





Target Zero:

Coordinating Across Transportation Safety Work to End Traffic Fatalities by 2050

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



CREATING TARGET ZERO

- HM 85 (2023) Rep De La Cruz and Rep Hochman-Vigil
- Modeled from Vision Zero Network, Road to Zero Coalition, Toward Zero Program, etc.



Photo Courtesy of Bob Eckert Photography
https://www.bobeckertphotography.com/descansos.html

ZERO MEANS ZERO ZERO TRAFFIC-RELATED FATALITIES BY 2050



Target Zero is a transformative initiative that will coordinate all the transportation safety work currently underway and sharpen the department's focus on safety in all our work. Target Zero envisions a transportation system where every journey is completed safely, with zero driving-related deaths or serious injuries.



Photo Courtesy of Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division https://blogs.loc.gov/law/2023/10/descansos-roadside-memorials/



SAFE SYSTEM APPROACH













Create

Coordinate

Cultivate

Communicate

THE ROLE OF TARGET ZERO



KEY PRINCIPLES OF TARGET ZERO IN NEW MEXICO:

HUMAN LIFE FIRST | DATA DRIVEN APPROACHES | EQUITY FOR ALL COMMUNITIES | ACCOUNTABILITY

- I. Safety and Human Life First: NMDOT's efforts under Target Zero prioritize the safety and well-being of individuals using New Mexico's transportation system.
- 2. Data-Driven Approach: Target Zero in New Mexico relies on accurate data, analysis, and the strategies outlined in the Target Zero 2050 Implementation Plan to identify risks, implement effective measures, and track progress toward the zero-fatality goal.
- **3. Equity:** Ensuring that safety improvements benefit all communities across New Mexico, with a focus on historically underserved or high-risk areas and road users, is a central tenet of Target Zero.
- **4. Accountability:** NMDOT, along with other stakeholders, is accountable for their roles in implementing Target Zero strategies and creating safer roadways throughout the state.



JOIN US...

REGISTER NOW

NM Transportation Safety Summit AND Tribal Transportation Safety Summit

"Cutting Edge Strategies in Transportation Safety Culture"



Join Us at the 2025 Summit

https://www.dot.nm.gov/new-mexicotransportation-safety-summit/

TRANSPORTATION

The Transportation Safety Summit brings together transportation professionals and other transportation safety stakeholders in developing strategies to eliminate traffic related fatalities on all public roadways and for all roadway users in New Mexico.

SEPTEMBER 16-17, 2025
CNM WORKFORCE TRAINING CENTER
5600 EAGLE ROCK AVE NE

ALBUQUERQUE, NM



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Special Director

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Complete Streets

How New Mexico Has Traditionally Thought About Transportation











What the DOT Actually Does



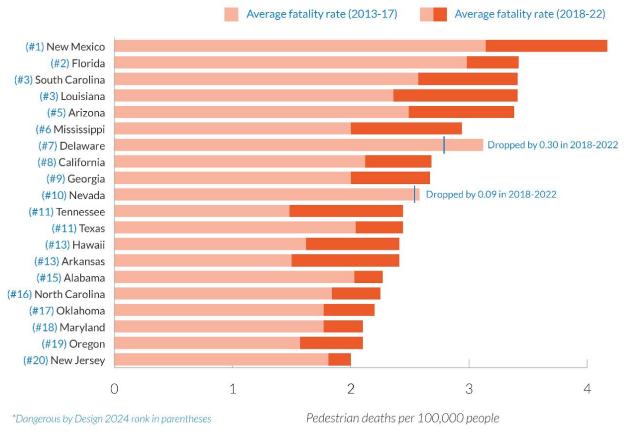




But We Need to Do More

All but two of the top 20 are getting more deadly

The most dangerous states are getting more deadly



Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

(2024). Fatality Analysis Reporting System.





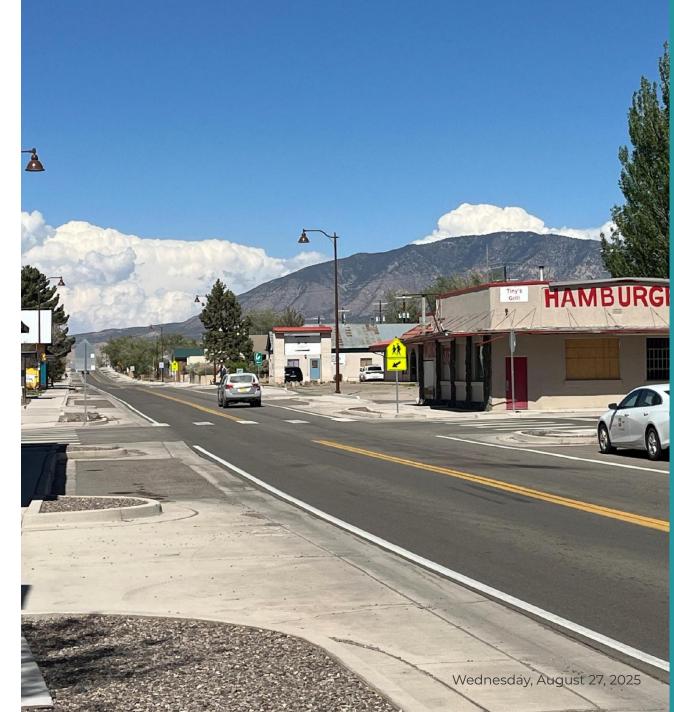


A Holistic Approach to Complete Streets



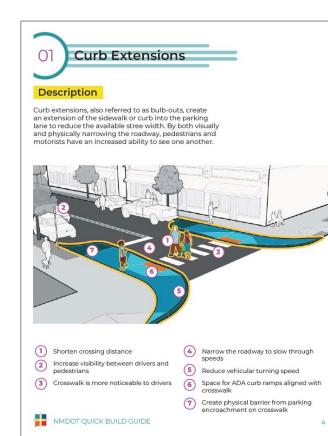
Complete Streets Strategic Plan

- Internal facing roadmap for complete streets institutionalization
- Focuses on NMDOT procedures and processes and how to weave complete streets into them
- Builds off peer state best practices
- Includes maintenance, rehabilitation and reconstruction projects
- Regular outreach to districts, design centers, and functional groups within DOT



Quick Build Guide

- Part of larger complete streets on-call
- DOT-focused guide with consideration of MUTCD compliance, typical bid items available to the districts



Appropriate contexts

- + Signalized or unsignalized intersections and mid-block locations where additional visibility and pedestrian priority is desired. This includes crossings for shared us paths, bus stops, key destinations, and where there are high volumes of pedestrians and/or bicycles (existing and forecasted)
- + Roadways with parking lanes or wide shoulders
- + Useful at entrances or other locations where the street function and land use changes to signify transition into lower speed areas

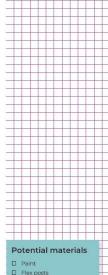
Design considerations

- + Extend curb extensions to at least 20' from the crosswalk at uncontrolled intersections or 30' from controlled
- + Curb extensions should not extend into travel lanes or
- + Turning radii of larger vehicles needs to be considered when designing curb extensions. Radii should be designed for turning speeds of 15mph or less.
- + Curb extensions can be an opportunity to incorporate street furniture, bike parking, wayfinding, public are, or other public space elements into the street design. Each of these uses can be incorporated in a way that does not restrict visibility so that all safety benefits can be achieved
- + When curb extensions conflict with turning movements, reducing the width and/or length of the curb extension should be prioritized over elimination
- + See the NACTO and AASHTO design guides for more information on curb extensions and restricting parking at corners (e.g. daylighting)

Maintenance considerations

- + The flow of stormwater and existing drainage locations should be considered as curb extensions may modify the
- + Floating curb extensions can be considered to not modify the existing flow-line and maintain drainage systems
- + Painted curb extensions with flex posts or other vertical elements should accommodate access for street sweepers and/or be accessible for manual sweeping by maintenance crews or stewardship agreements with local community





