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CANADIAN CRIME STATISTICS, 1996

by Rebecca Kong

Highlights

- The national police-reported crime rate declined (-2%) for the fifth consecutive year, falling to a level similar to that of 10 years ago. The crime rate had increased consistently between 1962 and 1991.
- Violent crime decreased by 2%, the fourth straight annual decrease. These declines follow 15 years of increases in the violent crime rate. The property crime rate fell 1%, continuing the general decline seen since 1991.
- In 1996, homicide and robbery were the only violent crimes to increase over the previous year. Except for residential breaking and enterings (+3%) and motor vehicle thefts (+9%), rates for all types of property crimes dropped.
- While most crimes have been decreasing in the last five years, motor vehicle thefts is the one crime which has been rising steadily. Since 1988, the rate of motor vehicle theft has grown by 79%, including a 9% jump in 1996.
- The rate of youths charged dropped 4% in 1996, with decreases reported across all crime categories. The decline in youths charged with violent crimes (-4%) marks the first notable annual decrease since comparable data on young offenders became available in 1986.
- Of Canada's nine largest Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs), only Calgary (+4%) and Vancouver (+2%) reported increases in their rate of violent crime. Violent crime rates were lowest in Québec and highest in Vancouver.
- Property crime rose in three CMAs: Québec (+6%), Montréal (+4%) and Vancouver (+4%). Ottawa reported the greatest decrease (-15%). The property crime rate was lowest in Toronto and, as in previous years, highest in Vancouver.



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Introduction

This report is an examination of crime data reported to the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) survey during 1996. The data are presented within the context of both short and long term trends. Every year since 1962, Canada's police agencies have reported incidents that come to their attention to the UCR survey.

Analyses in this report focus on trends in violent crime, property crime, impaired driving offences, drug offences and youth crime. Crime rates are examined at the national, provincial/territorial and major metropolitan levels. The trend in Canada's crime rate is put into perspective by comparing it with trends in police-reported crime from the United States and England and Wales. Also, comparisons between Canadian crime statistics and results from a recent victimization survey are drawn.

Specific types of violent crime such as "home-invasions", wife assault and violent incidents involving weapons continue to be a concern to Canadians. Due to limits in the way crime statistics are collected from Canada's police agencies, it has traditionally been difficult to measure these areas. While national statistics are still unavailable, this *Juristat* will, for the first time, present trends for these crimes as reported by a sample of police agencies from 1993 to 1996.

Interpreting police-reported crime data

Data on incidents that come to the attention of police are captured and forwarded to the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) according to a nationally-approved set of common scoring rules and definitions. The reader should note, however, that many factors can influence official crime statistics. These include: reporting by the public to the police; reporting by police to the CCJS; and, the impact of new initiatives such as changes in legislation, policies or enforcement practices.

Reporting to police

Not all incidents are reported to the police. Whether or not a victim reports to the police can depend on such factors as their perception of an officer's ability to help, their perception of the seriousness of the crime and whether it is a private matter. Also, incidents may go unreported if the victim feels the situation can be resolved without police involvement. Estimates of unreported crime are available from victimization surveys, such as the 1993 General Social Survey (GSS)¹ and the recent International Criminal Victimization Survey (ICVS).² While this type of survey shows that crimes may go unreported for various reasons, reporting of certain crimes may increase if the level of tolerance among Canadians decreases. For example, increased education in the areas of family violence, sexual assault and youth crime have lowered society's tolerance for these behaviours which, in turn, may encourage victims and witnesses to report to police.

Reporting by police to the CCJS

Crimes reported to the CCJS by police agencies are subjected to extensive quality-control procedures, both on-site at the police agency and at the CCJS. Recently, however, concerns have been raised that tighter budgets are diminishing the ability of some police agencies to respond to, and document, all incidents reported to them, a situation which may result in a loss of UCR coverage. While it has been suggested that this may have contributed to the recent declines in the crime rate, these decreases have applied equally to serious crimes (those which are less prone to non-recording by police) and less serious crimes. Moreover, a comparison of trends among police agencies shows that agencies across all provinces/territories have been experiencing decreases in crime. With declining resources in the policing sector, this situation will require further monitoring. At present, however, the data do not suggest any systematic decreases in coverage.

¹ *The General Social Survey is conducted by Statistics Canada. See "Trends in Criminal Victimization, 1988-1993" by Rosemary Gartner and Anthony Doob in Juristat (catalogue no. 85-002, vol. 14, no. 13).*

² *See "Criminal Victimization in the Industrialized World: Key findings of the 1989 and 1992 International Crime Surveys" by Jan J.M. van Dijk and Pat Mayhew. Ministry of Justice, The Netherlands, 1992; and, Hung, Kwong. Victimization in Canada: Preliminary Findings of the 1996 International Crime Victimization Survey. Justice Canada, August 1996.*

Changes in legislation, policies and practices

Changes in legislation, policies and police enforcement practices may also impact upon police-reported statistics. For instance, where an amendment to the *Criminal Code* creates a new offence or broadens the definition of an existing one, reporting to police will likely increase. An example of such an amendment is the enactment of Bill C-127 in 1983 which re-defined physical and sexual aggression, creating three levels of both assault and sexual assault. The legislation had several aims, including encouraging victims to report to police and improving the criminal justice system's responses to them. In the years after the implementation of Bill C-127, the number of incidents of assault and sexual assault reported to police rose dramatically.

For certain crimes, the rise and fall of statistics is driven largely by police enforcement. Crimes like prostitution, drug offences and impaired driving are most often identified through police-enforcement, or "proactive" policing, and are rarely reported by the public. Therefore, police enforcement efforts, such as special operations to target prostitution, the drug trade and impaired driving will affect official crime statistics.

Some police agencies attribute recent declines in local crime rates to community-based policing. This type of policing centres around the idea that police should move toward a proactive approach, including working with individuals and businesses of the community to address community problems and concerns. Critics, however, suggest that rates of reporting to police may decrease as some community-based policing programs require complainants to appear in person at the community police centres to file a report. On the other hand, paying closer attention to community problems may result in improved police responses to minor violations, such as disturbing the peace, which can increase a community's overall crime statistics. While community-based policing can impact police-reported crime statistics, the direction and size of the impact are difficult to assess.

Key terminology and definitions Throughout this report, the terms "crime" and "crime rate" refer to total police-reported *Criminal Code* "actual" incidents, excluding traffic crime, unless noted otherwise. "Actual" incidents are those which have been substantiated through police investigation. It is also important to note that, for incidents involving multiple offences, only the most serious offence in the incident is counted. Unless otherwise stated, violent crime counts reflect the number of victims in the incidents, whereas non-violent crime counts reflect the number of incidents or occurrences of crime. Crime rates are based on 100,000 population (see Table 8 for population estimates used). Please refer to the Methodology section for further details on the UCR survey.

1996 Crime Trends

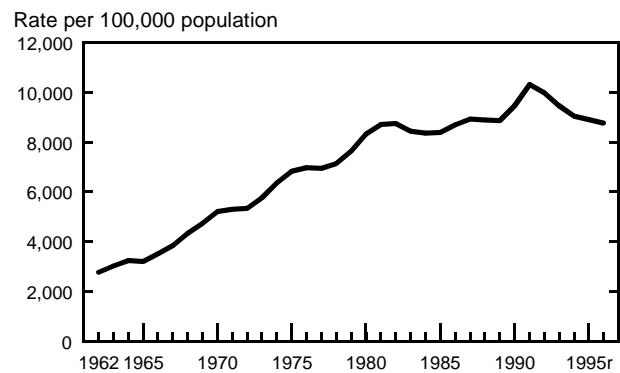
Crime rate declines for fifth consecutive year

Of the 2.6 million *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic crime) reported in 1996, 11% were violent crimes, 59% were property crimes, and 30% were other *Criminal Code* crimes (e.g. mischief, prostitution, arson, bail violations, disturbing the peace). In addition, there were approximately 162,000 *Criminal Code* traffic incidents (mostly impaired driving), 65,000 drug incidents and 31,000 other federal statute incidents (e.g. *Excise Act*, *Immigration Act*, *Canada Shipping Act*) reported. In total, there were almost 2.9 million federal statute offences reported to police.

The police-reported crime rate fell for the fifth consecutive year in 1996 (-1.6%). The crime rate has decreased by 15.1% over these five years, making the 1996 rate virtually the same as in 1986 (Figure 1 and Table 1). Compared to twenty years ago, however, Canada's crime rate has grown 26%, and it is up almost 150% from thirty years ago. Over these years, as discussed earlier, amendments to Canada's definition of criminal behaviour and changes in our tolerance for certain crimes have influenced reporting to police.

Figure 1

Crime Rate, Canada, 1962-1996

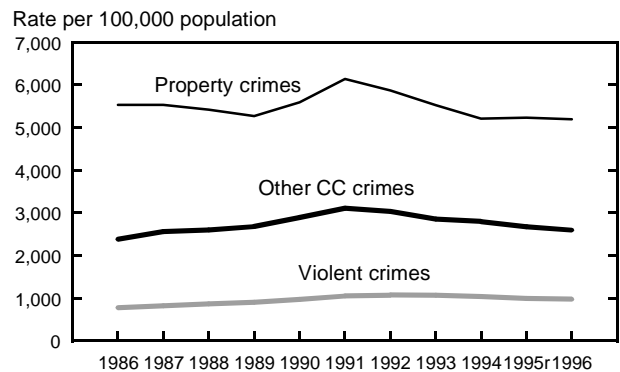


Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada

The violent crime rate decreased for the fourth consecutive year (-2.2%) in 1996. These decreases followed 15 consecutive years of increases in violent crime. After remaining stable in 1995, the property crime rate fell 0.8%. In 1996, the property crime rate was 6.1% lower than that recorded a decade ago (Table 1). This is largely due to steady declines between 1991 and 1994. The rate of other *Criminal Code* crimes continued to drop in

Figure 2

Violent, property and other Criminal Code incidents, Canada, 1986-1996



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada

Trends in police-reported crime and criminal victimizations, Canada, 1991-1995

	Police-Reported UCR Data % change in rate 91-95 ¹	ICVS Victimization Data % change in rate 91-95 ²
Theft of car/truck	+15%	+15%
Theft from car/truck	+15%	-16%
Theft of motorcycle	-43%	-50%
Theft of bicycle	-20%	-11%
Theft of personal property ³	...	+4%
Car vandalism ³	...	-27%
Breaking and entering (residence)	-10%	+2%
Robbery	-14%	-
Sexual incident ⁴	-13%	-31%
Assault or threat ⁵	-4%	-17%

... not applicable.

- nil or zero.

¹ Based on changes in the number of incidents per 100,000 population reported to police.

² The ICVS interviewed only persons aged 16 years or older.

³ While the UCR survey collects data on all incidents of theft and mischief, the ICVS collects information on only these specific types.

⁴ Under the ICVS, the term "sexual incident" refers to behaviour ranging from unwanted sexual touching to rape. Under the UCR survey, these behaviours are captured by the *Criminal Code's* three levels of sexual assault. The following may account for the smaller decrease in the UCR rate: UCR data reflect incidents involving any victim, not just those 16 years or older; and, UCR data reflect incidents which could have occurred earlier than the year they were reported to police (e.g. incest cases).

⁵ UCR rates are based on the rate of physical assaults as defined by the *Criminal Code*. Threatening behaviour can be captured under various *Criminal Code* sections and may not be reflected here. The exclusion of some types of threats may explain the smaller decrease in police-reported rates.

Sources: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) survey; and, the International Crime Victimization Survey (ICVS), Canadian component.

1996 (-3.1%). In contrast to the declines reported for most crimes between 1995 and 1996, rate increases were reported for homicide (+6.4%), residential break and enter (+2.6%), robbery (+2.1%), motor vehicle thefts (+9.2%), gaming and betting offences (+23.0%) and cannabis offences (+5.8%) (Table 2).

