

# EVERYONE BUCKLED



ND's law to save lives

## NORTH DAKOTA LAW AS OF AUG. 1, 2023

- Enforcement changes from secondary to primary.
- All front seat and back seat occupants must be buckled up regardless of age.
- Children younger than eight years of age are required to ride in a child restraint (car seat or booster seat).

## PRIMARY VS. SECONDARY LAW

- Primary law allows law enforcement to stop and issue a seat belt citation to someone for not wearing a seat belt.
- Secondary law allows law enforcement to issue a seat belt citation when a driver is pulled over for a different infraction.

## PRIMARY LAW BENEFITS

- Research shows that states that have primary enforcement have experienced up to a 10-12% increase in their observed seat belt use. (NHTSA)
- By increasing seat belt use, lives will be saved and injuries will be prevented on North Dakota roadways.



Learn more about  
North Dakota's seat belt law  
at [VisionZero.ND.gov](https://VisionZero.ND.gov).

# SEAT BELTS SAVE LIVES.

The number one contributing factor in motor vehicle deaths is not wearing a seat belt.



## SEAT BELTS KEEP YOU SECURE IN YOUR VEHICLE.

- Not buckling up can result in being ejected, which is almost always deadly. Seat belts also prevent impact with the interior of the vehicle and other occupants.

## AIR BAGS AND SEAT BELTS WORK TOGETHER.

- Seat belts are designed to keep you in the proper position for the vehicle's other safety systems to work.

## THE FIT OF YOUR SEAT BELT MATTERS.

- The shoulder belt should go over the collar bone and across the center of your chest with no more than one inch of slack. The lap belt goes low across the hips.

## BUCKLING UP GIVES YOU A GREATER CHANCE OF BEING CONSCIOUS AND ABLE-BODIED.

- Less than 1/2 of 1% of crashes involve fire or water submersion, but a seat belt gives you a greater chance of getting out of the vehicle with the least amount of injury. (NHTSA)

## PARENTS INFLUENCE THEIR CHILDREN.

- Child restraint use drops by 40% when parents ride without their seat belts. (NHTSA)