

9 Vehicles:

Notes and Definitions

This section provides a range of data relating to vehicle registration and licensing, vehicle testing, driving license holding and car usage.

The following notes and definitions are relevant when considering the data presented within the section.

Vehicle registration and licensing: 9.1-9.8

Current taxation class groupings

The current taxation class groupings presented within this section are as follows:

Private and light goods (PLG):

This is by far the most common tax class, currently covering almost 89 per cent of licensed vehicles. This tax class primarily consists of cars and light vans but can include other vehicles used only for private purposes. Tax bands within PLG depend on engine size for vehicles first registered before March 2001, while for cars registered after March 2001, tax bands are based upon levels of CO₂ emissions, with lower rates for cleaner vehicles.

Motorcycles, scooters and mopeds:

This is a self-explanatory tax class, but excludes tricycles which have their own tax band. The rates of tax payable depend upon engine size.

Goods vehicles:

Vehicles that have a gross weight of over three and a half tonnes and are used for carrying goods are taxed in this class. Generally, the rate of tax payable depends on the maximum gross weight and the axle configuration of the vehicle. Since 1999 reduced rates have been available for vehicles that create less pollution.

Public transport vehicles:

This category covers buses and coaches with more than 8 seats (excluding the driver) used for commercial purposes. Vehicles not used for commercial purposes would be licensed in the PLG tax class. The rate of tax payable is dependent upon the number of seats in the vehicle. As for goods vehicles, since 1999 reduced rates have been available for vehicles that create less pollution.

Crown and exempt vehicles:

This group includes vehicles which are exempt from vehicle excise duty. This can be for a variety of reasons, including vehicles driven by disabled drivers, emergency and crown vehicles and vehicles manufactured before 1973.

Special vehicles group:

This group includes works trucks, road rollers, mobile cranes, digging machines and showman's vehicles.

Other vehicles:

This group includes three wheeled cars and vans, recovery vehicles, general haulage vehicles and tricycles.

Changes in the taxation system over time

There have been several changes to the vehicle taxation system in recent years which are particularly important when interpreting the time series presented in tables 9.1 and 9.2. These are as follows:

From 1 October 1982:

All general goods vehicles weighing less than 1,525 kgs in unladen weight were transferred from the 'goods' taxation group to the 'private and light goods' group. This has resulted in a discontinuity in the data presented for both taxation groups between 1981 and 1982.

From 1 October 1990:

All general goods vehicles weighing less than 3,500 kgs in gross vehicle weight were transferred from the 'goods' taxation group to the 'private and light goods' group. This has resulted in a discontinuity in the data presented for both taxation groups between 1989 and 1990.

From 1 July 1995:

Major changes were made to the taxation system with the intention of simplifying the taxation structure. These changes included:

- farmers and showmen's vehicles were transferred from the 'goods' taxation group into the 'other vehicles' group.
- cars and motorcycles over 25 years of age were transferred from the 'private and light goods' and 'motorcycles' taxation group to the 'crown and exempt' taxation group.
- public service vehicles with fewer than 8 seats were transferred from the 'public

transport vehicles' taxation group into the 'private and light goods' taxation group. Due to these numerous changes, there is a discontinuity between the figures presented in tables 9.1 and 9.2 for all taxation groups between 1994 and 1995.

Methods of measurement

Licensed vehicles:

Since 1978, data relating to the number of licensed vehicles has been calculated through an analysis of the records held centrally by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) as at 31 December each year.

Prior to this, statistics on licensed vehicles were calculated through a sample of vehicle records held by local taxation offices and included vehicles licensed for at least one month during the third quarter of the year.

Newly registered vehicles:

Statistics relating to new vehicle registrations are calculated through a complete analysis of new registrations and include all vehicles newly registered in the calendar year.

Vehicle testing: 9.9-9.13

The statistics presented within these tables have been provided by the Vehicle and Operator Services Agency (VOSA), contact: (☎0117 9543471).

Trailer tests:

Although there is no registration system for trailers which carry goods, there is still a requirement to have them tested each year under the DfT's plating and testing scheme.

MOT tests:

Since 2006/07, these statistics have been based on an analysis of all MOT tests carried out in the financial year. In 2005/06, the statistics were based on approximately 50 per cent of all tests carried out while, prior to this, the statistics were based on a 2 per cent sample of vehicle tests.

Passenger service vehicle tests:

EEC Directive 77/143 stipulated that all class VI (Public Service Vehicles) in use for more than one year must by 1 January 1983 have undergone a road-worthiness examination and be subject to an annual inspection thereafter. To meet this deadline, statutory testing of class VI vehicles commenced on 1 January 1982.

Heavy goods vehicle tests:

Vehicles subject to plating and testing have to undergo a test when they are 1 year old and are

tested annually thereafter; the term 'first test' refers to the first test of a vehicle in a particular year. The figures quoted cover the 52 week period ending on the Friday which precedes the first Monday in April.

Households with regular use of cars: 9.14

Data from 1961 onwards are derived from household surveys. Figures for earlier years are estimates. Also, see notes to Table 9.15.

