



UNDERGROUND CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY

THE UNDERGROUND UTILITIES EVENT | JANUARY 25-27, 2022 | FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Damage Prevention & Safety

Khrysanne Kerr,

Vice President, CGA Marketing & Outreach



History

- 1998: USDOT conducted a **nationwide study of best practices.**
- 1999: Published 132 Best Practices with consensus support from all **160 stakeholders.**
- 2000: **Common Ground Alliance established.**



Common Ground Alliance

- Brings together all damage prevention stakeholder groups.
- Addresses the entire damage prevention process.
- Includes over 1,700 individual members and almost 240 member organizations/companies.







Best Practices

- Version 18.0 published July 2021
- More than 160 practices developed through **consensus**
- Available online at bestpractices.commongroundalliance.com



Published in summer of 2021, Best Practices 18.0 includes all new practices and is now available to download and in hard copy.



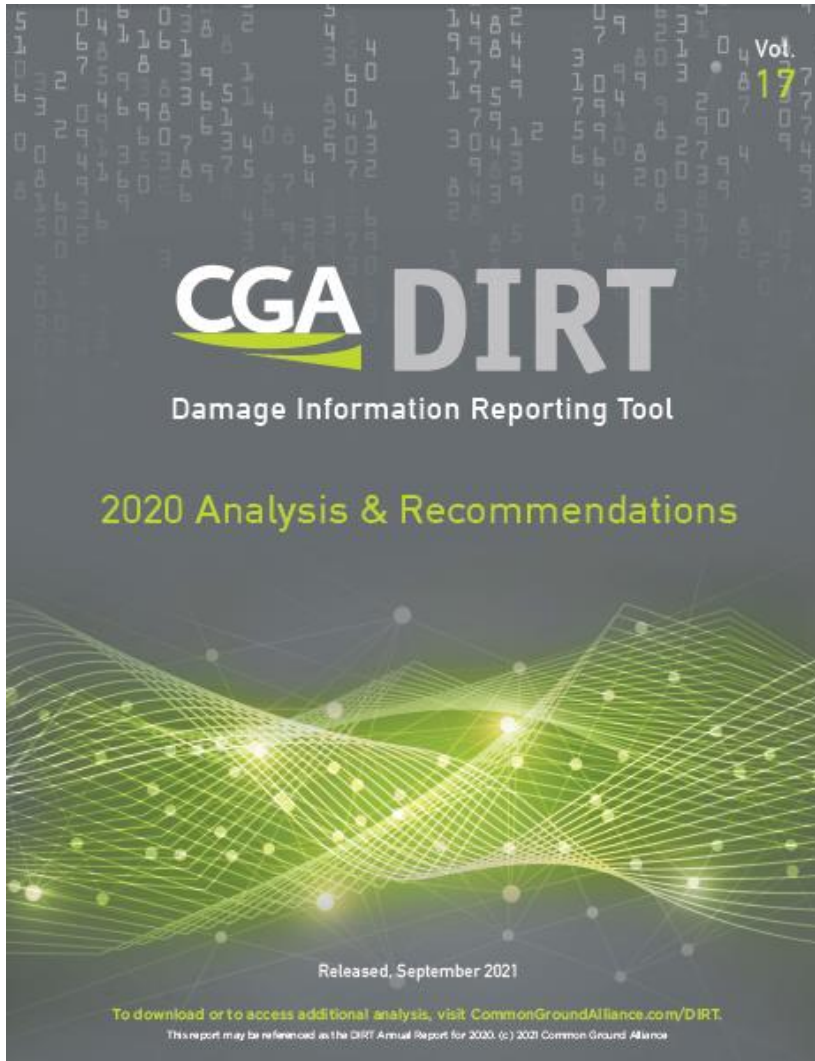
Filter by Industry Icons

One Call Center Facility Owner Excavator Locator Project Owner Designer



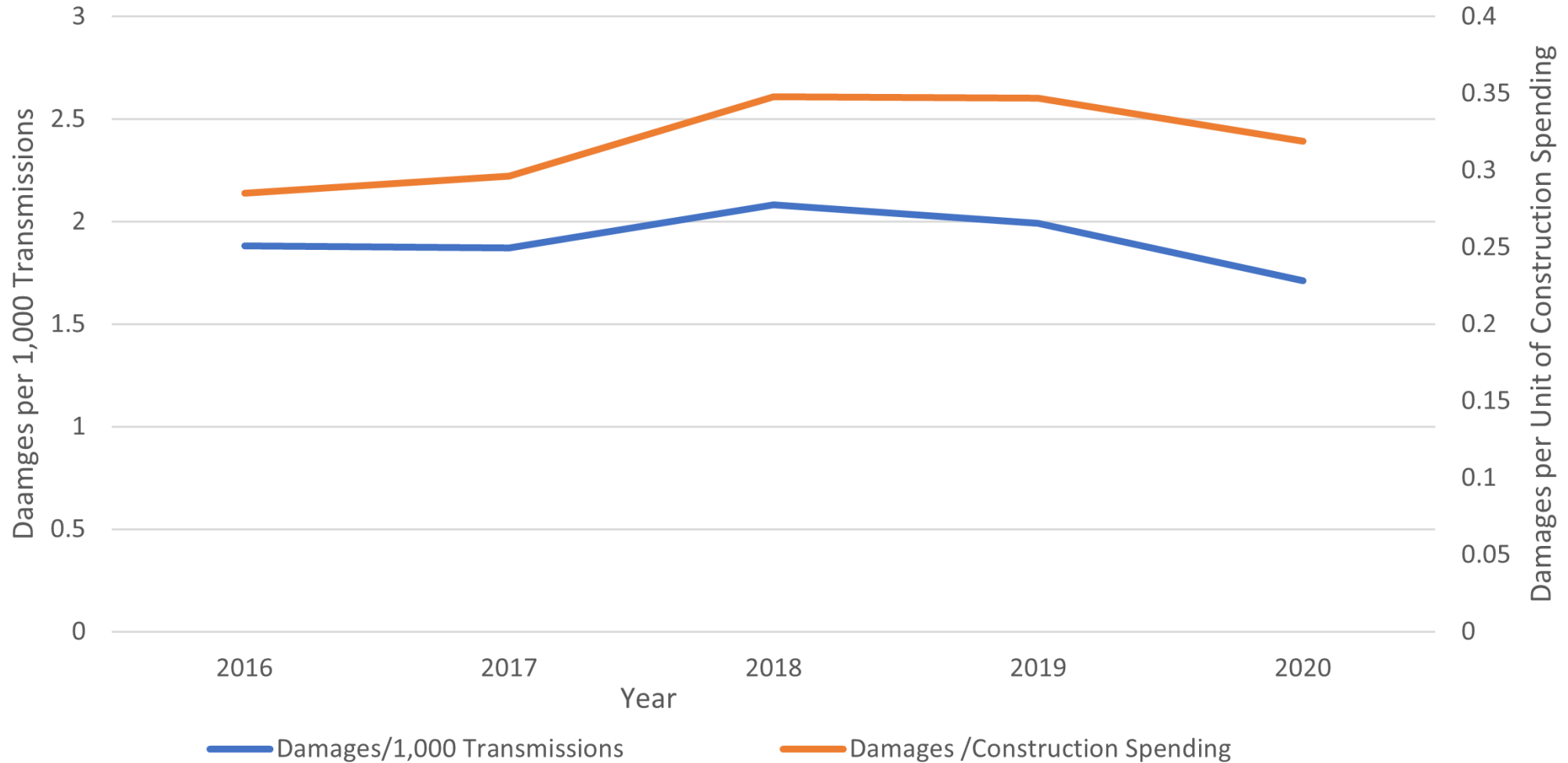
2020 DIRT Report

- DIRT accepts data on excavation damages and near-misses from all affected parties
- Includes analysis of data submitted into DIRT for 2020
- Over 475,000 submissions for 2020
- 2020 is the 17th annual report published
- Written report supplemented by online interactive dashboard



