State of Rhode Island Highway Safety Plan
Federal Fiscal Year 2009

prepared for
U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

developed and presented by
The Rhode Island Department of Transportation
Office on Highway Safety
Two Capitol Hill, Suite 106
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-1111

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Acronym Guide

Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC)
Child Passenger Safety (CPS)
Click It Or Ticket (CIOT)
Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI)
Corrective Action Plan (CAP)
Crash Outcome Data Evaluation System (CODES)
Critical Analysis Reporting Environment (CARE)
Driving Under the Influence (DUI)
Department of Mental Health, Retardation, and Hospitals (MHRH)
Drug Recognition Expert (DRE)
Electronic Accident Reporting System (EARS)
Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY)
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)
Graduated Drivers Licensing (GDL)
High Visibility Enforcement (HVE)
Highway Safety Grant application (HS-1)
Highway Safety Plan (HSP)
Information Management Corporation (IMC)
Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL)
Acronym Guide (continued)

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)
National Occupant Protection Use Survey (NOPUS)
Office on Highway Safety (OHS)
Performance Enhancement Plan (PEP)
Public Relations Society of America (PRSA)
Request for Proposals (RFP)
Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT)
Rhode Island State Police (RISP)
Riders Helping Riders (RHR)
Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)
Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST)
Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP)
Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)
Traffic Records Coordinating Committee (TRCC)
Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor (TSRP)
Variable Message Sign (VMS)
Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
1.0 Introduction to the Rhode Island Highway Safety Planning Process

1.1 Executive Summary

This Rhode Island Highway Safety Plan (HSP) for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2009 serves as the State of Rhode Island’s application to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) for Federal funds available under Section 402 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). The Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) Office on Highway Safety’s (OHS) goals, objectives, and performance measures related to the program areas are described in this plan.

In 2007, OHS was unable to undertake an extensive level of Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) data collection and analysis for highway safety problem identification and planning due to statewide staff reductions. Therefore, minimal 2007 data was available in preparation of this plan. To identify the issues to be addressed in the FFY 2009 highway safety program, OHS relied primarily on 2002 to 2006 trend data, and, whenever possible, also provided 2007 data points.

When assessing safety needs and programming potential, it is important to understand how Rhode Island differs from the nation. The state population and annual number of fatalities in Rhode Island are relatively low compared to the nation. As such, one fatality can significantly impact a percentage. Interpretation of increases and decreases in percentages, particularly from one year to the next, must be carefully examined. Therefore, whenever possible, raw numbers, percentages, and rates as well as fatality and serious injury (defined for the purposes of this plan as Injury Type II, Bleeding/Broken Bones) data (when available) are presented. Based on this analysis, the following problem areas will be addressed through the HSP:

- **Impaired Driving** - Alcohol impaired driving continues to comprise a large share of the State’s crash fatalities and serious injuries. Alcohol involvement in fatal crashes in Rhode Island has exceeded that of the nation for the past five years and resulted in 42 fatalities in 2006. Based on NHTSA imputed numbers, from 2002 through 2006, nearly 85 percent of Rhode Island’s alcohol-related fatalities (defined as fatalities involving at least one driver, pedestrian, or bicyclist with blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .01 or above) involved a driver with BAC greater than the legal limit of .08 percent.
- **Occupant Protection** – Rhode Island achieved a major increase in the percent of observed seat belt use from 74 percent in 2006 to 79 percent in 2007. Rhode Island, however, remains below the nation for restraint use. Although nonrestraint use in serious injury crashes has decreased each year from 2002 to 2006, the percent of unrestrained fatalities rose significantly from 44 percent in 2005 to 74 percent in 2006.

- **Speed** – Crashes related to speeding continue to be a problem in Rhode Island. Rhode Island has exceeded the national and New England regional percentages of speed-related fatalities each year from 2002 through 2006. Also during this period, Rhode Island exceeded New England and the United States for drivers involved in fatal crashes with previous speeding convictions.

- **Young Drivers** – Consistent with national trends, young drivers are over-represented in fatal crashes in Rhode Island. In 2006, young drivers age 16 to 20 years represented 1.6 percent of Rhode Island’s licensed driver population, yet they comprised nearly 25 percent of drivers involved in fatal crashes.

- **Motorcycles** – Motorcycle fatalities in the United States have risen for the past eight years. From 2003 to 2004, Rhode Island motorcycle fatalities declined by 23.1 percent (from 13 to 10), reversing a tragic trend. However, this decline did not continue in 2005 or 2006. Regrettably, motorcycle fatalities increased by 4 to 14 (a 40 percent increase) in 2005 to 16 in 2006. Year 2007 saw a slight decline to 13 fatalities. Unfortunately, motorcyclist fatalities still comprise 18.8 percent of all crash fatalities in Rhode Island.

- **Other Road Users** – Other transportation modes consist of everything except personal automobiles and motorcycles and are generally classified as motorized (school buses) and nonmotorized (pedestrian and bicycle) modes. Although crashes in Rhode Island are dominated by personal automobiles, other modes of transportation require consideration. For example, the rate of fatal and serious injury crashes for pedestrians has been on the rise, while fatalities and serious injuries for bicycles remain low. Although serious injuries to pedestrians are rare, the large fluctuation in the number of pedestrian fatalities over the past five years requires attention. School bus crashes are a relatively rare occurrence in Rhode Island, and there were no school bus-related fatalities in 2007.

- **Traffic Records** – Highway safety stakeholders currently are unable to exchange information in a timely, accurate, complete, uniform, and integrated system. A newly revitalized Traffic Records Coordinating Committee (TRCC) has been and will continue to work on the multiyear Highway Safety Data and Traffic Records System Improvement Plan.

- **Racial Profiling** – The act of racial profiling affects both law enforcement and the community at large by undermining the civil rights of everyone; this creates mistrust with the majority of law enforcement personnel who are enforcing the law in an equitable manner. The State of Rhode Island has received racial profiling monies as an assurance state for the past two years under the SAFETEA-LU legislation. RIDOT
OHS is utilizing these funds to continue developing a multifaceted program to assess the level and/or locations where racial profiling may exist and to implement programs to address and improve community/police relations.

- **Planning and Administration** – The OHS will serve as the primary agency responsible for insuring that highway safety concerns for Rhode Island are identified and addressed through the development and implementation of appropriate countermeasures.

### 1.2 Mission Statement

The OHS is the agency responsible for implementing Federally funded highway safety projects in Rhode Island. As a fundamental component of improving the quality of life for the citizens and visitors of the State, the mission of the OHS consists of two goals:

1. To reduce the number of fatalities and serious injuries on Rhode Island’s roadways; and
2. To reduce the number of traffic crashes and the severity of their consequences.

The OHS provides the required resources to plan and carry out activities to fulfill this mission. To ensure effectiveness, relationships are developed and maintained with advocacy groups, citizens, community safety groups, complementary state and Federal agencies, and local and state police departments. The OHS also conducts data analysis to monitor crash trends in the State and to ensure that state and Federal resources target the areas of greatest need. The OHS also is an active participant in the implementation of the State’s Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP), providing expertise related to driver behavioral issues, education, and enforcement-related countermeasures. The OHS will work closely within RIDOT to ensure coordination between the HSP and the SHSP, ideally resulting in one comprehensive and strategic highway safety program for the State.

The OHS establishes and implements a comprehensive program to accomplish its goals effectively. The *Highway Safety Plan for Federal Fiscal Year 2009* outlines the process used to identify specific highway safety problem areas, including the development of countermeasures to correct those problems, and processes to monitor the performance of those countermeasures. Section 3.0 presents the prioritized focus areas, including proposed strategies and programming to meet the Office’s safety goals.
## 1.3 Timeline and Process

The OHS conducts transportation safety planning year round. Emerging trends and safety needs are identified through data monitoring and outreach to key safety stakeholders. Table 1.1 describes the OHS planning cycle.

### Table 1.1 Rhode Island Office on Highway Safety Annual Safety Planning Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January-March</td>
<td>Staff conduct grant oversight and monitoring visits. Activities planned for “May is Motorcycle Awareness” month. Prepare Section 405 (OP) grant application. Plan “100 Days of Summer” campaign to include outreach to minority communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April-May</td>
<td>Staff conduct data collection and grant oversight and monitoring. Activities planned and implemented to support the “May is Motorcycle Awareness Month” campaign. Staff also develop the kickoff event and all activities to support the national “Click It Or Ticket (CIOT)” campaign in May.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June-July</td>
<td>Staff conduct strategic planning/listening sessions with key stakeholders to review recent crash trends and emerging issues and to create project proposals within each program area. The division also generates its own project proposals for staff review. A draft of the Performance Plan is prepared for review and approval by OHS staff. A presubmission meeting is held with officials from the NHTSA Regional Office, and updates are requested for any Federal, state, and local data. Conduct “100 Days of Summer” campaign (June through August). Prepare Sections 410 (AL), if eligible, 408 (TR), 1906 (Racial Profiling), and 2010 (Motorcycle) grant applications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>The final Performance Plan is submitted to NHTSA and FHWA. Meetings are held with potential grantees. Conclude “100 Days of Summer” campaign.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Request for Proposals (RFP) and applications for Grant Funding (HS-1) are issued/received based on availability of Federal funding. FFY 2009 grants and contracts are finalized.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Work is begun on the FFY 2008 Annual Report.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November-December</td>
<td>The FFY 2008 Annual Report is finalized. The OHS administers closeout of the prior fiscal year. OHS collects and reviews year-end reports from its grantees. Occasionally, OHS revises grant applications and awards with its grantees based on the availability/timeliness of Federal funding.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grant Funding Process

Currently, there are two methods for awarding a grantee funding for projects that support OHS efforts to reduce the number of fatalities and serious injuries on Rhode Island’s roadways: either through an HS-1 (Highway Safety Grant application) or response to an RFP.

The first option is for a potential grantee to submit an HS-1 to OHS for review. Each applicant is required to provide a Problem Identification statement (Problem I.D.); Project Description; potential outcomes; and a description of how the goals and outcomes will be measured. Grantees also must provide a detailed budget, including the source of all funding and any matching funds that may be required.

Applications are reviewed for approval/rejection by the OHS Administrator and the appropriate Program Manager. OHS has managers for the following programs: Impaired Driving; Occupant Protection; Young Drivers; Motorcycles; Speed; Other Road Users; and Traffic Records. The Minority Outreach Program Manager and the Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL) positions are currently vacant.

When the Problem I.D./budget has been approved, the next step is to determine if the goods or services can be provided by any other entity. If these services cannot be provided by others (excluding state agencies), then a grant can be issued after a Grants and Assurances document has been signed by the grantee. If the goods or services can be provided by others, OHS must submit a RFP to RIDOT Contracts and Specifications and the Department of Administration Division of Purchases that must be advertised for a minimum of 30 days to potential service providers to ensure a quality product is being provided at a competitive price. This process takes approximately three to six months.

All grantees are required to provide quarterly reports to the Program Manager, including invoices, timesheets, and any other documentation necessary for monitoring, reporting, and oversight of program areas. Field visits also may be required for evaluation of the effectiveness of the program and to ensure that the appropriate state and Federal procedures/guidelines are being followed.

The OHS grant partners are an essential component of the success of any program as they implement the programs that address the highlighted issues of concern included within the Highway Safety Program.
1.4 Organization

Unfortunately, OHS experienced multiple staff changes during FFY 2008. The FARS Analyst position, vacated in July 2007, was consolidated as a collateral responsibility with an existing position in February of 2008. The LEL position also was eliminated due to statewide staff reductions. The Minority Outreach Program Coordinator position became vacant in April. These changes have impacted OHS’ ability to administer the number and type of programs originally planned for FFY 2008 and may continue to have program delivery impacts in the future. Figure 1.1 illustrates the current OHS organizational structure.

Figure 1.1  Rhode Island Department of Transportation
Office on Highway Safety Organization

In addition to operational and administrative tasks, each OHS Program Manager is responsible for developing, implementing, and/or overseeing specific programs. The program areas addressed by OHS are assigned to the Program Managers based on their individual safety expertise, as noted below.
In 2008, OHS funded half of the salary of a Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor (TSRP), Jay Sullivan, within the Attorney General’s Office. The TSRP implements training programs for prosecutors and law enforcement to improve prosecution rates in driving under the influence (DUI) cases and assists OHS in evaluating the impact of Rhode Island’s new chemical test refusal law on impaired driving arrest rates. OHS will fund two-thirds of the salary for this position in 2009.
2.0 Highway Safety Performance Plan

2.1 Highway Safety Problem Identification Process

The OHS emphasizes activities that use available resources most effectively to save lives, reduce injuries, and improve highway safety. Specific goals, strategies, and performance measures are determined by:

- Using data, highway safety research, and prior experience to identify problem areas;
- Soliciting input and project proposals from local and regional organizations that have expertise in areas relevant to highway safety; and
- Analyzing trends in serious injury and fatality rates and comparing them to regional and national trends.

Sources of highway safety data and research used by the OHS include the following:

- Crash Outcome Data Evaluation System (CODES);
- Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS);
- National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA);
- National Occupant Protection Use Survey (NOPUS);
- RIDOT OHS;
- Rhode Island Division of Motor Vehicles;
- Rhode Island Department of Health;
- Rhode Island Police Chiefs Association;
- Rhode Island State Police;
- Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program;
- RIDOT’s Electronic Accident Reporting System (EARS);

1 Whenever possible, the OHS has provided 2007 data. This data, however, is preliminary and not complete for all metrics previously reported due to the Office’s staff restraints in 2007 and 2008. It is anticipated that all data will be updated in future versions of this plan.
• Rhode Island Attorney General’s Office; and
• Rhode Island Courts.

Demographic Trends

Rhode Island (officially “The State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations”) is the smallest state in the nation (1,045 square miles, bisected by Narragansett Bay), with eight cities and 31 towns. The State contains 6,415 total miles of certified public roadway, including 71 miles of Interstate Highway (49.8 urban and 21.4 rural).

Nearly one-quarter of all Rhode Island inhabitants are under 18 years of age; six percent are under the age of five. About 90 percent reside in urban areas, the largest of which is Providence, the state capital. Rhode Island has one of the fastest growing Hispanic and Southeast Asian communities in the nation. Since 1980, the Hispanic population of Rhode Island has more than doubled. As shown in Figure 2.1, Hispanics, African Americans, Asian Americans, and Native Americans now comprise nearly 20 percent of the State’s population, one-half of which live in the Providence area.

Figure 2.1 Rhode Island Population Estimate

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.
Because crashes are measured in relation to population, licensed drivers, and vehicle miles traveled (VMT), the tables below provide a brief overview of these characteristics. The U.S. Census Bureau estimated the population of Rhode Island to be 1,057,832 in 2007. Table 2.1 shows the 2007 population totals by county and town. As shown in Table 2.2 and Figure 2.2, in 2007, there were 1,129,250 registered motor vehicles (29,144 motorcycles and mopeds) and 715,080 licensed drivers (71,641 endorsed motorcycle operators). Table 2.3 shows the breakdown of licensed drivers by age group and gender. In this plan, data are generally presented for a five-year period to show current trends. When assessing safety needs and programming potential, it is important to understand how Rhode Island percentages differ from national percentages. The state population and annual number of fatalities in Rhode Island are relatively low compared to the nation. As such, one fatality can significantly impact a percentage. Interpretation of increases and decreases in percentages, particularly from one year to the next, must be carefully examined. Therefore, whenever possible, raw numbers, percentages, and rates are provided in this plan. Also, when available, both fatality and serious injury (defined for the purposes of this plan as Injury Type II, Bleeding/Broken Bones) data are presented.

Table 2.1  Population of Rhode Island by County and Town

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<tr>
<th>County and Town</th>
<th>7/1/07 Population Estimate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bristol County</td>
<td>50,079</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barrington</td>
<td>16,446</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bristol</td>
<td>22,552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren</td>
<td>11,083</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kent County</td>
<td>168,639</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coventry</td>
<td>34,510</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Greenwich</td>
<td>13,349</td>
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<tr>
<td>Warwick</td>
<td>85,097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Greenwich</td>
<td>6,394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Warwick</td>
<td>29,289</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newport County</td>
<td>82,777</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jamestown</td>
<td>5,515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Compton</td>
<td>3,535</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middletown</td>
<td>16,259</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newport</td>
<td>25,359</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portsmouth</td>
<td>17,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiverton</td>
<td>15,079</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2.1  Population of Rhode Island by County and Town (continued)  
2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County and Town</th>
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<td><strong>Providence County</strong></td>
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<td>Burrillville</td>
<td>16,505</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Falls</td>
<td>18,823</td>
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<td>Cranston</td>
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<td>Cumberland</td>
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<td>East Providence</td>
<td>49,779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foster</td>
<td>4,511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glocester</td>
<td>10,563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnston</td>
<td>28,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln</td>
<td>22,105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Providence</td>
<td>32,885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Smithfield</td>
<td>11,294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pawtucket</td>
<td>72,342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providence</td>
<td>172,459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scituate</td>
<td>10,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smithfield</td>
<td>21,279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woonsocket</td>
<td>43,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Washington County</strong></td>
<td><strong>126,902</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlestown</td>
<td>8,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exeter</td>
<td>6,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hopkinton</td>
<td>8,003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narragansett</td>
<td>16,511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Shoreham</td>
<td>1,021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Kingstown</td>
<td>26,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmond</td>
<td>7,659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Kingstown</td>
<td>29,277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westerly</td>
<td>23,408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total State Population</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,057,832</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.
Table 2.2  Rhode Island Drivers, Vehicles, and Population
2002 to 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Drivers</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>686,491</td>
<td>746,465</td>
<td>707,617</td>
<td>743,793</td>
<td>715,080</td>
<td>4.1%a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endorsed Motorcycle Operators</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>70,282</td>
<td>71,641</td>
<td>1.9%b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Vehicles</td>
<td>857,398</td>
<td>874,168</td>
<td>918,865</td>
<td>1,102,207</td>
<td>1,128,142</td>
<td>1,129,250</td>
<td>31.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Motorcycles (including Mopeds)</td>
<td>23,707</td>
<td>27,685</td>
<td>24,244</td>
<td>28,137</td>
<td>27,868</td>
<td>29,144</td>
<td>22.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Population of Rhode Island</td>
<td>1,068,550</td>
<td>1,075,729</td>
<td>1,079,916</td>
<td>1,076,189</td>
<td>1,067,610</td>
<td>1,057,832</td>
<td>-1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VMT (in millions)</td>
<td>8,142</td>
<td>8,365</td>
<td>8,473</td>
<td>8,299</td>
<td>8,299</td>
<td>8,679</td>
<td>6.59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a  Change from 2003.

b  Change from 2006.

Figure 2.2  Rhode Island Drivers, Vehicles, and Population
2003 to 2007 (In Thousands)
Table 2.3  Number of Rhode Island Drivers by Age and Gender in 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percent of Licensed Drivers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16-20</td>
<td>5,997</td>
<td>5,688</td>
<td>11,685</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-24</td>
<td>23,889</td>
<td>24,137</td>
<td>36,239</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>30,694</td>
<td>32,017</td>
<td>62,711</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-34</td>
<td>28,107</td>
<td>30,168</td>
<td>58,275</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-39</td>
<td>30,149</td>
<td>33,237</td>
<td>63,386</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-44</td>
<td>32,368</td>
<td>36,682</td>
<td>69,050</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-49</td>
<td>34,310</td>
<td>39,960</td>
<td>74,270</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-54</td>
<td>33,403</td>
<td>38,574</td>
<td>71,977</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-59</td>
<td>28,980</td>
<td>32,547</td>
<td>61,527</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-64</td>
<td>24,295</td>
<td>27,121</td>
<td>51,416</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-69</td>
<td>17,194</td>
<td>19,462</td>
<td>36,656</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-74</td>
<td>12,062</td>
<td>13,974</td>
<td>26,036</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75-79</td>
<td>10,098</td>
<td>11,984</td>
<td>22,082</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>8,360</td>
<td>10,184</td>
<td>18,544</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85+</td>
<td>5,927</td>
<td>6,830</td>
<td>12,757</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>339,254</td>
<td>375,826</td>
<td>715,080</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Rhode Island Division of Motor Vehicles.

Performance Trends and Goals

In Rhode Island, the total number of crashes has decreased nearly eight percent during the past three years (from 46,319 in 2005 to 42,614 in 2007). The number of fatal and incapacitating injuries decreased 41 percent between 2005 and 2007. Fewer lives were lost on Rhode Island roadways in 2007 than in any single year during the past 20 years. According to the observed restraint use survey, Rhode Island saw an increase in the safety belt use rate from 74 percent in 2006 to 79 percent in 2007.
From 2006 to 2007, Rhode Island experienced a decrease in both pedestrian and motorcyclist fatalities.

As shown in Figures 2.3 and 2.4, in 2007 the greatest percentage of crashes occurred in the months of March and October, and on Fridays. Fatal crashes occurred most frequently during the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m., as shown in Figure 2.5. Table 2.4 and Figures 2.6 through 2.36 provide additional details on Rhode Island’s highway safety trends.

**Figure 2.3** Percent of Rhode Island Fatal Crashes by Month-of-Year

2007
Figure 2.4 Percent of Rhode Island Fatal Crashes by Day-of-Week 2007

![Bar chart showing the percentage of fatal crashes by day of the week.]

Figure 2.5 Percent of Rhode Island Fatal Crashes by Time-of-Day 2007

![Bar chart showing the percentage of fatal crashes by time of day.]

State of Rhode Island Highway Safety Plan FFY 2009
**Table 2.4  Traffic Safety Trends in Rhode Island  
2002 to 2007**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crash Data/Trends(^{a,b,c})</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fatalities – actual</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatality rate/100 million VMT</td>
<td>1.03</td>
<td>1.24</td>
<td>0.98</td>
<td>1.05</td>
<td>0.98</td>
<td>0.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatality rate/100,000 population</td>
<td>7.86</td>
<td>9.67</td>
<td>7.69</td>
<td>8.08</td>
<td>7.59</td>
<td>6.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serious injuries – actual</td>
<td>1,845</td>
<td>1,887</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,329</td>
<td>1,313</td>
<td>764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatality and serious injury rate/100 million VMT</td>
<td>23.69</td>
<td>23.80</td>
<td>19.86</td>
<td>17.06</td>
<td>16.80</td>
<td>9.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatal and serious injury rate/100,000 population</td>
<td>180.53</td>
<td>185.08</td>
<td>155.85</td>
<td>131.58</td>
<td>130.57</td>
<td>78.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Month of most fatal crashes</td>
<td>Jul/Aug</td>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>Jul</td>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>Mar/Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day of most fatal crashes</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Fri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time of most fatal crashes</td>
<td>1-4 a.m.</td>
<td>10 p.m.-4 a.m.</td>
<td>10 p.m.-4 a.m.</td>
<td>7-10 p.m.</td>
<td>1-4 a.m./1-4 p.m.</td>
<td>10 p.m.-3 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol-related fatalities</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of alcohol-related fatalities</td>
<td>0.55</td>
<td>0.57</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>0.55</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol-related fatality rate/100 million VMT</td>
<td>0.56</td>
<td>0.71</td>
<td>0.51</td>
<td>0.58</td>
<td>0.51</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol-related fatality rate/100,000 population</td>
<td>4.30</td>
<td>5.48</td>
<td>3.98</td>
<td>4.46</td>
<td>3.93</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of population observed using safety belts</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speed fatalities – actual</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of speed-related fatalities</td>
<td>0.55</td>
<td>0.53</td>
<td>0.53</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speed fatality rate/100 million VMT</td>
<td>0.56</td>
<td>0.66</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>0.47</td>
<td>0.51</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speed fatality rate/100,000 population</td>
<td>4.30</td>
<td>5.11</td>
<td>4.07</td>
<td>3.62</td>
<td>3.93</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonmotorist fatalities – actual</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonmotorist fatality rate/100 million VMT</td>
<td>0.12</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>0.19</td>
<td>0.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonmotorist fatality rate/100,000 population</td>
<td>0.94</td>
<td>1.39</td>
<td>0.65</td>
<td>1.39</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>1.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonmotorist serious injuries – actual</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonmotorist fatality and serious injury rate/100 million VMT</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td>1.94</td>
<td>1.92</td>
<td>1.93</td>
<td>1.92</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonmotorist fatal and serious injury rate/100,000 population</td>
<td>17.50</td>
<td>15.06</td>
<td>15.09</td>
<td>14.87</td>
<td>14.89</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrian fatalities – actual</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrian fatality rate/100 million VMT</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>0.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrian fatality rate/100,000 population</td>
<td>0.84</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>0.65</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>1.40</td>
<td>1.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrian serious injuries – actual</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
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<td>Pedestrian fatality and serious injury rate/100 million VMT</td>
<td>1.73</td>
<td>1.40</td>
<td>1.43</td>
<td>1.41</td>
<td>1.47</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrian fatal and serious injury rate/100,000 population</td>
<td>13.20</td>
<td>10.88</td>
<td>11.20</td>
<td>10.87</td>
<td>11.43</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
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<td>Bicyclist fatalities – actual</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
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<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.01</td>
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<td>Bicyclist fatality rate/100,000 population</td>
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<td>0.09</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td>0.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicyclist serious injuries – actual</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicyclist fatality and serious injury rate/100 million VMT</td>
<td>0.56</td>
<td>0.54</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 2.4  Traffic Safety Trends in Rhode Island (continued)  
2002 to 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crash Data/Trends(^{a,b,c})</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bicyclist fatal and serious injury rate/100,000 population</td>
<td>4.30</td>
<td>4.18</td>
<td>3.89</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>3.47</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorcycle and ATV fatalities – actual</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorcycle fatality rate/100 million VMT</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>0.16</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td>0.19</td>
<td>0.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorcycle fatality rate/100,000 population</td>
<td>0.84</td>
<td>1.21</td>
<td>1.02</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>1.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorcycle serious injuries – actual</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorcycle fatality and serious injury rate/100 million VMT</td>
<td>1.79</td>
<td>1.76</td>
<td>1.76</td>
<td>1.77</td>
<td>1.48</td>
<td>U/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motorcycle fatality and serious injury rate/100,000 population</td>
<td>13.66</td>
<td>13.67</td>
<td>13.80</td>
<td>13.66</td>
<td>11.52</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young drivers involved in fatal crashes – actual(^d)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young drivers in fatal crashes/100 million VMT</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>0.24</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td>0.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young drivers in fatal crashes/100,000 population</td>
<td>1.87</td>
<td>2.32</td>
<td>1.57</td>
<td>1.88</td>
<td>1.31</td>
<td>1.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young drivers in serious injury crashes – actual</td>
<td>437</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young drivers in fatal and serious injury crashes/100 million VMT</td>
<td>5.61</td>
<td>4.84</td>
<td>5.11</td>
<td>4.10</td>
<td>3.78</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young drivers in fatal and serious injury crashes/100,000 population</td>
<td>42.77</td>
<td>37.65</td>
<td>40.10</td>
<td>31.59</td>
<td>29.41</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older drivers involved in fatal crashes – actual(^e)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older drivers in fatal crashes/100 million VMT</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>0.14</td>
<td>0.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older drivers in serious injury crashes – actual</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older drivers in fatal and serious injury crashes/100 million VMT</td>
<td>2.44</td>
<td>2.45</td>
<td>2.02</td>
<td>1.99</td>
<td>1.61</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older drivers in fatal and serious injury crashes/100,000 population</td>
<td>18.62</td>
<td>19.06</td>
<td>15.83</td>
<td>15.33</td>
<td>12.55</td>
<td>U/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: All VMT data are from RIDOT. All population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau.  
U/A indicates data not available at this time.

