

11 December 2019

Giles Dexter  
Reporter  
Newshub  
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REF: OIA-6185

Dear Giles,

**Request made under the Official Information Act 1982**

Thank you for your email to the NZ Transport Agency on 2 December 2019 requesting the following information under the Official Act 1982 (the Act):

*Regarding Tables 3 and 4, on whether the driver was meeting their license conditions, is there a way of getting clarification as to what those conditions are, and the specific way they were being broken?*

*Furthermore, the data runs from 1 Dec to 30 Nov each year, except for this year where it runs from 1 Dec to 6 Nov. I was wondering whether that can be revised to 30 Nov, just to make plotting the data more reliable.*

This was a follow up question to your original request (OIA-6044).

I am refusing the first part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the information requested does not exist. This information is not recorded in the Crash Analysis System (CAS), and the offence history in the Driver Licence Register does not connect an offence with data in CAS records.

In response to the second part of your request, the data is provided in the tables below:

Table 1: Fatal and injury crashes where a driver on a learner licence had primary or partial contribution

|                     | Fatal crashes | Serious crashes | Minor crashes | Total crashes |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1Dec2018-30Nov2019* | 31            | 249             | 1,008         | <b>1,288</b>  |

Table 2: Fatal and injury crashes where a driver on a restricted licence had primary or partial contribution

|                     | Fatal crashes | Serious crashes | Minor crashes | Total crashes |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1Dec2018-30Nov2019* | 34            | 299             | 1,331         | <b>1,664</b>  |

Table 3: Fatal and injury crashes where a driver on a learner licence had primary or partial contribution

| Year                | Crash severity  | Was the driver meeting their licence conditions? ** |            |            |              |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|------------|------------|--------------|
|                     |                 | Yes   | No         | Unknown    | Total        |
| 1Dec2018-30Nov2019* | Fatal crashes   | 2   | 28         | 3          | <b>33</b>    |
|                     | Serious crashes | 53  | 180        | 19         | <b>252</b>   |
|                     | Minor crashes   | 199   | 714        | 103        | <b>1,016</b> |
| <b>Total</b>        |                 | <b>254</b>  | <b>922</b> | <b>125</b> | <b>1,301</b> |

Table 4: Fatal and injury crashes where a driver on a restricted licence had primary or partial contribution

| Year                | Crash severity  | Was the driver meeting their licence conditions? ** |            |            |              |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|------------|------------|--------------|
|                     |                 | Yes   | No         | Unknown    | Total        |
| 1Dec2018-30Nov2019* | Fatal crashes   | 18  | 14         | 4          | <b>36</b>    |
|                     | Serious crashes | 140   | 114        | 49         | <b>303</b>   |
|                     | Minor crashes   | 857   | 327        | 159        | <b>1,343</b> |
| <b>Total</b>        |                 | <b>1,015</b>  | <b>455</b> | <b>212</b> | <b>1,682</b> |

\* 2019 data or the year to date is incomplete but is current from CAS as at 3/12/2019.

\*\*Whether a driver was meeting their licence conditions began being recorded in CAS in 2019.

Please note that due to the time lag between a crash occurring, and being recorded in CAS, final figures for these tables will not be available for several months.

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.
- The NZ Transport Agency maintains the CAS which is updated once a Traffic Crash Report (TCR) is received from the NZ Police sometime after the crash.
- Data is limited to fatal and injury crashes from 1 December 2014 to 30 November 2019 as recorded in CAS to date – 3 December 2019.
- Data is limited to crashes with drivers who had primary or partial contribution to the crash and Learner or Restricted licences.
- 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 eg 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 behaviour of several drivers may contribute to a crash, but usually only one driver is assigned the primary contribution. The determination of primary contribution is based on crash movements and crash cause factors assigned in the Crash Analysis System. It is not based on legal liability or court conviction.
- Data for 2019 to date is incomplete, but it is current from CAS as at 3 December 2019.
- Whether a driver was meeting their licence conditions began being recorded in CAS in 2019.

- In table 3, where more than one learner driver is involved in a crash and whether those learner drivers were meeting their licence conditions differs, the crash is counted once under each column. This causes the totals in table 3 to be higher than the totals in table 1.
- In table 4, where more than one restricted driver is involved in a crash and whether those restricted drivers were meeting their licence conditions differs, the crash is counted once under each column. This causes the totals in table 4 to be higher than the totals in table 2.

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

If you would like to discuss this reply with the Transport Agency, please contact Andrew Knackstedt, Senior Media Manager, by email to [andrew.knackstedt@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:andrew.knackstedt@nzta.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely,



**Galina Mitchelhill**  
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