

Road and Off-road safety: Booster Seats and Seat Belts

Indicator: Proportion of households with a child (4-7 years) who travels in a booster seat in the back seat “all of the time”.

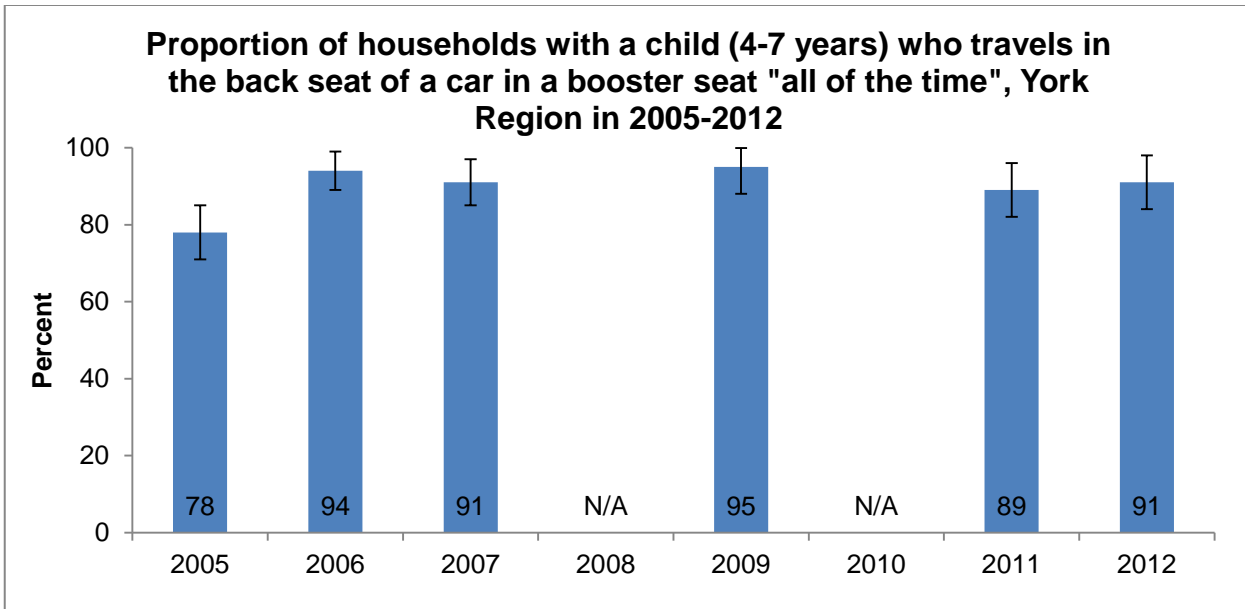
Indicator: Proportion of households with a child (8-11 years) who travels wearing a lap and shoulder seat belt combination (or strapped into a booster seat or car seat) “all of the time”.

Data Source: Rapid Risk Factor Surveillance System (RRFSS)

