

4 Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles

Key results

- There were 20,750 licensed taxis in London and 24,900 taxi drivers licensed at the end of March 2005 (Tables 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3).
- 2,300 Private Hire Vehicle operator licences have been granted in London. The Public Carriage Office only started licensing of PHV drivers in April 2003 and PHV vehicles in April 2004. By October 2004 around 20,000 of them were registered with the PCO.
- In the South East Region, outside London, there were nearly 9,000 taxis and nearly 14,000 PHVs. There were many more driver licences than vehicles, at over 30,000. Drivers often work in shifts and nearly 8,000 drivers were dual licensed to drive a taxi and a PHV in the region.
- The North West Region had a fleet of over 7,000 taxis and nearly 18,000 PHVs. There were over 40,000 drivers licensed to drive them in the region.
- In Wales, nearly 4,000 taxis and a further 4,000 PHVs were licensed. Dual licensing of drivers was carried out by about half of the Welsh local authorities, which had licensed over 7,500 drivers.
- As dual licensing has become more widespread, the most recent survey asks for numbers of licensed drivers holding dual licences and also for those only licensed to drive one type of vehicle, either a taxi or a PHV. Previous surveys did not always make this distinction so there might have been some over recording of driver numbers.

Access for disabled people

Nearly 30,000 taxis in England were purpose built taxis, which are designed to be wheelchair accessible with assistance from the driver. These accounted for nearly half of all taxis (Tables 4.1 and 4.2).

- In London all taxis are purpose built, and are specifically designed to be wheelchair accessible. The fleet has nearly 21,000 vehicles.
- The North West Region had the largest wheelchair accessible taxi fleet outside London, of nearly 4,500 vehicles. The West Midlands Region had the next largest wheelchair accessible taxi fleet, of nearly 2,500. West Midlands PTE and some other urban licensing authorities specify purpose built taxi bodies which are wheelchair accessible.
- Around 27,500 taxis in England were saloon or estate cars not suitable for wheelchair access. In addition, over 3,500 were of other body types such as van derived designs.

Taxi and PHV use

Taxis and PHVs are an important mode of local transport, particularly at times when local buses run infrequently or in areas poorly served by other public transport. The National Travel Survey provides data on the users of taxis and PHVs combined (Chart 4.1). The measure of use is “trips” as, in the context of the NTS, a journey reported can consist of a chain of trips to the destination.

- Taxis and PHVs together account for just over 1 per cent of all trips per person per year. This is about 620 million trips or over 3 billion miles per year.
- Taxis and PHVs are commonly used by younger people and by those on lower incomes who do not have access to a household car.
- Women aged 16 to 20 make the greatest number of trips in taxis and PHVs (Chart 4.1).

