

Papakura District Crime Report

Q1 2025



What is the NSPD?

Neighbourhood Support is a nationwide community-led movement that brings people and neighbourhoods together to create safe, resilient, and connected communities. We believe that a well-connected community helps to improve safety, resilience, and wellbeing for all.

The Neighbourhood Support Papakura District (NSPD) is the primary branch for the Papakura area. To learn more, visit our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#).



What is this Report?

The NSPD receives a weekly offences report from Police Headquarters in Wellington, which contains property offences for Counties/Manukau. The report contains information such as time, day, street, and descriptions of offences. We select the non-commercial property offences reported to the Papakura Police Station and present the data in an easy-to-understand format.* Our goal is to achieve three outcomes:

Our Reporting Goals

- 1** **To identify crime trends district-wide.** By understanding the rates and types of crime, all District residents can deploy their resources to make their best efforts to bring down crime rates.
- 2** **To identify crime trends for specific neighbourhoods.** With accurate information, neighbourhoods can take specific actions to reverse crime trends.
- 3** **To combat misinformation.** Social media often exaggerates crime statistics. By publishing accurate crime statistics, we hope to fight against false claims and mischaracterisations around crime and give residents accurate information to help make their own security decisions.

*All data within the Wellington report is given under strict protocols and can't be shared wholesale. Only NSPD personnel who have been police vetted can access the raw data from the report.

Crime Types

The NSPD Crime Report covers offences from the following eight crime categories. Understanding them and their differences will help you better interpret the data presented in the Crime Report. We've combined and simplified these categories so they are more easily understandable by the public. We also list common examples of offence types we use to define each category.



Robbery— Robbery is the unlawful taking of another person's property with the intent to permanently deprive them of it. Robbery involves the use of force, threats, intimidation, or violence against the owner or another person present. In essence, it is a theft that is committed with force. Examples: Any offence description that contains the term: "ROBBERY", "ROBS", "AGGRAVATED ROBBERY", "OTHER ROBBERY".

Theft— Theft is the unlawful taking of another person's property with the intent to permanently deprive them of it. In theft cases, the perpetrator takes the property without the owner's consent. Note: many of the offences in the Theft category include theft *from* a vehicle, as opposed to taking the vehicle itself. These are covered under "Vehicle Theft" (see below). Any offence description that contains the term: "THEFT".

Burglary— Is committed by anyone who enters any building, or part of a building, without authority and with intent to commit any offence that could lead to imprisonment. Any offence description that contains the terms "BURGLES" or "BURGLARY".

Vehicle theft— Involves an intention or act of taking or borrowing a vehicle without consent. It does not include theft **FROM** a vehicle. (see "Theft" above). Example offences: "UNLAWFUL TAKES MOTOR VEHICLES", "UNLAWFUL INTERFERES MOTOR VEHICLES", "ATTEMPTED UNLAWFUL TAKING OF A MOTOR VEHICLE", "POSSESS INSTRUMENTS FOR CONVERSION".

Manner of driving— Driving a vehicle in a reckless or unsafe manner. Example offences: "SPECIAL VEHICLE LANE", "CARELESS DRIVING", "UNSAFE PASSING", "UNSAFE CHANGING OF LANES", "FOLLOWED TOO CLOSE"

Destruction of property (Wilful Damage)—Intentional or reckless damage to or destruction of property. Example offences: "WILFULLY DAMAGE", "GRAFFITI", "INTENTIONAL DAMAGE" or "ARSON".

Disorderly behaviour—Socially unacceptable behaviour in a public place, or within hearing or view of a public place. Example offences: "DISPLAY GANG INSIGNIA", "FIGHTING", "SET OFF FIREWORKS IN PUBLIC PLACE", "INSULTING LANGUAGE", "RESIST POLICE".

Car—Related Offences—We define this category broadly as any offence that directly or indirectly involves a vehicle, bicycle, boat, etc. Example: "FOLLOWED TOO CLOSE", "UNLAWFUL TAKES MOTOR VEHICLES", "THEFT EX VEHICLE".

