Texas has a New Child Safety Seat Law

The Law
Effective 9/1/09, all children under age 8, UNLESS taller than 4'9", need to be in a child safety seat system, which includes traditional car seats with harnesses AND booster seats, according to the manufacturer’s instructions.

Best Practice
Children who are over 8 years old, but not yet 4'9” tall, are best protected in a booster seats. Booster seats help to raise a child up so the vehicle lap/shoulder belt fits properly.

Follow the 4 STEPS
Step 1 – REAR-FACING SEATS in the back seat from birth to at least 1 year old and at least 20 pounds. Longer rear-facing is recommended to the maximum the seat allows.
Step 2 – FORWARD-FACING TODDLER SEATS in the back seat when child is a minimum of age 1 and 20 pounds to about age 4 and 40 pounds or more.
Step 3 – BOOSTER SEATS in the back seat from about age 4 to at least age 8, unless 4'9" tall.
Step 4 – SAFETY BELTS at age 8 and older or taller than 4'9". All children age 12 and under should ride in the back seat.

In cooperation with Texas Department of Transportation

Passenger Safety
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