

# **2024 Florida Observational Survey for Child Restraint Use**

**Occupant Protection Task Force Meeting  
May 7, 2025**

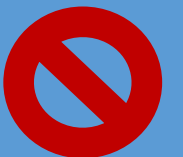




## Miami DMA

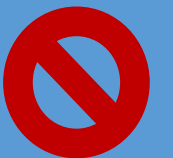
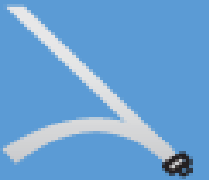
# What do the observers record?

- 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)



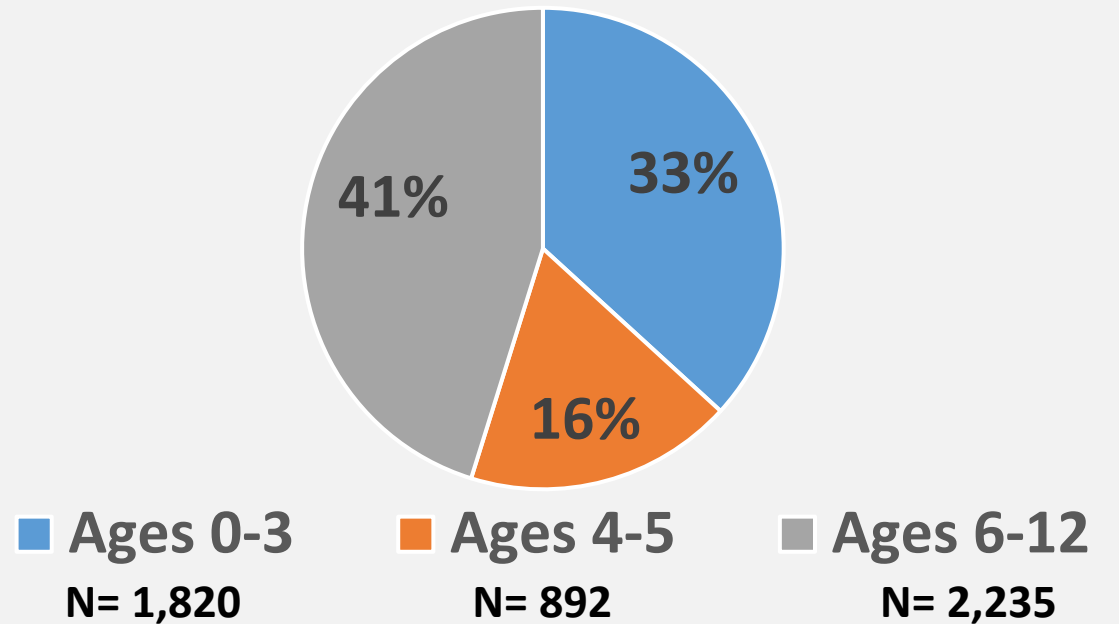
# **This survey effort in 2024 resulted in**

