

SafeRoutes

National Center for Safe Routes to School



Transportation and Public Health Safe Routes to School Perspective

Lauren Marchetti

National Center for Safe Routes to School

National Bike Summit

March 9, 2011





International Walk to School Day
October 6, 2010



Success Story: After Walk to School Month, Let's Keep Moving

Posted by Lauren Marchetti, Director of the National Center for Safe Routes to School on November 16, 2010

As an incredible Walk to School Month comes to an end, a record-breaking number of children walked or biked to school over 3,500 – from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico celebrated an active school in October 2010. The challenge – and opportunity – for all American families is to maintain that excitement and focus on getting out and moving more each day, every day. Not just during the month of celebration.]

Let's take a quick look across the U.S. – from east to west – and showcase creative ways that schools are presenting students and families with a fresh perspective on how to get (and keep) their way to and from school.



THE WHITE HOUSE

October 6, 2010

It is such a pleasure to send my warmest greetings to all those participating in International Walk to School Day. By walking or biking to school, students, parents, teachers, and administrators all across America are getting active.

As you know, *Let's Move!* aims to end childhood obesity within a generation, and encouraging our children to be more physically active is a cornerstone of this ambitious goal. Walking or biking to school also helps kids get a head start on being active for 60 minutes each day, the goal set by the Presidential Active Lifestyle program.

I know that by getting students moving, we can help ensure they will live full and healthy lives, and that is why I am so encouraged by all the events going on across our country this month.

To stay connected to our efforts, and share your success stories, please visit www.LetsMove.gov. I hope you know how much I appreciate your participation in this effort, and I wish you the best for a successful Walk to School Day!

Michelle Obama

- Background on Safe Routes to School
- New tools for informing others
- How SRTS works with the National Prevention Strategy and CDC goals

August 2005, SAFETEA-LU was passed.

This law designated \$612 million in Federal transportation funds, distributed through each State's Department of Transportation to:

- enable and encourage children to walk and bicycle to school;
- improve the safety of children walking and bicycling to school; and
- facilitate projects and activities that will reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution near schools.

Federal Funding for SRTS

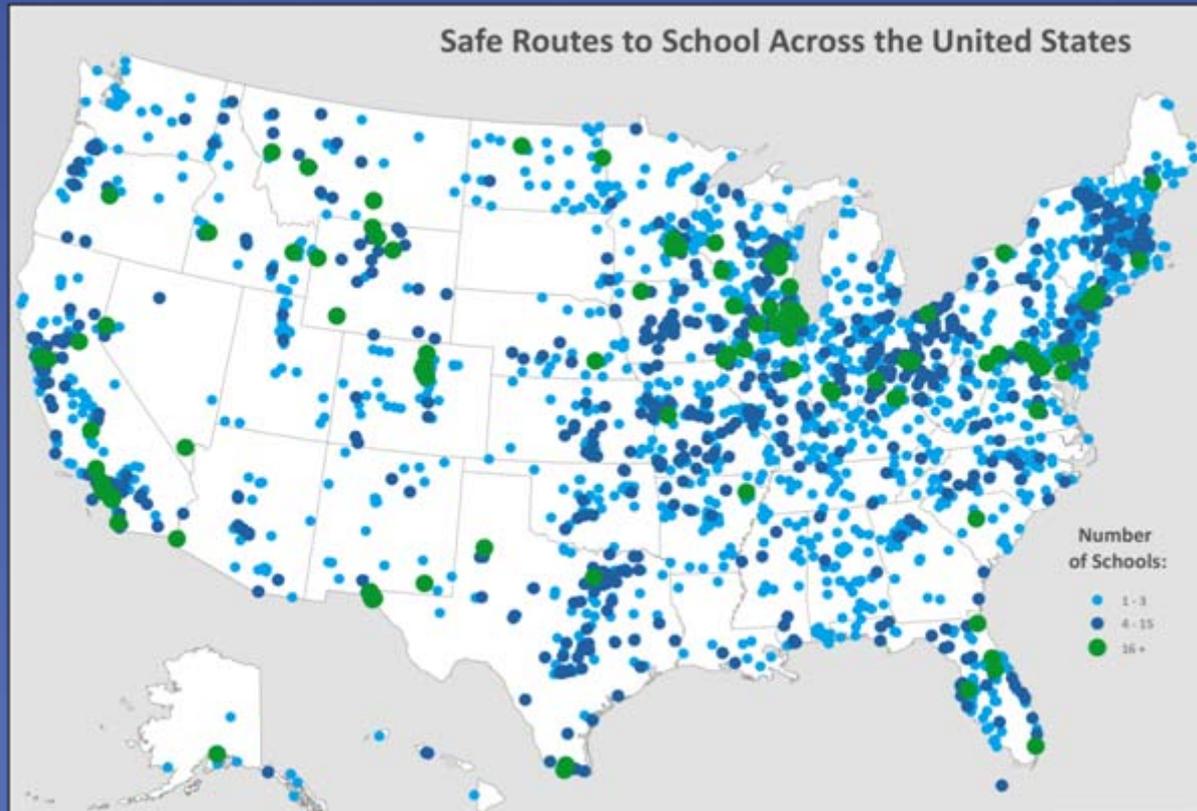
- Was: \$612M for 2005 – 2009
- Total funding to 3/4/11: \$861,851,563
- As of 12/30/10: 68% announced



What's the reach?