Recent victimization survey confirms trends in police-reported crime

Results from a recent victimization survey confirm police-reported crime data showing most crimes have decreased between 1991 and 1995. In both 1991 and 1995, the International Crime Victimization Survey (ICVS) found that 30% of Canadians aged 16 years or older had been victims of violent or property crimes.³ Of all crimes measured by the ICVS, only three showed an increase from 1991 to 1995: motor vehicle thefts (+15%), thefts of personal property (+4%), and residential breaking and entering (+2%).

Crime also falling in the U.S and in England & Wales

Other countries have also experienced recent declines in their crime rates. The 1996 preliminary data released by the Federal Bureau of Investigation show decreases in the U.S. for total crime, violent crime, and property crime for the fifth year in a row. All "index" crimes⁴ declined in 1996, except arson which remained stable. The crime rate in England and Wales has also fallen annually since 1992.

Crimes rates also falling in the U.S. and in England & Wales

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
	<i>Year-to-year percent change in rate</i>				
Canada ¹	-3%	-5%	-4%	-2%	-2%
United States ²	-3%	-2%	-1%	-1%	-3%
England and Wales ³	+5%	-2%	-5%	-3%	-2%

¹ Based on Total Criminal Code rate.

² Based on U.S. Index rates. U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation. 1996 data are preliminary.

³ Based on rate of total notifiable offences. The Home Office, Research and Statistics Department, London.

While crime rate down, so is number of young people in Canada

The field of criminology holds a wealth of research on factors that can influence the amount of crime in society. For instance, studies of criminal behaviour suggest that young people are at higher risk of engaging in criminal activity and that the prevalence of offending increases to a peak in teenage years and then decreases during one's twenties.⁵ While Canada's crime rate

³ Hung, Kwong. *Victimization in Canada: Preliminary Findings of the 1996 International Crime Victimization Survey. Justice Canada, August 1996.*

⁴ *The US Crime Index is composed of the violent crimes of murder, non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault (not common assault), and robbery and the property crimes of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.*

⁵ For instance, Gottfredson and Hirschi. *A General Theory of Crime. Stanford U. Press: Stanford, 1990* and; Farrington, David P. "The Explanation and Prevention of Youthful Offending" in David J. Hawkins (ed.) *Delinquency and Crime: Current Theories. Cambridge University, 1996, p.74.*

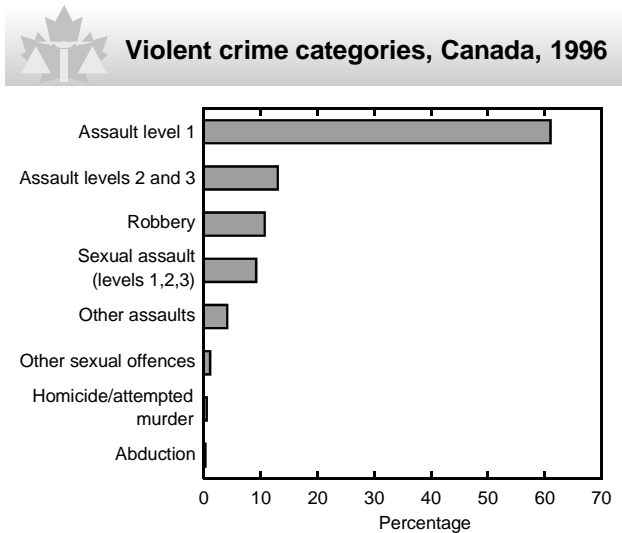
has declined in recent years (i.e. 1992 to 1996), the number of persons aged 15 to 24 in our population has remained at a low point. From 1986 to 1991, the number of young people in this age group dropped steadily from 4.5 million to 4.0 million, a level at which it remains today. Population estimates suggest that this group should grow to 4.1 million in 1998 and will likely continue to climb, possibly reaching 4.5 million once again by the year 2006.⁶

Violent Crime

Violent crime continues to drop

Violent criminal incidents (291,437 in 1996) include homicide, attempted murder, assault, sexual assault, other sexual offences, abduction and robbery (Figure 3). Violent crimes comprised 11% of Criminal Code offences in 1996, a slight increase from 9% a decade ago.

Figure 3



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada

The violent crime rate declined by 2.2% in 1996, marking the fourth consecutive annual decrease. Prior to these declines, the violent crime rate increased for 15 straight years. Much of this increase is directly attributable to a large increase in the rate of common assaults (level 1), the least serious form of assault, which accounts for 6 in 10 violent crimes. Compared to 1986, the 1996 violent crime rate is 24.4% higher. If the category of assault level 1 is excluded from total violent crime, the increase drops to only 6.7%.

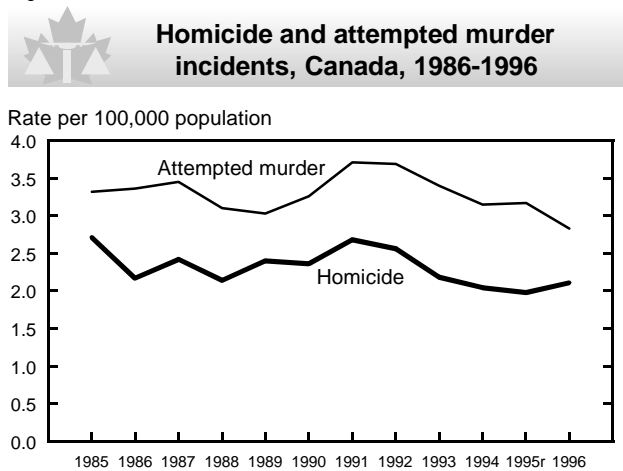
Despite the recent drops in violent crime, Canadians remain fearful. Findings from the 1995 ICVS show that 25% of Canadians reported feeling "a bit unsafe" or "very unsafe" when walking alone in their area after dark.⁷ This is up from the 20% who expressed these feelings in the 1991 ICVS.

It is difficult to determine what proportion of the increase in violent crime reported to the police over the past decade is due to actual increases in the level of societal violence. As previously discussed, factors such as changes in reporting behaviour by the public, police charging practices, and policy and legislative changes may all have contributed to this increase.⁸ Findings from the ICVS show that the reporting of assaults and sexual incidents has increased, while victimizations have dropped off or remained stable. For example, in both 1991 and 1995, 13% of Canadians 16 years and over stated they had been the victim of a threat or an assault sometime during the five years prior to the survey. While this rate of victimization had not changed, the rate of reporting this crime to police had increased from 36% in 1991 to 40% in 1995.

Homicide rate turns upward after four years of decline

Homicide includes first and second degree murder, manslaughter, and infanticide. In 1996, there were 633 homicides and 848 attempted murders. Together these crimes continue to account for less than 1% of reported violent incidents. After four years of consecutive decreases, the homicide rate turned upward (+6.4%) in 1996, reaching 2.1 homicides per 100,000 population. Despite this increase, the 1996 rate is the third lowest since 1969. The growth in 1996 is largely attributable to an increase in multiple homicides, most of which were domestic. Although the rate of attempted murders (2.8 per 100,000) fell 10.7% in 1996, the general trend for attempted murder continues to follow that of murder (Figure 4).

Figure 4



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada

⁶ Statistics Canada. Population Projections for Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1993-2016 (catalogue no. 91-520), December 1994.

⁷ Hung, Kwing. "Victimization in Canada: Preliminary findings of the 1996 International Victimization Survey." Justice Canada, 1996.

⁸ For more information, see "Violent Crime in Canada", by Holly Johnson in Juristat (catalogue 85-002XPE/F vol. 16, no. 6).

1996 UCRII (Incident-based) Research File

The revised UCR survey captures detailed information on individual criminal incidents reported to police, including characteristics of victims, accused persons and the incidents. The survey presently collects data from 154 police agencies in six provinces. These data represent 47% of the national volume of actual Criminal Code crimes. **The reader is cautioned that these data are not nationally representative:** respondents from Quebec account for 39% of the sample and those from Ontario account for a further 38%. Moreover, these data are largely an urban sample. Please refer to the methodology section for more information. All calculations exclude records where the variable under study is reported as unknown, unless otherwise mentioned.

1996 UCRII (Incident-based) Time Series Database

To analyze trends in the characteristics of police-reported incidents, the CCJS has created a database which includes data from only those police agencies that have been reporting consistently to the revised UCR survey from 1993 to 1996. This sample of police agencies comprises one provincial force (Sûreté du Québec) and 60 municipal forces from New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. These police agencies account for 29% of the national volume of crime reported in 1996 and include Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver. **The reader is cautioned that these data are not nationally representative** and that the vast majority of incidents are from Québec (42%) and Ontario (36%). Unless otherwise noted, all references to comparisons between 1993 and 1996 in this report are based on this sample of 61 forces.

The number of homicides committed with a firearm increased 20% over the previous year. Consistent with the trend since 1979, firearm homicides accounted for one-third (33%) of all homicides in 1996. Other methods used to commit homicide in 1996 included stabbing (31%), beating (22%), strangulation/suffocation (9%), fire/arsen (1%) and poisoning (1%). Of the homicides where an accused was identified, 49% of the victims were killed by an acquaintance, 37% by a spouse or other family member, and 14% by a stranger.⁹

Total robberies increasing, but robberies with firearms are down

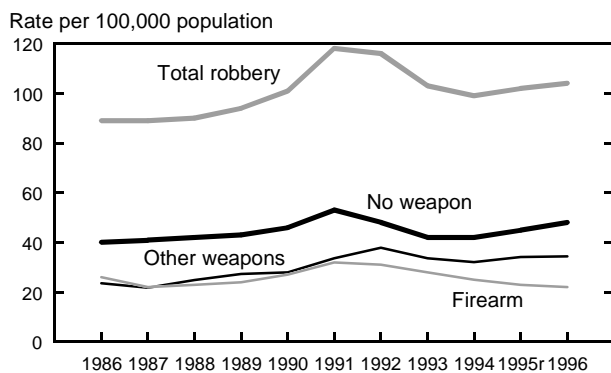
The 31,242 robberies in 1996 accounted for 1 in 10 violent crimes. The rate for total robberies rose for the second consecutive year, up 2.1% from 1995. Despite decreases in the early 1990's, the rate of robbery has been generally increasing during the last ten years, up 17.4% from 1986 (Figure 5).

Fewer robberies now involve firearms. The rate of robberies with firearms dropped (-1.8%) for the fifth consecutive year. Last year's rate of firearm robberies is 31.3% lower than five years ago and 15.4% lower than a decade ago. Though rising slightly from 1995 (+0.7%), robberies involving weapons other than firearms (e.g. knives) have shown the largest rate increases in the last decade. Robberies with no weapons also increased for the second year in a row (+5.0%). More than 4 in 10 robberies involve no weapons.

Commercial establishments are robbers' most frequent targets (56%) (1996 UCRII). These include convenience stores (13%), banks and financial institutions (8%), gas stations (7%) and other commercial establishments such as restaurants and liquor stores (28%). Other places, (e.g. transport/storage facilities, non-profit organizations, public institutions) accounted for a further 36% of places targeted by robbers. Robberies in private residences (e.g. a "home-invasion") accounted for 4%, and robberies targeting persons in motor vehicles made up a further 3%.

Figure 5

 **Robbery incidents, Canada, 1986-1996**



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada

In recent years, a new type of robbery has been identified by police, one which occurs in the home and is commonly known as a "home invasion." While no official definition of this crime exists, it is normally characterized by a forced entry into a private residence while the occupants are home and involves violence against the occupants. This section will examine two types of definitions of this crime. The first, a narrow definition, includes only robberies of the occupants of a private residence. In 1996, a sample of 61 police agencies (including Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver) reported 857 of these types of incidents. In comparison to previous years, the number of these incidents has declined steadily from 1,016 in 1993. A second, broader definition also encompasses a breaking and entering into a private residence resulting in violence against the occupants. The sample of police agencies reported 1,738 of these in 1996, a decline from 2,092 in 1993. Compared to the total number of incidents of robbery and breaking and entering, this is a relatively rare type of crime. Yet, because this crime is an attack within the sanctity of one's home, it can greatly impact the level of fear among victims and their communities.

