

How FTA is Supporting Transit Agencies in Our Communities

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AP080 Committee on Transit Safety and Security

2024 Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting

1/7/2024



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration


Agenda


1. Transit Safety and Crime Prevention
2. Transit Worker Assault
3. Trespass and Suicide
4. Mental Health and Wellness for Transit Workers





Nationwide Crime Trends, 2021 - 2022


Crime is a national concern that impacts America's transit systems. Public transit agencies should remain mindful of crime in their communities to take appropriate countermeasures. The FBI's most recent Uniform Crime Reporting Program report estimates nationwide from 2021 to 2022:


 Violent crime decreased 1.7 percent.

 Murder and non-negligent manslaughter decreased 6.1 percent.

 Aggravated assault decreased 1.1 percent.

 Robbery increased 1.3 percent.

 Property crime increased 7.1 percent

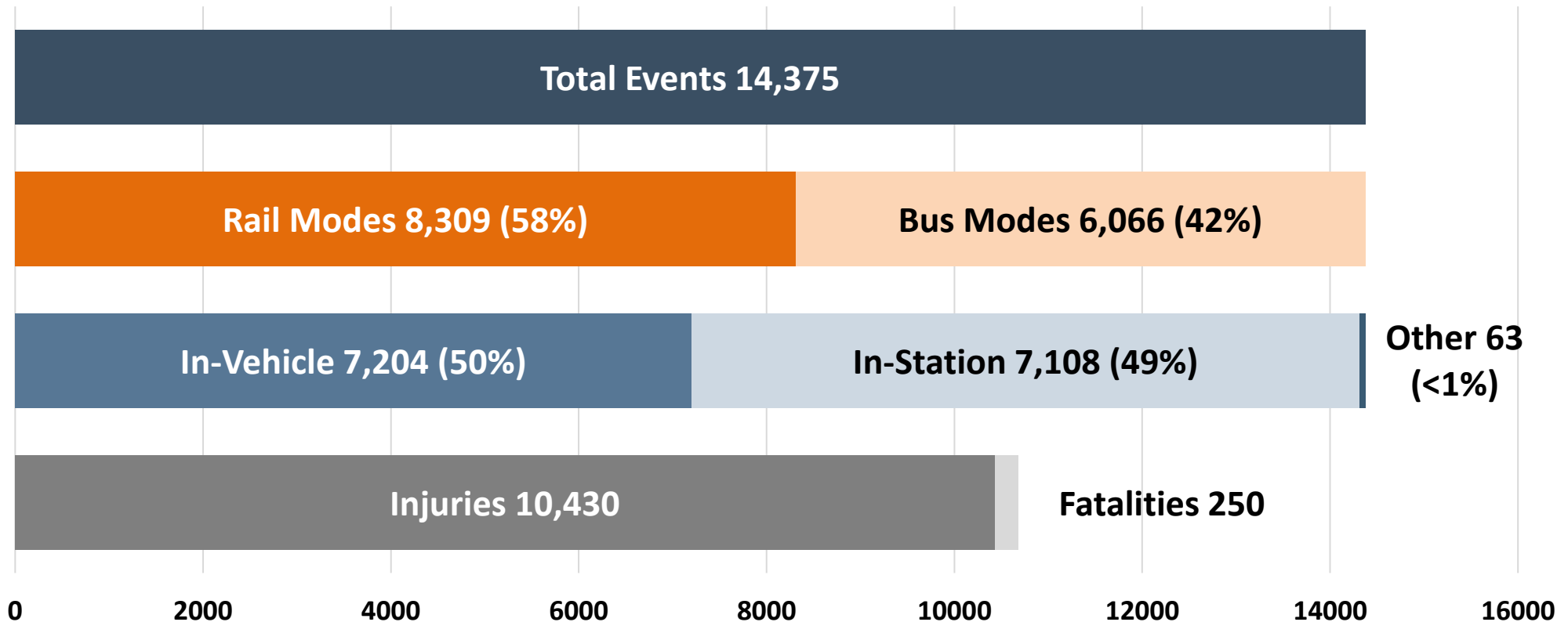
 Larceny-theft offenses increased 7.8 percent.

