

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

	2022		2023		2024	
	Count	% of NYS Total	Count	% of NYS Total	Count	% of NYS Total
Crashes	10,714	2.7%	10,845	2.8%	10,850	2.8%
Fatal	23	2.1%	31	3.0%	25	2.4%
Personal Injury	2,741	2.5%	2,857	2.5%	2,885	2.5%
Property Damage Only	7,950	2.8%	7,957	3.0%	7,940	3.0%
Fatalities	32	2.8%	43	3.9%	28	2.6%
Persons Injured	4,082	2.7%	4,278	2.7%	4,360	2.7%
Drivers Involved Aged 16-17	10,963	1.8%	11,104	1.8%	11,088	1.8%
Male Drivers Involved Aged 16-17	6,102	1.7%	6,323	1.8%	6,565	1.9%
Female Drivers Involved Aged 16-17	4,861	2.2%	4,775	2.2%	4,516	2.1%
Licensed Drivers Aged 16-17	82,301	0.7%	83,515	0.7%	82,442	0.7%

- Over the 2022-2024 period, 2.7% - 2.8% of all motor vehicle crashes and 2.6% - 3.9% of all fatalities involved drivers aged 16-17.
- During 2024, 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

	2022	2023	2024	NYS Total 2024
Fatal and Personal Injury Crashes	2,764	2,888	2,910	116,262
Crashes Involving Single Vehicle	19.4%	20.2%	20.6%	30.3%
Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles	80.6%	79.8%	79.4%	69.7%
Drivers Aged 16-17 in F&PI Crashes	2,806	2,945	2,961	196,548
With No Passengers*	62.5%	60.7%	60.9%	74.6%
With Passengers	37.5%	39.3%	39.1%	25.4%

*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 (79.4% versus 69.7% in 2024).
- Drivers aged 16-17 involved in F&PI crashes were more likely to be driving with passengers than drivers in all F&PI crashes (39.1% versus 25.4% in 2024).

TABLE 3
TIME OF DAY OF F&PI CRASHES INVOLVING DRIVERS AGED 16-17: 2024

	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	25	1,026	2,885	115,236	7,940	264,563	10,850	380,825
Time of Day								
9pm-12am	20.0%	15.1%	9.7%	9.4%	8.2%	8.3%	8.6%	8.6%
12am-5am	16.0%	13.9%	3.9%	6.5%	2.9%	6.7%	3.2%	6.6%
5am-9am	12.0%	13.7%	10.7%	13.3%	12.5%	15.7%	12.0%	14.9%
9am-12pm	8.0%	9.9%	9.5%	13.6%	11.0%	13.8%	10.6%	13.7%
12pm-3pm	16.0%	14.0%	20.7%	18.0%	20.9%	17.5%	20.8%	17.7%
3pm-6pm	8.0%	16.9%	26.5%	22.6%	27.3%	22.2%	27.1%	22.3%
6pm-9pm	20.0%	16.3%	18.7%	15.4%	16.8%	14.5%	17.3%	14.8%
Unknown	0.0%	< 0.1%	0.3%	1.4%	0.3%	1.3%	0.3%	1.3%

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 2024, crashes involving drivers aged 16-17 were most likely to occur between 3pm-6pm (27.1%) which is the same as the time period for the most crashes involving all drivers.
- In 2024, the largest proportion of fatal crashes involving drivers aged 16-17 occurred 9pm-12am and 6pm-9pm (20.0%). 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:
2024

	Drivers Aged 16-17	All Drivers in NYS
Total Drivers	2,876	170,791
Select Factors		
Failure to Yield Right-of-Way	20.7%	12.0%
Unsafe Speed	15.6%	6.7%
Driver Inexperience	12.9%	2.0%
Driver Inattention/Distraction	12.9%	13.9%
Following Too Closely	12.0%	10.1%
Traffic Control Device Disregarded	6.3%	4.0%
Cell Phone (hand held and free)	0.3%	0.2%
Texting	< 0.1%	< 0.1%
Alcohol Involvement	0.5%	1.7%

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

- In 2024, the top three contributing factors for drivers aged 16-17 in F&PI crashes were Failure to Yield Right-of-Way (20.7%), Unsafe Speed (15.6%), and Driver Inexperience (12.9%).
- In 2024, drivers aged 16-17 in F&PI crashes were more likely than all drivers in F&PI crashes to have Driver Inexperience and Unsafe Speed reported as contributing factors (12.9% versus 2.0% and 15.6% versus 6.7%, respectively).

TABLE 5
TRAFFIC TICKETS (SELECT VIOLATIONS) ISSUED TO DRIVERS AGED 16-17: 2024

	Drivers Aged 16-17	All Drivers in NYS
Total Tickets Issued	36,284	2,893,404
Speeding	23.7%	18.3%
License	14.0%	8.0%
Traffic Device / Stop Sign	10.0%	11.8%
Seat Belts	3.8%	3.9%
Texting	1.2%	2.6%
Cell Phone	0.5%	1.3%
Total TSLED Tickets Issued	31,900	2,167,337
Impaired Driving	0.4%	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 2024, speeding violations were the most common ticket category issued to drivers aged 16-17. 23.7% of the tickets issued to drivers aged 16-17 were for speeding violations, compared to 18.3% of the tickets issued to all drivers.
- In 2024, 0.4% 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: 2024

	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	1,702	58.5%	399	13.7%	809	27.8%	2,910
Fatal	17	68.0%	2	8.0%	6	24.0%	25
Personal Injury	1,685	58.4%	397	13.8%	803	27.8%	2,885
Fatalities	19	67.9%	2	7.1%	7	25.0%	28
Persons Injured	2,435	55.8%	658	15.1%	1,267	29.1%	4,360
Drivers Involved Aged 16-17	1,737	58.7%	403	13.6%	821	27.7%	2,961
Male Drivers Involved Aged 16-17	1,011	54.3%	333	17.9%	519	27.9%	1,863
Female Drivers Involved Aged 16-17	725	66.1%	70	6.4%	301	27.5%	1,096
Licensed Drivers Aged 16-17	56,638	68.7%	7,178	8.7%	18,608	22.6%	82,442

- In 2024, 58.5% of the F&PI crashes involving drivers aged 16-17 occurred in the Upstate region, 27.8% were on Long Island and 13.7% in New York City.
- In 2024, 67.9% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers aged 16-17 occurred in the Upstate region, while 25.0% occurred on Long Island and 7.1% were in the five boroughs of New York City.
- During 2024, drivers aged 16-17 were underrepresented in F&PI crashes in the Upstate region (58.7% of the drivers involved in crashes vs. 68.7% of the licensed drivers), overrepresented in crashes in the Long Island region (27.7% of the drivers involved in crashes vs. 22.6% of the licensed drivers), and overrepresented in NYC (13.6% of the drivers involved in crashes vs. 8.7% 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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