

## Youthful Drivers

Table 35 shows the crashes involving youthful drivers. Youthful drivers are drivers ages 15 to 19. In 2008, nearly one out of every four crashes involved a youthful driver. In 2008, youthful drivers were involved in 2.6 times as many crashes as you would expect them to be and were 2.9 times as likely as all other drivers to be involved in a crash.

	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>Change 2007-2008</b>	<b>Avg. Change 2004-2007</b>
Total Crashes	7,408	7,309	6,216	6,734	5,909	-12.3%	-2.7%
Fatalities	39	38	38	42	39	-7.1%	2.7%
Serious Injuries	376	377	403	426	348	-18.3%	4.3%
Visible Injuries	1,258	1,156	1,233	1,127	881	-21.8%	-3.3%
Possible Injuries	2,479	2,471	2,342	2,234	1,919	-14.1%	-3.4%
Drivers 15-19 in Fatal & Serious Injury Crashes	335	326	339	374	296	-20.9%	3.9%
% of all Drivers in Fatal & Serious Injury Crashes	13.8%	13.5%	14.1%	14.9%	13.8%	-7.0%	2.5%
Licensed Drivers 15-19	65,391	66,637	66,038	65,173	63,451	-2.6%	-0.1%
% of Total Licensed Drivers	6.9%	6.6%	6.6%	6.3%	6.1%	-3.7%	-2.8%
Driver Involvement Rate*	2.01	2.04	2.15	2.34	2.26	-3.4%	5.4%
Teen Drivers in Fatal Crashes	36	35	35	36	36	0.0%	0.0%
Impaired Teen Drivers in Fatal Crashes	8	10	7	9	10	11.1%	7.9%
% of Youthful Drivers Involved in Fatal Crashes that were Impaired	22.2%	28.6%	20.0%	25.0%	27.8%	11.1%	7.9%

*\*The Driver Involvement Rate is the percent of drivers involved in fatal and serious injury Crashes divided by percent of licensed drivers. Over-representation occurs when the value is greater than 1.0.*

The 39 people killed in youthful driver crashes were of all ages, not just youthful drivers. Of the 39 people killed in youthful driver crashes, 17 were youthful drivers. Only 3 of the 17 youthful drivers killed (18%) were wearing seat belts. All together, there were 28 teen passenger motor vehicle occupants killed in crashes (this includes the 17 drivers ages 15-19). Of the 28 teen passenger motor vehicle occupants killed in crashes, only 6 (21%) were wearing seat belts.

While 68% of all crashes involving youthful drivers occurred in urban areas, 81% of the fatal crashes involving youthful drivers occurred in rural areas.

In 2008, the economic cost of crashes involving youthful drivers was \$536.5 million dollars. This represents 21% of the total cost of crashes (as shown in Table 4).