# 2022 Florida Observational Survey for Child Restraint Use 

Occupant Protection Task Force Meeting February 15, 2023

## Where are the survey's observation sites?



## What do the observers record?

- Type of restraint device used/not used
- Child passenger age range (Age Categories: 0-3; 4-5; 6-12)
- Front or back seating position
- Driver characteristics and usage (Sex; Age; Race/Ethnicity)


## This survey effort in $\mathbf{2 0 2 2}$ resulted in

- 5,371 children observed - 4,739 passenger vehicles


## Estimated age for children in the 2022 sample




## Usage Among Children Ages 0-3 ( $\mathrm{n}=1,773$ )


$\square$ Rear Facing

- Forward Facing - Booster Seat - Safety Belt ■ None Used

Trend in Non-usage for Ages 0-3
Age 0-3


Usage Among Children Ages 4-5 ( $\mathrm{n}=965$ )


- Rear Facing - Forward Facing Booster Seat
- Safety Belt
- None Used

Trend in Non-usage for Ages 4-5


Usage Among Children Ages 6-12 ( $\mathrm{n}=2,633$ )

$\square$ Rear Facing $\square$ Forward Facing - Booster Seat - Safety Belt ■ None Used

Trend in Non-usage for Ages 6-12

|  | Age 6-12 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 30 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 25 |  |  | 23 | 23 | 22 | 23 |
| 20 |  |  |  |  |  | $\rightarrow$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |

## Observers also recorded data on the drivers with children in the vehicle



## Driver Characteristics



60+ $\square 7 \%$


Usage by Driver Characteristic


How is Driver Belt Use Related to Child Restraint?

WHEN DRIVER IS BELTED


## How is Driver Belt Use Related to Child Restraint?

WHEN DRIVER IS NOT BELTED


2022 SEATING POSITION AND RESTRAINT USE

|  | \% In a REAR Seat <br> \% Restrained | \% In the FRONT Seat <br> \% Restrained |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Ages 0-3 | $99 \%(n=1,755)$ <br> $96 \%$ | $1 \%(n=13)$ <br> $62 \%$ |
| Ages 4-5 | $96 \%(n=930)$ <br> $76 \%$ | $4 \%(n=34)$ <br> $44 \%$ |
| Ages 6-12 | $64 \%(n=1,684)$ <br> $73 \%$ | $36 \%(n=942)$ <br> $86 \%$ |
| Total* | 4,369 | 987 |

*Table includes passengers whose age, seating position, and restraint use were all recorded ( $n=5,356$ ). Restraint use, age, and positional observations marked 'unknown' were removed.

## Summary

Florida's 2022 Child Restraint Survey found that 17 percent of the children observed were clearly unrestrained

## Summary - Differences by Age

## Children Ages 0-3

- This age mostly travels in the second or third rear row (99\%)
- Nearly all were using some sort of restraint device (96\%)
- 4 percent were clearly unrestrained


## Children Ages 4-5

- This age group mostly rides in a second or third row (96\%)
- About as many this age group were using front-facing child seats (39\%) as were using booster seats (28\%) and seat belts (8\%) combined.
- 25 percent in this age group were clearly unrestrained


## Children Ages 6-12

- This age group more representation in the front row (36\%) than other groups
- 23 percent in this age group were clearly unrestrained
- Safety belt usage was more likely in the front row compared to the rear rows ( $86 \%$ vs $73 \%$ )


## Summary - "Parental/Guardian" Influence

- $91 \%$ of the parent/guardians driving with a child were restrained
- $9 \%$ of the parent/guardians were unrestrained; During 200 hours of observation, observers recorded 516 unbuckled drivers with at least one child in the vehicle
- Children travelling with an unbuckled driver were far more likely to be unrestrained


## FIN



