

Traffic Safety Act Annual Report 2023

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Department of Economic Development and Transportation Pivalliayuliqiyikkut Ingilrayuliqiyitkullu Ministère du Développement économique et des Transports

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Message from the Minister

I am pleased to present the Government of Nunavut's first Traffic Safety Act Annual Report. This

report has been prepared by the Department of Economic Development and Transportation in

accordance with section 328 (1-3) of the Traffic Safety Act and presents data from January 1-

December 31, 2023.

Service delivery times saw further improvement in 2023, although the few communities that are

not yet connected to the online system saw only slight improvements in delivery times for their

documents, and continue to have much longer waiting times than the communities that are

online.

Across Nunavut, we saw an approximately 40% increase in theoretical and practical

examinations, which we attribute to increased examiner capacity and to the introduction of formal

driver training in many communities.

We also saw a significant increase in the number of convictions and administrative sanctions.

We attribute this to increased enforcement, particularly in the City of Igaluit.

As always, we thank the front line staff delivering Motor Vehicle services, whether through Motor

Vehicles Division offices, or through the Government Liaison Offices. We also thank the RCMP

and municipal enforcement officers for their critical role in traffic safety.

Sincerely,

David Akeeagok

Minister of Economic Development and Transportation

Introduction

Nunavut's *Traffic Safety Act* establishes the framework for the safe and effective provision of traffic safety and motor vehicle services in the territory. The Department of Economic Development and Transportation is further responsible to report annually on objectives as laid out in the *Act*.

Reporting requirements are established in section 328 as follows:

- "328.1. (1) Within the first nine months of each calendar year, the Registrar shall prepare and submit to the Minister an annual report for the previous calendar year on the following matters:
- (a) the administration of this Act by the Government of Nunavut;
- (b) traffic safety in Nunavut;
- (c) any other matters requested by the Minister.

Personal information

(2) The report referred to in subsection (1) shall not include any personal information as defined in the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Report to be tabled

(3) The Minister shall table the report submitted under subsection (1) in the Legislative Assembly during the first sitting of the Assembly after the report is submitted that provides a reasonable opportunity for tabling the report. S.Nu. 2017,c.28,s.1."

As such, the 2023 *Traffic Safety Act* Annual Report provides summary data, and no identifiable individual data regarding the overall administration of motor vehicle services and traffic safety. The report is divided into two main sections: the administration of the act, and traffic safety.

Key findings from the 2023 calendar year include:

- The department issued 3,470 drivers' licences across the territory;
- 70.6% of drivers' licences and general identification cards were processed within 30 days or less;

- 94.6% of drivers' licences and general identification cards were processed online and the remainder (5.4%) were processed offline;¹
- 74% of online transactions were completed within 30 days; 1.1% took 90 days or longer to complete;
- 11.8% of offline transactions were completed within 30 days; 23.9% took 90 days or longer to complete;
- The department administered 1074 practical exams and 3,349 theoretical exams between
 GN staff and third-party examiners;
- Speeding and DUIs comprised 15.1% and 56.3% of the total 119 in-territory traffic convictions respectively; and
- Speeding comprised 73% of the total 37 out-of-territory traffic convictions.
- There was 1 traffic related fatality reported in Nunavut in 2023.

A Note on Data Quality

Some enforcement and administrative partners have varied data collection techniques. For these reasons, some of the data presented in this report should be interpreted with caution.

¹ See Section on Organizational Development for definitions of 'Online' and 'Offline' document processing.

Administration of the Act

The Department of Economic Development and Transportation (EDT) is responsible for the administration of the *Traffic Safety Act*. This includes the provision of driver licencing services, general identification cards, vehicle registration, driver examinations, and maintaining driver abstracts for Nunavut licensees, among other administration functions.

Licences

Nunavut's *Driver's Licence Regulations* establishes seven licence classes as per Schedule A (subsection 2(1)). The most common licence types issued are Class 5 licences, which permit the holder to operate private passenger vehicles, and Class 7 licences, which permit the holder to operate any vehicle in Class 5 or 6, while the driver is learning to operate it. The department tracks the issuance of licences by age, community, and vehicle type annually; this data has been presented in table form below.

