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**Juristat**

## **Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2016**

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## Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2016: Highlights

- Police-reported crime in Canada, as measured by the Crime Severity Index (CSI), increased for the second year in a row in 2016. The CSI measures the volume and severity of police-reported crime in Canada, and has a base index value of 100 for 2006. In 2016, the national CSI increased 1% from 70.1 in 2015 to 71.0, but remained 29% lower than a decade earlier in 2006.
- At 5,224 incidents per 100,000 population, the police-reported crime rate, which measures the volume of police-reported crime, was virtually unchanged in 2016. This rate was 28% lower than a decade earlier in 2006.
- There were almost 1.9 million police-reported *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic) reported by police in 2016, approximately 27,700 more incidents than in 2015.
- In 2016, the overall volume and severity of violent crime, as measured by the violent CSI, was 75.3 and virtually unchanged from the previous year. In contrast, the police-reported violent crime rate, which measures the volume of violent police-reported crime, declined 1% to 1,052 per 100,000 population. That year, rates for half the violent violations decreased, with the largest decrease reported for criminal harassment (-7%).
- Although the rate of police-reported violent crime declined overall, violent violations which experienced an increase in rate were: sexual violations against children (+30%), violations causing death other than homicide (+14%), offences related to the commodification of sexual activity (+11%), aggravated sexual assault (+6%), forcible confinement or kidnapping (+4%), threatening or harassing phone calls (+3%), the use of, discharge, and pointing of firearms (+3%), assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm (+1%) and aggravated assault (+1%).
- The overall volume and severity of non-violent crime, as measured by the non-violent CSI rose to 69.3 in 2016, marking a 2% increase from the previous year. The increase was largely driven by increases in police-reported incidents of fraud.
- After notable increases in property offences in 2015, police-reported crime rates for all types of property crimes decreased or remained the same in 2016, with the exception of theft of \$5,000 or under and total fraud. The rate of total fraud, which includes general fraud (+14%), identity fraud (+16%) and identity theft (+21%), was 14% higher than in 2015. Increases in total fraud were reported by all provinces and territories except the Northwest Territories (-12%) and New Brunswick (-12%).
- In 2016, seven of Canada's thirteen provinces and territories reported decreases in their CSI and Yukon reported no change. Increases were reported by Saskatchewan (+9%), Manitoba (+8%), Newfoundland and Labrador (+6%), Nunavut (+4%) and Ontario (+4%).
- In 2016, 20 of the 33 census metropolitan areas (CMAs) reported increases in their CSI values with the largest increases recorded in the CMA's of Winnipeg and Regina (+16% and +15%, respectively).
- Regina and Saskatoon continued to be the CMAs with the highest CSIs. Trois-Rivières reported the largest decline (-14%) and the fourth lowest CSI after the CMAs of Toronto, Barrie and Québec.
- In 2016, police reported 611 homicides, 2 more than the previous year. Due to growth in Canada's population, the homicide rate decreased 1% from 1.70 homicides per 100,000 population in 2015 to 1.68 homicides per 100,000 population in 2016. The relative stability in the national number of homicides is a result of notable declines in homicides in Alberta (-17 homicides), Quebec (-12) and British Columbia (-10) combined with the largest increases reported in Ontario (+32) and Saskatchewan (+10).
- The rate of attempted murder decreased by 1% between 2015 and 2016, yet variations were reported across the country. While New Brunswick, Alberta, Nova Scotia and British Columbia reported notable decreases in 2016, notable increases were seen in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.
- Police-reported rates of cannabis-related drug offences declined for the fifth consecutive year in 2016. The rate of possession of cannabis declined 12% from 2015 with all provinces and territories reporting declines, except Prince Edward Island (+15%), New Brunswick (+7%) and Quebec which reported no change.
- The rate of impaired driving decreased by 3% in 2016 to 194 impaired driving incidents per 100,000 population, representing the fifth consecutive decline. In 2016, Prince Edward Island (+24%) and Manitoba (+19%) were the only provinces to report increases in their rates.
- In 2016, there were 3,098 incidents of police-reported drug-impaired driving, 343 more than the previous year. Overall, the rate for drug-impaired driving increased 11%. The national increase was largely driven by increases in the rates for Ontario (+38%), British Columbia (+29%) and Quebec (+10%). The rate of drug impaired driving (8.5 per 100,000 population) remained low compared with the rate of alcohol impaired driving (186 per 100,000 population).
- In 2016, the Youth Crime Severity Index (youth CSI), which measures both the volume and severity of crimes involving youth accused (both charged and not charged) declined 2%. The youth non-violent CSI also declined 8%. The rate of youth accused of drug crimes (-14%), mischief (-13%), motor vehicle theft (-13%), breaking and entering (-11%), and theft of \$5000 or under (-8%) were all lower in 2016.
- In 2016, the violent youth CSI increased 5% due to higher rates of police-reported youth accused of attempted murder (+115%), sexual violations against children (+38%) and robbery (+6%).

## Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2016

by Kathryn Keighley

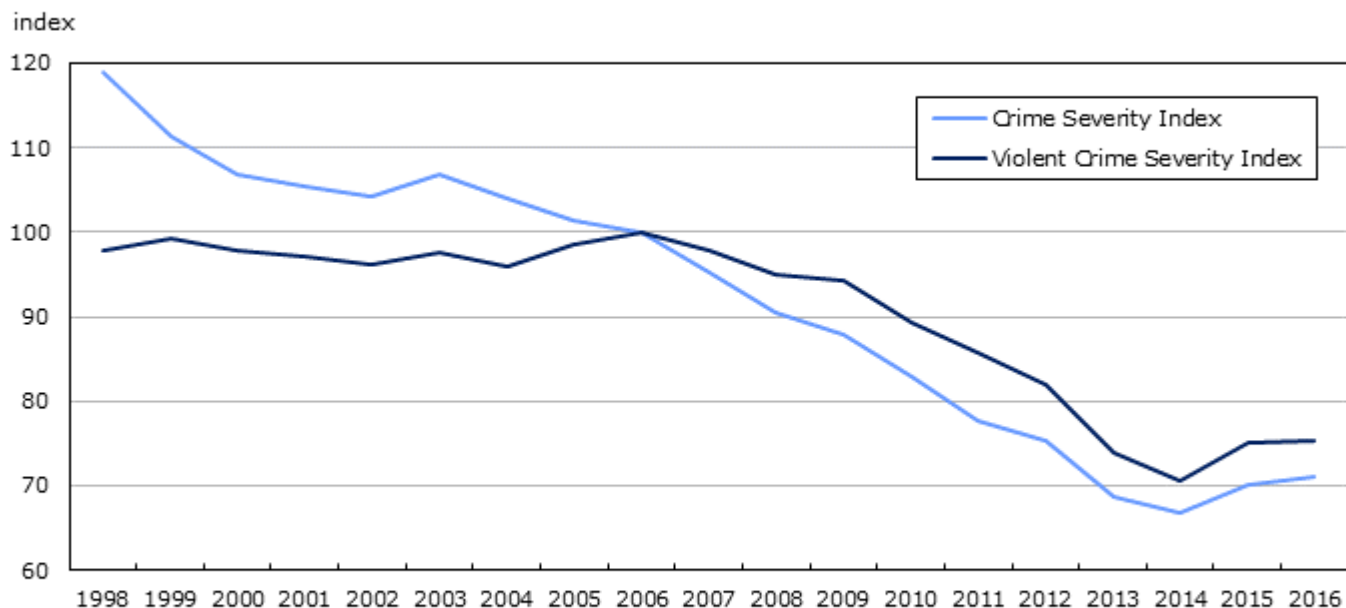
Since 1962, Statistics Canada has collected information on all criminal incidents substantiated and reported by Canadian police services through its annual Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey.<sup>1</sup> In addition to the UCR Survey, Statistics Canada also collects information on victims' experiences with crime through the General Social Survey (GSS) on victimization, conducted every five years. Unlike the UCR Survey, the GSS collects data on victim's perceptions of crime which include criminal incidents that may not 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 2016 UCR Survey.<sup>2</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup> 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.<sup>4</sup>

### Canada's Crime Severity Index increased for second year in a row

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). Canada's CSI in 2016 was slightly higher than in the previous year, increasing 1% from 70.1 in 2015 to 71.0 in 2016, and marking the second annual increase (Table 1a). Since 1998, Canada's CSI has steadily declined, with the exception of a 5% increase reported in 2015 and a 3% increase reported in 2003 (Chart 1). The 2016 CSI is 29% lower than a decade previously.

**Chart 1**  
**Police-reported Crime Severity Indexes, 1998 to 2016**



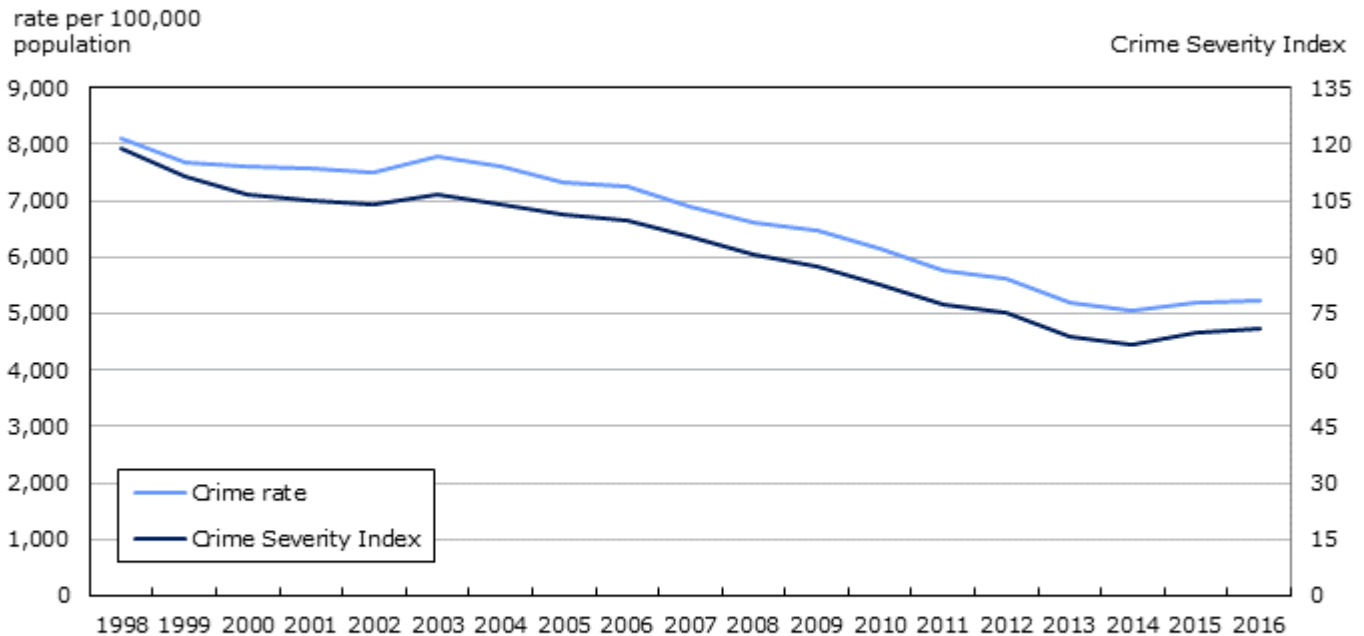
**Note:** Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). Crime Severity Indexes are based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates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

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

The slight increase in the national CSI between 2015 and 2016 was primarily driven by a continued increase in the rate of fraud (+14%). Increases in police-reported rates of administration of justice offences, sexual violations against children and child pornography were also reported. These increases were offset by fewer police-reported incidents of breaking and entering, mischief and robbery resulting in a slight increase to Canada's CSI compared to 2015.

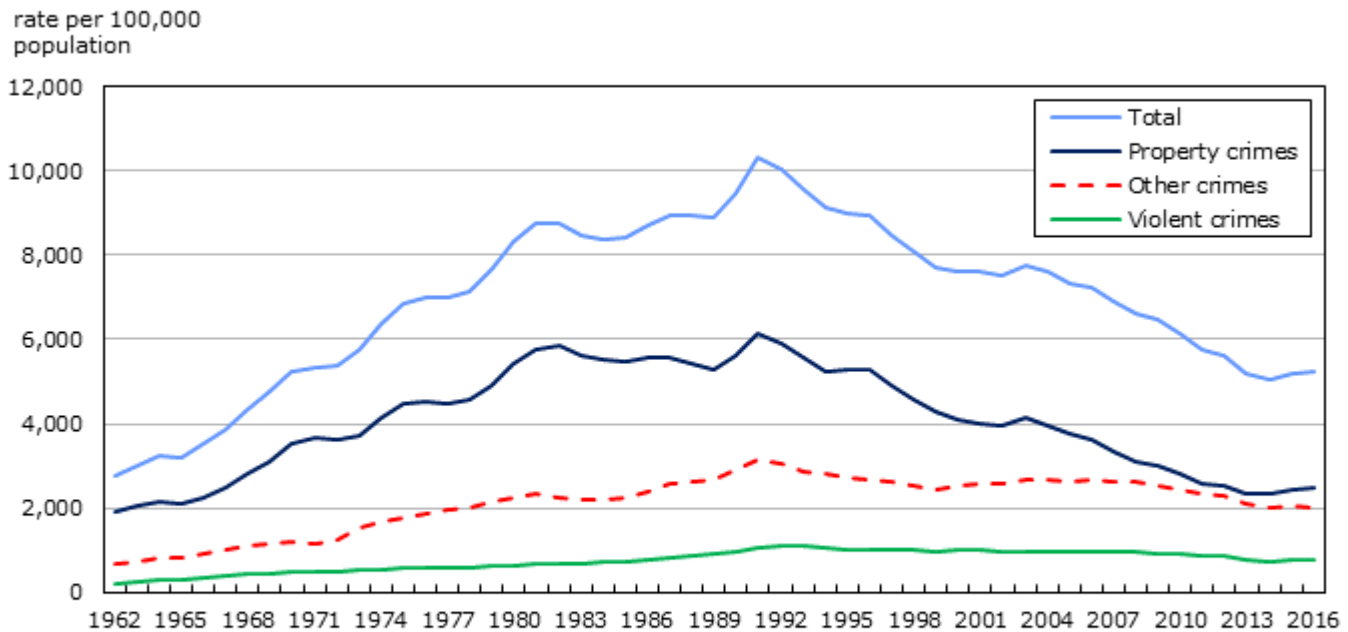
At 5,224 incidents per 100,000 population, the police-reported crime rate, which measures the volume of crime per 100,000 population, remained stable in 2016 (Table 1b, Chart 2). Like the CSI, Canada's crime rate has been on a downward trend since 1998, with the exception of increases reported in 2015 and 2003 (Chart 3). Canada's crime rate is 28% lower than a decade ago.

**Chart 2**  
**Police-reported Crime Severity Index and crime rate, Canada, 1998 to 2016**



**Note:** Additional data are available on CANSIM (Tables 252-0051 and 252-0052). The crime rate is based on *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 2016**



**Note:** Information presented in this chart represents data from the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR1) Aggregate 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.

While Canada's crime rate remained relatively stable between 2015 and 2016, other countries, despite differences in reporting standards, have recently recorded increases. The number of offences in Australia increased for the fourth consecutive year ending in June 2016 (Commonwealth of Australia 2017). Preliminary crime data for the first 6-months of 2016 show an increase in violent crime in the United States and no change to property crimes (Federal Bureau of Investigation 2017). England and Wales also reported an annual increase in police-reported crime in 2016. However, the country attributed some of the increase to changes in reporting and recorded no statistical change in crimes against the person using victim-based reporting measures (Office for National Statistics 2017).

Canadian police services reported almost 1.9 million *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic) in 2016, approximately 27,700 more incidents than in 2015. In addition to these incidents, there were about 123,900 *Criminal Code* traffic offences, 95,400 *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* offences, and 27,700 other federal offences (such as the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* and *Income Tax Act*) recorded by police in 2016. In total, there were just over 2.1 million police-reported *Criminal Code* and other federal statute incidents in 2016, about 23,900 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 downward 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.<sup>5</sup>

#### **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.

## Text box 1 — continued

### Measuring police-reported crime

#### 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 relative 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.<sup>6</sup> 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). 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 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), "*Updating the Police-Reported Crime Severity Index Weights: Refinements to the Methodology*" (Babyak et al. 2013) and "Measuring Crime in Canada: A detailed look at the Crime Severity Index" video.

### Seven of thirteen provinces and territories reported decreases in Crime Severity Index

Between 2015 and 2016, seven of Canada's thirteen provinces and territories reported decreases in their Crime Severity Index (CSI), and Yukon reported no change (Table 2a). In order of magnitude, the seven provinces and territories which reported decreases were: Northwest Territories (-9%), Quebec (-3%), Prince Edward Island (-3%), Nova Scotia (-3%), New Brunswick (-2%), Alberta (-1%), and British Columbia (-1%). In the Northwest Territories, the change in CSI was driven primarily by a decrease in police-reported incidents of mischief, homicide and breaking and entering. Prince Edward Island also reported fewer incidents of breaking and entering and homicide. Breaking and entering was a major contributing factor affecting CSI for almost all provinces and territories regardless of whether an increase or decrease in CSI was reported (see Text box 2).

After reporting the largest increase in CSI in 2015, Alberta's 1% decline in CSI in 2016 was driven by decreases in robbery, homicide and mischief. Similarly, New Brunswick also saw a decline in 2016 (-2%), following a large increase in CSI in 2015 (+11%).

The provinces and territories which reported increases were: Saskatchewan (+9%), Manitoba (+8%), Newfoundland and Labrador (+6%), Nunavut (+4%) and Ontario (+4%). In Saskatchewan, the change in CSI was driven primarily by an increase in police-reported incidents of fraud, breaking and entering and homicide. Manitoba also saw an increase in breaking and entering, but the change to CSI in Manitoba was primarily driven by a larger number of robberies reported.

**Text box 2****Violations contributing to the change in the Crime Severity Index (CSI) between 2015 and 2016, by province and territory**

Province and territory	Percent change in CSI from 2015 to 2016	Violations driving the change in CSI
Canada	+1	Fraud
Newfoundland and Labrador	+6	Fraud, Homicide, Breaking and entering, Robbery
Prince Edward Island	-3	Breaking and entering, Homicide <sup>1</sup>
Nova Scotia	-3	Breaking and entering, Mischief, Robbery <sup>1</sup>
New Brunswick	-2	Theft of \$5,000 or under, Fraud, Breaking and entering <sup>2</sup>
Quebec	-3	Breaking and entering, Theft of \$5,000 or under, Robbery <sup>1</sup>
Ontario	+4	Fraud, Homicide, Robbery
Manitoba	+8	Robbery, Breaking and entering
Saskatchewan	+9	Fraud, Breaking and entering, Homicide
Alberta	-1	Robbery, Homicide, Mischief <sup>1</sup>
British Columbia	-1	Robbery, Breaking and entering <sup>3</sup>
Yukon	0 <sup>s</sup>	Not applicable
Northwest Territories	-9	Mischief, Homicide, Breaking and entering
Nunavut	+4	Sexual violations against children, Attempted murder

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

1. The declines in the CSIs in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec and Alberta were offset by increases in fraud.