Q4 2024 vs Q1 2025 Offences

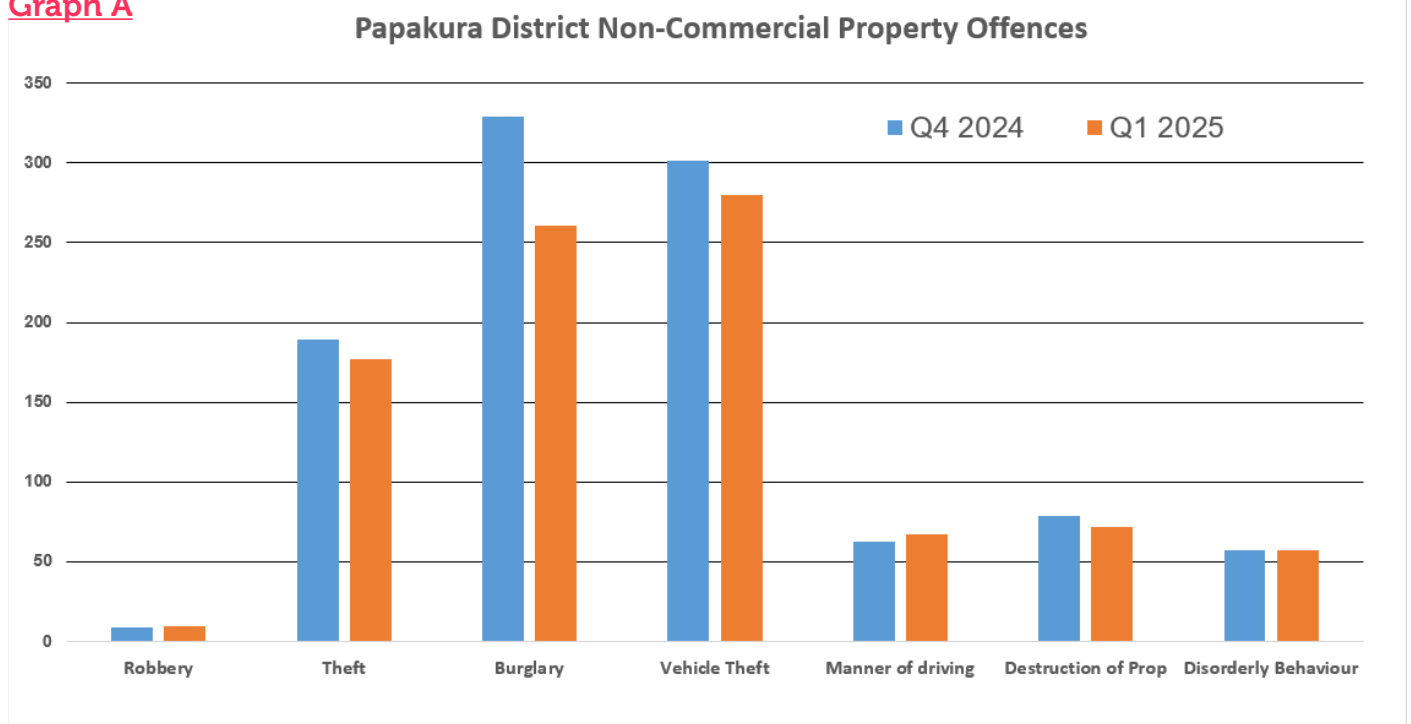
Table A shows total number of non-commercial property offences reported for the Papakura District for Q3 and Q4 of 2024.

Quarter	Robbery	Theft	Burglary	Vehicle Theft*	Manner of Driving	Wilful Damage	Disorderly Behaviour	Other	Total
Q4	9	189	329	301	63	79	57	95	1122
Q1	10	177	261	280	67	72	57	31	924

***Vehicle Theft**— Involves an intention or act of taking or borrowing a vehicle without consent. It does not include theft FROM a vehicle. (see "Crime Types, Pg 2).

