In 2016, 929 Texans killed in car crashes were not properly restrained.

The SIMPLE ACT of wearing a seat belt is the easiest, least expensive and most effective way to prevent traffic deaths and injuries.

Drivers and passengers who buckle up are 45% less likely to die and 50% less likely to be moderately injured in a motor vehicle crash.

Motor vehicle crashes remain a leading cause of death.

WHO’s still not buckling up?

- 9% of Texans
- Pickup truck drivers
- Men are less likely to use a seat belt than women

HOW TO BUCKLE UP SAFELY

Make sure the lap and shoulder belts are secured low on the hips and across the chest.

Check with your vehicle manufacturer if your car only has a lap belt to see how you can install a lap and shoulder belt.

Texas is a primary enforcement state, meaning you can be pulled over for not wearing your seat belt. Texas police will ticket ANYONE not wearing a seat belt—including adult passengers and drivers with children improperly secured.

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BUSINESSES incur enormous economic costs each year from traffic crashes through
- lost productivity,
- workers' compensation,
- medical care and higher health insurance premiums.

EXPLAIN THE ADVANTAGES OF BUCKLING UP
Encouraging employees to wear seat belts can help reduce these costs. Seat belts protect drivers and passengers by helping absorb the force of a crash. They keep occupants from being ejected in a crash, a frequent cause of death when people aren't properly secured. They hold the driver in place so he or she can better control the vehicle.

ENACT AND ENFORCE A COMPANY SEAT BELT POLICY
- Businesses with a written policy requiring employees to buckle up in a company vehicle or on company business have higher on-the-job seat belt usage.
- Employees in the habit of using a seat belt during work hours also are more likely to buckle up when they are off the clock.

SUPPORT THE STATE’S ANNUAL SEAT BELT ENFORCEMENT CAMPAIGN
The Texas Department of Transportation conducts an annual Click It or Ticket campaign by combining extensive advertising with stepped up enforcement of the state’s seat belt laws. This is an ideal time for businesses to conduct a seat belt safety talk and remind employees that buckling up helps prevent serious injuries and the expensive tickets.

In 2013, the estimated average cost per unrestrained person involved in an on-the-job crash in the U.S. was $47,840.

It’s estimated that seat belt use prevented over $50 billion in medical care, lost productivity, and other injury-related costs in the U.S. in 2010.

DATA SOURCES
Texas Dept. of Transportation
Texas DMV
National Safety Council
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Cost of Motor Vehicle Crashes to Employers – 2015 NETS

The National Safety Council® recommends businesses promote and measure seat belt use among employees. Visit us online for FREE resources and information on what you can do to encourage your employees to drive safely.

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