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Crime Statistics in Canada, 2004

by Julie Sauvé

Highlights

- Following an increase in 2003, the national police-reported crime rate fell slightly (-1%) in 2004. Although most crimes declined in 2004, noticeable increases were seen in homicides and drug incidents.
- The overall decrease in crime was largely driven by a 5% decline in Ontario. Most of this decline was due to large decreases in crime in the Hamilton, Ottawa, St. Catharines-Niagara and Toronto census metropolitan areas. Ontario's crime rate was the lowest in the country for the second year in a row.
- There were just over 302,000 violent crimes accounting for about 1 in 10 criminal incidents, with common assault accounting for nearly two-thirds of these. The total violent crime rate dropped by 2%.
- After reaching a 36-year low in 2003, the homicide rate increased by 12% in 2004. Police reported 622 victims of homicide in 2004, 73 more than the previous year. This resulted in a rate of 1.9 homicides per 100,000 population, 5% lower than a decade ago. The rate of attempted murders remained stable in 2004.
- There were about 27,000 robberies in 2004, a 4% drop in the rate from 2003. This resumed the general downward trend evident since 1996. Robberies with firearms decreased 3% in 2004.
- Nearly 1.3 million property crimes were reported in 2004, with thefts of \$5,000 and under accounting for slightly more than half of these. The property crime rate was 3% lower than in 2003. Most property crimes declined, with the exception of possession of stolen goods and fraud which increased by 6% and 4% respectively.
- Break-ins resumed their downward trend following the first increase in more than 10 years in 2003. There were about 275,000 break-ins, 4% lower than the previous year. There were nearly 170,000 motor vehicle thefts in 2004, resulting in a 4% drop in the vehicle theft rate.
- In 2003, police reported a large drop in cannabis incidents as a result of a climate of uncertainty within the law enforcement community given the introduction of legislation to decriminalize possession of small amounts of cannabis. In 2004, however, the rate of cannabis incidents resumed its upward trend, with a 10% increase. Cannabis possession comprised 7 in 10 cannabis offences.
- The youth crime rate dropped 4% in 2004. The rate of youths charged by police dropped 6%, while the rate of youths cleared by means other than a formal charge declined 2%.



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Introduction

Crime statistics in Canada have been available annually since 1962, permitting the analysis of crime trends over time. These data represent information on criminal incidents reported by Canadian police services to the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey (see the Methodology section for a description of this survey).

Incidents that come to the attention of the police are captured and forwarded to the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) according to a nationally-approved set of common crime categories and definitions. However, it is important to note that many factors may influence police-reported crime statistics: reporting by the public to the police; reporting to CCJS by the police; the impact of new initiatives such as changes in legislation, policies or enforcement practices; and, demographic, social and economic changes.

The CCJS gratefully acknowledges the assistance of Canada's police agencies and the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police in making this report possible.

Reporting to police

Each year, police-reported crime statistics are collected to measure the magnitude and the nature of criminal activity brought to the attention of the police. Every five years, these crime statistics are complemented by victimization data from the General Social Survey (GSS), also conducted by Statistics Canada. While the UCR survey measures crimes known to the police, victimization surveys provide estimates of criminal victimization, including those not reported to police. The failure to report crimes to the police can lead to an under-counting of crime in official police statistics.

In 2004, the fourth national GSS victimization study surveyed approximately 24,000 persons aged 15 years and older. These individuals were asked about their personal and household victimization in the preceding 12 months and their perceptions of crime and the criminal justice system. The perceptions data were released in July 2005¹, while the victimization data are scheduled to be released in Fall 2005².

Victimization surveys collect information directly from the general population, whether or not the self-reported victimization was reported to, or substantiated by, the police. There are many reasons why victims may not report criminal incidents to police. According to the GSS, these reasons include the level of perceived seriousness of the incident, not wanting to involve the police, and fear of reprisals from the aggressor. However, other factors may encourage people to report certain types of criminal offences to police³: the desire to see the offender punished; social obligation to report criminal behaviour; as well as the need to obtain a police report for insurance purposes.

In addition, the tolerance of Canadians for certain types of crimes may affect the crime rate. For example, greater awareness by the public, police and prosecutors in the areas of family violence and sexual assault may lower society's tolerance for these behaviours, which may encourage victims and witnesses to report to police.

Reporting by police to the UCR Survey

Crimes reported to the UCR survey by police agencies are subject to numerous quality control procedures, both on-site at the police service and at Statistics Canada. Statistics Canada and individual police services work together to identify and resolve any difficulties in the collection and transmission of crime data. The monthly crime statistics are edited and tabulated by Statistics Canada and sent back to individual police services at year-end for final authorization to release.

1. Maire Gannon, 2005, *General Social Survey, Cycle 18: an overview of findings*, Catalogue 85-565-XIE, Statistics Canada.
2. A detailed analysis will be available in the report *Criminal Victimization in Canada*, Juristat, Statistics Canada, forthcoming.
3. Besserer, S and Trainor, C., 2000, "Criminal Victimization in Canada", Juristat, Catalogue 85-002, Vol. 20, no. 10, p. 11 & 12, Statistics Canada.

Changes in legislation, policies and practices

Changes in legislation, policies and police enforcement practices may also have an impact on police-reported statistics. When an amendment to the *Criminal Code* creates a new offence or broadens the definition of an existing offence, the number of incidents reported to police and by police will likely increase or decrease in reaction to these changes.

Changes in police enforcement practices, such as special operations to target certain types of crimes, will be reflected in official crime statistics. For certain crimes, the number of offences reported is largely driven by police enforcement. Crimes such as prostitution and drug offences are most often identified through police-enforcement activities or proactive policing, and are rarely reported by the public.

With the implementation of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA) in April 2003, police services adjusted their policies to try and follow the principles set out in the YCJA to reduce youth contact with the formal justice system. Police-reported data confirm this, as the number of youths formally charged have dropped in both 2003 and 2004, while the number of youths cleared by means other than a charge increased in 2003 and decreased slightly in 2004.

Social, economic and demographic factors affecting the crime rate

In terms of demographics, persons aged 15 to 24 have higher rates of offending and of being victims of crime than other age groups. In 2004, persons aged 15 to 24 represented 14% of the Canadian population while accounting for 32% of those accused of property crimes and 42% of those accused of violent crimes. Decreasing crime rates in the 1990s have frequently been explained by changing demographics during the same period, as the proportion of young persons in the overall population continues to decline. As well, unemployment and measures of poverty and inequality are frequently cited as factors influencing crime rates.

A recent study⁴ further explored the relationship between selected crime trends (for the offences of homicide, robbery, break and enter and motor vehicle theft) and various demographic and economic changes such as the age composition of the population, unemployment, inflation and alcohol consumption. Results show that different factors have a different association, depending on the type of crime being examined. For example, shifts in the age composition of the population were found to be associated with shifts in break and enter but were not statistically significant for the other crime types being studied. Shifts in inflation were found to be associated with changes in financially-motivated crimes: robbery, motor vehicle theft and break and enter. Finally, shifts in alcohol consumption and the unemployment rate were found to be associated with shifts in the homicide rate. For a more detailed analysis concerning crimes and socio-demographic and economic trends, consult the report *Exploring Crime Patterns in Canada*, released by Statistics Canada.

2004 Crime Data

In 2004, nearly 2.6 million *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic incidents and other federal statutes such as drug

Text Box 1 : Key terminology and definitions

Criminal Incident

One incident can include more than one offence. For incidents involving multiple offences, only the most serious offence in the incident is counted. Except for robbery, violent crime counts reflect the number of victims in the incident, whereas non-violent crime counts reflect the number of incidents or occurrences of crime.

Crime rate

Crime rates are based on the number of incidents reported to police per 100,000 population. Rates are used to make comparisons among geographic areas with different populations and over time. The "crime rate" represents all *Criminal Code* incidents excluding traffic violations and other federal statutes, such as drug offences.

Accused persons

Includes all persons identified by police as having committed a crime, and against whom enough evidence exists to lay a charge, regardless of whether they have been formally charged with an offence.

Persons cleared by charge

This term refers to persons who have been formally charged or recommended to be charged by police.

Persons cleared otherwise

This term refers to people who have not been formally charged by police, though there is sufficient evidence for the police to do so. This could occur for a number of reasons: the police used extrajudicial measures (see Youth Crime section), the police may have used discretion and decided not to lay a charge, the complainant did not want police to lay a charge, the accused was involved in other incidents in which one or more charges were laid, or death of the accused.

For more information on the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, refer to the Methodology section at the end of this report.

offences) were reported by police. Of these, 12% were violent crimes, 50% were property crimes, and the remaining 39% were other *Criminal Code* offences such as mischief, counterfeiting, disturbing the peace and bail violations (Table 1). Twenty-five years ago this distribution was quite different, with violent crimes accounting for 8%, property 64% and other *Criminal Code* 28%.

In addition, there were close to 119,000 *Criminal Code* traffic incidents (of which two-thirds were for impaired driving), 97,000 drug incidents and more than 34,000 other federal statute incidents (e.g. *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*, *Canada Shipping Act*). In total, police reported 2.8 million criminal incidents in 2004.

It is important to note that when making comparisons (across provinces, CMAs or historically), UCR data are subject to certain data quality limitations which are detailed in the Methodology section under "Data Revisions / Notes".

Following an increase in 2003, the crime rate dropped slightly in 2004

While the number of homicides and drug incidents increased in 2004, most crimes were on the decline. After having recorded the first increase in crime in more than 10 years in 2003 (+6%), the crime rate decreased slightly (-1%) in 2004. Both the violent

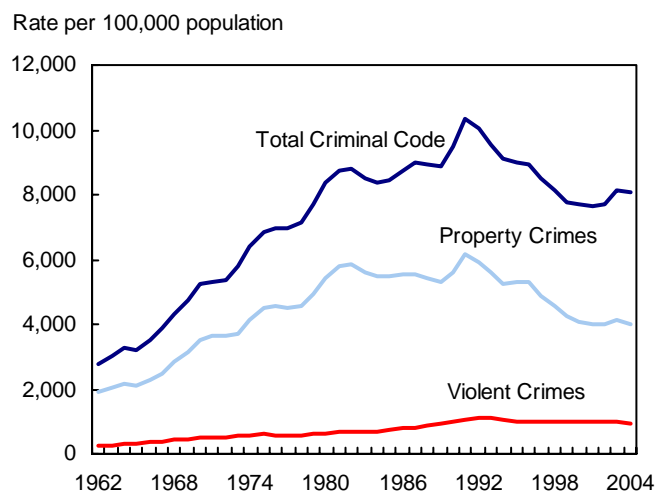
4. Holly Johnson and Valerie Potte Bunge, 2005, *Exploring Crime Trends in Canada*, Catalogue 85-561-XPE, no. 5, Statistics Canada.

and property crime rates declined in 2004, by 2% and 3% respectively, while the rate of other *Criminal Code* offences increased by 2% due to increases in counterfeiting and disturbing the peace incidents.

Ontario drove the decline in the national crime rate in 2004, with a 5% drop. A number of major census metropolitan areas in Ontario reported large decreases: Hamilton (-13%), Ottawa (-10%), St. Catharines-Niagara (-9%) and Toronto (-9%).

Over the past decade, the national crime rate has fallen 12%. The 1990s was a period of general decline in crime, followed by relative stability from 2000 to 2002 (Figure 1 - Table 2).

Figure 1



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

International trends

According to preliminary data released by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the number of violent crimes in the United States dropped by 2% in 2004, the same decline as seen in Canada. The number of homicides in the U.S. declined by 6% and robberies were down 5%. England & Wales reported a 10% increase in their violent crimes for the period October to December 2004 compared with the same period in the previous year⁵. A decrease in violent crime had been observed in the previous quarter.

Similar to Canada, the number of property crimes decreased in both the United States and England & Wales. In the United States, burglary, motor vehicle theft and other theft all dropped by 2%.

Provincial trends

Ontario and Prince Edward Island were the only two provinces to show a large decrease in crime in 2004, both down 5%.

Saskatchewan's crime rate declined slightly (-2%), after having experienced the largest increase over the past 10 years among the provinces(+41%). Small increases in crime were noted in New Brunswick (+3%) and Nova Scotia (+2%).

There is considerable regional variation in crime rates across Canada (Table 3). Historically, crime rates had increased from east to west, but this has changed in recent years as rates in the Atlantic provinces are now generally higher than in Ontario and Quebec. Only in Newfoundland & Labrador is the crime rate lower than that of Quebec. The western provinces have the highest rates among the provinces. Rates in the three territories are much higher than in any of the provinces and are highly variable given their relatively small populations.

In 2004, provincial crime rates varied from 5,702 incidents per 100,000 population in Ontario to 15,159 in Saskatchewan. Ontario's rate was the lowest in the country for the second straight year. The crime rate in Alberta (10,390) was the lowest among the four western provinces for the 12th consecutive year.

