

## Appendix 1: What are your odds?

The recent release of the latest [New Zealand Police Statistics](#) make for some interesting reading. Our Youth Justice stream has been using information from these data sets to expose some interesting trends (see



last week's post on youth drug offence prosecution).

This graphic shows the proportion of youth and child apprehensions leading to prosecution in 2011, broken down by offence type. We don't know the seriousness or details of each crime recorded, but a picture emerges with some surprises. We might want to ask "please explain."

Some findings:

- **The offence second-most-likely to result in prosecution is "offences against justice procedures, government security and government operations"** – a category more likely to lead to prosecution than acts intended to cause injury;
- **There are very few homicide or related offences for young offenders** – only three cases in 2011;
- **Theft is the most common youth offence;**
- Of the **3495 theft apprehensions** recorded as Caucasian, there were **588 prosecutions**. For Māori, of the **5660 apprehensions** recorded, **1173 resulted in prosecution** (16.8% vs. 20.7%.);
- For every offence category other than "miscellaneous offences", **Māori have higher proportion of apprehensions leading to prosecution.**

Of course it is important to approach these statistics with caution. As [Thomas Lumley highlights](#), the numbers can be used and abused. These data are only a partial story, but provide an interesting starting point to start asking questions. When the Government releases its Youth Crime Action Plan later this year, JustSpeak will be looking closely for how it plans to address these sometimes surprising outcomes for young people.

*Prosecution vs. total apprehension numbers for 10- to 16-year-olds, 2011:*

<b>Offence</b>	<b>Caucasian</b>	<b>Māori</b>
Homicide and related offences	0 out of 1	2 out of 2
Acts intended to cause injury	290 out of 1415	497 out of 1876
Sexual assault and related offences	54 out of 159	41 out of 89
Dangerous or negligent acts endangering persons	1 out of 11	6 out of 13
Abduction, harassment and other related offences against a person	66 out of 425	101 out of 429
Robbery, extortion and related offences	42 out of 73	195 out of 302
Unlawful entry with intent/burglary, break and enter	317 out of 954	1295 out of 2944
Theft and related offences	588 out of 3495	1173 out of 5660
Fraud, deception and related offences	49 out of 229	32 out of 111
Illicit drug offences	117 out of	107 out of

	768	643
Prohibited and regulated weapons and explosives offences	57 out of 297	119 out of 424
Property damage and environmental pollution	382 out of 1913	581 out of 2690
Public order offences	183 out of 1728	370 out of 2412
Offences against justice procedures, government security and government operations	82 out of 186	204 out of 382
Miscellaneous offences	4 out of 32	2 out of 26