

2021

Inexperience, risk-taking behavior, immaturity, and greater risk exposure are all factors that increase crash risk for young drivers. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, crashes are the leading cause of death among people age 15-20.

INJURY SEVERITY IN MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES WITH A DRIVER AGE 15-20

KILLED: 170 (1.1%)

SUSPECTED MINOR INJURIES:
4,280 (28.3%)

SUSPECTED SERIOUS INJURIES:
1,070 (7.1%)

POSSIBLE INJURIES:
9,621 (63.5%)



There were 483,132 licensed drivers ages 15-20* who represented 6.7 percent of Michigan's driving population. The drivers in this age group represented 10.7 percent (50,869) of drivers in all crashes and 9.6 percent (162) of drivers in fatal crashes.

The 15-20 age group accounted for 9.1 percent (103) of all traffic deaths, and 63.1 percent (65) of those deaths were drivers.

In addition, 9,224 teenagers and young adults were injured in motor vehicle crashes, representing 12.9 percent of all people injured in crashes.

Generally, younger drivers had a higher incidence of speeding, failing to yield, and inability to stop in assured clear distance as a hazardous action. They also had higher rates of collision with a ditch and hitting a tree as the most harmful event in the crash. They were less likely to be alone in their car at the time of the crash.

The most common hazardous action coded for the 162 drivers age 15-20 involved in fatal crashes was speed too fast, with 19.8% (32) of the total.

Weekends accounted for 24.6 percent of crash involvements for drivers age 15-20, compared with only 22.7 percent of crash involvements for drivers 21 and older.

Teenagers and young adults accounted for 5.5 percent (10) of the pedestrians killed in Michigan, and 11.1 percent (162) of all pedestrian injuries.

One (3.4%) of the 29 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.*