Crime rates in census metropolitan areas

Almost half (47%) of all *Criminal Code* incidents in Canada were reported by police services from the nine largest census metropolitan areas (CMAs)⁷, which accounted for 50% of the national population (Table 4). In many instances, a single CMA will comprise a number of individual police services. Examining specific police services within CMA boundaries provides a clearer picture of how and where crime rates are changing (Table 5). For example, while the crime rate for the entire CMA of Vancouver was stable in 2004, both Burnaby and Vancouver police services reported increases (+12% and +3% respectively), while Richmond showed a 5% decline.

As already mentioned, among the nine largest CMAs, large declines were seen in the three Ontario CMAs (Hamilton, Ottawa and Toronto). Among the smaller 18 CMAs, large declines were reported by Trois-Rivières (-10%), Saskatoon (-9%), St. Catharines-Niagara (-9%), Sherbrooke (-9%) and Saint John (-8%). The largest increases were seen in Thunder Bay (+8%) and Halifax (+5%).

For the fourth straight year, Saguenay reported the lowest crime rate (4,079) among all 27 CMAs⁸, followed by Toronto, Trois-Rivières and Québec. Regina reported the highest crime rate, followed by Saskatoon. Regina has had the highest crime rate since 1995, with the exception of 2003, when Saskatoon edged

5. Federal Bureau of Investigation National Press Office, *Preliminary Crime Statistics for 2004*. Web-site: www.fbi.gov/pressrel05/ucrprelim2004.htm. It should be noted that these data refer to changes in the "number" of crimes rather than in the "rate".

6. Michelle Clegg, Andrea Finney and Katherine Thorpe, April 2005, *Crime in England & Wales: Quarterly Update to December 2004*, Home Office, England and Wales. It should be noted that these data refer to changes in the "number" of crimes rather than in the "rate".

7. A CMA refers to a large urban core (over 100,000 population) together with adjacent urban and rural areas that have a high degree of economic and social integration. In this report, the CMA boundaries have been modified slightly in order to more accurately reflect policing boundaries. The areas that police forces serve may differ in their mix of urban/suburban populations, making the comparability of crime rates among these forces difficult. This lack of comparability is addressed by analyzing crime rates by CMA. Usually, more than one police force is responsible for enforcing the law within the boundaries of a single census metropolitan area.

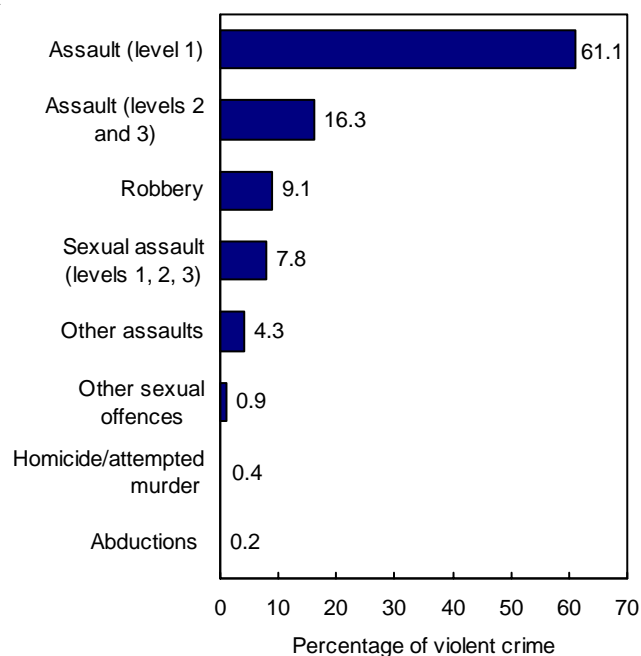
8. The CMA of Oshawa is excluded from this analysis due to incongruity between the police agency boundaries and the CMA boundaries.

higher. However, Saskatoon's 9% drop in crime in 2004 was one of the largest year over year decrease among CMAs under 500,000 population. Other CMAs with a crime rate of over 10,000 were all in the western provinces and included Abbotsford, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Edmonton and Victoria.

Violent Crime

Police services in Canada reported just over 302,000 incidents of violent crime in 2004. Violent crime includes homicide, attempted murder, assault, sexual assault, other assaults, other sexual offences, abduction and robbery (Figure 2). Three out of every five violent incidents are classified as level 1 assault, the least serious form.

Figure 2



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

In 2004, the violent crime rate dropped by 2%, the largest decline since 1999. The violent crime rate has dropped 10% over the past decade, after having increased for most of the 1960s, '70s and '80s. The 2004 rate of 946 violent incidents per 100,000 population is 55% higher than the rate 25 years ago.

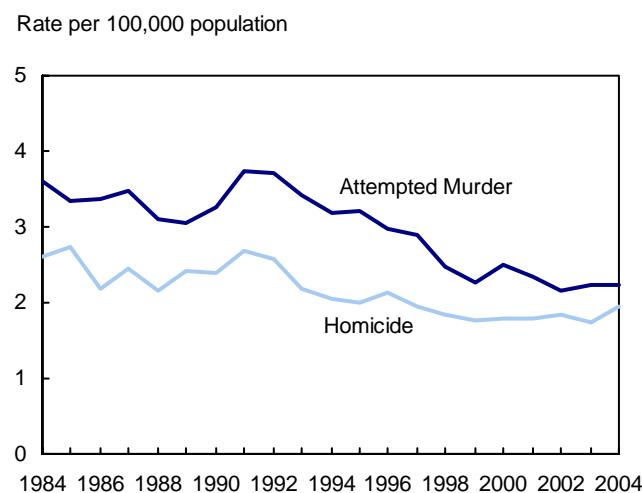
Saskatchewan has reported the highest violent crime rate among the provinces for the last seven years. Despite a 3% drop in 2004, Saskatchewan's violent crime rate (2,006) was still 25% higher than the next highest province, Manitoba. For the past decade, Quebec has recorded the lowest violent crime

rate (a rate of 726 in 2004). For the third straight year, Ontario was second lowest (755), reporting a 3% decline. All provinces reported either stable or decreasing violent crime rates.

Homicide

Homicide includes first and second degree murder, manslaughter and infanticide. After reaching a 36-year low in 2003, the homicide rate increased 12% in 2004 (Figure 3). A total of 622 victims were reported, 73 more than in 2003, resulting in a rate of 1.9 homicides per 100,000 population. Although this was the highest rate since 1997, the rate was still 5% lower than a decade ago. The rate of attempted murders remained stable in 2004.

Figure 3



1. As a result of ongoing investigations in Port Coquitlam, B.C. there were 15 homicides in 2002, 7 homicides in 2003 and 5 homicides in 2004 that occurred in previous years. Homicide are counted according to the year in which police file the report. Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

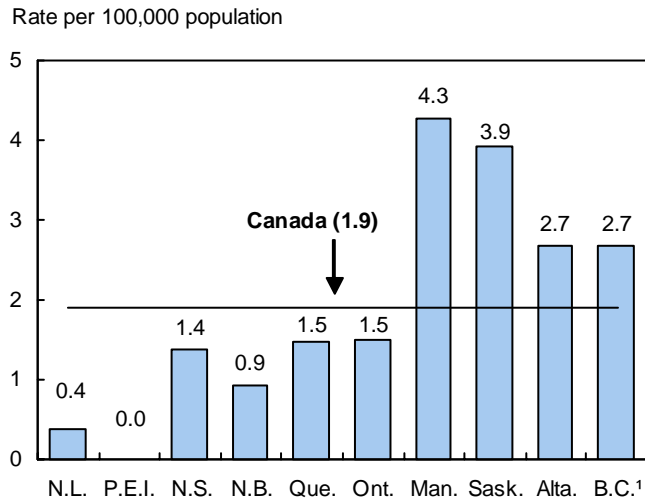
The increase in homicides was primarily a result of large increases in a few provinces. Alberta showed the largest increase with 22 more homicides than the previous year, British Columbia reported 18 more homicides, and Quebec showed an increase of 12⁹.

The Atlantic provinces generally have the lowest homicide rates in the country. This trend held in 2004 (Figure 4) as Prince Edward Island recorded no homicides, followed by Newfoundland & Labrador (0.4 homicides per 100,000 population). The highest rates were found in western Canada: Manitoba (4.3), Saskatchewan (3.9), British Columbia (2.7) and Alberta (2.7).

9. Detailed information on homicides in Canada will be released in the Juristat "Homicide in Canada", by Mia Dauvergne, October 2005.

Figure 4

Highest homicide rates in the west, 2004



1. As a result of ongoing investigations in Port Coquitlam, B.C. there were 5 homicides in 2004 that occurred in previous years. Homicide are counted according to the year in which police file the report
Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Among the nine largest CMAs, Winnipeg, with an increase of 16 homicides in 2004, continued to have the highest rate (4.9), followed by Edmonton (3.4) and Vancouver (2.6). Winnipeg's rate was the highest recorded in that city since CMA data were first collected in 1981. The lowest rates were reported in Québec (0.8) and Ottawa (1.1).

Among the 18 smaller CMAs, Regina reported the highest homicide rate (5.0), with 10 homicides, followed by Abbotsford (4.4) and Saskatoon (3.3). It should be noted that, due to small numbers and populations, homicide rates are subject to fluctuations from year to year. Four CMAs reported zero homicides in 2004: Kingston, Sherbrooke, Sudbury and Thunder Bay.

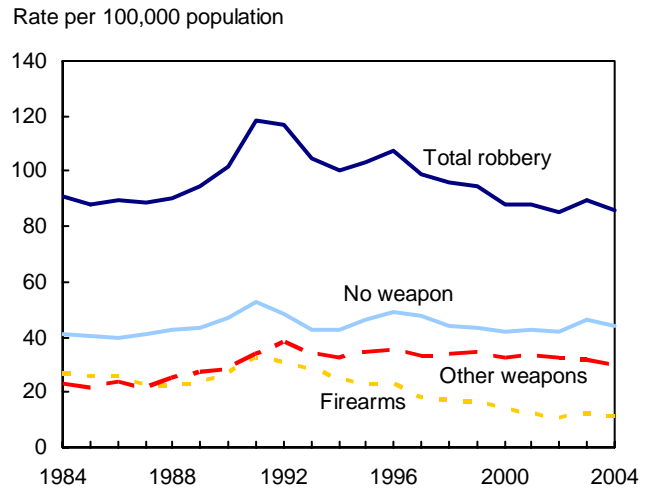
Robbery

After having increased in 2003 for the first time in seven years, the robbery rate decreased 4% in 2004, returning to the general downward trend seen since 1996 (Figure 5). There were about 27,000 robberies reported in 2004, for a rate of 86 incidents per 100,000 population. This rate was 14% less than a decade earlier and 28% lower than the 1991 peak.

Despite a national decline in robberies, all four Atlantic provinces experienced significant increases in 2004 (Figure 6). Compared to 2003, the rate in Newfoundland & Labrador almost doubled (+97%). In Prince Edward Island, it increased by 44%, in New Brunswick by 23% and in Nova Scotia by 19%. However, overall robbery rates in the Atlantic provinces continue to be below the national rate.

Figure 5

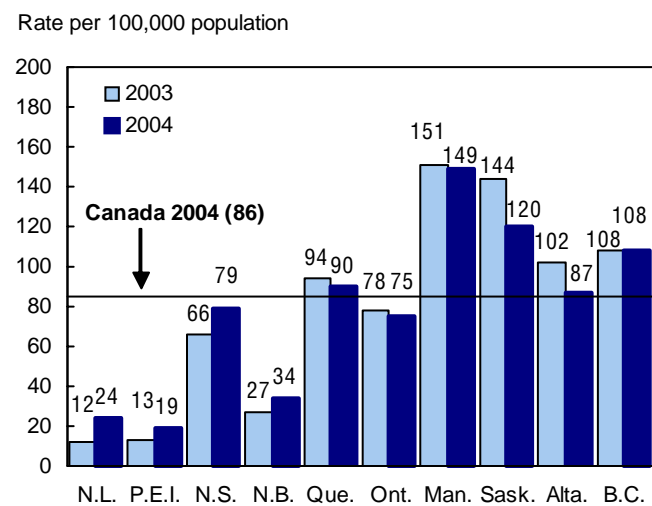
Half of robbery incidents in 2004 committed without a weapon



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Figure 6

Increases in robbery in Atlantic provinces



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Robbery rates declined or remained stable among the nine largest CMAs, with the largest drops reported in Calgary (-21%), Ottawa (-15%) and Edmonton (-13%). Among the smaller CMAs, the largest drop was in Saskatoon (-32%). However, as per the general increase in the Atlantic provinces, large increases were reported in St. John's (+90%) and Saint John (+54%).

Text Box 2: Characteristics of robbery in Canada

Location – In 2004, about 4 out of 10 robberies were committed in commercial establishments: 16% in convenience stores and gas stations, 5% in banks and 20% in other commercial locations such as restaurants. Streets and roads were the next most common location (30%), followed by private residences (8%), parking lots (6%) and open areas (5%).

One recent trend has been the increase in robberies committed on public transit and in transit stations. Although the numbers are small, the proportion of robberies occurring in these areas has more than doubled over the past 7 years, from 1.6% of all robberies in 1998 to 3.5% in 2004. These facilities include buses, subways and all other public transit facilities.

