

Buckle Down on Safety: New York's Unbelted Rear-Seat Fatality Data

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New Tactics for Compelling Hardliners to Buckle Up
Lifesavers, Charlotte, NC, March 26, 2017

The law will save lives and prevent injury (so will a law requiring us to wear a suit of armor and live in houses with moats so that rapists and robbers cannot reach us).

oppressive legislation forcing the populace to sleep with one leg out of bed so as to escape more quickly in case of fire? Will you next be

Freedom in America is getting more questionable so why be a dictator type instead of a King Solomon?

They also feel that this is a DICTATOR LAW that is telling them what they can and can't do, leading up to many more to come. Sort of leading up to a HITLER REGIME.

crap legislation.

(5) volunteer firemen who drive their own vehicles to fighting duty - think - 30 seconds getting into the seat belt, 15-20 to extricate himself, so nearly a minute has passed and your grandmother is in the second story of a burning house suffocating from smoke and a minute at that time can be fatal.

Europe and Russia have "seat belt laws". Great!! My forefathers came here to get away from what they had in Europe, as I'm sure yours did, too.

Cuomo said he received unprecedented hate mail after signing the mandatory seat-belt legislation, including a letter from a woman who wrote, "I hope your belt slips and gets you around the neck."

"And, did you know that 245 people died of drowning or submersion and that 19 of those deaths occurred in bathtubs?"

"No I didn't...."

"How would you like to have to wear water wings when you take a bath?"

"But you see, Bob, this ridiculous bill could be just the beginning. The sponsor of this bill said, 'If we can reduce death in the state because we have a mandatory seat belt law, I say we should do it.' With an attitude like that, just wait 'til they get around to the bathtubs and food ingestion."

In summation, please veto this ignominious bill. Would you not rather be historically remembered as governor "excelsis" instead of "seat-belt" governor?

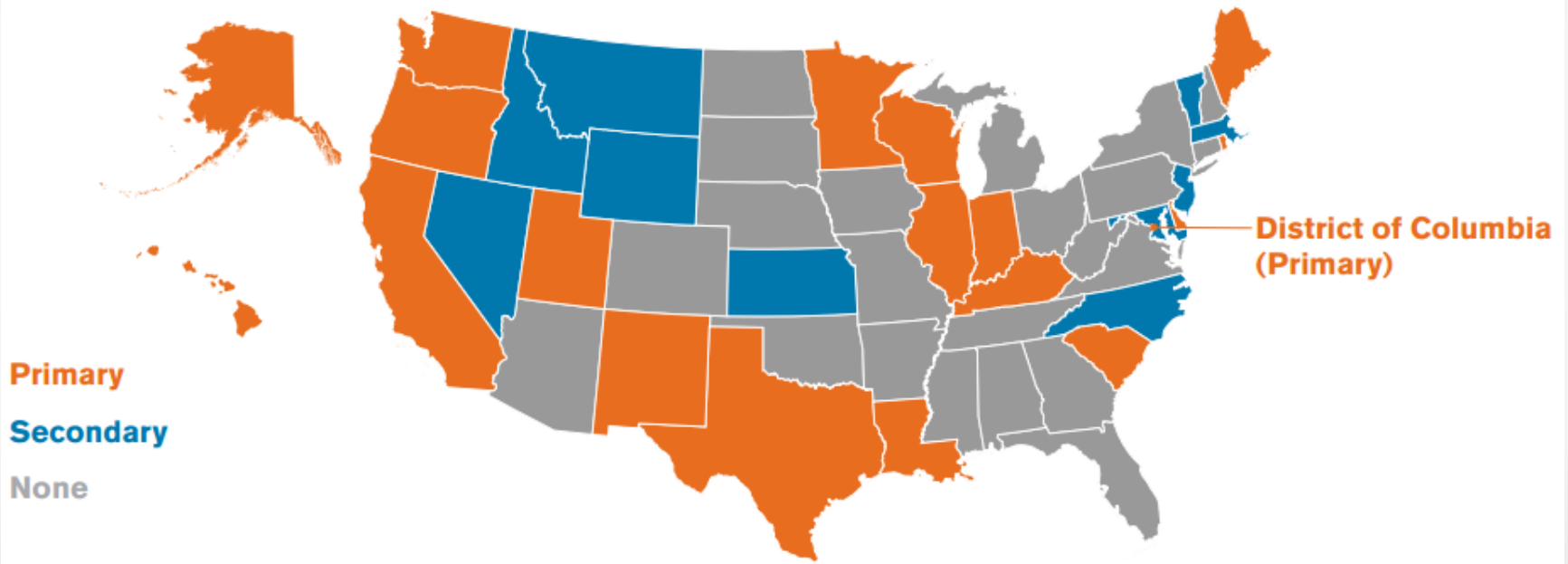
5 Policies That Defined Mario Cuomo's Progressive Legacy

 ThinkProgress

2. Passed nation's first mandatory seat-belt law. After a 11-year battle in the New York state legislature, Cuomo signed into law the nation's first mandatory seat-belt law in 1984. Prior to the law's passage, only about 12 percent of people buckled up, but that figure has since shot up to 91 percent in 2013 in New York state. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimated that in 2011, seat belts saved an estimated 11,949 lives.

States with Rear-Seat Belt Laws

Figure 1. Rear seat belt use laws for adults, November 2015.



What We Know

- Compared with belted rear-seat occupants, unbelted rear-seat occupants are:
 - 3 times more likely to be killed (GHSA)
 - 8 times more likely to be seriously injured (IIHS/CHOP)
 - 2 times more likely to kill a front seat occupant by becoming a projectile/“back seat bullet” (NIH)

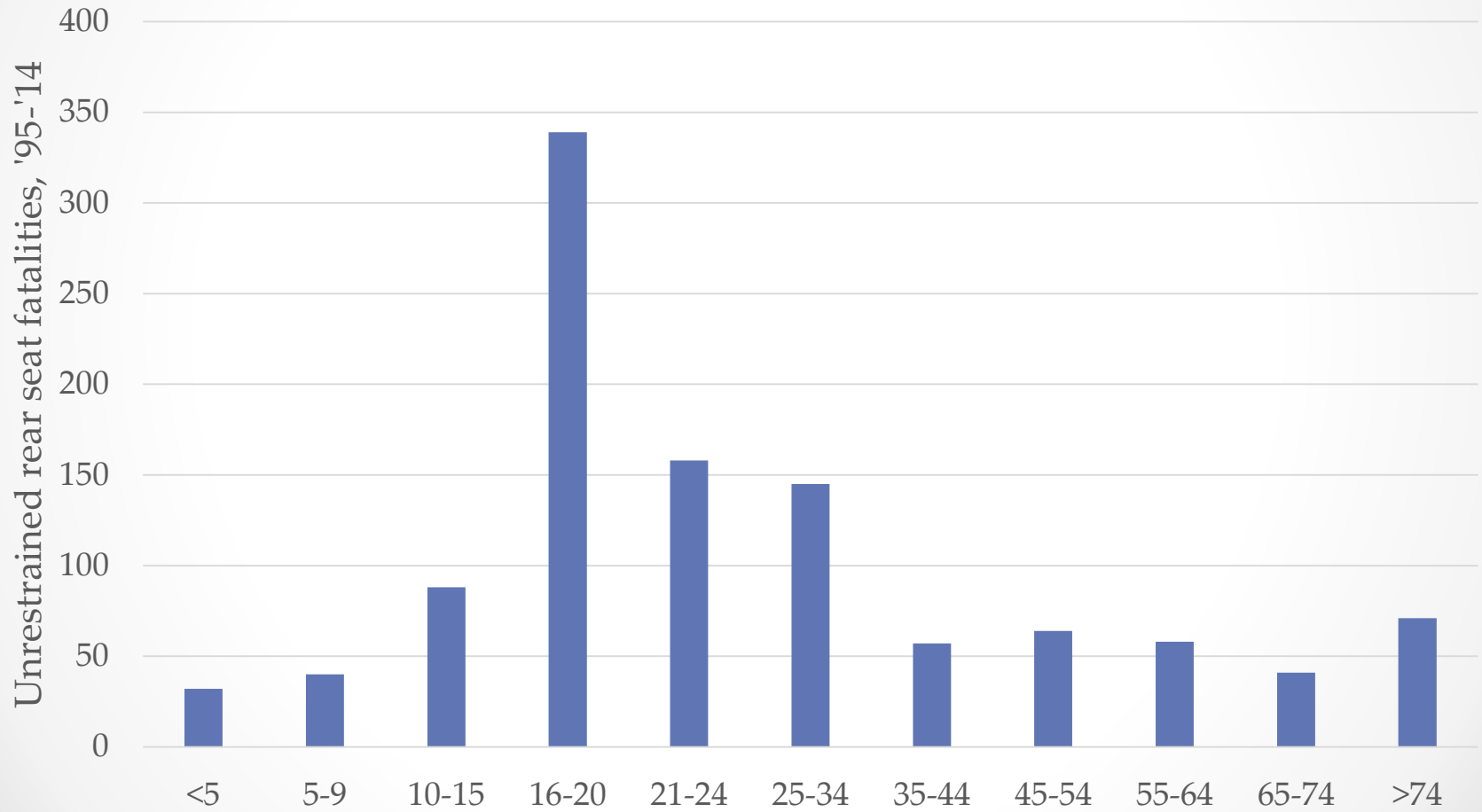
What We Know



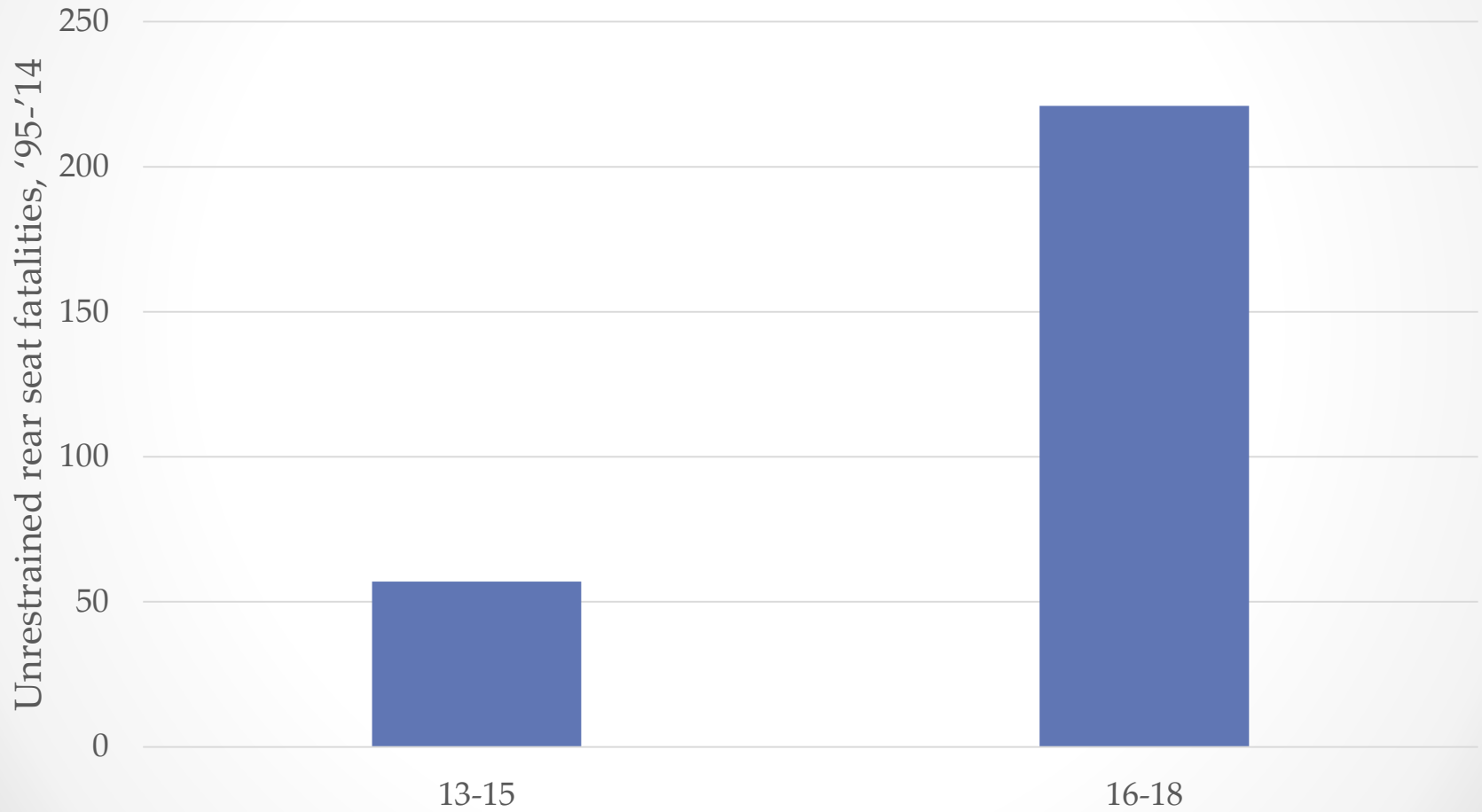
AAA Analysis

- Reviewed NHTSA's FARS database from 1995-2014
- Included rear-seat occupants age 16+
- 886 fatalities

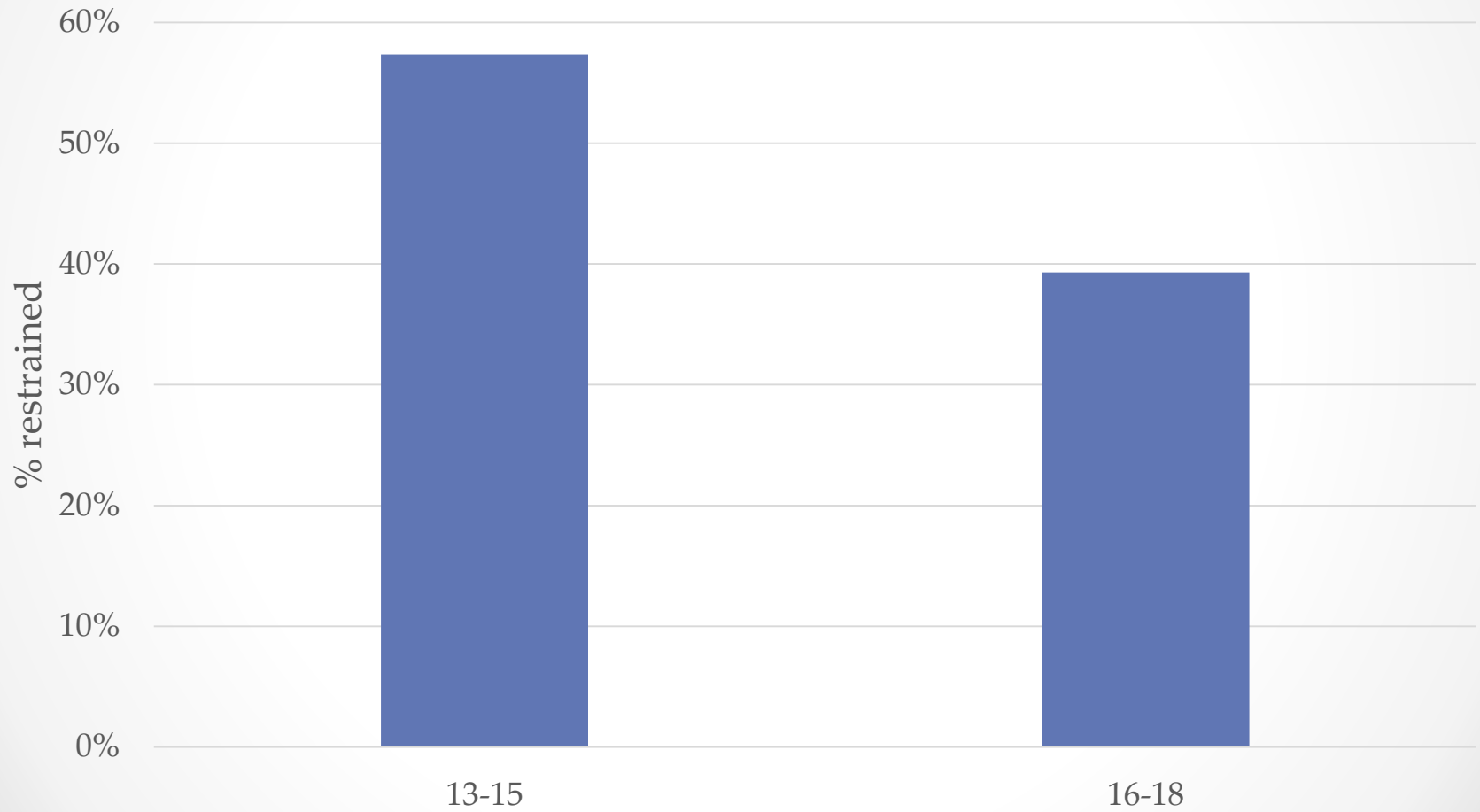
Fatalities



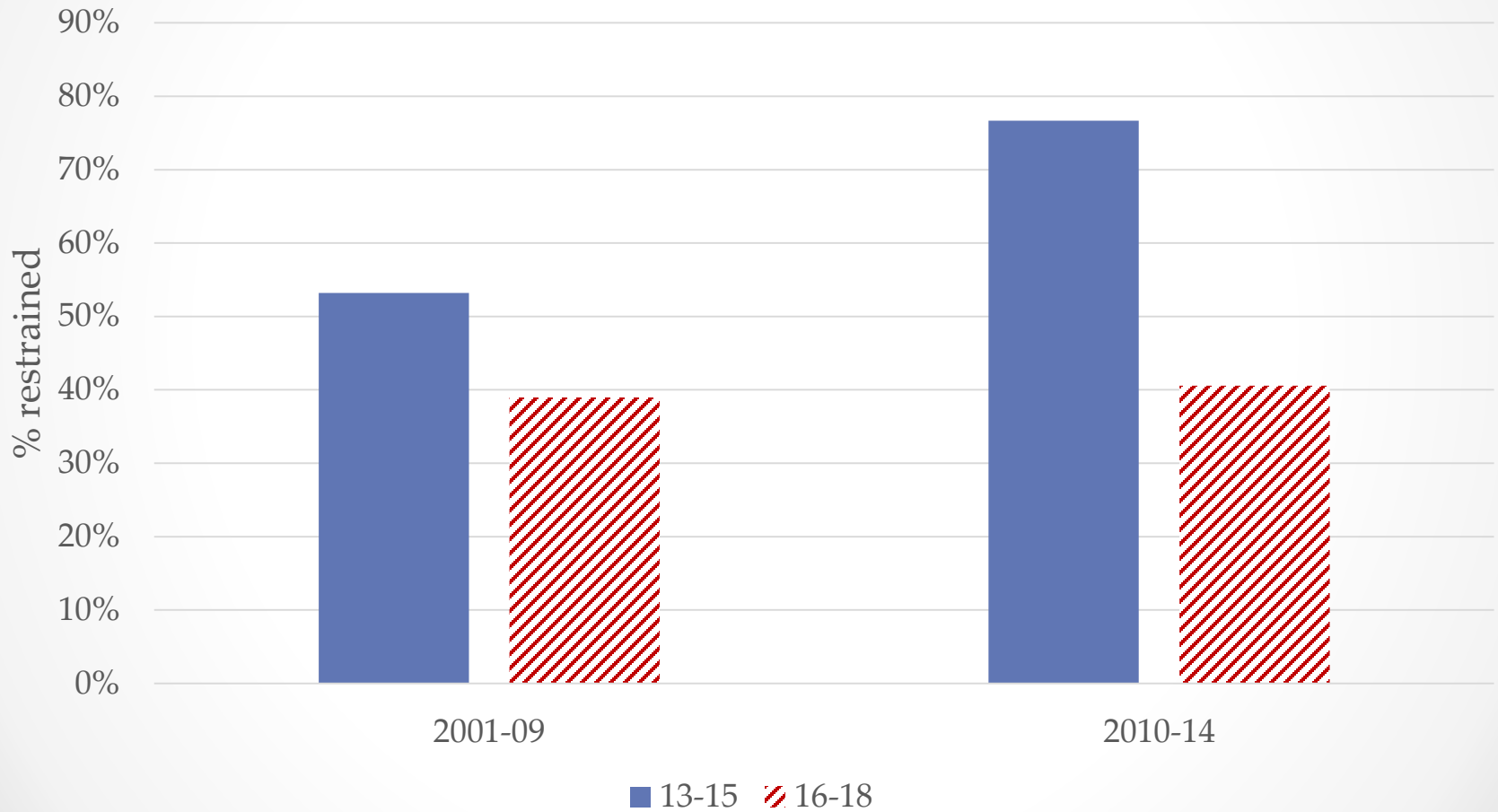
Fatalities



Belt Usage



Belt Usage



AAA Analysis

- NYS DMV data from injury crashes in 2015
- Omitted occupants with unknown age, restraint usage, seating position, or injury severity
- Included 7,659 rear-seat occupants age 16+ who were injured in a crash in New York

AAA Analysis

- 29% of rear seat passengers age 16+ were unbelted
 - But they suffered 71% of the fatalities and 54% of the serious injuries
- 12% of unbelted rear seat passengers age 16+ were killed or seriously injured
 - Only 4% of belted occupants suffered the same level of injuries

Thanks!

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