- **4,979 children observed**
- **4,413 passenger vehicles**



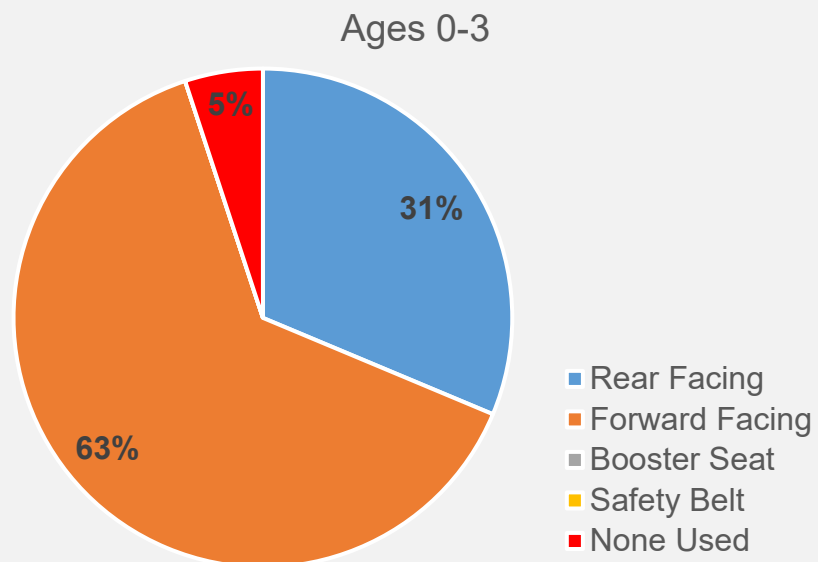


# Estimated age for children in the 2024 sample

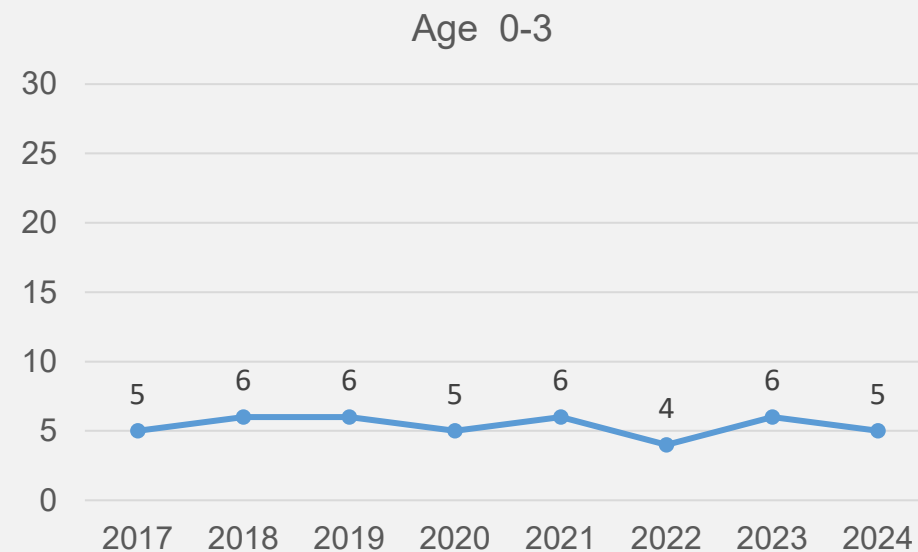




