FOI Request (received 14 January 2022) - Reference: DFI/2022-0018

Could I be provided, for all Driving Examiners in Northern Ireland in 2020 and 2021, with anonymised driving test examiner pass/fail/driving test curtailment rates, for each year.

Response (issued 10 February 2022)

Thank you for your email dated 14 January 2022 requesting the following information held by the Driver and Vehicle Agency (DVA) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

For all Driving Examiners in Northern Ireland in 2020 and 2021... anonymised driving test examiner pass/fail/driving test curtailment rates for each year.

Driving test pass/fail rates are a National Statistic and as such must be released in accordance with the UK Official Statistics Code of Practice. To comply with this code, the Department cannot publicly release figures that are within the scope of National Statistics reporting beyond the latest published statistics.

The 'Dfl Driver, Vehicle, Operator and Enforcement National Statistics' report is published on a quarterly basis with the latest edition covering the period from 1 April to 30 June 2021. Driver testing statistics are presented in quarterly or monthly schedules, dependent on the volumes in question. The next release of these figures is scheduled for February 2022.

I have provided the information in the anonymised format requested broken down per quarter for the year 2020 and for the current published period January 2021 to 30 June 2021 as detailed in the tables below. To note, column 6 and 7 represent the number and percentage of tests abandoned/curtailed without a pass or fail recorded. There were no tests carried out in Q2 of 2020.

Q1 2020 Testing									
Conducted	Pass	Pass Rate	Fail	Fail Rate	Other Tests	Other Rate			
17	8	47%	9	53%	0	0%			
39	22	56%	17	44%	0	0%			
13	9	69%	4	31%	0	0%			
2	1	50%	1	50%	0	0%			
15	8	53%	7	47%	0	0%			
1	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%			
2	2	100%	0	0%	0	0%			

		Q1	2020	Testing		
Conducted	Pass	Pass Rate	Fail	Fail Rate	Other Tests	Other Rate
11	8	73%	3	27%	0	0%
45	28	62%	17	38%	0	0%
5	5	100%	0	0%	0	0%
8	3	38%	5	63%	0	0%
3	1	33%	2	67%	0	0%
13	9	69%	4	31%	0	0%
2	1	50%	1	50%	0	0%
25	16	64%	9	36%	0	0%
9	7	78%	2	22%	0	0%
7	5	71%	2	29%	0	0%
34	20	59%	13	38%	1	3%
174	111	64%	62	36%	1	1%
74	54	73%	19	26%	1	1%
3	2	67%	0	0%	1	33%
27	10	37%	16	59%	1	4%
27	19	70%	7	26%	1	4%
65	49	75%	15	23%	1	2%
26	11	42%	14	54%	1	4%
68	33	49%	34	50%	1	1%
59	40	68%	18	31%	1	2%
94	52	55%	41	44%	1	1%
18	16	89%	1	6%	1	6%
63	39	62%	23	37%	1	2%
77	50	65%	26	34%	1	1%
55	28	51%	26	47%	1	2%
69	38	55%	30	43%	1	1%
18	5	28%	12	67%	1	6%
58	38	66%	19	33%	1	2%
276	175	63%	100	36%	1	0%
48	44	92%	3	6%	1	2%
87	59	68%	26	30%	2	2%
63	49	78%	12	19%	2	3%
77	40	52%	35	45%	2	3%
77	45	58%	30	39%	2	3%
84	61	73%	21	25%	2	2%
31	24	77%	5	16%	2	6%
87	55	63%	30	34%	2	2%
36	25	69%	9	25%	2	6%
13	4	31%	7	54%	2	15%
42	23	55%	17	40%	2	5%
106	69	65%	35	33%	2	2%

