

Quick Facts

Illinois Crash Information 2004

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:	433,035	92,194
Fatal Crashes:	1,224	227
Injury Crashes:	83,924	20,959
Total People Involved:	1,008,936 ^a	248,890 ^a
Total Fatalities:	1,355 ^a	258 ^a
Total Non-Fatal Injuries:	121,404 ^a	32,606 ^a

^a Totals include occupants and non-occupants; e.g. 1,008,936 total people = 999,641 occupants + 9,295 non-occupants

Young drivers aged 16 to 20 who were fatally injured accounted for 98 (7.2%) of all 1,355 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2004. Other people involved in these crashes—including other drivers as well as passengers, pedestrians, pedalcyclists and other non-occupants—accounted for 160 (11.8%) of all 1,355 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2004. Overall, 258 (19.0%) of all 1,355 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2004 occurred in crashes involving one or more young drivers.

Demographics

- 56,312 (55.9%) of all 100,753 young drivers aged 16 to 20 involved in crashes were male.[†] In comparison, 343,971 (59.4%) of all 578,599 drivers aged 21 & above involved in crashes were male.[†]
- Young drivers accounted for a disproportionate number of all crashes, as they represented just 588,825 (7.3%) of all 8,057,683 licensed drivers in Illinois but 100,800 (15.4%) of all 655,604 drivers in crashes, 237 (12.9%) of all 1,835 drivers in fatal crashes and 98 (11.7%) of all 841 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	18.1	20.2	19.7	13.7	4.4	9.7	100.0	
Drivers in crashes	15.4	11.5	22.9	20.5	16.4	7.5	2.0	3.9	100.0	
Drivers in fatal crashes	12.9	12.4	20.6	19.6	15.6	8.4	1.9	8.6	100.0	
Fatally injured drivers	11.7	13.7	19.5	16.8	15.7	9.4	1.7	11.7	100.0	

* Ages 16 and above, where age was known

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

*** Source: Highway Statistics 2004, Federal Highway Administration

[†] Where sex and age were known

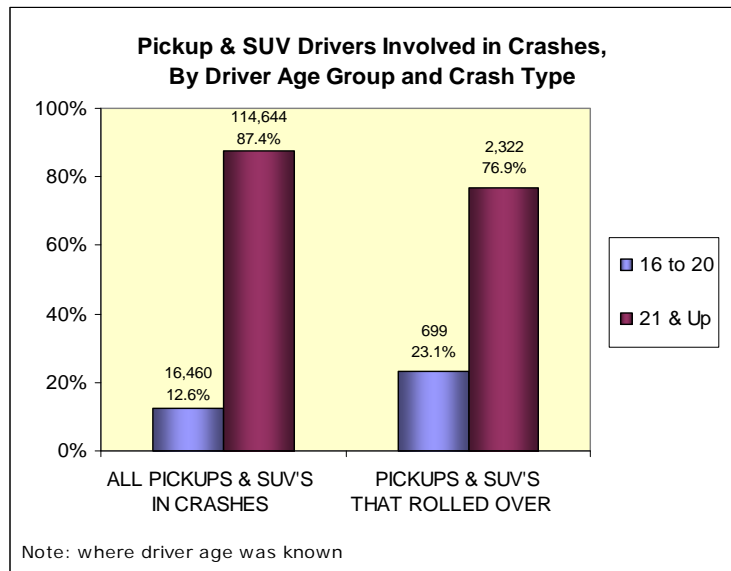
[‡] Where age was known

Characteristics of crashes involving young drivers

- 13,562 (14.7%) of all 92,194 crashes involving young drivers were speeding-related[§], compared with 33,477 (9.8%) of all 340,841 crashes in which no young driver was involved
- 38,296 (41.5%) of all 92,194 crashes involving young drivers were intersection-related, compared with 106,287 (31.2%) of all 340,841 crashes in which no young driver was involved
- Where collision type was known, 15,618 (16.9%) of all 91,865 crashes involving young drivers were single vehicle crashes, compared with 73,386 (21.5%) of all 339,272 crashes in which no young driver was involved.
- Seat belt use^{**} was reported for 112,191 (83.0%) of all 135,125 young drivers of passenger cars/light trucks^{††} involved with crashes, compared with 497,259 (80.7%) of all 617,226 older drivers of passenger cars/light trucks.

Pickup & SUV Rollovers

- Young drivers were behind the wheel of just 12.6% of all pickups and SUV's involved in crashes, yet they were behind the wheel during 23.1% of all pickup and SUV rollovers.^{‡‡}
- 16 fatalities (1.2% of all 1,355 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2004) resulted from crashes in which young drivers were behind the wheel of pickups and SUV's that suffered rollovers.



Geographic Information

- 13,858 (15.0%) of all 92,194 crashes involving young drivers took place on roads that were classified as "rural" road use, compared with 45,787 (13.4%) of all 340,841 crashes in which no young driver was involved.
- 57,207 (62.1%) of all 92,156 crashes involving young drivers took place in Illinois counties outside Cook County, compared with 158,238 (46.4%) of all 340,879 crashes in which no young driver was involved.

	Crashes Involving One or More Young Drivers		Crashes Involving No Young Drivers	
	n	(%)	n	(%)
Chicago	15,089	(16.4%)	112,070	(32.9%)
Suburban Cook County	19,891	(21.6%)	70,540	(20.7%)
Chicago Collar Counties	23,009	(25.0%)	62,478	(18.3%)
Rest of State - Urban	17,982	(19.5%)	47,823	(14.0%)
Rest of State - Rural	16,223	(17.6%)	47,930	(14.1%)

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.