## Usage Among Children Ages 0-3 (n=1,820)

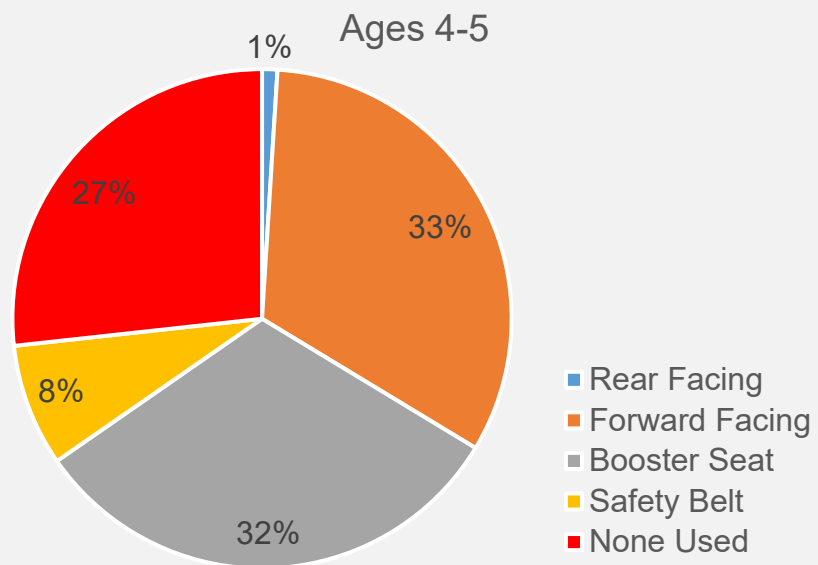


## Trend in Non-usage for Ages 0-3

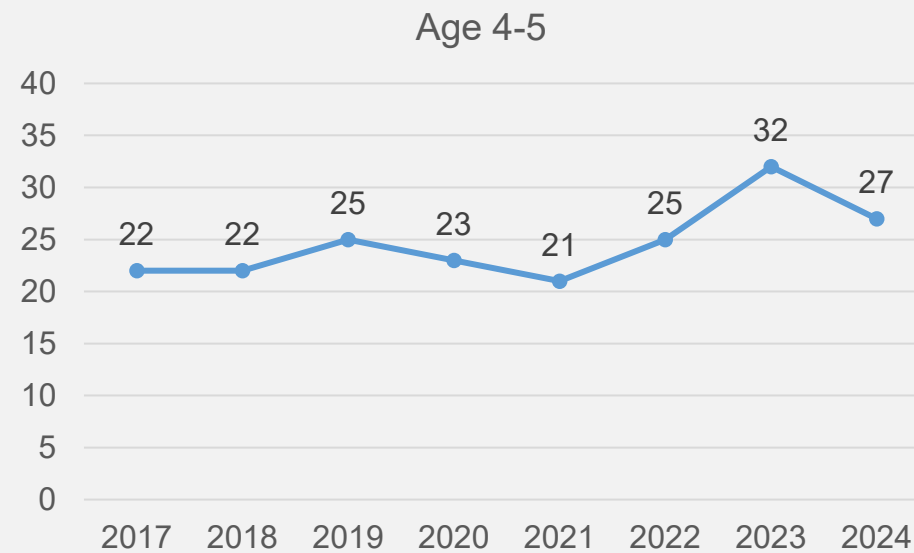




## Usage Among Children Ages 4-5 (n=892)

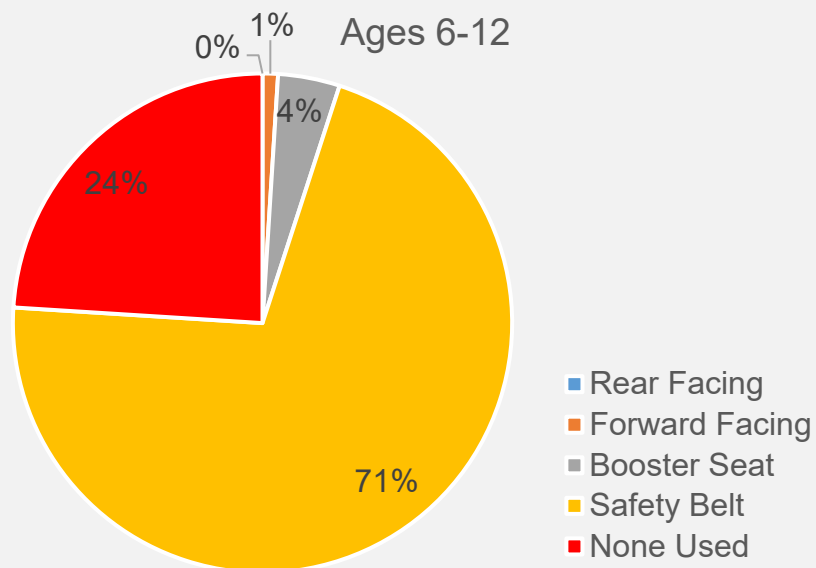


## Trend in Non-usage for Ages 4-5

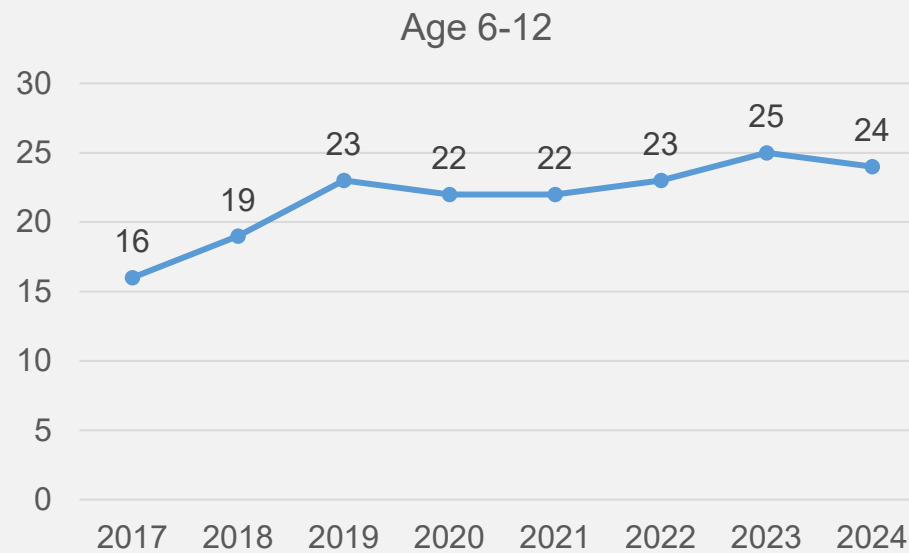




## Usage Among Children Ages 6-12 (n=2,235)



## Trend