

Youthful Drivers

Youthful drivers are drivers ages 15 to 19. In 2017, more than one out of every five crashes involved a youthful driver. In 2017, youthful drivers were involved in 2.3 times as many crashes as you would expect them to be and were 2.5 times as likely as all other drivers to be involved in a crash.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Change 2016-2017	Avg. Change 2013-2016
Total Crashes	4,825	4,668	5,374	5,622	5,464	-2.8%	5.5%
Fatalities	26	20	34	27	31	14.8%	8.8%
Serious Injuries	214	198	270	238	225	-5.5%	5.7%
Visible Injuries	785	812	997	1,011	886	-12.4%	9.2%
Possible Injuries	1,524	1,547	1,903	1,986	1,795	-9.6%	9.6%
Drivers 15-19 in Fatal & Serious Injury Crashes	197	182	232	232	206	-11.2%	6.6%
% of all Drivers in Fatal & Serious Injury Crashes	10.5%	9.4%	12.0%	12.0%	10.7%	-10.9%	5.8%
Licensed Drivers 15-19	62,398	62,895	65,264	65,940	71,523	8.5%	1.9%
% of Total Licensed Drivers	5.6%	5.6%	5.7%	5.7%	5.9%	4.6%	0.3%
Driver Involvement Rate*	1.87	1.69	2.11	2.13	1.81	-14.8%	5.3%
Teen Drivers in Fatal Crashes	22	19	32	25	27	8.0%	11.0%
Impaired Teen Drivers in Fatal Crashes	5	4	7	4	2	-50.0%	4.0%
% of Youthful Drivers Involved in Fatal Crashes that were Impaired	22.7%	21.1%	21.9%	16.0%	7.4%	-53.7%	-10.1%
<i>*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.</i>							

The 31 people killed in youthful driver crashes were of all ages, not just youthful drivers. Of the 31 people killed in youthful driver crashes, 11 were the youthful drivers. Only 5 (45%) of the youthful drivers of passenger motor vehicles were wearing seat belts.

Additionally, there were 10 teen passengers killed in motor vehicle crashes (6 of them were killed in crashes involving a youthful driver). Of the 10 teen passenger motor vehicle passengers killed in crashes, only 3 (30%) of them 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 2017, the economic cost of crashes involving youthful drivers was more than \$680 million dollars. This represents 16% of the total cost of crashes (as shown in Table 4).