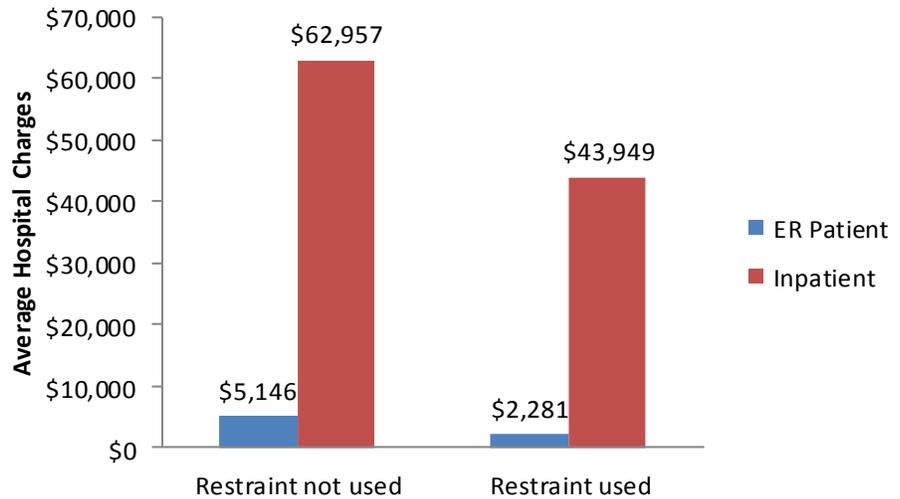


Seat Belt Fact Sheet: Costs 2006-2010

After a motor vehicle crash:

- Unrestrained occupants were **5 times** more likely to be treated in hospitals and **2 times** more likely to be treated in emergency rooms compared to restrained occupants.
- Unrestrained occupants had **double** the average emergency room costs compared to a restrained occupant (figure 1).
- On average, hospital charges for an unrestrained occupant were **\$19,000** higher compared to a restrained occupant (figure 1).

Figure 1: Average Emergency Room (ER) and Inpatient Hospital Charges by Admission and Restraint Use
Nebraska, 2006-2010



Source: NE CODES

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)

Average Hospital Charges Per Year from Motor Vehicle Crash Injuries by Payer Type, Nebraska 2006-2010



- From 2006 to 2010, hospital charges from motor vehicle crashes increased from \$58.4 million to \$100.4 million.
- The number of hospitalizations increased from 10,206 (2006) to 12,642 (2010).

Source: NE CODES

Costs Beyond the Hospital Bill....

It is estimated that from 2006-2010 in Nebraska, unrestrained occupants had total *comprehensive costs of over **half a billion dollars per year.**

An unrestrained injured motor vehicle occupant has an average of \$126,147 in *comprehensive costs compared to a restrained occupant at \$21,784.

*Comprehensive costs include productivity losses, property damage, medical costs, rehabilitation costs, travel delay, legal and court costs, emergency services, insurance administrative costs, costs to employers, and lost quality of life.

Sources: NHTSA CODES