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# Fatality Facts 2018

## Teenagers

### Overview

In the United States, teenagers drive less than all but the oldest people, but their numbers of crashes and crash deaths are disproportionately high.<sup>1 (#fn1)</sup> In the United States, the fatal crash rate per mile driven for 16-19 year-olds is nearly 3 times the rate for drivers ages 20 and over. Risk is highest at ages 16-17.

Beginning in the mid-1990s, all states adopted graduated licensing systems, which phase in full driving privileges. National studies of graduated licensing found that strong laws were associated with substantially lower fatal crash rates and substantially lower insurance claim rates among young teen drivers covered by the laws. Strong restrictions on nighttime driving and teen passengers, as well as raising the licensing age, reduced rates of fatal crashes and insurance collision claims.<sup>2 (#fn2), 3 (#fn3)</sup>

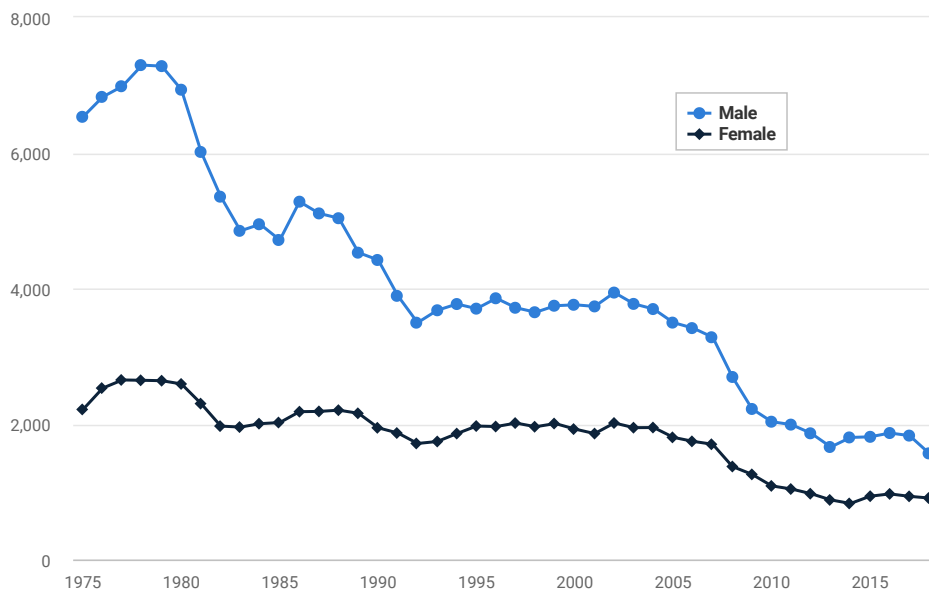
The following facts are based on analysis of data from the [U.S. Department of Transportation's \(https://www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov\)](https://www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov) Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS).

Posted December 2019.

### Trends

A total of 2,476 teenagers ages 13-19 died in motor vehicle crashes in 2018. This is 72 percent fewer than in 1975 and 10 percent fewer than in 2017. About 2 of every 3 teenagers killed in crashes in 2018 were males. Since 1975, teenage crash deaths have decreased more among males (76 percent) than among females (59 percent).

#### Teenage motor vehicle crash deaths by gender, 1975-2018



**Motor vehicle crash deaths among 13-19 year-olds by gender, 1975-2018**

Year	Male		Female		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
1975	6,532	75	2,215	25	8,748	100
1976	6,826	73	2,530	27	9,356	100
1977	6,983	72	2,650	28	9,633	100
1978	7,295	73	2,645	27	9,940	100
1979	7,280	73	2,639	27	9,920	100
1980	6,932	73	2,591	27	9,524	100
1981	6,014	72	2,301	28	8,315	100
1982	5,354	73	1,969	27	7,323	100
1983	4,850	71	1,955	29	6,805	100
1984	4,947	71	2,005	29	6,952	100
1985	4,715	70	2,022	30	6,737	100
1986	5,280	71	2,182	29	7,466	100
1987	5,107	70	2,186	30	7,293	100
1988	5,036	70	2,204	30	7,242	100
1989	4,528	68	2,158	32	6,688	100
1990	4,420	69	1,944	31	6,364	100
1991	3,891	68	1,867	32	5,760	100
1992	3,495	67	1,713	33	5,215	100
1993	3,678	68	1,742	32	5,421	100
1994	3,770	67	1,859	33	5,632	100
1995	3,702	65	1,970	35	5,675	100
1996	3,855	66	1,963	34	5,819	100
1997	3,715	65	2,014	35	5,730	100
1998	3,649	65	1,960	35	5,610	100
1999	3,745	65	2,007	35	5,752	100
2000	3,759	66	1,925	34	5,685	100

