

State Ranking for Teen Driver Safety 2020

| State | 2020 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 |
|--------------|------|------|------|------|
| Montana | 51 | 50 | 51 | 51 |
| North Dakota | 45 | 43 | 50 | 50 |
| Louisiana | 48 | 51 | 43 | 49 |
| South Dakota | 25 | 41 | 42 | 48 |
| Mississippi | 47 | 49 | 46 | 47 |
| Missouri | 49 | 40 | 38 | 46 |
| Wyoming | 44 | 47 | 48 | 45 |
| Alabama | 43 | 45 | 47 | 44 |
| Oklahoma | 41 | 28 | 41 | 43 |
| Arkansas | 50 | 48 | 32 | 42 |

Ranking Criteria:

- Number of teen driver fatalities per 10,000 licensed teen drivers
- Breadth of Graduated Driving License (GDL) laws
- Average annual insurance costs for teen drivers
- Teen drinking and driving rates
- Teen emailing/texting and driving rates
- Seat belt use for 18-year-old to 44-year-olds

States with the lowest seat belt usage rates (all less than 75%):

- South Dakota
- New Hampshire
- North Dakota
- Wyoming
- Nebraska
- Montana

Source: CarInsurance.com
Teen driving safety 2020: Least and most dangerous States
(carinsurance.com)

TEEN DRIVING LAWS RATING CHART

Number of new teen driving laws since January 2020: One 6-Month Holding Period Enacted (SD); One Supervised Driving Requirement Enacted (SD); and, One Passenger Restriction Provision Enacted (SD).

| Rating | Age 18 Unrestricted License | Passenger Restriction Provision | Nighttime Driving Restriction Provision | 50 Hours of Supervised Driving Provision | 6-Month Holding Period Provision | Minimum Age 16 for Learner's Permit | | Rating | Age 18 Unrestricted License | Passenger Restriction Provision | Nighttime Driving Restriction Provision | 50 Hours of Supervised Driving Provision | 6-Month Holding Period Provision | Minimum Age 16 for Learner's Permit |
|--------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|--------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| AL | | | | | | | MT | | | | | | | |
| AK | | | | | | | NE | | | | | | | |
| AZ | | | | | | | NV | | | | | | | |
| AR | | | | | | | NH | | | | | | | |
| CA | | | | | | | NJ | | | | | | | |
| CO | | | | | | | NM | | | | | | | |
| CT | | | | | | | NY | | | | | | | |
| DE | | | | | | | NC | | | | | | | |
| DC | | | | | | | ND | | | | | | | |
| FL | | | | | | | OH | | | | | | | |
| GA | | | | | | | OK | | | | | | | |
| HI | | | | | | | OR | | | | | | | |
| ID | | | | | | | PA | | | | | | | |
| IL | | | | | | | RI | | | | | | | |
| IN | | | | | | | SC | | | | | | | |
| IA | | | | | | | SD | | | | | | | |
| KS | | | | | | | TN | | | | | | | |
| KY | | | | | | | TX | | | | | | | |
| LA | | | | | | | UT | | | | | | | |
| ME | | | | | | | VT | | | | | | | |
| MD | | | | | | | VA | | | | | | | |
| MA | | | | | | | WA | | | | | | | |
| MI | | | | | | | WV | | | | | | | |
| MN | | | | | | | WI | | | | | | | |
| MS | | | | | | | WY | | | | | | | |
| MO | | | | | | | Total | 8+ DC | 47+ DC | 26 | 11 | 19+ DC | 2 | |

● = Optimal law

⊗ = Good (At least 5 optimal provisions)