⁹ For a detailed analysis of homicide, please refer to "Homicide in Canada, 1996", Juristat (catalogue 85-002 XPE/F, vol. 17, no.9).

Sexual assaults drop for the third year

Sexual assaults accounted for almost one in ten violent crimes in 1996. Sexual assault is classified into one of three levels according to the seriousness of the incident: level 1 sexual assault (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 aggravated sexual assault (wounds, maims, disfigures or endangers life of victim).

There were 26,762 reported incidents of sexual assault in 1996, most of which (96%) were classified by police as level 1. In 1996, the rate of level 1 sexual assault decreased for the third year in a row (-6.3%). While the 1996 rate was 16.2% lower than five years ago, it was still 17.7% higher than a decade ago.

Sexual assaults causing bodily harm or involving weapons have also been decreasing in recent years. In 1996, rates for both level 2 (-2.4%) and level 3 sexual assault (-3.2%) fell below the previous year. Moreover, compared to both five and ten years ago, the rate for each has dropped by more than 37%.

Common assault down third year in a row after years of increase

The most frequently reported category of violent crime is assault. The *Criminal Code* defines several categories of assault: common assault (level 1), assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm (level 2), aggravated assault (level 3), and other assaults (i.e., assault on peace officer, unlawfully causing bodily harm, discharge of firearm with intent and other assaults). Common assault accounts for almost 8 in 10 assaults and 6 in 10 reported violent incidents.

Police recorded 177,728 incidents of common assault in 1996, an offence which includes behaviours such as pushing, slapping, punching, face-to-face verbal threats, and threats by an act or gesture. Although the rate for these assaults declined for the third straight year in 1996 (-1.3%), it was still 39.1% higher than a decade ago. Increases in common assault incidents have strongly influenced the overall increases in violent crime since 1986. Slightly more than half of victims of common assault experienced injuries, all of which were minor (1996 UCRII).

In 1996, police recorded 35,194 incidents of level 2 assault, and 2,731 incidents of level 3 assault. The rate for level 2 assault dropped (-3.2%) for the third year in a row and the rate for level 3 fell (-2.3%) for the fifth consecutive year. Compared to 1986, the rate for level 2 assault is only 6.1% greater and the rate for level 3 assault is 12.3% lower.

Sample of police agencies show drop in incidents of wife assault

The incidence of wife assault is difficult to measure given the reluctance of women to report to police. According to a sample of police agencies, the number of reported incidents has been dropping continuously since 1993. In 1996, almost 12,000

Number of victims of wife assault and criminal harassment, and incidents of home invasion, 1993-1996

	1993	1994	1995	1996
Wife assault ¹	14,420	14,075	13,001	11,829
Criminal harassment	...	2,840	3,735	3,313
Home invasions ²	2,092	2,115	1,896	1,738

... not appropriate.

¹ Includes women assaulted (level 1, 2 or 3) or sexually assaulted (level 1, 2 or 3) by their current or ex-spouse.

² Please refer to text for definition.

Source: Non-random sample of 61 police agencies accounting for 29% of the national volume of crime. The data are not nationally representative.

incidents of wife assault were reported to this sample of 61 police agencies compared to over 14,000 in 1993, a decline of 18%.

Criminal harassment

Legislation regarding criminal harassment, commonly referred to as "stalking", was first enacted in August 1993. This offence is generally defined as repeatedly following, watching or communicating with a person or someone known to them in a way that causes them to fear for their safety or for the safety of someone known to them. The number of incidents of criminal harassment increased by over 30% between 1994 and 1995, decreasing (-11.3%) in 1996 (1996 UCRII). The majority of victims continue to be women harassed by either a current or previous husband or boyfriend, or a male acquaintance.

Sample of police agencies show presence of weapons in violent crime declining

Between 1993 and 1996, the presence of weapons in violent incidents decreased. While firearms were present in 6.8% of violent incidents reported by a sample of 61 police forces in 1993, by 1996 they were present in only 6.1%. Similarly, the presence of clubs/blunt instruments declined from 7.6% to 6.5%. The presence of knives, however, increased slightly from 9.6% to 9.9%.

Violent incidents involving weapons, selected police agencies, 1993-1996

	1993	1994	1995	1996
Firearm	6.8%	6.4%	6.1%	6.1%
Knife	9.6%	9.6%	9.7%	9.9%
Club/blunt instrument	7.6%	8.4%	7.0%	6.5%
Total weapons	24.0%	24.4%	22.8%	22.5%

Source: Non-random sample of 61 police agencies accounting for 29% of the national volume of crime. The data are not nationally representative.

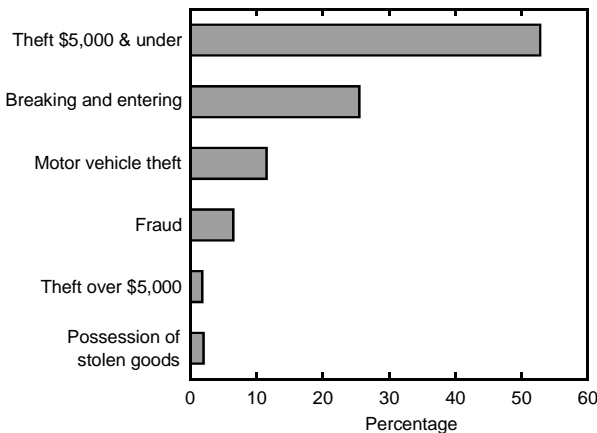
Property Crime

Property crime rate decreases

Property incidents involve unlawful acts with the intent of gaining property but do not involve the use or threat of violence. Theft, breaking and entering, fraud and possession of stolen goods are examples of property crimes (Figure 6). In 1996, there were 1.5 million property crime incidents. The property crime rate has generally been decreasing since 1991, including a 0.8% drop in 1996. The 1996 rate was 15.5% lower than the rate recorded five years ago and 6.1% lower than ten years ago (Table 1). Crimes against property as a proportion of all Criminal Code incidents have declined from 64% in 1986 to 59% in 1996. This is primarily due to a growth in the number of assaults reported over this period which caused violent crimes as a proportion to increase.

Figure 6

Property crime categories, Canada, 1996



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada

Breaking and entering stable

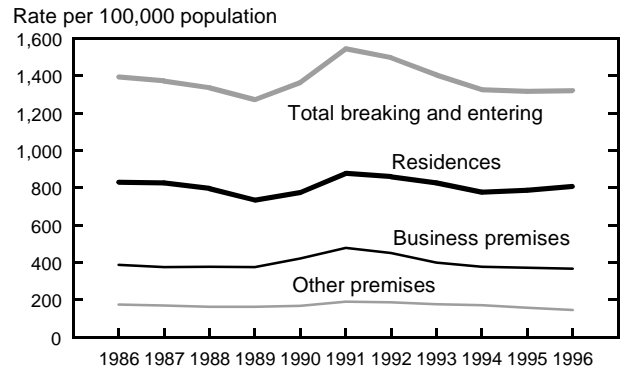
In 1996, there were 396,085 reported incidents of breaking and entering (B&E), representing one-quarter of property crimes. After declining from 1991 to 1995, the rate of B&E remained stable last year (Figure 7).

The majority of B&Es occurred at private residences (61.1%) as opposed to commercial establishments or businesses (27.8%), or other places (e.g. schools, non-profit organizations) (11.1%). Residential B&Es have fluctuated over the past 10 years, with the rate increasing (+2.6%) in 1996. According to the ICVS, 6.2% of Canadian households experienced a B&E (including attempts) in 1995, a very slight increase from 6.1% in 1991. The police-reported rate for business B&E (-1.6%) and other types of B&E (-7.3%) declined. Four in ten persons charged with B&E are youths (Table 3).

According to the Insurance Bureau of Canada, the average claim by home-owners for losses through B&E amounted to \$2,400 in 1995, while losses for commercial businesses amounted to an

Figure 7

Breaking and entering incidents, Canada, 1986-1996



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada

average of \$5,417. In total, B&Es cost the insurance industry about \$382 million in 1995.

One-third of Criminal Code crimes are thefts

In 1996, the 849,529 incidents of theft (excluding motor vehicle thefts and B&Es) accounted for one-third of all Criminal Code incidents and over one-half of property crimes. The 1996 theft rate was 2.6% lower than the previous year and has generally been declining since 1991.

In February 1995, the *Criminal Code* was amended to change the dollar cut-off for "theft under" and "theft over" to \$5,000 from \$1,000. The previous revision to the cut-offs had taken place in 1986 when the limit was increased from \$200 to \$1,000. Therefore, the reader is advised not to make historical comparisons in the "theft under/over" counts.

Of all thefts, 41% were thefts from motor vehicles, 13% were shoplifting, 10% were bicycle thefts, and 36% were "other" types of theft. Decreases were reported for all types of theft in 1996, except for shoplifting (+1.9%). A relatively high proportion (29%) of persons charged with "theft \$5,000 and under" are females, most of whom were charged with shoplifting (Table 3).

Fewer firearms stolen

Canada's gun law requires firearm owners to properly secure and store their firearms. In December 1995, Parliament passed Canada's newest firearm legislation (Bill C-68) which created a new *Firearms Act* and amended the *Criminal Code*. The new legislation is intended to further reduce the theft of firearms by encouraging the safe use and storage of firearms and assisting police in identifying stolen firearms.

Last year, a firearm was reported stolen in 2,397 incidents of B&E, 2,204 incidents of theft and 55 robberies (1996 UCR II). Of the B&Es where a firearm was stolen, nine in ten were residential as opposed to commercial. Of the incidents of theft that resulted in a stolen firearm, 4 in 10 were thefts from motor

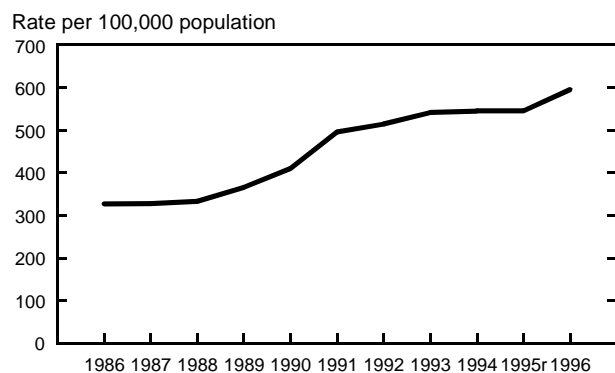
vehicles. The number of incidents of breaking and entering, thefts and robberies resulting in a stolen firearm has declined from 1993 to 1996 (-32.9%) (1996 UCR II).

Theft of motor vehicles increases

Motor vehicle theft accounted for roughly 1 in 10 property crimes in 1996 (178,580 incidents). This is one of the few crimes that has been rising in recent years. Since 1988, the rate of motor vehicle thefts has increased by 79.0%, including a 9.2% jump in 1996 (Figure 8). In particular, there has been a large increase in the number of "trucks" stolen, which includes mini-vans and sport-utility vehicles.

Figure 8

Motor vehicle theft incidents, Canada, 1986-1996



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada

Theft of vehicles and their components cost the Canadian insurance industry approximately \$500 million in 1995.¹⁰ In 1996, the average theft claim by insured drivers for stolen motor vehicles and their components was \$3,633, up from \$3,058 in 1995.¹¹

Motor vehicle theft is generally described as a youth crime. In 1996, 43% of persons charged were youths aged 12 to 17 years (Table 3). In comparison, youth accounted for only 23% of total persons charged with Criminal Code offences.

