

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

	2013	2014	2015
Crashes (% of total NYS)	40,275 (13.2%)	37,975 (12.4%)	38,121 (12.9%)
Fatal (% of total NYS)	120 (10.8%)	91 (9.4%)	97 (9.3%)
Personal Injury (% of total NYS)	16,052 (12.9%)	14,787 (12.5%)	14,633 (12.9%)
Property Damage Only (% of total NYS)	24,103 (13.5%)	23,097 (12.8%)	23,391 (13.0%)
Fatalities (% of total NYS)	139 (11.7%)	110 (10.7%)	107 (9.6%)
Driver Fatalities Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	57 (9.3%)	40 (7.0%)	34 (5.9%)
Persons Injured (% of total NYS)	23,593 (13.9%)	21,640 (13.5%)	21,805 (13.7%)
Drivers Involved Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	42,245 (8.5%)	39,859 (8.2%)	40,049 (8.3%)
Male Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	23,970 (8.6%)	22,469 (8.2%)	23,008 (8.4%)
Female Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	18,275 (9.6%)	17,389 (9.4%)	17,041 (9.3%)
Licensed Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	478,197 (4.2%)	477,322 (4.1%)	469,280 (4.0%)

- 12%-13% of all motor vehicle crashes in 2013-2015 involved drivers ages 16-20; the number of crashes dropped from 40,275 in 2013 to 38,121 in 2015, a decrease of 5%.
- 10%-12% of all motor vehicle fatalities in 2013-2015 occurred in crashes involving drivers ages 16-20.
- The number of fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 dropped from 139 in 2013 to 107 in 2015, a decrease of 23%. Thirty-four drivers ages 16-20 were killed in crashes in 2015, down from 57 in 2013, representing a decrease of 40%.
- The number of persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 declined 8%, dropping from 23,593 in 2013 to 21,805 in 2015.
- Drivers ages 16-20 are overrepresented in crashes; 8%-9% of the drivers involved in crashes in 2013-2015 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

	2013	2014	2015	NYS F&PI 2015
Fatal & Personal Injury Crashes	16,172	14,878	14,730	114,441
Crashes Involving Single Vehicle	23.0%	21.7%	21.1%	30.4%
Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles	77.0%	78.3%	78.9%	69.6%
Drivers Ages 16-20 in F&PI Crashes	16,929	15,581	15,450	200,558
With No Passengers*	63.8%	64.7%	65.2%	71.5%
With Passengers	36.2%	35.3%	34.8%	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 16-20 were more likely to involve multiple vehicles than all F&PI crashes (79% vs. 70% in 2015).
- 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 2015).

TABLE 3
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-20
TIME OF DAY: 2015

Time of Day	Fatal		Personal Injury		Property Damage Only		Total Crashes	
	Involving Drivers Ages 16-20 (N=97)	Involving All Drivers (N=1,045)	Involving Drivers Ages 16-20 (N=14,633)	Involving All Drivers (N=113,396)	Involving Drivers Ages 16-20 (N=23,391)	Involving All Drivers (N=180,115)	Involving Drivers Ages 16-20 (N=38,121)	Involving All Drivers (N=294,556)
9pm-Mid	14.4%	13.9%	9.2%	8.2%	8.7%	7.3%	8.9%	7.7%
Mid-5am	15.5%	14.9%	5.7%	5.9%	5.3%	6.0%	5.5%	6.0%
5am-9am	9.3%	13.4%	10.4%	13.2%	11.5%	15.3%	11.1%	14.5%
9am-Noon	11.3%	12.0%	11.5%	14.2%	12.7%	14.4%	12.3%	14.3%
Noon-3pm	13.4%	12.0%	19.2%	18.3%	19.5%	17.1%	19.4%	17.5%
3pm-6pm	19.6%	17.0%	27.0%	23.8%	25.6%	21.6%	26.1%	22.4%
6pm-9pm	16.5%	16.4%	16.4%	15.3%	15.0%	13.6%	15.5%	14.3%
Unknown	0.0%	0.5%	0.6%	1.1%	1.7%	4.7%	1.2%	3.3%

- Crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 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 (20%), personal injury crashes (27%) and property damage crashes (26%) involving drivers ages 16-20 all occurred during the 3pm-6pm time period.

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

	2013	2014	2015	NYS Total 2015
Total Fatalities	139	110	107	1,116
Drivers	73 (52.5%)	61 (55.5%)	58 (54.2%)	51.7%
Passengers	45 (32.4%)	30 (27.3%)	30 (28.0%)	16.2%
Pedestrians	20 (14.4%)	16 (14.5%)	16 (15.0%)	28.8%
Bicyclists	1 (0.7%)	3 (2.7%)	3 (2.8%)	3.2%
Other	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0.1%
Total Persons Injured	25,593	21,640	21,805	159,025
Drivers	15,570 (66.0%)	14,460 (66.8%)	14,475 (66.4%)	60.4%
Passengers	7,253 (30.7%)	6,483 (30.0%)	6,695 (30.7%)	27.6%
Pedestrians	522 (2.2%)	481 (2.2%)	449 (2.1%)	8.4%
Bicyclists	222 (0.9%)	186 (0.9%)	165 (0.8%)	3.3%
Other	26 (0.1%)	30 (0.1%)	21 (0.1%)	0.2%

- In 2015, drivers accounted for 54% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers 16-20 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 16-20 were much more likely to be passengers (16% vs. 28% in 2015).
- Passengers also accounted for a larger proportion of the persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 than in all crashes (31% vs. 28% in 2015).
- Pedestrians comprised much smaller proportions of the fatalities and persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 than in all crashes (15% vs. 29% and 2% vs. 8%, respectively, in 2015).