Private motoring: 9.15 and 9.16

The mid-year estimates of the percentage of households with regular use of a car or van in Tables 9.15 (a) and (b) are based on combined data from the National Travel Survey (NTS), the Expenditure and Food Survey (previously the Family Expenditure Survey) and the General Household Survey (GHS), where available. The method for calculating these figures was changed slightly for 2006, to incorporate weighted data from the NTS and the GHS; previously these figures were based on unweighted data. Figures for 2005 have also been revised to incorporate weighted data.

Table 9.15 (c) by area type is based on data from the NTS only. Comparisons with Census data are also shown in Table 9.15 (a).

The percentage of driving licence holders in Table 9.16 is based on data from the NTS, and the estimated number of licence holders is based on the mid-year resident population estimates from ONS.

Annual mileage of 4-wheeled cars: 9.17

These figures are based upon annual estimates for each purpose (commuting, business and other private) per vehicle as reported by participants in the National Travel Survey (NTS). The data are for 4-wheeled cars only. Company cars provided by an employer for the use of a particular employee (or director) are included, but cars borrowed temporarily from a company pool are not.

Private motoring: 9.18

The statistics presented within these tables are provided by the Driving Standards Agency, contact: (☎02920 581218).

9.1 Motor vehicles licensed at end of year: 1950-2007

Year	Thousands									
	Private and light goods			Motor cycles etc	Public transport vehicles	Special machines/ Special concessionary ¹	Other vehicles	Special Vehicles group	Crown and exempt vehicles ¹	All vehicles
Private cars	Other vehicles	Goods vehicles								
1950	1,979	439	439	643	123	262	24	.	61	3,970
1951	2,095	457	451	725	123	250	26	.	63	4,190
1952	2,221	477	450	812	119	270	29	.	86	4,464
1953	2,446	516	446	889	105	289	30	.	88	4,809
1954	2,733	566	450	977	97	307	32	.	88	5,250
1955	3,109	633	462	1,076	92	326	35	.	89	5,822
1956	3,437	685	471	1,137	89	336	37	.	95	6,287
1957	3,707	723	473	1,261	87	355	41	.	96	6,743
1958	4,047	772	461	1,300	86	367	46	.	96	7,175
1959	4,416	824	473	1,479	83	383	55	.	96	7,809
1960	4,900	894	493	1,583	84	392	65	.	101	8,512
1961	5,296	944	508	1,577	82	400	76	.	106	8,989
1962	5,776	1,002	512	1,567	84	401	83	.	107	9,532
1963	6,462	1,092	535	1,546	86	412	88	.	115	10,336
1964	7,190	1,184	551	1,534	86	421	90	.	120	11,176
1965	7,732	1,240	584	1,420	86	417	91	.	127	11,697
1966	8,210	1,283	577	1,239	85	399	87	.	142	12,022
1967	8,882	1,358	593	1,190	85	416	89	.	147	12,760
1968	9,285	1,388	580	1,082	89	409	92	.	157	13,082
1969	9,672	1,408	547	993	92	398	90	.	162	13,362
1970	9,971	1,421	545	923	93	385	89	.	121	13,548
1971	10,443	1,452	542	899	96	380	92	.	126	14,030
1972	11,006	1,498	525	866	95	371	95	.	128	14,584
1973	11,738	1,559	540	887	96	373	97	.	137	15,427
1974	11,917	1,547	539	918	96	380	96	.	149	15,642
1975	12,526	1,592	553	1,077	105	384	108	.	166	16,511
1976	13,184	1,626	563	1,175	110	387	117	.	156	17,318
1977	13,220	1,591	559	1,190	110	393	115	.	167	17,345
1978	13,626	1,597	549	1,194	110	394	111	.	177	17,758
1979	14,162	1,623	561	1,292	111	402	106	.	359	18,616
1980	14,660	1,641	507	1,372	110	397	100	.	412	19,199
1981	14,867	1,623	489	1,371	110	365	95	.	427	19,347
1982 ²	15,264	1,624	477	1,370	111	371	91	.	454	19,762
1983	15,543	1,692	488	1,290	113	376	86	.	621	20,209
1984	16,055	1,752	490	1,225	116	375	82	.	670	20,765
1985	16,454	1,805	485	1,148	120	374	78	.	695	21,159
1986	16,981	1,880	484	1,065	125	371	73	.	720	21,699
1987	17,421	1,952	485	978	129	374	68	.	744	22,152
1988	18,432	2,096	502	912	132	383	83	.	761	23,302
1989	19,248	2,199	505	875	122	384	77	.	785	24,196
1990 ²	19,742	2,247	482	833	115	375	71	.	807	24,673
1991	19,737	2,215	449	750	109	346	65	.	840	24,511
1992	19,870	2,198	432	684	107	324	59	.	903	24,577
1993	20,102	2,187	428	650	107	318	55	.	979	24,826
1994	20,479	2,192	434	630	107	309	50	.	1,030	25,231
1995 ²	20,505	2,217	421	594	74	274	44	28	1,169	25,369
1996	21,172	2,267	413	609	77	254	40	48	1,424	26,302
1997	21,681	2,317	414	626	79	249	38	48	1,522	26,974
1998	22,115	2,362	412	684	80	243	37	47	1,558	27,538
1999	22,785	2,427	415	760	84	241	36	47	1,573	28,368
2000	23,196	2,469	418	825	86	233	34	46	1,590	28,898
2001	23,899	2,544	422	882	89	233	33	45	1,602	29,747
2002	24,543	2,622	425	941	92	.	32	46	1,855	30,557
2003	24,985	2,730	426	1,005	96	.	32	47	1,887	31,207
2004	25,754	2,900	434	1,060	100	.	32	50	1,929	32,259
2005	26,208	3,019	433	1,075	103	.	31	51	1,978	32,897
2006	26,508	3,137	446	1,094	107	.	31	54	1,991	33,369
2007	26,878	3,261	446	1,133	109	.	30	56	2,043	33,957

¹ The "Special concession" vehicles form part of the "Crown and exempt" taxation class from 2002.

