FTA Office of System Safety Update

November 8, 2021

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Acting Director, Office of System Safety
Office of Transit Safety and Oversight
Federal Transit Administration

Agenda

- Update on the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) regulation and Technical Assistance

- Update on FTA's Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

- Overview of the Rail and Bus Safety Data Reports (RSDR and BSDR)

- Overview of recent Requests for Information (RFIs)

Congratulations!

- 100 percent of State Departments of Transportation (DOTs) and all other applicable recipients met the certification deadline

- All applicable transit agencies now have Agency Safety Plans (ASPs)

- This includes the many State-developed ASPs for small public transportation providers across the Nation
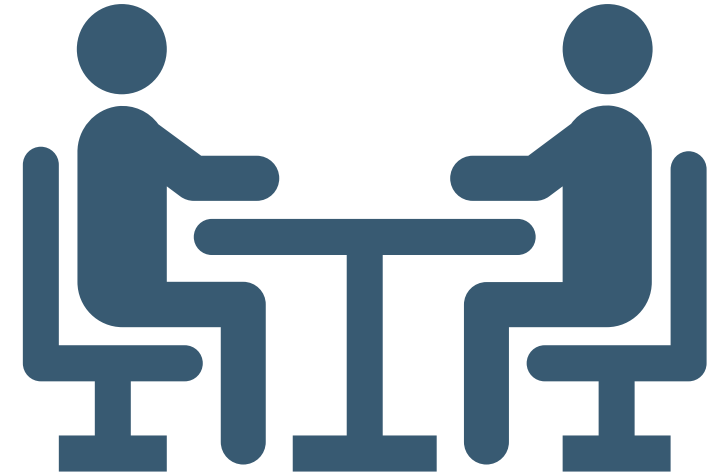
PTASP Compliance

To support the industry in meeting the certification deadline, the PTASP TAC provided:

- Over 400 voluntary ASP reviews, including many State-developed ASPs
- Responses to over 1,700 questions from State DOTs, small public transportation providers, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), and other impacted groups
- Monthly webinars and workshops
- Technical assistance resources and sample ASPs, including a sample for small public transportation providers
- Direct one-on-one technical assistance

Technical Assistance

- The TAC help desk remains open to assist the transit industry with PTASP questions, including questions about ASP development, implementation, evaluation, audit, and oversight

- The TAC continues to offer voluntary ASP reviews for newly applicable agencies and agencies updating their ASPs

- As part of the review, TAC shares lessons learned and effective practices, and provides checklists and other tools to support ASP review and update

- This may be particularly useful for small public transportation providers who are updating a State-developed ASP for the first time

- Agencies interested in an ASP review may email their plan to the TAC at: PTASP-TAC@dot.gov

Resources

- The PTASP TAC Resource Library contains dozens of documents including fact sheets, checklists, tools, sample ASPs, and materials from past webinars and workshops

- Look for new issues of the PTASP TAC Update that cover PTASP implementation questions and recent resources

  - To sign up for updates, visit: https://www.transit.dot.gov/PTASP-Updates

  - Enter your email address and select "Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP)" under "Safety & Oversight"

PTASP Technical Assistance Survey

- FTA is conducting a survey on present use of TAC resources and future needs
- Your feedback will help us to improve FTA's safety programs and we appreciate your opinion
- This survey should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete
- **Please submit your survey by November 24, 2021**

[PTASP TAC Industry Survey for Transit Agencies and States](#)

Links and Contact Information

Technical Assistance Center
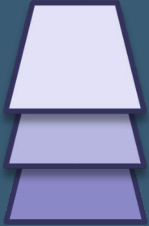
www.transit.dot.gov/PTASP-TAC

Help Desk open Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. ET

Frequently Asked Questions

www.transit.dot.gov/PTASP-FAQs
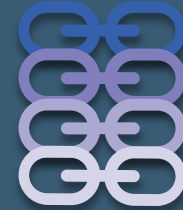

PTASP TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

transit.dot.gov/PTASP-TAC

1 - 877 - 827 - 7243

PTASP-TAC@dot.gov

PTASP Technical Assistance Center
943 Glenwood Station Lane, Suite 102
Charlottesville, VA 22901

