



Wyoming Seat Belt Coalition

1036 Durango Drive - Douglas, WY 82633

On the Web at: www.wysbc.org

The Facts about Seat Belt Usage in Wyoming - 2010 Statistics

- **Wyoming had the LOWEST seatbelt usage in the nation for the previous two years – Wyoming was second lowest in 2010**
- Seatbelt usage in Wyoming has **DECREASED** during each of the last three years
- Wyoming's observed seatbelt usage of 66.6% in 2010 is below the national average of 85%
- Non-residents who drive in Wyoming buckle up at a much higher rate than Wyoming resident drivers
- **States that have switched from a secondary to a primary seatbelt law have witnessed a 10-15% increase in the number of individuals who wear a seatbelt**

Wyoming Crash Data – 2009/2010 Statistics

- **Wyoming had the highest fatality rate in the nation for all vehicle crashes involving passenger vehicles in 2008¹ – 24.8 per 100,000 (Massachusetts had the lowest at 4.9)**
- There were 149 vehicle related deaths in Wyoming in 2010 - **68.5% of persons killed were not wearing a seatbelt** (year-end statistics have not been finalized as of this printing)
- The chances of being killed in a crash are four times greater when an occupant is thrown from the vehicle
- In 2009, 63.7% of the fatalities in Wyoming were ejected from their vehicles because they were not wearing their seatbelts
- Crash victims who are not wearing their seatbelts have medical bills that are 50% higher than crash victims who wear seatbelts. Unbelted occupants are more likely to Medicaid patients.
- On average, crash victims who are injured pay for 26% of these costs. The remaining 74% is paid for by "society" in the form of higher taxes, increased medical costs and higher insurance premiums
- **The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has estimated that if Wyoming had a primary seatbelt law in 2009, Wyoming would have saved lives, the burden on insurance companies would have been reduced by about \$13.3 million, and the total savings to all payers will be more than \$20.9 million dollars – IN THAT SINGLE YEAR ALONE.**

¹ 2008 statistics are the latest national fatality statistics available from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
For more information, contact any WYSBC member, or Facilitator • Ernie Johnson • (307) 351-8614 • ejohnson@janda1.com

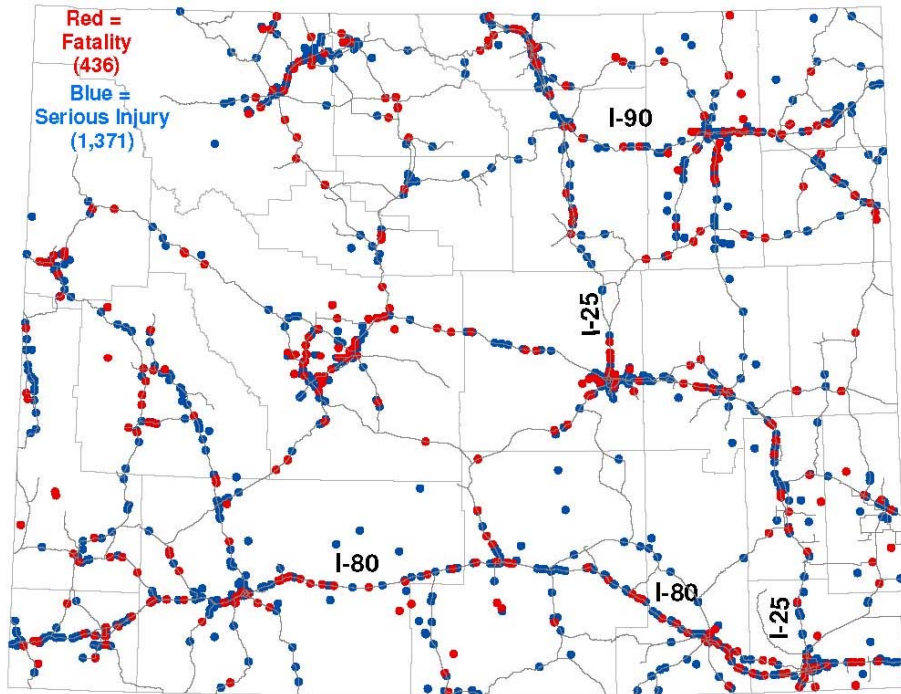


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State of Wyoming Crashes Unbelted Fatalities and Serious Injuries Years: 2005-2009



Average cost per year for Unbuckled fatalities and serious injuries is \$515,141,900.
Note: new cost methodology implemented in 2008.

*Serious/Incapacitating Injury = Any injury, other than fatal, which prevents the injured person from walking, driving or normally continuing the activities of the person was capable of performing before the injury occurred.

State of Wyoming Crashes Unbuckled Fatalities and Serious Injuries Years: 2005-2009

Year	Fatalities	Cost	Total	Serious Injuries	Cost	Total	Fatality & Serious Injury/ Incapacitating Cost
2005	92	\$ 1,130,000.00	\$ 103,960,000.00	302	\$ 58,000.00	\$ 17,516,000.00	\$ 121,476,000.00
2006	106	\$ 1,150,000.00	\$ 121,900,000.00	307	\$ 60,500.00	\$ 18,573,500.00	\$ 140,473,500.00
2007	71	\$ 1,210,000.00	\$ 85,910,000.00	312	\$ 62,500.00	\$ 19,500,000.00	\$ 105,410,000.00
2008	89	\$ 5,800,000.00	\$ 516,200,000.00	251	\$ 2,755,000.00	\$ 691,505,000.00	\$ 1,207,705,000.00
2009	78	\$ 5,800,000.00	\$ 452,400,000.00	199	\$ 2,755,000.00	\$ 548,245,000.00	\$ 1,000,645,000.00
Total	436		\$ 1,280,370,000.00	1,371		\$ 1,295,339,500.00	\$ 2,575,709,500.00

Average per year: \$ 515,141,900.00

*The Wyoming Department of Transportation adopted a guidance memorandum from the USDOT "Treatment of Value of Life and Injury in Preparing Economic Evaluation," which set forth recommended economic value to be used in departmental regulatory and investment analysis for all injuries and fatalities starting in 2008.

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