The Transportation Research Board (TRB) provides innovative, research-based solutions to improve how we move. TRB is part of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, an independent, non-profit institution that provides objective advice on scientific, engineering, and medical issues.

A resource to the nation and to the transportation community worldwide, TRB provides an extensive portfolio of services:

- Opportunities for information exchange on current transportation research and practice
- Management of cooperative research and other research programs
- Analyses of national transportation policy issues and guidance on federal and other research programs
- Publications and access to research information from around the world

TRB Research

TRID – The world's largest and most comprehensive bibliographic source on all modes and disciplines of transportation

- Click here to view search results on TRB published research Rail Safety Innovations within the past two years.

Subject Webpage

- Rail Research at TRB

Recent Reports & Publications

- Safety IDEA Projects
  - Report 32 - Railroad Bridge Inspections for Maintenance and Replacement Prioritization Using Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) with Laser Scanning Capabilities
  - Report 31 - Modeling and Validation of Standards for a Sleeping Compartment on Accessible Passenger Rail Vehicles

- Second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP2)
  - Report - Fueling Freight Movement: Emerging Technologies Help Clarify South Florida's Regional Petroleum Supply Chain: Freight Demand Modeling and Data Improvement Implementation Support

- Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP)
  - IDEA Report 83 - Track Circuit Monitoring Tool: Standardization and Deployment at Chicago Transit Authority

Current & Upcoming Projects

- Current Projects
  - NCHRP 08-111 - Effective Decision-Making Methods for Freight-Efficient Land Use
  - Safety IDEA Project 35 - Non-contact Deflection Monitoring System for Timber Railroad Bridges
  - Safety IDEA Project 34 - Prototype System for Managing Enterprise Rail Transport Risk for Hazmat
  - Safety IDEA Project 33 - Adaptive Prestressing System for Concrete Crossties
  - Safety IDEA Project 29 - Self-Deicing LED Signal for Railroad and Highway Intersections
  - TCRP C-23 - Assessing and Mitigating Electrical Fires on Transit Vehicles
  - Transit IDEA J-04/IDEA 90 - sUAS-Based GeoNTEL for Commuter Rail Parking in Rural and Suburban Areas

- Upcoming Projects
  - TCRP F-27 - Characteristics and Elements of Non-Punitive Employee Safety Reporting Systems for Public Transportation

Reports from the National Academies Press on Rail Safety Innovations

- Protecting the Health and Well-Being of Communities in a Changing Climate

Committees & Panels

Sign-up to be a committee "Friend"

TRB Standing Committees – Search by transportation mode and committee topic
Innovations in Freight Data Workshop

Highway/Rail Grade Crossings

Rail Transit Systems

Commuter Rail Transportation

Rail Group

Intercity Passenger Rail

Passenger Rail Equipment and Systems Integration

Railroad Operating Technologies

Freight Rail Transportation

Railroad Track Structure System Design

Rail Transit Infrastructure

Railway Maintenance

Railroad Operational Safety

Freight Transportation Economics and Regulation

International Trade and Transportation

Agricultural Transportation

Military Transportation

Transportation of Hazardous Materials

Intermodal Freight Transport

Intermodal Freight Terminal Design and Operations

Rail Safety IDEA Program Committee

Task Forces - Search for task force under committee here

CRP Panels

Project Panels Related to Rail

Policy Study

Evaluation of the Federal Railroad Administration Research and Development Program

Councils

Young Member Council

Recent and Upcoming Events

Upcoming Conferences - Left hand menu “upcoming conferences by topic” (Conferences cosponsored by TRB are denoted with an asterisk.)

14th National Light Rail and Streetcar Conference*
April 7-9, 2019
Jersey City, New Jersey

Innovations in Freight Data Workshop
April 9-10, 2019
Irvine, California

First International Conference on 3D Printing and Transportation
November 20-21, 2019
Washington, DC

Webinars – View upcoming webinars, suggest a webinar or add registration information

Past Webinars

Rail Sessions

TRB’s Transportation Research Information Services (TRIS)

TRIS includes the TRB Library and the TRIS Databases (listed below) which are available free on TRB’s website.

The TRB Library provides information services to TRB staff, sponsors, TRB Committee members and panels and researchers. Access to the TRB Library is a benefit to TRB sponsors and TRB committee members.

In cooperation with your State DOT Library or Information Service, the TRB Library provides:

- Reference and research assistance
- Literature searches
The TRB Library provides training on effective and efficient use of the following TRIS resources:

**TRID** – The world’s largest and most comprehensive bibliographic source on all modes and disciplines of transportation - [trid.trb.org](http://trid.trb.org)

**Publications Index (PubsIndex) Database** – The papers, articles and reports published by the Transportation Research Board, Highway Research Board, Strategic Highway Research Programs or the Marine Board - [pubsindex.trb.org](http://pubsindex.trb.org)

**Research in Progress (RiP) Database** – Current or recently completed transportation research projects - [rip.trb.org](http://rip.trb.org)

**Research Needs Statements (RNS)** – Research needs as identified by TRB Technical Activities standing committees - [rns.trb.org](http://rns.trb.org)

Contact the Library at TRBLibrary@nas.edu or (202) 334-2989