



## **SAFE CARS SAVE LIVES STATISTICS LOUISIANA**

**VEHICLE RECALLS:** According to NHTSA, 1 in 4 recalled vehicles are left unrepaired. Last year, there were close to 900 recalls affecting 51 million vehicles nationwide, including the [nationwide recall of air bag inflators](#) supplied by Takata. Takata inflators have a safety defect that may cause the inflator to rupture during air bag deployment and propel metal shrapnel into the passenger compartment.

- Defective Takata inflators have been tied to 10 deaths in the United States, including the driver of a 2005 Honda Civic in Lafayette, Louisiana. The crash occurred April 5, 2015, and the driver died on April 9, 2015.
- Inflator ruptures are far more likely in vehicles that have spent significant periods of time in areas of high absolute humidity, which includes Louisiana.

**HEATSTROKE:** San Jose State University tracks child heatstroke deaths in cars in real time and is the source for this data. Additional statistics can be found on their website [www.noheatstroke.org](http://www.noheatstroke.org). From June through August, an average of two children will die each week of heatstroke after being left in cars. The average number of U.S. child heatstroke fatalities per year is 37. [In more than half of those tragedies, the child was forgotten](#) in the car by an adult.

- In 2016, Louisiana has had 3 children die from vehicular heatstroke.
- Over the past 19 years, Louisiana has had 24 children die from vehicular heatstroke.
- Louisiana ranks number 9 in the list of States with the highest number of child heatstroke deaths in hot cars (per capita/1 million from 1998-2016 for children under the age of 18).

**CAR SEATS:** According to NHTSA, nearly 60 percent of car seats are not installed correctly, leaving kids vulnerable in a crash. On average, 3 children were killed and an estimated 458 children were injured every day in traffic crashes in 2014. Out of the 21,022 passenger vehicle occupants killed in fatal crashes that year, 714 were children. Of these 714 child occupant fatalities, 241 were not buckled up. [Click here](#) for details.

- A total of 33 children (from birth to age 14) in Louisiana were killed in traffic crashes in 2014.
- Twenty-one of those 33 children killed were under the age of 8.

**TIRES:** According to NHTSA, improper tire maintenance can lead to a flat tire, blowout, or the tread coming off your tire. Seventy percent of people don't check their tires, resulting in 11,000 crashes annually. Properly inflated tires can also save drivers 11 cents per gallon and extend the average life of a tire by 4,700 miles.

- In Louisiana, 37 people were killed in crashes that involved a tire blowout or a flat between 2010 and 2014.