

Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2019

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Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2019: Highlights

- Police-reported crime in Canada, as measured by the Crime Severity Index (CSI), increased 5% from 75.6 in 2018 to 79.5 in 2019, but the index was 9% lower in 2019 than a decade earlier in 2009. The CSI measures the volume and severity of police-reported crime in Canada, and it has a base index value of 100 for 2006.
- All measures of the CSI – the overall CSI, the Violent CSI and the Non-violent CSI – increased for the fifth consecutive year. The change in the overall CSI in 2019 was the result of increases in police-reported rates of numerous offences, both violent and non-violent, most notably fraud (+8%) and child pornography (+46%), as well as uttering threats (+20%), mischief (+8%), sexual assault (level 1) (+7%), and shoplifting of \$5,000 or under (+11%). A 1% decline in the rate of breaking and entering, among other offences, partially mitigated the impact of these increases on the CSI. An increase in importation or exportation under the *Cannabis Act* was partially mitigated by a concomitant decrease in trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cannabis (CDSA).
- There were over 2.2 million police-reported *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic) reported by police in 2019, about 164,700 more incidents than in 2018. At 5,874 incidents per 100,000 population, the police-reported crime rate—which measures the volume of crime—increased 7% in 2019. This rate, however, was still 9% lower than a decade earlier in 2009.
- In 2019, the overall volume and severity of violent crime, as measured by the Violent Crime Severity Index (VCSI), was 89.7, a 7% increase from 2018, but 5% lower than in 2009. The overall volume and severity of non-violent crime—as measured by the Non-violent CSI (NVCSI)—increased 4% in 2019, but was 11% lower than in 2009.
- In 2019, police reported 678 homicides, 20 more than the previous year. The national homicide rate increased 2% from 1.78 homicides per 100,000 population in 2018, to 1.80 homicides per 100,000 population in 2019. The number of firearm-related (+10) and gang-related (+6) homicides increased in 2019.
- In 2019, police reported 174 Indigenous victims of homicide, an increase from 141 in 2018. This represents a rate approximately six and a half times higher than the rate for non-Indigenous homicide victims (8.82 homicides per 100,000 compared to 1.34 per 100,000).
- The rates of violent and non-violent offences specific to firearms increased for the fifth consecutive year in 2019. The number of violent offences specific to firearms increased by 642 (from 2,861 in 2018 to 3,503 in 2019), a 21% rate increase, with increases across all three violent firearm violations: discharging a firearm with intent (+28% increase in rate, +341 incidents), pointing of a firearm (+17%, +223 incidents), and using a firearm in the commission of an indictable offence (+14%, +78 incidents). Additionally, the rate of non-violent weapons violations increased 11% to 50 incidents per 100,000 population. The vast majority (91%) of these violations were related to possession of weapons and weapons possession contrary to an order.
- Police-reported rates of all cannabis-related drug offences have declined every year since 2012, with precipitous declines in 2018 and 2019. Starting October 17, 2018 with the enactment of the *Cannabis Act*, police have reported a total of 18,097 incidents under the legislation. Following more than 14 months of enforcement, the most common types of offences under the *Cannabis Act* were related to importation or exportation (64% of all *Cannabis Act* offences), possession (13%), and sale (7%). In 2019, there was a national increase in the rates of drug offences related to opioids (+48%), cocaine (+3%) and methamphetamine (crystal meth) (+3%).
- The rate of police-reported impaired driving (alcohol, drugs and unspecified) increased 19% in 2019, to 228 incidents per 100,000 population. The increase was primarily due to increases in both alcohol-impaired (+9%) and drug-impaired driving (+43%). New impaired driving legislation, which came into force in 2018, provided police with greater authority to conduct alcohol and drug screening, which may have allowed police to detect more instances of impaired driving. Under this legislation, a relatively high number (4,618) of incidents were reported in 2019 as impaired driving caused by a combination of alcohol and drugs.

Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2019

by Greg Moreau, Brianna Jaffray and Amelia Armstrong, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics

Since 1962, Statistics Canada has collected information on all criminal incidents reported by Canadian police services through its annual Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey.¹ In addition to the UCR, Statistics Canada also collects information on self-reported criminal victimization through the General Social Survey (GSS) on Canadians' Safety (Victimization), which is conducted every five years. Unlike the UCR, the GSS on Victimization collects self-reported data which includes incidents that may not have been brought to the attention of the police. These complementary surveys provide a more complete picture of crime and victimization in Canada.

This *Juristat* article presents findings from the 2019 UCR Survey to provide information on police-reported crime across Canada and over time. To publish police-reported crime statistics in a timely manner, this article relies on aggregate data (totals), which are the first crime data available each calendar year. More detailed (disaggregated) data on the characteristics of incidents, victims and accused will be available following the release of this article, and will be accessible for custom requests and inclusion in future analytical products.² Crime counts presented in the article are based on the most serious violation in a criminal incident (see "Key terminology and definitions"). This article provides an analysis of the key statistical trends reported by police in 2019, and the offences driving these trends in crime. The article also explores more general trends in the volume and severity of police-reported crime at the national, provincial/territorial and census metropolitan area (CMA) levels, as well as more detailed information on changes in violent and non-violent criminal offences. Finally, the article looks at trends for youth accused of crime.³

Police-reported crime statistics reflect only those incidents that are reported to the police which can be affected by large-scale criminal events, social movements and changes in legislation, policies and procedures (see Text box 1).

It is important to note that the police-reported crime statistics from 2019 do not reflect the large-scale societal impacts, both nationally and globally, brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. The 2019 police-reported data are, however, a key reference point for 2020 police-reported data, in order to identify possible changes in Canadian crime patterns as a result of changes imposed by the pandemic. Statistics Canada is conducting a special data collection exercise with a select number of police services from March to December 2020 to address data gaps and provide insight into public safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information see the report "Police-reported crime incidents down during the early months of the pandemic, while domestic disturbance calls increase" in *The Daily*, as well as data table 35-10-0169-01 (Statistics Canada 2020a). Additional information on the social and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic can be found on "Statistics Canada's COVID-19 hub."

Text box 1 **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 a criminal incident to police has a considerable impact on the number of crimes ultimately recorded by police. The latest cycle of the General Social Survey on Canadians' Safety (Victimization), which provides information on the crime reporting behaviour of Canadians aged 15 and older for selected offences, indicated that about one-third (31%) of crimes are reported to police (see Text box 6 for more information on self-reported and police-reported data).

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 significantly affected by enforcement practices, with some police services devoting more resources to these specific types of crime. Some police services may also rely on 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 police-reported crime at a national, regional, municipal or neighbourhood level. In particular, crime rates can be affected by changes in age demographics (Britt 2019; Loeber et al. 2015), economic conditions (Wilson 2018; Janko and Popli 2015), neighbourhood characteristics (Ha and Andresen 2017), the emergence of new technologies (Milivelojevic and Radulski 2020; Brewer et al. 2018; McGovern 2015) and Canadians' attitudes toward crime and risky behaviour (Ouimet 2004).

Key statistical trends for police-reported crime in Canada

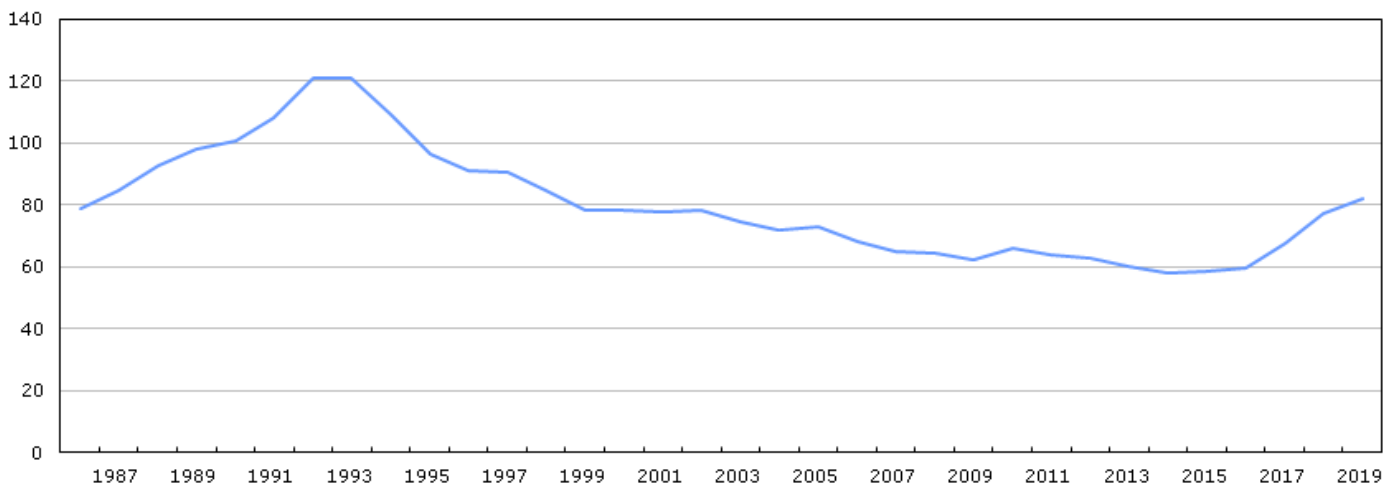
In 2019, there were significant changes for certain offences that highlight how police-reported crime is evolving in Canada. Specifically, these include the continued increase in the rate of police-reported sexual assault, as well as increases in the rates of child pornography, violent offences specific to firearms and non-violent weapons violations, harassing or threatening behaviours, fraud and shoplifting of \$5,000 or under; and legislative and reporting changes regarding cannabis and other drug offences.

Rate of police-reported sexual assault notably higher for third consecutive year, and fifth consecutive annual increase overall

In 2019, there were more than 30,900 police-reported sexual assaults (level 1, 2 and 3), or 82 incidents per 100,000 population (Table 1).⁴ With the rate 7% higher than in 2018, this marked the third consecutive notable increase and the fifth consecutive increase since 2015 (Chart 1). Between 2018 and 2019, the rate of police-reported sexual assault (level 1, 2 and 3) increased in all provinces and territories, with the exception of Nova Scotia (-15%) (Table 5).⁵

Chart 1
Sexual assault (level 1, 2 and 3), police-reported rates, Canada, 1986 to 2019

rate per 100,000 population



Note: Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography.

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

Over the past three years there has been considerable public discussion of issues around sexual violence and this may have had an impact on the willingness of victims to report sexual assault incidents to police (Rotenberg and Cotter 2018). In addition, definitions for founded and unfounded criminal incidents were amended which have also contributed to higher levels of police-reported crime statistics. On January 1, 2018, Statistics Canada, in collaboration with police, changed the definition of “founded” criminal incidents to include incidents where there is no credible evidence to confirm that the reported incident **did not** take place and third-party reports that fit these criteria (see Text box 2). With the new definition, there is the potential that police will classify more incidents as founded. Analysis of estimates of level 1 sexual assault without the change in reporting standards suggests that the increase in the rate of police-reported sexual assault in 2019 may have been 3%, compared to the 7% increase reported in 2019 (see Text box 2 and “Survey description”).

Proportion of police-reported sexual assault deemed unfounded declines

Following the trend from previous years, nearly all (98%) police-reported sexual assaults were classified as level 1 sexual assault, meaning they were committed without a weapon or without evidence of bodily harm (see “Key terminology and definitions”). In 2019, 10%, or one in ten, level 1 sexual assaults reported to police were classified as unfounded, meaning it had been determined through police investigation that the incident reported did not occur, nor was it attempted. This represents a decrease of unfounded incidents from 14% in 2017 (Table 2). For comparison, the proportion of common physical assault (level 1) classified as unfounded dropped from 11% in 2017 to 10% in 2019.

The number of sexual assaults reported by police is likely a significant underestimation of the true extent of sexual assault in Canada, as these types of offences often go unreported to police. For instance, the most recently available self-reported data from the General Social Survey on Canadians’ Safety (Victimization) show that, in 2014, only 5%^E of sexual assault incidents

experienced by Canadians aged 15 and older in the previous 12 months were brought to the attention of police (Conroy and Cotter 2017; see also Rotenberg 2017a; Rotenberg 2017b). Similarly, more recent data from the 2018 Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces indicate that police were informed about the most serious incident of sexual assault reported by 5% of the women who were victims of sexual assault in the 12 months preceding the survey (Cotter and Savage 2019).

Text box 2

Founded and unfounded criminal incidents: Potential impact of improved reporting standards

At its inception in 1962, the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey collected information on both “founded” and “unfounded” criminal incidents. Counts of unfounded incidents were collected to measure the proportion of all incidents reported to the police where it was “determined through police investigation that the offence reported did not occur, nor was it attempted.” Over time, however, the use of unfounded data declined due to data quality issues and publication was suspended in 2006. In 2018, after working with police to improve reporting of these data, Statistics Canada resumed publishing unfounded incidents (Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics 2018; Greenland and Cotter 2018). For more detailed information on the classification of incidents as founded or unfounded, please refer to Text box 2 in the “Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2018” report (Moreau 2019a).

As part of reinstating the collection of information on unfounded incidents, the definition of both “founded” and “unfounded” criminal incidents was updated in January 2018 to reflect a more victim-centred approach to recording crimes that accounts for the complexities of certain offences such as sexual assault, family violence and intimate partner violence.⁶

The Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics at Statistics Canada examined certain offences that may have been impacted by the change in reporting standards, meaning that they may have been subject to under-reporting or greater classification of unfounded before the change. These are sexual assault (level 1), assault (level 1), uttering threats, total fraud, shoplifting of \$5,000 or under, and child pornography. The table below presents estimates from an analysis (see “Survey description”) of what the national change in crime rates and severity indices may have been without the change in reporting standards. However, as noted throughout this report, police also provided context to the increase in these offences beyond new reporting standards. Additionally, for specific violations and police services, the actual proportion of incidents in 2019 classified as “not cleared” has increased due to adoption of the new reporting standards and the first complete year of data under the new standards. Therefore, differences between the estimate and actual reported rate for some violations can be relatively large in 2019.

Violation	Rate, 2019 (per 100,000 population)	Actual percent change in rate with the new standards, 2018 to 2019	Estimated percent change in rate with the previous standards, 2018 to 2019
	rate	percent	percent
Sexual assault (level 1)	81	7	3
Assault (level 1)	500	9	5
Uttering threats	216	20	8
Total fraud	443	10	9
Shoplifting of \$5,000 or under	373	11	10
Child pornography	23	46	36
Total crime rate	5,874	7	6
Violent crime rate	1,277	11	7
Property crime rate	3,510	5	5

Index	Index, 2019	Actual percent change with the new standards, 2018 to 2019	Estimated percent change with the previous standards, 2018 to 2019
	number	percent	percent
Total Crime Severity Index	79.5	5	4
Violent Crime Severity Index	89.7	7	6
Non-violent Crime Severity Index	75.6	4	4

Text box 2 — end**Founded and unfounded criminal incidents: Potential impact of improved reporting standards**

While the effective date of the new reporting standards was January 2018, police services transitioned to the new standards at different points throughout the year. Some police services, including all of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) detachments across Canada and municipal police services in British Columbia, transitioned to the new standards on January 1, 2019. Use of contract police services provided by the RCMP is greater in British Columbia than in other provinces (Conor, Robson and Marcellus 2019). Therefore, part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia, including its census metropolitan areas (including Kelowna, Vancouver and Victoria),⁷ may be attributed to the implementation of the new reporting standards. Additionally, police services in British Columbia undertook a uniform training strategy to further standardize reporting throughout the province. In general, the new reporting standards were expected to result in an increase in crime rates over time.

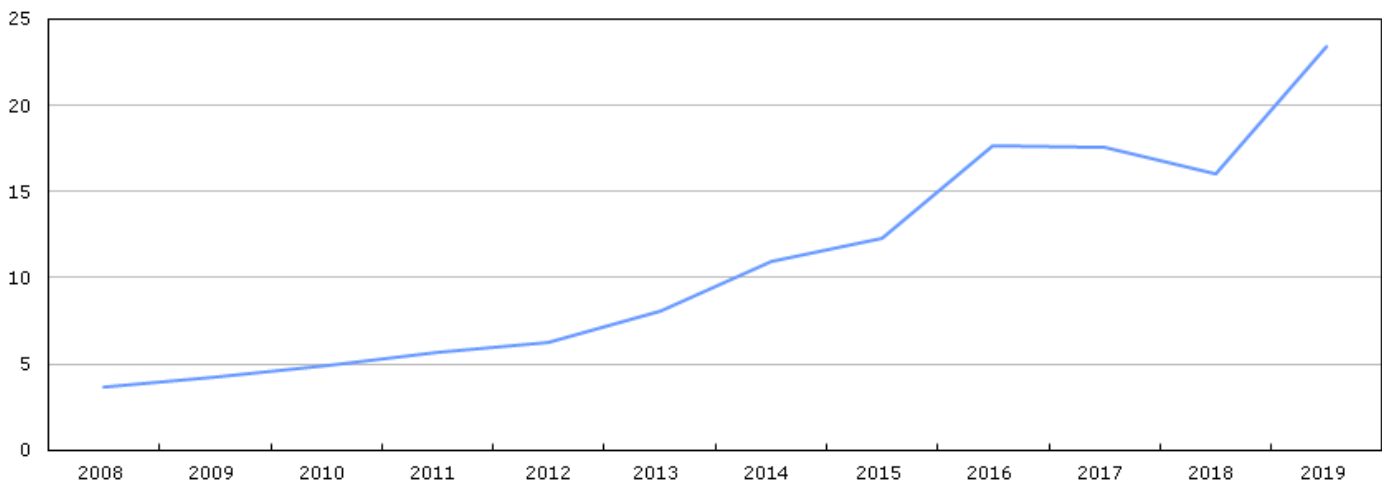
An analysis of selected offences in British Columbia provides some insight into the potential impact of the new reporting standards (see “Survey description”). For example, based on the analysis, it is estimated that the police-reported rates of level 1 sexual assault and uttering threats in British Columbia may have increased 15% and 47% respectively without the change in reporting, compared to the reported increases of 25% and 70% in 2019. Overall, estimates suggest that without the change in reporting standards, the crime rate in British Columbia may have increased 16%, compared to the 17% increase reported in 2019.

Significant increase in rate of police-reported child pornography

Despite a decrease (-9%) in 2018, the national rate of police-reported total child pornography⁸ has generally been trending upward for the past 10 years (Chart 2).^{9, 10}

Chart 2**Child pornography, police-reported rate, Canada, 2008 to 2019**

rate per 100,000 population



Note: Since 2015, reporting requirements for total child pornography include separate violations for accessing or possessing child pornography, and making or distributing child pornography, which, combined, make up total child pornography. Prior to 2015, different child pornography offences were reported simply as child pornography.

Due to the complexity of these cyber incidents, the data likely reflect the number of active or closed investigations for the year rather than the total number of incidents reported to police. Data are based on police-reported incidents that are recorded in police services' records management systems. The offence of "child pornography" includes offences under section 163.1 of the Criminal Code which makes it illegal to access, possess, make, print, or distribute child pornography. When the actual victim is not identified, this offence is reported to the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey with the most serious offence being "child pornography" which falls under the larger crime category of "other Criminal Code 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 fall under the category of "violent crimes" and child pornography may be reported as a secondary violation. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography.

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

In 2019, the national rate of police-reported child pornography (23 incidents per 100,000 population) increased 46%, with an increase of 2,881 incidents from 2018 (Table 1). This was the largest annual increase in the national rate dating back to 2008. The severity of child pornography offences, combined with the notable increase in child pornography incidents in 2019, contributed to child pornography being one of the primary drivers of the overall Crime Severity Index (CSI) and the Non-Violent CSI (NVCSI) in Canada (see Text box 3 and Text box 4).

Among the provinces and territories, with the exceptions of Saskatchewan, Alberta and Nunavut, all saw increases in total child pornography from 2018 to 2019. The majority of the national increase was due to more incidents in British Columbia (+1,320 incidents, +67% rate), Ontario (+947 incidents, +61% rate) and Quebec (+310 incidents, +28% rate).

All of the census metropolitan areas (CMA),¹¹ except Québec, Sherbrooke, Belleville, London, Greater Sudbury, Regina, Saskatoon, Calgary and Edmonton, reported increases in total child pornography incidents in 2019. Vancouver (+997 incidents) and Toronto (+609 incidents) reported the largest increases in the number of total child pornography violations. Together, these two CMAs represented 60% of the increase in incidents in child pornography from 2018 to 2019.

These particularly large increases in total child pornography may be attributed in part to an increase in the number of cases forwarded to local police services by the RCMP's National Child Exploitation Coordination Centre (NCECC), which serves as the national law enforcement arm of the *National Strategy for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation on the Internet*. In 2019, Public Safety Canada announced the expansion of the National Strategy with increased funding over three years to support awareness of online child sexual exploitation, reduce stigma of reporting, and increase Canada's ability to pursue and prosecute offenders of sexual exploitation of children online (Public Safety Canada 2019a). Additionally, part of the increase in British Columbia could be the result of a pilot project initiated by the British Columbia Behavioural Sciences Group – Integrated Child Exploitation Unit (BSG) in 2014. The BSG used software developed by the Child Rescue Coalition to identify computers located in the province that were used to access or share child pornography on the Internet, from which they could open an investigation (for more information on the software see Child Rescue Coalition 2020).

Another factor cited by police services that may have contributed to the increase in rates of total child pornography is the continued compliance with former Bill C-22 “*An Act respecting the mandatory reporting of Internet child pornography by persons who provide an Internet service.*” Essentially, the *act* requires that persons or entities providing an Internet service to the public must report known or suspected offences of child pornography to the police.

Increase in rate of *Criminal Code* firearm offences for fifth consecutive year

The *Criminal Code* specifies a number of violent offences involving the use of a firearm, including discharging a firearm with intent, pointing a firearm and using a firearm in the commission of an indictable offence.¹² More serious crimes, however, such as homicide, robbery, assault and sexual assault, may have also involved a firearm.

Among violent offences involving the use of a firearm that are specified in the *Criminal Code*, 43% in 2019 were for discharging a firearm with intent, while another 41% were for pointing a firearm. The remaining 16% were for using a firearm in the commission of an indictable offence. The number of violent offences specific to firearms increased by 642 incidents in 2019 (from 2,861 in 2018 to 3,503 in 2019), a 21% increase in rate (Table 1). This marks the fifth consecutive increase, and the second relatively large change following a 26% rise in 2015. Police reported an increase in the rate of all three violent firearm violations: discharging a firearm with intent (+28%, +341 incidents), pointing of a firearm (+17%, +223 incidents), and using a firearm in the commission of an indictable offence (+14%, +78 incidents). Much of the increase in firearm-related offences in 2019 was the result of more incidents in Ontario (+268) and British Columbia (+162).¹³

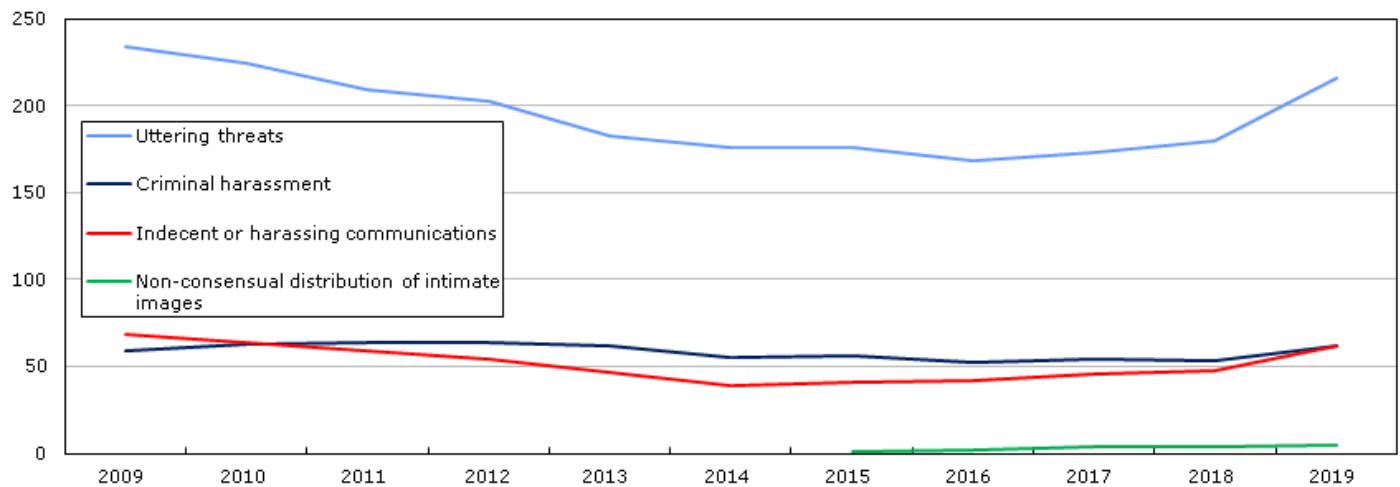
Additionally, the rate of non-violent weapons violations (e.g., possession of weapons and unsafe storage of firearms) has increased for the fifth consecutive year, rising 11% to 50 incidents per 100,000 population (Table 1). The vast majority (91%) of these violations were related to possession of weapons offences and breach offences for weapons possession contrary to an order. For the increase in 2019, some police services have indicated that this could be the result of more reporting due to collaboration with the Canadian Firearms Program as part of a nationwide effort to address unregistered restricted or prohibited firearms.

Increases in offences related to harassing and threatening behaviours

In 2019, Canada saw significant increases in the rates of many types of criminally harassing and threatening behaviours. In particular, criminal harassment (+3,634 incidents, +17% rate per 100,000 population), uttering threats (+14,555 incidents, +20% rate), indecent or harassing communications (+5,517 incidents, +29% rate), and the non-consensual distribution of intimate images (+489 incidents, +31% rate) all saw large increases since 2018 (Table 1; Chart 3). Indeed, uttering threats was the largest contributor to the national increase in the Violent Crime Severity Index in 2019 (see Text box 5).

Chart 3
Harassing and threatening behaviours, police-reported rates, Canada, 2009 to 2019

rate per 100,000 population



Note: Indecent or harassing communications was amended in the *Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act: Bill C-13 (2015)* to include all means of telecommunication, not only phone calls. Non-consensual distribution of intimate images is an offence created by the *Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act: Bill C-13 (2015)*, therefore only data from 2015 to 2019 is shown. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography.