\*Total includes other and/or unknowns

<b>Motor vehicle crash deaths among 13-19 year-olds by gender, 1975-2018</b>						
Year	Male		Female		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
2001	3,735	67	1,859	33	5,594	100
2002	3,939	66	2,015	34	5,954	100
2003	3,772	66	1,946	34	5,718	100
2004	3,696	65	1,948	35	5,645	100
2005	3,496	66	1,803	34	5,300	100
2006	3,415	66	1,744	34	5,159	100
2007	3,280	66	1,701	34	4,981	100
2008	2,694	66	1,373	34	4,070	100
2009	2,222	64	1,257	36	3,480	100
2010	2,034	65	1,087	35	3,121	100
2011	1,991	66	1,041	34	3,033	100
2012	1,863	66	972	34	2,837	100
2013	1,661	65	880	35	2,543	100
2014	1,802	69	828	31	2,630	100
2015	1,811	66	935	34	2,747	100
2016	1,867	66	969	34	2,837	100
2017	1,829	66	933	34	2,762	100
2018	1,567	63	908	37	2,476	100

\*Total includes other and/or unknowns

In 2018, teenagers accounted for 7 percent of motor vehicle crash deaths. They comprised 8 percent of passenger vehicle (cars, pickups, SUVs, and vans) occupant deaths among all ages, 4 percent of pedestrian deaths, 3 percent of motorcyclist deaths, 7 percent of bicyclist deaths and 12 percent of all-terrain vehicle rider deaths.

<b>Teenage motor vehicle crash deaths as percent of all motor vehicle crash deaths, 2018</b>			
Death type	Teen crash deaths	Crash deaths for all ages	% Teen crash deaths of all crash deaths
Passenger vehicle occupant	1,931	22,891	8
Pedestrian	251	6,283	4
Motorcyclist	151	4,985	3
Bicyclist	64	854	7
All-terrain vehicle riders	35	303	12
Other	44	1,244	4
Total	2,476	36,560	7

Seventy-eight percent of teenage crash deaths in 2018 were passenger vehicle occupants. The others were pedestrians (10 percent), motorcyclists (6 percent), bicyclists (3 percent), riders of all-terrain vehicles (1 percent) and people in other kinds of vehicles (2 percent). The percentage of crash deaths that were passenger vehicle occupants is lowest for age 13 (62 percent) and highest for age 17 (82 percent).

Teenage motor vehicle crash deaths by type and age, 2018														
Age	Passenger vehicle occupants		Motorcyclists		Pedestrians		Bicyclists		All-terrain vehicle riders		Other		Total motor vehicle deaths	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
13	41	62	2	3	13	20	2	3	0	0	8	12	66	100
14	60	65	5	5	11	12	9	10	4	4	3	3	92	100
15	107	68	8	5	19	12	9	6	6	4	9	6	158	100
16	255	79	12	4	35	11	8	2	4	1	9	3	323	100
17	394	82	16	3	46	10	13	3	9	2	4	1	482	100
18	521	80	48	7	56	9	13	2	4	1	7	1	649	100
19	553	78	60	8	71	10	10	1	8	1	4	1	706	100
<b>Total</b>	1,931	78	151	6	251	10	64	3	35	1	44	2	2,476	100

In 2017, the latest year for which data are available, motor vehicle crashes were one of the leading causes of death among 13-19 year-old males and females in the United States. <sup>4 (#n4)</sup>

Leading causes of death among U.S. teenagers by gender, 2017			
Cause of death	Male	Female	Total
Suicide	2,194	683	2,877
Motor vehicle crashes	1,823	940	2,763
Homicide	1,664	267	1,940

## Passenger vehicle occupants

In 2018, 63 percent of deaths among passenger vehicle occupants ages 16-19 were drivers.

Teenage passenger vehicle occupant deaths by age and seating position, 2018						
Age	Driver		Passenger		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
13	.	.	41	100	41	100
14	2	3	58	97	60	100
15	22	21	84	79	107	100
16	121	47	132	52	255	100
17	230	58	163	41	394	100
18	348	67	173	33	521	100
19	390	71	163	29	553	100
<b>Total</b>	1,113	58	814	42	1,931	100

\*Total includes other and/or unknowns

In 2018, 57 percent of the deaths of teenage passengers in passenger vehicles occurred in vehicles driven by another teenager. Among deaths of passengers of all ages, 12 percent occurred when a teenager was driving.