Number of licences issued in 2023 by class and age²

	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40–44	45–49	50-54	55–59	60+	Total
Class 1	1	4	3	4	4	5	7	5	2	5	40
Class 2	0	0	6	8	6	2	5	6	1	2	36
Class 3	1	16	35	43	42	28	34	32	29	22	282
Class 4	0	3	11	19	16	14	11	11	9	8	102
Class 5	141	234	311	321	243	203	203	169	134	185	2144
Class 6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Class 7	171	143	133	105	87	45	42	24	14	10	774
Class 1, 6	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	2	6
Class 2, 6	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	6
Class 3, 6	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	4
Class 4, 6	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	7
Class 5, 6	1	0	6	7	10	7	9	7	7	15	69

² Individuals may hold multiple licence types. Categories "1,6", "2,6", "3,6", "4,6", and "5,6" refer to individuals who were issued both a licence (class 1–5) and a class 6 licence in 2022. A class 6 licence permits the holder to operate a motorcycle.

Number of licences issued in 2023 by class and community³

	Class											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1,6	2,6	3,6	4,6	5,6
Arctic Bay	0	0	7	0	20	0	20	0	0	0	0	0
Arviat	0	3	35	2	74	0	24	0	0	0	0	0
Baker Lake	7	0	13	1	72	0	18	0	0	0	0	0
Cambridge Bay	0	0	7	1	53	0	14	0	0	0	0	2
Chesterfield Inlet	1	0	6	0	17	0	13	0	0	0	0	0
Clyde River	0	0	9	0	26	0	29	0	0	0	0	0
Coral Harbour	0	3	14	0	24	0	17	0	0	0	0	0
Gjoa Haven	0	3	26	4	150	0	49	0	0	0	0	1
Grise Fiord	0	0	3	0	8	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Igloolik	1	0	4	0	46	0	37	0	0	0	0	0
Iqaluit	10	8	45	81	1050	0	320	4	5	4	6	61
Kimmirut	0	0	8	1	12	0	11	0	0	0	0	0
Kinngait	0	0	4	1	32	0	4	0	0	0	0	1
Kugaaruk	0	2	4	0	21	0	21	0	0	0	0	0
Kugluktuk	0	0	13	0	44	0	14	0	0	0	0	0
Naujaat	0	0	3	0	29	0	20	0	0	0	0	0
Pangnirtung	0	0	9	1	29	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Pond Inlet	0	1	14	0	35	0	16	0	0	0	0	1
Qikiqtarjuaq	0	0	14	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rankin Inlet	20	14	21	9	319	0	90	2	1	0	1	3
Resolute Bay	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sanikiluaq	0	0	2	0	12	0	8	0	0	0	0	0
Sanirajak	0	1	4	0	11	0	19	0	0	0	0	0
Taloyoak	0	1	6	0	25	0	13	0	0	0	0	0
Whale Cove	0	0	10	1	10	0	8	0	0	0	0	0
Total	40	36	282	102	2144	0	774	6	6	4	7	69

³ Individuals may hold multiple licence types. Categories "1,6", "2,6", "3,6", "4,6", and "5,6" refer to individuals who were issued both a licence (class 1–5) and a class 6 licence in 2022. A class 6 licence permits the holder to operate a motorcycle.

General Identification Cards

General Identification Cards (GICs) are commonly used as photo identification for airline travel in lieu of a passport or driver's licence. Part VIII.1 of the *Traffic Safety Act* discusses GICs and s. 307.1 of the Act, states that the Registrar may issue GICs.

Number of GICs by type by age in 2023

	New	Renewal	Replacement
< 15	450	0	6
15–19	754	6	11
20-24	589	8	17
25-29	477	5	14
30-34	404	7	14
35–39	325	6	6
40–44	281	4	5
45–49	237	9	4
50-54	236	2	6
55-59	241	3	5
60+	437	5	5
Total	4431	55	93

Vehicle Registrations

Sections 5–30 of the *Traffic Safety Act* discuss vehicle registration requirements in Nunavut. Generally, in order for an individual to operate a vehicle on roadways in Nunavut, the vehicle must be registered (s. 5 (a–b)).

