

Tactical Options: Supplement

Police Shootings 1916 - 2021



The purpose of this supplemental report is to provide transparency about shootings by NZ Police as far back as records allow. No police officer ever wants to be in the position of deciding whether they need to discharge a firearm at a member of the public, but it is a responsibility they bear in fulfilling their duty to maintain law and order and to keep people safe.

A substantial number of requests for Official Information focus on police shootings; this list is intended to address the high level of public interest surrounding these incidents. While addressing the public interest, we must also be respectful of all the people involved in these incidents, and their right to privacy. In balance, this list includes the key details that most OIA requests focus on.

Shootings by Police

1916 - 2021

Notes

Data Accuracy

The information included in this list is the most accurate available at the time of reporting. The list has been updated to 31st August 2021. Efforts have been made to correct any identified errors, however inaccuracies may still exist.

The Fatalities and Shooting Injuries Database

Historically, fatalities and shooting injuries have not been recorded in TOR data, primarily because these events are subject to detailed and established investigative processes. However, because the team responsible for monitoring, analysing, and reporting on TOR data are not involved in these investigations, there were implications for the prompt and ready visibility of fatalities and shooting injuries for reporting purposes. Given that these uses of force result in more serious—potentially fatal—injuries, these events are essential to a comprehensive understanding of the use of force environment. In July 2017, NZ Police made changes to its reporting policies and introduced the *Fatalities and Shooting Injuries database* to enable the prompt reporting of high-level details about these events, and to improve the quality and completeness of data in this area of reporting. From 2018 onwards, this data has been incorporated into the TOR annual report.

Incident Type Information

Officers select an incident type that best describes the nature of the incident at which tactical options were used. Because shooting incidents prior to July 2017 were not reported in a centralised database, available details have been compiled from other information sources. As a result, the type and format of information prior to 2017 is not standardised, and some information is missing. For these earlier records, information in the column "Incident Type" has been evaluated based on interpretation of the available information, and may not be consistent with how it would have been reported by the officers involved. All other records are based on the information provided by the reporting officer/supervisor.

IPCA Independent Investigations: Public Reports

The IPCA is notified about any event that involves a serious injury or fatality. Where available, links to the public reports from IPCA independent investigations have been provided—these reports contain much more detail about the context and circumstances of each incident than is possible to provide in this list.

Ethnicity Classifications

Ethnicity terms and classifications are based on the Statistics New Zealand Statistical Standard for ethnicity (ETHNIC05 v2). MELAA refers to Middle Eastern, Latin American and African.

Definition

Fatal – cause unconfirmed refers to incidents that resulted in the death of the subject, however the coroner has not been able to confirm whether the fatality is attributable to shots fired by the police.



Shootings by Police

								Link to IPCA
Incident Date	District	Outcome of Shots Fired	Incident Type	Subject Weapon	Subject Age	Subject Sex	Subject Ethnicity	Investigation Public Report
2/04/1916	Bay of Plenty	Fatal	Arrest/Gun fight			М	Māori	
2/04/1916	Bay of Plenty	Fatal	Arrest/Gun fight			М	Māori	
2/04/1916	Bay of Plenty	Non-fatal injury	Arrest/Gun fight			М	Māori	
2/04/1916	Bay of Plenty	Non-fatal injury	Arrest/Gun fight			М	Māori	
20/10/1941	Tasman	Fatal	Homicide (multiple)			М	Unknown	
14/12/1949	Canterbury	Fatal	Discharge firearms at police and public			М	Unknown	
7/07/1969	Northland	Non-fatal injury	Kidnapping/Hostage situation; threaten/discharge firearms	Rifle Shotgun		М	Unknown	
16/04/1970	Wellington	Fatal	Hostage situation; threaten Police with firearm	Shotgun (cut down)		М	Unknown	
5/01/1971	Waikato	Non-fatal injury	Accidental; situation unknown				Unknown	
1/06/1975	Canterbury	Fatal	1M - mental health; stabbing			М	Unknown	
4/01/1976	Central	Fatal	Discharge firearms at police			М	Unknown	

