

This is the official newsletter of **Utah Operation Lifesaver (Utah OL)**, a nonprofit public safety education and awareness organization dedicated to reducing collisions, fatalities and injuries at highway-rail grade crossings and trespassing on railroad tracks.

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## Executive Director’s Message – 2021 Utah Operation Lifesaver Annual Summary

Another year has passed, and Utah Operation Lifesaver has summarized the data for 2021. While statistics do not tell the entire story, data provides good information for us to evaluate what happened in 2021. One of the four E’s for National Rail Safety Alliance is “Evaluation.” Rail safety in Utah for 2021 was about the same as last year. Table 1 shows the highway-rail grade crossing and trespass incidents for both the United States and Utah. In addition to freight and tourist rail, the statistics below include UTA TRAX light-rail and FrontRunner commuter rail numbers for Utah.

**Table 1 – 2021 Crossing and Trespass Statistics**

	<b>Crossing Collisions</b>	<b>Crossing Fatalities</b>	<b>Crossing Injuries</b>	<b>Trespass Fatalities</b>	<b>Trespass Injuries</b>
<b>National</b>	2,148	236	662	620	528
<b>Utah</b>	14	2	5	1	4

Source: Federal Railroad Administration, June 2022.

The numbers below show the impact COVID-19 has had on our educational outreach for rail safety education in Utah. Table 2 shows the number of Utah Operation Lifesaver presentations given and the number of people who received those presentations by category. Reporting is extremely important to our program to show our safety partners the marvelous work that our volunteers perform in Utah. Please remember to report presentations and booths by the end of each month. All of our presentations are reported to the National Rail Safety Alliance website at [www.nrsainc.org](http://www.nrsainc.org)

**Table 2 – 2021 Utah Operation Lifesaver Presentations**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Presentations Given</b>	<b>Presentation Recipients</b>
Pre-Kindergarten/8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	3	184
Driver’s Education (Online)	3,744	3,744
Driver’s Education (In person)	316	9,114
School Bus Drivers	12	307
First Responders/Law Enforcement	0	0
General Adult	5	98
Professional Drivers	9	114
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4,089</b>	<b>13,561</b>

Source: Utah Operation Lifesaver, June 2022.

In 2021, the Utah Operation Lifesaver booth was represented 12 times reaching approximately 7,300 people. While this was more than 2020, we are nowhere near the numbers prior to COVID-19. Special thanks to all of our volunteers and safety partners for the success we had in 2021!

## Utah OL Booth Update

Thanks to all those who participated in the booths sharing the Utah Operation Lifesaver rail safety messages. Utah Operation Lifesaver attended the following events during the first and second quarters of 2022.

- The Ophir, Tintic & Western Model Train Show at Thanksgiving Point in Lehi on January 14 and 15, 2022.
- The Kanab Train Show at Kanab Center Ballroom in Kanab on February 11 and 12, 2022.
- The Hostlers Model Railroad Festival at Newgate Mall in Ogden on March 4, 5, and 6, 2022.
- The Utah Trucking Association Management Conference at the Dixie Convention Center in St. George on May 12, 2022.
- The Safe Kids Day at Clearfield High School on June 4, 2022.
- The Lehi Round-Up Rodeo in Lehi on June 23, 24, and 25, 2022.



Tina Bartholomew of Utah Transit Authority and her husband Steve handing out rail safety swag at the Lehi Rodeo on June 24, 2022.



Kent Muhlestein of Utah Transit Authority and Ian Keeslar working the Utah Operation Lifesaver booth at the Ophir, Tintic & Western Model Train Show at Thanksgiving Point in Lehi on January 14, 2022.



Carolyn Anderson with Utah Transit Authority at the Lehi Rodeo on June 24, 2022.



Tina Bartholomew (UTA) and her husband Steve at the Lehi Rodeo on June 24, 2022.