

ASE Data Collection Frequently Asked Questions

Scope and Applicability

1. What are the reporting requirements?

[RCW 46.63.220](#) requires that “beginning July 1, 2026, that includes aggregated information on the use of automated traffic safety cameras in the state that includes an assessment of the impact of their use, information required in city and county annual reports under (b)(i) of this subsection, and information on the number of automated traffic safety cameras in use by type and location, with an analysis of camera placement in the context of area demographics and household incomes. To the extent practicable, the commission must also provide in its annual report the number of traffic accidents, speeding violations, single vehicle accidents, pedestrian accidents, and driving under the influence violations that occurred at each location where an automated traffic safety camera is located in the five years before each camera's authorization and after each camera's authorization. Cities and counties using automated traffic safety cameras must provide the commission with the data it requests for the report required under this subsection in a form and manner specified by the commission.” Furthermore “Cities and counties using automated traffic safety cameras must post an annual report on the city's or county's website of the number of traffic crashes that occurred at each location where an automated traffic safety camera is located, as well as the number of notices of infraction issued for each camera. Beginning January 1, 2026, the annual report must include the percentage of revenues received from fines issued from automated traffic safety camera infractions that were used to pay for the costs of the automated traffic safety camera program and must describe the uses of revenues that exceeded the costs of operation and administration of the automated traffic safety camera program by the city or county.”

2. What reporting year is WTSC asking for?

The WTSC is requesting that you provide ASE data for January 1 – December 31, 2025 for Part A, B, and C reporting.

3. What happens if we miss the March 20 deadline?

The WTSC must submit a final report to the legislature by July 1, 2026. In order to meet that deadline, it is necessary that jurisdictions submit data by the deadline. We ask for early and frequent communication if a jurisdiction believes they cannot meet the deadline. Jurisdictions not submitting data will be listed as such in the report to the legislature.

4. Who do I contact with questions?

Please submit all questions and general feedback by emailing ase@wtsc.wa.gov.

5. *Is there a standard source agencies are using for area demographics and household incomes?*

The WTSC will be using the Census American Community Survey tools for deriving area demographics and household incomes for conducting the equity analysis. Jurisdictions may consider this source when conducting camera placement analyses.

<https://data.census.gov/profile>

6. *For cameras installed prior to January 1, 2024, is reporting the data required or do we only have to report what is required in annual reports (infractions and crashes)?*

The data being requested by WTSC is required for all cameras in operation in calendar year 2025, regardless of when the camera became operational.

Part A Questions

7. *Some infractions issued in 2025 are still working through courts or collections, how do I report that revenue?*

The revenue information we are collecting is independent of individual ticket dispositions. We are requesting realized revenue for the previous calendar year, not the disposition revenue of infractions issued. Therefore, you should report all realized revenue during the calendar year (i.e. the total amount of program revenue collected by the jurisdiction), which may include revenue collected from infractions issued prior to January 1, 2025, and may not include revenue from some infractions issued later in calendar year 2025.

8. *How precise do cost figures need to be?*

If exact accounting is not available, estimates are acceptable but please indicate in the reporting template that the figures are estimates.

9. *What counts as “camera setup costs” vs. “program operation costs”?*

Camera setup costs are one-time or upfront expenses incurred to initiate an automated safety enforcement (ASE) camera deployment. These are costs necessary to make the camera operational for the first time at a location. Examples include but are not limited to: installation of required signage and beacon lights; initial electrical, communications, or mounting infrastructure; one-time engineering, site preparation, or configuration work; initial project management or startup labor directly tied to deployment. Setup costs should be reported once per deployment. Camera setup costs should be reported as a single aggregate for all cameras in operation January 1 – December 31, 2025.