The nature of fraud is changing

The 101,007 incidents of fraud reported by police last year accounted for 6.5% of property crimes. Fraud incidents include cheque fraud, credit card fraud (included automated banking cards) and "other" fraud (e.g. telemarketing fraud, fraudulent medical prescriptions, etc.). The rate of fraud dropped for the fifth consecutive year in 1996 (-3.9%). Over the last decade, the composition of fraud has changed. While cheque fraud accounted for 60% of frauds in 1986, it now accounts for only 40%. Meanwhile, "other" frauds made up 28% of frauds in 1986, but now account for 43%. This shift may be explained by new types of fraud (e.g. computer, telecommunications and automatic banking fraud), born from advances in technology.

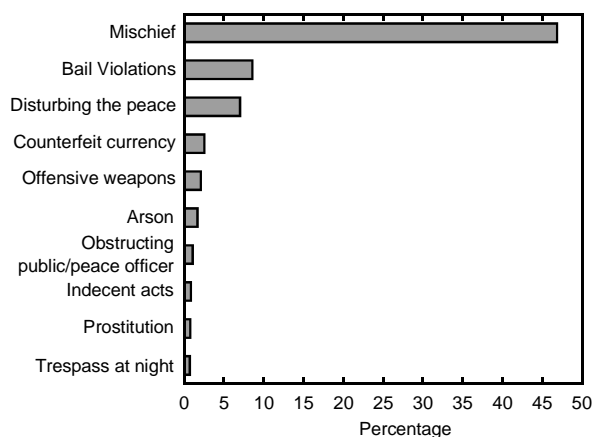
While the rate of cheque fraud (-9.5%) and other fraud (-4.2%) fell in 1996, the rate of credit card fraud rose 12.9%, marking the second consecutive increase. These recent increases in credit card fraud follow three years of declines. The Canadian Bankers Association (CBA) reports that credit card frauds (Visa, Mastercard and American Express) cost card issuers \$83 million in 1996. This is up from the \$72.6 million recorded in 1995 and marks a substantial jump from the \$28.9 million lost in 1990. According to the CBA, almost half of losses in credit card frauds in 1996 were due to counterfeit cards.¹²

Other Criminal Code Incidents

The 776,911 Criminal Code crimes which are not in the violent or property crime categories are reported under the category "other Criminal Code" (Figure 9). These crimes account for 3 in 10 Criminal Code incidents and include such crimes as weapons offences, mischief, prostitution, arson, bail violations and disturbing the peace.

Figure 9

Other Criminal Code categories, Canada, 1996



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada

Weapons offences decrease

Offensive weapon crimes include possession/use of prohibited and restricted weapons, possession of a weapon for the purpose of committing a crime, and careless use of a firearm. Prohibited weapons are those which are illegal to possess. These include spring-loaded knives, nunchaku sticks, fully-automatic firearms, and sawed-off shotguns or rifles. Restricted weapons, such as handguns, are those which may be owned under certain conditions (e.g. lawful use and registration with the police). Non-restricted weapons may be possessed legally. In the case of rifles and shotguns, however, individuals are required to hold a valid firearms acquisition certificate (FAC) to acquire such guns.¹³

¹⁰ Vehicle Information Centre of Canada. "How Cars Measure Up, 1994-1995" (published 1996).

¹¹ Insurance Bureau of Canada, Don Mills, Ontario.

¹² Canadian Bankers Association, Security Division, Toronto, Ontario.

¹³ Please refer to the Criminal Code of Canada for exact definitions and conditions.

The 16,132 offensive weapons incidents reported by police in 1996 accounted for less than 1% of Criminal Code incidents. The rate of these incidents declined for the second consecutive year (-8.9%) and 8 in 10 persons charged with weapons offences were adults (Table 3).

Arson down, but still higher than a decade ago

Police reported 12,865 incidents of arson in 1996. While the rate dropped 3.3% below the previous year, it was still 49.0% higher than a decade ago. From 1989 to 1992, the rate of arson jumped by 70%. Since then, the rate has remained relatively stable. The most common targets for arson in 1996 were motor vehicles (28%), residences (26%), non-commercial enterprises (24%) and commercial or corporate places (15%). Four in ten persons charged with arson are youths (Table 3).

The rate of mischief offences continues to decline

In 1996, the 364,021 mischief incidents reported by police accounted for 14% of total Criminal Code crimes and almost half of "other" Criminal Code incidents. The general decline in the rate of mischief incidents continued in 1996 with a 5.2% decrease. The most common targets of mischief are motor vehicles (64%). Consistent with previous years, youths aged 12 to 17 years comprised one-third of persons charged with mischief in 1996 (Table 3).

Prostitution-related incidents drop

Most prostitution-related crimes involve communicating with a person for the purpose of engaging in prostitution (including both prostitutes and clients) or stopping a vehicle for the same purpose. The rate of prostitution incidents reported by police dropped by 18.5% in 1996. Despite an increase in 1995, the rate of prostitution incidents during the 1990s has generally been decreasing. The reporting of prostitution incidents is highly sensitive to police enforcement practices. The reader is cautioned that these practices may vary over time and across provinces and municipalities.

In 1996, 6,124 persons were charged with prostitution-related crimes, 55% of whom were female. Although some males charged were living from the avails of prostitution or were themselves prostitutes, the majority of them were clients. Only 3% of persons charged in prostitution incidents in 1996 were youths. Although child prostitution is a serious concern for Canadians, the UCR counts may not reflect their actual numbers, as youths are often diverted to social services by police in lieu of being charged.¹⁴

Criminal Code Traffic Incidents

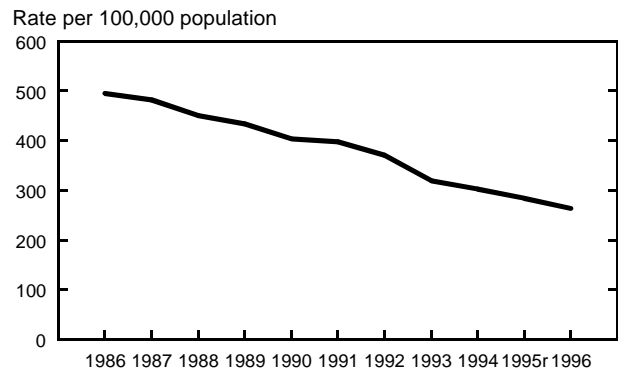
Police reported 161,805 incidents involving Criminal Code traffic crimes in 1996, down 6.9% from 1995. Impaired driving accounted for 59% of these incidents in 1996, failure to stop and remain at the scene of an accident accounted for 31%, and dangerous driving and driving while prohibited comprised the remaining 10%.

Impaired driving incidents continue to decline

Impaired driving offences include impaired operation of a motor vehicle, boat or aircraft, driving with over .08% alcohol in the bloodstream, and failing to provide a breath and/or blood sample when requested by a police officer. In 1996, police charged 78,894 persons with impaired driving, down 6.2% from 1995 and consistent with the long-term trend of declining rates (Figure 10). As with drug and prostitution offences, changes in statistics on impaired driving can be influenced by police enforcement.

Figure 10

Persons charged with impaired driving, Canada, 1986-1996



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada

Drugs

Drug incidents increase for third year in a row

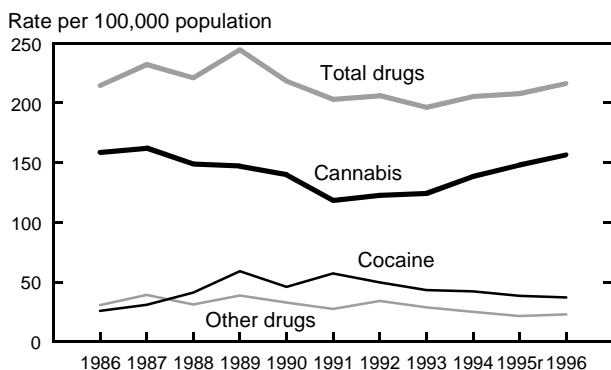
Drug incidents involve offences under two federal statutes: the *Narcotics Control Act*, which deals with illicit drugs, (e.g. cannabis, cocaine and heroin) and the *Food and Drugs Act*, which deals with controlled and restricted drugs (e.g., amphetamines and LSD). Cannabis offences accounted for 7 in 10 of the 65,106 drug-related incidents reported in 1996. Almost 9 in 10 persons charged with drug offences were adults.

The rate of drug-related incidents increased for the third year in a row. The 1996 rate was 4.4% higher than the previous year, primarily due to increases in cannabis offences. The rate of cannabis incidents climbed by 6.0% in 1996, the fifth consecutive year of growth. Conversely, the rate of cocaine incidents dropped for the fifth year in a row, falling 2.7% in 1996. The recent decline in cocaine incidents contrasts the sharp increases seen prior to 1992: the rate of cocaine incidents had more than tripled from 1985 to 1991 (Figure 11).

¹⁴ For more information, please see "Street Prostitution in Canada", by Doreen Duchesne in Juristat (catalogue 85-002-XPE/F vol.17, no.2)

Figure 11

Drug incidents, Canada, 1986-1996



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada

After decreasing three years in a row, the rate of incidents involving “other” drugs turned upward in 1996 (+6.8%). This increase was fueled by increases in the trafficking of controlled drugs (e.g. amphetamines and barbituates) and of other drugs (i.e. drugs other than cannabis, cocaine or heroin that are regulated by the *Narcotics Control Act*).

Historically, the majority of drug incidents involve “possession” (64% in 1996) and most possession incidents involve cannabis. As with prostitution and impaired driving, trends in drug-related crimes are subject to police enforcement activities.

Youth Crime

Measuring youth crime

Young persons in conflict with the law may be charged or dealt with “otherwise”. The decision to proceed with laying a charge is influenced by many factors, one of which is the eligibility of the youth for an alternative measures program. As outlined in the *Young Offenders Act*, the objective of alternative measures (AM) is to avoid court proceedings for young persons, provided certain conditions are met. Generally, referrals to AM programs are made before charges are laid and reserved for first time offenders.¹⁵ Charge rates are influenced by the extent to which AM is used, and the process established for AM. Consequently, the youth charge rate is not a perfect indicator of the prevalence of youth crime, particularly with respect to measuring relatively minor offences committed by first time offenders. However, the number of youths dealt with otherwise (i.e. not charged) has also been decreasing annually since 1993. This may suggest that the decreases in youths charged are not merely a symptom of increased use of alternative measures. The reader is cautioned that these data are not nationally representative.

¹⁵ See “National Summary of Alternative Measures Services for Young Persons” in *Juristat* (catalogue no. 85-002, vol. 10, no. 2).

First notable decline in rate of youth violence since the *Young Offenders Act*

The rate of youths charged dropped for all crime categories in 1996, resulting in a 3.6% decrease in the overall rate of youths charged with Criminal Code offences. In total, 117,773 youths aged 12 to 17 years were charged with Criminal Code offences in 1996. Over half (56%) of these youths were charged with property crimes, while 19% were charged with violent crimes. The remaining quarter were charged with other Criminal Code offences, such as mischief and offences against the administration of justice. This distribution has changed since a decade ago when 72% of youths were charged with property crimes and 9% with violent crimes. Increases in youths charged with level 1 (common) assaults and decreases in charges for theft and breaking and entering account for much of this shift (Table 4).