\(a\) “Serious Injuries” here as elsewhere in the HSP are defined as “Bleeding/Broken Bones,” excluding “Bruises and Abrasions” and “No Visible Injury/Complaint.” Note that serious injury criteria were insufficiently standardized and digitized before 2000 to merit the consideration in OHS program planning. Totals include only those that occurred on public roadways (excluding parking lots or private property).

\(b\) Rhode Island did not start electronic data transmission of traffic crashes until 2001.

\(c\) 2005 VMT were used to calculate metrics since VMT for 2006 is not available.

\(d\) Young drivers are defined as those age 16 to 20.

\(e\) Older drivers are defined as those age 65+.

\(f\) Data used to produce Figures 2.12 through 2.14 reflect the NHTSA imputed numbers for 2001 to 2005 (2006 data are not yet available).
Figure 2.6   Fatalities

*CATEGORY*

104  87  81  69  83  84
2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007

Note: 2007 data is preliminary.

Figure 2.7   Fatality Rate

*Per 100 Million VMT*

1.24  1.05  0.98  0.98  1.03
2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007

Note: 2007 data is preliminary.
Figure 2.8  Fatality Rate  
*Per 100,000 Population*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fatality Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>7.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>9.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>7.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>8.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>7.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>6.52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: 2007 data is preliminary.

Figure 2.9  Serious Injuries  
*Actual*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Serious Injuries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>1,845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>1,887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>1,329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>1,313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>764</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: 2007 data is preliminary.
Figure 2.10  Fatality and Serious Injury Rate
Per 100 Million VMT

Note: 2007 data is preliminary.

Figure 2.11  Fatality and Serious Injury Rate
Per 100,000 Population

Note: 2007 data is preliminary.
Figure 2.12  Alcohol-Related Fatalities

*Actual*

![Graph showing alcohol-related fatalities from 2002 to 2007. The data points indicate a general decline in fatalities over the years.](image)

Figure 2.13  Alcohol-Related Fatality Rate

*Per 100 Million VMT*

![Graph showing alcohol-related fatality rate from 2002 to 2007. The data points indicate a general decline in the rate over the years.](image)
Figure 2.14  Alcohol-Related Fatality Rate  
*Per 100,000 Population*


Figure 2.15  Percent of Population Observed Using Safety Belts

![Graph showing percent of population using safety belts from 2002 to 2007. The percentages are as follows: 71% (2002), 74% (2003), 76% (2004), 75% (2005), 74% (2006), 79% (2007).](image)
Figure 2.16  Speed Fatalities

*Actual*

Figure 2.17  Speed Fatality Rate

*Per 100 Million VMT*
Figure 2.18  Speed Fatality Rate
Per 100,000 Population

Figure 2.19  Nonmotorist (Pedestrian and Bicyclist) Fatalities
Actual

Note: 2007 data is preliminary.
Figure 2.20  Nonmotorist (Pedestrian and Bicyclist) Fatality Rate  
*Per 100 Million VMT*

![Graph showing nonmotorist (pedestrian and bicyclist) fatality rate per 100 million VMT from 2002 to 2007. The data shows fluctuations with values ranging from 0.08 to 0.20. The note indicates that 2007 data is preliminary.]

Note: 2007 data is preliminary.

Figure 2.21  Nonmotorist (Pedestrian and Bicyclist) Fatality Rate  
*Per 100,000 Population*

![Graph showing nonmotorist (pedestrian and bicyclist) fatality rate per 100,000 population from 2002 to 2007. The data shows fluctuations with values ranging from 0.65 to 1.60. The note indicates that 2007 data is preliminary.

Note: 2007 data is preliminary.
Figure 2.22  Nonmotorist (Pedestrian and Bicyclist) Serious Injuries

Actual

Figure 2.23  Nonmotorist (Pedestrian and Bicyclist) Fatality and Serious Injury Rate

Per 100 Million VMT

Note: 2007 data is preliminary.
Figure 2.24  Nonmotorist (Pedestrian and Bicyclist) Fatality and Serious Injury Rate
Per 100,000 Population

Note: 2007 data is preliminary.

Figure 2.25  Motorcyclist Fatalities
Actual

Note: 2007 data is preliminary.
Figure 2.26  Motorcycle Fatality Rate  
*Per 100 Million VMT*

![Graph showing motorcycle fatality rate per 100 million VMT from 2002 to 2007. The data points range from 0.11 to 0.19. Note: 2007 data is preliminary.]

Figure 2.27  Motorcycle Fatality Rate  
*Per 100,000 Population*

![Graph showing motorcycle fatality rate per 100,000 population from 2002 to 2007. The data points range from 0.84 to 1.50. Note: 2007 data is preliminary.]

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Figure 2.28  Motorcycle Serious Injuries
*Actual*

![Motorcycle Serious Injuries Graph](image)

Figure 2.29  Motorcycle Fatality and Serious Injury Rate
*Per 100 Million VMT*

![Motorcycle Fatality and Serious Injury Rate Graph](image)
Figure 2.30  Motorcycle Fatality and Serious Injury Rate
*Per 100,000 Population*

![Graph showing motorcycle fatality and serious injury rate per 100,000 population from 2002 to 2007.](image)

Figure 2.31  Young Drivers (Age 16 to 20) Involved in Fatal Crashes
*Actual*

![Graph showing young drivers involved in fatal crashes from 2002 to 2007.](image)

Note: 2007 data is preliminary.
Figure 2.32  Rate of Young Driver Involvement in Fatal Crashes  
*Per 100 Million VMT*  

![Graph showing rate of young driver involvement in fatal crashes per 100 million VMT from 2002 to 2007. The data trend shows a peak in 2003 with a rate of 0.30, followed by a decrease to 0.17 in 2006 and an increase to 0.18 in 2007. Note: 2007 data is preliminary.]

Figure 2.33  Rate of Young Driver Involvement in Fatal Crashes  
*Per 100,000 Population*  

![Graph showing rate of young driver involvement in fatal crashes per 100,000 population from 2002 to 2007. The data trend shows a peak in 2003 with a rate of 2.32, followed by a decrease to 1.31 in 2006 and an increase to 1.51 in 2007. Note: 2007 data is preliminary.]

*Note: 2007 data is preliminary.*
Figure 2.34  Young Driver Involvement in Serious Injury Crashes
*Actual*

Figure 2.35  Rate of Young Driver Involvement in Fatal and Serious Injury Crashes
*Per 100 Million VMT*
Figure 2.36  Rate of Young Driver Involvement in Fatal and Serious Injury Crashes
Per 100,000 Population

Rhode Island Comparison to New England and United States

As shown in Figure 2.37, Rhode Island has a lower fatality rate (per 100 million VMT) than the national average, but has exceeded the New England region fatality rate at various times throughout the period from 2002 to 2006. As reported by the NHTSA (Table 2.5), Rhode Island exceeds the New England region and United States averages for crashes involving alcohol, speed, and motorcycles; and has a higher percentage of unrestrained fatalities. The NHTSA’s Analysis of Fatal Crash Data Rhode Island 2002 to 2006 report includes additional information regarding state, regional, and national comparisons.
Figure 2.37  Rhode Island, New England, and United States Fatality Rate

*Per 100 Million VMT*

Table 2.5  Rhode Island and New England Crash Conditions as Percent of Total Fatalities in 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unbelted Passenger Vehicle Occupant Fatalities</th>
<th>Alcohol-Related&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>Speed-Related</th>
<th>Motorcycle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New England</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source:  *Analysis of Fatal Crash Data Rhode Island 2002 to 2006.*

<sup>a</sup> NHTSA imputed numbers (versus state reported).
2.2 Rhode Island Highway Safety Problem Areas

Rhode Island traffic deaths are unacceptable, unaffordable, and avoidable. Traffic crashes affect all users of the transportation system, as shown in Figure 2.38. After reviewing these statistics and those documented above (and described in more detail in Section 3.0), the Rhode Island FFY 2009 HSP will focus on multiple highway safety problems, including impaired driving, occupant protection, speed, motorcycles, young drivers, other road users, including pedestrians and bicyclists, and racial profiling. Also, the OHS will continue to concentrate on improving the State’s traffic records through crash data collection and analysis as part of their Section 408 grant process. The HSP also addresses the agency’s planning and administration functions.

Figure 2.38 Rhode Island Traffic Deaths
2002 to 2007

Additional Challenges to Highway Safety

Rhode Island has several laws and policies that have a direct impact on specific highway safety initiatives. In addition to the highway safety problem areas identified in this report, Rhode Island faces the following significant legislative and institutional challenges:

- Rhode Island does not have a primary safety belt law for all occupants nor does it have a helmet law for all motorcycle operators. The OHS is aware that primary law states routinely have higher usage rates than secondary law states; and when
secondary states strengthen their laws to primary enforcement, they often see an increase in usage rates by as much as 10 to 15 percent. Changes in the adult safety belt law have been regularly proposed but unsuccessful to date.

- Sobriety checkpoints are banned by judicial ruling in Rhode Island.
- There is no requirement for behind-the-wheel training for novice drivers (only classroom instruction).

Rhode Island, however, has achieved several highway safety legislative and policy-related milestones in recent years:

- On June 28, 2006, Governor Carcieri signed into law legislation doubling the license suspension for a first offense chemical test refusal. In addition, second and subsequent offenses were criminalized; fines, imprisonment, and license suspensions were increased; and community service was required. The intent of the new law is to make the choice of chemical test refusal less attractive and increase BAC data.

- In 2005, Rhode Island added a provision to its graduated drivers licensing (GDL) law limiting provisional license holders to one passenger under age 21 (family members excluded). A cell phone use prohibition for drivers under the age of 18 was added in 2006.

- As of July 2005, the State’s safety belt law for children under the age of 18 is a primary offense.

- Rhode Island has a medical fitness provision that allows doctors and other health care personnel to inform the Registry of a medical concern, which then triggers a hearing. In 2008, the Rhode Island legislature revised the license renewal procedures for elder drivers by changing the age to 75 (as opposed to 70) for a shorter time period between license renewals (two years rather than five years).

- Also in 2008, the Rhode Island legislature eliminated a loophole in the State’s “social host” law so that an adult may be charged with a crime if minors are found with alcohol anywhere on a property under the control of that adult. The law previously provided for commission of a crime only if the minor was found with alcohol inside a structure.

