



secintel

Security Situation Report

Q1 2021

A quarterly snapshot of New Zealanders' security



Violent Crime



Other Crime



Cyber Attack



Incivility



Violent Crime

For Q1 2021, on a per capita basis, the region with the lowest rate of these crimes was Southland at 9.49 (down from 10.38 in Q4 2020), followed by Tasman at 10.95 (up from 9.49 in Q4 2020). The highest rates were found in Nelson (26.28), then Hawke's Bay (26.14).

Nelson's surge (ranked 3rd in Q4 2020 at 22.31) is largely attributable to 82 common assaults (up from 57 in the previous quarter), Hawke's Bay's 2nd ranking and violent crime rate remains unchanged from Q4 2020.

The other big movers (2% or more) were Gisborne at 25.56 (down from 32.05), Bay of Plenty at 19.56 (down from 21.68), Manawatu-Whanganui at 20.26 (up from 17.58), and Northland at 19.55 (up from 17.49).

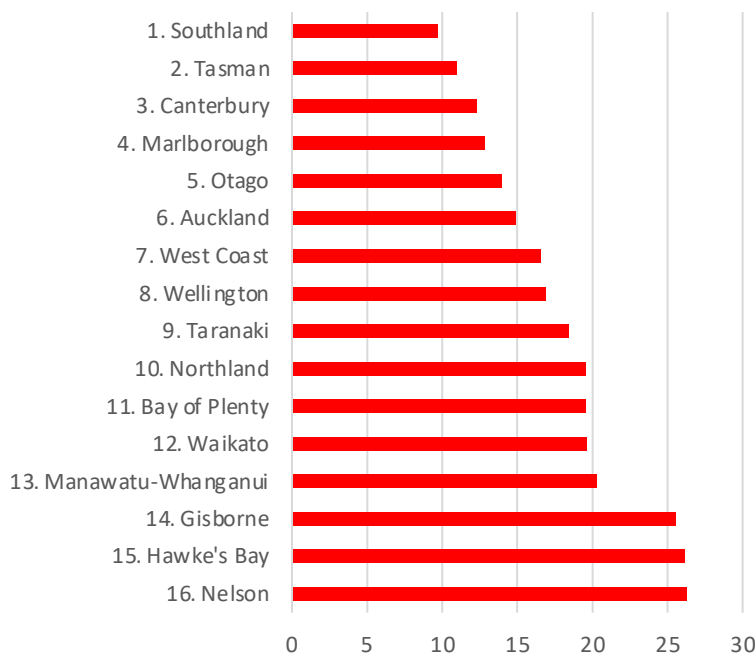
At the sub-regional level, the districts of Hamilton City, Rotorua, Napier City and Palmerston North City feature the highest rates of these crimes nationally.

Overall, with a national average of 16.49, there was a negligible increase (0.03%) in the incidence of these crimes in Q1 2021 compared to the previous quarter. This follows a 14% surge in Q4 2020 compared to Q3 2020.

Note: NZ Police provides publicly accessible time and place 'violent crime' data in relation to selected crimes only (homicides and most crimes occurring inside dwellings are excluded).

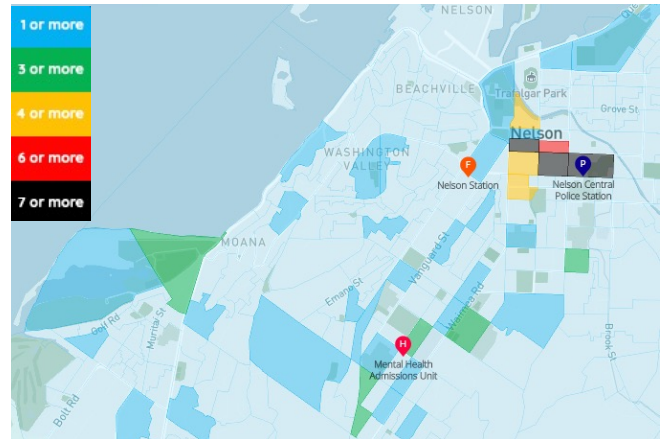
Region Rankings

[Q1 Crime rate per 10,000 population ranked smallest to largest].

