

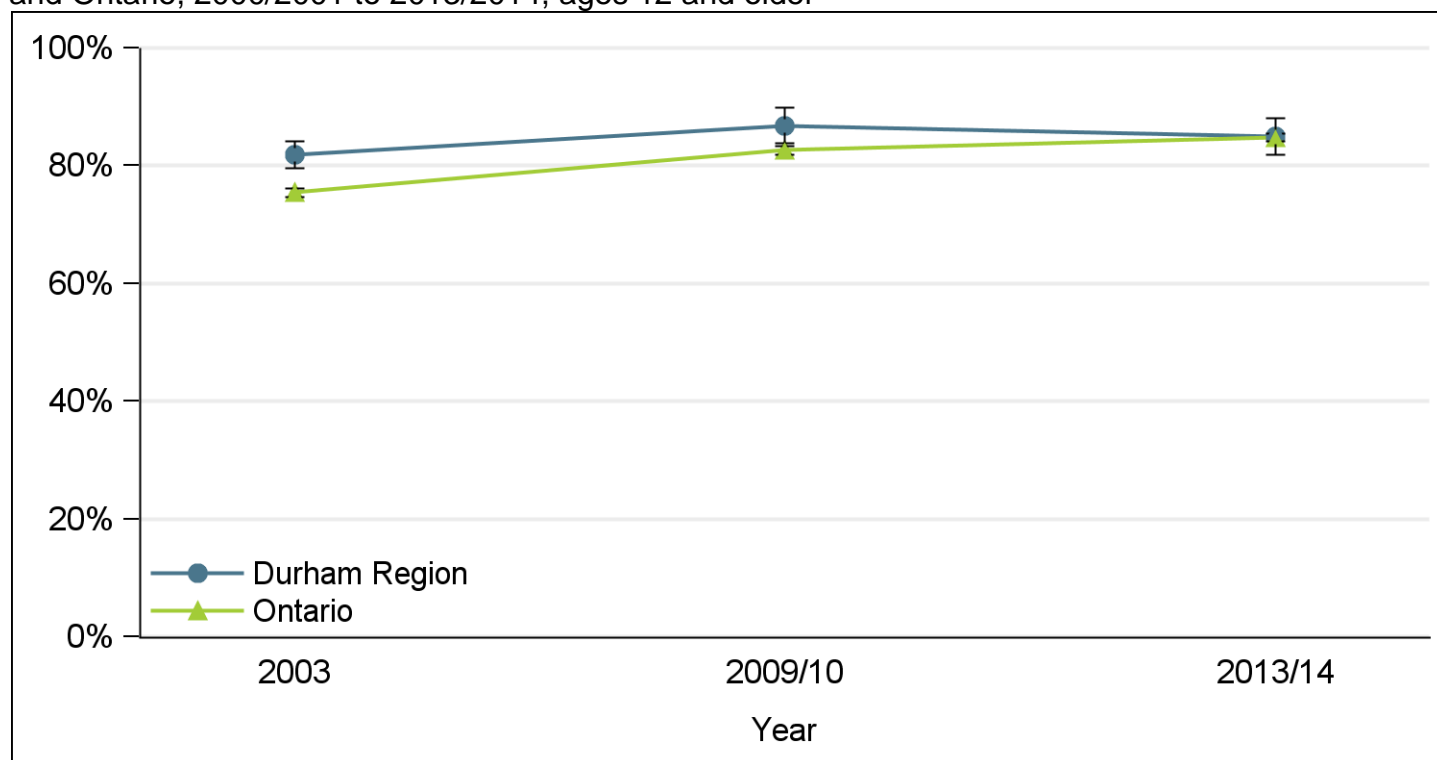
June 2017

Highlights

- In 2013/2014, 85 per cent of Durham Region residents 12 and older always wore their seat belt when riding as a passenger in a car, truck or van. Rates for both Durham Region and Ontario increased since 2003.
- Among the 36 Ontario public health units, the proportion of respondents who always wore their seat belt as a passenger ranged from 80 per cent to 95 per cent.
- Adults 65 and older and females were most likely to always wear their seat belt.