- Legislation approved by the General Assembly and signed into law by the governor in 2008 allows motorcycle training to be offered by independent companies. The State’s training arm, the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI), will certify motorcycle dealers engaged in selling bikes or an association engaged in motorcycle safety to provide cycle driver education courses in Rhode Island. Independent training facilities will be required to offer a course that is certified by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation, or other programs approved by CCRI and/or the Board of Governors for Higher Education.
2.3 Rhode Island Highway Safety Goals

In summary, Table 2.6 identifies the program areas that will be emphasized in Rhode Island’s Highway Safety Program, with related goals and performance measures, in FFY 2009. Details of the program are provided in Section 3.0 – Highway Safety Plan.
Table 2.6 Goals and Performance Measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Area</th>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Performance Measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Impaired Driving</td>
<td>• Reduce the number of alcohol-related fatalities.</td>
<td>• Increase average frequency of Operation Blue RIPTIDE patrols (150 per month in FFY 2007).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Reduce the percentage of fatalities that are alcohol related.</td>
<td>• Increase total number of DWI Charges Filed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Improve recognition of HVE slogan (1.7 percent for “You Drink &amp; Drive. You Lose.” in 2007 and perception of likelihood of being stopped after drinking to excess and driving (50.6 percent responding “Very Likely” or “Somewhat Likely” in 2006).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Include impaired driving information on RIDOT web site.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupant Protection</td>
<td>• Increase safety belt use rate.</td>
<td>• Increase:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Seat belt use among pickup truck drivers, as measured by observational study (64.7 percent in 2007);</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Awareness of the “Click It or Ticket” slogan, as measured by a telephone survey (84.3 percent in 2007);</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Perception that persons are likely to be ticketed for not wearing seat belts, as measured by a telephone survey (54.3 percent in 2007); and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Enforcement of seat belt law, as measured by the number of citations for failure to use proper restraints during the national “Click It or Ticket” enforcement mobilization (2,269 in 2007, 2,414 in 2008).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speed</td>
<td>• Reduce the role of speeding in highway fatalities.</td>
<td>• Decrease the percentage of fatalities that occur in speed-related crashes to 50 percent from the five-year average of 52 percent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Increase enforcement, as measured by the number of citations for speeding during Operation Blue RIPTIDE/State Police enforcement mobilizations (11,094 in FFY 2006).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2.6  Goals and Performance Measures (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Area</th>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Performance Measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Young Drivers</td>
<td>• Reduce crash fatalities involving young drivers.</td>
<td>• Maintain average of 2005 and 2006 level of drivers aged 16 to 20 years of age involved in fatal crashes (19 in 2005 and 14 in 2006).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Reduce crash injuries involving young drivers.</td>
<td>• Monitor the number of charges filed for drivers under 18 years of age for DUI (26 in 2006) to determine effectiveness of program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Implement a minimum of four contacts with parents/care givers to provide information on the role of alcohol and/or primary seat belt use for young drivers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Distribute GDL informational packet to new young drivers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Decrease number of young passenger fatalities who are 16 to 20 years of age (seven in 2006).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Implement an Intervention Pilot Project or young drivers alcohol-related program within a minimum of five local communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorcycles</td>
<td>• Reduce crashes and fatalities among motorcyclists and their passengers.</td>
<td>• Reduce the number of crash fatalities among motorcyclists from 13 in 2007 to no more than 10 in 2009.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Enhance the Motorcycle Awareness Program to emphasize the dangers of impaired driving.</td>
<td>• Reduce the percent of fatal motorcycle crashes that are alcohol related.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Continue the Motorcycle Safety Coalition with strategic partners.</td>
<td>• Reduce the percent of motorcycle fatalities who were legally intoxicated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Road Users</td>
<td>• Reduce the number of fatalities among pedestrians.</td>
<td>• Complete Rider Helping Rider Initiative.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Maintain the low number of fatalities among bicyclists.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Maintain the low number of fatalities on school buses.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Conduct five regional Safety Days throughout the calendar year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Supplement summer and school break camp activities focusing on safe interactions among pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Partner with local schools/agencies to participate in their safety programs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2.6 Goals and Performance Measures (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Area</th>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Performance Measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Traffic Records | • Expand and improve databases on highway safety.  
• Improve data integration and coordination with highway safety stakeholders.  
• Complete implementation and deployment of hardware, software, and training to support the electronic collection and transmission of traffic safety information (E-citation, crash form, and race data collection). | • Conduct 15 TRCC meetings in 2009 (10 in 2008).  
• Increase total number of program partners in 2009 (15 in 2008).  
• Expand sharing of problem identification data among shareholders, partners, and traffic safety advocates.  
• Continue to redesign OHS web page to include static FARS information along with OHS reports and links to other highway safety stakeholders’ data.  
• Develop a Traffic Records System Resource Guide and a comprehensive inventory of highway safety information sources in the State.  
• Monitor NHTSA 408 Grant Management Projects. Amount of funding received will determine the measurable goals set for 2009.  
• Provide law enforcement with community statistics one month prior to the national “Click It or Ticket and “You Drink. You Drive. You Lose.” campaigns.  
• Increase the timeliness of E-citation data from police and state and Municipal Courts from monthly to being posted daily into the system.  
• Increase the number of Law Enforcement Agencies backfilling data into citations from 6 to 25.  
• Implement procedures to electronically transmit Traffic Stop Data (Race Data) from local/state law enforcement to a designated institution for collection and analysis (none in 2008 to 39 in 2009). |
Table 2.6 Goals and Performance Measures (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Area</th>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Performance Measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Racial Profiling  | • Finalize installation of computers and printers in all law enforcement vehicles to collect traffic stop information.  
|                    | • Have IMC complete module change to include ethnicity of passengers on the traffic stop form and provide mechanism to transmit information from police departments to data collection entity.   
|                    | • Begin work on developing independent software program that would allow all police departments to transmit required information regardless of their software service provider.  
|                    | • Finalize RFP process to contract with a college/university to collect, analyze, and distribute traffic stop data and to make programmatic recommendations.  
|                    | • Make at least one quarterly report on ethnicity of drivers and passengers involved in traffic stops available for public review.  
|                    | • Generate programs to enhance law enforcement and minority community involvement and communication to ensure collaborations on highway safety programs.  
|                    | • Implement a professional traffic stop training program.  
|                    | • Assist in the development, printing, and extensive distribution of “What should I do if I am stopped by an officer of the law?” and “What to do during an encounter with a police officer” brochures.  
|                    | • Continue outreach to minority populations for all major OHS campaigns, including, but not limited to, Impaired Driving, “Click It or Ticket,” and Speed.  
|                    | • Produce by means of data collection and analysis by an appropriate entity at least one quarterly comprehensive report, including passenger and driver ethnicity information, summarizing the traffic stop information from all police departments.  
|                    | • Develop and provide strategic recommendations/initiatives to eliminate/prevent racial profiling based on data analysis.  
|                    | • Develop programs to foster partnerships to reduce/eliminate racial profiling while promoting outreach and educational activities between the minority communities and the Rhode Island law enforcement community.  
|                    | • Conduct at least three Professional Traffic Stop Trainings for law enforcement.  
|                    | • Develop culturally appropriate public service announcements, posters, brochures, pamphlets, and related materials to support outreach and educational efforts, including the Impaired Driving, “Click It or Ticket,” and Speed campaigns.  
|                    | • Produce and distribute to partners the “What I should do if I am stopped by an officer of the law?” and “What to do during an encounter with a police officer” bilingual pamphlets. Pamphlets will be individualized with contact information by the distributing partner.  

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State of Rhode Island Highway Safety Plan FY 2009
Table 2.6 Goals and Performance Measures (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Area</th>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Performance Measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planning and Administration</td>
<td>• Administer a fiscally responsible, effective highway safety program that includes stakeholders and addresses the State’s specific safety characteristics.</td>
<td>• Integrate recommendations from the NHTSA Special Management Review and the 2008 Management Review within specified timeframes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Deliver the Federal Fiscal Year 2008 Annual Program Evaluation by December 31, 2008.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.0 Highway Safety Plan: Program Areas for FFY 2008

3.1 Impaired Driving

Problem Identification and Analysis

Alcohol impaired driving continues to comprise a large share of Rhode Island’s crash fatalities and serious injuries. As shown in Figure 3.1, alcohol involvement in fatal crashes in Rhode Island has exceeded that of the nation for the past five years, resulting in 42 fatalities in 2006. Based on NHTSA imputed data, from 2002 through 2006, 85 percent of Rhode Island’s alcohol-related fatal crashes, and 46 percent of all fatal crashes, involved a driver with BAC greater than the legal limit of .08, as shown in Figure 3.2.

Figure 3.1 Alcohol Involvement in Fatalities
Rhode Island Compared to the United States

1 Data for Figures 3.1 and 3.2 reflect NHTSA imputed numbers for 2002 to 2006.
As shown in Figure 3.3, impaired driving does not target one specific road user, but affects all users.

**Figure 3.2** Alcohol-Related Fatalities with BAC Greater Than .08

![Bar chart showing alcohol-related fatalities with BAC greater than .08 from 2002 to 2006.](chart)

**Figure 3.3** Persons Killed in Crashes Involving Known BAC ≥ .08

![Pie chart showing percentage of persons killed in crashes involving BAC ≥ .08 by road user in 2006.](chart)

Source: FARS.
Based on NHTSA imputed data, from 2002 to 2006, the highest percentage of alcohol-related crashes in Rhode Island occurred in July, August, and May; on Saturdays and Sundays; with the majority occurring between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 3:00 a.m.

Several state laws and policies impact how the State is able to identify, enforce, and report on impaired driving:

- In July 2003, Rhode Island enacted a law making it a crime for anyone to operate a motor vehicle with a BAC of .08 or above. For young drivers, a BAC level of .02 results in license suspension until the age of 21.

- Sobriety checkpoints are constitutionally banned in Rhode Island.

- A police officer may or may not indicate suspicion of alcohol involvement in a crash report.

- BAC is only regularly released for persons who are killed in a crash, and even in fatal crashes, the BAC for a surviving driver may remain unknown.

- Prior to June 28, 2006, refusing a chemical test carried a lower penalty than Driving Under the Influence (DUI), and citations for chemical test refusal continued to increase. The significant number of refusals severely limited the availability of BAC data, impeding proper problem identification. On June 28, 2006, Governor Carcieri signed into law legislation doubling the license suspension for a first offense refusal. Additionally, second and subsequent offenses were criminalized; fines, imprisonment, and license suspensions were increased; and community service was required. The intent of the new law is to make the choice of chemical test refusal less attractive and increase BAC data. To accurately measure the impact of the law, multiple years of data will need to be analyzed.

- In 2008, the Rhode Island General Assembly eliminated a loophole in the State’s “social host” law so that an adult may be charged with a crime if minors are found with alcohol anywhere on a property under the control of that adult. The law previously provided for commission of a crime only if the minor was found with alcohol inside a structure.

In 2006, 101 drivers were involved in fatal crashes. This group consisted of 79 males and 22 females ages 16 to 92 and included 15 motorcycle operators. Table 3.1 describes the BAC test results for these drivers.
Table 3.1  BAC Test Results for Drivers Involved in Fatal Crashes
2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total Drivers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Refused test</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not tested</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tested/results unknown</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown (CDL)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown (MA)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tested/BAC 0.00</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAC 0.01-0.07</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAC 0.08-0.09</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAC 0.10-0.14</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAC 0.15-0.19</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAC 0.20+</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Goals**

- Reduce the number of alcohol-related fatalities.
- Reduce the percentage of fatalities that are alcohol-related.

**Objectives**

1. Reduce by 2.8 percent the number of crash fatalities with a known BAC of .01 or higher, from 36 in 2006 to 35 in 2009 (three-year average is 36).

2. Reduce by 5.3 percent the number of drivers involved in fatal crashes with a known BAC of .01 or higher, from 19 in 2006 to 18 in 2009 (three-year average is 23).

3. Reduce by 6.7 percent the number of drivers involved in fatal crashes who were legally intoxicated (known BAC of .08 or higher,) from 15 in 2006 to 14 in 2009 (three-year average is 20).

**Strategic Partners**

OHS will expand working relationships with those involved in the arrest, prosecution, and adjudication of impaired drivers. A well-trained police force can identify and arrest impaired drivers before they injure themselves or others. Due to contracting and employee changes, OHS did not utilize the Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy to expand the number of Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) and Drug Recognition
Expert (DRE) trained local law enforcement personnel in FFY 2008. We will, however, seek to address these issues and implement the trainings in FFY 2009.

These OHS initiatives complement the activities of other partners, such as Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD); the Department of Mental Health, Retardation, and Hospitals (MHRH) Division of Behavioral Health Care Services’ Enforcing the Underage Drinking Laws Advisory Committee; Substance Abuse Task Forces; the Department of Health and its Injury Prevention Plan; the Attorney General’s Office; the Department of Corrections; and the Judiciary.

**Strategies**

1. Expand impaired driving resources for state and local law enforcement agencies:
   - Conduct High Visibility Enforcement (HVE) Mobilizations and monthly sustained DUI enforcement programs, supported by participation in the International Association of Chiefs of Police “Law Enforcement Challenge” Award Program and Variable Message Sign (VMS) program. The VMS program is an incentive program for all local police departments and RISP for participating in a minimum number of speed, “Click It or Ticket,” and DWI patrols. VMS will be utilized, with appropriate messaging, for all patrol areas in the future. (Support idea of VMS use, as delineated in Noncheckpoint State meeting in Texas);
   - Offer DRE and SFST refresher training courses; and
   - Reinstitute LEL management of Operation Blue RIPTIDE, outreach to police chiefs, and traffic safety training.

2. Expand media messages, including participation in national HVE Mobilizations:
   - Conduct HVE Media Campaign;
   - Implement coordinated paid and earned media plan with summer program messaging;
   - Promote public awareness of regional saturation patrols under Operation Blue RIPTIDE;
   - Promote the State Police DUI Hot line (*77); and
   - Develop culturally appropriate messages and expand minority outreach efforts.

3. Integrate youth programs to prevent underage drinking.

4. Continue to fund the MADD Rhode Island Team Spirit Leadership Training, which employs peer-to-peer and environmental underage drinking-and-driving prevention models.
5. Improve collection and analysis of impaired driving data on highway safety in Rhode Island:
   
   − Increase the quantity of BAC data in the FARS and EARS files;
   − Improve the quality and coordination of alcohol-related databases; and
   − Continue to work with Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor (TRSP) to evaluate the impact of Rhode Island’s breath test refusal law on refusal rates.

6. Fund 66.6 percent of the salary of a TRSP within the Attorney General’s Office.

7. Continue to work with the CCRI (at no additional cost to OHS) to evaluate the impact of the upgrade to the curriculum of the “DUI School,” to which offenders with alcohol-related offenses are sentenced.

8. Develop a College-Level Alcohol Awareness Program available to all Rhode Island colleges and universities. This program will include alcohol awareness and education integrated into core classroom for-credit course curricula. The initiative will include a component to educate higher education leaders about the benefits of the “Age 21” drinking age.

