



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Research and Library Service Briefing Note

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Goods Vehicle Stops by VOSA Officials

The following information was received from the Vehicle Operator Services Agency (VOSA). It details the number of roadside encounters with NI and GB Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) operators in the last three financial years, together with the number and rates of mechanical, driver hour and weighing prohibitions.

Please note that:

- The figures listed are for encounters with vehicles which are NI or GB based HGV operators, not for NI or GB registered vehicles as originally requested as VOSA does not hold registered keeper details.
- VOSA do not have data for the total number of NI or GB HGVs on the road for the last three financial years, therefore making it impossible to make a direct comparison between the number of NI HGVs stopped and GB HGVs stopped by VOSA.

However the information provided shows that NI HGVs tend to be in breach of regulations by a greater degree than GB HGVs in relation to:

- **The amount of mechanical prohibitions** – 21% of the total number of NI encounters result in mechanical prohibitions, in comparison to GB with 14% of the total encounters in 2007/08, although the data shows a slight improvement in 2009/10.
- **The number of driver's hours** – the NI prohibition rate for this is 13.2% of total encounters for 2007/08, more than double that of GB with 5.2% of its total encounters for 2007/08. Even the data for 2009/10 shows the NI percentage to be a large degree higher than GB.

In relation to weighing prohibition rate, GB appear to have a higher rate than NI, especially for 2009/10.

The following tables of data have been provided by VOSA:

**Total number of Encounters and Prohibitions for GB and NI dated from 01
Apr 2007 to 31 Mar 2010**

Financial Year	Country Name	Encounters	Mechanical Prohibitions	Mechanical Prohibition Rate	Drivers Hours	Drivers Hours Prohibition Rate	Vehicles Weighed	Weighing Prohibitions	Weighing Prohibition Rate
2007/08	Great Britain	133901	18785	14.03%	6966	5.20%	18159	4160	22.91%
	Northern Ireland								
2007/08	Ireland	4563	960	21.04%	605	13.26%	912	227	24.89%
2008/09	Great Britain	150508	20028	13.31%	8457	5.62%	17407	4091	23.50%
	Northern Ireland								
2008/09	Ireland	8533	1551	18.18%	984	11.53%	1516	293	19.33%
2009/10	Great Britain	172337	21988	12.76%	8238	4.78%	13315	3793	28.49%
	Northern Ireland								
2009/10	Ireland	13916	2022	14.53%	1295	9.31%	1312	274	20.88%