

# Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) Update

## Impaired Driving Emphasis Area Overview

presented to

Florida Impaired Driving  
Coalition (FIDC)

presented by


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**FLORIDA**  
Transportation Plan

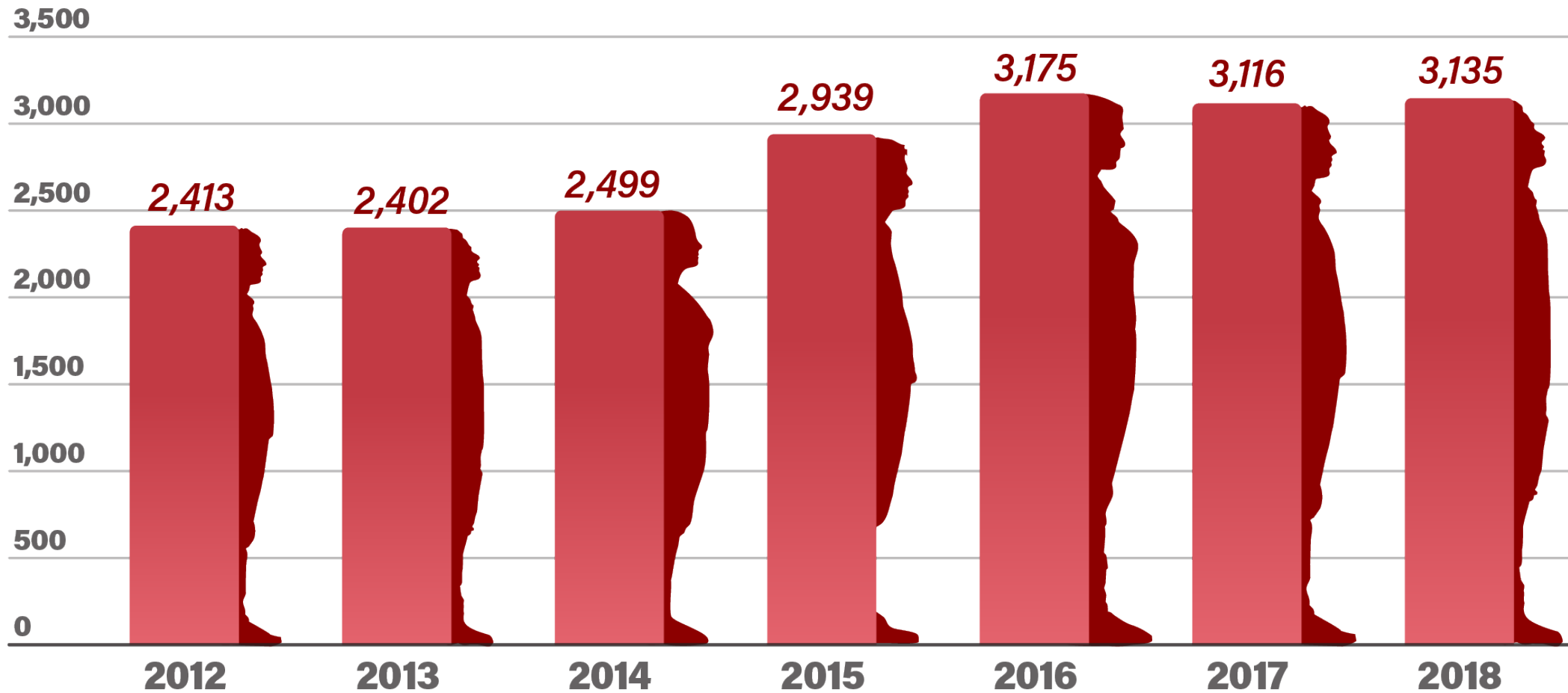
Your Florida. Your vision. Your plan.



# Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) and Vision Zero

# Florida's Roadway Fatalities

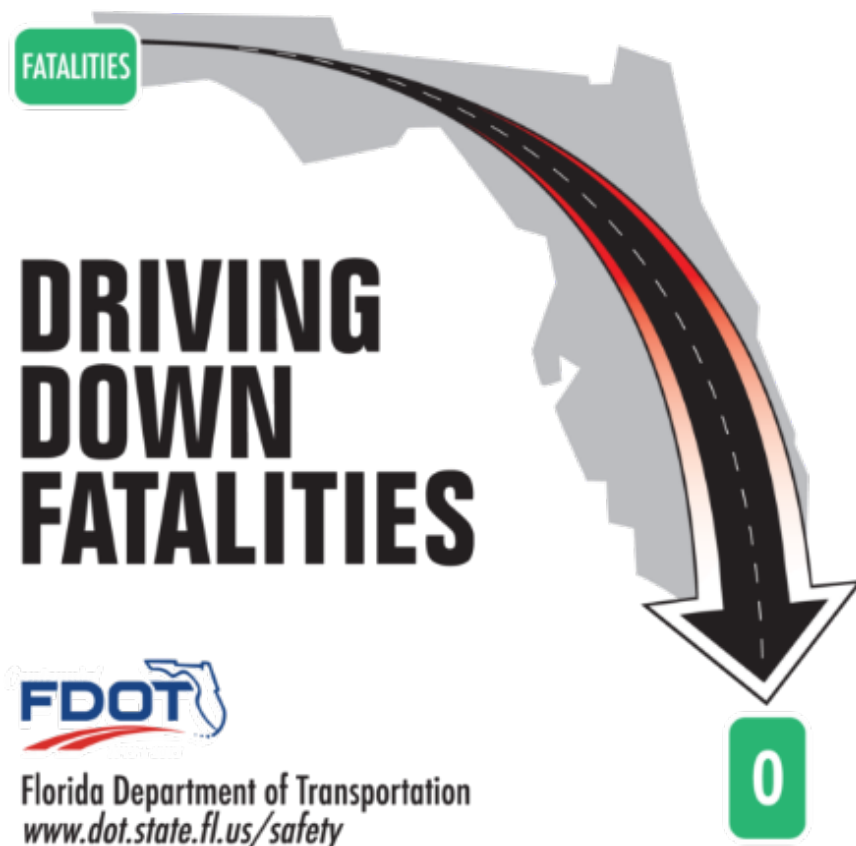
## ROADWAY FATALITIES







# Why Vision Zero?



*Vision:*

**A Fatality-Free  
Roadway System**

# SHSP Update





LANE DEPARTURES



# STRATEGIC HIGHWAY SAFETY PLAN **EMPHASIS AREAS**



INTERSECTIONS



IMPAIRED DRIVING



PEDESTRIANS &  
BICYCLISTS



OCCUPANT  
PROTECTION



COMMERCIAL MOTOR  
VEHICLES



AGING ROAD  
USERS



MOTORCYCLISTS



SPEEDING & AGGRESSIVE  
DRIVING



TEEN DRIVERS



DISTRACTED  
DRIVING



TRAFFIC RECORDS &  
INFORMATION SYSTEMS



# FTP/SHSP Alignment



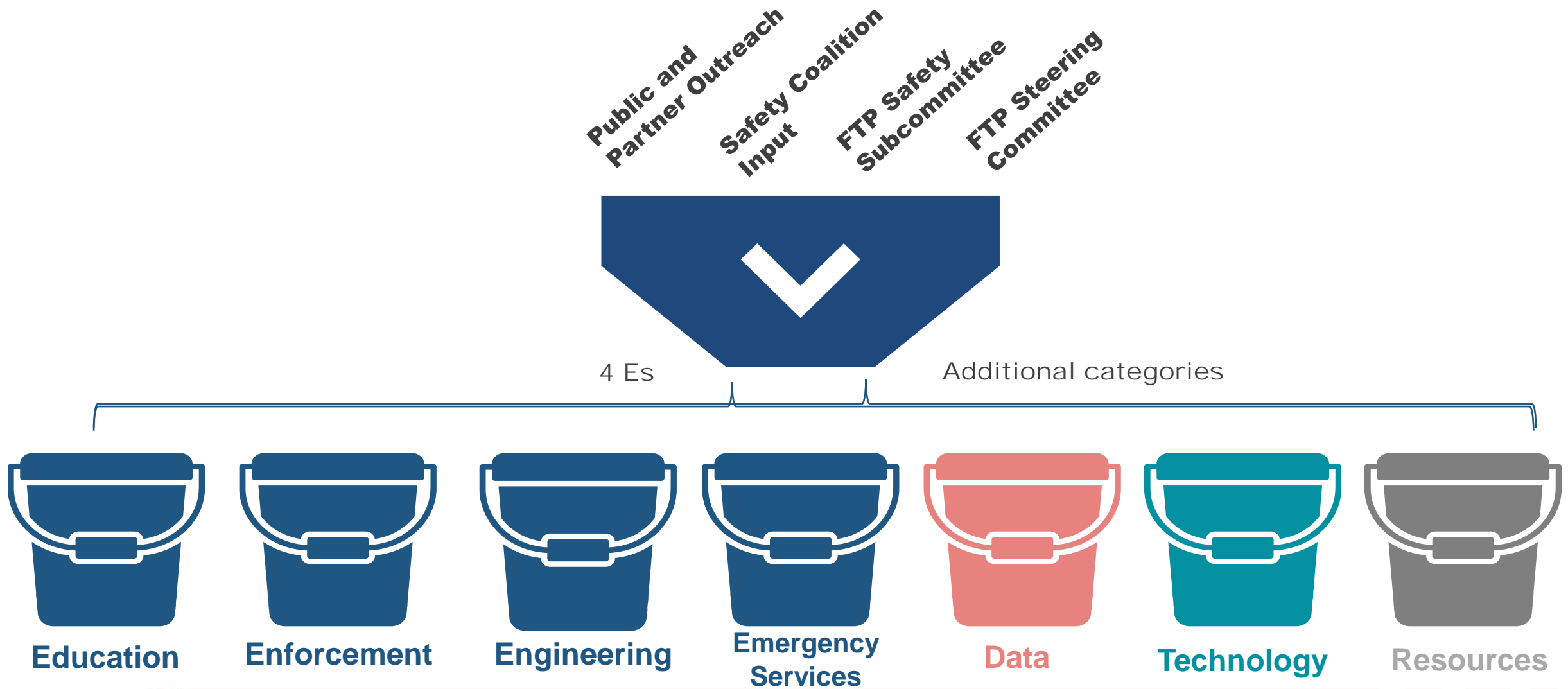
# FTP Safety Subcommittee



FLORIDA SHERIFFS  
ASSOCIATION



# Overarching SHSP Strategies



# 2020 Emphasis Areas

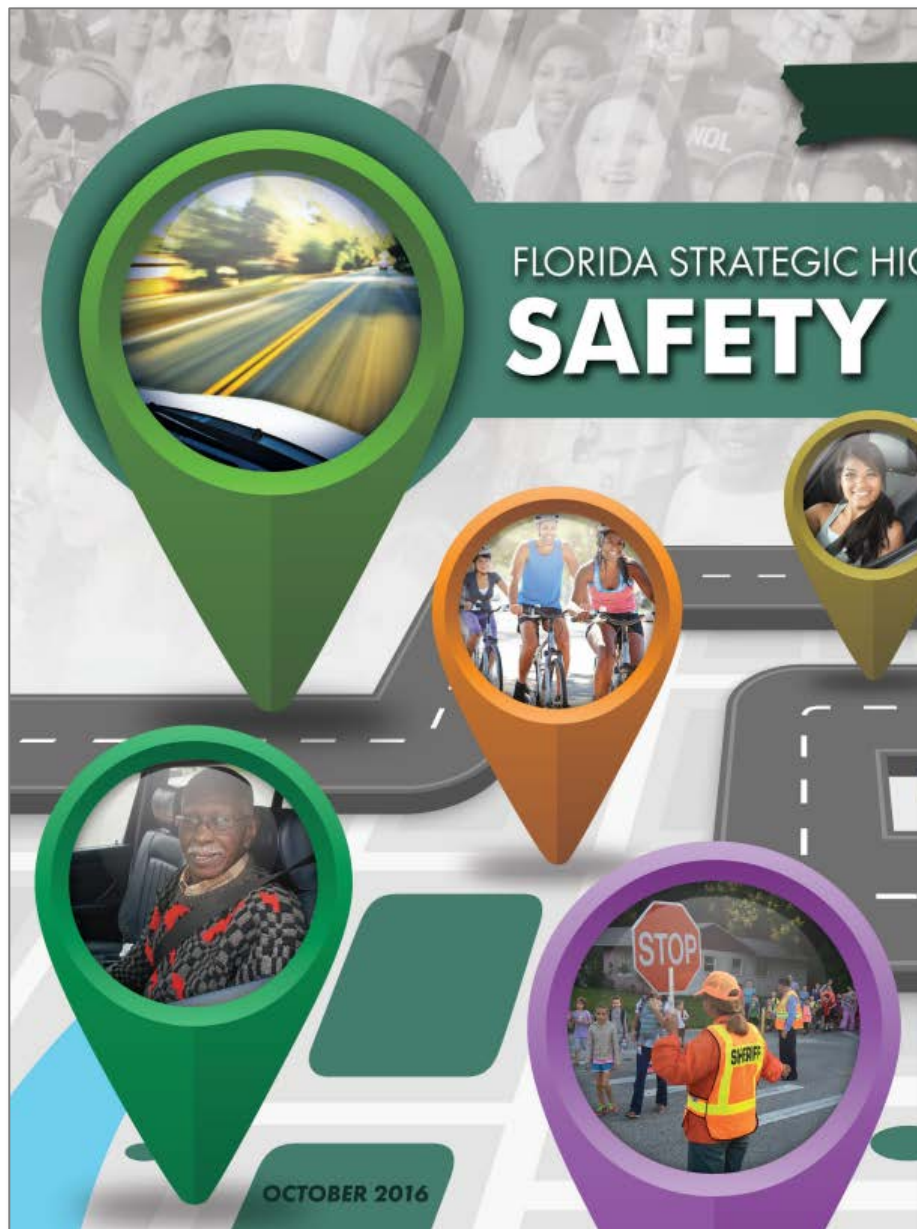
## Foundational

Lane Departures	Motorcyclists
Impaired Driving	Speeding and Aggressive Driving
Pedestrians and Bicyclists	Commercial Motor Vehicles
