

# VISION ZERO SUBJECT BRIEF



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT  
OF TRANSPORTATION

## What is Vision Zero?

Vision Zero is a traffic safety initiative that takes an ethical approach toward achieving safety for all road users by setting a goal of zero traffic fatalities or serious injuries. Vision Zero holds that traffic fatalities and serious injuries are preventable and focuses attention on making the roadway and surrounding environment as safe as possible, including the built environment, policies, and technologies that mitigate serious consequences of mistakes made by road users. In Florida, more than half of traffic fatalities and serious injuries happen on state-maintained roadways, emphasizing the importance of adopting this national safety goal to achieve significant reduction of traffic crashes statewide.

Target Zero is a parallel effort that plans programs and projects, both infrastructure and behavioral related, to help achieve zero fatalities and serious injuries. Given Florida's Vision Zero initiative to eliminate all transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries, FDOT has formally established a target of zero transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries when measuring progress toward their vision.

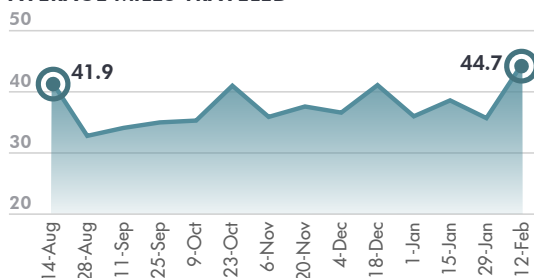


## Why is Planning for Safety Important?

As Florida experiences an increase in population, daily vehicle miles traveled, freight volume and economic expansion, FDOT must consider how these factors directly impact the safety of the traveling public and goods movement. In an effort to reduce the number of system crashes, Vision Zero's approach includes three components:

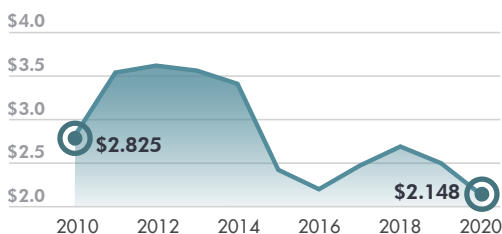
- **A data driven approach.**
- **Safe System** – recognizing that people make mistakes and design the system to ensure roadway crashes do not lead to fatal or serious injuries and that no death or serious injury should be accepted in return for faster mobility.
- **Holistic Solutions** – combating safety through all modes of travel by implementing solutions using the 4E's: Engineering, Education, Enforcement and Emergency Services; and the 4I's: Information Intelligence, Innovation, Insight into Communities, and Investments and Policies.

AVERAGE MILES TRAVELED



Source: University of Maryland, COVID Impact Analysis Platform.

RETAIL GASOLINE PRICES PER GALLON



Source: US Energy Information Administration (EIA).

5-Year Rolling Averages	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Trend	Target
Fatalities	2,535.6	2,690.0	2,827.0	2,973.4	3,110.6	●	0
Fatality Rate (per 100 MVMT)	1.29	1.33	1.36	1.40	1.43	●	0
Serious Injuries	20,552.0	20,877.2	20,943.0	20,737.0	20,166.4	●	0
Serious Injury Rate (per 100 MVMT)	10.45	10.37	10.14	9.77	9.29	●	0
Non-Motorized Fatalities & Serious Injuries	3,266.2	3,361.6	3,371.4	3,410.4	3,401.8	●	0

## Trends impacting Safety

Between 2000 and 2019...

Florida's **POPULATION** increased **32.7%**

Florida's **GDP** increased **124%**

Florida's **DAILY VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED** increased **51%**

## FDOT'S VITAL FEW

As an agency, FDOT has elected to focus its limited resources on initiatives that advance four areas identified as Florida's Vital Few – Improving Safety, Enhancing Mobility, Inspiring a Culture of Innovation, and Fostering a Talented Workforce. Florida's vital few builds on the state's vision of zero transportation fatalities and serious injuries.