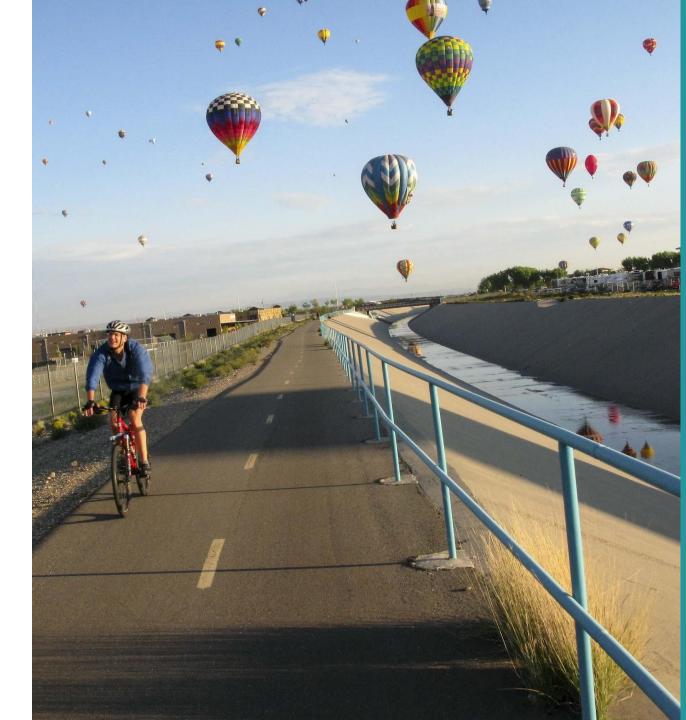
- ☐ Armadillos □ Concrete





Active Transportation Plan (2026)

- Update to 2018 Prioritized Statewide Bicycle Network Plan
- Sets expectations for types of bicycle and pedestrian facilities for all state-owned roadways based on context
- Focused on safety and all ages and abilities facilities
- Improved design guidance for NMDOT engineers
- Included in the NMDOT Design Manual





NMDOT

AASHTOWare Safety &

New Mexico Crash

Data

Applicable State Statutes & NMDOT Process

NMDOT

New Mexico Crash Data

Applicable State Statutes & NMDOT Process

NMSA 66-7-207 – Written Report of Accidents Involving Bodily Injury, Death or Property Damage over \$500. Additional requirements for CMV

NMSA 66-7-214 – NMDOT shall tabulate and shall publish statistical information at least annually for New Mexico traffic crashes

NMDOT Traffic Records – Final Repository

- UNM compiles records
- UNM Publishes Annual Report
- Dashboards
- DWI Reports
- Fatality Reports

Public records – Available through NMDOT Traffic Records



Roadway Highway Safety Management Process (HSM)

6 Steps

- Network Screening
- Diagnosis
- Countermeasure Selection
- Economic Appraisal
- Project Prioritization
- Safety Effectiveness Evaluation

AASHTOWare Safety

State Partners







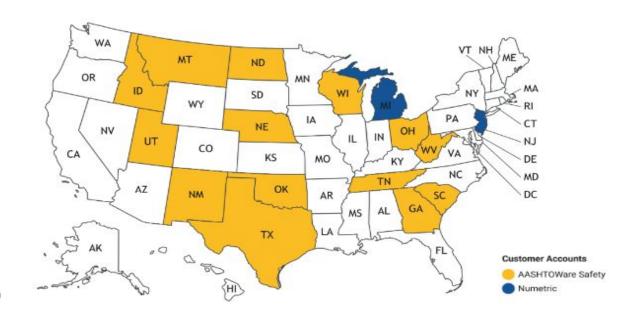






NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Transportation



















Current Partner States

- 17 Partner Accounts
- Over 3.2 million roadway miles
- 36.5% of all roads within the nation

AASHTOWare Safety – Segments Module

- Crash Query
 - Multiple methods (Circle, Rectangle, Polygon, Filters
 - Reporting Capabilities (pdf, excel)
 - Chart Capabilities
- Safety Analysis
 - Benefit/Cost Ratios
 - Crash Modification Factors
 - Safety Reports
- Network Screening
 - Analyze Historical, Predicted, Expected Scenarios
 - Segment Screening
 - Sliding Window Analysis
 - Allows adherence to Highway Safety Manual Best Practices
 - Shareable Reports
- Predictive Analysis
 - Analyze Predicted and Expected Roadway Performance
 - Create and Utilize New Mexico Specific Safety Performance Functions

