

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

PREPARED BY THE INSTITUTE FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH

TABLE 1
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-24
SEVERITY OF CRASH, FATALITIES & PERSONS INJURED, AND DRIVERS INVOLVED

	2015	2016	2017
Crashes (% of total NYS)	79,551 (27.0%)	81,634 (27.0%)	80,940 (26.2%)
Fatal (% of total NYS)	247 (23.6%)	215 (22.2%)	203 (21.8%)
Personal Injury (% of total NYS)	31,469 (27.8%)	34,031 (27.7%)	32,739 (26.7%)
Property Damage Only (% of total NYS)	47,835 (26.6%)	47,388 (26.6%)	47,998 (25.8%)
Fatalities (% of total NYS)	266 (23.8%)	232 (22.5%)	228 (22.8%)
Driver Fatalities Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS)	100 (17.3%)	92 (17.3%)	80 (15.4%)
Persons Injured (% of total NYS)	46,832 (29.4%)	49,839 (29.3%)	48,406 (28.5%)
Drivers Involved Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS)	86,946 (17.9%)	88,734 (17.9%)	87,953 (17.3%)
Male Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS)	50,226 (18.3%)	51,504 (18.2%)	51,356 (17.5%)
Female Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS)	36,718 (19.9%)	37,230 (19.9%)	36,596 (19.3%)
Licensed Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS)	1,162,030 (9.8%)	1,165,828 (9.6%)	1,173,613 (9.6%)

- 26%-27% of all motor vehicle crashes in 2015-2017 involved drivers ages 16-24; the number of crashes rose slightly from 79,551 in 2015 to 81,364 in 2016 then declined slightly to 80,940 in 2017.
- 23% of all motor vehicle fatalities in 2017 occurred in crashes involving drivers ages 16-24, down from 24% of the fatalities in 2015.
- The number of fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 dropped from 266 in 2015 to 228 in 2017, a decrease of 14%. In 2017, 80 drivers ages 16-24 were killed in crashes, down from 100 in 2015, representing a decrease of 20%.
- The number of persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 increased from 46,832 in 2015 to 48,406 in 2017, an increase of 3%.
- Drivers ages 16-24 are overrepresented in crashes; 17-18% of the drivers involved in crashes in 2015-2017 were ages 16-24, compared to 10% of all licensed drivers.

TABLE 2
NYS Fatal & Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-24
VEHICLES AND PASSENGERS INVOLVED

	2015	2016	2017	NYS F&PI 2017
Fatal & Personal Injury Crashes	31,716	34,246	32,942	123,484
Crashes Involving Single Vehicle	20.6%	20.3%	19.0%	29.8%
Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles	79.4%	79.7%	81.0%	70.2%
Drivers Ages 16-24 in F&PI Crashes	34,755	37,304	35,965	216,380
With No Passengers*	68.0%	68.4%	68.0%	71.3%
With Passengers	32.0%	31.6%	32.0%	28.7%

*Note: As mandated by NYSDMV regulations, drivers holding permits or junior licenses must have a "qualifying" adult in the vehicle.

- F&PI crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 were more likely to involve multiple vehicles than all F&PI crashes (81% vs. 70% in 2017).
- Drivers ages 16-24 involved in F&PI crashes were more likely to be driving with passengers than drivers in all F&PI crashes (32% vs. 29% in 2017).

TABLE 3
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-24
TIME OF DAY: 2017

Time of Day	Fatal		Personal Injury		Property Damage Only		Total Crashes	
	Involving Drivers Ages 16-24 (N=203)	Involving All Drivers (N=933)	Involving Drivers Ages 16-24 (N=32,739)	Involving All Drivers (N=122,551)	Involving Drivers Ages 16-24 (N=47,998)	Involving All Drivers (N=185,887)	Involving Drivers Ages 16-24 (N=80,940)	Involving All Drivers (N=309,371)
9pm-Mid	15.3%	15.1%	9.7%	8.6%	8.8%	7.6%	9.2%	8.0%
Mid-5am	17.2%	15.0%	6.8%	6.1%	6.5%	6.6%	6.7%	6.4%
5am-9am	10.8%	12.5%	11.7%	13.4%	13.6%	16.0%	12.9%	15.0%
9am-Noon	8.4%	10.3%	11.9%	13.8%	12.7%	14.0%	12.4%	13.9%
Noon-3pm	11.8%	13.1%	18.0%	18.1%	18.0%	17.0%	18.0%	17.4%
3pm-6pm	16.3%	17.7%	24.9%	23.5%	24.4%	21.6%	24.6%	22.4%
6pm-9pm	20.2%	16.2%	16.2%	15.3%	14.3%	13.9%	15.1%	14.4%
Unknown	0.0%	0.1%	0.9%	1.3%	1.6%	3.3%	1.3%	2.5%

- Crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 were most likely to occur between 3pm and 6pm (25%); the largest proportion of crashes involving all drivers (22%) also occurred during this time period.
- The largest proportions of fatal crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 occurred 6pm-9pm (20%). Personal injury crashes (25%) and property damage crashes (24%) involving drivers in this age group were most likely to occur during the 3pm-6pm time period.

