



02 October 2024

Kia ora [REDACTED]

**Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-035157**

Thank you for your email of 11 September 2024, referring to a data set for dental injury claims caused by treatment and requesting an up-to-date dataset over the past 10 years, under the Official Information Act 1982.

**Cover for treatment injuries**

A treatment injury is a personal injury caused as a result of seeking or receiving medical treatment from a registered health professional. In order to fulfil the criteria for cover, the person must have suffered a personal injury and there must be a clear causal link between the treatment and the injury, and the injury must not be a necessary part or ordinary consequence of the treatment.

**Dental treatment injuries**

There were 7,382 dental treatment injury claims decided between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2024. Of these, 4,806 were accepted for treatment injury cover. Information on these claims is provided in tables 1 to 3 in the appendix. Please refer to the notes provided when reviewing this information.

**As this information may be of interest to other members of the public**

ACC may publish a copy of this response on ACC's website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available at [www.acc.co.nz/resources/#/category/12](http://www.acc.co.nz/resources/#/category/12)

**If you have any questions about this response, please get in touch**

You can email me at [GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz](mailto:GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz).

Ngā mihi

Christopher Johnston  
**Manager Official Information Act Services**  
Government Engagement

## Appendix: dental injury claims

**Table 1: Dental treatment injury claims between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2024, by cover decision**

Decision Financial Year	Accepted	Declined	Total
2014/15	321	262	583
2015/16	368	301	669
2016/17	396	298	694
2017/18	378	292	670
2018/19	414	277	691
2019/20	427	277	704
2020/21	476	165	641
2021/22	616	218	834
2022/23	574	210	784
2023/24	836	276	1112
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,806</b>	<b>2,576</b>	<b>7,382</b>

**Table 2: Dental treatment injury claims between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2024, by Te Whatu Ora region of treatment**

Te Whatu Ora Region of Treatment	Accepted	Declined	Total
Auckland	798	409	1,207
Bay of Plenty	238	121	359
Canterbury	444	217	661
Capital & Coast	397	192	589
Counties Manukau	114	88	202
Hawkes Bay	162	75	237
Hutt Valley	102	49	151
Lakes	75	50	125
MidCentral	127	79	206
Nelson Marlborough	229	124	353
Northland	132	80	212
South Canterbury	50	23	73
Southern	405	158	563

Te Whatu Ora Region of Treatment	Accepted	Declined	Total
Tairāwhiti	27	20	47
Taranaki	129	72	201
Waikato	416	237	653
Wairarapa	33	18	51
Waitemata	235	156	391
West Coast	37	25	62
Whanganui	68	59	127
Overseas	6	29	35
Unknown	582	295	877
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,806</b>	<b>2,576</b>	<b>7,382</b>

**Table 3: Top accepted primary injuries for dental treatment injury claims decided between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2024**

Primary Injury	Accepted Claims
Tooth - Chipped/Damaged	709
Nerve Damage	537
Foreign Body	341
Oroantral Fistula	311
Perforation - Root Canal	258
Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ) Dysfunction	247
Allergic Reaction	238
Strain/Sprain - Other	225
Laceration/tear	203
Infection	173
Tooth - removed/dislodged	165
Strain/Sprain - Neck	107
Wound Infection	84
Abscess	78
Fracture - Facial	75
Anaphylactic Reaction	69

Primary Injury	Accepted Claims
Perforation - Other	68
Sinus Damage/Injury	55
Burn - Other	53
Haematoma - Bruising	51
Dislocation	47
Equipment - Retained	39
Tissue injury / damage	29
Abrasion - Other	26
Surgical Emphysema	26
Other	592
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,806</b>

#### Notes

- The treatment injury data provided was extracted on 19 September and 1 October 2024 and includes claims decided between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2024.
- Figures may differ to those reported if the data is extracted again at a later date.