



NEW JERSEY
Safe Routes to School

New Jersey Crossing Guard Training and Resources Program 2016



CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM BACKGROUND

Trainings

2013 (pilot)

- Essex, Middlesex, and Burlington
- 75 officers

2014

- Mercer, Monmouth, Bergen, Atlantic, and Union
- 179 participants from 130 municipalities

2015

- Ocean, Camden, Essex/Hudson, Morris, and Passaic
- 146 participants from 110 municipalities



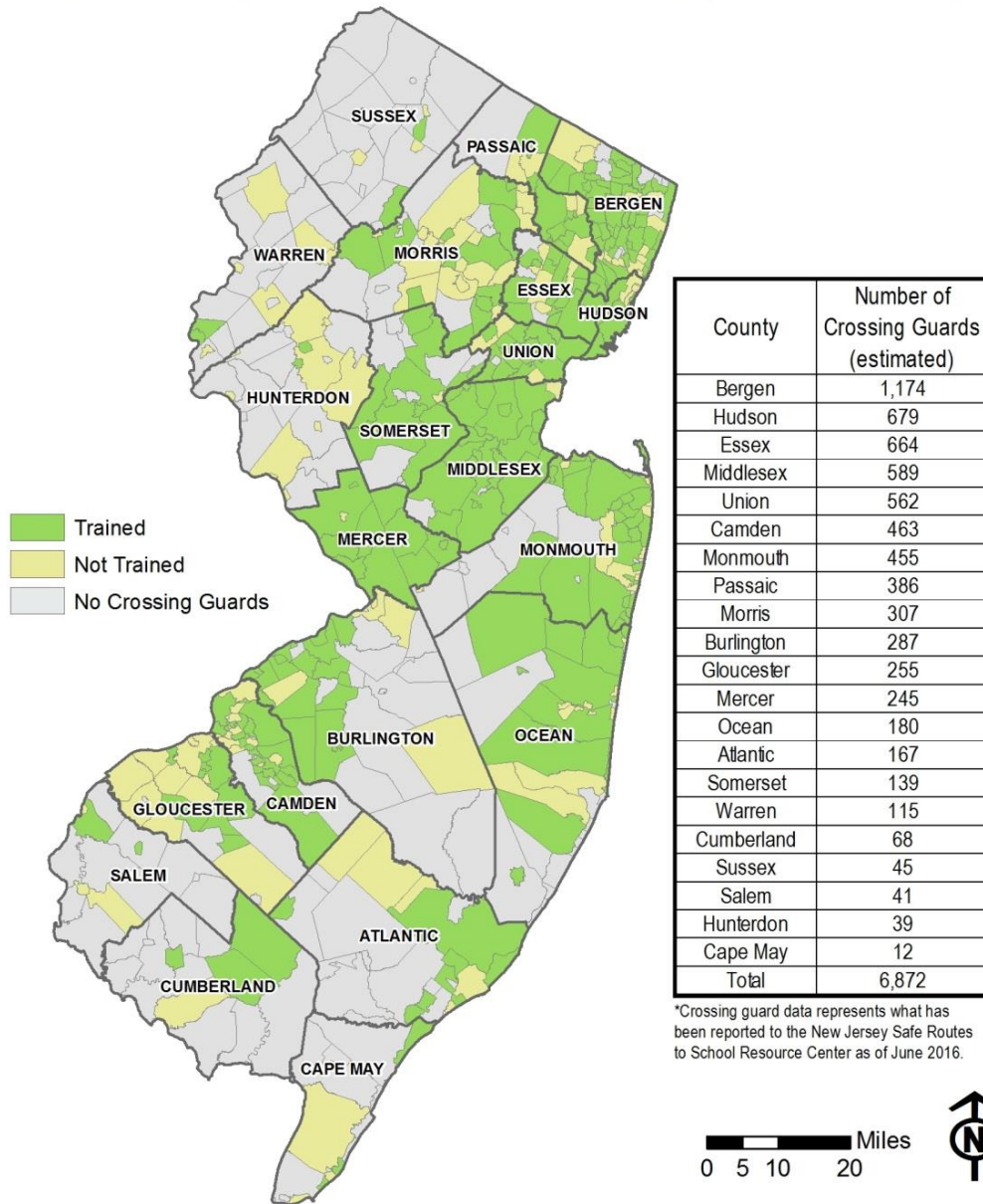
CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM SUMMARY FOURTH PROGRAM YEAR

