

# ORANGA TAMARIKI STATISTICS

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Covid-19 response snapshot  
Data to 14 October 2020



**ORANGA TAMARIKI**  
Ministry for Children

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## Background and context:

During New Zealand's nationwide lockdown due to COVID-19 (starting in March this year), Oranga Tamariki established weekly operational reporting on key statistics in order to maintain oversight of the Oranga Tamariki operating system. Following this first lockdown Oranga Tamariki published this operational report here: [COVID 19 Oranga Tamariki Statistics June 2020](#).

With Auckland's move back to Alert Level 3 on 12 August 2020, Oranga Tamariki began this weekly operational reporting again.

This document contains a snapshot of key statistics during Auckland's more recent move to Alert Level 3. The key statistics include Reports of Concern, notifier groups, notifications that required further action, entries to care, and referrals to Youth Justice Family Group Conferences.

The snapshot covers Oranga Tamariki operations since mid July 2020 until the most recent available time period for each measure. It also includes a comparison to the same time last year.

The weekly monitoring of this data has enabled us as an organisation to target our efforts and plan our response and recovery to COVID-19.

### Key Dates:

12 August 2020 – Return to Alert Level 3 in Auckland, Level 2 for the rest of the country

31 August 2020 – Auckland back to Alert Level 2 with additional restrictions

21 September 2020 – Rest of New Zealand to Level 1

23 September 2020 – Auckland stays at Level 2 but additional restrictions were removed

7 October 2020 – Auckland back to Level 1

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## Explanatory notes on the information supplied:

- All data is **operational and subject to change** due to timeliness of data entry. Data for this report was extracted on **20 October 2020**.
- The measures presented in the graphs cover different time periods based on when data for each individual measure is likely to be less subject to significant change.
- Recent data excludes cases that are awaiting updates to be entered by social workers. This means the data for this period will change each week as more cases are updated.
- Some measures, such as entries to care, tend to fluctuate over time due to the small numbers.
- Comparing data trends for Reports of Concern and entries to care for a short period of time such as the lockdown is difficult, as a Report of Concern could be made months or years before a child or young person enters care.
- Data for Auckland is also included in the national figures.
- Auckland data covers the Auckland Care and Protection regions for all data except Youth Justice. Auckland Youth Justice data is included in the Auckland/Te Tai Tokerau Youth Justice Region.
- Further detail around the caveats of this data is provided on the last slide.

**Data is not official and has been specifically extracted to assist monitoring of the impact of COVID-19 on operations.  
These weekly numbers are subject to change over time – official data is published on the Oranga Tamariki website each quarter.**

## Definitions:

### Report of Concern

Reports of concern are received through our call centre from members of the public, family or whānau, the Police, schools, health professionals, or other government or community agencies about the wellbeing of a child or young person. These reports indicate children or young people who may require support. Reports of concern are assessed by a social worker to decide if further action is required.

### Further Action Required (FAR)

Reports of concern which have been assessed by a social worker and deemed to require further action by Oranga Tamariki. FARs are categorised by the urgency of response required:

#### Urgent & Low Urgency

Requirement to complete safety and risk assessment within 20 working days.

#### Critical & Very Urgent

Requirement to complete safety and risk assessment within 48 hours.

### Entry to Care

When a child or young person is in need of care and protection and enters the care and protection custody of the Chief Executive of Oranga Tamariki. Entries to care include all legal orders under the Oranga Tamariki Act, 1989:

#### Care Agreement ('S139','S140')

When a child enters care through a voluntary agreement with the parents, guardians or usual persons having care of the child for a specific period of time.

#### Planned Entry ('S101','S102','S1102A')

Wherever possible, tamariki enter care in a planned and measured way. A planned entry will usually occur after a Family Group Conference has been held. Oranga Tamariki needs to apply to the Family Court in order to gain these custody orders.

#### Section 78 ('S78')

Custody of child or young person pending determination of proceedings or in urgent cases.

#### Urgent Entry ('S39','S40','S42','S45','S48')

Interim orders/warrants that result in the transfer of the custody of a child to Oranga Tamariki until a final decision on the child's care can be made. These orders should only be used to secure the safety and wellbeing of tamariki when all other intervention options have been considered and there is an immediate safety concern.

### Youth Justice Family Group Conference (FGC) Referral

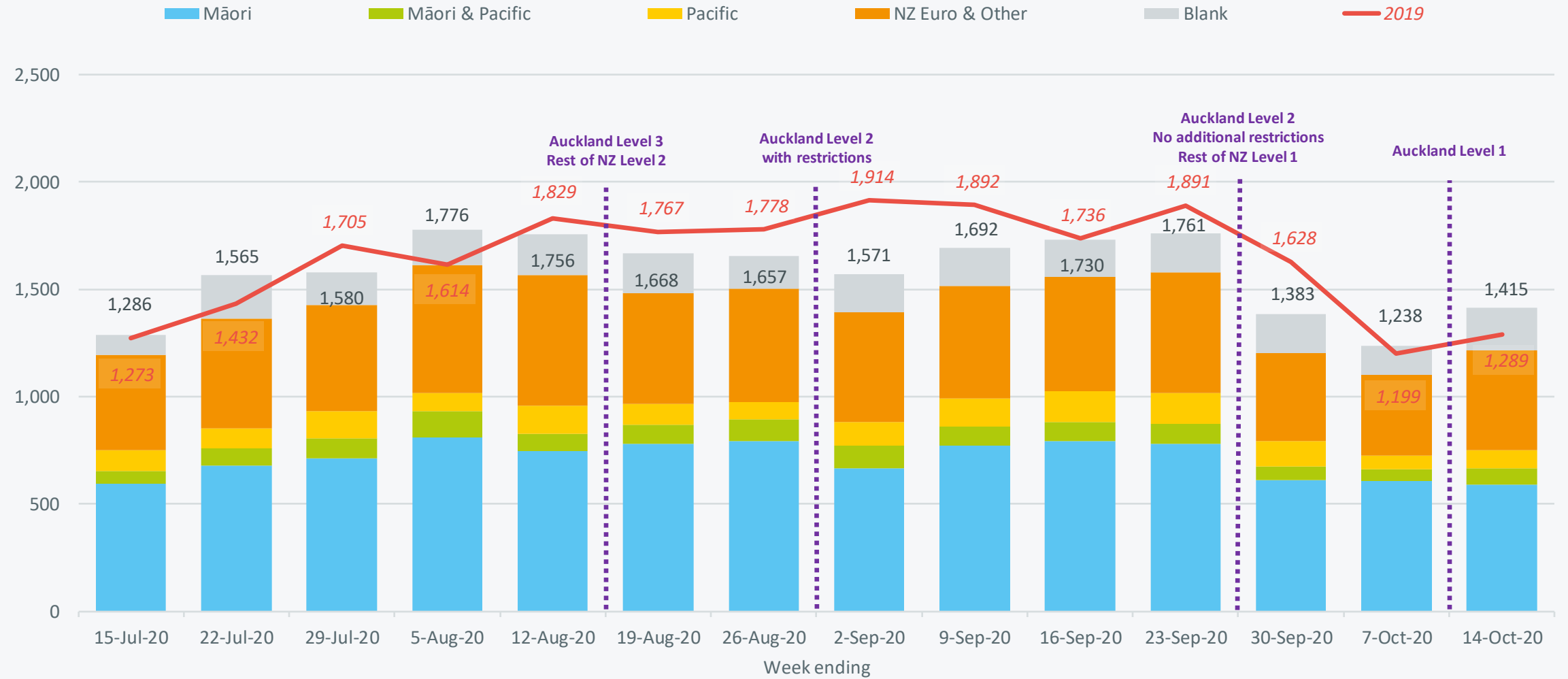
Youth Justice FGC referrals are most commonly made:

After charges have been laid, and the young person has appeared in court, providing they do not deny the offending (Court Ordered FGC), or

When the Police decide not to arrest the young person but are considering laying a charge (Intention to Charge FGC), or

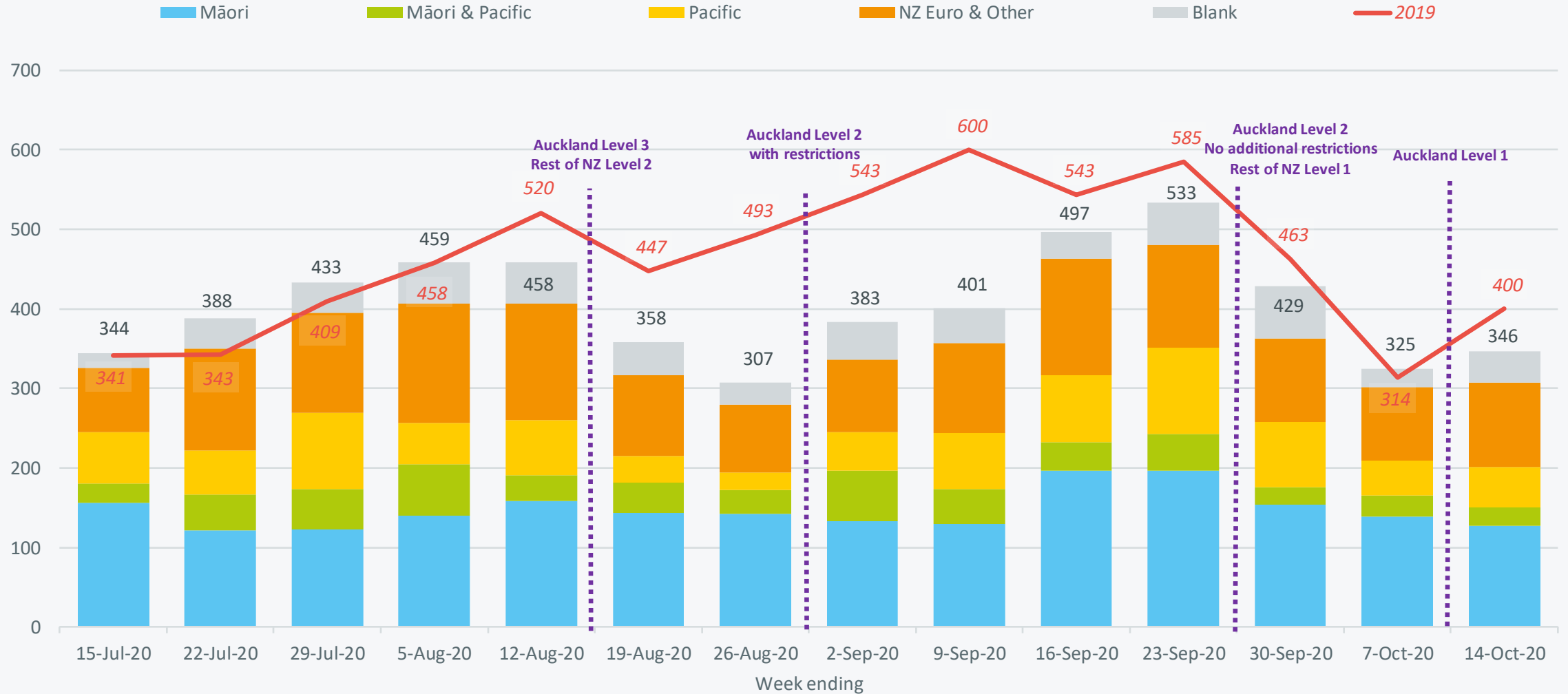
When the Police have serious concern for the wellbeing of a child (10-13 years old) who has committed a serious, or multiple offences, and believe they are in need of Care and Protection (Child Offender FGC).

