

Youthful Drivers

Table 36 shows the crashes involving youthful drivers. Youthful drivers are drivers ages 15 to 19. In 2012, more than one out of every five crashes involved a youthful driver. In 2012, youthful drivers were involved in 2.6 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.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Change 2011-2012	Avg. Change 2008-2011
Total Crashes	5,909	5,393	5,177	4,648	4,796	3.2%	-7.7%
Fatalities	39	43	31	34	14	-58.8%	-2.7%
Serious Injuries	348	283	274	211	230	9.0%	-15.0%
Visible Injuries	881	791	927	784	782	-0.3%	-2.8%
Possible Injuries	1,919	1,769	1,719	1,541	1,541	0.0%	-7.0%
Drivers 15-19 in Fatal & Serious Injury Crashes	296	274	225	201	211	5.0%	-12.0%
% of all Drivers in Fatal & Serious Injury Crashes	13.8%	12.8%	11.4%	10.7%	11.2%	4.8%	-8.1%
Licensed Drivers 15-19	63,451	62,912	62,467	62,674	62,094	-0.9%	-0.4%
% of Total Licensed Drivers	6.1%	6.0%	5.8%	5.8%	5.7%	-1.7%	-1.8%
Driver Involvement Rate*	2.26	2.15	1.94	1.85	1.98	6.7%	-6.4%
Teen Drivers in Fatal Crashes	36	37	27	28	12	-57.1%	-6.8%
Impaired Teen Drivers in Fatal Crashes	10	9	6	8	3	-62.5%	-3.3%
% of Youthful Drivers Involved in Fatal Crashes that were Impaired	27.8%	24.3%	22.2%	28.6%	25.0%	-12.5%	2.5%

**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 14 people killed in youthful driver crashes were of all ages, not just youthful drivers. Of the 14 people killed in youthful driver crashes, 7 were the youthful drivers. Of 7 youthful drivers killed, 6 (86%) were wearing seat belts.

Additionally, there were 7 teen passengers killed in motor vehicle crashes (4 of the 7 were killed in crashes involving youthful drivers). Of the 7 teen passenger motor vehicle passengers killed in crashes, 3 (43%) were wearing seat belts.

While 72% of all crashes involving youthful drivers occurred in urban areas, 83% of the fatal crashes involving youthful drivers occurred in rural areas.

In 2012, the economic cost of crashes involving youthful drivers was nearly \$339.5 million dollars. This represents 15% of the total cost of crashes (as shown in Table 4).