



Pictured above: The condition of a tyre from a high-performance car, that was identified during the TyreSafe event.

Jersey's TyreSafe Event 2024

Results and Recommendations



Driving and
Vehicle Standards



Event Overview

As part of Jersey's TyreSafe Month, a tyre safety initiative was held in collaboration with TyreSafe, Translogik, Driving & Vehicle Standards and TAF Tyres to promote awareness of the importance of tyre maintenance and safety. The event took place on October 7th at Les Jardins Car Park and on October 8th at Patriotic Car Park.

During these two days, free tyre checks were provided to parked vehicles, as well as to drive in attendees. The event aimed to help the Government of Jersey better understand the condition of vehicle tyres on the Island while promoting safe driving habits among Islanders, activities included:

- Free Tyre Checks: Over the two-day event, free tyre inspections were provided for all vehicles parked at the specified locations. Islanders were also encouraged to stop by for a check without needing to park
- Expert Advice: TAF Tyres and representatives from the Driver and Vehicle Standards (DVS) department were on-site, offering professional guidance. Although no penalties were imposed for worn tyres, DVS recommended replacements where necessary
- Staff Training: In partnership with TyreSafe and Translogik, staff from DVS and the Road Safety team received training on tyre measurement technology, enabling future tyre checks to take place.

Collaboration with TAF Tyres

Along with TyreSafe, Translogik, and DVS, the Government of Jersey collaborated with TAF Tyres to gather essential tyre data over both days of the event, contributing to a comprehensive understanding of tyre safety on the Island.

TAF Tyres, a proud supporter of TyreSafe, ensures that the quality of their tyres aligns with TyreSafe's stringent safety standards, providing Islanders with reliable and safe options.



Left: Stuart, Chair of TyreSafe; Centre: James, TAF Tyres; Right: Ben, TAF Tyres

Collaboration with Translogik

A key partner in Jersey's TyreSafe Month initiative, Translogik provided state-of-the-art tyre measurement technology that allowed for precise and efficient tyre inspections during the event.

Their advanced tools enabled the Government of Jersey and Driver and Vehicle Standards (DVS) staff to gather valuable data on tyre conditions, supporting efforts to improve road safety across the Island.



Top: Kevin Hennelly, Translogik; Bottom: Minister, Andy Jehan



Andy Jehan,
Minister for Infrastructure

The Minister for Infrastructure, Andy Jehan, attended the TyreSafe event, where he was shown how to use the tyre scanning tool, as seen in the photo while testing it on his vehicle. Here's what he had to say about the event:

"This initiative provided a unique opportunity for commuters to get their tyres checked for free, while also assisting us in gathering data on the state of tyres on our roads.

We hope that through this event, Islanders will become more aware of tyre safety and take the necessary steps to ensure their vehicles are roadworthy."

Stuart Lovatt, Chair of TyreSafe, attended the event to support the Government of Jersey's efforts and highlighted the importance of partnership in promoting road safety:



"TyreSafe is pleased to collaborate with the Jersey Government to enhance tyre safety awareness.

By working together, we aim to reduce tyre-related incidents and ensure that drivers are informed about proper tyre maintenance."