Passenger vehicle passenger deaths by passenger age and driver age, 2018															
Passenger age	Driver Age														All ages
	13-19 years		20-24 years		25-29 years		30-59 years		60-69 years		≥70 years		Unknown		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
<13	27	4	86	14	134	21	360	57	14	2	12	2	3	<1	636
13-19	461	57	151	19	32	4	146	18	13	2	4	<1	7	1	814
20-24	107	15	353	51	122	18	98	14	4	1	2	<1	9	1	695
25-29	16	3	120	22	203	37	191	35	4	1	2	<1	11	2	547
30-59	61	4	135	8	190	12	1,092	66	110	7	44	3	17	1	1,649
60-69	8	2	13	3	12	3	183	41	155	35	68	15	4	1	443
70+	9	1	23	3	13	1	210	24	134	15	499	56	1	<1	889
Unknown	1	7	3	20	3	20	5	33	2	13	1	7	0	0	15
All ages	690	12	884	16	709	12	2,285	40	436	8	632	11	52	1	5,688

In 2018, belt use among fatally injured passenger vehicle drivers age 16 (53 percent), 17 (50 percent) and 18 (50 percent) was higher than among fatally injured drivers age 19 (44 percent) and those ages 20-59 (42 percent), but lower than among drivers 60 and older combined (64 percent). Among fatally injured 16-19 year-old occupants, belt use among passengers (34 percent) was considerably lower than among drivers (48 percent). Note that belt use among those fatally injured is not always accurately recorded, but it gives an indication of relative belt use rates in serious crashes by age group.

Seat belt use among fatally injured passenger vehicle occupants by age and seating position, 2018												
Age	Drivers						Passengers					
	Belt used		Unbelted		Unknown		Belt used		Unbelted		Unknown	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
13	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	49	17	41	4	10
14	0	0	2	100	0	0	24	41	27	47	7	12
15	13	59	6	27	3	14	34	40	43	51	7	8
16	64	53	44	36	13	11	50	38	66	50	16	12
17	116	50	100	43	14	6	49	30	89	55	25	15
18	173	50	152	44	23	7	73	42	80	46	20	12
19	172	44	183	47	35	9	40	25	100	61	23	14
20-24	820	40	1,018	49	226	11	222	32	391	56	82	12
25-29	691	37	1,003	54	176	9	171	31	312	57	64	12
30-59	3,272	45	3,456	47	622	8	649	39	835	51	165	10
60-69	1,166	58	696	35	152	8	258	58	150	34	35	8
70+	1,884	69	704	26	154	6	665	75	174	20	50	6

Among passenger vehicle drivers ages 16-19 involved in fatal crashes in 2018, 42 percent were involved in single-vehicle crashes. This was higher than for drivers ages 25 and older (35 percent).

Passenger vehicle drivers in fatal crashes by age and crash type, 2018						
	Single vehicle		Multiple vehicle		All crashes	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
16-19	1,181	42	1,634	58	2,815	100

Passenger vehicle drivers in fatal crashes by age and crash type, 2018						
	Single vehicle		Multiple vehicle		All crashes	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
20-24	2,126	42	2,940	58	5,066	100
25-29	1,863	39	2,900	61	4,763	100
30-59	6,815	36	12,021	64	18,836	100
60-69	1,426	33	2,835	67	4,261	100
70+	1,329	29	3,177	71	4,506	100

## Population and mileage rates

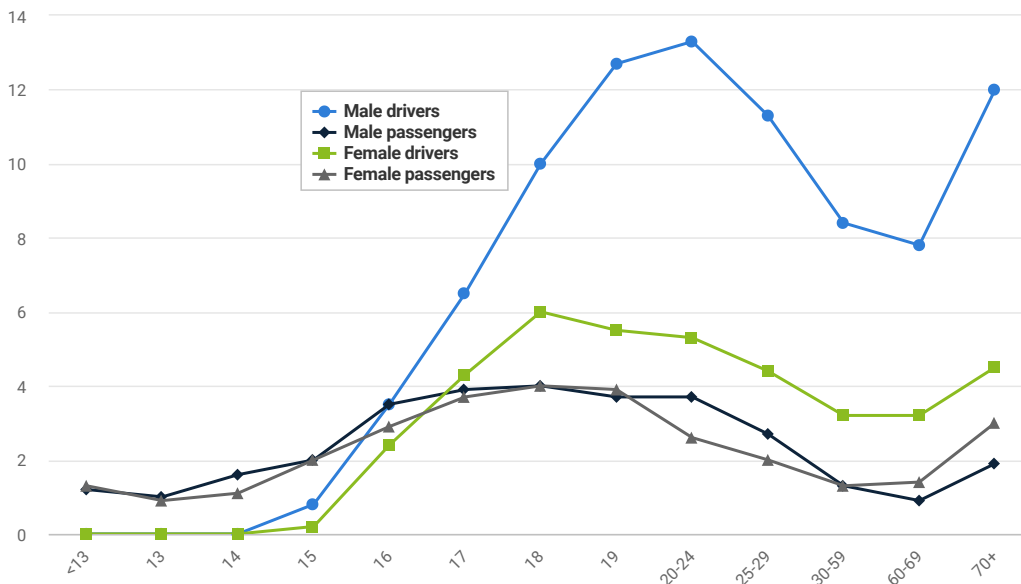
From 1975 to 2018, the rate of passenger vehicle drivers involved in fatal crashes per 100,000 people declined by 65 percent for teenagers ages 16-19 (from 47.6 to 16.6), 47 percent for people ages 20-34 (from 38.7 to 20.5), 35 percent for people ages 35-69 (from 20.5 to 13.4), and 17 percent for people 70 and older (from 15.4 to 12.7). The teenage passenger vehicle driver fatal crash involvement rate fell for the second year in a row, and was 5% lower than the rate in 2017.

