Fatal pedestrian and cycling crashes on the rise since 2009.
WHAT'S GOING ON?

The growth of large vehicles (pickup trucks, vans/minivans and SUVs) and replacement of passenger cars really took off in 2009.

*Created by authors using EPA data*
IS THERE A CONNECTION BETWEEN MORE BIG VEHICLES ON THE ROAD AND INCREASING FATAL PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLIST CRASHES?

Data Linkage
Data from 2016 - 2018 showed:

- 23,090 crashes involved pedestrians and cyclists
- 14,552 pedestrians and 8,538 cyclists
- 477 fatalities

85.5% of the 477 fatalities involving pedestrians and cyclists were pedestrians.
LARGE VEHICLES WERE INVOLVED IN JUST 26.1% OF PEDESTRIAN & CYCLIST CRASHES, BUT WERE THE STRIKING VEHICLE IN 44.1% OF FATALITIES.
While passenger cars were involved in 62% of cases, they represent just 38.4% of all fatalities.

Pickup trucks were involved in just 5.6% of fatal cases but were the striking vehicle in 12.6% of all fatalities.

SUVs were involved in almost 15% of fatal cases but were the striking vehicle in 1 in 4 cases - more than 25%.

LARGE VEHICLES DISPROPORTIONATELY KILL PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS COMPARED TO THE NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH THEY ARE INVOLVED.
WHO IS MOST AFFECTED WHEN STRUCK BY A LARGE VEHICLE INSTEAD OF A CAR?

CHILDREN 8X MORE LIKELY TO DIE

ADULTS 4X MORE LIKELY TO DIE

SENIORS 3X MORE LIKELY TO DIE
HOW DOES RACE EFFECT CRASH VICTIMS?

EXCLUDING CHICAGO...

23% OF CRASH VICTIMS WERE BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN DESPITE BEING ONLY 10% OF THE POPULATION

STATEWIDE...

27% OF CRASH VICTIMS WERE BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN DESPITE BEING ONLY 14% OF THE POPULATION
Pickup trucks resulted in the highest hospital charges of all vehicle types.
NEARLY 10%

OF ALL PEDESTRIANS OR PEDALCYCLISTS STRUCK BY A PICKUP TRUCK RECEIVED A NON-MINOR HEAD OR CHEST INJURY.

- Big vehicles have more blind spots.
- People and objects are harder to see.
- People are more often knocked down and run over.
- People hit by larger vehicles more commonly end up with more severe injuries to their heads and bodies compared to those hit by a car.
WHAT CAN BE DONE?

- VISION ZERO CHICAGO
- REDUCE SPEED LIMITS
- RATE & PENALIZE VEHICLES OF DANGER TO PEDESTRIANS & CYCLISTS
- MAKE AUTO BREAKING & BLIND SPOT MONITORING TECHNOLOGY A STANDARD ON LARGER VEHICLES