ABOUT US

U.S. Department of Transportation
Volpe Center

OUR MISSION: ADVANCING TRANSPORTATION INNOVATION FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD

U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) established the John A. Volpe National Transportation Systems Center (Volpe Center) to serve as a shared federal resource positioned to provide world-renowned, multidisciplinary, multimodal transportation expertise on behalf of U.S. DOT operating administrations, the Office of the Secretary, other federal agencies, and external organizations.

The U.S. DOT Volpe Center is cost reimbursable, receives no direct appropriations, and is 100-percent funded by sponsored projects. For more than 50 years, the U.S. DOT Volpe Center's extensive partnerships have led to innovative solutions at U.S. DOT and beyond that advance national and global transportation systems for the public good.

OUR PARTNERS

By partnering with key administration officials and U.S. DOT and other federal career leaders, the U.S. DOT Volpe Center maintains a central, cross-cutting role in the Department and with other key stakeholders, adding value through technical excellence, innovation, and a commitment to public service.

Nearly 90 percent of our work is sponsored by U.S. DOT partners. Our mandate to support the transportation enterprise is broad. Remaining projects are sponsored by other federal agencies—including the U.S. Department of Defense, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the U.S. Departments of the Interior, Agriculture, and Homeland Security—and state and local governments and private-sector entities.

MAJOR U.S. DOT VOLPE CENTER SPONSORS	U.S. DOT SECRETARIAL PRIORITIES: SAFETY	EQUITY	CLIMATE CHANGE	ECONOMIC RECOVERY	ACCOUNTABILITY
Federal Aviation Administration	●	●	●	●	●
Federal Highway Administration	●	●	●	●	●
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration	●		●	●	●
Federal Railroad Administration	●	●	●	●	●
Federal Transit Administration	●	●	●	●	●
Maritime Administration	●		●	●	●
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration	●		●	●	●
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration	●		●	●	●
Great Lakes Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation	●			●	●
Office of the Secretary of Transportation	●	●	●	●	●
Department of Defense	●		●	●	●

In our recent biennial project evaluation survey to current sponsors,

97%

responded that they would engage with the U.S. DOT Volpe Center in the future.

OUR IMPACT AND OUR PRIORITIES

As a leader in transportation systems, analysis, technology, and innovation, the U.S. DOT Volpe Center is flexible and responsive to the needs and strategic goals of the U.S. DOT and the priorities of the Secretary of Transportation.

Through a vibrant culture of thought leadership and meaningful engagement in professional and technical organizations, the experts of the U.S. DOT Volpe Center anticipate and address complex challenges and have maintained a sustained impact on advancing national transportation goals.

OUR HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

The U.S. DOT Volpe Center provides a valuable historical perspective and institutional memory that is unique within U.S. DOT and the broader transportation community. Our technical experts apply synergies across projects and collaborate to share best practices, lessons learned, findings, and technologies across U.S. DOT and beyond.

OUR EXPERT WORKFORCE

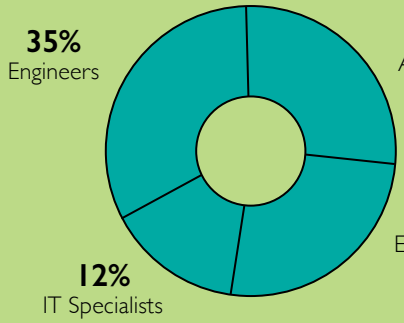
The U.S. DOT Volpe Center calls upon our highly respected team of experts to develop solutions that advance the national and global transportation systems.

Our multidisciplinary staff of ~575 federal employees work across all modes of transportation, and collaborate with local, state, and federal agencies, academia, and industry.

More than 85 percent of the U.S. DOT Volpe Center's federal workforce are technical professionals, and half of our staff have advanced degrees, including 11 percent who hold doctorates.

One of Cambridge's largest employers, the U.S. DOT Volpe Center supplements our world-class federal team with on-site contractors and access to other off-site subject matter experts, including academics nationwide.

DISCIPLINES OF TECHNICAL STAFF



STAFF WITH ADVANCED DEGREES

11% Doctorates
39% Masters

OUR CAPABILITIES

The U.S. DOT Volpe Center's wide scope of capabilities helps us develop solutions that impact each of the transportation enterprise's top priorities.

Safety and Security Assessments: Conducting assessments of safety programs across all modes and developing methods and models to measure the effectiveness of safety initiatives.

Applied Data Science: Using advanced data, image analysis, and visualization tools and methods, to help solve transportation challenges.

Economic and Policy Analysis: Leveraging multimodal policy, economic expertise, and understanding of U.S. DOT and the transportation industry to support policies that achieve U.S. DOT and sponsor goals.

Engineering and Technology Deployment to Enhance Transportation: Performing engineering and safety analyses of civilian and military air, surface, and marine systems and infrastructure to help prepare the nation for future transportation systems.

Environmental Analysis, Science, and Engineering: Analyzing, modeling, measuring, synthesizing, and communicating data to support sustainable, economically efficient, and socially equitable transportation decisions and supporting rulemaking, policies, and resilience initiatives that drive reductions in transportation energy use, emissions, and noise.

Systems and Infrastructure Modernization and Optimization: Improving the safety, health, and efficiency of vehicles, systems, and infrastructure on national and global transportation networks, including business process re-engineering and creation, enhancement, and maintenance of information technology capabilities to support civilian and military missions.

Human Factors Research and Design: Pioneering new relationships between humans and systems, including policies, processes, automation, and technologies, to improve transportation safety, security, and productivity, with due concern for unintended consequences.

Impartial Investigations and Program Evaluations: Providing an objective federal perspective in assessing crashes, data, and research and program effectiveness to inform decision making and future actions.

Knowledge Transfer and Capacity Building to Maximize Impact: Scaling best practices to quickly address new topics and strengthening the capacity of the transportation workforce through education and training.

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