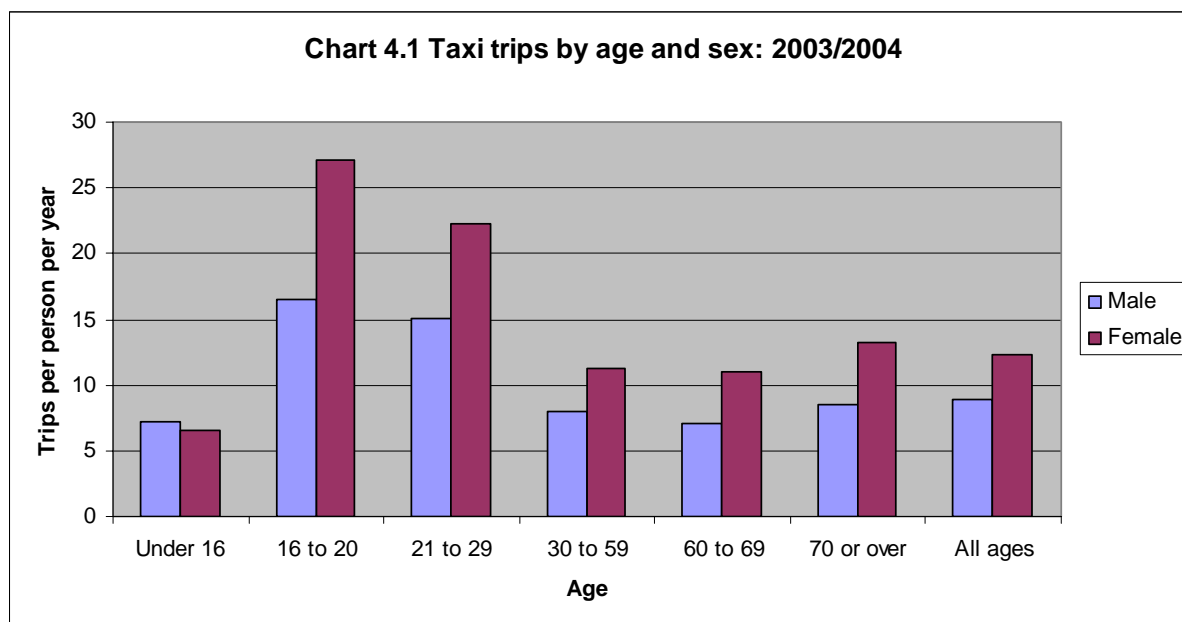


Table 4.1

Taxis, PHVs and their drivers in England & Wales: 31 March 2005

number

	Taxis					PHV			Dual Taxi / PHV driver licences	Total driver licences issued
	Total number of Taxis	Purpose built taxi body	Saloon or estate car	Other body type	Driver licences issued	Vehicle licences issued	Operator licences issued	Driver licences issued		
England	63,957	32,787	27,511	3,659	70,392	119,305	13,940	122,677	52,530	245,599
England outside London	43,207	12,037	27,511	3,659	45,492	79,305	11,640	82,677	52,530	180,699
London	20,750	20,750	0	0	24,900	40,000	2,300	40,000	0	64,900
North East	4,266	199	3,170	897	3,919	4,839	496	5,032	4,401	13,352
of which										
Tyne & Wear PTE	1,880	141	1,042	697	1,545	3,241	171	2,702	1,460	5,707
North West	7,402	4,471	2,696	235	12,233	17,901	1,608	22,117	6,200	40,550
of which										
Greater Manchester PTE	1,814	1,529	244	41	3,377	7,917	422	11,009	323	14,709
Merseyside PTE	2,205	2,129	65	11	4,674	4,603	204	5,045	600	10,319
Yorkshire & the Humber	3,229	869	2,052	308	3,222	12,208	1,636	10,871	6,414	20,507
of which										
South Yorkshire PTE	767	625	99	43	436	2,312	337	1,185	2,743	4,364
West Yorkshire PTE	1,005	146	775	84	1,735	6,986	591	7,185	1,822	10,742
East Midlands	4,171	1,337	2,544	290	2,998	6,345	1,154	3,594	9,540	16,132
West Midlands	4,203	2,477	1,517	209	4,325	11,025	931	12,704	6,450	23,479
of which										
West Midlands PTE	2,134	2,089	0	45	2,819	7,934	278	10,567	1,515	14,901
East	5,584	877	4,133	574	4,792	7,688	1,704	8,283	6,347	19,422
South East	8,750	1,095	7,111	544	9,077	13,875	2,754	14,168	7,733	30,978
South West	5,602	712	4,288	602	4,926	5,424	1,357	5,908	5,445	16,279
Wales	3,857	224	3,384	249	2,238	4,146	783	1,664	7,540	11,442

Source: DfT survey of licensing authorities, TfL Public Carriage Office.

Table 4.2**Trend in licensed taxis and taxi drivers in Great Britain**

thousands

	Taxis ¹			Taxi drivers		
	London ²	Rest of England & Wales ^{3,4}	Scotland	London ²	Rest of England & Wales ^{3,4,5}	Scotland
1965	7.3	..	..	11.5	..	..
1970	8.7	..	..	13.3	..	..
1971	9.6	..	..	13.8	..	..
1972	10.1	12.4	..	14.5	..	..
1973	10.4	..	..	15.2	..	..
1974	11.0	..	..	15.7	..	..
1975	11.3	..	..	16.0	..	..
1976	11.8	15.2	..	16.2	..	..
1977	12.5	15.5	..	16.5	..	..
1978	12.5	16.0	..	16.7	..	..
1979	12.3	16.7	..	17.1	..	..
1980	12.4	17.0	..	17.4	47.2	..
1981	12.6	17.4	..	17.8	..	..
1982	12.8	17.7	..	18.1	..	..
1983	13.1	18.1	..	18.2	..	..
1984	13.6	18.4	..	18.4	..	..
1985	13.8	18.9	6.4	18.6	45.8	14.4
1986	14.2	21.1	..	19.2	..	..
1987	14.8	..	..	19.7	..	..
1988	15.2	..	..	20.1	..	..
1989	15.6	27.8	..	20.5	..	..
1990	16.2	..	7.5	20.9	..	..
1991	16.5	31.8	..	20.5	80.5	..
1992	17.6	..	8.1	20.5	..	..
1993	17.3	..	..	20.8	..	..
1994	18.3	32.9	8.6	21.6	79.3	..
1995	18.3	..	..	22.0	..	..
1996	18.7	..	..	22.1	..	..
1997	18.9	36.5	8.5	22.3	83.2	..
1998	19.4	..	..	22.7	..	..
1999	19.2	42.1	7.7	23.3	98.2	20.2
2000	20.9	..	..	23.7	..	..
2001	20.5	42.6	9.3	24.5	96.4	24.8
2002	..	..	..	..	..	..
2003	..	..	..	..	..	..
2004	20.8	45.9	..	24.8	96.4	..
2005	20.8	47.1	10.0	24.9	107.8	25.0
<i>Percentage change</i>						
<i>2005 on 2004</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>..</i>
<i>2005 on 2001</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>since 1994</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>..</i>

1 Survey data are incomplete owing to infrequent surveys of the industry outside London.

Sources: Transport for London, taxi licensing authorities

2 At end December, until 2004, then at 31 March.

outside London, Scottish Executive.

3 At 31 March for 1982 to 1985, 2004, 2005; otherwise at end December.

4 There was an increase in the numbers of taxis outside London as more district councils licensed taxis following the Transport Act 1985.

5 Taxi drivers outside London include those who are dual licence holders for taxis and PHVs. There were just over 60,000 dual licence holders at 31 March 2005.

Table 4.3

Taxis, PHVs and their drivers in England & Wales by licensing area: 31 March 2005

