

Teenage Drivers



Section 6: Teenage Drivers

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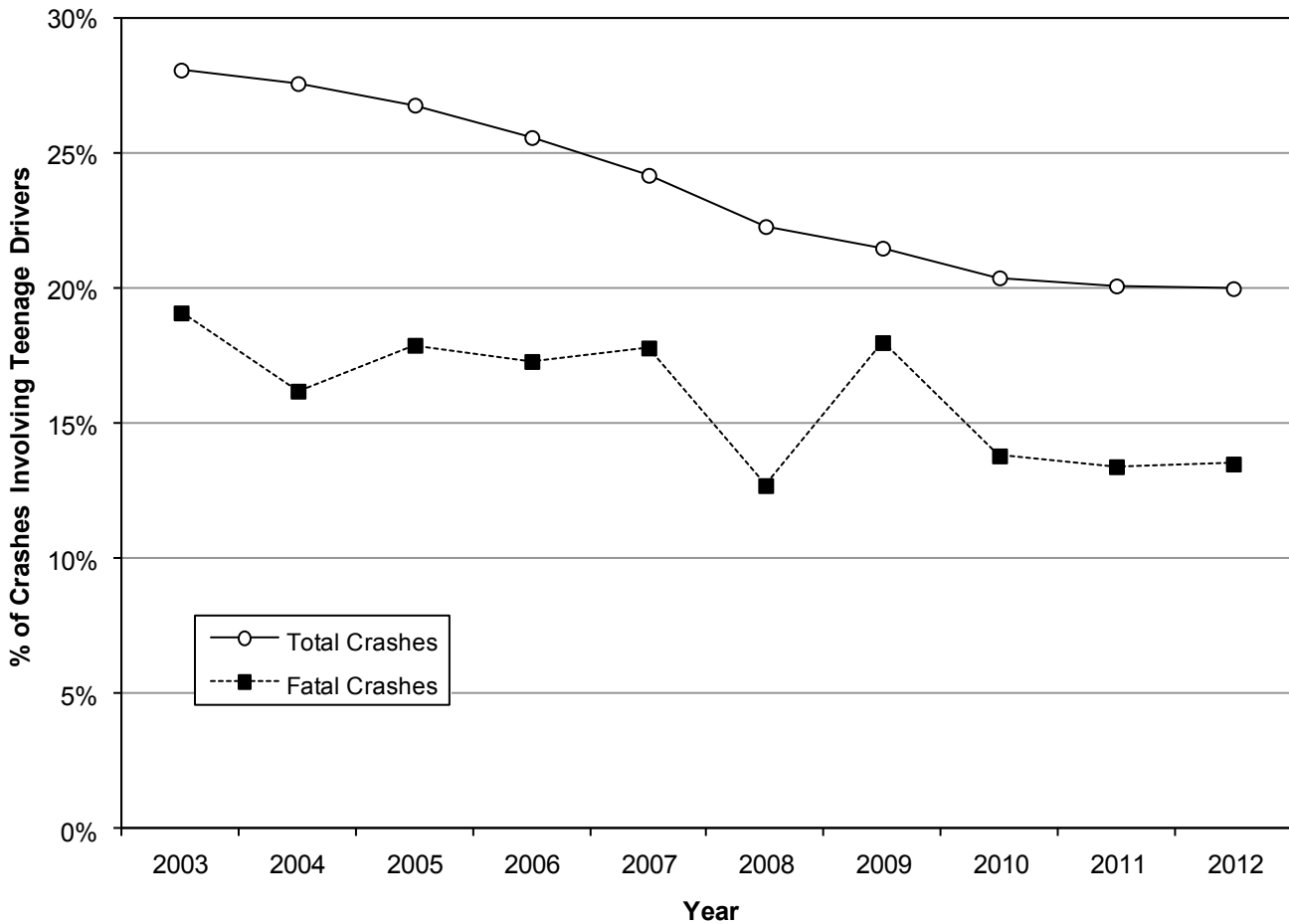
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Trends

Teenage Driver Crashes (Utah 2003-2012)

Teenage Driver Crashes												
Year	Property Damage Only			Injury			Fatal			Total		
	All	Teen Driver		All	Teen Driver		All	Teen Driver		All	Teen Driver	
	#	#	%	#	#	%	#	#	%	#	#	%
2003	31,842	8,807	27.7%	18,285	5,321	29.1%	262	50	19.1%	50,389	14,178	28.1%
2004	34,222	9,397	27.5%	19,423	5,431	28.0%	260	42	16.2%	53,905	14,870	27.6%
2005	35,158	9,225	26.2%	19,545	5,434	27.8%	235	42	17.9%	54,938	14,701	26.8%
2006	37,674	9,427	25.0%	18,264	4,928	27.0%	249	43	17.3%	56,187	14,398	25.6%
2007	42,368	9,990	23.6%	18,619	4,808	25.8%	258	46	17.8%	61,245	14,844	24.2%
2008	38,997	8,512	21.8%	17,125	4,007	23.4%	245	31	12.7%	56,367	12,550	22.3%
2009	35,398	7,500	21.2%	15,752	3,495	22.2%	217	39	18.0%	51,367	11,034	21.5%
2010	34,155	6,886	20.2%	14,995	3,181	21.2%	218	30	13.8%	49,368	10,097	20.5%
2011	36,418	7,268	20.0%	15,645	3,227	20.6%	224	30	13.4%	52,287	10,525	20.1%
2012	34,635	6,889	19.9%	15,765	3,216	20.4%	200	27	13.5%	50,600	10,132	20.0%
Total	360,867	83,901	23.2%	173,418	43,048	24.8%	2,368	380	16.0%	536,653	127,329	23.7%



