



2021 *Click It or Ticket*

Fact Sheet

Step Up and Remind People to Buckle Up

- From May 17 to June 6, 2021, state and local law enforcement agencies are stepping up their enforcement efforts for motorists who aren't wearing their seat belts.

Michigan

- The seat belt use rate in Michigan in 2019 was 94.4%, which is above the national average of 90.7%.
- In Michigan, 217 people killed in traffic crashes during 2019 were not wearing a seat belt.
- During the 2019 Memorial Day weekend, there were 11 fatal crashes on Michigan roadways that resulted in 13 fatalities. Two of the 13 deaths involved a driver and a passenger not wearing seat belts.

Face the Facts

- The national seat belt use rate in 2019 was 90.7% – but we can do better. The other 9.3% still need to be reminded that seat belts save lives.
- Nationwide, among young adults 18 to 34 killed while riding in passenger vehicles in 2019, more than half (57%) were completely unrestrained – one of the highest percentages for all age groups.
- Men make up the majority of those killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes nationwide. In 2019, 65% of the 22,215 passenger vehicle occupants who were killed were men. Men also wear their seat belts at a lower rate than women do – 51% of men killed in crashes were unrestrained, compared to 40% of women killed in crashes.

Bust the Myths

- **Vehicle type:** There seems to be a misconception among those who drive and ride in pickup trucks that their large vehicles will protect them better than other vehicles would in a crash. The numbers say otherwise: 58% of pickup truck occupants who were killed nationwide in 2019 were not buckled. That's compared to 43% of passenger car occupants who were not wearing seat belts when they were killed. Regardless of vehicle type, seat belt use is the single most effective way to stay alive in a crash.
- **Seating position:** Too many people wrongly believe they are safe in the back seat unrestrained. Forty-five percent of all front-seat passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes nationwide in 2019 were unrestrained, but 58% of those killed in back seats were unrestrained.



- Rural versus urban locations: People who live in rural areas might believe that their crash exposure is lower, but in 2019, there were 11,971 passenger vehicle fatalities nationwide in rural locations, compared to 10,187 fatalities in urban locations. Out of those fatalities, 48% of those killed in the rural locations were not wearing their seat belts, compared to 45% in urban locations.

Click It or Ticket – Day and Night

- High-visibility seat belt enforcement is important 24 hours a day, but nighttime is especially deadly for unbuckled occupants. In 2019, 55% of passenger vehicle occupants killed at night (6 p.m.-5:59 a.m.) were not wearing their seat belts.
- *Click It or Ticket* is not about citations; it's about saving lives. In 2019, there were 9,466 unbuckled passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes in the United States. To help prevent crash fatalities, we need to step up seat belt enforcement, day and night.

Learn more about the *Click It or Ticket* mobilization at www.nhtsa.gov/ciot.