number

Region	Licensing Authority (District or Unitary Authority)	Licensed Taxis				Licences		PHV		
		All	of which Purpose built taxi (wheel-chair accessible)	Other body type (MPV or van based)	Saloon car body type	Dual Taxi/ PHV Driver Licences	Taxi only Driver Licences	Vehicle Licences issued	Driver only Licences issued	Operator Licences issued
Total England & Wales		67,814	33,011	3,908	30,895	60,070	72,630	123,451	124,341	14,723
Total England		63,957	32,787	3,659	27,511	52,530	70,392	119,305	122,677	13,940
London	Transport for London	20,750	20,750	0	0	0	24,900	40,000	40,000	2,300
English regions outside London		43,207	12,037	3,659	27,511	52,530	45,492	79,305	82,677	11,640
North East		4,266	199	897	3,170	4,401	3,919	4,839	5,032	496
	Northumberland	353	22	6	325	433	347	287	282	73
	Alnwick	10	0	0	10	15	0	10	0	8
	Berwick on Tweed	50	1	0	49	79	0	10	9	28
	Blyth Valley	41	7	0	34	300	0	127	0	9
	Castle Morpeth	95	8	0	87	0	145	33	100	15
	Tynedale	127	1	6	120	39	117	62	69	0
	Wansbeck	30	5	0	25	0	85	45	104	13
	Darlington UA	228	0	7	221	87	260	70	121	5
	County Durham	777	14	59	704	718	692	500	333	171
	Chester-le-Street	92	0	9	83	40	100	50	40	15
	Derwentside	151	0	0	151	188	20	155	32	42
	Durham	55	0	2	53	59	83	62	78	32
	Easington	93	10	0	83	56	176	115	118	22
	Sedgefield	200	0	40	160	0	313	50	65	19
	Teesdale	20	0	0	20	112	0	45	0	14
	Wear Valley	166	4	8	154	263	0	23	0	27
	Tyne & Wear PTE	1,880	141	697	1,042	1,460	1,545	3,241	2,702	171
	Gateshead	400	10	72	318	140	271	550	499	32
	Newcastle on Tyne	819	80	500	239	1,200	0	900	0	40
	North Tyneside	131	25	2	104	0	124	811	903	32
	South Tyneside	224	4	8	212	120	340	420	440	23
	Sunderland	306	22	115	169	0	810	560	860	44
	Hartlepool UA	153	10	0	143	49	189	165	358	5
	Redcar & Cleveland UA	300	0	24	276	1,200	480	129	720	34
	Middlesborough UA	295	4	101	190	218	257	242	261	8
	Stockton-on-Tees UA	280	8	3	269	236	149	205	255	29
North West		7,402	4,471	235	2,696	6,200	12,233	17,901	22,117	1,608
	Cumbria	873	68	50	755	85	1,248	395	564	157
	Allerdale	135	5	0	130	0	258	54	113	31
	Barrow-in-Furness	154	0	0	154	55	137	171	173	0
	Carlisle	200	62	35	103	0	246	57	82	22
	Copeland	143	0	0	143	30	210	30	60	10
	Eden	71	1	0	70	0	97	46	76	19
	South Lakeland	170	0	15	155	0	300	37	60	75
	Blackburn Darwen UA	64	64	0	0	0	72	550	814	36
	Blackpool UA	256	192	0	64	2,194	256	550	550	30
	Lancashire	1,129	296	34	799	202	1,902	2,349	3,172	377
	Burnley	34	34	0	0	0	90	290	460	38
	Chorley	30	2	1	27	0	58	133	203	35
	Fylde	98	1	0	97	0	186	163	267	25
	Hyndburn	62	7	1	54	97	62	268	233	36
	Lancaster	104	7	10	87	0	309	286	482	54
	Pendle	67	0	1	66	0	133	134	295	31

Region	Licensing Authority (District or Unitary Authority)	Licensed Taxis				Licences		PHV		
		All	of which Purpose built taxi (wheel-chair accessible)	Other body type (MPV or van based)	Saloon car body type	Dual Taxi/ PHV Driver Licences	Taxi only Driver Licences	Vehicle Licences issued	Driver only Licences issued	Operator Licences issued
	Preston	187	186	1	0	0	250	350	350	30
	Ribble Valley	49	1	0	48	10	55	80	112	35
	Rossendale	155	0	1	154	40	150	30	41	17
	South Ribble	137	1	14	122	0	204	111	157	18
	West Lancashire	46	46	0	0	10	40	385	380	19
	Wyre	160	11	5	144	45	365	119	192	39
	Merseyside PTE	2,205	2,129	11	65	600	4,674	4,603	5,045	204
	Knowsley	240	240	0	0	0	1,071	682	754	17
	Liverpool	1,417	1,417	0	0	0	2,800	950	1,000	18
	Sefton	271	198	8	65	0	565	1,681	2,254	39
	St Helens	63	63	0	0	600	0	372	0	72
	Wirral	214	211	3	0	0	238	918	1,037	58
	Greater Manchester PTE	1,814	1,529	41	244	323	3,377	7,917	11,009	422
	Bolton	104	104	0	0	0	150	706	1,001	48
	Bury MBC	94	76	18	0	0	139	509	674	36
	Manchester	854	854	0	0	0	1,688	2,000	2,490	48
	Oldham	85	12	1	72	0	171	915	1,013	30
	Rochdale	103	35	0	68	0	250	900	1,500	37
	Salford	78	70	8	0	0	200	900	1,700	40
	Stockport	114	107	3	4	46	222	638	822	63
	Tameside	143	143	0	0	82	221	350	478	30
	Trafford	103	103	0	0	195	124	406	431	23
	Wigan	136	25	11	100	0	212	593	900	67
	Cheshire	685	148	77	460	1,756	704	1,077	963	253
	Chester	73	67	6	0	0	112	480	522	39
	Congleton	37	4	4	29	250	0	90	0	40
	Crewe & Nantwich	84	23	26	35	315	0	125	0	32
	Ellesmere P. & Neston	40	40	0	0	37	100	180	190	17
	Macclesfield	315	7	20	288	743	492	59	251	31
	Vale Royal	136	7	21	108	411	0	143	0	94
	Halton UA	267	43	8	216	490	0	135	0	20
	Warrington UA	109	2	14	93	550	0	325	0	109
	Yorkshire & the Humber	3,229	869	308	2,052	6,414	3,222	12,208	10,871	1,636
	North Yorkshire	651	44	20	587	957	410	718	446	486
	Craven	127	3	1	123	0	147	16	20	10
	Hambleton	156	0	15	141	213	0	48	0	64
	Harrogate	148	24	0	124	567	0	287	0	287
	Richmondshire	65	1	0	64	30	75	31	40	32
	Ryedale	31	2	0	29	0	43	20	29	19
	Scarborough	97	7	4	86	132	97	252	266	38
	Selby	27	7	0	20	15	48	64	91	36
	York UA	158	2	19	137	0	284	505	544	43
	East Riding UA	170	0	8	162	503	0	197	0	44
	Kingston-upon-Hull UA	170	42	128	0	0	207	917	986	58
	North East Lincs UA	121	7	0	114	0	150	525	525	42
	North Lincs UA	187	3	6	178	389	0	48	0	35
	West Yorkshire PTE	1,005	146	84	775	1,822	1,735	6,986	7,185	591
	Bradford	224	1	11	212	0	300	1,800	2,000	180
	Calderdale	68	6	11	51	102	279	680	955	43
	Kirklees	217	33	15	169	1,700	0	917	0	150
	Leeds	402	100	40	262	0	866	2,649	3,140	135
	Wakefield	94	6	7	81	20	290	940	1,090	83

Region	Licensing Authority (District or Unitary Authority)	Licensed Taxis				Licences		PHV		
		All	of which Purpose built taxi (wheel-chair accessible)	Other body type (MPV or van based)	Saloon car body type	Dual Taxi/ PHV Driver Licences	Taxi only Driver Licences	Vehicle Licences issued	Driver only Licences issued	Operator Licences issued
	South Yorkshire PTE	767	625	43	99	2,743	436	2,312	1,185	337
	Barnsley	65	2	0	63	50	200	450	600	110
	Doncaster	107	88	19	0	0	235	448	585	118
	Rotherham	48	12	0	36	920	0	527	0	71
	Sheffield	547	523	24	0	1,773	1	887	0	38
East Midlands		4,171	1,337	290	2,544	9,540	2,998	6,345	3,594	1,154
	Derby UA	290	275	15	0	0	958	450	600	55
	Derbyshire	819	14	128	677	2,363	0	970	0	257
	Amber Valley	132	1	30	101	221	0	64	0	50
	Bolsover	2	0	0	2	75	0	45	0	17
	Chesterfield	103	4	63	36	459	0	352	0	50
	Derbyshire Dales	79	0	4	75	235	0	55	0	23
	Erewash	241	0	4	237	380	0	23	0	13
	High Peak	130	8	12	110	460	0	95	0	25
	North East Derbys	8	1	1	6	317	0	212	0	50
	South Derbys	124	0	14	110	216	0	124	0	29
	Nottingham UA	415	415	0	0	1,800	0	900	0	18
	Nottinghamshire	823	24	40	759	1,450	427	527	540	134
	Ashfield	128	1	11	116	246	0	64	0	14
	Bassetlaw	29	2	0	27	259	0	70	0	40
	Broxtowe	142	0	8	134	180	0	41	0	9
	Gedling	180	0	0	180	0	427	80	540	24
	Mansfield	181	13	21	147	283	0	31	0	14
	Newark & Sherwood	81	3	0	78	181	0	20	0	14
	Rushcliffe	82	5	0	77	301	0	221	0	19
	Lincolnshire	491	37	20	434	639	779	704	997	249
	Boston	89	0	5	84	0	114	19	136	6
	East Lindsey	96	2	0	94	0	225	188	353	97
	Lincoln	30	27	3	0	0	44	216	488	12
	North Kesteven	60	0	10	50	280	146	146	0	70
	South Holland	74	8	0	66	166	0	76	0	15
	South Kesteven	89	0	1	88	35	250	11	20	16
	West Lindsey	53	0	1	52	158	0	48	0	33
	Leicester UA	318	318	0	0	2,000	0	1,400	0	42
	Rutland UA	24	0	0	24	78	0	26	0	13
	Leicestershire	601	14	37	550	581	204	556	603	168
	Blaby	21	0	0	21	0	22	161	188	41
	Charnwood	145	0	10	135	169	0	165	217	42
	Harborough	51	4	4	43	0	68	24	29	20
	Hinckley & Bosworth	105	4	15	86	158	0	12	0	9
	Melton	65	3	0	62	78	0	23	0	12
	North West Leices.	105	3	7	95	0	114	149	169	26
	Oadby & Wigston	109	0	1	108	176	0	22	0	18
	Northamptonshire	390	240	50	100	629	630	812	854	218
	Corby	114	78	36	0	10	353	46	46	87
	Daventry	42	0	13	29	2	66	19	26	13
	East Northants	38	1	1	36	125	0	37	0	24
	Kettering	40	40	0	0	12	39	56	36	15
	Northampton	97	97	0	0	42	84	366	576	36
	South Northants	7	1	0	6	409	0	190	0	27
	Wellingborough	52	23	0	29	29	88	98	170	16

Region	Licensing Authority (District or Unitary Authority)	Licensed Taxis				Licences		PHV		
		All	of which Purpose built taxi (wheel-chair accessible)	Other body type (MPV or van based)	Saloon car body type	Dual Taxi/ PHV Driver Licences	Taxi only Driver Licences	Vehicle Licences issued	Driver only Licences issued	Operator Licences issued
West Midlands		4,203	2,477	209	1,517	6,450	4,325	11,025	12,704	931
	Stoke-on-Trent UA	87	7	0	80	956	0	664	0	33
	Staffordshire	532	146	68	318	1,761	534	873	287	168
	Cannock Chase	210	25	10	175	0	300	6	5	3
	East Staffordshire	70	17	31	22	288	77	130	144	24
	Lichfield	30	4	0	26	184	0	91	0	23
	Newcastle-u-Lyme	46	9	2	35	500	0	272	0	48
	South Staffs	3	2	1	0	262	0	140	0	31
	Stafford	88	8	20	60	92	157	76	138	8
	Staff. Moorlands	1	1	0	0	65	0	36	0	21
	Tamworth	84	80	4	0	370	0	122	0	10
	Shropshire	191	9	38	144	406	64	256	333	102
	Bridgnorth	36	0	0	36	9	56	17	38	7
	North Shropshire	37	0	1	36	126	0	33	0	35
	Oswestry	75	1	17	57	121	0	14	0	19
	Shrewsbury	33	5	19	9	55	8	149	295	23
	South Shropshire	10	3	1	6	95	0	43	0	18
	Telford & Wrekin UA	34	34	0	0	27	34	321	465	18
	West Midlands PTE	2,134	2,089	45	0	1,515	2,819	7,934	10,567	278
	Birmingham	1,200	1,180	20	0	600	1,500	5,000	6,500	73
	Coventry	520	520	0	0	0	783	268	342	15
	Dudley	143	143	0	0	915	0	714	0	52
	Sandwell	29	16	13	0	0	46	0	916	47
	Solihull	100	100	0	0	0	82	1,089	1,203	38
	Walsall	50	50	0	0	0	178	403	656	37
	Wolverhampton	92	80	12	0	0	230	460	950	16
	Hereford UA	201	16	0	185	0	249	149	123	74
	Worcestershire	582	69	10	503	804	181	317	147	117
	Bromsgrove	43	0	1	42	117	0	49	0	17
	Malvern Hills	31	0	0	31	89	0	30	0	18
	Redditch	227	4	0	223	40	181	65	69	25
	Worcester	112	53	0	59	227	0	78	0	13
	Wychavon	90	2	9	79	129	0	64	78	34
	Wyre Forest	79	10	0	69	202	0	31	0	10
	Warwickshire	442	107	48	287	981	444	511	782	141
	North Warwicks.	71	2	2	67	136	0	52	0	34
	Nuneaton	180	88	35	57	845	0	72	0	23
	Rugby	46	6	0	40	0	98	104	192	11
	Stratford-on-Avon	64	2	0	62	0	200	134	283	48
	Warwick	81	9	11	61	0	146	149	307	25
East		5,584	877	574	4,133	6,347	4,792	7,688	8,283	1,704
	Norfolk	742	219	32	491	1,641	96	949	468	221
	Breckland	128	1	4	123	215	0	40	0	26
	Broadland	0	0	0	0	343	0	190	0	17
	Great Yarmouth	154	9	9	136	336	0	57	0	20
	Kings Lynn	62	0	10	52	0	96	190	205	59
	North Norfolk	110	0	9	101	235	0	87	0	58
	Norwich	209	209	0	0	343	0	328	263	11
	South Norfolk	79	0	0	79	169	0	57	0	30
	Peterborough UA	191	191	0	0	417	60	329	323	41

