

The most common allegations overall, as the 'Top 10' (calculated by the number of times that allegation is used nationally). This is shown month-by-month, as the year-to-date (YTD) top 10 for each month. Also shown are the totals of completed investigations, and how many of the allegations have been upheld*. It should be noted that in some cases, although the investigation has been completed, the final outcome has not yet been recorded. This will mainly be due to administrative requirements and workloads. The figures shown for completed and upheld therefore relate to allegations that were recorded as completed YTD, and those recorded as completed YTD with a finding of upheld*.

Allegations may originate externally (reported by a member of the public, either an individual or organisation), internally (reported from within Police, either by an employee or through standard reporting channels; these relate primarily to operational reviews initiated internally, but may also include internal complaints about conduct in the workplace) or from off duty behaviour (indicating the Police employee was not acting in their capacity as a member of Police).

It is important to understand that this **does not equate to the number of reported incidents**. An allegation may be used multiple times (that is against a number of involved employees) in one incident.

Nor does it equate to the number of staff, as each involved employee may be facing several allegations.

A full list of all allegations grouped into their allegation type can be viewed [here](#).

January 2020

Allegation	Total	Completed	Upheld*
Inadequate service	62	7	1
Failure - Investigation	58	6	
Use of force on duty (Manual)	57		
Attitude/language (External)	34	3	
Breach of Rights	28		
Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination (External)	22	4	
Breach of privacy/confidentiality	18		
Unlawful Arrest	11		
Driving behaviour	8		
Attempted suicide (custodial)	8	1	



* Where significant event allegations such as a suicide, a Police pursuit resulting in injury or death, or a Police discharge of firearm resulting in injury or death have been upheld, it is important to be aware that this does not necessarily imply that Police were culpable of that injury or death. In most cases there has been a breach of policy or process which is not directly linked to the injury/death.

See page 7 for a definition of 'upheld'.

February 2020 YTD

Allegation	Total	Completed	Upheld
Inadequate service	152	40	7
Failure - Investigation	126	33	
Use of force on duty (Manual)	90	4	
Attitude/language (External)	78	13	
Breach of Rights	44		
Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination (External)	36	12	
Breach of privacy/confidentiality	27	3	
Property (Custodial)	27	3	1
Failure - Prosecution	23	7	1
Driving behaviour	18	3	

March 2020 YTD

Allegation	Total	Completed	Upheld
Inadequate service	254	89	12
Failure - Investigation	204	61	1
Attitude/language (External)	137	36	2
Use of force on duty (Manual)	123	12	
Breach of Rights	53	3	
Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination (External)	50	27	
Failure - Prosecution	40	16	1
Breach of privacy/confidentiality	34	8	1
Property (Custodial)	33	8	1
Misuse of vehicle	27	2	

April 2020 YTD

Allegation	Total	Completed	Upheld
Inadequate service	307	155	24
Failure - Investigation	243	112	8
Attitude/language (External)	205	86	6
Use of force on duty (Manual)	138	35	
Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination (External)	63	34	
Breach of Rights	61	19	
Failure - Prosecution	49	30	1
Property (Custodial)	41	13	1
Breach of privacy/confidentiality	39	21	4
Misuse of vehicle	37	31	

May 2020 YTD

Allegation	Total	Completed	Upheld
Inadequate service	412	260	31
Failure - Investigation	326	190	9
Attitude/language (External)	271	180	11
Use of force on duty (Manual)	175	63	
Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination (External)	81	53	
Breach of Rights	75	32	1
Failure - Prosecution	59	42	2
Breach of privacy/confidentiality	50	38	7
Property (Custodial)	50	21	5
Misuse of vehicle	43	32	

June 2020 YTD

Allegation	Total	Completed	Upheld
Inadequate service	507	362	40
Failure - Investigation	395	277	14
Attitude/language (External)	337	248	14
Use of force on duty (Manual)	220	97	
Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination (External)	102	78	1
Breach of Rights	90	55	3
Failure - Prosecution	67	56	4
Breach of privacy/confidentiality	60	48	8
Property (Custodial)	56	36	7
Service failure (Other)	49	31	12

July 2020 YTD

Allegation	Total	Completed	Upheld
Inadequate service	611	478	50
Failure - Investigation	489	375	21
Attitude/language (External)	403	332	20
Use of force on duty (Manual)	251	144	
Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination (External)	122	99	1
Breach of Rights	105	74	3
Failure - Prosecution	80	67	4
Breach of privacy/confidentiality	72	59	11
Property (Custodial)	64	42	7
Unlawful search	55	37	3

August 2020 YTD

Allegation	Total	Completed	Upheld
Inadequate service	689	577	67
Failure - Investigation	564	449	26
Attitude/language (External)	465	385	25
Use of force on duty (Manual)	285	176	
Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination (External)	142	118	1
Breach of Rights	114	88	5
Failure - Prosecution	90	76	5
Breach of privacy/confidentiality	83	68	12
Property (Custodial)	75	50	8
Service failure (Other)	59	46	17

September 2020 YTD

Allegation	Total	Completed	Upheld
Inadequate service	764	661	81
Failure - Investigation	624	514	32
Attitude/language (External)	518	437	34
Use of force on duty (Manual)	334	209	1
Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination (External)	166	133	1
Breach of Rights	131	98	6
Breach of privacy/confidentiality	100	78	14
Failure - Prosecution	97	89	6
Property (Custodial)	78	58	8
Service failure (Other)	70	53	22

October 2020 YTD

Allegation	Total	Completed	Upheld
Inadequate service	819	728	90
Failure - Investigation	708	601	40
Attitude/language (External)	580	496	42
Use of force on duty (Manual)	355	245	2
Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination (External)	200	150	1
Breach of Rights	145	119	7
Breach of privacy/confidentiality	110	85	15
Failure - Prosecution	106	95	7
Property (Custodial)	84	62	10
Service failure (Other)	75	63	26

November 2020 YTD

Allegation	Total	Completed	Upheld
Inadequate service	888	795	102
Failure - Investigation	779	657	48
Attitude/language (External)	631	536	47
Use of force on duty (Manual)	397	264	2
Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination (External)	217	173	1
Breach of Rights	156	129	8
Breach of privacy/confidentiality	126	99	18
Failure - Prosecution	115	104	8
Unlawful search	88	61	8
Property (Custodial)	87	68	11

December 2020 EOY

Allegation	Total	Completed	Upheld
Inadequate service	957	874	109
Failure - Investigation	841	729	50
Attitude/language (External)	685	603	63
Use of force on duty (Manual)	430	294	5
Harassment/Bullying/Discrimination (External)	232	198	1
Breach of Rights	162	145	13
Breach of privacy/confidentiality	139	110	19
Failure - Prosecution	125	112	9
Unlawful search	93	73	9
Property (Custodial)	89	74	14

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.

Upheld/Not upheld



Where significant event allegations such as a suicide, a Police pursuit resulting in injury or death, or a Police discharge of firearm resulting in injury or death have been upheld, it is important to be aware that this does not necessarily imply that Police were culpable of that injury or death. In most cases there has been a breach of policy or process which is not directly linked to the injury/death.

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.