2016

- 114 crossing guard supervisors/trainers trained from 83 communities
 - Gloucester County Police Academy
 - Bergen County Law and Public Safety Institute
 - Somerset County Police Academy
 - Monmouth County Police Academy
- 4-hour session included classroom & field instruction



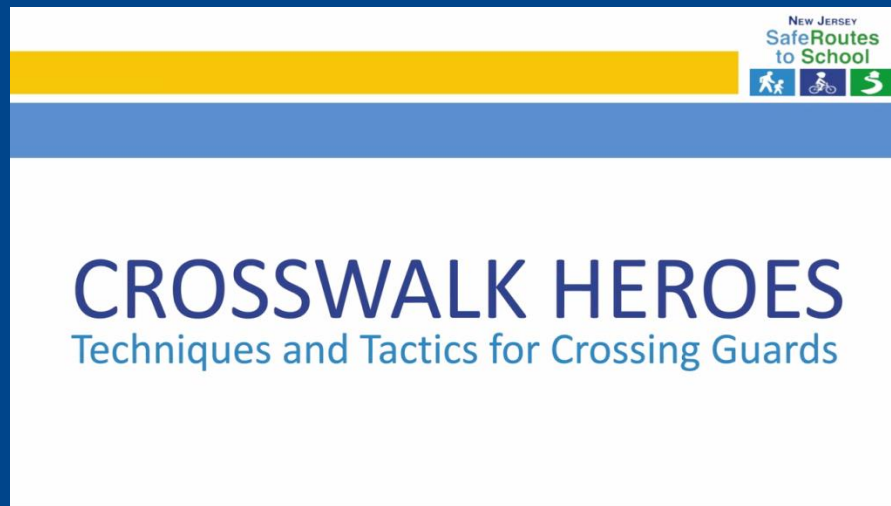
Crossing Guard Supervisors Trained in New Jersey (2013- June 2016)



Over four years, supervisors from 263 municipalities have been trained. The training has reached approximately 67% of the municipalities that have crossing guards.

Over the years, municipalities have sent multiple officers to the training, as well as new supervisors as they take on the supervisory role.

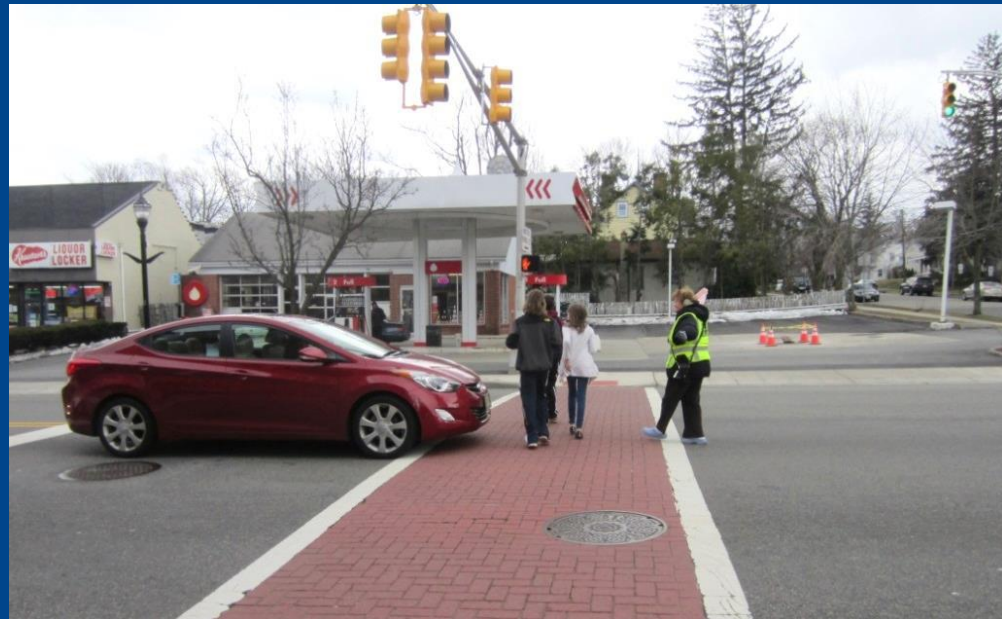
CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM RESOURCES - VIDEOS



