

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

	2013	2014	2015
Crashes (% of total NYS)	83,616 (27.4%)	79,595 (26.6%)	79,551 (27.0%)
Fatal (% of total NYS)	269 (24.3%)	213 (22.0%)	247 (23.6%)
Personal Injury (% of total NYS)	34,552 (27.8%)	32,184 (27.2%)	31,469 (27.8%)
Property Damage Only (% of total NYS)	48,795 (27.2%)	47,198 (26.2%)	47,835 (26.6%)
Fatalities (% of total NYS)	307 (25.8%)	240 (23.4%)	266 (23.8%)
Driver Fatalities Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS)	128 (20.9%)	92 (16.1%)	100 (17.3%)
Persons Injured (% of total NYS)	50,281 (29.7%)	46,652 (29.1%)	46,832 (29.4%)
Drivers Involved Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS)	91,095 (18.3%)	86,691 (17.7%)	86,946 (17.9%)
Male Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS)	52,110 (18.6%)	49,461 (18.0%)	50,226 (18.3%)
Female Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS)	38,984 (20.5%)	37,228 (20.1%)	36,718 (19.9%)
Licensed Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS)	1,172,947 (10.3%)	1,176,379 (10.1%)	1,162,030 (9.8%)

- 27% of all motor vehicle crashes in 2013-2015 involved drivers ages 16-24; the number of crashes dropped from 83,616 in 2013 to 79,551 in 2015, a decrease of 5%.
- 24% of all motor vehicle fatalities in 2015 occurred in crashes involving drivers ages 16-24, down from 26% of the fatalities in 2013.
- The number of fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 dropped from 307 in 2013 to 266 in 2015, a decrease of 13%. In 2015, 100 drivers ages 16-24 were killed in crashes, down from 128 in 2013, representing a decrease of 22%.
- The number of persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 declined from 50,281 in 2013 to 46,832 in 2015, a decrease of 7%.
- Drivers ages 16-24 are overrepresented in crashes; 18% of the drivers involved in crashes in 2013-2015 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

	2013	2014	2015	NYS F&PI 2015
Fatal & Personal Injury Crashes	34,821	32,397	31,716	114,441
Crashes Involving Single Vehicle	22.4%	21.3%	20.6%	30.4%
Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles	77.6%	78.7%	79.4%	69.6%
Drivers Ages 16-24 in F&PI Crashes	38,039	35,368	34,755	200,558
With No Passengers*	67.0%	67.6%	68.0%	71.5%
With Passengers	33.0%	32.4%	32.0%	28.5%

*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 16-24 were more likely to involve multiple vehicles than all F&PI crashes (79% vs. 70% in 2015).
- 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 2015).

TABLE 3
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-24
TIME OF DAY: 2015

Time of Day	Fatal		Personal Injury		Property Damage Only		Total Crashes	
	Involving Drivers Ages 16-24 (N=247)	Involving All Drivers (N=1,045)	Involving Drivers Ages 16-24 (N=31,469)	Involving All Drivers (N=113,396)	Involving Drivers Ages 16-24 (N=47,835)	Involving All Drivers (N=180,115)	Involving Drivers Ages 16-24 (N=79,551)	Involving All Drivers (N=294,556)
9pm-Mid	13.4%	13.9%	9.3%	8.2%	8.6%	7.3%	8.9%	7.7%
Mid-5am	19.4%	14.9%	6.7%	5.9%	6.5%	6.0%	6.6%	6.0%
5am-9am	13.8%	13.4%	11.8%	13.2%	13.1%	15.3%	12.6%	14.5%
9am-Noon	9.7%	12.0%	12.3%	14.2%	12.9%	14.4%	12.6%	14.3%
Noon-3pm	9.7%	12.0%	18.3%	18.3%	18.2%	17.1%	18.2%	17.5%
3pm-6pm	18.6%	17.0%	25.2%	23.8%	24.4%	21.6%	24.7%	22.4%
6pm-9pm	15.4%	16.4%	15.7%	15.3%	14.4%	13.6%	14.9%	14.3%
Unknown	0.0%	0.5%	0.8%	1.1%	1.9%	4.7%	1.5%	3.3%

