

Parking Badges for disabled people

This chapter contains further detail following the publication of *A Bulletin of Public Transport Statistics GB: 2004 Edition* on 25 November. Data from the returns of local authorities appear in the tables here.

Key trends

- The number of parking badges (Blue Badges) for disabled people on issue in England rose by 2 per cent in the survey period to 31 March 2004 (Table 1).
- There has been a long upward trend in badges issued but the rate of increase has slowed, as shown in the chart below.
- The number of badges on issue at the discretion of local authorities, about two thirds of badges on issue, rose by 4 per cent in the year to 31 March 2004.
- The number of badges on issue to institutions such as elderly care homes is around 2 per cent of badges on issue.
- The North West Region had more badges per head of population, at 52 per thousand, than any other region (Table 2).
- London has fewer badges per head of population, at 35 per thousand, than most other regions. Parking restrictions apply to Blue Badge holders in central London. The percentage of people of retirement age was lower in London than in any other region.

Number of Blue Badges on Issue: 1987 to 2004

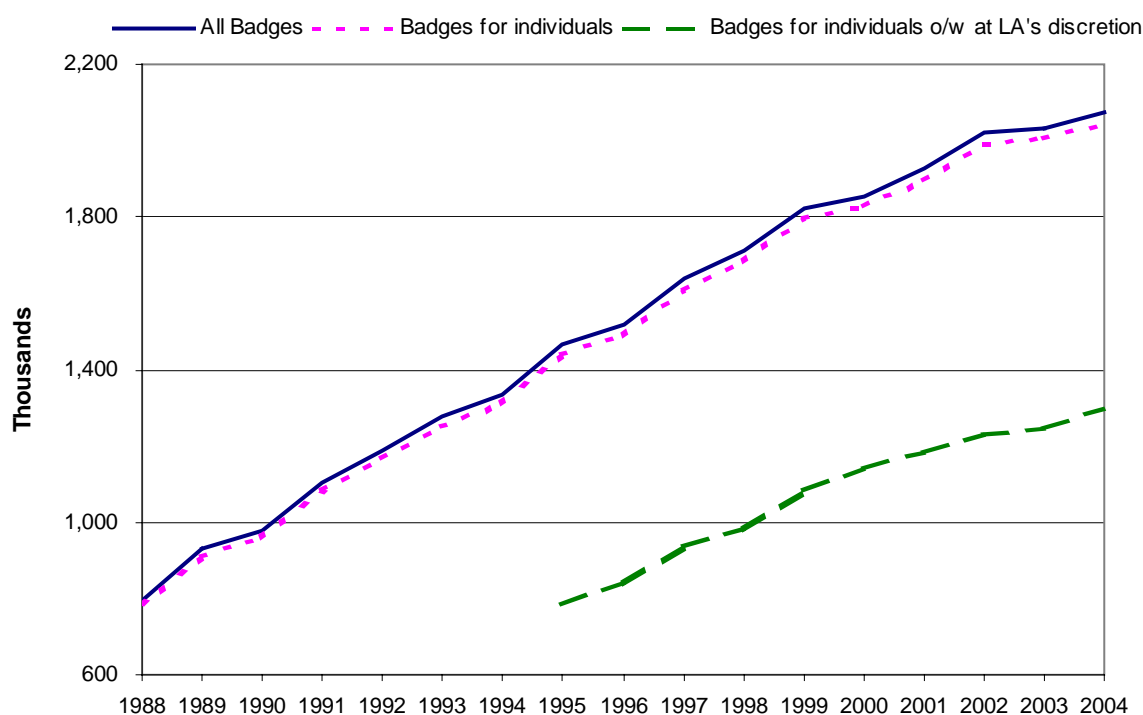


Table 1 Number of badges on issue to disabled people in England and rate per thousand of total population: 1987 - 2004

