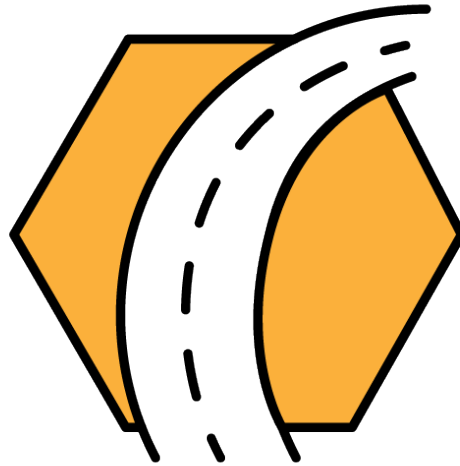


2024 Northeast



Commercial Vehicle Safety Summit: Innovative Best Practices to Prevent Crashes

FY23 High Priority Briefing Report



Post-Summit Survey Results

- *98% of attendees indicated the Summit was excellent/good, with 2% indicating it was adequate.*
- *Agenda and content relevancy received 98% satisfaction (excellent/good)*
- *60% of attendees indicated the Summit should be held in Fall 2025, 8% indicated Winter 2026, 14% Spring 2026, 2% Summer 2026, and 21% Fall 2026*
- *Summit plenary panels received 95% satisfaction (excellent/good) and concurrent sessions received 92% satisfaction (excellent/good)*

Introduction

The importance of sharing best practices and building upon existing efforts cannot be overstated when addressing the critical issue of commercial motor vehicle (CMV) safety. Crashes involving large trucks and buses continue to pose significant risks to public safety, underscoring the need for a coordinated, collaborative approach. By learning from one another, states and regions can harness innovative ideas, leverage data-driven strategies, and apply proven solutions to prevent CMV crashes more effectively. The exchange of insights allows stakeholders to avoid duplicating efforts, focus resources on what works, and adapt successful programs to meet the unique challenges of their jurisdictions.

Collaboration across states and regions is especially vital in an era of rapid technological advancement and evolving transportation demands. Emerging technologies, such as advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS) and predictive analytics, offer new opportunities to enhance safety, but their full potential can only be realized through collective understanding and shared implementation strategies. Similarly, initiatives like targeted enforcement, driver training

programs, and infrastructure improvements gain strength when informed by the experiences of others. By building on the foundation of what has been accomplished, stakeholders can develop comprehensive approaches that address both regional nuances and nationwide priorities.

The 2024 Northeast Commercial Vehicle Safety Summit embodied this spirit of collaboration. It brought together representatives from diverse disciplines to exchange innovative programming ideas and showcase best practices. The lessons learned during this summit highlight the value of collective action in advancing CMV safety.

The 2024 Northeast Commercial Vehicle Safety Summit: Innovative Best Practices to Prevent Crashes brought together a dynamic group of stakeholders committed to advancing CMV safety. Since 2016, UMassSafe, supported by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), has organized themed Commercial Vehicle Safety Summits for the entire Eastern Service Center region. In addition, it operates the [Commercial Vehicle-Safety Technical Assistance Center \(CV-STAC\)](#) to share news and resources with commercial vehicle safety stakeholders across the region. The early Summits concentrated on building and strengthening partnerships, with the inaugural 2016 Summit highlighting collaborations between enforcement agencies, licensing services, and universities. The 2019 Summit shifted focus to partnerships between the commercial vehicle industry and law enforcement, while the 2022 Summit, though still emphasizing robust partnerships among all stakeholders, centered on emerging safety technologies and their application in enhancing the safety of commercial vehicles for all road users. The 2024 Summit continued this work by highlighting innovative best practices across the ESC, with the aim of nurturing new and existing collaborations between diverse stakeholders.

Held in Springfield, Massachusetts from November 13-14, 2024, this summit united representatives from law enforcement, research institutions, freight and technology industries, as well as regulatory and

licensing agencies, fostering a multidisciplinary approach to addressing the critical issue of crashes involving large trucks and buses.

The summit served as a platform for showcasing cutting-edge strategies, technologies, and programs designed to enhance safety, prevent collisions, and improve operational efficiency in the CMV sector. Participants shared insights from their respective fields, illustrating how innovative solutions can be applied collaboratively to address shared challenges. By bringing together diverse perspectives, the event emphasized the importance of partnership and information-sharing in achieving safety goals.

