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MAJOR RELEASES

● Crime statistics, 1993

Canada's police-reported violent crime rate remained virtually unchanged in 1993, halting a decade of steady increases. Due primarily to a 6% drop in property crime, the overall crime rate fell 5%, the largest year-over-year decline since crime statistics were first collected in 1962.

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● Homicide statistics, 1993

Police reported 630 homicides in Canada in 1993, a drop of 102 (-14%) from 1992, and the second straight year-over-year decline. Ontario and Alberta accounted for most of the decrease in 1993, with a combined total of 92 fewer homicides.

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MAJOR RELEASES

Crime statistics

1993

Due primarily to a 6% drop in property crime, the nation's overall crime rate fell 5% in 1993, the second straight annual decline and the largest since statistics were first collected in 1962. The violent crime rate remained virtually unchanged (-0.2%) in 1993, following steady growth over the past 15 years which saw the rate increase by 87%.

In total, police reported 3.04 million Criminal Code and other federal statute incidents to the uniform crime reporting (UCR) survey in 1993. Over one-half (53%) of these incidents were property-related, while one in 10 were violent.

Between 1983 and 1989, the property crime rate decreased slightly (-6%). This was followed by sharp increases in both 1990 (+6%) and 1991 (+10%). The declines evident in 1992 and 1993 brought the property crime rate back to the range that prevailed before 1990.

From 1983 to 1989, the overall crime rate gradually increased from 8,440 to 8,860 per 100,000 population (+5%). The crime rate increased more rapidly during the following two years, by 7% in 1990 and 9% in 1991. Most recently, the crime rate decreased 3% in 1992 and 5% in 1993 resulting in an overall rate of 9,516 per 100,000 population, or 13% higher than the rate a decade ago.

Note to users

The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, in co-operation with the police community, annually releases information about the extent and nature of crime in our society. The uniform crime reporting (UCR) survey, the main vehicle for collecting statistics reported or known to the police, has been in existence since 1962.

In this text, the terms "crime" and "crime rate" refer to total police-reported Criminal Code incidents (excluding traffic), unless otherwise noted.

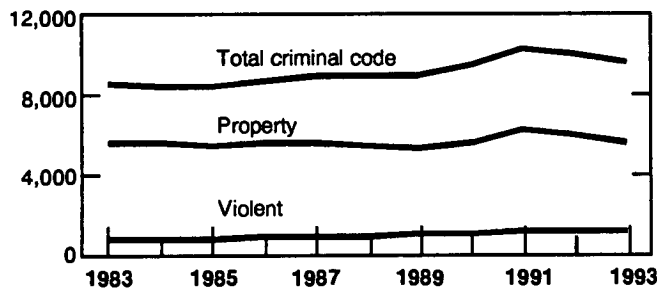
Violent crime levels off

The violent crime rate (1,079 incidents for every 100,000 people) remained virtually unchanged in Canada in 1993, dropping 0.2%. This decrease marks the first time since the mid-1970s that the violent crime rate has actually gone down. The rate had been increasing an average of 5% per year over the past decade.

Minor assaults (those not involving a weapon or serious physical injury) accounted for nearly 60% of the 310,187 violent crimes reported by police in 1993. The rate of minor assaults actually increased 2% between 1992 and 1993. The remaining categories of violent crime combined dropped 4%. Other violent offences which experienced a rate increase included assault with a weapon (+2%) and sexual assault (+0.5%).

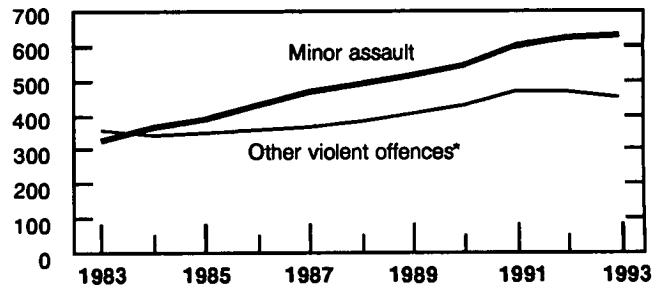
Overall crime rate, violent and property

Rate per 100,000 population



Minor assault and other violent offences*

Rate per 100,000 population



* Other violent offences include total violent offences minus minor assault.