Incident Date	District	Outcome of Shots Fired	Incident Type	Subject Weapon	Subject Age	Subject Sex	Subject Ethnicity	Link to IPCA Investigation Public Report
20/05/1979	Waitematā	Fatal	1D - domestic dispute incident			М	Unknown	
24/12/1982	Wellington	Fatal	Assault police with weapon	Bludgeoning weapon		М	Unknown	
28/01/1983	Auckland	Non-fatal injury	Hostage situation; threaten with firearm	Shotgun	18	М	Unknown	
18/04/1983	Wellington	Fatal	Execute search warrant; threaten police with weapon	Bludgeoning weapon	26	М	Māori	
6/06/1985	Southern	Fatal	Homicide	Shotgun	32	М	European	
7/04/1986	Bay of Plenty	Non-fatal injury	Homicide	Shotgun	18	М	Māori	
14/03/1986	Northland	Fatal	Robbery; hostage situation			М	Unknown	
27/10/1990	Auckland	Fatal	Threaten police with firearm	Shotgun		М	Unknown	
14/11/1990	Southern	Fatal	Homicide (multiple)	Rifle	33	М	European	
25/01/1991	Southern	Non-fatal injury	Discharge firearm at police	Rifle		М	Unknown	
30/12/1991	Central	Non-fatal injury	Armed robbery	Shotgun Rifle	36	М	European	

Incident Date	District	Outcome of Shots Fired	Incident Type	Subject Weapon	Subject Age	Subject Sex	Subject Ethnicity	Link to IPCA Investigation Public Report
29/07/1993	Waikato	Fatal	Hostage situation; threaten police and public with weapon	Cutting/stabbing weapon	47	М	European	
17/09/1994	Northland	Non-fatal injury	1C - car/person acting suspiciously	Cutting/stabbing weapon	22	М	Unknown	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=104278
19/07/1995	Wellington	Non-fatal injury	1M - mental health incident	Rifle	57	М	Unknown	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=104275
27/09/1995	Southern	Fatal	1M - mental health incident; siege; discharge firearm	Rifle	34	М	European	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=104274
20/11/1995	Northland	Fatal	1M - mental health incident; discharge firearm	Rifle (cut down)		М	Unknown	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=104273
6/02/1996	Tasman	Non-fatal injury	1D - domestic dispute incident	Cutting/stabbing weapon	25	М	European	
24/06/1996	Eastern	Fatal	Homicide	Rifle	43	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=104266
29/08/1996	Auckland	Non-fatal injury	1M - mental health incident; hostage situation	Cutting/stabbing weapon	24	F	European	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=104264
21/09/1996	Counties Manukau	Fatal	Threaten/discharge firearm	Rifle	46	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=104259
26/08/1998	Canterbury	Non-fatal injury	Hostage situation; threaten/discharge firearm	Shotgun (cut down)	20	М	European	
21/12/1998	Wellington	Non-fatal injury	Robbery	Shotgun	26	М	Māori	

Incident Date	District	Outcome of Shots Fired	Incident Type	Subject Weapon	Subject Age	Subject Sex	Subject Ethnicity	Link to IPCA Investigation Public Report
23/04/1999	Canterbury	Non-fatal injury	Threaten police with firearm	Shotgun	60	М	Māori	
1/07/1999	Waitematā	Fatal	1S - sudden death	Replica firearm	31	М	Pacific peoples	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=104251
6/08/1999	Waitematā	Non-fatal injury	1D - domestic dispute incident	Cutting/stabbing weapon	33	М	European	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=105096
16/02/2000	Southern	Non-fatal injury	Threaten police with weapon	Cutting/stabbing weapon	26	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=104250
30/04/2000	Central	Fatal	Threaten police with weapon	Bludgeoning weapon	23	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=101402
31/05/2001	Wellington	Miss	Kidnapping aggravated robbery		31	М	Unknown	
21/11/2001	Canterbury	Non-fatal injury	Threaten police with weapon	Cutting/stabbing weapon	32	М	Unknown	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=101424
1/10/2002	Counties Manukau	Non-fatal injury	Threaten police	No weapon	26	М	Pacific peoples	
20/04/2004	Waitematā	Non-fatal injury	Threaten police with weapon	Cutting/stabbing weapon	37	М	Pacific peoples	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=101418
16/06/2004	Auckland	Miss	2Z - Other service request response	No weapon	27	М	European	
14/08/2004	Counties Manukau	Fatal	1D - domestic dispute incident	Cutting/stabbing weapon	37	М	MELAA	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=101419

