

Fatigue Management

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U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

Agenda

- Transit Worker Fatigue Incidents
- Safety Bulletin 26-01



Transit Worker Fatigue Incidents



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Select Fatigue-Related Transit Safety Events

- 2021 Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority Green Line trolley collision and derailment, resulting in 24 injured passengers.
- 2023 Denver Regional Transportation District light rail bump post collision, which resulted in injuries to two people.
- 2024 Milwaukee County Transit System bus collision, resulting in one pedestrian fatality.
- 2025 Utah Transit Authority end of line overrun and collision, resulting in a derailment.
- 2025 San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency station overrun and evacuation, resulting in passengers falling inside the vehicle.



Denver RTD, fatigue-related collision, 2023
Photo from 9NEWS (KUSA-TV) Denver

National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)

NTSB has tracked fatigue as a significant issue since 2004.

**November 2004:
Washington
Metropolitan Area
Transit Authority**

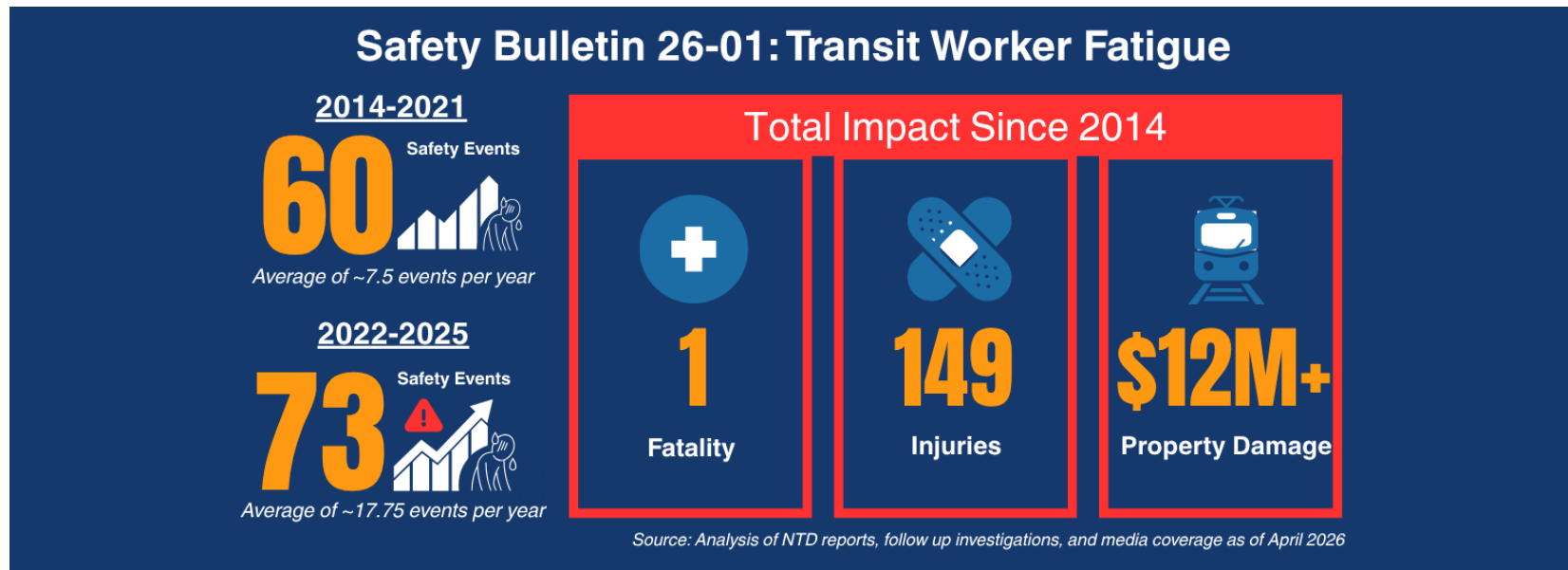
- Two trains collided at Woodley Park station, resulting in the transport of about **20 people to local hospitals** and causing **\$3.45 million in property damage**.
- NTSB found that the train operator, who had only **8 hours off between shifts**, did not have the ability to get adequate sleep.

**March 2014:
Chicago Transit
Authority**

- A train collided with a bumping post at O'Hare Station and went up the escalator at the end of the track, resulting in **33 injured passengers** and **\$11.1 million in damages**.
- NTSB found that the train operator had worked **12 consecutive days and nights** and experienced the effects of a cumulative sleep debt, which contributed to them falling asleep.

Fatigue Data

Through analysis of NTD reports, follow-up investigations, and media coverage, FTA has identified 133 safety events since 2014 where transit worker fatigue was a factor.



Safety Bulletin 26-1

Transit Worker Fatigue

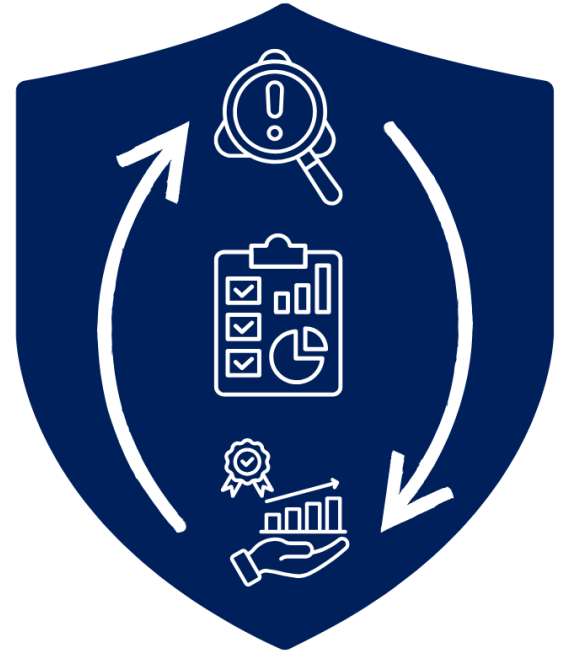


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Publication of the Safety Bulletin

FTA published a Safety Bulletin 26-01 recommending that transit agencies subject to the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) regulation consider assessing transit worker fatigue-related risks by applying data-driven strategies.

These strategies can help transit agencies **better identify, assess, and mitigate fatigue-related risks** to improve the safety of transit workers and the public.



Managing Fatigue

FTA recommends that transit agencies subject to the PTASP regulation consider integrating practices to improve transit worker and public safety, such as:

- Developing or enhancing comprehensive **Fatigue Risk Management Programs**;
- Using scheduling practices that **ensure adequate rest** between shifts;
- Providing specialized **fatigue awareness training** for schedulers, workers, and supervisors; and
- Establishing **Fatigue Reporting Programs** that are confidential/non-reprisal.

Safety Management System (SMS) and Safety Risk Management (SRM) procedures established in Agency Safety Plans may be used to assess safety risks associated with transit worker fatigue.



Source: Oregon Daily News

Safety Bulletin

**On April 10, 2026, FTA published
*Safety Bulletin 26-1: Transit Worker Fatigue.***



View the Safety Bulletin

Thank you!

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