

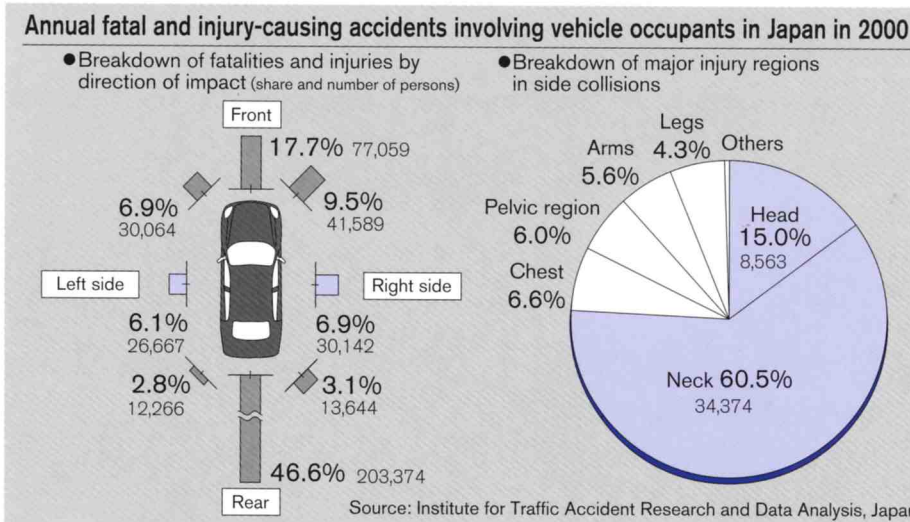


SRS Curtain Airbag System

Nissan has vigorously developed a variety of safety technologies to help protect occupants in side collisions. Typical examples include the high-strength Zone Body construction, SRS side airbag systems for the driver and front passenger (also available in the rear seat on some models) and interior trim materials with high energy-absorbing capabilities. As a further measure, Nissan is continually expanding the application of SRS curtain airbag systems to help minimize head and neck injuries in side collisions. Nearly all Nissan passenger cars, wagons, minivans and sport utility vehicles (SUVs) for the Japanese market will be available with SRS curtain airbag systems by FY 2005.



Head and neck injuries in side collisions



The neck injury rate in particular is overwhelmingly high at 60.5%. The head and neck account for 75.5% of all side-collision injuries.

Reducing the impact to the head and neck in side collisions

When the vehicle is impacted from the side, the SRS curtain airbag system instantly inflates the airbags built into the sides of the ceiling to help protect front- and rear-seat occupants. These airbags help cushion the impact when an occupant's head strikes a pillar or a side window. They also help to mitigate neck injuries by helping control excessive twisting of the neck. Though SRS curtain airbag systems are often thought to be safety features found on luxury models, Nissan has also adopted these systems on the new generation of its March small passenger car.