

# THE MAINE LIAISON



Edition 35

Maine Bureau of Highway Safety

September 2020

## Highway Safety Grants

Thank you to all the agencies and all the officers who participated in the 2020 highway safety grants. It does make a difference for quality of life for our citizens. All grants are wrapping up next week and new grant applications will be reviewed as they come in. Our 2021 highway safety plan has been approved so look for the invitations to specific grants.

Traffic safety enforcement stepped up during the period of August 26<sup>th</sup> – September 7<sup>th</sup> from northern Maine to southern Maine, with about 27 agencies (including the Maine State Police) conducting dedicated overtime patrols directed at impaired driving. Preliminary data indicates there were more than 12 OUI arrests per day during this period.

Sadly we cannot consider the Labor Day Weekend a success. We had a fatal crash in Palmyra. Initial investigation indicates speed and alcohol may have been involved. [Read more](#)



We would like to help you make the coming year a better year by preventing crashes. The Maine Bureau of Highway Safety is here for you. TR

### Click It or Ticket November 2-29, 2020

The annual Click It or Ticket campaign focuses on safety education, strong laws, and law enforcement officers saving lives.

This year the campaign has been rescheduled from May to November due to law enforcement agencies' competing priorities assisting with the national public health crisis.

It will return to its annual occurrence in May 2021.

The high-visibility campaign enforces seat belt use and spreads the message about the importance of buckling up -- every trip, every time.

The correlation is clear: when you increase seat belt use, you reduce crash fatalities.



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**2021 NHTSA Traffic Safety Events  
Calendar is available [here](#)**

Below is the press release the Maine Bureau of Highway Safety shared before the Labor day weekend. Holidays are often the biggest travel periods but the same message applies to every day, every trip, every one. Here is some of the media stories.



## Labor Day Traffic Expected To Be Heaviest Friday

*The Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Highway Safety encourages use of caution while on the road this weekend*

**AUGUSTA, ME** – Since 1975, Maine’s traffic fatalities have been steadily declining, but last year there was a slight uptick in [fatal car](#) crashes compared to 2018. While Maine’s deaths increased in that one year period, [national traffic fatalities saw a decrease](#) according to the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The Bureau of Highway Safety would like to see Maine’s upwards trend reversed in 2020. Safe driving this Labor Day Weekend is vital to this mission.



This weekend marks the unofficial end of Maine’s summer tourism season. Though there has been a reduction in travel during COVID-19, road trips are still taking place and Maine continues to receive summer visitors. Predictions put Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup> as the heaviest day for Labor Day weekend traffic. With the holiday weekend comes increased alcohol consumption and higher rates of impaired driving fatalities. Between 2016 and 2019, 14 people died on Maine roads during the Labor Day holiday.

Statistics demonstrate that Maine must remain vigilant in deterring impaired driving and reducing related deaths. “The Maine Bureau of Highway Safety and Maine DOT found that of 136 motor vehicle traffic fatalities, 34 were alcohol related (.08 BAC and above). Nationally, 10,511 people were killed in drunk driving crashes in 2018.”

“If you are planning on drinking, look ahead and also plan a safe ride home. Drunk driving is 100% preventable.” The Director of Maine’s Bureau of Highway Safety, Lauren V. Stewart said.

The Maine Bureau of Highway Safety also warns that driving while impaired on any substance or a combination of substances is dangerous.. A driver’s judgment and ability to react are both impaired when driving high - If you feel different, you drive different.

### **MeBHS recommends these safe alternatives to driving impaired:**

Remember that it is never okay to drive impaired on drugs or alcohol. Even if you’ve had only one alcoholic beverage, play it safe and designate a sober driver or plan to use public transportation or a ride sharing service to get home safely.

Download NHTSA’s SaferRide mobile app, available on Google Play for Android devices: (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.nhtsa.SaferRide&hl=en>), and Apple’s iTunes Store for iOS devices: (<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/saferide/id950774008?mt=8>). SaferRide allows users to call a taxi or a predetermined friend and identifies the user’s location so they can be picked up.

If you see or suspect an impaired driver on the road, contact your local law enforcement for help. Have a friend who is about to drive impaired? Take the keys away and make arrangements to get your friend home safely.

