

Quick Facts

Illinois Crash Information 2008

Young Drivers (Aged 16 to 20)

Young drivers have less driving experience than older drivers, so an evaluation of their involvement in motor vehicle incidents is particularly important.

	All Crashes	Crashes Involving One or More Young Drivers (Age 16-20)
Crashes:	408,399	76,343
Fatal Crashes:	950	140
Injury Crashes:	67,845	14,523
Total People Involved:	937,463 ^a	204,939 ^a
Total Fatalities:	1,043 ^a	167 ^a
Total Non-Fatal Injuries:	94,098 ^a	21,759 ^a

^aTotals include occupants and non-occupants; e.g. 937,463 total people = 927,093 occupants + 10,370 non-occupants

Overall, 167 (16.0%) of all 1,043 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2008 occurred in crashes involving one or more young drivers (aged 16 to 20). Fatally injured young drivers themselves accounted for 81 (7.8%) of all 1,043 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2008. Other people involved in these crashes—including other drivers as well as passengers, pedestrians, pedalcyclists and other non-occupants—accounted for 86 (8.2%) of all 1,043 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2008.

Demographics

- 45,019 (54.6%) of all 82,483 young drivers aged 16 to 20 involved in crashes were male.[†] In comparison, 317,769 (58.2%) of all 546,272 drivers aged 21 & above involved in crashes were male.[†]
- Young drivers accounted for a disproportionate number of all crashes, as they represented just 847,866 (7.0%) of all 8,260,940 licensed drivers in Illinois but 82,492 (13.1%) of all 628,810 drivers in crashes, 144 (10.3%) of all 1,400 drivers in fatal crashes and 81 (12.4%) of all 652 fatally injured drivers.[‡]

	Percent in Age Group*								Total
	16-20	21-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-69	70+	
Population **	9.4	7.0	19.0	20.8	17.1	10.9	4.2	11.6	100.0
Licensed Drivers ***	7.0	6.7	17.5	18.4	20.0	15.3	5.1	10.0	100.0
Drivers in crashes	13.1	10.4	21.6	19.1	17.2	10.7	2.8	4.9	100.0
Drivers in fatal crashes	10.3	11.1	21.1	17.3	18.4	10.2	2.4	9.2	100.0
Fatally injured drivers	12.4	11.8	18.1	15.8	17.2	10.3	2.1	12.3	100.0

* Ages 16 and above, where age was known

** Source: Census 2000, U.S. Census Bureau

*** Source: Highway Statistics 2008, Federal Highway Administration

[†] Where sex and age were known

[‡] Where age was known

Note: Data as of January 6, 2010; with 408,399 crash records, 751,885 vehicle records and 937,463 person records

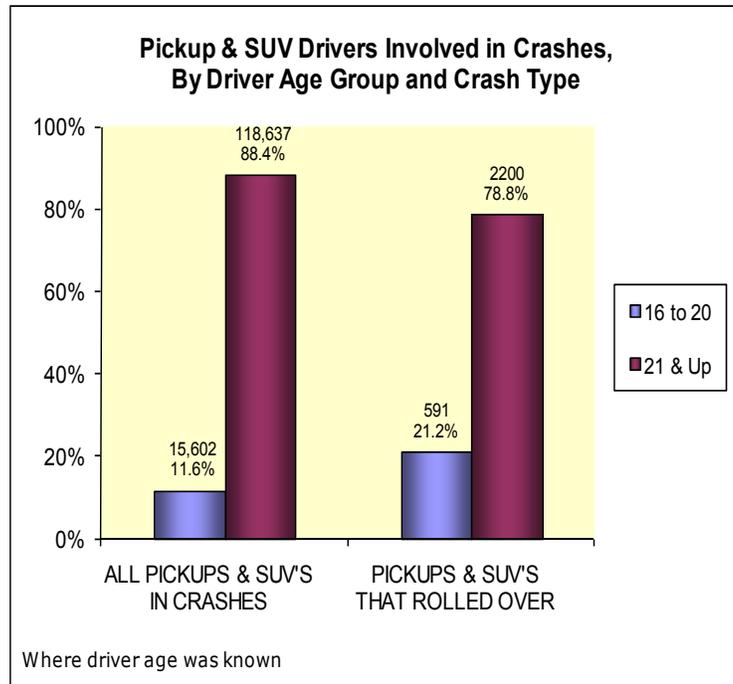
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Characteristics of crashes involving young drivers

- 12,860 (16.9%) of all 76,343 crashes involving young drivers were speeding-related[§], compared with 39,978 (12.0%) of all 331,865 crashes in which no young driver was involved
- 36,702 (48.1%) of all 76,343 crashes involving young drivers were intersection-related, compared with 122,711 (37.0%) of all 331,865 crashes in which no young driver was involved
- 13,794 (18.1%) of all 76,343 crashes involving young drivers were single vehicle crashes, compared with 82,002 (24.7%) of all 331,865 crashes in which no young driver was involved.
- Seat belt use^{**} was reported for 70,373 (86.8%) of all 81,101 young drivers of passenger cars/light trucks^{††} involved with crashes, compared with 425,017 (84.7%) of all 501,690 older drivers of passenger cars/light trucks.

Pickup & SUV Rollovers

- Young drivers were behind the wheel of just 11.6% of all pickups and SUV's involved in crashes, yet they were behind the wheel during 21.2% of all pickup and SUV rollovers.^{**}
- 11 fatalities (1.1% of all 1,043 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2008) resulted from crashes in which young drivers were behind the wheel of pickups and SUV's that suffered rollovers.



[§] "Speeding-related" was defined as crashes in which at least one driver in the crash was driving too fast for conditions or in which exceeding the speed limit or excessive speed for conditions was listed by police as a cause of the crash

^{**} Percent using seat belts was defined as the number of people for whom seat belt use was reported divided by the total number of people involved in crashes.

^{††} Passenger cars and light trucks for this analysis were defined as passenger cars, pickup trucks, vans, minivans and SUV's according to classifications used by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

^{††} Where driver age was known

Geographic Information

- 12,101 (15.9%) of all 76,343 crashes involving young drivers took place on roads that were classified as "rural" road use, compared with 47,030 (14.2%) of all 332,056 crashes in which no young driver was involved.
- 49,025 (63.8%) of all 76,343 crashes involving young drivers took place in Illinois counties outside Cook County, compared with 162,175 (48.8%) of all 332,056 crashes in which no young driver was involved.

	Crashes Involving One or More Young Drivers		Crashes Involving No Young Drivers	
	n	(%)	n	(%)
Chicago	11,090	(14.5%)	100,603	(30.3%)
Suburban Cook County	16,228	(21.3%)	69,278	(20.9%)
Chicago Collar Counties	20,139	(26.4%)	65,230	(19.6%)
Rest of State - Urban	15,363	(20.1%)	48,650	(14.7%)
Rest of State - Rural	13,523	(17.7%)	48,295	(14.5%)

Note: Counties were stratified according to criteria defined by the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System for the Illinois Department of Public Health

Time of Day

The percentage of crashes involving young drivers varied by time of day.

- Crashes that occurred between 4:00 am and 6:59 am were least likely to involve young drivers
- During early morning commute hours for work/school, there was a peak in percentage of crashes involving young drivers
- Other peaks occurred during late afternoon and late evening hours.

