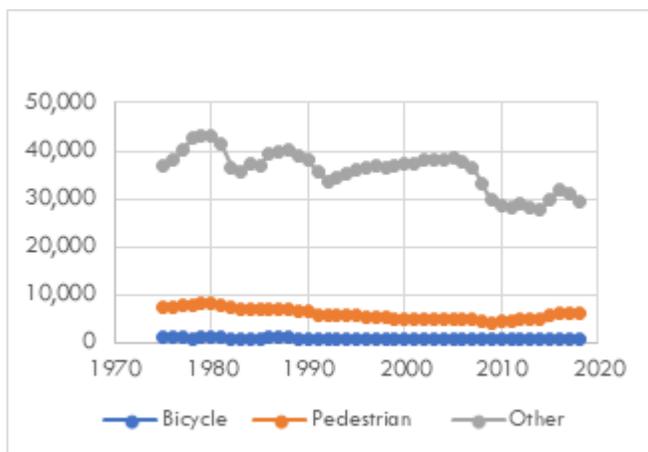


# What are Vision Zero Plans and Why are they Needed?

The United States' crash death rate is more than twice the average of many other high-income countries, with pedestrians and bicyclists being especially vulnerable (Ahangari, 2016). In the United States, pedestrian and bicycle crash deaths have risen in the past 5 years (**Figure**). Many communities are adopting ambitious safety goals to combat this problem. Some communities are coalescing this work around **Vision Zero** and creating **Vision Zero Plans** to guide their efforts.



## What is a Vision Zero Plan?

It is a plan that provides direction specifically around the vision to eliminate all traffic-related deaths and severe injuries in the community.

**Safe Systems:** A set of principles based on research from fields of behavioral science and economics, public health, traffic psychology, and organizational safety.

## What Should be Included in a Plan?

- A safe systems approach
- Documentation on public participation contributing to the plan
- An analysis of current conditions and trends
- Assessment of other community, regional, and state plans and how the goals of Vision Zero overlap with existing efforts
- Development of plan vision, goals, objectives, actions, and performance measures
- A way to measure implementation of the plan

## Why is a Vision Zero Plan Important?

The process of creating a plan brings the community together towards a common agenda to create a stronger framework to achieve Vision Zero. The plan includes activities to support a safer system. Having a plan that includes measures of progress and methods for evaluation promotes accountability. Plans can be used to document conditions, challenges, and opportunities, serving as important points of reference when other community plans are developed or updated. Funding for projects may be prioritized when found in a plan. Having a written plan can accelerate learning around best practices.