



Police Service
of Northern Ireland



Motoring Offence Statistics for Northern Ireland

1st May 2024 to 30th April 2025

Date of Publication:

26th June 2025

Frequency:


Monthly

Issued by:

PSNI Statistics Branch
Lisnasharragh
42 Montgomery Road
Belfast
BT6 9LD

Web: [PSNI Statistics](https://psni.statistics.nisra.gov.uk)

 statistics@psni.police.uk

 02890 650222 Ext. 24135

In the 12 months from 1st May 2024 to 30th April 2025:

- There were 33,576 detections for motoring offences in Northern Ireland, of which 97% were dealt with by means of a fixed penalty notice or referral for prosecution.
- The remaining 3% (996) resulted in the completion of a speed awareness or safer driver course.
- Total detections decreased by 18% on the 40,923 detections recorded in the previous 12 months, with notable reductions across a number of offence groups including insurance, speeding, driving licence and careless driving offences.
- Only one of the 19 offence groups showed an increase in detections over the year – breach of signs and signals, which rose slightly (18) to 204 detections.
- The largest offence group was insurance offences with 5,214 which along with speeding (4,579) accounted for under one-third of the total detections.
- The highest speed detected by PSNI officers in the latest 12 months was 132mph, on the A8 Belfast Road, Larne.



Contents

- 1. Things you need to know about this release3
- 2. Summary.....4
- 3. Trends5
- 4. Age and Gender6
- 5. Offence Group7
- 6. Policing District10
- 7. Further Information.....12

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 from 1st May 2024 – 30th April 2025. It does not include any detections by the NI Road Safety Partnership (NI RSP). 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 or safer driver course or a referral for prosecution.

This report presents the most recent motoring offence statistics based on figures extracted on 23rd June 2025. Referred for prosecution figures from 1st January 2023 onwards remain provisional and therefore subject to amendment, as do the remaining disposals for the 2025 period only. The information is also available in tabular format in the [accompanying spreadsheets](#) on the PSNI website.

Background information and details of the offences included in each offence grouping can be found in the [Motoring Offence User Guide](#) on the PSNI website. 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.

Accredited Official Statistics

[Accredited Official Statistics](#)¹ are official statistics that have been independently reviewed by Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR) and confirmed to comply with the standards of trustworthiness, quality and value in the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#). Producers of accredited official statistics are legally required to ensure they maintain compliance with the Code. Accredited official statistics are called National Statistics in the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007.

These accredited official statistics were independently reviewed by the Office for Statistics Regulation in March 2020. They comply with the standards of trustworthiness, quality and value in the Code of Practice for Statistics and should be labelled 'accredited official statistics'.

Our statistical practice is regulated by the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR). OSR sets the standards of trustworthiness, quality and value in the Code of Practice for Statistics that all producers of official statistics should adhere to. You are welcome to contact us directly with any comments about how we meet these standards by emailing statistics@psni.police.uk. Alternatively, you can contact OSR by emailing regulation@statistics.gov.uk or via the [Office for Statistics Regulation website](#).

¹ From 7 June 2024 the Accredited Official Statistics badge replaced the National Statistics badge.

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 [motoring offences](#) statistics web page on the PSNI website.

Related statistics

Sources of motoring offences data for other domains include [An Garda Síochána - Republic of Ireland](#) and [England and Wales](#). Related statistics include [Injury road traffic collision statistics](#) and [NI Road Safety Partnership](#) statistics.

2. Summary

Table 1 shows that, over the last 12 months:

- The number of motoring offences detected decreased by 18% to 33,576
- Offences referred for prosecution fell by 19%
- Endorsable fixed penalties decreased by 19%
- Number of speed awareness courses decreased by 21%

Table 1 Number of motoring offences by disposal type, 1st May 2023 – 30th April 2025*

