

# For all new drivers, here's the 411 on Safety Belts



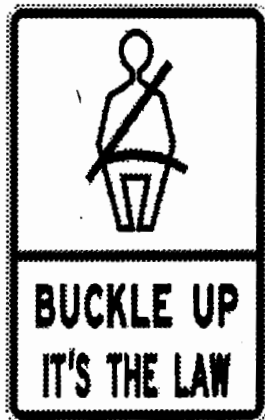
In 1998, 42% of passenger car occupants and 48% of light truck occupants who were not wearing their safety belts at the time of the crash were killed.



In 1998, 80% of the young drivers who had been drinking and were killed in crashes were not wearing their safety belts.



The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimated that 11,088 lives were saved in 1998 by the use of safety belts.



## WHY SHOULD YOU WEAR A SAFETY BELT?

- ◆ When safety belts are used correctly they reduce the risk of fatal injury to front-seat passengers by 45% and the risk of moderate-to-critical injury by 50%.
- ◆ A study by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration found that the average inpatient costs for crash victims who were *not* wearing safety belts were 55% higher than for those who were belted.
- ◆ Safety belts protect you as well as other passengers in the vehicle.

*"In a 55 mile per hour crash, an unbelted back seat passenger of average size would fly forward with a force of 3,000 pounds — enough to seriously injure or even kill other passengers."*

- Janet Dewey, Executive Director of the Air Bag Safety Campaign, 1997.