	Youths charged (100%)	Adults charged (100%)
Total violent	19%	28%
assaults	14%	24%
robbery	3%	2%
Total property	56%	40%
theft over & under	27%	19%
breaking and entering	16%	7%
theft motor vehicle	6%	2%
Total other Criminal Code	26%	32%
mischief	7%	4%

In 1996, the rate of youths charged with violent crime fell 3.9%, marking the first notable annual decrease since 1986, the first full year in which ages for youth were standardized across the country according to the *Young Offenders Act* (Table 4). Nevertheless, the rate remains 9% higher than five years ago and 121% higher than in 1986. This difference over the last ten years is largely due to increases in charges for assault level 1. By comparison, the rate of adults charged with violent crimes in 1996 was 14% lower than five years ago and 24% higher than a decade ago.

With the exception of robbery, the rate of youths charged decreased for all violent offences including assaults (-4.1%) and sexual assaults (-5.6%). In 1996, 51 youths aged 12 to 17 stood accused of homicide, a decrease of 14 youths from the previous year. Since 1986, an average of 48 youths were accused of homicide each year (Homicide Survey, 1996).

Rate of youths charged with property crimes continues to fall

In terms of property crimes, the rate of youths charged declined (-4.5%) for the fifth consecutive year (Table 4). The rate of youths charged dropped for all property offences including thefts (-6.5%), breaking and entering (-2.9%) and motor vehicle theft (-0.9%).

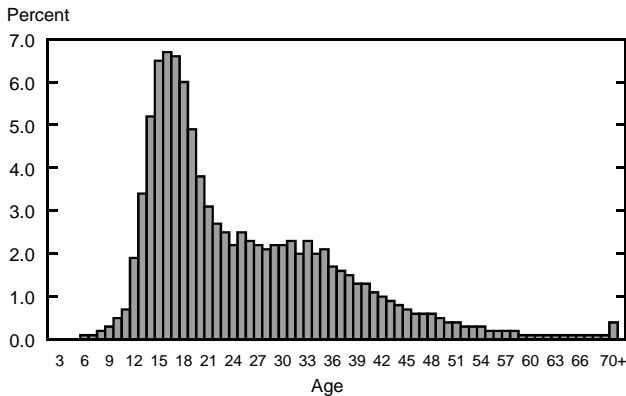
Youths charged with other Criminal Code offences also decreased (-1.2%) in 1996 (Table 4). While the rate of youths charged dropped for most of these offences such as weapons offences (-14.0%) and mischief (-1.8%), rates increased for youths charged with bail violations (+3.2%) and “other” offences against the Criminal Code (e.g. failure to appear) (+2.6%).

Persons accused of property crimes are younger than those accused of violent crime

While persons accused¹⁶ of property crimes are likely to be young, the age range of persons accused of violent crimes is much wider. While more than 4 in 10 persons accused of property crimes were aged 13 to 20 years (Figure 12a), this age group accounted for only one-quarter of persons accused of violent crimes (Figure 12b). The median age of persons accused of property crimes was 24 years, compared to 29 years for those accused of violent offences (Table 3).

Figure 12a

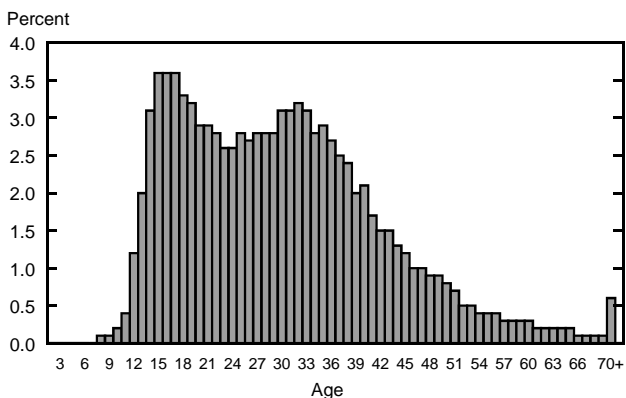
Persons accused of property crimes by age, 1996



Source: Non-random sample of 154 police agencies accounting for 47% of the national volume of crime. The data are not nationally representative

Figure 12b

Persons accused of violent crime by age, 1996



Source: Non-random sample of 154 police agencies accounting for 47% of the national volume of crime. The data are not nationally representative

¹⁶ Persons accused refers to those involved in incidents "cleared by charge" and "cleared otherwise".

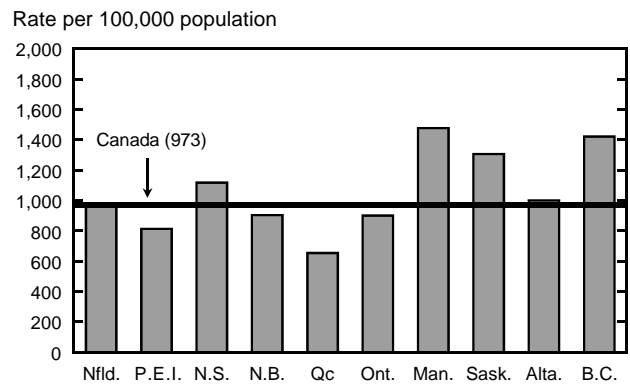
Provincial Comparisons

Crime down in most provinces

There is considerable regional variation in the distribution of reported crime across Canada. Historically, crime rates in the Atlantic provinces and Quebec have been lower than those in Ontario, which in turn have been lower than rates in the Western provinces. Since 1993, however, this pattern has changed, with Alberta reporting much lower crime rates than its neighbouring provinces (Figures 13a, 13b). Crime rates in the Northwest and Yukon Territories are usually higher than those in the provinces (Table 5).

Figure 13a

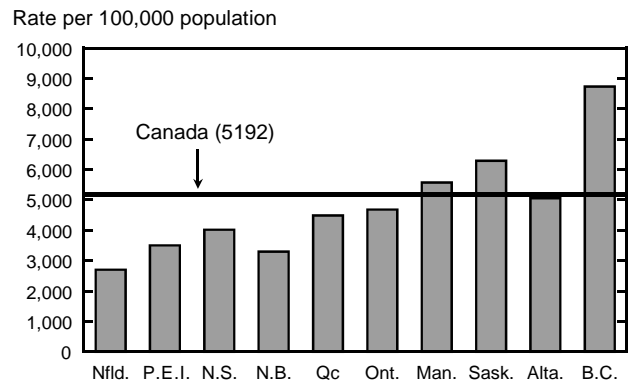
Violent crime, Canada and the provinces, 1996



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada

Figure 13b

Property crime, Canada and the provinces, 1996



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada

In 1996, provincial crime rates ranged from a low of 5,927 incidents per 100,000 population in Newfoundland to 13,918 per 100,000 in British Columbia. For violent crimes, Manitoba, British Columbia and Saskatchewan reported the highest rates and Quebec the lowest (Figure 13a). For property crimes, Newfoundland reported the lowest rate while British Columbia continues to report a much higher rate than the other provinces (Figure 13b).

Three of the provinces followed the national decline in the crime rate in 1996, with the largest decrease reported in Ontario (-5.9%). Newfoundland (+10.4%), Nova Scotia (+4.3%) and Prince Edward Island (+3.9%) showed the largest increases (Table 5).

While Canada's violent crime rate declined (-2.2%) in 1996, increases were reported in Prince Edward Island (+8.4%), Saskatchewan (+3.3%) and Nova Scotia (+2.5%). The largest declines were found in Newfoundland (-8.5%) and Ontario (-5.1%).

The rate of property crimes increased in five provinces: Newfoundland (+11.5%), Quebec (+4.0%), Saskatchewan (+2.7%), British Columbia (+1.6%) and New Brunswick (+0.9%). While the rate for Nova Scotia remained stable, the remaining provinces reported decreases greater than the national decline of 0.8%.

Census Metropolitan Area Comparisons

The areas 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 Census Metropolitan Areas (CMA). 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. Usually, more than one police force is responsible for enforcing the law within the boundaries of a CMA. Although there are 25 CMAs in Canada, only the nine largest (over 500,000 population) are examined in this report (Tables 6a and 6b). Data on the remaining CMAs are available from the CCJS upon request. In addition, the CCJS recently released an analysis of crime in all CMAs for the years 1991 through 1995.¹⁷

Violent crime down in most large cities

Three of the nine largest CMAs reported an increase in their overall crime rate in 1996: Québec (+4.9%), Montréal (+2.9%) and Vancouver (+2.7%). Although Québec showed the largest increase, it still remains the CMA with the lowest crime rate (Table 7). Consistent with previous years, the crime rate continues to be highest in Vancouver.

In 1996, Québec reported the lowest violent crime rate and Vancouver reported the highest. Compared to the previous year, the violent crime rate grew only in Calgary (+4.0%) and Vancouver (+2.2%). Except Edmonton, which remained stable, all remaining CMAs reported decreases (Table 6a). In most CMAs, except Winnipeg and Hamilton, the rate of violent crime

has dropped since 1991, with Edmonton (-29.3%) and Calgary (-29.9%) experiencing the largest decreases during this period (Table 6a).

While the rate of property crime was lowest in Toronto last year, it was highest in Vancouver (Table 6b). From 1995 to 1996, property crime rose in three of the nine CMAs: Québec (+6.1%), Vancouver (+4.3%) and Montréal (+4.0%). The greatest decrease was reported in Ottawa (-14.9%). Compared to rates reported in 1991, the property crime rate has fallen in all CMAs except Vancouver (+2.6%) (Table 6b). As with violent crime, Edmonton (-41.6%) and Calgary (-32.9%) reported the largest declines from 1991 to 1996.

Methodology - 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 aggregate UCR 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.

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

1. **Aggregate UCR Survey** - The aggregate-based UCR survey records the number of incidents reported to the police. It includes the number of reported offences and the number of actual offences (excluding those that are unfounded), the number of offences cleared by charge, the number of persons charged by sex and by an adult/youth breakdown. It does not include victim characteristics. Unless otherwise mentioned, all analysis in this report is based on aggregate survey counts.
2. **Revised UCR Survey - (UCR II Incident-based Research File and Time Series Database)**

The revised microdata survey captures detailed information on individual criminal incidents reported to police, including characteristics of victims, accused persons and the incidents. In 1996, detailed data were collected from 154 departments in six provinces through the Revised UCR Survey. These data represent 47% of the national volume of actual Criminal Code crimes. The incidents contained in the 1996 Research File are distributed as follows: 39% from Québec, 38% from Ontario, 10% from Alberta, 8% from British Columbia, 4% from Saskatchewan, and 1% from New Brunswick. Other than Québec, the data are primarily from urban police departments. The reader is cautioned that these data are not nationally representative. Continuity with the aggregate survey data is maintained by a conversion of the incident-based data to aggregate counts at year-end.

The UCR II Time Series Database is a subset of data collected by the Revised UCR Survey. It contains detailed information on incidents, accused persons and victims reported by a sample of 61 police forces to the Revised UCR Survey from 1993 to 1996. The incidents reported by these agencies, which include Montréal, Toronto and Vancouver, are distributed as follows: 42% from Québec,

¹⁷ Leonard, Tim. "Crime in Major Metropolitan Areas, 1991-1995", Juristat (catalogue no 85-002XPE/F, vol.17, no. 5).

36% from Ontario, 14% from British Columbia, 7% from Saskatchewan, and 1% from New Brunswick. In total, these incidents account for 29% of the national volume of crime. Being a subset of the Revised UCR data, the limitations and cautions noted above also apply here.

The aggregate UCR survey classifies incidents according to the most serious offence in the incident, (generally the offence which carries the longest maximum sentence under the *Criminal Code of Canada*). 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. persons in a bank during a robbery). For non-violent crimes, one incident (categorized according to the *most serious offence*) is counted for every distinct or separate occurrence.

In this report, the crime rate excludes traffic violations as these data have proven to be volatile over time. This volatility is the result of changes in police procedures which allow for traffic violations to be scored under either a provincial statute or the *Criminal Code* (e.g. failure to stop or remain at an accident).

