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Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2015

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- . not available for any reference period
- .. not available for a specific reference period
- ... not applicable
- 0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
- 0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
- ^P preliminary
- ^r revised
- X suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
- ^E use with caution
- F too unreliable to be published
- * significantly different from reference category ($p < 0.05$)

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Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2015: highlights

- In 2015, police-reported crime in Canada, as measured by both the crime rate and the Crime Severity Index (CSI), increased for the first time since 2003. The CSI measures the volume and severity of police-reported crime in Canada, and has a base index value of 100 for 2006. The CSI increased 5% from 66.7 in 2014 to 69.7 in 2015. The 2015 CSI was 1% higher than the CSI reported in 2013 (68.8), but 31% lower than a decade earlier in 2005.
- The change in the CSI in 2015 was driven primarily by increases in fraud, breaking and entering, robbery, and homicide. The upward movement of the national CSI was fuelled by a notable growth in crime reported by Alberta.
- The police-reported crime rate, which measures the volume of police-reported crime, also increased in 2015, rising 3% from the previous year to 5,198 incidents per 100,000 population. This was about the same rate as reported in 2013 (5,195 per 100,000 population) and 29% lower than a decade earlier in 2005.
- There were almost 1.9 million police-reported *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic) reported by police in 2015, approximately 70,000 more incidents than in 2014.
- Among the violent violations to increase in rate were homicide (+15%), attempted murder (+22%), major assaults (+3%), sexual assaults (+3%), robbery (+5%) and *Criminal Code* violations specific to the use of, discharge, and pointing of firearms (+22%) (referred to as violent firearms offences).
- The overall volume and severity of violent crime, as measured by the violent CSI, increased 6% between 2014 and 2015 to 74.5. This increase was largely the result of increases in robbery, homicide, attempted murder, and violent firearms offences.
- Police-reported crime rates for all types of property crimes increased in 2015, including fraud (+15%), possession of stolen property (+13%), theft over \$5,000 (excluding motor vehicles) (+8%), identity fraud (+9%), motor vehicle theft (+6%) and breaking and entering (+4%).
- The overall volume and severity of non-violent crime, as measured by the non-violent CSI rose to 67.8 in 2015, marking a 4% increase from the previous year. The increase was largely the result of more reported incidents of fraud and breaking and entering.
- Eight of the 13 provinces and territories reported increases in their CSI in 2015, with the largest increases reported by Alberta (+18%), New Brunswick (+12%), the Northwest Territories (+10%) and Saskatchewan (+10%). In Alberta, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan, these were the only notable increases since 2003. The exceptions to the national increase in CSI were Prince Edward Island (-10%), Nova Scotia (-7%), Nunavut (-4%), Quebec (-3%) and Yukon (-2%).
- Twenty of the 33 census metropolitan areas (CMAs) in Canada reported increases in their CSI values in 2015. With a CSI of 78.3, Calgary had the largest increase in CSI of all CMAs (+29%), followed by Moncton (+20%), Victoria (+16%), Edmonton (+16%), and Abbotsford-Mission (+14%). The CMAs with the largest declines in CSI were Thunder Bay (-11%), Québec (-6%) and Sherbrooke (-6%).
- In 2015, police reported 604 homicides, 83 more than the previous year. This resulted in a 15% increase in the homicide rate, which moved from 1.47 homicides to 1.68 homicides per 100,000 population. This was the highest homicide rate reported since 2011, but still below the average for the previous decade. The national increase was primarily due to increases in the number of homicides in Alberta (+27 homicides), Saskatchewan (+19) and Ontario (+18). In addition, there was a 22% increase in the rate of attempted murder.
- Drug offences involving cannabis continued to decline in 2015. In total, the overall rate of police-reported offences involving the possession, trafficking, production and distribution of cannabis decreased 15% between 2014 and 2015. Decreases were also reported in the rate of cocaine offences (-7%). In contrast, offences involving the possession, trafficking, production or distribution of methamphetamines grew 25%. Growth was also reported in the rate of offences involving heroin (+18%), ecstasy (+7%) and “other drugs”, such as prescription drugs (+6%).
- The rate of youth accused of crime by police (including youth charged and not charged) continued to decline in 2015. Between 2014 and 2015, the Youth Crime Severity Index (YCSI) decreased by 1% and the youth crime rate dipped 2%, primarily due to decreases in youth accused of non-violent crime. As in previous years, fewer than half of youth accused were charged (45%). The rate of youth charged with a criminal offence in 2015 declined 1%, while the rate of adults charged increased 2%.

Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2015

by Mary Allen

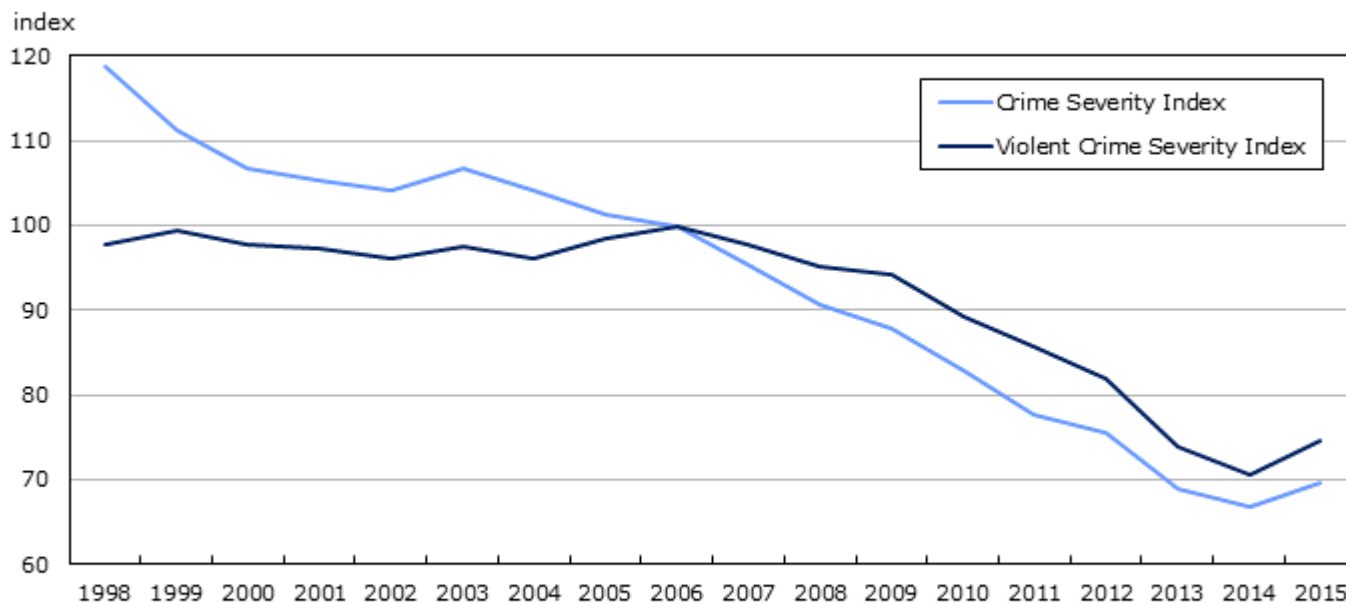
Since 1962, Statistics Canada has collected information on all criminal incidents substantiated and reported by Canadian police services through its annual Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey.¹ In addition to the UCR Survey, Statistics Canada also collects information on victims' experiences with crime through the General Social Survey on Victimization (GSS), conducted every five years. Unlike the UCR Survey, the GSS collects data on criminal incidents whether or not they have been brought to the attention of the police. These complementary surveys are the main sources of data on crime in Canada.

This *Juristat* article presents findings from the 2015 UCR Survey.² In order to make comparisons across police services and over time, crime counts within the article are based on the most serious violation in a criminal incident (see "Key terminology and definitions"). This article explores trends in the volume and severity of police-reported crime at the national, provincial/territorial and census metropolitan area levels.³ In addition, the report presents more detailed information on changes in violent and non-violent criminal offences as well as impaired driving and drug offences. Finally, the article looks at trends in youth accused of crime.⁴

Police-reported crime in Canada increased in volume and severity for the first time since 2003

The Crime Severity Index (CSI) measures both the volume and seriousness of police-reported crime in Canada and has a base index value of 100 for 2006 (see Text box 1). Between 2014 and 2015, the CSI increased 5% from 66.7 in 2014 to 69.7 in 2015. The 2015 CSI was slightly higher (1%) than the rate reported in 2013 (68.8), but 31% lower than a decade earlier (Table 1a, Chart 1).

Chart 1
Police-reported Crime Severity Indexes, 1998 to 2015



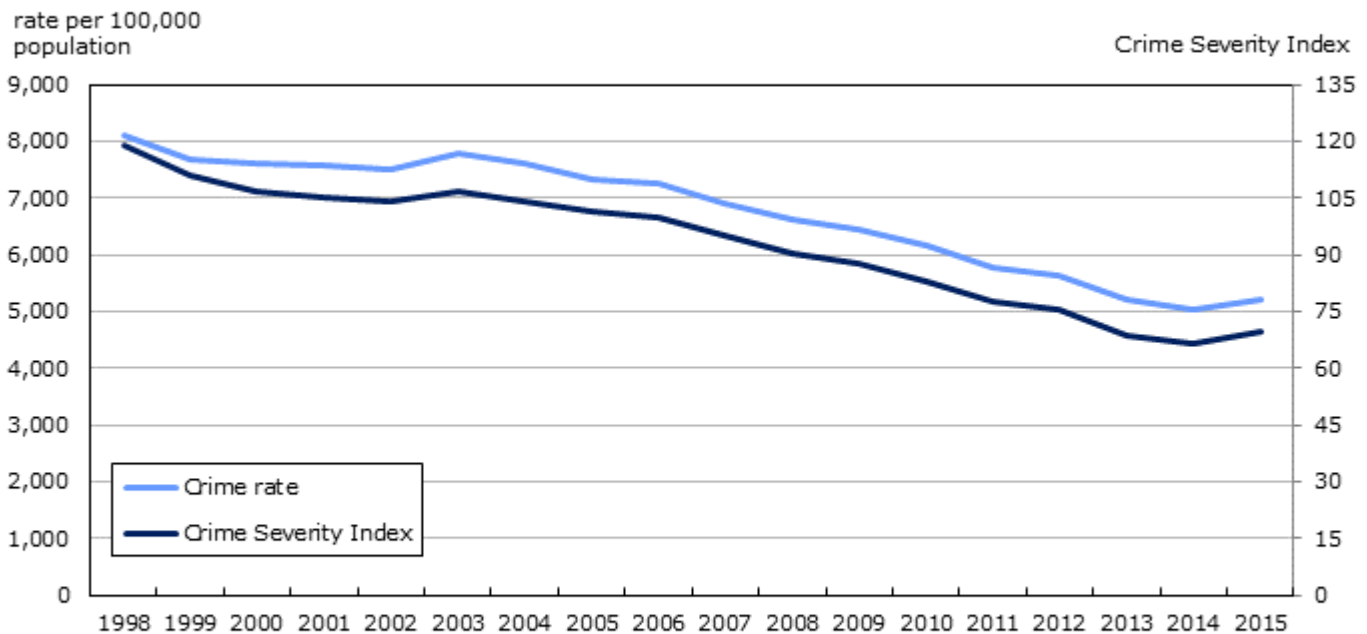
Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). The Crime Severity Indexes (CSI) are based upon *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

The change in the national CSI in 2015 was driven primarily by increases in fraud, breaking and entering, robbery, and homicide. About half of the increase in the national CSI in 2015 can be explained by a large increase in police-reported crime in Alberta, where the provincial CSI rose 18% (Table 2a).

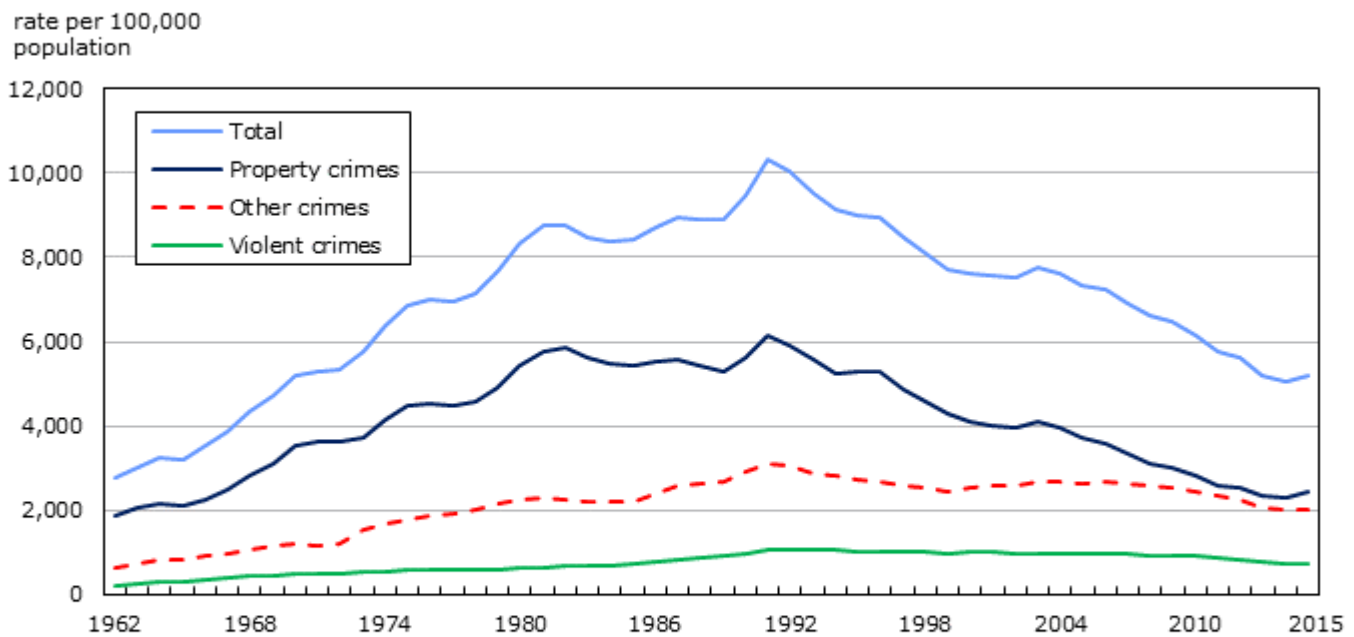
The police-reported crime rate, which measures the volume of crime per 100,000 population, also increased in 2015, the first increase since 2003. The police-reported crime rate was up 3% from the previous year, resulting in a rate of 5,198 incidents per 100,000 population (Table 1b). The rate in 2015 was almost the same as the rate reported in 2013 (5,195 per 100,000 population) and 29% lower than a decade earlier (Chart 2). While the crime rate grew in 2015, it has generally been on a downward trend since the early 1990's, with the only increases reported in 2003 and 2015 (Chart 3).

Chart 2
Police-reported Crime Severity Index and crime rate, Canada, 1998 to 2015



Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Tables 252-0051 and 252-0052). The crime rate is based upon *Criminal Code* incidents, excluding traffic offences. The Crime Severity Index (CSI) is based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. For the CSI, the base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 3
Police-reported crime rates, Canada, 1962 to 2015



Note: Information presented in this chart represents data from the UCR Aggregate (UCR1) Survey, and permits historical comparisons back to 1962. New definitions of crime categories were introduced in 2009 and are only available in the new format back to 1998. As a result, numbers in this chart will not match data released in the new UCR2 format. Specifically, the definition of violent crime has been expanded. In addition, UCR1 includes some different offences in the 'Other' crimes category. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Canadian police services reported almost 1.9 million *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic) in 2015, approximately 70,000 more incidents than in 2014. In addition to these incidents, there were about 126,000 *Criminal Code* traffic offences, 96,000 *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* offences, and 25,000 other federal offences (such as the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*) recorded by police in 2015. In total, there were just over 2.1 million police-reported *Criminal Code* and federal statute incidents in 2015, about 58,000 more than the year before.

Although the CSI and the crime rate are separate measures, with the CSI accounting not only for volume but also changes in the relative seriousness of police-reported crime (see Text box 1), both measures show similar trends in police-reported crime in Canada since 1998, the earliest year for which the CSI was calculated (Chart 2).

Text box 1

Measuring police-reported crime

In Canada, there are two complementary ways to measure police-reported crime: the traditional crime rate and the Crime Severity Index (CSI). While both measures take into account the volume of police-reported crime, the CSI also accounts for the seriousness of crime. Both the traditional crime rate and the CSI measure crime based on the most serious violation in the criminal incident (see "Survey description" for more details). The most serious violation is determined by criteria in the following order of priority: violations against a person take precedence over violations not against a person; the greatest maximum penalty prescribed by law; violations causing death take precedence over other violations with the same maximum penalty; or, if the above rules do not break a tie, the police service uses discretion to determine which is the most serious violation in the incident.⁵

Crime rate

The traditional crime rate has been used to measure police-reported crime in Canada since 1962, and is generally expressed as a rate per 100,000 population. The crime rate is calculated by summing all *Criminal Code* incidents reported by the police and dividing by the population. The crime rate excludes *Criminal Code* traffic violations, as well as other federal statute violations such as drug offences.

To calculate the traditional police-reported crime rate, all offences are counted equally, regardless of their seriousness. For example, one incident of homicide is counted as equivalent to one incident of theft. As such, one limitation of the traditional crime rate is that it can easily fluctuate as a result of variations in high-volume, less serious offences, such as theft of \$5,000 or under or mischief. In other words, a large decline in frequent, but less serious violations may cause the police-reported crime rate to decrease even when the number of more serious but lesser volume incidents, such as homicides or robberies, increases.

In addition to the overall crime rate, rates are calculated for violent crime, property crime and other *Criminal Code* offences. Further, the rates of youth who have either been charged by police or dealt with through the use of extrajudicial measures are available for all crime categories.

Crime Severity Index

The Crime Severity Index (CSI) was developed to address the limitation of the police-reported crime rate being driven by high-volume, relatively less serious offences. The CSI not only takes into account the volume of crime, but also the seriousness of crime.

In order to calculate the police-reported CSI, each violation is assigned a weight. CSI weights are based on the violation's incarceration rate, as well as the average length of prison sentence handed down by criminal courts.⁶ The more serious the average sentence, the higher the weight assigned to the offence, meaning that the more serious offences have a greater impact on the index. Unlike the traditional crime rate, all offences, including *Criminal Code* traffic violations and other federal statute violations such as drug offences, are included in the CSI.

To calculate the CSI, the weighted offences are summed and then divided by the population. Similar to other indexes (e.g., Consumer Price Index), to allow for ease of comparison, the CSI is then standardized to a base year of "100" (for the CSI, the base year is 2006). In other words, all CSI values are relative to the Canada-level CSI for 2006. CSI values are available back to 1998.

In addition to the overall CSI, both a violent Crime Severity Index and a non-violent Crime Severity Index have been created, which like the overall CSI are available back to 1998. The violent CSI is comprised of all police-reported violent violations, and the non-violent CSI is comprised of all police-reported property violations, other *Criminal Code* violations, *Criminal Code* traffic violations, and other federal statute violations. All types of CSI measures are also available for youth who have been accused of a crime (charged and not charged).

For more information on the CSI, see the video, "Moving to a new city: a detailed look at the Crime Severity Index, a new way of measuring crime in Canada."

For more information on the Crime Severity Index, see *Measuring Crime in Canada: Introducing the Crime Severity Index and Improvements to the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey* (Wallace et al. 2009), *The Methodology of the Police-Reported Crime Severity Index* (Babyak et al. 2009), and *Updating the Police-Reported Crime Severity Index Weights: Refinements to the Methodology* (Babyak et al. 2013).

Increase in police-reported crime recorded in eight of thirteen provinces and territories

Eight of the thirteen provinces and territories reported an increase in the volume and severity of police-reported crime between 2014 and 2015. The provinces and territories with the largest increases in their CSI were Alberta (+18%), New Brunswick (+12%), the Northwest Territories (+10%) and Saskatchewan (+10%) (Table 2a). Among Alberta, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan, these were the only notable annual increases (over 3%) since 2003. In addition, Manitoba (+8%), Newfoundland and Labrador (+5%), British Columbia (+4%), and Ontario (+2%) also reported increases in the CSI in 2015. The exceptions to the national increase in CSI were Prince Edward Island (-10%), Nova Scotia (-7%), Quebec (-3%) and Yukon (-2%). Due to fewer reported incidents of homicide and attempted murder, Nunavut also reported a decline in CSI (-4%).⁷

The violations with the greatest impact on changes in the CSI differed by province and territory (see Text box 2). Increases in breaking and entering, theft of \$5,000 or under, and motor vehicle theft were the major contributing factors in Alberta, which recorded the largest increase in CSI in 2015. Higher numbers of incidents of breaking and entering in 2015 also influenced the increase in CSI in New Brunswick, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories, but other violations also played a role. In other provinces, violations which had an impact on the increase in the CSI included theft of \$5,000 or under, robbery, fraud and homicide. Homicide, which is weighted heavily in the CSI due to its severity, also influenced the declines in CSI recorded in Prince Edward Island, Yukon, and Nunavut.