# ADVANCED ROADSIDE IMPAIRED DRIVING ENFORCEMENT (A.R.I.D.E.) PROGRAM



## Program Description:

The Maine Bureau of Highway Safety and the Maine Criminal Justice Academy are pleased to offer The National Highway Traffic Safety Administrations' A.R.I.D.E. course. The course provides officers a better understanding of the elements surrounding the enforcement of impaired driver laws. The course is designed to help officers become more proficient at detecting, apprehending, testing and prosecuting impaired drivers. The course includes elements of both the Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) and Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) curriculum. **This course is not intended to certify you as a Drug Recognition Expert, although it is being considered as a prerequisite for future DRE candidates.** Attendees must be proficient in the SFST battery with emphasis on HGN procedures.

The candidate who successfully completes the training will be able to recognize that an individual may be under the influence of a drug or drugs other than alcohol, or under the combined influence of alcohol and other drugs, or suffering from some injury or illness that produces signs similar to alcohol/drug impairment.

This course was not designed to be offered to new police recruits. This is an intermediate level course designed to offer more than a basic understanding of the impairing effects of drugs (Illicit and Licit), alcohol, and/or the combination of both.

## Personnel who may attend:

All full time law enforcement officers actively enforcing impaired driving laws that work for a department that is committed to detecting and deterring impaired drivers.

## Prerequisites:

- o Full Time Law Enforcement Officer
  - o Must have completed the SFST program and been deemed proficient by the MCJA.
- Must meet with an instructor prior to the beginning of the class and review your SFST skills at which time the instructor will sign a new proficiency exam sheet. The signed exam sheet is required on the first day of class.

Class Limit: 15 Students (MCJA In-Service Application required)

**Date:** December 14 & 15, 2020

**Location:** Old Orchard Beech Police Department 16 E. Emerson Cummings Blvd

**Date** January 4 & 5, 2021

**Location:** Wells Police Department, 1563 Post Road

**Time:** 8:30 - 4:30

**Fee:** Sponsored by the Maine Bureau of Highway Safety at no cost to your agency.

**Contact:** MCJA 877-8000

## October is Pedestrian Safety Month

[More Information](#)

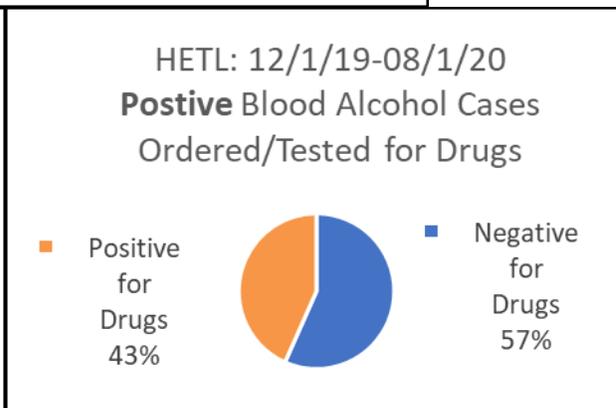
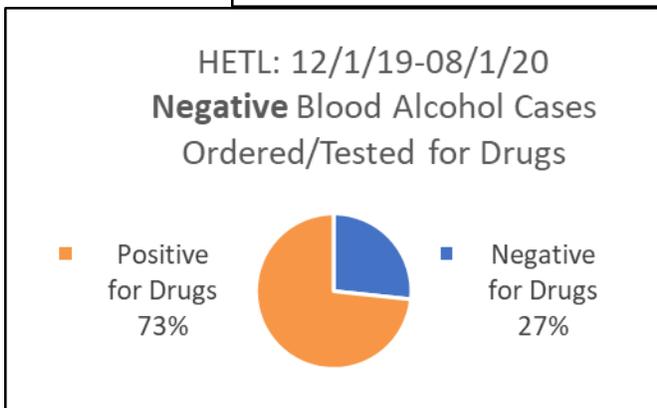
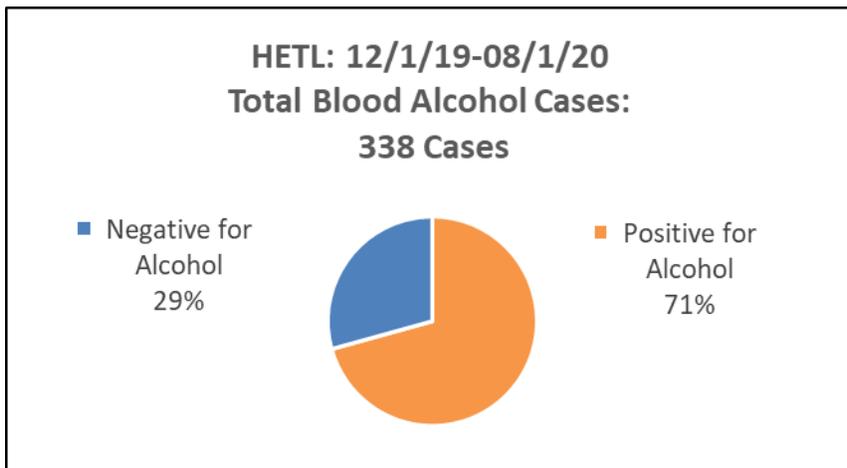
Whether it be in a parking lot, crosswalk, or on a road, everyone is a pedestrian. In 2016, there were 5,987 pedestrians killed in traffic crashes in the United States [a 9% increase from 2015], which equates to a death every 1.5 hours.

