

NEW YORK STATE FACT SHEET ON YOUNG DRIVERS AGES 21-24

PREPARED BY THE INSTITUTE FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH

TABLE 1
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 21-24
SEVERITY OF CRASH, FATALITIES & PERSONS INJURED, AND DRIVERS INVOLVED

	2016	2017	2018
Crashes (% of total NYS)	45,898 (15.2%)	45,667 (14.8%)	60,293 (13.9%)
Fatal (% of total NYS)	122 (12.6%)	110 (11.8%)	123 (13.9%)
Personal Injury (% of total NYS)	19,828 (16.1%)	18,950 (15.5%)	18,225 (14.9%)
Property Damage Only (% of total NYS)	25,948 (14.6%)	26,607 (14.3%)	41,945* (13.5%)
Fatalities (% of total NYS)	130 (12.6%)	121 (12.1%)	133 (14.2%)
Driver Fatalities Ages 21-24 (% of total NYS)	51 (9.6%)	37 (7.1%)	61 (11.9%)
Persons Injured (% of total NYS)	29,107 (17.1%)	28,052 (16.5%)	26,764 (15.9%)
Drivers Involved Ages 21-24 (% of total NYS)	47,933 (9.7%)	47,838 (9.4%)	62,926 (8.9%)
Male Drivers Ages 21-24 (% of total NYS)	28,125 (10.0%)	28,292 (9.6%)	37,668 (9.2%)
Female Drivers Ages 21-24 (% of total NYS)	19,808 (10.6%)	19,546 (10.3%)	25,258 (10.0%)
Licensed Drivers Ages 21-24 (% of total NYS)	692,247 (5.7%)	691,618 (5.7%)	681,891 (5.6%)

- 14%-15% of all motor vehicle crashes in 2016-2018 involved drivers ages 21-24.
- 12%-14% of all motor vehicle fatalities in 2016-2018 occurred in crashes involving drivers ages 21-24.
- The number of fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 21-24 dropped from 130 in 2016 to 121 in 2017, then rose to 133 in 2018. The number of driver fatalities ages 21-24 dropped from 51 in 2016 to 37 in 2017, then rose to 61 in 2018, an increase of 65%.
- The number of persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 21-24 decreased from 29,107 in 2016 to 26,764 in 2018, representing a drop of 8%.
- Drivers ages 21-24 are overrepresented in crashes; 9%-10% of the drivers involved in crashes in 2016-2018 were ages 21-24, compared to 6% 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 21-24
VEHICLES AND PASSENGERS INVOLVED

	2016	2017	2018	NYS F&PI 2018
Fatal & Personal Injury Crashes	19,950	19,060	18,348	122,871
Crashes Involving Single Vehicle	18.2%	17.1%	16.3%	29.4%
Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles	81.8%	82.9%	83.7%	70.6%
Drivers Ages 21-24 in F&PI Crashes	20,891	20,046	19,242	215,045
With No Passengers*	70.7%	70.2%	69.9%	71.2%
With Passengers	29.3%	29.8%	30.1%	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 21-24 were more likely to involve multiple vehicles than all F&PI crashes (84% vs. 71% in 2018).
- The proportion of drivers ages 21-24 involved in F&PI crashes who drive with passengers was similar to the proportion of all drivers in F&PI crashes (30% vs. 29%, respectively in 2018).

TABLE 3
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 21-24
TIME OF DAY: 2018

Time of Day	Fatal		Personal Injury		Property Damage Only		Total Crashes	
	Involving Drivers Ages 21-24 (N=123)	Involving All Drivers (N=882)	Involving Drivers Ages 21-24 (N=18,225)	Involving All Drivers (N=121,989)	Involving Drivers Ages 21-24 (N=41,945)	Involving All Drivers (N=311,725)	Involving Drivers Ages 21-24 (N=60,293)	Involving All Drivers (N=434,596)
9pm-Mid	22.0%	16.1%	10.5%	8.7%	9.1%	8.1%	9.6%	8.3%
Mid-5am	23.6%	15.4%	7.6%	5.9%	7.0%	6.1%	7.2%	6.1%
5am-9am	8.9%	11.5%	12.5%	13.7%	14.1%	15.2%	13.6%	14.8%
9am-Noon	3.3%	9.1%	11.9%	13.8%	12.6%	14.4%	12.4%	14.2%
Noon-3pm	11.4%	14.6%	17.2%	18.0%	17.3%	17.7%	17.3%	17.8%
3pm-6pm	11.4%	15.8%	23.4%	23.4%	23.8%	22.1%	23.7%	22.4%
6pm-9pm	19.5%	17.6%	16.0%	15.3%	14.9%	14.3%	15.2%	14.6%
Unknown	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	1.2%	1.2%	2.1%	1.1%	1.9%

