

Quick Facts

Illinois Crash Information 2003

Occupant Protection for Passenger Cars/Light Trucks*

The most important step that an occupant in a motor vehicle can take to improve safety is to properly utilize a safety restraint device.

	<u>All Crashes</u>	<u>Crashes Involving Occupants of Passenger Cars/Light Trucks</u>	<u>Crashes Involving Occupants (Age 15+) of Passenger Cars/Light Trucks</u>
Crashes:	437,289	403,269	389,259
Fatal Crashes:	1,308	943 ^a	913 ^{a,b}
Injury Crashes:	88,585	75,351 ^a	73,430 ^{a,b}
Total People Involved:	989,697 ^c	890,818 ^d	766,847 ^{d,b}
Total Fatalities:	1,454 ^c	1,064 ^d	1,023 ^{d,b}
Total Non-Fatal Injuries:	131,279 ^c	114,432 ^d	104,958 ^{d,b}

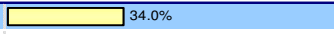


^aNumbers only reflect crashes in which fatality or non-fatal injury was specifically an occupant of a passenger car/light truck

^bAge 15+ only

^cTotals include occupants and non-occupants; e.g. 989,697 total people = 980,219 occupants + 9,478 non-o occupants

^dNumbers include occupants of passenger cars/light trucks only

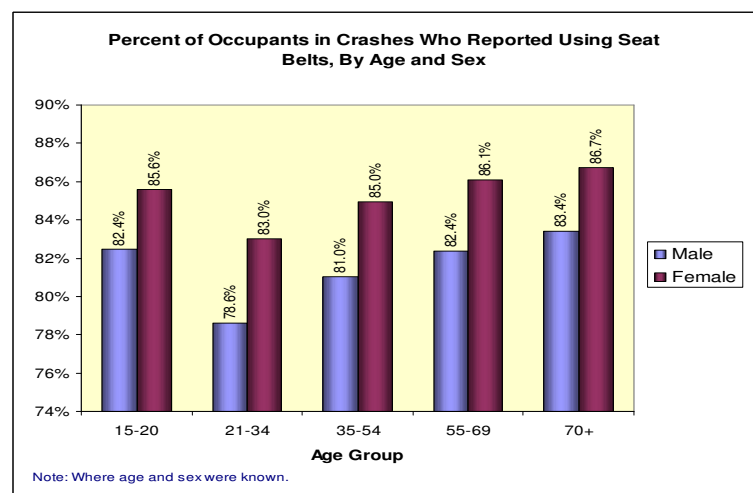
Occupants (drivers and passengers) of passenger cars and light trucks* who were aged 15 and above accounted for 1,023 (70.4%) of all 1,454 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2003. Among occupants of this age group, a far lower percentage of seat belt use[†] was reported for fatalities than for survivors.

Type of Injury	Total Occupants Age 15 and Older	Seat Belt Used*	
Fatality	1,023	348 (34.0%)	 34.0%
Non-Fatal Injury	104,958	85,600 (81.6%)	 81.6%
Not Injured	660,866	546,914 (82.8%)	 82.8%
Total	766,847	632,862 (82.5%)	

Demographics

Seat belt use among occupants of passenger cars and light trucks aged 15 and above varied by occupant age and sex.

- Overall, 80.8% of male occupants and 84.7% of female occupants aged 15 & above reported using seat belts.
- Male occupants aged 21 to 34 had the lowest rate of reported seat belt use, at 78.6%.[‡]



* Passenger cars and light trucks for this analysis were defined as passenger cars, pickup trucks, vans, minivans and SUV's according to classifications used by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[†] Percent using seat belts was defined as the number of people for whom seat belt use was reported divided by the total number of people involved in crashes

[‡] Where age and sex were known

Type of Passenger Vehicle/Light Truck

Rates of seat belt use among occupants of passenger cars/light trucks varied by the particular vehicle type.

- Overall, the lowest rate of seat belt use was among occupants of passenger cars (81.6%), and the highest was among occupants of SUV's (86.1%).[§]
- Among fatally injured occupants, seat belts rates were lowest among occupants of pickup trucks (21.5%) and SUV's (23.6%).

