

Seat Belt Laws by State

Updated March 2023

States with Primary Seat Belt Laws

State	Who is Covered (Yrs.)	In What Seat
Alabama	15+	All
Alaska	16+	All
Arkansas	15+	Front
California	16+	All
Connecticut	8+	All
Delaware ¹	16+	All
D.C.	16+	All
Florida	6+	6-17 yrs: All
		6+: Front
Georgia		8-17 yrs: All
	8+	18 and over: Front
Guam	All	All
Hawaii	8+	All
Illinois	16+	All
Indiana	16+	All
Iowa	All	Front
Kansas		14-17 yrs: All
	14+	18+: Front (other seating positions are secondary enforcement)
Kentucky	7 & younger and 57"+	All
	8+	
Louisiana	13+	All
Maine	All	All
Maryland	16+	Under 16 yrs: All 16+: Front (secondary enforcement in rear seat)
Michigan	16+	Front
Minnesota	7 & younger and 57"+	All
	8+	
Mississippi	7+	All
New Jersey	7 & younger and 57"+	All (secondary for rear seats)
	8+	
New Mexico	18+	All
New York	All	All
North Carolina	16+	All (secondary for rear seats)
Northern Mariana Islands	6+	All
Oklahoma	13+	Front
Oregon	All	All
Puerto Rico	9+ (or 57"+)	
Rhode Island	8+	All
South Carolina	8+	All
Tennessee	16+	Front

Texas	7 & younger and 57"+	All
	8+	
Utah	16+	All
Virgin Islands	All	Front
Washington	16+ or over 4'9"	All
West Virginia	8+	8-17 yrs: Front
Wisconsin	8+	All ²
Total	34 States + D.C., PR, 4 Terr.	All (21 + D.C., 2 Terr.) Rear Secondary (9) Front Seat Only (11 + VI)

¹ Delaware's seat belt law is a civil penalty.

² In Wisconsin, all passengers are covered except for children properly restrained in a child safety restraint system.

States with Secondary Seat Belt Laws

State	Who is Covered (Yrs.)	In What Seat
Arizona		8-15 yrs: All
	8+	8+: Front
Colorado	16+ (primary for under 18)	Front
Idaho	7+ (primary for drivers under 18)	All
Massachusetts	13+	All
Missouri	8+	8-15 yrs: All (primary enforcement)
		16+: Front
Montana	6+	All
Nebraska	18+	Front
Nevada	6+	All
North Dakota	18+	Front
	18 & younger (primary)	All
Ohio	8+	8-14 yrs: All (primary enforcement)
		15+: Front
Pennsylvania	8+	
		8-17 yrs: All (primary enforcement)
South Dakota	18+	Front
Vermont	18+ (primary for <18)	All
Virginia	All drivers; passengers 18+ (primary for occupants under 18)	Front Under 18: All (primary enforcement)
Wyoming	9+	All
Total States	15 States	All (6) Front Seat Only (9)