- Teenage drivers (aged 15-19 years) are a special concern because of their high crash rates and lack of driving experience.
- The 10-year trend shows that 23.7% of all crashes in Utah involved a teenage driver with a decreasing trend over the last 10 years.
- Fatal teenage driver crashes have also shown a decreasing trend although less dramatic than total crashes.

Crash Conditions

Teenage Driver Crashes by County (Utah 2012)

Teenage Driver Crashes												
County	PDO Crashes			Injury Crashes			Fatal Crashes			Total		
	All	Teen Driver		All	Teen Driver		All	Teen Driver		All	Teen Driver	
	#	#	%	#	#	%	#	#	%	#	#	%
Cache	1,237	324	26.2%	445	121	27.2%	6	2	33.3%	1,688	447	26.5%
Washington	1,179	274	23.2%	747	192	25.7%	10	1	10.0%	1,936	467	24.1%
Utah	5,070	1,229	24.2%	2,700	626	23.2%	19	2	10.5%	7,789	1,857	23.8%
Davis	2,899	667	23.0%	1,338	322	24.1%	14	4	28.6%	4,251	993	23.4%
Sanpete	223	51	22.9%	78	17	21.8%	1	0	0.0%	302	68	22.5%
Weber	2,545	577	22.7%	1,352	282	20.9%	13	0	0.0%	3,910	859	22.0%
Uintah	471	100	21.2%	193	41	21.2%	9	1	11.1%	673	142	21.1%
Iron	547	108	19.7%	244	55	22.5%	0	0	n/a	791	163	20.6%
Salt Lake	15,081	2,825	18.7%	6,815	1,251	18.4%	57	9	15.8%	21,953	4,085	18.6%
Wayne	36	8	22.2%	17	2	11.8%	1	0	0.0%	54	10	18.5%
Box Elder	713	117	16.4%	289	58	20.1%	4	0	0.0%	1,006	175	17.4%
Carbon	317	52	16.4%	88	18	20.5%	1	0	0.0%	406	70	17.2%
Tooele	686	116	16.9%	270	48	17.8%	16	2	12.5%	972	166	17.1%
Morgan	107	19	17.8%	39	6	15.4%	1	0	0.0%	147	25	17.0%
Duchesne	402	65	16.2%	115	18	15.7%	3	2	66.7%	520	85	16.3%
Grand	158	23	14.6%	81	14	17.3%	2	0	0.0%	241	37	15.4%
Sevier	274	34	12.4%	110	24	21.8%	2	1	50.0%	386	59	15.3%
Wasatch	414	60	14.5%	174	30	17.2%	4	0	0.0%	592	90	15.2%
Beaver	199	23	11.6%	55	14	25.5%	1	0	0.0%	255	37	14.5%
Juab	204	29	14.2%	69	10	14.5%	1	0	0.0%	274	39	14.2%
Emery	174	24	13.8%	70	8	11.4%	2	0	0.0%	246	32	13.0%
Summit	855	98	11.5%	214	33	15.4%	7	1	14.3%	1,076	132	12.3%
Rich	49	6	12.2%	29	3	10.3%	1	0	0.0%	79	9	11.4%
Millard	262	30	11.5%	101	11	10.9%	9	1	11.1%	372	42	11.3%
Garfield	124	9	7.3%	34	4	11.8%	3	1	33.3%	161	14	8.7%
Piute	18	2	11.1%	6	0	0.0%	0	0	n/a	24	2	8.3%
Kane	160	10	6.3%	32	5	15.6%	4	0	0.0%	196	15	7.7%
San Juan	207	8	3.9%	52	3	5.8%	7	0	0.0%	266	11	4.1%
Daggett	24	1	4.2%	8	0	0.0%	2	0	0.0%	34	1	2.9%
Statewide	34,635	6,889	19.9%	15,765	3,216	20.4%	200	27	13.5%	50,600	10,132	20.0%

- Overall, Cache (26.5%), Washington (24.1%), Utah (25.8%), and Davis (23.4%) counties had the highest percentages of crashes involving a teenage driver.
- Duchesne (66.7%) and Sevier (50.0%) counties had the highest percentages of fatal crashes involving a teenage driver.
- Overall, Daggett (2.9%), San Juan (4.1%), and Kane (7.7%) counties had the lowest percentages of crashes involving a teenage driver.
- Statewide, teenage driver crashes represented 20.0% of all crashes and 13.5% of all fatal crashes.

