

# HOW SEAT BELT SMART RU?

## Seat Belt Myths vs. Facts for Young Drivers & Passengers



**MYTH:** It's not as essential for guys to wear seat belts; they tend to be better drivers.

**FACT:** Young men are most at risk. Sixty-five percent of males age 18-34 who were killed as vehicle occupants in fatal crashes were not buckled.

**MYTH:** If you're not going far or traveling fast, seat belts aren't necessary.

**FACT:** Most fatal crashes happen within 25 minutes from home and at speeds of less than 40 mph. Even routine trips can be dangerous.



**MYTH:** Your seat belt can hurt you in a crash.

**FACT:** In a crash, everything in your car can cause you harm. Your seat belt is one of the few things that can actually save you.



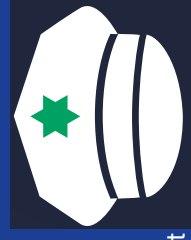
**MYTH:** Being in a pickup truck or SUV makes you safer than everyone else.

**FACT:** Seat belt use is the single best way to stay alive in a crash, regardless of vehicle type. In fact, the percentage of unbuckled pickup truck occupants killed in crashes is higher than those in passenger cars.



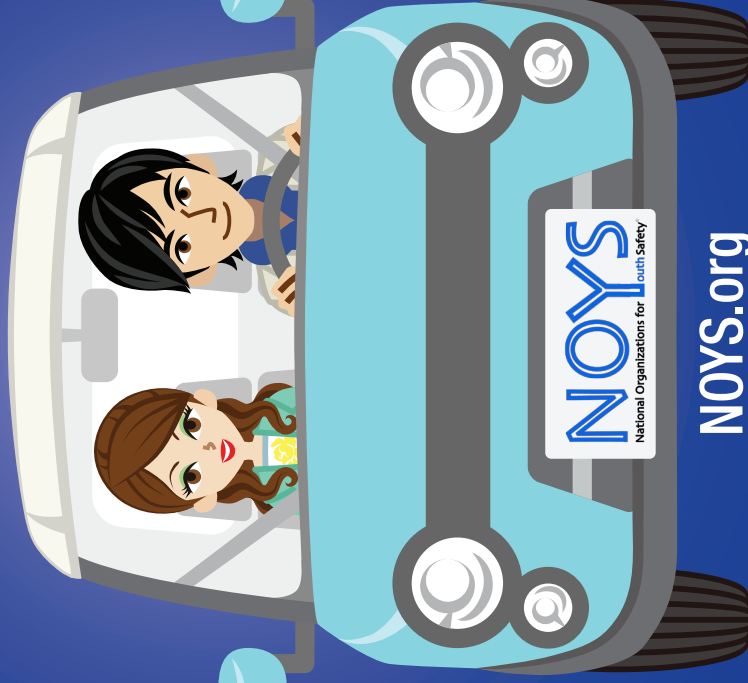
**MYTH:** Back seat passengers don't really need a seat belt.

**FACT:** Sitting in the back seat doesn't excuse you from buckling up. Fifty-eight percent of back seat passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes in 2014 were not buckled.



**MYTH:** Buckling up is optional. It's a personal choice.

**FACT:** Wearing a seat belt is the law. It's dangerous and reckless not to. You can end up with tickets, injury, or even death in the event of a crash.



NOYS.org

Seat belt use is lowest among young drivers age 16 to 24.

DYK?

The majority of teens and young adults killed in crashes are unbuckled.