

18 July 2024

s9(2)(a)

REF: OIA-15834

Dear s9(2)(a)

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

Thank you for your request of 8 July 2024 for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- Can you please send me the Police figures for*
- *Cyclist incidents / crashes involving headphones for 2023*
  - *Pedestrian incidents / crashes involving headphones for 2023*
  - *And then the same information for 2018 so I can have a five-year comparison*

There is no defined crash contributing factor of “headphones” in the Crash Analysis System (CAS). However, we can search the text crash description for a mention of headphones.

Table 1: Cyclist crashes where headphones are mentioned in the crash description					
Year	Fatal crashes	Serious injury crashes	Minor injury crashes	Non-injury crashes	Total crashes
2018			1	2	3
2023*			2	1	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>

Table 2: Pedestrian crashes where headphones are mentioned in the crash description					
Year	Fatal crashes	Serious injury crashes	Minor injury crashes	Non-injury crashes	Total crashes
2018		3	11		14
2023*		4	5		9
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23</b>

\* 2023 data is not yet complete in CAS, but these are the current figures from CAS as at 15 July 2024

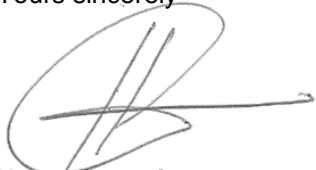
It is important to note the following in relation to the information provided:

- This data is provided from the road traffic crash database: Crash Analysis System (CAS) version 2.10.0.
- NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA maintains CAS which is updated once a Traffic Crash Report (TCR) is received from New Zealand Police sometime after the crash.
- Data is for all crashes for the years 2018 and 2023, as recorded in CAS to date as at 15 July 2024. Data is limited to pedestrian and cyclist crashes where headphones, earphones, earbuds, or headsets are mentioned in the crash description.
- 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 (for example, 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.
- Fatal crash report data is usually recorded in CAS within one working day of NZTA receiving it from New Zealand Police. Serious Injury and Minor injury crash report data is usually recorded in CAS within four weeks. Data relating to non-injury crashes may take up to seven months before it appears in 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 increasing severity of the crash. The cause of a crash cannot necessarily be attributed to any one factor (for example, fatigue) as a crash may have multiple factors.
- The crash description is free text. Mistakes may occur when this type of information is entered into CAS (for example, misspellings, typos etc). It is possible that some relevant crashes may not be selected using the specified search criteria.
- 2023 data is not yet complete in CAS, but these are the current figures from CAS as at 15 July 2024.

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

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

Yours sincerely



**Henry Pretorius**

Acting Senior Manager, Research and Analytics