



## QUICK FACTS

### NORTH CAROLINA

- 14,104 school buses operate daily on routes in North Carolina (this does not include activity buses or "spare" school buses).
- On average, 794,950 total students ride the bus to and from school in our state.
- North Carolina school buses travel a total of 181,285,181 route miles per year.
- The average bus ride time for students is 24 minutes.

### NATION

- More than 26 million children – over half of America's schoolchildren – ride one of 480,000 schools buses to school each day.
- Some measures to ensure children are safe when they enter or exit the bus include the yellow color and size, height, reinforced sides, flashing red lights, cross view mirrors as well as crossing and stop sign arms.
- According to the National Academy of Sciences, the U.S. Department of Transportation and many other authorities, school buses are the safest form of transportation for getting children to and from school.
- School bus drivers go through intense, highly-specialized training to ensure they are knowledgeable about student behavior management, school bus features, the loading and unloading process and security and emergency medical procedures.
- In order to keep their Commercial Driver's License (CDL) with a School Bus Endorsement, drivers must participate in pre-employment as well as random drug and alcohol tests, driving record checks, background checks and medical exams.
- The safety, security, health and driver qualification standards, by which the school bus industry abides, in some cases, exceed federal and state laws. This is to ensure that school buses remain the safest mode of transportation for all United States school children.
- According to the Transportation Research Board, a part of the National Academy of Sciences, a child is 13 times safer in a school bus than in other modes of travel.
- Children are 44 times more likely to be fatally injured if they are riding with other teenage drivers than if they were riding a school bus.
- "National School Bus Yellow" is an actual color.
- The school bus system is the largest transportation system in the United States.