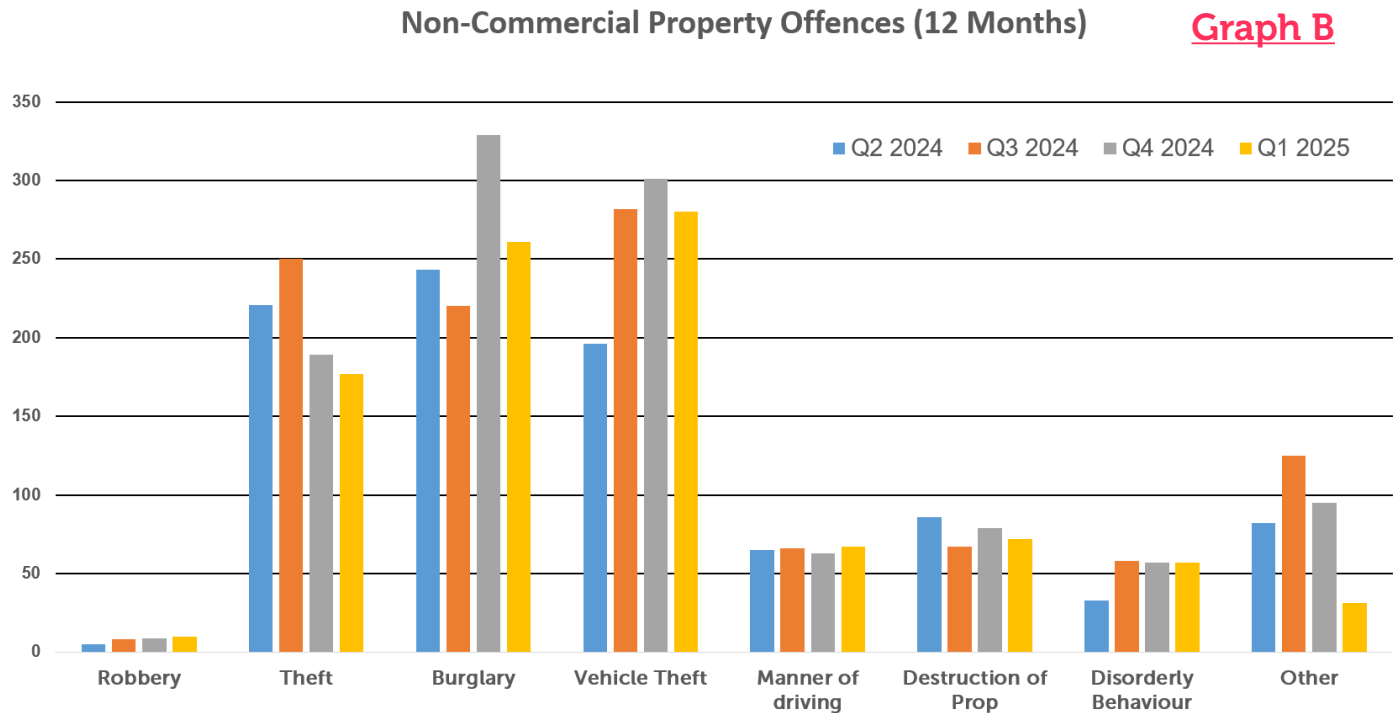
Graph A shows total number of non-commercial property offences reported for the Papakura District for Q4 2024 and Q1 of 2025. Does not include "Other" category.

Graph A



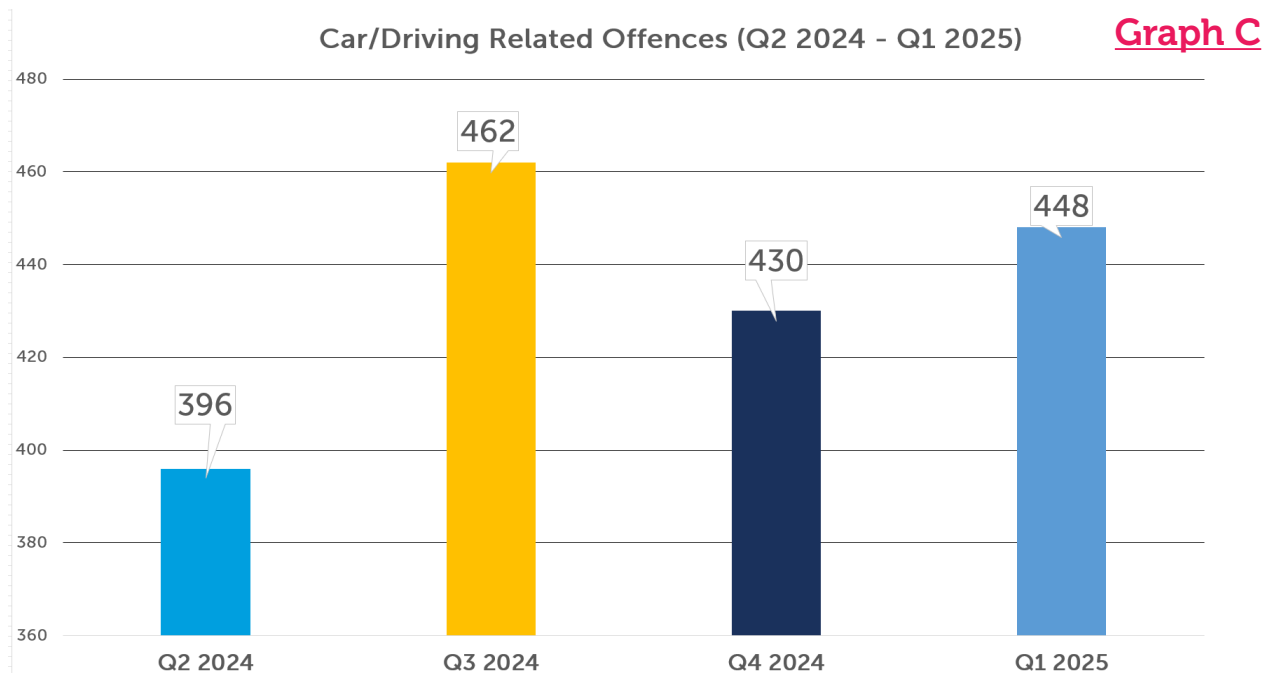
Non Commercial Property Offences (12 mos)

Graph B compares total number of non-commercial property offences reported for the Papakura District for the last four quarters (12 months).



Car/Driving Related Offences

Graph C compares total number of car and driving-related crimes reported for the Papakura District for the last four quarters (12 months). Offences include traffic violations like speeding and car theft/conversion.

