

Text Mined Operational Offence Statistics

As of 15 March 2023

Released on 30 March 2023



NEW ZEALAND
POLICE
Ngā Pirihimana o Aotearoa

Summary

- ▶ Ram raids are defined as incidents in which a vehicle is used to enter a premise with the intent of committing a burglary.
 - ▶ 'Ram raids' are not defined as an offence in legislation and therefore cannot be searched on Police systems using an offence code. Instead, Police rely on searching the 'free text' fields of incident reports (for the term 'ram raid') to identify if a ram raid related offence has taken place.
 - ▶ Up until last year, there were relatively few ram raids reported on an annual basis. Prior to 2021, ram raids made up less than 0.2% of all burglaries and were not well characterised in Police systems. Most targeted retail premises.
 - ▶ Ram raids began to increase in prevalence in 2021, reaching a peak in August 2022. As ram raids have increased in prevalence, the types of premises targeted for ram raid style burglaries has also expanded.
 - ▶ To ensure that all premises targeted by offenders are counted, commercial premises were added to the ram raid statistics by Police in January 2023. This change was made to capture the increasing number of ram raids that were occurring in premises deemed "commercial" in Police systems, including jewellers and big-box commercial stores.
 - ▶ Recent analysis of data from the 2022 year showed that approximately 12 percent of retail burglaries, and 2 percent of commercial burglaries, mentioned a ram raid had occurred as part of the incident report.
 - ▶ The inclusion of commercial premises in the ram raid statistics has increased the total number of ram raids reported by Police each month (by approx. 30%), but has not significantly changed the trends, when compared to the statistics that reported on retail premises only.
- Based on detailed cross checking, and spot checks (with well published ram-raids in the public domain), Police are confident that the text mined dataset provides unbiased, robust, and reliable trends, in relation to ram raids reported to Police at retail and commercial premises

Statistics

Tables 1-5 and Graphs 1-3 below provide a range of statistics on ram raids.

The statistics are current as of 15 March 2023 and supersede any previous releases on ram raids occurrences from text-mined data.

Please note that the statistics relate to occurrences where the “scene type” was recorded as either a retail or a commercial premise and where text describing the incident suggests a ‘ram raid’ style burglary took place.

Data is only available from 1 April 2017, following the establishment of a retail and commercial premise location code.

It is important to note that the statistics are indicative-only, as they were collated by text-mining free-text fields. This is an inherently more subjective approach and provides less robust statistics than using pre-set fields. This is because any additional text that is added by an officer at the scene, or subsequently during the investigation, is subjective, and can be entered inconsistently from one incident to the next, from one officer to the next, and from one district to the next. It is therefore possible that ram raid style burglaries were missed due to the phrase ‘ram raid’ not being included in the free text. Conversely, the statistics may also include incidents that were related but not actually ram raid style burglaries in and of themselves (e.g., receiving stolen property, or a person acting suspiciously prior to a ram-raid style burglary).

Please also note that the statistics provided are sourced from dynamic operational Police databases and is subject to change as an investigation proceeds, particularly as more information is known about the incident and any offences resulting from it.

Table 1. and Graph 1. provides the number of ram raid incidents that occurred between 1 April 2017 and 28 February 2023, by month, and property type.

Table 2. and Graph 2. provides the adult/youth breakdown for ram raid incidents (including suspects and offenders), between 1 April 2017 and 28 February 2023.

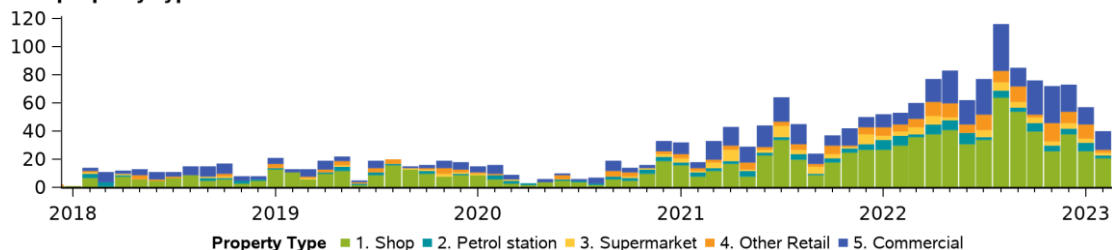
Table 3. and Graph 3. provides the number of enforcement actions taken by Police against offenders for ram raid related offences that occurred between 1 April 2017 and 28 February 2023, by month.

Table 4. provides the number of ram raid incidents that occurred between 1 April 2017 and 28 February 2023, by month, premise type, and Police District.

Table 5. provides the number of enforcement actions taken by Police against offenders for ram raid related offences that occurred between 1 January 2022 and 28 February 2023, by Police District.

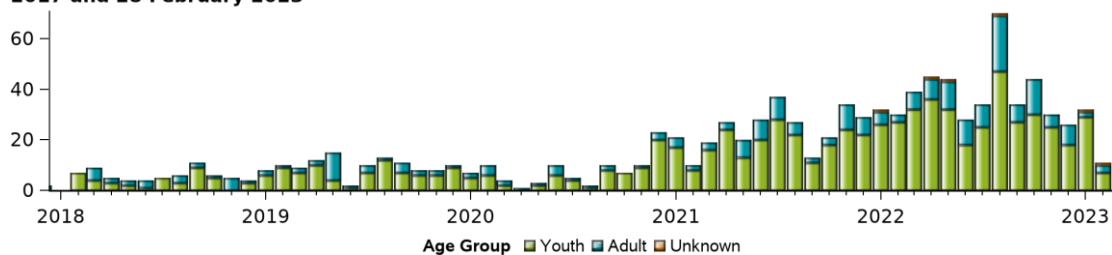
Graph 1.

The number of ram raid incidents that occurred between 1 April 2017 and 28 February 2023, by month, and property type



Graph 2.

The adult/youth breakdown for ram raid incidents (including suspects and offenders), between 1 April 2017 and 28 February 2023



Graph 3.

The number of enforcement actions taken by Police against offenders for ram raid related offences that occurred between 1 April 2017 and 28 February 2023, by month

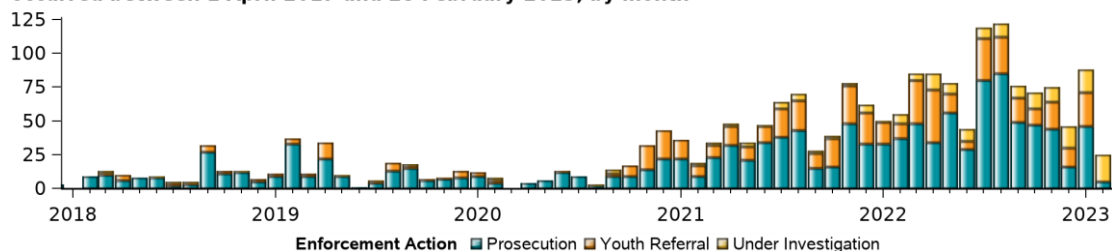


Table 1. The number of ram raid incidents that occurred between 1 April 2017 and 28 February 2023, by month, and property type.

No. of Ram Raids each Month by Property Type		Shop	Petrol station	Supermarket	Other Retail	Commercial	Total
2017	Apr-17	8	8	1	1	8	26
	May-17	10	3	1	.	5	19
	Jun-17	3	1	.	2	2	8
	Jul-17	9	2	.	2	6	19
	Aug-17	6	1	.	1	6	14
	Sep-17	4	1	.	.	2	7
	Oct-17	4	3	.	1	2	10
	Nov-17	5	2	.	2	5	14
	Dec-17	1	.	.	1	.	2
	Total 2017	50	21	2	10	36	119
2018	Jan-18	1	.	.	.	.	1
	Feb-18	7	3	1	1	2	14
	Mar-18	1	3	.	.	7	11
	Apr-18	8	1	1	.	2	12
	May-18	6	.	.	3	4	13
	Jun-18	5	.	.	1	5	11
	Jul-18	7	.	.	1	3	11
	Aug-18	9	.	.	.	6	15
	Sep-18	5	2	1	.	7	15

No. of Ram Raids each Month by Property Type		Shop	Petrol station	Supermarket	Other Retail	Commercial	Total
	Oct-18	6	1	1	2	7	17
	Nov-18	3	2	.	.	3	8
	Dec-18	5	1	.	.	2	8
	Total 2018	63	13	4	8	48	136
2019	Jan-19	13	1	.	3	4	21
	Feb-19	11	.	.	.	2	13
	Mar-19	6	.	1	1	5	13
	Apr-19	10	1	.	2	6	19
	May-19	12	3	1	3	3	22
	Jun-19	2	1	.	1	1	5
	Jul-19	9	2	.	3	5	19
	Aug-19	16	1	.	3	.	20
	Sep-19	13	.	1	.	1	15
	Oct-19	10	2	1	1	2	16
	Nov-19	8	.	2	4	5	19
	Dec-19	9	1	1	2	5	18
	Total 2019	119	12	7	23	39	200
2020	Jan-20	9	.	1	1	4	15
	Feb-20	6	3	.	1	6	16
	Mar-20	3	2	1	.	3	9
	Apr-20	2	1	.	.	.	3
	May-20	4	.	.	.	2	6

No. of Ram Raids each Month by Property Type	Shop	Petrol station	Supermarket	Other Retail	Commercial	Total
Jun-20	5	1	.	3	1	10
Jul-20	4	1	.	.	1	6
Aug-20	2	1	.	.	4	7
Sep-20	6	2	.	4	7	19
Oct-20	5	2	1	3	3	14
Nov-20	10	3	1	.	2	16
Dec-20	19	3	2	2	7	33
Total 2020	75	19	6	14	40	154
2021						
Jan-21	16	2	3	3	8	32
Feb-21	8	3	1	2	4	18
Mar-21	12	2	4	2	13	33
Apr-21	17	2	8	3	13	43
May-21	8	4	1	5	11	29
Jun-21	23	2	2	2	15	44
Jul-21	34	2	8	3	17	64
Aug-21	20	4	3	4	14	45
Sep-21	9	1	5	2	7	24
Oct-21	18	3	3	6	7	37
Nov-21	25	3	1	1	12	42
Dec-21	27	4	7	5	7	50
Total 2021	217	32	46	38	128	461
2022						
Jan-22	27	7	3	6	9	52

No. of Ram Raids each Month by Property Type	Shop	Petrol station	Supermarket	Other Retail	Commercial	Total
Feb-22	30	7	3	5	8	53
Mar-22	36	2	5	6	11	60
Apr-22	38	7	6	10	16	77
May-22	41	7	2	10	23	83
Jun-22	31	8	.	6	17	62
Jul-22	34	2	5	11	25	77
Aug-22	64	5	6	8	33	116
Sep-22	54	3	4	11	13	85
Oct-22	40	6	4	2	24	76
Nov-22	26	4	3	13	26	72
Dec-22	38	4	4	8	19	73
Total 2022	459	62	45	96	224	886
2023						
Jan-23	26	6	3	10	12	57
Feb-23	21	2	2	2	13	40
Total 2023	47	8	5	12	25	97
Total 2017 to 2023	1,030	167	115	201	540	2,053

Table 2. The adult/youth breakdown for ram raid incidents (including suspects and offenders), between 1 April 2017 and 28 February 2023.

The adult/youth breakdown for ram raid incidents (including suspects and offenders)		Youth	Adult	Unknown	Total
2017	Apr-17	11	3	.	14
	May-17	7	2	.	9
	Jun-17	5	1	.	6
	Jul-17	7	3	.	10
	Aug-17	.	5	.	5
	Sep-17	1	.	.	1
	Oct-17	2	4	.	6
	Nov-17	10	1	.	11
	Dec-17	1	1	.	2
	Total 2017	44	20	.	64
2018	Feb-18	7	.	.	7
	Mar-18	4	5	.	9
	Apr-18	3	2	.	5
	May-18	2	2	.	4
	Jun-18	1	3	.	4
	Jul-18	5	.	.	5
	Aug-18	3	3	.	6
	Sep-18	9	2	.	11
	Oct-18	5	1	.	6

The adult/youth breakdown for ram raid incidents (including suspects and offenders)		Youth	Adult	Unknown	Total
2019	Nov-18	.	5	.	5
	Dec-18	3	1	.	4
	Total 2018	42	24	.	66
	Jan-19	6	2	.	8
	Feb-19	9	1	.	10
	Mar-19	7	2	.	9
	Apr-19	10	2	.	12
	May-19	4	11	.	15
	Jun-19	1	1	.	2
	Jul-19	7	3	.	10
	Aug-19	12	1	.	13
	Sep-19	7	4	.	11
	Oct-19	6	2	.	8
	Nov-19	6	2	.	8
	Dec-19	9	1	.	10
	Total 2019	84	32	.	116
2020	Jan-20	5	2	.	7
	Feb-20	6	4	.	10
	Mar-20	2	2	.	4
	Apr-20	.	1	.	1
	May-20	2	1	.	3

