

This table shows the **number of incidents** that have occurred in each District, the **number of involved employees** (that is have allegations made against them), the **number of allegations made** (against employees or the organisation) and the **types of allegation** that are being made.

Firstly there is a general summary showing the totals for each Police District. Also shown in this summary are the number of completed investigations and how many were concluded with **at least one of the allegations** in that incident being upheld (see page 13 for a definition of 'upheld').

This is followed by further tables with breakdowns by employee type and allegation type for each Police District.

It is to be noted that numbers of staff vary between districts and this will be reflected in the varying numbers of complaints in each district.

See page 10 for an explanation of the types of allegation.

Jan - Dec 2020					
Summary Totals					
Districts	Incidents	Involved Staff	Allegations Made	Completed Incidents	At least one upheld allegation
Auckland City	422	522	561	334	36
Bay Of Plenty	312	411	484	267	38
Canterbury	456	551	620	397	48
Central	358	448	505	303	50
Counties/Manukau	342	410	445	281	24
Eastern	168	240	273	150	25
Northland	182	223	241	148	35
Southern	256	319	376	218	41
Tasman	145	166	176	132	16
Waikato	367	426	473	281	29
Waitematā	381	468	513	311	38
Wellington	410	525	597	354	58
Service Centres	310	389	372	253	85
National	4,109	5,098	5,636	3,429	523

Please note that in some cases (usually Service Centres where the staff are actually located in District) there may be less allegations made than the number of involved staff. This occurs when staff from one district are involved in an incident originating from or being investigated in another District.

Jan - Dec 2020

Constabulary

Districts	Involved Staff	Allegations Made	Type of Allegation/Conduct
Auckland City	312	338	Use of force on duty (54) Arrest/Custodial (27) Searches (9) Significant Event (7) Traffic Offences (18) Service Failure (123) Unprofessional Behaviour (52) Breach of Official Conduct (26) Workplace Behaviour (5) Use of Police Resources (6) Off Duty Conduct (11)
Bay Of Plenty	291	349	Use of force on duty (45) Arrest/Custodial (43) Searches (19) Significant Event (8) Traffic Offences (7) Service Failure (114) Unprofessional Behaviour (50) Breach of Official Conduct (45) Workplace Behaviour (5) Use of Police Resources (5) Off Duty Conduct (8)
Canterbury	347	398	Use of force on duty (62) Arrest/Custodial (32) Searches (11) Significant Event (2) Traffic Offences (12) Service Failure (134) Unprofessional Behaviour (77) Breach of Official Conduct (63) Use of Police Resources (2) Off Duty Conduct (3)
Central	327	377	Use of force on duty (49) Arrest/Custodial (36) Searches (14) Significant Event (12) Traffic Offences (3) Service Failure (138) Unprofessional Behaviour (64) Breach of Official Conduct (52) Workplace Behaviour (1) Use of Police Resources (5) Off Duty Conduct (3)

Jan - Dec 2020

Constabulary

Districts	Involved Staff	Allegations Made	Type of Allegation/Conduct
Counties/Manukau	253	278	Use of force on duty (32) Arrest/Custodial (17) Searches (15) Significant Event (3) Traffic Offences (1) Service Failure (103) Unprofessional Behaviour (62) Breach of Official Conduct (35) Workplace Behaviour (2) Use of Police Resources (2) Off Duty Conduct (6)
Eastern	181	208	Use of force on duty (39) Arrest/Custodial (22) Searches (11) Significant Event (12) Traffic Offences (2) Service Failure (48) Unprofessional Behaviour (51) Breach of Official Conduct (15) Use of Police Resources (3) Off Duty Conduct (5)
Northland	156	170	Use of force on duty (22) Arrest/Custodial (11) Searches (5) Significant Event (5) Traffic Offences (4) Service Failure (68) Unprofessional Behaviour (26) Breach of Official Conduct (22) Workplace Behaviour (3) Use of Police Resources (1) Off Duty Conduct (3)
Southern	247	296	Use of force on duty (28) Arrest/Custodial (20) Searches (1) Significant Event (5) Traffic Offences (22) Service Failure (114) Unprofessional Behaviour (58) Breach of Official Conduct (28) Workplace Behaviour (9) Use of Police Resources (5) Off Duty Conduct (6)