Region	Licensing Authority (District or Unitary Authority)	Licensed Taxis				Licences		PHV		
		All	of which Purpose built taxi (wheel-chair accessible)	Other body type (MPV or van based)	Saloon car body type	Dual Taxi/ PHV Driver Licences	Taxi only Driver Licences	Vehicle Licences issued	Driver only Licences issued	Operator Licences issued
Cambridgeshire		492	22	123	347	452	641	960	1,057	230
Cambridge		257	20	117	120	0	482	209	354	37
East Cambridge		74	1	3	70	89	18	58	33	24
Fenland		115	1	0	114	5	137	110	117	40
Huntingdonshire		43	0	3	40	358	0	220	0	27
South Cambridge		3	0	0	3	0	4	363	553	102
Suffolk		545	25	17	503	983	240	629	394	130
Babergh		20	0	0	20	155	0	75	0	32
Forest Heath		129	1	8	120	189	2	30	15	15
Ipswich		121	16	0	105	0	148	224	261	6
Mid Suffolk		72	2	2	68	87	0	8	0	7
St Edmundsbury		37	3	0	34	289	0	167	0	24
Suffolk Coastal		39	0	1	38	48	90	86	118	29
Waveney		127	3	6	118	215	0	39	0	17
Luton UA		81	80	0	1	0	320	760	1,500	26
Bedfordshire		217	22	29	166	250	146	480	523	94
Bedford		56	21	16	19	0	60	350	416	30
Mid Bedfordshire		48	0	1	47	0	86	65	107	42
South Bedfordshire		113	1	12	100	250	0	65	0	22
Hertfordshire		1,522	148	271	1,103	306	1,930	1,646	2,022	358
Hertsmere		19	19	0	0	0	29	315	330	53
Broxbourne		176	12	5	159	37	195	129	131	56
Dacorum		233	3	19	211	23	207	173	174	41
East Hertfordshire		238	10	5	223	246	77	55	52	31
North Herts.		220	16	204	0	0	533	107	354	44
St Albans		222	33	37	152	0	281	103	79	29
Stevenage		100	9	1	90	0	192	160	222	8
Three Rivers		10	10	0	0	0	35	350	395	60
Watford		73	31	0	42	0	131	199	235	12
Welwyn Hatfield		231	5	0	226	0	250	55	50	24
Southend-on-Sea UA		227	43	12	172	445	0	200	0	26
Thurrock UA		109	1	9	99	59	124	132	189	42
Essex		1,458	126	81	1,251	1,794	1,235	1,603	1,807	536
Basildon		106	11	18	77	246	128	0	395	77
Braintree		84	1	13	70	120	77	199	277	56
Brentwood		184	6	0	178	386	0	84	0	87
Castle Point		120	0	8	112	48	119	110	159	46
Chelmsford		102	26	2	74	178	0	178	0	52
Colchester		113	5	8	100	760	0	347	0	63
Epping Forest		90	0	5	85	0	125	120	157	20
Harlow		72	72	0	0	0	94	168	195	14
Maldon		55	0	3	52	4	86	20	24	12
Rochford		192	5	18	169	10	244	19	24	13
Tendring		313	0	6	307	2	341	33	54	27
Uttlesford		27	0	0	27	40	21	325	522	69
South East		8,750	1,095	544	7,111	7,733	9,077	13,875	14,168	2,754
Oxfordshire		615	113	28	474	1,312	200	615	396	118
Cherwell		83	4	17	62	390	0	170	0	35
Oxford		106	99	7	0	294	0	308	368	9
South Oxfordshire		218	0	2	216	403	0	64	0	35
Vale of White Horse		118	5	2	111	225	0	45	0	23
West Oxfordshire		90	5	0	85	0	200	28	28	16

