

2022 Annual Report



Motoring Offence Statistics for Northern Ireland

Date of Publication:

30th March 2023

Frequency of Publication:

Annual

Issued by:

PSNI Statistics Branch Lisnasharragh 42 Montgomery Road Belfast BT6 9LD

2 02890 650222 Ext. 24135

statistics@psni.police.uk

Web PSNI Statistics

Key statistics

- In 2022, there were 41,430 detections for motoring offences in Northern Ireland, a decrease of 2,944 offences (7%) on the 44,374 detections recorded in 2021.
- Of the 41,430 detections in 2022, over three fifths resulted in a referral for prosecution and almost one quarter in endorsable fixed penalty notices.
- Motoring offence detections have fallen by one third over the last ten years. Over two-fifths of the decrease in detections between 2021 and 2022 was attributable to two offence groups – mobile phone (-699) and driving licence (-552).
- Speeding was the largest offence group in 2022 with 7,093 detections, accounting for 17% of the total, followed by insurance with 6,921 detections. There were a further 3,211 detections related to driving licence offences, 552 fewer offences than in 2021.
- Only three offence groups showed increases in detections in 2022. Speeding was up by 326 (5%), vehicle test certificate offences increased by 168 (22%), while an additional 35 drink drug driving offences resulted in an increase of 1%.



Contents

Cont	ents	2
1.	Things you need to know about this release	3
2.	Summary	4
3.	Trends	5
4.	Offence group	6
	Policing District	
	Speeding	
	Mobile phone	
8.	Careless driving	17
9.	Drink and drug driving	20
	. Disposal types	
	10.1 Fixed penalty notices	
:	10.2 Speed awareness courses	26
:	10.3 Referred for prosecution	27
11	Revisions	28

We welcome user feedback on these statistics. This can be sent to the email address on the cover page or by contacting us at the telephone number provided.

1. Things you need to know about this release

Motoring offence statistics for Northern Ireland are collated and produced by statisticians seconded to the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) from the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA).

PSNI Official Statistics documentation is available on the Official Statistics section of the PSNI website.

Coverage

This report provides statistics on the number of motoring offences detected by police in Northern Ireland in 2022. It does not include any detections by the NI Road Safety Partnership. Figures relating to such detections through the Partnership can be accessed via the following link – NI RSP.

The range of disposals covered includes those offences dealt with by means of a fixed penalty notice (FPN), speed awareness course and referral for prosecution. Statistics Branch developed the functionality to report on prosecution referrals in 2017, at which point the figures were validated and reported back to 2011. Quality concerns due to the introduction of different information systems prevented any further back dating of the figures.

This report presents the most recent motoring offence statistics based on figures that were extracted on 13th March 2023. As of that date, 99.8% of FPNs for 2022 had been processed, while 0.2% remained pending. Referred for prosecution figures from 1st January 2021 onwards remain provisional and therefore subject to amendment. The information is also available in tabular format in the <u>accompanying spreadsheets</u> on the PSNI website.

Background information and details of the offences included in each offence grouping (Section 6) can be found in the Motoring Offence User Guide on the <u>PSNI website</u>. Please note the figures refer to the number of offences and not the number of persons detected as a person can be detected for more than one offence.

National Statistics Status

National Statistics status means that our statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value, and as producers, it is our responsibility to maintain compliance with these standards.

These statistics were designated as National Statistics in March 2020 following a full <u>assessment</u> against the <u>Official Statistics Code of Practice</u>.

Uses of the statistics

Uses of the statistics, based on user engagement, information requests and satisfaction survey feedback include policy making and policy monitoring, performance monitoring, and public interest, by a range of users including PSNI, Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs), media and academics.

More detail can be found in the Motoring Offence User Guide which can be accessed via the <u>motoring offences</u> statistics web page on the PSNI website.

Related statistics

Sources of motoring offences data for other domains include <u>An Garda Síochána - Republic of Ireland</u> and <u>England and Wales</u>. Related statistics include <u>Injury road traffic collision statistics</u> and <u>NI Road Safety Partnership</u> statistics.

2. Summary

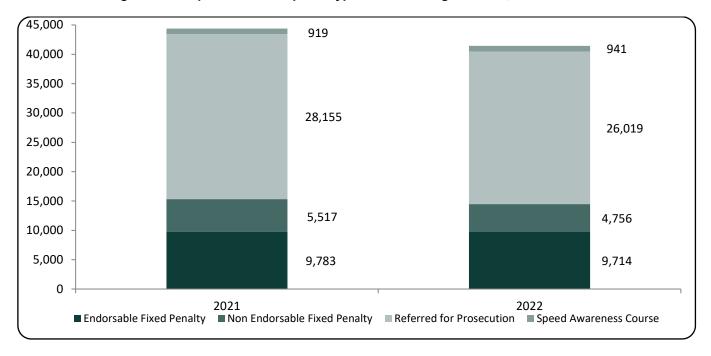
Over the last 12 months:

- the number of motoring offences decreased by 2,944 offences
- offences referred for prosecution fell by 8%
- endorsable fixed penalties decreased by 1%
- non endorsable fixed penalties decreased by 14%

Table 1: Number of motoring offences by disposal type, 2021 and 2022

Disposal Type	2021	2022	Change over last 12 months Number	Change over last 12 months %
	9,783	9,714	-69	-1
Endorsable Fixed Penalty				
	5,517	4,756	-761	-14
Non Endorsable Fixed Penalty				
	28,155	26,019	-2,136	-8
Referred for Prosecution	·			
	919	941	22	2
Speed Awareness Course				
	44,374	41,430	-2,944	-7
Total	·		,	

Figure 1: Comparisons of disposal types for motoring offences, 2021 and 2022



3. Trends

The number of FPNs has significantly decreased over the past number of years from a total 105,966 recorded in 1998 to 14,470 recorded in 2022.

