




REMEMBERING THE 33 LIVES  
LOST ON UTAH ROADS







Our lives are vivid collections of color, enriching the experiences of all those around us. For the friends, family and loved ones of the teens lost on Utah roadways, that color now only illuminates the past.

Each year, we mourn the loss of too many young people due to poor decisions on our roads. And each year, we hope their stories will help remind others of our shared responsibility on the roadway.

Make the right decisions when you're behind the wheel.

# BRODY BULLOCH

Age 17 | Parowan, UT

It was 8:07 a.m. on Thursday, November 4, 2021. Brody, our lanky, fun-loving cowboy had been found dead on the scene after being ejected from a speeding vehicle that rolled multiple times. When we got the call, we had no idea who the four other kids were or where they had been. No one wore seat belts. They were all ejected with injuries and another passenger died. Brody was only 17. He never liked attention, but now he'd be making headlines — 1 of 33 Youth Killed On Utah Roadways In 2021, who would never share another Snapchat. Life's more fun when you live in the moment until you're not alive.

We remember Brody as more than just a sad statistic. The youngest of three in a loving, faith-filled family, he was always on the move and ready for his next adventure. He was our lionhearted boy who brought home every stray, whether friend or dog. He had a generous spirit, and a remarkably quick, dry wit. A natural in the saddle, Brody spent countless hours working beside his father and uncles gathering cattle, learning "family first," to never back down, and colorful language. He'd always planned to assume the reins and ride for the brand, continuing the family legacy as a sixth-generation rancher, but plans changed.

Our tight-knit community of 3,000 recalls Brody as a rambunctious, freckle-faced boy with a mischievous grin, and #72 on the youth football field. Coach M will remember him, not only for his determination to win, but also because he was the first responding officer to the accident, the person who identified his body, and the one who called and notified our family while we were in New Orleans for a friend's memorial.

We didn't get to see Brody go to prom, graduate, or become a welder. We'll never know how tall he would have been (he was still growing at 6'4") but he always stood up and cared for others. What we do know is that Brody video chatted us from our kitchen the night before he died. We told him we loved him and made plans to talk with him the next day. We never considered there were three other teens in our living room. They would leave at 12:45 a.m., with an unlicensed 16-year-old male driving

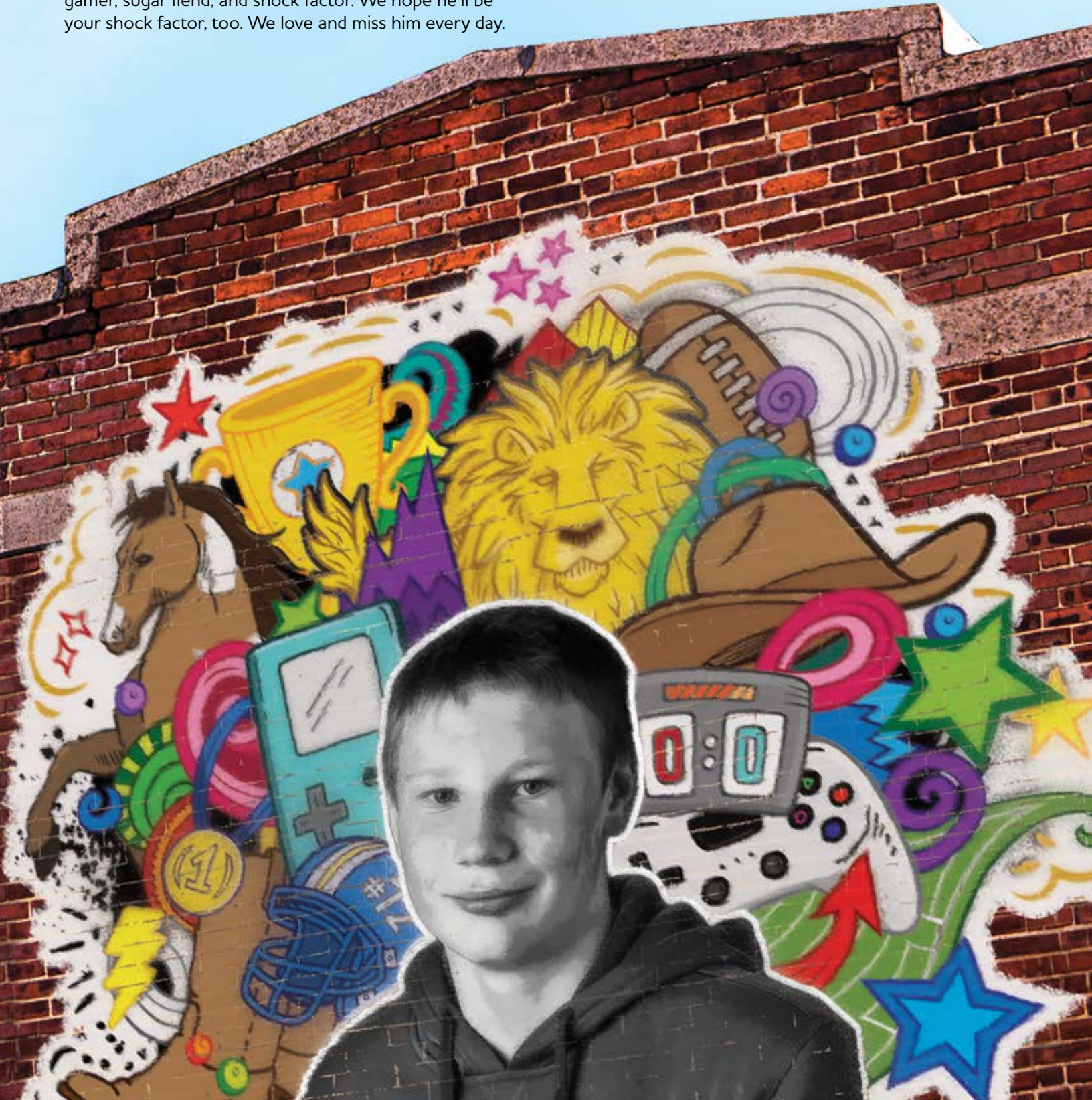


because Brody was still recovering from a knee surgery that left him in a brace from hip to ankle.