in Non-usage for Ages 6-12



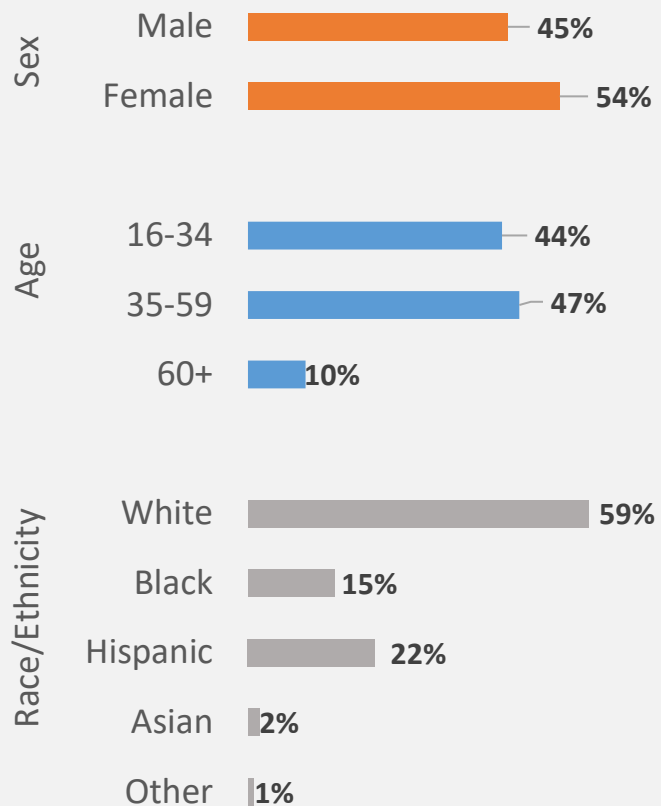




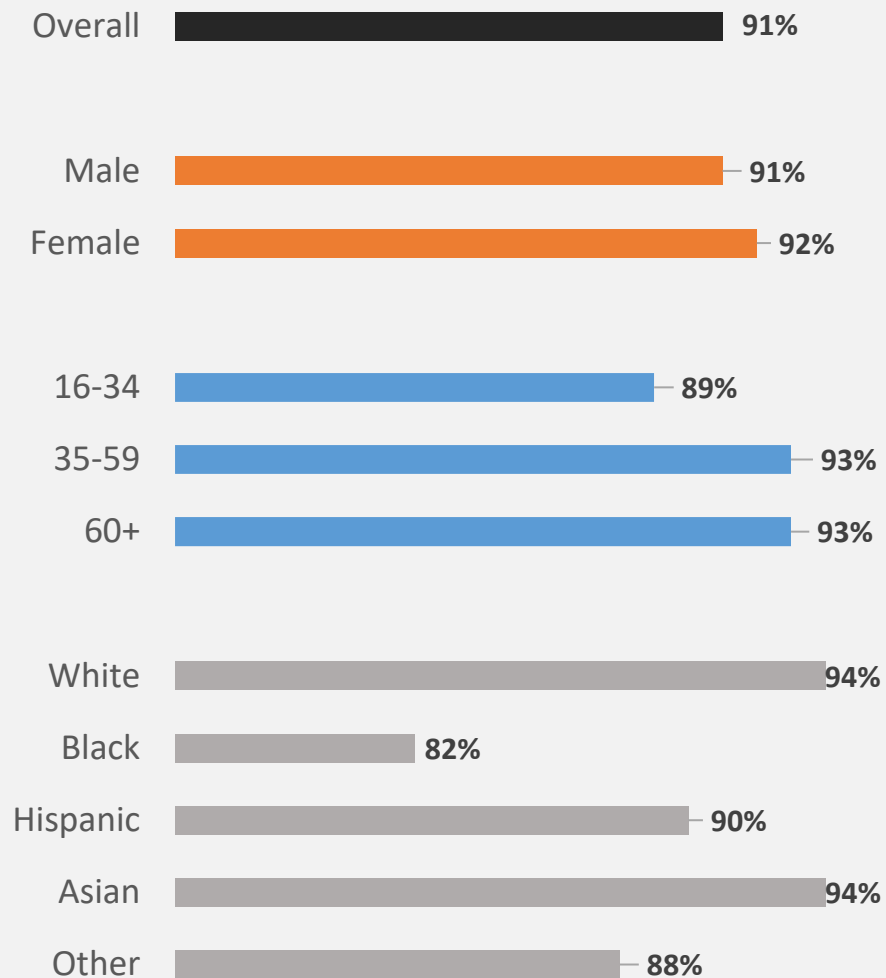
**Observers also recorded data  
on the drivers with children in the vehicle**



