

Breath and Blood Alcohol Statistics

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Notes

1. Data

The data in this section includes alcohol offences recorded by NZ Police.

There can be several alcohol offence codes related to a single incident. For the following tables and graphs "Offenders" are counted only once for each incident. Any offence records for the same individual that occur within the same hour are treated as a single incident.

Not all the offences reported here will result in a successful prosecution.

2. Limits and Testing procedure

As from December 1988 the legal breath alcohol level was lowered from 500 micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath to 400 micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath.

From 1 April 1993, for those aged under 20 years, the legal breath alcohol limit was lowered to 150 micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath and the legal blood alcohol level was reduced to 30mg of alcohol per 100ml of blood.

The procedure is:

- (i) A breath screening test is requested.
- (ii) If the screening test is positive or not taken for any reason the driver is asked to accompany the officer to a place where an evidential breath or blood test may be taken.
- (iii) If the evidential breath test -
 - (a) is not taken for any reason, then a blood sample is requested by the officer.
 - (b) gives a reading of not over 400 micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath (150 for those under 20 years), then the test is considered negative and no blood sample is requested.
 - (c) gives a reading of over 400 (150 for those under 20 years), then the driver, after being advised of his rights, decides whether to accept the reading and subsequent court action or to request a blood sample.

Refusing a blood sample when requested by the officer, or a result over the legal limit normally results in court charges.

Figure 1
Number of Alcohol Offenders by Age Group and Sex

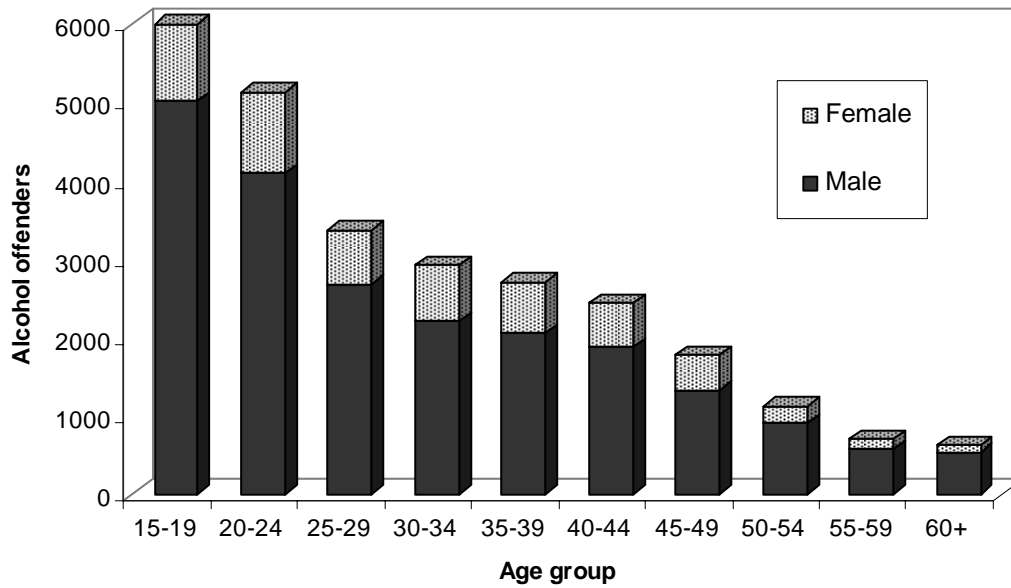


Table 1
Number of Alcohol Offenders by Age and Sex
Year ending 31 December

Age group	2006	
	Male	Female
15 to 19	5018	1538
20 to 24	4097	1037
25 to 29	2678	691
30 to 34	2205	723
35 to 39	2048	654
40 to 44	1873	567
45 to 49	1330	446
50 to 54	903	219
55 to 59	566	131
60 and over	528	93
Unknown age	33	16
Total	21279	6115

Table 2

**Alcohol Offenders by Month and Crash Involvement
Year ending 31 December 2006**

Month	Fatal Crash	Injury Crash	Non- Injury Crash	Did Not Crash	Total
January	0	37	108	1606	1751
February	0	44	109	1668	1821
March	0	55	144	1963	2162
April	3	56	133	2114	2306
May	3	47	104	1936	2090
June	1	59	143	2025	2228
July	4	66	171	2289	2530
August	1	42	138	2066	2247
September	0	49	133	2318	2500
October	2	50	155	2077	2284
November	0	44	132	2297	2473
December	0	61	165	2902	3128
Total	14	610	1635	25261	27520