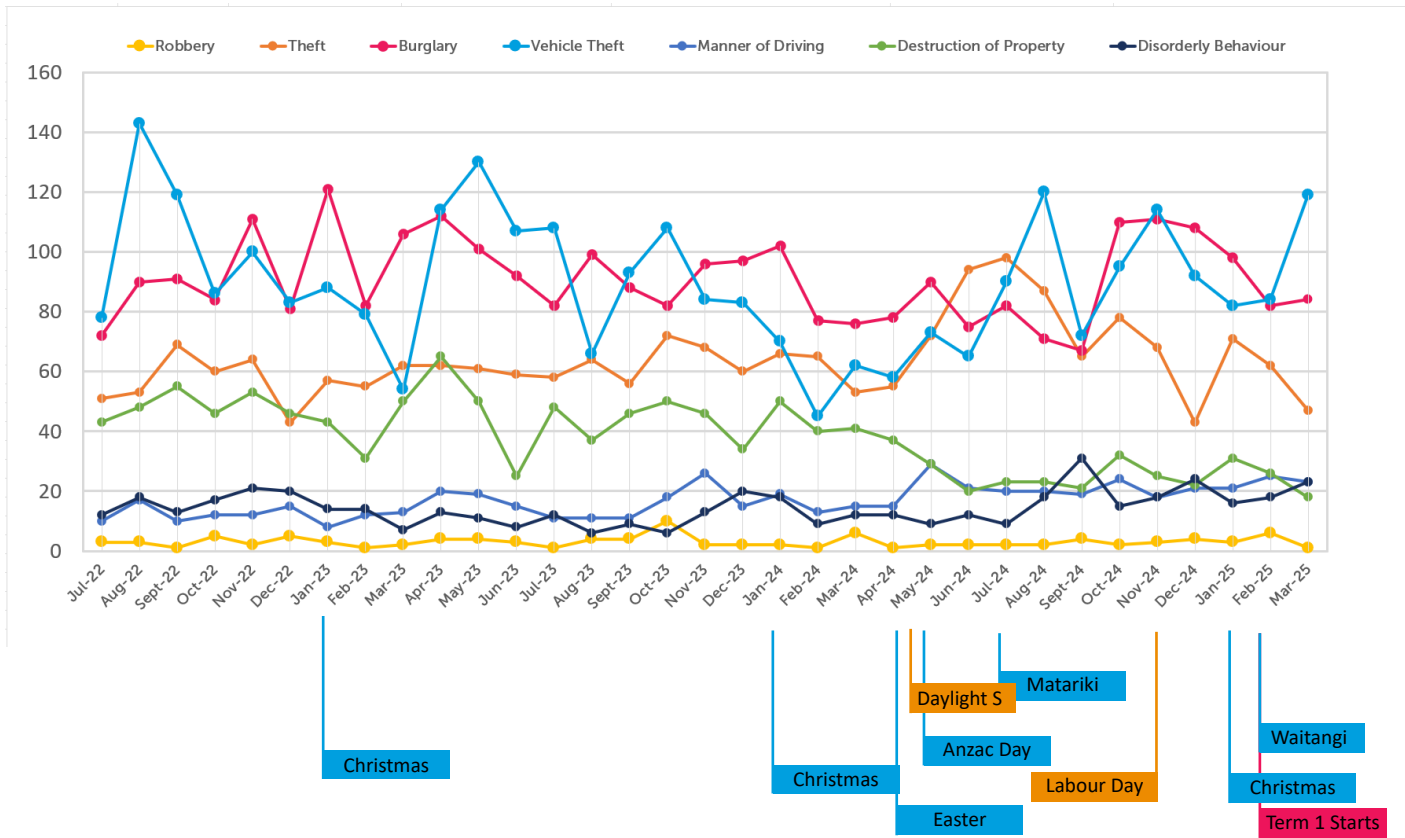


Offences by Month (33 Months)

Graph D shows monthly totals for all non-commercial property crimes for each category for the last 33 months.

Offences by Month (33 months)

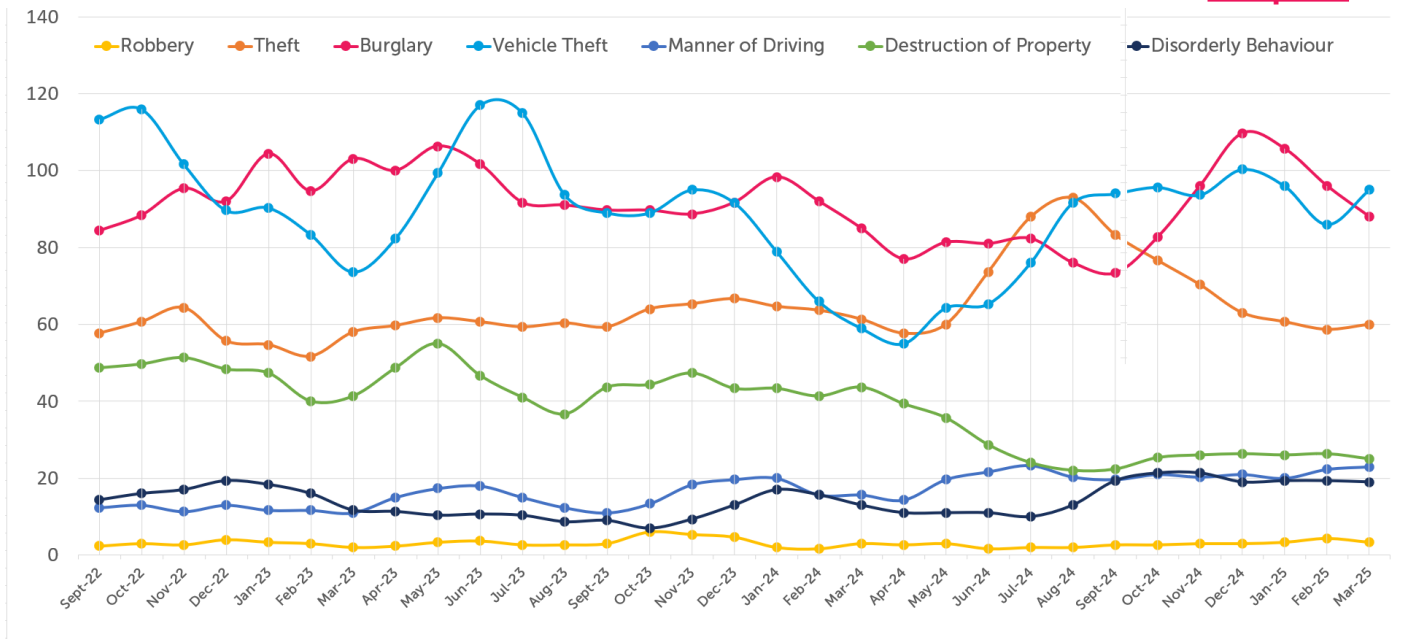
[Graph D](#)



Graph E shows a three month moving average of all non-commercial property crimes for each category beginning with the first full quarter of 2022. The chart smooths out short-term fluctuations and highlights longer-term trends in the data.

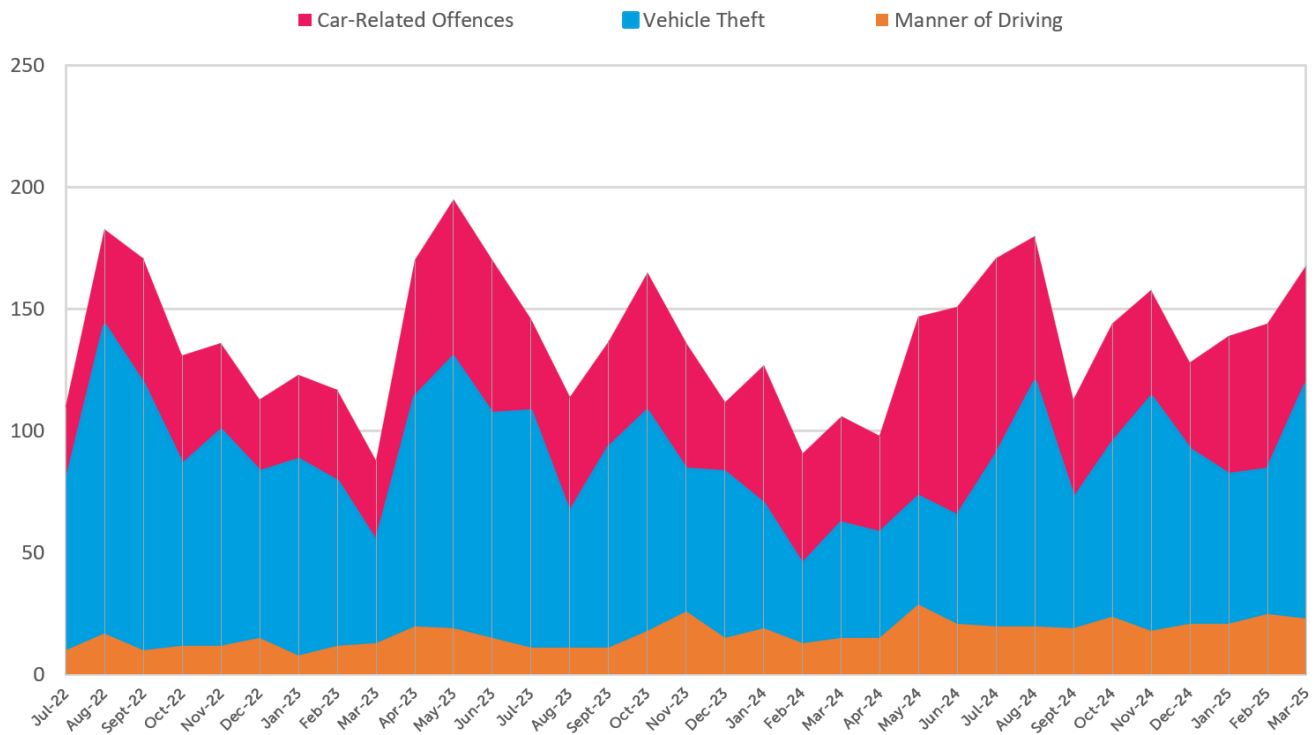
Offences by Month (3-Month Moving Average)

[Graph E](#)



Graph F Compares Vehicle Theft & Manner of Driving rates to the total number of Car-Related offences for the last two years. Vehicle Theft follows a similar trend line to the total and makes up a significant portion of the total car-related offenses.

Total Car-Related Offences by Month (33 months) [Graph F](#)



Do your part. Report Crime.

Crimes that aren't reported, don't get counted. To keep crime stats accurate, it's important we all report crimes regardless of the likely outcome. Having the attitude of "The police can't or won't do anything" only ensures your crime isn't part of the database, which police use to identify "hotspots" and curtail overall offences. You never know, your reporting might help prevent a crime from happening to your neighbour.

Reporting a Burglary:

Dial 111 if a crime is happening.

Dial 105 if the crime has happened.

Or report online at police.govt.nz/use-105.



Data Analysis

Below is a high-level, easy-to-understand analytical report based on the crime data for the Papakura District for 33 months. Please remember that correlation does not always imply causation. Nonetheless, these observations can help guide community awareness and preventive measures.

Overall Crime Trends

Volume and Fluctuations:

- **Quarterly totals** show crime hovering around 900–1100 reported offences per quarter, with some peaks (e.g. Q2 2023 at 1119 total offences) and dips (e.g. Q1 2024 at 837).
- **High-growth environment:** Papakura's population has increased substantially since 2018, with a younger age profile and a higher proportion of rental housing than many other Auckland areas. Rapid growth often coincides with rising property-related crimes.

Crime Types and Their Seasonal Patterns:

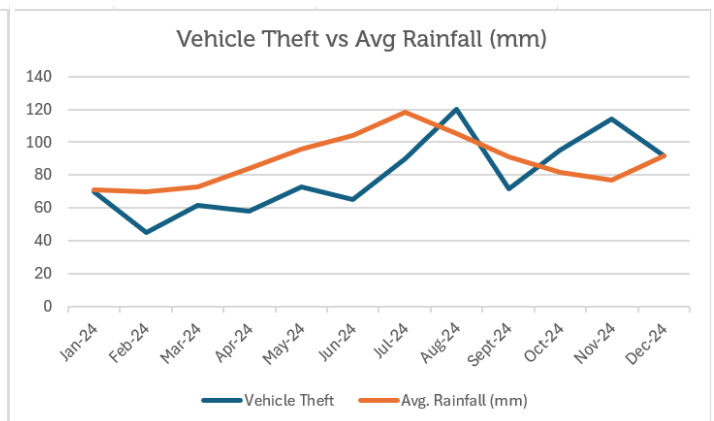
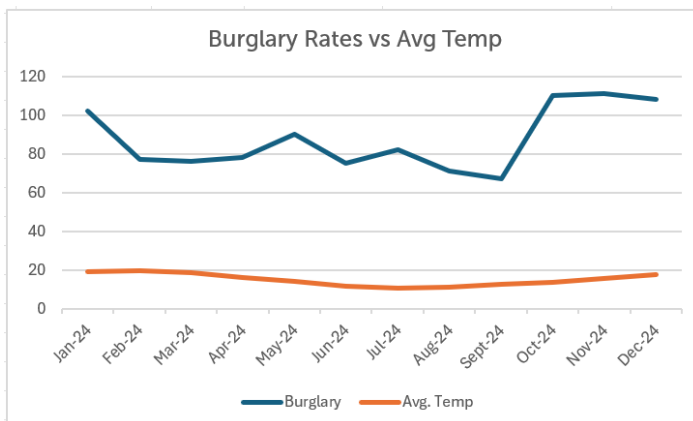
- **Burglary:** Tended to be higher from late spring through mid-summer (e.g. November–January) and then again around April–May in some years. January 2023 and January 2024 both showed relatively high burglary counts.
- **Vehicle Theft & Other Car-Related Offences:**
 - Spikes in Q2 (April–June) appear in 2023 (536 car-related offences) and again in Q2 2024 (396), though to a lesser degree.
 - Monthly data also shows notable jumps in certain winter months (e.g. August–September 2022 and May–June 2023).
 - This may reflect a combination of shorter daylight hours (making theft easier) and changes in routine travel/parking patterns.
- **Disorderly Behaviour:** Often higher around the December–January holiday period (e.g. December 2022 and December 2023 both show higher disorderly behaviour counts).
- **Robbery:** Numbers remain low overall but can show abrupt spikes (e.g. 10 robberies in October 2023), typically not strictly tied to a clear seasonal cycle.
- **Manner of Driving:** More fluctuations from about 10–15 offences per month in 2022 up toward 20–25 monthly by late 2023/early 2024. Q4 2023 and Q1 2025 both have higher driving-related incident counts.