- 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 midnight-5am (19%) and 3pm-6pm (19%). 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 16-24
FATALITIES AND PERSONS INJURED

	2013	2014	2015	NYS Total 2015
Total Fatalities	307	240	266	1,116
Drivers	174 (56.7%)	139 (57.9%)	151 (56.8%)	51.7%
Passengers	80 (26.1%)	58 (24.2%)	54 (20.3%)	16.2%
Pedestrians	49 (16.0%)	37 (15.4%)	54 (20.3%)	28.8%
Bicyclists	4 (1.3%)	6 (2.5%)	7 (2.6%)	3.2%
Other	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0.1%
Total Persons Injured	50,281	46,652	46,832	159,025
Drivers	33,255 (66.1%)	31,012 (66.5%)	30,858 (65.9%)	60.4%
Passengers	14,899 (29.6%)	13,753 (29.5%)	14,193 (30.3%)	27.6%
Pedestrians	1,492 (3.0%)	1,321 (2.8%)	1,220 (2.6%)	8.4%
Bicyclists	568 (1.1%)	500 (1.1%)	511 (1.1%)	3.3%
Other	67 (0.1%)	66 (0.1%)	50 (0.1%)	0.2%

- In 2015, drivers accounted for the majority of fatalities in both crashes involving drivers 16-24 years of age and crashes involving drivers of all ages (57% and 52%, respectively).
- Compared to fatalities in all crashes, fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 were more likely to be passengers (16% vs. 20% in 2015).
- 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 2015).
- Pedestrians comprised much smaller proportions of the fatalities and persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 than in all crashes (20% vs. 29% and 3% vs. 8%, respectively, in 2015).

TABLE 5
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-24
AGE OF PASSENGERS KILLED OR INJURED
IN VEHICLES WITH DRIVERS AGES 16-24: 2015

	Killed or Injured		NYS Total
Total	7,584		44,112
Under Age 4	301	4.0%	4.7%
Ages 4-6	140	1.8%	3.9%
Ages 7-15	546	7.2%	12.9%
Ages 16-17	937	12.4%	4.2%
Ages 18-20	1,775	23.4%	6.8%
Ages 21-24	1,720	22.7%	9.0%
Ages 25-29	634	8.4%	9.3%
Age 30 and Over	1,129	14.9%	41.9%
Unknown Age	402	5.3%	7.3%

- The largest proportions of passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 16-24 were ages 18-20 (23%) and 21-24 (23%).
- Passengers ages 16-24 accounted for 59% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 16-24.
- Only 15% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 16-24 were age 30 or over, compared to 42% of the passengers riding with all drivers.

TABLE 6
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes
RESTRAINT USE FOR VEHICLE OCCUPANTS AGES 16-24*: 2015

	Total	Restrained	% Restrained	NYS Total Drivers (% Restrained)
Total Vehicle Occupants Ages 16-24	117,142	107,192	91.5%	
Drivers Ages 16-24	79,542	74,767	94.0%	411,009 (90.1%)
Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-24	20,556	18,439	89.7%	
Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	17,044	13,986	82.1%	
Total Killed	116	57	49.1%	
Drivers Ages 16-24	73	39	53.4%	432 (57.6%)
Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-24	27	11	40.7%	
Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	16	7	43.8%	
Total Injured	23,708	20,727	87.4%	
Drivers Ages 16-24	15,461	14,110	91.3%	83,134 (91.6%)
Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-24	4,218	3,465	82.1%	
Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	4,029	3,152	78.2%	
Total Uninjured	93,318	86,408	92.6%	
Drivers Ages 16-24	64,008	60,618	94.7%	327,443 (89.8%)
Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-24	16,311	14,963	91.7%	
Passengers Ages 16-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	12,999	10,827	83.3%	

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

- The overall restraint use for drivers ages 16-24 involved in crashes in 2015 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. 90%, respectively); however, for drivers killed, drivers ages 16-24 were less likely to be restrained than all drivers (53% vs. 58%, 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 or with drivers of any age.