Just like you, Brody knew the rules. Wear a seat belt, use a tracker app, don't let others drive your vehicles—but he broke the rules and his neck. Brody was our comedian, gamer, sugar fiend, and shock factor. We hope he'll be your shock factor, too. We love and miss him every day.

Minors younger than 17 cannot drive in Utah from 12:00 a.m. through 5:00 a.m.

No driving with friends for the first six months. It's the law, and it could be your life.



# EMMA CALL

Age 18 | Heber, UT

On June 7, 2021, we lost our sweet Emma and her friend Payton, in a fiery car crash in Heber. A week before the crash, Emma graduated from Wasatch High School and went on a senior trip to our cabin with some friends. I was concerned about her traveling far from home with her friends, but she told me to trust her. They made it home safely.

The morning of the crash, Emma went to work at 5:15 a.m. as a lifeguard. After lifeguarding, Emma taught her first swim lesson and told me she was so excited to teach; it was going to be a great summer!

She came home to do a few things and talked to me and her oldest brother in the kitchen. She mentioned she was going out with Payton and some friends. I was starting dinner, mentioning that Isaac's girlfriend was coming. I had a strong feeling she needed to stay home. I didn't want her to go! She mentioned Payton was outside waiting and to save some dinner. She walked away saying, "I love you!"

Around 6:00 p.m. on the day of the crash, we heard about a car crash on HWY 89. Payton's mom called asking if I knew where the girls were. I mentioned they were going to Deer Creek. I tried calling Emma; it went to voicemail. I went out looking for them at the reservoir and a friend's home but didn't see their vehicle. I went home and told her dad about the situation. We drove over to Payton's home. Her mom was outside worried, and her dad was out looking for the girls. I called the sheriff asking if he knew anything about the situation. The sheriff called back asking which daughter, her friends' names and the vehicle they were driving.

A few minutes later, a cop car drove up, then all the police officers, the sheriff, and our bishop. Payton's dad pulled up too. We all started to cry! My kids arrived. Our hearts were torn apart. I felt numb, having no idea how this was possible. My husband grabbed me, held me tight; we both cried. After the news, I couldn't sleep or eat. I didn't want



to go outside. I kept checking Emma's room to see if she was there; if they made a mistake. Our family was at a loss. My family was my strength.

Our sweet Emma was going to Snow College in the fall. She was our social butterfly! She was a girl that would go out of her way to meet new friends. If Emma saw someone sitting alone, she would talk to them, letting them know they were friends. She had a beautiful spirit and a beautiful smile. When she walked into a room, everything was better. She had a contagious laugh; there was never a dull moment. She loved animals and was hoping to be a vet assistant. One of her best friends was her dog, Charlie. Emma and her siblings would take Charlie for walks to one of Emma's favorite places in the mountains.

This is what we understand happened. A truck heading eastbound hit a jeep, the jeep swerved into oncoming

traffic, clipped a car, and collided with our girls' car. Both cars caught on fire. They weren't able to free themselves. They believe all three died on impact. Some witnesses tried to rescue the girls, but the fire was too hot. We truly need to be aware of our surroundings and be attentive drivers. It's easy to be distracted by everything around us. Follow the laws and keep your eyes on the road. Don't be in such a hurry. Here I was worried to let Emma drive long distances with her friends and this fatal crash happened near our home. Crashes can happen anywhere if we're not careful.

We miss our sweet Emma every day and pray she is with us during family gatherings.

She is our sweet little angel! BE A SAFE DRIVER!



# HOLLAND RODRIGUEZ

Age 17 | Houston, TX

June 4, 2021 — Receiving that phone call that no mother ever wants to hear will always be burned into my memory. A trauma unit doctor called to notify me that my 17-year-old Holland had been in a car crash. Our family lives in Texas; and Holland had traveled to Utah to visit her brother, my older son. She had just graduated high school. She was enjoying her time there and decided she wanted to look into moving to Utah to go to college. She had worked on her first two years of college while attending high school and was just two classes shy of her associate degree, which she was already registered to complete during the summer of 2021.

She was getting ready for a job interview and needed to print her resume. This required going from my son's girlfriend's house, where she was staying, to my son's apartment to print it out. My son came to give her a ride and then they planned to go to her interview. It was just a quick trip — they decided to take his motorcycle instead of his car — no helmets.

