

11 October 2017

Mr John Malcolm
fyi-request-6564-12d9dd44@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Malcolm

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your request of 17 September 2017, asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982:

Please provide a breakdown of the most recent injury costs for the type of motorcycle activity being undertaken when the accident occurred.

At minimum this should separate road users from off-road user accidents.

Ideally this information should include injury cost sustained in any comparative year by motorcyclists in the following activities:

Off road leisure

Off road competition

Farm or agriculture-related (Are trike and quad bike accidents included?)

On road legally registered

On road unregistered

Finally, what proportion of all on-road injury costs for motorcyclists involved another vehicle?

The motorcycle levy

Noting your interest in the motorcycle levy, we would like to provide you with the following information:

The ACC levy collected from annual licensing fees is used to fund the Motor Vehicle Account, which is used to pay for injuries involving motor vehicles on public roads. This is one of a series of accounts managed by ACC to pay for injuries under different circumstances, which also includes: the Work Account, Earners' Account, and Non-Earners' Account.

Therefore, the motorcycle levy does not contribute to the cost of off-road motorcycle related injuries (for example, on farms or racing circuits).

The account that pays for injuries caused by off-road motor vehicle accidents will depend on the circumstances. For example, the Work Account will pay for off-road accidents that happen while someone is working on a farm. This account is funded by levies paid by

employers and self-employed. Work-related levies are set in accordance with the risk associated with particular industries.

In line with the funding of motor vehicle accidents, the crash data ACC uses in setting motor vehicle levies only includes accidents involving motor vehicles on public roads. Motor vehicle accidents which occur off-road are therefore not included in the analysis.

ACC is not currently looking at applying a levy on vehicles that are not registered.

Limitations on the data ACC can provide

The data ACC collects about accidents is largely reliant on the information provided on the ACC45 Injury Claim Form, which is completed when medical treatment is sought for an injury. There are a variety of fields for clients to complete when filling out the ACC45 form, some mandatory, some not.

For example, it is mandatory for a client to indicate when their accident occurred, whether the accident occurred at work, and their occupation. There is also a free text field on the ACC45 form, where clients are able to provide a brief description of how their accident happened. It is not mandatory to complete this free text field and not every client does so.

The reason ACC does not require that information from clients is that the ACC scheme operates on a no fault basis. Cover is available by virtue of a person simply having suffered a personal injury and is not determined by how that injury occurred. Therefore, while that information does have an inherent value in informing our understanding of how and why accidents occur, it is unnecessary for the purpose of processing claims under the Accident Compensation Act 2001.

It is also important to note that even where clients do provide a description of how their injury occurred, there is a large degree of variability in the nature and quality of the descriptions provided. Such inconsistency can make it difficult to search for a particular item or issue with any degree of accuracy.

Due to the limitations above, while largely representative of the claims received by ACC, the data provided is indicative only and should not be considered a completely definitive measure of the claims ACC received in the relevant period.

Motorcycle accident data

The attached tables provide a breakdown of motorcycle accident data by on-road, off-road and track biking/motocross off-road. The off-road and track biking/motocross off-road data has been further broken down by the scene of the accident.

On-road accidents have been identified from claims recorded under the Motor Vehicle Account where the description is "driving/ passenger - motorcycle". ACC has no record of whether a vehicle involved in an accident is registered or unregistered.

Off-road and track biking/motocross off-road accidents have been identified by the sport field "motorcycle" or "trail biking/ motocross" and exclude claims recorded under the Motor Vehicle Account.

Please also note the following information when reviewing the data.

- New claims are those that were lodged with ACC in a specific time period. A claim may be lodged with ACC immediately after the accident occurred or at a later date.

- Active claims are those that generated a payment in a specific time period, including new claims. These claims were not necessarily lodged in the same time period and/or the accident may not have occurred in the same time period. A claim may be active over many time periods and, therefore, may appear in the data more than once.
- The total claim cost includes all treatments and entitlements incurred for claims, excluding the cost of emergency treatment at public hospitals. Emergency treatment is provided by bulk funding of Public Health Acute Services and costs are not allocated to individual claims.
- The data is shown by calendar year.
- The data excludes claims managed by accredited employers.

As a matter of practice, ACC has a policy not to disclose data below a certain value. Accordingly, some entries in the attached tables only indicate that the relevant number is less than four (denoted by "<4") and in some cases, numbers are withheld (denoted by "..") where small numbers may be deduced by subtracting from the total.

This practice exists to limit the potential for particular individuals or matters specific to certain individuals to be identified, and is necessary to protect the privacy of these individuals under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. In doing so, we have considered the public interest in making the information available and have determined that it does not outweigh the need to protect the privacy of these persons.

On-road accident details

ACC does not collect information on the contributing factors or other details of road accidents, such as whether an accident involved another vehicle.

The Ministry of Transport publishes statistics on road accidents, which may be of interest to you. You can find this information through the following link: <http://www.transport.govt.nz/research/roadcrashstatistics>.

Comments or queries

If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, ACC will be happy to work with you to resolve these. Please address any concerns by emailing GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz or in writing to *Government Services, PO Box 242, Wellington 6140*.

If you're unhappy with ACC's response, you may make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman. You can call them on 0800 802 602 between 9am and 5pm on weekdays, or write to *The Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143*.

