



The DISPATCH

PennDOT Crash Newsletter - News you can use!

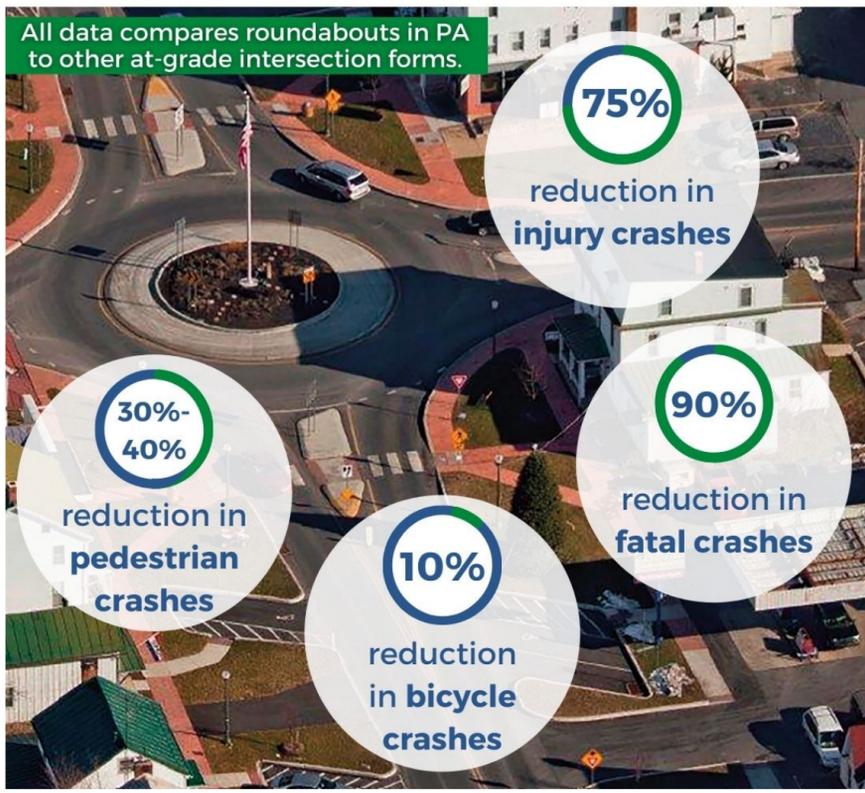
What's New?

COMING SOON Open-Book Knowledge Skills Quiz

PennDOT is currently working on an open book knowledge skills quiz to better assist agencies with their training and refresher options. This quiz will be available as a tool to help measure the level of knowledge in crash information collection and reporting. Officers are welcome and encouraged to utilize whatever resources they have available while completing the quiz. The open-book knowledge skills quiz will be available on the PennDOT website under Travel in PA > Safety > Police Crash Reporting Tools. Once the quiz is fully accessible, an announcement will go out with further details. For more information prior to the release, contact Debi Trumper at detrumper@pa.gov or (717) 787-2827.

Working Together

Why Roundabouts?



PennDOT Data Shows PA Roundabouts Reducing Fatalities, Injuries, and Crashes

Roundabouts are geometrically designed to reduce vehicle speeds to generally 25 mph or less, and all turns are right turns. This significantly reduces the severity of crashes over those at traditional intersections. Crashes that do occur are typically low-speed, sideswipe crashes rather than high-speed T-bone collisions that can occur at traditional intersections especially with left-turn movements.

Roundabouts also improve pedestrian safety due to the slow speeds and by providing a median refuge area. This allows for two simple crossings of one-way traffic.

In September 2023, PennDOT released data for 42 roundabouts on state routes at intersections that were previously stop- or signal-controlled. These roundabouts were reviewed based on having at least three years of data available before and after the roundabout's installation. These 42 comprise all the roundabouts on state routes that met the review parameters. Department data based on police-submitted crash reports spanning the years 2003 through 2022 shows:

- Crashes involving suspected serious injuries were reduced by 24%
- Crashes involving suspected non-serious injuries were reduced by 51%
- The total number of crashes dropped 3%

In addition to the 42 roundabouts meeting the review criteria, 36 other roundabouts have been installed on state routes.

