

Reduced violent crime

20,000 fewer people are victims of an assault, robbery or sexual assault.

LEAD MINISTER
Hon Paul Goldsmith, Minister of Justice

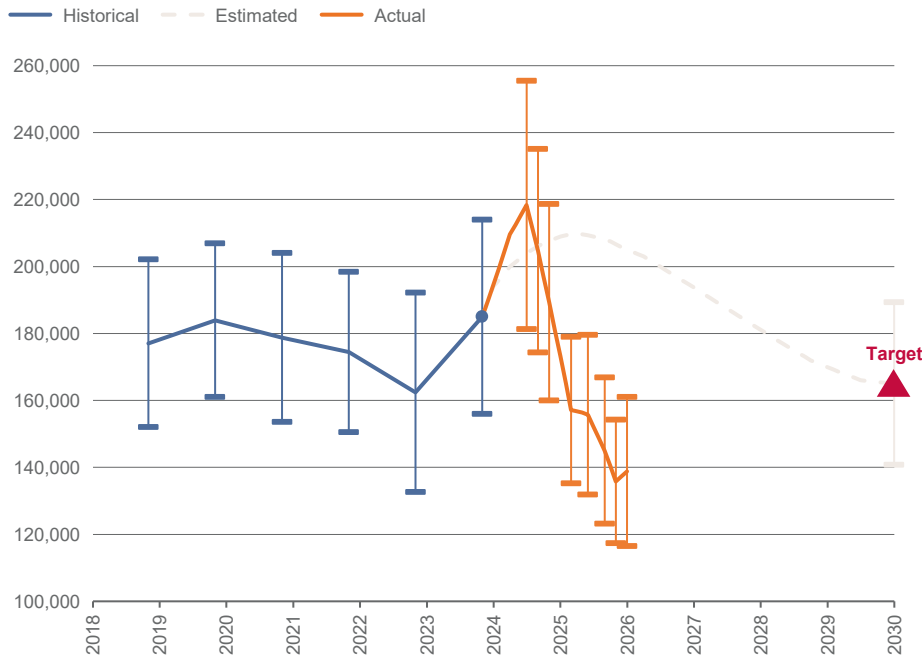
LEAD AGENCY
Ministry of Justice, Secretary for Justice,
 Andrew Kibblewhite

TARGET DELIVERY PERFORMANCE - QUARTER ENDING MARCH 2026

Target	Baseline (October 2023)	Current (February 2026)	Status
20k reduction (165k people)	185,000	138,795	■ On Track

PROGRESS TOWARDS TARGET

People in New Zealand who were the victim of an assault, robbery, or sexual assault offence



The margins of error for the NZCVS are high, meaning the range of results will be highly variable.

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. The New Zealand Crime and Victims' Survey (NZCVS) results for February 2026 show ~46,000 fewer adults experienced violent crime than at the baseline (October 2023). The number of victims of violent crime increased by 3,000 compared to the previous quarter and is still consistent with the overall downward trend.

The NZCVS asks respondents of their experience of reported and unreported crime over the past 12 months. While NZCVS produces reliable and robust trends, quarterly data is potentially more volatile and may fluctuate.

The Government's focus remains on continuing to reduce the number of victims of violent crime by:

- Increasing the chance of violent offenders being caught and held to account.** The Government is focused on providing the Police and courts with the extra tools they need to drive timelier justice and to tackle serious crime, including through the Three Strikes Sentencing Reform, and Gang Harm legislation. Since November 2024, Police have seized 221 patches and 231 firearms, and have laid 1,027 insignia charges to March 2026. The Stalking and Harassment Amendment Act has been enacted and is in force as of May 2026.
- Targeting resources to where they are needed.** 1,178 stores that had a ram raid and/or aggravated robbery had security installations completed between September 2022 and March 2026. A total of 4,623 security measures have been installed.
- Breaking the cycle of violence.** NZCVS results show that all ethnic groups and age groups (except 65+) have seen reductions since the baseline in the number of victims of violent offending. The largest reduction from baseline is in alcohol involved crime (-32%) and by family members (-34%), which is greater than non-family members (-27%).

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

The latest results from the NZCVS can be found on www.justice.govt.nz/justice-sector-policy/research-data/nzcvcs/

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