



# NYAPT

NEW YORK ASSOCIATION FOR PUPIL TRANSPORTATION

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*Our future is riding with us!*

**Press Release:** November 30, 2016  
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## **STATE ASSOCIATION SURVEY:** **ILLEGAL PASSES EXCEED 40,000 DAILY!**

The New York Association for Pupil Transportation (NYAPT) today released the results of a survey taken on November 20, 2016, to measure the incidence of motorists illegally passing stopped school buses. And the results simply cannot be ignored by government leaders, the media and the public.

In the 32 school districts that participated in the survey that day, **1,086** school bus drivers reported they were passed a total of **883 times**, including **32** passes on the passenger (or right) side of the school bus.

At that rate of passing when applied to over 50,000 school buses in New York State, the total estimated illegal passing rate is **40,654 passes** for that day. That same calculation would mean that, of that amount, **1,479** motorists would have passed school buses on the **RIGHT** side of the bus that day.

This compares with the October 2016 "Count Day" on which NYAPT estimated that **37,023** motorists passed stopped school buses, including 1,078 'right side' passes.

During the 2015-2016 school year, NYAPT conducted a similar "Count Day" program and averaged 29,533 illegal passes per day, including a high of 36,857 in May 2016.

NYAPT President, Lori Ann Savino (Jericho Public Schools), noted that "We really are concerned about these levels of illegal passing. Knowing that 40,000 or more motorists disregarded the law and showed a disregard for the lives of our children is frightening and frustrating to us as school bus safety professionals. We do everything we can to ensure the safety of our children. All we ask motorists to do is Stop for the Bus when those red lights are flashing."

NYAPT Executive Director, Peter Mannella, noted: "This is a time for action. We need to gain the commitment of the public, of our parents and school partners to increase awareness of the rules of the road and of school bus safety. We need our federal, state and local public officials to make statements about and address this problem. It's an easy message: **STOP FOR THE SCHOOL BUS!** And it's all for the safety of our children!"

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