



# New Jersey Crossing Guard Training and Resources Program 2018



# 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

2016

- Gloucester, Bergen, Somerset, and Monmouth
- 114 participants from 83 municipalities

2017

- Camden, Essex, Ocean, and Somerset
- 110 participants from 79 municipalities



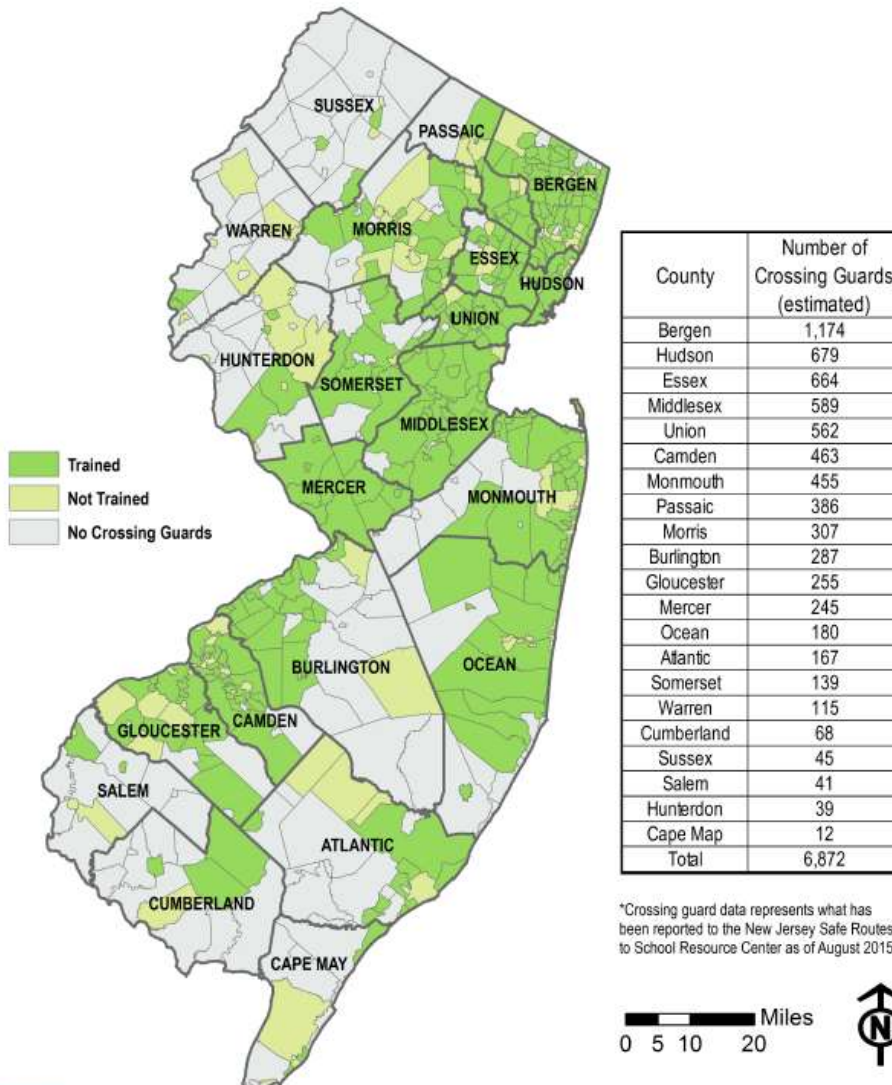
# CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM SUMMARY SIXTH PROGRAM YEAR

2018

- 68 crossing guard supervisors/trainers trained from 52 communities
  - Somerset County Police Academy
  - Burlington County Emergency Services Training Center
  - Bergen County Law and Public Safety Institute
- 4-hour session included classroom & field instruction



## Crossing Guard Supervisors Trained in New Jersey (2013 - August 2018)



\*Crossing guard data represents what has been reported to the New Jersey Safe Routes to School Resource Center as of August 2015.

