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STANDARD ENFORCEMENT IN MICHIGAN: A ONE YEAR FOLLOW-UP AND REVIEW

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16. Abstract

Reported here are the results of a direct observation survey of safety belt use conducted in March 2001. The purpose of this study is to determine the effect of standard enforcement legislation, implemented in March 2000, on Michigan's safety belt use rate. In this study, 14,092 occupants traveling in four vehicle types (passenger cars, sport-utility vehicles, vans/minivans, and pickup trucks) were surveyed from March 15 to March 28, 2001. Belt use was estimated for all commercial/noncommercial vehicle types combined (the statewide safety belt use rate) and separately for each vehicle type. Within and across each vehicle type, belt use by age, sex, road type, day of week, time of day, and seating position were calculated. Statewide belt use was 79.4 percent. When compared with the safety belt use rate determined prior to the implementation of standard enforcement legislation, this survey's estimated use rate shows that safety belt use in Michigan has increased significantly as a result of the law. However, when compared to the safety belt use rates determined in the surveys conducted immediately following, and three months after the change to standard enforcement, this survey shows that the statewide safety belt use rate has decreased slightly. In the current survey, belt use was 82.2 percent for passenger cars, 79.4 percent for sport-utility vehicles, 83.3 percent for vans/minivans, and 68.1 percent for pickup trucks. Belt use was higher for females than for males, and higher for drivers than for passengers for all vehicle types combined. Belt use was highest in the 4-to-15 year old age group, followed by the 60-and-over age group, 30-to-59 year old age group, and 16-to-29 year old age group, respectively. Belt use did not vary systematically by time of day or day of week. When results for surveys before and after standard enforcement are compared, the results show that standard enforcement has had its greatest effect on some of the lowest use groups in Michigan: young males and motorists in Wayne County. These analyses show that standard enforcement has been an effective means of increasing safety belt use in Michigan.

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INTRODUCTION

In the early 1980s, as states began to discuss implementing mandatory safety belt use laws, citizens voiced concerns that these laws were in violation of their individual rights, and, more importantly, that these laws could be used as a tool for police harassment. To address these concerns, legislators in the state of New Jersey included a secondary enforcement provision in their safety belt use law (Moffat, 1998). This provision stated that a police officer could only issue a safety belt citation if he or she were to stop a vehicle for some other violation. Thus, if a vehicle is otherwise being operated in a legal manner, unbelted occupants in the vehicle cannot be stopped or cited for disobeying the safety belt use law. Michigan's mandatory safety belt law was implemented in 1985, with this secondary enforcement provision (Lund, Pollner, & Williams, 1986).

It is clear that implementation and enforcement of mandatory safety belt use laws increase safety belt use. The increase in the national safety belt use rate from approximately 15 percent in the early 1980s to the current rate of 69 percent can be attributed in large part to the introduction of mandatory safety belt use laws (NHTSA, 1999a). In general, these laws produced a dramatic increase in safety belt use immediately after implementation, followed by a decline in belt use to a level that remains substantially higher than prelaw levels. This trend was also observed in Michigan during the introduction of our safety belt use law. The safety belt use rate was at about 19 percent prior to implementation of the mandatory safety belt use law. Immediately after implementation, safety belt use rose to over 60 percent, followed by a sharp decline to nearly 45 percent in the year following implementation. Although belt use fell sharply in the months following the implementation of the new law, it leveled off at a rate more than 20 percentage points higher than prelaw levels (Eby, Molnar, & Olk, 2000).

Throughout the end of the 1980s and into the 1990s, safety belt use in Michigan continued to increase. These changes were mainly due to police enforcement, publicity, and public information and education (PI&E) programs. These policies and programs were successful in educating the public about the necessity and effectiveness of safety belt use. By the end of the 1990s, safety belt use in Michigan had reached a plateau at around 70 percent. It had been suggested by traffic safety professionals that this was the highest level of safety belt use that could be reached in Michigan without changing the secondary enforcement provision of the law to standard enforcement (Wortham, 1998).

Changing a law from secondary to standard enforcement can be a significant and cost effective way for states to increase their safety belt use (Russell, Dreyfuss, & Cosgrove, 1999). In 1993, California became the first state to upgrade their safety belt use law from secondary to standard enforcement. California's safety belt use rate rose to 83 percent, an increase of 13 percentage points. Since California's success, several other states, including Louisiana, Georgia, and Maryland, have passed similar legislation and have observed similar increases (NHTSA, 1999a).

After a multiyear struggle by state safety officials and community members, Michigan's standard enforcement law (Senate Bill 335) was signed on May 26, 1999, seven years after it was first proposed (Winnicki, 1995). Standard enforcement was implemented in Michigan on March 10, 2000. In addition to the standard enforcement provision, Michigan also upgraded the child passenger portion of the law so that now all children under 4 years of age must be in a federally approved child restraint device, and children 4 to 15 years of age must be properly restrained by a safety belt in all seating positions.

This study was the fourth and final wave of direct observation surveys designed to measure the impact of standard enforcement legislation in Michigan. This report presents results of the most recent survey, conducted in March 2001, exactly one year after implementation of the new law. Also included in this report is a review and comparison of the seven surveys that comprise the two and a half year period surrounding the change to standard enforcement. Annual surveys will continue to measure long term trends in safety belt use, and to ensure that both state and national goals are met.

METHODS

Sample Design

The sample design for the present survey was closely based upon the one used by Streff, Eby, Molnar, Joksch, and Wallace (1993). While the entire sampling procedure is presented in the previous report, it is repeated here for completeness, with the modifications noted.

The goal of this sample design was to select observation sites that accurately represent front-outboard vehicle occupants in eligible commercial and noncommercial vehicles (i.e., passenger cars, vans/minivans, sport-utility vehicles, and pickup trucks) in Michigan, while following federal guidelines for safety belt survey design (NHTSA, 1992, 1998). An ideal sample minimizes total survey error while providing sites which can be surveyed efficiently and economically. To achieve this goal, the following sampling procedure was used.

To reduce the costs associated with direct observation of remote sites, NHTSA guidelines allow states to omit from their sample space the lowest population counties, provided these counties collectively account for 15 percent or less of the state's total population. Therefore, all 83 Michigan counties were rank ordered by population (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1992) and the low population counties were eliminated from the sample space. This step reduced the sample space to 28 counties.

These 28 counties were then separated into four strata. The strata were constructed by obtaining historical belt use rates and vehicle miles of travel (VMT) for each county. Historical belt use rates were determined by averaging results from three previous University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI) surveys (Wagenaar & Molnar, 1989; Wagenaar, Molnar, & Businski, 1987b, 1988). Since no historical data were available for six of the counties, belt use rates for these counties were estimated using multiple regression based on per capita income and education for the other 22 counties

($r^2 = .56$; U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1992).[1] These factors have been shown previously to correlate positively with safety belt use (e.g., Wagenaar, Molnar, & Businski, 1987a). Wayne County was chosen as a separate stratum because of the disproportionately high VMT and because we wanted to ensure that observation sites were selected within this county. Three other strata were constructed by rank ordering each county by historical belt use rates and then adjusting the stratum boundaries until the total VMT was roughly equal within each stratum. The stratum boundaries were high belt use (greater than 54.0 percent), medium belt use (45.0 percent to 53.0 percent), low belt use (44.9 percent or lower), and Wayne County (41.9 percent belt use). The historical belt use rates and VMT by county and strata are shown in Table 1.

To achieve the NHTSA required precision of less than 5 percent relative error, the minimum number of observation sites for the survey (N = 56) was determined based on within- and between-county variances from previous belt use surveys and on an estimated 50 vehicles per observation period in the current survey. This minimum number was then increased (N = 168) to get an adequate representation of belt use for each day of the week and for all daylight hours.

Because total VMT within each stratum was roughly equal, observation sites were evenly divided among the strata (42 each). In addition, since an estimated 23 percent of all traffic in Michigan occurs on limited-access roadways (Federal Highway Administration, 1982), 10 (24 percent) of the sites within each stratum were freeway exit ramps, while the remaining 32 were roadway intersections.

[1] Education was defined as the proportion of population in the county over 25 years of age with a professional or graduate degree.

Table 1. Descriptive Characteristics of the Four Strata[2]					
Strata	**County**	**Historical Belt Use, Percent**	**Belt Use Average, Percent**	**VMT, billions of miles**	**Total VMT, billions of miles**
1			56.3		17.48
	Ingham	54.3		1.98	
	Kalamazoo	54.3		1.98	
	Oakland	54.5		10.66	
	Washtenaw	62.0		2.86	
2			48.8		17.42
	Allegan	***45.2***		0.86	
	Bay	53.7		1.13	
	Eaton	52.5		0.90	
	Gr. Traverse	47.2		0.63	
	Jackson	46.2		1.41	
	Kent	48.9		4.07	
	Livingston	***48.7***		1.44	
	Macomb	48.0		4.83	
	Midland	***50.7***		0.68	
	Ottawa	47.4		1.45	
3			40.9		17.15
	Berrien	41.6		1.68	
	Calhoun	***43.2***		1.40	
	Genesee	42.8		4.12	
	Lapeer	39.6		0.71	
	Lenawee	44.4		0.82	
	Marquette	39.6		0.56	
	Monroe	44.2		1.53	
	Muskegon	41.8		1.11	
	Saginaw	40.7		1.86	
	Shiawassee	***41.6***		0.64	
	St. Clair	34.1		1.38	
	St. Joseph	***41.6***		0.51	
	Van Buren	36.7		0.83	
4					
	Wayne	41.9	41.9	15.29	15.29

[2]Note: Boldface italic type indicates values estimated from multiple regression. The belt use percentages were used only for statistical purposes in this design. Caution should be taken in interpreting these values.

Within each stratum, observation sites were randomly assigned to a location using different methods for intersections and freeway exit ramps. The intersection sites were chosen using a method that ensured each intersection within a stratum an equal probability of selection. Detailed, equal-scale road maps for each county were obtained and a grid pattern was overlaid on each county map. The grid dimensions were 62 lines horizontally and 42 lines vertically. The lines of the grid were separated by 1/4 inch. With the *3/8 inch:mile* scale of the maps, this created grid squares that were .67 miles per side. (Because Marquette County is so large, it was divided into four maps and each part was treated as a separate county.) Each grid square was uniquely identified by two numbers, a horizontal (*x*) coordinate and a vertical (*y*) coordinate.

The 42 sites for each stratum were sampled sequentially. The 32 local intersection sites were chosen by first randomly selecting a grid number containing a county within a stratum.[3] This was achieved by generating a random number between 1 and the number of grids within the stratum. So, for example, since the high belt use stratum had four grid patterns overlaying four counties, a random number between 1 and 4 was generated to determine which grid would be selected. Thus, each grid had an equal probability of selection at this step. Once the grid was selected, a random *x* and a random *y* coordinate were chosen and the corresponding grid square identified. Thus, each intersection had an equal probability of selection. If a single intersection was contained within the square, that intersection was chosen as an observation site. If the square did not fall within the county, there was no intersection within the square, or there was an intersection but it was located one road link from an already selected intersection, then a new grid number and *x*, *y* coordinate were selected randomly. If more than one intersection was within the grid square, the grid square was subdivided into four equal sections and a random number between 1 and 4 was selected until one of the intersections was randomly chosen. This happened for only two of the sites.

[3] It is important to note that grids were selected during this step rather than counties. This was necessary only because it was impractical to construct a single grid that was large enough to cover all of the counties in the largest stratum when they were laid side by side.

Once a site was chosen, the following procedure was used to determine the particular street and direction of traffic flow that would be observed. For each intersection, all possible combinations of street and traffic flow were determined. From this set of observer locations, one location was randomly selected with a probability equal to 1/number of locations. For example, if the intersection, was a "+" intersection, as shown in Figure 1, then there would be four possible combinations of street and direction of traffic flow to be observed (observers watched traffic only on the side of the street on which they were standing). In Figure 1, observer location number one indicates that the observer would watch southbound traffic and stand next to Main Street. For observer location number two, the observer would watch eastbound traffic and stand next to Second Street, and so on. In this example, a random number between 1 and 4 would be selected to determine the observer location for this specific site. The probability of selecting an intersection approach is dependent upon the type of intersection. Four-legged intersections like that shown in Figure 1 have four possible observer locations, while three-legged intersections like "T" and "Y" intersections have only three possible observer locations. The effect of this slight difference in probability accounts for .01 percent or less of the standard error in the belt use estimate.

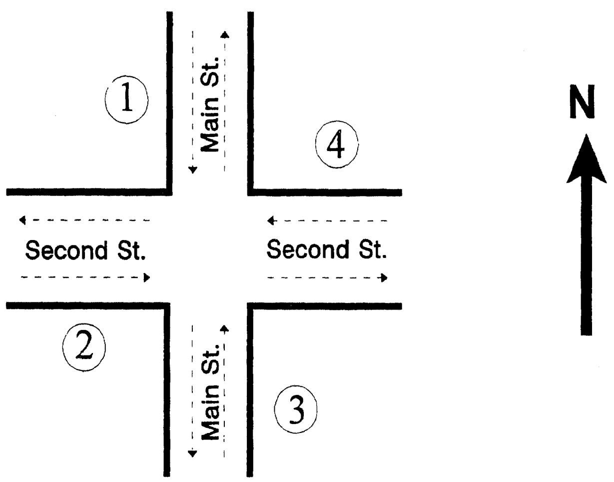

Figure 1: An Example "+" Intersection Showing Four Possible Observer Locations.

