

62. Other Vehicles.—All motor-vehicles, other than those which come within the scope of the Transport Licensing Act, are required to be inspected every six months for a warrant of fitness, which is issued either by especially approved motor garages or municipal vehicle-testing stations.

63. In view of the increased mileages run by private vehicles due to the improved petrol-supply position the wartime emergency regulation extending the term of the warrant of fitness from six to twelve months (for vehicles insured under Class IV for the purpose of the Motor-vehicles Insurance (Third-party Risks) Regulation 1939) was revoked with effect from the 1st May, 1947.

64. Vehicle Defects.—(a) “*Licensed*” *Vehicles*: The following table gives the percentage of vehicles operating under the Transport Licensing Act which were found to be free from defects when submitted for inspection:—

Type.	Percentage.
Omnibuses	25·9
Service cars	15·0
Service coaches	22·9
Passenger-trucks	11·9
School buses	25·2
School vehicles	12·3
Taxis	25·2
Rental cars	31·7
Ambulances	35·2
Goods-service vehicles	19·1

65. (b) “*Private*” *Vehicles*: As a result of statistical data made available from municipal testing stations and garages authorized to issue warrants of fitness, 52·3 per cent. of the vehicles when submitted for examination were satisfactory.

66. For every thousand vehicles submitted for test the number of defects disclosed by the examination is shown below:—

Brakes, foot	203
Brakes, hand	196
Lights, head	221
Lights, tail	105
Steering mechanism	128
Windscreen-wiper	38
Rear vision mirror	15
Warning-device	23
Door-fastenings	21

67. Vehicles condemned.—The Department’s policy of advising transport operators in advance of the necessity for replacing vehicles which are nearing the end of their economic life is reflected in the relatively small number of vehicles condemned compared with the number voluntarily withdrawn.

68. During the year 87 vehicles were condemned and 1,845 vehicles voluntarily withdrawn. This policy enables old vehicles to be replaced without affecting the continuity of the services.