


Protecting Older (18+) Novice Drivers
 Pam Fischer
 Pam Fischer Consulting & New Jersey Teen Safe Driving Coalition
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NJ's Pre-GDL Licensing Requirements
 (Before 1/1/2001)

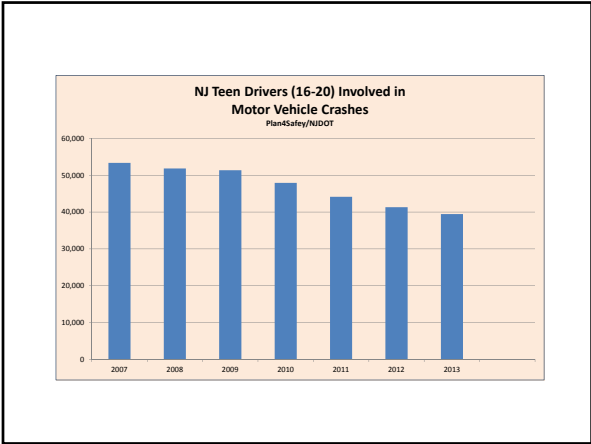
- Permit at 16 if completed or 16 ½ if enrolled in driver education course; permit at 17 w/o driver education and must wait 20 days before taking Behind-The-Wheel (BTW) test
- Basic (unrestricted license) at 17
- No nighttime driving or other restriction

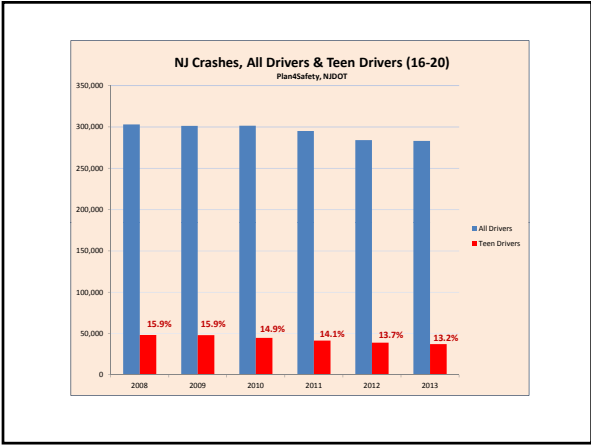


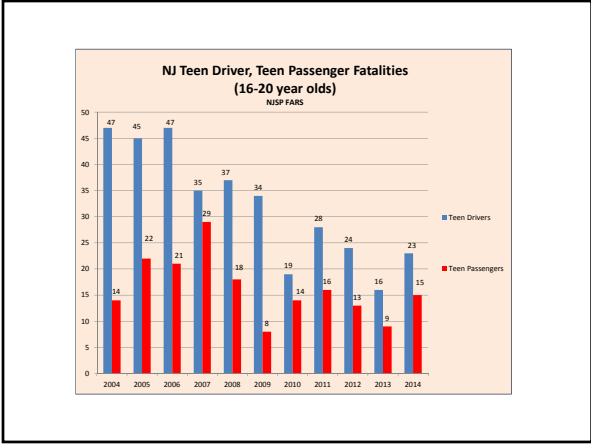
NJ's GDL Program
 (Effective 1/1/2001)

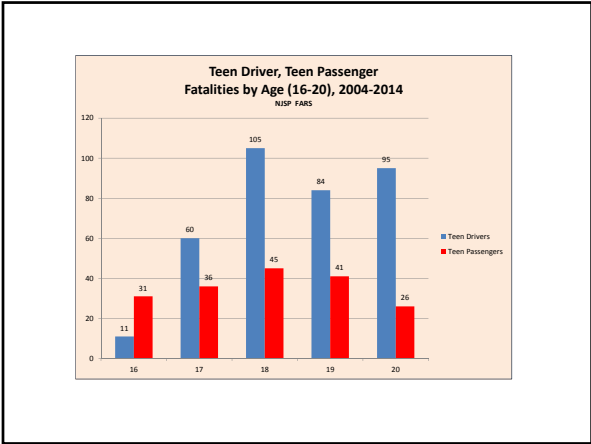
- One of the nation's most progressive
 - Permit at 16 (w/6 hours BTW training), at 17 (w/o BTW training)
 - Probationary license at 17 (oldest full licensing age in the nation, 18)
 - 1 passenger limit*
 - No driving 11 p.m.-5 a.m.*
 - No HH/HF electronic devices
 - Seat belts
 - Decal*

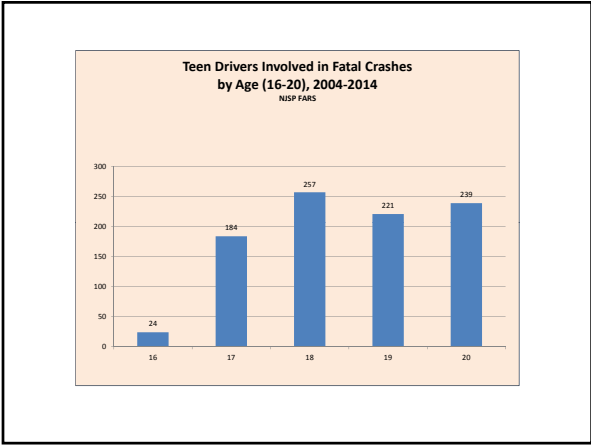















The earlier licensing is allowed, the higher the rate of high school teens licensed. The later licensing is allowed, the greater the proportion of students licensed during the first year licensing is permissible.

Williams, Lund & Preusser, 1985



Delaying licensure clearly addresses the issue of immaturity. However it does nothing to address the issue of experience, which is gained only through on-the-road driving.

Ferguson, Leaf, Williams, Preusser, 1996

THANK YOU!

As the parent or guardian of a new driver, you've decided that your teen should follow the following provisions of New Jersey's graduated driver license or GDL program and display the teal decal.

Did you know it's been four years since the decal requirement or Fyfe's Law took effect? While no other state has a GDL decal requirement, many other countries have been using them for years. Decals help police enforce passenger, nighttime driving, cell phone/texting, seat belt, and other provisions that are proven to reduce teen crash risk.

Do decals really help? According to research conducted by The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, 3,197 fewer New Jersey 17-year-olds crashed during the first two years of the decal requirement. That's equivalent to the combined student population at two large high schools.

To keep up the good work and remember that even after your teen completes the first year or probationary phase of the GDL program and is permitted to remove the decal, your job isn't done. Continuing to monitor your teen's driving is essential since most serious and fatal injury crashes in New Jersey involve 18-20 year olds. By partnering with your teen, you'll help her or her build skill and become a good driver for life.





Pam Fischer
pamfischerconsulting@gmail.com
908-269-5796 (Office)
908-619-2786 (Cell)