Key sessions highlighted advancements in areas such as automated vehicle technology, driver training, enforcement strategies, and data-driven risk assessment. Workshops and panel discussions allowed attendees to explore actionable approaches for implementing these innovations in their own organizations and regions.



Summit Overview

The Summit, held November 13-14 in Springfield, Massachusetts, hosted 140 participants — with at least one representative from each Eastern Service Center (ESC) regions state/territory. Also in attendance were representatives from the California Highway Patrol, Kansas State University, North Dakota State University, and University of Alabama, as well as representatives from private companies vendors from PrePass Safety Alliance, Drivewyze and Medidas Technologies.



Over the two days, 37 presentations were offered, encouraging open discussion and collaboration between presenters and attendees. Furthering the work established by the Summits held in 2016, 2019, and 2022, attendees were encouraged to continue developing partnerships between truck and bus associations, motor carriers, law enforcement agencies, state driver’s licensing agencies, researchers, and government organizations.

Summit Highlights

Day one opened with UMass Transportation Center director Dr. Michael Knodler, UMassSafe director Robin Riessman, and FMCSA ESC Regional Field Administrator Taft Kelly providing an overview of the Summit and its goals, followed by FMCSA Office of Safety’s Associate Administrator Darrell Ruban outlining the FMCSA’s priorities and directions.

According to Taft Kelly, understanding how individual roles work within a broader framework is paramount for solving CMV safety issues. “Commercial vehicle safety and roadway safety as a whole cannot be improved if we work solely in isolation. Creating a safer roadway and driving culture is dependent on breaking down barriers between our disciplines and agencies and fostering true collaboration. That means bringing together law enforcement, industry, universities, government, and all other stakeholders to work in concert. We need to understand and value what each of us brings to the



table, learn from each other and work with each other in parallel, not in isolation. We need to embrace technology and innovative strategies to change behavior to achieve our shared goal of zero fatalities on roadways.”

This opening segued into the Summit’s first concurrent sessions. The Combatting Human Trafficking panel explored the various forms of human trafficking—including, labor trafficking, which is often discussed less than sex trafficking—while highlighting the ways targeted awareness campaigns, specialized training, law enforcement programs, and cross-industry collaboration can assist in combatting this pervasive crime. At the same

time, the Identifying Crash Causation & High-Risk Drivers session provided a deep dive into commercial vehicle crash causation and relevant factors, as well as driver-findings regarding medical outcomes and citation adjudication. Additionally, insights from a collaborative high-crash corridor study and a driver self-reported risky behavior survey were discussed, outlining how individual and cultural beliefs may impact CMV drivers' decision to engage in risky behaviors.

The sessions that followed emphasized the critical importance of cross-community and cross-discipline collaboration in preventing CMV crashes and reducing associated injuries and fatalities. Key sessions showcased innovative strategies, including law enforcement best practices for improving compliance and inspections, university partnerships for evidence-based safety tools and education campaigns, and community engagement to craft impactful safety messaging. Networking opportunities fostered organic discussions and partnerships, enhancing the collective ability to address safety challenges. Discussions also highlighted advancements in technology, such as drones for enforcement and crash investigation, and the transformative potential of automation in trucking, signaling a reimagined future for the industry. Emphasis on driver behavior emerged as a central theme, with sessions exploring proactive approaches like real-time alerts and engagement tools to improve safety. Judicial strategies were also discussed to enhance accountability in licensing processes, while innovations in fleet safety tools addressed blind spots, driver awareness, and operational efficiency. Insights from research on minimizing racial and ethnic disparities in roadway safety further underscored the value of inclusive strategies. These various topics convened around a focus on leveraging collaborative efforts and technological advancements to foster a culture of safety across agencies, disciplines, and the CMV industry as a whole.

