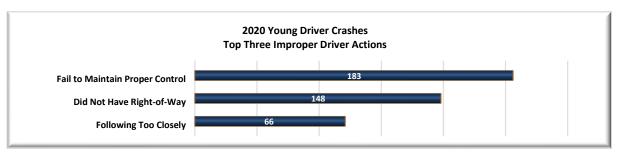


FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Analytical Summary Report

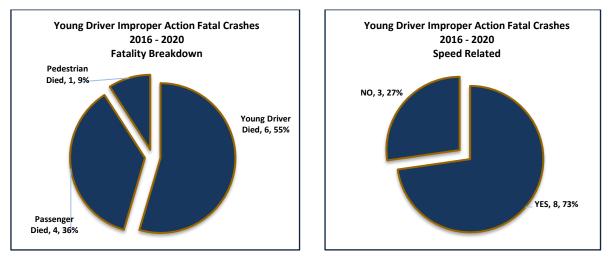
2020 Young Driver Crash Report

In 2020, the Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) investigated 911 total crashes involving young drivers (aged 15-20). FCPD officers determined that in 622 of those crashes an improper driver's action taken by the young driver was the cause of the crash, representing a 27.7% decrease from 2019. The attached map shows the locations of those 622 crashes. 63.8% of the 622 crashes were attributable to just three improper driver's actions: Fail to Maintain Proper Control of Vehicle, Driver Did Not Have Right of Way and Following Too Closely. These are the same as the top three improper driver's actions in 2019.



Driving is a complex task and younger drivers need to be aware of their own inexperience and take steps to ensure they remain focused on their driving. Obeying speed limits and eliminating distractions are two of the most important things young drivers can do to ensure they arrive at their destination safely. Distractions such as phones and other electronic devices, eating, and even talking to passengers pose great dangers to all drivers. Younger drivers are no exception and are especially susceptible to the distractions posed by their passengers in the vehicle.

When you mix these distractions with speed and driver inexperience, the result can be fatal. Over the five year period from 2016-2020, FCPD officers determined that 11 fatal crashes were caused by an improper action taken by a young driver; representing 7.5% of all fatal crashes investigated by the FCPD over that period. Speed was a factor in eight of those crashes and passengers were present in the vehicle in six of the 11 crashes. These crashes claimed the lives of six drivers, four passengers and one pedestrian. There were no fatal crashes as a result of a young driver's improper action in 2020.



For all of the younger drivers in our community, please remember to put the phone down, tell your passengers to be quiet, slow down and pay attention to your driving. Changing your playlist is not worth your life or your friends' lives. Please drive safely.

Data reported her is for reference purposes only. The Fairfax County Police Department assumes no liability for any errors, omissions, or inaccuracies in the information provided regardless of their cause or for any decision made, action taken or not taken by the user in reliance upon any data provided. Data reported in this product was obtained from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. All crash reports released to the public shall be provided by the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles.

Fairfax County Police Department

