



**Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency**  
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Your Ref  
Our Ref               FOIR3008

Date:                   17 July 2012

## **Freedom of Information Request**

Thank you for your e-mail of 26 June requesting information under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You asked:

**I would like to obtain the following data:**

- **Numbers of Group 1 licence holders by age and gender in the UK at the end of 2010 and now. For both date, I would like this information presented separately for: (1) Category B (car) licence holders only; (2) all Group 1 licence holders.**

DVLA's drivers database changes constantly as the Agency receives driving licence applications and other information that updates the records of individual drivers. Therefore, it is possible only to provide a snapshot of the state of the record at the time of any request. The spreadsheets provided in response to your FOI request reflect the position as at 1 June 2012. DVLA holds information on driving licences issued in Great Britain (GB) only.

You further clarified on 27 June, by Group 1 licence holders you meant car and motorcycle licence holders.

Annex A provides the numbers of Category B (car) full and provisional driving licence holders by age and gender. Please note that Category B licence holders may also have other full driving entitlements. The presence of valid driving entitlement does not necessarily mean that all the individuals listed are actively driving.

Annex B provides the numbers of Category B driving licence holders but also includes approximately 100,000 extra drivers who do not have Category B entitlement but do have other full entitlements such as motorcycle, moped, tractor etc. This information is broken down by gender and age.

The following link provides descriptions of the driving licence categories provided [http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Motoring/DriverLicensing/WhatCanYouDriveAndYourObligations/DG\\_4022547](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Motoring/DriverLicensing/WhatCanYouDriveAndYourObligations/DG_4022547)

- **Number of new provisional driving licence applications over the last 12 months (most recent data) by age and gender of application for: (1) Category B (car) licence holders only; (2) all Group 1 licence holders.**

Annex C provides the numbers of first provisional licences issued between 1 June 2011 and 31 May 2012. A Category B driving licence also contain other provisional entitlements.

Please also note that certain driving licences in certain categories (e.g. moped) can be issued to fifteen year old applicants up to two months before their sixteenth birthday. The provisional driving entitlement conveyed by such licences will not commence until the driver turns sixteen. Also individuals can apply for a Category B driving licence up to two months before their seventeenth birthday but the provisional driving entitlement will not commence until the driver turns seventeen.

- **Number of driving licence renewal applications over the last 12 months (most recent data) by age and gender of applicant for: (1) Category B (car) licence holders; (2) all Group 1 licence holders.**

In a further e-mail you clarified that you required all types of renewals.

Annex D attached provides the numbers of driving licence renewals issued between 1 June 2011 and 31 May 2012, by age and gender. DVLA holds a breakdown of statistics for renewals under two categories which are photocard renewals and all other renewals.

The information which follows concerns the copyright conditions that apply to any information provided by the Agency and the procedures for making any complaint you might have about the reply. Please quote the reference number of this letter in any future communications about it.

Yours sincerely



Robert Toft  
Head of Data Sharing Policy & Freedom of Information Team

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### **Complaints**

If you are unhappy with the way in which your request for information has been handled, about the decision not to disclose all or part of the information requested and/or that the DVLA has not complied with its FOI publication scheme, you have the right to complain within two calendar months of the date of this letter. You may complain by writing to the Freedom of Information Team, DSPG/FOI, D16, DVLA, Swansea, SA6 7JL or e-mail [foi@dvla.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:foi@dvla.gsi.gov.uk).

Your complaint will be acknowledged and you will be advised of a date by which you should have received a response. Initially, your complaint will be re-considered by the official who dealt with your request for information. If, after careful consideration, that person decides that his/her decision was correct, your complaint will automatically be referred to an independent official who will conduct a further review (an Internal Review). You will be advised of the outcome of your complaint and if a decision is taken to disclose information originally withheld this will be done as soon as possible.

If you are not content with the outcome of the Internal Review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision by writing to the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliff House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.