Vehicle Type/Injury Type	Total Occupants	
	Age 15 and Older	Seat Belt Used [§]
Passenger Car		
Fatality	702	270 (38.5%)
Non-Fatal Injury	77,994	63,650 (81.6%)
Not Injured	462,069	377,316 (81.7%)
Total	540,765	441,236 (81.6%)
Pickup Truck		
Fatality	135	29 (21.5%)
Non-Fatal Injury	8,865	6,829 (77.0%)
Not Injured	68,110	57,966 (85.1%)
Total	77,110	64,824 (84.1%)
Van/Minivan		
Fatality	80	24 (30.0%)
Non-Fatal Injury	8,913	7,381 (82.8%)
Not Injured	64,838	54,728 (84.4%)
Total	73,831	62,133 (84.2%)
SUV		
Fatality	106	25 (23.6%)
Non-Fatal Injury	9,186	7,740 (84.3%)
Not Injured	65,849	56,904 (86.4%)
Total	75,141	64,669 (86.1%)

Drivers, Passengers & Seat Position

Rates of seat belt use among occupants of passenger cars/light trucks varied by seat position within the vehicle.

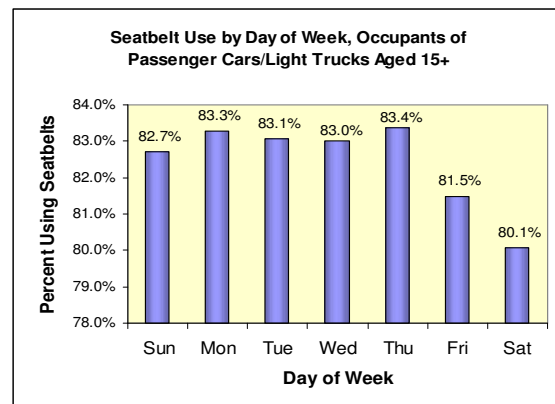
- Overall, 82.2% of drivers used seat belts, compared with 84.1% of passengers.
- The seat belt rate was higher among fatally injured drivers (36.1%) than among fatally injured passengers (28.9%).
- Among all occupants, seat belt usage varied by seat position, with occupants in the front middle (76.1%) and back middle (75.7%) using seat belts less often than occupants seated on the left or right.

Occupant Type/Injury Type	Total Occupants	
	Age 15 and Older	Seat Belt Used [§]
Drivers		
Fatality	729	263 (36.1%)
Non-Fatal Injury	81,658	67,646 (82.8%)
Not Injured	556,142	457,090 (82.2%)
Total	638,529	524,999 (82.2%)
Passengers		
Fatality	294	85 (28.9%)
Non-Fatal Injury	23,300	17,954 (77.1%)
Not Injured	104,724	89,824 (85.8%)
Total	128,318	107,863 (84.1%)

Seat Position	Total Occupants	
	Age 15 and Older	Seat Belt Used [§]
Front Left	639,136	525,439 (82.2%)
Front Middle	3,322	2,527 (76.1%)
Front Right	91,724	79,575 (86.8%)
Back Left	10,741	8,619 (80.2%)
Back Middle	2,966	2,244 (75.7%)
Back Right	14,466	11,572 (80.0%)
Other	4,492	2,886 (64.2%)
Total	766,847	632,862 (82.5%)

Time of Day/Day of Week

Rates of seat belt use among occupants of passenger cars/light trucks varied by day of week, with the lowest rates of seat belt use on Friday (81.5%) and Saturday (80.1%).



[§] Percent using seat belts was defined as the number of people for whom seat belt use was reported divided by the total number of people involved in crashes

Geographic Facts

Rates of seat belt use among occupants of passenger cars/light trucks varied by geographic area within the state of Illinois where the crash occurred.

Occupant Type/Injury Type	Total Occupants	
	Age 15 and Older	Seat Belt Used [§]
Chicago		
Fatality	121	24 (19.8%)
Non-Fatal Injury	23,222	17,050 (73.4%)
Not Injured	167,283	108,299 (64.7%)
Total	190,626	125,373 (65.8%)
Suburban Cook County		
Fatality	114	46 (40.4%)
Non-Fatal Injury	22,835	19,208 (84.1%)
Not Injured	154,676	134,009 (86.6%)
Total	177,625	153,263 (86.3%)
Chicago Collar Counties		
Fatality	185	72 (38.9%)
Non-Fatal Injury	23,379	20,600 (88.1%)
Not Injured	146,301	135,667 (92.7%)
Total	169,865	156,339 (92.0%)
Rest of State - Urban		
Fatality	220	69 (31.4%)
Non-Fatal Injury	19,324	16,295 (84.3%)
Not Injured	106,559	96,819 (90.9%)
Total	126,103	113,183 (89.8%)
Rest of State - Rural		
Fatality	383	137 (35.8%)
Non-Fatal Injury	16,198	12,447 (76.8%)
Not Injured	86,047	72,120 (83.8%)
Total	102,628	84,704 (82.5%)

Note: Counties were stratified according to criteria defined by the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System for the Illinois Department of Public Health