For each chosen primary intersection site, an alternate site was also selected. The alternate sites were chosen within a 20 x 20 square unit area around the grid square containing the original intersection, corresponding to a 13.4 square mile area around the site. This was achieved by randomly picking an *x*, *y* grid coordinate within the alternate site area. Grid coordinates were selected until a grid square containing an intersection was found. No grid squares were found that contained more than one intersection. The observer location at the alternate intersection was determined in the same way as at the primary site.[4]

The 10 freeway exit ramp sites within each stratum also were selected so that each exit ramp had an equal probability of selection.[5] This was done by enumerating all of the exit ramps within a stratum and randomly selecting without replacement 10 numbers between 1 and the number of exit ramps in the stratum. For example, in the high belt use stratum there were a total of 109 exit ramps. To select an exit ramp, a random number between 1 and 109 was generated. This number corresponded to a specific exit ramp. To select the next exit ramp, another random number between 1 and 109 was selected with the restriction that no previously selected numbers could be chosen. Once the exit ramps were determined, the observer location for the actual observation was determined by enumerating all possible combinations of direction of traffic flow and side of ramp on which to stand. As in the determination of the observer locations at the roadway intersections, the possibilities were then randomly sampled with equal probability. The alternate exit ramp sites were selected by taking the first interchange encountered after randomly selecting a direction of travel along the freeway from the primary site. If this alternate site was outside of the county or if it was already selected as a primary site, then the other direction of travel along the freeway was used. If the exit ramp had no traffic control device on the selected direction of travel, then a researcher visited the site and randomly picked a travel direction and lane that had traffic control.

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[4] For those interested in designing a safety belt survey for their county or region, a guidebook and software for selecting and surveying sites for safety belt use is available (Eby, 2000) by contacting UMTRI - SBA, 2901 Baxter Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2150, or at http://www-personal.umich.edu/~eby/sbs.html.

[5] An exit ramp is defined here as egress from a limited-access freeway, irrespective of the direction of travel. Thus, on a north-south freeway corridor, the north and south bound exit ramps at a particular cross street are considered a single exit ramp location.

The day of week and time of day for site observations were quasirandomly assigned to sites in such a way that all days of the week and all daylight hours (7:00 am - 7:00 pm) had essentially equal probability of selection. The sites were observed using a clustering procedure. That is, sites that were located spatially adjacent to each other were considered to be a cluster. Within each cluster, a shortest route between all of the sites was decided (essentially a loop) and each site was numbered. An observer watched traffic at all sites in the cluster during a single day. The day in which the cluster was to be observed was randomly determined. After taking into consideration the time required to finish all sites before darkness, a random starting time for the day was selected. In addition, a random number between one and the number of sites in the cluster was selected. This number determined the site within the cluster where the first observation would take place. The observer then visited sites following the loop in either a clockwise or counterclockwise direction (whichever direction left them closest to UMTRI at the end of the day). This direction was determined by the project manager prior to sending the observer into the field. Because of various scheduling limitations (e.g., observer availability, number of hours worked per week) certain days and/or times were selected that could not be observed. When this occurred, a new day and/or time was randomly selected until a usable one was found. The important issue about the randomization is that the day and time assignments to the sites were not correlated with belt use at a site. This pseudorandom method is random with respect to this issue.

The sample design was constructed so that each observation site was self-weighted by VMT within each stratum. This was accomplished by selecting sites with equal probability and by setting the observation interval to a constant duration (50 minutes) for each site.[6] Thus the number of cars observed at an observation site reflected safety belt use by VMT; that is, the higher the VMT at a site, the greater the number of vehicles that would pass during the 50-minute observation period. However, since all vehicles passing an observer could not be surveyed, a vehicle count of all eligible vehicles (i.e., passenger cars, vans/minivans, sport-utility vehicles, and pickup trucks) on the traffic leg under observation was conducted for a set duration (5 minutes) immediately prior to and immediately following the observation period (10 minutes total).

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[6] Because of safety considerations, sites in the city of Detroit were observed for a different duration. See data collection section for more information.

Table 2 shows descriptive statistics for the 168 observation sites. As shown in this table, the observations were fairly well distributed over day of week and time of day. Note that an observation session was included in the time slot that represented the majority of the observation period. If the observation period was evenly distributed between two time slots, then it was included in the later time slot. This table also shows that nearly every site observed was the primary site, and observations were distributed between sunny, cloudy, and snowy weather conditions, with no sites observed during rain.

Table 2. Descriptive Statistics for the 168 Observation Sites

Day of Week		Observation Period		Site Choice		Weather	
Monday	13.7%	7-9 a.m.	13.1%	Primary	98.8%	Sunny	46.4%
Tuesday	14.3%	9-11 a.m.	19.6%	Alternate	1.2%	Cloudy	35.1%
Wednesday	11.9%	11-1 p.m.	15.5%			Rain	0.0%
Thursday	16.6%	1-3 p.m.	22.6%			Snow	18.5%
Friday	14.9%	3-5 p.m.	19.1%				
Saturday	15.5%	5-7 p.m.	10.1%				
Sunday	13.1%						
TOTALS	100.0%		100.0%		100.0%		100.0%

Data Collection

Data collection for the study involved direct observation of shoulder belt use, sex, and estimated age. Trained field staff observed shoulder belt use of drivers and front-right passengers traveling in passenger cars, sport-utility vehicles, vans/minivans, and pickup trucks during daylight hours from March 15 through March 28, 2001. Observations of safety belt use, sex, age, vehicle type, and vehicle purpose (commercial or noncommercial) were conducted when a vehicle came to a stop at a traffic light or a stop sign.

Data Collection Forms

Two forms were used for data collection: a site description form and an observation form. The site description form (see Appendix A) provided descriptive information about the site including the site number, location, site type (freeway exit ramp or intersection), site choice (primary or alternate), observer number, date, day of week, time of day, weather, and a count of eligible vehicles traveling on the proper traffic leg. A place on the form was also furnished for observers to sketch the intersection and to identify observation locations and traffic flow patterns. Finally, a comments section was available for observers to identify landmarks that might be helpful in characterizing the site (e.g., school, shopping mall) and to discuss problems or issues relevant to the site or study.

The second form, the observation form, was used to record safety belt use, occupant information, and vehicle information (see Appendix A). Each observation form was divided into four boxes with each box having room for the survey of a single vehicle. For each vehicle surveyed, shoulder belt use, sex, and estimated age for the driver as well as vehicle type were recorded on the upper half of the box, while the same information for the front-outboard passenger could be recorded in the lower half of the box if there was a front-outboard passenger present. Children riding in child safety seats (CSSs) were recorded but not included in any part of the analysis. Occupants observed with their shoulder belt worn under the arm or behind the back were noted but considered as belted in the analysis. Based upon NHTSA (1999b) guidelines, the observer also recorded whether the vehicle was commercial or noncommercial. At each site, the observer carried several data collection forms and completed as many as were possible during the observation period.

Procedures at Each Site

All sites in the sample were visited by one observer for a period of 1 hour, with the exception of sites in the city of Detroit. To address potential security concerns, these sites were visited by two-person teams of observers for a period of 30 minutes. Observations at other Wayne County sites scheduled to be observed on the same day as Detroit sites were also completed by two observers. Because each team member at these sites recorded data for different lanes of traffic, the total amount of data collection time was equivalent to that at single observer sites.

Upon arriving at a site, observers determined whether observations were possible at the site. If observations were not possible (e.g., due to construction), observers proceeded to the alternate site. Otherwise, observers completed the site description form and then moved to their observation position near the traffic control device.

Observers were instructed to observe only the lane immediately adjacent to the curb for safety belt use, regardless of the number of lanes present. At sites visited by two-person teams, team members observed different lanes of the same traffic leg with one observer on the curb and one observer on the median (if there was more than one traffic lane and a median). If no median was present, observers were instructed to stand on diagonally opposite corners of the intersection.

At each site, observers conducted a 5-minute count of all eligible vehicles on the designated traffic leg before beginning safety belt observations. Observations began immediately after completion of the count and continued for 50 minutes at sites with one observer and 25 minutes at sites with two observers. During the observation period, observers recorded data for as many eligible vehicles as they could observe. If traffic flow was heavy, observers were instructed to record data for the first eligible vehicle they saw and then look up and record data for the next eligible vehicle they saw, continuing this process for the remainder of the observation period. At the end of the observation period, a second 5-minute vehicle count was conducted at single-observer sites.

Observer Training

Prior to data collection, field observers participated in 5 days of intensive training including both classroom review of data collection procedures and practice field observations. Each observer received a training manual containing detailed information on field procedures for observations, data collection forms, and administrative policies and procedures. Included in the manual was a listing of the sites for the study that identified the location of each site and the traffic leg to be observed (see Appendix B for a listing of the sites), as well as a site schedule identifying the date and time each site was to be observed.

After intensive review of the manual, observers conducted practice observations at several sites chosen to represent the types of sites and situations that would actually be encountered in the field. None of the practice sites were the same as sites observed during the study. Training at each practice site focused on completing the site description form, determining where to stand and which lanes to observe, conducting the vehicle count, recording safety belt use, and estimating age and sex. Observers worked in teams of two, observing the same vehicles, but recording data independently on separate data collection forms. Teams were rotated throughout the training to ensure that each observer was paired with every other observer at least eight times. Each observer pair practiced recording safety belt use, sex, and age until there was an interobserver reliability of at least 85 percent for all measures on drivers and front-right passengers for each pair of observers.

Each observer was provided with an atlas of Michigan county maps and all necessary field supplies. Observers were given time to mark their assigned sites on the appropriate maps and plan travel routes to the sites. After marking the sites on their maps, the marked locations were compared to a master map of locations to ensure that the correct sites had been located. Field procedures were reviewed for the final time and observers were informed that unannounced site visits would be made by the field supervisor during data collection to ensure adherence to study protocols.

Observer Supervision and Monitoring

During data collection, each observer was spot checked in the field on at least two occasions by the field supervisor. Contact between the field supervisor and field staff was also maintained on a regular basis through staff visits to the UMTRI office to drop off completed forms and through telephone calls from staff to report progress and discuss problems encountered in the field. Field staff were instructed to call the field supervisor at home if problems arose during evening hours or on weekends.

Incoming data forms were examined by the field supervisor and problems (e.g., missing data, discrepancies between the site description form and site listing or schedule) were noted and discussed with field staff. Attention was also given to comments on the site description form about site-specific characteristics that might affect future surveys (e.g., traffic flow patterns, traffic control devices, site access).

Data Processing and Estimation Procedures

The site description form and observation form data were entered into an electronic format. The accuracy of the data entry was verified in two ways. First, all data were entered twice and the data sets were compared for consistency. Second, the data from randomly selected sites were reviewed for accuracy by a second party and all site data were checked for inconsistent codes (e.g., the observation end time occurring before the start time). Errors were corrected after consultation with the original data forms.

For each site, computer analysis programs determined the number of observed vehicles, belted and unbelted drivers, and belted and unbelted passengers. Separate counts were made for each independent variable in the survey (i.e., site type, time of day, day of week, weather, sex, age, seating position, vehicle type, and vehicle purpose). This information was combined with the site information to create a file used for generating study results.

As mentioned earlier, our goal in this safety belt survey was to estimate belt use for the state of Michigan based on VMT. As also discussed, the self-weighting-by-VMT scheme employed is limited by the number of vehicles for which an observer can accurately record information. To correct for this limitation, the vehicle count information was used to weight the observed traffic volumes so they would more accurately reflect VMT.

This weighting was done by first adding each of the two 5-minute counts and then multiplying this number by five so that it would represent a 50-minute duration.[7] The resulting number was the estimated number of vehicles passing the site if all eligible vehicles had been included in the survey during the observation period at that site. The estimated count then was divided by the actual vehicle count for each vehicle type to

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[7] As mentioned previously, the Detroit sites were visited by pairs of observers for half as long. For these sites, the single 5-minute count was multiplied by five to represent the 25-minute observation period.

obtain a VMT weighting factor for that site and vehicle type. This weighting factor was multiplied by the actual vehicle counts at the site, yielding a weighted N for the number of total drivers and passengers and total number of belted drivers and belted passengers for each vehicle type. Unless otherwise indicated, all analyses reported are based upon the weighted values.

The overall estimate of belt use per VMT in Michigan was determined by first calculating the belt use rate within each stratum for observed vehicle occupants in all vehicle types using the following formula:

$$r_i = \frac{\textit{Total Number of Belted Occupants, weighted}}{\textit{Total Number of Occupants, weighted}}$$

where r_i refers to the belt use rate within any of the four strata. The totals are the sums across all 42 sites within the stratum after weighting, and occupants refers to only front-outboard occupants. The overall estimate of belt use was computed by averaging the belt use rates for each stratum. However, comparing total VMT among the strata, one finds that the Wayne County stratum is only 88 percent as large as the total VMT for the other three strata (see Table 1). In order to represent accurately safety belt use for Michigan by VMT, the Wayne County stratum was multiplied by 0.88 during the averaging to correct for its lower total VMT. The overall belt use rate was determined by the following formula:

$$r_{all} = \frac{r_1 + r_2 + r_3 + (0.88 * r_4)}{3.88}$$

where r_i is the belt use rate for a certain vehicle type within each stratum and r_4 the Wayne County stratum.