Region	Licensing Authority (District or Unitary Authority)	Licensed Taxis				Licences		PHV		
		All	of which Purpose built taxi (wheel-chair accessible)	Other body type (MPV or van based)	Saloon car body type	Dual Taxi/ PHV Driver Licences	Taxi only Driver Licences	Vehicle Licences issued	Driver only Licences issued	Operator Licences issued
Milton Keynes UA		120	59	0	61	0	503	594	797	60
Buckinghamshire		442	18	12	412	592	598	888	1,009	233
Aylesbury Vale		50	1	10	39	285	0	400	400	61
Chiltern		130	2	2	126	0	188	56	100	37
South Bucks		212	6	0	206	0	390	112	104	63
Wycombe		50	9	0	41	307	20	320	405	72
West Berkshire UA		216	2	42	172	0	360	119	80	62
Bracknell Forest UA		87	5	26	56	251	0	147	89	29
Reading UA		155	145	10	0	60	191	489	489	30
Slough UA		66	1	2	63	35	66	760	1,174	76
Windsor & Md. UA		87	25	0	62	60	140	520	446	61
Wokingham UA		160	0	10	150	0	200	80	80	25
Portsmouth UA		234	79	10	145	0	472	800	1,500	18
Southampton UA		263	40	24	199	100	350	420	450	79
Hampshire		1,039	173	130	736	1,658	782	1,802	1,417	444
Basingstoke		55	38	17	0	101	0	251	310	61
East Hampshire		102	5	5	92	289	0	120	0	40
Eastleigh		105	0	0	105	0	120	272	368	41
Fareham		223	8	4	211	70	250	31	46	14
Gosport		38	4	8	26	29	73	101	143	13
Hart		116	1	3	112	77	84	67	85	35
Havant		40	3	2	35	589	0	426	0	50
New Forest		88	4	2	82	350	0	172	0	65
Rushmoor		130	102	28	0	10	187	40	60	14
Test Valley		33	0	8	25	0	68	154	273	60
Winchester		109	8	53	48	143	0	168	132	51
Surrey		1,002	49	21	932	997	558	2,118	2,219	499
Epsom & Ewell		37	37	0	0	25	40	137	202	27
Spelthorne		33	1	1	31	0	33	200	200	30
Elmbridge		90	0	0	90	0	99	320	357	66
Guildford		93	0	5	88	208	0	268	289	57
Mole Valley		109	4	0	105	234	0	78	11	37
Reigate & Banstead		75	1	11	63	124	0	387	432	71
Runnymede		100	0	1	99	39	70	140	130	23
Surrey Heath		133	4	2	127	152	0	80	100	52
Tandridge		116	1	1	114	0	116	48	48	36
Waverley		165	0	0	165	215	0	85	0	57
Woking		51	1	0	50	0	200	375	450	43
Medway Towns UA		505	5	3	497	0	491	128	187	53
Kent		1,566	237	114	1,215	1,124	1,866	1,719	1,888	503
Ashford		76	3	3	70	87	78	60	202	31
Canterbury		221	35	19	167	0	309	131	212	43
Dartford		142	111	31	0	103	110	134	121	18
Dover		52	4	8	40	285	0	270	0	40
Gravesham		141	3	3	135	0	168	52	63	23
Maidstone		39	39	0	0	100	100	320	250	80
Sevenoaks		177	1	3	173	0	264	83	84	50
Shepway		200	10	3	187	0	269	25	46	25
Swale		183	4	38	141	0	362	26	362	25
Thanet		108	17	0	91	0	130	360	410	40
Tonbridge & Malling		131	4	1	126	262	76	153	138	78
Tunbridge Wells		96	6	5	85	287	0	105	0	50

Region	Licensing Authority (District or Unitary Authority)	Licensed Taxis				Licences		PHV		
		All	of which Purpose built taxi (wheel-chair accessible)	Other body type (MPV or van based)	Saloon car body type	Dual Taxi/ PHV Driver Licences	Taxi only Driver Licences	Vehicle Licences issued	Driver only Licences issued	Operator Licences issued
West Sussex		854	55	51	748	587	572	1,432	1,017	200
Adur		67	0	8	59	32	68	66	74	8
Arun		400	0	0	400	470	0	34	34	21
Chichester		38	37	0	1	0	76	151	222	43
Crawley		79	14	12	53	0	120	660	100	16
Horsham		56	0	1	55	35	42	94	122	39
Mid Sussex		154	3	29	122	46	204	195	221	30
Worthing		60	1	1	58	4	62	232	244	43
Brighton & Hove UA		479	70	9	400	0	1,121	470	479	20
East Sussex		699	13	16	670	957	607	722	451	212
Eastbourne		100	3	0	97	43	125	235	315	16
Hastings		48	8	3	37	422	0	145	0	38
Lewes		220	1	0	219	0	331	51	61	38
Rother		146	1	5	140	9	151	78	75	40
Wealden		185	0	8	177	483	0	213	0	80
Isle of Wight UA		161	6	36	119	0	0	52	0	32
South West		5,602	712	602	4,288	5,445	4,926	5,424	5,908	1,357
Gloucestershire		479	24	38	417	530	401	489	412	127
Cheltenham		193	12	2	179	268	268	220	136	11
Cotswold		63	2	0	61	117	0	40	0	29
Forest of Dean		12	0	7	5	0	36	42	86	12
Gloucester		110	7	29	74	0	80	105	130	24
Stroud		94	3	0	91	145	0	30	0	30
Tewkesbury		7	0	0	7	0	17	52	60	21
Bath & NE Somerset UA		131	7	6	118	516	0	260	0	80
Bristol UA		600	92	258	250	0	1,030	662	1,353	58
South Glos. UA		294	2	8	284	54	315	70	16	26
North Somerset UA		150	2	6	142	0	150	310	310	47
Swindon UA		138	96	0	42	0	197	548	603	14
Wiltshire		591	48	91	452	756	273	199	165	84
Kennet		55	0	5	50	0	110	45	71	22
North Wiltshire		155	6	9	140	270	0	22	0	17
Salisbury		157	42	52	63	111	163	101	94	36
West Wiltshire		224	0	25	199	375	0	31	0	9
Cornwall		563	22	20	521	813	507	361	182	163
Caradon		155	4	1	150	192	0	19	0	17
Carrick		77	6	0	71	308	0	92	0	45
Kerrier		84	7	1	76	50	100	10	5	7
North Cornwall		135	0	10	125	22	192	13	18	11
Penwith		39	1	7	31	180	10	87	26	31
Restormel		73	4	1	68	61	205	140	133	52
Plymouth UA		359	329	30	0	3	490	850	850	10
Torbay UA		162	8	6	148	0	312	210	239	183
Devon		741	22	20	699	935	400	522	510	204
East Devon		182	1	3	178	261	0	48	28	20
Exeter		58	17	7	34	149	0	202	168	29
Mid Devon		47	0	1	46	1	117	71	117	27
North Devon		150	0	5	145	254	0	13	5	36
South Hams		111	0	0	111	0	134	22	30	13
Teignbridge		82	2	1	79	153	57	106	70	44
Torridge		46	1	3	42	117	0	40	0	21
West Devon		65	1	0	64	0	92	20	92	14

