



DVS
Driver &
Vehicle Services

Exam scheduling

Legislative report

09/01/2026

Contents

Executive summary	2
Performance measures established by the commissioner	2
Results for the performance measures	2
Metric 1, availability by county	2
Metric 2, ability to obtain appointments	3
Metric 3, department website	4
Appendix: Sources of data.....	6

Executive summary

A behind-the-wheel road test is a crucial safety check to determine if a prospective driver can maintain safe control over a motor vehicle and has the situational awareness to anticipate and react to real-world driving conditions. The Minnesota Department of Public Safety's Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS) division offers class D road tests at 90 locations and commercial driving exams at 21 exam stations across Minnesota.

Each year by March 1 and Sept. 1, DVS must submit reports on road test scheduling. The reports are submitted to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over transportation policy and finance in compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 171.13, subdivision 11.

The March 1 report includes information from the previous calendar year. The report must identify performance measures and metrics related to scheduling availability and passage of road tests. It must include the performance measures' results and include the rate applicants are able to obtain an appointment for a road test compared with applicants who experience a delay in booking an appointment.

The Sept. 1 report includes information from the previous fiscal year (July 1 to June 30).

This report examines Minnesota's class D road test availability from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026. The measures and metrics established by the commissioner have all been met, with availability for class D and commercial exams increasing year after year. Exams are available in or adjacent to the county where the applicant resides, are available within 14 days and are visible in real time on the department website.

Performance measures established by the commissioner

According to statute, applicants must be able to take exams in their own county or an adjacent one, be able to obtain an appointment within 14 days of their request and access real-time information on the DVS website about the availability and location of exam appointments (Minnesota Statutes, section 171.13, subdivision 1, paragraphs (c)(d)(e)).

Results for the performance measures

Metric 1, availability by county

The ability to test within the county or adjacent county was impacted during the COVID-19 pandemic when DVS closed all but 14 of the 93 driver's license exam stations in Minnesota. This was necessary to ensure the health and safety of customers and employees and was a result of the stay-at-home executive order. The county requirement was again satisfied when exam stations reopened, which was completed by Jan. 31, 2022.

Metric 2, ability to obtain appointments

The performance measure stating applicants should be able to schedule exam appointments within 14 days of the applicant's request cannot currently be measured. Applicants can only request an available time slot; therefore, there are no delays by the state's definition.

Each applicant has their own preferred exam date, and DVS has no way to track what that preferred date is. Since DVS does not track what an individual's preferred date may be or what their purpose is for accessing the website, there is no data to indicate if someone is actively searching for open appointments, the time frame in which they are looking or if they are checking multiple locations for appointment availability.

DVS records all available class D and commercial road test appointments within the 30-day reservation window. Data is captured each Monday morning, and a live snapshot of all available appointments is recorded. During fiscal year 2026, road tests were consistently available in all 10 regions for both class D and commercial road tests, ensuring this metric was met.

Throughout the data collection period ending June 2026, DVS averaged 8,645 available class D road tests at any given time. Last fiscal year, that number was 6,828, and 5,983 the year before that. This trend continues with commercial road tests as well. During this reporting period, availability for CDL road tests averaged 232 openings at any given time. This number was 169 last calendar year, and 93 in fiscal year 2024.

