

FOI Request (received 23 February 2024) - Reference: DFI/2024-0085

Could I please get the driving test waiting times for each NI test centre across all the different vehicle types please? Could this include the wait time in days/weeks and the number of slots free for each specific test centre?

I would like the following information in spreadsheet format included in this:

- Test Centre Name
- Vehicle Type
- Waiting Time (in days or weeks)
- Slots Free
- Country
- Licence Category

Response (issued 22 March 2024)

Thank you for your email of 23 February 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 held by this office to include the above information.

In response to your request, I can confirm that we do not hold the information you have requested in relation to driving tests per vehicle type. I have listed below the average driving test waiting times for each test centre from 1 April 2023 to 19 March 2024 by Licence Category. These average waiting times represent unvalidated management information taken from our booking system on 19 March 2024.

There are no waiting times for the other categories of test as these are specialist and few in number and arranged between the customer and the test centre management team.

Test Centre	Average days			
	A, A1, A2	B, B1, BE	C, C1, C1E, CE	D, D1, D1E, DE
Altnagelvin	17.26	43.05		
Armagh		44.9		
Ballymena	22.38	57.41		
Balmoral		69.05	6.85	5.61
Coleraine	22.51	48.16	4.67	9.7
Cookstown	27.63	73.5		
Craigavon	17.62	46.78	5.89	5.42
Dill Road, Belfast	16.00	74.9		
Downpatrick	18.87	85.02		
Enniskillen	16.62	35.49		
Larne	20.72	68.66		

Test Centre	Average days			
	A, A1, A2	B, B1, BE	C, C1, C1E, CE	D, D1, D1E, DE
Lisburn	25.33	74.37		
Mallusk				
Newbuildings			5.18	5.11
Newry	18.15	53.95		
Newtownards	16.13	55.78		
Omagh	3.0	32.84		17.63

Waiting times regularly fluctuate based on customer demand and the availability of staff resources to conduct driving tests. We are in the process of recruiting new full time driving examiners who on successful completion of their training will be allocated to test centres from late March 2024 onwards.

The 'DfI Driver, Vehicle, Operator and Enforcement National Statistics' report is published on a quarterly basis with the latest edition covering the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 September 2023. Vehicle test statistics are presented in quarterly or monthly schedules, dependent on the volumes in question. The latest release of these figures was on 15 December 2023 and the next release of these figures is scheduled for Friday 29 March 2024.

Given recent public interest in such statistics, the Department is now publishing provisional testing management information figures on a monthly reporting cycle, which are made available on the Department's website. The latest monthly report for January 2024 was published on 16 February 2024. I have attached the relevant links below for your information and convenience.

[DfI Driver, Vehicle, Operator, and Enforcement Statistics - 2023-24 - Quarter Two](#), and [Driver & Vehicle Agency Monthly Tests Conducted Statistics](#).

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