The estimates of variance and the calculation of the confidence bands for the belt use estimates are complex. See Appendix C for a detailed description of the formulas and procedures. The same use rate and variance equations were utilized for the calculation of use rates for each vehicle type separately.

RESULTS

As discussed previously, the current direct observation survey of safety belt use in Michigan reports statewide use for four vehicle types combined (passenger cars, vans/minivans, sport-utility vehicles, and pickup trucks) in addition to reporting use rates for occupants in each vehicle type separately. Following NHTSA (1999b) guidelines, this survey wave included commercial vehicles. In the sample, only 4.9 percent of occupants were in commercial vehicles. In order to determine if the inclusion of commercial vehicles significantly changed statewide belt use rates, the statewide rate was calculated separately both with and without commercial vehicles. Analysis showed that there was no significant difference between the rates. Thus, all rates shown in this report include occupants from both commercial and noncommercial vehicles.

Overall Safety Belt Use

As shown in Figure 2, 79.4 percent ± 2.0 percent of all front-outboard occupants traveling in either passenger vehicles, sport-utility vehicles, vans/minivans, or pickup trucks in Michigan during March 2001 were restrained with shoulder belts. The "±" value following the use rate indicates a 95 percent confidence band around the percentage. This value should be interpreted to mean that we are 95 percent sure that the actual safety belt use rate falls somewhere between 77.4 percent and 81.4 percent.

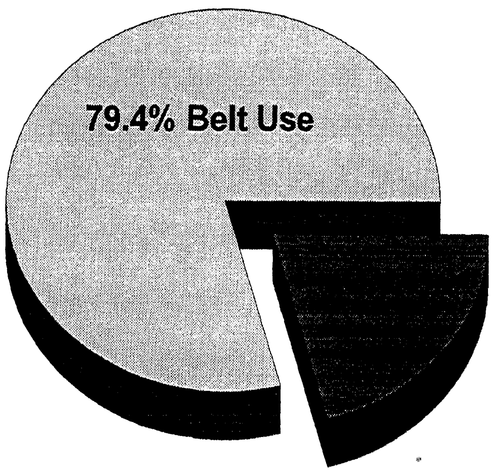

Figure 2: Front-Outboard Shoulder Belt Use in Michigan.

Estimated belt use rates and unweighted numbers of occupants (N) by strata are shown in Table 3. As is typically found in Michigan, the safety belt use rate for Stratum 1 was the highest in the state, followed by Stratum 2. Historically, Stratum 4 (which contains the city of Detroit) has had the lowest belt use rate in the state. In the current study, however, the safety belt use rate for Stratum 3 was the lowest, 2.4 percentage points lower than Stratum 4.

Table 3. Percent Shoulder Belt Use by Stratum (All Vehicle Types)

	Percent Use	Unweighted N
Stratum 1	82.1	4,760
Stratum 2	80.5	2,475
Stratum 3	76.2	1,592
Stratum 4	78.6	5,265
STATE OF MICHIGAN	**79.4 ± 2.0 %**	14,092

Estimated belt use rates and unweighted numbers of occupants by stratum and vehicle type are shown in Tables 4a to 4d. Belt use was highest in Stratum 1 for occupants of both passenger cars and pickup trucks. For occupants of sport-utility vehicles, belt use was highest in Stratum 4; while belt use was highest in Stratum 2 for van/minivan occupants. The overall belt use rates for occupants of passenger cars, sport-utility vehicles, and vans/minivans were not statistically different. As reported in previous surveys (e.g., Eby, Fordyce, & Vivoda, 2000b; Eby & Hopp, 1997; Eby & Olk, 1998; Eby, Vivoda, & Fordyce, 1999), the overall belt use rate of 68.1 ± 3.4 percent for pickup trucks was significantly lower than for any other vehicle type (Table 4d).

Table 4a. Percent Shoulder Belt Use by Stratum (Passenger Cars)		
	Percent Use	Unweighted N
Stratum 1	84.9	2,497
Stratum 2	84.1	1,164
Stratum 3	80.0	791
Stratum 4	79.6	3,043
STATE OF MICHIGAN	**82.2 ± 1.9 %**	7,495

Table 4b. Percent Shoulder Belt Use by Stratum (Sport-Utility Vehicles)		
	Percent Use	Unweighted N
Stratum 1	81.2	737
Stratum 2	81.0	353
Stratum 3	74.3	182
Stratum 4	81.6	731
STATE OF MICHIGAN	**79.4 ± 3.0 %**	2,003

Table 4c. Percent Shoulder Belt Use by Stratum (Vans/Minivans)		
	Percent Use	Unweighted N
Stratum 1	85.7	665
Stratum 2	87.2	399
Stratum 3	79.4	248
Stratum 4	80.3	791
STATE OF MICHIGAN	**83.3 ± 2.8 %**	2,103

Table 4d. Percent Shoulder Belt Use by Stratum (Pickup Trucks)		
	Percent Use	Unweighted N
Stratum 1	69.9	861
Stratum 2	67.4	559
Stratum 3	66.1	371
Stratum 4	69.1	700
STATE OF MICHIGAN	**68.1 ± 3.4 %**	2,491

Safety Belt Use by Subgroup

Site Type. Estimated safety belt use by type of site is presented in Table 5 as a function of vehicle type and all vehicle types combined. As is typically found in safety belt use surveys in Michigan, use was higher for occupants in vehicles leaving limited access roadways (exit ramps) than for occupants in vehicles on surface streets. This effect was consistent across all vehicle types.

Time of Day. Estimated safety belt use by time of day, for each vehicle type, and for all vehicle types combined is shown in Table 5. Note that these data were collected only during daylight hours. For all vehicles combined, belt use was highest during the morning and evening rush hours. This general trend was also noted within each vehicle type.

Day of Week. Estimated safety belt use by day of week, for each vehicle type, and for all vehicle types combined is shown in Table 5. Note that the survey was conducted over a 3-week period. Belt use clearly varied from day to day, but no systematic trends were evident.

Weather. Estimated belt use by prevailing weather conditions, for each vehicle type, and for all vehicle types combined is shown in Table 5. Belt use was highest when it was snowing followed closely by sunny conditions. Belt use was slightly lower during cloudy weather. It did not rain during the observation period of the study.

Sex. Estimated safety belt use by occupant sex, type of vehicle, and all vehicle types combined is shown in Table 5. Estimated safety belt use was higher for females than for males in all four vehicle types studied. Such results have been found in every Michigan safety belt survey conducted by UMTRI (see, e.g., Eby, Molnar, & Olk, 2000).

Age. Estimated safety belt use by age, for each vehicle type, and for all vehicle types combined is shown in Table 5. According to revised National Highway Traffic Safety Administration guidelines (NHTSA, 1998), children traveling in CSSs are not to be included in the survey of statewide safety belt use. Children under 4 years of age account for an insignificant portion of the survey because about 75 percent of children in this age group ride in CSSs rather than being restrained in a safety belt (see Eby, Kostyniuk, & Christoff, 1997). The other age groups were not affected by the revised guidelines.

Excluding the 0-to-3 year old age group, safety belt use over all vehicle types combined was highest for the 4-to-15 year old age group, followed closely by the 60-and-over age group. Belt use for the 16-to-29 year old age group showed the lowest belt use rate. Belt use rates for the 30-to-59 year old age group are below that of occupants older than 59 years of age, but higher than the 16-to-29 year old age group. These results are similar to findings in previous UMTRI studies (Eby, Molnar, & Olk, 2000), except that the use rates for the 60-and-over age group are usually the highest.

Seating Position. Estimated safety belt use by position in vehicle, for each vehicle type, and for all vehicle types combined is shown in Table 5. This table shows that for all vehicle types combined, safety belt use for drivers was higher than use by front-right passengers. This trend is also usually observed within each vehicle type, however, in this study, belt use was higher for front-right passengers than for drivers of both sport-utility vehicles and vans/minivans.

Table 5. Percent Shoulder Belt Use and Unweighted N by Vehicle Type and Subgroup										
	All Vehicles		Passenger Car		Sport-Utility Vehicle		Van/Minivan		Pickup Truck	
	Percent Use	N	Percent Use	N	Percent Use	N	Percent Use	N	Percent Use	N
Site Type										
Intersection	78.0	9,958	81.0	5,293	76.5	1,422	82.8	1,443	67.5	1,800
Exit Ramp	82.2	4,134	84.6	2,202	84.2	581	84.4	660	70.3	691
Time of Day										
7 - 9 a.m.	81.3	1,738	85.2	905	77.5	262	85.5	276	68.0	295
9 - 11 a.m.	77.6	1,789	82.9	850	80.3	215	79.7	320	59.9	404
11 - 1 p.m.	76.2	2,134	78.7	1,105	76.7	291	80.4	342	66.2	396
1 - 3 p.m.	78.7	3,199	80.7	1,706	77.6	506	82.3	475	69.9	512
3 - 5 p.m.	79.0	3,546	81.4	1,964	79.6	461	83.6	474	67.7	647
5 - 7 p.m.	81.5	1,686	80.3	965	87.1	268	87.7	216	72.3	237
Day of Week										
Monday	76.1	2,451	78.0	1,571	76.3	319	72.0	287	69.3	274
Tuesday	76.6	1,908	83.5	932	72.4	272	76.5	303	62.3	401
Wednesday	76.6	935	83.9	461	73.9	124	80.7	139	57.6	211
Thursday	80.2	2,210	80.8	1,144	81.0	282	84.8	339	73.8	445
Friday	81.7	3,053	84.5	1,589	86.4	428	84.8	451	67.1	585
Saturday	78.2	1,410	81.5	647	78.6	229	82.8	219	68.4	315
Sunday	88.8	2,125	88.9	1,151	90.3	349	91.4	365	82.7	260
Weather										
Sunny	80.0	5,830	81.5	3,287	80.1	805	82.9	842	72.1	896
Cloudy	76.8	5,810	81.0	2,989	78.5	827	80.3	864	64.0	1,130
Snow	80.2	2,452	83.5	1,219	77.7	371	84.7	397	71.5	465
Rain	---	0	---	0	---	0	---	0	---	0
Sex										
Male	74.8	7,630	79.3	3,600	74.2	982	76.9	1,048	66.2	2,000
Female	84.8	6,460	84.9	3,894	84.6	1,020	89.4	1,055	75.5	491
Age										
0 - 3	100.0	1	---	0	---	0	---	0	100.0	1
4 - 15	85.8	417	85.1	201	88.9	64	94.1	91	78.4	61
16 - 29	74.8	3,435	77.4	2,179	75.9	413	79.0	244	62.2	599
30 - 59	80.0	8,758	83.3	4,147	79.4	1,406	83.3	1,554	69.6	1,651
60 - Up	84.2	1,474	86.9	965	85.5	118	83.7	212	69.4	179
Position										
Driver	79.6	11,226	82.7	5,989	79.0	1,592	82.8	1,620	68.7	2,025
Passenger	78.5	2,866	80.0	1,506	81.5	411	84.7	483	65.1	466

Age and Sex. Table 6 shows estimated safety belt use rates and unweighted numbers (N) of occupants for all vehicle types combined by age and sex. The belt use rates for the two youngest age groups should be interpreted with caution because the unweighted number (N=418) of occupants is quite low. In addition, the current survey only considers front-seat outboard occupants, and it was designed to estimate belt use across the population of Michigan, rather than for a specific age group. For better estimates of safety belt use for these age groups in Michigan, see Eby and Kostyniuk (1999) and Eby, Kostyniuk, Vivoda, & Fordyce (2000). Belt use for females was higher than use for males in all age groups; in the youngest age group there were no male occupants. The most striking difference was found in the 16-to-29 year old age group, where the estimated belt use rate was 14.0 percentage points higher for females than for males. A notable difference of 9.9 percentage points was also observed in the 30-to-59 year old age group. These results argue strongly for statewide efforts to be directed at persuading young males, and males in general, to use their safety belts.

Table 6. Percent Shoulder Belt Use and Unweighted N by Age and Sex (All Vehicle Types Combined)

Age Group	Male		Female	
	Percent Use	Unweighted N	Percent Use	Unweighted N
0 - 3	---	0	100.0	1
4 - 15	84.5	213	87.0	204
16 - 29	68.2	1,789	82.2	1,646
30 - 59	75.5	4,841	85.4	3,915
60 - Up	82.4	785	86.4	689

Effects of Standard Enforcement

The present survey concludes a series of four "special" surveys to assess the effects of standard enforcement on Michigan safety belt use. When combined with the annual statewide surveys conducted each fall in Michigan during the last few years, we have seven surveys over which to analyze safety belt use trends. Table 7 shows descriptive characteristics of each survey. As shown in this table, this first survey we include in this analysis took place about 18 months prior to implementation of standard enforcement, while the second and third surveys were conducted about 5 months and 2 months prior to standard enforcement. The fourth survey was conducted one week after Michigan's standard enforcement law went into effect. The fifth, sixth, and seventh surveys were conducted about 3 months, 6 months, and 12 months after implementation of standard enforcement.

