

# Transportation Safety Division Click It or Ticket – May 2015

## **“Buckle Everyone, Every Time, Every Trip”**

**In 2013, Oregon saved 175 lives because they were buckled up.\***

**That’s why law enforcement is joining a statewide campaign to emphasize safety.**

To remind drivers and passengers about the life-saving power of properly used safety belts and child safety seats, law enforcement agencies from around the state will be out in force from May 18 – 31, including at night, when people often skip the potentially life-saving practice.



**One-fourth of those killed in 2013 were not wearing seatbelts.**

Of the 216 vehicle occupants killed in Oregon motor vehicle crashes during 2013, 54 were unrestrained. For 24 others who died, we don’t know whether or not they were restrained. It’s tragic to think of the potential lives that could be saved by taking a few extra seconds to buckle up.

**Nighttime sees more unbelted fatalities.**

Of the 104 vehicle occupants that died at night in 2013, more than half were unrestrained or improperly restrained.



**New this year: equipped van will help train technicians**

After more than a year in the making, our new child passenger safety training van is on the road – and making it safer for young passengers. Federal funds administered by ODOT’s Transportation Safety Division (TSD) helped purchase and update a van to promote child passenger

safety and train certified technicians in how to install safety seats – and how to teach *others* to do so as well, such as parents, grandparents and caregivers. Through a TSD grant, the van resides with Legacy Emanuel’s Randall Children’s Hospital, where it is managed by Child Passenger Safety Coordinator Tammy Franks, [TFranks@LHS.ORG](mailto:TFranks@LHS.ORG) or (503) 413-4665.

**Remember: It’s not time ‘til they’re 4’9**

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### Oregon law requires the following:

- Child passengers weighing less than forty pounds must be restrained in a child seat.
- Children under one year or weighing less than twenty pounds must be restrained in a rear-facing child seat.
- A child over forty pounds must be restrained in either a child seat or a booster seat appropriate for the child's size until he/she reaches age eight or 4/9" tall AND the adult belt system fits properly.

### Key Facts for Oregon

- Oregon leads the nation with highest reported seatbelt use: 98.18%. Still, NHTSA estimates six lives could have been saved here in 2013 if *everyone* buckled up.\*
- OSP, sheriffs and local police will be working day and night to increase proper safety belt and child car seat use during a statewide traffic enforcement "blitz" from May 18 through May 31, 2015.
- Child car seats reduce the likelihood of infants under 1 year old being killed in a crash by 71 percent and the fatal risk for toddlers aged 1 to 4 by 54 percent, and 58 and 59 percent for infants and toddlers in SUVs, pickups and vans.
- Safety belts reduce the chance of fatal injury by 45 to 65 percent.

*\*Estimate, according to a report issued April 29, 2015 by the National Highway Transportation Safety Association.*

### Contact Information

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View our 3-minute video at:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TSPublishing/Images/safety/elts/swf/index.html>

To see a calendar of child safety seat clinics, visit [www.oregonimpact.org](http://www.oregonimpact.org).

