

NEW YORK STATE FACT SHEET ON YOUNG DRIVERS AGES 16-24

PREPARED BY THE INSTITUTE FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH

TABLE 1
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-24
SEVERITY OF CRASH, FATALITIES & PERSONS INJURED, AND DRIVERS INVOLVED

| | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Crashes (% of total NYS) | 81,634 (27.0%) | 80,940 (26.2%) | 104,108 (24.0%) |
| Fatal (% of total NYS) | 215 (22.2%) | 203 (21.8%) | 202 (22.9%) |
| Personal Injury (% of total NYS) | 34,031 (27.7%) | 32,739 (26.7%) | 30,998 (25.4%) |
| Property Damage Only (% of total NYS) | 47,388 (26.6%) | 47,998 (25.8%) | 72,908* (23.4%) |
| Fatalities (% of total NYS) | 232 (22.5%) | 228 (22.8%) | 217 (23.2%) |
| Driver Fatalities Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS) | 92 (17.3%) | 80 (15.4%) | 91 (17.8%) |
| Persons Injured (% of total NYS) | 49,839 (29.3%) | 48,406 (28.5%) | 45,329 (26.9%) |
| Drivers Involved Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS) | 88,734 (17.9%) | 87,952 (17.3%) | 112,640 (15.9%) |
| Male Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS) | 51,504 (18.2%) | 51,356 (17.5%) | 66,157 (16.1%) |
| Female Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS) | 37,230 (19.9%) | 36,596 (19.3%) | 46,483 (18.4%) |
| Licensed Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS) | 1,165,828 (9.6%) | 1,173,613 (9.6%) | 1,157,609 (9.5%) |

- 24%-27% of all motor vehicle crashes in 2016-2018 involved drivers ages 16-24.
- 23% of all motor vehicle fatalities in 2016-2018 occurred in crashes involving drivers ages 16-24.
- The number of fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 dropped from 232 in 2016 to 217 in 2018, a decrease of 6%.
- The number of persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 decreased from 49,839 in 2016 to 45,329 in 2018, a decrease of 9%.
- Drivers ages 16-24 are overrepresented in crashes; 16-18% of the drivers involved in crashes in 2016-2018 were ages 16-24, compared to 10% of all licensed drivers.

*NOTE: The sizeable increase in the number of property damage crashes in 2018 is due to recent changes made to the Police Accident Report form with regard to the capture and reporting of property damage crashes.

TABLE 2
NYS Fatal & Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-24
VEHICLES AND PASSENGERS INVOLVED

| | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | NYS F&PI 2018 |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| Fatal & Personal Injury Crashes | 34,246 | 32,942 | 31,200 | 122,871 |
| Crashes Involving Single Vehicle | 20.3% | 19.0% | 18.1% | 29.4% |
| Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles | 79.7% | 81.0% | 81.9% | 70.6% |
| Drivers Ages 16-24 in F&PI Crashes | 37,304 | 35,965 | 33,962 | 215,045 |
| With No Passengers* | 68.4% | 68.0% | 68.1% | 71.2% |
| With Passengers | 31.6% | 32.0% | 31.9% | 28.8% |

*Note: As mandated by NYS DMV regulations, drivers holding permits or junior licenses must have a "qualifying" adult in the vehicle.

- F&PI crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 were more likely to involve multiple vehicles than all F&PI crashes (82% vs. 71% in 2018).
- Drivers ages 16-24 involved in F&PI crashes were more likely to be driving with passengers than drivers in all F&PI crashes (32% vs. 29% in 2018).