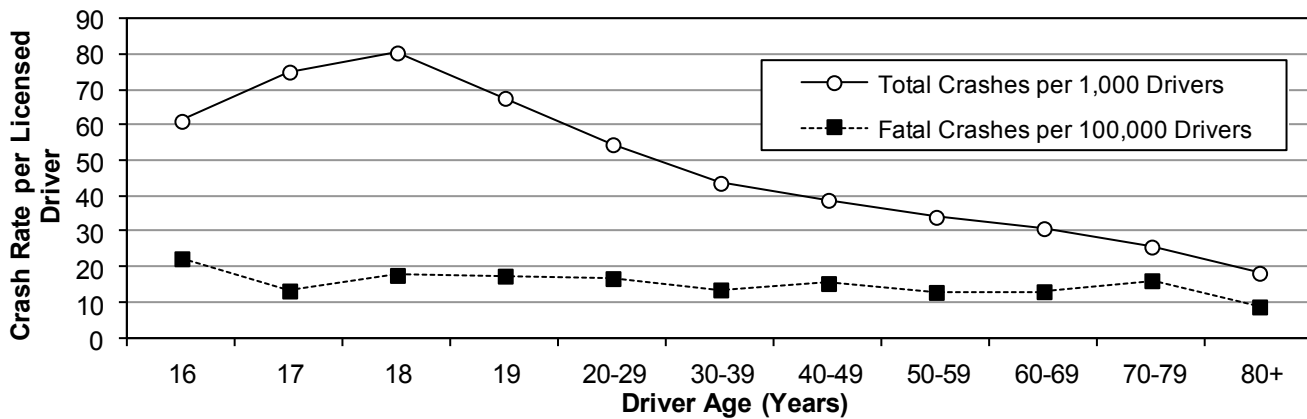
DON'T DRIVE
STUPID

Crash Conditions

Age of Teenage Drivers in Crashes (Utah 2012)

Teenage Drivers												
Age	PDO Crashes			Injury Crashes			Fatal Crashes			Total		
	#	%	Rate per 1,000 Drivers	#	%	Rate per 1,000 Drivers	#	%	Rate per 1,000 Drivers	#	%	Rate per 1,000 Drivers
15	90	1.2%	2.8	65	1.9%	2.0	1	3.6%	0.03	156	1.4%	4.8
16	1,520	20.0%	42.4	661	19.0%	18.5	8	28.6%	0.22	2,189	19.7%	61.1
17	1,953	25.7%	51.4	891	25.6%	23.5	5	17.9%	0.13	2,849	25.6%	75.0
18	2,186	28.8%	55.0	1,002	28.7%	25.2	7	25.0%	0.18	3,195	28.7%	80.4
19	1,851	24.4%	45.9	868	24.9%	21.5	7	25.0%	0.17	2,726	24.5%	67.6
Total	7,600	100.0%	40.7	3,487	100.0%	18.7	28	100.0%	0.15	11,115	100.0%	59.6

Crash Rate of Licensed Drivers by Age (Utah 2012)



- Drivers aged 18 years had the highest total crash rate per licensed driver.
- Drivers aged 16 years had the highest fatal crash rate per licensed driver.

Gender of Teenage Drivers in Crashes (Utah 2012)

Teenage Drivers								
Gender	PDO Crashes		Injury Crashes		Fatal Crashes		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Male	3,982	52.4%	1,742	50.0%	18	64.3%	5,742	51.7%
Female	3,605	47.4%	1,742	50.0%	10	35.7%	5,357	48.2%
Unknown	13	0.2%	3	0.1%	0	0.0%	16	0.1%
Total	7,600	100.0%	3,487	100.0%	28	100.0%	11,115	100.0%

- The majority of teen drivers in all motor vehicle crashes (51.7%) and fatal crashes (64.3%) were male.
- Crashes involving male teen drivers were 1.7 times more likely to be fatal than female teen driver crashes.

Previous Driving Violations of Teens in Fatal Crashes (Utah 2012)

- Of the 28 teenage drivers in fatal crashes, 12 (42.9%) had been previously convicted of a moving traffic violation in the past three years.

Alcohol Involvement of Teenage Drivers (Utah 2012)

- Of the 28 teenage drivers in fatal crashes, one (3.6%) was impaired by alcohol.

