

Restraint Use

In 2021, there were 1,797 traffic fatalities in Georgia, of which 1,184 (66 percent) were occupants of passenger vehicles¹⁴. Of the 1,184 passenger vehicle occupants fatally injured, 515 (44 percent) were restrained, and 557 (47 percent) were unrestrained at the time of the crash. Restraint use was not known for the remaining 112 (9 percent) occupants. For those passenger vehicle occupants who were fatally injured, 48 percent were restrained and 52 percent were unrestrained.

See the **“Occupant Protection”** Georgia Traffic Safety Facts for more information regarding restraint use and passenger safety.

Rural areas have a higher proportion of unrestrained seriously injured and fatally injured passenger vehicle occupants compared to other regions. In 2021, 52 percent of fatally injured occupants (in all seating positions) in rural areas were unrestrained – compared to 42 percent in other urban regions and 48 percent in the Atlanta region.

Table 14: **Fatally Injured Passenger Vehicle Occupants by Restraint Use and Region, 2021**

Restraint Use by Injury Type		Atlanta Region (10 counties)		Other Urban (31 counties)		Rural Counties (118 counties)		Statewide	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Fatally Injured	Restrained	119	35%	222	50%	174	43%	515	44%
	Unrestrained	163	48%	184	42%	210	52%	557	47%
	Unknown	57	17%	35	8%	20	5%	112	9%
	Total	339	100%	441	100%	404	100%	1,184	100%

Note: Passenger vehicles include passenger cars and light trucks (SUVs, pickups, vans, and other light trucks).
Source: FARS 2021

¹⁴ The number of total passenger vehicle occupant fatalities may be different than the values reported by FARS due to the definitions and classifications of passenger vehicles. Passenger vehicles are defined as motor vehicles with gross vehicle weight ratings of 10,000 pounds or less and include passenger cars and light trucks (SUVs, pickups, vans, and other light trucks).

