After a motor vehicle crash:

- Restraint use saves on medical charges. Medical charges are higher for unrestrained motor vehicle occupants in a crash.
- The median hospital charges for an unrestrained occupant were $7,236 higher compared to a restrained occupant (figure 1).
- Medical charges were higher for unrestrained occupants compared to restrained occupants, regardless of payer type (figure 2).

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), traffic crashes cost Nebraska $1.6 billion every year. That is $952 for every resident of Nebraska, each year. (Source: NHTSA, Nebraska Primary Seat Belt Law Fact Sheet, January 2012)

Hospitalizations from motor vehicle crashes increased from 8,904 in 2008 to 9,807 in 2012. Hospital charges from motor vehicle crashes increased from $69 billion (2008) to $98 billion (2012) in Nebraska.

Source: NE CODES

Visit the Nebraska Injury Prevention and Control Program at www.dhhs.ne.gov/injuryprevention or the Nebraska CODES Program at www.dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/codes_index.aspx