Program operation costs are ongoing or recurring expenses incurred during the reporting period to operate and administer the ASE program after deployment. These include costs

associated with day-to-day operation and oversight of the program, such as: vendor service fees for camera operation, data processing, or system support; staff time for program administration, violation review, and customer service; ongoing maintenance or replacement of signage or supporting roadside equipment; program management, reporting, and compliance activities. If a cost recurs annually or is tied to keeping the program running during the reporting year, it should generally be reported as a program operation cost. Program operation costs should be reported a single aggregate for all cameras in current operation January 1 – December 31, 2025.

10. What qualifies as “Other program costs”?

“Other program costs” include ASE-related expenses incurred during the reporting period that do not clearly fall under camera setup costs, program operation costs, or court costs. These costs are typically supporting, supplemental, or indirect but still directly attributable to the ASE program. Examples may include: public outreach and education related to ASE deployment (e.g., mailers, community meetings, website updates, translation services); program evaluation or analysis, including consultant support for equity analyses, effectiveness studies, or required reporting beyond routine operations; legal or policy development costs not captured elsewhere (e.g., ordinance updates, legal review specific to ASE expansion); interdepartmental charges that support the program but are not part of day-to-day operations (e.g., IT system integration, finance or billing system modifications); training costs for staff involved in ASE administration or violation review. Costs reported as “Other program costs” should be incurred during the reporting year and directly related to the ASE program. If reporting “Other program costs” please provide a brief description in the reporting template.

11. Why are we being asked to report on cost/revenue data for cameras that are installed prior to January 1, 2024 and therefore not subject to the revenue spending restrictions and state sharing requirements?

The WTSC is not requesting information regarding how additional program revenue is allocated or spent. The WTSC is asking for program costs and total program revenue for the calendar year. This revenue information will be used in the impact and equity analyses required by the legislature. The WTSC is not responsible for monitoring or enforcing compliance with the restrictions outlined in the RCW outside of collecting the necessary data for meeting the legislative reporting requirements.

12. We did not set up any new cameras in calendar year 2025 and therefore did not incur any camera setup costs. Is it appropriate to leave this dollar value at zero?

Correct, only camera setup costs incurred in calendar year 2025 should be reported. If there were no setup costs incurred, it is appropriate to report \$0 in Part A.

13. For Part A Program Reporting do you have any further specifics on what you need for Court Costs? Are you looking for just the portion of the citations that were retained by the court for their fees or are you looking deeper such as this plus the courts operational costs? For example labor costs for the employees assigned to assist in our program and processing.

Court costs are a broad category, so it doesn't have an exact definition. We would like as much specific data as you can provide regarding court costs. We are requesting that you provide exact (or close to exact) citation fees kept by the court to cover costs, and any more specific court cost data you can provide by March 20. If it's possible to estimate the deeper costs, such as labor or operational costs, please include those costs. Just note that those costs are your closest estimation. If those estimated costs can't be included by March 20 deadline, please just note in your report what costs are included.

Part B Questions

14. There are multiple cameras in my jurisdiction, do I complete the Part B table for each camera?

Yes, complete Part B for each camera. You may copy the entire 'PartB' tab into new tabs ('PartB(1)', PartB(2)', etc.) for each camera, or you may copy the entire table in the 'PartB' tab and replicate it below the first table single 'PartB' tab.

15. What exactly is a "deployment"?

A deployment is defined as a specific combination of a camera and the enforcement rules under which that camera operates. While a camera refers to the physical device, a deployment refers to how and when that camera enforces violations. A single physical camera may have multiple deployments if the enforcement rules change based on time of day, day of week, or operating conditions. Each unique set of enforcement rules should be reported as a separate deployment. For reporting purposes, the Camera ID identifies the physical camera, and the Deployment ID identifies the camera plus the enforcement rules. An example is a speed camera that enforces 20 mph during school hours and posted speed limit outside of school hours (one Camera ID, two Deployment IDs).

16. How should we report "ongoing" deployments?

If the deployment does not have an end date, leave the end date field blank.

