

West Michigan Transportation Operations Center

Serving Motorists on West Michigan Freeways

www.michigan.gov/its

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February 2011



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In the Spotlight



A heavy snowstorm hit the Grand Rapids area on Feb. 1 and 2, resulting strong winds and 17 inches of snowfall. Both days set new daily snowfall records, according to the National Weather Service. The WMTOC control room was staffed overnight Feb. 1 to Feb. 2 in anticipation of the storm. According to the MDOT Grand Region newsletter, "Many of the plow drivers said that folks stayed home and the roads were empty." WMTOC detector data confirmed that traffic volumes on Feb. 2 were less than one-third of the normal volumes and speeds were less than three quarters of typical speeds. The reduced number of vehicles and lower speeds likely contributed to fewer crashes.

There are two main factors that influenced the number of crashes during the heavy snowstorm. First, a significant amount of the snowfall occurred outside of peak traffic periods, which likely reduced the impact on travelers. Second, the storm was accurately forecast several days in advance and many schools and businesses were closed the previous night, so many commuters stayed home. As a result, only two crashes were noted by WMTOC control room operators on Feb. 2. In contrast, eight crashes were noted by the WMTOC on Feb. 3 as traffic volumes returned to normal. However, road maintenance agencies were still in the process of returning the roads to normal conditions.

Winter weather also affected travel later in the month when 7 inches of snow fell on Sunday, Feb. 20. The WMTOC assisted with 10 crashes on Feb. 20 and eight crashes on Feb. 21, due to snowy weather and wet or snow-covered roads.

Also in February, the WMTOC met with the Grand Rapids Transportation Service Center (TSC) to coordinate on 2011 construction projects. Construction meetings with other Grand Region TSCs are scheduled for March.