Figure 1. Available class D road test appointments, July 2025-June 2026

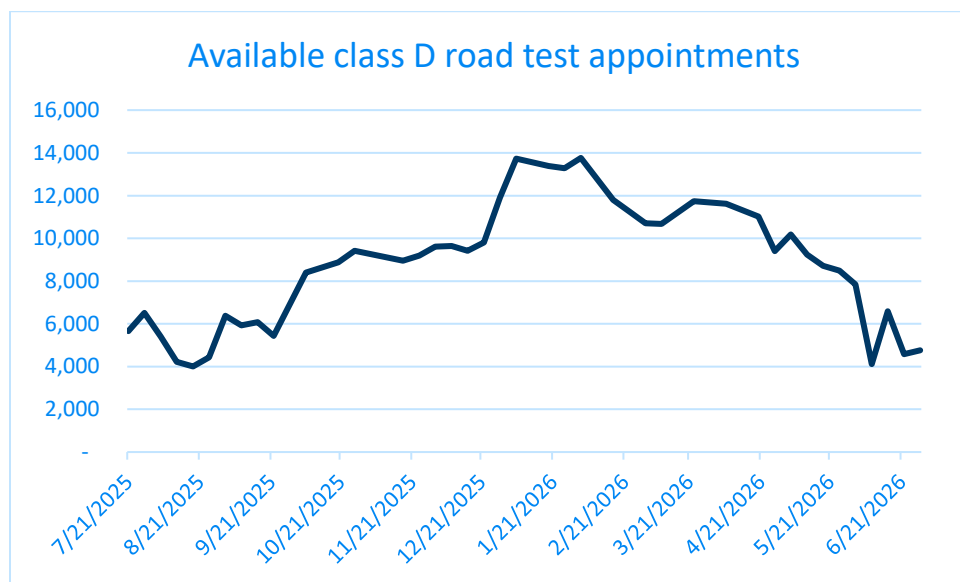
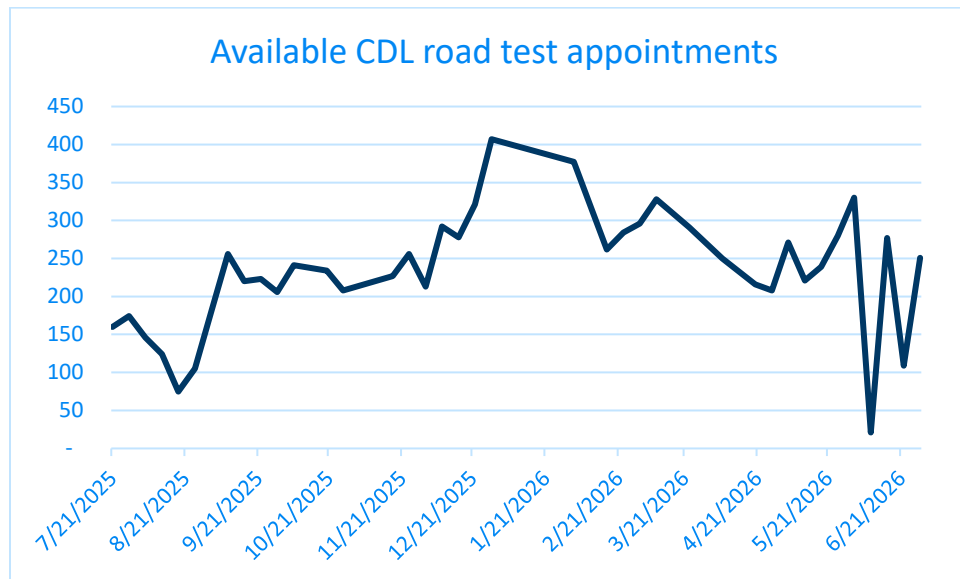


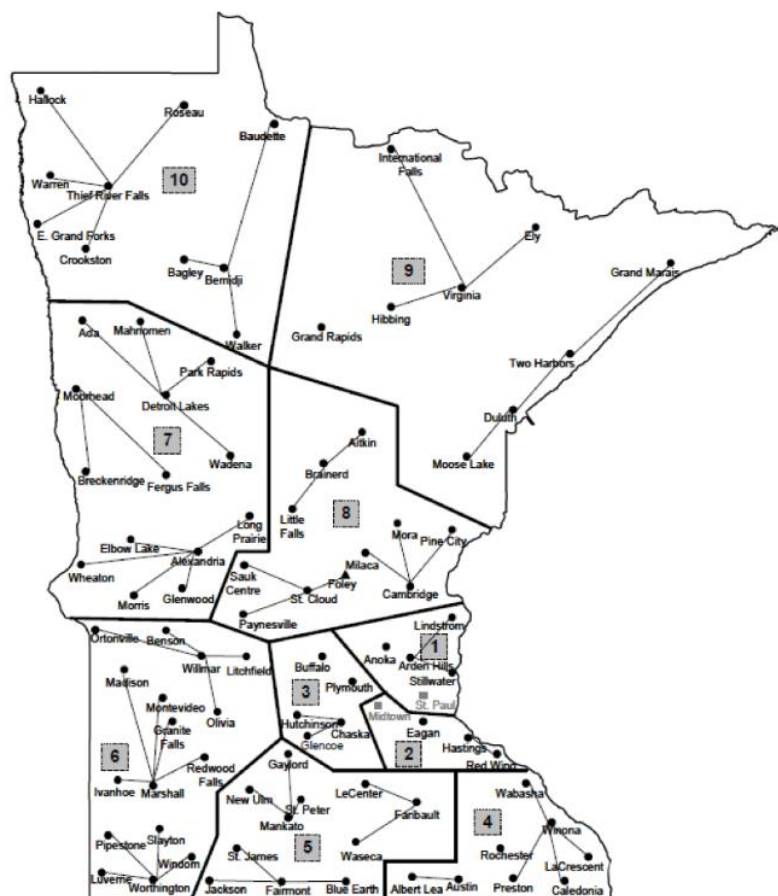
Figure 2. Available CDL road test appointments, July 2025-June 2026



Metric 3, department website

DVS has consistently met the requirement to have real-time appointment information on its website (Minnesota Statutes, section 171.3, subdivision 1, paragraph (e)). The website shows the next available exam dates and times for each exam station. It also gives an option to enter an address to see the date and time of the next available exam at each exam station, sorted by distance from the address provided.

Figure 3. A map of exam regions



Appendix: Sources of data

MNDRIVE report, Location Class D Skill Exam Appointment Availability, July 2025-June 2026.

MNDRIVE report, Location CDL Skill Exam Appointment Availability, July 2025-June 2026.

DVS Online Services website, [e-Services - Schedule Appointment - Select Service](#).

