

# Are Iowa Children Buckled Up?

Results from Iowa's 2022 Child Passenger Restraint Survey



**98.6%**

of children were restrained by any means.

**99.8%**

of drivers wore seatbelts.

## % Properly Restrained in Accordance with Iowa Law

Among 3,048 children ages 17 and under

**91.9%**

were properly restrained in accordance with Iowa law.

**96.5%**

1-year-olds or younger

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

**78.6%**

2 to 5 year olds

*A child from age 2 to 5 years old must be secured in a child restraint system.*

**97.6%**

6 to 13 year olds

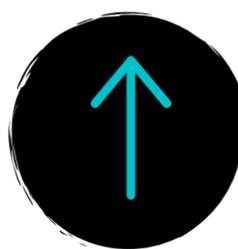
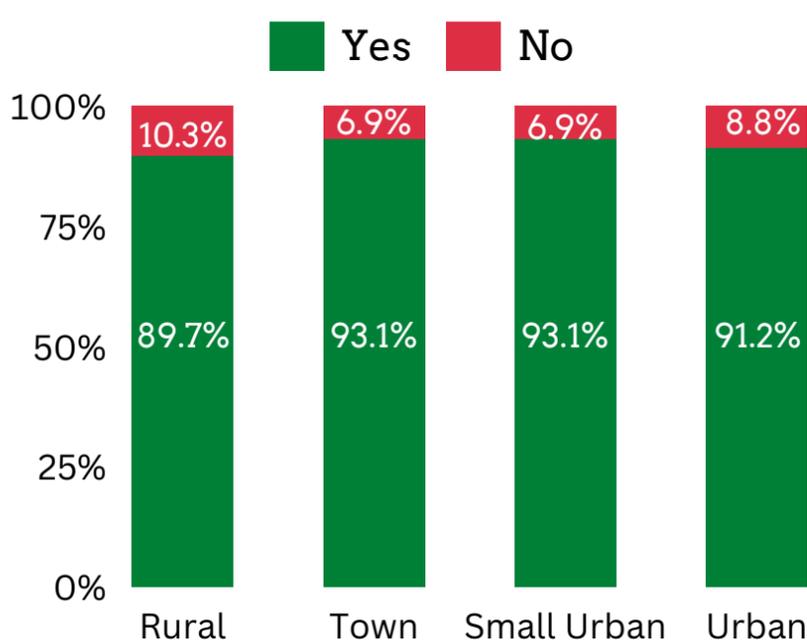
*A child from age 6 to 13 must be secured in a child restraint system or by a safety belt.*

**98.8%**

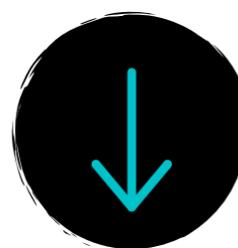
14 to 17 year olds

*A child from age 14-17 must be in a child restraint system or by a safety belt.*

## Proper Child Passenger Restraint Use by Community Size



2.1% Increase in Properly Restrained Children in 2022 Compared to 2021



3.3% Decrease in Unrestrained Children in the Back Seat in 2022 Compared to 2021



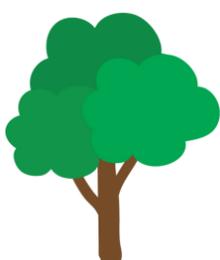
## Key Findings

- Children between the ages 2 to 5 had the highest rate of being improperly restrained (booster or seatbelt only instead of a child safety seat).
- The lowest proper restraint use rates occurred in the smallest communities (1,000-2,499), while communities with a population size of 2,500-9,999 had the lowest restraint rates by any means.
- 2022 had the highest rate of restrained children by any means in the past 5 years.
- Observed driver restraint rates in 2022 were consistent with the previous year (99.8% vs 99.7%).

## Implications

The greatest potential impact for efforts to increase restraint are in rural areas and among young children, especially toddlers.

We surveyed 36 communities ranging in a population from 1,400 to 217,000.



**IOWA**

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