

COMPLETE STREETS

A Complete Street is safe, and feels safe, for all users. FHWA supports the planning, implementation and evaluation of equitable streets and networks that prioritize safety, comfort, and connectivity for all people who use them.

40% of crash fatalities occur in rural areas, while only 20% of people live in rural areas in the United States.¹



Source: FHWA

Reveal how Complete Streets provide people living in and using rural town centers with safer multimodal access to essential destinations for all road users. ►

Over 1,000,000

rural American households do not have a car.²

13.7%

of households with workers over the age of 16 have one or zero vehicles available.³

Complete Streets improve connectivity and access for people walking, biking, and taking buses.

27%
of fatalities at intersections occurred in rural areas (2017-2021).⁴

Complete Streets separate various users in time and space for safety.

Roundabouts can reduce total crashes by up to 68% and injury crashes by up to

88%

on higher speed two-lane rural roads.⁵

Roundabouts reduce conflict points and vehicle speeds.

Shoulder rumble strips can reduce single vehicle run-off-road fatal and injury crashes by as much as

51%

on two-lane rural roads.⁶

Complete Streets use Proven Safety Countermeasures to reduce the risk of serious crashes.



Creating a safe, connected, and equitable Complete Streets Network can be an iterative strategy that involves implementing improvements over time.

Source: FHWA



A Complete Streets implementation strategy combines innovations from multiple disciplines to achieve the creation of safe, connected, and equitable street networks. Visit FHWA's Complete Streets website for resources to support developing and implementing a Complete Streets strategy. Visit these sites for frequent updates as new information and resources become available.



FHWA PSCs in Rural Communities

https://highways.dot.gov/sites/fhwa.dot.gov/files/2024-01/FHWA_PSCs_in_Rural_Communities_508.pdf



FHWA Complete Streets Overview

highways.dot.gov/complete-streets



FHWA Complete Streets Funding

highways.dot.gov/complete-streets/make-complete-streets-default-approach



FHWA Rural Road Safety

<https://highways.dot.gov/safety/local-rural/training-tools-guidance-and-countermeasures-locals-practitioners>

- <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/813488>
- <https://smartgrowthamerica.org/more-than-one-million-households-without-a-car-in-rural-america-need-better-transit/>
- <https://data.census.gov/table?q=010XX43US&tid=ACSST1Y2021.S0802>
- <https://cdan.dot.gov/query>
- <https://highways.dot.gov/sites/fhwa.dot.gov/files/2022-06/fhwasa14097.pdf>
- <https://highways.dot.gov/safety/proven-safety-countermeasures/longitudinal-rumble-strips-and-strips-two-lane-roads>

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