Yours sincerely

OIA Services, Government Engagement and Support

Table One: Number of new and accepted motorcycle claims on and off-road:

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Motorcycling (road)	3,411	3,610	3,812	3,810	3,907
Motorcycling (off-road)	3,186	3,056	2,559	3,549	3,713
Trail Biking/motocross (off-road)	3,422	3,263	3,270	3,345	3,342

Table Two: Number of new and accepted off-road motorcycle and trail biking/ motocross claims by scene:

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Motorcycling (off-road)					
Home	875	837	672	1,048	1,190
Place of recreation or sports	1,254	1,186	1,062	1,279	1,259
Other	403	372	293	468	464
Commercial/service location	22	22	16	20	44
Road or street	300	329	270	393	392
School	5	6	6	6	11
Industrial place	7	4	5	<4	<4
Farm	312	292	229	326	340
Place of medical treatment	<4	<4	<4	<4	6
Not obtainable	..	..	<4	..	..
Total	3,186	3,056	2,559	3,549	3,713
Trail Biking/motocross (off-road)					
Home	427	363	437	450	521
Place of recreation or sports	2,012	2,122	2,074	2,125	2,078
Other	425	342	365	344	347
Commercial/service location	30	20	22	16	14
Road or street	217	191	159	171	152
School	6	7	5	4	4
Industrial place	4	<4	<4	<4	<4
Farm	285	210	201	228	210
Place of medical treatment	5	4	4	<4	10
Not obtainable	11	..	..	..	..
Total	3,422	3,263	3,270	3,345	3,342

Table Three: Number of active motorcycle claims on and off-road:

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Motorcycling (road)	6,833	6,930	7,143	7,076	7,149
Motorcycling (off-road)	3,683	3,667	3,159	3,891	4,401
Trail Biking/motocross (off-road)	3,934	3,924	3,897	3,934	4,019

Table Four: Number of active off-road motorcycle and trail biking/ motocross claims by scene:

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Motorcycling (off-road)					
Home	941	933	762	1,048	1,320
Place of recreation or sports	1,519	1,494	1,349	1,537	1,572
Road or street	354	398	356	423	449
Other	456	439	357	473	556
Commercial/service location	26	28	27	30	50
Industrial place	..	..	5	6	5
Place of medical treatment	<4	<4	4	4	6
School	<4	6	7	5	11
Farm	364	355	286	360	427
Not obtainable	10	7	6	5	5
Total	3,683	3,667	3,159	3,891	4,401
Trail Biking/motocross (off-road)					
Home	476	419	451	511	588
Place of recreation or sports	2,325	2,469	2,453	2,463	2,519
Road or street	240	268	224	217	182
Other	486	431	459	419	425
Commercial/service location	39	26	29	25	21
Industrial place	<4	<4	<4	<4	..
Place of medical treatment	..	..	..	<4	9
School	7	7	6	..	<4
Farm	341	290	263	283	261
Not obtainable	10	5	<4	5	7
Total	3,934	3,924	3,897	3,934	4,019

Table Five: Cost of active motorcycle claims on and off-road:

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Motorcycling (road)	\$72,586,924	\$74,370,666	\$82,097,389	\$84,058,759	\$89,820,190
Motorcycling (off-road)	\$7,839,557	\$9,035,205	\$9,371,316	\$10,954,904	\$12,834,491
Trail Biking/motocross (off-road)	\$9,415,747	\$9,638,656	\$10,303,239	\$11,676,933	\$11,735,801

Table Six: Cost of active off-road motorcycle and trail biking/ motocross claims by scene:

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Motorcycling (off-road)					
Home	\$918,662	\$1,082,318	\$1,043,931	\$1,926,391	\$2,349,105
Place of recreation or sports	\$4,074,861	\$4,701,743	\$5,360,386	\$5,133,668	\$5,785,772
Road or street	\$959,306	\$1,057,636	\$952,991	\$1,159,957	\$1,406,278
Other	\$773,268	\$1,102,982	\$1,051,306	\$1,300,164	\$1,368,043
Commercial/service location	\$13,503	\$66,399	\$103,250	\$376,543	\$884,217
Industrial place	\$1,252	\$4,291	\$5,630	\$19,430	\$5,271
Place of medical treatment	\$12,365	\$3,973	\$28,729	\$22,953	\$2,455
School	\$10,406	\$7,694	\$3,166	\$3,952	\$3,201
Farm	\$942,909	\$895,186	\$709,722	\$899,259	\$919,449
Not obtainable	\$133,025	\$112,985	\$112,206	\$112,588	\$110,699
Total	\$7,839,557	\$9,035,205	\$9,371,316	\$10,954,904	\$12,834,491
Trail Biking/motocross (off-road)					
Home	\$556,728	\$505,626	\$764,839	\$1,176,665	\$1,286,657
Place of recreation or sports	\$5,039,532	\$5,284,803	\$6,039,907	\$6,829,665	\$7,275,682
Road or street	\$836,883	\$1,115,145	\$889,746	\$673,758	\$650,341
Other	\$1,581,655	\$1,367,050	\$1,549,682	\$1,834,010	\$1,425,684
Commercial/service location	\$145,135	\$135,469	\$119,881	\$58,606	\$99,715
Industrial place	\$1,750	\$1,454	\$25,806	\$28,339	\$779
Place of medical treatment	\$30,928	\$6,820	\$1,119	\$3,090	\$5,925
School	\$862	\$4,342	\$999	\$920	\$371
Farm	\$1,184,825	\$1,216,363	\$869,684	\$1,030,903	\$970,020
Not obtainable	\$37,449	\$1,585	\$41,576	\$40,979	\$20,627
Total	\$9,415,747	\$9,638,656	\$10,303,239	\$11,676,933	\$11,735,801