# Reports of Concern, National



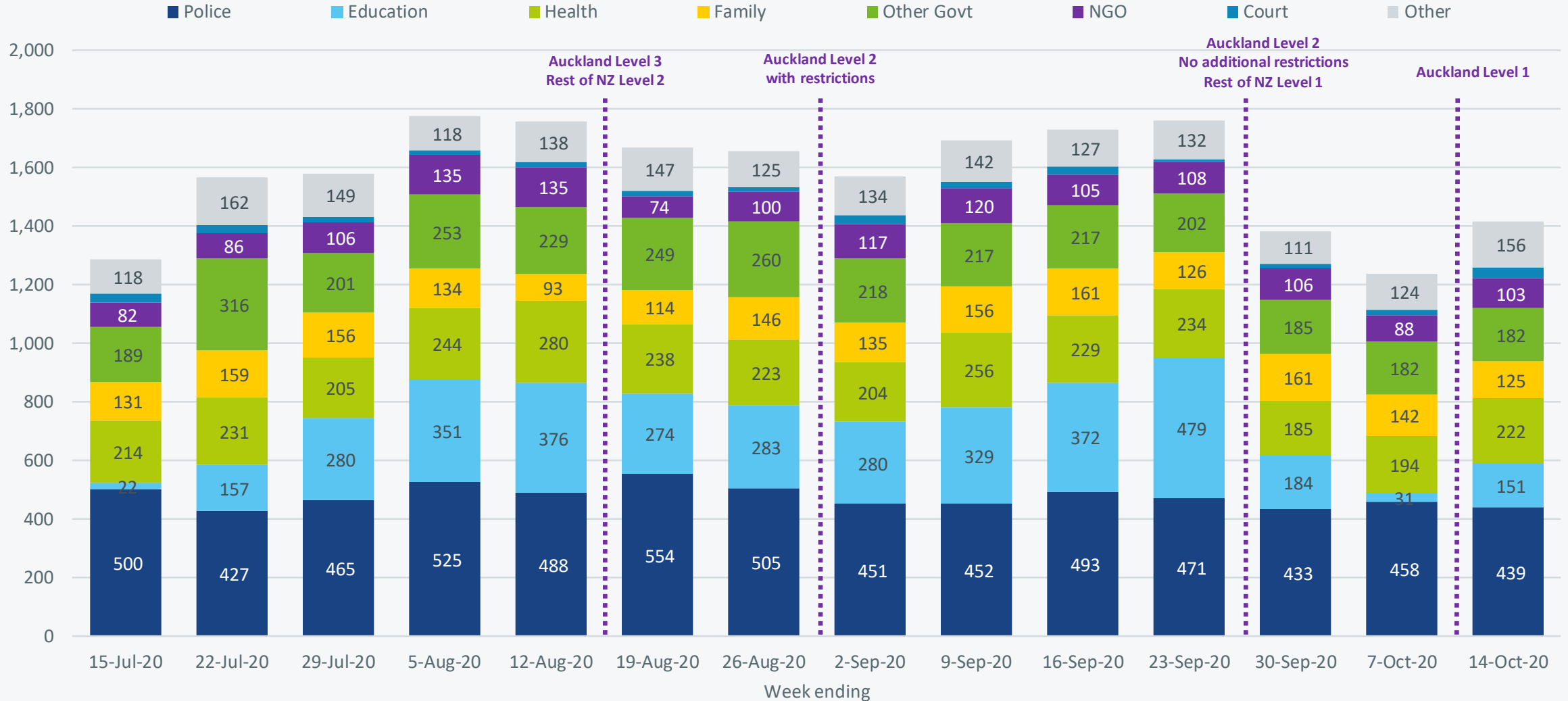
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# Reports of Concern, Auckland only



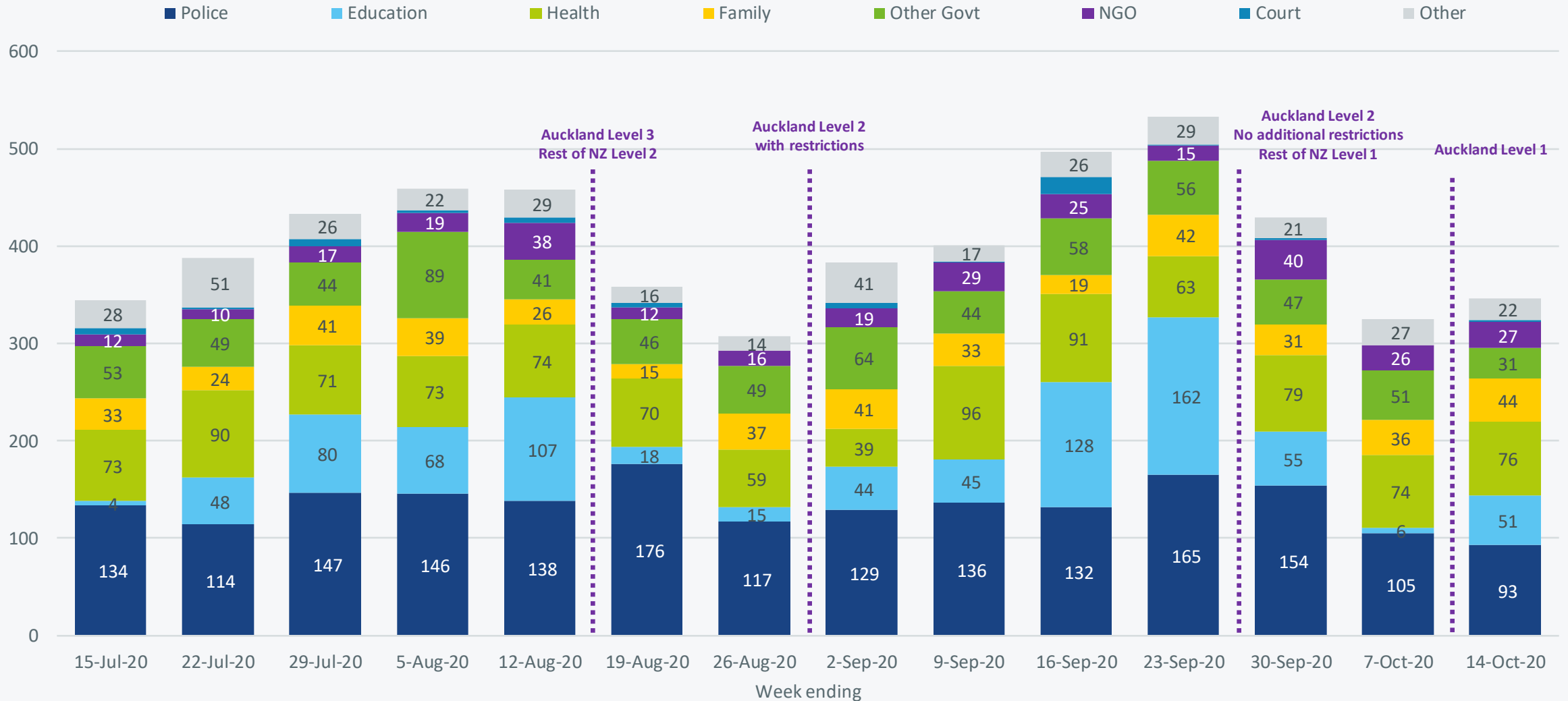
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# Reports of Concern by Notifier Group, National



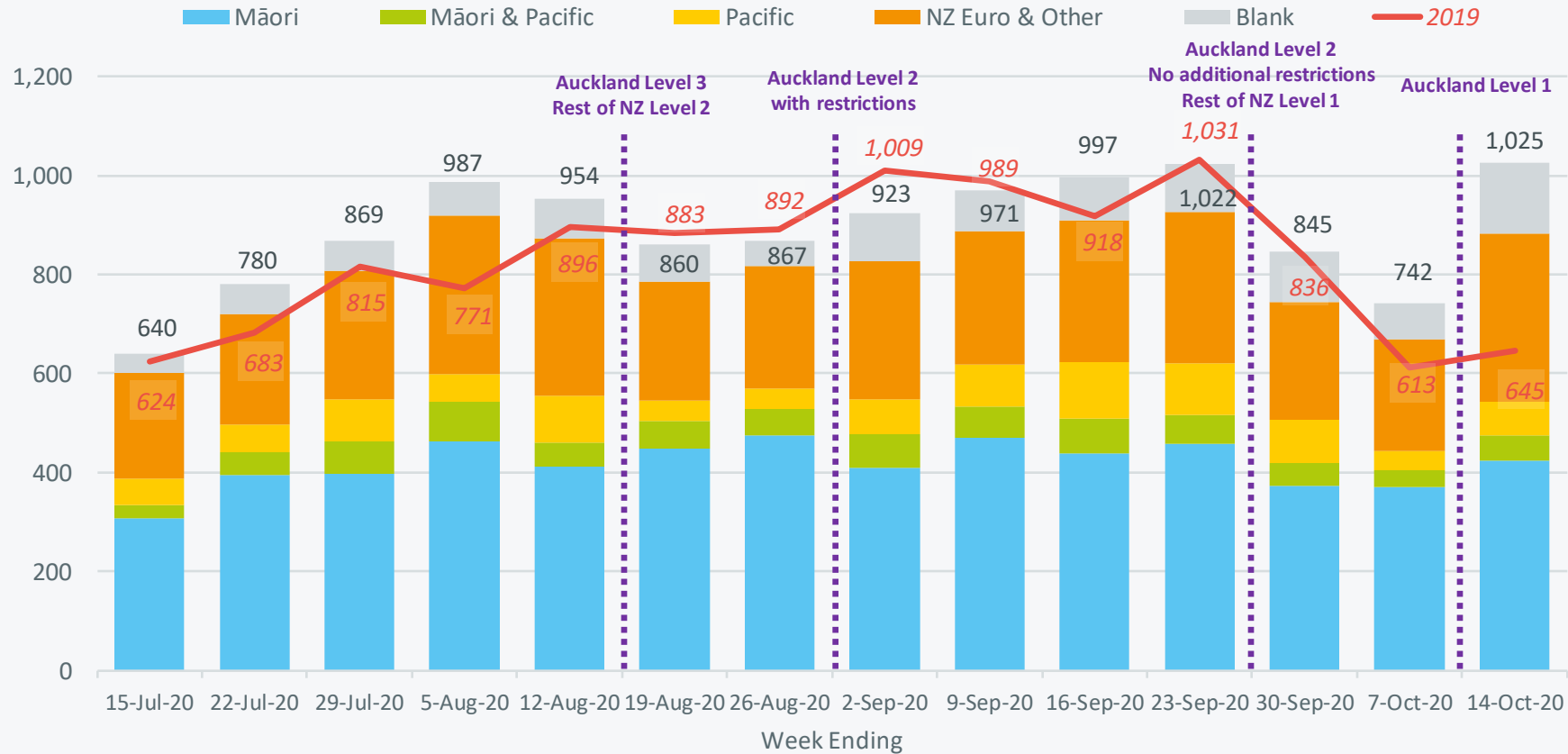
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# Reports of Concern by Notifier Group, Auckland only



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# Further Action Required, National

