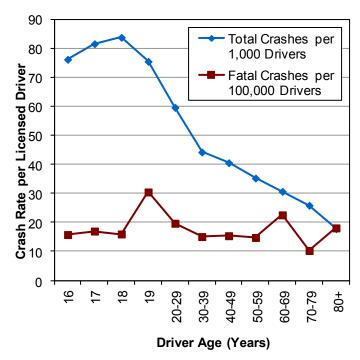
# Utah Department of Public Safety Highway Safety Office



- Teenage drivers represented 8% of the licensed drivers in Utah, yet they were in 20% of all motor vehicle crashes.
- Teenage drivers were in 10,525 motor vehicle crashes which resulted in 4,952 injured persons and 32 deaths.
- Teenage drivers were 1.8 times more likely to be in a crash than drivers of other ages.
- Although teen drivers have the highest crash rates of any drivers, teen driver crashes have decreased the last ten years.

# Crash Rates per Licensed Driver by Age (Utah 2011)



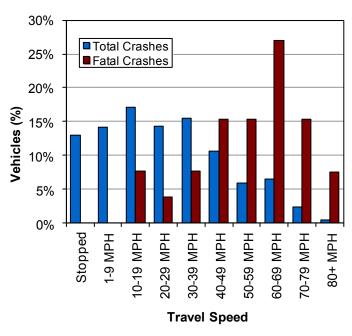
 Drivers aged 18 years had the highest total crash rate per licensed driver.

# Teenage Driver Crashes by Travel Speed

(Utah 2011)

**Teenage Drivers** 

(15-19 years)



 Crashes involving teenage driver vehicles traveling 50 MPH or higher were 10.7 times more likely to be fatal.

#### **Leading Contributing Factors of Teenage Driver Crashes (Utah 2011)**

#### **All Teenage Driver Crashes**

- 1. Followed Too Closely (21%)
- 2. Failed to Yield Right of Way (18%)
- 3. Speed Too Fast (11%)
- 4. Driver Distraction (10%)
- 5. Failed to Keep in Proper Lane (9%)

#### **Fatal Teenage Driver Crashes**

- 1. Ran Off Road (40%)
- 2. Speed Too Fast (23%)
- 3. Driving Under the Influence (20%)
- 3. Failed to Keep in Proper Lane (20%)
- 3. Swerved or Evasive Action (20%)

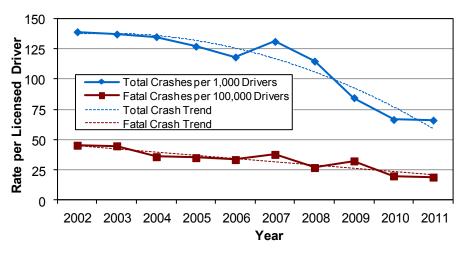


## Restraint Use of Teen Drivers and Their Passengers (Utah 2011)

# Not Injured Injury Level

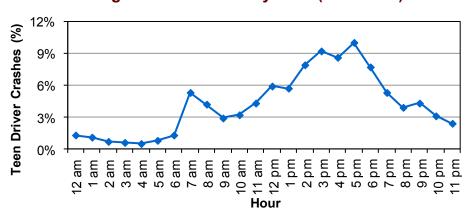
- 78% of teen drivers and their passengers killed in crashes were unrestrained.
- Unrestrained teen drivers and their passengers were 107 times more likely than restrained occupants to be killed in a crash.

#### **Teenage Driver Crash Trend (Utah 2002-2011)**



• The teenage driver crash rate per licensed driver decreased 53% from 2002 to 2011.

#### **Teenage Driver Crashes by Hour (Utah 2011)**



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

# Teenage Drivers (15-19 years)

### 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.