Passenger vehicle drivers involved in fatal crashes per 100,000 people by age group, 1975-2018												
	16-19 years			20-34 years			35-69 years			70+ years		
	Population	Number	Rate	Population	Number	Rate	Population	Number	Rate	Population	Number	Rate
1975	17,016,355	8,094	47.6	50,998,098	19,715	38.7	74,764,829	15,325	20.5	14,563,945	2,249	15.4
1976	17,194,079	8,457	49.2	52,745,005	19,847	37.6	75,419,921	15,127	20.1	14,960,120	2,395	16.0
1977	17,276,153	8,968	51.9	54,497,448	21,530	39.5	76,203,083	15,710	20.6	15,401,249	2,387	15.5
1978	17,287,835	9,297	53.8	55,909,063	23,284	41.6	77,348,222	16,323	21.1	15,876,541	2,524	15.9
1979	17,242,116	9,240	53.6	57,499,197	23,991	41.7	78,311,107	16,075	20.5	16,388,617	2,386	14.6
1980	17,112,117	8,637	50.5	58,814,391	23,957	40.7	79,111,522	16,002	20.2	16,897,977	2,375	14.1
1981	16,756,984	7,800	46.5	60,563,416	23,758	39.2	79,785,591	16,131	20.2	17,322,714	2,487	14.4
1982	16,280,287	6,509	40.0	61,099,524	20,848	34.1	81,488,902	14,491	17.8	17,783,888	2,522	14.2
1983	15,783,684	6,253	39.6	61,840,154	19,955	32.3	82,861,204	14,459	17.4	18,233,751	2,574	14.1
1984	15,257,750	6,464	42.4	62,491,255	20,964	33.5	84,256,661	15,079	17.9	18,662,938	2,770	14.8
1985	14,969,843	6,276	41.9	62,961,154	20,837	33.1	85,628,410	15,265	17.8	19,072,785	3,005	15.8
1986	14,981,380	7,017	46.8	63,115,889	22,008	34.9	87,205,537	15,736	18.0	19,463,480	3,235	16.6
1987	15,172,917	7,021	46.3	63,032,298	22,387	35.5	88,808,046	16,749	18.9	19,890,817	3,376	17.0
1988	15,159,185	7,249	47.8	62,784,739	22,367	35.6	90,464,406	17,501	19.3	20,302,280	3,623	17.8
1989	14,874,579	6,906	46.4	62,494,056	21,273	34.0	92,250,762	17,780	19.3	20,719,397	3,631	17.5
1990	14,424,509	6,356	44.1	62,282,683	20,715	33.3	94,140,108	17,579	18.7	21,164,283	3,688	17.4
1991	13,935,348	5,718	41.0	62,025,750	19,073	30.8	96,068,111	16,366	17.0	21,751,897	3,769	17.3
1992	13,720,071	5,231	38.1	61,427,100	17,846	29.1	98,214,539	16,377	16.7	22,321,217	3,834	17.2
1993	13,874,164	5,434	39.2	60,582,332	17,691	29.2	100,399,648	17,024	17.0	22,800,673	4,146	18.2
1994	14,128,177	5,773	40.9	59,629,351	17,672	29.6	102,541,525	17,514	17.1	23,243,845	4,325	18.6
1995	14,401,118	5,874	40.8	58,712,407	17,911	30.5	104,712,328	18,869	18.0	23,693,757	4,505	19.0
1996	14,907,191	6,021	40.4	57,753,910	17,738	30.7	106,975,953	19,266	18.0	24,056,323	4,563	19.0
1997	15,257,453	5,947	39.0	57,046,569	16,847	29.5	109,232,426	19,708	18.0	24,408,817	4,823	19.8
1998	15,649,272	5,938	37.9	56,421,053	16,271	28.8	111,331,195	20,031	18.0	24,793,551	4,808	19.4