As of Dec 31, 2011

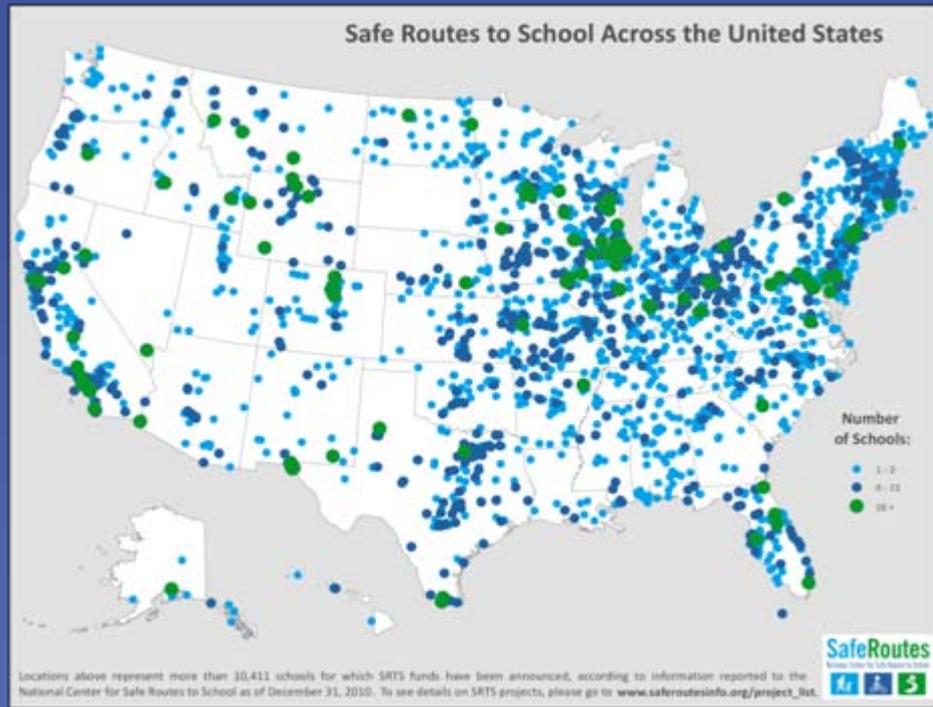
- 4.8 million school children
- 10,400 schools
- All 50 states and DC



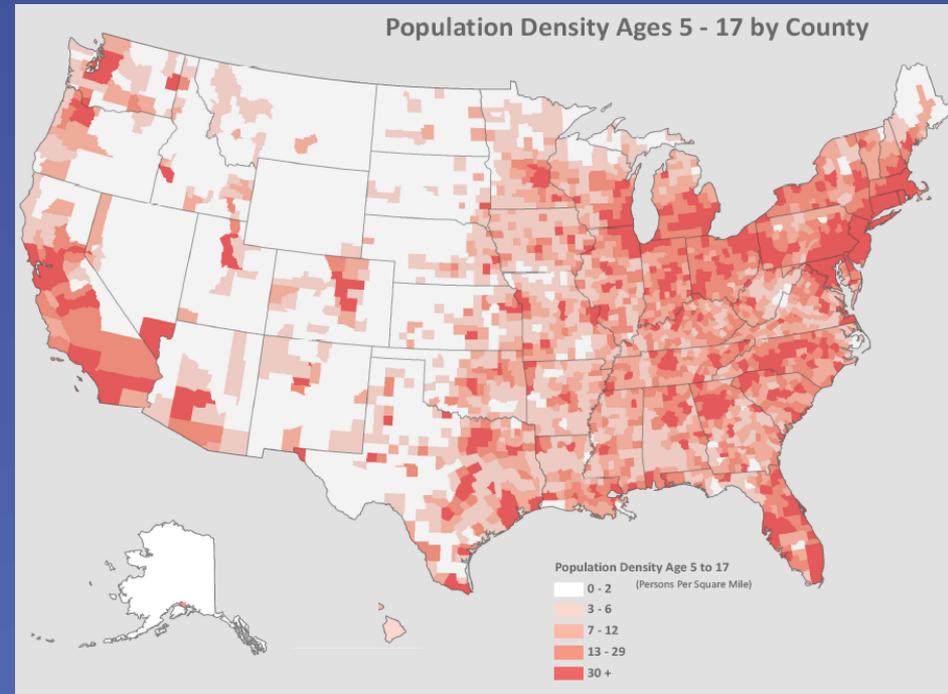
How does reach compare to population?

