



Ministry of
JUSTICE

STATISTICAL BULLETIN
Motoring Offences and Breath Test
Statistics
England and Wales 2005

RDS

Office for Criminal Justice Reform



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INTRODUCTION

1. This bulletin contains statistics on motoring offences and breath tests dealt with by the police in England and Wales in 2005 and earlier years. The bulletin also includes statistics on penalty charge notices issued by local authority parking attendants from 1995 - see notes 8 and 13(k) (iii). This bulletin is a record of official action with regard to motoring offences and breath tests. More detailed information is provided in the companion volume "Offences relating to motor vehicles, England and Wales 2005, Supplementary tables" - see note 23.

MOTURING OFFENCES

MAIN POINTS

- The number of motoring offences dealt with by official police action or penalty charge notice in 2005 was 13.0 million, down three per cent on 2004 (paragraph 2).
- The number of offences dealt with by motoring fixed penalty notices issued by the police (including traffic wardens) in 2005 was 3.2 million, down four per cent on 2004. In addition 7.6 million penalty charge notices were issued by local authority parking attendants in 2005. (paragraph 2).
- The proportion disqualified for more than one year for offences of 'driving etc. after consuming alcohol or taking drugs' has steadily increased from 59 per cent in 1995 to 69 per cent in 2005 (paragraph 32).
- Cameras provided evidence for 2 million offences dealt with in 2005. Overall these cameras provided evidence for 88 per cent of speeding offences dealt with (paragraph 33).

Figure 1 Motoring offences dealt with by official action

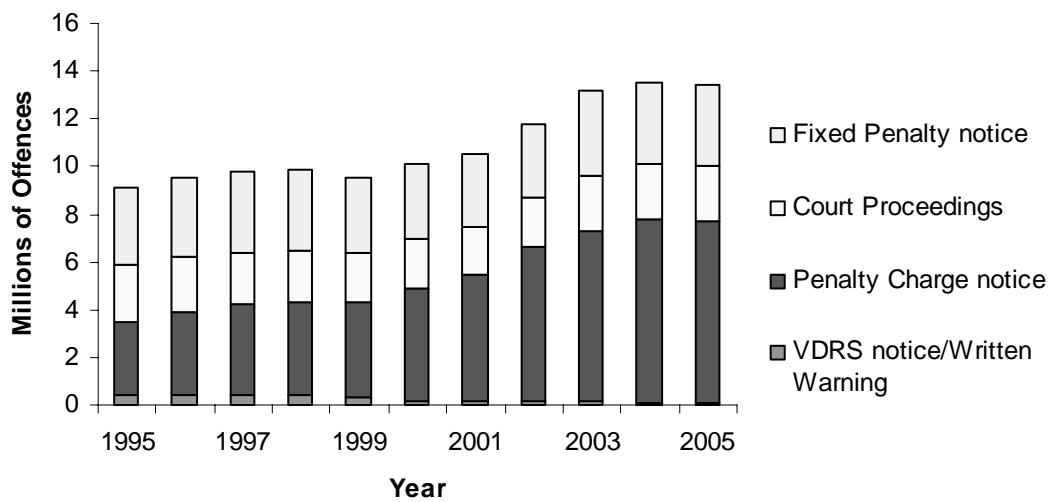


Table A Offences relating to motor vehicles: summary of action taken⁽¹⁾

England and Wales							Millions
Year	Type of action					Total	Vehicles Currently Licensed
	Written Warnings	VDRS Notice ⁽²⁾	Fixed Penalty Notice	Penalty Charge Notice	Court Proceedings		
1995	0.2	0.2	3.5	3.1	2.4	9.1	22.9
1996	0.2	0.2	3.3	3.5	2.3	9.5	23.7
1997	0.2	0.2	3.4	3.8	2.2	9.8	24.4
1998	0.2	0.2	3.4	3.9	2.2	9.8	25.5
1999	0.1	0.2	3.1 ⁽³⁾	4.0	2.1	9.4 ⁽³⁾	26.2
2000	0.1	0.1	3.0 ⁽³⁾	4.7	2.1	9.9 ⁽³⁾	26.2
2001	0.1	0.1	2.9 ⁽³⁾	5.3	2.0	10.4 ⁽³⁾	27.0
2002	0.1	0.1	2.9	6.4	2.1	11.5	27.7
2003	0.1	0.1	3.6	7.1	2.3	13.2	28.2
2004	0.1	0.1	3.4	7.7	2.3	13.5	29.0
2005	0.0	0.1	3.2	7.6	2.0	13.0	29.7

(1) For a fuller description of these figures see Table 1.

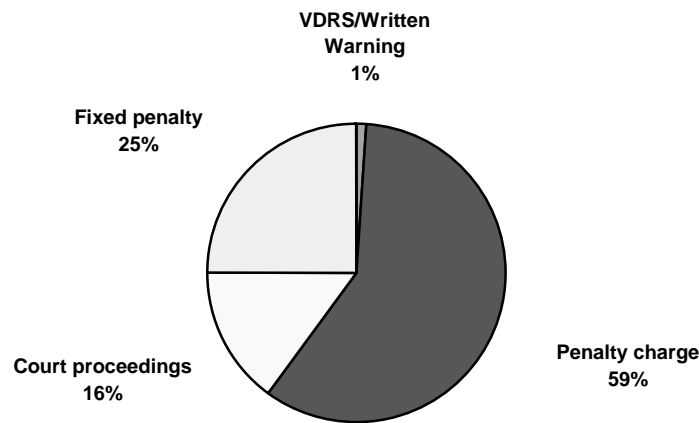
(2) Vehicle defect rectification scheme.

(3) Revised. See Note 9.

2. The total number of motoring offences dealt with by the police and parking attendants in England and Wales during 2005 was 13.0 million, a decrease of 454,200 (three per cent) on the final 2004 figure of 13.5 million. In 2005 7.63 million (59 per cent) were penalty charge notices issued by local authority parking attendants, 23,700 lower than the figure of 7.65 for 2004. There was however a small increase during the year of new local authorities using these powers (see note 13(k)(iii)). 3.2 million of the offences (25 per cent) were dealt with by fixed penalty notices issued by the police (including traffic wardens), down four per cent on the 2004 figure of 3.4 million. 2.0 million offences (16 per cent) were dealt with by court proceedings (see note 7), down 12 per cent on 2004. The remaining offences were dealt with either by written warnings (47,400) down 20 per cent on 2004, or vehicle defect rectification scheme (VDRS) notices complied with (88,700), down seven per cent on 2004.

3. The 13.0 million motoring offences dealt with during 2005 represents 438 offences per thousand vehicles licensed in 2005, compared with 397 per thousand in 1995. The 2005 rate of 438 is 35 higher than that of the 403 offences per thousand vehicles licensed in 1997 which was the highest for that decade.

Figure 2 Motoring offences dealt with by type of action taken, 2005



4. For motoring offences dealt with by police action (excluding penalty charge notices) Table 10 shows figures by police force for 2005. The proportion of offences dealt with by court proceedings (38 per cent for England and Wales) varies between forces, from Sussex who used court proceedings for 20 per cent of offences dealt with to Leicestershire who used court proceedings for 64 per cent. Such variations may reflect some differences in police practice, but local conditions are likely to play a bigger part. For instance, levels of urbanisation will influence how many offences dealt with are for obstruction, waiting and parking and whether local authorities are issuing penalty charge notices.

TYPE OF OFFENCE DEALT WITH (Tables B and 2 and Figure 3)

5. In 2005 the largest group of offences dealt with, were for **obstruction, waiting and parking offences** 8.2 million in all. Of these, 587,300 were dealt with by official police action, forming the third largest proportion of motoring offences (down 35 per cent on the 2004 figure of 900,700) dealt with by the police (including traffic wardens). The other 7.6 million offences were dealt with through penalty charge notices issued by local authority parking attendants. For further commentary regarding the trends in the use of fixed penalties and penalty charge notices for these offences, see paragraphs 18 and 19.

6. The largest offence group dealt with by police action in 2005 was for **speed limit offences** comprising 2.1 million offences, or 40 per cent of all the offences they dealt with.

Figure 3 Offences dealt with by the police, change between 2004 and 2005

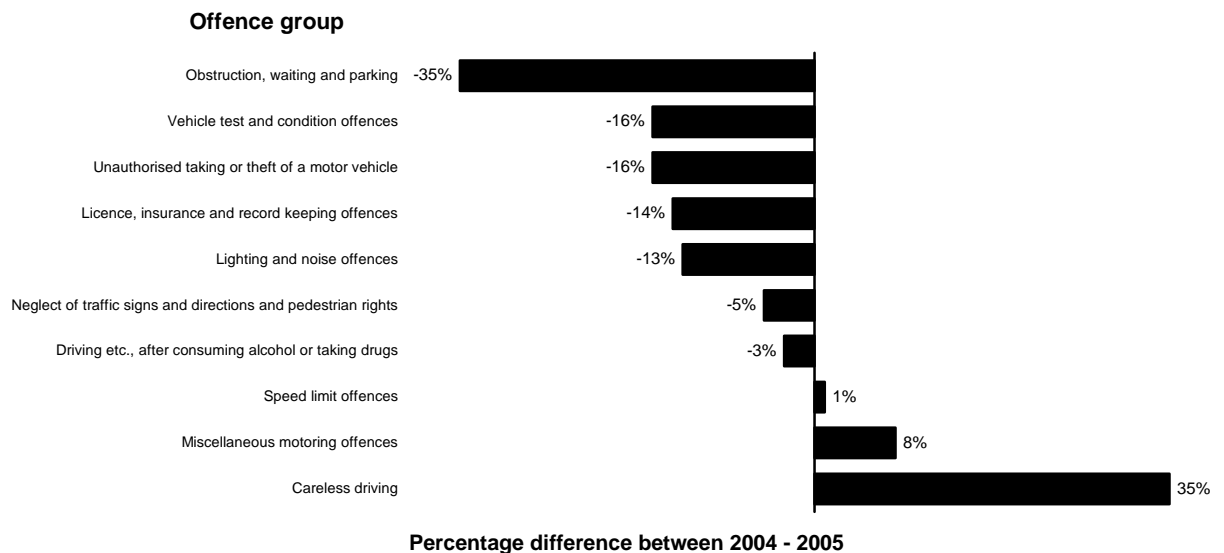


Table B Motoring Offences (proportionally) dealt with by official action⁽¹⁾ by offence group

England and Wales 2004 & 2005										Percentages	
Offence group	Court Proceedings ⁽²⁾		Written Warnings		VDRS Notice		Fixed penalty / Penalty charge notices issued ⁽³⁾		Total (thousands = 100%)		
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	
Causing death or bodily harm	99	99	1 ⁽⁴⁾	1 ⁽⁴⁾	*	*	*	*	0.5	0.5	
Dangerous driving	99	99	1	1	*	*	*	*	10.3	8.5	
Driving etc after consuming alcohol or taking drugs	100	100	0	0	*	*	*	*	107.2	103.5	
Careless driving	30	22	5	3	*	*	66	75	137.8 ⁽⁵⁾	186.0	
Accident offences	95	94	5	6	*	*	*	*	29.3	26.9	
Unauthorised taking or theft of a motor vehicle	86	84	14 ⁽⁴⁾	16 ⁽⁴⁾	*	*	*	*	40.4	34.1	
Licence, insurance & record keeping offences	94	93	1	1	*	*	5	7	1,387.2	1,195.7	
Vehicle test offences	97	98	2	2	*	*	0	1	353.9	284.6	
Vehicle or part in dangerous or defective condition	23	21	0	1	69	68	8	11	139.3	130.8	
Speed limit offences	8	9	0	0	*	*	91	91	2,104.8	2,118.9	
Neglect of traffic signs & directions & pedestrian rights	17	17	1	1	*	*	82	82	267.3	253.6	
Obstruction, waiting & parking offences	0	0	0	0	*	*	100	100	8,553.9	8,216.9	
Lighting & noise offences	38	39	8	8	*	*	55	53	42.3	36.7	
Load Offences	73	69	3	3	*	*	24	28	12.8	11.5	
Offences peculiar to motor cycles	56	62	6	5	*	*	38	33	4.7	6.0	
Miscellaneous	39	34	2	1	*	*	60	64	346.6	375.8	
Total	17	16	0	0	1	1	82	83	13,538.4⁽⁵⁾	12,989.9	

(1) Police (including traffic wardens) and local authority parking attendants.

(2) Total proceedings at magistrates' courts.

(3) Fixed penalty and penalty charge notices issued.

(4) Cautions data have been included.

(5) Revised. See Note 9.

7. Between 2004 and 2005, the number of offences dealt with by the police increased in five of the 15 offence groups (Table 2), and decreased in ten. Figure 3 shows the changes in the largest groups for 2004 and 2005. The most marked increase between 2004 and 2005 occurred for **careless driving offences** which were up 35 per cent. This reflects the large number of police force areas taking action against drivers who used a hand held mobile phone while driving. The offence, introduced from 1 December 2003, shows a national total of 129,700 offences in 2005.

8. Table 2 contains figures from 1951 to examine longer term trends. With the exception of **lighting and noise offences** the numbers in 2005 are all larger (mostly considerably so) than in 1951, as would be expected from the large increase in licensed vehicles over this period. These offences were six times more often subject to police action in 1971 and 1981 than in 2005 (36,700). There have been some reductions in recent decades. For example, the number of offences of **unauthorised taking or theft of a motor vehicle** rose from 12,300 in 1951 to 95,100 in 1991 and then gradually fell to 34,000 in 2005, despite a slight upturn in 2001 and 2002. The introduction of the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) which counts crime against individual victims rather than offences committed by perpetrators against one or more victims may have had an impact but this is not quantifiable.

9. The **load offences** group, which was highest in 1991 at 44,100 has shown a long term reduction to 11,500 in 2005.

10. **Offences peculiar to motor cycles** increased by 27 per cent to 6,000 from 4,700 in 2004 and is at its highest level since 1991 (7,300).

11. The number of **miscellaneous motoring offences** dealt with was larger in 2005 at 375,800, a rise of eight per cent on 2004, than in any other year shown in Table 2. There had been small reductions each year since 1998 (278,100) although there was a rise in 2001 which reflected a large increase in prosecutions under sections 172(3) and 172(4) of the Road Traffic Act 1988 – persons keeping vehicle failing to give driver's name and address on demand. There was large a large increase between 2002 and 2003 of 21 per cent to 267,000. Seat belt offences are within this offence group and showed a 16 per cent increase to 244,900 from 2004 to 2005. However, longer term comparisons like these should be made with caution because of changes in legislation and other enforcement practices which have taken place from time to time. The main legislative changes in recent years are listed in note 13.