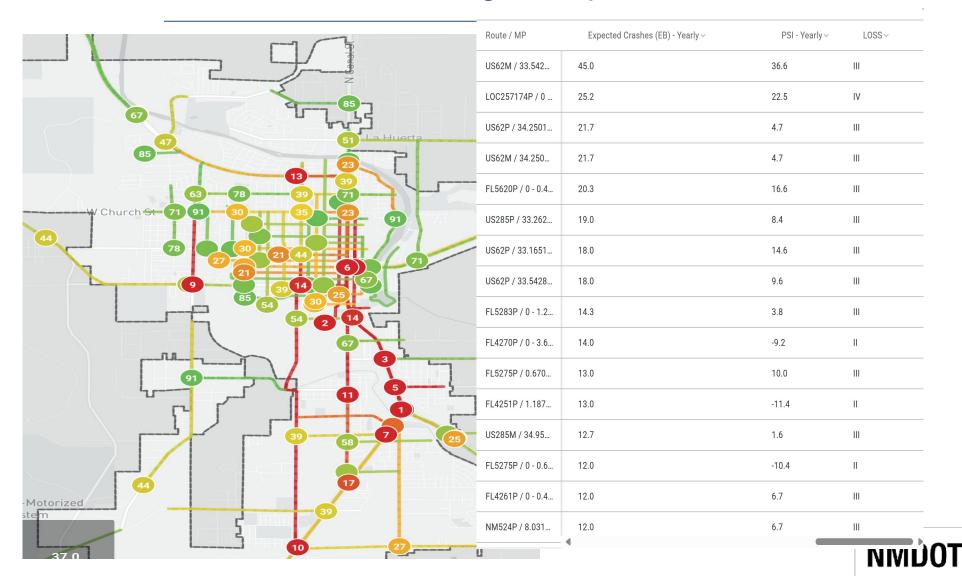


AASHTOWare Safety – Segments Crash Query Example

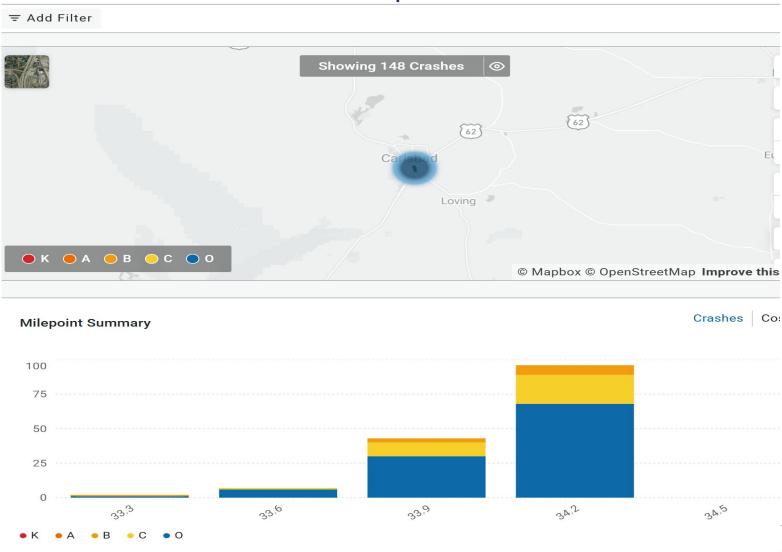


Metrics	Chart Builder	Raw Table		
New Mexico Summary				Crash
Total Crashes			27	100.00%
Intersection Involved			18	66.67%
Commercial Motor Vehicle Involved			1	3.70%
Show all (4 more)			0	0%
KABCO Cra	sh Severity			Crash
(0) Property	y-Damage Only		25	92.59%
(C) Possible	e Injury		2	7.41%
Show all (3 more)			0	0%
Crash Date	(Year)			Crash
2023			9	33.33%
2022			7	25.93%
2021			11	40.74%
Show all (8 more)			0	0%
Crash Class	sification			Crash
Show all (13 more)			0	0%
First Harmf	ul Event - Analysis			Crash
MV in Transport			27	100.00%
Show all (62 more)			0	0%

