

NEW YORK STATE FACT SHEET ON YOUNG DRIVERS AGED 16-17

TABLE 1
SEVERITY OF CRASH, FATALITIES & PERSONS INJURED, AND DRIVERS IN CRASHES
INVOLVING DRIVERS AGED 16-17

	2021		2022		2023	
	Count	% of NYS Total	Count	% of NYS Total	Count	% of NYS Total
Crashes	10,037	2.7%	10,714	2.7%	10,845	2.8%
Fatal	11	1.0%	23	2.1%	31	3.0%
Personal Injury	2,704	2.6%	2,741	2.5%	2,857	2.5%
Property Damage Only	7,322	2.8%	7,950	2.8%	7,957	3.0%
Fatalities	12	1.1%	32	2.8%	43	3.9%
Persons Injured	4,126	2.8%	4,082	2.7%	4,278	2.7%
Drivers Involved Aged 16-17	10,273	1.7%	10,963	1.8%	11,104	1.8%
Male Drivers Involved Aged 16-17	5,637	1.7%	6,102	1.7%	6,323	1.8%
Female Drivers Involved Aged 16-17	4,636	2.2%	4,861	2.2%	4,775	2.2%
Licensed Drivers Aged 16-17	81,530	0.7%	82,301	0.7%	83,515	0.7%

- Over the 2021-2023 period, 2.7 - 2.8% of all motor vehicle crashes and 1.1 - 3.9% of all fatalities involved drivers aged 16-17.
- During 2023, drivers aged 16-17 were overrepresented in crashes; drivers of this age group constituted 1.8% of all drivers involved in crashes but only 0.7% of all licensed drivers.

TABLE 2
VEHICLES AND PASSENGERS ASSOCIATED WITH F&PI CRASHES INVOLVING DRIVERS AGED 16-17

	2021	2022	2023	NYS Total 2023
Fatal and Personal Injury Crashes	2,715	2,764	2,888	114,598
Crashes Involving Single Vehicle	17.6%	19.4%	20.2%	30.7%
Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles	82.4%	80.6%	79.8%	69.3%
Drivers Aged 16-17 in F&PI Crashes	2,757	2,806	2,945	193,909
With No Passengers*	58.3%	62.5%	60.7%	74.4%
With Passengers	41.7%	37.5%	39.3%	25.6%

*Note: As mandated by NYS DMV regulations, drivers holding junior learner permits must have a “qualifying” adult in the vehicle. Depending on the region, a junior driver license holder may drive unsupervised in certain situations.

- F&PI crashes involving drivers aged 16-17 were more likely to involve multiple vehicles than all F&PI crashes (79.8% versus 69.3% in 2023).
- Drivers aged 16-17 involved in F&PI crashes were more likely to be driving with passengers than drivers in all F&PI crashes (39.3% versus 25.6% in 2023).

TABLE 3
TIME OF DAY OF F&PI CRASHES INVOLVING DRIVERS AGED 16-17: 2023

	Fatal		Injury		Property Damage Only		Total Crashes	
	Involving Drivers Aged 16-17	Involving All Drivers	Involving Drivers Aged 16-17	Involving All Drivers	Involving Drivers Aged 16-17	Involving All Drivers	Involving Drivers Aged 16-17	Involving All Drivers
Crashes	31	1,022	2,857	113,576	7,957	266,708	10,845	381,306
Time of Day								
9pm-12am	22.6%	15.8%	9.6%	9.5%	8.1%	8.3%	8.5%	8.7%
12am-5am	22.6%	18.2%	4.0%	6.6%	2.8%	6.6%	3.2%	6.6%
5am-9am	3.2%	11.4%	9.9%	13.2%	11.7%	15.5%	11.2%	14.8%
9am-12pm	3.2%	10.3%	9.3%	13.1%	9.9%	13.6%	9.7%	13.4%
12pm-3pm	9.7%	12.0%	20.1%	17.8%	21.4%	17.5%	21.0%	17.6%
3pm-6pm	25.8%	13.4%	28.6%	22.7%	28.4%	22.3%	28.4%	22.4%
6pm-9pm	12.9%	18.8%	18.0%	15.6%	17.3%	14.5%	17.4%	14.9%
Unknown	0.0%	0.2%	0.5%	1.5%	0.5%	1.6%	0.5%	1.6%

Note: In New York City and Long Island, junior learner permit holders can drive between 5 AM and 9 PM only. In Upstate NY, a junior learner permit holder can drive 5 AM to 9 PM under specific conditions.

- In 2023, crashes involving drivers aged 16-17 were most likely to occur between 3pm-6pm (28.4%) which is the same as the time period for the most crashes involving all drivers.
- In 2023, the largest proportion of fatal crashes involving drivers aged 16-17 occurred 3pm-6pm (25.8%). Personal injury and property damage crashes involving this age group were most likely during the 3pm-6pm period.