THE WAY OFFENCES ARE DEALT WITH (Table B)

12. Table B shows that 15 per cent of offences were dealt with by court proceedings during 2005 (a two percentage point decrease on 2004), whilst 83 per cent were dealt with by fixed penalty notices or penalty charge notices (a one percentage point increase on 2004). There is wide variation between offence types. Virtually all **obstruction, waiting and parking offences** were dealt with by fixed penalty or penalty charge notice, whilst nearly all offences of **driving after consuming alcohol or drugs** were dealt with by court proceedings. Some disposal methods are not available for certain offences. For example, VDRS notices are only available for offences where **vehicles or parts of vehicles found to be in dangerous or defective condition**. 68 per cent of these offences were dealt with in 2005 in this way. Among the offences for which fixed penalty notices are available, 91 per cent of **speed limit offences** were so dealt with in 2005 (the same as in 2004). Fixed penalty notices dealt with 82 per cent of offences of **neglect of traffic signs and directions and of pedestrian rights** (again the same as in 2004). The detailed figures from which Table B is derived are included in Table 1 of the Supplementary tables (see note 23).

WRITTEN WARNINGS AND VDRS NOTICES (Tables B, 3 and 4)

13. The use of written warnings reached a peak in 1981, when 326,000 were issued. There has been a steady decline since then, although an upturn occurred in 1997 (when 201,000 were issued). Since then the number of offences has dropped rapidly to 47,400 in 2005 although there was a slight upturn in 2004 when 58,900 were issued. Table B shows that **lighting and noise offences** and **offences peculiar to motor cycles**, were more likely than other traffic offences to be dealt with by written warning. In contrast, Table 3 shows the numbers of written warnings (including formal cautions) issued and it can be seen that they were most frequently used for **licence, insurance and record keeping offences** (8,700 or 18 per cent of written warnings), **speed limit offences and dangerous, careless or drunken driving etc** (7,100 or 15 per cent and 6,300 or 13 per cent of written warnings respectively).

14. Most forces introduced Vehicle Defect Rectification Schemes during 1986, and up to 1997 approximately 270,000 were issued each year. But since 1997 the use of this scheme had declined with 122,500 being issued in 2003 before rising to 125,600 in 2004 and then falling to 118,200 in 2005. 75 per cent (88,700) of VDRS notices were complied with in 2005, one percentage point down on 2004. Notices not complied with are liable to lead to further action (e.g. court proceedings).

FIXED PENALTY NOTICES AND PENALTY CHARGE NOTICES (Tables C, 5 to 7, 22 and 23)

15. The total number of fixed penalty notices issued by the police (including traffic wardens) fell from 3.2 million in 1995 to 2.9 million in 2001 before rising to 3.5 million in 2003 and then decreasing to 3.2 million in 2005. Despite the fall in 2005 increases were observed for four out of eight offence groups shown in Table 5: '**Other offences**' (up 51 per cent), **Vehicle test and condition offences** (up 29 per cent), **miscellaneous motoring**

offences (up 17 per cent) and **Licence, insurance and record keeping offences** (up 15 per cent).

16. The largest increase of 49,000 (up 51 per cent) was for '**Other offences**', and is wholly attributed to the rise (of 71 per cent) in the issue of fixed penalty notices for offences of '**use of hand held mobile phone whilst driving**' which is part of this offence category. 126,800 fixed penalty notices were issued for these offences, up 52,800 on the 2004 figure. This represented 88 per cent of fixed penalty notices issued within the '**Other offences**' category (11 percentage points higher than in 2004).

17. For the '**Miscellaneous offences**' category, there was an increase of 34,800 (up 17 per cent) in the number of fixed penalty notices issued. In the main, the rise was due to an increase in issue for **seat belt offences** (up 33,000 or 16 per cent on 2004). 97 per cent of fixed penalty notices issued within the offence category were specific to these offences (one percentage point down on 2004).

18. **Obstruction, waiting and parking offences** were dealt with both by fixed penalty notices and penalty charge notices. There were 573,500 fixed penalty notices issued by the police in 2005, 309,000 or 35 per cent fewer than in 2004. The fall can be attributed mainly to more local authorities issuing penalty charge notices. 7.6 million breaches of parking regulations in 2005 were dealt with by penalty charge notices issued by local authorities (23,700 fewer than in 2004). This method was first used in 1994 and is provided for under the 1991 Road Traffic Act [see also note 13(k) (iii)].

19. Table C shows that the use of fixed penalties for **obstruction, waiting and parking offences** in London had been, by 2005, all but superseded by the use of penalty charge notices issued by local authorities. Although there was a substantial increase in London of the use of fixed penalty notices for the offences from 143,000 in 2002 to 210,000 in 2003 (up 47 per cent) the number fell to 163,000 (down 23 per cent) in 2004 and 28,000 in 2005 (down 83 per cent). The detailed penalty charge notices figures, for 1999 to 2005,

from which those in Table C are derived are included in Tables 22 and 23. A further breakdown, by local authority area, is published in Tables 22(a), 22(b), 22(c) and 22(d) of the Supplementary tables (see note 23). The police have the power to issue non-motoring fixed penalty notices for twenty-five disorder offences under section 1 to 11 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001. Statistics on these orders (Penalty Notices for Disorder) are not covered in this publication.

Table C Obstruction, waiting and parking offences - fixed penalties and penalty charge notices

England and Wales		Thousands					
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Fixed penalty notices							
Metropolitan & City of London Police	193	197	142	143	210	163	28
Other police forces	1,615	1,398	1,183	1,022	834 ⁽²⁾	720	546
Total	1,808	1,595	1,325	1,165	1,044 ⁽²⁾	883	573
Penalty charge notices							
London	3,664	4,021	4,222	4,799	5,053	5,392	5,060
Other local authorities ⁽¹⁾	292	634	1,081	1,614	2,070	2,261	2,570
Total	3,956	4,655	5,303	6,413	7,123	7,653	7,630
Total fixed penalties & penalty charge notices	5,764	6,251	6,628	7,578	8,167 ⁽²⁾	8,536	8,253

(1) From 1999 to 2002 England only.

(2) Revised. See Note 9.

20. A final analysis of results of fixed penalty notices issued in 2005 is not yet complete; this is because there is a time delay in forces receiving final information on outcome i.e. whether paid after charge certificate served or guilty from adjudication. However, provisional estimates suggest that 90 per cent of the fixed penalty notices issued by the police in 2005 were paid and a fine was automatically registered at court for a further seven per cent. These rates show a small but steady increase in the number of fixed penalties paid since 1995 when the figure was 74 per cent. Fixed penalties are more likely to be paid if the offence is endorsable. In 2005 it is estimated that 99 per

cent of fixed penalty notices issued for endorsable offences were paid without further enforcement, compared with 76 per cent (non-endorsable, driver present) and 72 per cent (non-endorsable, driver absent).

21. Of the total number of penalty charge notices dealt with in 2005, 53 per cent were paid within 14 days and a further 12 per cent were paid after 14 days but before enforcement. This compares with 50 per cent and 15 per cent respectively in 2004. In London in 2005, 53 per cent were paid within 14 days and a further 12 per cent were paid after 14 days but before enforcement. This compares with 48 per cent and 16 per cent in 2004. The total number of penalty charge certificates registered in 2005 decreased by two per cent from 1,048,300 in 2004 to 1,027,800 in 2005.

COURT PROCEEDINGS (Tables 8, 9 and 11 - 15)

22. The number of proceedings at magistrates' courts for offences relating to motor vehicles fell by 12 per cent between 2004 and 2005 to 2.0 million. Proceedings were most often taken for offences within the ***licence, insurance and record keeping offences*** category (including offences of '***using motor vehicle uninsured against third party risks***' and '***motor vehicle licence obscured or not affixed***'), amounting to 1.1 million such offences in 2005, compared to 1.3 million in 2004.

23. ***Speed limit offences*** and ***neglect of traffic signs and directions of pedestrian rights*** are the two offence groups for which cameras are used. ***Speed limit offences*** showed, for the third year, a rise in the number of prosecutions, from 172,300 in 2004 to 192,200 in 2005, up 12 per cent. Prosecutions, for offences of ***neglect of traffic signs and directions and of pedestrian rights*** (which includes traffic light offences which can be detected by cameras) in contrast showed a drop of four per cent from 44,600 in 2004 to 42,900 in 2005 (see also paragraph 33).

24. Table 9 shows how many defendants were proceeded against in magistrates' courts where their principal offence was a summary motoring

offence. These figures differ from those in Table 8 because a defendant can be proceeded against for more than one offence on each occasion and also because, for some, the principal offence is not a motoring offence. The table is, however, on the same basis as Table 2.1 of 'Criminal statistics, England and Wales 2005' ⁽¹⁾, which allows comparisons to be made with defendants proceeded against for non-motoring offences (see also note 10). Research suggests that groups of offences dealt with together in court generally arise from a single traffic incident (rather than from other events) ⁽²⁾.

25. 69 per cent of all court proceedings for motoring offences resulted in findings of guilt in 2005, up one percentage point on 2004. In total there were 1.39 million findings of guilt in 2005, compared to 1.55 million in 2004.

26. Table 12 shows that in 2005 nearly nine in ten of those found guilty of motoring offences were male. The highest percentage of males were recorded for **offences peculiar to motor cycles** (98 per cent), **load offences** (97 per cent), **dangerous driving** (97 per cent) and **unauthorised taking or theft of a motor vehicle** (95 per cent). The highest percentages of females were recorded for **obstruction, waiting and parking offences** (24 per cent), **miscellaneous motoring offences** (18 per cent) and **speed limit offences** (18 per cent). Disproportionate numbers of offenders were aged under 21 for **offences peculiar to motor cycles** (72 per cent) which include driving or riding on a motor cycle without wearing protective headgear and unlawful pillion riding and offences of **unauthorised taking or theft of a motor vehicle** (65 per cent).

27. In 2005, around 87 per cent of sentences or orders imposed at magistrates' courts were fines (Table 13). By contrast, immediate custodial sentences were the most frequent sentence or order imposed at the Crown Court (64 per cent of sentences) reflecting the relative seriousness of the motoring offences being dealt with. Nevertheless magistrates' courts gave more sentences of immediate custody for motoring offences (26,000) than the Crown Court (6,400). A substantial proportion of proceedings (27 per

cent in 2005) result in the offence being 'not separately dealt with', because a sentence or order has been imposed for another offence.

28. The average fine imposed at magistrates' courts during 2005 was £135, an increase of £6 on 2004 (Table 14). However when inflation is taken into account, at 1995 prices, there was an increase in real terms from £103 in 2004 to £105 for the year 2005. The average fines, in 2005, varied from £121 for **speed limit offences** to £358 for **load offences**.

29. Table 15 shows that more than half the sentences of immediate custody given for motoring offences at all courts were for offences of **driving while disqualified**. The offence most likely to be dealt with by a custodial sentence was **causing death or bodily harm** – 88 per cent, down two per cent from 2004. 44 per cent of convictions for **dangerous driving** attracted sentences of immediate custody, down one percentage point on 2004. Similarly, custodial sentences given on conviction for **driving while disqualified** also fell, from 41 per cent in 2004 to 39 per cent in 2005.

DISQUALIFICATIONS AND ENDORSEMENTS (Tables 16 and 17)

30. During 2005, there were 176,000 disqualifications for specific motoring offences in England and Wales, down 14,000 on 2004. A further 29,000 persons were disqualified under the penalty points or 'totting up' system, a decrease of 2,000 compared with 2004. In 2005 87,000 persons were disqualified for **driving etc. after consuming alcohol or taking drugs** a decrease of 3,000 from 2004. The number of disqualifications for this offence peaked at 103,000 in 1989 and steadily declined until 1995, since then it has been relatively stable.

31. The number of endorsements has been rising steadily since 1995, peaking at 2,801,000 in 2004 before slightly falling to 2,762,000 in 2005 (down one per cent). The rise is mainly due to an increase in endorsements imposed following a fixed penalty notice.

32. Forty-three per cent of disqualifications in 2005 were for more than one year, including 69 per cent of disqualifications for ***driving etc. after consuming alcohol or taking drugs***. The proportion disqualified for more than one year for this offence has steadily increased from 59 per cent in 1995.

TRAFFIC CAMERAS (Table D)

33. In 2005 cameras of all types provided evidence for 2.0 million motoring offences, a slight fall of two per cent on the 2004 figures. In 2005, 94 per cent of offences were ***speeding offences***, with the remainder being ***traffic light offences***. Overall, camera devices were used to provide evidence in 2005 for 88 per cent of cases where the police took official action for ***speeding offences*** and for 53 per cent cases of ***neglect of traffic signs and directions and pedestrian rights***, (which includes traffic light offences). The majority of these offences (94 per cent) were dealt with by fixed penalty.

34. The national safety camera programme, which allows some fine revenue received by magistrates' courts from fixed penalties for speeding, or jumping red traffic lights, to be used to meet the costs of operating speed and traffic signal cameras, was launched nationally in August 2001. This followed a successful pilot of the scheme in seven police force areas in England and Wales. All forces in England and Wales participated in the programme during 2005 with the exception of Durham and North Yorkshire [see also note 13(ii)]. On 15 December 2005 the Secretary of State for Transport announced the ending of the National Safety Camera Programme and netting off funding arrangement for cameras in England and Wales. Camera funding, activities and partnerships were integrated into the wider road safety delivery process from 1 April 2007. The move gives local authorities, the police and other local partners responsibility for the future deployment and operation of cameras. For guidance and best practice advice on the deployment of speed cameras from 1 April 2007 see the Department for Transport's Circular 1/07 – Use of Speed and Red-Light Cameras for Traffic Enforcement: Guidance on Deployment, Visibility And Signing.

Table D Fixed penalties and prosecutions for offences detected by cameras⁽¹⁾

England and Wales	Number of offences						
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Speeding offences							
Fixed penalty ⁽²⁾	423,000	599,200 ⁽³⁾	877,500	1,135,400	1,670,000 ⁽⁵⁾	1,786,600	1,763,500
Prosecutions	75,800	109,200	137,100	100,100 ⁽⁴⁾	127,400	127,100	109,300
Total	498,600	699,400 ⁽³⁾	1,014,600	1,235,500 ⁽⁴⁾	1,797,400 ⁽⁵⁾	1,913,700	1,872,900
Traffic light offences							
Fixed penalty ⁽²⁾	37,100	52,200	45,500	70,900	115,000	113,200	123,100
Prosecutions	14,900	15,900	11,100	13,200 ⁽⁴⁾	10,600	11,600	5,700
Total	52,000	68,100	56,600	84,100 ⁽⁴⁾	125,600	124,700	128,800
All offences							
Fixed penalty ⁽²⁾	460,100	642,400 ⁽³⁾	923,000	1,206,300	1,784,500 ⁽⁵⁾	1,899,800	1,886,700
Prosecutions	90,500	125,700	148,200	113,400 ⁽⁴⁾	138,000	138,700	115,000
Total	550,600	768,100 ⁽³⁾	1,071,200	1,319,700 ⁽⁴⁾	1,922,500 ⁽⁵⁾	2,038,500	2,001,700

(1) Automatic cameras until 1998, all camera types from 1999.

(2) Paid i.e. no further action.

(3) Revised. See Note 9.

(4) Revised. See Note 6.

(5) Revised. See Note 9.

BREATH TESTS

MAIN POINTS

- 607,000 screening breath tests were carried out during 2005, five per cent more than in 2004 (paragraph 35).
- The number of positive or refused tests in 2005 rose by one per cent from 103,000 in 2004 to 104,000 in 2005 (paragraph 36).
- The proportion of tests positive or refused in 2005 was 17 per cent, one percentage point lower than in 2004 (paragraph 36).