FTA's COVID-19 Resources
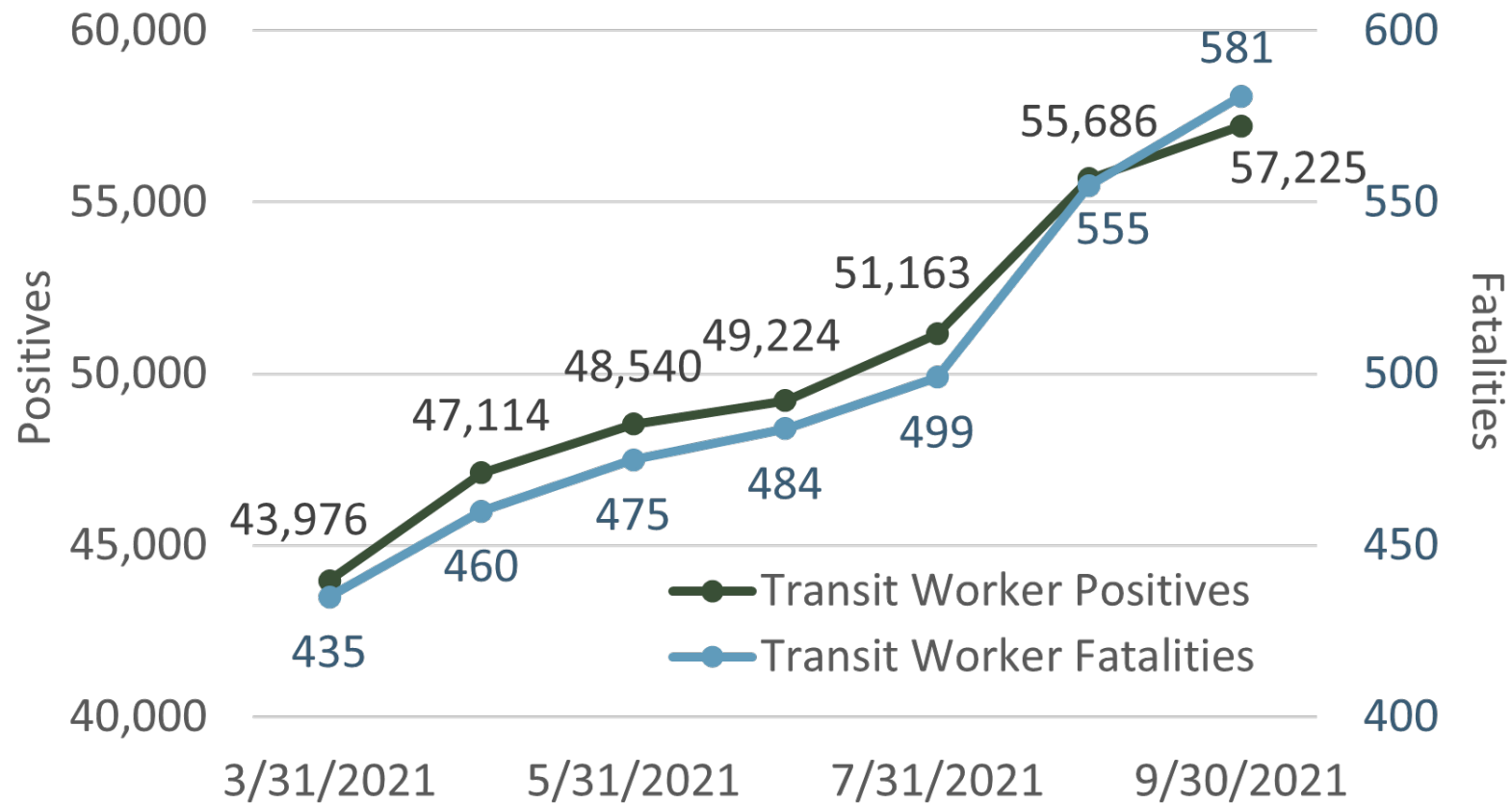
FTA COVID-19 Resource Tool