Trend over time

Figure 1. Percentage who always wore their seat belt when riding as a passenger, Durham Region and Ontario, 2000/2001 to 2013/2014, ages 12 and older

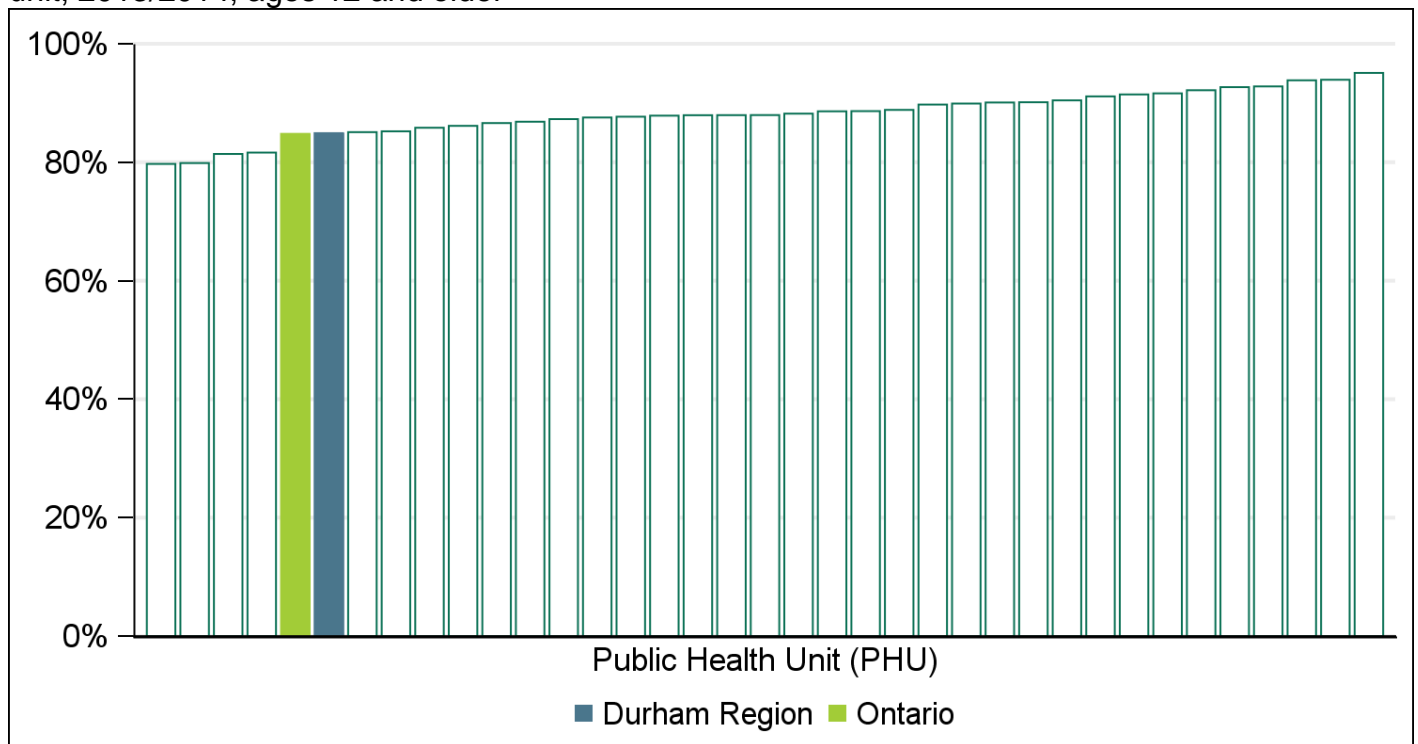


Place of residence	2003	2009/10	2013/14
Durham	82%	87%	85%
95 per cent CI (Durham)	80-84%	84-90%	82-88%
Ontario	75%	83%	85%
95 per cent CI (Ontario)	75-76%	82-83%	84-85%

In 2013/2014, 85 per cent of Durham Region residents aged 12 and older always wore their seat belt when riding as a passenger. This rate is similar to the rate observed for Ontario of 85 per cent. Figure 1 shows that rates for both Durham Region and Ontario have increased since 2003.

Provincial Comparison

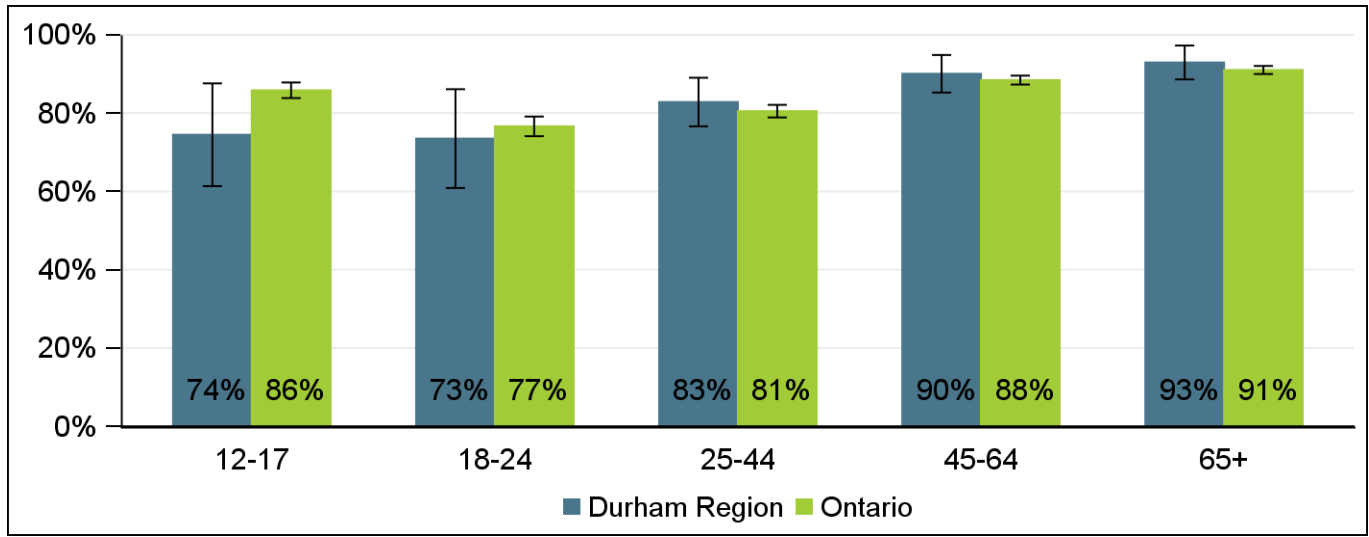
Figure 2. Percentage who always wore their seat belt when riding as a passenger, by public health unit, 2013/2014, ages 12 and older



For 2013/2014, the proportion of respondents who always wore their seat belt when riding as a passenger ranged by public health unit from 80 per cent to 95 per cent. The rate for Durham Region was in the lower end of this range at 85 per cent (see Figure 2 above).

Passenger seat belt use and the determinants of health

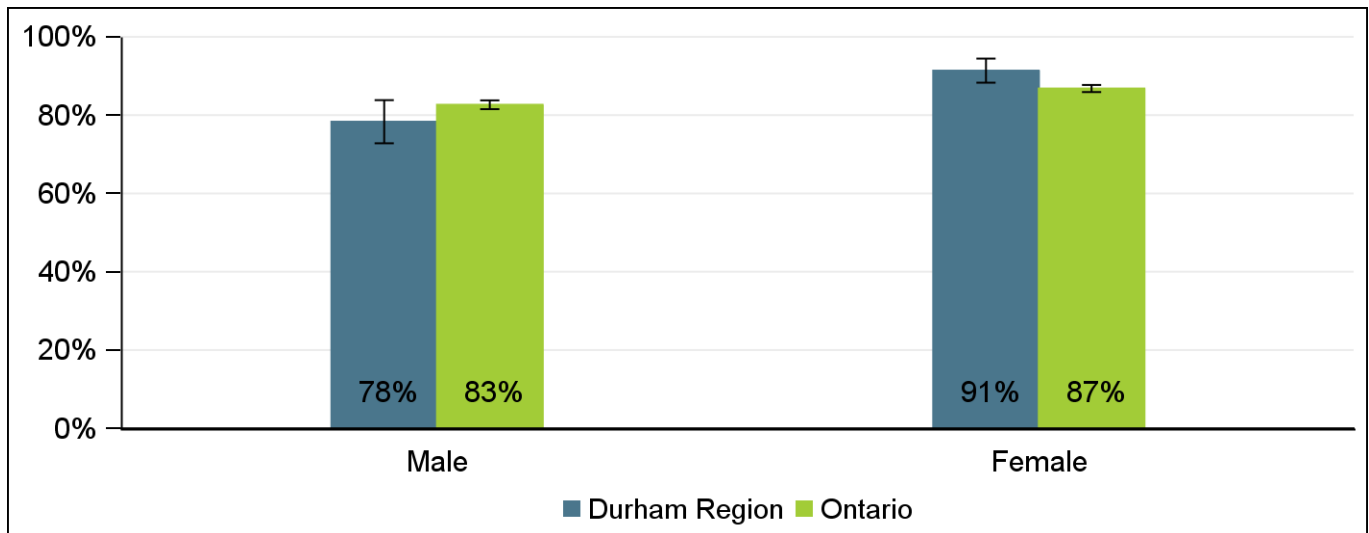
Figure 3. Percentage who always wore their seat belt when riding as a passenger by age, Durham Region and Ontario, 2013/2014, ages 12 and older



Association between age groups and seat belt use is significant for both Durham Region and Ontario.

Figure 3 shows an increase in seat belt use with increasing age. Adults aged 18 to 24 were least likely to always wear their seat belt when riding as a passenger. Both Durham Region and Ontario observed this pattern of seat belt use.

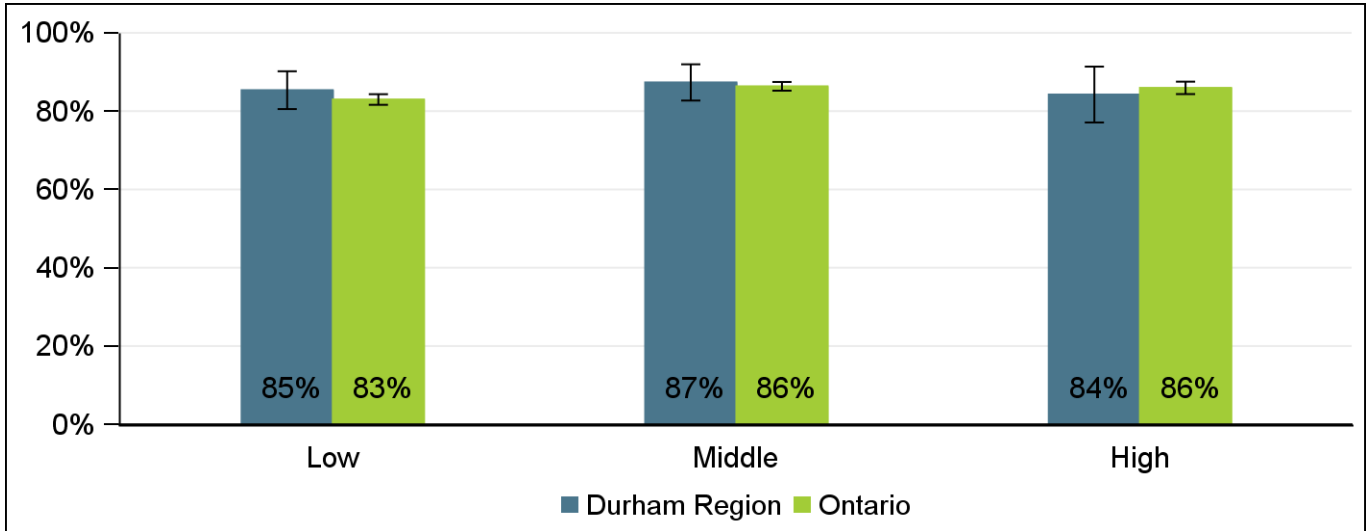
Figure 4. Percentage who always wore their seat belt when riding as a passenger by sex, Durham Region and Ontario, 2013/2014, ages 12 and older



Association between sex and seat belt use is significant for both Durham Region and Ontario.

As shown in figure 4, females were more likely than males to always wear their seat belt when riding as a passenger. Both Durham Region and Ontario observed this pattern.

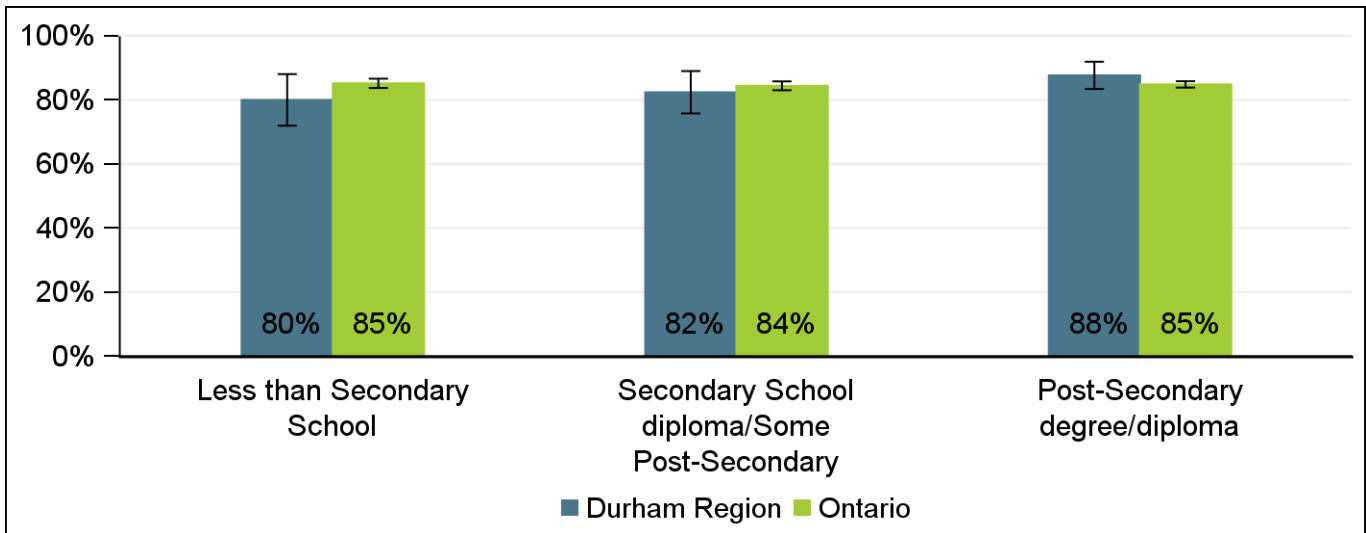
Figure 5. Percentage who always wore their seat belt when riding as a passenger by household income, Durham Region and Ontario, 2013/2014, ages 12 and older



Association between household income group and seat belt use is significant for Ontario only.

In 2013/2014, household income was associated with passenger seat belt use for Ontario, but not for Durham Region.

Figure 6. Percentage who always wore their seat belt when riding as a passenger by education level, Durham Region and Ontario, 2013/2014, ages 12 and older



Education level was not associated with passenger seat belt use for Durham Region or Ontario.

Data Notes

Data Source: The **Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS)** is a cross-sectional survey that collects information related to health status, health care utilization and health determinants for the Canadian population. It surveys a large sample of respondents and is designed to provide reliable estimates at the health region level. Since 2007, data are collected on an ongoing basis with annual releases, rather than every two years as was the case prior to 2007. The CCHS data are collected from persons aged 12 and over living in private dwellings, excluding individuals living on Indian Reserves and on Crown Lands, institutional residents, full-time members of the Canadian Forces, and residents of certain remote regions. Interviews are conducted using computer assisted interviewing, either in person or over the telephone.

Definitions and Survey Questions: Percentage of respondents 12 and older that always fastened their seat belt when riding as a front seat or back seat passenger in a car, truck or van.

Data Analysis: The analysis used the CCHS share file obtained from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. SAS version 9.4 was used to analyze the data. The final CCHS sampling weight formed the estimates. Error bars in the graphs represent the 95% confidence interval (CI) around the estimate. The true or actual estimate falls within the range of values 95 out of 100 times. All analyses excluded response options of “refusal”, “don't know”, “not stated” and “not applicable”, unless otherwise stated.

Passenger seat belt use and the determinants of health analysis used the CCHS 2013/2014 dataset. A chi-square test with a p-value less than 0.05 determined statistical significance. A statistically significant difference between groups means that the association is not likely due to chance.

The income categories of low, middle and high came from a CCHS derived variable. The categories took into account total household income, the low income cut-off, household and community size. Low income groups the lowest 30 per cent, middle groups the middle 40 per cent, and high groups the highest 30 per cent of earners.