

public awareness and compliance with the primary safety belt law.

- In 2008, more than 300,200 motorists were convicted of not wearing safety belts in Illinois. About 10,600 motorists were convicted of not properly restraining their children in a moving vehicle.
- Illinois reported 1,043 traffic fatalities for 2008 — 34 percent of those killed were not wearing safety belts.
- According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, safety belts are the single-most effective traffic safety device.
- A USDOT study showed that safety belts saved the lives of an estimated 15,147 people in 2007.

Passenger restraint laws

- Drivers and front-seat passengers age 8 and older must wear safety belts.
- All passengers age 16 and under must be buckled in regardless of location in the vehicle.
- Any person transporting a child under age 8 is responsible for securing the child in an appropriate child safety seat for their age and weight.
- All passengers under age 19 with a driver under age 18 must wear safety belts, regardless of location in the vehicle, and may be ticketed for violation of the law.

For more information on safety belt usage, child passenger requirements and other traffic laws, please consult the *Illinois Rules of the Road*, available at your local Driver Services facility or at www.cyberdriveillinois.com.



WWW.CYBERDRIVEILLINOIS.COM

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JESSE  WHITE
SECRETARY OF STATE



“CLICK IT” or TICKET



A law you can LIVE with



Under Illinois' primary safety belt law, motorists may be stopped and ticketed solely for failing to wear their safety belts. Since passage of the law in 2003, the safety belt usage rate in Illinois has increased every year, reaching an impressive 92 percent usage rate in June 2009.

Our efforts at increasing public awareness about the law and the life-saving potential of wearing safety belts does not end here. Traffic crashes continue to claim the lives of thousands of people across the country each year. In 2008, 1,043 traffic fatalities occurred in Illinois. Thirty-four percent of those killed were not wearing safety belts. Many of those lives could have been saved had they buckled up.

This brochure provides important facts and statistics on safety belt usage as well as passenger restraint laws. Please review this information and share it with others. Remember, next time you get in your vehicle, “Click It” or face a ticket.

Jesse White

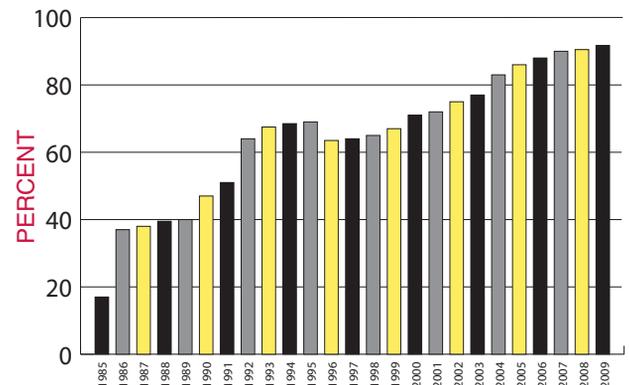
Jesse White
Secretary of State

Facts you can LIVE with

- The safety belt usage rate increased from 16 percent to 36 percent in the first year after Illinois' safety belt law took effect in 1985, and climbed to 76 percent by 2003.
- Illinois' primary safety belt law became effective July 2003. It authorized police officers to stop vehicles in which occupants are not buckled up and issue citations. Previously, a motorist had to be stopped for another moving violation before a safety belt citation could be issued.
- The safety belt usage rate increased to 92 percent in June 2009. This increase can be attributed to

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Front Seat Occupant Restraint Usage Rate



Note: 1998 through 2009 safety belt usage rates include pickup truck drivers and passengers.

“Click It or Ticket” is sponsored by the Illinois Department of Transportation and supported by the Office of the Secretary of State, the Illinois State Police, the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, the Illinois Sheriffs’ Association, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and more than 450 law enforcement agencies statewide.