- [One-stop-shop for Federal COVID-19 guidance and recommendations](#)
- Includes topics such as sanitizing transit facilities and vehicles, personal protective equipment, and vaccine planning
- Updated weekly to include newly issued information

COVID-19 Recovery Practices in Transit

- [Links to COVID-19 recovery practices implemented by transit systems](#)
- Organized by category, including protecting workers and passengers, cleaning and ventilating vehicles and infrastructure, operational considerations, and technology and innovation
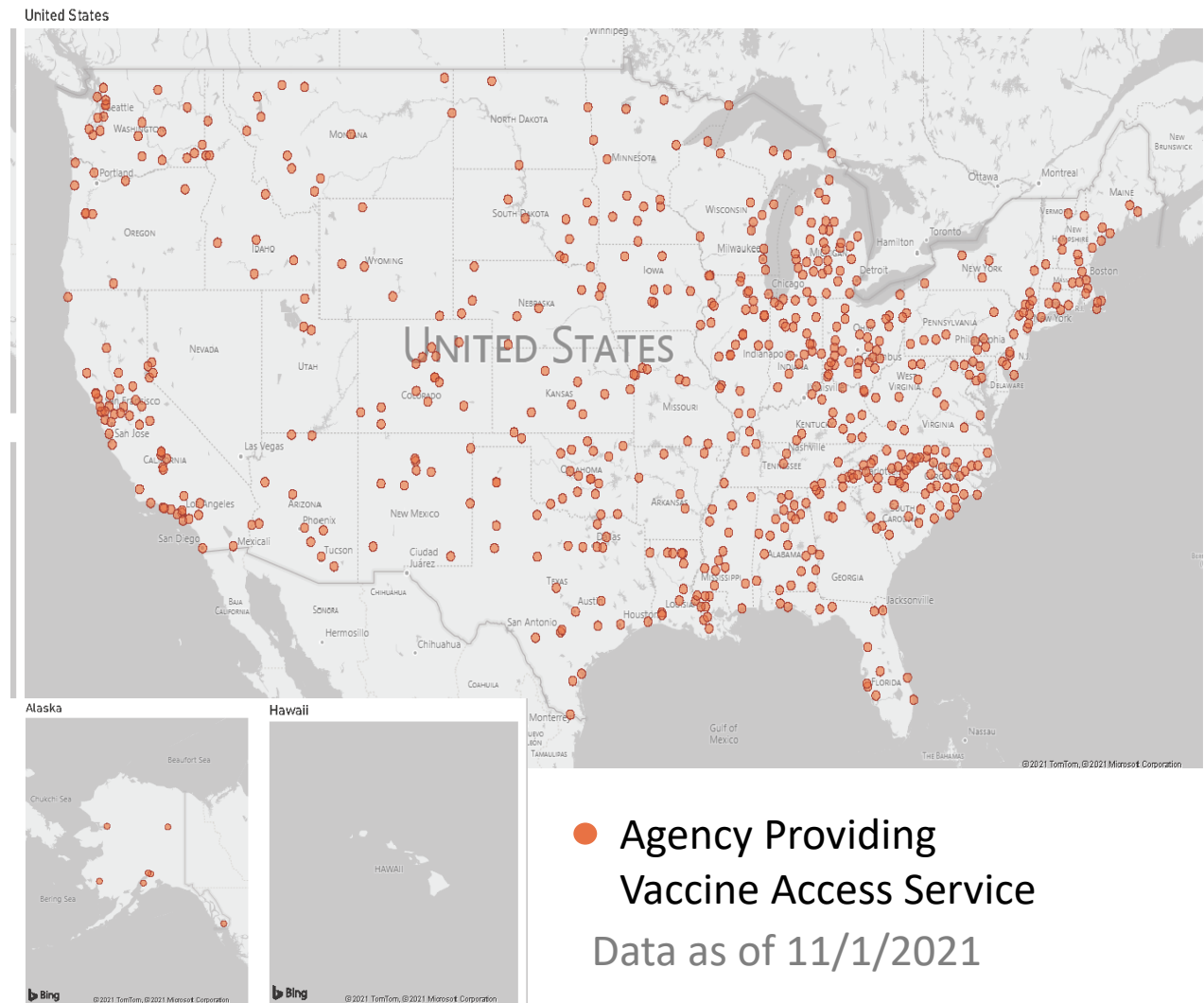- Updated monthly

Transit COVID-19 Response Program Information Collection

Data as of 11/1/21
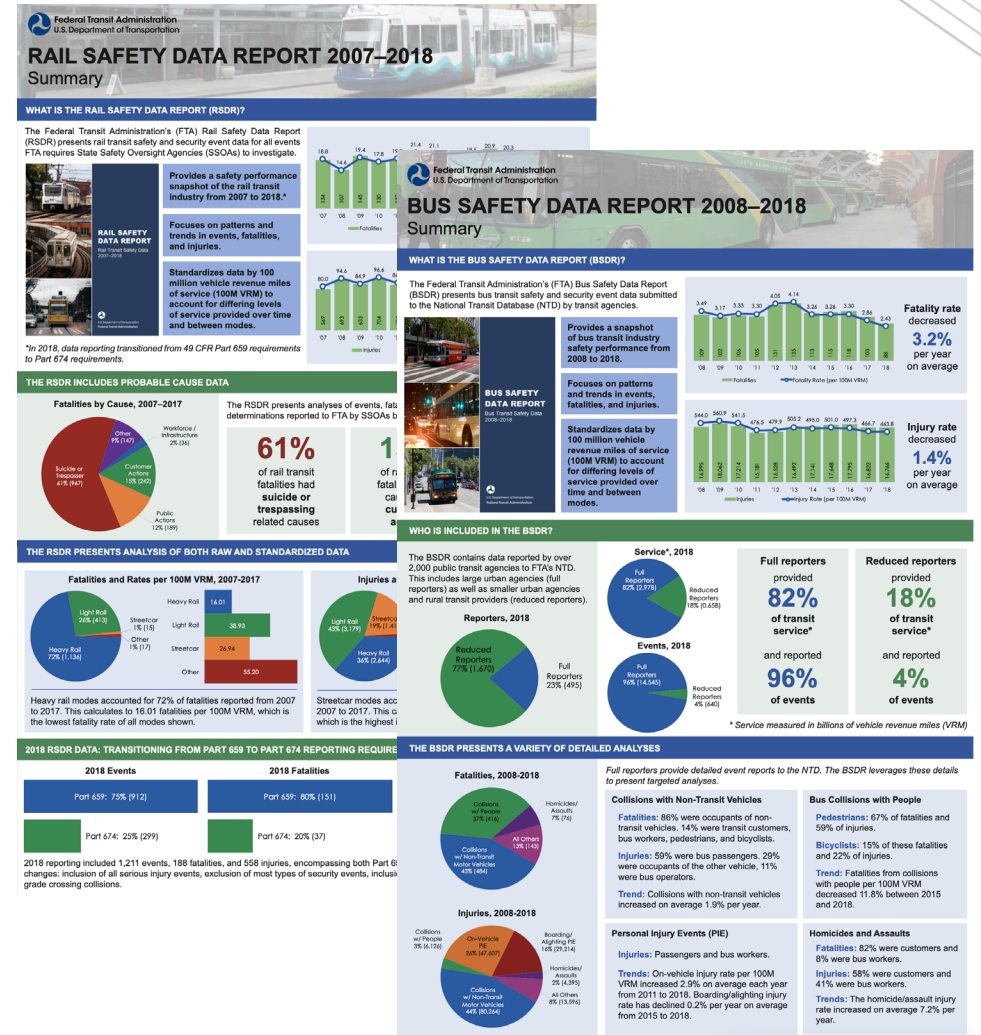
Transit COVID-19 Vaccine Access Services