9. Designate a permanent, statewide mourning site, a safe location that would be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to be used as a gathering place for mourners after any type of crash fatality. RIDOT will consider placing a “wall of names” at the site to be part of the memorial.

10. Include program management and oversight for all activities within this priority area.

Performance Measures

- Increase average frequency of Operation Blue RIPTIDE patrols (150 per month in FFY 2007).

- Increase total number of DWI Charges Filed.

- Improve recognition of HVE slogan (1.7 percent for “You Drink & Drive. You Lose.” in 2007) and perception of likelihood of being stopped after drinking to excess and driving (50.6 percent responding “Very Likely” or “Somewhat Likely” in 2006).

- Include impaired driving information on RIDOT web site.
3.2 Occupant Protection

Problem Identification and Analysis

As shown in Figure 3.4, the percent of observed seat belt use increased from 74 percent in 2006 to 79 percent in 2007. While this was a major increase, Rhode Island continues to fall below the nation for restraint use. Nonrestraint use in serious injury crashes has decreased each year from 2002 to 2006 (shown below in Figure 3.5); however, the percent of unrestrained fatalities rose significantly from 44 percent in 2005 to 74 percent in 2006. Details regarding restraint system use and nonuse for Rhode Island fatal crash victims are provided in Table 3.2.

Figure 3.4 Observed Seat Belt Use Rate
Rhode Island and Nationwide
Figure 3.5  Restraint Nonuse for Rhode Island Fatalities and Serious Injuries

Table 3.2  Fatalities by Restraint System Use and Nonuse

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Driver</th>
<th>Passenger</th>
<th>Unknown</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None used</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoulder belt</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lap belt</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lap and shoulder belt</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child safety seat</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type unknown or other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not coded</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>33</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonoccupants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 3.6 illustrates unrestrained fatalities by age group in 2006. The age groups with the greatest percentage of nonrestraint use were 21 to 24 years and 16 to 20 years.

**Figure 3.6  Age of Fatality, Restraint Nonuse**

2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16-20</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-24</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-64</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Goals**

- Increase safety belt use rate.

**Objectives**

1. Increase by 2.9 points the percent of front seat vehicle occupants who are observed to be using seat belts, from 79.1 percent in 2007 to 82 percent in 2009.

2. Reduce by 2.6 points the percent of crash fatalities who were known to be not wearing a seat belt, from 73.5 percent in 2006 to 70.9 percent in 2009 (three-year average).
Strategic Partners

Currently, the OHS works primarily with 38 state and local law enforcement agencies that are partners for national traffic safety initiatives to increase safety belt use. OHS will be expanding this network to include:

- A school-based network to promote safety belt use, with a focus on teens. OHS will seek to partner with Roger Williams University Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) in this regard as PRSA partnered with the RI SafeKids Coalition in 2008 to conduct elementary school outreach on seatbelt awareness; and

- A community-based network to promote safety belt use by establishing connections with local organizations, senior centers, and religious leaders.

Strategies

1. Increase awareness among drivers that Rhode Island law requires all drivers and passengers to wear safety belts, and increase the perception of Rhode Island drivers that an adult who is not wearing a safety belt will be cited by police:

   - Conduct two “Click It or Ticket” Media Campaigns;
   - Conduct two “Click It or Ticket” Enforcement Campaigns (total three weeks, including the two weeks from 5/18/09 to 5/31/09);
   - Cosponsor the Fourth Annual Teens on the Rhode Television/Radio Commercial Contest (partnership with RI Interscholastic League, RI State Police, AAA, and media partners); and
   - Maintain aggressive sports-marketing campaign.

2. In media and education programs, address at-risk communities (males, pickup truck drivers, crash-prone jurisdictions, and low belt-use rate communities):

   - Conduct “Click It or Ticket” Media Campaign, including a special component for pickup truck drivers and passengers;
   - Continue “Click It or Ticket” Media Campaign;
   - Continue to aggressively deploy the Rhode Island State Police Rollover Simulator to demonstrate the value of seat belt use;
   - Fund creation of a “Room to Live” video to bring to Rhode Islanders a new message that OHS hopes will save lives by reducing occupant ejections in vehicle crashes. The campaign is inspired by the Montana Department of Transportation-funded 12-minute video, also titled “Room to Live,” which focuses on a real life story, while showing the vehicle safety features that protect belted occupants. Montana’s “Room to Live” video was in turn inspired by an in-depth news report by the Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota Fox television network affiliate;
− Initiate community-based outreach to at-risk populations; and
− Develop culturally appropriate messages to expand minority outreach efforts.

3. Encourage the use of appropriate child passenger safety (CPS) restraint systems among children under nine years of age:
   − Work with state and local law enforcement to conduct CPS clinics throughout the State; and
   − Increase public awareness of the booster seat law that requires use of child restraints up to age seven.

4. Conduct professional traffic stop training for police officers.

5. Provide decision-makers within the legislature and the minority communities information on the value of a primary seat belt law.

6. Collect and analyze Rhode Island occupant protection data:
   − Conduct the annual observation and telephone surveys of occupant protection use.

7. Work with NHTSA on the Performance Enhancement Plan (PEP) to implement recommendations of the Occupant Protection Special Management Review.

8. Include program management and oversight for all activities within this priority area.

**Performance Measures**

- Increase:
  - Seat belt use among pickup truck drivers, as measured by observational study (64.7 percent in 2007);
  - Awareness of the “Click It or Ticket” slogan, as measured by a telephone survey (84.3 percent in 2007);
  - Perception that persons are likely to be ticketed for not wearing seat belts, as measured by a telephone survey (54.3 percent in 2007); and
  - Enforcement of seat belt law, as measured by the number of citations for failure to use proper restraints during the national “Click It or Ticket” enforcement mobilization (2,269 in 2007, 2,414 in 2008).
### 3.3 Speed

**Problem Identification and Analysis**

A fatality is defined as speed-related if one of the driver-related factors includes driving over the speed limit, excessive speed, driving too fast for conditions, or racing. A speed-related serious injury crash is defined as occurring when a citation is issued to a driver involved in the crash for exceeding the lawful speed limit.

Crashes related to speeding continue to be a problem in Rhode Island. Prior to 2007, the Rhode Island Standard Crash Report form did not record speed violations. In an effort to provide more reliable data, the new form includes information on speed violations. The transition to this new format was fully implemented on January 1, 2008, thereby allowing law enforcement the opportunity to more properly document vehicle crashes related to speed. This will greatly assist in identifying the problems and developing improvements at locations where speed crashes might be more prevalent.

Speed was a likely factor in over one-half of all fatalities in 2006 in the State. From 2002 to 2006, speeding-related fatal crashes in Rhode Island most frequently occurred in May, June, July, and August; on weekend evenings; and between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and Midnight. As shown in Figure 3.7, Rhode Island has exceeded the national and New England regional percentages for speed-related fatalities.

**Figure 3.7 Percent of Fatalities Resulting from Crashes Involving Speeding**

*Rhode Island, New England, and U.S.*

![Graph showing percentage of fatalities resulting from crashes involving speeding over the years from 2002 to 2006. The percentages for Rhode Island, New England, and the U.S. are indicated by bars for each year. The graph shows that Rhode Island consistently exceeds the New England and U.S. averages, with the highest percentage in 2006.*
As reported by NHTSA and shown in Table 3.3, Rhode Island exceeded New England and the nation for drivers involved in fatal crashes with previous speeding convictions during the period from 2002 through 2006. During this period, nearly 26 percent of the drivers who were involved in fatal crashes in Rhode Island and who had a prior record of speeding convictions were 21 to 24 years of age. Drivers in the youngest age group (16 to 20 years of age) accounted for 18.3 percent of those in fatal crashes with a prior speeding conviction in Rhode Island, compared to 17.7 percent in the region and 14.4 percent in the nation. Drivers aged 25 to 34 ranked a close third (20.6 percent) in this category. By comparison, 25- to 34-year-old drivers with prior speeding violations before involvement in a fatal crash comprised the largest percentage in the region (26 percent) and nationwide (25 percent). As it was in the region and the nation as a whole, the drivers within this category were predominantly male (81 percent).

Table 3.3  Drivers Involved in Fatal Crashes with Previous Speeding Convictions  
by Age Group and Gender (2002 to 2006)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Rhode Island N=1,733</th>
<th>New England N=57,407</th>
<th>U.S. 100%</th>
<th>Rhode Island Females</th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>New England Percent Male</th>
<th>U.S. Percent Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16-20</td>
<td>24 18.3%</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td>4 16.7%</td>
<td>20 83.3%</td>
<td>75.2%</td>
<td>78.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-24</td>
<td>34 26.0%</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
<td>6 17.6%</td>
<td>28 82.4%</td>
<td>81.5%</td>
<td>80.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>27 20.6%</td>
<td>25.9%</td>
<td>25.9%</td>
<td>3 11.1%</td>
<td>24 88.9%</td>
<td>82.6%</td>
<td>79.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>27 20.6%</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>8 29.6%</td>
<td>19 70.4%</td>
<td>75.8%</td>
<td>79.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>11 8.4%</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>2 18.2%</td>
<td>9 81.8%</td>
<td>81.5%</td>
<td>81.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-64</td>
<td>6 4.6%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>2 33.3%</td>
<td>4 66.7%</td>
<td>77.9%</td>
<td>81.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>2 1.5%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>0 0.0%</td>
<td>2 100.0%</td>
<td>89.2%</td>
<td>81.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>131 100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>25 19.1%</td>
<td>106 80.9%</td>
<td>79.6%</td>
<td>80.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on these data, the OHS has again selected speeding as a focus area in FFY 2009. Programming will continue to focus on males between the ages of 16 and 34. Operators with prior speeding citations or involvement in reported crashes also will be emphasized. In addition, speeding will be examined in conjunction with alcohol impaired programs.

Goals

- Reduce the role of speeding in highway fatalities.
Objectives

1. Increase the issuance of speeding citations.
2. Reduce the percent of fatalities resulting from speed-related crashes to 50 percent from the five-year average of 52 percent.

Strategic Partners

Expanding or developing working relationships with those involved in the arrest, prosecution, and adjudication of speeding drivers is a priority. A well-trained police force can identify and arrest drivers who speed before they injure themselves or others. In addition, the Rhode Island court system is moving towards implementation of electronic ticketing which will expedite the ticketing process and improve accuracy of data.

Strategies

1. Implement a statewide speeding/aggressive driving campaign targeted to males 16 to 34 years old.
2. Integrate speed enforcement and outreach into the “100 Days of Summer” program to highlight speed issues.
3. Conduct two statewide high publicity speed activities.
4. Target speed enforcement patrols on noninterstate roadways with speed limits of 35 mph or less.
5. Continue overtime speed patrols with the State Police and Operation Blue RIPTIDE.
6. Employ speed-activated roadside displays showing speed limit and actual speed traveled.
7. Include program management and oversight for all activities within this priority area.

Performance Measures

- Decrease the percentage of fatalities that occur in speed-related crashes to 50 percent from the five-year average of 52 percent.
- Increase enforcement, as measured by the number of citations for speeding during Operation Blue RIPTIDE/State Police enforcement mobilizations (11,094 in FFY 2006).
3.4 Young Drivers

Problem Identification and Analysis

In 2007, young drivers age 16 to 20 years represented 1.6 percent of Rhode Island’s licensed driver population; yet comprised nearly 25 percent of drivers involved in fatal crashes. Young drivers are over-represented in fatal crashes, which indicate the need for targeted education and enforcement for this population. Seven young drivers died in fatal crashes in 2007.

Table 3.4 Young Drivers (Age 16 to 20) Involved in Fatal Crashes in Rhode Island, New England, and U.S.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rhode Island</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatal Crashes Involving Young Drivers</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Drivers Killed in Crashes</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New England</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatal Crashes Involving Young Drivers</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Drivers Killed in Crashes</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The United States</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatal Crashes Involving Young Drivers</td>
<td>7,404</td>
<td>7,431</td>
<td>7,004</td>
<td>6,964</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Drivers Killed in Crashes</td>
<td>3,588</td>
<td>3,538</td>
<td>3,382</td>
<td>3,406</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3.5 and Figure 3.8 illustrate the comparison between the age group of young drivers as a percent of fatalities and percent of licensed drivers. Although young drivers made up a relatively small portion of Rhode Island licensed drivers in 2006, young people were much more likely to be killed in crashes. The biggest disparity between the percent of licensed drivers and the percent of those killed in crashes occurred for those young drivers aged 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 years old.
Table 3.5  Fatalities and Licensed Drivers by Age  
2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Number of Fatalities per Age Group</th>
<th>Percent of Total Fatalities</th>
<th>Age Group as Percent of All Licensed Drivers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 years or younger</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-19</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-34</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-64</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-69</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-74</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75-79</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85+</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 3.8  Age Group as Percent of Fatalities and Percent of Licensed Drivers  
2006
Goals

- Reduce crash fatalities involving young drivers.
- Reduce crash injuries involving young drivers.

Objectives

- Reduce by 10 percent the five-year average number of fatal crashes (2002 to 2006) involving drivers 20 years old and younger from 18 to 16.

