

11 February 2020

Emma Conyngham  
Editor@thewanakasun.co.nz

REF: OIA-6348

Dear Emma,

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

Thank you for your request transferred to Waka Kotahi, the NZ Transport Agency received on 29 January 2020 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*"I would like to know how many drivers in the Queenstown Lakes and Central Otago districts...*

*... Of incidents causing death, how many are foreign and how many are local?"*

The Transport Agency maintains the Crash Analysis System (CAS) which is updated once a Traffic Crash Report (TCR) is received from the NZ Police after the crash and is based on their examination of the crash. Traffic crash reports record the country of issue of the licence held by the driver but do not record driver nationality nor length of time in New Zealand.

Between 2015 and 2019, there were 25 fatal crashes in total in the Queenstown Lakes and Otago Central districts. Of the 25 fatal crashes, there were four crashes where an overseas driver licence holder was determined to have primary contribution, 20 fatal crashes where an NZ driver licence holder was determined to have primary contribution and one fatal crash where a pedestrian was determined to have primary contribution.

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.

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 1.3.4 as recorded to date – 04/02/2020.
- 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.
- 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.
- Because a crash may have multiple factors there will be more factors than crashes resulting in factors totalling more than 100% of all crashes.
- Data is limited to crashes occurring in the Territorial Local Authorities of Queenstown Lakes and Central Otago.
- Data is limited to crashes occurring between 2015 and 2019.

- Crash data for 2019 is not yet complete.
- 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.

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

Yours sincerely,

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

**Galina Mitchelhill**  
Senior Manager, Research & Analytics