



NORTH CAROLINA
Department of Transportation

North Carolina SHSP 2024 Update Implementation and Monitoring

May 23, 2025

Connecting people, products and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina

Objective

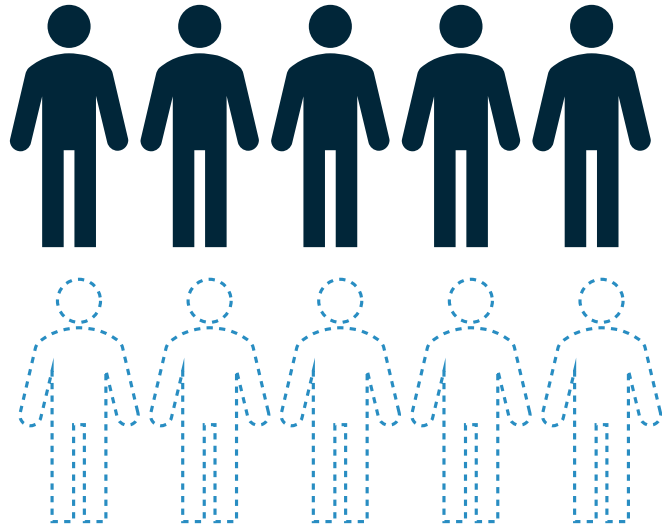
Update on 2024 Strategic
Highway Safety Plan
implementation

Seek input and partnership on
implementation

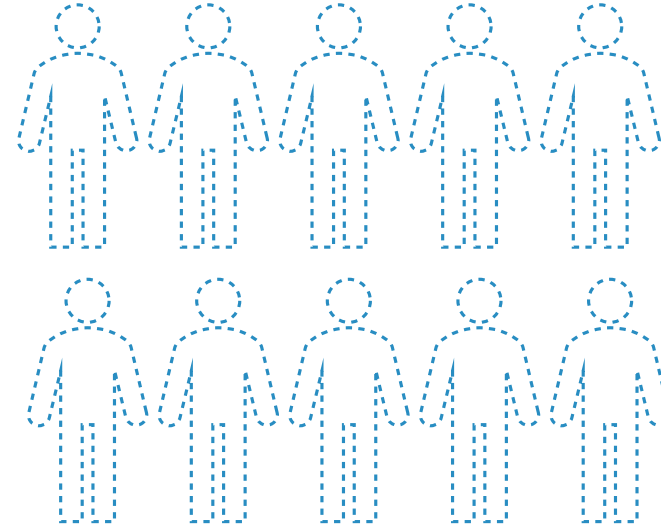
SHSP Overview

2024 Goal

Reduce fatalities and serious injuries by half by 2035, moving towards zero by 2050.



Year 2035



Year 2050

2024 Emphasis Areas



LANE
DEPARTURE



INTERSECTIONS



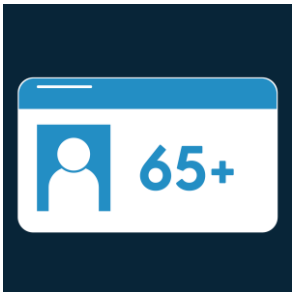
PEDESTRIANS,
BICYCLISTS, AND
PERSONAL
MOBILITY



