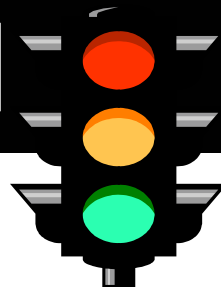
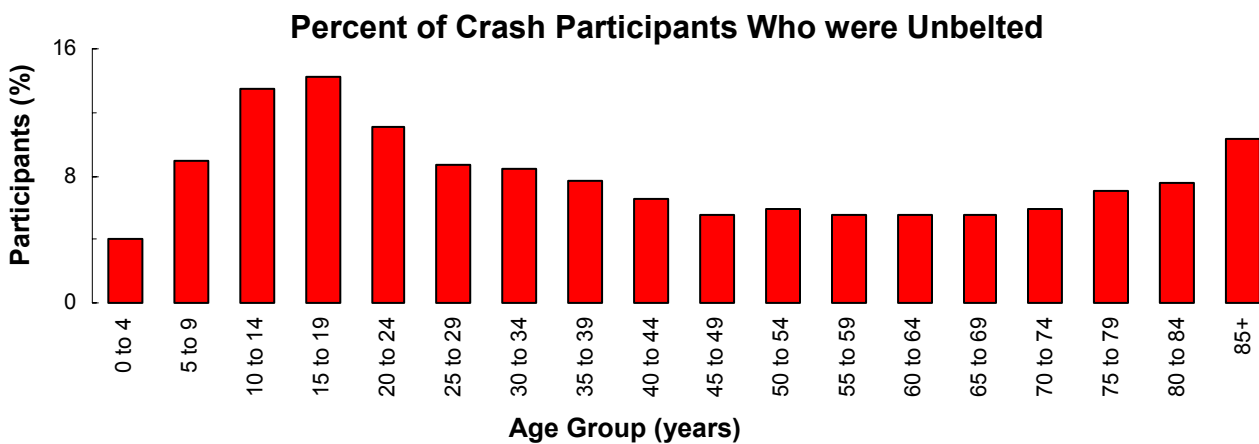


OCCUPANT PROTECTION



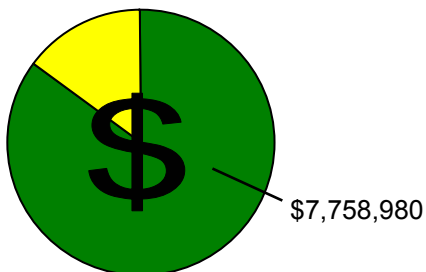
Failure to "buckle up" contributes to more fatalities than any other traffic-safety-related behavior.

- ◆ When a driver was **belted**, restraint use for children (birth to 12) was **97%**. When a driver was **unbelted**, restraint use for children (birth to 12) dropped to **65%**.
- ◆ Compared to belted crash occupants, unbelted crash occupants were 14 times more likely to die in a crash.
- ◆ Unbelted Utahns were 5.6 times more likely to require inpatient hospitalization and 2.4 times more likely to require emergency department care than those who were belted.
- ◆ If unbelted crash occupants had used a seat belt, Utah could have saved an estimated



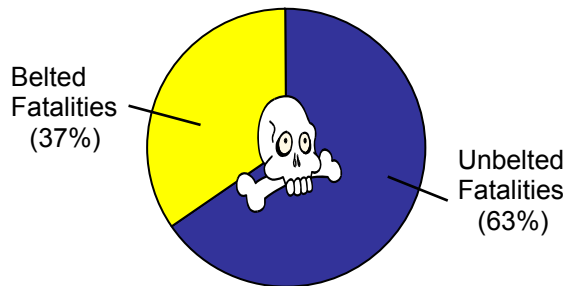
- Although the reported seatbelt or child safety seat use rate for children under the age of ten was often one of the highest for all age groups, it does not indicate that children were properly restrained.
- Unfortunately, several statewide surveys have found that child safety seats are often placed incorrectly in vehicles.
- In addition, young children are often moved to adult-sized seatbelts prematurely when a booster seat is more appropriate (see Safety Recommendations).