	16-19 years			20-34 years			35-69 years			70+ years		
	Population	Number	Rate	Population	Number	Rate	Population	Number	Rate	Population	Number	Rate
1999	15,927,464	6,158	38.7	55,961,401	16,154	28.9	113,451,312	19,585	17.3	25,092,805	4,806	19.2
2000	16,192,473	6,041	37.3	58,971,709	16,444	27.9	117,114,739	19,966	17.0	25,559,879	4,574	17.9
2001	16,232,934	5,983	36.9	59,465,066	16,284	27.4	119,060,436	20,287	17.0	25,797,467	4,649	18.0
2002	16,287,999	6,134	37.7	60,046,068	16,686	27.8	120,913,207	20,358	16.8	26,005,326	4,543	17.5
2003	16,344,596	5,745	35.1	60,599,350	16,329	26.9	122,772,578	20,799	16.9	26,200,946	4,644	17.7
2004	16,518,068	5,724	34.7	61,003,240	16,401	26.9	124,762,848	20,509	16.4	26,337,518	4,355	16.5
2005	16,652,533	5,360	32.2	61,180,772	16,516	27.0	126,831,714	21,004	16.6	26,658,669	4,237	15.9
2006	16,996,219	5,270	31.0	61,527,219	16,237	26.4	128,907,361	20,152	15.6	26,884,798	4,064	15.1
2007	17,208,807	4,970	28.9	61,623,322	15,624	25.4	130,500,566	19,696	15.1	27,135,517	4,004	14.8
2008	17,314,417	4,046	23.4	61,990,546	13,696	22.1	131,908,058	17,868	13.5	27,521,034	3,739	13.6
2009	17,404,102	3,620	20.8	63,105,881	12,338	19.6	132,693,708	16,671	12.6	27,786,270	3,565	12.8
2010	17,797,523	3,234	18.2	62,649,947	12,066	19.3	134,995,314	16,204	12.0	27,832,721	3,630	13.0
2011	17,487,207	2,977	17.0	63,944,330	11,960	18.7	136,282,085	15,828	11.6	28,520,353	3,552	12.5
2012	17,216,688	2,917	16.9	64,892,524	12,493	19.3	137,348,713	16,528	12.0	29,168,003	3,651	12.5
2013	17,011,519	2,584	15.2	65,640,025	12,178	18.6	138,145,370	16,405	11.9	30,095,357	3,656	12.1
2014	16,903,924	2,622	15.5	66,428,678	12,205	18.4	139,374,831	16,251	11.7	30,917,945	3,720	12.0
2015	16,859,161	2,924	17.3	66,876,515	13,444	20.1	140,723,231	18,043	12.8	31,693,384	3,944	12.4
2016	16,949,773	3,040	17.9	67,156,940	14,622	21.8	141,678,551	19,024	13.4	32,442,777	4,302	13.3
2017	17,017,100	2,966	17.4	67,461,307	14,399	21.3	142,082,361	19,485	13.7	34,022,298	4,528	13.3
2018	16,956,003	2,815	16.6	67,571,353	13,824	20.5	142,269,116	19,102	13.4	35,344,300	4,506	12.7

The rate of deaths per 100,000 people in 2018 peaked at ages 20-24 for male drivers (13.3) and at age 18 for male passengers (4.0). Death rates peaked at age 18 for both female drivers (6.0) and passengers (4.0).

Deaths in passenger vehicles per 100,000 people by seating position, age and gender, 2018



Deaths in passenger vehicles per 100,000 people by seating position, age and gender, 2													
Age	Male					Female					Total		
	Population	Driver deaths		Passenger deaths		Population	Driver deaths		Passenger deaths		Population	Driver deaths	
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate		Number	Rate	Number	Rate		Number	Rate
<13	26,859,496	1	0.0	310	1.2	25,701,990	1	0.0	326	1.3	52,561,486	2	0.0
13	2,121,925	0	0.0	22	1.0	2,034,962	0	0.0	19	0.9	4,156,887	0	0.0
14	2,125,611	1	0.0	35	1.6	2,041,460	1	0.0	23	1.1	4,167,071	2	0.0
15	2,111,626	17	0.8	43	2.0	2,029,592	5	0.2	41	2.0	4,141,218	22	0.5
16	2,106,746	73	3.5	73	3.5	2,023,998	48	2.4	59	2.9	4,130,744	121	2.9
17	2,165,445	140	6.5	85	3.9	2,076,491	90	4.3	77	3.7	4,241,936	230	5.4
18	2,209,794	221	10.0	89	4.0	2,109,928	127	6.0	84	4.0	4,319,722	348	8.1
19	2,181,297	276	12.7	81	3.7	2,082,304	114	5.5	82	3.9	4,263,601	390	9.1
20-24	11,201,547	1,494	13.3	413	3.7	10,672,032	570	5.3	281	2.6	21,873,579	2,064	9.4
25-29	12,018,838	1,360	11.3	321	2.7	11,542,918	510	4.4	226	2.0	23,561,756	1,870	7.9
30-59	62,990,000	5,286	8.4	812	1.3	63,996,590	2,063	3.2	837	1.3	126,986,590	7,349	5.8
60-69	17,764,349	1,393	7.8	164	0.9	19,654,195	620	3.2	279	1.4	37,418,544	2,013	5.4
70+	15,272,005	1,837	12.0	288	1.9	20,072,295	905	4.5	601	3.0	35,344,300	2,742	7.8