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

Table 1



Rates of Criminal Code Incidents, Canada, 1986-1996¹

	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991 ²	1992 ²	1993	1994	1995 [†]	1996
Population ('000)	26,203.8	26,549.7	26,894.8	27,379.3	27,790.6	28,120.1	28,542.2	28,946.8	29,255.6	29,615.3	29,963.6
Violent crime rate	782	826	865	908	970	1,056	1,077	1,072	1,038	995	973
Year-to-year % change	6.9	5.7	4.7	5.0	6.8	8.9	2.0	-0.5	-3.1	-4.2	-2.2
Property crime rate	5,528	5,531	5,419	5,271	5,593	6,141	5,868	5,524	5,211	5,233	5,192
Year-to-year % change	1.8	0.1	-2.0	-2.7	6.1	9.8	-4.4	-5.9	-5.7	0.4	-0.8
Other Criminal Code rate	2,382	2,565	2,603	2,682	2,891	3,113	3,033	2,855	2,796	2,674	2,593
Year-to-year % change	7.4	7.7	1.5	3.0	7.8	7.7	-2.6	-5.9	-2.1	-4.4	-3.0
Total Criminal Code rate, excluding traffic infractions	8,692	8,923	8,887	8,860	9,454	10,309	9,978	9,451	9,045	8,902	8,758
Year-to-year % change	3.7	2.6	-0.4	-0.3	6.7	9.1	-3.2	-5.3	-4.3	-1.6	-1.6

¹ Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. The population estimates are provided by Statistics Canada, Census and Demographic Statistics, Demography Division.

Populations as of July 1st: revised intercensal estimates from 1986 to 1990, final postcensal estimates for 1991 and 1992, updated postcensal estimates for 1993, 1994 and 1995, preliminary postcensal estimates for 1996.

² Due to a change in counting procedures for Metro Toronto as of 1992, caution should be used when calculating year-to-year changes between 1991 and 1992 for Canada, Ontario and Toronto.

[†] Revised.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 2

Federal Statute Incidents Reported to Police, by Most Serious Offence, Canada, 1992-1996

	1992		1993		1994		1995 ¹		1996		Percent change in rate 1995-1996 ¹
	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	
Population ('000)	28,542.2		28,946.8		29,255.6		29,615.3		29,963.6		
CRIMINAL CODE											
Homicide	732	3	630	2	596	2	588	2	633	2	6.4
Attempted murder	1,054	4	984	3	922	3	939	3	848	3	-10.7
Assaults - Total	232,910	816	238,503	824	236,564	809	230,110	777	227,678	760	-2.2
Level 1	175,745	616	181,807	628	181,577	621	177,964	601	177,728	593	-1.3
Level 2-Weapon	37,459	131	38,767	134	37,725	129	35,921	121	35,194	117	-3.2
Level 3-Aggravated	3,551	12	3,180	11	2,998	10	2,763	9	2,731	9	-2.3
Other	16,155	57	14,749	51	14,264	49	13,462	45	12,025	40	-11.7
Sexual assaults - Total	34,355	120	34,754	120	31,706	108	28,183	95	26,762	89	-6.1
Level 1	33,022	116	33,536	116	30,572	104	27,227	92	25,821	86	-6.3
Level 2-Weapon	935	3	860	3	769	3	659	2	651	2	-2.4
Level 3-Aggravated	398	1	358	1	365	1	297	1	290	1	-3.5
Other sexual offences	4,040	14	4,171	14	3,818	13	3,494	12	3,310	11	-6.4
Abduction	1,220	4	1,204	4	1,129	4	1,035	3	964	3	-7.9
Robbery - Total	33,201	116	29,955	103	29,010	99	30,254	102	31,242	104	2.1
Firearms	8,736	31	8,038	28	7,361	25	6,692	23	6,646	22	-1.8
Other Weapons	10,793	38	9,720	34	9,386	32	10,127	34	10,322	34	0.7
No Weapons	13,672	48	12,197	42	12,263	42	13,435	45	14,274	48	5.0
Violent crime - Total	307,512	1,077	310,201	1,072	303,745	1,038	294,603	995	291,437	973	-2.2
Break & enter - Total	427,153	1,497	406,421	1,404	387,867	1,326	390,682	1,319	396,085	1,322	0.2
Business	128,514	450	115,757	400	110,480	378	110,564	373	110,073	367	-1.6
Residential	245,453	860	239,322	827	227,199	777	233,314	788	242,132	808	2.6
Other	53,186	186	51,342	177	50,188	172	46,804	158	43,880	146	-7.3
Motor vehicle theft	146,801	514	156,685	541	159,469	545	161,696	546	178,580	596	9.2
Theft over \$1 000 (\$5 000 in 1995)	120,063	421	117,765	407	116,396	398	42,080	142	28,144	94	-33.9
Theft \$1 000 and under (\$5 000 in 1995)	823,469	2,885	774,293	2,675	727,414	2,486	820,202	2,770	821,385	2,741	-1.0
Have stolen goods	31,551	111	30,827	106	30,130	103	31,293	106	30,599	102	-3.4
Fraud	125,736	441	113,046	391	103,243	353	103,924	351	101,007	337	-3.9
Property crime - Total	1,674,773	5,868	1,599,037	5,524	1,524,519	5,211	1,549,877	5,233	1,555,800	5,192	-0.8
Mischief	453,547	1,589	415,508	1,435	396,904	1,357	379,500	1,281	364,021	1,215	-5.2
Gaming and betting	739	3	704	2	421	1	568	2	710	2	23.5
Bail violation	65,466	229	66,271	229	65,952	225	66,939	226	66,504	222	-1.8
Disturbing the peace	56,327	197	54,492	188	51,213	175	51,401	174	54,519	182	4.8
Offensive weapons	17,704	62	18,584	64	18,898	65	17,509	59	16,132	54	-8.9
Prostitution	10,137	36	8,517	29	5,575	19	7,170	24	5,912	20	-18.5
Arson	13,146	46	12,470	43	13,509	46	13,156	44	12,865	43	-3.3
Other	249,369	874	250,546	866	265,894	909	202,785	685	205,847	687	0.3
Other Criminal Code - Total	866,435	3,036	827,092	2,857	818,366	2,797	791,772	2,674	776,911	2,593	-3.0
Criminal Code without Traffic - TOTAL	2,848,720	9,981	2,736,330	9,453	2,646,630	9,047	2,636,252	8,902	2,624,148	8,758	-1.6
Impaired driving - Total ²	132,419	464	117,574	406	107,768	368	102,285	345	95,877	320	-7.4
Fail to stop/remain	67,053	235	60,066	208	60,138	206	54,180	183	49,871	166	-9.0
Other	20,221	71	20,185	70	18,529	63	17,419	59	16,057	54	-8.9
Criminal Code Traffic - TOTAL	219,693	770	197,825	683	186,435	637	173,884	587	161,805	540	-8.0
CRIMINAL CODE - TOTAL	3,068,413	10,750	2,934,155	10,136	2,833,065	9,684	2,810,136	9,489	2,785,953	9,298	-2.0
Drugs	58,881	206	56,817	196	60,153	206	61,613	208	65,106	217	4.4
Other Federal Statutes	44,671	157	48,282	167	40,525	139	36,121	122	31,365	105	-14.2
TOTAL FEDERAL STATUTES	3,171,965	11,113	3,039,254	10,499	2,933,743	10,028	2,907,870	9,819	2,882,424	9,620	-2.0

¹ Percent change based on unrounded rates.

² Includes impaired operation of a vehicle causing death, causing bodily harm, alcohol rate over 80mg, failure/refusal to provide a breath/blood sample.

* Rates are calculated based on 100,000 population. The population estimates are provided by Statistics Canada, Census and Demographic Statistics, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: final postcensal estimates for 1992, updated postcensal estimates for 1993, 1994 and 1995, and preliminary postcensal estimates for 1996.

¹ Revised.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 3



Persons Charged by Gender and Age, Selected Incidents, 1996

	Sex		Age		Median Age ¹		Total
	Males	Females	Adults	Youths	Males	Females	
	%	%	%	%			
Homicides ²	88	12	90	10	25	29	26
Attempted murder	90	10	88	12	26	26	27
Assaults	84	16	85	15	30	27	30
Sexual assaults	98	2	85	15	33	27	32
Other sexual offences	96	4	85	15	35	30	34
Abduction	73	27	86	14	36	30	34
Robbery	88	12	66	34	22	18	21
Violent crime - Total	86	14	84	16	29	27	29
Break and enter	93	7	60	40	20	20	20
Motor vehicle theft	92	8	57	43	19	18	19
Fraud	71	29	92	8	29	28	29
Theft over \$5,000	81	19	80	20	23	30	24
Theft \$5,000 and under	69	31	71	29	25	27	25
Property crime - Total	78	22	71	29	23	26	24
Mischief	88	12	67	33	21	25	21
Arson	86	14	59	41	21	33	22
Prostitution	45	55	97	3	34	29	31
Offensive weapons	92	8	80	20	26	28	26
Criminal Code - Total	81	19	77	23	26	27	26
Impaired driving ³	89	11	100	...	35	35	35
Cocaine - Possession	82	18	96	4	30	30	30
Cocaine - Trafficking	83	17	97	3	30	29	30
Cannabis - Possession	90	10	83	17	22	24	22
Cannabis - Trafficking	85	15	87	13	26	26	26

... Figures not appropriate.

¹ 1996 Uniform Crime Reporting Incident-based Research File - CCJS, representing 47% of the national volume of crime.

² Homicide Survey, CCJS.

³ Includes impaired operation of a vehicle causing death, causing bodily harm, alcohol rate over 80mg, failure/refusal to provide a breath/blood sample.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 4