**Figure 2
Number of Alcohol Offenders by Month of Year**

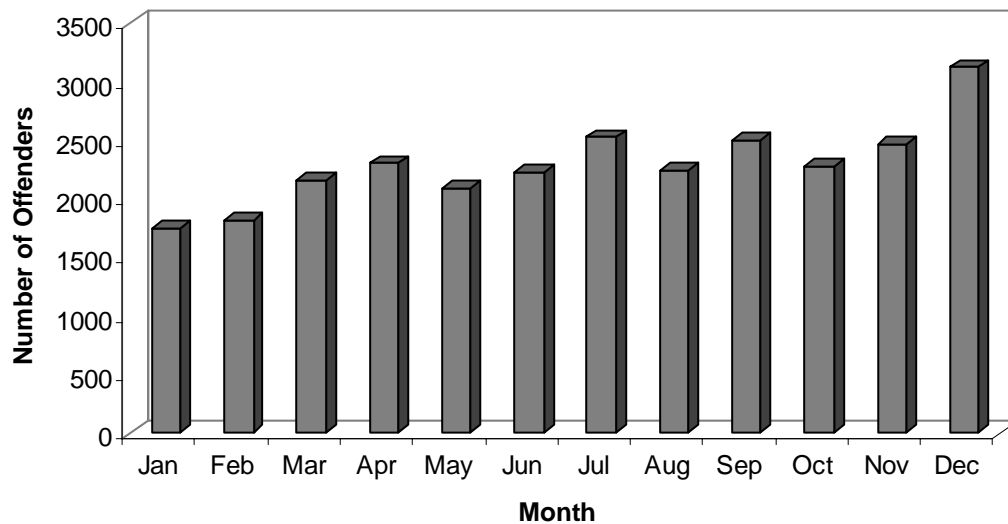


Table 3

**Alcohol Offenders by Time of Day and Day of Week
Year ending 31 December 2006**

Time of Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Totals
Midnight to 12.59am	92	73	116	215	646	1052	1004	3198
1am to 1.59am	78	83	105	202	523	1078	1005	3074
2am to 2.59am	55	54	81	178	357	788	731	2244
3am to 3.59am	49	38	64	175	306	607	697	1936
4am to 4.59am	27	11	37	83	221	389	488	1256
5am to 5.59am	11	12	24	60	135	262	260	764
6am to 6.59am	9	9	11	38	70	128	179	444
7am to 7.59am	5	6	7	24	46	98	178	364
8am to 8.59am	6	7	14	25	27	67	89	235
9am to 9.59am	5	6	13	24	24	58	53	183
10am to 10.59am	5	9	17	18	19	57	49	174
11am to 11.59am	11	5	12	25	37	45	45	180
Noon to 12.59am	5	15	15	20	32	67	39	193
1pm to 1.59pm	18	14	18	15	30	33	30	158
2pm to 2.59pm	18	29	44	35	34	59	57	276
3pm to 3.59pm	14	34	55	62	50	63	64	342
4pm to 4.59pm	34	36	60	54	49	97	67	397
5pm to 5.59pm	42	50	55	66	80	152	111	556
6pm to 6.59pm	35	43	89	140	180	216	114	817
7pm to 7.59pm	57	73	146	172	296	283	133	1160
8pm to 8.59pm	86	105	241	384	438	383	146	1783
9pm to 9.59pm	92	109	208	442	635	531	128	2145
10pm to 10.59pm	84	108	219	568	802	726	129	2636
11pm to 11.59pm	66	128	238	629	950	864	127	3002
Totals	904	1057	1889	3654	5987	8103	5923	27517

Note: There were 3 cases where either the time of day or day of week was not recorded