Crash Conditions

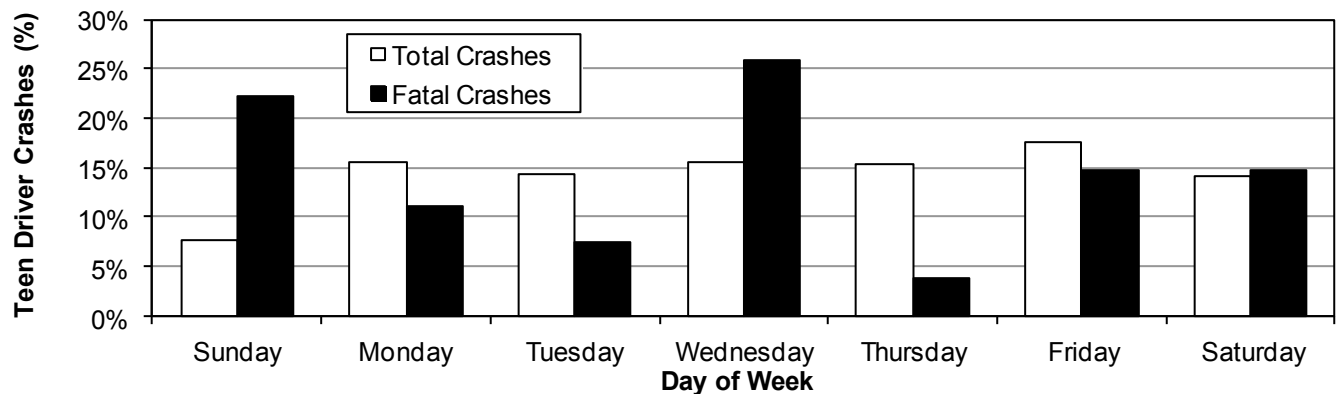
Teenage Driver Crashes by Month (Utah 2012)

Teenage Driver Crashes								
Month	PDO Crashes		Injury Crashes		Fatal Crashes		Total	
	#	Rate per Day	#	Rate per Day	#	Rate per Day	#	Rate per Day
January	583	18.8	208	6.7	3	0.10	794	25.6
February	505	17.4	243	8.4	3	0.10	751	25.9
March	632	20.4	261	8.4	1	0.03	894	28.8
April	464	15.5	264	8.8	1	0.03	729	24.3
May	523	16.9	311	10.0	5	0.16	839	27.1
June	502	16.7	266	8.9	2	0.07	770	25.7
July	504	16.3	260	8.4	0	0.00	764	24.6
August	554	17.9	275	8.9	6	0.19	835	26.9
September	573	19.1	275	9.2	3	0.10	851	28.4
October	656	21.2	329	10.6	1	0.03	986	31.8
November	614	20.5	246	8.2	2	0.07	862	28.7
December	779	25.1	278	9.0	0	0.00	1,057	34.1
Total	6,889	18.8	3,216	8.8	27	0.07	10,132	27.7

- Overall, December (34.1) and October (31.8) had the highest rates per day for teenage driver crashes.
- The highest rate per day of fatal teenage driver crashes occurred in August (0.19) and May (0.16).

Teenage Driver Crashes by Day of Week (Utah 2012)

Teenage Driver Crashes								
Day of Week	PDO Crashes		Injury Crashes		Fatal Crashes		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Sunday	506	7.3%	253	7.9%	6	22.2%	765	7.6%
Monday	1,081	15.7%	488	15.2%	3	11.1%	1,572	15.5%
Tuesday	978	14.2%	466	14.5%	2	7.4%	1,446	14.3%
Wednesday	1,091	15.8%	477	14.8%	7	25.9%	1,575	15.5%
Thursday	1,051	15.3%	499	15.5%	1	3.7%	1,551	15.3%
Friday	1,236	17.9%	544	16.9%	4	14.8%	1,784	17.6%
Saturday	946	13.7%	489	15.2%	4	14.8%	1,439	14.2%
Total	6,889	100.0%	3,216	100.0%	27	100.0%	10,132	100.0%



- Overall, the highest percentage of teenage driver crashes occurred on Friday (17.6%).
- The highest percentage of fatal teenage driver crashes occurred on Wednesday (25.9%).

Crash Conditions

Teenage Driver Crashes by Hour (Utah 2012)

Teenage Driver Crashes								
Hour	PDO Crashes		Injury Crashes		Fatal Crashes		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Midnight	128	1.9%	47	1.5%	1	3.7%	176	1.7%
1 a.m.	76	1.1%	32	1.0%	0	0.0%	108	1.1%
2 a.m.	44	0.6%	28	0.9%	0	0.0%	72	0.7%
3 a.m.	30	0.4%	14	0.4%	2	7.4%	46	0.5%
4 a.m.	49	0.7%	14	0.4%	0	0.0%	63	0.6%
5 a.m.	57	0.8%	16	0.5%	0	0.0%	73	0.7%
6 a.m.	93	1.3%	36	1.1%	1	3.7%	130	1.3%
7 a.m.	368	5.3%	136	4.2%	2	7.4%	506	5.0%
8 a.m.	359	5.2%	125	3.9%	0	0.0%	484	4.8%
9 a.m.	205	3.0%	105	3.3%	0	0.0%	310	3.1%
10 a.m.	238	3.5%	107	3.3%	0	0.0%	345	3.4%
11 a.m.	270	3.9%	153	4.8%	1	3.7%	424	4.2%
Noon	363	5.3%	171	5.3%	2	7.4%	536	5.3%
1 p.m.	390	5.7%	202	6.3%	1	3.7%	593	5.9%
2 p.m.	550	8.0%	243	7.6%	1	3.7%	794	7.8%
3 p.m.	566	8.2%	302	9.4%	2	7.4%	870	8.6%
4 p.m.	583	8.5%	277	8.6%	3	11.1%	863	8.5%
5 p.m.	690	10.0%	289	9.0%	5	18.5%	984	9.7%
6 p.m.	544	7.9%	250	7.8%	0	0.0%	794	7.8%
7 p.m.	370	5.4%	170	5.3%	1	3.7%	541	5.3%
8 p.m.	253	3.7%	155	4.8%	1	3.7%	409	4.0%
9 p.m.	286	4.2%	153	4.8%	0	0.0%	439	4.3%
10 p.m.	226	3.3%	105	3.3%	3	11.1%	334	3.3%
11 p.m.	151	2.2%	86	2.7%	1	3.7%	238	2.3%
Total	6,889	100.0%	3,216	100.0%	27	100.0%	10,132	100.0%