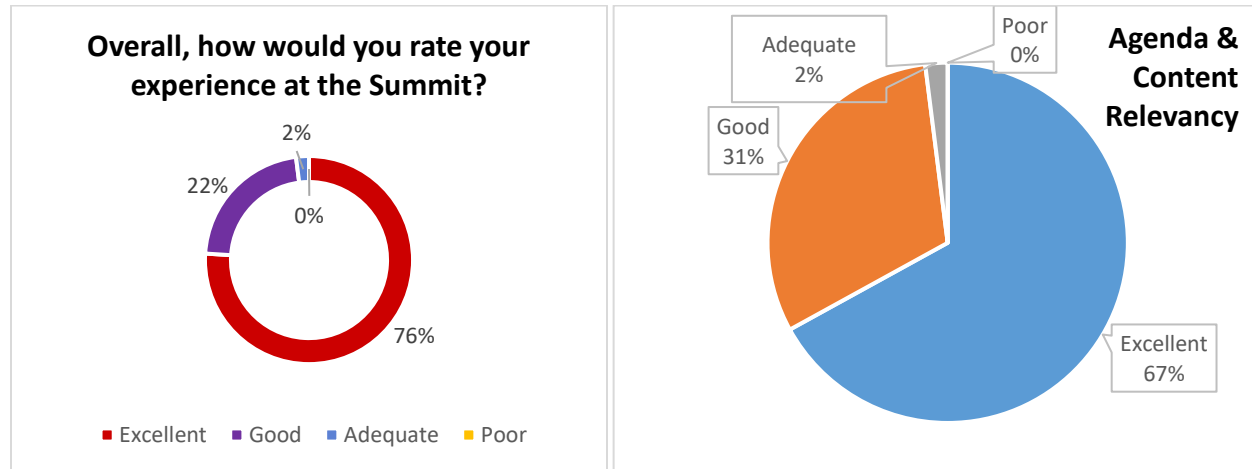
The final concurrent sessions of the Summit consisted of Data-Driven Programming: Using Analytics to Save Lives, wherein traffic operation managers and researchers discussed the critical role of data systems in incident management, work zone planning, and crash prevention. Concurrently, a session on the latest FMCSA research, technology, and data analysis Projects to reduce roadway fatalities was held, wherein representatives from the FMCSA Office of Research provided an overview of the innovative initiatives for enhancing CMV safety. This included systematic applied research, automated CMVs, roadside enforcement technologies, and the safety benefits of carrier interventions.

Ultimately, this Summit provided an opportunity for diverse stakeholders, many who have never met before to unite under a common cause, find new points of collaboration, and share expertise. President and CEO of the Rhode Island Trucking Association Chris Maxwell shared this about his experience at the Summit: "My first Northeast CMV Safety Summit provided me invaluable guidance, resources and, most importantly, networking opportunities with a diverse group of professionals commonly bound by a passion for safety. It will not be my last Summit, and I look forward to many years of participation."

