

18 February 2020

R M Sweeney
fyi-request-11901-bb2332ee@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: OIA-6394

Dear R M Sweeney,

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email to the Ministry of Transport on 16 December 2019 which was transferred to Waka Kotahi, the NZ Transport Agency on 12 February 2020 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Please provide recent instances (2000-2019) of injuries or fatalities involving illegal bicycle riding. Details of particular interest are the illegal behaviour of the cyclist (running a red light, failing to give way etc.), and which party was injured or killed as a result (the offending cyclist, a pedestrian, a driver etc.)

Your request is being refused under section 18(e) of the Act as the information requested does not exist.

The Transport Agency maintains the Crash Analysis System (CAS) which is updated once a Traffic Crash Report (TCR) is received from NZ Police after a crash. CAS contains details of traffic crashes without determining if an action taken by one or more of the parties was illegal or not. CAS does not contain any information on charges or convictions that may result from these crashes.

However, CAS does contain information relating to the crashes involving cyclists and the causes of those crashes (such as failing to give way etc) which we can provide summary information on as per the 4 tables below:

Table 1: 2000-2019* crashes involving injuries or fatalities where a cyclist had a contributing factor

Fatal	Serious	Minor
113	1,418	4,906

Of the crashes in Table 1 above, the other party or parties involved also had a contributing factor in some of the crashes as detailed in Table 2 below.

Table 2: 2000-2019* crashes involving injuries or fatalities where a cyclist had a contributing factor but the other party or parties involved also had a contributing factor

Fatal	Serious	Minor
28	357	1,544

Table 3 is a list of cyclist factors contributing to crashes involving injuries or fatalities in which a cyclist was involved. There may have been several parties at fault in these crashes, but this is just the cyclist factors.

Table 3: Cyclist factors contributing to 2000-2019* fatal and injury crashes

Crash factor	Count
Alcohol	355
Disabled, old age or illness	109
Failed to give way or stop	1,614
Fatigue	15
Incorrect lanes or position	2,085
Miscellaneous factors	252
Overtaking	299
Pedestrian factors	34
Poor handling	522
Poor judgement	538
Poor observation	2,300
Position on Road	333
Road factors	108
Travel Speed	465
Vehicle factors	532
TOTAL factors	9,561

Table 4: Road users injured in 2000-2019* cyclist crashes where the cyclist had a contributing factor

	Death	Serious injury	Minor injury	Total
Cyclist	113	1,373	4,954	6,440
Driver	1	16	176	193
Passenger	0	10	40	50
Pedestrian	0	38	54	92
Skateboard, in-line skate	0	0	1	1
Wheeled pedestrian	0	0	1	1
Total	114	1,437	5,226	6,777

*2019 data is incomplete.

As data is manually entered coding errors may occur and some of the apparent driver injuries may in fact be cyclist injuries.

It is important to note the following in relation to the information provided.

- This data is provided from the road traffic crash database; Crash Analysis System (CAS) version 1.3.4.
- Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency maintains the Crash Analysis System which is updated once a Traffic Crash Report (TCR) is received from NZ Police sometime after the crash.
- Data is limited to fatal and injury crashes for the years 2000 to 2019 as recorded in CAS to date - 17/02/2020.
- Data is limited to crashes involving cyclists where the cyclist had a contributing factor.
- A crash, to be recorded in CAS has to have occurred on a road. The CAS definition of a road is any street, motorway or beach, or a place to which the public have access with a motor vehicle, whether as of right or not e.g. a public car park.
- Due to the police reporting time frame and subsequent data processing there is a lag from the time of a crash to full and correct crash records within CAS.
- Due to the nature of non-fatal crashes it is believed that these are under-reported, with the level of under-reporting decreasing with the severity of the crash
- The cause of a crash cannot necessarily be attributed to any one factor (eg fatigue) as a crash may have multiple factors.
- Because a crash may have multiple factors there will be more factors than crashes resulting in factors totalling more than 100% of all crashes.
- The behaviour of several drivers may contribute to a crash.
- 2019 data is incomplete.
- As data is manually entered coding errors may occur and some of the apparent driver injuries may in fact be cyclist injuries.
- Crash severity is the severity of the worst injury in the crash. There may be more than one injury in a crash, so the crash and injury tables may have different numbers.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to refuse this request. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

If you would like to discuss this reply with Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, please contact Kerry Greig, Manager, Data Services, by email to kerry.greig@nzta.govt.nz or by phone on (04) 894 5251.

Yours sincerely,



Galina Mitchelhill
Senior Manager, Research & Analytics