0 5 10 20 Miles



Over six years, supervisors from 298 municipalities have been trained. The training has reached approximately 75% 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 SUMMARY SIXTH PROGRAM YEAR

## NJ - Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work

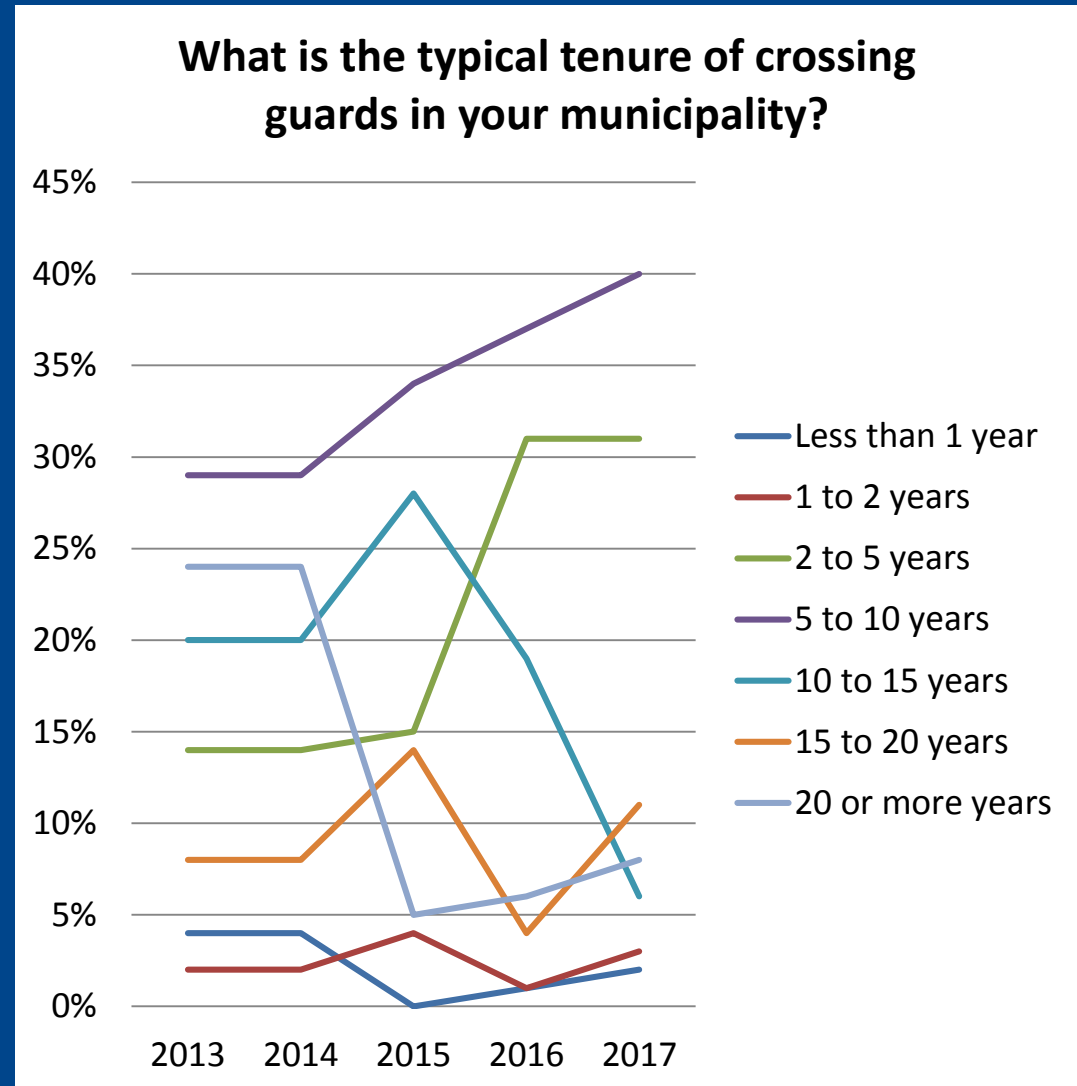
	2011-12	2015	2016	2017
<b>Injuries and Illnesses</b>	170	60	50	30
<b>Slips, trips &amp; falls (primary source)</b>	70	40	30	20
<b>Motor vehicle related</b>	40	-	-	-
<b>Ice, sleet, snow (secondary source)</b>	N/A	20	-	-
<b>Cases involving 3-5 days</b>	N/A	-	20	-
<b>Cases involving 31 or more days</b>	N/A	20	-	-
<b>Median days away from work (MDAW)</b>	N/A	9	10	20
<b>MDAW all occupations</b>	N/A	7	7	7

