Changes to Legislation: as of 3 November 2026, this Act is up to date with all changes known to be in force.



Number 16 *of* 1984

ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) ACT 1984

REVISED

Updated to 28 May 2019

This Revised Act is an administrative consolidation of the *Road Traffic (Amendment) Act 1984*. It is prepared by the Law Reform Commission in accordance with its function under the *Law Reform Commission Act 1975* (3/1975) to keep the law under review and to undertake revision and consolidation of statute law.

All Acts up to and including *Greyhound Racing Act 2019* (15/2019), enacted 28 May 2019, and all statutory instruments up to and including *European Communities (Sheep Identification) (Amendment) Regulations 2019* (S.I. No. 243 of 2019), made 28 May 2019, were considered in the preparation of this Revised Act.

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ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) ACT 1984

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ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section

1. Definitions.
2. Increase of certain penalties under Section 102 of Principal Act.
3. Increase of certain other penalties under Principal Act, etc.
4. Increase of certain penalties under Act of 1968, etc.
5. Increase of certain penalties under Act of 1978.
6. Offences to which *sections 2* to *5* apply.
7. Short title, construction and collective citation.

ACTS REFERRED TO

Road Traffic Act, 1961	1961, No. 24
Road Traffic Act, 1968	1968, No. 25
Road Traffic (Amendment) Act, 1978	1978, No. 19

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ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) ACT 1984

REVISED

Updated to 28 May 2019

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR INCREASED PENALTIES IN RESPECT OF CERTAIN OFFENCES UNDER THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACTS, 1961 to 1978, AND FOR CERTAIN OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO ROAD TRAFFIC. [18*th July*, 1984]

BE IT ENACTED BY THE OIREACHTAS AS FOLLOWS:

Definitions.

1.—In this Act—

"the Act of 1968" means the Road Traffic Act, 1968;

"the Act of 1978" means the Road Traffic (Amendment) Act, 1978;

"the Principal Act" means the Road Traffic Act, 1961.

Increase of certain penalties under Section 102 of Principal Act.

2.—Section 102 of the Principal Act, which provides for a penalty for certain offences under that Act, is hereby amended—

(*a*) by the substitution of "£150" for "twenty pounds" in paragraph (*a*), and

(*b*) by the substitution of "£350" for "fifty pounds" in paragraphs (*b*) and (*c*).

Increase of certain other penalties under Principal Act, etc.

3.—(1) A person convicted of an offence for which a penalty is provided in a section of the Principal Act specified in *column (2)* of the Table to this section at a particular reference number shall, in lieu of the monetary penalty so provided, be liable to the penalty specified in *column (3)* of that Table at that reference number, and the sections specified in *column (2)* of that Table shall be construed and have effect accordingly.

(2) The following subsection is hereby substituted for subsection (4) of section 12 of the Principal Act:

"(4) (*a*) Where a person contravenes *subsection (3)* of this section he and, if he is not the owner of the vehicle or combination of vehicles, such owner shall each be guilty of an offence.

(*b*) A person who is guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £350 or, at the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding three months or to both such fine and such imprisonment.".

(3) The following subsection is hereby substituted for subsection (5) of section 16 of the Principal Act:

"(5) A person who contravenes a requirement under this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £500 or, at the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding three months or to both such fine and such imprisonment.".

(4) Section 26 of the Principal Act is hereby amended—

(*a*) by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (3):

"(3A) The period of disqualification specified in a consequential disqualification order shall, where the person to whom the order relates is convicted of an offence under section 56 of this Act, be not less than one year.",

and

(*b*) by the substitution of the following subsection for subsection (4):

"(4) The period of disqualification specified in a consequential disqualification order shall, in a case not coming within subsection (3) or (3A) of this section, be not less than six months.".

(5) The following subsection is hereby substituted for subsection (2) of section 48 of the Principal Act:

"(2) A person who contravenes subsection (1) of this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction, in the case of a first offence, to a fine not exceeding £150 or, at the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding one month or to both such fine and such imprisonment and, in the case of a second or any subsequent offence, to a fine not exceeding £350 or, at the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding three months or to both such fine and such imprisonment.".

(6) The following subsection is hereby substituted for subsection (2) of section 51 (inserted by section 48 of the Act of 1968) of the Principal Act:

"(2) A person who contravenes subsection (1) of this section shall be guilty of an offence and—

(*a*) if the offence relates to an animal-drawn vehicle, he shall be liable on summary conviction, in the case of a first offence, to a fine not exceeding £150 or, at the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding one month or to both such fine and such imprisonment and, in the case of a second or any subsequent offence, to a fine not exceeding £350 or, at the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding three months or to both such fine and such imprisonment, and

(*b*) if the offence relates to a pedal cycle, he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £350 or, at the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding three months or to both such fine and such imprisonment.".

