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Car Seat and Seat Belt Use by Age Group in Colorado (1990–2005)

Year	Adult	Ages 5-15	Ages 0-4
2005	79.2	69.5	87.0
2004	79.3	69.3	86.2
2003	77.7	72.0	88.0
2002	73.2	59.7	79.6
2001	72.1	61.0	84.0
2000	65.1	43.8	79.3
1999	65.2	n/a	n/a
1998	66.0	46.1	89.2
1997 (Oct.)	61.2	45.6	82.2
1997* (May)	n/a	36.9	70.9
1996	55.6	n/a	n/a
1995	55.5	n/a	n/a
1994	54.0	n/a	n/a
1993	52.0	n/a	n/a
1992	50.0	n/a	n/a
1991	44.0	n/a	n/a
1990	50.0	n/a	n/a

*Colorado State University (CSU) conducts the statewide observational survey of juvenile seat belt and car seat use for the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT). The survey records restraint use for children under age 16. CSU conducted the first survey in May 1997 to establish baseline information before CDOT, Colorado State Patrol and local law enforcement agencies launched a high visibility seat belt enforcement and education campaign. The second juvenile survey was conducted in October 1997 and additional surveys were done in the summers of 1998, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 2004 and 2005.

CSU conducts an annual statewide observational seat belt survey of drivers and front seat passengers for CDOT each summer. The first survey was conducted in 1990. Since CDOT and its partners started high visibility seat belt enforcement and education in 1997, seat belt use for adults in Colorado has increased from 55.6 percent in 1996 to 79.2 percent in 2005.

Sources: Seat belt studies conducted by CSU for CDOT.

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