

NEW YORK STATE

FACT SHEET ON YOUNG DRIVERS AGES 18-20

PREPARED BY THE INSTITUTE FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH

TABLE 1
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-20
SEVERITY OF CRASH, FATALITIES & PERSONS INJURED, AND DRIVERS INVOLVED

	2013	2014	2015
Crashes (% of total NYS)	31,539 (10.3%)	29,903 (10.0%)	29,931 (10.2%)
Fatal (% of total NYS)	99 (8.9%)	80 (8.3%)	80 (7.7%)
Personal Injury (% of total NYS)	12,695 (10.2%)	11,811 (10.0%)	11,592 (10.2%)
Property Damage Only (% of total NYS)	18,745 (10.5%)	18,012 (10.0%)	18,259 (10.1%)
Fatalities (% of total NYS)	117 (9.8%)	94 (9.2%)	85 (7.6%)
Driver Fatalities Ages 18-20 (% of total NYS)	51 (8.3%)	36 (6.3%)	29 (5.0%)
Persons Injured (% of total NYS)	18,516 (10.9%)	17,256 (10.8%)	17,179 (10.8%)
Drivers Involved Ages 18-20 (% of total NYS)	32,671 (6.6%)	31,020 (6.3%)	31,035 (6.4%)
Male Drivers Ages 18-20 (% of total NYS)	18,815 (6.7%)	17,782 (6.5%)	18,127 (6.6%)
Female Drivers Ages 18-20 (% of total NYS)	13,856 (7.3%)	13,237 (7.1%)	12,908 (7.0%)
Licensed Drivers Ages 18-20 (% of total NYS)	397,406 (3.5%)	391,769 (3.4%)	385,567 (3.2%)

- 10% of all motor vehicle crashes in 2013-2015 involved drivers ages 18-20; the number of crashes dropped from 31,539 in 2013 to 29,931 in 2015, a decrease of 5%.
- 8%-10% of all motor vehicle fatalities in 2013-2015 occurred in crashes involving drivers ages 18-20.
- The number of fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 18-20 dropped from 117 in 2013 to 85 in 2015, a decrease of 27%. In 2015, 29 drivers ages 18-20 were killed in crashes, down from the 51 fatalities in 2013, a decrease of 43%.
- The number of persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 18-20 declined 7%, dropping from 18,516 in 2013 to 17,179 in 2015.
- Drivers ages 18-20 are overrepresented in crashes; 6%-7% of the drivers involved in crashes in 2013-2015 were ages 18-20, compared to less than 4% of all licensed drivers.

TABLE 2
NYS Fatal & Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-20
VEHICLES AND PASSENGERS INVOLVED

	2013	2014	2015	NYS F&PI 2015
Fatal & Personal Injury Crashes	12,794	11,891	11,672	114,441
Crashes Involving Single Vehicle	22.2%	21.2%	20.3%	30.4%
Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles	77.8%	78.8%	79.7%	69.6%
Drivers Ages 18-20 in F&PI Crashes	13,235	12,332	12,099	200,558
With No Passengers*	65.9%	66.7%	67.2%	71.5%
With Passengers	34.1%	33.3%	32.8%	28.5%

*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 18-20 were more likely to involve multiple vehicles than all F&PI crashes (80% vs. 70% in 2015).
- Drivers ages 18-20 involved in F&PI crashes were more likely to be driving with passengers than drivers in all F&PI crashes (33% vs. 29% in 2015).

TABLE 3
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-20
TIME OF DAY: 2015

Time of Day	Fatal		Personal Injury		Property Damage Only		Total Crashes	
	Involving Drivers Ages 18-20 (N=80)	Involving All Drivers (N=1,045)	Involving Drivers Ages 18-20 (N=11,592)	Involving All Drivers (N=113,396)	Involving Drivers Ages 18-20 (N=18,259)	Involving All Drivers (N=180,115)	Involving Drivers Ages 18-20 (N=29,931)	Involving All Drivers (N=294,556)
9pm-Mid	15.0%	13.9%	9.7%	8.2%	9.1%	7.3%	9.3%	7.7%
Mid-5am	18.8%	14.9%	6.5%	5.9%	6.0%	6.0%	6.2%	6.0%
5am-9am	10.0%	13.4%	10.2%	13.2%	11.2%	15.3%	10.8%	14.5%
9am-Noon	8.8%	12.0%	12.0%	14.2%	13.2%	14.4%	12.7%	14.3%
Noon-3pm	13.8%	12.0%	18.9%	18.3%	19.1%	17.1%	19.0%	17.5%
3pm-6pm	17.5%	17.0%	26.3%	23.8%	25.2%	21.6%	25.6%	22.4%
6pm-9pm	16.3%	16.4%	15.8%	15.3%	14.6%	13.6%	15.1%	14.3%
Unknown	0.0%	0.5%	0.6%	1.1%	1.6%	4.7%	1.3%	3.3%

- Crashes involving drivers ages 18-20 were most likely to occur between 3pm and 6pm (26%); the largest proportion of crashes involving all drivers (22%) also occurred during this time period.
- The largest proportions of fatal crashes involving drivers ages 18-20 occurred midnight-5am (19%) and 3pm-6pm (18%). Personal injury crashes (26%) and property damage crashes (25%) 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 18-20
FATALITIES AND PERSONS INJURED

	2013	2014	2015	NYS Total 2015
Total Fatalities	117	94	85	1,116
Drivers	62 (53.0%)	54 (57.4%)	48 (56.5%)	51.7%
Passengers	38 (32.5%)	24 (25.5%)	21 (24.7%)	16.2%
Pedestrians	17 (14.5%)	13 (13.8%)	13 (15.3%)	28.8%
Bicyclists	0 (0.0%)	3 (3.2%)	3 (3.5%)	3.2%
Other	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0.1%
Total Persons Injured	18,516	17,256	17,179	159,025
Drivers	12,320 (66.5%)	11,561 (67.0%)	11,466 (66.7%)	60.4%
Passengers	5,557 (30.0%)	5,106 (29.6%)	5,197 (30.3%)	27.6%
Pedestrians	440 (2.4%)	401 (2.3%)	370 (2.2%)	8.4%
Bicyclists	179 (1.0%)	159 (0.9%)	134 (0.8%)	3.3%
Other	20 (0.1%)	29 (0.2%)	12 (0.1%)	0.2%

- In 2015, drivers accounted for 57% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers 18-20 years of age and 52% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers of all ages.
- Compared to fatalities in all crashes, fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 18-20 were much more likely to be passengers (16% vs. 25% in 2015).
- Passengers also accounted for a larger proportion of the persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 18-20 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 18-20 than in all crashes (15% vs. 29% and 2% vs. 8%, respectively, in 2015).

TABLE 5
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-20
AGE OF PASSENGERS KILLED OR INJURED
IN VEHICLES WITH DRIVERS AGES 18-20: 2015

	Killed or Injured		NYS Total
Total	2,620		44,112
Under Age 4	66	2.5%	4.7%
Ages 4-6	30	1.1%	3.9%
Ages 7-15	185	7.1%	12.9%
Ages 16-17	385	14.7%	4.2%
Ages 18-20	1,026	39.2%	6.8%
Ages 21-24	428	16.3%	9.0%
Ages 25-29	97	3.7%	9.3%
Age 30 and Over	277	10.6%	41.9%
Unknown Age	126	4.8%	7.3%

- The largest proportion of passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 18-20 were ages 18-20 (39%).
- Passengers ages 16-20 accounted for 54% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 18-20, compared to 11% of the passengers riding with all drivers.
- Only 11% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 18-20 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 18-20*: 2015

	Total	Restrained	% Restrained	NYS Total Drivers (% Restrained)
Total Vehicle Occupants Ages 18-20	42,374	38,910	91.8%	
Drivers Ages 18-20	28,801	27,173	94.3%	411,009 (90.1%)
Passengers Ages 18-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-20	5,395	4,847	89.8%	
Passengers Ages 18-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	8,178	6,890	84.3%	
Total Killed	33	15	45.5%	
Drivers Ages 18-20	23	13	56.5%	432 (57.6%)
Passengers Ages 18-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-20	6	1	16.7%	
Passengers Ages 18-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	4	1	25.0%	
Total Injured	8,226	7,200	87.5%	
Drivers Ages 18-20	5,404	4,950	91.6%	83,134 (91.6%)
Passengers Ages 18-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-20	982	816	83.1%	
Passengers Ages 18-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	1,840	1,434	77.9%	
Total Uninjured	34,115	31,695	92.9%	
Drivers Ages 18-20	23,374	22,210	95.0%	327,443 (89.8%)
Passengers Ages 18-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-20	4,407	4,030	91.4%	
Passengers Ages 18-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	6,334	5,455	86.1%	

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

- The overall restraint use for drivers ages 18-20 was higher than the restraint use for passengers ages 18-20. Restraint use for drivers was 94%, compared to 90% for passengers ages 18-20 in vehicles with drivers ages 18-20 and 84% for passengers ages 18-20 in vehicles with drivers of other ages.
- For drivers killed, drivers ages 18-20 were slightly less likely to be restrained than drivers of all ages (57% vs. 58%).
- 92% of the drivers ages 18-20 injured in crashes were restrained; passengers ages 18-20 injured in crashes had lower use rates whether riding with drivers of the same age (83%) or with drivers of any age (78%).

TABLE 7
NYS Fatal and Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-20*
SELECT CONTRIBUTING FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH DRIVERS

	Drivers Ages 18-20			Total NYS
	2013	2014	2015	2015
Total Drivers	12,663	11,748	11,493	180,905
Select Factors				
Driver Inattention/Distracted	15.7%	15.9%	15.5%	13.2%
Driver Inexperience	5.2%	4.7%	5.1%	1.5%
Failure to Yield ROW	13.3%	13.5%	13.4%	10.7%
Following Too Closely	16.0%	15.7%	16.8%	11.9%
Traffic Control Device Disregarded	3.8%	3.9%	4.2%	3.3%
Unsafe Speed	13.3%	12.8%	13.0%	6.6%
Cell Phone	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.2%
Texting	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%
Alcohol Involvement	2.0%	1.7%	1.5%	1.8%

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

- In 2015, “driver inattention/distracted” and “following too closely” were the two most frequently reported contributing factors for both drivers ages 18-20 (16% and 17%, respectively) and for all drivers (13% and 12%, respectively) in F&PI crashes.
- Drivers ages 18-20 in F&PI crashes were nearly twice as likely as all drivers in F&PI crashes to have “unsafe speed” reported as a contributing factor (13% vs. 7% in 2015).
- As would be expected, drivers ages 18-20 were also more likely than all drivers to have “driver inexperience” reported as a contributing factor in F&PI crashes (5% vs. 2% in 2015).

TABLE 8
NYS Traffic Tickets Issued to Drivers Ages 18-20
SELECT VIOLATIONS

	Drivers Ages 18-20			NYS Total
	2013	2014	2015	2015
Total Tickets Issued	262,348	250,164	252,660	3,509,818
Speeding	24.0%	25.9%	27.6%	19.8%
License	7.0%	6.7%	7.1%	6.5%
Traffic Device/Stop Sign	9.7%	10.0%	9.8%	12.7%
Seat Belts	5.1%	4.4%	3.9%	5.0%
Cell Phone	2.3%	1.8%	1.5%	3.8%
Texting	1.0%	1.2%	1.3%	2.4%
Total TSLED Tickets Issued	214,275	207,364	212,823	2,402,235
Impaired Driving	1.7%	1.7%	1.4%	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, 28% of the tickets issued to drivers ages 18-20 were for speeding violations, compared to 20% of the tickets issued to all drivers.

- Drivers ages 18-20 were far less likely than all drivers to be issued tickets for cell phone and texting violations in 2015 (3% vs. 6%).
- Drivers ages 18-20 were slightly less likely than all drivers to be issued tickets for impaired driving under TSLED in 2015 (1% vs. 3%).

TABLE 9
NYS Motor Vehicle Fatal and Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-20
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 18-20
F&PI Crashes (% of total)	6,309 (54.1%)	2,150 (18.4%)	3,209 (27.5%)	11,672
Fatal (% of total)	45 (56.3%)	13 (16.3%)	22 (27.5%)	80
Personal Injury (% of total)	6,264 (54.0%)	2,137 (18.4%)	3,187 (27.5%)	11,592
Fatalities (% of total)	49 (57.6%)	13 (15.3%)	23 (27.1%)	85
Persons Injured (% of total)	8,837 (51.4%)	3,553 (20.7%)	4,784 (27.8%)	17,179
Drivers Involved Ages 18-20 (% of total)	6,538 (54.0%)	2,196 (18.2%)	3,361 (27.8%)	12,099
Male Drivers Ages 18-20 (% of total NYS)	3,510 (50.4%)	1,592 (22.9%)	1,859 (26.7%)	6,965
Female Drivers Ages 18-20 (% of total NYS)	3,028 (59.0%)	604 (11.8%)	1,502 (29.3%)	5,134
Licensed Drivers Ages 18-20 (% of total)	224,097 (58.2%)	68,925 (17.9%)	92,227 (23.9%)	385,567

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

- 54% of the F&PI crashes involving drivers ages 18-20 in 2015 took place in the Upstate region, 28% occurred on Long Island and 18% in New York City.
- 58% of the fatalities in crashes with drivers ages 18-20 were in the Upstate region, while 15% and 27% of the fatalities occurred in the New York City and Long Island regions, respectively.
- Drivers ages 18-20 are underrepresented in F&PI crashes in the Upstate region and overrepresented in crashes in the New York City and Long Island regions.