

Youthful Drivers

Youthful drivers are drivers ages 15 to 19. In 2020, more than one out of every five crashes involved a youthful driver. In 2020, youthful drivers were involved in 2.4 times as many crashes as you would expect them to be and were 2.6 times as likely as all other drivers to be involved in a crash.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Change 2019-2020	Avg. Change 2016-2019
Total Crashes	5,622	5,464	5,244	5,826	4,689	-19.5%	1.4%
Fatalities	27	31	36	18	32	77.8%	-6.4%
Suspected Serious Injury	238	225	230	184	195	6.0%	-7.7%
Suspected Minor Injury	1,011	886	976	880	826	-6.1%	-4.0%
Possible Injuries	1,986	1,795	1,991	2,079	1,532	-26.3%	1.9%
Drivers 15-19 in Fatal & Suspected Serious Injury Crashes	232	206	213	170	180	5.9%	-9.3%
% of all Drivers in Fatal & Suspected Serious Injury Crashes	12.0%	10.7%	11.1%	8.8%	10.7%	20.7%	-9.2%
Licensed Drivers 15-19	65,940	71,523	69,727	71,063	71,209	0.2%	2.6%
% of Total Licensed Drivers	5.7%	5.9%	5.6%	5.5%	5.4%	-2.4%	-0.6%
Driver Involvement Rate*	2.13	1.81	1.99	1.60	1.97	23.6%	-8.2%
Teen Drivers in Fatal Crashes	25	27	29	18	25	38.9%	-7.5%
Impaired Teen Drivers in Fatal Crashes	4	2	2	3	8	166.7%	0.0%
% of Youthful Drivers Involved in Fatal Crashes that were Impaired	16.0%	7.4%	6.9%	16.7%	32.0%	92.0%	27.0%

**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 32 people killed in youthful driver crashes were of all ages, not just youthful drivers. Of the 32 people killed in youthful driver crashes, 14 were the youthful drivers. Of the 14 youthful drivers of passenger motor vehicles, only 4 (29%) was wearing a seat belt.

Additionally, there were 8 teen passengers killed in motor vehicle crashes (5 of them were killed in crashes involving a youthful driver). Of the 8 teen passenger motor vehicle passengers killed in crashes, only 2 of them (25%) was wearing a seat belt.

While 72% of all crashes involving youthful drivers occurred in urban areas, 71% of the fatal crashes involving youthful drivers occurred in rural areas.

In 2020, the economic cost of crashes involving youthful drivers was just nearly \$678 million dollars. This represents 18% of the total cost of crashes (as shown in Table 4).