The number of homicides tumbled from 732 in 1992 to 630 in 1993. The 1993 rate of 2.19 homicides per 100,000 population was 15% lower than the 1992 rate (2.57), and 27% lower than the peak rate (3.02) reported in 1975.

During the late 1960s and early 1970s, the homicide rate increased virtually every year, from 1.25 in 1966 to 3.02 in 1975. From 1975 to 1980, the rate declined, falling to 2.41. Since 1980, the homicide rate has remained relatively stable, ranging between 2.14 and 2.71 homicides per 100,000 population.

Other violent offences experiencing rate decreases between 1992 and 1993 included attempted murder (-7%), aggravated assault (-12%), sexual assault with a weapon (-9%), aggravated sexual assault (-11%), robbery (-11%), and abduction (-2%).

The revised UCR survey collects detailed information from 51 police departments, representing 30% of the national volume of reported crime. This survey showed that seven in 10 victims of violent crime in 1993 knew their assailant: 41% were acquaintances of the accused and 30% were family members. Weapons were shown in one-third of violent crimes in 1993: firearms (6%), knives (8%) and other weapons (17%). The type of weapon was unknown in 2% of cases.

Property and other criminal offences decreasing

The property crime rate (5,562 incidents per 100,000 population) decreased 6% in 1993, the second consecutive decline and the largest year-over-year drop since statistics were first collected in 1962. With these two recent decreases, the rate has returned to the same level as 10 years ago (1983 rate of 5,588 per 100,000 population).

Four of the six major categories of property crime showed a rate decrease in 1993: break and enter (-6%), theft over \$1,000 (-3%), theft \$1,000 and under (-8%), and fraud (-11%). However, the motor vehicle theft rate continued to rise (+6%). Possession of stolen goods also increased in 1993 (+13%).

The impaired driving rate decreased for the 10th consecutive year. The 92,539 persons charged with impaired driving offences in 1993 represented a rate of 49 per 10,000 licensed drivers, down 14% from 1992.

Most jurisdictions/major municipalities followed the national crime pattern

The historical pattern of rising crime rates from east to west generally held true in 1993, although Quebec's crime rate was lower than two of the Atlantic provinces.

The largest decreases in the crime rate were reported in Newfoundland (-10%), Alberta (-10%) and Nova Scotia (-9%). Only the Yukon (+7%), Manitoba (+4%) and New Brunswick (+2%) recorded increases in the crime rate in 1993.

While violent crime remained virtually unchanged nationally between 1992 and 1993, the violent crime rate rose in four jurisdictions: Manitoba (+10%), New Brunswick (+10%), British Columbia (+2%) and the Yukon (+1%). The increases in Manitoba and New Brunswick were primarily due to large increases in minor assaults: +15% in New Brunswick and +20% in Manitoba. The largest decreases in violent crime rate occurred in Prince Edward Island (-7%) and Quebec (-6%).

The property crime rate decreased in all but two jurisdictions: Manitoba (+3%) and the Yukon (+2%). Those increases were primarily the result of large increases in motor vehicle thefts: +110% in Manitoba and +59% in the Yukon. The largest decreases were reported in Newfoundland (-13%) and Alberta (-12%).

Canada's three major cities all reported a decrease in the crime rate: Toronto (-2%), Montréal (-6%) and Vancouver (-10%). The violent crime rate increased in Toronto (+4%), while dropping in Montréal (-6%) and Vancouver (-3%).

Youth crime down

This section uses "persons charged" data rather than "actual" offences as it is not possible to determine accused characteristics until police have laid a charge.

The rate of youths (aged 12 to 17) charged by police decreased 7% in 1993. The drop was due mainly to a large decline in the rate of youths charged with property crimes (-11%).

The rate of youths charged with violent crimes increased 6% in 1993. Violent crimes accounted for 17% of all crimes for which youths were charged, up from 15% in 1992 and 11% in 1991. By comparison, violent crimes accounted for 28% of all adults charged in 1993.

The Vol. 14, No. 14 issue of *Juristat service bulletin: Canadian crime statistics*, 1993 (85-002, \$5/\$60) is now available. See "How to order publications".

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

Police reported incidents, by most serious offence

Federal statutes Criminal code	1992		1993		1992 to 1993
	Number	Rate*	Number	Rate*	% change in rate
Violent crime	307,512	1,081.4	310,187	1,078.8	-0.2
Homicide	732	2.6	630	2.2	-14.9
Attempted murder	1,054	3.7	988	3.4	-7.3
Assaults	232,910	819.1	238,470	829.4	1.3
Sexual assaults	34,355	120.8	34,764	120.9	0.1
Other sexual offences	4,040	14.2	4,170	14.5	2.1
Abduction	1,220	4.3	1,204	4.2	-2.4
Robbery	33,201	116.8	29,961	104.2	-10.8
Property crime	1,674,773	5,889.7	1,599,250	5,562.0	-5.6
Breaking & entering	427,153	1,502.2	406,582	1,414.1	-5.9
Theft motor vehicle	146,801	516.3	156,811	545.4	5.6
Theft over \$1,000	120,063	422.2	117,758	409.6	-3.0
Theft \$1,000 and under	823,469	2,895.9	768,859	2,674.0	-7.7
Possession of stolen goods	31,551	111.0	36,186	125.9	13.4
Frauds	125,736	442.2	113,054	393.2	-11.1
Other criminal code	865,696	3,044.4	826,659	2,875.0	-5.6
Mischief	453,547	1,595.0	415,645	1,445.6	-9.4
Prostitution	10,137	35.6	8,520	29.6	-16.9
Arson	13,146	46.2	12,526	43.6	-5.8
Other	388,866	1,367.5	389,968	1,356.3	-0.8
Total criminal code excluding traffic	2,847,981	10,015.5	2,736,096	9,515.9	-5.0
Criminal code traffic	219,693	772.6	197,817	688.0	-11.0
Impaired Driving	121,753	428.2	108,831	378.5	-11.6
Other	97,940	344.4	88,986	309.5	-10.1
Total criminal code	3,067,674	10,788.1	2,933,913	10,203.9	-5.4
Drugs	58,881	207.1	56,811	197.6	-4.6
Other federal statutes	44,671	157.1	48,276	167.9	6.9
Total federal statutes	3,171,226	11,152.3	3,039,000	10,569.3	-5.2

* Rates are calculated based on 100,000 population.

Homicide statistics

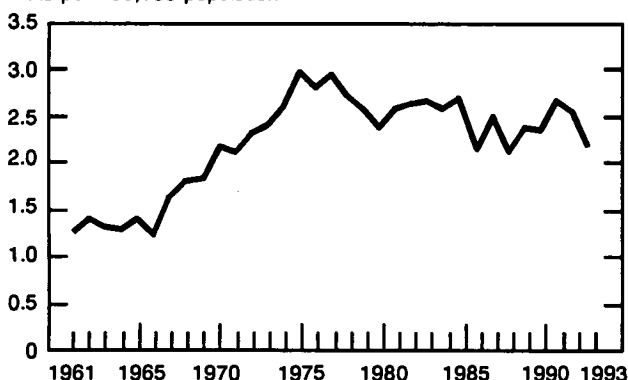
1993

In 1993, there were 630 homicides reported in Canada, a drop of 102 (-14%) from the 1992 total of 732. It was the second straight year that the number of homicides has declined.

The 1993 rate of 2.19 homicides per 100,000 population was 15% lower than the 1992 rate (2.57), and 27% lower than the peak rate (3.02) reported in 1975. During the late 1960s and early 1970s, the homicide rate increased virtually every year, from 1.25 in 1966 to 3.02 in 1975. From 1975 to 1980, the rate declined, falling to 2.41. Since 1980, the homicide rate has remained relatively stable, ranging between 2.14 and 2.71 homicides per 100,000 population.

Homicide rates

Rate per 100,000 population*



* As of 1971, population estimates were adjusted to reflect new methods of calculation.

In contrast, the United States experienced a 3% increase in the number of homicides between 1992 and 1993. The American homicide rate in 1993 was more than four times that of Canada.

In 1993, 35 youths aged 12 to 17 were accused of committing homicide, a 40% decline from the 58 youths accused in 1992.

Nine in 10 individuals accused of homicide in 1993 (87%) were male, consistent with the average over the past 10 years. Two-thirds of all homicide victims were male, also consistent with previous years.

In 1993, two police officers were victims of homicide while on duty, compared to one in 1992 and three in 1991.

Fewer individuals killed by handguns

Since 1979, shootings have accounted for approximately one-third of all homicides. In 1993, shootings comprised 31% of all homicides, down from 34% in 1992 and 36% in 1991. Handguns were used in 14% of homicides in 1993, down from 18% in each of the two previous years. In terms of actual numbers, 39 fewer individuals were killed by handguns in 1993.

Causes of death in homicides, 1993

	Percentage of all homicides
Shootings	30.6*
Handguns (14.3%)	
Rifles/shotguns (12.1%)	
Sawed-off rifles/shotguns (2.4%)	
Fully automatic firearms (1.7%)	
Stabbings	31.0
Beatings	18.5
Strangulation/suffocation	12.4
Arson	2.7
Other	3.7
Unknown	1.0
Total	100.0*

* The figures do not add up to the totals due to rounding

Most victims knew their killers

Homicides are far less likely to occur at the hands of a stranger than someone known to the victim. The proportion of homicides committed by strangers has remained relatively stable over the past 10 years, ranging from 12% to 18%. Of the homicides for which an accused was identified in 1993, 15% were committed by strangers, the same as in 1992. More than one-half of victims (51%) were killed by an acquaintance and one-third (33%) by an immediate family member or relative.

Police reported 87 spousal homicides in 1993, a drop of 17% from 105 in 1992. However, spousal homicides continued to account for approximately one out of every six solved homicides. Females were at a much higher risk than males of being killed by a spouse. Almost four in 10 female victims (39%) were killed by a spouse in 1993, compared to 7% of males.

Alberta's homicide rate lowest in 24 years

The large decrease in homicides in 1993 was primarily a result of large declines in both Ontario (49 fewer homicides than in 1992) and Alberta (43 fewer homicides). Alberta's 1993 homicide rate (1.84 per 100,000 population) was its lowest in 24 years. The number of homicides in Quebec fell from 166 in 1992 to 159 in 1993, giving the province its lowest rate (2.21) in 22 years. Only three provinces reported an increase in the number of homicides between 1992 and 1993: Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and Manitoba.

With the exception of Alberta and Ontario, rates generally followed the historical pattern of increasing from east to west. British Columbia recorded the highest provincial homicide rate (3.45) for the third consecutive year. Newfoundland reported the lowest provincial rate (1.20).

Of census metropolitan areas with populations of 500,000 and over, Vancouver reported the highest homicide rate (3.68 per 100,000 population), followed by Montreal (3.22) and Edmonton (3.09). Calgary (1.26) and Hamilton (1.27) reported the lowest rates. The 10 homicides reported in Calgary represented a substantial drop from 35 the year before.