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

Despite the large national increases from 2018 to 2019, uttering threats and indecent and harassing behaviours had all generally been decreasing since 2009 but have been on an upward trend since the mid-2010s, with the largest increases in 2019. Notably, the rate of indecent and harassing communications decreased from 2009 to 2014, and has been on a general upward trend from 2015 to 2019.¹⁴

The rate of non-consensual distribution of intimate images has increased each year since its introduction in 2015,¹⁵ with the exception of a slight decrease (-3%) in 2018. In 2019, the national rate (5 per 100,000 population) was significantly higher than it was in 2015 (1 per 100,000 population).

In addition to the amendments and new offences introduced in 2015 by the former Bill-C13 “*Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act*,” the national increases in harassing and threatening offences can be attributed to increases in the accessibility and use of the Internet and social media. The perceived anonymity of the Internet and social media can facilitate criminal harassment, uttering threats and indecent and harassing behaviours (Dhillon 2012; Perrin 2018). In addition, advancements in cell phone technology and the availability of cloud-based sharing platforms could have contributed to the increases seen in the non-consensual distribution of intimate images. Increased focus on the enforcement and reporting accuracy of cybercrime, and increased awareness of cybercrime by both the public and police may have also contributed to the change.

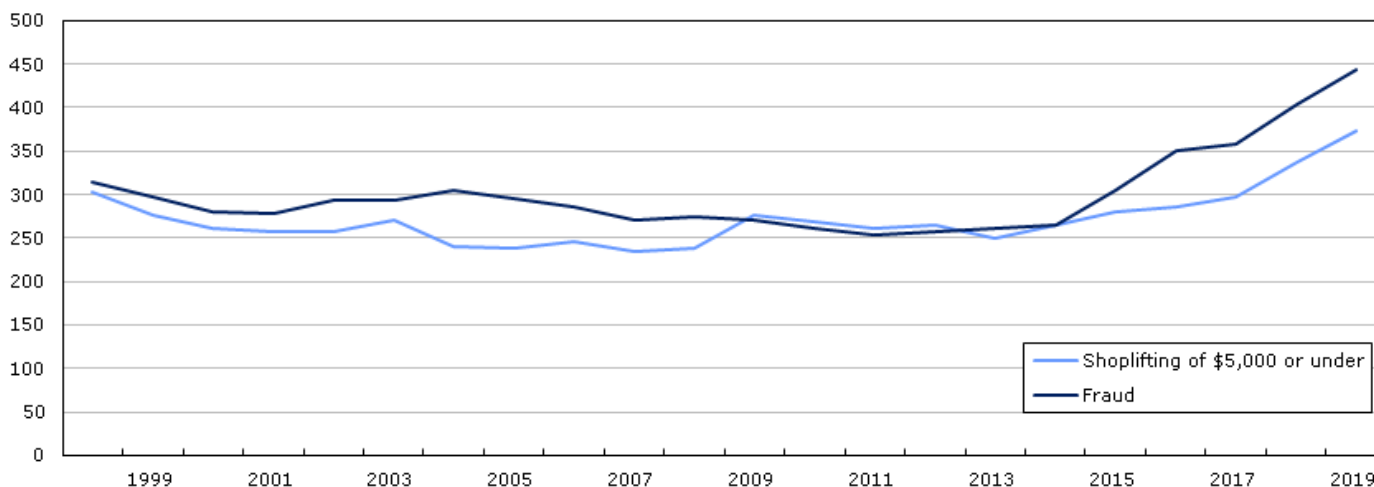
Police-reported fraud continues to increase, growing for the eighth consecutive year

The rate of police-reported total fraud (including identity theft and identity fraud) continued to increase for the eighth consecutive year, with a 10% increase between 2018 and 2019, and marked a 64% increase over the rate reported a decade ago (Chart 4; Table 1).¹⁶ While fraud is not an especially severe crime in the CSI, it is a high volume crime which contributed to making fraud, for the second consecutive year, the primary driver for the increase in the overall CSI and the increase in the Non-violent CSI (NVCSI) in Canada (see Text box 3 and Text box 4).

Chart 4

Fraud and shoplifting of \$5,000 or under, police-reported rates, Canada, 1998 to 2019

rate per 100,000 population



Note: Since 2010, reporting requirements for total fraud include separate violations for fraud, identity theft and identity fraud, which, combined, make up total fraud. Prior to 2010, different types of fraud were reported simply as fraud. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography.

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

According to some police services, part of the increase in fraud was attributable to increased access for reporting fraud online. Additionally, certain types of scams have drawn the attention of the Canadian Anti-fraud Centre (CAFC) and the news media, particularly general online, telephone or text message scams, such as the “Canada Revenue Agency scam” and pre-paid gift card scams (Breen 2018; CAFC 2020; Common and Vellani 2018; Crawford 2019; Whan 2018; Landreville 2020). In April 2020, Canadians made 12,900 reports of fraud to the CAFC and the Better Business Bureau, an increase of 9,000 reports from the same month a year prior (Landreville 2020). According to the CAFC, in 2019 there were 19,285 victims of fraud and over \$98 million lost due to fraud.

Notable increases in the rate of police-reported total fraud were reported in the most populous provinces: Ontario (+12%), Quebec (+14%), British Columbia (+12%), Alberta (+4%) and Manitoba (+23%), which drove the national increase (Table 5).

Increases in the rate of total fraud were reported in 25 of 35 CMAs in 2019 (Table 13). The largest rate increases were reported in Greater Sudbury (+37%), Trois-Rivières (+36%), Winnipeg (+30%), Barrie (+27%) and Guelph (+27%). The largest decreases were reported in Moncton (-22%, following a 56% increase in 2018), Lethbridge (-16%), Saskatoon (-14%) and Saint John (-14%). Together, the four CMAs of Toronto, Montréal, Vancouver and Edmonton accounted for over half (54%) of police-reported fraud among the CMAs, and all four experienced increases in 2019.

Large increase in police-reported shoplifting of \$5,000 or under for second consecutive year

In 2019, police reported more than 140,200 incidents of shoplifting of \$5,000 or under, a rate of 373 incidents per 100,000 population. Following four years of more marginal increases, police-reported shoplifting experienced large increases in 2018 (+14%) and 2019 (+11%) (Chart 4). Part of this increase could have been due to changes in the definition of “founded” when classifying reported incidents (see Text box 2). Compared to 2009, the rate of shoplifting has increased 35%, while theft of \$5,000 or under (non-shoplifting) decreased 19% over that same time period.

Relatively large increases in the rate of shoplifting in Manitoba (+48%), Alberta (+37%) and British Columbia (+18%) were the primary drivers for the national increase reported in 2019. In contrast, the rate declined in Ontario (-6%), following a fairly large increase (+18%) in the previous year (however the rate in 2019 was still higher than any other year in the previous two decades). As in 2018, certain CMAs drove the national increase, including Edmonton (+57%), Winnipeg (+54%), Ottawa (+39%), Vancouver (+20%) and Calgary (+18%). Unlike the previous year, there was a significant decline in the rate of shoplifting in the Toronto CMA (-26%) (Table 13).

Overall, the Western region experienced increases in the rate of shoplifting in all CMAs except for Victoria (-10%). There continued to be a surge in shoplifting reports by news media across the country that had begun in 2018, particularly in liquor stores, with shoplifting—as well as other property and violent crime—linked to the illicit use of methamphetamines. (CBC News 2019; Graveland 2018; Hoye 2019; Mitchell 2019; Potter and Winsa 2019; Selley 2019; Turner 2019; Vanraes 2019).

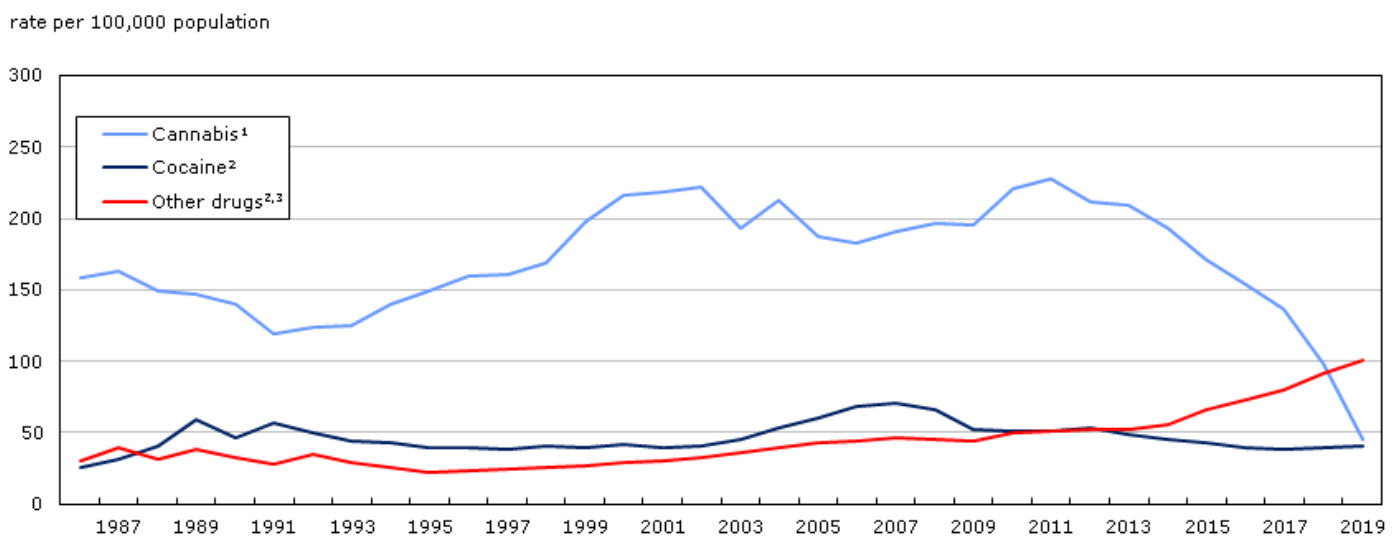
Additionally, some police services have indicated that store owners are being urged to report incidents of shoplifting online and over the phone, as well as through secure company servers, which could have also contributed to the continued increase in police-reported shoplifting offences.

Rates of police-reported cannabis offences decline for eighth consecutive year

In 2017, possession, trafficking, production, importation and exportation of cannabis for non-medical purposes fell under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (CDSA) and were prohibited by law in Canada until the *Cannabis Act* came into force on October 17, 2018. The *Cannabis Act* provides a legal framework for the legalization and regulation of the production, distribution, sale, possession, importation and exportation of cannabis in Canada (Parliament of Canada 2018). Several new violations were subsequently added to the UCR as of October 17, 2018 – for a detailed list of these violations, please refer to Text box 3 in the “Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2018” report (Moreau 2019a).

Since 2012, national police-reported rates of cannabis-related drug offences have been declining, notably in 2018 and 2019 (Chart 5). In 2019, there were over 70,100 total drug offences reported by police, representing a rate of 187 per 100,000 population, of which cannabis-related drug offences (CDSA and *Cannabis Act*) accounted for 24% (Table 3). Historically, this is by far the lowest proportion of cannabis offences relative to all drug-related offences – from 1986 to 2015, cannabis offences accounted for, on average, 68% of all drug-related offences.

Chart 5
Drug offences, police-reported rates, Canada, 1986 to 2019



1. Cannabis includes cannabis offences under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (CDSA) and the *Cannabis Act*. As a result of the coming into force of the *Cannabis Act* on October 17, 2018, all prior cannabis-related legislation under the CDSA has been replaced with the *Cannabis Act*. Includes possession, trafficking, importation or exportation, production, distribution, sale, and "other" cannabis-violations.

2. Includes possession, trafficking, production, importation and exportation.

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

Note: Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography.

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

Following more than 14 months of enforcement, police have reported a total of 18,097 incidents under the new *Cannabis Act*. The most commonly reported offences were related to importation or exportation (64% of all *Cannabis Act* offences), possession (13%), and sale (7%) (Table 3). In comparison, prior to the legalization of cannabis, possession accounted for about 8 in 10 (75%) of cannabis offences. Due to legalization under the *Cannabis Act*, possession is only illegal under certain circumstances. The Montréal CMA in particular accounted for 56% of all importation or exportation offences reported under the *Cannabis Act* (6,323 of the 11,193 offences reported nationally). The high proportion of offences in Montréal was due in part to cannabis seizures conducted by the Canada Border Services Agency in Montréal that were thought to be related to possible misunderstanding by the public about the legality under the new legislation of purchasing cannabis from outside of Canada and having it delivered into the country.

Provincially, the rates of cannabis offences in Quebec (104 per 100,000 population) and British Columbia (74 per 100,000 population) were significantly higher than the national rate (45 per 100,000 population) (Table 4). Historically, British Columbia reported highest rates of cannabis-related drug offences under the CDSA legislation relative to the other provinces, while Quebec reported the second highest rate in 2017 and 2018.

Police-reported opioid-related drug offences continue to be highest in British Columbia

According to the Public Health Agency of Canada, over a three year period from 2016 to 2019, more than 15,000 people in Canada lost their lives as a result of opioid overdoses, which continues to be a crisis in many Canadian communities. Of the apparent opioid-related deaths in 2019, 77% involved fentanyl or fentanyl analogues (Special Advisory Committee on the Epidemic of Opioid Overdoses 2020).¹⁷

In 2019, there were 3,766 opioid-related offences in Canada, a 48% rate increase compared to 2018 (Table 4).¹⁸ The increase was due to more possession and trafficking offences, while offences related to the importation or exportation of opioids decreased. Among the provinces, the highest rates were reported in British Columbia (38 per 100,000 population), Alberta (12) and Ontario (8) (Table 4). The CMAs with the highest rates of opioid-related offences were Kelowna (124) and Lethbridge (95), followed by Vancouver (35), Abbotsford-Mission (31) and Brantford (29). Western Canada continues to be the most impacted region of the country, but rates have begun to increase in other areas as well (Special Advisory Committee on the Epidemic of Opioid Overdoses 2020).

The rate of heroin offences (8 per 100,000 population) decreased 6% in 2019 after trending upward over the previous nine years (Table 3; Table 4). British Columbia accounted for 53% of all heroin-related offences in 2019, however the rate (34 per 100,000 population) remained stable compared to 2018.

Police-reported drug offences related to methamphetamine continue to increase

Methamphetamine-related offences accounted for 21% of all police-reported drug-related crime. A number of police services have indicated that “crystal meth” is a growing issue in their communities and has contributed to increases in all types of crime, including property and violent crimes (Graveland 2018; Huncar 2020; Huncar 2018; Ireland 2020; Wakefield 2019). In 2019, there were 14,446 methamphetamine-related offences, marking an annual rate increase of 3% nationally, continuing a rise in methamphetamine offences dating back to 2008 (Table 4). Possession of methamphetamine had the second highest incident rate (29 incidents per 100,000 population) among all drugs, after importation or exportation of cannabis offences. While the rate of methamphetamine possession rose 1% in 2019, the rate of trafficking rose 17%.

Among the provinces, seven reported increases in the rate of methamphetamine-related offences (Prince Edward Island and Quebec reported decreases) (Table 4). Among CMAs, 15 of 35 reported increases. The CMAs of Calgary, Lethbridge and Hamilton reported some of the most significant increases, while Montréal reported a 41% decrease largely due to a decrease in importation or exportation offences (for more information see data table 35-10-0177-01).

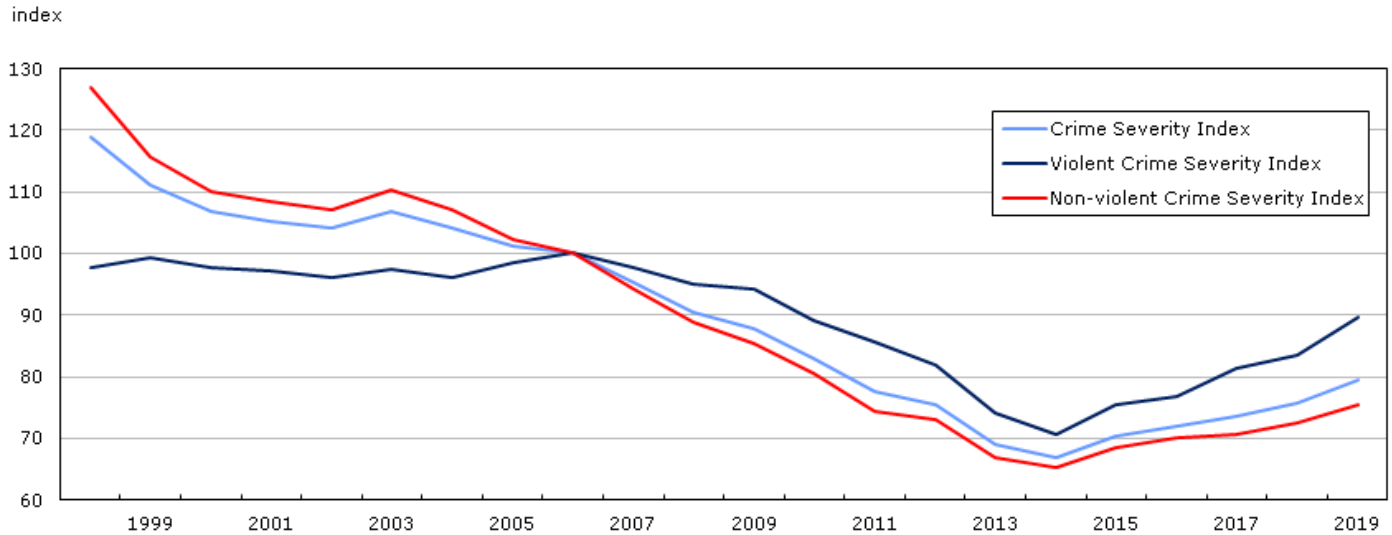
Overall, excluding cannabis, the combined rate of possession offences for other types of drugs has been increasing annually since 2010. In July 2020, the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police proposed in a new statement that Canada divert people dealing with substance abuse or addiction issues away from the criminal system and toward social services and health care supports (Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police 2020).

Police-reported crime in Canada – General trends

Canada’s Crime Severity Index increases for fifth consecutive year

The Crime Severity Index (CSI) measures both the volume and severity of police-reported crime in Canada and has a base index value of 100 for 2006 (Text box 3). The CSI increased 5% from 75.6 in 2018 to 79.5 in 2019, marking the fifth consecutive annual increase (Table 6; Chart 6). Between 1998 and 2014, the CSI steadily declined, with the exception of a 3% increase reported in 2003. Despite these recent increases, the 2019 CSI was 9% lower than a decade prior.

Chart 6
Police-reported Crime Severity Indexes, Canada, 1998 to 2019

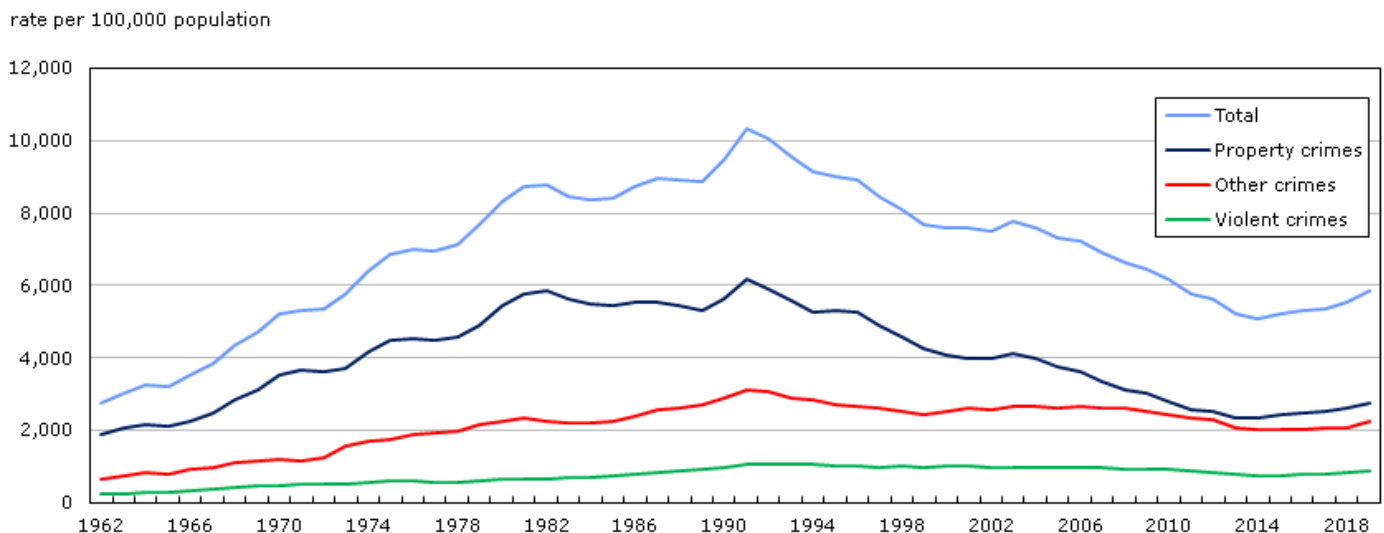


Note: Crime Severity Indexes are based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

The 5% rise in the CSI in 2019 was driven by increases in police-reported rates for numerous offences, most notably fraud and child pornography offences, as well as importation or exportation under the *Cannabis Act*, uttering threats, mischief, sexual assault (level 1) and shoplifting of \$5,000 or under.¹⁹ Increases were partially offset by a decrease in the rate of police-reported breaking and entering for the fourth consecutive year, as well as a decrease in trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cannabis (CDSA).

At 5,874 incidents per 100,000 population, the police-reported crime rate—which measures the volume of crime per 100,000 population—increased 7% in 2019 (Table 7; Chart 7).

Chart 7
Police-reported crime rates, Canada, 1962 to 2019



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, Centre for Demography.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Canadian police services reported over 2.2 million *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic) in 2019, about 164,700 more incidents than in 2018. In addition to these incidents, there were about 136,700 *Criminal Code* traffic offences, about 70,100 *CDSA and Cannabis Act* offences, and nearly 23,600 other federal statute violations (such as offences under the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* and the *Customs Act*) recorded by police in 2019. In total, there were over 2.4 million police-reported *Criminal Code* and “other federal statute” violations in 2019.

Although the CSI and the crime rate are separate measures, with the CSI accounting not only for volume but also changes in the relative severity of police-reported crime (Text box 3), both measures show similar trends in police-reported crime in Canada since 1998.

Text box 3

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 severity 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 and—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.²⁰

To publish the most timely police-reported crime statistics, this article 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 article, and data will be accessible for custom requests or possible inclusion in future editions of *Juristat*.

Crime rate

The traditional crime rate has been used to measure police-reported crime in Canada since 1962, and it 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 count. 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 severity. 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 higher volume but less serious offences, such as theft of \$5,000 or under and mischief. In other words, a large decline in common but less serious violations may cause the police-reported crime rate to decrease even when the number of more serious but lower volume offences, such as homicide and robbery, increased.

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 3 — end

Measuring police-reported crime

Crime Severity Index

The CSI was developed to address the limitation of the police-reported crime rate being driven by high-volume, but relatively less serious, offences. The CSI not only takes into account the volume of crime, but also the relative severity of crime. As such, the CSI will vary when changes in either the volume of crime or the average severity of crime—or both the volume and the average severity—are recorded.

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.²¹ 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 CSI. 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 CSI (VCSI) and a Non-violent CSI (NVCSI) have been created, which—like the overall CSI—are available back to 1998. The VCSI is comprised of all police-reported violent violations, and the 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).

To adjust to changes in sentencing patterns from the courts, and amendments to the *Criminal Code* and other federal statutes, the weights are updated every five years. The most recent update was carried out in 2018 and applies to 2018 revised and 2019 data presented in this article.

For more information on the CSI, 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), *Updating the Police-Reported Crime Severity Index: Calculating 2018 Weights* (Cormack and Tabuchi 2020), and the *Measuring Crime in Canada: A detailed look at the Crime Severity Index* video (Statistics Canada 2016).

Twelve of thirteen provinces and territories report increases in Crime Severity Index

Between 2018 and 2019, 12 of Canada's 13 provinces and territories reported increases in their CSI (Table 8). Only Quebec (-1%) reported a decrease in its CSI. As has been the case since 1998, British Columbia and the Prairie provinces have had the highest CSIs among the provinces, while the three Territories have reported the highest CSIs overall.²² Fraud, child pornography, homicide, and breaking and entering offences were common contributing factors for increases or decreases in CSIs among the provinces and territories (Text box 4).

Text box 4
Violations contributing to the change in the Crime Severity Index (CSI) between 2018 and 2019, by province or territory

Province or territory	Percent change in CSI from 2018 to 2019	Violations driving the change in CSI
Canada	5	Increase in fraud, child pornography, as well as importation or exportation under the <i>Cannabis Act</i> , ¹ uttering threats, mischief, sexual assault (level 1), and shoplifting of \$5,000 or under; partially offset by decreases in trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cannabis (CDSA), and breaking and entering
Newfoundland and Labrador	10	Increase in trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cocaine, mischief, child pornography and homicide; partially offset by decrease in robbery
Prince Edward Island	18	Increase in homicide, theft of \$5,000 or under (non-shoplifting), child pornography, and breaking and entering
Nova Scotia	1	Increase in child pornography and attempted murder; partially offset by decrease in fraud, sexual assault (level 1) and robbery
New Brunswick	9	Increase in mischief, breaking and entering, and trafficking, production, importation or exportation of other drugs; partially offset by decrease in fraud
Quebec	-1	Decrease in breaking and entering, and trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cannabis (CDSA); partially offset by increase in importation or exportation under the <i>Cannabis Act</i> ¹
Ontario	1	Increase in fraud; partially offset by decrease in trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cannabis (CDSA), and breaking and entering
Manitoba	10	Increase in homicide, breaking and entering, fraud, shoplifting of \$5,000 or under, and child pornography
Saskatchewan	5	Increase in homicide, violent firearms offences, attempted murder and robbery; partially offset by decrease in breaking and entering
Alberta	5	Increase in shoplifting of \$5,000 or under, and mischief
British Columbia ²	17	Increase in breaking and entering, child pornography, uttering threats, trafficking, production, importation or exportation of other drugs, mischief and fraud
Yukon	26	Increase in trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cocaine, sexual assault (level 1), breaking and entering, mischief, and fraud; partially offset by decrease in homicide
Northwest Territories	19	Increase in mischief, trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cocaine, sexual assault (level 1), common assault (level 1), and uttering threats; partially offset by decrease in homicide
Nunavut	11	Increase in mischief, assault (level 1 and 2), uttering threats and sexual assault (level 1); partially offset by decrease in breaking and entering, and homicide

1. The Montréal CMA in Quebec accounted for 56% of all importation or exportation offences reported under the Cannabis Act (6,323 of the 11,193 offences reported nationally). The high proportion of offences was due in part to cannabis seizures conducted by the Canada Border Services Agency in Montréal that were thought to be related to possible misunderstanding by the public about the legality under the new legislation of purchasing cannabis from outside of Canada and having it delivered into the country.

