

Update on FHWA Crash Costs Initiative

AASHTO SCOHTS SMS Meeting

April 2017



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration



<http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov>

Objectives

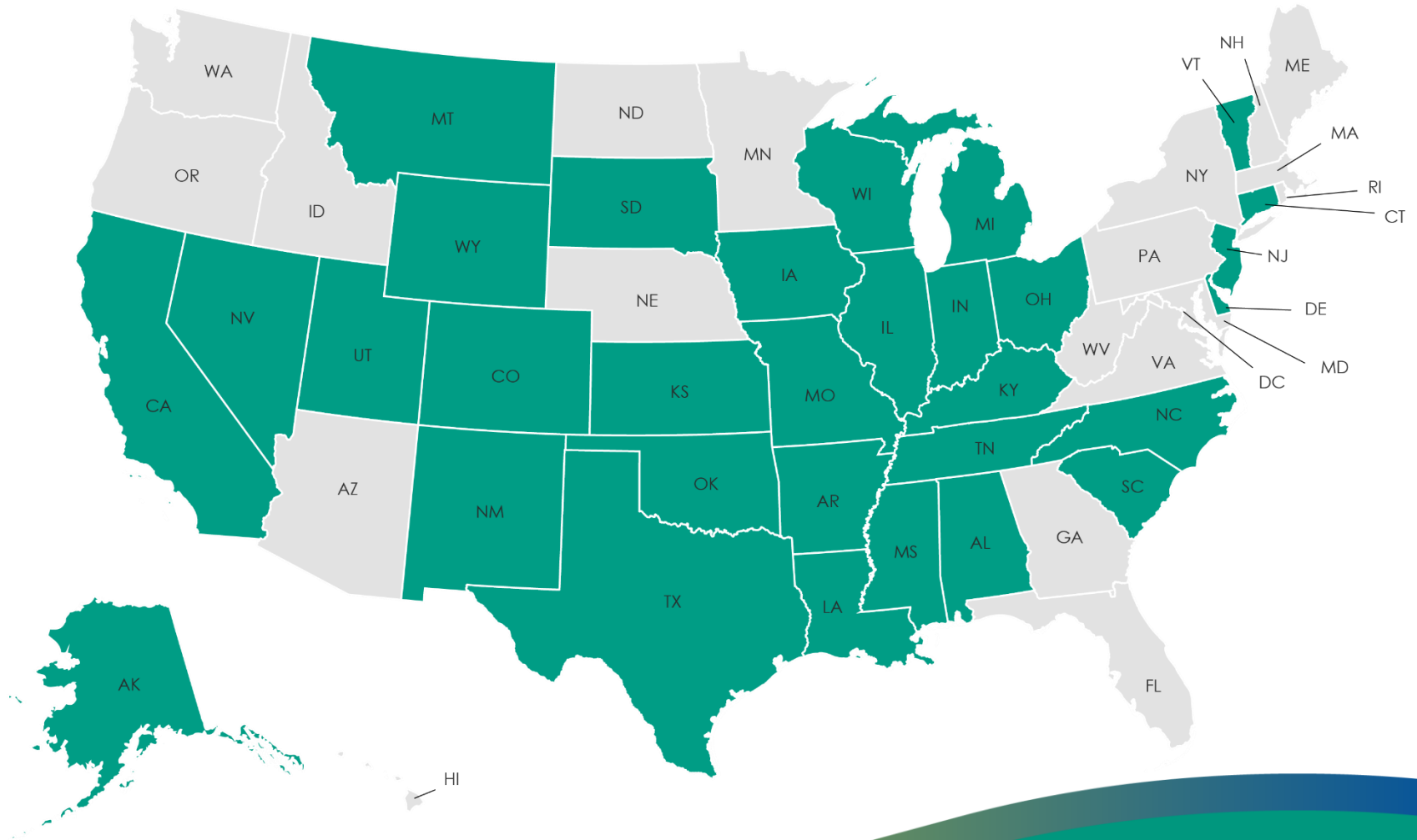
- Develop synthesis of national and state crash costs
- Explore the feasibility of establishing national crash cost values



Synthesis of National and State Crash Costs

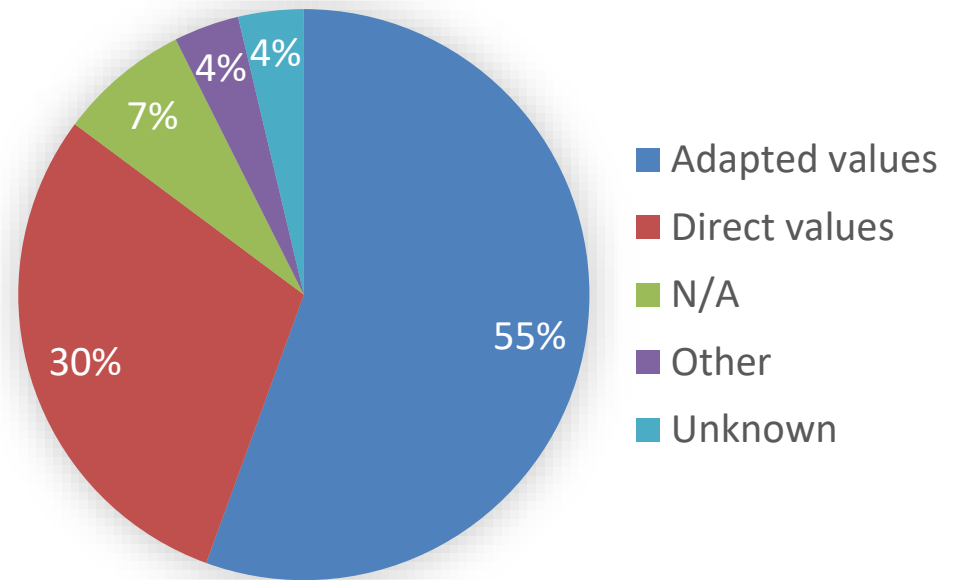
- National crash costs
 - Published in various reports or publications (e.g. HSM)
 - Used by various federal agencies (e.g. FHWA, NHTSA).
- Crash cost values currently used by States
 - For safety programs and project development efforts
 - Methodology used by States to establish and apply those cost values

State Crash Costs Questionnaire

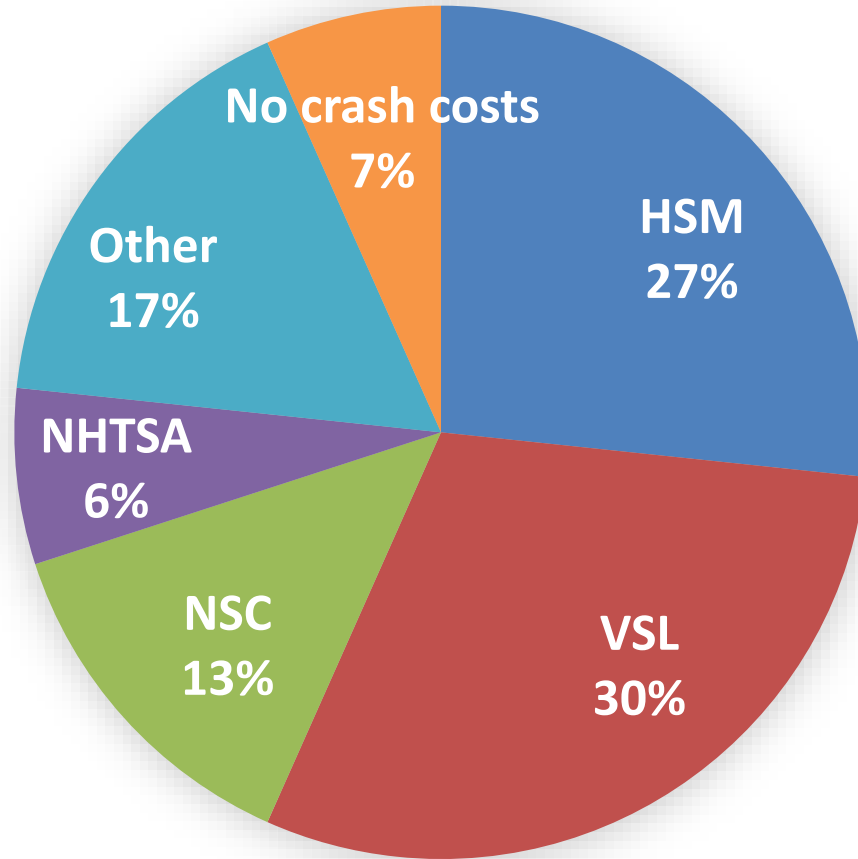


Preliminary Findings

- Almost every State using different crash cost values
- Mix of crash-level and person-level costs
- Most states update crash cost values annually