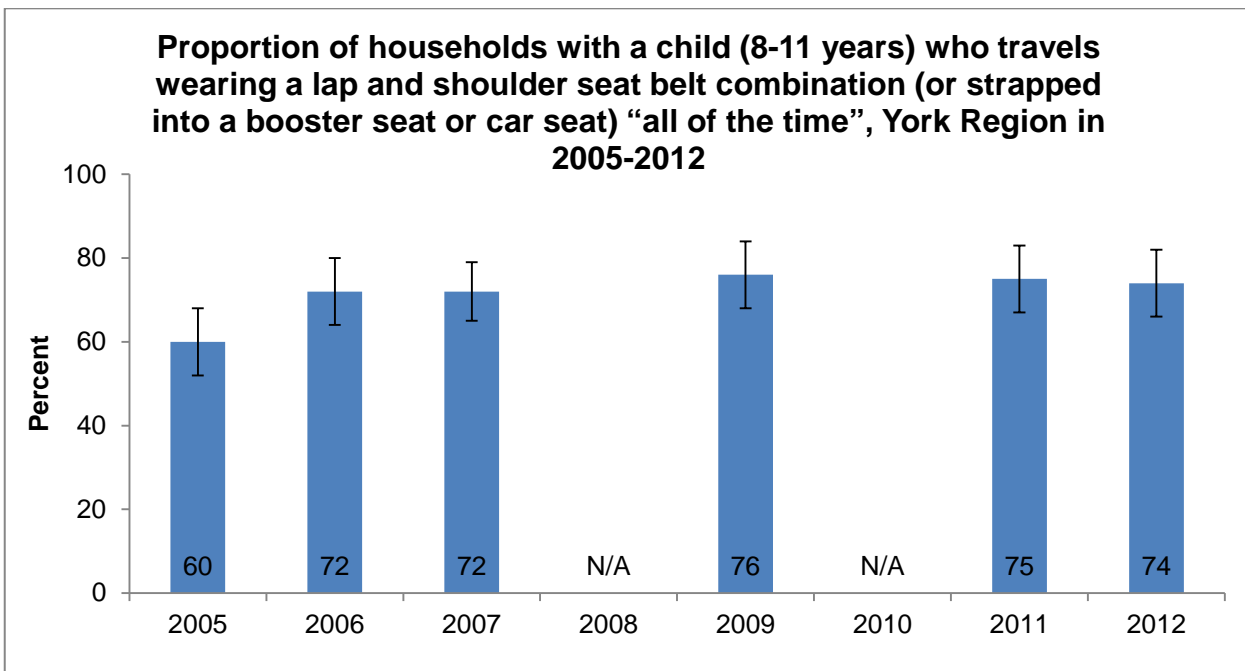
Key Findings

- In 2012, 91(±7) percent of York Region households reported their child 4-7 years old travelling in a booster in the back seat “all of the time”.
- The proportion of households with a child 4-7 years old traveling in a booster seat “all of the time” was statistically similar between sexes (data not shown).
- In 2012, 74 (±8) percent of York Region households reported their child 8-11 years old travelling wearing a lap and shoulder seat belt combination (or strapped into a booster seat or car seat) “all of the time”.
- The proportion of households with a child 8-11 years old travelling wearing a lap and shoulder seat belt combination (or strapped into a booster seat or car seat) “all of the time” was statistically similar between sexes (data now shown).
- Due to small numbers, trends by parental age group and municipality cannot be examined as part of these analyses.





Data Source: Rapid Risk Factor Surveillance System (RRFSS), (2005–2012), York Region Community and Health Services



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Limitations

- A RRFSS provincial sample for comparison is not available.
- The most appropriate restraint system should be chosen based on a child's weight and height. Age is used as a proxy for a child's weight and height as RRFSS does not collect this information. Booster seats may be appropriate for some 4 to 7 year olds but not allⁱ.
- It is highly recommended, though not legislated, that a booster seat be placed in the back seat of a vehicleⁱ.
- The data used for this indicator are self-reported and may be subject to errors in recall, over or under-reporting due to social desirability, and errors from proxy reporting.

Data Source: Rapid Risk Factor Surveillance System (RRFSS)

Relevant Time Period: 2005-2012; data updates every 2-3 years

Data Notes:

Symbol	Description
I and ±	Represents the 95% confidence interval, meaning 19 times out of 20 the results will fall into this range.
*	Represents high variability associated with the estimate. Interpret with caution.
**	Estimate not released, does not meet data release standards.
N/A	Data was not collected.

- 'Don't know' and 'refused' responses are excluded.
- A household weight is not applied for child proxy questions, in which a parent/guardian responds on behalf of one child in the household.
- Confidence intervals are reported as equal, though this is not always the case as the estimate approaches zero or 100%.
- For this analysis, asymmetrical confidence intervals were calculated, but confidence intervals are reported as symmetrical using the larger of the two differences between the estimate and the upper or lower boundary.

Contact Information: For more information please contact the Epidemiology and Research manager at ext. 74507.

ⁱ Association of Public Health Epidemiologist in Ontario (APHEO). Core Indicators. Accessed 2014-04-11 from <http://www.apheo.ca/index.php?pid=301>

