

Young Driver Licensing Trends

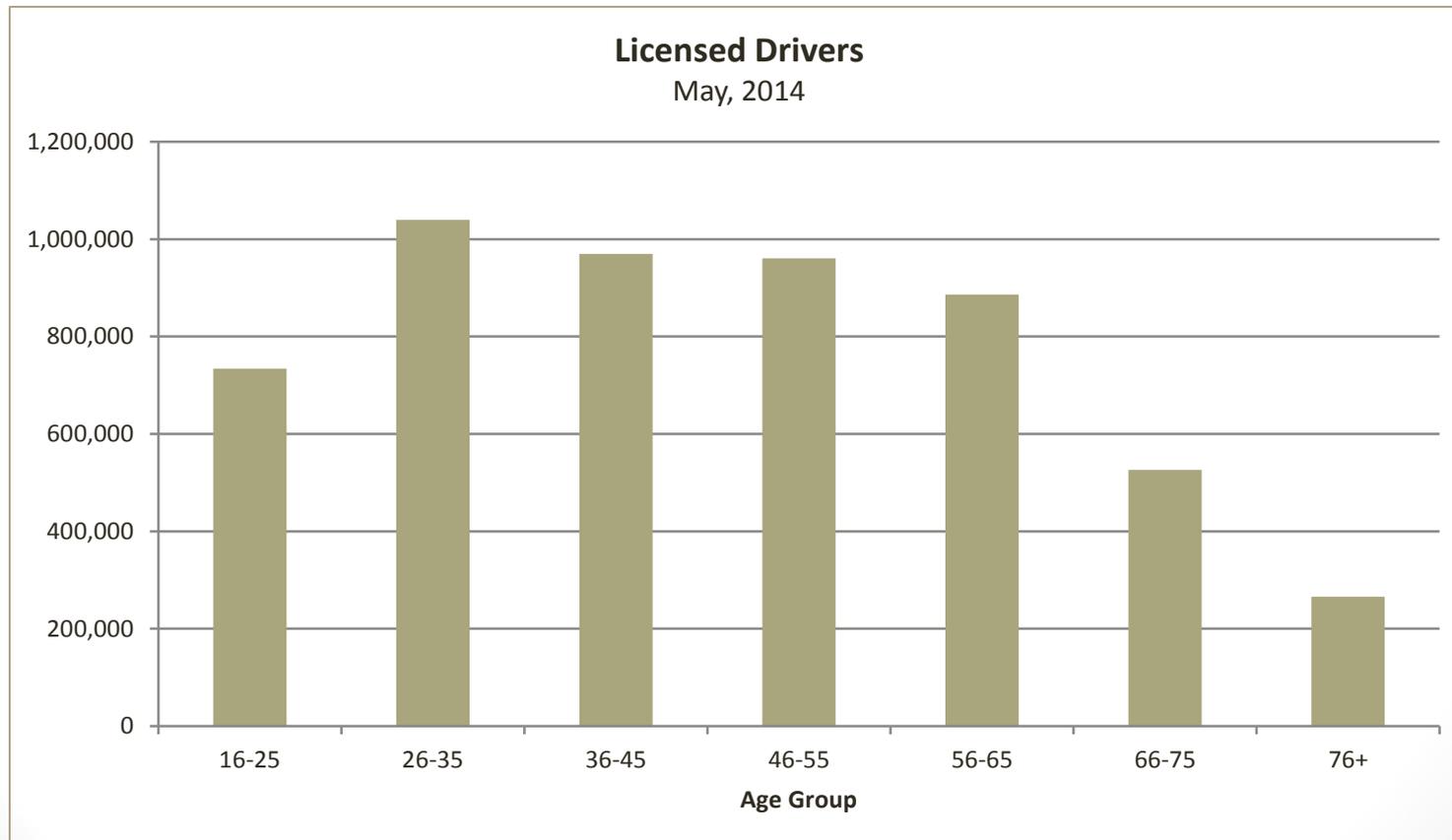
Department of Licensing

Haiping Zhang

Research and Analysis Manager

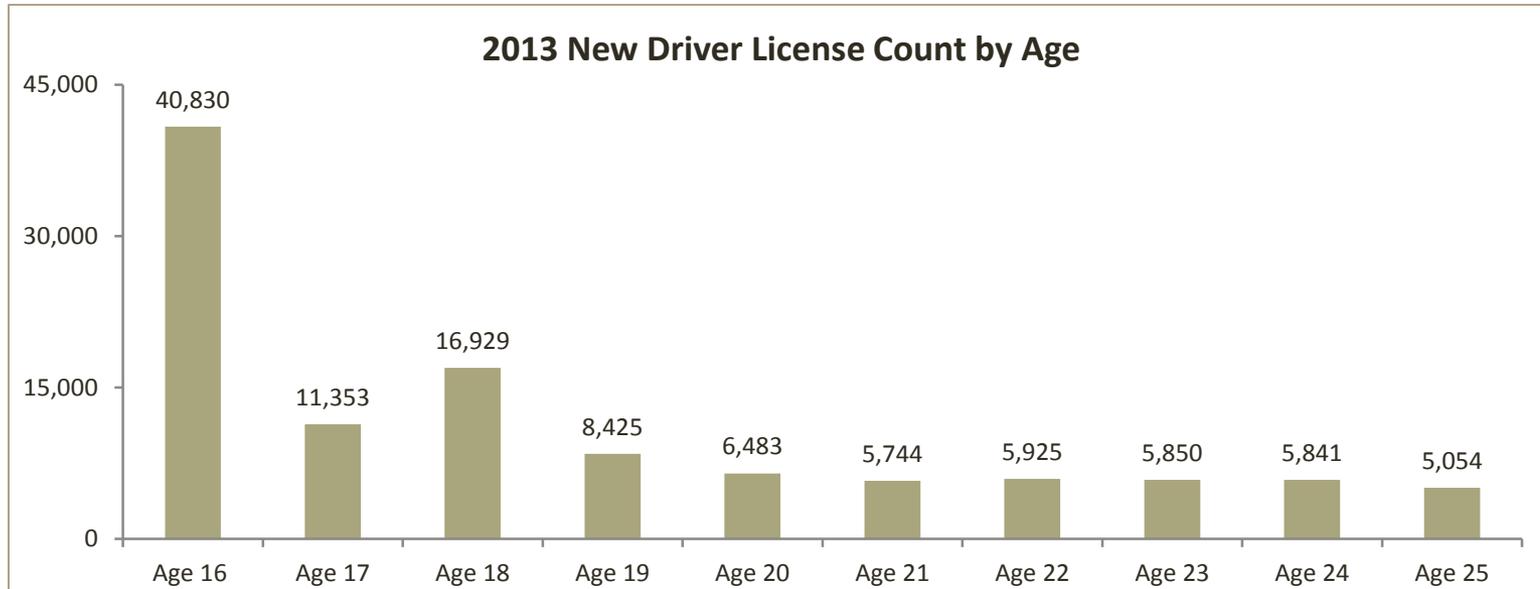
High Level View of Drivers

- The total number of licensed drivers is 5,382,043
- Most licensed drivers are between 26 and 65
- There are 734,045 drivers 16 – 25 years old, 14% of all drivers



