

TEST RESULTS

Ford Fusion

RATING	SCORE
 ADULT OCCUPANT 	25 Front: 11 Side: 13
 PEDESTRIAN 	11



Adult occupant protection



Frontal impact driver



Frontal impact passenger



Side impact driver

	GOOD
	ADEQUATE
	MARGINAL
	WEAK
	POOR

Child restraints

18 month old Child Britax Roemer Baby-safe, rearward facing

3 year old Child Britax Renaissance, forward facing

Safety equipment

Front seatbelt pretensioners	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Front seatbelt load limiters	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Driver frontal airbag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Front passenger frontal airbag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Side body airbags	<input type="checkbox"/>
Side head airbags	<input type="checkbox"/>
Driver knee airbag	<input type="checkbox"/>

Pedestrian protection

No image car front available

Car details

Hand of drive	RHD
Tested model	Ford Fusion 2, 1.4
Body type	SMALL MPV
Year of publication	2003
Kerb weight	1080
VIN from which rating applies	rating applies to all Fusions

Comments

The Fusion uses the same structure and running gear as the Fiesta supermini and performed similarly. The passenger compartment proved strong and suffered only minimal deformation in the frontal impact. The driver and front passenger ran some risk of chest injury from high impact forces fed through to their chests from the seat belts, however. Ford has worked hard to make the driver's knee impact area safe but some hazards remain. The car protected reasonably in the side impact for a model without a thorax-protecting airbag. Child protection was judged fair while protection for pedestrians was similar to other cars of this size.

Front impact

The restraint systems worked but the driver in particular experienced high forces from the impact fed through to his chest. The Fusion proved strong and suffered minimal distortion at fascia level and in the footwell. As with any small car it is hard to provide room to protect the driver's knees and here the steering column and shroud presented hazards. Despite substantial padding, it was judged that the ignition barrel and adjuster lever increased risks for the driver's knees and legs.

Side impact

The driver experienced a high chest loading but he was reasonably protected without a side airbag. His ribs were loaded by contacting the door panel and his abdomen by a protruding arm rest. The trim below the arm rest loaded his pelvis via a foam block within the door.

Child occupant

The recommended restraints, forward-facing for the 3-year-old and rear-facing for the 18-monthold, protected their heads. But the chest load on the older child in the frontal impact and the chest and neck loads on the younger one were high. Labels warning

against fitting a rear-facing restraint opposite an airbag were permanent, well designed and fixed to both sides of the passenger's sun visor. Ford offers an airbag on/off switch as a dealer-fit optional item.

Pedestrian

The bonnet was fairly compliant where an adult or child's head might strike but the Fusion's wings and front were unfriendly. The bonnet's leading edge gave protection but the bumper did not.