Weapons – In 2004, half (51%) of all robberies were committed without a weapon, similar to the previous year. Of the 27,000 robbery incidents reported by police, 14% were committed with a firearm and the remaining 35% with a weapon other than a firearm. Handguns are the most common type of firearm present during robberies, accounting for more than four out of every five firearm robberies. Knives accounted for three out of every five robberies committed with a weapon other than a firearm in 2004.

Following an increase in 2003, the rate of firearm robbery resumed its downward trend evident since 1991, with a 3% drop in 2004 (Figure 5). Since 1991, the rate has decreased 63%. The rates of robberies committed with a weapon other than a firearm (-5%) and without a weapon (-4%) both decreased as well.

Weapons by location – Police-reported data show that, in 2004, the type of weapon used to commit a robbery varies by the location of the robbery. In 3 out of every 5 robberies in public transit facilities, physical force was most commonly used by the attacker. For robberies committed in convenience stores and gas stations, a little less than 4 out of 10 were committed with a knife or other cutting instrument. Three out of ten bank robberies were committed with a firearm. In residential robberies, physical force was most commonly used.

Multiple attackers - Of all incidents of robbery in a public place¹⁰ (which account for more than 2 in 5 robberies) occurring in 2004, 8% involved more than one attacker, sometimes referred to as “swarming”. The locations most frequent for this type of robbery were schools, where one in every five robberies involved multiple accused.

Sources: Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, UCR2 Research Database, UCR2 Trend Database, UCR Aggregate Database.

Despite a 2% decrease in 2004, Winnipeg¹¹ still reported the highest robbery rate (229 incidents per 100,000 population) among all 27 CMAs, followed by Regina (211), Saskatoon (209) and Halifax (161). The lowest rates were found in Saguenay (18) and Sudbury (41).

Sexual assault

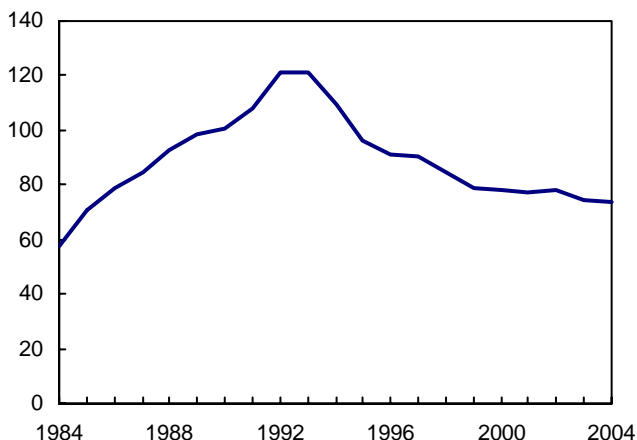
Sexual assault is classified into one of three levels according to the seriousness of the incident: level 1 (the category of least physical injury to the victim); level 2 (sexual assault with a weapon, threats to use a weapon, or causing bodily harm); and level 3 (sexual assault that wounds, maims, disfigures or endangers the life of the victim). Among the more than 23,000 sexual assaults reported by police in 2004, 98% were classified as level 1.

The sexual assault rate remained stable in 2004, after having dropped in 2003 (Figure 7). The sexual assault rate peaked in the early 1990s and then generally declined throughout the '90s. The rate in 2004 (74 incidents per 100,000 population) was 33% lower than a decade ago and was at its lowest point since 1985.

Figure 7



Rate per 100,000 population



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Level 1 sexual assaults decreased 1% in 2004, while one of the more serious forms of sexual assault (level 2) increased 8%.

All provinces reported drops or stability in sexual assault in 2004, with the exception of Quebec and Ontario where rates increased by 2% and 3% respectively. Prince Edward Island recorded the largest decline (-36%). Other notable decreases occurred in Nova Scotia (-9%) and Saskatchewan (-7%). Quebec once again had the lowest rate (59), followed by Ontario (65) and Prince Edward Island (65). The highest rates were seen in Saskatchewan (129) and Manitoba¹² (128).

Assault

The *Criminal Code* defines many types of assaults. Common assault (level 1 assault) is the most frequent and includes behaviours such as pushing, slapping, punching and face-to-face threats. Other types of assault include: assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm (level 2 assault); aggravated assault (level 3 assault); and all other forms of assault including assault against a police officer and unlawfully causing bodily harm.

10. Includes parking lots, schools, other public transportation and connected facilities, streets, roads and highways and open areas.
 11. Due to the implementation of a new records management system, April to December 2004 crime data for Winnipeg are primarily based upon estimates rather than actual data. For further details, see the Methodology section.
 12. Due to the implementation of a new records management system, April to December 2004 crime data for Winnipeg are primarily based upon estimates rather than actual data. For further details, see the Methodology section.

In 2004, police reported about 234,000 assaults, resulting in a rate of 732 assaults per 100,000 population. This was 2% lower than 2003 and 5% below the rate a decade earlier.

Common assaults, which account for 4 out of every 5 assault incidents, decreased by 3% in 2004. Level 3 assaults also declined, down 8%. However, level 2 assaults increased slightly (+2%) for the 5th consecutive year, and are one of the few violent crimes to be showing an increase (+12%) over the past decade.

Property Crime

Property crimes on the decline

Property crimes are committed with the intent to acquire property without violence or the threat of violence. Nearly 1.3 million property crimes were reported by police in 2004, the most frequent of which were thefts, break-ins, theft of motor vehicles and fraud (Figure 8). Thefts, other than vehicle thefts, accounted for over half (55%) of all property crimes.

After having increased notably in 2003 for the first time since 1991, the property crime rate resumed its downward trend in 2004 (-3%). The rate (3,991 incidents per 100,000 population) was also 24% lower than a decade ago. Most property crimes decreased in 2004, with the exception of possession of stolen goods (+6%) and fraud (+4%).

Only three provinces reported an increase in property crimes in 2004: Nova Scotia (+6%), Newfoundland & Labrador (+5%) and Manitoba¹³ (+2%). As in the past, property crime rates tended to increase from east to west. Despite an increase, Newfoundland & Labrador still had the lowest property crime rate among the provinces (2,738 incidents per 100,000 population), while British Columbia continued to report the highest rate (6,763), reflecting the highest rate of theft in the country.

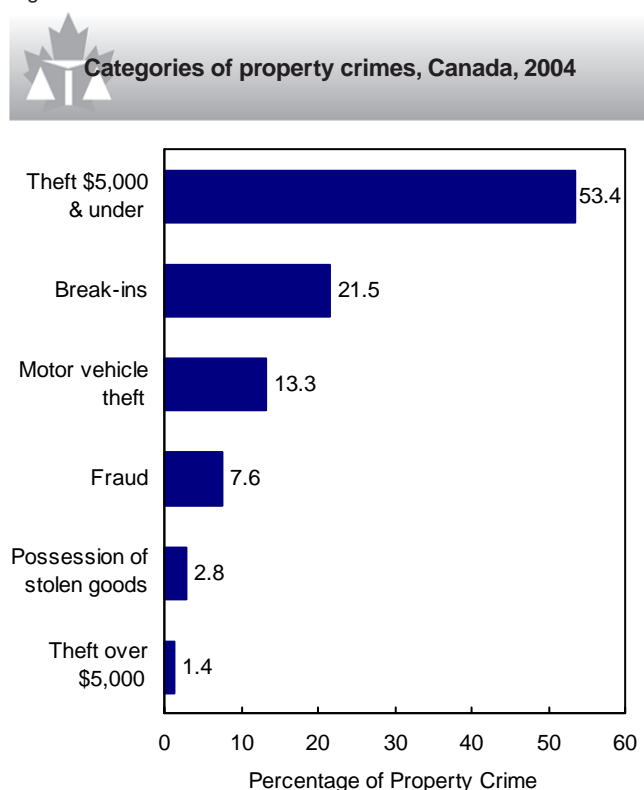
Break-ins

In 2004, police reported close to 275,000 break-ins, the third largest crime category, representing slightly over 1 in 10 *Criminal Code* incidents. The rate of break-ins declined 4% in 2004, following the first increase in 10 years in 2003. The 2004 rate was 36% lower than a decade ago (Figure 9).

The majority of break-ins were committed in residences (56%), followed by businesses (31%) and all other locations (13%) such as schools, sheds and detached garages. In 2004, residential break-ins dropped 6%, business break-ins were down 2%, and break-ins at other locations declined 3%.

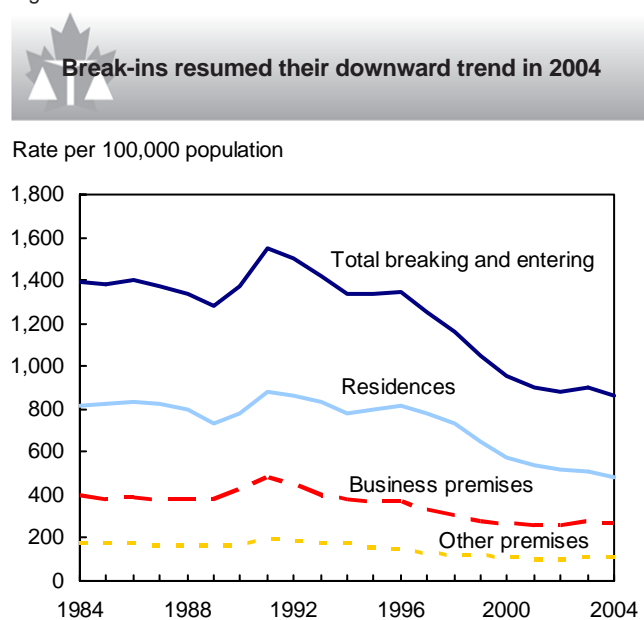
In 2004, large declines were reported in Prince Edward Island (-22%) and Ontario (-9%), with a large increase in Newfoundland & Labrador (+16%). Prince Edward Island (589 break-ins per 100,000 population) and Ontario (598) reported the lowest break-in rates in the country, while the highest rates were seen in the west, particularly in Saskatchewan (1,702) (Figure 10).

Figure 8



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Figure 9

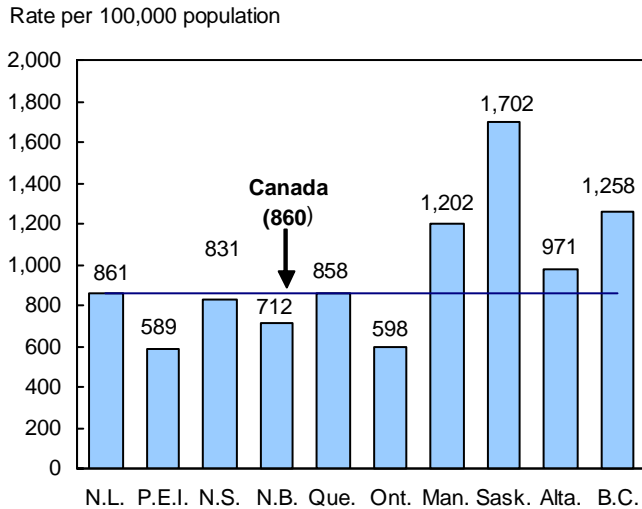


Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

13. Idem

Figure 10

Saskatchewan had highest rate of break-ins in 2004



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Among the nine largest CMAs, only Edmonton reported a notable increase (+11%) in break-ins. Large drops were seen in Hamilton and Toronto (-16% each), contributing to the provincial decrease. Among the smaller CMAs, large increases were reported in St. John's (+34%), Windsor (+28%) and Victoria (+24%).

Other than in 2003, Regina has reported the highest rate of break-ins among all CMAs since 1991. In 2004, Regina (2,112) was followed by Saskatoon (1,797), Abbotsford (1,390) and Vancouver (1,325). The lowest rates were found in Toronto (449), Saguenay (542) and Ottawa (578).

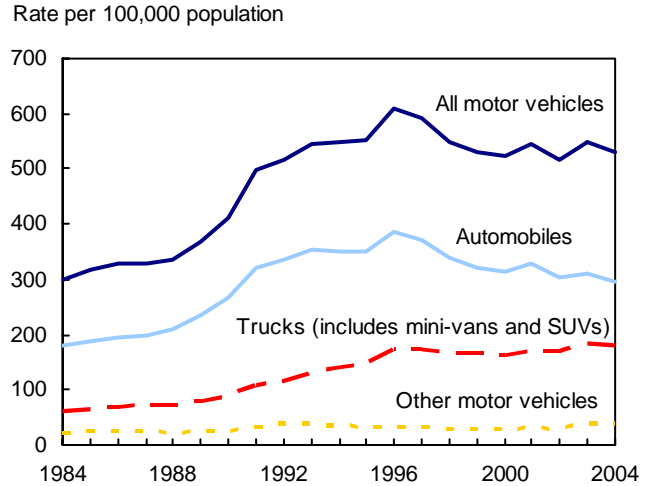
Vehicle thefts

Since 1996, the motor vehicle theft rate has declined in all but two years (2001 and 2003). In 2004, there were nearly 170,000 motor vehicle thefts, resulting in a 4% drop in the vehicle theft rate.