The vol. 14, no. 15 issue of *Juristat service bulletin: homicide in Canada, 1993* (85-002, \$5/\$60) is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information, contact Information and Client Services (613-951-9023 or toll-free in Canada 1-800-387-2231), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. □

Homicides

Province/Territory	1993		1992	
	Number	Rate ¹	Number	Rate ¹
CANADA	630	2.19	732	2.57
Newfoundland	7	1.20	2	0.34
Prince Edward Island	2	1.52	0	0.00
Nova Scotia	19	2.06	21	2.28
New Brunswick	11	1.46	11	1.47
Quebec	159	2.21	166	2.32
Ontario	193	1.80	242	2.28
Manitoba	31	2.78	29	2.61
Saskatchewan	30	2.99	32	3.19
Alberta	49	1.84	92	3.49
British Columbia	122	3.45	122	3.53
Yukon	0	...	2	...
Northwest Territories	7	...	13	...

... Figures not applicable

¹ Rates are calculated per 100,000 population using updated postcensal estimates.

Homicides

Census metropolitan area	1993			1992	
	Population	Number	Rate ¹	Number	Rate ¹
	thousands				
500,000 + population					
Toronto	4,127.9	71	1.72	90	2.20
Montréal	3,260.1	105	3.22	105	3.24
Vancouver	1,709.8	63	3.68	61	3.64
Ottawa-Hull	994.3	16	1.61	13	1.33
Edmonton	874.2	27	3.09	33	3.81
Calgary	792.2	10	1.26	35	4.48
Winnipeg	667.5	17	2.55	13	1.95
Québec	680.6	13	1.91	6	0.89
Hamilton	629.4	8	1.27	12	1.92
Total	13,736.0	330	2.40	368	2.71
250,000 - 499,999 population					
London	406.6	6	1.48	10	2.49
St. Catharines-Niagara	384.7	6	1.56	11	2.89
Kitchener	382.1	8	2.09	7	1.86
Halifax	329.7	7	2.12	8	2.43
Victoria	305.0	7	2.30	5	1.67
Windsor	276.8	10	3.61	9	3.28
Oshawa	264.3	5	1.89	3	1.17
Total	2,349.2	49	2.09	53	2.29
100,000 - 249,999 population					
Saskatoon	214.8	6	2.79	7	3.26
Regina	195.9	4	2.04	4	2.05
St. John's	176.0	4	2.27	1	0.57
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	165.9	1	0.60	1	0.60
Sudbury	168.0	3	1.79	6	3.62
Sherbrooke	144.6	0	0.00	0	0.00
Trois-Rivières	141.8	4	2.82	0	0.00
Thunder Bay	130.4	5	3.83	7	5.39
Saint John	129.4	2	1.55	4	3.09
Total	1,466.8	29	1.98	30	2.05

¹ Rates are calculated per 100,000 population.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Production, shipments and stocks of sawmills in British Columbia

June 1994

Sawmills in British Columbia produced 3 054 913 cubic metres of lumber and ties in June 1994, a 4.9% increase from 2 913 076 cubic metres in June 1993.

From January to June 1994, production totalled 17 825 169 cubic metres, up 2.2% from 17 433 165 cubic metres in the same period of 1993.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 53 (series 1.2, 2.2 and 3.2).

The June 1994 issue of *Production, shipments and stocks on hand of sawmills in British Columbia* (35-003, \$8/\$80) will be available at a later date. See "How to order publications".

For further information, contact Ted Brown (604-666-3694), Statistics Canada, Pacific Region, Sinclair Centre, 757 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6C 3C9. ■

Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation

July 1994

Manufacturers shipped 1 550 258 square metres of R12 factor (RSI 2.1) mineral wool batts in July 1994, down 34.2% from the 2 354 327 square metres shipped in July 1993 and down 28.4% from the 2 165 642 square metres shipped in June 1994.

Year-to-date shipments to the end of July 1994 totalled 17 281 112 square metres, up 7.1% from the same period in 1993.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 40 and 122 (series 32 and 33).