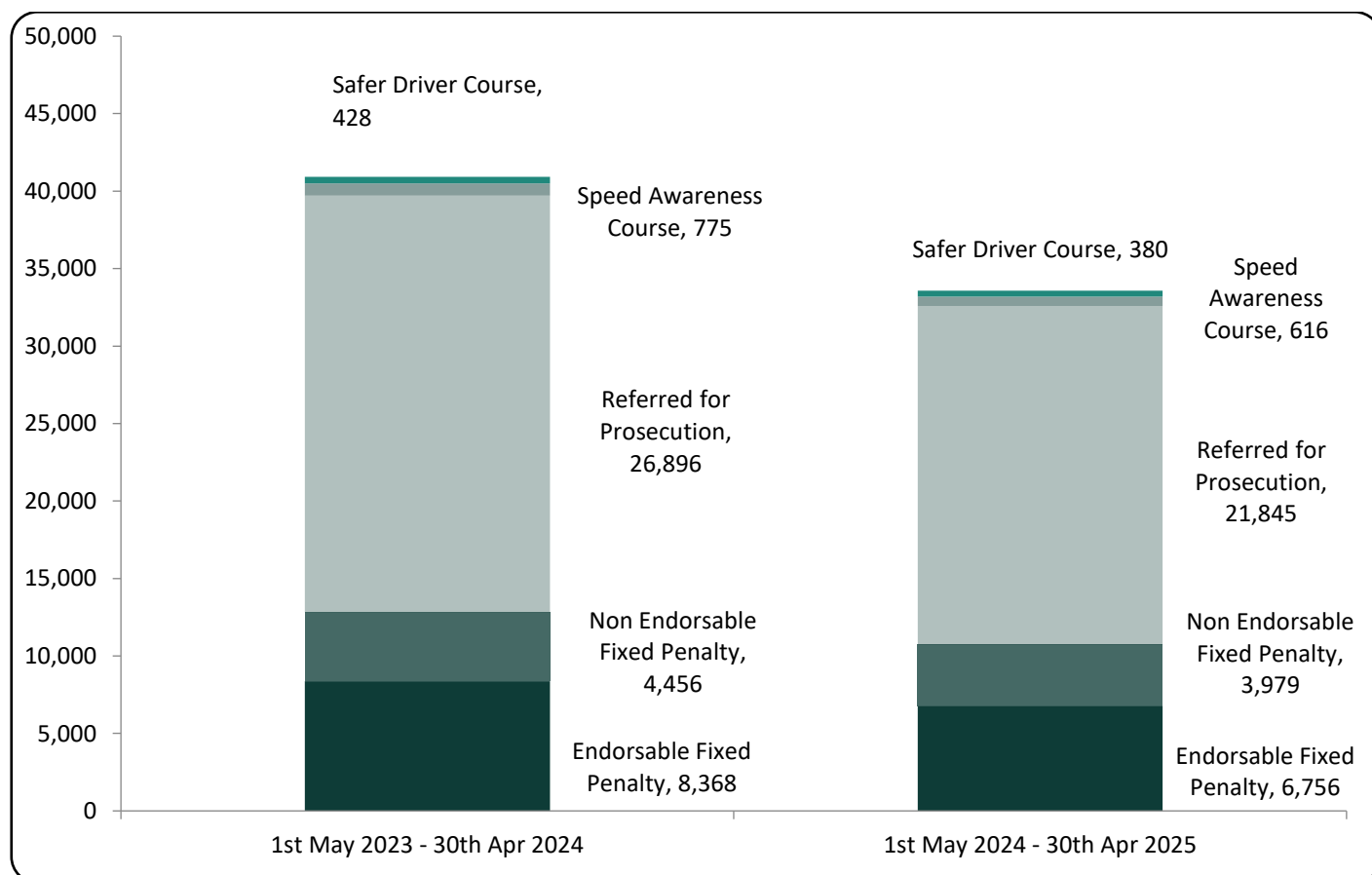
	1 st May 2023 – 30 th Apr 2024	1 st May 2024 – 30 th Apr 2025	Change over last 12 months	Percentage change over last 12 months
Endorsable Fixed Penalty	8,368	6,756	-1,612	-19
Non Endorsable Fixed Penalty	4,456	3,979	-477	-11
Referred for Prosecution	26,896	21,845	-5,051	-19
Speed Awareness Course	775	616	-159	-21
Safer Driver Course	428	380	-48	N/A
Total	40,923	33,576	-7,347	-18

*Figures are provisional and subject to change.

1. Note that not all detections in the most recent few months will have been processed as yet, particularly those referred for prosecution.

2. Safer driver courses were introduced in Northern Ireland in May 2023 as an alternative disposal to the new fixed penalty notice for careless driving.

Figure 1 Comparisons of disposal types for motoring offences between 1st May 2023 – 30th April 2024 and 1st May 2024 – 30th April 2025



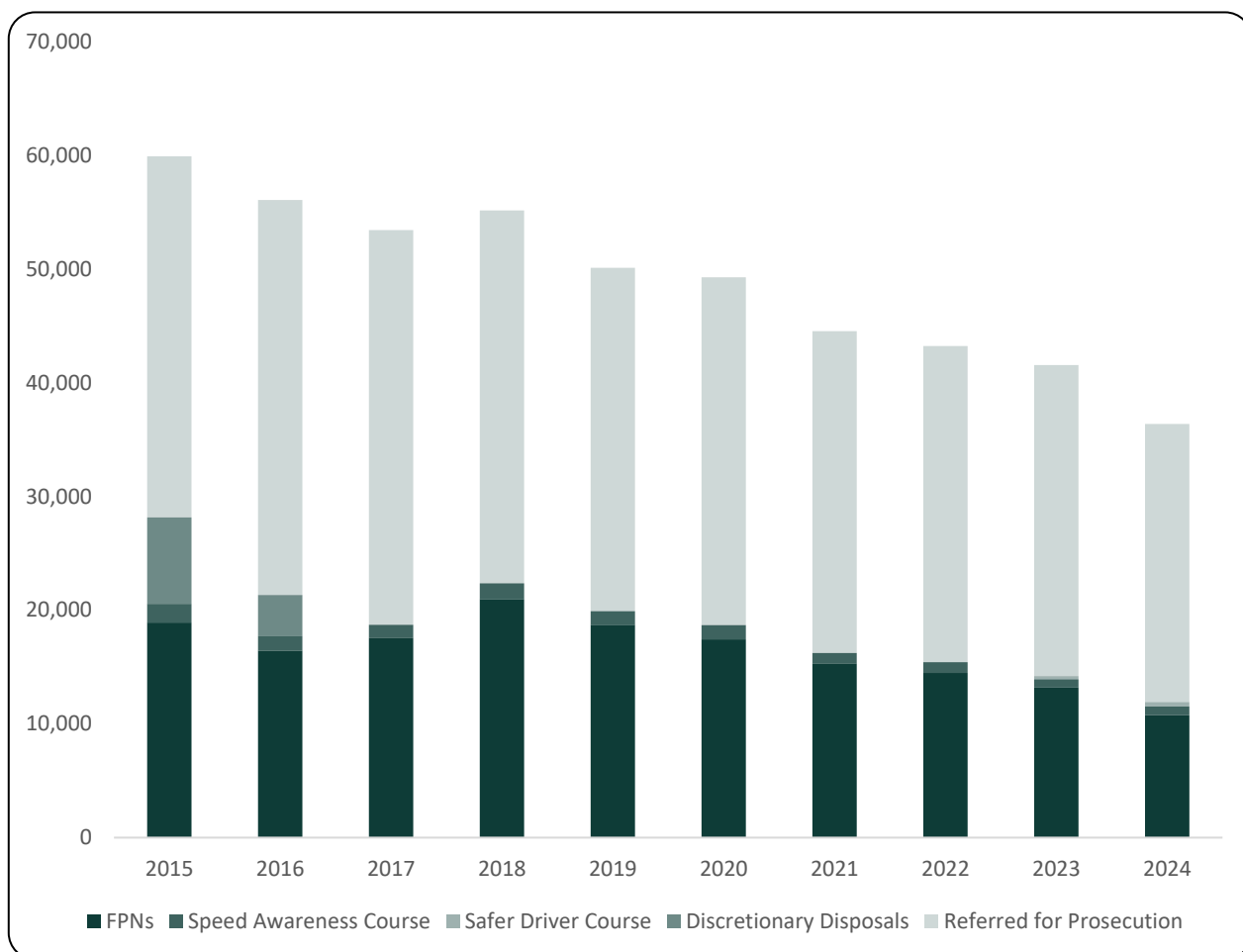
Note that not all detections in the most recent months will have been processed at this time, particularly those referred for prosecution.

3. Trends

The number of motoring offences have been generally decreasing over a 10 year period from a total of 59,907 recorded in 2015 to 36,357 recorded in 2024 (see figure 2).

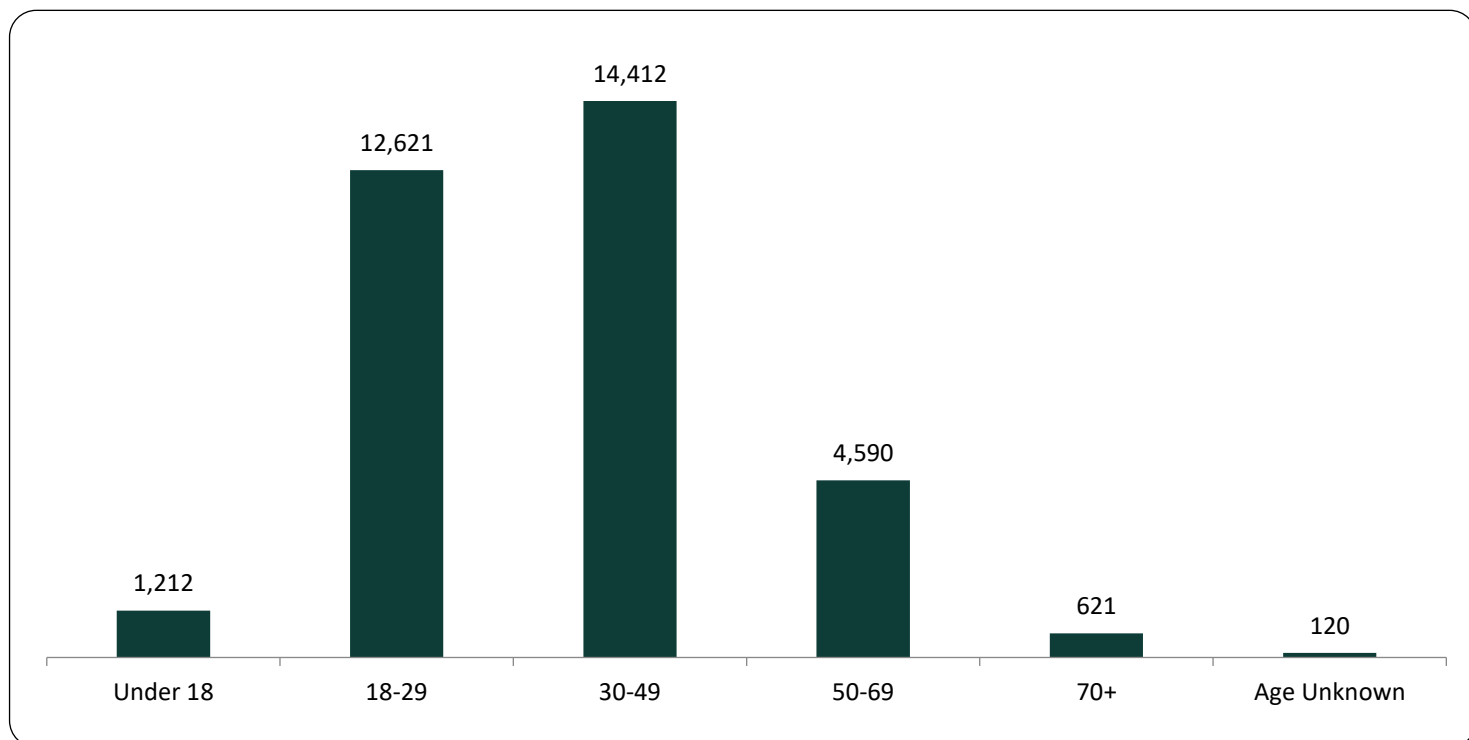
Discretionary disposals were introduced during 2011 as an alternative method of disposal for dealing with motoring offences but were removed on 31st July 2016. Safer driver courses were introduced in Northern Ireland in May 2023 as an alternative disposal to the new fixed penalty notice for careless driving.

Figure 2 Number of motoring offences by disposal type: 1st January 2015 – 31st December 2024



4. Age and Gender

Figure 3 Number of motoring offences by age: 1st May 2024 – 30th April 2025



- Figure 3 shows that those aged 30-49 years old accounted for over two fifths of motoring offences detected between 1st May 2024 and 30th April 2025 where age is known, followed by those aged 18-29 (38%). Almost all (99%) of the unknown ages refer to non endorsable offences, which can be issued in the absence of the offender and do not require licence details to process, for example parking offences.
- Males accounted for 8 in 10 of all motoring offences detected between 1st May 2024 and 30th April 2025.

5. Offence Group

Table 2 Number of motoring offences by gender, age band and offence group¹
1st May 2024 – 30th April 2025*

	Female	Male	Other / Unknown	Under 18	18-29	30-49	50-69	70+	Age Unknown	Total
Breach of signs & signals	48	152	4	2	55	92	38	10	7	204
Careless driving	820	3,518	5	122	1,519	1,729	808	164	1	4,343
Construction & use	336	2,576	9	156	1,880	675	174	17	19	2,921
Dangerous driving	139	1,285	2	67	690	529	123	17	0	1,426
Drink or drug driving	522	2,354	5	22	699	1,574	540	46	0	2,881
Driving licence	314	2,052	4	100	738	1,222	276	33	1	2,370
Driving whilst disqualified	84	891	4	81	274	502	117	5	0	979
Failing to stop / remain / report collision	402	1,830	0	88	750	921	374	99	0	2,232
Fraudulent use / declaration	19	202	1	3	84	88	42	5	0	222
Insurance	789	4,414	11	180	1,911	2,523	534	66	0	5,214
L & R driver	161	1,219	8	104	590	582	93	19	0	1,388
Miscellaneous	75	774	10	72	362	339	69	11	6	859
Mobile phone	175	848	1	5	233	543	219	24	0	1,024
Non-driver	200	304	2	18	151	239	91	5	2	506
Parking	188	340	21	5	218	147	88	11	80	549
Seatbelt	99	388	0	12	156	235	73	11	0	487
Speeding	1,258	3,321	0	90	1,769	1,848	799	72	1	4,579
Vehicle TADA / tampering	90	750	0	81	331	373	54	1	0	840
Vehicle test certificate	73	477	2	4	211	251	78	5	3	552
Total	5,792	27,695	89	1,212	12,621	14,412	4,590	621	120	33,576

* Figures are provisional and subject to change. ¹ Please refer to section 7 for more detail regarding the offence groups.

- Table 1 shows a decrease of 19% in the number of endorsable tickets issued in past 12 months when compared with previous 12 months, which was primarily due to lower numbers of insurance, speeding and parking offences.
- Table 2 shows that the largest offence group recorded was insurance offences with a total of 5,214 detections, this was a 30% decrease on the number recorded in the previous 12 months. For the period 1st May 2024 to 30th April 2025 insurance offences accounted for 16% of all detections for motoring offences.
- Speeding offences accounted for 14% of all offences in the current period. The total number of such offences decreased by 787 (15%) since the previous year, to 4,579 between May 2024 and April 2025.
- The highest speed recorded by PSNI officers in the latest 12 months was 132mph, on the A8 Belfast Road, Larne.
- In the latest 12 months, the NI Road Safety Partnership detected over 19 times more speeding offences than the PSNI (87,015).
- Only one of the 19 offence groups showed an increase in detections over the year, breach of signs and signals saw an increase of 10% (18 detections).
- Parking detections by the PSNI decreased by almost two-fifths over the 12 month period, while vehicle test certificate offences showed a decrease of over one-third, reducing by 303 detections.
- Over half of those detected for mobile phone offences were age 30-49.
- Over one-fifth of all female detections was for speeding offences.
- Over a quarter of detections involving those aged 70 or more were for careless driving type offences.

Table 3 Number of motoring offences by month and offence group¹, 1st May 2023– 30th April 2025*