Table 7. Descriptive Statistics of the Direct Observation Surveys

Survey	Data Collection Period	Unweighted Number of Occupants	Relative Error	Reference
1	09/03-09/24, 1998	11,413	1.29%	Eby & Olk, 1998
2	09/02-10/08, 1999	9,414	1.61%	Eby, Vivoda, & Fordyce, 1999
3	01/13-01/27, 2000	8,943	1.87%	Eby, Vivoda, & Fordyce, 2000a
Implementation of Standard Enforcement - 3/10, 2000				
4	03/16-03/30, 2000	11,687	0.79%	Eby, Fordyce, & Vivoda, 2000a
5	06/15-06/30, 2000	13,220	0.90%	Eby, Vivoda, & Fordyce, 2000b
6	08/31-09/18, 2000	14,366	0.86%	Eby, Fordyce, & Vivoda, 2000b
7	03/15-03/28, 2001	14,092	1.26%	This report

Overall

The overall statewide safety belt use rates for Michigan are shown in Figure 3. As can be seen in this figure, safety belt use prior to implementation of standard enforcement was at or below 70 percent. Safety belt use increased dramatically after standard enforcement and then slightly declined over the following year.

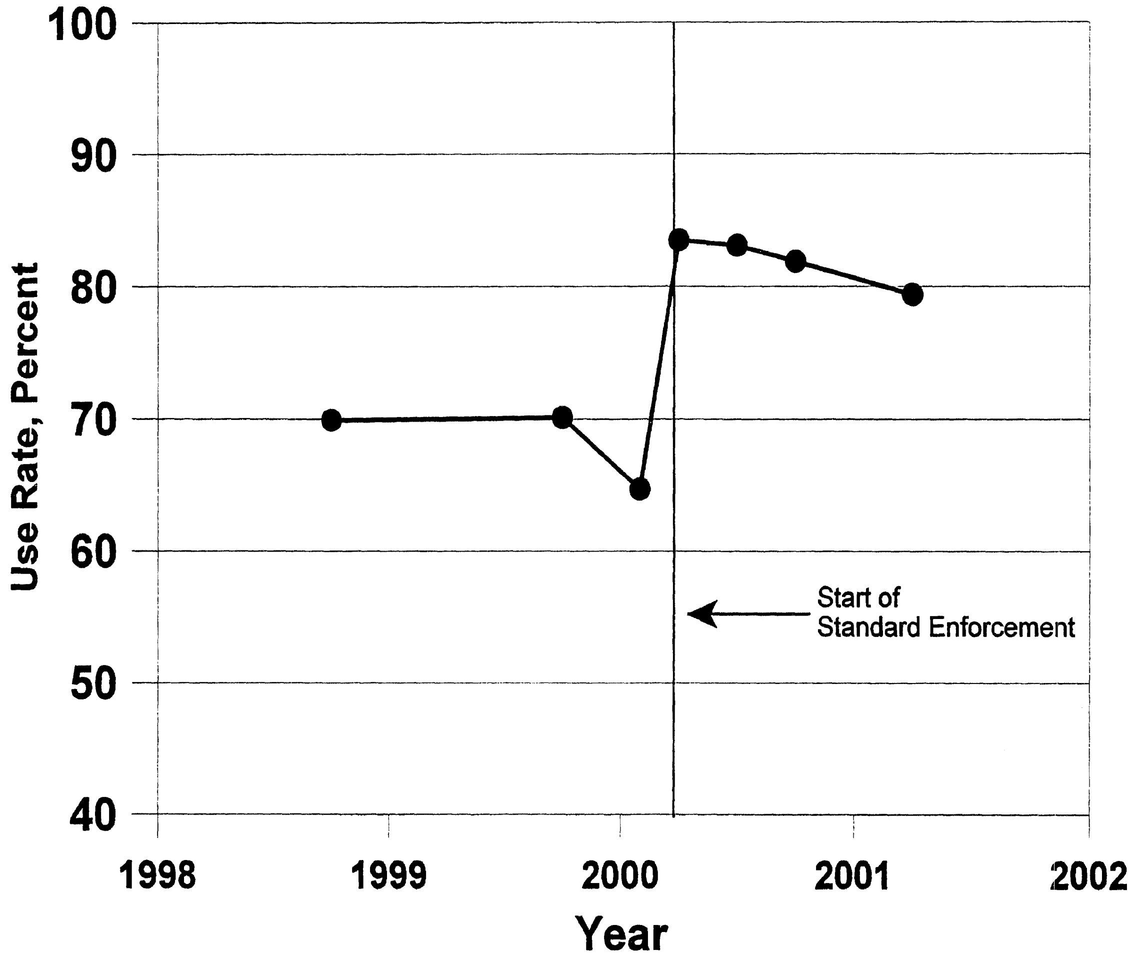

Figure 3: Michigan safety belt use before and after standard enforcement.

Seating Position

Figure 4 shows Michigan safety belt use by seating position. In all surveys, the driver was belted at a higher rate than front-outboard passengers. After standard enforcement, however, the difference in use rates by seating position is smaller. This result indicates that standard enforcement had the greatest effect on passenger belt use.

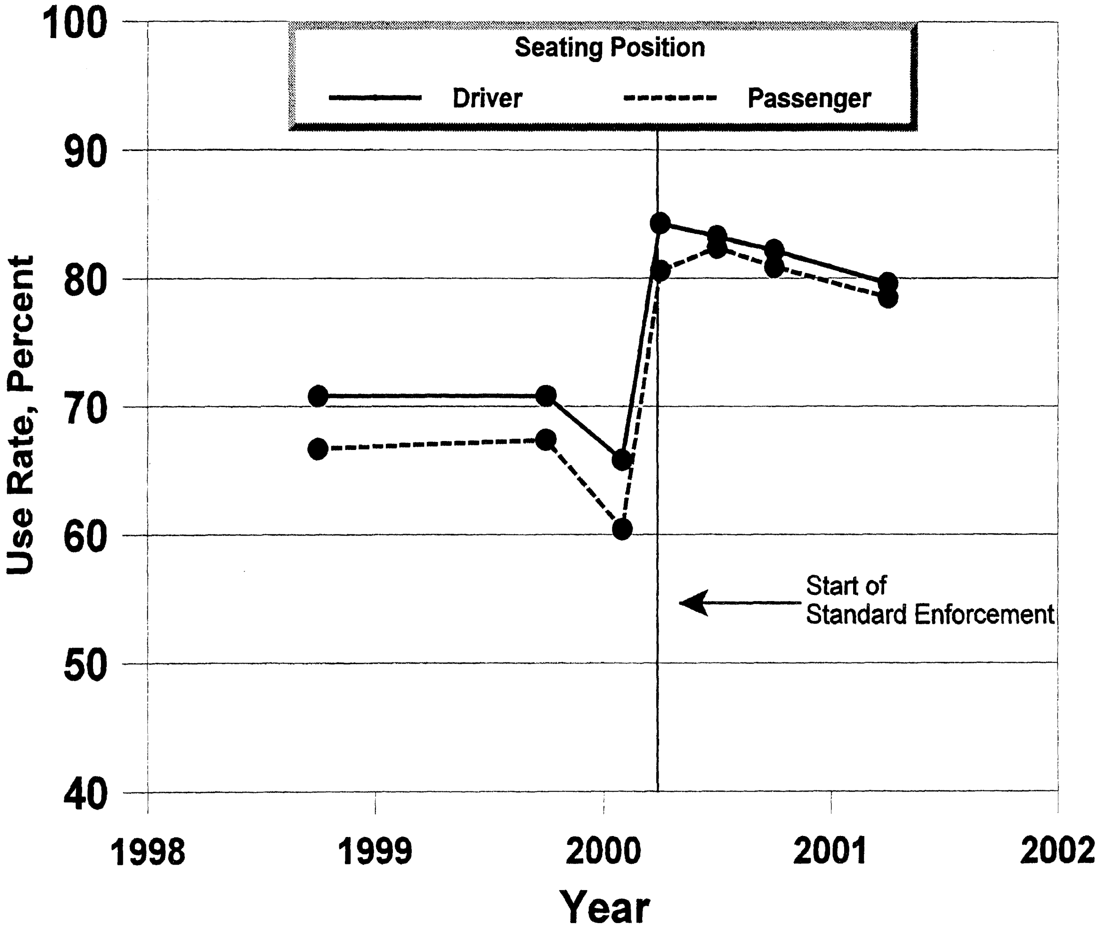

Figure 4: Michigan safety belt use before and after standard enforcement by seating position.

Stratum

Figure 5 shows Michigan safety belt use by stratum. These results show that there was little relative difference between the first three strata both before and after standard enforcement; all three showed a roughly equal increase in safety belt use after standard enforcement. Wayne County (Stratum 4), however, consistently had the lowest safety belt use rate of all strata before standard enforcement. After standard enforcement, Wayne County belt use rose to the second highest in the state and in the following year remained higher than Stratum 3. Thus it appears that standard enforcement legislation had a larger effect in Wayne County than in the other regions of the state. One reason for this result may be that Wayne County has the highest concentration of Black/African American residents in Michigan. Work reviewed by NHTSA (1999a) has shown that standard enforcement may have a greater influence on minorities.

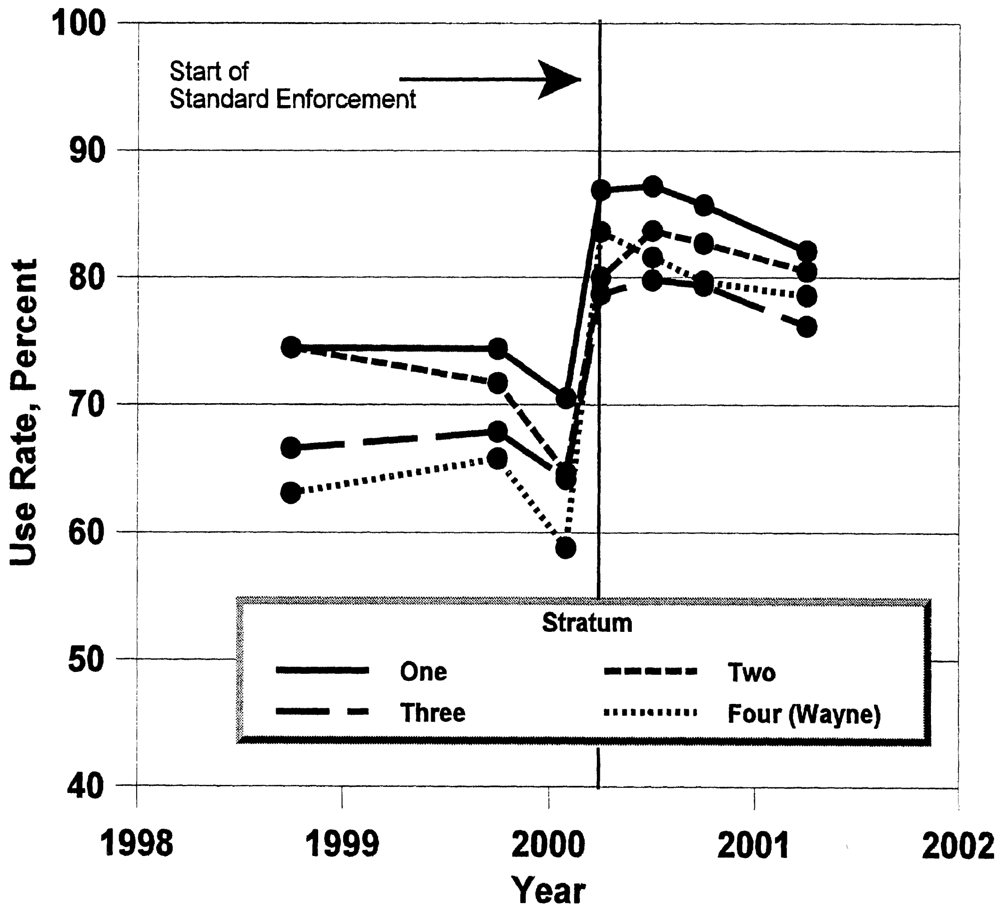

Figure 5: Michigan safety belt use before and after standard enforcement by stratum.

Vehicle Type

Michigan safety belt use by vehicle type is displayed in Figure 6. Both before and after standard enforcement, safety belt use by occupants in passenger cars, sport-utility vehicles, and van/minivans did not systematically differ. Pickup truck occupant belt use in all surveys was dramatically lower than all other vehicles types. Standard enforcement did not seem to differentially affect belt use by vehicle type.