Compiled by:
URS

Control Room Hours of Operation

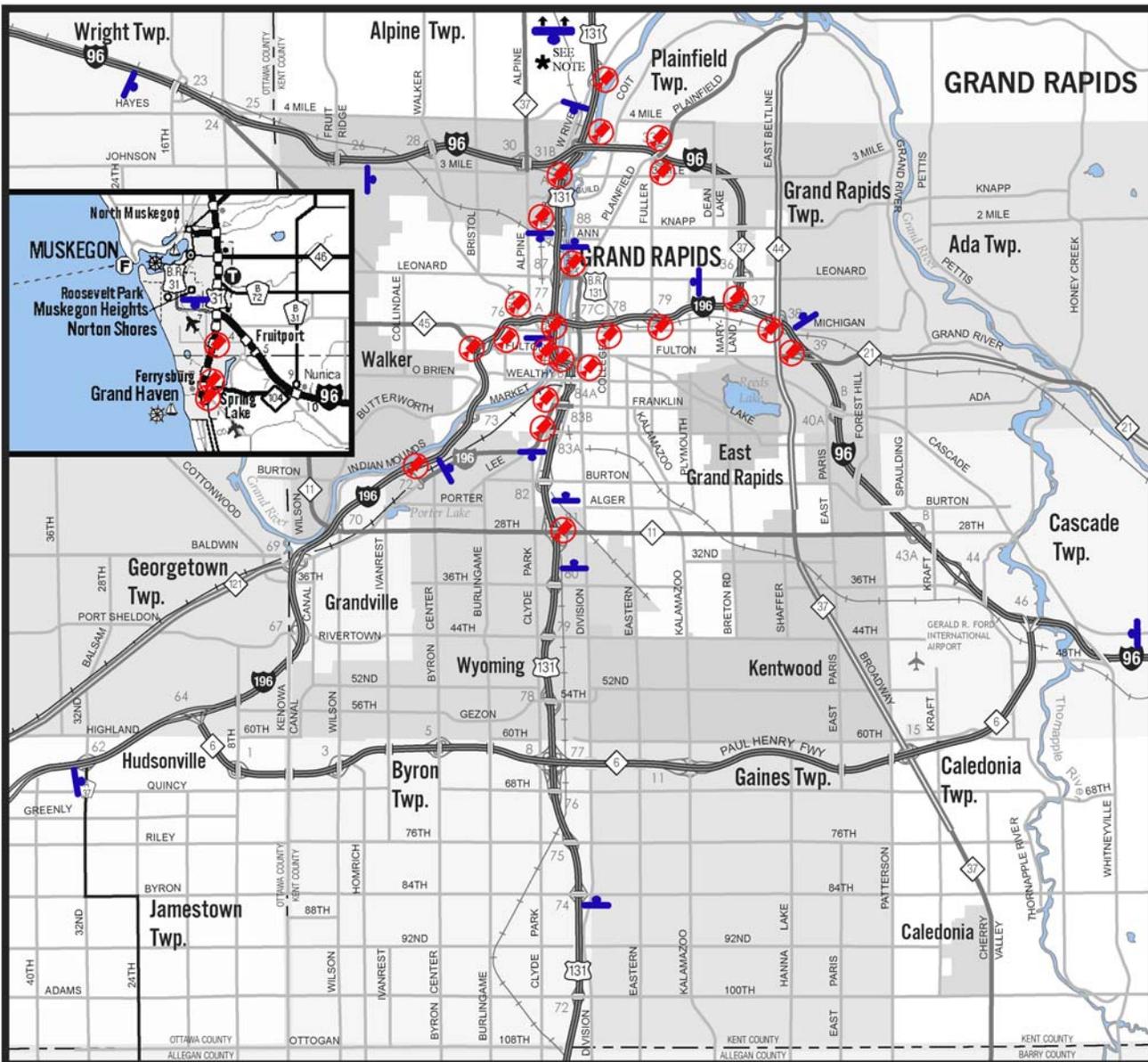
Time Period	Days	Hours
October - April	Monday - Friday	6 a.m. - 8 p.m.
	Saturday - Sunday	Noon - 8 p.m.
May - September	Monday - Thursday	6 a.m. - 8 p.m.
	Friday	6 a.m. - 9 p.m.
	Saturday - Sunday	Noon - 8 p.m.
Special Events	All	As needed
Holidays and Holiday Weekends	New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas	As needed

Control Room Contact Information

E-mail: MDOT-GR-TRAFFOPS@michigan.gov
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PLEASE NOTE:
 The following report is limited to data collected within the ITS device coverage area during control room operation hours.

ITS Device Locations and Coverage Area



* DMS on South US-131 at Rockford Rest Area

Key:  Closed-circuit Television Camera
 Dynamic Message Sign

Summary

Data Key

February 2011

Communications Activity



Operators log all incoming and outgoing control room communications, engaging various incident responders and stakeholders.

Total Communication

Calls: 188
E-mails: 122

Quality Assurance/Quality Control



Quality assurance and quality control audit of format and content for incident notification communication and media traffic reporting.

Incident Notification

Format Correct 100.0%
Content Correct 100.0%

Unplanned Incidents



Operators log information about each unplanned incident including date/time, location, traffic impact, duration, and associated traveler information.

Total Incidents

127

Construction Activity



Operators maintain a list of ongoing construction projects and contacts for these projects. This activity also includes maintenance operations.

Incidents Occurring in Work Zones

0

Daily Shift Report



Operators track maintenance issues for all Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) equipment, including Closed-circuit Television (CCTV) cameras, Microwave Vehicle Detector Systems (MVDS), Dynamic Message Signs (DMS), and Variable Speed Signs (VSS).