	Q1 2020 Testing									
Conducted	Pass	Pass Rate	Fail	Fail Rate	Other Tests	Other Rate				
86	49	57%	35	41%	2	2%				
14	5	36%	7	50%	2	14%				
68	38	56%	27	40%	3	4%				
33	22	67%	8	24%	3	9%				
319	164	51%	152	48%	3	1%				
96	61	64%	32	33%	3	3%				
117	65	56%	49	42%	3	3%				
66	31	47%	32	48%	3	5%				
154	88	57%	63	41%	3	2%				
199	109	55%	86	43%	4	2%				
77	52	68%	21	27%	4	5%				
24	10	42%	10	42%	4	17%				
152	61	40%	87	57%	4	3%				
35	27	77%	4	11%	4	11%				
159	90	57%	65	41%	4	3%				
94	41	44%	49	52%	4	4%				
106	61	58%	40	38%	5	5%				
180	87	48%	88	49%	5	3%				
62	28	45%	29	47%	5	8%				
172	102	59%	65	38%	5	3%				
134	67	50%	62	46%	5	4%				
91	41	45%	45	49%	5	5%				
178	94	53%	78	44%	6	3%				
105	42	40%	57	54%	6	6%				
332	178	54%	147	44%	7	2%				
135	56	41%	72	53%	7	5%				
161	88	55%	66	41%	7	4%				
207	124	60%	75	36%	8	4%				
172	82	48%	82	48%	8	5%				
181	110	61%	63	35%	8	4%				
327	203	62%	116	35%	8	2%				
358	152	42%	197	55%	9	3%				
324	241	74%	74	23%	9	3%				
319	150	47%	159	50%	10	3%				
324	192	59%	122	38%	10	3%				
291	125	43%	156	54%	10	3%				
228	125	55%	93	41%	10	4%				
313	232	74%	69	22%	12	4%				
187	80	43%	94	50%	13	7%				
351	79	23%	259	74%	13	4%				
310	106	34%	189	61%	15	5%				

Q1 2020 Testing									
Conducted	Pass	Pass Rate	Fail	Fail Rate	Other Tests	Other Rate			
294	165	56%	114	39%	15	5%			
289	154	53%	120	42%	15	5%			
375	207	55%	151	40%	17	5%			
363	176	48%	170	47%	17	5%			

		Q	3 2020) Testing		
Conducted	Pass	Pass Rate	Fail	Fail Rate	Other Tests	Other Rate
83	53	64%	20	24%	10	12%
2	1	50%	0	0%	1	50%
82	41	50%	7	9%	34	41%
99	64	65%	30	30%	5	5%
21	14	67%	6	29%	1	5%
7	5	71%	1	14%	1	14%
60	37	62%	4	7%	19	32%
11	8	73%	0	0%	3	27%
13	11	85%	2	15%	0	0%
7	7	100%	0	0%	0	0%
50	21	42%	26	52%	3	6%
4	3	75%	0	0%	1	25%
5	3	60%	1	20%	1	20%
76	54	71%	9	12%	13	17%
1	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%
15	4	27%	10	67%	1	7%
23	14	61%	3	13%	6	26%
11	9	82%	0	0%	2	18%
23	17	74%	3	13%	3	13%
15	11	73%	3	20%	1	7%
3	1	33%	0	0%	2	67%
14	12	86%	1	7%	1	7%
40	35	88%	3	8%	2	5%
30	18	60%	9	30%	3	10%
10	5	50%	3	30%	2	20%
1	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%
104	85	82%	15	14%	4	4%
58	39	67%	9	16%	10	17%
15	9	60%	2	13%	4	27%
93	54	58%	2	2%	37	40%
3	2	67%	0	0%	1	33%
2	2	100%	0	0%	0	0%
109	60	55%	20	18%	29	27%
9	2	22%	7	78%	0	0%

	Q3 2020 Testing									
Conducted	Pass	Pass Rate	Fail	Fail Rate	Other Tests	Other Rate				
5	4	80%	1	20%	0	0%				
72	45	63%	20	28%	7	10%				
57	42	74%	10	18%	5	9%				
15	8	53%	5	33%	2	13%				
87	58	67%	28	32%	1	1%				
25	17	68%	7	28%	1	4%				
64	36	56%	19	30%	9	14%				
1	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%				
39	21	54%	7	18%	11	28%				
73	42	58%	24	33%	7	10%				
103	27	26%	36	35%	40	39%				
110	76	69%	17	15%	17	15%				
28	15	54%	6	21%	7	25%				
92	64	70%	13	14%	15	16%				
77	52	68%	12	16%	13	17%				
4	4	100%	0	0%	0	0%				
10	6	60%	2	20%	2	20%				
85	66	78%	6	7%	13	15%				
74	62	84%	9	12%	3	4%				
85	52	61%	11	13%	22	26%				
3	3	100%	0	0%	0	0%				
52	36	69%	3	6%	13	25%				
29	23	79%	6	21%	0	0%				
45	36	80%	5	11%	4	9%				