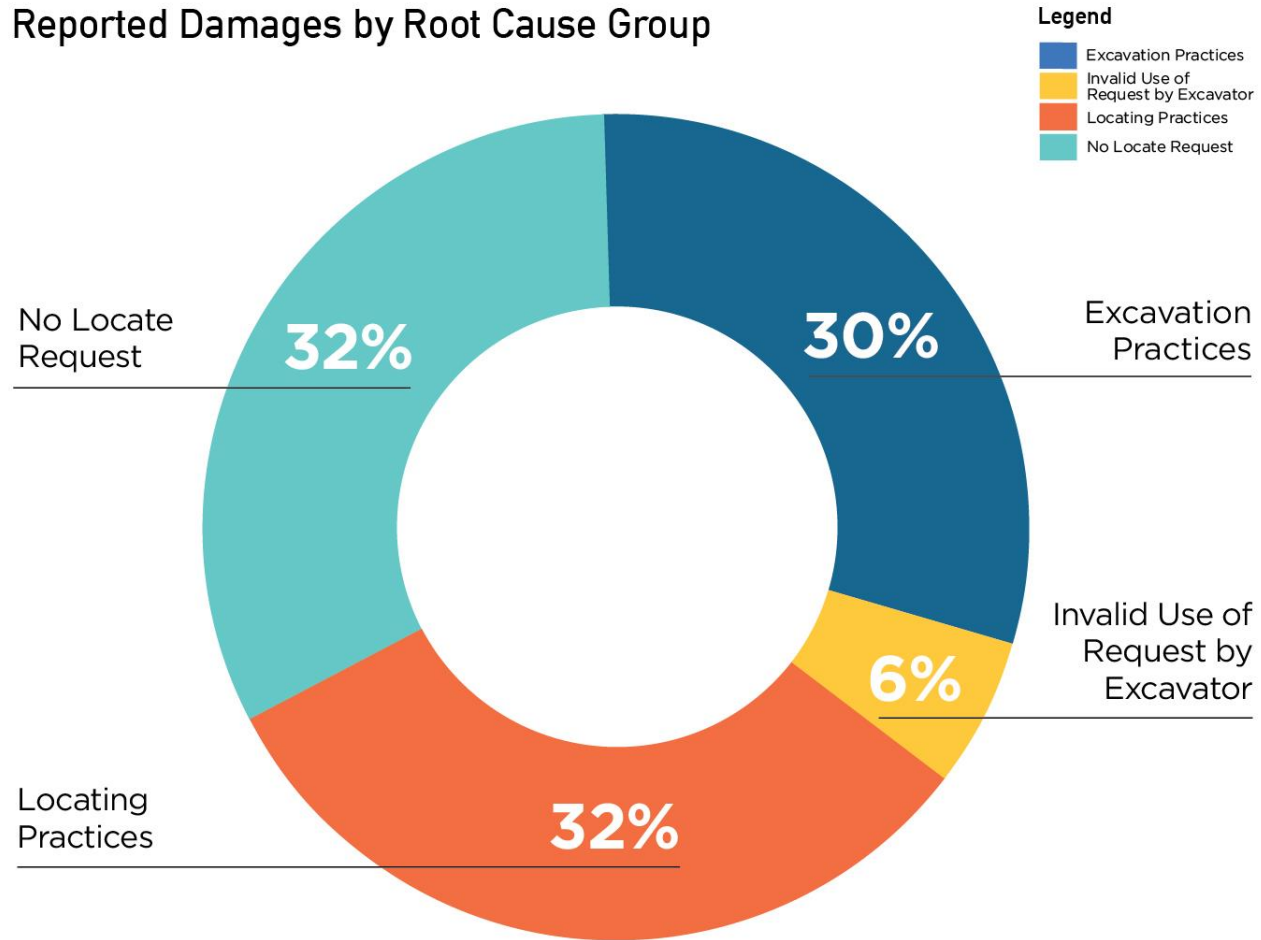


The State of Damage Prevention



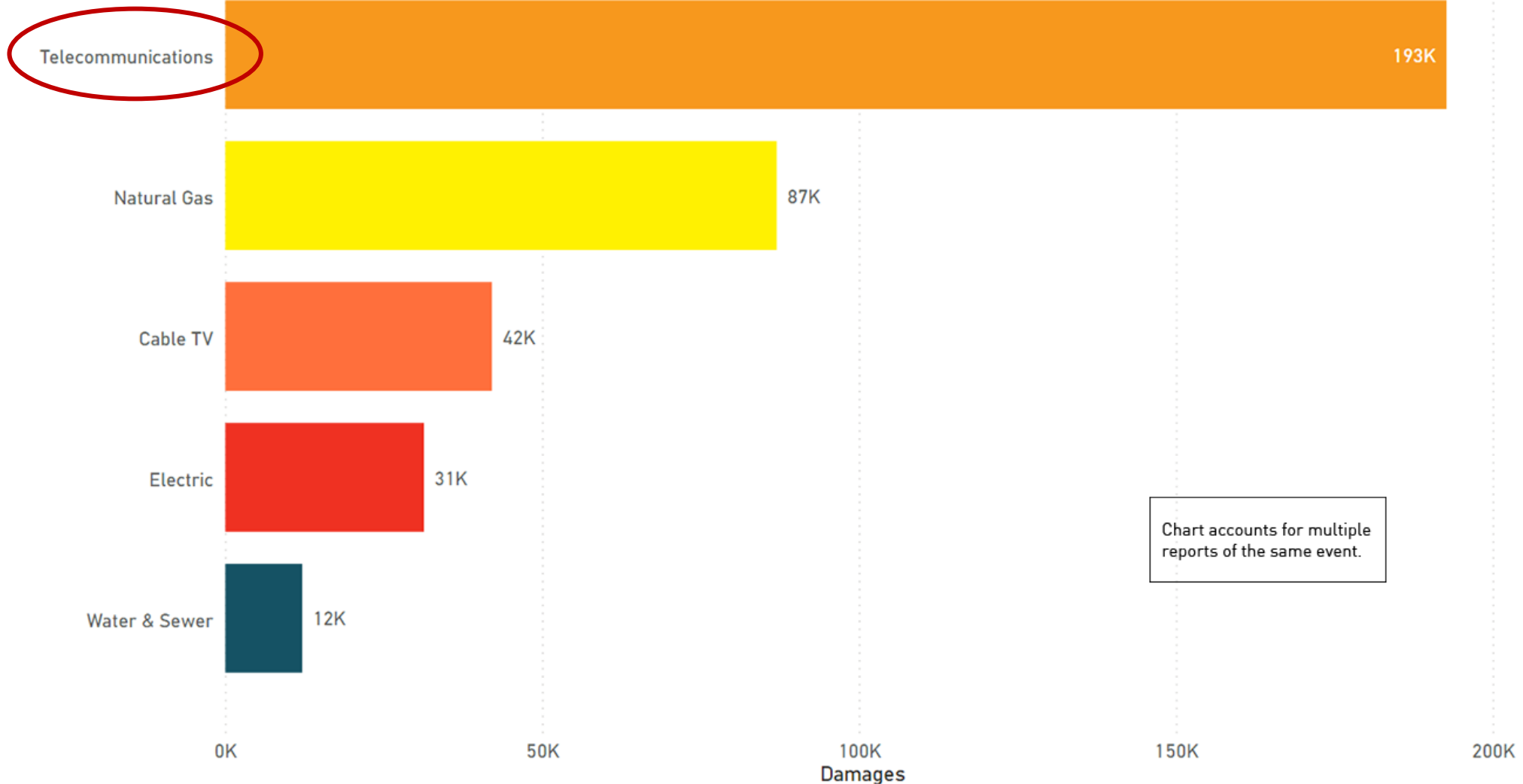


Reported Damages by Root Cause Group





Damages by Facility Operation





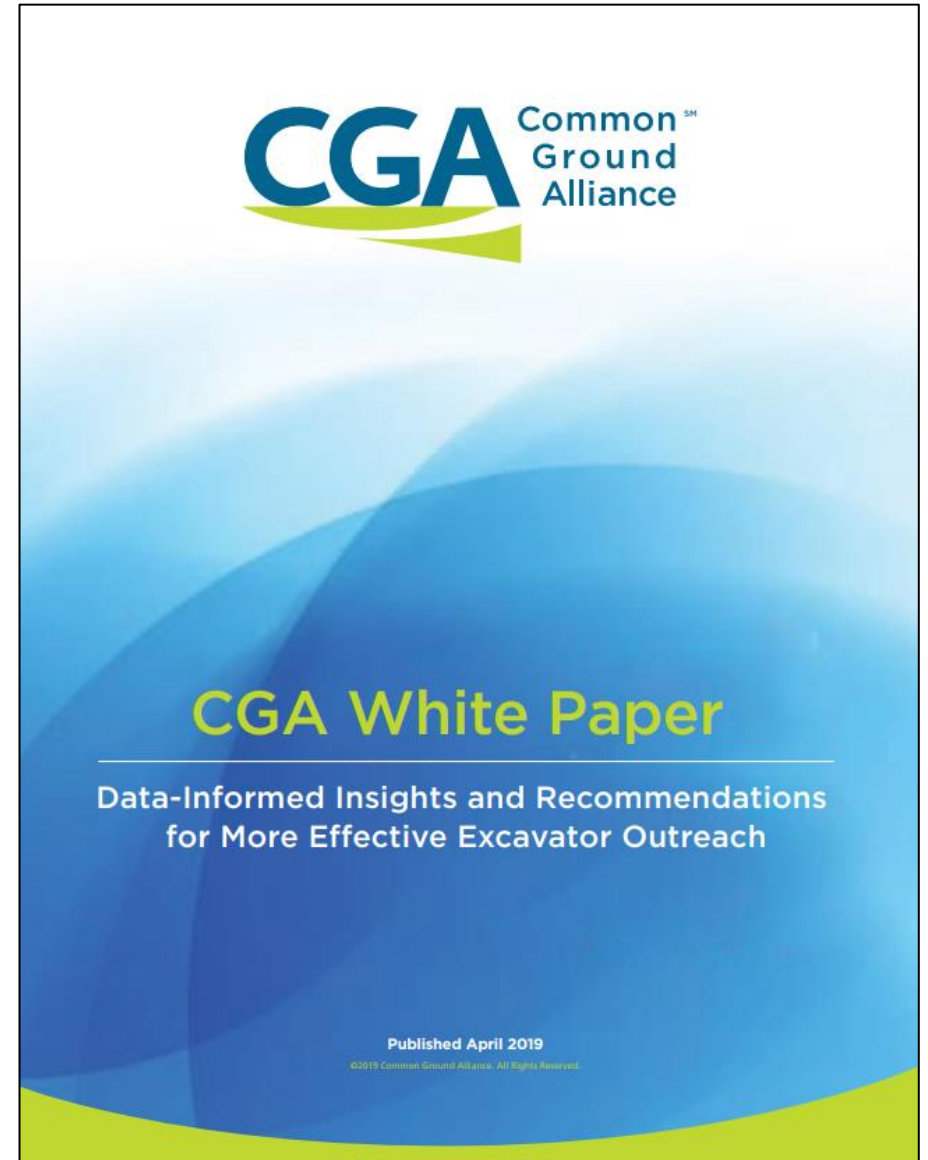
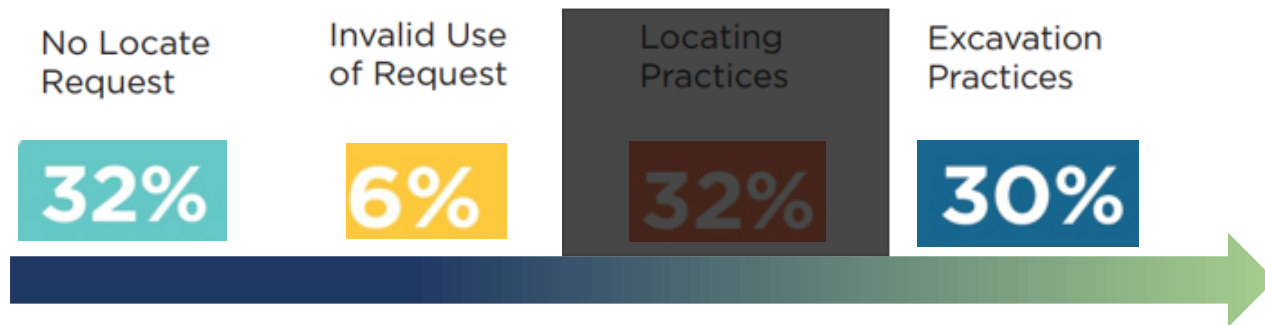
Focused and Systemic Effort

1. Importance of data and information
2. Increase implementation of effective practices and programs
3. Encourage and incentivize innovation and new practices



Excavator White Paper

- Key takeaways for effective excavator stakeholder outreach
- Includes data-supported recommendations based on analysis of focus groups and survey data, DIRT data and additional reports





Locator Research: Data, Findings and Insights

Locator research methodology

402

U.S.-based locate technicians completed an online survey.



