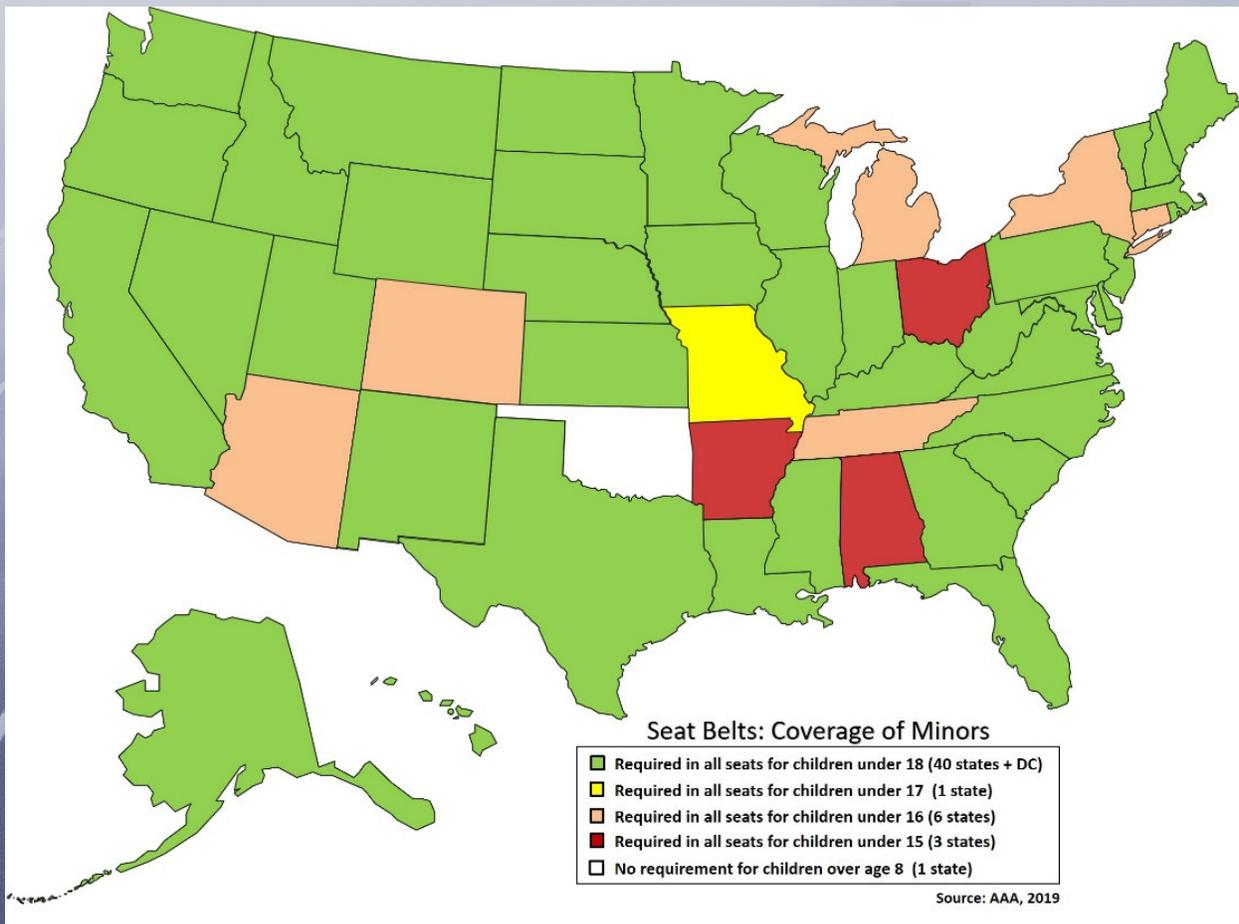
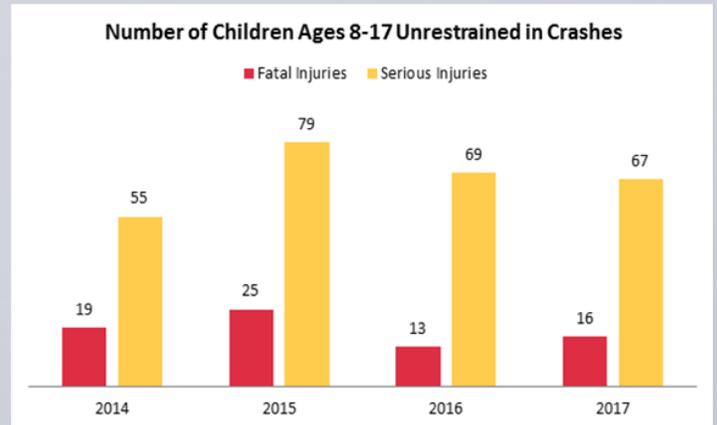


# Oklahoma Child Passenger Safety

**Issue:** Oklahoma ranks 50th in the nation in protecting older children, ages 8-17, in vehicles as the only state without a law requiring children 8 and older to wear a seat belt when riding in the back seat. Right now, only those under 8 years old are protected.

**Solution:** Vote "YES" for a law that protects those 17 and younger in the back seat. (Exemptions for licensed agricultural vehicles will remain.)

## Top 10 states don't let kids ride without seat belts



# Oklahoma's Child Passenger Safety

Each icon represents 4 children, ages 8-17, killed or seriously injured in car crashes in Oklahoma while unbelted from 2014-2017.



**HALF** of these deaths and serious injuries would have been prevented with proper use of seat belts.



Car crashes are the **number one** cause of **death and injury** for minors in Oklahoma.



Oklahoma ranks **40th in the nation** for minor passengers **killed** in crashes.



Riding in a vehicle without a seat belt is a **greater threat** to teenage lives than **all forms of violence combined**.



Current Oklahoma law does not meet the standards of the American Academy of Pediatrics and Safe Kids Worldwide.

## "The loss of one more child is unacceptable."

"Car crashes are the leading cause of death and injury for children in Oklahoma, and yet we are the only state without a requirement for children over the age of 8 to wear seat belts in the rear seat. **As the father of a 2-year old daughter who was killed in a car crash, the loss of one more child is unacceptable. It's time to act!**"

*Sheriff (ret) John Whetsel, National Sheriffs' Association Traffic Safety Committee Chair, Choctaw*

"AAA believes this is about protecting children on our roads. **Oklahoma doesn't have a law requiring all young people under the age of 18 to be securely buckled, no matter where they sit in vehicles. It doesn't make sense to put young people at risk on the road.** To dismiss it as a personal rights infringement – as some legislators have – is ludicrous. On behalf of AAA Oklahoma's 404,000 members, and for safety's sake, I implore our state leaders to **correct this embarrassing gap in our law.**"

*Jared Peterson, President, AAA Oklahoma*

**"In my 30 years in law enforcement, I've never unbuckled a dead person after a crash."**

*Deputy James Caskey, Pottawatomie County Sheriff*

## "An embarrassing gap."

**These organizations urge you to VOTE YES to protect children, 8-17, in the back seat of vehicles.**

A foggy highway with a car and a truck in the distance, and a sign that says "Ausfahrt". The scene is hazy and atmospheric, with the road stretching into the distance. A white horizontal line with vertical end caps is positioned below the top text.

**ALL Oklahoma children must be BUCKLED UP for the healthy future they deserve.**