The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, October 23, 2008

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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Juristat: A new online publication

Today, Statistics Canada launches a new online edition of Juristat.

This publication, which will be released five times a year, is a source of analysis and data on issues relating to Canada's justice system. The publication will also serve as a key point of access to other Statistics Canada crime and justice related data and analysis. Each edition of *Juristat* features multiple articles exploring a range of justice related issues.

Today's inaugural electronic issue of *Juristat* features two articles.

"Homicide in Canada, 2007" is an examination of annual data on the characteristics of homicide incidents, international comparisons of homicide, gang-related homicides, firearm-related homicides, youth homicide and family (including spousal) homicides.

"Remand in adult corrections and sentencing patterns" discusses changes in sentencing patterns in relation to the number of adults held in remand (pre-trial detention) and the length of remand stays.

The first issue of the electronic format of *Juristat*, Vol. 28, no. 9 (85-002-XWE, free) is now available online. From the *Publications* module of our website, under *Free Internet publications*, choose *Crime and justice*, then *Juristat*.

For more information, contact Information and Client Services (toll-free 1-800-387-2231; 613-951-9023), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.





Releases

Homicides

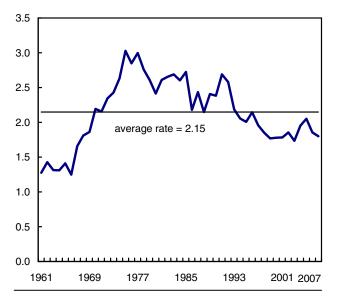
2007

Police reported 594 homicides in Canada in 2007, 12 fewer than in 2006. Stabbings accounted for one-third of the homicides in 2007 and another third involved the use of a firearm. Handguns were used in two-thirds of all firearm homicides, primarily in urban areas. Police reported that one in five homicides were gang-related.

After rising through much of the 1960s and early 1970s, Canada's homicide rate has been on a general downward trend since the mid-1970s. This trend continued in 2007 with a further 3% decline in the national homicide rate.

Homicide rate, 1961 to 2007

rate per 100,000 population



Note to readers

Aggregate statistics on homicide for 2007 were first released in The Daily on July 17, 2008, as part of a wide-ranging analysis of police-reported crime. This report represents a more detailed examination of the police-reported homicide data.

The Criminal Code classifies homicide as first degree murder, second degree murder, manslaughter or infanticide. Deaths caused by criminal negligence, suicide, and accidental or justifiable homicide are not included.

For the past 20 years, shootings and stabbings have each accounted for about one-third of all homicides. This was also the case in 2007, as there were 190 stabbings and 188 shootings.

While the overall rate of homicides committed with a firearm has generally been decreasing since the mid-1970s, the use of handguns has been on the rise. In 2007, handguns were used in two-thirds of all firearm homicides, up from about one-quarter 20 years ago.

Police reported that one in five homicides were gang-related in 2007. Gang-related homicides have been increasing since this information was first collected in 1991.

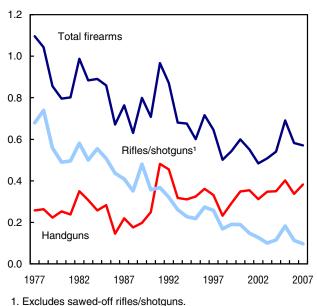
Use of handguns to commit homicide on the rise

In 2007, 126 homicides were committed with a handgun, 16 more than in 2006. The rate of homicides committed with a handgun has more than doubled over the past 20 years. At the same time, the use of rifles/shotguns to commit homicide continues to decline.

Homicides committed with handguns are primarily an urban phenomenon. Within the nation's metropolitan areas, 81% of all firearm-related homicides were committed with a handgun in 2007, compared with 29% in the rest of Canada.

Rate of firearm homicides, 1977 to 2007

rate per 100,000 population



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Gang-related homicides continue to increase

Gang-related homicides, which include the killing of gang members as well as innocent bystanders, have been increasing since this information was first collected in 1991.

In 2007, there were 117 homicides reported as gang-related by police, 16 more than in 2006. This accounted for about 1 in every 5 homicides reported to police.

Firearms were used more often in gang-related homicides than in other types of murder. In 2007, just over two-thirds of gang-related homicides were committed with a firearm, compared with about 20% of homicides that did not involve gangs.

Youth homicides drop in 2007

After reaching an all-time high in 2006, the rate of youth accused of homicide dropped in 2007. There were 74 youth accused of homicide, 11 fewer than in 2006. However, this still resulted in the second highest youth homicide rate since data were first collected in 1961.

Youth homicides often involve gangs. In 2007, of all homicides in which a youth was involved as an accused person, about one-third were reported by police as gang-related.

Most victims knew their killer

As in most years, in 2007, over 80% of solved homicides were committed by someone known to the victim. However, there are differences between male and female victims.

Male homicide victims were most likely to be killed by an acquaintance, someone known to them through a criminal relationship or a stranger. In contrast, female homicide victims were most frequently killed by a current or former intimate partner, or other family member.

Male victims killed by acquaintances, female victims killed by partners

| Victim killed by | Male | Female | Total |
|---|---------|---------|---------|
| | victims | victims | victims |
| Spouse Other family member Boyfriend/girlfriend Acquaintance Criminal relationship Stranger | 5 | % | 16 |
| | 15 | 38 | 17 |
| | 3 | 23 | 4 |
| | 40 | 5 | 33 |
| | 18 | 18 | 15 |
| | 20 | 8 | 16 |

Homicide rates highest in the West and North

The western provinces and the territories have consistently reported the highest homicide rates in the country.

Last year was no exception as Manitoba reported the highest homicide rate among the provinces, followed by Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador continued to report the lowest rates.

Manitoba police reported 62 homicides, 23 more than in 2006, giving the province its highest rate since data were first available in 1961. Most of the increase occurred in small urban and rural areas of the province.

However, other provinces reported much lower than average rates. British Columbia's homicide rate was the second lowest in that province since 1961, while Quebec's homicide rate was at its lowest point in over 40 years.

Among the larger metropolitan areas, Winnipeg, Edmonton, and Calgary had the highest homicide rates. Saskatoon, although a smaller metropolitan area, reported the highest homicide rate of all cities (3.60 homicides per 100,000 population).

Toronto police reported 111 homicides in 2007, almost one-fifth of the national total. However, after taking population into account, the Toronto homicide rate is similar to that of other large Canadian cities.

Available on CANSIM: tables 253-0001 to 253-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3315.

The *Juristat* article "Homicide in Canada, 2007," Vol. 28, no. 9 (85-002-XWE, free), is now available. From the *Publications* module of our website, under

Free Internet publications, choose Crime and justice, then Juristat.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Information and Client Services (toll-free 1-800-387-2231; 613-951-9023), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

Gang-related homicides, and homicides committed with a firearm by census metropolitan area, greater than 500,000 population, 2007

| | Total homicides | | Firearm homicides | | Gang-related homicides | |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------|-------------------|-------|------------------------|-------|
| | number | rate1 | number | rate1 | number | rate1 |
| Winnipeg | 26 | 3.55 | 5 | 0.68 | 5 | 0.68 |
| Edmonton | 36 | 3.28 | 13 | 1.19 | 16 | 1.46 |
| Calgary | 36 | 3.14 | 7 | 0.61 | 4 | 0.35 |
| Vancouver | 55 | 2.41 | 24 | 1.05 | 19 | 0.83 |
| Toronto | 111 | 2.01 | 54 | 0.98 | 23 | 0.42 |
| Montréal | 59 | 1.58 | 22 | 0.59 | 20 | 0.54 |
| Ottawa ² | 14 | 1.57 | 5 | 0.56 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Hamilton | 11 | 1.56 | 2 | 0.28 | 3 | 0.42 |
| Québec | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 |

^{1.} Rates are calculated per 100,000 population.

Homicides by province/territory

| | 2007 | | 2006 ^r | | 1997 to 2006 | | |
|---------------------------|--------|-------|-------------------|-------|----------------|---------------|--|
| | number | rate1 | number | rate1 | average number | average rate1 | |
| Canada | 594 | 1.80 | 606 | 1.86 | 581 | 1.86 | |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 3 | 0.59 | 7 | 1.37 | 5 | 0.95 | |
| Prince Edward Island | 0 | 0.00 | 1 | 0.72 | 1 | 0.73 | |
| Nova Scotia | 13 | 1.39 | 16 | 1.71 | 15 | 1.63 | |
| New Brunswick | 8 | 1.07 | 7 | 0.93 | 8 | 1.07 | |
| Quebec | 90 | 1.17 | 93 | 1.22 | 122 | 1.64 | |
| Ontario | 201 | 1.57 | 196 | 1.54 | 178 | 1.49 | |
| Manitoba | 62 | 5.22 | 39 | 3.31 | 37 | 3.21 | |
| Saskatchewan | 30 | 3.01 | 42 | 4.25 | 32 | 3.15 | |
| Alberta | 88 | 2.53 | 95 | 2.82 | 74 | 2.39 | |
| British Columbia | 88 | 2.01 | 108 | 2.50 | 103 | 2.50 | |
| Yukon | 2 | 6.45 | 0 | 0.00 | 2 | 5.52 | |
| Northwest Territories | 2 | 4.69 | 0 | 0.00 | 3 | 5.55 | |
| Nunavut ² | 7 | 22.50 | 2 | 6.58 | 3 | 9.11 | |