TABLE 3
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-24
TIME OF DAY: 2018

| Time of Day | Fatal | | Personal Injury | | Property Damage Only | | Total Crashes | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| | Involving Drivers Ages 16-24 (N=202) | Involving All Drivers (N=882) | Involving Drivers Ages 16-24 (N=30,998) | Involving All Drivers (N=121,989) | Involving Drivers Ages 16-24 (N=72,908) | Involving All Drivers (N=311,725) | Involving Drivers Ages 16-24 (N=104,108) | Involving All Drivers (N=434,596) |
| 9pm-Mid | 22.8% | 16.1% | 10.2% | 8.7% | 9.1% | 8.1% | 9.4% | 8.3% |
| Mid-5am | 20.8% | 15.4% | 6.7% | 5.9% | 6.2% | 6.1% | 6.3% | 6.1% |
| 5am-9am | 8.4% | 11.5% | 11.9% | 13.7% | 13.0% | 15.2% | 12.6% | 14.8% |
| 9am-Noon | 3.5% | 9.1% | 11.9% | 13.8% | 12.5% | 14.4% | 12.3% | 14.2% |
| Noon-3pm | 12.4% | 14.6% | 18.2% | 18.0% | 18.1% | 17.7% | 18.2% | 17.8% |
| 3pm-6pm | 13.9% | 15.8% | 24.2% | 23.4% | 24.8% | 22.1% | 24.7% | 22.4% |
| 6pm-9pm | 18.3% | 17.6% | 16.1% | 15.3% | 15.2% | 14.3% | 15.5% | 14.6% |
| Unknown | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.8% | 1.2% | 1.1% | 2.1% | 1.0% | 1.9% |

- Crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 were most likely to occur between 3pm and 6pm (25%); the largest proportion of crashes involving all drivers (22%) also occurred during this time period.
- The largest proportions of fatal crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 occurred 9pm-midnight (23%). Personal injury crashes (24%) and property damage crashes (25%) involving drivers in this age group were most likely to occur during the 3pm-6pm time period.

TABLE 4
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-24
FATALITIES AND PERSONS INJURED

| | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | NYS Total 2018 |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Total Fatalities | 232 | 228 | 217 | 936 |
| Drivers | 134 (57.8%) | 124 (54.4%) | 136 (62.7%) | 54.7% |
| Passengers | 50 (21.6%) | 64 (28.1%) | 33 (15.2%) | 13.0% |
| Pedestrians | 44 (19.0%) | 34 (14.9%) | 46 (21.2%) | 29.1% |
| Bicyclists | 4 (1.7%) | 6 (2.6%) | 2 (0.9%) | 3.2% |
| Other | 0 (0.0%) | 0 (0.0%) | 0 (0.0%) | 0.0% |
| Total Persons Injured | 49,839 | 48,406 | 45,329 | 168,304 |
| Drivers | 33,065 (66.3%) | 31,788 (65.7%) | 30,128 (66.5%) | 59.6% |
| Passengers | 14,700 (29.5%) | 14,587 (30.1%) | 13,385 (29.5%) | 27.2% |
| Pedestrians | 1,423 (2.9%) | 1,395 (2.9%) | 1,280 (2.8%) | 9.4% |
| Bicyclists | 577 (1.2%) | 546 (1.1%) | 461 (1.0%) | 3.3% |
| Other | 74 (0.1%) | 90 (0.2%) | 75 (0.2%) | 0.5% |

- In 2018, drivers accounted for the majority of fatalities in both crashes involving drivers 16-24 years of age and crashes involving drivers of all ages (63% and 55%, respectively).
- Compared to fatalities in all crashes, fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 were slightly more likely to be passengers (15% vs. 13% in 2018).
- Passengers also accounted for a larger proportion of the persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 than in all crashes (30% vs. 27% in 2018).
- Pedestrians comprised much smaller proportions of the fatalities and persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 than in all crashes (21% vs. 29% and 3% vs. 9%, respectively, in 2018).

TABLE 5
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-24
AGE OF PASSENGERS KILLED OR INJURED
IN VEHICLES WITH DRIVERS AGES 16-24: 2018

| | Killed or Injured | | NYS Total |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-------|------------------|
| Total | 6,984 | | 45,863 |
| Under Age 4 | 210 | 3.0% | 3.8% |
| Ages 4-6 | 111 | 1.6% | 3.7% |
| Ages 7-15 | 544 | 7.8% | 12.0% |
| Ages 16-17 | 795 | 11.4% | 3.9% |
| Ages 18-20 | 1,587 | 22.7% | 6.5% |
| Ages 21-24 | 1,534 | 22.0% | 8.9% |
| Ages 25-29 | 715 | 10.2% | 10.5% |
| Age 30 and Over | 1,317 | 18.9% | 47.5% |
| Unknown Age | 171 | 2.4% | 3.1% |

- The largest proportion of passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 16-24 were ages 18-20 (23%).
- Passengers ages 16-24 accounted for 56% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 16-24.
- Only 19% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 16-24 were age 30 or over, compared to 48% of the passengers riding with all drivers.

