

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 & INJURIES, AND DRIVERS INVOLVED

	2007	2008	2009
Crashes (% of total NYS)	55,511 (17.2%)	52,636 (16.6%)	51,335 (16.3%)
Fatal (% of total NYS)	204 (16.7%)	165 (14.2%)	173 (16.3%)
Personal Injury (% of total NYS)	24,037 (17.3%)	22,730 (16.9%)	22,013 (16.4%)
Property Damage Only (% of total NYS)	31,270 (17.1%)	29,741 (16.5%)	29,149 (16.2%)
Fatalities (% of total NYS)	232 (17.6%)	178 (14.5%)	194 (16.9%)
Driver Fatalities Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	87 (11.4%)	59 (8.8%)	74 (12.3%)
Persons Injured (% of total NYS)	36,343 (18.7%)	34,127 (18.2%)	33,218 (17.9%)
Drivers Involved Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	58,988 (11.0%)	55,908 (10.7%)	54,578 (10.5%)
Male Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	34,244 (11.1%)	32,078 (10.8%)	31,310 (10.7%)
Female Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	24,744 (12.4%)	23,829 (12.2%)	23,268 (11.8%)
Licensed Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total NYS)	NA	531,668 (4.7%)	534,470 (4.7%)

NA - Methodology used to count the number of licensed drivers was modified in 2008.

- 16%-17% of all motor vehicle crashes in 2007-2009 involved drivers ages 16-20.
- 15%-18% of total fatalities that occurred in crashes during 2007-2009 involved drivers ages 16-20.
- Drivers ages 16-20 are overrepresented in crashes; 11% of the drivers involved in crashes in 2008-2009 were ages 16-20, compared to 5% of all licensed drivers.

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

	2007	2008	2009	NYS F&PI 2009
Fatal & Personal Injury Crashes	24,241	22,895	22,186	134,948
Crashes Involving Single Vehicle	24.9%	24.7%	22.8%	31.6%
Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles	75.1%	75.3%	77.2%	68.4%
Drivers Ages 16-20 in F&PI Crashes	25,656	24,233	23,488	235,880
With No Passengers*	60.9%	61.6%	60.8%	69.5%
With Passengers	39.1%	38.4%	39.2%	30.5%

*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 are more likely to involve multiple vehicles than all F&PI crashes (77% vs. 68% in 2009).
- Drivers ages 16-20 involved in F&PI crashes are more likely to be driving with passengers than drivers in all F&PI crashes (39% vs. 31% in 2009).

TABLE 3
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-20
TIME OF DAY: 2009

Time of Day	Fatal		Personal Injury		Property Damage Only		Total Crashes	
	Involving Drivers Ages 16-20 (N=173)	Involving All Drivers (N=1,060)	Involving Drivers Ages 16-20 (N=22,013)	Involving All Drivers (N=133,888)	Involving Drivers Ages 16-20 (N=29,149)	Involving All Drivers (N=180,026)	Involving Drivers Ages 16-20 (N=51,335)	Involving All Drivers (N=314,974)
9pm-Mid	16.8%	13.3%	11.0%	8.9%	9.7%	8.3%	10.3%	8.6%
Mid-5am	22.0%	19.2%	7.1%	6.7%	6.8%	6.7%	7.0%	6.7%
5am-9am	6.4%	10.8%	9.0%	12.4%	9.9%	14.3%	9.5%	13.5%
9am-Noon	9.2%	10.3%	10.6%	13.7%	11.1%	13.1%	10.9%	13.4%
Noon-3pm	11.0%	12.9%	19.3%	18.5%	19.0%	16.6%	19.1%	17.4%
3pm-6pm	15.6%	16.8%	26.1%	23.4%	25.4%	21.0%	25.7%	22.0%
6pm-9pm	17.9%	15.8%	16.0%	15.0%	15.4%	14.0%	15.6%	14.5%
Unknown	1.2%	0.8%	0.8%	1.3%	2.8%	6.0%	1.9%	4.0%

- Regardless of the injury level, the proportion of crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 was larger than the proportion for crashes involving all drivers during the 9pm-midnight, midnight-5am and 6pm-9pm time periods.
- For fatal crashes, the largest proportion of crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 occurred midnight-5am (22%); the largest proportion of crashes involving all drivers also occurred between midnight and 5am (19%).

