

8 April 2021

Our Reference: IR-01-21-7960

██████████
Email: ██████████

Tēnā koe ██████

I am writing in response to your request dated 3 March 2021, which was transferred by the Minister of Police to New Zealand Police on 9 March 2021. You wrote:

The police has updated their firearms crime statistics sheet as they do (<https://www.police.govt.nz/about-us/publication/firearms-data>) however this information does not include the numbers for the crimes committed by firearms licence holders and those committed by non firearms licence holders. Can you please provide this information for me.

The firearms data you refer to was published on the Police website for the first time on 1 March 2021. It is expected to be updated quarterly. The reason it does not include number of offences committed by firearms licence holders is because this analysis cannot be automated.

It is important to note that to determine whether an alleged offender was a firearms licence holder, Police must first identify an alleged offender. Not all offences have an identified offender as they may still be under investigation or an offender was never identified.

In 2020 calendar year, there have been 241,257 offences (including traffic) where an offender has been identified as at 23 March 2021. Of these, 9,997 offences have had an identified offender who at some point has held a standard firearms licence.

For your information, Police has developed a process for proactive release of information, so the anonymised response to your request may be publicly released on the New Zealand Police website.

Yours sincerely



Mike McIlraith
Acting Superintendent
Arms Safety and Control