

inconsistency of CRS use, history of alcohol-impaired driving, and lack of seat belt use while driving would be associated with increased cell phone use while driving.

Methods

We used a national cross-sectional online survey with a convenience sample to collect data on caregiver utilization of CRS use and distracted driving behaviors in the US. The survey included a brief 6-question screener to determine eligibility for a longer survey and those who were eligible were directed to procedures for the longer survey.

We recruited individuals to meet the following inclusion criteria: \geq age 18 years; English-speaking; parent or routine caregiver of child between ages 4-10 years; and had driven his or her oldest child between ages 4-10 years at least 6 times in the past 3 months. Participants were recruited via Turk Prime, an online crowdsourcing platform that specifically targets participant enrollment from mTurk (Mechanical Turk) for academic research purposes. mTurk and Turk Prime have been used in behavioral science surveys and also targeted clinical populations.¹⁶⁻¹⁹ The demographic characteristics of respondents from mTurk are often found to be more educated, less diverse, and have a higher income than a nationally representative sample.²⁰ However, TurkPrime was created to optimize the functionality of mTurk and provides advantages over other online subject recruitment platforms, including efficiency, fast and easy access to research participants, a payment system to compensate and maintain anonymity, a mechanism to prevent participation multiple times by the same individual, and processes to maintain confidentiality.¹⁶

Participants who clicked on study recruitment materials in Turk Prime were directed to a brief (6-question) screener developed in Qualtrics (Provo, Utah). The screener was constructed to collect data on eligibility and, thus, included questions on whether they were a parent or caregiver of one or more children in their home, age, sex, ability to read and speak English, age of child(ren), and whether they drove the oldest child between the age of 4-10 years 6 or more times in the past 3 months. All participants were automatically compensated \$0.20 (US dollar) for completing the screener, whether or not they met eligibility criteria for the longer survey. Participants who did not meet eligibility criteria were directed to information that thanked them for their time and informed them they were not eligible for the longer survey.

Participants who met eligibility criteria were informed of their eligibility, given study information, provided an online consent document and instructions for the longer survey about driving behaviors, and child passenger safety practices in Qualtrics. The electronic consent document contained information on the purpose of the study, voluntary participation, approximate time to complete the survey, the anonymity of their data, and compensation information. Consent was obtained by choosing "yes" to consent to take the survey and they were directed to the survey. Participants were instructed to

answer the child-specific questions related to their oldest child between ages 4-10 years. Participants whose oldest child between the ages of 4 and 10 years that most frequently used a car seat were directed to a survey where car seats were the referred type of CRS. Participants whose oldest child most frequently used a booster seat, seat belt, or none of the above were directed to a survey where booster seats were the referred type of CRS. Participants who successfully completed the longer survey were compensated an additional \$2.00. We deployed a pilot survey on March 1, 2017 in Qualtrics with mTurk with 57 participants; we then deployed the full survey from March 6, 2017 to April 27, 2017. The survey was deployed in batches so that up to 1500 participants could complete the screener in 1 batch. Data collection ended on April 27, 2017. Participant data was deidentified. This study received exempt status from the University of Pennsylvania Institutional Review Board.

Measures

We modified items from Macy et al to collect data on cell phone use while driving, CRS use, seat belt use while driving, and driving under the influence of alcohol.⁵ The modification included querying a 3-month period and adding specificity to the distracted driving questions related to texts (reading and sending) and social media.

Cell Phone Use while Driving. We collected data on self-report of cell phone use while driving in the last 3 months while their oldest child between ages 4 and 10 years was in the car and the car was moving (ie, not stopped at a light). The 5 specific cell phone behaviors queried were reading a text, sending a text, hands-free cell phone calls, hand-held cell phone calls, and use of social media. The options were never, once or twice, $>$ once or twice but $<$ one-half of trips, $>$ one-half of trips but not every trip, and every trip. For analysis, participants' responses on frequency were also recoded to 2 groups: "never" (those who chose never) and " ≥ 1 times" (all other responses).

Typical Child Restraint System Use. We collected data on self-report type of CRS typically used for their oldest child between ages 4 and 10 years (booster, seat belt, car seat, or none of the above) in the last 3 months. We then asked the frequency of use of that CRS. Answers included never, once or twice, $>$ once or twice but $<$ one-half of trips, $>$ one-half of trips but not every trip, and every trip. Participants' responses on frequency were recoded to 2 groups: "every trip" (those who chose every trip) and "not every trip" (all other responses). Those who chose "none of the above" as the CRS typically used were excluded from the analysis ($n = 23$).

Seat Belt Use while Driving. We collected data on their self-reported driver seat belt use while driving in the last 3 months. The item "In the last 3 months, how often did you ever, at any time (no matter if your children were in the car or not), use a seat belt when you were driving" had the following response options: never, once or twice, $>$ once or twice but $<$ one-half of trips, $>$ one-half of trips but not every trip, and every trip. Participants' responses were also recoded to 2 groups:

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