

**Looking for a real travel deal?**  
Sherman's Top 25  
Taxes and fees may apply



**\$114 & up** Discounted US flights (round-trip) **\$99 & up** New luxury resort & casino  
**\$65 & up** 4-star hotels in major cities **\$599+** Dom Rep 3- and 4-night trips  
**\$99+** Bahamas & Caribbean cruises **\$149+** Low-priced Caribbean cruises  
**\$96 & up** Christmas flight sale (round-trip) » See more at [ShermansTravel.com](http://ShermansTravel.com)

# The Salt Lake Tribune

MONDAY, December 29, 2008

Search

This Site Web - powered by **YAHOO! SEARCH**

Home News Sports Features Entertainment Business Opinion Close-Up Obituaries Classifieds More Sites Help Desk

## More News:

- [S. Jordan to celebrate 150th year on New Year's Eve](#)
- [Davis County teen erects a monument to scouting](#)
- [Springville road closes for widening](#)
- [Snowplows to slow Weber County I-15 commute](#)
- [Trolley Square hero charged with sex with minor](#)
- [Cops: Murder victim threatened, may have been informant](#)
- [Huntsville homicide victim had dispute with person of interest](#)
- [Layton man crashes truck into a police cruiser - three times](#)
- [Orem police ID man killed in weekend accident](#)
- [Living History: German immigrant rose to become only Jewish governor](#)
- [Less trash means less money for sanitation workers](#)
- [Antifreeze leak closes part of Alta View Hospital](#)
- [Teen stabbed in parking lot](#)
- [Davis hiker is hospitalized after falling into a river](#)
- [For inmates, group a circle of comfort](#)
- [Circle of trust: Prison resource officer just talks to inmates](#)
- [Vehicle of murdered Layton woman found](#)
- [Lure of ice fishing draws anglers to frozen waters](#)
- [Two arrested in fatal shooting of woman at Jordanelle](#)
- [Huntsman goes for a tuneup, not an overhaul](#)
- [Body found in Huntsville is a homicide case, police say](#)
- [Injured often refuse](#)

Tribtowns.com: Enter your Zip code to find news and events in your area  GO»

BOOKMARK Print Email Font Resize

## Study: Salt Lake City teens are safest holiday drivers

Low fatalities » Tampa the deadliest spot, Allstate reports.

By **Brandon Loomis**  
The Salt Lake Tribune

Updated: 12/25/2008 11:37:18 AM MST

Salt Lake City has the safest holiday-season teen-age drivers of the nation's top 50 metropolitan areas, according to a report by Allstate Insurance Co.

Federal statistics show that metro Salt Lake City's fatal-crash rate from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day is 0.569 per 100,000 teens, the company reports in its "Holiday Teen Driving Hotspots Study." That compares to the nation's worst rate of 5.003 around Tampa, Fla.

The study includes the years 2000-2007, during which time metro Salt Lake had four fatal crashes involving teen drivers during the holidays.

Allstate's Southwest field representative, Denis Bailey, praised Utahns for teaching their children well. Too often parents don't discuss safe driving with their children, he said, and it's especially important during this sometimes-treacherous season.

"Parents sometimes think they can't influence their teen," Bailey said in a written statement. "But research shows parents are among the strongest influences on teens."

Most of the safer metros listed in Allstate's report are in the North, excepting some California locales, while most of the 10 worst are in the South.

Despite Utah's relative safety this time of year, teens remain a hazard behind the wheel year-round. The latest available report from the Utah Department of Transportation, for 2006, found that teen drivers that year represented just 8 percent of the state's licensed drivers but were involved in 26 percent of all crashes and 17 percent of fatal wrecks. A Utah teen crashed every 36 minutes in 2006, and their 14,398 accidents caused 7,817 injuries and 49 deaths.

Boys and girls aged 15-19 were close to equal in their involvement in crashes overall, with 54 percent male drivers and 46 percent female. But boys were at the wheel for 76 percent of fatal crashes, and reckless or aggressive driving accounted for 36 percent of those, the largest share. Speeding was second at 19 percent and distracted driving was third at 9 percent.

As part of its "Zero Fatalities" education program, UDOT has developed driver-education materials steered toward teens. The program is called "Don't Drive Stupid," and it includes a brochure that discusses common reasons and preventions for teen accidents.

For instance, according to the "Don't Drive Stupid" literature, crashes are the leading cause of teen deaths partly because teens often drive with multiple passengers and get distracted. It also cautions against texting while driving: "A driver traveling 65 miles per hour covers the length of a football field in the same time it takes to check a text message."

[bloomis@sltrib.com](mailto:bloomis@sltrib.com)

### Safest metros for holiday teen drivers

- » Salt Lake City (0.569 death per 100,000 teens)
  - » San Francisco
  - » Cleveland
  - » Portland, Ore.
  - » Milwaukee
  - » New York
  - » San Jose, Calif.
  - » Boston
  - » Detroit
  - » Los Angeles
- Deadliest metros for holiday teen drivers
- » Tampa, Fla. (5.003 deaths per 100,000 teens)
  - » Jacksonville, Fla.
  - » Orlando, Fla.
  - » Kansas City, Mo.
  - » Birmingham, Ala.

Click Here

Click Here

- a ride to the hospital
- **SLC man killed in Orem auto-pedestrian accident**
- **Ogden home explodes, displacing family of 5**
- **S.L. County enters new year with new voices**
- **U. prof says Israel has Barak's back**
- **Dead woman's identity still a mystery**
- **Polygamous sect blasts Texas report**
- **Water trucks reach Navajo community**
- **Tax appeals soar in Salt Lake County**

» Phoenix  
 » Las Vegas.  
 » Oklahoma City.  
 » Louisville, Ky.  
 » Richmond, Va.  
 Source: Allstate Insurance Co.

**Help for teens on the Web**  
 Utah's teen-driving educational materials are available at [www.dontdrivestupid.com](http://www.dontdrivestupid.com).

[Return to Top](#)

**RECENT COMMENTS:**


12/29/2008 9:33:00 AM -- dthecanoe, andrewizm, and canyonlander: YOU GUYS ARE SO LAME!!!! It's snowing outside - is that the Mormon's fault... [\[MORE\]](#)

12/26/2008 10:45:00 AM -- So parents are teaching their teen-agers to drive drive well, but they can't be bothered? Something's wrong with this picture. [\[MORE\]](#)

12/25/2008 3:53:00 PM -- "lets get to the core of what you meant, LDS kids." Actually I wasn't thinking of LDS kids at all when I made my post. Here... [\[MORE\]](#)

[READ ALL 8 COMMENTS](#) | [POST A COMMENT](#) | [REGISTER](#) | [TRIBTALK.COM](#)

Was this article worthwhile?



**+4**

4 VOTES

Ads by Yahoo!		
<p><b><a href="#">Salt Lake City Ski</a></b>        Last-Minute Winter Vacation Package Lift Pass, Hotel Deals and More.  <a href="http://Ski-Saltlake.com/superpass">Ski-Saltlake.com/superpass</a></p>	<p><b><a href="#">Holiday Inn Salt Lake City Reservations</a></b>        Guaranteed Low Rates in Salt Lake City, Utah Call Toll-free.  <a href="http://www.DiscountHotelWorld.com">www.DiscountHotelWorld.com</a></p>	<p><b><a href="#">Free Salt Lake City Dating Personals</a></b>        No credit card required; email local singles for free.  <a href="http://www.SinglesNet.com">www.SinglesNet.com</a></p>