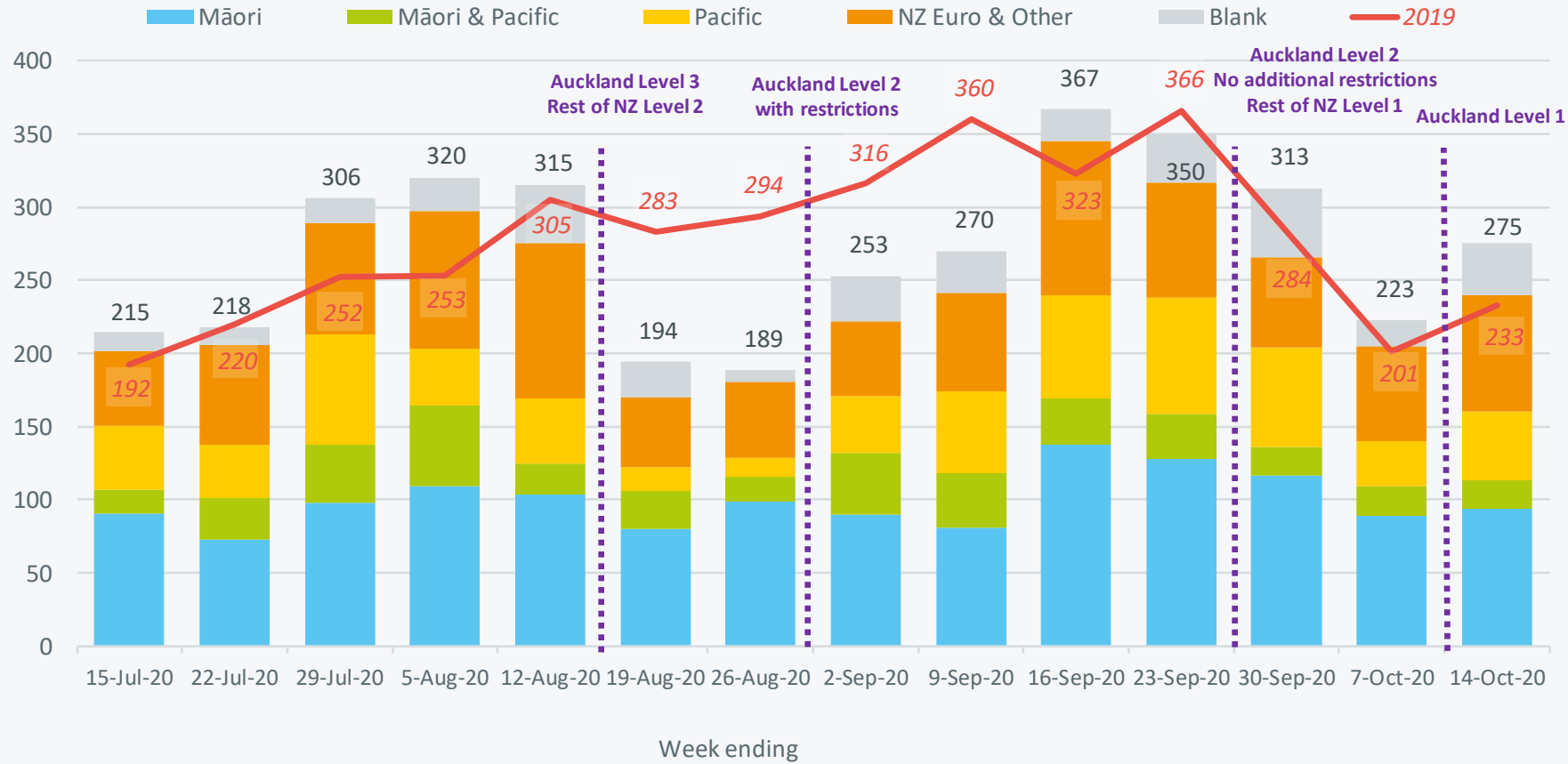


Note: For Reports of Concern with Further Action Required (FAR) the latest two weeks of data often change due to FARs that are still being processed. Because of this, it is best to focus on FAR data at least 2+ weeks in age.

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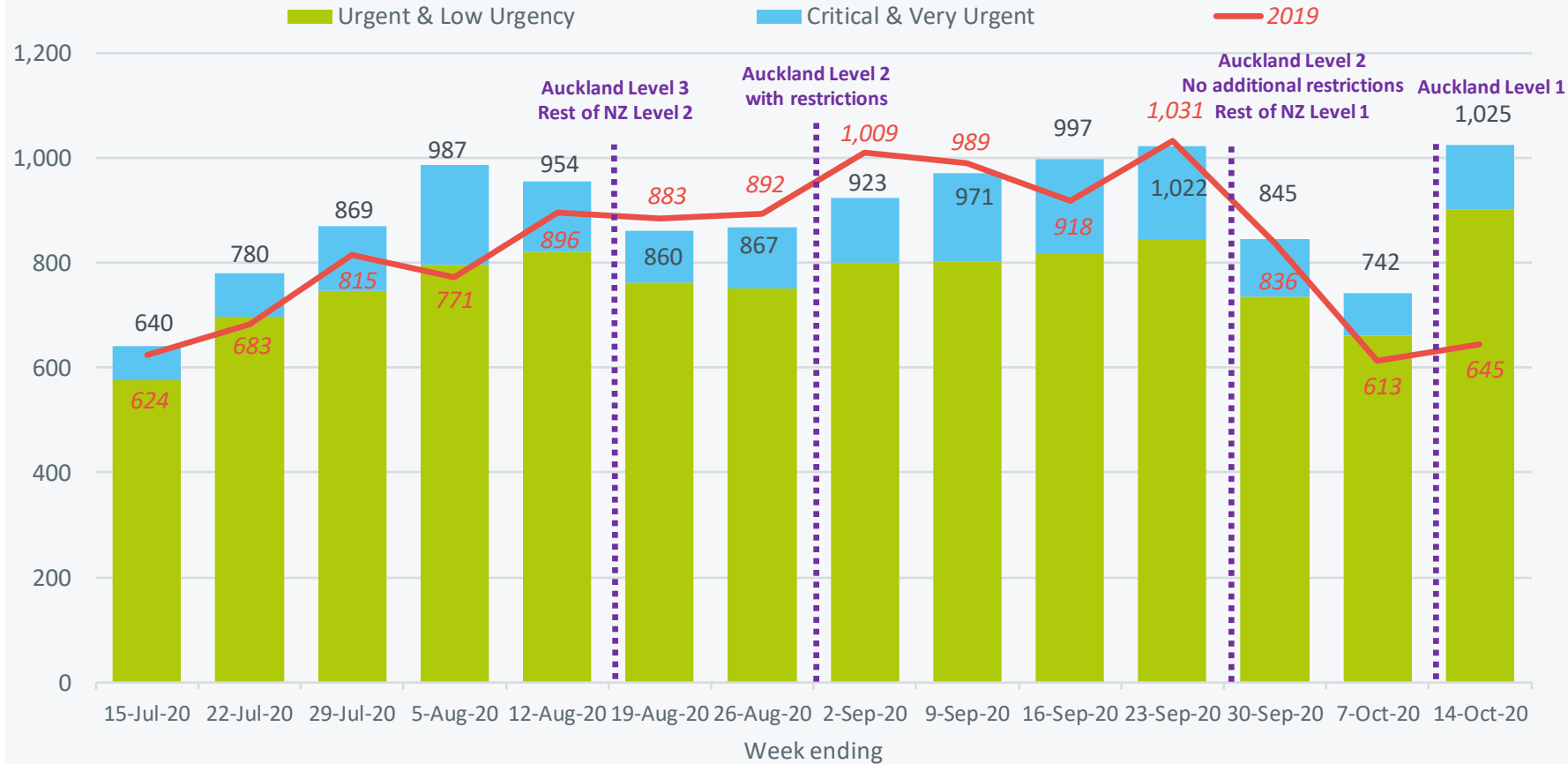
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# Further Action Required by Urgency, National



