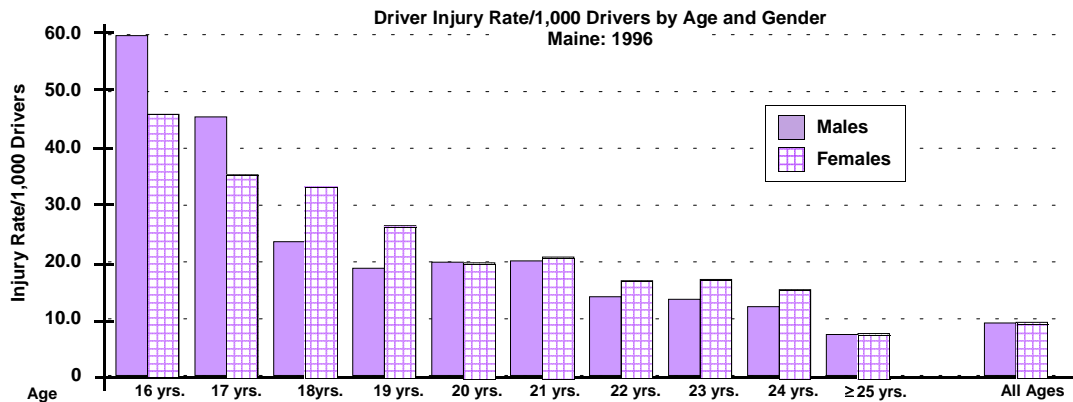


MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES INVOLVING DRIVERS AGE 16 - 24 YEARS OLD

Data are from the
CRASH OUTCOME DATA EVALUATION SYSTEM (CODES): 1996

- ➔ In 1996, motor vehicle crashes were the leading cause of death for teens and young adults in Maine and in the nation. In Maine, 43 residents, 16 to 24 years old, died in crashes that year¹.
- ➔ While young drivers represented 13% of all Maine drivers, they accounted for nearly 30% of drivers involved in crashes. In fact, 1 in every 7 young drivers, 16 to 24 years old, was involved in a motor vehicle crash in 1996 - nearly 14,900 of Maine's youth.
- ➔ These crashes resulted in 2,500 driver injuries. The injury rate, 23 injuries per 1,000 drivers, was more than 3 times the rate of injury for all other ages (7 injuries per 1,000 drivers).



- ➔ Young male drivers were more likely to be involved in crashes than older male drivers; drivers were male in about 60% of the crashes involving younger drivers.

Likelihood of Event for Drivers Who Crashed
by Age, Maine: 1996

CHARACTERISTIC/EVENT	16-24 yrs	25 yrs. old and older
Male	More Likely	Less Likely
Traveling at Unsafe Speed	More Likely	Less Likely
Using a Seatbelt	Less Likely	More Likely
Alcohol Involvement	More Likely	Less Likely
Injured	More Likely	Less Likely
Driving at Night	More Likely	Less Likely

- ➔ Alcohol was a factor for 1 of every 3 young drivers who were hospitalized or died. For young drivers requiring hospital care, \$4 of every \$10 spent resulted from an alcohol related crash.
- ➔ More than 9,200 passengers were in motor vehicle crashes with youthful drivers; nearly 1,400 of those passengers were injured. Passengers accounted for more than 1/3 of those injured who required hospitalization.
- ➔ Ninety percent of passengers in these crashes were younger than 25.

Notes: CODES is a data network comprised of information from traffic accident reports, hospital discharges, ambulance reports, and death certificates. The Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics, Emergency Medical Services, the Bureau of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the Department of Transportation, and the Maine Health Information Center (which linked the data and provided this analysis) cooperated in this effort. Because this analysis is based on linked records, some crash data are underestimated and crashes involving drivers over 69 have been excluded.

Footnote 1: Number of deaths is from death certificate files of the Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics.

For further data on this topic, please contact:
the Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics, BUREAU OF HEALTH
at 161 Capitol Street, #11 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0011
The contact person is: Cathy St. Pierre - (207) 287-5500 287-2070 (TTY)

Visit our website at: <http://www.state.me.us/dhs/bohodr/index.htm>

For prevention information, please contact: Diane Arbour at 287-3265

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Governor



Kevin W. Concannon
Commissioner

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