At 31 March	All Badges		Badges on issue to individuals				Badges on issue to institutions	
	Thousands	Number per 1,000 population	Thousands	Percent	of which issued at LA's discretion		Thousands	Percent
					Thousands	Percent		
1987	673	14	661	98	..	..	12	2
1988	792	17	778	98	..	..	14	2
1989	929	20	912	98	..	..	17	2
1990	979	21	961	98	..	..	18	2
1991	1,102	23	1,082	98	..	..	21	2
1992	1,187	25	1,164	98	..	..	23	2
1993	1,275	26	1,252	98	..	..	24	2
1994 r	1,336	28	1,313	98	..	..	23	2
1995 r	1,463	30	1,438	98	783	54	25	2
1996 r	1,517	31	1,493	98	843	56	24	2
1997 r	1,636	34	1,610	98	938	57	26	2
1998 r	1,713	35	1,687	98	985	57	26	2
1999 p	1,821	37	1,794	98	1,082	59	28	2
2000 p	1,854	38	1,827	99	1,141	62	27	1
2001 p	1,925	39	1,898	99	1,184	62	27	1
2002 p	2,019	41	1,989	99	1,229	61	30	1
2003 p	2,031	41	2,005	99	1,248	61	27	1
2004 p	2,074	42	2,040	98	1,299	63	33	2
<i>Percentage change</i>								
2003-2004	2		2		4		26	
1994-2004	55		55		..		45	
1987-2004	208		209		..		178	

Owing to rounding, components may not sum exactly to totals.

r = data subsequently revised by amendments or late local authority returns.

p= provisional data owing to missing data or incomplete categories of some returns.

Background

DfT carries out an annual survey of local authorities in England. This asks them to record the number of disabled people's parking badges on issue to individuals and institutions. The badges may remain valid for a three year period so the survey is a rolling total of those on issue.

About half of all badges issued are at the discretion of each local authority, at county, unitary or borough level, which makes an assessment of the individual's application and need (Table 2).

Table 2 Number of vehicle badges on issue by category and rate of provision per thousand population for the three year period ending 31 March 2004

	All Badges	Rate per 1,000 of area popn.	Retired % of the popn.	Badges issued to institutions	Badges issued to individuals			
					All	As of right see note (A)	At LA's discretion see note (B)	Other see note (C)
Total England	2,073,572	42	18	33,388	2,040,184	740,044	1,299,183	957
London	249,246	35	14	4,522	244,724	81,590	163,044	90
England excluding London	1,824,326	43	19	28,866	1,795,460	658,454	1,136,139	867
London	249,246	35	14	4,522	244,724	81,590	163,044	90
City of London	65	9	15	0	65	16	40	9
Barking & Dagenham	6,505	40	17	38	6,467	4,002	2,464	1
Barnet	15,005	48	17	223	14,782	2,932	11,850	0
Bexley	11,184	51	18	110	11,074	2,245	8,828	1
Brent	7,757	29	14	182	7,575	2,425	5,150	0
Bromley	8,199	28	19	70	8,129	2,596	5,533	0
Camden	5,415	27	12	85	5,330	2,489	2,838	3
Croydon	9,702	29	15	189	9,513	3,703	5,810	0
Ealing	9,097	30	14	262	8,835	364	8,470	1
Enfield	11,151	41	16	118	11,033	2,833	8,200	0
Greenwich	9,576	45	15	310	9,266	2,431	6,835	0
Hackney	4,544	22	11	45	4,499	1,151	3,346	2
Hammersmith & Fulham	4,370	26	12	102	4,268	2,069	2,148	51
Haringey	8,068	37	12	145	7,923	1,552	6,369	2
Harrow	9,695	47	17	77	9,618	2,039	7,579	0
Havering	12,264	55	20	181	12,083	11,578	505	0
Hillingdon	11,016	45	16	59	10,957	3,384	7,558	15
Hounslow	7,713	36	13	160	7,553	2,518	5,035	0
Islington	7,435	42	12	114	7,321	3,075	4,246	0
Kensington & Chelsea	2,217	14	15	68	2,149	678	1,470	1
Kingston-upon-Thames	4,679	32	15	135	4,544	2,664	1,878	2
Lambeth	4,334	16	11	549	3,785	992	2,793	0
Lewisham	2,563	10	13	64	2,499	1,377	1,122	0
Merton	4,024	21	15	135	3,889	1,289	2,600	0
Newham	9,429	39	11	71	9,358	4,135	5,223	0
Redbridge	10,773	45	16	28	10,745	2,408	8,337	0
Richmond-upon-Thames	4,212	24	16	0	4,212	1,405	2,807	0
Southwark	8,011	33	12	185	7,826	865	6,961	0
Sutton	13,137	73	17	324	12,813	6,089	6,724	0
Tower Hamlets	4,586	23	11	40	4,546	1,864	2,682	0
Waltham Forest	10,571	48	14	2	10,569	1,277	9,291	1
Wandsworth	7,682	30	12	451	7,231	2,240	4,990	1
Westminster	4,267	24	14	0	4,267	905	3,362	0
North East	122,320	49	19	1,118	121,202	52,319	68,877	6
Northumberland	14,010	46	20	242	13,768	5,485	8,283	0
Darlington UA	5,554	57	20	46	5,508	1,708	3,800	0
Durham Co.	30,520	62	19	155	30,365	9,618	20,747	0
Gateshead	9,360	49	20	101	9,259	4,222	5,036	1
Newcastle-upon-Tyne	9,769	38	18	50	9,769	4,217	5,552	0

