



Arizona Boost 'em

- According to the CDC, motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for children ages 5 through 8 years. Many of these children are not properly restrained.
- For children 5 through 8 years old, **belt-positioning booster seats reduce injury risk by 59% compared to seat belts alone**; however, most children in this age group are currently (and very often incorrectly) restrained by seat belts designed for adults.
- When children are allowed to ride in seat belts, they can suffer serious internal injuries, slip out of the belt, or be ejected from the vehicle during a crash.
- It is recommended that children who are between 40 and 80 pounds and up to 4'9" tall should use a belt-positioning booster seat in the back seat of the car.
- Booster seats allow children a comfortable ride while ensuring that the adult seat belt fits appropriately across the child's shoulder and thighs.

AZ Injury Facts for 5-8 year old occupants, 2008

- 7 children died in car crashes in 2008.
 - 100% of these children were not properly restrained in seat belts or booster seats.
- 54 children were hospitalized due to injuries from car crashes
- 646 children were treated in emergency rooms for injuries from car crashes.



Booster Seats Protect Children 4 Steps for Kids:

1. Use rear-facing infant seats in the back seat from birth to at least one year of age and at least 20 pounds*
2. Use forward facing toddler seats in the back seat from age one and 20 pounds to about age four and 40 pounds.
3. Use booster seats in the back seat from the age four to at least age eight—unless the child is 4'9" or taller.
4. Use seat belts in the back seat at age eight or older and taller than 4'9".

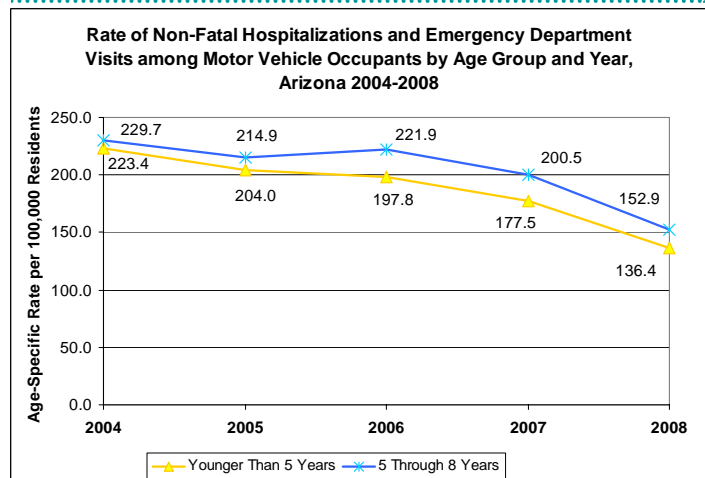
Seatbelts are not meant to be shared; all passengers must have their own car safety seat or seatbelt.

All children under 13 should ride in the back seat!

*The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends children ride rear-facing until at least two years of age

Between 2004 and 2008, non-fatal inpatient hospitalizations among children under 5 years decreased by 64%. **Similar events among 5-9 year old children only decreased by 50%.**

Though the rate of crash-related injuries has been decreasing since 2004, children between 5 and 9 years old are still at the greatest risk for injuries from seatbelts, and have a higher percentage of inpatient hospitalizations than children younger than 5 years. **Use a booster seat!**



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Non-fatal data presented here were selected from 2008 Hospital Discharge Data for Arizona residents younger than 9 years of age with a primary E-Code of E810-E819 and 4th digit of 0, or 1. Data on fatalities were selected from the 2008 Child Fatality Review database.

Leadership for a Healthy Arizona