

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

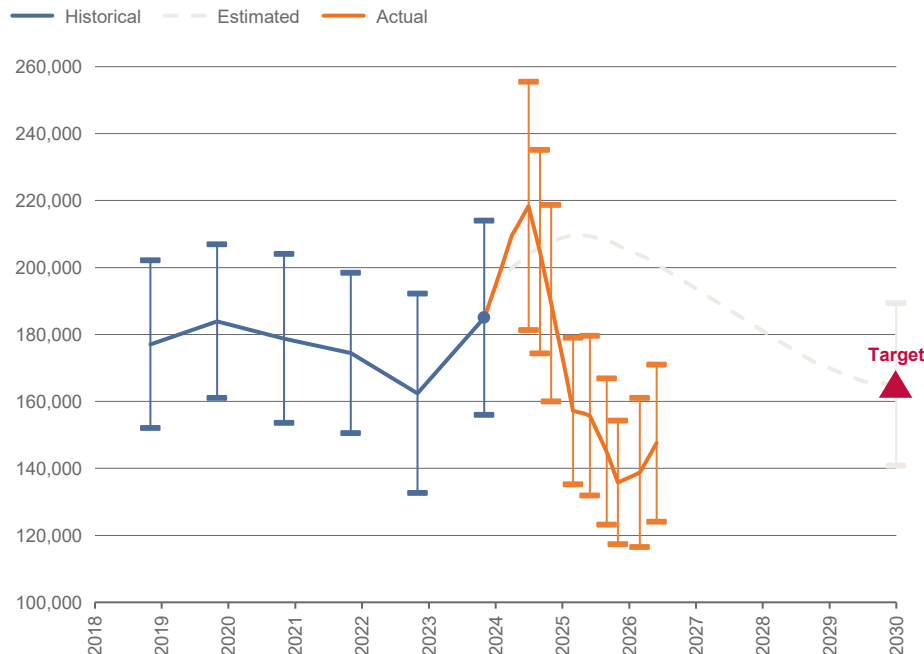
Ministry of Justice, Secretary for Justice,
Andrew Kibblewhite

TARGET DELIVERY PERFORMANCE - QUARTER ENDING JUNE 2026

Target	Baseline (October 2023)	Current (May 2026)	Status
20k reduction (165k people)	185,000	147,577	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 May 2026 show ~37,000 fewer adults experienced violent crime than at the baseline (October 2023). The number of victims of violent crime increased by ~8,800 compared to the previous quarter, with larger relative increases seen for Māori victims, victims of violent offending from family members, and incidents not involving alcohol.

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 laid 24,070 charges against validated gang members, including 1,172 insignia charges and have seized 270 firearms. The Stalking and Harassment Amendment Act has been in force since May 2026 and the Crimes Amendment Bill was passed into law early August 2026.
- **Targeting resources to where they are needed.** 1,208 stores that had a ram raid and/or aggravated robbery had security installations completed between September 2022 and June 2026. Police have resolved 5,988 retail offences linked to 746 individual offenders.
- **Breaking the cycle of violence.** A pilot service to increase victims' engagement in Family Group Conferences (FGC) is underway in Wellington, Tauranga, Palmerston North and Levin and trauma-informed training for 630 frontline staff is in progress across Police, Corrections, NZ Parole Board, and Ministry of Justice.

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