SEAT BELTS AND
CAR SEATS



SUBSTANCE
IMPAIRED
DRIVING



OLDER DRIVERS



SAFER SPEEDS



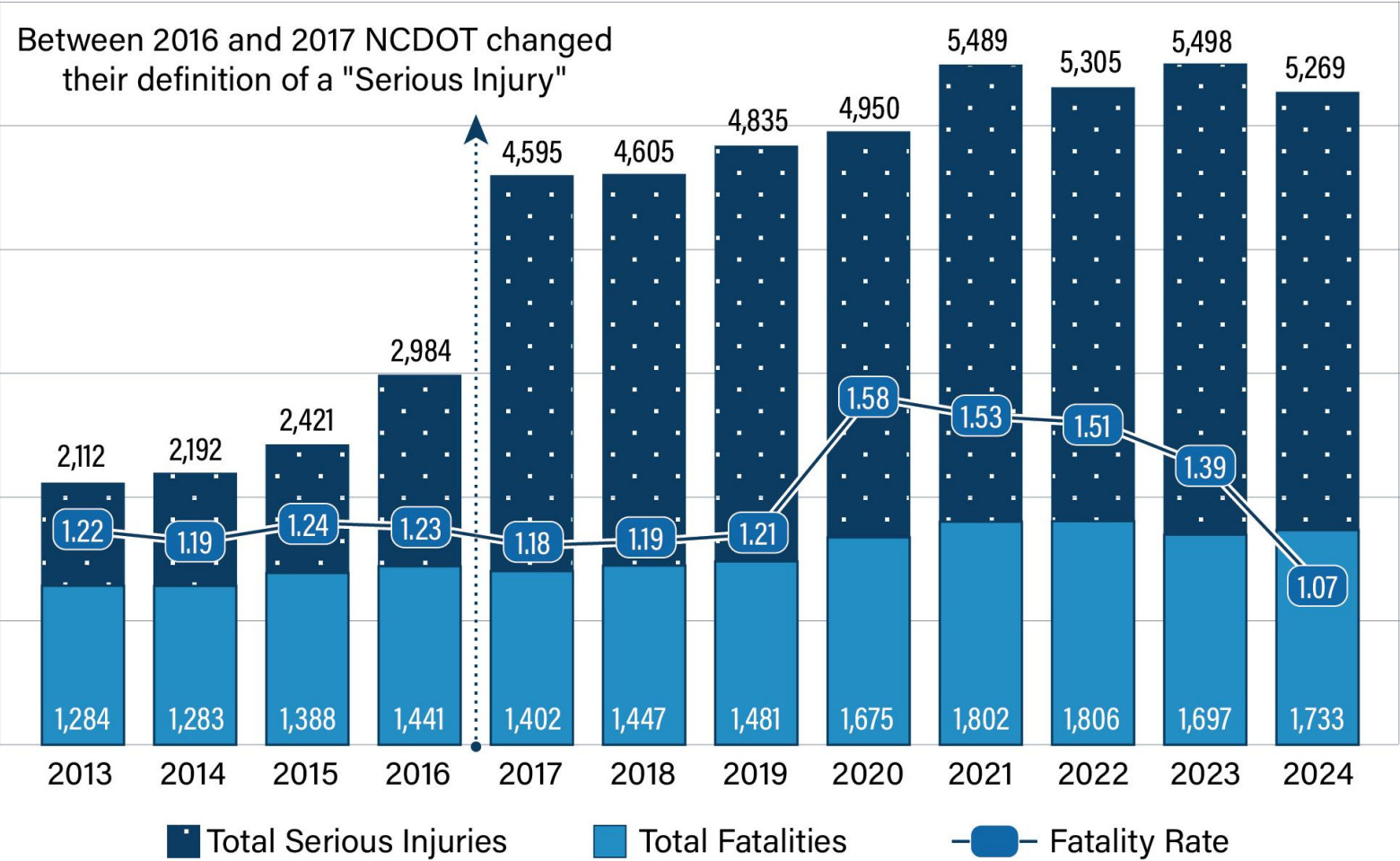
MOTORCYCLISTS



YOUNGER
DRIVERS

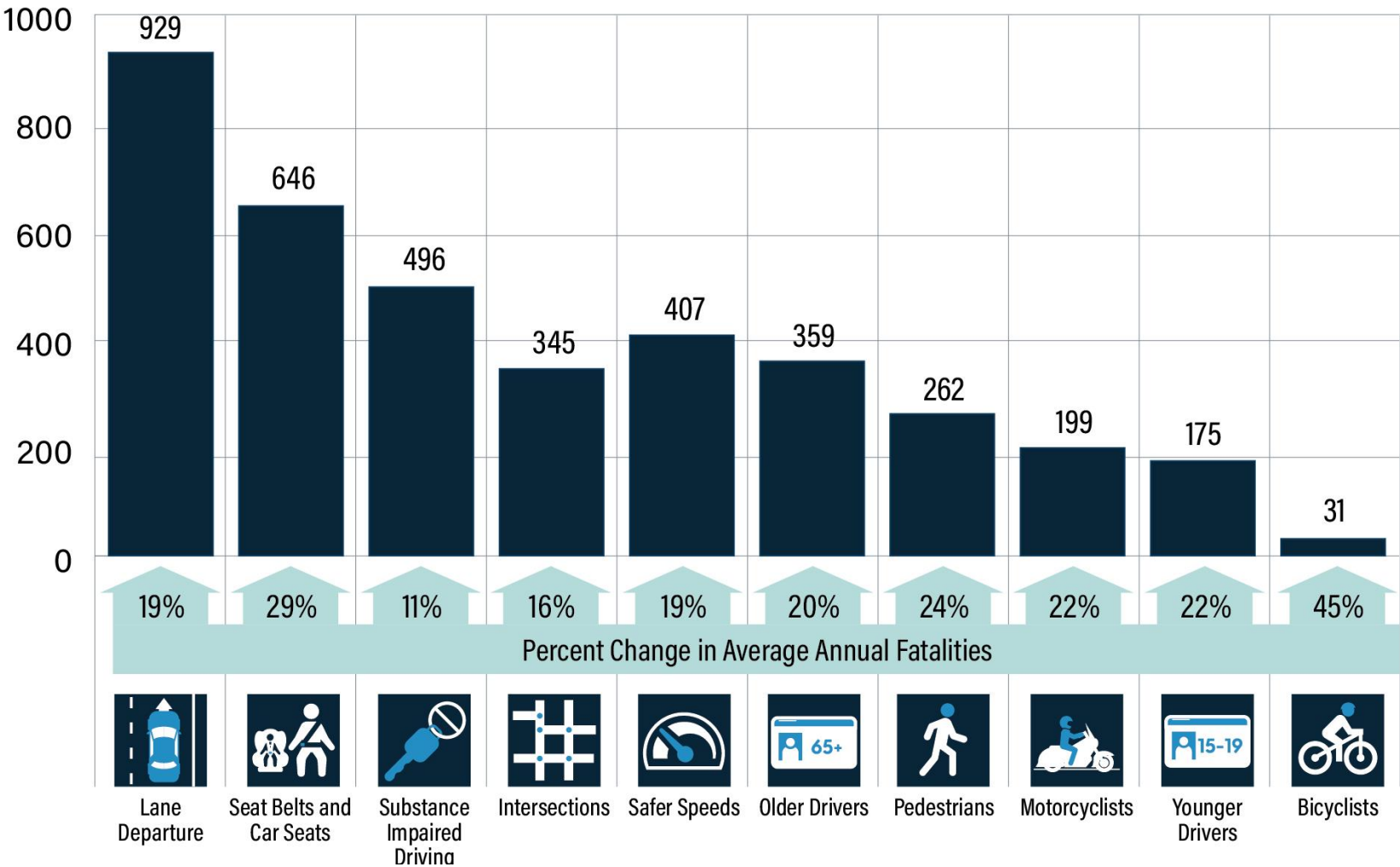
Total Fatalities, Serious Injuries, and Fatality Rate

2013-2024



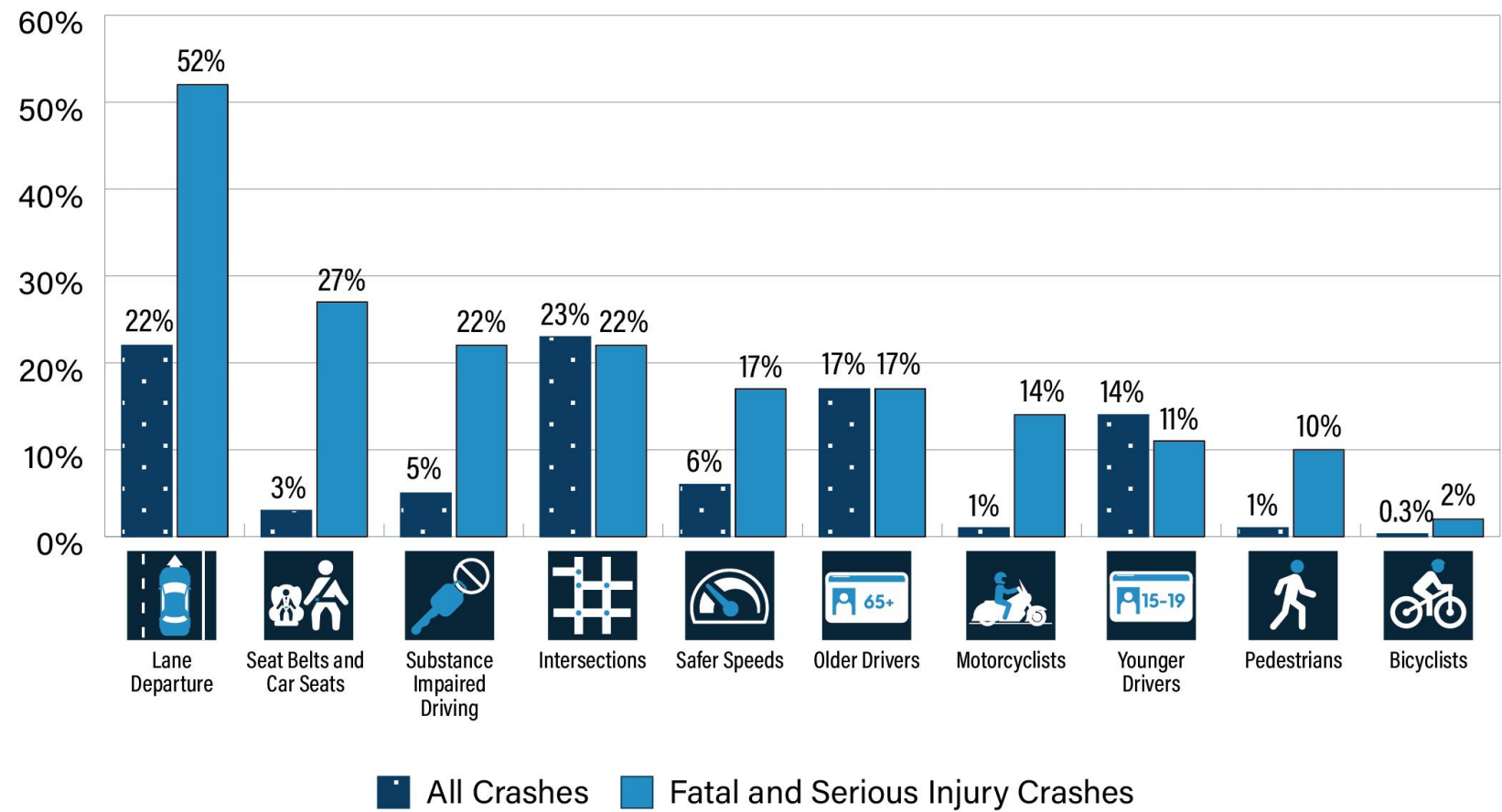
Average Annual Fatalities by Emphasis Area and Percent Change in the Average Annual Fatalities

