EPS TRAFFIC SAFETY PLAN 2025 - 2027

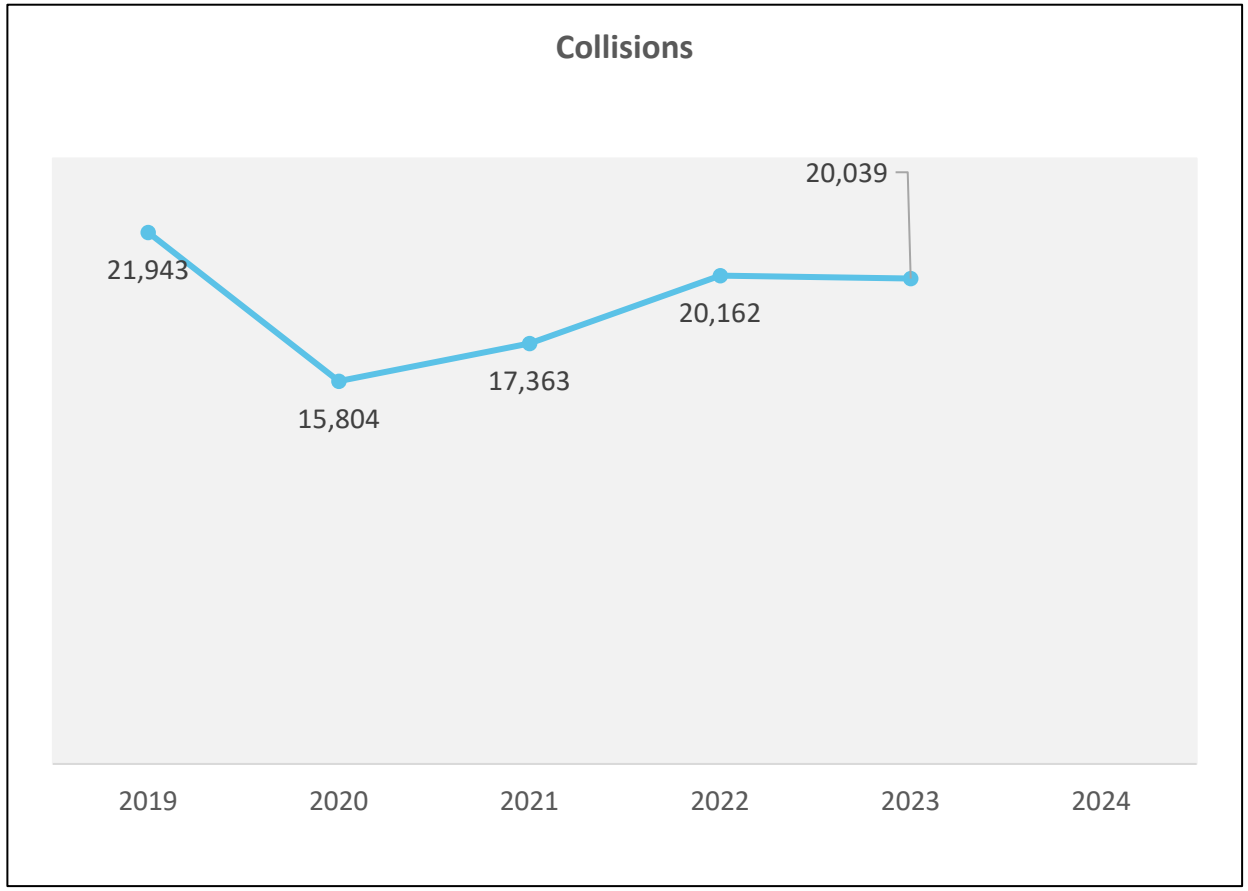
PROJECT OBJECTIVES

To formulate an approach and action plan that galvanizes EPS-wide resources to enhance overall traffic safety in Edmonton.

