

TRB Annual Meeting Rail Safety Committee Meeting (AR070)

January 10, 2023

Joe DeLorenzo

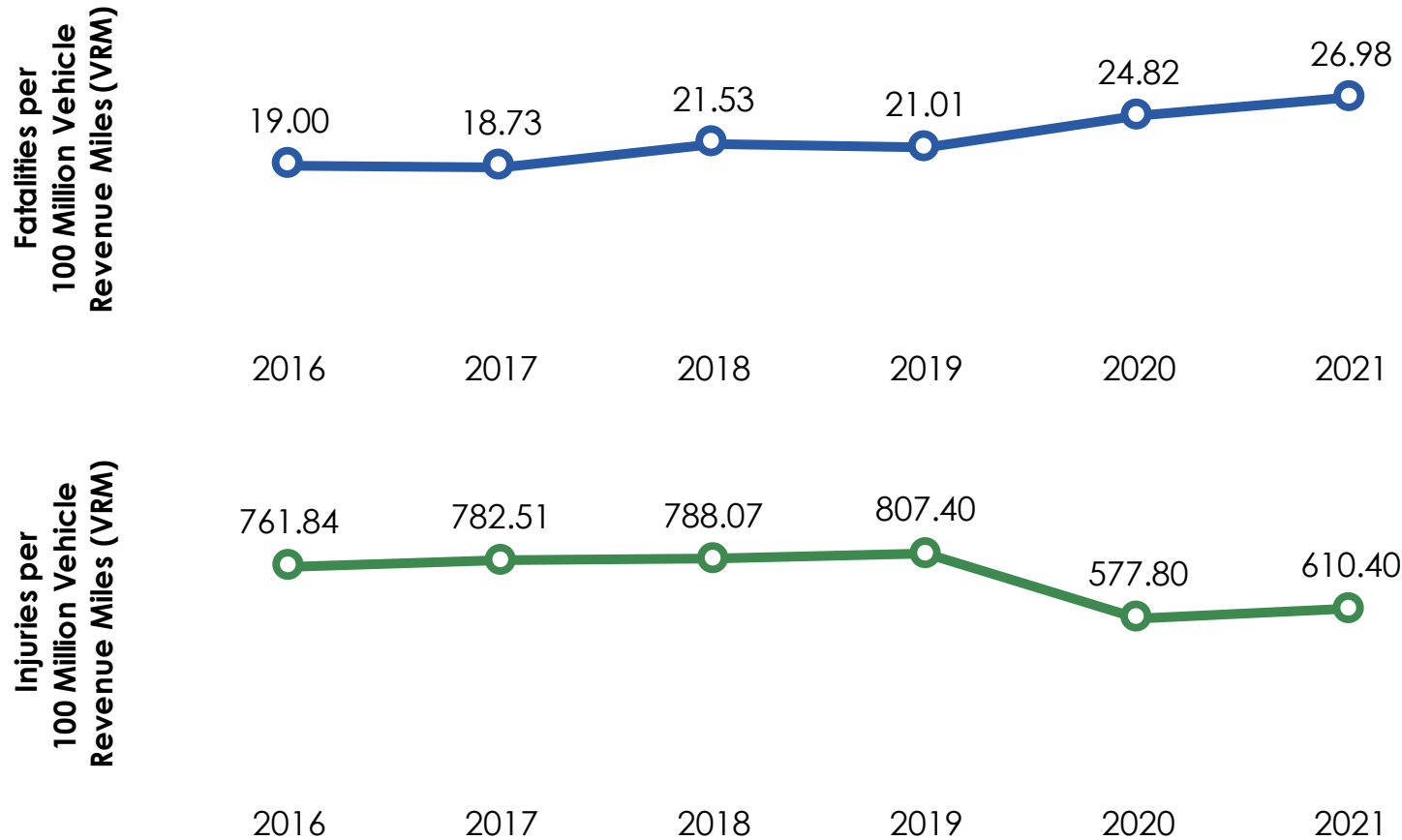
Associate Administrator and Chief Safety Officer
Office of Transit Safety and Oversight
Federal Transit Administration