# Chemist's Corner



Maine Center for Disease  
Control and Prevention  
An Office of the  
Department of Health and Human Services

Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory  
Forensic Chemistry Section-Toxicology



HETL: Blood Drug Testing Program	Top 6 Most Frequently Detected Compounds in Blood
1	<b>Carboxy-THC</b> <i>(non-psychoactive metabolite of Δ9-THC)</i>
2	<b>Fentanyl</b>
3	<b>Δ9-THC</b> <i>(psychoactive compound found in cannabis)</i>
4	<b>Norfentanyl</b> <i>(metabolite of Fentanyl)</i>
5	<b>Amphetamine</b>
6	<b>Methamphetamine</b>

## Operation Safe Driver Week Nets 10,000 Commercial Motor Vehicle Violations –

During the first enforcement initiative of the year for the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance, enforcement officials stopped 29,921 commercial motor vehicle drivers for various offenses, resulting in more than 10,000 warnings and citations.

[Read more >>](#)



Find out if your vehicle has an open recall. It's free to check and free to repair at a dealer <https://www.checktoprotect.org/>



### DRE Refresher

We will be holding several 6-hour regional seminars throughout the state. We will be discussing: Current Issues in the DRE Program, The National Database, Drug Trends, Reviewing the “Work from Home” assignment and a question and answer period. These classes will be limited to 15 students each and priority will be given to applicants that need the training for re-certification in 2020, then 2021 and finally 2022.



Cape Elizabeth Fire, September 24, 2020  
Holden PD, October 14, 2020

MCJA, October 20, 2020 (Class full)  
MCJA, December 3, 2020

### Traffic Safety Facts: Occupant Protection ([DOT HS 812 967](#)):

According to the NOPUS for 2018, estimated belt use increased from 84.1 percent in 2009 to 89.6 percent in 2018. NOPUS provides nationwide probability based observed data on seat belt use in the United States. In 2018 there were 36,560 traffic fatalities in the United States.

Looking only at those passenger vehicle occupants who were killed and their restraint use was known, 53 percent were restrained and 47 percent were unrestrained. [Read more](#)



### Police K9 tracks down fleeing driver after traffic stop in York leads to drug bust



According to the York Police Department, on Friday, August 7, Cpl. Jesse Duda attempted to conduct a traffic stop for a speeding vehicle in the construction zone near Mile 10 northbound in York. The vehicle failed to stop and a pursuit ensued. [Read More](#)

### Hands-Free Traffic Stop Leads to Gun, Drug Arrest: State Police



A 20-year-old New Bedford man pulled over for several apparent traffic violations was arrested for alleged firearm and drug possession, authorities said. [Read More](#)

### Traffic stop leads to felony drug, gun arrest



GLASGOW, Ky. – A traffic stop resulted in a felony drug arrest Thursday in Glasgow. Glasgow police stopped what they said was a speeding vehicle on Veterans Outer Loop. An officer talked to the driver, Jeronald Page, he learned that Page’s license was suspended, according to a release from Glasgow Police Department. [Read More](#)

## New State Fact Sheets on Alcohol-Impaired Driving



Every day, 29 people in the United States die in motor vehicle crashes that involve an alcohol-impaired driver. This is one death every 50 minutes. The annual cost of alcohol-related crashes totals more than \$44 billion. Nationally, alcohol-impaired drivers got behind the wheel 147 million times in 2018.

