

# MTCF

Michigan Traffic  
Crash Facts

# TEENS/YOUNG ADULTS

## AGES 15-20

# 2017

*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 15-20



There were 519,340 licensed drivers ages 15-20\* who represented 7.2 percent of Michigan's driving population. The drivers in this age group represented 11.0 percent (59,199) of drivers in all crashes and 7.9 percent (121) of drivers in fatal crashes.

The 15-20 age group accounted for 7.8 percent (80) of all traffic deaths, and 57.5 percent (46) of those deaths were drivers.

In addition, 10,521 teenagers and young adults were injured in motor vehicle crashes, representing 13.4 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.

The most common hazardous action coded for the 121 drivers age 15-20 who were involved in fatal crashes was speed too fast, with 13.2% (16) of the total.

Weekends accounted for 22.7 percent of crash involvements for drivers age 15-20, compared with only 20.5 percent of crash involvements for drivers 21 and older.

Teenagers and young adults accounted for 3.2 percent (5) of the pedestrians killed in Michigan, and 14.4 percent (280) of all pedestrian injuries.

Two (9.5%) of the 21 bicyclist deaths were in the 15-20 age group.

*\*Licensed drivers between the ages of 14 years and 9 months old and 15 years old are included in this total.*

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