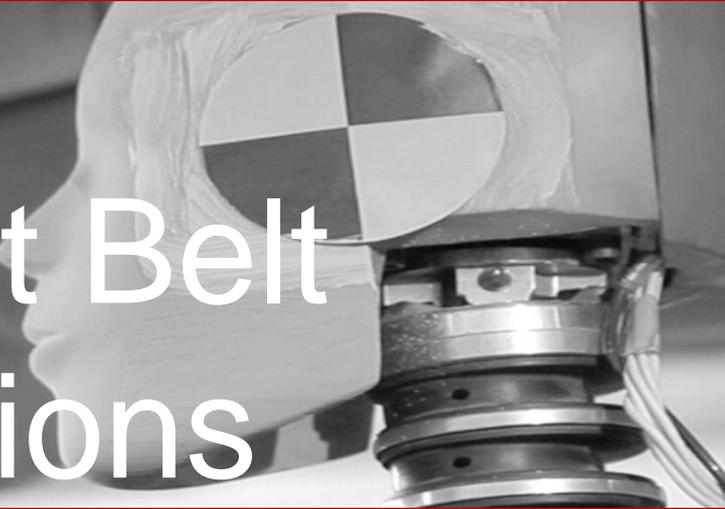


National Highway Traffic Safety Administration



Updating State Observational Seat Belt Survey Site Selections



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Purpose of Today's Webinar

- Background on the survey
- Information on observation site re-selection for seat belt surveys
- States' Role and Responsibilities
- NHTSA's Role and Responsibilities

Background – TEA-21

- Began with TEA-21 – authorized a seat belt incentive grant program based on seat belt use rate
- September 1, 1998 – Interim Final Rule - Uniform Criteria for State Observational Surveys of Seat Belt Use (63 FR 46389)
- March 14, 2000 Final Rule adopting Uniform Criteria

Background – SAFETEA-LU

- SAFETEA-LU new administrative requirements for Section 402
 - Certifications and assurances: States conduct annual seat belt survey according to Uniform Criteria
 - Implementing guidance for Section 406: surveys using the Uniform Criteria would serve as basis for performance provision of grant program

Final Rule – April 1, 2011

- April 1, 2011 – Final Rule published amending the regulation establishing uniform criteria for designing and conducting surveys, procedures of obtaining NHTSA approval of designs and new form for reporting use rates
- Revised 1998 Uniform Criteria so that future surveys will give States more accurate data to guide their occupant protection programs
- April 2012 amended final rule to allow for extensions

Background – MAP-21

- MAP-21 – States conduct seat belt surveys as part of Section 402 certification and assurances, and
- Data from survey used to determine the way in which a State applied for Section 405(b) occupant protection grant funds

Background – FAST Act

- Continue to conduct annual belt survey in accordance with the Uniform Criteria
- NCSA verified seat belt use rates from annual survey will be used to determine if a State applies as a high seat belt use rate State or a lower seat belt use rate State

Why re-select observation sites?

- To ensure accurate and representative measurements of seat belt use at the State level
- To allow all in-scope roads (where the population is driving) to have a chance of inclusion in the State sample

