



Motor Vehicle Crash Injuries

Oklahoma

- Unintentional injuries are the leading cause of death and disability among persons 1-44 years of age, with motor vehicle crashes leading the way for persons 1-34 years of age.
- Each year, more than 650 persons **die** and more than 40,000 persons are **injured** in motor vehicle crashes in Oklahoma.
- Males are two times more likely than females to die in a motor vehicle crash.
- **Teenagers** and young adults are at highest risk of motor vehicle crash deaths.
 - Over 200 Oklahoma children & young adults (0-24 years of age) are killed each year in motor vehicle crashes.
- **Alcohol** is a contributing factor in nearly 30% of motor vehicle fatalities among persons older than 14 years of age.
- The traffic death rates in **nonmetropolitan** areas in Oklahoma are 65% **higher** than in metropolitan areas.



Prevention

- **Seat belts** reduce the risk of serious or fatal injury during a crash by over 50%.
 - Motor vehicle drivers and front seat passengers are required by Oklahoma law to wear a seat belt while traveling in a motor vehicle.
 - Statewide, approximately 84% of persons wear a seat belt.
 - Approximately 55% of persons killed in motor vehicle crashes are not using a seat belt or a car seat.
- **Car seats** reduce the risk of death or serious injury by 67-71%.
 - Children under 13 years of age are required by Oklahoma law to be protected by a car seat or seat belt while traveling in a motor vehicle.
 - Statewide, about 85% of children less than 6 years of age are restrained in car seats.