FBI, Uniform Crime Reporting Summary of Crime in the Nation, 2022 <https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/>

Transit Customer Assaults Summary

Rail mode assaults account for 58% of reportable transit customer assaults

Transit Customer Assault Events, 2008-2022*



Source: National Transit Database (NTD) 2008 -2022 | *2022 data are preliminary

FTA's Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative Funding

Urbanized Area Formula Grants Program (Section 5307)

Capital Projects

- Planning efforts that address rider or employee safety
- Construction/rehabilitation of new/existing facilities to promote increased sightlines

Crime Prevention and Security Projects

- Increased lighting
- Increased camera surveillance

Public Transportation Safety and Security Operating Assistance Projects

- Salaries for personnel involved with security
- Contracts for security services

Formula Grants for Rural Areas Program (Section 5311)

Planning, operating and capital expenses to support prevention of operator assault

State of Good Repair Grants Program (Section 5337)

Capital security projects including security equipment and systems

Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program (Section 5339)

- Rehabilitation
- Construction
- Lease of buses
- Bus facilities

COVID-19 Supplemental Funding

Operating expenses & activities that improve safety or security of the transit system

FTA's Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative



[Information and resources](#) to protect transit workers and riders, including:

- Federal funding eligibilities to improve safety
- National Transit Database (NTD) Safety and Security data
- Trainings including:
 - Courses offered by the National Transit Institute (NTI)
 - FTA Webinars

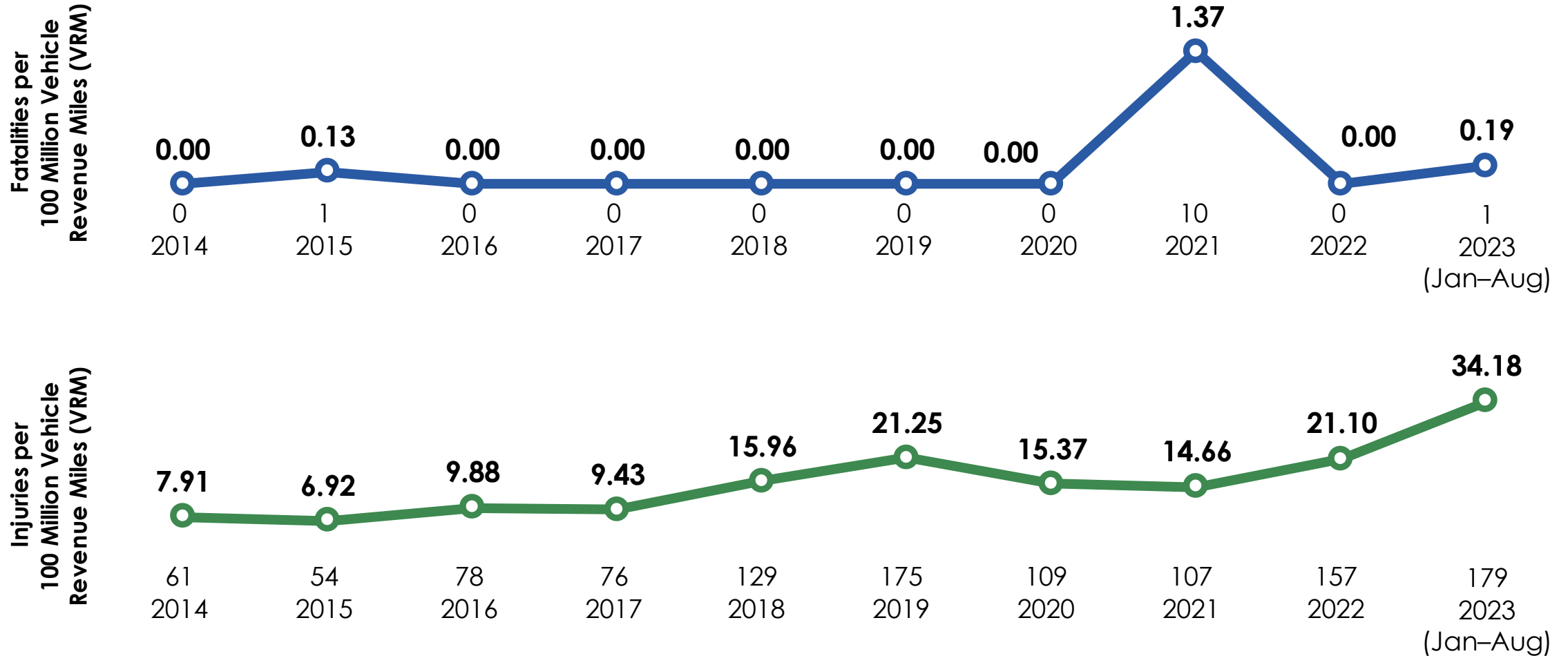
Developing Community-Based Public Safety Programs for Transit Webinar

