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## Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group

### CBD BUG

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The Honourable Mark Bailey MP  
Minister for Transport and Main Roads  
GPO Box 2644  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Minister

This year, you responded to a petition calling for changes to Queensland civil liability laws that would change the assumption of liability in motor vehicle crashes involving vulnerable road users.

Bicycle Queensland stated in February 2018 that "Evidence suggests drivers are at fault in at least 80% of road crashes involving a cyclist and a motor vehicle."

Your response to the petition (dated 19 April 2018) stated:<sup>1</sup>

*Queensland Police Service crash data shows that between 2012 and 2016, in serious crashes involving a motor vehicle and a bicycle, the bicycle rider was at fault 41 per cent of the time.*

This figure was then repeated in a Brisbane Times article.<sup>2</sup>

The figure of 41% of serious crashes being the fault of the cyclist is difficult to reconcile with Australian academic research showing a range of 80-87% of crashes being the fault of the motor vehicle driver.<sup>3</sup>

We therefore request access to the data used to derive your stated figure.

I look forward to your response on this issue.

Yours faithfully

Dr Richard Bean  
Co-convenor  
Brisbane CBD BUG  
14 September 2018

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/apps/E-Petitions/Home/DownloadResponse/8fa45c4e-29be-48be-9a2c-67e68e105abf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/queensland/cyclists-at-fault-in-two-in-five-serious-crashes-minister-says-20180425-p4zblp.html>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.smh.com.au/national/study-blames-drivers-for-bike-crashes-20101122-18330.html> (87% MUARC)  
<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/drivers-escape-penalty-for-cyclist-fatalities/news-story/0201e375a856d99b36f7ab584385cf8f> (80% University of Adelaide)