

6C. FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION (FHWA) PERFORMANCE MEASURES

**BACKGROUND**

The Federal Highway Administration requires an annual submission of safety performance measures by the state department of transportation and metropolitan planning organizations. The five federal safety performance measures are listed below.

1. Number of fatalities
2. Rate of fatalities (per 100 million vehicle miles traveled (VMT))
3. Number of serious injuries
4. Rate of serious injuries (per 100 million VMT)
5. Number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries (pedestrians and bicyclists).

The Houston-Galveston Area Council uses a methodology of a five-year rolling average to determine safety performance measures. The data used to determine the measurements are derived from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Crash Record Information System (CRIS) data.

**CURRENT SITUATION**

The table below shows the H-GAC safety performance measures:

*Table 6C-1. Overview of FHWA Safety Performance Measures.*

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Five Year Average
Number of Fatalities	838	824	796	767	810	807
VMT (100 million miles)	586.2	612.31	641.50	648.86	676.51	
Rate of Fatalities	1.43	1.35	1.24	1.15	1.20	1.30
Number of Serious Injuries	4377	4281	4274	4099	4213	4249
Rate of Serious Injuries	7.47	6.99	6.66	6.15	6.23	6.73
Number of Non-motorized Fatalities and Non-motorized Serious Injuries	786	804	893	821	869	835

Data pulled on 01/08/2026 from CRIS.

Details regarding each of the performance measures are located on the next three pages.

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Transportation Policy Council (TPC) approval of the FHWA Safety Performance Measures.

**Performance Measures and Targets**

**Target: Total number of traffic fatalities**

2026 Target: Decrease the expected rise of fatalities to no more than a five-year rolling average of 807 fatalities in 2026. The 5-year average is as follows:

*Table 6C-2. Overview of FHWA Safety Performance Measures: Total number of traffic fatalities.*

Year	Actual Data	Source
2021	838	CRIS
2022	824	CRIS
2023	796	CRIS
2024	767	CRIS
2025	810	CRIS
5-year average		807

**Target: Total number of serious injuries**

2026 Target: Decrease the expected rise of serious injuries to no more than a five-year rolling average of 4,249 serious injuries in 2026. The 5-year average is as follows:

*Table 6C-3. Overview of FHWA Safety Performance Measures: Total number of serious injuries*

Year	Target or Actual Data	Source
2021	4,377	CRIS
2022	4,281	CRIS
2023	4,274	CRIS
2024	4,099	CRIS
2025	4,213	CRIS
5-year average		4,249

**Target: Fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled**

2026 Target: Decrease the expected rise of fatalities per 100 million VMT to no more than a five-year rolling average of 1.30 fatalities per 100 million VMT in 2026. The 5-year average is as follows:

*Table 6C-4. Overview of FHWA Safety Performance Measures: Fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled.*

Year	Target or Actual Data	Source
2021	1.43	CRIS
2022	1.35	CRIS
2023	1.24	CRIS
2024	1.15	CRIS
2025	1.20	CRIS
5-year average		1.30

**Target: Serious Injuries per 100 million vehicle miles traveled**

2026 Target: Decrease the serious injuries per 100 million VMT to no more than a five-year rolling average of 6.73 serious injuries per 100 million VMT in 2026. The 2026 Target expressed as a 5-year average is as follows:

*Table 6C-5. Overview of FHWA Safety Performance Measures: Serious injuries per 100 million vehicle miles traveled.*

Year	Target or Actual Data	Source
2021	7.47	CRIS
2022	6.99	CRIS
2023	6.66	CRIS
2024	6.15	CRIS
2025	6.23	CRIS
5-year average		6.73

**Target: Total number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries**

2026 Target: Decrease the expected rise of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries to not more than a five year rolling average of 835 non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries in 2026. The 2026 Target expressed as a 5-year average is as follows:

*Table 6C-6. Overview of FHWA Safety Performance Measures: Total number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries.*

Year	Target or Actual Data	Source
2021	786	CRIS
2022	804	CRIS
2023	893	CRIS
2024	821	CRIS
2025	869	CRIS
5-year average		835

As noted in the table above, the calendar year target for 2026 would be 835 non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries.