

Focus Area 15: Injury and Violence Prevention

Objective 15-24. Increase the number of States and the District of Columbia with laws requiring bicycle helmets for bicycle riders. Target = 51 states [State Data Source: California Vehicle Code]

(NOTE: Section 21212(a) of the California Vehicle Code (Amended Sec. 1, Ch. 475, Stats. 2002, effective January 1, 2003) applies to persons under 18 years of age, which includes persons under age 15 as specified in the operational definition for HP2010 objective 15-24).

Section 21212(a) states:

“A person under 18 years of age shall not operate a bicycle, a non-motorized scooter, or a skateboard, nor shall they wear in-line or roller skates, nor ride upon a bicycle, a non-motorized scooter, or a skateboard as a passenger, upon a street, bikeway, as defined in Section 890.4 of the Streets and Highways Code, or any other public bicycle path or trail unless that person is wearing a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet that meets the standards of either the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) or the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), or standards subsequently established by those entities. This requirement also applies to a person who rides upon a bicycle while in a restraining seat that is attached to the bicycle or in a trailer towed by the bicycle.”

For more information on bicycle helmet laws in California, visit the Department of Motor Vehicles Web site at:

<http://www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/vctop/d11/vc21212.htm>

For more information on Healthy People 2010 objective 15-24, please visit:

<http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/HTML/Volume2/15Injury.htm>

and the DATA2010 Web site at: <http://wonder.cdc.gov/data2010/>