



Cars licensed

Over the decade between 1992 and 2002 the number of new cars registered for the first time each year increased quite markedly in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. New registrations reached a peak in 2000 in the Republic of Ireland when 231,000 new cars were registered compared with a low of 64,000 in 1993. In Northern Ireland, annual new registrations increased from a low of 38,000 in 1992 to 68,000 in 2001.

Ford was the most popular make of car in the Republic of Ireland in 2002, followed by Toyota. In Northern Ireland, the most popular make was Renault, closely followed by Ford. In both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland in 2002, more than half of all cars had been registered for five years or less. NI drivers tended to own newer cars with 14% first registered during 2002, compared with less than 10% in the Republic of Ireland.

Driving tests

Between 1997 and 2002, the total number of driving tests undertaken generally increased in Ireland, North and South. In both jurisdictions the driving test pass rate was higher for males than for females. In 2002, 56% of male candidates in the Republic of Ireland passed their driving test, compared with 53% of female candidates. The corresponding NI pass rates were 51% for males and 45% for females.

Road accidents

In 2002, a total of 526 people were killed in road accidents in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. Between 1992 and 2002, the number of road accident deaths per 100,000 population was consistently lower in Northern Ireland than in the Republic of Ireland. There were 10.4 road accident deaths per 100,000 population in the Republic of Ireland in 2002 compared with 8.8 in Northern Ireland.

Car users accounted for the majority of road accident deaths in both regions in 2002 (53% in the Republic of Ireland and 62% in Northern Ireland). Pedestrians accounted for just over one fifth of road deaths in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Tourism

The total number of visits to the Republic of Ireland in 2002 was 17% higher than in 1997, whilst the total number of visits to Northern Ireland was 23% higher in 2002 compared with 1997. Holiday, leisure or recreation was the predominant reason for visiting the Republic of Ireland in 2002, representing 53% of total visits. In contrast, the primary purpose of a visit to Northern Ireland was to visit relatives or friends with 47% of people visiting for this reason. The proportion of NI visitors who were on business trips, 30%, was twice the proportion for the Republic of Ireland, 15%.

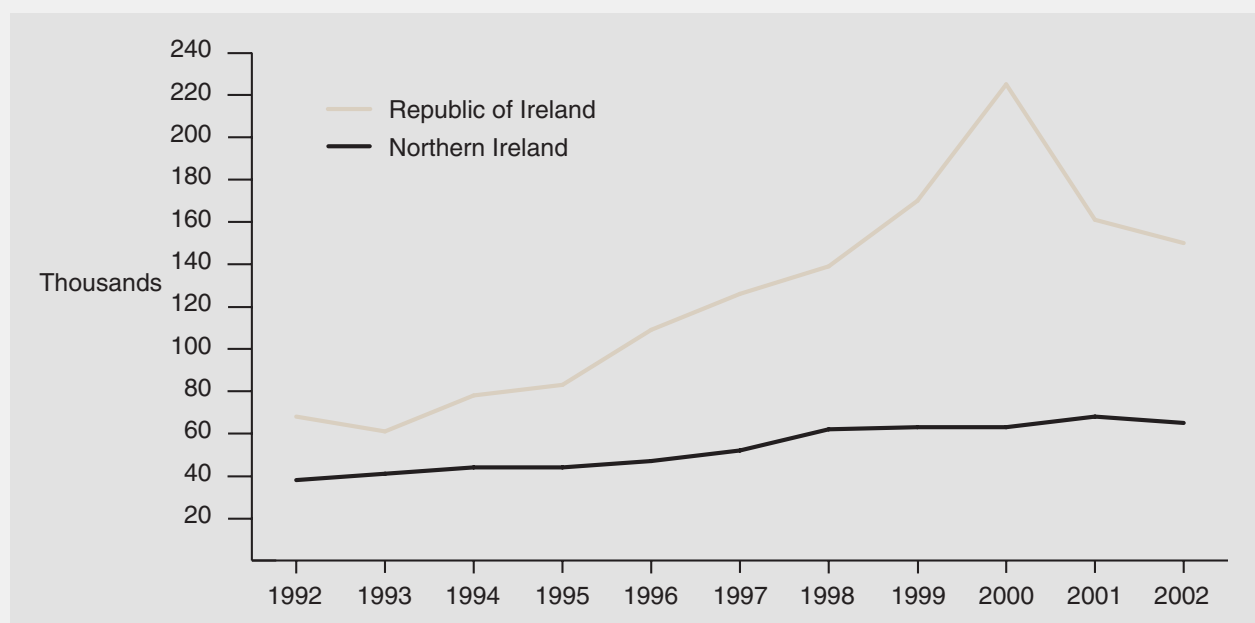
In 2002, the majority of visitors to both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland came from Great Britain (54% and 67% respectively). Visitors from North America accounted for 13% of visitors to the Republic of Ireland in 2002 compared with 6% of visitors to Northern Ireland.