SCREENING BREATH TESTS (Table E, Table 18 and Figure 4)

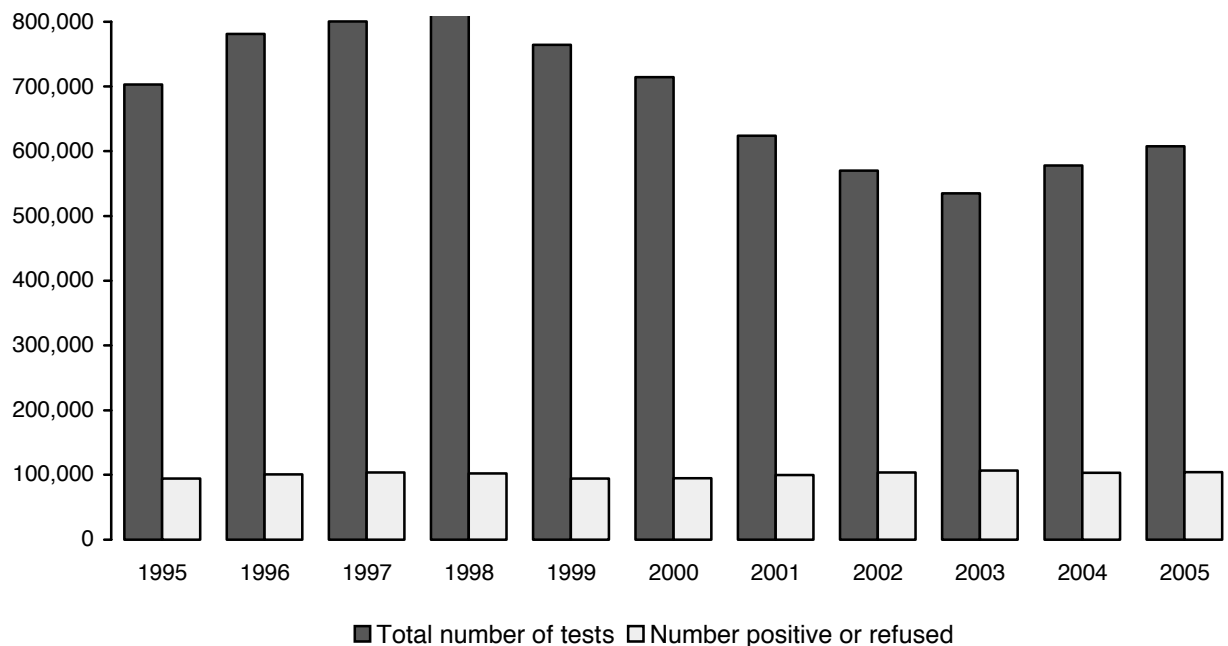
Table E Number of screening breath tests by outcome

England and Wales	Thousands and percentage changes						
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004 ⁽¹⁾	2005
Total number of tests	764.5	714.8	623.9	570.2	534.3	578.0	607.4
<i>Percentage (%) change on previous year</i>	- 6.3	- 6.5	-12.7	-8.6	-6.3	+8.2	+5.1
Of which positive/refused	94.1	94.6	99.5	103.5	106.3	103.0	104.3
<i>Percentage (%) change on previous year</i>	- 8.1	+ 0.5	+ 5.2	+4.0	+2.7	-3.1	+1.3

(1) Revised data. See Note 17.

35. During 2005, 607,400 screening breath tests were carried out by police officers. This is an increase of five per cent on the revised total of 578,000 recorded during 2004.

Figure 4 Screening breath tests by outcome



36. The number of positive or refused tests was 104,300 in 2005, a rise of one per cent from 2004 (103,000). The proportion of tests positive or refused in 2005 was, at 17 per cent, one percentage point lower than in 2004 but higher than in 1995 (13 per cent). The current proportion remains a lot lower than the level in 1979 when 51 per cent of the 164,000 tested were either positive, refused, or were unable to be tested.

37. Department for Transport figures ⁽³⁾ show that between 1998-2000 the number of people killed or seriously injured in accidents involving illegal alcohol levels remained steady at around 3,000 but rose by five per cent in 2001 to 3,230 and then again increased by three per cent in 2002 to 3,340. In 2003 there was a decrease of five per cent to 3,170 and a further decrease of eight per cent in 2004 to 2,920. Estimates for 2005 show a further decrease of ten per cent to 2,640. The reduction in 2005 was for both fatalities and serious casualties.

SEASONAL VARIATION (Tables 19 and 20)

38. In 2005, 18 per cent of all screening tests were conducted during December, which coincides with the regular Christmas campaign against drinking and driving. The number of screening tests carried out during December was more than twice the average number carried out in other months. The number of positive or refused tests at 9,700 was also the highest recorded. However the proportion of screening tests which, were positive or refused during December was nine per cent, which is around half the proportion of tests positive or refused in the other months.

POLICE FORCE AREAS (Table 21, Figures 5 and 6)

39. Police force areas varied widely in the number of tests carried out in 2005 per 100,000 population, from 270 in West Midlands to 3,200 in North Wales. Figure 5 illustrates the distribution across England and Wales. Forces with the highest number of tests per 100,000 population were North Wales, Cumbria, Cheshire, Hampshire, and Essex. The proportion of tests,

which are positive or refused, also varied by force, from six per cent in Cumbria and North Wales to 62 per cent in Gwent (see Note 16). Figure 6 shows police force areas by the number of positive or refused tests per 100,000 population in 2005. Forces with the highest rates of positive tests per 100,000 population were South Yorkshire, Thames Valley, Dorset, South Wales, Hampshire and Nottinghamshire.

- (1) See Home Office Statistical Bulletin 19/06 'Criminal statistics, England and Wales 2005' (The Stationery Office November 2006)
- (2) See 'The Criminal Histories of Serious Traffic Offenders' by Gerry Rose (Home Office Research Study 206)
- (3) See DfT 'Road Casualties Great Britain: 2006 - Annual Report' (The Stationery Office September 2007)

Figure 5 Total tests per 100,000 population by police force area 2005

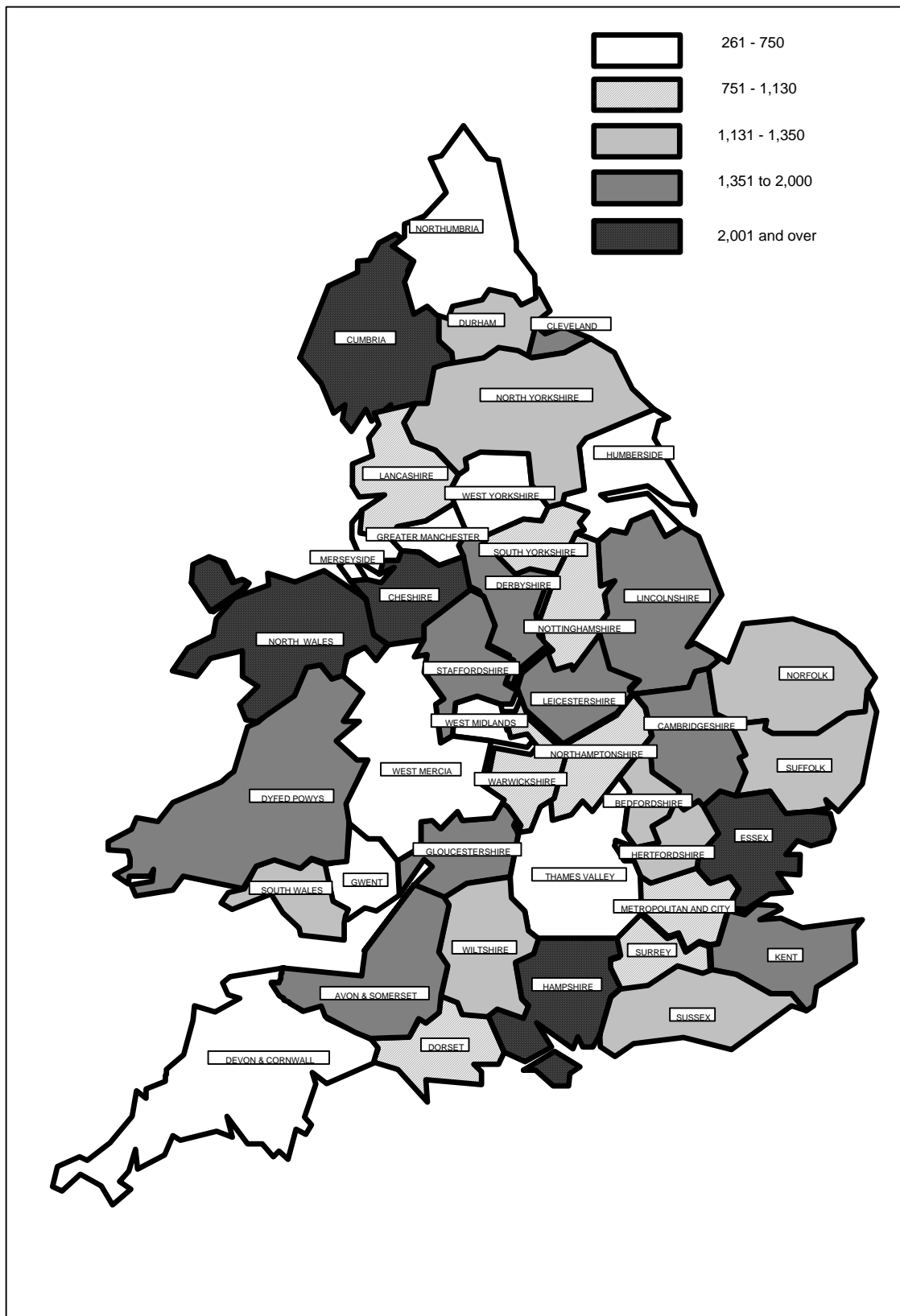


Figure 6 Positive/refused tests per 100,000 population by police force 2005



Table 1 Summary of action taken for offences relating to motor vehicles: written warnings, vehicle defect rectification scheme, fixed penalty notices, penalty charge notices and court proceedings

England and Wales	Thousands of offences													
	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	
Type of action:	151	274	238	326	231	161	127	109	87	59	57	59	47	
Written warnings issued														
Vehicle defect rectification scheme (VDRS) notices complied with ⁽¹⁾	*	*	*	*	196	192	168	127	102	91	90	96	89	
Fixed penalty not paid, no further action taken ⁽¹⁾	*	1,544	498	240	235	208	148	116	98	95	89 ⁽³⁾	
Fixed penalty paid	*	..	..	2,593	4,014	2,691	2,427 ⁽²⁾	2,391 ⁽²⁾	2,366 ⁽²⁾	2,416	3,051	2,969	2,918 ⁽³⁾
Fine registration certificate	*	*	*	*	1,134	472	407	371	369	322	346	301	221 ⁽³⁾	
Total dealt with by fixed penalty notice/fine registration	*	102	102	4,137	5,647	3,403	3,069 ⁽²⁾	2,969 ⁽²⁾	2,882 ⁽²⁾	2,853	3,495	3,364	3,228 ⁽³⁾	
Penalty charge notices issued ⁽⁴⁾	*	*	*	*	*	3,872	3,956	4,655	5,303	6,413	7,123	7,653	7,630	
Magistrates' court proceedings: ⁽⁵⁾⁽⁶⁾														
Proceedings discontinued, charges withdrawn or dismissed, etc	18	35	113	331	741	735	710	695	695	739	770	742	624	
Findings of guilt after summary trial	366	922	1,553	2,086	1,527	1,454	1,407	1,356	1,317	1,372	1,538	1,538	1,383	
Crown Court trial proceedings:														
Acquittals or not tried	-	1	3	4	5	3	3	3	3 ⁽⁷⁾	3	4	3	2	
Findings of guilt	-	2	9	16	19	10	8	8	9 ⁽⁷⁾	11	11	11	10	
Total dealt with by court proceedings	385	959	1,679	2,437	2,294	2,203	2,128	2,063	2,024 ⁽⁷⁾	2,124	2,324	2,294	2,019	
Total dealt with by cautions, VDRS, fixed penalties, penalty charge notices or court proceedings	536	1,335	3,907	6,900	8,368	9,831	9,448 ⁽²⁾	9,923 ⁽²⁾	10,398 ⁽²⁾	11,541	13,088	13,467	13,013	
Vehicles currently licensed (millions) ⁽⁸⁾	4.2 ⁽⁹⁾	9.0 ⁽⁹⁾	14.0 ⁽⁹⁾	15.3	22.7	25.5	26.2	26.2	27.0	27.7	28.2	29.0	29.7	

(1) When court proceedings are instituted following non-compliance with a VDRS notice or non-payment of a fixed penalty, the offence is included in this table only under 'court proceedings'. The total number of VDRS notices issued is shown in Table 4 and the total number of fixed penalty notices issued is shown in Tables 5 and 6.

(2) Revised. See Note 9.

(3) Details of whether fixed penalties were paid, or court proceedings instituted in respect of them etc. are not yet complete for 2005; the figures shown are estimates.

(4) See Note 13(k)(iii).

(5) Committals for trial to the Crown Court are excluded.

(6) Known shortfalls in proceedings for certain summary motoring offences from 1998-2003. See Notes 6 & 7

(7) Revised. See Note 6.

(8) Source: Department for Transport.

(9) Figures relate to Great Britain.

