

Ohio's Safety Plan

2009 Update

Emphasis Area 2 Serious Crashes: Highway and Railroad Crossings

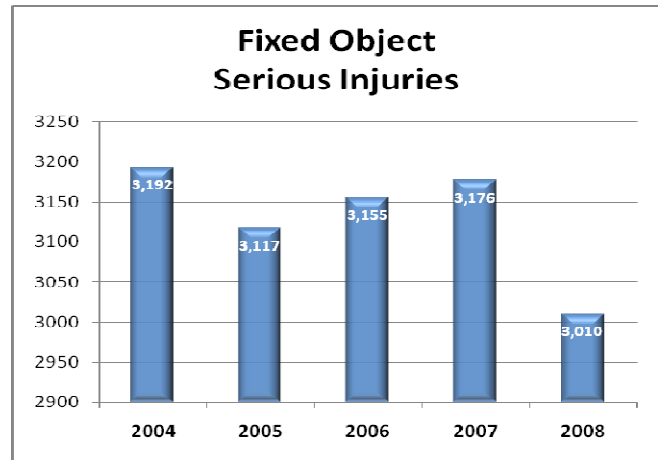
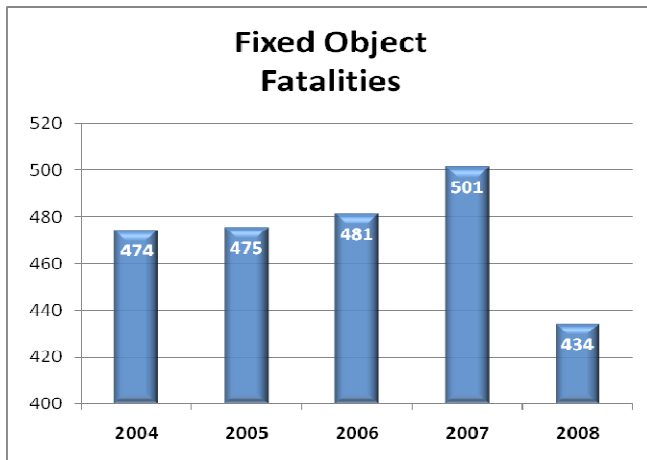


In 2008, there were X number of fatalities and Y number of injuries that occurred at Ohio highway and railroad crossings. While vehicle-train crashes make up a small portion of the fatalities and serious injuries each year, when these crashes occur, they are almost always severe.

According to federal statistics, a vehicle-train crash is 11 times more likely to result in death and 5.5 times more likely to result in serious injury.

During the past decade, Ohio highway/rail crossing safety programs have achieved a (X) percent reduction in crashes and fatalities, despite a continued increase in vehicle and rail traffic.

Education and enforcement programs also play a key role in reducing injuries and deaths. Many crashes can be prevented by safer driving behavior.



Driving Tips:

- **Obey posted speed limits.** Allow extra travel time for traffic and bad weather to eliminate the need to speed.
- **Always wear your seatbelt.**
- **Focus on the road.** If you are distracted (changing radio stations, talking on the phone, etc.), you put yourself and other road users at risk.
- **Adjust your speed before curves.** It's always better to enter a curve a little too slowly than too quickly.

Strategies (where applicable):

EXAMPLE: Identify, review and address areas with a disproportionate number of fixed object crashes.

ODOT compiles the information each year to share with internal staff and local governments. Many locations are addressed through annual safety work plans that identify the top high-crash, severe-crash locations statewide.

ODOT also provides \$72 million in safety funding each year that can be used to improve safety on any public road.

CHART OR OTHER ILLUSTRATION?