2020-2024

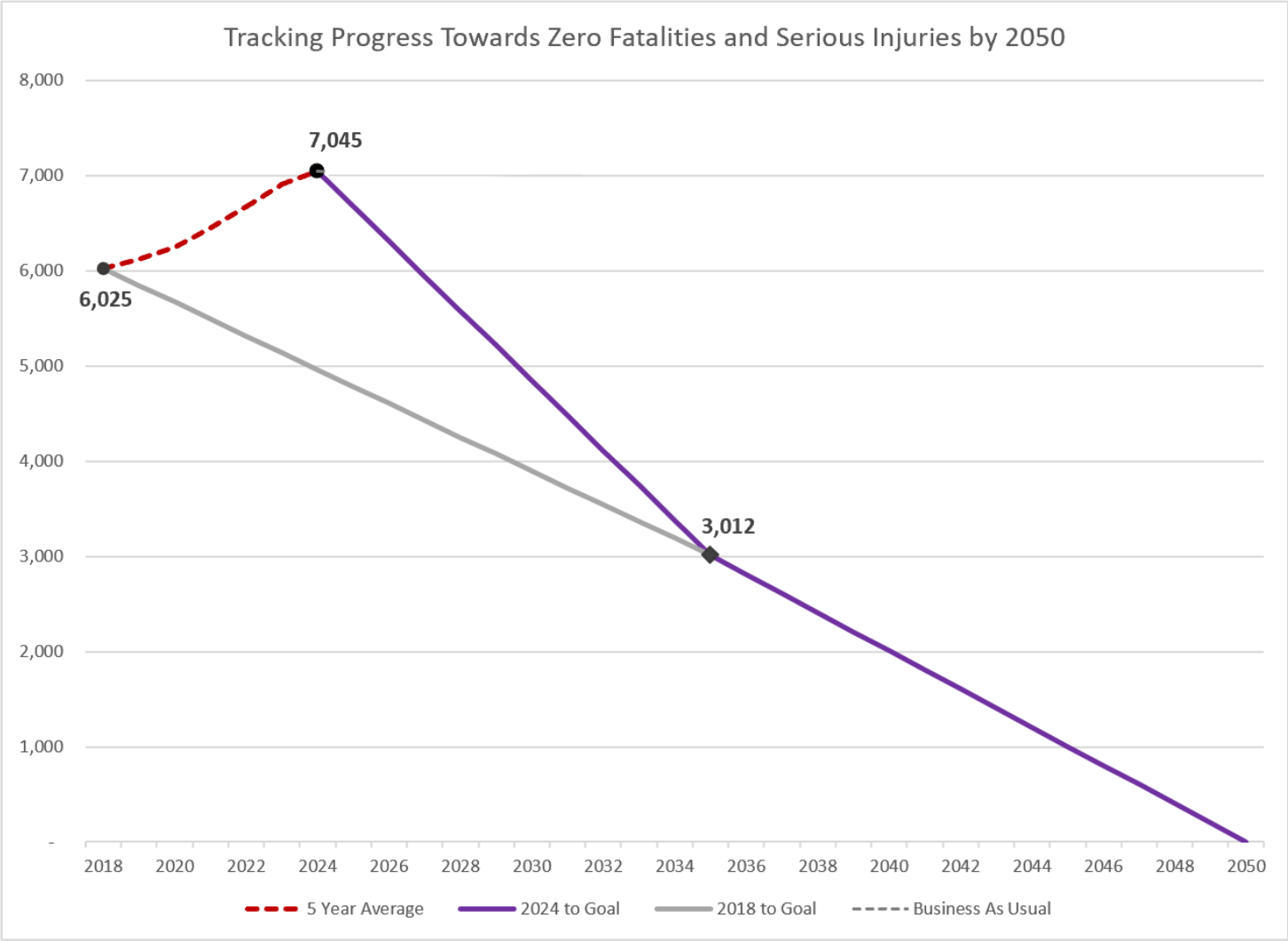


Proportion of Crashes by Emphasis Area

2018-2024

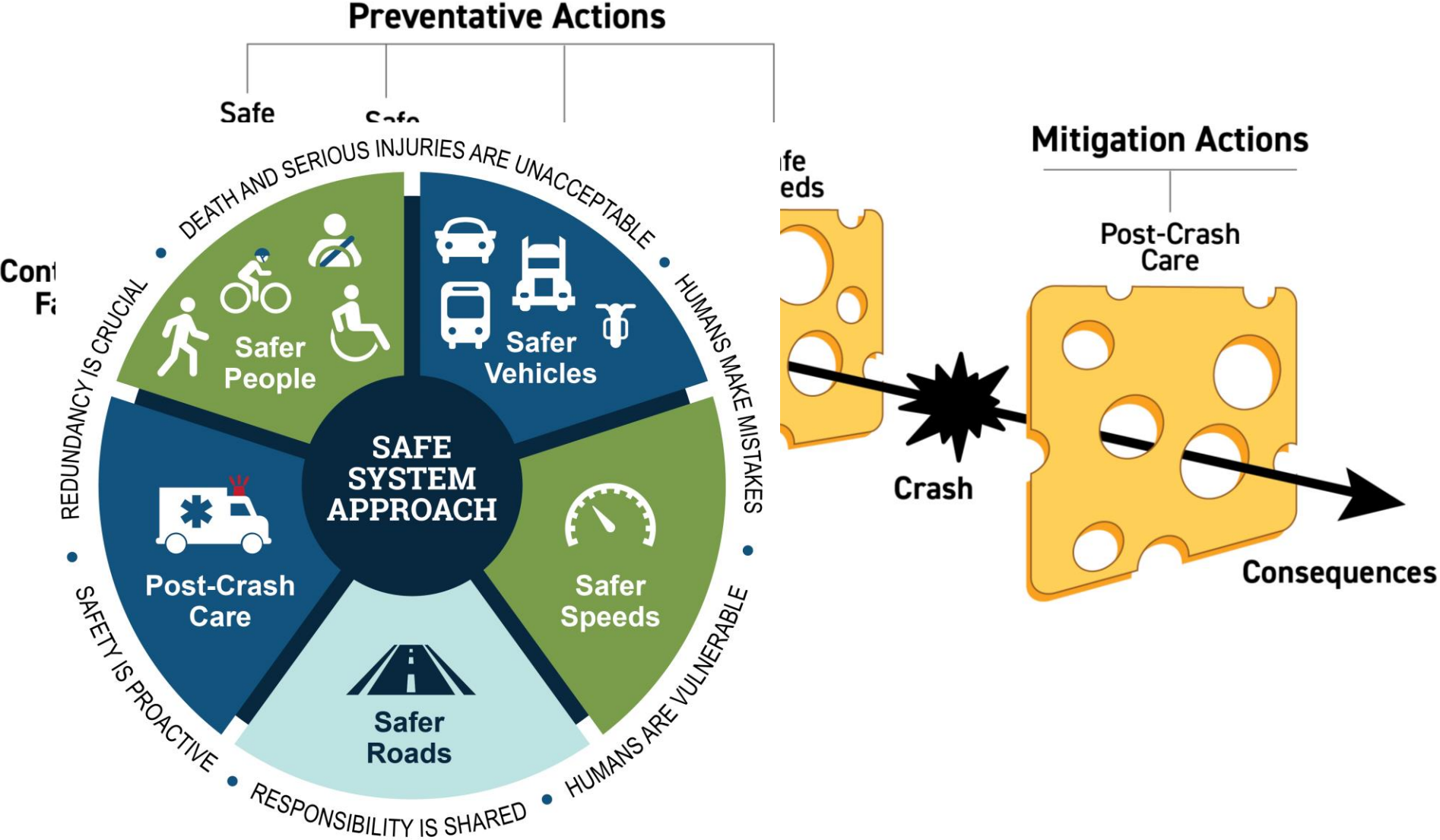


The ratio of the fatalities and serious injuries to total crashes, representing the severity of crashes by emphasis area. Source: NC Crash Database as of April 2024 (2017 to 2023).



