

RSA observational study 2016 – Defective lights



Research Objective

To determine the incidence of drivers of all vehicle types driving on Irish roads with one or more defective lights, and therefore presenting a road safety risk.

Methodology

This study was conducted by Amárach Research on behalf of the RSA in October/ November 2016. Just over 38,000 observations were conducted at the roadside (36 urban sites and 59 rural sites). Cars, rigid goods vehicles (RGV), semi-articulated vehicles and buses were observed Monday-Friday from 6.30-8.30am and from 6.30-9pm.

Key Findings

- Less than 1 in 10 (6%) vehicles had at least one defective light in 2016 (8% in 2015).
- RGV and car drivers are most likely to have a defective light (6%)
- Buses continue to be the least likely to have a defective light (4%), alongside semi articulated goods vehicles (5%).
- Drivers observed on urban roads are more likely (95%) to maintain their vehicles lights in good order.

Total 2016	Total N=38,051	Cars N=31,836	Rigid Goods Vehicle N=3,030	Semi-Articulated Vehicles N=2,291	Buses N=894
No defective lights	94% (92%)	94% (92%)	94% (92%)	96% (93%)	96% (97%)
Defective front	3% (5%)	3% (5%)	3% (3%)	2% (3%)	1% (2%)
Defective rear	2% (3%)	2% (3%)	4% (4%)	3% (3%)	3% (2%)
Defective front & rear	* (1%)	* (1%)	* (1%)	* (*)	* (*)
Total Defective Light, (front, rear, front & rear)	6% (8%)	6% (8%)	6% (8%)	5% (7%)	4% (3%)

*Less than 1%
() Denotes 2015 Findings