Strategic Partners

The Rhode Island Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is charged with licensing drivers in the State of Rhode Island. Currently, applicants between the ages of 16 and 18 are subject to Graduated Licensing requirements. These rules are a key avenue for addressing the needs of young drivers, including training and restrictions on driving activities. Ensuring the uniform and rigorous application of these laws, as well as evaluating their effectiveness and strengthening them, where necessary, is pivotal. Driver training and outreach programs also play a critical role for the new driver. Forming partnerships to address training needs and training effectiveness also aid in strengthening the skills of new drivers. Other partners include MADD, AAA, Rhode Island Attorney General’s Office, Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal Court, the minority community, and law enforcement throughout the State.

Strategies

1. Improve and expand educational outreach to high schools (including School Resource Officers), colleges, and community partners:
   - Emphasize young drivers in alcohol and “Click It or Ticket” media campaigns;
   - Create and distribute an alcohol-related informational brochure for high school and/or college students;
   - Evaluate and coordinate public/private efforts in area of young driver safety efforts statewide;
   - Develop “Welcome Back to School” college packets for distribution at the beginning of the 2010 school year;
   - Work with community and business partners to educate parents/care givers about the role of alcohol in crashes among 16- to 20-year-old drivers. Also educate young drivers and their parents/care givers about primary seat belt enforcement for persons under 18 years of age;
   - Develop an informational/educational introduction packet for GDL License applicants. This packet would be distributed to young drivers/parents/care givers as part of the process to obtain a drivers license;
– Expand educational permit program with AAA Southern New England to be offered statewide to nonmembers. This is to promote and encourage more parental and teen partnerships in the area of driver education on a state level;

– Make amendment to current Driver’s education law, to include applicant’s parents or guardian to participate in two hours of instruction on the content of driver education curriculum;

– Work with the CCRI driver education administrator to identify and implement potential improvements to the drivers’ training program;

– Develop culturally appropriate messages and expand minority outreach efforts;

– Explore potential training to develop an Underage Drinking Rapid Response Team;

– Work with private/public partners to implement a pilot program utilizing the “Teen Black Box” technology;

– Implement the young driver/GDL enforcement in and around high schools;

– Develop a hands-on driving program for young drivers to experience necessary skills to respond to a variety of hazardous driving situations (Driver’s Edge);

– Develop a young drivers alcohol-related program to be implemented through the local school/after school/sports/recreation programs;

– Establish a Permanent Statewide Safe Mourning Site that would be available 24/7 to be used as a gathering place for mourners after any type of crash fatality;

– Develop a college-level Alcohol Awareness Program that would be available to all Rhode Island colleges/universities, including development of an alcohol awareness/education/intervention program that could be integrated into core classroom for-credit course curriculums. This initiative will include a component to address the current “Age 21” drinking issue; and

– Work with MADD RI to implement their Youth in Action initiative to create environmental changes regarding underage drinking and drunk driving. This training is geared for young people to work with community leaders, school representatives, and parents to increase prevention education and to make this education consistent statewide.

2. Collect and analyze age-related data on highway safety.

3. Include program management and oversight for all activities within this priority area.

**Performance Measures**

- Maintain average of 2005 and 2006 level of drivers aged 16 to 20 years of age involved in fatal crashes (19 in 2005 and 14 in 2006).

- Monitor the number of charges filed for drivers under 18 years of age for DUI (26 in 2006) to determine effectiveness of program.
• Implement a minimum of four contacts with parents/care givers to provide information on the role of alcohol and/or primary seat belt use for young drivers.

• Distribute GDL informational packet to new young drivers.

• Decrease number of young passenger fatalities who are 16 to 20 years of age (seven in 2006).

• Implement an Intervention Pilot Project or young drivers alcohol-related program within a minimum of five local communities.
3.5 Motorcycles

Problem Identification and Analysis

Motorcycle fatalities in the U.S. have risen for the past eight years. The rise in 2003 (12.9 percent) and again in 2004 (7.9 percent) pushed the national total over 4,000, accompanied by more than 60,000 serious injuries. From 2003 to 2004, Rhode Island motorcycle fatalities declined by 23.1 percent (from 13 to 10), reversing a tragic trend. However, this decline did not continue in 2005 or 2006. Regrettably, motorcycle fatalities increased by 4 to 14 (a 40 percent increase) in 2005 to 16 in 2006. In 2007, Rhode Island saw a slight decline to 13 fatalities. Unfortunately, motorcyclist fatalities still comprise 18.8 percent of all crash fatalities in Rhode Island.

From 2002 to 2006, motorcycle fatal crashes in Rhode Island most frequently occurred in August; on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays; and between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. Motorcyclist fatalities have grown 55.6 percent from 2002 to 2007 in Rhode Island. As shown in Figure 3.9, Rhode Island motorcyclist fatalities have exceeded the national percentage every year since 2002.

Figure 3.9  Motorcyclist Fatalities as Percent of Total Fatalities

Rhode Island, New England, and U.S.
Table 3.6 documents the five cities and towns with the greatest number and percent of total motorcycle crashes in Rhode Island. This does not mean, however, that these individuals were registered in those locations.

**Table 3.6  Top Five Cities/Towns for Motorcycle Crashes 2002 to 2006**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City/Town</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percent of Total (2002 to 2006)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Providence</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pawtucket</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cranston</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coventry</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2006, 11 of 16 motorcycle-related fatalities were reported as helmet nonuse. Fifty-five percent of the fatally injured unrestrained (no helmet) motorcycle operators were age 45 to 54, as illustrated in Figure 3.10.

**Figure 3.10  Age of Fatally Injured Motorcycle Operators with Restraint Nonuse 2006**

- 16-20: 9%
- 21-24: 9%
- 25-34: 9%
- 35-44: 18%
- 45-54: 55%
Goals

• Reduce crashes and fatalities among motorcyclists and their passengers.

• Enhance the Motorcycle Awareness Program to emphasize the dangers of impaired driving.

• Continue the Motorcycle Safety Coalition with strategic partners.

Objectives

1. Reduce the number of crash fatalities among motorcyclists from 13 in 2007 to no more than 10 in 2009.

2. Reduce by two points the percent of all motorcycle operator crash fatalities with a known BAC of .01 or higher, from 47 percent (2002 to 2006) to 45 percent in 2009.

Strategic Partners

Partners will include the Departments of Transportation and Health, as well as the Division of Motor Vehicles, the State Police, the Community College of Rhode Island, AAA, the Rhode Island Association of Independent Insurers, Rhode Island Hospitality Association, Injury Prevention Center, representatives from all of the motorcycle retail and repair shops in the State, as well as representatives from organized motorcycle clubs.

Strategies

1. Expand the Motorcycle Awareness Campaign:

   – Emphasize the negatives of driving under the influence of alcohol and riding motorcycles, correlating motorcyclist fatalities to alcohol; and

   – Increase automobile drivers’ awareness of the characteristics of motorcyclists.

2. Continue the Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Coalition with strategic partners:

   – Meet quarterly with motorcycle groups and other partners to develop education and outreach resources;

   – Continue the Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Campaign preceding the national “Motorcycle Awareness Month” in May; and

   – Encourage the use of motorcycle helmets.
3. Continue to develop a motorcyclist database with the assistance of the Rhode Island DMV:

− Continue to periodically mail safety and awareness information to all licensed riders in the State;
− Work with CCRI to expand the number of rider training classes offered; and
− Work with the Rhode Island Independent Insurers Association and AAA to offer discounted insurance rates to riders that continue their education and take the intermediate and advanced rider training courses offered by CCRI.

4. OHS will conduct a RHR Seminar during the winter of 2009. The RHR seminar is as follows:

“Riders Helping Riders (RHR) is an instructional program designed to encourage motorcyclists to intervene to prevent drinking and riding by their motorcyclist peers. The program is based on focus group research which found that riders consider themselves to be united by an interest in riding, and willing to help other riders in need, but that a sense of individualism limits the extent to which riders are willing to intervene in drinking and riding.

RHR is intended to convince motorcyclists that an impaired rider needs their help, and that they are in the best position to provide help. The program provides a “toolkit” of techniques for separating drinking from riding, discouraging riders from becoming impaired, recognizing impairment, and discouraging impaired riders from riding. An optional role-playing module is included. At the end of class, students are asked to sign a pledge to do their best to help an impaired rider live to ride another day.

RHR was developed with the assistance of instructors from the South Carolina Rider Education Program and pilot tested by instructors of Georgia’s Department of Driver Services, Motorcycle Safety Program.”

5. Include program management and oversight for all activities within this priority area.

**Performance Measures**

- Reduce the number of crash fatalities among motorcyclists from 13 in 2007 to no more than 10 in 2009.
- Reduce the percent of fatal motorcycle crashes that are alcohol related.
- Reduce the percent of motorcycle fatalities who were legally intoxicated.
- Complete Rider Helping Rider Initiative.
3.6 Other Road Users

Other transportation modes consist of everything except personal automobiles and motorcycles and are generally classified as motorized (school buses) and nonmotorized (pedestrian and bicycle) modes. Although crashes in Rhode Island are dominated by personal automobiles, other modes of transportation require consideration. For example, the rate of fatal and serious injury crashes for pedestrians has been on the rise while fatalities and serious injuries for bicyclists remain low. Although serious injuries to pedestrians are rare, the large fluctuation in the number of pedestrian fatalities over the past five years requires attention.

Problem Identification and Analysis – Pedestrians

Seventy-two pedestrian were killed in motor vehicle crashes in Rhode Island from 2002 through 2007. As illustrated in Figure 3.11, total crashes involving pedestrians also have increased during this time, and there is no significant reduction in the number of serious injuries sustained by pedestrians. As shown in Figure 3.12, Rhode Island far exceeds the national percentage for pedestrian fatalities. From 2002 to 2006, the majority of pedestrian fatal crashes occurred in July, on Saturdays, and between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 3:00 a.m. Pedestrian crashes by city/town are shown in Table 3.7.

Figure 3.11   Total Crashes and Serious Injuries Involving Pedestrians

![Figure 3.11 Total Crashes and Serious Injuries Involving Pedestrians](image-url)
Figure 3.12  Pedestrian Fatalities as a Percent of Total Fatalities  
Rhode Island Compared to United States

Table 3.7  Pedestrian Crashes by City/Town  
2002 to 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City/Town</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percent of Total 2002 to 2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Providence</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>24.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cranston</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pawtucket</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Providence</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Problem Identification and Analysis – Bicyclists

The total number of crashes involving bicyclists and number of serious injuries sustained decreased between 2003 and 2006, as shown in Figure 3.13. As in 2006, however, in 2007 one bicyclist was killed in Rhode Island. As shown in Figure 3.14, the State remains well below the national average for crashes involving bicyclists (one per year except for 2004 when there were zero bicyclist fatalities); however, any loss of life is unacceptable. Table 3.8 shows bicycle crashes by city/town.
Figure 3.13  Total Crashes and Serious Injuries Involving Bicyclists

Figure 3.14  Bicyclist Involved Fatalities as Percent of Total Fatalities

*Rhode Island Compared to United States*
Table 3.8  Bicycle Crashes by City/Town
2002 to 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City/Town</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percent of Total 2002 to 2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Providence</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>357</td>
<td>21.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pawtucket</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newport</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cranston</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Problem Identification and Analysis – School Buses

As shown in Table 3.9, school bus crashes are a relatively rare occurrence in Rhode Island. School bus crashes have never resulted in as much as one percent of all crash fatalities and serious injuries. There were no such fatalities in 2006 and 2007. Current passenger safety programming areas will continue in an effort to maintain this strong record.

Table 3.9  Fatalities and Serious Injuries Involving School Buses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fatalities and Serious Injuries</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of State Total</td>
<td>0.16</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Crashes Involving School Buses</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Goals

- Reduce the number of fatalities among pedestrians.
- Maintain the low number of fatalities among bicyclists.
- Maintain the low number of fatalities on school buses.
Objectives

1. Keep the number of crash fatalities among pedestrians at or below its three-year average (2005 to 2007) of 12 in 2009.

2. Reduce the number of crash fatalities among bicyclists to zero in 2009 from one annually in 2007.


Strategic Partners

OHS has partnerships with summer camps, the Rhode Island Safe Kids Coalition, the Rhode Island Department of Health, state and local law enforcement agencies, and the American Automobile Association. In cooperation with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation, these groups promote transportation safety and the incorporation of bicycle and/or pedestrian-friendly policies in transportation planning.

Strategies

1. Increase public awareness of the diversity of road users:
   - Increase automobile drivers’ awareness of need to share the road with bicyclists and pedestrians.

2. Continue participating in nonmotorized transportation programming:
   - Safety Days and other summer and school break activities focusing on safe interactions among pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists.

3. Include program management and oversight for all activities within this priority area.

Program Performance Measures

- Conduct five regional Safety Days throughout the calendar year.
- Supplement summer and school break camp activities focusing on safe interactions among pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists.
- Partner with local schools/agencies to participate in their safety programs.
3.7 Traffic Records

Problem Identification and Analysis

The OHS continues to implement the recommendations of the last Traffic Records Assessment. Highway safety stakeholders are currently unable to exchange information in a timely, accurate, complete, uniform, and integrated system. The traffic records system includes data elements necessary for problem identification, problem analysis, and countermeasure evaluation in all areas of traffic safety in the State.

A Highway Safety and Traffic Records Coordinating Committee (TRCC) has been working on the multiyear Highway Safety Data and Traffic Records System Improvement Plan.

