

Occupant Protection Task Team

Partners in Prevention

Time Task Force/ Amanda Jackson / July 18, 2018



Occupant Protection Task Team (OPTT)

Occupant Protection Data

- In 2015, motor vehicle crashes (MVC) were the 13th overall cause of death in the U.S., but ranked 7th for YPLL (NHTSA)
- In 2016, there were 1,554 traffic fatalities in GA (FARS)
- In 2016, 48% of individuals who died in crashes in the U.S. were unrestrained (NHTSA)
- In 2016, 14,688 lives were saved in the U.S. from the use of seat belts (NHTSA)

Occupant Protection Data

- In 2016, 63 children under the age of 14 died in MVCs in Georgia (NHTSA)
- In 2016, the U.S. MVC Fatality Child Rate was 2.02 per 100,000 compared to GA at 3.03 per 100,000 (NHTSA)
- Car seats reduce the risk of fatal injury for children under 1 by 71% and for children 1-4 years of age by 54% in passenger vehicles (NHTSA)

Occupant Protection Strategies

- Increase seat belt use on Georgia roadways
- Maintain child restraint use on Georgia roadways
- Support funded Occupant Protection programmatic activities
- Promote safe alternatives to transportation throughout the state

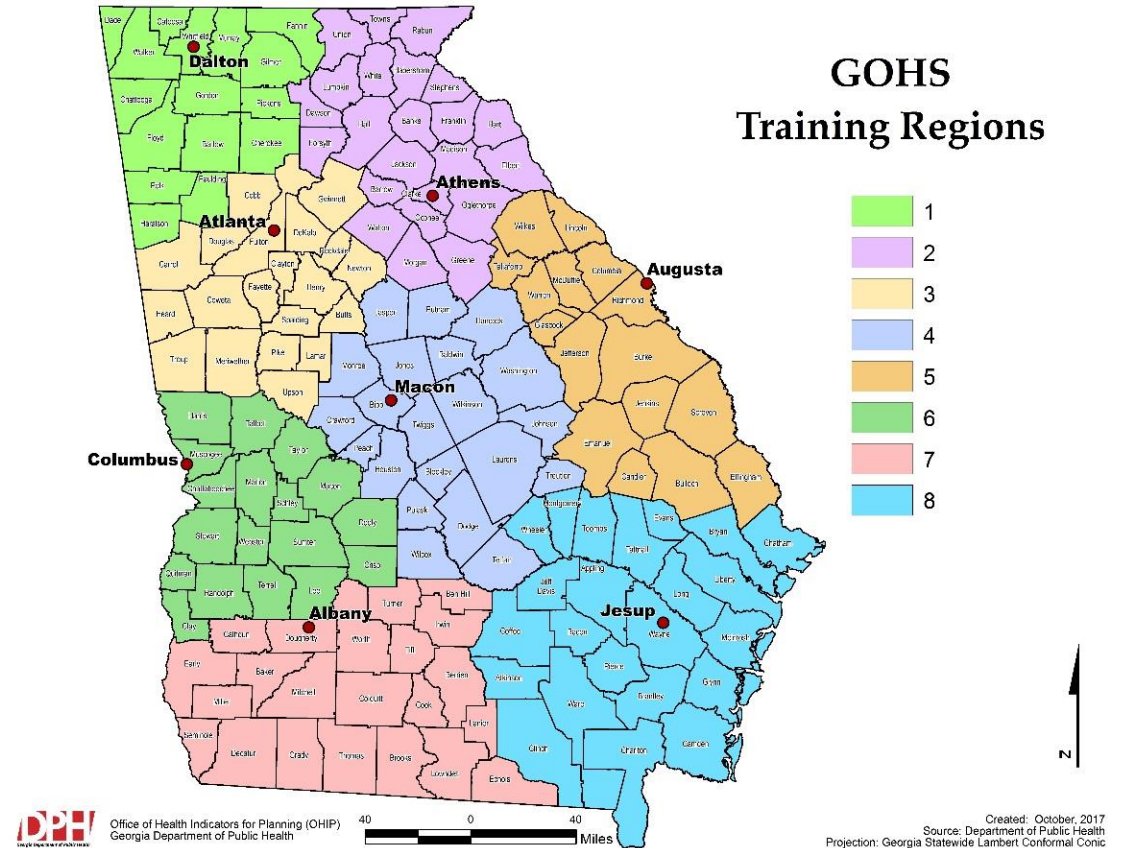
Child Occupant Safety Project (COSP)

Program Overview

- Grant funded through the Governor's Office of Highway Safety
- Program expanded in FFY18 to include statewide Child Passenger Safety Technician training (certification classes, CEU, and renewal classes)
- Program operating on a regional model

Regional Coordinators

- CPST classes
- Training classes for: fire, EMS, law enforcement, healthcare and hospital professionals
- Minority outreach
- Special needs transportation evaluations



COSP Mini-Grant Program

- Provides education and equipment distribution to low income caregivers through local partners
 - Mini-grant partners currently serve 135 out of 159 counties (and we are working to identify partners in the remaining 25 counties)
 - A limited number of seats are available each month and many only offer classes once a month
- *Classes/Resources are available in Spanish

Georgia Child Passenger Safety Law

- Children < 8 years old and < 4'9" must:
 - Use only an approved car seat or booster seat
 - Be in the back seat
 - Car seats / booster seats must:
 - Meet U.S. Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards
 - Be installed **and** used according to the manufacturer's directions
 - Be appropriate for child's weight and height
 - Booster seats can only be used with a Lap/Shoulder seat belt, **never** a lap belt only
 - Use of lap belt only with children < 8 & < 4'9 and at least 40 pounds is permitted only if:
 - The vehicle is not equipped with both lap and shoulder belts;
 - The vehicle is equipped with one or more lap and shoulder belts that are all being used to properly restrain other children
- * Child must be in the back seat

The law can be found online under the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) Section 40-8-76.

General Car Seat Guidelines

What is the best seat for your child?

- The best and safest car seat:
 - Fits the child securely
 - Fits in the vehicle securely
 - Will be used correctly all the time



Contact Information

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