Jan - Dec 2020

Constabulary

Districts	Involved Staff	Allegations Made	Type of Allegation/Conduct
Tasman	117	124	Use of force on duty (12) Arrest/Custodial (10) Searches (3) Significant Event (1) Traffic Offences (6) Service Failure (53) Unprofessional Behaviour (20) Breach of Official Conduct (10) Workplace Behaviour (1) Use of Police Resources (3) Off Duty Conduct (5)
Waikato	270	300	Use of force on duty (47) Arrest/Custodial (24) Searches (11) Significant Event (5) Traffic Offences (5) Service Failure (99) Unprofessional Behaviour (60) Breach of Official Conduct (37) Workplace Behaviour (3) Use of Police Resources (5) Off Duty Conduct (4)
Waitematā	361	394	Use of force on duty (31) Arrest/Custodial (23) Searches (3) Significant Event (9) Traffic Offences (28) Service Failure (156) Unprofessional Behaviour (63) Breach of Official Conduct (60) Workplace Behaviour (4) Use of Police Resources (9) Off Duty Conduct (8)
Wellington	378	428	Use of force on duty (64) Arrest/Custodial (58) Searches (13) Significant Event (13) Traffic Offences (17) Service Failure (119) Unprofessional Behaviour (80) Breach of Official Conduct (45) Workplace Behaviour (7) Use of Police Resources (3) Off Duty Conduct (9)

Jan - Dec 2020

Constabulary

Districts	Involved Staff	Allegations Made	Type of Allegation/Conduct
Service Centres	124	117	Use of force on duty (1) Searches (6) Significant Event (1) Traffic Offences (2) Service Failure (33) Unprofessional Behaviour (27) Breach of Official Conduct (16) Workplace Behaviour (11) Use of Police Resources (11) Off Duty Conduct (9)
National	3,364	3,777	

Jan - Dec 2020

Other Police employees, Unidentified (or Police in general)

Districts	Involved Staff	Allegations Made	Type of Allegation/Conduct
Auckland City	210	223	Use of force on duty (11) Arrest/Custodial (16) Searches (3) Significant Event (1) Traffic Offences (7) Service Failure (93) Unprofessional Behaviour (34) Breach of Official Conduct (14) Use of Police Resources (41) Off Duty Conduct (3)
Bay Of Plenty	120	135	Use of force on duty (12) Arrest/Custodial (18) Searches (3) Significant Event (3) Traffic Offences (4) Service Failure (60) Unprofessional Behaviour (19) Breach of Official Conduct (13) Use of Police Resources (1) Off Duty Conduct (2)
Canterbury	204	222	Use of force on duty (20) Arrest/Custodial (18) Searches (3) Significant Event (2) Traffic Offences (4) Service Failure (97) Unprofessional Behaviour (29) Breach of Official Conduct (21) Workplace Behaviour (3) Use of Police Resources (23) Off Duty Conduct (2)
Central	121	128	Use of force on duty (9) Arrest/Custodial (8) Searches (2) Traffic Offences (3) Service Failure (68) Unprofessional Behaviour (26) Breach of Official Conduct (10) Use of Police Resources (1) Off Duty Conduct (1)

Jan - Dec 2020

Other Police employees, Unidentified (or Police in general)

