



COLORADO

Department of
Transportation

SECTION 130 PROGRAM





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Program Overview

- The Railway-Highway Crossings (Section 130) Program provides funds for the elimination of hazards at railway-highway crossings. The Section 130 Program has been correlated with a significant decrease in fatalities at railway-highway grade crossings.
- Title 23 of the United States Code, Section 130, was created by Congress in 1987 to provide funds for the “Elimination of Hazards” at public railway-highway crossings.
- The Section 130 Program is funded by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and administered by the individual State DOT’s.



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Colorado Rail System



- Legend:**
- 1 Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge RR
 - 2 Cumbres & Toiyabe National RR
 - 3 San Juan & Rio Grande RR
 - 4 Royal Gorge Route RR
 - 5 Front Range Trolleybus
 - 6 Denver & North Platte RR
 - 7 Leadville Trolleybus and Shuttle RR

- Legend:**
- Amtrak stations
 - AMTRAK route
 - Tourist Rail Lines
 - Railroad
 - Cities & Towns
 - Urban Area



The information contained in this report is based on the most current data available and is subject to change without notice. CDOT does not guarantee the accuracy of any information presented in this report and is not responsible for any errors or omissions and for any consequences arising from the use of the information.

CDOT Data Source: CDOT 2014
Map Date Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics 2014
Map Scale: 1:1,000,000
Map Date: 10/1/14



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Colorado Rail System

- There are two Class I railroads in Colorado, BNSF Railways and Union Pacific. Combined they operate over 80 percent of the miles of track and carry the majority of freight in the state.
- In addition, there are 13 short line railroads in Colorado. They primarily provide localized service with connections to the Class I railroads. They principally serve the agricultural industry and are very valuable assets to both local and statewide economies.
- Colorado has eleven tourist railroad lines which showcase Colorado's history and offer trips through Colorado's scenic outdoors.
- The passenger rail system in Colorado is presently very limited. Outside of the Denver Metro area's light rail (RTD) and commuter rail lines, passenger rail service is provided by Amtrak with two routes that pass through the state.



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Crossing Data

Total Crossings: 2,129

At-grade Crossings: 1,751

Grade Separated (Over and Under): 378

Active Warning (flashing light and gates): 675

Passive Warning (without flashing lights and gates): 1,027



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Crossing Hazard Index

- A hazard index for each public rail-highway crossing in the state is calculated annually using a formula derived from Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) formulas and guidelines.
- The hazard index is used to compare the crash potential (predicted number of crashes per year) of one crossing to another in a consistent manner. Crossings with the highest hazard index value are studied in detail.



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Section 130 Projects

- Unlike most other federal highway funds, local agencies cannot request Section 130 funds.
- The hazard index is the primary initial factor used to rank and select Section 130 projects. The final ranking is based on the combination of the hazard index, recent accident history, and input received. Certain rail corridors might be identified as needing upgrades based on increasing rail traffic.
- These funds are not for Railroad Track Improvements or installation of Quiet Zones.

Local Agencies

- Local government agencies should note that the Section 130 funds are used only to address the most critical needs statewide. Local safety concerns and knowledge are very important and there is nothing in Colorado law that prohibits a county, city, or town with jurisdiction over a crossing from funding safety improvements on their own.
- Local agencies are encouraged to initiate projects for crossing safety improvements using locally available highway safety funding or funds from any other source.



COLORADO

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