2. The decline in the CSI in New Brunswick was offset by an increase in robbery.

3. The decline in the CSI in British Columbia was offset by an increase in child pornography.

**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.

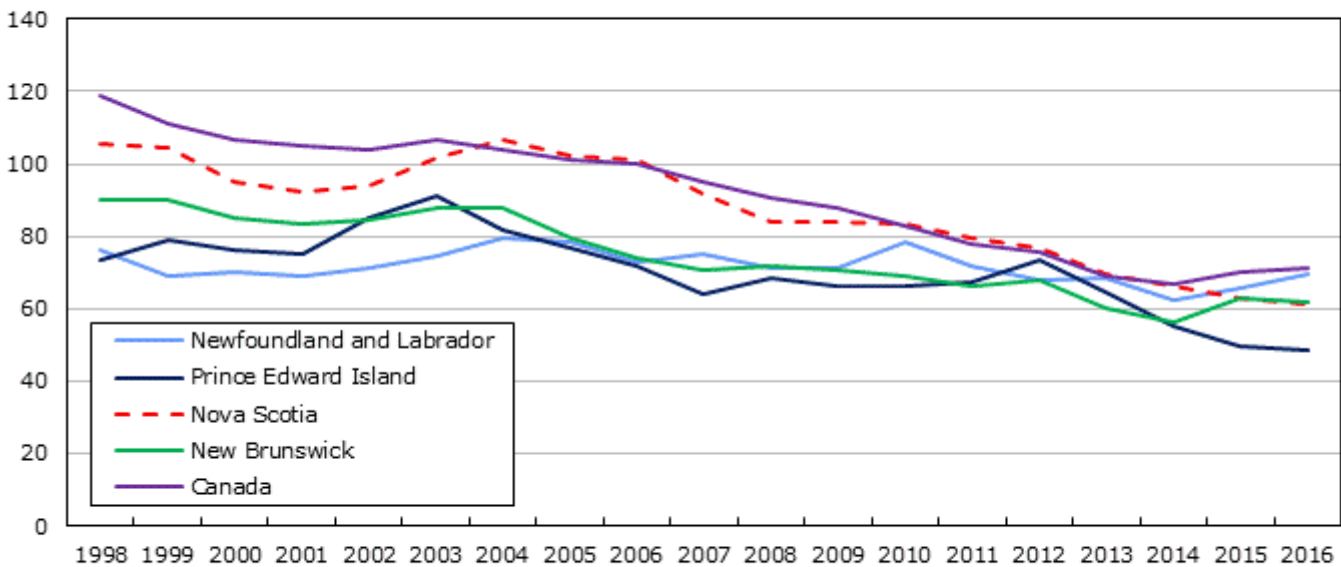
Similar to previous years, CSI values and crime rates were highest in the Territories (Table 2b). In all three territories, a large part of the difference between the territorial and national CSI can be explained by relatively high numbers of incidents of mischief, which account for 35% of *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic) in the Territories (compared to 14% nationally), as well as breaking and entering. Although the Northwest Territories recorded the largest drop in both CSI (-9%) and crime rate (-9%) between 2015 and 2016, this territory reported the highest CSI (291.7) and crime rate (40,588 incidents per 100,000 population). Following the Territories, the Western provinces reported the highest CSIs and crime rates. Among the provinces, Saskatchewan continued to report the highest overall CSI (148.8) and crime rate (11,746 incidents per 100,000 population). Prince Edward Island (48.5) reported the lowest CSI in 2016, while Quebec continued to report the lowest crime rate (3,247 per 100,000 population).

Despite some fluctuations over the years, compared with 2006, almost all provinces and territories reported lower CSIs and lower crime rates (Charts 4 to 7, Table 2b). The exceptions to the national decline were Yukon and Nunavut, which reported marginal increases in CSI of 2% each. Increases in crime rate were also only reported in Yukon (+13%) and Nunavut (+10%).



**Chart 4**  
**Police-reported Crime Severity Index, Atlantic provinces, 1998 to 2016**

Crime Severity Index

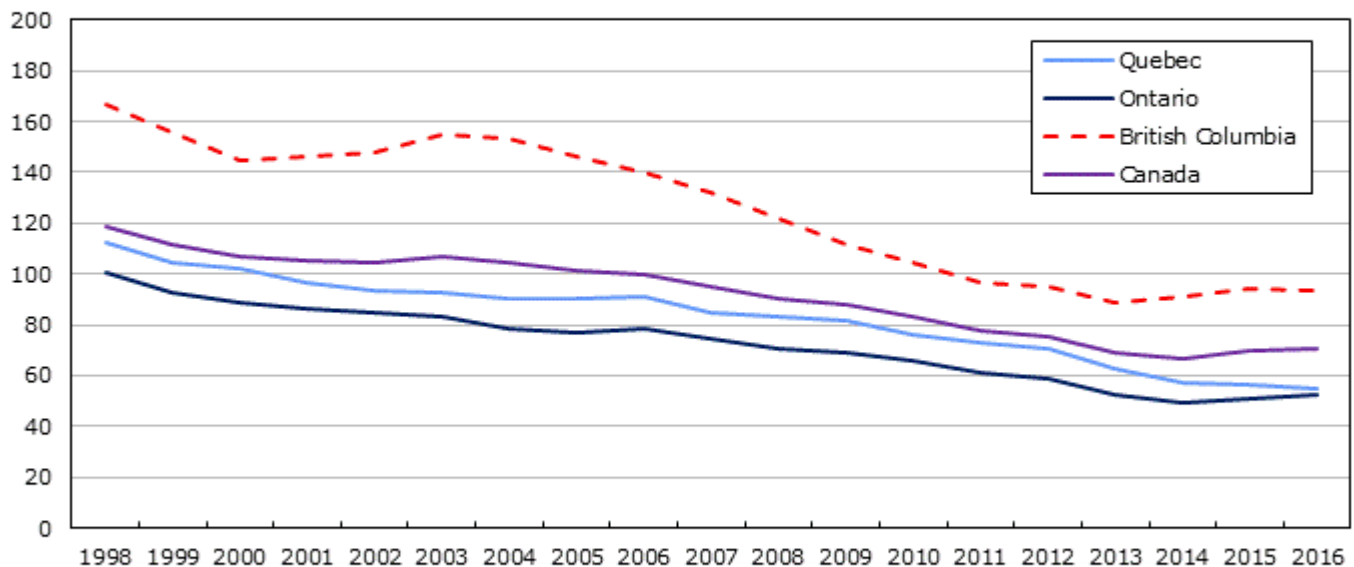


**Note:** Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). The Crime Severity Index is based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates 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 2016**

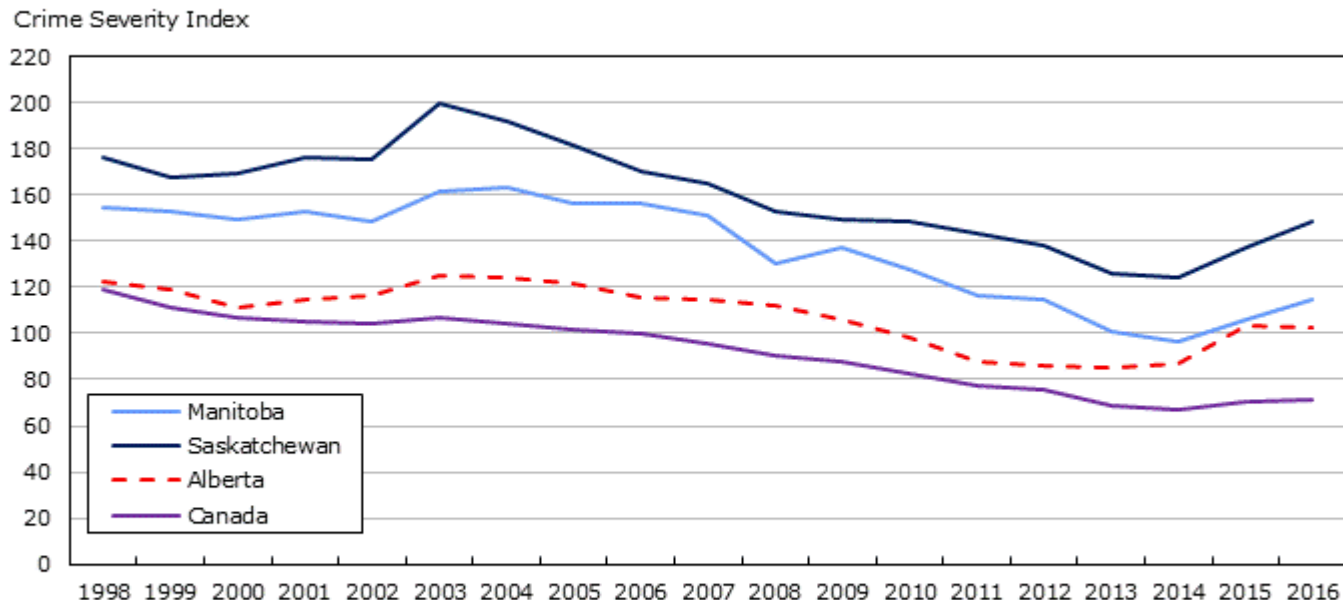
Crime Severity Index



**Note:** Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). The Crime Severity Index 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.

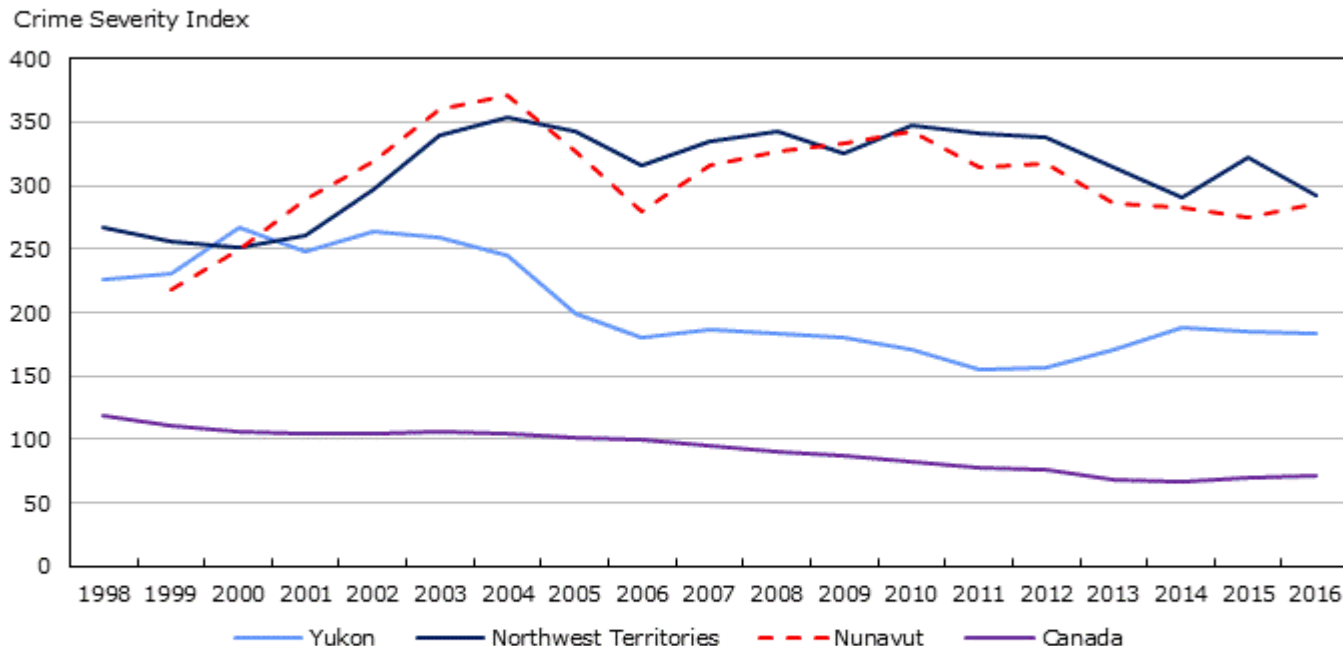
**Chart 6**  
**Police-reported Crime Severity Index, Prairies, 1998 to 2016**



**Note:** Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). The Crime Severity Index 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 2016**



**Note:** Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). The Crime Severity Index 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 in this chart for 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 census metropolitan areas recorded an increase in the severity of police-reported crime

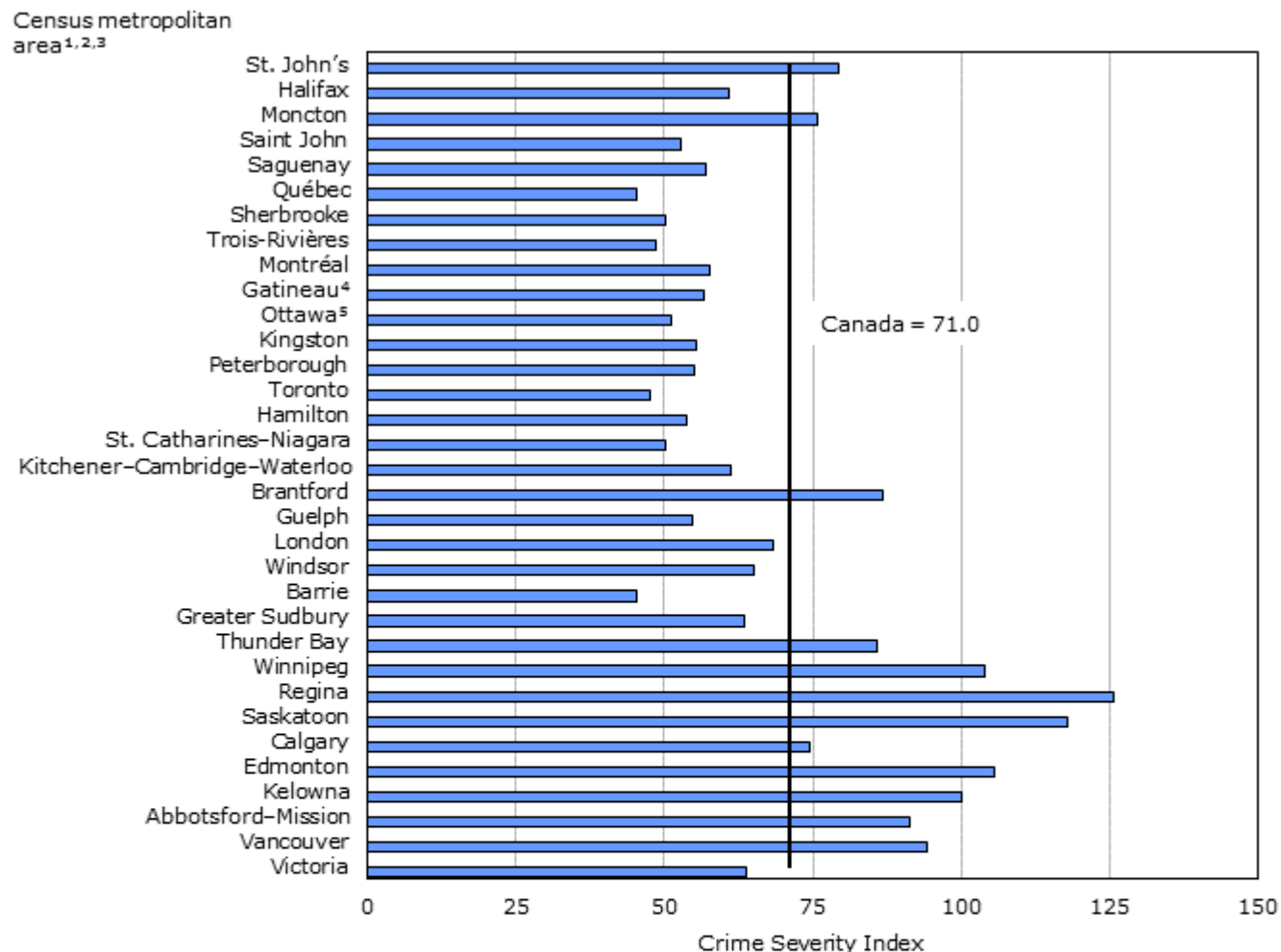
Between 2015 and 2016, 20 of 33 of Canada's census metropolitan areas (CMAs) reported increases in their Crime Severity Index (CSI) (Table 3).<sup>7</sup> The largest increases in CSI were recorded in the CMA's of Winnipeg and Regina (+16% and +15%, respectively). Winnipeg's increase was a result of more reported incidents of robbery and breaking and entering. A higher CSI in Regina was primarily due to more incidents of fraud and attempted murder. Brantford (+13%) and Ottawa (+10%) also reported increases, both due to increases in homicide, breaking and entering and fraud. Fraud also contributed to the increase in CSI in Québec (+8%) although the change was predominantly a result of an increase in forcible confinement or kidnapping.

Calgary, which had the largest increase in CSI in 2015 (+30%), reported a 6% decline in 2016 primarily driven by decreases in breaking and entering and robbery. Similarly, of the other four CMAs which had recorded the largest increase in 2015, Victoria (-12%), Abbotsford-Mission (-5%) and Moncton (-4%) also reported declines in their CSIs in 2016. In Edmonton, however, crime continued to increase (+3%) as a result of increases in theft of \$5,000 or under and fraud.

Regina (125.8) and Saskatoon (117.8) were the CMAs with the highest CSIs in 2016, as has been the case since 2010 (Chart 8). Relatively high CSIs were recorded in Edmonton (105.7), Winnipeg (103.9), Kelowna (100.3), Vancouver (94.3) and Abbotsford-Mission (91.4). These seven CMAs also had the highest police-reported crime rates in 2016 (Table 4).

The CMAs with the lowest CSIs continued to be Québec (45.2), Barrie (45.4) and Toronto (47.5), followed by Trois-Rivières (48.7). Between 2015 and 2016, Trois-Rivières reported a notable decline in both CSI (-14%) and crime rate (-13%) due to decreases in robbery, homicide and breaking and entering (Table 5). Trois-Rivières reported the lowest crime rate amongst CMAs in 2016. Prior to 2016, Québec and Toronto had consistently recorded the lowest police-reported crime rate.

**Chart 8**  
**Police-reported Crime Severity Index, by census metropolitan area, 2016**



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 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 6 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 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

### National violent Crime Severity Index virtually unchanged in 2016

In 2016, violent crimes continued to account for about one-fifth (20%) of all police-reported *Criminal Code* offences (excluding traffic). There were just under 381,600 police-reported violent incidents in 2016, about 500 fewer than the previous year. In 2016, the violent crime rate in Canada was 1,052 violent incidents per 100,000 population, which was 1% lower than in 2015 and 24% lower than a decade earlier (Table 1b). In this report, violent crime 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.<sup>8</sup>

Rates for half of violent violations decreased between 2015 and 2016, with the largest decline reported for criminal harassment (-7%) (Table 6).

In terms of increases, the police reported a notable increase in the rate of sexual violations against children, which was up 30% from 2015. This increase may be partly attributable to changes in the determination of the most serious violation for these offences with the implementation of Bill C-26 in July 2015, which increased the maximum penalties for most types of sexual violations against children (see Text box 5). Crime statistics are reported based on the most serious offence as determined by the maximum penalty, therefore legislative changes such as Bill C-26, which increase maximum penalties, can contribute to an increase in official statistics for violations affected. While the number for most types of sexual violations against children rose in 2016, the greatest increase was reported for incidents of sexual interference which increased from 3,283 incidents in 2015 to 4,602 in 2016.

The other violent offences for which rates increased included violations causing death, other than homicide (+14%); the relatively new violations related to the commodification of sexual activity (+11%); aggravated sexual assault (+6%); forcible confinement or kidnapping (+4%); use of, discharge, and pointing of firearms (+3%); threatening or harassing phone calls (+3%); assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm (+1%), and; aggravated assault (+1%).

In 2016, the overall volume and severity of violent crime, as measured by the violent Crime Severity Index (CSI), was 75.3, virtually unchanged from 2015 (75.0) and 25% lower than in 2006.

Despite declines in violent CSI reported by British Columbia (-10%), Northwest Territories (-9%) and Alberta (-8%), the highest violent CSIs continued to be reported by the Territories and Western provinces (Table 2a).<sup>9</sup> Prince Edward Island which reported the lowest violent CSI (35.1) saw the largest decline (-16%) in 2016 due to decreases in homicide (from 1 in 2015 to 0 in 2016) and attempted murder (from 3 in 2015 to 0 in 2016) (see Text box 4). In contrast, the largest increases were reported by Manitoba (+10%) and Yukon (+9%). These were primarily due to more incidents of robbery in Manitoba, and more incidents of homicide (from 1 to 4) in Yukon.

**Text box 4****Violations contributing to the change in the violent Crime Severity Index (CSI) between 2015 and 2016, by province and territory**

Province and territory	Percent change in CSI from 2015 to 2016	Violations driving the change in violent CSI
Canada	0 <sup>s</sup>	Not applicable
Newfoundland and Labrador	+8	Homicide, Robbery <sup>1</sup>
Prince Edward Island	-16	Homicide, Attempted murder <sup>2</sup>
Nova Scotia	-3	Robbery, Attempted murder
New Brunswick	+5	Robbery, Homicide <sup>3</sup>
Quebec	-2	Robbery, Homicide <sup>2</sup>
Ontario	+7	Homicide, Robbery, Sexual violations against children
Manitoba	+10	Robbery
Saskatchewan	+7	Homicide, Attempted murder
Alberta	-8	Robbery, Homicide
British Columbia	-10	Robbery
Yukon	+9	Homicide <sup>3</sup>
Northwest Territories	-9	Homicide, Sexual assault level 1
Nunavut	+5	Sexual violations against children, Attempted murder

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

1. The increase in the violent CSI in Newfoundland and Labrador was offset by a decline in sexual assault level 1.
2. The decline in the violent CSIs in Canada and Prince Edward Island was offset by increases in sexual violations against children.
3. The increase in the violent CSIs in New Brunswick and Yukon was offset by declines in attempted murder.

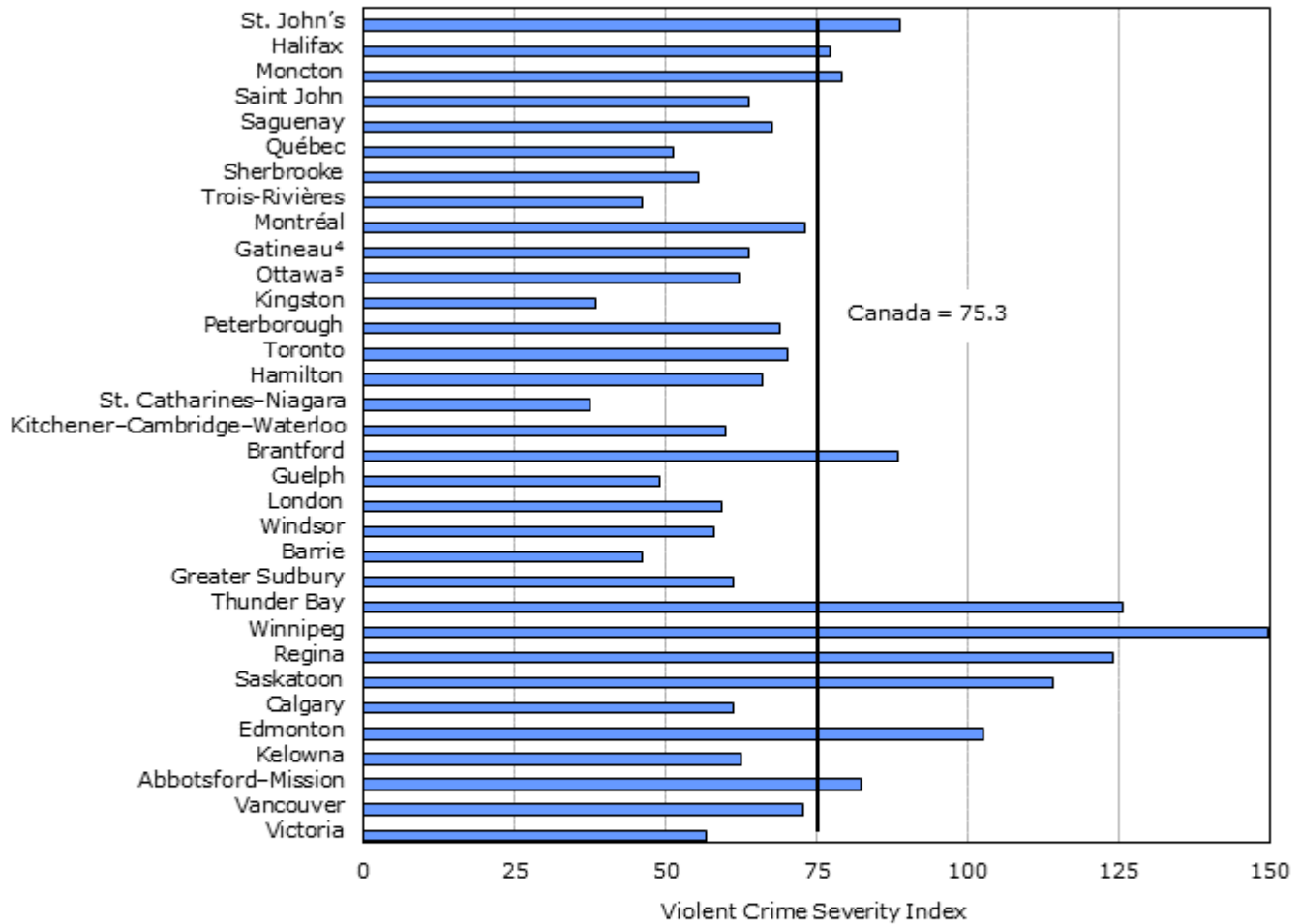
**Note:** Violations driving the change in the violent CSI are identified, in order of impact, as those violations where the combined changes in the rates (weighted by the CSI weight) contribute substantially to the overall change in the violent CSI (up or down). Where large changes in other violations 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 changes in the violent CSI varied across CMAs with 19 of 33 CMAs reporting increases between 2015 and 2016. The largest increases were reported in Brantford (+27%), Sherbrooke (+25%), Hamilton (+20%), Peterborough (+20%) and Winnipeg (+20%). The increase in Brantford was primarily due to an increase in homicide (from 0 in 2015 to 4 in 2016), while the increase in Hamilton was due to robbery and homicide. Winnipeg, Thunder Bay and Regina, which recorded the highest violent CSIs, saw increases of 20%, 4% and 14%, respectively (Chart 9). Kingston, which recorded the second lowest violent CSI after St. Catharines–Niagara, reported a 29% decline. Other notable declines were Trois-Rivières (-23%), Victoria (-18%), Calgary (-16%), Kelowna (-15%) and Vancouver (-14%). A decrease in robbery was the main contributor to the declines in violent CSI reported in Trois-Rivières, Calgary, Kelowna and Vancouver. However, a decrease in homicide drove the change in Victoria.

**Chart 9**  
**Police-reported violent Crime Severity Index, by census metropolitan area, 2016**

Census metropolitan area<sup>1,2,3</sup>



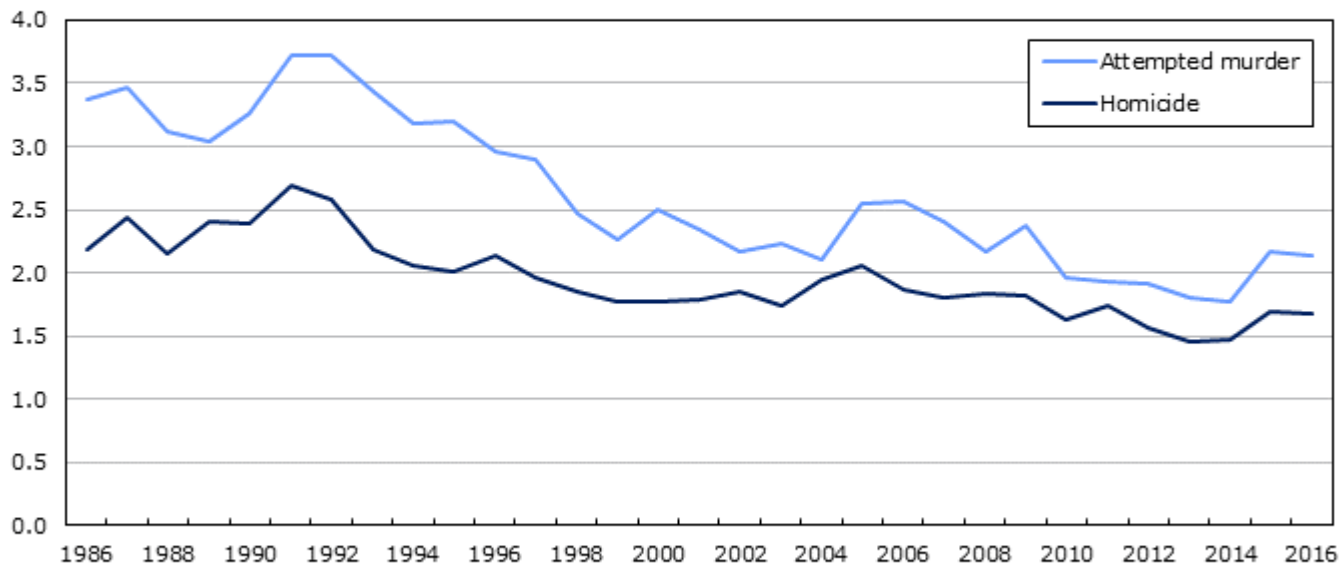
1. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high 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.

### National homicide and attempted murder rates both decreased in 2016, but variation across the provinces and territories

In 2016, homicides represented less than 0.2% of all violent crimes. In total, police reported 611 homicides in Canada in 2016, 2 more than the previous year. Due to growth in Canada's population, the homicide rate decreased 1% from 1.70 homicides per 100,000 population in 2015 to 1.68 homicides per 100,000 population in 2016 (Table 6, Chart 10). After a notable jump in 2015, the rate of homicides reported in 2016 is 15% higher than in 2014 and similar to the average for the previous decade (1.69 per 100,000 population).

**Chart 10**  
**Attempted murder and homicide, police-reported rates, Canada, 1986 to 2016**

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.

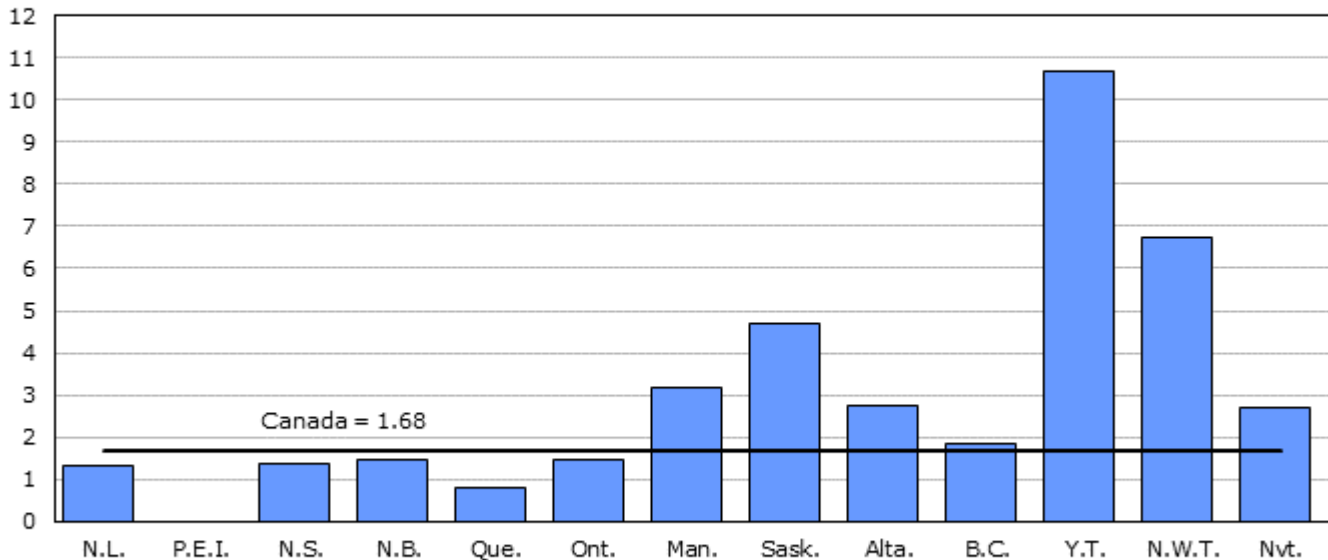
The relative stability in the national number of homicides is a result of notable declines in homicides in Alberta (-17 homicides), Quebec (-12) and British Columbia (-10) combined with the largest increases reported in Ontario (+32) and Saskatchewan (+10).

As has historically been the case, homicide rates were highest in the Western provinces and the Territories (Table 7, Chart 11). Saskatchewan (4.69 homicides per 100,000 population) continued to record the highest homicide rate among the provinces. While Manitoba (-12%) and Alberta (-14%) both reported decreases in their homicide rates, they followed Saskatchewan in terms of the highest rates among the provinces (3.19 and 2.73 per 100,000, respectively).



**Chart 11**  
**Homicide, police-reported rate, by province and territory, 2016**

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.

Because of their small populations and relatively high homicide counts, 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 2016 with four homicides in Yukon (10.67 per 100,000 population), three homicides in the Northwest Territories (6.75 per 100,000 population), and one homicide in Nunavut (2.70 per 100,000 population).

Prince Edward Island was the only province to report no homicides in 2016. Following Prince Edward Island, the lowest homicide rates in 2016 were reported in Quebec (0.80 per 100,000 population), Newfoundland and Labrador (1.32 per 100,000 population), and Nova Scotia (1.37 per 100,000 population).

With a total of 8 homicides in 2016, Thunder Bay recorded the highest homicide rate among the census metropolitan areas (6.64 homicides per 100,000 population) (Table 8). Edmonton (with 47 homicides), and Regina (with 8 homicides) had the next highest homicide rates (3.39 and 3.23 per 100,000 population, respectively). In 2016, no homicides were reported in Trois-Rivières, Kingston or Greater Sudbury.

The attempted murder rate in Canada declined 1% between 2015 and 2016 to 2.14 per 100,000 population. In total, there were 777 attempted murders reported by police in 2016, the same number as in 2015. 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). However, variations were reported across the country. While New Brunswick, Alberta, Nova Scotia and British Columbia reported notable decreases in 2016, notable increases were seen in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

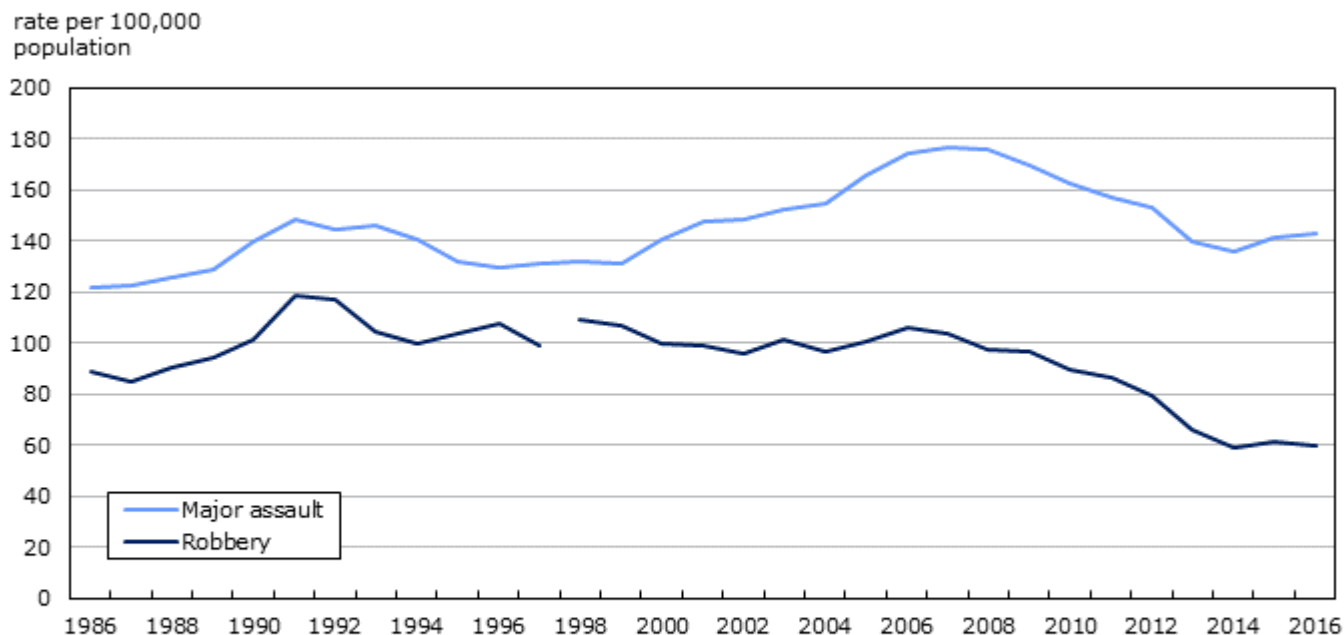
### Increase in rate of major physical assault in 2016

Physical assault continued to be the most prevalent form of police-reported violent crime in Canada in 2016, accounting for close to 6 in 10 (58%) violent offences reported by police. Police reported about 220,000 assaults in 2016, most of which (71%) were classified as common assaults (level 1).<sup>10</sup> The rate of common assault declined by 2% between 2015 and 2016. The rates of major assault, which includes aggravated assault (level 3) and assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm (level 2) both increased 1%. Other categories of assault include assault against a peace officer (no significant change in rate), and other forms of assault (e.g., unlawfully causing bodily harm) (-6%) (Table 6).

