

25 June 2025

IR-01-25-20905

s.9(2)(a) OIA

Tēnā koe s.9(2)(a) OIA

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request dated 5 June 2025. You asked for:

Any report that indicates positive or negative the cause of a reduction of licensed users in the last 3 years

The reasons an individual might not renew their firearms licence is anecdotal as they are not required to disclose why they may not choose to renew. However, I refer you to the attached report titled “Firearms Licence Environment as at 1 November 2023.” This analysis relates to the licence holder population with expired, new, or renewal licences, activating circumstances or appeals currently in the Te Tari Pūreke Registry system and provides examples of reasons an individual may not renew (for example, see paragraphs 5, 19, 20).

There have been no further analysis or reports to date, therefore part of your request is refused under section 18(g) of the OIA as the information requested is not held by Police and I have no grounds for believing the information is held by another agency.

Anecdotally, some reasons that an individual might not renew their firearms licence could include several factors such as moving overseas, moving to a location within New Zealand where the individual may not require the use of a firearm, or other external factors such as lifestyle choices.

In the 2024/25 financial year (to 31 May 2025), there are a total of 228,667 active individual licence holder, a decrease of 2 percent from the 2023/24 financial year (ending 30 June 2024).

I refer you to table 1 below that shows the total active firearms licence holders broken down by financial year, individual licence holders and Dealer licence holders from 2022/23 to 2024/25 as at 31 May 2025.

Table 1: Number of active firearms licence holders broken down by financial year, individual licence holders and Dealer licence holders from financial years 2022/23 to 2024/25 (as at 31 May 2025)¹

¹ Active licence holders are those who are legally allowed to possess firearms due to holding a current firearms licence. This includes licences that have expired but the licence holder has applied to renew their licence before expiry. These are treated as 'Current' until a final decision has been made.

Licence type	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Active individual licence holders ²	234,612	232,654 (-1%) ³	228,667 (-2%)
Active Dealer licence holders	375	429 (+14%)	425 (-1%)

Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 31 May 2025

Note that other factors influencing the data could be related to individuals who have surrendered their licence or has been suspended or revoked.

Of interest – while there have been steady decreases of the number of individuals active since 2022/23 (ending 30 June 2023), the number of active Dealer licence holders has increased by 13 percent since 2022/23 (from 375 to 425 as of 31 May 2025).

The number of licensed users surrendering their licenses

An individual at any time may surrender their firearms licence to a member of the Police (see section 27 of the Arms Act 1983⁴). At the point of surrender, the individual is no longer a current licence holder, and all firearms must be accounted for.

An individual who has surrendered their licence may submit a new firearms licence application at any time.

I refer you to table 2 below that shows the number of surrendered firearms licences and surrendered endorsements broken down by financial years from 2022/23 to 2024/25 (to the date the data was extracted 31 May 2025).

Table 2: Number of surrendered firearms licences and surrendered endorsements broken down by financial years from 2022/23 to 2024/25 as at 31 May 2025

Licence type	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Surrendered licences ⁵	832	1,286 (+55%)	2,208 (+72%)
Surrendered endorsements ⁶	424	600 (+42%)	333 (-45%)

Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA) retrieved 9 June 2025

Table 2 shows that a total of 2,208 licences have been surrendered in financial year 2024/25 (to 31 May 2025). This is an increase of 72 percent (1,286 licences surrendered) from financial year 2023/24 (as at 30 June 2024).

A licence holder may choose to surrender their endorsement while retaining their A-Category licence. The number of endorsements surrendered in 2024/25 (to 31 May 2025)

² This figure will include Visitor licence holders.

³ Percentages are an indication of increases or decreases when compared to the previous financial year only.

⁴ <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1983/0044/latest/whole.html#DLM72928>

⁵ Surrendered licences can be surrendered in a given year and later reinstated. These numbers are of licences that were surrendered in that year; however, their status may have since changed.

⁶ Surrendered endorsements can be surrendered in a given year and later reinstated. These numbers are of endorsements that were surrendered in that year; however, their status may have since changed.

is 333, which is a decrease of 45 percent from 2023/24 (where there were 600 surrendered endorsements).

Any research papers on the numbers of licensed users, unlicensed firearm arms owners, fire arms held by Criminals or the mentally ill

This part of your request is refused under section 18(g) of the OIA, the information is not held by Police, and I have no grounds for believing that the information is either held by another department or agency or more closely connected with another department or agency.

The number of persons that have registered their fire arms to date and an Est of those that have not

The Firearms Registry was officially launched on 24 June 2023 and is one of the ways we're strengthening how we manage firearms and other arms items in New Zealand. The purpose of the Registry is to give Police and Te Tari Pūreke a complete record of all lawfully held arms items in New Zealand.

I refer you to table 3 below that shows the number of registered firearms licence holders nationally broken down by individual, dealer, and visitor licence types, non-active, active and not registered yet as at 1 June 2025.

Table 3: number of registered firearms licence holders broken down by individual, dealer and visitor licence types, non-active, active and not yet registered as at 1 June 2025.

Registration status	Individual licence holders	Dealer licence holders	Visitor licence holders	Total
Non-active registered ⁷	2,666	7	1,099	3,772
Active registered ⁸	85,974	26	56	86,056
Not yet registered ⁹	142,565	399	40	143,004

Source: Arms Information System (AIS) retrieved 1 June 2025.

A total of 86,056 active licence holders have registered their details as of 1 June 2025. Meanwhile, a total of 3,772 registrations have been recorded by individuals who no longer hold an active licence (they may have been active at the time of registration, but have either since expired, surrendered their licence, or been revoked). Together this means 38.5 percent of the total licence holder population is registered.

⁷ 'Non-active registered' licence holders include those who registered their details, but their licence status has since changed to 'non-active' (i.e., their licence was either surrendered, revoked, suspended, or has expired).

⁸ 'Active registered' licence holders include only those who are 'active' (i.e., they have a 'current' licence or have a renewal in progress) and does not include those who have registered their details on the Firearms Registry but no longer hold an active licence.

⁹ 'Not yet registered' includes active licence holders who have not yet made an 'Arms Items' or 'No Arms Items' declaration on the Firearms Registry. These individuals will be required to register their details by 31 August 2028.

Taking into consideration all registrations, this equates to an average of 3,906 registrations each month since the launch of the Registry (or 888 each week).

Excluding Visitor licence holders, there remains 142,964 individuals and Dealers to yet register (61.5 percent of licence holders).

I refer you to appendix A (attached) that shows the total number of registrations since the launch of the Registry and includes a simple linear projection of registrations required to meet the Registry objective of one-hundred percent registrations by 31 August 2028. The projection shows the Registry is currently on track to meet that deadline, however, it does not take into account that a getting a “new licence” is an activating circumstance which requires registration.

It is expected between 2023/24 and 2028 approximately 154,000 licences will expire creating an activating circumstance for these licence holders, with new licence applications expected to peak in 2027/28.

Additionally, from 24 June 2025 purchasing ammunition also creates an activating circumstance which will contribute to more licence holders in the Registry (though predicting the additional rate that registration might increase due to this ammunition change is not possible at this time).

Te Tari Pūreke proactively releases firearms data updated monthly (link below).
<https://www.firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/news-and-publications/firearms-data-and-public-information>

Any reports or analyses in respect of the above matters

I refer you to the attached document titled “Firearms Licence Environment as at 1 November 2023.” This analysis relates to the licence holder population with expired, new, or renewal licences, activating circumstances or appeals currently in the Te Tari Pūreke Registry system.

There has been no further analysis or reports to date.

The data contained in the OIA is drawn from a dynamic operational database and is subject to change as new information is recorded or updated.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review this decision if you are not satisfied with the response to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

For your information, Police has developed a process for proactive release of information, so the anonymised response to your request may be publicly released on the New Zealand Police website.

Nāku noa, nā



Matthew Boddy
Director Service Delivery
Firearms Safety Authority

Te Tari Pūreke Performance and Insights

DATA SNAPSHOT¹

Firearms licence holder environment

Document reference	231024-DS-Firearms licence holder environment
Date delivered	3 November 2023
Data current as of	1 November 2023
Next Data Snapshot due	N/A

Introduction

1. This report pertains to the licence holder population with expired, new or renewal licences, activating circumstances, or appeals currently in the Te Tari Pūreke Registry system. The data is current as of 1 November 2023 and is drawn from a dynamic operational database – it is subject to change as new information is recorded or updated.
2. Caveats and important notes are included throughout this report, related to each data set. It is important that these are taken into consideration when reading or using the report findings.
3. Unless elsewhere stated, all data in this report is presented as a financial year (1 July – 30 June), noting that 2023/24 is only a partial reporting year with four months of data available at the time of writing this report.

Key findings

4. In the 2023/24 financial year to date (July – October), the number of expired individual firearms licences are 1.3 times higher (1,333) compared to the same period in 2022/23. At the time of writing this report, trends have followed a similar pattern to those seen in previous years, and the overall increase seen thus far could potentially be due to a spike seen in August 2023 when the Arms (Extension of Licences and Endorsements) Amendment Regulations 2023 elapsed.
5. The Upper North Island of New Zealand was affected by two tropical cyclones in the first two months of 2023². Damage caused by these cyclones to infrastructure, economy, and communities continue to be felt around the areas affected. It is possible that subsequent impacts from these natural disasters could have contributed to a licence holders' change in circumstances and decisions to not renew their licence, however further investigation would be required to assess the full impact.
6. Demand for new and renewal licences continue to increase and follow similar patterns to those seen in previous years. There was a notable peak of applications in May 2023, and monthly volume has remained higher than the 2022/23 year until October 2023.

