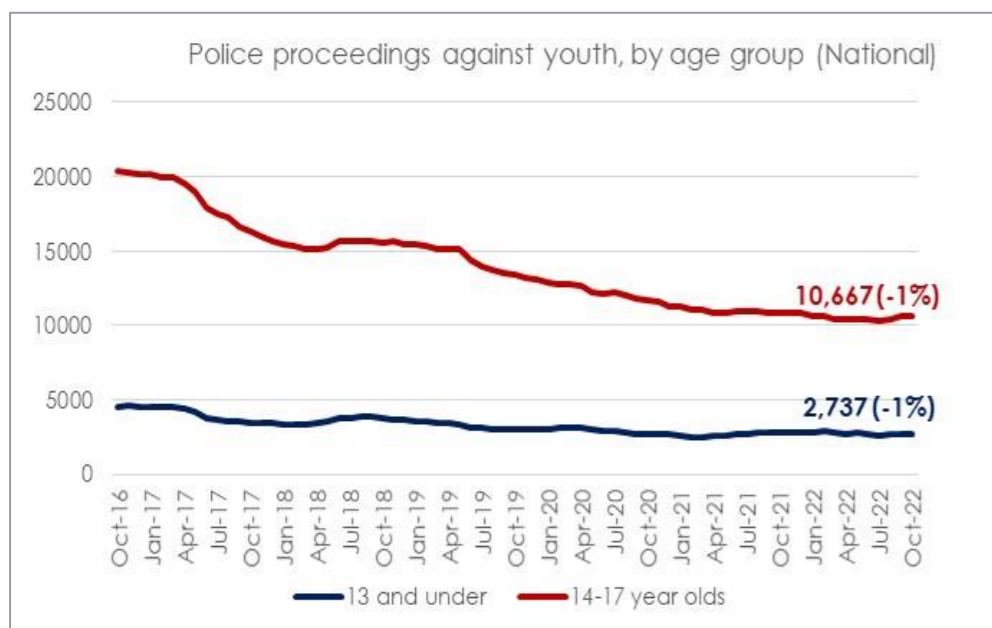
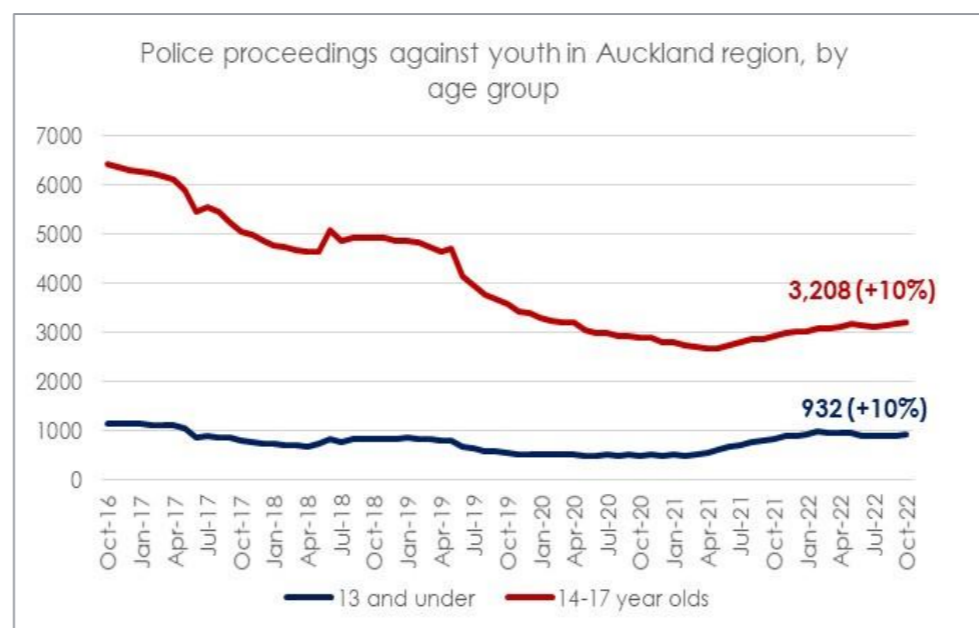