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
	2013	2014	2015	2015
Total Drivers	36,073	33,425	32,661	180,905
Select Factors				
Driver Inattention/Distraction	14.9%	15.2%	14.9%	13.2%
Driver Inexperience	4.5%	4.2%	4.4%	1.5%
Failure to Yield R.O.W.	12.3%	12.5%	12.5%	10.7%
Following Too Closely	14.7%	15.1%	15.5%	11.9%
Traffic Control Device Disregarded	3.7%	3.7%	4.0%	3.3%
Unsafe Speed	12.1%	11.6%	12.1%	6.6%
Cell Phone	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%
Texting	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%
Alcohol Involvement	2.7%	2.4%	2.1%	1.8%

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

- In 2015, “driver inattention/distraction” and “following too closely” were the two most frequently reported contributing factors for both drivers ages 16-24 (15% and 16%, respectively) and for all drivers (13% and 12%, respectively) in F&PI crashes.
- Drivers ages 16-24 in F&PI crashes were much more likely than all drivers in F&PI crashes to have “unsafe speed” reported as a contributing factor (12% vs. 7% in 2015).
- 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 (4% vs. 2%, respectively).

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

	Drivers Ages 16-24			NYS Total
	2013	2014	2015	2015
Total Tickets Issued	805,312	777,037	771,157	3,509,818
Speeding	21.1%	22.6%	24.2%	19.8%
License	8.0%	7.7%	8.0%	6.5%
Traffic Device/Stop Sign	9.7%	10.1%	10.2%	12.7%
Seat Belts	5.3%	4.6%	4.2%	5.0%
Cell Phone	3.0%	2.3%	1.9%	3.8%
Texting	1.3%	1.6%	1.7%	2.4%
Total TSLED Tickets Issued	617,805	604,580	613,339	2,402,235
Impaired Driving	2.6%	2.5%	2.2%	2.6%

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. It should also be noted that TSLED did not begin capturing all tickets issued for impaired driving in Suffolk County until 2014.

- The largest proportion of tickets issued to drivers each year was for speeding violations. In 2015, 24% of the tickets issued to drivers ages 16-24 were for speeding violations, compared to 20% 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 2015 (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*: 2015

	UPSTATE	NYC	LONG ISLAND	NYS F&PI Involving Drivers Ages 16-24
F&PI Crashes (% of total)	16,167 (51.0%)	7,465 (23.5%)	8,075 (25.5%)	31,716
Fatal (% of total)	134 (54.3%)	50 (20.2%)	63 (25.5%)	247
Personal Injury (% of total)	16,033 (50.9%)	7,415 (23.6%)	8,012 (25.5%)	31,469
Fatalities (% of total)	147 (55.3%)	51 (19.2%)	68 (25.6%)	266
Persons Injured (% of total)	22,523 (48.1%)	12,230 (26.1%)	12,068 (25.8%)	46,832
Drivers Involved Ages 16-24 (% of total)	17,742 (51.0%)	7,981 (23.0%)	9,021 (26.0%)	34,755
Male Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS)	9,483 (47.2%)	5,601 (27.9%)	4,980 (24.8%)	20,073
Female Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total NYS)	8,258 (56.2%)	2,380 (16.2%)	4,041 (27.5%)	14,681
Licensed Drivers Ages 16-24 (% of total)	646,348 (55.7%)	261,561 (22.6%)	251,620 (21.7%)	1,162,030

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

- 51% of the F&PI crashes involving drivers ages 16-24 occurred in the Upstate region, 24% in New York City and 26% on Long Island.
- 55% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers 16-24 occurred on roadways in the Upstate region, while 19% happened on roadways in New York City and 26% 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.