- View public safety through a human lens
- Leverage and partner with community resources and programs
- Support and complement transit police and law enforcement
- Tailored to consider transit agencies and community resources



View [FTA's Developing Community-Based Public Safety Programs for Transit Webinar](#) for more information.

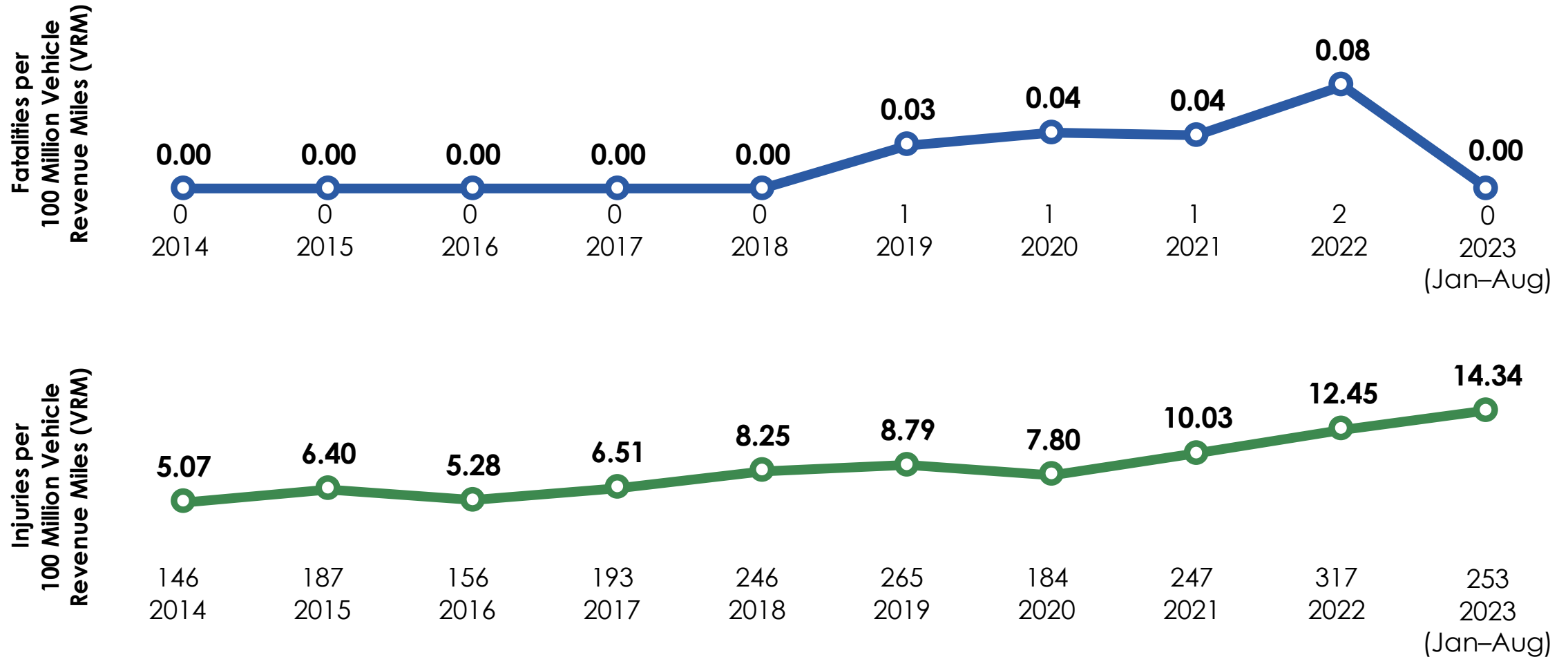
Rail Transit Worker Assault Fatalities and Injuries, Jan 2014–Aug 2023



