

NHTSA Child Passenger Safety Seat Inspection Locations

Susan Kirinich,
Office of Government Affairs, Policy
and Strategic Planning
Carole Guzzetta,
Office of Impaired Driving and
Occupant Protection

What are Child Safety Seat Inspection Stations?

- A place where parents and caregivers can go to learn how to safely transport children by using the appropriate restraints (car seat, booster seat or seat belt)
- Staffed by certified child passenger safety technicians who will provide guidance and instruction on installation.



Why is this necessary?

- In 2013, motor vehicle crashes were the leading cause of death for children age 4, and the second leading cause of death for ages 3, and 5 to 14.
- In passenger cars, child safety seats reduce the risk of fatal injury by 71 percent for infants and by 54 percent for toddlers.
- But ensuring that a safety seat is used correctly can be challenging. A recent NHTSA observational study found that an estimated 46 percent of safety seats and booster seats were misused in the U.S.
- Incorrect degree of incline, loose installation and improper lap belt positions were the most common problems. This misuse could reduce the protection of the car seat or booster seat in the event of a crash.



Multiple factors must be taken into account

- Ensuring the right seat for the right child can be complicated.
- Factors such as age, height and weight of the child are important considerations.
- Children can also grow out of safety seats. A seat that fit fine six months ago may no longer be a good choice.

The screenshot shows the Parents Central website with a navigation bar including Home, Car Seats, On the Move, Teen Driving, In and Around the Car, and Seat Belts. The main content area is titled "Car Seat Recommendations for Children" and features a chart showing the recommended car seat type for children from birth to 13+ years old. The chart is organized into four rows: Rear-Facing Car Seat, Forward-Facing Car Seat, Booster Seat, and Seat Belt. The columns represent age in years, from Birth to 13+.

Age (Years)	Birth	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13+
Rear-Facing Car Seat	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Forward-Facing Car Seat	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Booster Seat	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Seat Belt	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Below the chart, there are four icons representing the different car seat types: Rear-Facing Car Seat, Forward-Facing Car Seat, Booster Seat, and Seat Belt. To the left of the chart, there are links for "Car Seat Types", "Car Seat by Child's Age and Size", "Find a Car Seat", "Ease-of-Use Ratings", "How to Install Car Seats", "Register Your Car Seat", and "Español". At the bottom left, there are two buttons: "GET YOUR SEAT INSPECTED" and "GET INVOLVED". At the bottom right, there is a "Child Car Safety" logo and a section titled "There are many car seat choices on the market. Use the information below to help you choose the [type of car seat](#) that best meets your child's needs or [print out this PDF](#) (350 KB)."

- [Select a car seat based on your child's age and size](#), choose a seat that fits in your vehicle, and use it every time.
- Always refer to your specific car seat manufacturer's instructions (check height and weight limits) and read the vehicle owner's manual on how to install the car seat using the seat belt or lower anchors and a tether, if available.
- To maximize safety, keep your child in the car seat for as long as possible, as long as the child fits within the manufacturer's height and weight requirements.
- Keep your child in the back seat at least through age 12.

Inspection Stations...

- Began in 2001
- Search available by State or by zip code
- Results in map form or as a list
- Can search for Spanish-speaking technicians
- Thousands of stations around the country, including many rural areas
- www.safercar.gov

The screenshot shows the Parents Central website with the 'CAR SEATS' tab selected. The 'Find a Car Seat' link is circled in red. The main heading is 'Child Car Seat Inspection Station Locator'. Below it, a search bar allows users to search by State (a dropdown menu) or by ZIP Code (a text input). There are checkboxes for 'Spanish-speaking technicians, and/or' and 'Child Passenger Safety Week 2015 events'. At the bottom, there are links for 'Search on a Map for Stations' and 'Search in a List for Stations'. The website also features a 'safercar.gov' logo and a 'Child Car Safety' logo.