After decreasing steadily since 2008, the national rate of major assault (levels 2 and 3) increased for the second consecutive year due to higher rates reported in New Brunswick (+12%), Manitoba (+10%) and Ontario (+4%) (Chart 12, Table 7). Manitoba and Saskatchewan continued to report the highest rate of major assault among the provinces (380 and 370 per 100,000 population, respectively). These rates are approximately double the rates of the other Western provinces and more than three

times the rates of the provinces in the east. The largest declines were reported in Newfoundland and Labrador (-6%), British Columbia (-3%), Alberta (-2%), Nova Scotia (-1%), and Saskatchewan (-1%).

**Chart 12**  
**Major assault (levels 2 and 3) and robbery, police-reported rates, Canada, 1986 to 2016**



**Note:** Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Prior to 1998, the Uniform Crime Reporting 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.

**Police-reported robbery rate lower in 2016**

After a general downward trend since 2006 and a slight increase in 2015, the rate of robbery decreased 3% in 2016 (60 robberies per 100,000 population) (Chart 12, Table 6). Police reported approximately 22,000 robberies in 2016, about 350 fewer than the year before. Nunavut (-48%), British Columbia (-20%) and Nova Scotia (-16%) reported the largest declines in rate between 2015 and 2016.

Since 1998, the earliest year for which comparable data is available, Manitoba has consistently recorded the highest rate of police-reported robbery. In 2016, the rate of police reported robberies in Manitoba increased 21% to 156 per 100,000 population, largely due to increases in Winnipeg—this is almost double the rate of Saskatchewan (86 per 100,000 population) which reported the second highest rate in 2016. In 2016, New Brunswick (+47%) had the largest increase in the rate of robbery but was still amongst the provinces and territories with the lowest rate (30 per 100,000 population). In addition to New Brunswick, low rates of robbery were reported in Prince Edward Island (12 per 100,000 population), Nunavut (27 per 100,000 population) and Nova Scotia (29 per 100,000 population).

As with other police-reported crimes, changes in rates of robbery varied considerably by census metropolitan area (CMA) (Table 8). Notably large increases in robbery rates were reported in Moncton (+62%), Saint John (+48%), Gatineau (+44%), and Barrie (+28%). Trois-Rivières reported the largest decline (-66%) in 2016 and the lowest rate of robbery among the CMAs at 12 robberies per 100,000 population. Other CMAs with lower robbery rates in 2016 were Saguenay (16 per 100,000), Kingston (18 per 100,000), Québec (19 per 100,000) and Sherbrooke (19 per 100,000). In contrast, the highest rate of robbery continued to be recorded in Winnipeg at 229 robberies per 100,000 population. This is 27% higher than the rate reported in Winnipeg in 2015.

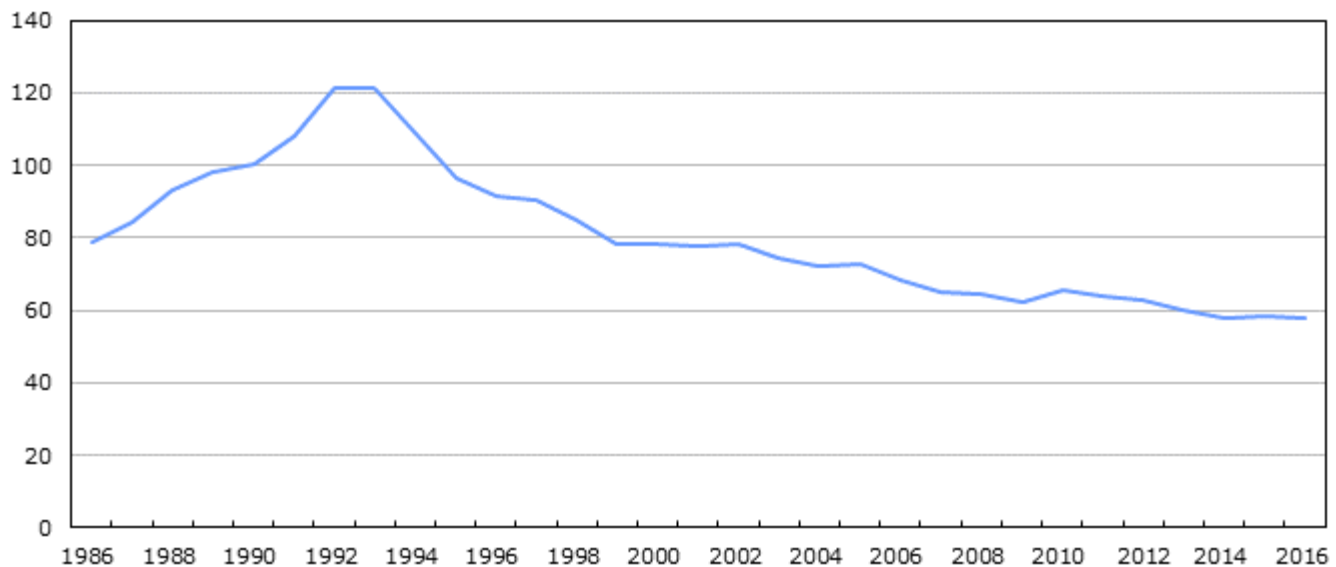
## Rate of police-reported sexual assaults down slightly in 2016

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 2016, there were about 21,000 police-reported sexual assaults. The rate of sexual assault in 2016 was 58 per 100,000 population, 1% lower than in 2015 and 15% lower than a decade previously (Chart 13). The majority (98%) were classified as level 1 sexual assault. Between 2015 and 2016, the rate of police-reported sexual assault level 1 declined 1% to 57 per 100,000 population. The rates of sexual assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm also declined by 1% with a total of 379 incidents reported in 2016, or a rate of 1 per 100,000 population. In contrast, the rate for aggravated sexual assault increased 6% in 2016, with 111 incidents (8 more than in 2015) (Table 6).

**Chart 13**  
**Sexual assault (levels 1, 2 and 3), police-reported rates, Canada, 1986 to 2016**

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.

Between 2015 and 2016, the rate of police-reported sexual assaults (all levels combined) declined in most provinces and territories with the exception of Saskatchewan (+6%), Quebec (+5%), Manitoba (+4%) and British Columbia (+3%). The largest declines were reported in Northwest Territories, Newfoundland and Labrador and New Brunswick (-18%, -15% and -12%, respectively).

The Territories reported the highest rates of sexual assault in 2016 followed by Manitoba (109 per 100,000) and Saskatchewan (104 per 100,000). In contrast, the lowest rates were reported in Prince Edward Island (47 per 100,000), New Brunswick (49 per 100,000) and Quebec (49 per 100,000).

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 6).

Further, in early 2017, Canadian media highlighted variations in how police record sexual assaults as unfounded, which may also have had an impact on official statistics (see Text box 6).

## Police-reported sexual violations against children increased in 2016

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: sexual interference; invitation to sexual touching; sexual exploitation; making sexually explicit material available to children; parent or guardian procuring sexual activity; householder permitting sexual activity and luring a child via a computer, which includes agreement or arrangement to commit a sexual offence against child. These are grouped within the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey as “sexual violations against children”.<sup>11</sup>

In 2016, there were 6,917 incidents of sexual violations against children reported by police: the majority (67% or 4,602 incidents) of these were sexual interference, followed by luring a child via a computer (21% or 1,295 incidents). Between 2015 and 2016, the rate of police-reported sexual violations against children increased 30% from 15 to 19 incidents per 100,000 population. Since 2010, when full data for these offences became available, the rate of sexual violations against children has increased 76% due to a general upward trend. However, 2016 accounts for the largest reported increase.

It is important to note that at least part of the increase reported in 2016 can be attributed to legislative changes (Bill C-26) to the maximum sentences for these offences which thereby affects the determination by police of the most serious violation in the incident (see Text box 5). In the UCR Survey, the most serious violation is partially determined by the maximum penalty, and official statistics are based on the most serious violation in an incident. While the number for most types of sexual violations against children rose in 2016, the greatest increase was reported for incidents of sexual interference which increased from 3,283 incidents in 2015 to 4,602 in 2016.

It is also 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, sexual offences against children can be delayed in coming to the attention of the police and those reported may have occurred in previous years (Cotter and Beaupré 2012).

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.<sup>12, 13</sup> In 2016, the number and rate of child pornography incidents continued to rise, up from 4,380 incidents in 2015 to 6,245 incidents in 2016. As a result, the rate increased by 41%, to 17 incidents per 100,000 population in 2016. This is 233% higher than the rate reported in 2006. 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 Vancouver in 2016, a 124% increase in these offences was reported by this jurisdiction in 2016.

## Text box 5 Legislative changes

### Bill C-26

On July 17th, 2015, Bill C-26, the *Tougher Penalties for Child Predators Act* came into effect. This legislation increased the maximum penalties for the following sexual offences against children: sexual interference; invitation to sexual touching; sexual exploitation; making sexually explicit material available to children; luring a child via a computer, and; agreement or arrangement to commit a sexual offence against child. In the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey, the most serious violation is partially determined by the maximum penalty. As such, changes in maximum penalty may affect the determination of the most serious violation in an incident reported by police. Specifically, the maximum penalty for these offences increased to 14 years. By comparison, the maximum penalty for sexual assault level 1 remained at 10 years. This change has an impact on incidents where both a sexual assault and a sexual violation against a child are reported, for example.

### Bill C-36

On December 6, 2014, Bill C-36, the *Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act* came into effect. The Bill responded to the Supreme Court of Canada's 2013 *Attorney General of Canada v. Bedford*<sup>14</sup> decision which found the laws surrounding prostitution offences to be unconstitutional. One of the objectives of the new legislation was "protecting sex workers, 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).<sup>15</sup>

As a result, provisions were amended and new prostitution-related offences were created. 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.

### Bill C-13

On March 10, 2015, Bill C-13, the *Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act* came into effect. The legislation introduced the new offence of non-consensual distribution of intimate images, making it illegal to knowingly publish, distribute, transmit, sell, advertise or make available an intimate image of another person, knowing that the person does not consent.

## Second year of reporting new offences related to the commodification of sexual activity shows increases

In 2016, there were 708 police-reported incidents related to the commodification of sexual activity (categorized as a crime against the person). Compared to 2015, which was the first full year following Bill C-36 legislation changes, the rate of offences related to the commodification of sexual activity increased 11% (see Text box 5). Most types of offences related to the commodification of sexual activity increased between 2015 and 2016. However, the change was primarily driven by an additional 51 police-reported incidents of procuring and an additional 25 incidents of obtaining sexual services for consideration reported in 2016.

Like offences related to the commodification of sexual activity, prostitution offences (categorized as non-violent crime) increased in the second full year of reporting following Bill C-36 legislation changes (see Text box 5). In all, 219 incidents of prostitution were reported in 2016, marking a rate of 1 per 100,000 and a rate that was 44% higher than the previous year. The change was driven by an increase from 31 incidents to 119 incidents of communicating to provide sexual services for consideration.

## Non-consensual distribution of intimate images a relatively new crime and reports have grown

In 2016, the rate for the relatively new violation of non-consensual distribution of intimate images, enacted in March 2015 with Bill C-13 increased 137% (see Text box 5). In 2016, police reported 815 such incidents, compared to 340 in 2015. This is likely due not only to 2016 being the first full year of data, but, as with many new criminal offences, the growing recognition and application by police. The new offence criminalizes publishing, distributing, selling, making available or advertising intimate images without the consent of the person depicted in the image. Reported violations increased from 2015 to 2016 in almost all provinces, with Quebec and Ontario accounting for the largest volume of growth. In Quebec, the number of incidents increased from 53 to 186, while in Ontario reported incidents grew from 114 to 286.

**Text box 6****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 on their perceptions of crime. 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 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.

Lastly, recent national attention highlighting variations in how police classify reports of sexual assault as unfounded or founded in their crime statistics may also be contributing to the differences in trends between the surveys. Based on the current UCR definition, an incident is considered ‘founded’ if, after police investigation, it has been determined that a violation took place, even if a person against whom there is enough evidence to lay a charge is unknown. An incident reported to police is classified as ‘unfounded’ if it has been determined through police investigation that the criminal offence reported did not occur, nor was it attempted. Given the policing community’s agreement in April 2017 to reinstate the standardized collection and provision of data on unfounded criminal incidents, Statistics Canada will once again collect and release data on such incidents, including sexual assaults.<sup>16</sup> Statistics Canada will also provide standards and guidelines to police services to ensure standardized reporting of unfounded incidents to the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey. The implementation of these changes will be phased in over time. In July 2018, Statistics Canada will publish the first set of results on unfounded criminal incidents for 2017, including sexual assaults, and assess the impact of revised reporting on the incidents of crime and clearance rates.

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%), or that the incident was a private matter and was handled informally (43%).<sup>17</sup>

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, 2014” (Boyce 2016).

**Non-violent crime****Police-reported non-violent crime increases in volume and severity**

In 2016, Canada’s non-violent Crime Severity Index (CSI), which includes all federal statutes and traffic offences, increased 2% (Table 1a). The primary offence that contributed to this increase was fraud which increased in almost all provinces and territories. Other offences which reported large increases, but had less of an impact on the non-violent CSI, included administration of justice offences and child pornography.

Between 2015 and 2016, the provincial and territorial changes to non-violent CSI varied. Saskatchewan (+9%) and Manitoba (+7%) reported the largest increases in non-violent CSI, due to high levels of breaking and entering and fraud (Text box 7). An increase in mischief also contributed to the increase in the non-violent CSI in Manitoba. Saskatchewan (149.5 per

100,000) and Manitoba (100.3 per 100,000) along with the other Western provinces also reported the highest non-violent CSI in 2016 amongst the provinces. Overall, the Territories reported the highest non-violent CSIs, as is generally the case (Table 2a). In contrast, Ontario and Quebec reported the lowest non-violent CSIs. The largest declines in non-violent CSI were reported by Northwest Territories (-9%), New Brunswick (-4%) and Yukon (-4%). Fewer incidents of breaking and entering was a driver for all provinces and territories which reported decreases in non-violent CSI. A decrease in incidents of mischief and breaking and entering were the main drivers for Northwest Territories' 9% decline in non-violent CSI in 2016.

### Text box 7

#### Violations contributing to the change in the non-violent Crime Severity Index (CSI) between 2015 and 2016, by province and territory

Province and territory	Percent change in CSI from 2015 to 2016	Violations driving the change in the non-violent CSI
Canada	+2	Fraud
Newfoundland and Labrador	+4	Fraud, Breaking and entering <sup>1</sup>
Prince Edward Island	+1	Fraud <sup>2</sup>
Nova Scotia	-2	Breaking and entering <sup>3</sup>
New Brunswick	-4	Theft of \$5,000 or under, Fraud, Breaking and entering
Quebec	-3	Breaking and entering, Theft of \$5,000 or under <sup>3</sup>
Ontario	+3	Fraud
Manitoba	+7	Breaking and entering, Mischief, Fraud
Saskatchewan	+9	Fraud, Breaking and entering
Alberta	+1	Fraud, Theft of \$5,000 or under, Administration of justice violations <sup>4</sup>
British Columbia	+2	Child pornography, Fraud, Theft of \$5,000 or under <sup>2</sup>
Yukon	-4	Breaking and entering <sup>3</sup>
Northwest Territories	-9	Mischief, Breaking and entering
Nunavut	+4	Breaking and entering, Administration of justice violations <sup>1</sup>

1. The increase in the non-violent CSIs in Newfoundland and Labrador and Nunavut was offset by declines in theft of \$5,000 or under.

2. The increase in the non-violent CSIs in Prince Edward Island and British Columbia was offset by declines in breaking and entering.

3. The declines in the non-violent CSIs in Nova Scotia, Quebec and Yukon was offset by increases in fraud.

4. The increase in the non-violent CSI in Alberta was offset by a decline in mischief.

**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.

As with the violent CSI, changes in the non-violent CSI varied considerably among Canada's CMAs in 2016 (Table 3). The largest increases in the non-violent CSI occurred in Regina (+15%), Winnipeg (+14%), Guelph (+12%) and Greater Sudbury (+12%), all mainly due to increased levels of breaking and entering. In addition to breaking and entering, fraud and theft of \$5,000 or under drove the change in Regina and Guelph. Likewise, breaking and entering was a driver in the CMAs which reported the largest declines in non-violent CSI. Trois-Rivières (-10%) and Victoria (-9%) reported decreases to their non-violent CSI resulting from fewer police-reported incidents of breaking and entering in 2016.

#### Total fraud increased in 2016, growing for the fifth year in a row

In 2016, 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 *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic). In total, there were over 1.5 million police-reported non-violent *Criminal Code* incidents in 2016 (excluding traffic), of which 1.2 million were property crimes (Table 1b). The rate of property crime remained stable between 2015 and 2016, decreasing slightly from 3,218 per 100,000 to 3,207 per 100,000.

While the rates of the majority of property crimes decreased between 2015 and 2016, increases in total fraud were recorded for the fifth consecutive year (Table 6). The rate of police-reported incidents of total fraud, which includes general fraud, identity fraud and identity theft, was 14% higher than in 2015. While the rate of general fraud grew 14%, rates for identity fraud increased 16% and identify theft grew 21%.

In 2016, increases in total fraud were reported by all provinces and territories, except the Northwest Territories (-12%) and New Brunswick (-12%) (Table 7). The largest increases were reported in Prince Edward Island (+66%), Nunavut (+61%) and Saskatchewan (+37%). Saskatchewan experienced the highest rate of total fraud (616 per 100,000) and Nunavut reported the lowest (216 per 100,000).