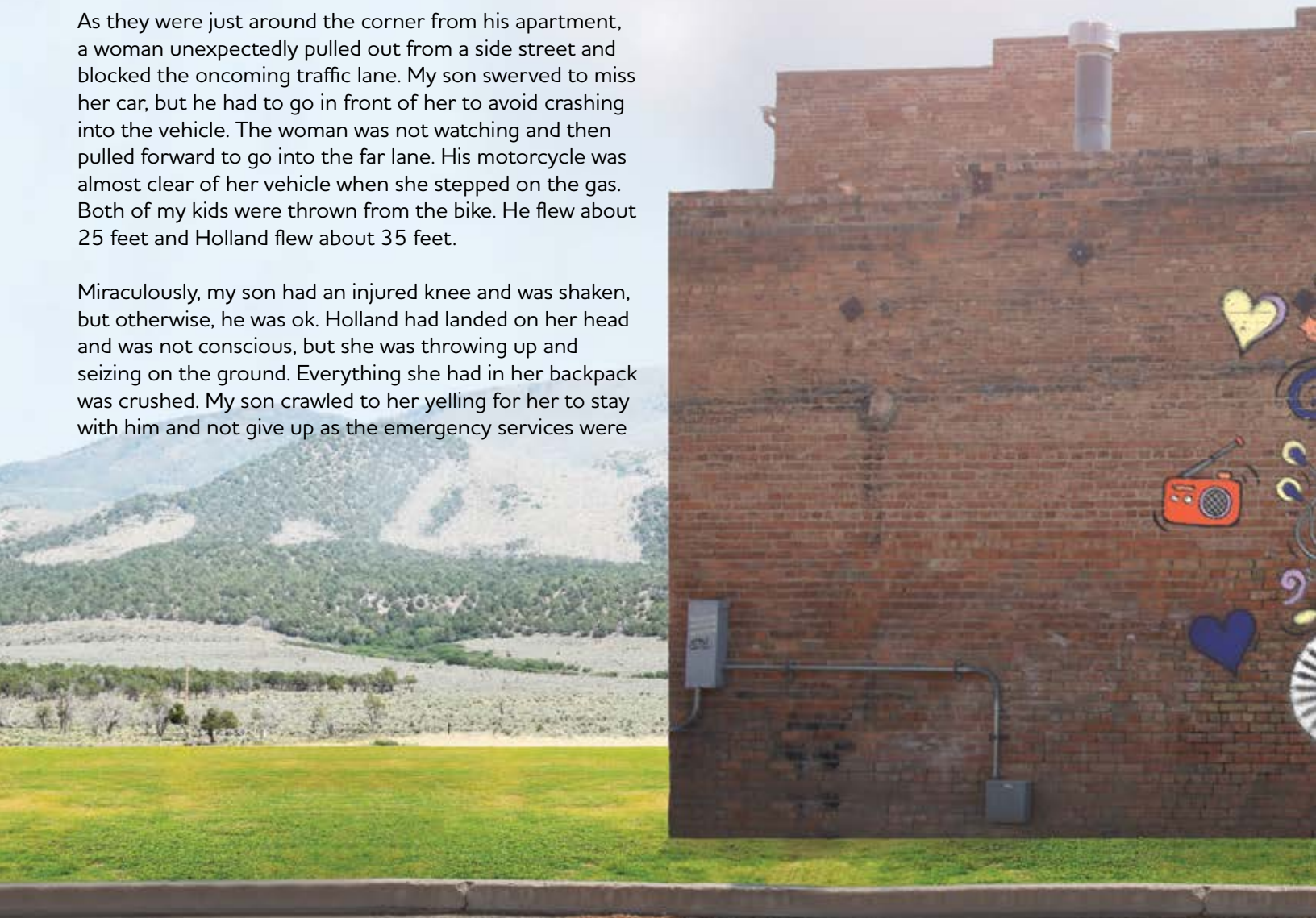
As they were just around the corner from his apartment, a woman unexpectedly pulled out from a side street and blocked the oncoming traffic lane. My son swerved to miss her car, but he had to go in front of her to avoid crashing into the vehicle. The woman was not watching and then pulled forward to go into the far lane. His motorcycle was almost clear of her vehicle when she stepped on the gas. Both of my kids were thrown from the bike. He flew about 25 feet and Holland flew about 35 feet.

Miraculously, my son had an injured knee and was shaken, but otherwise, he was ok. Holland had landed on her head and was not conscious, but she was throwing up and seizing on the ground. Everything she had in her backpack was crushed. My son crawled to her yelling for her to stay with him and not give up as the emergency services were

arriving. The woman driver got out of her vehicle, still eating her cookie. She had been eating her lunch in the car. She was clearly distracted while driving and our family will never be the same as a result.

Some might think that a helmet would make the difference, and it might have changed the length of time in the hospital, it might have changed the location of her injuries, but the type of injury she had and the severity of it would have been life-altering, no matter what. I have always told my kids to wear a helmet, it was just one of those split-second decisions that one time, the times we all think it will be okay — just this once.

The distracted driver of the automobile that hit my kids on the motorcycle is the cause of the accident. Holland made it to the hospital and was placed in intensive care. She had surgery the next day, but she never came to again. She slowly showed less and less chance of consciousness.





She would never play the guitar or piano again, she would never write another song. She would never lift weights or work out again, never go on a run, and never talk. We were told that the damage was so extensive that even if she regained consciousness, she likely would not be able to understand language.

My husband and I flew to Utah the day of the accident and were by her side. Holland is one of our 10 children and we were able to fly all of our kids up to Utah to be with her during the last days that she was with us. I kept a blog while she was in the hospital, partly to be able to update so many who loved her so far away and to reduce the load on my kids who were constantly being asked for updates; [www.hollandsmiracles.blog](http://www.hollandsmiracles.blog).

We hoped so much for a miracle of healing for our daughter, but it was not to be in this life. Together we

made the decision to end her life support, knowing that she would not want to live under those conditions. It was so hard then and it continues to be so hard now, we miss her terribly — we still cry every day, but she was healed from all pain on June 15, 2021. She would have been 18 that following September.

We all remember the things she would say or the things she would have liked and I am grateful for so many good memories. Sadly, we won't be able to make any more memories with her here. I spoke to Holland about an hour before the accident. My last words to her were, "I love you and you are in our prayers." I am so grateful that she knew we loved her, and we always will.



# JESSE TITMUS

Age 18 | Bountiful, UT

Our precious angel was taken home too soon by his maker on September 6, 2021. Jesse Cade Titmus had recently graduated and turned 18 on July 22. He had his whole life in front of him. Not long after, he bought a car and stayed with me for the weekend, fixing up his car, changing the oil, etc. He planned to go down to St. George, Utah, to work with family and save some money to travel. We had pizza and relaxed Saturday evening and we went to bed.

The next morning, he was going to get up early and make the four-and-a-half hour drive to St. George. He slept in, telling me he felt so peaceful and it was so nice to be at home. I made him breakfast and we went out to look at the car before he left. We chatted about safety, gas mileage and how important it was to keep his phone put away. I hugged him, told him I loved him and he headed out. A bit later he texted me that he made it, put good gas in the car like I'd asked, and told me he was going to take it easy so he would be ready for work the next day. I was so proud. I felt so much better knowing he was safe.

I went to sleep that evening, having to work the next morning myself. I heard a loud pounding on my front door at 2:12 a.m., "Highway Patrol, open the door." Two officers were standing outside my door asking if Jesse was my son and if they could come in and speak with me. I was very confused and asked, "What has he done?" They proceeded to tell me he was involved in a fatal crash in the Valley of the Gods. I told them this was impossible, he was in St. George. They assured me it was him, offered condolences and simply left.

I went out to my backyard and yelled into the night sky, "What the heck are you doing?" to him, "Where did you go?" having lost my sanity temporarily. It was the most horrible, empty feeling I have ever felt in my life.

Jesse made a decision the evening of the 5th to head out for a road trip, not telling anyone where he was going. He knew I would likely disapprove. He was so excited to have his freedom and make choices on his own. The last known place he stopped was in Page, Arizona to get a burger, fries and a lemonade. We found that receipt with his belongings.

At 11:30 p.m. he veered off the road at mile marker 18 on highway 163 (Monument Valley) heading toward Mexican Hat, Utah. He was not wearing a seat belt and was ejected from the car which rolled multiple times. He had all his belongings in the car including his recently deceased best friend's guitar, which was the only thing unharmed in the crash. We think he was headed to Valley of the Gods to camp, take pictures and eventually head east to visit friends.



His decision to take a road trip late in the day, not being an experienced driver, drowsiness, speed, not wearing a seat belt, and other distractions cost him his life. I am very thankful for the members of the Navajo Nation and the Farmington, New Mexico, AirMed crew who were there with him when he passed.

Never say goodbye to anyone without making sure they know you love them.



# PAYTON CALDWELL

Age 18 | Heber, UT

Payton always excelled in everything she did! She was a CNA working on her medical assistance license, named regional academic all-state and loved sports, including tumbling, track and field and volleyball. She made her high school volleyball team as a freshman, played all four years, was a two-year varsity letterman and a three-year letterman in discus. She even decided to try the skeleton, which terrified her mother, and placed first twice in the winter games for her age group.

I remember watching Payton at her graduation. She was sitting next to her good friend, Emma Call. I was amazed and proud of all that she had accomplished over the years. After graduation, the Calls and our family went to the Olive Garden in Provo to celebrate. Everything was so perfect in the world. Payton was so excited for the summer and her plans to go to SUU where she received a four-year Fellow's Scholarship.

Then June 7, 2021, happened and everything went from perfect to tragic. I was at work and Payton had called me while shopping for college with her future roommate. She was indecisive and wanted help picking out a golf skirt color. I laughed and told her to pick whatever she wanted. That was the last time I would ever talk to her.

Payton had plans to go to the lake with some other friends that evening. Luckily most of the friends canceled. As I was leaving work, I was notified of a bad wreck not far from our house near Deer Creek. I called all my kids to make sure they were ok. They all answered, except for Payton. As the hours went on, I learned there were three fatalities and I started to panic even more. Someone had posted a photo of the crash and two cars were on fire. I didn't realize at the time that it was our car and my daughter and Emma were still in it. The trailblazer they were driving was unrecognizable.

I called Emma's mom and learned that the girls were together. We started searching immediately for them

at the lake and around town. Payton's sister called me crying saying, "I looked through binoculars. It looks like a trailblazer." Around the same time, my husband forced himself through the police barricade and told officers that he thought it was our car. The police said that they didn't know the make and model of the car because it was so destroyed. A few minutes later they were able to identify the vehicle by its VIN. The Calls were still at our home when my husband arrived accompanied by three police cars and confirmed that Payton and Emma were two of the three fatalities.

From what we can gather through the detectives and witnesses, Payton and Emma did nothing wrong. Payton was driving the speed limit in the outside lane. A truck coming the opposite direction rear-ended a jeep, propelling it into oncoming traffic — right in front of Payton and Emma. The vehicles erupted into flames and no one, despite their best efforts, could save them.



We miss Payton so much. There isn't a day that goes by that we don't think about her. She was very close to her siblings, including one older brother and twin sisters who were only a couple of years younger. On June 7, 2022, we gathered once again around a table with the Calls at the Olive Garden. This time it was much different. Instead of excitement and talking about college, it was somber and we were just trying to get through the day. Instead of helping our girls decorate their dorm rooms, Emma's mom and I decorated their graves. Instead of all our girls standing by our side for family photos at their brothers' weddings, we had to photoshop Payton in or hold a framed photo of her. Instead of just being happy at momentous events, we are always also sad.

A few months before Payton's car crash, her twin sisters were taking driver education and they would tell me about horrible car crashes that had killed teenagers in Utah from the Teen Memoriam book. I was so sad for all the families and what they had been through. It had made a big impact on my soon-to-be teenage drivers. I never thought I would be writing a story about my child for that book! If everyone paid attention while driving and would just drive safely, then there would be no need for another book.





WILDCATS

61

GO

# NDENE CARVALHO

Age 16 | Layton, UT

Ndene Carvalho was a victim of an unfortunate car crash on the fateful night of October 7, 2021. He was a 16-year-old boy who was learning how to drive and who got excited about this new “lucrative” job at a restaurant — in which he was touting and excited about gaining his first large tip, \$50. It was the gem of his night when he received that sum, and he looked forward to many more nights like those.

On October 7, after a shift that ended in the evening, Ndene was walking home. It was raining terribly that day, so driving visibility was heavily limited. Upon crossing the

street, in the dark of the night, in the thundering rain, a truck collided with him. He passed away by the time he got to the hospital.

When it comes to driving awareness, it is crucial for even the most seasoned of drivers out there to be more diligent around pedestrian areas, especially at night and during murky weather. If there ever were any best moments to implement this courtesy and practice, it would be during these specific times, when it is most advised to take great caution.