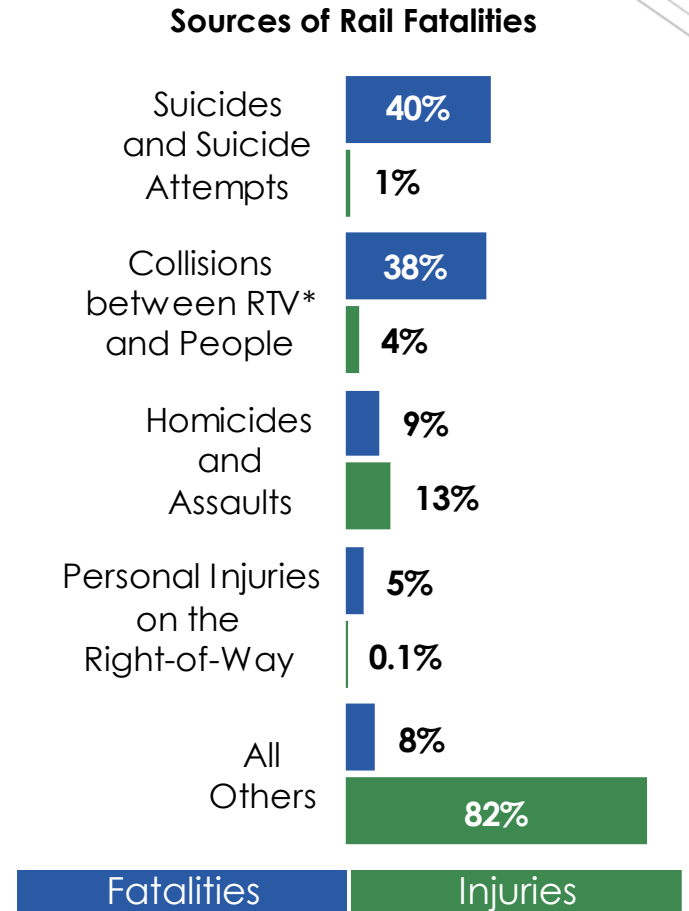
Transportation Safety and Oversight

- Safety is the # 1 Priority of USDOT and FTA
- Working towards reducing fatalities and injuries on our nations transit systems, our focus areas include:
 - Strengthening oversight of SSOAs and RTAs
 - Implementation of BIL requirements
 - Rail Grade Crossing Safety and Education
 - Reducing Assaults of Transit Passengers and Worker
 - Roadway Worker Protection

State of Rail Transit Safety



Source: National Transit Database (NTD)
2021 data are preliminary



Data as of: December 2, 2022
**Rail Transit Vehicles*

Performance Measurement

Office of Budget and Policy (TBP)

- Monitors USDOT Strategic Goals and calculate Quarterly Performance Reports (QPR)
- Conditions and Performance (C&P) Report
 - Report provides the status of the Nation's highways, bridges and transit
 - <https://www.transit.dot.gov/research-innovation/status-nations-highways-bridges-and-transit-condition-and-performance> or scan QR link below



Public NTD Safety Data Products (Web Links)

NTD publishes S&S data products (updated monthly):

- NTD Web Link
 - <https://www.transit.dot.gov/ntd/ntd-data>
- Major Safety Events Web Link
 - <https://data.transportation.gov/Public-Transit/Major-Safety-Events/9ivb-8ae9>
 - New Feature: Incident descriptions have redacted personal information such as names addresses and other items. Researchers will have additional details for incidents.
 - **Example below:**

Unit # {Redacted} was turning right in to {Redacted} {Redacted} {Redacted} from Southbound {Redacted} {Redacted} {Redacted} {Redacted} {Redacted}. {Redacted} # {Redacted} ({Redacted} Vehicle) was traveling Southbound on {Redacted} {Redacted} {Redacted} {Redacted} {Redacted}. behind {Redacted} # {Redacted}. {Redacted} # {Redacted} struck the rear of {Redacted} # {Redacted} was turning, sending {Redacted} # {Redacted} side



Rail Grade Crossing Safety and Education - Resources, Initiatives and Grants

- Recommends transit agencies use suicide prevention signage best practices to reduce events and encourage mental health intervention

FTA Safety Advisory



- Formed in March 2022 to reduce serious and fatal injuries

Safety Action Team



- Published in 2019, actions, taken, data analysis, resources
- <http://bit.ly/3A0wja6>

FTA Safety Bulletin 19-03



- Funding to increase transportation infrastructure safety and resilience
- <http://bit.ly/3TCOZnj>

FEMA Transit Security Grants



Partnerships & Outreach



Operation Lifesaver

- Non-profit dedicated to improving safety around railroad tracks and highway-rail grade crossings
- Competitive grant program
- New transit safety education materials: <http://bit.ly/3g7XBV2>
- <https://oli.org/>



Stop. Trains Can't. Campaign

- Help reduce collisions, deaths and injuries at freight and commuter train, and rail transit train crossings
- <http://bit.ly/3UmhTJb>