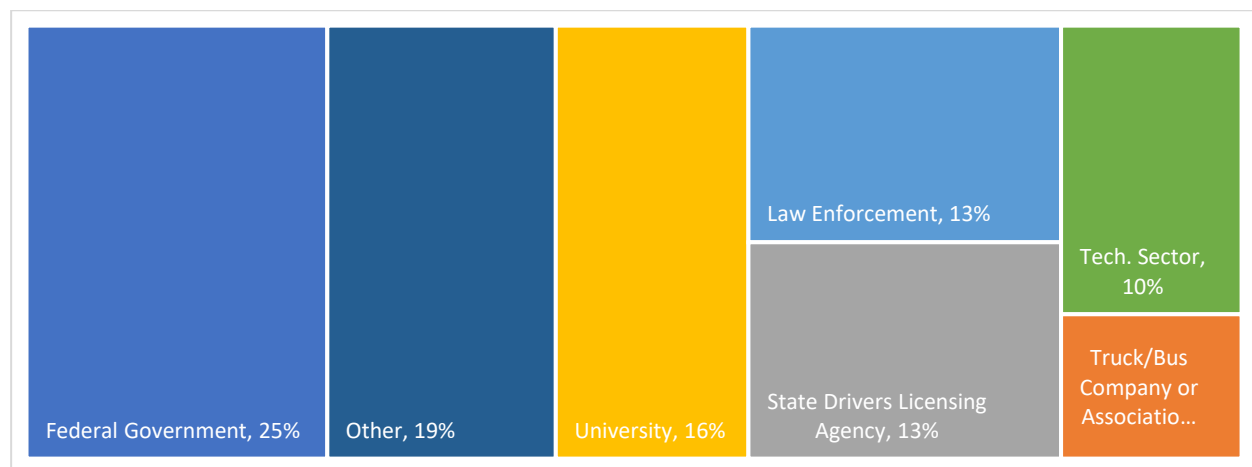


Post-Summit Survey

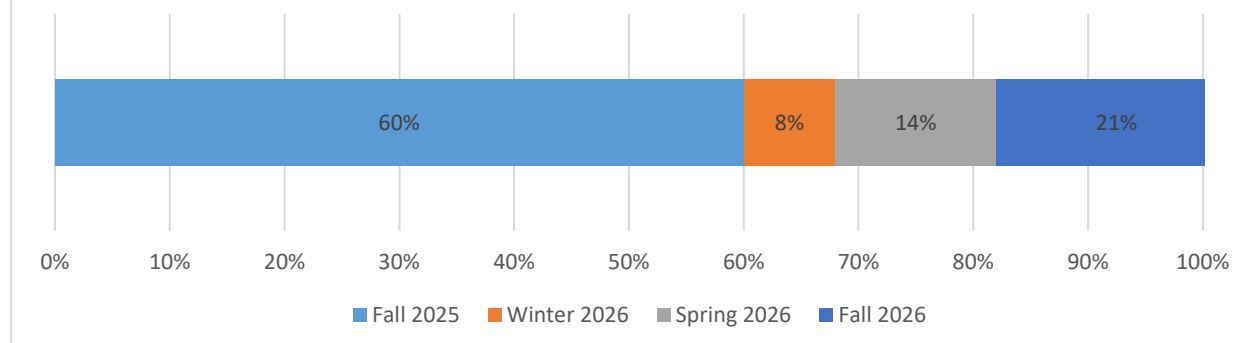
Following the Summit, UMassSafe solicited feedback using a survey sent to all attendees, in order to improve future Summits and programming. Of the 140 attendees, 64 responded. 98% of respondents indicated their experience was excellent/good, while 2% indicated their experience was adequate, and no respondents indicated their experience was poor.

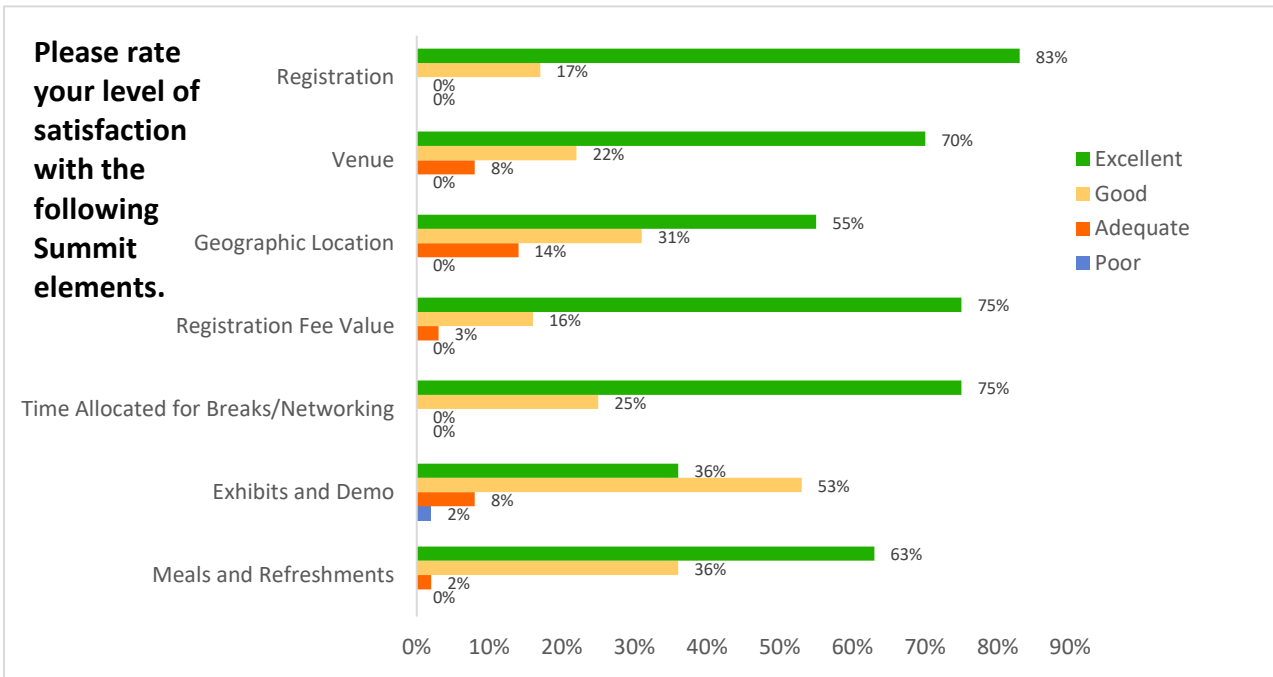


What type of agency do you represent?



When should the next Northeast/Eastern Service Center CMV Safety Summit Be Held?





Would you be interested in any of the following topics as a specialized focus for the next Summit?



What should be included in the Commercial Vehicle-Safety Technical Assistance Center (CV-STAC)?