The adult/youth breakdown for ram raid incidents (including suspects and offenders)		Youth	Adult	Unknown	Total
2020	Jun-20	6	4	.	10
	Jul-20	4	1	.	5
	Aug-20	1	1	.	2
	Sep-20	8	2	.	10
	Oct-20	7	.	.	7
	Nov-20	9	1	.	10
	Dec-20	20	3	.	23
	Total 2020	70	22	.	92
2021	Jan-21	17	4	.	21
	Feb-21	8	2	.	10
	Mar-21	16	3	.	19
	Apr-21	24	3	.	27
	May-21	13	7	.	20
	Jun-21	20	8	.	28
	Jul-21	28	9	.	37
	Aug-21	22	5	.	27
	Sep-21	11	2	.	13
	Oct-21	18	3	.	21
	Nov-21	24	10	.	34
	Dec-21	22	7	.	29
	Total 2021	223	63	.	286

The adult/youth breakdown for ram raid incidents (including suspects and offenders)		Youth	Adult	Unknown	Total
2022	Jan-22	26	5	1	32
	Feb-22	27	3	.	30
	Mar-22	32	7	.	39
	Apr-22	36	8	1	45
	May-22	32	11	1	44
	Jun-22	18	10	.	28
	Jul-22	25	9	.	34
	Aug-22	47	22	1	70
	Sep-22	27	7	.	34
	Oct-22	30	14	.	44
	Nov-22	25	5	.	30
	Dec-22	18	8	.	26
	Total 2022	343	109	4	456
2023	Jan-23	29	2	1	32
	Feb-23	7	3	1	11
	Total 2023	36	5	2	43
Total 2017 to 2023		842	275	6	1,123

Table 3. The number of enforcement actions taken by Police against offenders for ram raid related offences that occurred between 1 April 2017 and 28 February 2023, by month.

No. of Enforcement Actions ¹ taken by Police against offenders for ram raid offences		Prosecutions	Youth Referrals	Under Active Investigation	Total
2017	Apr-17	25	1	.	26
	May-17	7	4	.	11
	Jun-17	8	.	.	8
	Jul-17	24	5	1	30
	Aug-17	3	.	1	4
	Sep-17	2	.	.	2
	Oct-17	8	.	.	8
	Nov-17	9	.	.	9
	Dec-17	3	.	.	3
	Total 2017	89	10	2	101
2018	Feb-18	9	.	.	9
	Mar-18	10	1	2	13
	Apr-18	6	4	.	10
	May-18	8	.	.	8
	Jun-18	8	.	1	9
	Jul-18	2	2	1	5
	Aug-18	3	1	1	5
	Sep-18	27	5	.	32
	Oct-18	11	2	.	13

No. of Enforcement Actions ¹ taken by Police against offenders for ram raid offences		Prosecutions	Youth Referrals	Under Active Investigation	Total
	Nov-18	12	.	1	13
	Dec-18	5	2	.	7
	Total 2018	101	17	6	124
2019	Jan-19	9	2	.	11
	Feb-19	33	4	.	37
	Mar-19	9	2	.	11
	Apr-19	22	12	.	34
	May-19	9	.	1	10
	Jun-19	1	.	.	1
	Jul-19	4	1	1	6
	Aug-19	13	6	.	19
	Sep-19	15	2	1	18
	Oct-19	6	1	.	7
	Nov-19	7	1	.	8
	Dec-19	8	5	.	13
	Total 2019	136	36	3	175
2020	Jan-20	9	3	.	12
	Feb-20	4	2	2	8
	Apr-20	4	.	.	4
	May-20	6	.	.	6
	Jun-20	12	1	.	13
	Jul-20	9	.	.	9

No. of Enforcement Actions ¹ taken by Police against offenders for ram raid offences		Prosecutions	Youth Referrals	Under Active Investigation	Total
	Aug-20	2	.	1	3
	Sep-20	9	2	3	14
	Oct-20	9	8	.	17
	Nov-20	14	18	.	32
	Dec-20	22	21	.	43
	Total 2020	100	55	6	161
2021	Jan-21	22	14	.	36
	Feb-21	9	8	2	19
	Mar-21	23	9	2	34
	Apr-21	32	14	2	48
	May-21	21	10	3	34
	Jun-21	34	12	1	47
	Jul-21	38	21	5	64
	Aug-21	43	22	5	70
	Sep-21	15	11	2	28
	Oct-21	16	21	2	39
	Nov-21	48	28	2	78
	Dec-21	33	23	6	62
	Total 2021	334	193	32	559
2022	Jan-22	33	16	1	50
	Feb-22	37	11	7	55
	Mar-22	48	32	5	85

No. of Enforcement Actions ¹ taken by Police against offenders for ram raid offences		Prosecutions	Youth Referrals	Under Active Investigation	Total
	Apr-22	34	39	12	85
	May-22	56	14	8	78
	Jun-22	29	6	9	44
	Jul-22	80	31	8	119
	Aug-22	85	27	10	122
	Sep-22	49	18	9	76
	Oct-22	47	12	12	71
	Nov-22	44	20	11	75
	Dec-22	16	14	16	46
	Total 2022	558	240	108	906
2023	Jan-23	46	25	17	88
	Feb-23	5	.	20	25
	Total 2023	51	25	37	113
Total		1,369	576	194	2,139

¹ Please note that one incident may lead to multiple enforcement actions, reflecting the number of offences committed, the types of offending, the range of enforcement actions taken, and the age of the offender.

Table 4. The number of ram raid incidents that occurred between 1 April 2017 and 28 February 2023, by month, premise type, and Police District.

No. of Ram-Raids	Auckland City		Bay of Plenty		Canterbury		Central		Counties/Manukau		Eastern		Northland		Southern		Tasman		Waikato		Waitemata		Wellington		Total
	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	
Apr-17	1	1	1	.	2	4	.	3	1	2	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	2	2	4	.	1	26
May-17	.	.	.	2	3	2	.	.	1	3	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	2	.	1	19
Jun-17	.	1	.	2	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	.	.	.	8
Jul-17	3	6	.	3	2	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	1	.	.	1	19
Aug-17	1	2	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	2	1	1	.	.	14
Sep-17	.	2	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	7
Oct-17	.	.	.	.	1	2	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	2	1	1	.	.	10
Nov-17	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	2	3	3	.	.	14
Dec-17	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	2
Jan-18	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
Feb-18	1	1	.	.	1	5	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	3	.	.	14
Mar-18	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	2	4	.	.	11
Apr-18	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	3	.	1	.	3	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	1	12
May-18	2	4	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	2	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	13
Jun-18	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	1	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	2	1	1	1	.	.	11
Jul-18	.	3	.	.	2	1	.	.	1	2	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	11
Aug-18	2	3	1	2	.	.	.	.	2	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	15
Sep-18	1	3	1	1	.	.	.	.	1	2	.	.	2	2	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	15
Oct-18	2	2	.	.	.	1	.	.	2	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	4	.	.	17
Nov-18	1	2	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	8
Dec-18	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	3	.	.	8
Jan-19	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	4	10	.	.	21
Feb-19	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	2	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	8	.	.	13
Mar-19	.	2	.	1	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	2	1	1	.	1	.	.	1	1	1	.	.	.	13
Apr-19	1	.	1	6	.	.	1	2	1	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	3	2	.	.	.	19
May-19	1	1	.	2	.	4	.	.	.	2	1	7	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	2	.	.	22
Jun-19	.	.	.	1	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	5
Jul-19	.	2	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	3	7	1	.	19
Aug-19	.	1	.	3	.	3	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	7	.	2	.	.	20
Sep-19	.	.	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	4	.	3	.	1	15
Oct-19	.	.	.	.	.	4	.	.	.	2	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	2	1	2	.	3	.	.	16
Nov-19	.	.	.	1	.	3	.	.	1	3	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	2	6	.	1	.	.	19
Dec-19	1	1	.	3	.	.	.	.	1	5	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	2	1	.	.	18
Jan-20	.	.	2	3	.	.	1	2	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	3	.	1	15
Feb-20	.	1	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	2	1	.	.	.	.	2	4	1	2	.	.	16
Mar-20	.	.	.	.	.	1	2	.	.	1	.	2	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	9