TABLE 5
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-20
AGE OF PASSENGERS KILLED OR INJURED
IN VEHICLES WITH DRIVERS AGES 16-20: 2015

	Killed or Injured		NYS Total
Total	3,528		44,112
Under Age 4	73	2.1%	4.7%
Ages 4-6	34	1.0%	3.9%
Ages 7-15	364	10.3%	12.9%
Ages 16-17	792	22.4%	4.2%
Ages 18-20	1,164	33.0%	6.8%
Ages 21-24	459	13.0%	9.0%
Ages 25-29	106	3.0%	9.3%
Age 30 and Over	392	11.1%	41.9%
Unknown Age	144	4.1%	7.3%

- 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 55% 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 11% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 16-20 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 16-20*: 2015

	Total	Restrained	% Restrained	NYS Total Drivers (% Restrained)
Total Vehicle Occupants Ages 16-20	59,941	54,759	91.4%	
Drivers Ages 16-20	37,315	35,281	94.5%	411,009 (90.1%)
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-20	10,218	9,199	90.0%	
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	12,408	10,279	82.8%	
Total Killed	48	22	45.8%	
Drivers Ages 16-20	28	15	53.6%	432 (57.6%)
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-20	16	6	37.5%	
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	4	1	25.0%	
Total Injured	11,507	10,067	87.5%	
Drivers Ages 16-20	6,947	6,396	92.1%	83,134 (91.6%)
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-20	1,882	1,551	82.4%	
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	2,678	2,120	79.2%	
Total Uninjured	48,386	44,670	92.3%	
Drivers Ages 16-20	30,340	28,870	95.2%	327,443 (89.8%)
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-20	8,320	7,642	91.9%	
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	9,726	8,158	83.9%	

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

- The overall restraint use for drivers ages 16-20 involved in crashes in 2015 was higher than the restraint use for passengers ages 16-20. Restraint use for drivers was 95%, compared to 90% 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 (95% vs. 90%). Among the drivers killed in crashes, drivers ages 16-20 were less likely to be restrained than all drivers (54% vs. 58%, 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 (82% and 79%, 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
	2013	2014	2015	2015
Total Drivers	16,242	14,908	14,759	180,905
Select Factors				
Driver Inattention/Distracted	15.7%	15.9%	15.4%	13.2%
Driver Inexperience	7.1%	6.6%	6.9%	1.5%
Failure to Yield R.O.W.	14.6%	14.7%	14.5%	10.7%
Following Too Closely	15.5%	15.6%	16.5%	11.9%
Traffic Control Device Disregarded	3.7%	3.8%	4.1%	3.3%
Unsafe Speed	13.5%	13.0%	13.3%	6.6%
Cell Phone	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.2%
Texting	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%
Alcohol Involvement	1.7%	1.5%	1.3%	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 16-20 (15% and 17%, respectively) and for all drivers (13% and 12%, respectively) in F&PI crashes.
- Drivers ages 16-20 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 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 2015).

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

	Drivers Ages 16-20			NYS Total
	2013	2014	2015	2015
Total Tickets Issued	303,434	290,058	293,034	3,509,818
Speeding	23.9%	25.6%	27.2%	19.8%
License	7.9%	7.6%	8.0%	6.5%
Traffic Device/Stop Sign	9.7%	9.9%	9.8%	12.7%
Seat Belts	5.1%	4.4%	3.8%	5.0%
Cell Phone	2.2%	1.7%	1.5%	3.8%
Texting	1.0%	1.2%	1.3%	2.4%
Total TSLED Tickets Issued	250,811	243,251	249,482	2,402,235
Impaired Driving	1.6%	1.6%	1.3%	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, 27% of the tickets issued to drivers ages 16-20 were for speeding violations, compared to 20% 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 2015 (3% vs. 6%).
- Drivers ages 16-20 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 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)	8,271 (56.2%)	2,388 (16.2%)	4,067 (27.6%)	14,730
Fatal (% of total)	55 (56.7%)	13 (13.4%)	29 (29.9%)	97
Personal Injury (% of total)	8,216 (56.1%)	2,375 (16.2%)	4,038 (27.6%)	14,633
Fatalities (% of total)	63 (58.9%)	13 (12.1%)	31 (29.0%)	107
Persons Injured (% of total)	11,687 (53.6%)	3,984 (18.3%)	6,129 (28.1%)	21,805
Drivers Involved Ages 16-20 (% of total)	8,689 (56.2%)	2,448 (15.8%)	4,309 (27.9%)	15,450
Male Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	4,591 (52.5%)	1,774 (20.3%)	2,377 (27.2%)	8,746
Female Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	4,098 (61.1%)	674 (10.1%)	1,932 (28.8%)	6,704
Licensed Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total)	282,801 (60.3%)	75,088 (16.0%)	111,067 (23.7%)	469,280

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

- 56% 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 16% occurred in the five New York City counties.
- 59% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 occurred in the Upstate region, 29% occurred in the Long Island region and 12% 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 Long Island region.