- CROSSWALK HEROES – over 11,000 YouTube views
- CROSSWALK HEROES:
Crossing Guard Post Placement – 186 YouTube views
- HÉROES DE CRUCE DE PEATONES – 158 YouTube views

CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM RESOURCES

- Crossing Guard Job Description
 - Physical demands
 - Agility
 - Lifting and Holding
 - Standing
 - Communication
 - Weather
 - Vision, Hearing
- Crossing Guard Medical Examination Form
 - Job Description
 - Physical Demands
 - Approved/Not Approved

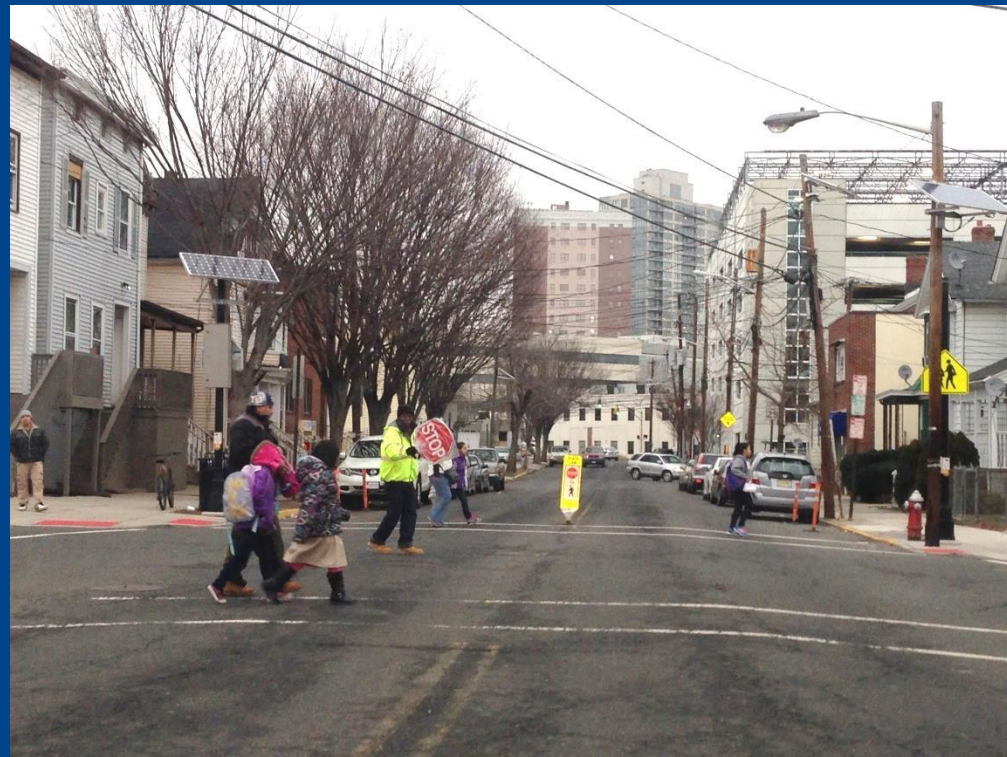


CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM

LESSONS LEARNED

Attendance at trainings

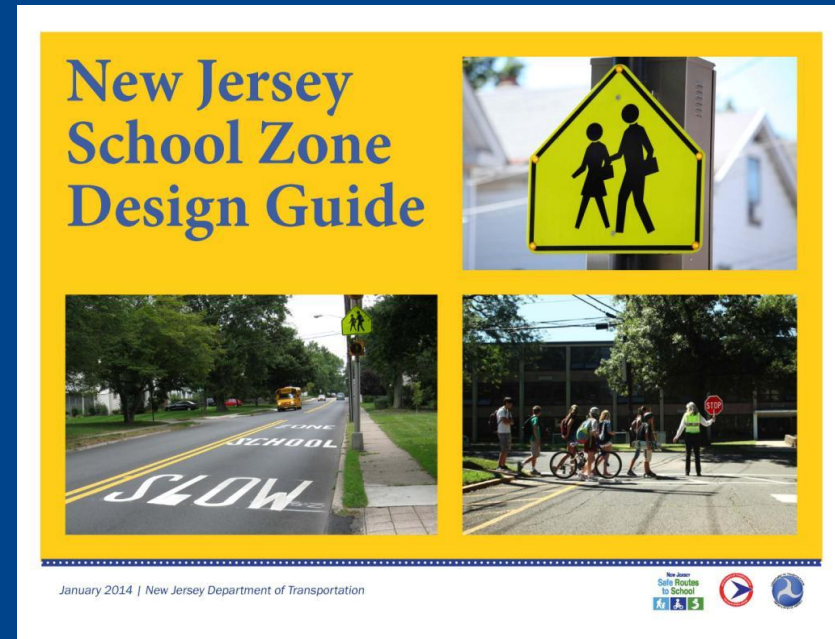
- Crossing Guard Placement
 - Guards are crossing children on 2-3 legs of an intersection
- Children/Teens/Parents do not listen to Crossing Guards
- Training is an opportunity for Crossing Guards to talk about their work



CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM

LESSONS LEARNED – URBAN

- Crossing Guards using pedestrian walk signals
- Crossing Guards leaving post in emergency
- Attendance and incentives
- Uniform augmented by bicycle flashers
- Trucks and buses take longer to stop
- Public education for motorists –
What is a crosswalk? What is Stop
and Stay Stopped law?



CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM REQUESTS

Traffic safety officers requested:

- assistance with evaluation of crossing guard posts to determine optimum placement
- assistance with conducting crossing guard training directly
- model crossing guard job description
- information on STOP paddle size, sources for equipment

New Jersey Crossing Guard Equipment

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT	BEST PRACTICE	USEFUL EQUIPMENT	NEVER
Safety Vest STOP Paddle Municipal ID	Hat with Brim Whistle 3-in-1 Jacket Sturdy Shoes	Reflective Gloves LED Stop Paddle Stop and Stay Stopped Sign Orange Cones	Umbrella Headphones Open-Toed Shoes Sitting
			

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N.J.S.A. 40A:9-154.3 Uniform provided to adult school crossing guard