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

	2007	2008	2009	NYS Total 2009
Total Fatalities	232	178	194	1,148
Drivers	125 (53.9%)	95 (53.4%)	101 (52.1%)	52.5%
Passengers	67 (28.9%)	56 (31.5%)	62 (32.0%)	18.2%
Pedestrians	39 (16.8%)	23 (12.9%)	29 (14.9%)	26.7%
Bicyclists	1 (0.4%)	4 (2.2%)	2 (1.0%)	2.5%
Other	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0.0%
Total Persons Injured	36,343	34,127	33,218	186,034
Drivers	23,730 (65.3%)	22,275 (65.3%)	21,520 (64.8%)	60.7%
Passengers	11,498 (31.6%)	10,757 (31.5%)	10,593 (31.9%)	27.7%
Pedestrians	760 (2.1%)	772 (2.3%)	766 (2.3%)	8.2%
Bicyclists	303 (0.8%)	269 (0.8%)	271 (0.8%)	2.9%
Other	52 (0.1%)	54 (0.2%)	68 (0.2%)	0.5%

- Fatalities are more likely to be drivers and passengers in crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 than drivers and passengers in all crashes (84% vs. 71% in 2009).
- Pedestrians are a much smaller proportion of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 than in all crashes (15% vs. 27% in 2009).
- Passengers are a larger proportion of the persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 than in all crashes (32% vs. 28% in 2009).

TABLE 5
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-20
AGE OF PASSENGERS KILLED OR INJURED
IN VEHICLES WITH DRIVERS AGES 16-20: 2009

	Killed or Injured		NYS Total
Total	6,048		51,708
Under Age 4	71	1.2%	2.9%
Ages 4-6	36	0.6%	3.1%
Ages 7-15	654	10.8%	12.7%
Ages 16-17	1,431	23.7%	5.4%
Ages 18-20	2,144	35.4%	9.6%
Ages 21-24	649	10.7%	10.1%
Ages 25-29	217	3.6%	9.6%
Age 30 and Over	598	9.9%	39.9%
Unknown Age	248	4.1%	6.8%

- The largest proportion of passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 16-20 were ages 18-20 (35%), followed by passengers ages 16-17 (24%).
- Passengers ages 16-20 account for 59% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 16-20, despite being only a five-year age spread.

TABLE 6
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes
RESTRAINT USE FOR VEHICLE OCCUPANTS AGES 16-20*: 2009

	Total	Restrained	% Restrained	NYS Total Drivers (% Restrained)
Total Vehicle Occupants Ages 16-20	80,300	72,530	90.3%	
Drivers Ages 16-20	48,841	45,460	93.1%	419,466 (88.1%)
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-20	16,656	14,714	88.3%	
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	14,803	12,356	83.5%	
Total Killed	107	52	48.6%	
Drivers Ages 16-20	67	31	46.3%	457 (53.2%)
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-20	33	15	45.5%	
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	7	6	85.7%	
Total Injured	17,956	15,378	85.6%	
Drivers Ages 16-20	10,756	9,662	89.8%	96,751 (90.1%)
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-20	3,433	2,786	81.2%	
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	3,767	2,930	77.8%	
Total Uninjured	62,237	57,100	91.7%	
Drivers Ages 16-20	38,018	35,767	94.1%	322,258 (87.6%)
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 16-20	13,190	11,913	90.3%	
Passengers Ages 16-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	11,029	9,420	85.4%	

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

- The overall restraint use for drivers ages 16-20 was higher than the restraint use for passengers ages 16-20. Restraint use for drivers was 93%, compared to 88% for passengers ages 16-20 in vehicles with drivers ages 16-20 and 84% for passengers ages 16-20 in vehicles with drivers of other ages.
- The overall restraint use was higher for drivers ages 16-20 than for drivers of all ages (93% vs. 88%). For drivers killed, drivers ages 16-20 were less likely than all drivers to be restrained (46% vs. 53%).