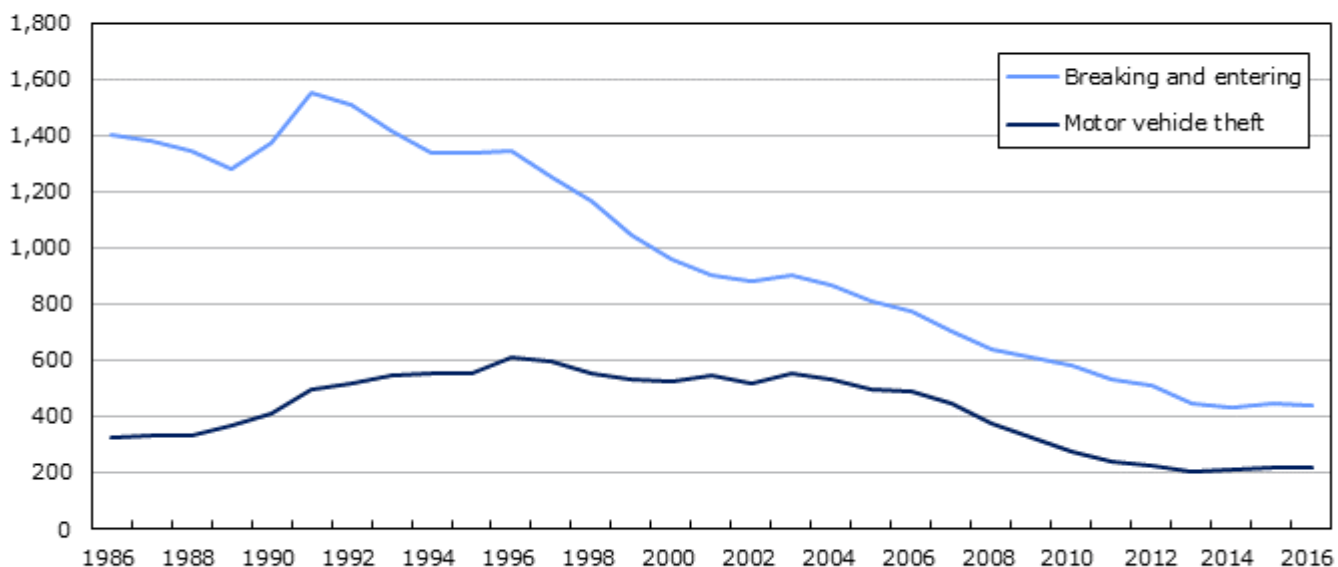
Increases in total fraud were reported by 28 of 33 census metropolitan areas. The only exceptions to the national increase were Saint John (-13%), Moncton (-6%), Windsor (-3%), Hamilton (-2%) and Halifax (-1%). The largest increases were reported in Greater Sudbury (+47%), Regina (+42%), Thunder Bay (+31%), Abbotsford-Mission (+30%), Saguenay (+29%) and Brantford (+29%). The increases are partly attributed to more police-reported incidents of Canada Revenue Agency scams and may also be due to an increased awareness of cybercrime in general.

### Decrease in rate of breaking and entering

Breaking and entering continued to be one of the most common forms of property crime in 2016, following the less serious violations of theft of \$5,000 or under and mischief. In 2016, just over 159,000 incidents of breaking and entering were reported to police, accounted for 14% of property crime. Since peaking in 1991, the police-reported rate of breaking and entering had been generally declining in Canada, with only three increases reported in 1996, 2003 and 2015 (Chart 14). In 2016, the rate declined 2% nationally to 439 per 100,000 population. In 2006, the rate of breaking and entering was 43% higher and accounted for 16% of all police-reported property crime.

**Chart 14**  
**Breaking and entering and motor vehicle theft, police-reported rates, Canada, 1986 to 2016**

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.

Most provinces and territories reported declines in rates of breaking and entering. Prince Edward Island (-25%), Yukon (-16%) and Northwest Territories (-15%) reported the largest declines (Table 7). The provinces and territories which reported increases were Saskatchewan (+7%), Manitoba (+6%), Nunavut (+6%) and Newfoundland and Labrador (+5%). All other provinces and territories reported declines including Alberta which declined 1% after reporting a 35% increase in 2015.

### Declines in motor vehicle theft in most census metropolitan areas

There were almost 79,000 incidents of motor vehicle theft reported by police in 2016, resulting in a rate of 217 per 100,000 population. Between 2015 and 2016, the rate of motor vehicle theft in Canada declined 1%. Despite the increases reported over the last two years, the rate of motor vehicle theft in Canada was 55% lower than a decade previously (Chart 14).

Six provinces and territories reported increases in rates of motor vehicle theft. Large increases were reported in Yukon (+22%), Nunavut (+18%) and Saskatchewan (+15%) and smaller increases were reported in Newfoundland and Labrador (+4%), Ontario (+2%) and New Brunswick (+1%). All other provinces and territories reported no change or a decrease in rate. Prince Edward Island continued to report the lowest rate of motor vehicle theft (60 per 100,000) followed by the other Atlantic provinces (Table 7). The highest rate continued to be reported by Alberta (536 per 100,000) followed by Northwest Territories (526 per 100,000) and Saskatchewan (492 per 100,000).



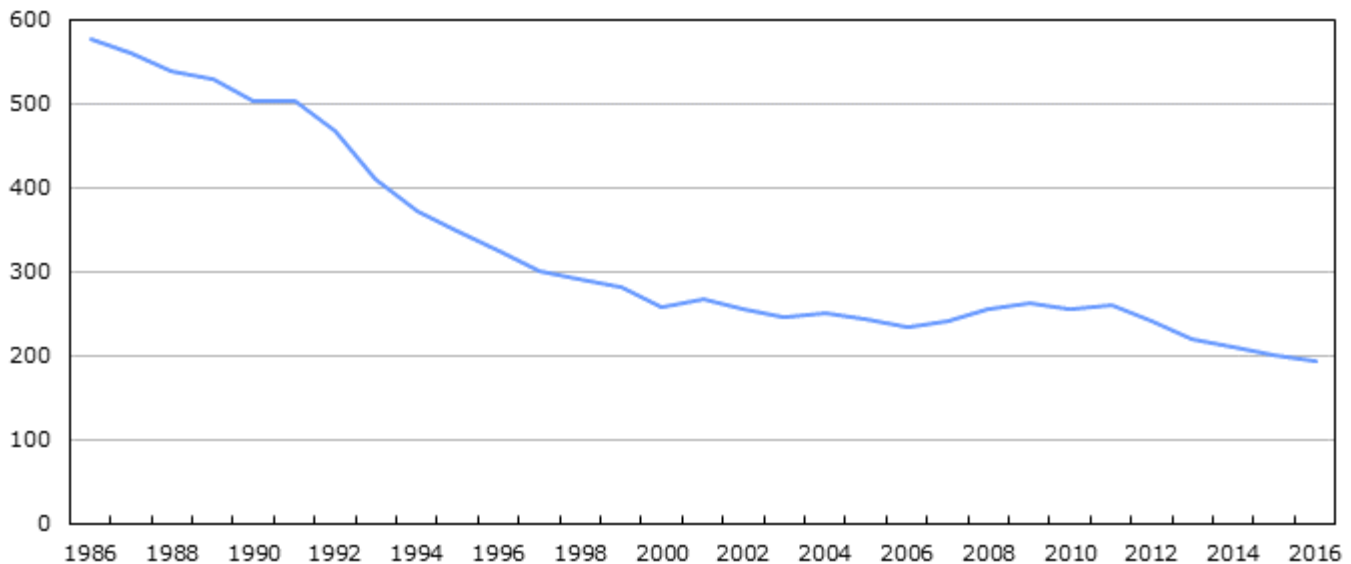
Most census metropolitan areas (CMAs) reported declines in motor vehicle theft (Table 8). Gatineau (-28%), Trois-Rivières (-25%) and Greater Sudbury (-17%) reported relatively large declines. In contrast, notably large increases were reported in Guelph (+49%) and Saskatchewan's two CMAs, Regina (+17%) and Saskatoon (+16%). Calgary, which accounted for most of the increase in motor vehicle theft reported in Alberta in 2015, reported no change in 2016. Edmonton, Alberta's other CMA, saw another annual increase in motor vehicle theft (+10%) in 2016.

### Police-reported impaired driving rate down for fifth consecutive year

Police reported just about 70,500 alcohol or drug impaired driving incidents in 2016, about 1,400 fewer than the year before. The rate of impaired driving decreased by 3% in 2016 to 194 impaired driving incidents per 100,000 population, representing the fifth consecutive decline in five years (Chart 15).

**Chart 15**  
**Impaired driving, police-reported rates, Canada, 1986 to 2016**

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.

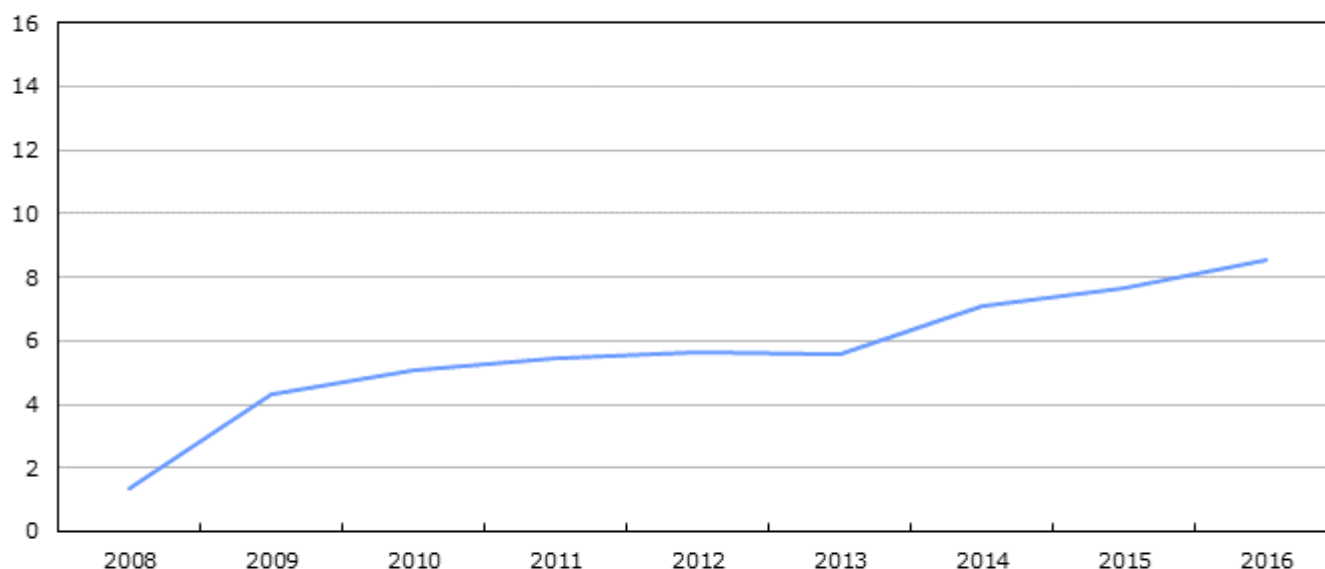
**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

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 2016). Almost all police-reported impaired driving incidents continued to involve alcohol in 2016 (96%), while a small proportion (4%) involved drugs.

Unlike the overall decline in impaired driving between 2015 and 2016, the number and rate for almost all drug impaired driving violations increased (Chart 16). In total, there were 3,098 drug impaired driving violations in 2016, 343 more than the previous year. Overall, the rate for drug-impaired driving increased 11%. The national increase in rates was largely driven by increases in Ontario (+38%), British Columbia (+29%) and Quebec (+10%). Declines were reported in Yukon, Manitoba, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick and Nunavut.

**Chart 16**  
**Drug impaired driving, police-reported rates, Canada, 2008 to 2016**

rate per 100,000  
 population



**Note:** Data not available prior to 2008. Includes drug impaired operation of a vehicle, drug impaired operation of a vehicle causing death or bodily harm, failure or refusal to comply with testing for the presence of 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.

Despite an 11% increase in rate, the rate of drug impaired driving (8.5 per 100,000 population) remained low compared with the rate of alcohol impaired driving (186 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). In incidents where the driver may be impaired by both alcohol and drugs, it is generally easier for police to lay charges for alcohol-impaired driving and the majority of cases are reported as such (Perreault 2016).

Despite the national decline in police-reported impaired driving rates, among the provinces, Prince Edward Island (+24%) and Manitoba (+19%) reported increases between 2015 and 2016. All other provinces reported declines with the exception of Newfoundland and Labrador which remained stable. Yukon was the only territory to record a decline in its impaired driving rate between 2015 and 2016, as both Nunavut and Northwest Territories recorded increases (+23% each).

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 (Perreault 2016).

#### Rate of cannabis-related offences declines for fifth year in a row

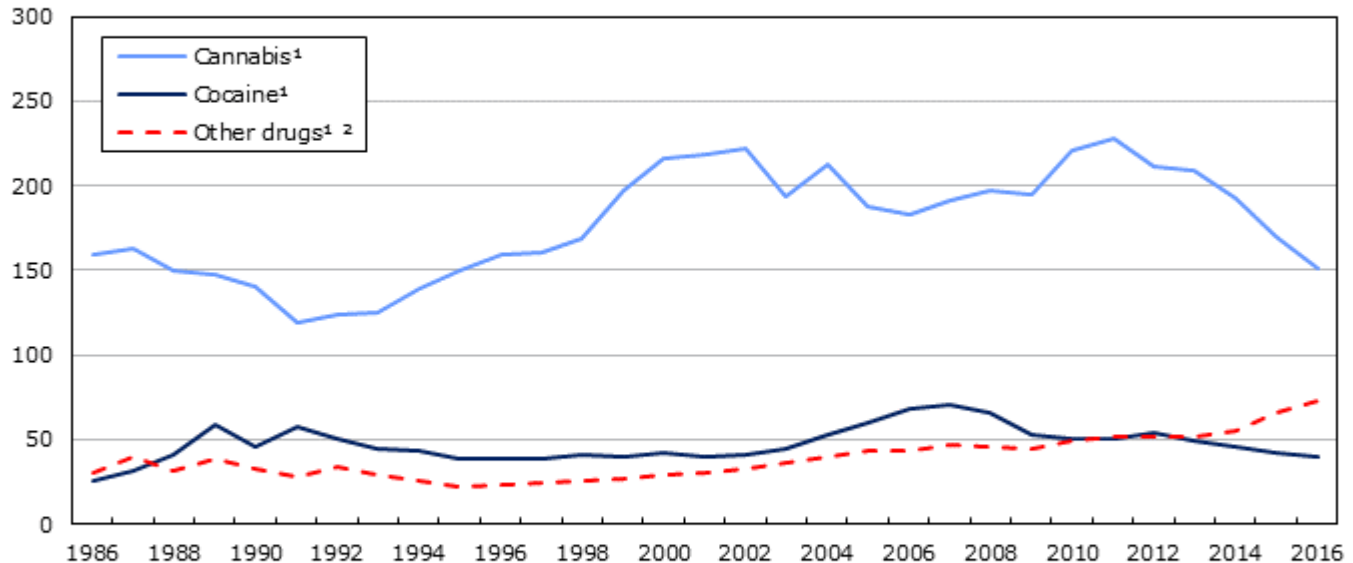
In Canada, drug offences such as possession, trafficking, importation and exportation, and production fall under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA)*. In 2016, there were about 95,400 *CDSA* offences reported by police, representing a rate of 263 per 100,000 population (Table 6). Of these, more than half (58%) were cannabis-related offences.

Currently, possession, trafficking, importation and exportation, and production of cannabis for non-medical purposes falls under the *CDSA* and are illegal in Canada. However, in June 2016 a task force was assembled to consult and provide advice on creating new legislation legalizing and regulating cannabis in Canada (McLellan et al. 2016). On April 13, 2017, Bill C-45, *An Act respecting cannabis and to amend the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, the Criminal Code and other Acts (the Cannabis Act)*, was formally introduced in the House of Commons. The *Act* provides the legal framework which will legalize and regulate the production, distribution, sale and possession of cannabis in Canada (Parliament of Canada 2017).

For the last 5 years, police-reported rates of cannabis-related drug offences have been declining in Canada (Chart 17). In 2016, there were about 55,000 cannabis-related drug offences reported to police, about 6,000 less than reported in 2015. The majority of these offences (81%) were possession offences which represented a rate of 122 per 100,000 population, 12% lower than in 2015.

**Chart 17**  
**Drug offences, police-reported rates, Canada, 1986 to 2016**

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.

Nationally, the rate of cannabis possession fell 12% with almost all provinces and territories reporting declines in 2016. The exceptions to the national decline were Prince Edward Island (+15%), New Brunswick (+7%) and Quebec which reported no change. The largest declines in rate of possession of cannabis were reported in the Territories, Alberta (-25%), Manitoba (-18%), Saskatchewan (-16%) and Ontario (-16%). British Columbia reported the smallest decline (-13%) among the Western provinces and the highest rate among all provinces (232 per 100,000 population). The lowest police-reported rates of possession of cannabis were recorded in Manitoba (66 per 100,000) and Prince Edward Island (77 per 100,000).

National declines were also reported in incidents of trafficking of cannabis (-8%) and production of cannabis (-2%). In contrast, an increase of 8% was reported in the rate of importation and exportation of cannabis. Decreases in the rate of total cannabis-related offences were reported in almost all provinces and territories with the largest declines recorded in the Territories and Western provinces. Prince Edward Island (+20%) and New Brunswick (+5%) were the only jurisdictions to report increases in cannabis-related offences. Quebec reported no change.

Along with the decline in cannabis offences, the number of persons charged has also been declining. In 2016, the rate of persons charged with a cannabis related offence declined 16% from 2015. Of the 23,329 people charged with cannabis-related offences in 2016, 17,733 (76%) were charged with possession of cannabis, about 3,600 less than in 2015. Declines in rates of persons charged with possession of cannabis were reported by almost all provinces and territories in 2016. Newfoundland and Labrador (+28%) and Prince Edward Island (+10%) reported the only increases. Despite reporting the only increases, these provinces reported the lowest rates of persons charged with possession of cannabis among the provinces and territories (22 and 20 per 100,000, respectively). In contrast, the highest rates of persons charged with possession of cannabis were reported in Saskatchewan (71 per 100,000) and Quebec (67 per 100,000).

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

Similar to the trend in cannabis related offences, most forms of cocaine drug offences continued to decline in 2016 for the fourth consecutive year dropping 8% from 2015 to a rate of 39 incidents per 100,000 population (Table 7, Chart 17). In

contrast, the combined rate of possession, trafficking, production and distribution of drugs other than cannabis and cocaine has been increasing since 2010. Between 2015 and 2016, the most notable increases were reported for possession of heroin (+32%); possession of methamphetamines (+22%); trafficking, production or distribution of heroin (+15%) and; trafficking, production or distribution of methamphetamines (+10%). In addition, there was a 7% increase in possession of “other drugs” such as prescription drugs (including opioids such as Fentanyl), LSD, and “date rape” drugs. The exceptions to the national increase were possession of methylenedioxyamphetamine (commonly known as ecstasy) (-40%); trafficking, and production or distribution of methylenedioxyamphetamine (-18%), and trafficking, production or distribution of “other drugs” (-3%).

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.