Crossing guard shall be provided with a uniform which shall identify his/her function and which shall be distinct from the uniform of a member of the regular police department or force.

Such uniform shall include but not be limited to:

- Safety vest, worn over all other clothing. This vest shall be high-visibility retroreflective safety apparel
- Hat, and
- Breast and hat badges which shall bear an identification number and the name of the municipality in which the crossing guard is employed.

Although the law requires breast and hat badges, departments are using other forms of identification such as lapel pins, clip badges, or patches. Badges help to identify the crossing guard as an official employee of the municipal police department.

N.J.S.A. 39:4-36 Driver to yield to pedestrians, exceptions; violations, penalties

The driver of a vehicle must stop and stay stopped for a pedestrian crossing the roadway within any marked crosswalk, but shall yield the right of way to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection, except at an intersection where the movement of traffic is being regulated by police officers or traffic control signals, or where otherwise prohibited by municipal, county, or State regulation. (Additional exceptions.)

Federal Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) 2009 Edition with Revisions No. 1 and 2 Incorporated, May 2012

Section 6E.02 High-Visibility Safety Apparel

Standard:
01 Law enforcement officers performing school crossing supervision and adult crossing guards shall wear high-visibility retroreflective safety apparel labeled as ANSI 107-2004 standard.

Section 7D.05 Operating Procedures for Adult Crossing Guards

Standard:
02 Adult crossing guards shall use a STOP paddle. The STOP paddle shall be the primary hand-signaling device.
03 The STOP (R1-1) paddle shall be an octagonal shape. The background of the STOP face shall be red with at least 6-inch series upper-case white letters and border. The paddle shall be at least 18 inches in size and have the word message STOP on both sides. The paddle shall be retroreflective or illuminated when used during hours of darkness.