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² Changes to the taxation system have meant that there are some discontinuities in the series.

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9.2 Motor vehicles registered for the first time: 1951-2007

								Thousands
Year	Private and light goods	Goods vehicles	Motor cycles etc	Public transport vehicles	Special machines and special concessionary ¹	Exempt and Other vehicles ¹	All vehicles	
1951	136	85	133	8	34	18	414	
1952	188	82	133	5	35	16	459	
1953	295	97	139	5	34	14	584	
1954	386	110	165	6	35	17	718	
1955	501	154	185	6	39	22	907	
1956	400	148	143	5	32	23	751	
1957	425	141	206	5	40	20	837	
1958	555	173	183	5	47	19	982	
1959	646	192	332	5	49	30	1,253	
1960	805	226	257	6	43	33	1,369	
1961	743	220	212	6	46	31	1,259	
1962	785	192	140	6	43	27	1,192	
1963	1,009	206	166	6	48	31	1,466	
1964	1,191	229	205	7	46	34	1,711	
1965	1,123	229	151	7	45	46	1,601	
1966	1,065	227	109	7	48	36	1,494	
1967	1,117	222	138	7	54	39	1,575	
1968	1,117	232	112	7	57	37	1,562	
1969	987	240	85	7	49	33	1,402	
1969 ²	1,133	94	85	7	49	33	1,402	
1970	1,248	85	105	8	49	30	1,525	
1971	1,462	74	128	10	38	30	1,742	
1972	1,855	75	153	10	48	44	2,184	
1973	1,851	83	194	10	50	43	2,230	
1974	1,400	68	190	8	46	40	1,750	
1975	1,317	67	265	8	49	45	1,750	
1976	1,402	64	271	9	52	41	1,838	
1977	1,445	69	251	9	48	40	1,862	
1978	1,746	80	225	9	50	41	2,151	
1979	1,892	91	286	9	48	44	2,370	
1980	1,679	75	313	9	37	44	2,156	
1980 ²	1,699	55	313	9	37	44	2,156	
1981	1,644	40	272	8	33	35	2,030	
1982 ²	1,746	41	232	7	39	40	2,104	
1983	1,989	47	175	7	42	48	2,308	
1984	1,933	50	145	7	40	64	2,239	
1985	2,030	52	126	7	40	55	2,309	
1986	2,071	51	106	9	35	62	2,334	
1987	2,213	54	91	9	38	70	2,474	
1988	2,437	63	90	9	45	79	2,724	
1989	2,535	65	97	8	43	81	2,829	
1990	2,180	44	94	7	34	78	2,439	
1991	1,709	29	77	5	26	77	1,922	
1992	1,694	29	66	5	24	84	1,902	
1993	1,853	33	58	5	30	94	2,074	
1994	1,992	41	65	7	35	110	2,249	
1995 ²	2,024	48	69	5	33	127	2,307	
1996	2,093	46	90	7	26	150	2,410	
1997	2,244	42	122	7	22	162	2,598	
1998	2,368	49	144	7	15	157	2,740	
1999	2,342	48	168	8	25	174	2,766	
2000	2,430	50	183	8	24	176	2,871	
2001	2,710	49	177	7	27	169	3,138	
2002	2,816	45	162	8	-	199	3,229	
2003	2,821	48	157	8	-	197	3,232	
2004	2,785	48	134	8	-	211	3,185	
2005	2,604	51	132	9	-	226	3,021	
2006	2,499	48	132	8	-	227	2,914	
2007	2,539	41	143	9	-	265	2,997	

¹ The "Special concession" vehicles form part of the "Crown and exempt" taxation class from 2002.

² Changes to the taxation system have meant that there are some discontinuities in the series.

