



VISIONZERO

COLUMBUS

DRIVE SAFE. WALK SAFE. BIKE SAFE.

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

www.columbus.gov/visionzero

To our Columbus Community,

The Vision Zero initiative represents a commitment we made together to eliminate all traffic fatalities and serious injuries on our city's streets by 2035. The past year has shown us the necessity of innovation and the power of community to help achieve that result.

While the initiative is led by the Department of Public Service, the work of Vision Zero involves many other city Departments and local, regional and state partners, with support from city leaders and community organizations. A core team at Public Service meets monthly to advance the action items of Vision Zero. Additional coordination meetings are held with the Columbus Division of Police at Public Safety, Division of Power at Columbus Water and Power, and Columbus City Schools. Columbus Public Health hosts monthly Traffic Fatality Review Board meetings on behalf of Safe Communities Franklin County during which engineering, education and enforcement recommendations are made for every fatal crash. We work to incorporate the Safe System Approach into these monthly reviews, to design and manage roadway infrastructure that encourages safe speeds and lowers the risk of serious injuries or fatalities when a human mistake leads to a crash.

Our annual Vision Zero report highlights just some of the transformative work implemented in 2024 to help us achieve our goal of zero traffic fatalities, and to prioritize safety for everyone who travels on Columbus streets, whether walking, biking, rolling, driving or using transit. There is much more to come every year for the next decade and beyond.

If you have not made the personal commitment yet to Vision Zero, please take the pledge and find your lane for advancing this initiative. It will take all of us to end crash deaths.

Until zero deaths,



Katherine Swidarski
Vision Zero Coordinator



Kelly Scocco
Director, Department of Public Service

TRAFFIC CRASH ANALYSIS AND 2024 CRASH DATA

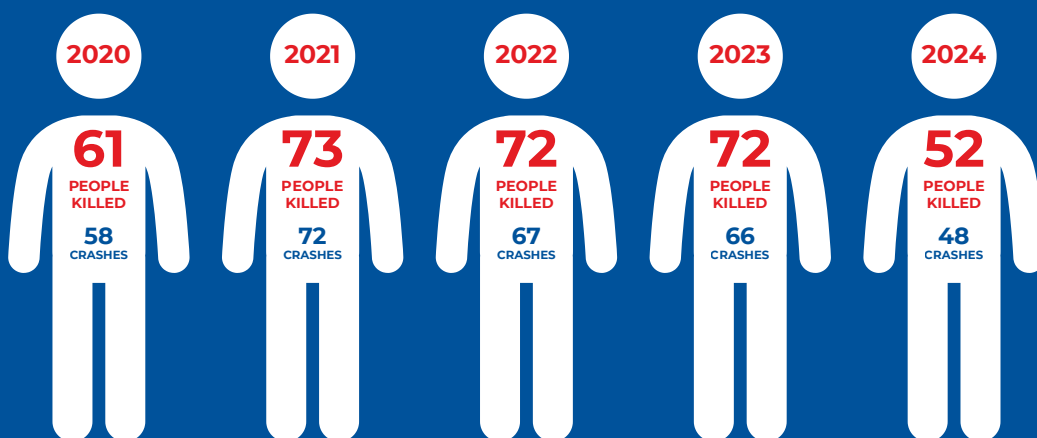
Vision Zero Columbus receives verified crash reports annually from the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Ohio Department of Public Safety. This dataset is received several months after the year ends. For example, 2024 final crash report data was available to local jurisdictions in July 2025.

Additionally, Vision Zero Columbus proactively gathers crash report data whenever a fatal crash happens on Columbus streets and, as a result, monitors preliminary fatal crash statistics. It is important to note the number of crashes is not always equal to the number of fatalities because a crash may result in more than one death.



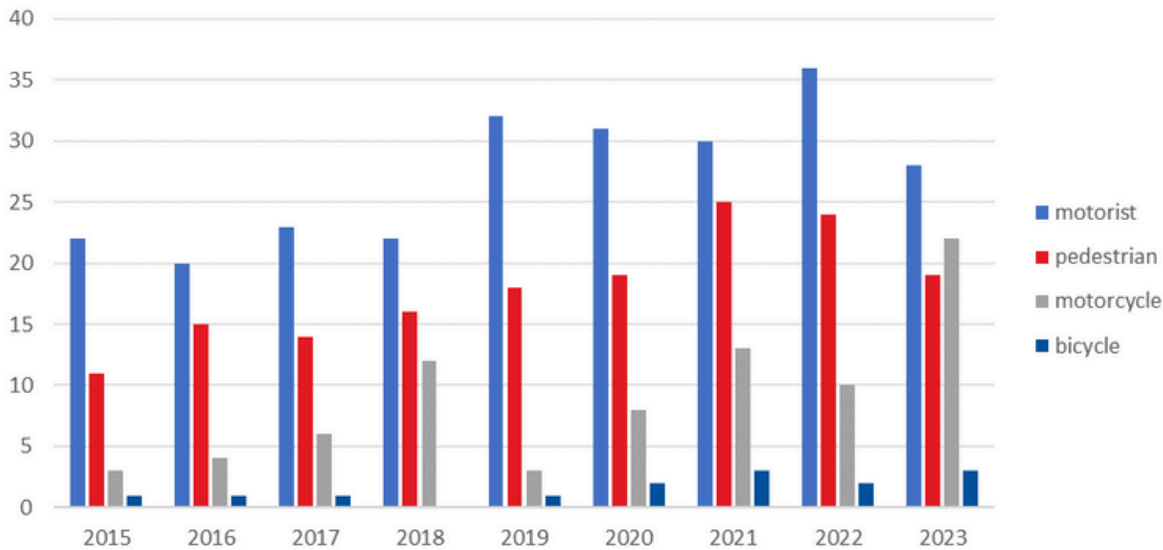
In the five years prior to the adoption of Vision Zero Columbus (2015-2019), an average of 44 traffic fatalities occurred per year.