Standard:
06 If flashing lights are used on the STOP paddle, the flash rate shall be at least 50, but no more than 60, flash periods per minute.

Source: Federal Highway Administration

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Visit the NJ Safe Routes to School Resource Center website at www.njcrossingguards.org to find out about crossing guard supervisor training classes, crossing guard training materials, model policies, Crosswalk Heroes training video and other important information and resources.

New Jersey Safe Routes to School
NJ Department of Transportation
NJ Department of Education
NJ Department of Public Safety

RUTGERS
The program is sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Transportation, and the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety with funding from the Federal Highway Administration, and by New Jersey Municipal Excess Liability (auto insurance funds).

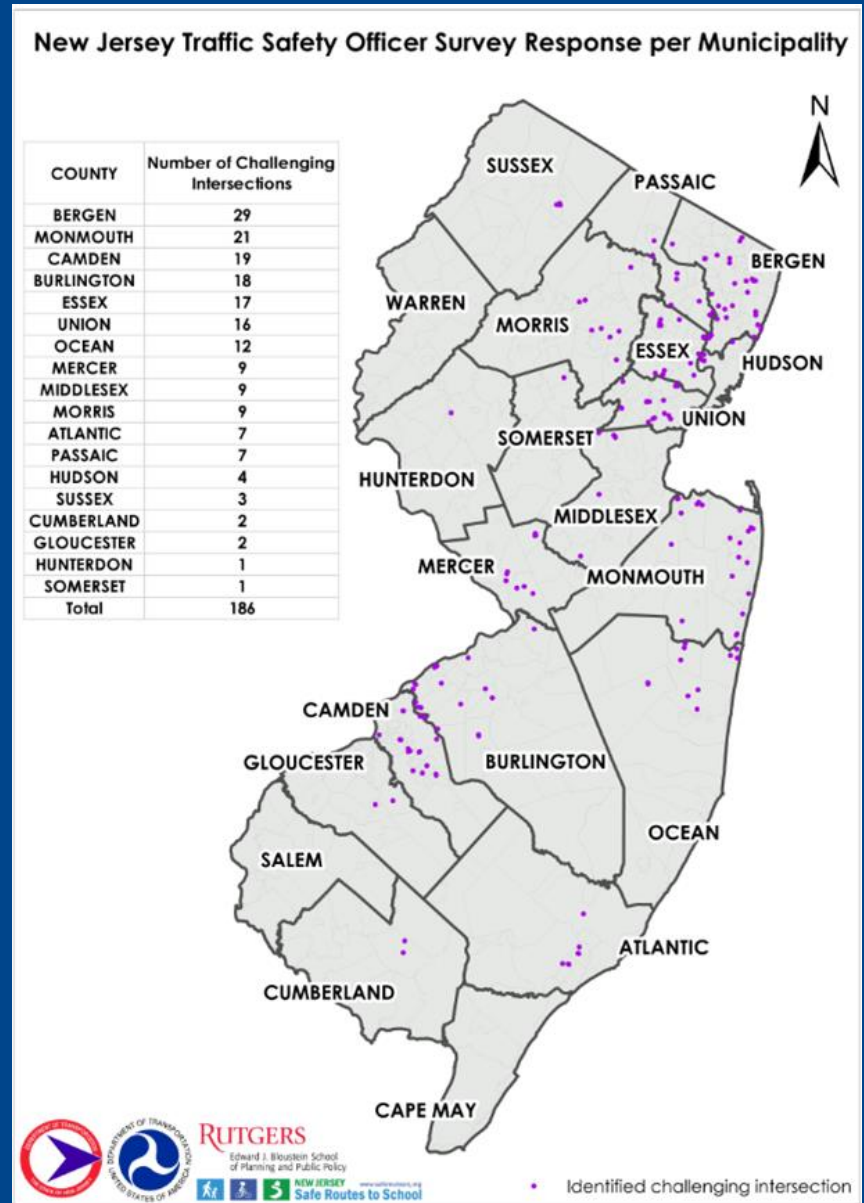
TRAFFIC SAFETY OFFICER SURVEY

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AT SCHOOL CROSSINGS



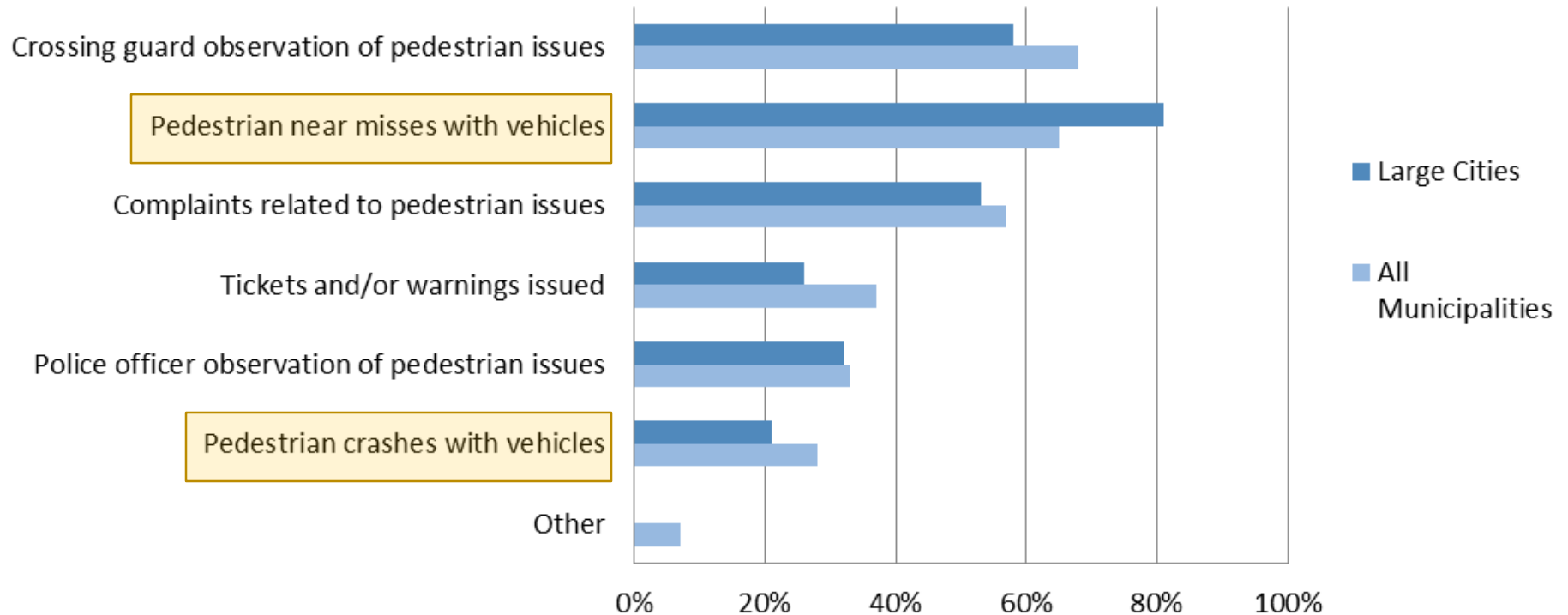
Survey Results

- Challenging School Crossings
- Survey of NJ Police Officers via Crossing Guard Supervisor training program and Police Traffic Officers Association.
- 176 valid responses
- 30% - No problem reported
- 186 intersections identified (up to 3 intersections per municipality)

