

NEW YORK STATE

FACT SHEET ON YOUNG DRIVERS AGES 18-20

PREPARED BY THE INSTITUTE FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH

TABLE 1
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-20
SEVERITY OF CRASH, FATALITIES & PERSONS INJURED, AND DRIVERS INVOLVED

	2012	2013	2014
Crashes (% of total NYS)	32,048 (10.9%)	31,539 (10.3%)	29,903 (10.0%)
Fatal (% of total NYS)	110 (10.2%)	99 (8.9%)	80 (8.3%)
Personal Injury (% of total NYS)	13,414 (10.9%)	12,695 (10.2%)	11,811 (10.0%)
Property Damage Only (% of total NYS)	18,524 (10.9%)	18,745 (10.5%)	18,012 (10.0%)
Fatalities (% of total NYS)	116 (10.0%)	117 (9.8%)	94 (9.2%)
Driver Fatalities Ages 18-20 (% of total NYS)	38 (6.2%)	51 (8.3%)	36 (6.3%)
Persons Injured (% of total NYS)	19,913 (11.8%)	18,516 (10.9%)	17,256 (10.8%)
Drivers Involved Ages 18-20 (% of total NYS)	33,281 (6.9%)	32,671 (6.6%)	31,020 (6.3%)
Male Drivers Ages 18-20 (% of total NYS)	19,081 (7.0%)	18,815 (6.7%)	17,782 (6.5%)
Female Drivers Ages 18-20 (% of total NYS)	14,199 (7.7%)	13,856 (7.3%)	13,237 (7.1%)
*Licensed Drivers Ages 18-20 (% of total NYS)	397,406 (3.5%)	397,406 (3.5%)	395,578 (3.5%)

**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.*

- 10%-11% of all motor vehicle crashes in 2012-2014 involved drivers ages 18-20; the number of crashes dropped from 32,048 in 2012 to 29,903 in 2014, a decrease of 7%.
- 9%-10% of all motor vehicle fatalities in 2012-2014 occurred in crashes involving drivers ages 18-20.
- The number of fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 18-20 dropped from 116 in 2012 to 94 in 2014, a decrease of 19%. In 2014, 36 drivers ages 18-20 were killed in crashes, slightly below the 38 fatalities in 2012.
- The number of persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 18-20 declined 13%, dropping from 19,913 in 2012 to 17,256 in 2014.
- Drivers ages 18-20 are overrepresented in crashes; 6%-7% of the drivers involved in crashes in 2012-2014 were ages 18-20, compared to less than 4% of all licensed drivers.

TABLE 2
NYS Fatal & Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-20
VEHICLES AND PASSENGERS INVOLVED

	2012	2013	2014	NYS F&PI 2014
Fatal & Personal Injury Crashes	13,524	12,794	11,891	119,431
Crashes Involving Single Vehicle	22.7%	22.2%	21.2%	31.9%
Crashes Involving Multiple Vehicles	77.3%	77.8%	78.8%	68.1%
Drivers Ages 18-20 in F&PI Crashes	14,013	13,235	12,332	207,351
With No Passengers*	65.0%	65.9%	66.7%	71.0%
With Passengers	35.0%	34.1%	33.3%	29.0%

*Note: As mandated by NYSDMV regulations, drivers holding permits or junior licenses must have a "qualifying" adult in the vehicle.

- F&PI crashes involving drivers ages 18-20 were more likely to involve multiple vehicles than all F&PI crashes (79% vs. 68% in 2014).
- Drivers ages 18-20 involved in F&PI crashes were more likely to be driving with passengers than drivers in all F&PI crashes (33% vs. 29% in 2014).

TABLE 3
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-20
TIME OF DAY: 2014

Time of Day	Fatal		Personal Injury		Property Damage Only		Total Crashes	
	Involving Drivers Ages 18-20 (N=80)	Involving All Drivers (N=966)	Involving Drivers Ages 18-20 (N=11,811)	Involving All Drivers (N=118,465)	Involving Drivers Ages 18-20 (N=18,012)	Involving All Drivers (N=180,021)	Involving Drivers Ages 18-20 (N=29,903)	Involving All Drivers (N=299,452)
9pm-Mid	22.5%	13.0%	10.3%	8.6%	9.6%	8.1%	9.9%	8.3%
Mid-5am	22.5%	17.6%	6.1%	6.1%	6.0%	6.1%	6.1%	6.1%
5am-9am	13.8%	14.3%	9.5%	13.2%	11.0%	15.2%	10.4%	14.4%
9am-Noon	5.0%	11.0%	12.4%	14.3%	13.3%	14.0%	13.0%	14.1%
Noon-3pm	12.5%	14.1%	19.6%	18.3%	19.4%	16.9%	19.5%	17.4%
3pm-6pm	15.0%	16.0%	25.2%	23.2%	24.3%	21.0%	24.6%	21.9%
6pm-9pm	8.8%	13.9%	16.1%	15.3%	14.5%	13.9%	15.1%	14.4%
Unknown	0.0%	0.1%	0.8%	1.0%	2.0%	4.8%	1.5%	3.3%

- Crashes involving drivers ages 18-20 were most likely to occur between 3pm and 6pm (25%).
- For crashes involving drivers ages 18-20, the largest proportion of fatal crashes occurred equally between 9pm-midnight and midnight-5am (23% and 23%, respectively), while the largest proportions of personal injury crashes (25%) and property damage crashes (24%) occurred 3pm-6pm.

TABLE 4
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-20
FATALITIES AND PERSONS INJURED

	2012	2013	2014	NYS Total 2013
Total Fatalities	116	117	94	1,026
Drivers	59 (50.9%)	62 (53.0%)	54 (57.4%)	55.7%
Passengers	35 (30.2%)	38 (32.5%)	24 (25.5%)	13.6%
Pedestrians	18 (15.5%)	17 (14.5%)	13 (13.8%)	26.1%
Bicyclists	4 (3.5%)	0 (0.0%)	3 (3.2%)	4.6%
Other	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0.0%
Total Persons Injured	19,913	18,516	17,256	160,497
Drivers	13,269 (66.6%)	12,320 (66.5%)	11,561 (67.0%)	60.2%
Passengers	5,980 (30.0%)	5,557 (30.0%)	5,106 (29.6%)	26.8%
Pedestrians	460 (2.3%)	440 (2.4%)	401 (2.3%)	9.3%
Bicyclists	181 (0.9%)	179 (1.0%)	159 (0.9%)	3.5%
Other	23 (0.1%)	20 (0.1%)	29 (0.2%)	0.3%

- In 2014, drivers accounted for 58% of the fatalities in crashes involving drivers 18-20 years of age and 56% of crashes involving drivers of all ages.
- Compared to fatalities in all crashes, fatalities in crashes involving drivers ages 18-20 were nearly twice as likely to be passengers (14% vs. 26% in 2014).
- Passengers also accounted for a larger proportion of the persons injured in crashes involving drivers ages 18-20 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 18-20 than in all crashes (14% vs. 26% and 2% vs. 9%, respectively, in 2014).

TABLE 5
NYS Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-20
AGE OF PASSENGERS KILLED OR INJURED
IN VEHICLES WITH DRIVERS AGES 18-20: 2014

	Killed or Injured		NYS Total
Total	2,576		43,119
Under Age 4	41	1.6%	3.1%
Ages 4-6	17	0.7%	3.5%
Ages 7-15	229	8.9%	12.6%
Ages 16-17	362	14.1%	4.1%
Ages 18-20	993	38.5%	6.9%
Ages 21-24	385	14.9%	9.4%
Ages 25-29	132	5.1%	9.4%
Age 30 and Over	305	11.8%	43.8%
Unknown Age	112	4.3%	7.2%

- The largest proportion of passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 18-20 were ages 18-20 (39%).
- Passengers ages 16-20 accounted for 53% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 18-20, compared to 11% of the passengers riding with all drivers.
- Only 12% of the passengers killed or injured in vehicles with drivers ages 18-20 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 18-20*: 2014

	Total	Restrained	% Restrained	NYS Total Drivers (% Restrained)
Total Vehicle Occupants Ages 18-20	42,268	38,923	92.1%	
Drivers Ages 18-20	28,665	27,070	94.4%	414,199 (89.4%)
Passengers Ages 18-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-20	5,292	4,801	90.7%	
Passengers Ages 18-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	8,311	7,052	84.9%	
Total Killed	46	23	50.0%	
Drivers Ages 18-20	28	15	53.6%	436 (61.5%)
Passengers Ages 18-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-20	11	6	54.5%	
Passengers Ages 18-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	7	2	28.6%	
Total Injured	8,403	7,403	88.1%	
Drivers Ages 18-20	5,590	5,139	91.9%	84,492 (91.3%)
Passengers Ages 18-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-20	945	802	84.9%	
Passengers Ages 18-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	1,868	1,462	78.3%	
Total Uninjured	33,819	31,497	93.1%	
Drivers Ages 18-20	23,047	21,916	95.1%	329,271 (89.0%)
Passengers Ages 18-20 in Vehicles with Drivers Ages 18-20	4,336	3,993	92.1%	
Passengers Ages 18-20 in Vehicles with Drivers of Other Ages	6,436	5,588	86.8%	

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

- The overall restraint use for drivers ages 18-20 was higher than the restraint use for passengers ages 18-20. Restraint use for drivers was 94%, compared to 91% for passengers ages 18-20 in vehicles with drivers ages 18-20 and 85% for passengers ages 18-20 in vehicles with drivers of other ages.
- For drivers killed, drivers ages 18-20 were less likely to be restrained than drivers of all ages (54% vs. 62%).
- 92% of the drivers ages 18-20 injured in crashes were restrained; passengers ages 18-20 injured in crashes had lower use rates whether riding with drivers of the same age (85%) or with drivers of any age (78%).

