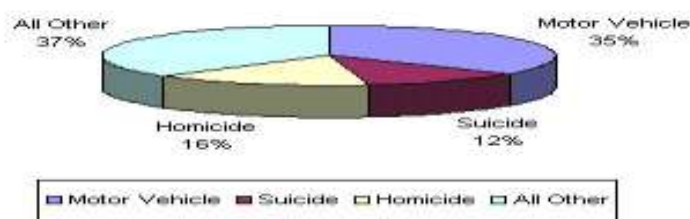


## Did You Know? Facts from [Safe Driver.com](http://www.SafeDriver.com)

- Motor vehicle crashes remain the **leading cause of death** for those aged 16 to 20. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, teens 16 to 19 are involved in four times as many crashes as 30 to 69 year olds.

### Leading Causes of Death for Teens



The AAP attributes inexperience, risk-taking, teenage passengers onboard, and nighttime driving as other risk factors. And of course this is in addition to the chances of distraction from texting or talking while driving.

- When teenage drivers transport **passengers** there is a greatly increased crash risk. When there are multiple passengers, the crash risk is three to five times greater than when driving alone. The risk is also greater for young drivers aged 16 to 17. (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 2006)
- In 2006, 64% of youth aged 15-20 who died in passenger vehicles were not wearing **seat belts**. The most common reason teen give for not buckling up is they forgot or were going a short distance. (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 2006)
- The National Sleep Foundation (NSF) recommends 8.5 to 9.5 hours of sleep for teens to be fully rested and notes that other professionals recommend higher amounts. The *National Highway Safety Transportation Association (NHSTA)* estimates falling asleep at the wheel is responsible for at least 100,000 automobile crashes, 40,000 injuries, and 1,550 fatalities nationwide per year. They have identified **young people as a high risk population for drowsy driving**, and the hours teens are most tired and in the most jeopardy, as late night, late afternoon and morning hours between six and eight a.m..
- Teens are at far greater risk of death in an **alcohol-related** crash than the overall population, despite the fact that they are below the minimum drinking age in every State. Among 15- to 20-year-old drivers involved in fatal crashes in 2006, 31 percent of the drivers who were killed had been drinking and 77 percent of these drivers were unrestrained. High-visibility enforcement of underage purchase, possession, and provision laws can create a significant deterrent for violation of youth access laws, reduce consumption, and decrease alcohol-related crash involvement. NHSTA 2009
- **Speeding** is one of the most prevalent factors contributing to traffic crashes. The economic cost to society of speeding-related crashes is estimated by NHTSA to be \$40.4 billion per year. In 2008, speeding was a contributing factor in 31 percent of all fatal crashes, and 11,674 lives were lost in speeding-related crashes. For drivers involved in fatal crashes, young males are the most likely to be speeding.
- In 2008, 37 percent of the 15- to 20-year-old male drivers who were involved in fatal crashes were **speeding** at the time of the crash.
- Mile for mile, teenagers are involved in three times as many **fatal crashes** as all other drivers. NHSTA 2009
- About 2 out of every 3 teenagers killed in motor vehicle crashes in 2008 were **males**. Seventy-one percent of all motor vehicle crash deaths in 2008 were males. Males accounted for 71 percent of passenger vehicle driver deaths, 54 percent of passenger vehicle passenger deaths, 70 percent of pedestrian deaths, 87 percent of bicyclist deaths, and 91 percent of motorcyclist deaths. IIHS 2008

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