A large proportion of the decrease is due to the introduction of the Traffic Management (NI) Order 2005 which came into effect on 30th October 2006. This legislation decriminalised the vast majority of parking and waiting offences in Northern Ireland. Enforcement of parking/waiting restrictions is now the responsibility of traffic attendants employed by NSL Services Group (NSL) on behalf of the Department for Infrastructure (DfI).

The total number of motoring offences has been steadily decreasing over the past number of years from 73,028 recorded in 2012 to 41,430 in 2022.

The removal of discretionary disposals as an option for motoring offences has had a notable impact on the number of motoring offences, albeit other disposals have also seen a decline over the years.

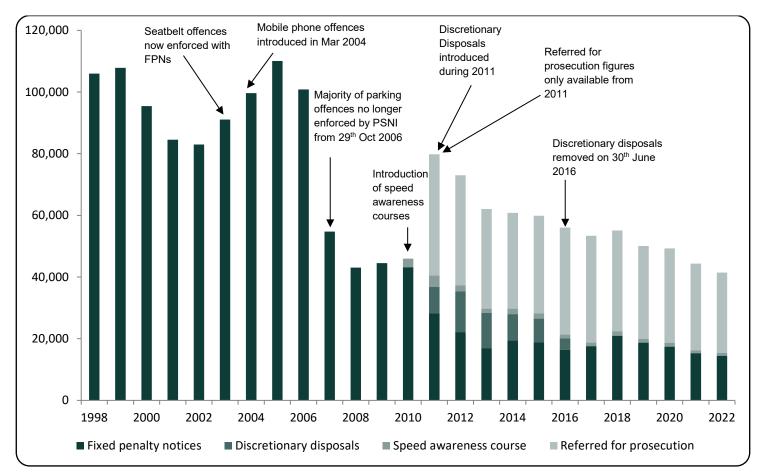


Figure 2: Number of motoring offences by disposal type, 1998 -2022

4. Offence group

Table 2: Number of motoring offences by offence group and month of year, 2021 and 2022

Offence group	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022	Jun 2022	Jul 2022	Aug 2022	Sep 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Total 2022	Total 2021	Change over last 12 months - Number	Change over last 12 months - %
Breach of signs & signals	21	13	19	12	16	18	31	48	23	14	20	30	265	344	-79	-23
Careless driving	353	278	344	359	369	386	409	371	405	364	345	301	4,284	4,415	-131	-3
Construction & use	184	145	218	251	237	231	285	239	287	250	270	239	2,836	2,988	-152	-5
Dangerous driving	116	93	143	130	120	136	145	148	131	115	121	86	1,484	1,870	-386	-21
Drink or drug driving	217	203	240	225	262	245	291	306	273	258	216	241	2,977	2,942	35	1
Driving licence	247	228	244	252	275	273	325	320	343	262	226	216	3,211	3,763	-552	-15
Driving whilst disqualified	93	63	91	95	82	104	98	90	114	98	87	66	1,081	1,101	-20	-2
Failing to stop / remain / report collision	181	172	191	212	235	203	227	211	255	183	143	162	2,375	2,602	-227	-9
Fraudulent use / declaration	15	17	23	22	22	25	27	24	17	17	24	19	252	278	-26	-9
Insurance	501	456	582	539	614	540	664	656	689	579	576	525	6,921	7,136	-215	-3
Learner & Restricted (L&R) driver	120	116	157	142	183	146	207	141	170	110	149	129	1,770	1,916	-146	-8
Miscellaneous	87	64	85	61	84	82	100	93	79	68	61	56	920	1,000	-80	-8
Mobile phone	144	122	162	110	139	175	187	160	186	137	141	99	1,762	2,461	-699	-28
Non driver	45	30	48	54	51	36	43	55	63	45	43	32	545	580	-35	-6
Parking	84	37	110	108	56	54	155	166	77	103	45	70	1,065	1,421	-356	-25
Seatbelt	52	34	86	57	58	59	81	91	50	56	54	38	716	859	-143	-17
Speeding	592	410	566	613	506	597	771	667	646	708	673	344	7,093	6,767	326	5
Vehicle taking and driving away / tampering	87	75	84	108	100	75	82	98	80	55	59	51	954	1,180	-226	-19
Vehicle test certificate	96	66	91	90	69	73	83	81	75	66	71	58	919	751	168	22
Total	3,235	2,622	3,484	3,440	3,478	3,458	4,211	3,965	3,963	3,488	3,324	2,762	41,430	44,374	-2,944	-7

Table 3: Number of motoring offences by gender, age and offence group, 2022

Offence group	Male	Female	Unknown	Under 18	18 - 29	30 - 49	50 - 69	70+	Unknown	Total
Breach of signs & signals	180	80	5	2	64	81	62	10	46	265
Careless driving	3,337	942	5	135	1,521	1,668	786	172	2	4,284
Construction & use	2,420	410	6	136	1,759	660	242	18	21	2,836
Dangerous driving	1,325	158	1	80	768	461	150	25	0	1,484
Drink or drug driving	2,394	580	3	26	811	1,553	542	45	0	2,977
Driving licence	2,724	486	1	120	1,130	1,533	376	52	0	3,211
Driving whilst disqualified	956	125	0	102	303	562	107	7	0	1,081
Failing to stop / remain / report collision	1,983	392	0	135	737	1,061	329	113	0	2,375
Fraudulent use / declaration	219	33	0	6	76	130	35	5	0	252
Insurance	5,669	1,245	7	256	2,691	3,124	767	83	0	6,921
Learner & Restricted (L&R) driver	1,559	209	2	164	899	543	148	16	0	1,770
Miscellaneous	818	102	0	75	401	341	90	13	0	920
Mobile phone	1,476	285	1	9	446	919	365	23	0	1,762
Non driver	315	225	5	20	210	239	70	5	1	545
Parking	637	390	38	5	307	246	106	10	391	1,065
Seatbelt	591	122	3	9	248	325	110	21	3	716
Speeding	5,066	2,027	0	143	2,762	2,800	1,268	120	0	7,093
Vehicle taking and driving away / tampering	867	86	1	160	374	376	41	3	0	954
Vehicle test certificate	774	144	1	18	320	411	148	16	6	919
Total	33,310	8,041	79	1,601	15,827	17,033	5,742	757	470	41,430

Overall change

• In 2022, there were 41,430 detections for motoring offences in Northern Ireland, a decrease of 2,944 (7%) on the 44,374 detections recorded in 2021.

Offence groups

- Over two-fifths of the decrease in detections between 2021 and 2022 was attributable to two offence groups – mobile phone (-699) and driving licence (-552).
- Speeding was the largest offence group in 2022 with 7,093 detections, accounting for 17% of all detections. Similarly, 17% of the total comprised of insurance offences, with 6,921 detected. There were a further 3,211 detections related to driving licence offences, which was 8% of the total and 552 fewer offences than in 2021.
- Three offence groups showed increases in detections in 2022. Speeding was up by 326 (5%), vehicle test certificate offences increased by 168 (22%), while an additional 35 drink drug driving detections resulted in an increase of 1%.
- The highest speed recorded by PSNI officers in 2022 was 144mph on the M2 motorway, Belfast which is a 70mph stretch of road.
- In 2021 (the most recent year available), the NI Road Safety Partnership detected almost 8 times more speeding offences than the PSNI (53,512), equating to 89% of the combined PSNI and NIRSP total for that year.

Age and gender

- One guarter of all female detections was for speeding offences.
- Just under one sixth of under 18 year olds were detected for insurance offences, whilst careless driving
 offences accounted for almost one quarter of offences detected among those aged 70 and over.
- Two-thirds of those detected for construction and use offences were aged under 30.
- Over half of those detected for mobile phone offences were aged 30-49.

5. Policing District

8,058 6,022 4,335 4,044 3,490 3,367 3,030 2,572 2,455 2,118 1,798 **Belfast City** Ards & North Newry, Mourne Armagh City, Mid Ulster Derry City & Causeway Coast Mid & East Lisburn & Fermanagh & Antrim & Castlereagh City Down & Down Banbridge & Omagh & Glens Newtownabbey Strabane Antrim Craigavon

Figure 3: Number of motoring offences by Policing District, 2022

Unknown district is excluded from the chart above

The number of motoring offences detected in Belfast City represented 19% of all motoring offences detected in 2022. Ards and North Down recorded the fewest detections, accounting for 4% of the total in 2022. Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon recorded 353 offences per 10,000 population aged 16+ while Ards and North Down recorded the lowest number per 10,000 population aged 16+, with 134 (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Rate of motoring offences per 10,000 population¹ aged 16+ by Policing District: 2022



¹ Population figures sourced from the 2021 Census.

6. Speeding

In Northern Ireland speeding offences can be detected by PSNI officers or by the fixed cameras and mobile cameras operated by the Northern Ireland Road Safety Partnership (NIRSP). More detailed information regarding the NIRSP can be obtained from the NIRSP website. In 2021² (the most recent year available) the NIRSP detected 53,512 persons speeding which equated to 89% of the combined PSNI and NIRSP total for that year.

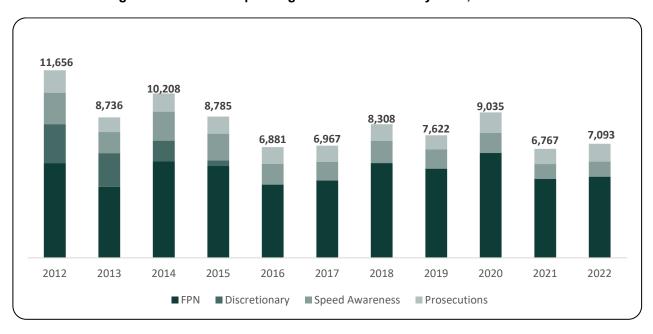


Figure 5: Number of speeding offences detected by PSNI, 2012 - 2022

In 2022, there were 7,093 detections for speeding offences, accounting for 17% of all motoring offences detected by PSNI, with one in three of these detected at the weekend (Saturday or Sunday) – see table 5. The highest speed detected in 2022 was 144mph on the M2 motorway, Belfast which is a 70mph stretch of road. (Table 4).