Offence group	May 2024	June 2024	July 2024	Aug 2024	Sept 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Feb 2025	Mar 2025	Apr 2025	May 2024 – Apr 2025	May 2023 – Apr 2024	Change over last 12 months Number	Change over last 12 months %
Breach of signs & signals	11	17	24	14	11	7	17	15	17	29	24	18	204	186	18	10
Careless driving	406	370	371	367	361	419	363	371	369	302	311	333	4,343	4,981	-638	-13
Construction & use	224	229	236	216	244	201	206	190	220	205	244	506	2,921	3,047	-125	-4
Dangerous driving	147	133	149	141	127	142	112	125	105	82	85	78	1,426	1,668	-242	-15
Drink or drug driving	295	249	289	215	320	290	238	283	166	168	206	162	2,881	3,134	-253	-8
Driving licence	181	199	226	212	210	215	194	197	227	177	167	165	2,370	2,994	-624	-21
Driving whilst disqualified	97	80	93	76	92	95	80	86	74	63	68	75	979	1,216	-237	-19
Failing to stop / remain / report collision	153	239	214	229	194	285	225	185	154	127	116	111	2,232	2,641	-409	-15
Fraudulent use / declaration	22	25	24	17	19	19	15	20	13	16	19	13	222	239	-17	-7
Insurance	405	381	438	386	402	490	439	441	505	435	455	437	5,214	7,495	-2,281	-30
L & R driver	112	114	167	101	103	119	116	90	141	87	134	104	1,388	1,647	-259	-16
Miscellaneous	75	69	111	83	69	88	69	69	59	58	56	53	859	995	-136	-14
Mobile phone	89	92	91	79	80	102	77	48	85	80	106	95	1,024	1,212	-188	-16
Non-driver	74	37	59	32	35	55	42	56	18	31	37	30	506	568	-62	-11
Parking	50	17	33	46	42	58	46	40	32	65	69	51	549	870	-321	-37
Seatbelt	49	37	48	36	42	41	38	32	55	29	33	47	487	725	-238	-33
Speeding	451	475	541	448	390	398	298	178	273	290	337	500	4,579	5,366	-787	-15
Vehicle TADA / tampering	95	72	83	69	72	88	77	70	59	72	44	39	840	1,084	-244	-23
Vehicle test certificate	42	42	46	39	43	48	46	46	57	36	50	57	552	855	-303	-35
Total	2,978	2,877	3,243	2,806	2,856	3,160	2,698	2,542	2,629	2,352	2,561	2,874	33,576	40,923	-7,347	-18

* Figures are provisional and subject to change.

¹ Please refer to section 7 for more detail regarding the offence groups.

6. Policing District

Figure 4: Number of motoring offences by Policing District: 1st May 2023 – 30th April 2025