TABLE 7
NYS Fatal and Personal Injury (F&PI) Crashes Involving Drivers Ages 18-20*
SELECT CONTRIBUTING FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH DRIVERS

	Drivers Ages 18-20			Total NYS
	2012	2013	2014	2013
Total Drivers	13,349	12,663	11,748	189,531
Select Factors				
Driver Inattention/Distracted	15.6%	15.7%	15.9%	13.2%
Driver Inexperience	4.8%	5.2%	4.7%	1.5%
Failure to Yield ROW	13.7%	13.3%	13.5%	10.5%
Following Too Closely	15.0%	16.0%	15.7%	11.4%
Traffic Control Device Disregarded	4.4%	3.8%	3.9%	3.2%
Unsafe Speed	13.4%	13.3%	12.8%	6.4%
Cell Phone	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%
Texting	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%	<0.1%
Alcohol Involvement	2.2%	2.0%	1.7%	1.9%

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

- In 2014, “driver inattention/distracted” and “following too closely” were the two most frequently reported contributing factors for both drivers ages 18-20 (16% each) and for all drivers (13% and 11%, respectively) in F&PI crashes.
- Drivers ages 18-20 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 18-20 were also more likely than all drivers to have “driver inexperience” reported as a contributing factor in F&PI crashes (5% vs. 2% in 2014).

TABLE 8
NYS Traffic Tickets Issued to Drivers Ages 18-20
SELECT VIOLATIONS

	Drivers Ages 18-20			NYS Total
	2012	2013	2014	2014
Total Tickets Issued	278,576	262,348	250,164	3,584,382
Speeding	24.0%	24.0%	25.9%	18.5%
License	7.2%	7.0%	6.7%	6.2%
Traffic Device/Stop Sign	9.4%	9.7%	10.0%	12.6%
Seat Belts	5.6%	5.1%	4.4%	5.5%
Cell Phone	2.4%	2.3%	1.8%	4.6%
Texting	0.6%	1.0%	1.2%	2.1%
Total TSLED Tickets Issued	219,472	214,275	207,364	2,369,463
Impaired Driving	2.1%	1.7%	1.7%	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 18-20 were for speeding violations, compared to 19% of the tickets issued to all drivers.

- Drivers ages 18-20 were far less likely than all drivers to be issued tickets for cell phone and texting violations in 2014 (3% vs. 7%).
- Drivers ages 18-20 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 18-20
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 18-20
F&PI Crashes (% of total)	6,222 (52.3%)	2,360 (19.8%)	3,264 (27.4%)	11,891
Fatal (% of total)	52 (65.0%)	14 (17.5%)	14 (17.5%)	80
Personal Injury (% of total)	6,170 (52.2%)	2,346 (19.9%)	3,250 (27.5%)	11,811
Fatalities (% of total)	56 (59.6%)	21 (22.3%)	17 (18.1%)	94
Persons Injured (% of total)	8,552 (49.6%)	3,770 (21.8%)	4,872 (28.2%)	17,256
Drivers Involved Ages 18-20 (% of total)	6,470 (52.5%)	2,403 (19.5%)	3,411 (27.7%)	12,332
Male Drivers Ages 18-20 (% of total NYS)	3,428 (49.1%)	1,677 (24.0%)	1,853 (26.5%)	6,981
Female Drivers Ages 18-20 (% of total NYS)	3,042 (56.9%)	726 (13.6%)	1,558 (29.1%)	5,350
**Licensed Drivers Ages 18-20 (% of total)	233,719 (59.1%)	67,964 (17.2%)	93,490 (23.7%)	395,578

*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.

- 52% of the F&PI crashes involving drivers ages 18-20 in 2014 took place in the Upstate region, 27% occurred on Long Island and 20% in New York City.
- 60% of the fatalities in crashes with drivers ages 18-20 were in the Upstate region, while 22% and 18% of the fatalities occurred in the New York City and Long Island regions, respectively.
- Drivers ages 18-20 are underrepresented in F&PI crashes in the Upstate region and overrepresented in crashes in the New York City and Long Island regions.