

SEAT BELT OBSERVATION SURVEYS

WHY CONDUCT A SURVEY?

Results will show progress of enforcement and education in changing behaviors.

HOW TO CONDUCT THE SURVEY

There is no single way to conduct a survey. At a minimum, observations should be conducted at several different locations and during different time periods. Survey sites should reflect different types of motor vehicle travel such as residential, major intersections, mall entrances, or highways and freeways in the community. Conduct subsequent surveys in the same manner. Try to use the same locations, directions of travel, day of week and times of day.

- 1) Choose "key" sites in the community. Smaller populated areas should choose at least two sites and metropolitan areas choose at least five sites.
- 2) Conduct observations until one hundred vehicles are observed at each site or for one hour at each site.
- 3) Observe drivers and front seat occupants.
- 4) Choose a location where you can see inside the cars such as at a stop sign or at a traffic light.
- 5) **Do Not count the cars when you cannot confirm if belts are used.**
- 6) Use the video "How to Conduct Informal Safety Belt Surveys" to educate observers; available through the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau (GTSB).
- 7) Use the back side of this form for counting vehicles. Copy as needed.
- 8) Child restraint surveys need special instructions. Contact the GTSB.

Changes in the results of the surveys should be incorporated into local public information and media materials.

Remember, the objective is to show that progress is being made toward increasing safety belt usage.

Seat Belt Observation Form (front seat only)

Date _____
 Observer _____
 City/County _____
 Time Started _____

Day of Week _____
 Badge No. _____
 Location _____
 Time Ended _____

Vehicle	Driver	Passenger	Vehicle	Driver	Passenger	Vehicle	Driver	Passenger
1			34			67		
2			35			68		
3			36			69		
4			37			70		
5			38			71		
6			38			72		
7			40			73		
8			41			74		
9			42			75		
10			43			76		
11			44			77		
12			45			78		
13			46			79		
14			47			80		
15			48			81		
16			49			82		
17			50			83		
18			51			84		
19			52			85		
20			53			86		
21			54			87		
22			55			88		
23			56			89		
24			57			90		
25			58			91		
26			59			92		
27			60			93		
28			61			94		
29			62			95		
30			63			96		
31			64			97		
32			65			98		
33			66			99		
						100		

Coding: 0 = No Shoulder Belt 1 = Shoulder Belt

1. Total Number of Drivers and Passengers Observed

2. Total Number of Drivers & Passengers w/ Shoulder Belts

3. Total Belted (#2) Divided by Total Observed (#1) = Total Belt Use Rate

Don't send this-enter results of 1-3 on Enforcement Activity Report & submit after post-wave survey.