Districts	Involved Staff	Allegations Made	Type of Allegation/Conduct
Counties/Manukau	157	167	Use of force on duty (11) Arrest/Custodial (12) Searches (5) Significant Event (3) Traffic Offences (7) Service Failure (85) Unprofessional Behaviour (27) Breach of Official Conduct (16) Workplace Behaviour (1)
Eastern	59	65	Use of force on duty (5) Arrest/Custodial (13) Searches (3) Significant Event (1) Service Failure (26) Unprofessional Behaviour (13) Breach of Official Conduct (3) Workplace Behaviour (1)
Northland	67	71	Use of force on duty (4) Arrest/Custodial (5) Searches (1) Significant Event (1) Traffic Offences (1) Service Failure (44) Unprofessional Behaviour (4) Breach of Official Conduct (10) Off Duty Conduct (1)
Southern	72	80	Arrest/Custodial (7) Significant Event (9) Service Failure (40) Unprofessional Behaviour (12) Breach of Official Conduct (11) Workplace Behaviour (1)

Jan - Dec 2020

Other Police employees, Unidentified (or Police in general)

Districts	Involved Staff	Allegations Made	Type of Allegation/Conduct
Tasman	49	52	Use of force on duty (2) Arrest/Custodial (6) Searches (3) Significant Event (4) Traffic Offences (1) Service Failure (22) Unprofessional Behaviour (9) Breach of Official Conduct (4) Use of Police Resources (1)
Waikato	156	173	Use of force on duty (3) Arrest/Custodial (18) Searches (3) Traffic Offences (6) Service Failure (107) Unprofessional Behaviour (22) Breach of Official Conduct (14)
Waitematā	107	119	Use of force on duty (5) Arrest/Custodial (9) Searches (6) Significant Event (1) Traffic Offences (3) Service Failure (58) Unprofessional Behaviour (18) Breach of Official Conduct (17) Workplace Behaviour (1) Use of Police Resources (1)
Wellington	147	169	Use of force on duty (10) Arrest/Custodial (19) Searches (4) Significant Event (2) Traffic Offences (7) Service Failure (86) Unprofessional Behaviour (28) Breach of Official Conduct (9) Use of Police Resources (2) Off Duty Conduct (2)

Jan - Dec 2020

Other Police employees, Unidentified (or Police in general)

Districts	Involved Staff	Allegations Made	Type of Allegation/Conduct
Service Centres	265	255	Use of force on duty (1) Arrest/Custodial (2) Service Failure (152) Unprofessional Behaviour (39) Breach of Official Conduct (37) Workplace Behaviour (5) Use of Police Resources (11) Off Duty Conduct (8)
National	1,734	1,859	

Explanations of allegation types

Use of force on duty

Constabulary employees and Authorised Officers have the power to use reasonable force to overcome someone escaping or resisting Police or when there is a justifiable belief the offender's actions will harm any person, including themselves.

Police may use physical force only when the exercise of persuasion, advice and warning is insufficient to obtain cooperation. Police use a tactical options framework to determine what option is most appropriate to achieve their objective in resolving a situation. The safety of the involved person and other people and Police staff who are present must be considered as part of the decision.

These [allegations](#) are used when an employee has potentially exceeded the level of force necessary to achieve their objective.

Arrest/Custodial

Constabulary employees have the power to arrest and detain in custody. Use of these powers must be in accordance with legislation and considering a person's rights under the law.

Being arrested and placed in custody can be a stressful experience, and people's behaviour can become volatile and unpredictable. Alcohol or drugs can increase these risks.

Procedures have been developed to minimise the risks to everyone concerned, but sometimes errors of judgement can be made in such a stressful or hectic environment. People in custody also sometimes misunderstand what is happening and why. For example, their property and certain clothing items will be removed to prevent their use in harming themselves or others. Escape attempts are also dangerous and people in custody may even self-harm or attempt suicide.

It is of paramount importance to control people and the situation in these circumstances, which may include a use of force to subdue someone whose behaviour makes them a greater risk to everyone, including themselves.

These [allegations](#) are used when there has potentially been a lapse in the correct procedures.

Searches

Constabulary employees have the power to search a person in custody or (under the Search and Surveillance Act) a property or residence for evidence of a criminal offence, or possession of an offensive weapon or illegal substances, and seize such items.

The search, seizure, retention and return (or possible destruction) must be conducted in accordance with the law and Police policy and procedure.

These [allegations](#) are used when there has potentially been a lapse in the correct procedures.