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
	2007	2008	2009	2009
Total Drivers	24,018	22,802	22,048	210,038
Select Factors				
Driver Inattention/Distracted	13.7%	14.5%	14.5%	11.6%
Driver Inexperience	7.0%	7.0%	6.7%	1.5%
Failure to Yield R.O.W.	12.6%	12.8%	13.1%	9.0%
Following Too Closely	11.8%	12.2%	13.8%	9.2%
Traffic Control Device Disregarded	3.9%	4.0%	3.8%	3.0%
Unsafe Speed	14.3%	14.6%	12.9%	6.2%
Alcohol Involvement	2.3%	2.0%	1.9%	2.1%

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

- Drivers ages 16-20 in F&PI crashes were much more likely than all drivers in F&PI crashes to have “unsafe speed” reported as a contributing factor (13% vs. 6% in 2009).
- 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 2009).

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

	Drivers Ages 16-20			NYS Total
	2007	2008	2009	2009
Total Tickets Issued	491,495	467,657	456,918	4,080,449
Speeding	23.8%	24.2%	23.6%	17.3%
License	7.6%	7.3%	7.3%	5.6%
Traffic Device/Stop Sign	8.1%	8.2%	8.5%	10.5%
Seat Belts	8.1%	7.8%	7.8%	10.0%
Cell Phone	3.5%	3.4%	3.2%	8.4%
Total TSLED Tickets Issued	380,723	367,924	361,482	2,600,264
Impaired Driving	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	3.2%

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. Beginning in mid-2009, all tickets issued for impaired driving are being captured in TSLED, with the exception of those issued in New York City.

- The largest proportion of tickets issued to drivers ages 16-20 each year was for speeding violations, which was larger than the proportion of tickets issued to all drivers for speeding in 2009 (24% vs. 17%).
- For cell phone violations, the proportion of tickets issued to drivers ages 16-20 was much smaller than the proportion of tickets issued to all drivers (3% vs. 8%).
- 2% of the TSLED tickets issued to drivers ages 16-20 were for impaired driving, compared to 3% of the tickets issued to all drivers.

TABLE 9
NYS Motor Vehicle Fatal and Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 16-20
SEVERITY OF CRASH, FATALITIES & INJURIES, AND DRIVERS INVOLVED
BY REGION OF THE STATE: 2009

	UPSTATE	NYC	LONG ISLAND	NYS F&PI Involving Drivers Ages 16-20
F&PI Crashes (% of total)	12,301 (55%)	4,139 (19%)	5,691 (26%)	22,186
Fatal (% of total)	109 (63%)	32 (19%)	32 (19%)	173
Personal Injury (% of total)	12,192 (55%)	4,107 (19%)	5,659 (26%)	22,013
Fatalities (% of total)	128 (66%)	33 (17%)	33 (17%)	194
Persons Injured (% of total)	17,580 (53%)	6,788 (20%)	8,769 (26%)	33,218
Drivers Involved Ages 16-20 (% of total)	13,036 (56%)	4,260 (18%)	6,133 (26%)	23,488
Male Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total)	6,986 (52%)	2,977 (22%)	3,385 (25%)	13,378
Female Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total)	6,050 (60%)	1,283 (13%)	2,748 (27%)	10,110
Licensed Drivers Ages 16-20 (% of total)	332,010 (62%)	84,159 (16%)	118,301 (22%)	534,470

- 55% of the F&PI crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 occurred in the Upstate region, 26% occurred in Nassau and Suffolk counties on Long Island and 19% occurred in the five New York City counties.
- 66% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 16-20 occurred in the Upstate region; the remaining 34% was split between Long Island and New York City, with 17% of the fatalities in each region.