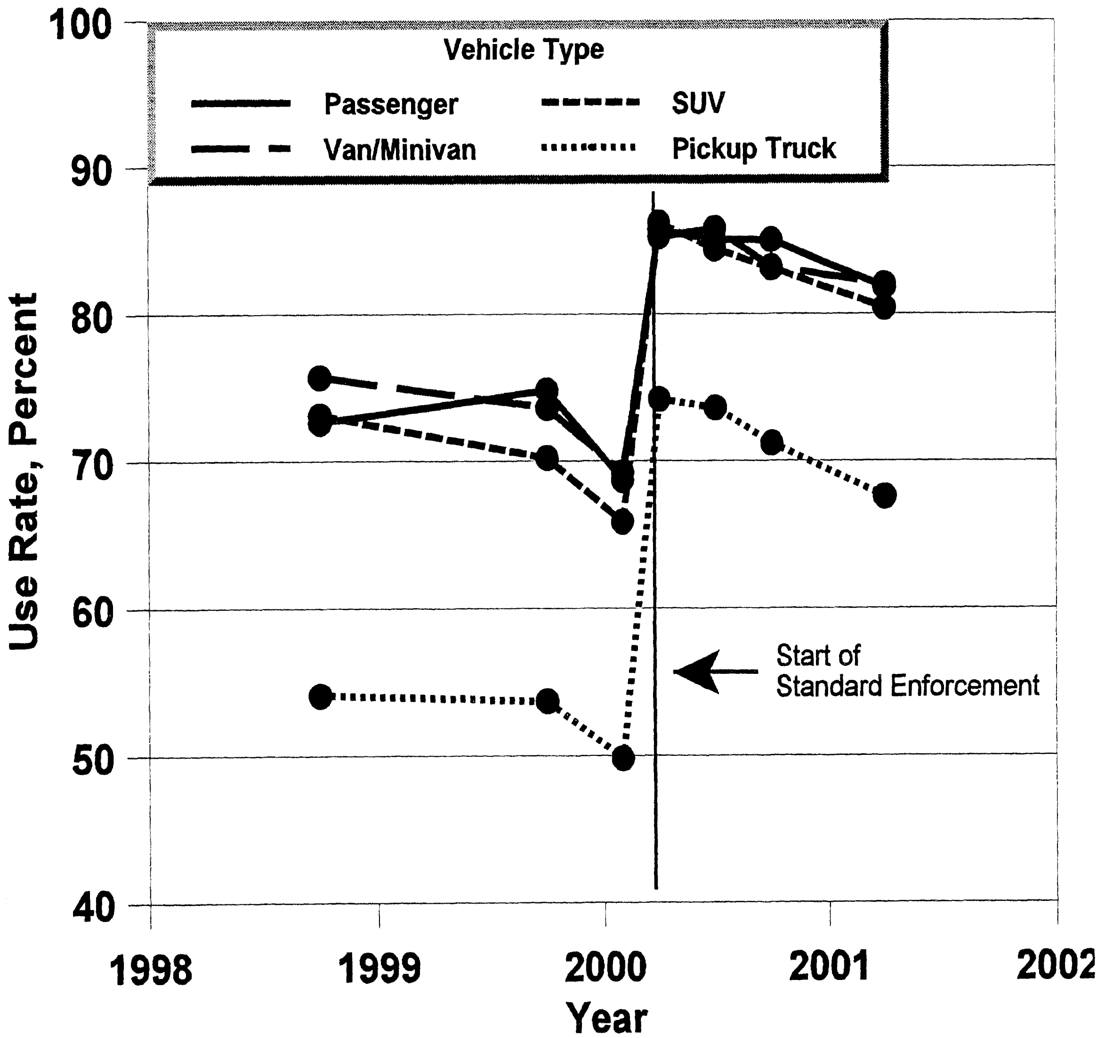

Figure 6: Michigan safety belt use before and after standard enforcement by vehicle type.

Road Type

Michigan safety belt use by type of roadway in shown in Figure 7. In all surveys, safety belt use on local roads was lower than use on freeways. There was no consistent effect of standard enforcement on these rates.

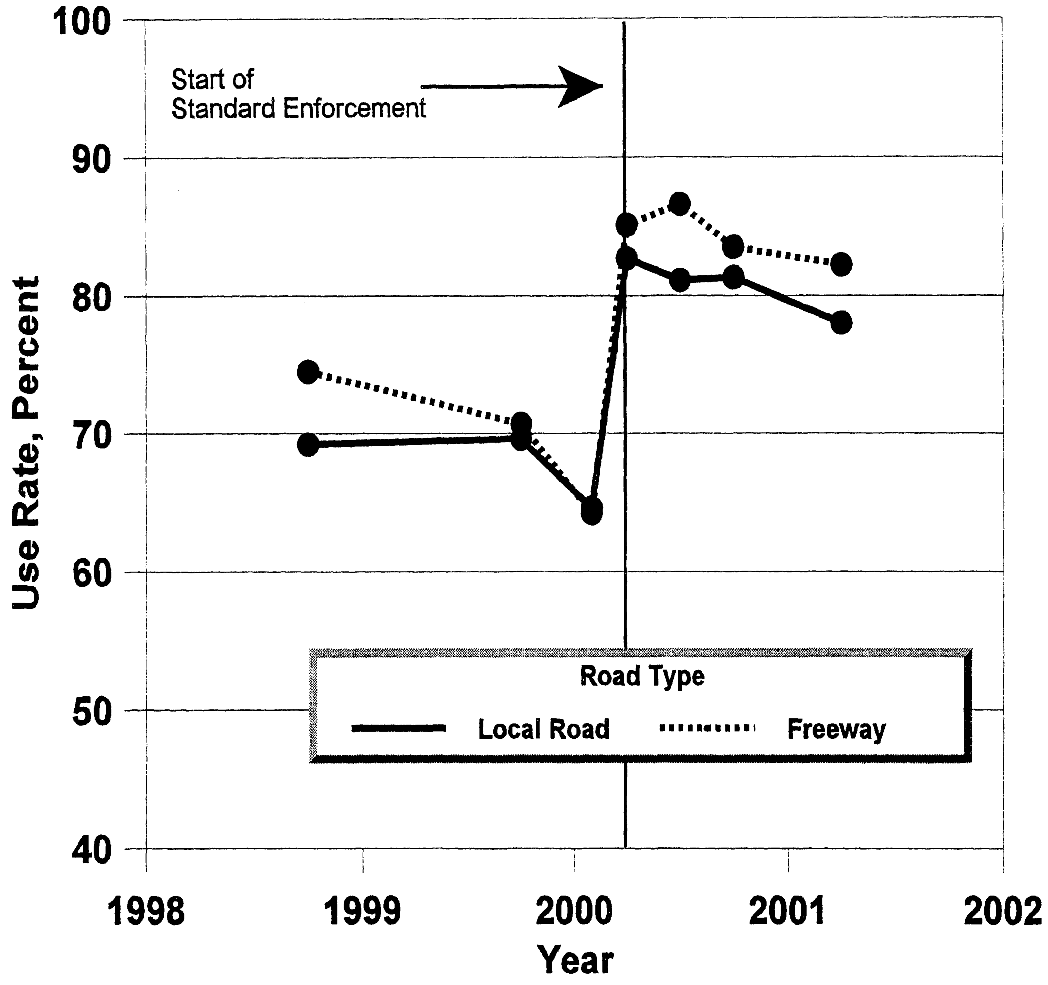

Figure 7: Michigan safety belt use before and after standard enforcement by road type.

Sex

Michigan safety belt use by sex is shown in Figure 8. In all seven surveys reviewed here, use is significantly lower for males than for females. It appears that the difference between males and females decreased after implementation of standard enforcement.

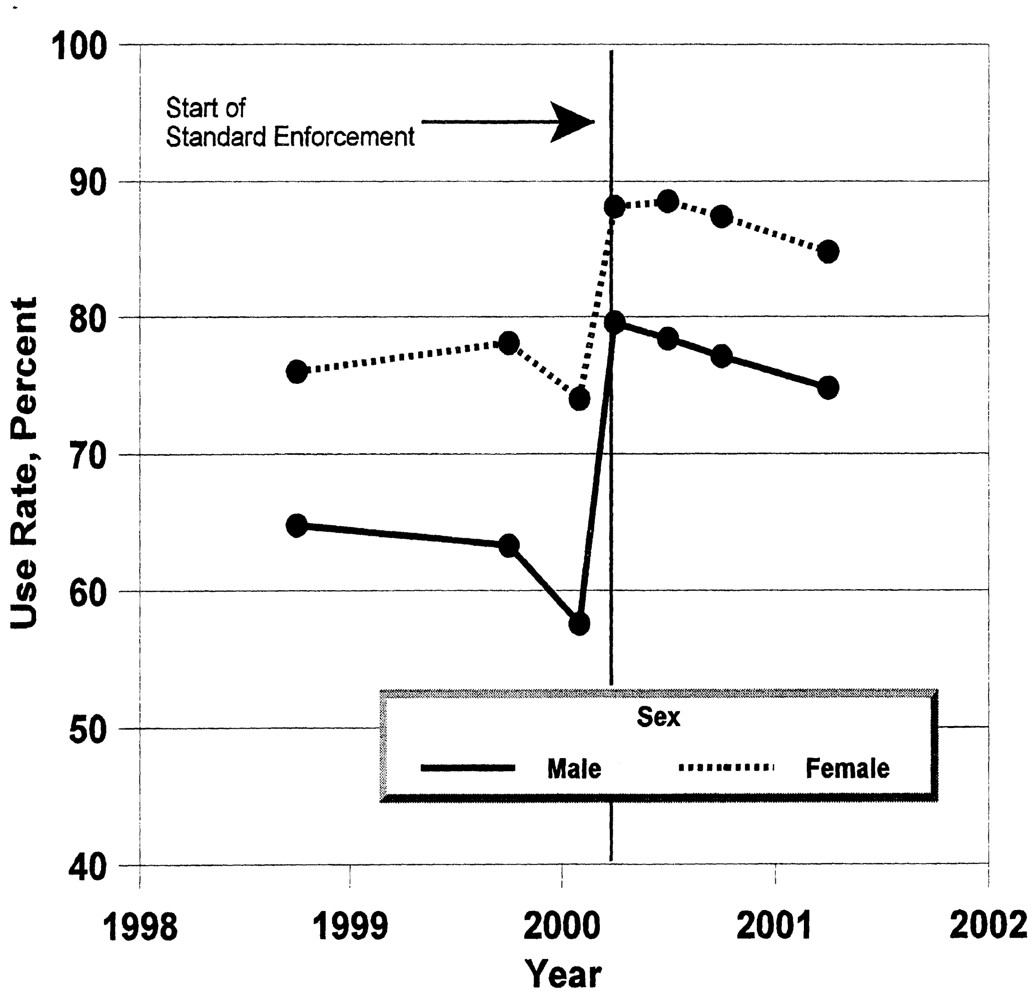

Figure 8: Michigan safety belt use before and after standard enforcement by sex.

Age Group

Safety belt use in Michigan by age group is shown in Figure 9. Because of low numbers of observations in the youngest age groups, only rates for occupants older than 15 years are shown. In all surveys, belt use increased with age. However, the greatest increase in belt use after standard enforcement was found for the 16-to-29-year-old age group. After standard enforcement, the difference between the youngest age group and the two older age groups has decreased dramatically. Thus, standard enforcement had a large effect on the young driving age population.

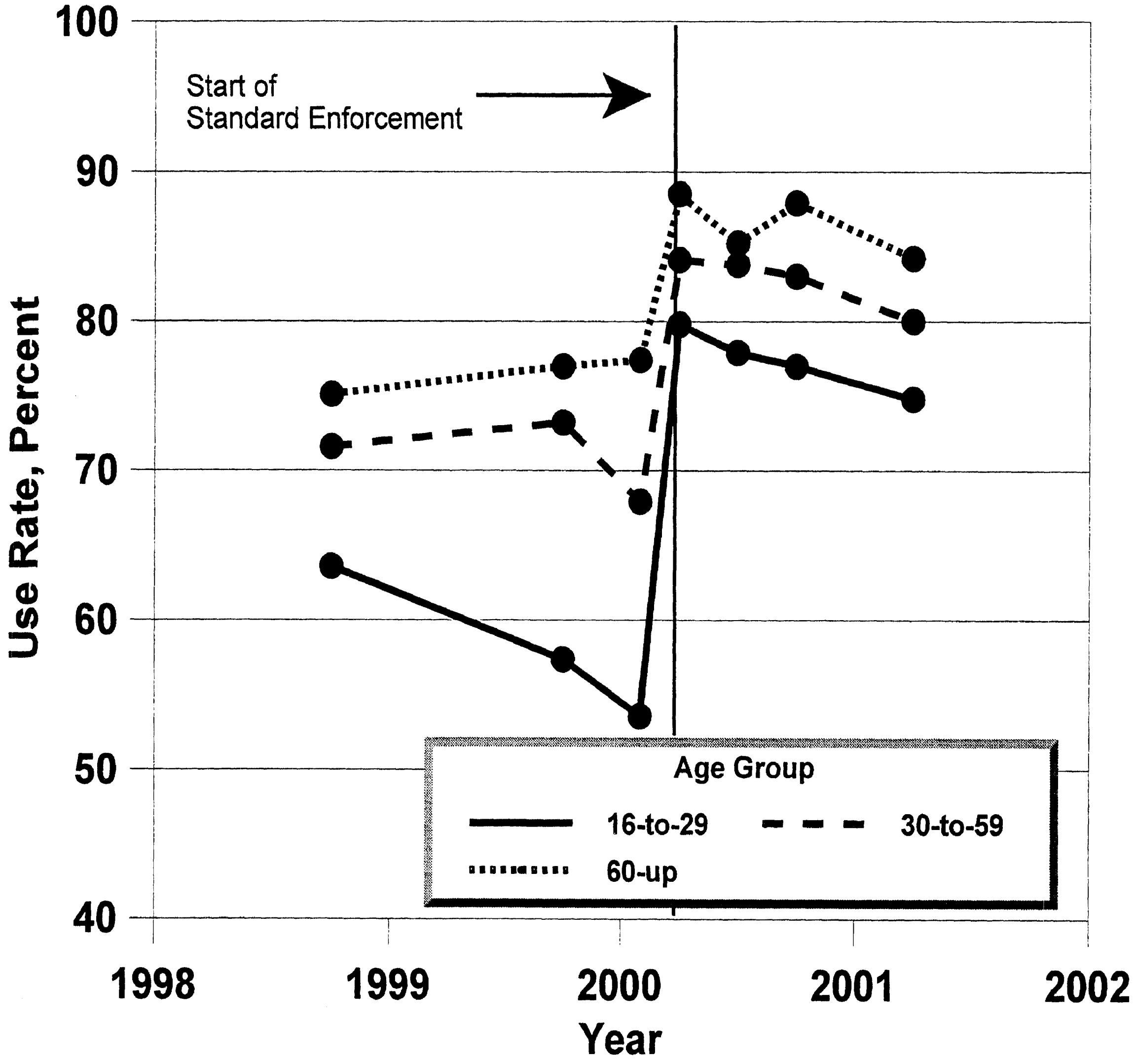

Figure 9: Michigan safety belt use before and after standard enforcement by age group.