Region	Licensing Authority (District or Unitary Authority)	Licensed Taxis				Licences		PHV		
		All	of which Purpose built taxi (wheel-chair accessible)	Other body type (MPV or van based)	Saloon car body type	Dual Taxi/ PHV Driver Licences	Taxi only Driver Licences	Vehicle Licences issued	Driver only Licences issued	Operator Licences issued
	Somerset	533	28	71	434	523	405	127	243	93
	Mendip	120	0	0	120	0	172	38	172	30
	Sedgemoor	90	2	30	58	0	182	17	41	11
	Taunton Deane	120	22	35	63	202	0	35	0	19
	South Somerset	171	1	6	164	321	0	12	0	14
	West Somerset	32	3	0	29	0	51	25	30	19
	Bournemouth UA	249	20	17	212	679	0	327	533	58
	Poole UA	72	1	5	66	297	0	130	68	27
	Dorset	540	11	26	503	339	446	359	424	183
	Christchurch	84	1	8	75	180	0	15	10	12
	East Dorset	54	2	0	52	0	65	64	111	23
	North Dorset	105	4	0	101	0	105	47	47	28
	Purbeck	89	1	2	86	124	0	16	0	25
	West Dorset	128	0	13	115	0	179	42	55	78
	Weymouth	80	3	3	74	35	97	175	201	17
Wales		3,857	224	249	3,384	7,540	2,238	4,146	1,664	783
	Blaenau Gwent	148	3	8	137	8	297	16	17	7
	Bridgend	375	4	10	361	680	0	12	0	44
	Caerphilly	170	1	0	169	560	0	171	0	56
	Cardiff	481	36	47	398	1,706	0	999	0	7
	Carmarthenshire	300	3	2	295	500	0	20	0	5
	Ceredigion	142	0	3	139	0	198	7	9	0
	Conwy	152	5	19	128	0	170	148	230	85
	Denbighshire	109	12	20	77	410	0	117	0	23
	Flintshire	7	2	5	0	386	0	346	0	46
	Gwynedd	147	0	7	140	370	0	124	0	59
	Merthyr Tydfil	49	0	3	46	164	34	230	96	38
	Monmouthshire	78	0	0	78	223	0	112	0	24
	Neath Port Talbot	251	31	56	164	0	408	24	64	11
	Newport	200	10	12	178	120	146	280	284	19
	Pembrokeshire	198	5	6	187	350	0	33	0	76
	Powys	320	1	15	304	502	0	249	0	75
	Rhondda Cynon Taff	251	27	0	224	563	0	120	0	78
	Swansea	226	70	30	126	0	980	274	497	16
	Torfaen	49	1	5	43	340	0	143	0	14
	Vale of Glamorgan	119	1	0	118	475	0	187	0	27
	Wrexham	11	11	0	0	13	5	489	467	46
	Ynys Mon	74	1	1	72	170	0	45	0	27

Sources: DfT survey of licensing authorities and Transport for London (TfL).

TfL is the licensing authority in London. PHV driver licensing by TfL began in April 2003, with vehicle licensing in April 2004.

Taxi quantity control

The following authorities lifted restrictions on their numbers of licensed taxis, before the current survey year ending 31 March 2005 (dates where known), so they do not appear in Table 4.4 which follows:-

Ashford (January 2005), Chelmsford, Conwy, Denbighshire, East Lindsey (September 2004), Great Yarmouth (December 2004), Hart, Kettering, Merthyr Tydfil (December 2004), Slough, South Bedfordshire (March 2005), West Somerset, Wrexham (February 2005).

Table 4.4

Licensing authorities in England & Wales which restricted numbers of taxis at 31 March 2005

Region	Licensing Authority (District or Unitary Authority)	Licensed Taxis (number)	Max. no. of taxis allowed by the authority	Year in which control of taxi numbers began	Comment on limit applied to taxi licences
England outside London		43,207			
North East		4,266			
Northumberland		353			
	Blyth Valley	41	41	1993	
	Wansbeck	30	30	1976	
County Durham		777			
	Chester-le-Street	92	92	1998	
	Durham	55	64	n/k	Limit on taxi numbers is currently under review. It had been 55.
	Easington	93	93	1987	
Tyne & Wear		1,880			
	Newcastle on Tyne	819	780	2000	Limit was reduced to 780. It had been 819.
	South Tyneside	224	224	1986	
	Sunderland	306	308	1999	
	Middlesborough UA	295	190	2001	Limit applies only to saloon car body type licensed as taxis.
North West		7,402			
Cumbria		873			
	Barrow-in-Furness	154	154	1988	
	Copeland	143	143	1995	
	Blackburn Darwen UA	64	64	n/k	
	Blackpool UA	256	256	1999	
Lancashire		1,129			
	Burnley	34	34	1999	
	Chorley	30	30	1978	
	Fylde	98	98	n/k	Limit was introduced before 2000.
	Hyndburn	62	62	1998	
	Lancaster	104	104	n/k	
	Pendle	67	70	1986	
	Preston	187	187	1987	Unmet demand survey is to be carried out.
	Ribble Valley	49	50	1996	Limit allows one additional hackney licence issue each year.
	South Ribble	137	189	2000	Deregulated in April 2005, just after the survey. It had been 189.
	Wyre	160	160	1974	Limit to be reviewed in 2005
Merseyside		2,205			
	Knowsley	240	240	1985	Limit is under review.
	Liverpool	1,417	1,417	1985	
	Sefton	271	271	1974	Limit was revised in 2000.
	St Helens	63	63	1991	
Greater Manchester		1,814			
	Bolton	104	104	n/k	
	Manchester	854	854	1987	
	Oldham	85	85	1991	
	Rochdale	103	103	n/k	
	Salford	78	78	1977	
	Stockport	114	114	1978	Limit is under review.
	Tameside	143	143	1985	
	Trafford	103	103	1976	
	Wigan	136	136	1985	
Cheshire		685			
	Chester	73	75	1980	Limit increased by 4 following an unmet demand survey.
	Congleton	37	50	1998	
	Ellesmere P. & Neston	40	40	n/k	
	Halton UA	267	267	1970	
	Warrington UA	109	124	2001	