CDC released new [state-based fact sheets](#) on alcohol-impaired driving deaths and an overview of proven strategies to reduce or prevent alcohol-impaired driving. During NHTSA's [Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over](#) national enforcement mobilization campaign (August 19-September 7), CDC encourages states to use the new state-based fact sheets to identify strategies to help people stay safe on the road.

# Maine

### These include

- Alcohol-impaired driving laws
  - Publicized sobriety checkpoints
  - High-visibility saturation patrols
  - Ignition interlocks for all, including first time, convicted offenders
  - Alcohol problem assessment and treatment programs
  - Alcohol screening and brief interventions
  - Multi-component interventions that combine several programs and policies
- School-based instructional programs

Dedicated efforts have decreased the rates of alcohol-impaired driving and related fatal crashes in the U.S. since the 1980s. Still, alcohol-impaired drivers get behind the wheel millions of times each year. We can continue to lower these rates by identifying relevant strategies for each state to address the problem of alcohol-impaired driving.

For more information about these strategies, visit [CDC's What Works: Strategies to Reduce or Prevent Alcohol-impaired Driving](#) webpage.

Learn More:

CDC: [Alcohol-Impaired Driving State-Based Fact Sheets](#)

CDC: [Motor Vehicle Safety](#)

CDC: [Motor Vehicle Prioritizing Interventions and Cost Calculator for States](#) (MV PICCS)

NHTSA: [Drunk Driving](#)



## Directions in Highway Safety:

### June 2020 Issue

[Find the June issue here](#)

**Georgia Distracted Driving Stop Leads to Drug Arrest** – A sharp-eyed trooper spotted a driver not wearing a seat belt and holding a cell-phone, which led to the traffic stop and subsequent drug arrest.

[Read more >>](#)



Labor Day Weekend is the traditional end of the summer. Sadly its also a dangerous time to be traveling on roadway our roadways. Below are the annual fatalities in Maine.

Maine	Fatalities
2010	1
2011	5
2012	7
2013	1
2014	1
2015	3
2016	5
2017	2
2018	1
2019	6
2020	

9/4 1800 to 9/8 0559

Wondering where to work traffic? Here is your answer

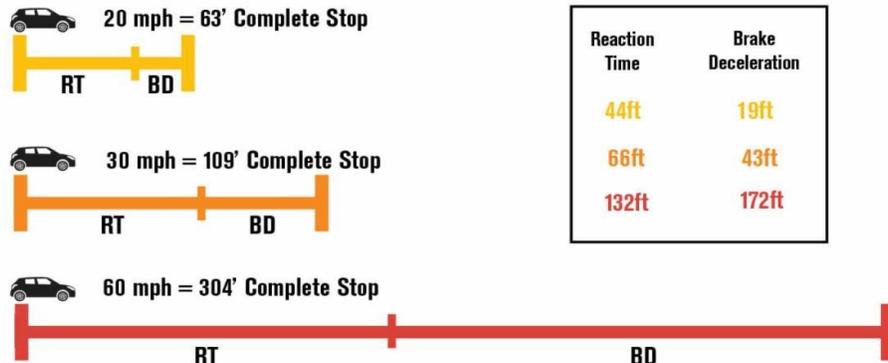
<https://mdotapps.maine.gov/MaineCrashPublic/>



The Bicycle Coalition of Maine launched the **Slow ME Down** anti-speeding campaign in mid-June. The purpose of this campaign is to reduce the number of car crashes with vulnerable users. Since the launch, more than 230 people have signed the **letter of support!**



### Speed and Coming to a Complete Stop



Source: NACTO Vehicle Stopping Distance and Time (2020).  
\* Distances vary depending on driver, road conditions, and vehicle; these are averages.



## 2020 Maine Impaired Driving Webinar Series



SEPTEMBER 9 | 10–11:30am | THE MASKING OF CDL AND CMV OFFENSES: WHAT IS MASKING AND WHY IT MATTERS Hear from The Maine State Police, The National Traffic Law Center and the Maine Judicial Outreach Liaison give an overview of CDL Masking involving impaired drivers.