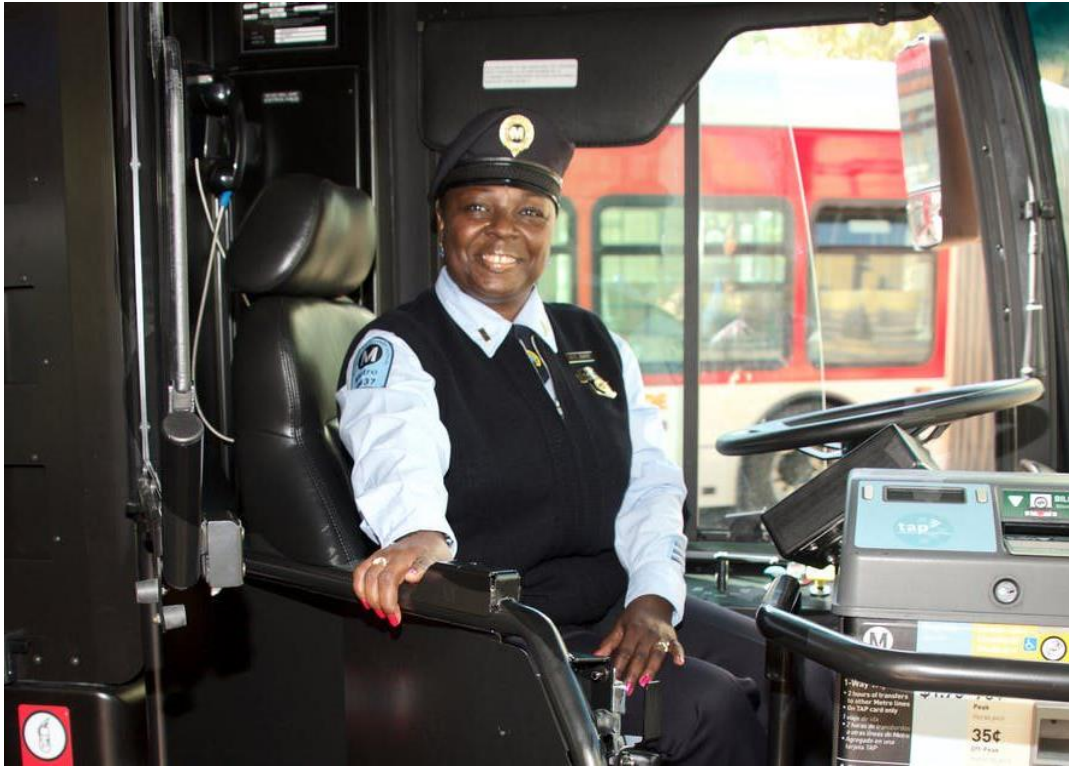
Recent FTA Safety Advisories

- [Safety Advisory 22-4](#): Suicide Prevention Signage on Public Transit
- [Safety Advisory 22-3](#): Steering Gearbox Bolt Failure
- [Safety Advisory 22-2](#): Signal System Safety and Train Control
- [Safety Advisory 22-1](#): Rail Car Passenger Door Inspection and Function Testing



Visit FTA's [Safety Advisories webpage](#) for more information.

Special Directives: Required Actions Regarding Transit Worker Assault



- Confirm if and how named recipients are addressing transit worker assault risk using their SMS processes.
- Determine if additional FTA intervention is required to reduce transit worker assault likelihood and/or severity.



Visit FTA's [Special Directives webpage](#) for more information.

Risk-Based Inspection Program - BIL Requirements

FTA

- Issued a Special Directive to each SSOA requiring the Development and Implementation of Risk-Based Inspection programs by November 15, 2022.
- Must assess the capability of each SSOA's to conduct risk-based inspections compliant with 49 U.S.C.§5329.
- Issued on October 21, 2022.

SSOAs

- Must develop and implement a risk-based inspection program in accordance with 49 U.S.C.§5329 (k) and the Special Directive.
- The risk-based inspection program must be effective not later than October 21, 2024.

RTAs

- Must coordinate with the SSOA on policies and procedures for inspection access and data collection and incorporate the policies into their ASP.
- Must share with SSOAs the data the RTA collects when identifying and evaluating safety risks.



