

Youthful Drivers

Table 36 shows the crashes involving youthful drivers. Youthful drivers are drivers ages 15 to 19. In 2011, more than one out of every five crashes involved a youthful driver. In 2011, youthful drivers were involved in 2.5 times as many crashes as you would expect them to be and were 2.8 times as likely as all other drivers to be involved in a crash.

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Change 2010-2011	Avg. Change 2007-2010
Total Crashes	6,734	5,909	5,393	5,177	4,648	-10.2%	-8.3%
Fatalities	42	39	43	31	34	9.7%	-8.3%
Serious Injuries	426	348	283	274	211	-23.0%	-13.4%
Visible Injuries	1,127	881	791	927	784	-15.4%	-5.0%
Possible Injuries	2,234	1,919	1,769	1,719	1,541	-10.4%	-8.2%
Drivers 15-19 in Fatal & Serious Injury Crashes	374	296	274	225	201	-10.7%	-15.4%
% of all Drivers in Fatal & Serious Injury Crashes	14.9%	13.8%	12.8%	11.4%	10.7%	-5.6%	-8.6%
Licensed Drivers 15-19	65,173	63,451	62,912	62,467	62,674	0.3%	-1.4%
% of Total Licensed Drivers	6.3%	6.1%	6.0%	5.8%	5.8%	-1.0%	-2.4%
Driver Involvement Rate*	2.37	2.26	2.15	1.94	1.85	-4.7%	-6.3%
Teen Drivers in Fatal Crashes	36	36	37	27	28	3.7%	-8.1%
Impaired Teen Drivers in Fatal Crashes	9	10	9	6	8	33.3%	-10.7%
% of Youthful Drivers Involved in Fatal Crashes that were Impaired	25.0%	27.8%	24.3%	22.2%	28.6%	28.6%	-3.3%

**The Driver Involvement Rate is the percent of drivers involved in fatal and serious injury Crashes divided by percent of licensed drivers. Over-representation occurs when the value is greater than 1.0.*

The 34 people killed in youthful driver crashes were of all ages, not just youthful drivers. Of the 34 people killed in youthful driver crashes, 18 were the youthful drivers. Only 5 of the 17 youthful passenger motor vehicle drivers killed (29%) were wearing seat belts. One of the youthful drivers killed was a motorcyclist.

Additionally, there were 9 teen passengers killed in motor vehicle crashes (6 of the 9 were killed in crashes involving youthful drivers). Of the 9 teen passenger motor vehicle passengers killed in crashes, 4 (44%) were wearing seat belts.

While 69% of all crashes involving youthful drivers occurred in urban areas, 78% of the fatal crashes involving youthful drivers occurred in rural areas.

In 2011, the economic cost of crashes involving youthful drivers was \$451.4 million dollars. This represents 21% of the total cost of crashes (as shown in Table 4).