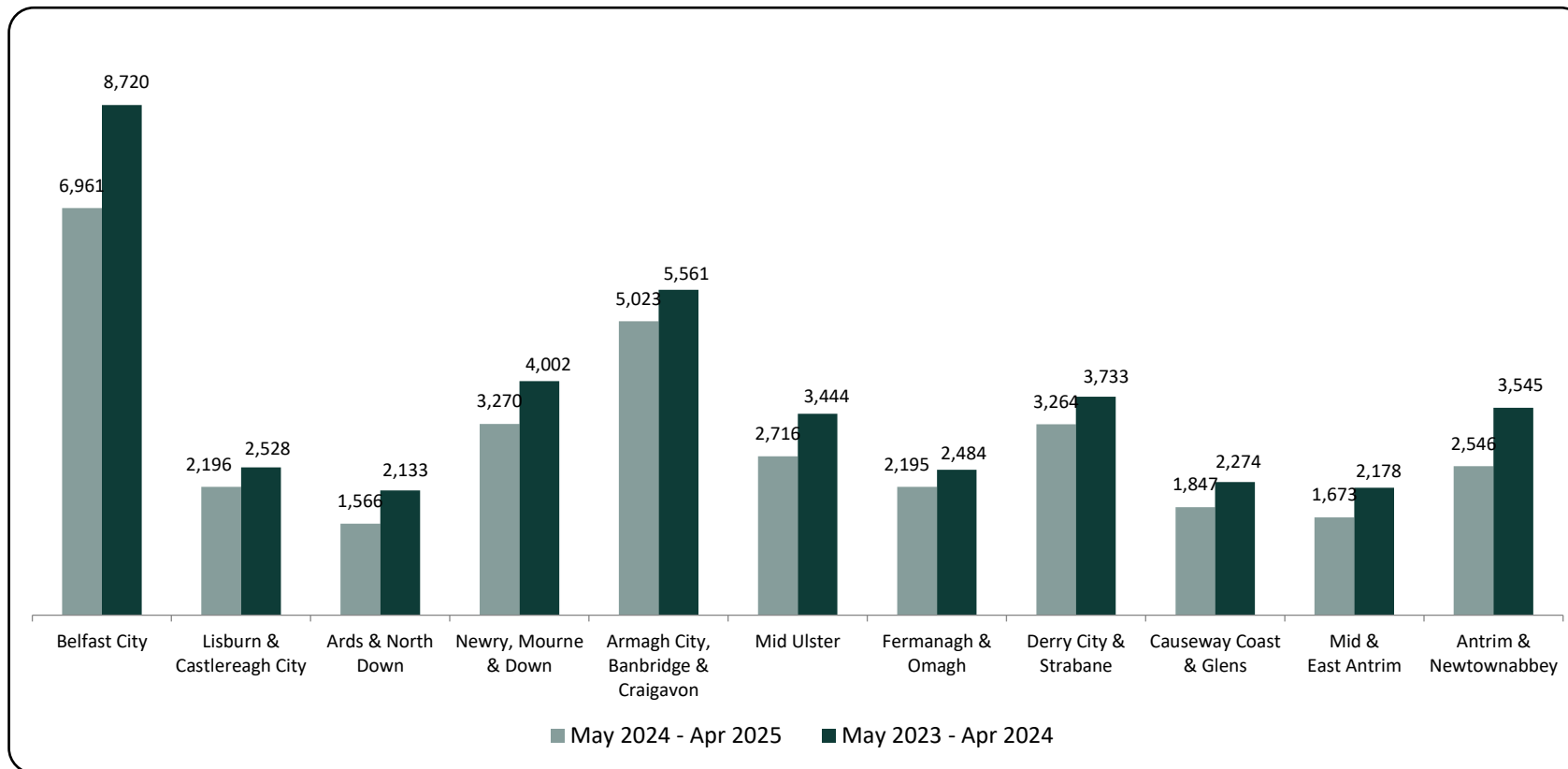
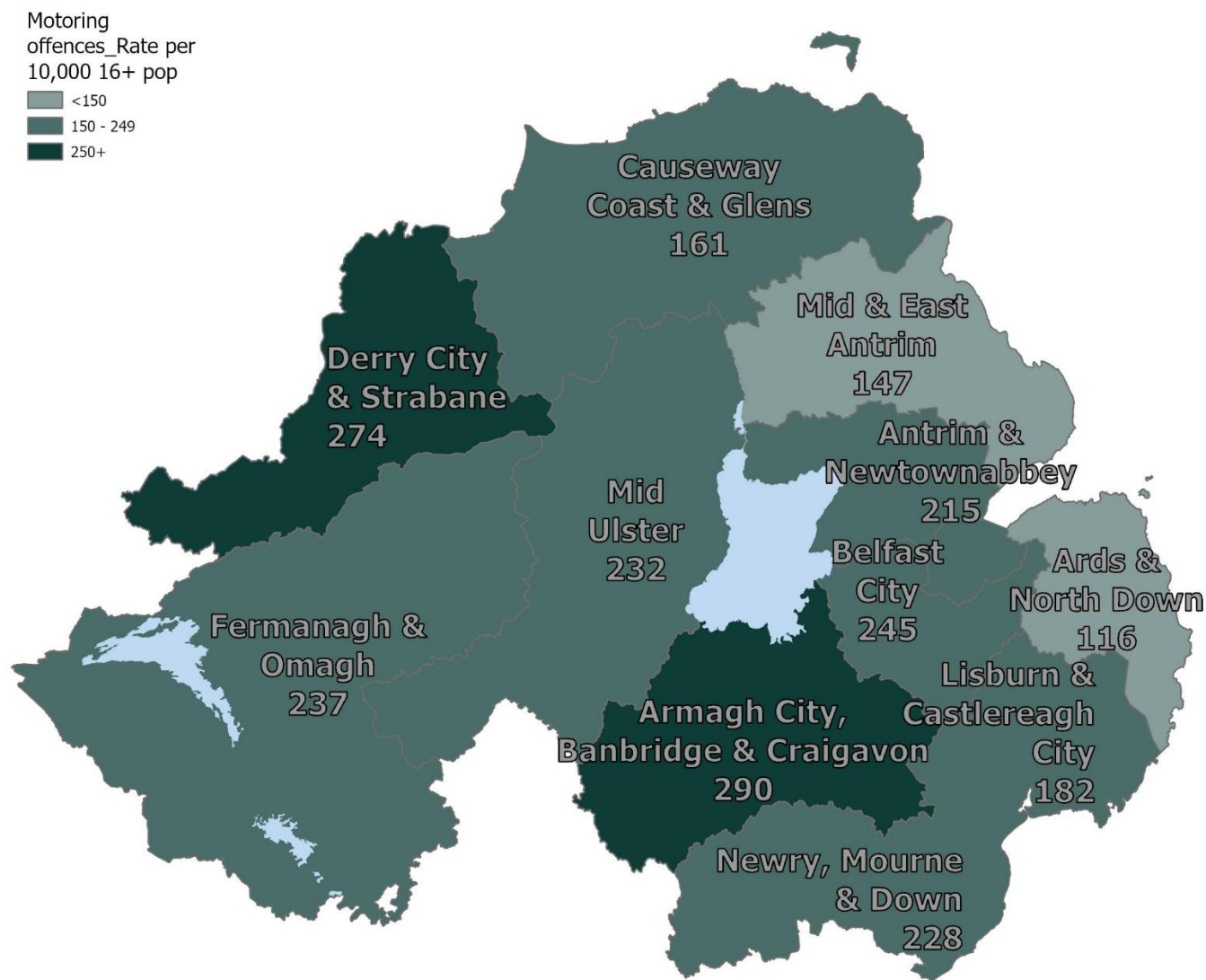