**Figure 3
Alcohol Offenders by Time of Day and Day of Week**

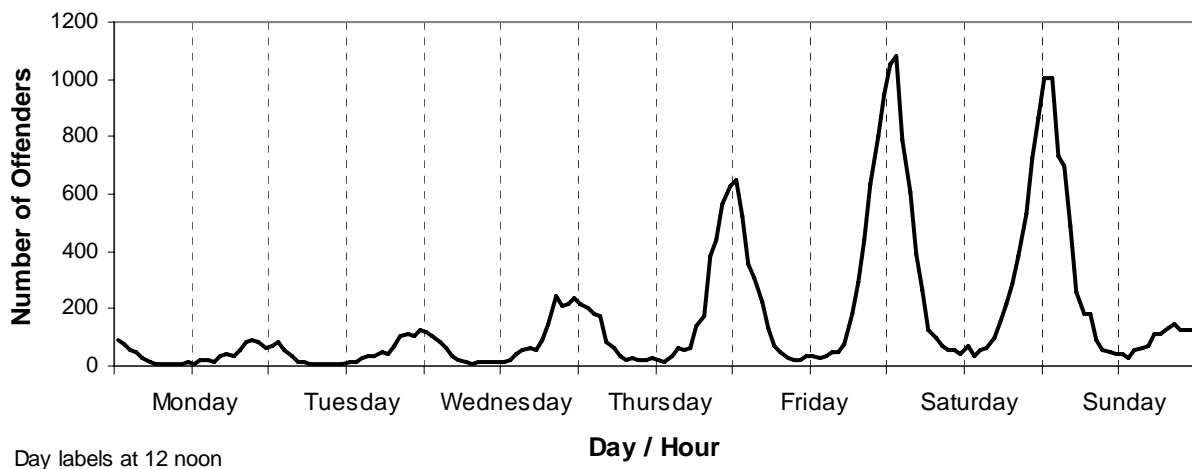


Table 4

**Alcohol Offenders by Road Type and Weekend / Non-weekend
Year ending 31 December 2006**

	Weekday	Weekend	Total
Open road			
State Highway	445	870	1315
Non-State Highway	291	501	792
Open Road Subtotal	736	1371	2107
Urban			
State Highway	348	775	1123
Non-State Highway	4571	8115	12686
Urban Subtotal	4919	8890	13809
Speed Limit Unspecified	4225	7379	11604
Total	9880	17640	27520

Table 5

**Alcohol Level by Driver Age
Year ending 31 December 2006**

Age Group	No Value	Alcohol Level (1)											Refused	Total
		0 to 30	31 to 50	51 to 80	81 to 100	101 to 120	121 to 150	151 to 200	201 to 250	251 to 300	301 to 350	Over 350		
15 to 19	19	56	1008	2142	657	939	972	653	85	4	0	9	16	6560
20 to 24	26	158	1	2	670	1185	1514	1298	238	24	2	12	19	5149
25 to 29	30	158	2	2	358	712	916	925	219	22	3	19	19	3385
30 to 34	26	140	0	2	281	508	826	841	243	38	5	12	17	2939
35 to 39	21	200	0	2	233	484	690	756	239	44	7	12	21	2709
40 to 44	17	177	0	1	222	415	590	705	232	41	12	20	12	2444
45 to 49	9	101	0	1	144	331	465	501	153	62	8	10	6	1791
50 to 54	10	65	0	0	112	220	300	270	115	25	8	4	8	1137
55 to 59	6	29	0	1	57	136	200	197	61	20	3	4	3	717
60 and over	1	25	0	0	62	168	163	137	53	16	4	5	4	638
Unknown age	0	3	4	3	7	9	9	13	2	0	0	0	1	51
Total	165	1112	1015	2156	2803	5107	6645	6296	1640	296	52	107	126	27520

(1) In milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood.

Breath test results have been converted to a blood equivalent.

eg breath reading of 400 micrograms per litre is equivalent to a blood reading of 80 milligrams per 100 millilitres

Figure 4
Number of Offenders by Alcohol Level and Age

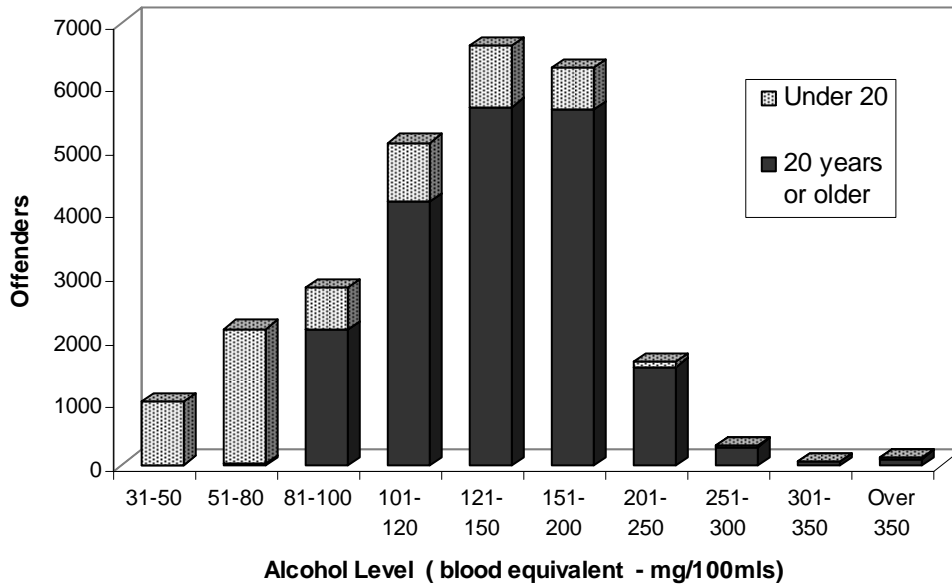


Figure 5
Number of Offenders by Alcohol Level and Sex

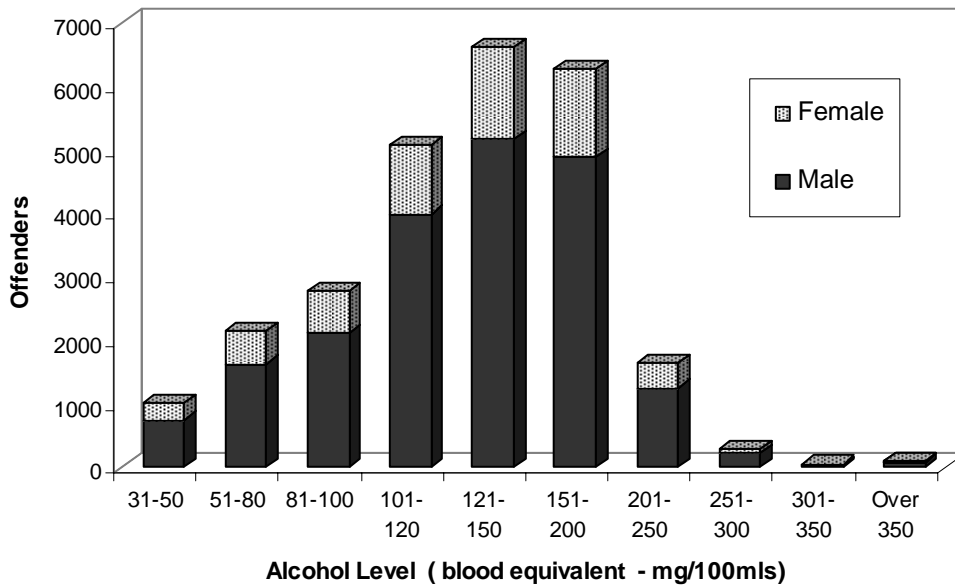


Table 6**Age of Male Offenders by Breath Test Result
Year ending 31 December 2006**

Age Group	No Value (2)	----- Evidential Breath Test Levels (1) -----							Total
		0 to 150	151 to 300	301 to 400	401 to 500	501 to 600	601 to 1000	Over 1000	
15 to 19	638	7	995	1081	434	670	1143	50	5018
20 to 24	859	15	1	1	415	787	1885	134	4097
25 to 29	632	21	2	1	215	474	1202	131	2678
30 to 34	551	19	0	2	148	323	1028	134	2205
35 to 39	550	21	0	2	136	310	887	142	2048
40 to 44	511	17	0	1	124	260	814	146	1873
45 to 49	320	10	0	0	94	200	589	117	1330
50 to 54	256	5	0	0	70	139	352	81	903
55 to 59	159	3	0	0	39	85	238	42	566
60 and over	170	5	0	0	37	114	170	32	528
Unknown age	6	0	3	1	4	5	13	1	33
Total	4652	123	1001	1089	1716	3367	8321	1010	21279

(1) In micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath.