Crash Cost Sources

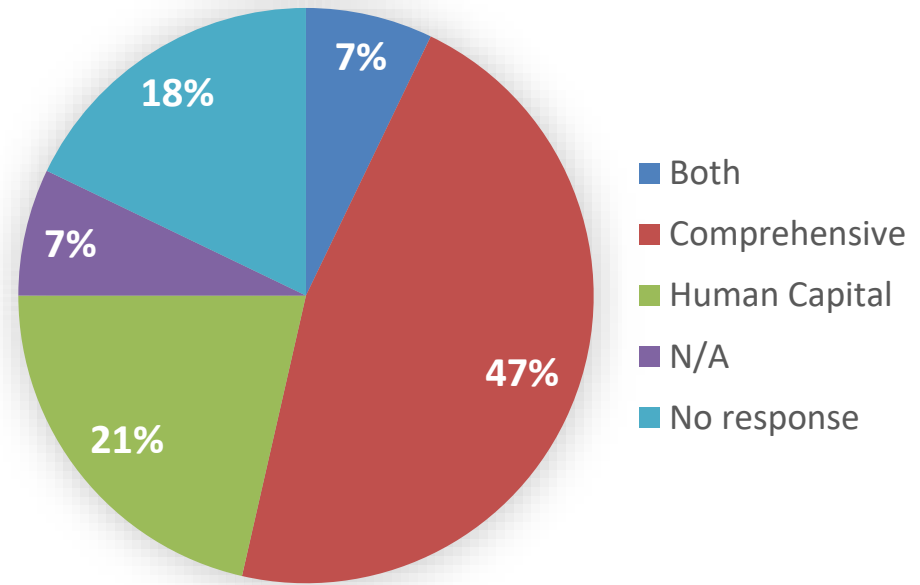


Preliminary Findings – Crash Cost Values

Crash Severity	Min Crash Cost	Mean Crash Cost	Max Crash Cost	Std Dev
K	\$190,200	\$3,936,100	\$9,600,000	\$3,330,573
A	\$80,700	\$720,200	\$3,300,000	\$824,800
B	\$25,600	\$181,900	\$651,000	\$149,000
C	\$0	\$92,400	\$651,000	\$135,600
O	\$0	\$11,100	\$42,298	\$10,100

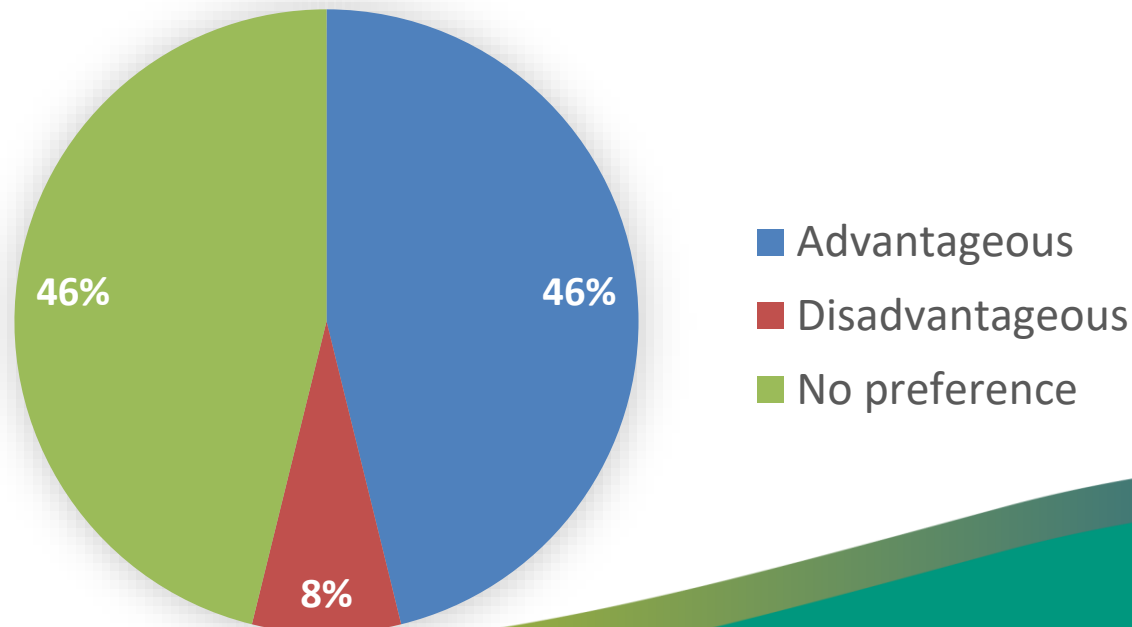
Existing Application of Crash Costs

- More States use comprehensive crash costs
- Many States use spreadsheets or software to apply crash costs
- Majority of States generate weighted averages from base costs




National Crash Costs

- Most states indicated national crash costs would be advantageous or had no preference
- Some indicated a preference to adjust national values to local conditions



White Paper Outline

- Synthesis of Literature
 - Synthesis of Practice
 - Crash Cost Considerations
 - Recommended Methodology for Developing and Updating Crash Costs
 - Summary of Recommendations for Future Practice
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Next Steps

- 5/15: First Draft White Paper
 - For Review by FHWA and HSM PFS
 - 6/13: Second Draft White Paper
 - For Presentation at TRB HSP Committee Mid-year Meeting
 - 7/28: Final White Paper
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