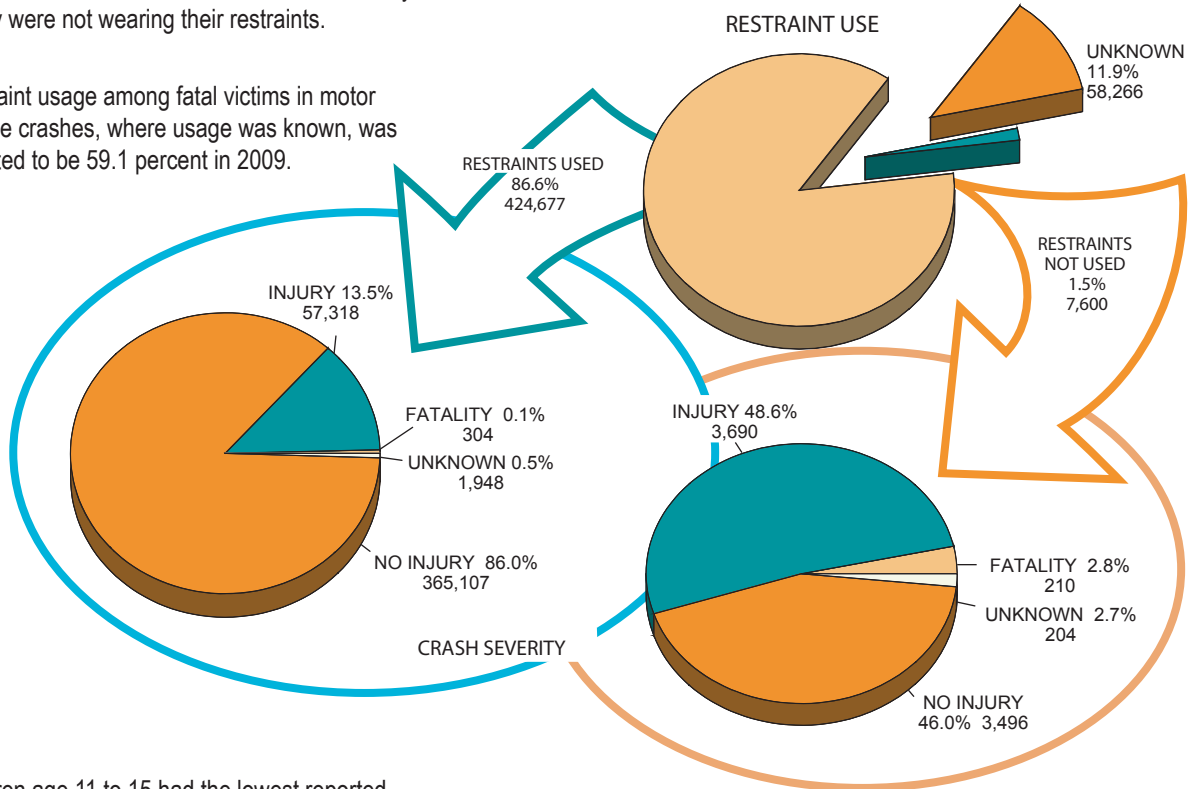


Occupant Protection



Restraint use by motorists is measured two ways: by what motorists REPORT to police at the scene of a traffic crash (reported usage), and by observation surveys where motorists are totally unaware of the presence of researchers (observed usage).

- Of the 490,543 drivers and injured passengers involved in crashes, 424,677 (86.6%) were REPORTED to have been using occupant restraints. However, an observational survey by the Wayne State University Transportation Research Group estimated statewide belt use increased to 97.9 percent in 2009.
- Occupants in crashes were **28 times** more likely to be killed if they were not wearing their restraints.
- Restraint usage among fatal victims in motor vehicle crashes, where usage was known, was reported to be 59.1 percent in 2009.



- Children age 11 to 15 had the lowest reported restraint usage (80.5%).
- Motor vehicle occupants aged 65 to 110 had the highest reported restraint usage (95.5%) of any age group.
- Restraint use can prevent ejection from a motor vehicle. Ejection is associated with higher levels of injury severity and greater numbers of fatalities.