Cars continue to be the most common type of vehicle stolen, accounting for 56% of all vehicle thefts in 2004 (Figure 11). Trucks, including mini-vans and sport utility vehicles (SUVs), accounted for just over one-third (34%), while motorcycles, construction equipment and all other motor vehicles accounted for the remaining 10%. Thefts of cars dropped by 4% and thefts of trucks were down 2% in 2004. Over the past decade, thefts of cars have decreased by 16% while thefts of trucks have increased 26%. This phenomenon is primarily due to an increase in the popularity of vans and SUVs among consumers and as a target for theft.

Figure 11

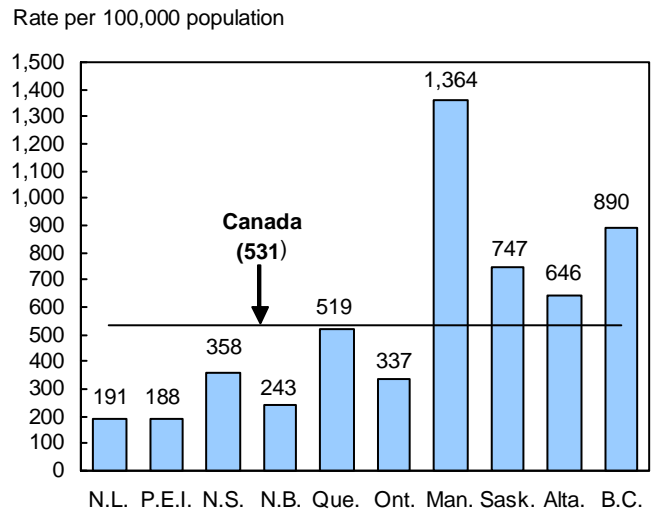
Motor vehicle theft rate in 2004 lower than 10 years ago



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Figure 12

Manitoba had highest rate of vehicle theft in 2004



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Among those provinces reporting a drop in vehicle theft, the largest were in Ontario (-12%) and British Columbia (-6%). By far the largest increase was a 52% hike in Newfoundland & Labrador's rate, primarily due to the vehicle theft rate doubling in St. John's. The other large increases were found in Nova Scotia (+24%) and Manitoba (+23%).

The highest vehicle theft rates among the CMAs were recorded in Winnipeg (1,932 incidents per 100,000 population) and Abbotsford (1,529). The lowest rate was reported in Saint John (135), with a 43% decrease in 2004. St. John's had reported the lowest rate in 2003 before their large increase last year.

Thefts

The *Criminal Code* establishes a distinction between thefts of property over \$5,000 and thefts under \$5,000. In 2004, close to 700,000 thefts were reported by police (excluding vehicle thefts and thefts resulting from break-ins), accounting for over half (55%) of all property crimes and about one-quarter (27%) of all *Criminal Code* incidents. Ten years ago, these thefts comprised almost one-third (32%) of all incidents.

The large majority (98%) of these thefts were of property under \$5,000. The 2004 theft rate was 4% lower than the previous year.

Other *Criminal Code* Incidents

Nearly 4 incidents in 10 are classified as neither violent nor property crimes. In 2004, there were close to 1 million incidents of this type, categorized as "other" *Criminal Code* offences. Mischief, counterfeiting, disturbing the peace and administration of justice offences comprise about three-quarters of all "other" *Criminal Code* incidents (Figure 13).

In 2003, this group of offences increased by 11%, primarily due to a large increase in counterfeiting from 2002. In 2004, however, other *Criminal Code* offences showed a lesser increase (+2%), as the rate of increase in counterfeiting slowed to 14%. An increase in disturbing the peace incidents (+13%) also contributed to the overall increase in other *Criminal Code* incidents.

Mischief

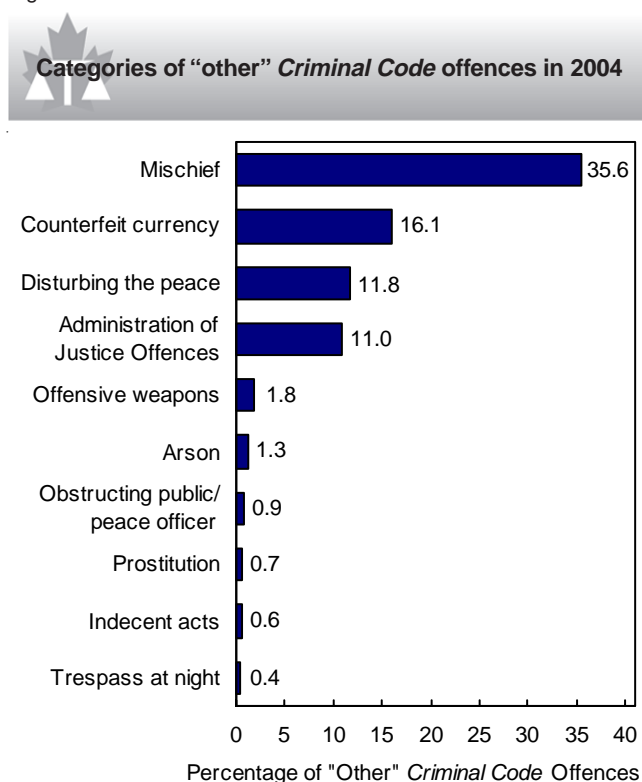
The over 354,000 mischief incidents (including vandalism) accounted for over one-third (36%) of all other *Criminal Code* incidents, 14% of all incidents reported by police, and represented the second largest offence after theft. In 2004, the rate of mischief declined 2% from 2003, and was 19% lower than a decade ago.

Counterfeiting

While five years ago counterfeiting incidents accounted for 5% of other *Criminal Code* incidents, in 2004 they accounted for 16%. The rate of counterfeiting had doubled in 2002 and increased by 73% in 2003; however, in 2004, the rate of increase slowed to 14%.

According to police-reported data, Saskatchewan showed the biggest increase in counterfeiting in 2004 (+142%), followed by New Brunswick (+36%) and British Columbia (+33%). Newfoundland & Labrador reported the largest decrease, down 29%. Given the large volume of this offence, it should be noted that these recent increases in counterfeiting could have a major impact on overall crime rates at both the police service level as well as at the provincial level.

Figure 13



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Text Box 3: Counterfeiting data from Bank of Canada

Data from the Bank of Canada¹⁴ confirm that counterfeiting rates increased significantly in 2002 and 2003. Data for 2004 show a 25% increase in counterfeit bills, but only a 2% increase in the overall value of counterfeit bills, from \$12.7 million in 2003 to \$13.0 million in 2004. Since 2000, the \$10 and \$20 bills have been the most counterfeited notes, comprising 87% of all counterfeit bills in 2004.

In 2004, the Bank of Canada issued new \$20s, \$50s, and \$100s with security (anti-counterfeiting) features. An upgraded \$10 note incorporating the same features was issued in 2005. The Bank has also stepped up its educational campaign with retailers, financial institutions, and law enforcement agencies to increase awareness.

Disturbing the peace

The rate of disturbing the peace incidents increased by 13% in 2004. With the exception of 2002, this offence has climbed steadily since 1995. The 117,000 incidents of disturbing the peace represent the highest number ever reported for this offence. Over the last 10 years the rate of disturbing the peace has more than doubled.

Some of this increase may be due to a number of police services implementing new reporting systems over the past decade which make it easier for the public to report minor offences.

14. Bank of Canada, 2005, Bank of Canada Annual Report 2004, Ottawa.

Administration of justice offences

There were more than 109,000 administration of justice offences reported by police in 2004. These include such offences as judicial interim release violations (also referred to as bail violations), failure to appear in court, failure to comply with a condition of undertaking or recognizance, a summons or an appearance notice and escaping custody. Together, these offences account for 11% of other *Criminal Code* incidents.

These offences remained relatively stable through the 1990s, but began to increase in 2000. Since then, these offences have increased by 25%, including a 2% increase in the rate in 2004. The volume of these offences impacts the entire justice system by interrupting existing prosecution and court processes, increasing remand rates and adding to backlogs in the court system.

Offensive weapons

In 2004, police reported 18,000 *Criminal Code* offensive weapons incidents, resulting in a rate similar to 2003. The rate of illegal possession of a weapon increased by 6% and accounted for 6 in 10 weapons offences. Illegal possession includes having an unregistered firearm or failing to obtain a license to possess a firearm.

A further 11% of weapons-related offences fell into the illegal firearms usage category (e.g. using a firearm in the commission of an offence or pointing a firearm). This category dropped by 6% in 2004 as did the remaining 28% comprising "other" weapons offences (e.g. careless use, illegal destruction of a firearm, tampering with serial numbers).

Criminal Code Traffic Incidents

Police reported about 119,000 *Criminal Code* traffic incidents in 2004. Two-thirds of these incidents were impaired driving offences, 20% were for failure to stop or remain at an accident, 8% were for dangerous driving and the remaining 5% were for driving while prohibited.

Impaired driving

Impaired driving offences include impaired operation of a motor vehicle, boat or aircraft causing death or bodily harm; driving with over 80 mg of alcohol per 100 ml of blood; and, failing to provide a breath and/or blood sample when requested by a police officer. The number of impaired driving incidents includes instances of police issuing road-side suspensions, rather than laying a formal charge, to drivers found to have a blood-alcohol reading slightly above the legal limit.

In 2004, police reported close to 79,000 incidents of impaired driving, or 247 incidents per 100,000 population. This rate remained stable compared to 2003.

With the exception of a small increase in 2001, the rate of impaired driving has been decreasing over the past 20 years. The 2004 rate was 33% lower than a decade ago. The rate of impaired driving offences can be quite sensitive to changes in enforcement policies and practices such as the presence of roadside spot checks and increased police patrols during particular time periods.

Saskatchewan recorded the highest rate among the provinces (561). Despite reporting the largest drop in impaired driving incidents (-11%), Prince Edward Island still recorded the second highest rate (393). Since 2000, the lowest rates have been seen in Ontario (a rate of 147 in 2004) and Newfoundland & Labrador (170).

Drug Incidents

Drug incidents back on the increase

In 2003, the large decline in the rate of cannabis possession offences, which drove down the overall drug rate, may have been the result of a climate of uncertainty within the law enforcement and criminal justice community given the introduction of legislation to decriminalize possession of small amounts of cannabis, as well as a number of court rulings questioning the constitutionality of current laws regarding cannabis possession. It may also have been a result of a re-prioritization of police resources towards more serious offences that could have a greater impact on the drug trade. In 2004, this legislation was re-introduced and still stands before the House of Commons.

After the 7% drop in drug crimes in 2003, the rate of drug crimes increased once again in 2004, up 11% (Figure 14). Total cannabis offences increased 10%, with cannabis possession offences up 15%. The rate of cocaine (+17%) and heroin (+19%) offences increased as well, though heroin incidents numbered fewer than 800 in total. Over the past decade, the rate of heroin incidents has declined by half (-55%).

In 2004, police reported more than 97,000 incidents under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*. Cannabis offences accounted for 7 in 10 of these incidents. Cannabis possession comprised 71% of cannabis incidents and almost half (49%) of all drug incidents.

One growing issue related to drugs is the cultivation of cannabis, sometimes referred to as marijuana grow operations. According to Criminal Intelligence Service Canada (CISC), the number of marijuana grow operations continues to rise and much of this phenomena is linked to organized crime¹⁵. Marijuana grow operations appear to be a profitable market for organized crime, due to the high demand for cannabis. Police services across all provinces are reporting grow operations as one of their main drug enforcement problems.

According to a report released by the RCMP¹⁶, most indoor residential grow operations pose some form of risk. Grow operations represent a risk to the health and safety not only of the occupants of the residences in which the cultivation occurs, but to the surrounding occupants as well. For example, groups involved in cannabis cultivation steal electricity by circumventing utility meters, resulting in an increased risk of fire.

15. Criminal Intelligence Service Canada, 2004, Annual Report on Organized Crime, Ottawa.

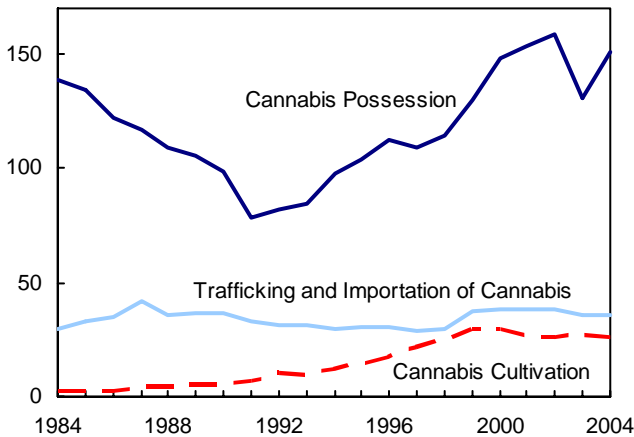
16. RCMP, 2004, Illegal Drug Situation in Canada – 2003, Criminal Investigations Division, Ottawa.

