

NEW YORK STATE FACT SHEET ON YOUNG DRIVERS AGED 16-24

TABLE 1
SEVERITY OF CRASH, FATALITIES & PERSONS INJURED, AND DRIVERS IN CRASHES
INVOLVING DRIVERS AGED 16-24

	2020		2021		2022	
	Count	% of NYS Total	Count	% of NYS Total	Count	% of NYS Total
Crashes	77,888	23.8%	91,525	24.6%	90,901	23.2%
Fatal	227	24%	238	22.3%	248	22.7%
Personal Injury	23,207	25.7%	27,321	25.8%	26,397	23.9%
Property Damage Only	54,454	23.1%	63,966	24.1%	64,256	23%
Fatalities	255	24.7%	254	22.6%	275	23.7%
Persons Injured	34,631	27.9%	40,888	28%	38,919	25.8%
Drivers Involved Aged 16-24	83,983	16.5%	99,129	16.9%	98,138	16%
Male Drivers Involved Aged 16-24	50,916	17.2%	58,990	17.5%	58,576	16.7%
Female Drivers Involved Aged 16-24	33,064	19%	40,136	19.4%	39,554	18.1%
Licensed Drivers Aged 16-24	1,110,080	9%	1,108,384	9.2%	1,115,342	9.1%

- Over the 2020-2022 period, 23.2 - 24.6% of all motor vehicle crashes and 22.6 - 24.7% of all fatalities involved drivers aged 16-24.
- During 2022, drivers aged 16-24 were overrepresented in crashes; drivers of this age group constituted 16% of all drivers involved in crashes but only 9.1% of all licensed drivers.

TABLE 2
VEHICLES AND PASSENGERS ASSOCIATED WITH F&PI CRASHES INVOLVING DRIVERS AGED 16-24

	2020	2021	2022	NYS Total 2022
Fatal and Personal Injury Crashes	23,434	27,559	26,645	111,437
Crashes Involving Single Vehicle	19.8%	18.1%	18.3%	31.3%
Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles	80.2%	81.9%	81.7%	68.7%
Drivers Aged 16-24 in F&PI Crashes	25,513	30,042	28,929	188,302
With No Passengers*	66%	67.8%	70%	74.3%
With Passengers	34%	32.2%	30%	25.7%

*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 16-24 were more likely to involve multiple vehicles than all F&PI crashes (81.7% versus 68.7% in 2022).
- Drivers aged 16-24 involved in F&PI crashes were more likely to be driving with passengers than drivers in all F&PI crashes (30% versus 25.7% in 2022).

TABLE 3
TIME OF DAY OF F&PI CRASHES INVOLVING DRIVERS AGED 16-24: 2022

	Fatal		Injury		Property Damage Only		Total Crashes	
	Involving Drivers Aged 16-24	Involving All Drivers	Involving Drivers Aged 16-24	Involving All Drivers	Involving Drivers Aged 16-24	Involving All Drivers	Involving Drivers Aged 16-24	Involving All Drivers
Crashes	248	1,092	26,397	110,345	64,256	279,603	90,901	391,040
Time of Day								
9pm-12am	16.5%	14.2%	10.7%	9.4%	9.1%	8.3%	9.6%	8.7%
12am-5am	25%	18.4%	8%	7%	6.2%	6.8%	6.8%	6.9%
5am-9am	11.7%	13.5%	11.3%	13.2%	12.8%	15.2%	12.4%	14.6%
9am-12pm	6.5%	9.9%	11.7%	13.1%	12.6%	14.1%	12.3%	13.8%
12pm-3pm	8.5%	11.3%	17.5%	17.9%	18.8%	17.8%	18.4%	17.8%
3pm-6pm	13.7%	15%	23.7%	22.8%	24.6%	21.9%	24.3%	22.1%
6pm-9pm	18.1%	17.7%	16.2%	15.2%	15.3%	14.2%	15.5%	14.5%
Unknown	0%	< 0.1%	1%	1.5%	0.7%	1.7%	0.8%	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.

- Crashes involving drivers aged 16-24 were most likely to occur between 3pm-6pm (24.3%) which is the same as the time period for the most crashes involving all drivers.
- The largest proportion of fatal crashes involving drivers aged 16-24 occurred 12am-5am (25%). 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 16-24:
2022

	Drivers Aged 16-24	All Drivers in NYS
Total Drivers	26,916	166,443
Select Factors		
Driver Inattention/Distracted	14%	14.1%
Failure to Yield Right-of-Way	13.8%	12%
Following Too Closely	13.1%	10.3%
Unsafe Speed	11.9%	6.7%
Traffic Control Device Disregarded	4.9%	4%
Driver Inexperience	4.7%	1.8%
Cell Phone (hand held and free)	0.4%	0.2%
Texting	< 0.1%	< 0.1%
Alcohol Involvement	1.9%	1.8%

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

- In 2022, the top three contributing factors for drivers aged 16-24 in F&PI crashes were Driver Inattention/Distracted (14%), Failure to Yield Right-of-Way (13.8%), and Following Too Closely (13.1%).
- Drivers aged 16-24 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 (11.9% versus 6.7% and 4.7% versus 1.8%, respectively).

TABLE 5
TRAFFIC TICKETS (SELECT VIOLATIONS) ISSUED TO DRIVERS AGED 16-24: 2022

	Drivers Aged 16-24	All Drivers in NYS
Total Tickets Issued	579,955	2,566,092
Speeding	25%	20.5%
License	9.1%	7.7%
Traffic Device / Stop Sign	9%	11.2%
Seat Belts	3.5%	4.1%
Texting	2%	2.7%
Cell Phone	0.8%	1.4%
Total TSLED Tickets Issued	463,016	1,916,857
Impaired Driving	1.5%	2.3%

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.

- Speeding violations were the most common ticket category issued to drivers aged 16-24. 25% of the tickets issued to drivers aged 16-24 were for speeding violations, compared to 20.5% of the tickets issued to all drivers.
- In 2022, 1.5% of the TSLED tickets issued to drivers aged 16-24 were for impaired driving versus 2.3% 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 16-24 BY REGION OF THE STATE: 2022

	Upstate		New York City		Long Island		NYS F&PI Involving Drivers Aged 16-24
	Count	% of Total	Count	% of Total	Count	% of Total	
F&PI Crashes	12,024	45.1%	8,208	30.8%	6,413	24.1%	26,645
Fatal	155	62.5%	42	16.9%	51	20.6%	248
Personal Injury	11,869	45%	8,166	30.9%	6,362	24.1%	26,397
Fatalities	170	61.8%	45	16.4%	60	21.8%	275
Persons Injured	16,758	43.1%	12,647	32.5%	9,514	24.4%	38,919
Drivers Involved Aged 16-24	13,054	45.1%	8,732	30.2%	7,143	24.7%	28,929
Male Drivers Involved Aged 16-24	7,242	40.5%	6,395	35.8%	4,234	23.7%	17,871
Female Drivers Involved Aged 16-24	5,811	52.6%	2,336	21.1%	2,909	26.3%	11,056
Licensed Drivers Aged 16-24	586,231	52.6%	281,318	25.2%	245,642	22%	1,115,342

- In 2022, 45.1% of the F&PI crashes involving drivers aged 16-24 occurred in the Upstate region, 24.1% were on Long Island and 30.8% in New York City.
- In 2022, 61.8% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers aged 16-24 occurred in the Upstate region, while 21.8% occurred on Long Island and 16.4% were in the five boroughs of New York City.
- Drivers aged 16-24 were underrepresented in F&PI crashes in the Upstate region (45.1% of the drivers involved in crashes vs. 52.6% of the licensed drivers), overrepresented in crashes in the Long Island region (24.7% of the drivers involved in crashes vs. 22% of the licensed drivers), and overrepresented in NYC (30.2% of the drivers involved in crashes vs. 25.2% 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; February 2024