

20 November 2019

Jo Lines-MacKenzie
Reporter
Stuff
Jo.Lines-MacKenzie@stuff.co.nz

REF: OIA-5987

Dear Jo,

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 22 October 2019 to the NZ Transport Agency requesting the following information under the Official Act 1982 (the Act):

“This is an Official Information Act request for the crash numbers on the 110km section of the Waikato Expressway and the Tauranga Eastern Link Toll Rd.

Could this be broken down into what status the crashes were ie fatal, serious, moderate, ?

Also what type of vehicles were involved - truck, car, van, motorbike?

*Is NZTA considering increasing the speed limit to 110km on any other roads?
If so when and where, and why?”*

The information you have requested is detailed in the two tables below.

Table 1

Crashes within the 110km/h sections of the Waikato Expressway and Tauranga Eastern Link since 11 December 2017 and 29 October 2019, by severity					
Road name	Fatal Crash	Serious Crash	Minor Crash	Non-Injury Crash	Total
Waikato Expressway	0	1	2	17	20
Tauranga Eastern Link	0	0	1	2	3
Total	0	1	3	19	23

Table 2

Vehicles involved in crashes within the 110km/h sections of the Waikato Expressway and Tauranga Eastern Link since 11 December 2017 and 29 October 2019, by vehicle type and crash severity					
Vehicle type	Fatal Crash	Serious Crash	Minor Crash	Non-Injury Crash	Total
Car/Wagon	0	0	2	16	18
Left scene*	0	0	0	1	1
SUV	0	0	1	3	4
Unknown^	0	0	0	1	1
Ute	0	0	0	1	1
Van	0	1	1	1	3
Truck	0	0	0	0	0
Motorcycle	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	1	4	23	28

* 'Left scene' indicates that a vehicle was involved in a crash but left the scene before details could be obtained.

^ 'Unknown' indicates that the vehicle type was not recorded in the Traffic Crash Report (TCR).

It is important to note the following in relation to the data provided above.

- This data is provided from the road traffic crash database; Crash Analysis System (CAS) version 1.3.3.
- The NZ Transport Agency maintains the Crash Analysis System which is updated once a Traffic Crash Report (TCR) is received from the NZ Police sometime after the crash.
- Data is for all crashes since the 110km/h speed limit was introduced on 11 December 2017 as recorded in CAS to 29 October 2019.
- Data is limited to crashes within the 110km/h sections Waikato Expressway and Tauranga Eastern Link.
- To be recorded in CAS a crash 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.
- Crashes may involve more than one vehicle.
- 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.
- Data in CAS for 2019 for the year to date is not yet complete.
- 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.
- As there can be more than one vehicle involved in a crash, there will be more vehicles than crashes.

With respect to your question whether the Transport Agency is considering increasing the speed limit to 110km/h on other roads, currently the Transport Agency is not progressing any further changes to 110km/h speed limits.

If you would like to discuss this reply with the Transport Agency, please contact Andrew Knackstedt, Senior Media Manager, at andrew.knackstedt@nzta.govt.nz or on phone (04) 8946285.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gareth Williams', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Gareth Williams

Acting Senior Manager, Research & Analytics