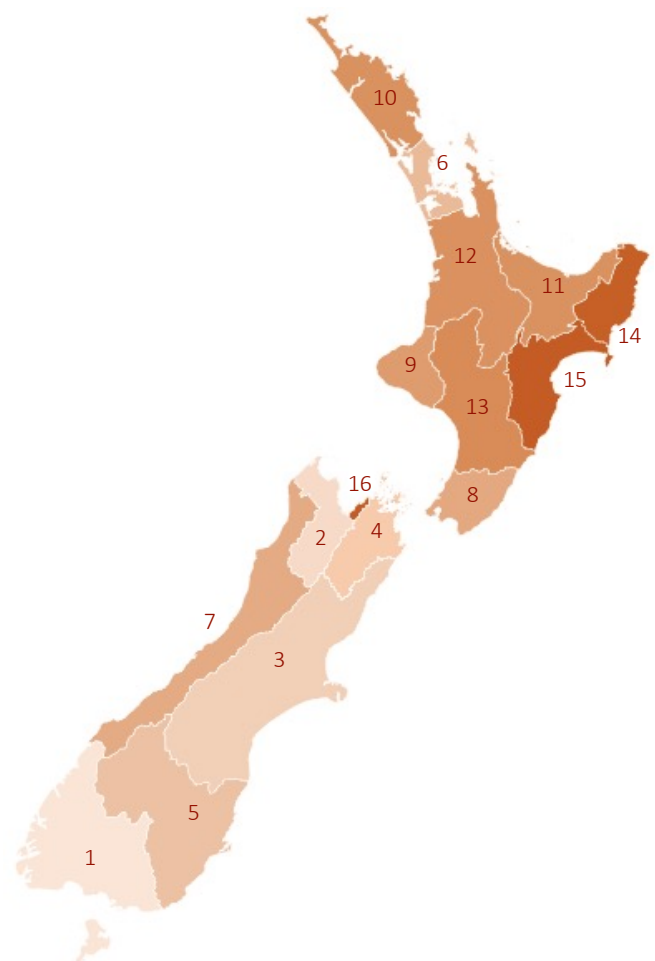


Spotlight: Nelson City

[Q1 2021 violent crime incidents]



A violent crime spike in Nelson City pushed the Nelson region to the top of NZ's violent crime rankings in Q1 2021. The above map of part of the Nelson City area identifies mesh block-level violent crime statistics mapped by the SecIntel platform based on NZ Police data. Hotspot mesh blocks include Queen's Gardens, CBD between Hardy and Bridge Streets east of Trafalgar Street, and a block along the north of Bridge Street west of Trafalgar Street.





Other Crime

For Q1, on a per capita basis the region with the lowest rate of these crimes was Otago at 41.79 (down from 43 in Q4 2020), followed by West Coast at 44.48 (sharply down from 67 in Q4 2020). The highest rates were found in Bay of Plenty (131.92), then Hawke's Bay (125.27).

West Coast's big non-violent crime rate drop is attributable largely to reduced figures in the Grey district relating to 'Unlawful entry with intent/burglary, break and enter', 'Theft (except motor vehicles)', and 'Illegal use of a motor vehicle'.

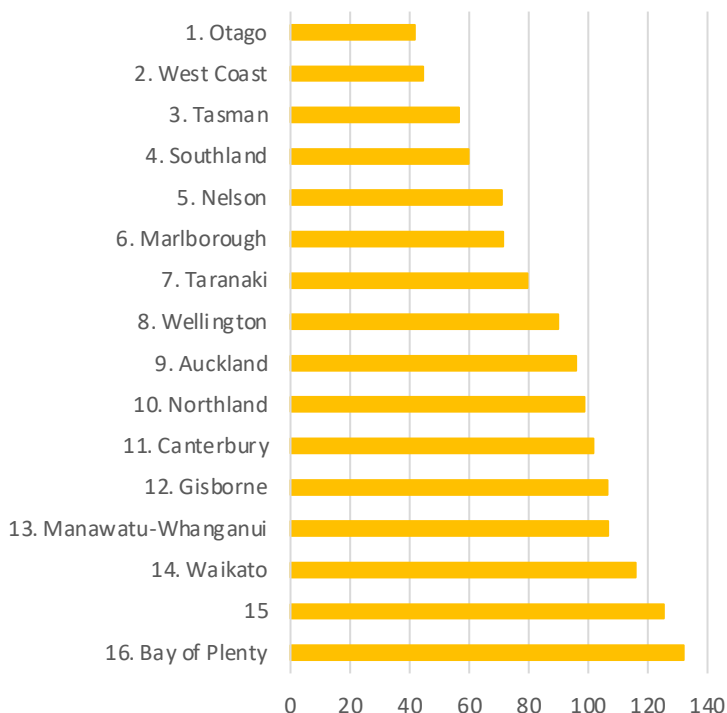
The other big movers (10% or more) for the quarter were Gisborne at 106.49 (down from 123), Bay of Plenty (up from 118), Hawke's Bay (up from 114) and Southland at 59.68 (up from 47).

Overall, with a national average at 97.09, there was a 1.33% increase in the incidence of these crimes in Q1 2021 compared to the previous quarter. This follows a 11% surge in Q4 compared to Q3 2020.

Note: NZ Police dataset provides publicly accessible time and place 'non-violent crime' data in relation to only 'theft' and 'unlawful entry' crime types (excluding most crimes occurring inside dwellings).

Region Rankings

[Q1 Crime rate per 10,000 population ranked smallest to largest].

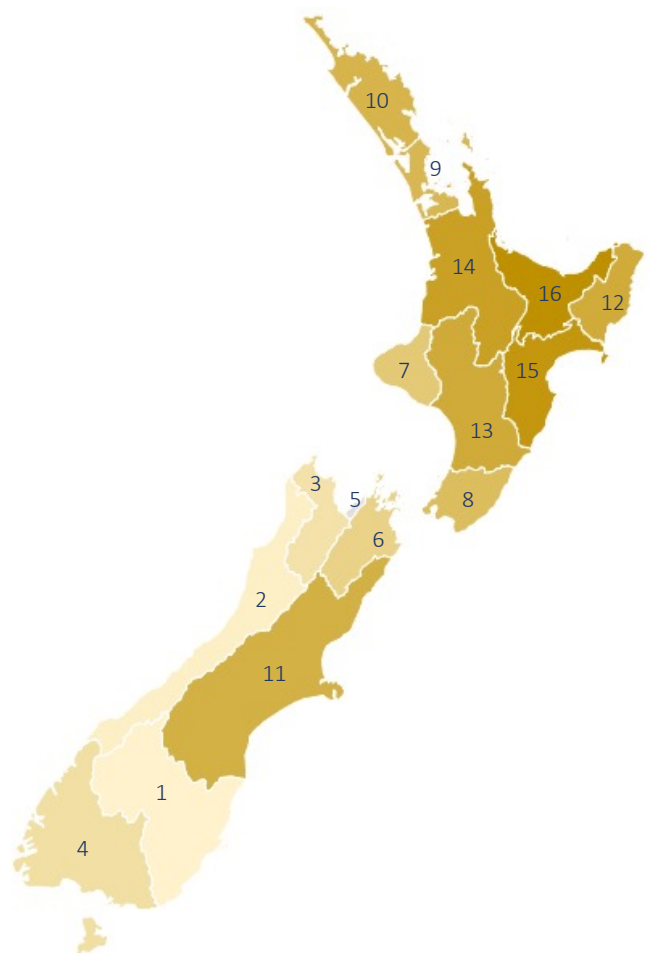
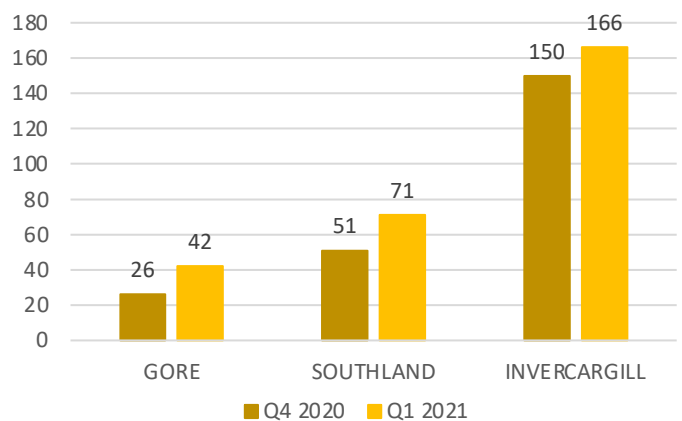


Spotlight: Southland

[Q1 2021 quarterly data: NZ Police]

From 47 in Q4 2020 to 59.68 in Q1 2021, Southland recorded the biggest proportional increase in non-violent crime in the country over this period.

By district, the big jumps were in 'unlawful entry' in Gore and Southland, and for Invercargill 'illegal use of motor vehicle' and 'theft of motor vehicle parts' were the big climbers. The below chart details the rise of 'unlawful entry' across the three districts:





Cyber Attack

1,431 incidents were responded to by CERT NZ in Q1 2021, down 32% from Q4 2020 (2,097), but up 26% when compared to the same time period of the previous year. \$3 million in direct financial loss was reported in the quarter, a 7% increase from Q4 2020.

In terms of incident category, the biggest mover was malware, with a 94% decrease in malware reports from Q4 2020. CERT NZ attributes this to international agencies successfully dismantling the Emotet malware infrastructure. This represented a decrease of 588 reports, the singularly largest influence on total incident figures for the quarter.

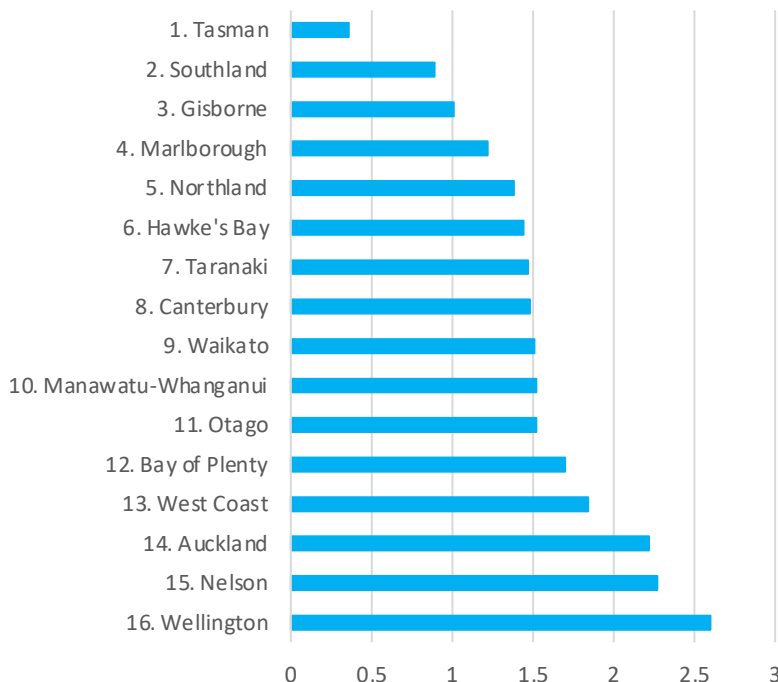
Phishing and credential harvesting is one of the most reported incident types to CERT NZ, making up 46% of all incident reports in Q1. Reports in this category decreased by 24% from Q4 2020 as CERT NZ works with partners to share information about phishing incidents specifically affecting New Zealanders.

Other unauthorised access reports increased by 18% from Q4 2020, with a direct financial loss of close to \$1 million.

Most regions saw a light reduction in incidents between -3% to -18%. The largest outlier being Nelson, which had a 43% reduction in incidents, Taranaki which had a 29% increase, and Manawatu-Whanganui which had an increase of 23%.

Region Rankings

[Q1 Reported incidents per 10,000 population ranked smallest to largest].

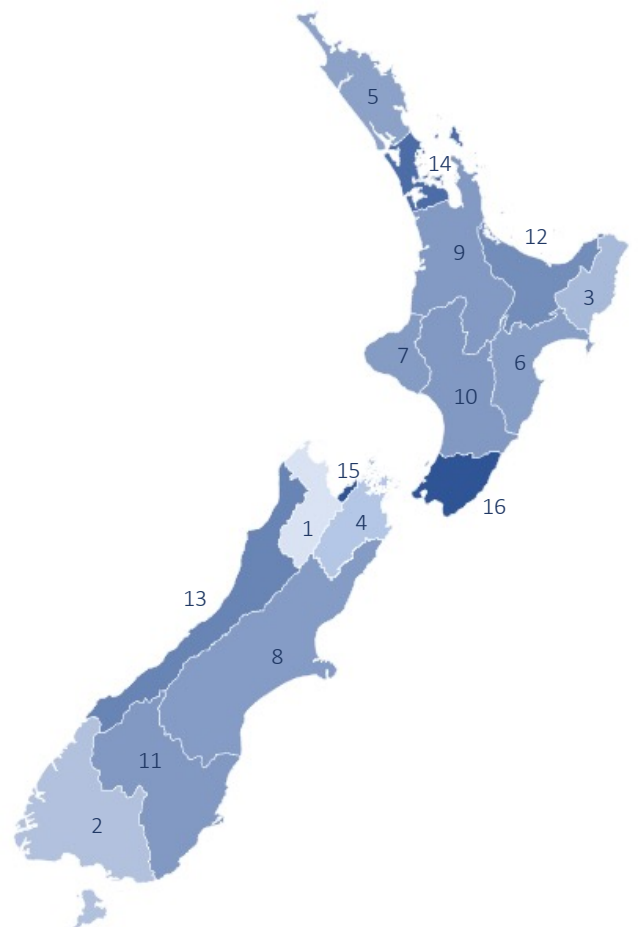
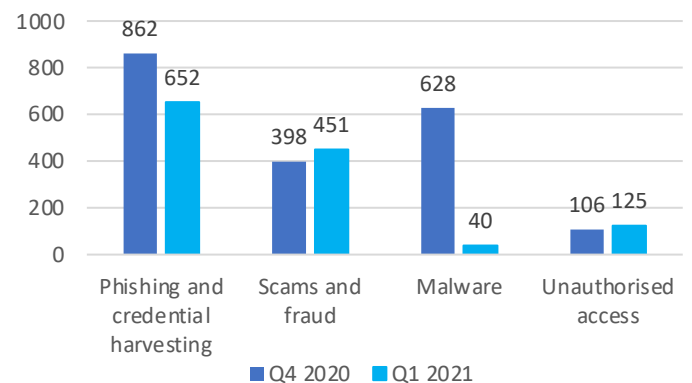


Spotlight: The big four

[Q1 Breakdown by incident category, CERT NZ Quarterly Report].

According to CERT NZ's 'Breakdown by incident category' data, the quarter's four most reported incident categories were: (i) Phishing & credential harvesting; (ii) Scams and fraud; (iii) Malware; and (iv) Unauthorised access.

Incidence of 'Scams and fraud' increased by 13% from the previous quarter. CERT NZ responded to less than 10 reports about COVID vaccine-related scams in Q1 but predicts these scams will increase.