## Police-reported youth crime

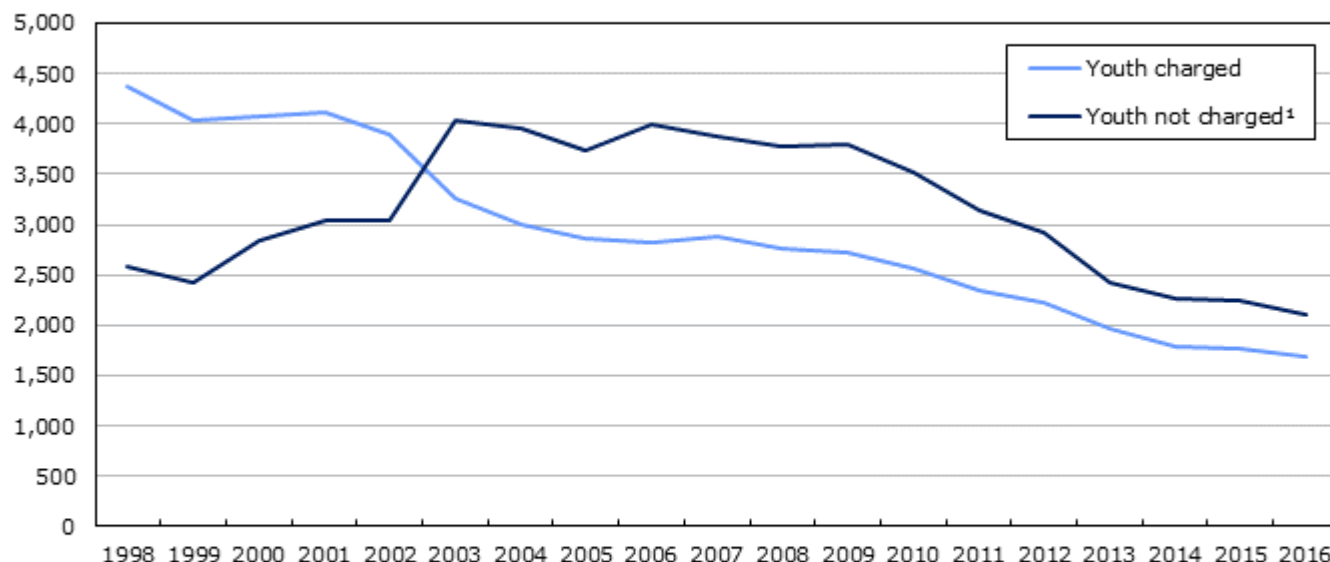
### Fewer youth accused of crime in 2016

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.<sup>18</sup> 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 88,000 youth accused of a criminal offence in 2016, about 5,000 fewer than in the previous year. Of the youth accused of a criminal offence in 2016, 45% were formally charged by police, while the remaining 55% were dealt with by other means. 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 18).

**Chart 18**  
**Youth accused of crime, by clearance status, Canada, 1998 to 2016**

rate per 100,000 youth



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.

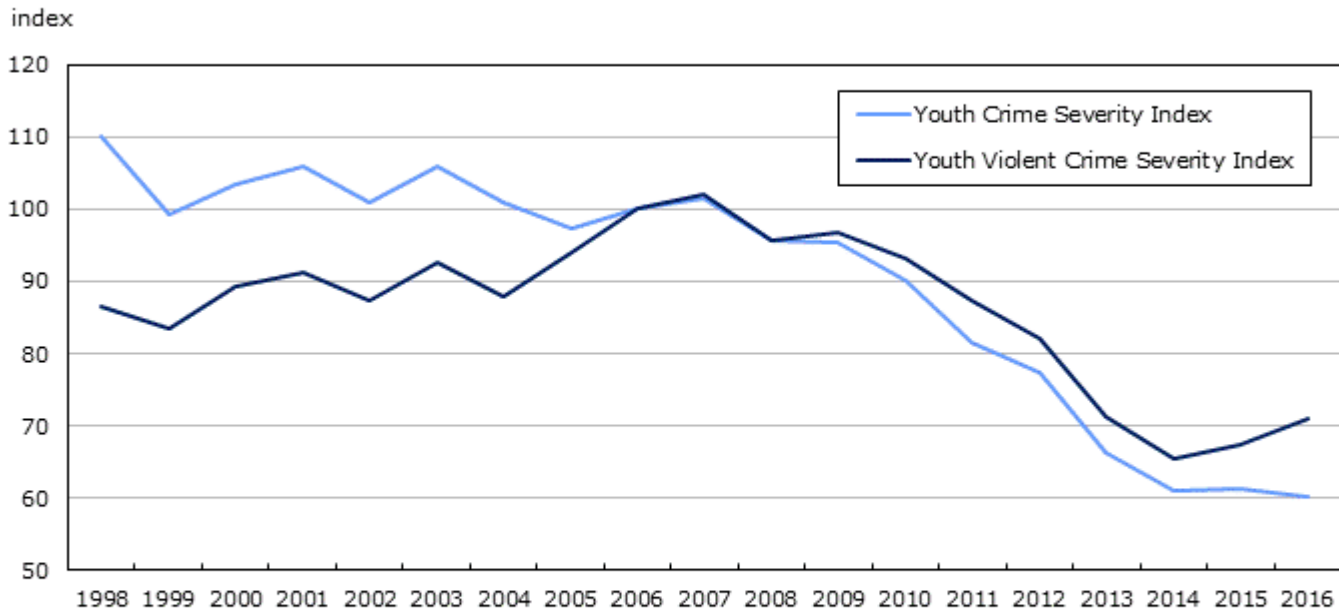
**Note:** Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Data is based on the number of youth aged 12 to 17 years who were either charged (or recommended for charging) by police or diverted from the formal criminal justice system through the use of warnings, cautions, referrals to community 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.

## Youth Crime Severity Index down in most provinces and territories

The Youth Crime Severity Index (youth CSI), which measures both the volume and severity of crime involving youth accused (both charged and not charged), declined 2% in 2016 (Table 9a). The youth non-violent CSI decreased 8% while the youth violent CSI increased 5% between 2015 and 2016. Since 2008, the youth CSI has generally been on a downward trend and the youth CSI in 2016 is the lowest reported youth CSI since 1998, the first year for which youth CSI data is available (Chart 19). The decline in youth crime has been greater than for crime overall. The youth CSI in 2016 was 40% lower than a decade ago; in contrast, the overall crime rate (which includes crime committed by youth) fell 28% over the same period.

**Chart 19**  
**Police-reported youth Crime Severity Indexes, Canada, 1998 to 2016**



**Note:** Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). Data is based on 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. Populations are based on July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

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

Between 2015 and 2016, the youth CSI declined in almost all provinces and territories. The largest declines were reported in Yukon (-28%), Alberta (-15%) and Prince Edward Island (-12%) (Table 11). Prince Edward Island had the country's lowest youth CSI in 2016 at 30.7 per 100,000 population. Among the provinces, as with crime overall, Saskatchewan and Manitoba continued to report the highest youth CSIs (170.2 and 113.1, respectively).

The exceptions to the national decline were Nova Scotia (+8%), Ontario (+4%) and Quebec (+4%), which were also the only provinces to report increases in youth violent CSI, driving the national increase. All provinces and territories reported decreases or no change in youth non-violent CSI.

The police-reported youth crime rate, which measures the volume of crime committed by youth, also decreased between 2015 and 2016 by 5% reaching a rate of 3,795 per 100,000 population (Table 10a). This is the seventh consecutive decline since 2010 and largely the result of a 10% decrease in the rate of youth accused of property crimes (Table 9b). All provinces and territories reported declines in rates of youth accused of property crimes in 2016. The rate of youth accused of the most common forms of property crimes, mischief (-13%), motor vehicle theft (-13%), breaking and entering (-11%), theft of \$5000 or under (-8%) were all lower than in 2015 (Table 10b). Likewise, the rate of youth accused of drug crime declined to a rate of 477 per 100,000, 14% lower than 2015 but still higher than the national rate (263 per 100,000 population). The rate of youth accused of cannabis possession was down 15% in 2016, all other cannabis related offences (trafficking, production or distribution) were lower or the same as in 2015.

## Youth violent Crime Severity Index increases for second year in a row

While the national rate of youth accused of violent crimes remained stable in 2016, the severity and volume of violent crime, measured by the youth violent Crime Severity Index (CSI), increased 5%. This is the second consecutive increase in youth

violent CSI reported after consecutive declines from 2010 to 2014. In contrast, the youth non-violent CSI has steadily decreased over the same seven years. The increase in youth violent CSI in 2016 was driven by more youth accused of attempted murder, robbery and sexual violations against children.

Most provinces and territories reported decreases in youth violent CSI except Nova Scotia (+25%), Quebec (+16%), Yukon (+15%) and Ontario (+14%) which drove the national increase. The increase in Nova Scotia was primarily due to an increase in homicide (from 0 in 2015 to 2 in 2016) and attempted murder (from 1 in 2015 to 8 in 2016). In Quebec the increase was due to an additional 114 youth accused of robbery (from 383 in 2015 to 497 in 2016). In Ontario the increase was driven by more youth accused of robbery and sexual violations against children in 2016.

For the second consecutive year, increases at the national level were reported in the rate of youth accused of sexual violations against children (+38%), forcible confinement or kidnapping (+36%), other violent violations (+21%), threatening or harassing phone calls (+19%), and assault against a peace officer (+3%). Other increases in the rate of youth accused in 2016 included: other violations causing death (+200%, from 2 accused in 2015 to 6 in 2016), offences related to the commodification of sexual activity (+134%, from 9 accused in 2015 to 21 in 2016), attempted murder (+115%, from 42 accused in 2015 to 90 in 2016), sexual assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm (+84%, from 31 accused in 2015 to 57 in 2016), robbery (+6%, from 2,446 accused in 2015 to 2,595 in 2016) and criminal harassment (+1%, from 1,000 accused in 2015 to 1,007 in 2016). The rate of youth accused for all other violent violations declined or remained the same in 2016.

## Summary

In 2016, the police-reported Crime Severity Index (CSI) increased 1% while the crime rate remained relatively stable in Canada. All of Canada's provinces and territories reported decreases or no change in their CSI except Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Newfoundland and Labrador, Ontario and Nunavut.

Despite the slight increase in CSI overall, Canada's violent CSI remained stable in 2016. This was due to fewer incidents of robbery offset by an increase in sexual violations against children. Canada's non-violent CSI increased due to a higher number of police-reported incidents of fraud. Half of the types of violent crimes decreased in rate in 2016 including homicide and attempted murder. Sexual violations against children, other violations causing death, offences related to the commodification of sexual activity and aggravated sexual assault were among the few violent offences to record increases.

Canada's youth CSI and non-violent CSI declined in 2016. The rate of youth accused of drug crimes and the most common forms of property crimes all declined in 2016. In contrast, the youth violent CSI rose in 2016 due to increases in youth accused in police-reported incidents of attempted murder, robbery and sexual violations against children.

### Text box 8

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

Trends in reporting criminal victimization to police, 1999 to 2009  
 Mental health and contact with police in Canada, 2012  
 Police-reported crime in Canada's Provincial North and Territories, 2013  
 Drug-related offences in Canada, 2013  
 Trends in offences against the administration of justice  
 Criminal victimization in Canada, 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  
 Homicide in Canada, 2015  
 Impaired driving in Canada, 2015  
 Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile, 2015  
 Measuring organized crime in Canada: Results of a pilot project  
 Police-reported hate crime in Canada, 2015

## 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 6 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: level 1, touching without consent that violates the sexual integrity of 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 2013, 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 sex work 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 6 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.

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 2016 crime statistics are released, the 2015 data are updated with any revisions that have been made between May 2016 and May 2017. The data are revised only once and are then permanently frozen. Over the past 12 years (2004 to 2015), data corresponding to previous years have been revised upward 9 times and revised downward 3 times, with an average annual revision of 0.19%. The 2015 revision to counts of persons charged and youth not charged resulted in a 0.5% increase to 2015 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”* (Babyak et al. 2009).

In 2008, the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey was modified to create new violation codes for drug impaired operation of a vehicle, drug impaired operation of a vehicle causing death or bodily harm, failure or refusal to comply with testing for the presence of drugs and failure or refusal to provide a breath or blood sample. Prior to 2008, those offences would have been coded together with alcohol impaired driving violations. Therefore, the percentage change from 2006 to 2016 is not shown.



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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 Uniform Crime Reporting 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 Crime Severity Index 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 Crime Severity Index (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 Uniform Crime Reporting Survey data for 2011 onwards. Outliers (atypically very long and unique sentences for a given offence) are not included in the average.

7. 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.

8. 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*.

9. Due to small populations, the Territories are more susceptible to considerable year-over-year fluctuations in both their CSI and crime rates.

10. See also "Key terminology and definitions".

11. See also "Key terminology and definitions".

12. 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.

13. 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.

14. *R. v. Bedford*, 2013. SCC 72.

15. 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 Uniform Crime Reporting Survey to move the violations in question from the category "Other *Criminal Code* Offences" to the category of "Violent Crime".

16. See the document Recommendations Regarding the Collection of 'Unfounded' Incidents via the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey on the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police website. Also see Statistics Canada's April 2017 statistical announcement on Statistics Canada will Collect and Publish Data on Unfounded Criminal Incidents.

17. Respondents were able to provide more than one reason for not reporting.

18. The overall crime rate is calculated as the number of criminal incidents reported by police per 100,000 total population. The overall crime rate therefore includes crimes committed by both youth and adults as well as incidents where no accused of any age was identified. As an additional measure, the youth crime rate is calculated as the number of youth accused (charged and not charged) per 100,000 youth. The Youth Crime Severity Index is similarly related to the overall Crime Severity Index.

## Detailed data tables

**Table 1a**  
**Police-reported Crime Severity Indexes, Canada, 2006 to 2016**

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
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	-4	72.9	-2
2013	68.8	-9	73.9	-10	66.8	-8
2014	66.7	-3	70.5	-5	65.2	-2
2015 <sup>r</sup>	70.1	5	75.0	6	68.2	5
2016	71.0	1	75.3	0 <sup>s</sup>	69.3	2
Percent change 2006 to 2016	-29	...	-25	...	-31	...

... not applicable

0<sup>s</sup> value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded<sup>r</sup> 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, 2006 to 2016**

Year	Total crime (crime rate)			Violent crime		Property crime		Other Criminal Code offences			
	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	number	rate	number	rate	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	
2006	2,359,804	7,245	-1	451,652	1,387	0 <sup>s</sup>	1,566,315	4,809	341,837	1,050	0 <sup>s</sup>
2007	2,271,754	6,908	-5	445,252	1,354	-2	1,488,103	4,525	338,399	1,029	-2
2008	2,204,479	6,631	-4	443,608	1,334	-1	1,415,572	4,258	345,299	1,039	1
2009	2,172,809	6,461	-3	444,533	1,322	-1	1,386,184	4,122	342,092	1,017	-2
2010	2,094,338	6,159	-5	439,220	1,292	-2	1,305,150	3,838	349,968	1,029	1
2011	1,984,790	5,779	-6	424,338	1,236	-4	1,214,312	3,536	346,140	1,008	-2
2012	1,957,227	5,632	-3	416,147	1,198	-3	1,193,600	3,435	347,480	1,000	-1
2013	1,826,431	5,195	-8	384,385	1,093	-9	1,106,509	3,147	335,537	954	-5
2014	1,793,612	5,046	-3	370,050	1,041	-5	1,098,399	3,090	325,163	915	-4
2015 <sup>r</sup>	1,867,833	5,210	3	382,115	1,066	2	1,153,700	3,218	332,018	926	1
2016	1,895,546	5,224	0 <sup>s</sup>	381,594	1,052	-1	1,163,647	3,207	350,305	965	4
Percent change 2006 to 2016	...	-28	...	...	-24	...	...	-33	...	-8	...

... not applicable

0<sup>s</sup> value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded<sup>r</sup> revised

**Note:** Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Crime rates are based upon *Criminal Code* incidents, excluding traffic offences. See Table 6 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. 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, 2016**

Province and territory	Total Crime Severity Index			Violent Crime Severity Index		Non-violent Crime Severity Index	
	index	percent change	percent change	index	percent change	index	percent change
		2015 to 2016	2006 to 2016		2015 to 2016		2015 to 2016
Newfoundland and Labrador	69.3	6	-5	72.6	8	68.0	4
Prince Edward Island	48.5	-3	-32	35.1	-16	53.3	1
Nova Scotia	61.2	-3	-39	68.3	-3	58.5	-2
New Brunswick	61.7	-2	-17	63.2	5	61.0	-4
Quebec	54.7	-3	-40	64.7	-2	51.0	-3
Ontario	52.7	4	-33	63.6	7	48.6	3
Manitoba	114.4	8	-27	152.7	10	100.3	7
Saskatchewan	148.8	9	-13	146.1	7	149.5	9
Alberta	102.5	-1	-11	89.9	-8	106.9	1
British Columbia	93.6	-1	-33	74.9	-10	100.3	2
Yukon	183.9	0 <sup>s</sup>	2	229.1	9	167.0	-4
Northwest Territories	291.7	-9	-8	332.1	-9	276.4	-9
Nunavut	286.4	4	2	407.7	5	241.6	4
<b>Canada</b>	<b>71.0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-29</b>	<b>75.3</b>	<b>0<sup>s</sup></b>	<b>69.3</b>	<b>2</b>

0<sup>s</sup> 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). 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, 2016**

Province and territory	Total crime (crime rate)				Violent crime			Property crime			Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences		
	number	rate	percent change	percent change	number	rate	percent change	number	rate	percent change	number	rate	percent change
			in rate	in rate			in rate			in rate			
			2015 to 2016	2006 to 2016			2015 to 2016			2015 to 2016			2015 to 2016
Newfoundland and Labrador	31,407	5,924	2	-4	7,037	1,327	-3	17,894	3,375	0 <sup>s</sup>	6,476	1,222	16
Prince Edward Island	6,425	4,322	4	-36	1,168	786	6	4,336	2,917	2	921	620	15
Nova Scotia	46,325	4,879	-3	-40	10,952	1,153	-4	26,996	2,843	-4	8,377	882	2
New Brunswick	35,541	4,696	-5	-22	8,904	1,177	0 <sup>s</sup>	20,404	2,696	-9	6,233	824	6
Quebec	270,340	3,247	-4	-40	79,132	950	-1	154,389	1,854	-7	36,819	442	4
Ontario	504,555	3,608	2	-33	110,439	790	0 <sup>s</sup>	319,775	2,287	1	74,341	532	9
Manitoba	116,083	8,807	7	-24	25,546	1,938	7	67,136	5,093	7	23,401	1,775	5
Saskatchewan	135,150	11,746	4	-14	23,330	2,028	0 <sup>s</sup>	75,405	6,553	5	36,415	3,165	6
Alberta	342,771	8,060	0 <sup>s</sup>	-14	52,886	1,244	-5	221,390	5,206	0 <sup>s</sup>	68,495	1,611	6
British Columbia	367,687	7,738	-1	-31	54,137	1,139	-6	237,649	5,001	1	75,901	1,597	-3
Yukon	8,452	22,543	-5	13	1,555	4,148	1	3,459	9,226	-4	3,438	9,170	-8
Northwest Territories	18,049	40,588	-9	0 <sup>s</sup>	3,485	7,837	2	9,188	20,662	-12	5,376	12,089	-9
Nunavut	12,761	34,413	5	10	3,023	8,152	1	5,626	15,172	0 <sup>s</sup>	4,112	11,089	15
<b>Canada</b>	<b>1,895,546</b>	<b>5,224</b>	<b>0<sup>s</sup></b>	<b>-28</b>	<b>381,594</b>	<b>1,052</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>1,163,647</b>	<b>3,207</b>	<b>0<sup>s</sup></b>	<b>350,305</b>	<b>965</b>	<b>4</b>

