

NEW YORK STATE FACT SHEET ON YOUNG DRIVERS AGED 16-18

TABLE 1
SEVERITY OF CRASH, FATALITIES & PERSONS INJURED, AND DRIVERS IN CRASHES
INVOLVING DRIVERS AGED 16-18

	2022		2023		2024	
	Count	% of NYS Total	Count	% of NYS Total	Count	% of NYS Total
Crashes	21,023	5.4%	20,724	5.4%	20,618	5.4%
Fatal	43	3.9%	60	5.9%	49	4.8%
Personal Injury	5,537	5.0%	5,596	4.9%	5,659	4.9%
Property Damage Only	15,443	5.5%	15,068	5.6%	14,910	5.6%
Fatalities	55	4.7%	76	6.9%	56	5.1%
Persons Injured	8,308	5.5%	8,382	5.3%	8,446	5.3%
Drivers Involved Aged 16-18	21,666	3.5%	21,318	3.5%	21,192	3.5%
Male Drivers Involved Aged 16-18	12,499	3.6%	12,610	3.7%	12,879	3.7%
Female Drivers Involved Aged 16-18	9,165	4.2%	8,701	4.1%	8,304	3.9%
Licensed Drivers Aged 16-18	186,750	1.5%	184,452	1.5%	182,324	1.5%

- Over the 2022-2024 period, 5.4% - 5.4% of all motor vehicle crashes and 4.7% - 6.9% of all fatalities involved drivers aged 16-18.
- During 2024, drivers aged 16-18 were overrepresented in crashes; drivers of this age group constituted 3.5% of all drivers involved in crashes but only 1.5% of all licensed drivers.

TABLE 2
VEHICLES AND PASSENGERS ASSOCIATED WITH F&PI CRASHES INVOLVING DRIVERS AGED 16-18

	2022	2023	2024	NYS Total 2024
Fatal and Personal Injury Crashes	5,580	5,656	5,708	116,262
Crashes Involving Single Vehicle	18.7%	19.7%	19.9%	30.3%
Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles	81.3%	80.3%	80.1%	69.7%
Drivers Aged 16-18 in F&PI Crashes	5,721	5,801	5,833	196,548
With No Passengers*	65.0%	63.5%	64.8%	74.6%
With Passengers	35.0%	36.5%	35.2%	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 16-18 were more likely to involve multiple vehicles than all F&PI crashes (80.1% versus 69.7% in 2024).
- Drivers aged 16-18 involved in F&PI crashes were more likely to be driving with passengers than drivers in all F&PI crashes (35.2% versus 25.4% in 2024).

TABLE 3
TIME OF DAY OF F&PI CRASHES INVOLVING DRIVERS AGED 16-18: 2024

	Fatal		Injury		Property Damage Only		Total Crashes	
	Involving Drivers Aged 16-18	Involving All Drivers	Involving Drivers Aged 16-18	Involving All Drivers	Involving Drivers Aged 16-18	Involving All Drivers	Involving Drivers Aged 16-18	Involving All Drivers
Crashes	49	1,026	5,659	115,236	14,910	264,563	20,618	380,825
Time of Day								
9pm-12am	18.4%	15.1%	10.5%	9.4%	9.3%	8.3%	9.6%	8.6%
12am-5am	20.4%	13.9%	5.0%	6.5%	4.0%	6.7%	4.3%	6.6%
5am-9am	10.2%	13.7%	9.8%	13.3%	11.2%	15.7%	10.8%	14.9%
9am-12pm	4.1%	9.9%	10.7%	13.6%	11.6%	13.8%	11.3%	13.7%
12pm-3pm	18.4%	14.0%	19.7%	18.0%	20.1%	17.5%	20.0%	17.7%
3pm-6pm	10.2%	16.9%	26.5%	22.6%	27.0%	22.2%	26.8%	22.3%
6pm-9pm	18.4%	16.3%	17.4%	15.4%	16.4%	14.5%	16.7%	14.8%
Unknown	0.0%	< 0.1%	0.5%	1.4%	0.4%	1.3%	0.4%	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 16-18 were most likely to occur between 3pm-6pm (26.8%) 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 16-18 occurred 12am-5am (20.4%). 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 16-18:
2024