Intersections	Teen Drivers
Occupant Protection	Distracted Driving
Aging Road Users	Traffic Records and Information Systems

## Emerging

Work Zones	ACES
Rail Grade Crossings	Micro mobility
Drowsy	Transit





## Impaired Driving

Impaired driving is involved in about one quarter of all motor vehicle deaths in Florida. Defined as driving under the influence of alcohol and/or legal (prescription and over-the-counter) and/or illegal drugs, impaired driving is a complex social issue that involves multiple areas of the criminal justice, health care, and education systems.

Alcohol impairment is measured by the amount of alcohol in the blood or blood alcohol concentration (BAC). As the BAC increases, the effects include a decline in visual and multi-tasking functions, reduced concentration, impaired perception, and an inability to respond quickly to emergencies.

The problem is complicated by the growing number of impaired driving incidents that involve legal and illegal drugs, which require a blood or urine test. The frequency of impaired driving crashes is highest between the hours of midnight and 2 a.m., and on weekends. The use of safety belts is also lower among impaired drivers (66 percent of impaired drivers, compared with 89.4 percent for all drivers).

Impaired driving crashes disproportionately lead to fatalities, ranking second in total number of fatalities, behind lane departure crashes. Impaired driving fatalities have increased by one percent and serious injuries have decreased by 24 percent since 2011.

Florida's test refusal rate is approximately 35 percent, meaning one-third of the people stopped for suspected impaired driving are not being tested. This means the state is not capturing the true rate of impairment.

To address the problem of impaired driving, Florida is promoting training for law enforcement officers to help them better detect, investigate, and process impaired drivers along with a push for more officers who are trained in drug recognition.

## DRIVING DOWN FATALITIES

### Fatalities and Serious Injuries

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Serious Injuries	1,670	1,575	1,457	1,282	1,268
Fatalities	838	800	792	749	851
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,508</b>	<b>2,375</b>	<b>2,249</b>	<b>2,031</b>	<b>2,119</b>

Drivers **refused to be tested** for impairment in **35%** of impaired driving crashes resulting in a fatality or serious injury

Source: National Traffic Highway Safety Administration (NHTSA)

### FLORIDA IMPAIRED DRIVING COALITION (FIDC)

The FIDC was formed in 2009 to identify and prioritize the state's most pressing impaired driving issues and develop a plan to maximize the state's ability to reduce impaired driving.

FIDC members include representatives from more than 30 agencies and organizations that work with some part of Florida's impaired driving system.

The Florida Impaired Driving Strategic Plan identifies several key areas where efforts will be focused in the future including prevention; criminal justice system; communication; screening, assessment, treatment and rehabilitation; and program evaluation and data.

## DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER

### Impaired Driving Fatalities

- Positive for Alcohol Only: **50.0%**
- Positive for Drugs Only: **25.1%**
- Positive for Alcohol and Drugs: **24.9%**

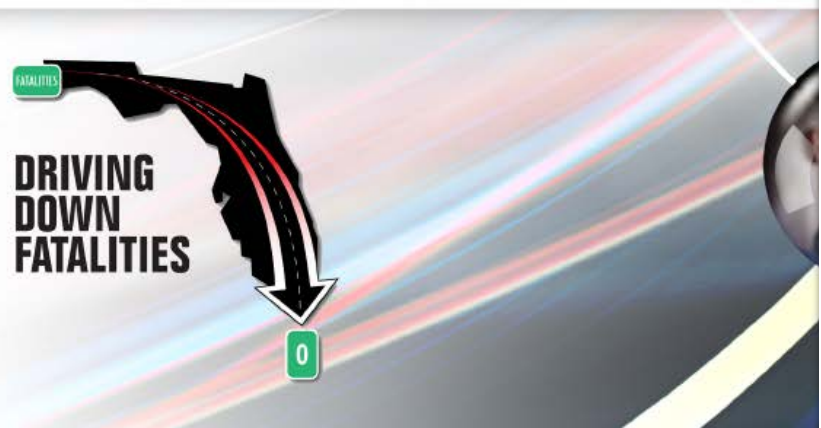
### Strategies

- Combine high-visibility enforcement with increased public awareness of the dangers, costs, and consequences of impaired driving, with emphasis on high-risk populations and locations.
- Reduce repeat impaired driving behavior through targeted enforcement, effective and efficient prosecution, enhanced penalties for subsequent offenses, and improved evaluation, intervention, and treatment of substance abuse.
- Identify opportunities to prevent or counteract impaired driving through training of law enforcement, court, and substance abuse treatment personnel, recognition of emerging trends and new best practices, use of tools such as ignition interlock devices, and revision of laws and rules.



# FLOIDA

## STRATEGIC HIGHWAY SAFETY PLAN



## OUR EMPHASIS AREAS



### KEY STRATEGIES

Combine high visibility enforcement with increased public awareness of the consequences of impaired driving, with emphasis on high volume populations and locations.

Reduce repeat impaired driving behavior through targeted enforcement, effective and efficient prosecution, enhanced penalties for subsequent offenses, and improved screening, assessment, and treatment of substance abuse.

Identify opportunities to prevent impaired driving through law enforcement training, recognition of emerging trends and best practices, use of tools such as ignition interlock devices, and revision of laws and rules.

