**Driving Licence Data User Guide** Version 3.0 September 2017

**Introduction**

This document provides information about the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency’s (DVLA) driving licence data releases. Section 1 gives a general background description and advice on important points to bear in mind in interpreting the data. Section 2 describes the data tables and related definitions in more detail.

**Section 1: Understanding the driving licence data**

What is in this data release?

These data sets contain data on current driving licences issued by the DVLA.

The DVLA is responsible for issuing driving licences in Great Britain (GB). Driving licences issued in Northern Ireland are the responsibility of the Northern Ireland Driver & Vehicle Agency and are outside the scope of this release.

DVLA’s driver’s database changes constantly as the Agency receives driving licence applications and other information that updates the records of individual drivers. Therefore, it is only possible to provide a snapshot of the state of the record at a particular time.

Further information about driving licensing can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/browse/driving/driving-licences>

What is the data collected for?

Drivers’ data is collected and held by DVLA (on behalf of the Secretary of State) under Part III of the Road Traffic Act 1988 (RTA) for the statutory purpose of licensing drivers.

How is the data processed?

The DVLA drivers database maintains a record of licensing history of all registered GB licence holders from date of first Provisional licence application to present date. Licence history includes personal data (e.g. name, date of birth and current address); record of valid Court ordered driving convictions, record of driving tests and record of licence entitlements held. DVLA relies on information being provided to update the records and in the absence of such the information in the tables may not be accurate. For example, DVLA may not have been informed that a licence holder is deceased.

**Section 2: Data set details**

Release Schedule

The tables below are normally released quarterly, according to the following cycle. On each occasion, the latest available snapshot from the DVLA database is used. This will generally mean that the effective date of each snapshot is approximately in the middle of a calendar quarter. The exact dates of each update may be subject to variation according to operational constraints.

Release date Approximate snapshot date

Late February Mid February

Early June Mid May

Late August Mid August

Late November Mid November

Table Index

DRL0101 – Full and provisional licences by age and gender

DRL0102 – Full and provisional licences by postcode district

DRL0110 – Entitlements held by gender

DRL0131 – Penalty points by age and gender

DRL0132 – Penalty points by postcode district

DRL0133 – Entitlements count by gender and Age

Licence Types (Tables DRL0101, 0102, 0110 and 0133)

Provisional (prov) - pre driving test learner licence

Full - licence that shows entitlement(s) following successful driving test(s)

Vocational (voc) - Large Goods Vehicle (LGV) or Public Carrying Vehicle (PCV) entitlements held. For provisional vocational entitlement the driver will have submitted a medical form and applied for provisional entitlement in the relevant category. For full vocational entitlement the driver will have had to pass the relevant driving test. A medical examination report would have to be submitted every 5 years after the age of 45 to ensure the driver meets the higher medical standard. Entitlements to drive vehicles in these categories (C-D etc) without the ‘VOC’ tag are ‘implied entitlements’ granted on the basis of the driver having passed a relevant test prior to 1997.

Those licence categories preceded by ’Auto’ relate to the driving of vehicles in that category solely with automatic transmission.

Drivers holding provisional entitlements only will appear in the ‘provisional’ columns of DRL0101 and DRL0102. Drivers holding any full entitlements, with or without additional provisional entitlements, will appear in the ‘full’ columns.

Entitlements (Table DRL0110 and DRL0133)

A driving licence will give entitlements to drive various types of vehicle, depending on the type of licence applied for and the qualifications of the licence holder. The table provides the number of entitlements held and not the number of licences held by individuals; a licence holder can hold more than one driving entitlement. The following is a simplified list of entitlements but for further details see - <https://www.gov.uk/old-driving-licence-categories>

