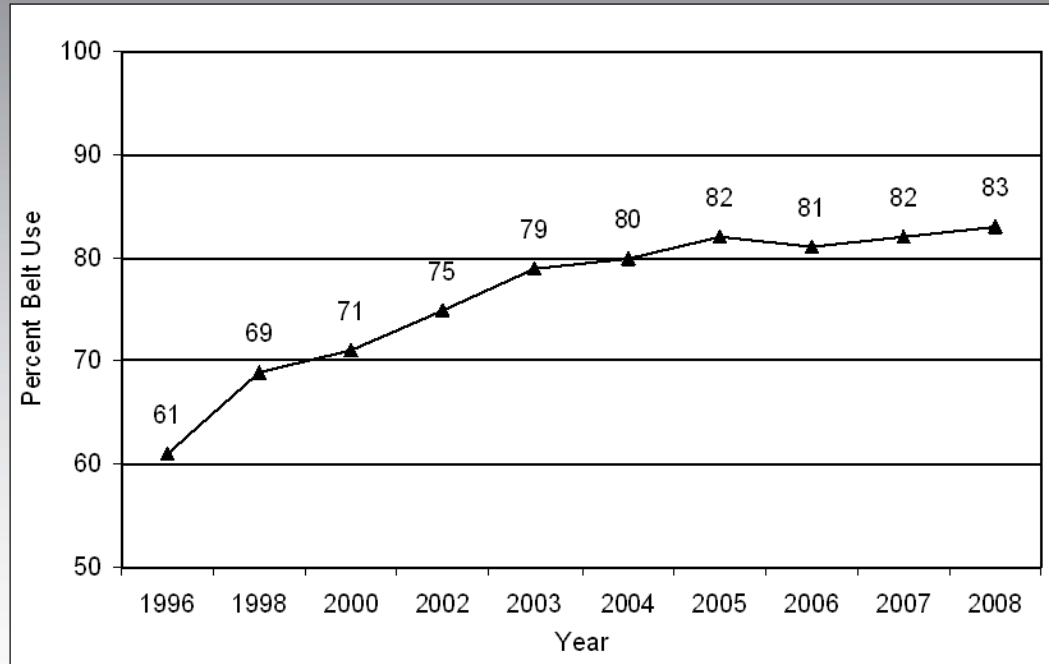


Nighttime Safety Belt Use

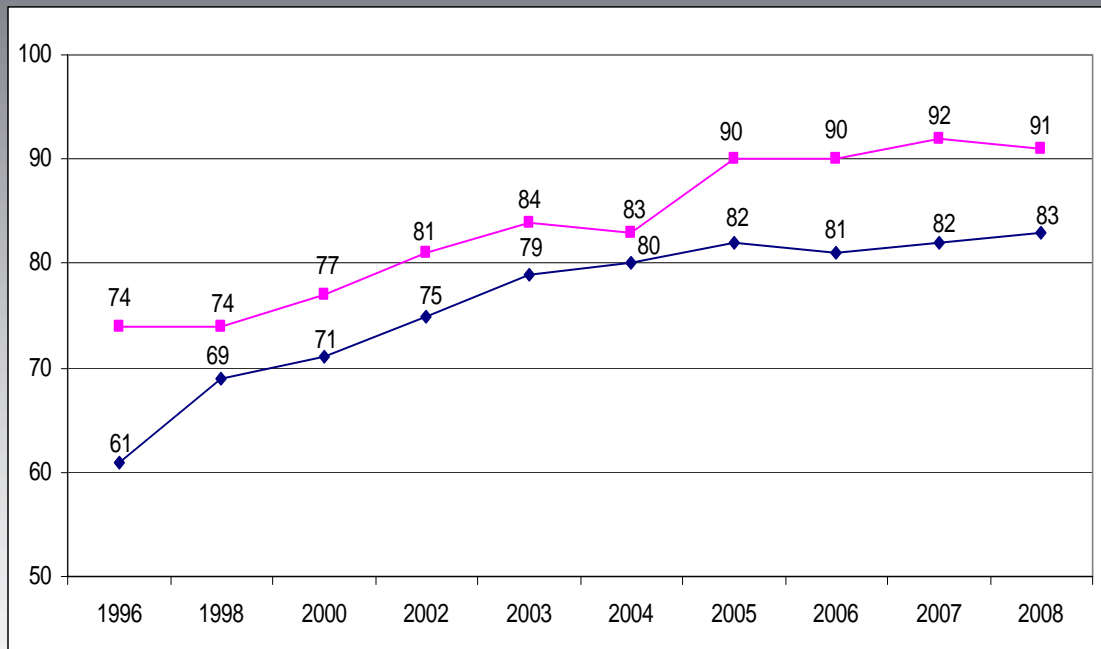
**Texas Traffic Safety Conference
Houston, Texas
November 19, 2008**



National Front Seat Safety Belt Use Rate: 1996-2008



Texas Front Seat Safety Belt Use Rate: 1996-2008



Safety Belt Use Means Lives Saved

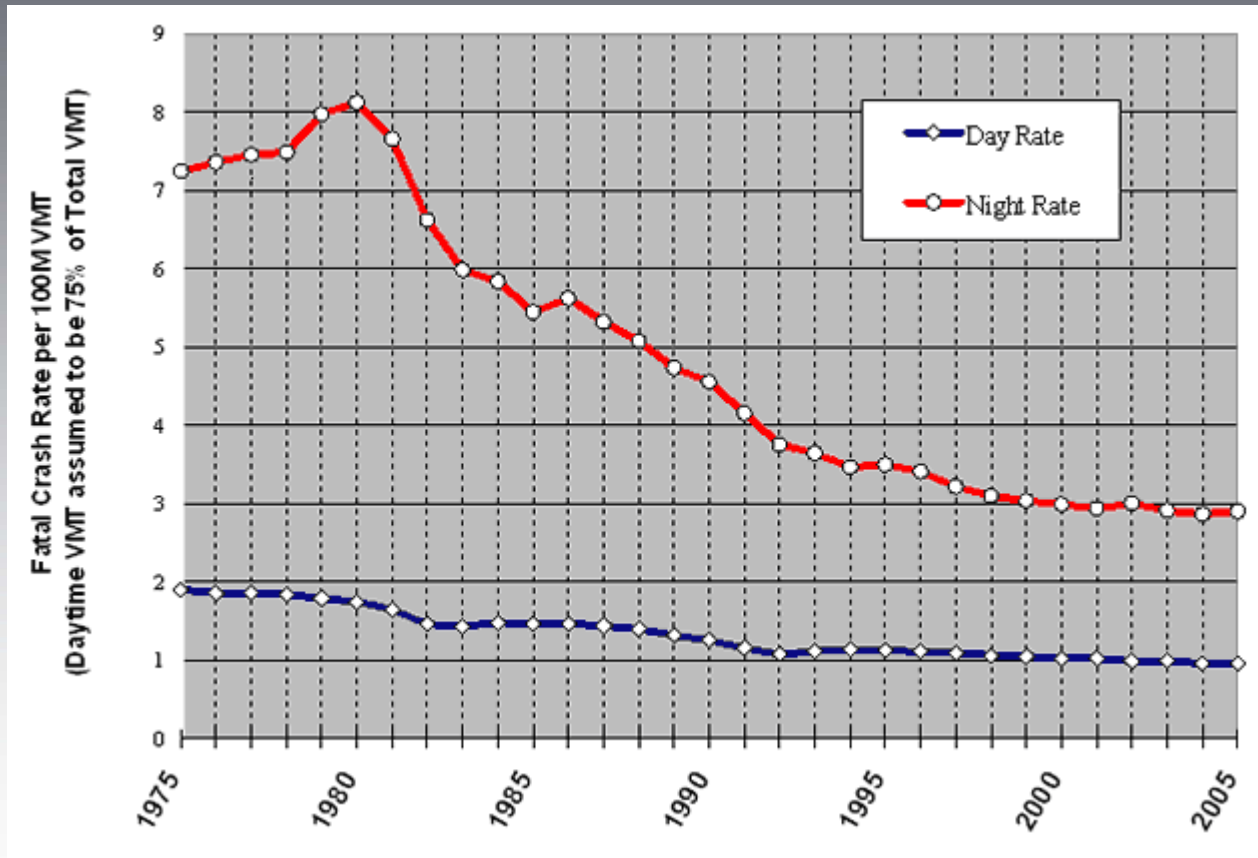
Year	Lives Saved Age 4 and Younger	Lives Saved Age 5 and Older	Additional Lives That Would Have Been Saved @ 100%
2003	447	15,095	6,151
2004	455	15,548	5,874
2005	424	15,688	5,667
2006	427	15,458	5,468
2007	382	15,147	5,024

Source: NHTSA Traffic Safety Crash Facts, November 2008

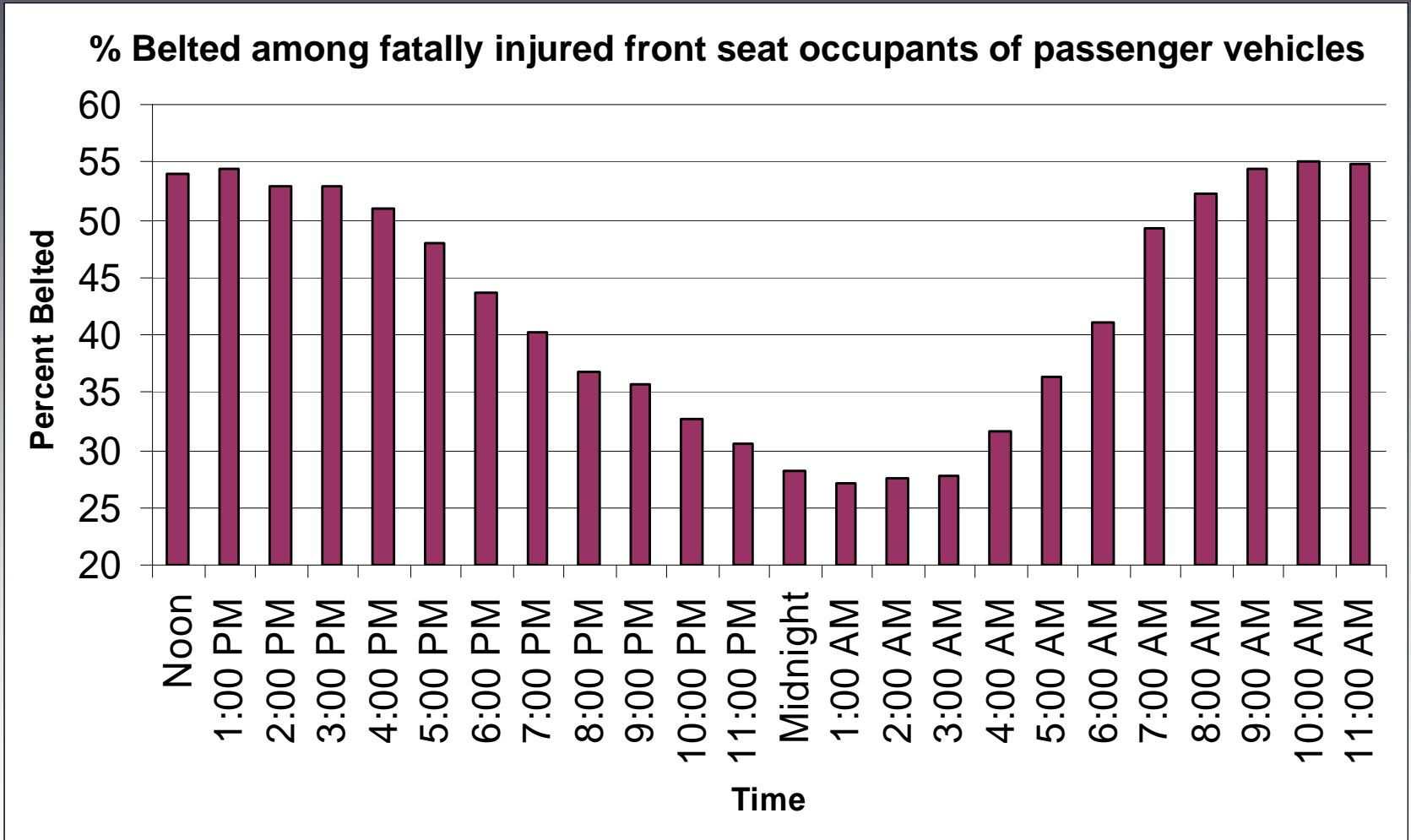
For every one percent increase in safety belt use, 25 fewer Texans will be killed in traffic crashes and another 586 will escape serious injury.

--NHTSA, 2002

U.S. Fatal Crash Rates—Day vs Night



Problem at Night



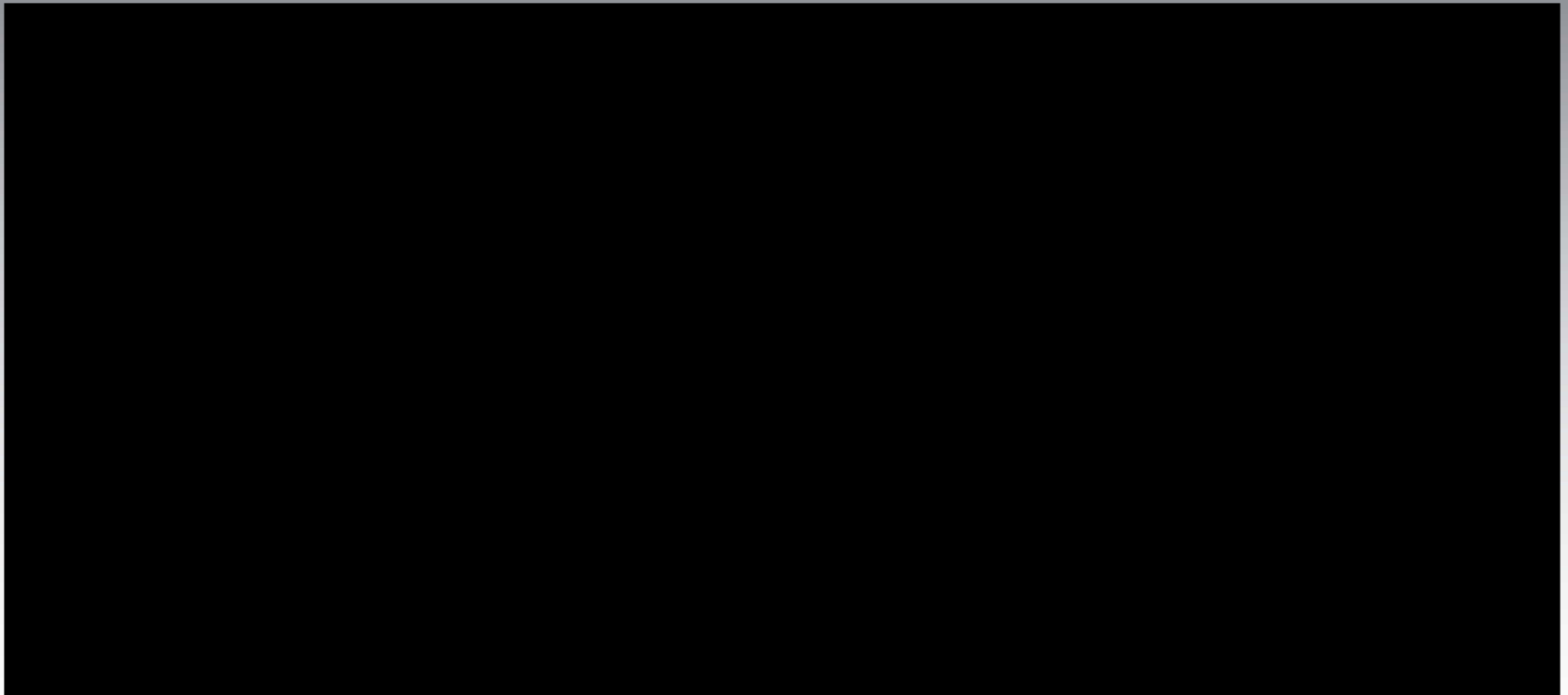
Source: FARS 1998-2004

Safety Belt Use Problem at Night

- Belt use rates are *daytime* use rates
- Belt use at night is generally “unknown”
- Why has this information been unavailable?

Evaluation/Enforcement Difficulties

View of typical night belt observation



Observation Difficulties



Site Selection / Survey Design Dilemmas

- **Illuminate Roadway**
 - Affect Rates
 - Logistics
- **Use Lighted Locations**
 - Affect Representation
- **Traffic Volume**
- **Safety**

One Solution



GEN 3

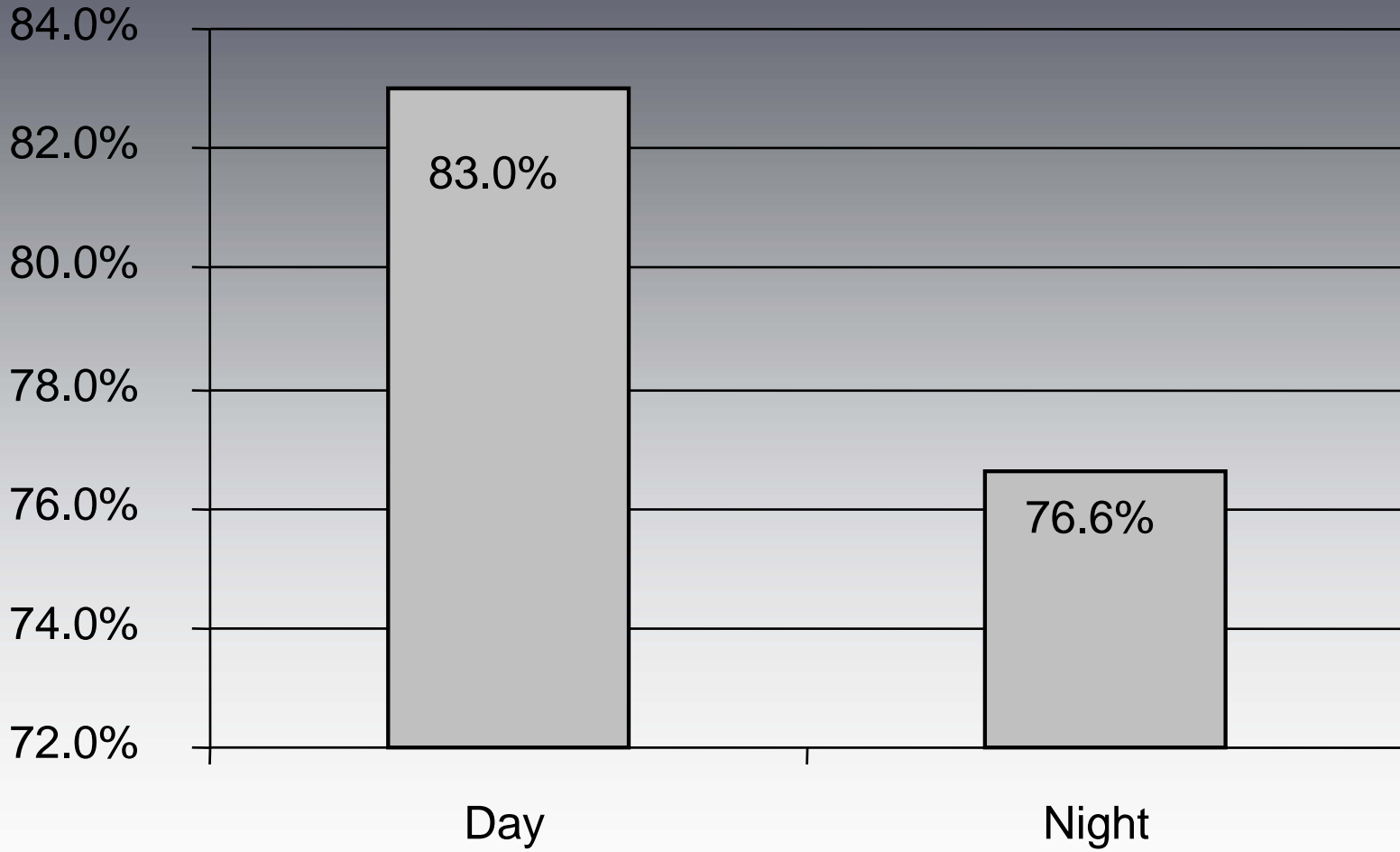
One Solution



Team Effort

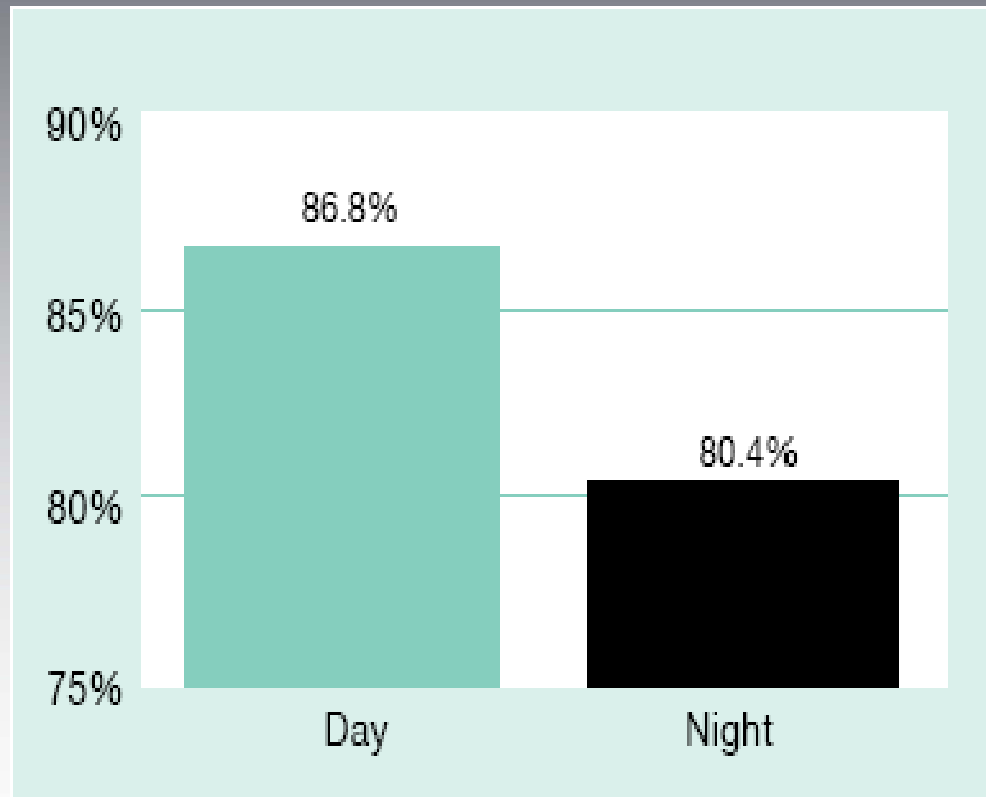


Study Results From Other States Connecticut



Study Results From Other States

New Mexico

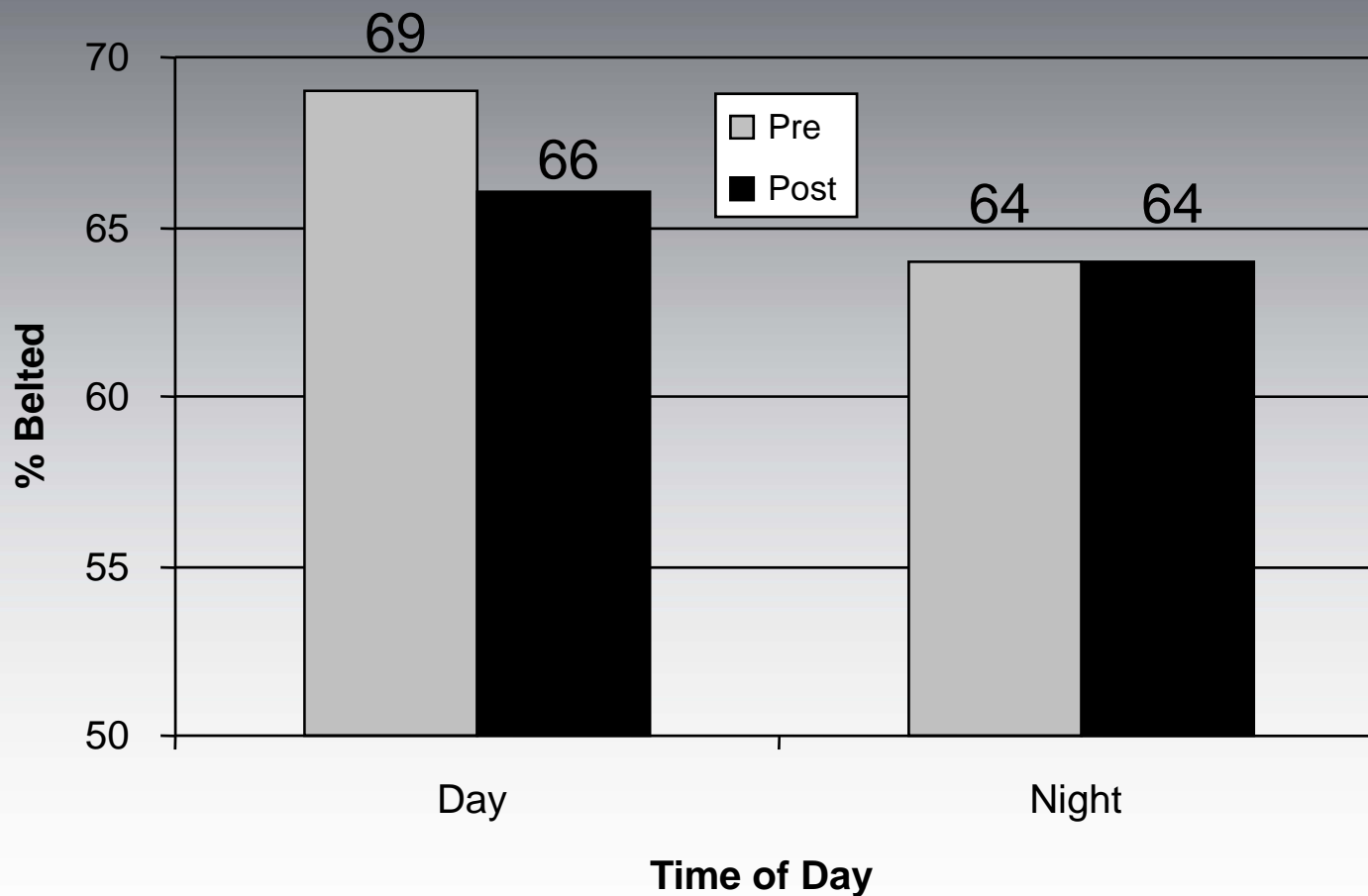


Publicized Enforcement



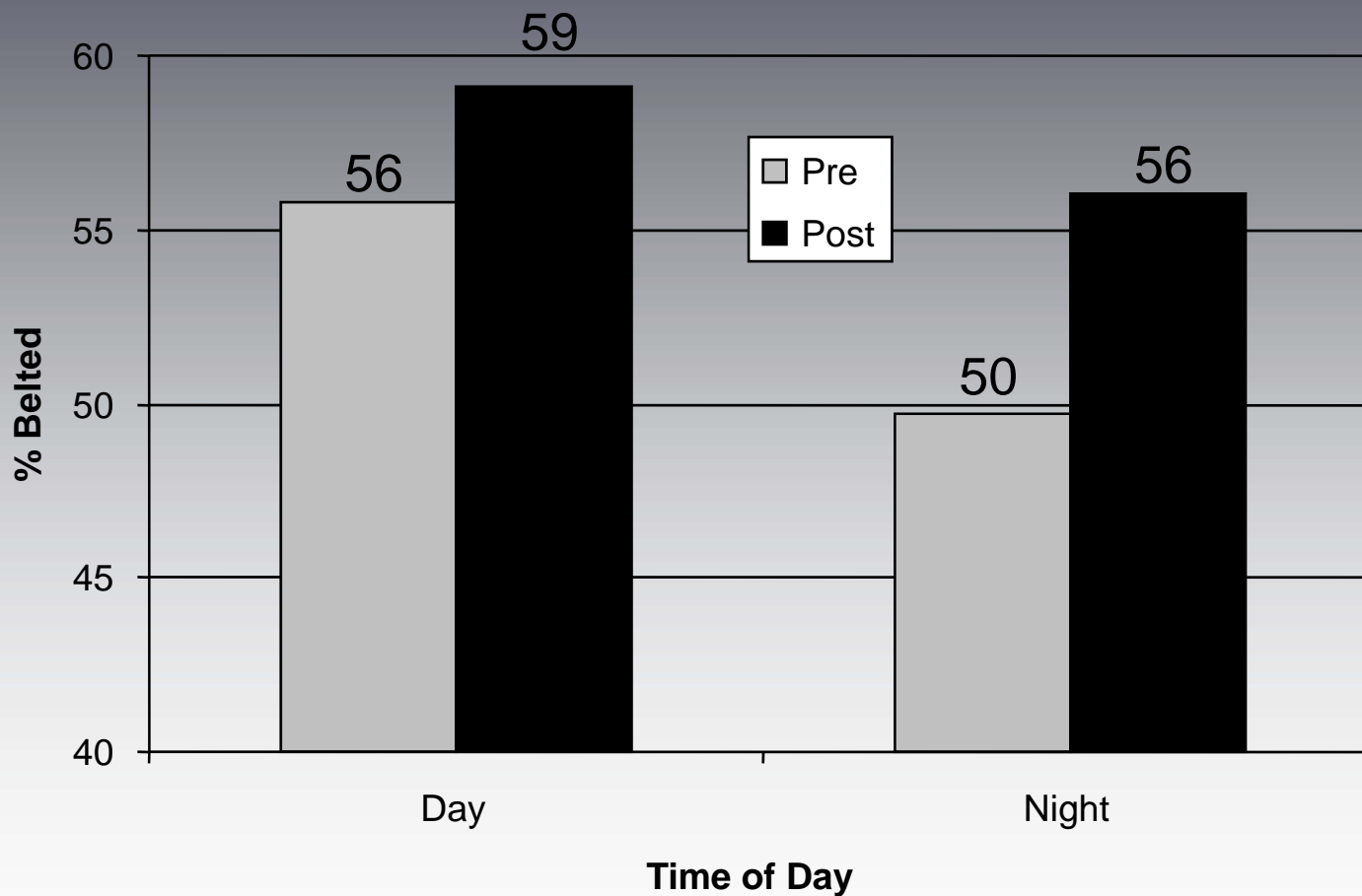
Study Results From Other States

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania



Study Results From Other States

Reading, Pennsylvania



TTI 2008 Nighttime Surveys



-- 4 Cities --

Dallas

Fort Worth

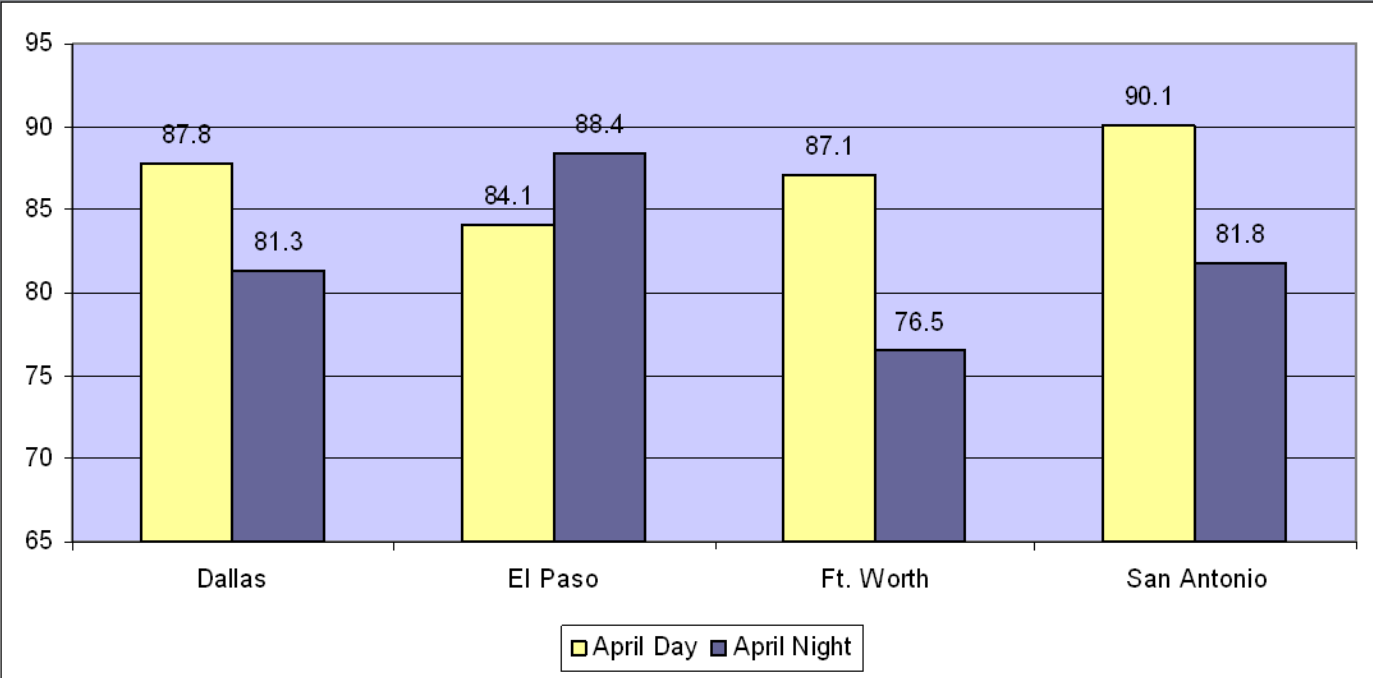
San Antonio

El Paso

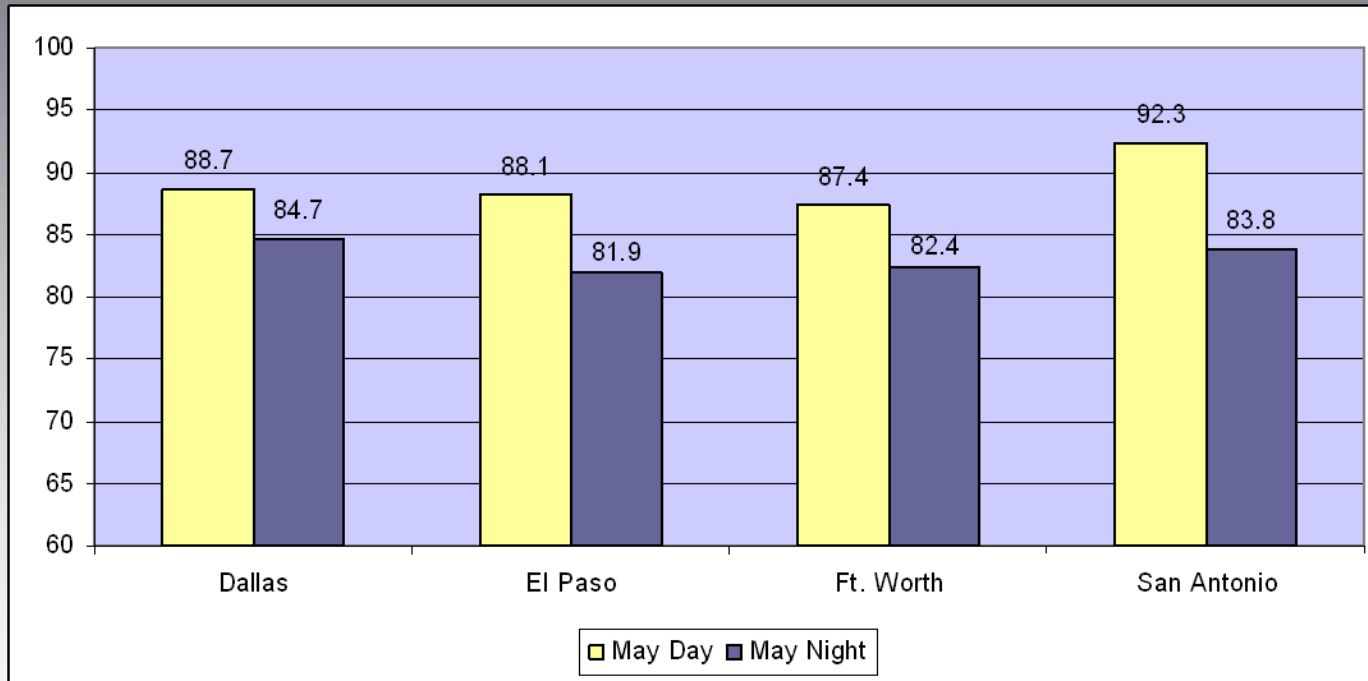
Used Lighted Daytime CIOT Sites



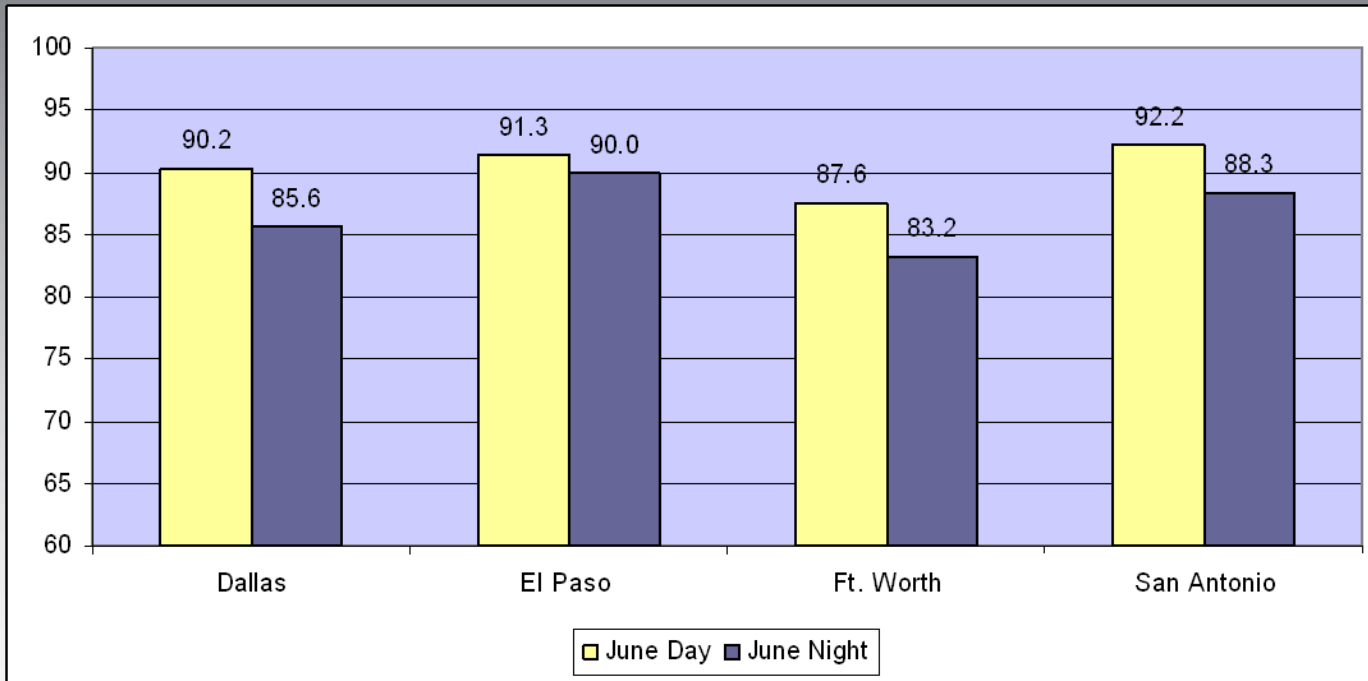
Day / Night Safety Belt Use in April



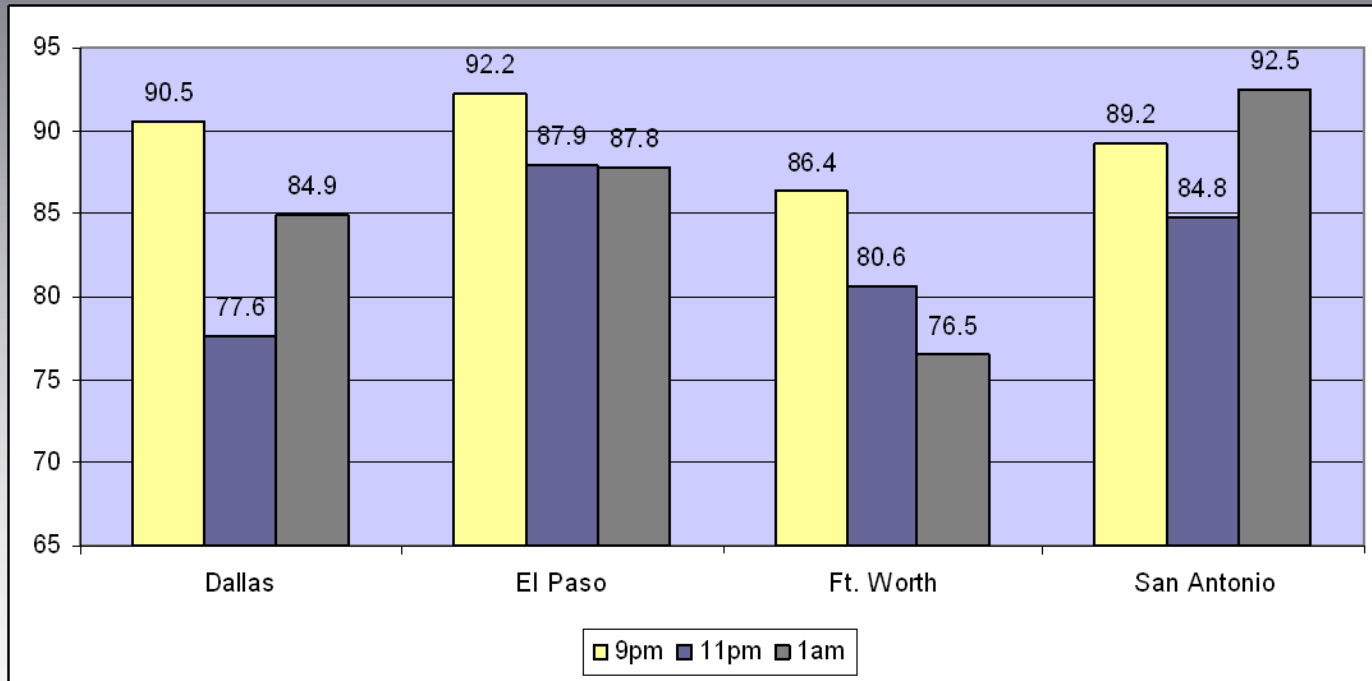
Day / Night Safety Belt Use in May



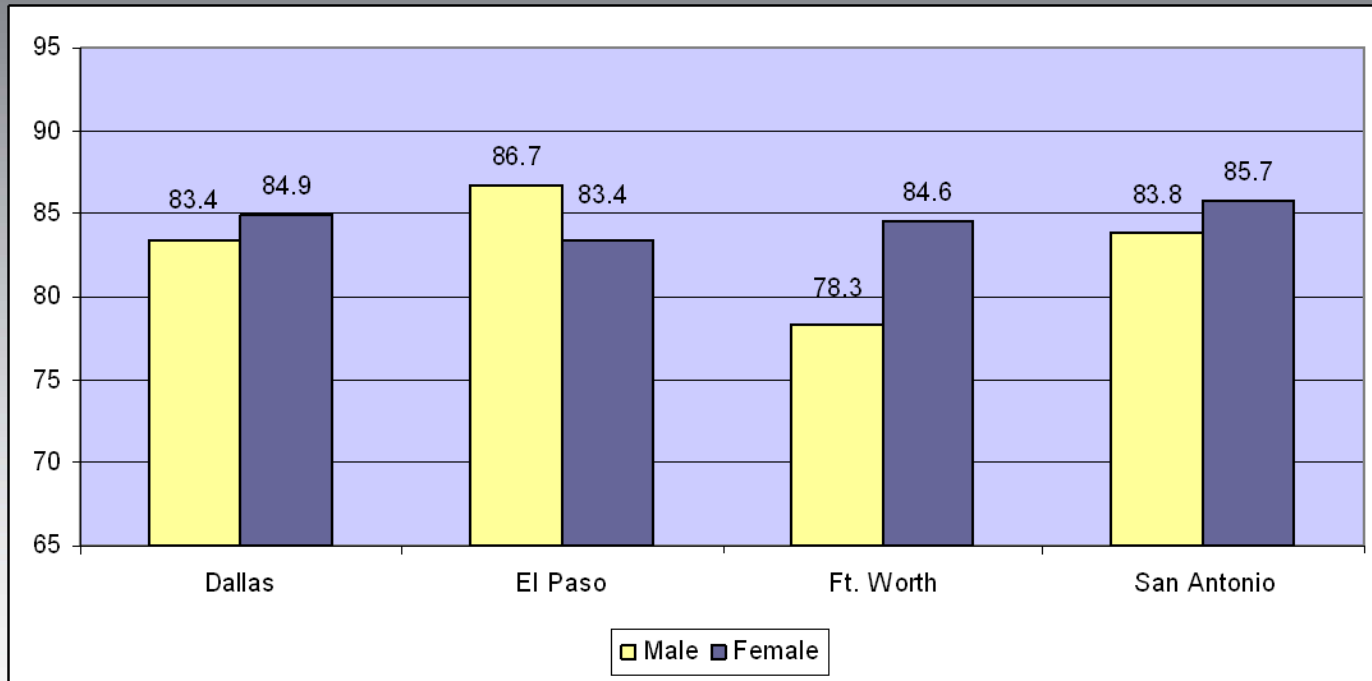
Day / Night Safety Belt Use in June



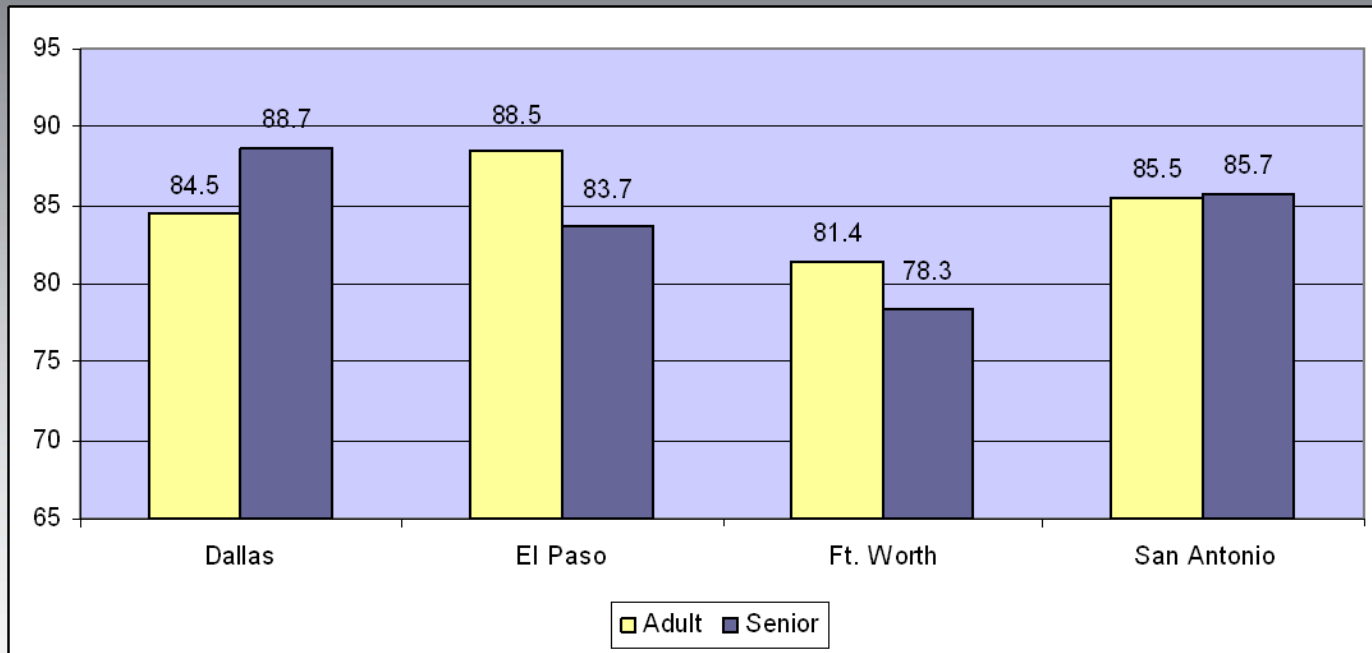
June Safety Belt Use by Time of Night



Safety Belt Use by Gender



Safety Belt Use Among Drivers by Age



Learned by Experience

- Takes two
- Volume is low
- Enforcement feasible



Future Considerations

- Site comparability
- Time of night
- Saturation patrol
- Day / Night statewide



For More Information

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