9.3 Motor vehicles licensed at end of year: by tax class, body type and engine size: 1997-2007

(a) Private and light goods tax class											Thousands	
Year	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	
Body type cars classified by engine size												
Over	Not over											
	700cc	37	29	18	19	23	29	37	47	52	57	58
700cc	1,000cc	1,564	1,459	1,435	1,415	1,368	1,314	1,237	1,199	1,153	1,135	1,124
1,000cc	1,200cc	2,336	2,293	2,275	2,228	2,244	2,252	2,221	2,210	2,139	2,036	1,948
1,200cc	1,500cc	5,418	5,497	5,600	5,677	5,819	5,894	5,939	6,089	6,181	6,284	6,428
1,500cc	1,800cc	6,655	6,766	6,922	6,992	7,124	7,241	7,284	7,405	7,439	7,408	7,406
1,800cc	2,000cc	3,828	4,090	4,389	4,604	4,869	5,166	5,398	5,686	5,929	6,076	6,228
2,000cc	2,500cc	925	1,003	1,094	1,159	1,275	1,400	1,520	1,639	1,725	1,805	1,878
2,500cc	3,000cc	548	574	608	630	666	704	762	841	918	1,007	1,084
3,000cc		371	403	443	473	510	543	587	638	671	700	725
All engine sizes		21,681	22,115	22,785	23,196	23,899	24,543	24,985	25,754	26,208	26,508	26,878
Other vehicles		2,317	2,362	2,427	2,469	2,544	2,622	2,730	2,900	3,019	3,137	3,261
All private and light goods		23,998	24,477	25,212	25,666	26,443	27,165	27,715	28,654	29,226	29,645	30,139
(b) Motor cycles, scooters and mopeds tax class: by engine size												
Over	Not over											
	50cc	96	102	117	141	154	155	159	161	153	144	139
50cc	125cc	143	143	148	160	172	177	182	189	192	199	211
125cc	150cc	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
150cc	200cc	12	12	12	13	13	14	16	16	16	15	15
200cc	250cc	44	42	41	38	35	33	33	33	32	32	32
250cc	350cc	10	10	9	9	8	8	9	9	8	8	9
350cc	500cc	54	57	61	62	62	70	74	75	74	72	71
500cc		265	317	371	403	437	482	531	576	599	623	653
All over 50cc		530	582	642	685	727	786	845	899	922	950	992
All engine sizes		626	684	760	825	882	941	1,005	1,060	1,075	1,094	1,133

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9.4 Motor vehicles licensed by tax class in 2007: by method of propulsion

							Thousands
Taxation class	Petrol	Diesel	Gas/Petro I-Gas	Gas Bi- Fuel/Gas Diesel	Hybrid- Electric	Other ¹	All
Private and light goods	20,522	9,529	30	27	32	-	30,140
<i>ow:</i> body type cars	20,320	6,482	28	16	32	-	26,878
Motor cycles, scooters and mopeds	1,131	1	-	0	0	-	1,133
Bus	1	108	-	0	0	0	109
Goods	1	445	-	0	0	0	446
Special vehicles group	-	54	1	1	-	-	56
Other non-exempt vehicles	12	18	-	0	0	-	30
Exempt vehicles	1,328	686	2	1	-	26	2,043
<i>ow:</i> former Special concessionary group	15	274	-	0	0	8	298
Total All Vehicles	22,997	10,839	34	28	32	27	33,957

1. Other comprises electricity, steam, new fuel technologies, electric diesel and fuel cells.

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9.5 Body type cars licensed: by government office region:² 2007

	2007					
	1997 (thousand)	2006 (thousand)	Body type cars in all taxation classes			
			(thousand)	Per 1000 population	Average vehicle age	Percentage first registered in 2007
North East	800	1,015	1,029	403	6.0	7.7
North West	2,585	3,196	3,215	469	6.1	9.2
Yorkshire and The Humber	1,762	2,176	2,219	432	6.2	7.9
East Midlands	1,655	2,086	2,125	487	6.7	8.0
West Midlands	2,280	2,693	2,737	510	6.4	10.1
East of England	2,372	2,834	2,875	513	7.1	6.7
London	2,339	2,569	2,588	345	7.4	6.4
South East	3,590	4,403	4,467	542	6.9	8.2
South West	2,158	2,640	2,677	522	7.5	6.5
Total England	19,541	23,612	23,932	471	6.8	7.9
Wales	1,102	1,413	1,433	483	6.9	6.5
Scotland	1,726	2,173	2,216	433	5.8	8.8
Great Britain ¹	22,832	27,830	28,228	480	6.7	7.9

1 Totals for Great Britain include vehicles for which the region is unknown

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2 Regions refer to location where each vehicle is registered

9.6 Goods vehicles over 3.5 tonnes licensed by body type: 2007^{1,2}

Body type	Over Not over	Thousands											All weights
		3.5 t 7.5 t	7.5 t 12 t	12 t 16 t	16 t 20 t	20 t 24 t	24 t 28 t	28 t 32 t	32 t 33 t	33 t 37 t	37 t 38 t	38 t	
Rigid vehicles													
Box Van		61	4	6	17	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	92
Tipper		21	1	1	5	-	6	17	-	-	-	-	51
Dropside Lorry		12	1	1	5	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	23
Flat Lorry		8	1	1	4	1	5	1	-	-	-	-	20
Curtain Sided Goods		10	1	1	8	1	4	-	0	-	-	-	24
Insulated Van		5	-	1	2	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	12
Refuse Disposal		7	1	2	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	15
Skip Loader		1	-	-	2	2	8	2	0	-	-	-	15
Panel Van		1	-	-	6	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	12
Tanker		7	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	8
Concrete Mixer		-	-	-	2	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	8
Street Cleansing		-	-	-	1	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	5
Tractor		2	-	2	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	5
Car Transporter		-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	4
Livestock Carrier		1	-	-	1	1	-	-	0	-	-	-	4
Van		3	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	-	4
Luton Van		2	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	0	-	2
Special Purpose		2	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	0	-	2
Skeletal Vehicle		1	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	-	2
Truck		1	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	1
Specially Fitted Van		1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	1
Tower Wagon		1	-	-	-	0	-	-	0	0	0	-	2
Pantehnicon		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	1
Motor Home/Caravan		1	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Special Mobile Unit		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	1
Glass Carrier		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	-
Mobile Plant		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	0	1
Others/Unknown		2	-	1	1	-	1	1	0	-	-	-	5
Total		151	11	18	64	8	41	28	-	-	1	3	324
Articulated vehicles ³													
Total		-	-	-	-	1	8	4	1	3	19	86	122
Rigid and articulated vehicles													
Total		151	11	19	64	9	49	32	1	3	19	89	446

1 Goods Vehicles identified by tax class

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2 Figures may not sum due to rounding

3 There is insufficient reliable data to separate articulated vehicles by body type

9.7 Goods vehicles over 3.5 tonnes licensed by axle configuration at end of year: 1997-2007¹

						Thousands
Year	Rigid vehicles	Articulated vehicles			All vehicles	
		Not over 28 tonnes	Over 28 tonnes	All		
1997	310	13	99	112	422	
1998	310	13	98	111	421	
1999	311	14	98	112	423	
2000	311	14	100	114	425	
2001	314	13	102	115	430	
2002	316	12	104	117	433	
2003	310	12	105	116	426	
2004	316	11	107	118	434	
2005	324	10	107	117	433	
2006	325	10	111	122	446	
2007	324	10	112	122	446	

1 Goods vehicles identified by tax class.

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9.8 Goods vehicles over 3.5 tonnes gross weight by axle configuration: 2007¹

									Thousands
(tonnes)		Rigid				Articulated			
		2 axles	3 axles	4 axles	All rigid vehicles	2 axle tractive unit	3 axle tractive unit	All articulated vehicles	
Over	Not over								
3.5	16	180.0	0.3	0.1	180.3	0.2	0.1	0.3	
16	24	63.7	7.6	0.1	71.3	1.3	0.1	1.3	
24	28	0.6	39.9	0.6	41.0	7.7	0.4	8.1	
28	32	0.2	0.1	27.8	28.1	3.5	0.3	3.7	
32	33	-	-	-	-	0.6	0.1	0.7	
33	37	-	-	0.2	0.2	2.5	0.5	3.0	
37	38	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.7	13.9	4.7	18.5	
38		0.2	0.3	2.1	2.6	6.9	79.4	86.3	
All weights		244.7	48.3	31.3	324.3	36.5	85.4	122.0	

1. Goods vehicles identified by tax class.

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9.9 Trailer tests by axle type: 1999/00-2007/08

National totals		Thousands								
First / Annual tests in:	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	
1 axle	7.5	7.1	6.7	6.4	6.0	5.6	5.2	5.0	4.7	
2 axle	89.8	82.2	74.1	68.9	63.9	58.4	53.9	49.0	45.9	
3 axle	143.2	151.2	156.7	166.5	171.5	177.9	184.7	186.1	189.62	
4 axle	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	
5 axle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	240.6	240.6	237.6	241.9	241.5	242.1	244.1	240.3	240.46	

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The figures in this table are outside the scope of National Statistics
Source - VOSA

9.10 Road vehicle testing scheme (MOT): test results: 1997/98-2007/08

		Thousand/percentage									
(a) Motor cycles	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Tested	541.1	564.4	513.8	567.8	568.4	584.9	745.0¹	801.0	873.2	946.4	956.8
Failed	116.0	124.4	114.4	112.9	113.1	108.4	126.5	166.4	164.1	163.4	176.5
Percentage failed	21	22	22	20	20	19	17	21	19	17	18
(b) Cars, light goods vehicles, private passenger vehicles and other passenger vehicles											
Cars and other passenger vehicles:											
Tested	21.5	22.2	22.0	22.8	22.8	22.8	22.5	20.7	22.7	26.3	27.2
Failed	7.8	7.9	7.4	7.2	7.3	7.1	6.6	6.0	7.5	8.7	9.6
Percentage failed	36	36	34	32	32	31	29	29	33	33	35
Light goods vehicles:											
Tested	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.6
Failed	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Percentage failed	37	37	33	36	34	35	34	33	44	43	45
Private passenger vehicles:²											
Tested	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.05
Failed	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	-	-
Percentage failed	28	30	21	25	21	20	25	17	27	28	31
(c) All vehicles											
Tested	22.3	23.0	22.9	23.7	23.7	23.8	23.8	22.2	24.0	27.8	28.8
Failed	8.0	8.1	7.6	7.4	7.5	7.3	6.9	6.3	7.9	9.1	10.0
Percentage failed	36	35	33	31	32	31	29	29	33	33	35

1 The overall increase in 2003/04 reflects an increase in small cc scooters, bikes and mopeds being tested

2 Vehicles with more than 12 passenger seats.

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The figures in this table are outside the scope of National Statistics
Source - VOSA

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9.11 Road passenger service vehicle testing scheme (PSV tests): 1997/98-2007/08

Thousands of tests and failure rates											
Year	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02 ¹	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
First tests:											
Passed	64,769	62,950	67,219	67,016	65,899	65,458	67,528	67,425	69,270	69,447	70,777
Failed	11,001	12,332	11,216	11,583	14,290	14,515	13,832	13,045	12,086	12,237	11,046
Total tested	75,770	75,282	78,435	78,599	80,189	79,973	81,360	80,470	81,356	81,684	81,823
Re-tests:											
Passed	9,894	11,443	10,417	10,533	13,207	13,731	13,067	11,608	10,148	10,043	11,072
Failed	998	1,141	980	1,053	1,265	1,318	1,197	1,076	847	880	889
Total tested	10,892	12,584	11,397	11,586	14,472	15,049	14,264	12,684	10,995	10,923	11,961
Percentage failed:											
First test	14.5	16.4	14.3	14.7	17.8	18.1	17.0	16.2	14.9	15.0	13.5
Re-tests	9.2	9.1	8.6	9.1	8.7	8.8	8.4	8.5	7.7	8.1	7.4
All tests	13.8	15.3	13.6	14.0	16.4	16.7	15.7	15.2	14.0	14.2	12.7

¹ Due to revisions of testing policy, from 2001/02 onwards fewer defects are now allowed to be rectified at the testing station, resulting in a decrease in passes, an increase in failures and an increase in re-tests.

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The figures in this table are outside the scope of National Statistics
Source - VOSA

9.12 Goods vehicles over 3.5 tonnes testing scheme (HGV Motor vehicles and Trailers): 1997/98-2007/08

Thousands of tests and failure rates											
Year	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02 ¹	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
First tests:											
Passed	531.7	535.5	536.1	530.0	510.5	511.5	526.9	538.9	556.9	556.1	568.1
Failed	157.2	158.2	163.1	166.4	192.1	196.6	182.3	168.6	155.1	150.6	135.2
All	688.9	693.6	699.2	696.4	702.6	708.0	709.1	707.4	711.9	706.7	703.3
Re-tests:											
Passed	149.9	150.3	150.7	153.9	179.1	182.7	169.5	148.0	127.9	121.5	125.5
Failed	21.5	22.0	23.7	24.4	31.5	29.9	25.8	23.9	20.5	18.5	15.3
All	171.4	172.3	174.4	178.3	210.6	212.6	195.3	171.9	148.4	140.0	140.8
Percentage failed:											
First test	22.8	22.8	23.3	23.9	27.3	27.8	25.7	23.8	21.8	21.3	19.2
Re-tests	12.5	12.8	13.6	13.7	15.0	14.1	13.2	13.9	13.8	13.2	10.9
All tests	20.8	20.8	21.4	21.7	24.5	24.6	23.0	22.0	20.4	20.0	17.8

¹ Due to revisions of testing policy, from 2001/02, fewer defects are now allowed to be rectified at the testing station, resulting in a decrease in passes, an increase in failures and an increase in re-tests.

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Figures in this table are outside the scope of National Statistics
Source - VOSA

**9.13 Road vehicle testing scheme (MOT): percentage of vehicles failing: by type of defect:
1997/98-2007/08**

Motor cycles: ¹	Percentage										
	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06 ⁷	2006/07 ⁷	2007/08 ⁷
Brakes	7.9	7.4	8.6	6.5	6.1	5.7	5.7	7.1	5.9	5.2	7.68
Steering	8.3	8.9	9.2	7.9	6.6	6.7	6.7	7.4	2.7	2.4	2.96
Lights	10.7	11.4	11.6	10.1	9.8	9.5	9.1	9.5	10.0	9.7	10.44
Tyres	5.2	5.5	6.2	4.9	4.4	4.4	4.0	4.3	3.3	3.0	4.78
Other	7.5	7.2	5.9	6.4	6.2	5.8	5.4	6.2	. ⁶	. ⁶	. ⁶
Cars and other passenger vehicles:²											
Brakes	15.1	14.3	13.4	12.4	12.4	12.0	11.1	10.6	11.8	12.0	18.2
Steering	16.8	16.8	15.8	14.4	13.9	13.5	12.3	11.4	2.7	2.6	3.6
Lights	18.4	18.0	17.6	15.9	16.1	15.8	15.7	14.9	16.4	16.7	19.0
Tyres	9.2	9.3	8.9	8.1	8.0	8.2	8.0	7.7	8.0	8.0	13.4
Petrol emission ³	7.1	6.4	5.6	4.3	3.1	2.4	1.8	1.4	2.9	3.1	3.3
Diesel emission ³	8.5	7.3	5.9	6.1	5.5	5.0	4.4	3.8	2.7	2.7	2.3
Other	16.4	15.6	14.0	12.8	12.1	11.2	9.9	9.0	. ⁶	. ⁶	. ⁶
Light goods vehicles:⁴											
Brakes	18.7	18.1	14.2	16.8	15.9	16.4	14.9	14.1	23.3	23.5	32.0
Steering	21.2	20.3	17.3	19.3	17.0	19.1	16.3	16.0	6.6	6.4	8.1
Lights	22.5	22.4	18.7	21.2	19.9	20.5	20.4	19.0	26.1	27.1	29.8
Tyres	9.2	8.1	7.0	7.2	7.7	7.9	6.7	7.0	7.3	7.3	12.5
Petrol emission ³	8.4	6.9	5.6	5.0	4.4	4.8	2.8	2.2	5.7	7.9	5.5
Diesel emission ³	6.4	5.6	4.6	4.6	4.0	4.3	4.0	3.1	2.1	2.2	2.0
Reg. plates and VIN	2.0	1.8	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.7	2.0	1.6	2.0	2.0	2.3
Other	19.8	18.6	13.9	16.7	15.8	15.3	13.8	12.7	. ⁶	. ⁶	. ⁶
Private passenger vehicles:⁵											
Brakes	13.0	9.7	7.8	7.8	7.1	6.4	10.6	6.2	11.1	12.1	17.5
Steering	10.6	10.8	8.1	7.6	7.5	6.7	9.3	6.2	3.0	3.2	4.6
Lights	12.7	12.3	10.0	9.8	8.2	8.4	14.0	8.9	12.4	13.8	16.0
Tyres	5.9	4.3	3.0	4.0	3.0	2.5	5.2	2.5	2.4	3.0	5.9
Petrol emission ³	4.5	4.1	2.5	2.6	1.4	1.7	1.6	2.0	4.9	5.8	5.1
Diesel emission ³	3.8	5.1	3.7	3.2	3.4	3.0	5.7	2.0	1.0	1.2	1.1
Other	14.1	19.2	12.6	10.7	8.9	10.2	11.6	8.3	. ⁶	. ⁶	. ⁶

