

22 October 2019

[REDACTED]

REF: OIA-5949

Dear [REDACTED],

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email to the NZ Transport Agency on 12 October 2019 requesting the following information under the Official Act 1982 (the Act):

Can you please provide me with the following statistics for the whole of 2018:

- 1. For crashes in which speed was a factor, the percentage of drivers by sex.*

(The above should include any instance of an accident whether there was a fatality or not)

In summary, I only need the statistics to be like the following: for 2018, 50% male, 50% female driving in which speed was a factor in crashes.

For 2018, for fatal and injury crashes in which speed was a contributing factor, 64% of involved drivers were male, 27% female, and 9% were of unknown gender, or did not have gender recorded.

For comparison, for all 2018 fatal and injury crashes, 58% of involved drivers were male, 34% female and 8% of unknown gender.

For your request, "crashes" has been interpreted as meaning fatal and injury crashes. Less information is recorded for non-injury crashes where the gender of the driver is not recorded for 86% of such crashes.

In 2018 there were 11,690 fatal and injury crashes.

The table below details the factors contributing to the 2018 fatal and injury crashes. A crash may have multiple factors therefore there will be more factors than crashes resulting in factors totalling more than the number of crashes:

Factors contributing to 2018 fatal and injury crashes		
Crash factor	Count	% All crashes
Alcohol	2,654	22.7
Disabled, old age or illness	440	3.8
Failed to give way or stop	2,331	19.9

Factors contributing to 2018 fatal and injury crashes		
Crash factor	Count	% All crashes
Fatigue	679	5.8
Incorrect lanes or position	2,358	20.2
Miscellaneous factors	744	6.4
Overtaking	212	1.8
Pedestrian factors	601	5.1
Poor handling	2,187	18.7
Poor judgement	1,447	12.4
Poor observation	3,955	33.8
Position on Road	1,236	10.6
Road factors	1,226	10.5
Travel Speed	2,069	17.7
Vehicle factors	474	4.1
Weather	422	3.6
TOTAL factors	23,035	

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.
- 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 year 2018 as recorded in CAS to date - 15/10/2019.
- In order 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.
- 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.
- Where speed is recorded as a contributing factor it could be for a number of reasons for example; racing, over the speed limit, too fast for the conditions, e.g. taking a corner too fast or not slowing down in limited visibility weather conditions.
- The cause of a crash cannot necessarily be attributed to any one factor (e.g. speed) as a crash may have multiple factors.
- Factors are counted once against a crash – e.g. two fatigued drivers count as one fatigue crash factor.
- 'Count' is the number of crashes where that factor was a contributing factor to the crash. The total is the sum of all the factors contributing to crashes.
- '% All crashes' represents the % of crashes in which the cause factor appears.
- Because a crash may have multiple factors there will be more total factors than crashes resulting in factors totalling more than 100% of all crashes.

In accordance with the NZ Transport Agency policy, your response will be published on our website shortly.

If you would like to discuss this reply with the NZ Transport Agency, please contact Kerry Greig, Manager, Data Services, by email to kerry.greig@nzta.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely,



Galina Mitchelhill

Senior Manager, Research & Analytics