


Reduced child and youth offending

15% reduction in the total number of children and young people with serious and persistent offending behaviour.

LEAD MINISTER
Hon Karen Chhour, Minister for Children

LEAD AGENCY
Oranga Tamariki, Acting Secretary for Children,
 Andrew Bridgman

TARGET DELIVERY PERFORMANCE - QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 2024

Target	Baseline (June 2023)	Current (November 2024)	Status
15% reduction (<900)	1,100	974	 Probable

PROGRESS TOWARDS TARGET

Total number of children and young people with serious and persistent offending behaviour



TARGET DELIVERY ACTIONS

The Government is focused on restoring law and order, to ensure all New Zealanders feel safe in their communities.

The last two quarters have seen a reduction in the number of children and young people with serious and persistent offending behaviour, including a reduction of 49 children and young people since the last quarterly report. The main drivers of this change are initiatives already underway within regions, specifically the more immediate responses to offending between Police and Oranga Tamariki.

The Government is focused on:

- **Strengthening the response to serious and persistent child and youth offenders** including the pilot of a Military-Style Academy, with the residential phase completed and young people transitioned into communities with strong social service supports; and development of the Young Serious Offender declaration that strengthens the Government’s response to this small number of young offenders.
- **Improving operational responses and youth justice processes** to better target those who are offending, including establishing intensive response teams (now operational in Canterbury and Bay of Plenty and the location of a third team is being considered based on identified need) and expanding the rapid response (Fast Track) by Police and Oranga Tamariki for child offenders (10 to 13-year-olds), to youth offenders (14 to 17-year-olds).
- **Preventing offending and reoffending** through locally-led initiatives to deliver community-based, cross-agency responses with intensive case management for the child, young person and family.
- **Getting children and youth attending school regularly** (see Target 6).

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

For more information on youth crime rates, please go to New Zealand Police’s website: <https://www.police.govt.nz>

For more information on the Government Targets go to www.dpmc.govt.nz