

Corazón



de mi vida



National Latino Children's Institute

Tips to Protect Children from Transportation-Related Risks

All children 13 and under should ride in the back seat at all times -- either in a child safety seat or buckled up properly.

Rear-facing child seats in the back seat for children from birth to at least one year of age **and** up to 20 pounds.

Forward-facing child seats in the back seat from age one and weighing between 20 to 40 pounds.

Seat belts can seriously injure or kill small children who are not properly placed in child safety seats, so use...

Booster seats in the back seat for children age 4 to at least age 8, or who weigh more than 40 pounds but are under 4'9." **Safety belts** at age 8 or older or taller than 4'9."

Facts about Traffic Fatalities

During 2005, every day in the United States, an average of five children age 14 and younger were killed and 640 injured in motor vehicle crashes. Among those fatally injured, 46 percent were unrestrained.

Research on the effectiveness of child safety seats has found them to reduce fatal injury by 71 percent for infants (less than 1 year old) and by 54 percent for toddlers (1-4 years old) in passenger cars.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for Hispanic children of all ages (after the first year of life).

From 2006 to 2007, there was a drop in restraint use among Hispanic 4-to-7 years olds from 92 in 2006 percent to 75 percent in 2007.

Nationally 80% of all child safety seat belts or the equivalent of four out of five seats being used were misused in some way.

Young Latinos are twice as likely to die in a traffic crash than their non-Hispanic white counterparts even though Latinos drive half as many miles as whites. The primary reasons for this are lack of car safety seats and safety belt use.

It is estimated that safety belts save the lives of more than 14,000 motorists each year.

Every \$30 booster seat generates \$2000 in savings.

Cost of treating a child for crash related injuries is about \$22,607 per incident.

A child who is less than 4 feet 9 inches tall, using an adult safety belt, experiences major internal organ injuries when involved in a motor vehicle crash.

Sources: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration National Center for Statistics and Analysis, November 2005 "Safety Belt Use in 2005—Use Rates in the States and Territories", Texas Department of Transportation, 2007