

Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)

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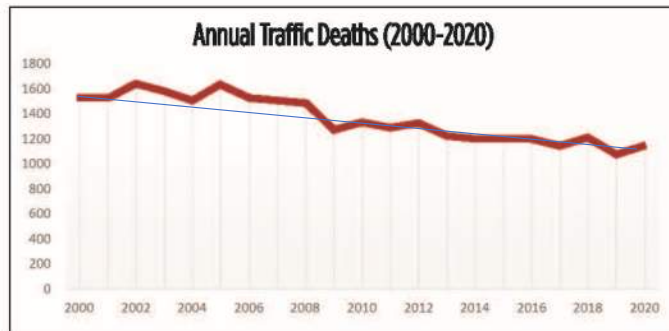
Safety Engineer-District 9

Hollidaysburg PA

Working Toward Zero Deaths

Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) is a national highway safety movement supporting the elimination of fatalities and serious injuries on our nation's roadways, conceptualized by safety practitioners, researchers, and advocates from a variety of disciplines. TZD calls for all stakeholders to champion the idea that one death is too many, and we must all work together to bring the annual number of roadway deaths down to zero. Pennsylvania's SHSP sets the groundwork for progressing TZD in the commonwealth by incorporating the following themes:

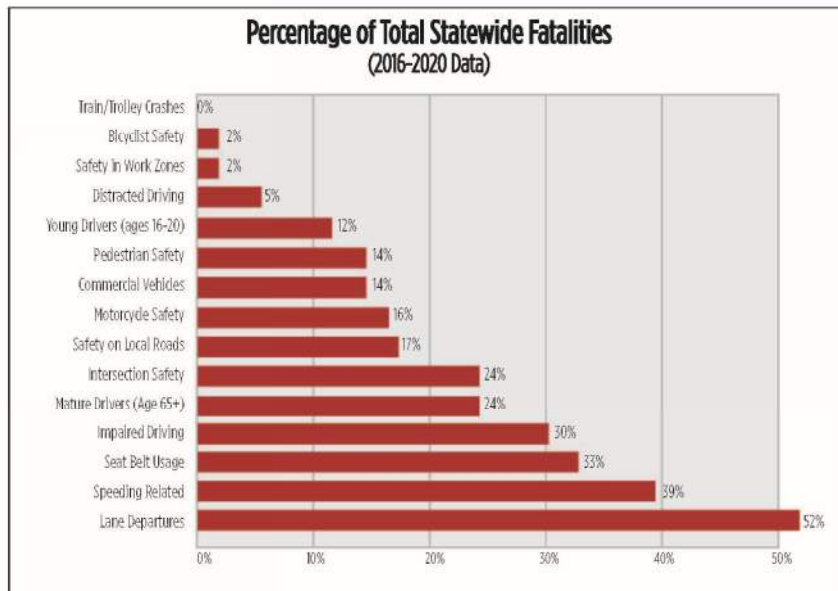
- **Highway Safety:** strategies for key focus areas to reduce crash frequency and severity and achieve measurable success.
- **Active Transportation:** mobility options powered primarily by human energy, including bicycling and walking.
- **Safe System Approach:** roadway design that emphasizes minimizing the risk of injury to all road users, considers the possibility of human error, and accommodates human injury tolerance by considering likely accident types and resulting impact forces.
- **Transportation Equity:** reducing inequities in our transportation network, building resilience against future disruptions, improving safety, and supporting both environmental and financial sustainability.
- **Data & Technology:** using cost-effective, data-driven methods, and incorporating safety technologies into infrastructure, vehicles & other modes of travel.



This graph shows highway fatalities in Pennsylvania since the turn of the century. The trend indicates a steady decline from 2000 to 2020. These two decades include the 12 lowest fatality years on record (stats have been kept since 1928). Despite these substantial improvements, there were still 1,129 highway fatalities in Pennsylvania in 2020. It is the responsibility of traffic safety professionals and stakeholders to continue engaging and innovating to work TZD. Collaboration and commitment will be essential to make TZD progress. More information on the national TZD initiative can be found at: <https://www.towardzerodeaths.org/>

- Progress in 20 years; but we have a long way to go.
- 1,129 Fatalities in PA in 2020

Safety Focus Areas



This chart represents the percentage of statewide fatalities associated with each SFA (not including Traffic Records Data, TSMO, or EMS). Note that the percentages in this chart do not add up to 100% because there is often more than just one contributing factor for any given fatal crash.