The rate of fatal passenger vehicle crash involvements per 100 million miles traveled in 2017 was highest at ages 16-19 for male drivers and at ages 80 and over for female drivers. <sup>1 (#fn1)</sup>

Fatal passenger vehicle crash involvements per 100 million miles traveled by driver age and gender, 2017									
Age	Male			Female			Total*		
	Crash involvements	Miles	Rate	Crash involvements	Miles	Rate	Crash involvements	Miles	Rate
16-19	1,975	31,732,691,896	6.2	951	30,677,731,652	3.1	2,928	62,410,423,548	4.7
20-24	3,656	89,913,330,623	4.1	1,645	82,245,489,504	2.0	5,304	172,158,820,127	3.1
25-29	3,372	97,584,235,223	3.5	1,553	115,903,021,775	1.3	4,925	213,487,256,997	2.3
30-59	12,822	785,270,175,131	1.6	6,103	558,224,868,022	1.1	18,934	1,343,495,043,154	1.4
60-69	2,912	207,918,951,320	1.4	1,344	136,711,746,704	1.0	4,256	344,630,698,024	1.2
70-79	1,810	85,010,352,002	2.1	918	54,430,675,479	1.7	2,728	139,441,027,481	2.0
80+	1,187	19,674,241,353	6.0	555	12,308,938,944	4.5	1,742	31,983,180,297	5.4

\*Total includes other and/or unknowns

The rate of nighttime fatal passenger vehicle crash involvements per 100 million miles traveled in 2017 was almost 3 times higher for male drivers ages 16-19 than for male drivers ages 30-59. The corresponding comparison for females yields just over double the



rate.<sup>1</sup> (#n1)

Nighttime (9 p.m.-6 a.m.) fatal passenger vehicle crash involvements per 100 million miles traveled by driver age and gender, 2017						
Age	Male			Female		
	Crash involvements	Miles	Rate	Crash involvements	Miles	Rate
16-19	741	4,931,226,605	15.0	286	2,916,766,045	9.8
20-24	1,683	12,749,476,470	13.2	613	11,332,793,419	5.4
25-29	1,541	12,346,988,856	12.5	543	6,306,786,823	8.6
30-59	4,301	79,775,321,852	5.4	1,472	35,496,839,100	4.1
60-69	579	15,786,500,196	3.7	182	7,501,060,309	2.4
70+	308	4,365,410,112	7.1	110	1,972,194,094	5.6

## When teenagers died

In 2018, teenage crash deaths occurred most often in July.

Teenage motor vehicle crash deaths by month, 2018		
Month	Deaths	%
January	178	7
February	181	7
March	194	8
April	186	8
May	232	9
June	224	9
July	247	10
August	204	8
September	227	9
October	224	9
November	201	8
December	178	7
Total	2,476	100

Fifty-two percent of motor vehicle crash deaths among teenagers in 2018 occurred on Friday, Saturday or Sunday.

Teenage motor vehicle crash deaths by day of week, 2018		
Day of week	Deaths	%
Sunday	437	18
Monday	324	13
Tuesday	270	11
Wednesday	282	11
Thursday	318	13

<b>Teenage motor vehicle crash deaths by day of week, 2018</b>		
<b>Day of week</b>	<b>Deaths</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Friday</b>	371	15
<b>Saturday</b>	474	19
<b>Total</b>	2,476	100

