

Transportation Systems, Management and Operations

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COLORADO
Department of
Transportation

DATE: June 19, 2014

TO: Transportation Commission

FROM: Charles Meyer, Traffic and Safety Engineering Branch

SUBJECT: HSIP Effectiveness

Purpose

Recently a study conducted by the Transportation Research Board found that Colorado surpasses all other states in its effectiveness of administering and implementing the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). This presentation topic is to inform the TC of what the study found.

Action Requested

This item is for information only.

Background

The Transportation Research Board study evaluated the effectiveness of the HSIP on reducing fatal crashes in the United States. It also examined whether an association existed between spending on highway safety and safety and whether states crowded out funding from their own financial resources that they would have otherwise spent on safety improvement projects with HSIP funding. This study also evaluated how the quality of systems for traffic safety data and prioritizing methods affected the effectiveness of the HSIP. It was found that the number of fatal crashes was reduced by about 7.5% after the introduction of the HSIP compared with the average for 2001 to 2005. The magnitude of the reduction varied from state to state. Colorado, however, saw a reduction of fatalities of over 20% over the same time period. The presentation will discuss the safety analysis methods that CDOT has employed to achieve this success and discuss briefly how CDOT continues to develop these safety analysis methodologies to see this success in the next decade.

The graph below demonstrates the fatal crash reduction for each state. Colorado is in the top left corner.

Wu, Himes, and Pietrucha

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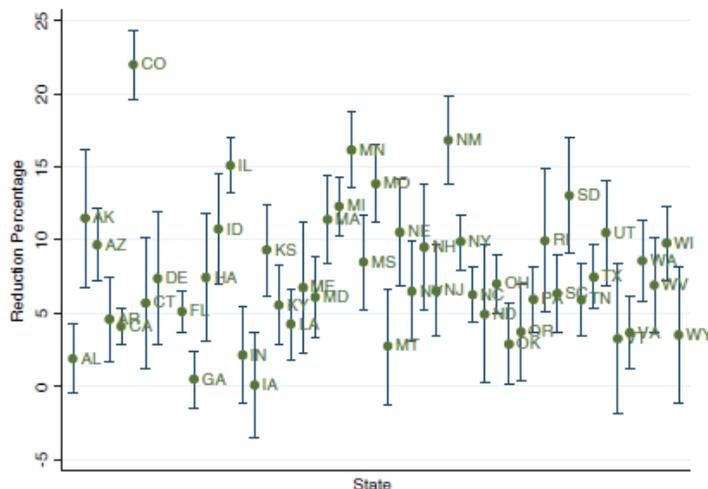


FIGURE 3 Fatal crash reduction for each state.