

NEW YORK STATE FACT SHEET ON YOUNG DRIVERS AGES 18-24

PREPARED BY THE INSTITUTE FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH

TABLE 1
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-24
SEVERITY OF CRASH, FATALITIES & PERSONS INJURED, AND DRIVERS INVOLVED

	2016	2017	2018
Crashes (% of total NYS)	73,717 (24.4%)	72,959 (23.6%)	94,378 (21.7%)
Fatal (% of total NYS)	193 (19.9%)	190 (20.4%)	173 (19.6%)
Personal Injury (% of total NYS)	31,107 (25.3%)	29,748 (24.3%)	28,234 (23.1%)
Property Damage Only (% of total NYS)	42,417 (23.8%)	43,021 (23.1%)	65,971* (21.2%)
Fatalities (% of total NYS)	207 (20.1%)	211 (21.1%)	187 (20.0%)
Driver Fatalities Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	83 (15.6%)	75 (14.5%)	81 (15.8%)
Persons Injured (% of total NYS)	45,492 (26.8%)	43,886 (25.9%)	41,257 (24.5%)
Drivers Involved Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	79,494 (16.0%)	78,595 (15.4%)	101,291 (14.3%)
Male Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	46,409 (16.4%)	46,250 (15.8%)	60,168 (14.6%)
Female Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	33,085 (17.7%)	32,345 (17.1%)	41,123 (16.2%)
Licensed Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	1,078,816 (8.9%)	1,081,329 (8.9%)	1,069,404 (8.8%)

- 22%-24% of all motor vehicle crashes in 2016-2018 involved drivers ages 18-24.
- 20%-21% of all motor vehicle fatalities in 2016-2018 occurred in crashes involving drivers ages 18-24.
- The number of fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 18-24 dropped from 207 in 2016 to 187 in 2018, representing a decrease of 10%.
- The number of persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 18-24 decreased from 45,492 in 2016 to 41,257 in 2018, a decrease of 9%.
- Drivers ages 18-24 are overrepresented in crashes; 14%-16% of the drivers involved in crashes in 2016-2018 were ages 18-24, compared to 9% of all licensed drivers each year.

**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 18-24
VEHICLES AND PASSENGERS INVOLVED

	2016	2017	2018	NYS F&PI 2018
Fatal & Personal Injury Crashes	31,300	29,938	28,407	122,871
Crashes Involving Single Vehicle	19.7%	18.5%	17.5%	29.4%
Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles	80.3%	81.5%	82.5%	70.6%
Drivers Ages 18-24 in F&PI Crashes	33,847	32,416	30,702	215,045
With No Passengers*	69.4%	69.1%	69.1%	71.2%
With Passengers	30.6%	30.9%	30.9%	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 18-24 were more likely to involve multiple vehicles than all F&PI crashes (83% vs. 71% in 2018).
- Drivers ages 18-24 involved in F&PI crashes were slightly more likely to be driving with passengers than drivers in all F&PI crashes (31% vs. 29% in 2018).

TABLE 3
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-24
TIME OF DAY: 2018

Time of Day	Fatal		Personal Injury		Property Damage Only		Total Crashes	
	Involving Drivers Ages 18-24 (N=173)	Involving All Drivers (N=882)	Involving Drivers Ages 18-24 (N=28,234)	Involving All Drivers (N=121,989)	Involving Drivers Ages 18-24 (N=65,971)	Involving All Drivers (N=311,725)	Involving Drivers Ages 18-24 (N=94,378)	Involving All Drivers (N=434,596)
9pm-Mid	23.1%	16.1%	10.4%	8.7%	9.3%	8.1%	9.6%	8.3%
Mid-5am	22.5%	15.4%	7.0%	5.9%	6.6%	6.1%	6.7%	6.1%
5am-9am	8.7%	11.5%	11.8%	13.7%	13.0%	15.2%	12.6%	14.8%
9am-Noon	3.5%	9.1%	12.2%	13.8%	12.7%	14.4%	12.5%	14.2%
Noon-3pm	11.0%	14.6%	18.0%	18.0%	17.8%	17.7%	17.9%	17.8%
3pm-6pm	13.3%	15.8%	23.9%	23.4%	24.4%	22.1%	24.2%	22.4%
6pm-9pm	17.9%	17.6%	16.0%	15.3%	15.1%	14.3%	15.4%	14.6%
Unknown	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%	1.2%	1.1%	2.1%	1.0%	1.9%

- Crashes involving drivers ages 18-24 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 18-24 occurred 9pm-midnight and midnight-5am (both 23%). Personal injury crashes and property damage crashes involving drivers in this age group were most likely to occur 3pm-6pm (both 24%).

TABLE 4
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-24
FATALITIES AND PERSONS INJURED

	2016	2017	2018	NYS Total 2018
Total Fatalities	207	211	187	936
Drivers	119 (57.5%)	115 (54.5%)	119 (63.6%)	54.7%
Passengers	41 (19.8%)	57 (27.0%)	25 (13.4%)	13.0%
Pedestrians	43 (20.8%)	33 (15.6%)	41 (21.9%)	29.1%
Bicyclists	4 (1.9%)	6 (2.8%)	2 (1.1%)	3.2%
Other	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0.0%
Total Persons Injured	45,492	43,886	41,257	168,304
Drivers	30,248 (66.5%)	28,886 (65.8%)	27,450 (66.5%)	59.6%
Passengers	13,288 (29.2%)	13,078 (29.8%)	12,103 (29.3%)	27.2%
Pedestrians	1,338 (2.9%)	1,324 (3.0%)	1,206 (2.9%)	9.4%
Bicyclists	550 (1.2%)	515 (1.2%)	430 (1.0%)	3.3%
Other	68 (0.1%)	83 (0.2%)	68 (0.2%)	0.5%

- In 2018, drivers accounted for 64% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers 18-24 years of age and 55% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers of all ages.
- Compared to fatalities in all crashes, fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 18-24 were equally likely to be passengers (13% in 2018).
- Drivers also accounted for a larger proportion of the persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 18-24 than in all crashes (67% vs. 60% in 2018).
- Pedestrians comprised much smaller proportions of the fatalities and persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 18-24 than in all crashes (22% vs. 29% and 3% vs. 9%, respectively, in 2018).

TABLE 5
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-24
AGE OF PASSENGERS KILLED OR INJURED
IN VEHICLES WITH DRIVERS AGES 18-24: 2018

	Killed or Injured		NYS Total
Total	6,188		45,863
Under Age 4	209	3.4%	3.8%
Ages 4-6	108	1.7%	3.7%
Ages 7-15	373	6.0%	12.0%
Ages 16-17	454	7.3%	3.9%
Ages 18-20	1,465	23.7%	6.5%
Ages 21-24	1,512	24.4%	8.9%
Ages 25-29	708	11.4%	10.5%
Age 30 and Over	1,201	19.4%	47.5%
Unknown Age	158	2.6%	3.1%

- The largest proportion of passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 18-24 were ages 18-20 and 21-24 (both 24%).
- Passengers ages 18-24 accounted for 48% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 18-24, compared to 15% of the passengers riding with all drivers.
- Only 19% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 18-24 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 18-24*: 2018

	Total	Restrained	% Restrained	NYS Total Drivers (% Restrained)
Total Vehicle Occupants Ages 18-24	134,263	121,656	90.6%	
Drivers Ages 18-24	96,578	89,373	92.5%	655,790 (86.6%)
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-24	17,889	15,960	89.2%	
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	19,796	16,323	82.5%	
Total Killed	73	38	52.1%	
Drivers Ages 18-24	55	31	56.4%	370 (58.4%)
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-24	10	5	50.0%	
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	8	2	25.0%	
Total Injured	20,564	17,863	86.9%	
Drivers Ages 18-24	13,802	12,522	90.7%	91,358 (90.9%)
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-24	2,863	2,378	83.1%	
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	3,899	2,963	76.0%	
Total Uninjured	113,626	103,755	91.3%	
Drivers Ages 18-24	82,721	76,820	92.9%	564,062 (85.9%)
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-24	15,016	13,577	90.4%	
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	15,889	13,358	84.1%	

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

- The overall restraint use for drivers ages 18-24 was higher than the restraint use for passengers ages 18-24. Restraint use for drivers was 93%, compared to 89% for passengers ages 18-24 in vehicles with drivers ages 18-24 and 83% for passengers ages 18-24 in vehicles with drivers of other ages.
- For drivers killed, drivers ages 18-24 were slightly less likely to be restrained than drivers of all ages (56% vs. 58%).
- 91% of the drivers ages 18-24 injured in crashes were restrained; passengers ages 18-24 injured in crashes had lower use rates whether riding with drivers of the same age (83%) or with drivers of any age (76%).