Region	Licensing Authority (District or Unitary Authority)	Licensed Taxis (number)	Max. no. of taxis allowed by the authority	Year in which control of taxi numbers began	Comment on limit applied to taxi licences
Yorkshire & the Humber		3,229			
	North Yorkshire	651			
	Harrogate	148	149	n/k	
	Richmondshire	65	65	1997	
	Scarborough	97	97	1985	Limit is under review.
	York UA	158	158	n/k	Limit is under review.
	East Riding UA	170	170	1996	Zoned restrictions, maximum 59 taxis per zone.
	Kingston-upon-Hull	170	170	n/k	
	North East Lincs UA	121	121	1996	
	West Yorkshire	1,005			
	Bradford	224	224	1978	
	Calderdale	68	68	n/k	Restriction in Halifax zone but unrestricted elsewhere.
	Kirklees	217	217	1974	
	Leeds	402	537	n/k	
	Wakefield	94	94	1986	
	South Yorkshire	767			
	Barnsley	65	65	1976	
	Rotherham	48	48	1995	
East Midlands		4,171			
	Derbyshire	819			
	High Peak	130	130	1994	
	Nottingham UA	415	415	n/k	
	Lincolnshire	491			
	Lincoln	30	30	1991	
	Leicester UA	318	318	2001	
	Northamptonshire	390			
	Corby	114	114	1995	
West Midlands		4,203			
	Stoke-on-Trent UA	87	87	1989	
	Staffordshire	532			
	Newcastle-u-Lyme	46	46	1994	
	West Midlands	2,134			
	Sandwell	29	40	1970	
	Solihull	100	62	n/k	Deregulation began in August 2005, after this survey.
	Walsall	50	60	n/k	Deregulation began in April 2005, after this survey.
	Wolverhampton	92	92	1995	
	Worcestershire	582			
	Wyre Forest	79	83	1986	
	Warwickshire	442			
	Rugby	46	46	n/k	
East of England		5,584			
	Norfolk	742			
	Kings Lynn	62	62	1974	
	Cambridgeshire	492			
	Huntingdonshire	43	44	n/k	Limit increased by 4 following an unmet demand survey.
	Suffolk	545			
	Babergh	20	20	1974	
	Ipswich	121	121	1985	
	St Edmundsbury	37	37	1987	
	Luton UA	81	101	n/k	
	Bedfordshire	217			
	Bedford	56	56	n/k	

Region	Licensing Authority (District or Unitary Authority)	Licensed Taxis (number)	Max. no. of taxis allowed by the authority	Year in which control of taxi numbers began	Comment on limit applied to taxi licences
Hertfordshire					
	Stevenage	100	100	n/k	
	Watford	73	73	1985	Limit is under review.
	Welwyn Hatfield	231	231	2003	Reintroduced a limit in 2003. Limit is now under review.
	Southend-on-Sea UA	227	232	1976	Restricts taxi numbers but issues 5 new licences each year.
	Thurrock UA	109	97	1989	
Essex					
	Basildon	106	106	1977	Deregulation began in April 2005, after this survey.
	Braintree	84	84	2002	
	Colchester	113	113	1989	
South East					
Oxfordshire					
	Cherwell	83	83	2000	
	Oxford	106	106	1997	
Buckinghamshire					
	Aylesbury Vale	50	50	1989	
	Reading UA	155	168	1988	
	Windsor & Md. UA	87	87	1974	
	Portsmouth UA	234	234	1997	
	Southampton UA	263	263	1987	
Hampshire					
	Basingstoke & Deane	55	55	1990	Deregulation began in summer 2005, after this survey.
	Eastleigh	105	-	n/k	
	Gosport	38	36	1980	
	Havant	40	40	n/k	
	New Forest	88	88	1990	
	Test Valley	33	34	n/k	
Surrey					
	Mole Valley	109	111	1980	
	Reigate & Banstead	75	75	1987	
Kent					
	Dover	52	52	1976	
	Maidstone	39	39	1994	
	Sevenoaks	177	192	1997	
	Thanet	108	108	1974	
	Tunbridge Wells	96	100	1976	
West Sussex					
	Mid Sussex	154	154	2003	
	Worthing	60	67	1986	
	Brighton & Hove UA	479	479	1986	
East Sussex					
	Eastbourne	100	84	1970	Authority proposes to carry out an unmet demand survey.
	Hastings	48	48	n/k	
South West					
	Bath NE Somerset UA	131	108	n/k	Limit applies to Bath city centre zone, unrestricted elsewhere.
	Swindon UA	138	138	1989	
Cornwall					
	Carrick	77	77	1974	
	Penwith	39	39	n/k	
	Restormel	73	74	n/k	
	Plymouth UA	359	359	1995	
	Torbay UA	162	162	1968	

Region	Licensing Authority (District or Unitary Authority)	Licensed Taxis (number)	Max. no. of taxis allowed by the authority	Year in which control of taxi numbers began	Comment on limit applied to taxi licences
Devon		741			
	Exeter	58	58	1988	
	Teignbridge	82	82	1992	
	Torrige	46	44	2001	Limit is under review.
Somerset		533			
	South Somerset	171	40	1982	Limit applies to Yeovil zone, unrestricted elsewhere.
	Bournemouth UA	249	249	1998	
	Poole UA	72	72	1985	
Dorset		540			
	Weymouth	80	80	n/k	
Wales		3,857			
	Cardiff	481	481	1998	
	Gwynedd	147	147	1990	
	Torfaen	49	49	1977	

Notes

Reviews of restrictions have been carried out, or are under way, by several authorities since the previous survey in 2003/04. Reviews led to some authorities lifting restrictions or relaxing them. The limits shown are those that applied at 31 March 2005. Some licensing areas have zones where taxi number restrictions apply. These are: Bath city centre, Halifax town centre in Calderdale, East Riding UA, and Yeovil in South Somerset.

Where an authority did not report a date when it began restricting taxi licences this is shown as "n/k".

Areas in bold type show country, region and county totals for reference. See Table 4.3 for details.

Source: DfT survey of licensing authorities