- Crashes involving drivers ages 21-24 were most likely to occur between 3pm and 6pm (24%); the largest proportion of crashes involving all drivers (22%) also occurred during this time period.
- The largest proportion of fatal crashes involving drivers ages 21-24 occurred between midnight and 5am (24%). Personal injury crashes (23%) and property damage crashes (24%) 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 21-24
FATALITIES AND PERSONS INJURED

	2016	2017	2018	NYS Total 2018
Total Fatalities	130	121	133	936
Drivers	77 (59.2%)	66 (54.5%)	86 (64.7%)	54.7%
Passengers	23 (17.7%)	36 (29.8%)	15 (11.3%)	13.0%
Pedestrians	28 (21.5%)	17 (14.0%)	30 (22.6%)	29.1%
Bicyclists	2 (1.5%)	2 (1.7%)	2 (1.5%)	3.2%
Other	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0.0%
Total Persons Injured	29,107	28,052	26,764	168,304
Drivers	19,284 (66.3%)	18,328 (65.3%)	17,700 (66.1%)	59.6%
Passengers	8,479 (29.1%)	8,404 (30.0%)	7,914 (29.6%)	27.2%
Pedestrians	917 (3.2%)	890 (3.2%)	806 (3.0%)	9.4%
Bicyclists	381 (1.3%)	375 (1.3%)	292 (1.1%)	3.3%
Other	46 (0.2%)	55 (0.2%)	52 (0.2%)	0.5%

- In 2018, drivers accounted for 65% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers 21-24 years of age, compared to 55% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers of all ages.
- Passengers were a slightly smaller portion of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 21-24 than in all crashes (11% vs. 13% in 2018).
- Passengers accounted for a larger proportion of the persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 21-24 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 21-24 than in all crashes (23% vs. 29% and 3% vs. 9%, respectively, in 2018).

TABLE 5
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 21-24
AGE OF PASSENGERS KILLED OR INJURED
IN VEHICLES WITH DRIVERS AGES 21-24: 2018

	Killed or Injured		NYS Total
Total	3,854		45,863
Under Age 4	162	4.2%	3.8%
Ages 4-6	86	2.2%	3.7%
Ages 7-15	198	5.1%	12.0%
Ages 16-17	126	3.3%	3.9%
Ages 18-20	541	14.0%	6.5%
Ages 21-24	1,173	30.4%	8.9%
Ages 25-29	600	15.6%	10.5%
Age 30 and Over	859	22.3%	47.5%
Unknown Age	109	2.8%	3.1%

- The largest proportion of passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 21-24 were ages 21-24 (30%).
- Passengers ages 18-24 accounted for 44% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 21-24.
- Only 22% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 21-24 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 21-24*: 2018

	Total	Restrained	% Restrained	NYS Total Drivers (% Restrained)
Total Vehicle Occupants Ages 21-24	80,375	72,380	90.1%	
Drivers Ages 21-24	59,704	54,852	91.9%	665,790 (86.6%)
Passengers Ages 21-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 21-24	6,819	6,051	88.7%	
Passengers Ages 21-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	13,852	11,477	82.9%	
Total Killed	51	23	45.1%	
Drivers Ages 21-24	40	20	50.0%	370 (58.4%)
Passengers Ages 21-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 21-24	4	1	25.0%	
Passengers Ages 21-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	7	2	28.6%	
Total Injured	12,492	10,795	86.4%	
Drivers Ages 21-24	8,603	7,759	90.2%	91,358 (90.9%)
Passengers Ages 21-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 21-24	1,124	930	82.7%	
Passengers Ages 21-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	2,765	2,106	76.2%	
Total Uninjured	67,832	61,562	90.8%	
Drivers Ages 21-24	51,061	47,073	92.2%	564,062 (85.9%)
Passengers Ages 21-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 21-24	5,691	5,120	90.0%	
Passengers Ages 21-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	11,080	9,369	84.6%	

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

- The overall restraint use for drivers ages 21-24 was higher than the restraint use for passengers ages 21-24. Restraint use for drivers was 92%, compared to 89% for passengers ages 21-24 in vehicles with drivers ages 21-24 and 83% for passengers ages 21-24 in vehicles with drivers of other ages.
- For drivers killed, drivers ages 21-24 were less likely to be restrained than drivers of all ages (50% vs. 58%, respectively).
- 90% of the drivers ages 21-24 injured in crashes were restrained; passengers ages 21-24 injured in crashes had lower use rates whether riding with drivers of the same age or with drivers of any age (83% and 76%, respectively).

