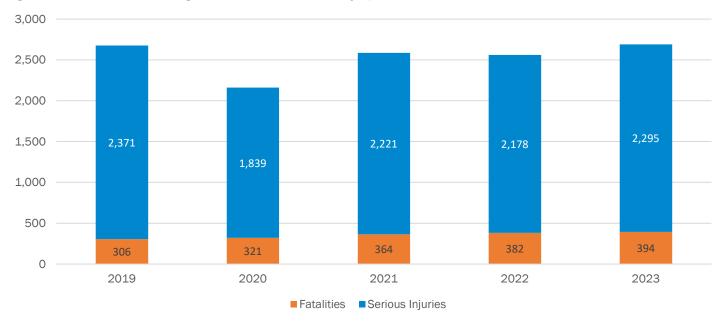
# **2024 Regional Roadway Safety Summit**

## A Look at Our Region

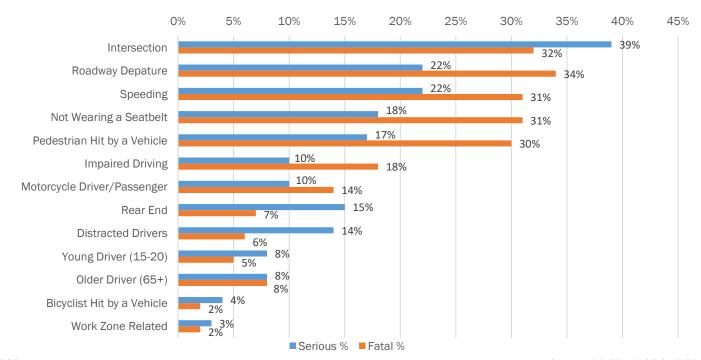
In 2023, the National Capital Region (NCR) saw approximately 2,400 deaths or serious injuries on our roadways, which was a 3.2% decrease from the previous year. A preliminary data analysis was conducted by the Region's Transportation Planning Board (TPB), which provided crash data for 15 of the jurisdictions.

Figure 1: National Capital Region Fatalities & Serious Injury Collisions\*



Source: DDOT, MDOT & VDOT

Figure 2: National Capital Region Fatalities & Serious Injury Involved Factors (2019 - 2023)\*



\*2023 data is preliminary.



## **About the Safe System Approach**

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration created the National Roadway Safety Strategy (NRSS) in 2022 to address the safety crisis on our Nation's roadways. The NRSS declares a goal of zero deaths and adopts the Safe System Approach (SSA) as the guiding paradigm for addressing roadway safety and achieving this goal.

The Safe System Approach involves anticipating human mistakes by designing and managing road infrastructure to keep the risk of a mistake low; and when a mistake leads to a crash, the impact on the human body doesn't result in a fatality or serious injury.



### **Safe System Principles**



**Death and Serious Injury are Unacceptable** 



Responsibility is Shared



**Humans Make Mistakes** 



Safety is Proactive



**Humans Are Vulnerable** 



**Redundancy is Crucial** 

### **Safe System Elements**



**Safe Speeds** 



**Safe Vehicles** 



**Post-Crash Care** 



**Safe Road Users** 



Safe Roads

Ten NCR jurisdictions have adopted the goal of "zero deaths". Some have targeted efforts to eliminate these deadly collisions, specifically by adopting Vision Zero Action Plans or similar studies.

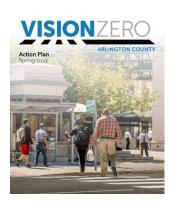
#### **Montgomery County Vision Zero**



**District of Columbia Vision Zero** 



**Arlington County Vision Zero** 



### Success Is Possible at an MPO

### What can the TPB do to encourage and incentive safety?

The TPB, as the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the region, possesses a holistic view of the transportation network across the 16 jurisdictions and are well positioned to advance the SSA. MPO staff facilitate collaboration between governments, interested parties, and residents in the planning process. Additionally, MPO staff consider how different elements of the system, like air quality, congestion, transit, freight, and land use, interact.

#### San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)

A Meaningful MPO Safety Action Plan

SANDAG made a commitment to six strategies to support their goal of zero roadway fatalities.



#### 1. COORDINATE

SANDAG will bring together local governments. agency partners, federally recognized tribal governments, key stakeholders, and the public to align regional efforts and ensure a unified approach to advancing safety goals.



SANDAG will integrate Vision Zero principles into all aspects of regional planning by incorporating safety into its planning efforts including the Regional Transportation Plan's goals and project evaluation and development processes Additionally, SANDAG will provide resources for local governments to implement safer speed limit setting practices, analyze slow streets, and prioritize safety in project planning and implementation.



SANDAG will prioritize funding projects that address critical safety needs and ensure resources are directed towards the most effective safety solutions and projects on the Safety Focus Network or Systemic Safety Network. This will be accomplished through updating regional funding scoring criteria, supporting local governments in securing state and federal funds, and preparing competitive grant applications for regionally significant projects.



#### 4. EDUCATE

SANDAG commits to raising safety awareness through targeted educational programs and resources for diverse regional stakeholders. Efforts will include targeted education geared towards drivers and our most vulnerable roadway users, dedicated staff and training for stronger integration of safety principles in all SANDAG-led efforts, and community outreach to build momentum around Vision Zero implementation.



#### **5. EVALUATE**

SANDAG will evaluate the effectiveness of safety strategies by tracking regional progress towards zero fatal and serious injury crashes. This will be provided through regular public updates, presentations to local jurisdictions, and a comprehensive update of the Vision Zero Action Plan every 10 years.



#### 6. IMPLEMENT

SANDAG will enhance safety in our capital projects and support local jurisdictions in improving their facilities This will be done by offering data and tools for prioritizing and implementing improvements, supporting Roadway Safety Audits analyzing construction projects for safety upgrades, providing technical assistance, and integrating Vision Zero principles into decision-making and project development

#### **Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)**

Institutionalizing SSA into Existing Agency Functions

Baltimore's MPO created a plan to operationalize the Safe Systems Approach (SSA) into common agency functions by identifying 10 core areas for implementation and offering technical assistance to local agencies.

The Safe System Approach can be integrated into:























#### Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG)

Leading a Transportation Safety Committee and Identifying Key Action Areas

MAG's Transportation Safety Committee aims to address transportation safety issues, concerns, and needs through the regional transportation planning process. The committee is comprised of safety professionals from the FHWA, the Governor's Office of Highway Safety, ADOT, 16 local agencies, and other local groups. Under MAG's Safety Program, their Safe System in Action, or their Strategic Safety Transportation Plan, narrows there safety focus to these priorities:

- 1. Identify locations and areas of opportunity
- 2. Promote the use of high value countermeasures
- 3. Communicate safety as a shared language





DATA ANALYSIS

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION



#### **Local and National Resources**

#### Regional Subcommittees and Groups

Participate in local groups that strive to improve safety in the region. TPB's Transportation Safety Subcommittee is comprised of local transportation practitioners who exchange best practices and coordinate on roadway safety matters. Find ways to connect with other Vision Zero coordinators to support the regional effort together.

### Safe Systems Approach Primer

Get an in-depth understanding of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) vision for the Safe Systems Approach as the guiding paradigm to address roadway safety.

### **Proven Safety Countermeasures**

Explore the FHWA's Proven Safety Countermeasures initiative – 28 strategies that have shown to reduce roadway fatalities and serious injuries to potentially adopt in your jurisdiction.

### Roadway Safety Noteworthy Practices

View numerous data-driven practices that the FHWA Office of Safety has collected to address roadway safety planning, implementation, and evaluation challenges.