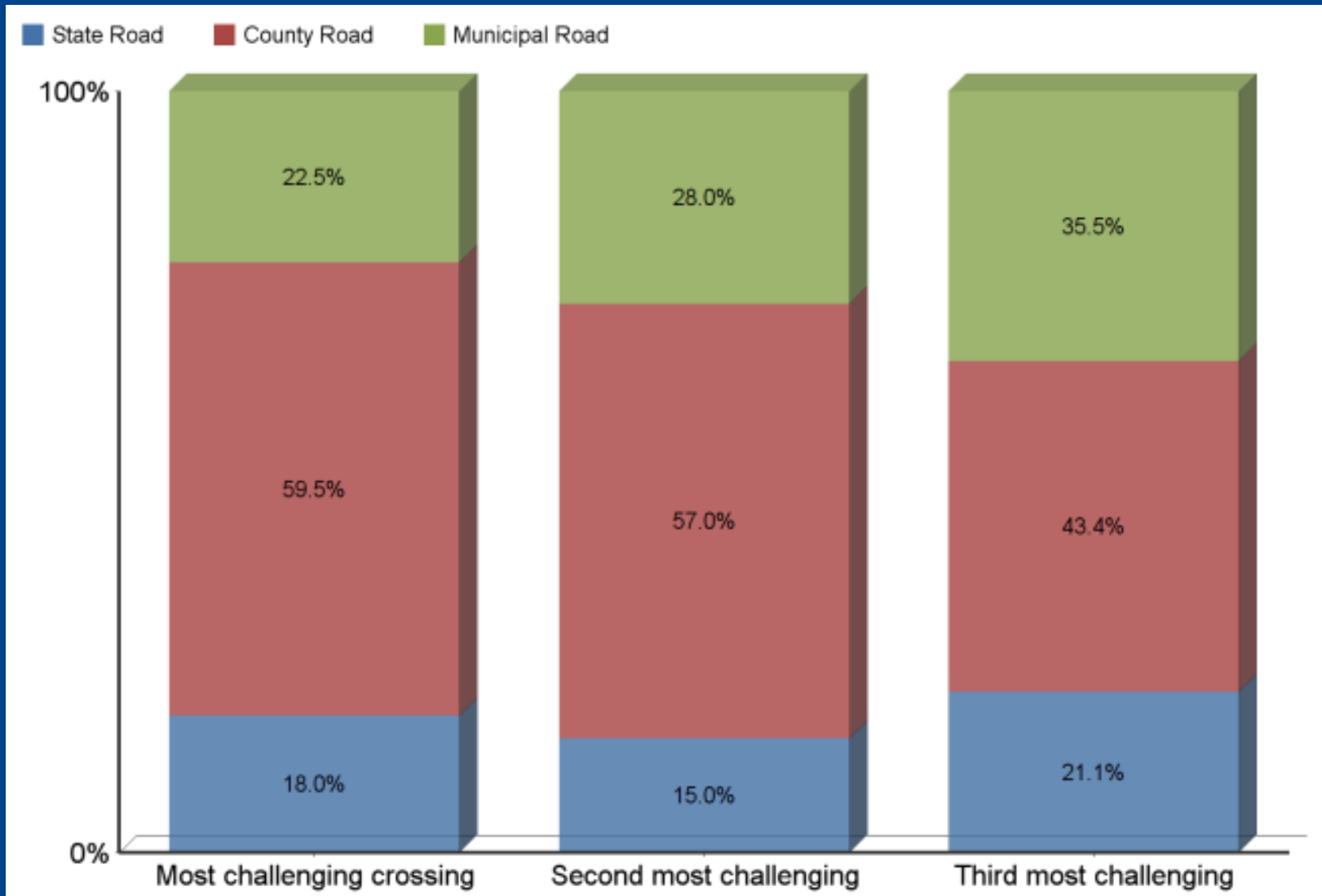


Key Findings

Are you aware of any of the following issues at the intersections?



Key Findings



Key Findings

- Predictable is preventable
- Leverage expert local knowledge
 - Surveys, interviews with police departments & crossing guards
- How to track near-miss incidents/
Limits of crash data
- Crossing Guard safety is often overlooked
- Roadway engineering vs. safer driving

Further Research

- Roundtable discussion to determine next steps
- Case Study



CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM

TRAFFIC OFFICER FOCUS GROUP - URBAN

Issues Raised

- Design issues in the school zone affecting drop off and pick up procedures
 - gridlock, double parking, school and transit buses, and blocked crosswalks
- Educational outreach needed to address school zone motorist and pedestrian behavior
 - distracted driving and walking
 - school policies

Possible Next Steps

- Literature Review
- Film arrival and dismissal
- Interview experts in effective school zone design
- Explore programmatic options
 - Community traffic committee

CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM

NEXT STEPS

- New Jersey has over 6,800 crossing guards.
- The training program has reached 67% of municipalities with guards.
- Spring 2017 trainings
 - Essex/Hudson
 - Hunterdon/Warren/Morris (39/115/307)
 - Atlantic/Burlington/Gloucester (167/287/255)
 - ?



