

Officials urge caution at railroad crossings

Written by Elizabeth Barrett

Friday, 11 January 2013 15:11 -

2011 UNION PACIFIC STATISTICS			
	Collisions	Injuries	Fatalities
Illinois.....	103	72	19
Wisconsin.....	56	16	7
Minnesota.....	52	19	5
Missouri.....	50	29	13
Kansas.....	44	11	13
Iowa.....	40	23	2
Nebraska.....	31	15	3
Colorado.....	22	6	2
Wyoming.....	2	0	0

(Includes crossing incidents for all railroads operating in each state which is part of the Union Pacific Railroad Northern Region states.)

During winter weather conditions, Union Pacific Railroad officials remind motorists to use extreme caution when driving across grade crossings.

With reduced visibility because of blowing and drifting snow, it can be difficult for motorists to see where crossing surfaces are located.

When possible, officials suggest using over or underpasses to get to the other side of railroad tracks.

In addition, driving too fast for slick conditions could cause motorists to slide into the path or side of a moving train at a crossing.

Railroad officials said it takes a mile or more to stop a train. Often, by the time a locomotive engineer sees a motorist on the track, it's too late to stop.