Young Drivers

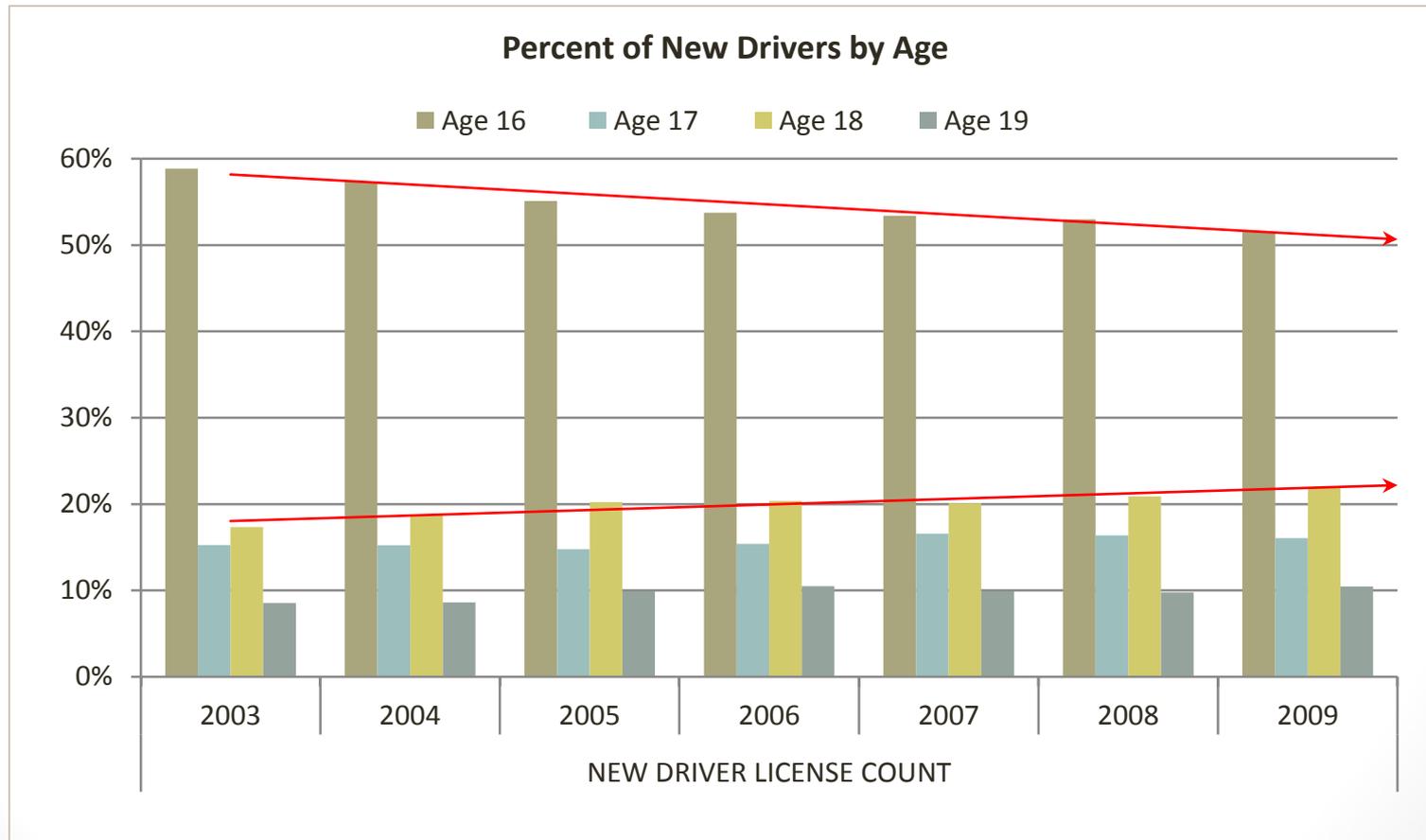
- Distribution of current young driver population



Driver Licenses	Age 16	Age 17	Age 18	Age 19	Age 20	Age 21	Age 22	Age 23	Age 24	Age 25
Count	40,830	11,353	16,929	8,425	6,483	5,744	5,925	5,850	5,841	5,054
Percent	36%	10%	15%	7%	6%	5%	5%	5%	5%	4%

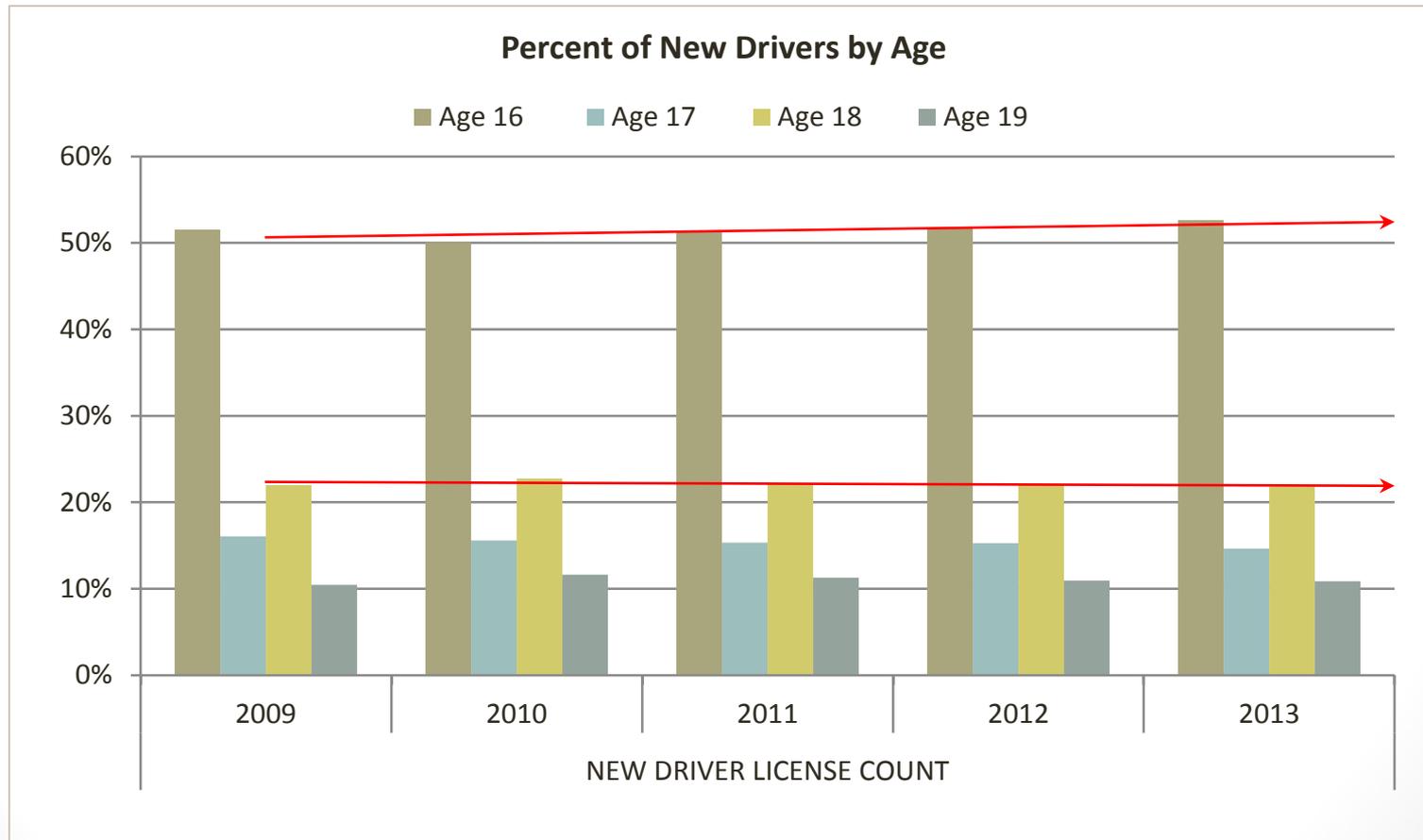
Concerns Early On

- Between 2003 and 2009 a growing trend of newly licensed drivers were waiting until age 18 to become licensed drivers



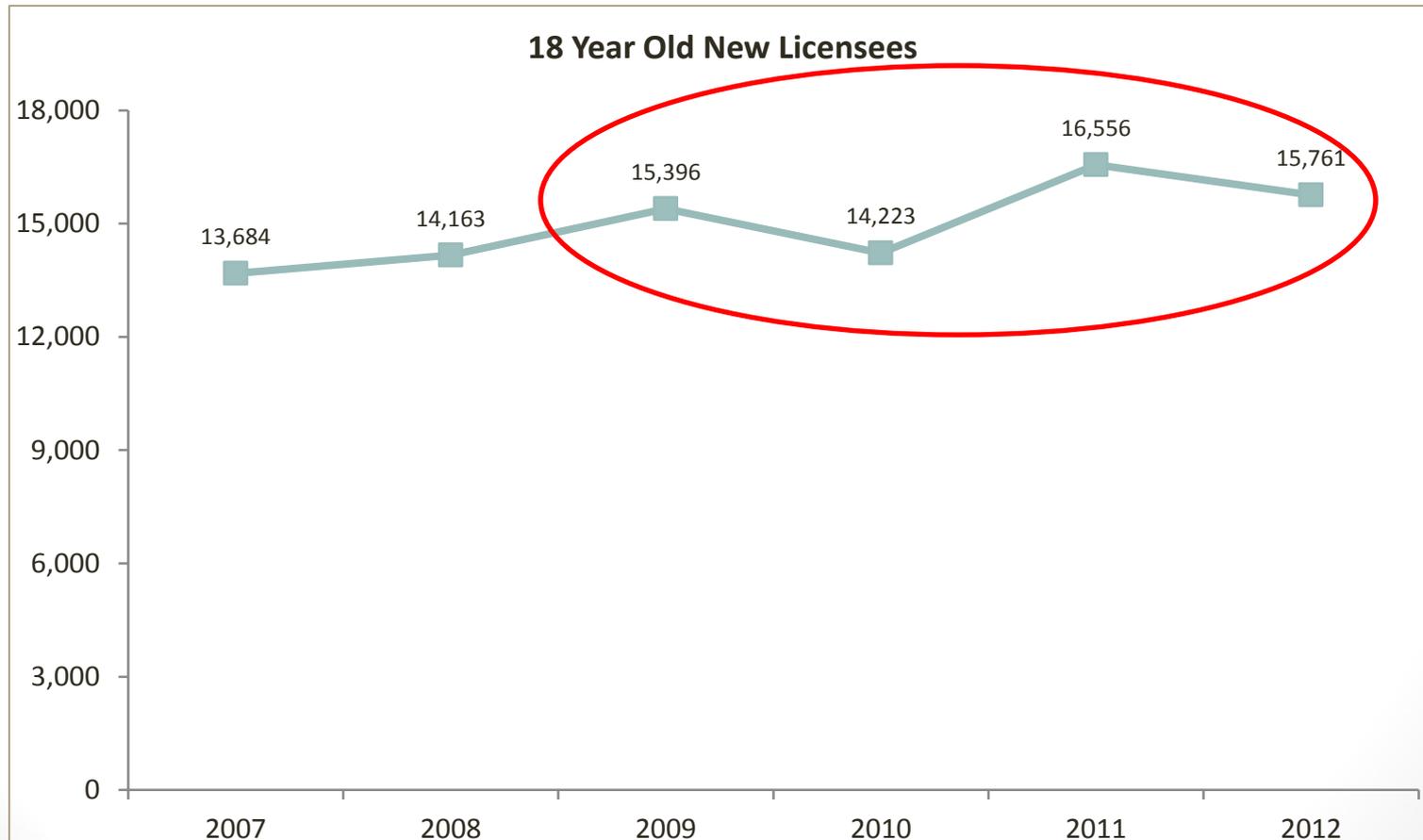
Leveling Off

- From 2009 through 2013 we saw the 18 year old newly licensed driver population level off



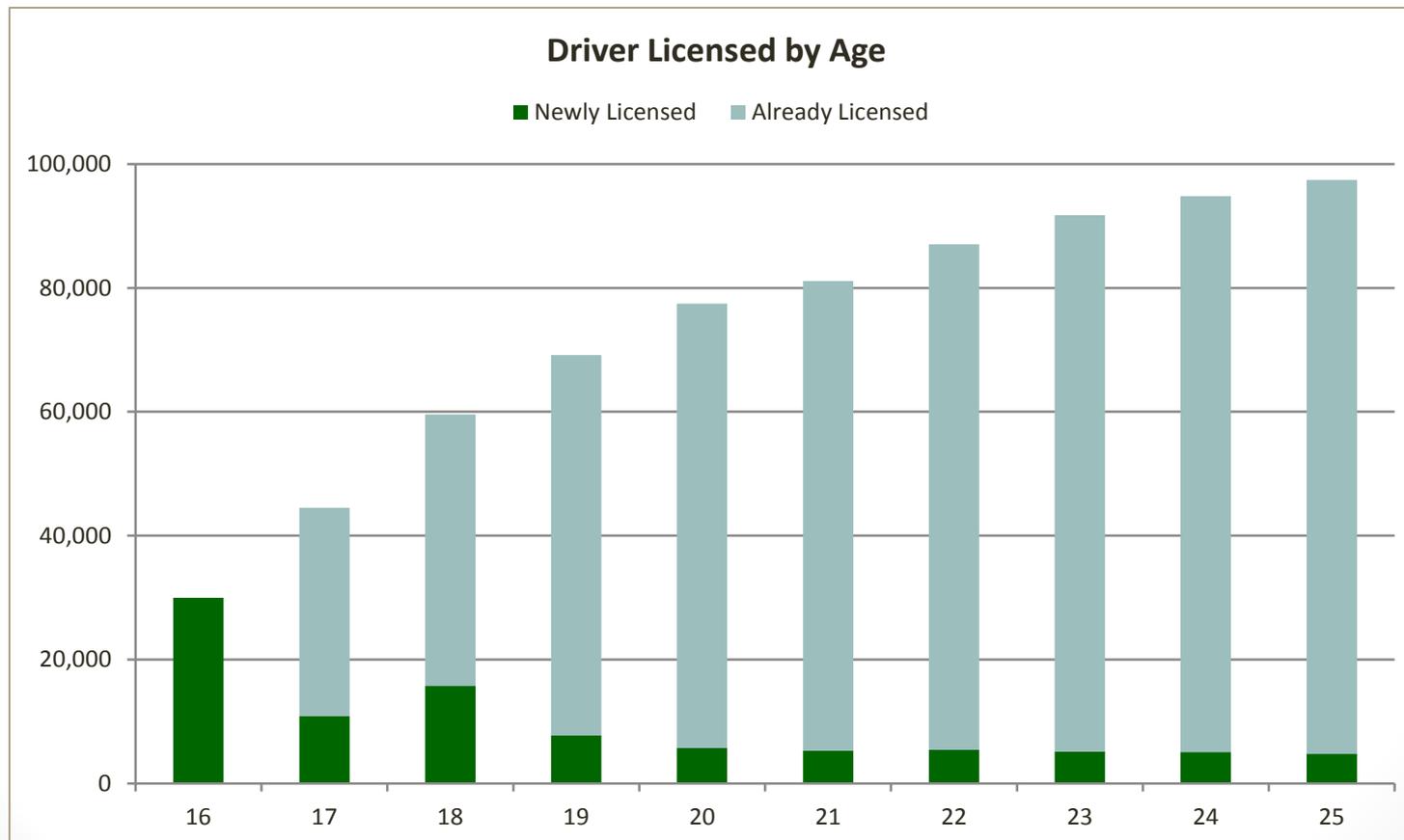
What Does That Mean?

- The number of 18 year old newly licensed drivers averages about 15,000 per year



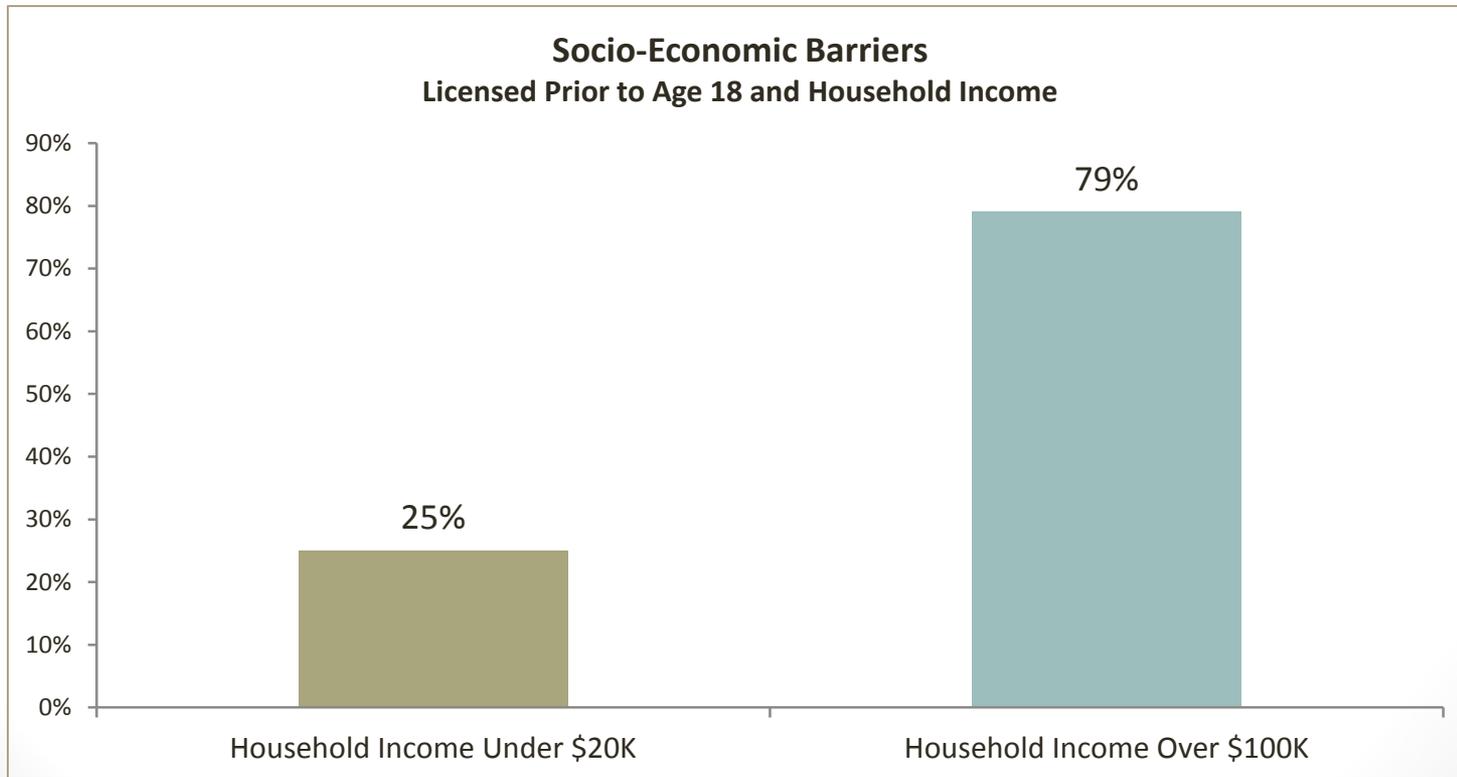
First Licensed...and Not

- After age 19, the number of newly licensed drivers levels out and remains a fairly small portion of the whole for each age



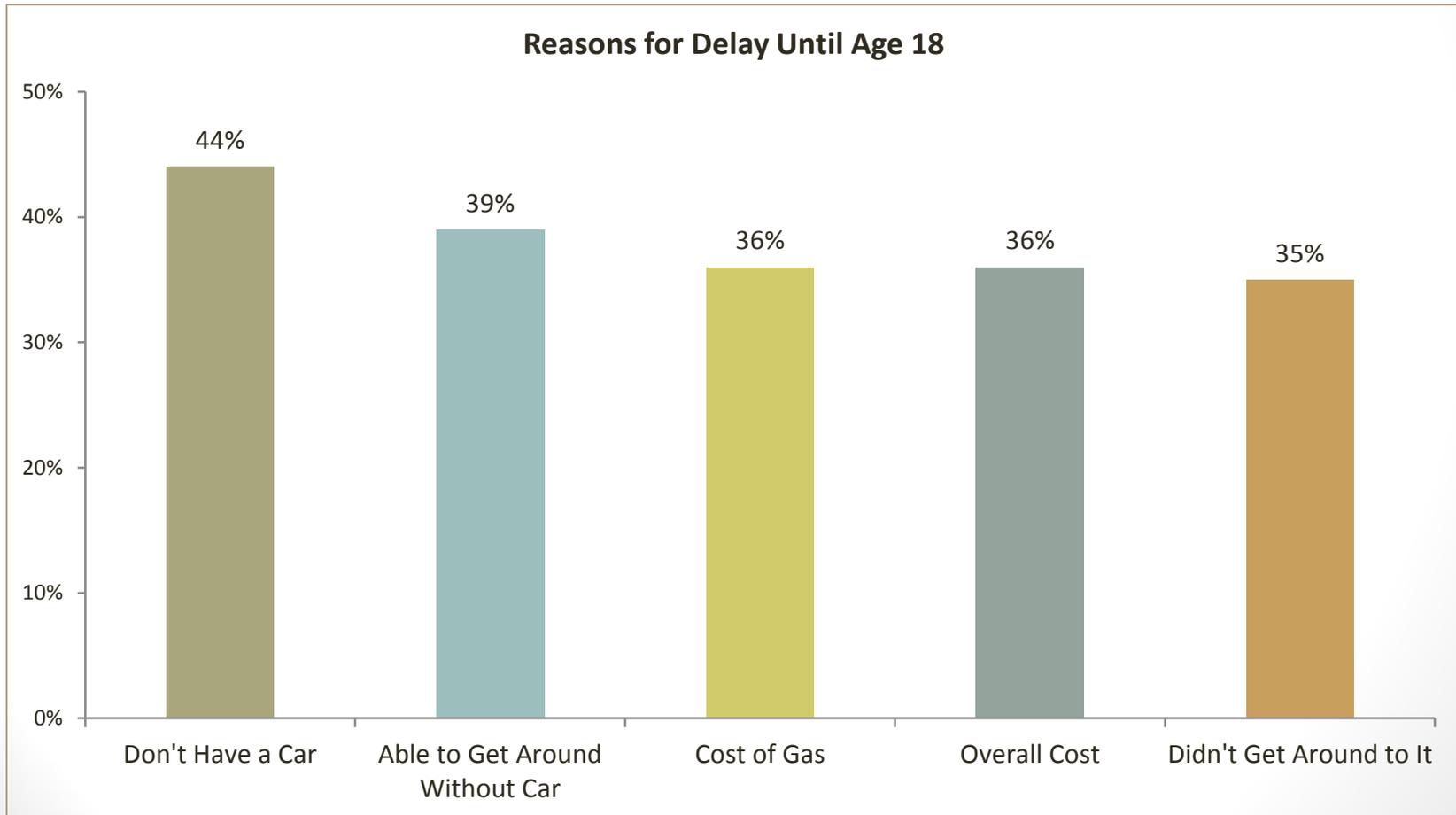
Why do People Wait?

- DOL data can tell us how many
- It doesn't tell us why
- AAA conducted a survey in 2012 to find out why
- Some of their findings:



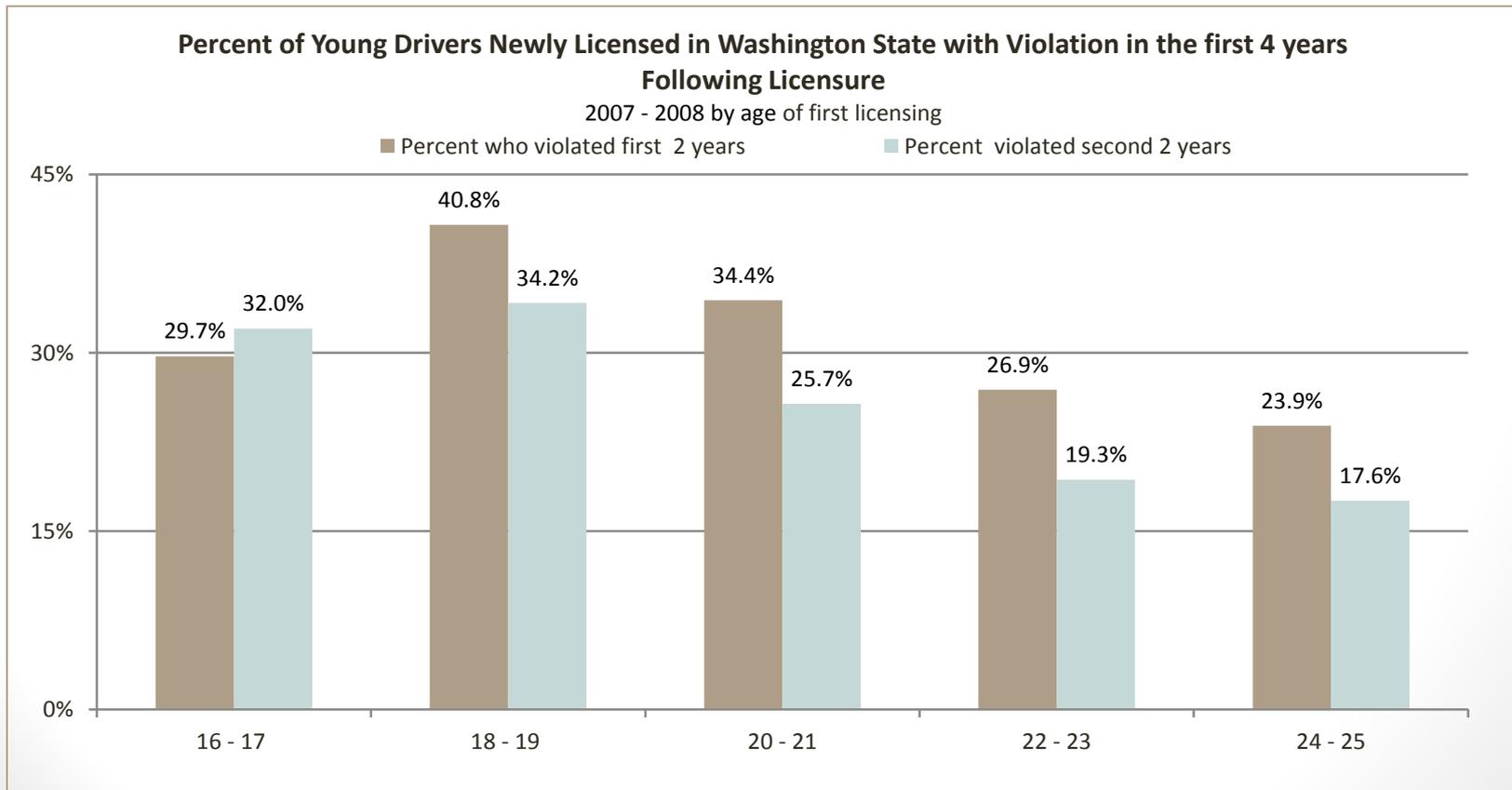
Why do People Wait?

- Various other reasons given—not mutually exclusive



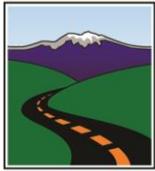
First 2 Years, Next 2 Years

- 18 & 19 year old newly licensed drivers
 - Start bad
 - Get better
 - Still the most risky



18 Year Old Summary

- After the IDL 2 things happened:
 - New restrictions imposed on 16 & 17 year olds
 - DTS moved to the private sector—costs went up
- We began to see more waiting until 18
- Continued until 2009 and leveled off at about 15K/Year
- Leveled off doesn't mean it's not a problem
- Data on the impact of 18 year old novice drivers
 - Newly licensed 18 year olds are particularly risky
 - During the first two years, they are the worst of the 16 – 19 year olds but they improve in their second two years
 - However, they still remain the most likely to be ticketed



WASHINGTON
Traffic Safety
COMMISSION

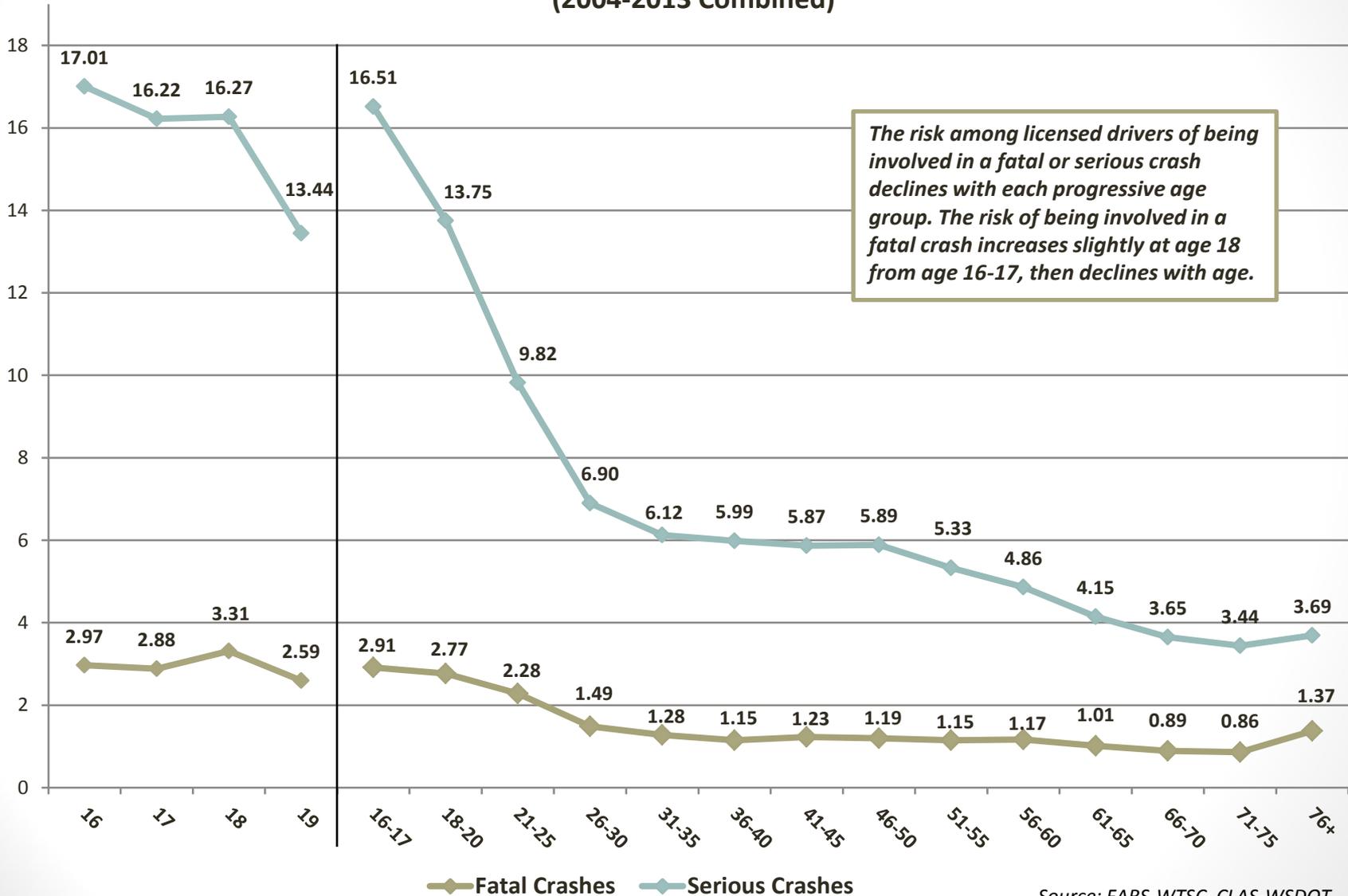
Trends in Traffic Safety – Young Drivers

Washington Traffic Safety Commission

Staci Hoff, PhD

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Drivers Involved in Fatal and Serious Crashes by Age Categories: RATES per 10,000 Licensed Drivers (2004-2013 Combined)



The risk among licensed drivers of being involved in a fatal or serious crash declines with each progressive age group. The risk of being involved in a fatal crash increases slightly at age 18 from age 16-17, then declines with age.