TABLE 7
NYS Fatal and Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-24*
SELECT CONTRIBUTING FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH DRIVERS

	Drivers Ages 18-24			Total NYS
	2016	2017	2018	2018
Total Drivers	31,895	30,673	29,618	202,845
Select Factors				
Driver Inattention/Distraction	15.2%	16.1%	15.9%	14.9%
Driver Inexperience	3.4%	3.4%	3.3%	1.5%
Failure to Yield ROW	11.4%	12.4%	12.3%	11.2%
Following Too Closely	15.7%	16.3%	16.0%	12.3%
Traffic Control Device Disregarded	3.8%	4.1%	4.1%	3.4%
Unsafe Speed	11.2%	10.8%	10.4%	5.7%
Cell Phone	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%
Texting	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%
Alcohol Involvement	2.3%	2.1%	1.9%	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 both drivers ages 18-24 (both 16%) and for all drivers (15% and 12%, respectively) in F&PI crashes.
- Drivers ages 18-24 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).
- As would be expected, drivers ages 18-24 were also more likely than all drivers to have “driver inexperience” reported as a contributing factor in F&PI crashes (3% vs. 2% in 2018).

TABLE 8
NYS Traffic Tickets Issued to Drivers Ages 18-24
SELECT VIOLATIONS

	Drivers Ages 18-24			NYS Total
	2016	2017	2018	2018
Total Tickets Issued	751,035	749,372	687,228	3,639,413
Speeding	24.7%	23.4%	23.8%	18.6%
License	8.3%	8.4%	8.3%	7.0%
Traffic Device/Stop Sign	10.5%	10.6%	10.7%	13.7%
Seat Belts	3.8%	3.7%	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	593,566	585,134	547,650	2,475,442
Impaired Driving	2.2%	2.0%	1.9%	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, 24% of the tickets issued to drivers ages 18-24 were for speeding violations, compared to 19% of the tickets issued to all drivers.

- Drivers ages 18-24 were less likely than all drivers to be issued tickets for cell phone and texting violations in 2018 (4% vs. 6%).
- Drivers ages 18-24 were equally likely as all drivers to be issued tickets for impaired driving under TSLED in 2018 (both 2%).

TABLE 9
NYS Motor Vehicle Fatal and Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-24
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 18-24
F&PI Crashes (% of total)	12,883 (45.4%)	8,854 (31.2%)	6,670 (23.5%)	28,407
Fatal (% of total)	100 (57.8%)	32 (18.5%)	41 (23.7%)	173
Personal Injury (% of total)	12,783 (45.3%)	8,822 (31.2%)	6,629 (23.5%)	28,234
Fatalities (% of total)	105 (56.1%)	33 (17.6%)	49 (26.2%)	187
Persons Injured (% of total)	17,759 (43.0%)	13,749 (33.3%)	9,749 (23.6%)	41,257
Drivers Involved Ages 18-24 (% of total)	13,981 (45.5%)	9,427 (30.7%)	7,294 (23.8%)	30,702
Male Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	7,353 (40.4%)	6,808 (37.4%)	4,031 (22.2%)	18,192
Female Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	6,628 (53.0%)	2,619 (20.9%)	3,263 (26.1%)	12,510
Licensed Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total)	569,390 (53.2%)	266,406 (24.9%)	233,608 (21.9%)	1,069,404

- 45% of the F&PI crashes involving drivers ages 18-24 in 2018 took place in the Upstate region, 24% occurred on Long Island and 31% in New York City.
- 56% of the fatalities in crashes with drivers ages 18-24 were in the Upstate region, while 18% and 26% of the fatalities occurred in the New York City and Long Island regions, respectively.
- Drivers ages 18-24 are underrepresented in F&PI crashes in the Upstate region and overrepresented in crashes in the New York City and Long Island regions.