IN 2020, 380 children injured every day
On average, 3 children aged 14 years and younger died and 380 children were injured every day in traffic crashes.

1,093 child traffic fatalities
There were 1,093 child traffic fatalities. Of those, 77% were occupants and 23% were nonoccupants (i.e., pedestrians, pedal-cyclists, or other nonoccupants).

SEX
Male children accounted for more passenger fatalities than female children.

54% Male
46% Female

URBANICITY
More child passengers were killed in rural areas than urban areas.

55% Rural
45% Urban

RESTRAINT USE AMONG CHILD PASSENGERS
42% of the children who died in a crash, for whom restraint use was known, were not restrained or buckled up.

54% Male children
46% Female children

13–14-Year-olds
When the drivers didn’t buckle up, 65% of children were also not buckled.

71–82%
Use of a child safety seat reduces the risk of injury for infants and toddlers by 71–82% compared with the use of seat belts alone.

45%
Booster seat use reduces the risk for serious injury by 45% for children ages 4-8.

~50%
Seat belt use reduces the risk for death and serious injury by about half for car passengers ages 5 and older.

PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

Behavioral Strategies
Buckle up children in age- and size-appropriate car seats, booster seats, and seat belts.

Carefully install the car seat and booster seat by:

Reading and following the car seat instructions and the vehicle owner’s manual
Using a car seat inspection station near you to install a car seat or check for proper installation

Environmental Strategies
Distribute child passenger safety information and spread the use of certified child passenger safety technicians.

Strengthen and enforce child restraint laws to ensure the use of car seats, booster seats, and seat belts.

MORE INFORMATION

• Car Safety Information for Parents | HealthyChildren.org https://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/on-the-go/Pages/Car-Safety-Seats-Information-for-Families.aspx
• Find a Child Passenger Safety Technician | Safe Kids Worldwide https://cert.safekids.org/
• CDC Child Passenger Safety Resources | Centers for Disease Control and Prevention https://www.cdc.gov/transportationsafety/child_passenger_safety/resources.html

SOURCES

1. Unless a different source is cited, all data came from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 2020 Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS).