



State Performance in 2013

Best States

A state without a primary enforcement seat belt law covering passengers in all seating positions (front and rear) or that has repealed an existing all-rider motorcycle helmet law within the previous ten years is not eligible for a green rating, regardless of the number of other highway safety laws it has enacted. States must have 11 to 15 laws including both primary enforcement seat belt laws, or 9 or more laws including both primary enforcement seat belt laws and an all-rider helmet law, to achieve a green rating.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ● 12 laws. Missing nighttime and cell phone restrictions for teen drivers, as well as an ignition interlock law.

ILLINOIS ● 12 laws. Missing an all-rider motorcycle helmet law, minimum age 16 for a learner's permit and nighttime restriction for teen drivers.

OREGON ● 12 laws. Missing minimum age 16 for learner's permit, nighttime driving provision and age 18 for unrestricted license for teen drivers.

DELAWARE ● 11 laws. Missing an all-rider motorcycle helmet law, age 18 for unrestricted license for teen drivers, an ignition interlock law, and open container law.

HAWAII ● 11 Laws. Missing an all-rider motorcycle helmet law, minimum age 16 for learner's permit, nighttime restriction provision, and age 18 for unrestricted license for teen drivers.

INDIANA ● 11 laws. Missing an all-rider motorcycle helmet law, minimum age 16 for learner's permit, nighttime restriction provision, and ignition interlock law.

MAINE ● 11 laws. Missing an all-rider motorcycle helmet law, minimum age 16 for learner's permit, nighttime restriction provision, and age 18 for unrestricted license for teen drivers.

RHODE ISLAND ● 11 laws. Missing an all-rider motorcycle helmet law, nighttime driving provision and age 18 for unrestricted license for teen drivers, and an ignition interlock law.

WASHINGTON ● 11 laws. Missing minimum age 16 for learner's permit, nighttime and passenger restrictions and age 18 for unrestricted license for teen drivers.

CALIFORNIA ● 9 laws. Missing a minimum age 16 for learner's permit, nighttime, passenger and cell phone restrictions, age 18 for unrestricted license for teen drivers, and an ignition interlock law.

LOUISIANA ● 9 laws. Missing booster seat law, minimum age 16 for learner's permit, nighttime and passenger restrictions, age 18 for unrestricted license for teen drivers, and an open container law.

Worst States

The red rating indicates that the following states are dangerously behind in the adoption of Advocates' optimal laws. States receive a red rating if they have fewer than 7 laws, without both primary enforcement front and rear seat belt laws.

SOUTH DAKOTA ● Only 2 laws. Missing front and rear primary enforcement seat belt law, all-rider motorcycle helmet law, booster seat law, 6 of the 7 teen driving provisions, an ignition interlock law, a child endangerment law and an all-driver text messaging restriction.

MISSISSIPPI ● Only 4 laws. Missing rear primary enforcement seat belt law, booster seat law, 6 of the 7 teen driving provisions, an ignition interlock law, an open container law, and an all-driver text messaging restriction.

ARIZONA ● Only 5 laws. Missing front and rear primary enforcement seat belt law, all-rider motorcycle helmet law, 6 of the 7 teen driving provisions, and an all-driver text messaging restriction.

IOWA ● Only 5 laws. Missing rear primary enforcement seat belt law, all-rider motorcycle helmet law, booster seat law, 5 of the 7 teen driving provisions, an ignition interlock law, and an all-driver text messaging restriction.

MONTANA ● Only 5 laws. Missing front and rear primary enforcement seat belt law, all-rider motorcycle helmet law, booster seat law, 4 of the 7 teen driving provisions, an ignition interlock law, and an all-driver text messaging restriction.

NEBRASKA ● Only 5 laws. Missing front and rear primary enforcement seat belt law, booster seat law, 6 of the 7 teen driving provisions, and an all-driver text messaging restriction.

ALABAMA ● Only 6 laws. Missing rear primary enforcement seat belt law, booster seat law, 6 of the 7 teen driving provisions, and an ignition interlock law.

FLORIDA ● Only 6 laws. Missing rear primary enforcement seat belt law, all-rider motorcycle helmet law, booster seat law, 4 of the 7 teen driving provisions, an ignition interlock law, and an all-driver text messaging restriction.

NEW HAMPSHIRE ● Only 6 laws. Missing front and rear primary enforcement seat belt law, all-rider motorcycle helmet law, booster seat law, 4 of the 7 teen driving provisions and an ignition interlock law.

NORTH DAKOTA ● Only 6 laws. Missing front and rear primary enforcement seat belt law, all-rider motorcycle helmet law, booster seat law, 4 of the 7 teen driving provisions and an ignition interlock law.

WYOMING ● Only 6 laws. Missing front and rear primary enforcement seat belt law, all-rider motorcycle helmet law, 4 of the 7 teen driving provisions, an ignition interlock law, and an open container law.