Text box 2 Violations contributing to the change in the Crime Severity Index (CSI) between 2014 and 2015, by province and territory

	Percent change in CSI from 2014 to 2015	Violations driving the change in CSI
Canada	+5	Fraud, Breaking and entering, Robbery, Homicide
Newfoundland and Labrador	+5	Sexual assault level 1, Robbery, Violent firearms offences
Prince Edward Island	-10	Theft of \$5,000 or under, Homicide
Nova Scotia	-7	Breaking and entering, Theft of \$5,000 or under
New Brunswick	+12	Breaking and entering, Fraud
Quebec	-3	Breaking and entering
Ontario	+2	Fraud
Manitoba	+8	Breaking and entering, Mischief, Fraud
Saskatchewan	+10	Breaking and entering, Homicide, Fraud
Alberta	+18	Breaking and entering, Theft of \$5,000 or under, Motor vehicle theft
British Columbia	+4	Fraud, Theft of \$5,000 or under, Robbery
Yukon	-2	Homicide ¹
Northwest Territories	+10	Homicide, Breaking and entering, Assault level 3
Nunavut	-4	Homicide ²

1. The decline in the CSI in the Yukon was offset by increases in breaking and entering.

2. The decline in the CSI in Nunavut was offset by increases in mischief.

Note: Violations driving the change in CSI are identified, in order of impact, as those violations where the combined changes in the rates (weighted by the CSI weight) contribute substantially to the overall change in CSI (up or down). Where large changes in other violations serve to reduce or offset the net change in the CSI, these are noted.

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

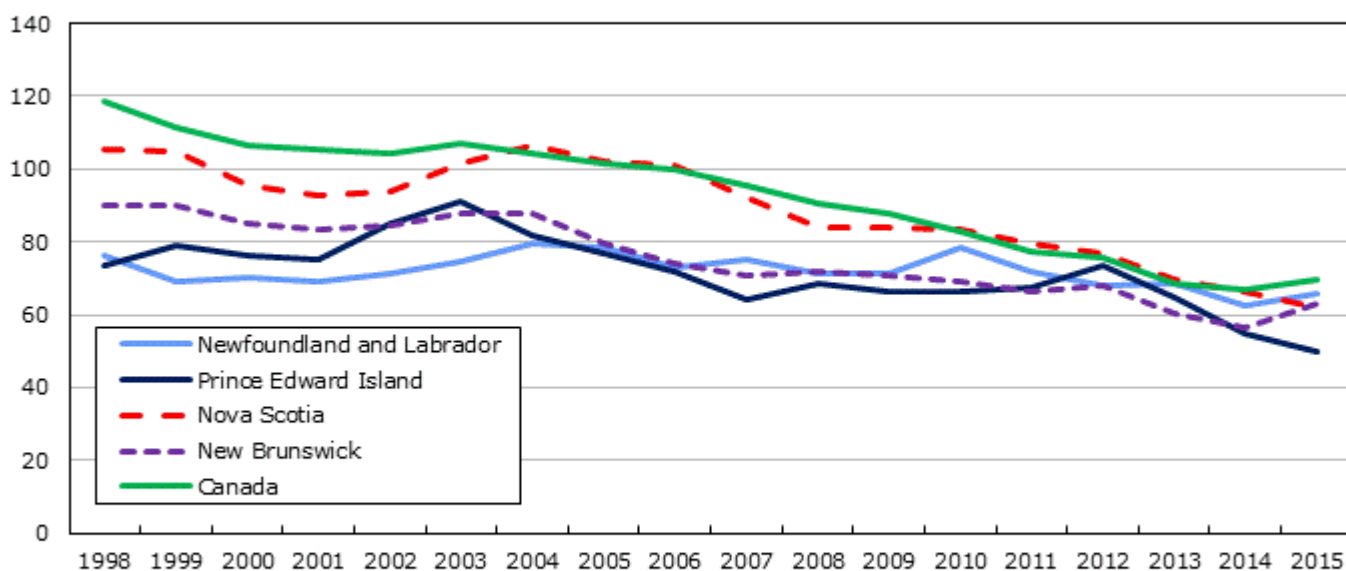
Similar to previous years, CSIs and crime rates were highest in the Territories, followed by the Western provinces (Table 2b). In all three territories, a large part of the difference between the territorial and national CSI can be explained by relatively high numbers of incidents of mischief, which accounts for 37% of crime in the Territories (compared to 15% nationally), as well as breaking and entering.

The Western provinces all reported relatively high CSIs and crime rates compared to the national CSI in 2015, with Saskatchewan continuing to record both the highest CSI (135.8) and crime rate (11,178 incidents per 100,000 population) among the provinces. The high CSIs reported in the Western provinces (compared to the national CSI) can be explained in part by the relatively high number of incidents of breaking and entering. In Saskatchewan and Manitoba, as in the Territories, mischief was also a contributing factor to the high CSIs. Moreover, Saskatchewan’s high CSI was also influenced by a high number of offences against the administration of justice (such as failure to comply with the conditions of a sentence, breach of probation or failure to appear). Prince Edward Island (49.7), Ontario (50.6), and Quebec (55.7) reported the lowest CSIs in 2015.

Despite some fluctuations over the years and the most recent increase, all provinces reported lower CSIs in 2015 than in 2005 (Charts 4 to 6). In the Territories, the CSIs were lower than in 2005, but their decline has not been as substantial as in most of the provinces (Chart 7).

Chart 4
Police-reported Crime Severity Index, Atlantic provinces, 1998 to 2015

Crime Severity Index

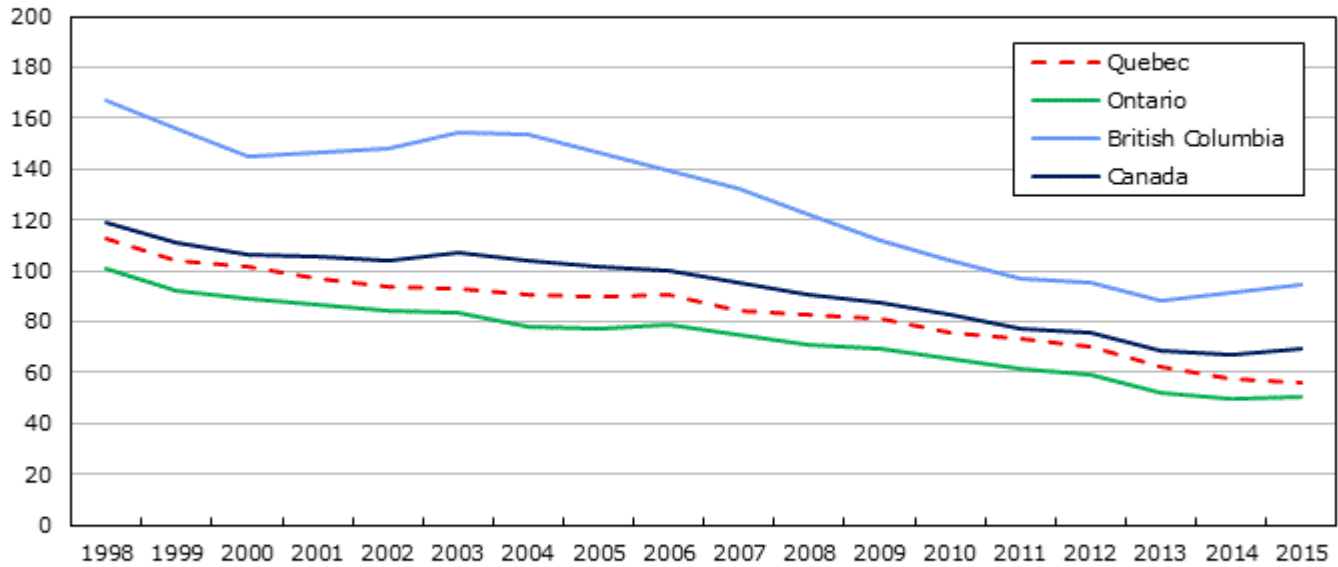


Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). The Crime Severity Index (CSI) is based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Chart 5
Police-reported Crime Severity Index, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia, 1998 to 2015

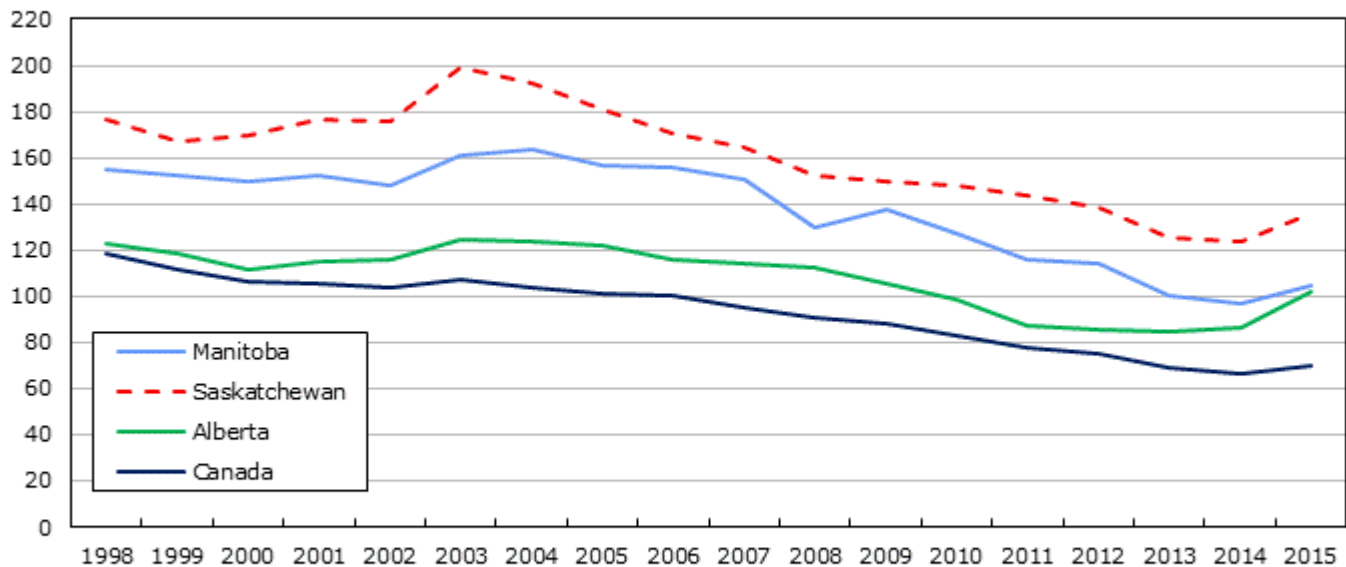
Crime Severity Index



Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). The Crime Severity Index (CSI) is based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 6
Police-reported Crime Severity Index, Prairies, 1998 to 2015

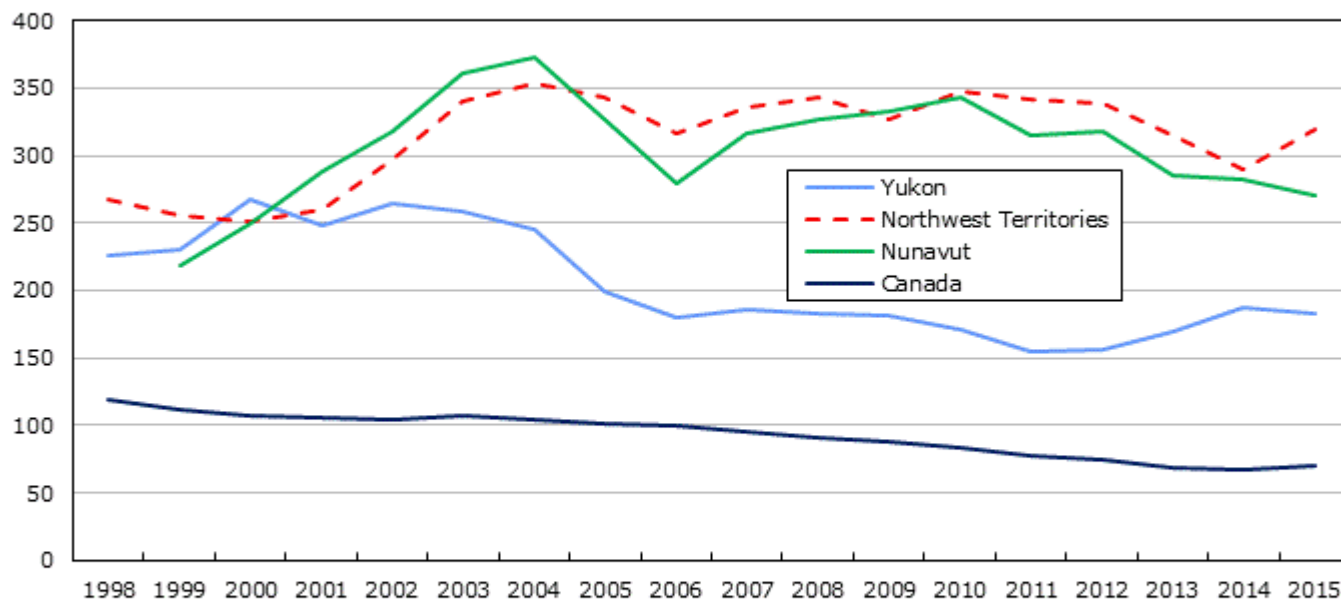
Crime Severity Index



Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). The Crime Severity Index (CSI) is based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 7
Police-reported Crime Severity Index, Territories, 1998 to 2015

Crime Severity Index



Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). The Crime Severity Index (CSI) is based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. 1998 data for the Northwest Territories also includes Nunavut. In 1999, Nunavut, which comprises the eastern part of the old Northwest Territories, officially became a Canadian territory. Starting in 1999, data are displayed separately for the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

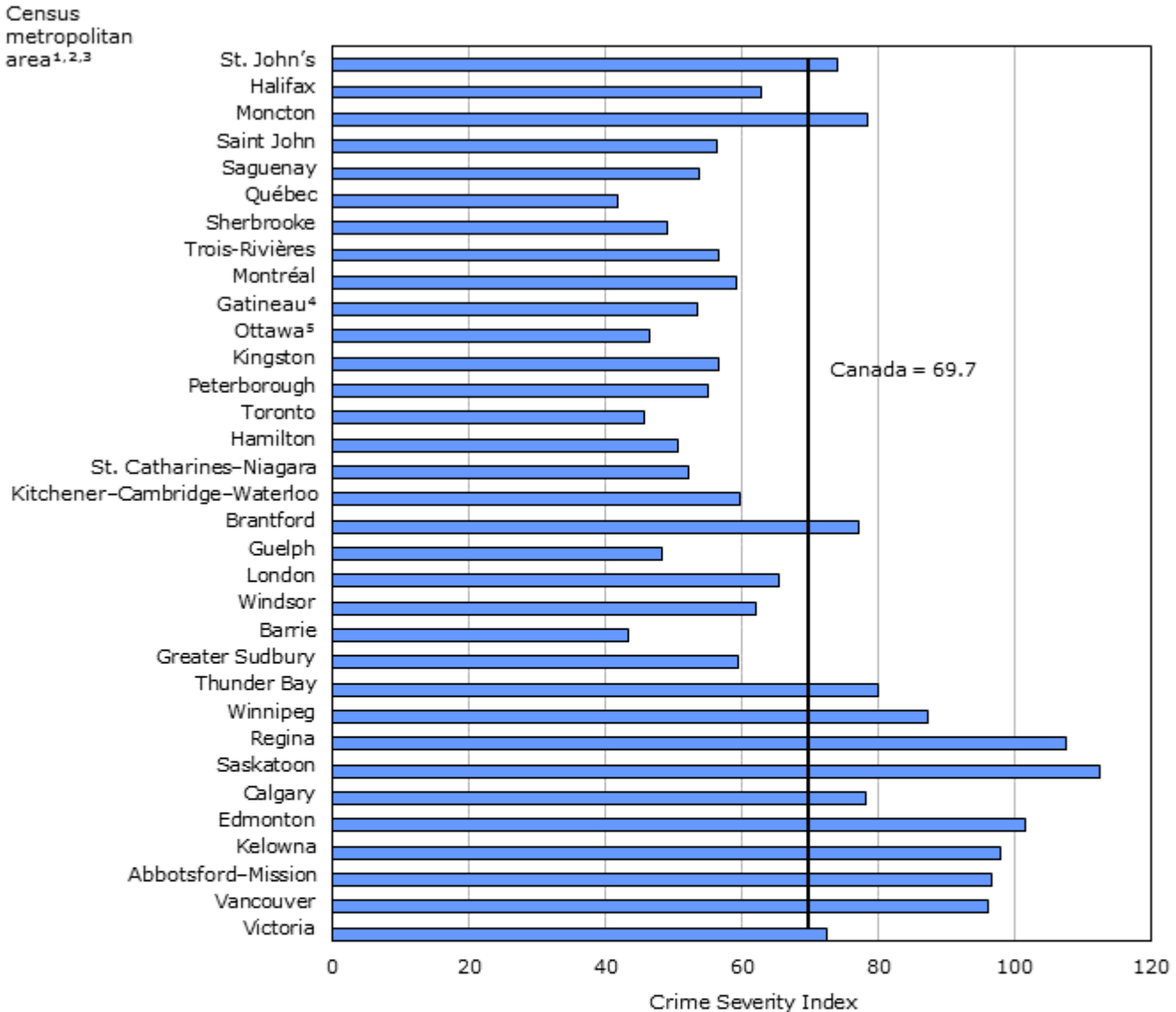
Twenty of the thirty-three census metropolitan areas recorded an increase in the volume and severity of police-reported crime

Over half of Canada’s census metropolitan areas (CMAs) reported increases in their CSI values in 2015 (Table 3).⁸ With a CSI of 78.3, Calgary recorded the largest increase in CSI (+29%), driven by increased incidents of breaking and entering, theft of \$5,000 or under, and motor vehicle theft. Large increases in the CSI were also recorded in Moncton (+20%), Victoria (+16%), Edmonton (+16%), and Abbotsford-Mission (+14%). Increased levels of breaking and entering as well as theft of \$5,000 or under were also major factors in the increased CSIs in these cities. The increase in CSIs in Calgary and Edmonton together had a notable impact on the provincial increase in the CSI for Alberta, which in turn influenced the Canada level. The CMAs with the largest declines in CSI were Thunder Bay (-11%), Québec (-6%) and Sherbrooke (-6%). Offences contributing to these declines varied across the CMAs.

Despite increased CSI’s for many CMAs in 2015, almost all CMAs reported lower CSIs than in 2005 (Table 3).^{9, 10} Toronto, Montréal and Vancouver, which together account for over one third of Canada’s population, reported ten-year decreases of 37%, 43%, and 35%, respectively. The largest declines between 2005 and 2015 were reported by Halifax (-51%), Regina (-48%), and Winnipeg (-47%). The only CMA to report an increase compared to 2005 was Saguenay (+1%), which recorded a relatively low CSI in 2005 compared to the year before and after. The CSI in Saguenay declined 8% from 2006 to 2015 and 12% between 2004 and 2015. Over the ten year period, Saguenay has consistently reported CSIs below the national average.

As has been the case since 2010, the two CMAs with the highest CSIs in 2015 were Saskatoon (112.5) and Regina (107.6) (Chart 8). Relatively high CSIs were recorded in Edmonton (101.6), Kelowna (98.0), Abbotsford-Mission (96.6), and Vancouver (96.2). These six CMAs also had the highest police-reported crime rates in 2015 (Table 4). The CMAs with the lowest CSIs continued to be Québec (41.8), Barrie (43.3), Toronto (45.7), Ottawa (46.5), Guelph (48.4), and Sherbrooke (49.2). Since 2009, Québec and Toronto have had the lowest police-reported crime rates among CMAs.

Chart 8
Police-reported Crime Severity Index, by census metropolitan area, 2015



1. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CMA typically comprises more than one police service.
 2. CMA populations have been adjusted to follow policing boundaries.
 3. The Oshawa CMA is excluded from this chart due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.
 4. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.
 5. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.

Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). Police-reported statistics may be affected by differences in the way police services deal with offences. In some instances, police or municipalities might choose to deal with some offences using municipal by-laws or provincial provisions rather than *Criminal Code* provisions. The Crime Severity Index (CSI) is based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Text box 3

Factors influencing police-reported crime

There are many factors that influence police-reported crime statistics. First, an incident must come to the attention of police. The decision by an individual to report criminal incidents to police has a considerable impact on the number of crimes ultimately recorded by police. The 2014 General Social Survey on Victimization, which provides the most recent information on Canadians' crime reporting behaviour for selected offences, indicated that about one-third (31%) of crimes are reported to police (see Text box 5 for more detail on the reasons for not reporting).