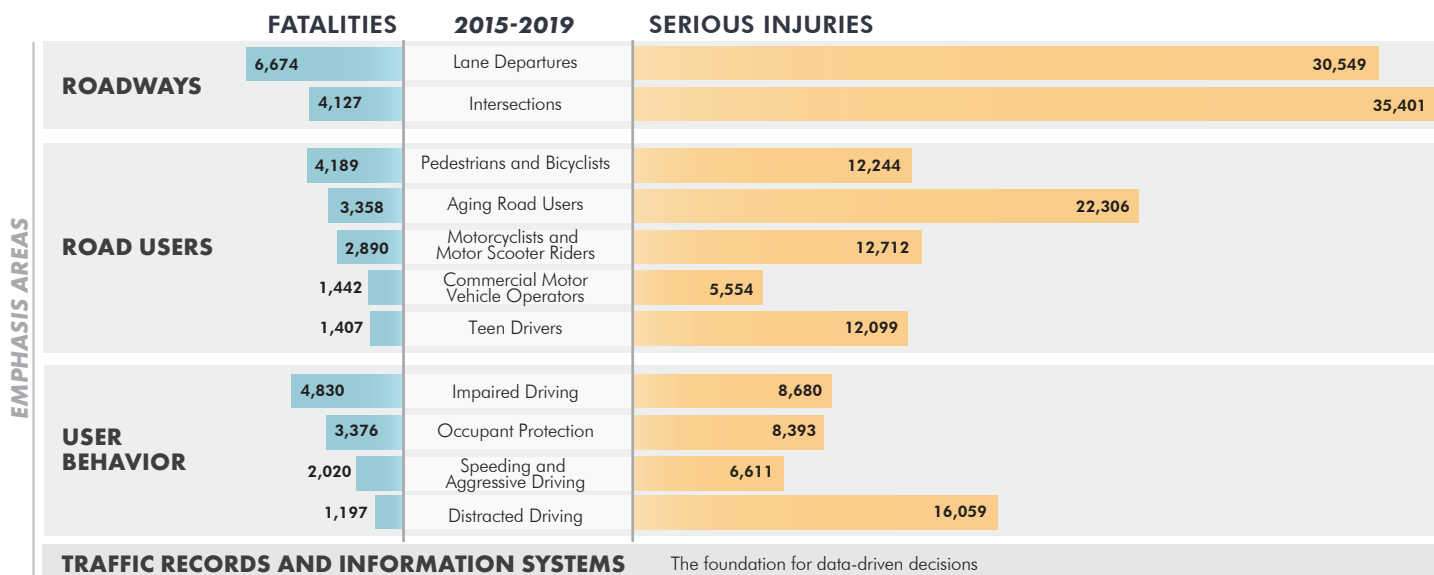
The Vital Few Safety Team is organized into three groups focusing on fatalities and serious injuries involving lane departures, intersections, and bicyclists and pedestrians. Each Vital Few Safety Team involves a multidisciplinary team representing design, safety, public information, construction, planning, traffic operations, maintenance, and multiple modes of transportation from all regions of the state.

## What is FDOT's Role in Safety?

The FHWA continues to push safety as a top priority of the U.S. Department of Transportation, and encourages State's to support the vision of zero deaths and serious injuries by curating safety culture and providing a safe system. The FHWA administers the performance-based Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) which requires each State to develop a Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) that provides a comprehensive framework to reducing fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads. Vision Zero is reflected in Florida's Safety Performance Targets, FDOT's Vision, the Strategic Highway Safety Plan Vision and the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP) Vision. The 2020 FTP Vision Element highlights "Safety and Security for Florida's residents, visitors, and businesses" as a statewide goal which emphasizes safety, security and reduction of risks across all modes. Additionally, the 2020 FTP Policy Element identifies objectives and key strategies to strengthen the statewide commitment to eliminating fatalities and serious injuries.

## What is FDOT Doing to Advance Safety?

Factors contributing to a crash typically involve three components: characteristics of the roadway; characteristics of the road user, including demographics and mode of travel; and behavior of the road user. Crashes rarely have a single contributing factor. Based on 2015 to 2019 crash data, the top contributing factors were identified and use to organize the emphasis areas into three categories – Roadways, Road Users, and User Behavior – supported by traffic records and information systems. While each emphasis area highlights solutions through engineering, education, enforcement, and emergency response strategies, FDOT is also adding the 4Is: Information Intelligence, Innovation, Insight into Communities, and Investment and Policies. This broader approach examines how factors such as urban design and land use decisions contribute to safer communities, or how emerging technologies can reduce fatalities and serious injuries.



## Where Can I Learn More?

[FY 2020 – Highway Safety Plan](#)

[Florida Strategic Highway Safety Plan](#)

[FHWA Safety Culture and the Zero Deaths Vision](#)

[Toward Zero Deaths – The Florida Experience](#)



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