Source: National Transit Database (NTD). 2022–23 data are preliminary.

Data as of: Dec 1, 2023

Bus Transit Worker Assault Fatalities and Injuries, Jan 2014–Aug 2023



Source: National Transit Database (NTD). 2022–23 data are preliminary.

Data as of: Dec 1, 2023

Transit Worker Safety Actions to Date

FTA publishes [PTASP Regulation and Final Rule](#) Becomes Effective (2018)

FTA launches [Bus Operator Compartment Redesign Program \(2020\)](#) and [Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative](#) (2021)

FTA issues Special Directive: [Required Actions Regarding Transit Worker Assault](#) (2022)

FTA [expands NTD reporting](#) related to assaults on transit workers and fatalities that result from an impact with a bus (2023)

FTA publishes proposed updates to the [National Public Transportation Safety Plan \(NSP\)](#) (2023)

[Protecting Public Transportation Operators From Risk of Assault](#) (2019)

National Transit Institute (NTI) offers [Assault Awareness and Prevention For Transit](#) training course (2021)

FTA launches [Transit Worker and Rider Safety Best Practices Research Project](#) (2022)

FTA publishes proposed new [PTASP](#) requirements for public comment (2023)

Proposed General Directive

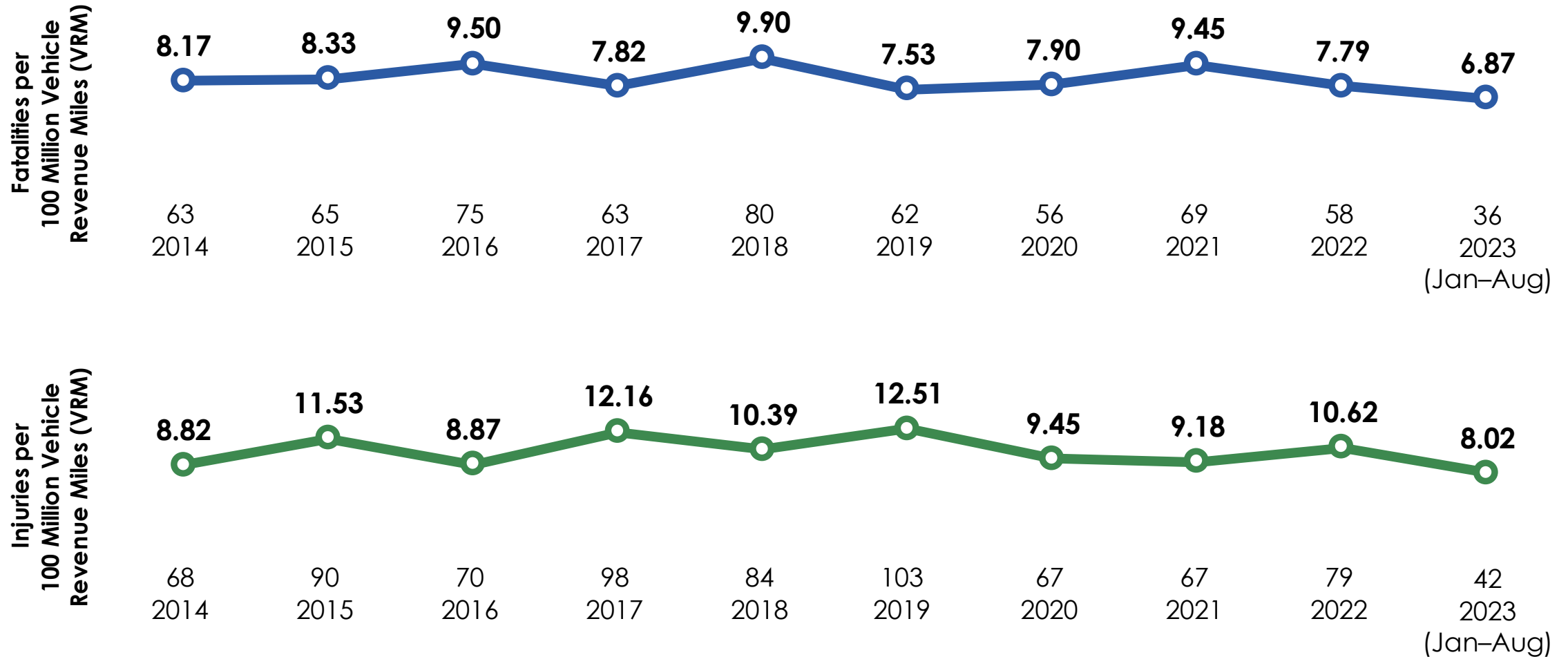
Anticipated Outcomes

- Ensure that agencies are assessing transit worker assaults risk
- Help transit agencies and their joint labor-management Safety Committees identify scalable and effective mitigations across a range of situations to lower the risks of worker assault
- Inform future Federal action to protect transit workers

Share Your Comments



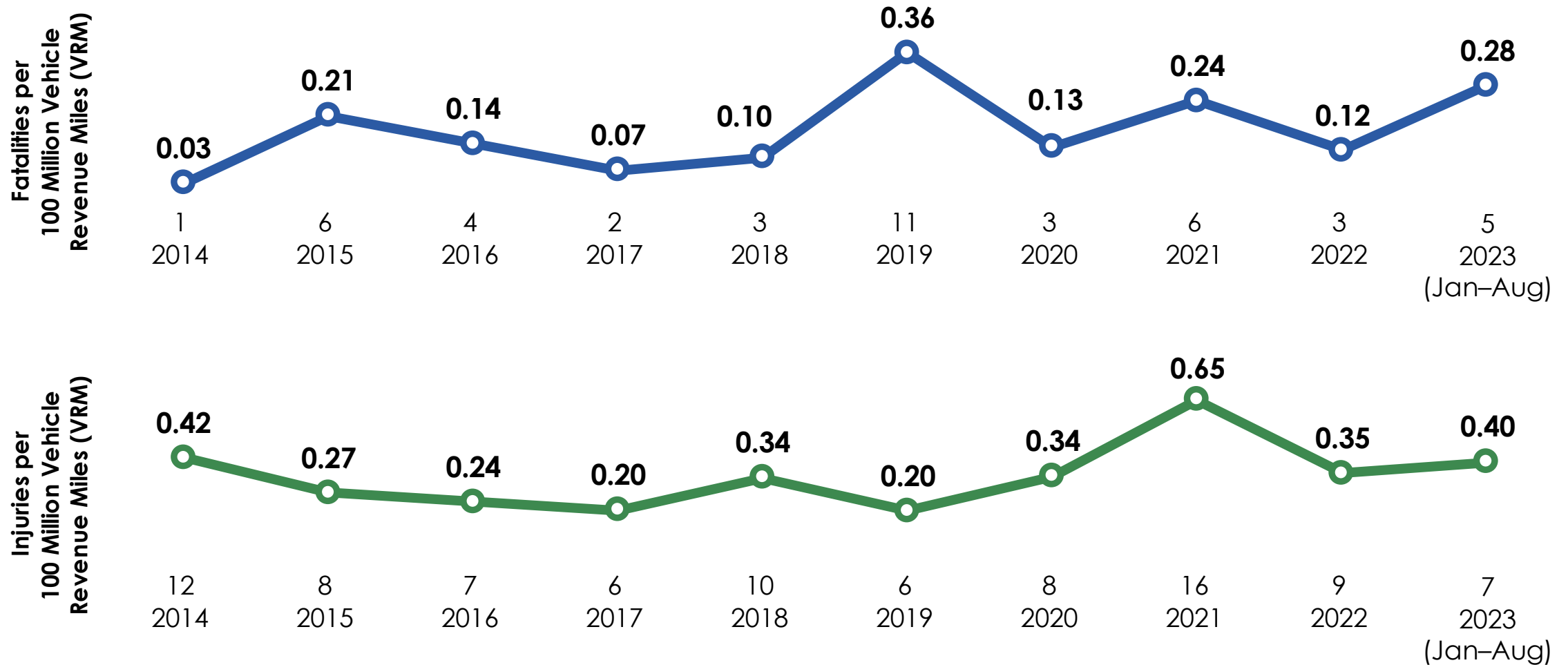
Rail Suicide Event Fatalities and Injuries, Jan 2014–Aug 2023



