

Rear seat occupant safety belt survey results

The latest national survey of safety belt use in New Zealand by adults in the rear seats of cars was carried out in November and December 2014.

More than 11,000 adults seated in the rear seats of cars were observed at 139 sites around the country. As in previous years, each site was surveyed between 2 pm and 4 pm on Sunday afternoons during the school term. Only adults seated in the rear left and right window positions were included in the survey.

In 2014, the safety belt wearing rate for rear seat adult passengers was 92 percent. This is an increase from 90 percent in 2011, 88 percent in 2010 and 87 percent in 2007, 2008 and 2009 (see Table 1).

Table 1: Safety belt wearing rates for adults in the rear seat (%)

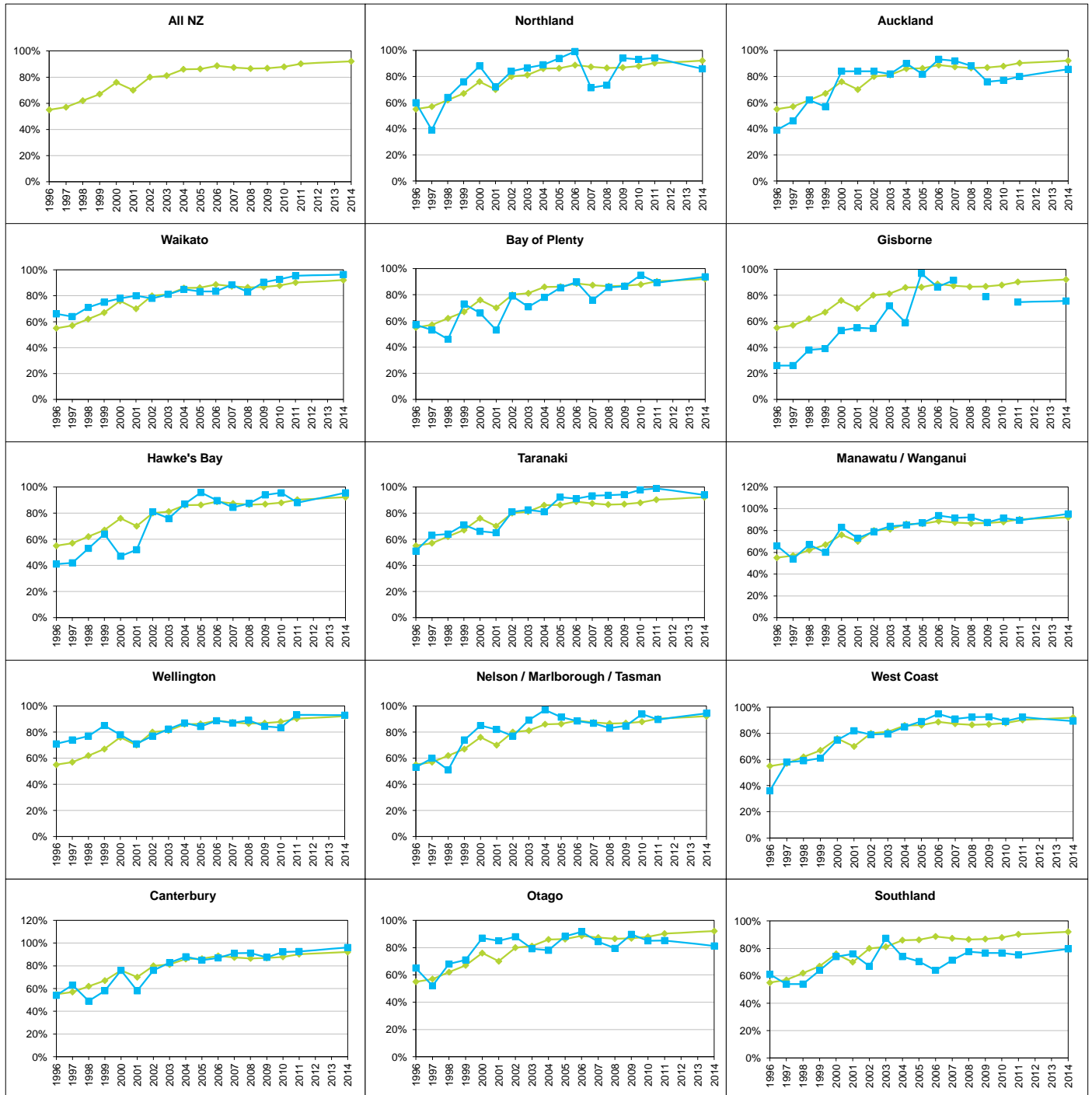
| Category | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2014 |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Males | 76 | 78 | 82 | 84 | 86 | 84 | 83 | 84 | 87 | 88 | 90* |
| Females | 83 | 84 | 88 | 89 | 91 | 90 | 89 | 90 | 88 | 92* | 94* |
| Van passengers | 69 | 72 | 72 | 75 | 79 | 75 | 75 | 75 | 78 | 87* | 82* |
| New Zealand | 80 | 81 | 86 | 86 | 89 | 87 | 87 | 87 | 88 | 90* | 92* |

**Statistically significant change from last year.*

Female rear seat passengers continued to have a higher safety belt wearing rate than males (see Table 1). All adult passengers had a lower wearing rate in vans.

Rear Seat Belt Surveys 2014 Regional Wearing Rates

Green line (diamonds) shows national wearing rate; Blue line (squares) shows regional wearing rate



Police Districts, Rear Seatbelt wearing rates, 2014

Green line (diamonds) shows national wearing rate; Blue line (squares) shows Police District wearing rate

