Self-assessment is a critical component of ongoing safety management practices. Assessments help with long-range planning, developing programs, prioritizing resources, directing public education efforts, and measuring the success of existing programs, technologies, and countermeasures.

The Toward Zero Deaths website features two free self-assessment tools for traffic safety professionals. The tools were developed for the Road Map to Implementation project (NCHRP 17-64, Guidance for the Implementation of the TZD National Strategy on Highway Safety). The self-assessment tools work regardless of where your state, tribal, or local community is on the TZD spectrum. They’re designed to spark ideas and actions for developing or enhancing your initiative.

The TZD Assessment Tools will help you gauge the current level of your organization’s practices that support TZD efforts. The information generated will show where you are on a continuum so you can identify where to best focus efforts. The tools will also prompt ideas and actions users can take to develop or enhance their programs.

TZD Program Development Assessment Tool

Gauge the current level of your organization’s adoption of TZD National Strategy principles, including the development of a coordinated TZD program. The assessment measures vision and goals, safety culture, program structure, partner and stakeholder engagement, technical assistance and training, safety priorities and strategies, and implementation and progress monitoring.

Visit page here.
Gauge the current level of your organization’s practices that support stakeholder and partner engagement with TZD efforts. The tool measures partnerships, engagement strategies, shared metrics, and benefits of engagement.

How Each Tool Works

The questions in both tools are arranged on a continuum of increasing levels of development or engagement. By selecting the “More Info” link in each tool, you’ll learn why an element is important and how it can be strengthened. Answering all questions will give you a snapshot of your program’s progress.

Keep in mind there are no right or wrong answers and there is no score card; the answers you provide are unique to your TZD program. These tools are designed to help you honestly assess your program and identify potential strategies and tactics to enhance it. If your state, tribal, or local community is without a program, the tools can help you better understand what is needed to begin the effort.

What to Do with Self-Assessment Results

Once you’ve completed the self-assessments, the Road Map for Implementing the TZD National Strategy on Highway Safety guidance document will help you understand and apply your results. Additional implementation training is available through webinar videos on the TZD website.

FHWA Resources for Setting Targets and Measuring Performance

The Road Map to Implementation guidance document references Federal Highway Association resources that can also help safety practitioners use data trends and external factors to measure or forecast countermeasure impact and effectiveness.
FHWA has developed a general framework for guiding the target-setting technical process. The Safety Target Setting Process Overview walks through three basic steps for measuring existing trends, adjusting trends for external factors, and estimating the impact of safety plans.

Visit page here.

FHWA’s Safety Performance Management webpage is part of its Transportation Performance Management program. It outlines requirements for the Highway Safety Improvement Program and links to state safety performance targets, target-setting resources, state safety reports, and more.

Visit page here.