	Drivers Aged 16-18	All Drivers in NYS
Total Drivers	5,604	170,791
Select Factors		
Failure to Yield Right-of-Way	18.9%	12.0%
Unsafe Speed	14.7%	6.7%
Driver Inattention/Distracted	13.5%	13.9%
Following Too Closely	13.2%	10.1%
Driver Inexperience	10.2%	2.0%
Traffic Control Device Disregarded	5.2%	4.0%
Cell Phone (hand held and free)	0.4%	0.2%
Texting	< 0.1%	< 0.1%
Alcohol Involvement	0.7%	1.7%

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

- In 2024, the top three contributing factors for drivers aged 16-18 in F&PI crashes were Failure to Yield Right-of-Way (18.9%), Unsafe Speed (14.7%), and Driver Inattention/Distracted (13.5%).
- In 2024, drivers aged 16-18 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 (10.2% versus 2.0% and 14.7% versus 6.7%, respectively).

TABLE 5
TRAFFIC TICKETS (SELECT VIOLATIONS) ISSUED TO DRIVERS AGED 16-18: 2024

	Drivers Aged 16-18	All Drivers in NYS
Total Tickets Issued	87,140	2,893,404
Speeding	26.6%	18.3%
License	10.5%	8.0%
Traffic Device / Stop Sign	9.9%	11.8%
Seat Belts	3.6%	3.9%
Texting	1.4%	2.6%
Cell Phone	0.6%	1.3%
Total TSLED Tickets Issued	75,894	2,167,337
Impaired Driving	0.6%	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 16-18. 26.6% of the tickets issued to drivers aged 16-18 were for speeding violations, compared to 18.3% of the tickets issued to all drivers.
- In 2024, 0.6% of the TSLED tickets issued to drivers aged 16-18 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 16-18 BY REGION OF THE STATE: 2024**

	Upstate		New York City		Long Island		NYS F&PI Involving Drivers Aged 16- 18
	Count	% of Total	Count	% of Total	Count	% of Total	
F&PI Crashes	3,070	53.8%	1,017	17.8%	1,621	28.4%	5,708
Fatal	34	69.4%	6	12.2%	9	18.4%	49
Personal Injury	3,036	53.6%	1,011	17.9%	1,612	28.5%	5,659
Fatalities	39	69.6%	6	10.7%	11	19.6%	56
Persons Injured	4,319	51.1%	1,631	19.3%	2,496	29.6%	8,446
Drivers Involved Aged 16-18	3,149	54.0%	1,030	17.7%	1,654	28.4%	5,833
Male Drivers Involved Aged 16-18	1,839	49.1%	859	22.9%	1,045	27.9%	3,743
Female Drivers Involved Aged 16-18	1,309	62.7%	171	8.2%	608	29.1%	2,088
Licensed Drivers Aged 16-18	115,366	63.3%	22,762	12.5%	44,135	24.2%	182,324

- In 2024, 53.8% of the F&PI crashes involving drivers aged 16-18 occurred in the Upstate region, 28.4% were on Long Island and 17.8% in New York City.
- In 2024, 69.6% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers aged 16-18 occurred in the Upstate region, while 19.6% occurred on Long Island and 10.7% were in the five boroughs of New York City.
- During 2024, drivers aged 16-18 were underrepresented in F&PI crashes in the Upstate region (54.0% of the drivers involved in crashes vs. 63.3% of the licensed drivers), overrepresented in crashes in the Long Island region (28.4% of the drivers involved in crashes vs. 24.2% of the licensed drivers), and overrepresented in NYC (17.7% of the drivers involved in crashes vs. 12.5% 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)



Prepared by the Institute for Traffic Safety Management & Research; December 2025