

PRIMARY SEAT BELT LAW FACTS



When primary laws are passed, seat belt usage rates rise.¹

A primary seat belt law in Colorado can save **22** lives and **2,291** injuries in the first year alone.²

22 & 2,291
LIVES **INJURIES**



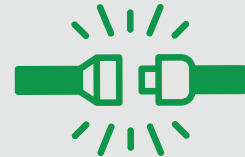
of Colorado drivers say they support a primary seat belt law.³



Colorado ranks **36th** in seat belt use nationwide, at 84%. The national average is 90%.⁴

1 OF ONLY **16**

Colorado is **1** of only **16** states without a primary seat belt law.⁵



There were **217** unbelted deaths in 2017, up **17%** from 2016.⁶

A LAW PASSED = LIVES SAVED



SAVING LIVES

States that recently passed primary seat belt laws had a **12%** drop in unrestrained fatalities.⁷

In 2016, seat belts **saved 209 lives** in Colorado. But we can do better.⁸

In 2017, seat belt use fell to **70%** in some rural areas of Colorado. Unbuckled people are especially vulnerable in rural Colorado where, currently, **75%** of people die at the scene of the crash.⁹

SAVING MONEY



Vehicle crashes cost Colorado **\$623M/year** in medical/work loss costs.¹⁰

If Colorado's seat belt use rate rises to 90%, we can save **\$111M** per year in productivity, medical costs and emergency services.¹¹

DID YOU KNOW ?

Unbuckled people can be dangerous projectiles in a crash. In fact, they increase risk of injury and death to others by **40%**.¹²

Seat belts are your best defense against a drunk, drugged or distracted driver.¹³

IT ALL ADDS UP

A primary seat belt law saves lives and money.



MOVING TOWARDS
ZERO
DEATHS

- 1 Economic and Societal Impact of Motor Vehicle Crashes. NHTSA, 2015
- 2 Motor Vehicle Safety Calculator. CDC, 2014
- 3 Annual Driver Survey. CDOT, 2015
- 4 Seat Belt Use Rates in the States and Territories. Traffic Safety Facts, NHTSA, 2016
- 5 States with Primary Seat Belt Laws. GHSA, 2016
- 6 CDOT data analysis, 2017, preliminary data
- 7 State Traffic Safety Information. NHTSA, 2015
- 8 State Traffic Safety Information. NHTSA, 2016
- 9 Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS). Colorado, 2010-2016
- 10 Motor Vehicle Crash Deaths: Costly but Preventable. CDC, 2015
- 11 The Increase in Lives Saved, Injuries Prevented, and Cost Savings if Seat Belt Use Rose to at Least 90 Percent in All States. Traffic Safety Facts, NHTSA, 2009
- 12 40% risk increase—Risk of injury for occupants of motor vehicle collisions from unbelted occupants. Injury Prevention, 2004
- 13 Best defense—Exchange Newsletter. AAA, 2016

CITATIONS