

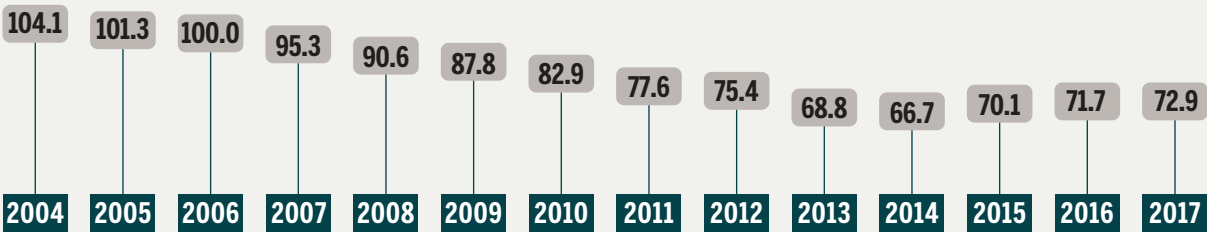
# Police-reported Crime in Canada, 2017



Canada's crime rate:  
Number of Criminal Code incidents (excluding traffic) per 100,000 population

5,334

The **Crime Severity Index (CSI)**<sup>1</sup> was 2% higher in 2017 than in 2016, marking the third consecutive increase after 11 years of declines. The rise in Canada's CSI in 2017 was the result of increases in numerous offences most notably, sexual assault (level 1), possession of stolen property, motor vehicle theft, and homicide.



Among census metropolitan areas, the five largest increases and decreases in the CSI<sup>1</sup> were:

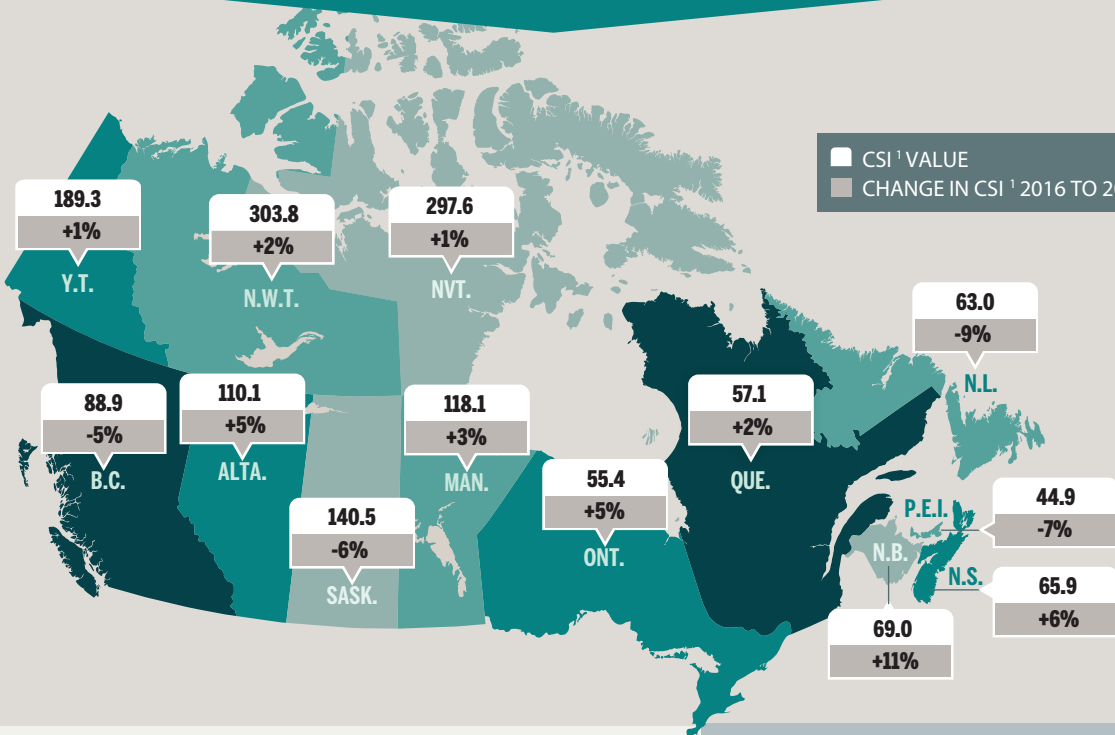
## Top 5 increases

- Greater Sudbury +25%
- Moncton +15%
- Guelph +15%
- Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo +14%
- St. Catharines-Niagara +12%

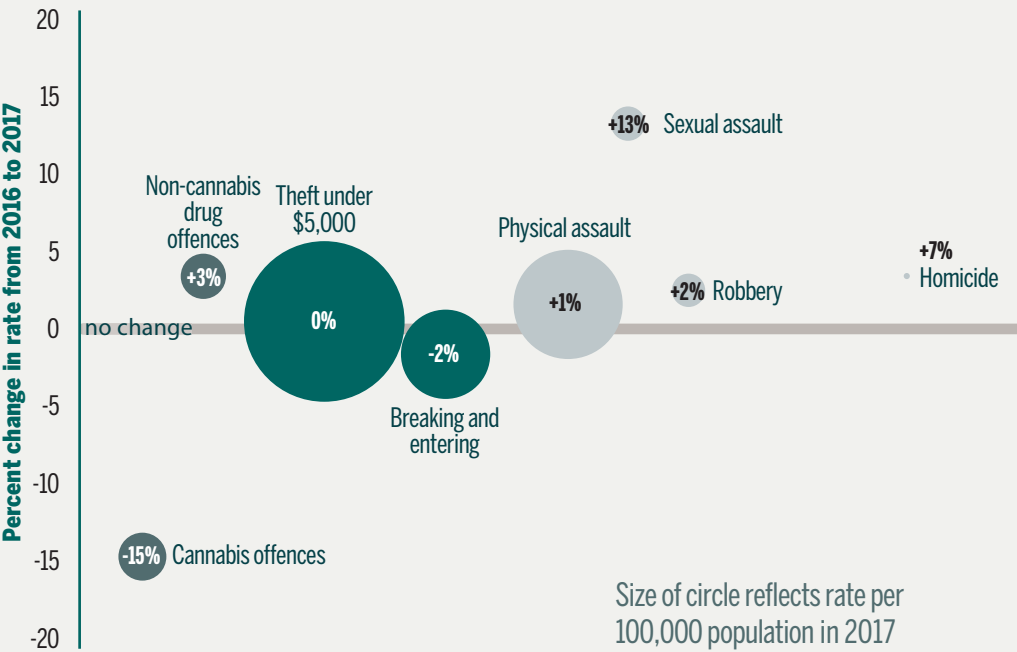
## Top 5 decreases

- St. John's -15%
- Regina -11%
- Vancouver -6%
- Peterborough -3%
- Victoria -3%

In 2017, nine provinces and territories reported higher CSIs<sup>1</sup> and four reported declines



## Year-over-year percent change for selected offences



Prior to legalization, cannabis offences declined for the 6th year in a row

-15%

#METOO

In a year of discussion around sexual misconduct, the police-reported rate of sexual assault increased

+13%

<sup>1</sup> While the crime rate measures the volume of criminal violations, the Crime Severity Index (CSI) is a measure of both the volume and severity of police-reported crime. To determine the severity of a crime, all crimes are assigned a weight based on actual sentences handed down by the courts in all provinces and territories. More serious crimes are assigned higher weights, while less serious crimes are assigned lower weights. As a result, more serious offences have a greater impact on changes in the index.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.  
"Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2017." *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

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