Youths Charged in Criminal Code Incidents, Canada, 1986-1996¹

	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995 ^r	1996
Population (aged 12-17)	2,272,400	2,260,900	2,249,500	2,245,700	2,260,100	2,284,800	2,315,800	2,341,200	2,360,900	2,386,400	2,416,500
Homicide											
number	38	35	48	48	49	49	53	36	52	63	50
rate	1.7	1.5	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.3	1.5	2.2	2.6	2.1
% change in rate	...	-7.4	37.8	0.2	1.4	-1.1	6.7	-32.8	43.2	19.9	-21.6
Assaults (levels 1, 2, 3)											
number	6,119	6,891	7,679	9,245	10,797	12,815	13,584	14,981	15,363	15,898	15,443
rate	269	305	341	412	478	561	587	640	651	666	639
% change in rate	...	13.2	12.0	20.6	16.0	17.4	4.6	9.1	1.7	2.4	-4.1
Sexual assaults (levels 1, 2, 3)											
number	1,059	1,220	1,247	1,478	1,609	1,906	2,074	2,132	1,896	1,586	1,516
rate	47	54	55	66	71	83	90	91	80	66	63
% change	...	15.8	2.7	18.7	8.2	17.2	7.4	1.7	-11.8	-17.2	-5.6
Robbery											
number	1,303	1,204	1,544	1,950	2,055	2,746	2,966	2,996	3,006	3,535	3,569
rate	57	53	69	87	91	120	128	128	127	148	148
% change in rate	...	-7.1	28.9	26.5	4.7	32.2	6.6	-0.1	-0.5	16.3	-0.2
Total Violent crime											
number	9,275	10,165	11,437	13,780	15,690	18,919	20,028	21,477	21,629	22,441	21,811
rate	408	450	508	614	694	828	865	917	916	940	903
% change in rate	...	10.2	13.1	20.7	13.1	19.3	4.4	6.1	-0.1	2.6	-3.9
Break and enter											
number	27,371	25,321	23,894	22,155	24,066	26,901	24,747	21,947	19,992	18,654	18,328
rate	1,204	1,120	1,062	987	1,065	1,177	1,069	937	847	782	758
% change in rate	...	-7.0	-5.2	-7.1	7.9	10.6	-9.2	-12.3	-9.7	-7.7	-2.9
Motor vehicle theft											
number	6,163	5,865	6,436	7,330	7,945	8,768	8,122	8,211	7,476	6,875	6,894
rate	271	259	286	326	352	384	351	351	317	288	285
% change in rate	...	-4.4	10.3	14.1	7.7	9.2	-8.6	0.0	-9.7	-9.0	-0.9
Theft											
number	38,132	36,397	36,368	38,897	42,514	45,221	39,648	35,301	32,228	33,762	31,955
rate	1,678	1,610	1,617	1,732	1,881	1,979	1,712	1,508	1,365	1,415	1,322
% change in rate	...	-4.1	0.4	7.1	8.6	5.2	-13.5	-11.9	-9.5	3.6	-6.5
Total Property crime											
number	78,862	74,769	74,316	76,317	83,741	91,656	83,603	74,981	68,907	68,105	65,835
rate	3,470	3,307	3,304	3,398	3,705	4,012	3,610	3,203	2,919	2,854	2,724
% change in rate	...	-4.7	-0.1	2.9	9.0	8.3	-10.0	-11.3	-8.9	-2.2	-4.5
Mischief											
number	7,856	7,832	8,643	8,491	8,647	9,725	9,066	8,214	7,687	7,745	7,703
rate	346	346	384	378	383	426	391	351	326	325	319
% change in rate	...	0.2	10.9	-1.6	1.2	11.3	-8.0	-10.4	-7.2	-0.3	-1.8
Offensive weapons											
number	1,470	1,416	1,514	1,702	1,809	2,020	1,906	1,932	1,963	1,693	1,475
rate	65	63	67	76	80	88	82	83	83	71	61
% change in rate	...	-3.2	7.5	12.6	5.6	10.5	-6.9	0.3	0.8	-14.7	-14.0
Total Other Criminal Code											
number	20,869	22,764	24,136	25,865	27,118	31,741	31,651	30,429	29,089	30,117	30,127
rate	918	1,007	1,073	1,152	1,200	1,389	1,367	1,300	1,232	1,262	1,247
% change in rate	...	9.6	6.6	7.3	4.2	15.8	-1.6	-4.9	-5.2	2.4	-1.2
Total Criminal Code											
number	109,006	107,698	109,889	115,962	126,549	142,316	135,282	126,887	119,625	120,663	117,773
rate	4,797	4,764	4,885	5,164	5,599	6,229	5,842	5,420	5,067	5,056	4,874
% change in rate	...	-0.7	2.6	5.7	8.4	11.2	-6.2	-7.2	-6.5	-0.2	-3.6

¹ Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 youths. The population estimates are provided by Statistics Canada, Census and Demographic Statistics, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: revised intercensal estimates from 1986 to 1990, final postcensal estimates for 1991 and 1992, updated postcensal estimates for 1993, 1994 and 1995, preliminary postcensal for 1996.

^r Revised.

... Figures not appropriate.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 5

Selected Criminal Code Incidents, Canada and the Provinces/Territories, 1996¹

	Nfld.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Qc	Ont.	Man. ²	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Yukon	N.W.T.	Canada
Population, 1996	570,700	137,300	942,800	762,500	7,389,100	11,252,400	1,143,500	1,022,500	2,789,500	3,855,100	31,500	66,600	29,963,600
Homicide													
number	7	1	18	9	153	187	45	31	53	125	0	4	633
rate	1.2	0.7	1.9	1.2	2.1	1.7	3.9	3.0	1.9	3.2	0.0	6.0	2.1
% change in rate*	41.4	-1.2	11.9	-35.9	12.6	1.9	65.7	46.8	-11.4	1.7	-100.0	31.7	6.4
Sexual Assault (1,2,3)													
number	801	165	1,151	986	3,258	9,366	1,438	1,462	2,999	4,612	89	435	26,762
rate	140	120	122	129	44	83	126	143	108	120	283	653	89
% change in rate	-11.5	-3.0	-3.1	-16.8	-1.9	-6.5	4.7	-6.8	-5.5	-8.9	-31.5	0.2	-6.1
Assault (1,2,3)													
number	4,249	898	8,433	5,273	30,879	76,909	12,658	10,128	20,666	42,037	850	2,673	215,653
rate	745	654	894	692	418	683	1,107	991	741	1,090	2,698	4,014	720
% change in rate	14.9	13.1	3.4	4.3	-4.9	-5.0	-1.2	4.2	0.4	1.2	0.8	-0.6	-1.6
Robbery													
number	52	17	433	202	9,799	9,413	1,838	803	2,328	6,305	15	37	31,242
rate	9	12	46	26	133	84	161	79	83	164	48	56	104
% change in rate	-17.9	-40.0	41.7	47.0	4.5	-3.0	-7.4	20.1	8.4	2.6	-15.1	-13.0	2.1
Violent crime - Total													
number	5,531	1,118	10,548	6,903	48,391	101,413	16,897	13,563	27,938	54,784	1,000	3,351	291,437
rate	969	814	1,119	905	655	901	1,478	1,326	1,002	1,421	3,175	5,032	973
% change in rate	-8.5	8.4	2.5	-0.3	-2.7	-5.1	-1.9	3.3	0.2	0.3	-3.5	-1.0	-2.2
Breaking & Entering													
number	4,223	1,091	9,502	6,882	106,286	120,469	16,532	18,433	31,326	78,622	760	1,959	396,085
rate	740	795	1,008	903	1,438	1,071	1,446	1,803	1,123	2,039	2,413	2,941	1,322
% change in rate	8.7	-1.5	7.0	2.5	3.1	-3.6	-0.4	1.2	-0.3	1.4	-5.8	-2.2	0.2
Motor Vehicle Theft													
number	553	209	2,409	1,492	48,071	58,419	10,231	6,494	14,321	35,747	188	446	178,580
rate	97	152	256	196	651	519	895	635	513	927	597	670	596
% change in rate	17.1	-11.4	33.3	3.8	11.5	0.7	6.6	21.9	12.3	18.2	-17.4	-6.2	9.2
Other Theft													
number	8,790	2,828	21,600	13,423	155,905	299,249	32,148	31,629	78,855	201,372	1,484	2,246	849,529
rate	1,540	2,060	2,291	1,760	2,110	2,659	2,811	3,093	2,827	5,222	4,711	3,372	2,835
% change in rate	13.6	1.5	-4.3	-2.7	3.1	-7.0	-7.7	1.9	-3.7	-0.3	-6.5	-2.3	-2.6
Property crime - Total													
number	15,425	4,813	37,880	25,174	331,742	527,119	63,779	64,323	141,120	336,869	2,615	4,941	1,555,800
rate	2,703	3,505	4,018	3,302	4,490	4,685	5,578	6,291	5,059	8,738	8,302	7,419	5,192
% change in rate	11.5	-3.8	-0.2	0.9	4.5	-5.3	-4.2	2.7	-2.3	1.6	-8.9	-3.3	-0.8
Offensive weapons													
number	167	44	496	341	1,279	6,567	1,127	776	2,063	3,048	60	164	16,132
rate	29	32	53	45	17	58	99	76	74	79	190	246	54
% change in rate	-10.3	40.2	-14.2	30.3	-13.2	-11.9	-2.7	-3.7	-9.3	-6.2	-11.2	-21.3	-8.9
Mischief													
number	5,430	1,878	12,862	7,728	63,687	125,727	21,172	16,498	34,853	70,520	915	2,751	364,021
rate	951	1,368	1,364	1,014	862	1,117	1,852	1,613	1,249	1,829	2,905	4,131	1,215
% change in rate	9.3	16.1	7.1	-0.7	7.9	-11.2	-4.3	4.1	-2.6	-12.3	15.2	19.7	-5.2
Other Criminal Code - Total													
number	12,872	4,316	30,311	18,873	130,242	265,292	40,491	41,075	79,238	144,894	2,686	6,621	776,911
rate	2,255	3,143	3,215	2,475	1,763	2,358	3,541	4,017	2,841	3,759	8,527	9,941	2,593
% change in rate	19.7	12.8	11.2	-0.4	-2.4	-7.3	-4.0	4.6	-0.4	-3.4	10.7	-12.6	-3.0
CRIMINAL CODE - TOTAL - without traffic crime													
number	33,828	10,247	78,739	50,950	510,375	893,824	121,167	118,961	248,296	536,547	6,301	14,913	2,624,148
rate	5,927	7,463	8,352	6,682	6,907	7,943	10,596	11,634	8,901	13,918	20,003	22,392	8,758
% change in rate	10.4	3.9	4.3	0.2	1.9	-5.9	-3.8	3.4	-1.3	0.1	-0.5	-7.2	-1.6

* In comparison to the 1995 rate.

¹ Excludes traffic crimes.

Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. The population estimates are provided by Statistics Canada, Census and Demographic Statistics, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: preliminary postcensal estimates for 1996.

² Winnipeg Police have recently discovered an under-recording of minor offences that has been occurring in recent years, the magnitude of which has not yet been determined.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 6a.

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	% change 1991 to 1996
Toronto	1,081	996	1,010	962	909	824	
% change	...	-7.9	1.4	-4.7	-5.5	-9.4	-23.8
Montréal	1,018	1,043	965	960	858	839	
% change	...	2.5	-7.5	-0.5	-10.7	-2.2	-17.5
Vancouver	1,350	1,425	1,397	1,319	1,297	1,325	
% change	...	5.5	-2.0	-5.6	-1.7	2.2	-1.9
Edmonton	1,305	1,283	1,184	961	924	922	
% change	...	-1.7	-7.7	-18.8	-3.9	-0.2	-29.3
Calgary	1,097	880	823	832	739	769	
% change	...	-19.7	-6.5	1.2	-11.2	4.1	-29.9
Ottawa	1,060	1,122	1,179	1,019	988	911	
% change	...	5.8	5.1	-13.6	-3.0	-7.8	-14.1
Québec	577	574	564	601	579	539	
% change	...	-0.5	-1.7	6.6	-3.7	-6.9	-6.5
Winnipeg²	949	1,128	1,270	1,289	1,196	1,137	
% change	...	18.9	12.6	1.5	-7.2	-4.9	19.9
Hamilton	1,060	1,163	1,125	1,112	1,139	1,131	
% change	...	9.7	-3.3	-1.2	2.3	-0.7	6.7

¹ Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population.

Based on population estimates provided by Statistics Canada, Census and Demography Statistics, Demography Division.

Populations as of July 1st: final postcensal estimates for 1991 and 1992; updated postcensal estimates for 1993, 1994 and 1995; preliminary postcensal estimates for 1996.

² Winnipeg Police have recently discovered an under-recording of minor offences that has been occurring in recent years, the magnitude of which has not yet been determined. ... Figures not appropriate.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 6b.

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	% change 1991 to 1996
Toronto	5,608	5,118	4,839	4,495	4,494	4,277	
% change	...	-8.8	-5.4	-7.1	0.0	-5.0	-23.7
Montréal	6,814	6,416	5,884	5,326	5,144	5,351	
% change	...	-5.8	-8.3	-9.5	-3.5	4.0	-21.5
Vancouver	10,233	10,008	9,575	9,477	10,050	10,494	
% change	...	-2.2	-4.3	-1.0	6.0	4.4	2.6
Edmonton	8,934	8,075	6,701	5,589	5,277	5,219	
% change	...	-9.6	-17.0	-16.6	-5.6	-1.1	-41.6
Calgary	8,026	7,689	6,930	5,841	5,376	5,384	
% change	...	-4.2	-9.9	-15.7	-8.0	0.1	-32.9
Ottawa	6,731	6,620	6,756	6,813	7,072	5,940	
% change	...	-1.6	2.1	0.8	3.8	-16.0	-11.8
Québec	5,596	5,234	4,671	4,042	4,129	4,380	
% change	...	-6.5	-10.8	-13.5	2.1	6.1	-21.7
Winnipeg²	7,234	6,810	7,103	7,383	6,656	6,272	
% change	...	-5.9	4.3	3.9	-9.9	-5.8	-13.3
Hamilton	5,534	5,256	5,644	5,078	5,060	4,770	
% change	...	-5.0	7.4	-10.0	-0.4	-5.7	-13.8

¹ Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population.

