



TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT (TIM) NATIONAL PRACTICES



LAW ENFORCEMENT | FIRE | EMS | TRANSPORTATION
TOWING & RECOVERY | COMMUNICATIONS | MPO's

NOVEMBER 2, 2016

Summary:

1. March 2015: Overturned Tractor Trailer rendered SR-99 closed to traffic for 9 hours
2. Recognized there was a lack of coordination and improvement needed for TIM since this was a recurring problem
3. Defined the need for greater coordination and culture of quick clearance and traffic incident management principles

SR 99 Overturned TT Incident



Key Findings - reviewing the incident

- City agencies lack comprehensive plans for TIM
- TIM training was lacking
- Better coordination, better towing contracts needed
- Ordinances were necessary for quick clearance
- A greater sense of urgency was needed!

- WSDOT – Joint Ops Policy Statement
 - Agreement prepared by DOT, WSP, Fire
 - Incidents detected are categorized and resources prioritized for response e.g. simultaneous incidents
- Triaging response priority to limit the negative externalities
 - Every minute of an incident results in a travel lane closure 15min-\$5.1K, 30min-\$10.3K, 90min-\$31K

- Dedicated Incident Response Team – IRT
 - Established goal of clearing traffic incidents within 90minutes
 - Quick clearance goals

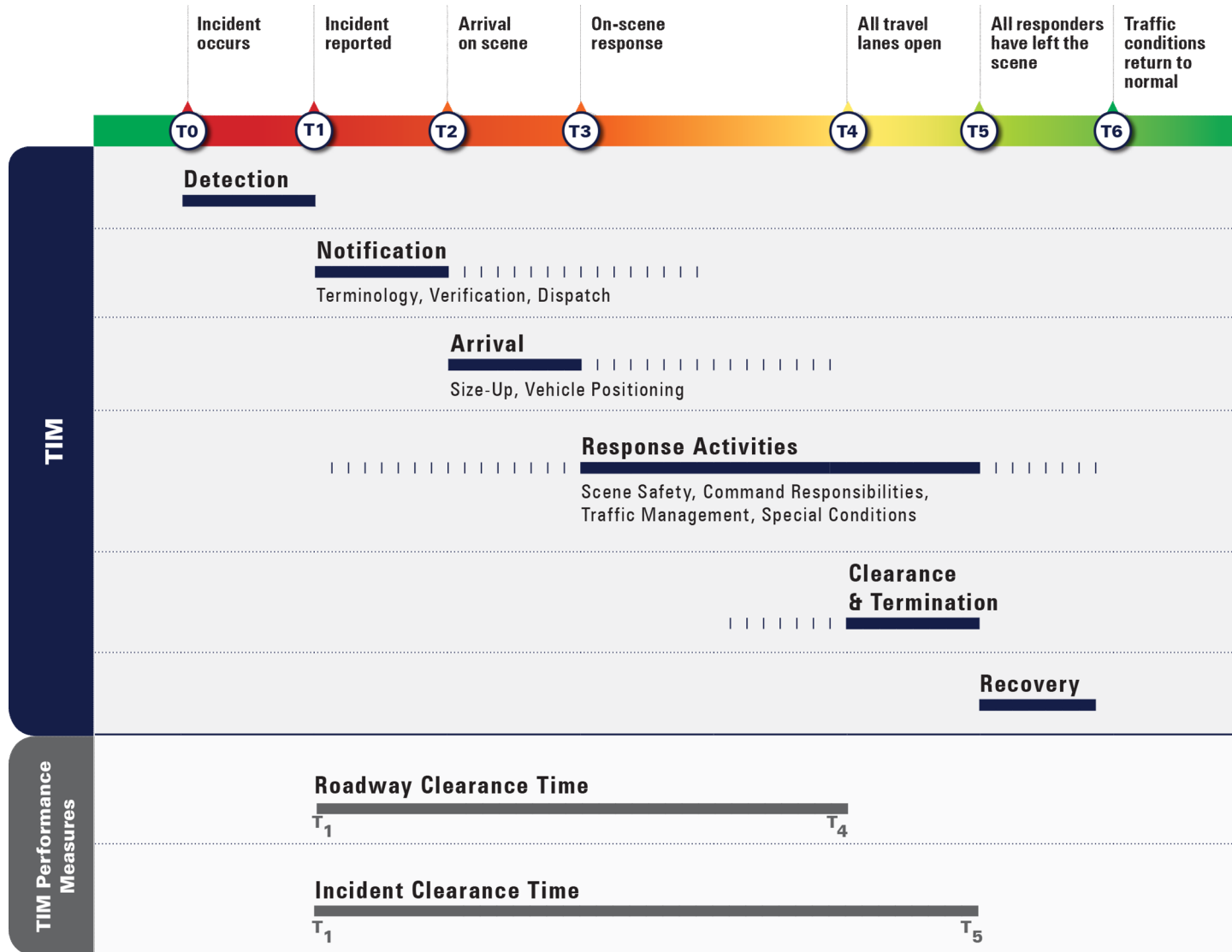
- [In a frank 63-page report](#), national experts, including one credited with coining the word “gridlock,” say the city should get tow trucks to crash scenes faster, establish a clear chain of command and boost enforcement against unsafe commercial vehicles — to avoid a repeat of the March 24 incident in which [a toppled fish truck blocked traffic on southbound Highway 99](#) for nine hours.