Population density of school-age children

Safe Routes to School Across the United States



Population Density Ages 5 - 17 by County



What kinds of activities have been announced for funding?

1. Sidewalk improvements
2. Traffic calming, speed reduction and traffic control
3. Pedestrian/ bicycle access
4. Education
5. Encouragement
6. Enforcement
7. Evaluation
8. General statement
9. Other

New interactive map shows SRTS projects at work in communities: maps.saferoutesinfo.org

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National Center for Safe Routes to School



BETA

[ABOUT THIS MAP](#) • [HOME](#) • [ABOUT US](#) • [PROJECTS](#)

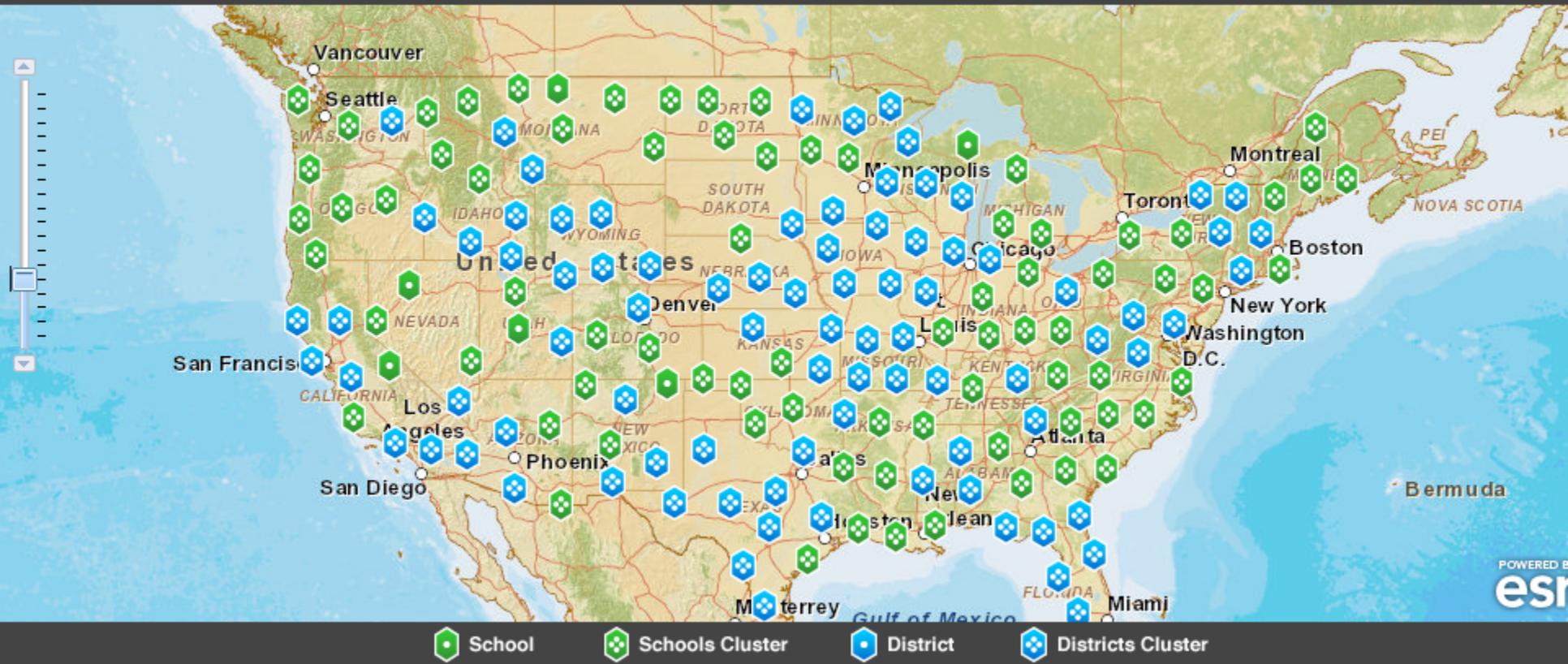
States / Counties

Congressional Districts

Addresses

Map Display

Showing **Project Locations** for **All Years**



Funding data coming soon.