Table 4: Top speed detected by PSNI within each speed limit, 2022

Speed limit	Highest speed detected	Location
20 mph	50 mph	Arney Road, Enniskillen
30 mph	90 mph	Main Street, Broughshane
30 mph	90 mph	Ballymoney Road, Ballymena
40 mph	100 mph	Bangor Road, Newtownards
40 mph	100 mph	M2, Newtownabbey
45 mph	117mph	A4, Dungannon
50 mph	104 mph	Belvoir Road, Belfast
60 mph	132 mph	Glenshane Road, Maghera
70 mph	144 mph	M2, Belfast

² 2022 figures will be published on 30th June 2023.

Table 5: Number of speeding offences by day of week and month of year, 2022

Month	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Total
January	113	83	71	64	79	86	96	592
February	79	55	64	50	40	66	56	410
March	94	64	58	72	110	78	90	566
April	103	43	49	91	134	106	87	613
May	94	60	87	39	79	62	85	506
June	93	60	74	52	116	83	119	597
July	117	92	62	105	92	145	158	771
August	109	60	95	103	99	104	97	667
September	77	68	65	55	139	125	117	646
October	161	74	74	66	103	104	126	708
November	128	75	112	66	100	98	94	673
December	41	32	27	41	76	75	52	344
Total	1,209	766	838	804	1,167	1,132	1,177	7,093

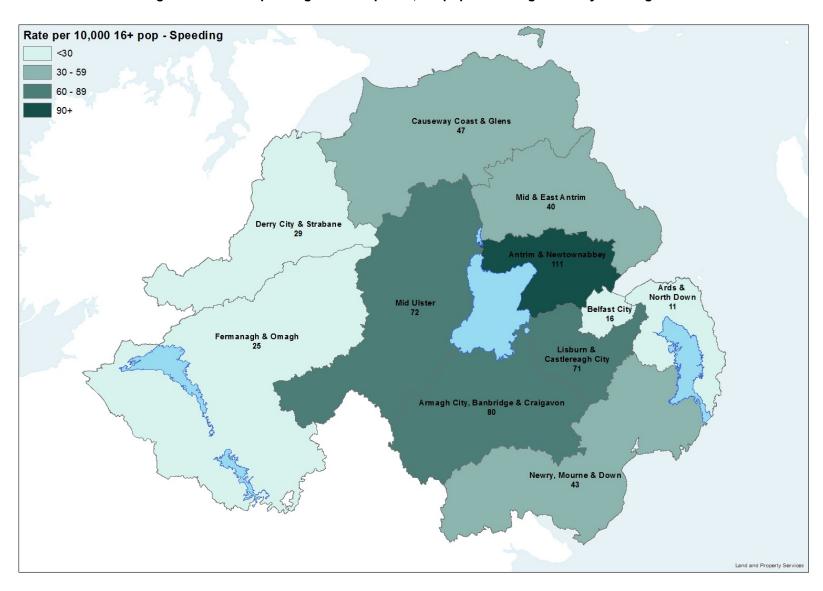
Males accounted for almost three quarters (71%) of all persons detected for speeding offences. Persons aged 18–29 and those aged 30-49 each represented almost two fifths of all persons detected for speeding offences.

2,034 1,950 ■ Male ■ Female 871 850 728 397 121 90 30 22 Under 18 18-29 30-49 50-69 70+

Figure 6: Number of speeding offences by age and gender, 2022

Of the 11 Policing Districts, the highest number of speeding offences detected in 2022 was in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon (1,364). However, Antrim and Newtownabbey recorded the highest rate of speeding offences with 111 per 10,000 population aged 16+. Ards and North Down recorded the fewest speeding detections (142) as well as the lowest number per 10,000 population, with 11 (Figure 7).

Figure 7: Rate of speeding offences per 10,000 population³ aged 16+ by Policing District: 2022



 $^{^{3}}$ Population figures sourced from the 2021 Census.

7. Mobile phone

The number of detections for mobile phone offences has steadily decreased from 8,935 in 2012 to 1,762 in 2022 (a decrease of 80%). Although the number of detections has decreased, research conducted by Dfl⁴ in 2021/22 shows that 58% of drivers used their phone in some capacity in the last year while driving, with males more likely to make a hand held call. More than half (54%) of respondents believed that drivers were likely to be stopped by police for using their mobile phone while driving.

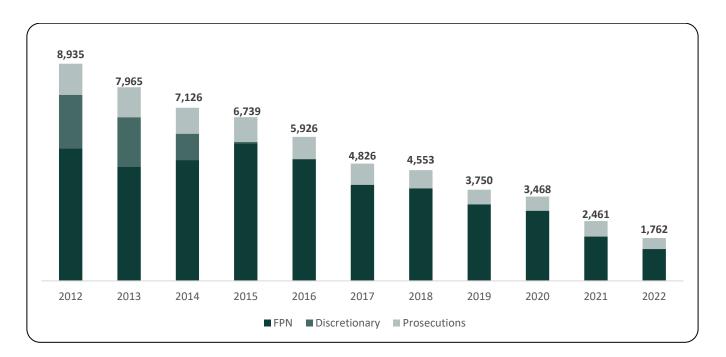


Figure 8: Number of mobile phone offences, 2012 - 2022

Mobile phone offences accounted for 4% of all motoring offences in 2022. There were fewer detections for this offence group on a Saturday and Sunday with the highest proportion detected on a Thursday (22%) (Table 6).

