

22 December 2022

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Our ref: OIA 101278

Tēnā koe Lance

Official Information Act request: Offences against retailers

Thank you for your email of 27 November 2022, in which you requested:

Please provide the requested date by year dating back as far as records allow at least back to 2002.

- 1a: Total number of offences commonly referred to as 'ram raids' that have been reported.
- 1b: Total number of reported ram raids that have resulted in the offender being identified
- 1c: Total number of reported ram raids that have resulted in the offender being charged with an offence
- 1d: Total number of reported ram raids that have resulted in the offender being convicted of an offence
- 2a: Total number of burglaries at retail premises
- 2b: Total number of burglaries at retail premises that have resulted in the offender being identified
- 2c: Total number of burglaries at retail premises that have resulted in the offender being charged with an offence
- 2d: Total number of burglaries at retail premises that have resulted in the offender being convicted of an offence
- 2e: Estimated number of burglaries at retail premises that have gone unreported
- 3a: Total number of burglaries at residential premises
- 3b: Total number of burglaries at residential premises that have resulted in the offender being identified
- 3c: Total number of burglaries at residential premises that have resulted in the offender being charged with an offence
- 3d: Total number of burglaries at residential premises that have resulted in the offender being convicted of an offence
- 3e: Estimated number of burglaries at residential premises that have gone unreported
- 4a: Total number of aggravated robberies at retail premises
- 4b: Total number of aggravated robberies at retail premises that have resulted in the offender being identified
- 4c: Total number of aggravated robberies at retail premises that have resulted in the offender being charged with an offence

- 4d: Total number of aggravated robberies at retail premises that have resulted in the offender being convicted of an offence
- 4e: Estimated number of aggravated robberies at retail premises that have gone unreported
- 5a: Average age of offenders identified for each of the above categories
- 5b: Average number of prior convictions for offenders identified for each of the above categories
- 5c: Average number of offenders identified who have a prior conviction for any of the above categories
- 5d: Average number of offenders identified who have been previously identified as an offender for any of the above categories
- 5e: Breakdown of what charges were laid in each of the above categories
- 5f: Breakdown of what convictions were obtained in each of the above categories
- 5g: Breakdown of custodial or non-custodial sentences were imposed

As noted earlier, please provide the data dating back to 2002, and break this down by month. If monthly data is unable to be provided then please provide quarterly statistics and an explanation of why this is the case.

On 30 November 2022, the following parts of your request were transferred to the Police:

- 1a: Total number of offences commonly referred to as 'ram raids' that have been reported.
- 1b: Total number of reported ram raids that have resulted in the offender being identified
- 1c: Total number of reported ram raids that have resulted in the offender being charged with an offence
- 2a: Total number of burglaries at retail premises
- 2b: Total number of burglaries at retail premises that have resulted in the offender being identified
- 2c: Total number of burglaries at retail premises that have resulted in the offender being charged with an offence
- 3a: Total number of burglaries at residential premises
- 3b: Total number of burglaries at residential premises that have resulted in the offender being identified
- 3c: Total number of burglaries at residential premises that have resulted in the offender being charged with an offence
- 4a: Total number of aggravated robberies at retail premises
- 4b: Total number of aggravated robberies at retail premises that have resulted in the offender being identified
- 4c: Total number of aggravated robberies at retail premises that have resulted in the offender being charged with an offence
- 5a: Average age of offenders identified for each of the above categories
- 5d: Average number of offenders identified who have been previously identified as an offender for any of the above categories
- 5e: Breakdown of what charges were laid in each of the above categories

Your request has been referred to me for response, as it falls within my responsibilities as Group Manager, Courts and Tribunals, Regional Service Delivery, and is being managed in accordance with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

The Ministry of Justice (the Ministry) does not hold the information you have requested for the reasons outlined below. I am therefore refusing your request under section 18(g)(i) of the Act as the information requested is not held by the Ministry and I have no grounds for believing it is held by another agency subject to the Act.

The Ministry is unable to provide any offender, conviction or sentence type information for people who are facing charges relating to ram-raid offending. This is because 'ram-raid' is not a specific offence type and an offender could be charged with a variety of offences including, but not limited to, burglary, theft (of a vehicle), dangerous/negligent acts, and property damage.

The Ministry is also unable to identify what type of premises burglaries or aggravated robberies occurred at as this level of information is not recorded in the Courts Case Management System (CMS). Statistics on the following offence types can be found on the Ministry's website at justice.govt.nz/justice-sector-policy/research-data/justice-statistics/data-tables/

- Robbery, extortion and related offences
- Unlawful entry with intent/burglary or breaking and entering
- Theft and related offences

The Ministry also does not hold the information you have requested regarding estimated unreported burglaries and aggravated robberies. However, the findings of the New Zealand Crime and Victims Survey contains some data regarding unreported crime which may be of interest to you. This is available here: www.justice.govt.nz/justice-sector-policy/research-data/nzcvs/

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Office of the Ombudsman may be contacted by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phone on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

Richard Williams

Acting Group Manager, Courts and Tribunals, Regional Service Delivery