(7) The following subsection is hereby substituted for subsection (2) of section 112 of the Principal Act:

"(2) A person who contravenes subsection (1) of this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable—

(*a*) on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding £1,000 or, at the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months, or to both such fine and such imprisonment;

(*b*) on conviction on indictment, to a fine not exceeding £2,000 or, at the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years or to both such fine and such imprisonment.".

(8) Section 113 of the Principal Act is hereby amended—

(*a*) by the deletion in subsection (1) of "in a public place", and

(*b*) by the substitution of the following subsection for subsection (2):

"(2) A person who contravenes subsection (1) of this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £350 or, at the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding three months or to both such fine and such imprisonment.".

TABLE

Ref. No. (1)	Section (2)	Penalty (3)
1.	53 (2) (*a*)	A fine not exceeding £3,000
2.	38 (5)	A fine not exceeding £1,000
3.	39 (2)	A fine not exceeding £1,000
4.	53 (2) (*b*)	A fine not exceeding £1,000
5.	56 (3)	A fine not exceeding £1,000
6.	64 (2)	A fine not exceeding £1,000
7.	106 (3) (*a*)	A fine not exceeding £1,000
8.	49 (4) (*a*) (inserted by section 10 of the Act of 1978)	A fine not exceeding £1,000
9.	50 (4) (*a*) (ii) (inserted by section 11 of the Act of 1978)	A fine not exceeding £1,000
10.	18 (2)	A fine not exceeding £350
11.	20 (10) (*a*)	A fine not exceeding £350
12.	52 (2) (inserted by section 50 of the Act of 1968)	A fine not exceeding £350
13.	54 (4)	A fine not exceeding £350
14.	55 (2) (*a*)	A fine not exceeding £350
15.	69 A (5) (inserted by Regulation 6 of the European Communities (Road Traffic) (Compulsory Insurance) Regulations, 1975 (S.I. No. 178 of 1975))	A fine not exceeding £350
16.	106 (3) (*b*)	A fine not exceeding £350
17.	107 (5)	A fine not exceeding £350
18.	115 (6)	A fine not exceeding £350
19.	50 (4) (*a*) (i) (inserted by section 11 of the Act of 1978)	A fine not exceeding £350
20.	55 (2) (*b*)	A fine not exceeding £150

Increase of certain penalties under Act of 1968, etc.

4.—(1) A person who is guilty of an offence under section 11 or 12 of the Act of 1968 shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £350 or, at the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding three months or to both such fine and such imprisonment.

(2) The following subsection is hereby substituted for subsection (1) of section 13 of the Act of 1968:

"(1) This section applies to every person who owns or operates not less than the prescribed number of mechanically propelled vehicles (being vehicles exceeding 2,000 kilograms in weight unladen and used in public places) and is designated for the purposes of this section in regulations made thereunder.".

(3) The following subsection is hereby substituted for subsection (1) of section 15 of the Act of 1968:

"(1) Where—

(*a*) a vehicle exceeding 17,000 kilograms in weight laden (within the meaning of the relevant regulations), or a combination of vehicles of which such a vehicle forms a part, is used on a public road,

(*b*) the owner is convicted of an offence under section 12 of the Principal Act in respect of such use, and

(*c*) the excess weight during such use was not less than 1,000 kilograms,

the court which so convicted shall, in addition to any penalty which may be imposed under section 12 of the Principal Act (as amended by the *Road Traffic (Amendment) Act, 1984)*, impose on the owner so convicted a penalty fixed in accordance with the Table to this section.".

(4) The following Table is hereby substituted for the Table to section 15 of the Act of 1968:

"TABLE

Where the excess weight is not less than 1,000 kilograms but is less than 2,000 kilograms	£50
Where the excess weight is not less than 2,000 kilograms but is less than 3,000 kilograms	£100
Where the excess weight is not less than 3,000 kilograms but is less than 4,000 kilograms	£250
Where the excess weight is not less than 4,000 kilograms but is less than 5,000 kilograms	£350
Where the excess weight is 5,000 kilograms or more	£650"

(5) The following subsection is hereby substituted for subsection (7) of section 18 of the Act of 1968:

"(7) A person who contravenes a regulation under this section which is stated to be a penal regulation shall be guilty of an offence and, in the case of a contravention of a regulation prohibiting or restricting the giving for reward of instruction by a person other than a licensed driving instructor or prohibiting the employment of such a person for the purpose of giving instruction for reward, shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £350 or, at the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding six months or to both such fine and such imprisonment.".

(6) The following subsection is hereby substituted for subsection (2) of section 23 of the Act of 1968:

"(2) A person who is guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £350 or, at the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for any term not exceeding six months or to both such fine and such imprisonment.".

