Combined, railroad crossing and trespasser deaths have accounted for approximately 94% of all rail-related deaths over the past ten years.

About every 3 hours, a person or vehicle is hit by a train.

Crossings in the U.S.

54% 46%

Just over one half of all crossings are active (include gates, bells, and/or flashing lights) while just under half are passive (include signs and markings, but do not include active warning devices). Always expect a train on any track at anytime.

The U.S. Railroad System

800 Railroads
144,000 Miles of track
212,000 Railroad crossings

More than two-thirds of railroad crossing accidents occur in clear weather conditions.

Safety Trends

Overall rail incidents have been in decline...

-37% In the past 10 years fatalities at U.S. crossings have declined substantially.

-11% Unfortunately, over the same 10 year period, trespassing fatalities have declined less.

2015 saw Railroad Crossing fatalities decrease...

In 2015 there were approximately 230 fatalities at railroad crossings, a decrease of 30 from the previous year.

However, trespasser fatalities decreased by less.

In 2015 there were approximately 455 trespasser fatalities at railroad tracks, a decrease of 10 from the previous year.

For more information on rail safety, visit our Statistics page under the Railroad Crossing Safety tab.

Trains cannot stop quickly! A train traveling at 55 MPH takes a mile or more to stop!