- Teenage driver total crashes were highest from 2:00 p.m. to 6:59 p.m. (after-school hours).
- Fatal teenage driver crashes varied throughout the day and peaked during the 5:00 p.m. hour.

Number of Occupants in Teenage Driven Vehicles (Utah 2012)

Teenage Driven Vehicles								
Number of Occupants	PDO Crashes		Injury Crashes		Fatal Crashes		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
1	5,583	73.5%	2,216	63.6%	15	53.6%	7,814	70.3%
2	1,313	17.3%	782	22.4%	8	28.6%	2,103	18.9%
3	453	6.0%	278	8.0%	2	7.1%	733	6.6%
4 or more	251	3.3%	211	6.1%	3	10.7%	465	4.2%
Total	7,600	100.0%	3,487	100.0%	28	100.0%	11,115	100.0%

- Over two-thirds of teenage driven vehicles (70.3%) in crashes contained only the teenage driver.
- In comparison, one-half (53.6%) of the teenage driven vehicles in fatal crashes contained only the driver.
- The more occupants in the car the more likely a crash involved injury or death. Crashes where the teenage driven vehicle contained four or more occupants were 2.8 times more likely to be fatal than crashes involving teenage driven vehicles with fewer occupants.

Crash Conditions

Speed Limit of Teenage Driver Crashes (Utah 2012)

Teenage Driver Vehicles								
Speed Limit	PDO Crashes		Injury Crashes		Fatal Crashes		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
5-15 MPH	235	3.1%	43	1.2%	0	0.0%	278	2.5%
20-25 MPH	1,217	16.0%	469	13.4%	1	3.6%	1,687	15.2%
30-35 MPH	1,761	23.2%	942	27.0%	3	10.7%	2,706	24.3%
40-45 MPH	1,554	20.4%	870	24.9%	10	35.7%	2,434	21.9%
50-55 MPH	536	7.1%	316	9.1%	8	28.6%	860	7.7%
60-65 MPH	925	12.2%	304	8.7%	4	14.3%	1,233	11.1%
70+ MPH	155	2.0%	61	1.7%	2	7.1%	218	2.0%
Unknown	1,217	16.0%	482	13.8%	0	0.0%	1,699	15.3%
Total	7,600	100.0%	3,487	100.0%	28	100.0%	11,115	100.0%

- Over half (54.6% of known) of total teenage driver crashes occurred where the speed limit was 30-45 MPH.
- The higher the speed limit the more likely the teenage driver crash was to be fatal. Teenage driver crashes where the speed limit was 50 MPH or higher were 3.1 times more likely to be fatal.

Travel Speed of Teenage Driver Vehicles in Crashes (Utah 2012)

Teenage Driver Vehicles								
Travel Speed	PDO Crashes		Injury Crashes		Fatal Crashes		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Stopped	774	13.2%	335	12.6%	1	4.3%	1,110	13.0%
1-9 MPH	838	14.3%	259	9.7%	0	0.0%	1,097	12.8%
10-19 MPH	998	17.0%	427	16.0%	3	13.0%	1,428	16.7%
20-29 MPH	866	14.8%	377	14.1%	0	0.0%	1,243	14.5%
30-39 MPH	888	15.2%	517	19.4%	2	8.7%	1,407	16.5%
40-49 MPH	534	9.1%	331	12.4%	4	17.4%	869	10.2%
50-59 MPH	354	6.0%	167	6.3%	4	17.4%	525	6.1%
60-69 MPH	415	7.1%	164	6.1%	5	21.7%	584	6.8%
70-79 MPH	161	2.8%	68	2.5%	2	8.7%	231	2.7%
80-89 MPH	20	0.3%	14	0.5%	0	0.0%	34	0.4%
90+ MPH	6	0.1%	9	0.3%	2	8.7%	17	0.2%
Unknown		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	5,854	100.0%	2,668	100.0%	23	100.0%	8,545	100.0%

- Nearly half (47.7% of known) of teen driver vehicles in total crashes were traveling 10-39 MPH.
- Teenage driver vehicles in fatal crashes were more likely to be traveling at higher speeds. The majority (73.9% of known) of teenage driver vehicles in fatal crashes were traveling 40 MPH or higher.
- Crashes involving teenage driver vehicles traveling 40 MPH or higher were 7.9 times more likely to be fatal.

Restraint Use of Teen Drivers and Their Passengers (Utah 2012)

Restraint Use	Persons (Teen Driver and Passengers)							
	Non-Injured		Injured		Killed		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Restrained	12,389	96.7%	2,039	90.9%	6	42.9%	14,434	95.8%
Unrestrained	420	3.3%	203	9.1%	8	57.1%	631	4.2%
Total	12,809	100.0%	2,242	100.0%	14	100.0%	15,065	100.0%

- Overall, most teen drivers and their passengers were restrained (95.8%).
- Only 42.9% of occupants killed in teenage driven vehicles were restrained.

Crash Conditions

Contributing Factors of Teenage Driver Crashes (Utah 2012)

Teenage Drivers/Vehicles								
Contributing Factors	PDO Crashes		Injury Crashes		Fatal Crashes		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Followed Too Closely	1,406	17.4%	639	16.0%	2	4.0%	2,047	16.9%
Failed to Yield Right of Way	1,139	14.1%	676	17.0%	3	6.0%	1,818	15.0%
Speed Too Fast	852	10.5%	373	9.4%	6	12.0%	1,231	10.2%
Driver Distraction	605	7.5%	353	8.9%	3	6.0%	961	7.9%
Failed to Keep in Proper Lane	634	7.8%	263	6.6%	4	8.0%	901	7.4%
Other Improper Driving	448	5.5%	229	5.7%	0	0.0%	677	5.6%
Improper Turn	312	3.9%	130	3.3%	0	0.0%	442	3.6%
Disregard Traffic Signal/Sign	186	2.3%	193	4.8%	2	4.0%	381	3.1%
Ran Off Road	246	3.0%	127	3.2%	8	16.0%	381	3.1%
Vision Obscured by Weather Condition	263	3.3%	95	2.4%	1	2.0%	359	3.0%
Overcorrected	181	2.2%	114	2.9%	4	8.0%	299	2.5%
Improper Backing	270	3.3%	12	0.3%	0	0.0%	282	2.3%
Improper Lane Change	209	2.6%	44	1.1%	2	4.0%	255	2.1%
Driver Asleep/Fatigue	141	1.7%	94	2.4%	1	2.0%	236	1.9%
Swerved or Evasive Action	133	1.6%	78	2.0%	1	2.0%	212	1.7%
Hit and Run	149	1.8%	32	0.8%	1	2.0%	182	1.5%
Improper Parking/Stopping	115	1.4%	47	1.2%	0	0.0%	162	1.3%
Driving Under the Influence	70	0.9%	59	1.5%	2	4.0%	131	1.1%
Reckless/Aggressive Driving	61	0.8%	65	1.6%	2	4.0%	128	1.1%
Vehicle Other Defective Condition	85	1.1%	40	1.0%	1	2.0%	126	1.0%
Vision Obscured by Moving Vehicle	81	1.0%	43	1.1%	1	2.0%	125	1.0%
Vehicle Brakes	55	0.7%	49	1.2%	0	0.0%	104	0.9%
Vehicle Tires	66	0.8%	27	0.7%	0	0.0%	93	0.8%
Vision Obscured by Parked Vehicle	55	0.7%	30	0.8%	0	0.0%	85	0.7%
Vision Obscured by Glare	50	0.6%	30	0.8%	0	0.0%	80	0.7%
Vision Obscured by Other	53	0.7%	26	0.7%	0	0.0%	79	0.7%
Driver Emotional Prior to Crash	42	0.5%	31	0.8%	2	4.0%	75	0.6%
Other Driver Condition	39	0.5%	24	0.6%	0	0.0%	63	0.5%
Improper Passing	35	0.4%	12	0.3%	0	0.0%	47	0.4%
Wrong Side/Wrong Way	28	0.3%	15	0.4%	3	6.0%	46	0.4%
Windshield or Other Window Obscured	26	0.3%	10	0.3%	0	0.0%	36	0.3%
Vision Obscured by Building, Sign, etc.	13	0.2%	8	0.2%	0	0.0%	21	0.2%
Vision Obscured by Vegetation	14	0.2%	5	0.1%	0	0.0%	19	0.2%
Driver Illness/Medical	9	0.1%	6	0.2%	1	2.0%	16	0.1%
Improper Signal	6	0.1%	3	0.1%	0	0.0%	9	0.1%
Disregard Road Markings	6	0.1%	2	0.1%	0	0.0%	8	0.1%
Total	8,083	100.0%	3,984	100.0%	50	100.0%	12,117	100.0%

- Some form of poor driver performance is present in the majority of crashes. The leading contributing factors for all teenage driver crashes were followed too closely (16.9%), failed to yield right of way (15.0%), and speed too fast (10.2%).
- The leading contributing factors in fatal teenage driver crashes were ran off road (16.0%) and speed too fast (12.0%).
- Compared to drivers of all ages, teenage drivers were more likely to have a contributing factor of failure to yield right of way, driver distraction, followed too closely, and speed too fast.