Source: National Transit Database (NTD). 2022–23 data are preliminary.

Data as of: Dec 1, 2023

Bus Suicide Event Fatalities and Injuries, Jan 2014–Aug 2023



Source: National Transit Database (NTD). 2022–23 data are preliminary.

Data as of: Dec 1, 2023

Safety Advisory 22-4: Suicide Prevention Signage on Public Transit

- Published in the [Federal Register](#) December 7, 2022
- Encourages transit agencies to implement, update, or expand suicide prevention signage and messaging campaigns

Suicide on transit can impact everyone involved, including transit operators, transit leadership and the surrounding community. Research suggests suicide prevention signage is an intervention that can save lives.

An example of San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District's (BART) signage

**If you are
struggling emotionally
or thinking of suicide
call or text
988
Free and confidential.**

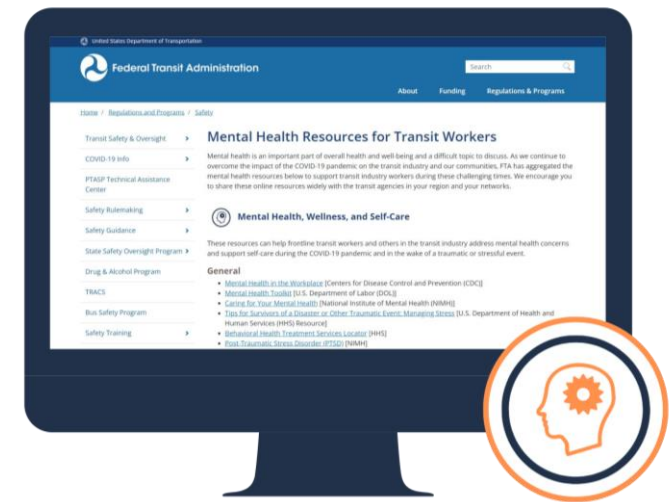


View [FTA's Suicide Prevention Signage on Public Transit Webinar](#) for more information.

Mental Health Resources for the Transit Industry

FTA published [Mental Health Resources](#) to support transit industry workers. We encourage you to share these resources widely with your networks.

- **Mental Health, Wellness and Self-Care:** These resources help transit stakeholders address mental health concerns and support self-care during the COVID-19 pandemic and in the wake of a traumatic or stressful event.
- **Suicide Prevention:** These resources highlight free and confidential support for people in emotional distress and offer potential interventions for organizations.
- **Active Shooter Preparedness:** These resources offer information to help transit stakeholders recognize indicators of potential workplace violence and understand actions to take when confronted by an active shooter.



Resources



TSO Webinars



Conference
Presentations



TSO Spotlight
Newsletter



Thank you!

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