



## Seat Belts: Myth vs. Fact

Myth #1: "My car has airbags, so I don't need a seat belt." While airbags can cushion your blow in the case of an accident, the seat belt is responsible for keeping your body in the upright, restrained position necessary for airbags to work properly.

Myth #2: "A seat belt may cause me to become trapped under water." the only way to escape a vehicle in this obscure circumstance is to remain conscious, and you are much more likely to remain conscious if you are restrained by a seat belt during an accident.

Myth #3: "I am pregnant; therefore seat belts are dangerous for my baby." The best way to keep yourself and your baby safe while riding or driving is to place the lap belt underneath your stomach, across your pelvic bone. Never place the lap belt over your belly during pregnancy.

## 4th of July Safety

Stay protected & hydrated. If you're outdoors during the day, use sunblock. Drink water, esp. if you're drinking alcohol (in which case don't drive).

Make sure food is fully cooked. According to the USDA, meats (steaks, roasts or chops) need to be cooked to 145 degrees, ground meats to 160 and poultry to 165.

<u>If you're bringing food,</u> keep in a cooler on ice so it doesn't grow harmful bacteria.

<u>Don't drink and drive.</u> The 4<sup>th</sup> of July is deadly for drunkdriving fatalities.

<u>Don't drink and boat.</u> Alcohol is factor in 1/3 recreational boating deaths (USCG)

## Here's how texting and driving impacts auto insurance rates

Insure.com, set out to determine just how much a texting ticket will cause insurance premiums to rise: between 13-18% increase. For example, if your rate was \$1663, it increased to \$1956.

Researchers determined that nearly half (46%) of all drivers in the U.S. admit to texting while driving despite it being illegal, which it is in 47 states. Many of those drivers have texted while driving with kids in the car, and about one in five of them have been ticketed for the act, Insure.com reports.





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