

NEW YORK STATE FACT SHEET ON YOUNG DRIVERS AGED 16-20

TABLE 1
SEVERITY OF CRASH, FATALITIES & PERSONS INJURED, AND DRIVERS IN CRASHES
INVOLVING DRIVERS AGED 16-20

	2021		2022		2023	
	Count	% of NYS Total	Count	% of NYS Total	Count	% of NYS Total
Crashes	43,901	11.8%	43,450	11.1%	42,512	11.1%
Fatal	106	9.9%	106	9.7%	124	12.1%
Personal Injury	12,500	11.8%	12,001	10.9%	12,069	10.6%
Property Damage Only	31,295	11.8%	31,343	11.2%	30,319	11.4%
Fatalities	112	9.9%	124	10.7%	142	12.9%
Persons Injured	18,961	13.0%	17,996	11.9%	18,159	11.6%
Drivers Involved Aged 16-20	45,790	7.8%	45,420	7.4%	44,372	7.4%
Male Drivers Involved Aged 16-20	26,894	8.0%	26,758	7.6%	26,632	7.7%
Female Drivers Involved Aged 16-20	18,896	9.2%	18,656	8.5%	17,731	8.3%
Licensed Drivers Aged 16-20	447,454	3.7%	454,513	3.7%	452,432	3.7%

- Over the 2021-2023 period, 11.1 - 11.8% of all motor vehicle crashes and 9.9 - 12.9% of all fatalities involved drivers aged 16-20.
- During 2023, drivers aged 16-20 were overrepresented in crashes; drivers of this age group constituted 7.4% of all drivers involved in crashes but only 3.7% of all licensed drivers.

TABLE 2
VEHICLES AND PASSENGERS ASSOCIATED WITH F&PI CRASHES INVOLVING DRIVERS AGED 16-20

	2021	2022	2023	NYS Total 2023
Fatal and Personal Injury Crashes	12,606	12,107	12,193	114,598
Crashes Involving Single Vehicle	18.2%	18.6%	18.7%	30.7%
Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles	81.8%	81.4%	81.3%	69.3%
Drivers Aged 16-20 in F&PI Crashes	13,147	12,650	12,698	193,909
With No Passengers*	64.7%	66.8%	66.9%	74.4%
With Passengers	35.3%	33.2%	33.1%	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 16-20 were more likely to involve multiple vehicles than all F&PI crashes (81.3% versus 69.3% in 2023).
- Drivers aged 16-20 involved in F&PI crashes were more likely to be driving with passengers than drivers in all F&PI crashes (33.1% versus 25.6% in 2023).

TABLE 3
TIME OF DAY OF F&PI CRASHES INVOLVING DRIVERS AGED 16-20: 2023

	Fatal		Injury		Property Damage Only		Total Crashes	
	Involving Drivers Aged 16-20	Involving All Drivers	Involving Drivers Aged 16-20	Involving All Drivers	Involving Drivers Aged 16-20	Involving All Drivers	Involving Drivers Aged 16-20	Involving All Drivers
Crashes	124	1,022	12,069	113,576	30,319	266,708	42,512	381,306
Time of Day								
9pm-12am	23.4%	15.8%	11.0%	9.5%	9.4%	8.3%	9.9%	8.7%
12am-5am	17.7%	18.2%	6.1%	6.6%	4.9%	6.6%	5.3%	6.6%
5am-9am	9.7%	11.4%	10.1%	13.2%	11.4%	15.5%	11.0%	14.8%
9am-12pm	4.8%	10.3%	11.0%	13.1%	11.3%	13.6%	11.2%	13.4%
12pm-3pm	9.7%	12.0%	18.3%	17.8%	19.4%	17.5%	19.1%	17.6%
3pm-6pm	15.3%	13.4%	25.5%	22.7%	26.4%	22.3%	26.1%	22.4%
6pm-9pm	19.4%	18.8%	17.2%	15.6%	16.6%	14.5%	16.7%	14.9%
Unknown	0.0%	0.2%	0.8%	1.5%	0.6%	1.6%	0.6%	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 16-20 were most likely to occur between 3pm-6pm (26.1%) 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 16-20 occurred 9pm-12am (23.4%). 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 16-20:
2023