17. If enforcement rules changed mid-year, how do we report that?

If enforcement rules changed, then the camera should be assigned a new Deployment ID for the new rules. The data for the previous deployment rules will have a different Deployment ID.

18. Will WTSC publish individual speed camera ticketing thresholds?

The WTSC does not plan to publish individual speed camera ticketing thresholds. However, this information would be disclosable through a public records request. The WTSC will report ticketing thresholds in aggregated ranges, for example “tier one ticketing thresholds ranged from 5.1 – 11.2 mph over the speed limit”.

19. How is a “collision prevention zone” determined and is there reference in the RCW to “collision prevention zones”?

There is no specific mention in the RCW about collision prevention zones specifically, however jurisdictions are required to report “the number of traffic crashes that occurred at each [camera] location” in their annual reports. Because there is no clear guidance on how to determine if a crash is “at the location of the camera”, jurisdictions have defined this zone independently. For example, jurisdictions may include all crashes occurring within the block number the camera is located, only crashes occurring within the directional traffic for which the camera is monitoring, or 0.1 mile in each direction of the camera. The WTSC is requesting that jurisdictions report their definition of their “collision prevention zone” they use for determining which crashes are reportable in the annual report. The WTSC and UW will develop a standard definition of a “collision prevention zone” and conduct a crash analysis for the legislative report. The standard definition will be provided to jurisdictions, but jurisdictions will not be required to adopt the standard definition for the annual reports (although it will be strongly encouraged for reporting consistency).

20. Should we report the date the camera was first activated, even if it was prior to January 1, 2025?

Yes, for this initial report, the WTSC is collecting information on individual cameras to include the date the camera was first activated, even if the activation date was before January 1, 2025. When the data is requested again for calendar year 2026, jurisdictions will be asked to review the camera information provided for 2025 and provide any updates if there were changes.

Part C Questions

21. What part of RCW 46.63.220 does the Part C reporting requirements stem from?

In section (6)(b)(ii), the WTSC must provide an assessment of the impact of the use of ASE and an analysis of camera placement in the context of area demographics and household incomes (e.g. an impact and equity analyses). The WTSC has contracted with the University of Washington to conduct the impact and equity analyses. In order to accomplish this work, the WTSC and UW developed minimum standards for Part C reporting. Daily deployment statistics will allow for considerations such as seasonality, day of week and

time of day differences, special events, etc. when conducting the impact and equity analyses. The Part C reporting requirement falls under “Cities and counties using automated traffic safety cameras must provide the commission with the data it requests for the report required under this subsection in a form and manner specified by the commission.”

22. Who is responsible for Part C—the jurisdiction or the vendor?

Jurisdictions are required to report Part C data to the WTSC. We encourage jurisdictions to work with their vendors for Part C reporting if there is not an existing data mechanism for reporting by the jurisdiction.

23. Why was a template for Part C not provided? How do I generate data for Part C?

The WTSC recognizes there may be jurisdictions that have already implemented a mechanism for reporting Part C, and that there may be different vendor approaches for providing Part C data. To allow for reporting format flexibility, while still collected a standardized set of data, we chose not to provide a template for Part C, but rather just guidance and a data dictionary for what Part C reports should include. Data from all jurisdictions will be aggregated for further analysis, therefore only .xlsx and .csv file formats will be accepted.

24. If a camera was in operation during part of 2025 but has since been discontinued, do we report partial-year data for that camera?

Yes, you must report data on all cameras that were in operation anytime January 1 – December 31, 2025.

25. How do we report days with zero operation hours?

Part C data reporting will include only days when cameras are in operation, including periods of issuing warnings to violators. If the camera was not in operation, do not include those dates in Part C. For example if a camera is in operation only weekdays, there would be 260 rows of data in Part C for that deployment.

26. What if the camera deployment was only issuing warnings and no infractions?

If a deployment issued only warnings, then the Part C infraction counts will be zero for that Deployment ID row.