

# What to Know about Booster Seats

## Why are they so important?

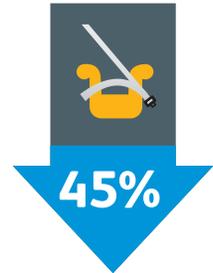
Booster seats help protect kids who are too big for a car seat but too small for just a seat belt.



Although seat belts are safer than nothing at all, children who should be in booster seats but wear only seat belts are at risk of **severe abdominal, head and spinal injuries** in the event of a crash.



Booster seats can **reduce the risk** of serious injury by 45 percent compared to seat belts alone.



Motor vehicle crashes\* are the second-leading cause of death for children 4 to 10 years old.



At least **40%** of these children were riding without a restraint that could have saved their lives.



**351 children** this age died in motor vehicle crashes\* in 2020.

\* vehicle occupant fatalities

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's 2019 *National Survey of the Use of Booster Seats* found that among children ages 4 – 7 only 69.5 percent of children observed were restrained in either forward-facing car seats or booster seats, while **16.6 percent were prematurely transitioned to seatbelts and 13.8 percent were unrestrained.**

A child should remain in a booster seat until they have outgrown the seat by height or weight according to the booster seat instruction manual.

**Buckle up every ride, every time, in the right seat.**

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