According to police-reported data, the rate of cannabis cultivation offences has more than doubled over the past decade. Ten years ago, there were more than 3,400 cannabis cultivation incidents in Canada. By 2004, this number increased to more than 8,000 incidents. Over the same period, cannabis possession offences have increased by 54%.

Figure 14

 **Large increase in cannabis possession incidents in 2004**

Rate per 100,000 population



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

The rate of drug offences remained stable or increased in all provinces in 2004, with the largest increases in Ontario (+26%) and New Brunswick (+18%). Among the provinces, rates ranged from a low of 157 incidents per 100,000 population in Newfoundland & Labrador to 634 in British Columbia, which has reported the highest rate for more than 20 years.

It should be noted that differences in provincial rates of drug offences can be influenced by changes in local enforcement policies and practices.

Text Box 4: New data collection on organized crime and other emerging priorities

In 2005, to address the lack of quantitative information on the involvement of organized crime in criminal incidents (i.e. extortion, homicide, drug trafficking), new data elements on organized crime activity and street gangs were added to the latest version of the incident-based crime survey (UCR2).

In addition, new data elements were added to the UCR2 Survey on hate-motivated crime, cyber crime and geo-coding. Reliable and accurate data collection on current priorities in the justice field is important for police services, policy makers and the general public. Police services will gradually migrate to the new version of this survey as their records management systems are upgraded over time.

Youth Crime

Text Box 5 : Measuring Youth Crime

Youths aged 12 to 17 who come into contact with the law can be formally charged or dealt with by other means. While this has always been true, the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA), which came into force on April 1, 2003 replacing the *Young Offenders Act*, recognizes that appropriate and effective responses to youth crime need not always involve the courts. The Act provides police services with a number of alternatives (extrajudicial measures) to charging a youth, including informal police warnings, formal police cautions, referrals to community programs, and referrals to extrajudicial sanctions (EJS) programs (formerly known as alternative measures programs). The Act requires that police officers consider extrajudicial measures prior to charging a youth and directs police to use extrajudicial measures if they are adequate to hold the youth accountable.

While all police services can provide police warnings and make referrals to community programs, the use of police cautioning programs and the ability to make referrals to extrajudicial sanction programs can differ significantly. Provinces/territories vary in the use of these programs due to pre-charge or post-charge policies. In post-charge provinces like Ontario and Alberta, police services do not have the ability to offer a police caution, although in Alberta they can make a "recommendation" to the Crown for a referral to an EJS program. If a warning is not deemed appropriate, police will charge the youth and the Crown will decide whether to offer a post-charge caution, make a referral to an EJS program or prosecute the original charge. Data on post-charge programs are not included in police-reported data.

Some police services report to CCJS on the activities of informal police cautioning programs, and these counts are included with the formal police cautioning counts. In some cases, police are finding it difficult to distinguish between warnings and cautions in their informal approach to dealing with youth accused. For this reason, 2004 police-reported data for warnings and cautions have been combined into one category in this report.

In 2004, police-reported data show that, among the youth cleared by means other than a formal charge, 47% received a warning or caution, 8% were formally referred to an extrajudicial sanctions program, 4% were informal referrals to community-based programs, and the remaining 40% were cleared by "other means", such as the complainant did not want police to lay a charge, the accused was involved in other incidents in which one or more charges were laid, the youth was already incarcerated, or police did not collect information on the new YCJA codes¹⁷.

About 78,000 youths aged 12-17 were charged with *Criminal Code* offences in Canada in 2004, and a further 101,000 were cleared by means other than the laying of a formal charge (Table 6). It should be noted that this figure likely underestimates the true number of youths cleared by means other than the laying of a charge, as not all police services maintain complete records for all youths dealt with in this manner.

The rate of youths formally charged by police dropped 6%, while the rate of youths cleared by other means decreased by 2% (Figure 15). Taking these two measures together, the overall youth crime rate decreased by 4% in 2004. The youth crime rate had decreased throughout the 1990s, reaching a low in 1999, and generally increased between 1999 and 2003. The 2004 rate was 9% higher than in 1999.

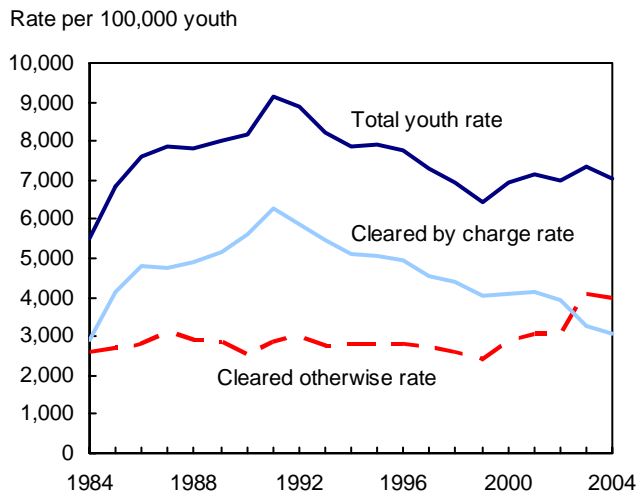
The decline in youths charged suggests that the charging practices of police services have adjusted in response to the YCJA. However, it should be noted that any increase in youths cleared otherwise, as was noted in 2003, may be partly attributable to increased reporting by police of youths not

17. Incident-based UCR Survey data.

formally charged, due to the new YCJA provisions on extrajudicial measures.

Three provinces reported an increase in their youth crime rate in 2004: New Brunswick (+14%), Manitoba¹⁸ (+3%) and Ontario (+2%). Six provinces reported considerable drops in youth crime: Prince Edward Island (-22%), British Columbia (-13%), Nova Scotia (-11%), Alberta (-9%), Quebec (-9%) and Newfoundland & Labrador (-7%).

Figure 15
 **Youth crime rate decreased in 2004**



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

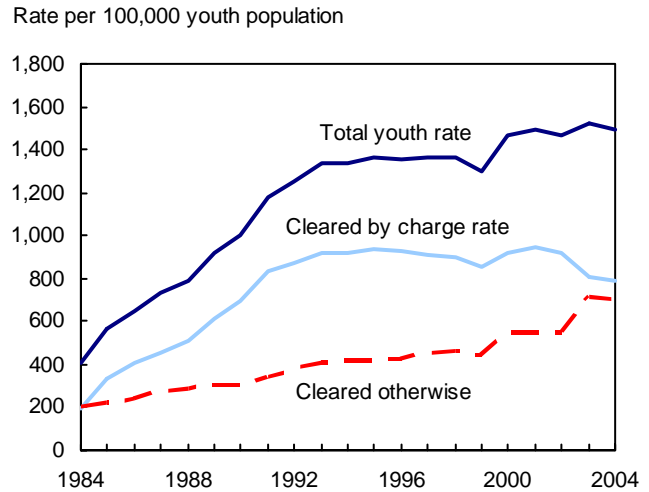
The Prairie provinces recorded the highest youth crime rates among the provinces. Saskatchewan had the highest rate (19,185 youth accused per 100,000 youths), followed by Manitoba (11,278) and Alberta (9,261). Quebec once again had the lowest rate (4,072) (Table 7). Youth crime rates in the territories were much higher, particularly in the Northwest Territories (46,631) and Nunavut (36,314).

Data from the Incident-based UCR Survey indicate that youth account for 21% of all persons accused of *Criminal Code* offences (excluding traffic). Robbery, sexual assault and other sexual offences are the only violent crimes for which youth account for more than 20% of accused persons. However, youth tend to make up higher proportions of persons accused of property crimes, accounting for 3 out of 10 persons accused of break-ins, thefts of \$5,000 and under and motor vehicle thefts.

Youth violent crime

In 2004, the youth violent crime rate decreased by 2%. Over the past decade, this rate has remained relatively stable except for an increase in 2000 (Figure 16). Youths charged with a violent offence dropped 2% in 2004, while youths cleared by means other than a charge declined 1%.

Figure 16
 **Youth violent crime stable**



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Most categories of youth violent crime declined in 2004. The youth homicide rate decreased by 30% and the youth robbery rate dropped by 2%.

Youth property crime

Two out of every five youth crimes in 2004 were for offences related to property. The youth property crime rate decreased by 8% in 2004. The rate had increased in 2003, after three years of stability. Youths charged with property offences dropped by 12%, while youths cleared by means other than a charge decreased 5%.

The majority of property offences declined in 2004, including an 11% decrease in the rate of motor vehicle thefts and an 8% drop in break-ins.

Methodology

The Uniform Crime Reporting Survey

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey was developed by Statistics Canada with the co-operation and assistance of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police. The survey, which became operational in 1962, collects crime and traffic statistics reported by all police agencies in Canada. UCR survey data reflect reported crime that has been substantiated through police investigation. Coverage of the UCR Survey in 2004 was at 99.9% of the caseload of all police services in Canada.

18. Due to the implementation of a new records management system, April to December 2004 crime data for Winnipeg are primarily based upon estimates rather than actual data. For further details, see the Methodology section.

In this report, the “crime rate” excludes *Criminal Code* traffic violations as these data have proven to be volatile over time as a result of changes in police procedures that allow for some traffic violations to be scored under either a provincial statute or the *Criminal Code* (e.g. failure to stop or remain at an accident). Other federal statutes such as drug offences are also excluded from the “crime rate” in this report.

Currently, there are two levels of detail collected by the UCR survey:

1. Aggregate UCR Survey

The aggregate UCR survey records the number of incidents reported to the police. It includes the number of reported offences, actual offences, offences cleared by charge or cleared otherwise, persons charged (by sex and by an adult/youth breakdown) and those not charged. It does not include victim characteristics. Unless otherwise mentioned, all analysis in this report is based on aggregate survey counts.

The aggregate UCR survey classifies incidents according to the most serious offence in the incident (generally the offence that carries the longest maximum sentence under the *Criminal Code*). In categorizing incidents, violent offences always take precedence over non-violent offences. As a result, less serious offences are under-represented by the UCR survey.

The aggregate UCR survey scores violent incidents (except robbery) differently from other types of crime. For violent crime, a separate incident is recorded for each victim (i.e. if one person assaults three people, then three incidents are recorded; but if three people assault one person, only one incident is recorded). Robbery, however, is counted as if it were a non-violent crime in order to avoid inflating the number of victims (e.g. for a bank robbery, counting everyone present in the bank would result in an over-counting of robbery incidents). For non-violent crimes, one incident (categorized according to the most serious offence) is counted for every distinct or separate occurrence.

2. Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR2) Survey

The incident-based UCR2 survey captures detailed information on individual criminal incidents reported to police, including characteristics of victims, accused persons and incidents. Police forces switch over from the aggregate to the incident-based survey as their records management systems become capable of providing this level of detail.

In 2004, 120 police services in 8 provinces supplied data for the complete year to the UCR2 survey. These data represent 58% of the national volume of reported actual (substantiated) *Criminal Code* crimes. The incidents contained in the 2004 database were distributed as follows: 40.7% from Ontario, 32.1% from Quebec, 11.5% from Alberta, 7.6% from British Columbia, 4.8% from Saskatchewan, 1.8% from Nova Scotia, 0.9% from Newfoundland and Labrador and 0.6% from New Brunswick. Other than Ontario and Quebec, the data are primarily from urban police departments. The reader is cautioned that these data are not geographically representative at the

national or provincial level. Continuity with the UCR aggregate survey data is maintained by a conversion of the incident-based data to aggregate counts at year-end.

The UCR2 Trend Database contains historical data, which permits the analysis of trends in the characteristics of the incidents, accused and victims, such as weapon use and victim/accused relationships. This database currently includes 69 police services who have reported to the UCR2 survey consistently since 1998. These respondents accounted for 45% of the national volume of crime in 2004. This list of respondents will remain unchanged until such time as large police services such as the RCMP and OPP have been providing at least five years of data to the UCR2 survey, at which point they will become part of this trend database. The incidents contained in the 2004 Trend database were distributed as follows: 41.5% from Quebec, 30.1% from Ontario, 14.8% from Alberta, 6.6% from British Columbia, 6.2% from Saskatchewan and 0.8% from New Brunswick.

Data Revisions / Notes

Ontario

During the production of each year’s crime statistics, data from the previous year are revised to reflect any updates or changes that have been received from the police services. During the revision of the 2001 data for the province of Ontario, a discrepancy in methodology applied by the forces in the province using the Ontario Municipal & Provincial Police Automated Co-operative (OMPPAC) system was detected. These forces report approximately one-third of the total criminal incidents for the province and include the OPP and about 60 small and mid-sized municipal forces. This discrepancy resulted in an over-count of less serious criminal incidents.

A similar problem with data from Toronto Police was detected in 1992. During 2003 and 2004, the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) consulted with affected police services and analyzed both historical aggregate UCR data and more recent UCR2 microdata to determine the impact of this over-reporting

The effect at the Canada level was, on average, 1% per year from 1977 to 2000. This over-counting peaked in 1991, where it was estimated that the total crime rate for the country was over-estimated by approximately 1.8%. However, the overall historical trend changed very little.

The impact in Ontario is more noticeable, but the overall trend is still very similar. On average, the effect of the over-counting was 2-3% per year, with the biggest change occurring in 1991, where the Ontario crime rate is 5% lower as a result of the adjustment.

