRST RESPONDERS

Warning Device

- Gates
- Number of Collisions: 9,283
- % of Total Number of Collisions: 42.68%

Vehicle Position

Driver Gender

Driver Age

Note: The statistics presented here include both public and private crossings.
**Enforcement Focus Area**

**Objective:** Develop enforcement strategies for improving grade crossing safety through enhanced law enforcement and regulatory compliance.

- National Working Group
- First Responder Videos
- “Take 10” Campaign
Program Improvement Focus Area

Objective: Improve safety at high risk grade crossings through grant management and collaborative efforts with other agencies and organizations.

- Project Selection for Grants
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Section 130 Coordination
- State Action Plans
The Next Phase of the GXTF
Deciding what the GXTF will look like moving forward.

Option 1: Continue

- Continue the GXTF meeting cadence
- Complete current projects
- End recurring TF meetings when projects are complete

Option 2: Revamp

- Continue the GXTF meeting cadence
- Continue current tasks
- Select new projects
- Add new GXTF leads as needed

Option 3: Decrease

- End GXTF meetings but set up RRS/RPD GX meetings with decreased recurrence
- Complete the current projects
- Maintain communication

Option 4: Ad-hoc

- End GXTF meetings and meet ad hoc
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Thank You!

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Federal Railroad Administration

Moving America Forward

Grade Crossing Task Force

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Debra (Dee) Chappell, Past Program Manager, but still on the GXTF
thank you