

18 February 2022

[REDACTED]

REF: OIA-9413

Dear [REDACTED]

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

Thank you for your email of 25 January 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*I require the total number of vehicle road crashes in all of New Zealand. and the total number of vehicle road crashes in all of New Zealand were a medical event may have been a contributing factor. for the periods 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2021 and 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020 and 1st January 2019 to 31st December 2019 and 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2018' The total number of vehicle road crashes in all of New Zealand. and the total number of vehicle road crashes in all of New Zealand were a medical event may have been a contributing factor.*

The data you have requested is as follows:

Table 1: Total crashes in New Zealand					
Year	Fatal crashes	Serious injury crashes	Minor injury crashes	Non-injury crashes	Total crashes
2018	332	2,129	9,231	26,801	38,493
2019	298	2,144	9,314	25,170	36,926
2020*	292	1,853	8,149	22,346	32,640
2021*	257	1,963	8,257	12,597	23,074
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,179</b>	<b>8,089</b>	<b>34,951</b>	<b>86,914</b>	<b>131,133</b>

Table 2: Crashes where 'Illness and disability' was a contributing factor					
Year	Fatal crashes	Serious injury crashes	Minor injury crashes	Non-injury crashes	Total crashes
2018	8	84	348	529	969
2019	8	71	328	492	899
2020*	4	67	324	442	837
2021*	6	74	343	242	665
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>1,343</b>	<b>1,705</b>	<b>3,370</b>

\* 2020 and 2021 data in CAS is incomplete but this data is all data recorded in CAS as at 14/02/2022

Please note the following in relation to the information provided:

- This data is provided from the road traffic crash database; Crash Analysis System (CAS) version 2.2.0
- Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency maintains the CAS, which is updated once a Traffic Crash Report (TCR) is received from NZ Police sometime after the crash.
- Data is for all crashes for the years 2018 to 2021 as recorded in CAS to date - 14/02/2022.
- Data for Table 2 is limited to crashes where 'Illness and disability' was a contributing factor.
- A crash, to be recorded in CAS must 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.
- Deaths as result of suicide or medical events (e.g. heart attacks) are excluded from the official count of road deaths.
- The cause of a crash cannot necessarily be attributed to any one factor (eg fatigue) as a crash may have multiple factors.
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, New Zealand had a 4 Alert Level system in place from 21 March 2020 until this changed to a Traffic Light system in December 2021. The amount of traffic on the roads during Alert Level 4 lockdowns was greatly reduced, which consequently reduced the number of road crashes. Road movements under the Orange and Red levels of the Traffic Light system would also be reduced due to the restrictions in place, so data from these periods will not align with previous trends.
- 2020 and 2021 data in CAS is incomplete.

In line with Waka Kotahi policy, this response will soon be published on our website, with personal information removed.

If you would like to discuss this reply with Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, please contact Kerry Greig, Manager Data Services, by email at [kerry.greig@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:kerry.greig@nzta.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely



**Galina Mitchell**

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