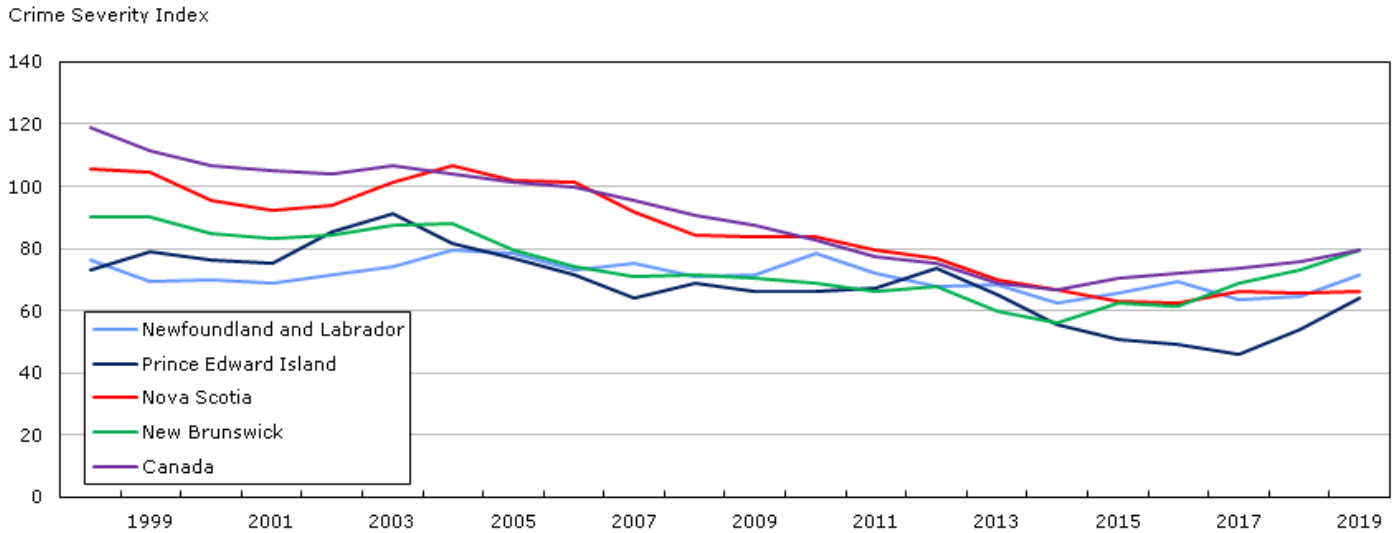
2. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia and some of its census metropolitan areas in 2019 may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards for classifying incidents (see Text box 2 and “Survey description”). While the effective date was January 2018 and many police services adopted the new standards that year, some police services, including all of the RCMP detachments across Canada and the municipal police services in British Columbia, transitioned to the new standards on January 1, 2019. Additionally, police services in British Columbia undertook a uniform training strategy to further standardize reporting throughout the province. The new reporting standards were expected to result in an increase in crime rates over time (see Text box 2).

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 and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

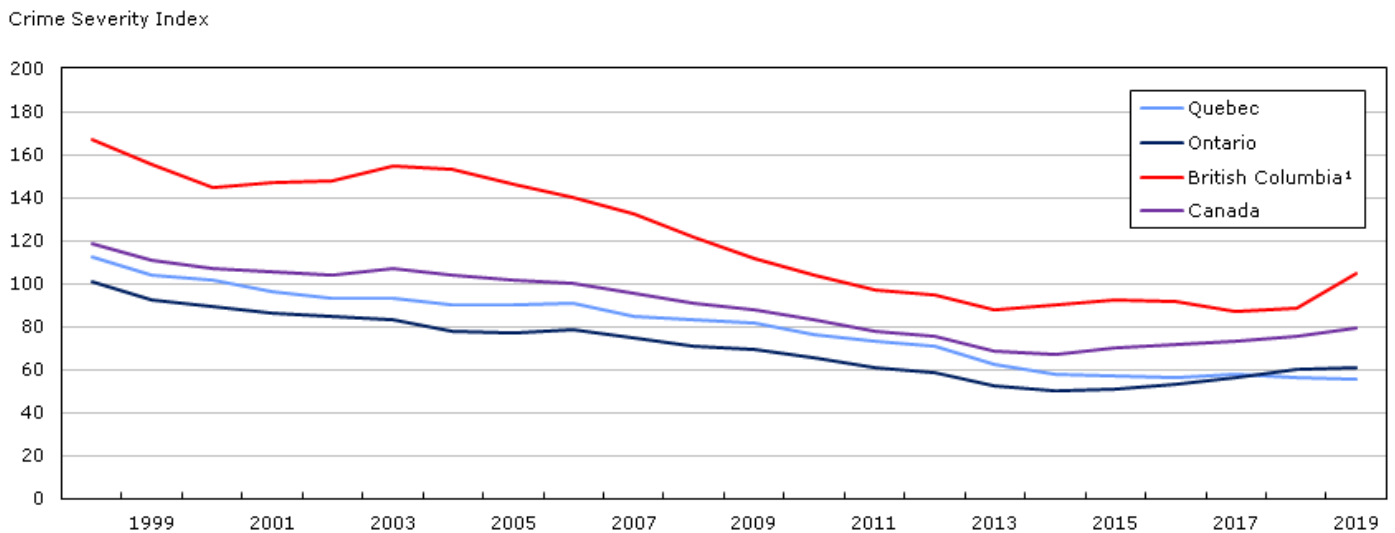
Six provinces reported a lower CSI in 2019 than in 2009, while eight reported lower crime rates over the same period (Table 8 and Table 9; Charts 8 to 11). The three territories each reported higher CSIs and higher crime rates in 2019 compared to 2018, as well as when compared to 2009.

Chart 8
Police-reported Crime Severity Index, Atlantic provinces and Canada, 1998 to 2019



Note: 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, Centre for Demography.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

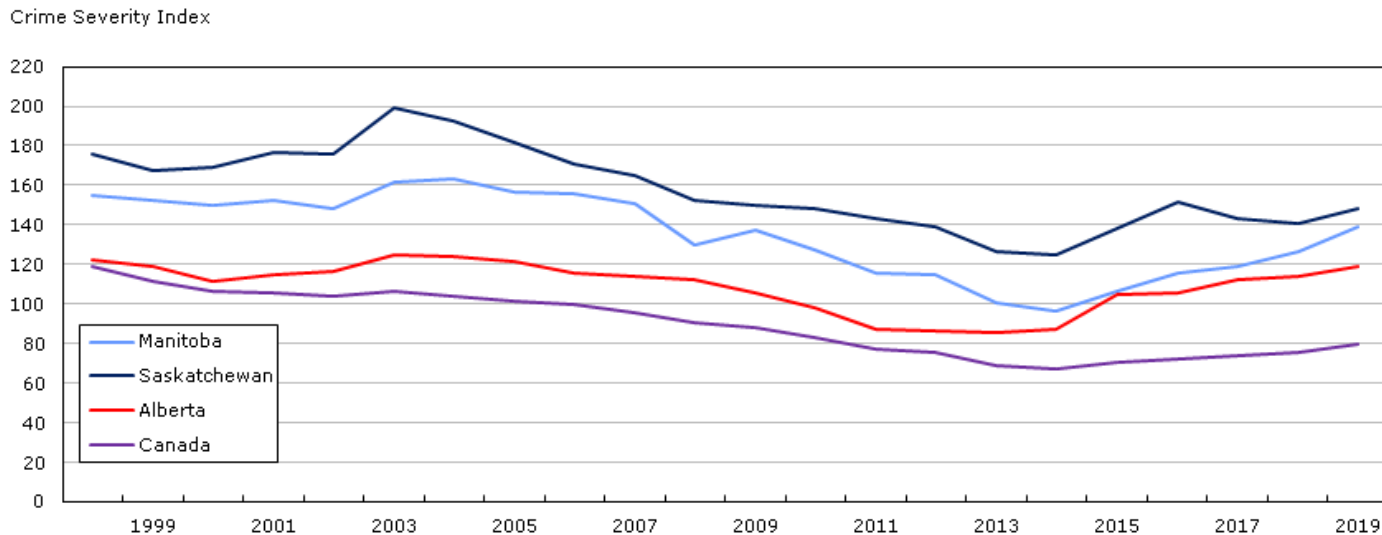
Chart 9
Police-reported Crime Severity Index, Quebec, Ontario, British Columbia and Canada, 1998 to 2019



1. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia and some of its census metropolitan areas in 2019 may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards for classifying incidents. While the effective date was January 2018 and many police services adopted the new standards that year, some police services, including all of the RCMP detachments across Canada and the municipal police services in British Columbia, transitioned to the new standards on January 1, 2019. Additionally, police services in British Columbia undertook a uniform training strategy to further standardize reporting throughout the province. The new reporting standards were expected to result in an increase in crime rates over time.

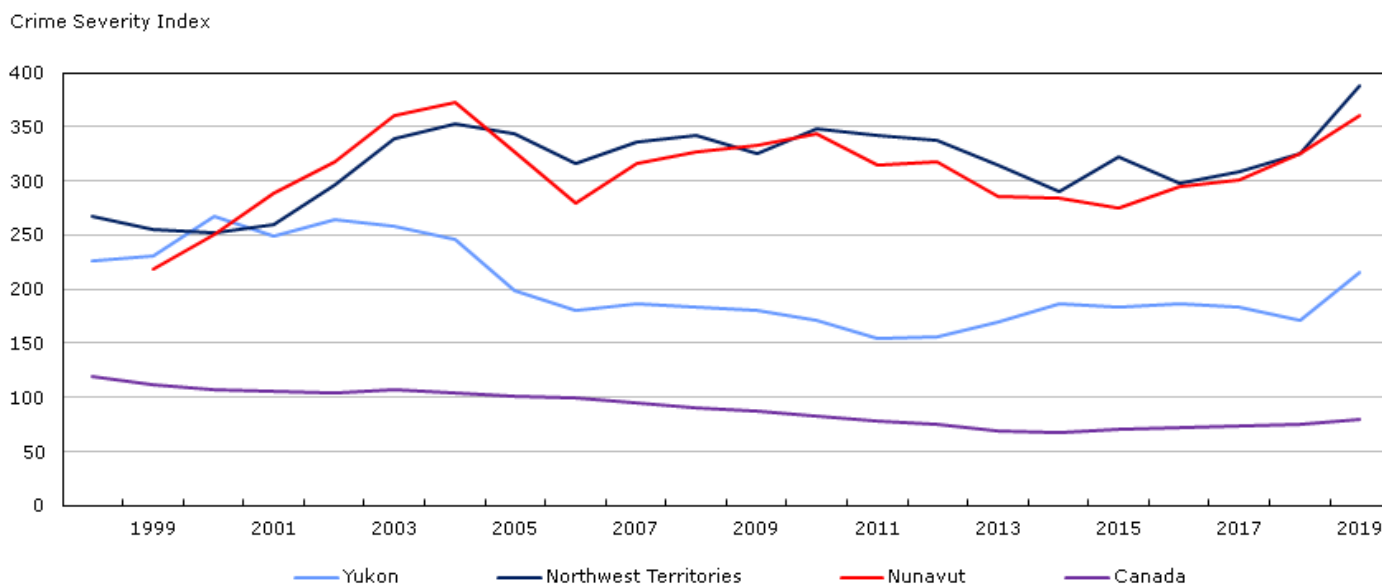
Note: The Crime Severity Index is based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 10
Police-reported Crime Severity Index, Prairie provinces and Canada, 1998 to 2019



Note: 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, Centre for Demography. **Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 11
Police-reported Crime Severity Index, Territories and Canada, 1998 to 2019



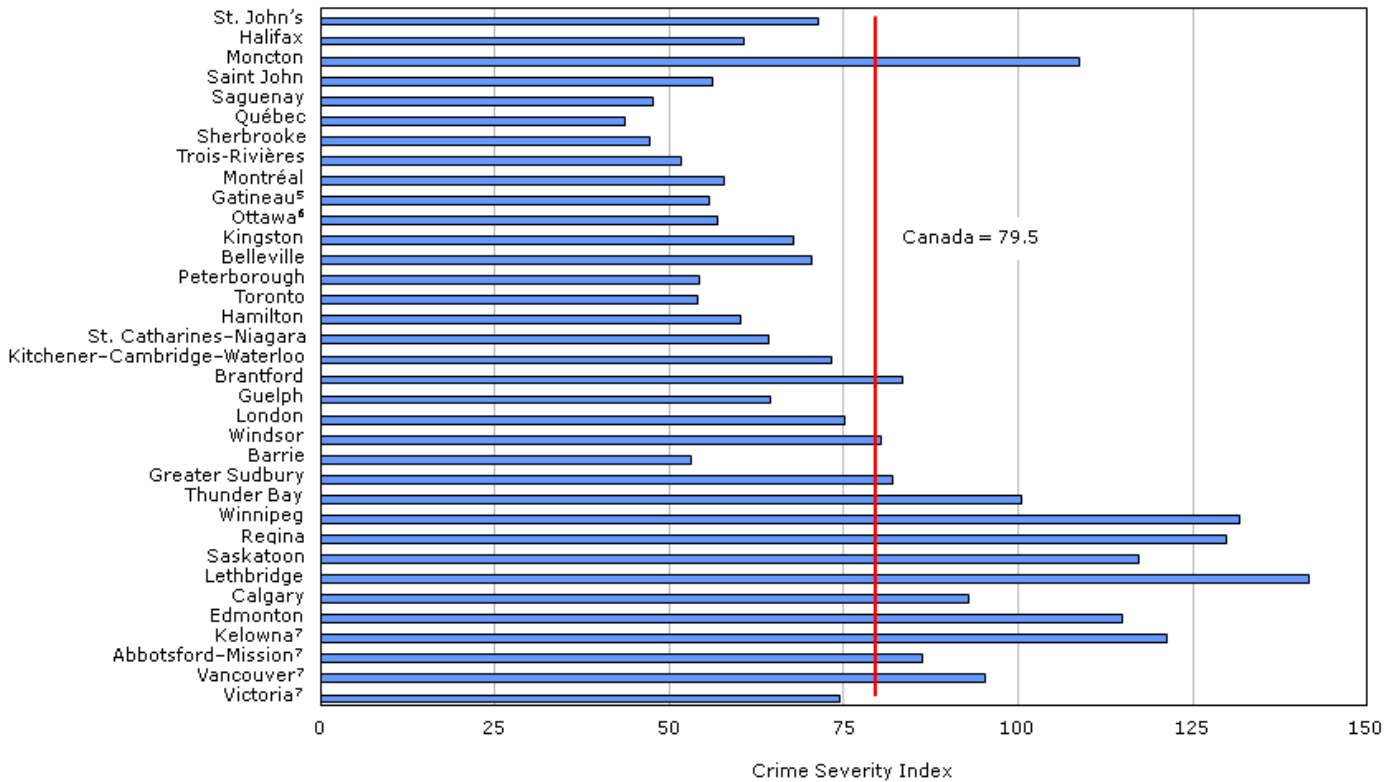
Note: The Crime Severity Index is based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. 1998 data in this chart for Northwest Territories also include Nunavut. In 1999, Nunavut, which comprises the 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, Centre for Demography. **Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Less than half of census metropolitan areas record increases in the severity of police-reported crime

Between 2018 and 2019, 16 of 35 census metropolitan areas (CMA) reported increases in their CSI (Table 10; Chart 12).²³ The largest increases in CSI were recorded in the CMAs of Kelowna (+20%), Victoria (+16%), Belleville (+13%) and Vancouver (+11%). The offences contributing to the increases in these CMAs were somewhat varied, though generally breaking and entering, fraud, child pornography and sexual assault (level 1) drove the increase to varying degrees (Table 11).²⁴

Chart 12
Police-reported Crime Severity Index, by census metropolitan area, 2019

Census metropolitan area (CMA)^{1,2,3,4}



1. A 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. As of the 2016 Census, Belleville and Lethbridge became new CMAs.

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

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

7. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia and some of its census metropolitan areas in 2019 may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards for classifying incidents. While the effective date was January 2018 and many police services adopted the new standards that year, some police services, including all of the RCMP detachments across Canada and the municipal police services in British Columbia, transitioned to the new standards on January 1, 2019. Additionally, police services in British Columbia undertook a uniform training strategy to further standardize reporting throughout the province. The new reporting standards were expected to result in an increase in crime rates over time.

Note: 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 bylaws 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, Centre for Demography.

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

The largest decreases in CSI between 2018 and 2019 were reported in Brantford (-10%), Sherbrooke (-10%), Halifax (-10%), and Guelph (-9%) (Table 11). Similar to the CMAs with large year-over-year increases, those showing decreases were driven by a variety of offences, including, in part, decreases in the rate of breaking and entering (except in Sherbrooke).

Similar to the provincial trend, the highest CSIs are typically recorded in CMAs located in British Columbia and the Prairie provinces, whereas the lowest CSIs are most often recorded in Quebec, Ontario and the Atlantic provinces. Lethbridge (141.8), Winnipeg (131.7), Regina (130.0) and Kelowna (121.4) were the CMAs with the highest CSIs in 2019, and all reported increases from the previous year. Relatively high CSIs were also recorded in Saskatoon (117.3), Edmonton (114.9) and Moncton (108.9). The CMAs with the lowest CSIs were Québec (43.8), Sherbrooke (47.2) and Saguenay (47.7), followed by Trois-Rivières (51.8), Barrie (53.1), Toronto (54.2) and Peterborough (54.4).

Police-reported violent crime

In 2019, police-reported violent crime continued to account for about one-fifth (22%) of all police-reported *Criminal Code* offences (excluding traffic). There were over 480,000 police-reported violent incidents in 2019, marking an 11% rise in the rate of police-reported violent offences (1,277 per 100,000 population versus 1,152 in 2018). This is the largest annual increase in rate of violent crime dating back to 1998. Despite this, the rate was still 3% lower than a decade earlier (Table 7). 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.²⁵

Between 2018 and 2019, there were rate increases for many police-reported violent violations, most notably trafficking in persons (+41%),²⁶ non-consensual distribution of intimate images (+31%),²⁷ indecent or harassing communications (+29%),²⁸ violent firearms offences (+21%), and uttering threats (+20%).

National Violent Crime Severity Index increases fifth consecutive year, with increases in all provinces and territories

In 2019, the overall volume and severity of violent crime—as measured by the Violent Crime Severity Index (VCSI)—was 89.7, a 7% increase over 2018 but 5% lower than in 2009 (Table 6; Chart 6). The VCSI fell every year between 2007 and 2014, before increasing for five consecutive years.

The largest contributor to the increase in the VCSI in 2019 was a 20% increase in the rate of uttering threats and, to a lesser extent, a 7% increase in sexual assault (level 1) (see Text box 5). Sexual assault (level 1) was also an important contributor to the increase in the VCSI in both 2017 and 2018. Overall, the rate increased for 20 of the 24 violent offences or offence groupings typically reported by the UCR (Table 1).

All of the provinces and territories recorded increases in their VCSI in 2019, though the national increase was driven primarily by rises in British Columbia²⁹ and the Prairie provinces (Table 8).

Almost two-thirds of the census metropolitan areas record increases in the severity of police-reported violent crime

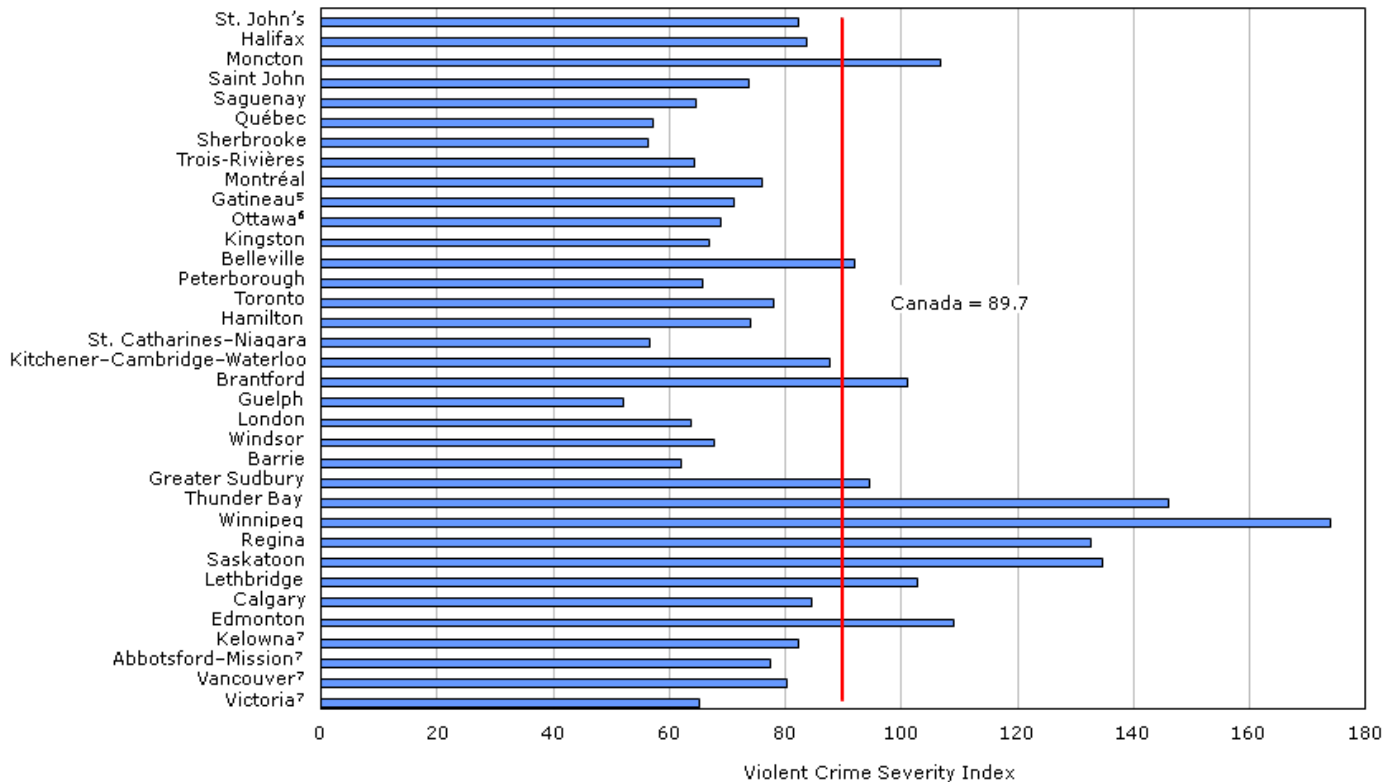
Increases in VCSIs were reported in 22 out of 35 CMAs. The largest increases were reported in Kelowna (+65%),³⁰ Belleville (+28%), Saskatoon (+24%) and Peterborough (+21%) (Table 10). Most of the increases were driven by increases in sexual assault (level 1), robbery or homicide.

Similarly, the largest decreases in VCSI among the CMAs were typically the result of decreases in robbery and homicide, among other offences. The largest decreases were reported in Guelph (-17%, driven by decreases in sexual violations against children, assault (level 1) and extortion), Sherbrooke (-16%, driven by decreases in homicide and robbery) and Halifax (-13%, driven by decreases in sexual assault [level 1], robbery and homicide).

In 2019, the CMAs with the highest VCSIs were Winnipeg (174.0), Thunder Bay (145.9), Saskatoon (134.7) and Regina (132.6). From 2005 to 2019, Thunder Bay, Winnipeg and Regina consistently reported among the highest VCSI values of all CMAs, with Thunder Bay and Winnipeg reporting among the three highest values every year for the past nine years. Thunder Bay also reported the third highest violent crime rate (1,619 violent incidents per 100,000 population) in 2019, behind Lethbridge (1,858) and Moncton (1,785) (Table 12; Chart 13). The lowest VCSIs were reported in Guelph (52.1), Sherbrooke (56.3), St. Catharines-Niagara (56.8) and Québec (57.3).

Chart 13
Police-reported violent Crime Severity Index, by census metropolitan area, 2019

Census metropolitan area (CMA)^{1,2,3,4}



1. A 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. As of the 2016 Census, Belleville and Lethbridge became new CMAs.

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

7. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia and some of its census metropolitan areas in 2019 may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards for classifying incidents. While the effective date was January 2018 and many police services adopted the new standards that year, some police services, including all of the RCMP detachments across Canada and the municipal police services in British Columbia, transitioned to the new standards on January 1, 2019. Additionally, police services in British Columbia undertook a uniform training strategy to further standardize reporting throughout the province. The new reporting standards were expected to result in an increase in crime rates over time.

Note: 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 bylaws or provincial provisions rather than Criminal Code provisions. The Violent Crime Severity Index is based on Criminal Code incidents. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography.

