Research Priorities

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The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, founded in 1959, is an independent, nonprofit, scientific, and educational organization dedicated to reducing the losses — deaths, injuries, and property damage — from crashes on the nation's highways.

The Highway Loss Data Institute, founded in 1972, shares and supports this mission through scientific studies of insurance data representing the human and economic losses resulting from the ownership and operation of different types of vehicles and by publishing insurance loss results by vehicle make and model.

Both organizations are wholly supported by auto insurers.
Where are we?
Location of IIHS/HLDI and Vehicle Research Center
IIHS crashworthiness tests

Front moderate overlap, beginning 1995

Side impact, beginning 2003

Rear crash (whiplash mitigation), beginning 2004

Roof strength, beginning 2009

Front small overlap, beginning 2012
Collision avoidance technologies

- Forward collision prevention systems are working
- Adaptive headlights are working
- The benefits of some systems are less clear
  - Lane departure warning
  - Blind spot detection
  - Rearview cameras
  - Parking proximity sensors
Vehicle Research Center expansion

Estimated $30 million cost
Conversion of stop sign and traffic signal intersections to roundabouts:

- 40% reduction in all crashes
- 80% reduction in injury crashes
- 90% reduction in fatal & incapacitating injury crashes
Percent difference in actual fatal crash rates during 2004-08 in 14 large cities with red light cameras vs. expected rates without cameras

![Bar chart showing the percent difference in actual fatal crash rates during 2004-08 in 14 large cities with red light cameras vs. expected rates without cameras. The chart compares red light running fatal crashes and fatal crashes at intersections with signal lights.](chart.png)
Dedicated to reducing deaths, injuries, and property damage on the highway