Stuart Lovatt,
Chair of TyreSafe

Key Findings

 x **246** Vehicles were Inspected, resulting in
 x **984** Tyres being analysed*



76

Tyres needed
Replacing



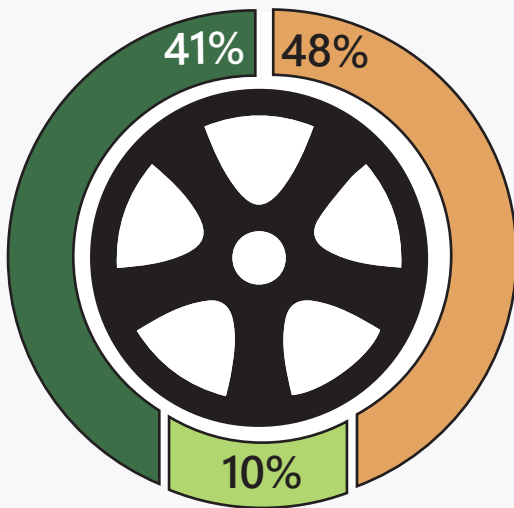
83

Tyres were close
to need Replacing



808

Tyres were Fine



Premium Tyres

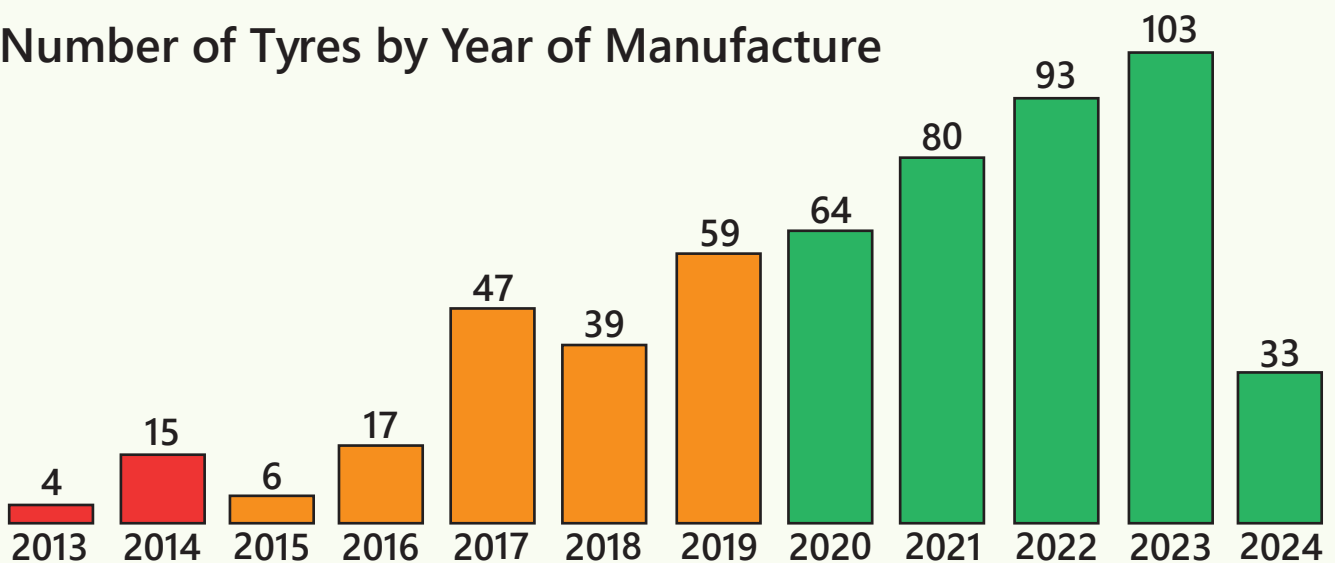


Mid-range Tyres



Budget Tyres

Number of Tyres by Year of Manufacture



*17 tyres did not receive a condition analysis because the photos taken were not clear enough.

Common Issues Identified

Cracked Tyres

Cracks are a sign of aging in your tyres, as well as exposure to sunlight and ozone. The appearance of cracks on the sidewall of the tyre is a warning sign that the tyre is nearing the end of its life and that you should prepare to replace it.



Different Tyre Brands on the Same Axle

Using different brands on the same axle can negatively impact safety and handling, as variations in tread pattern, rubber composition, and tread wear can lead to inconsistent traction and braking performance. Having the same brand and pattern on each axle ensures uniform grip and responsiveness, which is crucial for balanced handling and stability, especially during sharp turns or in wet conditions.

This uniformity helps maintain optimal road contact, minimizing risks of skidding or uneven wear across the tyres. For maximum safety, it's advisable to match tyres on the same axle to maintain predictable, stable vehicle behaviour.

Additionally, if you are considering taking your vehicle to France, be aware that using different tyre brands on the same axle may result in fines, as this does not meet French tyre safety regulations.



Nail in Tyre

A nail in a tyre can cause slow air leaks, leading to under-inflation, uneven wear, and compromised handling. If the puncture is near the sidewall, the risk of a blowout increases due to the weakened structure. While some tread punctures can be repaired, nails in the sidewall or shoulder usually require replacing the tyre. Regular inspections and prompt repairs help maintain safety and tyre longevity.



Worn Tyre Shoulder and Tread

Worn tyre shoulders and tread both pose serious safety risks. Misalignment of the front axle commonly causes uneven shoulder wear, with under-inflation also contributing by spreading tread over the sidewalls and damaging one or both shoulders.