1 Emissions testing is not carried out on motorcycles.

2 Cars, 3 wheeled vehicles, motor caravans, vehicles with up to 12 passenger seats, taxis, goods vehicles not exceeding 3000kg gross weight

3 Petrol and diesel emissions tests are calculated individually as a percentage of petrol or diesel vehicles tested.

4 Gross weight over 3000kg up to 3500kg

5 Private passenger vehicles with 13 or more passenger seats (including community buses) etc

6 The failure category of Other is no longer applicable with the introduction of the MOT Computerised system

7 From 2005/06 the failure rates are taken from the new MOT Computerised system.

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The figures in this table are outside the scope of National Statistics
Source - VOSA

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9.14 Households with regular use of car(s): 1951-2006

For details of household car ownership by region and area type, see Table 9.15

Year					Percentage
	No car	One car	Two cars	Three or more cars	All Households
1951	86	13	1	-	100
1952	84	14	1	-	100
1953	83	16	1	-	100
1954	81	17	2	-	100
1955	80	19	2	-	100
1956	78	20	2	-	100
1957	76	22	2	-	100
1958	74	24	2	-	100
1959	73	25	2	-	100
1960	71	27	2	-	100
1961	69	29	2	-	100
1962	67	30	3	-	100
1963	64	33	3	-	100
1964	62	34	4	-	100
1965	59	36	5	-	100
1966	55	39	6	-	100
1967	53	41	6	-	100
1968	51	43	6	-	100
1969	49	45	6	-	100
1970	48	45	6	1	100
1971	48	44	7	1	100
1972	48	44	8	1	100
1973	46	43	9	1	100
1974	45	44	10	1	100
1975	44	45	10	1	100
1976	45	44	10	1	100
1977	43	45	10	1	100
1978	44	45	10	1	100
1979	43	44	11	2	100
1980	41	44	13	2	100
1981	40	45	13	2	100
1982	40	44	13	2	100
1983	39	44	14	2	100
1984	39	44	14	3	100
1985	38	45	15	3	100
1986	38	45	15	3	100
1987	36	45	16	3	100
1988	35	44	17	3	100
1989	34	44	18	4	100
1990	33	44	19	4	100
1991	32	45	19	4	100
1992	32	45	20	4	100
1993	31	45	20	4	100
1994	32	45	20	4	100
1995	30	45	21	4	100
1996	30	45	21	4	100
1997	30	45	21	5	100
1998	28	44	23	5	100
1999	28	44	22	5	100
2000	27	45	23	5	100
2001	26	45	23	5	100
2002	26	44	24	5	100
2003	26	44	25	5	100
2004	25	44	25	5	100
2005 ^R	25	44	25	5	100
2006	24	44	26	6	100

Note: Data from 1961 onward are derived from household surveys. Figures for earlier years are estimates.

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Sources - Family Expenditure Survey, ONS;
General Household Survey, ONS;
National Travel Survey, DfT

9.15 Private motoring: households with regular use of cars

Historic details from 1951 are available in Table 9.14

(a) 1991-2006					Percentage
	<u>No car</u>	<u>One car</u>	<u>Two cars</u>	<u>Three or more cars</u>	<u>All Households</u>
Combined survey data ¹					
1991	32	45	19	4	100
2001	26	45	23	5	100
2002	26	44	24	5	100
2003	26	44	25	5	100
2004	25	44	25	5	100
2005 ^R	25	44	25	5	100
2006	24	44	26	6	100
Census data					
1991	33	44	19	4	100
2001	27	44	23	6	100

(b) By Government Office Region: 2006 ¹				Percentage
	<u>No car</u>	<u>One car</u>	<u>Two or more cars</u>	<u>All Households</u>
North East	31	45	23	100
North West	27	43	31	100
Yorkshire and the Humber	25	45	30	100
East Midlands	19	45	36	100
West Midlands	23	42	36	100
East of England	17	42	41	100
London	36	46	18	100
South East	18	43	39	100
South West	17	45	37	100
England	24	44	33	100
Wales	22	45	33	100
Scotland	29	45	26	100
Great Britain	24	44	32	100

(c) By area type : 2007					Percentage/number
	<u>Cars per Household</u>	<u>No car</u>	<u>One car</u>	<u>Two or more cars</u>	<u>All Households</u>
London Boroughs	0.77	43	41	16	100
Metropolitan areas	1.01	31	42	27	100
Other urban areas with population:					
Over 250 thousand	1.08	27	44	29	100
25 to 250 thousand	1.16	23	44	32	100
10 to 25 thousand	1.17	22	46	32	100
3 to 10 thousand	1.31	19	42	40	100
Rural areas	1.54	10	38	51	100
Great Britain	1.14	25	43	32	100

1 Based on combined survey data sources - Family Expenditure Survey, ONS; General Household Survey, ONS; National Travel Survey, DfT.

