

18 February 2022

Chuck Schooner  
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REF: OIA-9417

Dear Chuck

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

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

1. *Total Number of car crashes through 2020, 2021 and 2022 (to date) for comparative purposes*
2. *Total Number of singular car crashes*
3. *Total Number of multiple car crashes*
4. *Can you confirm if the Coroner assessed if any of the drivers suffered a sudden event in advance*
5. *If not - why not? And can an assessment be done after the fact*

On 9 February 2022, questions 4 and 5 were transferred to the Ministry of Justice. The Ministry will provide you with a response to those questions separately in due course.

The data you requested for questions 1, 2 and 3 is as follows:

2020-2022 car crashes					
Year	Fatal crashes	Serious injury crashes	Minor injury crashes	Non-injury crashes	Total crashes
2020*	244	1,513	7,543	21,581	30,881
2021*	216	1,628	7,631	12,582	22,057
2022*	35	189	818	2	1,044
<b>Total</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>3,330</b>	<b>15,992</b>	<b>34,165</b>	<b>53,982</b>

2020-2022 crashes where a single car was involved					
Year	Fatal crashes	Serious injury crashes	Minor injury crashes	Non-injury crashes	Total crashes
2020*	109	723	2,981	6,768	10,581
2021*	92	717	2,945	4,047	7,801
2022*	20	90	338		448
<b>Total</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>1,530</b>	<b>6,264</b>	<b>10,815</b>	<b>18,830</b>

2020-2022 crashes where two or more cars were involved					
Year	Fatal crashes	Serious injury crashes	Minor injury crashes	Non-injury crashes	Total crashes
2020*	79	426	3,294	11,683	15,482
2021*	58	491	3,396	6,885	10,830
2022*	10	57	352	2	421
<b>Total</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>974</b>	<b>7,042</b>	<b>18,570</b>	<b>26,733</b>

\* 2020, 2021 and 2022 CAS data is incomplete and but this data is current from CAS as at 17/02/2021

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 2.2.0
- 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 crashes for the years 2020 to 2022 as recorded in CAS to date - 17/02/2022.
- Data is limited to Cars (Car/Waggon, Van, SUV or Ute) crashes.
- Single car crashes involve only one vehicle in the crash and it is a car.
- Multiple car crashes involve at least two cars in the crash (and possibly other vehicles).
- 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.
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, NZ had a 4-level Alert system in place starting from 21 March 2020 NZ was in Alert levels 3 or 4 until 14 May 2020. The amount of traffic on the roads during level 4 lockdown (25 March to 27 April) 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, 2021 and 2022 data is incomplete.

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

Yours sincerely



**Galina Mitchelhill**  
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