

27 September 2024

Rhys Hurley
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Tēnā koe Rhys

Request for information

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request dated 17 September 2024. You wrote:

- A break down by year between 2010 to 2023 of violent firearms offences.
- A break down by year between 2010 to 2023 of violent firearms charges.
- A break down by year between 2010 to 2023 of what category these charges were for

Police considers firearms-related offences to be all offences under the Arms Act 1983 (eg, import a firearm without a permit, present a firearm at a person) and any offence that specifies a firearm was involved (eg, robbery with a firearm).

As you have specified violent firearm offences, I have limited this response only to victim offences within the Crimes Act 1961 (such as threatens to kill with a firearm and robbery with a firearm) and have omitted other firearms-related offences.

The table below shows the number of such offences recorded by Police that happened between 1 January 2010 and 31 December 2023.

Table 1. Victim Crimes Act Firearms-related offences between 1 January 2010 and 31 December 2023, as at 17 September 2024.

Calendar Year	Offences
2010	883
2011	793
2012	764
2013	649
2014	713
2015	771
2016	882
2017	906
2018	837
2019	1,067
2020	1,030

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2021	1,163
2022	1,230
2023	1,216
Total	12,904

The table below shows the number of court charges for the same offence codes as those in Table 1 that were filed between 1 January 2010 and 31 December 2023, by year and by ANZSOC division¹.

Note that a charge may be filed sometimes months after the offence took place, due to time required to investigate the offence and identify an offender. To be able to charge someone, the offence must first have an identified offender. Investigations take time and so more of the older offences would now have an identified offender than those offences that took place more recently. One offence can also result in multiple charges, such as when multiple offenders are identified for the same offence. Additionally, not every offence, even when an offender is identified, results in a prosecution; some offences may result in a warning or youth referral, or other non-court proceedings.

It is important to note that these charges are not convictions – they may still be before the courts or subsequently withdrawn, or individuals may have been charged and subsequently acquitted.

Table 2. Charges for Victim Crimes Act Firearms-related offences filed in court between 1 January 2010 and 31 December 2023, as at 17 September 2024.

Calendar Year \ Division	Abduction, Harassment and Other Related Offences Against a Person	Acts Intended to Cause Injury	Homicide and Related Offences	Robbery, Extortion and Related Offences	Unlawful Entry With Intent/Burglary, Break and Enter	Total
2010	179	207	22	204	28	640
2011	134	155	13	249	20	571
2012	142	138	12	154	24	470
2013	112	114	21	113	10	370
2014	109	107	16	129	30	391
2015	137	158	17	105	11	428
2016	152	126	11	157	24	470
2017	140	229	25	198	32	624

¹ <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/classifications/australian-and-new-zealand-standard-offence-classification-anzsoc/2011>

2018	179	162	29	124	40	534
2019	198	175	115	103	26	617
2020	195	173	25	84	20	497
2021	189	220	39	117	56	621
2022	204	243	32	107	45	631
2023	211	211	27	162	51	662
Total	2,281	2,418	404	2,006	417	7,526

Data in this response is drawn from a dynamic operational database and is subject to change as new information is recorded or updated.

Please note that as part of its commitment to openness and transparency, Police proactively releases some information and documents that may be of interest to the public. An anonymised version of this response may be publicly released on the New Zealand Police website.

Ngā mihi



Matthew Boddy

Director Operations – Te Tari Pūreke | Firearms Safety Authority (acting)