

Quick Facts

Illinois Crash Information 2011

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:	281,914	50,010
Fatal Crashes:	835	56 ^a
Injury Crashes:	60,056	6,289 ^a
Total People Involved:	665,697 ^b	53,866 ^c
Total Fatalities:	918 ^b	56 ^c
Total Non-Fatal Injuries:	84,215 ^b	6,412 ^c

^a Numbers only reflect crashes in which fatality or non-fatal injury was specifically a young driver

^b Totals include occupants and non-occupants; e.g. 665,697 total people = 657,345 occupants + 8,352 non-occupants

^c Numbers include young drivers only

Fatally injured young drivers themselves accounted for 56 (6.1%) of all 918 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2011. However, crashes involving one or more young drivers (aged 16 to 20) accounted for an additional 83 deaths, totaling 139 (15.1%) of all 918 traffic fatalities. Other people involved in these crashes included drivers in other age groups as well as passengers, pedestrians and other non-occupants.

Demographics

- 28,914 (53.7%) of all 53,866 young drivers aged 16 to 20 involved in crashes were male, compared with 216,805 (57.1%) of all 379,868 drivers aged 21 & above.[†]
- Young drivers accounted for a disproportionate number of all crashes, as they represented just 570,981 (6.8%) of all 8,373,969 licensed drivers in Illinois but 53,866 (12.4%) of all 433,734 drivers in crashes, 121 (9.9%) of all 1,221 drivers in fatal crashes and 56 (9.9%) of all 564 fatally injured drivers.[‡]

	Percent in Age Group*								
	16-20	21-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-69	70+	Total
Population **	9.1	6.9	17.6	17.1	18.6	14.6	4.8	11.2	100.0
Licensed Drivers ***	6.8	6.7	17.6	17.5	19.6	16.3	5.3	10.2	100.0
Drivers in crashes	12.4	10.6	21.6	17.9	17.1	11.9	3.2	5.3	100.0
Drivers in fatal crashes	9.9	10.8	20.6	16.3	17.8	12.2	3.9	8.5	100.0
Fatally injured drivers	9.9	10.6	17.4	17.0	15.6	12.4	5.0	12.1	100.0

* Ages 16 and above, where age was known

** Source: Census 2010, U.S. Census Bureau

*** Source: Highway Statistics 2011, Federal Highway Administration

[†] Where sex and age were known

[‡] Ages 16 and above, where age was known

Note: Data as of October 22, 2012; with 281,914 crash records, 523,044 vehicle records and 665,697 person records.

The law regarding the reporting threshold for Property Damage Only crashes was amended effective January 1, 2009, resulting in decreased reporting of crashes in this specific category. It did not affect the reporting of injury or fatal crashes. For details of the reporting amendment, see also <http://app.idph.state.il.us/emsrpt/crash.asp>.

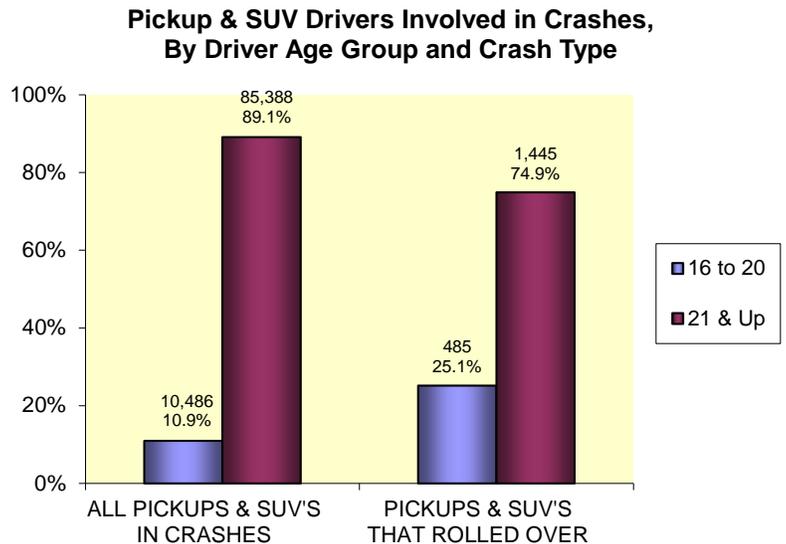
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Characteristics of crashes involving young drivers

- 7,527 (15.1%) of all 50,010 crashes involving young drivers were speeding-related[§], compared with 23,498 (10.1%) of all 231,904 crashes in which no young driver was involved
- 23,459 (46.9%) of all 50,010 crashes involving young drivers were intersection-related, compared with 84,670 (36.5%) of all 231,904 crashes in which no young driver was involved
- 9,027 (18.1%) of all 50,010 crashes involving young drivers were single vehicle crashes, compared with 57,094 (24.6%) of all 231,904 crashes in which no young driver was involved.
- Seat belt use^{**} was reported for 47,022 (88.2%) of all 53,311 young drivers of passengers cars/light trucks^{††} involved with crashes, compared with 304,732 (85.3%) of all 353,988 older drivers of passengers cars/light trucks.

Pickup & SUV Rollovers

- Young drivers were behind the wheel of just 10.9% of all pickups and SUV's involved in crashes, yet they were behind the wheel during 25.1% of all pickup and SUV rollovers.^{‡‡}
- 14 fatalities (1.5% of all 918 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2011) resulted from crashes in which young drivers were behind the wheel of pickups and SUV's that suffered rollovers.



Where driver age was known

[§] "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

- 8,406 (16.8%) of all 50,010 crashes involving young drivers took place on roads that were classified as "rural" road use, compared with 33,971 (14.6%) of all 231,904 crashes in which no young driver was involved.
- 33,333 (66.7%) of all 50,010 crashes involving young drivers took place in Illinois counties outside Cook County, compared with 115,082 (50.4%) of all 231,904 crashes in which no young driver was involved.

	Crashes Involving One or More Young Drivers	Crashes Involving No Young Drivers
	n (%)	n (%)
Chicago	6,695 (13.4%)	71,245 (30.7%)
Suburban Cook County	9,982 (20.0%)	45,577 (19.7%)
Chicago Collar Counties	13,395 (26.8%)	43,294 (18.7%)
Rest of State - Urban	10,581 (21.2%)	36,452 (15.7%)
Rest of State - Rural	9,357 (18.7%)	35,336 (15.2%)

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

Percent of Crashes Involving One or More Young Drivers (Age 16 to 20), By Time of Day