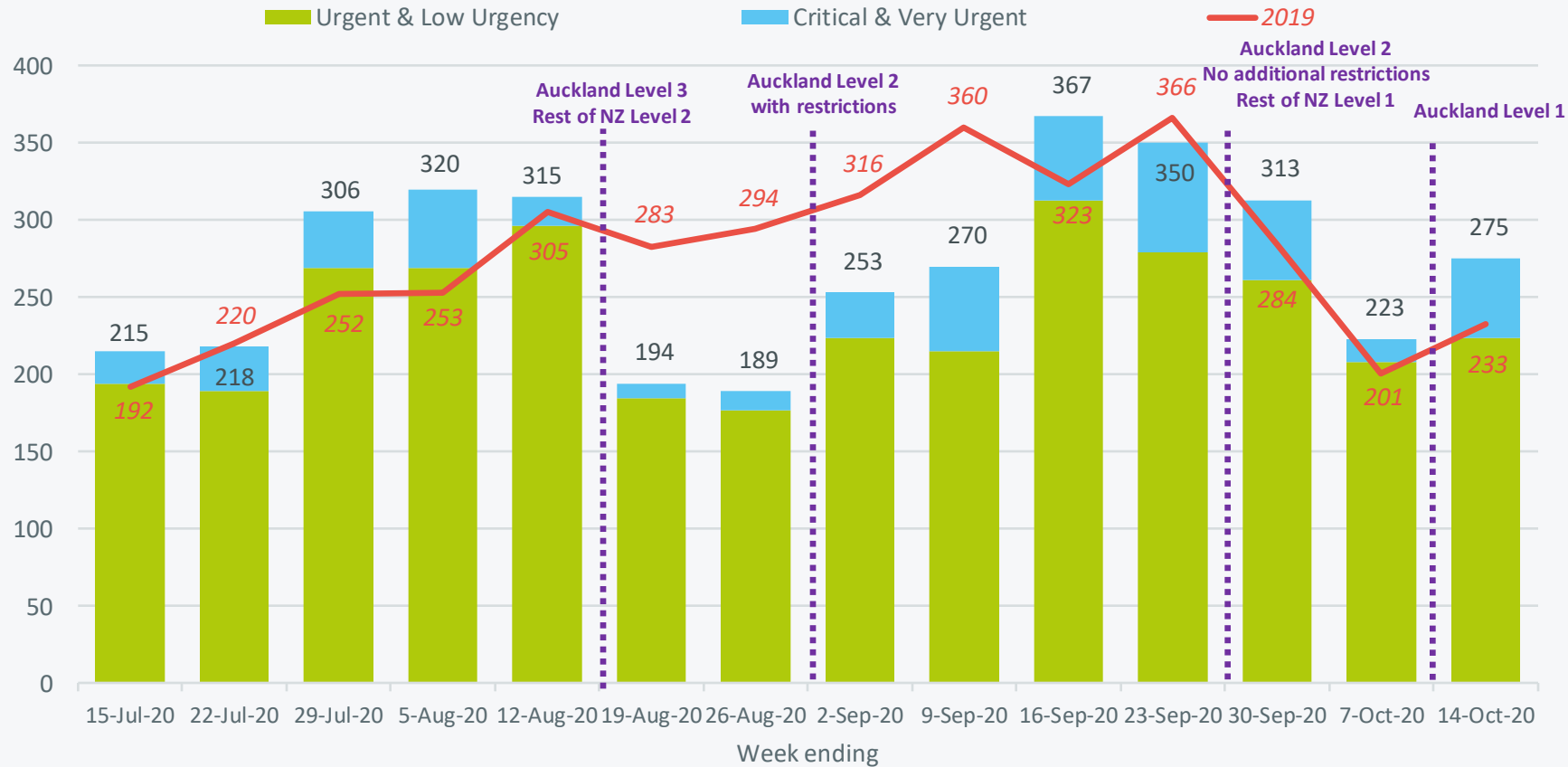
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## Further Action Required by Urgency, Auckland only



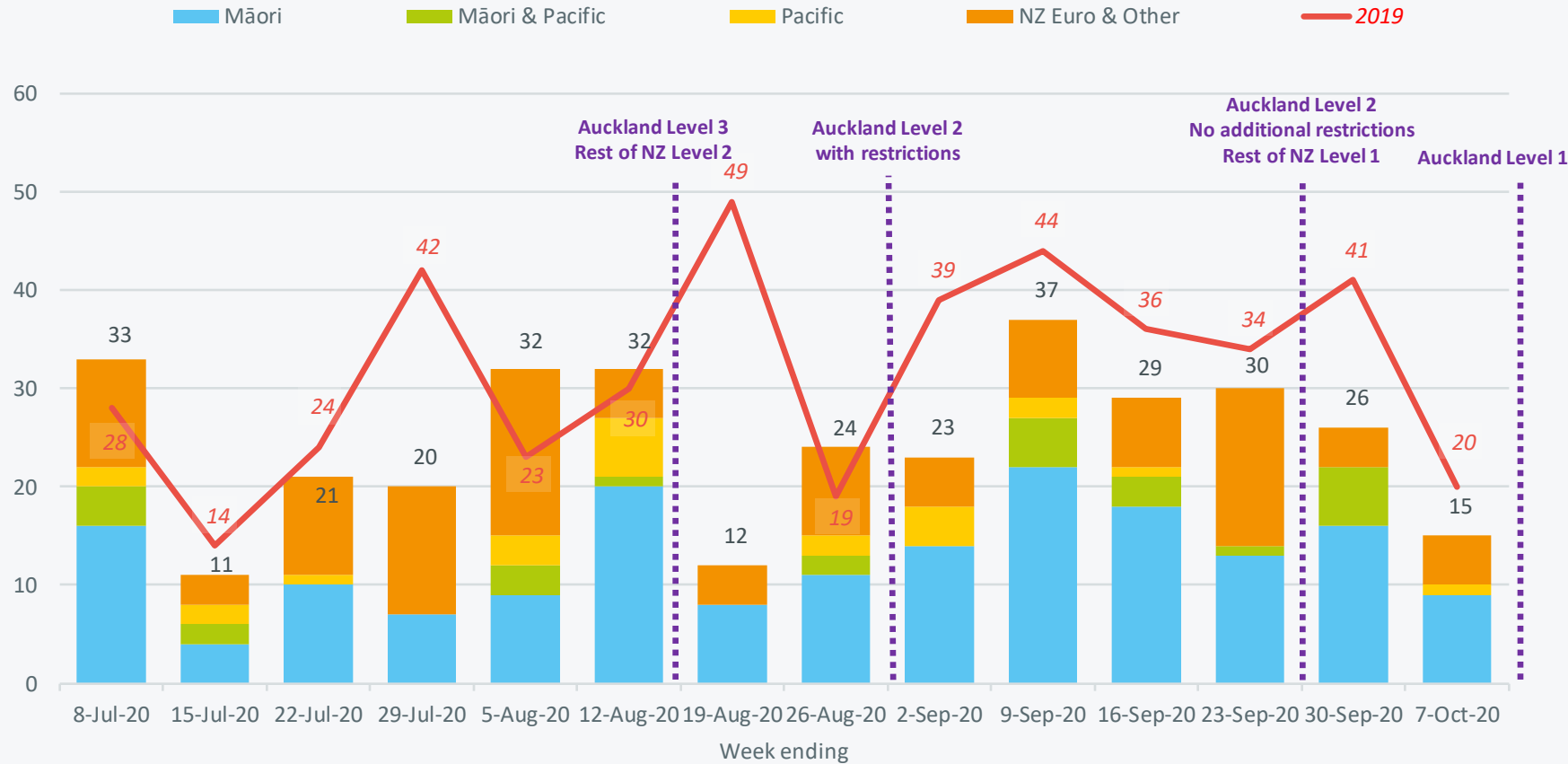
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# Entries to Care by Ethnicity, National