Uniform Criteria §1340.12

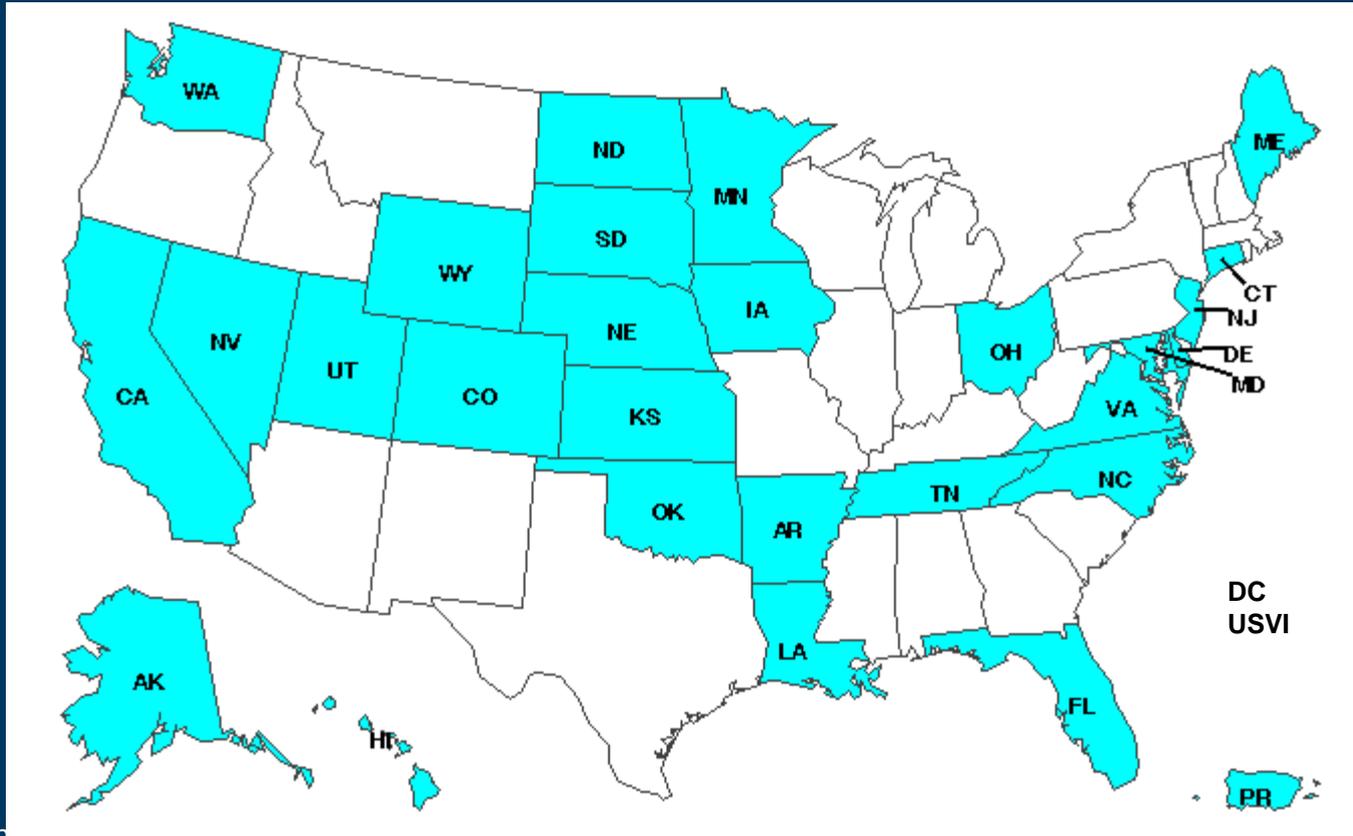
(a) Re-selection of observation sites.

States shall re-select observation sites using updated sampling frame data, as described in §1340.5(a), no less than once every five years.