[States / Counties](#)

[Congressional Districts](#)

[Addresses](#)

[Map Display](#)

Zoom to Congressional District

Two options - select a state and then a representative/ district from a list, or just type in the last name of the representative and hit enter and we'll try to find the district for you.

Select a State...

North Carolina

Select a District

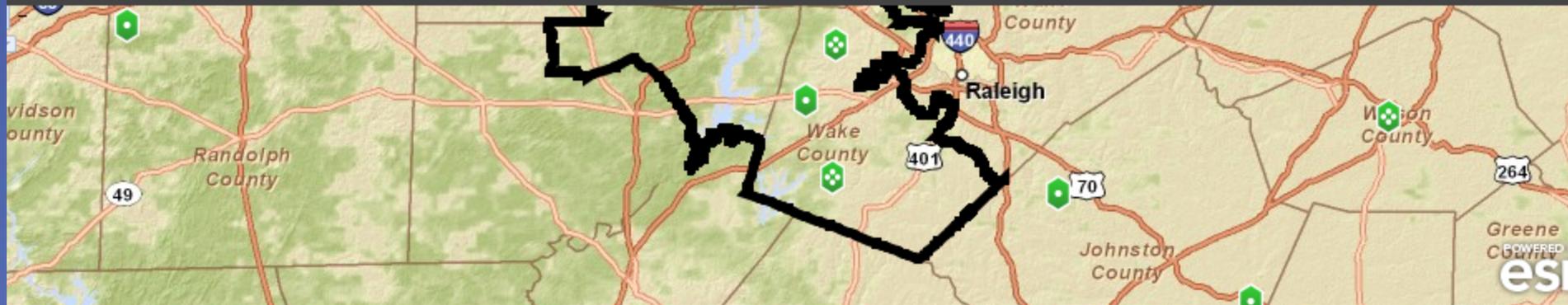
04

Select a Representative

David E. Price

Search by Rep. Name

Showing **Project Locations** for **All Years**



School



Schools Cluster



District



Districts Cluster

Funding data coming soon.



BETA

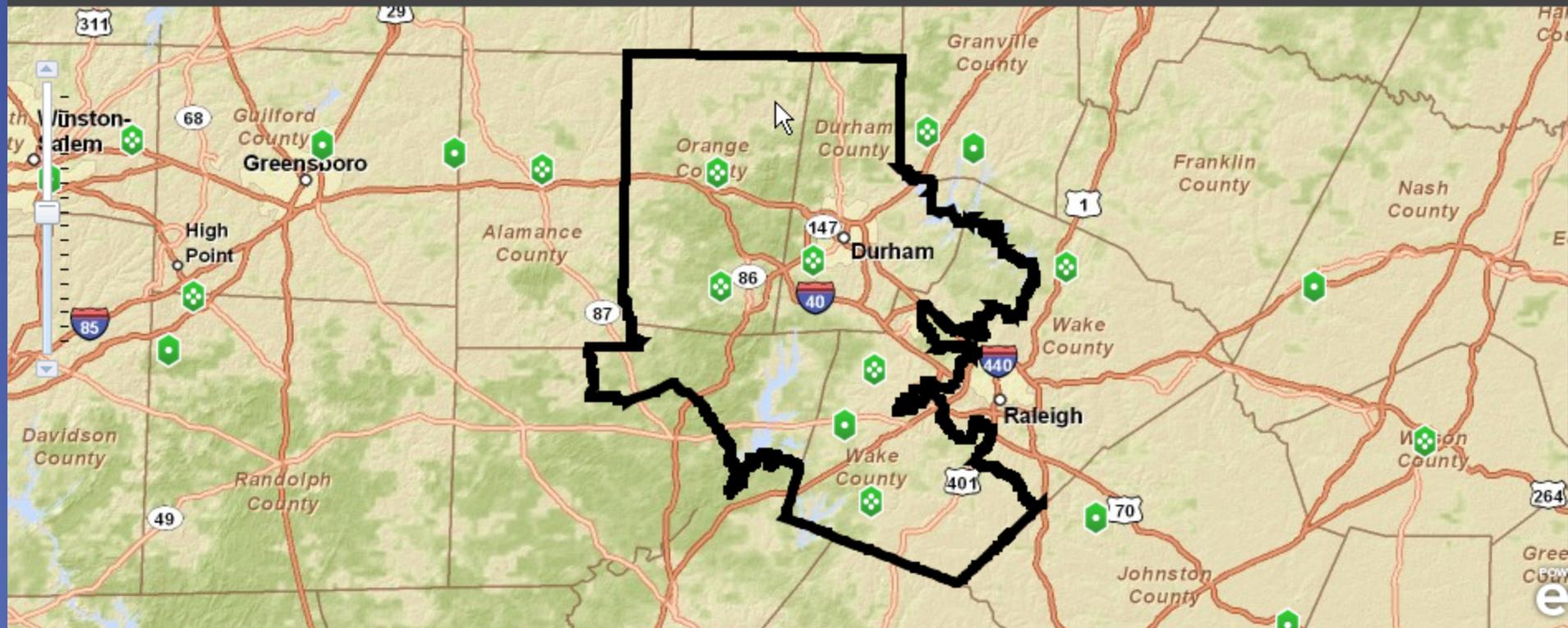
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School



