



New Zealand  
Crime and Victims **survey**

**HELP CREATE SAFER COMMUNITIES**

**Survey findings - Cycle 4 report**

**Appendix 2 – *Brief Survey  
Methodology***

June 2022

Results drawn from Cycle 4 (2020/21) of the  
New Zealand Crime and Victims Survey

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2. Data collection was suspended during COVID-19 Alert Levels 4 and 3 (more detail is provided on page 4 of the full report).
3. This report contains highly aggregated data. No identifiable personal data is included in the report.
4. Count estimates in the text have been rounded to the nearest thousands or hundreds. Percentage and mean estimates have been rounded to the nearest whole number or one decimal place. Graphs and tables provide accuracy to one decimal place. Higher precision may be provided where it is important for the content.
5. Unfortunately, due to an error in data collection, this report does not include over 200 interviews from the Hawke's Bay area. Survey results were revised, amended and re-weighted to maintain accuracy and avoid bias.

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If you have any feedback or questions about NZCVS results, please email us on [nzcvs@justice.govt.nz](mailto:nzcvs@justice.govt.nz)

This report contains many graphs and infographics that help to visualise key facts and findings. Only those graphs that support the key findings are included. All observations and graphs in the report are based on the **data tables** that accompany this report, which are available on the [NZCVS resources and results web page](#).

If you are reading the report for the first time, it is recommended that you refer to “Cycle 4 Core report - Section 2 – About this report” to help with understanding and presentation of results.

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# Appendix 2: Brief survey methodology

Below is an overview of the key methodological aspects of the NZCVS. More details about how the NZCVS was conducted in 2020/21 can be found in the [NZCVS Cycle 4 methodology report](#).

**Table A.1 Key features of the NZCVS methodology**

Key feature	Description
<b>Overview</b>	Nationwide, face-to-face, annual, random-sample survey, with one survey respondent selected per household using multistage stratified cluster sampling methods.
<b>Target population</b>	Total usually resident, non-institutionalised, civilian population of New Zealand aged 15 and over.
<b>Sampled areas</b>	North Island, South Island and Waiheke Island.
<b>Dwellings included</b>	Permanent, private dwellings.
<b>Sample composition</b>	Two samples were drawn as part of the NZCVS: a general or “main sample” and a Māori booster sample that aimed to increase sample size for Māori.
<b>Sample size</b>	Main sample: 4,246
	Māori booster sample: 1,998
	Total sample: 6,244
<b>Response rates</b>	Main sample: 76%
	Māori booster sample: 75%
	Total sample: 76%
<b>Interviewing period</b>	20 November 2020 to 10 November 2021
<b>Average interview length</b>	31 minutes and 32 seconds
<b>Recall period</b>	12 months preceding the date of the interview <sup>1</sup>
<b>Coding crimes/offences</b>	In the NZCVS, questions were asked about different things (incidents) that might have happened to the survey respondent or their household. These incidents were then coded by legal experts to determine whether or not the incident was a crime, and what type of offence (or offences) occurred.

<sup>1</sup> While most questions use the recall period 12 months preceding the date of the interview, there were some that referred to a different period (eg, the in-depth module questions on lifetime prevalence of sexual assault and offences by a partner).

	<b>Important:</b> The NZCVS does not directly ask survey respondents whether they experienced certain crimes. This is because people do not always view some things that happen as crimes, and they may not know which acts are legally considered crimes and which are not.
<b>Weighting</b>	Two key types of weighting were applied: household weights and person weights. New population benchmarks based on the 2018 Census were supplied by Stats NZ.
<b>Imputation</b>	Missing income data was imputed using the nearest neighbour hot deck algorithm. Missing victim forms were imputed from the distribution of offence codes associated with the scenario that generated the incident.

## Survey structure and questionnaire

The NZCVS consists of a core module that includes crime and victimisation questions that repeat every year, and additional in-depth modules on different topical subjects that change from year to year. Cycle 3 included an in-depth module on family violence, the same as in Cycle 1 but with some additional questions. In Cycle 2, the in-depth module covered social wellbeing and perceptions of the criminal justice system. Cycle 4 included a set of new questions related to controlling behaviour by family members and reflected recent changes in the family violence legislation. The survey design was developed after extended consultations with key stakeholders.

Depending on the sensitivity of the questions, the answers may be collected either through computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI), where interviewers enter respondents' answers into a laptop, or through computer-assisted self-interviewing (CASI), where respondents are handed the laptop and can enter their own responses. CASI is used for highly sensitive questions and CAPI for less sensitive ones.

The following table provides an outline of the questionnaire sections and the topics covered in each section.

**Table A.2 Topics covered in the NZCVS questionnaire**

Section	Questions	Interviewing mode
<b>Initial demographics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sex</li> <li>• age</li> <li>• partnership status</li> <li>• marital status</li> <li>• life satisfaction/feeling of safety</li> </ul>	CAPI
<b>CAPI victim screener questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• household and personal offences screener questions (excludes interpersonal violence (including sexual violence), harassment and threatening behaviour)</li> </ul>	CAPI

<b>CASI victim screener questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• interpersonal violence (includes sexual violence), harassment and threatening behaviour</li> </ul>	CASI
<b>Lifetime prevalence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lifetime experience of sexual assault/IPV</li> </ul>	CASI
<b>General victim form questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• same/series of offences</li> <li>• date of offence</li> <li>• incident description</li> <li>• location of offence</li> <li>• contact with the offender</li> <li>• existence of Protection, Restraining, or Police Safety Orders</li> <li>• offender's attitude towards victim's race, sexuality, age, sex, religion and disability</li> <li>• cost of crime</li> <li>• insurance</li> <li>• time off work</li> <li>• reporting to Police</li> <li>• injury and weapon use</li> <li>• perceptions of seriousness of incident</li> </ul>	CASI for incidents relating to CASI screeners and CASI for incidents relating to CASI screeners
<b>Family violence in-depth module</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• support service awareness</li> <li>• contact with support services</li> <li>• help/advice received from support services and usefulness</li> <li>• reasons for not seeking help from support services</li> <li>• help/advice received from family or whānau , friends and neighbours, and usefulness</li> <li>• reasons for not seeking help from family or whānau , friends and neighbours</li> <li>• unmet need for help/advice relating to family or whānau violence incidents</li> <li>• feeling of safety when with family or whānau</li> <li>• awareness of others who have experienced family or whānau incidents and further involvement</li> </ul>	CASI
<b>Main demographics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• gender</li> <li>• sexuality</li> </ul>	CASI (with the exception of gender and sexual identity)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• income</li> <li>• financial stress</li> <li>• household composition</li> <li>• ethnicity</li> <li>• functional difficulties</li> <li>• psychological distress</li> <li>• employment status</li> <li>• housing and tenure</li> </ul>	and income, which are administered using CASI)
<b>Exit and re-contact questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• re-contact for audit</li> <li>• future research consent</li> <li>• data linking</li> <li>• interviewer observations</li> <li>• respondent burden assessment</li> </ul>	CAPI