The estimated number of lives saved every year to achieve the goal of reducing the fatalities and serious injuries by half by 2035 and moving towards zero by 2050. The graph illustrates the discrepancy between the goal based on the 2019 Update and the 2024 Update.
Source: NC Crash Database as of April 2025

Safe System Approach



SHSP Implementation and Monitoring

Purpose and Overview

Conduct an initial assessment of progress to-date on SHSP strategies and supporting actions

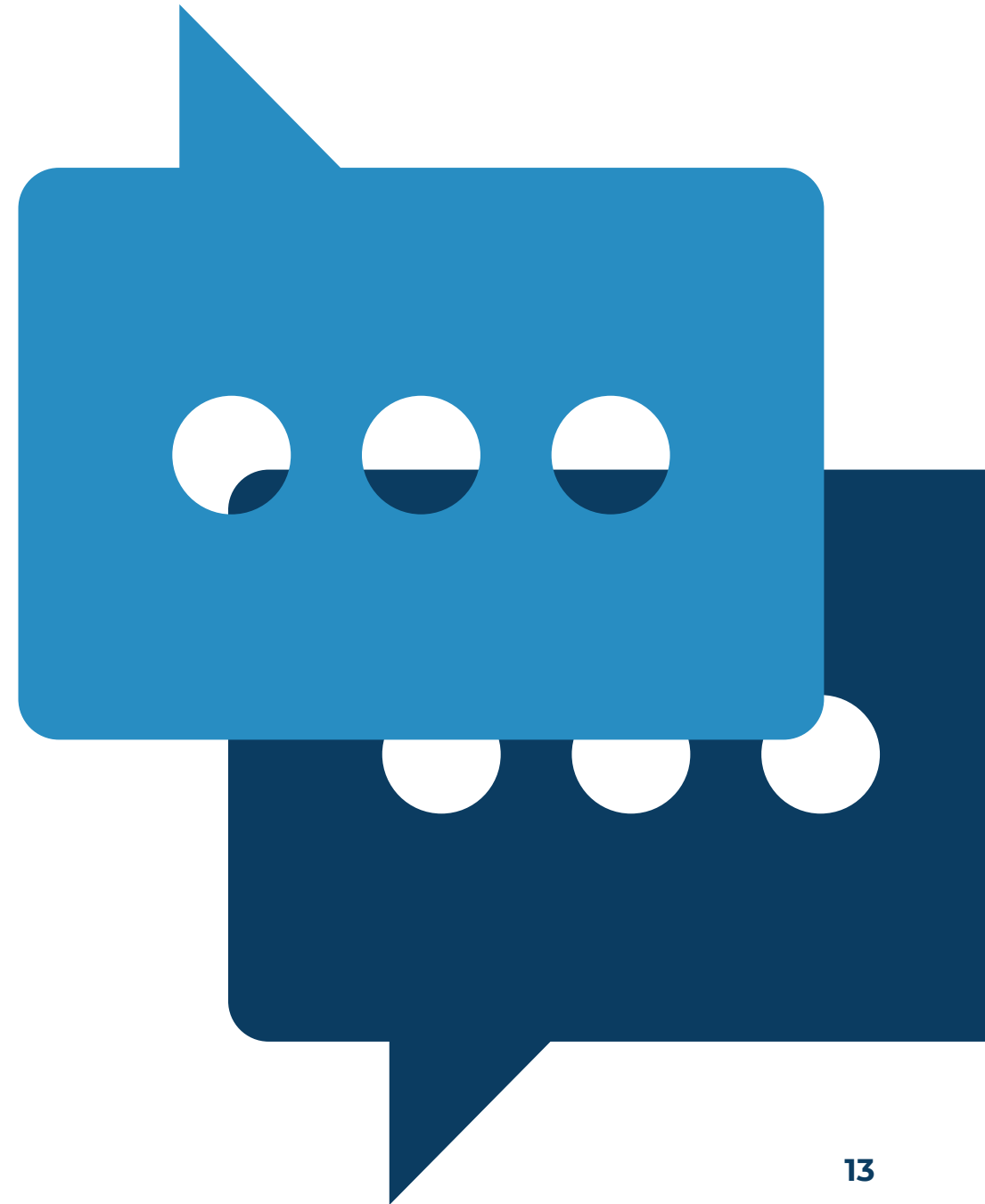
Establish a recurring tracking mechanism

Meet with safety stakeholder leaders to broaden awareness of strategies and supporting actions

Engage with safety stakeholders to advance strategies and supporting actions

Interviews

- AARP
- Atrium Health
- Department of Transportation
- Division of Public Health
- Governor's Highway Safety Program
- NCSU Institute for Transportation Research and Education
- Traffic Records Coordinating Committee
- UNC Highway Safety Research Center
- Vision Zero



Process



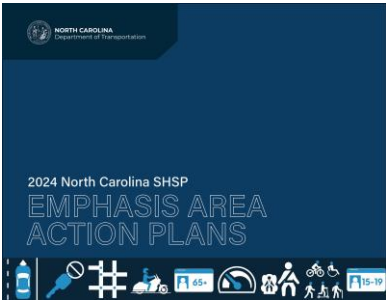
Lead or Support



Point of Contact



Status



2024 NCDOT SHSP &
Action Plan Launch



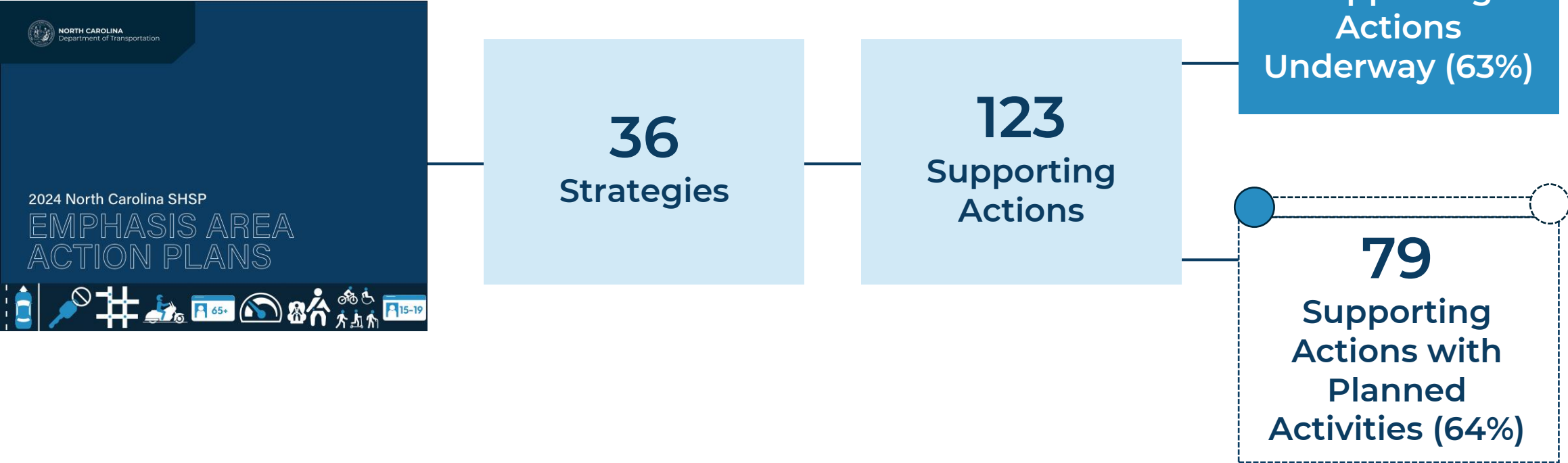
Planned
Activities



Emphasis Area: Substance Impaired Driving

STRATEGY	ACTIONS	REPORTED PROGRESS TO DATE	PLANNED PROGRESS
Work with the North Carolina GHSP to Educate the Public on the Risks of Impaired Driving	1.1 Partner with military bases in North Carolina and provide educational materials on the risks of impaired driving.	✓	
	1.2 Partner with cities/towns within North Carolina who have a Sip and Stroll community (i.e., allow pedestrians to walk with alcohol within a boundary) and distribute educational material on impairment and planning for safe transportation.		✓
	1.3 Collaborate with NHTSA and disseminate materials they have available on the effects of “buzzed” driving.	✓	✓
	1.4 Partner with cities/towns within North Carolina with a Sip and Stroll or Main Street community and encourage a proactive review of the environment, using methods such as a road safety audit, to identify potential safety concerns or opportunities to improve safety before the concept is implemented.		✓
Increase Training for Prosecutors and Law Enforcement Officers on the Medical Effects of Substance Use Disorder and Alcohol Use Disorder	2.1 Provide education to prosecutors and law enforcement officers on the medical effects of substance use disorder and alcohol use disorder.	✓	
	2.2 Continue programs that provide law enforcement training on impairment.	✓	✓
	2.3 Train local hospital staff and primary doctors to fill out and suggest a referral with the North Carolina Crash Report Form DMV-349 to a more formal behavioral health assessment.		
Increase the Number of Drug Recognition Experts (DREs) across the State	3.1 Updated basic law enforcement training to include standardized field sobriety testing.		
	3.2 Increase the number of Drug Recognition Experts (DREs) in rural areas across North Carolina.	✓	✓
	3.3 Expand the advanced roadside impaired driving enforcement (ARIDE) training to focus on all types of impairment, not solely alcohol.	✓	
Strengthen Intervention Policies to Reduce Recidivism	4.1 Provide support for ignition interlock for any DWI conviction.	✓	✓
	4.2 Expand screening and intervention services to identify current at-risk drivers in hospitals to reduce recidivism.		✓
	4.3 Include the blood alcohol concentration and substance use data in the North Carolina trauma database.		
Research Lowering BAC Levels for Driving in North Carolina	5.1 Study other states (e.g., Utah) or other countries that have lowered the BAC and compare their crash rates.		
	5.2 Work with NCDMV, the Administrative Office of the Courts, and other agencies that are potentially impacted by BAC change to gather input and work together on potential changes.		