Incivility

Incivility includes a wide range of behaviours that (i) promote hatred towards particular groups, (iii) demonstrate intolerance towards diverse identities, opinions or beliefs, or (ii) use violence or 'disobedient' means to effect political or ideological ends. There are well-established links between the state of incivility in a society and the potential for ideologically motivated mass violence, such as acts of terrorism.

We collect statistics on the incidence of incivility, including (i) verbal or physical assault motivated by intolerance towards a victim's group identity, and (ii) acts of violent or 'disobedient' protest; as reported by New Zealand's media. Recently, the race relations commissioner reported a sharp increase of racist complaints since COVID to over 100 each week. Our incivility statistics, therefore, should be read as no more than an indicative 'barometer'.

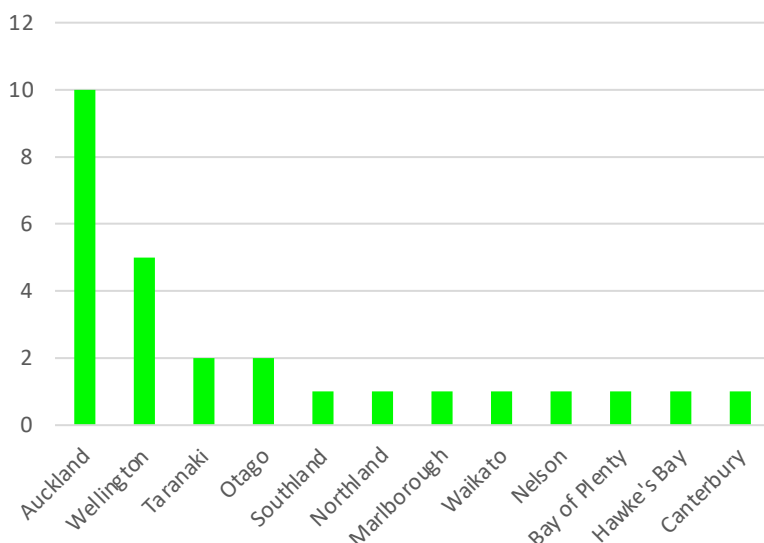
Internationally, Q1 2021 saw a continuation of incivilities fueled by COVID and Trumpism, including January's storming of the US Capitol and continued anti-lockdown unrest.

In New Zealand, racism accounted for the majority of acts of incivility reported in the media. In Auckland, the Pride Festival elicited violent homophobic responses, with Wellington also registering homophobic attacks. The remainder of incidents reported on related to environmental activism, including Extinction Rebellion action and protests over tree felling.

With racist attacks accounting for the statistics in most regions, Auckland and Wellington's numbers swelled largely as a result of destructive or disruptive protest action and homophobic attacks.

Regional hotspots

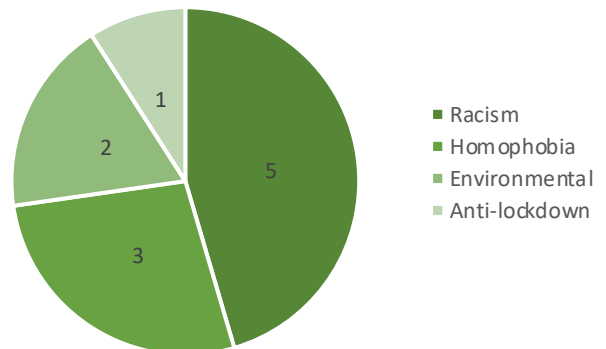
[Q1 incidents of incivility (as defined above) reported by NZ media outlets].



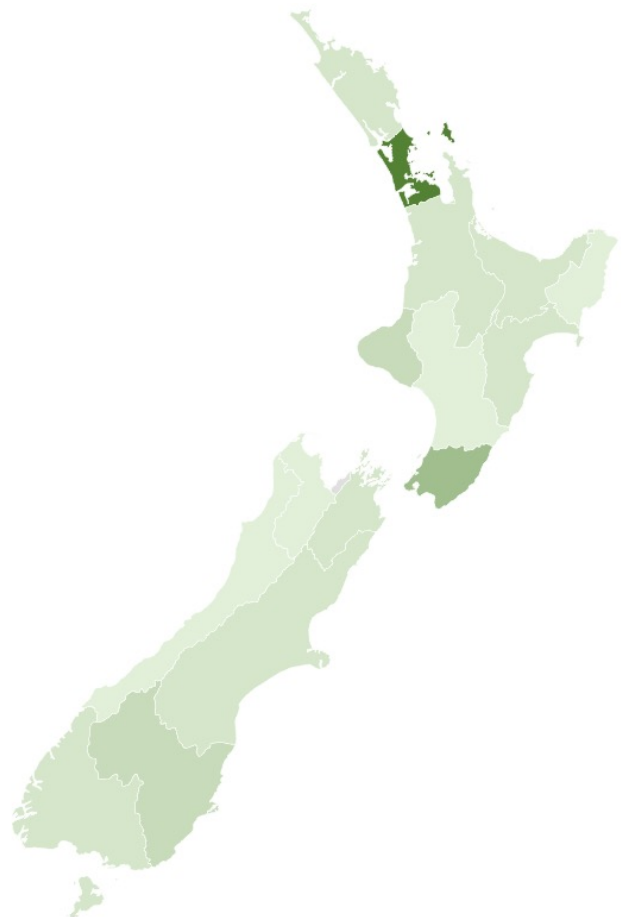
Spotlight: Auckland

[Q1 Auckland incidents reported by NZ media outlets]

Incidents involving racism and homophobia in Auckland featured more highly than other forms of incivility in media reports during Q1. While the reported homophobic incidents can generally be correlated to Pride Month and the staging of the Auckland Pride March 2021, the reported racist incidents appear to be relatively likely to occur on any given day..



Reports of racism involved abuse against Maori, Pasifika, Asian and Hispanic persons, and occurred predominantly in relatively affluent areas, including Devonport (x2) and Hobsonville Point, in addition to incidents reported at Managed Isolation Facilities.





secintel

We enable organisations to achieve better security by delivering the risk information tools they need to make evidence-based decisions.

A security risk intelligence platform that turns opensource crime, incident and threat metrics into a 360-degree security risk situational awareness tool.

Better security

Powerful metrics and analytics platform delivers evidence-based security.

Smarter procurement

Cost effective As-a-Service solution supports informed security procurement.

Lower risk

Keep your people safer, lower litigation and reputation risk, increase compliance.

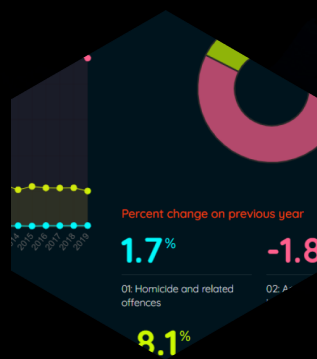
Get the picture

By visualising crime and security incident location data, SecIntel can make complex information readily understood.



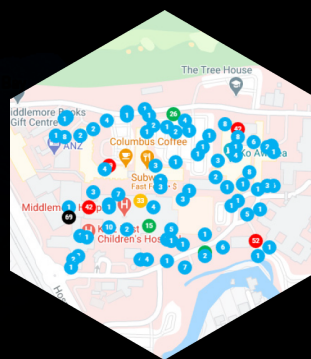
See the trends

SecIntel's historical data and analytics give you the power to understand the underlying drivers shaping your security risk picture.



Your premises

Analyse the security and safety picture within your perimeter with incident data entered into SecIntel by your onsite security team.



Your neighbourhood

Look through your perimeter into the next street, the next suburb, and gain a picture of your surrounding risk.



Get in touch to discuss how SecIntel can support you.



secintel

email: sitrep@secintel.co.nz
phone: 021 780 676
secintel.co.nz



Global Risk Consulting Ltd