

Texas Department of State Health Services

November 18, 2025, is National Injury Prevention Day (NIPD)!

NIPD "shines a green light for safety" to help raise awareness and promote injury prevention efforts.

For our first "Shine a Green Light for Safety" weekly spotlight leading up to NIPD, the <u>Injury Prevention Unit</u> wants to highlight proper child safety seat use as one way to #BelnjuryFree.

In 2024, according to the <u>Texas Department of Transportation</u>, there were **57** motor vehicle crash fatalities among infants and children less than eight years of age. 33% of those children were completely unrestrained. Additionally, among the same age group, **375** infants and children sustained serious injury with 26% of them being completely unrestrained.

According to <u>Safe Kids Worldwide</u>, correct use of child safety seats can reduce the risk of death by as much as **71%**! However, <u>almost half</u> of all car seats are not used or installed correctly.

Proper use and installation of child safety seats can help prevent injuries and death among Texas children!

The <u>Safe Riders Child Passenger Safety Program</u> works with over 66 partner agencies to educate and distribute child safety seats to families in need at more than <u>110 locations</u> in Texas. This joint effort contributes to the prevention of child deaths and injuries due to motor vehicle crashes.

Sare Riders also provides:

- Child safety seat inspections/checkup events;
- Sustainability and retention of child passenger safety (CPS) technicians through continuing education and trainings.
- CPS technician <u>certification courses</u>;
- Educational materials and resources.

There are steps you can take to shine a green light on child passenger safety in your community! Take your child safety seat to an <u>inspection station</u>. <u>Learn more and spread awareness</u> about the importance of proper child safety seat use and installation. If interested, become a certified child passenger safety technician.

Next week, we'll take a look at the important role data plays in helping Texas communities #BelnjuryFree.

General Injury Prevention Resources

- Learn more about our programs: Injury Prevention | Texas DSHS
- Find state and national Injury Prevention resources: <u>Injury Prevention</u>
 Resources | Texas DSHS
- Locate more Injury Prevention-related news, events, and observances: <u>Injury</u>
 <u>Prevention Calendar | Texas DSHS</u>

Questions? Email us at injury.prevention@dshs.texas.gov.

Thank you!

The Injury Prevention Team

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