

Wearing a seat belt is one of the best ways to decrease injuries and deaths in motor vehicle crashes.

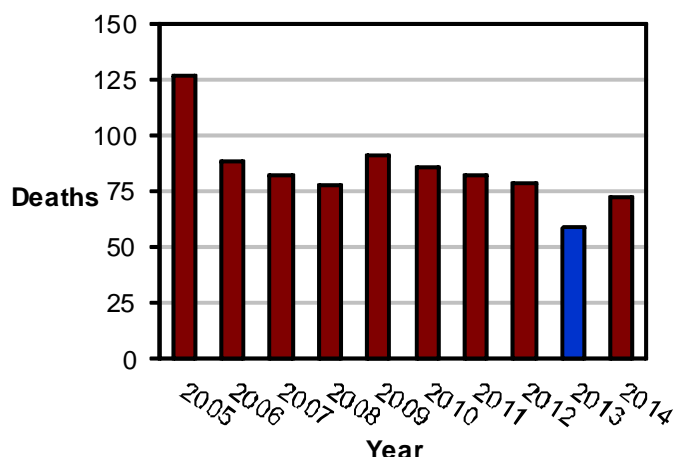
Occupant Protection



Did you know in 2014:

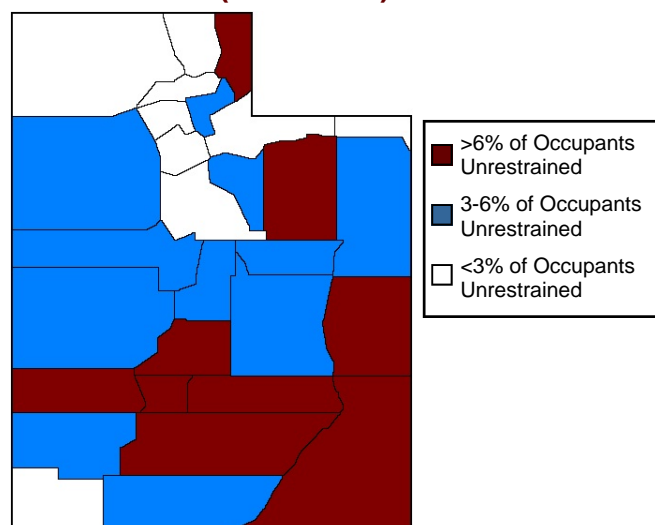
- Unrestrained crash occupants were 37 times more likely to die in a crash than restrained occupants.
- An estimated 98 lives were saved because of restraint use. (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration)
- An estimated 36 additional lives would have been saved if everyone had been wearing seat belts.

Unrestrained Occupant Deaths by Year (Utah 2005-2014)



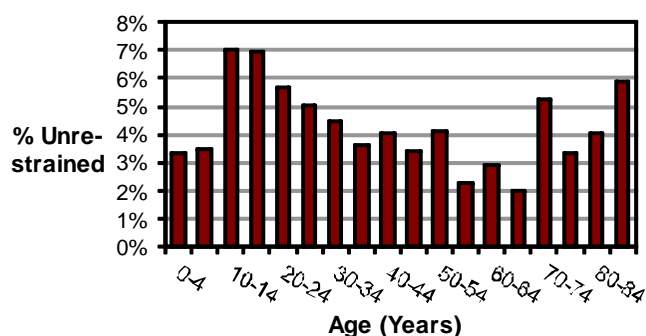
- 2013 had the lowest number of unrestrained occupant deaths over the last 10 years.

Unrestrained Crash Occupants by County (Utah 2014)



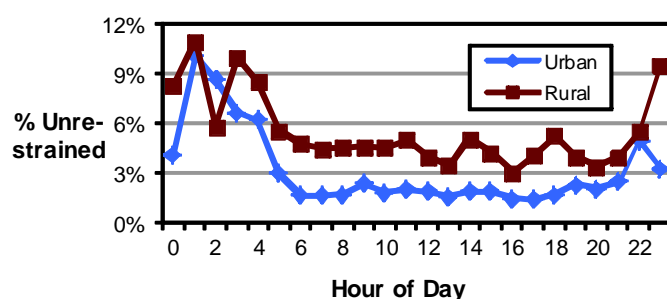
- Occupants in rural crashes were 2.5 times more likely to be unrestrained than urban occupants.