Weather Correlations

- Temperature (July 2022–April 2025): Warmer months (December–March) often see more outdoor social activity, and in turn slightly higher disorderly incidents. Some property crimes (especially burglary) also appear elevated in summer, potentially because homes are left open or people travel during holidays.
- Rainfall (Long-term pattern): Historical data (1999–2019) suggest that Papakura’s winter (June–August) can be quite wet; in recent years, that has sometimes coincided with bumps in car-related offences (vehicle theft, break-ins). High rainfall could affect parking, vehicle usage, or the likelihood that people leave cars in vulnerable spots. (Source: [Climate-data.org](https://climate-data.org))

While the relationship between monthly weather and crime is not absolute, the data do suggest that:

- Warm, drier months (December–January): More disorderly behaviour and a slight uptick in burglary.
- Wetter, colder months (June–August): Higher incidence of vehicle theft or “car-related” offences, possibly due to less surveillance and more cars parked overnight in public areas.



Impact of School Holidays & Public Holidays

Summer Break (mid-December to late January):

- In Papakura, burglary and disorderly behaviour often rise slightly over the December–January period. This aligns with the major school holiday, Christmas/New Year’s celebrations, and the Auckland Anniversary holiday in late January.
- Vehicle theft has also been notable in some Januarys, though the magnitude varies year to year.

Term Breaks During April, July, and September/October:

- Some evidence of moderate increases in property offences (burglary, vehicle theft) shortly after each break starts, particularly if families travel away. Q2 (which includes the April break) often shows elevated totals for car-related offences.

Public Holidays (e.g. Easter, ANZAC Day, Matariki, Labour Day):

- Brief spikes in “short holiday weekends” can lead to more vehicle thefts (people parking in unfamiliar places) and occasional surges in disorderly behaviour around nightlife or social gatherings.
- The effect is smaller than the large summer holiday, but still noticeable.

Predictions for the Next 6–12 Months

Late Autumn to Winter (Q2–Q3 2025):

- Expect an uptick in vehicle theft and other car-related offences, consistent with past winter patterns.
- Manner-of-driving incidents may remain elevated, especially if local roads see heavier traffic or adverse weather.

Spring to Early Summer (October–December 2025):

- Burglaries and disorderly behaviour often begin climbing as the weather warms and the holiday period approaches.
- Watch for a spike around Christmas and the long summer holiday, especially in burglary and general theft.

Concluding Note

Papakura’s swift growth and younger demographic profile create both opportunities and challenges. By aligning police and community resources with specific times of year (school holidays, winter months, and summer festivities), residents and authorities can address the crimes most likely to spike. These efforts, coupled with long-term improvements in lighting, surveillance, and neighborhood cohesion, should help reduce Papakura’s crime rates and enhance overall community well-being.



What can I do?

You can take actions now that will help lower your (and your neighbour's) risk of being a target of crime. Here are some online resources and tips. You can find many more on the Neighbourhood Support New Zealand [website](#).

[Protecting Your Home](#)

[Improving Your Neighbourhood](#)

[Vehicle Safety & Security](#)

[Community Cams FAQs](#)

[Preventing Fraud and Scams](#)

[Preventing Mail Theft](#)

Join NSPD

Neighbourhood Support is FREE to join and offers lots of benefits:

- Have opportunities to connect with those around you.
- Receive emails with what's happening in your community.
- Get tips to improve the safety of your home and your community.
- Learn how to get prepared for emergencies.
- Be invited to attend community events organised by Neighbourhood Support.

By staying connected and supporting each other, we can make our neighbourhoods safe and welcoming for all.

Want to join the NSPD? Visit our [sign up page](#) or email us at nspapakura@gmail.com