Parents Central
FROM CAR SEATS TO CAR KEYS: KEEPING KIDS SAFE

safercar.gov

HOME CAR SEATS ON THE MOVE TEEN DRIVING IN AND AROUND THE CAR SEAT BELTS

Car Seat Types
Car Seat by Child's Age and Size
Find a Car Seat
Ease-of-Use Ratings
How to Install Car Seats
Register Your Car Seat
Español

Child Car Seat Inspection Station Locator

Find a child car seat inspection station nearest you. Certified technicians will inspect your child car seat, in most cases, free of charge - and show you how to correctly install and use it.

search by State
-Select State- v

search by ZIP Code
[]

Show car seat inspection stations having:

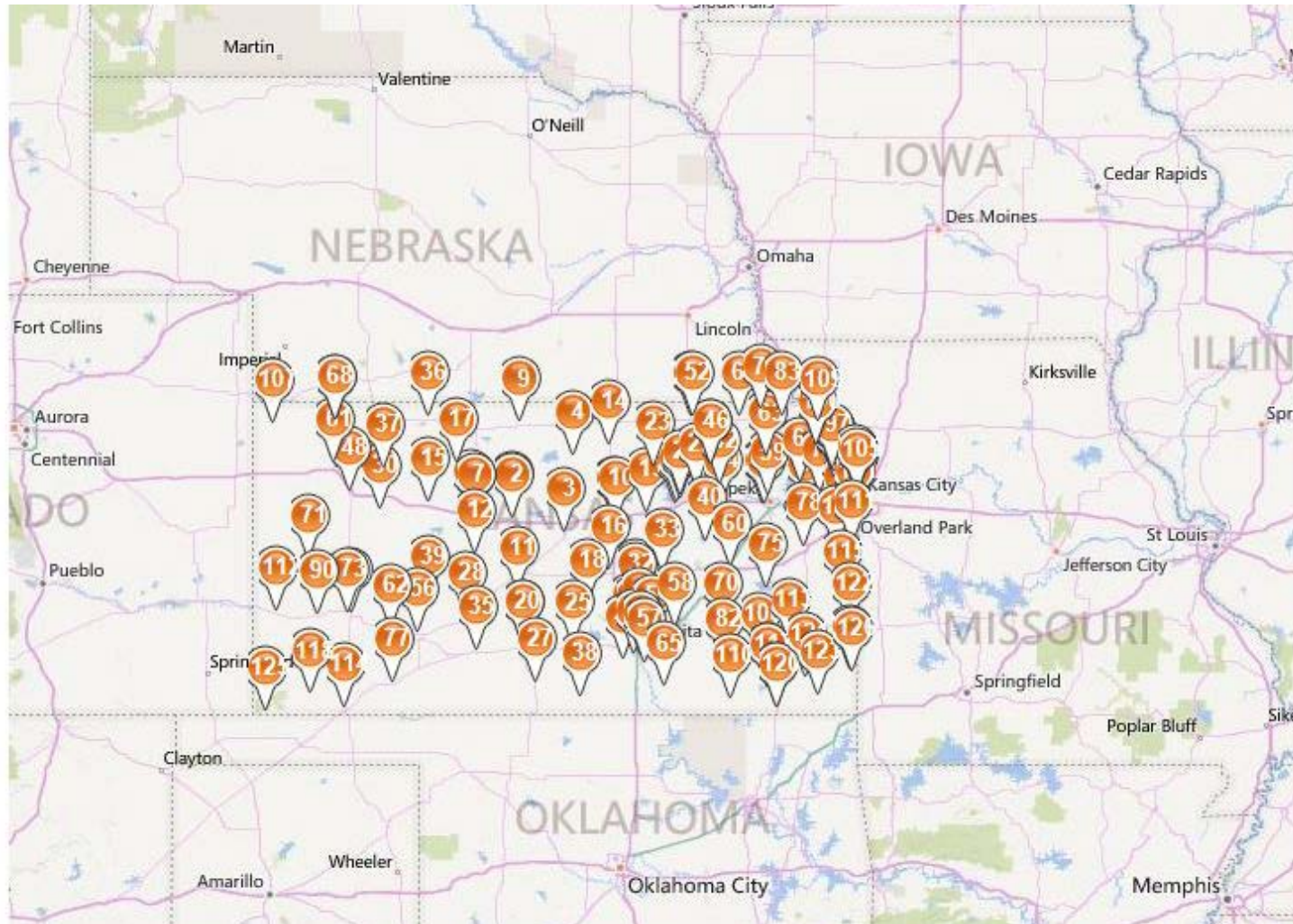
☐ Spanish-speaking technicians, and/or
☐ Child Passenger Safety Week 2015 events

Search on a Map for Stations
Search in a List for Stations

GET YOUR SEAT INSPECTED
GET INVOLVED

Child Car Safety

Inspection Stations: Kansas



Contact Information

- **Susan Kirinich:** susan.kirinich@dot.gov
Carole Guzzetta: carole.guzzetta@dot.gov

To find inspection locations in your area, go to:
www.safercar.gov and click on Parents Central.