Schools Cluster



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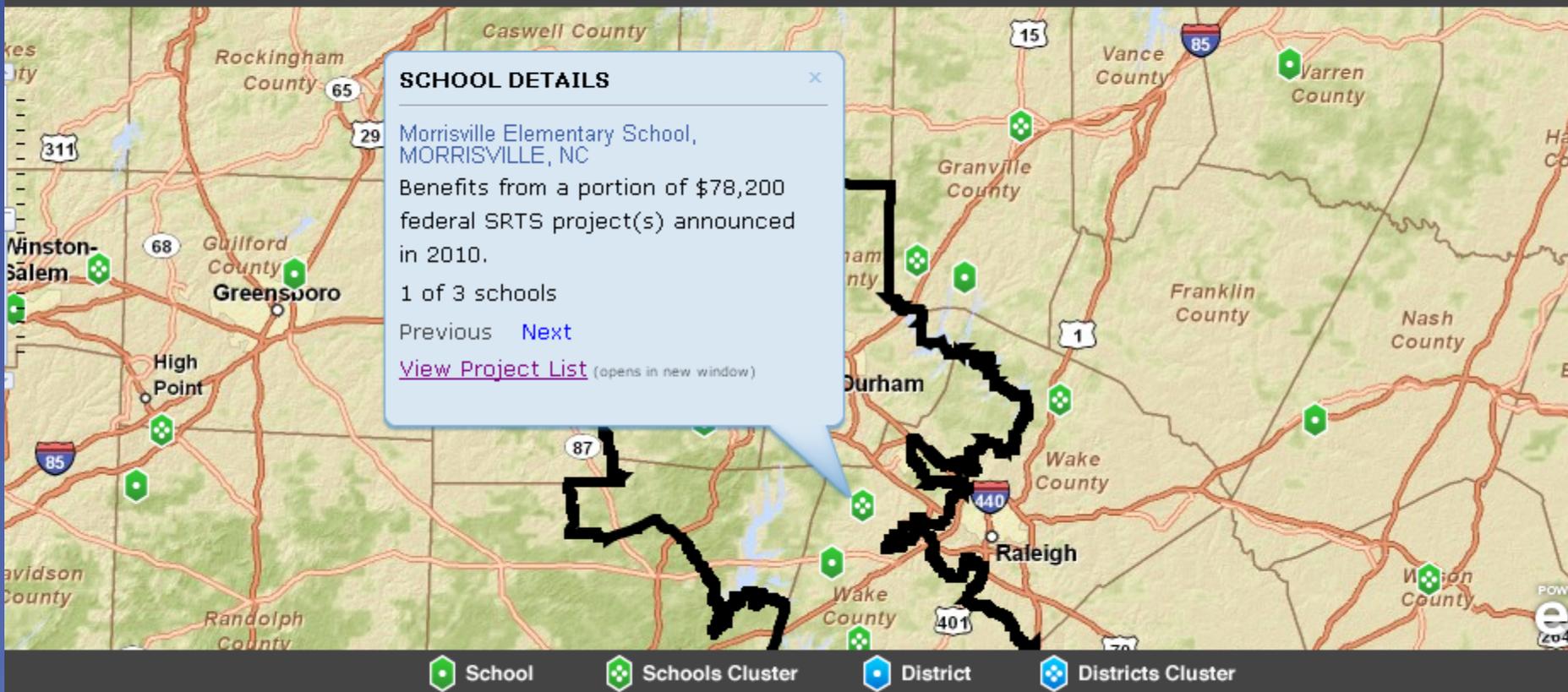
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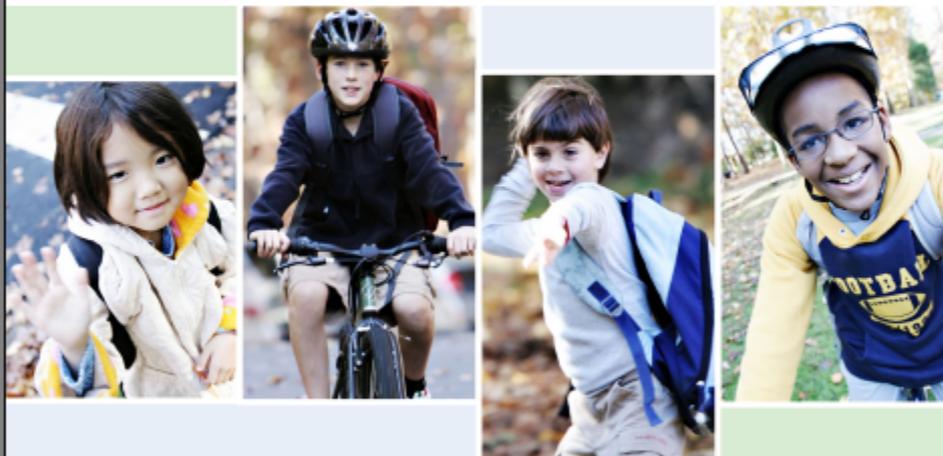
Showing **Project Locations** for All Years