SEPTEMBER 17 | 10–11:30am | IDENTIFYING THE POSSIBLE IMPAIRED DRIVER Former Idaho law enforcement officer Jermaine Galloway “The Tall Cop” will cover the emerging trends of the drug world and the impaired driver.

SEPTEMBER 23 | 10–11am | LATEST TRENDS IN IMPAIRED DRIVING Representatives from GHSA, AAA and the Maine Bureau of Highway Safety will present on the latest trends and tools with impaired driving, and oral-fluid testing.

SEPTEMBER 29 | 11am–12pm | MOTOR VEHICLE FATALITY TRAINING Maine prosecutors will provide an overview of the complexities of investigating a fatal crash involving impaired driving.

For more information contact Dan Goodman,  
[goodman.daniel@nne.aaa.com](mailto:goodman.daniel@nne.aaa.com)  
or  
[thomas.j.reagan@maine.gov](mailto:thomas.j.reagan@maine.gov)



## DRUG RECOGNITION EXPERT EVALUATION & CLASSIFICATION SCHOOL

### Program Description:

The intent of this NHTSA / IACP training course is to identify drivers that may be impaired by drugs. The DRE program will instruct the students, through the use of systematic and standardized examinations, how to determine whether the impairment is due to drugs, and if so, the broad category or combination of categories of drugs that is the likely cause of the observed impairment. Phase I of the training is a two-day pre-school (16 hours) which reviews and enhances information officers previously received in the NHTSA OUI/SFST program. Attendees should be thoroughly familiar with the OUI/SFST skills prior to attending. Phase II of training is a seven-day (56-hour) classroom program during which students receive detailed instruction in the techniques of the drug evaluation examination as well as in physiology, the effects of drugs and legal considerations. Upon completion of this phase of training, the student must pass a comprehensive written examination before proceeding to Phase III of the training, the field certification. The field certification portion of training begins immediately following completion of the classroom training and is conducted at periodic intervals for the next 60 to 90 days. During this portion of the training, students, under the direction of certified instructors, evaluate subjects suspected of being impaired by drugs other than alcohol. After participating in and documenting the results of at least 12 drug evaluations and completing a comprehensive examination, the student is eligible for certification.

### Personnel who may attend:

Full time law enforcement officers with a history of enforcing impaired driving laws and working for an agency committed to providing the logistic support necessary for the DRE to function at maximum effectiveness. Applicants will complete a multiphase process including supplemental application, oral board, and mentorship with an active DRE prior to being chosen for the class. Regional need will also be a consideration in choosing the final class.

### Prerequisites:

SFST Proficiency. The ARIDE course is recommended but not required. Candidates must bring a laptop computer as manuals are in electronic format. A completed supplemental application will be required from the applicant in order for the DRE Certification Board to prepare for their candidate interview and recommend qualified applicants for the program.

**Class Limit:** 15 Students



Date: February 8-19, 2021  
Course Fee \$250.00  
Location: MCJA Time: 8:00 - 5:00  
Contact: James Lyman 877-8009



# Child Passenger Safety Week

**Child Passenger Safety Week is September 20-26, 2020**

This year, Child Passenger Safety Week will be held from September 20-26, culminating in National Seat Check Saturday on September 26.

NHTSA launched a new series of [public service ads \(PSAs\)](#) that urge parents and caregivers to protect their child's future at every stage of life, by making sure they secure them in the correct car seat for their age, height, and weight. Additionally, NHTSA has developed an array of other [CPS Week campaign materials](#) for use at the state and local level. These materials include English and Spanish radio, print, outdoor, and web banner ads. We urge state and local child health and safety advocates to use these free safety materials to generate awareness about child passenger safety in your community throughout the year.

The National Child Passenger Safety Board has put together resources for CPS Technicians conducting virtual seat checks. For more information, visit the [CPS Board website](#).

Find an Inspection Station in your community by visiting [NHTSA's Inspection Station Locator](#). Starting September 7th, you will be able to select a virtual car seat check option.



## **Sign up for Email Notifications of Child Seat Recalls**

If you are not already signed up to receive email notifications when a child seat or vehicle is recalled, we encourage you to sign up on the [NHTSA website](#). You can also register your child seat or file a child seat complaint on this page.