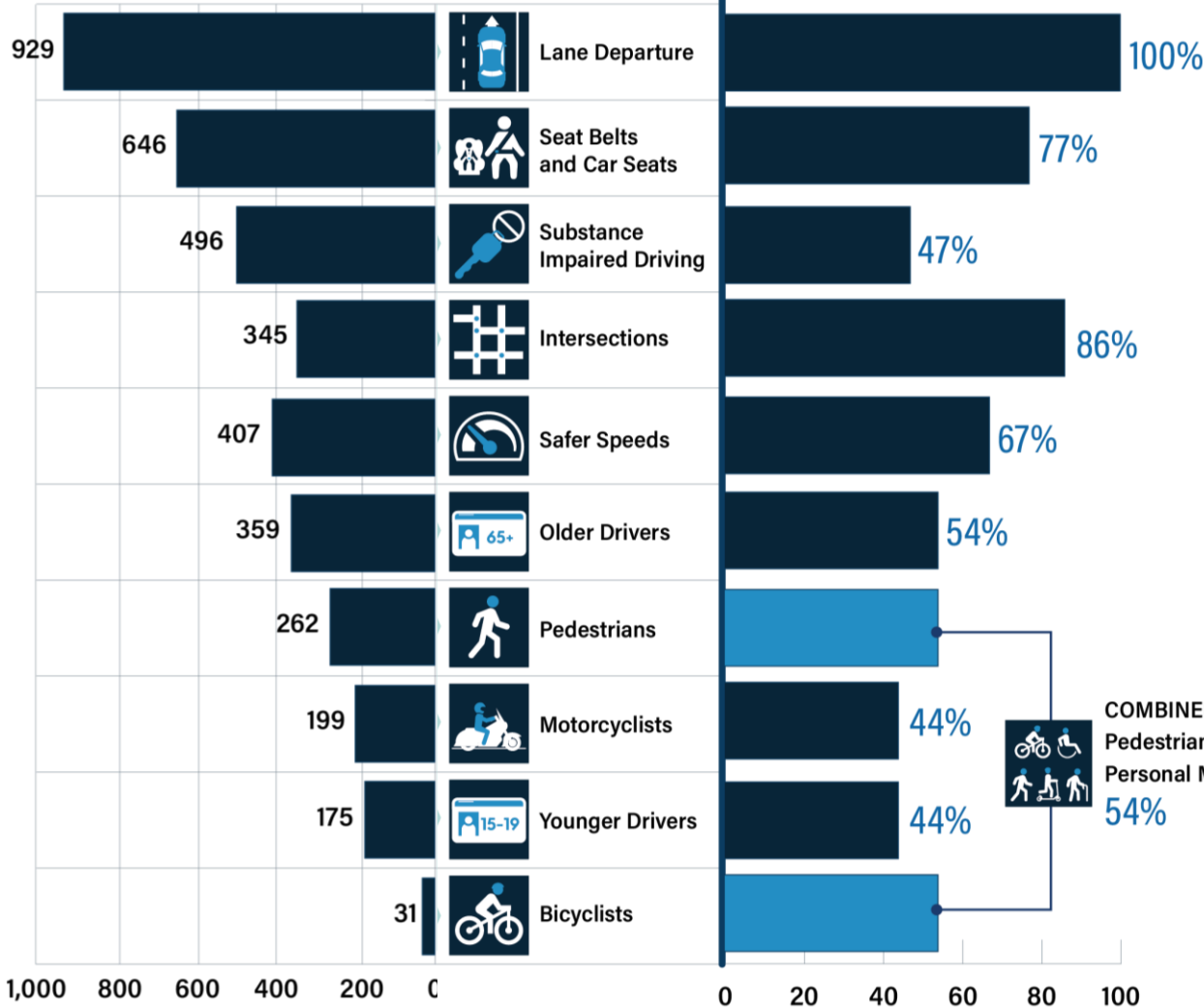
Overall Results



Overall Results by EA

Average Annual Fatalities

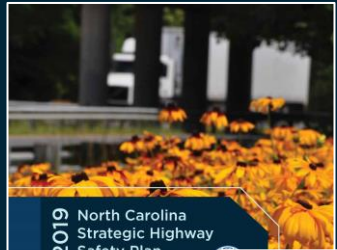
% of Actions Underway



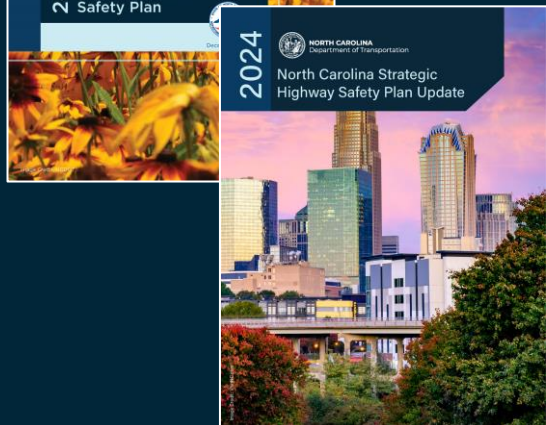


Lane Departure

52% of Fatalities and Serious Injuries



19%
increase in
Ks/As from
previous plan



of Actions Underway (FY 2024)



Obstacles to Zero

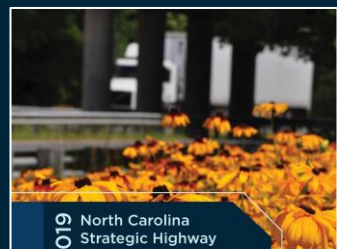
Only 1 partner actively
implementing
supporting actions





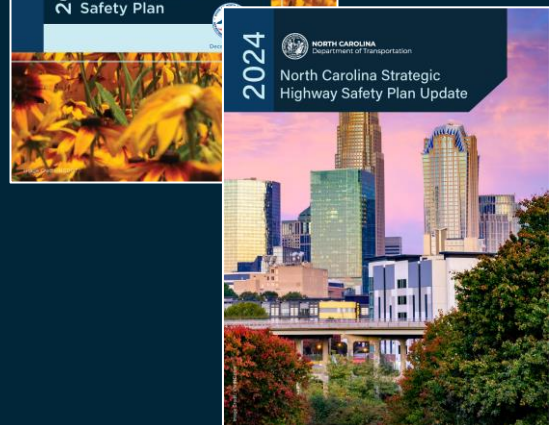
Substance Impaired

22% of Fatalities and Serious Injuries

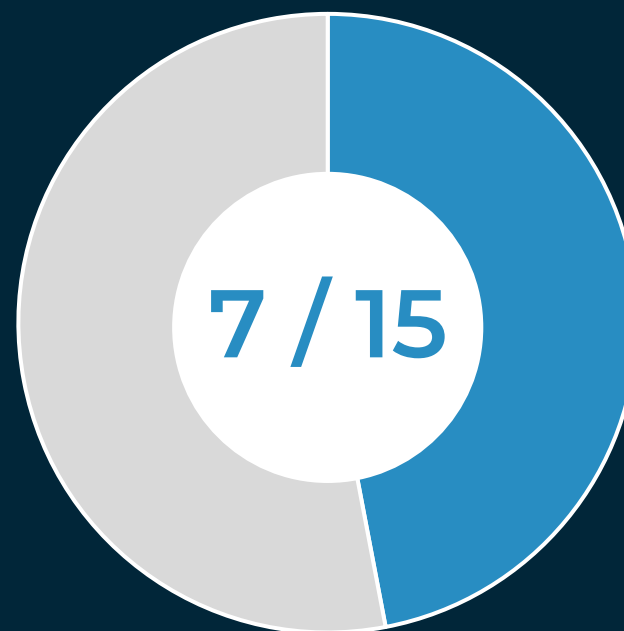


11%

increase in
Ks/As from
previous plan



of Actions Underway (FY 2024)