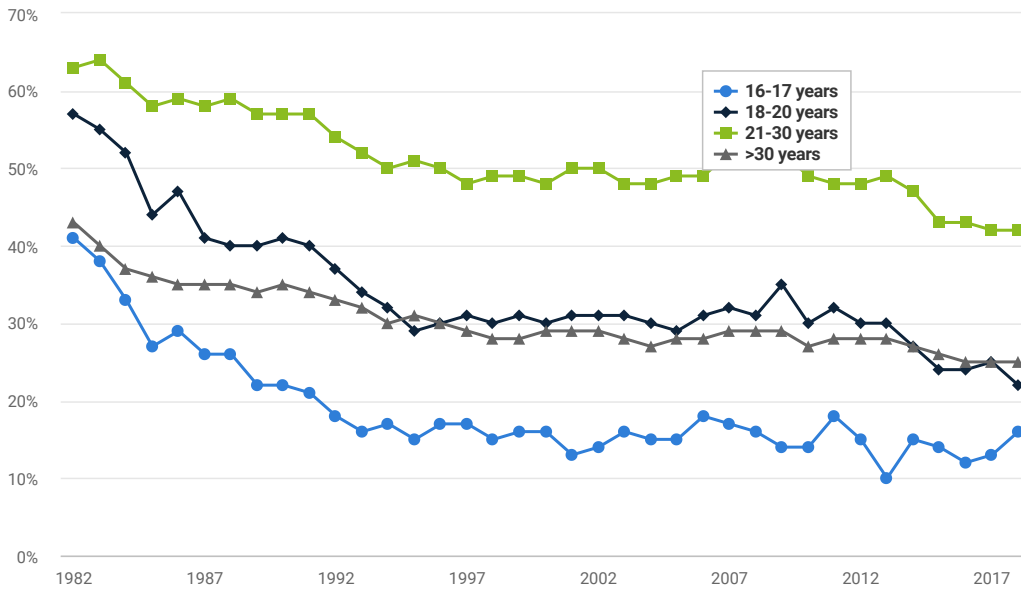
Teenage motor vehicle crash deaths in 2018 occurred most frequently from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. (18 percent), followed closely by the time between 9 p.m. and midnight (16 percent) and between 3 and 6 p.m. (15 percent).

<b>Teenage motor vehicle crash deaths by time of day, 2018</b>		
<b>Time of day</b>	<b>Deaths</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Midnight - 3 a.m.</b>	328	13
<b>3 a.m. - 6 a.m.</b>	194	8
<b>6 a.m. - 9 a.m.</b>	276	11
<b>9 a.m. - noon</b>	187	8
<b>Noon - 3 p.m.</b>	259	11
<b>3 p.m. - 6 p.m.</b>	375	15
<b>6 p.m. - 9 p.m.</b>	434	18
<b>9 p.m. - midnight</b>	406	16
<b>Total*</b>	2,476	100
*Total includes other and/or unknowns		

## Alcohol involvement

Young drivers are less likely than adults to drive after drinking alcohol, but their crash risk is substantially higher when they do. This is especially true at low and moderate blood alcohol concentrations (BACs).<sup>5</sup> (#fn5) The estimated percentage of fatally injured passenger vehicle drivers ages 16-17 who had BACs at or above 0.08 percent in 2018 was 16 percent, down 61 percent since 1982. Most of this decline took place in the 1980s. This age group experienced a similar decline in alcohol involvement as drivers ages 18-20 (61 percent). These age groups experienced a larger decline in alcohol involvement than drivers ages 21-30 (33 percent and drivers over age 30 (42 percent).

### Percent of fatally injured passenger vehicle drivers with BACs $\geq$ 0.08 percent by age, 1982-2018



**Estimated percent and number of fatally injured passenger vehicle drivers with BACs ≥ 0.08 percent by age group, 1982-2018**

Year	16-17 years			18-20 years			21-30 years			>30 years		
	Drivers killed	Estimated drivers with BACs ≥ 0.08		Drivers killed	Estimated drivers with BACs ≥ 0.08		Drivers killed	Estimated drivers with BACs ≥ 0.08		Drivers killed	Estimated drivers with BACs ≥ 0.08	
	Number	Number	%	Number	Number	%	Number	Number	%	Number	Number	%
1982	895	368	41	2,561	1,458	57	6,244	3,948	63	9,861	4,208	43
1983	899	345	38	2,427	1,336	55	6,053	3,859	64	9,845	3,943	40
1984	969	321	33	2,472	1,274	52	6,413	3,885	61	10,337	3,860	37
1985	935	250	27	2,292	1,009	44	6,263	3,659	58	10,441	3,713	36
1986	1,172	336	29	2,464	1,158	47	6,695	3,974	59	11,042	3,887	35
1987	1,192	311	26	2,438	1,004	41	6,802	3,975	58	11,579	4,016	35
1988	1,177	302	26	2,611	1,056	40	6,819	3,991	59	12,145	4,203	35
1989	1,060	234	22	2,476	991	40	6,475	3,675	57	12,401	4,272	34
1990	999	224	22	2,398	974	41	6,152	3,510	57	12,274	4,238	35
1991	902	193	21	2,119	852	40	5,623	3,183	57	11,801	3,993	34
1992	900	165	18	1,797	664	37	5,122	2,759	54	11,639	3,823	33
1993	935	152	16	1,870	643	34	5,065	2,658	52	12,038	3,851	32
1994	1,006	167	17	1,984	632	32	4,975	2,484	50	12,525	3,771	30
1995	1,015	150	15	1,968	575	29	5,081	2,585	51	13,247	4,155	31
1996	1,106	186	17	1,920	583	30	4,989	2,475	50	13,478	4,070	30
1997	1,090	180	17	1,946	594	31	4,775	2,275	48	13,777	4,004	29
1998	1,059	161	15	2,035	607	30	4,577	2,222	49	13,839	3,930	28
1999	1,092	172	16	2,169	677	31	4,653	2,260	49	13,870	3,866	28
2000	999	158	16	2,251	686	30	4,706	2,268	48	13,743	3,997	29
2001	993	132	13	2,254	691	31	4,735	2,358	50	13,790	4,005	29
2002	1,126	155	14	2,326	718	31	4,938	2,462	50	14,006	4,020	29
2003	994	159	16	2,266	699	31	4,852	2,308	48	13,957	3,930	28
2004	969	149	15	2,206	665	30	4,970	2,372	48	13,689	3,743	27