The coronavirus pandemic changed traffic patterns, and unsafe behaviors and speeds increased with worse crash outcomes occurring.



The 2024 data shows us a marked improvement in fatal crash prevention. **The number of fatal crashes decreased 27%, which saved at least 20 lives in 2024.**

NUMBER OF TRAFFIC DEATHS IN COLUMBUS (2015-2023)



Vision Zero Columbus crash data, including data on the number of crashes by mode, user type and severity, are available on the Vision Zero website at www.columbus.gov/visionzero. The data are used to develop the High Injury Network, which informs the city's investments in transportation safety projects, policies and programs.

CAPITAL FUNDS FOR VISION ZERO

As part of the initial Vision Zero Action Plan (2021-2023), \$5 million of dedicated gas tax and capital funds annually supports Vision Zero strategies to end crash fatalities. **For the fiscal year 2023, Vision Zero funding supported these and other projects:**

Protected Bike Lanes on Hilliard Rome Rd and Roberts Rd	\$646,053
Safety Improvements to Roberts Rd at Frazell Rd Intersection	\$600,000
Pedestrian Flashing Signal and Median Refuge Island on W Mound St	\$300,000
Vision Zero Near East Neighborhoods Slow Zones Pilot	\$62,500
Developing a Multimodal Corridor – Mt. Vernon Ave	\$60,000
Vision Zero E Broad St Demonstration Project	\$636,412
Vision Zero Multilingual Research and Communications	\$591,250

FEDERAL AND STATE GRANT AWARDS

The City of Columbus and other Vision Zero partners continue to collaboratively and aggressively pursue local, state and federal funds for projects that will reduce traffic deaths. **Since the Vision Zero initiative launched in 2020, the Department of Public Service has been awarded more than \$168 million in federal and state grant funding.**

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2024 ACTION PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

- The Department of Public Service in-house team refurbished 11 traffic signals, bringing us almost halfway to our goal of completing 25 in-house signal safety upgrades by June 2028.
- The city worked with the Franklin County Engineer's Office and ODOT to implement speed limit reduction on six local roadways, bringing the total to nine corridors with reduced speed limits since implementation of the Action Plan began in June 2023.
- Traffic Safety Awareness Week at Columbus City Schools expanded participation from six schools in the 2022-2023 school year to 12 schools in 2023-2024. A Vision Zero video was created featuring a message from the district's superintendent, a high school principal and student advocates.
- Three priority intersections — Mt Vernon Ave at Champion Ave, Ohio Ave at Whittier St, and Livingston Ave at S James Rd — have experienced an average 65% decrease in total crashes following installation of safety improvements compared to before installation. The full list of 2023 priority intersections for study can be viewed online.
- Protected bike lanes were installed on Hilliard Rome Rd and on Roberts Rd. On W Mound St, travel lanes were reduced from four to two, and a left turn center lane added, to slow vehicle speeds and increase safety. Marked bike lanes, crosswalks and pedestrian medians were added, and a pedestrian flashing signal at Wheatland Ave will be installed soon.
- Protected bike lanes were installed on E. Broad St from Parsons Ave to Nelson Rd as part of federally funded Safe Streets and Roads for All demonstration project. Two lanes of the wide roadway were converted to a separated bike lane in each direction to test barrier products, help to slow vehicle speeds, and to shorten the pedestrian crossing distance.
- Vision Zero Columbus was recognized by MORPC at the 2024 Safe Streets Central Ohio event with the first-ever Transportation Urban Safety Project award for the city's reduction of the speed limit Downtown to 25 mph.
- Barriers were installed in a pilot project to test materials separating the bike lanes from vehicle traffic on Busch Blvd from SR 161 to Schrock Rd, and on Schrock from Busch to the I-71 overpass.
- Walk Safe on Cleveland Avenue construction was completed in 2024, a Public Service project with ODOT to install pedestrian safety improvements along this High Injury Network corridor. High-visibility crosswalks and push-button flashing pedestrian signals at seven Cleveland Avenue intersections alert drivers to slow down and stop to allow people to cross the street safely.
- The city was awarded \$1.32 million in federal Safe Streets for All grant funding to develop a Comprehensive Vulnerable Road User Plan that includes a new 5-year Safe Routes to School Plan to create youth-friendly neighborhood pedestrian networks and a Lighting Prioritization Plan that equitably prioritizes road.



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