



KIDS **AREN'T** CARGO

The Dangers of Children Riding in Pickup Truck Beds

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) warns that kids don't belong in the cargo areas of pickup trucks.

Seating inside a truck cab is limited and it may be tempting to allow children to ride in the truck bed, especially on short trips or at low speeds. However, there is no protection in a truck bed and children riding there have a higher risk of being seriously injured or killed, even if not involved in a crash.

Every

25 sec

a child 14 and younger is involved in a crash while riding in a passenger vehicle

[nhtsa.gov/campaign/right-seat](https://www.nhtsa.gov/campaign/right-seat)



The Facts:

- Being thrown from the truck bed during a collision is the primary cause of injury or death for passengers riding in the truck bed.





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The Facts *(continued)*:

- Canopies, covers, and toppers over truck beds are not made to protect passengers in the event of a crash.
- Passengers riding in truck beds are also exposed to potentially deadly exhaust fumes like carbon monoxide.



- Most non-collision fatalities to passengers in pickup truck beds are caused by falls out of the bed due to swerving, braking, or rough roads.

Swerving



Braking



Rough Roads

