

NEW YORK STATE FACT SHEET ON YOUNG DRIVERS AGES 18-24

PREPARED BY THE INSTITUTE FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH

TABLE 1
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-24
SEVERITY OF CRASH, FATALITIES & PERSONS INJURED, AND DRIVERS INVOLVED

	2015	2016	2017
Crashes (% of total NYS)	71,972 (24.4%)	73,717 (24.4%)	72,959 (23.6%)
Fatal (% of total NYS)	230 (22.0%)	193 (19.9%)	190 (20.4%)
Personal Injury (% of total NYS)	28,668 (25.3%)	31,107 (25.3%)	29,748 (24.3%)
Property Damage Only (% of total NYS)	43,074 (23.9%)	42,417 (23.8%)	43,021 (23.1%)
Fatalities (% of total NYS)	244 (21.9%)	207 (20.1%)	211 (21.1%)
Driver Fatalities Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	95 (16.5%)	83 (15.6%)	75 (14.5%)
Persons Injured (% of total NYS)	42,572 (26.8%)	45,492 (26.8%)	43,886 (25.9%)
Drivers Involved Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	77,932 (16.1%)	79,494 (16.0%)	78,596 (15.4%)
Male Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	45,345 (16.5%)	46,409 (16.4%)	46,250 (15.8%)
Female Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	32,585 (17.7%)	33,085 (17.7%)	32,345 (17.1%)
Licensed Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	1,078,317 (9.1%)	1,078,816 (8.9%)	1,081,329 (8.9%)

- 24% of all motor vehicle crashes in 2015-2017 involved drivers ages 18-24; the number of crashes increased slightly from 71,972 in 2015 to 73,717 in 2016 then declined to 72,959 in 2017.
- 20-22% of all motor vehicle fatalities in 2015-2017 occurred in crashes involving drivers ages 18-24.
- The number of fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 18-24 dropped from 244 in 2015 to 207 in 2016 then increased slightly to 211 in 2017. Driver fatalities ages 18-24 decreased from 95 in 2015 to 75 in 2017.
- The number of persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 18-24 increased from 42,572 in 2015 to 45,492 in 2016 then decreased to 43,886 in 2017.
- Drivers ages 18-24 are overrepresented in crashes; 15%-16% of the drivers involved in crashes in 2015-2017 were ages 18-24, compared to 9% of all licensed drivers each year.

TABLE 2
NYS Fatal & Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-24
VEHICLES AND PASSENGERS INVOLVED

	2015	2016	2017	NYS F&PI 2017
Fatal & Personal Injury Crashes	28,898	31,300	29,938	123,484
Crashes Involving Single Vehicle	20.0%	19.7%	18.5%	29.8%
Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles	80.0%	80.3%	81.5%	70.2%
Drivers Ages 18-24 in F&PI Crashes	31,404	33,847	32,416	216,380
With No Passengers*	69.0%	69.4%	69.1%	71.3%
With Passengers	31.0%	30.6%	30.9%	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 18-24 were more likely to involve multiple vehicles than all F&PI crashes (82% vs. 70% in 2017).
- Drivers ages 18-24 involved in F&PI crashes were slightly more likely to be driving with passengers than drivers in all F&PI crashes (31% vs. 29% in 2017).

TABLE 3
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-24
TIME OF DAY: 2017

Time of Day	Fatal		Personal Injury		Property Damage Only		Total Crashes	
	Involving Drivers Ages 18-24 (N=190)	Involving All Drivers (N=933)	Involving Drivers Ages 18-24 (N=29,748)	Involving All Drivers (N=122,551)	Involving Drivers Ages 18-24 (N=43,021)	Involving All Drivers (N=185,887)	Involving Drivers Ages 18-24 (N=72,959)	Involving All Drivers (N=309,371)
9pm-Mid	15.3%	15.1%	9.9%	8.6%	8.9%	7.6%	9.3%	8.0%
Mid-5am	17.9%	15.0%	7.2%	6.1%	7.0%	6.6%	7.1%	6.4%
5am-9am	10.5%	12.5%	11.7%	13.4%	13.7%	16.0%	12.9%	15.0%
9am-Noon	8.9%	10.3%	12.2%	13.8%	13.0%	14.0%	12.7%	13.9%
Noon-3pm	12.1%	13.1%	17.7%	18.1%	17.6%	17.0%	17.6%	17.4%
3pm-6pm	15.3%	17.7%	24.5%	23.5%	24.1%	21.6%	24.2%	22.4%
6pm-9pm	20.0%	16.2%	16.0%	15.3%	14.1%	13.9%	14.9%	14.4%
Unknown	0.0%	0.1%	0.9%	1.3%	1.7%	3.3%	1.3%	2.5%

- Crashes involving drivers ages 18-24 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 18-24 occurred 6pm-9pm (20%). Personal injury crashes (25%) and property damage crashes (24%) involving drivers in this age group were most likely to occur 3pm-6pm.

TABLE 4
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-24
FATALITIES AND PERSONS INJURED

	2015	2016	2017	NYS Total 2017
Total Fatalities	244	207	211	1,000
Drivers	141 (57.8%)	119 (57.5%)	115 (54.5%)	51.8%
Passengers	45 (18.4%)	41 (19.8%)	57 (27.0%)	18.1%
Pedestrians	51 (20.9%)	43 (20.8%)	33 (15.6%)	25.2%
Bicyclists	7 (2.9%)	4 (1.9%)	6 (2.8%)	4.8%
Other	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0.1%
Total Persons Injured	42,572	45,492	43,886	169,752
Drivers	28,107 (66.0%)	30,248 (66.5%)	28,886 (65.8%)	59.3%
Passengers	12,803 (30.1%)	13,288 (29.2%)	13,078 (29.8%)	27.6%
Pedestrians	1,141 (2.7%)	1,338 (2.9%)	1,324 (3.0%)	9.2%
Bicyclists	480 (1.1%)	550 (1.2%)	515 (1.2%)	3.5%
Other	41 (0.1%)	68 (0.1%)	83 (0.2%)	0.4%

- In 2017, drivers accounted for 55% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers 18-24 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 18-24 were more likely to be passengers (18% vs. 27% in 2017).
- Passengers also accounted for a larger proportion of the persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 18-24 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 18-24 than in all crashes (16% vs. 25% and 3% vs. 9%, respectively, in 2017).

TABLE 5
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-24
AGE OF PASSENGERS KILLED OR INJURED
IN VEHICLES WITH DRIVERS AGES 18-24: 2017

	Killed or Injured		NYS Total
Total	6,735		46,991
Under Age 4	308	4.6%	4.3%
Ages 4-6	142	2.1%	3.9%
Ages 7-15	377	5.6%	12.5%
Ages 16-17	507	7.5%	4.1%
Ages 18-20	1,651	24.5%	6.9%
Ages 21-24	1,673	24.8%	9.0%
Ages 25-29	706	10.5%	10.2%
Age 30 and Over	1,175	17.4%	45.6%
Unknown Age	196	2.9%	3.5%

- The largest proportion of passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 18-24 were ages 18-20 (25%) and 21-24 (25%).
- Passengers ages 18-24 accounted for 50% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 18-24, compared to 16% of the passengers riding with all drivers.
- Only 17% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 18-24 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 18-24*: 2017

	Total	Restrained	% Restrained	NYS Total Drivers (% Restrained)
Total Vehicle Occupants Ages 18-24	102,340	93,295	91.2%	
Drivers Ages 18-24	72,701	67,824	93.3%	447,160 (89.1%)
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-24	14,797	13,194	89.2%	
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	14,842	12,277	82.7%	
Total Killed	84	45	53.6%	
Drivers Ages 18-24	53	30	56.6%	384 (56.0%)
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-24	22	8	36.4%	
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	9	7	77.8%	
Total Injured	21,355	18,511	86.7%	
Drivers Ages 18-24	14,272	12,999	91.1%	89,127 (91.1%)
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-24	3,156	2,576	81.6%	
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	3,927	2,936	74.8%	
Total Uninjured	80,901	74,739	92.4%	
Drivers Ages 18-24	58,376	54,795	93.9%	357,649 (88.6%)
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-24	11,619	10,610	91.3%	
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	10,906	9,334	85.6%	

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

- The overall restraint use for drivers ages 18-24 was higher than the restraint use for passengers ages 18-24. Restraint use for drivers was 93%, compared to 89% for passengers ages 18-24 in vehicles with drivers ages 18-24 and 83% for passengers ages 18-24 in vehicles with drivers of other ages.
- For drivers killed, drivers ages 18-24 were slightly more likely to be restrained than drivers of all ages (57% vs. 56%).
- 91% of the drivers ages 18-24 injured in crashes were restrained; passengers ages 18-24 injured in crashes had lower use rates whether riding with drivers of the same age (82%) or with drivers of any age (75%).

TABLE 7
NYS Fatal and Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-24*
SELECT CONTRIBUTING FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH DRIVERS

	Drivers Ages 18-24			Total NYS
	2015	2016	2017	2017
Total Drivers	29,395	31,895	30,673	199,435
Select Factors				
Driver Inattention/Distraction	14.8%	15.2%	16.1%	14.8%
Driver Inexperience	3.4%	3.4%	3.4%	1.6%
Failure to Yield ROW	11.8%	11.4%	12.4%	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	11.8%	11.2%	10.8%	5.9%
Cell Phone	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%
Texting	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%
Alcohol Involvement	2.3%	2.3%	2.1%	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 18-24 (both 16%) and for all drivers (15% and 13%, respectively) in F&PI crashes.
- Drivers ages 18-24 in F&PI crashes were much more likely than all drivers in F&PI crashes to have “unsafe speed” reported as a contributing factor (11% vs. 6% in 2017).
- As would be expected, drivers ages 18-24 were also more likely than all drivers to have “driver inexperience” reported as a contributing factor in F&PI crashes (4% vs. 2% in 2017).

TABLE 8
NYS Traffic Tickets Issued to Drivers Ages 18-24
SELECT VIOLATIONS

	Drivers Ages 18-24			NYS Total
	2015	2016	2017	2017
Total Tickets Issued	729,441	751,035	749,372	3,724,952
Speeding	24.2%	24.7%	23.4%	18.6%
License	7.7%	8.3%	8.4%	7.2%
Traffic Device/Stop Sign	10.2%	10.5%	10.6%	13.4%
Seat Belts	4.2%	3.8%	3.7%	4.4%
Cell Phone	2.0%	1.7%	1.6%	2.8%
Texting	1.8%	1.9%	2.2%	3.0%
Total TSLED Tickets Issued	576,680	593,566	585,134	2,506,390
Impaired Driving	2.3%	2.2%	2.0%	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, 23% of the tickets issued to drivers ages 18-24 were for speeding violations, compared to 19% of the tickets issued to all drivers.

- Drivers ages 18-24 were less likely than all drivers to be issued tickets for cell phone and texting violations in 2017 (4% vs. 6%).
- Drivers ages 18-24 were slightly less likely than all drivers to be issued tickets for impaired driving under TSLED in 2017 (2% vs. 3%).

TABLE 9
NYS Motor Vehicle Fatal and Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-24
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 18-24
F&PI Crashes (% of total)	13,831 (46.2%)	9,100 (30.4%)	7,003 (23.4%)	29,938
Fatal (% of total)	114 (60.0%)	36 (18.9%)	40 (21.1%)	190
Personal Injury (% of total)	13,717 (46.1%)	9,064 (30.5%)	6,963 (23.4%)	29,748
Fatalities (% of total)	128 (60.7%)	39 (18.5%)	44 (20.9%)	211
Persons Injured (% of total)	19,259 (43.9%)	14,150 (32.2%)	10,471 (23.9%)	43,886
Drivers Involved Ages 18-24 (% of total)	15,007 (46.3%)	9,674 (29.8%)	7,731 (23.8%)	32,416
Male Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	8,008 (41.6%)	6,982 (36.3%)	4,239 (22.0%)	19,233
Female Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	6,999 (53.1%)	2,691 (20.4%)	3,492 (26.5%)	13,182
Licensed Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total)	578,798 (53.5%)	234,763 (21.7%)	267,768 (21.7%)	1,081,329

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

- 46% of the F&PI crashes involving drivers ages 18-24 in 2017 took place in the Upstate region, 23% occurred on Long Island and 30% in New York City.
- 61% of the fatalities in crashes with drivers ages 18-24 were in the Upstate region, while 19% and 21% of the fatalities occurred in the New York City and Long Island regions, respectively.
- Drivers ages 18-24 are underrepresented in F&PI crashes in the Upstate region and overrepresented in crashes in the New York City and Long Island regions.