

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

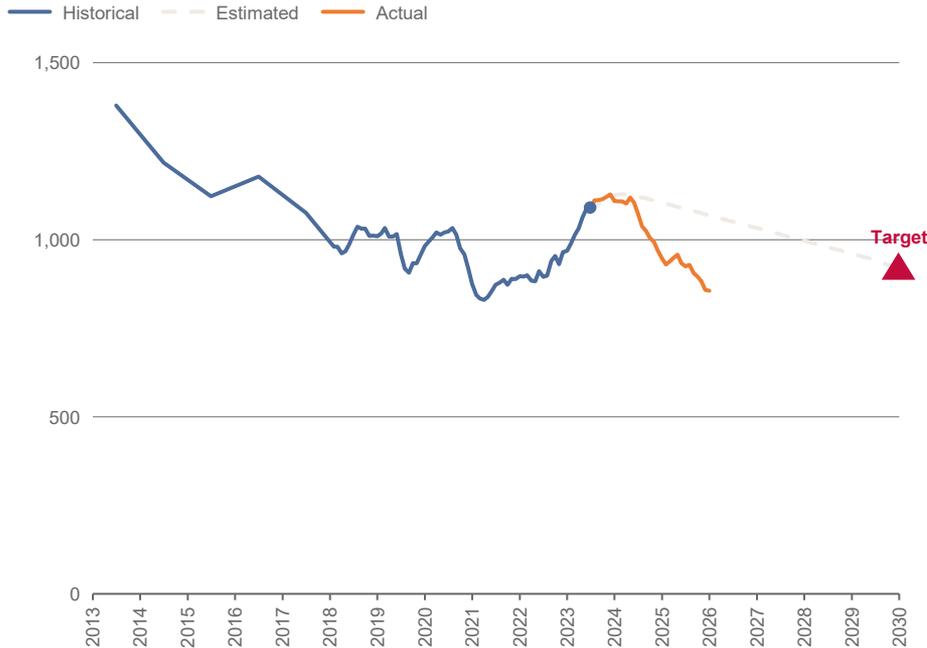
Oranga Tamariki, Secretary for Children, Amanda Malu

TARGET DELIVERY PERFORMANCE - QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 2025

Target	Baseline (June 2023)	Current (December 2025)	Status
15% reduction (<900)	1,100	856	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 Target continues to be met, with a 22% reduction from baseline in the number of children and young people with serious and persistent offending behaviour.

Police districts are experiencing the trend differently with drops of at least 20% in eight of the 12 districts, whereas current numbers are higher than the baseline in Eastern, and are the same as the baseline in Canterbury.

The Government is focused on:

- **Strengthening the response to serious and persistent child and youth offenders** including the design and implementation of the next Military-Style Academy programme and awaiting the Second Reading of the Oranga Tamariki (Responding to Serious Youth Offending) Amendment Bill, 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. Intensive Case Management Teams are continuing to work with the identified serious and persistent cohort, providing intensive case management and coordination of cross-agency supports to help reduce offending in Christchurch, Rotorua and Hamilton. Rapid response (Fast Track) continues to drive integrated timely operational response across six expansion sites in Counties Manukau, West Auckland, Central Auckland, Hamilton, Rotorua and Christchurch. Analysis of Fast Track re-offending completed by Oranga Tamariki in December showed positive progress in preventing escalation through the youth justice system.
- **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, Increased Student Attendance).

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

Target 3 figures now use the Oranga Tamariki RCOS data feed. There are minor cohort variances compared with Ministry of Justice sourced figures due to differences in the calculation of age at offence and Cabinet rounding of baseline / target values. Trends remain consistent. Percentage reductions calculated against the Cabinet-agreed baseline will appear slightly larger than reductions against the prior Ministry of Justice baseline.