

DRUNKENNESS.

There has been an increase of 626 in the number of prosecutions for drunkenness during the year as compared with the previous year.

The number charged with drunkenness in 1923 was 7,035 (6,665 males and 370 females), whereas in 1922 the number was 6,409 (6,088 males and 321 females).

The following return shows the number of prosecutions for drunkenness in each police district during the year 1923 as compared with 1922 :—

Police District.	Number of Prosecutions, 1922.	Number of Prosecutions, 1923.	Increase.	Decrease.
Whangarei ...	225	211	...	14
Auckland ...	1,385	1,609	224	...
Hamilton ...	470	567	97	...
Gisborne ...	207	210	3	...
Napier ...	283	333	50	...
New Plymouth ...	139	140	1	...
Wanganui ...	308	365	57	...
Palmerston North ...	275	309	34	...
Wellington ...	1,434	1,513	79	...
Greymouth ...	176	218	42	...
Christchurch ...	787	765	...	22
Timaru ...	306	295	...	11
Dunedin ...	275	341	66	...
Invercargill ...	139	159	20	...
Totals ...	6,409	7,035	626	47

From the following table it will be observed that 39.44 per cent. of the males and 63.78 per cent. of the females had previous convictions recorded against them, and 6.25 per cent. of the males were not permanent residents of the Dominion.

Return showing the Number of Persons charged with Drunkenness during the Year 1923, and the Number of Previous Convictions against them, so far as is known.

Police District.	Not previously convicted.		One Previous Conviction.		Two Previous Convictions.		Three Previous Convictions.		Four Previous Convictions.		Five Previous Convictions.		Over Five Previous Convictions.		Totals.		Number of Foregoing who were Members of Crews of Vessels in Port.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Whangarei ..	183	..	20	..	5	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	211	..	3
Auckland ..	709	29	187	2	91	7	96	10	72	14	55	6	275	56	1,485	124	149
Hamilton ..	435	5	44	..	21	..	17	..	6	2	5	..	31	1	559	8	..
Gisborne ..	112	2	26	1	14	..	8	..	9	..	9	..	29	..	207	3	3
Napier ..	194	5	41	..	18	..	12	1	10	..	14	..	37	1	326	7	13
New Plymouth ..	111	8	7	1	4	..	4	..	1	..	..	..	4	..	131	9	..
Wanganui ..	259	8	49	2	17	2	12	..	5	..	..	..	11	..	353	12	3
Palmerston North ..	137	10	41	4	30	2	29	..	16	1	14	1	24	..	291	18	..
Wellington ..	984	37	180	7	83	8	46	6	19	2	20	4	95	22	1,427	86	111
Greymouth ..	130	5	30	..	16	..	13	..	6	..	7	..	11	..	213	5	16
Christchurch ..	347	16	112	9	64	10	43	9	32	8	37	10	57	11	692	73	83
Timaru ..	171	1	32	1	30	1	14	..	10	..	11	..	24	..	292	3	13
Dunedin ..	161	6	36	1	29	4	13	1	19	..	24	1	39	7	321	20	14
Invercargill ..	103	2	19	..	11	..	5	..	2	..	4	..	13	..	157	2	9
Totals ..	4,036	134	824	28	433	34	313	27	209	27	200	22	650	98	6,665	370	417

Return showing the Number of Persons arrested for Drunkenness within each Principal Centre during the Years 1922 and 1923, the Number convicted, the Number discharged or otherwise dealt with (Males and Females shown separately), and the Increase or Decrease in Arrests.

Centre.	Number arrested, 1922.		Number arrested, 1923.		Number convicted, 1923.		Number discharged or otherwise dealt with, 1923.		Increase in Arrests.	Decrease in Arrests.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M. and F.	M. and F.
Auckland and suburbs ...	887	43	919	81	917	81	2	...	70	...
Wellington and suburbs	1,078	74	1,115	76	1,115	75	...	1	39	...
Christchurch and suburbs	465	52	457	70	456	70	1	...	10	...
Dunedin and suburbs ...	211	15	251	18	250	18	1	...	43	...
Totals ...	2,641	184	2,742	245	2,738	244	4	1	162	...