- Lane Departure Majority Fatal Crash Type in PA
- 2/3rd of Lane Departure Fatal Crashes result in collisions with Trees, Utility Poles, Embankments & Guiderail. Roadside Environment is “Open for Scrutiny”.
- Defending Drivers also need forgiving roadside environment.

Using the HSM predictive method can yield both a predicted number of crashes from the SPF equation and an expected number of crashes. The expected number of crashes is a statistical adjustment or 'correction' of the observed number of crashes at the location to adjust for the unpredictable nature of actual crash occurrences (due to such things as driver behavior, etc.). The potential for safety improvement for a particular location (or network) will be reflected in the difference between these two outcomes. This is graphically represented in Figure 1-2. The greater the difference between the expected number of crashes and the predicted number of crashes, the greater the potential for safety improvement. If the expected number of crashes is fewer than the predicted number of crashes, then it is assumed there is little room for safety improvement.

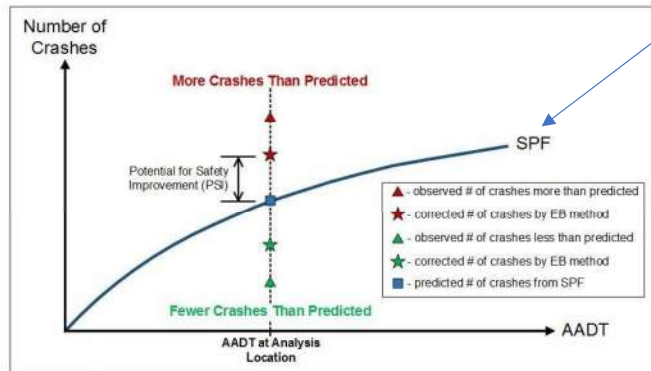


Figure 1-2: HSM Method – Potential for Safety Improvement

More detailed explanations of these concepts and their applicability in project development and alternatives analysis are provided in PennDOT Publication 638, *District Highway Safety Guidance Manual* Chapter 5, the AASHTO HSM, and FHWA's *Scale and Scope of Safety Assessment Methods in the Project Development Process* FHWA-SA-16-106

Table 2.2-2 (Continued): Regionalized SPFs for Two-lane Rural Roadway Segments

Regionalized SPF Predictive Equations		Over-dispersion Factor
District 9		
Total Predicted	$N_{total} = e^{-6.039} \times L \times AADT^{0.734} \times e^{0.206 \times RHR567} \times e^{-0.167 \times PF} \times e^{-0.118 \times SRS} \times e^{0.007 \times AD} \times e^{0.038 \times HCD} \times e^{0.002 \times DCPM}$	k= 0.426
Fatal Inj Predicted	$N_{fatal\ inj} = e^{-6.510} \times L \times AADT^{0.728} \times e^{0.163 \times RHR567} \times e^{-0.212 \times PF} \times e^{-0.182 \times SRS} \times e^{0.006 \times AD} \times e^{0.041 \times HCD} \times e^{0.001 \times DCPM}$	k= 0.495