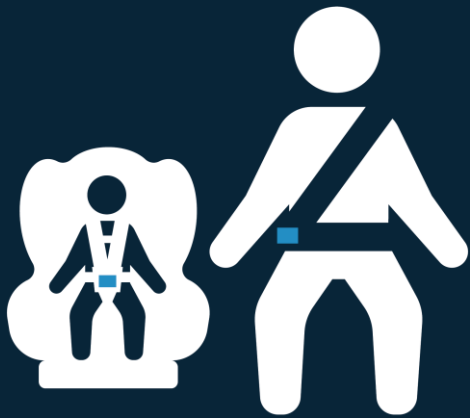


Obstacles to Zero

Several partners
supporting this effort

Expressed need for
greater support to
advance policy and
research



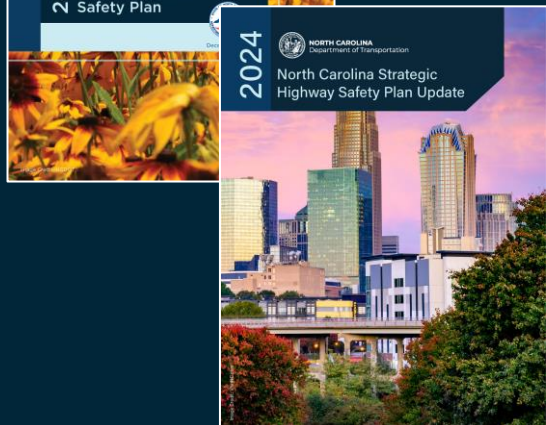


Car Seats and Seat Belts

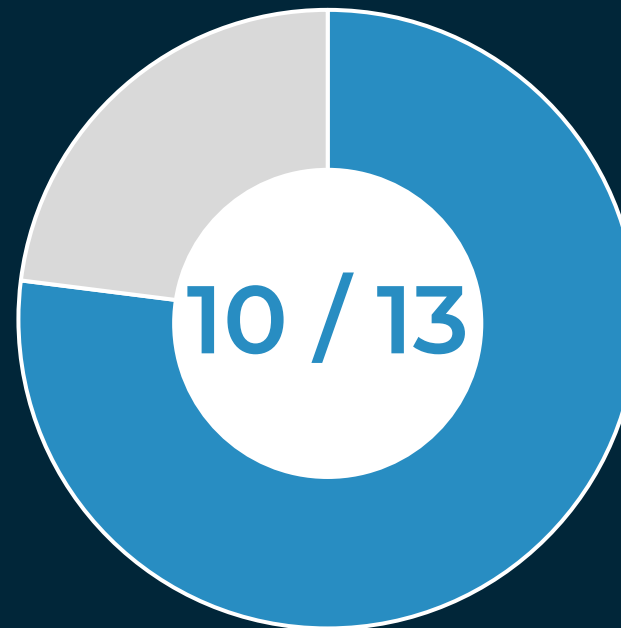
27% of Fatalities and Serious Injuries



29%
increase in
Ks/As from
previous plan



of Actions Underway (FY 2024)



Obstacles to Zero

Only 1 safety partner
leading the efforts



Discussion

Purpose and Overview

Conduct an initial assessment of progress to-date on SHSP strategies and supporting actions

Establish a recurring tracking mechanism

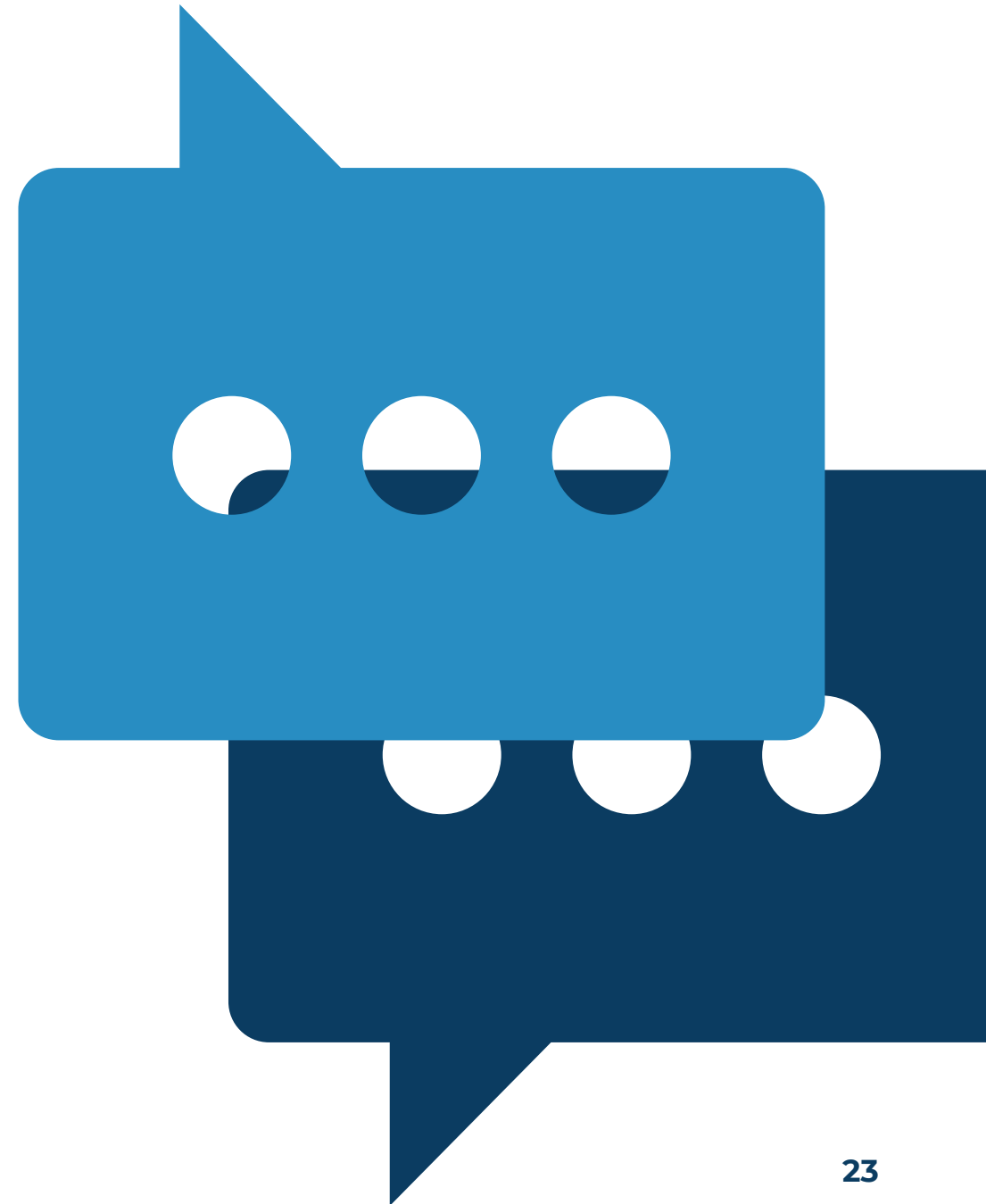
Meet with safety stakeholder leaders to broaden awareness of strategies and supporting actions

Engage with safety stakeholders to advance strategies and supporting actions

When can a Working Group be helpful?

