

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

	2013	2014	2015
Crashes (% of total NYS)	75,493 (24.8%)	72,131 (24.1%)	71,972 (24.4%)
Fatal (% of total NYS)	249 (22.5%)	202 (20.9%)	230 (22.0%)
Personal Injury (% of total NYS)	31,451 (25.3%)	29,447 (24.9%)	28,668 (25.3%)
Property Damage Only (% of total NYS)	43,793 (24.4%)	42,482 (23.6%)	43,074 (23.9%)
Fatalities (% of total NYS)	286 (24.1%)	224 (21.8%)	244 (21.9%)
Driver Fatalities Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	122 (19.5%)	88 (15.4%)	95 (16.5%)
Persons Injured (% of total NYS)	45,624 (27.0%)	42,642 (26.6%)	42,572 (26.8%)
Drivers Involved Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	81,521 (16.4%)	77,852 (15.9%)	77,932 (16.1%)
Male Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	46,955 (16.8%)	44,774 (16.3%)	45,345 (16.5%)
Female Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	34,565 (18.2%)	33,076 (17.8%)	32,585 (17.7%)
Licensed Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	1,090,328 (9.5%)	1,090,826 (9.4%)	1,078,317 (9.1%)

- 24-25% of all motor vehicle crashes in 2013-2015 involved drivers ages 18-24; the number of crashes dropped from 75,493 in 2013 to 71,972 in 2015, a decrease of 5%.
- 24-25% of all motor vehicle fatalities in 2013-2015 occurred in crashes involving drivers ages 18-24.
- The number of fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 18-24 dropped from 286 in 2013 to 224 in 2014, followed by an increase to 244 in 2015. In 2015, driver fatalities ages 18-24 experienced a similar pattern, dropping from 122 to 88 between 2013 and 2014 and then increasing to 95 in 2015.
- The number of persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 18-24 declined 7%, dropping from 45,624 in 2013 to 42,572 in 2015.
- Drivers ages 18-24 are overrepresented in crashes; 16% of the drivers involved in crashes in 2013-2015 were ages 18-24, compared to approximately 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

	2013	2014	2015	NYS F&PI 2015
Fatal & Personal Injury Crashes	31,700	29,649	28,898	114,441
Crashes Involving Single Vehicle	21.8%	20.8%	20.0%	30.4%
Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles	78.2%	79.2%	80.0%	69.6%
Drivers Ages 18-24 in F&PI Crashes	34,345	32,119	31,404	200,558
With No Passengers*	68.1%	68.7%	69.0%	71.5%
With Passengers	31.9%	31.3%	31.0%	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 18-24 were more likely to involve multiple vehicles than all F&PI crashes (80% vs. 70% in 2015).
- 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 2015).

TABLE 3
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-24
TIME OF DAY: 2015

Time of Day	Fatal		Personal Injury		Property Damage Only		Total Crashes	
	Involving Drivers Ages 18-24 (N=230)	Involving All Drivers (N=1,045)	Involving Drivers Ages 18-24 (N=28,668)	Involving All Drivers (N=113,396)	Involving Drivers Ages 18-24 (N=43,074)	Involving All Drivers (N=180,115)	Involving Drivers Ages 18-24 (N=71,972)	Involving All Drivers (N=294,556)
9pm-Mid	13.5%	13.9%	9.5%	8.2%	8.7%	7.3%	9.0%	7.7%
Mid-5am	20.9%	14.9%	7.0%	5.9%	7.0%	6.0%	7.0%	6.0%
5am-9am	14.3%	13.4%	11.8%	13.2%	13.1%	15.3%	12.6%	14.5%
9am-Noon	8.7%	12.0%	12.5%	14.2%	13.0%	14.4%	12.8%	14.3%
Noon-3pm	9.6%	12.0%	18.1%	18.3%	17.8%	17.1%	17.9%	17.5%
3pm-6pm	17.8%	17.0%	24.8%	23.8%	24.1%	21.6%	24.4%	22.4%
6pm-9pm	15.2%	16.4%	15.4%	15.3%	14.2%	13.6%	14.7%	14.3%
Unknown	0.0%	0.5%	0.8%	1.1%	1.9%	4.7%	1.5%	3.3%

- 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 midnight-5am (21%). 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

	2013	2014	2015	NYS Total 2015
Total Fatalities	286	224	244	1,116
Drivers	164 (57.3%)	132 (58.9%)	141 (57.8%)	51.7%
Passengers	73 (25.5%)	52 (23.2%)	45 (18.4%)	16.2%
Pedestrians	46 (16.1%)	34 (15.2%)	51 (20.9%)	28.8%
Bicyclists	3 (1.0%)	6 (2.7%)	7 (2.9%)	3.2%
Other	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0.1%
Total Persons Injured	45,624	42,642	42,572	159,025
Drivers	30,288 (66.4%)	28,385 (66.6%)	28,107 (66.0%)	60.4%
Passengers	13,340 (29.2%)	12,478 (29.3%)	12,803 (30.1%)	27.6%
Pedestrians	1,410 (3.1%)	1,241 (2.9%)	1,141 (2.7%)	8.4%
Bicyclists	525 (1.2%)	473 (1.1%)	480 (1.1%)	3.3%
Other	61 (0.1%)	65 (0.2%)	41 (0.1%)	0.2%

- In 2015, drivers accounted for 58% 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 (16% vs. 18% in 2015).
- 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 2015).
- Pedestrians comprised much smaller proportions of the fatalities and persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 18-24 than in all crashes (21% vs. 29% and 3% vs. 8%, respectively, in 2015).

TABLE 5
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-24
AGE OF PASSENGERS KILLED OR INJURED
IN VEHICLES WITH DRIVERS AGES 18-24: 2015

	Killed or Injured		NYS Total
Total	6,676		44,112
Under Age 4	294	4.4%	4.7%
Ages 4-6	136	2.0%	3.9%
Ages 7-15	367	5.5%	12.9%
Ages 16-17	530	7.9%	4.2%
Ages 18-20	1,637	24.5%	6.8%
Ages 21-24	1,689	25.3%	9.0%
Ages 25-29	625	9.4%	9.3%
Age 30 and Over	1,014	15.2%	41.9%
Unknown Age	384	5.8%	7.3%

- The largest proportion of passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 18-24 were ages 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 15% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 18-24 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 18-24*: 2015

	Total	Restrained	% Restrained	NYS Total Drivers (% Restrained)
Total Vehicle Occupants Ages 18-24	99,575	91,343	91.7%	
Drivers Ages 18-24	71,028	66,659	93.8%	411,009 (90.1%)
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-24	15,046	13,501	89.7%	
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	13,501	11,183	82.8%	
Total Killed	101	50	49.5%	
Drivers Ages 18-24	68	37	54.4%	432 (57.6%)
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-24	17	6	35.3%	
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	16	7	43.8%	
Total Injured	20,427	17,860	87.4%	
Drivers Ages 18-24	13,918	12,664	91.0%	83,134 (91.6%)
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-24	3,146	2,597	82.5%	
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	3,363	2,599	77.3%	
Total Uninjured	79,047	73,433	92.9%	
Drivers Ages 18-24	57,042	53,958	94.6%	327,443 (89.8%)
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-24	11,883	10,898	91.7%	
Passengers Ages 18-24 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	10,122	8,577	84.7%	

*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 94%, compared to 90% 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 less likely to be restrained than drivers of all ages (54% vs. 58%).
- 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 (83%) or with drivers of any age (77%).

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
	2013	2014	2015	2015
Total Drivers	32,494	30,265	29,395	180,905
Select Factors				
Driver Inattention/Distracted	14.8%	15.0%	14.8%	13.2%
Driver Inexperience	3.5%	3.2%	3.4%	1.5%
Failure to Yield ROW	11.5%	11.8%	11.8%	10.7%
Following Too Closely	14.8%	15.1%	15.5%	11.9%
Traffic Control Device Disregarded	3.8%	3.7%	4.0%	3.3%
Unsafe Speed	11.9%	11.4%	11.8%	6.6%
Cell Phone	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%
Texting	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%
Alcohol Involvement	2.9%	2.6%	2.3%	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 18-24 (15% and 16%, respectively) and for all drivers (13% and 12%, 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 (12% vs. 7% in 2015).
- As would be expected, drivers ages 18-24 were also slightly more likely than all drivers to have “driver inexperience” reported as a contributing factor in F&PI crashes (3% vs. 2% in 2015).

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

	Drivers Ages 18-24			NYS Total
	2013	2014	2015	2015
Total Tickets Issued	764,226	737,143	730,783	3,509,818
Speeding	21.0%	22.6%	24.2%	19.8%
License	7.7%	7.4%	7.7%	6.5%
Traffic Device/Stop Sign	9.7%	10.1%	10.2%	12.7%
Seat Belts	5.4%	4.7%	4.2%	5.0%
Cell Phone	3.1%	2.4%	2.0%	3.8%
Texting	1.3%	1.7%	1.8%	2.4%
Total TSLED Tickets Issued	581,269	568,693	576,680	2,402,235
Impaired Driving	2.7%	2.6%	2.3%	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, 24% of the tickets issued to drivers ages 18-24 were for speeding violations, compared to 20% 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 2015 (4% vs. 6%).
- Drivers ages 18-24 were slightly less likely than all drivers to be issued tickets for impaired driving under TSLED in 2015 (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*: 2015

	UPSTATE	NYC	LONG ISLAND	NYS F&PI Involving Drivers Ages 18-24
F&PI Crashes (% of total)	14,348 (49.7%)	7,244 (25.1%)	7,297 (25.3%)	28,898
Fatal (% of total)	124 (53.9%)	50 (21.7%)	56 (24.3%)	230
Personal Injury (% of total)	14,224 (49.6%)	7,194 (25.1%)	7,241 (25.3%)	28,668
Fatalities (% of total)	133 (54.5%)	51 (20.9%)	60 (24.6%)	244
Persons Injured (% of total)	19,882 (46.7%)	11,828 (27.8%)	10,851 (25.5%)	42,572
Drivers Involved Ages 18-24 (% of total)	15,591 (49.6%)	7,729 (24.6%)	8,073 (25.7%)	31,404
Male Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	8,402 (45.9%)	5,419 (29.6%)	4,462 (24.4%)	18,292
Female Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total NYS)	7,188 (54.8%)	2,310 (17.6%)	3,611 (27.5%)	13,111
Licensed Drivers Ages 18-24 (% of total)	587,644 (54.6%)	232,780 (21.6%)	255,398 (23.7%)	1,078,317

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

- 50% of the F&PI crashes involving drivers ages 18-24 in 2015 took place in the Upstate region, 25% occurred on Long Island and 25% in New York City.
- 54% of the fatalities in crashes with drivers ages 18-24 were in the Upstate region, while 21% and 25% 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.