- Seattle Times article, 7/20/15

Media Coverage Then vs. Now

- <http://www.king5.com/news/local/seattle/city-addresses-response-to-crab-truck-crash/121801402>

TIM Timeline

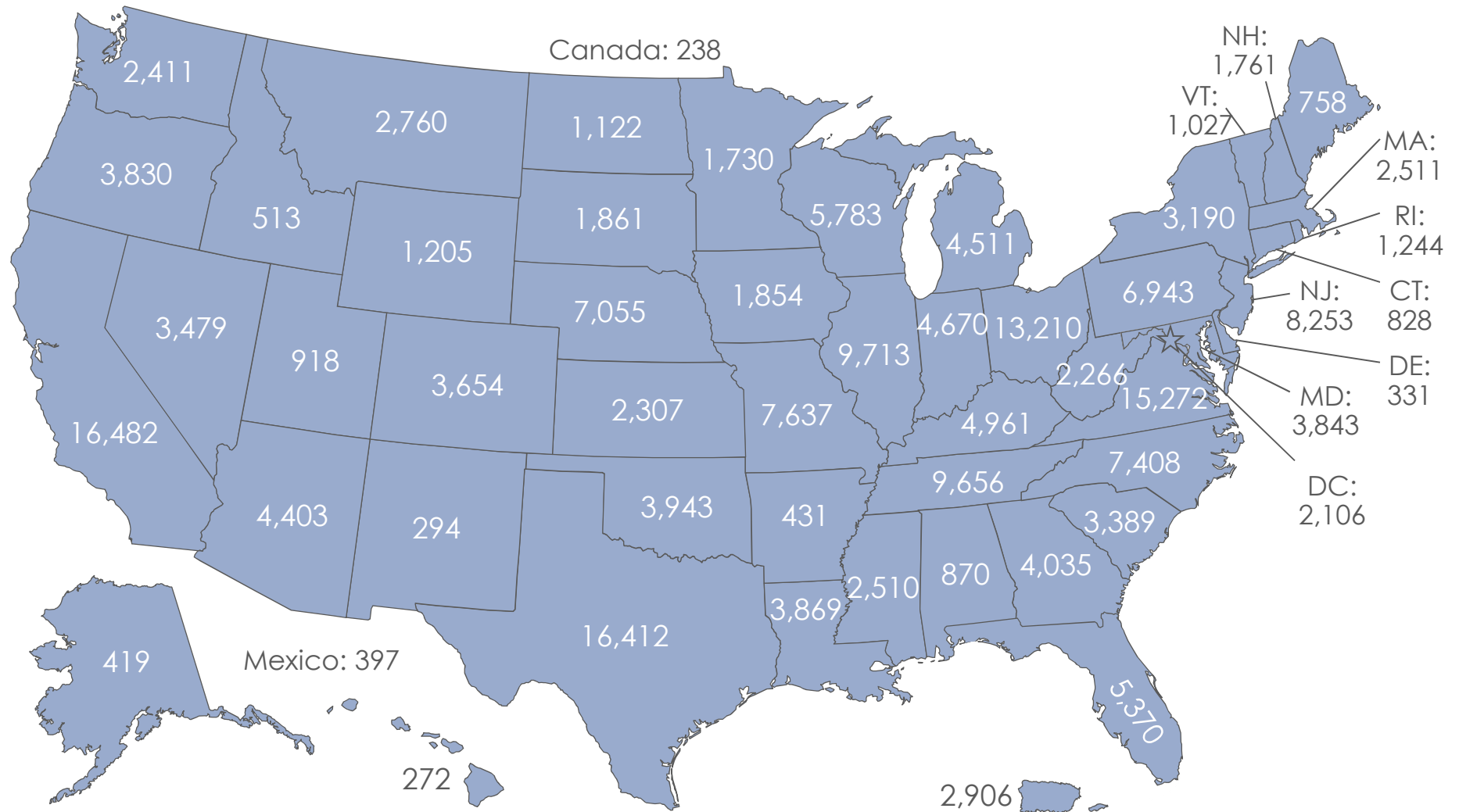


National Responder Struck-By Fatalities

In a typical year, the following number of responders are struck and killed:

- 12 Law Enforcement Officers
- 5 Fire and Rescue Personnel
- 60 Towing and Recovery Professionals
- Several transportation professionals from DOTs, Public Works, and Safety Service Patrol Programs

TIM Training Program Implementation National Progress



218,821 Total Trained