# ***U Drive. U Text. U Pay.***

## **U Drive. U Text. U Pay. Campaign is October 5-12, 2020**

NHTSA conducts a national high-visibility enforcement campaign to reduce the incidence of distracted driving, particularly the use of hand-held mobile devices while driving. This year the campaign has been rescheduled from April to October due to law enforcement agencies' competing priorities assisting with the national public health crisis. It will return to its annual occurrence during National Distracted Driving Awareness Month in April 2021.

The campaign, known as *U Drive. U Text. U Pay.*, is supported by English- and Spanish-language television, radio, and digital advertising. The campaign includes paid media and enforcement efforts.

To help support law enforcement efforts, NHTSA's Traffic Safety Marketing website ([www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov](http://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov)) features ready-made marketing materials for use by law enforcement and supporting organizations. They include banner ads, earned media pieces such as news releases, an Op-Ed, a Proclamation and a Fact Sheet.

This year NHTSA has created a new Distracted Driving TV Ad. It will be released to the national audience on October 5, 2020. If you would like to customize this ad with your logo, contact [Lori.Millen@dot.gov](mailto:Lori.Millen@dot.gov) for more details.

### **Dates to Remember:**

October 5-12, 2020 / national media campaign

October 8-12, 2020 / enforcement mobilization

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## ***Virtual Trainings and Conferences***

### **Transportation Safety Institute Courses**

The Transportation Safety Institute (TSI) offers a variety of professional development and training opportunities. To learn more and see all of their course options, check out the [2020 Training Catalog](#).

# Teen Driver Safety Week

**Teen Driver Safety Week is October 18-24, 2020**

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teens (15-18 years old) in the United States, ahead of all other types of injury, disease, or violence. In 2018, there were 3,370 people killed in crashes involving a teen driver. Parents can be the biggest influencers on teens' choices behind the wheel if they take the time to talk with their teens about some of the biggest driving risks.

National Teen Driver Safety Week will be observed this October. This week and every week, parents should have conversations with their teens about the important [Rules for the Road](#) they need to follow to stay safe behind the wheel of a passenger car, truck, or SUV. These rules address the greatest dangers for teen drivers: alcohol use and driving; inconsistent or no seat belt use; distracted and drowsy driving; speeding; and transporting too many passengers.



NHTSA has developed [a host of Teen Driver Safety Week resources](#). These resources are intended to provide parents, caregivers, teachers, and safety advocates with the tools needed to help teen drivers drive safely. The materials include earned-media tools in both Spanish and English.

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## Virtual Trainings and Conferences

**National Summit on Rural Road Safety**



The [National Summit on Rural Road Safety](#) will take place virtually from Sept. 29 - Oct. 1, 2020. The summit will feature results-oriented safety strategies for rural areas, action plans for growing positive safety culture in rural communities, and safe systems for rural areas.

These next pages  
are from our  
partners at NHTSA

# Click It or Ticket

## **Click It or Ticket is November 2-29, 2020**

The annual **Click It or Ticket** campaign focuses on safety education, strong laws, and law enforcement officers saving lives. This year the campaign has been rescheduled from May to November due to law enforcement agencies' competing priorities assisting with the national public health crisis. It will return to its annual occurrence in May 2021.

The high-visibility campaign enforces seat belt use and spreads the message about the importance of buckling up -- every trip, every time. The correlation is clear: when you increase seat belt use, you reduce crash fatalities.

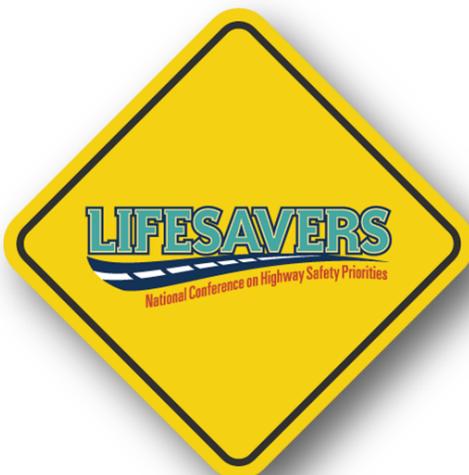


NHTSA has prepared the [Click It or Ticket: Products for Enforcement Action Kit \(PEAK\)](#) to help local law enforcement agencies advise the public about the forthcoming high-visibility seat belt enforcement campaign. [Other Click It or Ticket Campaign Materials](#) (paid and earned media samples, banners, posters, flyers, and other resources) have also been developed for use with the campaign. Paid advertising will run from **Nov 9-29, 2020** and stepped-up law enforcement activities will be conducted from **Nov 16-29, 2020**.

