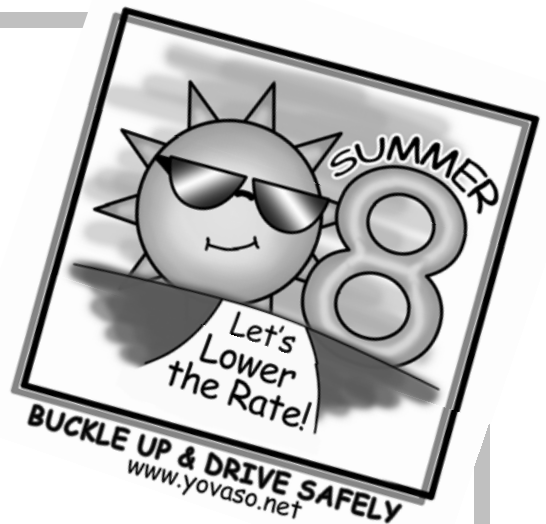


Summer Driving Statistics



Summer is the deadliest time of year for teen drivers.

Teen-related crashes, injuries, and fatalities begin to spike in May and continue increasing throughout the summer.

July and August are the most dangerous months with a 20% jump in fatal crashes for 16- and 17-year old drivers.

Why do teen crashes spike in the summer?

- * **Increased Driving** – Teen drivers average 44% more driving hours each week during the summer than during the school year.
- * **Later Nights** – Teens stay out later during the summer months when crashes and fatalities are more prevalent. 42% of fatal crashes involving teens occur between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.
- * **Joy Riding/Cruising** – Teens often cruise or drive without a set destination or purpose during the summer months. This type of “joy riding” creates risky driving behavior.
- * **Passenger Overload** – When teen’s cruise, the result is a carload of friends and a “party atmosphere” inside the vehicle. This party atmosphere often leads to driver inattention, speeding, alcohol use, and other unsafe driving behaviors.
- * **Drowsy Driving** – 24% of teen drivers are more likely to drive when tired or sleepy during the summer, compared to 9% of teen drivers who drive fatigued during the school year.