The July 1994 issue of *Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation* (44-004, \$6/\$60) will be available at a later date. See "How to order publications".

For further information, contact Roland Joubert (613-951-3527), Industry Division. ■

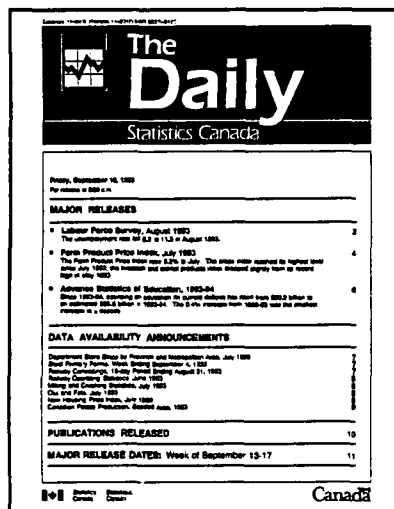
Processed fruits and vegetables

June 1994

Data on processed fruits and vegetables for June 1994 are now available.

The June 1994 issue of *Canned and frozen fruits and vegetables—monthly* (32-011, \$6/\$60) is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information, contact Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511), Industry Division. ■



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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Monthly survey of manufacturing, June 1994.

Catalogue number 31-001

(Canada: \$19/\$190; United States: US\$23/US\$228; other countries: US\$27/US\$266).

Canned and frozen fruits and vegetables — monthly, June 1994.

Catalogue number 32-011

(Canada: \$6/\$60; United States: US\$8/US\$72; other countries: US\$9/US\$84).

Corrugated boxes and wrappers, July 1994.

Catalogue number 36-004

(Canada: \$6/\$60; United States: US\$8/US\$72; other countries: US\$9/US\$84).

Juristat service bulletin: Canadian crime statistics, 1993. Vol. 14, no. 14.

Catalogue number 85-002

(Canada: \$5/\$60; United States: US\$6/US\$72; other countries: US\$7/US\$84).

Juristat service bulletin: Homicide in Canada, 1993. Vol. 14, no. 15.

Catalogue number 85-002

(Canada: \$5/\$60; United States: US\$6/US\$72; other countries: US\$7/US\$84).

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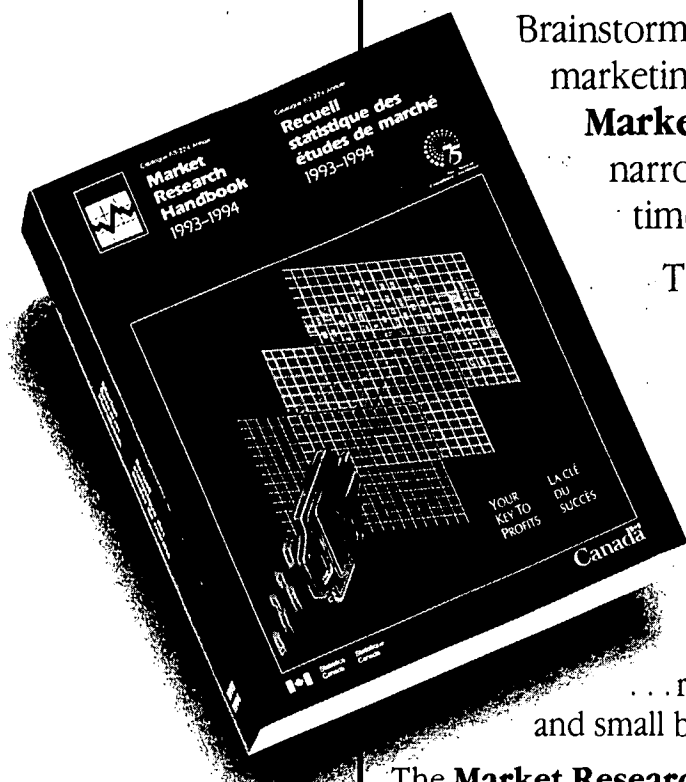
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