Estimated percent and number of fatally injured passenger vehicle drivers with BACs $\geq$ 0.08 percent by age group, 1982-2018												
Year	16-17 years			18-20 years			21-30 years			>30 years		
	Drivers killed	Estimated drivers with BACs $\geq$ 0.08		Drivers killed	Estimated drivers with BACs $\geq$ 0.08		Drivers killed	Estimated drivers with BACs $\geq$ 0.08		Drivers killed	Estimated drivers with BACs $\geq$ 0.08	
	Number	Number	%	Number	Number	%	Number	Number	%	Number	Number	%
2005	879	132	15	2,106	603	29	5,067	2,492	49	13,809	3,852	28
2006	859	151	18	2,161	680	31	5,159	2,535	49	13,321	3,779	28
2007	775	133	17	1,953	633	32	5,028	2,592	52	12,697	3,675	29
2008	580	91	16	1,712	535	31	4,388	2,327	53	11,528	3,308	29
2009	503	69	14	1,546	540	35	3,870	2,020	52	10,869	3,156	29
2010	410	58	14	1,265	380	30	3,697	1,816	49	10,613	2,914	27
2011	422	78	18	1,300	410	32	3,612	1,747	48	10,193	2,820	28
2012	390	60	15	1,234	376	30	3,748	1,803	48	10,505	2,958	28
2013	302	31	10	1,079	328	30	3,671	1,788	49	10,492	2,958	28
2014	344	50	15	1,090	294	27	3,636	1,707	47	10,384	2,849	27
2015	381	53	14	1,210	295	24	3,860	1,658	43	11,134	2,901	26
2016	406	47	12	1,185	284	24	4,205	1,812	43	11,801	2,997	25
2017	375	48	13	1,108	274	25	4,057	1,721	42	12,168	3,066	25
2018	351	56	16	1,079	238	22	3,929	1,655	42	11,770	2,991	25

Among fatally injured teenage drivers in 2018, females were less likely than males to have high BACs. Among fatally injured passenger vehicle drivers ages 16-17, 20 percent of males and 9 percent of females had BACs at or above 0.08 percent. Among fatally injured drivers ages 18-19, 24 percent of males and 17 percent of females had BACs at or above 0.08 percent.

Estimated number and percent of fatally injured passenger vehicle drivers with BACs $\geq$ 0.08 percent by gender and age, 2018									
Age	Male			Female			Total*		
	Drivers killed	Estimated drivers with BACs $\geq$ 0.08		Drivers killed	Estimated drivers with BACs $\geq$ 0.08		Drivers killed	Estimated drivers with BACs $\geq$ 0.08	
	Number	Number	%	Number	Number	%	Number	Number	%
16-17	213	43	20	138	13	9	351	56	16
18-19	497	117	24	241	42	17	738	159	22
20	238	62	26	103	18	17	341	79	23
21-30	2,851	1,298	46	1,078	357	33	3,929	1,655	42
31-60	5,217	1,925	37	2,040	501	25	7,258	2,426	33
61-70	1,352	286	21	593	74	12	1,946	360	18
>70	1,712	162	9	854	44	5	2,566	206	8
All ages*	12,107	3,896	32	5,056	1,049	21	17,168	4,946	29

\*Total includes other and/or unknowns

## Footnotes

1

Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. 2018. [Unpublished analysis of 2017 data from the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Household Travel Survey, General Estimates System, and Fatality Analysis Reporting System]. Arlington, VA.

[↑ \(#fn1ref1\)](#)

2

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[↑ \(#fn2ref1\)](#)

3

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[↑ \(#fn3ref1\)](#)

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(<https://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/leadcause.html>)

[↑ \(#fn4ref1\)](#)

5

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[↑ \(#fn5ref1\)](#)

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) is an independent, nonprofit scientific and educational organization dedicated to reducing the losses — deaths, injuries and property damage — from motor vehicle crashes.

The Highway Loss Data Institute (HLDI) shares and supports this mission through scientific studies of insurance data representing the human and economic losses resulting from the ownership and operation of different types of vehicles and by publishing insurance loss results by vehicle make and model.

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