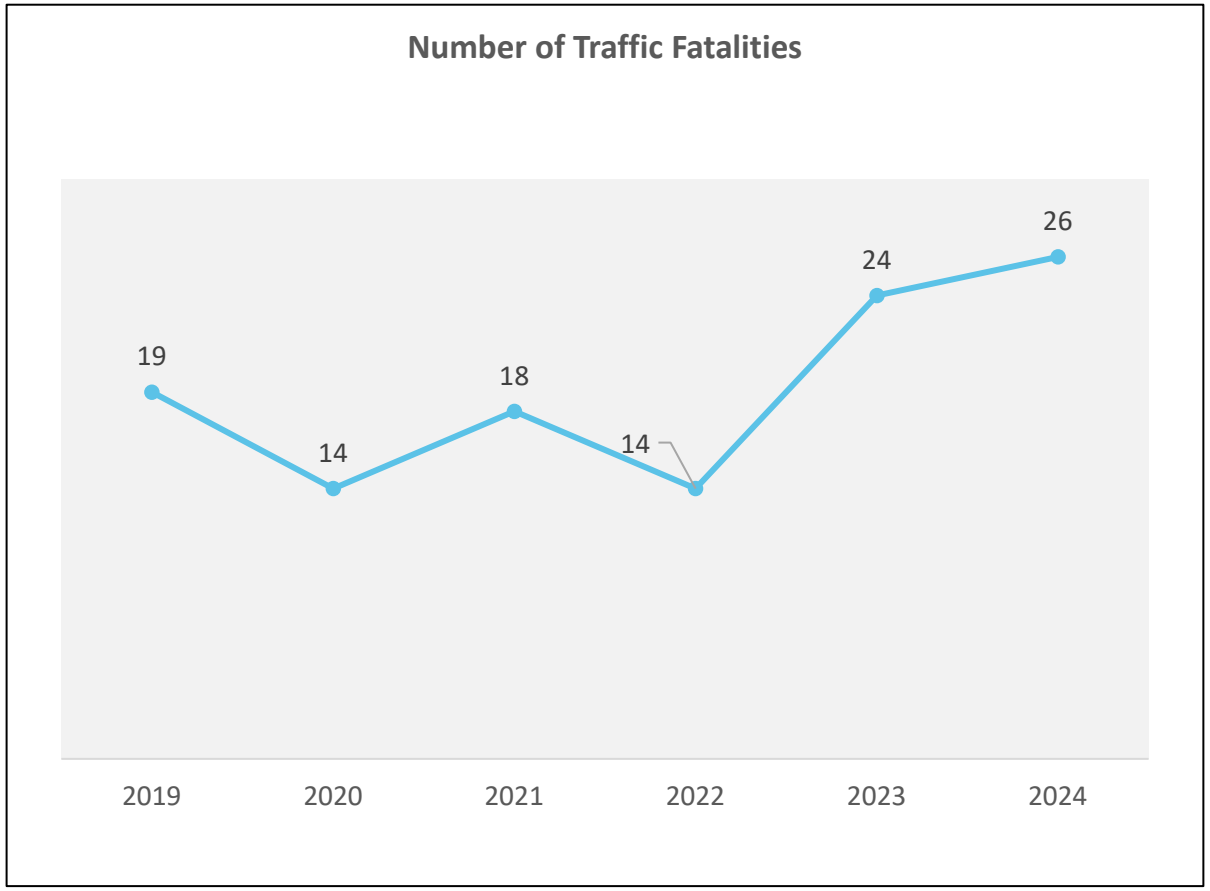
By:

- improving traffic enforcement
- meeting provincial traffic law enforcement requirements; and
- optimizing Ethos e-ticketing and leveraging technology and analytics more

CURRENT STATE ASSESSMENT
EDMONTON TRAFFIC SAFETY & RELATED TRENDS

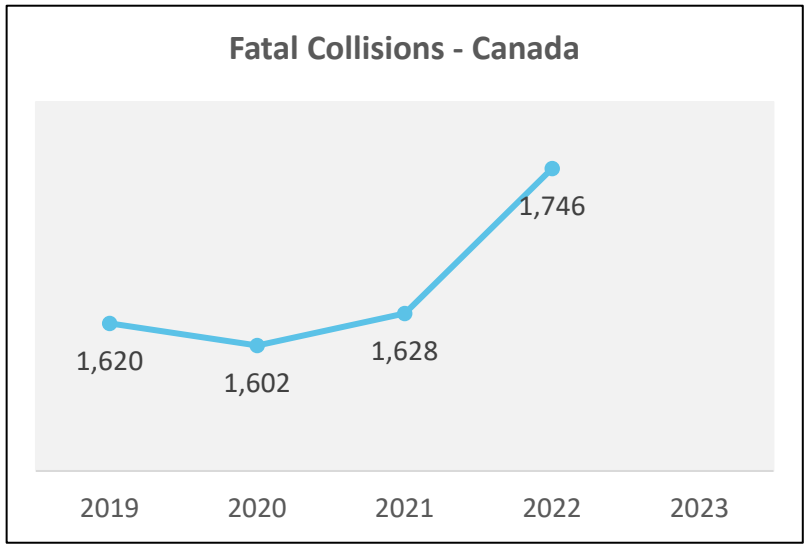


Source: City of Edmonton

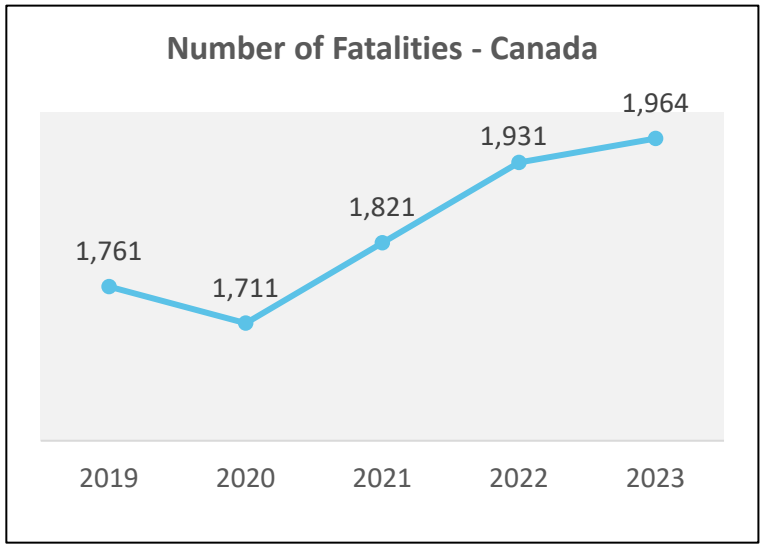


Source: City of Edmonton

CANADA VS TORONTO TRAFFIC SAFETY TRENDS



Source: StatsCan



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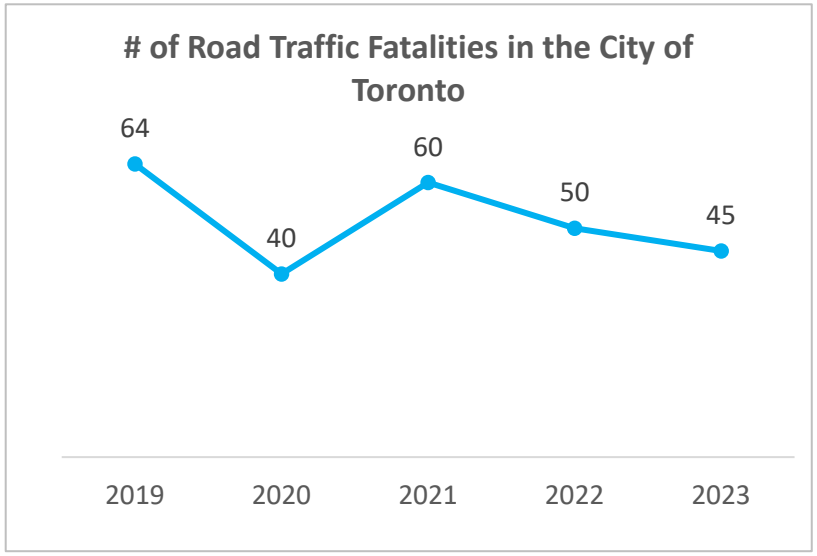
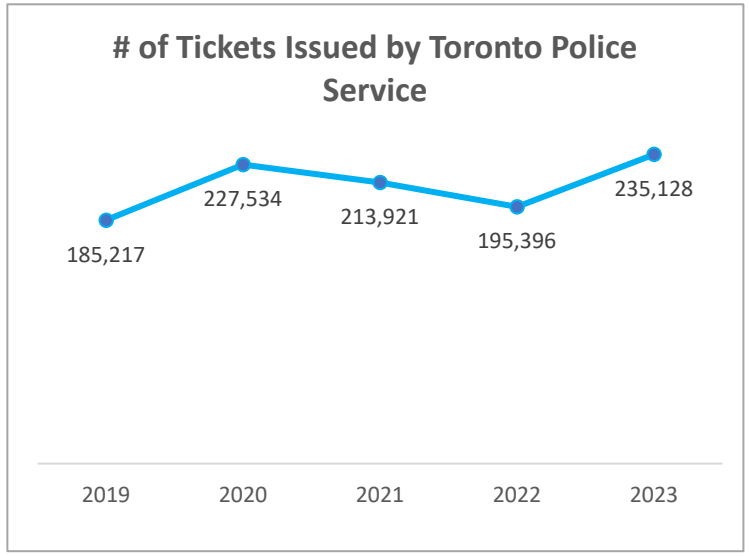


