

11 July 2023

Section 9(2)(a)

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Ref: OIA 105218

Tēnā koe Section 9(2)

### Official Information Act request: Retail crime statistics

I refer to your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) of 9 June 2023, to the New Zealand Police, in which you requested information relating to retail crime.

On 13 June 2023, the following parts of your request were transferred to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry) pursuant to section 14(b)(i) of the Act, as the information requested was more closely aligned with the Ministry's functions:

1. *How many retail crime charges resulted in a prosecution with the data broken down by year and month since 2017 to present day?*
2. *How many retail crime charges that were prosecuted resulted in a conviction with the data broken down by year and month since 2017 to present day?*

The Ministry only holds information on finalised charges. Therefore, we have interpreted the first part of your request to be the total number of retail crime charges with a final outcome. Please note, if your request was seeking information on the number of offences reported to police that resulted in police laying charges in the Court, this information would need to be reclarified and requested from New Zealand Police

In response to your request, please refer to Table 1 and Table 2 below. Table 1 provides you with the number of retail crime charges with a final outcome. Table 2 provides you with the number of retail crime charges with a final outcome of conviction.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: [justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses](https://justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses).

You have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Office of the Ombudsman may be contacted by email at [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phone on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Richard Williams

**Acting Group Manager, Courts & Tribunals, Regional Service Delivery**

**Table 1: The number of retail crime charges with a final outcome broken down by year and month, from January 2017 to December 2022.**

Month	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
January	617	476	548	632	579	464
February	673	686	513	636	667	546
March	681	659	612	892	851	530
April	577	670	599	455	624	560
May	807	817	869	595	639	667
June	699	563	692	809	744	622
July	664	718	725	909	803	575
August	912	897	707	668	529	654
September	852	694	805	651	558	842
October	720	661	797	764	509	695
November	760	614	727	723	576	807
December	658	647	629	606	529	660
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,620</b>	<b>8,102</b>	<b>8,223</b>	<b>8,340</b>	<b>7,608</b>	<b>7,622</b>

**Notes:**

- This table counts all disposed charges (i.e. charges with a final outcome) of:
  - *Proved* – (where a person is found to be, or pleads, guilty) includes 'convicted' and 'other proved' (Youth Court proved (s283 order), Discharge without conviction and Adult diversion/Youth Court discharge, Proven but not criminally responsible on account of insanity).
  - *Not proved* - this includes a person being found not guilty and where the charge is withdrawn or dismissed.
  - *Other* – this includes being found not guilty by reason of insanity, unfit to stand trial or stay of proceedings ordered.
- Data provided is released in published Tier 1 Statistics (data up to 31 December 2022).
- Tier 1 statistics are the key official statistics by which New Zealand's performance as a country is measured. Tier 1 statistics are published twice a year, in March and September.
- There are principles and protocols that govern production and release of these statistics. More information about Tier 1 statistics is available at: [data.govt.nz/use-data/showcase/official-statistics](https://data.govt.nz/use-data/showcase/official-statistics).
- Year and month are based on the charge outcome date.
- This data includes offences under the Australian and New Zealand Standard Offence Classification (ANZSOC) group "0823: Theft from retail premises".
- ANZSOC is used to categorise offences into 16 divisions, within which subdivisions and groups exist. More information on ANZSOC can be obtained from: [abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1234.0](https://abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1234.0).
- Data includes the disposed charges in the High Court, District Court, and Youth Court.

**Table 2: Number of retail crime charges with a finalised outcome of “convicted” broken down by year and month, from January 2017 to December 2022.**

Month	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
January	535	422	445	533	497	398
February	555	616	427	535	584	459
March	557	528	509	759	682	439
April	466	566	520	400	544	483
May	669	689	726	504	554	559
June	575	500	593	684	651	538
July	559	618	615	804	689	509
August	776	789	616	560	429	551
September	683	608	706	557	462	740
October	623	565	699	675	435	562
November	626	535	649	645	498	666
December	579	575	515	488	458	520
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,203</b>	<b>7,011</b>	<b>7,020</b>	<b>7,144</b>	<b>6,483</b>	<b>6,424</b>

**Notes:**

- This table counts disposed charges with a proved outcome (i.e. charges finalised in court with outcome of convicted).
- Data provided is released in published Tier 1 Statistics (data up to 31December 2022). Tier 1 statistics are the key official statistics by which New Zealand’s performance as a country is measured. Tier 1 statistics are published twice a year, in March and September.
- There are principles and protocols that govern production and release of these statistics. More information about Tier 1 statistics is available at: [data.govt.nz/use-data/showcase/official-statistics](https://data.govt.nz/use-data/showcase/official-statistics).
- Year and month are based on the charge outcome date (i.e. the year that a charge results in a conviction).
- This data includes offences under the Australian and New Zealand Standard Offence Classification (ANZSOC) group "0823: Theft from retail premises".
- ANZSOC is used to categorise offences into 16 divisions, within which subdivisions and groups exist. More information on ANZSOC can be obtained from: [abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1234.0](https://abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1234.0).
- Data includes the disposed charges in the High Court, District Court, Youth Court.