



NEVADA REVISED STATUTE (NRS)
484D.495 3.(B) – Nevada statute requires all occupants to wear a seat belt in vehicles made after January 1, 1968. However, current language allows for enforcement of the law only when a driver is pulled over for a reason other than seat belt use and the citation issued results only in a \$25 fine.

NEVADA SEAT BELT LAWS

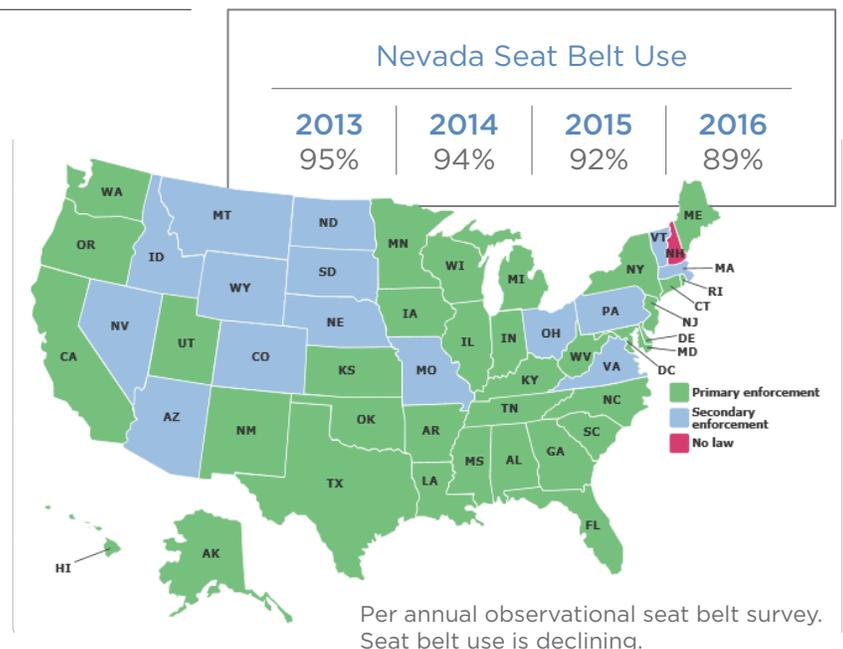
All vehicle occupants in Nevada are required to wear a seat belt. While the law is clear that all occupants should be buckled in, it misses the mark in one crucial area: seat belt violators can only be ticketed when they are pulled over for a reason other than seat belt use. In other words, **Nevada’s seat belt law is a secondary law, not a primary law.**

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR NEVADA?

Simply put, since wearing a seat belt is not a primary law in Nevada, fewer people buckle up.

Nevada is 1 of 15 states without a primary seat belt law. Nearly 11 percent of Nevadans—over 318,000 people—are still not buckling up.

35 lives would have been saved since 2011 had Nevada’s seat belt usage been 100%. That’s 35 people who would still be alive today, had they simply buckled up.



NEVADA PASSENGER VEHICLE OCCUPANT FATALITIES AND ESTIMATE OF LIVES SAVED

Year	Total	Restrained	Unrestrained	Unknown Restraint Use	Percent Known Restrained	Current Lives Saved	Potential Lives Savable at 100%
2013	123	56	57	10	50	76	7
2014	141	66	64	11	51	87	10
2015	176	91	72	13	56	132	18

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) lists the leading cause of death for Nevada residents ages 1-54 as traffic crashes. This comes in conjunction with reports from 2003 to 2012, there were 2,213 vehicle occupants killed in Nevada. As shown in the table above, the potential for Nevada lives saved cannot be denied.

SHOULD NEVADA BE A PRIMARY SEAT BELT STATE?

Making the switch from a secondary law to a primary law is easier than you might think and involves changing only a few words. Optionally, Utah recently passed a primary seat belt law with a sunset date after three years. Three years of data collection will determine if lives were saved as a result of the law.

To save more lives on Nevada roads, there are three options we can consider:

- 1 Change the Nevada law by eliminating existing language that limits the issuance of a citation. This would make Nevada a primary seat belt law state.
- 2 Change Nevada law by eliminating existing language that limits the issuance of a citation, but with a sunset date to allow for data collection and analysis to identify the effectiveness of the law (similar to Utah).
- 3 Increase the minimum fine for non-compliance with Nevada's seat belt law. This could be enacted in conjunction with the other options or individually.



NEVADA YOUNG DRIVER LAWS

NRS 483.2521 - 483.280

Drivers who are 16 or 17 years of age are required to complete a course in automobile driver education or a course provided by a school for training drivers; log 50 supervised hours of driving with a learner's permit, 10 hours of which must be driving at night; have not been convicted of a traffic violation or been responsible for a crash for 6 months prior; and hold an instructional permit for at least 6 months. Drivers who are 16 or 17 years of age have restrictions on transporting certain passengers under 18 years of age.