Location
Roadway Attributes
Crash Experience

District	County	RoadName	SR	Segment		Segment	Offset	Number of Lanes (Multi-Lane + Lv)	Length (Feet)	AADT	Roadside Hazard Rating	Passing Zone	Shoulder Runoff/Stripes	Total Driveways/Intersections	Number of Curves	Total Degree of Curvature	Presence of Median Barrier	Speed Limit	Crestline Runoff/Stripes	Alignment/Grades				Cross Section/Overlays				Total Grades				Excess Cost				
				Start	End															Observed Crashes/Year	Predicted Crashes/Year	Overdispersion	W	Excess Crashes/Year	Excess	Observed Crashes/Year	Predicted Crashes/Year	Overdispersion	W	Excess Crashes/Year	Excess					
3	Bedford	Brimingham Rd	0803	0302	0303	0301	0201	2-lane	2488	832	5	No	No	1	8	365	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	11	21	25	2.40	0.27	0.465	0.26	1.38	1.01	6.50	0.17	0.428	0.48	0.41	1.05	1474.90
3	Bedford	Bedford Rd	0205	0601	0604	0601	2520	2-lane	4276	1010	5	No	No	11	4	188	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	11	15	36	2.20	0.14	0.466	0.28	1.57	1.03	5.30	0.16	0.428	0.28	0.41	1.05	1480.40
3	Bedford	Highway Rd	0205	0130	1147	0130	2924	2-lane	4469	4225	3	No	No	40	1	22	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	11	0	20	2.20	0.14	0.466	0.28	1.51	0.97	3.80	0.46	0.428	0.28	0.35	1.02	1411.00
3	Bedford	Lincoln Hwy	0201	0201	0201	0201	0000	2-lane	1300	1800	5	No	No	1	4	122	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	7	10	17	1.40	0.10	0.466	0.28	0.98	0.79	1.40	0.30	0.428	0.28	0.25	1.04	1345.00
3	Bedford	Highways Rd	0201	0201	0243	0240	1473	2-lane	4149	1129	5	No	Yes	1	4	87	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	10	4	18	2.00	0.28	0.466	0.14	1.06	0.80	3.80	0.47	0.428	0.43	0.28	1.18	1542.40
3	Bedford	Clear Ridge Rd	0201	0401	0201	0401	2881	2-lane	2272	1054	5	No	No	7	2	44	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	0	0	11	1.80	0.24	0.466	0.42	1.02	0.78	2.20	0.42	0.428	0.28	0.10	1.02	1217.00
3	Bedford	Highway Valley Rd	0201	0101	0201	0401	0999	2-lane	2220	1011	5	No	Yes	0	2	22	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	7	0	15	1.40	0.18	0.466	0.18	1.08	0.71	2.60	0.11	0.428	0.28	0.18	1.01	1391.00
3	Bedford	Highways Rd	0201	0101	0147	0101	2003	2-lane	3953	1823	5	No	No	0	4	133	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	7	1	4	1.40	0.28	0.466	0.14	1.02	0.74	1.80	0.48	0.428	0.28	0.24	1.03	1358.00
3	Bedford	Lincoln Hwy	0201	0604	0201	0201	0000	Multi-lane	4201	11278	4	N/A	Yes	13	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	4	0	26	1.80	0.27	0.528	0.24	0.48	0.21	2.00	1.66	0.290	0.11	0.01	1.01	1021.00
3	Bedford	Highways Rd	0201	0101	0248	0101	2728	2-lane	3880	1850	4	No	No	0	1	50	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	7	0	30	1.40	0.10	0.466	0.44	0.88	0.81	2.00	0.11	0.428	0.38	1.41	1281.00	
3	Bedford	Spring Mountain Rd	1142	0110	1210	0110	2195	2-lane	2411	2212	5	No	No	4	6	242	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	7	0	12	1.40	0.10	0.466	0.24	1.09	0.59	2.60	0.36	0.428	0.21	0.18	1.28	1253.00
3	Bedford	Highway Valley Rd	0201	0201	0201	0201	0000	2-lane	2625	1461	2	No	No	18	1	27	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	7	5	12	1.40	0.14	0.466	0.24	0.27	0.59	2.40	1.12	0.428	0.11	0.18	1.01	1248.00
3	Bedford	Main St	1006	0001	0003	0001	0148	2-lane	2126	1105	3	No	No	18	0	87	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	6	7	10	1.20	0.20	0.466	0.41	0.75	0.55	2.80	0.38	0.428	0.38	1.81	1.48	1238.00
3	Bedford	Lincoln Hwy	0201	0501	0201	0501	1380	Multi-lane	4161	11038	5	N/A	Yes	10	N/A	207	Yes	W/Signs	No	5	11	17	34	2.00	0.26	0.528	0.14	0.81	0.48	0.80	0.26	0.700	0.60	0.77	0.47	1040.00
3	Bedford	Spring Hill Rd	4601	0001	0001	0001	1480	2-lane	321	1539	5	No	No	3	1	56	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	4	3	7	0.80	0.06	0.466	0.41	0.40	0.61	1.40	0.11	0.428	0.25	0.59	0.61	1013.00
3	Bedford	Bedford Valley Rd	0201	0001	0040	0001	2007	2-lane	2480	4611	3	No	Yes	0	2	20	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	5	0	11	1.80	0.46	0.466	0.32	0.81	0.81	2.20	0.70	0.428	0.24	0.88	1.17	918.00
3	Bedford	Weston Valley Rd	1201	0401	0201	0401	0999	2-lane	711	1005	2	No	No	0	2	14	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	4	4	4	0.80	0.10	0.466	0.44	0.48	0.41	1.01	0.21	0.428	0.38	0.28	0.28	918.00
3	Bedford	Highway Valley Rd	0201	0001	1701	0001	1009	2-lane	3660	4101	7	Yes	Yes	0	0	132	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	4	7	11	0.80	0.38	0.466	0.24	0.62	0.54	2.20	0.54	0.428	0.24	1.01	1.28	1015.00
3	Bedford	Rock Valley Rd	2001	1001	1488	0201	2644	2-lane	3146	827	5	No	No	0	1	30	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	4	1	5	0.80	0.08	0.466	0.29	0.44	0.28	1.00	0.14	0.428	0.41	0.68	0.52	1002.00

Output of Safety Performance Function & Empirical Bayes Method – Screened locations with Excess “Expected Crashes” greater than the “Predicted Crashes” crash/year rate. Ranking based on crash cost/year relative to the Excess.

This method of priority takes in account; value of crashes (severity), attributes increasing risk, and crashes/year in a short distance of roadway.

Cluster Lists are still good measures – Indicating a specific number and crash type, in a short distance and within a 5-year period. The bias vs. screening list, attributes aren’t always accounted for; and the crash cost/severity isn’t accounted for.

Rating = 5

- Clear zone between 5 to 10 ft from pavement edge line.
- Side slope about 1V:3H.
- May have guiderail 0 to 5 ft from pavement edge line.
- May have rigid obstacles or embankment within 6.5 to 10 ft of pavement edge line.
- Virtually non-recoverable.



Figure A-5: Typical Roadway with Roadside Hazard Rating Equal to 5

Rating = 6

- Clear zone less than or equal to 5 ft.
- Side slope about 1V:2H.
- No guiderail.
- Exposed rigid obstacles within 0 to 6.5 ft of the pavement edge line.
- Non-recoverable.



Figure A-6: Typical Roadway with Roadside Hazard Rating Equal to 6

Rating = 7

- Clear zone less than or equal to 5 ft.
- Side slope 1:2 or steeper.
- Cliff or vertical rock cut.
- No guiderail.
- Non-recoverable with high likelihood of severe injuries from roadside collision.



Figure A-7: Roadway with Roadside Hazard Rating Equal to 7

Example:

Consider State Route 3009 in Bedford County as an example. In this example, as in most segments, the RHR will be different for the two directions of travel within the segment limits. As such, data collectors should estimate the average of the RHR within the segment (i.e., produce only a single RHR measure per segment). Figure A-8, Figure A-9 and Table A-2 show the process used to determine that SR 3009, Segment 0010 is category 6.



Figure A-8: Video Log for SR 3009, Segment 0010

- Rating System Roadside Environment
- Rating/Scaling; allows a means of quantifying risk.

Integrated Advance Warning



Lane Diet at Intersection



High Friction Surface



Value of
Countermeasures?



CMF / CRF Details

CMF ID: 10327

Install high friction surface treatment (HFST)

Description:

Prior Condition: Curves without High Friction Surface Treatment

Category: Roadway

Study: [Developing Crash-Modification Factors for High-Friction Surface Treatments, Merrit et al., 2020](#)

Star Quality Rating: ★★★★★ [View score details]	
Crash Modification Factor (CMF)	
Value:	0.37
Adjusted Standard Error:	
Unadjusted Standard Error:	0.033

Crash Reduction Factor (CRF)	
Value:	63 (This value indicates a decrease in crashes)
Adjusted Standard Error:	

Same Countermeasure;
Different Outcome



CMF / CRF Details

CMF ID: 10335

Install high friction surface treatment (HFST)

Description:

Prior Condition: Curves without High Friction Surface Treatment

Category: Roadway

Study: [Developing Crash-Modification Factors for High-Friction Surface Treatments, Merrit et al., 2020](#)

Star Quality Rating: ★★★★★ [View score details]	
Crash Modification Factor (CMF)	
Value:	0.168
Adjusted Standard Error:	
Unadjusted Standard Error:	0.02

Crash Reduction Factor (CRF)	
Value:	83.2 (This value indicates a decrease in crashes)
Adjusted Standard Error:	

Crash Cost Applications

- Economic burden of crashes
- Calculating safety benefits

$$\text{Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR)} = \frac{\text{Project Benefits}}{\text{Project Costs}}$$

$$\text{Safety Benefits} \approx (\text{Crash Cost}) \times (\text{Exist Crash Freq.}) \times (1 - \text{CMF})$$

The cost of crashes saved by the deployed countermeasure; Annualized through Project Life Cycle

The cost of the project; Annualized Through life cycle.

* BCR = 1 or Greater for a spot specific HSIP funded project.





- Traffic Safety Engineering
- Assess the risks
- Apply countermeasures proven successful.
- Monitor the benefit yield