Second, differences between individual police services, such as available resources or departmental priorities, policies and procedures can also have an effect on police-reported crime. For instance, as a crime prevention measure, some police services have implemented initiatives to focus attention on prolific or repeat offenders within the community. Moreover, certain crimes such as impaired driving, prostitution, and drug offences can be notably affected by a police service's enforcement practices, with some police services devoting more resources to these specific types of crime. Some police services may also make greater or lesser use of municipal bylaws or provincial statutes to respond to minor offences such as mischief and disturbing the peace.

Third, and more broadly, social and economic factors can influence the volume of crime at a national, regional, municipal or neighbourhood level. In particular, crime rates can be affected by changes in age demographics (Stevens et al. 2013; Carrington 2001), economic conditions (Andresen 2012; Phillips and Land 2012; Pottie-Bunge et al. 2005), neighbourhood characteristics (Livingston et al. 2014; Charron 2011; Savoie 2008), the emergence of new technologies (Wall 2010; Nuth 2008) or by Canadians' attitudes toward crime and risky behaviour (Ouimet 2004).

Violent crime

Police-reported violent crime higher in 2015

In 2015, violent crimes continued to account for about one-fifth (20%) of all police-reported *Criminal Code* offences (excluding traffic). There were almost 381,000 police-reported violent incidents in 2015, over 10,000 more than the previous year. In 2015, the violent crime rate in Canada was 1,062 violent incidents per 100,000 population, which was 2% higher than in 2014, but 24% lower than a decade earlier (Table 1b). In this report, violent crime generally refers to those violations in the *Criminal Code* identified as crimes against the person, as opposed to property crimes and other *Criminal Code* violations such as offences against the administration of justice.¹¹

Rates of almost all forms of violent crime increased between 2014 and 2015. The most notable increases were for homicide (+15%), attempted murder (+22%) and violent firearms offences (specific to the use of, discharge, and pointing of firearms) (+22%) (Table 5). In addition, rates of extortion (+11%), and sexual assault with a weapon or bodily harm (level 2) (+13%) were also notably higher than the previous year. Increases in some of the most common violent offences, assault levels 1 and 2, as well as robbery, had the greatest impact on the increase in the violent crime rate. The violent offences for which rates decreased in 2015 were other violations causing death (which includes criminal negligence) (-19%), aggravated sexual assault (level 3) (-11%), sexual violations against children¹² (-1%), abduction (-1%) and "other assaults" (-1%).

The overall volume and severity of violent crime, as measured by the violent CSI, increased 6% between 2014 and 2015 to 74.5. The violent CSI in 2015 was 1% higher than in 2013 (73.9) and 24% lower than in 2005. This increase in the violent CSI between 2014 and 2015 was driven largely by increases in robbery, homicide, attempted murder and violent firearms offences (which includes discharging a firearm with intent, using a firearm in the commission of an offence, and pointing a firearm) (see Text box 4).

Text box 4**Violations contributing to the change in the violent Crime Severity Index (CSI) between 2014 and 2015, by province and territory**

	Percent change in violent CSI from 2014 to 2015	Violations driving the change in violent CSI
Canada	+6	Robbery, Homicide, Attempted murder, Violent firearms offences
Newfoundland and Labrador	+15	Sexual assault level 1, Robbery, Violent firearms offences
Prince Edward Island	-14	Homicide, Robbery
Nova Scotia	+1	Homicide ¹
New Brunswick	+4	Attempted murder, Violent firearms offences ²
Quebec	+4	Attempted murder, Homicide
Ontario	+3	Violent firearms offences, Attempted murder
Manitoba	+6	Robbery, Forcible confinement or kidnapping, Assault level 2
Saskatchewan	+9	Homicide
Alberta	+12	Robbery, Homicide
British Columbia	+7	Robbery, Attempted murder, Violent firearms offences
Yukon	-13	Homicide
Northwest Territories	+28	Homicide, Assault level 3, Sexual assault level 1, Assault level 1
Nunavut	-15	Homicide, Attempted murder

1. The small increase in the violent CSI in Nova Scotia was driven by the increase in homicide, offset by the decline in attempted murder.

2. The increase in the violent CSI in New Brunswick was driven by increases in attempted murder and violent firearm offences, but partly offset by decreases in homicide and assault.

Note: Violations driving the change in the violent CSI are identified, in order of impact, as those violations where the combined changes in the rates (weighted by the CSI weight) contribute substantially to the overall change in the violent CSI (up or down). Where large changes in other violations serve to reduce or offset the net change in the violent CSI, these are noted.

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

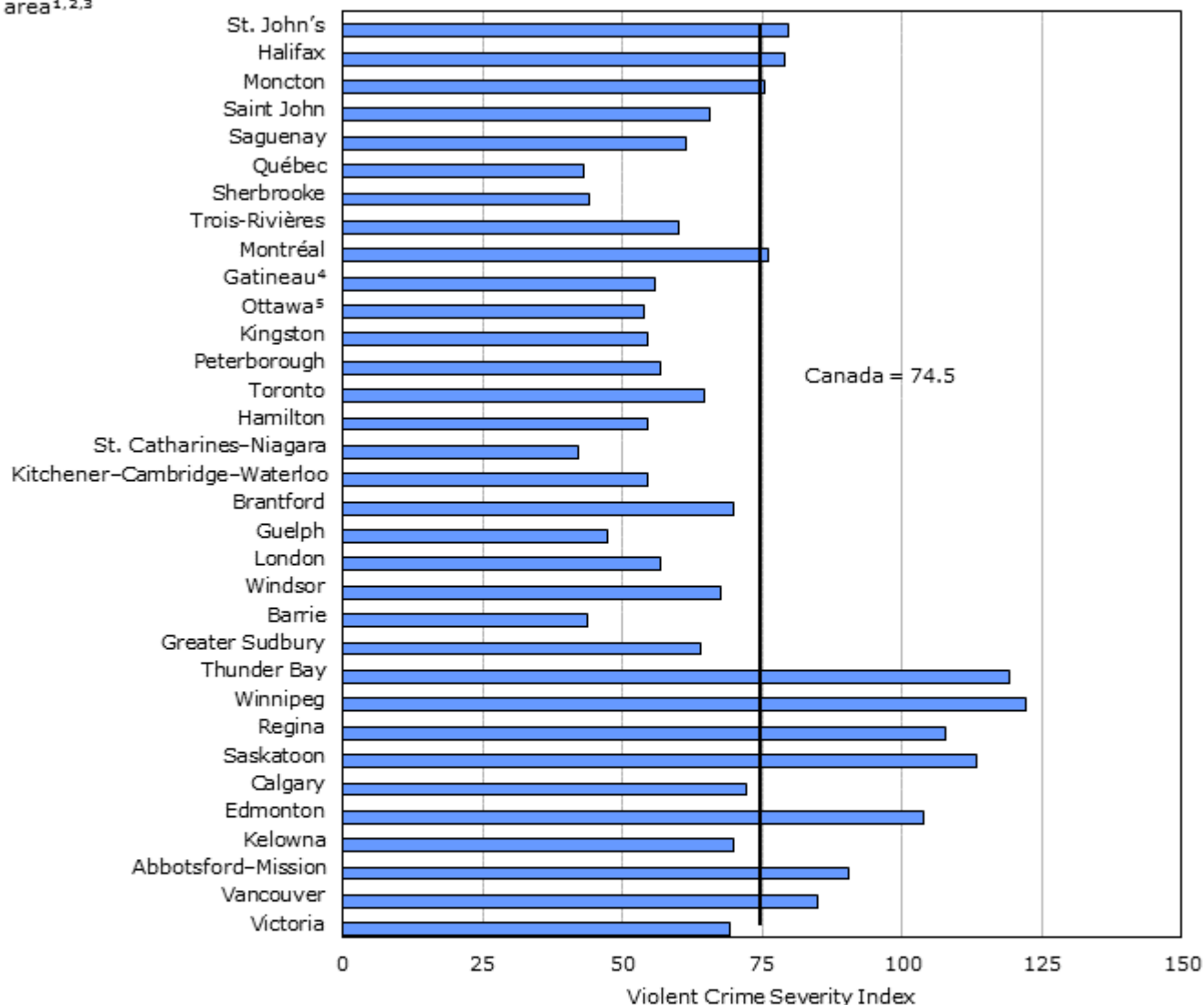
The increase in Canada's violent CSI in 2015 was primarily the result of increases in Alberta (+12%), British Columbia (+7%), and Ontario (+3%) (Table 2a). In addition, there were notable increases in the violent CSI in Newfoundland and Labrador (+15%), Saskatchewan (+9%), and Manitoba (+6%). Prince Edward Island continued to have the lowest violent CSI of all provinces and territories, and was the only province to record a decline in the violent CSI (-14%), primarily as a result of a drop in the number of homicides (from 3 to 1).

The violent CSI continued to be highest in the Territories in 2015.¹³ The violent CSI in the Northwest Territories increased 28% between 2014 and 2015, as a result of increased numbers of homicides (+2 homicides), assaults levels 1 and 3, and sexual assault level 1. In contrast, both Yukon and Nunavut saw declines in their violent CSI. These were due to fewer incidents of homicide (-2 homicides) in Yukon, and fewer incidents of homicide (-2) and attempted murder in Nunavut.

As with the CSI in general, the changes in the violent CSI varied across CMAs, with increases recorded in 24 out of 33 CMAs.¹⁴ The CMAs of Toronto, Montréal and Vancouver all reported increases in the violent CSI (+2%, +5%, and +8%, respectively). The largest increases in the violent CSI were recorded in Kingston (+22%), London (+21%), and St. John's (+19%). Winnipeg, which recorded the highest violent CSI (122.1) saw a 5% increase in 2015. Sherbrooke and Thunder Bay recorded the largest decreases (-14% each). However, Thunder Bay still recorded the second highest violent CSI among the CMA's in 2015 (119.2). The third highest violent CSI was recorded by Saskatoon (113.5) which also had a decline (-7%) between 2014 and 2015 (Chart 9).

Chart 9
Police-reported violent Crime Severity Index, by census metropolitan area, 2015

Census metropolitan area^{1,2,3}



1. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CMA typically comprises more than one police service.

2. CMA populations have been adjusted to follow policing boundaries.

3. The Oshawa CMA is excluded from this chart due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.

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

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

Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

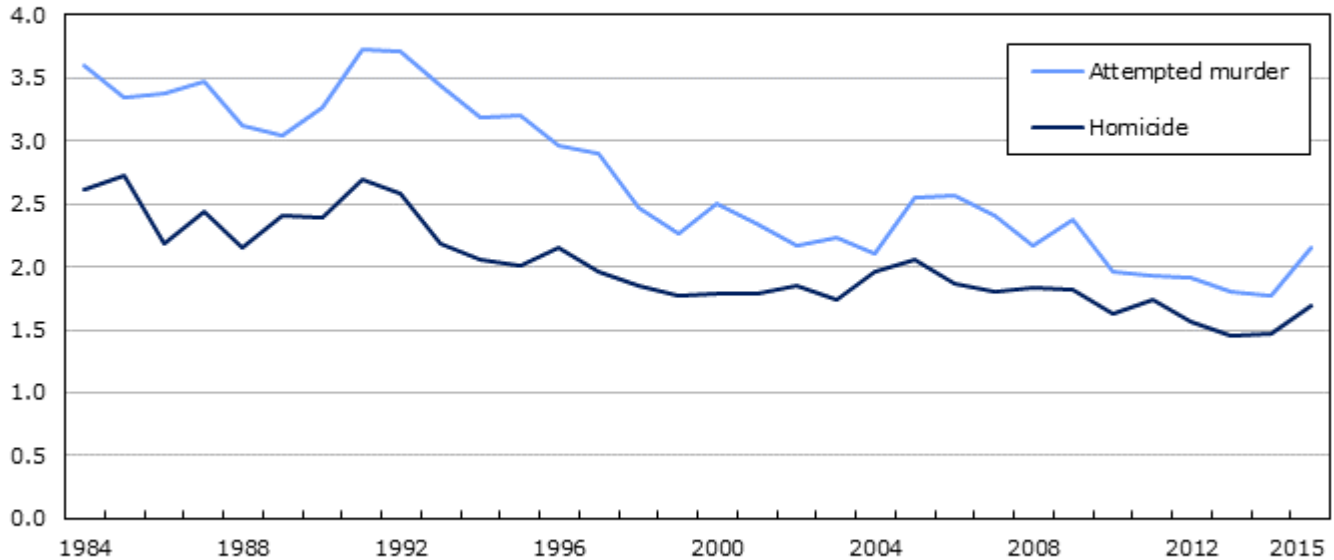
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Homicide and attempted murder rates both increased in 2015

In 2015, homicides continued to represent fewer than 1% of all violent crimes. In total, police reported 604 homicides in Canada in 2015, 83 more than the previous year. This resulted in a 15% increase in the homicide rate from 1.47 to 1.68 per 100,000 population (Table 5, Chart 10). This was the highest homicide rate reported since 2011, but still below the average for the previous decade (1.72 per 100,000 population). The increase was primarily due to higher numbers of homicides reported in Alberta (+27 homicides), Saskatchewan (+19) and Ontario (+18).

Chart 10
Attempted murder and homicide, police-reported rates, Canada, 1984 to 2015

rate per 100,000
population



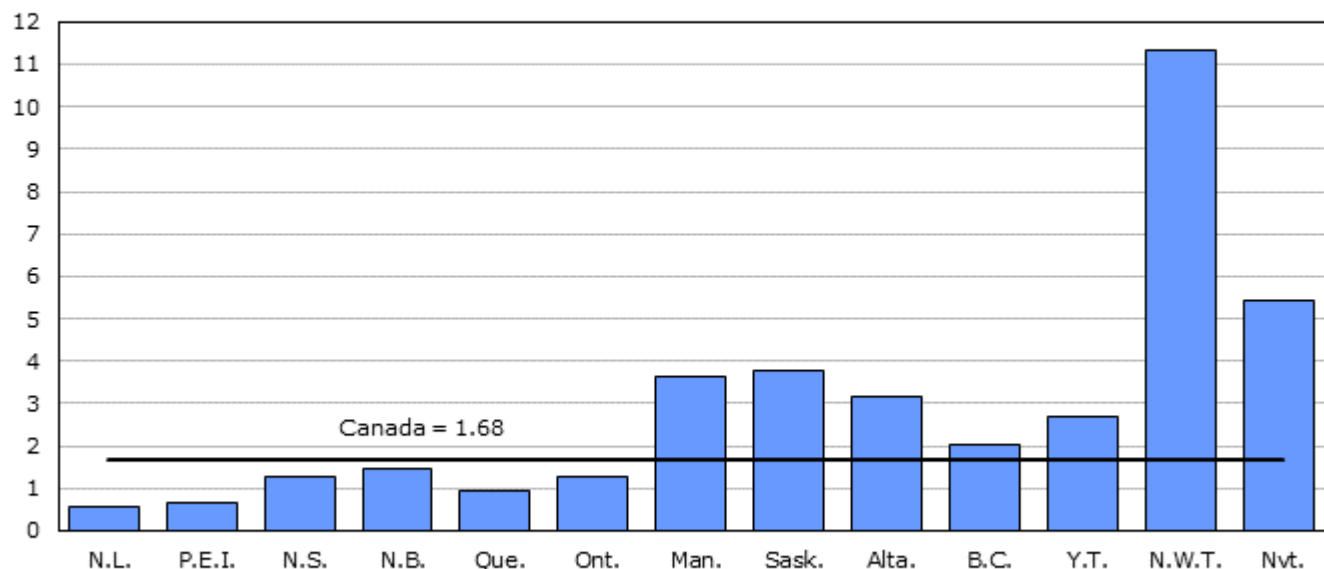
Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

As has generally been the case, homicide rates were highest in the Western provinces and the Territories (Table 6, Chart 11). Saskatchewan (3.79 homicides per 100,000 population) recorded the highest homicide rate among the provinces. The two other highest homicide rates among the provinces were recorded in Manitoba (3.63 per 100,000 population) and in Alberta (3.17 per 100,000 population). Saskatchewan and Alberta had notable increases in the number of homicides in 2015. Saskatchewan recorded 43 homicides in 2015, up from 24 in 2014 (+77% change in rate). Homicides in Alberta increased from 106 to 133 (+23% change in rate).

Chart 11
Homicide, police-reported rate, by province and territory, 2015

rate per 100,000 population



Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

While Nova Scotia recorded a large increase in their homicide rate (+100%) with 12 homicides reported in 2015, it should be noted that the large increase is due to the record low rate that was recorded in 2014 with 6 homicides that year. The lowest homicide rates in 2015 were reported in Newfoundland and Labrador (0.57 per 100,000 population), Quebec (0.93 per 100,000 population), and Prince Edward Island (0.68 per 100,000 population).

Because of their small populations, the rate of homicides per 100,000 population tend to be high in the Territories (in years when there are homicides reported). This was the case in 2015 with 5 homicides in the Northwest Territories (11.34 per 100,000 population), two homicides in Nunavut (5.42 per 100,000 population), and one homicide in Yukon (or 2.67 per 100,000 population).

With a total of 8 homicides in 2015, Regina recorded the highest homicide rate among the CMAs at 3.30 homicides per 100,000 population. Saskatoon (with 10 homicides), and Edmonton (with 39 homicides) had the next highest homicide rates (3.22 and 2.87 per 100,000 population, respectively) (Table 7). Brantford was the only CMA to record no homicides in 2015.

The attempted murder rate in Canada increased 22% between 2014 and 2015 to 2.16 per 100,000 population. In total, there were 774 attempted murders reported by police in 2015, 144 more than in 2014. The rate of attempted murder has remained consistently higher than the homicide rate since the 1980s, and these offences have often shown similar trends over time (Chart 10).

Small increase in most forms of physical assault in 2015

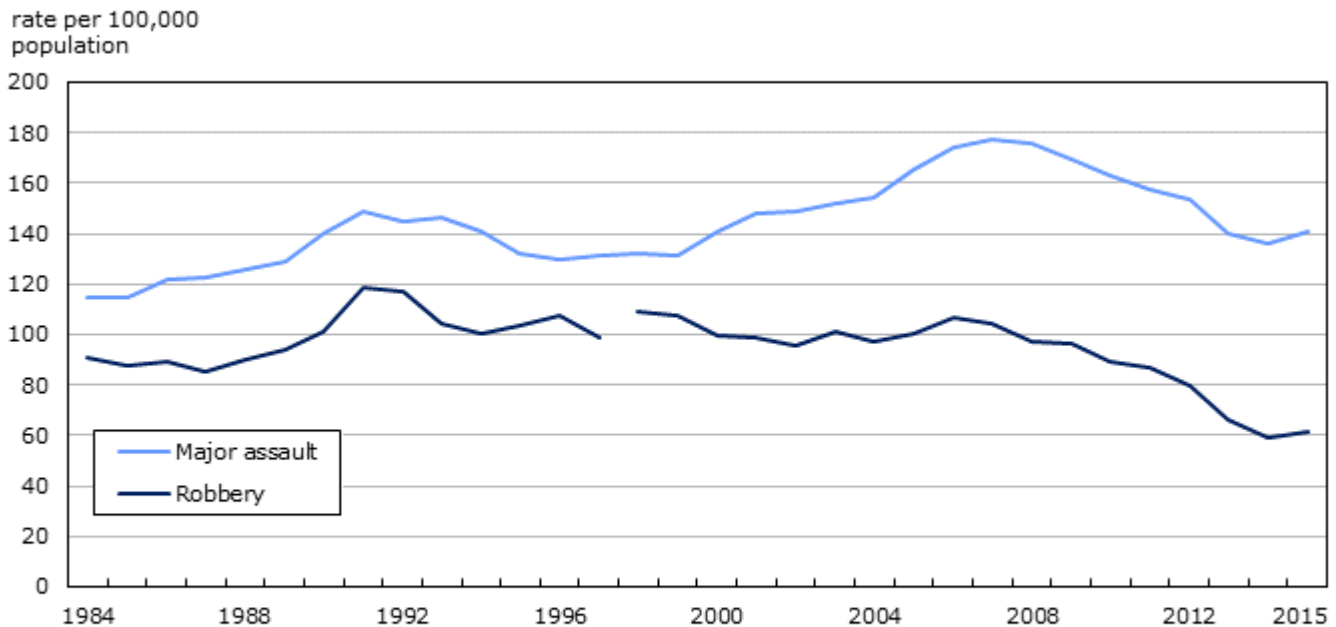
Physical assault continued to be the most prevalent form of police-reported violent crime in Canada in 2015, accounting for close to 6 in 10 (58%) violent offences reported by police. Police reported about 219,000 assaults in 2015, most of which (72%) were classified as common assaults (level 1). The rate of common assault had been gradually declining for more than 10 years before increasing slightly (+1%) in 2015. Other categories of assault include aggravated assault (level 3) (no significant change in rate), assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm (level 2) (+4%), assault against a peace officer (+2%), and other forms of assault (e.g., unlawfully causing bodily harm) (-1%) (Table 5). Rates of all types of assault were at or below the rates reported in 2013.

Saskatchewan and Manitoba continued to report the highest rate of major assault (levels 2 and 3) among the provinces (371 and 340 per 100,000 population, respectively). These rates were about double the rates in most other provinces. Despite the 3% increase in the national rate of major assault, some provinces and territories reported decreases between 2014 and 2015. Yukon reported the largest decline in the rate of major assault, down 14% from the previous year. There were also declines in the rate of major assault in all of the Atlantic provinces as well as in Nunavut (Table 6).

After seven years of decline, police-reported robbery rates were up in 2015

After a continuous downward trend over the previous seven years, the rate of robbery increased 5% from 2014 to a rate of 62 robberies per 100,000 population in 2015 (Table 5, Chart 12). Police reported approximately 22,000 robberies in 2015, over 1,000 more than the year before, but fewer than in 2013. The increase was primarily due to higher numbers of robberies reported in Alberta, and to a lesser extent in British Columbia and Manitoba. The highest rates of police-reported robbery in 2015 were in Manitoba (127 per 100,000 population), Saskatchewan (86 per 100,000 population), and Alberta (81 per 100,000 population), all higher than in the previous year. Unlike other forms of police-reported crime, robbery rates in the Territories have generally been below the national rate, a trend which continued in 2015.

Chart 12
Major assault (levels 2 and 3) and robbery, police-reported rates, Canada, 1984 to 2015



Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Prior to 1998, the UCR Survey based the number of robberies on the number of incidents. As of 1998, robberies are counted according to the number of victims directly involved in the incident. This change aligned with the method used for counting all other violent crimes. As such, data on robbery from 1998 onward are not comparable with pre-1998 data. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

The most substantial increases in robbery rates among the provinces were reported in Alberta (+23%), and Newfoundland and Labrador (+17%). In addition, the rate of robbery in the Northwest Territories increased 30% (from 20 to 26 incidents). Despite the increase in the national robbery rate (+5%), three provinces and two territories reported year-over-year declines in 2015 (Table 6). Prince Edward Island (-43%) had the largest decline in the rate of robbery among the provinces, falling to its lowest rate (11 per 100,000 population) since 1998, the earliest year for which comparable data is available.¹⁵ In addition, Quebec (-1%), Ontario (-1%), Yukon (-24%, from 26 to 20 incidents) and Nunavut (-2%) also reported decreases in robbery.¹⁶

As with other police-reported crimes, changes in rates of robbery varied considerably by CMA (Table 7). Notably large increases in robbery rates were reported in Thunder Bay (+42%), Kingston (+31%), and Saint John (+34%). The three largest CMAs, Toronto (-6%), Montréal (+1%), and Vancouver (+4%), which accounted for 48% of all robberies reported by police in 2015, had smaller changes. The highest rates of robbery in 2015 were reported in Winnipeg (178 per 100,000 population), Thunder Bay (149 per 100,000 population), and Saskatoon (131 per 100,000 population). In contrast, Saguenay and Québec, having reported the largest decreases in robbery in 2015 (-30% and -28%, respectively), had the lowest rates among the CMAs (19 per 100,000 and 15 per 100,000, respectively).

Police-reported sexual assaults increased in 2015

Sexual assaults, like physical assaults, are classified by the *Criminal Code* into three separate categories depending on the severity of the incident. More specifically, level 1 sexual assault criminalizes assault of a sexual nature that violates the sexual integrity of a person. Sexual assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm (level 2) criminalizes sexual assault that

involves a weapon, bodily harm or threats to cause bodily harm to a person. Lastly, aggravated sexual assault (level 3) criminalizes sexual assault which wounds, maims, disfigures or endangers the life of another person.

In 2015, there were almost 21,500 police-reported sexual assaults, the majority (98%) of which were classified as level 1 sexual assault. Between 2014 and 2015, the rate of sexual assault level 1 increased 3% to 58 per 100,000 population. The rates of sexual assault level 2 also increased (+13%) with a total of 377 incidents reported in 2015, or a rate of 1 per 100,000 population (about the same level as reported in 2013). In contrast, the rate of the most serious sexual assaults (level 3) declined 11% in 2015 with 104 incidents (12 fewer than in 2014) (Table 5).

Police-reported sexual assaults (all levels combined) increased in most provinces and territories between 2014 and 2015, with the largest increases reported in Prince Edward Island (+14 incidents or a 23% increase in rate), and Newfoundland and Labrador (+62 incidents or a 21% increase in rate) (Table 6). The Northwest Territories, Yukon and Quebec also had notable increases in their rates (+14%, +13% and +9% respectively). In contrast, Nunavut (-12%) and Manitoba (-6%) reported declines in rates of sexual assault, but they remained among the jurisdictions with the highest rates.

It is important to note that the number of sexual assaults reported by police is likely an underestimate of the true extent of sexual assault in Canada, as these types of offences often go unreported to police. For instance, self-reported data from the General Social Survey on Victimization showed that only 5% of sexual assaults experienced by Canadians aged 15 years and older in 2014 were brought to the attention of police (Perreault 2015) (see Text box 5).

Some types of police-reported sexual violations against children declined in 2015

While children or youth can be victims of sexual assaults (levels 1, 2 and 3), there are also a number of sexual violations within the *Criminal Code* that, by definition, apply only to victims under the age of 18. These specific sexual violations are categorized within the UCR Survey as “sexual violations against children”.¹⁷

The rate of police-reported sexual violations against children declined slightly in 2015 (-1%) for the first time since 2010, when full data for these offences became available.¹⁸ While the overall number of violations remained stable, there was a shift in the types of violations reported. There were 153 fewer police-reported incidents of luring a child via a computer (including the agreement or arrangement to commit a sexual offence against a child), and 28 fewer incidents of invitation to sexual touching. These were offset by an increase between 2014 and 2015 in the number of incidents of sexual interference (+144 incidents), sexual exploitation (+19 incidents) and making sexually explicit material available to a child (+16 incidents).

It is important to note that, for the violations included in “sexual violations against children”, differences in police-reported statistics between geographic areas or across time may be influenced by levels of reporting to police, as well as by single incidents that include several victims. In addition, certain police services dedicate special units to investigate these types of crime, which can also impact differences by geographic areas or changes over time. Similar to sexual assaults in general, the number of sexual violations against children is also expected to be an underestimate due to compounding factors that are likely to impact reporting, such as reliance on an adult to bring the incident to the attention of police (Kuoppamäki et al. 2011; United Nations 2006).

In addition to sexual violations against children, for which information on the victim is available, the UCR Survey also collects data on accessing, possessing, making, printing or distributing child pornography.^{19, 20} In 2015, the number and rate of child pornography incidents continued to rise, up from approximately 3,900 incidents in 2014 to about 4,300 incidents in 2015. As a result, the rate increased by 10%, to 12 incidents per 100,000 population in 2015. Part of this increase, can be attributed to a proactive project initiated by the British Columbia Integrated Child Exploitation Unit which recorded Internet Protocol (IP) addresses that were in possession of, and possibly sharing child pornography. As the initiative focused on Victoria in 2015, notable increases in these offences were reported by this jurisdiction.

Introduction of new violations related to the commodification of sexual activity

In December 2013, the Supreme Court of Canada found the laws surrounding prostitution to be unconstitutional. As a result, new legislation with respect to the commodification of sexual activity was introduced in 2014, and came into effect in December of that year. One of the objectives of the new legislation was “protecting prostitutes, considered to be victims of sexual exploitation” (Casavante and Valiquet 2014). It targets “the exploitation that is inherent in prostitution and the risks of violence posed to those who engage in it” (*Criminal Code*, Chapter 25, Preamble).²¹ In this context, several of these new offences are considered crimes against the person under the *Criminal Code*. These include: the purchasing of sexual services or communicating for that purpose, receiving a material benefit deriving from the purchase of sexual services, procuring of persons for the purpose of prostitution, and advertising sexual services offered for sale. In addition, some other offences related to prostitution are classified as non-violent offences. These include communicating to provide sexual services for consideration, and stopping or impeding traffic for the purpose of offering, providing or obtaining sexual services for consideration.

In 2015, there were 628 police-reported incidents related to the commodification of sexual activity (categorized as violent crime), and another 171 incidents recorded as prostitution (categorized as non-violent crime).

Police report increase in rate of violent firearms offences in 2015

Violent firearms offences include discharging a firearm with intent, using a firearm in the commission of an offence, and pointing a firearm. The combined rate of these offences increased from 5 to 6 incidents per 100,000 population between 2014 and 2015 (+22%). Much of the national increase was due to higher rates in Ontario (+30%), mainly in Toronto (+46%), as well as in Alberta (+31%), and British Columbia (+43%).

About four in ten violent firearms offences consisted of pointing a firearm (43%), another 39% involved discharging a firearm with intent, and 18% were for using a firearm in the commission of an offence. It should be noted, however, that incidents involving a violent firearm violation as well as a more serious *Criminal Code* violation, such as homicide or robbery, would be reported as these more serious violations and not as firearms offences.²²

Text box 5

Measuring crime in Canada: Police-reported data and the General Social Survey on Victimization

In Canada, two main national surveys collect crime-related data: the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey and the General Social Survey (GSS) on Victimization. The UCR Survey collects police-reported data, while the GSS on Victimization collects information from a sample of Canadians aged 15 years and older. The GSS on Victimization is conducted every five years, with the most recent survey conducted in 2014. Unlike the UCR Survey, the GSS on Victimization captures information both on crimes that have been reported to police and those that have not. The GSS on Victimization, however, collects information for a subset of offences—sexual assault, robbery, physical assault, breaking and entering, theft of motor vehicles or their parts, theft of personal property, theft of household property, and vandalism—and does not include crimes committed against businesses or institutions.

While both surveys are used to measure crime, significant methodological and conceptual differences exist between them and affect direct comparisons of data findings (for further information, see Wallace et al. 2009). It is possible, however, to compare trends from the two surveys to better understand changes in the pattern of crimes reported to police. For instance, data from both the UCR survey and the GSS on victimization show large declines in overall violent and property crime between 2004 and 2014.

In contrast, while UCR data show a decline in the rate of sexual assaults over that same period, GSS data show it remained relatively stable. This likely reflects the fact that few sexual assaults are reported to police, making any comparison between both surveys quite difficult. According to the GSS, 31% of the eight crime types measured in the provinces were reported to the police in 2014. Reporting rates ranged from 5% of sexual assaults to 50% of break-ins. Moreover, retrospective questions on child abuse also show that the vast majority (93%) of those who were victimized by an adult before age 15 never reported the abuse to the police or child welfare services.

Among victims reporting to the GSS on Victimization, the most common reason for not reporting a criminal incident to police was that they considered it too minor to be worth reporting (78%). Other reasons for not reporting the criminal incident to police included feeling that the police wouldn't have considered the incident important enough (58%), that there was a lack of evidence (52%), that police would not have found the offender or stolen property (51%), that no one was harmed or there was no financial loss (49%), or that the incident was a private matter and was handled informally (43%).²³

For more information about the results of the 2014 GSS on Victimization, see "Criminal victimization in Canada, 2014" (Perreault 2015), "Criminal victimization in the Territories, 2014" (Perreault and Simpson 2016), and "Victimization of Aboriginal People in Canada" (Boyce 2016).

Non-violent crime

All types of police-reported property crime increased in 2015, in large part due to increases in Alberta

In 2015, most crime reported by police continued to be non-violent in nature, with property offences and other *Criminal Code* offences accounting for four out of five (80%) police-reported crimes. In total, there were almost 1.5 million police-reported non-violent *Criminal Code* incidents in 2015 (excluding traffic), of which over 1.1 million were property crimes (Table 1b). Between 2014 and 2015, the rate of police-reported property crime in Canada increased 4% to 3,220 per 100,000 population.

Increases were recorded for every type of property crime. Over the same period, there was a slight increase in the rate of other non-violent *Criminal Code* offences (excluding traffic) from 915 to 916 per 100,000 population.

After eleven consecutive years of decline, the non-violent CSI, which includes all federal statutes and traffic offences, increased 4% in 2015 (Table 1a). Overall, the higher non-violent CSI for Canada was in large part the result of increased property crime in Alberta, primarily breaking and entering and theft of \$5,000 or under.

The offences which contributed most to the national non-violent CSI increase (see Text box 6) were fraud (with a 15% increase in rate) and breaking and entering (4% increase in rate). Other offences which reported large increases, but with less impact on the non-violent CSI, included possession of stolen property (+13%), counterfeiting (+13%), and child pornography (+10%). In addition, a large increase in terrorism offences was recorded between 2014 and 2015 (from 76 to 173 incidents). About half of terrorism incidents in 2015 were for participating in the activity of a terrorist group (36%) or for leaving Canada to participate in the activity of a terrorist group (16%) (Table 5).

Text box 6
Violations contributing to the change in the non-violent Crime Severity Index (CSI) between 2014 and 2015, by province and territory

	Percent change in non-violent CSI from 2014 to 2015	Violations driving the change in the non-violent CSI
Canada	+4	Fraud, Breaking and entering
Newfoundland and Labrador	+2	Mischief, Theft of \$5,000 or under
Prince Edward Island	-8	Theft of \$5,000 or under
Nova Scotia	-10	Breaking and entering, Theft of \$5,000 or under
New Brunswick	+15	Breaking and entering, Fraud, Theft of \$5,000 or under
Quebec	-5	Breaking and entering
Ontario	+1	Fraud ¹
Manitoba	+9	Breaking and entering
Saskatchewan	+10	Breaking and entering, Fraud
Alberta	+20	Breaking and entering, Theft of \$5,000 or under
British Columbia	+2	Fraud
Yukon	+3	Breaking and entering
Northwest Territories	+4	Breaking and entering
Nunavut	+3	Mischief

1. The increase in the non-violent CSI in Ontario was driven by the increase in fraud, but offset somewhat by decreases in theft of \$5,000 or under and breaking and entering.

Note: Violations driving the change in the non-violent CSI are identified, in order of impact, as those violations where the combined changes in the rates (weighted by the CSI weight) contribute substantially to the overall change in the non-violent CSI (up or down). Where large changes in other violations serve to reduce or offset the net change in the non-violent CSI, these are noted.

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

In 2015, Saskatchewan and Alberta recorded the highest non-violent CSIs of all the provinces (Table 2a). As is generally the case, the three territories had the highest non-violent CSIs in Canada, primarily explained by particularly high levels of mischief, breaking and entering, and disturbing the peace.

Increases in the non-violent CSI were reported in most provinces and territories. Alberta recorded the largest increase in non-violent CSI (+20%), primarily the result of a 34% increase in the rate of breaking and entering as well as a 21% increase in theft of \$5,000 or under. Large increases in non-violent CSIs were also recorded in New Brunswick (+15%), Saskatchewan (+10%) and Manitoba (+9%). In all of these provinces, higher rates of breaking and entering were the main drivers of the increases in the non-violent CSI. Only in Nova Scotia (-10%), Prince Edward Island (-8%), and Quebec (-5%) were there decreases in the non-violent CSI.

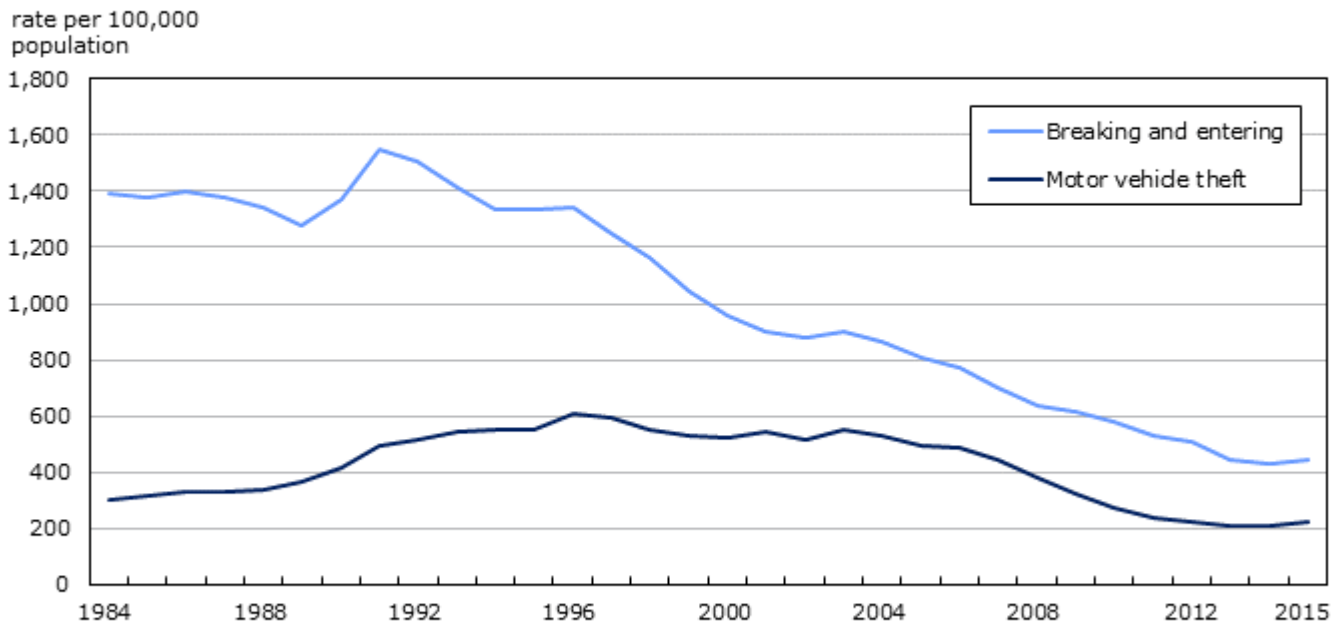
As with the violent CSI, changes in the non-violent CSI varied considerably among Canada's CMAs in 2015 (Table 3). The largest increases in the non-violent CSI were in Calgary (+36%), Moncton (+29%), and Edmonton (+18%), all mainly due to increased levels of breaking and entering and theft of \$5,000 or under. In contrast, notable declines in the non-violent CSI were reported in Halifax (-9%) and Thunder Bay (-9%), and Trois-Rivières (-6%). The violations contributing to these declines varied by CMA. In Canada's largest CMAs, Toronto, Montréal, and Vancouver, the non-violent CSIs changed +2%, -5% and -1%, respectively.

Rate of police-reported break-ins up for the first time since 2003

Breaking and entering is the most serious property crime, and it continued to be one of the most common forms of property crime in 2015, following the less serious violations of theft of \$5,000 or under and mischief. In total, police reported over 159,000 break-ins in 2015, or a rate of 444 per 100,000 population, accounting for 14% of all property-related offences. As such, breaking and entering plays an important role in the year-over-year changes in property crime and crime overall.²⁴ The highest rates of breaking and entering in Canada were reported in the three territories as well as in Saskatchewan. The lowest rates were reported in Ontario, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island (Table 6).

Since peaking in the early 1990s, the police-reported rate of breaking and entering had been generally declining in Canada (Chart 13). In 2015, the rate increased 4%, returning it to 2013 levels. This increase is mainly attributable to a 34% increase in breaking and entering in Alberta, as well as smaller increases in Manitoba (+17%) and Saskatchewan (+9%) (Table 6). In addition, Yukon (+40%), New Brunswick (+19%), and the Northwest Territories (+14%) had relatively large increases, but, with small numbers of incidents, they contributed little to the national rise in break-ins. In contrast, an 8% drop in breaking and entering in Quebec somewhat offset the increases elsewhere. Nova Scotia, Nunavut and Ontario also reported fewer break-ins.

Chart 13
Breaking and entering and motor vehicle theft, police-reported rates, Canada, 1984 to 2015



Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Much of the increase in the rate of breaking and entering at the national level between 2014 and 2015 can be accounted for by increases in the rate of incidents reported by police in Calgary (+53%) and Edmonton (+34%), and somewhat mitigated by a drop in the rate of break-ins in Montréal (-7%) and Vancouver (-6%) (Table 7). A large increase in rate was also reported in Moncton (+59%), while London (-21%), Gatineau (-21%) and Trois-Rivières (-19%) recorded the largest declines. Saskatoon, with a 6% increase in the rate of breaking and entering in 2015, continued to record the highest rate among CMAs (813 per 100,000 population).

Motor vehicle theft up due to increases in Alberta

There were nearly 79,000 incidents of motor vehicle theft reported by police in 2015, resulting in a rate of 220 per 100,000 population. Between 2014 and 2015, the rate of motor vehicle theft in Canada increased 6%. This was the second consecutive increase in the rate following ten years of declines (Chart 13). However, the rate of motor vehicle theft in 2015 was 56% lower than ten years earlier, marking the largest ten-year decline among all types of property crime (Table 5).

As with many other property offences, much of the increase in the rate of motor vehicle theft in 2015 can be attributed to increased levels in Alberta (+32% increase in rate). Large increases in rates of motor vehicle theft were also reported in Yukon (+25%), Prince Edward Island (+19%), and the Northwest Territories (+18%), but with little impact on the change at the national level due to small numbers of incidents. However, a 14% decline in rates of motor vehicle theft in Quebec somewhat mitigated the impact of the increase in Alberta on the national rate.

The highest rates of motor vehicle theft in 2015 were reported in Alberta (532 per 100,000 population), the Northwest Territories (528 per 100,000 population) and Saskatchewan (427 per 100,000 population). Despite the large increase in rate reported in Prince Edward Island in 2015, it still had the lowest rate of motor vehicle theft (65 per 100,000 population) among all provinces and territories, followed by the other Atlantic provinces and Ontario (Table 6).

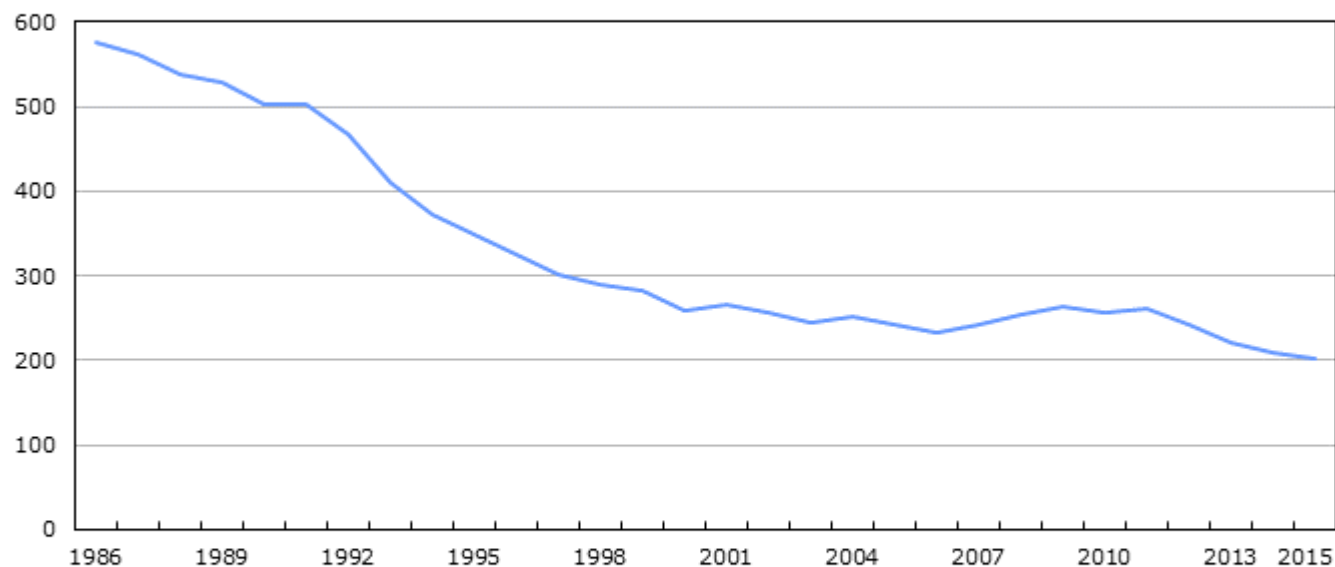
Increases in rates of motor vehicle theft in Alberta's two CMAs, Calgary (+67%) and Edmonton (+16%), accounted for most of the increased number of incidents at the national level in 2015. Windsor and Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo also had notably large increases in rates of motor vehicle theft in 2015 (+39% and +30% respectively). In contrast, Sherbrooke (-41%) and Saint John (-26%) reported relatively large declines (Table 7).

Police-reported impaired driving rate down for fourth consecutive year

Police reported just over 72,000 alcohol or drug impaired driving incidents in 2015, about 2,500 fewer than the year before. The rate of impaired driving decreased by 4% in 2015 to 201 impaired driving incidents per 100,000 population, representing the fourth consecutive decline (Table 5, Chart 14).

Chart 14
Impaired driving, police-reported rates, Canada, 1986 to 2015

rate per 100,000 population



Note: Data not available prior to 1986. Includes alcohol and/or drug impaired operation of a vehicle, alcohol and/or drug impaired operation of a vehicle causing death or bodily harm, failure or refusal to comply with testing for the presence of alcohol or drugs and failure or refusal to provide a breath or blood sample. In some jurisdictions, including British Columbia, impaired driving incidents that meet the elements of the *Criminal Code* may be handled using a provincial statute. Collection of these incidents is within the scope of the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey. Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Since July 2008, under the *Criminal Code*, police can perform compulsory roadside checks and assessments if they suspect a driver is under the influence of drugs (Owusu-Bempah 2014; Perreault 2013). Almost all police-reported impaired driving incidents continued to involve alcohol in 2014 (96%), while a small proportion (4%) involved drugs.

Unlike the overall decline in impaired driving between 2014 and 2015, the number and rate for almost all drug impaired driving violations increased. In total, there were 2,786 drug impaired driving violations in 2015, 268 more than the previous year. Despite a 10% increase in rate, the rate of drug impaired driving (7.8 per 100,000 population) remained low compared with the rate of alcohol impaired driving (193 per 100,000 population). The low rate for drug impaired driving may be partly explained by the fact that determining and measuring the level of drug impairment can be more difficult and less reliable than the measures used to detect alcohol impaired driving (Owusu-Bempah 2014).

Police-reported impaired driving rates declined in every province except New Brunswick, which reported a 5% increase, and Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba where rates were stable (Table 6). The largest declines in impaired driving rates were reported in Newfoundland and Labrador (-12%), Yukon (-10%), Alberta (-9%) and British Columbia (-9%).

It is important to note that the number of impaired driving offences reported by police can be influenced by a number of factors, including changes in legislation, varying law enforcement practices across jurisdictions (e.g., roadside check programs such as Ontario's Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere program (RIDE)), as well as changing societal attitudes toward drinking and driving (Perreault 2013).

Cannabis offences continue to decline for fourth year in a row

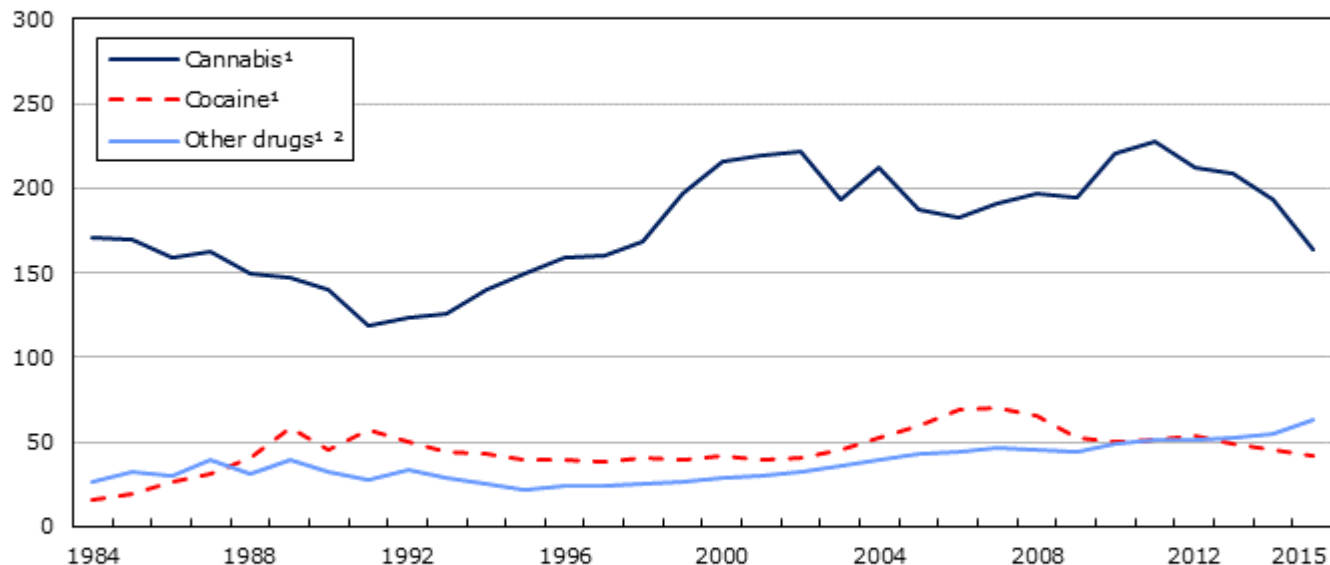
In Canada, drug offences such as possession, trafficking, importation and exportation, and production fall under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA)*. In 2015, there were about 96,000 *CDSA* offences reported by police, representing a rate of 269 per 100,000 population (Table 5). Of these offences, half (51%) were incidents of cannabis possession and another 9% were related to the trafficking, production or distribution of cannabis.

In contrast to the increase in the rate of crime under the *Criminal Code*, the overall rate of *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA)* violations decreased in 2015, down 9% from the previous year. This decrease was primarily the result of fewer police-reported drug offences involving cannabis. Both the rate of cannabis possession (-15%), as well as the rate of drug offences related to the trafficking, production, and distribution of cannabis (-16%) fell notably between 2014 and 2015, due mainly to decreases in the rates of cannabis-related offences in Ontario (-16%) and British Columbia (-17%). Declines in the rates of cannabis offences were reported in all provinces and territories, except Nunavut which recorded a 9% increase and Prince Edward Island where rates remained stable (Table 6).

Over the longer term, between 2005 and 2015, the decrease in the overall rate of police-reported drug crime has been smaller than the decrease in the overall crime rate (*Criminal Code* offences, excluding traffic) (-7% versus -29%). While the police-reported crime rate fell steadily between 2005 and 2014 before increasing in 2015, the rate of drug crime had increased 14% between 2005 and 2011, then began to decline. The decline between 2011 and 2015 was mainly the result of decreases in police-reported incidents related to cannabis (Chart 15).

Chart 15
Drug offences, police-reported rates, Canada,
1984 to 2015

rate per 100,000
 population



1. Includes possession, trafficking, production or distribution.

2. Includes heroin, methamphetamines (e.g., crystal meth), methylenedioxyamphetamine (e.g., ecstasy) and other controlled drugs and substances, as well as possession of precursors and equipment.

Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Trends in police-reported drug offences in Canada may be related to varying policies, practices and resources available across different police services and over time. For instance, a police service’s decision to target particular offences or offenders may result in the identification of more incidents of drug-related crime, rather than representing an increase in the number of incidents that are actually occurring (Dauvergne 2009). Similarly, when other types of crime are declining, police may be able to focus more resources and efforts on crime involving drugs. Comparisons between police services or, more broadly, between geographical areas, should therefore be made with caution.

While the rate of cannabis and cocaine-related drug offences has declined in recent years, other drug crime has grown steadily

Drug offences related to cocaine were the second most common type of drug crime in 2015, comprising 16% of all incidents under the CDSA. Like cannabis, the rate of cocaine-related crime has been declining in recent years (from a peak in 2007). The rate of offences related to cocaine declined 7% in 2015, as a result of decreases in Alberta (-12%) and British Columbia (-17%), mainly in Vancouver. The only increases in rates of cocaine offences were reported in Nunavut, the Northwest Territories, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Saskatchewan (Table 6).

CDSA offences related to drugs other than cannabis or cocaine accounted for 23% of all drug crimes in 2015.²⁵ Unlike offences related to cannabis and cocaine, however, rates of these other drug offences increased 14% in 2015. This included a notable increase in the rate of possession and trafficking, production and distribution of methamphetamines (i.e., crystal meth) (+25%), as well as increases in the rate of heroin offences (+18%), methylenedioxyamphetamine (i.e., ecstasy) (+7%) and other drugs such as prescription drugs (including opioids such as Fentanyl), LSD, and “date rape” drugs (+6%).

Increases in rates of police-reported drug crime related to these other drug offences (non-cannabis/non-cocaine) were reported in most provinces and territories, but the national increase was primarily the result of higher rates reported in British Columbia (+21%), Alberta (+30%), Quebec (+10%), and Saskatchewan (+56%) (Table 6).

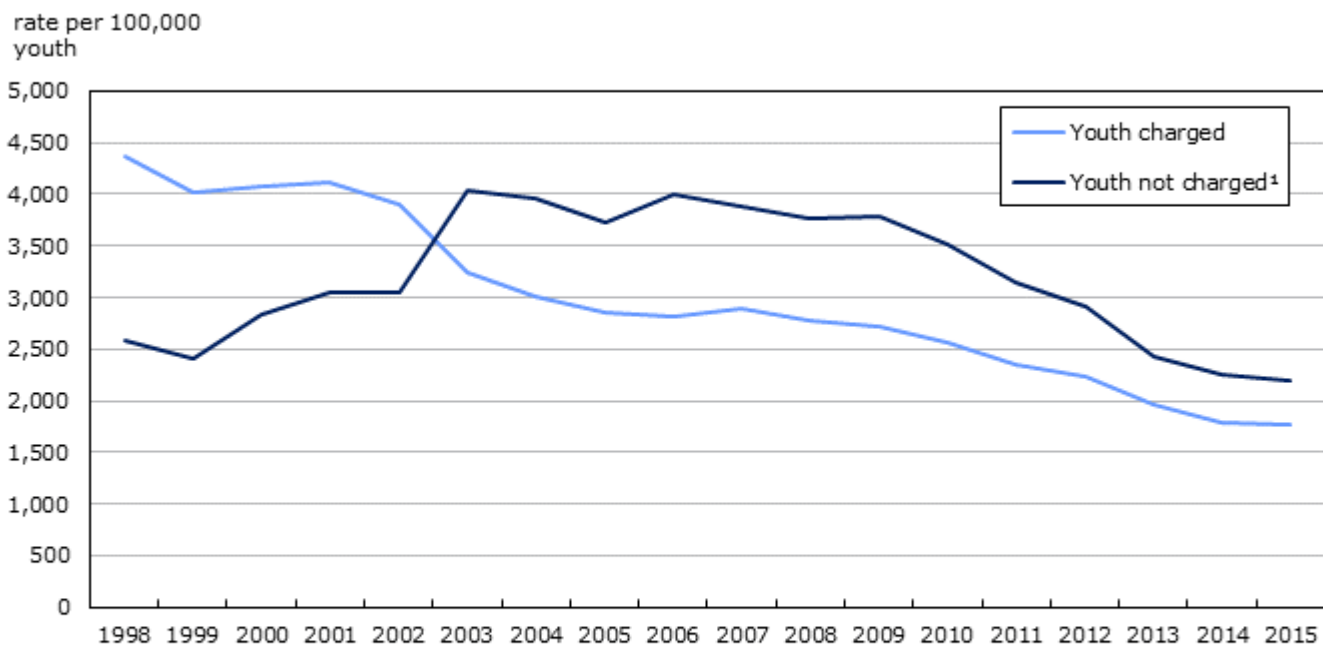
Police-reported youth crime

Fewer youth accused of crime in 2015

While overall crime statistics are based on the number of criminal incidents reported by police (regardless of whether or not an accused is identified), measures of police-reported youth crime are based on the number of youth, aged 12 to 17 years, accused in a criminal incident by police.²⁶ The number of youth accused includes youth who were either charged, or recommended for charging, as well as those who were cleared by other means, including those diverted from the formal criminal justice system through the use of warnings, cautions, referrals to community programs, and other diversion programs.

In total, there were about 92,000 youth accused of a criminal offence in 2015, about 2,700 fewer than in the previous year. Of the youth accused of a criminal offence in 2015, 55% were dealt with by other means, while the remaining 45% were formally charged by police. Since the implementation of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* in 2003, the rate of youth dealt with by other means has continued to be higher than the rate of youth formally charged (Chart 16).

Chart 16
Youth accused of crime, by clearance status, Canada, 1998 to 2015



1. Includes youth diverted from the formal criminal justice system through the use of extrajudicial measures, such as warnings, cautions or referrals to community programs.

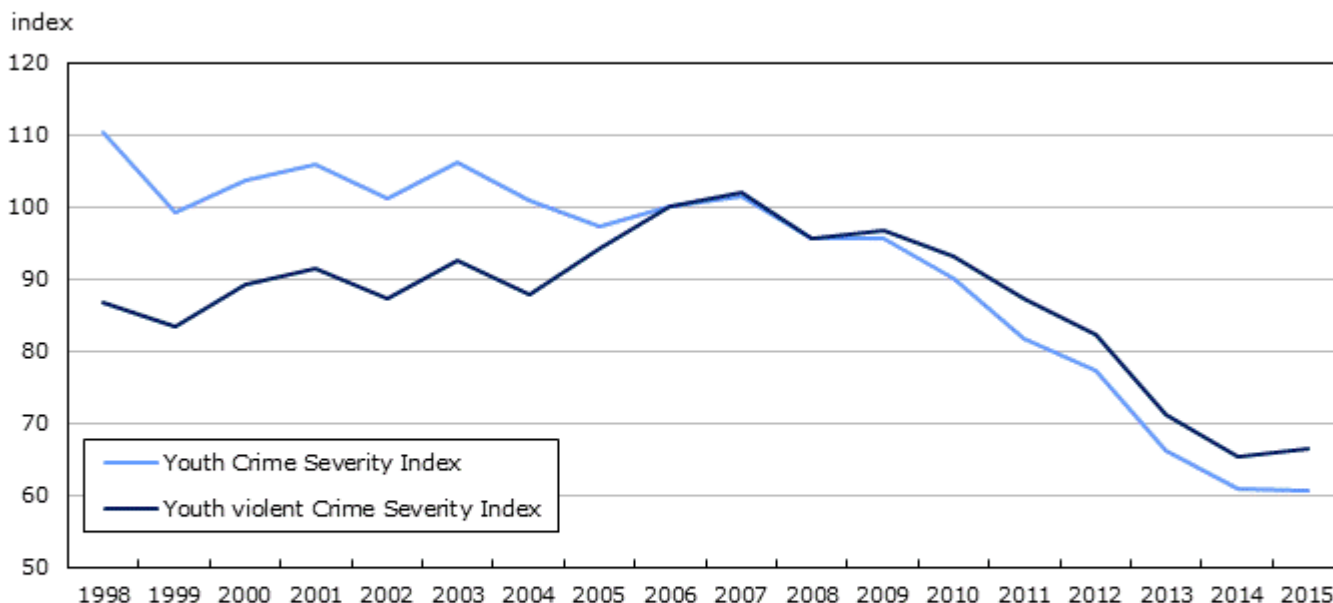
Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Refers to the number of youth aged 12 to 17 years who were either charged (or recommended for charging) by police or diverted from the formal criminal justice system through the use of warnings, cautions, referrals to community programs, etc. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 youth population. Populations are based on July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Volume and severity of youth crime continued its downward trend

Between 2014 and 2015, the Youth Crime Severity Index (YCSI), which measures both the volume and severity of crime involving youth accused (both charged and not charged), declined 1%, primarily due to decreases in non-violent crime.²⁷ This was the ninth consecutive decline in the youth CSI since 2007 (Table 8a, Chart 17). In addition, the rate of youth accused by police was down 2% in 2015, to a rate of 3,973 youth accused per 100,000 youth population (Table 8b).

Chart 17
Police-reported youth Crime Severity Indexes, Canada, 1998 to 2015



Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). Refers to the number of youth aged 12 to 17 who were either charged (or recommended for charging) by police or diverted from the formal criminal justice system through the use of warnings, cautions, referrals to community programs, etc. The youth Crime Severity Indexes (CSI) are based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Populations are based on July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

The police-reported youth crime rate has been on a general downward trend since peaking in 1991. The rate of youth accused of crime has fallen 40% since 2005. The decline over this time period was largely the result of a 47% decrease in the rate of youth accused of property crime.

The rate of youth accused of crime declined or remained stable for the most common crimes committed by youth. In particular, between 2014 and 2015, the rate of youth accused of property crime decreased 1%. Mischief and theft of \$5,000 or under were the most frequent property crimes among youth (accounting for 73% of youth accused of property offences in 2015). Between 2014 and 2015, the rate of youth accused of mischief decreased 1% and there was no significant change in the rate of youth accused of theft \$5,000 and under.

In addition, youth crime rates for the most frequent violent crimes committed by youth, common assault and uttering threats, which together accounted for 58% of youth accused of violent crime in 2015, fell 2% and 8%, respectively.

While the rate of youth accused in violent crimes overall declined 1% in 2015, the number and rate of youth accused of some of the most serious crimes increased (Table 9a, Table 9b). For instance, 35 youth were accused of homicide in 2015, which was 6 more than in 2014, yet below the previous 10-year average of 58 youth. In contrast, the number of youth accused of attempted murder fell from 52 youth in 2014 to 43 youth in 2015, resulting in a 16% decrease in the rate of youth accused. However, rates of youth accused of sexual assault (all levels combined) increased 4% in 2015, and the rate of youth accused of major physical assault (levels 2 and 3) increased 2%.

The rates of youth accused of breaking and entering (-4%) and robbery (-1%) both declined between 2014 and 2015. The rate of youth accused of offences under the *CDSA* (drug crimes) fell 18% between 2014 and 2015 with decreases in most types of drug offences. The rate of youth accused of cannabis possession, which accounted for 79% of youth drug crime in 2015, declined 19%, while the rate of youth accused of other cannabis offences (trafficking, production or distribution), which accounted for another 7% of youth accused of drug crime, declined 27%.

Youth Crime Severity Index down in most provinces and territories

Changes in the volume and severity of youth crime (as measured by the YCSI) between 2014 and 2015 varied among provinces and territories. The largest declines were reported in Prince Edward Island (-38%), Nova Scotia (-18%) and the Northwest Territories (-12%) (Table 10). New Brunswick, British Columbia, Ontario and Alberta recorded smaller decreases

in their youth CSI. Other provinces and territories reported increases in their youth CSIs, notably Saskatchewan (+11%), Nunavut (+7%) and Yukon (+4%). The youth CSI increased 1% in Manitoba and Newfoundland and Labrador, and there was no significant change in Quebec.

Youth crime continued to decline in the provinces with the greatest increases in overall crime in 2015. For example, in Alberta, which recorded an 18% increase in its CSI, the youth CSI decreased 1% and the youth crime rate fell 5%. Similarly, New Brunswick, which reported a 12% increase in CSI, had a 7% decrease in its youth CSI and a 9% decrease in its youth crime rate.

While the rate of youth charged by police declined 1% and the rate of youth dealt with by police by other means declined 2% in 2015, the rate of adults charged increased 2%.²⁸

Summary

Both the police-reported Crime Severity Index (CSI) and the crime rate increased in Canada in 2015 after eleven years of decline, primarily the result of a large increase in police-reported crime in Alberta. While increases were reported in most offences in 2015, the overall increase in the volume and severity of crime, as measured by the CSI, was primarily due to more incidents of fraud, breaking and entering, robbery, and homicide. Most provinces and territories reported increases in their CSIs, with the exception of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Yukon and Nunavut.

While the overall police-reported crime rate in Canada increased between 2014 and 2015, the rate of youth accused of crime as well as the youth CSI continued to decline. Declines in the rate of youth accused were seen in the majority of offences, including many forms of property crime and most forms of violent crime.

Text box 7

Recent *Juristat* articles on topics related to police-reported crime statistics and criminal victimization

Police-reported crime in Canada's Provincial North and Territories, 2013
 Mental health and contact with police in Canada, 2012
 Trends in reporting criminal victimization to police, 1999 to 2009
 Drug-related offences in Canada, 2013
 Trends in offences against the administration of justice
 Criminal victimization in Canada, 2014
 Homicide in Canada, 2014
 Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile, 2014
 Youth crime in Canada, 2014
 Criminal victimization in the territories, 2014
 Young adult offenders in Canada, 2014
 Re-contact with the Saskatchewan justice system
 Victimization of Aboriginal people in Canada, 2014
 Trafficking in persons in Canada, 2014

Key terminology and definitions

Most serious violation: Individuals accused of crime are categorized by the most serious violation occurring in the police-reported incident in which they are accused. In incidents with multiple accused involving multiple violations, each individual in the incident will be coded with the most serious violation even if this was not the violation(s) that the person was accused of. It is therefore possible that the most serious violation is not the offence for which an individual was accused, but one committed by another accused in the incident. Moreover, in this type of incident, any charges against the accused may be for less serious offences in the incident.

Violent offences: Involve the use or threatened use of violence against a person, including homicide, attempted murder, assault, sexual assault, and robbery. Robbery is considered a violent offence because, unlike other theft offences, it involves the use or threat of violence. See Table 5 for a list of selected offences in this category.

Homicide: Includes first and second degree murder, manslaughter, and infanticide. Deaths caused by criminal negligence, suicide, accidental or justifiable homicides are not included in this classification.

Assault (physical): Refers to the *Criminal Code* categories of physical assault.

Common assault: Includes the *Criminal Code* category assault (level 1) which includes pushing, slapping, punching, and face-to-face verbal threats.

Major assault: Includes *Criminal Code* assaults levels 2 and 3:

Level 2—assault with a weapon: Involves carrying, using or threatening to use a weapon against someone or causing someone bodily harm, i.e. assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm.

Level 3—aggravated assault: Involves wounding, maiming, disfiguring or endangering the life of someone.

Other assaults: Includes other forms of physical assault including: unlawfully causing bodily harm, discharge firearm with intent, using firearm/imitation of firearm in commission of offence, pointing a firearm, criminal negligence causing bodily harm, trap likely to or causing bodily harm, and other assaults.

Sexual assault: Is classified into one of three levels according to the seriousness of the incident: level 1, the category of least physical injury to the victim; level 2, sexual assault with a weapon, threats to use a weapon, or causing bodily harm; and level 3, sexual assault that wounds, maims, disfigures or endangers the life of the victim.

Sexual violations against children: Include *Criminal Code* violations that specifically concern offences involving child and youth victims. These include sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, making sexually explicit material available to children for the purpose of facilitating sexual offences against children/youth, luring a child via a computer or the agreement/arrangement by means of telecommunication to commit a sexual offence against a child, and, as of December 2014, the offences of parent or guardian procuring sexual activity (*Criminal Code*, s. 170), and householder permitting prohibited sexual activity (*Criminal Code*, s. 171). A “householder” is any “owner, occupier or manager of premises, or any other person who has control of premises or assists in the management or control of premises” (*Criminal Code*, 171). Incidents of child pornography are not included in the category of sexual violations against children. Excludes incidents of sexual assault levels 1, 2 and 3 against children and youth which are counted within those three violation categories.

Other sexual offences not involving assault or sexual violations against children are included with “other violent offences”.

Commodification of sexual activity: In December 2014, new legislation came into effect governing prostitution-related activities. The new legislation is listed under “crimes against the person” in the *Criminal Code* and targets “the exploitation that is inherent in prostitution and the risks of violence posed to those who engage in it” (*Criminal Code*, Chapter 25, Preamble). New violations classified as “Violent crime” under “commodification of sexual activity” include: the purchasing of sexual services or communicating for that purpose, receiving a material benefit deriving from the purchase of sexual services, procuring of persons for the purpose of prostitution, and advertising sexual services offered for sale. In addition, a number of other offences related to prostitution continue to be considered non-violent offences and are classified under “Other *Criminal Code* offences”. These include communicating to provide sexual services for consideration, and stopping or impeding traffic for the purpose of offering, providing or obtaining sexual services for consideration.

Property offences: Involve unlawful acts to gain property, but do not involve the use or threat of violence against the person. They include offences such as break and enter, theft, and mischief. See Table 5 for a list of selected offences in this category.

“Other” *Criminal Code* offences: Include crimes such as disturbing the peace and offences against the administration of justice such as failure to comply with an order, failure to appear, or breach of probation.

Drug-related offences: Include offences under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* such as importation, exportation, trafficking, production and possession of drugs or narcotics. Examples include cannabis/marijuana, cocaine, heroin, and other drugs such as crystal meth, PCP, LSD and ecstasy.

Other federal statute violations: Include violations of federal statutes other than the *Criminal Code* and the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*. These include violations of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*.

Survey description

Uniform Crime Reporting Survey

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey was established in 1962 with the co-operation and assistance of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police. The scope of the survey is *Criminal Code* offences and other federal statutes that have been reported to federal, provincial or municipal police services in Canada and that have been substantiated through investigation by these services.

Coverage of the UCR aggregate data reflects virtually 100% of the total caseload for all police services in Canada. One incident can involve multiple offences. In order to ensure comparability, counts presented in this article are based upon the most serious offence in the incident as determined by a standard classification rule used by all police services. Counts based upon all violations are available upon request.

Each year, the UCR database is “frozen” at the end of May for the production of crime statistics for the preceding calendar year. However, police services continue to send updated data to Statistics Canada after this date for incidents that occurred in previous years. Generally, these revisions constitute new accused records, as incidents are solved and accused persons are identified by police. However, some new incidents may be added and previously reported incidents may be deleted as new information becomes known.

Revisions are accepted for a one-year period after the data are initially released. For example, when the 2015 crime statistics are released, the 2014 data are updated with any revisions that have been made between May 2014 and May 2015. The data are revised only once and are then permanently frozen. Over the past 11 years (2005 to 2015 releases), data corresponding to previous years have been revised upward 8 times and revised downward 3 times, with an average annual revision of 0.20%. The 2014 revision to counts of persons charged and youth not charged resulted in a 0.5% increase to 2014 counts.

Measuring incidents of crime

Data from the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey are used to calculate both the traditional crime rate and the Crime Severity Index (CSI). Both the traditional crime rate and the CSI are based on the aggregate count of criminal incidents. A criminal incident involves one or more related offences that are committed during a single criminal event and have been reported to and substantiated by police. Where there are multiple victims within a single criminal event, a separate aggregate incident is counted for each victim. For example, a single incident involving an assault on three victims at the same time and location is counted in the aggregate statistics as three incidents of assault.

Police services can report up to four violations for each incident; however, this has typically only been the practice since the late 1980s and not for all police services. Therefore, both the traditional crime rate and the CSI are based on the most serious violation in the criminal incident. By basing the measures on the most serious offence in an incident, it allows for historical comparisons, as well as better comparisons among police services.

It is possible, however, that by counting only the most serious violation, some offences may be underrepresented. This has little or no effect on serious violent offences, such as homicide, sexual assault and aggravated assault. However, some, but not all, minor offences are less likely to be the most serious when occurring at the same time as other more serious violations. These secondary offences, therefore, are not included in the calculation of aggregate statistics, the crime rate or the CSI.

For more information on counting crime in Canada, see *Measuring Crime in Canada: Introducing the Crime Severity Index and Improvements to the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey* (Wallace et al. 2009) and *The Methodology of the Police-Reported Crime Severity Index* (Babiyak et al. 2009).

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Notes

1. These data conform to a nationally approved set of common crime categories and definitions that have been developed in co-operation with the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police. The UCR Survey collects and reports on police-reported federal statute offences.
2. To publish police-reported crime statistics in as timely a way as possible, this report relies on aggregate data (totals), which are the first crime data available each calendar year. More detailed data on the characteristics of incidents, victims and accused persons will be available following the release of this report, and will be accessible for custom data requests or possible inclusion in future editions of *Juristat*.
3. Data at the police service level are available on CANSIM (tables 252-0075 to 252-0090) and upon request.
4. Trends in youth accused of crime are not directly comparable to trends in overall crime. For instance, instead of measuring the number of criminal incidents per 100,000 population, the youth accused rate is calculated as the number of youth accused (both charged and not charged) per 100,000 youth population. Similarly, the youth CSI is also based upon youth accused rather than criminal incidents.
5. Information on the total number of violations is available upon request.
6. To calculate weights, the CSI uses national average sentences which are adjusted every five years in order to account for changes in sentencing patterns, or changes to the *Criminal Code* and other federal statutes. The CSI weights were most recently adjusted in 2013 and applied retroactively to UCR data for 2011 onwards. Outliers (atypically very long and unique sentences for a given offence) are not included in the average.
7. Nunavut reported a 4% increase in the crime rate.
8. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CMA typically comprises more than one police service. The Oshawa CMA is excluded from this analysis due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.
9. Peterborough, Brantford, Guelph, Barrie, and Kelowna became CMAs in 2006. As a result, percent changes are calculated from 2006 to 2015 for these CMAs.
10. Part way through 2013, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police revised policing boundaries for rural detachments in New Brunswick. This resulted in a change in the census metropolitan area (CMA) boundaries that are determined for the purpose of reporting crime statistics. As such, 2014 and 2015 data for the New Brunswick CMAs of Saint John and Moncton are not comparable to previous years.
11. The violent crime category also includes some other offences such as sexual violations against children, violent firearms offences, robbery, and extortion, listed in other parts of the *Criminal Code*.
12. See “Key terminology and definitions”.
13. Due to small populations, the Territories are more susceptible to considerable year-over-year fluctuations in both their CSI and crime rates.
14. Information on police-reported crime is not available for the CMA of Oshawa due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.
15. Prior to 1998, the UCR Survey based the number of robberies on the number of incidents. As of 1998, robberies are counted according to the number of victims directly involved in the incident. This change aligned with the method used for counting all other violent crimes. As such, data on robbery from 1998 onward are not comparable with pre-1998 data.
16. The decrease in the robbery rate in Nunavut is the result of an increase in population, as 19 robberies were reported in both 2014 and 2015.
17. See “Key terminology and definitions”.
18. The decrease in the rate of sexual violations against children is primarily the result of the increase in population, as the number of incidents changed little (from 4,534 in 2014 to 4,532 in 2015).
19. Incidents of child pornography are not included in the category of sexual violations against children. The offence of “Child Pornography” includes offences under section 163.1 of the *Criminal Code* which makes it illegal to access, possess, make, print, or distribute child pornography. When the actual victim is not identified, this offence is reported to the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey with the most serious offence being “Child Pornography” which falls under the larger crime category of “Other *Criminal Code*”. In cases where an actual victim is identified, police will report the most serious offence as sexual assault, sexual exploitation or other sexual violations against children, which falls under the category of “Violent Crimes”, and child pornography may be reported as a secondary violation.

20. Due to the complexity of cyber incidents of child pornography, the data likely reflect the number of active or closed investigations for the year rather than the total number of incidents reported to police. Further, data are based on police-reported incidents that are recorded in police services' records management systems.
21. Offences related to prostitution were previously categorized as non-violent "Other *Criminal Code* Offences". However, the new legislation is included as crimes against the person in the *Criminal Code*. As such, after consultation with the police and Justice Canada, the decision was made to amend the UCR to move the violations in question from the category "Other *Criminal Code* Offences" to the category of "Violent crime".
22. See Text box 1 for a description of the process for identifying the most serious violation.
23. Respondents were able to provide more than one reason for not reporting.
24. It is worth noting that breaking and entering has a considerable impact on the CSI and non-violent CSI because of the number of incidents as well as its relatively high weight in the calculation of the CSI (highest for all property offences).
25. Includes heroin, methamphetamines (i.e., crystal meth), methylenedioxyamphetamine (e.g., ecstasy) and other controlled drugs and substances such as prescription drugs (including opioids such as Fentanyl), barbiturates, LSD, and "date rape" drugs, as well as possession of precursors and equipment.
26. The overall crime rate is calculated as the number of criminal incidents reported by police per 100,000 total population (whether or not an accused of any age was identified). The youth crime rate is calculated as the number of youth accused (charged and not charged) per 100,000 youth.
27. The Youth Crime Severity Index is based on the same principles as the overall Crime Severity Index, which reflects the relative seriousness of different offences, but uses the number of youths accused instead of an incident count.
28. Information for 2015 on the rate of adults accused who were cleared by means other than a charge were not available at the time of this report.

Detailed data tables

Table 1a
Police-reported Crime Severity Indexes, Canada, 2005 to 2015

Year	Total Crime Severity Index		Violent Crime Severity Index		Non-violent Crime Severity Index	
	index	percent change from previous year	index	percent change from previous year	index	percent change from previous year
2005	101.3	-3	98.5	3	102.4	-4
2006	100.0	-1	100.0	2	100.0	-2
2007	95.3	-5	97.8	-2	94.3	-6
2008	90.6	-5	95.1	-3	88.9	-6
2009	87.8	-3	94.3	-1	85.3	-4
2010	82.9	-6	89.2	-5	80.5	-6
2011	77.6	-6	85.7	-4	74.5	-8
2012	75.4	-3	81.9	-5	72.9	-2
2013	68.8	-9	73.9	-10	66.8	-8
2014 ^r	66.7	-3	70.5	-5	65.2	-2
2015	69.7	5	74.5	6	67.8	4
Percent change 2005 to 2015	-31	...	-24	...	-34	...

... not applicable

^r revised

Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). Crime Severity Indexes are based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Data on the Crime Severity Indexes are available beginning in 1998. Percent changes are based on unrounded rates. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Table 1b
Police-reported crime rate, Canada, 2005 to 2015

Year	Total crime (crime rate)			Violent crime			Property crime			Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences		
	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year
2005	2,361,974	7,325	-4	447,857	1,389	-1	1,574,808	4,884	-5	339,309	1,052	-2
2006	2,359,804	7,245	-1	451,652	1,387	0 ^s	1,566,315	4,809	-2	341,837	1,050	0 ^s
2007	2,271,754	6,908	-5	445,252	1,354	-2	1,488,103	4,525	-6	338,399	1,029	-2
2008	2,204,479	6,631	-4	443,608	1,334	-1	1,415,572	4,258	-6	345,299	1,039	1
2009	2,172,809	6,461	-3	444,533	1,322	-1	1,386,184	4,122	-3	342,092	1,017	-2
2010	2,094,338	6,159	-5	439,220	1,292	-2	1,305,150	3,838	-7	349,968	1,029	1
2011	1,984,790	5,779	-6	424,338	1,236	-4	1,214,312	3,536	-8	346,140	1,008	-2
2012	1,957,227	5,632	-3	416,147	1,197	-3	1,193,600	3,435	-3	347,480	1,000	-1
2013	1,826,431	5,195	-8	384,385	1,093	-9	1,106,509	3,147	-8	335,537	954	-5
2014 ^r	1,793,612	5,046	-3	370,050	1,041	-5	1,098,399	3,090	-2	325,163	915	-4
2015	1,863,675	5,198	3	380,795	1,062	2	1,154,315	3,220	4	328,565	916	0 ^s
Percent change 2005 to 2015	...	-29	...	...	-24	...	...	-34	...	...	-13	...