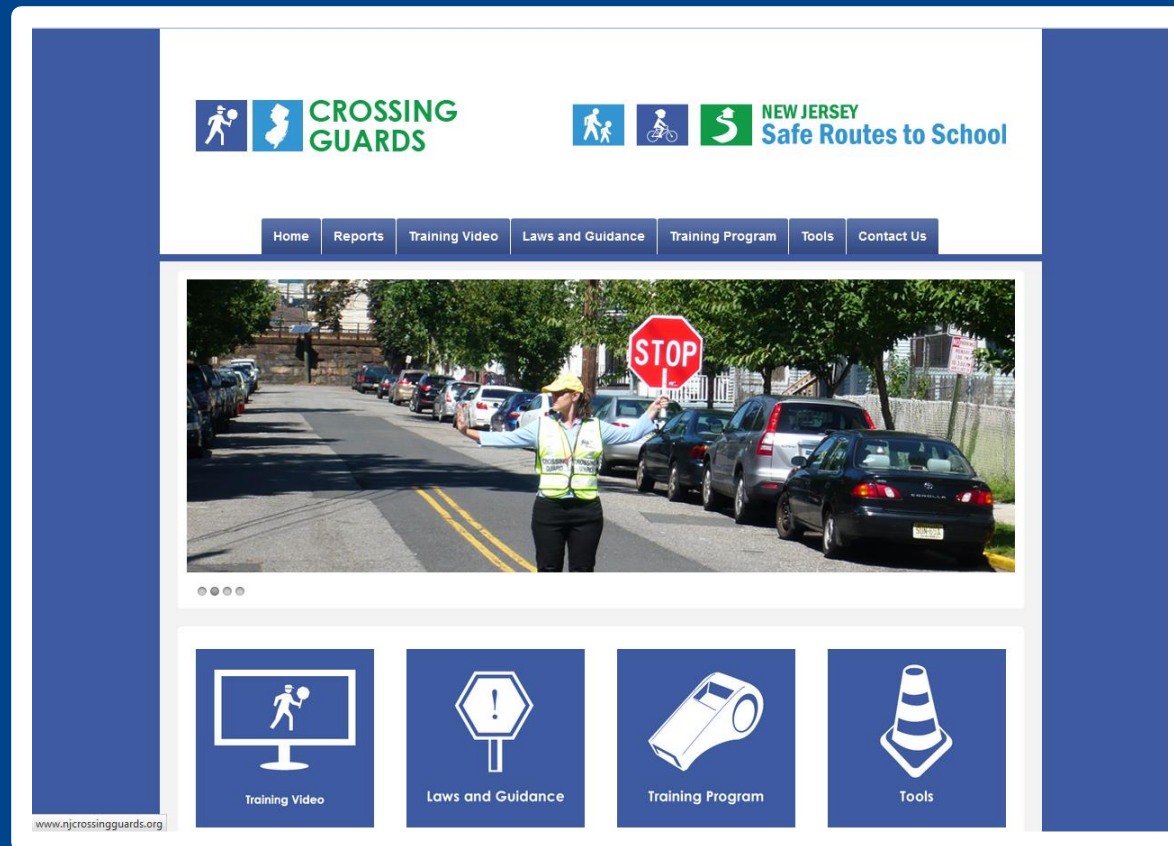
CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM

NEXT STEPS

- Training resources to instruct crossing guards and assist supervisors
 - Video on Challenging Crossings
- Crossing Guard appreciation events/awards
- Reach communities with no local police department – collaborate with State Police
- Collaborate with others working on pedestrian safety



CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM WEBSITE



www.njcrossingguards.org

PARTNERSHIPS

- NJ Department of Transportation
- NJ Division of Highway Traffic Safety
- Federal Highway Administration
- NJ MEL-JIF
- AAA
- NJ Department of Health, Division of Occupational Safety & Health
- NJ Police Traffic Officers Association
- NJ State Association of Chiefs of Police
- NJ Highway Traffic Safety Policy Advisory Council
- County and regional police academies

