**Teens in Cars**

Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems

- The number one killer of teens is motor vehicle crashes.
- Fatalities are split almost equally between teen drivers and passengers.
- 1 in 4 teens surveyed said they don’t use a seat belt on every ride.
- In half of fatalities, the teen was not wearing a seat belt.
- Seat belts reduce the risk of death for front seat passengers by 45 percent.
- 45% risk reduction
- Teens who don’t use seat belts are more likely to say they text while driving than those who do.
- 73% of teens who text while driving said they texted while driving, compared to 52% of those who don’t use seat belts.
- 39% of teens said they have ridden with a teen driver who was texting, and 55% said they think other teens have done so.
- 43% of teens reported riding as a passenger with a teen driver who was talking on the phone.

One study found that the odds of a crash or near-crash in newly-licensed teen drivers was more than 8 times greater when dialing a cell phone.

- More than half of teens surveyed said they have seen a parent talking on the phone while driving.
- 28% have been riding in a car with a parent who was texting.

49% of teens reported feeling unsafe when riding with a teen driver.

- 31% when riding with a parent.

When someone was driving dangerously, 4 in 10 teens said they asked the driver to stop, but almost the same number said they did nothing.

Buckle Up and Speak Up for a Safe Ride Every Time.