

FOI Request (received 19 September 2024) - Reference: DFI/2024-0372

I am seeking information regarding the number of vehicles in Northern Ireland that have failed an MOT, specifically broken down into why the vehicle failed, such as on emissions or headlights, and the location of where the test took place, every month from the start of 2022 and up to the most recent that you have.

Response (issued 17 October 2024)

Thank you for your email dated 19 September 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 held by this office to include:

The number of vehicles in Northern Ireland that have failed an MOT, specifically broken down into why the vehicle failed, such as on emissions or headlights, and the location of where the test took place, every month from the start of 2022 and up to the most recent that you have.

In response to your request, I can confirm that, while the raw information that you are seeking is held, we do not hold this information in a readily accessible format. We have attempted to retrieve and extract this information, in line with your request. However, complying with your request would require significant staff resources to extract and validate that data, which would easily exceed the threshold of £600, established for central Government Departments, for providing information under the FOI.

Providing an answer to your request would exceed this appropriate limit, laid out under s12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act. For the purposes of the legislation, costs are calculated at a flat rate of £25 per hour. If answering a request would require greater than 24 hours at the flat rate, that request would be subject to consideration under s12 and the public authority would not be obliged to comply.

Your request, therefore, must be refused under s12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

However, I can advise that we publish Official National Statistics every quarter, which includes the pass/fail rates at all test centres. The most recent publication for the period from 01 April to 30 June 2024 can be accessed by the following link [Dfi Driver, Vehicle, Operator, and Enforcement Statistics - 2024-25 - Quarter One](#).

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