

NEW YORK STATE FACT SHEET ON YOUNG DRIVERS AGES 21-24

PREPARED BY THE INSTITUTE FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH

TABLE 1
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 21-24
SEVERITY OF CRASH, FATALITIES & PERSONS INJURED, AND DRIVERS INVOLVED

	2015	2016	2017
Crashes (% of total NYS)	44,793 (15.2%)	45,898 (15.2%)	45,667 (14.8%)
Fatal (% of total NYS)	154 (14.7%)	122 (12.6%)	110 (11.8%)
Personal Injury (% of total NYS)	18,215 (16.1%)	19,828 (16.1%)	18,950 (15.5%)
Property Damage Only (% of total NYS)	26,424 (14.7%)	25,948 (14.6%)	26,607 (14.3%)
Fatalities (% of total NYS)	163 (14.6%)	130 (12.6%)	121 (12.1%)
Driver Fatalities Ages 21-24 (% of total NYS)	66 (11.4%)	51 (9.6%)	37 (7.1%)
Persons Injured (% of total NYS)	27,243 (17.1%)	29,107 (17.1%)	28,052 (16.5%)
Drivers Involved Ages 21-24 (% of total NYS)	46,897 (9.7%)	47,933 (9.7%)	47,838 (9.4%)
Male Drivers Ages 21-24 (% of total NYS)	27,218 (9.9%)	28,125 (10.0%)	28,292 (9.6%)
Female Drivers Ages 21-24 (% of total NYS)	19,677 (10.7%)	19,808 (10.6%)	19,546 (10.3%)
Licensed Drivers Ages 21-24 (% of total NYS)	692,750 (5.8%)	692,247 (5.7%)	691,618 (5.7%)

- 15% of all motor vehicle crashes in 2015-2017 involved drivers ages 21-24; the number of crashes rose from 44,793 in 2015 to 45,898 in 2016 then dropped slightly to 45,667 in 2017.
- 12%-15% of all motor vehicle fatalities in 2015-2017 occurred in crashes involving drivers ages 21-24.
- The number of fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 21-24 dropped from 163 in 2015 to 121 in 2017. The number of driver fatalities ages 21-24 dropped from 66 in 2015 to 37 in 2017.
- The number of persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 21-24 increased from 27,243 in 2015 to 29,107 in 2016 then declined to 28,052 in 2017.
- Drivers ages 21-24 are overrepresented in crashes; 9%-10% of the drivers involved in crashes in 2015-2017 were ages 21-24, compared to 6% of all licensed drivers.

TABLE 2
NYS Fatal & Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 21-24
VEHICLES AND PASSENGERS INVOLVED

	2015	2016	2017	NYS F&PI 2017
Fatal & Personal Injury Crashes	18,369	19,950	19,060	123,484
Crashes Involving Single Vehicle	18.5%	18.2%	17.1%	29.8%
Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles	81.5%	81.8%	82.9%	70.2%
Drivers Ages 21-24 in F&PI Crashes	19,305	20,891	20,046	216,380
With No Passengers*	70.2%	70.7%	70.2%	71.3%
With Passengers	29.8%	29.3%	29.8%	28.7%

*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 21-24 were more likely to involve multiple vehicles than all F&PI crashes (83% vs. 70% in 2017).
- The proportion of drivers ages 21-24 involved in F&PI crashes who drive with passengers was similar to the proportion of all drivers in F&PI crashes (30% vs. 29%, respectively in 2017).

TABLE 3
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 21-24
TIME OF DAY: 2017

Time of Day	Fatal		Personal Injury		Property Damage Only		Total Crashes	
	Involving Drivers Ages 21-24 (N=110)	Involving All Drivers (N=933)	Involving Drivers Ages 21-24 (N=18,950)	Involving All Drivers (N=122,551)	Involving Drivers Ages 21-24 (N=26,607)	Involving All Drivers (N=185,887)	Involving Drivers Ages 21-24 (N=45,667)	Involving All Drivers (N=309,371)
9pm-Mid	15.5%	15.1%	10.0%	8.6%	8.6%	7.6%	9.2%	8.0%
Mid-5am	20.9%	15.0%	7.7%	6.1%	7.3%	6.6%	7.5%	6.4%
5am-9am	11.8%	12.5%	12.4%	13.4%	14.9%	16.0%	13.8%	15.0%
9am-Noon	4.5%	10.3%	12.3%	13.8%	12.8%	14.0%	12.6%	13.9%
Noon-3pm	10.9%	13.1%	16.9%	18.1%	16.9%	17.0%	16.9%	17.4%
3pm-6pm	14.5%	17.7%	23.8%	23.5%	23.7%	21.6%	23.7%	22.4%
6pm-9pm	21.8%	16.2%	16.0%	15.3%	14.1%	13.9%	14.9%	14.4%
Unknown	0.0%	0.1%	1.0%	1.3%	1.8%	3.3%	1.5%	2.5%

