

## Good news on burglary statistics (May 2005)

Mangere Bridge, a tight-knit community with a friendly and non-pretentious atmosphere near the Manukau Harbour, has now been shown to be a pretty safe place to live when it comes to burglaries. Open a newspaper or turn on the news on TV or radio and we are bombarded with 'bad news'. So here is something positive.

We had a look at burglary statistics for Mangere Bridge, based on the roads mentioned in the burglary reports in the Friday Manukau Courier over a period of several months (17 weeks data, from late 2004 to early 2005). We compared these with those for the greater Mangere, the overall Manukau Counties District, the rest of Auckland and National figures.

The figures (see data below) indicate that on a population basis using census data, the burglary rate in the greater Mangere Bridge area is around 1.4 %, the same as the National level, below that of Auckland City (2%) and below that of the rate for Mangere overall (1.6%). Mangere sits in the middle of the Manukau Counties District rankings (average 1.5% with a range of 0.8% for Howick to 2% for Papakura).

The "Ambury" Census area (west of Wallace Rd) has an even lower burglary rate (0.6%) when compared with all other areas, with only 6 burglaries noted for the whole of this 17 week period. The good "Ambury" statistics may be helped by the few roads in and out of the area, and the "off the main road" location.

Burglary 'hot spots' in Mangere Bridge tend to be the commercial areas (Coronation and Hastie Roads, Mahunga Drive) and in particular the two roads (Kirkbride and McKenzie Roads) at the boundary with the greater Mangere area. Excluding these two roads, the Mangere Bridge rate drops from 1.4% to a low 1.1%. For a complete picture, see the bottom of this article for the supporting data.

Still, there is never room for complacency, so stay active in your local Neighbourhood Watch scheme and use common sense (locking up, neighbours collecting mail, etc) when leaving home. If you would like to help keeping crime in the Bridge under control, please contact the local community constable's office (<http://www.mangerebridge.co.nz/Community.html#CommunityConstable>) or the local Volunteer Patrol Coordinator (<http://www.mangerebridge.co.nz/Community.html#Patrol>).

Some tips on safety from the police website

(<http://www.police.govt.nz/safety/home.burglar.reducing.php>):

- Set up or join a Neighbourhood Support Group in your area
- Make sure doors, windows and other entry and exit points from your house have good quality, effective catches and locks
- Always lock doors and windows at night, if you're out in the garden or going out or away. Don't leave a door key hidden outside - burglars know all the places to look
- Keep garden sheds and garages secure and lock away tools and ladders
- Install sensor lights on access paths or around main external doors
- Trim trees or remove shrubbery which might 'hide' a burglar's activity.

### Analysis of burglary rate statistics for Mangere Bridge (late 2004 to early 2005)

Data were analysed by adding up the number of reported burglaries for streets in the Mangere Bridge and Ambury census areas over a 17 week period, and annualising the data on a per population basis. The greater Mangere Bridge area is the combination of the Mangere Bridge and Ambury census areas. Population figures from census data applied pro rata. Comparison is made with national and larger Auckland area data.

Relative burglary rate per 10,000 population. Note: 100 per 10,000 = 1%			
<b>Comparison with data from website NZ Police, Year to 30 June 2004</b> (data estimated from burglaries at x% of crime rate in each report for National and District data)			
	<b>Actual</b>		
	Overall Crime rate/10,000	Overall Burglary rate/10,000	
<b>New Zealand average (actual)</b>	1053.7	140 (1.4%)	
<i>Based on national figures, burglaries are 13.3% (140/1053.7) of all crime</i>			
	<b>Actual</b>		
<b>Counties Manukau average (actual)</b>	1005.8	149 (1.49%)	
<i>Based on Counties Manukau figures, burglaries are 14.8% (149/1005.8)</i>			
<i>per sub areas (ranked)</i>	<i>Actual crime/10,000</i>	<i>Estimated burglaries/10,000</i>	
Howick	563.9	83 (0.83%)	
Pukekohe	679.2	101 (1.1%)	
Otara	1092.6	162 (1.62%)	
Mangere	1103.4	163 (1.63%)	
Greater Mangere Bridge area		144 (1.44%)	<i>Estimated burglary rate for streets in this area, using real data</i>
Mangere Bridge - excl Kirkbride/McKenzie Rds		113 (1.13%)	
Mangere Bridge - Ambury census area only		58 (0.58%)	
Otahuhu/Papatoetoe	1208.5	179 (1.79%)	
Manurewa	1325.4	196 (1.96%)	
Papakura	1403.9	208 (2.08%)	
	<b>Actual</b>		
<b>Auckland City average</b>	1403.5	208 (2.08%)	
<i>Based on Auckland City figures, burglaries are 14.8% (208/1403.5)</i>			
<i>per sub-area:</i>	<i>Actual crime/10,000</i>	<i>Estimated burglaries/10,000</i>	
Auckland City Central	4750.9	703 (7.03%)	
Auckland City East	1067.8	158 (1.58%)	
Auckland City Western	870.4	129 (1.29%)	
	<b>Actual</b>		
<b>North Shore/Waitakere average</b>	820.6	107 (1.07%)	
<i>Based on North Shore/Waitakere figures, burglaries are 13.0% (107/820.6)</i>			
<i>per sub area:</i>	<i>Actual crime/10,000</i>	<i>Estimated burglaries/10,000</i>	
North Shore	740.9	96 (0.96%)	
Rodney	687.4	89 (0.89%)	
Waitakere	961.4	125 (1.25%)	