

LIVES SAVED 1960-2012

BY VEHICLE SAFETY TECHNOLOGIES AND ASSOCIATED FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARDS

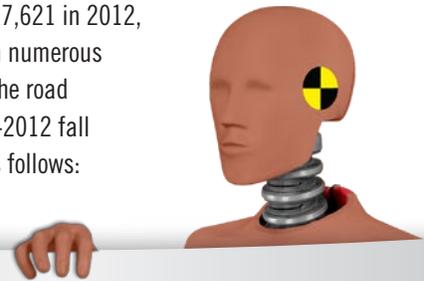
From 1960 through 2012, over 600,000 lives have been saved by vehicle safety technologies, including seat belts, air bags, child safety seats, electronic stability control, and others; the estimates are from a statistical model calculating lives saved in a new NHTSA report.

BACKGROUND:

- NHTSA began in 1975 to evaluate the effectiveness of vehicle safety technologies associated with the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.
- Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) data for 1975 to 2012 documents the actual crash fatalities in vehicles that, especially in recent years, include many safety technologies.
- By June 2014, NHTSA had evaluated the effectiveness of virtually all the life-saving technologies introduced in passenger cars, pickup trucks, SUVs, and vans from about 1960 up through about 2010.
- Using NHTSA's published effectiveness estimates, the model estimates how many people would have died if the vehicles had not been equipped with any of the safety technologies.
- In addition to equipment compliant with specific FMVSS in effect at that time, the model tallies lives saved by installations in advance of the FMVSS, back to 1960, and by non-compulsory improvements, such as pretensioners and load limiters for seat belts.



A previous NHTSA study using the same methods estimated that vehicle safety technologies had saved 328,551 lives from 1960 through 2002. The annual number of lives saved grew from 115 in 1960, when a small number of people used lap belts, to 27,621 in 2012, when most cars and LTVs were equipped with numerous modern safety technologies and belt use on the road achieved 86 percent. The estimates for 1960-2012 fall into fourteen safety technology categories, as follows:



LIVES SAVED IN 1960 TO 2012

FMVSS No. and Topic	Lives Saved
208/209/210 Seat belts	329,715
203/204 Energy-absorbing steering assemblies	79,989
208 Frontal air bags	42,856
206 Door locks, latches and hinges	42,135
201 Occupant protection in interior impact	34,477
214 Side impact protection (incl. side air bags)	32,288
105/135 Dual master cylinders/front disc brakes	18,350
213 Child safety seats	9,891
212 Adhesive windshield bonding	9,853
126 Electronic Stability Control	6,169
216 Roof crush resistance	4,913
108 Trailer conspicuity tape	2,660
226 Rollover curtains	178
301 Fuel system integrity	26
Total	613,501



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