Source: Toronto Police Service



Source: Toronto Police Service

- TPS identified traffic safety as a service-wide priority and a comprehensive Traffic Safety Strategy was developed.
- In 2020, TPS created a Vision Zero Enforcement Team (VZET) comprising 2 Sgts & 16 constables utilizing 10 unmarked vehicles.
- VZET focuses on enforcement of the BIG four offences: speeding, distracted, aggressive, and impaired driving.
- In 2022, VZET accounted for 22% of all Highway Traffic Act tickets issued service-wide.
- In addition, Traffic Agents empowered by the Province of Ontario to actively manage traffic at intersections in Toronto during rush hour (14 constables).

BEST PRACTICES IN TRAFFIC SAFETY AND ENFORCEMENT

Police Presence

- Ample evidence that police presence interventions can decrease fatalities.
- Unmanned police cars can reduce speeding for the duration that they are stationed.
- Police presence may be particularly effective for reducing collisions in the most severe hotspots compared with other areas of the city.

Sobriety Checkpoints

- In general, there is support for the effectiveness of sobriety checkpoints.
- One study found that areas that implement sobriety checkpoints have collision rates at least 8% lower than areas that do not implement checkpoints.

Traffic Stops

- Traffic stops for economic reasons may not reduce collisions or fatalities.
- However, there is evidence from more than one study to suggest that traffic stops for safety reasons, such as speeding violations, red light violations, and impaired driving, do reduce collisions and fatalities.

Intensity of Enforcement

- The degree of punishment affects traffic safety outcomes. For example, other provinces like British Columbia, Ontario, and Quebec, are seeing a reduction in speed-related fatalities due to stricter punishments such as license suspension and vehicle impoundment for driving 40+ km/h over the limit.
- Findings from Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland found that increasing fines from $0 to $600 reduced traffic fatalities by up to 25% and reduced collisions by 5-10%. Once a 25% reduction was achieved, continuing to increase fines no longer had an effect.

EPS TRAFFIC SAFETY PLAN 2025 – 2027:
STEP forward for safer roads

STRATEGY

Improve traffic safety in Edmonton through Shared ownership, Training, Enforcement with data, and Public education (STEP).

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

1. Reduction in the gap between the number of traffic stops and # of traffic tickets & warnings
2. Increases in number of tickets and warnings issued in the RMS
3. Increase in number of officers who attend refresher traffic enforcement training courses
4. Reduction in per capita traffic collisions and fatalities
5. Reduction in the ranking of traffic safety amongst categories of public complaints

S SHARED OWNERSHIP

- Culture change driven by EPS Leaders.
- Shared responsibility:
  - TSB's primary mandate, Patrol supports
  - TSB to aim for 40% of tickets issued /year
  - Patrol branch to aim for 60% of tickets/year
- Celebrate wins together.
  - Rewards and recognitions

T TRAINING

- In branch and on field knowledge transfer
- Revamped recruit training
- Reinforcement by PTOs
- Refresher traffic courses

E ENFORCEMENT, WITH DATA

- Data driven target locations.
- Tailored reports with data & analytics for patrol branches
- All interactions in the RMS including warnings
- Leverage technology for efficiency (eliminate double entry between Niche & ETHOS)
- Procedurally just interactions

P PUBLIC EDUCATION

- Promote the importance of traffic safety (internally)
- Work with the media and road safety partners to educate the public
- Communicate increased enforcement by EPS to the public
- Encourage use of online platforms for reporting and ticket resolution

OUTCOME City roadways are safer for all

Thank you