	Q4 2020 Testing									
Conducted	Pass	Pass Rate	Fail	Fail Rate	Other Tests	Other Rate				
79	49	62%	17	22%	13	16%				
5	5	100%	0	0%	0	0%				
101	48	48%	4	4%	49	49%				
118	78	66%	21	18%	19	16%				
27	15	56%	8	30%	4	15%				
39	35	90%	1	3%	3	8%				
104	74	71%	4	4%	26	25%				
10	9	90%	0	0%	1	10%				
50	40	80%	5	10%	5	10%				
6	5	83%	0	0%	1	17%				
75	41	55%	20	27%	14	19%				
48	44	92%	0	0%	4	8%				
25	16	64%	6	24%	3	12%				
19	14	74%	5	26%	0	0%				
14	10	71%	1	7%	3	21%				

	Q4 2020 Testing									
Conducted	Pass	Pass Rate	Fail	Fail Rate	Other Tests	Other Rate				
15	9	60%	6	40%	0	0%				
119	84	71%	12	10%	23	19%				
27	17	63%	6	22%	4	15%				
33	22	67%	6	18%	5	15%				
17	10	59%	5	29%	2	12%				
55	30	55%	2	4%	23	42%				
1	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%				
86	57	66%	6	7%	23	27%				
5	4	80%	1	20%	0	0%				
68	46	68%	12	18%	10	15%				
94	69	73%	17	18%	8	9%				
12	8	67%	0	0%	4	33%				
44	38	86%	4	9%	2	5%				
54	31	57%	7	13%	16	30%				
66	51	77%	7	11%	8	12%				
70	38	54%	16	23%	16	23%				
37	25	68%	2	5%	10	27%				
15	6	40%	2	13%	7	47%				
103	84	82%	12	12%	7	7%				
113	80	71%	10	9%	23	20%				
72	41	57%	5	7%	26	36%				
100	49	49%	7	7%	44	44%				
59	52	88%	2	3%	5	8%				
2	2	100%	0	0%	0	0%				
141	94	67%	11	8%	36	26%				
63	30	48%	11	17%	22	35%				
122	80	66%	26	21%	16	13%				
20	15	75%	2	10%	3	15%				
34	27	79%	3	9%	4	12%				
16	9	56%	1	6%	6	38%				
133	81	61%	32	24%	20	15%				
65	46	71%	1	2%	18	28%				
14	9	64%	1	7%	4	29%				
105	79	75%	25	24%	1	1%				
40	31	78%	8	20%	1	3%				
85	50	59%	1	1%	34	40%				
61	34	56%	12	20%	15	25%				
71	53	75%	6	8%	12	17%				
77	47	61%	10	13%	20	26%				
88	46	52%	10	11%	32	36%				
110	72	65%	18	16%	20	18%				
144	30	21%	14	10%	100	69%				
114	93	82%	16	14%	5	4%				
80	46	58%	16	20%	18	23%				
19	8	42%	7	37%	4	21%				

	Q4 2020 Testing									
Conducted	Pass	Pass Rate	Fail	Fail Rate	Other Tests	Other Rate				
124	77	62%	17	14%	30	24%				
1	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%				
60	39	65%	6	10%	15	25%				
19	14	74%	2	11%	3	16%				
44	35	80%	7	16%	2	5%				
79	38	48%	21	27%	20	25%				
40	26	65%	6	15%	8	20%				
10	8	80%	0	0%	2	20%				
81	45	56%	20	25%	16	20%				
20	16	80%	3	15%	1	5%				
100	91	91%	1	1%	8	8%				
98	76	78%	6	6%	16	16%				
115	67	58%	17	15%	31	27%				
31	18	58%	10	32%	3	10%				
81	67	83%	4	5%	10	12%				
45	30	67%	11	24%	4	9%				
94	74	79%	5	5%	15	16%				

Q1 2021 Testing								
Conducted	Pass	Pass Rate	Fail	Fail Rate	Other Tests	Other Rate		
4	4	100%	0	0%	0	0%		
3	3	100%	0	0%	0	0%		
10	8	80%	0	0%	2	20%		
5	4	80%	1	20%	0	0%		