	All Badges	Rate per 1,000 of area popn.	Retired % of the popn.	Badges issued to instituti- ons	Badges issued to individuals			
					All	As of right see note (A)	At LA's discretion see note (B)	Other see note (C)
North Tyneside	7,348	38	21	42	7,306	2,988	4,318	0
South Tyneside	6,263	41	20	18	6,245	3,531	2,714	0
Sunderland	14,425	51	18	164	14,261	6,809	7,452	0
Hartlepool UA	3,986	45	19	67	3,919	2,451	1,468	0
Redcar & Cleveland UA	8,223	59	20	92	8,131	3,655	4,476	0
Middlesbrough UA	4,644	34	17	106	4,538	3,070	1,468	0
Stockton-on-Tees UA	8,168	46	17	35	8,133	4,565	3,563	5
North West	351,861	52	19	3,951	347,910	164,475	183,180	255
Cumbria	28,056	58	21	347	27,709	11,730	15,923	56
Blackburn Darwen UA	9,873	72	15	75	9,798	3,875	5,923	0
Blackpool UA	9,659	68	23	116	9,543	7,022	2,521	0
Lancashire	61,968	55	19	837	61,131	26,386	34,740	5
Knowsley	8,158	54	17	64	8,094	5,986	2,107	1
Liverpool	20,959	48	18	259	20,700	14,102	6,591	7
Sefton	14,821	52	22	110	14,711	6,176	8,523	12
St Helens	12,265	69	18	130	12,135	6,648	5,480	7
Wirral	18,195	58	21	60	18,135	10,262	7,863	10
Bolton	13,497	52	17	137	13,360	6,688	6,669	3
Bury	9,723	54	17	163	9,560	3,863	5,679	18
Manchester	15,942	41	15	204	15,738	8,594	7,090	54
Oldham	8,636	40	17	96	8,540	4,760	3,780	0
Rochdale	10,878	53	17	230	10,648	4,518	6,108	22
Salford	12,188	56	19	59	12,129	5,731	6,385	13
Stockport	11,826	42	19	196	11,630	3,427	8,168	35
Tameside	7,961	37	17	117	7,844	3,934	3,910	0
Trafford	4,085	19	19	0	4,085	988	3,097	0
Wigan	21,696	72	17	246	21,450	8,166	13,283	1
Cheshire	34,932	52	19	242	34,690	12,442	22,245	3
Halton UA	7,084	60	16	254	6,830	4,400	2,422	8
Warrington UA	9,459	49	17	9	9,450	4,777	4,673	0
Yorkshire & Humber	220,271	42	18	1,832	218,439	98,541	119,888	10
North Yorkshire	21,502	38	21	349	21,153	7,773	13,380	0
York UA	7,555	42	19	183	7,372	2,383	4,989	0
East Riding of Yorks UA	12,623	40	21	148	12,475	4,602	7,870	3
Kingston upon Hull UA	5,099	21	15	138	4,961	1,035	3,924	2
Hull	10,733	44	18	107	10,626	5,887	4,736	3
North East Lines UA	7,131	45	19	83	7,048	2,663	4,385	0
North Lincolnshire UA	3,809	25	20	46	3,763	1,137	2,626	0
Bradford	16,874	36	17	20	16,854	8,190	8,664	0
Calderdale	8,648	45	18	130	8,518	2,946	5,572	0
Kirklees	16,075	41	17	126	15,949	8,464	7,485	0
Leeds	30,624	43	18	0	30,624	10,228	20,396	0
Wakefield	21,361	68	18	138	21,223	10,868	10,355	0
Barnsley	11,244	52	19	16	11,228	7,312	3,916	0
Doncaster	13,710	48	19	83	13,627	7,990	5,637	0
Rotherham	14,014	56	18	115	13,899	6,788	7,110	1
Sheffield	19,269	38	19	150	19,119	10,275	8,843	1