0<sup>s</sup> 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 6 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, 2016**

Census metropolitan area <sup>1, 2, 3</sup>	Population		Total Crime Severity Index		Violent Crime Severity Index		Non-violent Crime Severity Index			
	number	index	percent change		index	percent change		index	percent change	
			2015 to 2016	2006 to 2016		2015 to 2016	2015 to 2016			
St. John's	207,695	79.2	7	-14	88.9	11	75.5	5		
Halifax	426,083	61.0	-4	-50	77.3	-5	55.0	-3		
Moncton <sup>4</sup>	157,321	75.7	-4	...	79.3	7	74.2	-7		
Saint John <sup>4</sup>	127,930	52.7	-6	...	63.8	-3	48.5	-7		
Saguenay	167,054	56.9	6	-2	67.7	10	52.9	4		
Québec	800,570	45.2	8	-38	51.5	17	42.8	4		
Sherbrooke	199,344	50.3	1	-38	55.6	25	48.2	-6		
Trois-Rivières	156,649	48.7	-14	-34	46.2	-23	49.5	-10		
Montréal	4,102,619	57.8	-5	-44	73.1	-4	52.1	-5		
Gatineau <sup>5</sup>	331,114	56.7	6	-34	63.8	15	54.0	3		
Ottawa <sup>6</sup>	1,013,615	51.3	10	-37	62.1	15	47.2	8		
Kingston	167,773	55.2	-2	-30	38.5	-29	61.2	7		
Peterborough	123,555	55.1	0 <sup>s</sup>	-31	68.9	20	50.0	-7		
Toronto	6,184,845	47.5	4	-35	70.4	8	39.1	2		
Hamilton	760,381	53.6	6	-37	66.0	20	49.0	0 <sup>s</sup>		
St. Catharines–Niagara	453,817	50.3	-4	-41	37.6	-11	54.9	-1		
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	548,936	61.2	1	-23	60.1	8	61.4	-1		
Brantford	146,557	86.8	13	-24	88.4	27	86.0	8		
Guelph	132,350	54.6	9	-9	49.1	1	56.5	12		
London	515,409	68.4	5	-33	59.4	5	71.5	5		
Windsor	334,859	65.1	4	-27	58.1	-12	67.6	11		
Barrie	216,661	45.4	5	-42	46.3	6	45.0	4		
Greater Sudbury	165,154	63.5	7	-29	61.4	-5	64.2	12		
Thunder Bay	120,520	85.9	6	-23	125.6	4	71.2	8		
Winnipeg	795,643	103.9	16	-37	149.6	20	87.0	14		
Regina	247,634	125.8	15	-36	124.1	14	126.2	15		
Saskatoon	320,527	117.8	5	-29	114.0	1	118.9	6		
Calgary	1,474,624	74.6	-6	-23	61.3	-16	79.3	-2		
Edmonton	1,387,281	105.7	3	-19	102.5	-2	106.7	5		
Kelowna	196,940	100.3	0 <sup>s</sup>	-29	62.7	-15	113.7	4		
Abbotsford–Mission	186,274	91.4	-5	-36	82.3	-8	94.4	-4		
Vancouver	2,551,096	94.3	-1	-32	72.8	-14	102.0	3		
Victoria	371,057	63.8	-12	-45	56.8	-18	66.2	-9		
<b>Canada</b>	<b>36,286,425</b>	<b>71.0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-29</b>	<b>75.3</b>	<b>0<sup>s</sup></b>	<b>69.3</b>	<b>2</b>		

... not applicable

0<sup>s</sup> 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 CMA boundaries that are determined for the purpose of reporting crime statistics. As such, 2014, 2015 and 2016 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.

**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, 2016**

Census metropolitan area <sup>1, 2, 3</sup>	Total crime (crime rate) <sup>4</sup>		Violent crime		Property crime		Other Criminal Code offences		Drug offences		
	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	
St. John's	5,721	-3	-15	1,356	-3	3,414	-6	951	11	134	-11
Halifax	4,663	-4	-46	1,016	-9	2,825	-4	822	4	249	-4
Moncton <sup>5</sup>	6,196	-9	...	1,410	3	3,584	-16	1,201	6	231	19
Saint John <sup>5</sup>	4,305	-8	...	1,207	-16	2,386	-5	713	-1	153	-18
Saguenay	3,319	4	-17	1,033	3	1,756	-3	530	42	241	-2
Québec	3,000	1	-36	932	5	1,675	-5	393	24	269	26
Sherbrooke	3,297	2	-36	714	12	1,718	-6	864	13	342	6
Trois-Rivières	2,946	-13	-37	830	-12	1,529	-20	587	9	289	-6
Montréal	3,389	-5	-44	894	0 <sup>s</sup>	2,085	-8	411	-3	269	0 <sup>s</sup>
Gatineau <sup>6</sup>	3,688	-1	-34	1,058	-4	1,915	-1	715	3	413	-8
Ottawa <sup>7</sup>	3,492	5	-37	614	-1	2,378	5	501	13	127	-15
Kingston	4,743	-1	-27	770	-6	3,358	-2	615	13	95	7
Peterborough	4,286	0 <sup>s</sup>	-33	828	10	2,401	-12	1,057	33	171	9
Toronto	2,954	2	-34	745	2	1,899	2	310	10	152	-14
Hamilton	3,502	0 <sup>s</sup>	-37	767	9	2,302	-4	433	3	220	-6
St. Catharines–Niagara	3,519	-1	-39	535	-5	2,510	-3	474	22	108	-16
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	4,697	2	-17	854	5	2,989	-4	855	25	286	3
Brantford	6,138	7	-28	1,310	4	4,011	5	816	25	250	4
Guelph	4,496	13	1	735	5	3,080	16	682	9	236	7
London	5,503	4	-30	786	2	3,598	6	1,120	-2	179	-14
Windsor	4,425	-1	-33	722	-18	3,104	2	598	12	228	10
Barrie	3,567	-1	-44	741	3	2,094	-4	732	6	149	-13
Greater Sudbury	4,532	5	-23	951	1	2,647	3	935	17	201	-14
Thunder Bay	6,259	2	-29	1,464	3	3,413	-4	1,382	20	85	-19
Winnipeg	6,653	13	-40	1,291	11	4,599	13	763	14	112	-17
Regina	9,253	11	-25	1,137	0 <sup>s</sup>	5,697	14	2,418	10	185	-5
Saskatoon	8,942	6	-26	1,193	-4	5,323	6	2,425	11	263	12
Calgary	5,260	-1	-20	764	-3	4,093	-2	403	12	109	-6
Edmonton	8,131	6	-16	1,128	-5	4,962	5	2,042	14	290	7
Kelowna	8,445	2	-27	941	-14	5,718	6	1,786	1	691	-2
Abbotsford–Mission	7,009	-6	-35	1,146	-6	4,896	-6	967	-6	224	-9
Vancouver	7,282	-1	-28	958	-8	5,092	1	1,232	-4	381	-7
Victoria	5,689	-6	-42	1,153	-4	3,663	-6	873	-7	248	-29
<b>Canada</b>	<b>5,224</b>	<b>0<sup>s</sup></b>	<b>-28</b>	<b>1,052</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>3,207</b>	<b>0<sup>s</sup></b>	<b>965</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>-6</b>

... not applicable

0<sup>s</sup> 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 6 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, 2015 and 2016 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.

**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**  
**Violations contributing to the change in the Crime Severity Index between 2015 and 2016,**  
**by census metropolitan area**

Census metropolitan area (CMA)	Percent change in Crime Severity Index from 2015 to 2016	Violations driving the change in Crime Severity Index
Canada	+1	Fraud
St. John's	+7	Breaking and entering
Halifax	-4	Breaking and entering, Robbery
Moncton	-4	Theft of \$5,000 or under, Homicide
Saint John	-6	Sexual assault level 1, Uttering threats
Saguenay	+6	Homicide, Forcible confinement or kidnapping
Québec	+8	Forcible confinement or kidnapping, Fraud
Sherbrooke	+1	Sexual violations against children
Trois-Rivières	-14	Robbery, Homicide, Breaking and entering
Montréal	-5	Breaking and entering, Robbery, Theft of \$5,000 or under
Gatineau <sup>1</sup>	+6	Fraud, Robbery, Homicide
Ottawa <sup>2</sup>	+11	Homicide, Breaking and entering, Fraud
Kingston	-2	Homicide, Attempted murder
Peterborough	0 <sup>s</sup>	Not applicable
Toronto	+4	Fraud, Robbery
Hamilton	+6	Robbery, Homicide
St. Catharines–Niagara	-4	Breaking and entering, Homicide
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	+1	Administration of justice violations, Sexual violations against children
Brantford	+13	Homicide, Breaking and entering, Fraud
Guelph	+9	Theft of \$5,000 or under, Breaking and entering, Sexual violations against children
London	+5	Fraud, Breaking and entering, Theft of \$5,000 or under
Windsor	+4	Breaking and entering
Barrie	+5	Fraud
Greater Sudbury	+7	Breaking and entering
Thunder Bay	+6	Homicide, Breaking and entering
Winnipeg	+16	Robbery, Breaking and entering
Regina	+15	Fraud, Attempted murder
Saskatoon	+5	Fraud
Calgary	-6	Breaking and entering, Robbery
Edmonton	+3	Theft of \$5,000 or under, Fraud
Kelowna	0 <sup>s</sup>	Not applicable
Abbotsford–Mission	-5	Breaking and entering, Robbery
Vancouver	-1	Robbery
Victoria	-12	Breaking and entering, Homicide

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

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

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

**Note:** Violations driving the change in Crime Severity Index (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).

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



**Table 6**  
**Police-reported crime for selected offences, Canada, 2015 and 2016**

Type of offence	2015 <sup>r</sup>		2016		Percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	Percent change in rate 2006 to 2016
	number	rate	number	rate	percent	
<b>Total Criminal Code (excluding traffic) –</b>						
"Crime rate"	<b>1,867,833</b>	<b>5,210</b>	<b>1,895,546</b>	<b>5,224</b>	<b>0<sup>s</sup></b>	<b>-28</b>
<b>Total violent crime</b>	<b>382,115</b>	<b>1,066</b>	<b>381,594</b>	<b>1,052</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>-24</b>
Homicide	609	2	611	2	-1	-9
Other violations causing death <sup>1</sup>	84	0 <sup>s</sup>	97	0 <sup>s</sup>	14	-46
Attempted murder	777	2	777	2	-1	-17
Sexual assault - level 3 - aggravated	103	0 <sup>s</sup>	111	0 <sup>s</sup>	6	-45
Sexual assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	379	1	379	1	-1	-13
Sexual assault - level 1	20,466	57	20,524	57	-1	-15
Sexual violations against children <sup>2, 3, 4, 5</sup>	5,256	15	6,917	19	30	...
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	3,320	9	3,395	9	1	-9
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	47,388	132	48,626	134	1	-18
Assault - level 1	157,046	438	156,279	431	-2	-24
Assault police officer	9,872	28	9,967	27	0 <sup>s</sup>	-7
Other assaults	2,151	6	2,051	6	-6	-47
Firearms - use of, discharge, pointing	2,358	7	2,465	7	3	45
Robbery	22,149	62	21,806	60	-3	-43
Forcible confinement or kidnapping	3,593	10	3,783	10	4	-24
Abduction	384	1	378	1	-3	-34
Extortion	3,055	9	3,003	8	-3	95
Criminal harassment	20,038	56	18,825	52	-7	-19
Uttering threats	62,815	175	60,448	167	-5	-31
Threatening or harassing phone calls	14,586	41	15,225	42	3	-50
Commodification of sexual activity <sup>6</sup>	632	2	708	2	11	...
Other violent Criminal Code violations	5,054	14	5,219	14	2	9
<b>Total property crime</b>	<b>1,153,700</b>	<b>3,218</b>	<b>1,163,647</b>	<b>3,207</b>	<b>0<sup>s</sup></b>	<b>-33</b>
Breaking and entering	159,630	445	159,119	439	-2	-43
Possess stolen property <sup>7</sup>	20,007	56	20,279	56	0 <sup>s</sup>	-49
Theft of motor vehicle	78,800	220	78,710	217	-1	-55
Theft over \$5,000 (non-motor vehicle)	15,444	43	15,415	42	-1	-19
Theft of \$5,000 or under (non-motor vehicle)	487,176	1,359	495,639	1,366	1	-28
Fraud <sup>8</sup>	94,425	263	108,513	299	14	...
Identity fraud <sup>8</sup>	11,894	33	13,918	38	16	...
Identity theft <sup>8</sup>	2,541	7	3,105	9	21	...
Mischief <sup>9</sup>	274,816	767	260,455	718	-6	-38
Arson	8,967	25	8,494	23	-6	-42
<b>Total other Criminal Code offences</b>	<b>332,018</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>350,305</b>	<b>965</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>-8</b>
Counterfeiting	675	2	795	2	16	-38
Weapons violations	14,535	41	15,016	41	2	-17
Child pornography <sup>10, 11</sup>	4,380	12	6,245	17	41	233
Prostitution <sup>6</sup>	150	0 <sup>s</sup>	219	1	44	...
Terrorism <sup>12</sup>	156	0 <sup>s</sup>	132	0 <sup>s</sup>	-16	...
Disturb the peace	103,892	290	97,554	269	-7	-25
Administration of justice violations	179,271	500	203,265	560	12	9
Other violations	28,959	81	27,079	75	-8	-27
<b>Total Criminal Code traffic violations</b>	<b>125,882</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>123,930</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>-9</b>
Alcohol impaired driving <sup>13, 14</sup>	69,115	193	67,411	186	-4	...
Drug impaired driving <sup>13, 15</sup>	2,755	8	3,098	9	11	...
Other Criminal Code traffic violations	54,012	151	53,421	147	-2	4
<b>Total drug offences</b>	<b>99,827</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>95,417</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>-11</b>
Possession - cannabis	49,949	139	44,301	122	-12	-10
Possession - cocaine	7,356	21	7,056	19	-5	-46
Possession - methamphetamines <sup>16, 17</sup>	6,193	17	7,673	21	22	...
Possession - heroin	1,606	4	2,143	6	32	216
Possession - methylenedioxyamphetamine <sup>17, 18</sup>	418	1	255	1	-40	...
Possession - other drugs <sup>17, 19</sup>	7,121	20	7,695	21	7	...
Trafficking, production or distribution - cannabis <sup>20</sup>	10,978	31	10,639	29	-4	-39
Trafficking, production or distribution - cocaine	7,918	22	7,161	20	-11	-40
Trafficking, production or distribution - methamphetamines <sup>16, 17</sup>	1,926	5	2,153	6	10	...
Trafficking, production or distribution - heroin	781	2	912	3	15	126
Trafficking, production or distribution - methylenedioxyamphetamine <sup>17, 18</sup>	236	1	196	1	-18	...
Trafficking, production or distribution - other drugs <sup>17, 19</sup>	5,345	15	5,233	14	-3	...

See notes at the end of the table.

**Table 6 — continued**  
**Police-reported crime for selected offences, Canada, 2015 and 2016**

Type of offence	2015 <sup>r</sup>		2016		Percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	Percent change in rate 2006 to 2016
	number	rate	number	rate	percent	
<b>Total other federal statute violations</b>	<b>25,139</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>27,652</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>-13</b>
<i>Youth Criminal Justice Act</i>	7,063	20	6,076	17	-15	-45
Other federal statutes	18,076	50	21,576	59	18	5
<b>Total - all violations</b>	<b>2,118,681</b>	<b>5,910</b>	<b>2,142,545</b>	<b>5,905</b>	<b>0<sup>s</sup></b>	<b>-26</b>

... not applicable

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

<sup>r</sup> revised

1. Includes, for example, criminal negligence causing death.

2. Excludes sexual assaults against children and youth, which are reported as level 1, 2 or 3 sexual assault.

3. Sexual violations against children is a relatively new crime category with only partial data available prior to 2010, therefore the percentage change from 2006 to 2016 is not shown.

4. 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.

5. Coming into effect on July 17th, 2015, Bill C-26 increased the maximum penalties for certain sexual offences against children, including failure to comply with orders and probation conditions relating to sexual offences against children. In the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, the most serious violation is partially determined by the maximum penalty. As such, changes in maximum penalty may affect the most serious violation in an incident reported by police. Police services are able to utilize these amendments as their Records Management Systems are updated to allow them.

6. 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” (*Criminal Code*, 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 2006 to 2016 is not shown.

7. Includes trafficking and the intent to traffic stolen goods.

8. 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 2006 to 2016 is not shown.

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

10. 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.

11. 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* Offences”. 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.

12. 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 2006 to 2016 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.

13. In 2008, the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey was modified to create new violation codes for drug impaired operation of a vehicle, drug impaired operation of a vehicle causing death or bodily harm, failure or refusal to comply with testing for the presence of drugs and failure or refusal to provide a breath or blood sample. Prior to 2008, those offences would have been coded together with alcohol impaired driving violations. Therefore, the percentage change from 2006 to 2016 is not shown.

14. Includes alcohol impaired operation of a vehicle, alcohol impaired operation of a vehicle causing death or bodily harm, failure or refusal to comply with testing for the presence of alcohol 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.

15. Includes drug impaired operation of a vehicle, drug impaired operation of a vehicle causing death or bodily harm, failure or refusal to comply with testing for the presence of 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.

16. Includes substances such as crystal meth, speed, etc.

17. 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 2006 to 2016 for violations involving methamphetamines, MDA or “Other Drugs” are not shown.

18. Referred to as MDA for short, and commonly known as ecstasy.

19. Includes all other drugs listed under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*, as well as possession of precursors and equipment.

