

Session 567

**Outcomes for 18-Year-Old Drivers
Following Implementation of Graduated
Driver Licensing: Opening Remarks**

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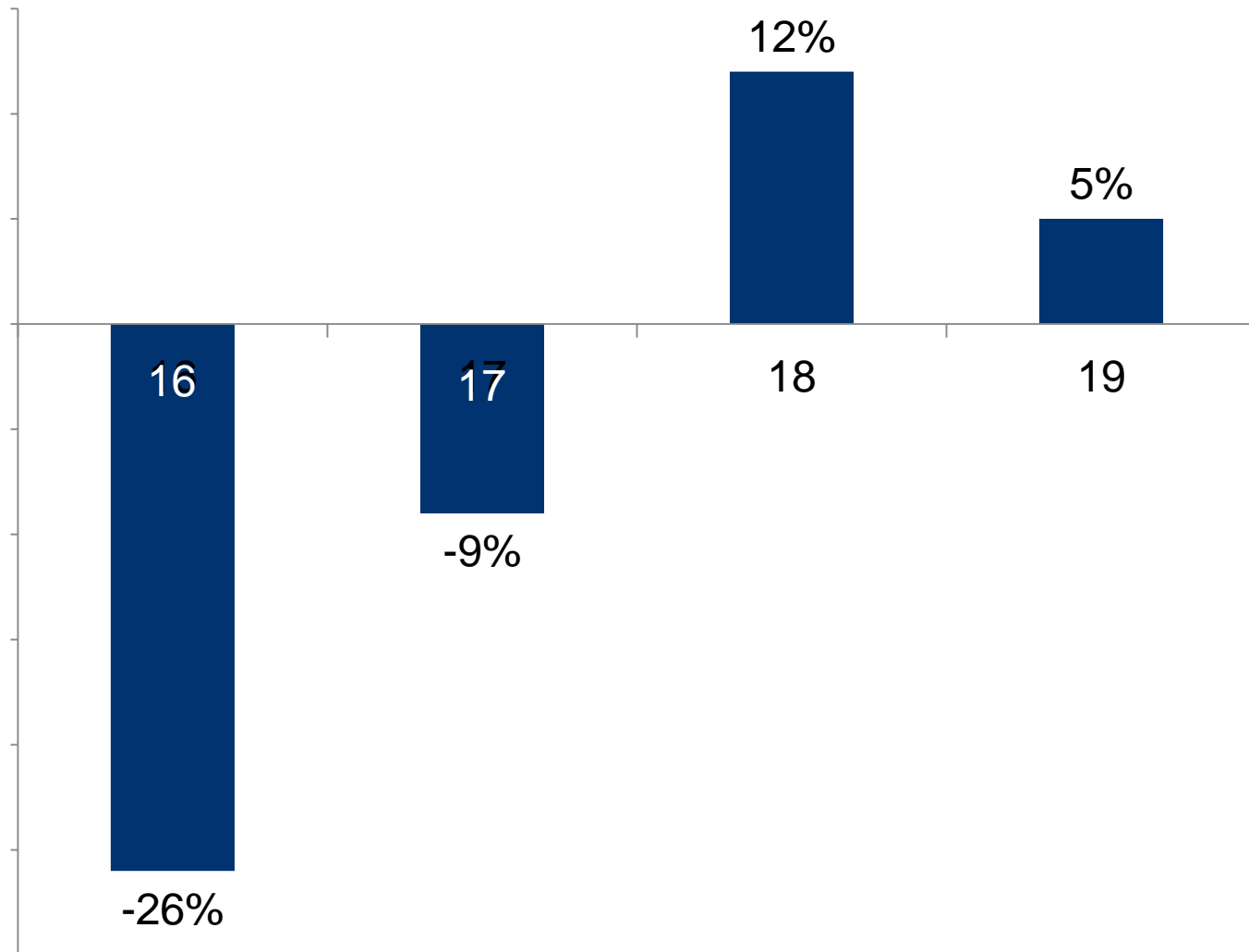
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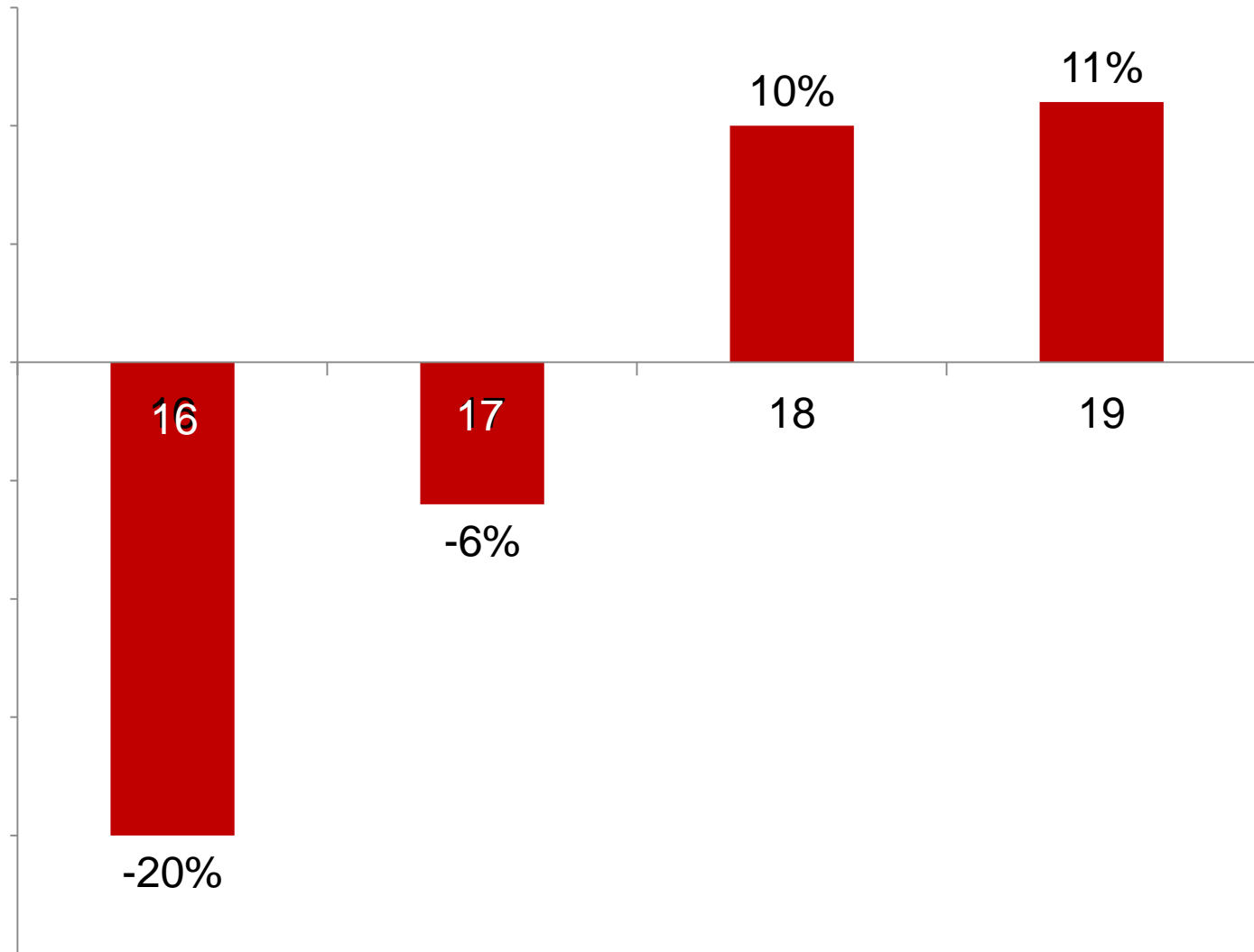
GDL & 18-yr-old Drivers

- Most U.S. GDLs stop at age 18
- 30+ studies show benefits
- 3 studies now suggest increase in fatal crashes at age 18
 - Males (2007) – California
 - Masten et al. (2011) – U.S.
 - Fell et al. (2012) – U.S.
- Other studies do not indicate this

Fatal crash involvement by age, “Good” GDL vs. No GDL (Masten et al., 2011)



Fatal crash involvement by age, “Good” GDL vs. No GDL (Fell et al., 2012)



GDL & 18-yr-old Drivers

- Before leaping to solutions ...
 - Is this real, or artifact?
 - Methodologic issues with all studies
 - What's the mechanism?
 - How widespread, robust?
 - All jurisdictions, only a few?
 - Only fatal crashes?
 - All severity levels?

Possible mechanisms

- Delayed licensure
 - More 18-yr-old beginners
- Less learned during supervised driving than unsupervised driving
 - It *is* co-driving
 - Less time spent on road as learner
- Less time for unsupervised driving prior to age 18