

01 March 2021

Tēnā koe

Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-008520

Thank you for your letter of 21 December 2020 to the Injury Prevention Subsidy team, asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

1. *As much information as possible related to quad bike injuries/accidents and fatalities, injury costs*
2. *Subsidy costs and how effective the subsidy offer has been for CPDs*

Background information about ACC data

The data set available to ACC is reliant on the information provided on an ACC45 injury claim form, which is completed when a person seeks treatment for their injury. There are multiple fields on the ACC45 form, some fields are mandatory to complete and others are not.

There is a free-text field 'accident description' on the form where a person can provide a brief description of how their accident happened. This field is not mandatory to complete and not every client does so. Also, when the field is completed there is considerable variation in the way accidents are described.

The data has been extracted based on quad bike or ATV claims with injury sport, road agency or external agency is "ATV", or accident description contains terms related to quad bike. Due to the limitations above, while largely representative of the claims received by ACC, the data in Table 1 should not be considered a complete, definitive measure of the claims related to quad bike accidents that ACC received during the period covered by this response.

Table 1

Table 1 provides the quad bike injury data, by calendar year, from 2015 to 2020.

Table 1. Claims data for quad bike and ATV related accidents between 2015 and 2020.

Calendar Year	Fatal Indicator	New Claims	Active Claims	Total Costs (\$)
2015	No	2,306	2,905	11,331,964
	Yes	8	32	931,223
2016	No	2,322	2,914	13,310,557
	Yes	11	36	980,225
2017	No	2,320	2,890	11,534,551
	Yes	5	30	1,016,258
2018	No	2,268	2,846	13,594,741
	Yes	8	27	1,090,430
2019	No	2,464	3,084	14,363,386
	Yes	12	38	1,176,506

Calendar Year	Fatal Indicator	New Claims	Active Claims	Total Costs (\$)
2020	No	2,472	3,206	17,087,892
	Yes	11	40	1,136,081

Notes about the data provided in Table 1

The following points should be considered when interpreting the data provided:

- Accredited Employer claims have been excluded.
- Only data for accepted claims has been provided.
- Costs are based on payment date. Payment data may be different to the date of service.
- The cost of emergency treatment at public hospitals is bulk funded under the Public Health Acute Services (PHAS) agreement. The costs for ACC covered accidents that fall under this agreement are not individually billed to ACC and allocated to individual claims. Rather, the costs of emergency treatment are covered in a bulk payment made to the District Health Boards each year, via the Ministry of Health.
- The costs are GST exclusive.
- The data was extracted on 1 February 2021 and may differ if rerun at a later date.

New claims and active claims

New claims are counted by the date they are lodged with ACC. A claim can be lodged immediately after an injury or at a later date.

Active claims are claims are counted by the date they generate a payment. A claim can generate a payment in multiple years. As such, claims may be counted more than once in the data provided. The count of active claims includes new claims for which a payment has been made in the period.

Fatality statistics

ACC is not able to provide comprehensive fatality statistics as ACC data is collected on the basis of claims made. Our data may not represent the total number of fatalities related to accidents for the following reasons:

1. Many people are not aware that they can make a claim related to an accidental death of a family member and therefore ACC only ever receives claims for a subset of accidental deaths.
2. If a person who has an open claim with ACC dies of their injuries, or other causes, ACC is not necessarily notified of this.

Fatal claims are claims which resulted in the death of the injured person. The death may have occurred at the scene of the injury or at any later time. The number may increase in the future if any claimants of non-fatal claims subsequently die of their injuries.

For more accurate fatality data, we suggest that you contact the Ministry of Health Mortality Collection (MORT), which classifies the underlying cause of death for all deaths registered in New Zealand. MORT uses a range of sources (Police, funeral director, coroner, hospital records) to validate data reliability.

More information on MORT is available on www.health.govt.nz/nz-health-statistics/national-collections-and-surveys/collections/mortality-collection or by contacting data-enquiries@moh.govt.nz.

In addition, accurate data for workplace fatalities is available from WorkSafe NZ. They can be contacted on oia@worksafe.govt.nz.

Table 2 and 3

Table 2 provides the number of Crush Protection Device (CPD) subsidies provided by month, for each year since the subsidy was introduced.

Table 3 provides the total subsidy amount awarded by month, for each year since the subsidy was introduced.

Table 2. Crush Protection Devices (CPDs) Subsidies Awarded

Calendar Year	2019	2020	2021	Total
Total	197	191	12	400

Table 3. Crush Protection Devices (CPDs) Subsidies Amount Awarded

Calendar Year	2019 (\$)	2020 (\$)	2021 (\$)	Grand Total (\$)
January		8,280	2,160	10,440
February		3,240		3,240
March		2,160		2,160
April		3,240		3,240
May		1,980		1,980
June		2,520		2,520
July		5,400		5,400
August	12,420	1,800		14,220
September	5,760	1,800		7,560
October	5,040	1,260		6,300
November	9,180	360		9,540
December	3,060	2,340		5,400
Total	35,460	34,380	2,160	72,000

Notes about the data provided in Tables 2 and 3

The following points should be considered when interpreting the data provided in Tables 2 and 3:

- Accredited Employer claims have been included.
- Only data for accepted claims has been provided.
- The total includes the cost to ACC of all treatment and entitlements incurred for that claim except the cost of emergency treatment at public hospitals. Treatment provided by Public Health Acute Services (PHAS) is bulk funded and costs are not allocated to individual claims.
- The costs are GST exclusive.
- The data was extracted on 31 January 2021 and may differ if rerun at a later date.

Effectiveness of the Crush Protection Device subsidy

The CPD subsidy was introduced in June 2019. At this stage, we are unable to provide data regarding the effectiveness of the CPD subsidy as this information does not exist. This decision has been made under section 18(e) of the Act. It should be noted that ACC is intending to conduct a survey later this year to evaluate the *effectiveness* of the subsidy.

How to get in touch

If you have any questions, you can email me at GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz.

Nāku iti noa, nā



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