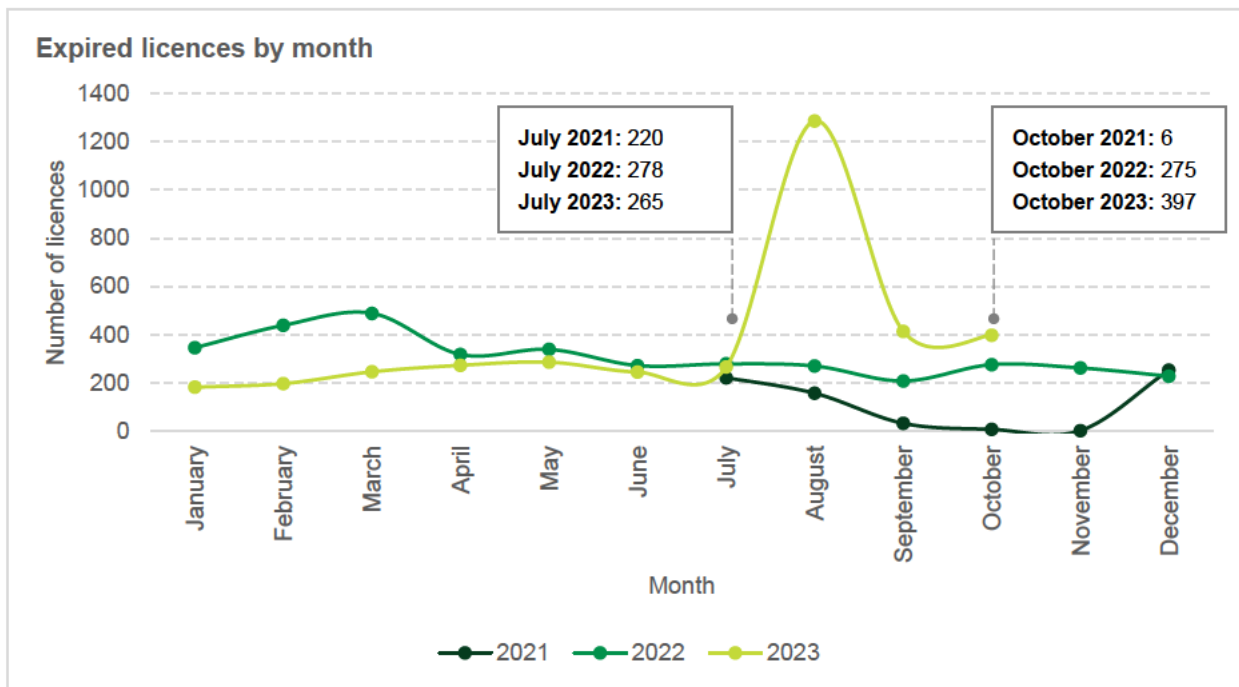
¹ Data contained in this report is drawn from a dynamic operational database and is subject to change as new information is recorded or updated.

² Cyclone Hale caused widespread damage from 7 to 12 January 2023. One month later, Cyclone Gabrielle struck the upper North Island from 5 February to 11 February 2023.

7. Of all applications received year-on-year, the highest proportion of these are renewals from existing licence holders, though we do see a steady increase in the number of younger (16-29-year-olds) first time applicants.
8. The number of activating circumstances continue to increase as the year progresses. At the time of writing this report, 80 percent (10,193) of active licence holders who have triggered an activating circumstance had contacted the Registry or were still within time to do so. The main categories that overdue activating events are associated with are either the sale or supply of firearms, or by application.
9. When a firearms licence is revoked by Te Tari Pūreke, the licence holder has the option to review this decision via an appeal to the District Court. From January 2022 to 31 October 2023, almost two-thirds of cases have been dismissed or withdrawn (36), and in 39 percent (23) of cases the appeal has been upheld. Of all cases which have proceeded to the appeal process, there have been no instances of an appeal being upheld due to issues identified within Police processes.

Expired individual firearms licences³

Figure One: Expired individual firearms licences per month.



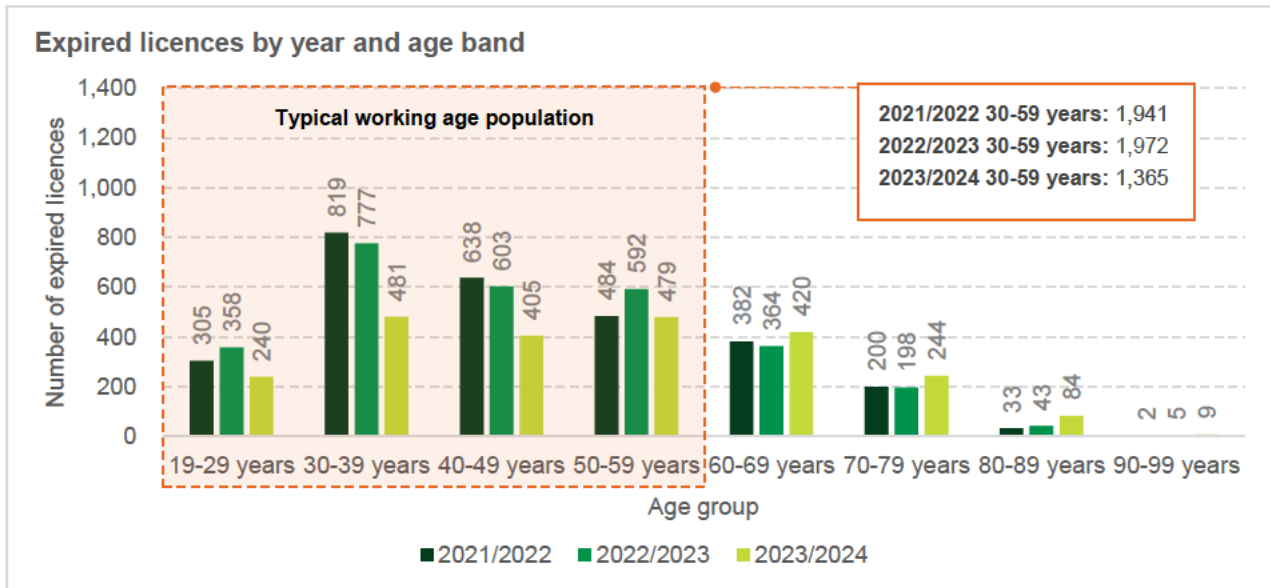
Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

10. The number of expired firearms licences per month indicates that throughout the first half of the 2023 calendar year (January – June), the total number of licences which had expired was lower than that of 2022 (figure one). Comparing the 2022 and 2023 calendar year, data indicates that there has been a two percent (71) increase of the number of expired licences, indicating that we are seeing similar trends to previous years, however we will continue to monitor these numbers for any notable exceptions.

³ **CAVEAT:** This is based on a point-in-time data capture based on the licence and application status at the time of this report. This does not include licences that have expired but have an active licence renewal/reinstate event and includes individual (A-Standard) firearms licences only. This includes licences in the status of 'Expired', 'Expired and Explanation', 'Expired and Wanted to Interview'. This excludes 'Pending', 'Current', 'Renewal / Reinstate in Progress', deceased licence holders, refused, revoked, cancelled, suspended, surrendered.

11. An exception to this trend was observed in August 2023, which saw a peak of 1,287 licences expiring, almost five times as high as the same time the previous year. The Arms (Extension of Licences and Endorsements) Amendment Regulations 2023 provided an extension until 31 August 2023 to a total of 2,603 licences due to the effects of Cyclones Hale and Gabrielle. As of 31 August 2023, 1,134 of the 2,603 licences had not renewed their licence.⁴
12. Prior to the August 2023 spike, expired licences in July were five percent (13) lower than at the same time in the previous year, meanwhile October 2023 indicates a 44 percent (122) increase compared to the same time last year. This will be monitored over the coming months.

Figure Two: Number of expired firearms licences per year by age group.



Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

13. Of the population with an expired licence, those falling within the typical working age population (between 30- to 59-year-olds) account for the highest proportion of those choosing not to renew⁵ (figure two). In the past 3 years, an average of 64 percent (5,278) of 30 to 59-year-olds did not renew.
14. When examining these figures at a licence holder population level, per capita⁶ (that is, expired licences per 1,000 active licence holder population), 30-39-year-olds are more likely to exit the system compared to other age groups.⁷

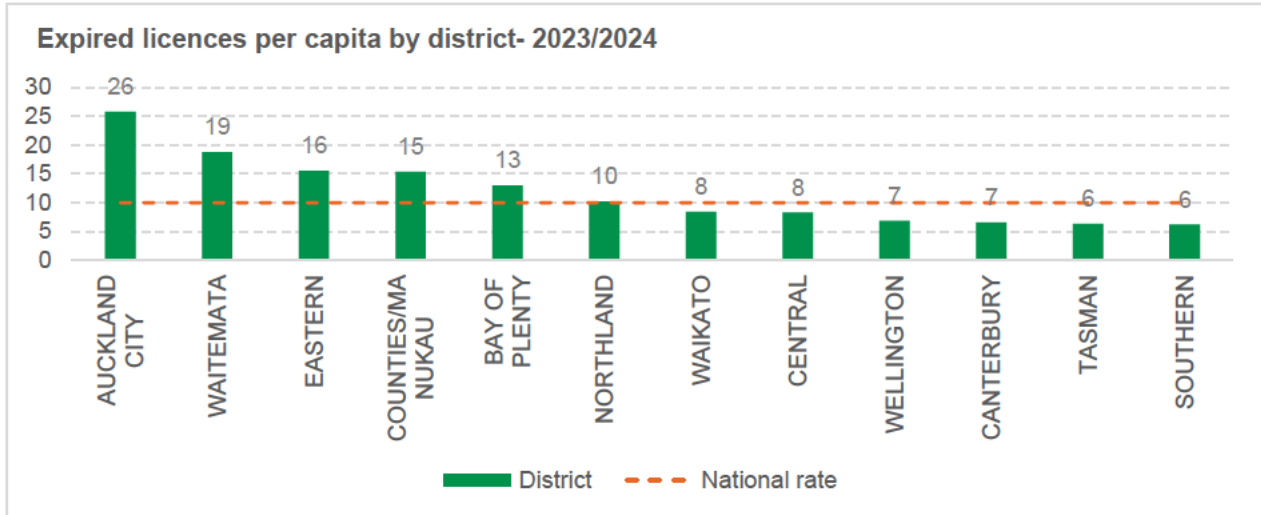
⁴ Extensions were provided based on the postcode of licence holders who resided in cyclone-affected areas.

⁵ Year is financial year (Jul-Jun).

⁶ This figure has been calculated by dividing the number of expired licences per district by the total active licence holder population by age group, then multiplied by 1,000. This returns a comparable figure for population comparisons.

⁷ The only notable exception to this trend is those ages 90-99-years-old, however it should be noted that the overall licence holder population for this group is relatively small compared to other age brackets. Refer to Appendix A for a breakdown of expired licence holders per capita.

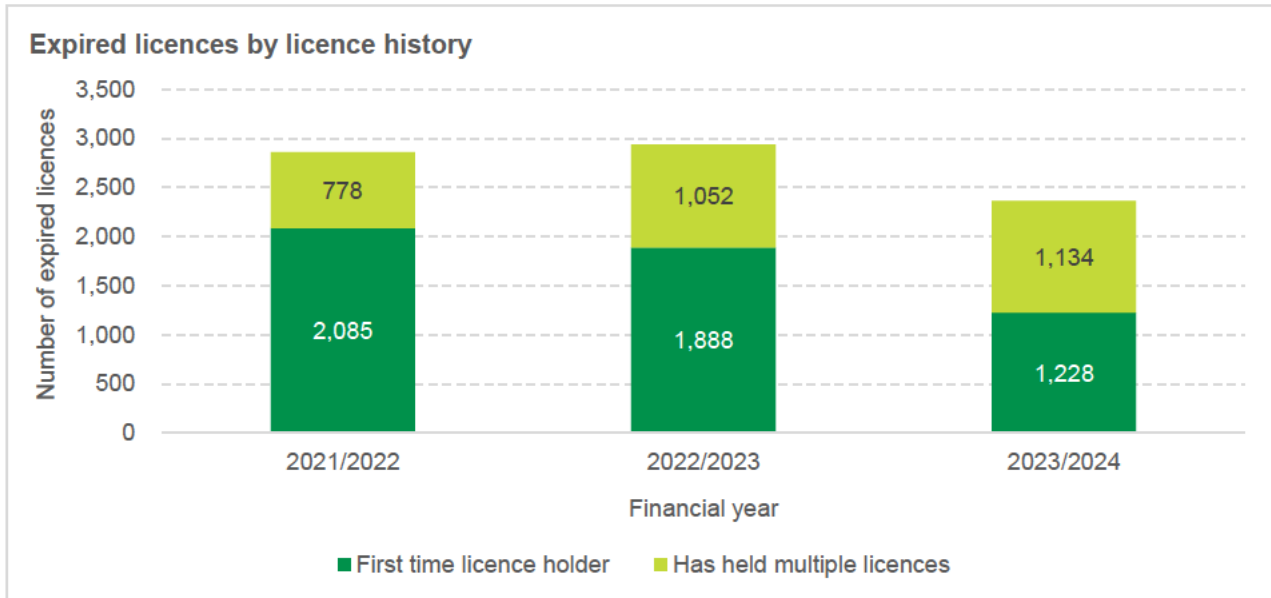
Figure Three: Expired licences per capita, by District.



Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

- Per capita⁸, Auckland City District is more than double the New Zealand average (10 expiries per 1,000 active licence holders), with 26 people per capita with an expired licence (figure three). This is followed by Waitematā (19 people), and Eastern Districts (16).⁹
- Counties Manukau and Bay of Plenty Districts are over-represented in population rates of those deciding not to renew their licence. This could be driven by the impact of Cyclones Hale and Gabrielle which may have shifted lifestyle priorities for our licence holder population.

Figure Four: Number of expired firearms per year, by licence holder status.



Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

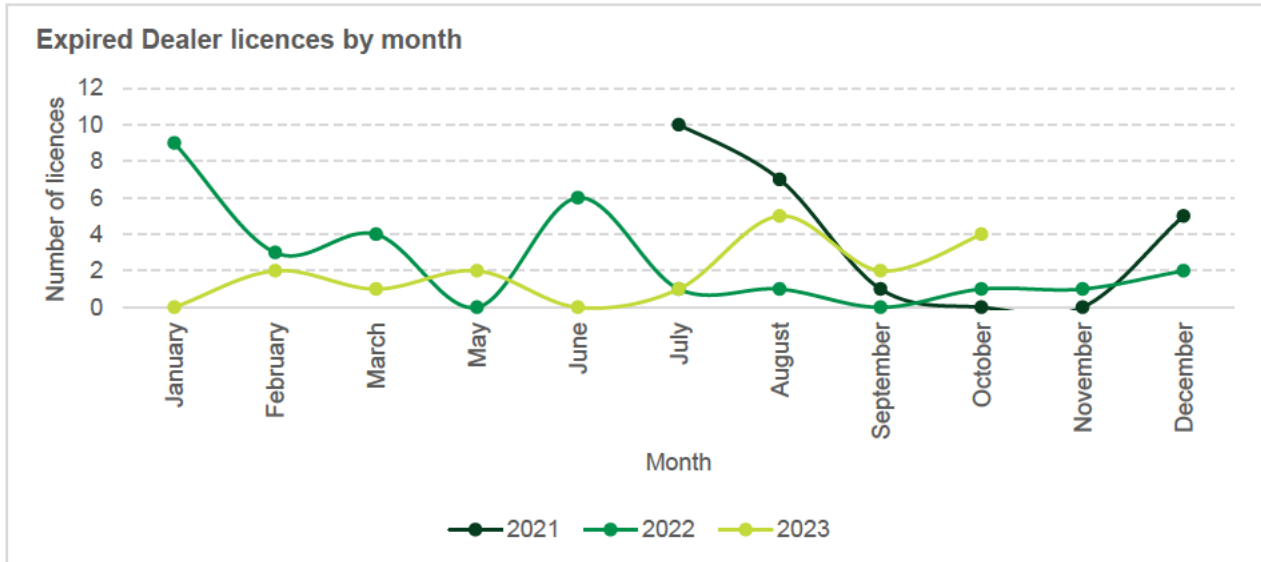
⁸ This figure has been calculated by dividing the number of expired licences per district by the total active licence holder population per district, then multiplied by 1,000. This returns a comparable figure by population.

⁹ Refer to Appendix B for a breakdown of expired licence rates by district.

17. Since 2021/22, two-thirds of those with an expired licence were first-time licence holders (5,201). However, this gap is starting to close in 2023/24, with an almost even split at the time of writing this report¹⁰ (figure four).

Expired dealer licences¹¹

Figure Five: Number of expired dealer firearms per month.



Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

18. In the 2023/24 financial year-to-date, there have been 12 dealer licences which have expired, nine higher than for the same period in 2022/23 (figure five).¹² We will continue to monitor this trend as we progress through the remainder of the year, however the rate of Dealer application demand outstrips the number of licences expiring each month.

19. Legislation changes to the Arms Amendment Regulations 2021 could have potentially impacted the Dealer expiry figures we saw in 2021/22. Some of the changes included:

- Other requirements added to the application for Dealer’s licences.
- Wording amendments and additional regulations added to section 7 which affects records kept by Dealers.
- Changes to security requirements in regulation 8, including the addition of ammunition storage and inclusion of conditions relating to bona fide museum.
- Additions to regulation 9 which relate to Dealer responsibilities in notifying the regulator of various changes within the place of business, Dealer inspections, transportation conditions, arms item testing conditions, ammunition seller endorsements and additional conditions.

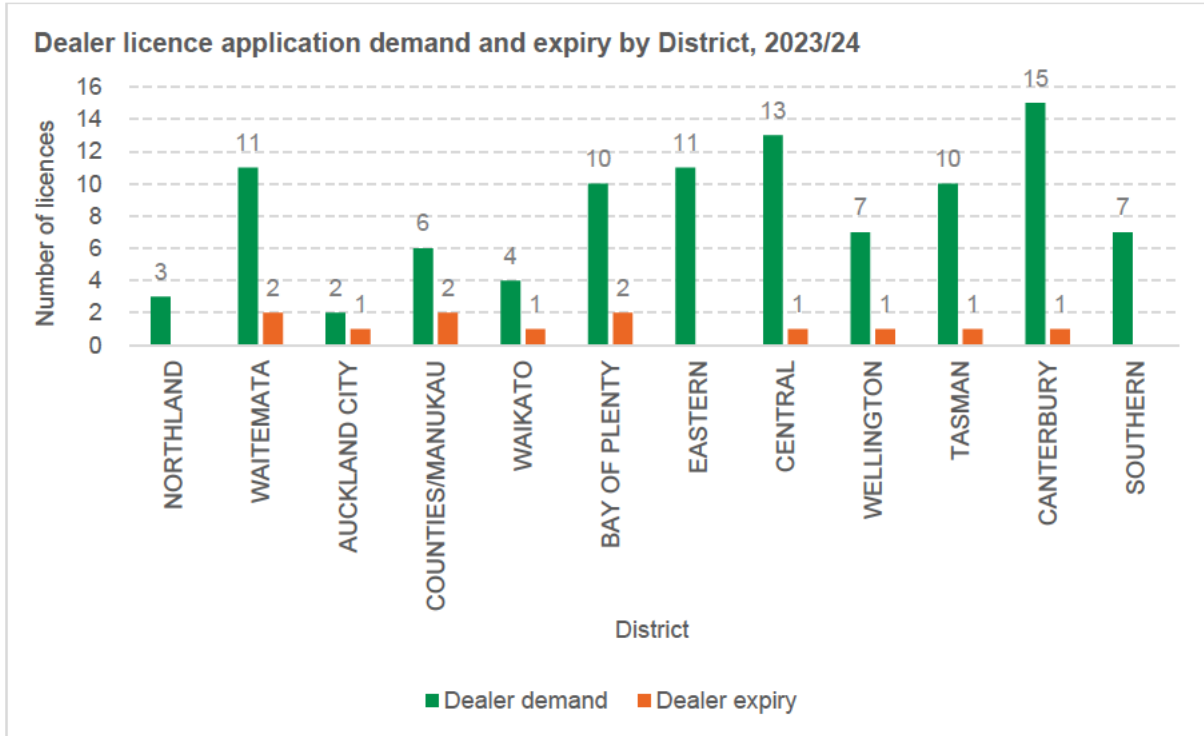
¹⁰ It should be noted that data for 2023/24 only captures 4 months of information, therefore this trend could change over the remainder of the financial year.

¹¹ **CAVEAT:** This is based on a point-in-time data capture based on the licence and application status at the time of this report. This does not include licences that have expired but have an active licence renewal/reinstate event and includes dealer only. This includes licences in the status of ‘Expired’, ‘Expired and Explanation’, ‘Expired and Wanted to Interview’. This excludes ‘Pending’, ‘Current’, ‘Renewal / Reinstate in Progress’, deceased licence holders, refused, revoked, cancelled, suspended, surrendered.

¹² It should be noted that data for 2023/24 only captures 4 months of information, therefore this trend could change over the remainder of the financial year.

20. Other potential impacts occurring around 2021/22 include ongoing effects of COVID, such as businesses struggling to recover from lack of consumer business during lockdown periods and social distancing requirements.
21. Seasonally, there does not appear to be any trend to expired dealer licences and has fluctuated throughout the year and may continue to do so, indicating that there is no point-in-time or influence on the decision to allow a licence to expire without renewal.

Figure Six: Demand and expiry of Dealer licences in 2023/24, by district.



Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

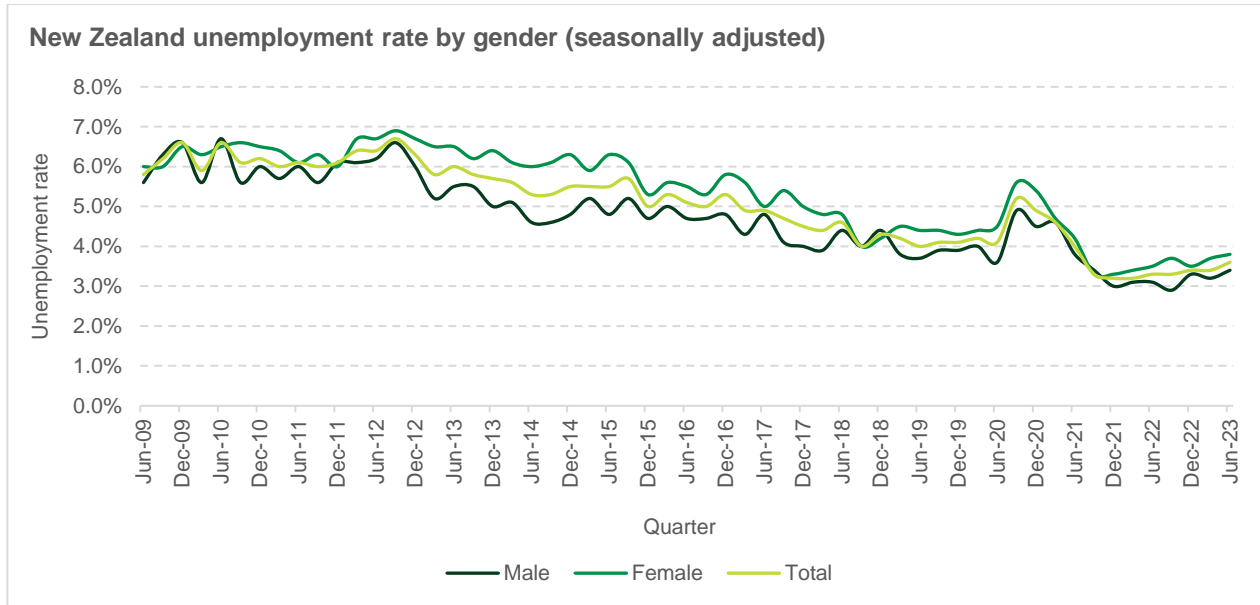
22. Dealer licence expiry is relatively evenly spread across districts, indicating that there is potentially no particular area which is accounting for a driver in expiry rates (figure six).

Potential environmental impacts

23. There are wider environmental circumstances which could have contributed to a licence holders’ decision to not renew their licence; however, these correlations should not be taken as a direct causation of licence expiry.
24. The upper North Island of New Zealand was impacted by two tropical cyclones in the first two months of 2023. Cyclone Hale caused widespread damage around Auckland, Northland, the Coromandel, and Gisborne and Hawke’s Bay areas from 7 to 12 January 2023. One month later, Cyclone Gabrielle struck the upper North Island from 5 February to 11 February 2023.
25. As a response to the damage and recovery effort to the New Zealand population in these regions, the Arms (Extension of Licences and Endorsements) Amendment Regulations 2023 provided an extension to 31 August 2023 to the expiry date of 2,603 licences within cyclone-affected areas.

26. Damage caused by Cyclones Hale and Gabrielle to infrastructure, economy, and communities continue to be felt around the areas affected¹³. While we cannot directly correlate this damage to licence holders' decision to renew within the area, subsequent impacts from these natural disasters are likely to have contributed.

Figure Seven: New Zealand unemployment rate per quarter, by gender



Source: Stats NZ-Tatauranga Aotearoa. (n.d.), retrieved 19 October 2023 from <https://www.stats.govt.nz/topics/employment-and-unemployment>.

27. Unemployment within New Zealand has been steadily increasing since September 2021, with the rate of unemployment sitting at 3.6 percent in the latest quarter (Apr-Jun 2023), an increase from 3.4 percent in the Jan-Mar 2023 quarter) (figure seven).

28. While this cannot be directly correlated to the decision by licence holders to not renew a licence, these statistics should be taken into consideration alongside rising interest rates and increased cost of living experienced within New Zealand, particularly in a post-COVID economic recovery¹⁴.

29. Anecdotally, economic research indicates that the average age a New Zealander may now look to purchase their first home is from the age of 35¹⁵. As licence holders aged 30-39-years-old account for one of the highest groups who have not renewed their licence, these findings could impact on our licence holders' financial-related decisions.

30. A wider contextual understanding will be produced in the upcoming Performance and Insights Report which will conduct a deeper data dive and explore the factors surrounding licensing decision making from our holder population.

¹³ Source: Public Health Communication Centre, Aotearoa. Retrieved 30 October 2023, <https://www.phcc.org.nz/briefing/cyclone-gabrielle-numbers-review-six-months>

¹⁴ Source: StatsNZ-Tatauranga Aotearoa (n.d.). Retrieved 30 October 2023, <https://www.stats.govt.nz/news/household-living-costs-increase-7-2-percent/>

¹⁵ Sourced from OneRoof analysis of data supplied by credit bureau Centrix. <https://www.oneroof.co.nz/news/first-home-buyers-are-getting-older-despite-falling-house-prices-44091>

Survey of individuals with expired licences

31. Between 27 October 2023 and 30 October 2023, Te Tari Pūreke staff conducted a survey with 135 individual licence holders whose licence had expired this year to understand the individual drivers behind the decision to not renew.

Figure Eight: Top reasons firearms licence holders did not renew their licence

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Respondents</i>
Out of the country	31
No longer shooting	17
Renewal in progress	9
Not aware they had expired	6
Process very difficult	8
Other reasons ¹⁶	12
Not able to be contacted	52
Total	135

Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

32. Almost a quarter of respondents (31) licences had expired as they were out of the country. This was followed by 13 percent (17) who advised that they were no longer shooting, and seven percent (9) stated that they were currently in the process of having their licence renewed (figure eight).
33. A small portion (6) indicated that they were not aware that their licence had been expired. Around six percent (8) indicated that they either found the process difficult, or financial pressures were a driver of their decision to not renew their licence.
34. A significant portion of respondents (52) were unable to be contacted to respond to the survey and attempts at contact were made on at least two or more occasions. Of all respondents who were able to be contacted, only one commented that legislative changes impacted their decision to not renew. Some respondents were specifically asked to share their thoughts on the introduction of the Firearms Registry, and all shared their support for its implementation.

¹⁶ Other reasons include a variety of categories, such as age, health, etc.

New and renewal licence applications¹⁷

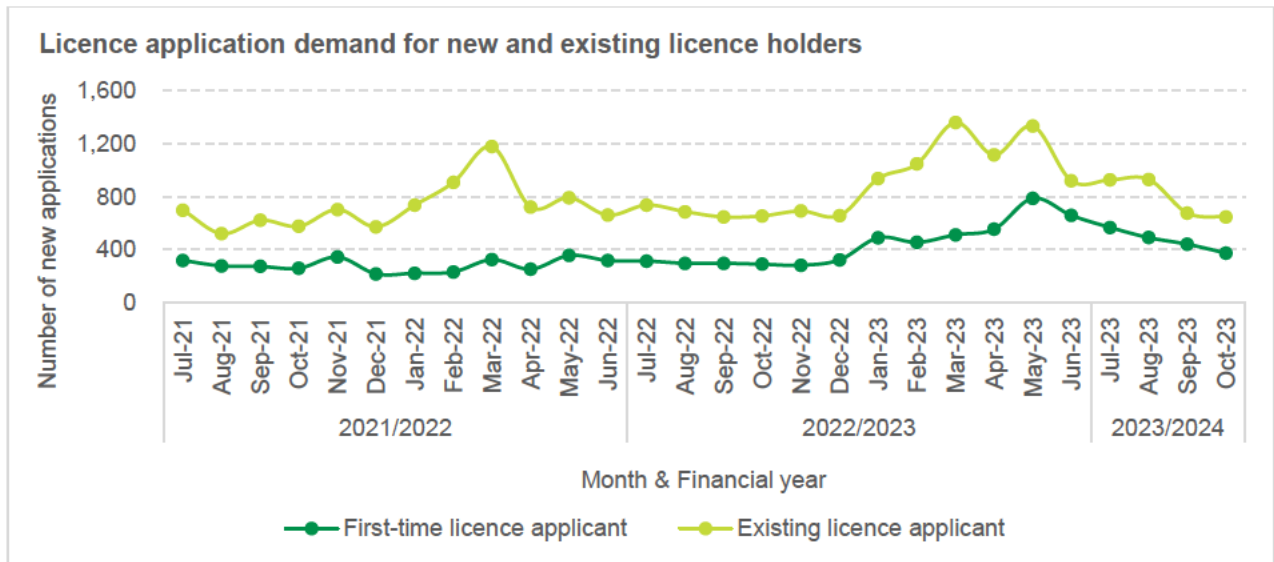
Figure Nine: Number of new licence applications per year, by licence holder status

Licence holder	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/24	Total
First-time licence applicant	3,391	5,262	1,874	10,527
Existing licence applicant	8,696	10,794	3,181	22,671
Total	12,087	16,056	5,055	33,198

Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

35. There has been a steady increase in the number of new and renewal applications being received over the past three financial years (figure nine). Dealers account for two percent (99) of the new application demand received in 2023/24, which is consistent with previous years.

Figure Ten: Number of new licence applications per month, by licence holder status

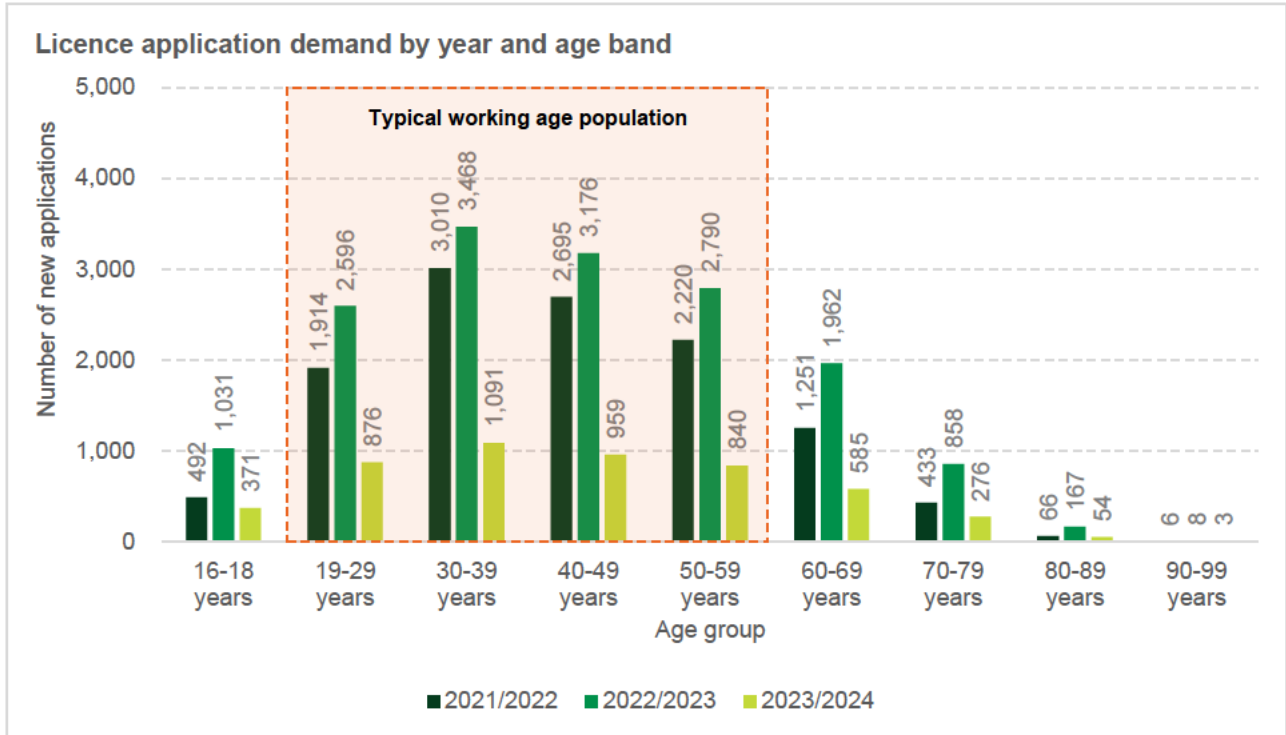


Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

36. Since 2021/22, first-time licence holders typically account for around a third (10,527 over the past three years) of new licence applications (figure ten).

¹⁷ **CAVEAT:** First time licence applicants vs licence holders that have held multiple licences is calculated using the Licence application date and the licence first issue date. If the most recent licence application date is after the licence first issue date, then a licence holder has held multiple licences otherwise they are a first-time licence applicant. Licence holders that have held licences previously includes both Renewals and Reinstates. If a licence holder has submitted multiple applications but has not been issued a licence, then they will be included within the 'First time applicant' category. Figures include both individual firearms licence holders and dealers.

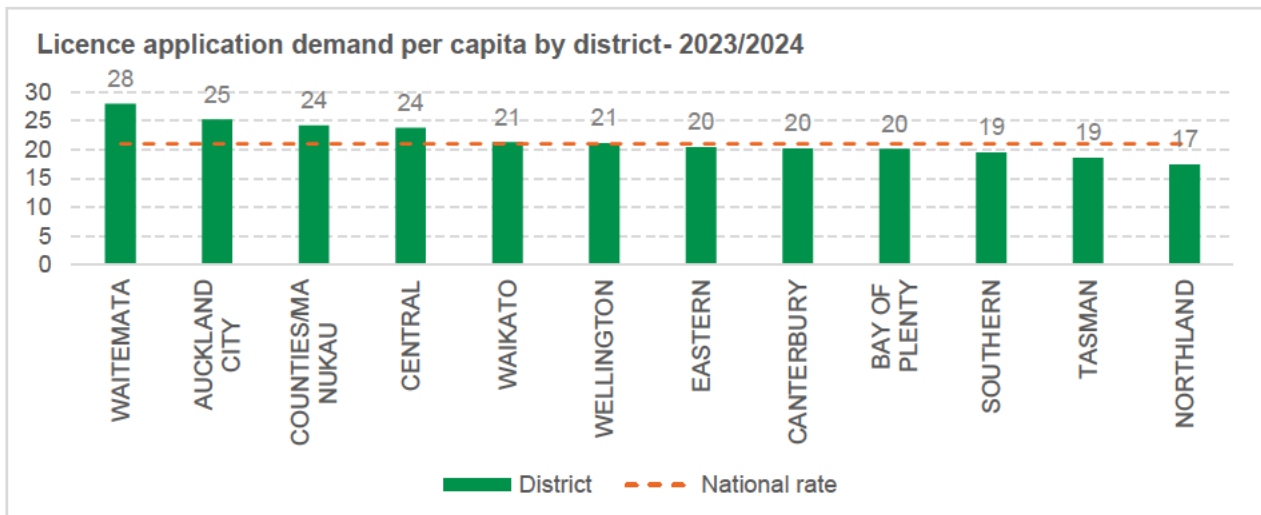
Figure Eleven: Number of new licence applications per year, by age



Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

37. Like our population with expired licences, licence holders who are applying for the first time or renewing their licences are typically aged between 19-59-years-old. They account for three-quarters (3,766) of these types of applications (figure eleven).¹⁸

Figure Twelve: Number of new licence applications per capita, by District

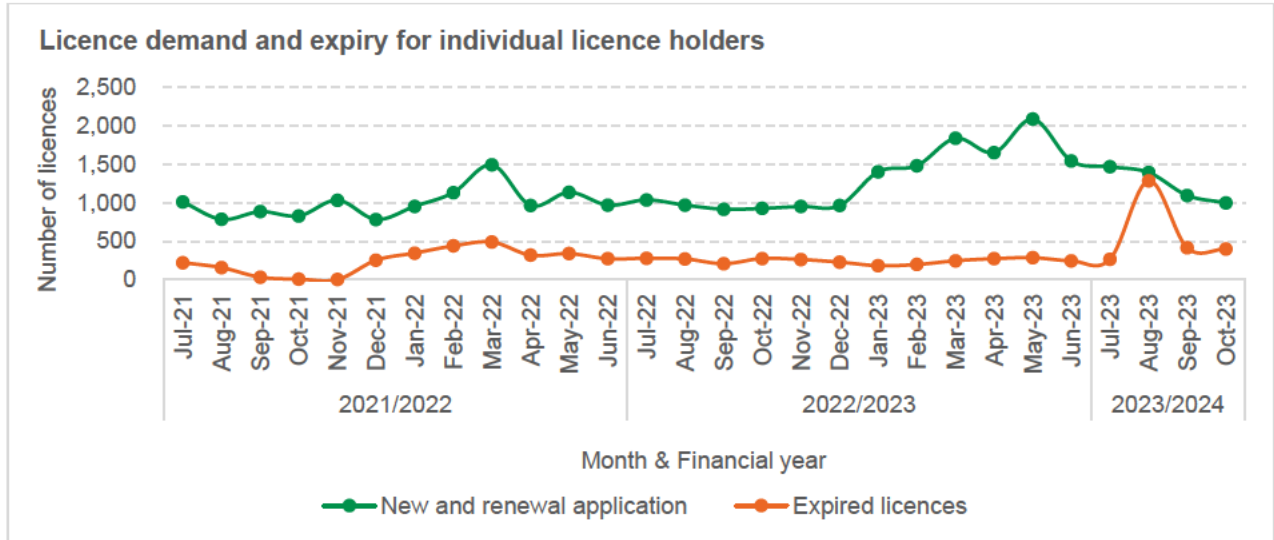


Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

¹⁸ Refer to Appendix C for a full breakdown by age.