Link to IPCA Investigation Public Report	Subject Ethnicity	Subject Sex	Subject Age	Subject Weapon	Incident Type	Outcome of Shots Fired	District	Incident Date
	European	М	34	Cutting/stabbing weapon	1110 - Homicide	Non-fatal injury	Waitematā	28/11/2005
https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=101413	European	М	35	Shotgun	6820 - Firearms offences	Non-fatal injury	Wellington	6/01/2007
https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=101401	Māori	М	37	Bludgeoning weapon	3530 – Disorder	Fatal	Canterbury	26/09/2007
	Māori	М	17	Vehicle	2R - Recovery motor vehicle	Miss	Northland	27/11/2007
	European	М	19	Rifle	4120 – Burglary	Non-fatal injury	Waikato	21/01/2008
https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=108400	European	F	37	Airgun - Rifle	1S - sudden death	Fatal	Northland	23/10/2008
	Māori	М	50	Rifle (cut down)	2R - recovery motor vehicle	Non-fatal injury (offender)	Auckland	23/01/2009
https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=120671	Pacific peoples	М	17	No weapon	2R - recovery motor vehicle	Fatal (bystander)	Auckland	23/01/2009
	European	М	30	No weapon	2R - recovery motor vehicle	Non-fatal injury (bystander)	Auckland	23/01/2009
	Unknown	М	51	Shotgun; Shotgun (cut down); Rifle; Handgun – pistol	Execute search warrant	Miss	Eastern	7/05/2009

Incident Date	District	Outcome of Shots Fired	Incident Type	Subject Weapon	Subject Age	Subject Sex	Subject Ethnicity	Link to IPCA Investigation Public Report
28/06/2009	Canterbury	Fatal	1C - car/person acting suspiciously	Rifle Shotgun	42	М	European	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=110272
27/07/2009	Auckland	Non-fatal injury	6820 - Firearms offences	Cutting/stabbing weapon	36	М	Māori	
18/07/2010	Auckland	Non-fatal injury	1Z - other incident	Airgun	38	М	Māori	
24/02/2011	Central	Non-fatal injury	1Z - other incident	Rifle	28	М	European	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=125543
28/03/2011	Eastern	Fatal	Homicide	Shotgun	19	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=130981
16/07/2011	Central	Fatal	Kidnapping	Cutting/stabbing weapon Airgun - handgun	46	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=135477
20/10/2011	Eastern	Non-fatal injury	1710 - Intimidation/threats	No weapon	51	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=133903
21/01/2012	Counties Manukau	Non-fatal injury	1D - domestic dispute incident	Bludgeoning weapon	43	М	Māori	
15/03/2012	Canterbury	Non-fatal injury	3530 – Disorder	Cutting/stabbing weapon	31	М	MELAA	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/Site/z- archive/2015-Template-Archive- /media/2012/2012-October-4 Zakariye-Hussein.aspx
2/05/2013	Wellington	Non-fatal injury	1D - domestic dispute incident	Cutting/stabbing weapon	47	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=130808

Incident Date	District	Outcome of Shots Fired	Incident Type	Subject Weapon	Subject Age	Subject Sex	Subject Ethnicity	Link to IPCA Investigation Public Report
8/06/2013	Central	Fatal	4U - arrest and follow up	Rifle (Cut down)	33	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=138218
8/07/2013	Waitematā	Fatal	Firearms offence	Rifle	20	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.aspx?ID=137516
16/08/2013	Eastern	Non-fatal injury	1M - mental health	Airgun - handgun	33	М	Māori	
7/11/2013	Counties Manukau	Miss	6E - EM bail breach	Bludgeoning weapon	46	М	Māori	
21/10/2014	Waikato	Non-fatal injury	1D - domestic dispute incident	Shotgun (cut down)	50	М	European	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=147565
28/04/2015	Counties Manukau	Non-fatal injury	6820 - Firearms offences	Handgun - pistol	42	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=148260
2/05/2015	Waikato	Fatal	1110 – Homicide	Rifle	33	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=145645
2/08/2015	Auckland	Fatal	1S - sudden death	No weapon	21	М	European	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=145080
20/08/2015	Tasman	Non-fatal injury	Driving and firearms offences	Shotgun	27	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=148544
8/09/2015	Wellington	Fatal	2M - missing person	Rifle	25	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=145135
26/10/2015	Eastern	Non-fatal injury	1110 - Homicide	Shotgun	28	М	European	https://most0010142.expert.serv ices/includes/download.ashx?ID =148132

Incident Date	District	Outcome of Shots Fired	Incident Type	Subject Weapon	Subject Age	Subject Sex	Subject Ethnicity	Link to IPCA Investigation Public Report
9/03/2016	Bay of Plenty	Miss	4O - other special/major operation	Rifle	27	М	Māori	https://most0010142.expert.serv ices/includes/download.ashx?ID =152235
24/03/2016	Central	Non-fatal injury	1C – car/person acting suspiciously	Replica firearm	49	М	Pacific peoples	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=148440
10/06/2016	Waikato	Fatal	1D - domestic dispute incident	Cutting/stabbing weapon	57	М	European	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=149056
12/07/2016	Waikato	Fatal	1S - sudden death	Shotgun	36	М	European	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=148172
14/07/2016	Bay of Plenty	Fatal	Assault	Cutting/stabbing weapon	35	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=148377
6/01/2017	Central	Fatal	1S - sudden death	Shotgun (cut down)	32	М	Asian	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=150082
4/02/2017	Canterbury	Non-fatal injury	1X - threaten/attempt suicide	Replica firearm	24	М	European	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=149445
26/02/2017	Wellington	Fatal	2R - recovery motor vehicle	Cutting/stabbing weapon	44	М	European	https://most0010142.expert.serv ices/includes/download.ashx?ID =150490
7/07/2017	Tasman	Non-fatal injury	3T - turnover	No weapon	34	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=152448
26/07/2017	Northland	Fatal-cause unconfirmed	Homicide	Rifle MSSA	56	М	European	https://most0010142.expert.serv ices/includes/download.ashx?ID =152248

Incident Date	District	Outcome of Shots Fired	Incident Type	Subject Weapon	Subject Age	Subject Sex	Subject Ethnicity	Link to IPCA Investigation Public Report
13/08/2017	Waikato	Miss	3T - turnover	MSSA	36	М	Māori	https://most0010142.expert.serv ices/includes/download.ashx?ID =153200
28/08/2017	Waikato	Miss	2W - arrest warrant (other)	Vehicle	37	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=155889
19/12/2017	Central	Non-fatal injury	1D - domestic dispute incident	Rifle (cut down)	22	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=155348
23/02/2018	Northland	Miss	1C – car/person acting suspiciously	Unknown	40	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=154931
31/03/2018	Waitematā	Fatal	1M - mental health	Cutting/stabbing weapon	29	М	European	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=156239
19/10/2018	Waitematā	Non-fatal injury	1Z - other incident	Shotgun	22	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=159823
25/11/2018	Canterbury	Fatal-cause unconfirmed	1D - domestic dispute incident	Shotgun Vehicle	56	М	Unknown	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=158771
31/01/2019	Counties/Manukau	Miss	4U - arrest and follow up	Handgun - pistol	44	М	Māori	
21/02/2019	Bay of Plenty	Fatal	4U - arrest and follow up	Shotgun Vehicle	29	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=159872
26/02/2019	Canterbury	Non-fatal injury	2W - arrest warrant (other)	Shotgun	32	М	Pacific peoples	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=157979
28/07/2019	Tasman	Non-fatal injury	1Z - other incident	Cutting/stabbing weapon	27	М	European	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=157664

Incident Date	District	Outcome of Shots Fired	Incident Type	Subject Weapon	Subject Age	Subject Sex	Subject Ethnicity	Link to IPCA Investigation Public Report
6/11/2019	Waikato	Miss	1Z - other incident	Vehicle	55	М	European	
24/11/2019	Bay of Plenty	Fatal	1E - emergency/disaster/spill	Cutting/stabbing weapon	40	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=158792
5/12/2019	Southern	Fatal	1X - threaten/attempt suicide	Rifle	66	М	Unknown	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=158726
17/12/2019	Eastern	Non-fatal injury	4U - arrest and follow up	Replica firearm	31	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=157751
13/02/2020	Bay of Plenty	Fatal	PURSUIT	Rifle (cut down)	33	М	Māori	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=159491
20/04/2020	Counties Manukau	Fatal	1C - car/person acting suspiciously	Machete	43	М	Asian	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=158988
19/05/2020	Central	Fatal	1C - car/person acting suspiciously	Firearm - type unconfirmed	54	М	European	https://www.ipca.govt.nz/include s/download.ashx?ID=159938
27/05/2020	Bay of Plenty	Miss	2W – arrest warrant (other)	Shotgun	28	М	Māori	
01/12/2020	Northland	Non-fatal injury	6820 - Firearms offences	Firearm	30	М	European	
25/02/2021	Counties Manukau	Fatal	6820 - Firearms offences	Firearm	34	М	Pacific peoples	
14/07/2021	Waikato	Fatal	Unknown	Firearm	42	М	European	

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Incident Date	District	Outcome of Shots Fired	Incident Type	Subject Weapon	Subject Age	Subject Sex	Subject Ethnicity	Link to IPCA Investigation Public Report
15/07/2021	Auckland City	Non-fatal injury	4211 - Car Conversion	Firearm	36	М	Pacific peoples	
26/07/2021	Central	Miss	2W - Arrest Warrant	No weapon	31	М	European	

List updated to 31 August 2021