Funding data coming soon.

Safe Routes to School and Health

Understanding the Physical
Activity Benefits of Walking
and Bicycling to School



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National Center for Safe Routes to School



September 2010

Prepared by the National Center for Safe Routes to School

The National Prevention and Health Promotion Strategy

Draft Strategic directions

Healthy physical, social and economic environments

Eliminate health disparities

Prevention and Public Health Capacity

Draft Targeted Strategic directions

Active Living

Injury-free living

How does income at SRTS schools compare with US schools overall?

(NCES, 2008-2009)

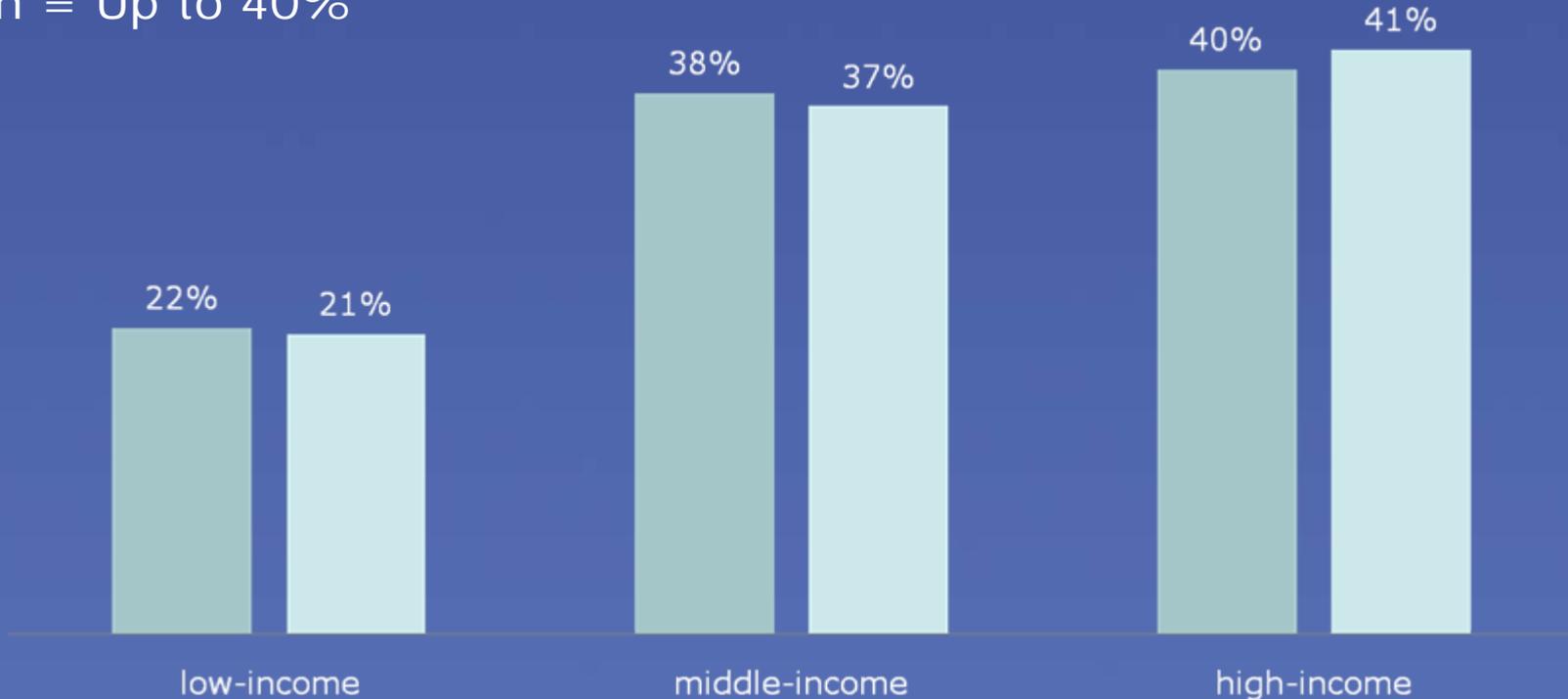
Percent students FRPM

Low = 75%

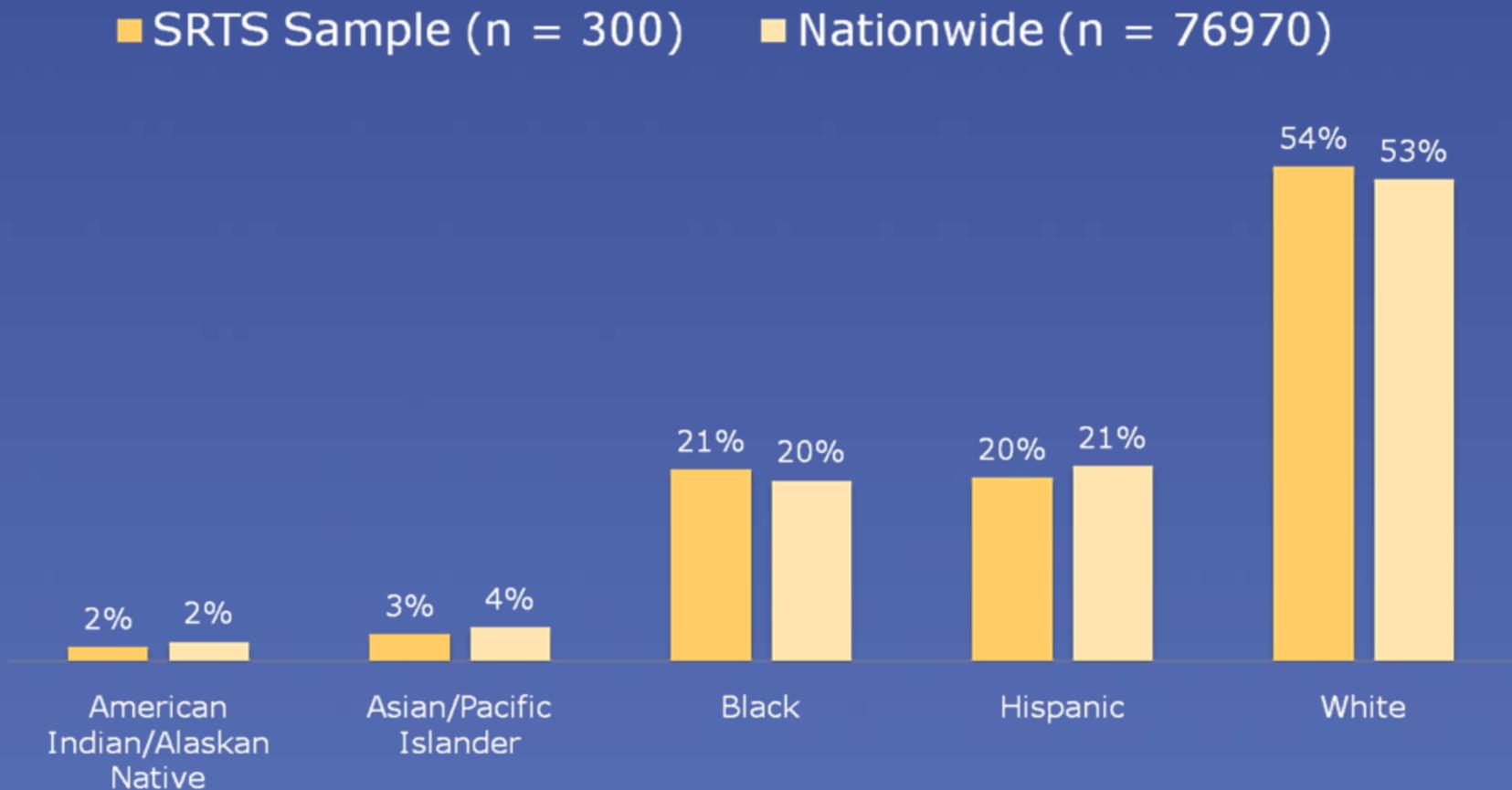
Middle = 40-75%

High = Up to 40%

■ SRTS Sample (n = 300) ■ Nationwide (n = 76970)



How does mean percentage of represented racial/ethnic groups at SRTS schools compare to US schools overall? (NCES, 2008-2009)



Promising Examples from Tribal Nations Across the Country



Washington: The Taholah School District, serving the Quinalt Indian Nation, built a trail for children to use on their walk to and from local schools. The Siquamish Tribe installed sidewalks, bike lanes and signs, and conducted education, encouragement and enforcement activities to teach children pedestrian safety skills.