TABLE 4
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-24
FATALITIES AND PERSONS INJURED

	2015	2016	2017	NYS Total 2017
Total Fatalities	266	232	228	1,000
Drivers	151 (56.8%)	134 (57.8%)	124 (54.4%)	51.8%
Passengers	54 (20.3%)	50 (21.6%)	64 (28.1%)	18.1%
Pedestrians	54 (20.3%)	44 (19.0%)	34 (14.9%)	25.2%
Bicyclists	7 (2.6%)	4 (1.7%)	6 (2.6%)	4.8%
Other	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0.1%
Total Persons Injured	46,832	49,839	48,406	169,752
Drivers	30,858 (65.9%)	33,065 (66.3%)	31,788 (65.7%)	59.3%
Passengers	14,193 (30.3%)	14,700 (29.5%)	14,587 (30.1%)	27.6%
Pedestrians	1,220 (2.6%)	1,423 (2.9%)	1,395 (2.9%)	9.2%
Bicyclists	511 (1.1%)	577 (1.2%)	546 (1.1%)	3.5%
Other	50 (0.1%)	74 (0.1%)	90 (0.2%)	0.4%

- In 2017, drivers accounted for the majority of fatalities in both crashes involving drivers 16-24 years of age and crashes involving drivers of all ages (54% and 52%, respectively).
- Compared to fatalities in all crashes, fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 were more likely to be passengers (28% vs. 18% in 2017).
- Passengers also accounted for a larger proportion of the persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 than in all crashes (30% vs. 28% in 2017).
- Pedestrians comprised much smaller proportions of the fatalities and persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 than in all crashes (15% vs. 25% and 3% vs. 9%, respectively, in 2017).

TABLE 5
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-24
AGE OF PASSENGERS KILLED OR INJURED
IN VEHICLES WITH DRIVERS AGES 16-24: 2017

	Killed or Injured		NYS Total
Total	7,691		46,991
Under Age 4	311	4.0%	4.3%
Ages 4-6	143	1.9%	3.9%
Ages 7-15	570	7.4%	12.5%
Ages 16-17	937	12.2%	4.1%
Ages 18-20	1,794	23.3%	6.9%
Ages 21-24	1,692	22.0%	9.0%
Ages 25-29	720	9.4%	10.2%
Age 30 and Over	1,314	17.1%	45.6%
Unknown Age	210	2.7%	3.5%

- The largest proportion of passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 16-24 were ages 18-20 (23%).
- Passengers ages 16-24 accounted for 58% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 16-24.
- Only 17% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 16-24 were age 30 or over, compared to 46% of the passengers riding with all drivers.

TABLE 6
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes
RESTRAINT USE FOR VEHICLE OCCUPANTS AGES 16-24*: 2017

	Total	Restrained	% Restrained	NYS Total Drivers (% Restrained)
Total Vehicle Occupants Ages 16-24	120,970	110,051	91.0%	
Drivers Ages 16-24	81,645	76,323	93.5%	447,160 (89.1%)
Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-24	20,396	18,254	89.5%	
Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	18,929	15,474	81.7%	
Total Killed	102	52	51.0%	
Drivers Ages 16-24	58	33	56.9%	384 (56.0%)
Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-24	34	12	35.3%	
Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	10	7	70.0%	
Total Injured	24,847	21,549	86.7%	
Drivers Ages 16-24	15,890	14,497	91.2%	89,127 (91.1%)
Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-24	4,229	3,449	81.6%	
Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	4,728	3,603	76.2%	
Total Uninjured	96,021	88,450	92.1%	
Drivers Ages 16-24	65,697	61,793	94.1%	357,649 (88.6%)
Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-24	16,133	14,793	91.7%	
Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	14,191	11,864	83.6%	

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

- The overall restraint use for drivers ages 16-24 involved in crashes in 2017 was higher than the restraint use for passengers ages 16-24. Restraint use for drivers was 94%, compared to 90% for passengers ages 16-24 in vehicles with drivers ages 16-24 and 82% for passengers ages 16-24 in vehicles with drivers of other ages.
- Overall, drivers ages 16-24 were more likely to be restrained than drivers of all ages (94% vs. 89%, respectively); however, for drivers killed, similar proportions of the drivers ages 16-24 and all drivers were restrained (57% vs. 56%, respectively).
- Overall and for all injury levels, drivers ages 16-24 were more likely to be restrained than passengers ages 16-24 riding with drivers ages 16-24.