	Drivers Aged 16-20	All Drivers in NYS
Total Drivers	11,996	169,815
Select Factors		
Failure to Yield Right-of-Way	16.1%	12.0%
Driver Inattention/Distracted	14.5%	14.4%
Following Too Closely	14.0%	10.2%
Unsafe Speed	13.5%	6.7%
Driver Inexperience	7.4%	1.9%
Traffic Control Device Disregarded	5.3%	4.3%
Cell Phone (hand held and free)	0.4%	0.2%
Texting	< 0.1%	< 0.1%
Alcohol Involvement	1.1%	1.8%

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

- In 2023, the top three contributing factors for drivers aged 16-20 in F&PI crashes were Failure to Yield Right-of-Way (16.1%), Driver Inattention/Distracted (14.5%), and Following Too Closely (14.0%).
- In 2023, drivers aged 16-20 in F&PI crashes were more likely than all drivers in F&PI crashes to have Unsafe Speed and Driver Inexperience reported as contributing factors (13.5% versus 6.7% and 7.4% versus 1.9%, respectively).

TABLE 5
TRAFFIC TICKETS (SELECT VIOLATIONS) ISSUED TO DRIVERS AGED 16-20: 2023

	Drivers Aged 16-20	All Drivers in NYS
Total Tickets Issued	238,097	2,834,035
Speeding	26.2%	18.9%
Traffic Device / Stop Sign	9.4%	11.8%
License	8.9%	7.7%
Seat Belts	3.3%	3.9%
Texting	1.5%	2.6%
Cell Phone	0.7%	1.3%
Total TSLED Tickets Issued	199,096	2,112,787
Impaired Driving	0.9%	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 16-20. 26.2% of the tickets issued to drivers aged 16-20 were for speeding violations, compared to 18.9% of the tickets issued to all drivers.
- In 2023, 0.9% of the TSLED tickets issued to drivers aged 16-20 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 16-20 BY REGION OF THE STATE: 2023**

	Upstate		New York City		Long Island		NYS F&PI Involving Drivers Aged 16- 20
	Count	% of Total	Count	% of Total	Count	% of Total	
F&PI Crashes	6,027	49.4%	2,924	24.0%	3,242	26.6%	12,193
Fatal	67	54.0%	25	20.2%	32	25.8%	124
Personal Injury	5,960	49.4%	2,899	24.0%	3,210	26.6%	12,069
Fatalities	82	57.7%	27	19.0%	33	23.2%	142
Persons Injured	8,627	47.5%	4,607	25.4%	4,925	27.1%	18,159
Drivers Involved Aged 16-20	6,284	49.5%	2,988	23.5%	3,426	27.0%	12,698
Male Drivers Involved Aged 16-20	3,624	45.6%	2,298	28.9%	2,018	25.4%	7,940
Female Drivers Involved Aged 16-20	2,658	55.9%	690	14.5%	1,408	29.6%	4,756
Licensed Drivers Aged 16-20	258,365	57.1%	86,558	19.1%	107,410	23.7%	452,432

- In 2023, 49.4% of the F&PI crashes involving drivers aged 16-20 occurred in the Upstate region, 26.6% were on Long Island and 24.0% in New York City.
- In 2023, 57.7% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers aged 16-20 occurred in the Upstate region, while 23.2% occurred on Long Island and 19.0% were in the five boroughs of New York City.
- During 2023, drivers aged 16-20 were underrepresented in F&PI crashes in the Upstate region (49.5% of the drivers involved in crashes vs. 57.1% of the licensed drivers), overrepresented in crashes in the Long Island region (27.0% of the drivers involved in crashes vs. 23.7% of the licensed drivers), and overrepresented in NYC (23.5% of the drivers involved in crashes vs. 19.1% 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)



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