Sex and Age Group

Figures 10 and 11 show Michigan safety belt use by sex and age group. As shown in these figures, both female (Figure 10) and male (Figure 11) belt use rates were higher as age increased. The relative difference between age groups for the females decreased precipitously. In fact, in the latest survey conducted one year after standard enforcement, very little difference in female belt use by age was found. In addition, in the year following standard enforcement, belt use has decreased very little for females. The relative difference between age groups for males remained quite large after standard enforcement and belt use in all age groups dropped in the year following standard enforcement.

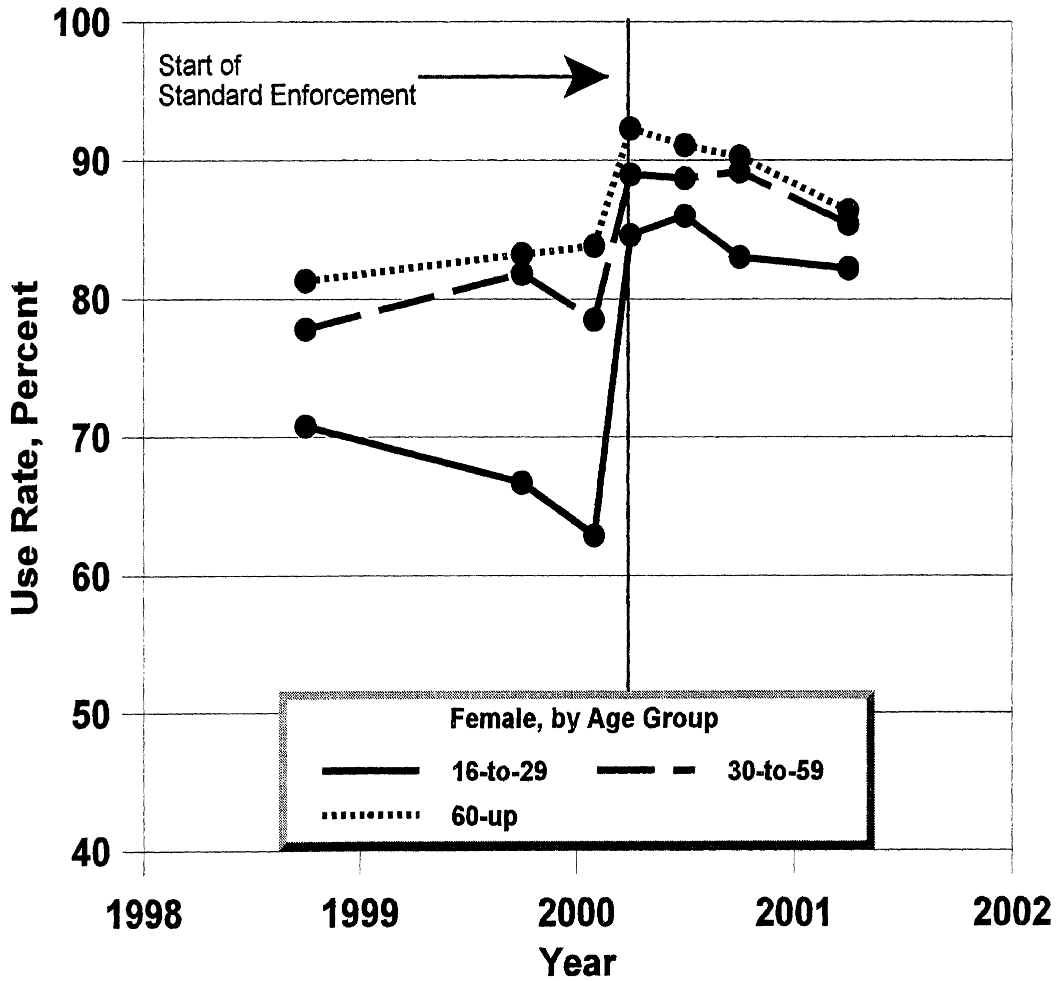

Figure 10: Michigan safety belt use before and after standard enforcement for females by age group.

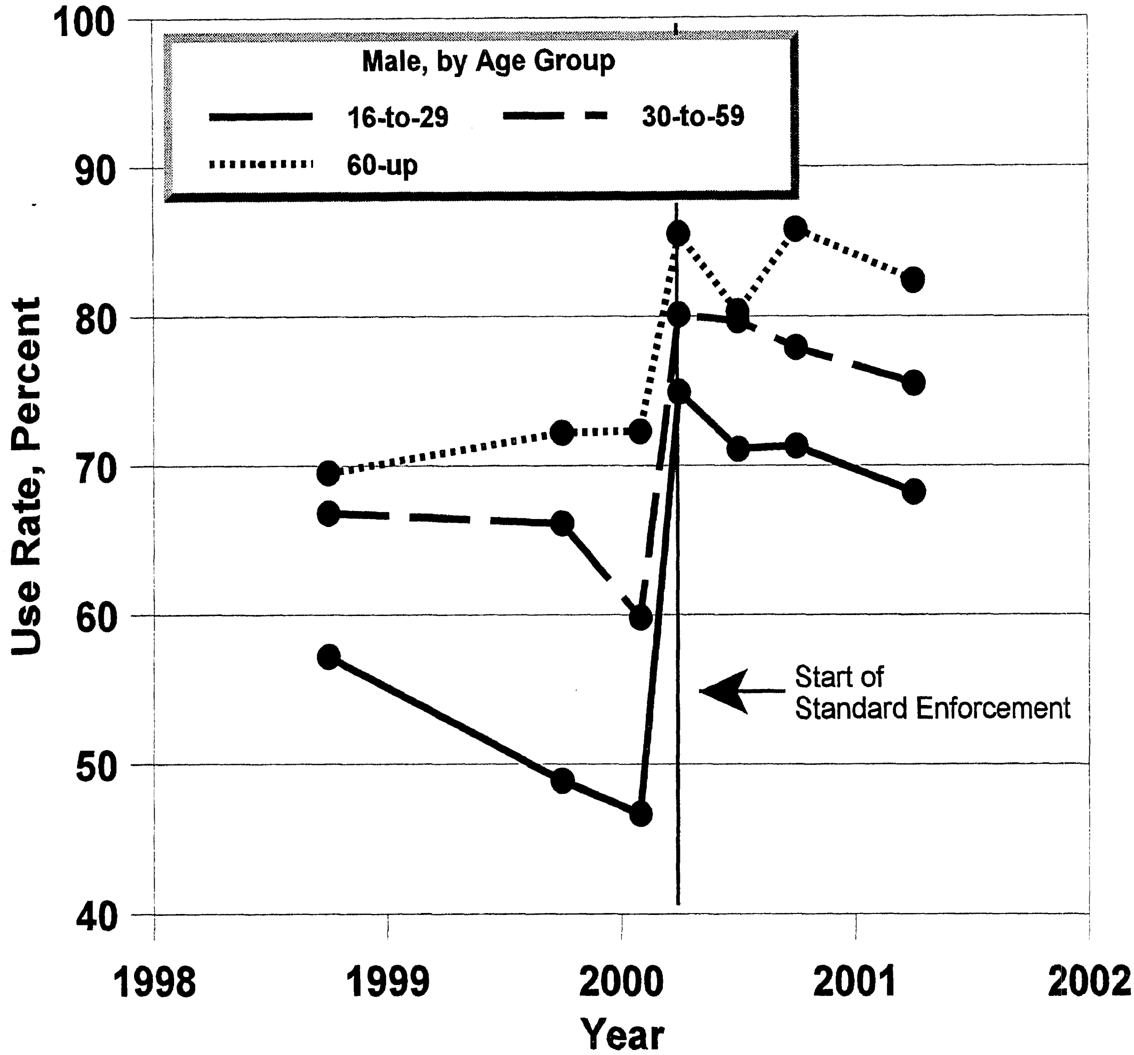

Figure 11: Michigan safety belt use before and after standard enforcement for males by age group.

DISCUSSION

The estimated statewide belt use rate for front-outboard occupants of passenger cars, sport-utility vehicles, vans/minivans, and pickup trucks combined was 79.4 ± 2.0 percent. When compared to the most recent statewide survey in Michigan we find that the current use rate is not significantly different from the rate of 81.9 ± 1.4 percent in September 2000. However, the current rate is significantly lower than the rates found in the other two surveys conducted after Michigan's change to standard enforcement. Thus, safety belt use in Michigan has dropped slightly one year after implementation of standard enforcement. However, the current safety belt use rate is still nearly 10 percentage points higher than the highest safety belt use rate observed prior to standard enforcement.

An examination of safety belt use patterns in the current study shows many of the usual trends in Michigan safety belt use (Eby, Molnar, & Olk, 2000). The study shows that overall, belt use for drivers was higher than for passengers; however, this difference was not observed within each vehicle type. Observed safety belt use rates were higher for passengers than drivers, in both sport-utility vehicles and vans/minivans. Historical trends in Michigan safety belt use have consistently shown a clear difference in safety belt use by seating position. Further research is essential to better understand the dynamics of the difference between driver and passenger belt use. Analysis over the last seven surveys showed that the difference in safety belt use between seating positions decreased by about one-half after standard enforcement. Again, it appears that standard enforcement is an effective way to reach segments of the population previously known for low safety belt use.

In the current survey we found that belt use was higher for females than males by nearly 10 percentage points. A higher belt use rate for females is consistent with years of safety belt research both in Michigan (Eby, Molnar, & Olk, 2000) and elsewhere (e.g., Lange & Voas, 1998; Williams, Wells, & Lund, 1987). The current belt use rate for males, 78.4 percent, is still below both state and national goals. This finding suggests that statewide efforts to increase belt use for young males, and males in general, should be intensified and continued. When safety belt use by sex was compared before and after standard enforcement, we found that the difference in use decreased by about one-third after standard enforcement. Thus, standard enforcement may make an important difference in belt use for males.

The current survey found that safety belt use varied by age group, with higher belt use for those younger, and for those older than the 16-to-29 year old age group. This finding is consistent with recent Michigan safety belt use surveys (Eby, Molnar, & Olk, 2000). The result indicates that more effective efforts should be targeted toward increasing compliance with Michigan's mandatory safety belt use law among our young drivers. A current thrust for research at the national level is to better understand cognitive development as it relates to traffic safety and the factors that influence thinking in young drivers so that more appropriate traffic safety messages and programs can be developed (see, e.g., Eby & Molnar, 1999; NHTSA, 1995, 1996). This information would be useful in Michigan when developing messages and programs.

Comparison of safety belt use by age group before and after standard enforcement showed that standard enforcement legislation had roughly the same effect on the two oldest age groups. For the 16-to-29-year old age group, however, safety belt increased dramatically following standard enforcement and has remained much closer to the use rates of the other age groups in the year following standard enforcement. Again, standard enforcement has had a positive effect on at least one segment of the population that consistently has disregarded secondary enforcement safety belt use laws.

Analysis of safety belt use by both sex and age in the current study showed that the difference in belt use between 16-to-29-year-old males and females was a disturbing 14 percentage points (the difference for the 30-to-59-year olds was nearly 10 percentage points). Thus, both young and middle age males constitute one of Michigan's biggest areas of concern related to safety belt use. Comparison of belt use by sex and age before and after standard enforcement showed that the difference in use by age group for both males and females decreased after standard enforcement.

The analysis of safety belt use by vehicle type showed that occupants in passenger cars, sport-utility vehicles, and vans/minivans used safety belts at rates of 80 to 83 percent (see Tables 4a - 4d). Unfortunately, the use rate for pickup truck occupants (68.1 percent) continues to be much lower than for occupants in other vehicle types. Belt use by vehicle type over the last seven surveys showed that standard enforcement has had a nearly identical effect on all vehicles types; that is, belt use increased after standard enforcement about an equal amount for occupants in each vehicle type. Thus, continued efforts to encourage belt use by occupants of pickup trucks are warranted; however, research is crucial in order to understand the differences inherent in this population to develop appropriate traffic safety messages and programs.

