

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

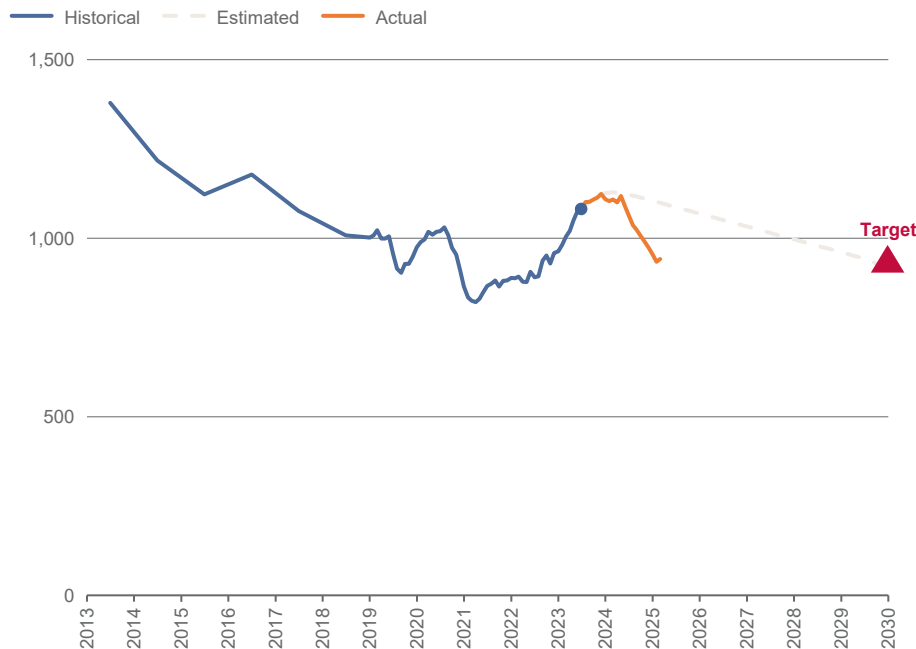
Oranga Tamariki, Acting Secretary for Children,
Andrew Bridgman

TARGET DELIVERY PERFORMANCE - QUARTER ENDING MARCH 2025

Target	Baseline (June 2023)	Current (February 2025)	Status
15% reduction (<900)	1,100	942	On Track

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 three quarters have seen a reduction in the number of children and young people with serious and persistent offending behaviour, including a reduction of 32 children and young people since the last quarterly report. As a result, the Target rating is now 'on track'.

The Government is focused on:

- **Strengthening the response to serious and persistent child and youth offenders** including interim evaluation of the Military-Style Academy published in February 2025, 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, Bay of Plenty and a new third location in Waikato/Hamilton. The rapid response (Fast Track) has been expanded 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 improved identification of and support for health, mental health, disability and education needs.
- **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