Table 2 Motoring offences ⁽¹⁾ ⁽²⁾ dealt with by official police action ⁽³⁾

England and Wales		Thousands of offences													
Offence group	Offence type	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	
1	Causing death or bodily harm	0.0	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	
2	Dangerous driving	4.9	10.9	10.7	6.8	12.2	10.1	9.5	9.2	9.6	10.7	11.4	10.3	8.5	
3	Driving etc. after consuming alcohol or taking drugs	3.4	7.5	46.0	82.4	119.1	104.4	99.7	96.3	96.1	102.1	105.7	107.2	103.5	
4	Careless driving	29.1	84.6	139.4	180.5	128.8	99.8	97.7	94.8	91.7	83.9	86.4 ⁽⁴⁾	137.8 ⁽⁴⁾	185.9	
5	Accident offences	8.6	19.9	30.9	57.5	53.9	31.6	29.9	29.0	30.4	30.1	31.1	29.3	26.9	
6	Unauthorised taking or theft of a motor vehicle	12.3	32.4	52.6	75.9	95.1	57.0	56.7	50.7	51.0	52.1	48.7	40.4	34.0	
7,9-12,14	Licence, insurance and record keeping offences	110.9	330.4	650.7	1,057.6	1,267.0	1,255.4	1,227.5	1,201.2	1,177.4	1,247.7	1,398.6 ⁽⁴⁾	1,387.2	1,195.7	
13,15	Vehicle test and condition offences	36.5	57.6	315.4	408.0	624.7	649.3	603.7	538.8	496.2	502.7	515.8	493.2	415.3	
16	Speed limit offences	83.3	147.4	272.1	343.6	637.0	975.1	995.3 ⁽⁴⁾	1,121.1 ⁽⁴⁾	1,318.8 ⁽⁴⁾	1,557.9 ⁽⁴⁾	2,066.3 ⁽⁴⁾	2,104.8	2,118.8	
17-19	Neglect of traffic signs and directions and of pedestrian rights	60.9	170.4	132.5	241.1	320.7	279.8	249.6 ⁽⁴⁾	234.9 ⁽⁴⁾	220.7 ⁽⁴⁾	220.1 ⁽⁴⁾	272.9 ⁽⁴⁾	267.3	244.0	
20	Obstruction, waiting and parking offences ⁽⁵⁾	89.0	300.8	1,975.7	4,211.7	4,760.5	2,146.8	1,836.0	1,619.1	1,348.0	1,185.9	1,065.0 ⁽⁴⁾	900.7	587.3	
21,22	Lighting and noise offences	66.9	115.6	229.8	227.7	88.1	77.6	68.9	55.6	45.6	43.7	41.9	42.3	36.7	
23	Load offences	5.5	11.4	17.7	35.9	44.1	25.5	21.1	18.6	15.8	13.1	13.8	12.8	11.5	
24	Offences peculiar to motor cycles	0.9	3.4	1.7	19.6	7.3	4.2	3.9	4.1	4.2	3.8	4.2	4.7	6.0	
25	Miscellaneous motoring offences ⁽⁶⁾	23.7	41.8	31.5	131.0	237.8	278.1	258.1	223.1	227.7	220.4	267.0 ⁽⁴⁾	346.7	375.8	
	Total	536.2	1,334.5	3,907.3	7,079.4	8,396.6	5,995.0	5,558.1 ⁽⁴⁾	5,296.9 ⁽⁴⁾	5,133.8 ⁽⁴⁾	5,274.6 ⁽⁴⁾	5,929.3 ⁽⁴⁾	5,885.1 ⁽⁴⁾	5,360.3	

(1) Table does not agree with Table 1 for technical reasons. To avoid double counting, if a fixed penalty notice is eventually dealt with by proceedings it will not be counted in Table 1. Fixed penalty notices where the outcome was not finalised are also excluded in Table 1.

(2) The basis on which the statistics are compiled has changed from year to year and comparisons between years should be made with caution. For example, theft offences were not collated on a comparable basis in 1951 and 1961 nor failure to pay motor vehicle duty in 1951, 1961 or 1971. Estimates based on court proceedings for principal offences have been used instead.

(3) Consists of court proceedings, written warnings, fixed penalties and vehicle defect rectification notices complied with.

(4) Revised. See Note 9.

(5) In addition, 7,629,597 penalty charge notices were issued in 2005 by local authorities for parking offences. See Note 13(k)(iii).

(6) Includes the following number of seat belt offences in 2005: 5,900 court proceedings, 234,800 fixed penalties and 4,200 written warnings.

Table 3 Written warnings by offence group

England and Wales		Thousands of offences										
Offence group	Offence type	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
1-4	Dangerous, careless or drunken driving etc. ⁽¹⁾	20	21	23	18	15	11	10	8	8	6	6
5	Accident offences	4	4	4	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	2
6	Unauthorised taking or theft of a motor vehicle ⁽¹⁾	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	5
7,9-12,14	Licence, insurance and record keeping offences	43	41	36	31	26	23	19	14	13	13	9
13,15	Vehicle test and condition offences	41	34	34	27	20	16	14	9	9	8	5
16	Speed limit offences	31	27	35	28	22	24	17	7	6	8	7
17-19	Neglect of traffic signs and directions and of pedestrian rights	16	13	16	11	8	7	4	3	3	3	3
20	Obstruction, waiting and parking offences	3	4	4	4	3	2	2	2	1	3	2
21,22	Lighting and noise offences	13	14	17	15	11	7	5	4	4	3	3
23	Load offences	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
24	Offences peculiar to motor cycles	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	Miscellaneous motoring offences	16	18	22	15	12	8	6	4	5	6	5
	Total	198	188	201	161	127	109	87	59	57	59	47
	Number of persons ⁽²⁾ (thousands)	155	143	157	135	106	92	75	52	50	48	41

(1) Cautions data has been included.

(2) See note 10.

Table 4 Vehicle defect rectification scheme (VDRS) notices issued⁽¹⁾ and complied with⁽²⁾

Year	VDRS notices issued	Thousands and percentages	
		No	%
1995	263	195	74
1996	272	207	76
1997	273	210	77
1998	251	192	76
1999	221	168	76
2000	170	127	75
2001	142	102	72
2002	128	91	71
2003	123	90	73
2004	126	96	76
2005	118	89	75

(1) A notice may relate to several defects.

(2) Vehicle repaired or scrapped within specified period.

Table 5 Fixed penalty notices issued by type of offence

England and Wales		Thousands of notices										
Offence group	Offence type	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
7,9,10	Licence,insurance ⁽¹⁾ and record keeping offences	43	48	47	50	68	49	50	50	68 ⁽²⁾	70	80
13,15	Vehicle test and condition offences	13	15	17	17	14	10	9	8	10	13	16
16	Speed limit offences	530	595	713	781	805 ⁽²⁾	942 ⁽²⁾	1,151 ⁽²⁾	1,407 ⁽²⁾	1,895 ⁽²⁾	1,924	1,920
17-19	Neglect of traffic signs and directions and of pedestrian rights	208	216	224	219	195 ⁽²⁾	183 ⁽²⁾	175 ⁽²⁾	177 ⁽²⁾	227	220	208
20	Obstruction, waiting and parking offences ⁽³⁾	2,271	2,282	2,199	2,118	1,808	1,595	1,325	1,165	1,044 ⁽²⁾	883	573
21,22	Lighting and noise offences	17	21	26	30	28	23	20	21	20	23	19
25	Miscellaneous motoring offences ⁽⁶⁾	131	160	184	200	185	159	149	134	152	207	242
4,23,24	Other offences ⁽⁷⁾	12	14	18	24	31	36	38	36	40	96	145
Total		3,225	3,352	3,428	3,440	3,134⁽²⁾	2,998⁽²⁾	2,918⁽²⁾	2,997⁽²⁾	3,457⁽²⁾	3,435	3,203

(1) As from 1 June 2003 the offence of having no insurance, contrary to s. 143 Road Traffic Act 1988 was added to the road traffic fixed penalty offence system

(2) Revised. See Note 9.

(3) In addition, 7.6m offences were dealt with in 2005 by penalty charge notices issued by local authorities. See note 13(k)(iii).

(4) The majority of these offences are seat-belt offences, 234,800 in 2005.

(5) The majority of these offences are use of hand-held mobile phone while driving offences, 126,800 in 2005.

Table 6 Fixed penalty notices by result - percentage paid, fine registered, etc

England and Wales	Percentage of notices issued											
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 ⁽¹⁾	
Result												
Penalty paid	74	76	77	78	79	80	82	84	87	88	90	
No further action	9	8	8	7	8	7	5	4	3	3	2	
Fine registered	16	15	14	14	13	12	13	11	10	9	7	
Referred for court proceedings	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.7	
Total notices dealt with ⁽²⁾⁽³⁾	3,225	3,352	3,428	3,440	3,089 ⁽⁴⁾	2,984 ⁽⁴⁾	2,897 ⁽⁴⁾	2,866	3,506	3,377	3,234	
(Thousands, = 100 %)												

(1) The analysis of results of fixed penalty notices is not yet complete for 2005. The percentages shown are estimates

(2) Between 1995 and 1998 total notices issued given as data by result was not sufficiently robust to show national figure.

(3) In addition, of the 7.6m penalty charge notices issued by local authorities for parking offences in 2005, 7.0m were dealt with. See Tables 22 and 23 and Note 13(k)(iii).

(4) Revised. See Note 9.

Table 7 Percentage of fixed penalty notices paid, by force area and type of notice

England and Wales		Percentages											
Year	Endorsable ⁽¹⁾					Non-endorsable					All notices		
	Metro-politan Police		Other forces		All forces	Metro-politan Police		Other forces		All forces	Metro-politan Police	Other forces	
1995	89.9	91.7	91.4	91.4	68.0	67.7	68.0	65.5	70.7	70.1	71.8	74.7	74.3
1996	92.6	91.7	91.9	91.9	70.0	71.5	69.7	66.1	71.8	71.2	74.2	75.8	75.6
1997	91.6	92.2	92.1	92.1	71.3	71.2	71.3	66.9	72.7	72.2	74.4	77.1	76.9
1998	92.4	93.3	93.2	93.2	73.1	72.7	73.2	69.0	73.5	73.1	75.5	78.7	78.4
1999	93.8	95.2	95.1	95.1	72.2	73.9	72.1	65.2	72.2	71.5	73.2	79.3	78.7
2000	96.5	97.1	97.1	97.1	73.1	72.8	73.1	62.5	71.8	70.7	71.7	81.3	80.4
2001	97.8	98.4	98.4	98.4	72.3	71.4	72.4	59.1	70.2	68.9	71.6	83.2	82.2
2002	98.2	98.7	98.7	98.7	73.4	71.3	73.7	59.4	70.2	68.8	72.9	85.4	84.3
2003	98.5	99.1	99.1	99.1	71.3	73.6	71.0	60.5	70.0	68.2	74.2	88.5	87.0
2004	98.8	98.2	98.2	98.2	73.9	73.9	73.9	63.8	72.2	70.6	79.1	89.0	87.9
2005 ⁽³⁾	99.2	98.4	98.5	98.5	76.3	74.0	76.6	63.7	72.4	72.1	91.2	90.1	90.2

(1) Includes offences detected by automatic cameras (up to and including 1998) and all cameras (from 1999) for which a conditional offer of a fixed penalty was made can only be counted if made substantive, i.e. if paid.

(2) For driver absent offences, a notice to owner is issued in the event of non-payment which can act as a reminder.

(3) The analysis of results of fixed penalty notices is not yet complete for 2005. The percentages shown are estimates.

Table 8 Proceedings at magistrates' courts for offences relating to motor vehicles

England and Wales		Thousands of offences												
Offence group	Offence type	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2004				2005			
		1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	
Offences for which a fixed penalty notice cannot be given:⁽¹⁾														
1	Causing death or bodily harm	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
2	Dangerous driving	9.5	10.7	11.3	10.3	8.4	2.8	2.6	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.9
3	Driving etc. after consuming alcohol or taking drugs	96.0	102.0	105.7	107.1	103.5	28.0	26.2	26.6	26.3	26.8	26.0	25.5	25.2
4	Careless driving ⁽¹⁾	47.5	43.8	42.1	40.9	40.4	10.6	9.9	10.4	9.9	10.7	10.7	9.7	9.3
5	Accident offences	28.1	28.4	29.5	27.8	25.3	7.7	6.9	6.9	6.4	6.6	6.6	6.2	5.8
6	Unauthorised taking or theft of a motor vehicle	44.3	46.1	43.0	34.7	28.8	10.2	8.7	8.3	7.4	7.7	7.4	7.2	6.5
[7,9 ⁽²⁾ ,10(pt),11,12,14]	Licence, insurance and record keeping offences ⁽¹⁾	1,107.5	1,183.1	1,088.9	860.9	713.5	239.6	214.6	216.8	189.9	190.2	188.2	174.9	160.2
13	Vehicle test offences ⁽¹⁾	328.0	356.2	372.1	344.7	278.0	100.9	84.5	84.3	75.1	75.8	73.2	67.8	61.1
25(pt) ⁽³⁾	Miscellaneous motoring offences ⁽¹⁾	66.9	77.1	104.5	128.4	123.6	33.7	31.8	32.8	30.1	31.7	33.5	31.5	26.8
	Sub-total	1,728.3	1,847.9	1,797.7	1,555.3	1,321.9	433.8	385.3	388.8	347.5	351.9	347.9	325.1	297.0
Offences for which a fixed penalty notice can be given:⁽⁴⁾														
9(pt) ⁽²⁾	Using motor vehicle uninsured against third party risks	*	*	557.6	441.8	392.8	120.8	108.1	111.3	101.5	103.8	102.8	97.0	89.1
10(pt)	Motor vehicle licence obscured or not affixed	0.7	0.8	0.7	1.0	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
15	Vehicle or part in dangerous or defective condition ⁽⁴⁾	43.0	37.8	34.6	31.8	26.9	8.8	7.5	7.8	7.6	7.3	6.9	6.7	6.0
16	Speed limit offences ⁽⁴⁾	150.3	144.2	165.5	172.3	192.2	44.2	41.0	43.6	43.5	46.5	49.5	49.6	46.7
17-19	Neglect of traffic signs and directions and of pedestrian rights ⁽⁴⁾	41.8	40.0	42.8	44.6	42.9	12.0	10.5	11.4	10.7	11.0	10.9	10.7	10.3
20	Obstruction, waiting and parking offences ⁽⁴⁾	21.3	19.4	19.9	15.4	12.0	4.8	3.9	3.2	3.5	3.2	3.1	3.0	2.6
21,22	Lighting and noise offences ⁽⁴⁾	20.6	19.4	17.8	15.9	14.3	4.3	3.9	4.1	3.7	3.8	4.0	3.7	2.8
23	Load offences ⁽⁴⁾	12.8	10.6	11.0	9.4	7.9	2.9	2.6	2.1	1.8	2.1	1.9	2.2	1.8
24	Offences peculiar to motor cycles ⁽⁴⁾	2.8	2.4	2.5	2.7	3.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.0
25(pt)	Seat belt offences	5.2	4.7	5.0	5.4	5.9	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4
	Sub-total	298.4	279.2	527.8	740.3	699.3	200.0	179.8	185.9	174.6	180.1	181.7	175.7	161.8
	Total	2,026.7	2,127.0	2,325.6	2,295.6	2,021.1	633.8	565.0	574.7	522.1	532.0	529.6	500.7	458.8

(1) Includes a small number of offences for which a fixed penalty notice can be given.

(2) As from 1 June 2003 the offence of having no insurance, contrary to s143 Road Traffic Act 1988 was added to the road traffic fixed penalty offence system

(3) As from 1 June 2003 the offence of failure to supply details necessary to identify an offending driver, contrary to s172 Road Traffic Act 1988 was added to the road traffic fixed penalty system. However the offence cannot be separately identified from other miscellaneous summary motoring offences within the same sub classification code

(4) Includes a small number of offences for which a fixed penalty notice cannot be given.

Table 9 Defendants proceeded against at magistrates' courts for summary motoring offences⁽¹⁾

England and Wales		Thousands of defendants															
Offence group	Offence type	2001			2002			2003			2004			2005			
		1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr
Offences for which a fixed penalty notice cannot be given:⁽¹⁾																	
3	Driving etc. after consuming alcohol or taking drugs	82.2	87.5	90.0	92.3	89.9	24.0	22.6	22.9	22.7	23.1	22.6	22.2	22.0			
4	Careless driving ⁽²⁾	32.7	29.3	27.2	27.6	26.7	7.1	6.8	7.0	6.8	7.1	7.0	6.3	6.1			
5	Accident offences	8.8	8.7	9.1	9.3	8.6	2.5	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.0			
[7,9 ⁽³⁾ ,10(pt),11,12]	Licence, insurance and record keeping offences ⁽²⁾	328.6	355.2	246.2	113.5	91.8	31.6	29.3	28.5	24.0	24.5	24.1	22.7	20.5			
13	Vehicle test offences ⁽²⁾	30.2	30.8	41.9	39.0	32.2	11.2	9.6	9.7	8.5	8.9	8.6	7.8	6.9			
25(pt) ⁽⁴⁾	Miscellaneous motoring offences ⁽²⁾	61.7	69.4	82.7	108.3	101.0	28.1	27.2	27.7	25.4	26.0	27.4	25.7	21.9			
	Sub-total	544.1	580.9	497.1	390.0	350.2	104.5	97.8	98.1	89.6	91.9	92.0	86.8	79.6			
Offences for which a fixed penalty notice can be given:⁽⁵⁾																	
9(pt) ⁽³⁾	Using motor vehicle uninsured against third party risks	*	*	140.9	283.1	256.0	76.5	68.9	71.9	65.8	66.955	67.022	63.7	58.3			
10(pt)	Motor vehicle licence obscured or not affixed	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			
15	Vehicle or part in dangerous or defective condition ⁽⁵⁾	14.6	12.5	11.7	11.6	10.2	3.0	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.4			
16	Speed limit offences ⁽⁵⁾	140.3	132.4	148.9	161.7	168.4	42.6	38.3	40.5	40.2	40.5	43.0	43.3	41.5			
17-19	Neglect of traffic signs and directions and of pedestrian rights ⁽⁵⁾	31.2	28.9	27.9	30.2	27.6	8.0	7.1	7.7	7.3	7.2	6.8	6.8	6.8			
20	Obstruction, waiting and parking offences ⁽⁵⁾	19.0	17.6	17.7	14.7	11.0	4.5	3.8	3.1	3.3	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.4			
21,22	Lighting and noise offences ⁽⁵⁾	4.8	4.4	4.1	4.2	4.1	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.1	0.8			
23	Load offences ⁽⁵⁾	8.9	7.4	7.5	6.6	5.2	2.1	1.9	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.2			
24	Offences peculiar to motor cycles ⁽⁵⁾	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1			
25(pt)	Seat belt offences	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.6	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4			
	Sub-total	220.7	204.9	360.5	514.0	484.5	138.3	124.3	129.3	122.1	123.1	125.2	122.2	113.9			
	Total	764.8	785.8	857.6	904.0	834.7	242.8	222.1	227.4	211.7	215.0	217.2	209.0	193.5			

(1) This table breaks down the figures published in Table 2.1 of Home Office Statistical Bulletin "Criminal statistics, England and Wales, 2005". It therefore counts the number of defendants for whom a summary motoring offence was the principal offence at that court appearance. It also excludes the summary offences of failing to pay appropriate vehicle excise duty, unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle and aggravated vehicle taking where the only aggravated factor was criminal damage of £2,000 and under.

(2) Includes a small number of offences for which a fixed penalty notice can be given.

(3) As from 1 June 2003 the offence of having no insurance, contrary to s143 Road Traffic Act 1988 was added to the road traffic fixed penalty offence system

(4) As from 1 June 2003 the offence of failure to supply details necessary to identify an offending driver, contrary to s172 Road Traffic Act 1988 was added to the road traffic fixed penalty system. However the offence cannot be separately identified from other miscellaneous summary motoring offences within the same sub classification code

(5) Includes a small number of offences for which a fixed penalty notice cannot be given.

Table 10 Offences dealt with by written warnings, VDRS notice, fixed penalty notice and court proceedings, and proportion dealt with by each method, by police force area

Police force area	Number of offences and percentages									
	Numbers					Percentages				
	Total = 100%	Written warnings ⁽¹⁾	VDRS notices ⁽²⁾	Fixed penalty notices issued	Court proceedings ⁽³⁾	Written warnings	VDRS notices	Fixed penalty notices issued	Court proceedings ⁽³⁾	
Avon and Somerset	183,900	2,000	5,000	101,500	75,500	1.1	2.7	55.2	41.0	
Bedfordshire	90,600	3,300	400	57,800	29,100	3.6	0.4	63.8	32.1	
Cambridgeshire	75,000	100	900	54,900	19,100	0.2	1.2	73.2	25.4	
Cheshire	82,800	100	600	52,200	29,900	0.1	0.7	63.0	36.2	
Cleveland	59,300	1,900	1,700	36,900	18,900	3.1	2.8	62.2	31.9	
Cumbria	53,700	800	1,800	34,100	17,000	1.4	3.4	63.4	31.7	
Derbyshire	80,800	500	4,900	47,900	27,600	0.6	6.1	59.3	34.1	
Devon and Cornwall	172,800	100	4,000	117,200	51,500	0.1	2.3	67.8	29.8	
Dorset	125,700	300	2,400	87,000	36,100	0.2	1.9	69.2	28.7	
Durham	31,200	600	2,500	12,900	15,200	1.9	8.1	41.3	48.7	
Essex	173,300	200	2,000	124,200	47,000	0.1	1.1	71.7	27.1	
Gloucestershire	54,100	500	1,900	30,500	21,200	0.9	3.5	56.4	39.3	
Greater Manchester	298,500	1,700	3,800	124,300	168,600	0.6	1.3	41.6	56.5	
Hampshire	143,200	100	1,300	92,200	49,600	0.1	0.9	64.4	34.6	
Hertfordshire	112,900	1,000	2,100	71,800	37,900	0.9	1.9	63.6	33.6	
Humberside	119,500	200	2,000	85,700	31,600	0.2	1.7	71.7	26.4	
Kent	128,200	300	3,700	71,300	52,800	0.2	2.9	55.7	41.2	
Lancashire	151,500	400	1,900	80,000	69,300	0.2	1.3	52.8	45.7	
Leicestershire	49,600	500	2,400	14,900	31,800	1.0	4.8	30.0	64.2	
Lincolnshire	98,400	100	2,800	59,400	36,100	0.1	2.8	60.4	36.7	
London, City of	33,000	0	500	18,800	13,700	0.1	1.5	56.9	41.5	
Merseyside	111,700	200	1,200	61,300	49,000	0.2	1.0	54.9	43.9	
Metropolitan Police	437,400	700	1,600	240,400	194,700	0.2	0.4	55.0	44.5	
Norfolk	61,700	100	1,600	37,300	22,700	0.1	2.5	60.5	36.9	
Northamptonshire	85,700	100	1,000	58,000	26,700	0.1	1.2	67.6	31.2	
Northumbria	176,200	7,400	8,900	100,600	59,400	4.2	5.0	57.1	33.7	
North Yorkshire	38,300	400	1,300	18,700	17,900	1.0	3.4	48.9	46.7	
Nottinghamshire	103,700	200	1,600	70,800	31,100	0.2	1.5	68.3	30.0	
South Yorkshire	147,000	1,000	3,200	96,100	46,800	0.7	2.2	65.4	31.8	
Staffordshire	112,200	1,300	1,900	67,600	41,300	1.2	1.7	60.3	36.8	
Suffolk	94,800	0	1,300	62,400	31,100	0.1	1.3	65.8	32.8	
Surrey	59,800	700	3,000	37,200	18,900	1.2	5.0	62.2	31.6	
Sussex	142,600	1,700	600	112,300	28,000	1.2	0.4	78.8	19.6	
Thames Valley	213,600	800	2,700	152,200	57,900	0.4	1.3	71.2	27.1	
Warwickshire	84,400	4,600	3,400	58,500	17,900	5.4	4.0	69.3	21.2	
West Mercia	120,400	400	4,500	79,500	36,000	0.3	3.7	66.1	29.9	
West Midlands	273,100	1,800	5,300	106,600	159,500	0.6	1.9	39.0	58.4	
West Yorkshire	269,100	1,100	5,800	130,000	132,100	0.4	2.2	48.3	49.1	
Wiltshire	101,500	2,500	3,400	64,000	31,600	2.4	3.3	63.1	31.1	
Dyfed Powys	43,000	800	8,000	15,000	19,200	1.8	18.6	34.9	44.7	
Gwent	44,800	300	2,000	22,000	20,500	0.7	4.5	49.0	45.8	
North Wales	126,100	1,500	2,800	95,200	26,600	1.2	2.3	75.4	21.1	
South Wales	224,400	5,300	4,600	141,900	72,600	2.4	2.1	63.2	32.4	
England and Wales	5,389,700 ⁽⁴⁾	47,400	118,100	3,203,000	2,021,100	0.9	2.2	59.4	37.5	

(1) Cautions data has also been included where appropriate (see Table 3 for more detail)

(2) Numbers of notices issued. A VDRS notice may cover more than one defect.

(3) Proceedings at magistrates' courts. Includes cases in which court proceedings were instituted either following non-compliance with a VDRS notice or, in the case of a fixed penalty notice, where the motorist chose to go to court.

(4) In addition, 7,629,587 penalty charge notices were issued in 2005 by local authorities for parking offences. See Note 13(k)(iii).

Table 11 Findings of guilt at all courts by type of offence

England and Wales

Offence group	Offence type	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 ⁽¹⁾	2002	2003	2004	2005
1	Causing death or bodily harm	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
2	Dangerous driving	6.4	5.8	5.9	5.7	5.2	5.2	5.4	6.3	6.8	6.6	5.8
3	Driving etc. after consuming alcohol or taking drugs	92.5	95.7	100.2	93.1	89.4	85.8	84.8	90.5	93.7	96.2	93.7
4(pt)	Use of hand held mobile phone whilst driving	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.0	0.6	1.8
4(pt)	Careless driving	61.9	57.4	55.8	52.1	46.8	41.3	36.9	33.6	31.7	29.9	28.3
5	Accident offences	18.7	17.9	18.0	17.3	16.4	15.8	15.9	16.3	17.1	16.3	15.2
6	Unauthorised taking or theft of a motor vehicle	33.5	32.2	30.3	30.0	29.5	25.4	24.6	25.8	24.2	21.8	19.2
7(pt)	Driving while disqualified	45.4	42.5	42.5	42.4	43.9	42.8	44.6	48.5	55.6	52.9	45.5
7(pt),9-12,14	Other licence, insurance and record keeping offences	742.3	713.7	703.8	693.9	668.9	670.6	655.3	706.6	816.2	820.3	709.5
13,15	Vehicle test and condition offences	259.9	243.7	234.6	233.3	227.4	217.2	203.1	211.4	221.9	205.9	165.2
16	Speed limit offences	119.0	130.0	132.8	153.5	153.6	141.4	135.6	124.6	140.1	143.2	160.4
17-19	Neglect of traffic signs and directions and of pedestrian rights	48.6	46.5	42.4	40.8	38.2	37.7	34.6	32.6	33.9	35.7	34.4
20	Obstruction, waiting and parking offences	16.2	15.4	15.7	16.8	16.6	14.2	14.0	13.2	14.0	10.7	8.3
21,22	Lighting and noise offences	25.6	24.5	23.3	22.9	21.2	17.9	14.2	13.6	12.4	11.2	10.2
23	Load offences	20.7	19.3	17.8	17.7	14.8	13.3	11.6	9.6	10.0	8.5	7.2
24	Offences peculiar to motor cycles	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.2	1.8	2.0	2.1	3.1
25(pt)	Non-compliance with notice to owner	6.6	7.7	11.8	9.9	10.2	3.6	3.0	2.8	3.0	2.5	0.7
25(pt)	Seat belt offences	6.6	6.7	6.4	6.6	5.5	4.4	4.0	3.6	3.7	4.1	4.7
25(pt)	Miscellaneous motoring offences	30.8	30.8	31.7	26.0	25.2	25.5	35.6	41.6	63.1	80.3	79.2
	Total (thousands)	1,537.3	1,492.4	1,475.3	1,464.5	1,415.2	1,364.6	1,325.8	1,382.7	1,549.6	1,549.2	1,392.7
	As a percentage of total court proceedings (Table 1)	64	65	66	66	66	66	66	65	67	68	69

(1) Revised. See Note 6.

Table 12 Findings of guilt at all courts by type of offence, age and sex of offender

England and Wales		Percentage male ⁽¹⁾					Percentage under 21 ⁽¹⁾				
Offence group	Offence type	2001 ⁽²⁾	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001 ⁽²⁾	2002	2003	2004	2005
1	Causing death or bodily harm	94	94	94	94	94	26	24	24	26	27
2	Dangerous driving	97	97	96	97	97	38	36	34	34	33
3	Driving etc. after consuming alcohol or taking drugs	90	89	89	89	88	13	12	13	12	12
4	Careless driving	85	85	85	86	86	17	17	18	17	17
5	Accident offences	88	88	87	87	87	22	23	23	22	21
6	Unauthorised taking or theft of a motor vehicle	96	96	95	96	95	70	67	68	66	65
7,9-12,14	Licence, insurance and record keeping offences	90	89	89	89	89	23	22	20	18	17
13,15	Vehicle test and condition offences	91	90	90	90	90	22	22	20	19	17
16	Speed limit offences	84	83	82	82	82	5	4	4	4	4
17-19	Neglect of traffic signs and directions and of pedestrian rights	85	84	86	86	86	9	9	11	12	12
20	Obstruction, waiting and parking offences	77	77	76	79	76	1	1	2	1	2
21,22	Lighting and noise offences	90	90	90	90	91	22	22	22	20	19
23	Load offences	97	97	97	97	97	2	2	2	2	2
24	Offences peculiar to motor cycles	97	97	97	98	98	79	81	77	72	72
25	Miscellaneous motoring offences	82	83	84	83	82	5	5	4	3	3
	Total	89	88	88	88	88	20	20	18	16	15

(1) The numbers on which these percentages are based are published annually in the supplementary tables to this bulletin (see Note 23)

(2) Revised. See Note 6.

Table 13 Sentences and orders⁽¹⁾ imposed by magistrates' courts and the Crown Court for offences relating to motor vehicles

England and Wales Thousands of offences

Sentence or order imposed	by magistrates' courts										by the Crown Court ⁽⁶⁾		
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005		
Absolute or conditional discharge or recognizance	65.1	60.2	56.2	54.7	55.7	50.5	47.2	50.1	51.2	42.2	35.6		
Community rehabilitation ⁽²⁾ or Supervision order	32.9	32.5	31.7	31.0	29.6	25.6	26.0	29.9	33.6	31.6	15.1		
Fine	1,059.6	1,031.6	1,015.2	988.8	918.1	878.4	840.5	859.1	994.6	1,021.7	943.2		
Community punishment order ⁽²⁾	17.0	15.2	15.2	15.0	16.2	15.2	15.9	16.9	17.5	19.2	9.0		
Attendance centre order	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.4	1.2	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5		
Community punishment and rehabilitation order ⁽²⁾	8.3	9.7	10.4	10.6	10.2	9.1	7.7	8.2	8.5	8.4	4.3		
Drug treatment and testing order	*	*	*	* ⁽³⁾	* ⁽³⁾	0.0	0.5	0.8	1.2	1.2	0.7		
Secure training order	*	*	*	0.1	0.2	0.1	*	*	*	*	*		
Referral order	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	11.5	13.5	9.7	9.0		
Community order	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		
Suspended sentence	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	4.0		
Detention and training order	*	*	*	*	*	2.2	3.8	3.3	3.2	2.7	2.1		
Youth custody / young offender institution	10.5	9.8	9.6	9.5	10.5	7.4	6.7	6.4	6.2	5.1	4.1		
Unuspended sentence	22.5	22.4	23.6	23.3	24.6	23.9	24.5	25.0	26.4	23.3	19.9		
Other ⁽⁴⁾	2.3	1.8	1.9	2.5	3.1	5.7	11.2	13.7	13.2	16.8	13.5		
Total sentences or orders	1,220.9	1,185.7	1,166.2	1,137.8	1,070.6	1,020.1	985.6	1,026.1	1,170.6	1,183.2	1,085.2		
Offence not separately dealt with ⁽⁵⁾	295.2	287.1	288.2	305.6	325.0	327.9	323.0	336.6	358.8	346.5	290.0		
Sentence or order imposed	by the Crown Court ⁽⁶⁾												
Absolute or conditional discharge	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1		
Community rehabilitation order ⁽²⁾	1.3	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.5		
Fine	1.4	1.3	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.7		
Community punishment order	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.6		
Community punishment and rehabilitation order ⁽²⁾	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.3		
Drug treatment and testing order	*	*	*	* ⁽³⁾	* ⁽³⁾	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.3		
Secure training order	*	*	*	-	0.0	-	*	*	*	*	*		
Community order	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		
Suspended sentence	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2		
Detention and training order	*	*	*	*	*	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1		
Youth custody / young offender institution	3.1	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.7	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.5		
Unuspended sentence	6.0	5.9	6.3	6.4	6.0	5.6	5.2	6.1	6.0	5.5	4.8		
Other ⁽⁴⁾	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2		
Total sentences or orders	14	13	13	13	12	11	10	11.7	11.9	11.5	10.0		
Offence not separately dealt with ⁽⁵⁾	6.8	7.3	7.5	8.4	8.4	7.3	7.2	8.3	8.5	8.4	7.2		

(1) Where more than one sentence or order was imposed for an offence, the principal sentence or order is shown

(2) New names for community sentences came into force in April 2001. They are community rehabilitation order (previously probation order), community punishment order (previously community service order) and community punishment and rehabilitation order (previously combination order)

(3) Drug treatment and testing orders given in pilot areas in 1998 and 1999 are included under 'Other' for these years

(4) Includes curfew orders, reparation orders and action plan orders and minor disposals

(5) It is known that a sentence or order was imposed for another offence in each case.

(6) Includes cases where the offender was found guilty by a magistrates' court and committed to the Crown Court for sentence.

(7) Revised. See Note 6.

Table 14 Average fines at magistrates' courts for certain motoring offences ⁽¹⁾ and average fines revalued to 1995 prices ⁽²⁾ (shown in brackets)

England and Wales		£											
Year	All offences	Dangerous driving	Driving etc. after consuming alcohol or taking drugs	Careless driving	Speed limit offences	Vehicle insurance offences	Load offences	£	£	£	£	£	£
1995	127	300	299	121	107	212	275						
1996	127 (124)	299 (292)	295 (288)	121 (118)	101 (99)	212 (207)	277 (270)						
1997	128 (121)	295 (279)	281 (266)	122 (115)	119 (113)	210 (199)	287 (272)						
1998	130 (119)	325 (297)	263 (241)	118 (108)	135 (124)	201 (184)	299 (274)						
1999	131 (118)	318 (287)	256 (231)	119 (107)	132 (119)	201 (181)	286 (258)						
2000	132 (116)	303 (265)	240 (210)	122 (107)	130 (114)	195 (171)	306 (268)						
2001	122 (105)	292 (251)	203 (175)	142 (122)	132 (114)	146 (126)	270 (232)						
2002	123 (104)	316 (267)	207 (175)	146 (124)	128 (108)	152 (129)	274 (232)						
2003	124 (102)	294 (242)	209 (172)	147 (121)	127 (104)	157 (129)	285 (234)						
2004	129 (103)	376 (300)	217 (173)	150 (120)	119 (95)	166 (133)	317 (253)						
2005	135 (105)	335 (260)	224 (174)	155 (120)	121 (94)	173 (134)	358 (278)						

(1) Only fines which are principal sentences are included

(2) As estimated by the Retail Price Index (RPI).

Table 15 Sentences⁽¹⁾ of immediate custody⁽²⁾ at all courts and as a percentage of all findings of guilt

England and Wales		Numbers and percentages										
Offence group	Offence type	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 ⁽³⁾	2002	2003	2004	2005
1	Causing death or bodily harm	250	290	270	270	210	250	300	300	300	300	400
2	Dangerous driving	2,500	2,300	2,500	2,300	2,300	2,400	2,600	3,000	3,100	3,000	2,600
3	Driving etc. after consuming alcohol or taking drugs	6,200	6,400	7,200	6,900	6,900	6,600	6,600	6,400	6,300	6,100	5,400
5	Accident offences	400	500	500	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	500
6	Unauthorised taking or theft of a motor vehicle	11,500	11,100	10,900	10,900	10,500	8,700	8,300	8,500	7,900	6,800	5,600
7(pt)	Driving while disqualified ⁽⁴⁾	21,000	20,300	21,000	21,200	23,300	22,600	23,600	23,700	25,400	21,700	17,900
9(pt)	Vehicle Insurance Offences ⁽⁵⁾	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
14	Fraud, forgery etc. associated with vehicle or driver records	200	100	100	100	100	90	80	300	100	100	100
25(pt)	Failing to give name and address etc. when required	40	30	30	30	40	50	30	30	20	30	-
	Total	42,000	41,000	42,500	42,200	44,000	41,200	42,100	42,900	43,800	38,600	32,400
		Percentage of findings of guilt resulting in an immediate custodial sentence ⁽²⁾										
1	Causing death or bodily harm	73	78	79	80	79	81	83	84	90	90	88
2	Dangerous driving	38	40	42	40	44	45	48	48	46	45	44
3	Driving etc. after consuming alcohol or taking drugs	7	7	7	7	8	8	8	7	7	6	6
5	Accident offences	2	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	3
6	Unauthorised taking or theft of a motor vehicle	34	34	36	36	35	34	34	33	33	31	29
7(pt)	Driving while disqualified ⁽⁴⁾	46	48	49	50	53	53	53	49	45	41	39
9(pt)	Vehicle Insurance Offences ⁽⁵⁾	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
14	Fraud, forgery etc. associated with vehicle or driver records	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	2
25(pt)	Failing to give name and address etc. when required	0	0	1	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	-

(1) Where more than one sentence was imposed for an offence, the principal sentence is shown.

(2) Unsuspended imprisonment, youth custody/young offender institution, secure training orders and detention and training orders.

(3) Revised. See Note 6.

(4) For 2001, 2003 and 2004 includes custodial sentences for 'driving after false declaration as to physical fitness etc' (5 in 2001, 4 in 2003 and 2 in 2004) and 'other driving licence related offences (excluding fraud & forgery) (1 in 2003 only)'. In 2005 includes three custodial sentences for offences of 'making false statements to obtain or failure to produce revoked licence'.

(5) Offence of 'making false statement or withholding material information in order to obtain the issue of a certificate of insurance'.

Table 16 Driving licence disqualifications and endorsements, by type of offence

England and Wales		Thousands of offences										
Offence group	Offence type	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
1, 2, 4, 5	Dangerous, careless driving and accident offences	7	7	8	8	7	7	8 ⁽¹⁾	9	10	11	10
3	Driving etc. after consuming alcohol or taking drugs	84	88	93	86	83	80	79 ⁽¹⁾	85	87	90	87
6-25	Other offences	64	61	60	64	66	66	78 ⁽¹⁾	90	93	90	80
	Total	155	156	161	158	156	153	165 ⁽¹⁾	184	191	190	176
	Persons disqualified under the penalty points system⁽²⁾	32	31	31	33 ⁽³⁾	34	34	30 ⁽¹⁾	30	33	31	29
	Endorsements without disqualifications											
1-5	Dangerous, drunken, careless driving and accident offences	81	74	72	67	61	55	50	47	44	41	39
16-19	Speed limit offences and neglect of traffic signs, directions and of pedestrian rights	781	852	974	1,052	1,066 ⁽⁴⁾	1,196 ⁽⁴⁾	1,388 ⁽⁴⁾	1,653 ⁽⁴⁾	2,200 ⁽⁴⁾	2,224	2,239
7,9,10,12	Licence and insurance offences	374	351	344	337	364	374	369	394	448	453	405
[6, 11, 13-15, 20-25]	Other offences	74	73	75	70	61	52	49	49	64	82	79
	Total	1,310	1,350	1,464	1,525	1,552 ⁽⁴⁾	1,677 ⁽⁴⁾	1,856 ⁽⁴⁾	2,143 ⁽⁴⁾	2,756 ⁽⁴⁾	2,801	2,762
	Of which:											
	As a result of a fixed penalty notice ⁽⁵⁾	651	717	841	903	915 ⁽⁴⁾	1,051 ⁽⁴⁾	1,256 ⁽⁴⁾	1,532 ⁽⁴⁾	2,069 ⁽⁴⁾	2,089	2,091

(1) Revised. See Note 6.

(2) Excludes those persons who were disqualified for their current offences.

(3) Estimate. Figure amended since publication of 'Offences relating to motor vehicles, England and Wales 1998, Supplementary tables'.

(4) Revised. See Note 9.

(5) Included also in the appropriate rows above.

Table 17 Driving licence disqualifications ⁽¹⁾: disqualifications of over one year, and as a percentage of all disqualifications, by type of offence

England and Wales		Numbers and percentages										
Offence group	Offence type	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 ⁽²⁾	2002	2003	2004	2005
Disqualifications of over 1 year												
1, 2, 4, 5	Dangerous, careless driving and accident offences	2,600	2,300	2,700	2,200	2,100	2,000	2,200	2,600	3,000	2,900	2,400
3	Driving etc. after consuming alcohol or taking drugs	49,700	51,900	57,000	54,600	52,900	52,300	53,500	57,900	59,600	62,300	59,900
6-25	Other offences	12,800	11,700	12,000	12,100	12,000	11,700	12,300	13,900	14,800	15,300	13,400
	All offences	65,100	65,900	71,800	68,900	66,900	65,900	68,000	74,400	77,400	80,500	75,700
Percentage of all disqualifications that were over 1 year												
1, 2, 4, 5	Dangerous, careless driving and accident offences	33	35	34	28	28	27	28	28	29	27	25
3	Driving etc. after consuming alcohol or taking drugs	59	59	61	63	64	65	67	68	69	69	69
6-25	Other offences	20	19	20	19	18	18	16	16	16	17	17
	All offences	42	42	45	44	43	43	41	41	41	42	43

(1) Excluding disqualifications imposed under 'totting-up rules'/penalty points system

(2) Revised. See Note 6.

Table 18 Screening breath tests by outcome

England and Wales										Thousands and percentages	
Outcome	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total number of tests	702.7	781.1	800.3 ⁽¹⁾	815.5	764.5	714.8	623.9	570.2	534.3	578 ⁽²⁾	607.4
Number positive or refused	94.4	100.5	103.5	102.3 ⁽³⁾	94.1 ⁽³⁾	94.6 ⁽³⁾	99.5 ⁽³⁾	103.5 ⁽³⁾	106.3 ⁽³⁾	103.0 ⁽³⁾	104.3 ⁽³⁾
% Positive or refused	13	13	13	13	12	13	16	18	20	18	17

(1) See Note 15. (2) Revised data. See Note 17. (3) See Note 16.

Table 19 Screening breath tests by outcome and quarter

England and Wales													Thousands and percentages			
Outcome	2003 ⁽¹⁾				2004 ⁽¹⁾				2005 ⁽¹⁾							
	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr				
Total number of tests	130.1	119.3	122.6	162.3	127.0	129.6	136.8 ⁽²⁾	184.6	131.8	130.6	134.4	210.5				
Number positive or refused	25.7	26.4	26.4	27.9	24.8	25.9	25.6	26.8	24.1	26.0	25.6	28.6				
% Positive or refused	20	22	22	17	20	20	19	14	18	20	19	14				

(1) See Note 16. (2) Revised data. See Note 17.

Table 20 Screening breath tests and number positive or refused by month

England and Wales 2005 ⁽¹⁾			Numbers and percentages	
Month	Total tests		Positive / refused	% Positive / refused
January	48,400		8,400	17
February	41,000		7,700	19
March	42,500		8,000	19
April	41,700		8,500	20
May	44,700		9,000	20
June	44,200		8,600	19
July	44,700		8,600	19
August	48,100		8,600	18
September	41,500		8,400	20
October	51,700		9,400	18
November	52,100		9,400	18
December	106,800		9,700	9
Total	607,400		104,300	17

(1) See Note 16.

Table 21 Screening breath tests and number positive or refused by police force area

Police force area	2004 ⁽¹⁾						2005 ⁽¹⁾					
	Total tests	Total tests per 100,000 pop	Positive / refused	Positive / refused per 100,000 pop	% Positive / refused	Total tests	Total tests per 100,000 pop	Positive / refused	Positive / refused per 100,000 pop	% Positive / refused		
	tests	pop		pop		tests	pop		pop			
Avon and Somerset	27,300	1,810	3,000	201	11	22,000	1,443	3,200	209	15		
Bedfordshire	7,800	1,353	1,100	199	15	6,700	1,163	900	163	14		
Cambridgeshire	12,300	1,685	1,300	172	10	12,500	1,694	1,300	178	11		
Cheshire	20,200	2,035	2,400	245	12	22,000	2,217	2,000	197	9		
Cleveland	8,100	1,453	700	122	8	10,800	1,957	700	132	7		
Cumbria	8,400	1,721	700	139	8	13,600	2,744	800	166	6		
Derbyshire	31,000	3,178	2,100	218	7	17,700	1,806	1,300	135	7		
Devon and Cornwall	10,700	668	2,800	175	26	10,400	644	2,600	159	25		
Dorset	7,000	992	1,700	241	24	7,900	1,130	1,800	258	23		
Durham	6,100	1,026	1,200	204	20	7,700	1,299	1,100	180	14		
Essex	25,300	1,555	3,000	183	12	34,200	2,094	2,700	166	8		
Gloucestershire	7,100	1,257	1,300	225	18	9,100	1,593	1,300	230	14		
Greater Manchester	19,900	786	6,300	249	32	18,900	744	5,400	213	29		
Hampshire	38,400	2,137	3,800	212	10	38,300	2,127	4,300	237	11		
Hertfordshire	7,300	700	2,000	195	28	11,900	1,143	1,900	179	16		
Humberside	5,600	637	700	80	13	5,700	644	700	83	13		
Kent	32,000	2,001	3,200	199	10	31,200	1,937	2,200	135	7		
Lancashire	10,200	714	2,900	203	28	13,000	905	2,900	199	22		
Leicestershire	15,800 ⁽²⁾	1,687 ⁽²⁾	2,200	237	14	14,400	1,525	2,000	207	14		
Lincolnshire	11,300	1,700	900	141	8	11,400	1,697	1,000	148	9		
London, City of ⁽³⁾	700	..	100	..	20	1,100	..	200	..	16		
Merseyside	5,000	368	2,300	167	45	8,000	586	2,100	153	26		
Metropolitan Police	61,500	834	15,700	213	26	67,500	923	16,700	227	25		
Norfolk	4,800	593	1,000	122	21	10,400	1,270	1,000	128	10		
Northamptonshire	3,200	498	1,200	189	38	5,200	803	1,100	175	22		
Northumbria	9,800	702	2,200	157	22	9,300	666	2,600	188	28		
North Yorkshire	8,600	1,131	1,500	197	17	9,300	1,221	1,400	186	15		
Nottinghamshire	8,200	801	2,500	244	30	7,900	766	2,400	236	31		
South Yorkshire	6,500	510	2,400	190	37	13,700	1,071	3,700	290	27		
Staffordshire	13,700	1,303	1,900	180	14	14,300	1,363	1,900	178	13		
Suffolk	10,600	1,559	1,200	177	11	8,900	1,295	1,000	149	11		
Surrey	9,500	891	1,100	100	11	9,600	900	1,000	98	11		
Sussex	15,200	1,010	2,200	146	14	18,000	1,191	2,200	148	12		
Thames Valley	15,400	727	4,000	188	26	14,600	690	5,900	277	40		
Warwickshire	5,500	1,058	700	142	13	4,800	917	800	149	16		
West Mercia	8,000	681	2,400	207	30	8,800	749	2,700	229	31		
West Midlands	6,600	255	4,800	187	73	6,900	268	4,900	191	71		
West Yorkshire	16,900	807	4,300	205	25	15,400	729	4,700	222	30		
Wiltshire	7,400	1,189	1,300	214	18	7,200	1,143	1,200	199	17		
Dyfed-Powys	6,700	1,341	1,100	213	16	6,900	1,373	1,000	198	14		
Gwent	1,600	294	1,300	226	77	2,000	352	1,200	216	62		
North Wales	24,200	3,604	1,400	214	6	21,800	3,234	1,400	203	6		
South Wales	16,700	1,379	3,000	249	18	16,300	1,336	3,000	245	18		
Total	578,000⁽²⁾	1,095⁽²⁾	103,000	195	18	607,400	1,145	104,300	197	17		

(1) See Note 16.

(2) Revised data. See Note 17.

(3) Included with Metropolitan Police in Figures 5 and 6.

Table 22 Penalty charge notices for on-street parking offences

	Thousands of notices						
Penalty Charge Notices	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
London local authorities							
Penalty charge notices issued	3,663.5	4,020.9	4,221.9	4,798.8	5,053.0	5,391.9	5,060.0
<i>of which</i>							
Paid within 14 days	1,412.3	1,418.6	1,835.6	2,017.6	2,220.9	2,500.1	2,377.4
Paid after 14 days but before service of charge certificate	387.7	388.1	444.0	517.8	550.4	809.3	524.8
Paid after charge certificate served	..	..	96.6	130.9	164.2	133.9	167.4
Sub-total paid	1,800.1	1,806.7	2,376.2	2,666.2	2,935.4	3,443.4	3,069.6
Cases going for adjudication	39.0	33.5	32.0	64.1	46.7	56.3	46.6
Number of certificates registered	537.5	539.5	827.8	990.1	788.2	775.4	721.9
No further action taken ⁽¹⁾	672.6	539.4	611.9	1,014.7	965.6	903.2	674.5
Total ⁽²⁾	3,049.1	2,919.0	3,847.9	4,735.0	4,735.8	5,178.5	4,512.7
Number of vehicles wheelclamped	77.6	83.0	93.5	107.6	114.7	102.1	110.8
Number of vehicles removed	43.6	71.0	36.1	97.9	68.3	68.2	84.3
Other local authorities							
Penalty charge notices issued	292.1	634.4	1,081.1	1,614.3	2,069.6	2,261.3	2,569.6
<i>of which</i>							
Paid within 14 days	162.9	334.6	550.6	775.3	1,035.0	1,176.1	1,340.1
Paid after 14 days but before service of charge certificate	34.1	58.2	135.3	213.7	270.5	277.5	298.3
Paid after charge certificate served	9.6	26.8	33.5	49.9	56.0	61.2	97.7
Sub-total paid	206.6	419.6	719.4	1,038.8	1,361.5	1,514.8	1,736.1
Cases going for adjudication	1.4	1.8	2.9	5.1	6.6	8.1	6.7
Number of certificates registered	26.1	78.4	113.6	223.4	245.6	272.8	305.9
No further action taken ⁽¹⁾	44.5	94.1	163.2	294.0	396.0	366.5	406.2
Total ⁽²⁾	278.5	593.8	999.1	1,561.4	2,009.7	2,162.2	2,454.9
Number of vehicles wheelclamped ⁽³⁾	0.4	2.1	2.6	4.0	1.6	0.1	0.1
Number of vehicles removed ⁽³⁾	4.8	11.2	14.3	22.2	18.4	14.3	18.1
Number of local authorities issuing PCNs	9	25	44	61	83	98	126
England and Wales⁽⁴⁾							
Penalty charge notices issued	3,955.6	4,655.3	5,303.0	6,413.1	7,122.6	7,653.2	7,629.6
<i>of which</i>							
Paid within 14 days	1,575.2	1,753.2	2,386.2	2,792.8	3,255.9	3,676.2	3,717.5
Paid after 14 days but before service of charge certificate	421.8	446.3	579.2	731.5	820.9	1,086.8	823.0
Paid after charge certificate served	9.6	26.8	130.1	180.7	220.2	195.1	265.1
Sub-total paid	2,006.6	2,226.2	3,095.6	3,705.0	4,296.9	4,958.3	4,805.7
Cases going for adjudication	40.4	35.2	34.9	69.2	53.3	64.4	53.3
Number of certificates registered	563.6	617.8	941.4	1,213.4	1,033.8	1,048.3	1,027.8
No further action taken ⁽¹⁾	717.1	633.5	775.0	1,308.7	1,361.5	1,269.6	1,080.7
Total ⁽²⁾	3,327.7	3,512.9	4,847.0	6,296.3	6,745.5	7,340.7	6,967.6
Number of vehicles wheelclamped ⁽³⁾	78.0	85.1	96.1	111.5	116.3	102.2	110.9
Number of vehicles removed ⁽³⁾	48.4	82.2	50.4	120.1	86.7	82.5	102.4
Number of local authorities issuing PCNs ⁽⁵⁾	10	26	45	62	84	99	127

(1) Where the PCN is written off, for example, the motorist cannot be traced or the PCN is cancelled due to parking attendant error or successful representation (2) This figure excludes notices still being processed and for some local authorities will include those issued in the previous period (year).

(3) Not all local authorities collect this data.

(4) The first Welsh local authority joined the scheme in 2004.

(5) All London local authorities within the scheme are counted as one for this table.

Table 23 Penalty charge notices for on-street parking offences

Percentages of offences

Penalty Charge Notices	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
London local authorities							
Paid within 14 days	46.3	48.6	47.7	42.6	46.9	48.3	52.7
Paid after 14 days but before service of charge certificate	12.7	13.3	11.5	10.9	11.6	15.6	11.6
Paid after charge certificate served	..	..	2.5	2.8	3.5	2.6	3.7
Sub-total paid	59.0	61.9	61.8	56.3	62.0	66.5	68.0
Cases going for adjudication	1.3	1.1	0.8	1.4	1.0	1.1	1.0
Number of certificates registered	17.6	18.5	21.5	20.9	16.6	15.0	16.0
No further action taken ⁽¹⁾	22.1	18.5	15.9	21.4	20.4	17.4	14.9
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Other local authorities							
Paid within 14 days	58.5	56.3	55.1	49.7	51.5	54.4	54.6
Paid after 14 days but before service of charge certificate	12.2	9.8	13.5	13.7	13.5	12.8	12.1
Paid after charge certificate served	3.4	4.5	3.4	3.2	2.8	2.8	4.0
Sub-total paid	74.2	70.7	72.0	66.5	67.7	70.1	70.7
Cases going for adjudication	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3
Number of certificates registered	9.4	13.2	11.4	14.3	12.2	12.6	12.5
No further action taken ⁽¹⁾	16.0	15.8	16.3	18.8	19.7	16.8	16.5
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
England and Wales⁽²⁾							
Paid within 14 days	47.3	49.9	49.2	44.4	48.3	50.1	53.4
Paid after 14 days but before service of charge certificate	12.7	12.7	11.9	11.6	12.2	14.8	11.8
Paid after charge certificate served	0.3	0.8	2.7	2.9	3.3	2.7	3.8
Sub-total paid	60.3	63.4	63.9	58.8	63.7	67.5	69.0
Cases going for adjudication	1.2	1.0	0.7	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.8
Number of certificates registered	16.9	17.6	19.4	19.3	15.3	14.3	14.8
No further action taken ⁽¹⁾	21.5	18.0	16.0	20.8	20.2	17.3	15.5
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

(1) Where the PCN is written off, for example, the motorist cannot be traced or the PCN is cancelled due to parking attendant error or successful representation.

(2) The first Welsh local authority joined the scheme in 2003

NOTES

MOTORING OFFENCES

Sources of previous statistics

1. Statistics for the years 1928 - 1976 were published annually as a return to the House of Commons and for 1977 - 1979 as a Command Paper (for 1979 Cmnd 8087). Statistics for 1980 to 2004 have been published in Statistical Bulletins and in more detailed tables published separately ('Offences relating to Motor Vehicles, England and Wales, Supplementary Tables') – see note 22.

Coverage of the statistics

2. The term "motor vehicle" in this bulletin means a mechanically propelled vehicle intended or adapted for use on roads, and includes motor cycles, motor scooters, mechanically propelled invalid carriages, road rollers and tractors.

3. The statistics shown are for offences dealt with by means of written warnings or formal cautions, Vehicle Defect Rectification Scheme notices, fixed penalty notices, penalty charge notices or court proceedings. Offences dealt with by an oral warning or a "no further action" letter are not covered.

4. All the figures in this bulletin are based on a comprehensive recording procedure. However, despite the care which is taken by the police in completing the returns and by RDS-OCJR in analysing them, the figures are of necessity subject to the inaccuracies inherent in any large-scale recording system of this kind and so the figures are not necessarily accurate to the last digit shown. It is known that for some police force areas, the reporting of court proceedings in particular those relating to summary motoring offences, may be less than complete. Work is underway to ensure that the magistrates' courts case management system currently being implemented by the Ministry of Justice reports all motoring offences to the Office for Criminal Justice Reform. This will enable more complete figures to be disseminated.

Court proceedings

5. In 1995, technical problems prevented the processing of multiple returns of some summary motoring proceedings and *Lincolnshire* Police were not able to supply all the returns for drink driving prosecutions. In 1996, *West Mercia* was unable to supply details of summary motoring prosecutions for the months of November and December. In 1999 *Lancashire* Police did not supply all motoring prosecutions for the last quarter of the year. Tables incorporating information about court proceedings in this bulletin include estimates for all these shortfalls. Table 9, however, contains no such estimation, in order to preserve comparability with Table 3.1 of 'Criminal Statistics' which contains no adjustment. Also in 1999 the *Metropolitan Police* were unable to supply details of fixed penalty notices for the month of October and estimates have been made for this shortfall in the tables in which numbers of fixed penalties are included.

6. In 2000 *Staffordshire* police were only able to supply a 9% sample of court proceedings data covering one full week in each quarter. This data has been used to estimate the total number of defendants for which magistrates' court proceedings, were completed in that area. Hence all *Staffordshire* figures for 2000 are estimates and the England and Wales figures for 2000 have been constructed using these

estimates. *Norfolk* police in 2000 were not able to supply all the returns for summary proceedings within the required timescale and for the first time, problems were encountered with the electronic submission of data directly from the courts – resulting in shortfalls in summary motoring offences for *Northamptonshire* from June onwards. The shortfalls in 2000 for both *Norfolk* and *Northamptonshire* are estimated at approximately 10,000 summary motoring offences. In 2001 *Northamptonshire* continued with its shortfall of summary motoring offences which is estimated at approximately 19,000. Furthermore a single month's shortfall or part thereof was found for court proceedings summary motoring offences (10,000) at *Humberside*, *Merseyside*, *Staffordshire* and *Surrey* police forces. The estimates for 2000 and 2001 have not been included in this bulletin. As a result of an error in data processing procedures there was also a shortfall in the recording of data proceedings at the Crown Court in 2001. In consequence national data has been revised. In 2002 *Northamptonshire's* continuing shortfall for summary motoring offences is estimated at approximately 18,000 proceedings. Part shortfalls (4,000) were also found for *Merseyside*, *Norfolk* and *Gwent*. Comparison of police prosecutions and court proceedings data for speeding and traffic light offences detected by camera has led to a revision of total prosecutions for these offences for 2002 (see Table D).

7. In 2003 there is an estimated shortfall of 12,800 court proceedings for summary motoring offences. In the main, these fell within *Suffolk* (2,500) and *Northamptonshire* (6,200) forces. These estimates have not been included in this bulletin. No significant shortfalls were identified in 2004 or 2005.

Penalty Charge Notices

8. Figures for penalty charge notices in London include off street parking offences which are not covered by fixed penalty notices issued by the police (including traffic wardens). The London Borough of *Merton*, for the year 2005, was unable to submit a breakdown by result of the 53,646 penalty charge notices issued.

Fixed Penalty Notices

9. Following publication of 2000 data *Northamptonshire* police force revised their 2000 figures for the number of fixed penalty notices issued for speeding offences from 70,300 to 34,800 (a decrease of 35,500). Since publication of 2002 data *Essex* police force have revised down their 1999 to 2002 figures for the fixed penalty notices issued for speeding and traffic light offences - for the purpose of supplying data to the Home Office, the force had inadvertently double counted offences detected by camera within the overall fixed penalty offence groups totals. In consequence, national data has been revised. Following publication of 2003 data *Derbyshire*, *Lancashire* and *North Wales* police force areas revised down their 2003 figures and in consequence national data have been adjusted. Following publication of 2004 data *Gwent* revised down their 2004 figures and in consequence national data have been adjusted.

Counting basis

10. A person appearing in court can be dealt with for more than one offence at that appearance. Except in Table 9, the tables show the numbers of offences or alleged offences dealt with and not the number of persons appearing in court. This method of counting differs from the principal offence basis used in Table 9 and for tables relating to court proceedings in the Home Office Statistical Bulletin, Issue 19/06 "Criminal Statistics, England and Wales, 2005" and described in Appendix 2, paragraph 13 of that publication. In Table 3, 'number of persons' relates to the

number of separate occasions on which persons received written warnings. The tables on fixed penalty and VDRS notices (Tables 4 - 7) show the number of notices issued. For fixed penalty notices, only one offence can be dealt with in this manner on each occasion, but for VDRS notices, a number of defects can be covered by a single notice.

11. Deferred sentences, when first imposed, are not included in the statistics; the offence is included in the figures for the year in which the final sentence was given.