Number of vehicle registrations in 2023 by vehicle type

	New	Renewed	Duplicated
All-Terrain Vehicle	122	555	30
All Trailers	122	18	1
Commercial Trailer	11	140	_
			4
Commercial Vehicle 4501 kg and over	63	301	2
Commercial Vehicle Under 4500 kg	161	984	29
Construction	29	269	6
Forces ATV	0	0	0
Government ATV	8	75	0
Government Construction Vehicle	14	109	1
Government Trailer	4	24	0
Government Vehicle	158	905	7
Motorcycle	6	44	2
Motorhome Class A	1	1	0
Motorhome Class B	0	0	0
Motorhome Class C	0	1	0
No Plate Registration	12	7	4
Passenger – Private	215	1687	71
Public Service 4501 kg and over	0	13	1
Public Service Under 4500 kg	10	37	5
Rental Vehicle	25	115	2
School Bus	3	17	0
Society Vehicle Under 4500 kg	4	14	0
Total	858	5316	165

Driver's Abstract Reports

A driver's abstract report is a record of a person's driving history and includes information such as accident reports. Section 3 (1) of the *Driver's Licence Demerit Point Regulations*, states that the Registrar of Motor Vehicles⁴ shall maintain a driving record for every driver for whom the Registrar issues a driver's licence. Nunavummiut can apply for a copy of their driver's abstract report by going to a MVD office in select communities. In all other communities, Nunavummiut can apply for their driver's abstract report at the local Municipal Liaison Office (MLO) or Government Liaison Office (GLO). The current fee for the Nunavut driver's abstract report is \$15.00.

As indicated in the table below, 1223 abstracts were produced in 2023. Although marginal, the age groups 30–34 and 35-39 requested the highest portion of these requests.

Number of abstracts produced in 2023 by age

	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40–44	45–49	50-54	55–59	60+	Total
Abstracts Produced by Driver Age	24	97	149	188	164	152	107	117	92	133	1223

Number of accident reports

In 2023, 82 accident reports were entered. Of these 82 accident reports, no accident report was printed by request.

⁴ The Registrar of Motor Vehicles is appointed under subsection 315(1) of the *Traffic Safety Act*. The Registrar's powers are detailed under subsection 316(2–3) of the Act.

Exams

Section 68 of the *Traffic Safety Act* indicates that persons, such as new drivers or drivers wishing to upgrade their licence, must pass the applicable theoretical and practical driving exams. Examiners are appointed under subsection 319(1) of the *Traffic Safety Act* and include MVD staff or third-party examiners.

As indicated in the next table, 1074 practical exams and 3,349 theoretical exams were administered in 2023. MVD staff performed 88.7% of these exams while third-party examiners performed the remaining 11.3%.

Number of exams in 2023 by class, and examiner type⁵

			Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6	Class 7	SB	AB	Total
Numarust	MVD	Theory	40	51	285	150	221	56	1885	22	187	2897
Nunavut	Staff	Practical	13	19	108	54	664	22	0	19	128	1027
	Third	Theory	0	0	40	0	17	0	374	0	21	452
	Party	Practical	0	0	1	0	45	1	0	0	0	47

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⁵ Road tests for class 1–6 (class 7 is not applicable as it does not have a road test. "SB" represents school bus endorsement and "AB" represents air brake endorsement.

Transactions, Revenue, Processing Times, Accident Reports

Among other data, the Motor Vehicle Information System (MVIS) is used to collect and store the number of transactions and revenue for: driver's licences (DL), general identifications cards (GIC), registrations, and exams. The MVD records the processing times of driver's licences and GICs. Additionally, the MVD records the number of accident reports entered and printed.

Number of transactions and revenue in 20236

		DL	GIC	Registrations	Exams
Nunavut	Number of Transactions	5,832	7,290	16,582	10,170
	Revenue (\$)	191,805	0	808,413	100,090

Processing times for Driver's Licence and General Identification Card in 20237

		0-30 Days	31–60 Days	61-90 Day	91+ Days	Total Requests
Austic Dou	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
Arctic Bay	Online	124	55	9	0	188
Arviat	Offline	57	172	94	40	363
Arvidt	Online	147	14	2	1	164
Baker Lake	Offline	0	0	1	0	1
Daker Lake	Online	339	32	1	3	375
Cambridge Pay	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
Cambridge Bay	Online	164	108	25	6	303
Chesterfield Inlet	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
Chesterneia illiet	Online	93	7	1	0	101
Clyde River	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
Ciyde Kivei	Online	129	97	28	2	256
Coral Harbour	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
Cordi Harbour	Online	189	27	0	0	216
Gjoa Haven	Offline	1	2	1	0	4
Gjoa Havell	Online	198	152	7	3	360

⁶ Total number of exams includes written (Theory) test for each Class; Signs Test; Vision Test; Road Test(s); Air Brake Endorsements; etc.

⁷ 'Online' indicates that the applications were processed via internet connection between the community and the regional headquarters (Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, or Gjoa Haven). 'Offline' indicates that the application was mailed from the community where the request was initiated to the regional headquarters.