TABLE 6
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes
RESTRAINT USE FOR VEHICLE OCCUPANTS AGES 16-24*: 2018

| | Total | Restrained | % Restrained | NYS Total Drivers (% Restrained) |
|--|----------------|-------------------|---------------------|---|
| Total Vehicle Occupants Ages 16-24 | 156,747 | 141,949 | 90.6% | |
| Drivers Ages 16-24 | 107,584 | 99,817 | 92.8% | 655,790 (86.6%) |
| Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-24 | 24,182 | 21,676 | 89.6% | |
| Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages | 24,981 | 20,456 | 81.9% | |
| Total Killed | 102 | 52 | 51.0% | |
| Drivers Ages 16-24 | 58 | 33 | 56.9% | 370 (58.4%) |
| Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-24 | 34 | 12 | 35.3% | |
| Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages | 10 | 7 | 70.0% | |
| Total Injured | 24,847 | 21,549 | 86.7% | |
| Drivers Ages 16-24 | 15,890 | 14,497 | 91.2% | 91,358 (90.9%) |
| Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-24 | 4,229 | 3,449 | 81.6% | |
| Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages | 4,728 | 3,603 | 76.2% | |
| Total Uninjured | 96,021 | 88,450 | 92.1% | |
| Drivers Ages 16-24 | 65,697 | 61,793 | 94.1% | 564,062 (85.9%) |
| Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-24 | 16,133 | 14,793 | 91.7% | |
| Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages | 14,191 | 11,864 | 83.6% | |

*Note: Police-reported crashes only; excludes motorcycles.

- The overall restraint use for drivers ages 16-24 involved in crashes in 2018 was higher than the restraint use for passengers ages 16-24. Restraint use for drivers was 93%, compared to 90% for passengers ages 16-24 in vehicles with drivers ages 16-24 and 82% for passengers ages 16-24 in vehicles with drivers of other ages.
- Overall, drivers ages 16-24 were more likely to be restrained than drivers of all ages (93% vs. 87%, respectively); however, for drivers killed, similar proportions of the drivers ages 16-24 and all drivers were restrained (57% vs. 58%, respectively).
- 91% of the drivers ages 16-17 injured in crashes were restrained; passengers ages 16-17 injured in crashes had lower use rates whether riding with drivers of the same age or with drivers of any age (82% and 76%, respectively).

TABLE 7
NYS Fatal and Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-24*
SELECT CONTRIBUTING FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH DRIVERS

| | Drivers Ages 16-24 | | | Total NYS |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2018 |
| Total Drivers | 35,250 | 34,152 | 32,822 | 202,845 |
| Select Factors | | | | |
| Driver Inattention/Distracted | 15.3% | 16.0% | 15.7% | 14.9% |
| Driver Inexperience | 4.3% | 4.5% | 4.4% | 1.5% |
| Failure to Yield R.O.W. | 12.1% | 13.1% | 13.1% | 11.2% |
| Following Too Closely | 15.7% | 16.3% | 15.9% | 12.3% |
| Traffic Control Device Disregarded | 3.8% | 4.1% | 4.1% | 3.4% |
| Unsafe Speed | 11.6% | 11.1% | 10.6% | 5.7% |
| Cell Phone | 0.3% | 0.4% | 0.3% | 0.2% |
| Texting | <0.1% | <0.1% | <0.1% | <0.1% |
| Alcohol Involvement | 2.2% | 1.9% | 1.7% | 1.6% |

*Note: Police-reported crashes only; multiple factors may be reported.

