Summary Report

Child Car Safety Seat Laws

Motor vehicle injuries are the leading cause of death among children in the United States. According to a 2009 United States Department of Transportation study, child car safety seats reduce the risk of death in passenger cars by 71% for infants and by 54% for toddlers, ages 1 to 4 years old. Every state has adopted laws aimed at reducing accidental deaths of children in the U.S. due to vehicular crashes. This report summarizes key questions from the LawAtlas ChildCar Safety Seat Laws Interactive Map. You can see additional maps and tables by visiting www.lawatlas.org.



Child Car Safety Seat Laws

All 50 states and the District of Columbia have laws that regulatechild car safety seats

Jurisdictions: 51 (AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL,GA, HI, ID, IL,IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN,MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD,TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY)



Rear-Facing Car Seat

Twelve states require children less than one year old to be placed in a rear-facing car seat.

Jurisdictions: 12 (AL, AK, CO, CT, IA, LA, NM, OR, SC, TN, VT, WI)



Maximum Fine for First Offense

Four states have a maximum fine of more than \$100 for a first offense violation of child car safety seat laws.

Jurisdictions: 4 (NV, SC, WA, TX)