Arizona: The Navajo-Apache Nation added signs and roadway striping through the community surrounding a local Montessori Children's House school. The Navajo Nation hosts a Walk to School Day Celebration each year. A representative from the Navajo Nation and the Tohono'O'odham Tribe serve on the State SRTS coordinating committee.

Montana: The City of Ronan received funding to construct paths and to provide pedestrian safety education to students on the Flathead Reservation. The City of Arlee received funding for an elementary traffic education program and to build a pathway.

Wisconsin: The Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe/School developed a comprehensive SRTS plan and was awarded funding for a multi-use trail and non-infrastructure activities. The Onida Nation received funding for a multi-use path.

South Dakota: Enemy Swim Day School, the school of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate people, built a trail to help 1st students safely travel to and from school.

Nebraska: The Santee Sioux Nation Indian Reservation built a path for children to use on their walk to and from school. The path increased pedestrian visibility and connected a residential area to a local school.

Colorado: The Southern Ute Community Action Programs (SUCAP) developed an on-going bicycle and pedestrian education program for the town of Ignacio.



Bear Creek Elementary, Boulder, CO

A car-free commute changes habits of entire families

Bear Creek Elementary's Car-Free Commute Program

Student Population: 365 students

Original Percentage of walkers/bikers: 41 percent

Current Percentage: **70 percent and growing!**

Federal funds awarded:

\$ 36,101 Awarded 2008; Shared among 3 schools

\$ 73,000 Awarded 2007; Shared among 6 schools (Education & Encouragement)

\$154,000 Awarded 2009 to City of Boulder to retrofit an intersection

Results:

- 2007-2008 school year: **30 percent reduction in cars and corresponding traffic** congestion during the 2007-2008 school year
- September 2008: students accrued 4,800 miles from 6,600 Car-Free Commute trips in one month



Ben W. Murch Elementary School, Washington D.C. Building consensus — and sidewalks

Ben W. Murch Elementary School, Washington D.C.

Student Population: 500 students

Located in downtown Washington D.C. between two major commuter streets

Federal funds awarded:

\$150,000 Awarded 2008 for infrastructure

Results:

- **Reversed school policy** that prohibited students from bicycling to school without special permission
- **Built community support** for walking and bicycling to school, including neighborhood support for new sidewalk construction
- Implemented an **effective student Safety Patrol program** to enforce safe driving behavior around the school



Alpine Elementary School
Alpine, Utah
Working locally and globally



Alpine Elementary School, Alpine, Utah

Student Population: 780 students

Part of the **lowest funded school district in the nation**

Attempted abduction of a 6th-grade student in 2008

Federal funds awarded:

\$12,000 Awarded 2008 for education and encouragement

\$50,000 Awarded 2009 for infrastructure, including solar traffic signs and a bike parking pad

\$9,500 Awarded 2009 for education and encouragement

Results:

- Started a Meals for Miles encouragement program:
 - **Reduced traffic congestion** by 59 motor vehicles (on average)
 - **Increased number of students walking/bicycling** to school by 118 students (on average)
- Students, faculty and staff **walked 26,748 miles in 1 year**

Mini-grants at work

- In Stockton, California, Walton Special Center will purchase pedestrian safety and accessibility equipment to enable students with disabilities to explore their community and be active.
- In Boulder, Colorado, Heatherwood Elementary School will purchase a low-frame tricycle to help children with disabilities participate in Walk and Roll to School events.
- In Burgin Kentucky, the elementary, middle and high school are developing a quarter mile track with exercise stations that will be available for the rest of the community to use.

Mini-grants at work

- In Louisville, Kentucky, Indian Trail Elementary will support its student-conceived and student – run bike shop.
- In New Orleans, Louisiana, James Weldon Johnson Elementary School will create a walking school bus program supported by Louisiana Retired Teacher Association
- In Billings, Montana, at Highland Elementary School a student-developed video is being produced to educate local decision-makers on the effects of school siting policies.

Mini-grants at work

- In Tulsa Oklahoma, elementary schools are partnering with the Tulsa Hub Syndicate to bring bilingual after-school bicycle clubs to metropolitan Tulsa.
- In Madras, Oregon, Warm Springs Elementary school, located on Warm Springs Indian Reservation, will launch a campaign to reduce speeding and improve yielding to pedestrians.





A lifetime of being active can begin on the way to school.

Walking to school is a great way to make physical activity a part of the daily routine. It's a healthy habit the whole family can live with.

To learn more about making the trip to school fun and safe, visit www.saferoutesinfo.org.



Thank you. Thoughts or questions?

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saferoutesinfo.org