Potential Dollars Saved



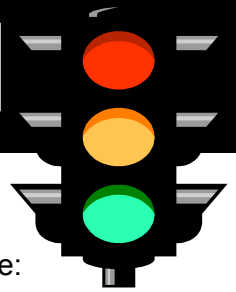
- An estimated \$9,140,903 were spent on inpatient and emergency department hospital charges for unbelted Utahns. Of those charges, \$7,758,980 (85%) could have been saved if unbelted Utahns had been belted.

Belted vs. Unbelted Fatalities



- Approximately two-thirds of the crash-related fatalities were unbelted. (This percentage excludes bicyclists, pedestrians and motorcyclists).

OCCUPANT PROTECTION

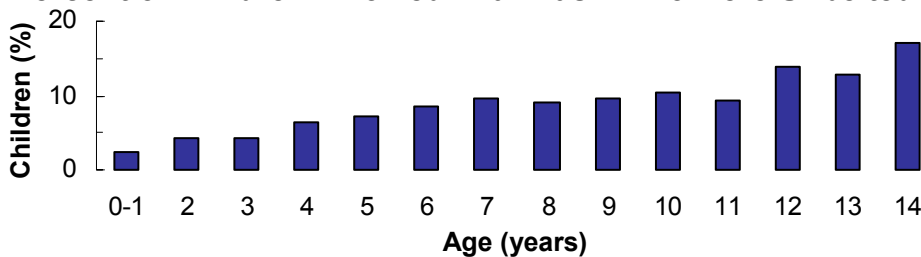


People At Risk

Children (Ages 1-14 years):

- ◆ When compared to belted children, unbelted children (ages 1-14 years) were:
 - ⇒ 5 times more likely to be killed
 - ⇒ 6 times more likely to be hospitalized
 - ⇒ 3 times more likely to receive emergency department care

Percent of Children Involved in a Crash Who were Unbelted (Ages 1-14 years)



- The older a child becomes, the more likely he/she is to be unbelted.

Percent of Children Involved in a Crash Who were Hospitalized (Ages 1-14 years)



- At age 2 years, when children were no longer required by law to be in a car seat, hospitalizations for 2-year olds were 9 times higher than 0-1 year olds.

Child Safety Seat Recommendations:

- ◆ Infants should be placed in a rear-facing safety seat until they are at least 20 pounds AND one year of age.
- ◆ NEVER place a rear-facing child safety seat in the front seat of a vehicle with a passenger side air bag.
- ◆ Children over one year of age weighing 20-40 pounds should ride in a forward facing car safety seat.
- ◆ Older children (approximately 4-8 years of age) should ride in belt-positioning booster seats until they are approximately 60-80 pounds and can use an adult-size lap and shoulder belt system.
- ◆ The back seat is the safest place for children to ride.

Seatbelt Recommendations:

- ◆ Always use both the lap and shoulder belt. When worn properly, the shoulder belt should fit across the collar bone and the lap belt should fit low over the hips.
- ◆ Never place the shoulder strap under your arm or behind your back.

Safety Restraint Laws (Effective July 1, 2000):

- ◆ All children through the age of 18 years must be properly restrained in a motor vehicle.
 - ⇒ Children through the age of 4 years must ride in an approved child safety seat; and
 - ⇒ Children aged 5 through 18 years must ride in an approved child safety seat or safety belt.
 This is a primary law which means a person may be issued a citation and subject to a fine of not more than \$45 if a law enforcement officer notices children are not properly restrained.
- ◆ Utah law requires all motor vehicle occupants to be wearing a seatbelt when traveling in a motor vehicle. This is a secondary law which means a person may be issued a citation and subject to a \$45 fine only when the police officer has stopped the vehicle for another reason.