System Availability

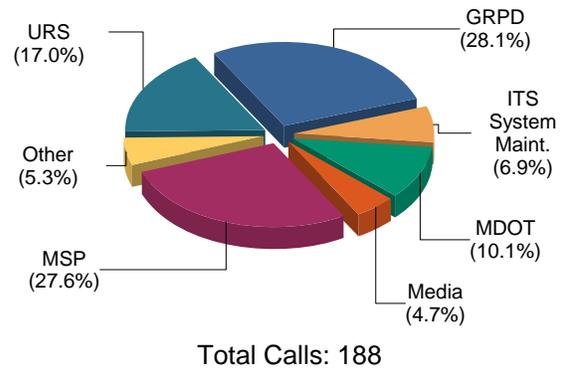
CCTV: 94%
MVDS: 72%
DMS: 98%
VSS: 97%

Calls and E-mails by Type

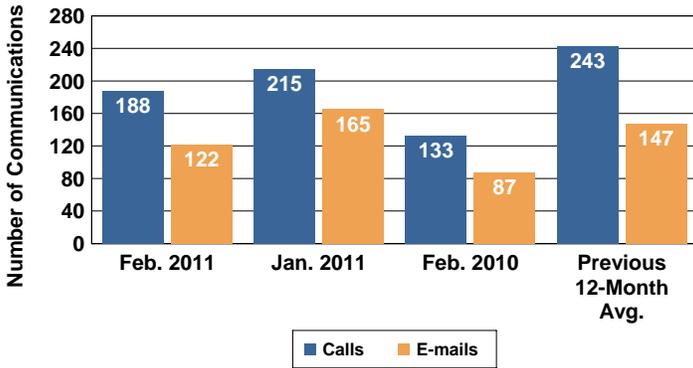


Agency	Calls			E-mails		
	In	Out	Total	In	Out	Total
City of Grand Rapids	0	0	0	14	0	14
Grand Rapids Police Department	7	46	53	0	0	0
ITS System Maintenance	5	8	13	0	0	0
Kent County Road Commission	0	2	2	0	0	0
Kent County Sheriff	1	1	2	0	0	0
MDOT, Construction	2	1	3	1	0	1
MDOT, Maintenance	8	4	12	0	0	0
MDOT, Other	1	3	4	10	1	11
MDOT, Traffic/ITS	0	0	0	7	3	10
Media	6	3	9	4	32	36
Michigan State Police	2	50	52	0	0	0
Other	3	3	6	2	0	2
URS Corporation	23	9	32	2	0	2
Weather	0	0	0	46	0	46
Month Total	58	130	188	86	36	122

