

DRIVER AGE

Drivers on Michigan Roads:

The following tables describe driver actions and crash characteristics for motor vehicle drivers age 16-24; 25-64; and 65 & Over. These tables are provided to demonstrate the differences in the nature of the crashes for these age groups.

Generally, younger drivers are more involved in single-vehicle and off road crashes. Older drivers are more involved in angle type crashes, and are more likely to commit "Failed to Yield" as a hazardous action while younger drivers are more likely to be speeding. Younger drivers are least likely to be alone in their car at the time of the crash.

For more information on age and the crash experience please visit the Michigan Traffic Crash Facts web site www.umtri.umich.edu/tdc/mtcf/crash_facts.htm.



Nationally:

According to a Policy Statement by the American Academy of Pediatrics [10], motor vehicle-related crashes remain the leading cause of death in youth from 16 through 20 years of age, resulting in more than 5,000 such deaths annually. This age group constitutes only 7 percent of the U.S. population yet accounts for 14 percent of all motor vehicle-related deaths. Youth 16 through 19 years of age constitute 5 percent of all licensed drivers and 3 percent of all vehicle miles traveled, yet teenage drivers are involved in 15 percent of the crashes in which they or other occupants are killed. The motor vehicle fatality rate of teenagers is higher than that of any other age group; on a per-mile-driven basis, 16-year-old drivers are more than 20 times as likely to have a crash as is the general population of drivers, and 17-year-old drivers are more than 6 times as likely.