Goals

- Expand and improve databases on highway safety.
- Improve data integration and coordination with highway safety stakeholders.
- Complete implementation and deployment of hardware, software, and training to support the electronic collection and transmission of traffic safety information (E-citation, Crash form, and Race data collection).

Objectives

- Reduce traffic records data processing time, manual data processing, and paper handling.
- Increase the data linkage of traffic records with other data systems within the State and local highway and traffic safety programs.

Strategic Partners

The OHS will continue to work with members of the TRCC, including RIDOT, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DMV, Department of Health, local/state police, and public/private organizations.

Strategies

1. Improve the maintenance, coordination, accuracy, and analysis of current transportation safety data:
   - Conduct regularly scheduled meetings of the TRCC;
Utilize NHTSA 408 Grant Funding to partner with other state agencies in data coordination, management, and analysis; and
Seek contractor for data coordination, management, and analysis.

2. Increase the availability of safety data and traffic records to highway safety stakeholders:

Use Critical Analysis Reporting Environment (CARE) software to generate community-wide data analysis. This analysis will be made available to highway safety stakeholders through improved web site access; and
Provide community-wide analysis to all Operation Blue RIPTIDE partners through web site connections.

3. Provide information on highway safety problem identification, process, program planning, and evaluation to potential grantees:

Hold informational meetings with potential grantees (10 in 2008);
Expand the total number of potential program partners; and
Continue working with the RIDOT to update the Rhode Island SHSP.

4. Expand the OHS web page to include a secure traffic records information section that highway safety stakeholders can access. Create a public side to this page for public access to static information.

5. Identify, adjust, track, and document systemwide and project level performance measures for inclusion in fourth-year Section 408 grant application.


7. Implement Traffic Stop Data (Race Data) collection module for driver and passengers. Data from local/state law enforcement will be electronically transmitted to a designated institution for collection and analysis (none in 2008 to 39 in 2009).

8. Include program management and oversight for all activities within this priority area.

Program Performance Measures

- Conduct 15 TRCC meetings in 2009 (10 in 2008).
- Increase total number of program partners in 2009 (15 in 2008).
- Expand sharing of problem identification data among shareholders, partners, and traffic safety advocates.
• Continue to redesign OHS web page to include static FARS information along with OHS reports and links to other highway safety stakeholders’ data.

• Develop a Traffic Records System Resource Guide and a comprehensive inventory of highway safety information sources in the State.

• Monitor NHTSA 408 Grant Management Projects. Amount of funding received will determine the measurable goals set for 2009.

• Provide law enforcement with community statistics one month prior to the national “Click It or Ticket” and “You Drink. You Drive. You Lose.” campaigns.

• Increase the timeliness of E-citation data from police and state and Municipal Courts from monthly to being posted daily into the system.

• Increase the number of law enforcement agencies backfilling data into citations from 6 to 25.

• Implement procedures to electronically transmit Traffic Stop Data (Race Data) from local/state law enforcement to a designated institution for collection and analysis (none in 2008 to 39 in 2009).
3.8 Racial Profiling

Problem Identification and Analysis

The act of racial profiling affects both law enforcement and the community at large by undermining the civil rights of everyone; this creates mistrust with the majority of law enforcement personnel who are enforcing the law in an equitable manner. The State of Rhode Island has received racial profiling monies as an assurance state for the past two years under the SAFETEA-LU legislation. RIDOT OHS is utilizing these funds to continue developing a multifaceted program to assess the level and/or locations where racial profiling may exist and to implement programs to address and improve community/police relations. There is a great need to create an effective mechanism to collect and analyze traffic stop data on both drivers and passengers and develop an aggressive program to address deficiencies, if they are found. Existing programs, policies, and procedures that have been implemented by law enforcement to eliminate these practices also need to be collected and analyzed with the ultimate goal of promoting trust and effective community relations between law enforcement and the communities they serve.

Three other key elements have been characterized as challenges, including: 1) the lack of knowledge/education of the minority community in regards to knowing what to do during a traffic stop; 2) not being able to speak English; and 3) the need for unification among the different minority groups to work collaboratively.

As Rhode Island has no legislation mandating the collection of traffic stop data, RIDOT OHS has signed commitments (through the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) process) with the 38 local police departments and the Rhode Island State Police to voluntarily collect statistical information on the race and ethnicity of the driver and passengers for each motor vehicle stop. An RFP to provide the appropriate mechanism to collect, analyze, and assess this information and provide recommendations to address issues that arise from the data has been finalized and should be advertised and bids received before the end of this calendar year. In conjunction with these activities, RIDOT has requested an estimate from Information Management Corporation (IMC) for revising the crash form to include a module for number and ethnicity of passengers in each vehicle and to develop the transmittal mechanism to allow the departments to provide the information to the entity chosen to collect the data. It also is anticipated that this change will be completed by the end of this calendar year so that the data can begin being collected in a timely manner.

Finally, the OHS is committed to piloting and implementing an enhanced Professional Traffic Stop training for all law enforcement agencies. This program, based on the NHTSA model, was recently reviewed and extensively revised by the NHTSA Regional LEL, Ted Minall, and the former Rhode Island State LEL, Col. Richard Sullivan (ret.). This revised training has been reviewed and extensively discussed with members of the minority community and law enforcement and has been well supported.
Goals

- Finalize installation of computers and printers in all law enforcement vehicles to collect traffic stop Information.
- Have IMC complete module change to include ethnicity of passengers on the traffic stop form and provide mechanism to transmit information from police departments to a designated data collection entity.
- Begin work on developing independent software program that would allow all police departments to transmit required information regardless of their software service provider.
- Finalize RFP process to contract with a college/university to collect, analyze, and distribute traffic stop data and to make programmatic recommendations.
- Make at least one quarterly report on ethnicity of drivers and passengers involved in traffic stops available for public review.
- Generate programs to enhance law enforcement and minority community involvement and communication to ensure collaborations on highway safety programs.
- Implement a professional traffic stop training program.
- Assist in the development, printing, and extensive distribution of “What should I do if I am stopped by an officer of the law?” and “What to do during an encounter with a police officer” brochures.
- Continue outreach to minority populations for all major OHS campaigns, including, but not limited to, Impaired Driving, “Click It or Ticket,” and Speed.

Objectives

1. Implement a program to provide professional collection, analysis, and access to the traffic stop data from all communities within the State.
2. Implement a program providing law enforcement and the minority communities opportunities to work together on education, outreach, and training.
3. Provide appropriate training programs for law enforcement personnel.
4. Assist in developing appropriate racial profiling prevention measures.
**Strategic Partners**

To achieve these aggressive goals, it is imperative that the interactions between state and local law enforcement, agencies representing minority interests, legislators, and leaders within all the diverse communities throughout the State of Rhode Island work with the OHS in the planning, development, and implementation process to achieve our common goals. Currently, three different ethnic groups – African American, Asian, and Latino – have been identified and are involved in the current process. As the program develops, OHS plans to expand its scope to include other ethnic groups within the State.

**Strategies**

1. Finalize a contract with an appropriate entity to collect and assess the traffic stop data, both qualitatively and quantitatively to determine if ethnic and racial disparities exist and to make recommendations for improvements. A distribution system will be developed to share this information, including the OHS web site.

2. Finalize and implement the process necessary to develop program initiatives designed to foster understanding, communication, and involvement between the minority communities and law enforcement personnel. Such a program would include extensive education and outreach initiatives, such as faith-based programs and public forums between law enforcement and the minority community and culturally appropriate literature and media campaigns in multiple languages.

3. Conduct professional traffic stop trainings for law enforcement personnel.

4. Develop tools, products, or activities that will facilitate the implementation or advancement of best practices to prohibit racial profiling and to ensure project effectiveness.

5. Develop culturally appropriate education/information tools to support all of the program initiatives of the OHS, including occupant protection, impaired driving, motorcycle safety, young driver programs, speed, and other roadway users.

6. Include program management and oversight for all activities within this program area.

**Program Performance Measures**

- Produce by means of data collection and analysis by an appropriate entity at least one quarterly comprehensive report, including passenger and driver ethnicity information, summarizing the traffic stop information from all police departments.

- Develop and provide strategic recommendations/initiatives to eliminate/prevent racial profiling based on data analysis.
• Develop programs to foster partnerships to reduce/eliminate racial profiling while promoting outreach and educational activities between the minority communities and the Rhode Island law enforcement community.

• Conduct at least three Professional Traffic Stop Trainings for law enforcement.

• Develop culturally appropriate public service announcements, posters, brochures, pamphlets, and related materials to support outreach and educational efforts, including the Impaired Driving, “Click It or Ticket,” and Speed campaigns.

• Produce and distribute to partners the “What I should do if I am stopped by an officer of the law” and “What to do during an encounter with a police officer” bilingual pamphlets. Pamphlets will be individualized with contact information by the distributing partner.
3.9 Planning and Administration

Problem Identification and Analysis

The RIDOT Office on Highway Safety will serve as the primary agency responsible for insuring that highway safety concerns for Rhode Island are identified and addressed through the development and implementation of appropriate countermeasures.

Goal

- Administer a fiscally responsible, effective highway safety program that includes stakeholders and addresses the State’s specific safety characteristics.

Strategic Partners

The RIDOT OHS will partner with NHTSA to develop a PEP for the Special Management Review and a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for the 2008 Management Review and begin implementing recommendations.

Strategies

1. Administer the statewide traffic safety program:
   - Implement the HSP and develop future initiatives;
   - Provide sound fiscal management for traffic safety programs;
   - Coordinate state plans with other Federal, state, and local agencies; and
   - Assess program outcomes.


3. Provide data required for Federal and state reports.

4. Provide program staff, professional development, travel funds, space, equipment, materials, and fiscal support.

5. Provide data and information to policy and decision-makers on the benefits of various traffic safety laws.

6. Identify and prioritize highway safety problems for future OHS attention, programming, and activities.

7. Include program management and oversight for all activities within this priority area.
Program Performance Measures


4.0 State Certifications and Assurances

Failure to comply with applicable Federal statutes, regulations and directives may subject State officials to civil or criminal penalties and/or place the State in a high risk grantee status in accordance with 49 CFR §18.12.

Each fiscal year the State will sign these Certifications and Assurances that the State complies with all applicable Federal statutes, regulations, and directives in effect with respect to the periods for which it receives grant funding. Applicable provisions include, but not limited to, the following:

- 23 U.S.C. Chapter 4 - Highway Safety Act of 1966, as amended;
- 49 CFR Part 18 - Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments;
- 49 CFR Part 19 - Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals and Other Nonprofit Organizations;
- 23 CFR Chapter II (§§1200, 1205, 1206, 1250, 1251, & 1252) Regulations governing highway safety programs;
- NHTSA Order 462-6C - Matching Rates for State and Community Highway Safety Programs; and
- Highway Safety Grant Funding Policy for Field-Administered Grants.

4.1 Certifications and Assurances

The Governor is responsible for the administration of the State highway safety program through a State highway safety agency which has adequate powers and is suitably equipped and organized (as evidenced by appropriate oversight procedures governing such areas as procurement, financial administration, and the use, management, and disposition of equipment) to carry out the program (23 USC 402(b) 1) (A));

The political subdivisions of this State are authorized, as part of the State highway safety program, to carry out within their jurisdictions local highway safety programs which have been approved by the Governor and are in accordance with the uniform guidelines promulgated by the Secretary of Transportation (23 USC 402(b) 1) (B));
At least 40 per cent of all Federal funds apportioned to this State under 23 USC 462 for this fiscal year will be expended by or for the benefit of the political subdivision of the State in carrying out local highway safety programs (23 USC 402(b) 1(C)), unless this requirement is waived in writing;

The State will implement activities in support of national highway safety goals to reduce motor vehicle related fatalities that also reflect the primary data-related crash factors within the State as identified by the State highway safety planning process, including:

- National law enforcement mobilizations;
- Sustained enforcement of statutes addressing impaired driving, occupant protection, and driving in excess of posted speed limits;
- An annual statewide safety belt use survey in accordance with criteria established by the Secretary for the measurement of State safety belt use rates to ensure that the measurements are accurate and representative; and
- Development of statewide data systems to provide timely and effective data analysis to support allocation of highway safety resources.

The State shall actively encourage all relevant law enforcement agencies in the State to follow the guidelines established for vehicular pursuits issued by the International Association of Chiefs of Police that are currently in effect.

