

Do you have figures for the number of newly qualified drivers by year from 2000/01 to 2010/11? These figures were quoted in the following Department of Transport (DfT) report - 'Road Safety Research Report No. 87, Learning to Drive: The Evidence' (May 2008) Figure 2.1, page 19 (<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/roadsafety/research/rsrr/theme2/rsrr87.pdf>) - but were only in graphic format up to 2006/07. I would be hugely grateful if you had the numbers in numerical format up to the most current available year.

The table below shows the number of practical car tests that were passed each financial year between 2000/01 and 2006/07.

Financial year	Amount of Passes
2000/01	496,471
2001/02	528,313
2002/03	582,276
2003/04	598,347
2004/05	707,018
2005/06	780,907
2006/07	773,207

Information about the number of practical car tests that were passed each financial year between 2007/08 and 2011/12 can be found on our website at <http://www.dft.gov.uk/publications/dsa-practical-driving-test-statistics-car>. This information is therefore exempt under section 21 (information accessible by other means) of the Freedom of Information Act. A full explanation of this exemption can be found at Annex B.

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Section 21 - Information accessible to applicant by other means

(1) Information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant otherwise than under section 1 is exempt information.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)—

(a) information may be reasonably accessible to the applicant even though it is accessible only on payment, and

(b) information is to be taken to be reasonably accessible to the applicant if it is information which the public authority or any other person is obliged by or under any enactment to communicate (otherwise than by making the information available for inspection) to members of the public on request, whether free of charge or on payment.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (1), information which is held by a public authority and does not fall within subsection (2)(b) is not to be regarded as reasonably accessible to the applicant merely because the information is available from the public authority itself on request, unless the information is made available in accordance with the authority's publication scheme and any payment required is specified in, or determined in accordance with, the scheme.