

# PICKUP TRUCK SAFETY



## BEGINS WITH YOU!

Pickup truck drivers and their passengers are among those Americans least likely to regularly wear their safety belts according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

With nearly 1.7 million pickup trucks registered in Ohio, these vehicles remain popular with all ages. As the popularity increases, so does the frequency of crashes.

In 2007, Ohio reported 71,032 pickup trucks involved in crashes. Of those, 270 were involved in fatal crashes and 16,513 in injury crashes.

According to NHTSA, pickup truck occupants are three times more likely to be involved in rollover crashes than in other types of vehicles. Rollover crashes cause the largest number of injuries and fatalities.

Remember to always wear your safety belt, because that is the single best defense against ejection in a crash. In fact, the simple step of always buckling up will increase your odds of survival by 70 to 80 percent if you have a rollover crash.



Drivers and passengers should practice safety when riding in these vehicles.

Space limitations often lead passengers to ride in the cargo area.

Ohio's Open Cargo Law restricts the transporting of passengers in the open cargo area of most vehicles.

The law prohibits people under the age of 16 from riding in an unenclosed area of a vehicle traveling faster than 25 mph.

So the next time you drive or ride in a pickup truck, be sure to "pick up" some safety habits along the way.

The life you save may be your own!

**For additional copies call  
614-466-4775**



**OHIO DEPARTMENT  
OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
EDUCATION • SERVICE • PROTECTION

TED STRICKLAND, GOVERNOR  
CATHY COLLINS-TAYLOR, DIRECTOR

[WWW.PUBLICSAFETY.OHIO.GOV](http://WWW.PUBLICSAFETY.OHIO.GOV)

**HSY 7781 9/09**