Figure 4 shows that 21% of motoring offences were detected in Belfast City District followed by a further 15% in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon.

Figure 5: Rate of motoring offences per 10,000 population¹ aged 16+ by Policing District: 1st May 2024 – 30th April 2025



7. Further Information

A [User Guide](#) providing detailed information on the motoring offences statistics is available on the PSNI website.

[PSNI Official Statistics documentation](#) is available on the Official Statistics section of the PSNI website.

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.

Fixed penalty notices

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.

The full list of offences and groups are published on the [motoring offences section](#) of the PSNI website.

Speed awareness courses

Speed awareness courses were introduced in Northern Ireland in 2010. Drivers, depending on the speed at which they were detected, can 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 (currently online due to COVID-19) by an appointed contractor must be attended within a period of 120 days from the date of detection. Certain restrictions apply to who can qualify for the speed awareness course option.

Safer driver courses

Safer driver courses were introduced in Northern Ireland in May 2023 as an alternative disposal to the new fixed penalty notice for careless driving, subject to eligibility. See Careless Driving section below for more details.

Offence groups

An offence group is made up of many individual offences. For the full list of offences and groups see the [motoring offences section](#) of the PSNI website.

Careless driving

On Monday 15th May 2023, a fixed penalty notice was introduced in Northern Ireland for the offence of careless driving, which is committed when the driving falls below the standard expected of a competent and careful driver. Prior to this, there was no one single offence for careless driving in Northern Ireland. The penalty for the new offence is £100 and 3 penalty points. It currently cannot be issued in the case of a road traffic collision and is an available disposal for lower level offending including driving too close, unnecessarily staying in an overtaking lane or unnecessarily slow driving or braking.

The new careless driving offence is reported within the wider careless driving offence group which includes other offences such as overtaking on inside lane, driving on hard shoulder of motorway and reversing on motorway.

Construction and use

Construction and use offence group includes defective tyre, defective exhaust, excess noise, incorrect form of registration and no number plate offences.

L & R driver

L & R driver means learner and restricted driver offence group. Note the offence of L or R driver exceeding 45mph is included in the speeding group.

Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous offence group includes taxi related offences, tachograph and driver hours offences.

Non-driver

The non-driver offence group his includes all aiding and abetting, permitting and causing offences. It also includes non-motor vehicle and pedestrian offences.

Speeding

This does not include driver’s detected speeding through the NI Road Safety Partnership.

Vehicle TADA / tampering

Vehicle TADA means Vehicle taking and driving away.

Revisions

Figures for 2024 were finalised in March 2025. Figures from January 2025 onwards are currently provisional and subject to ongoing quality assurance and minor amendment, primarily due to the time taken to process all offences, particularly those referred for prosecution or completing a speed awareness course.

To demonstrate the scale of revisions, updated figures for January – March 2025 are provided in the table below:

	Last month publication	This month publication	Change	Percentage change
Endorsable Fixed Penalty	1,557	1,577	20	1.3
Non Endorsable Fixed Penalty	1,005	1,011	6	0.6
Referred for Prosecution	4,376	4,750	374	8.5
Speed Awareness Course	90	102	12	13.3
Safer driver course	87	102	15	17.2
Total	7,115	7,542	427	6.0