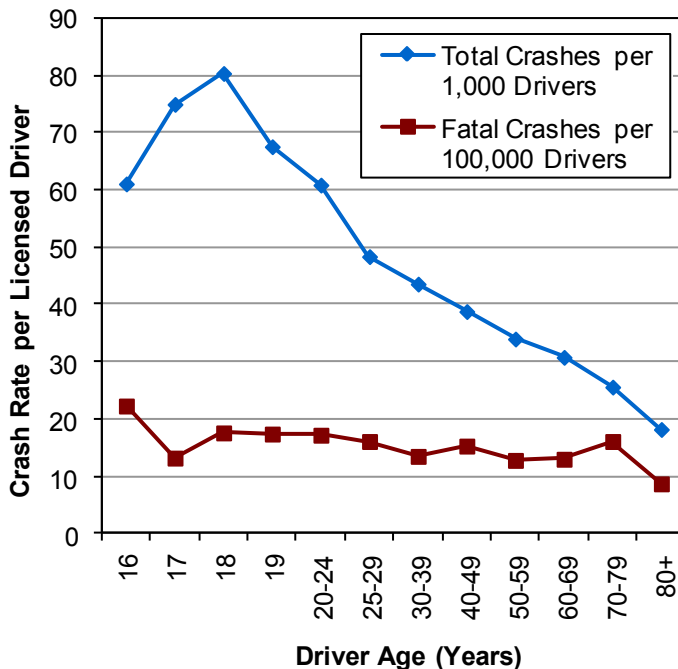
Did you know in 2012:

- Teenage drivers represented 9% of the licensed drivers in Utah, yet they were in 20% of all motor vehicle crashes.
- Teenage drivers were in 10,132 motor vehicle crashes which resulted in 4,930 injured persons and 29 deaths.
- Teenage drivers were 1.5 times more likely to be in a crash than drivers of other ages.
- Teen driver crashes have decreased the last ten years. 2012 was the first year that teen drivers did not have the highest crash rates as they were surpassed by 20-24 year-old drivers.

Teenage Drivers (15-19 years)

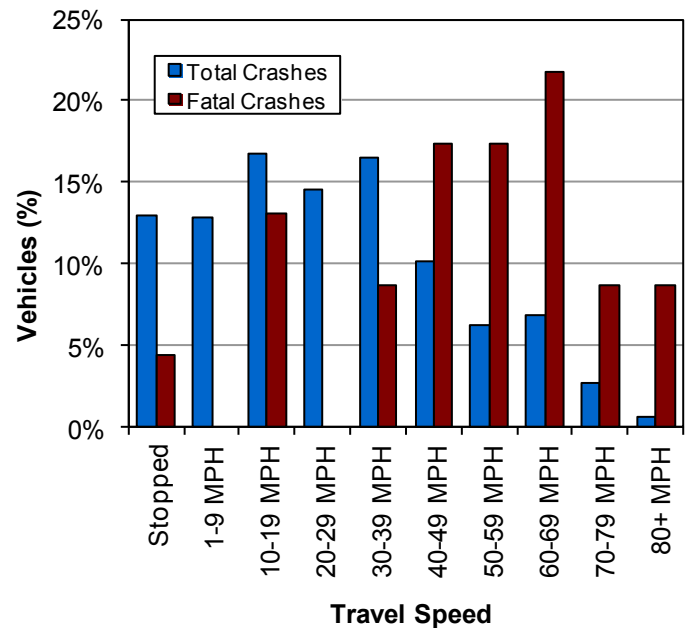


Crash Rates per Licensed Driver by Age (Utah 2012)



- Drivers aged 18 years had the highest total crash rate per licensed driver.

Teenage Driver Crashes by Travel Speed (Utah 2012)



- Crashes involving teenage driver vehicles traveling 40 MPH or higher were 7.9 times more likely to be fatal.

Leading Contributing Factors of Teenage Driver Crashes (Utah 2012)

All Teenage Driver Crashes

1. Followed Too Closely (20%)
2. Failed to Yield Right of Way (18%)
3. Speed Too Fast (12%)
4. Driver Distraction (9%)
5. Failed to Keep in Proper Lane (9%)

Fatal Teenage Driver Crashes

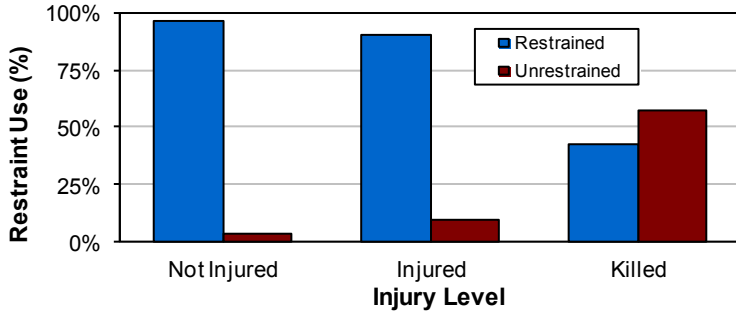
1. Ran Off Road (30%)
2. Speed Too Fast (22%)
3. Failed to Keep in Proper Lane (15%)
3. Overcorrected (15%)
5. Fail to Yield, Driver Distraction, Wrong Side (11%)