- Crashes involving drivers ages 21-24 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 21-24 occurred 6pm-9pm (22%). Personal injury crashes (24%) 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 21-24
FATALITIES AND PERSONS INJURED

	2015	2016	2017	NYS Total 2017
Total Fatalities	163	130	121	1,000
Drivers	97 (59.5%)	77 (59.2%)	66 (54.5%)	51.8%
Passengers	24 (14.7%)	23 (17.7%)	36 (29.8%)	18.1%
Pedestrians	38 (23.3%)	28 (21.5%)	17 (14.0%)	25.2%
Bicyclists	4 (2.5%)	2 (1.5%)	2 (1.7%)	4.8%
Other	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0.1%
Total Persons Injured	27,243	29,107	28,052	169,752
Drivers	17,916 (65.8%)	19,284 (66.3%)	18,328 (65.3%)	59.3%
Passengers	8,174 (30.0%)	8,479 (29.1%)	8,404 (30.0%)	27.6%
Pedestrians	778 (2.9%)	917 (3.2%)	890 (3.2%)	9.2%
Bicyclists	346 (1.3%)	381 (1.3%)	375 (1.3%)	3.5%
Other	29 (0.1%)	46 (0.2%)	55 (0.2%)	0.4%

- In 2017, drivers accounted for 55% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers 21-24 years of age, compared to 52% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers of all ages.
- Passengers were a larger portion of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 21-24 than in all crashes (30% vs. 18% in 2017).
- Passengers accounted for a slightly larger proportion of the persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 21-24 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 21-24 than in all crashes (14% vs. 25% and 3% vs. 9%, respectively, in 2017).

TABLE 5
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 21-24
AGE OF PASSENGERS KILLED OR INJURED
IN VEHICLES WITH DRIVERS AGES 21-24: 2017

	Killed or Injured		NYS Total
Total	4,153		46,991
Under Age 4	242	5.8%	4.3%
Ages 4-6	115	2.8%	3.9%
Ages 7-15	179	4.3%	12.5%
Ages 16-17	125	3.0%	4.1%
Ages 18-20	638	15.4%	6.9%
Ages 21-24	1,258	30.3%	9.0%
Ages 25-29	589	14.2%	10.2%
Age 30 and Over	867	20.9%	45.6%
Unknown Age	140	3.4%	3.5%

- The largest proportion of passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 21-24 were ages 21-24 (30%).
- Passengers ages 18-24 accounted for 46% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 21-24.
- Only 21% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 21-24 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 21-24*: 2017

	Total	Restrained	% Restrained	NYS Total Drivers (% Restrained)
Total Vehicle Occupants Ages 21-24	59,423	53,961	90.8%	
Drivers Ages 21-24	43,777	40,594	92.7%	447,160 (89.1%)
Passengers Ages 21-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 21-24	5,314	4,701	88.5%	
Passengers Ages 21-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	10,332	8,666	83.9%	
Total Killed	44	24	54.5%	
Drivers Ages 21-24	24	13	54.2%	384 (56.0%)
Passengers Ages 21-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 21-24	14	6	42.9%	
Passengers Ages 21-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	6	5	83.3%	
Total Injured	12,718	10,961	86.2%	
Drivers Ages 21-24	8,747	7,889	90.2%	89,127 (91.1%)
Passengers Ages 21-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 21-24	1,178	949	80.6%	
Passengers Ages 21-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	2,793	2,123	76.0%	
Total Uninjured	46,661	42,976	92.1%	
Drivers Ages 21-24	35,006	32,692	93.4%	357,649 (88.6%)
Passengers Ages 21-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 21-24	4,122	3,746	90.9%	
Passengers Ages 21-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	7,533	6,538	86.8%	

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

- The overall restraint use for drivers ages 21-24 was higher than the restraint use for passengers ages 21-24. Restraint use for drivers was 93%, compared to 89% for passengers ages 21-24 in vehicles with drivers ages 21-24 and 84% for passengers ages 21-24 in vehicles with drivers of other ages.
- For drivers killed, drivers ages 21-24 were less likely to be restrained than drivers of all ages (54% vs. 56%, respectively).
- 90% of the drivers ages 21-24 injured in crashes were restrained; passengers ages 21-24 injured in crashes had lower use rates whether riding with drivers of the same age or with drivers of any age (81% and 76%, respectively).

