

File Number: OIA 2440

Des Cowie  
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Dear Des,

### Official Information Act request

I refer to your request dated 14 March 2016, pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982, seeking “the number of fatal accidents as a percentage of total fatal accidents in the period 2005 - 2015 that were recorded at speeds in excess of the legal speed limits”.

When reporting on crashes police are not always able to determine the travel speed of vehicles before the crash. There is no objective measure for this speed, as it relies on witness reports or analysis of the crash scene. For this reason, for many crashes, there is no good reliable information relating to speed of travel. About half of fatal crashes have no estimates for vehicle speeds at all.

The table below shows the number of fatal crashes in the 11 years, 2005 to 2015, broken down by region. The third column shows the percentage of crashes for which there is an estimated speed for at least one vehicle in the crash. For those crashes that have at least one estimated speed, the final column shows the percentage where at least one of those speeds was above the speed limit.

#### Fatal crashes with speeds above the speed limit, 2005-2015

Region	Total fatal crashes	Percentage with at least one speed recorded	Percentage over the speed limit - for those crashes with a speed recorded
Northland	236	48%	15%
Auckland	564	49%	35%
Waikato	651	52%	21%
Bay of Plenty	270	41%	20%
Gisborne	42	55%	13%
Hawkes Bay	182	49%	19%
Taranaki	109	50%	15%
Manawatu/Wanganui	309	53%	22%
Wellington	167	56%	23%
Nelson/Marlborough	111	64%	20%
West Coast	71	51%	14%
Canterbury	426	61%	23%
Otago	163	58%	15%
Southland	93	55%	14%
Total	3394	53%	22%

The crash information was extracted from the NZ Transport Agency's Crash Analysis System.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mike James', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mike James  
**General Manager Road and Rail**  
**Ministry of Transport**