

## Governor's Office of Highway Safety

**NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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# THE FACTS ABOUT CLICK IT OR TICKET

**(Glynn County)** In 2008, 12,671 passenger vehicle occupants died in motor vehicle crashes nationwide between the nighttime hours of 6 p.m. and 5:59 a.m., according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Nearly two-thirds (64%) of those who died were not wearing their seat belts at the time of the crashes, compared to less than half (45%) of the passenger vehicle occupants killed during the daytime hours of 6 a.m. to 5:59 p.m.

### WHO IS MOST AT RISK?

- **Teens:** In 2008, 70 percent of the passenger vehicle occupants 13 to 15 years old killed in traffic crashes were not buckled up...the highest percentage of all age groups.
- **Young adults:** Among passenger vehicle occupants 25 to 34 years old who were killed in crashes, 66 percent were not buckled up...the second highest percentage for any age group.
- **Men:** Men are less likely than women to buckle up. This is especially true of young men. In 2008, **66 percent** of male drivers and **74 percent** of male passengers 18 to 34 killed in passenger vehicles were **NOT** wearing their seat belts.
- **Pickup drivers and passengers:** Pickup truck drivers and passengers continue to have lower seat belt usage rates than occupants of other passenger vehicles. In 2008, **67 percent of pickup truck drivers and 70 percent of pickup truck passengers** who were killed in traffic crashes were **NOT** buckled up.

### LIFE-SAVING BENEFITS

- When used by passenger vehicle occupants 5 and older, seatbelts saved an estimated 13,250 lives in 2008, more than 75,000 lives from 2004 through 2008, and 255,115 lives from 1975 through 2008.
- When used correctly, seatbelts reduce the risk of fatal injury to front-seat passenger car occupants by 45 percent — and by 60 percent in pickup trucks, SUVs, and minivans.
- In fatal crashes in 2008, 77 percent of passenger vehicle occupants who were thrown from their vehicles were killed. However, only 1 percent of crash victims who were buckled up were totally ejected from their vehicles, compared to 30 percent of those who were unbuckled.
- Motorists can increase the odds of survival in a rollover crash in a light truck by nearly 80 percent by wearing their seat belts.

### A PROVEN SUCCESS

- **National belt use now the highest ever:** The observed national belt usage rate rose to an all-time high of 84 percent in 2009, a 1-point increase from 2008.
- **A 'round-the-clock' campaign:** To convince more nighttime drivers to buckle up, the 2010 mobilization will include both day and night enforcement activities.
- **Local efforts, national reach** — Hundreds of State and local law enforcement and highway safety officials across the nation will participate in **Click It or Ticket 2010** from May 24 to June 6. Together we can effectively enforce seat belt laws, convince more Georgians to buckle up — and ultimately save more lives.

For more information about Click It or Ticket, visit [www.gahighwaysafety.org](http://www.gahighwaysafety.org) or [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov). Contact your local law enforcement agency for information about CIOT road checks, patrols and campaign activities in your community.

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