20. In 2016, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment in Montréal underwent an exercise in making corrective measures to address under-counting of incidents importation/exportation and trafficking of drug offences. In response, Statistics Canada applied estimates to the 2015 revised data. As a result, numbers and rates from 2015 onwards should not be compared to data prior 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 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 7**  
**Police-reported crime for selected offences, by province and territory, 2016**

Province and territory	Homicide			Attempted murder			Major assault (levels 2 and 3) <sup>1</sup>			Robbery		
	number	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016 <sup>2</sup>	number	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016 <sup>2</sup>	number	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	number	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016
Newfoundland and Labrador	7	1.32	...	7	1.32	...	607	115	-6	223	42	19
Prince Edward Island	0	0.00	...	0	0.00	...	102	69	5	18	12	11
Nova Scotia	13	1.37	8	26	2.74	-22	1,133	119	-1	272	29	-16
New Brunswick	11	1.45	0 <sup>s</sup>	7	0.92	-59	933	123	12	226	30	47
Quebec	67	0.80	-16	191	2.29	-7	9,708	117	0 <sup>s</sup>	3,707	45	-9
Ontario	206	1.47	17	260	1.86	2	14,069	101	4	8,255	59	7
Manitoba	42	3.19	-12	43	3.26	36	5,006	380	10	2,059	156	21
Saskatchewan	54	4.69	21	66	5.74	132	4,263	370	-1	988	86	-1
Alberta	116	2.73	-14	53	1.25	-23	8,099	190	-2	3,038	71	-13
British Columbia	87	1.83	-11	114	2.40	-13	7,074	149	-3	2,956	62	-20
Yukon	4	10.67	...	1	2.67	...	191	509	6	23	61	4
Northwest Territories	3	6.75	...	0	0.00	...	419	942	2	31	70	14
Nunavut	1	2.70	...	9	24.27	...	417	1,125	11	10	27	-48
<b>Canada</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>1.68</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>777</b>	<b>2.14</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>52,021</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>21,806</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>-3</b>
Province and territory	Sexual assault (levels 1, 2 and 3)			Sexual violations against children <sup>3,4</sup>			Breaking and entering			Motor vehicle theft		
	number	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	number	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	number	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	number	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016
Newfoundland and Labrador	312	59	-15	124	23	22	2,702	510	5	492	93	4
Prince Edward Island	70	47	-1	33	22	42	380	256	-25	89	60	-6
Nova Scotia	626	66	-6	210	22	5	2,917	307	-10	912	96	-4
New Brunswick	368	49	-12	174	23	21	3,254	430	-3	941	124	1
Quebec	4,096	49	5	1,924	23	12	30,952	372	-6	11,926	143	-10
Ontario	7,465	53	-2	1,947	14	73	39,929	286	-1	17,223	123	2
Manitoba	1,431	109	4	479	36	78	9,592	728	6	4,127	313	-2
Saskatchewan	1,196	104	6	373	32	11	10,205	887	7	5,663	492	15
Alberta	2,698	63	-7	749	18	22	27,989	658	-1	22,801	536	0 <sup>s</sup>
British Columbia	2,384	50	3	741	16	12	29,841	628	-2	14,006	295	-6
Yukon	75	200	-4	22	59	-16	252	672	-16	176	469	22
Northwest Territories	138	310	-18	38	85	-5	451	1,014	-15	234	526	-1
Nunavut	155	418	-7	103	278	107	655	1,766	6	120	324	18
<b>Canada</b>	<b>21,014</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>6,917</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>159,119</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>78,710</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>-1</b>
Province and territory	Impaired driving <sup>5</sup>			Cannabis <sup>6</sup>			Cocaine <sup>6</sup>			Other drugs <sup>6,7</sup>		
	number	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	number	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	number	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016 <sup>2</sup>	number	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,376	260	0 <sup>s</sup>	648	122	-8	156	29	-3	178	34	-24
Prince Edward Island	488	328	24	188	126	20	28	19	26	63	42	-1
Nova Scotia	2,501	263	-7	1,896	200	-4	356	37	4	479	50	-3
New Brunswick	1,676	221	-7	1,127	149	5	181	24	-1	369	49	18
Quebec	15,025	180	-2	15,486	186	0 <sup>s</sup>	2,057	25	-7	6,930	83	8
Ontario	14,765	106	-5	14,870	106	-15	4,131	30	-8	6,116	44	0 <sup>s</sup>
Manitoba	3,391	257	19	1,336	101	-17	754	57	-20	630	48	10
Saskatchewan	6,377	554	-4	1,732	151	-17	760	66	1	964	84	20
Alberta	12,191	287	-8	5,146	121	-24	2,575	61	-15	4,001	94	22
British Columbia	11,451	241	-3	11,970	252	-13	3,038	64	-4	6,499	137	17
Yukon	366	976	-20	103	275	-18	55	147	2	11	29	10
Northwest Territories	663	1,491	23	250	562	-29	118	265	-1	14	31	-37
Nunavut	239	645	23	188	507	-32	8	22	...	6	16	-74
<b>Canada</b>	<b>70,509</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>54,940</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>-11</b>	<b>14,217</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>-8</b>	<b>26,260</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>10</b>

See notes at the end of the table.

**Table 7 — continued**  
**Police-reported crime for selected offences, by province and territory, 2016**

Province and territory	Total fraud <sup>8</sup>			Fraud			Identity fraud			Identity theft		
	number	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	number	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	number	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016 <sup>2</sup>	number	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016 <sup>2</sup>
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,489	281	23	1,428	269	25	44	8	-2	17	3	-32
Prince Edward Island	613	412	66	581	391	67	24	16	39	8	5	...
Nova Scotia	2,967	312	8	2,817	297	9	111	12	-21	39	4	104
New Brunswick	1,968	260	-12	1,783	236	-15	149	20	43	36	5	38
Quebec	19,935	239	13	15,071	181	14	3,483	42	7	1,381	17	21
Ontario	45,761	327	15	40,898	292	14	4,350	31	20	513	4	9
Manitoba	3,898	296	15	3,543	269	17	279	21	16	76	6	-27
Saskatchewan	7,085	616	37	6,490	564	39	529	46	9	66	6	67
Alberta	20,902	491	12	18,211	428	11	2,136	50	28	555	13	22
British Columbia	20,517	432	10	17,302	364	9	2,804	59	14	411	9	42
Yukon	182	485	31	177	472	31	4	11	...	1	3	...
Northwest Territories	139	313	-12	134	301	-13	4	9	...	1	2	...
Nunavut	80	216	61	78	210	60	1	3	...	1	3	...
<b>Canada</b>	<b>125,536</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>108,513</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13,918</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>3,105</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>21</b>

... not applicable

0<sup>8</sup> 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* Offences". 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. Coming into effect on July 17th, 2015, Bill C-26 increased the maximum penalties for certain sexual offences against children, including failure to comply with orders and probation conditions relating to sexual offences against children. In the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, the most serious violation is partially determined by the maximum penalty. As such, changes in maximum penalty may affect the most serious violation in an incident reported by police. Police services are able to utilize these amendments as their Records Management Systems are updated to allow them.

5. 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.

6. Includes possession, trafficking, production or distribution.

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

8. Includes fraud, identity fraud and identity theft.

**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 8**  
**Police-reported crime for selected offences, by census metropolitan area, 2016**

Census metropolitan area <sup>1, 2, 3</sup>	Homicide <sup>4</sup>		Sexual assault (levels 1, 2 and 3)		Robbery		Breaking and entering		Motor vehicle theft	
	number	rate	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016
St. John's	4	1.93	69	-7	87	20	602	18	118	12
Halifax	12	2.82	75	-9	45	-23	239	-16	90	-5
Moncton	1	0.64	43	-2	64	62	561	-3	147	13
Saint John	3	2.35	41	-46	48	48	231	-8	58	-15
Saguenay	2	1.20	53	-10	16	-15	338	0 <sup>s</sup>	117	-9
Québec	1	0.12	47	3	19	13	319	-1	71	-2
Sherbrooke	2	1.00	58	15	19	-23	286	-12	54	-2
Trois-Rivières	0	0.00	54	1	12	-66	336	-11	85	-25
Montréal	42	1.02	46	11	74	-10	386	-5	168	-11
Gatineau <sup>5</sup>	3	0.91	48	9	32	44	320	5	71	-28
Ottawa <sup>6</sup>	24	2.37	59	14	50	-13	270	16	88	-1
Kingston	0	0.00	60	-7	18	-17	395	19	72	-9
Peterborough	2	1.62	97	10	41	-15	304	-25	57	-1
Toronto	96	1.55	44	-2	83	10	205	-9	113	4
Hamilton	12	1.58	64	6	70	21	308	5	217	-1
St. Catharines–Niagara	1	0.22	53	-7	31	-11	373	-11	160	5
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	6	1.09	51	-12	51	6	358	-11	137	-3
Brantford	4	2.73	68	-12	68	14	588	12	454	-2
Guelph	1	0.76	64	33	22	-8	347	16	119	49
London	8	1.55	46	10	55	4	389	9	195	-12
Windsor	3	0.90	52	15	61	10	506	23	199	14
Barrie	2	0.92	54	14	32	28	200	-8	68	-12
Greater Sudbury	0	0.00	61	1	48	10	454	20	101	-17
Thunder Bay	8	6.64	85	7	118	-21	492	18	158	1
Winnipeg	25	3.14	98	14	229	27	682	14	315	3
Regina	8	3.23	59	-4	118	18	760	7	523	17
Saskatoon	10	3.12	95	44	116	-11	791	-3	453	16
Calgary	33	2.24	44	-14	62	-24	576	-10	535	0 <sup>s</sup>
Edmonton	47	3.39	72	-8	103	-8	582	-4	483	10
Kelowna	5	2.54	34	-18	41	-28	620	-3	316	-11
Abbotsford–Mission	6	3.22	42	0 <sup>s</sup>	64	-36	577	-19	493	-1
Vancouver	41	1.61	44	2	78	-24	678	-1	312	-7
Victoria	1	0.27	64	7	37	-15	326	-20	108	0 <sup>s</sup>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>1.68</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>-1</b>

0<sup>s</sup> 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 9a**  
**Police-reported youth Crime Severity Indexes, Canada, 2006 to 2016**

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
2006	100.0	3	100.0	6	100.0	0 <sup>s</sup>
2007	101.5	1	102.1	2	101.0	1
2008	95.7	-6	95.7	-6	95.6	-5
2009	95.6	0 <sup>s</sup>	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	73.5	-5
2013	66.2	-14	71.3	-13	62.4	-15
2014	61.1	-8	65.3	-8	57.8	-7
2015 <sup>r</sup>	61.3	0 <sup>s</sup>	67.4	3	56.8	-2
2016	60.1	-2	70.9	5	52.2	-8
Percent change 2006 to 2016	-40	...	-29	...	-48	...

... not applicable

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

<sup>r</sup> revised

**Note:** Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0052). Data is based on 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 9b**  
**Youth accused of police-reported crime, Canada, 2006 to 2016**

Year	Total crime (youth crime rate)			Violent crime		Property crime			Other Criminal Code offences			
	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	number	rate	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	
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 <sup>s</sup>	93,701	3,576	-1	32,555	1,242	0 <sup>s</sup>
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 <sup>s</sup>	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	5,159	-6	39,560	1,619	-6	61,371	2,511	-7	25,130	1,028	-2
2013	105,084	4,397	-15	33,995	1,423	-12	49,562	2,074	-17	21,527	901	-12
2014	94,782	4,045	-8	30,014	1,281	-10	44,799	1,912	-8	19,969	852	-5
2015 <sup>r</sup>	92,770	4,005	-1	29,540	1,275	0 <sup>s</sup>	43,965	1,898	-1	19,265	832	-2
2016	87,822	3,795	-5	29,602	1,279	0 <sup>s</sup>	39,542	1,709	-10	18,678	807	-3
Percent change 2006 to 2016	...	-44	...	...	-35	...	...	-53	...	...	-35	...

... not applicable

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

<sup>r</sup> revised

**Note:** Additional data are available on CANSIM (Table 252-0051). Crime rates are based on *Criminal Code* violations, excluding traffic offences. See Table 6 for a list of offences included in the categories of total violent crime, total property crime and total other crime categories. Data is based on 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 10a**  
**Police-reported youth crime, by selected violent offences, by province and territory, 2016**

Province and territory	Homicide <sup>1</sup>		Sexual assault (levels 1, 2, and 3)		Major assault (levels 2 and 3) <sup>2</sup>		Common assault	
	number	rate	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016 <sup>3</sup>	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016
Newfoundland and Labrador	0	0	41	-35	260	23	839	-11
Prince Edward Island	0	0	61	...	51	-61	296	-6
Nova Scotia	2	3	98	-13	215	4	781	3
New Brunswick	0	0	89	25	170	-4	775	5
Quebec	2	0 <sup>5</sup>	97	3	156	-10	525	3
Ontario	7	1	67	-7	147	18	442	2
Manitoba	1	1	117	-27	452	-1	1,129	-3
Saskatchewan	5	6	93	-17	495	-17	917	-13
Alberta	5	2	61	-27	193	-7	504	-13
British Columbia	0	0	45	0 <sup>5</sup>	115	-3	354	-2
Yukon	0	0	291	19	623	2	2,242	-5
Northwest Territories	0	0	264	-38	627	37	2,474	-17
Nunavut	0	0	317	-15	844	38	2,163	-11
<b>Canada</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>-8</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>0<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>529</b>	<b>-2</b>

Province and territory	Robbery		Sexual violations against children <sup>4, 5, 6</sup>		Total violent crime <sup>7</sup>		Total crime (youth crime rate) <sup>7</sup>	
	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016 <sup>3</sup>	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016 <sup>3</sup>	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016
Newfoundland and Labrador	28	0 <sup>5</sup>	34	-8	1,613	-8	4,667	-1
Prince Edward Island	20	...	20	...	644	-11	2,248	-14
Nova Scotia	61	-37	40	66	1,687	4	4,959	-2
New Brunswick	28	-45	47	39	1,459	-1	4,071	-5
Quebec	104	30	55	1	1,391	3	3,073	-2
Ontario	142	9	26	139	1,103	6	3,112	-2
Manitoba	202	31	63	72	2,537	1	7,402	-5
Saskatchewan	182	-15	41	29	2,401	-8	10,815	-10
Alberta	72	-21	36	80	1,149	-11	4,099	-13
British Columbia	58	-4	22	-8	814	-1	2,761	-5
Yukon	125	...	208	...	5,023	0 <sup>5</sup>	21,088	-22
Northwest Territories	165	...	33	...	4,288	-24	22,625	-6
Nunavut	26	...	211	14	4,432	-13	21,525	-2
<b>Canada</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>1,279</b>	<b>0<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>3,795</b>	<b>-5</b>

... not applicable

0<sup>5</sup> value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

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

2. Excludes assault 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. Excludes sexual assaults against children and youth, which are reported as level 1, 2 or 3 sexual assault.

5. 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.

6. Coming into effect on July 17th, 2015, Bill C-26 increased the maximum penalties for certain sexual offences against children, including failure to comply with orders and probation conditions relating to sexual offences against children. In the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, the most serious violation is partially determined by the maximum penalty. As such, changes in maximum penalty may affect the most serious violation in an incident reported by police. Police services are able to utilize these amendments as their Records Management Systems are updated to allow them.

7. Crime rates are based upon *Criminal Code* incidents, excluding traffic offences. See Table 6 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). Data is based on 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 10b**  
**Police-reported youth crime, by selected non-violent offences, by province and territory, 2016**

Province and territory	Breaking and entering		Theft of \$5000 or under		Mischief <sup>1</sup>	
	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016
Newfoundland and Labrador	476	0 <sup>s</sup>	489	3	745	-23
Prince Edward Island	153	-16	439	-12	358	-24
Nova Scotia	339	-2	611	-18	754	-12
New Brunswick	298	-11	677	-12	594	2
Quebec	203	-14	733	-5	210	-13
Ontario	153	-1	870	-7	247	-16
Manitoba	516	-21	619	-22	1,251	6
Saskatchewan	925	-14	1,150	-19	1,527	-22
Alberta	200	-10	885	-6	595	-20
British Columbia	101	-22	687	-3	393	-4
Yukon	830	-50	1,494	-43	3,321	-22
Northwest Territories	2,869	11	1,220	-22	6,926	-9
Nunavut	3,271	-20	1,635	-2	6,041	-11
<b>Canada</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>-11</b>	<b>804</b>	<b>-8</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>-13</b>

Province and territory	Motor vehicle theft		Total property crime <sup>2</sup>		Total drug crime	
	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016	rate	percent change in rate 2015 to 2016
Newfoundland and Labrador	81	87	1,895	-10	222	-2
Prince Edward Island	184	29	1,287	-12	204	-16
Nova Scotia	89	-40	2,162	-14	512	-12
New Brunswick	104	10	1,781	-7	324	0 <sup>s</sup>
Quebec	51	-11	1,327	-6	690	-7
Ontario	55	-6	1,433	-8	421	-16
Manitoba	208	-31	2,921	-11	306	-22
Saskatchewan	506	4	4,635	-16	516	-9
Alberta	106	-28	1,981	-14	340	-22
British Columbia	38	-23	1,313	-6	539	-17
Yukon	415	-27	6,351	-36	457	-7
Northwest Territories	956	-23	12,302	-10	528	-71
Nunavut	633	40	12,319	-7	237	-57
<b>Canada</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>-13</b>	<b>1,709</b>	<b>-10</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>-14</b>

0<sup>s</sup> 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 6 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). Data is based on 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 11**  
**Police-reported youth Crime Severity Indexes, by province and territory, 2016**

Province and territory	Total youth Crime Severity Index			Youth violent Crime Severity Index		Youth non-violent Crime Severity Index	
	index	percent change 2015 to 2016	percent change 2006 to 2016	index	percent change 2015 to 2016	index	percent change 2015 to 2016
Newfoundland and Labrador	59.3	-2	-43	47.9	-6	67.0	0 <sup>s</sup>
Prince Edward Island	30.7	-12	-70	25.2	-18	34.5	-9
Nova Scotia	77.5	8	-41	84.4	25	72.3	-2
New Brunswick	55.7	-3	-38	49.0	-5	60.1	-2
Quebec	56.4	4	-11	75.0	16	43.0	-8
Ontario	52.7	4	-46	69.1	14	40.9	-5
Manitoba	113.1	-5	-38	127.5	0 <sup>s</sup>	102.3	-10
Saskatchewan	170.2	-9	-36	160.0	-8	176.7	-10
Alberta	57.0	-15	-48	61.1	-16	53.8	-13
British Columbia	35.7	-9	-56	37.2	-8	34.5	-10
Yukon	191.9	-28	-30	184.1	15	196.5	-42
Northwest Territories	266.8	-10	-48	149.0	-28	349.0	-3
Nunavut	296.3	-10	-26	191.0	-17	369.5	-8
<b>Canada</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>-40</b>	<b>70.9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>52.2</b>	<b>-8</b>

0<sup>s</sup> 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). Data is based on 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.