... not applicable

0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

^r revised

Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Crime rates are based upon *Criminal Code* incidents, excluding traffic offences. See Table 5 for a list of offences included in the total violent crime, total property crime and total other crime categories. Counts are based upon the most serious violation in the incident. One incident may involve multiple violations. Data for the rates of total, violent, property and other crime categories are available beginning in 1962. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. Percent changes are based on unrounded rates. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Table 2a
Police-reported Crime Severity Indexes, by province and territory, 2015

Province and territory	Total Crime Severity Index			Violent Crime Severity Index		Non-violent Crime Severity Index	
	index	percent change 2014 to 2015	percent change 2005 to 2015	index	percent change 2014 to 2015	index	percent change 2014 to 2015
Newfoundland and Labrador	65.6	5	-16	66.4	15	65.2	2
Prince Edward Island	49.7	-10	-35	40.8	-14	52.8	-8
Nova Scotia	61.9	-7	-39	67.5	1	59.8	-10
New Brunswick	63.0	12	-21	60.4	4	63.8	15
Quebec	55.7	-3	-38	65.8	4	51.9	-5
Ontario	50.6	2	-34	59.2	3	47.4	1
Manitoba	104.3	8	-33	135.9	6	92.6	9
Saskatchewan	135.8	10	-25	134.8	9	135.9	10
Alberta	102.3	18	-16	96.5	12	104.2	20
British Columbia	94.7	4	-35	83.0	7	98.8	2
Yukon	183.6	-2	-8	207.7	-13	174.4	3
Northwest Territories	319.0	10	-7	357.7	28	304.3	4
Nunavut	270.2	-4	-17	380.5	-15	229.5	3
Canada	69.7	5	-31	74.5	6	67.8	4

Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). Crime Severity Indexes are based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Data on provincial and territorial Crime Severity Indexes are available beginning in 1998. Percent changes are based on unrounded rates. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Table 2b
Police-reported crime rate, by province and territory, 2015

Province and territory	Total crime (crime rate)				Violent crime			Property crime			Other Criminal Code offences		
	number	rate	percent change 2014 to 2015	percent change 2005 to 2015	number	rate	percent change 2014 to 2015	number	rate	percent change 2014 to 2015	number	rate	percent change 2014 to 2015
Newfoundland and Labrador	30,575	5,793	4	-6	7,204	1,365	9	18,151	3,439	5	5,220	989	-6
Prince Edward Island	6,065	4,141	-12	-46	1,078	736	-13	4,206	2,872	-13	781	533	-6
Nova Scotia	46,864	4,970	-9	-39	11,057	1,173	-7	27,776	2,945	-11	8,031	852	-6
New Brunswick	37,189	4,933	10	-23	8,939	1,186	1	22,460	2,979	15	5,790	768	7
Quebec	279,859	3,387	-3	-36	79,093	957	2	166,181	2,011	-4	34,585	419	-7
Ontario	489,195	3,547	0 ^s	-33	108,353	786	0 ^s	314,915	2,283	1	65,927	478	0 ^s
Manitoba	105,557	8,161	5	-31	23,157	1,790	4	60,863	4,706	9	21,537	1,665	-3
Saskatchewan	126,723	11,178	6	-21	22,899	2,020	2	70,507	6,220	10	33,317	2,939	0 ^s
Alberta	333,924	7,957	12	-19	54,206	1,292	3	216,619	5,162	19	63,099	1,504	-1
British Columbia	367,354	7,844	3	-33	56,994	1,217	6	233,159	4,979	2	77,201	1,648	6
Yukon	8,835	23,605	0 ^s	6	1,533	4,096	-9	3,604	9,629	4	3,698	9,880	0 ^s
Northwest Territories	19,538	44,316	1	4	3,348	7,594	10	10,315	23,396	2	5,875	13,326	-3
Nunavut	11,997	32,495	4	-7	2,934	7,947	-2	5,559	15,057	8	3,504	9,491	5
Canada	1,863,675	5,198	3	-29	380,795	1,062	2	1,154,315	3,220	4	328,565	916	0^s

0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Crime rates are based upon *Criminal Code* incidents, excluding traffic offences. See Table 5 for a list of offences included in the total violent crime, total property crime and total other crime categories. Counts are based upon the most serious violation in the incident. One incident may involve multiple violations. Data for the rates of total, violent, property and other crime categories are available beginning in 1962. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. Percent changes are based on unrounded rates. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Table 3
Police-reported Crime Severity Indexes, by census metropolitan area, 2015

Census metropolitan area ^{1, 2, 3}	Population		Total Crime Severity Index		Violent Crime Severity Index		Non-violent Crime Severity Index	
	number	index	percent change 2014 to 2015	percent change 2005 to 2015	index	percent change 2014 to 2015	index	percent change 2014 to 2015
St. John's	205,776	74.1	1	-24	79.6	19	71.9	-4
Halifax	417,868	62.8	-5	-51	79.0	7	56.8	-9
Moncton ⁴	156,163	78.5	20	...	75.6	0 ^s	79.5	29
Saint John ⁴	127,249	56.3	1	...	65.7	7	52.8	-1
Saguenay	167,507	53.8	-3	1	61.3	3	50.9	-5
Québec	799,963	41.8	-6	-42	43.1	-8	41.2	-5
Sherbrooke	198,881	49.2	-6	-35	44.1	-14	50.9	-3
Trois-Rivières	155,534	56.7	-4	-22	59.9	1	55.4	-6
Montréal	4,065,823	59.1	-2	-43	76.1	5	52.8	-5
Gatineau ⁵	328,101	53.6	-5	-40	55.9	-3	52.6	-5
Ottawa ⁶	996,621	46.5	4	-44	53.7	8	43.8	2
Kingston	166,348	56.5	2	-32	54.5	22	57.2	-3
Peterborough ⁷	122,304	55.0	3	-31	56.9	11	54.2	0 ^s
Toronto	6,059,112	45.7	2	-37	64.6	2	38.7	2
Hamilton	752,088	50.5	-1	-40	54.6	-2	49.0	0 ^s
St. Catharines–Niagara	449,098	52.2	2	-37	42.2	1	55.8	2
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	542,511	59.8	7	-24	54.5	6	61.6	8
Brantford ⁷	144,640	77.1	3	-33	70.0	5	79.5	3
Guelph ⁷	130,440	48.4	-1	-19	47.3	-1	48.7	-1
London	508,639	65.4	0 ^s	-30	56.7	21	68.4	-5
Windsor	331,318	62.0	8	-29	67.7	18	59.7	4
Barrie ⁷	213,323	43.3	-1	-44	43.8	3	43.0	-2
Greater Sudbury	164,266	59.4	-3	-28	63.9	0 ^s	57.6	-4
Thunder Bay	121,117	80.1	-11	-27	119.2	-14	65.7	-9
Winnipeg	808,028	87.2	8	-47	122.1	5	74.4	9
Regina	242,714	107.6	5	-48	107.9	5	107.3	5
Saskatoon	310,892	112.5	2	-39	113.5	-7	112.0	6

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 3 — continued
Police-reported Crime Severity Indexes, by census metropolitan area, 2015

Census metropolitan area ^{1, 2, 3}	Population		Total Crime Severity Index		Violent Crime Severity Index		Non-violent Crime Severity Index	
	number	index	percent change 2014 to 2015	percent change 2005 to 2015	index	percent change 2014 to 2015	index	percent change 2014 to 2015
Calgary	1,445,521	78.3	29	-19	72.1	13	80.4	36
Edmonton	1,360,356	101.6	16	-28	103.9	11	100.5	18
Kelowna ⁷	196,026	98.0	9	-31	69.8	16	108.1	8
Abbotsford–Mission	184,352	96.6	14	-37	90.4	14	98.6	15
Vancouver	2,505,033	96.2	1	-35	85.0	8	100.1	-1
Victoria	365,226	72.6	16	-33	69.1	18	73.7	16
Canada	35,851,774	69.7	5	-31	74.5	6	67.8	4

... not applicable

0⁵ value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

1. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CMA typically comprises more than one police service.

2. CMA populations have been adjusted to follow policing boundaries.

3. The Oshawa CMA is excluded from this table due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.

4. Part way through 2013, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police revised policing boundaries for rural detachments in New Brunswick. This resulted in a change in the census metropolitan area (CMA) boundaries that are determined for the purpose of reporting crime statistics. As such, 2014 and 2015 data for the New Brunswick CMAs of Saint John and Moncton are not comparable to previous years.

5. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.

6. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.

7. Peterborough, Brantford, Guelph, Barrie and Kelowna became CMAs in 2006. Therefore, the percent change in Total Crime Severity Index for these CMAs is calculated from 2006 to 2015.

Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). Police-reported statistics may be affected by differences in the way police services deal with offences. In some instances, police or municipalities might choose to deal with some offences using municipal by-laws or provincial provisions rather than *Criminal Code* provisions. Crime Severity Indexes are based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Data on the Crime Severity Indexes by census metropolitan area are available beginning in 1998. Percent changes are based on unrounded rates. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Table 4
Police-reported crime rate, by census metropolitan area, 2015

Census metropolitan area ^{1, 2, 3}	Total crime (crime rate) ⁴		Violent crime		Property crime		Other Criminal Code offences		Drug offences		
	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	
St. John's	5,885	3	-10	1,398	12	3,740	1	747	-1	152	-14
Halifax	4,819	-9	-47	1,095	-7	2,939	-10	784	-5	258	-20
Moncton ⁵	6,771	21	...	1,375	6	4,271	30	1,125	12	191	-28
Saint John ⁵	4,693	-2	...	1,445	2	2,523	-3	725	-4	192	-1
Saguenay	3,194	-1	-14	1,004	-6	1,846	8	344	-25	247	-5
Québec	2,959	0 ^s	-34	884	2	1,759	0 ^s	316	-1	213	-12
Sherbrooke	3,204	-3	-36	632	-14	1,819	-2	754	3	321	-14
Trois-Rivières	3,417	-2	-28	944	8	1,951	-7	521	3	309	-1
Montréal	3,572	-4	-41	889	1	2,268	-5	416	-8	200	-6
Gatineau ⁶	3,725	1	-34	1,105	3	1,927	0 ^s	693	2	449	-7
Ottawa ⁷	3,329	-2	-41	616	-1	2,291	-3	421	-3	149	-7
Kingston	4,793	-4	-25	822	-11	3,427	-1	545	-7	89	-33
Peterborough ⁸	4,287	-4	-33	753	-2	2,734	-8	800	10	157	-1
Toronto	2,892	2	-34	735	3	1,884	2	273	3	177	-9
Hamilton	3,483	-2	-37	699	-9	2,383	1	402	-4	234	-15
St. Catharines–Niagara	3,544	0 ^s	-37	566	-7	2,590	3	389	-8	129	-11
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	4,558	6	-13	791	2	3,087	7	680	8	275	-12
Brantford ⁸	5,731	2	-33	1,260	0 ^s	3,848	3	623	-2	243	-19
Guelph ⁸	3,811	1	-15	665	-1	2,531	-2	615	21	215	-7
London	5,305	-3	-24	771	1	3,394	-4	1,140	-2	209	-14
Windsor	4,470	5	-31	892	6	3,040	5	537	4	140	-1
Barrie ⁸	3,581	-5	-44	721	-6	2,175	-4	685	-6	172	-18
Greater Sudbury	4,319	-5	-23	941	-2	2,576	-10	802	13	235	-1
Thunder Bay	6,078	-6	-30	1,417	-7	3,554	-5	1,106	-8	104	-13
Winnipeg	5,738	6	-49	1,127	5	3,957	7	654	2	132	-7
Regina	8,146	3	-38	1,123	-4	4,956	6	2,067	1	189	-13
Saskatoon	8,427	2	-36	1,238	-6	5,013	6	2,177	-3	235	13

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 4 — continued
Police-reported crime rate, by census metropolitan area, 2015

Census metropolitan area ^{1, 2, 3}	Total crime (crime rate) ⁴		Violent crime		Property crime		Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences		Drug offences		
	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	
Calgary	5,279	25	-20	779	5	4,149	35	351	-14	115	-13
Edmonton	7,625	12	-26	1,174	7	4,671	15	1,780	8	269	-5
Kelowna ⁸	8,170	10	-29	1,078	4	5,348	12	1,744	10	689	-17
Abbotsford–Mission	7,452	15	-37	1,229	10	5,193	20	1,030	2	251	-19
Vancouver	7,407	1	-31	1,043	9	5,072	-3	1,293	9	414	-4
Victoria	6,059	10	-38	1,206	11	3,896	8	956	15	350	-13
Canada	5,198	3	-29	1,062	2	3,220	4	916	0⁵	150	-3

... not applicable

0⁵ value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

1. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CMA typically comprises more than one police service.

2. CMA populations have been adjusted to follow policing boundaries.

3. The Oshawa CMA is excluded from this table due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.

4. Crime rates are based upon *Criminal Code* incidents, excluding traffic offences. See Table 5 for a list of offences included in the total violent crime, total property crime and total other crime categories.

5. Part way through 2013, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police revised policing boundaries for rural detachments in New Brunswick. This resulted in a change in the CMA boundaries that are determined for the purpose of reporting crime statistics. As such, 2014 and 2015 data for the New Brunswick CMAs of Saint John and Moncton are not comparable to previous years.

6. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.

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

8. Peterborough, Brantford, Guelph, Barrie and Kelowna became CMAs in 2006. Therefore, the percent change in total crime rate for these CMAs is calculated from 2006 to 2015.

Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Police-reported statistics may be affected by differences in the way police services deal with offences. In some instances, police or municipalities might choose to deal with some offences using municipal by-laws or provincial provisions rather than *Criminal Code* provisions. Counts are based on the most serious violation in the incident. One incident may involve multiple violations. Data for specific types of crime by CMA are available from 1991. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. Percent changes are based on unrounded rates. Populations are based on July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Table 5
Police-reported crime for selected offences, Canada, 2014 and 2015

Type of offence	2014 ^r		2015		Percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	Percent change in rate 2005 to 2015
	number	rate	number	rate	percent	
Total <i>Criminal Code</i> (excluding traffic) – "Crime rate"	1,793,612	5,046	1,863,675	5,198	3	-29
Total violent crime	370,050	1,041	380,795	1,062	2	-24
Homicide	521	1	604	2	15	-18
Other violations causing death ¹	108	0 ^s	88	0 ^s	-19	-17
Attempted murder	630	2	774	2	22	-15
Sexual assault - level 3 - aggravated	116	0 ^s	104	0 ^s	-11	-47
Sexual assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	332	1	377	1	13	-13
Sexual assault - level 1	20,183	57	20,881	58	3	-18
Sexual violations against children ^{2, 3, 4}	4,534	13	4,532	13	-1	...
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	3,273	9	3,286	9	0 ^s	-5
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	45,096	127	47,119	131	4	-16
Assault - level 1	153,832	433	156,688	437	1	-23
Assault police officer	9,557	27	9,835	27	2	-7
Other assaults	2,148	6	2,140	6	-1	-41
Firearms - use of, discharge, pointing	1,862	5	2,295	6	22	4
Robbery	20,932	59	22,080	62	5	-39
Forcible confinement or kidnapping	3,290	9	3,555	10	7	-18
Abduction	388	1	386	1	-1	-40
Extortion	2,727	8	3,057	9	11	79
Criminal harassment	19,640	55	20,001	56	1	-21
Uttering threats	62,369	175	62,845	175	0 ^s	-31
Threatening or harassing phone calls	13,992	39	14,540	41	3	-46
Commodification of sexual activity ⁵	13	0 ^s	628	2	...	...
Other violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations	4,507	13	4,980	14	10	13
Total property crime	1,098,399	3,090	1,154,315	3,220	4	-34
Breaking and entering	152,167	428	159,338	444	4	-45
Possess stolen property ⁶	17,417	49	19,798	55	13	-48
Theft of motor vehicle	74,010	208	78,849	220	6	-56
Theft over \$5,000 (non-motor vehicle)	14,249	40	15,573	43	8	-19
Theft of \$5,000 or under (non-motor vehicle)	472,912	1,331	488,540	1,363	2	-31
Fraud (excluding identity fraud) ⁷	81,179	228	94,396	263	15	...
Identity fraud ^{7, 8}	12,910	36	14,201	40	9	...
Mischief ⁹	265,027	746	274,829	767	3	-30
Arson	8,528	24	8,791	25	2	-39

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 5 — continued
Police-reported crime for selected offences, Canada, 2014 and 2015

Type of offence	2014 ^r		2015		Percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	Percent change in rate 2005 to 2015
	number	rate	number	rate	percent	
Total other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences	325,163	915	328,565	916	0^s	-13
Counterfeiting	586	2	669	2	13	-60
Weapons violations	13,930	39	14,560	41	4	-20
Child pornography ^{10, 11}	3,894	11	4,314	12	10	216
Prostitution ⁵	1,046	3	171	0 ^s	...	...
Terrorism ¹²	76	0 ^s	173	0 ^s	126	...
Disturbing the peace	103,142	290	104,129	290	0 ^s	-23
Administration of justice violations	173,567	488	175,341	489	0 ^s	0 ^s
Other violations	28,922	81	29,208	81	0 ^s	-23
Total <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic violations	129,433	364	125,834	351	-4	-7
Impaired driving ¹³	74,577	210	72,039	201	-4	-17
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic violations	54,856	154	53,795	150	-3	11
Total drug offences	104,518	294	96,423	269	-9	-7
Possession - cannabis	57,880	163	49,577	138	-15	3
Possession - cocaine	7,658	22	7,284	20	-6	-32
Possession - methamphetamines ^{14, 15}	4,771	13	6,130	17	27	...
Possession - heroin	1,249	4	1,602	4	27	201
Possession - methylenedioxyamphetamine ^{15, 16}	369	1	416	1	12	...
Possession - other drugs ^{15, 17}	6,668	19	7,262	20	8	...
Trafficking, production or distribution - cannabis	10,700	30	9,082	25	-16	-53
Trafficking, production or distribution - cocaine	8,541	24	7,859	22	-9	-27
Trafficking, production or distribution - methamphetamines ^{14, 15}	1,535	4	1,849	5	19	...
Trafficking, production or distribution - heroin	731	2	751	2	2	91
Trafficking, production or distribution - methylenedioxyamphetamine ^{15, 16}	158	0 ^s	153	0 ^s	-4	...
Trafficking, production or distribution - other drugs ^{15, 17}	4,258	12	4,458	12	4	...

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 5 — continued
Police-reported crime for selected offences, Canada, 2014 and 2015

Type of offence	2014 ^a		2015		Percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	Percent change in rate 2005 to 2015
	number	rate	number	rate	percent	
Total other federal statute violations	25,362	71	25,089	70	-2	-28
<i>Youth Criminal Justice Act</i>	8,045	23	6,929	19	-15	-47
Other federal statutes	17,317	49	18,160	51	4	-15
Total - all violations	2,052,925	5,776	2,111,021	5,888	2	-27

... not applicable

^a value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

^r revised

- Includes, for example, criminal negligence causing death.
- Excludes sexual assaults against children and youth, which are reported as level 1, 2 or 3 sexual assault.
- Sexual violations against children is a relatively new crime category with only partial data available prior to 2010, therefore the percentage change from 2005 to 2015 is not shown.
- Includes sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, luring a child via a computer/agreement or arrangement, and making sexually explicit material available to a child for the purpose of facilitating sexual offences against children/youth, and, as of December 2014, the offences of parent or guardian procuring sexual activity (*Criminal Code*, s. 170), and householder permitting prohibited sexual activity (*Criminal Code*, s. 171) are also included. Incidents of child pornography are not included in the category of sexual violations against children.
- In December 2014, new legislation came into effect governing prostitution-related activities. The new legislation targets "the exploitation that is inherent in prostitution and the risks of violence posed to those who engage in it" (*C.C. Chapter 25, preamble*). New violations classified as "Commodification of Sexual Activity" under "Violent Crime" include: the purchasing of sexual services or communicating for that purpose, receiving a material benefit deriving from the purchase of sexual services, procuring of persons for the purpose of prostitution, and advertising sexual services offered for sale. In addition, a number of other offences related to prostitution continue to be considered non-violent offences and are classified under "Other *Criminal Code* offences". These include communicating to provide sexual services for consideration, and stopping or impeding traffic for the purpose of offering, providing or obtaining sexual services for consideration. Therefore, the percentage change from 2005 to 2015 is not shown.
- Includes trafficking and the intent to traffic stolen goods.
- In January 2010, the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey was modified to create new violation codes for identity fraud and identity theft. Prior to 2010, those offences would have been coded as fraud. Therefore, the percentage change from 2005 to 2015 is not shown.
- Includes identity theft.
- Includes altering/removing/destroying a vehicle identification number.
- Due to the complexity of these cyber incidents, the data likely reflect the number of active or closed investigations for the year rather than the total number of incidents reported to police. Data are based on police-reported incidents that are recorded in police services' records management systems.
- The offence of "Child Pornography" includes offences under section 163.1 of the *Criminal Code* which makes it illegal to access, possess, make, print, or distribute child pornography. When the actual victim is not identified, this offence is reported to the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey with the most serious offence being "Child Pornography" which falls under the larger crime category of "Other *Criminal Code*". In cases where an actual victim is identified, police will report the most serious offence as sexual assault, sexual exploitation or other sexual violations against children, which falls under the category of "Violent Violations", and child pornography may be reported as a secondary violation.
- Includes seven new terrorism violations which were introduced mid-year 2013, as a result of the enactment of Bill S-7 (An Act to amend the *Criminal Code*, the *Canada Evidence Act* and the *Security of Information Act*). An additional terrorism violation code was introduced in late 2015, as a result of the enactment of Bill C-51 *Anti-terrorism Act* (2015). Therefore, comparisons to previous years should be made with caution. Terrorism is a relatively new crime category with only partial data available prior to 2010; therefore, the percentage change from 2005 to 2015 is not shown. Due to the length of time for investigations to confirm whether or not the incident is founded, annual counts of terrorism offences are subject to revisions downwards when revised data are released one year after the initial release. Therefore, changes between the current year of data and the previous year should be interpreted with caution.
- Includes alcohol and/or drug impaired operation of a vehicle, alcohol and/or drug impaired operation of a vehicle causing death or bodily harm, failure or refusal to comply with testing for the presence of alcohol or drugs and failure or refusal to provide a breath or blood sample. In some jurisdictions, including British Columbia, impaired driving incidents that meet the elements of the *Criminal Code* may be handled using a provincial statute. Collection of these incidents is within the scope of the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.
- Includes substances such as crystal meth, speed, etc.
- In April 2008, the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey began counting violations involving methamphetamines (e.g., crystal meth) and methylenedioxyamphetamine (MDA) (e.g., ecstasy) under their own unique violation codes. Prior to this, violations involving methamphetamines and MDA were counted within the category of "Other Drugs". Therefore, the percentage change from 2005 to 2015 for violations involving methamphetamines, MDA or "Other Drugs" are not shown.
- Referred to as MDA for short, and commonly known as ecstasy.
- Includes all other drugs listed under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*, as well as possession of precursors and equipment.

Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Police-reported statistics may be affected by differences in the way police services deal with offences. In some instances, police or municipalities might choose to deal with some offences using municipal by-laws or provincial provisions rather than *Criminal Code* provisions. Counts are based on the most serious violation in the incident. One incident may involve multiple violations. Data for specific types of crime are available, in most cases, from 1977. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. Percentage changes are based on unrounded rates. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Table 6
Police-reported crime for selected offences, by province and territory, 2015

Province and territory	Homicide			Attempted murder			Major assault (levels 2 and 3) ¹			Robbery		
	number	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015 ²	number	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015 ²	number	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	number	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015
Newfoundland and Labrador	3	0.57	...	4	0.76	...	643	122	-2	186	35	17
Prince Edward Island	1	0.68	...	3	2.05	...	92	63	-5	16	11	-43
Nova Scotia	12	1.27	100	33	3.50	-42	1,119	119	-3	318	34	13
New Brunswick	11	1.46	10	17	2.26	89	817	108	-4	154	20	4
Quebec	77	0.93	9	212	2.57	29	9,617	116	0 ^s	4,030	49	-1
Ontario	174	1.26	11	247	1.79	21	13,292	96	3	7,636	55	-1
Manitoba	47	3.63	3	30	2.32	56	4,394	340	6	1,642	127	6
Saskatchewan	43	3.79	77	28	2.47	-21	4,207	371	6	978	86	5
Alberta	133	3.17	23	63	1.50	44	8,112	193	9	3,404	81	23
British Columbia	95	2.03	6	129	2.75	39	7,171	153	2	3,651	78	7
Yukon	1	2.67	...	4	10.69	...	178	476	-14	20	53	-24
Northwest Territories	5	11.34	...	3	6.80	...	393	891	7	26	59	30
Nunavut	2	5.42	...	1	2.71	...	370	1,002	-9	19	51	-2
Canada	604	1.68	15	774	2.16	22	50,405	141	3	22,080	62	5

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 6 — continued
Police-reported crime for selected offences, by province and territory, 2015

Province and territory	Sexual assault (levels 1, 2 and 3)			Sexual violations against children ³			Breaking and entering			Motor vehicle theft		
	number	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	number	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	number	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	number	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015
Newfoundland and Labrador	365	69	21	90	17	-12	2,558	485	1	472	89	-3
Prince Edward Island	73	50	23	19	13	5	502	343	2	95	65	19
Nova Scotia	635	67	3	141	15	6	3,202	340	-13	930	99	-14
New Brunswick	438	58	1	136	18	9	3,346	444	19	932	124	-8
Quebec	3,981	48	9	1,636	20	6	32,665	395	-8	13,123	159	-14
Ontario	7,628	55	1	894	6	-7	39,736	288	-1	16,851	122	5
Manitoba	1,356	105	-6	189	15	-10	8,842	684	17	4,108	318	7
Saskatchewan	1,146	101	2	281	25	17	9,407	830	9	4,840	427	10
Alberta	2,880	69	1	463	11	-4	27,517	656	34	22,330	532	32
British Columbia	2,426	52	6	602	13	-13	30,133	643	0 ^s	14,697	314	-3
Yukon	90	240	13	16	43	-17	300	802	40	140	374	25
Northwest Territories	172	390	14	25	57	47	527	1,195	14	233	528	18
Nunavut	172	466	-12	40	108	15	603	1,633	-2	98	265	2
Canada	21,362	60	3	4,532	13	-1	159,338	444	4	78,849	220	6

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 6 — continued
Police-reported crime for selected offences, by province and territory, 2015

Province and territory	Impaired driving ⁴			Cannabis ⁵			Cocaine ⁵			Other drugs ^{5, 6}		
	number	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	number	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	number	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015 ²	number	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,376	261	-12	689	131	-18	159	30	4	232	44	11
Prince Edward Island	386	264	-6	153	104	0 ⁵	22	15	-42	61	42	-9
Nova Scotia	2,653	281	-7	1,919	203	-18	340	36	-4	483	51	5
New Brunswick	1,795	238	5	1,070	142	-6	188	25	-8	324	43	10
Quebec	15,199	184	0 ⁵	13,566	164	-12	2,151	26	-1	5,352	65	10
Ontario	15,280	111	0 ⁵	16,955	123	-16	4,427	32	-2	6,000	44	1
Manitoba	2,811	217	0 ⁵	1,557	120	-20	920	71	-4	533	41	9
Saskatchewan	6,519	575	-5	2,046	180	-18	730	64	4	784	69	56
Alberta	13,189	314	-9	6,543	156	-16	2,922	70	-12	3,181	76	30
British Columbia	11,652	249	-9	13,420	287	-17	3,117	67	-17	5,619	120	21
Yukon	453	1,210	-10	126	337	-21	53	142	-42	9	24	-36
Northwest Territories	534	1,211	-8	346	785	-3	112	254	4	21	48	-32
Nunavut	192	520	-7	269	729	9	2	5	...	22	60	169
Canada	72,039	201	-4	58,659	164	-15	15,143	42	-7	22,621	63	14

... not applicable

0⁵ value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

1. Excludes assaults against peace officers.

2. Due to the variability in small numbers, percent changes have not been calculated when the number of offences is below 5 in any given year.

3. Includes sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, luring a child via a computer/agreement or arrangement, and making sexually explicit material available to a child for the purpose of facilitating sexual offences against children/youth, and, as of December 2014, the offences of parent or guardian procuring sexual activity (*Criminal Code*, s. 170), and householder permitting prohibited sexual activity (*Criminal Code*, s. 171). Incidents of child pornography are not included in the category of sexual violations against children. The offence of "Child Pornography" includes offences under section 163.1 of the *Criminal Code* which makes it illegal to access, possess, make, print, or distribute child pornography. When the actual victim is not identified, this offence is reported to the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey with the most serious offence being "Child Pornography" which falls under the larger crime category of "Other *Criminal Code*". In cases where an actual victim is identified, police will report the most serious offence as sexual assault, sexual exploitation or other sexual violations against children, which falls under the category of "Violent Violations", and child pornography may be reported as a secondary violation.

4. Includes alcohol and/or drug impaired operation of a vehicle, alcohol and/or drug impaired operation of a vehicle causing death or bodily harm, failure or refusal to comply with testing for the presence of alcohol or drugs and failure or refusal to provide a breath or blood sample. In some jurisdictions, including British Columbia, impaired driving incidents that meet the elements of the *Criminal Code* may be handled using a provincial statute. Collection of these incidents is within the scope of the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

5. Includes possession, trafficking, production or distribution.

6. Includes heroin, methamphetamines (e.g., crystal meth), methylenedioxyamphetamine (e.g., ecstasy) and all other drugs listed under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*, as well as possession of precursors and equipment.

Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Police-reported statistics may be affected by differences in the way police services deal with offences. In some instances, police or municipalities might choose to deal with some offences using municipal by-laws or provincial provisions rather than *Criminal Code* provisions. Counts are based on the most serious violation in the incident. One incident may involve multiple violations. Data for specific types of crime are available, in most cases, from 1977. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. Percent changes are based on unrounded rates. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Table 7
Police-reported crime for selected offences, by census metropolitan area, 2015

Census metropolitan area ^{1, 2, 3}	Homicide ⁴		Sexual assault (levels 1, 2 and 3)		Robbery		Breaking and entering		Motor vehicle theft	
	number	rate	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015
St. John's	2	0.97	72	35	73	14	510	-15	106	-15
Halifax	8	1.91	74	0 ^s	59	27	285	2	94	-4
Moncton	2	1.28	45	-4	39	8	574	59	131	-7
Saint John	3	2.36	77	25	31	34	253	-10	68	-26
Saguenay	1	0.60	59	102	19	-30	338	-11	128	23
Québec	2	0.25	48	8	15	-28	321	-10	73	-17
Sherbrooke	1	0.50	49	-3	26	-17	323	6	54	-41
Trois-Rivières	2	1.29	54	31	36	30	378	-19	115	-6
Montréal	47	1.16	43	6	82	1	405	-7	188	-16
Gatineau ⁵	1	0.30	46	11	22	-7	305	-21	97	12
Ottawa ⁶	7	0.70	54	0 ^s	58	13	233	9	89	-6
Kingston	3	1.80	65	-7	22	31	332	0 ^s	79	-7
Peterborough	1	0.82	87	39	49	22	407	18	59	-18
Toronto	82	1.35	46	0 ^s	76	-6	225	1	113	2
Hamilton	7	0.93	60	-1	58	4	294	-9	218	-6
St. Catharines–Niagara	7	1.56	59	87	35	-16	422	3	153	12
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	6	1.11	57	-12	47	27	395	10	139	30
Brantford	0	0.00	77	-1	60	18	528	-6	464	26
Guelph	2	1.53	49	-11	23	10	284	-10	77	13
London	8	1.57	41	7	53	24	357	-21	223	16
Windsor	6	1.81	49	-4	56	-6	411	-3	174	39
Barrie	3	1.41	47	-30	25	19	218	7	77	-2
Greater Sudbury	2	1.22	62	-9	44	-19	381	-2	122	10
Thunder Bay	3	2.48	81	6	149	42	415	-15	157	8
Winnipeg	22	2.72	84	-8	178	7	590	17	306	-1
Regina	8	3.30	67	0 ^s	101	0 ^s	706	2	445	21
Saskatoon	10	3.22	69	-10	131	-10	813	6	391	-6

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 7 — continued
Police-reported crime for selected offences, by census metropolitan area, 2015

Census metropolitan area ^{1, 2, 3}	Homicide ⁴		Sexual assault (levels 1, 2 and 3)		Robbery		Breaking and entering		Motor vehicle theft	
	number	rate	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015
Calgary	39	2.70	51	14	82	21	634	53	532	67
Edmonton	39	2.87	78	3	111	23	603	34	436	16
Kelowna	3	1.53	46	56	58	-12	631	-1	347	9
Abbotsford–Mission	3	1.63	51	18	101	29	706	29	496	29
Vancouver	47	1.88	46	3	102	4	683	-6	334	-13
Victoria	8	2.19	61	23	44	-1	407	8	108	-2
Canada	604	1.68	60	3	62	5	444	4	220	6

0⁵ value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

1. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CMA typically comprises more than one police service.

2. CMA populations have been adjusted to follow policing boundaries.

3. The Oshawa CMA is excluded from this table due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.

4. Due to the variability in small numbers, percent changes in the rates of homicide are not calculated.

5. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.

6. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.

Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Counts are based upon the most serious violation in the incident. One incident may involve multiple violations. Data for specific types of crime by census metropolitan areas are available beginning in 1991. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. Percent changes are based on unrounded rates. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Table 8a
Police-reported youth Crime Severity Indexes, Canada, 2005 to 2015

Year	Total youth Crime Severity Index		Youth violent Crime Severity Index		Youth non-violent Crime Severity Index	
	index	percent change from previous year	index	percent change from previous year	index	percent change from previous year
2005	97.4	-3	94.2	7	99.8	-10
2006	100.0	3	100.0	6	100.0	0 ^s
2007	101.5	1	102.1	2	101.0	1
2008	95.7	-6	95.7	-6	95.6	-5
2009	95.6	0 ^s	96.7	1	94.7	-1
2010	90.0	-6	93.2	-4	87.6	-8
2011	81.7	-9	87.4	-6	77.2	-12
2012	77.3	-5	82.2	-6	73.4	-5
2013	66.2	-14	71.3	-13	62.3	-15
2014 ^r	61.0	-8	65.3	-8	57.8	-7
2015	60.6	-1	66.5	2	56.2	-3
Percent change 2005 to 2015	-38	...	-29	...	-44	...

... not applicable

0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

^r revised

Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). Refers to the number of youth aged 12 to 17 who were either charged (or recommended for charging) by police or diverted from the formal criminal justice system through the use of warnings, cautions, referrals to community programs, etc. The youth Crime Severity Indexes are based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Data on the youth Crime Severity Indexes are available beginning in 1998. Percent changes are based on unrounded rates. Populations are based on July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Table 8b
Youth accused of police-reported crime, Canada, 2005 to 2015

Year	Total crime (youth crime rate)			Violent crime			Property crime			Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences		
	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year
2005	172,024	6,596	-5	49,430	1,895	-2	92,631	3,552	-8	29,963	1,149	-2
2006	178,839	6,809	3	51,452	1,959	3	94,835	3,610	2	32,552	1,239	8
2007	177,400	6,770	-1	51,144	1,952	0 ^s	93,701	3,576	-1	32,555	1,242	0 ^s
2008	169,747	6,537	-3	49,130	1,892	-3	88,878	3,423	-4	31,739	1,222	-2
2009	167,103	6,515	0 ^s	48,030	1,873	-1	88,309	3,443	1	30,764	1,199	-2
2010	153,728	6,078	-7	46,056	1,821	-3	78,772	3,115	-10	28,900	1,143	-5
2011	136,494	5,482	-10	43,004	1,727	-5	67,230	2,700	-13	26,260	1,055	-8
2012	126,061	5,155	-6	39,560	1,618	-6	61,371	2,509	-7	25,130	1,028	-3
2013	105,084	4,394	-15	33,995	1,421	-12	49,562	2,072	-17	21,527	900	-12
2014 ^r	94,782	4,043	-8	30,014	1,280	-10	44,799	1,911	-8	19,969	852	-5
2015	92,051	3,973	-2	29,304	1,265	-1	43,742	1,888	-1	19,005	820	-4
Percent change 2005 to 2015	...	-40	...	...	-33	...	...	-47	...	...	-29	...

... not applicable

0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

^r revised

Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Crime rates are based on *Criminal Code* violations, excluding traffic offences. See Table 5 for a list of offences included in the categories of total violent crime, total property crime and total other crime categories. Refers to the number of youth aged 12 to 17 years who were either charged (or recommended for charging) by police or diverted from the formal criminal justice system through the use of warnings, cautions, referrals to community programs, etc. Counts are based upon the most serious violation in the incident. One incident may involve multiple violations. While the definition of youth and the legislation governing youth justice have changed over the years, data for police-reported rates of youth accused of total, violent, property and other crime categories are available from 1977. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 youth population. Percent changes are based on unrounded rates. Populations are based on July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Table 9a
Police-reported youth crime, by selected violent offences, by province and territory, 2015

Province and territory	Homicide ¹		Sexual assault (levels 1, 2, and 3)		Major assault (levels 2 and 3) ²		Common assault	
	number	rate	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015 ³	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015 ³
Newfoundland and Labrador	0	0.00	72	37	206	-23	936	8
Prince Edward Island	0	0.00	41	...	153	70	317	-38
Nova Scotia	0	0.00	107	9	202	-10	746	-18
New Brunswick	0	0.00	76	18	169	-8	730	-10
Quebec	1	0.21	96	1	170	7	512	0
Ontario	7	0.76	73	1	124	-3	432	-4
Manitoba	3	3.07	166	29	454	8	1,162	13
Saskatchewan	10	12.19	116	-7	588	13	1,044	-1
Alberta	8	2.85	82	-1	207	8	571	-3
British Columbia	6	2.03	46	15	117	2	357	-3
Yukon	0	0.00	244	...	610	-28	2,357	-11
Northwest Territories	0	0.00	498	44	464	-49	2,953	-8
Nunavut	0	0.00	395	5	605	-27	2,448	-24
Canada	35	1.51	83	4	179	2	537	-2

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 9a — continued
Police-reported youth crime, by selected violent offences, by province and territory, 2015

Province and territory	Robbery		Firearms - use of, discharge, pointing		Total violent crime ⁴		Total crime (youth crime rate) ⁴	
	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015 ³	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015 ³	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015
Newfoundland and Labrador	25	...	6	...	1,732	-3	4,656	-1
Prince Edward Island	0	...	20	...	725	-30	2,676	-22
Nova Scotia	97	12	9	-15	1,577	-19	4,965	-14
New Brunswick	49	6	6	...	1,456	-6	4,223	-9
Quebec	77	-3	4	-8	1,353	-2	3,113	2
Ontario	130	1	6	31	1,031	-2	3,175	-1
Manitoba	152	-21	30	46	2,511	8	7,733	4
Saskatchewan	202	12	43	67	2,583	7	11,923	0
Alberta	88	16	17	17	1,276	-2	4,659	-5
British Columbia	61	-15	4	21	813	0	2,873	-6
Yukon	41	...	81	...	4,917	-4	26,940	26
Northwest Territories	166	...	66	...	5,607	-5	24,287	-13
Nunavut	184	...	26	...	5,028	-13	21,848	-4
Canada	104	-1	9	22	1,265	-1	3,973	-2

... not applicable

1. Due to the variability in small numbers, percent changes in the rates of youth accused of homicide are not calculated.

2. Excludes assaults against a peace officer.

3. Due to the variability in small numbers, percent changes have not been calculated when the number of offences is below 5 in any given year.

4. Crime rates are based upon *Criminal Code* incidents, excluding traffic offences. See Table 9a for a list of offences included in the total violent crime, total property crime and total other crime categories.

Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Refers to the number of youth aged 12 to 17 years who were either charged (or recommended for charging) by police or diverted from the formal criminal justice system through the use of warnings, cautions, referrals to community programs, etc. Counts are based upon the most serious violation in the incident. One incident may involve multiple violations. While the definition of youth and the legislation governing youth justice have changed over the years, data for police-reported rates of youth accused of total, violent, property and other crime categories are available from 1977. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 youth population. Percent changes are based on unrounded rates. Populations are based on July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Table 9b
Police-reported youth crime, by selected non-violent offences, by province and territory, 2015

Province and territory	Breaking and entering		Theft of \$5000 or under		Mischief ¹	
	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015
Newfoundland and Labrador	456	9	490	-20	952	12
Prince Edward Island	194	14	511	-31	521	-31
Nova Scotia	330	-15	738	-14	838	-12
New Brunswick	324	17	764	-18	590	0 ^s
Quebec	236	-5	764	14	241	12
Ontario	153	-9	935	-1	295	-2
Manitoba	642	4	793	-9	1,182	1
Saskatchewan	1,055	-3	1,418	2	1,973	0 ^s
Alberta	216	-14	936	4	749	-4
British Columbia	124	-1	692	-12	407	-11
Yukon	1,666	196	2,601	13	4,226	-12
Northwest Territories	2,621	12	1,559	-13	7,697	-9
Nunavut	4,054	18	1,658	-23	6,712	19
Canada	250	-4	867	0^s	504	-2

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 9b — continued
Police-reported youth crime, by selected non-violent offences, by province and territory, 2015

Province and territory	Motor vehicle theft		Total property crime ²		Total drug crime	
	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	rate	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015
Newfoundland and Labrador	44	-21	2,087	0 ^s	209	-6
Prince Edward Island	143	2	1,501	-25	204	-3
Nova Scotia	143	47	2,465	-9	546	-8
New Brunswick	93	-28	1,900	-8	315	-35
Quebec	56	-8	1,411	7	743	-18
Ontario	59	24	1,568	-1	497	-15
Manitoba	306	18	3,282	2	388	-17
Saskatchewan	478	13	5,443	0 ^s	558	-23
Alberta	147	-16	2,300	-3	432	-13
British Columbia	48	-4	1,372	-10	631	-24
Yukon	569	29	9,793	15	447	-54
Northwest Territories	1,261	25	13,769	-6	1,858	37
Nunavut	421	5	13,056	7	553	48
Canada	99	5	1,888	-1	549	-18

0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

1. Includes altering/removing/destroying a vehicle identification number.

2. Crime rates are based upon *Criminal Code* incidents, excluding traffic offences. See Table 5 for a list of offences included in the total violent crime, total property crime and total other crime categories.

Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Refers to the number of youth aged 12 to 17 years who were either charged (or recommended for charging) by police or diverted from the formal criminal justice system through the use of warnings, cautions, referrals to community programs, etc. Counts are based upon the most serious violation in the incident. One incident may involve multiple violations. While the definition of youth and the legislation governing youth justice have changed over the years, data for police-reported rates of youth accused of total, violent, property and other crime categories are available from 1977. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 youth population. Percent changes are based on unrounded rates. Populations are based on July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Table 10
Police-reported youth Crime Severity Indexes, by province and territory, 2015

Province and territory	Total youth Crime Severity Index			Youth violent Crime Severity Index		Youth non-violent Crime Severity Index		
	index	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	percent change 2005 to 2015	index	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	index	percent change in rate 2014 to 2015	
Newfoundland and Labrador	58.7	1	-38	49.3	-1	65.2		2
Prince Edward Island	34.6	-38	-48	29.9	-58	37.7		-15
Nova Scotia	69.3	-18	-42	64.9	-26	72.1		-12
New Brunswick	55.8	-7	-39	49.4	4	60.1		-12
Quebec	54.0	0 ^s	-19	64.3	0 ^s	46.6		1
Ontario	50.3	-2	-46	60.1	-1	43.1		-2
Manitoba	118.1	1	-23	126.0	0 ^s	112.0		2
Saskatchewan	185.1	11	-30	173.2	41	192.8		-3
Alberta	65.0	-1	-38	69.8	8	61.4		-8
British Columbia	38.6	-4	-50	40.3	1	37.2		-7
Yukon	256.8	4	-4	141.8	-53	337.1		63
Northwest Territories	293.7	-12	-46	191.7	-28	364.6		-3
Nunavut	325.5	7	-22	223.2	3	396.5		9
Canada	60.6	-1	-38	66.5	2	56.2		-3

0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

Note: Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). Refers to the number of youth aged 12 to 17 who were either charged (or recommended for charging) by police or diverted from the formal criminal justice system through the use of warnings, cautions, referrals to community programs, etc. The youth Crime Severity Indexes are based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Data on the provincial and territorial youth Crime Severity Indexes are available beginning in 1998. Percent changes are based on unrounded rates. Populations are based on July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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