Potential Criteria

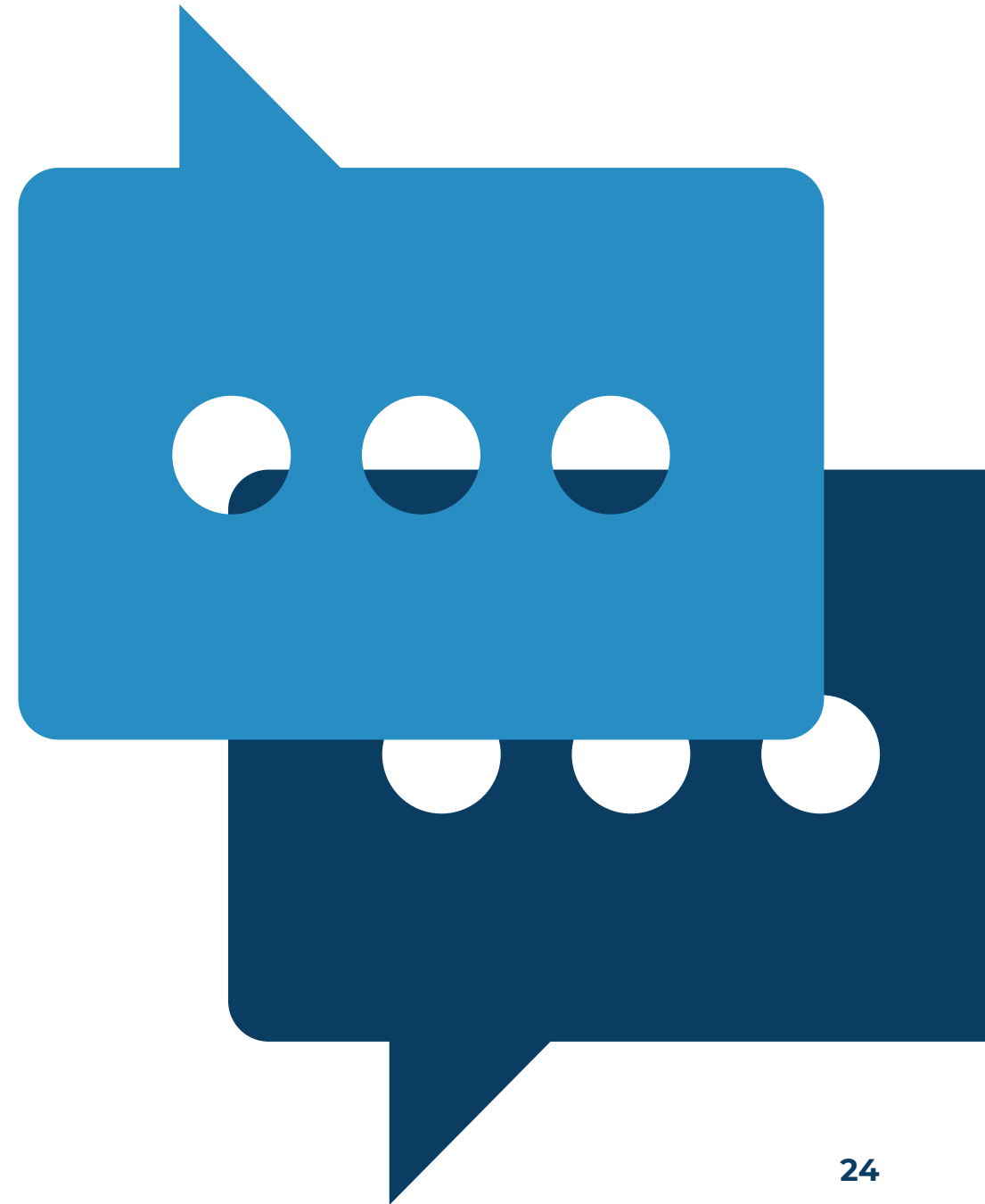
- Fill the Gap in Knowledge: There is no clear 'owner' of the strategy
- Broaden Partnerships: There is only one clear owner advancing implementation
- Strategy Refresh: The needs/challenges have changed



What is a successful Working Group structure?

Potential Structures

- Overarching themes
- Specific strategies
- Emphasis Area



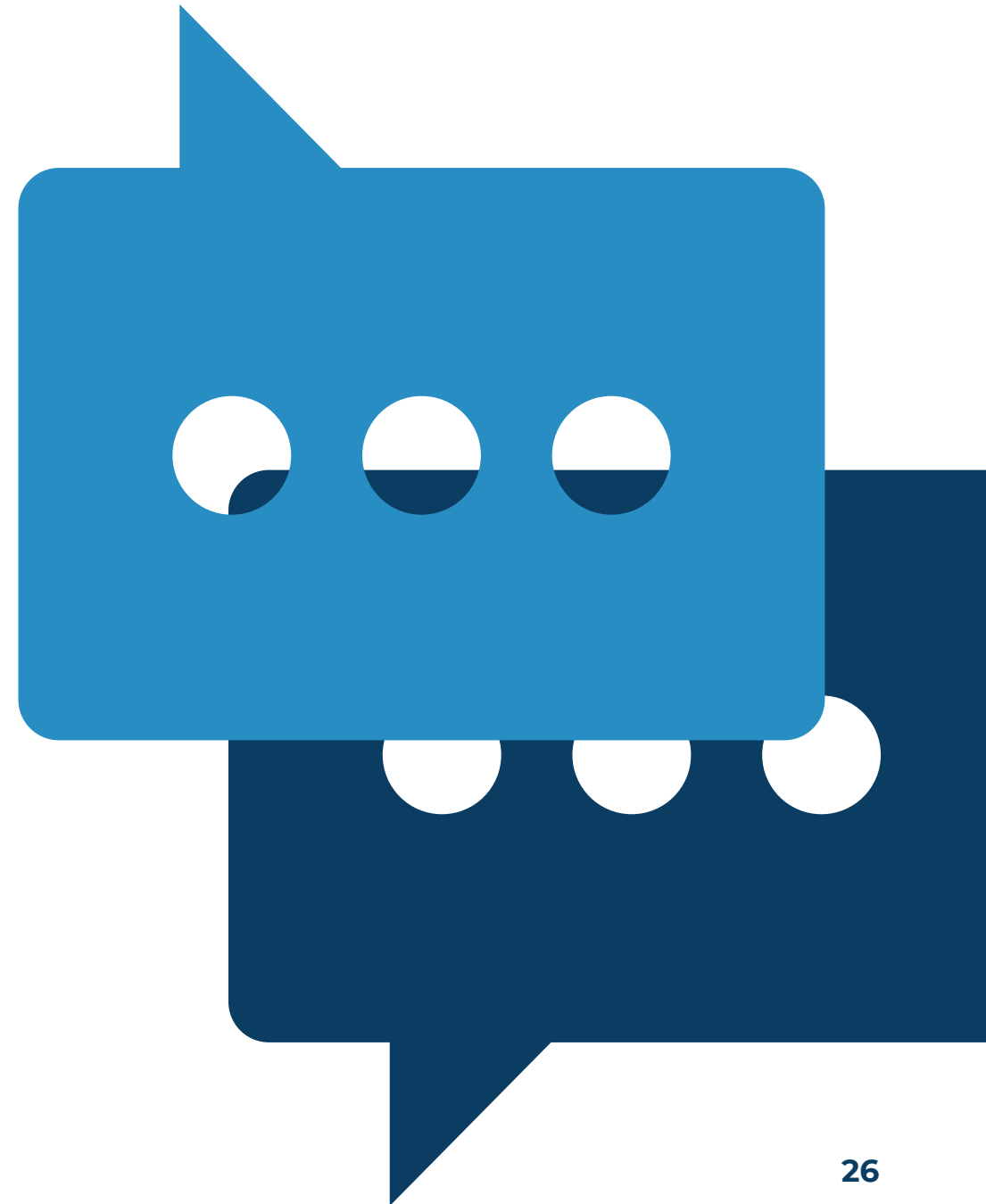
Potential 2025 – 2026 Themes

- Policy and Legislation
- Data Improvements
- Increased Awareness
- Local Implementation

How much ownership does the ECHS want over the Working Groups?

