

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
BY DEPUTY P.V.F. LE CLAIRE OF ST. HELIER  
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2011**

**Question**

Following on from his answer to a question posed by the Deputy of St. Mary on 23rd March 2010, can the Minister provide updated figures for child accident statistics for 2009 and 2010?

Would the Minister also advise Members whether, as discussed around the introduction of rear seat belts, her Department is compiling accident details to help analyse the impact of accidents by activity and can she report back on any reduction of accidents since the wearing of rear seat belts were made compulsory?

**Answer**

HSSD does compile information relating to people attending the Emergency Department as a result of a road traffic accident and whether or not seat belts were being worn at the time of the accident.

The overall rates for children involved in road traffic accidents as car passengers shows that:

- In 2009, 31 children attended the Emergency Department having incurred injury as a car passenger (front or back seat). Of those 3 were not wearing a seatbelt (10%), 25 wore a seatbelt (81%) and, in the other cases it is not known if they were wearing a seatbelt.
- In 2010, 32 children attended as a result of having injury as a car passenger (front or back seat). Of those 1 was not wearing a seatbelt (3%), 26 wore a seatbelt (81%) and, in the other cases it is not known if they were wearing a seatbelt.

The overall rates for adults and children as rear seat passengers shows that:

- In 2009, 9 adults and 6 children attended as a result of injury as a rear seat passenger. Of these 3 adults (33%) and 6 children (100%) were known to wear a rear seat belt.
- In 2010, 12 adults and 10 children attended as a result of injury as a rear seat passenger. Of these 8 adults (66%) and 6 children (60%) were known to wear a rear seat belt.

It is important to note that this data is not cross-referenced with police information relating to the total number of road traffic accidents or yearly comparison relating to car usage, therefore it cannot give a full picture about the beneficial impact of legislation relating to the use of rear seat belts.