



OC190283

29 April 2019

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your request dated 12 March 2019 (transferred from the NZ Transport Agency 29 March 2019), pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982:

'Please supply the following information under the Official Information Act (OIA). For each year in the time frame 1980-2018, where data is available:

Cycling participation rates in terms of absolute number of cyclists (or percentage of population) as well as an approximation as to cycling time, or cycling distance per cyclist.

The following information falls within the scope of your request and is detailed below:

Cycling participation rates are not available as a consistent time series or in a single data set for the full time period from 1980-2018.

The different possible definitions of cycling participation and sections of time series available from the New Zealand Household Travel Survey (NZHTS) are detailed below and the data summarised in the tables following.

Due to the way the survey is designed, information is not available for individual years, but is reported as annual averages for the time periods specified. More general information about the NZHTS is available from www.transport.govt.nz/travelsurvey.

The longest available consistent time series for cycling participation uses the definition of participation as 'cycling for transport on the surveyed travel days'. This data is available for people aged 5 years and over for 1989/90, 1997/98 and 2003-2014.

However, it should be noted that this data format is not comparable for 2015 – 2018 as the survey shifted from a 2 day travel diary, to a 7 day travel diary.

Alternately, from 2003 onwards, the NZHTS asked if people had cycled in the past year, and responses are used as a measure of cycling participation. This is reported as a 3 year rolling annual average for all ages from 2003 – 2014, and as a 3 year annual average for those aged 15+ for 2015 – 2018.

Please note that due to methodological changes in the survey, the duration and distances between 2003 – 2014 and 2015 – 2018 are not strictly comparable at this point.

For your reference, the aforementioned statistics are summarised on the following pages, although it is noted that much of this information is publicly available in different sections of the Ministry website.

Please note that the different measures are derived by different methods and so are not directly comparable with each other.

The Ministry publishes our Official Information Act responses and the information contained in our reply to you will be published on the Ministry website. Before publishing we will remove any personal or identifiable information.

Yours sincerely



Dan Jenkins

Manager, Analytics and Modelling

Distance cycled per cyclist

Age group	Time period	Sample of people in age group	Population in age group (annual average)	Population who cycled on travel days (annual average)	% of population in age group who cycled on travel days	Population in age group who have cycled in the past year (annual average)	% of population in age group who cycled in past year	Sample of trip legs cycled	Average annual distance cycled by people in age group (million km)	Distance (km) per cyclist (cycled in past year) per year	Distance (km) per person who cycled on travel days per year
5+ years	1989/90	7,903	3,054,361	253,772	8%			2,708	352		1,385
	1997/98	13,092	3,426,335	143,646	4%			2,506	284		1,979
	2003-2006	9,784	3,801,275	124,022	3%			1,399	265		2,136
	2004-2007	9,858	3,858,327	128,563	3%			1,393	263		2,048
	2005-2008	9,870	3,908,717	138,708	4%			1,346	304		2,190
	2006-2009	13,758	3,946,867	134,095	3%			1,714	281		2,093
	2007-2010	18,674	3,969,062	147,604	4%			2,400	347		2,351
	2008-2011	23,570	3,999,062	141,330	4%			2,952	306		2,166
	2009-2012	24,241	4,044,617	140,219	3%			3,052	336		2,395
	2010-2013	23,741	4,095,907	128,268	3%			2,898	301		2,345
	2011-2014	22,996	4,148,399	117,064	3%			2,755	311		2,654
All ages	2003-2006	10,519	4,085,033			1,291,021	32%	1,417	266	206	
	2004-2007	10,688	4,141,142			1,297,944	31%	1,411	264	203	
	2005-2008	10,664	4,162,065			1,306,246	31%	1,369	305	234	
	2006-2009	14,814	4,191,781			1,379,653	33%	1,757	284	206	
	2007-2010	20,080	4,214,310			1,449,800	34%	2,454	350	241	
	2008-2011	25,418	4,287,760			1,486,509	35%	3,009	308	207	
	2009-2012	26,071	4,337,983			1,487,039	34%	2,927	302	203	
	2010-2013	25,532	4,393,088			1,438,198	33%	2,927	302	210	
	2011-2014	24,714	4,433,234			1,406,394	32%	2,797	313	222	
15+ years	2015-2018	7,133	3,725,308			1,127,480	30%	2,489	273	242	

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Time spent cycling per cyclist

Age group	Time period	Sample of people in age group	Population in age group (annual average)	Population who cycled on travel days (annual average)	% of population in age group who cycled on travel days	Population in age group who have cycled in the past year (annual average)	% of population in age group who cycled in past year	Sample of trip legs cycled	Average annual time spent cycling by people in age group (million hours)	Time spent cycling (hours) per cyclist (cycled in past year) per year	Time spent cycling (hours) per person who cycled on travel days per year
5+ years	1989/90	7,903	3,054,361	253,772	8%			2,708	39		154
	1997/98	13,092	3,426,335	143,646	4%			2,506	26		181
	2003-2006	9,784	3,801,275	124,022	3%			1,399	22		174
	2004-2007	9,858	3,858,327	128,563	3%			1,393	22		170
	2005-2008	9,870	3,908,717	138,708	4%			1,346	24		175
	2006-2009	13,758	3,946,867	134,095	3%			1,714	24		177
	2007-2010	18,674	3,969,062	147,604	4%			2,400	29		196
	2008-2011	23,570	3,999,062	141,330	4%			2,952	27		194
	2009-2012	24,241	4,044,617	140,219	3%			3,052	28		197
	2010-2013	23,741	4,095,907	128,268	3%			2,898	24		190
	2011-2014	22,996	4,148,399	117,064	3%			2,755	25		212
All ages	2003-2006	10,519	4,085,033			1,291,021	32%	1,417	22	17	
	2004-2007	10,688	4,141,142			1,297,944	31%	1,411	22	17	
	2005-2008	10,664	4,162,065			1,306,246	31%	1,369	25	19	
	2006-2009	14,814	4,191,781			1,379,653	33%	1,757	24	18	
	2007-2010	20,080	4,214,310			1,449,800	34%	2,454	30	20	
	2008-2011	25,418	4,287,760			1,486,509	35%	3,009	28	19	
	2009-2012	26,071	4,337,983			1,487,039	34%	2,927	28	19	
	2010-2013	25,532	4,393,088			1,438,198	33%	2,927	25	17	
2011-2014	24,714	4,433,234			1,406,394	32%	2,797	25	18		
15+ years	2015-2018	7,133	3,725,308			1,127,480	30%	2,489	18	16	

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