

Several Vehicles Receive Top Honors in First Group of Model Year 2006 Crash and Rollover Tests

The first round of government crash tests for new model year 2006 passenger vehicles have resulted in five getting top honors. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recently completed its first round of front and side impact crash tests on new vehicles already in dealer showrooms and found five vehicles--the Honda Odyssey minivan, the Hyundai Sonata four-door sedan, the Hyundai Tucson sport utility vehicle, the Mercedes Benz ML Class SUV, and the Subaru B9 Tribeca SUV all worthy of five-star ratings. The Pontiac G6 two-door Coupe took top honors in NHTSA's rollover rating program.

NHTSA's safecar.gov consumer information program uses a one to five star rating system, with five being the highest rating in both crash and rollover testing.

New model year 2006 ratings are available for 14 passenger cars, four SUVs, two vans and one pickup truck. All results, including previously tested model year vehicles, are available at the agency's web site: www.safecar.gov.

New 2006 ratings for frontal impact are available for the **Chevrolet Impala four-door, Ford Fusion four-door, Hyundai Sonata four-door, Hyundai Tucson utility vehicle, Infiniti QX56 utility vehicle, Kia Rio four-door, Lincoln Zephyr four-door, Mercedes-Benz ML Class utility vehicle, Mercury Milan four-door, Mitsubishi Lancer four-door, Nissan Armada utility vehicle, Pontiac Grand Prix four-door, Subaru B9 Tribeca utility vehicle, Toyota Scion xB four-door and Volkswagen new Passat four-door.**

New model year 2006 ratings for side impact are available for the **Chevrolet Cobalt four-door, Chevrolet Impala four-door, Dodge Dakota pickup, Ford Freestar minivan, Honda Odyssey minivan, Hyundai Sonata four-door, Hyundai Tucson utility vehicle, Kia Rio four-door, Mercedes-Benz ML Class utility vehicle, Mercury Monterey minivan, Subaru B9 Tribeca utility vehicle, Toyota Scion xB four-door and Volkswagen new Passat four-door.**

New model year 2006 rollover ratings are available for the BMW 3-series four-door, Cadillac DTS four-door, Chevrolet Cobalt four-door, Chevrolet Impala four-door, Ford Fusion four-door, Honda Civic two-door and four-door, Hyundai Sonata four-door, Kia Rio four-door, Lincoln Zephyr four-door, Mercedes ML-Class utility vehicle, Mercury Milan four-door, Pontiac G6 two-door, Toyota Scion xB four-door and Volkswagen new Passat four-door

Model Year 2006 New Crash and Rollover Test Results								
Make and Model	Curb Weight (lbs)	Class/Size	Front Driver	Front Pass	Side Driver	Side Rear Pass	Rollover Star Rating	Percent Chance of Rollover*
Toyota Scion xB 4-DR	2454	PC/L	4	4	3	4	4	18
Chevrolet Cobalt 4-DR	2824	PC/C	4	5	3	4	4	10
Honda Civic 2-DR Coupe	2761	PC/C	TBR	TBR	TBR	TBR	4	10
Honda Civic 4-DR	2780	PC/C	TBR	TBR	TBR	TBR	4	10

Kia Rio 4-DR	2550	PC/C	4	5	3	3	4	11	
Mitsubishi Lancer 4-DR	2768	PC/C	5	5	2	4	4	10	
BMW 3-series 4-DR	3405	PC/Me	TBR	TBR	TBR	TBR	4	10	
Ford Fusion ¹ 4-DR	3499	PC/Me	4	4	TBR	TBR	4	10	
Hyundai Sonata 4-DR	3336	PC/Me	5	5	5	5	4	10	
Pontiac G6 2-DR Coupe	3430	PC/Me	5	4	TBR	TBR	5	9	
Pontiac Grand Prix 4-DR	3458	PC/Me	5	4	3	3	4	10	
Volkswagen new Passat 4-DR	3348	PC/Me	4	4	5	4	4	11	
Cadillac DTS 4-DR	4207	PC/H	TBR	TBR	TBR	TBR	4	11	
Chevrolet Impala 4-DR	3562	PC/H	5	5	5	4	4	11	
Dodge Dakota	4392	Pickup	5	4	5	5	4	19	
Hyundai Tucson	3364	SUV	5	5	5	5	TBR	TBR	
Mercedes-Benz ML Class	4740	SUV	5	5	5	5	4	17	
Nissan Armada ²	5512	SUV	4	5	N/A	N/A	TBR	TBR	
Subaru B9 Tribeca	4174	SUV	5	5	5	5	TBR	TBR	
Ford Freestar ³	4332	Van	5	5	4	5	4	14	
Honda Odyssey	4370	Van	5	5	5	5	4	14	

PC = Passenger Car (H=Heavy, 3500 lbs or greater; Me=Medium, 3000-3499 lbs;

C=Compact, 2500-2999 lbs

L=Light, 2000-2499 lbs; Mi=Mini, 1500-1999 lbs)

SUV = Sport Utility Vehicle

4-DR = four-door vehicle

2-DR = two-door vehicle

* = if involved in a single-vehicle crash

¹ = results also apply to corporate twins of Ford Fusion: Lincoln Zephyr and Mercury Milan

² = results also apply to corporate twin of Nissan Armada: Infiniti QX56

³ = results also apply to corporate twin of Ford Freestar: Mercury Monterey

N/A = Exempt from Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 214, Side Impact Protection

TBR = To Be Rated



= new result for 2006 model year