No. of Ram-Raids	Auckland City		Bay of Plenty		Canterbury		Central		Counties/ Manukau		Eastern		Northland		Southern		Tasman		Waikato		Waitemata		Wellington		Total
	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	Com*	Retail	
Apr-20	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	3
May-20	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	2	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	6
Jun-20	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	7	.	.	10
Jul-20	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	3	.	1	6
Aug-20	2	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	7
Sep-20	1	.	.	2	.	.	1	2	1	2	.	3	2	2	.	.	.	.	2	1	.	.	.	.	19
Oct-20	.	2	.	4	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	2	.	.	14
Nov-20	.	1	.	3	.	.	.	2	.	1	1	2	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	1	.	2	16
Dec-20	2	3	1	5	1	.	1	7	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	8	.	2	.	.	33
Jan-21	.	3	1	1	.	.	.	2	1	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	12	1	3	.	.	32
Feb-21	.	2	3	5	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	1	.	.	1	18
Mar-21	1	2	1	5	1	2	1	.	2	2	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	4	6	2	2	.	.	33
Apr-21	2	5	2	7	.	3	1	1	2	.	2	4	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	7	3	1	.	1	43
May-21	.	5	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	.	1	1	.	2	.	.	.	.	3	3	1	4	.	.	29
Jun-21	1	3	2	4	2	2	.	3	4	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	14	2	2	.	.	44
Jul-21	4	13	3	7	.	1	1	.	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	22	2	3	.	1	64
Aug-21	.	6	3	8	.	.	1	6	2	1	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	5	3	3	.	1	45
Sep-21	1	4	2	3	.	1	1	.	2	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	1	4	.	.	24
Oct-21	1	4	1	12	.	.	.	2	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	5	3	5	.	.	37
Nov-21	3	5	2	3	1	.	2	1	1	9	.	1	.	1	.	2	.	.	.	4	3	4	.	.	42
Dec-21	.	9	.	3	1	.	.	.	1	9	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	4	13	1	7	.	.	50
Jan-22	2	5	1	5	.	.	.	4	.	11	2	3	1	2	.	.	.	.	3	3	.	10	.	.	52
Feb-22	2	14	1	3	.	.	1	5	1	8	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	10	.	5	1	.	53
Mar-22	2	14	1	7	1	.	1	.	2	8	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	3	3	12	.	3	60
Apr-22	3	12	.	4	.	4	2	3	2	12	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	2	16	7	9	.	.	77
May-22	6	9	1	3	1	7	1	2	2	11	.	1	1	1	.	.	.	.	5	13	5	8	1	5	83
Jun-22	3	13	1	1	4	1	.	.	4	9	.	.	3	9	.	.	.	1	.	2	2	6	.	3	62
Jul-22	4	2	4	13	1	2	.	1	4	9	1	3	.	1	.	.	.	.	4	13	5	6	2	2	77
Aug-22	7	15	3	12	1	7	1	1	3	6	1	2	2	4	.	2	.	.	7	24	3	6	5	4	116
Sep-22	4	9	.	2	1	9	1	1	2	9	.	4	.	3	.	.	.	.	3	20	2	7	.	8	85
Oct-22	3	8	.	4	3	4	.	2	6	12	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	1	3	11	7	6	1	3	76
Nov-22	4	8	2	5	6	2	1	3	4	11	.	.	2	5	.	.	.	.	4	6	3	5	.	1	72
Dec-22	6	10	1	5	1	7	.	4	3	5	.	3	2	3	.	.	.	1	3	6	2	8	1	2	73
Jan-23	6	9	.	5	.	6	.	2	2	.	1	6	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	7	2	7	.	.	57
Feb-23	2	5	1	3	.	.	2	.	2	3	2	4	.	1	.	.	.	.	3	6	1	4	.	1	40

Com* = Commercial

Table 5. The number of enforcement actions taken by Police against offenders for ram raid related offences that occurred between 1 January 2022 and 28 February 2023, by Police District.

No. of Enforcement Actions ¹	Auckland City	Bay of Plenty	Canterbury	Central	Counties/ Manukau	Eastern	Northland	Southern	Tasman	Waikato	Waitemata	Wellington	Total
Prosecutions	91	111	25	33	105	28	25	3	2	106	54	25	608
Youth Referrals	71	35	13	5	46	9	3	.	1	32	34	16	265
Under Active Investigation	42	9	12	3	18	10	7	.	.	20	22	4	147
Grand Total	204	155	50	41	169	47	35	3	3	158	110	45	1,020

¹ Please note that one incident may lead to multiple enforcement actions, reflecting the number of offences committed, the types of offending, the range of enforcement actions taken, and the age of the offender.