Increase of certain penalties under Act of 1978.

5.—A person convicted of an offence for which a penalty is provided in a section of the Act of 1978 specified in column (2) of the Table to this section at a particular reference number shall, in lieu of the monetary penalty so provided, be liable to the penalty specified in column (3) of that Table at that reference number, and the sections specified in column (2) of that Table shall be construed and have effect accordingly.

TABLE

Ref. No. (1)	Section (2)	Penalty (3)
1.	12 (2)	A fine not exceeding £1,000
2.	13 (2)	A fine not exceeding £1,000
3.	13 (3)	A fine not exceeding £1,000
4.	14 (2)	A fine not exceeding £1,000
5.	14 (3)	A fine not exceeding £1,000
6.	15 (2) (*a*)	A fine not exceeding £1,000
7.	16 (3)	A fine not exceeding £350
8.	16 (6)	A fine not exceeding £1,000
9.	17 (2)	A fine not exceeding £1,000
10.	17 (5)	A fine not exceeding £1,000
11.	18 (3) (*b*)	A fine not exceeding £1,000

Offences to which *sections 2* to *5* apply.

6.—*Sections 2* to *5* of this Act shall have effect in relation to offences committed after the commencement of this Act.

Short title, construction and collective citation.

7.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Road Traffic (Amendment) Act, 1984.

(2) This Act and the Road Traffic Acts, 1961 to 1978, shall be construed as one and may be cited together as the Road Traffic Acts, 1961 to 1984.

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ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) ACT 1984

REVISED

Updated to 28 May 2019

About this Revised Act

This Revised Act presents the text of the Act as it has been amended since enactment, and preserves the format in which it was passed.

Related legislation

Road Traffic Acts 1961 to 2018: this Act is one of a group of Acts included in this collective citation, to be read together as one (*Road Traffic (Amendment) Act 2018* (18/2016), s. 6(3)). The Acts in the group are:

- *Road Traffic Act 1961* (24/1961)
- *Road Traffic Act 1968* (25/1968)
- *Road Traffic (Amendment) Act 1973* (15/1973) (repealed)
- *Road Traffic (Amendment) Act 1978* (19/1978) (repealed)
- *Road Traffic (Amendment) Act 1984* (16/1984)
- *Dublin Transport Authority (Dissolution) Act 1987* (34/1987), insofar as it amends the *Road Traffic Acts 1961 to 1984*
- *Road Traffic Act 1994* (7/1994)
- *Road Traffic Act 1995* (7/1995) (repealed)
- *Road Traffic Act 2002* (12/2002)
- *Road Traffic Act 2003* (37/2003) (repealed)
- *Road Traffic Act 2004* (44/2004), other than Part 6
- *Railway Safety Act 2005* (31/2005), Part 17
- *Road Traffic Act 2006* (23/2006), other than s. 21
- *Road Traffic and Transport Act 2006* (28/2006), s. 1 (repealed)
- *Roads Act 2007* (34/2007), s. 12
- *Road Traffic Act 2010* (25/2010)
- *Road Traffic Act 2011* (7/2011)
- *Road Traffic (No. 2) Act 2011* (28/2011)
- *Taxi Regulation Act 2013* (37/2013), Part 11 (citation only)
- *Road Traffic Act 2014* (3/2014)
- *Road Traffic (No. 2) Act 2014* (39/2014)
- *Vehicle Clamping Act 2015* (13/2015), Part 5 (citation only)
- *Public Transport Act 2016* (3/2016), s. 8
- *Road Traffic Act 2016* (21/2016) (citation only)
- *Road Traffic (Amendment) Act 2018* (18/2018)

Local Authorities (Traffic Wardens) Act 1975 and 1987: This Act deals with similar subject matter to a group of Acts included in this collective citation (*Dublin Transport Authority (Dissolution) Act 1987*, s. 15(4)). The Acts in the group are:

- *Local Authorities (Traffic Wardens) Act 1975* (14/1975)

• *Dublin Transport Authority (Dissolution) Act 1987* (34/1987), in so far as it amends the *Local Authorities (Traffic Wardens) Act 1975*

Annotations

This Revised Act is not annotated and only shows textual amendments. An annotated version of this revision is also available which shows textual and non-textual amendments and their sources. It also shows editorial notes including statutory instruments made pursuant to the Act and previous affecting provisions.

Material not updated in this revision

Where other legislation is amended by this Act, those amendments may have been superseded by other amendments in other legislation, or the amended legislation may have been repealed or revoked. This information is not represented in this revision but will be reflected in a revision of the amended legislation if one is available. A list of legislative changes to any Act, and to statutory instruments from 1972, may be found linked from the page of the Act or statutory instrument at www.irishstatutebook.ie.