**(INSERT COUNTY NAME HERE) County and   
(INSERT CITY NAME HERE), MO**

***Crash Data and Primary Seat Belt Ordinance Information***

* The Missouri Department of Transportation and the Missouri Safety Center compiled a seat belt survey in 2022. *Insert information from survey about city and county if data is available.*
* *Share most recent Missouri Teen Seat Belt Survey data, if available for particular city and county. If there is no data available for particular city, share data from other high school(s) in that county.*
* In 2021, the national average for seat belt use was 90.4% ([*NHTSA*](https://www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/seat-belts#nhtsa-in-action)). The average in Missouri in 2022 was 88.9%.
* 2022 preliminary reports indicate that 1,046 people lost their lives on Missouri’s roads. 59% of fatalities were not wearing a seat belt. ([*savemolives.com*](https://www.savemolives.com/mcrs))
* Primary enforcement laws are more effective at getting people to buckle up. In 2020, observed front-seat occupant belt use rates were 5 percentage points higher in states with primary enforcement than in other states (91 vs. 86 percent) ([*National Center for Statistics and Analysis, 2021*](https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/813072.pdf)).
* All of Missouri’s neighboring states (except Nebraska) have a primary seat belt law, which means that their law enforcement officers can stop motorists for no other reason than they aren’t wearing their seat belt. Unfortunately, the state law in Missouri does not allow police officers to do this and is therefore called a “secondary seat belt law”. ([*IIHS*](https://www.iihs.org/topics/seat-belts%23:~:text=Weast%2C%202018).-,Laws,and%20the%20District%20of%20Columbia.)%20)) However, as of February 2023, 68 cities and 1 county in Missouri have adopted seat belt ordinances which allow their police officers to stop motorists for seat belt violations, without the need for other traffic violations. Currently, *(insert city name here)* in *(insert county name here)* county has a primary seat belt ordinance. *If there are no towns in the county with an ordinance, you may say “There are currently no towns in (insert county name) county with a Primary Seat Belt Ordinance.”*
* Wearing seat belts and properly buckling children into age- and size-appropriate car seats and booster seats can reduce the risk for serious injury and death in a crash by at least half. ([*CDC*](http://www.cdc.gov))
* On average, in both rural and urban communities, primary seat belt laws result in higher rates of seat belt use and fewer crash deaths than secondary seat belt laws. Secondary laws allow officers to give tickets only if they have pulled drivers over for another reason. Seat belt laws are most effective when they cover occupants in all seats of the vehicle. ([*CDC*](http://www.cdc.gov))
* Data regarding the economic and societal impact of motor vehicle crashes can be found here: <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/813403>
* From [savemolives.com](http://www.savemolives.com)
  + 65% of vehicle occupants killed in 2021 Missouri traffic crashes were unrestrained.
  + 40% of children younger than 13 killed in 2021 Missouri traffic crashes were unrestrained.
  + From 2017-2021, there were *(insert number here)* unbelted fatalities in *(insert county name here)* county. *(insert percentage here)* % of vehicle occupant fatalities were unbuckled.
  + In *(insert city name here)* specifically, there have been *(insert number here)* unbelted fatalities in recent years *(can list specific years if you want to)*.
  + On average, 3 people are killed on Missouri roadways every day. 2 out of 3 people killed in vehicles are unbuckled.
  + If everyone in Missouri buckled up, an estimated 250 lives would be saved each year.

From MoDOT’s Transportation Management System:

***(insert county name) County Crash Totals, 2017-2023***Fatal Crashes-   
Serious Injury Crashes-   
Minor Injury Crashes-   
Total Crashes-

***(insert county name) County Personal Injury Totals, 2017-2023***Fatalities-   
Serious Injuries-   
Minor Injuries-

***(insert city name) Crash Totals, 2017-2023***  
Fatal Crashes-   
Serious Injury Crashes-   
Minor Injury Crashes-   
Total Crashes-

***(insert city name) Personal Injury Totals, 2017-2023***  
Fatalities-   
Serious Injuries-   
Minor Injuries-

If you would like additional data, please contact your regional Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety representative.