

The Pulse

Fall 2006
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at the heart of occupant protection in the State of Kansas

73%

Kansas Seat Belt Use Rises

More Kansans are buckling up

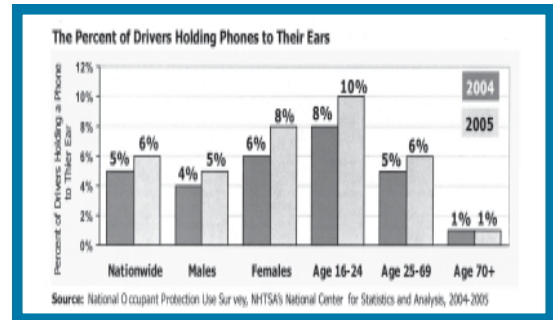
according to survey results announced September 6th by the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). The 2006 survey shows 73% of Kansans are using their seat belts, up 4 percentage points from 69% in 2005. "While it's encouraging to see this increase, as a state we still have a lot of room for improvement," Secretary of Transportation, Deb Miller said.

In 2005, Kansas ranked 43rd in the nation in seat belt use. "Kansas' low seat belt usage can be partially attributed to not having a primary seat belt law, which means drivers cannot be pulled over for not wearing a seat belt. If they are pulled over for another infraction, and are not wearing a seat belt, they can be ticketed," Col. William Seck, Superintendent, Kansas Highway Patrol, said. "States with a primary seat belt law show higher seat belt usage rates and lower fatality rates. It's clear, seat belts save lives." Seat belt usage among children also improved somewhat:
Age 0-4, 83%, up from 81%
Age 5-9, 53%, up from 49%
Age 10-14, 49%, up from 48%

"We owe it to our children and ourselves to take that simple step of buckling up. It could mean the difference between life and death," Secretary Rod Bremby, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, said. Each year KDOT conducts surveys throughout the state to estimate the percentage of Kansans who are buckling up. DCCCA, Inc. and the Kansas Safety Belt Education Office conduct the surveys based on federal guidelines at 548 sites on six different road types in 20 randomly selected counties, which encompass 85% of the population of Kansas. The 2006 survey included more than 62,000 vehicle observations.



Side note:



The Percent of Drivers Holding Phones to Their Ears.

KSBEO Staff Changes

Jeff Halloran, who has been the Project Director for the Kansas Safety Belt Education Office for the past 5 years has been offered a position with the Transportation Safety Institute. He will be actively working on new curriculum for various areas of occupant protection and assisting with the instruction of government courses offered by the institute. Kansas will miss his great passion and service to occupant protection.

Norraine Wingfield, the Traffic Safety Specialist for the Kansas Safety Belt Education Office will be replacing Jeff as the Project Director for DCCCA and the Kansas Safety Belt Education Office. Norraine and Dilyn Williams, project assistant are always available to assist Kansans and all those working in the field of occupant protection here in the state.

Supplies for Child Restraint Checkup Event

Manufacturers' Instructions
CRS Identification Guide
CPS brochures-safety seat tips, air bag brochures, etc.
Clipboards, pens/pencils
Recall lists (can be accessed from the NHTSA web site



www.nhtsa.dot.gov.) Use only the NHTSA list

CRS checkup forms or checklists

Traffic cones

Barricades (helpful in blocking off large areas)

Exit, Enter, and promotional Checkup Event signs

Tape/rope to designate "safe" areas

Child safety seats for replacement or giveaway (convertible and booster)

Tables

Trash cans

Noodles

Locking clips (regular and belt shortening clips)

Heavy duty binder clips

Slip guard

"Wet Ones" or similar moist towelettes

Rubber gloves

First aid kit(s)

Cooler w/ice for refreshments

Check surrounding counties for technicians and instructors to help at event

Conducting a child passenger safety clinic/checkpoint is one of the best ways to educate adults regarding the proper manner in which to safely transport their children. Through this method, we can teach the proper installation of child safety seats, the hazards of improper installation, and the difficulties with safety belt systems and vehicle seating configurations. In addition, this is an excellent way in which to detect unsafe and recalled child safety seats. The goal is to have every child leave the clinic safer than when they arrived.

*Educating
how it is done!*



**Franklin Coounty
Fire, Sheriff and EMS**



Convincer



CPS Technician update



**Transportation Safety
Conference**

Saved by the Belt

"We were all okay and were able to get out of the vehicle on our own"

Major Rick Kennedy
El Dorado Police Department



Date of Crash: August 7, 2006

Location: Towanda Service Area/Kansas Turnpike

Type of occupant protection: Lap/shoulder belt combo on adults and children

Injuries received by occupants: None

We were traveling southbound on the turnpike and hydroplaned. Our car slid off the road and across the grass. We slid into a thicket of small trees and when we struck them, the car overturned and came to rest on its top. Everyone was wearing their seat belt and after the crash we were hanging upside down. We had to unfasten our seat belts and fall to the top of the car. We were all okay and were able to get out of the vehicle on our own. As soon as we were away from the car, we were looking at it and commented on how the seat belts had probably saved us from being hurt and how well the car was constructed. I have been in law enforcement for 22 years and have been the administrator and coordinator for the Special Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) for the last five years.

New and Improved re-certification requirements for 2007

Basic re-certification requirements and deadlines

- 1) **Five (5) seat checks** approved by a certified instructor (may use technician proxy option). These may be done at any time during your certification cycle as long as they are entered online AND approved before your recertification date.
- 2) **Community Education - pick one**
 - a) **Participate in at least one two-hour check up event** with at least one other CPS Technician at which you serve families using any standardized checklist to provide documentation, if needed.
 - b) **Provide at least four hours of community education.** Examples include presenting to parents, educators, kids, organizations (PTA, law enforcement).
- 3) **A minimum of six hours of CPS technical continuing education (CEUs)** must be obtained and reported during one's current certification cycle (two years). There is no carry-over from one period to the next, even when more than the required CEUs have been accumulated. They may be entered at any time during your certification cycle. CEUs must fit into one of the five approved categories and meet content requirements.
- 4) **Register and pay fee by the end of the certification expiration date.**
- 5) In addition to the above requirements, instructors must also log 20 teaching hours of CPS course instruction. This has not changed. Details are available in the policies and procedures manual and on the certification Web site.

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Dylyn Williams
Administrative Assistant



**Safer Driving,
Safer Roads.
KANSAS**

**SAFETY
BELTS**

Save lives
and reduce
injuries.

KANSAS **Safety Belt
Education** OFFICE

This information is available in alternate accessible formats.

Prsrt Std
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit # 239
Lawrence, KS

INSIDE

Survey
Results

Side Note

Great Idea

Saved by
the Belt

FYI

KANSAS **Safety Belt
Education** OFFICE

KSBEO Information!!

Kansas Safety Belt Education Office schedules trainings which are essential to the education of Kansas citizens, both children and adults. Please contact our office if you need to sign up for or schedule a training or a presentation for your area.

1-800-416-2522 or nwingfield@dcca.org

December 5, 6, 7, 8- 32 hour CPS course--Salina

If you would like to be placed on our waiting list for upcoming classes, please call or email the contact information above.

Top five contributing circumstances for fatalities: Inattention, Speed, Driving under the influence, Failure to yield, Disregard to road signs and markings.

**EVENTS
CALENDAR**

October 3-7

Drive Safely to Work Week

October 7-10

Put the Brakes on Fatalities

October 23-31

Kansas Red Ribbon Campaign

November 21-27

ABC and STEP Mobilization

December 5-8

CPS Technician training, Salina