Protect Your Child

Many children are not properly buckled in car seats. This leads to more severe injuries and higher medical costs.

- Hospital charges are 4 times higher
- 3 times more likely for any moderate or severe injury
- 6 times more likely for a moderate or severe head injury

Race and ethnicity are related to car seat usage:

- 87% of Hispanic and Latino families used a car seat.
- 84.4% of Black or African American families used a car seat.
- 94.6% of white families used a car seat.

Poverty is also related to car seat usage:

When 10% or more of the families in the same zip code are in poverty, then child restraint use fell 4-6% for all race and ethnicity groups.

Funded by a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Illinois Department of Public Health, the Illinois Department of Transportation, and the University of Illinois, successfully linked Illinois crash and hospital records for the years 2016 through 2018.

Visit dph.illinois.gov and search "Injury-related data"