TABLE 4
SELECT F&PI CRASH CONTRIBUTING FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH DRIVERS AGED 16-17:
2023

	Drivers Aged 16-17	All Drivers in NYS
Total Drivers	2,863	169,815
Select Factors		
Failure to Yield Right-of-Way	21.0%	12.0%
Unsafe Speed	15.3%	6.7%
Driver Inattention/Distracted	15.1%	14.4%
Following Too Closely	12.6%	10.2%
Driver Inexperience	12.3%	1.9%
Traffic Control Device Disregarded	5.8%	4.3%
Cell Phone (hand held and free)	0.5%	0.2%
Texting	0.0%	< 0.1%
Alcohol Involvement	0.6%	1.8%

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

- In 2023, the top three contributing factors for drivers aged 16-17 in F&PI crashes were Failure to Yield Right-of-Way (21.0%), Unsafe Speed (15.3%), and Driver Inattention/Distracted (15.1%).
- In 2023, drivers aged 16-17 in F&PI crashes were more likely than all drivers in F&PI crashes to have Driver Inexperience and Failure to Yield Right-of-Way reported as contributing factors (12.3% versus 1.9% and 21.0% versus 12.0%, respectively).

TABLE 5
TRAFFIC TICKETS (SELECT VIOLATIONS) ISSUED TO DRIVERS AGED 16-17: 2023

	Drivers Aged 16-17	All Drivers in NYS
Total Tickets Issued	35,689	2,834,035
Speeding	24.0%	18.9%
License	14.4%	7.7%
Traffic Device / Stop Sign	9.7%	11.8%
Seat Belts	3.5%	3.9%
Texting	1.1%	2.6%
Cell Phone	0.6%	1.3%
Total TSLED Tickets Issued	31,160	2,112,787
Impaired Driving	0.5%	2.2%

Note: Total tickets issued include data from the TSLED and Administrative Adjudication (AA) systems. TSLED covers all areas of the state, except New York City. AA includes all traffic tickets issued in New York City except impairment tickets.

- In 2023, speeding violations were the most common ticket category issued to drivers aged 16-17. 24.0% of the tickets issued to drivers aged 16-17 were for speeding violations, compared to 18.9% of the tickets issued to all drivers in 2023.
- In 2023, 0.5% of the TSLED tickets issued to drivers aged 16-17 were for impaired driving versus 2.2% of the TSLED tickets issued to all drivers.

TABLE 6**CRASH SEVERITY, FATALITIES & PERSONS INJURED, AND DRIVERS ASSOCIATED WITH F&PI CRASHES INVOLVING DRIVERS AGED 16-17 BY REGION OF THE STATE: 2023**

	Upstate		New York City		Long Island		NYS F&PI Involving Drivers Aged 16-17
	Count	% of Total	Count	% of Total	Count	% of Total	
F&PI Crashes	1,696	58.7%	392	13.6%	800	27.7%	2,888
Fatal	22	71.0%	5	16.1%	4	12.9%	31
Personal Injury	1,674	58.6%	387	13.5%	796	27.9%	2,857
Fatalities	32	74.4%	6	14.0%	5	11.6%	43
Persons Injured	2,435	56.9%	600	14.0%	1,243	29.1%	4,278
Drivers Involved Aged 16-17	1,732	58.8%	395	13.4%	818	27.8%	2,945
Male Drivers Involved Aged 16-17	976	55.7%	319	18.2%	458	26.1%	1,753
Female Drivers Involved Aged 16-17	754	63.4%	76	6.4%	360	30.3%	1,190
Licensed Drivers Aged 16-17	56,846	68.1%	7,458	8.9%	19,210	23.0%	83,515

- In 2023, 58.7% of the F&PI crashes involving drivers aged 16-17 occurred in the Upstate region, 27.7% were on Long Island and 13.6% in New York City.
- In 2023, 74.4% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers aged 16-17 occurred in the Upstate region, while 11.6% occurred on Long Island and 14.0% were in the five boroughs of New York City.
- During 2023, drivers aged 16-17 were underrepresented in F&PI crashes in the Upstate region (58.8% of the drivers involved in crashes vs. 68.1% of the licensed drivers), overrepresented in crashes in the Long Island region (27.8% of the drivers involved in crashes vs. 23.0% of the licensed drivers), and overrepresented in NYC (13.4% of the drivers involved in crashes vs. 8.9% of the licensed drivers).

Data Sources

- NYS DMV's Traffic Safety Law Enforcement & Disposition (TSLED) and Administrative Adjudication (AA) Ticket Systems
- NYS DMV's Accident Information System (AIS)