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

Text box 5**Violations contributing to the change in the Violent Crime Severity Index (VCSI) between 2018 and 2019, by province or territory**

Province or territory	Percent change in VCSI from 2018 to 2019	Violations driving the change in VCSI
Canada	7	Increase in uttering threats and sexual assault (level 1)
Newfoundland and Labrador	10	Increase in homicide, uttering threats, sexual assault (level 1) and assault (level 1 and 2); partially offset by decrease in robbery and violent firearms offences
Prince Edward Island	31	Increase in homicide, as well as sexual assault (level 1), criminal harassment, and sexual violations against children
Nova Scotia	4	Increase in attempted murder, uttering threats, as well as violent firearms offences, sexual violations against children, trafficking in persons and non-consensual distribution of intimate images; partially offset by decrease in sexual assault (level 1), robbery and homicide
New Brunswick	10	Increase in sexual assault (level 1), uttering threats and assault (level 1); partially offset by decrease in robbery
Quebec	5	Increase in sexual violations against children and assault (level 2)
Ontario	1	Increase in violent firearms offences; partially offset by decrease in homicide
Manitoba	11	Increase in several offences including homicide, assault (level 1, 2, 3), sexual assault (level 1), as well as violent firearms offences and uttering threats
Saskatchewan	21	Increase in several offences including homicide, violent firearms offences, attempted murder, robbery and sexual assault (level 1)
Alberta	7	Increase in homicide, sexual assault (level 1) and uttering threats
British Columbia ¹	21	Increase in several offences including uttering threats, sexual assault (level 1), assault (level 1 and 2), robbery and sexual violations against children
Yukon	11	Increase in several offences including sexual assault (level 1), uttering threats and assault (level 1); partially offset by decrease in homicide
Northwest Territories	13	Increase in several offences including sexual assault (level 1) and assault (level 1, 2, 3), as well as uttering threats and non-consensual distribution of intimate images; partially offset by decrease in homicide
Nunavut	9	Increase in several offences including assault (level 1, 2, 3), uttering threats, sexual assault (level 1) and violent firearms offences; partially offset by decrease in homicide

1. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia and some of its census metropolitan areas in 2019 may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards for classifying incidents (see Text box 2 and "Survey description"). While the effective date was January 2018 and many police services adopted the new standards that year, some police services, including all of the RCMP detachments across Canada and the municipal police services in British Columbia, transitioned to the new standards on January 1, 2019. Additionally, police services in British Columbia undertook a uniform training strategy to further standardize reporting throughout the province. The new reporting standards were expected to result in an increase in crime rates over time (see Text box 2).

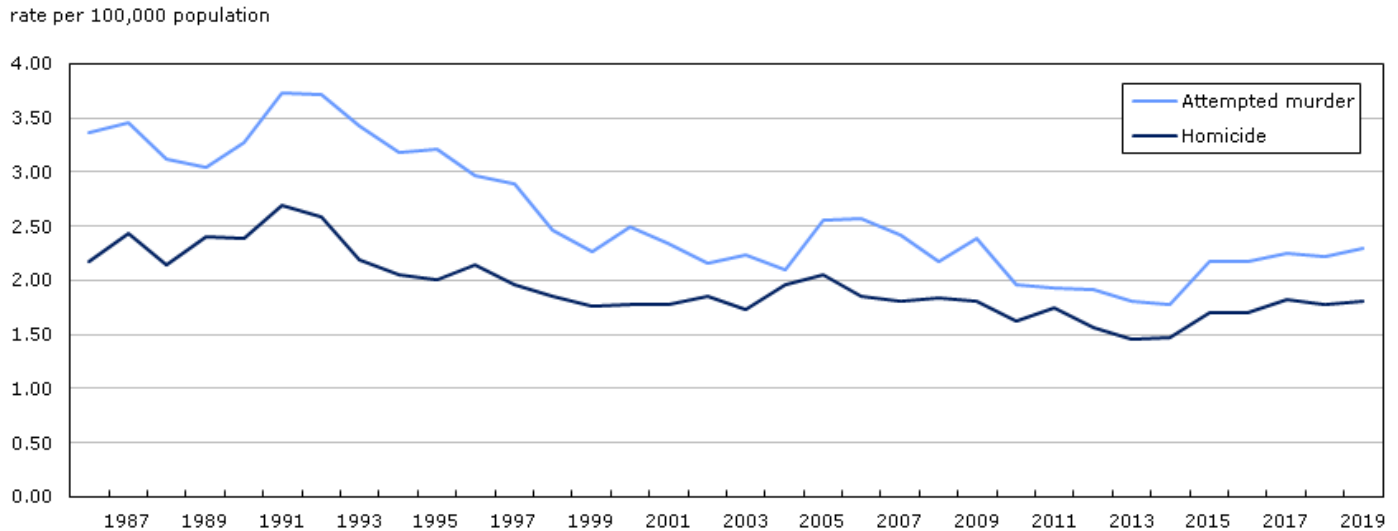
Note: The main violations driving the change in the VCSI are identified, in order of impact, as those violations where the combined changes in the rates (weighted by the CSI weight) contribute substantially to the overall change in the VCSI (up or down). Where large changes in other violations serve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

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

National homicide rate increases in 2019, notably in the Prairie provinces

In 2019, police reported 678 homicides, 20 more than the previous year.³¹ The national homicide rate increased 2% from 1.78 homicides per 100,000 population in 2018, to 1.80 homicides per 100,000 population in 2019. Homicides represented 0.1% of all violent crimes, down from the last four years where homicides accounted for 0.2%. However, 2019 is the third consecutive year in which the homicide rate was higher than the average for the previous decade (1.67 per 100,000 population for 2009 to 2018) (Table 1; Chart 14; data table 35-10-0068-01).

Chart 14
Attempted murder and homicide, police-reported rates, Canada, 1986 to 2019



Note: Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography.

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

The increase in the national number of homicides was driven by Saskatchewan (+21), Alberta (+19, following a relatively large decrease in 2018) and Manitoba (+17). This was partially offset by decreases in Ontario (-26, following a relatively large increase in 2018) and Quebec (-6). As has been the case with provincial comparisons historically, rates were highest in Manitoba (5.26 homicides per 100,000 population) and Saskatchewan (4.68). A high rate was also observed in Nunavut (18.05 homicides per 100,000 population), but less so in the Northwest Territories (4.46) and in Yukon (2.45). The relatively small population counts in the Territories typically translate to higher and more unstable rates, making year-over-year comparisons less meaningful (Table 5; data table 35-10-0068-01).

For the fourth consecutive year, Thunder Bay recorded the highest homicide rate among CMAs (5.56 homicides per 100,000 population) (Table 13). For the second consecutive year, Lethbridge recorded no homicides, alongside Guelph, Saguenay and Trois-Rivières.

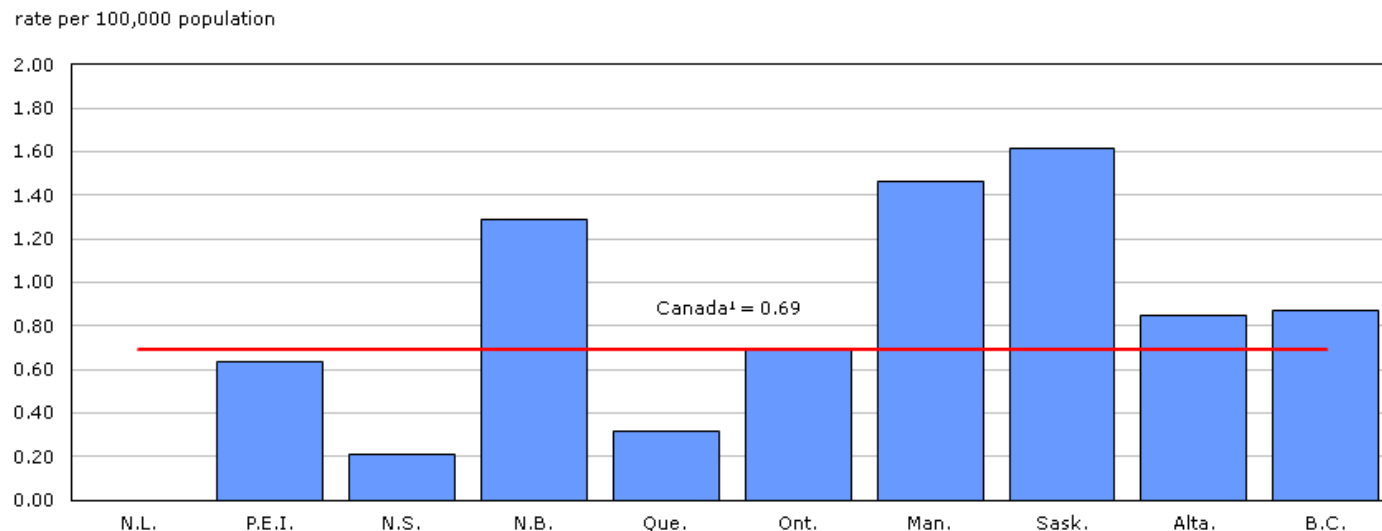
With 130 homicides, Toronto, Canada's most populous CMA, had the most homicides and tenth highest rate (2.03 per 100,000 population) in 2019. The rate of homicide in the Toronto CMA decreased in 2019 (-12%), although it was still higher than other annual rates recorded by Toronto this decade.³²

Overall, the Winnipeg CMA had the largest increase in the number of homicides from 2018 to 2019 (+22). According to the Winnipeg police, in 2019, Winnipeg had been dealing with a record breaking number of homicide cases and rising violent property crimes (Froese 2019; Unger 2019).

Number of homicides with a firearm increased from 2018

At 261, the number of homicides where a firearm was the primary weapon used to commit the homicide (firearm-related) in Canada saw an increase of 4% (+10 homicides) from 2018 to 2019, with the associated rate increasing 3%. Over 40% of homicides in Canada in 2019 were firearm-related and handguns remained the most common firearm used to commit a homicide, which has been the case since 1995.³³ Handguns accounted for 60% of firearm-related homicides in 2019.³⁴ Under one-third (28%) of firearm-related homicides occurred in non-CMAs. In 2019, 51% of firearm-related homicides were related to gang activity. Provincially, rates of firearm-related homicide were highest in Saskatchewan (1.62 per 100,000 population), Manitoba (1.46 per 100,000 population) and New Brunswick (1.29), compared to the national rate (0.69) (Chart 15). For more information on firearm-related homicide, see data table 35-10-0072-01.

Chart 15
Firearm-related homicide, police-reported rate, by province, 2019



1. Includes the Territories.

Note: Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography.

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

Gang-related homicides up slightly, still largely committed with handguns

Nationally, there were 162 gang-related homicides in 2019, six more than in 2018. The majority (86%) were committed with a firearm, most often a handgun (78%).^{35, 36, 37} In 2019, gang-related homicide committed with a firearm represented 21% of all homicides, a larger proportion than in 2018 (20%). Overall, gang-related homicides continued to account for about one-quarter (24%) of all homicides and marked the second highest rate (0.43 per 100,000 population) recorded in Canada since comparable data were first collected in 2005. For more information on gang-related homicide, see data table 35-10-0075-01.

The increase in gang-related homicides in 2019 was driven by more victims in Saskatchewan (+10) and Ontario (+9), and more specifically, the CMAs of Toronto (+7), Regina (+4) and Saskatoon (+4).

Rate of homicide for Indigenous peoples six and a half times higher than for non-Indigenous peoples

In 2019, there were 174 Indigenous victims of homicide,³⁸ an increase from 141 in 2018. This represents a rate increase of 20% for Indigenous peoples in 2019 (8.82 per 100,000 Indigenous peoples in 2019 compared to 7.36 in 2018). This rate was approximately six and a half times higher than the rate for non-Indigenous people in 2019 (1.34 per 100,000 non-Indigenous people).³⁹ Of the 174 Indigenous victims of homicide, 63% were identified as First Nations, 3% as Métis and 11% as Inuk (Inuit). For an additional 22% of Indigenous victims of homicide, the Indigenous group to which they belonged was not identified. For more information on Indigenous victims of homicide, see data table 35-10-0156-01.

A history of colonization, including residential schools (the last of which closed in 1996), work camps and forced relocation, is recognized for having profoundly impacted Indigenous communities and families (Bombay et al. 2014; Bombay et al. 2011; Bombay et al. 2009; The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada 2015). Indigenous peoples often experience social and institutional marginalization, discrimination, and various forms of trauma and violence—including intergenerational trauma and gender-based violence. As a result, many Indigenous peoples experience challenging social and economic circumstances (Arriagada et al. 2020; MMIWG 2019; Statistics Canada 2020b; The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada 2015). These factors play a significant role in the overrepresentation of Indigenous people in the criminal justice system and as victims of crime (Ontario Human Rights Commission 2003; House of Commons 2018).

In terms of gender, the number of female Indigenous victims decreased from 45 to 40, while the number of male victims rose by 20 (from 96 to 116).⁴⁰ The highest rate of homicide was among Indigenous males (11.89 homicides per 100,000 population), followed by Indigenous females (4.01 per 100,000 population) and non-Indigenous males (2.04 per 100,000 population). Homicide rates were lowest among non-Indigenous females (0.55 per 100,000 population).

In 2019, 33 victims were identified as missing at the time the homicide became known to police. Of those 33 victims, 7 were reported as Indigenous, with 5 of those victims being female. Although the rates were relatively low, Indigenous victims of

homicide were still five times more likely to have been reported missing than non-Indigenous victims (0.35 per 100,000 population compared with 0.07 per 100,000 population).

For more information on homicide victims by age group, gender and Indigenous identity, see data tables 35-10-0156-01 and 35-10-0060-01.

Of the 515 accused persons for whom police reported an Indigenous identity in 2019, 38% were reported by police as Indigenous (194),⁴¹ a 26% increase from 2018. The rate of Indigenous persons accused of homicide in 2019 was nearly eleven times higher compared to non-Indigenous accused persons. Similar to victims of homicide reported as Indigenous, the majority (67%) of Indigenous persons accused of homicide were identified as First Nations, with fewer reported as Inuk (Inuit) (10%) and Métis (4%). For more information on persons accused of homicide by age group, gender and Indigenous identity, see data table 35-10-0060-01.

One-third of homicide victims identified as belonging to a visible minority group

In Canada, according to the 2016 Census, 22.3% of the population were designated as visible minorities. In 2019, the Homicide Survey was revised to collect for the first time information on whether victims and accused persons were members of population groups designated as visible minorities.⁴² Of the 656 homicide victims for whom police reported a visible minority identity in 2019, police reported 31%, or 206 victims, as visible minorities (44% of whom were identified as Black).⁴³ Over half of victims of homicide identified as visible minorities were reported in Ontario (123 or 60%), largely in the CMA of Toronto (97). The province of Ontario has the largest visible minority population, with 51% of people residing in the Toronto CMA designated as visible minorities (Moreau 2019b; Statistics Canada 2017). While persons designated as visible minorities account for 51% of people residing in the Toronto CMA, they accounted for 75% of homicide victims there.

Of the 511 accused persons for whom police reported a visible minority identity in 2019, police reported 24% as visible minorities. Again, these accused were largely reported in Ontario (85 identified accused or 70%).

Most homicide victims knew their killer

Consistent with previous years, the majority (85%) of victims of solved homicides in 2019 knew their killer.⁴⁴ Male victims were most commonly killed by an acquaintance (48%), while female victims were most commonly killed by someone with whom they had current or former intimate relationship, including spouses (50%). According to police-reported statistics, women are overrepresented as victims of intimate partner violence, accounting for almost 8 in 10 victims (79%) (Burczycka 2019). For more information on solved homicides by type of victim-accused relationship, see data table 35-10-0073-01.

In 2019, among solved homicides, the proportion of Indigenous victims killed by someone they knew (89%) was slightly higher than non-Indigenous victims (85%). Indigenous female victims were most often killed by an intimate partner, spouse or family member (73%), whereas Indigenous male victims were most often killed by an acquaintance (53%). Overall, the rate of unsolved homicides for Indigenous female victims was 40% (16 unsolved homicides) compared to 12% (12 unsolved homicides) for non-Indigenous female victims. For more information on solved homicides by type of victim-accused relationship and Indigenous identity, see data table 35-10-0119-01.

For more detailed information on homicide in Canada, see data tables: 35-10-0068-01, 35-10-0069-01, 35-10-0071-01, 35-10-0074-01, and 35-10-0157-01.

Text box 6**Measuring crime in Canada: Police-reported and self-reported data**

Self-reported surveys provide an important complement to official police-reported data on crime. In Canada, two main national surveys collect crime-related data: the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey and the General Social Survey (GSS) on Canadians' Safety (Victimization). The UCR collects police-reported data, while the GSS on Victimization collects information from a sample of Canadians aged 15 and older on their experiences with crime. The GSS on Victimization is conducted every five years, with the most recent cycle conducted in 2019 – results are expected to be released in 2020/2021. Unlike the UCR, 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 and the GSS on Victimization show declines in overall violent crime and property crime between 2004 and 2014.

In contrast, while UCR data show a decline in the rate of police-reported sexual assault over that same time period, data from the GSS on Victimization show the rate of self-reported sexual assault remained relatively stable (Conroy and Cotter 2017). 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 on Victimization, 31% of the eight crime types measured in the 2014 cycle were reported to the police. Reporting rates ranged from 5%^E of sexual assault to 50% of break-ins. Moreover, retrospective questions on child abuse also show that, for the vast majority (93%) of those who were victimized by an adult before age 15, the abuse was never reported to the police or child protective services (Burczycka 2017).

To further complement police-reported data and to advance knowledge of gender-based violence in Canada, Statistics Canada conducted the first cycle of Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces (SSPPS) in 2018, with a new collection cycle planned every five years. The SSPPS collects self-reported information on experiences and characteristics of violent victimization as well as the continuum of other unwanted experiences while in public, online, or at work. According to SSPPS, the vast majority of incidents of violent crime occurring in the 12 months preceding the survey did not come to the attention of police: 5% of women stated that police found out about the most serious incident of sexual assault they experienced, while 26% of women and 33% of men who were physically assaulted said likewise (Cotter and Savage 2019).

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).

Increase in police-reported human trafficking, domestic and international

Police-reported trafficking in persons, or human trafficking, involves recruiting, transporting, transferring, holding, concealing or exercising control, direction or influence over the movements of a person, for the purposes of exploiting them or facilitating their exploitation by someone else (Public Safety Canada 2019b; UNODC 2018). Victims disproportionately tend to come from vulnerable or marginalized populations, mostly young women or children, and due to the nature of the offence, the true scope of human trafficking in Canada is underestimated (Public Safety Canada 2019b; Department of Justice Canada 2015).

In 2019, there was a combined total of 511 incidents of human trafficking offences reported under the *Criminal Code* (341 incidents) and the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (IRPA) (170 incidents), the highest ever number of reported incidents (Table 1). Overall, the combined number of incidents of human trafficking has been on an upward trend since 2011.⁴⁵

From 2009 to 2019, there has been a total of 2,468 incidents of human trafficking, with the majority (71%) being *Criminal Code* human trafficking offences. While *Criminal Code* incidents may or may not involve the crossing of international borders, the IRPA specifically refers to incidents of cross-border human trafficking, suggesting at least 29% of human trafficking incidents involved the crossing of the Canadian border. The majority of human trafficking incidents were reported in Ontario (1,624 incidents, or 66%), and in general, human trafficking incidents tended to occur in urban centres, notably Toronto, Ottawa, Montréal and Halifax.

For more detailed information on human trafficking in Canada, please refer to Cotter 2020.⁴⁶

Increase in overall rate of police-reported major physical assault

Physical assault continued to be the most prevalent form of police-reported violent crime in Canada in 2019, accounting for just over half (55%) of violent offences.⁴⁷ Police reported just over 265,500 assaults in 2019, over 23,700 more incidents than in 2018, marking an 8% increase in rate. Most (71%) of the physical assaults reported by police were classified as common assault (level 1), which increased 9% in 2019.⁴⁸

The national rate of major assault (level 2 and 3) increased in 2019 for the fifth consecutive year due to higher rates of assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm (level 2) (+8%) (Table 5). The increase in the rate of assault (level 2) was largely due to increases in British Columbia (+20%), Manitoba (+11%) and Quebec (+7%). The rate of aggravated assault (level 3) also increased 8% nationally in 2019 (Table 1), primarily driven by increases in the Prairie provinces: Saskatchewan (+14%), Manitoba (+12%) and Alberta (+11%).

Police-reported non-violent crime

In 2019, most crime reported by police continued to be non-violent, with property offences and other *Criminal Code* offences accounting for nearly four out of five (78%) police-reported *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic). In total, there were over 1.7 million police-reported non-violent incidents in 2019 (excluding traffic), of which more than 1.3 million were property crimes (Table 7). The rate of property crime continued to rise over the last three years, increasing 1% between 2016 and 2017, 3% between 2017 and 2018, and 5% between 2018 and 2019. The property crime rate rose from 3,349 to 3,510 incidents per 100,000 population between 2018 and 2019.

Non-violent Crime Severity Index increases for fifth consecutive year

Between 2018 and 2019, Canada's Non-violent Crime Severity Index (NVCSI), which includes property and other non-violent *Criminal Code* offences, drug crime, other federal statutes and *Criminal Code* traffic offences, rose 4% (Table 6). The primary offences contributing to the increase were fraud, child pornography, and importation or exportation under the new *Cannabis Act*. These were partially offset by a decline in trafficking, production, and importation or exportation of cannabis offences under the CDSA, as these offences were no longer in force in 2019, and breaking and entering (see Text box 7).

Between 2018 and 2019, 10 of the 13 provinces and territories reported increases in their CSI (Table 8). Among the provinces, the largest increases were reported in British Columbia (+16%) and Prince Edward Island (+14%), while the Territories all increased substantially (Yukon +33%, the Northwest Territories +23% and Nunavut +13%).

As with the VCSI, changes in the CSI varied considerably among the census metropolitan areas (CMA)⁴⁹ in 2019 (Table 10). The largest increases in the CSI were recorded in Victoria (+20%), Kelowna (+13%), Thunder Bay (+12%), Winnipeg (+12%) and Vancouver (+10%). Breaking and entering, fraud, child pornography, and shoplifting of \$5,000 or under combined to be significant contributors to the increased CSIs in most of these CMAs. Breaking and entering was also a driver in many of the CMAs with the largest decreases in CSI, such as Brantford (-15%), St. Catharines-Niagara (-10%), Saskatoon (-8%) and Halifax (-8%).

Text box 7**Violations contributing to the change in the Non-violent Crime Severity Index (NVCSI) between 2018 and 2019, by province or territory**

Province or territory	Percent change in NVCSI from 2018 to 2019	Violations driving the change in NVCSI
Canada	4	Increase in fraud, child pornography, importation or exportation under the <i>Cannabis Act</i> , ¹ mischief, and shoplifting of \$5,000 or under; partially offset by decrease in trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cannabis (CDSA), and breaking and entering
Newfoundland and Labrador	10	Increase in trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cocaine, mischief and child pornography
Prince Edward Island	14	Increase in theft of \$5,000 or under (non-shoplifting), child pornography, and breaking and entering
Nova Scotia	-1	Decrease in fraud; partially offset by increase in child pornography
New Brunswick	8	Increase in mischief and breaking and entering; partially offset by decrease in fraud
Quebec	-4	Decrease in breaking and entering, and trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cannabis (CDSA); partially offset by increase in importation or exportation under the <i>Cannabis Act</i> ¹
Ontario	1	Increase in fraud; partially offset by decrease in trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cannabis (CDSA), and breaking and entering
Manitoba	10	Increase in breaking and entering, fraud, shoplifting of \$5,000 or under, and child pornography
Saskatchewan	0 ^s	Decrease in breaking and entering
Alberta	4	Increase in shoplifting of \$5,000 or under, and mischief
British Columbia ²	16	Increase in several offences including breaking and entering, child pornography, trafficking, production, importation or exportation of other drugs and cocaine, as well mischief and fraud
Yukon	33	Increase in several offences including trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cocaine, breaking and entering, mischief, and fraud
Northwest Territories	23	Increase in several offences including mischief, trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cocaine, theft of \$5,000 or under (non-shoplifting), and disturb the peace
Nunavut	13	Increase in several offences including mischief, disturb the peace, and administration of justice violations; partially offset by decrease in breaking and entering

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

1. The Montréal CMA in Quebec accounted for 56% of all importation or exportation offences reported under the Cannabis Act (6,323 of the 11,193 offences reported nationally). The high proportion of offences was due in part to cannabis seizures conducted by the Canada Border Services Agency in Montréal that were thought to be related to possible misunderstanding by the public about the legality under the new legislation of purchasing cannabis from outside of Canada and having it delivered into the country.

2. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia and some of its census metropolitan areas in 2019 may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards for classifying incidents (see Text box 2 and "Survey description"). While the effective date was January 2018 and many police services adopted the new standards that year, some police services, including all of the RCMP detachments across Canada and the municipal police services in British Columbia, transitioned to the new standards on January 1, 2019. Additionally, police services in British Columbia undertook a uniform training strategy to further standardize reporting throughout the province. The new reporting standards were expected to result in an increase in crime rates over time (see Text box 2).

Note: Violations driving the change in the NVCSI 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 NVCSI (up or down). Where large changes in other violations serve to reduce or offset the net change in the NVCSI, these are noted.

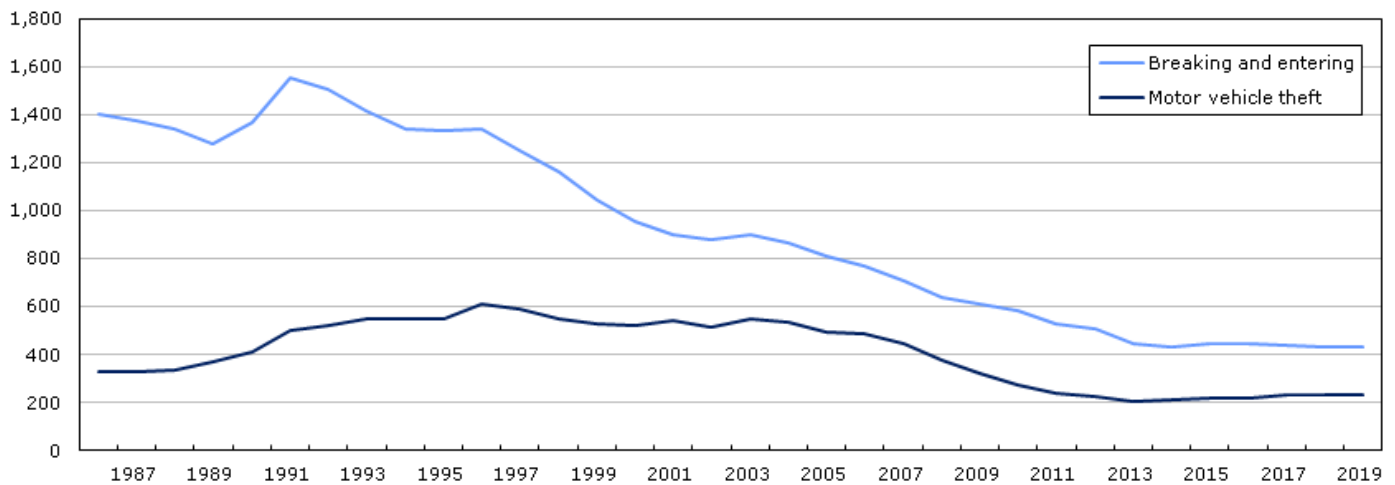
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Decrease in rate of police-reported breaking and entering for fourth consecutive year

Police-reported breaking and entering is considered to be the most serious property crime (based on CSI weight). In 2019, breaking and entering continued to be one of the most common forms of property crime, just behind theft of \$5,000 or under, and mischief. Almost 161,300 incidents of breaking and entering were reported to police in 2019, accounting for 12% of property crime. Since peaking in 1991, the police-reported rate of breaking and entering has generally been declining in Canada, with three increases reported in 1996, 2003 and 2015 (Chart 16). In 2019, the rate declined 1% nationally to 429 per 100,000 population. Since 2009, the rate of breaking and entering has fallen 30% and, in that year, it accounted for 15% of all police-reported property crime.