Based on population estimates provided by Statistics Canada, Census and Demography Statistics, Demography Division.

Populations as of July 1st: final postcensal estimates for 1991 and 1992; updated postcensal estimates for 1993, 1994 and 1995; preliminary postcensal estimates for 1996.

² Winnipeg Police have recently discovered an under-recording of minor offences that has been occurring in recent years, the magnitude of which has not yet been determined. ... figures not appropriate.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 7


Selected Criminal Code Incidents for Major Census Metropolitan Areas, 1996¹

	Toronto	Montréal	Vancouver	Edmonton	Calgary	Ottawa	Québec	Winnipeg ²	Hamilton
Population, 1996	4,410,269	3,365,160	1,883,679	890,771	853,711	781,147	699,035	680,285	657,230
Homicide									
number	79	71	56	20	12	11	15	28	10
rate	1.8	2.1	3.0	2.2	1.4	1.4	2.1	4.1	1.5
% change in rate *	5.2	-8.6	-14.9	4.6	-35.0	-54.8	272.1	74.3	-42.4
Sexual assault (1,2,3)									
number	2,487	1,487	1,597	932	562	537	300	407	650
rate	57	44	84	105	66	69	43	60	99
% change in rate	-9.9	-3.7	-3.1	-6.6	-3.8	-19.1	6.7	-3.5	1.3
Assault (1,2,3)									
number	26,523	17,016	17,705	5,615	4,711	5,356	2,449	5,101	6,082
rate	601	506	939	630	552	686	350	750	925
% change in rate	-10.2	-5.8	2.4	-2.7	6.1	-6.1	-11.1	-4.8	-0.0
Robbery									
number	5,849	7,710	4,929	1,165	900	954	759	1,713	525
rate	133	229	262	131	105	122	109	252	80
% change in rate	-4.4	4.3	3.5	16.9	2.1	-7.2	2.7	-7.8	-1.6
Violent crime - Total									
number	36,327	28,248	24,956	8,215	6,564	7,113	3,769	7,735	7,433
rate	824	839	1,325	922	769	911	539	1,137	1,131
% change in rate	-9.4	-2.8	2.2	-0.2	4.0	-7.8	-7.0	-4.9	-0.7
Break & enter									
number	36,300	50,507	47,272	10,750	10,380	11,369	10,723	10,148	6,674
rate	823	1,501	2,510	1,207	1,216	1,455	1,534	1,492	1,015
% change in rate	-4.1	0.2	3.0	-2.1	4.3	-15.9	17.1	-2.6	2.6
Motor vehicle theft									
number	22,733	31,211	25,077	4,957	5,666	6,519	3,040	8,450	6,039
rate	515	927	1,331	556	664	835	435	1,242	919
% change in rate	16.0	11.8	19.4	31.7	4.7	-16.4	-0.0	5.2	-5.2
Other theft									
number	114,460	87,560	116,858	25,636	25,904	25,453	15,008	22,023	16,882
rate	2,595	2,602	6,204	2,878	3,034	3,258	2,147	3,237	2,569
% change in rate	-7.4	3.5	2.4	-5.0	-0.5	-14.2	1.0	-9.5	-9.6
Property crime - Total									
number	188,621	180,068	197,666	46,492	45,966	46,397	30,619	42,669	31,347
rate	4,277	5,351	10,494	5,219	5,384	5,940	4,380	6,272	4,770
% change in rate	-4.8	4.0	4.4	-1.5	0.1	-14.9	6.1	-5.8	-5.7
Offensive weapons									
number	1,503	483	1,233	435	313	351	88	401	218
rate	34	14	65	49	37	45	13	59	33
% change in rate	-16.5	-15.8	-1.3	-8.2	-10.6	-10.0	58.7	0.6	0.1
Mischief -									
number	38,341	32,089	31,322	10,174	8,550	9,851	6,338	11,454	6,610
rate	869	953	1,663	1,142	1,002	1,261	907	1,684	1,006
% change in rate	-14.4	10.6	-12.2	-0.4	-5.1	-21.3	6.8	-13.0	-14.8
Other Criminal Code - Total /									
number	80,248	60,259	57,440	21,625	14,424	19,862	10,338	16,459	13,974
rate	1,820	1,791	3,049	2,428	1,690	2,543	1,479	2,419	2,126
% change in rate	-10.9	2.4	-2.8	-0.3	-3.1	-14.4	6.5	-9.5	-8.6
CRIMINAL CODE - TOTAL -									
excluding Traffic									
number	305,196	268,515	280,062	76,332	66,954	73,372	44,726	66,863	52,754
rate	6,920	7,979	14,868	8,569	7,843	9,393	6,398	9,829	8,027
% change in rate	-7.0	2.9	2.7	-1.0	-0.3	-14.1	4.9	-6.6	-5.8

* Compared to the 1995 rate.


¹ Comparable data for all police services is available upon request. Rates are calculated based on 100,000 populations. The estimates are based on populations from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

The intercensal estimates match the jurisdictional boundaries of the police department.

² Winnipeg Police have recently discovered an under-recording of minor offences that has been occurring in recent years, the magnitude of which has not yet been determined.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 8



Population Estimates of Canada and the Provinces/Territories, 1986 to 1996

Year	Nfld.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Qc	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Yukon	N.W.T.	Canada
thousands													
1986													
Total	578.1	128.8	892.1	727.7	6,733.8	9,477.2	1,094.0	1,032.9	2,438.7	3,020.4	24.8	55.4	26,203.8
Adult (18+)	394.8	93.0	659.2	528.2	5,089.2	7,131.1	803.4	735.6	1,757.0	2,280.8	17.5	34.4	19,524.3
Youth (12-17)	70.0	12.7	84.4	72.3	545.2	818.5	99.3	95.0	215.1	251.6	2.3	6.4	2,272.4
1987													
Total	576.5	129.0	896.3	730.5	6,805.9	9,684.9	1,100.5	1,036.4	2,443.5	3,064.6	26.0	55.7	26,549.7
Adult (18+)	398.2	93.7	664.8	533.2	5,161.5	7,304.0	809.0	739.0	1,762.2	2,320.3	18.5	35.1	19,838.8
Youth (12-17)	68.3	12.4	83.3	72.0	545.3	818.0	98.8	94.0	212.3	248.0	2.3	6.2	2,260.9
1988													
Total	576.2	129.7	900.2	733.1	6,860.4	9,884.4	1,104.7	1,031.7	2,463.0	3,128.2	26.9	56.3	26,894.8
Adult (18+)	403.0	94.6	671.0	538.3	5,218.0	7,469.7	813.2	737.2	1,779.8	2,373.8	18.9	35.5	20,152.9
Youth (12-17)	67.4	12.2	82.0	71.4	545.5	814.3	98.0	93.4	210.5	246.5	2.3	6.1	2,249.5
1989													
Total	577.4	130.6	906.7	738.0	6,948.0	10,151.0	1,106.2	1,023.0	2,504.3	3,209.2	27.4	57.5	27,379.3
Adult (18+)	408.4	95.1	678.8	544.8	5,297.3	7,694.0	815.5	731.9	1,812.1	2,440.9	19.5	36.1	20,574.1
Youth (12-17)	65.7	12.1	79.9	70.6	551.2	811.1	96.6	92.7	210.6	247.0	2.3	6.0	2,245.7
1990													
Total	578.9	131.0	912.5	743.0	7,020.7	10,341.4	1,108.4	1,010.8	2,556.4	3,300.1	28.0	59.4	27,790.6
Adult (18+)	413.7	95.1	685.6	551.3	5,352.9	7,838.8	816.9	723.2	1,849.2	2,510.5	19.8	37.4	20,895.4
Youth (12-17)	63.6	12.0	78.3	69.2	561.2	813.1	95.9	92.0	214.6	252.3	2.4	6.0	2,260.1
1991													
Total	580.3	130.8	917.9	748.5	7,080.6	10,471.5	1,112.5	1,006.3	2,601.3	3,379.8	29.1	61.3	28,120.1
Adult (18+)	419.2	95.4	691.8	558.4	5,395.7	7,935.7	820.4	721.0	1,882.1	2,572.0	20.9	38.4	21,151.2
Youth (12-17)	61.4	11.9	77.2	67.9	573.4	817.8	95.5	92.1	219.4	259.5	2.4	6.2	2,284.8
1992													
Total	583.4	131.6	924.6	753.0	7,161.2	10,646.4	1,117.6	1,008.0	2,646.8	3,476.9	30.3	62.6	28,542.2
Adult (18+)	426.1	96.4	698.9	565.0	5,460.8	8,077.8	825.6	723.9	1,917.1	2,650.8	21.6	39.1	21,502.9
Youth (12-17)	59.8	11.8	76.6	66.8	586.3	826.6	94.8	92.3	224.5	267.1	2.4	6.4	2,315.8
1993													
Total	584.2	133.2	930.4	755.5	7,238.6	10,815.4	1,124.1	1,010.8	2,686.0	3,574.6	30.4	63.7	28,946.8
Adult (18+)	431.3	97.9	705.8	570.2	5,531.2	8,212.4	832.3	727.8	1,950.0	2,730.4	21.8	39.8	21,851.0
Youth (12-17)	58.1	11.8	76.0	65.4	593.2	836.4	94.3	92.9	229.7	274.6	2.5	6.4	2,341.2
1994													
Total	581.2	134.6	933.9	757.7	7,288.8	10,937.1	1,129.5	1,012.2	2,715.6	3,670.8	29.7	64.7	29,255.6
Adult (18+)	433.5	99.3	711.1	575.0	5,581.0	8,307.5	837.6	730.4	1,977.3	2,808.3	21.3	40.5	22,122.9
Youth (12-17)	56.0	11.9	75.0	64.3	596.0	843.7	94.1	93.6	234.3	283.1	2.4	6.5	2,360.9
1995													
Total	576.6	135.6	937.8	760.2	7,343.2	11,097.5	1,136.8	1,016.6	2,752.1	3,762.9	30.3	65.8	29,615.3
Adult (18+)	433.7	100.4	716.0	580.0	5,640.6	8,436.7	843.9	735.8	2,010.4	2,884.3	21.8	41.3	22,444.7
Youth (12-17)	54.6	12.0	75.3	63.5	591.8	859.3	94.7	94.7	240.1	291.7	2.7	6.7	2,386.4
1996													
Total	570.7	137.3	942.8	762.5	7,389.1	11,252.4	1,143.5	1,022.5	2,789.5	3,855.1	31.5	66.6	29,963.6
Adult (18+)	432.3	102.1	721.4	584.1	5,696.4	8,560.8	849.6	741.9	2,044.3	2,960.7	22.6	41.9	22,758.2
Youth (12-17)	53.4	12.0	76.0	63.1	587.3	877.0	95.3	95.9	246.7	300.7	3.0	6.7	2,416.5

Source: Statistics Canada, Census and Demographic Statistics, Demography Division. 1986-1990: Revised intercensal estimates at July 1st; 1991-1992: final postcensal estimates at July 1st; 1993-1995: updated postcensal estimates at July 1st; 1996: preliminary postcensal estimates at July 1st.

Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics

For further information, please contact the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, 19th floor, R.H. Coats Building, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6 at **(613) 951-9023** or call **toll-free 1 800 387-2231**. To order a publication, you may telephone (613) 951-7277 or fax (613) 951-1584 or internet: order@statcan.ca. You may also call 1 800 267-6677 (Canada and United States) toll-free. If you order by telephone, written confirmation is not required.

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