Table 7.1 New private cars registered for the first time

Years	Numbers	
	Republic of Ireland	Northern Ireland
1992	66,274	38,199
1993	64,149	40,573
1994	80,402	43,820
1995	86,957	43,958
1996	115,121	46,576
1997	136,662	52,468
1998	145,715	62,138
1999	174,230	63,415
2000	230,804	63,170
2001	164,772	68,339
2002	156,115	64,934

Sources *Republic of Ireland: Office of the Revenue Commissioners
Northern Ireland: Driver and Vehicle Licensing Northern Ireland*

Figure 7.1 New private cars registered for the first time, 1992-2002



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Table 7.2 Car registrations - ten most popular makes, 2002

Units as indicated

Make of car	Rank	Number
Republic of Ireland		
Ford	1	18,466
Toyota	2	18,183
Volkswagen	3	16,664
Nissan	4	14,638
Opel	5	12,077
Renault	6	11,460
Peugeot	7	9,875
Fiat	8	9,122
Hyundai	9	4,670
Citroen	10	4,491
Northern Ireland		
Renault	1	11,594
Ford	2	11,365
Peugeot	3	9,502
Vauxhall	4	9,430
Volkswagen	5	8,823
Toyota	6	5,866
Nissan	7	3,914
Citroen	8	3,629
BMW	9	3,459
Mazda	10	2,593

Sources Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office
Northern Ireland: Driver and Vehicle Licensing Northern Ireland

Table 7.3 All first time new vehicle registrations by taxation group

					<i>Numbers</i>
Years	Private Cars	Motor Cycles	Goods Vehicles	Other	Total
Republic of Ireland¹					
1992	67,861	2,884	11,883	3,850	86,478
1993	60,792	1,914	9,887	3,371	75,964
1994	77,773	1,837	12,845	4,230	96,685
1995	82,730	1,911	13,790	5,048	103,479
1996	109,333	2,412	16,445	5,774	133,964
1997	125,818	2,717	18,895	5,656	153,086
1998	138,538	3,117	23,811	7,058	172,524
1999	170,322	4,955	30,066	8,257	213,600
2000	225,269	6,871	33,606	9,244	274,990
2001	160,908	6,919	30,622	8,992	207,441
2002	150,485	5,596	28,412	9,250	193,743
Northern Ireland					
1992	64,746	2,000	8,998	1,931	77,675
1993	69,214	1,898	9,561	2,307	82,980
1994	76,529	1,957	9,998	2,924	91,408
1995	81,410	2,399	10,670	2,467	96,946
1996	87,614	2,927	11,088	2,251	103,880
1997	93,870	3,565	12,523	2,338	112,296
1998	100,947	4,447	14,234	1,674	121,302
1999	99,490	5,415	15,173	1,699	121,777
2000	95,018	6,099	16,635	2,017	119,769
2001	98,789	5,678	18,352	2,050	124,869
2002	93,866	5,699	16,214	1,865	117,644

Sources *Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office*
Northern Ireland: Driver and Vehicle Licensing Northern Ireland

¹ ROI data for 1992 refers to registration data. New separate systems for vehicle registration and first licensing were introduced in January 1993. From 1993 onwards, figures refer to licensing data.

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Table 7.4 Number of cars by year of registration, 2002

Units as indicated

Year of registration	Republic of Ireland ¹		Northern Ireland	
	Number of cars	% of cars	Number of cars	% of cars
2002	139,000	9.6	96,262	14.3
2001	149,575	10.3	86,663	12.9
2000	212,348	14.7	78,091	11.6
1999	156,251	10.8	68,839	10.3
1998	131,124	9.1	63,884	9.5
1997	125,395	8.7	57,200	8.5
1996	108,068	7.5	50,918	7.6
1995	86,095	5.9	44,257	6.6
1994	79,794	5.5	37,388	5.6
1993	63,573	4.4	27,409	4.1
1992	58,529	4.0	19,283	2.9
1991	45,008	3.1	13,780	2.1
1990	39,416	2.7	9,891	1.5
1989	23,701	1.6	6,209	0.9
1988	12,654	0.9	3,637	0.5
1987	6,873	0.5	1,859	0.3
1986 and earlier	10,504	0.7	5,610	0.8
Total	1,447,908	100.0	671,180	100.0

Sources Republic of Ireland: Department of Environment Heritage and Local Government
Northern Ireland: Driver and Vehicle Licensing Northern Ireland

¹ ROI figures are for the year the car was first licensed.

Table 7.5 Driving test pass rates by gender

	<i>Numbers and rates</i>					
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Republic of Ireland						
Male						
Pass	32,699	31,694	45,624	50,557	51,016	42,545
Fail	23,685	21,826	29,010	34,510	38,174	34,157
% Pass	58.0	59.2	61.1	59.4	57.2	55.5
Female						
Pass	25,428	25,130	36,240	42,758	44,553	38,326
Fail	21,555	21,462	27,302	34,871	38,633	33,955
% Pass	54.1	53.9	57.0	55.1	53.6	53.0
Total tests	103,367	100,112	138,176	162,696	172,376	148,983
Northern Ireland¹						
Male						
Pass	9,629	11,555	10,648	10,475	10,021	12,362
Fail	5,939	6,358	6,873	8,127	10,412	11,775
% Pass	61.9	64.5	60.8	56.3	49.0	51.2
Female						
Pass	9,283	11,070	9,976	9,062	9,557	11,616
Fail	8,491	8,712	9,145	9,685	11,184	14,037
% Pass	52.2	56.0	52.2	48.3	46.1	45.3
Total tests	33,342	37,695	36,642	37,349	41,174	49,790

Sources *Republic of Ireland: Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government
Northern Ireland: Driver and Vehicle Testing Agency*

¹ Northern Ireland figures refer to the financial year.

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Table 7.6 Bus transport

Description	<i>Thousands</i>				
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Republic of Ireland					
Passenger journeys	218,800	222,900	218,500	230,300	236,000
Vehicle kilometres	117,500	119,800	127,700	134,900	137,200
Northern Ireland¹					
Passenger journeys	71,300	69,500	67,100	65,000	65,900
Vehicle kilometres	68,100	68,500	66,700	66,800	67,800

Sources Republic of Ireland: Bus Eireann and Dublin Bus
Northern Ireland: Translink

¹ Northern Ireland figures refer to the financial year.

Table 7.7 Rail transport

Description	<i>Units as indicated</i>					
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Republic of Ireland						
Passenger journeys ('000)	29,413	32,146	32,765	31,721	34,206	35,370
Passenger receipts (€000)	91,894	101,203	106,468	105,721	119,439	121,947
Length of railway track (km)	2,812	2,812	1,919	1,919	1,919	1,919
Northern Ireland¹						
Passenger journeys ('000)	6,400	5,800	5,900	5,900	6,200	6,300
Passenger receipts (Stg£000)	12,511	12,786	13,366	14,126	14,987	15,394
Length of railway track (km)	340	340	340	340	340	340

Sources Republic of Ireland: Iarnród Eireann
Northern Ireland: Translink

¹ Northern Ireland figures refer to the financial year.

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Table 7.8 Method of travel to work¹

Numbers and percentages

Method of travel	Republic of Ireland		Northern Ireland	
	Number	%	Number	%
On foot	183,848	11.4	66,831	9.7
Bicycle	34,250	2.1	5,959	0.9
Bus, minibus or coach	107,315	6.7	41,259	6.0
Train ²	33,066	2.1	5,920	0.9
Motor cycle, scooter or moped	17,329	1.1	5,527	0.8
Drive car or van	996,348	61.9	383,728	55.9
Car passenger ³	108,382	6.7	101,005	14.7
Taxi	-	-	10,873	1.6
Other	5,988	0.4	5,138	0.8
Work mainly at or from home	97,567	6.1	60,404	8.8
Not stated	26,788	1.7	-	-
Total	1,610,881	100.0	686,644	100.0

Source Central Statistics Office

¹ ROI figures are taken from the 2002 Census of Population while NI figures are taken from the 2001 Census. ROI figures are for those aged 15 and over, while NI figures refer to people aged between 16 and 74 years.

² Includes DART in the Republic of Ireland.

³ Includes car or van pool in Northern Ireland.

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Table 7.9 Road accident deaths

Numbers and rates per 100,000 population

Years	Republic of Ireland		Northern Ireland	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1992	415	11.7	150	9.2
1993	431	12.1	143	8.7
1994	404	11.3	157	9.6
1995	437	12.1	144	8.7
1996	453	12.5	142	8.5
1997	472	12.9	144	8.6
1998	458	12.4	160	9.5
1999	413	11.0	141	8.4
2000	415	11.0	171	10.2
2001	411	10.7	148	8.8
2002	376	10.4	150	8.8

Sources Republic of Ireland: National Roads Authority
Northern Ireland: Police Service of Northern Ireland

Figure 7.2 Number of road accident deaths per 100,000 population, 1992-2002

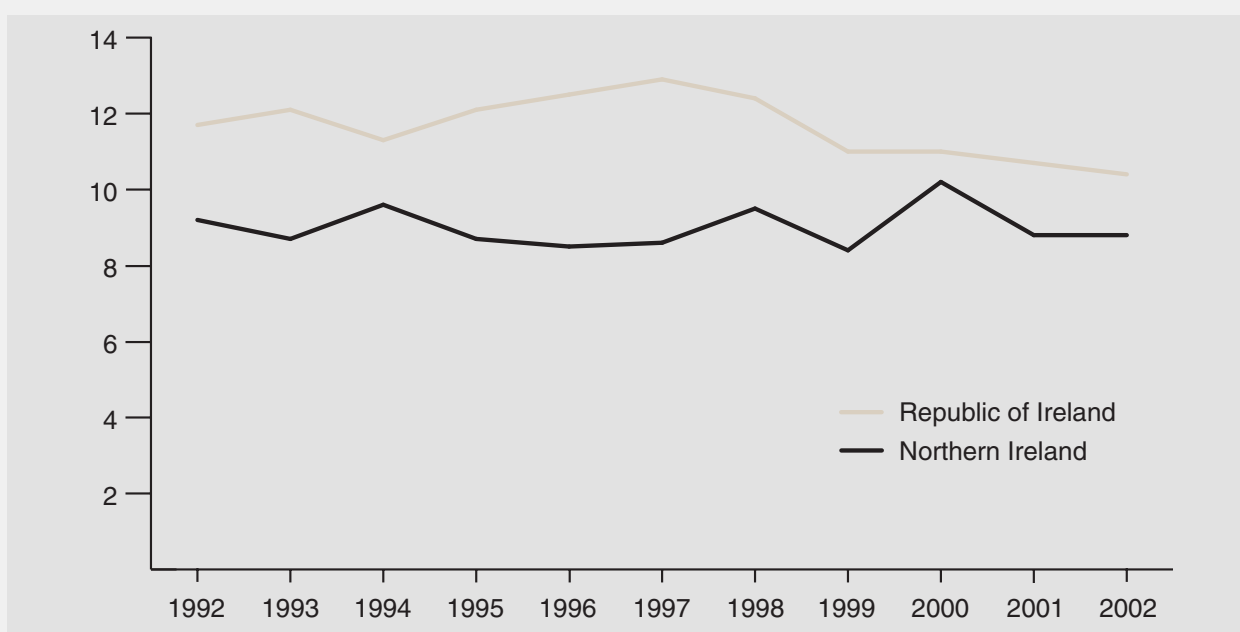


Table 7.10 Road accident deaths by road user type

Road user type	<i>Numbers</i>					
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Republic of Ireland						
Pedestrians	130	114	92	85	89	86
Pedal cyclists	24	21	14	10	12	18
Motor cyclists	68	37	43	39	50	44
Car users	219	253	236	260	230	200
Other road users	31	33	28	21	30	28
Total	472	458	413	415	411	376
Northern Ireland						
Pedestrians	37	40	39	32	32	33
Pedal cyclists	4	7	1	4	2	3
Motor cyclists	16	11	9	7	11	19
Car users	79	93	91	119	91	93
Other road users	8	9	1	9	12	2
Total	144	160	141	171	148	150