The driver should ensure that the necessary vehicle lights are fully functional for max, untainted visibility for the times when sight is hindered or limited. It is also potentially life-saving and good driving etiquette for the driver to make sure that there are absolutely no pedestrians on the road before driving forward with confidence. During these high-risk circumstances, take the extra time to ensure it is safe to proceed, as driving in a rush at night or during bad weather could prove fatal.



2021

# TEEN CRASH STATISTICS

**33 TEENS LOST THEIR LIVES  
ON UTAH ROADS**

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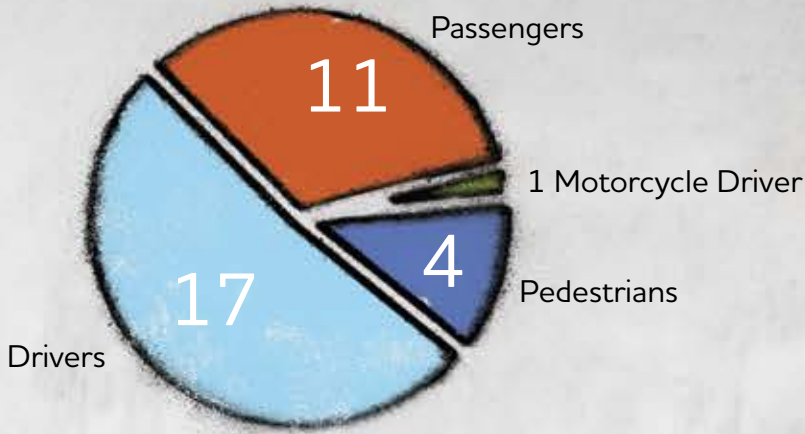
A fatal crash is defined as a crash involving a motor vehicle traveling on a traffic way resulting in the death of at least one person within 30 days of the crash.

(Utah Department of Public Safety)