⁴ Road safety issues in Northern Ireland

Table 6: Number of mobile phone offences by day of week and month of year, 2022

Month	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Total
January	6	20	9	23	36	37	13	144
February	2	15	18	20	26	27	14	122
March	11	28	29	22	33	23	16	162
April	8	10	12	10	27	32	11	110
May	10	16	23	20	31	22	17	139
June	15	24	20	38	41	21	16	175
July	10	19	24	18	35	52	29	187
August	9	17	20	26	36	35	17	160
September	7	24	16	19	60	39	21	186
October	8	19	22	12	26	34	16	137
November	9	19	20	44	15	27	7	141
December	4	10	15	14	25	27	4	99
Total	99	221	228	266	391	376	181	1,762

Males accounted for over four fifths of all persons detected for mobile phone offences while persons aged 30 – 49 accounted for more than half (52%).

742

386

316

Female

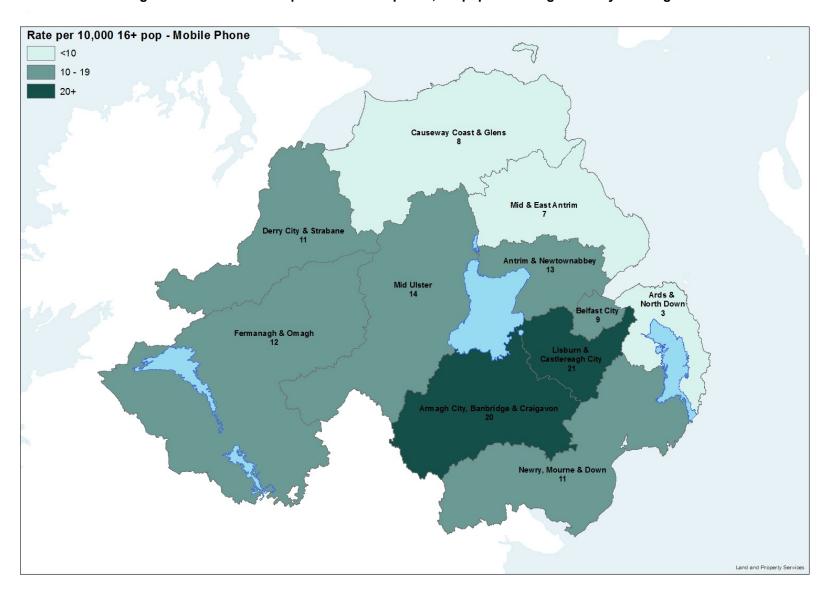
9 0

Under 18 18-29 30-49 50-69 70+

Figure 9: Number of mobile phones offences by age and gender, 2022

Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon policing district recorded the largest number (344) of mobile phone offences out of the 11 Districts in 2022, while the highest rate (21 per 10,000 population aged 16+) was reported in Lisburn and Castlereagh. Ards and North Down ranked lowest in both measures, with 35 detections which is equivalent to 3 per 10,000 population aged 16+. (Figure 10).

Figure 10: Rate of mobile phone offences per 10,000 population⁵ aged 16+ by Policing District: 2022



⁵ Population figures sourced from the 2021 Census.

8. Careless driving

The number of careless driving offences decreased from 8,922 in 2012 to 4,284 in 2022 (a decrease of 52%), however the evidence indicates that it remains the main contributor to injury road traffic collisions. The top 3 principal causation factors in injury collisions between January and November 2022⁶ were 'inattention or attention diverted', 'driving too close' and 'emerging from minor road without care'. These types of factors would be captured in the offences under 'driving without due care and attention', which accounted for almost half (48%) of all careless driving offences.

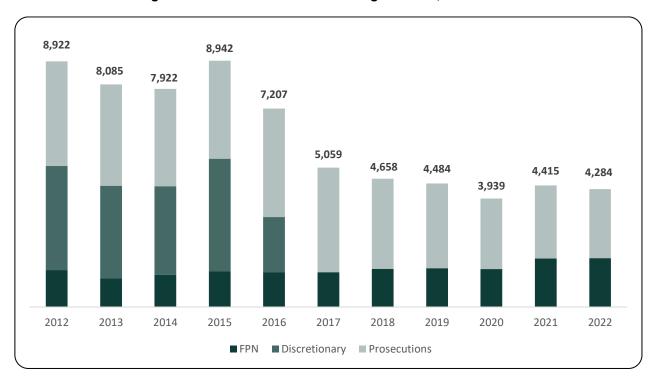


Figure 11: Number of careless driving offences, 2012 – 2022

Almost one fifth (18%) were issued on a Friday while one in ten careless driving offences were detected in July (Table 7).

⁶ See https://www.psni.police.uk/about-us/our-publications-and-reports/official-statistics/road-traffic-collision-statistics for the latest RTC statistics.