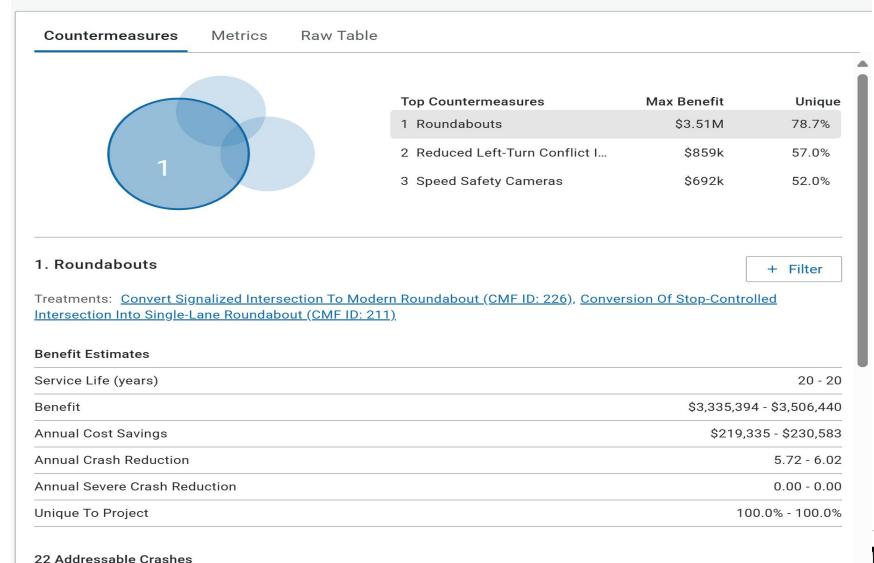
AASHTOWare Safety – Network Screening Example



AASHTOWare Safety – Safety Analysis Example US 62 Milepost 33.5-34.5



AASHTOWare Safety – Safety Analysis Example US 62 Milepost 33.5-34.5



NMDOT Strategic Highway Safety Plan

https://newmexicodotshsp.com/

What is a Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP)?

- Part of Highway Safety Improvement Program
- Statewide safety plan
- Identifies strategies to reduce the risk of death and serious injury
- Coordinates safety efforts across multiple agencies
- Data-driven
- Identifies NM-specific Emphasis Areas
- Requires stakeholder engagement
- Guides safety funding investments



Goals of the Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP)

Vision: Target Zero - Zero Deaths on all public New Mexico Roadways

- Every life counts no loss of life is acceptable
- Shift from "reducing" to "eliminating" fatal crashes
- SHSP is one element of the Target Zero initiative

Focus Areas:

- Vulnerable Road Users (walkers, bikers, people in work zone)
- Disadvantaged/underserved areas with high rates of crashes
- Tribal communities
- Emphasis Areas

Incorporating Safe System Approach through:

- Proactive safety planning
- Evidence-based countermeasures
- Multi-agency collaboration

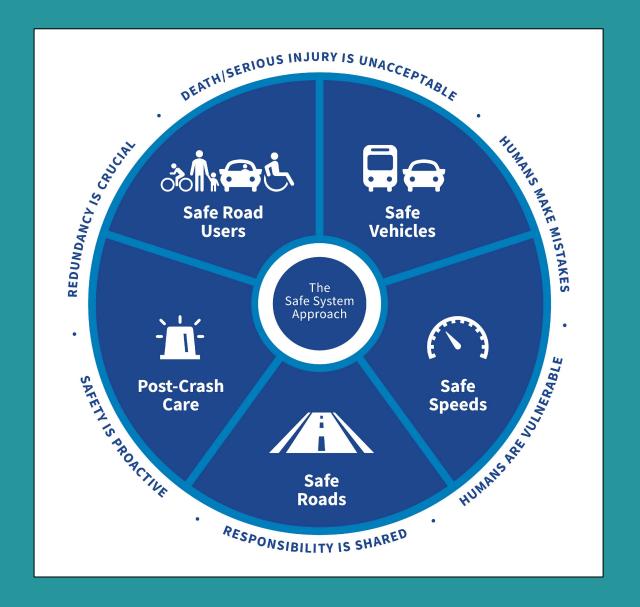
Implementation & Tracking:

- Development of countermeasure, policies, programs, strategies
- Data-driven decision making supported by robust engagement
- Performance monitoring toward zero
- Regular evaluation and strategy adjustment

Safe System Approach

PRINCIPLES OF A SAFE SYSTEM APPROACH (SSA)

- Death and serious injuries are unacceptable
- Humans make mistakes
- Humans are vulnerable
- Responsibility is shared
- Safety is proactive
- Redundancy is crucial



Emphasis Areas from 2021 SHSP

Safety Emphasis Area*	% Fatalities in New Mexico	% Serious Injuries in New Mexico	
	(2,208 total from 2019-2023)	(5,349 total from 2019-2023)	
Impaired Driving	55.9%	18.6%	
No Use of Safety Restraint	51.3%	27.3%	
Roadway Departure	41.5%	35.2%	
Speed/Aggressive Driving	41.2%	46.0%	
Distracted Driving	38.5%	44.5%	
Pedestrian Involvement	21.5%	9.5%	
Heavy Vehicle Involvement	17.6%	10.1%	
Older Driver Involvement**	16.3%	16.6%	
Young Driver Involvement**	14.7%	18.7%	
Motorcycle Involvement	12.2%	13.5%	
Tribal Lands	11.3%	7.4%	
Intersection Related***	11.1%	18.3%	
Inclement Weather	8.9%	10.9%	
Sleepy/Fatigued Driving	1.9%	2.4%	
Bicyclist Involvement	1.8%	2.2%	
Transit/Bus Involvement	0.6%	0.9%	
Animal/Wildlife Involvement	0.4%	0.5%	
Work Zone Related	0.2%	0.2%	
Rail Involvement	0.05%	0.02%	

^{*}Multiple emphasis areas may be assigned to one crash - they are not mutually exclusive.

^{**}Older drivers are of age 65 and over. Younger drivers are of age 15-20.

^{***}Data on intersection related emphasis area is unavailable for 2019 crash data. Percentage may be underrepresented.



HUMAN BEHAVIOR

- **94%**OF FATALITIES
- 87%
 OF SERIOUS INJURIES

- Impaired Driving
- Distracted Driving
- Sleepy/Fatigued Driving
- Speed/Aggressive Driving

- No Use of Safety Restraint
- Older Driver Involvement
- Young Driver Involvement



ROAD/LANE DEPARTURE

- 47%
 OF FATALITIES
- 41% OF SERIOUS

- Roadway Departure
- Animal/Wildlife Involvement
- Inclement Weather



VULNERABLEROAD USERS

- **23**% OF FATALITIES
- 12%
 OF SERIOUS INJURIES

- Pedestrian Involvement
- Bicyclist Involvement
- Work Zone Related



INTERSECTIONS

- 11%
- 18% Of Serious Injuries

- Intersection Related
- Rail Involvement



TRIBAL LANDS

- 11% OF FATALITIES
- 7%
 OF SERIOUS

Crashes on lands owned by federally recognized Native American tribes.

Highway Safety Plan Activities

Highway Safety Plan Activities

- Traffic Safety Division-gearing up for the development of the next Highway Safety Plan.
- Engage the trucking and other industries in the region, especially as it relates to dust storms and inclement weather.
- Currently developing creative materials around dust storms and hazardous driving conditions.
 - This includes billboards, social media, media buys on streaming music platforms, and signage at the ports of entry.
 - We're collaborating with Ports of Entry to broadcast notifications into the cabs for alerts. We're cognizant of various languages and English proficiency and welcome ideas.

Highway Safety Plan Activities

Welcome any ideas on how best to communicate about safety, dust storms, and inclement weather.

Contact:

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Questions?

Thank you!

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