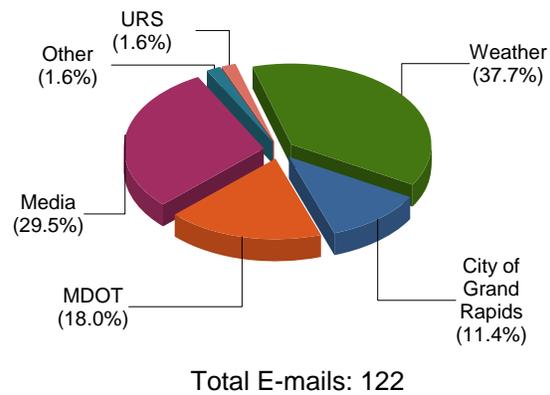
Calls by Type



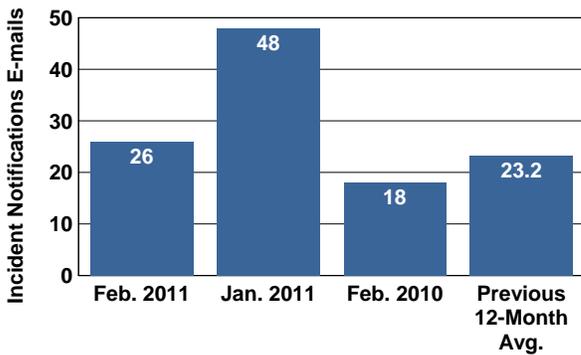
Communication History



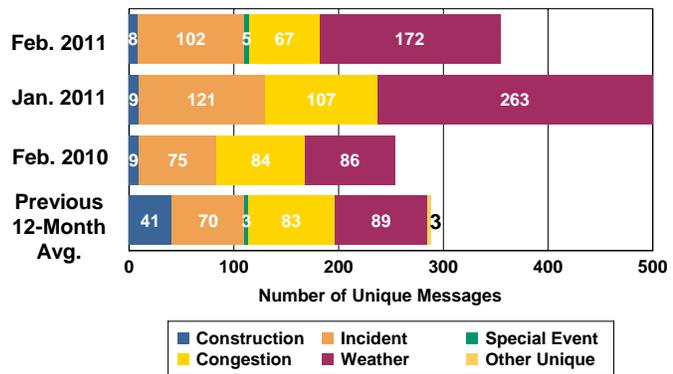
E-mails by Type



Incident Notification* History



DMS and VSS Messages by Type

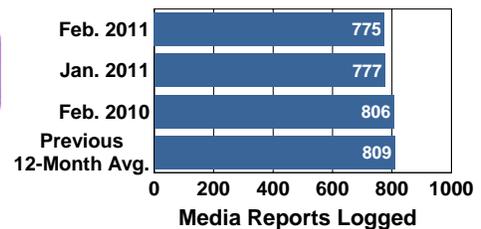


Incident Notification* Communication Accuracy



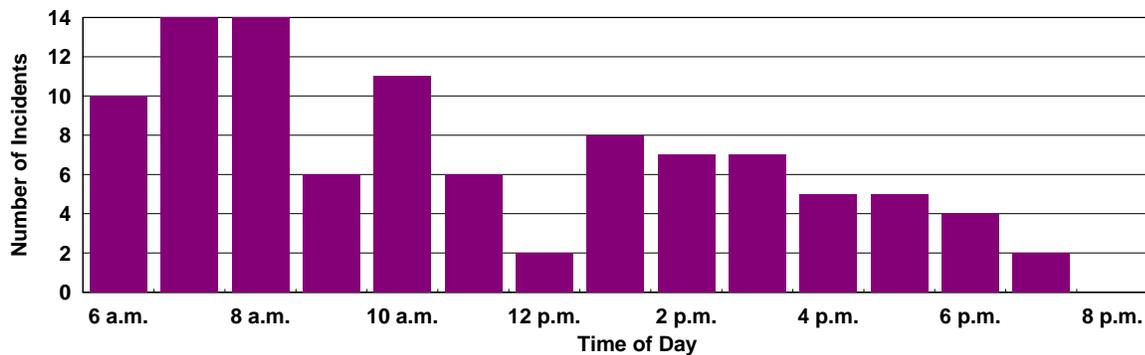
	Feb. 2011	Jan. 2011	Feb. 2010	Previous 12 Months
Format Correct	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.6%
Content Correct	100.0%	91.7%	88.9%	95.0%

Media Audits

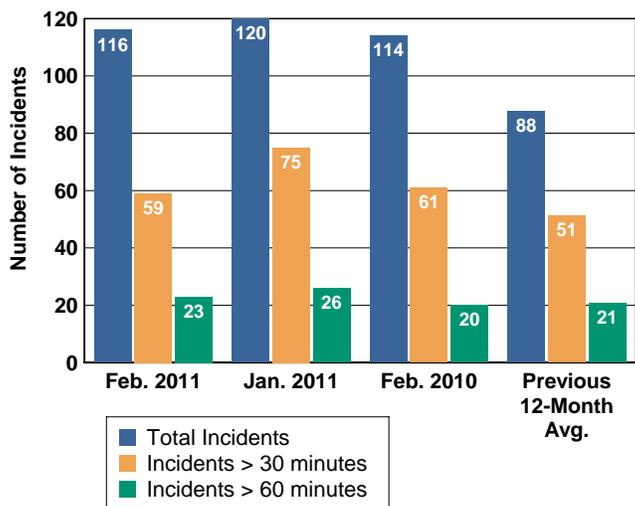


* Incident Notification e-mails are issued for high-impact incidents with an expected duration of 15 minutes or greater. To subscribe to this list, please send an e-mail to MDOT-GR-TRAFFOPS@michigan.gov.