Source: NJ Dept of Labor & Workforce Development Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses  
(Fewer than 15 cases is not publishable)

# Typical Guard Tenure

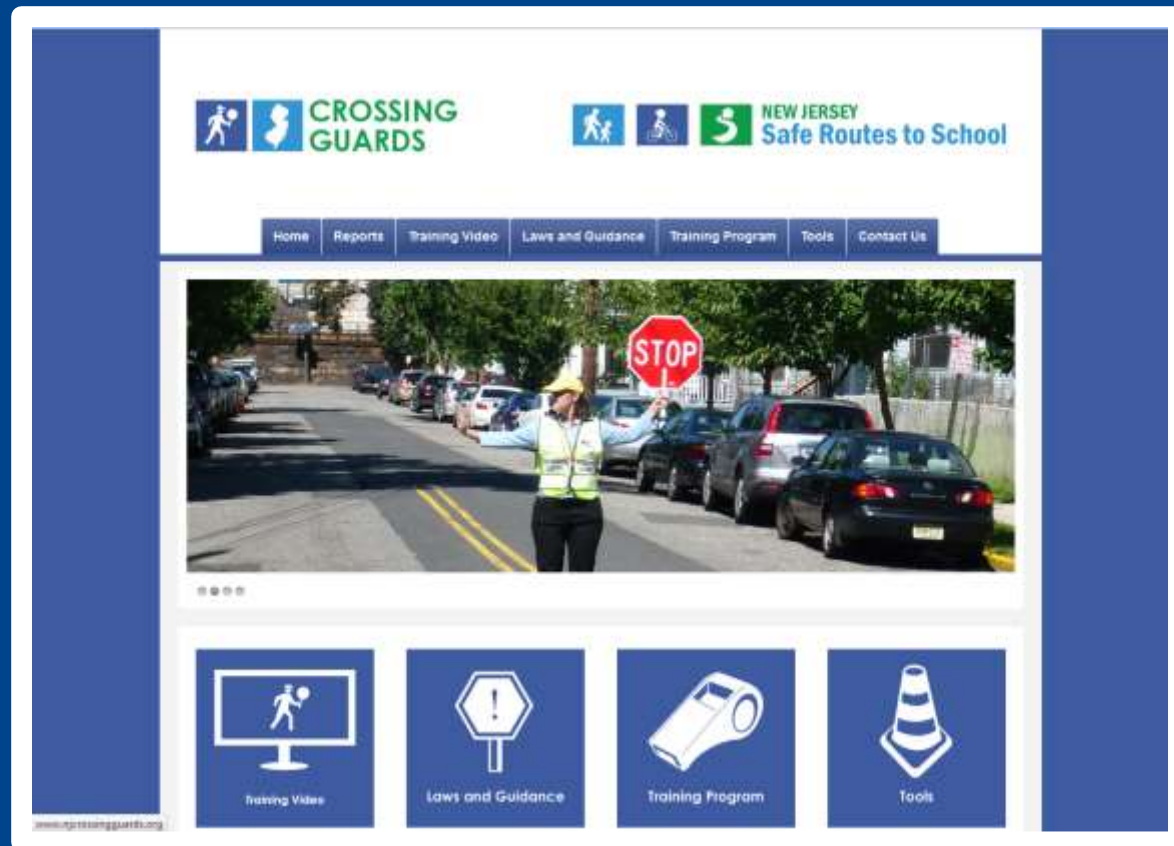
- Percentage guards serving for > 10 years has decreased significantly
- Replaced by guards serving 2 - 10 years

2018		
Years	Response	Percentage
Less than 1	0	0%
1 to 2	1	2%
2 to 5	10	22%
5 to 10	23	51%
10 to 15	5	11%
15 to 20	6	13%
20 or more	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>100%</b>





# CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM WEBSITE



[www.njcrossingguards.org](http://www.njcrossingguards.org)

# CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM RESOURCES

- WEBSITE – January-November 2018
  - 12,172 page views by 3,463 users
  - 88.3% new visitors
  - Most visited pages - Home, Training, Laws & Guidance
  - 59.4% reached the site through an online search, 23% was direct traffic, 16.3% was referral, 1% from social media
- CROSSWALK HEROES VIDEO – over 30,700 YouTube views
- HÉROES DE CRUCE DE PEATONES –653 YouTube views





# CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM RESOURCES

- Video - *Crosswalk Heroes: Challenging Crossings*

- Sun glare
- Whistle Use
- Road Noise
- Turning movements
- Signalized intersections
- Multi-lane crossings
- Multi-leg crossings
- Road Geometry
- Speeding



- Crossing Guard Supervisor Guide to the Video

# *Crosswalk Heroes: Challenging Crossings*

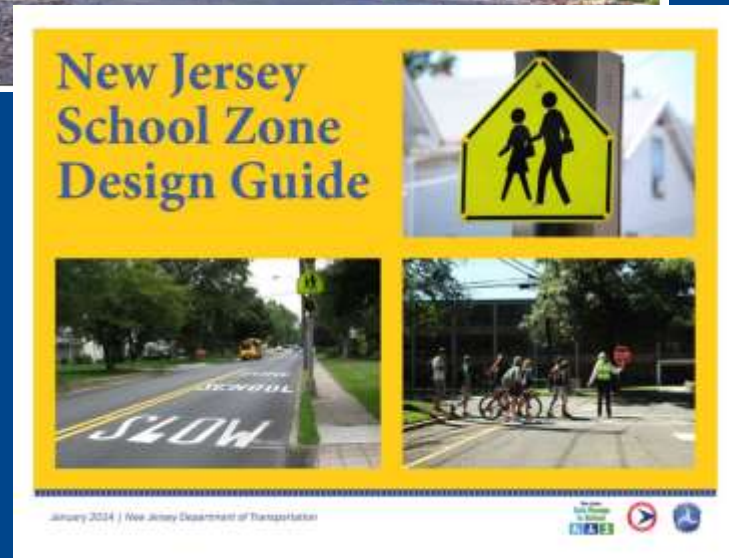


**Turning Movements**

# CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM RESOURCES

Traffic safety officer request for information

- Placement
  - At charter schools
  - At school driveways on school property
  - At locations that the police deem unsafe
  - Decommissioning posts
- Emphasis on conditions at a crossing location



# CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM RESOURCES

## Traffic safety officer request for information

- Medical Examinations
  - Required?
- Whistle Use - increasing
- Policies – increasing



Physical Demand Description					
Physical Demand	Description				
Standing/Walking	Stands and walks for X amount of time on various surfaces including asphalt, concrete, uneven pavement, dirt, grass, uneven ground				
Lifting/Holding/Reaching	Lifts and holds STOP paddle at shoulder height May reach to push buttons to activate "walk/don't walk" traffic signal	Continuously			
Turning/Twisting	Turns head and body to observe traffic and children approaching crosswalk Lifts both feet over curb and steps off curb Walks on grass, ice, uneven pavement	Continuously			
Agility/Balance	Can react and move quickly to avoid vehicles	Continuously			
Communicate verbally	Speaks clearly and firmly to instruct that pedestrians and other pedestrians during crossing	Continuously			
Fine dexterity to manipulate in writing	Writes sufficiently to report problems				Occasionally
Tolerance for weather extremes	Performs crossings in rain, fog, snow, sleet, cold, heat, humidity, and wind	Continuously			
Vision	To observe vehicles and pedestrians, read signs, and recognize potentially dangerous traffic situations and environmental hazards such as potholes, ice, skidwale obstructions	Continuously	See standards below		
Hearing	To recognize vehicles approaching from any direction, backup alarms, horns to hear children and other pedestrians speaking in a potentially noisy, distracting environment	Continuously	See standards below		

Transcript of  
School Crossing Guard Medical Examination Job Description Form  
January 2014

# CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM

## LESSONS LEARNED

### Post Observation Report Form

Police officers were interviewed on use of the post observation report form.