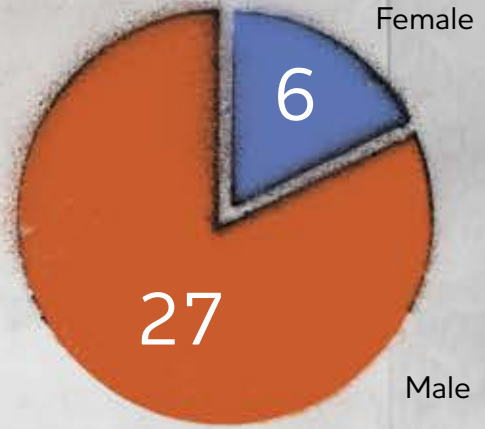
**ZERO Fatalities®**



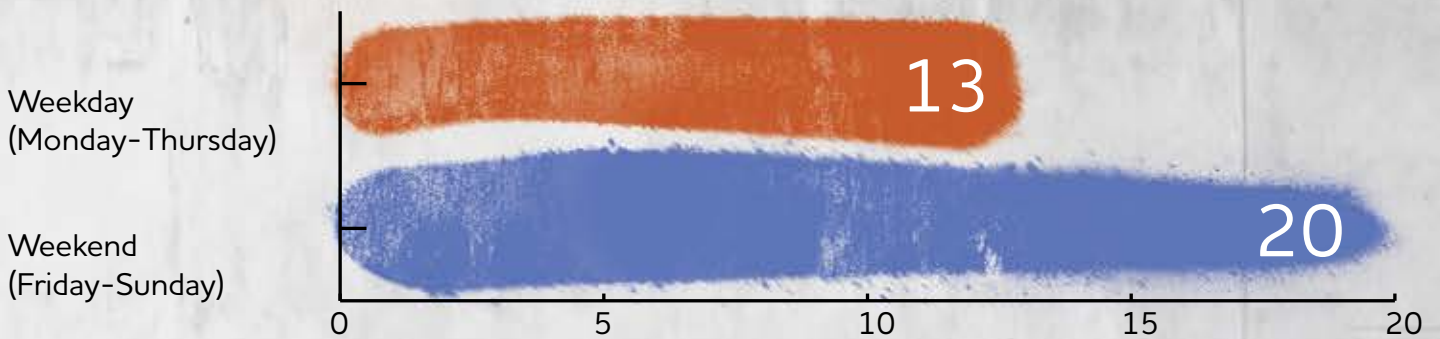
### PERSON TYPE



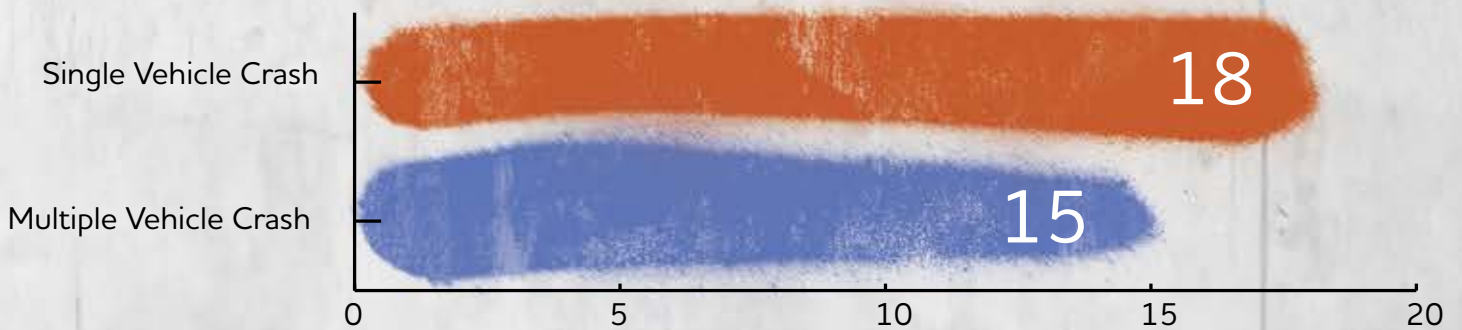
### GENDER



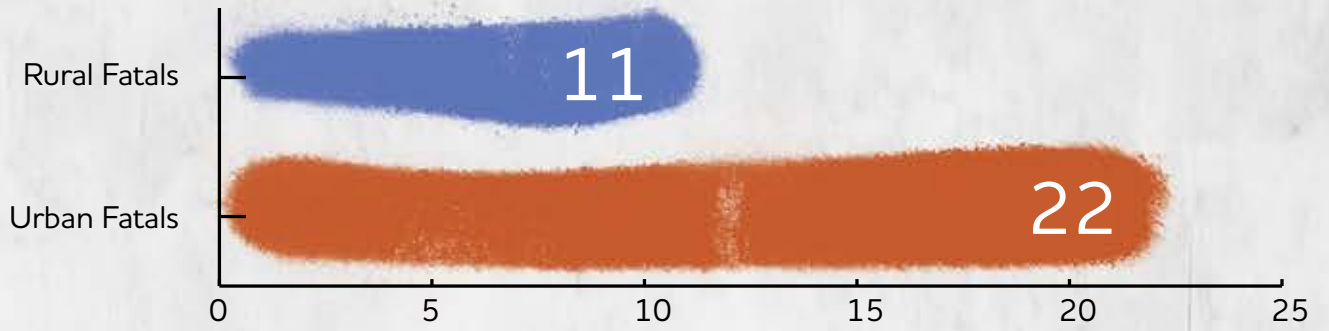
### DAY OF WEEK



### TEENS WHO DIED IN SINGLE VEHICLE VS MULTIPLE VEHICLE CRASHES

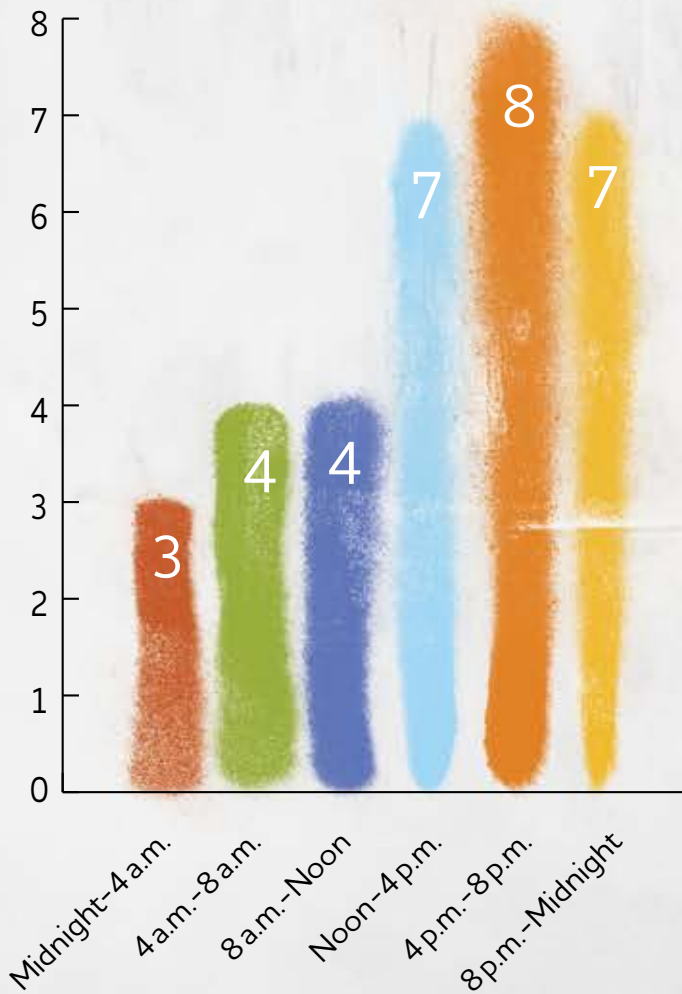


# URBAN VS RURAL ROADS\*

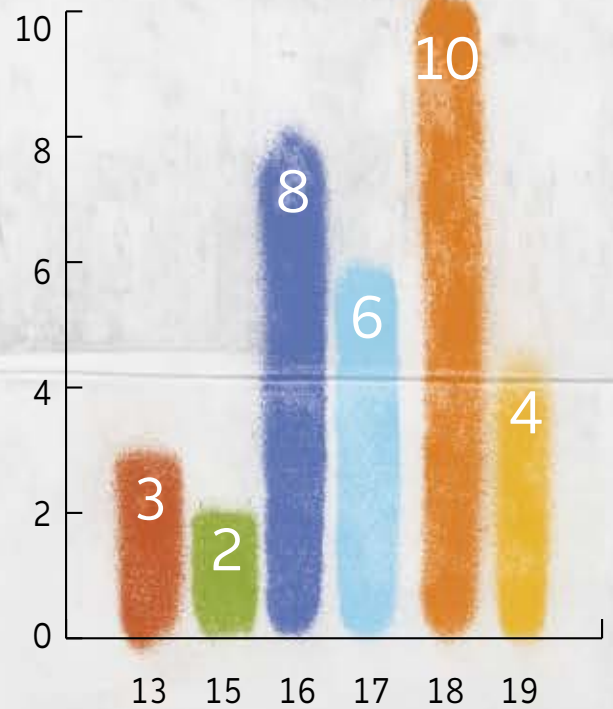


\*Statistics based on roadway

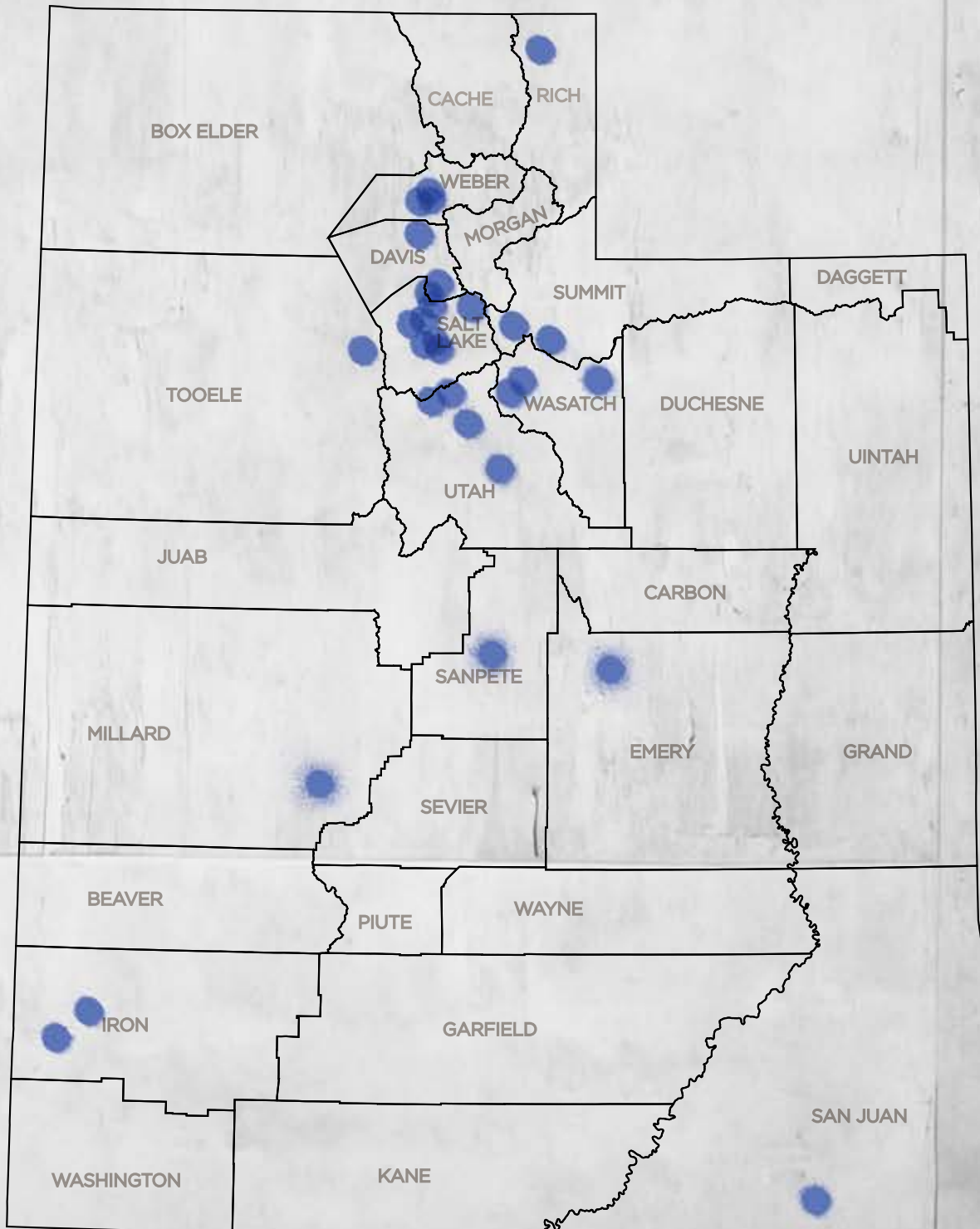
## TIME OF DAY



## AGE

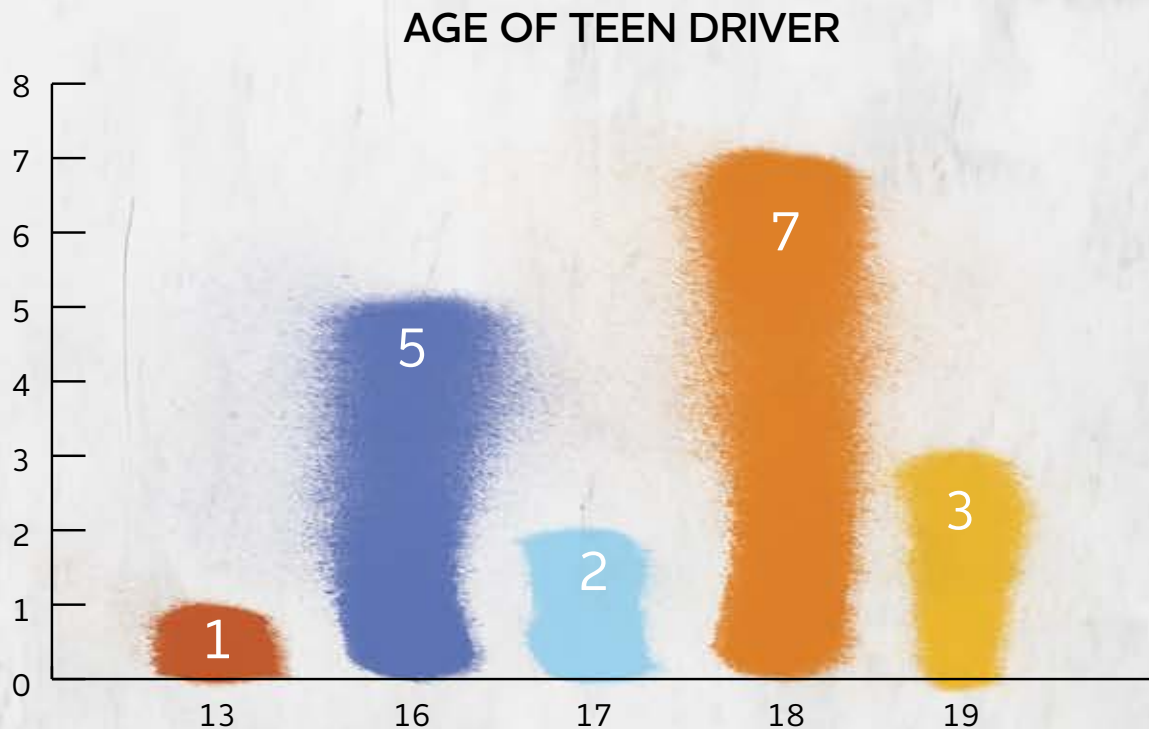


# 2021 UTAH TEEN MOTOR VEHICLE FATALITIES

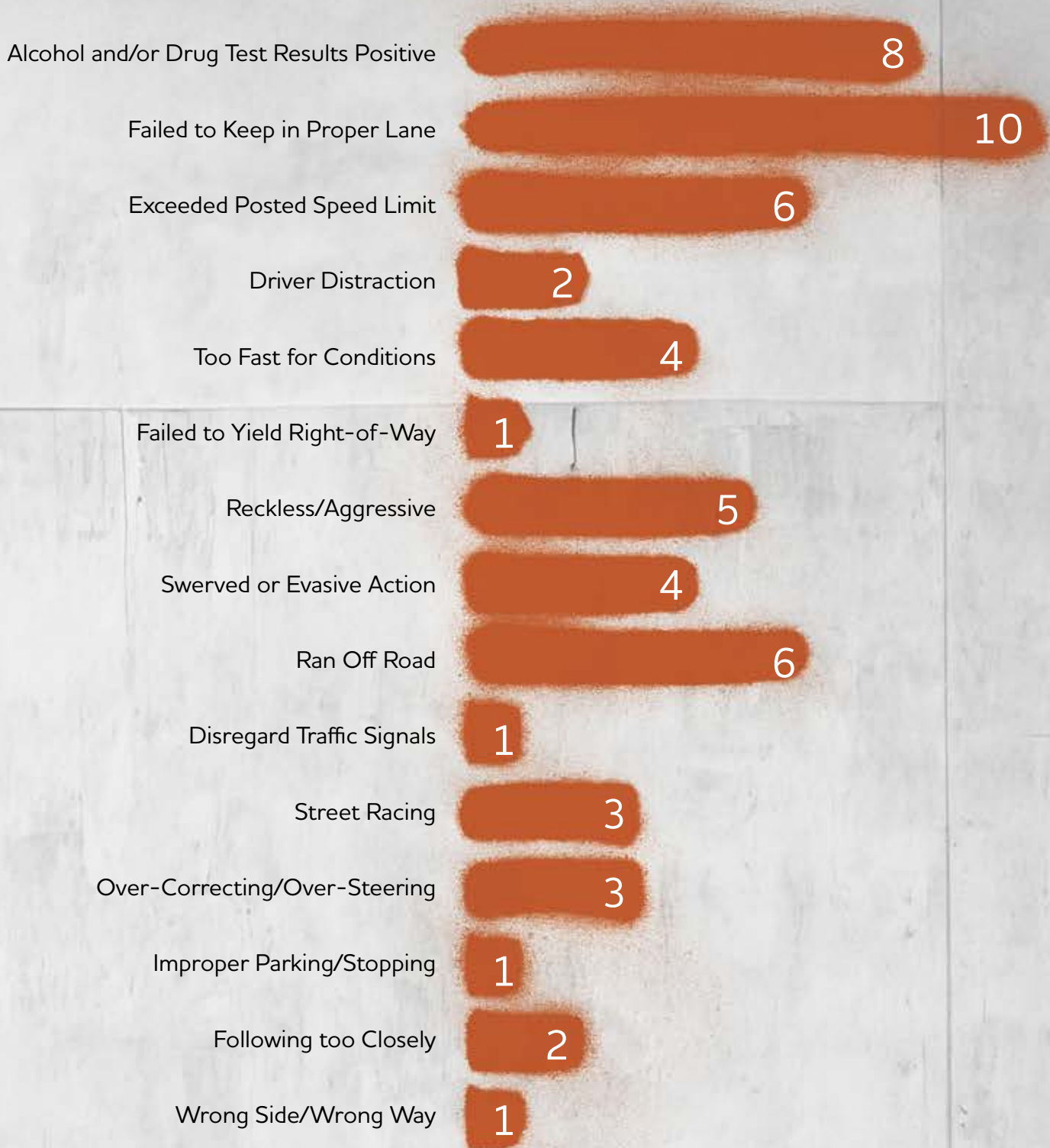


# 2021 TEEN DRIVER STATISTICS

In 2021, 39 teen drivers were involved in a fatal crash; a total of 47 people were killed in these crashes, including 18 of the 39 teen drivers.



