

Adult Press Release



Utah Department of Public Safety 'Together for Life' Project Encourages Adults to Always Wear a Seat Belt

Contact:

Date:

The Utah Department of Public Safety launched its 'Together for Life' Project to increase seat belt use in several rural counties. Adults are encouraged to always wear a seat belt, engage others to always wear a seat belt, and establish family rules about always wearing a seat belt.

Data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) showed that in Utah, approximately 100 lives were saved over the last year based on current seat belt use rates. Also, if all drivers and passengers had been wearing seat belts, it is estimated that an over 40 lives would have been saved.² Seat belts are essential to enhancing roadway safety, and adults in Utah share protective beliefs and behaviors about seat belt use.¹

Results from a survey conducted of adults in Box Elder, San Juan, and Sanpete Counties reveal:

- Most adults always wear a seat belt.¹
- Most drivers (BE 92%; SJ 90%; SP 90%) believe it is their responsibility to make sure others in the vehicle wear a seat belt.¹
- Most drivers (BE 92%; SJ 90%; SP 89%) agree being comfortable asking others to wear their seat belts.¹
- Most drivers (BE 83%; SJ 71%; SP 80%) are asking others to wear a seat belt.¹
- Most families (BE 83%; SJ 67%; SP 74%) have a rule about always wearing a seat belt.¹

To learn about the Together for Life Project in Utah visit: togetherforlifeutah.org

-end-

References

1. Center for Health and Safety Culture. (2013). *Utah community survey of adults on seat belt use in Box Elder, San Juan, and Sanpete Counties*. Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana. (N=1338)
2. Utah Department of Public Safety, Highway Safety Office. (2015). *Utah Crash Summaries*. Salt Lake City, UT. Utah Department of Public Safety. Retrieved from: <http://highwaysafety.utah.gov/crash-data/utah-crash-summaries/>