38. Per capita¹⁹, Waitematā District has the highest rate of applications with 29 per 1,000 licence holder population. This is followed by Auckland City (25) and Counties Manukau (24) Districts. This balances out licences which are expiring in these regions, particularly in Counties Manukau which sees a rate of 19 expired licences per 1,000 licence holder population, compared with 24 new applications per 1,000.

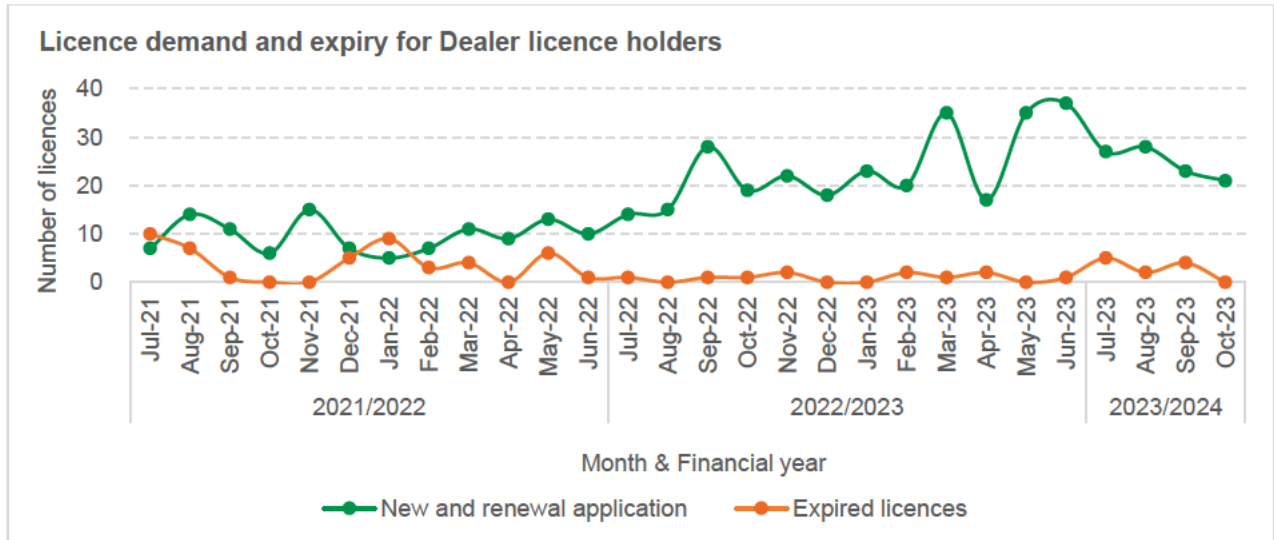
Figure Thirteen: Individual licence holder demand and expiry by month



Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

39. Individual licence holder demand volume has consistently remained higher than licence expiry since 2021/22 (figure thirteen). While there has been a slight drop in application demand from August 2023, it does reflect the level of applications seen at the same time in previous years.

Figure Fourteen: Dealer licence holder demand and expiry by month



Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

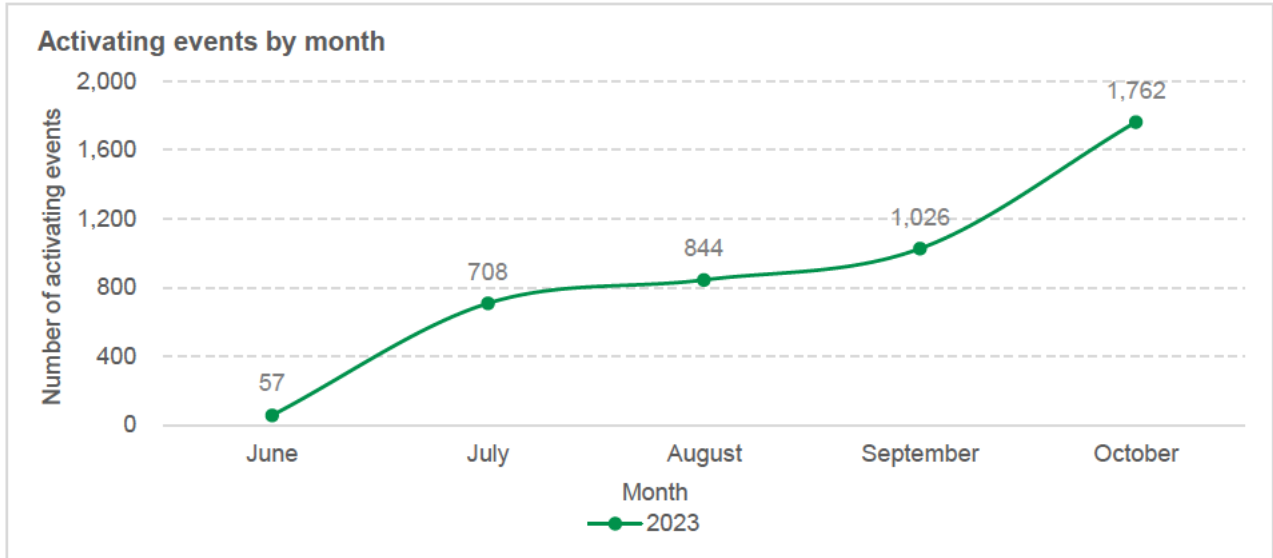
40. For the Dealer population, there has been a steady increase in the number of applications received since 2022/23, balancing out the overall decrease in Dealer licence expiry that was observed in 2021/22.

¹⁹ Refer to Appendix D for a full breakdown by district.

Dealer licence expiry remains consistent this year, and licence demand consistently outstrips licence expiry.

Activating events²⁰

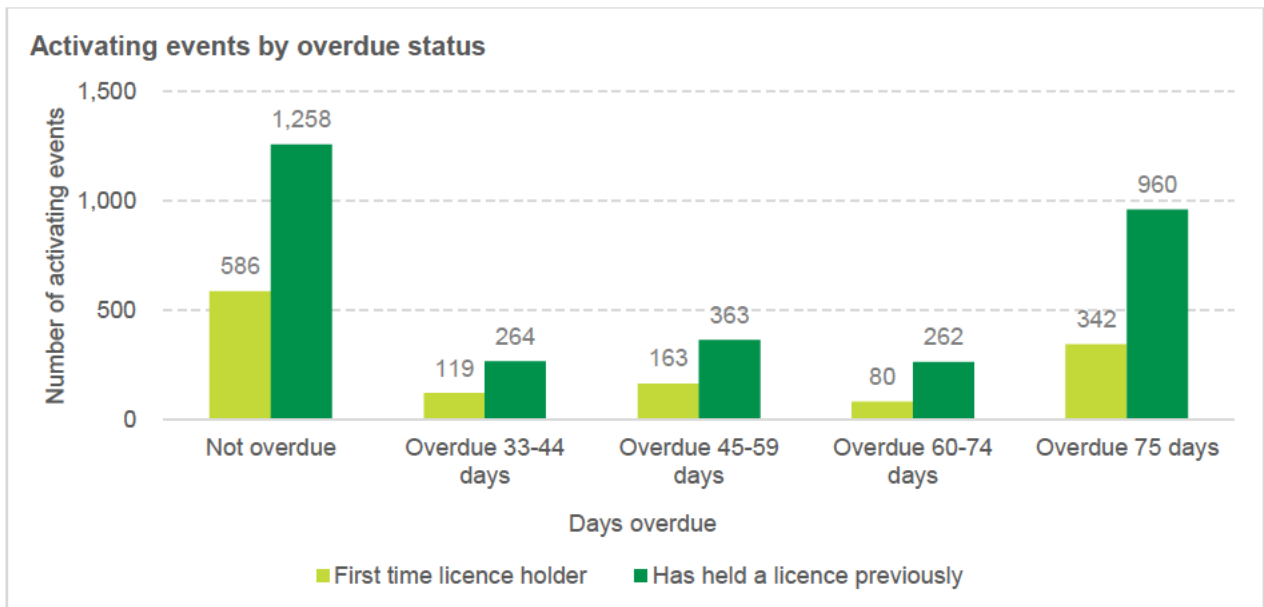
Figure Fifteen: Activating events per month



Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

41. As expected, the number of activating events since 24 June 2023 continue to rise, with the October figure (1,762) more than double than what was recorded in July (708) (figure fifteen).

Figure Sixteen: Current activating events – overdue status



Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

²⁰ **CAVEAT:** This data is based on a count of licence number, with those who have an activating event status of 'New' or 'Pending Resolution', and a licence holder status of 'current' or 'renewal in progress'.

42. In total, there are 4,397 licence holders with activating events, of this population 1,290 of these are first time licence holders, and 3,107 are existing licence holders (figure sixteen).

