

Teens/Young Adults Age 16-20

Inexperience, risk-taking behavior, 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.

Teenagers and young adults ages 16-20 are disproportionately involved in motor vehicle crashes.

According to the Michigan Department of Community Health, three out of five accidental deaths for this age group are due to motor vehicle crashes.

- 100 persons (16-20 years old) were killed in motor vehicle crashes, including 53 (8.9%) drivers. The 16-20 age group accounted for 10.7 percent of all traffic deaths.
- In addition, 10,652 teenagers and young adults were injured in motor vehicle crashes.
- There were 521,467 licensed drivers ages 16-20 who represented 7.4 percent of Michigan's active driving population, yet the drivers in this age group represented 12.9 percent (60,721) of drivers in all crashes and 11.1 percent (147) of drivers in fatal crashes.
- Generally, younger drivers were involved in more shoulder/outside curb crashes and had a higher incidence of speeding, overturn, inability to stop in assured clear distance, collision with a ditch, and hitting a tree. They were less likely to be alone in their car at the time of the crash.
- Teenagers and young adults had the highest incidence of fatal crashes when their speed was too fast.
- The weekend had a higher involvement of teen and young adult drivers in all crashes when compared to older drivers.
- Teenagers and young adults accounted for 6.9 percent of the pedestrians killed in Michigan in 2010, and 14.1 percent of all pedestrian injuries.
- Two (6.9%) of the 29 bicyclist deaths in 2010 were in the 16-20 age group.