Teenage Drivers (15-19 years)

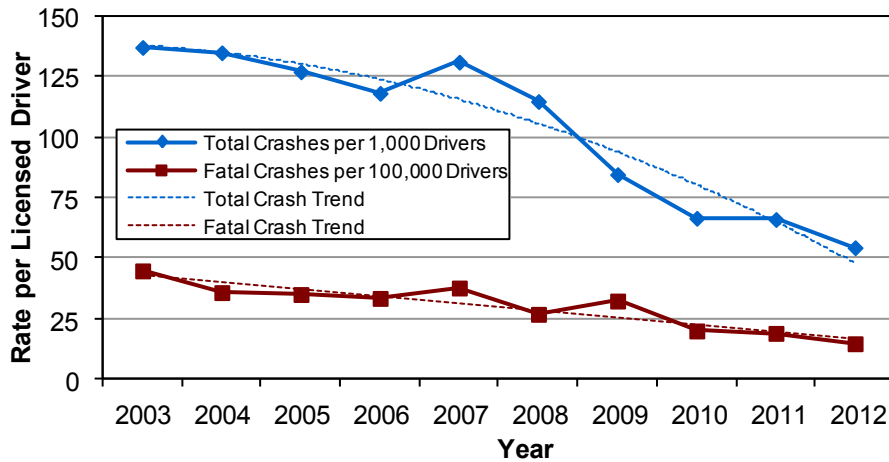


Restraint Use of Teen Drivers and Their Passengers (Utah 2012)



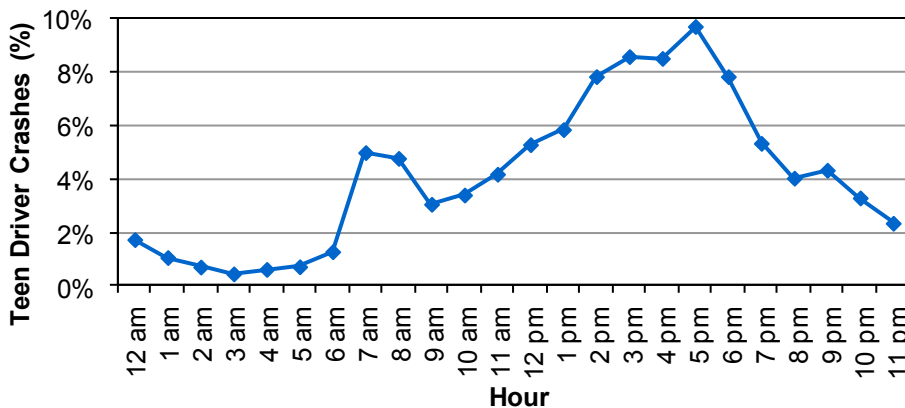
- 57% of teen drivers and their passengers killed in crashes were unrestrained.
- Unrestrained teen drivers and their passengers were 31 times more likely than restrained occupants to be killed in a crash.

Teenage Driver Crash Trend (Utah 2003-2012)



- The teenage driver crash rate per licensed driver decreased 60% from 2003 to 2012.

Teenage Driver Crashes by Hour (Utah 2012)



- Teenage-driver crashes peaked during after-school hours (2:00 p.m.-6:59 p.m.).

Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) Law in Utah

GDL allows beginning drivers the chance to build experience before they are exposed to more high-risk situations, such as carrying teen passengers and nighttime driving. Easing young drivers onto the roadways can reduce the number of traffic crashes involving young drivers.

Learner Permit

A person must be at least 15 years old to apply for a learner permit. Anyone who is under 18 years of age is required to hold a learner permit for six months before applying for a license.

Supervised Driving

Everyone under 18 years of age applying for a license must complete 40 hours of driving, of which at least 10 hours must be during night hours. This allows beginning drivers to practice and gain supervised experience.

Driver License

A person must be at least 16 years of age to get a driver license. Everyone who has never been licensed to drive a motor vehicle must complete an approved driver education course.

Night-time Restrictions

Anyone under the age of 17 years may not drive from midnight to 5:00 a.m. except in a limited number of situations. The majority of fatal teen crashes take place at night.

Passenger Restrictions

For the first six months of licensure, teen drivers can not drive with any passenger who is not an immediate family member with a few exceptions. Teen drivers are more likely to crash with passengers in the car, especially teen passengers. The more passengers, the greater the risk.

Seat Belt Restrictions

All occupants under the age of 19 years must be properly restrained in a motor vehicle. This is a primary law which means a person may be stopped by law enforcement solely for that offense.