TABLE 7
NYS Fatal and Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-24*
SELECT CONTRIBUTING FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH DRIVERS

	Drivers Ages 16-24			Total NYS
	2015	2016	2017	2017
Total Drivers	32,661	35,250	34,152	199,435
Select Factors				
Driver Inattention/Distraction	14.9%	15.3%	16.0%	14.8%
Driver Inexperience	4.4%	4.3%	4.5%	1.6%
Failure to Yield R.O.W.	12.5%	12.1%	13.1%	11.1%
Following Too Closely	15.5%	15.7%	16.3%	12.5%
Traffic Control Device Disregarded	4.0%	3.8%	4.1%	3.4%
Unsafe Speed	12.1%	11.6%	11.1%	5.9%
Cell Phone	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%
Texting	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%
Alcohol Involvement	2.1%	2.2%	1.9%	1.7%

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

- In 2017, “driver inattention/distraction” and “following too closely” were the two most frequently reported contributing factors for both drivers ages 16-24 (both 16%) and for all drivers (15% and 13%, respectively) in F&PI crashes.
- Drivers ages 16-24 in F&PI crashes were more likely than all drivers in F&PI crashes to have “unsafe speed” reported as a contributing factor (11% vs. 6% in 2017).
- As would be expected, drivers ages 16-24 were also more likely to have “driver inexperience” reported as a contributing factor in F&PI crashes (5% vs. 2% in 2017).

TABLE 8
NYS Traffic Tickets Issued to Drivers Ages 16-24
SELECT VIOLATIONS

	Drivers Ages 16-24			NYS Total
	2015	2016	2017	2017
Total Tickets Issued	771,157	792,769	791,504	3,724,952
Speeding	24.2%	24.7%	23.4%	18.6%
License	8.0%	8.5%	8.7%	7.2%
Traffic Device/Stop Sign	10.2%	10.4%	10.5%	13.4%
Seat Belts	4.2%	3.8%	3.6%	4.4%
Cell Phone	1.9%	1.7%	1.6%	2.8%
Texting	1.7%	1.9%	2.2%	3.0%
Total TSLED Tickets Issued	613,339	632,842	624,905	2,506,390
Impaired Driving	2.2%	2.1%	1.9%	2.5%

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 being 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 2017, 23% of the tickets issued to drivers ages 16-24 were for speeding violations, compared to 19% of the tickets issued to all drivers.
- Drivers ages 16-24 were less likely than all drivers to be issued tickets for cell phone and texting violations in 2017 (4% vs. 6%).

TABLE 9
NYS Motor Vehicle Fatal and Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-24
SEVERITY OF CRASH, FATALITIES & PERSONS INJURED, AND DRIVERS INVOLVED
BY REGION OF THE STATE*: 2017

	UPSTATE	NYC	LONG ISLAND	NYS F&PI Involving Drivers Ages 16-24
F&PI Crashes (% of total)	15,756 (47.8%)	9,390 (28.5%)	7,791 (23.7%)	32,942
Fatal (% of total)	124 (61.1%)	36 (17.7%)	43 (21.2%)	203
Personal Injury (% of total)	15,632 (47.7%)	9,354 (28.6%)	7,748 (23.7%)	32,739
Fatalities (% of total)	140 (61.4%)	39 (17.1%)	49 (21.5%)	228
Persons Injured (% of total)	22,051 (45.6%)	14,628 (30.2%)	11,719 (24.2%)	48,406
Drivers Involved Ages 16-24 (% of total)	17,245 (47.9%)	10,006 (27.8%)	8,709 (24.2%)	35,965
Male Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS)	9,178 (43.4%)	7,210 (34.1%)	4,760 (22.5%)	21,153
Female Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS)	8,067 (54.5%)	2,795 (18.9%)	3,949 (26.7%)	14,811
Licensed Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total)	642,644 (54.8%)	275,244 (23.5%)	255,725 (21.8%)	1,173,613

*Note: Regional data may not sum to statewide due to missing data.

- 48% of the F&PI crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 occurred in the Upstate region, 29% in New York City and 24% on Long Island.
- 61% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers 16-24 occurred on roadways in the Upstate region, while 17% happened on roadways in New York City and 22% occurred on Long Island highways.
- Drivers ages 16-24 are underrepresented in F&PI crashes in the Upstate region and overrepresented in crashes in the New York City and Long Island regions.