	Q2 2021 Testing									
Conducted	Pass	Pass Rate	Fail	Fail Rate	Other Tests	Other Rate				
108	67	62%	22	20%	19	18%				
280	104	37%	13	5%	163	58%				
285	201	71%	36	13%	48	17%				
53	32	60%	9	17%	12	23%				
200	150	75%	13	7%	37	19%				
218	144	66%	14	6%	60	28%				
123	78	63%	14	11%	31	25%				
195	132	68%	9	5%	54	28%				
75	63	84%	6	8%	6	8%				
214	117	55%	10	5%	87	41%				
54	48	89%	3	6%	3	6%				
56	44	79%	9	16%	3	5%				
142	101	71%	24	17%	17	12%				
10	7	70%	0	0%	3	30%				
71	37	52%	15	21%	19	27%				
133	65	49%	25	19%	43	32%				
169	113	67%	21	12%	35	21%				

		Q	2 2021	l Testing		
Conducted	Pass	Pass Rate	Fail	Fail Rate	Other Tests	Other Rate
113	84	74%	25	22%	4	4%
59	37	63%	16	27%	6	10%
98	43	44%	24	24%	31	32%
146	69	47%	18	12%	59	40%
138	96	70%	3	2%	39	28%
24	17	71%	2	8%	5	21%
105	73	70%	13	12%	19	18%
219	136	62%	42	19%	41	19%
43	26	60%	4	9%	13	30%
172	134	78%	17	10%	21	12%
120	81	68%	11	9%	28	23%
110	88	80%	10	9%	12	11%
150	81	54%	32	21%	37	25%
134	90	67%	16	12%	28	21%
4	3	75%	1	25%	0	0%
334	230	69%	29	9%	75	22%
105	85	81%	11	10%	9	9%
332	211	64%	49	15%	72	22%
104	55	53%	8	8%	41	39%
287	142	49%	9	3%	136	47%
154	123	80%	2	1%	29	19%
12	10	83%	0	0%	2	17%
369	211	57%	49	13%	109	30%
180	89	49%	30	17%	61	34%
25	22	88%	1	4%	2	8%
204	152	75%	32	16%	20	10%
67	57	85%	3	4%	7	10%
40	27	68%	6	15%	7	18%
20	17	85%	0	0%	3	15%
296	166	56%	54	18%	76	26%
55	34	62%	4	7%	17	31%
244	193	79%	48	20%	3	1%
177	123	69%	47	27%	7	4%
254	142	56%	12	5%	100	39%
2	2	100%	0	0%	0	0%
73	37	51%	24	33%	12	16%
307	185	60%	42	14%	80	26%
124	82	66%	16	13%	26	21%
140	77	55%	14	10%	49	35%
259	154	59%	40	15%	65	25%
295	83	28%	49	17%	163	55%
321	240	75%	44	14%	37	12%
274	191	70%	7	3%	76	28%
114	69	61%	24	21%	21	18%
346	227	66%	36	10%	83	24%

Q2 2021 Testing						
Conducted	Pass	Pass Rate	Fail	Fail Rate	Other Tests	Other Rate
10	8	80%	2	20%	0	0%
264	127	48%	54	20%	83	31%
15	13	87%	1	7%	1	7%
70	55	79%	7	10%	8	11%
54	45	83%	9	17%	0	0%
302	174	58%	44	15%	84	28%
1	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%
98	62	63%	10	10%	26	27%
168	111	66%	33	20%	24	14%
4	4	100%	0	0%	0	0%
170	143	84%	1	1%	26	15%
181	146	81%	11	6%	24	13%
310	156	50%	53	17%	101	33%
167	86	51%	28	17%	53	32%
282	206	73%	27	10%	49	17%
179	140	78%	36	20%	3	2%

We monitor driving test pass rates closely and target our examiner training, development and quality control processes to ensure that driving tests are conducted and assessed in an impartial, equal and fair manner. We ensure that, where possible, all test routes at all locations include similar numbers of fixed "hazards" for the candidate e.g. right turns, roundabouts etc.

However, due to factors outside our control, test pass rates can vary between different locations; similar variations between locations are experienced in other jurisdictions, including the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency in Great Britain and the Road Safety Authority in Ireland. A number of reasons for the variation in pass rates have been cited, including:

- Areas with particularly complex traffic flow systems included in test routes;
- Particularly high levels of traffic flow with associated congestion in some areas;
- Differing quality of professional instruction available in locations;
- Higher levels of private instruction in some areas than others; and
- Differing socio-economic factors existing in different areas.

In addition, the set of specific challenges faced by any individual candidate during their driving test may vary greatly from those faced by another candidate, as the level of traffic in different areas can vary greatly on certain days or at particular times of the day. However,

the key principle is that, in order to pass the test, a candidate must display a minimum level of competence regardless of road or traffic conditions at the time of test.

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