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## **Virtual Trainings and Conferences**

### **Lifesavers Conference will be Virtual**



Due to the uncertainties surrounding the pandemic, the 2021 National Lifesavers Conference on Highway Safety Priorities, scheduled for April 25-27, 2021 will be held entirely online. You can still apply to be a speaker via Lifesavers' [online portal](#). Proposals will be accepted until September 4.

## Recent NHTSA Publications

### **Recent Publications from NHTSA's National Center for Statistics and Analysis (NCSA)**

**Traffic Safety Facts: Occupant Protection** (DOT HS 812 967): According to the NOPUS for 2018, estimated belt use increased from 84.1 percent in 2009 to 89.6 percent in 2018. NOPUS provides nationwide probability based observed data on seat belt use in the United States. In 2018 there were 36,560 traffic fatalities in the United States. Looking only at those passenger vehicle occupants who were killed and their restraint use was known, 53 percent were restrained and 47 percent were unrestrained.

**Early Estimate of Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities for the First Quarter of 2020** (DOT HS 812 966): A statistical projection of traffic fatalities for the first quarter of 2020 shows that an estimated 7,780 people died in motor vehicle traffic crashes. This represents a decrease of about 1 percent as compared to 7,850 fatalities that were projected to have occurred in the first quarter of 2019. Preliminary data reported by the FHWA shows that vehicle miles traveled (VMT) in the first 3 months of 2020 decreased by about 40.1 billion miles, or about a 5.4 percent decrease.

**Geospatial Summary of Crash Fatalities** (DOT HS 812 607): Rural areas account for 71 percent of the Nation's public road miles and see nearly half of crash fatalities. With vast road miles to consider, this report quantifies the extent of fatalities in the first 15 miles outside of urban areas (UA).

**Distracted Driving 2018** (DOT HS 812 926): In 2018 there were 2,841 people killed and an estimated additional 400,000 people injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers. Eight percent of fatal crashes 2018 were reported as distraction-affected crashes.

### **NHTSA'S New Image Gallery**

Visit the new [NHTSA Image Gallery](#) for updated photos related to Child Passenger Safety, and Teen/Tween Safety. The galleries include photos that display proper use and common forms of misuse. These images are available to be used in presentations, demonstrations, and educational materials.

## Recent NHTSA Publications

### Recent Publications from NHTSA's Office of Behavioral Safety Research (OBSR)

#### Levi, S., Lee, H., Ren, W., McCloskey, S., & Polson, A. (2020). Reducing child restraint misuse: national survey of awareness and use of inspection stations. *Traffic injury prevention*, 1–6. Advance online publication.

The survey results suggest a segment of caregivers share a positive safety culture, including knowledge of child passenger safety services and use of those services. Of concern are caregivers who did not access an inspection station because they indicated it was not necessary, they already knew how to install the child restraint, or pointed to other inconveniences. Future intervention programs that target caregivers unfamiliar with inspection stations or believe that the services are not necessary have the potential to improve child passenger safety.

#### Motor Vehicle Occupant Safety Survey; Volume 3: Child Passenger Safety Report

#### The 2016 Motor Vehicle Occupant Safety Survey: Child Passenger Safety [Traffic Tech]

Volume 3 describes attitudes, knowledge, and behavior related to child passenger safety, specifically among parents, caregivers, and others who regularly transport children. The associated Traffic Tech summarizes main findings related to child passenger safety contained in the report. An estimated 42% of adults have driven with a child passenger (under 13) in the past year, but among those who had driven with a child passenger, 69% drove only children who were not in their household. There was broad support for fines for driving with unrestrained children (89%), but only about one-half of adults (55%) believed police regularly ticket drivers with unrestrained children in their vehicles. And contrary to findings of significant installation errors in other studies, confidence in correctly installing child car seats among those who transport children was very high (82% are very confident). Only 23% reported that they had gone to an inspection station.

**MAINE BUREAU OF HIGHWAY SAFETY**