

Utah Click It or Ticket Campaign Overview

Click It or Ticket is a nationwide enforcement campaign designed to increase seatbelt use and reduce highway fatalities. The mobilization is conducted annually by the National Highway Traffic Administration (NHTSA) in conjunction with law enforcement agencies, state highway safety offices, and traffic safety advocates. The campaign encourages all motorists to always buckle up—every time, day and night.

WHY IS THIS CAMPAIGN HAPPENING?

With the invention of the automobile, motor vehicle crashes have been one of the leading causes of death among American's for many decades. To help combat this health and safety concern, the seatbelt was designed and has been credited with saving a million lives since its inception more than 50 years ago. Since that time, efforts have been underway to encourage the use of safety restraints, including belts, child car seats, and airbags. It has always been, and continues to be, the most important thing people can do when they ride in a motor vehicle – buckle up.

Seat belt use has increased dramatically over the years. When Utah's secondary seatbelt law passed in 1986, only 18 percent of motorists buckled up. Over the past 25 years, the national safety belt use rate has climbed to 85 percent and Utah's rate has increased to 89.2 percent in 2011. Still, motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for people ages 2 through 34 in the United States and the estimated statewide economic loss due to crashes in Utah was \$1.64 billion in 2009.

WHAT IS THE LAW?

Utah's Safety Belt Use Law states that drivers and passengers must wear a seatbelt and that children up to age 8 must be properly restrained in a child car seat or booster seat. The law provides for primary enforcement for individuals up to 19 years of age. For a person age 19 or older, enforcement by an officer can be only as a secondary action when the person has been detained for another offense. Individuals not buckled up are breaking the law and officers will be out in force citing unrestrained drivers and passengers during the mobilization.

WHO STILL ISN'T BUCKLING UP?

Nearly 300,000 Utah motorists still fail to regularly wear their seatbelts. Research has shown that many people who continue to ride unprotected are risk takers, young, male, nighttime motorists, or are child passengers in vehicles driven by an unbuckled adult.

WHAT IS THE CAMPAIGN'S GOAL?

The goal is simple: get more drivers and passengers to buckle up day and night. The Utah Department of Public Safety, Utah Highway Patrol, and local law enforcement is urging all travelers to buckle up, every trip, every time, or be ready to face the consequences. You can save \$45, the cost of a ticket, or possibly your life.