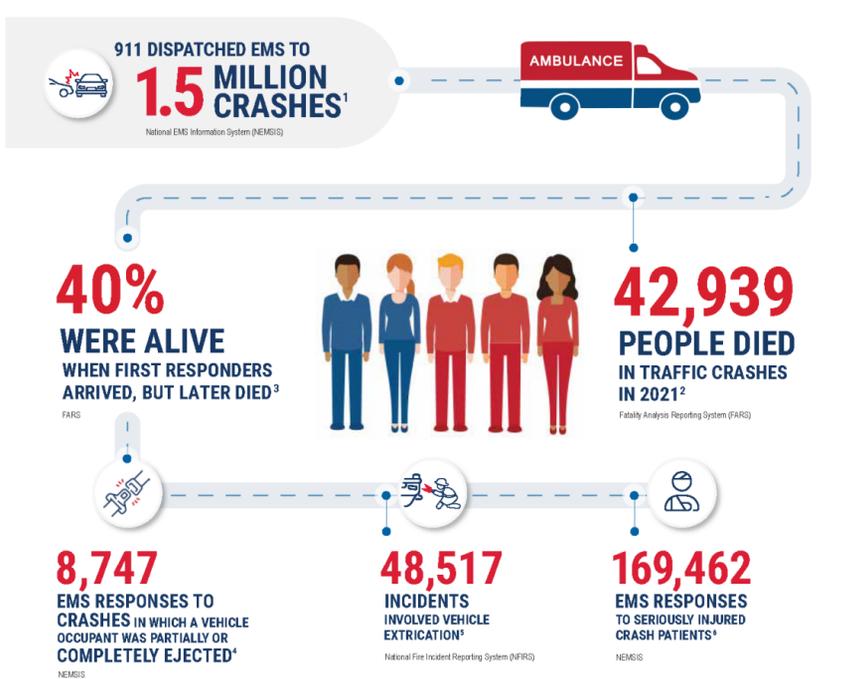
POST-CRASH CARE

Our ability to save lives does not end when a crash occurs. Appropriate medical care for people injured in a crash to prevent their injuries from becoming fatal is critical.

The timely arrival of emergency responders and well-trained Emergency Medical Services (EMS) clinicians is a major factor ensuring an injured person receives the medical care they need to survive a crash. This is especially critical in rural and Tribal communities, where response times are longer and EMS resources more limited.

Enhancing the survivability of crashes through expedient access to emergency medical care, while creating a safe working environment for first responders and preventing secondary crashes through robust traffic incident management practices is vital.

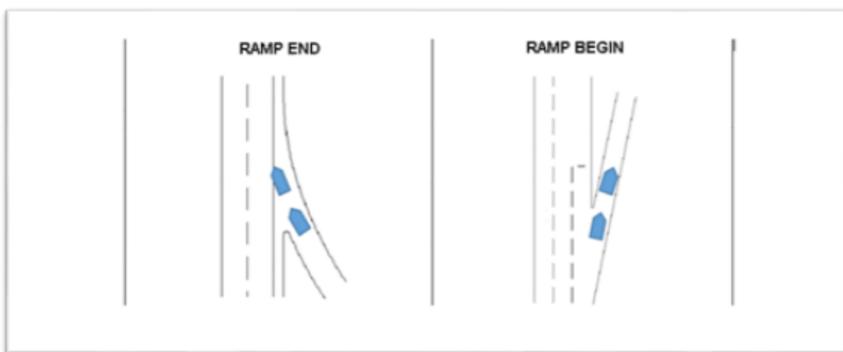
PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION



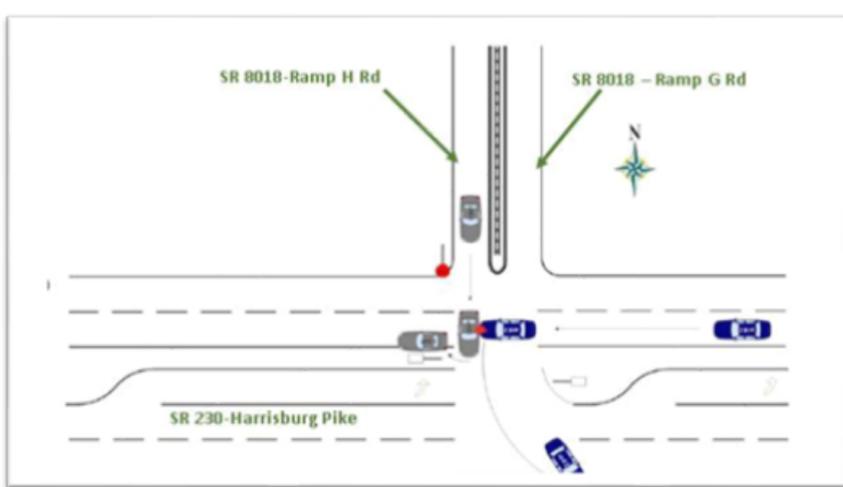
Understanding Crash Terms

Ramps

Ramps are roadways that connect limited access highways, such as interstates, to other roadways. Intersection Types are determined by the type of movements that can be made when considering the ramp. For example, if only merging movements are allowed, they are identified as the Intersection Type of Ramp End or Ramp Begin. See diagram below:



Ramp End refers to vehicles that are merging onto the limited access highway. Ramp Begin refers to vehicles that are merging off the limited access highway. If turning movements are allowed these are considered intersections. For example, a T-Intersection involving a ramp is considered an intersection because of the turning movements that are allowed. See diagram below:



The Special Location code of ramp would be used to identify that the ramp was involved in the crash since Unit 1 was making a left turn from the ramp onto SR 0230 Harrisburg Pike.

Intersection Type: T Intersection
 Intersection Related (Mid-block only): No
 *Special Location: Ramp

De sure to complete block [X] Intersecting Road or block [Y] GPS below

[4]*Principal Road

Route Number: 0230
 Segment: optional
 Travel Lanes: 02
 Speed Limit: 35 Mph

Street Name: HARRISBURG
 Street Ending: PK+Pike
 Orientation: West

Route Signing: State highway
 All

GIS Lookup View GIS Output

Challenge your knowledge!

QUIZ: Private Property/Parking Lot Crashes

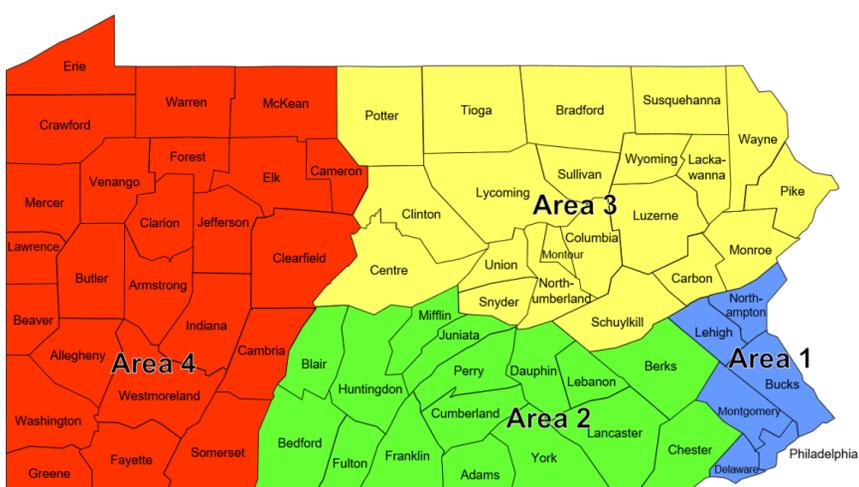
FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Introducing...

PennDOT's newest addition to the website, ***Police Crash Reporting Tools!*** This page can be located under Travel in PA > Safety > Police Crash Reporting Tools. Here you will find access to newsletter archives, the newly revised Crash Information Sheet, the most up to date AA-600 Driver Accident Report, and other useful tools and references. Click the link below to be redirected and be sure to bookmark the page for future reference.

[Police Crash Reporting Tools](#)

Traffic Records Program Administrator Area Map (TRPA)



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Now that you've made it to the end of the newsletter, how would you rate its content?

Not helpful at all [0](#) [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) Very helpful

For questions or concerns, email us at ra-pdleaehelp@pa.gov.



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