



The Holidays are a Time for Family, Not Fatal Crashes -- *Buckle Up America. Every Trip. Every Time.*

- Wearing your seat belt is the single most effective way to save your life and the lives of your loved ones while on the road this Thanksgiving holiday.
- One of the best ways to ensure a safe arrival at any destination is to buckle up, every trip, every time.
- With the help of highway safety advocates and local law enforcement officers across the country, we can increase seat belt use and save lives on our roadways.
- According to the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), in 2010 alone, seat belts saved more than 12,500 lives nationwide.
- With proper seat belt use, research shows that the risk of fatal injury to front seat passenger car occupants is reduced by 45 percent, and the risk of moderate to serious injury is reduced by 50 percent.
- Yet, nationally in 2010, 51 percent of the 22,187 passenger vehicle occupants who were killed in motor vehicle crashes were **NOT** wearing seat belts at the time of their fatal crashes.
- During the 2010 Thanksgiving holiday (which ran from 6 p.m., Wednesday, November 24, to 5:59 a.m., Monday, November 29) 337 passenger vehicle occupants were killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes nationwide, and 55 percent of those killed were unbelted.
- Nighttime hours are the most dangerous. In 2010 nationally, 61 percent of the 10,647 passenger vehicle occupants who were killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes overnight (6 p.m. to 5:59 a.m.) were not wearing their seat belts at the time of the fatal crash, compared to 42 percent during the daytime hours.
- Unfortunately, nighttime fatalities spike over the Thanksgiving holiday. During the 2010 Thanksgiving holiday weekend, 64 percent of the passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes were unbelted, while only 41 percent of daytime fatalities during those same days involved unbelted passenger vehicle occupants.



Crime/Crash Clock 2010

Crime

1 murder
every **35.6** minutes

1 violent crime
every **25.3** seconds

1 property crime
every **3.5** seconds

1 burglary
every **14.6** seconds

Crash

1 fatality
every **16** minutes

1 person injured
every **14** seconds

1 property damage crash
every **8** seconds

1 law enforcement-reported
crash every **6** seconds



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

Data Sources:

Crime – Federal Bureau of Investigation's 2010 Crime Clock Statistics, Crime in the United States
Crash – NHTSA Traffic Safety Facts, "Highlights of 2010 Motor Vehicle crashes"

