

# ENHANCING CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY THROUGH LEGISLATIVE REFORM



## CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

### BACKGROUND

Motor vehicle collisions remain a leading cause of injury and death among children in Canada.

Inconsistent and outdated legislation leaves many children inadequately protected.

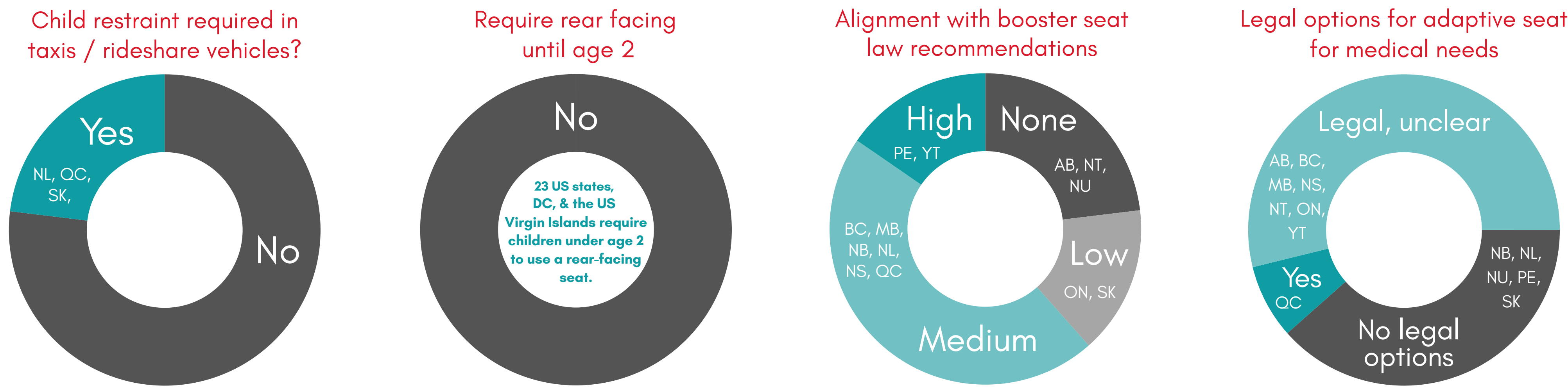
CPSAC partnered with Parachute and Child Safety Link to develop and share recommendations with transportation and health ministers in every jurisdiction in Canada.



### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Robust evidence supports updating car seat, booster seat, and seat belt legislation, to align with current recommendations for age, weight, and height.
1. Require child passengers to be safely restrained in taxis and rideshare vehicles.
  2. Require children to use a rear-facing car seat until at least 2 years old.
  3. Require children to use a car seat with a 5-point harness until they are at least 18 kg (40 lb) AND 5 years old.
  4. Require children to use a booster seat until they are at least 145 cm (4'9") tall OR 12 years old.
  5. Clarify provisions for the use of adaptive restraints certified in other jurisdictions (US, EU) where medical needs cannot be met using a Canadian car seat or booster seat.

### PROVINCES/TERRITORIES MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS



### TAKE ACTION FOR CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY

- **Organize locally:** Collaborate with parents, caregivers, healthcare providers, advocates, and policymakers to improve child passenger safety in your community.
- **Educate yourself:** Learn about current best practices and where your region’s laws fall short.
- **Advocate for improvements:** Families need child passenger safety education and support, in healthcare settings and in their communities.
- **Push for progress:** Contact decision-makers and demand stronger child passenger safety laws:
- **Send an email to your provincial / territorial government to advocate for updated laws.**



Select References:

- Child Passenger Safety Association of Canada. (2023). Recommendations for car seat, booster seat, and seat belt use by child passengers in taxis and ride-share vehicles. CPSAC: Ottawa, ON
- Transport Canada. (2020). Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations.
- Canadian Pediatric Society. (2020). Car seat safety.
- Parachute (2016). Unintentional Injury Trends for Canadian Children, June 2016.Toronto: Parachute.