

WPQ 9459 (2024)

Table 1: Number of people convicted of sexual assault offences in 2023

	2023
Number of people convicted of sexual assault offences	788

Notes for Table 1:

- This data comes from our Tier 1 statistics.
- Tier 1 statistics are the key official statistics by which New Zealand's performance as a country is measured. Tier 1 statistics are published twice a year in March (calendar year) and September (financial year).
- The Australian and New Zealand Standard Offence Classification (ANZSOC) is used to categorise offences within the Tier 1 statistics into 16 divisions, within which subdivisions and groups exist.
- This data has been extracted using the ANZSOC subdivision 030: Sexual assault and related offences not further defined, and ANZSOC subdivision 031: Sexual assault.
- People are counted once per year for their most serious sexual assault conviction.
- A person can have multiple charges which result in conviction and these charges can relate to multiple victims.
- Year is based on the charge outcome date.
- Data includes convictions in the District Court and High Court.

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Table 2: Number of victims of sexual assault in 2023, with lower and upper confidence intervals

	No. of victims	Lower 95% confidence limit	Upper 95% confidence limit
Sexual assault	76,000	56,000	96,000

Notes for Table 2:

- As the NZCVS is a survey, there will be uncertainty around its estimates due to sample error (differences between the sample and the population). The NZCVS uses 95% confidence intervals to capture the uncertainty in its estimates. There is a 95% chance that the true population value lies within the upper and lower 95% confidence limits.
- Number of victims is as recorded in the New Zealand Crime and Victim Survey (NZCVS). There were 7,100 respondents in the 2023 cycle. The NZCVS only collects data about personal and household offences. It does not collect data on retail offences. However, if a respondent worked in a shop and was threatened or assaulted in their workplace, this would be captured in the NZCVS as personal offence.
- Sexual assault is defined in the NZCVS as: Forced sexual intercourse or other sexual acts, unwanted sexual touching, and threats of sexual assault. Attempted sexual assault is included in the measure.
- NZCVS Cycle 6 (2023) has not been released yet so this data is provisional and may be subject to change. When the 2023 cycle is published in late June, it will be found [here](#).
- Weighting is used to produce the population-level statistics¹.

¹ All samples will differ from the population in a range of demographic characteristic (for example, the average age of the NZCVS sample tends to be older than the average age of the NZ population). As different demographic groups are more or less likely to experience crime, it is not possible to simply assume that the proportion of victims in the sample is the same as the proportion of victims in the population. Instead, individuals are assigned a weight. Individuals from demographic groups which are underrepresented in the sample are assigned a higher weight. The proportion of victims in the population (and other estimates) are then calculated using these weighted values. More details of the NZCVS weighting methodology can be found in the [Cycle 5 Methodology report](#).