



PRESS RELEASE

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Approximately 3 Million Licensed Drivers in Israel in 2004

In 2004:

- The number of those licensed to drive a motor vehicle grew by 2.4% compared with 2003, while the percentage of total population growth was 1.7% in the same year.
- Women constitute 40% of the total sum of drivers.
- 7% of all drivers are New Drivers, by definition.
- One out of every 2.3 residents is a driver.
- 20-23% of all drivers in Tel Aviv-Yafo, Givatayim, Eilat, Ramat Gan, Ramat Hasharon and Yehud are drivers licensed for motorcycles, compared with the national average of 14%.
- The percentage of drivers licensed to drive a truck, out of all drivers in the locality of Ar'ara-Banegev, is 72%, compared with a national average of 14%.

The number of drivers licensed to drive a motor vehicle reached 3,033 M at the end of 2004; a rise of 2.4% compared with 2003, and compared with a growth of 1.7% in the general population of Israel. During the past decade the number of licensed drivers grew by 1.4. The share of women licensed to drive, out of the total driver population, grew during the same period by 1.6; from 36% in 1994, to 40% of all drivers in 2004. This information is based on the file received from the Information Systems Department of the Ministry of Transport.

Other than a small number of drivers who are licensed to drive **only on motorcycles**, all drivers are licensed to drive **private vehicles and commercial vehicles whose total weight is up to 4.0 tons**. 14% of all drivers are also licensed to drive **trucks whose total weight is up to 4.0 tons**; 6.2% are licensed to drive **trucks whose total weight is 15 tons and over**; 3% are licensed to drive **taxis**; 2% are licensed to drive **buses**; and approximately 1% are licensed to drive **tow-trucks**. In addition, 14% of all drivers are licensed to drive **motorcycles**.

The above data also indicates that the average number of drivers per motor vehicles in Israel has reached 1.5. The ratio to the number of residents is one licensed driver per 2.3 residents in the general population, or one licensed driver per 1.5 persons aged 17+. Of all drivers, 82% **have had a driving license for over five years**, and 7% **have had one for less than two years** (New Drivers, by definition).

Written by Mr. Aryeh Avraham

For explanations and clarifications regarding the contents of this Press Release,
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A distribution of drivers by age indicates that 2.6% of all drivers are **aged 18 and under**, and 6.5% are **aged 65 and over** (approximately 1.7% are aged 75 and over). Approximately three-quarters of the population in the 25-54 age group have a driving license, whereas in the 65 and over age group, less than 30% have a driving license.

In addition, it was found that 37% of all drivers have a **driving restriction of some kind**; the main one being **wearing spectacles or contact lenses while driving** (a quarter of all drivers).

85% of all licensed drivers are **Jews**, and 13% are **Arabs**.

Among all localities with 10,000 residents or more, the **share of licensed truck drivers** out of all drivers, is greater in Arab localities – relative to the national average. Their relative share in **Ar'ara Banegev** reaches 72% of all drivers in the locality; and in the localities of **Rahat, Jisr Az-Zarqa and Tel Sheva**, their share reaches 50-60% (compared to a national average of 13.7%). The **share of drivers licensed to drive a motorcycle** in the localities of **Tel Aviv-Yafo, Givatayim, Eilat, Ramat Gan, Ramat HaSharon and Yehud** reaches 20-23% (compared with a national average of 14%). The **share of taxi drivers** in the localities of **Kafr Qasem, Eilat and Tirat HaCarmel** reaches 8-10% (compared with a national average of 3%).