

Youthful Drivers

Youthful drivers are drivers ages 15 to 19. In 2023, more than one out of every five crashes involved a youthful driver. In 2023, 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.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Change 2022-2023	Avg. Change 2019-2022
Total Crashes	5,826	4,689	5,961	5,898	6,062	2.8%	2.2%
Fatalities	18	32	34	25	40	60.0%	19.2%
Suspected Serious Injury	184	195	229	244	208	-14.8%	10.0%
Suspected Minor Injury	880	826	978	1,051	1,070	1.8%	6.6%
Possible Injuries	2,079	1,532	1,556	1,370	1,395	1.8%	-12.2%
Drivers 15-19 in Fatal & Suspected Serious Injury Crashes	170	180	220	207	210	1.4%	7.4%
% of all Drivers in Fatal & Suspected Serious Injury Crashes	8.8%	10.7%	13.0%	12.3%	12.4%	1.4%	12.3%
Licensed Drivers 15-19	71,063	71,209	75,620	78,681	81,786	3.9%	3.5%
% of Total Licensed Drivers	5.5%	5.4%	5.6%	5.6%	5.7%	2.1%	0.5%
Driver Involvement Rate*	1.60	1.97	2.35	2.18	2.17	-0.6%	11.8%
Teen Drivers in Fatal Crashes	18	25	31	20	33	65.0%	9.1%
Impaired Teen Drivers in Fatal Crashes	3	8	5	5	11	120.0%	43.1%
% of Youthful Drivers Involved in Fatal Crashes that were Impaired	16.7%	32.0%	16.1%	25.0%	33.3%	33.3%	32.5%

**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 40 people killed in youthful driver crashes were of all ages, not just youthful drivers. Of the 40 people killed in youthful driver crashes, 12 were the youthful drivers. Of the 11 youthful drivers of passenger motor vehicles, only 6 (55%) were wearing a seat belt. The other youthful driver killed was on an ATV.

Additionally, there were 10 teen passengers killed in motor vehicle crashes (7 of them were killed in crashes involving a youthful driver). Of the 10 teen passenger motor vehicle passengers killed in crashes, 2 of them (20%) were wearing a seat belt.

While 73% of all crashes involving youthful drivers occurred in urban areas, 70% of the fatal crashes involving youthful drivers occurred in rural areas.

In 2023, the economic cost of crashes involving youthful drivers was just over \$1 billion dollars. This represents 17% of the total cost of crashes (as shown in Table 4).