Note that some licence entitlements provide the holder automatically with either full or provisional entitlement to drive certain other vehicle types.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Entitlement to drive:** |
| A1 | Light motorbikes with an engine size up to 125cc and not exceeding 11kW and with a power to weight ratio not more than 0.1kW per kg. If you passed this category after 19/01/13 it also covers a motor tricycle with a power not exceeding 15 kW. |
| A2 | Motorbikes with a power output up to 35kW and a power to weight ratio not more than 0.2kW per kg. The motorbike must also not be derived from a vehicle of more than double its power. |
| AR2 | Medium sized motorcycle up to 25kW (33bhp) and a power to weight ratio of up to 0.16 kW/kg |
| A | Larger motorcycles (some also require completion of the large motorbike direct access scheme). For more information <https://www.gov.uk/topic/driving-tests-and-learning-to-drive/motorcycle>  |
| A(sc) | Larger motorcycles and sidecar |
| A(tri) | Tricycle Restriction. Will be used for A(Tricycle) – implied from B1 |
| AM | 2-wheeled or 3-wheeled vehicles with a maximum design speed of over 25km/h (15.5mph) but not more than 45km/h (28mph). |
| AM(tri) | Category AM limited to 3 wheels |
| B1 | 4 wheeled light vehicles up to 400kg unladen weight or 550kg for vehicles intended for carrying goods. Prior to 19/01/13 category B1 was defined as “a motor vehicle having 3 or 4 wheels and an unladen weight not exceeding 550kgs”. |
| B1(inv) | Category B1 limited to Invalid Carriages |
| B | Cars or light vans with a MAM of up to 3,500kg, designed and constructed for the carriage of no more than eight passengers in addition to the driver with a trailer up to 750kg. If the trailer weighs more than 750kg, the total weight of the vehicle and trailer can’t weigh more than 3500kg MAM. |
| B+E | Category B vehicle with a trailer when they have a combined weight over 3,500kg and the MAM of the trailer or semi-trailer does not exceed 3500kg. Pre 19/01/13 there is no upper weight limit on trailer. |
| C1 | Medium-sized vehicles. Vehicles weighing between 3,500 and 7,500kg, with or without a trailer weighing no more than 750kg. Allowing a combination with a trailer of up to 8,25 tonnes (MAM). |
| C1+E | C1 category vehicles with a trailer over 750kg, but the trailer - when fully loaded - can’t weigh more than the vehicle. The combined weight of both cannot exceed 12,000kg. |
| C | Large vehicles. Vehicles over 3,500kg with a trailer up to 750kg |
| C+E | Category C vehicles with a trailer over 750kg. |
| C+E(db) | Category C+E limited to Drawbar Trailer |
| D1 | Minibuses. Vehicles with between 9 and 16 passenger seats in addition to the driver and with a trailer up to 750kg, In addition to this if this category was passed post 19/01/13 the maximum vehicle length must not exceed 8 metres. |
| D1+E | D1 category vehicles with a trailer over 750kg, but the trailer - when fully loaded - can’t weigh more than the vehicle. The combined weight of both can’t exceed 12,000kg. |
| D | Buses with more than 8 passenger seats in addition to the driver, with a trailer up to 750kg. |
| D+E | Category D vehicles with a trailer over 750kg |
| F | Agricultural tractor  |
| G | Road roller |
| H | Tracked vehicles |
| K | Mowing machine or pedestrian-controlled vehicle |
| L | Electrically propelled vehicles – licences issued before 1st January 1997 |
| M | Trolley buses – from 1 October 1982 no longer possible to sit a test for this category |
| N | Limited use on the road – appropriate to licences issued before 1st January 1997 |
| P | Mopeds with an engine size up to 50cc and a maximum speed of 50km/h (31mph). |
| Q | 2-wheeled vehicles with an engine size up to 50cc and a maximum speed of 25km/h (15.5mph). |

Penalty Points (Table DRL0131)

Penalty points (endorsements) may be issued against a licence when a driver is convicted of a motoring offence.

Endorsements stay on a driving licence for 4 or 11 years depending on the offence, for further details <https://www.gov.uk/penalty-points-endorsements>

A driver who accumulate 6 or more penalty points within two years of passing their first driving test will have their licence revoked by DVLA; acting on behalf of the Secretary of State.

On receipt of the notification from the court/fixed penalty office imposing the penalty points the driver record will revert to provisional status and a letter sent to the driver advising of the position and the retest requirements and inviting them to apply for a provisional licence.

A driver may be disqualified from driving if they build up 12 or more penalty points within a period of 3 years (the ‘totting-up’ process), for a period usually ranging from 6 months to 2 years.

A driver may be also be disqualified by the courts on conviction for a driving offence, for a period set by the court.

After their period of disqualification has been served, drivers can re-apply for their licence. If the validity period of any penalty points already accumulated exceeded their period of disqualification, it is possible that at this point they will still have a high number of valid penalty points on their licence, even though they again have a current entitlement to drive, and the sentence of the court has been served.

More information on Driving Licences

For further details see - <https://www.gov.uk/browse/driving/driving-licences>