

- » **Motor vehicle crashes** are the leading cause of **death** for people ages 1-34. (CDC, May 2017)
- » In Arkansas, nearly 1 out of every 2 persons killed in a motor vehicle crash were unrestrained. Two out of 5 teens ages 14-19 killed in a car crash were not wearing a seat belt. (FARS, May 2017)
- » **Ejection** from the vehicle is one of the most injurious events that can happen to a person in a crash. In 2015, 81% of passenger vehicle occupants who were ejected were killed. (Traffic Safety Facts 2017, NHTSA)

Does Arkansas' Primary Seat Belt Law keep people safe and alive? *YES.*



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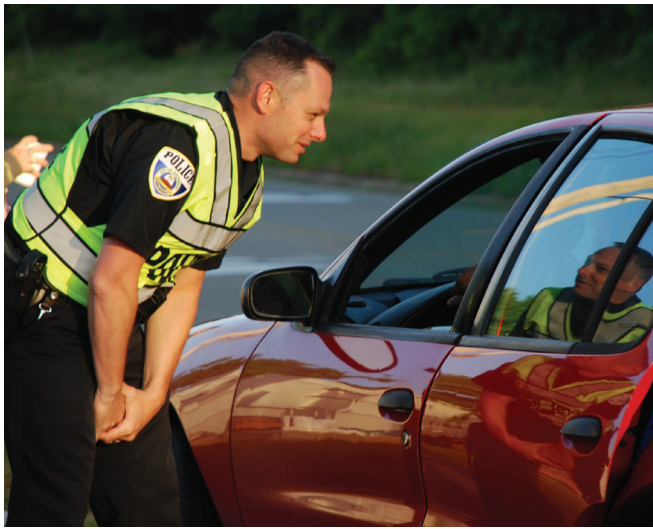
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Buckle Up Arkansas!



**A Guide to Arkansas'
Primary Seat Belt Law**



Buckle Up Arkansas - It's the law!

Arkansas law requires **drivers and front seat passengers** in motor vehicles to **buckle up**.

Drivers and front seat passengers can be issued a **traffic citation** for not wearing a seat belt.

All passengers must wear a seat belt when riding with a **teen driver with a learner's or intermediate license**.

According to Arkansas law, children must be in a child passenger seat until they are **6 years and/or 60 pounds**. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends children remain in child passenger seats until **8 years, 80 pounds, or 4' 9" tall**. They also recommend that children ride in the back seat until the age of 13.

Know the Facts

In 2017, **Arkansas** seat belt use was 80% and the national average was 89.7%. (NHTSA)

States that have **primary seat belt** laws have **higher seat belt use rates** and **lower fatality rates** (Primary Enforcement Saves Lives, NHTSA).

Enforcement

The passage of a **Primary Seat Belt Law** allows law enforcement officers to stop and ticket someone when they see a violation of the seat belt law. **No other violation needs to occur first before taking action.**



Seat belts and child safety seats help prevent injury five different ways by:

1. Preventing ejection.
2. Shifting crash forces to the strongest parts of the body.
3. Spreading forces over a wide area of the body.
4. Allowing the body to slow down gradually.
5. Protecting the head and spinal cord.