- 669 FTA grantees reported providing vaccine access services in September 2021
- Services include offering free rides, using facilities as vaccination hubs, and using vehicles as mobile vaccination sites
- Data is from the FTA COVID-19 Response Program Information Collection for the September 2021 reporting period

● Agency Providing Vaccine Access Service

Data as of 11/1/2021

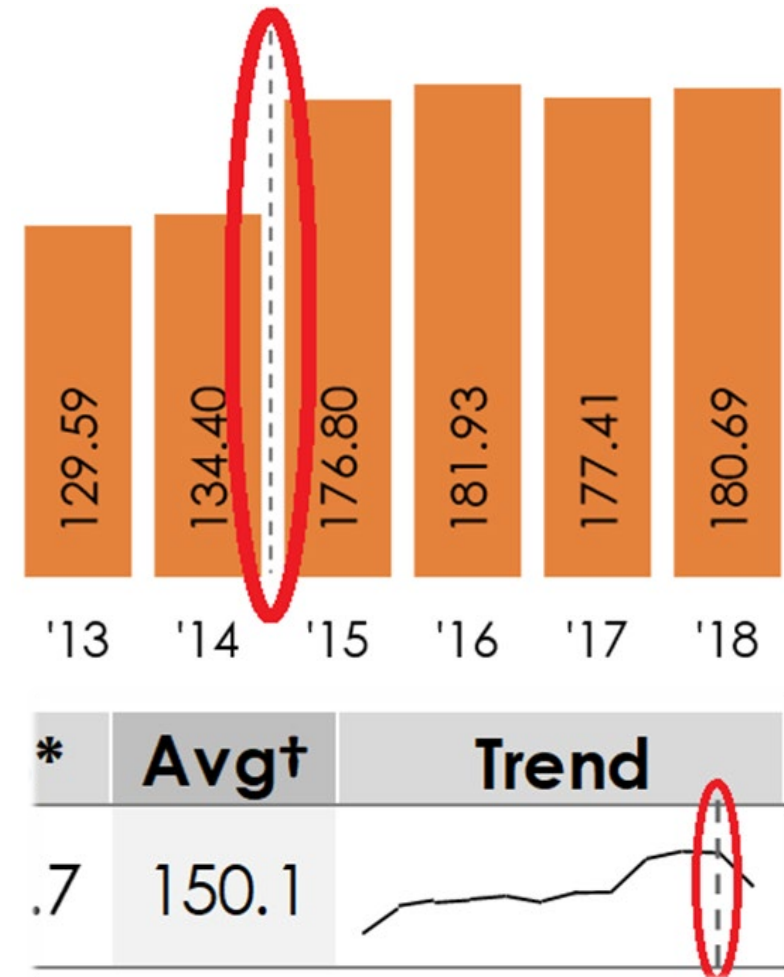# Bus and Rail Safety Data Report (BSDR and RSDR)

The purpose of the BSDR and RSDR is to:

- Report industry-wide transit safety performance data to the public;

- Identify areas for research, training, or assessment; and

- Provide transit agencies with industrywide context for their safety performance management and targeting activities

Addressing Reporting Changes

- Changes in reporting requirements may impact data trends

- The safety data reports use dashed vertical lines to indicate where changes in reporting criteria or data categorization may impact trends

- Each report provides an explanation of the changes

BSDR Overview

- **Analyzed period**: 2008–2018
- **Data sources**:
  - NTD annual service data
  - National Transit Database (NTD) safety and security module (bus only)
- **Events, fatalities and injuries analyzed by**:
  - Mode
  - Event type
  - Security event type (bus only)
  - Collision type
  - Person type (fatalities and injuries)

