

Quick Facts

Illinois Crash Information 2003

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.

	<u>All Crashes</u>	<u>Crashes Involving One or More Young Drivers (Age 16-20)</u>
Crashes:	437,289	95,059
Fatal Crashes:	1,308	275
Injury Crashes:	88,585	22,788
Total People Involved:	989,697 ^b	250,568 ^b
Total Fatalities:	1,454 ^b	321 ^b
Total Non-Fatal Injuries:	131,279 ^b	36,680 ^b

^aTotals include occupants and non-occupants; e.g. 989,697 total people = 980,219 occupants + 9,478 non-occupants

Young drivers aged 16 to 20 who were fatally injured accounted for 120 (8.3%) of all 1,454 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2003. Other people involved in these crashes—including other drivers as well as passengers, pedestrians, pedalcyclists and other non-occupants—accounted for 201 (13.8%) of all 1,454 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2003. Overall, 321 (22.1%) of all 1,454 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2003 occurred in crashes involving one or more young drivers.

Demographics

- 58,639 (56.4%) of all 103,919 young drivers aged 16 to 20 involved in crashes were male. In comparison, 348,073 (59.5%) of all 584,580 drivers aged 21 & above involved in crashes were male.
- Young drivers accounted for a disproportionate number of all crashes, as they represented just 588,607 (7.3%) of all 8,054,232 licensed drivers in Illinois but 103,920 (15.1%) of all 688,500 drivers in crashes, 289 (14.9%) of all 1,942 drivers in fatal crashes and 120 (13.6%) of all 882 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 ***	7.3	6.8	18.3	20.6	19.5	13.2	4.4	9.8	100.0
Drivers in crashes	15.1	11.1	22.2	20.0	15.6	8.8	2.4	4.8	100.0
Drivers in fatal crashes	14.9	11.0	19.6	18.3	14.1	9.7	3.2	9.2	100.0
Fatally injured drivers	13.6	11.9	18.7	16.9	12.6	9.2	3.7	13.4	100.0

* Ages 16 and above, where age was known

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

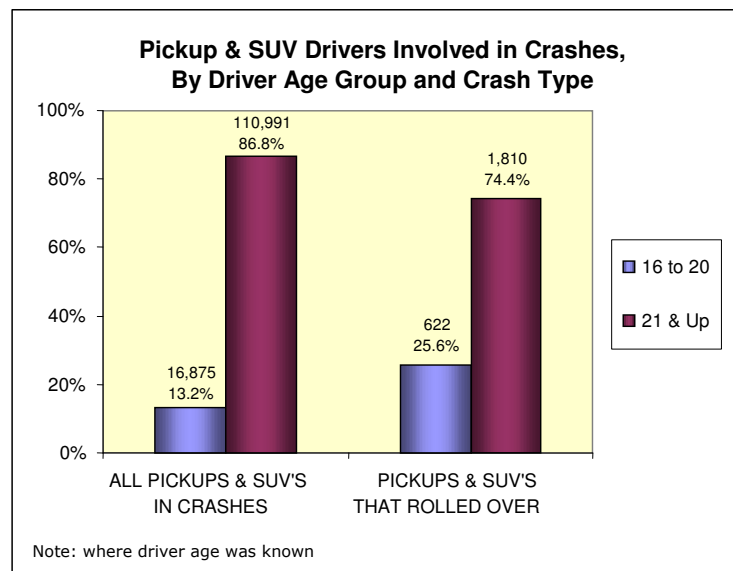
*** Source: Highway Statistics 2003, Federal Highway Administration

Characteristics of crashes involving young drivers

- 14,292 (15.0%) of all 95,059 crashes involving young drivers were speeding-related[†], compared with 33,332 (9.7%) of all 342,230 crashes in which no young driver was involved
- 45,909 (48.3%) of all 95,059 crashes involving young drivers were intersection-related, compared with 130,504 (38.1%) of all 342,230 crashes in which no young driver was involved.
- Where collision type was known, 16,642 (17.5%) of all 95,029 crashes involving young drivers were single vehicle crashes, compared with 73,918 (21.6%) of all 342,039 crashes in which no young driver was involved.
- Seat belt use[‡] was reported for 116,213 (83.9%) of all 138,599 young drivers of passengers cars/light trucks[§] involved with crashes, compared with 508,948 (82.2%) of all 619,115 older drivers of passengers cars/light trucks.

Pickup & SUV Rollovers

- Young drivers were behind the wheel of just 13.2% of all pickups and SUV's involved in crashes, yet they were behind the wheel during 25.6% of all pickup and SUV rollovers.^{**}
- 18 fatalities (1.2% of all 1,454 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2003) resulted from crashes in which young drivers were behind the wheel of pickups and SUV's that suffered rollovers.



Geographic Information

- 13,559 (14.3%) of all 95,059 crashes involving young drivers took place on roads that were classified as "rural" road use, compared with 43,554 (12.7%) of all 342,230 crashes in which no young driver was involved.
- 58,858 (61.9%) of all 95,059 crashes involving young drivers took place in Illinois counties outside Cook County, compared with 157,712 (46.1%) of all 342,230 crashes in which no young driver was involved.

	Crashes Involving One or More Young Drivers n (%)	Crashes Involving No Young Drivers n (%)
Chicago	15,873 (16.7%)	114,553 (33.5%)
Suburban Cook County	20,328 (21.4%)	69,965 (20.4%)
Chicago Collar Counties	23,167 (24.4%)	61,652 (18.0%)
Rest of State - Urban	18,684 (19.7%)	48,212 (14.1%)
Rest of State - Rural	17,007 (17.9%)	47,848 (14.0%)

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

[†] "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

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.