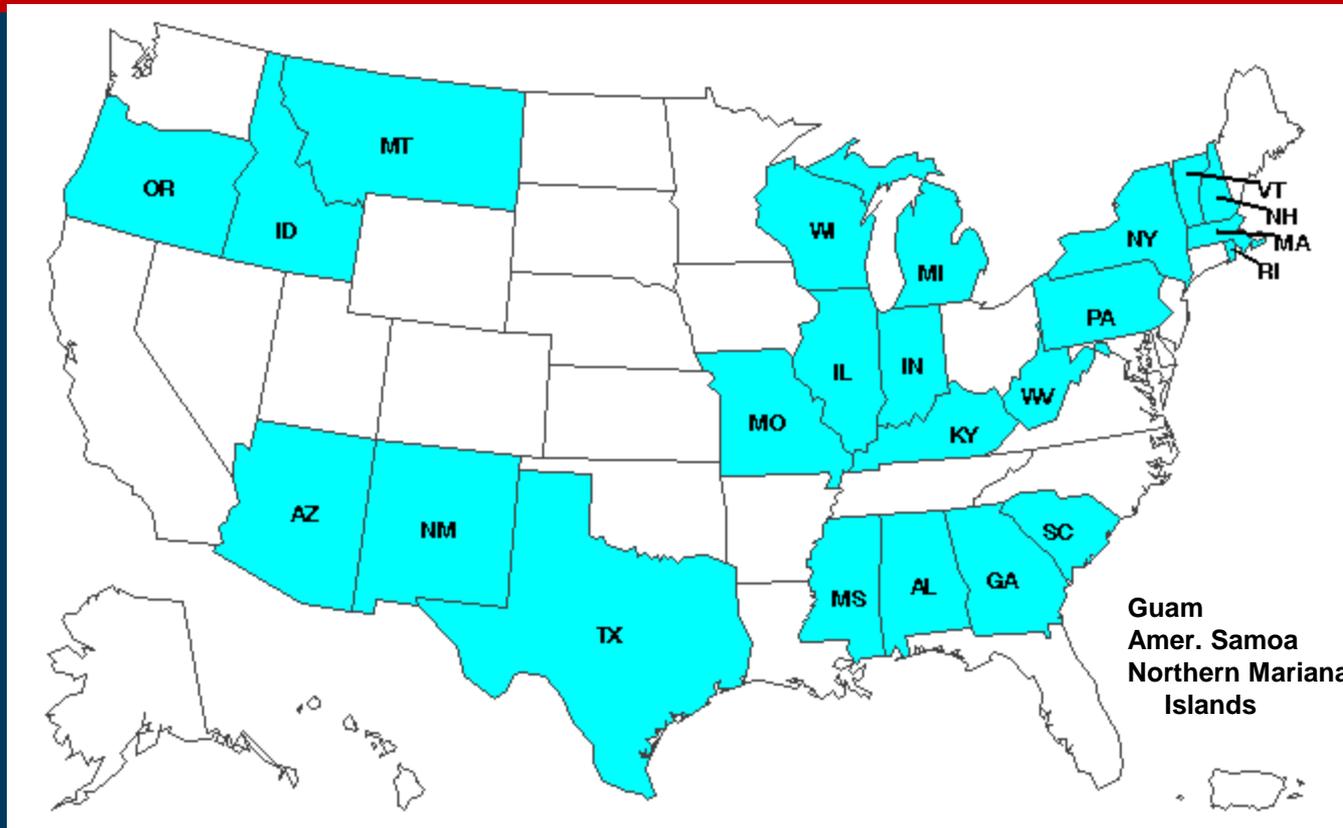
(b) Re-selection submission deadline.

States shall submit updated sampling frame data meeting the requirements of §1340.5(a) for NHTSA approval no later than March 1 of the re-selection year.

Timeline – States due for site re-selection in 2017



Timeline – States due for site re-selection in 2018



Best Practices – Statisticians & Design Plan Review

- States must work with statisticians experienced in complex (multi-stage) surveys (see §1340.8(c))
- State statisticians will be responsible for reviewing and understanding their NHTSA-approved seat belt survey design plan

Best Practices – Data for site re-selection

- NHTSA will provide roadway segment data for each State
- List of road segments by county and road-type

Best Practices – Re-selection Protocol

- This is NOT a re-design
- States are required to re-select observation sites in the counties where they currently conduct seat belt survey observations
- Identify and apply allowable exclusions (rural local roads in non-MSA counties) to roadway segment data

NHTSA Support

- Provide a Guidance Document
- Set up a SharePoint site with road segment data
- Review/evaluate road segment samples

State Submission Requirements

- Certification that the State applied current design specifications
- List of sampled roadway segments with their associated probabilities of selection
- Earlier submissions are recommended to allow time for review/implementation

NHTSA Review

- Review the re-selected road segment submissions
- Notification from NHTSA's Office of Regional Operations and Program Delivery

States' Role and Responsibilities

- States must use a survey statistician to perform their road segment re-selection (See §1340.8(c))
- NHTSA is not able to provide technical support/consulting to the States for their re-selection

Suggested Next Steps

- Formulate a plan to meet the deadline
- Identify a statistician for the project
- Review the current seat belt survey design plan
- Stay tuned for NHTSA Guidance Document