



**Buckle Up  
Michigan!**

**Seat belts and child safety seats** have proven to be one of the best ways to prevent serious injury in a crash. Their use is required by law.

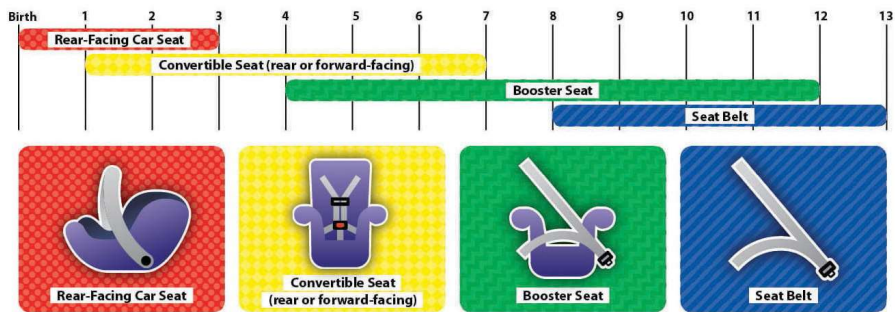
Buckling up helps keep you safe and secure inside your vehicle, whereas not buckling up can result in being totally ejected from the vehicle in a crash, which is almost always deadly.

Airbags are not enough to protect you; in fact, the force of an airbag can injure or even kill you if you're not buckled up.

Improperly wearing a seat belt, such as putting the strap below your arm, puts you and your children at risk in a crash.



**How to choose the right car seat**



**MICHIGAN'S SEAT BELT LAW**  
(MCL 257.710e)

- Michigan has a primary law, which means law enforcement can stop and ticket motorists solely for not being buckled up.
- Passengers 8-15 years old must wear a seat belt in all seating positions.
- Drivers and front seat passengers must be buckled.
- The shoulder belt should fit snugly over the shoulder with the lap belt low on hips. Improperly wearing a seat belt, such as putting the strap below your arm or behind your back, is illegal.
- Fine amounts vary by area but generally are about \$65 for a seat belt ticket.

**MICHIGAN'S CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY LAW**  
(MCL 257.710d)

- Children must ride in a car seat until they reach the height and weight capacity of the seat.
- Children must be properly buckled in a car seat or booster seat until they are 8 years-old or 4 feet, 9 inches tall, whichever comes first.
- Children younger than age 4 must ride in a car seat in the rear seat if the vehicle has a rear seat.
- If all available rear seats are occupied by children under 4, then a child under 4 may ride in a car seat in the front seat.
- A child in a rear-facing car seat may only ride in the front seat if the airbag is turned off.
- Fine amounts vary by area but generally are about \$120 for child safety seat violations.

For more information on how to properly install a car seat, contact a local Child Passenger Safety Technician. To find a tech in your area and keep children riding safely, please visit [www.michigan.gov/carseats](http://www.michigan.gov/carseats).