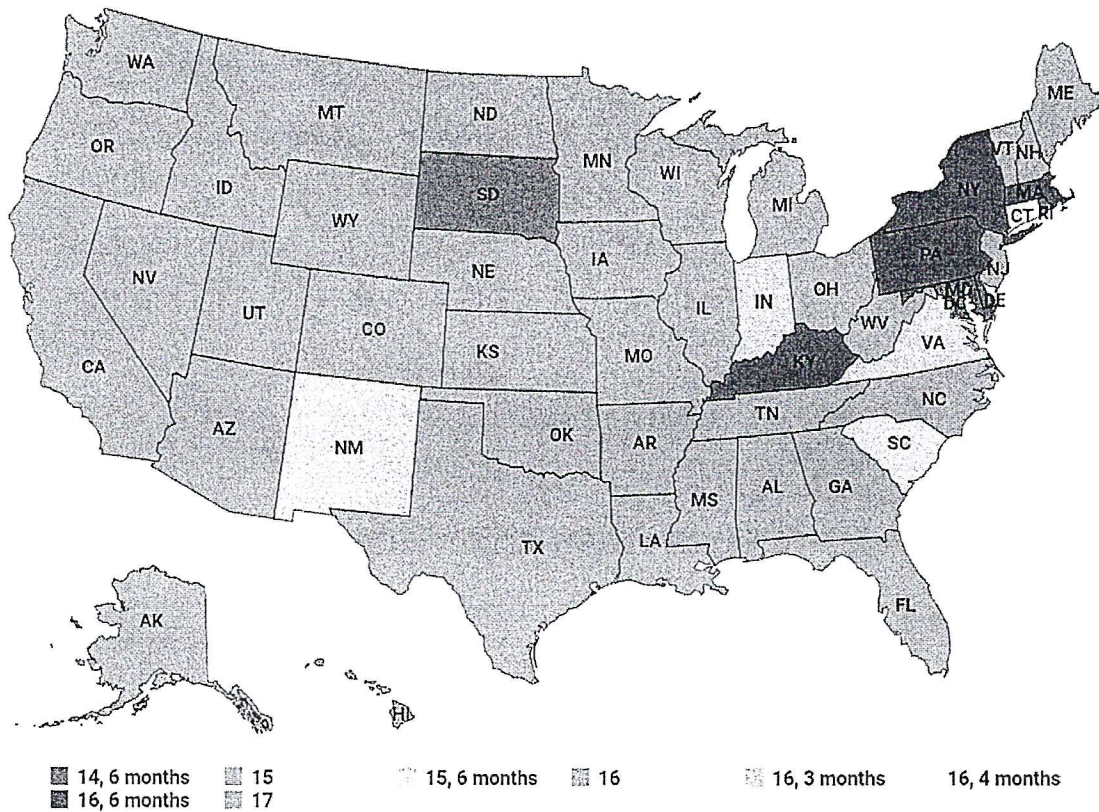
○ = Caution (Between 2 and 4 optimal provisions)

● = Danger (Less than 2 optimal provisions)

(No credit is given for laws that are subject to secondary enforcement for any GDL provision that is exempted based on driver education)

Minimum age for unsupervised driving

Hover over map for more detail.



Source: Insurance Institute for Highway Safety

[Teenagers \(iihs.org\)](http://Teenagers(iihs.org))

Licensing Requirements of Neighboring States

South Dakota

- Driver must be at least 14 years of age to obtain an **instruction permit**
- Driver must be accompanied by a guardian to a South Dakota licensing location with a required list of documents
- Driver must take a knowledge test (or have successfully completed a state-approved driver education course) to earn a permit
- Driver must hold this permit for a minimum of 180 days or 90 days if an approved driver education class has been successfully completed.
- With this instruction permit, Driver will need to drive under the supervision of a licensed adult at all times.

- After this time period, Driver can apply for a **Restricted Minor's Permit** if they have not had any traffic convictions in the last six months
- Driver must pass a drive test at a driver exam station location or have successfully completed a state-approved driver education course. All drive tests must be scheduled. **With a restricted license, Driver will be able to drive unaccompanied from 6:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. Driver may drive with a legal guardian from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.**
- Driver may not have any passengers, other than immediate family or household members, for the first 6 months driving on a restricted minor's permit. After 6 months, Driver may carry 1 passenger who is not part of your immediate family or household.
- To get a **full operator's license**, Driver must:
 - Be at least 16 years old
 - Meet all conditions of the instruction permit
 - Have driven on a restricted minor's permit for at least 6 months
 - Have driven conviction-free for six months
 - Have your parent or guardian's written approval

Source: *South Dakota Department of Public Safety*
South Dakota Teen Drivers | SD DPS

2020 article regarding South Dakota's new restrictions: Teenage drivers in South Dakota will have to follow some new restrictions starting in July. (keloland.com)

Minnesota

Phase I - Instruction Permit

- Must be at least 15 years of age.
- Must have completed the appropriate amount of classroom instruction and be enrolled in behind-the-wheel instruction.
- Must pass vision and knowledge (written) tests, complete application and pay the required fee.
- Parent or legal guardian's signature and certification required on application.

Conditions

- Permit holder may drive under the supervision of a certified driving instructor, parent or guardian or other licensed driver 21 years of age or older
- Every occupant must wear a properly fastened seat belt or use a properly fastened child restraint system