Table 7: Number of careless driving offences by day of week and month of year, 2022

Month	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Total
January	49	49	40	46	63	54	52	353
February	35	38	32	37	45	45	46	278
March	32	51	56	49	48	60	48	344
April	53	51	38	47	55	56	59	359
May	49	53	60	36	70	47	54	369
June	35	45	57	55	81	62	51	386
July	45	44	45	56	59	93	67	409
August	41	61	59	43	43	74	50	371
September	48	45	42	53	74	89	54	405
October	54	46	51	39	61	59	54	364
November	49	34	60	52	50	60	40	345
December	24	43	47	34	44	61	48	301
Total	514	560	587	547	693	760	623	4,284

Where gender and age is known, males accounted for almost four fifths of careless driving offences and 30-49 year olds accounted for 39%.

1,278 1,224 ■ Male ■ Female 585 389 295 199 129 120 43 15 Under 18 18-29 30-49 50-69 70+

Figure 12: Number of careless driving offences by age and gender, 2022

Unknown age and gender is excluded from the chart above

Of the 11 Districts, the highest number of careless driving offences detected in 2022 was in Belfast City (882) however the highest rate per 10,000 population aged 16+ was in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon (43). Mid and East Antrim recorded the fewest detections for such offences (155) and the joint lowest rate per 10,000 population, alongside Ards and North Down, with 14 (Figure 13).

Figure 13: Rate of careless driving offences per 10,000 population⁷ aged 16+ by Policing District: 2022



 $^{^{7}}$ Population figures sourced from the 2021 Census.

9. Drink and drug driving

The number of arrests for drink/drug driving offences in 2022 was 3,121 resulting in 2,977 drink/drug driving offences being referred for prosecution, with the worst offender being more than 5 times over the limit (Table 9). This is a decrease from 3,441 arrests and 3,063 offences referred for prosecution in 2012, a decrease of 9% and 3% respectively. Drink/drug driving continues to be a major contributor in fatal and serious injury road traffic collisions as 'impaired by alcohol/drugs – driver/rider' was the 2nd most common principal causation factor for KSI casualties between January and November 2022⁸. Further analysis identifying issues and trends in relation to fatal and serious collisions caused by drink driving has been completed by Department for Infrastructure⁹.

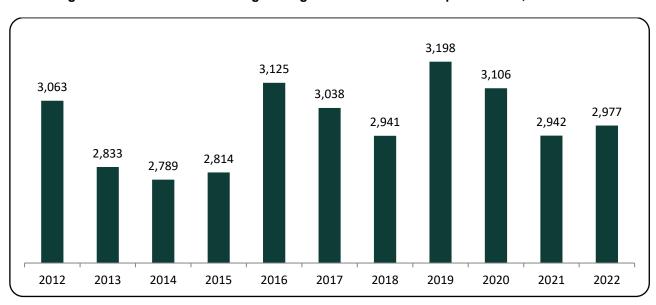


Figure 14: Number of drink/drug driving offences referred for prosecution, 2012 - 2022

Almost half (46%) of drink/drug driving offences were detected at the weekend (Saturday or Sunday) and the month with most detections for drink/drug driving offences was August with 306 detections, counting for 10% of the total (Table 8).

Of the 11 Policing Districts, Belfast City recorded the highest number of drink drug driving offence detections in 2022 (519), however Mid Ulster recorded the highest rate per 10,000 population aged 16+, with 27. Lisburn and Castlereagh had the fewest detections (158) and, alongside Ards and North Down, had the lowest rate per 10,000 population aged 16+, with 13 (Figure 16).

⁸ See https://www.psni.police.uk/about-us/our-publications-and-reports/official-statistics/road-traffic-collision-statistics for the latest RTC statistics.

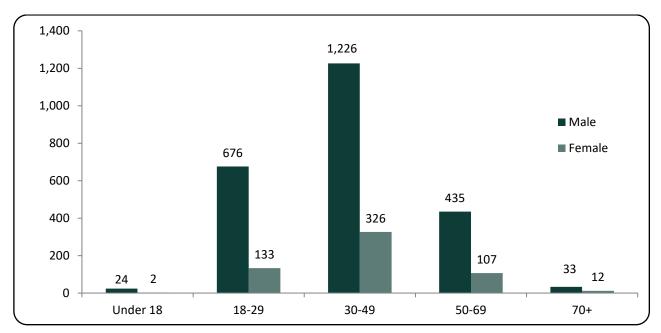
⁹ KSI road traffic collisions caused by drink driving 2013 - 2017

Table 8: Number of drink/drug driving offences by day of week and month of year, 2022

Month	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Total
January	56	30	15	24	16	25	51	217
February	51	21	21	10	29	35	36	203
March	42	29	26	23	37	39	44	240
April	51	35	15	16	20	35	53	225
May	93	23	24	21	25	27	49	262
June	54	23	32	30	35	20	51	245
July	66	41	36	32	21	34	61	291
August	79	54	32	32	36	32	41	306
September	63	31	28	21	26	42	62	273
October	75	25	16	27	17	36	62	258
November	60	23	26	19	19	24	45	216
December	46	20	29	21	23	32	70	241
Total	736	355	300	276	304	381	625	2,977

Where gender and age is known, males accounted for four fifths of drink/drug driving offences and 30-49 year olds accounted for over half (56%).

Figure 15: Number of drink/drug driving offences by age and gender, 2022



Unknown age and gender is excluded from the chart above

Table 9: Top 5 alcohol readings for drink/drug driving offences, 2022

Rank	Breath / Blood	Reading	No of times over legal limit ¹⁰
1	Breath	186 µg/100ml	5.31
2	Breath	172 μg/100ml	4.91
3	Blood	391 mg/100ml	4.89
4	Breath	170 μg/100ml	4.86
5	Breath	167 μg/100ml	4.77

¹⁰ Legal limit for breath tests is 35μg/100ml, blood tests is 80mg/100ml and urine tests 107mg/100ml.

Figure 16: Rate of drink/drug driving offences per 10,000 population¹¹ aged 16+ by Policing District: 2022



¹¹ Population figures sourced from the 2021 Census.

10. Disposal types

Offences referred for prosecution accounted for 63% of all motoring offences detected in 2022, followed by endorsable FPNs comprising 23%. A further 11% were dealt with by means of a non endorsable FPN, while the remaining 2% completed a speed awareness course.

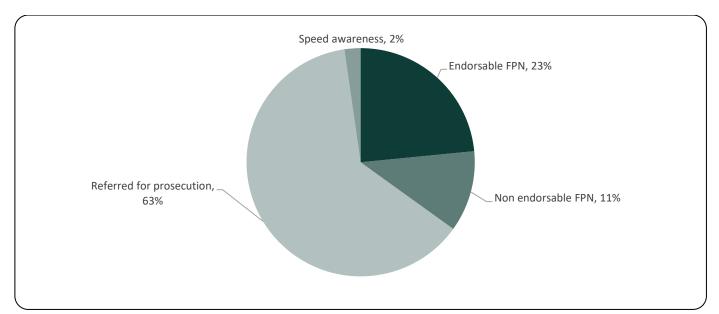


Figure 17: Breakdown of disposal types used for motoring offences, 2022

Table 10: Offence group by disposal type, 2022

Offence group	Endorsable FPN	Non Endorsable FPN	Referred for prosecution	Speed Awareness	Total
Breach of signs & signals	0	260	5	0	265
Careless driving	1,456	316	2,512	0	4,284
Construction & use	0	2,388	448	0	2,836
Dangerous driving	347	0	1,137	0	1,484
Drink or drug driving	0	0	2,977	0	2,977
Driving licence	0	0	3,211	0	3,211
Driving whilst disqualified	0	0	1,081	0	1,081
Failing to stop / remain / report collision	0	0	2,375	0	2,375
Fraudulent use / declaration	0	1	251	0	252
Insurance	916	0	6,005	0	6,921
Learner & Restricted (L&R) driver	207	0	1,563	0	1,770
Miscellaneous	15	46	859	0	920
Mobile phone	1,307	0	455	0	1,762
Non driver	0	40	505	0	545
Parking	23	1,034	8	0	1,065
Seatbelt	423	101	192	0	716
Speeding	5,020	20	1,112	941	7,093
Vehicle taking and driving away / tampering	0	0	954	0	954
Vehicle test certificate	0	550	369	0	919
Total	9,714	4,756	26,019	941	41,430

10.1 Fixed penalty notices

FPNs originated as an administrative way to deal with simple parking offences without referring such matters to the courts. The scheme was then expanded to cover minor road traffic offences in the mid-1980s and was again further expanded to incorporate endorsable and non endorsable offences with the introduction of penalty points in October 1997.

Non endorsable offences are those which do not result in penalty points on your licence and which incur a fine of £30. The standard fine for endorsable offences is £60 along with three penalty points. More serious offences such as driving, or causing or permitting a person to drive a motor vehicle whilst uninsured, can incur fines of up to £200 and six points. Fine collection and revenue reporting are managed by NI Court Service.

A list of fixed penalty offences can be found at - FPN list

Endorsable fixed penalty notices

Endorsable FPNs accounted for almost one quarter of all disposal types used in 2022. There has been a 1% decrease in the number of endorsable FPNs issued when compared with 2021.

Persons aged 30-49 represented 43% of those issued with an endorsable FPN, followed by persons aged 18-29 (35%). Females accounted for one quarter of all issued endorsable FPNs. Almost three fifths of all endorsable FPNs issued to females were for speeding offences.

Table 11: Number of endorsable FPNs issued by offence group, age and gender, 2022

Offence group	Male	Female	Under 18	18 - 29	30 - 49	50 - 69	70+	Total
Careless driving	1,113	343	26	487	613	292	38	1,456
Dangerous driving	300	47	15	208	85	34	5	347
Insurance	628	288	1	328	427	149	11	916
Learner & Restricted (L&R) driver	191	16	34	138	31	4	0	207
Miscellaneous	15	0	0	3	5	7	0	15
Mobile phone	1,077	230	0	299	694	294	20	1,307
Parking	22	1	1	9	9	3	1	23
Seatbelt	354	69	3	122	197	84	17	423
Speeding	3,565	1,455	73	1,831	2,080	945	91	5,020
Total	7,265	2,449	153	3,425	4,141	1,812	183	9,714