Additionally, worn shock absorbers and ball joints can lead to excessive inner shoulder wear. Damaged tread, on the other hand, reduces traction and lengthens stopping distances, increasing the risk of skidding, blowouts, and collisions. Regular inspection and timely replacement of tyres with worn shoulders or damaged tread are essential for safe driving and avoiding enforcement and fines related to tread depth.



The middle picture shows the condition of a tyre from a high-performance car identified during the TyreSafe event, highlighting that even high-performance car owners may neglect tyre maintenance.

Flat Tyres

A flat tyre poses immediate risks to safety by reducing grip, braking, and handling. Driving on a flat can damage the wheel and lead to costly repairs. Promptly repair or replace flat tyres, and regularly check tyre pressure to prevent issues and ensure safe driving conditions.



Actions Taken

- ✓ Following the event, the owners of cars with illegal tyres were contacted by DVS to ensure they sought immediate replacements
- ✓ Tyre measurement tools will be introduced in future roadside vehicle inspections to ensure accurate data on tyre condition is collected and to support enforcement of vehicles not in a roadworthy condition
- ✓ Data gathered from this event will serve as a baseline to support safety performance indicators in our Collision & Casualty Reduction Plan
- ✓ This tyre safety event has helped initiate a conversation on vehicle safety, encouraging ongoing awareness about the importance of regularly checking tyre air pressure, condition, and tread, and highlighting the risks of neglecting tyre maintenance.

Recommendations for Islanders

Based on the data gathered from the event, it is clear that a significant proportion of the Island’s drivers need to be more mindful of their vehicle’s tyre condition. With 21% of tyres found to be in need of replacement and 27% borderline, common issues have been identified above, along with the associated risks.

During the event, many Islanders mentioned that their lack of regular tyre checks was due to limited knowledge on the subject. To address this, guidance on maintaining tyre health and ensuring optimal performance is provided below, focusing on three main areas of tyre safety: Air Pressure, Condition, and Tread.

Air Pressure

- 1. Find Your Recommended Tyre Pressure:** Check your car’s manual, the driver’s door frame, or inside the fuel cap for the correct tyre pressure, usually listed in PSI or BAR. The website tyre-pressure.co.uk can also provide guidance on the correct pressure for your vehicle’s specific make and model
- 2. Check Regularly:** Tyre pressure should be checked monthly and before long journeys to maintain safety, fuel efficiency, and tyre lifespan
- 3. Visit a Local Garage:** Most garages have air pressure machines where you can easily check and adjust your tyres. Many also offer digital pressure readers that simplify the process. If you’re unsure how to check or adjust the pressure, don’t hesitate to ask the garage staff for assistance. They can guide you through the steps and ensure the pressure is accurate
- 4. Check Tyres When Cold:** For the most accurate reading, check tyre pressure when the tyres are cold, ideally before driving or after the car has been parked for a while.



Tyre Condition

1. **Inspect for Bulges, Lumps, and Cuts:** Regularly check your tyres for any visible bulges, lumps, or cuts, as these can indicate internal damage or weakened areas. Damage like this increases the risk of blowouts, so it's essential to address any issues as soon as possible
2. **Remove Stones or Objects from the Tread:** Stones, glass, or other debris can get lodged in the tread, which can wear down the tyre or cause punctures. Carefully remove any objects from the tread to ensure better road grip and longevity
3. **Check Tyre Condition Monthly:** Incorporate tyre inspection into your monthly maintenance routine to spot any issues early. Addressing small problems as they arise helps maintain safety and avoid costly repairs.

Tyre Tread

1. **Check the Tread Depth with the 20p Method:** Insert a 20p coin into the tread grooves of your tyre. If the outer band of the coin is visible, your tread depth may be below the recommended limit, and it's time to consider a replacement. Check at least three locations around each tyre.
2. **Know the Legal Minimum:** The minimum legal tread depth is 1.6mm across the central three-quarters of the tyre. Maintaining adequate tread depth is essential for proper grip, especially on wet roads.



Final Reminder

Your tyres are the only point of contact between your vehicle and the road, making their condition crucial for your safety and the safety of others.

Worn, under-inflated, or damaged tyres reduce your control and increase the risk of collisions, especially in wet or hazardous conditions. Regularly checking and maintaining your tyre pressure, condition, and tread depth helps ensure optimal grip, stability, and handling on every journey.

A small effort in tyre maintenance goes a long way toward safer driving for all Islanders.