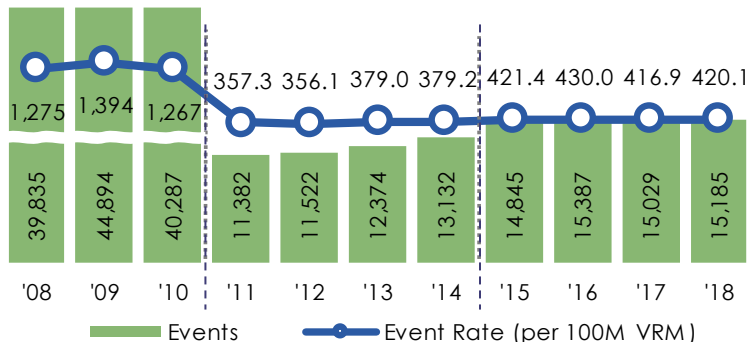**BUS SAFETY DATA REPORT**
Bus Transit Safety Data
2008–2018

September 2021

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

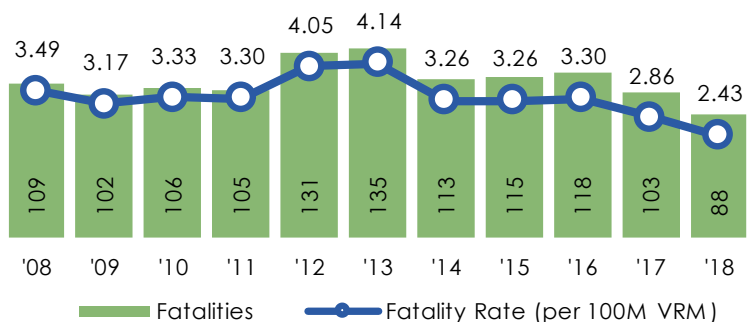# BSDR Key Takeaways

Reportable events per 100M Vehicle Revenue Miles (VRM) **increased**

3.7%
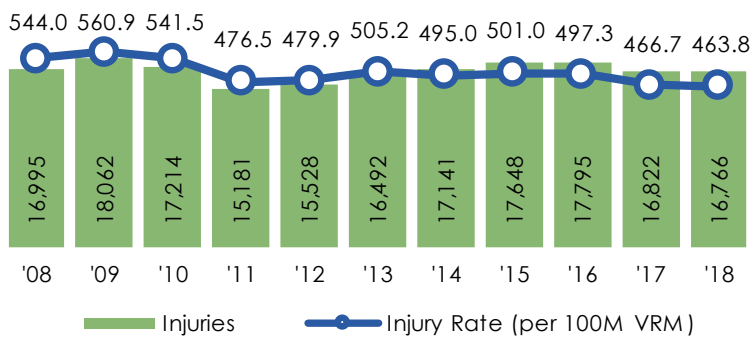
per year on average between 2011* and 2018

Fatalities per 100M VRM **decreased**

1.9%

per year on average between 2008 and 2018

Injuries per 100M VRM **decreased**
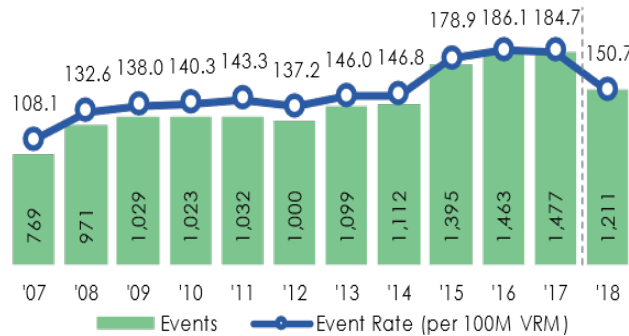
0.1%

