

Nevada seat belt use tops 90%

According to a study, seat belt use in Nevada is at 90.5 percent rate.

The Day Time Seat Belt Use Observational Survey is conducted annually to determine Nevada's statewide seat belt use and other related demographics. This year's survey was May 21-June 3.

The 2011 seat belt use in Nevada was measured at 94.1 percent. The difference in rate may be attributable to the different survey methodologies used in 2011 compared to 2012, where the methodology was changed to meet new federal requirements. Specifically, the selection of survey counties changed from a population-based to a fatality-based criterion.

High-visibility enforcement such as the Click It or Ticket mobilization has contributed to increasing the national belt usage rate from 58 percent in 1994 to an observed usage rate of 84 percent in 2011, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Similarly, Nevada's seat belt usage has increased from 74 percent in 2002 to the current 90 percent since it implemented its statewide Click it or Ticket campaign.

Last year 62 people in Nevada died in motor vehicle crashes where occupants were not buckled up.