Mississippi's 2024 Strategic **Highway Safety Plan Fact Sheet**

Mississippi's 2024 Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) outlines the framework for change and helps strengthen collaboration among Mississippi's traffic safety community. Its components offer perspective on where the state stands in its pursuit of its Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) vision and identify objectives and strategies that support future success.

The 2024 Mississippi SHSP includes:

- The SHSP vision
- The goal for reducing crashes that result in deaths and serious injuries
- Data analysis that sharpens the focus on areas for improvement
- Diverse safety stakeholder involvement to foster ideas and ongoing coordination

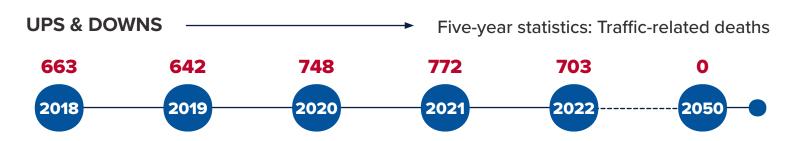
MISSISSIPP

 Objectives and proven safety strategies to reduce deaths and serious injuries

Mississippi's vision is clear: A highway system free of deaths through a sustained decline in transportationrelated deaths and injuries.

While the pursuit of this may seem almost impossible, the vision itself represents a strong, motivating call to action, not only for those whose job involves traffic safety, but for everyone.

The vision – and the work to achieve it – will also reap other benefits. Efforts to eliminate deaths and serious injury crashes will help reduce less serious, but still costly and harmful, crashes.



In 2022, Mississippi reported 703 deaths related to vehicle crashes. As a state that endorses TZD, Mississippi's vision calls for zero vehicle-related deaths and challenges us to continue the work. The objectives and strategies in the 2024 SHSP outline a clear path to reaching that.

SHSP DEVELOPMENT



THE VISION

Sets the desired future state of road safety that all work toward



THE GOAL

Sets an interim target for improvement



BEST PRACTICES

Ideas with proven track records



DATA ANALYSIS

Identifies areas for improvement



Builds the foundation for implementation



SAFETY OBJECTIVES & STRATEGIES

Opportunities for maximum impact

NEXT STEPS

Outlines a path forward



Mississippi's SHSP builds a strong foundation for implementation with actions that:

- Use data to focus attention on the emphasis areas that will make the most impact in preventing crash-related deaths and serious injuries
- · Bring innovative and proven ideas and best practices for adoption
- · Involve multidisciplinary stakeholders in shaping strategies and solutions, the same stakeholders who in turn work to bring strategies to life
- Support stronger partnerships among agencies and organizations that share responsibility for traffic safety
- Offer a framework for next steps

As Mississippi continues to do more of what works, eliminates what is less effective, and launches new proven initiatives in a proactive and collaborative manner with our broad network of safety partners, the state can collectively turn these strategies into action.

The objectives and strategies in the 2024 Mississippi SHSP offer numerous opportunities to reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries on Mississippi roads. While states take many paths to implementing their SHSPs, Mississippi will pursue the most practical and impactful one that leads to achieving its goal.

5 EMPHASIS AREAS

The 2024 SHSP focuses on five of the most prevalent emphasis areas that contribute to deaths and suspected serious injuries (referred to as 'serious injury' or 'serious injuries' throughout the plan).

These emphasis areas account for 91.8% of all fatal and serious injury crashes in Mississippi during the data analysis period.





Unbelted Occupants



30%



Impaired Driving 19%



Strategic funding support

Incorporate SHSP outcomes in related traffic safety plans

Use SHSP as a guide for

safety investments

Alignment with plans



On Mississippi roads,

Lane Departures

NEXT STEPS



Leadership for implementation Continued support to pursue new approaches



Growth of the safety network Encourage and strengthen partnerships



New emphases

Continue to build a traffic safety culture mindset

Integrate a Safe System approach to designing a road system with redundancies that factor in human mistakes and human vulnerabilities to protect road users

19 OBJECTIVES

Nineteen objectives are included in the 2024 SHSP to address traffic fatalities and serious injuries.

For more information on the 2024 SHSP, please contact:

Mark Thomas, P.E. **Highway Safety Division** Mississippi Department of Transportation (601) 359-1450 | mthomas@mdot.ms.gov