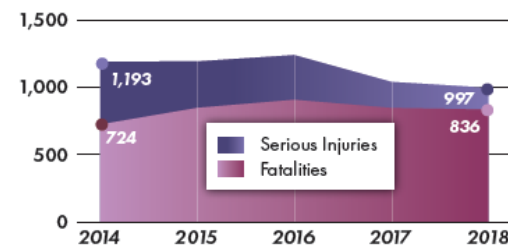
### IMPAIRED DRIVING

In Florida, one in every four traffic fatalities involves an impaired driver. Defined as driving under the influence of alcohol and/or legal (prescription and over-the-counter) and/or illegal drugs, impaired driving is a complex social issue that involves multiple areas of the criminal justice, health care, and education systems.

Not surprisingly, weekend nights between 11:00 p.m. and 3:00 a.m. account for the highest frequency of impaired driving crashes. Men are almost five times more likely than women to be involved in a fatal crash involving impaired driving, with men in their 20s the most likely group to be seriously injured in impaired driving crashes.

In addition, Florida observed an increase in drug-impaired driving serious injuries and fatalities. Testing for drug-impaired driving is more complex than testing for alcohol impairment, usually requiring a blood or urine test and an experienced drug recognition expert (DRE). When a driver tests positive for drug impairment, there are often multiple drugs present, which can compound the effects of impairment. Drug-impaired driving has become a topic of increasing concern across the nation, particularly in states that have legalized medical and/or recreational-use marijuana.

Over one-third of drivers stopped for suspected impaired driving refuse to consent to a breath or blood test and one-fourth of drivers involved in any crash leave the scene. This creates challenges for enforcement and prosecution and affects our ability to fully understand the extent of the impaired driving problem. In addition to targeted education and enforcement, countermeasures include mitigating the consequences of impairment, such as installing wrong way driving alert systems on Interstate entrance or exit ramps.



Each day more than **2 PEOPLE DIE** in Florida due to **DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE** of alcohol.

**BREATH TEST REFUSAL RATE** is **35%** in Florida.

In Florida, **26%** of **ALCOHOL-IMPAIRED FATALITIES** involved a driver with a **BAC of 0.15**.

**The Florida Impaired Driving Coalition (FIDC)** is comprised of a diverse group of members from over 30 organizations, who have working knowledge and understanding on Florida-specific impaired driving programs, infrastructure, and needs. The FIDC reviews state and national trends in impaired driving to identify best practices to reduce impaired driving in Florida.

# Impaired Driving Emphasis Area

- Data

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Fatalities	724	849	909	848	836
Serious Injuries	1,193	1,194	1,241	1,042	997
Total	1,917	2,043	2,150	1,890	1,833

- Call Out Box

- Each day two people die in Florida due to driving under the influence of alcohol.
- In Florida, 26% of alcohol-impaired fatalities involved a driver with BAC of 0.15 or higher.
- Breath test refusal rate is 35% in Florida.

# Impaired Driving Emphasis Area

- Key Strategies

- Combine high visibility enforcement with increased public awareness of the consequences of impaired driving, with emphasis on high volume populations and locations.
- Reduce repeat impaired driving behavior through targeted enforcement, effective and efficient prosecution, enhanced penalties for subsequent offenses, and improved screening, assessment, and treatment of substance abuse.
- Identify opportunities to prevent impaired driving through law enforcement training, recognition of emerging trends and best practices, use of tools such as ignition interlock devices, and revision of laws and rules.

# Comments Received

- DRE definition
  - “A DRE is a sworn law enforcement officer who has received specialized training and has been certified by the International Association of Chiefs of Police to evaluate if a person suspected of impaired driving is exhibiting the appearance, behavior, vital signs, and performance on psychophysical and physiological evaluations used to determine whether and what type of drug or drug category may have been used”
- Additional Key Strategy:
  - Establish a more robust data definition and reporting system related to impaired driving crashes.

# Next Steps

- November 4 – FTP Safety Subcommittee meeting
  - Review draft SHSP
- November 13 – Kickoff Webinar for Public Comment Period
  - Public comment open for 30 days for both the FTP and SHSP
  - Comments accepted through December 13
- December 31 – Final SHSP
  - Plan will be final for posting on or before December 31
  - Print copies will be available after January 1

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# Thank You

**Lora Hollingsworth  
FDOT State Safety Office**

**Share your thoughts at:**

**<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SHSPSurvey>**