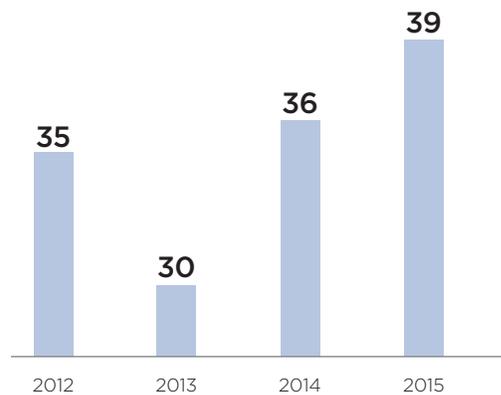
NRS 483.2521

Statute requires driver training and an instructional permit only when a driver is under the age of 18. The trend for Nevada young drivers is to delay the application process until 18 years of age to apply for a drivers license. Young drivers, who delay the application process, circumvent all GDL laws, and only need to pass a written and driving test without any formal driver training.

NRS 484B.165

Young drivers have no additional requirements for cell while driving: using a handheld wireless communications device to type or enter text, send or read data, engage in nonvoice communication or engage in voice communications without use of hands-free device unlawful.

Current law in Nevada requires those seeking a driver's license under the age of 18 must enter a graduated driver's license program. While the truth of the matter is, too many young drivers aged 15 - 20 are dying on Nevada roads, and that number is on the rise.



FATALITIES
AMONG YOUNG
DRIVERS IN NEVADA

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR NEVADA?

Young drivers are inexperienced on the road and often don't realize how dangerous certain driving behaviors, like improper seat belt use, can be.



There is only 80% observed seat belt use among 16 to 24-year-olds—the lowest of any age group



Over 50% of young people involved in fatal crashes were unbuckled

Furthermore, distracted or inattentive driving has become a national epidemic, and young drivers are at the greatest risk. Currently 38 States ban all cell phone use for GDL drivers. Nevada isn't numbered among them.



Teens have the highest crash risk of any age group, and research confirms that distraction is often a factor



Current Nevada GDL laws do not specifically ban all cell phone use for drivers less than 18 years of age

SHOULD NEVADA CHANGE ITS GDL LAWS?

GDL systems are intended to gradually increase the exposure of new drivers to more complex driving situations in as safe a manner as possible. New drivers are not just 16 or 17 years old, they're every age. With troubling national trends recently highlighted in the Governors Highway Safety Association report "Mission Not Accomplished: Teen Safe Driving, the Next Chapter" it is clear that focus must be placed on new drivers not just teens. This data revealed that older teen drivers (18-20), were involved in 12% more fatal car crashes when compared to younger teen drivers (15-18). We believe this upward trend is the result of teens waiting until they are 18 to get their license, and bypassing the GDL laws. By updating some of our laws, we can make sure that every driver who gets behind the wheel is educated and trained to avoid any behavior that could put their life at risk, including young drivers.



To save more lives on Nevada roads, there are three options we can consider:

- 1 Change NRS 484B.165 to restrict all cell phone use, including hands-free devices, for drivers less than 18 years of age.
- 2 Amend NRS 484D.495 to include seat belt usage for young drivers and their passengers as a condition for continued licensure within Nevada's graduated driver licensing system.
- 3 Remove the age restriction to current GDL laws, thereby requiring all new drivers to obtain practical driving experience in a lower risk situation.



NEVADA IMPAIRED DRIVING LAWS—IGNITION INTERLOCK

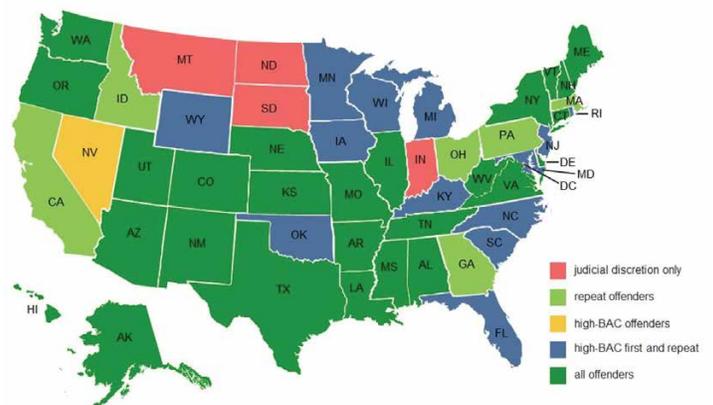
NRS 484C.460

An ignition interlock device is optional, for blood alcohol concentrate (BAC) up to 0.18 for a three to six month period on an owned or operated vehicle. Ignition interlock is required in certain situations where BAC exceeds 0.18 and is a second offense. Exceptions are provided when the court determines a person would experience economic hardship as a result of using ignition interlock. Additional exceptions apply to the restricted license when the individual convicted of DUI needs to drive to/from work, to obtain medicine, food or other necessities for themselves or a family member, or to transport a family member to or from school.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR NEVADA?

9,111 DUI arrests in 2015 could be eligible for ignition interlock. Nevada law currently requires only repeat offenders with a high-BAC to install an ignition interlock device. Nevada's alcohol-related fatalities are increasing and in 2015 were the highest they have been since 2008.

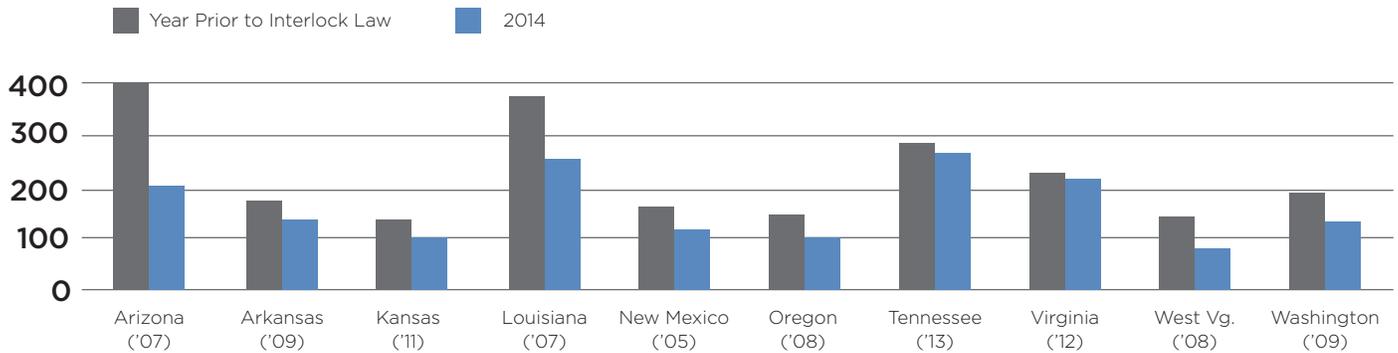
- 426 Nevadans lost their lives to an alcohol related crash from 2011-2015
- Nevada only has 1,115 active installed interlock-devices, compared to 22,279 in Colorado or 18,000+ in Arizona and Washington
- Interlock fees are paid by the offender, with an average monthly cost of \$60-80. Collected fees could be used to cover costs for indigent offenders
- While in use, interlock maintains 95% effectiveness in preventing impaired driving
- Though mandatory interlocks are permitted for use in Nevada through the judicial system, they represent an under-utilized sanction in effectively addressing DUI offenders



*Laws mandating alcohol ignition interlock orders (January 2016)

FATALITY REDUCTIONS SINCE ENACTING INTERLOCK LAW

As of June 2016, 28 states have all-offender ignition interlock laws for convictions of .08 BAC or higher.



SHOULD NEVADA STRENGTHEN ITS IGNITION INTERLOCK PROGRAM?

Enhancing Nevada's ignition interlock law improves public safety. A strong ignition interlock program would keep Nevada's roads safer with a tool that prevents offenders from drinking and driving, and may deter even first offenders. 71.1% of alcohol-impaired drivers in fatal crashes had no prior license suspension on record. Waiting until an offender receives a felony conviction to utilize ignition interlock only addresses a small percentage of the total DUI arrests.

Ignition interlock is proven to reduce repeat offenders and allows them to maintain employment and family ties in contrast to more drastic and costly penalties. Enhancing Nevada's ignition interlock law to cover all offenders convicted of a DUI is a low cost solution that would save lives.

INTERLOCK BEST PRACTICES

Additions should be made to the current Nevada laws to mirror best practices seen in other states and recommended by the Traffic Injury Research Foundation. Specifically, tampering or circumventing the device should be an offense. This includes having someone else provide a breath sample for the vehicle, or loaning or renting a vehicle to an interlock-restricted driver. Legislation should specify ignition interlock be required on any vehicle operated by the offender. Twenty-six states also require interlock when an individual refuses the preliminary breath test.

To save more lives on Nevada roads, there are three options we can consider:

Legislation consistent with the Federal FAST ACT funding requirements:

- 1 Minimum six month sanction period (use of device)
- 2 Replace exclusions in current NRS with allowable exclusions: driving an employer's vehicle for work, medical inability to provide a breath sample or no interlock providers within 100 miles of residence
- 3 Interlock required for all convicted impaired drivers