Figure Seventeen: Number of activating events by overdue status

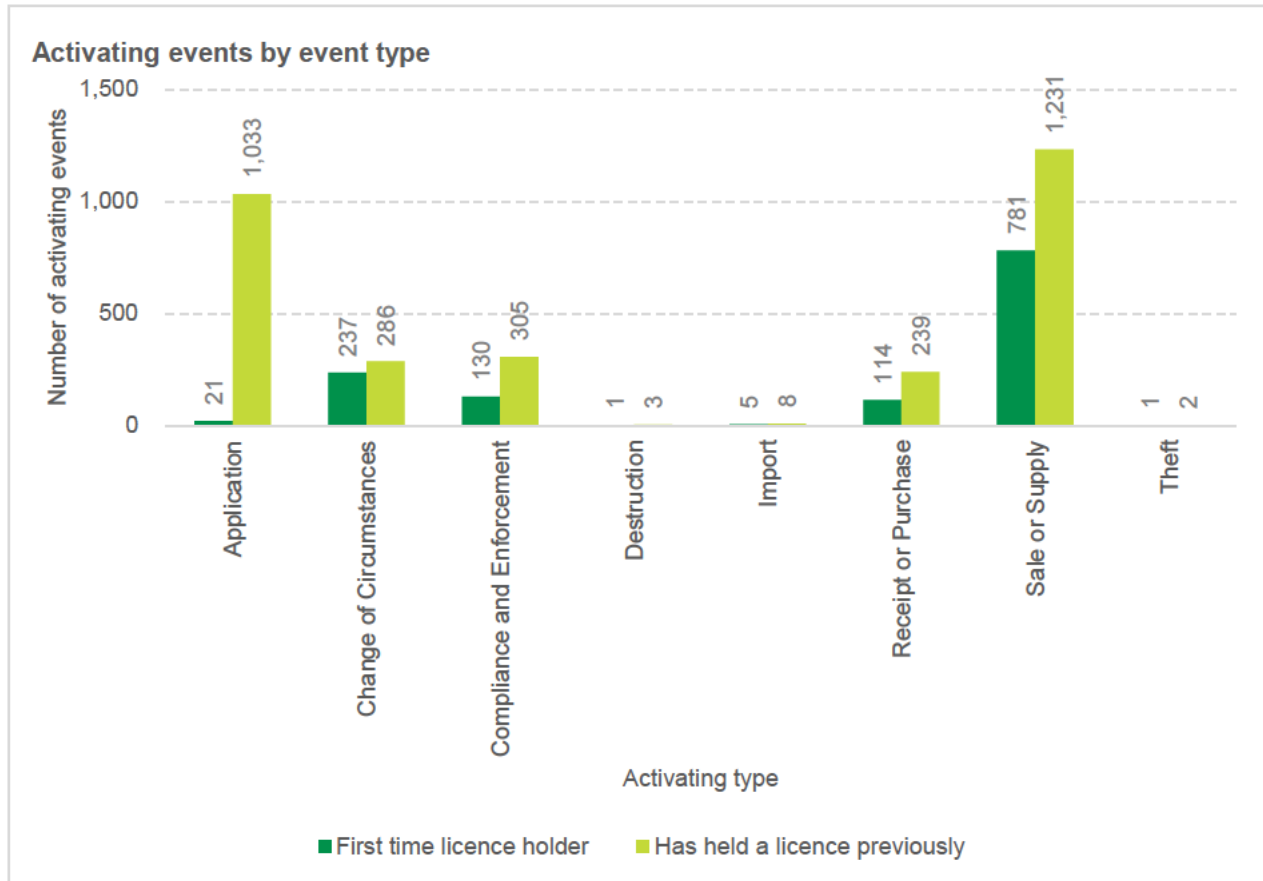
<i>District</i>	<i>First time licence holder</i>	<i>Has held a licence previously</i>	<i>Total</i>
Not overdue	586	1,258	1,844
Overdue 33-44 days	119	264	383
Overdue 45-59 days	163	363	526
Overdue 60-74 days	80	262	342
Overdue 75 days	342	960	1,302
Total	1,290	3,107	4,397

Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

43. The greatest proportion of activating events are not currently overdue (42 percent and 1,844 licence holders), this is followed by those overdue by 75 days (30 percent, 1,302 licence holders). See figure seventeen for a full breakdown²¹
44. For not overdue, and those overdue by 75 days, it is those who have held a licence previously that comprise the greatest number with activating events. This is expected, as this cohort accounts for 75 percent (176,049) of the total licence holder population.
45. Having a significant proportion of licence holders in the 75 days and over category indicates an area of risk for active monitoring, as these licence holders will almost certainly require a greater level of intervention to encourage compliance, and a more intense resourcing response.

²¹ This includes the status of not overdue and overdue events. The count of licence holders includes only those with the status of 'Current' and 'Renewal in Progress', excludes deceased licence holders, and only those with a 'New' or 'Pending Resolution' status.

Figure Eighteen: Current activating events by activating type



Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

- 46. The first-time licence holder population primarily has an activating event related to the sale or supply of firearms (61 percent, 781). This is followed by change of circumstances (18 percent, 237).
- 47. Those who have held a licence before have the greatest proportion of sale or supply activating events (40 percent and 1,231), followed closely by application (33 percent and 1,033) (figure eighteen).

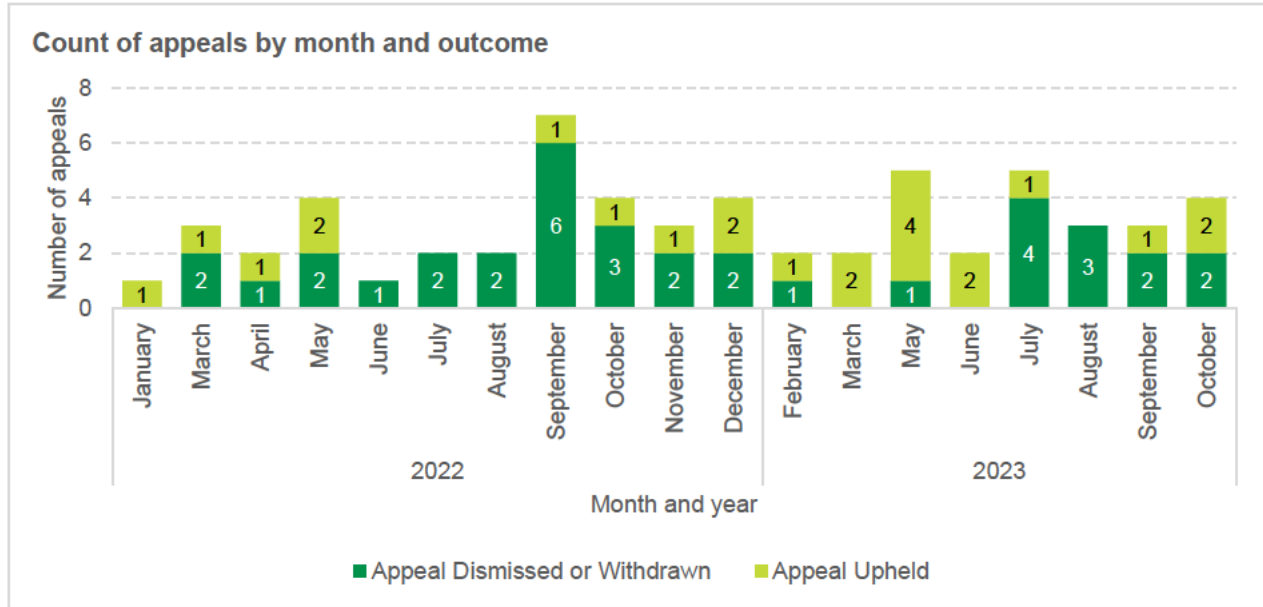
Licence revocation²²

- 48. When a firearms licence is revoked by Te Tari Pūreke, the licence holder has the option to review this decision under section 62 of the Arms Act 1983. This review will be considered by an independent commissioned officer with delegated authority from the Commissioner; the outcome of the review is provided within 28 days of receipt.
- 49. Should a licence holder be dissatisfied with the outcome of the section 62 review, they may make an appeal to the District Court under section 62B of the Act.

²² **CAVEAT:** This data is based on the date the event was completed, and the outcome applied at the time of completion. This is a count of Event ID, therefore is a unique count of events rather than licence numbers, as a licence holder may have more than one event. The outcome of 'Appeal upheld' is the only outcome that negatively affects the result. The outcomes of 'Appeal Dismissed', 'Appeal Withdrawn – Licence Holder', 'Appeal withdrawn – alternative resolution' and 'Cancelled' are all included within the category of 'Appeal dismissed or withdrawn'. This is based on the event types of 'District court appeal – A Cat' and 'District court appeal – Dealer'. This does not include court appeal events that are not yet resolved.

50. The Resolutions Team receive notification of the appeal and maintain liaison with the relevant Crown Solicitor who are engaged to represent Te Tari Pūreke in respect of such matters.
51. Such appeals are undertaken within the civil jurisdiction and heard on a ‘de novo’ (“anew”, “from the beginning”, or “afresh”) basis. An outcome will be provided determining whether the appeal is withdrawn, upheld, or dismissed.

Figure Nineteen: Appeals outcomes by month



Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

52. From 1 January 2022 to 31 October 2023, almost two-thirds of cases have been dismissed or withdrawn (36), with 39 percent (23) of cases where the appeal has been upheld²³ (figure nineteen).
53. Of all cases which have proceeded to District Court appeal, there have been no instances of an appeal which was upheld due to issues identified within Police processes.
54. All appeals are scrutinised individually to determine the final outcome. Examples of the reasons a decision may be upheld include the passage of time (e.g. a revocation is issued due to the behaviour of an individual at a point in time) or change in circumstances.²⁴

Summary

55. Overall, the number of licences which are expiring remains consistent with previous years. A survey of those who had allowed their licence to expire indicated that the primary driver for this was due to being overseas, or no longer requiring their licence (e.g. were no longer using a firearm).
56. The number of new or renewal applications is currently higher than at the same time last year. In the calendar year to date, there has been a total of 15,232 new and renewal applications, compared to

²³ Refer to Appendix E for a breakdown of appeal data by year.