For further information, readers should refer to the report *Summary of Historical Adjustments to Crime Data for Ontario 1977-2000*, available on Statistics Canada website at www.statcan.ca, under the Definitions, Data Sources and Methods, Surveys and Statistical Programs, Justice Crime and Offences, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Manitoba

Due to the implementation of a new records management system, the 2004 crime data for Winnipeg is primarily based upon estimates rather than actual data for the full year. With the exception of homicide and motor vehicle theft statistics, actual data was only available from January to March 2004 and had to be estimated for the remaining nine months of 2004.

This was done by the Winnipeg Police Service by substituting April to December 2003 data for the same time period in 2004. As a result, the data may not be an accurate reflection of the actual crime statistics for 2004. The same concerns apply to the Manitoba provincial crime statistics as Winnipeg is the largest city in Manitoba and accounts for the majority of its crime statistics.

Table 1



Federal statute incidents reported to police, by most serious offence, Canada, 2000 to 2004

	2000		2001		2002		2003 ^r		2004		% change in rate* 2003-2004	% change in rate* 1994-2004
	number	rate ¹	number	rate ¹	number	rate ¹	number	rate ¹	number	rate ¹		
Population	30,689,035		31,021,251		31,372,587		31,660,466		31,946,316			
Homicide ²	546	2	553	2	582	2	549	2	622	2	12.3	-5.3
Attempted murder	767	2	725	2	678	2	707	2	717	2	0.5	-29.4
Assault-Total	233,719	762	236,957	764	235,710	751	236,802	748	233,774	732	-2.2	-4.5
Level 1	190,467	621	191,147	616	189,185	603	188,667	596	184,655	578	-3.0	-7.7
Level 2 - Weapon	40,686	133	43,094	139	43,793	140	45,222	143	46,410	145	1.7	11.7
Level 3 - Aggravated	2,566	8	2,716	9	2,732	9	2,913	9	2,709	8	-7.8	-18.0
Other assaults	12,164	40	12,260	40	12,454	40	12,534	40	12,873	40	1.8	-18.1
Sexual assault - Total	24,001	78	24,044	78	24,499	78	23,514	74	23,534	74	-0.8	-32.6
Level 1	23,428	76	23,563	76	23,973	76	22,983	73	22,966	72	-1.0	-31.8
Level 2 - Weapon	391	1	320	1	373	1	359	1	393	1	8.5	-53.6
Level 3 - Aggravated	182	1	161	1	153	0	172	1	175	1	0.8	-56.5
Other sexual offences	3,114	10	2,689	9	2,756	9	2,565	8	2,625	8	1.4	-37.6
Abduction	750	2	674	2	605	2	559	2	635	2	12.6	-48.9
Robbery - Total	27,037	88	27,284	88	26,662	85	28,437	90	27,477	86	-4.2	-14.0
Firearms	4,323	14	3,818	12	3,483	11	3,856	12	3,757	12	-3.4	-53.7
Other weapons	9,901	32	10,280	33	10,104	32	10,057	32	9,659	30	-4.8	-6.6
No weapons	12,813	42	13,186	43	13,075	42	14,524	46	14,061	44	-4.1	4.1
Violent crimes - Total	302,098	984	305,186	984	303,946	969	305,667	965	302,257	946	-2.0	-9.7
Breaking & entering - Total	293,357	956	279,461	901	275,573	878	284,925	900	274,717	860	-4.4	-35.7
Residential	175,804	573	166,500	537	163,156	520	161,494	510	153,098	479	-6.0	-38.8
Business	82,074	267	80,264	259	81,162	259	86,842	274	85,816	269	-2.1	-29.5
Other	35,479	116	32,697	105	31,255	100	36,589	116	35,803	112	-3.0	-35.2
Motor vehicle theft	160,315	522	168,595	543	161,912	516	174,208	550	169,544	531	-3.5	-3.5
Theft over \$5,000 ³	21,354	70	20,845	67	19,816	63	19,416	61	17,294	54	-11.7	-40.8
Theft \$5,000 and under ³	663,040	2,161	659,589	2,126	667,312	2,127	700,605	2,213	680,885	2,131	-3.7	-23.4
Possession of stolen goods	28,530	93	26,960	87	30,056	96	33,151	105	35,400	111	5.8	6.7
Fraud	85,791	280	86,486	279	91,812	293	92,924	294	97,091	304	3.5	-14.6
Property crimes - Total	1,252,387	4,081	1,241,936	4,004	1,246,481	3,973	1,305,229	4,123	1,274,931	3,991	-3.2	-24.1
Mischief	326,374	1,063	333,136	1,074	333,334	1,063	357,568	1,129	353,661	1,107	-2.0	-19.1
Counterfeiting currency	35,937	117	38,674	125	79,970	255	139,267	440	159,889	500	13.8	333.5
Bail violations	78,105	255	90,545	292	96,206	307	101,095	319	104,334	327	2.3	43.6
Disturbing the peace	80,085	261	89,971	290	89,354	285	102,909	325	117,022	366	12.7	107.4
Offensive weapons	15,324	50	15,876	51	15,930	51	17,621	56	18,002	56	1.2	-13.5
Prostitution	5,051	16	5,087	16	5,770	18	5,688	18	6,493	20	13.1	5.7
Arson	13,733	45	14,484	47	13,131	42	13,875	44	13,148	41	-6.1	-11.7
Other	243,674	794	239,916	773	233,322	744	230,253	727	222,123	695	-4.4	-13.2
Other Criminal Code offenses- Total	798,283	2,601	827,689	2,668	867,017	2,764	968,276	3,058	994,672	3,114	1.8	10.4
Criminal Code without traffic - Total (crime rate)	2,352,768	7,666	2,374,811	7,655	2,417,444	7,706	2,579,172	8,146	2,571,860	8,051	-1.2	-11.8
Impaired driving ⁴	79,225	258	82,718	267	80,045	255	77,645	245	78,960	247	0.8	-33.5
Fail to stop/remain	19,522	64	22,538	73	22,040	70	23,336	74	23,835	75	1.2	-64.0
Other - Criminal Code traffic	13,698	45	14,978	48	15,486	49	16,138	51	16,064	50	-1.3	-21.3
Criminal Code Traffic - Total	112,445	366	120,234	388	117,571	375	117,119	370	118,859	372	0.6	-42.1
Criminal Code - Total (incl. traffic)	2,465,213	8,033	2,495,045	8,043	2,535,015	8,080	2,696,291	8,516	2,690,719	8,423	-1.1	-13.8
Drugs	88,091	287	89,395	288	92,781	296	86,791	274	97,135	304	10.9	46.6
Cannabis	66,274	216	67,921	219	69,687	222	61,087	193	67,832	212	10.0	52.0
Cocaine	12,829	42	12,145	39	12,737	41	14,225	45	16,837	53	17.3	23.9
Heroin	1,226	4	951	3	786	3	657	2	792	2	19.5	-55.3
Other drugs	7,762	25	8,378	27	9,571	31	10,822	34	11,674	37	6.9	85.6
Other federal statutes	34,587	113	38,013	123	40,122	128	36,264	115	34,573	108	-5.5	-22.6
Total federal statutes (incl. C. c.)	2,587,891	8,433	2,622,453	8,454	2,667,918	8,504	2,819,346	8,905	2,822,427	8,835	-0.8	-12.7

* Percent change based on unrounded rates.

0 true zero or a value rounded to zero

^r revised

1. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. The population estimates come from the *Annual Demographic Statistics, 2004* report, produced by Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: final intercensal estimates for 2000, final postcensal estimates for 2001 and 2002; updated postcensal estimates for 2003; and preliminary postcensal estimates for 2004.

2. As a result of ongoing investigations in Port Coquitlam, B.C. there were 15 homicides in 2002, 7 homicides in 2003 and 5 homicides in 2004 that occurred in previous years.

Homicide are counted according to the year in which police file the report.

3. Prior to 1995, theft offences were categorized as Theft \$1,000 and Under and Theft Over \$1,000. In 1995 the dollar value was increased. To allow comparison, for those specific offenses, the trend has been calculated from 1996 to 2004.

4. Includes impaired operation of a vehicle causing death, causing bodily harm, alcohol rate over 80mg, failure/refusal to provide a breath/blood sample. In 2001, the RCMP began reporting incidents in which a roadside suspension was issued, rather than a charge laid, to the CCJS. In 2002, most other police services began reporting this way as well. Previous to 2004, Vancouver Police only reported incidents of impaired driving when a charge had been laid. As of 2004, their data also include incidents where the driver was tested to be over .08 and received a road-side suspension. This resulted in 1,900 more impaired driving incidents being reported in 2004 than 2003.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 2


Rates of Criminal Code incidents, Canada, 1962 - 2004¹

	Total Criminal Code offences ²		Violent crime		Property crime		Other Criminal Code offenses	
	rate	% change*	rate	% change*	rate	% change*	rate	% change*
1962	2,771	...	221	...	1,891	...	659	...
1963	3,022	9.0	249	13.0	2,047	8.2	726	10.1
1964	3,245	7.4	284	13.8	2,146	4.9	815	12.3
1965	3,199	-1.4	299	5.4	2,091	-2.6	809	-0.7
1966	3,511	9.8	347	15.9	2,258	8.0	907	12.0
1967	3,850	9.6	381	9.9	2,484	10.0	985	8.7
1968	4,336	12.6	423	11.0	2,826	13.8	1,087	10.3
1969	4,737	9.3	453	7.1	3,120	10.4	1,164	7.1
1970	5,212	10.0	481	6.2	3,515	12.6	1,217	4.6
1971	5,311	1.9	492	2.4	3,649	3.8	1,170	-3.9
1972	5,355	0.8	497	1.0	3,634	-0.4	1,224	4.6
1973	5,773	7.8	524	5.3	3,704	1.9	1,546	26.3
1974	6,388	10.6	553	5.6	4,151	12.1	1,684	8.9
1975	6,852	7.3	585	5.9	4,498	8.4	1,769	5.0
1976	6,984	1.9	584	-0.2	4,533	0.8	1,867	5.6
1977	6,971	-0.2	572	-2.0	4,466	-1.5	1,933	3.5
1978	7,154	2.6	580	1.4	4,579	2.5	1,995	3.2
1979	7,666	7.2	610	5.1	4,903	7.1	2,153	7.9
1980	8,343	8.8	636	4.3	5,444	11.0	2,263	5.1
1981	8,736	4.7	654	2.8	5,759	5.8	2,322	2.6
1982	8,773	0.4	671	2.7	5,840	1.4	2,262	-2.6
1983	8,470	-3.5	679	1.2	5,608	-4.0	2,182	-3.5
1984	8,387	-1.0	701	3.1	5,501	-1.9	2,185	0.1
1985	8,413	0.3	735	4.8	5,451	-0.9	2,227	1.9
1986	8,727	3.7	785	6.9	5,550	1.8	2,392	7.4
1987	8,957	2.6	829	5.7	5,553	0.1	2,575	7.6
1988	8,919	-0.4	868	4.7	5,439	-2.0	2,613	1.5
1989	8,892	-0.3	911	5.0	5,289	-2.7	2,692	3.0
1990	9,485	6.7	973	6.8	5,612	6.1	2,900	7.8
1991	10,342	9.0	1,059	8.9	6,160	9.8	3,122	7.7
1992	10,040	-2.9	1,084	2.3	5,904	-4.2	3,052	-2.3
1993	9,538	-5.0	1,082	-0.2	5,575	-5.6	2,881	-5.6
1994	9,125	-4.3	1,047	-3.2	5,257	-5.7	2,821	-2.1
1995	9,008	-1.3	1,009	-3.7	5,292	0.7	2,707	-4.0
1996	8,932	-0.8	1,002	-0.7	5,274	-0.3	2,656	-1.9
1997	8,475	-5.1	993	-0.9	4,880	-7.5	2,603	-2.0
1998	8,161	-3.7	982	-1.1	4,569	-6.4	2,610	0.3
1999	7,752	-5.0	958	-2.4	4,276	-6.4	2,518	-3.5
2000	7,666	-1.1	984	2.7	4,081	-4.6	2,601	3.3
2001	7,655	-0.1	984	-0.1	4,004	-1.9	2,668	2.6
2002	7,706	0.7	969	-1.5	3,973	-0.8	2,764	3.6
2003 ^r	8,146	5.7	965	-0.3	4,123	3.8	3,058	10.7
2004	8,051	-1.2	946	-2.0	3,991	-3.2	3,114	1.8

* In comparison to the previous year's rate. Percent change based on unrounded rates.

... not applicable

^r revised

1. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. The population estimates come from the *Annual Demographic Statistics, 2004* report, produced by Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: intercensal estimates for 1962 to 1970, without adjustment for net census undercoverage. Populations as of July 1st: revised intercensal estimates for 1971 to 1995, final intercensal estimates for 1996 to 2000, final postcensal estimates for 2001 and 2002, updated postcensal estimates for 2003, and preliminary postcensal estimates for 2004.

2. Excluding traffic offences.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 3

Selected *Criminal Code* incidents, Canada and the provinces/territories, 2004¹

	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man. ²	Sask.	Alta.	B.C. ³	Yukon	N.W.T.	Nvt.	Canada
Population, 2004	517,027	137,864	936,960	751,384	7,542,760	12,392,721	1,170,268	995,391	3,201,895	4,196,383	31,209	42,810	29,644	31,946,316
Homicide														
number	2	0	13	7	111	187	50	39	86	112	7	4	4	622
rate	0.4	0.0	1.4	0.9	1.5	1.5	4.3	3.9	2.7	2.7	22.4	9.3	13.5	1.9
% change in rate*	-59.9	-100.0	62.4	-12.6	11.4	3.9	15.4	-5.0	32.6	17.9	585.3	-1.4	31.1	12.3
Assault (levels 1,2,3)														
number	3,963	940	9,121	5,700	38,998	70,258	14,640	16,487	27,749	40,431	887	2,635	1,965	233,774
rate	766	682	973	759	517	567	1,251	1,656	867	963	2,842	6,155	6,629	732
% change in rate*	-3.5	-9.3	-2.2	-6.3	0.6	-4.4	-2.1	-1.4	0.3	-1.8	-16.0	2.7	0.0	-2.2
Sexual assault (levels 1,2,3)														
number	478	90	820	607	4,422	8,053	1,494	1,283	2,449	3,323	57	179	279	23,534
rate	92	65	88	81	59	65	128	129	76	79	183	418	941	74
% change in rate*	-4.3	-35.5	-8.9	-2.6	2.1	2.8	-2.0	-7.3	-0.1	-4.7	-14.1	-2.0	-6.4	-0.8
Robbery														
number	126	26	739	253	6,804	9,255	1,747	1,190	2,776	4,518	21	19	3	27,477
rate	24	19	79	34	90	75	149	120	87	108	67	44	10	86
% change in rate*	97.4	43.8	18.7	23.3	-3.9	-4.2	-0.9	-16.7	-14.8	-0.1	-37.7	-35.4	-67.2	-4.2
Violent crimes - Total														
number	4,742	1,101	11,152	7,043	54,723	93,524	18,751	19,966	34,816	50,153	1,010	2,939	2,337	302,257
rate	917	799	1,190	937	726	755	1,602	2,006	1,087	1,195	3,236	6,865	7,884	946
% change in rate*	-2.5	-12.0	-1.0	-5.1	0.0	-3.2	-1.7	-2.6	-1.3	-1.5	-16.5	1.7	-1.9	-2.0
Breaking & entering														
number	4,453	812	7,787	5,350	64,689	74,075	14,070	16,939	31,097	52,778	550	1,065	1,052	274,717
rate	861	589	831	712	858	598	1,202	1,702	971	1,258	1,762	2,488	3,549	860
% change in rate*	15.7	-21.7	1.6	0.6	-5.7	-9.4	-1.3	-1.6	0.3	-2.4	-5.5	4.4	1.7	-4.4
Motor vehicle theft														
number	987	259	3,352	1,826	39,144	41,820	15,962	7,434	20,669	37,341	156	361	233	169,544
rate	191	188	358	243	519	337	1,364	747	646	890	500	843	786	531
% change in rate*	52.5	-4.5	23.6	4.4	-3.2	-11.6	22.9	-4.1	-2.6	-6.4	-19.2	-7.6	-6.1	-3.5
Other theft														
number	7,153	3,280	20,222	12,413	116,280	209,947	33,245	30,763	90,599	170,977	1,102	1,524	674	698,179
rate	1,383	2,379	2,158	1,652	1,542	1,694	2,841	3,091	2,830	4,074	3,531	3,560	2,274	2,185
% change in rate*	-6.6	2.8	4.5	-2.2	-2.9	-5.9	-4.2	-10.4	-1.9	-2.8	-21.4	5.1	-11.3	-3.9
Property crimes - Total														
number	14,156	4,832	36,482	22,564	241,527	373,435	66,692	62,093	162,144	283,790	1,979	3,174	2,063	1,274,931
rate	2,738	3,505	3,894	3,003	3,202	3,013	5,699	6,238	5,064	6,763	6,341	7,414	6,959	3,991
% change in rate*	4.6	-3.3	6.5	-1.2	-3.1	-5.9	1.9	-5.7	-1.3	-2.9	-16.3	2.5	-4.4	-3.2
Offensive weapons														
number	151	65	652	424	1,267	5,165	1,266	1,165	2,642	5,034	40	78	53	18,002
rate	29	47	70	56	17	42	108	117	83	120	128	182	179	56
% change in rate*	-11.5	-10.1	-8.2	-3.7	-4.9	1.3	-1.1	17.1	8.4	0.9	-55.0	-18.2	-24.5	1.2
Mischief														
number	6,412	2,090	13,702	9,540	48,160	91,944	30,494	27,415	51,355	62,222	1,683	5,790	2,854	353,661
rate	1,240	1,516	1,462	1,270	638	742	2,606	2,754	1,604	1,483	5,393	13,525	9,628	1,107
% change in rate*	0.9	1.4	-1.6	16.5	-7.5	-7.0	0.6	10.2	4.1	-4.6	-8.8	12.3	12.4	-2.0
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offenses - Total														
number	13,779	5,400	34,482	25,344	193,482	239,707	63,799	68,829	135,709	191,517	4,228	11,921	6,475	994,672
rate	2,665	3,917	3,680	3,373	2,565	1,934	5,452	6,915	4,238	4,564	13,547	27,846	21,843	3,114
% change in rate*	-1.0	-5.9	-2.0	9.6	4.5	-4.6	2.0	2.1	3.7	5.8	-10.0	17.4	10.2	1.8
<i>Criminal Code</i> - Total - without traffic offences														
number	32,677	11,333	82,116	54,951	489,732	706,666	149,242	150,888	332,669	525,460	7,217	18,034	10,875	2,571,860
rate	6,320	8,220	8,764	7,313	6,493	5,702	12,753	15,159	10,390	12,522	23,125	42,126	36,685	8,051
% change in rate*	1.1	-5.5	1.7	2.9	0.1	-5.1	1.5	-1.9	0.7	0.2	-12.8	11.7	4.4	-1.2

* In comparison to the previous year rate. Percent change based on unrounded rates.

0 true zero or a value rounded to zero

1. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. The population estimates come from the *Annual Demographic Statistics, 2004 report*, produced by Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: preliminary postcensal estimates for 2004.

2. Crime data from April to December 2004 for Winnipeg are estimates (except for homicide and motor vehicle theft) due to the implementation of a new records management system.

3. As a result of ongoing investigations in Port Coquitlam, B.C. there were 15 homicides in 2002, 7 homicides in 2003 and 5 homicides in 2004 that occurred in previous years. Homicide are counted according to the year in which police file the report.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 4


Crime rates for selected *Criminal Code* incidents, for census metropolitan areas, Canada, 2004^{1,2}

	Total <i>Criminal Code</i> offences		Homicide ³		Robbery		Breaking & entering		Motor vehicle theft	
	Rate	% change in rate*	Number	Rate	Rate	% change in rate	Rate	% change in rate	Rate	% change in rate
CMAs with population of 500,000 and over										
Winnipeg ⁴	12,167	1.9	34	4.9	229	-2.1	1,124	-3.2	1,932	29.8
Vancouver ⁵	11,814	0.2	56	2.6	148	-4.0	1,325	-3.1	1,104	-10.9
Edmonton	11,332	3.0	34	3.4	141	-13.3	1,129	10.6	1,018	6.8
Montréal	8,173	2.7	63	1.7	150	-4.6	894	-3.1	663	-1.5
Calgary	7,101	-3.2	20	1.9	91	-21.3	815	-3.1	457	-16.7
Hamilton ⁶	5,764	-13.0	9	1.3	88	-8.8	680	-16.3	540	-26.8
Ottawa ⁷	5,663	-10.0	10	1.1	84	-15.1	578	-12.5	316	-20.6
Québec	4,997	-0.9	6	0.8	59	0.0	783	-5.2	277	-5.2
Toronto	4,699	-8.6	94	1.8	103	-8.3	449	-15.9	325	-14.7
CMAs with population between 100,000 and 500,000										
Regina	15,430	2.4	10	5.0	211	-7.4	2,112	3.0	1,351	0.7
Saskatoon	13,767	-9.1	8	3.3	209	-31.5	1,797	-12.0	590	-20.5
Abbotsford	13,252	-1.2	7	4.4	97	-15.7	1,390	3.7	1,529	-3.7
Victoria	10,309	-2.2	5	1.5	76	5.3	935	24.2	336	9.8
Halifax	9,924	5.0	9	2.4	161	14.6	957	6.2	540	22.5
Thunder Bay	9,226	8.2	0	0.0	85	31.3	865	-13.2	323	18.6
Windsor	7,676	4.0	4	1.2	70	22.5	922	27.7	455	21.5
London	7,335	-3.0	5	1.1	70	19.8	732	-16.8	611	5.2
Saint John	7,056	-8.3	1	0.7	63	54.0	679	-15.0	135	-42.8
Kingston	7,010	2.6	0	0.0	49	40.0	647	-8.3	233	-6.8
St. John's	6,787	4.2	1	0.6	50	89.7	1,149	33.7	325	103.8
St. Catharines–Niagara	6,222	-9.0	7	1.6	63	-13.6	737	-18.4	354	-13.5
Greater Sudbury / Grand Sudbury	6,188	-4.7	0	0.0	41	-7.0	851	-14.1	489	-7.1
Sherbrooke	6,094	-9.0	0	0.0	49	-13.1	855	-22.7	526	-21.7
Gatineau ⁸	5,909	-4.9	1	0.4	59	2.9	928	-12.7	304	-12.7
Kitchener	5,887	-0.2	6	1.3	80	27.7	738	2.0	459	9.8
Trois-Rivières	4,787	-9.9	1	0.7	45	40.9	692	-16.5	367	-2.0
Saguenay	4,079	-2.4	2	1.3	18	3.8	542	-14.2	337	-1.8

* In comparison to the previous year rate. Percent change based on un-rounded rates.

0 true zero or a value rounded to zero

1. Note that a CMA typically comprises more than one police force. Also, note that the Oshawa CMA is excluded from this table due to the incongruity between the police agency jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.

2. Rates are calculated per 100,000 population. The population estimates come from the Annual Demographic Statistics, 2004 report, produced by Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: preliminary postcensal estimates for 2004.

3. Due to small numbers and populations in some CMAs, homicide rates often have large year-to-year fluctuations. As such, % changes are not presented here.

4. Crime data from April to December 2004 for Winnipeg are estimates (except for homicide and motor vehicle theft) due to the implementation of a new records management system.

5. As a result of ongoing investigations in Port Coquitlam, B.C. there were 15 homicides in 2002, 7 homicides in 2003 and 5 homicides in 2004 that occurred in previous years.

Homicide are counted according to the year in which police file the report.

6. One homicide in Hamilton occurred in a correctional facility.

7. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa-Gatineau CMA.

8. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa-Gatineau CMA.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 5


Crime rates for the 30 largest municipal police services¹, by type of incident, Canada, 2004

Police Service	Population ²	Total Criminal Code offences		Violent crime		Property crime		Other Criminal Code offences	
		Rate ³	% change in rate*	Rate ³	% change in rate*	Rate ³	% change in rate*	Rate ³	% change in rate*
Toronto CMA Police Services⁴									
Toronto Police	2,603,182	5,522	-7.4	998	-1.9	3,042	-8.1	1,482	-9.3
Peel Regional Police	1,108,112	3,544	-6.9	460	-7.1	2,138	-6.7	946	-7.4
York Regional Police	889,002	3,892	-13.6	435	-7.0	2,240	-15.1	1,216	-12.8
Durham Regional Police ⁵	563,220	5,530	-2.5	644	-5.1	2,544	-5.6	2,342	1.8
Halton Regional Police ⁵	427,219	3,891	-9.5	425	-7.9	1,967	-14.4	1,499	-2.8
Montréal CMA Police Services⁴									
Montréal Police	1,877,192	10,974	5.9	1,066	-1.0	4,456	-3.2	5,452	16.4
Longueuil Police	383,831	6,797	1.6	775	-5.1	3,843	4.0	2,178	0.0
Laval Police	364,806	5,530	-3.6	652	-0.8	3,284	-4.4	1,593	-3.0
Vancouver CMA Police Services⁴									
Vancouver Police	584,709	13,089	3.1	1,247	3.8	8,481	-0.1	3,361	11.8
Surrey (RCMP) Police	385,110	13,083	-0.2	1,366	9.2	7,654	-8.2	4,063	15.4
Burnaby (RCMP) Police	202,966	13,967	11.8	1,037	5.0	9,067	8.5	3,864	22.6
Richmond (RCMP) Police	172,714	10,360	-5.0	588	-22.5	5,881	-5.5	3,892	-0.8
Other Large Police Services									
Calgary Police	951,634	7,200	-2.6	827	-5.1	4,432	-5.2	1,941	5.4
Ottawa Police	829,578	5,788	-9.7	693	-8.9	3,218	-12.4	1,878	-5.1
Edmonton Police	709,493	12,779	2.7	917	-8.1	7,537	4.8	4,324	1.7
Winnipeg Police ⁶	647,433	12,732	2.3	1,265	-2.5	7,097	5.3	4,370	-0.8
Québec Police	526,991	5,614	0.9	560	4.5	3,313	1.2	1,741	-0.9
Hamilton Regional Police	519,734	6,372	-13.4	867	-17.4	3,594	-14.2	1,911	-9.7
Waterloo Regional Police	475,739	5,867	-0.1	617	9.7	3,547	-2.5	1,703	1.6
Niagara Regional Police	431,265	6,191	-8.6	545	-7.4	3,330	-11.0	2,316	-5.1
London Police	356,436	8,078	-2.6	754	8.2	4,484	-7.6	2,841	3.5
Gatineau-Métro Police	231,788	6,220	-5.2	946	8.4	3,529	-2.8	1,746	-15.1
Windsor Police	221,463	9,911	6.0	881	0.3	5,706	8.4	3,325	3.7
Halifax Regional Police	212,638	12,724	5.6	1,832	-1.3	7,284	10.1	3,608	0.9
Saskatoon Police	201,929	15,461	-8.9	1,744	-10.3	7,713	-13.8	6,005	-1.3
Regina Police	182,398	16,360	2.6	1,670	0.8	8,967	-2.3	5,724	12.2
St. John's (RNC) Police	178,629	6,787	4.2	832	4.8	4,180	10.4	1,775	-8.1
Greater Sudbury Police	160,839	6,188	-4.7	730	-3.2	3,581	-2.6	1,876	-9.1
Saguenay Police	148,260	4,079	-2.4	498	-1.1	2,251	-6.7	1,329	5.2
Région Sherbrookoise Police	147,063	6,138	-8.4	589	-1.0	3,258	-15.3	2,291	1.5