revised

^{2.} Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa-Gatineau CMA.

^{1.} Rates are calculated per 100,000 population.

^{2.} The average in Nunavut is calculated from 1999 to 2006.

Electric utility construction price indexes

Annual 2007 (revised) and the first half 2008 (preliminary)

Construction costs for distribution systems increased by 2.7% during the first half of 2008. The increase in the labour and the construction indirects components for this period were the major contributors to this change. Costs for distribution systems in 2007 increased 4.4% over 2006.

Construction costs for the transmission line system series rose 2.8% during the first half of 2008 compared with a 4.7% increase for all of 2007. The transmission line component climbed 3.4% during the same period in 2008, while in 2007 there was a 3.9% annual gain. The substation component rose by 2.4% in the first half of 2008, following a 5.1% increase in 2007, with the construction indirects (+6.4%) posting the largest gain.

Available on CANSIM: table 327-0011.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2316.

The second quarter 2008 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-XWE, free) will soon be available.

For more information, to enquire or about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release. contact Client Services 1-866-230-2248; (toll-free 613-951-9606: fax: 613-951-1539; prices-prix@statcan.gc.ca) or Adrian Fisher (613-951-9612; adrian.fisher@statcan.gc.ca), Prices Division.

Aircraft movement statistics: Major airports

September 2008

Aircraft take-offs and landings at Canadian airports with NAV CANADA air traffic control towers and flight service stations increased by 5.9% in September compared with September 2007. These 95 airports reported 590,174 movements in September compared with 557,040 movements in September 2007.

Available on CANSIM: tables 401-0007 to 401-0020.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2715.

The September 2008 issue of Aircraft Movement Statistics: NAVCANADATowers and Flight Service Stations (TP 141) (51-007-XWE, free) is now available from the Publications module of our website. This report is a joint publication of Statistics Canada and Transport Canada.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; transportationstatistics@statcan.gc.ca), Transportation Division.

Atlantic Canada community colleges enrolments and graduates

2005/2006

Full-time enrolment in community colleges in the Atlantic provinces totalled 20,400 in the 2005/2006 academic year, equal to the number recorded in 2001/2002.

The number of graduates increased to 9,200 in 2004/2005, up 4.8% from 2001/2002.

Enrolments for the academic years 2000/2001 through to 2005/2006 and the numbers of graduates for 1999/2000 through to 2004/2005, for the five major colleges and related institutions in Atlantic Canada are now available. Data for the remainder of the country will be available in the spring of 2009.

Note: These data are obtained using information from the Postsecondary Student Information System and the Community College Student Information System. Counts refer to career and technical programs along with university transfer and related programs. Data for the New Brunswick Community Colleges enrolments 2005/2006 have been estimated.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5017.

For more information, to order data, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-307-3382; 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-4441; educationstats@statcan.gc.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

New products

Canadian Economic Observer, October 2008, Vol. 21, no. 10

Catalogue number 11-010-XPB (\$25/\$243).

General Review of the Mineral Industries, Mines, Quarries and Sand Pits, 2006 Catalogue number 26-201-XIB (free).

Aircraft Movement Statistics: NAV CANADA Towers and Flight Service Stations (TP 141), September 2008 Catalogue number 51-007-XWE (free).

Retail Trade, August 2008, Vol. 80, no. 8 **Catalogue number 63-005-XWE** (free).

Juristat, Vol. 28, no. 9 Catalogue number 85-002-XWE (free).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

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Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE

Published each working day by the Communications and library Services Division, Statistics Canada, 10G, R.H. Coats Building, 100 Tunney's Pasture Driveway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

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