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East Midlands	164,688	39	19	1,419	163,269	42,796	120,456	17
Derby City UA	14,886	67	19	71	14,815	2,997	11,818	0
Derbyshire	46,036	63	19	591	45,445	9,114	36,331	0
Nottingham City UA	11,278	42	16	70	11,208	3,074	8,134	0
Nottinghamshire	5,701	8	19	73	5,628	4,855	760	13
Lincolnshire	19,792	31	22	122	19,670	684	18,985	1
Leicester City UA	9,644	34	16	158	9,486	4,506	4,978	2
Rutland UA	1,168	34	19	8	1,160	509	651	0
Leicestershire	e 25,251	41	18	65	25,186	7,880	17,305	1
Northamptonshire	30,932	49	16	261	30,671	9,177	21,494	0
West Midlands	225,430	43	19	2,829	222,601	89,759	132,672	170
Stoke-on-Trent UA	5,322	22	19	40	5,282	2,745	2,537	0
Staffordshire	34,471	43	18	545	33,926	12,955	20,971	0
Shropshire	12,229	43	21	112	12,117	5,281	6,828	8
Telford & Wrekin UA	7,121	45	15	49	7,072	3,620	3,452	0
Birmingham	e 36,145	37	17	705	35,440	14,301	21,139	0
Coventry	14,657	49	18	63	14,594	7,021	7,572	1
Dudley	15,561	51	19	364	15,197	5,029	10,028	140
Sandwell	14,516	51	19	225	14,291	5,462	8,829	0
Solihull	9,733	49	19	8	9,725	3,585	6,138	2
Walsall	11,695	46	19	102	11,593	5,642	5,951	0
Wolverhampton	9,731	41	19	136	9,595	4,752	4,843	0
Herefordshire UA	7,779	45	22	189	7,590	3,028	4,562	0
Worcestershire	24,262	45	19	265	23,997	8,616	15,380	1
Warwickshire	e 22,208	44	19	26	22,182	7,722	14,442	18
East of England	227,036	42	19	1,740	225,296	67,813	157,402	81
Norfolk	35,485	45	23	320	35,165	12,608	22,557	0
Peterborough UA	6,309	40	16	86	6,223	933	5,290	0
Cambridgeshire	19,671	36	17	121	19,550	5,747	13,802	1
Suffolk	30,928	46	21	94	30,834	10,222	20,539	73
Luton UA	e 5,550	30	14	50	5,500	1,000	4,500	0
Bedfordshire	15,697	41	16	104	15,593	4,682	10,910	1
Hertfordshire	42,530	41	17	672	41,858	10,269	31,589	0
Southend UA	7,226	45	22	96	7,130	1,843	5,287	0
Thurrock UA	6,329	44	15	63	6,266	2,317	3,948	1
Essex	57,311	44	19	134	57,177	18,192	38,980	5
South East	274,567	34	19	12,460	262,107	68,930	193,018	159
Oxfordshire	e 24,731	41	17	6,472	18,259	4,805	13,454	0
Milton Keynes UA	8,365	40	12	127	8,238	3,682	4,555	1
Buckinghamshire	17,236	36	17	361	16,875	1,627	15,248	0
West Berkshire UA	4,503	31	16	124	4,379	1,186	3,153	40
Bracknell Forest UA	2,833	26	13	97	2,736	851	1,885	0
Reading UA	3,538	25	14	67	3,471	550	2,921	0
Slough UA	3,662	31	13	35	3,627	1,174	2,453	0
Windsor & Maidenhead	2,719	20	18	0	2,719	667	2,051	1
Wokingham UA	4,766	32	14	127	4,639	2,024	2,608	7
Portsmouth UA	e 3,234	17	17	79	3,155	830	2,325	0
Southampton UA	12,092	56	16	68	12,024	6,239	5,785	0
Hampshire	48,518	39	19	492	48,026	6,778	41,247	1
Surrey	25,836	24	19	1,074	24,762	6,016	18,746	0