Total of Unplanned Incidents per Weekday Hour

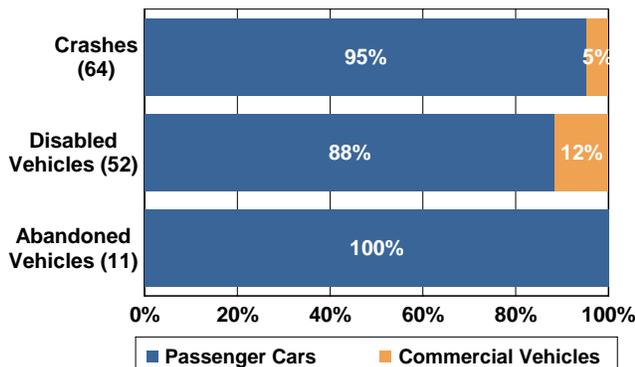


Incident Duration History*



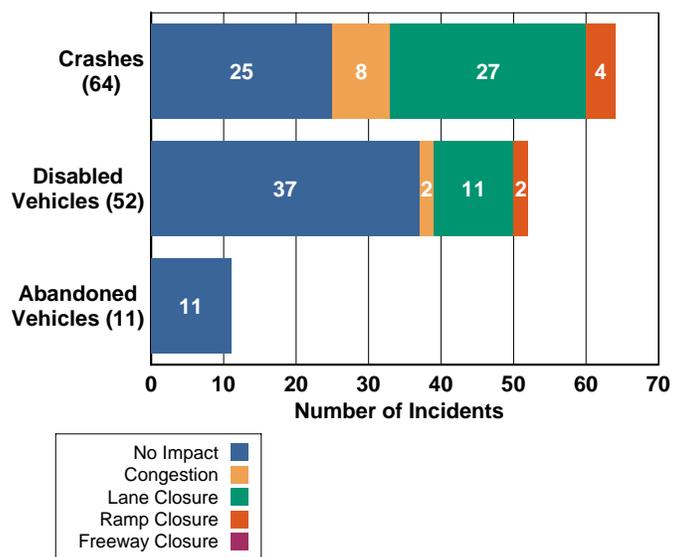
*Incident Duration History excludes abandoned vehicles.

Vehicle Composition of Incidents*



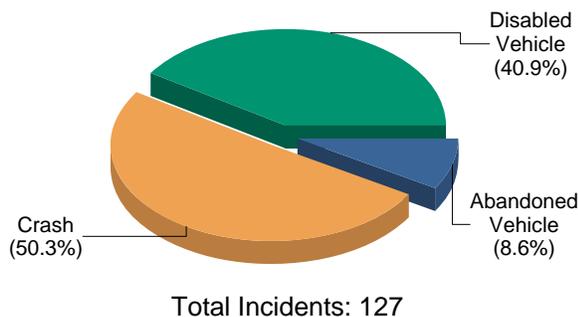
*Vehicle Composition of Incidents excludes incidents where vehicle types were not identified.

Traffic Impacts by Type*



* Traffic Impacts by Type may include incidents outside of the current WMTOC camera coverage area.

Incident Managed by Type*



* Incidents Managed by Type may include incidents outside of the current WMTOC camera coverage area.

