

Car Seats
Save Lives



Motor Vehicle Crashes...

One of the Top Killers of Children in America

For children 12 and under,
proper car seat usage can
mean the difference
between moderate and
severe injury and death.

From 2016-2019

10.5%

of children were not restrained or not properly restrained at the time of a motor vehicle crash.



Properly restrained children were between 10 and 20 times less likely to die compared to unrestrained or improperly restrained children.

Race, Ethnicity and Car Seat Usage



Black and African American families
9 percentage points less likely
to have children properly restrained than
white families.

Latino and Hispanic families
6 percentage points less likely
to have children properly restrained than
white families.

Medicaid Children of All Races
7 percentage points less likely
to be properly restrained compared to others.

Moderate or Severe Injuries

When car seats were not used, children suffered worse injuries resulting in higher hospital charges compared to restrained children.



Poverty and Car Seat Usage

Children living in zip codes with higher poverty and carless household rates are especially overrepresented as not being properly restrained.



High Risk: Children 4 – 8 years

Children aged 4 through 8 are particularly high risk since results show they are significantly less likely to be properly restrained.





Sustaining Injuries

54.5%

of children escaped a crash with no injuries at all when a car seat was used properly; only about half as many escaped uninjured when not properly restrained.

Improper Restraint = Severe Consequences

When not properly restrained, children were more than twice as likely to suffer an incapacitating injury compared to restrained children.



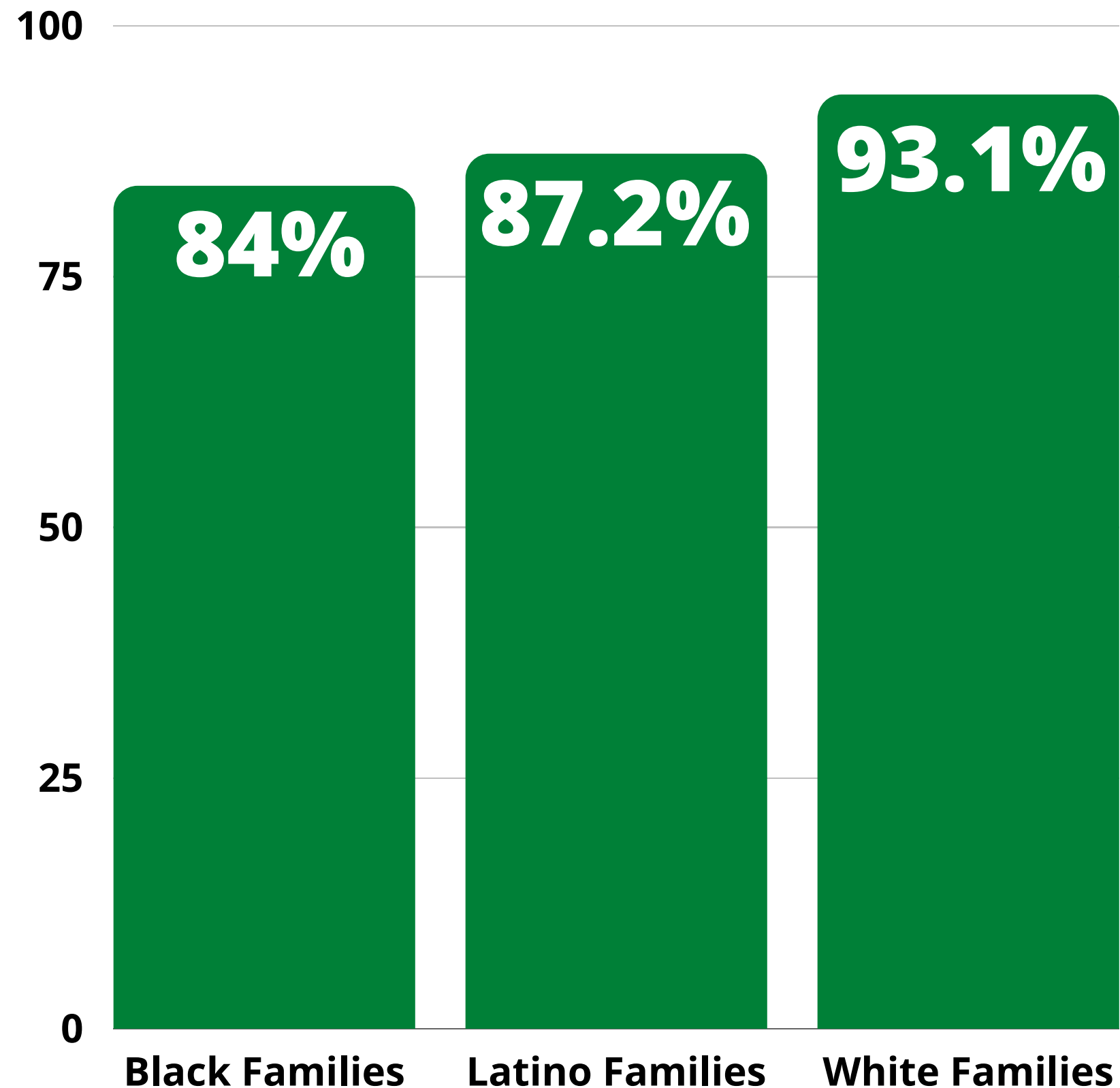
Improperly restrained children, and completely unrestrained children, were 23 times and 10 times more likely to be killed in a crash.

High Risk: Children 4 – 8 years

More than 64% of unrestrained children were between the ages and 4 and 8, even though they made up just 38% of all crashes; 7 year olds are the most at risk with just 82% properly restrained during a crash.



Race, Ethnicity and Car Seat Usage



- ***Black and African American Families***
84 percent in a car seat
- ***Latino and Hispanic Families***
87.2 percent in a car seat
- ***White Families***
93.1 percent in a car seat

Health Care Coverage and Car Seat Usage

Children Covered by Medicaid
were properly restrained **86% percent** of the time.



Children Covered by Insurance
were properly restrained **92.7% percent** of the time.

Hospital Charges

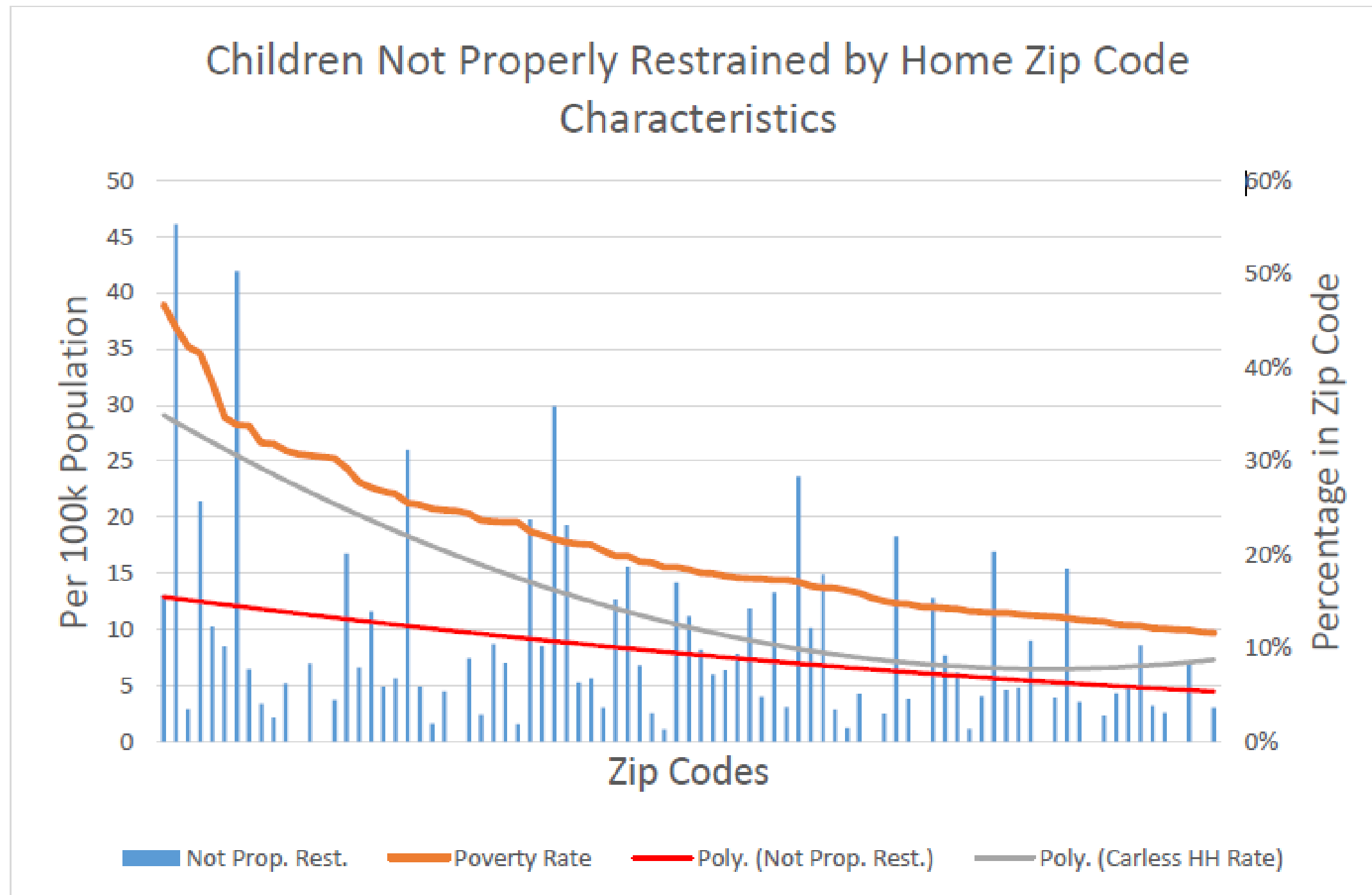
Without child restraint, hospital charges for injuries were **4.5 times higher.**



Pediatric motor vehicle crash victims had nearly \$14 million in total hospital charges (2016-18).

Nearly \$5 million of this was for children not properly restrained.

Socioeconomics and Car Seat Usage



Car seat usage is not evenly distributed across class in Illinois.

Children living in zip codes of low socioeconomic status typically had worse outcomes than other children.



Educate and Protect

Share the word to improve child safety.