* In comparison to the previous year rate. Percent change based on non-rounded rates.

1. Data in this table include all incidents reported within the jurisdiction of each police force, including incidents such as counterfeiting currency which may have been handled by other police services.
2. Police Service population estimates were derived from 2004 preliminary postcensal population estimates, Demography Division, Statistics Canada.
3. Rates are calculated per 100,000 population.
4. The police services listed under the Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver CMAs do not represent all the police services in the CMA.
5. Note that 60% of the crime handled by Halton Regional Police, and 35% of the crime handled by Durham Regional Police fall within Toronto CMA boundaries.
6. Crime data from April to December 2004 for Winnipeg are estimates (except for homicide and motor vehicle theft) due to the implementation of a new records management system.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 6



Youths accused of selected *Criminal Code* incidents, Canada¹

	2003 ^r				2004				% change in rate* 2003-2004
	Number charged	Number cleared otherwise ²	Total number	Total rate	Number charged	Number cleared otherwise ²	Total number	Total rate	
Population (aged 12-17)	2,535,053				2,547,801				
Homicide	56	1	57	2	40	0	40	2	-30.2
Attempted murder	66	0	66	3	48	3	51	2	-23.1
Assault - Total	14,452	15,828	30,280	1,194	14,268	15,460	29,728	1,167	-2.3
Level 1	9,273	13,881	23,154	913	9,137	13,375	22,512	884	-3.3
Level 2-Weapon	4,728	1,915	6,643	262	4,715	2,054	6,769	266	1.4
Level 3-Aggravated	451	32	483	19	416	31	447	18	-7.9
Other assaults	1,089	264	1,353	53	1,176	303	1,479	58	8.8
Sexual assault - Total	1,456	1,403	2,859	113	1,373	1,481	2,854	112	-0.7
Level 1	1,407	1,397	2,804	111	1,322	1,473	2,795	110	-0.8
Level 2-Weapon	36	5	41	2	37	6	43	2	4.4
Level 3-Aggravated	13	1	14	1	14	2	16	1	13.7
Other sexual offences	128	155	283	11	124	169	293	12	3.0
Abduction	1	2	3	0	2	2	4	0	32.7
Robbery - Total	3,186	562	3,748	148	3,051	636	3,687	145	-2.1
Firearms	279	24	303	12	247	20	267	10	-12.3
Other weapons	1,129	130	1,259	50	1,106	157	1,263	50	-0.2
No weapons	1,778	408	2,186	86	1,698	459	2,157	85	-1.8
Violent crimes - Total	20,434	18,215	38,649	1,525	20,082	18,054	38,136	1,497	-1.8
Breaking & entering - Total	10,985	6,744	17,729	699	9,811	6,649	16,460	646	-7.6
Residential	6,471	3,704	10,175	401	5,591	3,712	9,303	365	-9.0
Business	3,459	2,121	5,580	220	3,402	2,094	5,496	216	-2.0
Other	1,055	919	1,974	78	818	843	1,661	65	-16.3
Motor vehicle theft	4,857	2,328	7,185	283	4,357	2,070	6,427	252	-11.0
Theft over \$5,000	236	167	403	16	169	163	332	13	-18.0
Theft \$5,000 and under	11,888	33,350	45,238	1,784	9,932	31,156	41,088	1,613	-9.6
Possession of stolen goods	4,839	1,960	6,799	268	4,817	2,441	7,258	285	6.2
Fraud	1,385	1,352	2,737	108	1,231	1,434	2,665	105	-3.1
Property crimes - Total	34,190	45,901	80,091	3,159	30,317	43,913	74,230	2,913	-7.8
Mischief	5,419	18,690	24,109	951	5,540	18,673	24,213	950	-0.1
Counterfeiting currency	267	274	541	21	218	277	495	19	-9.0
Bail violations	11,268	847	12,115	478	11,274	981	12,255	481	0.6
Disturbing the peace	580	6,165	6,745	266	692	6,425	7,117	279	5.0
Offensive weapons	1,485	1,789	3,274	129	1,607	1,794	3,401	133	3.4
Prostitution	36	50	86	3	34	36	70	3	-19.0
Arson	574	905	1,479	58	487	993	1,480	58	-0.4
Other	8,810	10,163	18,973	748	7,849	10,157	18,006	707	-5.6
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences - Total	28,439	38,883	67,322	2,656	27,701	39,336	67,037	2,631	-0.9
<i>Criminal Code</i> (excluding traffic) - Total	83,063	102,999	186,062	7,340	78,100	101,303	179,403	7,041	-4.1

* Percent change based on unrounded rates.

0 true zero or a value rounded to zero

^r revised

1. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 youth. The population estimates come from the *Annual Demographic Statistics, 2004* report, produced by Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: updated postcensal estimates for 2003; preliminary postcensal estimates for 2004.

2. An incident is "cleared otherwise" when police have identified at least one accused and there is sufficient evidence to lay a charge in connection with the incident, but the accused is processed by other means. In the case of youths, this could include formal measures such as a Crown caution or extrajudicial sanctions, or informal measures such as a police warning or referral to a community program.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 7



Youths accused¹ of selected *Criminal Code* incidents, Canada and the provinces/territories, 2004²

	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man. ³	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Yukon	N.W.T.	Nvt.	Canada
Population (aged 12-17)	40,911	12,188	74,515	57,782	566,621	994,376	101,981	90,988	275,210	322,162	2,923	4,319	3,825	2,547,801
Homicide														
number	0	0	0	0	3	16	11	1	6	3	0	0	0	40
rate	0	0	0	0	1	2	11	1	2	1	0	0	0	2
% change in rate*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Assault (levels 1, 2, 3)														
number	536	70	1,235	697	4,860	10,767	2,018	2,308	3,416	3,180	85	329	227	29,728
rate	1,310	574	1,657	1,206	858	1,083	1,979	2,537	1,241	987	2,908	7,618	5,935	1,167
% change in rate*	-11.9	-50.4	-11.6	0.1	-1.7	3.4	5.2	3.2	-8.7	-15.7	-3.8	48.7	14.2	-2.3
Sexual assault (levels 1, 2, 3)														
number	40	10	56	57	544	1,376	140	134	236	221	5	15	20	2,854
rate	98	82	75	99	96	138	137	147	86	69	171	347	523	112
% change in rate*	-18.9	-22.7	-15.7	-11.2	7.9	5.3	-4.3	-23.5	3.5	-17.6	64.2	-29.9	-26.6	-0.7
Robbery														
number	16	1	87	23	566	1,871	244	285	295	285	5	8	1	3,687
rate	39	8	117	40	100	188	239	313	107	88	171	185	26	145
% change in rate*	18.1	0.5	-8.6	1.2	-13.1	7.8	18.6	-1.1	-34.1	-3.1	-38.4	684.8	...	-2.1
Violent crimes - Total														
number	611	88	1,446	825	6,374	14,619	2,543	2,907	4,138	3,859	98	366	260	38,134
rate	1,493	722	1,941	1,428	1,125	1,470	2,494	3,195	1,504	1,198	3,353	8,474	6,797	1,497
% change in rate*	-11.6	-44.4	-10.7	-1.8	-1.7	4.1	7.0	2.0	-10.4	-14.2	-12.3	39.2	8.7	-1.8
Breaking & entering														
number	553	49	618	475	2,432	4,407	1,296	2,165	2,237	1,479	59	316	374	16,460
rate	1,352	402	829	822	429	443	1,271	2,379	813	459	2,018	7,317	9,778	646
% change in rate*	-0.8	-36.8	-9.8	14.5	-8.3	-4.1	1.9	-5.0	-13.9	-17.2	-38.8	1.0	-12.8	-7.6
Motor vehicle theft														
number	165	24	223	165	948	1,544	746	954	851	638	15	84	70	6,427
rate	403	197	299	286	167	155	732	1,048	309	198	513	1,945	1,830	252
% change in rate*	65.6	14.9	17.1	32.5	-12.8	-20.7	-11.0	7.2	-21.7	-14.3	111.1	-7.4	-7.5	-11.0
Other theft														
number	593	162	1,096	800	5,769	14,955	2,091	3,271	6,496	5,645	120	302	120	41,420
rate	1,449	1,329	1,471	1,385	1,018	1,504	2,050	3,595	2,360	1,752	4,105	6,992	3,137	1,626
% change in rate*	-8.9	-14.7	-19.0	-9.5	-11.4	-6.6	-3.4	-1.9	-12.4	-16.5	-17.9	78.5	-35.4	-9.7
Property crimes - Total														
number	1,416	264	2,515	1,590	10,000	25,713	4,482	7,123	10,963	8,641	212	735	576	74,230
rate	3,461	2,166	3,375	2,752	1,765	2,586	4,395	7,829	3,984	2,682	7,253	17,018	15,059	2,913
% change in rate*	1.1	-14.4	-9.6	2.7	-10.3	-3.6	-3.1	-2.9	-13.7	-15.3	-18.4	20.8	-18.0	-7.8
Offensive weapons														
number	14	1	67	31	143	1,447	271	230	490	691	0	10	6	3,401
rate	34	8	90	54	25	146	266	253	178	214	0	232	157	133
% change in rate*	-14.9	0.0	-29.6	-4.9	-17.7	16.3	4.6	3.5	-14.2	7.3	-100.0	63.5	-33.9	3.4
Mischief														
number	583	134	1,143	857	2,486	6,669	1,532	2,711	3,911	3,402	141	400	244	24,213
rate	1,425	1,099	1,534	1,483	439	671	1,502	2,980	1,421	1,056	4,824	9,261	6,379	950
% change in rate*	-10.7	-15.3	-5.2	50.9	-22.1	12.7	9.7	9.2	-0.2	-12.5	-5.5	6.6	4.7	-0.1
Other Criminal Code offenses - Total														
number	1,301	267	2,676	1,949	6,697	20,497	4,476	7,426	10,387	9,529	366	913	553	67,037
rate	3,180	2,191	3,591	3,373	1,182	2,061	4,389	8,162	3,774	2,958	12,521	21,139	14,458	2,631
% change in rate*	-11.6	-17.4	-12.8	33.9	-12.7	7.8	7.4	1.5	-3.6	-9.4	17.0	18.2	1.7	-0.9
Criminal Code - Total - (excluding traffic)														
number	3,328	619	6,637	4,364	23,071	60,829	11,501	17,456	25,488	22,029	676	2,014	1,389	179,401
rate	8,135	5,079	8,907	7,553	4,072	6,117	11,278	19,185	9,261	6,838	23,127	46,631	36,314	7,041
% change in rate*	-6.6	-21.6	-11.2	13.5	-8.8	1.9	3.0	-0.2	-9.3	-12.7	-1.2	22.5	-6.5	-4.1

* In comparison to the previous year rate. Percent change based on unrounded rates.

... not applicable

0 true zero or a value rounded to zero

1. Youths accused equals the total of youths cleared by charge and youths cleared otherwise (e.g. by diversion).

2. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. The population estimates come from the *Annual Demographic Statistics, 2004* report, produced by Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: preliminary postcensal estimates for 2004.

3. Crime data from April to December 2004 for Winnipeg are estimates (except for homicide and motor theft) due to the implementation of a new records management system.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics

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