

2015

Inexperience, risk-taking behavior, immaturity, and greater risk exposure are all factors that increase crash risk for young drivers. According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, crashes are the leading cause of death and account for almost one third of all deaths among people age 16-19.

INJURY SEVERITY IN MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES WITH A DRIVER AGE 16-20



There were 474,427 licensed drivers ages 16-20 who represented 6.6 percent of Michigan's driving population. The drivers in this age group represented 11.1 percent (56,544) of drivers in all crashes and 10.0 percent (148) of drivers in fatal crashes.

The 16-20 age group accounted for 10.2 percent (98) of all traffic deaths, and 60.2 percent (59) of those deaths were drivers.

In addition, 9,731 teenagers and young adults were injured in motor vehicle crashes, representing 13.1 percent of all people injured in 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.

Weekends had a higher involvement of teen and young adult drivers in all crashes when compared to older drivers.

Teenagers and young adults accounted for 5.3 percent (9) of the pedestrians killed in Michigan, and 11.7 percent (239) of all pedestrian injuries.

Two (6.1%) of the 33 bicyclist deaths were in the 16-20 age group.