In the present survey we found that safety belt use was higher on freeway exit ramps (indicating safety belt use for freeway driving) than on local roads. This finding is consistent with numerous surveys in Michigan and elsewhere (see, e.g. Eby, Molnar, & Olk, 2000; Chatterjee, Evans, Richards, & Hafford, 1991; Fockler & Cooper, 1990). It is possible that motor vehicle occupants either feel less safe driving on freeways or feel that they are more likely to be ticketed for nonuse and therefore use safety belts more frequently on freeways. In either case, programs should be tailored to increase safety belt use on local roads. Comparison across the last seven surveys showed that standard enforcement had nearly an identical effect on safety belt use by roadway type.

When safety belt use rates are examined by strata, the lowest belt use rate in the state of Michigan has traditionally been found in Stratum 4 (Wayne County), the region containing the city of Detroit (e.g., see Eby, Vivoda, & Fordyce, 1999). However, in the current study, belt use for Stratum 4 was higher than for Stratum 3. In fact, analysis across the previous seven surveys shows that after standard enforcement, Wayne County safety belt use has been either the second or third highest stratum in the state. Thus, standard enforcement has had a greater effect on Wayne County than on any other stratum in the state. It is possible that a greater police presence in the metropolitan area, and the resulting perception of the increased likelihood of citation for disobeying the mandatory safety belt use law, may be factors in the dramatic increase in belt use for Wayne County.

Research has indicated that the perception of enforcement may be more important than the actual enforcement level (Campbell, 1987). A concerted effort has been made by the State of Michigan to increase belt use in Wayne County over the past several years, including the recent "Click It or Ticket" campaign, and these programs should be continued to maintain a belt use rate compliant with the state goal.

It is essential to maintain high compliance with the safety belt use law; if after December 31, 2005 the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP) certifies that there has been less than 80 percent compliance in the preceding year, the law will revert back to secondary enforcement. The current overall rate, with its associated confidence band, is still above this rate. However, the downward trend in use over the last year highlights the importance of continuing active and visible enforcement programs. It has been shown that in both primary and secondary enforcement states, safety belt use is higher when enforcement levels are higher, and conversely, when enforcement levels are low, safety belt use is low (Campbell, Stewart, & Campbell, 1987). Throughout Michigan, enforcement of the safety belt law has been a cooperative effort; state, local, and county law enforcement work from a joint strategic enforcement plan (NHTSA, 2000). This cooperative effort, combined with strict and visible enforcement of the standard enforcement law is necessary to maintain state goals for safety belt use rates. In addition, to enhance public awareness of intensified enforcement, law enforcement agencies have found that special emphasis patrols and local publicity are very effective (NHTSA, 2000).

Neither enforcement without PI&E programs nor PI&E programs without enforcement are sufficient to achieve high rates of safety belt use (Stoke & Lugt, 1991). According to NHTSA (1999a), there is no way to achieve a safety belt use rate higher than 85 percent without both widely publicized and strongly enforced laws. In addition to widely publicizing the new standard enforcement law, Michigan has focused on increasing the dissemination of effective educational messages to the groups that need it most: young males, minorities, and pickup truck occupants. While these efforts have been effective in maintaining a high compliance with the new standard enforcement law, these programs need to be continued and expanded to further increase passenger safety.

It is clear that standard enforcement "works" in Michigan. Implementation of standard enforcement resulted in a sudden and dramatic increase in belt use that has only slightly decreased in the last year. Standard enforcement decreased the gap in use we typically find between our high and low use groups such as drivers/passengers; males/females; and young/old. Standard enforcement has also had very positive effects on belt use in Wayne County. Despite its effectiveness, however, Michigan still has strides to make to ensure that, at the very least, compliance is maintained and, preferably, increased over the next several years as was the case in California. Examination of belt use over the last year across all categories, shows that belt use is declining consistently for all factors. In other words, it appears that the slight decline found in the current survey cannot be attributed to any single group, such as young males. It is possible that the decline is based on a general perception that enforcement of the law is starting to decline. Nevertheless, the safety belt use rates over the last year are a generally positive aspect of Michigan traffic safety.

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APPENDIX A

Data Collection Forms

SITE DESCRIPTION SE4

SITE # __ __ __ SITE LOCATION ____
1 2 3

SITE TYPE
1☐ Intersection
2☐ Freeway
4
Exit No. ________

SITE CHOICE
1☐ Primary
2☐ Alternate
5

TRAFFIC CONTROL
1☐ Traffic Light
2☐ Stop sign
3☐ None
4☐ Other ________________
6

DATE (month/day): __ __/__ __/2000
7 8 9 10

OBSERVER
1☐ Jim
2☐ Amin
3☐ Steve
4☐ Julie
5☐ Jonathon
6☐ Linda
7☐ Dave
11

DAY OF WEEK
1☐ Monday
2☐ Tuesday
3☐ Wednesday
4☐ Thursday
5☐ Friday
6☐ Saturday
7☐ Sunday
12

WEATHER
1☐ Mostly Sunny
2☐ Mostly Cloudy
3☐ Rain
4☐ Snow
13

START TIME: __ __:__ __ (24 hour clock)
14 15 16 17

END TIME: __ __:__ __ (24 hour clock)
18 19 20 21

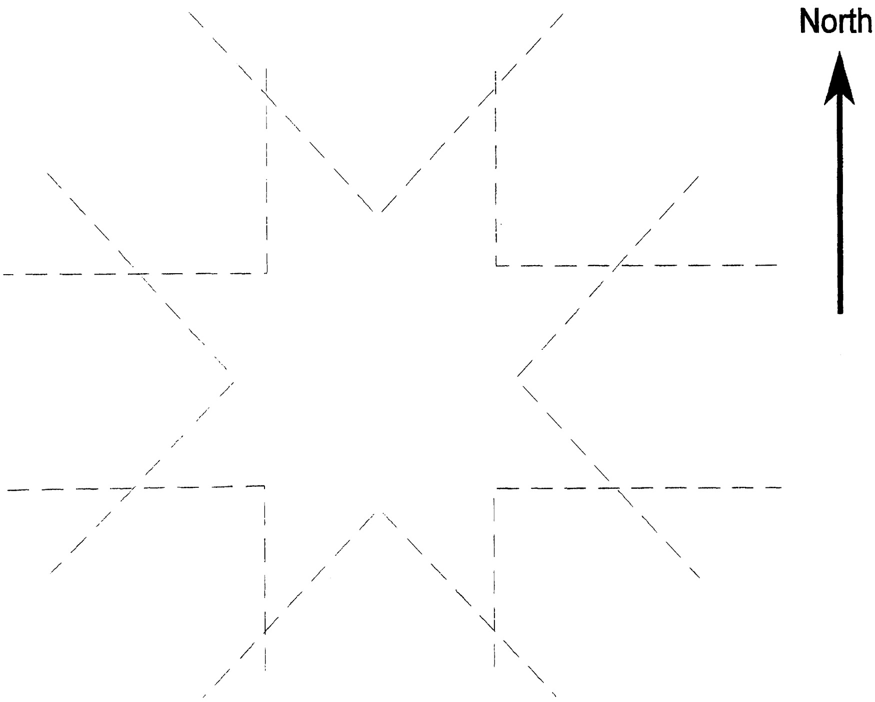
INTERRUPTION (total number of minutes during observation period): __ __
22 23

MEDIAN: 1☐ Yes
2☐ No
24

TRAFFIC COUNT 1: __ __ __
25 26 27

TRAFFIC COUNT 2: __ __ __
28 29 30

COMMENTS::



SITE # ___ ___ ___
1 2 3

PAGE #________

ATTENTION CODING: DUPLICATE COL 1 - 3 FOR ALL VEHICLES

DRIVER	1☐ Not belted 2☐ Belted 3☐ B Back 4☐ U Arm 4	1☐ Male 2☐ Female 5	2☐ 4 - 15 3☐ 16 - 29 4☐ 30 - 59 5☐ 60+ 6	VEHICLE TYPE 1☐ Passenger car 2☐ Van 3☐ Utility 4☐ Pick-up 7	
FRONT-RIGHT PASSENGER	1☐ Not belted 2☐ Belted 3☐ B Back 4☐ U Arm 5☐ CRD 8	1☐ Male 2☐ Female 9	1☐ 0 - 3 2☐ 4 - 15 3☐ 16 - 29 4☐ 30 - 59 5☐ 60+ 10	Office Use Only ___ ___ ___ 11 12 13	COMM. VEHICLE 1☐No 2☐Yes 14

DRIVER	1☐ Not belted 2☐ Belted 3☐ B Back 4☐ U Arm 4	1☐ Male 2☐ Female 5	2☐ 4 - 15 3☐ 16 - 29 4☐ 30 - 59 5☐ 60+ 6	VEHICLE TYPE 1☐ Passenger car 2☐ Van 3☐ Utility 4☐ Pick-up 7	
FRONT-RIGHT PASSENGER	1☐ Not belted 2☐ Belted 3☐ B Back 4☐ U Arm 5☐ CRD 8	1☐ Male 2☐ Female 9	1☐ 0 - 3 2☐ 4 - 15 3☐ 16 - 29 4☐ 30 - 59 5☐ 60+ 10	Office Use Only ___ ___ ___ 11 12 13	COMM. VEHICLE 1☐No 2☐Yes 14

DRIVER	1☐ Not belted 2☐ Belted 3☐ B Back 4☐ U Arm 4	1☐ Male 2☐ Female 5	2☐ 4 - 15 3☐ 16 - 29 4☐ 30 - 59 5☐ 60+ 6	VEHICLE TYPE 1☐ Passenger car 2☐ Van 3☐ Utility 4☐ Pick-up 7	
FRONT-RIGHT PASSENGER	1☐ Not belted 2☐ Belted 3☐ B Back 4☐ U Arm 5☐ CRD 8	1☐ Male 2☐ Female 9	1☐ 0 - 3 2☐ 4 - 15 3☐ 16 - 29 4☐ 30 - 59 5☐ 60+ 10	Office Use Only ___ ___ ___ 11 12 13	COMM. VEHICLE 1☐No 2☐Yes 14

DRIVER	1☐ Not belted 2☐ Belted 3☐ B Back 4☐ U Arm 4	1☐ Male 2☐ Female 5	2☐ 4 - 15 3☐ 16 - 29 4☐ 30 - 59 5☐ 60+ 6	VEHICLE TYPE 1☐ Passenger car 2☐ Van 3☐ Utility 4☐ Pick-up 7	
FRONT-RIGHT PASSENGER	1☐ Not belted 2☐ Belted 3☐ B Back 4☐ U Arm 5☐ CRD 8	1☐ Male 2☐ Female 9	1☐ 0 - 3 2☐ 4 - 15 3☐ 16 - 29 4☐ 30 - 59 5☐ 60+ 10	Office Use Only ___ ___ ___ 11 12 13	COMM. VEHICLE 1☐No 2☐Yes 14

APPENDIX B

Site Listing

Survey Sites By Number

No.	County	Site Location	Type	Str
001	Oakland	EB Whipple Lake Rd. & Eston Rd.	I	1
002	Kalamazoo	EB S Ave. & 29th St.	I	1
003	Oakland	SB Pontiac Trail & 10 Mile Rd.	I	1
004	Washtenaw	SB Moon Rd. & Ann Arbor-Saline Rd./Saline-Milan Rd.	I	1
005	Oakland	WB Drahner Rd. & Baldwin Rd.	I	1
006	Oakland	SB Rochester Rd. & 32 Mile Rd./Romeo Rd.	I	1
007	Oakland	SB Williams Lake Rd. & Elizabeth Lake Rd.	I	1
008	Ingham	SB Searles Rd. & Iosco Rd.	I	1
009	Kalamazoo	WB D Ave. & Riverview Dr.	I	1
010	Washtenaw	EB N. Territorial Rd. & Dexter-Pinckney Rd.	I	1
011	Washtenaw	NB Schleeweis Rd./Macomb St. & W. Main St.	I	1
012	Ingham	NB Shaftsburg Rd. & Haslett Rd.	I	1
013	Oakland	NB Middlebelt Rd. & 9 Mile Rd.	I	1
014	Washtenaw	WB Packard Rd. & Carpenter Rd.	I	1
015	Ingham	EB Haslett Rd. & Marsh Rd.	I	1
016	Washtenaw	NB Jordan Rd./Monroe St. & US-12/Michigan Ave.	I	1
017	Washtenaw	SB M-52/Main St. & Old US-12	I	1
018	Kalamazoo	SB 8th St. & Q Ave.	I	1
019	Washtenaw	WB 8 Mile Rd. & Pontiac Trail	I	1
020	Oakland	SB Lahser Rd. & 11 Mile Rd.	I	1
021	Kalamazoo	NB Ravine Rd. & D Ave.	I	1
022	Washtenaw	EB Glacier Way/Glazier Way & Huron Pkwy.	I	1
023	Washtenaw	WB Bethel Church Rd. & M-52	I	1
024	Washtenaw	SB Platt Rd. & Willis Rd.	I	1
025	Ingham	WB Fitchburg Rd. & Williamston Rd.	I	1
026	Washtenaw	EB Merritt Rd. & Stoney Creek Rd.	I	1
027	Oakland	SB Hickory Ridge Rd. & M-59/Highland Rd.	I	1
028	Kalamazoo	SB Douglas Ave. & D Ave.	I	1
029	Oakland	WB Walnut Lake Rd. & Haggerty Rd.	I	1
030	Oakland	NB Jossman Rd. & Grange Hall Rd.	I	1
031	Kalamazoo	EB H Ave. & 3rd St.	I	1
032	Kalamazoo	EB TU Ave. & 24th St./Sprinkle Rd.	I	1
033	Oakland	WBD I-96 & Milford Rd.. (Exit 155B)	ER	1
034	Washtenaw	WBP I-94 & Whittaker Rd./Huron St. (Exit 183)	ER	1
035	Kalamazoo	SBP US-131 & M-43 (Exit 38B)	ER	1
036	Washtenaw	SBD US-23 & N. Territorial Rd.	ER	1
037	Kalamazoo	EBP I-94 & Portage Rd.	ER	1
038	Oakland	EBP I-696 & Orchard Lake Rd. (Exit 5)	ER	1
039	Kalamazoo	WBP I-94 & 9th St. (Exit 72)	ER	1
040	Washtenaw	WBD I-94 & Jackson Rd.	ER	1
041	Kalamazoo	NBD US-131 & Stadium Dr./Business I-94	ER	1
042	Kalamazoo	NBP US-131 & Q Ave./Centre Ave.	ER	1
043	Livingston	SB County Farm Rd. & Coon Lake Rd.	I	2
044	Bay	WB Nebodish Rd. & Knight Rd.	I	2
045	Macomb	SB Camp Ground Rd. & 31 Mile Rd.	I	2
046	Jackson	SB Benton Rd./Moon Lake Rd. & M-50/ Brooklyn Rd.	I	2
047	Allegan	SB 6th St. & M-89	I	2
048	Kent	EB 36th St. & Snow Ave.	I	2
049	Livingston	EB Chase Lake Rd. & Fowlerville Rd.	I	2