Chart 16
Breaking and entering, and motor vehicle theft, police-reported rates, Canada, 1986 to 2019

rate per 100,000 population



Note: Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography.

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

Nunavut (-12%), Quebec (-11%), Nova Scotia (-4%) and Ontario (-4%) reported the largest declines in breaking and entering in 2019 (Table 5). Among the provinces and territories, Yukon (+27%), Prince Edward Island (+8%) and British Columbia (+8%) reported the largest increases. Given its relatively high volume and CSI weight, changes in rates of breaking and entering had a measurable impact on CSIs in most jurisdictions (see Text box 4 and Text box 7).

In 2019, 20 out of 35 CMAs reported decreases in breaking and entering, which resulted in a decrease of 3% in the overall rate among the CMAs (Table 13).

Police-reported motor vehicle theft rate remains stable, but varies considerably by census metropolitan area

According to the Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC), aspects of motor vehicle theft are related to organized crime, including money laundering and the resale of high-end cars. The most common motivations for motor vehicle theft, according to the IBC, are to sell the stolen vehicle overseas, to resell the vehicle to an unsuspecting buyer, to use the vehicle in “joyriding,” and to steal the vehicle in the commission of another crime and subsequently abandon it (Sommerfeld 2018).

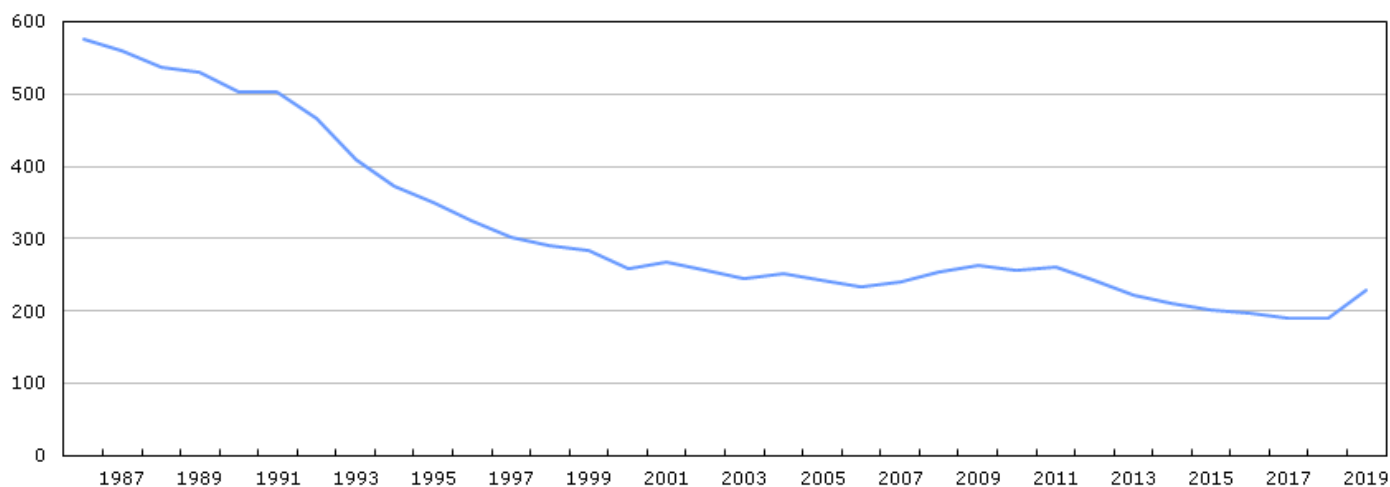
Although there were 874 more motor vehicle thefts in 2019 compared to 2018, the rate remained relatively stable due to an increase in the population size. The rate of motor vehicle theft in Canada was 28% lower in 2019 than a decade earlier (Chart 16). An increase in the rate of motor vehicle theft in Manitoba (+16%) combined with decreases in Saskatchewan (-8%) and Quebec (-5%) were the primary contributors to the net increase in incidents of motor vehicle thefts. As with other police-reported crimes, changes in rates of motor vehicle theft varied considerably by CMA (Table 13).

Largest increase in police-reported impaired driving in over three decades

Police reported nearly 85,700 impaired driving incidents in 2019, over 14,800 more incidents compared to the year before. After declining for six years straight, the rate of impaired driving (alcohol, drugs and unspecified) has increased the last two years, now with a reported rate of 228 incidents per 100,000 population (Chart 17). This marks a rate increase of 19% over the previous year, the largest increase since 1987.

Chart 17
Impaired driving, police-reported rate, Canada, 1986 to 2019

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. Beginning June 21, 2018, as a result of the coming into force of Bill C-46 *An Act to amend the Criminal Code (offences relating to conveyances) and to make consequential amendments to other Acts*, new violations were added under the impaired driving legislation. This includes violations to capture impaired driving where the substance (whether alcohol or drug) causing impairment is not known, and violations to capture impaired driving where it is known that the impairment was caused by a combination of alcohol and drugs. 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 not within the scope of the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography.

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

All of the provinces and territories reported increases from 2018. As in previous years, there was significant variation in the percent change in rate across the provinces and territories (Table 5).

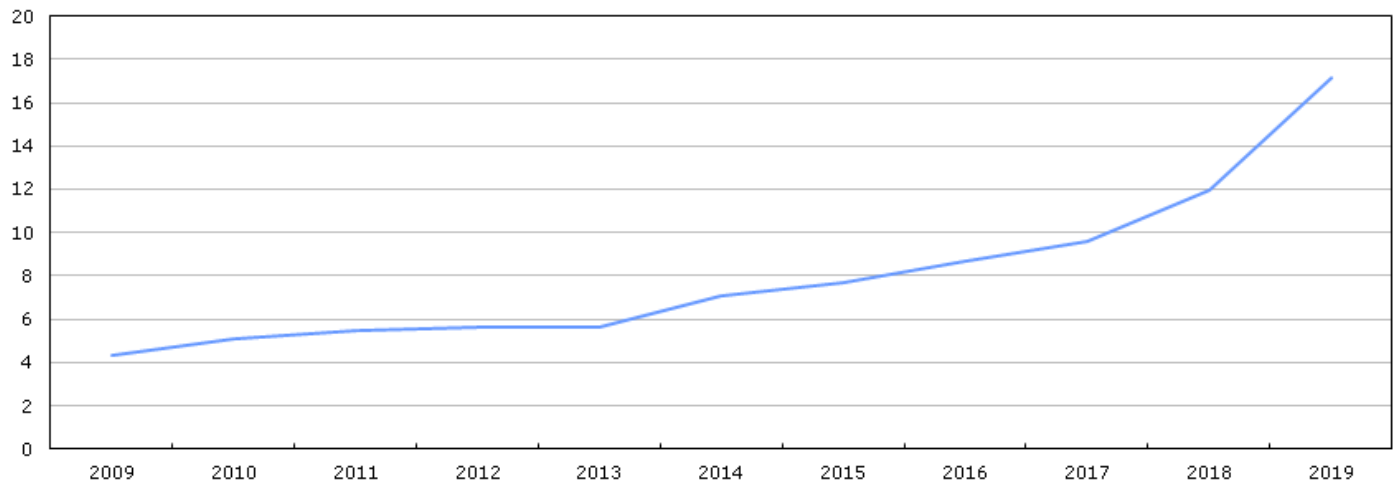
The majority (85%) of police-reported impaired driving incidents continued to involve alcohol in 2019, while a growing proportion (8%) involved drugs. The remaining impaired driving incidents fell under new legislation enacted under former Bill C-46, “*An Act to amend the Criminal Code (offences relating to conveyances) and to make consequential amendments to other Acts*,” which came into force in two parts – part one on June 21, 2018, and part two on December 18, 2018. This legislation introduced amendments to *Criminal Code* sections related to impaired driving, including giving police new powers to conduct alcohol and drug screening. New violations were included to capture impaired driving where the substance (whether alcohol or drugs) causing impairments was not known, and violations to capture impaired driving where it was known that impairment was caused by a combination of alcohol and drugs – for more detailed information on the new legislation, please refer to Text Box 3 in the “Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2018” report (Moreau 2019a).

Drug-impaired driving rate up for sixth consecutive year

The rate for all drug-impaired driving violations increased 43% between 2018 and 2019 (Chart 18). In total, there were 6,453 drug-impaired driving violations in 2019, 2,009 more than the previous year (Table 1). Prior to the coming into force of the new impaired driving legislation, in incidents where the driver may have been impaired by both alcohol and drugs, it was generally easier for police to lay charges for alcohol-impaired driving and the majority of cases were reported as such (Owusu-Bempah 2014; Perreault 2016). Under the new legislation, this may be changing – while the rates of both alcohol-impaired and drug-impaired driving incidents increased in 2019, there were also a significant number of incidents reported as impaired driving caused by a combination of alcohol and drugs (4,618 incidents in 2019). Among the provinces, only Ontario reported a decrease in the rate of drug-impaired driving (-5%), yet the province accounted for a third (34%) of incidents of impaired driving caused by a combination of alcohol and drugs.

Chart 18
Drug-impaired driving, police-reported rate, Canada, 2009 to 2019

rate per 100,000 population



Note: Data not available prior to 2009. 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. Beginning June 21, 2018, as a result of the coming into force of Bill C-46 *An Act to amend the Criminal Code (offences relating to conveyances) and to make consequential amendments to other Acts*, new violations were added under the impaired driving legislation. This includes one violation for "operation - low blood drug concentration". 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 not within the scope of the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Police do not report the type of drug associated with a drug-impaired driving incidents for the purposes of the UCR. As such, it is difficult to determine the impact of the new cannabis legalization on drug-impaired driving. According to Statistics Canada's National Cannabis Survey (2018 and 2019), among cannabis users with a valid driver's license, 13% reported driving within two hours of using, which was unchanged from prior to legalization (Roterman 2020).

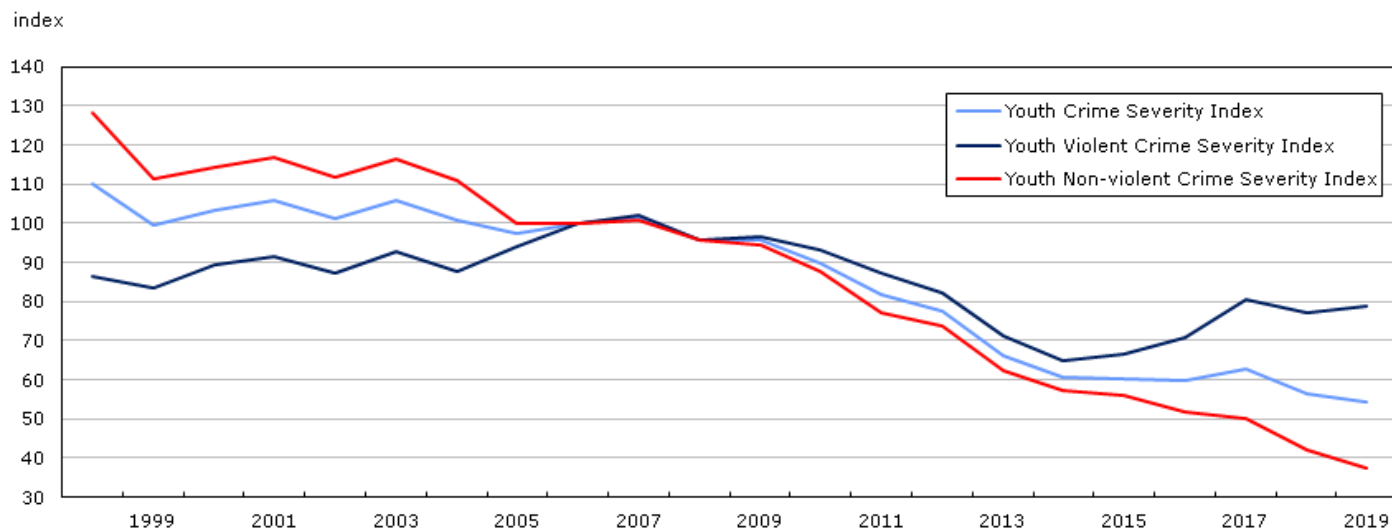
The number of impaired driving offences reported by police can be influenced by a number of factors, including changes in legislation, varying law enforcement practices across jurisdictions (e.g., roadside check programs such as Ontario's Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere [RIDE] Program), as well as changing societal attitudes (Perreault 2016). In some jurisdictions, like British Columbia, impaired driving incidents that meet the elements of the *Criminal Code* may be handled using a provincial statute. Specifically, increases in impaired driving offences, and particularly drug-impaired driving offences, may be due in part to several contributing factors: greater legislative powers to conduct drug and alcohol screening tests, an increased number of police officers trained to detect impaired driving through standardized field sobriety tests, an increased number drug recognition experts leading to more confirmed instances of impairment, as well as increased use of oral fluid screening devices to detect drug impairment.

Police-reported youth crime

While overall crime statistics are based on the number of criminal incidents reported by police (regardless of whether or not an accused was identified), measures of police-reported youth crime are based on the number of youth, aged 12 to 17, accused in a criminal incident by police.⁵⁰ The number of youth accused includes youth who were either charged, or recommended for charge, 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 2019, there were about 77,200 youth accused of a criminal offence, over 3,400 fewer than in the previous year. The youth crime rate dropped 5% and has been on a long downward trend, declining for over two decades after peaking in 1991 (Table 14 and Table 15). Between 2009 and 2019, the rate of youth accused of crime fell 51% and the Youth CSI (YCSI) – which measures both the volume and severity of crime involving youth accused (charged and not charged) – fell 43% (Table 16; Chart 19).

Chart 19
Police-reported Youth Crime Severity Indexes, Canada, 1998 to 2019



Note: 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, Centre for Demography.

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

The decline in the YCSI in 2019 was primarily the result of decreases in the rate of youth accused of breaking and entering (-18%), homicide (-35%) and possession of stolen property (-20%) (Table 14). Nine of the 13 provinces and territories experienced a decrease in the YCSI in 2019 (Table 17).

Similar to previous years, the most common criminal offences committed by youth in 2019 were level 1 assault (514 accused per 100,000 youth), shoplifting of \$5,000 or under (423) and mischief (346) (Table 14). Rates of uttering threats and administration of justice violations, such as breach of probation and failure to appear, were also relatively high.

Summary

In 2019, all measures of the police-reported Crime Severity Index (CSI) – the overall CSI, the Violent CSI and the Non-violent CSI – increased for the fifth consecutive year. The change in the overall CSI in 2019 was the result of increases in police-reported rates of numerous offences, both violent and non-violent, most notably fraud (+8%) and child pornography (+46%), as well as uttering threats (+20%), mischief (+8%), sexual assault (level 1) (+7%), and shoplifting of \$5,000 or under (+11%). A 1% decline in the rate of breaking and entering, among other offences, partially mitigated the impact of these increases on the CSI. An increase in importation or exportation under the *Cannabis Act* was partially mitigated by the expected and accompanying decrease in cannabis offences that previously existed under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*.

For many of the violations driving the CSI, including sexual assault (level 1), child pornography and uttering threats, the continued application of new clearance codes to classify offences may have had an impact on police-reported rates. Under the new reporting standards, specific offences may be more likely to be reported by police as founded rather than unfounded (or unsubstantiated), which would exclude them from police-reported crime rates and crime severity indices.

The national homicide rate increased 2% from 1.78 homicides per 100,000 population in 2018, to 1.80 homicides per 100,000 population in 2019. The number of firearm-related (+10) and gang-related (+6) homicides also increased in 2019.

Statistics Canada continuously works with data providers and stakeholders to ensure the data collected remain relevant and of high quality. Most recently, in July, 2020, the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and Statistics Canada announced a commitment to enable police to report statistics on Indigenous and ethno-cultural minority groups in police-reported crime data on victims and accused persons (Statistics Canada 2020c). In 2020, discussions will be held with partners and stakeholders to inform this data collection and to identify ways of ensuring quality information.

Key terminology and definitions

Incident (or Offence): A criminal incident involves one or more related offences that are committed during a single criminal event and have been reported to 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. For an incident to be counted in the crime statistics it must be recorded as “founded” as opposed to “unfounded.” Police services can report up to four violations for each incident, however, for both the traditional crime rate and the CSI are based on the most serious violation in the criminal incident. For the purposes of this article, offence and incident are used interchangeably.

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 committing. 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.

Founded: An incident is “founded” if, after police investigation it has been determined that the reported offence did occur or was attempted (even if the charged/suspect chargeable (CSC) [i.e., the accused] is unknown) or there is no credible evidence to confirm that the reported incident **did not** take place. This includes third-party reports that fit these criteria. For the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, the concept of a CSC refers to a person against whom there is enough evidence for police to either lay a charge or recommend to the Crown that a charge be laid. Effective January 1, 2018.

Unfounded: An incident is “unfounded” if it has been determined through police investigation that the offence reported did not occur, nor was it attempted. Effective January 1, 2018.

Gang-related homicide: A homicide is classified as gang-related when police confirm or suspect that the accused person and/or victim involved in the homicide was either a member, or a prospective member, of an organized crime group or street gang or was somehow associated with an organized crime group or street gang, and the homicide was carried out as a result of this association. Prior to 2005, police were asked if the homicide was “gang-related”. Beginning in 2005, the question was amended to give police the option of specifying whether the homicide was: (a) confirmed as gang-related or (b) suspected as being gang-related.

Firearm-related violent crime: Firearm-related violent crime shows the number of victims of violent *Criminal Code* offences where a firearm was fired or used as a threat, and/or where a firearm was present and not used but the presence of the firearm was relevant to the incident, according to the police.

Firearm-related homicide: A homicide is classified as firearm-related when the weapon used to cause death is a firearm. Firearms include handguns, rifles or shotguns, fully automatic firearms, firearm-like weapons (e.g. nail guns or pellet guns) and firearms - type unknown.

Violent offences: Involve the use or threat 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 1 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 and accidental or justifiable homicide 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* assault level 2 and 3:
 - **Level 2—assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm:** Involves carrying, using or threatening to use a weapon against a person or causing someone bodily harm.
 - **Level 3—aggravated assault:** Involves wounding, maiming, disfiguring or endangering the life of a person.
- **Other assaults:** Includes other forms of physical assault, including assault against a peace officer, unlawfully causing bodily harm, discharging a firearm with intent, using a firearm or an imitation of a firearm in commission of offence, pointing a firearm, criminal negligence causing bodily harm, trap likely to or causing bodily harm, and less common other assaults “of hoax terrorism causing bodily harm (*Criminal Code* s. 83),” “bodily harm resulting from failure to safeguard an opening in ice or on land (s. 263)” and “otherwise unlawfully causing bodily harm (s. 269).”

Sexual assault: Is classified by level in the *Criminal Code* into three separate categories—depending on the nature and severity of the incident—including level 1, assault of a sexual nature that violates the sexual integrity of the victim; level 2, sexual assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm involves sexual assault with a weapon, threats to use a weapon or causing bodily harm; and level 3, aggravated sexual assault involves 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 telecommunications or the agreement/arrangement by means of telecommunication to commit a sexual offence against a child. As of December 2014, also includes 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*, s. 171). Incidents of child pornography are not included in the category of sexual violations against children. Excludes incidents of sexual assault level 1, 2 and 3 against children and youth which are counted within those three violation categories.

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

Non-violent offences: Include property offences and other *Criminal Code* offences, as well as *Criminal Code* traffic offences, drug-related offences and violations of other federal statutes.

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 1 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 (e.g., failure to comply with an order, failure to appear and breach of probation).

Drug-related offences: Include offences under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* such as possession, trafficking, production, importation and exportation of drugs or narcotics. Examples include cannabis (prior to the enactment of the *Cannabis Act* on October 17, 2018), cocaine, heroin and other drugs such as methamphetamine (crystal meth), PCP, LSD and ecstasy. Also includes cannabis-related offences under the *Cannabis Act*, and beginning in November 2017, violations specific to opioids (excluding heroin but including fentanyl).

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 UCR was designed to measure criminal incidents that have been reported to federal, provincial/territorial and municipal police services in Canada.

One incident can involve multiple offences. In order to ensure comparability, counts presented in this article are based on the most serious offence in the incident as determined by a standard classification rule used by all police services. Counts based on 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. Some new incidents, however, 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 2019 crime statistics are released, the 2018 data are updated with any revisions that have been made between May 2019 and July 2020. The data are revised only once and are then permanently frozen. Over the past 15 years (2004 to 2019), data corresponding to previous years have been revised upward 12 times and revised downward 3 times, with an average annual revision of 0.28%. The 2018 revision to counts of persons charged and youth not charged resulted in a 0.8% increase to 2018 counts.

Measuring incidents of crime

Data from the UCR are used to calculate both the traditional crime rate and the Crime Severity Index (CSI). 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 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. For an incident to be counted in the crime statistics it must be recorded as “founded” as opposed to “unfounded.” An incident is

“founded” if, after police investigation it has been determined that the reported offence did occur or was attempted or there is no credible evidence to confirm that the reported incident did not take place. This includes third-party reports that fit these criteria.

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 under-represented. 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 violation when they are 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 and 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), *The Methodology of the Police-reported Crime Severity Index* (Babyak et al. 2009), and *Updating the Police-Reported Crime Severity Index: Calculating 2018 Weights* (Cormack and Tabuchi 2020).

Estimating the impact of changes to reporting standards

In January 2018, the definition of both “founded” and “unfounded” criminal incidents was updated to reflect a more victim-centred approach to recording crimes that accounts for the complexities of certain offences such as sexual assault, family violence and intimate partner violence. Estimates of what the crime rate could have been in 2018 and 2019 had the new reporting standards not been in place were calculated for specific violations. These included violations that were most responsible for the increase in the national CSI. In 2018, the estimated values were determined by evaluating the following factors: incidents that could have previously been deemed unsubstantiated and therefore not reported to the CCJCSS; proportions of unfounded, not cleared, and cleared using the previous reporting standards; and the observed trend between 2015 and 2017 for unfounded, not cleared, and cleared incidents. As 2019 marks the first complete year since the introduction of the new reporting standards, the estimated values were determined by estimating the number of incidents that could have been previously deemed unsubstantiated and the observed trend between 2015 and 2017 for unfounded, not cleared, and cleared incidents.

Furthermore, for specific violations and police services, the actual proportion of incidents in 2019 that were classified as “not cleared” has increased due to adoption of the new reporting standards and the first complete year of data under the new standards.

Homicide Survey

The Homicide Survey collects police-reported data on the characteristics of all homicide incidents, victims and accused persons in Canada. The Homicide Survey began collecting information on all murders in 1961 and was expanded in 1974 to include all incidents of manslaughter and infanticide. Although details on these incidents are not available prior to 1974, counts are available from the UCR and are included in the historical aggregate totals.

Due to revisions to the Homicide Survey database, annual data reported by the Homicide Survey prior to 2015 may not match the annual homicide counts reported by the UCR. Data from the Homicide Survey are appended to the UCR database each year for the reporting of annual police reported crime statistics. Each reporting year, the UCR includes revised data reported by police for the previous survey year. In 2015, a review of data quality was undertaken for the Homicide Survey for all survey years from 1961 to 2014. The review included the collection of incident, victim and charged/suspect-chargeable records that were previously unreported to the Homicide Survey. In addition, the database excludes deaths, and associated accused records, which were no longer deemed as homicide by police (e.g., incidents of self-defence, suicide and criminal negligence causing death that had originally been deemed, but no longer considered, homicide). For operational reasons, these revisions were not applied to the UCR.

The 2019 Homicide Survey has undergone a redesign to improve data quality and enhance relevance. Changes were made to existing questions and additional questions have been added for the 2019 reporting period.

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Notes

^E use with caution

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. For example, each year the *Family Violence in Canada* report is released based on police-reported crime data which focuses on family violence and gendered crime analyses. For the most recent report, see Burczycka 2019. Additionally, police-reported crime statistics for urban and rural areas will be available. For the most recent report on police-reported crime in rural and urban areas, see Perreault 2019.
3. 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 (charged and not charged) per 100,000 youth population (aged 12 to 17). Similarly, the Youth Crime Severity Index is also based on youth accused rather than criminal incidents.

4. Due to rounding, the combined rate of sexual assault (level 1, 2 and 3) in Table 1 does not equal the rate reported here.
5. In 2019, the UCR added a new violation code to collect information on “sexual offences which occurred prior to January 4, 1983.” While most violations are not typically reported years after their occurrence, sexual violations may be reported by a victim long after the incident took place due to a variety of reasons. On January 4, 1983, Canadian legislation surrounding sexual offences changed considerably. In order to reflect these changes, the UCR added the new violation code rather than collect historical offences under an existing violation code that did not reflect the state of Canadian legislation at the time of the offence. In 2018 and 2019 combined, there were a total of 1,108 of these historical sexual offences reported (Table 1). All offences which occurred prior to January 4, 1983 which had previously been classified as sexual offences under the current legislation have been reclassified in the UCR.
6. While the effective date was January 2018, police services transitioned to the new standards at different points throughout the year. Some police services, including all of the RCMP detachments across Canada and municipal police services in British Columbia, transitioned to the new standards on January 1, 2019.
7. The Abbotsford-Mission census metropolitan area reported a decrease in crime in 2019, however the magnitude of this decrease may have been mitigated by the implementation of the reporting standards there.
8. Since 2015, reporting requirements for child pornography included separate offences for accessing or possessing child pornography, and making or distributing child pornography, which combined make up total child pornography. Prior to 2015, all child pornography was counted simply as child pornography.
9. Due to the complexity of cyber incidents, these 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.
10. 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 fall under the category of “violent crimes” and child pornography may be reported as a secondary violation.
11. 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. As of the 2016 Census, there were 36 CMAs defined across Canada. The Oshawa CMA is excluded from the analysis of police-reported crime statistics by CMA due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.
12. Indictable offences are generally more serious crimes that carry greater maximum penalties. Use of a firearm in the commission of an indictable offence refers to s.85 of the *Criminal Code* which increases the punishment when a person uses a firearm, whether or not the person causes or means to cause bodily harm to any person as a result of using the firearm, while committing or attempting to commit an indictable offence. This violation does not apply to a number of the most serious indictable offences—such as attempted murder, sexual assault and robbery—where the *Criminal Code* already lays out additional penalties when a firearm is used.
13. The use of microdata to analyse the characteristics of a violent offence also provides information on the presence or use of firearms in violent crimes. The 2019 microdata were not available in time to include such analysis in this article.
14. The offence of indecent or harassing communications was amended in the former Bill C-13 “*Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act*,” to include all means of telecommunication, not only phone calls.
15. Non-consensual distribution of intimate images is an offence created in 2015 by the former Bill C-13 “*Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act*.”
16. Since 2010, reporting requirements for fraud included separate violations for fraud, identity theft and identity fraud, which combined make up total fraud. Prior to 2010, all fraud was counted simply as fraud.
17. For additional information, see Statistics Canada 2018.
18. To address the need for information on opioids, the Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics began collecting data on opioid-related offences (excluding heroin but including fentanyl) separately from “other drugs” in November 2017. Part of the increases in opioid-related offences could be a result of increased compliance to reporting offences under the new violation code.
19. The violation of theft over \$5,000 includes incidents of shoplifting. Violations of theft of \$5,000 or under and shoplifting of \$5,000 or under are reported separately.
20. Information on the total number of violations is available upon request.

21. Weights are adjusted every five years in order to account for changes in sentencing patterns, and changes to the *Criminal Code* and other federal statutes. The Crime Severity Index weights were most recently adjusted in 2018 and applied retroactively to Uniform Crime Reporting Survey data for 2016 and 2017. Outliers (atypically very long and unique sentences for a given offence) are not included in the average. The updated weights for the 2016 and 2017 data are based on court data from years 2010/2011 to 2014/2015.

22. Due to small populations, the Territories are more susceptible to considerable year-over-year fluctuations in both their Crime Severity Index and crime rates. This can have an impact on the 10-year comparisons.

23. 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. As of the 2016 Census, there were 36 CMAs defined across Canada. The Oshawa CMA is excluded from the analysis of police-reported crime statistics by CMA due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.

24. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia and some of its census metropolitan areas in 2019 may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards for classifying incidents (see Text box 2 and “Survey description”). Additionally, in Kelowna in 2019, a national RCMP Sexual Assault Review Team undertook a review of current and historical sexual assault cases in the RCMP detachment in Kelowna to ensure appropriate use of the reporting standards for classifying incidents as founded or unfounded (see Text box 2). As a result, Kelowna’s 2018 statistics for sexual assault have been revised from the original counts released in July 2019. As well, the file review and adoption of the new incident clearance codes have likely contributed to a notably higher number of sexual assault incidents when compared to previous years.

25. The violent crime category also includes some other offences such as sexual violations against children, violent firearms offences, robbery and extortion, which are listed in other sections of the *Criminal Code*.

26. Note that this value does not include incidents of trafficking in persons captured under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (IRPA). Under the IRPA, there were 170 incidents of trafficking in persons, up from 117 in 2018, and a 43% increase in the rate of incidents per 100,000 population. Overall, the combined number of incidents of trafficking in persons (human trafficking) under the *Criminal Code* and the IRPA has been on an upward trend since 2011. In 2019, the total number of incidents reached a new high at 511 incidents, compared to the previous high of 371 in 2017.

27. Non-consensual distribution of intimate images is an offence created in 2015 by the former Bill C-13 “*Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act*.”

28. The offence of indecent or harassing communications was amended in the former Bill C-13 “*Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act*,” to include all means of telecommunication, not only phone calls.

29. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia and some of its census metropolitan areas in 2019 may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards for classifying incidents (see Text box 2 and “Survey description”). While the effective date was January 2018 and many police services adopted the new standards that year, some police services, including all of the RCMP detachments across Canada and the municipal police services in British Columbia, transitioned to the new standards on January 1, 2019. Additionally, police services in British Columbia undertook a uniform training strategy to further standardize reporting throughout the province. The new reporting standards were expected to result in an increase in crime rates over time (see Text box 2).

30. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia and some of its census metropolitan areas in 2019 may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards for classifying incidents (see Text box 2 and “Survey description”). Additionally, in Kelowna in 2019, a national RCMP Sexual Assault Review Team undertook a review of current and historical sexual assault cases in the RCMP detachment in Kelowna to ensure appropriate use of the reporting standards for classifying incidents as founded or unfounded (see Text box 2). As a result, Kelowna’s 2018 statistics for sexual assault have been revised from the original counts released in July 2019. As well, the file review and adoption of the new incident clearance codes have likely contributed to a notably higher number of sexual assault incidents when compared to previous years.

31. Information presented on characteristics of incidents of homicides, victims and accused persons are based on data from the Homicide Survey, which allowed for the analysis of disaggregated microdata in time for this *Juristat* article.

32. In 2018, the city of Toronto was impacted by the discovery of eight victims of serial homicide committed during a seven year period from 2010 to 2017. There was also an attack in the North York City Centre business district of Toronto, where pedestrians were deliberately struck by a van, which resulted in 10 homicide victims and 13 victims of attempted homicide. As well, a shooting on Danforth Avenue in the city’s Greektown left 2 homicide victims and 13 victims of attempted homicide.

33. Excludes 6% of homicides for which the weapon used to commit the homicide was unknown.

34. Excludes 16% of firearm-related homicides for which the type of firearm was unknown.

35. Excludes less than 1% of homicides for which gang-relation was unknown.

36. Excludes 4% of gang-related homicides where the type of weapon used was reported as unknown.

37. Excludes 20% of gang-related homicides committed with a firearm where the type of firearm used was reported as unknown.
38. For the purposes of the Homicide Survey, Aboriginal identity includes victims and accused persons identified as First Nations persons (either status or non-status), Métis, Inuit, or an Aboriginal identity where the Aboriginal group is not known to police. The term Indigenous will be used in place of Aboriginal throughout this report.
39. Excludes 4% of homicides for which Indigenous identity of the victim was unknown.
40. Excludes 10% of Indigenous homicide victims for which gender identity was unknown.
41. Excludes 3% of accused for which Indigenous identity was unknown.
42. The Homicide Survey collects data on population groups designated as visible minorities, including: South Asian, Chinese, Black, Filipino, Arab, Latin American, Southeast Asian, West Asian, Korean, Japanese and “other visible minority”.
43. Excludes 1% of victims identified as visible minorities for whom the visible minority group was unknown.
44. Excludes 12% of homicides where relationship was unknown or not reported.
45. Both the *Criminal Code* and the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (IRPA)* have specific sections which address human trafficking. While human trafficking is not the same as human smuggling, the IRPA also prohibits the smuggling of persons into Canada.
46. The Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline, operated by the Canadian Centre to End Human Trafficking and partially funded by Public Safety Canada, is a confidential, multilingual, 24-hour-a-day service which connects victims and survivors of human trafficking with social services, law enforcement, and emergency services, on a confidential, case-by-case basis. The Hotline can be reached at 1-833-900-1010 or accessed online: Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline.
47. Includes level 1, 2 and 3 assault, assault against a peace officer and other assaults.
48. Physical assault, like sexual assault, is classified by the *Criminal Code* and the majority fall into one of three separate levels depending on the nature and severity of the incident (see “Key terminology and definitions” for more detail on assault offences).
49. 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. As of the 2016 Census, there were 36 CMAs defined across Canada. The Oshawa CMA is excluded from the analysis of police-reported crime statistics by CMA due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.
50. 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 1
Police-reported crime for selected offences, Canada, 2018 and 2019

Type of offence	2018 ^r		2019		Change in rate 2018 to 2019	Change in rate 2009 to 2019
	number	rate	number	rate	percent	
Total <i>Criminal Code</i> (excluding traffic) – "Crime rate"	2,043,328	5,514	2,208,076	5,874	7	-9
Total violent crime	426,839	1,152	480,004	1,277	11	-3
Homicide	658	1.78	678	1.80	2	-1
Other violations causing death ¹	133	0 ^s	108	0 ^s	-20	-4
Attempted murder	821	2.22	865	2.30	4	-3
Sexual assault - level 3 - aggravated	158	0 ^s	125	0 ^s	-22	-6
Sexual assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	490	1	525	1	6	33
Sexual assault - level 1	27,909	75	30,285	81	7	32
Sexual offence occurring prior to January 4, 1983 ²	574	2	534	1	-8	...
Sexual violations against children ^{3, 4, 5}	9,075	24	10,038	27	9	...
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	3,584	10	3,924	10	8	-3
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	54,218	146	59,416	158	8	0 ^s
Assault - level 1	170,138	459	187,826	500	9	-7
Assault against a peace officer	11,751	32	12,132	32	2	-8
Other assaults	2,124	6	2,226	6	3	-42
Firearms - use of, discharge, pointing	2,861	8	3,503	9	21	81
Robbery	22,550	61	23,296	62	2	-36
Forcible confinement or kidnapping	3,490	9	3,695	10	4	-31
Trafficking in persons ^{6, 7}	238	1	341	1	41	...
Extortion	4,724	13	4,174	11	-13	117
Criminal harassment	19,691	53	23,325	62	17	5
Uttering threats	66,806	180	81,361	216	20	-7
Indecent or harassing communications ⁸	17,772	48	23,289	62	29	-10
Non-consensual distribution of intimate images ⁹	1,483	4	1,972	5	31	...
Offences in relation to sexual services ¹⁰	1,044	3	1,163	3	10	...
Other violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations	4,547	12	5,203	14	13	13

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 1 — continued
Police-reported crime for selected offences, Canada, 2018 and 2019

Type of offence	2018 ^r		2019		Change in rate 2018 to 2019	Change in rate 2009 to 2019
	number	rate	number	rate	percent	
Total property crime	1,241,083	3,349	1,319,562	3,510	5	-15
Breaking and entering	160,329	433	161,291	429	-1	-30
Possess stolen property ¹¹	24,358	66	25,752	69	4	...
Theft of motor vehicle	86,192	233	87,066	232	0 ^s	-28
Theft over \$5,000 (non-motor vehicle)	20,104	54	21,357	57	5	21
Shoplifting under \$5,000	124,896	337	140,286	373	11	35
Theft of \$5,000 or under (non-motor vehicle)	407,567	1,100	424,439	1,129	3	-19
Fraud ¹²	130,008	351	142,140	378	8	64
Identity theft ¹²	3,815	10	4,683	12	21	...
Identity fraud ¹²	15,848	43	19,664	52	22	...
Mischief ¹³	259,917	701	284,694	757	8	-30
Arson	8,049	22	8,190	22	0 ^s	-45
Total other Criminal Code offences	375,406	1,013	408,510	1,087	7	7
Weapons violations	16,589	45	18,622	50	11	11
Child pornography ^{14, 15}	5,934	16	8,815	23	46	449
Prostitution ¹⁰	115	0 ^s	135	0 ^s	16	...
Terrorism ¹⁶	108	0 ^s	85	0 ^s	-22	...
Disturb the peace	94,379	255	110,444	294	15	-16
Administration of justice violations	229,250	619	237,346	631	2	24
Other violations	29,031	78	33,063	88	12	-9
Total Criminal Code traffic violations	125,890	340	136,706	364	7	-16
Alcohol-impaired driving ¹⁷	66,008	178	72,818	194	9	-25
Drug-impaired driving ¹⁸	4,444	12	6,453	17	43	297
Alcohol- and drug-impaired driving ¹⁹	267	1	4,618	12	...	...
Impaired driving (not specified) ¹⁹	113	0 ^s	1,784	5	...	...
Other Criminal Code traffic violations	55,058	149	51,033	136	-9	-21
Total drug offences	84,927	229	70,140	187	-19	-36
Total other federal statute violations	26,183	71	23,596	63	-11	-33
Human trafficking under the <i>Immigration and Refugee Protection Act</i> ²⁰	117	0 ^s	170	0 ^s	43	...
<i>Youth Criminal Justice Act</i>	4,765	13	3,815	10	-21	-73
Other federal statutes	21,301	57	19,611	52	-9	-9

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 1 — end
Police-reported crime for selected offences, Canada, 2018 and 2019

Type of offence	2018 ^r		2019		Change in rate 2018 to 2019	Change in rate 2009 to 2019
	number	rate	number	rate	percent	
Total - all violations	2,280,328	6,153	2,438,518	6,487	5	-11

... not applicable

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

^r revised

1. Includes, for example, criminal negligence causing death.
2. In 2019, the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey added a new violation code to collect information on "sexual offences which occurred prior to January 4, 1983." While most violations are not typically reported years after their occurrence, sexual violations may be reported by a victim long after the incident took place due to a variety of reasons. On January 4, 1983, Canadian legislation surrounding sexual offences changed considerably. In order to reflect these changes, the Survey added the new violation code rather than collect historical offences under an existing violation code that did not reflect the state of Canadian legislation at the time of the offence. Therefore, the percentage change from 2009 to 2019 is not shown.
3. Excludes sexual assaults against children and youth, which are reported as level 1, 2 or 3 sexual assault.
4. Sexual violations against children is a relatively new crime category with only partial data available prior to 2010, therefore the percentage change from 2009 to 2019 is not shown.
5. Includes sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, luring a child via telecommunications/agreement or arrangement, making sexually explicit material available to a child for the purpose of facilitating sexual offences against children/youth, and the offences of parent or guardian procuring sexual activity, householder permitting prohibited sexual activity, agreement or arrangement of a sexual offence against a child, and bestiality in the presence of or inciting a child (s. 160(3)). Incidents of child pornography are not included in the category of sexual violations against children.
6. Changes to the *Criminal Code*, including the introduction of new offences related to trafficking in persons were made in 2005, 2010, 2012, and 2014. Therefore, the percentage change from 2009 to 2019 is not shown.
7. "Trafficking in persons" includes four specific indictable offences to address human trafficking, namely sections 279.01 (Trafficking in persons), 279.011 (Trafficking of a person under the age of eighteen years), 279.02 (Material benefit), and 279.03 (Withholding or destroying documents).
8. This offence was amended in 2015 in the former Bill C-13 "*Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act*" to include all means of telecommunication, not only phone calls.
9. Non-consensual distribution of intimate images is an offence created in 2015 by the former Bill C-13 "*Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act*," therefore the percentage change from 2009 to 2019 is not shown.
10. 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 "offences in relation to sexual services" 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 2009 to 2019 is not shown.
11. Includes trafficking and the intent to traffic stolen goods.
12. 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 2009 to 2019 for fraud includes identity fraud and identity theft.
13. Includes altering/removing/destroying a vehicle identification number.
14. Due to the complexity of cyber incidents, these 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.
15. 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 fall under the category of "violent crimes" and child pornography may be reported as a secondary violation.
16. Includes seven terrorism violations which were introduced mid-year in 2013, as a result of the enactment of former 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 former Bill C-51 "*Anti-terrorism Act*." 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 2009 to 2019 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.
17. 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 not within the scope of the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.
18. 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 not within the scope of the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.
19. Reflects new impaired driving offences as per former Bill C-46 "*An Act to amend the Criminal Code (offences relating to conveyances) and to make consequential amendments to other Acts*," which came into effect part way through 2018.
20. Includes human trafficking violations under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*. Data specific to these offences are not available prior to 2011, therefore, the percentage change from 2009 to 2019 is not shown.

Note: 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 bylaws 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, Centre for Demography.

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

Table 2
Police-reported crime and proportion deemed unfounded, selected offences, Canada, 2017 to 2019

Type of offence	2017			2018 ^a			2019		
	Reported #	Unfounded #	%	Reported #	Unfounded #	%	Reported #	Unfounded #	%
Total <i>Criminal Code</i> (excluding traffic)	2,117,353	153,224	7	2,186,628	143,300	7	2,350,631	142,555	6
Total violent crime	461,899	55,273	12	478,598	51,759	11	532,973	52,969	10
Homicide	666	0	0	658	0	0	678	0	0
Other violations causing death ¹	121	21	17	150	17	11	118	10	8
Attempted murder	830	9	1	827	6	1	870	5	1
Sexual assault - level 3 - aggravated	175	15	9	172	14	8	134	9	7
Sexual assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	453	30	7	513	23	4	551	26	5
Sexual assault - level 1	28,196	4,039	14	31,633	3,724	12	33,705	3,420	10
Sexual offence occurring prior to January 4, 1983 ²	...	...	...	593	19	3	552	18	3
Sexual violations against children ^{3, 4}	9,604	1,328	14	10,301	1,226	12	11,359	1,321	12
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	3,630	46	1	3,633	49	1	3,984	60	2
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	53,816	1,676	3	55,791	1,573	3	61,138	1,722	3
Assault - level 1	184,253	20,974	11	190,124	19,986	11	209,074	21,248	10
Assault against a peace officer	11,024	59	1	11,796	45	0 ^s	12,173	41	0 ^s
Other assaults	2,198	225	10	2,358	234	10	2,520	294	12
Firearms - use of, discharge, pointing	3,047	281	9	3,121	260	8	3,772	269	7
Robbery	24,027	1,196	5	23,781	1,231	5	24,614	1,318	5
Forcible confinement or kidnapping	4,288	509	12	3,987	497	12	4,210	515	12
Trafficking in persons ⁵	314	46	15	288	50	17	405	64	16
Extortion	3,350	164	5	4,890	166	3	4,330	156	4
Criminal harassment	25,123	5,241	21	24,769	5,078	21	28,431	5,106	18
Uttering threats	76,376	13,085	17	78,767	11,961	15	93,136	11,775	13
Indecent and harassing communications ⁶	21,827	5,246	24	22,420	4,648	21	27,878	4,589	16
Non-consensual distribution of intimate images	1,709	197	12	1,665	182	11	2,185	213	10
Offences in relation to sexual services ⁷	1,185	67	6	1,082	38	4	1,230	67	5
Other violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations	5,687	819	14	5,279	732	14	5,926	723	12
Total property crime	1,264,768	71,449	6	1,308,062	66,979	5	1,385,164	65,602	5
Breaking and entering	171,107	11,481	7	171,488	11,159	7	172,553	11,262	7
Possess stolen property ⁸	25,664	1,465	6	25,794	1,436	6	27,135	1,383	5
Theft of motor vehicle	94,515	9,400	10	95,445	9,253	10	95,660	8,594	9
Theft over \$5,000 (non-motor vehicle)	18,731	1,466	8	21,456	1,352	6	22,647	1,290	6
Shoplifting under \$5,000	109,475	1,162	1	126,002	1,106	1	142,230	1,944	1
Theft of \$5,000 or under (non-motor vehicle)	419,235	22,363	5	428,338	20,771	5	444,058	19,619	4
Fraud	120,349	7,183	6	136,416	6,408	5	148,362	6,222	4
Identity theft	3,455	160	5	3,960	145	4	4,852	169	3
Identity fraud	14,822	478	3	16,261	413	3	20,084	420	2
Mischief ⁹	277,492	14,917	5	273,597	13,680	5	298,079	13,385	4
Arson	9,923	1,374	14	9,305	1,256	13	9,504	1,314	14
Total other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences	390,686	26,502	7	399,968	24,562	6	432,494	23,984	6
Weapons violations	18,265	2,395	13	19,067	2,478	13	21,223	2,601	12
Child pornography ^{10, 11}	7,581	1,161	15	6,733	799	12	9,678	863	9
Prostitution ⁷	139	17	12	121	6	5	142	7	5
Terrorism ¹²	199	109	55	185	77	42	150	65	43
Disturb the peace	103,214	6,663	6	100,385	6,006	6	116,131	5,687	5
Administration of justice violations	229,343	12,081	5	240,720	11,470	5	248,584	11,238	5
Other violations	31,945	4,076	13	32,757	3,726	11	36,586	3,523	10

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 2 — end
Police-reported crime and proportion deemed unfounded, selected offences, Canada, 2017 to 2019

Type of offence	2017			2018 ^r			2019		
	Reported	Unfounded	%	Reported	Unfounded	%	Reported	Unfounded	%
	#	#	%	#	#	%	#	#	%
Total <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic violations	129,374	3,958	3	129,743	3,853	3	140,393	3,687	3
Alcohol-impaired driving ¹³	69,008	3,394	5	69,261	3,253	5	75,329	2,511	3
Drug-impaired driving ¹⁴	3,836	342	9	4,824	380	8	6,811	358	5
Alcohol- and drug-impaired driving ¹⁵	...	...	...	330	63	19	5,065	447	9
Impaired driving (not specified) ¹⁵	...	...	...	125	12	10	1,977	193	10
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic violations	56,530	222	0 ^s	55,203	145	0 ^s	51,211	178	0 ^s
Total drug offences	96,571	3,585	4	87,523	2,596	3	72,081	1,941	3
Total other federal statute violations	32,317	1,555	5	27,482	1,299	5	25,424	1,828	7
Human trafficking under the <i>Immigration and Refugee Protection Act</i> ¹⁶	124	21	17	133	16	12	186	16	9
<i>Youth Criminal Justice Act</i>	5,571	74	1	4,843	78	2	3,871	56	1
Other federal statutes	26,622	1,460	5	22,506	1,205	5	21,367	1,756	8
Total - all violations	2,375,615	162,322	7	2,431,376	151,048	6	2,588,529	150,011	6

... not applicable

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

^r revised

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

2. In 2019, the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey added a new violation code to collect information on "sexual offences which occurred prior to January 4, 1983." While most violations are not typically reported years after their occurrence, sexual violations may be reported by a victim long after the incident took place due to a variety of reasons. On January 4, 1983, Canadian legislation surrounding sexual offences changed considerably. In order to reflect these changes, the Survey added the new violation code rather than collect historical offences under an existing violation code that did not reflect the state of Canadian legislation at the time of the offence.

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

4. Includes sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, luring a child via telecommunications/agreement or arrangement, making sexually explicit material available to a child for the purpose of facilitating sexual offences against children/youth, and the offences of parent or guardian procuring sexual activity, householder permitting prohibited sexual activity, agreement or arrangement of a sexual offence against a child, and bestiality in the presence of or inciting a child (s. 160(3)). Incidents of child pornography are not included in the category of sexual violations against children.

5. "Trafficking in persons" includes four specific indictable offences to address human trafficking, namely sections 279.01 (Trafficking in persons), 279.011 (Trafficking of a person under the age of eighteen years), 279.02 (Material benefit), and 279.03 (Withholding or destroying documents).

6. This offence was amended in 2015 in the former Bill C-13 *Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act* to include all means of telecommunication, not only phone calls.

7. 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 "offences in relation to sexual services" 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.

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

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

10. Due to the complexity of cyber incidents, these 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 fall under the category of "violent crime" and child pornography may be reported as a secondary violation.

12. Includes seven terrorism violations which were introduced mid-year in 2013, as a result of the enactment of former 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 former Bill C-51 "*Anti-terrorism Act*." 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. 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 not within the scope of the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

14. 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 not within the scope of the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

15. Reflects new impaired driving offences as per former Bill C-46 "*An Act to amend the Criminal Code (offences relating to conveyances) and to make consequential amendments to other Acts*" which came into effect part way through 2018.

16. Includes human trafficking violations under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*. Data specific to these offences are not available prior to 2011.

Note: Data for unfounded incidents are available from 2017 onward even though inconsistencies in reporting may still exist. 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 bylaws 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.

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

Table 3
Police-reported crime for selected drug offences, Canada, 2018 and 2019

Type of offence	2018 ^r		2019		Change in rate 2018 to 2019	Change in rate 2009 to 2019
	number	rate	number	rate	percent	
Total drug offences	84,927	229	70,140	187	-19	-36
Total cannabis offences¹	36,579	99	16,868	45	...	...
Cannabis - possession ¹	26,402	71	46	0 ^s	...	...
Cannabis - trafficking ¹	3,387	9	20	0 ^s	...	...
Cannabis - production or importation/exportation ¹	5,281	14	214	1	...	...
Cannabis (<i>Cannabis Act</i>) - possession ²	459	1	1,818	5	...	...
Cannabis (<i>Cannabis Act</i>) - distribution ²	189	1	955	3	...	...
Cannabis (<i>Cannabis Act</i>) - sale ²	244	1	1,078	3	...	...
Cannabis (<i>Cannabis Act</i>) - importation or exportation ^{2, 3}	342	1	11,193	30	...	...
Cannabis (<i>Cannabis Act</i>) - production ²	102	0 ^s	907	2	...	...
Cannabis (<i>Cannabis Act</i>) - other ^{2, 4}	173	0 ^s	637	2	...	...
Total other drug offences (excluding cannabis)	48,348	130	53,272	142	9	47
Cocaine - possession	7,027	19	6,732	18	-6	-21
Cocaine - trafficking	6,969	19	7,995	21	13	-26
Cocaine - production or importation/exportation	613	2	595	2	-4	47
Methamphetamine - possession	10,546	28	10,849	29	1	1,127
Methamphetamine - trafficking	2,718	7	3,228	9	17	642
Methamphetamine - production or importation/exportation	583	2	369	1	-38	871
Ecstasy - possession	284	1	231	1	-20	-57
Ecstasy - trafficking	129	0 ^s	118	0 ^s	-10	-60
Ecstasy - production or importation/exportation	805	2	318	1	-61	629
Heroin - possession	2,282	6	2,342	6	1	342
Heroin - trafficking	866	2	708	2	-19	125
Heroin - production or importation/exportation	204	1	140	0 ^s	-32	132
Opioids (not heroin) - possession ⁵	1,494	4	2,346	6	55	...
Opioids (not heroin) - trafficking ⁵	933	3	1,355	4	43	...
Opioids (not heroin) - production or importation/exportation ⁵	78	0 ^s	65	0 ^s	-18	...
Other drugs - possession ^{5, 6}	7,050	19	7,964	21	11	...
Other drugs - trafficking ^{5, 6}	3,449	9	5,288	14	51	...
Other drugs - production or importation/exportation or other ^{5, 6}	2,318	6	2,629	7	12	...