Cuica Figurd	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
Grise Fiord	Online	43	7	0	0	50
Igloolik	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
	Online	245	120	73	8	446
Iqaluit	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
	Online	2550	428	27	1	3006
Kimmirut	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
	Online	59	23	10	4	96
Kinngait	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
	Online	192	70	26	5	293
Kugaaruk	Offline	0	6	39	77	122
	Online	65	5	0	1	71
Kugluktuk	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
	Online	126	124	50	4	304
Naujaat	Offline	0	1	0	0	1
	Online	187	62	4	0	253
Pangnirtung	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
	Online	126	92	84	13	315
Pond Inlet	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
	Online	186	71	20	17	294
Qikiqtarjuaq	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
	Online	105	23	29	3	160
Rankin Inlet	Offline	0	1	0	0	1
	Online	741	6	0	0	747
Resolute Bay	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
	Online	47	7	0	0	54
Sanikiluaq	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
	Online	91	41	1	0	133
Sanirajak	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
	Online	65	49	31	26	171
Taloyoak	Offline	0	0	0	1	1
	Online	94	52	42	2	190
Whale Cove	Offline	0	0	0	0	0
	Online	81	10	0	0	91
Totals	Offline	58	182	135	118	493
	Online	6386	1682	470	99	8637

Traffic Safety

EDT is responsible for certain aspects of Traffic Safety under the *Traffic Safety Act*. This includes recording information regarding traffic incidents, convictions and using a demerit-based system to impose suspensions or cancellations of drivers licences.

Traffic Incidents⁸

Section 261 (a-d) of the Traffic Safety Act define reportable incidents as

- "...an incident on or adjacent to a highway involving a vehicle that results in
- (a) the injury or death of a person;
- (b) a collision with an unattended vehicle resulting in visible damage to the unattended vehicle;
- (c) a collision with an inanimate object or with an animal where the driver reasonably believes or ought to believe that there may be ongoing danger to the public; or
- (d) a collision with an animal where the driver reasonably believes or ought to believe that the animal has an owner.

S.Nu. 2017,c.20,s.36."

Number of traffic incidents in 2023 by age⁹

	<15	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40–44	45–49	50-54	55–59	60+	Total
Injury	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Other	1	4	3	3	7	1	2	2	3	3	3	32
Fatality	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1

⁸ Data within this section should be interpreted with caution. Inconsistent or incomplete reporting from partners may result in underestimates/overestimates or discrepancies between table totals.

⁹ "Other" refers to individuals involved in an accident, but who had no recorded injuries. Due to data limitations, this table could not be geographically disaggregated; the table includes all available data on traffic incidents involving Nunavut Drivers, regardless of their location in Canada.

Number of traffic incidents in 2023 by community

	Injury	Other	Fatality
Arctic Bay	0	0	0
Arviat	0	0	0
Baker Lake	0	0	0
Cambridge Bay	0	3	0
Chesterfield Inlet	0	0	0
Clyde River	2	0	0
Coral Harbour	0	0	0
Gjoa Haven	1	5	1
Grise Fiord	0	0	0
Igloolik	0	0	0
Iqaluit	2	3	0
Kimmirut	0	0	0
Kinngait	0	0	0
Kugaaruk	0	0	0
Kugluktuk	0	0	0
Naujaat	0	0	0
Pangnirtung	1	4	0
Pond Inlet	5	1	0
Qikiqtarjuaq	3	0	0
Rankin Inlet	5	4	0
Resolute Bay	1	0	0
Sanikiluaq	0	0	0
Sanirajak	0	0	0
Taloyoak	2	1	0
Whale Cove	0	0	0
Total	22	21	1

Number of traffic incidents in 2023, causes by age

In 2023, incident reports were often blank or didn't correspond with National Collision Database 2 (NCDB2) specifications. As a result, these unreliable data are not presented in this report. Subsequent reports will endeavour to include these data.

Number of traffic incidents in 2023, causes by community

In 2023, incident reports were often blank or didn't correspond with NCDB2 specifications. As a result, these unreliable data are not presented in this report. Subsequent reports will endeavour to include these data.

Traffic Convictions¹⁰

Section 336 of the *Traffic Safety Act* states that individuals who contravene this Act or the regulations are guilty of an offence liable on summary conviction to the punishment set out in the Act.

