



New Mexico DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION
MOBILITY FOR EVERYONE

New Mexico Safety Summit

Safe System Approach

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Safe System Approach (SSA)

- Guiding paradigm for roadway safety in U.S.
 - Evolution of prior model
(4 Es of Transportation Safety: Education, Enforcement, EMS, Engineering)
- Adapted from international models
- System, not systems
- Holistic approach to complex issue



Objectives
inside



Principles
outside



Objectives
inside

Principles
outside

SSA Principle – Death & Serious Injuries are Unacceptable

- Roadway fatalities (2023)

~41,000 in U.S.*

~437 in New Mexico*



- Roadway serious injuries (2023)

~5,100,000 in U.S.**

~1,227 in New Mexico***

*National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

**National Safety Council: <https://injuryfacts.nsc.org/motor-vehicle/overview/introduction/>

***University of New Mexico, "New Mexico Traffic Crash Annual Report," 2023



Objectives
inside

Principles
outside

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Principles
outside

SSA Principle – Humans are Vulnerable

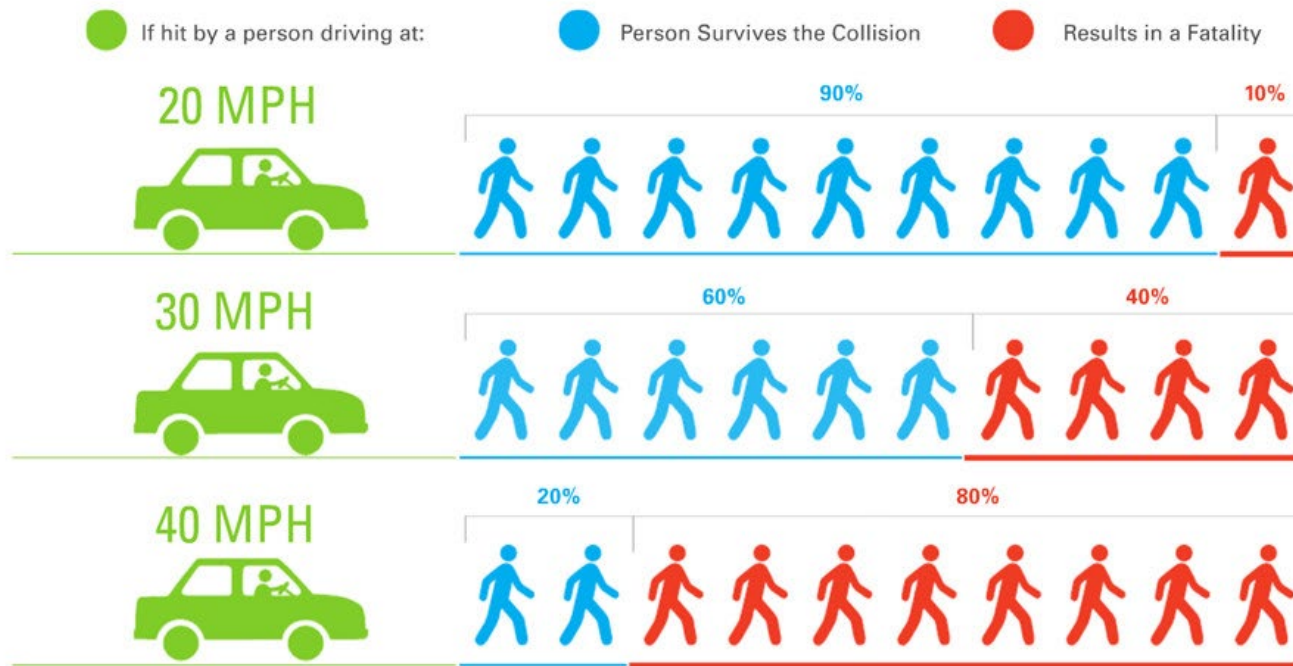


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SSA Principle - Redundancy is Crucial

Swiss cheese model

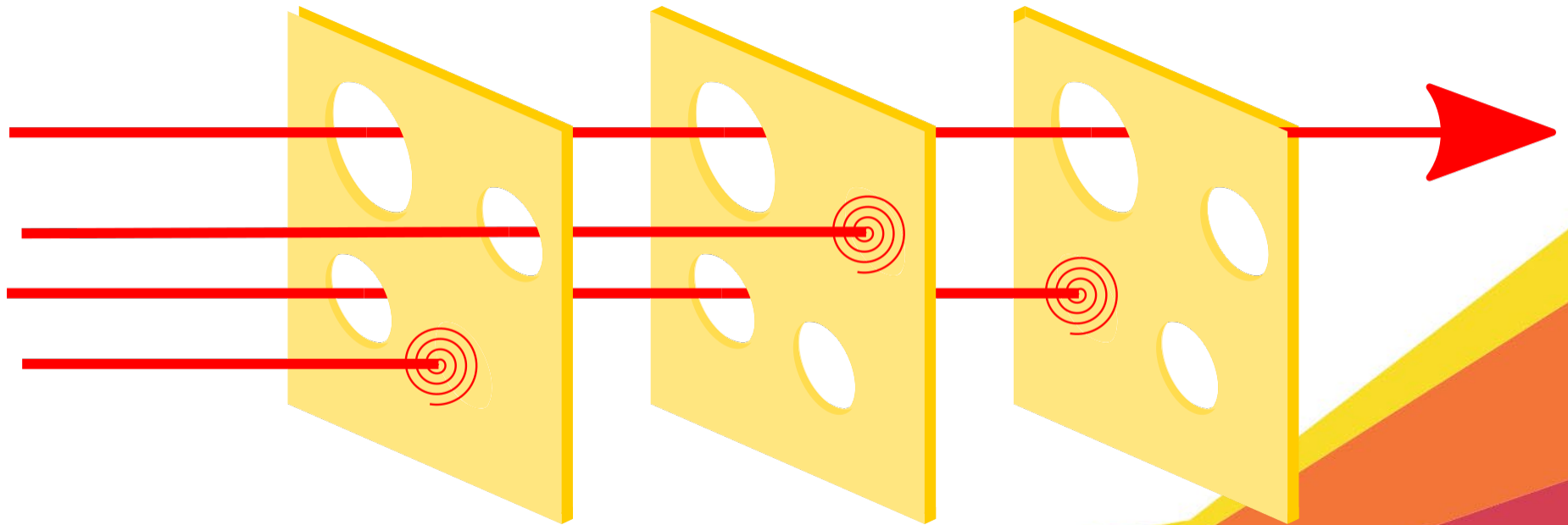


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Objectives
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Take-Aways from SSA

- Holistic approach to complex issue (“yes and...”)
- Multidisciplinary
- Principles establish shared understanding of landscape
- Clear objectives
- Complicated, but realistic

Thank you!

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