Significant event

These [allegations](#) are used when there has been a significant event. Significant events include, but are not restricted to:

- A Police pursuit resulting in injury or death;
- A Suicide or attempted suicide (non-custodial) immediately following an interaction with Police;
- A [use of force](#) by Police resulting in serious bodily harm or death;
- A use of a mechanical restraint resulting in serious bodily harm or death;

- A discharge of a firearm by Police whether intentional or unintentional, or resulting in no injury, injury or death;
- A serious bodily harm or death that appears to have been caused by Police by any other means;
- An action by a Police employee that may bring Police into disrepute or undermine trust and confidence in Police.

Traffic Offences

[Allegations](#) that relate to the alleged illegal or inappropriate driving of a Police vehicle on duty.

This includes an alleged inappropriate pursuit. Even if a pursuit does not result in injury or death (see [Significant Events](#)), there is strict policy and procedure around initiating, continuing or abandoning a pursuit.

Service Failure

The Service Failure [allegations](#) will actually be part of the type 'Breach of Official Conduct'.

However for our statistical reporting, in order to highlight these particular types of perceived conduct that are currently being targeted for remedial action, the allegations have been moved into this (new) type category.

The levels of performance for highlighting are to do with a perceived failure to provide an adequate service to the public in criminal investigations, victim focus and court proceedings.

Unprofessional Behaviour

The Unprofessional Behaviour [allegations](#) will actually be part of the types 'Breach of Official Conduct', 'Workplace Behaviour' or 'Off-Duty Behaviour'.

However for our statistical reporting, in order to highlight these particular types of perceived conduct that are currently being targeted for remedial action, the allegations have been moved into this (new) type category.

The behaviours for highlighting are alleged inappropriate and unprofessional language or attitude, and any alleged form of harassment, bullying or discrimination, in any environment.

Breach of Official Conduct

There is an expectation under the Code of Conduct that all employees will follow '[Our Values](#)' of:

- Professionalism
- Respect
- Integrity
- Commitment to Māori and the Treaty
- Empathy
- Valuing Diversity

This is true for behaviour when dealing with the public in an official capacity. In addition there are standards of procedure and practice in accordance with policy and the law that are expected to be met in all dealings with the public.

These [allegations](#) are intended for use when potentially this expectation has not been met.

Workplace Behaviour

There is an expectation under the Code of Conduct that all employees will follow '[Our Values](#)' of:

- Professionalism
- Respect
- Integrity
- Commitment to Māori and the Treaty
- Empathy
- Valuing Diversity

This is true for behaviour in the workplace as well as when dealing with the public.

These [allegations](#) are intended for use when this expectation is potentially not met.

Use of Police Resources

Police employees have access to a number of electronic devices, vehicles, clothing, equipment and weaponry to assist them in the execution of their duties.

Use of these items is governed by strict policy and most especially that they should only be used for work related purposes and only when appropriate.

These [allegations](#) are intended to be used for the potential misuse of these resources.

Off Duty Behaviour

There is an expectation under the Code of Conduct that all employees will follow '[Our Values](#)' of:

- Professionalism
- Respect
- Integrity
- Commitment to Māori and the Treaty
- Empathy
- Valuing Diversity

This is true for behaviour while off duty as well as in an official capacity.

These [allegations](#) are intended for use when this expectation has potentially not been met.

Explanation of outcomes

Upheld/Not upheld

Police Professional Conduct use a number of findings, actions taken and outcomes ranging from serious misconduct and dismissal through to 'not at fault' or 'other redress available'. Where appropriate there may also be some form of facilitated resolution that is satisfactory to all the parties involved, rather than a formal employment outcome.

For the purposes of external reporting these multiple types and combinations of outcomes are 'distilled' into 'Upheld/Not upheld', the definitions of which are:

- Upheld

Indicates that the employee or Police as an organisation were at fault and some form of disciplinary or performance action, or change to policy or procedure was required. It does not necessarily indicate culpability, as the fault may be a lapse, error in judgement or poor performance that was not solely responsible for the undesirable outcome.