²⁴ A change in individual circumstances could include, but is not limited to, cases where good character has been exhibited, or undertaking of character improvement such as Alcoholics Anonymous.

January to October 2022 which saw 10,628 applications. This is expected as we head toward the bell-curve activity.

57. Activating events continue to rise each month as expected. As there are a significant proportion of licence holders in the 75 days and over category, this indicates an area of risk which we will be actively monitoring.
58. Of all licence revocation cases appealed at Court, the majority are found in favour of Police. Of those which were upheld, there were no instances that this was driven by an issue with Police process or decision-making.

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Document Production

Details	Originator(s)	Reviewed by
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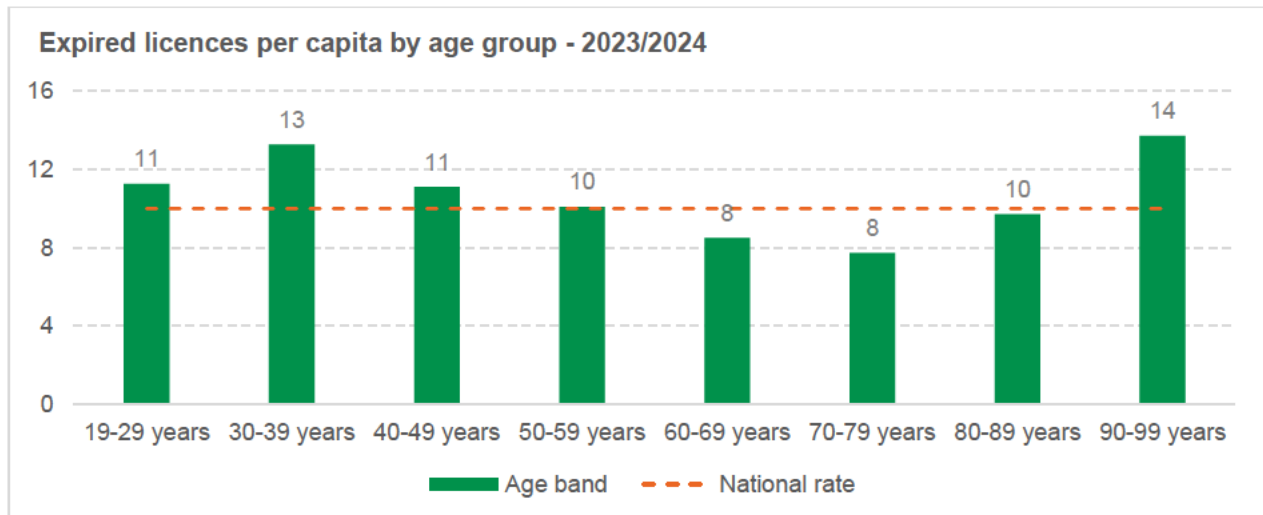
Appendix A

Expired licence holders by age group, including per capita breakdown.

Age group	Expired licences 2023/2024	Licence population ²⁵ 2023/2024	Expired licence rate per 1,000 licence holders
16-18 years	0	1,634	0
19-29 years	241	21,379	11
30-39 years	482	36,288	13
40-49 years	406	36,569	11
50-59 years	485	48,045	10
60-69 years	422	49,667	8
70-79 years	245	31,654	8
80-89 years	84	8,644	10
90-99 years	9	656	14
100-109 years	0	9	0
Total	2,374	234,545	10

Orange cells indicates where the age group is over-represented compared to the national population.

Figure Twenty: Expired licences per capita, by age group.



Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

²⁵ Includes individual firearms licence holders and dealer licence holders.

Appendix B

Expired licence holders by district, including per capita breakdown.

<i>District</i>	<i>Expired licences 2023/2024</i>	<i>Licence population 2023/2024²⁶</i>	<i>Expired licence rate per 1,000 licence holders</i>
Northland	134	13,128	10
Waitematā	272	14,429	19
Auckland City	141	5,455	26
Counties Manukau	173	11,173	15
Waikato	185	21,919	8
Bay of Plenty	323	24,787	13
Eastern	237	15,287	16
Central	214	25,828	8
Wellington	106	15,404	7
Tasman	122	19,036	6
Canterbury	234	35,430	7
Southern	199	32,060	6
Overseas	18	747	24
Non-Geocoded	16	292	55
Total	2,374	234,975	10

Orange cells indicates where the age group is over-represented compared to the national population.

Expired licence holders by district, 2021/22 to 2023/24.

<i>District</i>	<i>2021/2022</i>	<i>2022/2023</i>	<i>2023/24</i>	<i>Total</i>
Northland	1	0	0	1
Waitematā	6	0	2	8
Auckland City	1	0	1	2
Counties Manukau	3	0	2	5
Waikato	2	0	1	3

²⁶ Includes individual firearms licence holders and dealer licence holders.

<i>District</i>	<i>2021/2022</i>	<i>2022/2023</i>	<i>2023/24</i>	<i>Total</i>
Bay of Plenty	6	1	2	9
Eastern	2	0	0	2
Central	7	3	1	11
Wellington	6	1	1	8
Tasman	1	1	1	3
Canterbury	3	3	1	7
Southern	7	2	0	9
Total	45	11	12	68

Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

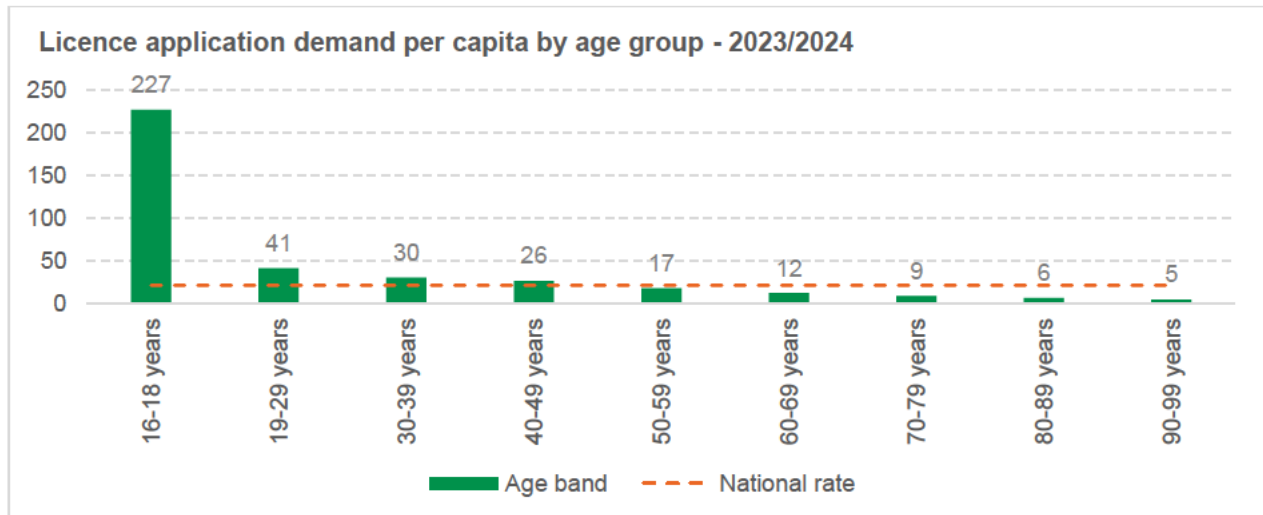
Appendix C

New and renewal licences by age, and year.

Age group	Demand 2023/2024	Firearms Licence population 2023/2024	Demand rate per 1,000 active licence holders
16-18 years	371	1,634	227
19-29 years	876	21,391	41
30-39 years	1,091	36,354	30
40-49 years	959	36,654	26
50-59 years	840	48,160	17
60-69 years	585	49,775	12
70-79 years	276	31,689	9
80-89 years	54	8,653	6
90-99 years	3	656	5
100-109 years		9	
Total	5,055	234,975	22

Orange cells indicates where the age group is over-represented compared to the national population.

Figure Twenty-One: Application demand per capita, by age.



Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 1 November 2023.

New and renewal licences by District and year.

<i>District</i>	<i>2021/2022</i>	<i>2022/2023</i>	<i>2023/24</i>	<i>Total</i>
Northland	619	795	231	1,645
Waitematā	867	1,157	413	2,437
Auckland City	339	464	139	942
Counties Manukau	633	858	275	1,766
Waikato	1,018	1,374	470	2,862
Bay of Plenty	1,301	1,687	507	3,495
Eastern	805	1,007	323	2,135
Central	1,326	1,731	626	3,683
Wellington	826	1,081	331	2,238
Tasman	832	1,261	363	2,456
Canterbury	1,945	2,348	729	5,022
Southern	1,546	2,227	631	4,404
Overseas	9	25	11	45
Non-Geocoded	21	41	6	68
Total	12,087	16,056	5,055	33,198

Appendix D

New and renewal licence holders by district, including per capita breakdown.

<i>District</i>	<i>New & renewal licence demand 2023/2024</i>	<i>Firearms Licence population 2023/2024</i>	<i>Expired licence rate per 1,000 licence holders</i>
Northland	231	13,128	18
Waitematā	413	14,429	29
Auckland City	139	5,455	26
Counties Manukau	275	11,173	25
Waikato	470	21,919	21
Bay of Plenty	507	24,787	20
Eastern	323	15,287	21
Central	626	25,828	24
Wellington	331	15,404	22
Tasman	363	19,036	19
Canterbury	729	35,430	21
Southern	631	32,060	20
Overseas	11	747	15
Non-Geocoded	6	292	21
Total	5,055	234,975	22

Orange cells indicates where the age group is over-represented compared to the national population.

Appendix E

Court of Appeals events by decision and year.

<i>Decision</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>Total</i>
Appeal Dismissed or Withdrawn	23	13	36
Appeal Upheld	10	13	23
Total	33	26	59