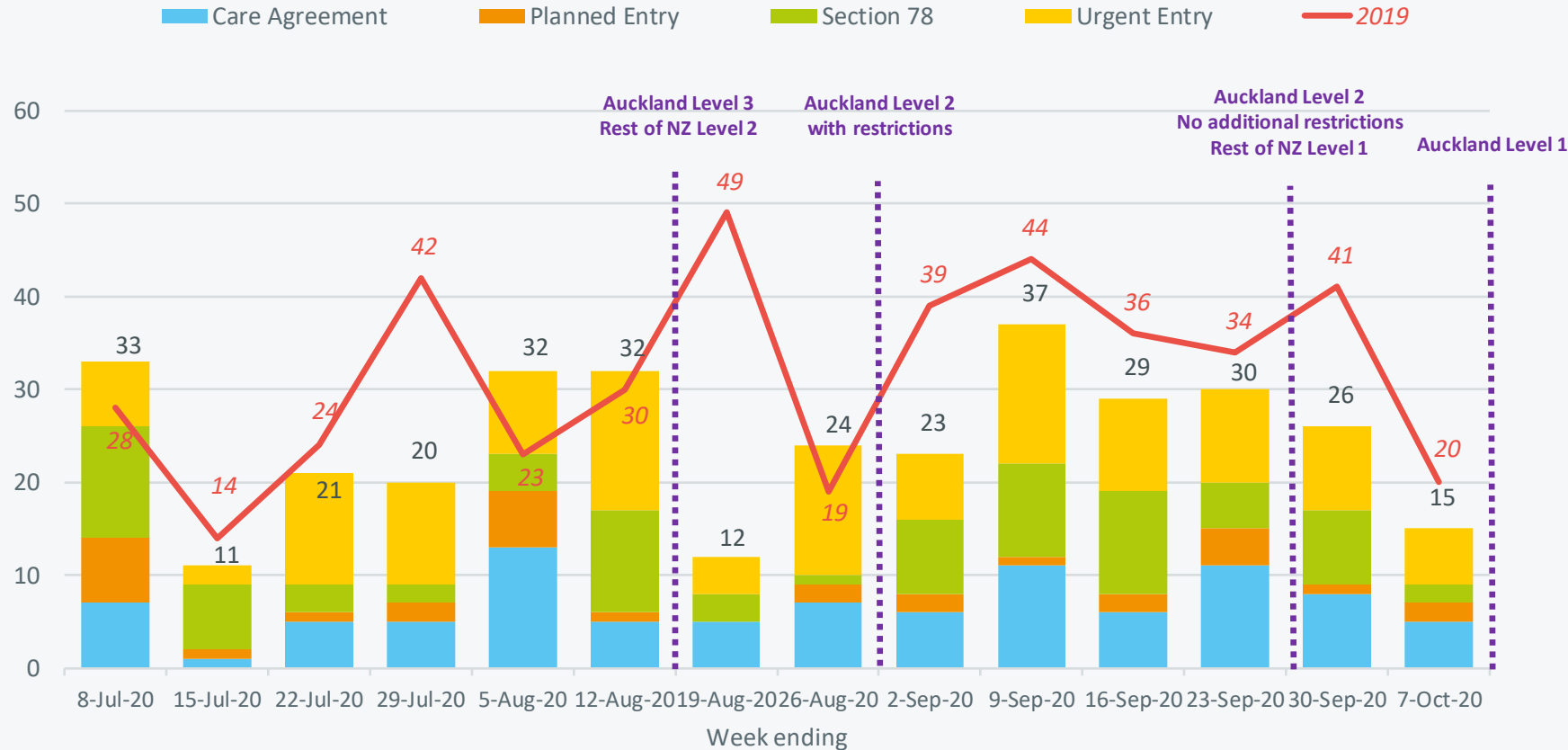


For entries to care, throughout the year there are often peaks and troughs in the number of children coming into care – a lot of the time children come into our care when we’ve been working with the family for weeks, months or years after receiving the first Report of Concern. The number of entries to care can also be affected by family size, where one or two large sibling groups can significantly increase numbers.

**Note:** A separate graph on Entries to Care numbers for Auckland has not been included due to the small number of entries.

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# Entries to Care by Pathway, National



## Care Agreement

When a child enters care through a voluntary agreement with the parents, guardians or usual persons having care of the child for a specific period of time.

## Planned Entry

Wherever possible, tamariki enter care in a planned and measured way. A planned entry will usually occur after a Family Group Conference has been held. Oranga Tamariki needs to apply to the Family Court in order to gain these custody orders.

## Section 78

Custody of child or young person pending determination of proceedings or in urgent cases.

## Urgent Entry

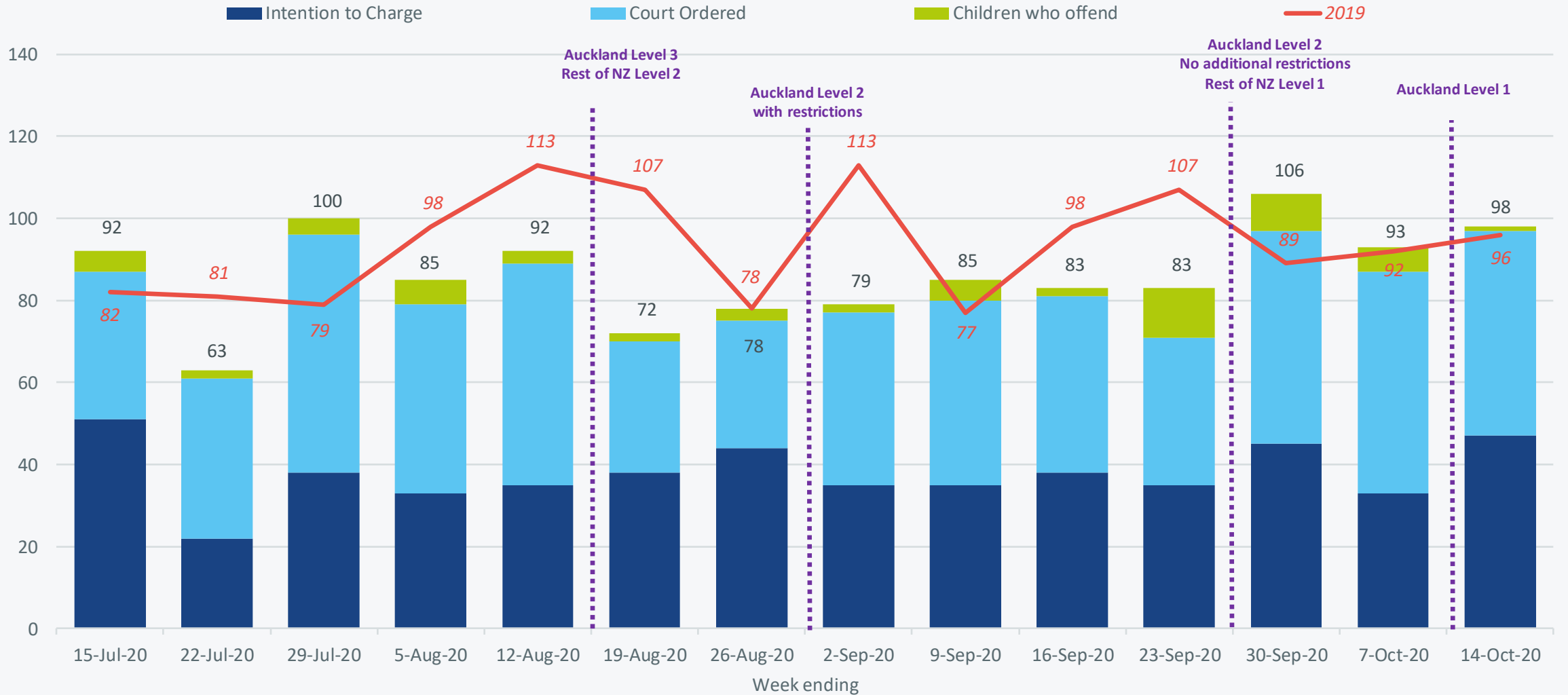
Interim orders/warrants that result in the transfer of the custody of a child to Oranga Tamariki until a final decision on the child's care can be made. These orders should only be used to secure the safety and wellbeing of tamariki when all other intervention options have been considered and there is an immediate safety concern