20 locating industry decision-makers participated in in-depth interviews.

TOP 3 CHALLENGES

facing locate technicians:

1. Area to be marked is not clearly defined - **51%**
2. Incorrect information provided by excavator - **37%**
3. Heavy workload - **33%**

26%

of locators think an inexperienced workforce is a challenge.



97%

of locators believe mandatory white-lining would improve the likelihood of accurate and on-time locates, and **99%** say updated facility maps would be effective.





What is the future of damage prevention?

No Locate Request

32%

Invalid Use of Request

6%

Locating Practices

32%

Excavation Practices

30%



Reversing trend will require innovation in all areas of damage prevention.



Next Practices - Report to the Industry

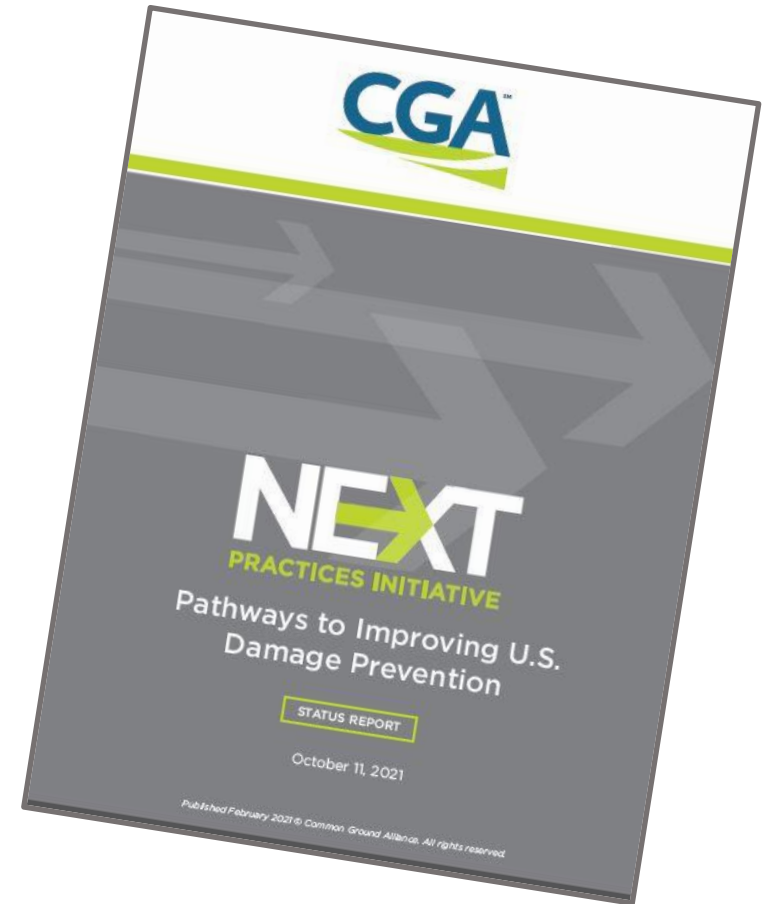
- Clearly identifies and focuses the industry on the **advancement of effective solutions to address the most critical damage prevention challenges.**
- Three Critical Issues
 1. Facilities not marked accurately and on time
 2. Excavator errors in the field
 3. Effective and consistent use of 811





Pathways to Improving U.S. Damage Prevention Status Report

- Analysis of barriers and incentives for each systemic improvement identified in the initial [Report to the Industry](#).
- Documents practices or pilot programs that are already in place across the country and are focused on damage reduction goals.
- Identifies pathways for exploring and documenting additional improvements.





811 / Safe Digging Process

- Increase awareness of 811
- Drive homeowners/excavators to notify the one call center prior to digging
- Educate industry and the public about the importance of the damage prevention process
- 2020 public awareness research: 811 and CBYD awareness at an all-time high





UNDERGROUND CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY

THE UNDERGROUND UTILITIES EVENT | JANUARY 25-27, 2022 | FORT WORTH, TEXAS



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

**We Support April as National
Safe Digging Month**

2021



Get Involved!

- Become a CGA Member
- Join a Committee
- Attend the CGA Conference & Expo



April 5th - 8th, 2022

Marriott Anaheim, Anaheim, CA



Contact Me!

