



RAIL

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# Crossing Inventory Overview

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Federal Railroad Administration

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## What is the Crossing Inventory?

The USDOT Crossing Inventory contains information on the characteristics of every crossing in the United States



## Why Is the Inventory Important?

### **Inventory is used to improve safety at crossings**

- Data is used by States to rank, prioritize, and select improvements at crossings from funds such as the Section 130 Program or FRA Grants
  - Incorrect or missing data may prevent high-risk crossings from obtaining necessary improvements
  - Incorrect or missing data may direct funds to low-risk crossing
- Academic and research projects use data from the inventory when studying causes, correlations, trends, or other safety factors at crossings
- Accident Investigators (ie FRA and NTSB) use the data in investigations

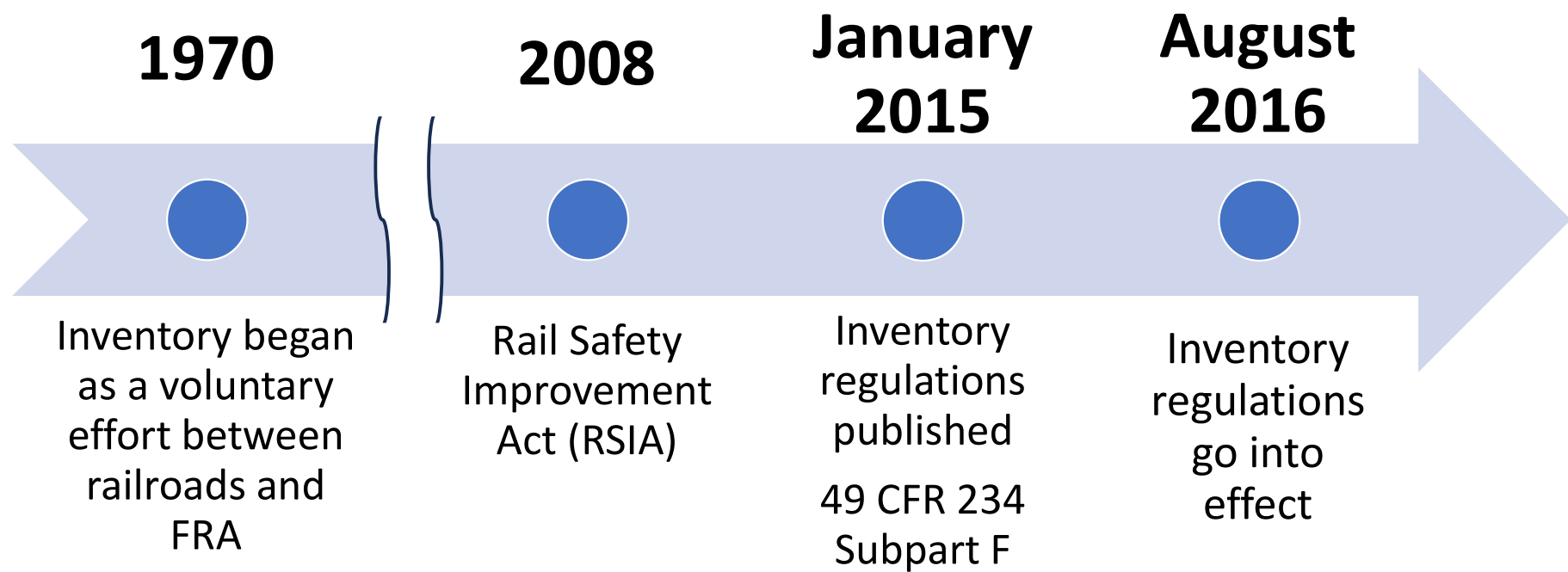
## Who Is Responsible?

Railroads	States	FRA
Railroads must report new crossings to the Inventory, and must provide periodic updates of the existing data	States should (but are not required to) update certain data in the Inventory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develops and enforces the regulations</li><li>• Maintains the computer program where railroads and states submit data</li><li>• House the Inventory data and make it available to the public</li></ul>

Provides the data

Custodian of the data

## Crossing Inventory History





## What Crossings Are Reported To the Inventory?

- All crossings are reported to the Inventory:
  - Public + Private
  - At-grade + Grade Separated
  - Highway + Pathway (such pedestrian & bike facilities)



# Number of Crossings

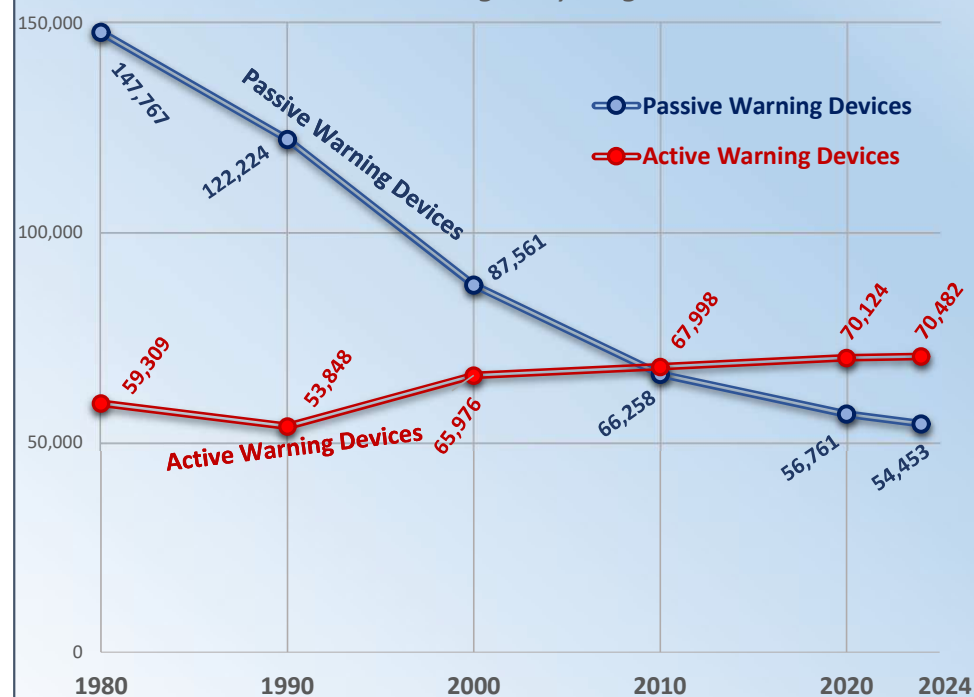
## Total Crossings, National Total

All crossings including at-grade + grade-separated, public + private, highway + pedestrian



## Active vs Passive Crossings, National Total

Public highway at-grade



## Maintaining the Inventory is a challenge

### People involved:

- 50 states + DC
- About 600 railroads with crossings
- IT Contractors who maintain FRA's website and programs
- FRA Inspectors and Specialists

### Size of the data

- Approx 243,000 open crossings \* Approx 200 data fields per crossing  
= tens of millions of current data points PLUS every change ever made



### State-Railroad-FRA Working Group

#### Format:

Topics covered range from:

- State / Railroad Coordination on Inventory Data
- Regulatory Interpretations
- Technical Challenges and Issues with the GCIS

Outcomes so far:

- Identified key updates to improve the GCIS
- Identified clarifications to be made in the Guide
- Identified noteworthy practices that RRs and States have shared
- Identified where FRA can improve our Inspector training

# Contact Us

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