Number of traffic convictions and administrative sanctions in 2023, by age¹¹

	15–19	20–24	25–29	30-34	35–39	40-44	45–49	50-54	55-59	60+	Total
DUI	10	12	12	14	2	8	6	3	0	0	67
Roadside											
Suspension –	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24 hours											
Roadside											
Suspension –	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30 Days											
Roadside											
Suspension –	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
90 Day											
Unlicensed	0	1	2	0	2	3	0	1	1	1	11
Unregistered	4	4	5	5	6	11	3	1	4	0	43
Uninsured	3	1	1	5	4	4	0	1	0	1	20
Speeding	3	1	3	8	9	6	6	3	1	5	45
Distracted Driving	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
All others	5	4	9	26	16	16	12	17	9	11	125

¹⁰ Data within this section should be interpreted with caution. Inconsistent or incomplete reporting from partners may result in underestimates/overestimates or discrepancies between table totals.

¹¹ Due to data limitations, this table was could not be geographically disaggregated; the table includes all available data on traffic incidents involving Nunavut Drivers, regardless of their location in Canada.

Number of traffic convictions and administrative sanctions in 2023, by community

	DUI	Roadside Suspension - 24 hours	Roadside Suspension - 30 Days	Roadside Suspension - 90 Day	Unlicensed	Unregistered	Uninsured	Speeding	Distracted Driving	All
Arctic Bay	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arviat	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Baker Lake	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cambridge Bay	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chesterfield Inlet	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clyde River	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coral Harbour	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gjoa Haven	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Grise Fiord	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Igloolik	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Iqaluit	55	0	0	0	9	43	18	18	0	116
Kimmirut	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kinngait	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kugaaruk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kugluktuk	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Naujaat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pangnirtung	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pond Inlet	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Qikiqtarjuaq	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rankin Inlet	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Resolute Bay	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sanikiluaq	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sanirajak	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Taloyoak	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whale Cove	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	67	0	0	0	9	43	18	18	0	119

Demerit Discipline

Section 3(2) of the *Driver's Licence Demerit Point Regulations* states that the Registrar shall add demerit points to an individual's driving record as the Registrar becomes aware of the convictions of the driver. The Regulation's Schedule provides a list of offenses and the number of demerits they represent.

Section 5(1–3) of the Regulations detail that when a driver has accumulated 12 or more demerit points, the Registrar shall provide a warning letter to the driver and arrange a telephone or personal interview between the driver and a driver examiner or driver's licence review officer. If the driver fails to attend the interview, the Registrar may suspend the individual's driver's licence and prohibit the driver from operating a motor vehicle until the driver attends the necessary interview.

Where a driver has accumulated 15 or more demerit points, the Registrar shall suspend the driver's licence of the driver and prohibit the driver from operating a motor vehicle for a period of one month.

Number of driver demerit discipline situations in 2023, by age

	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40–44	45–49	50–54	55–59	60+	Total
Driver Suspension	6	7	3	7	2	7	4	3	1	1	41

Appendix A: Other Matters

Nunavut Drivers Outside of the Territory

The below tables summarize available data for traffic incidents, traffic convictions and administrative sanctions involving Nunavummiut driving outside of the territory.

Number of traffic incidents

	Injury	Other	Fatality
Outside of Nunavut	0	0	0

Number of traffic convictions and administrative sanctions

	Outside of Nunavut
DUI	1
Roadside Suspension - 24 hours	0
Roadside Suspension - 30 Days	0
Roadside Suspension - 90 Day	0
Unlicensed	0
Unregistered	0
Uninsured	2
Speeding	27
Distracted Driving	1
All others	6

Organizational Developments

'Online' indicates that the applications were processed via internet connection between the community and the regional headquarters (Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, or Gjoa Haven). 'Offline' indicates that the application was mailed from the community where the request was initiated to the regional headquarters.

In late 2019 the department launched a pilot project in Taloyoak to connect Government Liaison Offices to MVD offices to streamline the processing of driver licence and other services. This transforms "offline" communities into "online" communities by making use of the GN's Core Business Network to connect GLOs directly to the Motor Vehicles Information System.

The process of connecting additional communities to the MVIS continued throughout 2023 and by the end of the year only Kugaaruk remained "offline".

The department made efforts to expand the number of available driver examiners, including through entering into agreements with municipalities to have them conduct non-commercial driver examinations.

Work continues to establish the Motor Vehicles Divisional Headquarters in Rankin Inlet, with Regional Operations in Gjoa Haven and Iqaluit to support clients and the Government Liaison Offices providing services in each community.