(2) Most will have blood test results - see Table 8.

Table 7**Age of Female Offenders by Breath Test Result
Year ending 31 December 2006**

Age Group	No Value (2)	----- Evidential Breath Test Levels (1) -----							Total
		0 to 150	151 to 300	301 to 400	401 to 500	501 to 600	601 to 1000	Over 1000	
15 to 19	204	3	357	339	137	185	300	13	1538
20 to 24	174	5	0	1	112	224	475	46	1037
25 to 29	137	1	0	1	67	119	332	34	691
30 to 34	132	3	0	0	63	102	358	65	723
35 to 39	145	3	0	0	47	95	302	62	654
40 to 44	131	4	0	0	49	75	254	54	567
45 to 49	93	3	0	0	29	83	203	35	446
50 to 54	49	0	0	0	26	32	96	16	219
55 to 59	34	1	0	0	9	14	57	16	131
60 and over	36	0	0	0	8	12	31	6	93
Unknown age	4	1	1	2	2	1	5	0	16
Total	1139	24	358	343	549	942	2413	347	6115

(1) In micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath.

(2) Most will have blood test results - see Table 9.

Table 8**Age of Male Offenders by Blood Alcohol Level
Year ending 31 December 2006**

Age Group	----- Blood Alcohol Test Levels (1) -----												Refused	Total
	No Value (2)	0 to 30	31 to 50	51 to 80	81 to 100	101 to 120	121 to 150	151 to 200	201 to 250	251 to 300	301 to 350	Over 350		
15 to 19	4368	39	132	147	64	61	67	71	19	3	0	7	40	5018
20 to 24	3227	120	0	0	110	142	183	188	58	8	1	11	49	4097
25 to 29	2050	119	0	0	61	89	111	146	52	4	1	15	30	2678
30 to 34	1656	99	0	0	53	66	102	123	47	18	2	8	31	2205
35 to 39	1494	143	0	0	36	62	84	119	52	13	2	11	32	2048
40 to 44	1368	126	0	0	33	68	84	94	52	12	4	15	17	1873
45 to 49	1007	67	0	0	16	35	63	64	35	22	2	4	15	1330
50 to 54	649	50	0	0	9	42	50	46	32	6	3	4	12	903
55 to 59	407	21	0	1	7	24	44	30	18	4	1	4	5	566
60 and over	356	16	0	0	12	33	41	37	12	10	2	4	5	528
Unknown age	27	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	33
Total	16609	801	132	148	401	624	829	920	377	100	18	83	237	21279

(1) In milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood.

(2) Most will have breath test results - see Table 6.

Table 9**Age of Female Offenders by Blood Alcohol Level
Year ending 31 December 2006**

Age Group	----- Blood Alcohol Test Levels (1) -----												Refused	Total
	No Value (2)	0 to 30	31 to 50	51 to 80	81 to 100	101 to 120	121 to 150	151 to 200	201 to 250	251 to 300	301 to 350	Over 350		
15 to 19	1324	9	41	56	21	23	21	22	4	0	0	2	15	1538
20 to 24	858	19	0	0	32	30	37	37	12	3	0	1	8	1037
25 to 29	553	17	0	0	12	26	20	25	19	3	1	5	10	691
30 to 34	589	25	0	0	15	14	26	24	15	4	1	4	6	723
35 to 39	505	36	0	0	12	16	21	32	13	4	0	2	13	654
40 to 44	429	32	0	0	16	12	17	28	14	3	3	2	11	567
45 to 49	350	21	0	1	5	10	18	18	10	5	0	3	5	446
50 to 54	169	10	0	0	5	4	10	7	7	1	2	0	4	219
55 to 59	95	5	0	0	2	8	6	10	2	0	0	1	2	131
60 and over	58	4	0	0	0	4	9	7	8	1	0	2	0	93
Unknown age	10	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	16
Total	4940	180	41	57	120	148	185	211	105	24	7	22	75	6115

(1) In milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood.

(2) Most will have breath test results - see Table 7.