# Youth crime and wellbeing in Aotearoa New Zealand

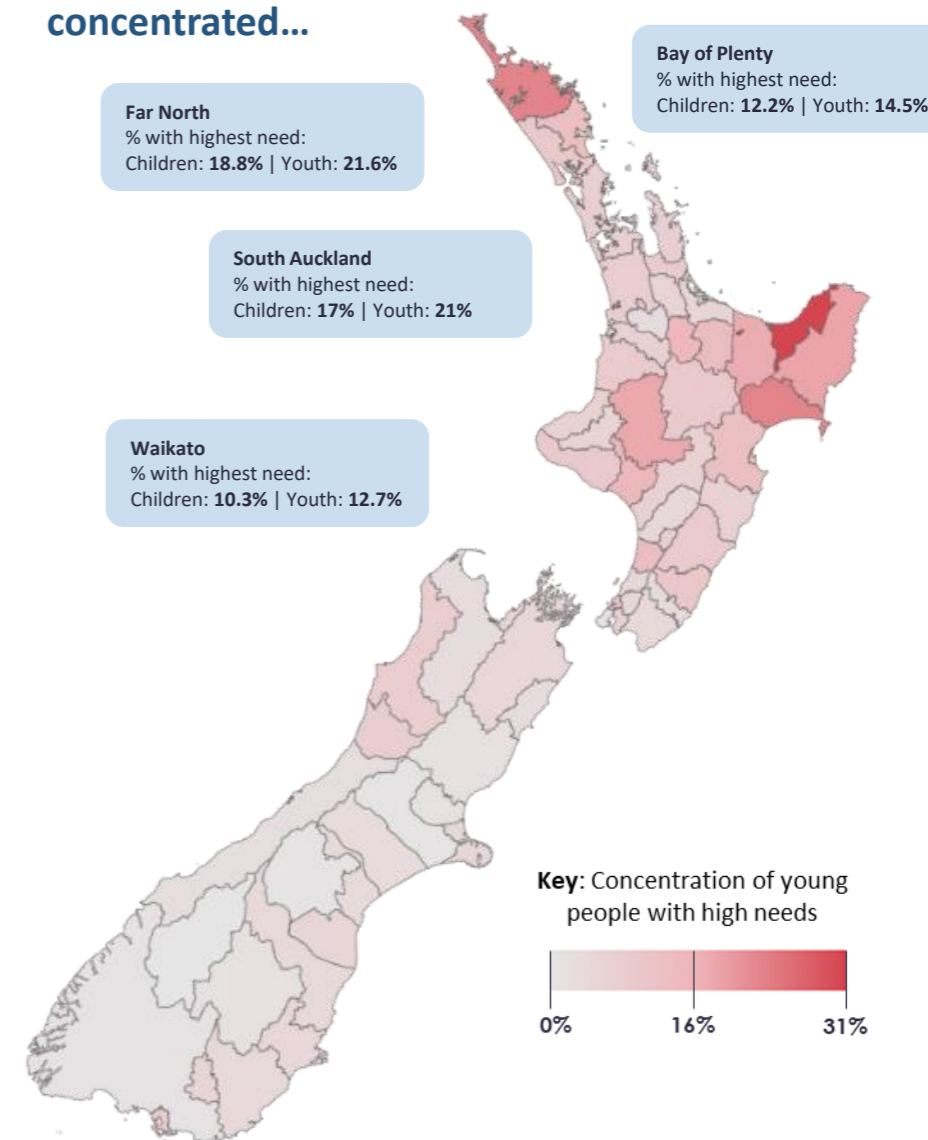
Youth crime has fallen over the last 10 years but there has been a recent increase in a small number of crime types in some areas – mostly Auckland



Source: Ministry of Justice



Analysis undertaken by the Social Wellbeing Agency has identified the regions where young people with the highest needs are concentrated...



Police examined 5,955 proceedings from February to July 2022, focussing on offences linked to ram-raiding, and identified 79 of the most serious offenders.

Police found **ALL** of these individuals:

- Come from unstable, impoverished households with inconsistent role models, and low parental guardianship
- Have poor or non-existent engagement with education
- Are either the victims of or witnesses to family harm
- Have fathers who are engaged with the criminal justice system, either as frequent offenders or with periods of imprisonment
- Live in social circles where offending is normalised.
- They began offending between 12 and 14 years of age.

This is consistent with previous research, which shows that young offenders have highest needs and these factors are cumulative, including:

• <b>Abuse and neglect</b>	• Most of those involved in recent ram raids were linked to multiple family harm events in the past
• <b>Early victimisation, offending and contact with the justice system</b>	<b>over 50%</b> of those involved in ram raids were aged 10-12 when they first came into contact with Police
• <b>Poor mental health: young person and/or a parent</b>	<b>50% of males &amp; 75% of females</b> had a mental health concern (in a study of one youth justice facility)
• <b>Household and community financial resources</b>	<b>2x more likely</b> those in a decile 1 school at age 9 are twice as likely to offend relative to a decile 10 school
• <b>Disengagement from school</b>	• Being stood-down or suspended from school is predictive of youth offending, especially when combined with prior histories)

Disclaimer:

These results are not official statistics. They have been created for research purposes from the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) which is carefully managed by Stats NZ. For more information about the IDI please visit <https://www.stats.govt.nz/integrated-data/>.