- Not upheld

Indicates no fault has been identified that is attributable to any employee or the organisation. In some cases some form of action may still be taken, usually some form of resolution that is satisfactory to all parties involved or the circumstances being treated as a learning opportunity.

Use of force on duty

Use of force on duty (Firearm – non-discharge)
Use of force on duty (Baton)
Use of force on duty (Taser)
Use of force on duty (OC Spray)
Use of force on duty (Dog bite)
Use of force on duty (Restraints)
Use of force on duty (Other object)
Use of force on duty (Manual)

Arrest/Custodial

Unlawful Arrest
Breach of Rights
Improper search whilst in custody
Property (Custodial)
Exhibits (Custodial)
Escapes custody
Suicide (custodial)
Attempted suicide (custodial)
Custodial injury
Custodial death
Arrest/Custodial (Other)

Searches

Unlawful search
Damage during search
Property (Searches)
Exhibits (Searches)
Searches (Other)

Significant Event

Police pursuit resulting in injury or death
Discharge of firearm resulting in injury or death
Discharge of firearm (no injury)
Unintentional discharge of firearm
Suicide (non-custodial)
Attempted suicide (non-custodial)
Non-custodial injury
Non-custodial death

Traffic Offences

EBA - Over 400 Mgms/Litre (on duty)
Use of vehicle
Excessive speed
Driving behaviour
Inappropriate pursuit
EBA - 251-400 Mgms/Litre (on duty)
Driving under influence of drugs (on duty)
Traffic Offences (Other)

Service Failure

Inadequate service
Failure - Investigation
Failure - Prosecution
Failure to attend
Failure to notify/inform
Inadequate victim management
Inadequate bail management
Failure to return property
Service failure - Other

Unprofessional Behaviour

Attitude/language (External)
Attitude/language (Internal)
Attitude/language (Off duty)
Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination (External)
Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination (Internal)

Breach of Official Conduct

Dishonesty
Unlawful act
Treatment of CYP
Falsification of document
Perjury
Corruption
Conflict of interest
Failure - Other
Breach of privacy/confidentiality
Inappropriate/unlawful disclosure
Cause damage to property
Breach of policy (External)
Negligence or carelessness (External)
Performance/attendance matter (External)
Sexual misconduct (External)
Disgraceful behaviour (External)
Breach of Government regulations (External)
Breach of Official Conduct (Other)

Workplace Behaviour

Disgraceful behaviour (Internal)
Sexual misconduct (Internal)
Drugs/alcohol
Violence
Performance/attendance matter (Internal)
Negligence or carelessness (Internal)
Failure to follow lawful instruction
Breach of policy (Internal)
Breach of Government regulations (Internal)
Workplace Behaviour (Other)

Use of Police Resources

Misuse of email or internet
Unauthorised use of database
Misuse of vehicle
Misuse of property
Damage to property
Use of Police Resources (Other)

Off Duty Behaviour

Disgraceful behaviour (Off duty)
Drugs/alcohol (Off duty)
Violence (Off duty)
EBA - Over 400 Mgms/Litre (Off duty)
EBA - 251-400 Mgms/Litre (Off duty)
Excessive speed (Off duty)
Driving behaviour (Off duty)
Driving under influence of drugs (Off duty)
Breach of Government regulations (Off-duty)
Off Duty Behaviour (Other)

Disclaimer

The information contained in this response is based on data extracted from a continuously expanding operational database, with the earliest record dating from January 1984. The current more efficient database application was introduced on 1 July 2009, and improved data structures were gradually and continuously introduced from December 2010 onwards. Therefore, not all the data is reliable and may result in omissions and/or errors, especially prior to 2011. The data is dynamic and subject to change as new information is received. While quality assurance has been undertaken on some low-volume critical incident types (e.g. Police use of firearms resulting in injury or death), and reviews are undertaken of database records as and when anomalies are identified, quality assurance of all the data would require the manual checking of many thousands of hard copy and electronic files, which is beyond the resources available to NZ Police.