050	Allegan	WB 144th Ave. & 2nd St.	I	2
051	Livingston	SB Cedar Lake Rd. & Coon Lake Rd.	I	2
052	Jackson	NB Mt. Hope Rd. & Waterloo-Munith Rd.	I	2
053	Kent	WB Cascade Rd. & Thornapple River Dr.	I	2
054	Allegan	NB 62nd St. & 102nd Ave.	I	2
055	Kent	SB Meddler Ave. & 18 Mile Rd.	I	2
056	Eaton	SB Houston Rd. & Kinneville Rd.	I	2
057	Macomb	SB M-19/Memphis Ridge Rd. & 32 Mile Rd./ Division Rd.	I	2
058	Allegan	NB 66th St. & 118th Ave.	I	2
059	Grn Traverse	NB Silver Lake Rd./County Rd. 633 & US-31	I	2
060	Grn Traverse	EB Riley Rd./Tenth St. & M-137	I	2
061	Bay	SB 9 Mile Rd. & Beaver Rd.	I	2
062	Kent	SB Ramsdell Dr. & M-57/14 Mile Rd.	I	2
063	Eaton	NB Ionia Rd. & M-50/Clinton Trail	I	2
064	Macomb	EB 23 Mile Rd. & Romeo Plank Rd.	I	2
065	Livingston	NB Old US-23/Whitmore Lake Rd. & Grand River Rd.	I	2
066	Jackson	SWB Horton Rd. & Badgley Rd.	I	2
067	Kent	SB Belmont Ave. & West River Dr.	I	2
068	Eaton	EB 5 Point Hwy. & Ionia Rd.	I	2
069	Allegan	WB 129th Ave. & 10th St.	I	2
070	Eaton	EB M-43 & M-100	I	2
071	Ottawa	WB Taylor St. & 72nd Ave.	I	2
072	Bay	EB Cass Rd. & Farley Rd.	I	2
073	Allegan	EB 126th Ave. & 66th St.	I	2
074	Bay	NB Mackinaw Rd. & Cody-Estey Rd.	I	2
075	Jackson	EBD I-94 & Elm Ave. (Exit 141)	ER	2
076	Kent	NBD US-131 & 100th St. (Exit 72)	ER	2
077	Ottawa	NBD I-196 & Byron Rd.	ER	2
078	Kent	SBP US-131 & Hall St.	ER	2
079	Macomb	SBP M-53 & 26 Mile Rd.	ER	2
080	Bay	NBD I-75 & Wilder Rd. (Exit 164)	ER	2
081	Livingston	EBD I-96 & Fowlerville Rd. (Exit 129)	ER	2
082	Macomb	EBP I-94 & 12 Mile Rd. (Exit 231)	ER	2
083	Jackson	WBD I-94 & Sargent Rd. (Exit 145)	ER	2
084	Allegan	NBP US-31/I-196 & Washington Rd./ Blue Star Hwy (Exit 47A)	ER	2
085	Genesee	SB Van Slyke Rd. & Maple Ave.	I	3
086	Monroe	WB Ida Center Rd. & Summerfield Rd.	I	3
087	Saginaw	WB Baldwin Rd. & Fowler Rd.	I	3
088	Calhoun	NB 23 Mile Rd. & V Drive N.	I	3
089	Saginaw	WB Wadsworth Rd. & Portsmouth Rd.	I	3
090	Lenawee	WB Slee Rd. & US-223	I	3
091	Van Buren	WB 36th Ave. & M-40	I	3
092	Van Buren	EB 63rd Ave. & County Rd. 652	I	3
093	Lapeer	WB McKeen Lake Rd. & Flint River Rd.	I	3
094	St. Joseph	NB Thomas Rd. & US-12	I	3
095	Saginaw	WB Rathbun Rd. & Moorish Rd.	I	3
096	Berrien	NB Fikes Rd. & Coloma Rd.	I	3
097	Genesee	WB Hegal Rd. & M-15/State Rd.	I	3
098	Lapeer	EB M-90 & M-90/M-53	I	3
099	Saginaw	NB Thomas Rd. & Swan Creek Rd.	I	3
100	Lenawee	WB Pixley Rd. & Deer Field Rd./Beaver Rd.	I	3
101	Van Buren	NB County Rd. 665 & M-40	I	3

102	Van Buren	WB County Rd. 374 & Red Arrow Hwy./St Joseph Rd..	I	3
103	Calhoun	SEB Michigan Ave./Austin Rd. & 28 Mile Rd./N. Eaton Rd.	I	3
104	St. Clair	WB Norman Rd. & M-19/Emmett Rd.	I	3
105	Monroe	EB Oakville-Waltz Rd. & Sumpter Rd.	I	3
106	Berrien	WB Glenlord Rd. & Washington Ave.	I	3
107	Muskegon	NB Whitbeck Rd. & Fruitvale Rd.	I	3
108	Monroe	SB Petersburg Rd. & Ida West Rd./Division Rd.	I	3
109	St. Clair	WB Masters Rd. & M-19	I	3
110	St. Joseph	SB Zinmaster Rd. & M-60	I	3
111	Shiawassee	NB State Rd. & Lansing Rd.	I	3
112	Van Buren	EB Celery Center Rd. & M-51	I	3
113	Shiawassee	SB Geeck Rd. & M-21	I	3
114	Muskegon	SB Holton Duck Lake Rd. & Ryerson Rd./ Fourth St.	I	3
115	Berrien	WB Glenlord Ave. & Hollywood Rd.	I	3
116	Lenawee	SB S. Piotter Hwy & Deer Field Rd.	I	3
117	Monroe	SBP I-75 & Front St./Monroe St. (Exit 13)	ER	3
118	Lapeer	WBD I-96 & Nepessing Rd. (Exit 153)	ER	3
119	Lapeeer	EBP I-69 & Lake Pleasant Rd. (Exit 163)	ER	3
120	Berrien	WBD I-94 & US-33/M-63/Niles Rd. (Exit 27)	ER	3
121	Van Buren	EBP I-94 & 64th St. (Exit 46, Hartford)	ER	3
122	Van Buren	EBD I-94 & County Rd. 652/Main St.(Exit 66)	ER	3
123	Muskegon	NBD US-31 & M-46/Apple St.	ER	3
124	Van Buren	NBP I-196 & M-140 (Exit 18)	ER	3
125	Calhoun	WBD I-94 & 26 Mile Rd.	ER	3
126	Monroe	NBP US-23 & Ida-West Rd. (Exit 13)	ER	3
127	Wayne	WB 8 Mile Rd. & Beck Rd.	I	4
128	Wayne	EB Warren Rd. & Wayne Rd.	I	4
129	Wayne	EB McNichols Rd. & Woodward Ave.	I	4
130	Wayne	NB Canton Center Rd. & Cherry Hill Rd.	I	4
131	Wayne	WB Ecorse Rd. & Pardee Rd.	I	4
132	Wayne	EB Michigan Ave. & Sheldon Rd.	I	4
133	Wayne	EB Ecorse Rd. & Middlebelt Rd.	I	4
134	Wayne	NB M-85/Fort Rd. & Emmons Rd.	I	4
135	Wayne	WB Glenwood Rd. & Wayne Rd.	I	4
136	Wayne	NB Haggerty Rd. & 7 Mile Rd.	I	4
137	Wayne	WB 6 Mile Rd. & Inkster Rd.	I	4
138	Wayne	SB Inkster Rd. & Goddard Rd.	I	4
139	Wayne	SB Merriman Rd. & Cherry Hill Rd.	I	4
140	Wayne	SEB Outer Dr. & Pelham Rd.	I	4
141	Wayne	NB Meridian Rd. & Macomb Rd.	I	4
142	Wayne	WB Ford Rd. & Venoy Rd.	I	4
143	Wayne	SWB Vernor Rd. & Gratiot Rd.	I	4
144	Wayne	WB 5 Mile Rd. & Beck Rd.	I	4
145	Wayne	EB 7 Mile Rd. & Livernois Rd.	I	4
146	Wayne	NB Gunston/Hoover Rd. & McNichols Rd.	I	4
147	Wayne	SB W. Jefferson/ Biddle Ave. & Southfield Rd.	I	4
148	Wayne	EB Goddard Rd. & Wayne Rd.	I	4
149	Wayne	WB 8 Mile Rd. & Kelly Rd.	I	4
150	Wayne	SB Merriman Rd. & US-12/Michigan Ave.	I	4
151	Wayne	SB Telegraph Rd. & Plymouth Rd.	I	4
152	Wayne	WB Sibley Rd. & Inkster Rd.	I	4
153	Wayne	NEB Mack Rd. & Moross Rd.	I	4

154	Wayne	WB Annapolis Rd. & Inkster Rd.	I	4
155	Wayne	SB Greenfield Rd. & Grand River Rd.	I	4
156	Wayne	EB Joy Rd. & Livernois Rd.	I	4
157	Wayne	SEB Conner Ave. & Gratiot Rd.	I	4
158	Wayne	NWB Grand River Rd. & Wyoming Ave.	I	4
159	Wayne	WBP I-96 & Evergreen Rd.	ER	4
160	Wayne	WBP I-94 & Haggerty Rd. (Exit 192)	ER	4
161	Wayne	NBD I-75 & Gibralter Rd. (Exit 29)	ER	4
162	Wayne	SBP I-75 & Southfield Rd.	ER	4
163	Wayne	NBD I-275 & 6 Mile Rd. (Exit 170)	ER	4
164	Wayne	NBP I-275 & M-153/Ford Rd. (Exit 25)	ER	4
165	Wayne	NBD I-275 & Eureka Rd. (Exit 15)	ER	4
166	Wayne	NBP I-75 & Springwells Ave. (Exit 45)	ER	4
167	Wayne	WBD I-94 & Pelham Rd. (Exit 204)	ER	4
168	Wayne	SBD I-75 & Sibley Rd.	ER	4

APPENDIX C

Calculation of Variances, Confidence Bands, and Relative Error

The variances for the belt use estimates were calculated using an equation derived from Cochran's (1977) equation 11.30 from section 11.8. The resulting formula was:

$$var \approx \frac{n}{n-1}\sum_i \left(\frac{g_i}{\sum_i g_i}\right)^2 (r_i - r)^2 + \frac{n}{N}\sum_i \left(\frac{g_i}{\sum_i g_i}\right)^2 \frac{s_i^2}{g_i}$$

where *var* equals the variance for a stratum, *n* is the number of observed intersections, g_i is the weighted number of vehicle occupants at intersection *i*, $\sum g_i$ is the total weighted number of occupants at all sites, r_i is the weighted belt use rate at intersection *i*, *r* is the belt use rate, *N* is the total number of intersections, and $s_i = r_i(1-r_i)$. In the actual calculation of the variance, the second term of this equation is negligible. If we conservatively estimate *N* to be 2000, the second term only adds 2.1×10^{-6} units. This additional variance does not significantly add to the variance captured in the first term. Therefore, since *N* was not known exactly, the second term was dropped in the variance calculations. The overall estimated variance for each vehicle type was calculated using the formula:

$$var(r_{all}) = \frac{var(r_1) + var(r_2) + var(r_3) + 0.88^2 \times var(r_4)}{3.88^2}$$

The Wayne County stratum variance was multiplied by 0.88 to account for the similar weighting that was done to estimate overall belt use. The 95 percent confidence bands were calculated using the formula:

$$95\%\ Confidence\ Band = r_{all} \pm 1.96 \times \sqrt{Variance}$$

where *r* is the belt use of interest. This formula is used for the calculation of confidence bands for each stratum and for the overall belt use estimate.

Finally, the relative error or precision of the estimate was computed using the formula:

$$RelativeError = \frac{StandardError}{r_{all}}$$

The federal guidelines (NHTSA, 1992, 1998) stipulate that the relative error of the belt use estimate must be under 5 percent.