Motor vehicle crashes and their resulting injuries are preventable; state-level changes are especially effective for prevention.

TAKING ACTION CAN SAVE LIVES

In 2018, nearly 1,500 people in Georgia were killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes. Georgia can consider the following proven strategies, and the enforcement of related policies, to save lives and money:

• A primary enforcement seat belt law that covers all seating positions
• Child passenger safety laws that require proper car seat and booster seat use until at least age 9
• Ignition interlock devices required for all (including first-time) offenders convicted of alcohol-impaired driving
• A graduated driver licensing (GDL) system that includes:
  ◦ A minimum age of 16 for obtaining a learner’s permit
  ◦ Restrictions against nighttime driving between 10:00 pm and 5:00 am (or longer)

$18 Million MEDICAL COSTS
$2.08 Billion WORK LOSS COSTS
$2.10 Billion total cost of traffic crash deaths in Georgia in 2018.

COST OF TRAFFIC DEATHS BY TYPE OF ROAD USER

Motor Vehicle Occupants: $1.49B
Car occupants: 71%
Motorcyclists: $208M
Motorcyclists: 10%
Pedestrians: $381M
Pedestrians: 18%
Bicyclists: $28M
Bicyclists: 1%

COST OF TRAFFIC DEATHS BY AGE GROUP

Older Adults: $60M
Adults: $819M
Children: $70M
Young Adults: $108M
T eens: $1.00B
Young Adults: 47%
Children: 35%

Source: CDC WISQARS (Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System), 2018
*Cost is based on fewer than 20 deaths and may be unstable.

Working together, we can help keep people safe on the road—every day.
www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/statecosts
The best way to reduce motor vehicle crash costs is to prevent crashes. Some effective strategies for preventing crashes include:

- automated red-light and speed-camera enforcement
- comprehensive graduated driver licensing systems
- publicized sobriety checkpoints
- mandatory ignition interlocks for all (including first-time) offenders convicted of alcohol-impaired driving

The next best way to reduce costs is to prevent injuries when crashes occur. Proven ways to prevent injuries during a crash include:

- high-visibility enforcement of seat belt and child restraint laws
- primary seat belt laws for all seating positions
- laws that require car seat or booster seat use for children until at least age 9
- distribution plus education programs for car seats and booster seats
- bicycle helmet laws for children

For more information about these and other effective programs, visit www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety.