

1) The number of car vehicle practical tests that were taken and passed nationwide and at Cheltenham driving test centre (DTC) in each financial year from 2006/7 to present

2) The number of car vehicle practical tests that were first time passes nationwide and at Cheltenham DTC in each financial year from 2006/7 to present

In the table below, you can find the number of car practical tests conducted, passed and those passed at the first attempt nationwide and at Cheltenham DTC in 2006/7.

Location	Number of car practical tests conducted in 2006/7	Number of car practical tests passed in 2006/7	Number of car practical tests passed on the first attempt in 2006/7
Cheltenham DTC	5,650	2,736	1,277
Nationwide	1,789,473	776,156	331,137

You can find the number of car practical tests conducted and passed nationwide and at Cheltenham DTC from 2007/8 to 2011/12 (to end of December) online at <http://www.dft.gov.uk/publications/dsa-practical-driving-test-statistics-car/>.

You can find the number of car practical tests that were passed first time nationwide and at Cheltenham DTC from 2007/8 to 2010/11 online at <http://www.dft.gov.uk/publications/dsa-practical-driving-test-statistics-car/>

The information you have requested that can be found at the above two web links is therefore exempt from release under section 21 (information accessible by other means) of the Freedom of Information Act (FoIA); a full explanation of this exemption can be found at Annex B.

The number of car practical tests conducted nationwide between January and March 2012 and those passed on the first attempt nationwide in 2011/12 is due to be published on 28 June 2012 and 5 July 2012 respectively. This information will be available on our website at <http://www.dft.gov.uk/statistics/series/driving-tests-and-instructors/>.

This information is exempt from release under section 44 (1)(a) (prohibitions on disclosure) by virtue of the Pre-release Access to Official Statistics Order 2008 which limits access to official statistics until their date of publication. As this exemption is an absolute exemption we are not required to conduct a public interest test. A copy of this exemption in full can be found at Annex C.

The number of car practical tests conducted at Cheltenham DTC between January and March 2012 and those passed on the first attempt in 2011/12 is due to be published on 5 July 2012 and 16 August 2012 respectively. This information will be available on our website at <http://www.dft.gov.uk/statistics/series/driving-tests-and-instructors/>.

This information is therefore exempt from release under section 22 (information intended for future publication) of the FoIA. This is a qualified exemption which is subject to the public interest test as to whether the balance lies in favour of withholding or disclosing the information. All public interest tests begin with the assumption that information should be

disclosed unless there are sufficient reasons why the information should be withheld. In this case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. A copy of this exemption and the public interest test (PIT) is attached at Annex D. We have conducted one PIT for both requests as the same factors for disclosure and withholding apply to the information being requested.

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