Most Utilized DMS*

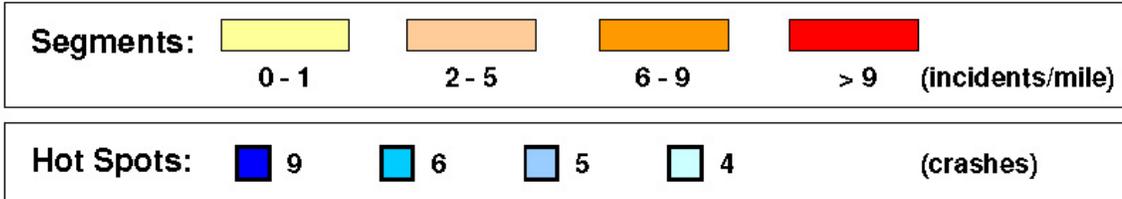
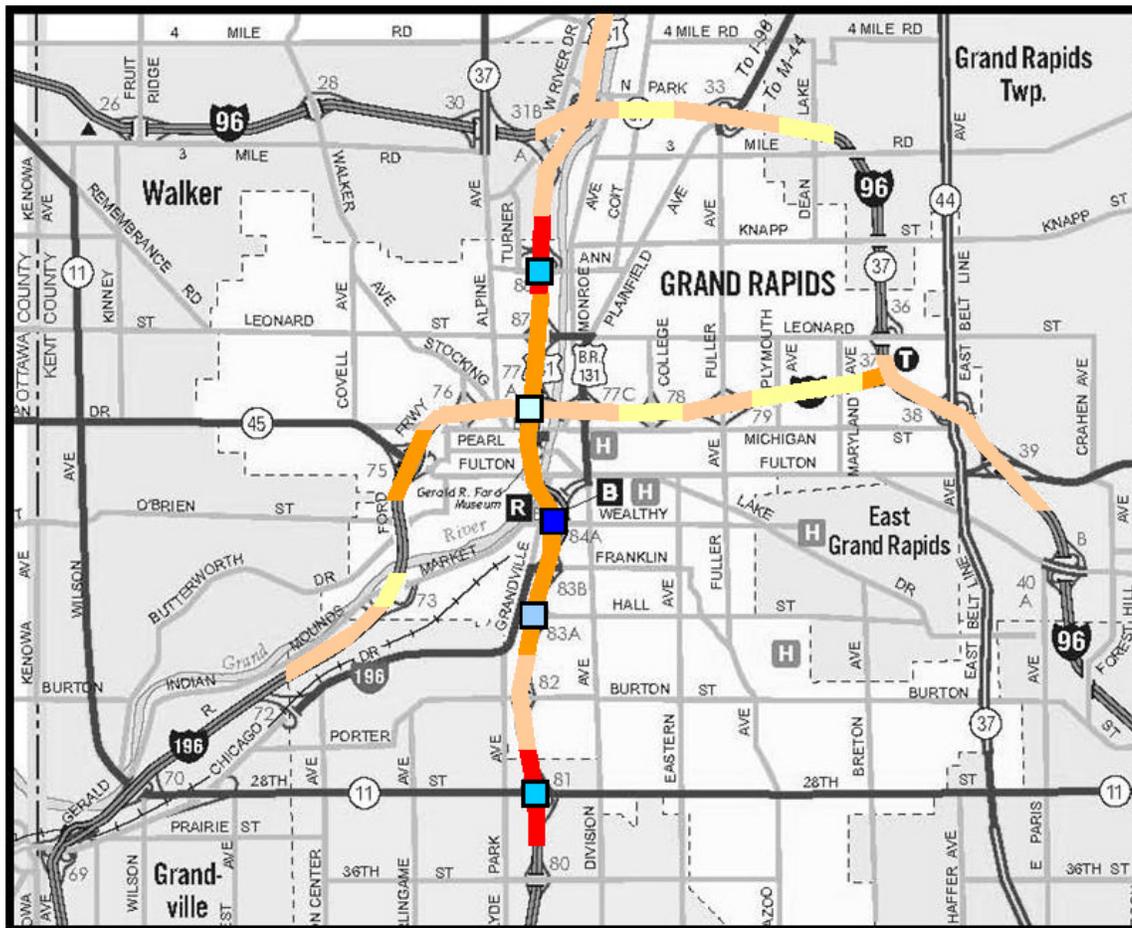


1. US-131 NB @ 28th St. (59)
2. US-131 NB @ 36th St. (59)
3. US-131 SB @ Pearl St. (25)

*Number of unique event messages.



