

NEW YORK STATE

FACT SHEET ON YOUNG DRIVERS AGES 16-20

PREPARED BY THE INSTITUTE FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH

TABLE 1
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-20
SEVERITY OF CRASH, FATALITIES & PERSONS INJURED, AND DRIVERS INVOLVED

	2012	2013	2014
Crashes (% of total NYS)	41,111 (13.9%)	40,275 (13.2%)	37,975 (12.7%)
Fatal (% of total NYS)	133 (12.3%)	120 (10.8%)	91 (9.4%)
Personal Injury (% of total NYS)	16,965 (13.8%)	16,052 (12.9%)	14,787 (12.5%)
Property Damage Only (% of total NYS)	24,013 (14.1%)	24,103 (13.5%)	23,097 (12.8%)
Fatalities (% of total NYS)	147 (12.6%)	139 (11.7%)	110 (10.7%)
Driver Fatalities Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	50 (8.2%)	57 (9.3%)	40 (7.0%)
Persons Injured (% of total NYS)	25,392 (15.0%)	23,593 (13.9%)	21,640 (13.5%)
Drivers Involved Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	43,182 (9.5%)	42,245 (8.5%)	39,859 (8.2%)
Male Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	24,514 (9.0%)	23,970 (8.6%)	22,469 (8.2%)
Female Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	18,668 (10.2%)	18,275 (9.6%)	17,389 (9.4%)
*Licensed Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	482,238 (4.3%)	478,197 (4.2%)	478,197 (4.2%)

**Note: The number of NYS licensed drivers by age was not available for 2014 at the time this report was produced; 2013 data was substituted.*

- 13%-14% of all motor vehicle crashes in 2012-2014 involved drivers ages 16-20; the number of crashes dropped from 41,111 in 2012 to 37,975 in 2014, a decrease of 8%.
- 11%-13% of all motor vehicle fatalities in 2012-2014 occurred in crashes involving drivers ages 16-20.
- The number of fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 dropped from 147 in 2012 to 110 in 2014, a decrease of 25%. Forty drivers ages 16-20 were killed in crashes in 2014, down from 50 in 2012, representing a decrease of 20%.
- The number of persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 declined 15%, dropping from 25,392 in 2012 to 21,640 in 2014.
- Drivers ages 16-20 are overrepresented in crashes; 8%-10% of the drivers involved in crashes in 2012-2014 were ages 16-20, compared to 4% of all licensed drivers.

TABLE 2
NYS Fatal & Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-20
VEHICLES AND PASSENGERS INVOLVED

	2012	2013	2014	NYS F&PI 2014
Fatal & Personal Injury Crashes	17,098	16,172	14,878	119,431
Crashes Involving Single Vehicle	23.5%	23.0%	21.7%	31.9%
Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles	76.5%	77.0%	78.3%	68.1%
Drivers Ages 16-20 in F&PI Crashes	17,904	16,929	15,581	207,351
With No Passengers*	62.8%	63.8%	64.7%	71.0%
With Passengers	37.2%	36.2%	35.3%	29.0%

*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 16-20 were more likely to involve multiple vehicles than all F&PI crashes (78% vs. 68% in 2014).
- Drivers ages 16-20 involved in F&PI crashes were more likely to be driving with passengers than drivers in all F&PI crashes (35% vs. 29% in 2014).

TABLE 3
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-20
TIME OF DAY: 2014

Time of Day	Fatal		Personal Injury		Property Damage Only		Total Crashes	
	Involving Drivers Ages 16-20 (N=91)	Involving All Drivers (N=966)	Involving Drivers Ages 16-20 (N=14,787)	Involving All Drivers (N=118,465)	Involving Drivers Ages 16-20 (N=23,097)	Involving All Drivers (N=180,021)	Involving Drivers Ages 16-20 (N=37,975)	Involving All Drivers (N=299,452)
9pm-Mid	22.0%	13.0%	10.0%	8.6%	9.2%	8.1%	9.6%	8.3%
Mid-5am	20.9%	17.6%	5.5%	6.1%	5.3%	6.1%	5.4%	6.1%
5am-9am	12.1%	14.3%	9.9%	13.2%	11.1%	15.2%	10.6%	14.4%
9am-Noon	6.6%	11.0%	11.8%	14.3%	12.8%	14.0%	12.4%	14.1%
Noon-3pm	11.0%	14.1%	19.4%	18.3%	19.7%	16.9%	19.6%	17.4%
3pm-6pm	15.4%	16.0%	26.0%	23.2%	25.0%	21.0%	25.4%	21.9%
6pm-9pm	12.1%	13.9%	16.6%	15.3%	15.0%	13.9%	15.6%	14.4%
Unknown	0.0%	0.1%	0.7%	1.0%	1.9%	4.8%	1.4%	3.3%

- Crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 were most likely to occur between 3pm and 6pm (25%).
- For crashes involving drivers ages 16-20, the largest proportion of fatal crashes occurred 9pm-midnight (22%), while the largest proportion of personal injury and property damage crashes occurred 3pm-6pm (26% and 25%, respectively).

TABLE 4
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-20
FATALITIES AND PERSONS INJURED

	2012	2013	2014	NYS Total 2014
Total Fatalities	147	139	110	1,026
Drivers	76 (51.7%)	73 (52.5%)	61 (55.5%)	55.7%
Passengers	46 (31.3%)	45 (32.4%)	30 (27.3%)	13.6%
Pedestrians	21 (14.3%)	20 (14.4%)	16 (14.5%)	26.1%
Bicyclists	4 (2.7%)	1 (0.7%)	3 (2.7%)	4.6%
Other	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0.0%
Total Persons Injured	25,392	25,59.	21,640	160,497
Drivers	16,706 (65.8%)	15,570 (66.0%)	14,460 (66.8%)	60.2%
Passengers	7,862 (31.0%)	7,253 (30.7%)	6,483 (30.0%)	26.8%
Pedestrians	579 (2.3%)	522 (2.2%)	481 (2.2%)	9.3%
Bicyclists	214 (0.8%)	222 (0.9%)	186 (0.9%)	3.5%
Other	31 (0.1%)	26 (0.1%)	30 (0.1%)	0.3%

- In 2014, drivers accounted for 56% of the fatalities in both crashes involving drivers 16-20 years of age and crashes involving drivers of all ages.
- Compared to fatalities in all crashes, fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 were almost twice as likely to be passengers (14% vs. 27% in 2014).
- Passengers also accounted for a larger proportion of the persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 than in all crashes (30% vs. 27% in 2014).
- Pedestrians comprised much smaller proportions of the fatalities and persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 than in all crashes (15% vs. 26% and 2% vs. 9%, respectively, in 2014).

TABLE 5
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-20
AGE OF PASSENGERS KILLED OR INJURED
IN VEHICLES WITH DRIVERS AGES 16-20: 2014

	Killed or Injured		NYS Total
Total	3,386		43,119
Under Age 4	48	1.4%	3.1%
Ages 4-6	17	0.5%	3.5%
Ages 7-15	383	11.3%	12.6%
Ages 16-17	703	20.8%	4.1%
Ages 18-20	1,111	32.8%	6.9%
Ages 21-24	410	12.1%	9.4%
Ages 25-29	145	4.3%	9.4%
Age 30 and Over	430	12.7%	43.8%
Unknown Age	139	4.1%	7.2%

- The largest proportion of passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 16-20 were ages 18-20 (33%).
- Passengers ages 16-20 accounted for 54% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 16-20, compared to 11% of the passengers killed or injured riding with all drivers.
- Only 13% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 16-20 were age 30 or over, compared to 44% of the passengers riding with all drivers.

TABLE 6
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes
RESTRAINT USE FOR VEHICLE OCCUPANTS AGES 16-20*: 2014

	Total	Restrained	% Restrained	NYS Total Drivers (% Restrained)
Total Vehicle Occupants Ages 16-20	59,547	54,559	91.6%	
Drivers Ages 16-20	36,971	35,005	94.7%	414,199 (89.4%)
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-20	10,038	9,139	91.0%	
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	12,538	10,415	83.1%	
Total Killed	50	27	54.0%	
Drivers Ages 16-20	31	18	58.1%	436 (61.5%)
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-20	13	8	61.5%	
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	6	1	16.7%	
Total Injured	11,529	10,095	87.6%	
Drivers Ages 16-20	7,020	6,472	92.2%	84,492 (91.3%)
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-20	1,757	1,476	84.0%	
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	2,752	2,147	78.0%	
Total Uninjured	47,968	44,437	92.6%	
Drivers Ages 16-20	29,920	28,515	95.3%	329,271 (89.0%)
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-20	8,268	7,655	92.6%	
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	9,780	8,267	84.5%	

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

- The overall restraint use for drivers ages 16-20 involved in crashes in 2014 was higher than the restraint use for passengers ages 16-20. Restraint use for drivers was 95%, compared to 91% for passengers ages 16-20 in vehicles with drivers ages 16-20 and 83% for passengers ages 16-20 in vehicles with drivers of other ages.
- Overall, drivers ages 16-20 involved in crashes were more likely to be restrained than drivers of all ages (94% vs. 89%). Among the drivers killed in crashes, drivers ages 16-20 were less likely than all drivers to be restrained (58% vs. 62%, respectively).
- 92% of the drivers ages 16-20 injured in crashes were restrained; passengers ages 16-20 injured in crashes had lower use rates whether riding with drivers of the same age or with drivers of any age (84% and 78%, respectively).

TABLE 7
NYS Fatal and Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-20*
SELECT CONTRIBUTING FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH DRIVERS

	Drivers Ages 16-20			Total NYS
	2012	2013	2014	2014
Total Drivers	17,108	16,242	14,908	189,531
Select Factors				
Driver Inattention/Distraction	15.9%	15.7%	15.9%	13.2%
Driver Inexperience	6.6%	7.1%	6.6%	1.5%
Failure to Yield R.O.W.	14.9%	14.6%	14.7%	10.5%
Following Too Closely	14.8%	15.5%	15.6%	11.4%
Traffic Control Device Disregarded	4.3%	3.7%	3.8%	3.2%
Unsafe Speed	13.6%	13.5%	13.0%	6.4%
Cell Phone	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%
Texting	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%
Alcohol Involvement	1.9%	1.7%	1.5%	1.9%

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

- In 2014, “driver inattention/distraction” and “following too closely” were the two most frequently reported contributing factors for both drivers ages 16-20 (16% each) and for all drivers (13% and 11%, respectively) in F&PI crashes.
- Drivers ages 16-20 in F&PI crashes were twice as likely as all drivers in F&PI crashes to have “unsafe speed” reported as a contributing factor (13% vs. 6% in 2014).
- As would be expected, drivers ages 16-20 were also much more likely than all drivers to have “driver inexperience” reported as a contributing factor in F&PI crashes (7% vs. 2% in 2014).

TABLE 8
NYS Traffic Tickets Issued to Drivers Ages 16-20
SELECT VIOLATIONS

	Drivers Ages 16-20			NYS Total
	2012	2013	2014	2014
Total Tickets Issued	323,113	303,434	290,058	3,584,382
Speeding	23.7%	23.9%	25.6%	18.5%
License	8.1%	7.9%	7.6%	6.2%
Traffic Device/Stop Sign	9.3%	9.7%	9.9%	12.6%
Seat Belts	5.6%	5.1%	4.4%	5.5%
Cell Phone	2.3%	2.2%	1.7%	4.6%
Texting	0.6%	1.0%	1.2%	2.1%
Total TSLED Tickets Issued	257,503	250,811	243,251	2,369,463
Impaired Driving	1.9%	1.6%	1.6%	2.7%

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 2014, 26% of the tickets issued to drivers ages 16-20 were for speeding violations, compared to 19% of the tickets issued to all drivers.

- Drivers ages 16-20 were far less likely than all drivers to be issued tickets for cell phone and texting violations in 2014 (3% vs. 7%).
- Drivers ages 16-20 were slightly less likely than all drivers to be issued tickets for impaired driving under TSLED in 2014 (2% vs. 3%).

TABLE 9
NYS Motor Vehicle Fatal and Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-20
SEVERITY OF CRASH, FATALITIES & PERSONS INJURED, AND DRIVERS INVOLVED
BY REGION OF THE STATE*: 2014

	UPSTATE	NYC	LONG ISLAND	NYS F&PI Involving Drivers Ages 16-20
F&PI Crashes (% of total)	8,053 (54.1%)	2,618 (17.6%)	4,157 (27.9%)	14,878
Fatal (% of total)	58 (63.7%)	16 (17.6%)	17 (18.7%)	91
Personal Injury (% of total)	7,995 (54.1%)	2,602 (17.6%)	4,140 (28.0%)	14,787
Fatalities (% of total)	62 (56.4%)	23 (20.9%)	25 (22.7%)	110
Persons Injured (% of total)	11,185 (51.7%)	4,175 (19.3%)	6,213 (28.7%)	21,640
Drivers Involved Ages 16-20 (% of total)	8,466 (54.3%)	2,677 (17.2%)	4,384 (28.1%)	15,581
Male Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	4,412 (50.9%)	1,868 (21.6%)	2,361 (27.2%)	8,665
Female Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	4,054 (58.6%)	809 (11.7%)	2,023 (29.3%)	6,915
** Licensed Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total)	291,421 (61.0%)	73,874 (15.5%)	112,480 (23.5%)	478,197

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

**Note: The number of NYS licensed drivers by age and county was not available for 2014 at the time this report was produced; 2013 data was substituted.

- 54% of the F&PI crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 occurred in the Upstate region, 28% occurred in Nassau and Suffolk counties on Long Island and 18% occurred in the five New York City counties.
- 56% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 occurred in the Upstate region, 23% occurred in the Long Island Region and 21% in New York City.
- Drivers ages 16-20 are underrepresented in F&PI crashes in the Upstate region and overrepresented in F&PI crashes in the New York City and Long Island regions.