12. The following cases are not included in the table on disqualifications and endorsements:

(a) disqualifications ordered under Section 28(1) of the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988 in respect of offences under Section 25 of the Theft Act 1968 (going equipped for stealing, etc.) with reference to the theft or taking of a motor vehicle.

(b) disqualifications ordered under Section 44 of the Powers of Criminal Courts Act 1973 which empowers the Crown Court to order an offender who used a vehicle in the commission of an offence to be disqualified from driving.

(c) licences suspended pending their production to court (under the terms of Section 27(3) of the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988).

(d) disqualifications ordered under Section 146 (1) of the Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000 – the court by or before which a person is convicted of any offence committed after 31 December 1997 may, instead of or in addition to dealing with him in any other way, order him to be disqualified, for such a period as it thinks fit from holding or obtaining a driving licence.

Legislation affecting the tables

13. Changes in legislation and practice which have affected the statistics for the years 1974 - 1979 are listed in pages 3 and 4 of Cmnd 8087. Some of the major changes in these and more recent years are listed below:

(a) offences which prior to repeal by the Criminal Law Act 1977 could have been prosecuted as 'dangerous' driving may now be prosecuted as either 'reckless' or 'careless' driving. Offences of driving after consuming alcohol or taking drugs were made summary offences by this Act.

(b) from 14 March 1982 the fixed penalty was increased to £10, and on 17 February 1986 to £12; on 1 October 1986, with the introduction of extended fixed penalties (see (g) below), the penalty for non-endorsable offences was set at £12 and that for endorsable offences at £24. These penalties were raised to £16 and £32 respectively on 1 April 1990. From 1 April 1992 the penalties were again raised as follows:

£40 and 3 penalty points for an endorsable offence;
£40 for illegal parking on a red route;
£30 for illegal parking in London other than on a red route;
£20 for other non-endorsable offences.

From the 1 November 2000 the penalties were raised as follows:

£60 and 3 penalty points for an endorsable offence;

£60 for illegal parking on a red route in Greater London;
£40 for illegal parking in Greater London other than on a red route;
£30 for other non-endorsable offences.

(c) the offence of failing to wear a seat belt was introduced on 31 January 1983 for driver and front seat passengers and was extended on 1 September 1989 to cover children under 14 in the back seat where seat belts or child rests are fitted. Further regulations covering people aged 14 and over were introduced in 1993.

(d) from 1 January 1983 a system of penalty points for endorsable offences was introduced under the Transport Act 1981. For all apart from four offence categories, each offence has a fixed number of penalty points that may be imposed, between 1 and 10, depending on the severity of the offence.

(e) on 6 May 1983, under the Transport Act 1981, the use of breath analysis to establish the level of alcohol in the body was introduced for the purpose of evidence in court.

(f) in 1982, the first Vehicle Defect Rectification Scheme was introduced in Nottinghamshire. Several other forces introduced similar schemes over the years to 1986 and most introduced them on 1 October 1986 to coincide with implementation of the extended fixed penalty system. The remaining forces introduced schemes by 1 April 1987. All schemes operate on similar principles and are designed to ensure that the defective vehicle which has come to police notice is either repaired or scrapped. Under the scheme the driver is offered the opportunity of repairing the defects or scrapping the vehicle and producing evidence of this to the police within a fixed period of time. The driver will not then be reported for prosecution.

(g) on 1 October 1986, the extended fixed penalty system was introduced as provided for in the Transport Act 1982. Under this system, the police can issue fixed penalty notices for a much wider range of offences than previously; the arrangements for dealing with unpaid notices were also changed so that the court could automatically register an unpaid notice as a fine without any court appearance. The fine imposed was set at 50 per cent higher than the original fixed penalty. The introduction of the system required many forces to use new computer systems which may have resulted in changes to the quality of the data received. A new statistical return was also introduced which distinguished only the broad category of offence for which a notice has been issued.

(h) the Crown Prosecution Service was introduced in 1986, taking on responsibility for the conduct of all proceedings instituted by the police, with the exception of specified proceedings, mostly more minor motoring; an offence however ceases to be specified if the defendant does not plead guilty by post. Non-police prosecutions are not affected.

(i) the Criminal Justice Act 1988, included the following changes which were effective from 1 October 1988:

Sections 37, 40 and 41 - the offences of taking a motor vehicle or other conveyance without authority etc. and driving while disqualified were made summary offences. However these and some other summary offences may be included in certain circumstances in an indictment with an indictable offence. Also summary offences punishable with imprisonment or involving obligatory or discretionary

disqualification from driving may also be included in certain circumstances in an indictment with a triable either way offence committed for trial to the Crown Court.

Section 63 - chief officers of police can now authorise persons other than constables to give fixed penalty notices at a police station.

Section 68 - the minimum disqualification for the offence of causing death by reckless driving increased from 1 to 2 years.

(j) the Aggravated Vehicle Taking Act 1992, added three new offences to the Theft Act 1968, effective from 1 April 1992. Two were triable either way, the first involving aggravated taking of a vehicle where, owing to the driving of the vehicle, an accident occurs causing the death of any person, and the second where the vehicle was driven dangerously, where injury to any person or damage to any property was caused, or where damage was caused to the vehicle. The third was a summary offence, involving aggravated taking of a vehicle where the only aggravating factor is criminal damage of £2,000 or under.

(k) the Road Traffic Act 1991, effective from 1 July 1992 :

(i) amended the charge of reckless driving to one of dangerous driving and added a new offence of causing death by careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs.

(ii) enabled the use of automatic camera devices for road traffic law enforcement. Once the driver has been identified, the action taken could either be the issue of a fixed penalty notice or court proceedings. The decision as to whether to issue a fixed penalty notice is a matter for the police. The issue of a fixed penalty notice is conditional, and it does not become a substantive notice until complied with. Even then, if the offender's licence shows that the offender would be liable to disqualification under the totting up procedure, the case returns to the police for consideration of prosecution.

(iii) allowed local authorities to enforce parking controls within Special Parking Areas by parking attendants. If a vehicle is left otherwise than as authorised a penalty charge notice may be issued. These notices must be paid within 28 days, but if paid within 14 days there is a reduction in the charge. After 28 days, a process will be initiated to recover the debt which can lead to action in the County Court. The Act specifies that contravention of orders relating to Special Parking Areas is no longer a criminal offence, although in this bulletin we continue to refer to 'parking offences'. During 1994 all the London Boroughs (and the City of London) were using parking attendants, most beginning in July 1994, but some from earlier dates. The figures in this bulletin for London include both on and off-street parking offences. No local authority outside London was using parking attendants during 1995, but Winchester City Council (Hampshire police area) began issuing penalty charge notices in 1996. Up to and including 2005 there are 126 local authorities outside London issuing penalty charge notices that cover on-street parking only. In London, penalty charges vary, depending on location, but were set at £30 - £60 until April 1999, when they were increased to between £40 and £80, but are reduced by 50 per cent if paid within 14 days.

(l) the Government's Road Safety Strategy launched in March 2000 contained a commitment to developing a funding mechanism that allowed all agencies involved in safety camera enforcement to be able to cover their costs. This hypothecation, or netting-off scheme was piloted in eight police force areas across

Great Britain (seven of which were in England and Wales) between April 2000 and March 2002. Following the success of the pilot scheme, the Government allowed netting-off to be rolled out nationally from August 2001. By the end of 2005 all forces in England and Wales with the exception of Durham and North Yorkshire had joined the scheme. On 15 December 2005 the Secretary of State for Transport announced the ending of the National Safety Camera Programme and netting off funding arrangement for cameras in England and Wales. Camera funding, activities and partnerships were integrated into the wider road safety delivery process from 1 April 2007. For guidance and best practice advice on the deployment of speed cameras from 1 April 2007 see the Department for Transport's Circular 1/07 – Use of Speed and Red-Light Cameras for Traffic Enforcement: Guidance on Deployment, Visibility and Signing.

(m) the Fixed Penalty (Amendment) Order 2003 introduced three further offences, which with effect from 1 June 2003, have been added to the road traffic fixed penalty offences scheme in England and Wales. The offences are as follows: s.143 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 (RTA88) - no insurance; s.172 RTA88 - failure to supply details necessary to identify an offending driver; and s.47 RTA88 - using vehicle without test certificate.

(n) effective as from 1 December 2003, the new offence of driving whilst using a hand held mobile phone was introduced as an addition (Regulation 110) to the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulation 1986. Offenders are subject to a £30 fixed penalty, which can be increased to a maximum fine of £1,000 if the matter goes to court.

Extension to the 'standard list' of offences

14. From 1 January 1996 three important categories of motoring offence have become standard list offences. This means that from that date onwards it will be possible to trace, for statistical and research purposes, the criminal careers of samples of offenders sentenced for such offences on the Home Office Offenders Index. The offences are as follows:

Dangerous driving (it had previously only been a standard list offence when tried on indictment);

Driving or attempting to drive a motor vehicle while having a breath, urine or blood alcohol concentration in excess of a prescribed limit;

Driving whilst disqualified from holding or obtaining a licence.

BREATH TESTS

Methods of collection and accuracy of results

15. Reporting of breath tests is not comprehensive and negative tests are less well reported than positive tests. Following the introduction of new breath testing equipment in Greater Manchester in 1998, it became apparent that the total number of tests had been over-estimated in 1997 and adjustments were made which were initially reflected in the 1998 bulletin. The figures for Greater Manchester and the England and Wales totals in 1997 were reduced by some 60,000.

16. Following a comparison between the number of positive breath tests reported by each police force in 2005 and the number of court proceedings for drink/driving related offences, it became clear that there was under-reporting in a number of forces. As a result Essex, Lancashire, Northumbria, Staffordshire, Dyfed-Powys, Gwent and South Wales court proceedings figures have been substituted for the positive breath test figures. Similar adjustments were also made to various forces data between 1998 and 2004.

17. Following publication of 2004 data Leicestershire police force revised their 2004 figures for the number of total breath test screenings from 15,400 to 15,800. In consequence national data have been adjusted.

18. Numbers in the tables have been rounded to the nearest 100. Components may not add exactly to the rounded totals.

Legislation affecting the figures

19. Section 25 and Schedule 8 of the Transport Act 1981 amended the drinking and driving provisions in the Road Traffic Act 1972. The new measures took effect in May 1983; the main change affecting the figures was the introduction of a new, faster method of measuring the concentration of alcohol in the body for evidential purposes by breath measurement. This streamlining of procedures was associated with an increase in the number of screening tests reported. These sections of the Act were renumbered (but otherwise unchanged) in the Road Traffic Act 1988.

Screening breath tests

20. The police can require a person to take a screening breath test, if they have reasonable cause to suspect that the person has been driving or attempting to drive with alcohol in his body (Section 6(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1988), that he has committed a moving traffic offence (Section 6(1)), or that he has been involved in an accident (Section 6(2)). A person failing to provide a breath test is guilty of an offence, unless there is a reasonable excuse.

Evidential breath tests

21. For the purposes of evidence in court, breath analysis was introduced in May 1983. It did not change the prescribed alcohol limit which continues to be for blood and urine tests, 80 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood or 107 mg per 100 ml urine. The equivalent breath alcohol limit is expressed as 35 micrograms of alcohol per 100 ml breath.

Symbols used in the tables

22. The following symbols are used in the tables:

- * not applicable
- .. not available
- 0 less than half the final digit shown, or, in tables of percentages, less than 0.5 per cent.
- nil

Supplementary Tables

23. The following tables are contained in the companion volumes 'Offences relating to motor vehicles, Supplementary tables, England and Wales 2005'. These can be downloaded free from the Ministry of Justice web site (see note 24).

Table 1	Motoring offences dealt with by official police action by offence group
Table 2	Proceedings at magistrates' courts by offence type and outcome
Table 3	Findings of guilt at magistrates' courts by offence type and sentence or order imposed
Table 4	Sentences of immediate (unsuspended) imprisonment imposed at magistrates' courts by length of sentence
Table 5(a)	Sentences of young offender institution imposed at magistrates' courts by length of sentence
Table 5(b)	Sentences of detention and training orders imposed at magistrates' courts by length of sentence
Table 6	Fines imposed at magistrates' courts by offence group and amount
Table 7	Proceedings for trial at the Crown Court by offence type and outcome
Table 8	Proceedings at the Crown Court for sentencing after summary conviction by offence type and sentence or order imposed
Table 9	Sentences of immediate imprisonment (unsuspended) imposed at the Crown Court by length of sentence
Table 10(a)	Sentences of young offender institution imposed at the Crown Court by length of sentence
Table 10(b)	Sentences of detention and training orders imposed at the Crown Court by length of sentence
Table 10(c)	Sentences of S91/92 of The Powers of the Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000 imposed at the Crown Court by length of sentence
Table 11	Fines imposed at trials at the Crown Court by offence group and amount
Table 12	Fines imposed at the Crown Court on sentencing after summary conviction by offence group and amount
Table 13	Driving licence endorsements and disqualifications imposed at magistrates' courts by offence group and period of disqualification
Table 14	Driving licence endorsements and disqualifications imposed at the Crown Court by offence group and period of disqualification
Table 15	Findings of guilt at all courts for offences of driving etc. after consuming alcohol or taking drugs by offence type and age group of offender
Table 16(a)	Proceedings at magistrates' courts by offence group and police force area
Table 16(b)	Findings of guilt at all courts by offence group and police force area

Table 17	Findings of guilt at all courts by offence group, sex and age of offender
Table 18	Written warnings for motoring offences by offence group and police force area
Table 19	Vehicle Defect Rectification Scheme notices issued and complied with by police force area
Table 20(a)	Fixed penalty notices issued for all offences by offence group and police force area
Table 20(b)	Fixed penalty notices issued for endorsable offences by offence group and police force area
Table 20(c)	Fixed penalty notices issued for non-endorsable offences by offence group and police force area
Table 21(a)	Fixed penalty notices by result and police force area - numbers (2004 data)
Table 21(b)	Fixed penalty notices by result and police force area - percentages (2004 data)
Table 22(a)	Penalty charge notices by result and local authority area - numbers
Table 22(b)	Penalty charge notices by result and local authority area – percentages
Table 22(c)	Penalty charge notices by result and London borough areas – numbers
Table 22(d)	Penalty charge notices by result and London borough areas - percentages

Enquiries

24. This bulletin has been prepared by the Criminal Justice Evidence and Analysis Unit (RDS-OCJR), based on data obtained from the 43 police force areas and criminal courts within England and Wales by the Home Office Data Collection Group, Science and Research Group Support. Information on penalty charge notices was supplied by the Association of London Government and other local authorities. If you have any enquiries about figures in this bulletin please email to:

cjea@cjs.gsi.gov.uk

Coverage and quality of the statistics in this volume

25. Every effort is made to ensure that the figures presented in this publication are accurate and complete. However, it is important to note that these data have been extracted by police forces, courts and local authorities from a variety of administrative data systems and the detail supplied to RDS-OCJR is therefore subject to the inaccuracies inherent in any large-scale recording system. Although some figures in this volume are shown to the last digit, the figures are not necessarily accurate to the last digit shown. It is important that users of the data take these limitations into account when using and interpreting the data presented in this volume. Where the statistics shown are rounded, the components may not add exactly to the rounded total because they have been rounded independently.

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