Potential Options

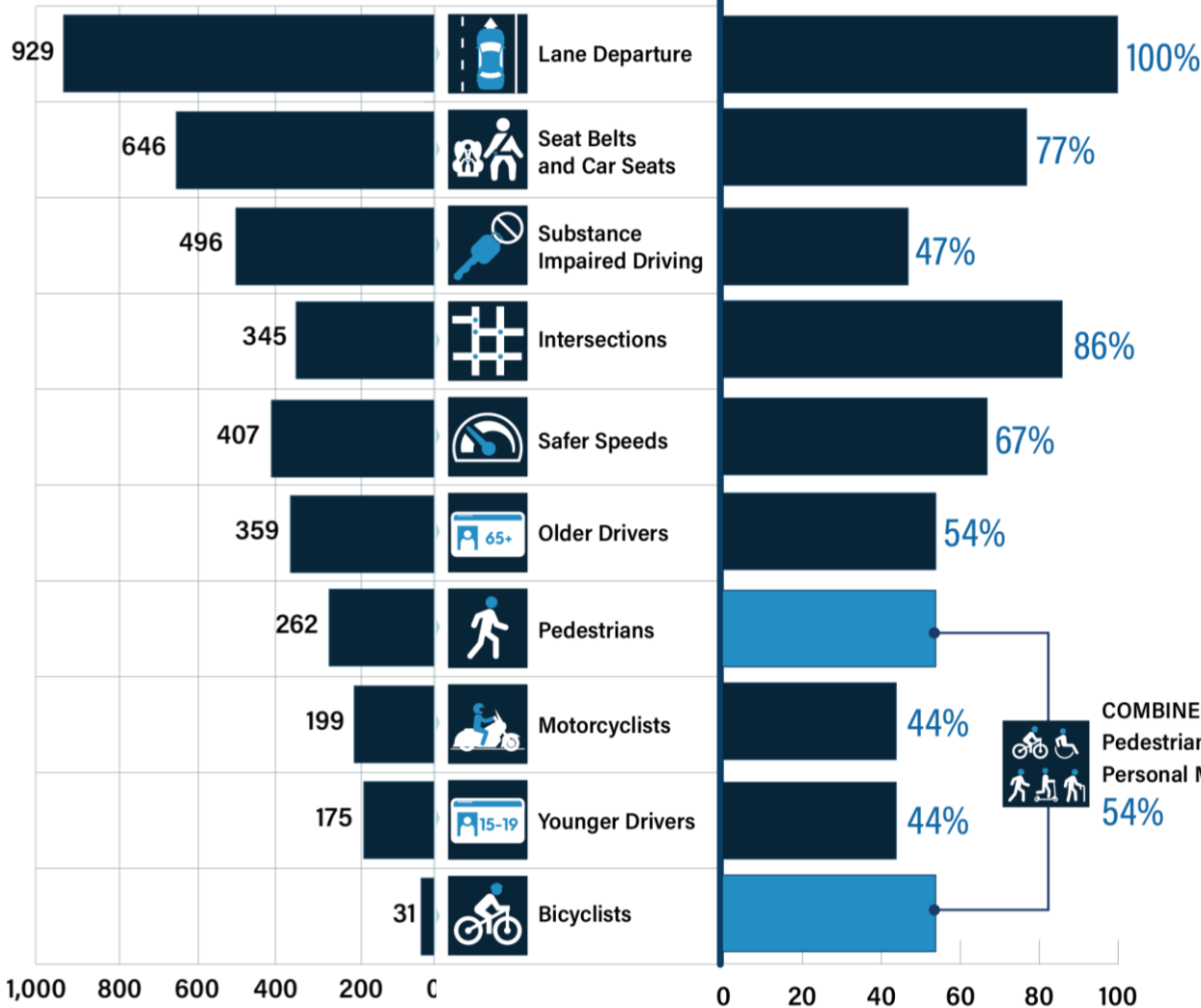
- Set the broad priorities and allow the Working Groups to select the actions?
- Set the priorities and decide the specific actions and activities?
- Allow the stakeholders to determine the priorities and actions/activities?
- Active involvement in the Working Groups?



Overall Results by EA

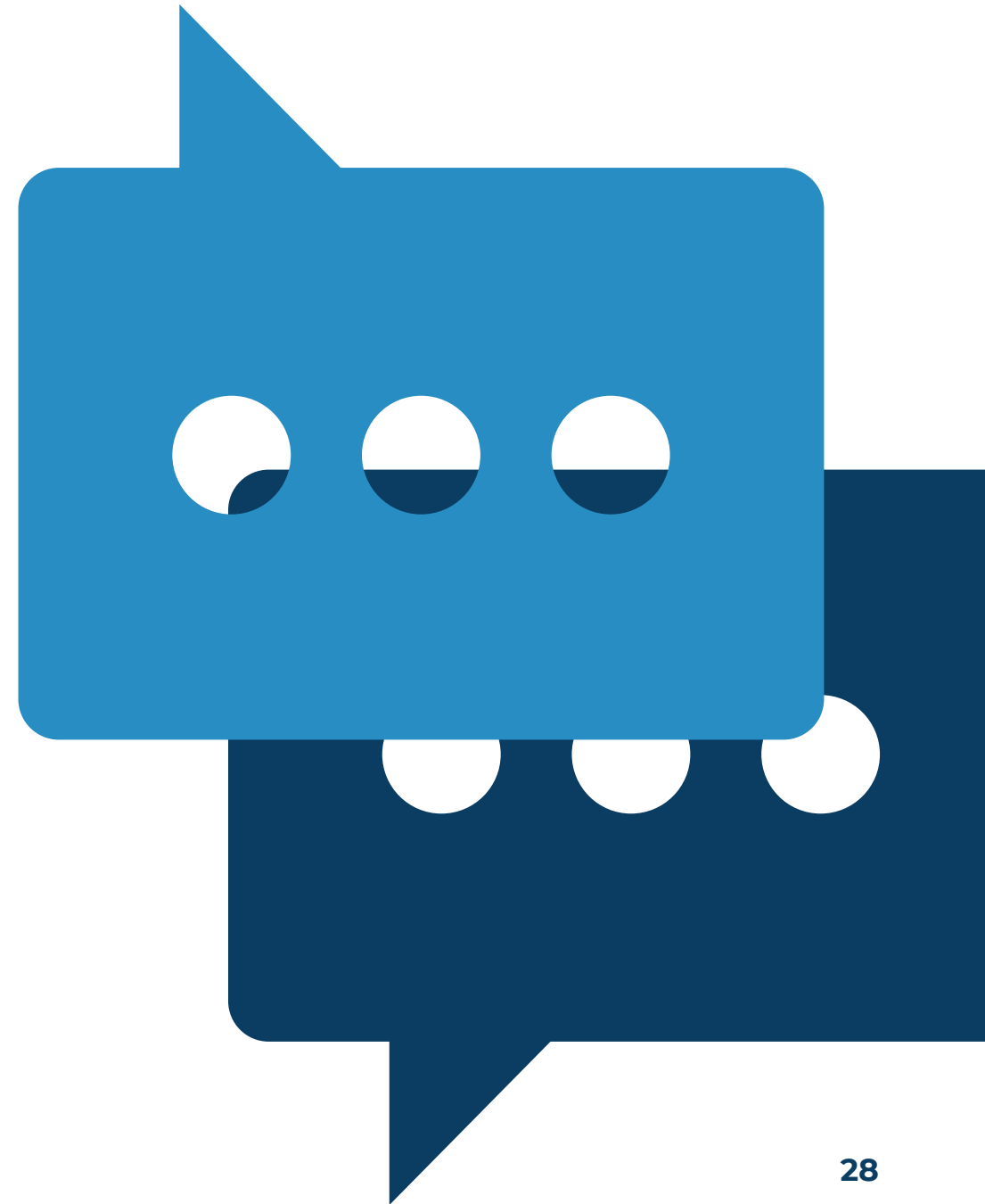
Average Annual Fatalities

% of Actions Underway



Are there new or emerging issues to consider?

Other safety partners to connect with?



Next Steps

SHSP Virtual
Workshop

Collect additional
progress updates

Develop Year 1
Annual Report