Incident Density and Hot Spots Map



Incident Management



High-impact Unplanned Incident Activity*



Incident Impact	Feb. 2011	Jan. 2011	Feb. 2010	Previous 12-Month Avg.
Lane Closure	38	52	29	27.6
Ramp Closure	6	5	3	2.9
Freeway Closure	-	7	1	2.2

*High-impact Unplanned Incident Activity includes unplanned incidents resulting in closures.

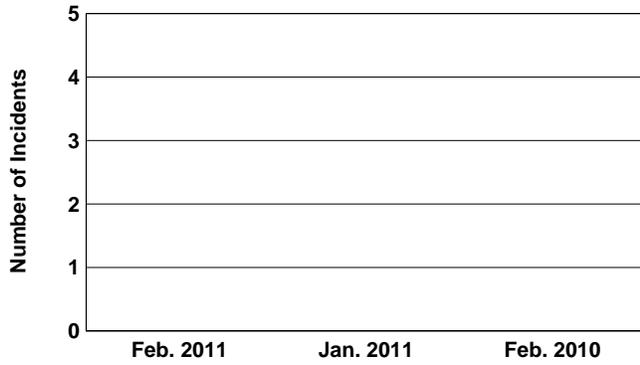
Unplanned Incidents by Roadway



Freeway	Feb. 2011		Jan. 2011		Feb. 2010		Previous 12-Month Avg.	
	Total	per mi.	Total	per mi.	Total	per mi.	Total	per mi.
I-96 (4.5 mi.)*	15	3.3	15	3.3	20	4.4	13.9	3.1
I-196 (8.5 mi.)*	21	2.5	31	3.6	31	3.6	20.8	2.4
US-131 (11 mi.)*	82	7.5	64	5.8	66	6.0	65.9	6.0
Month Total	118	4.9	110	4.6	117	4.9	100.6	4.2

* Reflects roadway mileage within the current WMTOC camera coverage area.

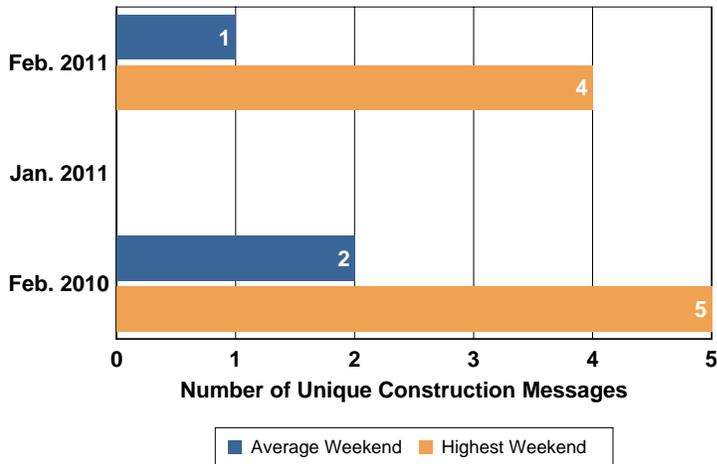
Incidents Occurring in Work Zones



Work Zone Incident Details:

During the month of February, there were no incidents identified by operators as being within work zones.

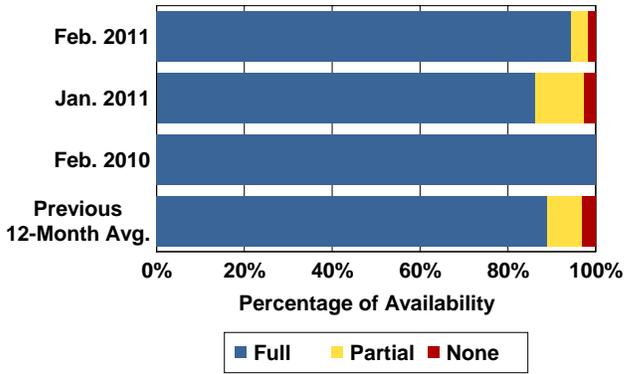
Weekend* Construction DMS Message Activity



* Friday, Saturday and Sunday.



