



## Click It or Ticket FACT SHEET

From the Wisconsin DOT, Division of State Patrol,  
Bureau of Transportation Safety



- To increase safety belt use, law enforcement agencies throughout the state will mobilize for the national Click It or Ticket campaign from May 24 to June 6, which includes the heavily-traveled Memorial Day weekend.
- Click It or Ticket will be one of the largest coordinated law enforcement mobilizations ever in Wisconsin.
- Wisconsin's safety belt use rate is approximately 74%, which is one of the lowest in the nation and substantially lower than the national average of 84%.
- To save lives and reduce injuries, Wisconsin enacted primary safety belt enforcement in 2009, which allows officers to stop and ticket unbuckled drivers and passengers even if another violation is not observed.

### **Safety belts save lives and prevent serious injuries**

- Consistent safety belt use is the single most effective way to protect people from being ejected from a vehicle or being thrown around violently inside it during a crash.
- Nearly 200 lives in Wisconsin were saved by safety belts in 2008, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. .

### **Safety belts & young motorists**

- Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death nationwide for teens and young adults.
- On average, a motorist age 19 or under in Wisconsin is killed or injured in a traffic crash every hour and 12 minutes.
- Only 58 percent of drivers ages 16 to 25 buckle up, which is the lowest safety belt use rate of any age group in Wisconsin.

### **Economic costs of not using safety belts**

- Motorists who are hurt or killed in traffic crashes because they didn't buckle up create tremendous economic losses, such as medical expenses. The rest of society pays for nearly 75% of these economic losses through higher insurance premiums, taxes, and other public funding, according to the National Transportation Safety Board.
- Economic losses from traffic fatalities and injuries in Wisconsin were nearly \$2 billion in 2008, according to the 2008 Wisconsin Traffic Crash Facts report.