This State’s highway safety program provides adequate and reasonable access for the safe and convenient movement of physically handicapped persons, including those in wheelchairs, across curbs constructed or replaced on or after July 1, 1976, at all pedestrian crosswalks (23 USC 402(b) 1(0));

Cash draw downs will be initiated only when actually needed for disbursement, cash disbursements and balances will be reported in a timely manner as required by NHTSA, and the same standards of timing and amount, including the reporting of cash disbursement and balances, will be imposed upon any secondary recipient organizations (49 CFR 18.20, 18.21, and 18.41). Failure to adhere to these provisions may result in the termination of drawdown privileges;

The State has submitted appropriate documentation for review to the single point of contact designated by the Governor to review Federal programs, as required by Executive Order 12372 (Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs);

Equipment acquired under this agreement for use in highway safety program areas shall be used and kept in operation for highway safety purposes by the State; or the State, by formal agreement with appropriate officials of a political subdivision or State agency, shall cause such equipment to be used and kept in operation for highway safety purposes (23 CFR 1200.21);
The State will comply with all applicable State procurement procedures and will maintain a financial management system that complies with the minimum requirements of 49 CFR 18.20;

The State highway safety agency will comply with all Federal statutes and implementing regulations relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin (and 49 CFR Part 21); b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps (and 49 CFR Part 27); d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; f) the comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; g) §§ 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§ 290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§ 3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

4.2 The Drug-free Workplace Act of 1988
(49 CFR Part 29 Subpart F)

The State will provide a drug-free workplace by:

a. Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee’s workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;

b. Establishing a drug-free awareness program to inform employees about:

1. The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace.
2. The grantee’s policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace.
3. Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs.
4. The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug violations occurring in the workplace.
c. Making it a requirement that each employee engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a).

d. Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph a) that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will:

1. Abide by the terms of the statement.

2. Notify the employer of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five days after such conviction.

e. Notifying the agency within ten days after receiving notice under subparagraph d) 2) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction.

f. Taking one of the following actions, within 30 days of receiving notice under subparagraph d) 2), with respect to any employee who is so convicted

1. Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination.

2. Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, state, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency.

g. Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and f) above.

4.3 Buy America Act

The State will comply with the provisions of the Buy America Act (23 USC 101 Note) which contains the following requirements:

Only steel, iron and manufactured products produced in the United States may be purchased with Federal funds unless the Secretary of Transportation determines that such domestic purchases would be inconsistent with the public interest; that such materials are not reasonably available and of a satisfactory quality; or that inclusion of domestic materials will increase the cost of the overall project contract by more than 25 percent. Clear justification for the purchase of non-domestic items must be in the form of a waiver request submitted to and approved by the Secretary of Transportation.
4.4 Political Activity (Hatch Act)

The State will comply with the provisions of five U.S.C. §§ 1501-1508 and implementing regulations of five CFR Part 151, concerning “Political Activity of State or Local Offices, or Employees.”

4.5 Certification Regarding Federal Lobbying

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, “Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying,” in accordance with its instructions.

3. The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub-award at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grant, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 and not more than $100,000 for each such failure.
4.6 Restriction on State Lobbying

None of the funds under this program will be used for any activity specifically designed to urge or influence a State or local legislator to favor or oppose the adoption of any specific legislative proposal pending before any State or local legislative body. Such activities include both direct and indirect (e.g., “grassroots”) lobbying activities, with one exception. This does not preclude a State official whose salary is supported with NHTSA funds from engaging in direct communications with State or local legislative officials, in accordance with customary State practice, even if such communications urge legislative officials to favor or oppose the adoption of a specific pending legislative proposal.

4.7 Certification Regarding Debarment and Suspension

Instructions for Primary Certification

1. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out below.

2. The inability of a person to provide the certification required below will not necessarily result in denial of participation in this covered transaction. The prospective participant shall submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification set out below. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the department or agency’s determination whether to enter into this transaction. However, failure of the prospective primary participant to furnish a certification or an explanation shall disqualify such person from participation in this transaction.

3. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when the department or agency determined to enter into this transaction. If it is later determined that the prospective primary participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

4. The prospective primary participant shall provide immediate written notice to the department or agency to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective primary participant learns its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

5. The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower-tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meaning set out in the Definitions and coverage sections of 49 CFR Part 29. You may contact the department or agency to
which this proposal is being submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.

6. The prospective primary participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower-tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR Part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency entering into this transaction.

7. The prospective primary participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled “Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower-Tier Covered Transaction,” provided by the department or agency entering into this covered transaction, without modification, in all lower-tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower-tier covered transactions.

8. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower-tier covered transaction that it is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR Part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the list of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Non-procurement Programs.

9. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

10. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 6 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower-tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR Part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.
4.8 Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters – Primary Covered Transactions

1. The prospective primary participant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that its principals:

   a. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded by any Federal department or agency;

   b. Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of record, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

   c. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or Local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1)(b) of this certification; and

   d. Have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State, or local) terminated for cause or default.

2. Where the prospective primary participant is unable to certify to any of the Statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

4.9 Instructions for Lower-Tier Certification

1. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective lower-tier participant is providing the certification set out below.

2. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective lower-tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

3. The prospective lower-tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower-tier
participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

4. The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower-tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definition and Coverage sections of 49 CFR Part 29. You may contact the person to whom this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.

5. The prospective lower-tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower-tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR Part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.

6. The prospective lower-tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled “Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion – Lower-Tier Covered Transaction,” without modification, in all lower-tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower-tier covered transactions. (See below)

7. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower-tier covered transaction that it is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR Part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Non-procurement Programs.

8. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

9. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 5 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower-tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR Part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.
4.10 Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility, and Voluntary Exclusion – Lower-Tier Covered Transactions

1. The prospective lower-tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.

2. Where the prospective lower-tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participants shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

4.11 Environmental Impact

The Governor’s Representative for Highway Safety has reviewed the State’s Fiscal Year 2009 highway safety planning document and hereby declares that no significant environmental impact will result from implementing this Highway Safety Plan. If, under a future revision, this Plan will be modified in such a manner that a project would be instituted that could affect environmental quality to the extent that a review and statement would be necessary, this office is prepared to take the action necessary to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 USC 4321 et seq.) and the implementing regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR Parts 1500-1517).

__________________
Phillip Kydd
Assistant Director
Administrative Services

Date
5.0 Cost Summary

The OHS Highway Safety Plan Cost Summary is provided in this section (table following narrative). The following narrative provides details of new projects with annual projects listed by title only.

Section 402 – Planning and Administration – $100,000

- Audit fees.
- Office supplies.
- Preparation of HSP and Annual Program Evaluation Report.
- Equipment maintenance.

Section 402 – Alcohol – Total $1,015,400

- Salaries.
- Audit Fees.
- Municipal Police Academy. Reinvigorated DRE program (to be headed by Lt. Hemingway of the RISP).
- Intervention Pilot Project (IP squared). Up to six local communities will be offered the opportunity to develop a young drivers alcohol-related program to be implemented through the local school/after school/sports/recreation program. Response and success will be assessed to determine future continuation of program.
- Young drivers’ support initiatives, including incentives, outreach, speaker program and partnering with entities such as AAA, CCRI, AG’s Office.
- Prom banners for all high schools. “Don’t let this be your prom picture” (young couple, prom attire, being cuffed) to be distributed through School Resource Officers and utilized at least twice per year for winter ball and prom seasons.
- VMS program. Incentive program to all local police departments and State Police for participating in minimum number of speed, “Click It or Ticket,” and DWI patrols. VMS to be utilized, with appropriate messaging, for all patrol areas in the future. (Support idea of VMS use, as delineated in Non-Checkpoint State meeting in Texas. However, OHS cannot be responsible for placement of VMS for patrols occurring throughout the State.)
- Development of an Underage Drinking Rapid Response Team pilot program within one of our communities to support development of a realistic and effective underage drinking prevention plan based on a comprehensive strategy. This involves a community self-assessment and team members with knowledge and

1 OHS is requesting approval of these equipment purchases which exceed $5,000.
practical experience in the areas of enforcement, education, prevention, public policy/media and strategic planning.

— Permanent, Statewide Safe Mourning Site – Temporary memorials have been established at the site of fatal crashes around the State. Vigils are held and mementoes are placed, many times without careful consideration of location or obstruction of traffic. Often, by their very nature, these sites are in dangerous locations and place those mourning the victim in dangerous, unsafe conditions, as well. In fact, Rhode Island suffered the fatality of a mourning student at a fatality site several years ago, thus compounding the tragedy. We do not want this situation repeated. This initiative would establish a safe location that would be available 24/7 to be used as a gathering place for mourners after any type of crash fatality. Wall of names would be considered.

Section 402 – Drivers’ Education – Total $180,000

— CDL License Driving Simulator\(^2\) (subpartner with University of Rhode Island Transportation Center and U.S. DOT – $100,000 of total $225,000 price). This will be used statewide by local cities/towns/state agencies/emergency vehicle operators for updating skills of any drivers holding a CDL license. Training will include classroom instruction and hands-on simulator experience. Simulator includes impaired driving module.

— Presentation of the Driver’s Edge program. OHS will host one statewide presentation of the Driver’s Edge program. This particular program is highlighted as we believe it provides the opportunity to experience difficult roadway situations without providing a false sense of “improved ability,” i.e., that the young drivers believe they now have the skills for such situations and do not need to be cautious if encountering the situations in real life.

Section 402 – Motorcycle – Total $121,100

— Salary.
— Audit fees.

Section 402 – Occupant Protection – Total $515,926.05

— Salaries.
— Audit fees.
— MADD “Youth in Action.”
— Statewide CPS – locals.
— Statewide CIOT – locals.
— Resource Center/print/promotional materials.
— Statewide safety events.
— Young Drivers Support Initiative (see above).

\(^2\) OHS is requesting approval of these equipment purchases which exceed $5,000.
- CIOT observational survey.
- Permanent, Statewide Safe Mourning Site (see above).
- Room to Live – Rhode Island Version – based on FOX news story (copy of program available upon request).

**Section 402 – Pedestrian Safety – $19,600**

- Salary.
- Audit fees.
- Resource Center/print/promotional materials – pedestrian, bicycle.
- Statewide safety events, including pedestrian and bicycle presentations/initiatives.

**Section 402 – Police Traffic Services – $264,450**

- Salaries.
- Audit fees.
- Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy – LEL.
- RISP Speed/Aggressive Driving.
- RISP Travel.
- RISP CARE program.
- Operation Blue RIPTIDE – locals – speed.

**Section 402 – Traffic Records – $225,829.48**

- Salaries.
- Audit fees.
- EMS Software – Electronic Ticketing.

**Section 402 – Safe Communities – $45,045.00**

- Audit fees.
- Woonsocket Safe Communities.

**Section 402 – Paid Media – $580,418.55**

- Audit fees.
- Paid advertising – Speed.
- Paid advertising – Occupant Protection.
- Paid advertising – Multicultural.
- Paid advertising – creative (not placement).

**Section 405 – Occupant Protection SAFETEA-LU – $178,164.67**

- Audit fees.
- Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy – LEL.
- Statewide CIOT – Local.
- Statewide CIOT/Simulator – State Police.
- Survey (2).
Section 405 – Occupant Protection Paid Media – $130,705.29

- Audit fees.
- Paid advertising.

Section 408 – Data Program SAFETEA-LU – $911,718.40

- Audit fees.
- Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal E-Citation program.
- State Police TR programs.
- Consultant – Traffic Records Management and Support RFP.
- Strategic Plan Implementation.
- RI Department of Health TR programs.
- Local law enforcement – equipment.
- Data collection RFP.
- Traffic records initiatives as determined by TRCC.

Section 410 – Alcohol SAFETEA-LU – $339,000

- Salary.
- Audit fees.
- Statewide DWI Enforcement – locals.
- College-level Alcohol Awareness program that would be available to all Rhode Island colleges/universities including development of an alcohol awareness/education/intervention program that could be integrated into core classroom for-credit course curriculums. This initiative will include a component to address the current “Age 21” drinking issue.

Section 410 – Alcohol Paid Media – $172,986.67

- Audit fees.
- Paid advertising.

Section 2010 – Motorcycle Safety – $237,643.33

- Audit fees.
- Paid advertising.
- Conduct one Rider to Rider Training program.
- Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Coalition Kickoff and quarterly meetings.

Section 1906 – Racial Profiling – $941,223.69

- Audit fees.
- Salary.
- Data collection and analysis RFP.
- Consultant – Traffic Records Management and Support RFP.
- Professional Traffic Stop training – locals and RISP.
Local law enforcement – equipment.
RFP contracts for second year/equipment/training and community outreach.

Section 164 – Alcohol Transfer Funds – $1,689,222

- MADD Team Spirit.
- MADD Youth in Action.
- Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy – SFST Refresher Training.
- Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy – LEL.
- State Police DWI.
- TSRP – two thirds of salary.
- Zero Fatalities Project – prison visits.
- One alcohol survey.
- Court monitoring.
- Permanent Statewide Safe Mourning Site (see above).
- Underage Drinking Rapid Response Team (see above).
- College-Level Alcohol Awareness program (see above).
- Local police – equipment.
- Resource center/print/promotional materials.

Section 164 – Alcohol Transfer Funds Paid Media – Total $130,000

- Paid advertising – alcohol.
- Paid advertising – multicultural.

Section 164 – Planning and Administration Transfer Funds – Total $5,092.11

- Audit fees.

Section 164 – Hazard Elimination Transfer Funds – Total $1,678,186

- Hazard Elimination program.
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4.10 Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility, and Voluntary Exclusion - Lower-Tier Covered Transactions

1. The prospective lower-tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.

2. Where the prospective lower-tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participants shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

4.11 Environmental Impact

The Governor's Representative for Highway Safety has reviewed the State's Fiscal Year 2009 highway safety planning document and hereby declares that no significant environmental impact will result from implementing this Highway Safety Plan. If, under a future revision, this Plan will be modified in such a manner that a project would be instituted that could affect environmental quality to the extent that a review and statement would be necessary, this office is prepared to take the action necessary to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 USC 4321 et seq.) and the implementing regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR Parts 1500-1517).

Phillip Kydd
Assistant Director
Administrative Services

\[8-28-2008\]

Date