Unrestrained Injured Crash Occupants by Age (Utah 2014)



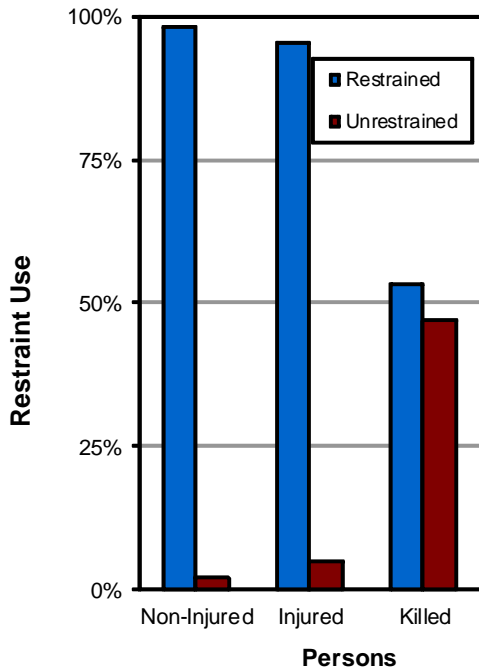
- The highest percentage of unrestrained injured crash occupants were 10-19 years.

Unrestrained Crash Occupants by Hour, Rural vs. Urban (Utah 2014)



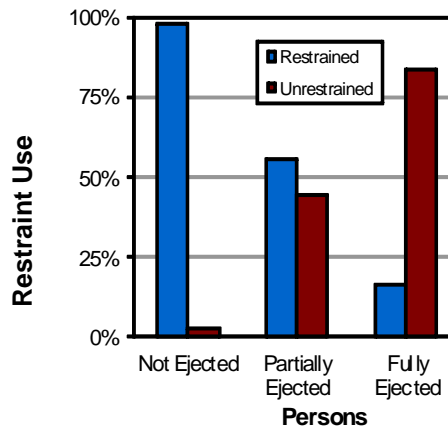
- Rural areas and the hours of 11:00 p.m. to 4:59 a.m. had the highest percentage of unrestrained crash occupants.

Restraint Use by Injury Severity (Utah 2014)



- 98% of persons who survived a crash were restrained compared to half (53%) of the persons killed.

Ejection and Restraint Use (Utah 2014)



- 84% of crash occupants fully ejected from a motor vehicle were unrestrained.
- Unrestrained occupants were 239 times more likely to be fully ejected than restrained occupants.

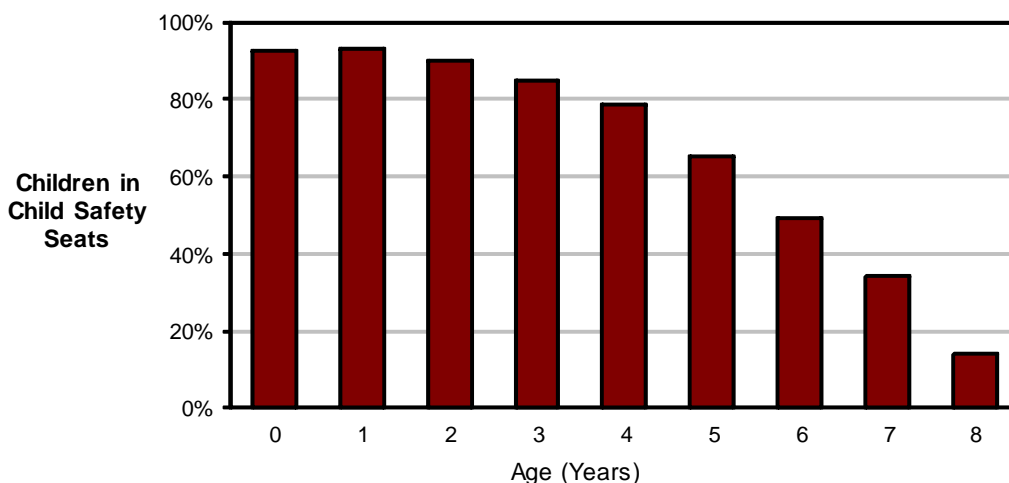
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Child Safety Seat Recommendations:

- Children should ride rear-facing until at least two years of age and 30 pounds.
- Children should ride forward-facing with a harness until at least four years of age and 40 pounds, or longer if the car seat allows.
- Children who are at least four years of age and 40 pounds can ride in a booster seat. Use the booster seat until the seat belt fits correctly and until the child is 4'9".
- Children under 13 years old should ride in the back seat.
- Never place a rear-facing child safety seat in the front seat of a vehicle with a passenger side air bag.

Percent of Children Aged 0-8 Years in Crashes Using Child Safety Seats (Utah 2014)



- The older the child the less likely they were using a child safety seat.
- While 93% of 1-year-olds in a crash were in a child safety seat, only 78% of 4-year-olds, 49% of 6-year-olds, and 14% of 8-year-olds were in a child safety seat.
- The decrease in child safety seat use for children aged 4-8 years is concerning and indicates that children are moving to adult-sized seat belts too early.

Seat Belt

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 the arm or behind the back.
- Always buckle up to stay safe and set a good example.

Safety Restraint Laws:

- Utah law requires all motor vehicle occupants to wear a seat belt.
- Children age 7 years and under must ride in an approved child safety seat.