Safety Research

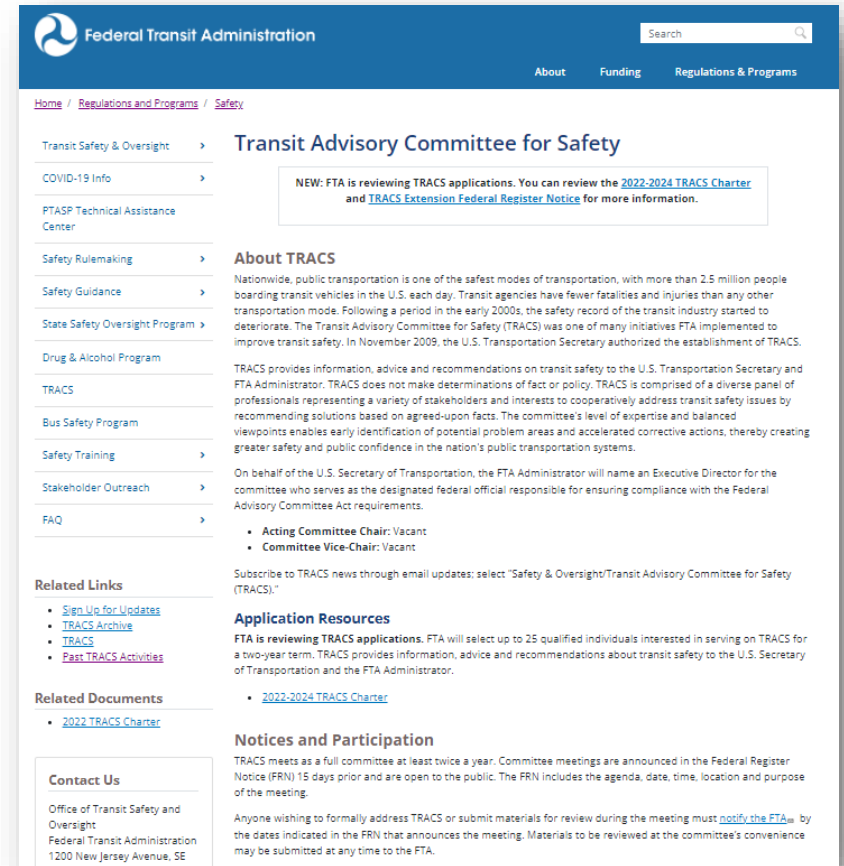
Office of Research and Innovation (TRI)

- Used to prioritize safety research projects. Recent publications include:
 - Specifications and Guidelines for Rail Tunnel Inspection and Maintenance
 - Review of Specifications and Guidelines for Rail Tunnel Repair and Rehabilitation
 - And many more see website <https://www.transit.dot.gov/research-innovation/fta-reports-and-publications> or scan QR link



Transit Advisory Committee for Safety

- U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg announced on December 15 the appointment of members to the 2022-2024 Transit Advisory Committee for Safety.
- TRACS meets as a full committee at least twice a year. Committee meetings are announced in the Federal Register Notice (FRN) 15 days prior and are open to the public.



The screenshot shows the Federal Transit Administration website. The main heading is "Transit Advisory Committee for Safety". A prominent notice states: "NEW: FTA is reviewing TRACS applications. You can review the [2022-2024 TRACS Charter](#) and [TRACS Extension Federal Register Notice](#) for more information." Below this, there is a section titled "About TRACS" which explains the committee's purpose and history. It notes that TRACS provides information, advice, and recommendations to the U.S. Transportation Secretary and FTA Administrator. A "Contact Us" box at the bottom left of the page provides the address: Office of Transit Safety and Oversight, Federal Transit Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590.



Visit FTA's [TRACS webpage](#) for more information or email tracs@dot.gov.

National Roadway Safety Strategy

- USDOT's National Roadway Safety Strategy aims to significantly reduce serious injuries and deaths on our nation's roads and highways.
- Nearly 95% of transportation deaths occur on streets, roads, and highways.
- Call to Action campaign is launching in January 2023—we need your commitment!



Visit the [National Roadway Safety Strategy webpage](#) for more information.



Questions

Joe DeLorenzo

Associate Administrator for Transit Safety and
Oversight & Chief Safety Officer
Federal Transit Administration
joseph.delorenzo@dot.gov



FTA Mission, Vision, Values

MISSION

Improve America's Communities through Public Transportation



VISION

A Better Quality of Life for All Built on Public Transportation Excellence



VALUES



| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| SERVICE | Provide reliable, transparent, responsive, and anticipatory services to meet stakeholder needs |
| INTEGRITY | Commitment to the highest professional and ethical standards |
| INNOVATION | Foster new ideas, concepts, and solutions for improved outcomes |
| SUSTAINABILITY | Optimize decisions, resources, and systems to make long-term positive impacts on the environment, infrastructure, and safety |
| EQUITY | Remove barriers for systemically underserved communities to access all aspects of economic, social, and civic life |