



GEORGIA'S  
**SAFETY**  
**BELT**  
**LAW**

What You  
Need To Know

SONNY PERDUE  
GOVERNOR

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# GEORGIA'S SEAT BELT LAW

Adults ages 18 and over must wear a safety belt when driving or riding in the front seat or front passenger seat of a passenger vehicle.

(Passenger Vehicle means every motor vehicle designed to carry ten passengers or less and is used for the transportation of persons but shall not mean pickup trucks, motorcycles, motor driven cycles, or vehicles equipped for off-road use, provided that the term "passenger vehicle" includes any sport utility vehicle.)

Failure to wear a safety belt will result in a \$15.00 fine.

All persons ages 6 through 17 years old are required to be restrained in a safety belt in all seating positions. Failure to do so will result in a \$25.00 fine to be paid by the driver of the vehicle.

Occupants under age 6 are required to be in an age and weight appropriate child restraint or booster seat.

Failure to properly restrain children under six may result in a fine up to \$50.00 and one point. If the offender has a second conviction, the fine may be doubled to \$100.00 and two points awarded. One citation may be written per unrestrained or improperly restrained child.

Because Georgia is one of 21 primary law states, law enforcement can issue citations based on observation, unlike secondary states where other violations of the law must occur.

**Georgia's Seatbelt Law**  
**O.C.G.A. 40-8-76.1**

# DID YOU KNOW?

Motor vehicle crashes are the number one killer of Americans up to age 34.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for African Americans from birth through 14 years of age and the second leading cause of death for African Americans between 15 and 24 years of age.

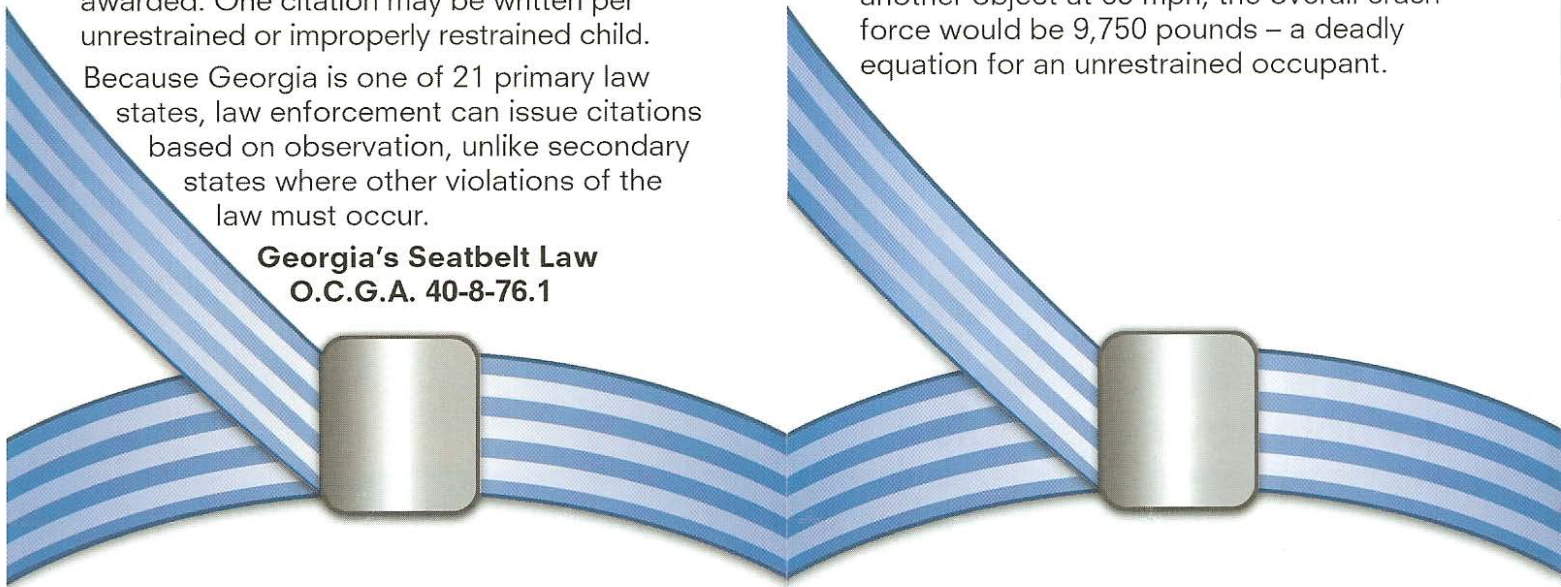
Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for Latinos from 1 to 44 years of age, and are the third leading cause of death for Latinos of all ages, surpassed only by heart disease and cancer.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teenagers, resulting in teenagers having high death rates – both as drivers and as passengers.

Surveys show that safety belt use in rural areas is lower than in urban areas, especially among occupants of pickup trucks.

In 2000, motor vehicle crashes in Georgia alone resulted in a total estimated economic cost of \$7.85 billion. Every citizen in Georgia shares the economic cost of motor vehicle crashes.

If you weigh 150 pounds and collide with another object at 65 mph, the overall crash force would be 9,750 pounds – a deadly equation for an unrestrained occupant.





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GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
HIGHWAY SAFETY

For More Information

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