



National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Our Vision: Save lives, prevent injuries, reduce vehicle-related crashes



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Child Passenger Safety



Our Mission - Saving Lives

Securing our Most Precious Cargo

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among children ages 2 to 14, due in large part to the nonuse or improper use of child seats and seat belts. Working with parents and our partners our goal is to ensure every child is properly secured and safe every trip, every time.

Parents - Not Sure Which Car Seat to Use?

Are you looking for a new car seat for your infant, toddler or 4-8 year old child but overwhelmed by the choices and worried about how to properly install your car seat? Our 4 Steps for Kids campaign will help you properly choose and install the correct car seat for your child. Simply click on the link below that best matches your child.

CPS Advocates - Seeking Resources for your Local Efforts?

If you are a traffic safety advocate, law enforcement officer, or other CPS stakeholder, click [HERE](#) for our 2008 CPS Week Planner designed to help you promote, enhance, and enforce child passenger safety.

4 Easy Steps to Protect America's Children



REAR-FACING SEATS in the back seat from birth to at least 1 year old and at least 20 pounds.



FORWARD-FACING TODDLER SEATS in the back seat from age 1 and 20 pounds to about age 4 and 40 pounds.



BOOSTER SEATS in the back seat from about age 4 to at least age 8, unless 4'9" tall.



SAFETY BELTS at age 8 and older or taller than 4'9". All children age 12 and under should ride in the back seat.

Latest News:

- LATCH Child Safety Seat System Confusing, Says NHTSA Study
 - Details of LATCH study (pdf)
- Key Provisions of Occupant Restraint Laws
- LATCH Child Restraint System
- Low Child Booster Seat Use Called "Unacceptable"

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For Parents

LATCH
Child seat ratings
Child seat check sites
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Airbags & car seats
Car safety ratings
Child growth chart
Flyer - 4 Steps for Kids

CPS General Topics

Annual CPS campaign
Policy, laws & regs
Studies & reports
Certification
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Educational materials

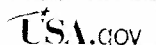
Materials in Spanish

Annual CPS campaign
Child seat ratings
Child growth chart
Flyer - 4 Steps for Kids

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Child Safety Seats

**Traffic crashes are the leading
cause of death and injury
to children ages 0-15**

- NHTSA, 2001

Is your child in the right seat?

	Infants	Toddlers	Youngsters
Weight*	Up to 20-35lbs	Over 1 year and 20-40lbs	Over 40lbs up to 80lbs
Type	Infant only or rear-facing convertible	Forward- facing/ convertible	Belt positioning booster
Position	Rear-facing only	Forward- facing	Forward- facing
Notes	Harness straps at or below shoulder level	Harness straps at or above shoulders	Must be used with lap and shoulder belts

Keep children rear facing as long as possible.

* Manufacturer weight/height limits vary.

**Always buckle children
in the back seat!!**

What are Alaska's laws on child safety seats?

- ❖ As of 2006 the Alaska law requires all passengers regardless of age to use a seat belt or appropriate restraint device.
- ❖ Children under four years of age must be properly secured in a federally approved child safety seat.
- ❖ Children over four must be secured in an approved child safety seat, booster seat or safety belt, whichever is appropriate for the particular child.
- ❖ The driver of a car is responsible for every passenger under the age of 16.

**A driver convicted of violating
the child restraint portion of the
law is guilty of an infraction,
punishable by a fine of up to \$50
and two demerit points on his/her
operator's license.**



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American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™



Alaska Chapter

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Alaska State House of Representatives
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Honorable Representatives,

On behalf of the Alaska Chapter AAP I would like to lend our chapter's support for HB 131 that will update and modernize our Child Safety Seat laws to include the use of booster seats, and to spell out safe practices of child restraint devices that are appropriate for infants and children of all ages.

Seat belts are made for adults. Children should stay in a booster seat until adult seat belts fit correctly, usually when the child reaches 4' 9" in height and is between 8 and 12 years of age. The Alaska Chapter AAP recommends that state child safety seat laws are brought up to this standard.

Results from the 2007 National Survey of the Use of Booster Seats conducted by the National Center for Statistics and Analysis of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reveals alarmingly that booster seat use rates for children ages 6 and 7 dropped from 36 percent in 2006 to 25 percent in 2007. The study concludes that there is premature graduation of children from birth to age 12 to restraint types that are inappropriate for their height or weight.

SB 72 would help to alleviate confusion among parents and caregivers as to which safety devices are appropriate for their children. Alaska's pediatricians are happy to do their part by counseling parents during doctors' visits on how to keep their children safe while riding in vehicles.

Sincerely,

Jodyne L. Butto,

Jodyne L Butto MD, FAAP
President