

2003 Michigan Traffic Crash FACT SHEET



TEENS / YOUNG ADULTS

Inexperience, risk-taking behavior and immaturity, and greater risk exposure (teens often drive at night with other teens in the vehicle) are all factors that increase crash risk for young drivers.

- 16-24** Teenagers and young adults ages 16-24 are disproportionately involved in motor vehicle crashes.
- 16-24** According to the Michigan Department of Community Health, four out of five accidental deaths for this age group are due to motor vehicle crashes.
- 16-24** 290 persons (16-24 years old) were killed in traffic crashes, including 189 (65.2%) drivers. The 16-24 age group accounted for 22.6 percent of all traffic deaths.
- 16-24** In addition 27,913 teenagers and young adults were injured in traffic crashes.
- 16-24** There were 1,068,246 licensed drivers in the 16-24 age group in 2003. 156,496 (14.6%) of these drivers were involved in crashes (427 in fatal crashes).
- 16-24** The 16-24 age group represented 14.9 percent of Michigan's active driving population, yet drivers in this group were involved in 24.6 percent of all crashes and in 22.6 percent of all fatal crashes.
- 16-24** Generally, younger drivers were more involved in single-vehicle and off-road crashes, had the highest incidence of collision with ditches and trees, and were least likely to be alone in their car at the time of the crash.
- 16-24** Teenagers and young adults had the highest incidence of rollover (overturn) in fatal crashes when compared to older drivers. They also had the highest incidence of fatal crashes when their speed was too fast.
- 16-24** The weekend had a higher involvement of teen and young adult drivers in all crashes when compared to older drivers.
- 16-24** Teenagers and young adults accounted for 12.4 percent of the pedestrians killed in Michigan in 2003, and 17.3 percent of all pedestrian injuries.
- 16-24** 6 (18.8%) of the 32 bicyclist deaths in 2003 were in the 16-24 age group.