## CONTRIBUTING FACTORS\*



\*Each crash may have more than one contributing factor

USE THIS  
BOOK TO  
SAVE LIVES

For the past 14 years, families have courageously shared their stories about how they lost their teen on a Utah road. Their hope in sharing these stories is that others never have to feel the pain of losing a loved one in a car crash. Please learn from these stories. Talk with your loved ones, friends, classmates and students about these tragic stories and set rules for your car and whenever you ride in a car. When reading these stories, please consider the following questions:

What caused the crash?

Could it have been prevented?

What rules can you set while you are driving or riding in a car that can help avoid this type of crash?

Remember to be sensitive and not to place blame on any one person. Rather, focus on the principles that can be applied to encourage safe driving. Point out actions that are dangerous and should be avoided.



2015



2016



2017



2018-2020

To view Teen Memoriam from previous years, visit [ZeroFatalities.com/teen-memoriam-books](https://ZeroFatalities.com/teen-memoriam-books)

This book would not be possible without support from the following organizations:



**Utah Teen Driving Task Force**

**ZERO Fatalities®**

A photograph of a wooden bench against a grey wall. The wall has a large, vertical, brownish stain on the right side and some green vines in the top left corner. The text 'zero Fatalities' is written in large, bold, red letters on the wall. Below it, a thin horizontal line is drawn, followed by the text 'A Goal We Can All Live With' in a smaller, black, serif font.

# zero Fatalities

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*A Goal We Can All Live With*