... not applicable

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

^r revised

1. As a result of the coming into force of the *Cannabis Act* on October 17, 2018, all prior cannabis-related legislation under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (CDSA) has been replaced with the *Cannabis Act*.

2. The *Cannabis Act* came into force October 17, 2018; therefore, there is no percentage change from 2018 to 2019, or from 2009 to 2019.

3. The Montréal census metropolitan area in Quebec accounted for 56% of all importation or exportation offences reported under the *Cannabis Act* (6,323 of the 11,193 offences reported nationally). The high proportion of offences was attributed to cannabis seizures conducted by the Canada Border Services Agency in Montréal that were thought to be related to possible misunderstanding by the public related to the purchase and delivery of cannabis from outside of Canada under the new legislation.

4. Includes "other *Cannabis Act*" offences, such as possession, production, sale, distribution or importation of anything for use in production or distribution of illicit cannabis, and use of a young person in the commission of a cannabis offence.

5. In November 2017, the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey began counting violations involving opioids (other than heroin) under their own unique violation codes. Prior to this, violations involving opioids (including fentanyl) were counted within the category of "other drugs"; therefore, the percentage change from 2009 to 2019 for violations involving opioids or "other drugs" are not shown.

6. Includes all other drugs listed under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (CDSA), such as prescription drugs, barbiturates, LSD and "drugs used to facilitate sexual assault". Trafficking and production of other drugs includes the possession, production, sale or importation of anything (such as precursors) with the knowledge that it will be used in the production or trafficking of a controlled substance (as defined in section 2(1) of the CDSA).

Note: 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 bylaws 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, Centre for Demography.

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

Table 4
Police-reported crime for selected drug offences, by province or territory, 2019

Province or territory	Total Cannabis ^{1, 2, 3}			Cocaine ⁶			Methamphetamine ⁶			Ecstasy ⁶		
	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ⁴	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ⁴	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ⁴	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ⁴
Newfoundland and Labrador	103	20	-77	469	90	106	5	1	...	0	0	...
Prince Edward Island	10	6	-91	49	31	7	20	13	-15	1	1	...
Nova Scotia	209	22	-81	440	45	-18	53	5	22	6	1	-26
New Brunswick	169	22	-80	294	38	23	327	42	16	20	3	17
Quebec ⁵	8,857	104	-21	2,481	29	-7	2,814	33	-16	379	4	-59
Ontario	3,019	21	-71	4,067	28	-1	2,572	18	5	58	0 ^s	-22
Manitoba	154	11	-78	895	65	-1	747	55	13	6	0 ^s	-1
Saskatchewan	158	13	-83	725	62	4	1,059	90	22	6	1	...
Alberta	356	8	-87	1,940	44	-14	3,659	84	10	44	1	8
British Columbia	3,778	74	-54	3,481	69	20	3,186	63	5	141	3	-10
Yukon	10	24	-82	201	492	120	1	2	...	0	0	...
Northwest Territories	29	65	-77	268	598	99	0	0	...	5	11	...
Nunavut	16	41	-83	12	31	...	3	8	...	1	3	...
Canada	16,868	45	-55	15,322	41	3	14,446	38	3	667	2	-46

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 4 — end
Police-reported crime for selected drug offences, by province or territory, 2019

Province or territory	Opioids ⁶			Heroin ⁶			Other drugs ^{6,7}			Total drugs ⁶		
	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ⁴	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ⁴	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ⁴	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ⁴
Newfoundland and Labrador	34	7	128	2	0 ⁵	...	235	45	21	848	163	-4
Prince Edward Island	8	5	12	2	1	...	52	33	59	142	90	-37
Nova Scotia	35	4	12	3	0 ⁵	...	349	36	10	1,095	113	-46
New Brunswick	34	4	16	11	1	21	336	43	38	1,191	153	-28
Quebec	38	0 ⁵	-26	165	2	-29	4,427	52	-10	19,161	226	-18
Ontario	1,105	8	45	842	6	-6	2,728	19	-4	14,391	99	-33
Manitoba	38	3	1	24	2	19	272	20	-7	2,136	156	-18
Saskatchewan	45	4	-17	18	2	-43	360	31	17	2,371	202	-18
Alberta	509	12	34	418	10	-16	1,553	36	9	8,479	194	-21
British Columbia	1,917	38	64	1,699	34	0 ⁵	5,499	108	134	19,701	388	1
Yukon	2	5	...	6	15	19	23	56	76	243	595	44
Northwest Territories	1	2	...	0	0	...	42	94	134	345	770	24
Nunavut	0	0	...	0	0	...	5	13	-2	37	95	-65
Canada	3,766	10	48	3,190	8	-6	15,881	42	22	70,140	187	-19

... not applicable

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

1. Includes all possession, trafficking, production or import/export cannabis-related offences under the CDSA legislation prior to the coming into force of the *Cannabis Act* on October 17, 2018, as well as all cannabis-related offences under the *Cannabis Act*.

2. Includes possession, trafficking, production or import/export. As a result of the coming into force of the *Cannabis Act* on October 17, 2018, all prior cannabis-related legislation under the CDSA has been replaced with the *Cannabis Act*.

3. The *Cannabis Act* came into force October 17, 2018, therefore there is no percentage change from 2018 to 2019. Includes all offences under the *Cannabis Act*.

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

5. The Montréal census metropolitan area in Quebec accounted for 56% of all importation or exportation offences reported under the *Cannabis Act* (6,323 of the 11,193 offences reported nationally). The high proportion of offences was attributed to cannabis seizures conducted by the Canada Border Services Agency in Montréal that were thought to be related to possible misunderstanding by the public related to the purchase and delivery of cannabis from outside of Canada under the new legislation.

6. Includes possession, trafficking, production and importation/exportation.

7. Includes all other drugs listed under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (CDSA), such as prescription drugs, barbiturates, LSD and "drugs used to facilitate sexual assault." Trafficking and production of other drugs includes the possession, production, sale or importation of anything (such as precursors) with the knowledge that it will be used in the production or trafficking of a controlled substance (as defined in section 2(1) of the CDSA).

Note: 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 bylaws 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, Centre for Demography.

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

Table 5
Police-reported crime for selected offences, by province or territory, 2019

Province or territory	Homicide			Attempted murder			Major assault (level 2 and 3) ¹			Robbery		
	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ²	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ²	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ²	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ²
Newfoundland and Labrador	5	0.96	...	4	0.77	...	742	142	20	162	31	-24
Prince Edward Island	2	1.27	...	0	0.00	...	111	71	0 ^s	24	15	12
Nova Scotia	6	0.62	-46	43	4.43	124	1,254	129	8	237	24	-25
New Brunswick	15	1.93	15	17	2.19	87	1,162	150	8	173	22	-16
Quebec	77	0.91	-8	200	2.36	6	11,482	135	7	3,417	40	4
Ontario	246	1.69	-11	345	2.37	-10	17,029	117	2	8,936	61	-1
Manitoba	72	5.26	29	26	1.90	-29	6,157	450	11	2,688	196	-1
Saskatchewan	55	4.68	60	69	5.88	90	4,638	395	9	1,110	95	10
Alberta	100	2.29	21	53	1.21	-2	10,162	232	6	3,621	83	2
British Columbia ⁴	90	1.77	-1	100	1.97	12	9,229	182	19	2,856	56	13
Yukon	1	2.45	...	1	2.45	...	228	558	3	22	54	37
Northwest Territories	2	4.46	...	1	2.23	...	544	1,214	26	34	76	-13
Nunavut	7	18.05	-14	6	15.47	-26	602	1,552	32	16	41	21
Canada	678	1.80	2	865	2.30	4	63,340	169	8	23,296	62	2

Province or territory	Sexual assault (level 1, 2 and 3)			Breaking and entering			Motor vehicle theft			Impaired driving ³		
	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ²	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ²	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ²	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ²
Newfoundland and Labrador	391	75	13	1,994	382	1	434	83	-11	2,245	430	95
Prince Edward Island	131	83	20	471	300	8	142	90	9	1,012	645	56
Nova Scotia	903	93	-15	2,634	271	-4	927	95	2	3,679	379	33
New Brunswick	633	81	13	3,695	476	4	1,464	188	9	2,847	366	53
Quebec	5,987	71	4	23,432	276	-11	11,961	141	-5	14,900	176	6
Ontario	11,064	76	1	44,974	309	-4	23,992	165	-2	15,182	104	5
Manitoba	1,701	124	12	11,058	807	7	5,546	405	16	4,239	310	25
Saskatchewan	1,461	124	12	10,005	852	-2	5,284	450	-8	6,328	539	1
Alberta	3,933	90	9	33,102	757	2	23,535	538	-2	14,228	325	13
British Columbia ⁴	4,143	82	24	28,759	567	8	13,352	263	5	18,071	356	45
Yukon	129	316	53	261	639	27	142	348	9	845	2,068	55
Northwest Territories	257	573	58	469	1,046	5	179	399	-3	1,407	3,139	36
Nunavut	202	521	13	437	1,127	-12	108	278	4	690	1,779	62
Canada	30,935	82	7	161,291	429	-1	87,066	232	0^s	85,673	228	19

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 5 — end
Police-reported crime for selected offences, by province or territory, 2019

Province or territory	Total fraud ⁵			Fraud			Identity fraud			Identity theft		
	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ²	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ²	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ²	number	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019 ²
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,686	323	1	1,574	302	-1	61	12	34	51	10	98
Prince Edward Island	615	392	11	578	368	11	28	18	5	9	6	...
Nova Scotia	4,276	440	-7	3,988	411	-9	198	20	6	90	9	117
New Brunswick	3,536	455	-8	3,241	417	-11	207	27	47	88	11	62
Quebec	26,461	312	14	18,617	219	9	5,816	69	39	2,028	24	7
Ontario	62,432	429	12	55,842	383	11	5,880	40	19	710	5	60
Manitoba	6,227	455	23	5,717	417	22	346	25	26	164	12	67
Saskatchewan	6,668	568	-2	5,861	499	-4	680	58	8	127	11	55
Alberta	26,822	614	4	23,375	535	3	2,580	59	10	867	20	18
British Columbia ⁴	27,205	536	12	22,816	450	11	3,851	76	18	538	11	11
Yukon	263	644	41	251	614	39	5	12	-17	7	17	...
Northwest Territories	221	493	19	211	471	21	8	18	-27	2	4	...
Nunavut	75	193	-7	69	178	-10	4	10	...	2	5	...
Canada	166,487	443	10	142,140	378	8	19,664	52	22	4,683	12	21

... not applicable

⁰ 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 five in any given year.

3. Includes alcohol- and drug-impaired operation of a vehicle, alcohol- and 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. Also includes new impaired driving offences as per former Bill C-46 "An Act to amend the *Criminal Code* (offences relating to conveyances) and to make consequential amendments to other Acts" which came into effect part way through 2018, including impaired driving due to alcohol and drug impairment combined, and unspecified impaired driving.

4. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia and some of its census metropolitan areas in 2019 may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards for classifying incidents. While the effective date was January 2018 and many police services adopted the new standards that year, some police services, including all of the RCMP detachments across Canada and the municipal police services in British Columbia, transitioned to the new standards on January 1, 2019. Additionally, police services in British Columbia undertook a uniform training strategy to further standardize reporting throughout the province. The new reporting standards were expected to result in an increase in crime rates over time.

5. Includes fraud, identity theft, and identity fraud.

Note: 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 bylaws 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, Centre for Demography.

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

Table 6
Police-reported Crime Severity Indexes, Canada, 2009 to 2019

Year	Total Crime Severity Index		Violent Crime Severity Index		Non-violent Crime Severity Index	
	index	% change from previous year	index	% change from previous year	index	% change from previous year
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	-7
2012	75.5	-3	82.0	-4	73.0	-2
2013	68.9	-9	74.0	-10	66.9	-8
2014	66.9	-3	70.7	-4	65.4	-2
2015	70.4	5	75.3	7	68.4	5
2016	72.0	2	76.9	2	70.1	2
2017	73.6	2	81.3	6	70.7	1
2018 ^r	75.6	3	83.6	3	72.6	3
2019	79.5	5	89.7	7	75.6	4
Percent change 2009 to 2019	-9	...	-5	...	-11	...

... not applicable

^r revised

Note: 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, Centre for Demography.

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

Table 7
Police-reported crime rate, Canada, 2009 to 2019

Year	Total crime (crime rate)			Violent crime			Property crime			Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences		
	number	rate	% change in rate from previous year	number	rate	% change in rate from previous year	number	rate	% change in rate from previous year	number	rate	% change in rate from previous year
2009	2,172,809	6,461	-3	444,533	1,322	-1	1,386,184	4,122	-3	342,092	1,017	-2
2010	2,094,338	6,159	-5	439,220	1,292	-2	1,305,150	3,838	-7	349,968	1,029	1
2011	1,984,790	5,780	-6	424,338	1,236	-4	1,214,312	3,536	-8	346,140	1,008	-2
2012	1,957,227	5,638	-2	416,147	1,199	-3	1,193,600	3,438	-3	347,480	1,001	-1
2013	1,826,431	5,206	-8	384,385	1,096	-9	1,106,509	3,154	-8	335,537	956	-4
2014	1,793,612	5,061	-3	370,050	1,044	-5	1,098,399	3,100	-2	325,163	918	-4
2015	1,867,833	5,232	3	382,115	1,070	2	1,153,700	3,231	4	332,018	930	1
2016	1,912,752	5,297	1	388,564	1,076	1	1,169,445	3,239	0 ^s	354,743	982	6
2017	1,964,129	5,375	1	406,626	1,113	3	1,193,319	3,265	1	364,184	997	1
2018 ^r	2,043,328	5,514	3	426,839	1,152	4	1,241,083	3,349	3	375,406	1,013	2
2019	2,208,076	5,874	7	480,004	1,277	11	1,319,562	3,510	5	408,510	1,087	7
Percent change 2009 to 2019	...	-9	...	...	-3	...	...	-15	...	...	7	...

... not applicable

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

^r revised

Note: Crime rates are based upon *Criminal Code* incidents, excluding traffic offences. See Table 1 for a list of offences included in the violent crime, property crime and other *Criminal Code* offences 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 *Criminal Code* offences 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, Centre for Demography.

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

Table 8
Police-reported Crime Severity Indexes, by province or territory, 2019

Province or territory	Total Crime Severity Index			Violent Crime Severity Index		Non-violent Crime Severity Index	
	index	% change 2018 to 2019	% change 2009 to 2019	index	% change 2018 to 2019	index	% change 2018 to 2019
Newfoundland and Labrador	71.6	10	0 ^s	79.1	10	68.7	10
Prince Edward Island	64.0	18	-3	64.3	31	63.8	14
Nova Scotia	66.1	1	-21	82.1	4	60.1	-1
New Brunswick	79.5	9	12	84.9	10	77.3	8
Quebec	55.9	-1	-31	75.2	5	48.8	-4
Ontario	60.7	1	-12	74.9	1	55.5	1
Manitoba	139.3	10	1	188.9	11	121.1	10
Saskatchewan	148.2	5	-1	171.0	21	139.6	0 ^s
Alberta	119.1	5	13	106.7	7	123.3	4
British Columbia ¹	104.4	17	-7	91.5	21	108.8	16
Yukon	215.7	26	19	236.6	11	207.7	33
Northwest Territories	388.6	19	19	480.8	13	354.5	23
Nunavut	361.3	11	9	612.8	9	270.0	13
Canada	79.5	5	-9	89.7	7	75.6	4

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

1. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia and some of its census metropolitan areas in 2019 may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards for classifying incidents. While the effective date was January 2018 and many police services adopted the new standards that year, some police services, including all of the RCMP detachments across Canada and the municipal police services in British Columbia, transitioned to the new standards on January 1, 2019. Additionally, police services in British Columbia undertook a uniform training strategy to further standardize reporting throughout the province. The new reporting standards were expected to result in an increase in crime rates over time.

Note: 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, Centre for Demography.

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

Table 9
Police-reported crime rate, by province or territory, 2019

Province or territory	Total crime (crime rate)				Violent crime			Property crime			Other Criminal Code offences		
	number	rate	% change 2018 to 2019	% change 2009 to 2019	number	rate	% change 2018 to 2019	number	rate	% change 2018 to 2019	number	rate	% change 2018 to 2019
Newfoundland and Labrador	31,062	5,956	8	-7	8,088	1,551	15	16,497	3,163	7	6,477	1,242	2
Prince Edward Island	8,442	5,379	14	-15	1,999	1,274	26	4,992	3,181	7	1,451	925	29
Nova Scotia	51,047	5,255	3	-24	13,738	1,414	11	27,668	2,848	-1	9,641	992	5
New Brunswick	46,899	6,037	11	7	12,298	1,583	18	25,615	3,297	7	8,986	1,157	16
Quebec	279,930	3,299	0 ^s	-34	95,824	1,129	5	145,959	1,720	-3	38,147	450	-1
Ontario	614,480	4,218	2	-11	137,191	942	4	387,568	2,661	1	89,721	616	3
Manitoba	140,393	10,252	9	-4	30,048	2,194	10	84,881	6,198	11	25,464	1,859	2
Saskatchewan	138,043	11,754	2	-8	26,415	2,249	13	76,063	6,476	0 ^s	35,565	3,028	0 ^s
Alberta	405,238	9,270	7	8	63,313	1,448	8	256,216	5,861	7	85,709	1,961	4
British Columbia ¹	441,856	8,713	17	-4	79,826	1,574	33	270,330	5,331	12	91,700	1,808	23
Yukon	9,720	23,792	21	3	2,088	5,111	31	4,560	11,162	18	3,072	7,519	21
Northwest Territories	22,967	51,236	22	21	4,961	11,067	28	11,292	25,191	22	6,714	14,978	17
Nunavut	17,999	46,413	20	25	4,215	10,869	22	7,921	20,425	23	5,863	15,119	16
Canada	2,208,076	5,874	7	-9	480,004	1,277	11	1,319,562	3,510	5	408,510	1,087	7

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

1. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia and some of its census metropolitan areas in 2019 may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards for classifying incidents. While the effective date was January 2018 and many police services adopted the new standards that year, some police services, including all of the RCMP detachments across Canada and the municipal police services in British Columbia, transitioned to the new standards on January 1, 2019. Additionally, police services in British Columbia undertook a uniform training strategy to further standardize reporting throughout the province. The new reporting standards were expected to result in an increase in crime rates over time.

Note: Crime rates are based upon *Criminal Code* incidents, excluding traffic offences. See Table 1 for a list of offences included in the violent crime, property crime and other *Criminal Code* offences 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, Centre for Demography.

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

Table 10
Police-reported Crime Severity Indexes, by census metropolitan area, 2019

Census metropolitan area (CMA) ^{1, 2, 3}	Population	Total Crime Severity Index		Violent Crime Severity Index		Non-violent Crime Severity Index		
	number	index	% change 2018 to 2019	% change 2009 to 2019	index	% change 2018 to 2019	index	% change 2018 to 2019
St. John's	208,432	71.3	0 ^s	-19	82.2	-3	67.2	1
Halifax	440,332	60.7	-10	-38	83.8	-13	52.3	-8
Moncton ⁴	164,337	108.9	8	...	106.7	18	109.4	5
Saint John ⁴	130,712	56.1	-2	...	73.8	4	49.6	-4
Saguenay	169,157	47.7	-2	-37	64.5	1	41.6	-4
Québec	815,674	43.8	-1	-28	57.3	7	38.8	-5
Sherbrooke	204,618	47.2	-10	-33	56.3	-16	43.9	-7
Trois-Rivières	158,805	51.8	-5	-34	64.2	-8	47.2	-4
Montréal	4,302,818	58.0	-1	-35	76.1	5	51.3	-4
Gatineau ⁵	339,246	55.8	-1	-24	71.2	-2	50.1	0 ^s
Ottawa ⁶	1,091,116	57.0	4	-15	68.8	0 ^s	52.6	7
Kingston	173,196	67.8	-3	5	66.9	-8	68.0	-1
Belleville ⁷	113,140	70.3	13	...	91.9	28	62.4	7
Peterborough	128,861	54.4	10	-18	65.7	21	50.2	5
Toronto	6,402,381	54.2	1	-16	78.1	-1	45.5	2
Hamilton	765,101	60.2	3	-19	74.0	10	55.0	0 ^s
St. Catharines–Niagara	479,183	64.3	-7	-16	56.8	4	66.9	-10
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	595,465	73.3	-1	-2	87.7	9	68.0	-5
Brantford	150,235	83.4	-10	-21	101.0	2	76.8	-15
Guelph	143,169	64.6	-9	8	52.1	-17	69.0	-7
London	547,803	75.1	-2	-15	63.9	1	79.0	-3
Windsor	354,315	80.3	-8	12	67.7	-11	84.7	-7
Barrie	254,020	53.1	9	-17	62.1	17	49.7	5
Greater Sudbury	168,813	82.1	3	1	94.5	6	77.4	1
Thunder Bay	125,994	100.6	2	-11	145.9	-10	84.1	12
Winnipeg	828,041	131.7	10	-4	174.0	7	116.2	12
Regina	262,606	130.0	1	-10	132.6	8	128.7	-1
Saskatoon	335,901	117.3	0 ^s	-12	134.7	24	110.8	-8
Lethbridge ⁷	124,669	141.8	2	...	102.7	2	155.5	2
Calgary	1,526,808	92.9	4	15	84.5	5	95.7	4
Edmonton	1,451,358	114.9	-1	0 ^s	109.1	0 ^s	116.7	-2

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 10 — end
Police-reported Crime Severity Indexes, by census metropolitan area, 2019

Census metropolitan area (CMA) ^{1, 2, 3}	Population	Total Crime Severity Index		Violent Crime Severity Index		Non-violent Crime Severity Index		
	number	index	% change 2018 to 2019	% change 2009 to 2019	index	% change 2018 to 2019	index	% change 2018 to 2019
Kelowna ⁸	216,133	121.4	20	0 ^s	82.2	65	135.2	13
Abbotsford–Mission ⁸	201,784	86.4	-3	-23	77.5	-3	89.4	-3
Vancouver ⁸	2,692,150	95.4	11	-15	80.3	16	100.6	10
Victoria ⁸	402,108	74.3	16	-20	65.2	6	77.5	20
Canada	37,589,262	79.5	5	-9	89.7	7	75.6	4

... not applicable

0^s 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, data from 2014 to 2019 for the New Brunswick CMAs of Saint John and Moncton are not comparable to previous years.

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

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

7. As of the 2016 Census, Belleville and Lethbridge became new CMAs.

8. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia and some of its census metropolitan areas in 2019 may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards for classifying incidents. While the effective date was January 2018 and many police services adopted the new standards that year, some police services, including all of the RCMP detachments across Canada and the municipal police services in British Columbia, transitioned to the new standards on January 1, 2019. Additionally, police services in British Columbia undertook a uniform training strategy to further standardize reporting throughout the province. The new reporting standards were expected to result in an increase in crime rates over time.

Note: 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 bylaws 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, Centre for Demography.

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

Table 11
Violations contributing to the change in the Crime Severity Index, by census metropolitan area, 2018 and 2019

Census metropolitan area (CMA) ^{1, 2, 3}	% change in Crime Severity Index from 2018 to 2019	Violations driving the change in Crime Severity Index
Canada	5	Increase in fraud, child pornography, as well as importation or exportation under the <i>Cannabis Act</i> , uttering threats, mischief, sexual assault (level 1), and shoplifting of \$5,000 or under; partially offset by decreases in trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cannabis (CDSA), and breaking and entering
St. John's	0 ^s	Decrease in robbery and violent and non-violent firearm offences; partially offset by increase in homicide and child pornography
Halifax	-10	Decrease in sexual assault (level 1), breaking and entering, and robbery, as well as fraud and homicide; partially offset by increase in attempted murder and child pornography
Moncton	8	Increase in trafficking, production, importation or exportation of other drugs, violent firearms offences, theft of \$5,000 or under (non-shoplifting), homicide and mischief; partially offset by decrease in fraud
Saint John	-2	Decrease in fraud, robbery and violent firearm offences; partially offset by increase in homicide
Saguenay	-2	Decrease in failure to stop or remain (traffic violation); partially offset by increase in breaking and entering
Québec	-1	Decrease in breaking and entering
Sherbrooke	-10	Decrease in failure to stop or remain (traffic violation), homicide and robbery; partially offset by increase in breaking and entering
Trois-Rivières	-5	Decrease in breaking and entering, homicide and failure to stop or remain (traffic violation); partially offset by increase in fraud
Montréal ⁴	-1	Decrease in trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cannabis (CDSA), and breaking and entering; partially offset by increase in importation or exportation under the <i>Cannabis Act</i>
Gatineau ⁵	-1	Decrease in failure to stop or remain (traffic violation), and homicide; partially offset by increase in child pornography and fraud
Ottawa ⁶	4	Increase in shoplifting of \$5,000 or under, and fraud; partially offset by decrease in breaking and entering
Kingston	-3	Decrease in breaking and entering, and sexual assault (level 1); partially offset by increase in fraud
Belleville ⁷	13	Increase in homicide, attempted murder, fraud and sexual assault (level 1); partially offset by decrease in robbery
Peterborough	10	Increase in sexual violations against children, and breaking and entering; partially offset by decrease in homicide
Toronto	1	Increase in fraud; partially offset by decrease in shoplifting of \$5,000 or under
Hamilton	3	Increase in homicide
St. Catharines–Niagara	-7	Decrease in trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cannabis (CDSA) and cocaine, and breaking and entering; partially offset by increase in importation or exportation of cannabis under the <i>Cannabis Act</i> , fraud and homicide
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	-1	Decrease in breaking and entering, as well as administration of justice violations; partially offset by increase in robbery and child pornography
Brantford	-10	Decrease in breaking and entering, motor vehicle theft and arson; partially offset by increase in violent firearm offences and sexual assault (level 1)
Guelph	-9	Decrease in breaking and entering, as well as sexual violations against children; partially offset by increase in fraud
London	-2	Decrease in shoplifting of \$5,000 or under, and fraud; partially offset by increase in theft of \$5,000 or under (non-shoplifting)
Windsor	-8	Decrease in breaking and entering, trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cannabis (CDSA), as well as homicide and theft of \$5,000 or under (non-shoplifting); partially offset by increase in importation or exportation under the <i>Cannabis Act</i>
Barrie	9	Increase in fraud and homicide; partially offset by decrease in breaking and entering
Greater Sudbury	3	Increase in fraud, theft of \$5,000 or under (non-shoplifting), identity fraud, and homicide; partially offset by decrease in breaking and entering

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 11 — end
Violations contributing to the change in the Crime Severity Index, by census metropolitan area, 2018 and 2019

Census metropolitan area (CMA) ^{1, 2, 3}	% change in Crime Severity Index from 2018 to 2019	Violations driving the change in Crime Severity Index
Thunder Bay	2	Increase in shoplifting of \$5,000 or under, and breaking and entering; partially offset by decrease in robbery, trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cannabis (CDSA), and homicide
Winnipeg	10	Increase in homicide, fraud, shoplifting of \$5,000 or under, as well as breaking and entering, and child pornography; partially offset by decrease in robbery
Regina	1	Increase in attempted murder and shoplifting of \$5,000 or under; partially offset by decrease in breaking and entering, and motor vehicle theft
Saskatoon	0 ^s	Decrease in fraud, administration of justice violations, breaking and entering, and theft of \$5,000 or under (non-shoplifting); offset by increase in homicide and robbery
Lethbridge ⁷	2	Increase in breaking and entering and administration of justice violations; partially offset by decrease in fraud and trafficking, production, importation or exportation of cocaine and other drugs
Calgary	4	Increase in breaking and entering, and administration of justice violations
Edmonton	-1	Decrease in breaking and entering, and administration of justice violations; partially offset by increase in shoplifting of \$5,000 or under
Kelowna ⁸	20	Increase in breaking and entering, identity fraud, shoplifting of \$5,000 or under, sexual assault (level 1), and robbery, as well as mischief and uttering threats; partially offset by decrease in fraud and trafficking, production, importation or exportation of methamphetamine
Abbotsford–Mission ⁸	-3	Decrease in homicide, breaking and entering, theft of \$5,000 or under (non-shoplifting), and fraud; partially offset by trafficking, production, importation or exportation of other drugs, and robbery
Vancouver ⁸	11	Increase in child pornography and importation or exportation under the <i>Cannabis Act</i>
Victoria ⁸	16	Increase in breaking and entering, theft of \$5,000 or under (non-shoplifting), and fraud

0^s 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. The Montréal CMA in Quebec accounted for 56% of all importation or exportation offences reported under the *Cannabis Act* (6,323 of the 11,193 offences reported nationally). The high proportion of offences was attributed to cannabis seizures conducted by the Canada Border Services Agency in Montréal that were thought to be related to possible misunderstanding by the public related to the purchase and delivery of cannabis from outside of Canada under the new legislation.

