

Are Iowan Children Buckled Up?

Results from Iowa's 2019 Child Passenger Restraint Survey



Among 3,088 children ages birth to 17

94.9%

were properly restrained in accordance with Iowa law.

99.0%

1-year-olds or younger

A child under 1 year old and weighing <20 lbs must be secured in a rear-facing child restraint system.

92.5%

2 to 5 year olds

A child age 1 up to 6 years old must be secured in a child restraint system.

96.5%

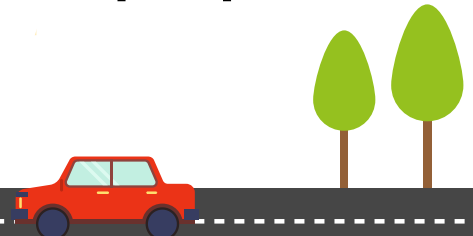
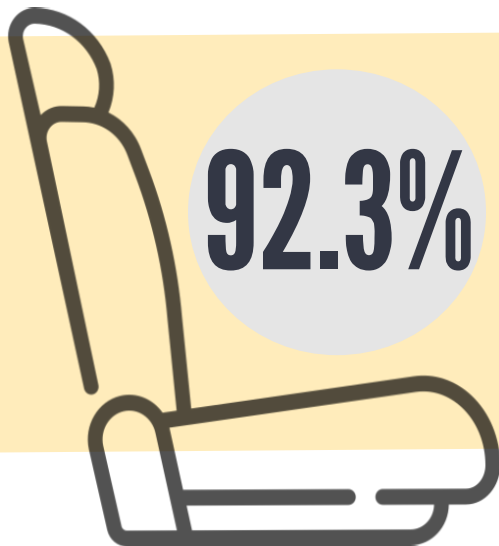
6 to 13 year olds

A child from age 6 to 11 must be secure in a child restraint system or by a safety belt.

92.3%

of teens (ages 14-17) were using a seat belt.

We surveyed **36 communities** ranging in size from about **1,400 to 217,000** people each.



Rural



92.9%

Properly restrained



Urban

97.7%

Properly restrained



5.3% of toddlers (ages 2-5) were **not properly* restrained**

*were in seat belt only



This is a decrease from 2018 (6.2%).

Key Findings



- 2019 saw the highest number of unrestrained children aged 5 years and younger within the past 4 years.
- Unrestrained children were more likely to live in rural areas.
- Slight decreases in restraint use were observed in all age groups compared to 2018, with a larger decrease among teens, but overall rates still remained higher than the past 5-year average.



Of children not restrained, **47.1%** rode in the front seat.

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

!IPRC INJURY PREVENTION RESEARCH CENTER

www.uiiprc.org

This survey was conducted by the University of Iowa Injury Prevention Research Center with funding from the Iowa Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau.