

RECENT STATISTICS

POLICE STATISTICS

About half of all homicides in New Zealand are family violence.

There were 41 family violence homicides in New Zealand in 2010/11 (includes murder, manslaughter and attempted murder).

On average 14 women, 7 men and 8 children are killed by a member of their family every year.

From 2002-2008 there were 186 family violence deaths:

- 100 partner homicides; 49 child homicides; 37 other family homicides
- most perpetrators of all family violence homicides are male (86% of partner homicides, 60% of child homicides, 73% of other family homicides)
- 39% of victims were Maori, 34% Pakeha, 11% Pacifica, 11% Asian, 1% other.

Police recorded 107,602 family violence incidents and offences in 2010/11.

There were 96,627 children (aged 0-16) present or living with the victim when Police attended.

58% of all reported violent crime in New Zealand is family violence. In 2010/11 this was:

- 45% of abductions, kidnappings and threatening behaviour
- 75% of serious assaults
- 64% of all assaults
- 33% of sexual assaults.

84% of those arrested for family violence are men; 16% are women.

Police attend a family violence situation every 6 minutes, but estimate that only around 20% of incidents are reported.

CHILD ABUSE

On average 9 children under 14 are killed every year in New Zealand by a member(s) of their family. Babies aged less than a year are most at risk of being killed by a family member (7 times more than the national average).

Child, Youth and Family received 150,747 notifications in the year 2010/11 (up from 71,927 in 2006/7). Of these notifications, 57,949 required further action (up from 43,845). The increases are largely due to more family violence referrals from Police.

Around 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 10 boys in New Zealand have experienced sexual abuse.

PARTNER ABUSE

1 in 3 women experience physical or sexual violence from a partner in their lifetime.

78% of partner homicides in NZ are men killing their current or ex female partner.

9% are men killing their ex-partner's new boyfriend.

2% are women killing their male partner.

29% of women and 9% of men experience unwanted and distressing sexual contact over their lifetime.

85% of sexual violence is committed by someone known to the victim.

Women's Refuge received 60,565 crisis calls in 2010/11, and provided services to 13,937 women and 11,014 children.

COURT STATISTICS

There were 4858 applications for protection orders in 2010.

91% of those who apply for protection orders are women.

Each day the Courts deal with around 20 prosecutions of assault on women by men.

There were 798 prosecutions for assault on a child in 2010.

YOUTH STATISTICS

15-24 year olds are most at risk of physical, psychological and sexual victimisation from current and ex-partners.

12% of NZ secondary school students said they had been physically hurt at home in 2007.

10% of secondary school students reported seeing adults hitting or hurting each other in the home, and 17% saw adults hitting a child. Nearly half said it was pretty bad, really bad or terrible.

ECONOMIC COST

The economic cost of family violence was estimated at \$1.2 to \$5.8 billion per year by economist Suzanne Snively in 1994. In today's figures that would rise to \$8 billion.

Child abuse and neglect is estimated to cost NZ up to \$2 billion a year.

The average cost of a homicide in New Zealand is \$4 million.

ATTITUDES TO FAMILY VIOLENCE

Research from the It's not OK Campaign (2010) shows that change is happening in NZ:

- 96% of New Zealanders think everyone should try to help victims of violence and encourage violent people to change their behaviour
- 9 out of 10 (88%) people believe a life without family violence is possible
- 81% of people think it is possible to change people's behaviour (up from 57% in 2008)
- 1 in 3 people have taken some action as a result of the It's not OK Campaign (talked to their family, sought more information, asked for or offered help). This is up from 1 in 5 in 2008
- 95% of people surveyed were aware of the Campaign.

Sources:

- New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse fact sheets www.nzfvc.org.nz
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- Fanslow, J and Robinson, E. 2004. Violence against women in New Zealand: prevalence and health consequences. *New Zealand Medical Journal*, 117(1206).
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