Responses included:

- In one large city, the form is not needed for reporting maintenance issues due to support from municipal departments (DPW)
- Completing the forms is time consuming. Officers have a lot of paperwork to complete on a daily basis.
- The form is used to familiarize new crossing guards with conditions at their posts. Guards can use these forms to report issues.
- One municipality uses an internal form. They were unaware of this training program resource.

CROSSING GUARD POST OBSERVATION REPORT				
Observer:		Date:		
Post Location (street names):		Speed Limit:	(Circle road ownership)	
Street 1:			Street 1:	State County Municipal
Street 2:			Street 2:	State County Municipal
Street 3:			Street 3:	State County Municipal
Conditions Observed				
Yes	No	N/A	Conditions	Notes
			Advance warning, traffic calming devices and lights are in good condition, effective, and sufficient.	
			Advance warning and traffic calming devices are in accordance with the FHWA MUTCD 2009 edition.	
			Pedestrian signal provides enough time for all to cross? Phasing/timing sequence adequate?	
			Crosswalks are clearly identified with signs and pavement paint in accordance with the FHWA MUTCD 2009 edition.	
			Curbs and crosswalks are clear of significant trip hazards, such as potholes, snow, ice, etc.	
			Curb areas include ADA-compliant curb cuts and truncated dome pads (bumpy pads).	
			Highway ramps, transit stops or railroad crossings in proximity? (describe)	
			Vehicle turning movements allowed? (Right turn on red?)	



# CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM

## REQUESTS FOR TRAINING

### Direct Training of Crossing Guards

- Conducted in Pleasantville, Dunellen, and Elizabeth
- Conducted an additional train-the-trainer class in Camden County by request of the County Division of Highway Traffic Safety. Both crossing guards and supervisors attended.





# CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM

## REQUESTS FOR TRAINING

### Direct Training of Crossing Guards

- Conducted three crossing guard training sessions in Jersey City
  - Crossing guards in densely populated, urban communities do not see conditions at their posts reflected in the training presentation.
  - Future video products should feature more diverse populations and situations.



# CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM

## LESSONS LEARNED

### Crossing Guard Concerns:

- Motorists drive through the crosswalk while the crossing guard and child pedestrians are in the crosswalk.
- Motorists are distracted.
- Children/teens/parents do not listen to the guard's instructions.
- All the guards deal with speeding motorists.
- Training is an opportunity for guards to discuss their concerns about their crossings.



# CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM

## NEXT STEPS

### Training:

- Provide three train-the-trainer sessions in 2019
- Revisit use of the Post Observation Report Form in response to feedback from traffic safety officers interviewed
- Work with urban communities to address training and placement issues specific to their conditions – **traffic volume**
- Reach communities with no local police department
- Collaborate with other organizations working on pedestrian safety



# CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM NEXT STEPS

## Training:

- Schools
  - ESS - Source 4 Teachers
  - Teachers
  - School Resource Officers
- Privatization
  - All City Management Services
- Morris County
- State Police



# CROSSING GUARD TRAINING PROGRAM ONGOING

## Resources:

- Video that addresses issues of concern for crossing guards in urban communities
- Video for supervisors on improving crossing environments using New Brunswick example
- Ensure distribution of crossing guard resources
- Continue research on challenging school crossings and pedestrian near-miss incidents
- Comparison of state crossing guard programs





# TEACHING CHILDREN PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE SAFETY

## Curriculum

- Grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8
- Presentations
- Videos
- Activities

## Train the Trainer

- Presentation
- Instructor's Guide

## Pilot a train-the-trainer

- Somerset County Police Academy
- ??

**SAFE WALKING AND BIKING**  
PEDESTRIAN SAFETY



**RUTGERS**  
Edward J. Bloustein School  
of Planning and Public Policy





# PARTNERSHIPS

- NJ Department of Transportation
- NJ Division of Highway Traffic Safety
- Federal Highway Administration
- NJMEL-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