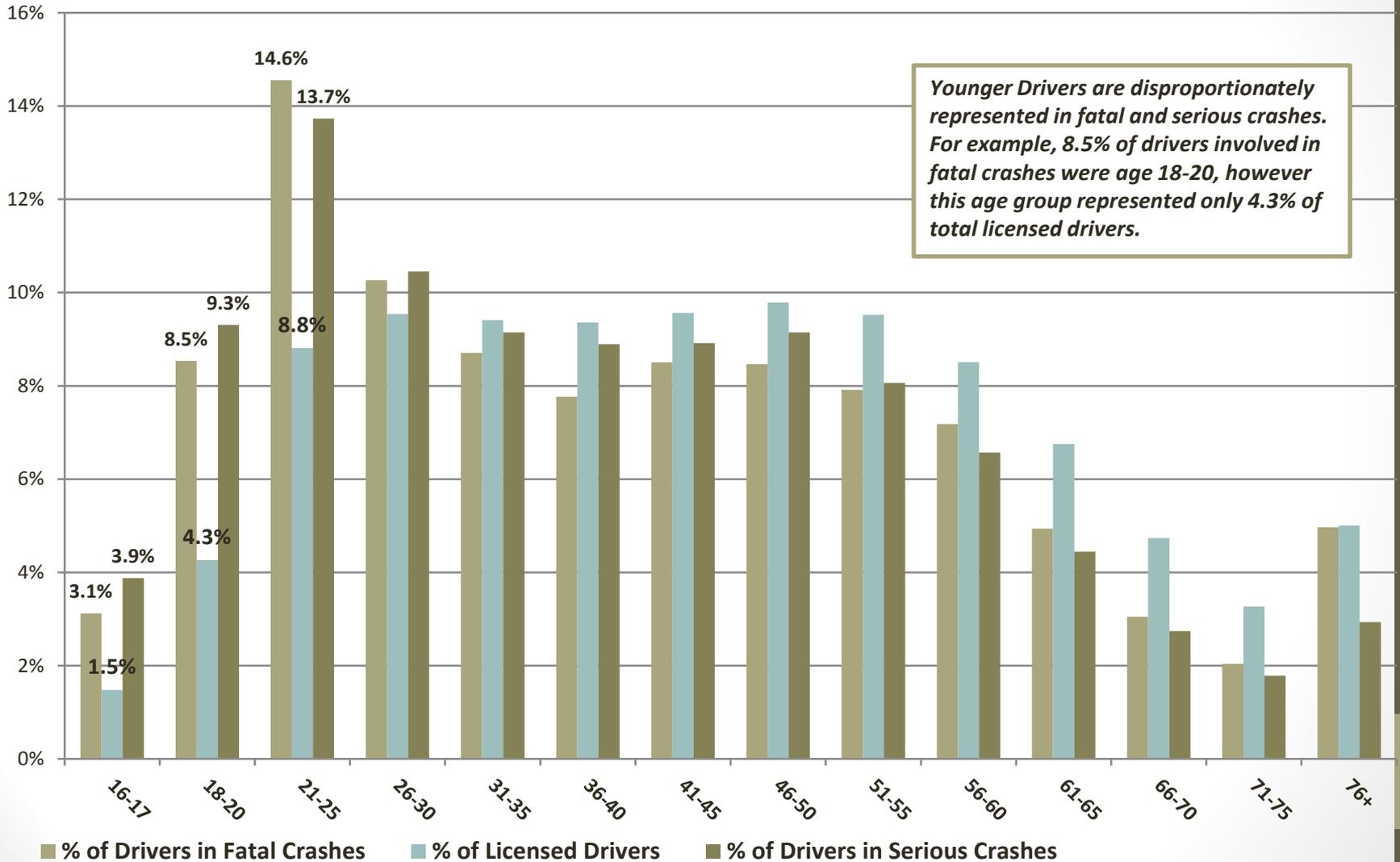
Source: FARS-WTSC, CLAS-WSDOT,

Contributing Circumstances among Young Drivers

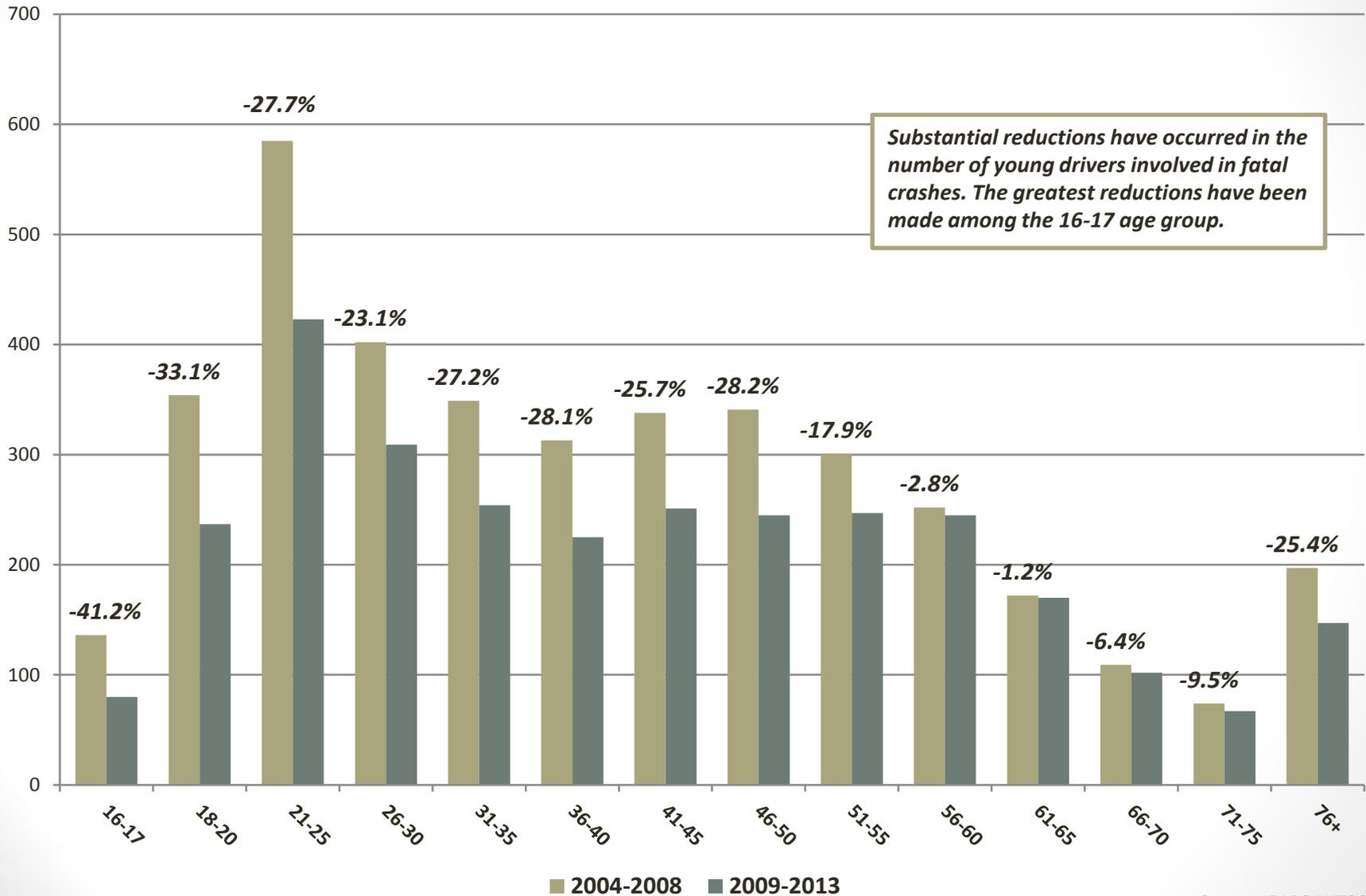
<i>Contributing Circumstances Among Drivers Age 16-25 in ALL Collisions 2011-2013</i>								
Contributing Circumstances	AGE 16-17	% Total	Contributing Circumstances	AGE 18-20	% Total	Contributing Circumstances	AGE 21-25	% Total
DISTRACTION	3952	22.8%	SPEEDING	8595	21.7%	SPEEDING	11496	20.7%
SPEEDING	3678	21.2%	DISTRACTION	8100	20.4%	DISTRACTION	10620	19.1%
Fail RW to MV	3058	17.6%	Fol too Close	5951	15.0%	Fol too Close	8048	14.5%
Fol too Close	2371	13.7%	Fail RW to MV	5787	14.6%	Fail RW to MV	7332	13.2%
Over Cent Line	835	4.8%	Over Cent Line	1725	4.4%	IMPAIRMENT	4237	7.6%
DISREGARD SIG/N	657	3.8%	DISREGARD SIG/N	1570	4.0%	Over Cent Line	2137	3.9%
Imp Turn	391	2.3%	IMPAIRMENT	1535	3.9%	DISREGARD SIG/N	2114	3.8%
Def Equip	370	2.1%	Def Equip	1110	2.8%	Def Equip	1438	2.6%
IMPAIRMENT	236	1.4%	Imp Turn	807	2.0%	Asleep	1040	1.9%
Asleep	196	1.1%	Asleep	769	1.9%	Imp Turn	1026	1.8%
Imp Backing	189	1.1%	Imp Backing	306	0.8%	Imp Backing	498	0.9%
Imp Passing	114	0.7%	Imp Passing	304	0.8%	Imp Passing	435	0.8%
Imp uTurn	109	0.6%	Imp uTurn	236	0.6%	Fail RW to NM	348	0.6%
Fail RW to NM	81	0.5%	Fail RW to NM	174	0.4%	Imp uTurn	309	0.6%
OTHER	944	5.4%	OTHER	2306	5.8%	OTHER	3704	6.7%

Source: CLAS-WSDOT

Drivers Involved in Fatal and Serious Crashes by Age Category: Percent of Total Drivers Involved vs. Percent of Total Licensed Drivers (2004-2013 Combined)

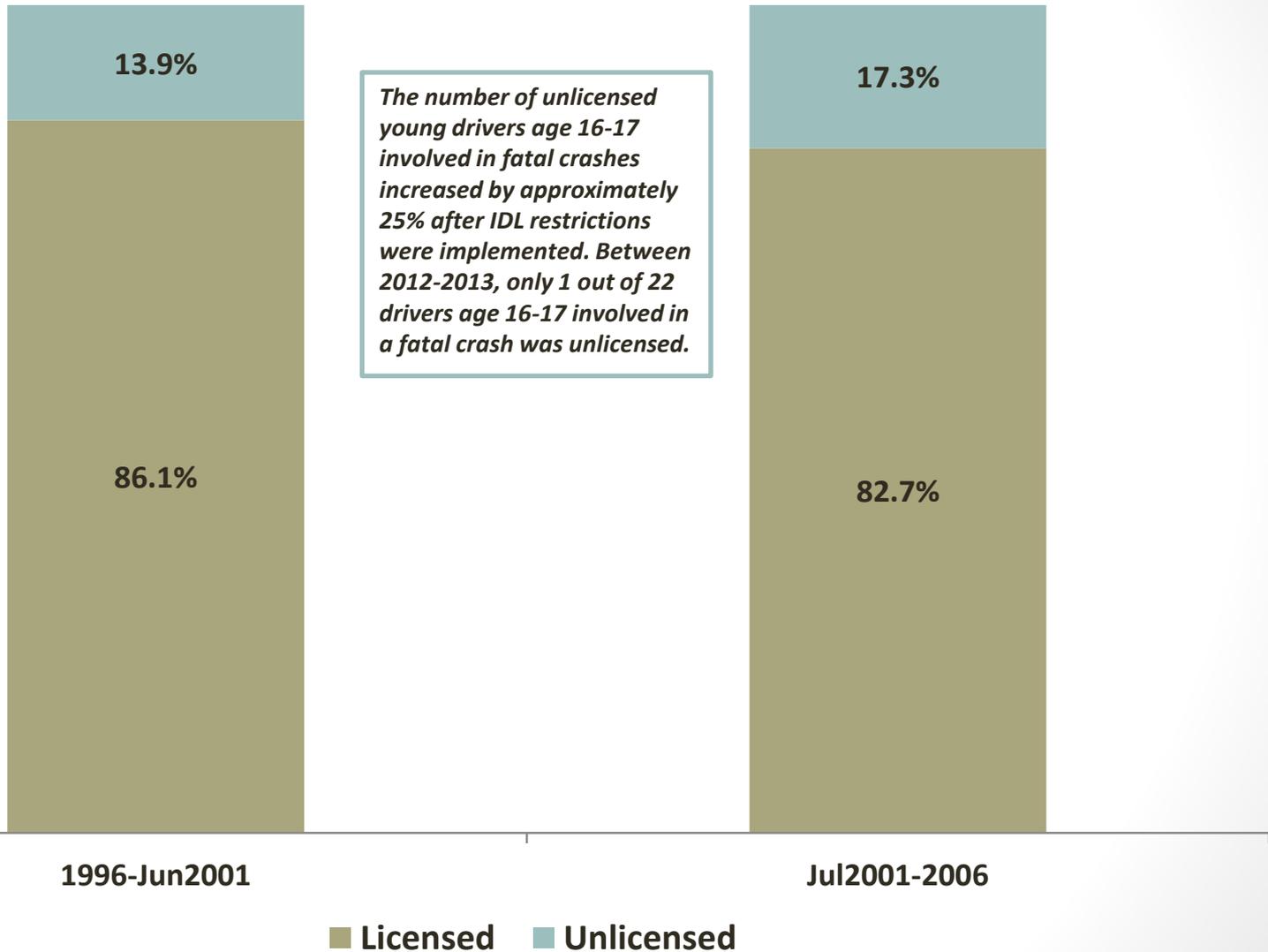


Drivers Involved in Fatal Crashes by Age Category: Percent Change 2004-2008 to 2009-2013



Substantial reductions have occurred in the number of young drivers involved in fatal crashes. The greatest reductions have been made among the 16-17 age group.

Drivers Age 16-17 Involved in Fatal Crashes: License Status Pre-IDL (1996-2001) vs. Post-IDL (2001-2006)



Progress Toward Target Zero - Young Driver Involved Fatalities

Source: FARS-WTSC