9.16 Private motoring: full car driving licence holders by age and gender: 1975/1976-2007

Year	Age							Percentage/number (millions)	
	17-20	21-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70 or over	All adults	Estimated number of licence holders
(a) All adults									
1975/1976	28	59	67	60	50	35	15	48	19.4
1985/1986	33	63	74	71	60	47	27	57	24.3
1989/1991	43	72	77	78	67	54	32	64	27.8
1992/1994	48	75	82	79	72	57	33	67	29.3
1995/1997 ¹	43	74	81	81	75	63	38	69	30.3
1998/2000	41	75	84	83	77	67	39	71	31.4
2002	33	67	82	84	81	70	44	70	31.9
2003	29	67	82	83	80	72	44	70	32.1
2004	27	65	82	83	80	72	46	70	32.2
2005	32	66	82	84	82	74	51	72	33.3
2006	34	67	82	84	82	76	50	72	33.7
2007	38	66	81	83	82	75	52	71	33.8
(b) Male									
1975/1976	36	78	85	83	75	58	32	69	13.4
1985/1986	37	73	86	87	81	72	51	74	15.1
1989/1991	52	82	88	89	85	78	58	80	16.7
1992/1994	54	83	91	88	88	81	59	81	17.0
1995/1997 ¹	50	80	88	89	89	83	65	81	17.2
1998/2000	44	80	89	91	88	83	65	82	17.4
2002	35	71	88	90	89	85	68	80	17.5
2003	33	73	87	90	91	87	69	81	17.8
2004	30	68	87	89	90	86	72	79	17.7
2005	37	69	86	90	90	88	73	81	18.1
2006	37	71	86	89	91	90	76	81	18.4
2007	41	69	86	88	90	87	75	80	18.4
(c) Female									
1975/1976	20	43	48	37	24	15	4	29	6.0
1985/1986	29	54	62	56	41	24	11	41	9.2
1989/1991	35	64	67	66	49	33	15	49	11.1
1992/1994	42	68	73	70	57	37	16	54	12.2
1995/1997 ¹	36	67	74	73	62	45	21	57	13.1
1998/2000	38	69	78	76	67	53	22	60	14.0
2002	31	62	76	78	73	55	27	61	14.4
2003	25	62	77	77	70	58	26	61	14.3
2004	24	62	77	77	71	58	28	61	14.5
2005	27	62	77	79	73	61	35	63	15.2
2006	31	63	78	79	74	63	31	63	15.3
2007	34	62	76	78	74	63	36	63	15.4

1 Figures for 1995 onwards are based on weighted data

9.17 Annual mileage of 4-wheeled cars by type of car and trip purpose: 2007

	Miles/percentage				
	Business Mileage	Commuting mileage	Other private mileage	Total mileage	Proportion of cars in sample
All company cars	8,060	6,100	5,830	19,990	5
Self-employed business car	5,030	3,640	4,580	13,260	3
Household car used for work	3,670	3,810	4,720	12,200	12
Other household car	60	2,320	5,080	7,460	80
All private cars	690	2,550	5,020	8,260	95
All cars	1,070	2,740	5,060	8,870	100

	Business Mileage	Commuting mileage	Other private mileage	Total mileage	Proportion of company cars in sample
All 4-wheeled cars:					
1995/1997 ^R	1,710	2,830	5,160	9,700	7
1998/2000 ^R	1,590	2,940	5,030	9,550	8
2002	1,250	2,780	5,140	9,170	7
2003	1,230	2,840	5,160	9,230	6
2004	1,140	2,850	5,170	9,160	6
2005	1,090	2,840	5,080	9,010	6
2006	1,040	2,770	4,960	8,770	5
2007	1,070	2,740	5,060	8,870	5

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9.18 Private motoring: Car driving tests: 1997-2007/08

	Thousands/rate										
	1997 ^{2,3}	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Applications received ¹	1,206	1,286	1,205	1,263	1,315	1,468	1,526	1,675	1,847	1,883	1,878
Tests conducted	1,122	1,166	1,130	1,015	1,216	1,344	1,399	1,668	1,834	1,784	1,769
Passed:											
Male	257	267	256	229	273	300	304	365	411	405	412
Female	269	268	240	214	254	283	295	340	370	367	370
Total	526	535	496	443	527	583	598	706	781	773	782
Pass rate, by sex:											
Male	52	51	48	48	47	47	46	46	46	46	47
Female	43	42	40	40	40	40	40	39	40	41	41
Total	47	46	44	44	43	43	43	42	43	43	44

1 These are gross figures and take no account of applications which do not mature into a test due to cancellations etc.

2 Figures for 1996 and 1997 calculated on calendar year. Figures for following years calculated on financial years basis

3 Theory Test introduced

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The figures in this table are outside the scope of National Statistics

Source - DSA