

Police Service of Northern Ireland

Fixed Penalty Notice Statistics Northern Ireland

Annual Report

Covering the reporting period
1st January 2011 – 31st December 2011

Published 10th December 2012



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Personal, Professional, Protective Policing

Background

Fixed Penalties originated as an administrative way to deal with simple parking offences without referring such matters to the courts. Such was its success that it was identified as an efficient way to deal with minor road traffic offences and was expanded to encompass these matters in the mid 1980s. With the introduction of penalty points for traffic offences, the scheme was expanded to incorporate Endorsable and Non-Endorsable offences.

Non-endorsable offences - meaning those which don't result in points on your licence incur a fine of £30. Fines for endorsable offences are £60 and three points. More serious offences such as driving without insurance can incur fines of up to £200 and six points. Other fixed penalty offences include No MOT (£60) or Vehicle Excise License (£60). Fine collection and revenue reporting are managed by the NI Courts Service.

A list of fixed penalty offences can be found at –
http://www.psni.police.uk/index/advice-and-legislation/roads_and_driving/advice_penalty_notices/fixed_penalty_offence_codes.htm

This report looks at all issued FPNs – both Endorsable and non Endorsable for 2011. It does not include FPNs issued to drivers who were detected for speeding through the NI Road Safety Partnership. Figures relating to those detected through the Partnership can be accessed via following link –
<http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/road-safety-partnership-statistics.htm>

Figures are provisional and subject to minor amendment.

A map of Policing Districts is included at the back of the report.

Key Findings

- In 2011, there were 28,295 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) issued by the Police in Northern Ireland. The highest monthly figure was March when 3,013 (11%) were issued.
- Endorsable FPNs accounted for two-thirds (18,773, 66%) of all issued FPNs.
- F District issued 4,983 FPNs, accounting for 18% of all issued FPNs.
- A total of 8,101 drivers were issued with a FPN for a speeding offence. This represents 29% of all issued FPNs. D District accounted for 23% of all the issued FPNs for speeding offences.
- 23% (6,640) of the total drivers was issued with a FPN for using hand held mobile phone. D District accounted for 17% of all the issued FPNs for this offence.

Number of police officer issued FPNs by Notice type: 2011

2011	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Endorsable Fixed Penalty	1708	1790	2013	1696	1742	1587	1478	1510	1379	1427	1377	1066	18773
Non Endorsable Fixed Penalty	995	961	1000	697	900	605	688	590	757	792	783	754	9522
Total	2703	2751	3013	2393	2642	2192	2166	2100	2136	2219	2160	1820	28295

Number of police officer issued FPNs by Notice type and District: 2011

2011	A District	B District	C District	D District	E District	F District	G District	H District	Unknown District	Total
Endorsable Fixed Penalty	683	1576	2059	3544	3111	3231	2619	1933	17	18773
Non Endorsable Fixed Penalty	599	2815	468	920	1800	1752	735	422	11	9522
Total	1282	4391	2527	4464	4911	4983	3354	2355	28	28295

Number of police officer issued FPNs by offence type: 2011

2011	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Speeding Offences*	579	699	870	821	788	771	740	695	547	601	632	358	8101
Breach of Signs & Signals	147	142	187	87	182	113	151	166	297	176	198	226	2072
Construction & Use	298	261	259	165	222	146	186	191	136	176	177	150	2367
Lighting Offences	125	139	129	87	87	63	96	55	58	81	84	76	1080
Tacograph Offences	16	21	19	19	28	18	6	6	10	13	23	10	189
Pedestrian Offences	9	3	2	6	4	4	9	6	3	5	5	12	68
Pedal cyclist Offences	2	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	2	3	1	1	14
Seatbelt Offences	243	256	272	207	207	187	159	168	173	129	108	117	2226
Miscellaneous Offences	259	238	242	234	239	179	171	154	184	212	200	197	2509
Parking Offences	146	146	146	102	151	72	64	35	92	161	137	110	1362
Careless / Inconsiderate Driving	193	152	153	118	130	118	108	127	120	116	137	109	1581
Dangerous Driving	7	10	9	7	8	9	7	11	4	6	5	3	86
Using Hand Held Mobile Phone	679	683	723	539	595	512	469	486	510	540	453	451	6640
Total	2703	2751	3013	2393	2642	2192	2166	2100	2136	2219	2160	1820	28295

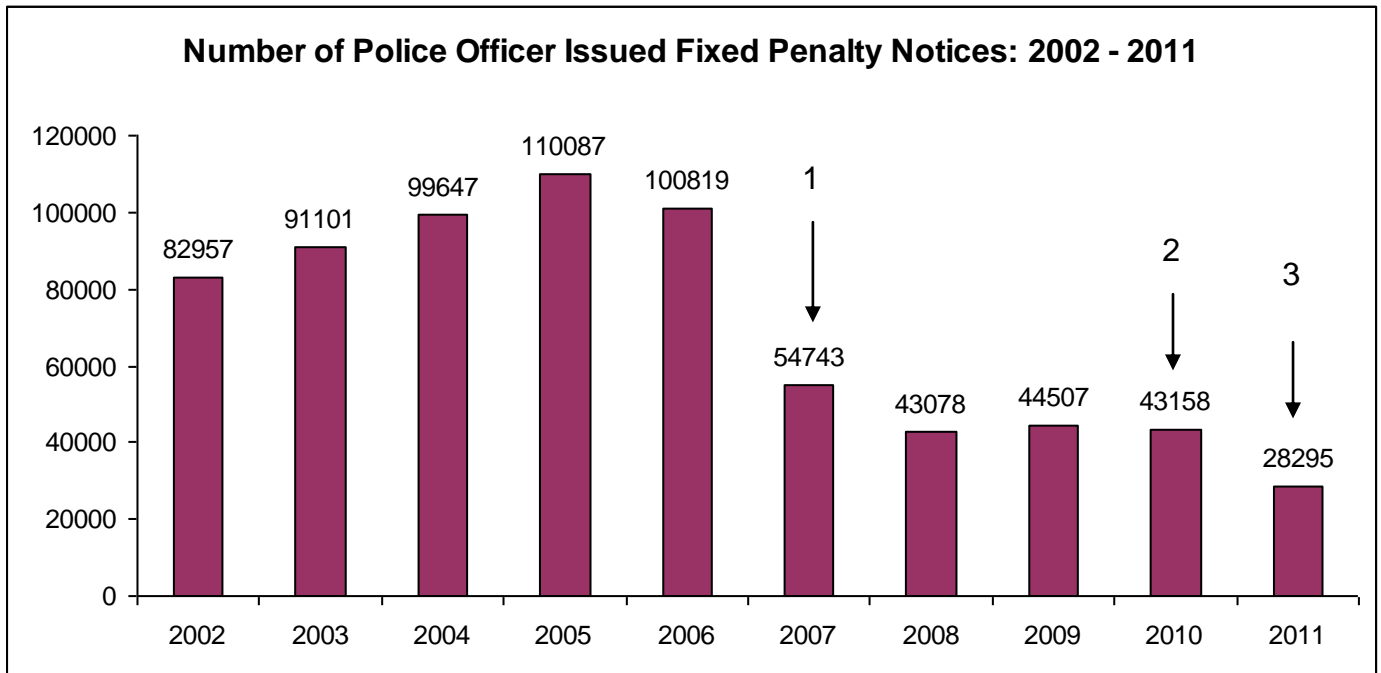
*Please note this does not include drivers detected for speeding through the Northern Ireland Road Safety Partnership or officer detections where the driver was given the option to attend Speed Awareness Course

Number of police officer issued FPNs by offence type & District: 2011

2011	A District	B District	C District	D District	E District	F District	G District	H District	Unknown District	Total
Speeding Offences*	161	475	873	1885	1236	1491	1049	925	6	8101
Breach of Signs & Signals	115	1403	92	163	177	54	38	28	2	2072
Construction & Use	52	110	96	213	556	785	323	231	1	2367
Lighting Offences	44	63	33	113	260	356	145	63	3	1080
Tacograph Offences	1	2	2	39	69	46	18	12	0	189
Pedestrian Offences	12	22	0	9	13	7	4	1	0	68
Pedal cyclist Offences	1	6	1	3	2	0	1	0	0	14
Seatbelt Offences	132	149	208	237	598	336	276	289	1	2226
Miscellaneous Offences	131	307	211	355	565	518	253	165	4	2509
Parking Offences	221	910	77	61	35	34	17	6	1	1362
Careless / Inconsiderate Driving	117	282	125	238	255	289	154	120	1	1581
Dangerous Driving	1	7	3	6	5	47	14	3	0	86
Using Hand Held Mobile Phone	294	655	806	1142	1140	1020	1062	512	9	6640
Total	1282	4391	2527	4464	4911	4983	3354	2355	28	28295

*Please note this does not include drivers detected for speeding through the Northern Ireland Road Safety Partnership or officer detections where the driver was given the option to attend Speed Awareness Course

Trend Information



1. Parking offences no longer enforced by PSNI from 29th Oct 2006
2. Speed awareness course introduced in June 2010 as a method of disposal instead of receiving a FPN for speeding offences
3. Discretionary Disposals introduced during 2011 as a method of disposal instead of receiving a FPN for traffic offences

Definitions

Non-Endorsable Fixed Penalties

Police officers in uniform currently issue Non-Endorsable Fixed Penalties. There are over 130 offences associated with a non-endorsable notice ranging from lighting offences to incorrect form of registration marking.

Non-Endorsable Fixed Penalty notices carry a fine of £30. There are no points endorsed on your driving licence.

The Traffic Management (NI) Order 2005 came into effect on 30th October 2006. The effect of this legislation was to decriminalise the vast majority of parking and waiting offences in Northern Ireland. Responsibility for enforcement of parking/waiting restrictions is carried out by Traffic Attendants and is the responsibility of DRD Road Services. National Car Parks Limited provides this service on behalf of DRD Road Services.

Endorsable Fixed Penalties

Police officers (in uniform) are able to issue Endorsable Fixed Penalty Notices (EFPNs) for a variety of road traffic offences. The offences range from stopping on a motorway to defective tyres. However, the most common ones are excess speed, using a handheld mobile phone and driver failing to wear a seatbelt.

Endorsable Fixed Penalty Notices differ from non-endorsable fixed penalty notices. They involve the endorsement of penalty points on a driving licence and they carry a heavier fine currently £60. Penalty Points remain on your licence for a period of 3 years.

The offence of 'Driving or causing or permitting a person to drive a motor vehicle whilst uninsured' may also be dealt with by the issue of an Endorsable Fixed Penalty Notice. The penalty for this offence is a fine of £200 and six penalty points. Your vehicle will also be seized pending the production of valid insurance and any other required driving documents.

Discretionary Disposal

Discretionary disposals were introduced to provide a speedy, effective outcome tailored to the needs of the victim. In addition they challenge offenders to recognise the impact of their behaviour. They can be used for a specified list of low level offences and are dealt with in this way rather than reporting the case to the Public Prosecution Service. In addition, the offender must have admitted to the offence before a discretionary disposal can be considered.

Speed Awareness Courses

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 five 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. This method of disposal was introduced in June 2010. Certain restrictions apply to who can qualify for the speed awareness course option.

PSNI Policing Districts from 1st April 2007