TABLE 7
NYS Fatal and Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 21-24*
SELECT CONTRIBUTING FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH DRIVERS

	Drivers Ages 21-24			Total NYS
	2016	2017	2018	2018
Total Drivers	19,512	18,811	18,493	202,845
Select Factors				
Driver Inattention/Distraction	15.0%	16.0%	15.5%	14.9%
Driver Inexperience	2.5%	2.4%	2.3%	1.5%
Failure to Yield ROW	10.8%	11.0%	11.1%	11.2%
Following Too Closely	15.1%	15.8%	15.5%	12.3%
Traffic Control Device Disregarded	3.6%	4.0%	3.8%	3.4%
Unsafe Speed	10.1%	9.8%	9.6%	5.7%
Cell Phone	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%
Texting	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%
Alcohol Involvement	2.9%	2.5%	2.4%	1.6%

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

- In 2018, “driver inattention/distraction” and “following too closely” were the two most frequently reported contributing factors for drivers ages 21-24 (both 16%) and for all drivers (15% and 12%, respectively) in F&PI crashes.
- Drivers ages 21-24 in F&PI crashes were more likely than all drivers in F&PI crashes to have “unsafe speed” reported as a contributing factor (10% vs. 6% in 2018).

TABLE 8
NYS Traffic Tickets Issued to Drivers Ages 21-24
SELECT VIOLATIONS

	Drivers Ages 21-24			NYS Total
	2016	2017	2018	2018
Total Tickets Issued	485,961	488,855	455,245	3,639,413
Speeding	23.1%	21.7%	21.9%	18.6%
License	8.5%	8.7%	8.5%	7.0%
Traffic Device/Stop Sign	10.7%	10.8%	11.1%	13.7%
Seat Belts	4.0%	3.8%	3.6%	4.4%
Cell Phone	1.9%	1.8%	1.5%	2.4%
Texting	2.1%	2.5%	2.5%	3.1%
Total TSLED Tickets Issued	370,476	365,588	344,582	2,475,442
Impaired Driving	2.7%	2.5%	2.4%	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 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, 22% of the tickets issued to drivers ages 21-24 were for speeding violations, compared to 19% of the tickets issued to all drivers.
- Drivers ages 21-24 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 21-24
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 21-24
F&PI Crashes (% of total)	7,817 (42.6%)	6,465 (35.2%)	4,066 (22.2%)	18,348
Fatal (% of total)	71 (57.7%)	22 (17.9%)	30 (24.4%)	123
Personal Injury (% of total)	7,746 (42.5%)	6,443 (35.4%)	4,036 (22.1%)	18,225
Fatalities (% of total)	72 (54.1%)	23 (17.3%)	38 (28.6%)	133
Persons Injured (% of total)	10,783 (40.3%)	10,025 (37.5%)	5,956 (22.3%)	26,764
Drivers Involved Ages 21-24 (% of total)	8,211 (42.7%)	6,753 (35.1%)	4,278 (22.2%)	19,242
Male Drivers Ages 21-24 (% of total NYS)	4,312 (37.5%)	4,840 (42.0%)	2,362 (20.5%)	11,514
Female Drivers Ages 21-24 (% of total NYS)	3,899 (50.5%)	1,913 (24.8%)	1,916 (24.8%)	7,728
Licensed Drivers Ages 21-24 (% of total)	347,561 (51.0%)	192,971 (28.3%)	141,359 (20.7%)	681,891

- In 2018, 43% of the F&PI crashes involving drivers ages 21-24 occurred in the Upstate region, 35% took place in New York City and 22% on Long Island.
- 54% of the fatalities that occurred in crashes involving drivers ages 21-24 occurred in the Upstate region, 17% in New York City and 29% on Long Island.
- Drivers ages 21-24 are underrepresented in F&PI crashes in the Upstate region and overrepresented in crashes in the New York City and Long Island regions when compared to the number of licensed drivers in each region.