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					All	As of right see note (A)	At LA's discretion see note (B)	Other see note (C)
Medway UA	6,620	27	15	271	6,349	2,208	4,085	56
Kent	58,029	44	20	1,003	57,026	16,939	40,080	7
West Sussex	3,691	5	23	673	3,018	605	2,408	5
Brighton & Hove UA	11,105	45	18	266	10,839	3,475	7,347	17
East Sussex e	26,477	54	26	867	25,610	6,739	18,871	0
Isle of Wight UA	6,612	50	25	257	6,355	2,535	3,796	24
South West	238,153	48	21	3,517	234,636	73,821	160,646	169
Gloucestershire	20,283	36	20	18	20,265	6,230	14,035	0
Bath & N E Somerset UA	8,158	48	20	72	8,086	2,091	5,995	0
Bristol UA	20,374	54	17	437	19,937	7,334	12,603	0
South Glos. UA	12,042	49	17	96	11,946	3,600	8,333	13
North Somerset UA	10,000	53	22	235	9,765	3,065	6,699	1
Swindon UA	6,049	34	16	16	6,033	2,066	3,967	0
Wiltshire	10,702	25	19	255	10,447	1,439	9,008	0
Cornwall	30,799	62	23	113	30,686	10,437	20,232	17
Isles of Scilly	32	15	23	0	32	5	27	0
Plymouth UA	12,836	53	19	232	12,604	4,228	8,340	36
Torbay UA	8,661	67	26	280	8,381	8,232	65	84
Devon	33,415	47	24	920	32,495	7,325	25,166	4
Somerset	27,115	54	22	418	26,697	7,638	19,059	0
Bournemouth UA	9,198	56	23	128	9,070	2,672	6,398	0
Poole UA	7,083	51	23	55	7,028	1,867	5,155	6
Dorset	21,406	55	26	242	21,164	5,592	15,564	8

NOTES

(A) Number of badges granted in the automatic categories to recipients of the higher rate of the mobility component of the Disability Living Allowance, Government issued cars or grants towards own cars, and War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement, or to registered blind people.

(B) Number of badges issued in the discretionary category to people with a permanent and substantial disability who are unable or almost unable to walk.

(C) Number granted to drivers with a severe upper limb disability in both upper limbs who cannot turn a steering wheel by hand even if fitted with a steering knob.

e = estimated

Source: DfT survey of local authorities