Injury statistics | Q3 2026 |

Concussion injuries in sport

October 2026



He Kaupare. He Manaaki. He Whakaora.
Prevention. Care. Recovery.

Notes and caveats

- Claims have been identified where the sport on the claim is not null, and the claim includes an approved injury where the injury description mentions concussion or the diagnosis is concussion.
- New claims are counted where a claim is lodged with ACC within the specified period. A claim may be lodged immediately following an accident or at any later stage.
- Active claims are counted where the claim received at least one payment within the specified period. A claim was not necessarily lodged or had the accident occur within this period.
- A claim may be active in more than one calendar year and will be counted once in each relevant year in which at least one payment was made.
- Active Costs are the GST exclusive cost of payments made for claims that were active in the specified period.
- The cost of public hospital services during the acute stage of an injury is covered under the Public Health Acute Services (PHAS) regulations.
- These services are bulk-funded and not attributed to individual claims, so cannot be included in these data.
- The calendar year in which the service was paid may differ to the calendar year in which the service was provided.
- Region is the location of the accident and may not be where the claimant resided or sought treatment.
- Age band is based on client's age at the time of claim lodgement.
- All included claims are accepted for cover
- Data are displayed in calendar years. i.e. 1 January to 31 December
- Claims managed by an accredited employer have been excluded.
- Results are based on data available at the time of extraction and may vary if rerun later.

Table 1: Number of new claims, active claims and active claim costs (excluding GST) for sport concussion related injuries between 1 January 2021 and 30 September 2026

	Calendar Year					
Measure	**2021**	**2022**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**	**2026 YTD**
New Claims	10,476	9,876	10,714	12,087	12,455	10,928
Active Claims	11,826	11,249	12,221	13,636	14,265	12,691
Active Costs	$54,382,334	$56,484,031	$66,056,858	$81,229,380	$89,951,640	$64,224,065

Table 2: Number of new sport concussion claims lodged between 1 January 2021 and 30 September 2026, broken down by top 5 most prevalent sports

	Lodgement Calendar Year					
Sport	**2021**	**2022**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**	**2026 YTD**
Cycling	1,036	1,011	1,020	1,157	1,056	868
Hockey	371	327	390	430	424	426
Rugby League	334	357	490	626	610	584
Rugby Union	3,134	2,666	2,906	3,320	3,261	3,354
Soccer	974	940	1,077	1,223	1,259	1,114

Table 3: Number of new sport concussion claims lodged between 1 January 2021 and 30 September 2026, broken down by accident location

	Lodgement Calendar Year					
Accident Location	**2021**	**2022**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**	**2026 YTD**
Northland Region	324	277	342	418	343	345
Auckland Region	2,400	2,343	2,430	2,929	3,006	2,740
Waikato Region	1,007	915	1,059	1,237	1,151	1,000
Bay of Plenty Region	669	564	662	814	764	672
Gisborne Region	85	78	93	102	113	94
Hawke's Bay Region	312	244	282	331	374	345
Taranaki Region	277	277	283	333	399	355
Manawatū-Whanganui Region	503	459	491	461	564	382
Wellington Region	1,231	1,123	1,166	1,122	1,229	1,047
Tasman Region	106	86	141	159	135	147
Nelson Region	135	161	191	185	193	159
Marlborough Region	100	60	94	100	91	78
Canterbury Region	1,657	1,490	1,705	2,091	2,076	2,020
West Coast Region	67	74	89	85	82	78
Otago Region	1,358	1,496	1,425	1,411	1,591	1,218
Southland Region	221	189	171	195	225	140
Other or Unknown	24	40	90	114	119	108

Table 4: Number of new sport concussion claims lodged between 1 January 2021 and 30 September 2026, broken down by client age at the time of claim lodgement

	Lodgement Calendar Year					
Client Age	**2021**	**2022**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**	**2026 YTD**
00-04 Years	80	84	101	108	106	94
05-09 Years	407	407	463	570	581	447
10-14 Years	2,001	1,963	2,214	2,514	2,678	2,456
15-19 Years	2,772	2,486	2,737	3,067	3,195	3,069
20-24 Years	1,619	1,530	1,542	1,715	1,697	1,525
25-29 Years	1,093	993	1,069	1,054	1,134	836
30-34 Years	653	594	624	787	713	601
35-39 Years	384	350	430	516	506	426
40-44 Years	351	329	362	388	418	320
45-49 Years	294	273	278	333	337	295
50-54 Years	263	239	261	255	298	230
55-59 Years	194	211	204	238	243	213
60-64 Years	161	157	174	215	200	150
65-69 Years	83	129	100	153	147	103
70-74 Years	63	75	76	84	92	74
75-79 Years	39	35	50	48	70	55
80-84 Years	14	10	18	24	26	20
85 Years and over	5	11	11	18	14	14