per year on average between 2008 and 2018

*Prior to the 2011 reporting year, FTA stopped collecting non-major security event data, reducing the number of reportable events.
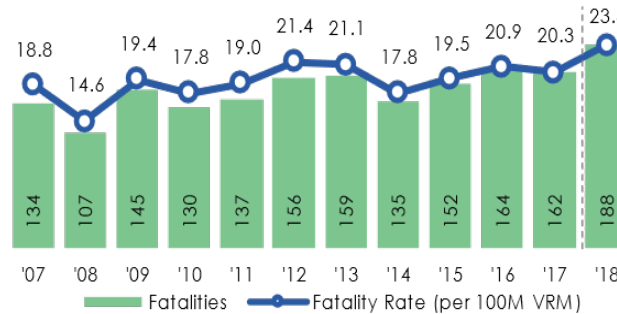
RSDR Overview and Key Takeaways

- **Analyzed period**: 2007–2018
- **Data sources:**
  - State Safety Oversight Agency (SSOA) annual event reporting
  - NTD annual service data
- **Events, fatalities and injuries analyzed by:**
  - Mode
  - Event type
  - Probable cause
  - Mode and collision type
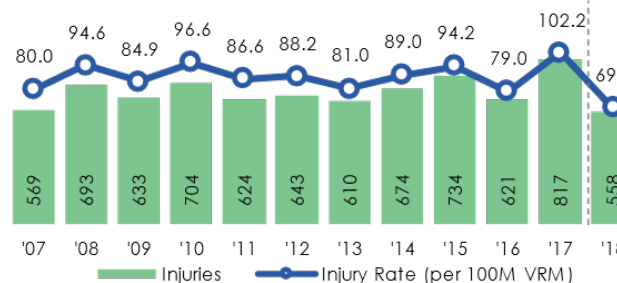 - Person type (fatalities and injuries)

Reportable events per 100M VRM **increased**

6.7%

per year on average between 2007 and 2017*

Fatalities per 100M VRM **increased**

1.9%

per year on average between 2007 and 2017*

Injuries per 100M VRM **increased**

3.7%

per year on average between 2007 and 2017*

*Data from 2018 includes both events reported under Part 659 and Part 674. Due to this transition in reporting criteria, data tallies from 2018 are not comparable to previous years.

Transit Safety Concerns RFI

Quick Facts

Date Opened: July 15, 2021
Date Closed: September 22, 2021
Audience: Public (industry, transit providers, transit users, researchers, contractors, etc.)
Purpose: Solicit public input on safety concerns FTA should consider including in its next SRM Action Plan
Scope of Questions:
- Safety concerns for SRM analysis
- Emerging safety risks
- Data sources and considerations
- Safety concern identification best practices

FTA Docket Number: FTA-2021-0011

Purpose: FTA solicited input from the public to inform the development of the agency's next Safety Risk Management (SRM) Action Plan

Next Steps:

- FTA will review and analyze the RFI responses

- FTA leadership will determine which safety topics should be included in the next SRM Action Plan

- FTA will use its SRM process to analyze the risk associated with each safety topic and implement mitigations, if warranted

Transit Worker Safety RFI

Quick Facts

Date Open: September 24, 2021
Date Close: November 23, 2021
Audience: Public (industry, transit providers, transit users, researchers, contractors, etc.)
Purpose: Solicit public input regarding transit worker safety mitigations related to RWP programs and transit worker assault prevention
Scope of Questions:
Types of redundant protections
- RWP and transit worker assault prevention best practices
- Minimum requirements recommendations
- Information, data, and technology

FTA Docket Number: FTA-2021-0012

Purpose:

- FTA is considering mitigations for reducing the safety risk to transit workers

- FTA is soliciting the public's input regarding possible mitigations for both RWP and transit worker assaults

Next Steps: FTA will review responses to the RFI and use them to inform the agency's next steps in response to these safety concerns

You may file comments, identified by docket number FTA-2021-0012, by any of the methods listed in the RFI

TRANSIT.DOT.GOV