



# Sunflower State Signal

Official Publication of Kansas Operation Lifesaver, Inc.

## Coordinator's Corner



This has been one strange year! Isolation, adaptation, and distance have been the forces driving 2020. As presentations nationwide have dropped incidents have risen. Both nationally and in Kansas. If the two are connected one can only speculate, but it is time to adapt and expand our resources.

Utilizing mass and social media has been the focal discussion of the KS OL Board. In this edition you will find things to assist you with utilizing online tools as well as an update on the current incident rate compared to 2019 at this time. When looking at these stats it is important to know that these are not complete. The FRA is continually investigating current and past incidents.

We hope you will continue to adapt to help us stop track tragedies.

Stay safe out there!

Please feel free to contact me anytime at [jmays@kscapitol.com](mailto:jmays@kscapitol.com)

*Jessica Mays*



this issue

2020 FRA Statistics **P.2**

## TOOLS FOR VOLUNTEERS

### RISC: Railroad Investigation & Safety Course

RISC formerly known as GCCI (Grade Crossing Collision Investigation Course) is back. This course provides critical information allowing first responders to respond to and investigate incidents involving the railroad effectively and safely.

RISC is offered in three levels: Basic (1-hour), Intermediate (2-hours), and Advanced (4-hours). Training is available at no cost to help officers and first responders more effectively and safely manage incidents.

Kansas Operation Lifesaver is now offering the Railroad Investigation and Safety Course (RISC). Up to 4 hours of free training is offered on the topic of how to work railroad incidents. This includes collisions with motor vehicles, pedestrians, other trains, derailments, and working incidents near or on railroad property. For brochure [click here](#).

Classes can be done in person or via remote through Zoom.

To schedule a class, contact Captain Matt Vogt with the Valley Center Police Department at 316-755-7325, ext 304 or email [mvogt@valleycenterks.org](mailto:mvogt@valleycenterks.org).

### New Resources Web Page

A new web page has been added to the KS OL site. Under the Resources tab you will find [Volunteer Resources](#). Here you will find links to FRA stats, OLI graphics, and the volunteer reimbursement and Covid-19 policies. We are hoping to expand this page with time. Our goal is to maximize your resources and minimize the time you need to look for them.

Remember before you do an in-person presentation you need to fill out the Covid-19 Waiver.



# FRA 2020 Statistics (So Far\*)

2020 KANSAS INCIDENTS:

**TOTAL: 30**

Total Crossings: 20  
Injuries: 9  
Fatalities: 4

Total Trespass: 10  
Injuries: 4  
Fatalities: 6

\*Based on previous 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter reporting. Not complete statistics for any year

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Kansas Peace Officers'  
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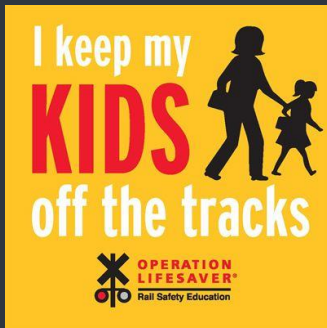
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Kansas Dept of  
Transportation

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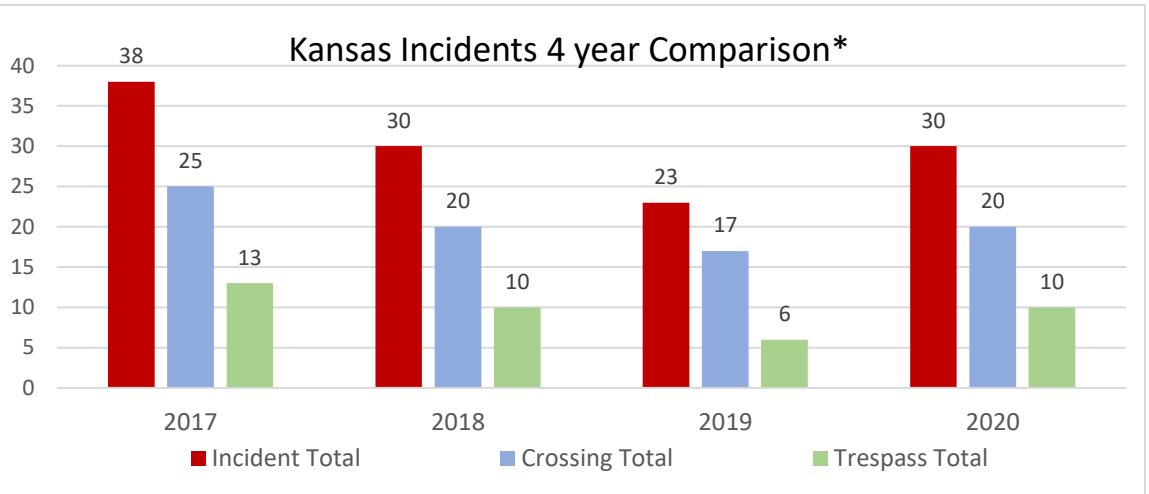
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2019 Kansas Averaged:  
3.5 people hit or killed by  
a train every month



### 2019 Total Crossing Incidents Counties:

5	Johnson	1	Dickinson
4	Butler	1	Ford
3	Wyandotte	1	Geary
2	Coffey	1	Gove
2	Douglas	1	Hamilton
2	Harvey	1	Kingman
2	Marion	1	Osage
1	Atchison	1	Reno
1	Bourbon	1	Sedgwick
1	Brown		

### 2020 Crossing Incidents\* Counties:

4	Wyandotte	1	Marion
1	Chase	1	Marshall
1	Clark	1	Osage
1	Crawford	1	Pawnee
1	Edwards	1	Sedgwick
1	Hamilton	1	Seward
2	Harvey	1	Sumner
2	Johnson		

### 2019 Total Trespass Incidents Counties:

3	Shawnee
2	Sedgwick
1	Harper
1	Reno
1	Riley
1	Wabaunsee

### 2020 Trespass Incidents\* Counties:

4	Sedgwick
1	Butler
1	Cowley
1	Harvey
1	Lyon
1	Reno
1	Shawnee

\*Based on previous 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter reporting. Not complete statistics for any year

