



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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**‘CLICK IT OR TICKET’ NETS 9,824 OCCUPANT PROTECTION
CHARGES IN FIRST WEEK**

RALEIGH — More than 9,824 drivers and passengers were cited for seatbelt and child passenger safety violations during the first week of the spring “Click It or Ticket” campaign, which began May 21.

The final statewide tally for the campaign’s first week includes a total of 9,100 seatbelt citations and 724 child passenger safety citations. State and local law enforcement officers issued the citations during nearly 3,900 checkpoints and stepped-up patrols. North Carolina’s seatbelt usage rate for drivers and passengers is 88.5 percent. Last year, 700 people who were not wearing their seatbelt died in crashes in North Carolina.

"Although North Carolina's safety belt usage rate is the highest ever, the number of violations issued last week show that there are still motorists out there who are not buckling up," said Darrell Jernigan, director of the Governor's Highway Safety Program. "Law enforcement officers have done an outstanding job thus far and will continue their efforts in reminding motorists to 'Click It or Ticket'."

Counties with the highest safety belt citations include: Mecklenburg (916), Wake (861) and Gaston (378).

In addition to cracking down on unrestrained drivers and passengers, officers across the state last week charged 1,088 motorists with driving while impaired. Officers issued a total of 3,302 criminal violations, including 847 drug charges, 69 stolen vehicles, and 262 fugitives captured. “Click It or Ticket” continues through June 3.

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For county-by-county citation data please see attached document. For more information regarding “Click It or Ticket” activities, contact the Governor’s Highway Safety Program at (919) 733-3083 or visit www.ncdot.org/programs/ghsp.

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