



## Safety facts

More than one passenger ages 8 through 12 is killed in a motor vehicle crash every day in the U.S.

Of the more than 400 jr. high kids killed in crashes each year, nearly half are not wearing safety belts and one-third are riding in a front seat.

In 2004, a Partners for Child Passenger Safety study found that 35 percent of 9-12 year olds were riding in the front seat; compared to only 7 percent of 4-8 year-olds.

Research shows children are 40 percent more likely to be injured in a front seat than if they had been seated in the back.

Studies show that jr. high kids are almost twice as likely to be wearing safety belts when adults in the car are buckled up.

Teen drivers significantly impact young passengers:

- Teen drivers are twice as likely to have children in the front seat than adult drivers.
- Novice teen drivers are 3 times more likely to have unrestrained child passengers than adult drivers.

Research shows that children under the age of 16, who ride in a back seat, are 40 percent less likely to be seriously hurt in a crash than those riding in a front seat.

Car crashes are the leading cause of death for jr. high kids.

Nearly half of all jr. high kids killed in car crashes were not wearing safety belts.

Safety belt use begins to slip at ages 11 and 12.

The safest way for jr. high kids to ride in a car is buckled up in the back seat.

Safety experts recommend that children under the age of 13 always ride in the back seat.

The front seat presents two dangers to jr. high kids: They can be badly hurt or killed if they are too close when the airbag deploys; and they are more likely to be hurt in a crash, because most wrecks involve the front end of the vehicle.

Kids riding with drivers ages 16 to 19 are twice as likely to die in a crash than if riding with a driver age 25 and older.

A total of 794 children between the ages of 10-15 were killed in crashes in 2007. Of the 794, 128 were drivers and 666 were passengers.

Half of all crashes happen five to ten minutes from home.

Nearly half of all teenagers don't buckle up, even when an adult in the car.

Jr. high kids are dying in car crashes at a rate of more than one a day.