Sources Republic of Ireland: National Roads Authority
Northern Ireland: Police Service of Northern Ireland

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Table 7.11 Total inward visits by reason for journey

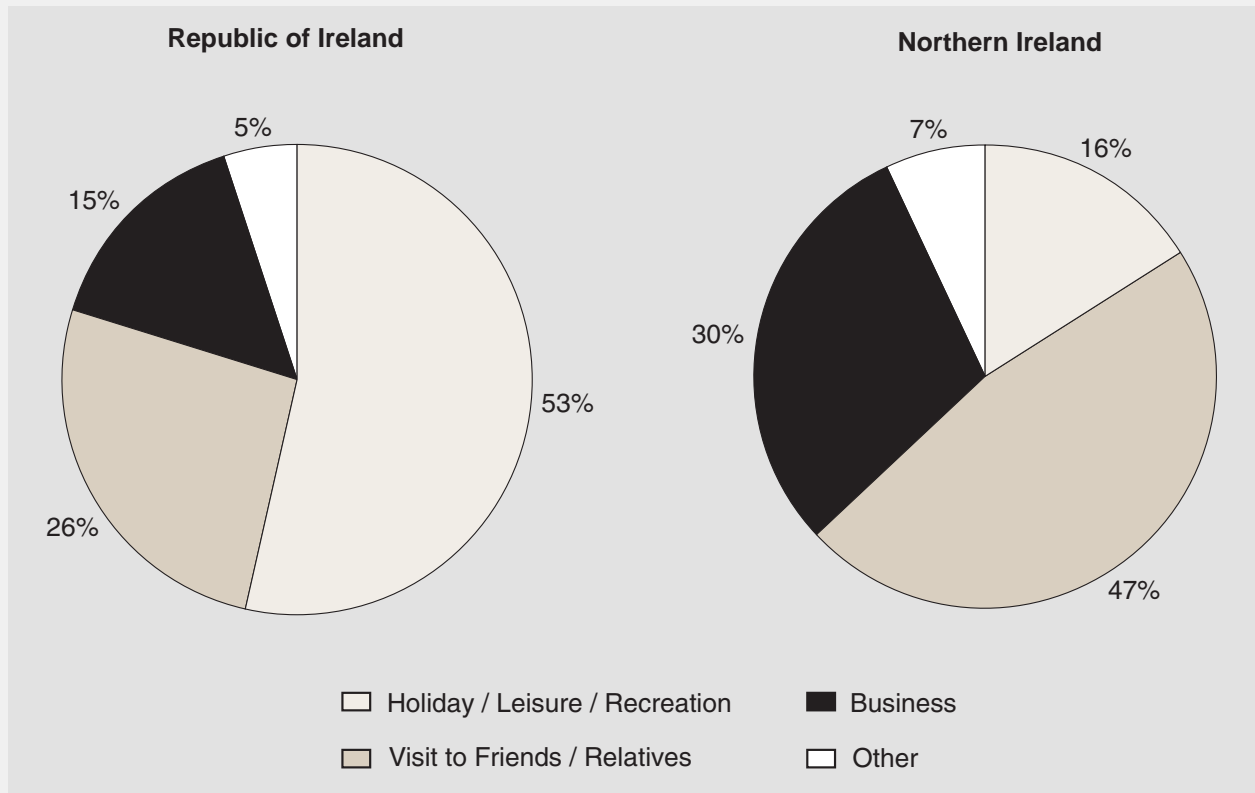
	<i>Thousands</i>					
Reason	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
	Republic of Ireland¹					
Tourist ²	2,767	3,097
Holiday/Leisure/Recreation ²	.	.	3,306	3,346	3,177	3,242
Business	785	891	994	1,074	975	906
Visit to Friends/Relatives	1,231	1,290	1,439	1,564	1,566	1,603
Other	380	438	328	328	273	314
Total visits	5,164	5,716	6,068	6,310	5,990	6,065
Total Expenditure (€m)	1,981	2,134	2,280	2,617	2,893	3,045
Average length of stay (nights)	8.6	8.1	7.7	7.7	7.9	7.7
	Northern Ireland					
Holiday	263	277	305	306	274	285
Business	419	434	501	464	501	518
Relative/Friend	577	617	684	743	773	817
Other	156	149	165	159	128	121
Total visits	1,415	1,477	1,655	1,672	1,676	1,741
Total Expenditure (Stg£m)	208	217	265	265	282	274
Average length of stay (nights)	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.2	4.9

Sources Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office
Northern Ireland: Northern Ireland Tourist Board

¹ Republic of Ireland figures refer to overseas visits only and therefore do not include visits from Northern Ireland.

² From the 1st January 1999, the classification of Republic of Ireland data by reason for visit was changed in accordance with EU Council Directive 95/97/EC.

Figure 7.3 Reason for inward visits, 2002



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Table 7.12 Visitors by country of residence

	<i>Thousands</i>					
Reason	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
	Republic of Ireland					
Northern Ireland	580	530	460	465	513	557
Great Britain	3,025	3,383	3,558	3,559	3,462	3,579
Rest of Europe	1,175	1,262	1,333	1,453	1,357	1,392
North America	764	855	943	1,043	912	849
Australia/New Zealand	95	121	127	144	130	113
Other overseas	106	95	106	112	130	133
Total	5,744	6,246	6,528	6,775	6,503	6,622
	Northern Ireland					
Republic of Ireland	345	360	384	380	365	330
Great Britain	799	838	1,002	950	1,053	1,160
Rest of Europe	105	108	92	126	106	110
North America	109	115	123	148	102	97
Australia/New Zealand	39	35	35	42	30	26
Other overseas	18	21	19	25	20	19
Total	1,415	1,477	1,655	1,672	1,676	1,741

Sources Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office, Failte Ireland, Northern Ireland Tourist Board
Northern Ireland: Northern Ireland Tourist Board

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Table 7.13a Tourist expenditure in the Republic of Ireland by category

Category	Percentages	
	2001	2002
Bed and board	23	31
Other food and drink	32	36
Sightseeing/Entertainment	4	3
Internal transport	12	9
Shopping	19	17
Miscellaneous	10	4
Total	100	100

Source *Fáilte Ireland*

Table 7.13b Tourist expenditure in Northern Ireland by category

Category	Percentages	
	2001	2002
Accommodation/meals	43	43
Entertainment (inc drinks)	16	17
Internal travel	11	12
Shopping	28	26
Incidental expenditure	4	3
Total	100	100

Source *Northern Ireland Tourist Board*

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Technical Notes

Table 7.2

In most European countries, including the Republic of Ireland, cars produced by General Motors are badged as Opels. In the United Kingdom, they are badged as Vauxhalls but the models are otherwise largely identical. ROI figures refer to new and used cars licenced for the first time. NI figures refer to new and used cars registered for the first time.

Table 7.3

In Northern Ireland, goods vehicles include Light Goods Vehicles which have a gross weight of less than 3,500kgs and Heavy Goods Vehicles which have a gross weight exceeding 3,500kgs.

Table 7.4

In Northern Ireland, cars include all vehicles with a car body type.

Table 7.5

Figures for Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland refer to driving tests for all vehicle types.

Table 7.8a and 7.8b

Method of travel to work data for the Republic of Ireland are from the Census of Population, 2002. ROI figures refer to people over 15 years old who are in employment.

Data for Northern Ireland are from the Census of Population 2001. NI figures are for persons aged 16 to 74 who are in employment.

Tables 7.9 and 7.10

In both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, a road accident death means that the death occurred within 30 days from injuries received in an accident.

Table 7.10

For both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, motorcyclists include riders and passengers of motorcycles. Car users include drivers and passengers of cars and taxis. Other road users include passengers of pedal cycles, drivers and passengers of Public Service Vehicles, goods vehicles, motor caravans, tractors and emergency vehicles.

Table 7.11

From the 1st January 1999, the classification of Republic of Ireland data by reason for visit was changed in accordance with EU Council Directive 95/97/EC. The new classification (business, holiday/leisure/recreation, visit to friends/relatives and other) also accords with the recommendations of the World Tourism Organisation.

In Northern Ireland, a staying visitor is defined as any non-resident of Northern Ireland who spends at least one night in the region on holiday, on business, visiting friends or relatives, or for some other reason. The same person visiting Northern Ireland on two separate occasions is counted as two visitors.