TABLE 7
NYS Fatal and Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 21-24*
SELECT CONTRIBUTING FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH DRIVERS

	Drivers Ages 21-24			Total NYS
	2015	2016	2017	2017
Total Drivers	17,902	19,512	18,811	199,435
Select Factors				
Driver Inattention/Distracted	14.4%	15.0%	16.0%	14.8%
Driver Inexperience	2.3%	2.5%	2.4%	1.6%
Failure to Yield ROW	10.8%	10.8%	11.0%	11.1%
Following Too Closely	14.7%	15.1%	15.8%	12.5%
Traffic Control Device Disregarded	3.9%	3.6%	4.0%	3.4%
Unsafe Speed	11.0%	10.1%	9.8%	5.9%
Cell Phone	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%
Texting	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%
Alcohol Involvement	2.8%	2.9%	2.5%	1.7%

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

- In 2017, “driver inattention/distracted” and “following too closely” were the two most frequently reported contributing factors for drivers ages 21-24 (both 16%) and for all drivers (15% and 13%, respectively) in F&PI crashes.
- Drivers ages 21-24 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 2017).
- Drivers ages 21-24 were slightly more likely than all drivers to have “alcohol involvement” reported as a contributing factor in F&PI crashes (3% vs. 2% in 2017).

TABLE 8
NYS Traffic Tickets Issued to Drivers Ages 21-24
SELECT VIOLATIONS

	Drivers Ages 21-24			NYS Total
	2015	2016	2017	2017
Total Tickets Issued	478,123	485,961	488,855	3,724,952
Speeding	22.3%	23.1%	21.7%	18.6%
License	8.0%	8.5%	8.7%	7.2%
Traffic Device/Stop Sign	10.4%	10.7%	10.8%	13.4%
Seat Belts	4.4%	4.0%	3.8%	4.4%
Cell Phone	2.2%	1.9%	1.8%	2.8%
Texting	2.0%	2.1%	2.5%	3.0%
Total TSLED Tickets Issued	363,857	370,476	365,588	2,506,390
Impaired Driving	2.9%	2.7%	2.5%	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 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, 22% of the tickets issued to drivers ages 21-24 were for speeding violations, compared to 19% of the tickets issued to all drivers.
- Drivers ages 21-24 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 21-24
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 21-24
F&PI Crashes (% of total)	8,131 (42.7%)	6,685 (35.1%)	4,243 (22.3%)	19,060
Fatal (% of total)	61 (55.5%)	27 (24.5%)	22 (20.0%)	110
Personal Injury (% of total)	8,070 (42.6%)	6,658 (35.1%)	4,221 (22.3%)	18,950
Fatalities (% of total)	69 (57.0%)	29 (24.0%)	23 (19.0%)	121
Persons Injured (% of total)	11,303 (40.3%)	10,370 (37.0%)	6,378 (22.7%)	28,052
Drivers Involved Ages 21-24 (% of total)	8,572 (42.8%)	6,988 (34.9%)	4,485 (22.4%)	20,046
Male Drivers Ages 21-24 (% of total NYS)	4,587 (38.1%)	5,015 (41.7%)	2,422 (20.1%)	12,025
Female Drivers Ages 21-24 (% of total NYS)	3,985 (49.7%)	1,973 (24.6%)	2,063 (25.7%)	8,021
Licensed Drivers Ages 21-24 (% of total)	355,135 (51.4%)	194,394 (28.1%)	142,089 (20.5%)	691,618

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

- In 2017, 43% of the F&PI crashes involving drivers ages 21-24 occurred in the Upstate region, 35% took place in New York City and 22% on Long Island.
- 57% of the fatalities that occurred in crashes involving drivers ages 21-24 occurred in the Upstate region; 24% in New York City and 19% on Long Island.
- Drivers ages 21-24 are underrepresented in F&PI crashes in the Upstate region and overrepresented in crashes in the New York City and Long Island regions.