- In 2018, “driver inattention/distracted” and “following too closely” were the two most frequently reported contributing factors for both drivers ages 16-24 (both 16%) and for all drivers (15% and 12%, respectively) in F&PI crashes.
- Drivers ages 16-24 in F&PI crashes were more likely than all drivers in F&PI crashes to have “unsafe speed” reported as a contributing factor (11% vs. 6% in 2018).
- As would be expected, drivers ages 16-24 were also more likely to have “driver inexperience” reported as a contributing factor in F&PI crashes (4% vs. 2% in 2018).

TABLE 8
NYS Traffic Tickets Issued to Drivers Ages 16-24
SELECT VIOLATIONS

| | Drivers Ages 16-24 | | | NYS Total |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2018 |
| Total Tickets Issued | 792,769 | 791,504 | 726,044 | 3,639,413 |
| Speeding | 24.7% | 23.4% | 23.8% | 18.6% |
| License | 8.5% | 8.7% | 8.6% | 7.0% |
| Traffic Device/Stop Sign | 10.4% | 10.5% | 10.6% | 13.7% |
| Seat Belts | 3.8% | 3.6% | 3.4% | 4.4% |
| Cell Phone | 1.7% | 1.6% | 1.3% | 2.4% |
| Texting | 1.9% | 2.2% | 2.2% | 3.1% |
| Total TSLED Tickets Issued | 632,842 | 624,905 | 582,374 | 2,475,442 |
| Impaired Driving | 2.1% | 1.9% | 1.8% | 2.4% |

Note: Total tickets issued include data from the TSLED and Administrative Adjudication (AA) systems; however, no tickets issued for impaired driving are included in AA. All tickets issued for impaired driving are being captured in TSLED, with the exception of those issued in New York City.

- The largest proportion of tickets issued to drivers each year was for speeding violations. In 2018, 24% of the tickets issued to drivers ages 16-24 were for speeding violations, compared to 19% of the tickets issued to all drivers.
- Drivers ages 16-24 were less likely than all drivers to be issued tickets for cell phone and texting violations in 2018 (4% vs. 6%).

TABLE 9
NYS Motor Vehicle Fatal and Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-24
SEVERITY OF CRASH, FATALITIES & PERSONS INJURED, AND DRIVERS INVOLVED
BY REGION OF THE STATE: 2018

| | UPSTATE | NYC | LONG ISLAND | NYS F&PI Involving Drivers Ages 16-24 |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--|
| F&PI Crashes (% of total) | 14,608 (46.8%) | 9,159 (29.4%) | 7,433 (23.8%) | 31,200 |
| Fatal (% of total) | 124 (61.4%) | 32 (15.8%) | 46 (22.8%) | 202 |
| Personal Injury (% of total) | 14,484 (46.7%) | 9,127 (29.4%) | 7,387 (23.8%) | 30,998 |
| Fatalities (% of total) | 130 (59.9%) | 33 (15.2%) | 54 (24.9%) | 217 |
| Persons Injured (% of total) | 20,188 (44.5%) | 14,234 (31.4%) | 10,907 (24.1%) | 45,329 |
| Drivers Involved Ages 16-24 (% of total) | 15,975 (47.0%) | 9,769 (28.8%) | 8,218 (24.2%) | 33,962 |
| Male Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS) | 8,313 (41.8%) | 7,041 (35.4%) | 4,513 (22.7%) | 19,867 |
| Female Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS) | 7,662 (54.4%) | 2,728 (19.4%) | 3,705 (26.3%) | 14,095 |
| Licensed Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total) | 630,561 (54.5%) | 273,498 (23.6%) | 253,550 (21.9%) | 1,157,609 |

- 47% of the F&PI crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 occurred in the Upstate region, 29% in New York City and 24% on Long Island.
- 61% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers 16-24 occurred on roadways in the Upstate region, while 16% happened on roadways in New York City and 21% occurred on Long Island highways.
- Drivers ages 16-24 are underrepresented in F&PI crashes in the Upstate region and overrepresented in crashes in the New York City and Long Island regions.