

Quick Facts

Illinois Crash Information 2008

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.

	All Crashes	Crashes Involving Occupants of Passenger Cars/Light Trucks	Crashes Involving Occupants (Age 15+) of Passenger Cars/Light Trucks
Crashes:	408,399	375,306	363,039
Fatal Crashes:	950	642 ^a	626 ^{a,b}
Injury Crashes:	67,845	54,671 ^a	53,141 ^{a,b}
Total People Involved:	937,463 ^c	840,311 ^d	708,485 ^{d,b}
Total Fatalities:	1,043 ^c	722 ^d	697 ^{d,b}
Total Non-Fatal Injuries:	94,098 ^c	78,704 ^d	72,392 ^{d,b}

*Numbers 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. 937,463 total people = 927,093 occupants + 10,370 non-occupants

^dNumbers include occupants of passenger cars/light trucks only

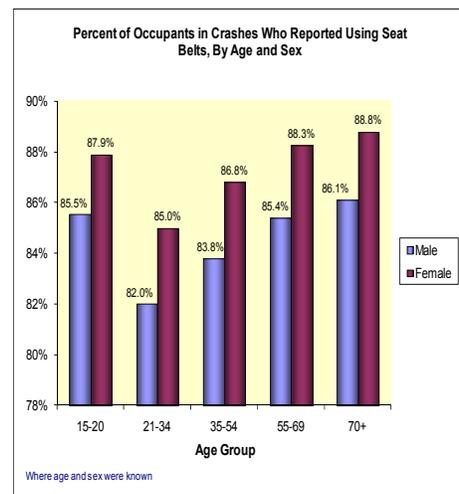
Occupants (drivers and passengers) of passenger cars and light trucks* who were aged 15 and above accounted for 697 (66.8%) of all 1,043 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2008. Among occupants of this age group, a far lower percentage of seat belt use[†] was reported for fatalities than for survivors.

Type of Injury	Total Occupants Age 15 and Older	Seat Belt Used*	Percentage
Fatality	697	308 (44.2%)	44%
Non-Fatal Injury	72,392	62,211 (85.9%)	86%
Not Injured	635,396	540,802 (85.1%)	85%
Total	708,485	603,321 (85.2%)	

Demographics

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

- Overall, 83.8% of male occupants and 86.7% 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 82.0%.[‡]



* 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

Note: Data as of January 6, 2010; with 408,399 crash records, 751,885 vehicle records and 937,463 person records

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 (84.2%), and the highest was among occupants of SUV's (87.9%)[§]
- Among fatally injured occupants, seat belts rates were lowest among occupants of pickup trucks (33.3%) and SUV's (36.4%).

Vehicle Type/Injury Type	Total Occupants Age 15 and Older	Seat Belt Used [§]
Passenger Car		
Fatality	435	214 (49.2%)
Non-Fatal Injury	51,248	44,032 (85.9%)
Not Injured	432,181	362,960 (84.0%)
Total	483,864	407,206 (84.2%)
Pickup Truck		
Fatality	117	39 (33.3%)
Non-Fatal Injury	5,698	4,696 (82.4%)
Not Injured	58,872	51,278 (87.1%)
Total	64,687	56,013 (86.6%)
Van/Minivan		
Fatality	38	16 (42.1%)
Non-Fatal Injury	6,048	5,243 (86.7%)
Not Injured	56,047	48,836 (87.1%)
Total	62,133	54,095 (87.1%)
SUV		
Fatality	107	39 (36.4%)
Non-Fatal Injury	9,398	8,240 (87.7%)
Not Injured	88,296	77,728 (88.0%)
Total	97,801	86,007 (87.9%)

Drivers, Passengers & Seat Position

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

- Overall, 85.0% of drivers used seat belts, compared with 85.9% of passengers.
- The seat belt rate was slightly lower among fatally injured passengers (39.7%) than among fatally injured drivers (45.8%).
- Among all occupants, seat belt usage varied by seat position, with occupants in the front middle (78.0%) and back middle (78.5%) using seat belts less often than occupants seated on the left or right.**
- Seat belt usage rates were also low (66.2%) among passengers who were exposed, enclosed, or seated elsewhere in the vehicles.**

Occupant Type/ Injury Type	Total Occupants Age 15 and Older	Seat Belt Used [§]
Drivers		
Fatality	513	235 (45.8%)
Non-Fatal Injury	55,172	48,152 (87.3%)
Not Injured	528,023	447,757 (84.8%)
Total	583,708	496,144 (85.0%)
Passengers		
Fatality	184	73 (39.7%)
Non-Fatal Injury	17,220	14,059 (81.6%)
Not Injured	107,373	93,045 (86.7%)
Total	124,777	107,177 (85.9%)

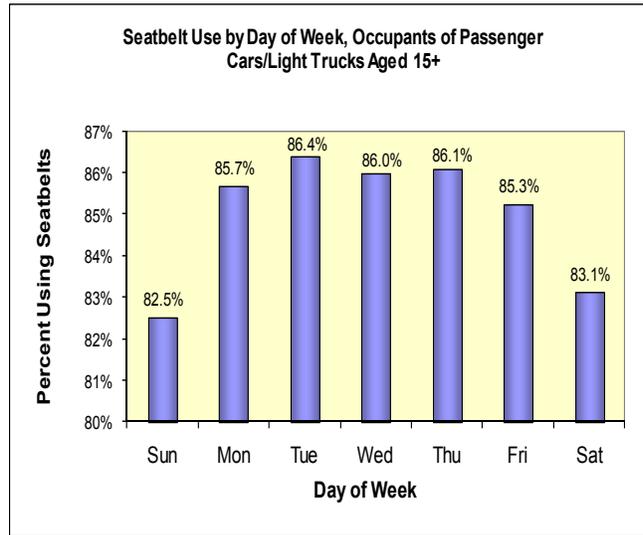
Seat Position**	Total Occupants Age 15 and Older	Seat Belt Used [§]
Front Left	586,344	497,374 (84.8%)
Front Middle	3,317	2,587 (78.0%)
Front Right	88,047	78,598 (89.3%)
Back Left	10,190	8,503 (83.4%)
Back Middle	2,730	2,143 (78.5%)
Back Right	13,452	11,200 (83.3%)
Other	4,405	2,916 (66.2%)
Total	708,485	603,321 (85.2%)

[§] 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 seat position was known

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 Saturday (83.1%) and Sunday (82.5%).



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 ^s
Chicago		
Fatality	244	92 (37.7%)
Non-Fatal Injury	27,003	20,485 (75.9%)
Not Injured	134,900	92,005 (68.2%)
Total	162,147	112,582 (69.4%)
Suburban Cook County		
Fatality	206	140 (68.0%)
Non-Fatal Injury	30,951	27,187 (87.8%)
Not Injured	133,044	115,631 (86.9%)
Total	164,201	142,958 (87.1%)
Chicago Collar Counties		
Fatality	231	156 (67.5%)
Non-Fatal Injury	33,954	31,500 (92.8%)
Not Injured	133,501	124,862 (93.5%)
Total	167,686	156,518 (93.3%)
Rest of State - Urban		
Fatality	352	218 (61.9%)
Non-Fatal Injury	26,620	24,244 (91.1%)
Not Injured	91,579	84,777 (92.6%)
Total	118,551	109,239 (92.1%)
Rest of State - Rural		
Fatality	644	355 (55.1%)
Non-Fatal Injury	20,085	16,812 (83.7%)
Not Injured	77,746	66,765 (85.9%)
Total	98,475	83,932 (85.2%)

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