



18 July 2018

REF NUMBER: IR-01-18-4042

Matt Ellwood
fyi-request-8082-0c0214a9@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Ellwood

I refer to your Official Information Act request of 21 June 2018 for information relating to drink driving offences and potential trends.

You requested:

1. *How many people were found to be over the legal drink driving limit, between October 2016, and May 2018.*

New Zealand Police cannot report the total number of people found to be over the legal drink driving limit, but can report the total offence count. The total number of offences is 41,946. Police has included, in Table One, a breakdown of drink driving offence numbers by time of day which you may also find useful in relation to identifiable trends and 3R activity.

Table One: Alcohol Driving Offences by Time of Day – October 2016 – May 2018

Hour Band (HHMM-HHMM)	Offence Count
0000 - 0059	4,727
0100 - 0159	3,970
0200 - 0259	2,586
0300 - 0359	1,971
0400 - 0459	1,228
0500 - 0559	514
0600 - 0659	299
0700 - 0759	466
0800 - 0859	440
0900 - 0959	412
1000 - 1059	326
1100 - 1159	369
1200 - 1259	360
1300 - 1359	309
1400 - 1459	456
1500 - 1559	507
1600 - 1659	783
1700 - 1759	1,245
1800 - 1859	1,773
1900 - 1959	2,842
2000 - 2059	3,523
2100 - 2159	3,820
2200 - 2259	4,128
2300 - 2359	4,892
Total	41,946

2. *I am wanting to get this data broken down by: Date of the checkpoint, time duration of the checkpoint, location of the checkpoint, and the number of cars that went through the checkpoint.*

Police checkpoints can be initiated for a number of different focuses that include, but are not limited to, alcohol and drugs; speed; restraints; commercial vehicle compliance and; the deployment of stationary speed camera vans. Consequently, there is no specific code relating to alcohol (or any of the above focuses) for checkpoints recorded within Police data systems. Therefore, your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1987 in that the information requested does not exist.

It is, however, possible to count the number of road checkpoints as recorded in our system using the tasking code 3R. While this figure cannot be specific to alcohol checkpoints, it provides some indication of the level of enforcement activity carried out at roadside checkpoints. Police currently publish the number of 3R – Road Checkpoints as a category in the Demand and Activity data published on policedata.nz. These statistics include data down to Police Station level by month from June 2015 to May 2018 and includes the hour and day of week of the checkpoint.

The underlying dataset used to produce this data presentation does not include the duration of the checkpoint. Also, the number of cars that pass through a checkpoint is not recorded as the system has no facility to record such information. To report this information a manual review of every event would be required. Therefore this part of your request is refused pursuant to section 18(f) of the Official Information Act 1982, in that the information cannot be made available without substantial collation and research.

This reply contains provisional data which is drawn from a dynamic operational database and is subject to change as new information is recorded or recoded.

You have the right to complain to the Ombudsman and seek an investigation and review of my decision if you are not satisfied with the way I have responded to your request.

Yours sincerely

P.P.



Superintendent Steve Grealley
National Manager Road Policing