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

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

7. As of the 2016 Census, Belleville and Lethbridge became new CMAs.

8. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia and some of its census metropolitan areas in 2019 may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards for classifying incidents. While the effective date was January 2018 and many police services adopted the new standards that year, some police services, including all of the RCMP detachments across Canada and the municipal police services in British Columbia, transitioned to the new standards on January 1, 2019. Additionally, police services in British Columbia undertook a uniform training strategy to further standardize reporting throughout the province. The new reporting standards were expected to result in an increase in crime rates over time.

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 and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 12
Police-reported crime rate, by census metropolitan area, 2019

Census metropolitan area (CMA) ^{1, 2, 3}	Total crime (crime rate) ⁴		Violent crime		Property crime		Other Criminal Code offences		Drug offences		
	rate	% change 2018 to 2019	rate	% change 2018 to 2019	rate	% change 2018 to 2019	rate	% change 2018 to 2019	rate	% change 2018 to 2019	
St. John's	5,430	0 ^s	-24	1,422	-1	2,923	-1	1,085	2	58	-40
Halifax	4,925	-6	-32	1,310	-5	2,750	-7	865	-7	85	-59
Moncton ⁵	9,068	10	...	1,785	11	5,295	6	1,989	21	180	-11
Saint John ⁵	4,463	-3	...	1,298	-2	2,355	-5	811	-1	58	-46
Saguenay	3,144	5	-28	1,061	8	1,483	2	599	9	106	-47
Québec	2,967	-3	-27	983	1	1,558	-5	427	-3	138	-35
Sherbrooke	3,188	-3	-32	754	-9	1,557	1	877	-4	182	-30
Trois-Rivières	3,259	2	-34	1,050	5	1,719	0 ^s	489	4	122	-39
Montréal	3,303	1	-40	1,000	7	1,918	-2	385	-1	287	-2
Gatineau ⁶	3,530	-1	-33	1,131	-2	1,812	1	587	-6	172	-45
Ottawa ⁷	4,168	7	-8	820	6	2,759	8	589	4	66	-20
Kingston	5,561	3	8	1,037	5	3,718	0 ^s	806	17	64	-39
Belleville ⁸	5,308	6	...	1,207	5	2,727	5	1,374	10	144	-35
Peterborough	4,298	0 ^s	-18	891	4	2,221	0 ^s	1,186	-4	90	-18
Toronto	3,471	1	-9	843	3	2,293	1	334	2	58	-46
Hamilton	4,125	3	-20	892	10	2,664	0 ^s	568	5	128	-44
St. Catharines– Niagara	4,149	4	-22	676	0 ^s	2,821	2	653	14	261	-22
Kitchener– Cambridge– Waterloo	5,276	-4	-5	1,308	10	3,255	-4	713	-22	92	-43
Brantford	5,805	-11	-26	1,261	-6	3,504	-16	1,040	0 ^s	164	-26
Guelph	5,051	-5	2	752	-15	3,235	-4	1,064	1	105	-42
London	5,842	-2	-15	838	-4	4,199	0 ^s	805	-10	99	-41
Windsor	5,316	-4	2	778	-3	3,770	-6	768	3	291	27
Barrie	4,123	8	-25	866	15	2,183	7	1,074	7	105	-17
Greater Sudbury	5,930	4	10	1,263	5	3,689	14	978	-20	80	-22
Thunder Bay	7,046	15	-24	1,619	2	4,363	21	1,064	15	58	-51
Winnipeg	8,658	10	-6	1,403	3	6,505	13	751	-1	76	-25
Regina	9,827	2	-8	1,243	0 ^s	6,359	5	2,225	-5	97	-31
Saskatoon	8,202	-7	-20	1,304	13	5,000	-6	1,898	-17	138	-31
Lethbridge ⁸	11,866	5	...	1,858	0 ^s	7,586	1	2,422	25	608	-10
Calgary	6,625	6	24	1,059	4	4,514	3	1,053	25	94	-14
Edmonton	9,073	3	4	1,232	3	5,706	8	2,135	-10	163	-34

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 12 — end
Police-reported crime rate, by census metropolitan area, 2019

Census metropolitan area (CMA) ^{1, 2, 3}	Total crime (crime rate) ⁴		Violent crime		Property crime		Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences		Drug offences	
	rate	% change 2018 to 2019	rate	% change 2018 to 2019	rate	% change 2018 to 2019	rate	% change 2018 to 2019	rate	% change 2018 to 2019
Kelowna ⁹	10,747	24	1,537	60	7,122	19	2,088	21	415	-35
Abbotsford–Mission ⁹	6,953	-1	1,360	15	4,577	-6	1,016	5	185	9
Vancouver ⁹	7,339	8	1,218	24	4,779	3	1,341	14	353	0 ^s
Victoria ⁹	6,601	14	1,350	10	4,299	12	953	26	124	-26
Canada	5,874	7	1,277	11	3,510	5	1,087	7	187	-19

... not applicable

0^s 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 1 for a list of offences included in the violent crime, property crime and other *Criminal Code* offences 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, data from 2014 to 2019 for the New Brunswick CMAs of Saint John and Moncton are not comparable to previous years.

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

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

8. As of the 2016 Census, Belleville and Lethbridge became new CMAs. As such, data prior to 2016 are not available.

9. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia and some of its census metropolitan areas in 2019 may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards for classifying incidents. While the effective date was January 2018 and many police services adopted the new standards that year, some police services, including all of the RCMP detachments across Canada and the municipal police services in British Columbia, transitioned to the new standards on January 1, 2019. Additionally, police services in British Columbia undertook a uniform training strategy to further standardize reporting throughout the province. The new reporting standards were expected to result in an increase in crime rates over time.

Note: 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 bylaws 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 census metropolitan area 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, Centre for Demography.

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

Table 13
Police-reported crime for selected offences, by census metropolitan area, 2019

Census metropolitan area (CMA) ^{1,2,3}	Homicide ⁴		Sexual assault (levels 1, 2 and 3)		Robbery		Breaking and entering		Motor vehicle theft		Fraud (total)		Shoplifting under \$5,000		Uttering threats	
	number	rate	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019
				rate		rate		rate		rate		rate		rate		rate
St. John's	4	1.92	79	18	58	-25	431	4	96	-19	448	-2	499	6	380	-2
Halifax	3	0.68	95	-41	37	-33	196	-18	83	10	339	-12	53	554	300	15
Moncton	4	2.43	77	13	38	-24	672	-1	283	9	692	-22	427	13	372	10
Saint John	3	2.30	89	1	29	-37	230	-9	67	-14	383	-14	262	8	246	-8
Saguenay	0	0.00	82	17	22	15	300	11	120	4	226	7	140	12	271	18
Québec	5	0.61	62	16	19	4	227	-9	51	-23	323	8	148	-10	186	-5
Sherbrooke	1	0.49	77	1	18	-42	285	6	58	5	284	-5	212	0 ⁵	153	-8
Trois-Rivières	0	0.00	85	6	25	-6	317	-14	113	-12	336	36	127	-6	173	5
Montréal	45	1.05	62	2	64	7	274	-11	172	0 ⁵	362	17	181	1	154	0 ⁵
Gatineau ⁵	3	0.88	67	16	30	-4	260	0 ⁵	73	-10	366	16	237	22	228	-10
Ottawa ⁶	13	1.19	74	-2	69	13	238	-12	107	16	521	18	656	39	120	17
Kingston	3	1.73	95	-24	22	-11	356	-17	116	14	569	25	360	-4	126	-2
Belleville ⁷	4	3.54	129	32	29	-29	301	5	72	-30	519	16	256	11	252	29
Peterborough	1	0.78	103	16	29	47	267	16	61	-15	357	2	330	-18	147	21
Toronto	130	2.03	58	-2	82	-3	234	3	166	5	374	14	323	-26	117	10
Hamilton	14	1.83	80	-5	64	-8	337	0 ⁵	234	-20	379	6	283	13	118	13
St. Catharines–Niagara	6	1.25	75	-6	37	-3	418	-6	179	0 ⁵	472	20	323	5	104	-5
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	5	0.84	102	21	64	23	412	-13	142	-19	580	4	401	20	214	11
Brantford	4	2.66	124	26	58	4	489	-21	379	-31	473	-1	375	5	164	-16
Guelph	0	0.00	94	-1	29	-11	414	-29	132	-10	527	27	372	-6	102	-25
London	5	0.91	76	-7	55	8	448	-2	268	-12	496	-3	376	-18	103	-5
Windsor	6	1.69	57	-11	57	-4	566	-16	284	-4	539	9	364	2	107	-13
Barrie	3	1.18	82	27	44	2	190	-15	98	21	452	27	311	10	131	27
Greater Sudbury	3	1.78	141	13	48	-11	530	-17	153	-9	607	37	361	64	182	17
Thunder Bay	7	5.56	102	-8	131	-18	579	13	224	7	449	8	1,099	83	182	5
Winnipeg	44	5.31	102	3	278	-5	826	6	461	25	510	30	943	54	160	9
Regina	8	3.05	79	-7	118	9	842	-4	588	-12	478	12	727	40	119	5
Saskatoon	16	4.76	118	16	121	12	829	-4	310	-14	581	-14	439	4	132	11
Lethbridge ⁷	0	0.00	131	19	46	-11	898	18	348	4	938	-16	910	18	261	4
Calgary	24	1.57	71	-1	89	1	738	4	520	-4	453	5	492	18	99	13
Edmonton	32	2.20	93	8	111	2	606	-11	434	-7	729	4	1,233	57	162	4

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 13 — end
Police-reported crime for selected offences, by census metropolitan area, 2019

Census metropolitan area (CMA) ^{1, 2, 3}	Homicide ⁴		Sexual assault (levels 1, 2 and 3)		Robbery		Breaking and entering		Motor vehicle theft		Fraud (total)		Shoplifting under \$5,000		Uttering threats	
	number	rate	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019	rate	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019	rate	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019	rate	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019	rate	rate	% change in rate 2018 to 2019
				2019			2019			2019			2019			2019
Kelowna ^{8, 9}	1	0.46	85	97	47	82	809	18	446	16	750	23	851	50	295	96
Abbotsford–Mission ⁸	1	0.50	66	6	57	22	532	-10	383	-5	440	-11	597	19	264	19
Vancouver ⁸	41	1.52	65	22	66	10	536	2	228	-3	503	3	601	20	224	51
Victoria ⁸	2	0.50	82	14	38	13	396	35	135	17	462	11	463	-10	265	31
Canada	678	1.80	82	7	62	2	429	-1	232	0^s	443	10	373	11	216	20

^{0^s} 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.

7. As of the 2016 Census, Belleville and Lethbridge became new CMAs.

8. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia and some of its census metropolitan areas in 2019 may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards for classifying incidents. While the effective date was January 2018 and many police services adopted the new standards that year, some police services, including all of the RCMP detachments across Canada and the municipal police services in British Columbia, transitioned to the new standards on January 1, 2019. Additionally, police services in British Columbia undertook a uniform training strategy to further standardize reporting throughout the province. The new reporting standards were expected to result in an increase in crime rates over time.

9. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime in British Columbia and some of its census metropolitan areas in 2019 may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards for classifying incidents. Additionally, in Kelowna in 2019, a national RCMP Sexual Assault Review Team undertook a review of current and historical sexual assault cases in the RCMP detachment in Kelowna to ensure appropriate use of the reporting standards for classifying incidents as founded or unfounded. As a result, Kelowna's 2018 statistics for sexual assault have been revised from the original counts released in July 2019. As well, the file review and adoption of the new incident clearance codes have likely contributed to a notably higher number of sexual assault incidents when compared to previous years.

Note: 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, Centre for Demography.

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

Table 14
Police-reported youth crime for selected offences, Canada, 2018 and 2019

Type of offence	2018 ^r		2019		Change in rate 2018 to 2019 ¹	Change in rate 2009 to 2019 ¹
	number	rate	number	rate	percent	
Total <i>Criminal Code</i> (excluding traffic) – "Crime rate"	80,692	3,392	77,230	3,210	-5	-51
Total violent crime	31,609	1,329	32,434	1,348	1	-28
Homicide	38	2	25	1	-35	-67
Other violations causing death ²	10	0 ^s	3	0 ^s	...	...
Attempted murder	42	2	55	2	29	-19
Sexual assault - level 3 - aggravated	4	0 ^s	5	0 ^s	...	7
Sexual assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	53	2	49	2	-9	45
Sexual assault - level 1	2,306	97	2,259	94	-3	11
Sexual offence occurring prior to January 4, 1983 ³	52	2	48	2	-9	...
Sexual violations against children ^{4, 5, 6}	1,165	49	1,260	52	7	...
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	282	12	320	13	12	-24
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	4,049	170	4,349	181	6	-30
Assault - level 1	12,355	519	12,374	514	-1	-37
Assault against a peace officer	694	29	764	32	9	-39
Other assaults	113	5	100	4	-12	-66
Firearms - use of, discharge, pointing	219	9	227	9	2	0 ^s
Robbery	2,849	120	3,009	125	4	-23
Forcible confinement or kidnapping	123	5	145	6	17	-51
Trafficking in persons ⁷	8	0 ^s	8	0 ^s	-1	...
Extortion	164	7	189	8	14	13
Criminal harassment	912	38	922	38	0 ^s	-26
Uttering threats	5,044	212	5,026	209	-1	-33
Indecent and harassing phone calls ⁸	436	18	471	20	7	-54
Non-consensual distribution of intimate images ⁹	338	14	385	16	13	...
Offences in relation to sexual services ¹⁰	20	1	16	1	-21	...
Other violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations	333	14	425	18	26	-19

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 14 — continued
Police-reported youth crime for selected offences, Canada, 2018 and 2019

Type of offence	2018 ^r		2019		Change in rate 2018 to 2019 ¹	Change in rate 2009 to 2019 ¹
	number	rate	number	rate	percent	
Total property crime	32,917	1,384	30,051	1,249	-10	-64
Breaking and entering	3,865	162	3,206	133	-18	-69
Possess stolen property ¹¹	1,575	66	1,268	53	-20	...
Theft of motor vehicle	1,666	70	1,374	57	-18	-62
Theft over \$5,000 (non-motor vehicle)	150	6	118	5	-22	-57
Shoplifting under \$5,000	10,611	446	10,183	423	-5	-55
Theft of \$5,000 or under (non-motor vehicle)	4,578	192	3,899	162	-16	-69
Fraud ¹²	1,099	46	1,113	46	0 ^s	-41
Identity theft ¹²	15	1	20	1	32	...
Identity fraud ¹²	91	4	112	5	22	...
Mischief ¹³	8,868	373	8,332	346	-7	-63
Arson	399	17	426	18	6	-65
Total other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences	16,166	680	14,745	613	-10	-49
Weapons violations	1,739	73	1,741	72	-1	-34
Child pornography ^{14, 15}	636	27	745	31	16	773
Prostitution ¹⁰	0	0	2	0 ^s	...	...
Terrorism ¹⁶	1	0 ^s	2	0 ^s	...	...
Disturb the peace	2,601	109	2,249	93	-15	-70
Administration of justice violations	9,955	418	8,910	370	-11	-44
Other violations	1,234	52	1,096	46	-12	-59
Total <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic violations	1,032	43	985	41	-6	-53
Alcohol-impaired driving ¹⁷	300	13	302	13	0 ^s	-71
Drug-impaired driving ¹⁸	81	3	67	3	-18	93
Alcohol- and drug-impaired driving ¹⁹	2	0 ^s	12	0 ^s	...	...
Impaired driving (not specified) ¹⁹	5	0 ^s	7	0 ^s	...	...
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic violations	644	27	597	25	-8	-43
Total drug offences	7,409	311	2,172	90	-71	-87
Total other federal statute violations	4,478	188	3,481	145	-23	-59
Human trafficking under the <i>Immigration and Refugee Protection Act</i> ²⁰	1	0 ^s	1	0 ^s	...	...
<i>Youth Criminal Justice Act</i>	2,544	107	1,989	83	-23	-71
Other federal statutes	1,933	81	1,491	62	-24	-8

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 14 — end
Police-reported youth crime for selected offences, Canada, 2018 and 2019

Type of offence	2018 ^r		2019		Change in rate	Change in rate
	number	rate	number	rate	2018 to 2019 ¹	2009 to 2019 ¹
Total - all violations	93,611	3,935	83,868	3,486	-11	-54

... not applicable

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

^r revised

1. Due to the variability in small numbers, percent changes have not been calculated when the number of offences is below five in any given year.
2. Includes, for example, criminal negligence causing death.
3. In 2019, the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey added a new violation code to collection information on "sexual offences which occurred prior to January 4, 1983." While most violations are not typically reported years after their occurrence, sexual violations may be reported by a victim long after the incident took place due to a variety of reasons. On January 4, 1983, Canadian legislation surrounding sexual offences changed considerably. In order to reflect these changes, the Survey added the new violation code rather than collect historical offences under an existing violation code that did not reflect the state of Canadian legislation at the time of the offence. Therefore, the percentage change from 2009 to 2019 is not shown.
4. Excludes sexual assaults against children and youth, which are reported as level 1, 2 or 3 sexual assault.
5. Sexual violations against children is a relatively new crime category with only partial data available prior to 2010, therefore the percentage change from 2009 to 2019 is not shown.
6. Includes sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, luring a child via telecommunications/agreement or arrangement, making sexually explicit material available to a child for the purpose of facilitating sexual offences against children/youth, and the offences of parent or guardian procuring sexual activity, householder permitting prohibited sexual activity, agreement or arrangement of a sexual offence against a child, and bestiality in the presence of or inciting a child (s. 160(3)). Incidents of child pornography are not included in the category of sexual violations against children.
7. "Trafficking in persons" includes four specific indictable offences to address human trafficking, namely sections 279.01 (Trafficking in persons), 279.011 (Trafficking of a person under the age of eighteen years), 279.02 (Material benefit), and 279.03 (Withholding or destroying documents). Changes to the *Criminal Code*, including the introduction of new offences related to trafficking in persons were made in 2005, 2010, 2012 and 2014. Therefore, the percentage change from 2009 to 2019 is not shown.
8. This offence was amended in 2015 in the former Bill C-13 "*Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act*" to include all means of telecommunication, not only phone calls.
9. Non-consensual distribution of intimate images is an offence created in 2015 by the former Bill C-13 "*Protecting Canadians from Online Crime Act*," therefore the percentage change from 2009 to 2019 is not shown.
10. 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 "offences in relation to sexual services" 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 2009 to 2019 is not shown.
11. Includes trafficking and the intent to traffic stolen goods.
12. 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 2009 to 2019 for fraud includes identity fraud and identity theft.
13. Includes altering/removing/destroying a vehicle identification number.
14. Due to the complexity of cyber incidents, these 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.
15. 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 fall under the category of "violent crimes", and child pornography may be reported as a secondary violation.
16. Includes seven 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*. 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 2009 to 2019 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.
17. 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 not within the scope of the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.
18. 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 not within the scope of the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.
19. Reflects new impaired driving offences as per former Bill C-46 "*An Act to amend the Criminal Code (offences relating to conveyances) and to make consequential amendments to other Acts*," which came into effect part way through 2018.
20. Includes human trafficking violations under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*. Data specific to these offences are not available prior to 2011, therefore, the percentage change from 2009 to 2019 is not shown.

Note: 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. Due to the variability in small numbers, percent changes have not been calculated when the number of offenders is below 5 in any given year. Populations are based on July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography.

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

Table 15
Youth accused of police-reported crime, Canada, 2009 to 2019

Year	Total crime (youth crime rate)			Violent crime			Property crime			Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences		
	number	rate	% change in rate from previous year	number	rate	% change in rate from previous year	number	rate	% change in rate from previous year	number	rate	% change in rate from previous year
2009	167,103	6,515	0 ^s	48,030	1,873	-1	88,309	3,443	1	30,764	1,199	-2
2010	153,728	6,078	-7	46,056	1,821	-3	78,772	3,115	-10	28,900	1,143	-5
2011	136,494	5,486	-10	43,004	1,728	-5	67,230	2,702	-13	26,260	1,055	-8
2012	126,061	5,165	-6	39,560	1,621	-6	61,371	2,515	-7	25,130	1,030	-2
2013	105,084	4,392	-15	33,995	1,421	-12	49,562	2,071	-18	21,527	900	-13
2014	94,782	4,016	-9	30,014	1,272	-10	44,799	1,898	-8	19,969	846	-6
2015	92,770	3,946	-2	29,540	1,257	-1	43,965	1,870	-1	19,265	819	-3
2016	89,118	3,767	-5	30,247	1,279	2	39,995	1,691	-10	18,876	798	-3
2017	89,202	3,765	0 ^s	32,172	1,358	6	38,787	1,637	-3	18,243	770	-3
2018 ^r	80,692	3,392	-10	31,609	1,329	-2	32,917	1,384	-15	16,166	680	-12
2019	77,230	3,210	-5	32,434	1,348	1	30,051	1,249	-10	14,745	613	-10
Percent change 2009 to 2019	...	-51	...	...	-28	...	...	-64	...	...	-49	...

... not applicable

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

^r revised

Note: Crime rates are based on *Criminal Code* violations, excluding traffic offences. See Table 14 for a list of offences included in the categories of violent crime, property crime and other *Criminal Code* offence categories. 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. 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 *Criminal Code* offence 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, Centre for Demography.

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

Table 16
Police-reported youth Crime Severity Indexes, Canada, 2009 to 2019

Year	Total Youth Crime Severity Index		Youth Violent Crime Severity Index		Youth Non-violent Crime Severity Index	
	index	% change from previous year	index	% change from previous year	index	% change from previous year
2009	95.6	0 ^s	96.7	1	94.7	-1
2010	90.0	-6	93.2	-4	87.6	-8
2011	81.7	-9	87.5	-6	77.3	-12
2012	77.4	-5	82.3	-6	73.6	-5
2013	66.2	-15	71.2	-13	62.3	-15
2014	60.6	-8	64.8	-9	57.4	-8
2015	60.4	0 ^s	66.4	2	55.9	-3
2016	59.9	-1	70.9	7	51.8	-7
2017	62.7	5	80.5	14	49.9	-4
2018 ^r	56.6	-10	77.1	-4	42.1	-16
2019	54.6	-4	78.8	2	37.5	-11
Percent change 2009 to 2019	-43	...	-18	...	-60	...

... not applicable

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

^r revised

Note: 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, Centre for Demography.

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

Table 17
Police-reported youth Crime Severity Indexes, by province or territory, 2019

Province or territory	Total Youth Crime Severity Index			Youth Violent Crime Severity Index		Youth Non-violent Crime Severity Index	
	index	% change 2018 to 2019	% change 2009 to 2019	index	% change 2018 to 2019	index	% change 2018 to 2019
Newfoundland and Labrador	45.7	-18	-47	48.3	-16	43.4	-19
Prince Edward Island	30.8	2	-59	32.6	-7	29.4	10
Nova Scotia	51.0	-13	-59	59.1	-20	45.1	-6
New Brunswick	47.8	-1	-58	64.6	21	35.9	-19
Quebec	59.4	2	-14	91.0	12	37.3	-11
Ontario	48.0	-6	-45	75.5	-2	28.9	-11
Manitoba	98.0	-10	-50	139.4	-3	68.9	-18
Saskatchewan	109.5	-6	-55	130.9	4	94.0	-15
Alberta	52.3	-8	-49	70.7	-7	39.3	-9
British Columbia	38.3	13	-48	49.6	29	30.3	0 ^s
Yukon	105.3	-30	-65	90.2	-27	114.6	-32
Northwest Territories	203.3	-5	-53	198.2	16	204.9	-15
Nunavut	226.8	8	-49	240.8	34	215.2	-6
Canada	54.6	-4	-43	78.8	2	37.5	-11

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

Note: 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, Centre for Demography.

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