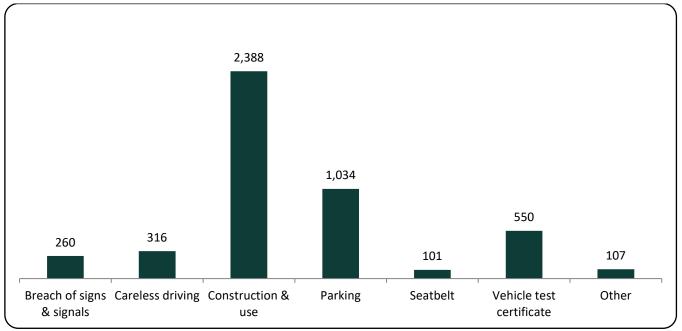
Non Endorsable fixed penalty notices

There were 4,756 non endorsable FPNs issued in 2022, a decrease of 14% on the number issued in 2021. This decrease can largely be attributed to a decrease in the number of non-endorsable FPNs issued for parking offences.

Overall, construction and use offences accounted for half (50%) of all non endorsable FPNs issued, while a further one fifth were issued for parking offences.

Non endorsable FPNs accounted for 11% of all motoring offences in 2022.

Figure 18: Number of non endorsable FPNs issued by offence group, 2022



Other includes offence groups 'Fraudulent use / declaration', 'Miscellaneous', 'Non driver' and 'Speeding'.

10.2 Speed awareness courses

Speed awareness courses were introduced in Northern Ireland in 2010. Drivers, depending on the speed at which they were detected, may be offered an opportunity to attend a speed awareness course as an alternative to penalty points. The course, which is available at eight locations throughout Northern Ireland and delivered and managed by an appointed contractor, must be attended within a period of 120 days from the date of detection, however due to the COVID-19 pandemic the courses moved to an online platform from June 2020. Certain restrictions apply to who can qualify for the speed awareness course option, for those not eligible they will be dealt with by means of an alternative disposal option.

Almost one in seven drivers caught speeding by policer officers in 2022 completed a speed awareness course. Drivers aged 30-49 represented two fifths of those who completed a course, followed by drivers aged 18-29 (31%).

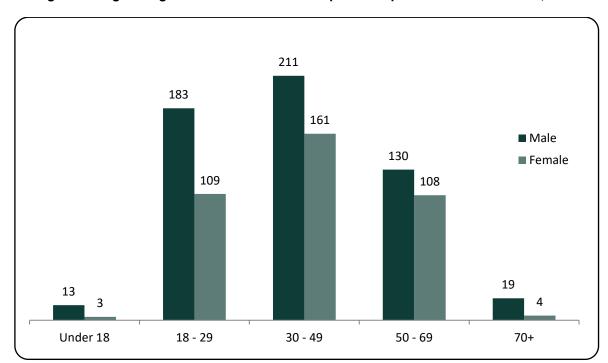


Figure 19: Age and gender of drivers who completed a speed awareness course, 2022

Based on date of detection as opposed to the date the course was completed.

10.3 Referred for prosecution

Police led prosecutions for motoring offences occur when the offence is of a serious nature and has no corresponding fixed penalty or where multiple offences have occurred or where the alleged offender wishes to have the matter(s) heard at court. Where an offending driver has already accumulated a number of penalty points, to the extent that a driving disqualification is now in scope, such cases must be heard at court and will consequently also be subject of a prosecution.

Motoring offences that have been referred for prosecution accounted for 63% of all motoring offences in 2022, with insurance offences making up almost one quarter (23%) of all offences referred.

Where gender and age is known, males accounted for over four fifths (84%) of all persons referred for prosecution for motoring offences while persons aged 30-49 accounted for 43%.

Table 12: Number of offences referred for prosecution by offence group and age, 2022

Offence group	Under 18	18 - 29	30 - 49	50 - 69	70+	Total
Breach of signs & signals	0	2	1	2	0	5
Careless driving	102	901	931	447	131	2,512
Construction & use	29	268	111	36	4	448
Dangerous driving	65	560	376	116	20	1,137
Drink or drug driving	26	811	1,553	542	45	2,977
Driving licence	120	1,130	1,533	376	52	3,211
Driving whilst disqualified	102	303	562	107	7	1,081
Failing to stop / remain / report collision	135	737	1,061	329	113	2,375
Fraudulent use / declaration	6	75	130	35	5	251
Insurance	255	2,363	2,697	618	72	6,005
Learner & Restricted (L&R) driver	130	761	512	144	16	1,563
Miscellaneous	73	387	316	73	10	859
Mobile phone	9	147	225	71	3	455
Non driver	20	182	233	65	5	505
Parking	0	1	5	2	0	8
Seatbelt	2	64	101	21	4	192
Speeding	53	625	344	84	6	1,112
Vehicle taking and driving away / tampering	160	374	376	41	3	954
Vehicle test certificate	17	142	162	39	9	369
Total	1,304	9,833	11,229	3,148	505	26,019

11. Revisions

Revisions are carried out in accordance with our <u>Revisions Policy</u>, a copy of which is available in the Official Statistics section of the PSNI Statistics website.

Referred for prosecution figures from 2020 onwards are the only figures which have been subject to revision since the previous annual publication.

Figure under revision	2021 publication	2022 publication	Change - Number	Change - %
Referred for Prosecution – 2020	30,368	30,593	225	0.7
Referred for Prosecution - 2021	26,230	28,155	1,925	7.3