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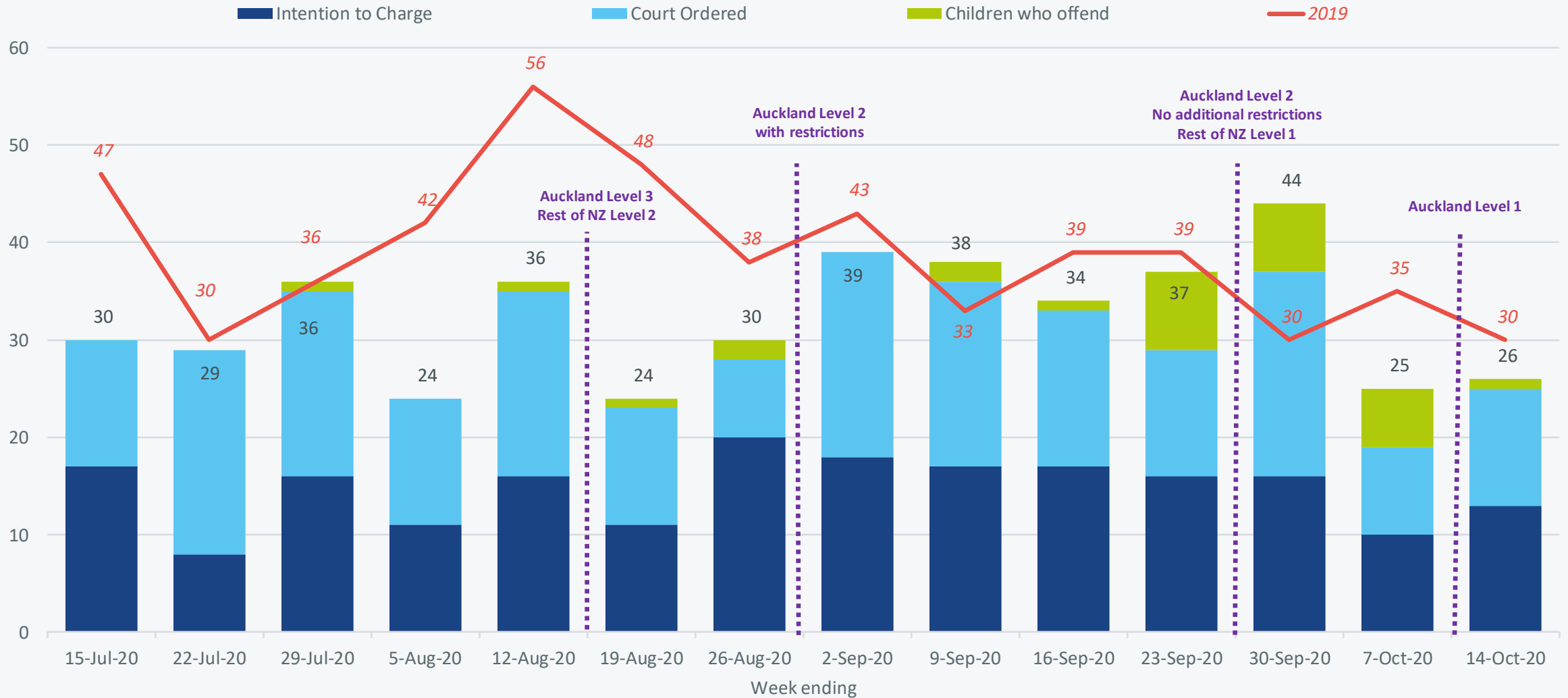


# Youth Justice Family Group Conference Referrals, National



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# Youth Justice Family Group Conferences Referrals, Auckland/Te Tai Tokerau Youth Justice Region only



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- The measures presented in the graphs cover different time periods based on when data for each individual measure is likely to be less subject to significant change.
- Recent data excludes cases that are awaiting updates to be entered by social workers. This means the data for this period will change each week as more cases are updated.
- Ethnicity for ROCs and FARs is often based on information from the notifier and cannot be verified until we have made contact with the family.
- 'Entries to care' data has a one-week lag. This is to allow enough time for social workers to update their records as it often takes some time for most changes to be recorded.
- Dates provided in the graphs indicate the week up to the given date. Comparisons to last year apply to the closest equivalent week.

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## Key dates:

26 March 2020 – Start of Alert Level 4  
28 April 2020 – Start of Alert Level 3  
14 May 2020 – Start of Alert Level 2  
9 June 2020 – Start of Alert Level 1  
12 August 2020 – Return to Alert Level 3 in Auckland, Level 2 for the rest of the country  
31 August 2020 – Auckland back to Alert Level 2 with additional restrictions  
21 September 2020 – Rest of New Zealand to Level 1  
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