## Driver Characteristics



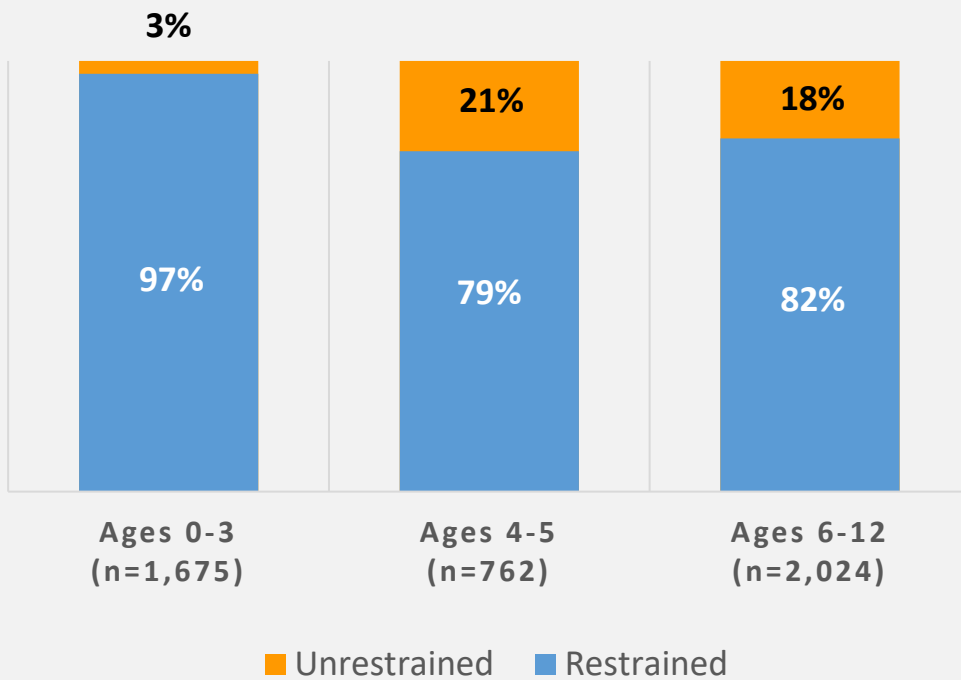
## Usage by Driver Characteristic





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

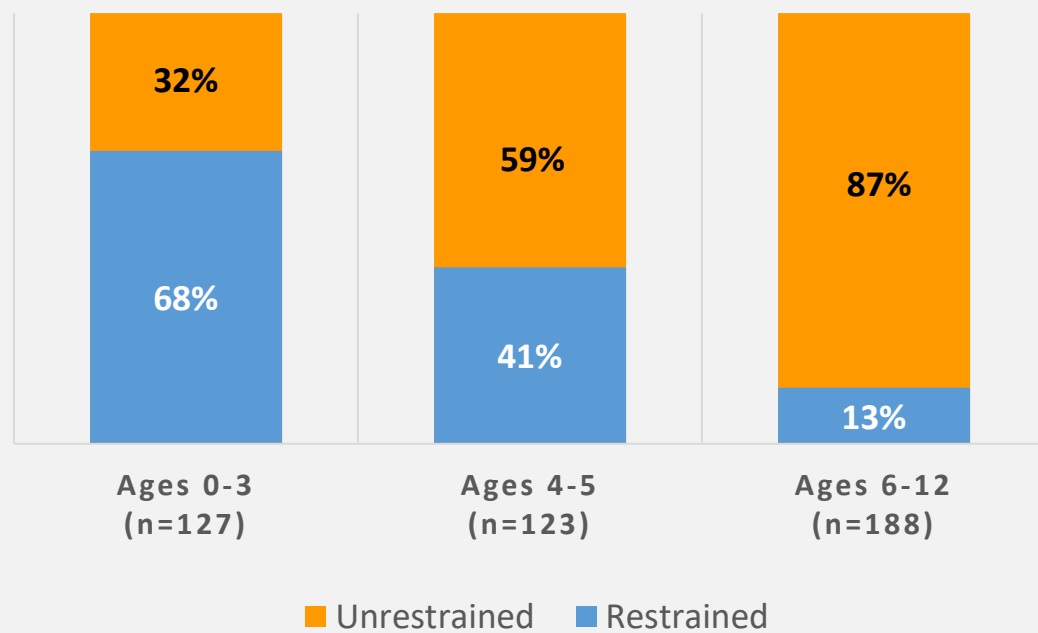
### WHEN DRIVER IS BELTED





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

WHEN DRIVER IS NOT BELTED



## 2024 SEATING POSITION AND RESTRAINT USE

	% In a REAR Seat % Restrained	% In the FRONT Seat % Restrained
Ages 0-3	99% (n=1,802) 95%	1% (n=15) 67%
Ages 4-5	97% (n=823) 77%	3% (n=27) 67%
Ages 6-12	62% (n=1,394) 68%	38% (n=847) 87%
Total*	4,019	889

\*Table includes passengers whose age, seating position, and restraint use were all recorded (n=4,908).  
Restraint use, age, and positional observations marked 'unknown' were removed



## *Summary*

Florida's 2024 Child Restraint Survey found that 18 percent of the children observed were clearly **unrestrained**



# Summary – Differences by Age

## Children Ages 0-3

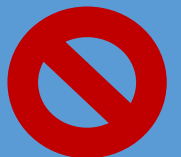
- This age mostly travels in the second or third rear row (99%)
- Nearly all were using some sort of restraint device (95%)
- **5 percent** were clearly **unrestrained**

## Children Ages 4-5

- This age group mostly rides in a second or third row (97%)
- About as many this age group were using front-facing child seats (33%) as were using booster seats (32%). Only 8% were in seat belts.
- **27 percent** in this age group were clearly **unrestrained**

## Children Ages 6-12

- This age group more representation in the front row (38%) than other groups
- **24 percent** in this age group were clearly **unrestrained**
- Safety belt usage was more likely in the front row compared to the rear rows (87% vs 68%)



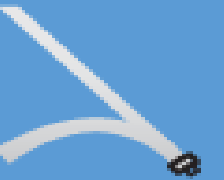
# ***Summary – “Parental/Guardian” Influence***

- 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 438 unbuckled drivers with at least one child in the vehicle
- Children travelling with an unbuckled driver were far more likely to be unrestrained





***FIN***



*5  
YEAR  
AVERAGES*