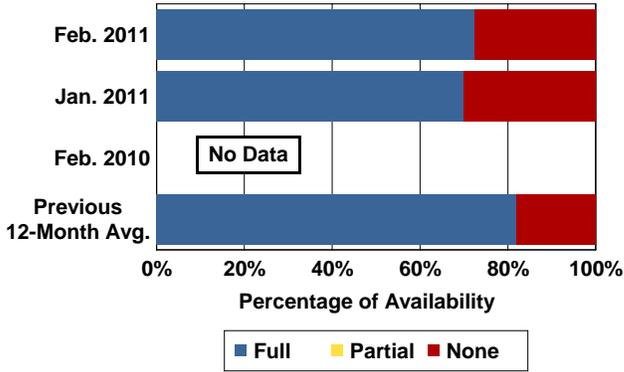
Overall CCTV Camera Availability



Individual CCTV Camera Availability

CCTV Cameras Below 95% Availability			
Location	Full	Partial	None
1. US-131 @ 28th St.	45%	51%	3%
2. US-131 @ Wealthy St.	46%	41%	13%
3. US-131 @ Pearl St.	89%	-	11%

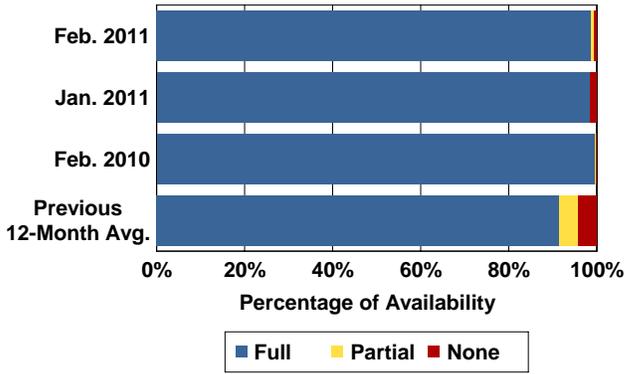
Overall Detector Availability



Individual Detector Availability

Vehicle Detectors Below 95% Availability			
Location	Full	Partial	None
1. DS 114N	-	-	100%
2. DS 114S	-	-	100%
3. DS 119	-	-	100%
4. DS 125	-	-	100%
5. DS 201	-	-	100%
6. DS 204	-	-	100%
7. DS 205	-	-	100%
8. DS 220	-	-	100%
9. DS 224	-	-	100%
10. DS 229	-	-	100%
11. DS 219E	52%	-	48%

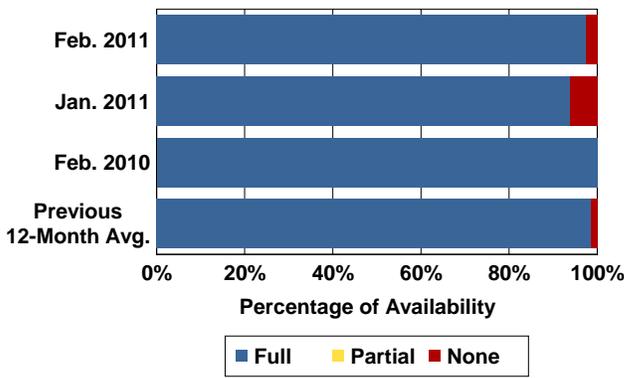
Overall DMS Availability



Individual DMS Availability

DMS Below 95% Availability			
Location	Full	Partial	None
1. I-96 WB @ Quiggle Ave.	89%	11%	-

Overall VSS Availability



Individual VSS Availability

VSS Below 95% Availability			
Location	Full	Partial	None
None.			

