

LEADING CAUSES – MOTOR VEHICLE INJURIES INCLUDING RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

Ohio Data

- Motor vehicle injuries remain the leading cause of death for Ohioans aged 5 to 20. On average, 80 Ohioans in this age range lose their lives each year as occupants in motor vehicles and on recreational vehicles.¹
- Children and youth of all ages are at risk for injuries from motor vehicle, including recreational vehicles.
- Across the nation, during the summer months, child (<14 years) deaths as occupants of motor vehicles increase 20% over the average annual rate.²
 - **In Ohio during 2007:**³
 - 155 youth (105 drivers/43 passengers) aged 16-20 years were killed (70% male) and 18,680 were injured (46% male) in crashes.
 - 217 drivers aged 16-20 were involved in fatal crashes.
 - Of the 79,140 crashes involving drivers aged 16-20, 65% (51,871) were in error.
 - On average, 1,093 Ohioans 20 years and younger are admitted to a hospital each year for injuries sustained as an occupant in a motor vehicle. About three out of four (846) of these admissions occur among older youth (16 -20 years), while many (246) children younger than 16 are also hospitalized for motor vehicle occupant-related injury.³
 - More other land transport-related injuries (including recreational vehicles such as all-terrain vehicles), requiring a hospital stay occur among children younger than 16 (145 hospital admissions, 54%), than among those who are 16 to 20 years (125, 46%).³

Sources:

¹CDC WONDER

²Safe Kids US Summer Safety Ranking Report

³Children's Safety Network Economics and Data Analysis Resource Center, based on 2003 incidence, Ohio

Prevention of Motor Vehicle-related Injury for Parents and Caregivers

- Child restraints, booster seats and seat belts (according to child's age, weight and height) should be used at all times when children are riding in motor vehicles.

Follow these **Four-Steps for Safety:**

1. Rear-facing car seat in the back until at least one year and more than 20 pounds.
2. Forward facing car seat in the back until 4 years and 40 pounds.
3. Belt-positioning booster seats in the back until 8 years or at least 4'9" tall - **[*New Ohio Law: Booster Seat Law](http://www.odh.ohio.gov/ASSETS/3E3B0F0449A7466AB97F9A5279815F72/childlaw.pdf)**, effective October 7, 2009 – link to <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/ASSETS/3E3B0F0449A7466AB97F9A5279815F72/childlaw.pdf>
4. Seat Belts - after age 8 or at least 4'9"- for life.



- Children under the age of 12 should ride in the back – the back is the safest for all riders!
- Children under 6 years of age should be kept indoors when adults are mowing the lawn and should not be allowed to ride as passengers on mowers. Never lift children onto a running riding mower.
- Children under 16 should not drive or ride on an all terrain vehicle (ATV) or a motorcycle. All riders should wear helmets and other protective gear, and take a riding safety course.
- Make sure your teen driver always buckles up and is not driving distracted things such as other passengers or cell phones. Develop a contract with your teen driver. See resources below for more information on [teen driving safety](#).
<http://healthyohioprogram.org/ASSETS/2EAA229AAF434D3F9A156F1F4F433681/safeteen.pdf>.
 Learn about [Ohio's Graduated Driver's Licensing Law](#)
http://www.bmv.ohio.gov/driver_license/gdl_info.htm

For more Information on Motor Vehicle and Recreational Vehicle Injuries

- [Ohio Department of Health Child Passenger Safety Program](#)
<http://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhPrograms/hpr/cpsafe/cpsafety.aspx>
- [Ohio Department of Health Teen Driving Factsheet](#)
<http://healthyohioprogram.org/ASSETS/2EAA229AAF434D3F9A156F1F4F433681/safeteen.pdf>
- [Ohio Department of Public Safety – Graduated Driver's Licensing Information](#)
http://www.bmv.ohio.gov/driver_license/gdl_info.htm
- [CDC: Protect the Ones you Love from Road Traffic Injuries](#)
http://www.cdc.gov/SafeChild/Road_Traffic_Injuries/default.htm
- [Safe Kids USA Child Passenger Safety](#) - <http://www.usa.safekids.org/skbu/cps/index.html>
- [American Academy of Pediatrics – Car Seat Guide for Families](#) -
<http://www.aap.org/family/carseatguide.htm>
- [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration – Child Passenger Safety](#)
http://www.nhtsa.gov/portal/site/nhtsa/template.MAXIMIZE/menuitem.9f8c7d6359e0e9bbb30811060008a0c/?javax.portlet.tpst=4427b997caacf504a8bdba101891ef9a_ws_MX&javax.portlet.prp_4427b997caacf504a8bdba101891ef9a_viewID=detail_view&itemID=ce45e2542a964110VgnVCM1000002fd17898RCRD&viewType=standard
- [Children's Safety Network – Child Passenger Safety](#)
<http://www.childrendefinesafety.org/topics/showtopic.asp?pkTopicID=24>
- [Children's Safety Network - Teen Driving](#)
<http://www.childrendefinesafety.org/topics/showtopic.asp?pkTopicID=35>
- [Children's Safety Network – Off Road Vehicles](#)
<http://www.childrendefinesafety.org/topics/showtopic.asp?pkTopicID=26>
- [US Consumer Product Safety Commission – ATV Safety](#)
<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/pubs/540.html>