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## **Youth crime in Canada, 2014**

by Mary K. Allen and Tamy Superle  
Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics

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

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## Youth crime in Canada, 2014: highlights

- There were almost 101,000 youth aged 12 to 17 accused of *Criminal Code* violations (excluding traffic) reported by police in 2014, resulting in a youth crime rate of 4,322 per 100,000 youth population. While youth make up 7% of the Canadian population, they comprise 13% of persons accused of crime.
- For the most part, police-reported youth crime involves relatively minor offences. The most frequent criminal offences committed by youth in 2014 were theft of \$5,000 and under (960 per 100,000 youth), mischief (574), and common assault (546) (one of the less serious violent crimes). The rate of cannabis possession was also high (531), as were the combined rates of youth accused of offences related to the administration justice together with violations under the YCJA (565 and 207 respectively).
- The police-reported youth crime rate has been falling steadily since 2006, continuing a longer term downward trend since peaking in 1991. Between 2000 and 2014, the youth crime rate declined 42%, a notably larger decline than the drop in overall crime (-34%). This drop in youth crime was primarily driven by a 51% decrease in the rate of youth accused of property crime, particularly in theft of \$5,000 and under and break and enter.
- The rate of youth accused of crime in 2014 was lower than the rate for young adults aged 18 to 24 (5,428 per 100,000 population), but over twice the accused rate for adults aged 25 and over (2,048 per 100,000 population). These differences, however, varied by offence.
- The rate of individuals accused in property crimes such as break and enter or theft was highest among youth aged 12 to 17, while violent crime was more common among young adults aged 18 to 24. Among all police-reported criminal offences, rates of accused were higher for youth than for adults in incidents of theft of \$5,000 and under, break and enter, sexual assault level 1 and sexual violations against children.
- One in ten incidents where a youth was accused occurred at school during school hours or a supervised activity. Violent crime (19%) and drug offences (27%) where a youth was accused were more likely to occur at school than property crimes. Cannabis possession and common assault were the most frequent offences with youth accused occurring at school.
- Among police-reported criminal incidents involving youth accused in 2014, one quarter (26%) involved more than one accused. By comparison, in incidents involving adult accused where no youth was involved, a much smaller proportion involved more than one accused in the criminal act (7%). As a result, among all youth accused of crime in 2014, 42% were co-offenders compared to 24% of young adult accused and 14% of older adult accused.
- In keeping with the principles and objectives of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA)*, which aim to divert youth away from the formal court system especially when accused of relatively minor offences, 48% of youth accused of crime in 2014 were charged by police compared to 63% of adults.
- Among youth accused, charge rates were higher for violent offences (51%). For property offences, 38% of youth accused were charged. Instead, most youth accused of property offences were cleared by means other than a charge, such as warnings and cautions, or referrals to community programs or other extrajudicial sanctions programs under the YCJA.
- The rate at which youth were charged by police dropped considerably with the introduction of the YCJA in 2003. In addition, there has been a notable, although more gradual, decline in the proportion of youth who are sentenced to custody.

## Youth crime in Canada, 2014

by Mary K. Allen and Tamy Superle

Youth criminal behaviour is a major concern for most societies, specifically when it comes to how youth are treated within the justice system.<sup>1</sup> For example, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child provides a framework for the treatment of accused under age 18, stipulating that states recognize the rights of children accused of crimes to be “treated in a manner ... which takes into account the child’s age and the desirability of promoting the child’s reintegration and the child’s assuming a constructive role in society” (United Nations 1989). In addition, crime prevention initiatives often focus on young people with the hope that programs will have long-term impacts on crime reduction. Research internationally and over time has shown that youth are more likely to be accused of crime than adults (Ullmer and Steffensmeier 2014). Moreover, research has shown that the majority of adult offenders committed their first criminal acts as youth, and only a minority of offenders commit crime for the first time as adults (Farrington et al. 2012; Piquero et al. 2012).

Not all youth offenders, however, are destined for a life of crime. Many youth who commit crimes may be one-time offenders committing minor crimes such as mischief or petty theft, and many “age out” of criminal behaviour as they transition into adulthood (Massoglia and Uggen 2010). In Canada, it has long been recognized that youth (aged 12 to 17) accused of a crime should be handled differently by the justice system than their adult counterparts, since it is felt that those under the age of 18 lack the maturity of adults, are considered less blameworthy or culpable than adults and hence should not be treated in the same way (Davis-Barron 2009; Department of Justice 2013; Farrington et al. 2012; Howell et al. 2013). In 1991, Canada ratified the UN Convention on Children’s Rights which addresses the treatment of youth accused of crime.

In 2003, the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA) replaced the *Young Offenders Act* and marked a significant shift in the way that the Canadian criminal justice system dealt with youth accused of criminal activity (see Text box 1 for more details). One of the foundations of the YCJA is the principle of “fair and proportionate accountability that is consistent with the greater dependency of young persons and their reduced level of maturity” (YCJA, s. 3(1)(b)(ii)).

The *Youth Criminal Justice Act* provides for more age-appropriate responses to youth crime, acknowledging that extrajudicial measures which do not involve the formal court system “are often the most appropriate and effective way to address youth crime [and] allow for effective and timely interventions focused on correcting offending behaviour” (YCJA, s.4(b)). The *Act* aims to divert youth offenders involved in less serious types of crime with extrajudicial measures, and, as a result, reduce “the over-reliance on incarceration for non-violent young persons”. At the same time, the *Act* allows for more serious consequences for violent crime, especially for the most serious offenders (YCJA, Preamble).

This *Juristat* article uses data from the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey to examine youth crime reported by police in 2014. In addition, the report uses data from the Integrated Criminal Courts Survey (ICCS) to chart trends in court processing of youth from 2000 to 2014, including the period before and after the introduction of the YCJA in 2003.

### Text box 1

#### The Youth Criminal Justice Act

In 2003, the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA) replaced the *Young Offenders Act* (YOA) in order to deal less severely with youth aged 12 to 17 accused of less serious offences, particularly first-time offenders, while ensuring serious consequences for youth involved in the most serious crimes (Department of Justice 2013).<sup>2</sup>

Under the YCJA, before a youth can be charged with an offence, police and prosecutors are required to consider whether it is sufficient for the youth to be dealt with by other means or “extrajudicial measures”, especially where the offence is non-violent and the youth has no previous offending behaviour. The police officer may “take no further action, warn the young person, administer a caution ... or, with the consent of the young person, refer the young person to a program or agency in the community that may assist the young person not to commit offences” (YCJA, s. 6 (1)).

If these options are not considered adequate, the Crown can also make use of more formal extrajudicial sanctions. These are defined programs which may include community service, an apology, service and/or restitution to a victim, or counseling and intervention programs. If a youth fails to meet the conditions of these formal sanctions, they may be prosecuted in Youth Court for the original offence. If they meet the conditions of the formal sanctions imposed, the charge will not proceed.

If they are found guilty by the court, the YCJA lays out a variety of sentencing options aimed at ensuring that youth are held accountable through meaningful consequences that reflect the seriousness of the crime. Sentencing options include reprimands, discharge (with or without conditions), fines, compensation or restitution, community service, probation, referral to a support and supervision program or other non-residential program, or, in the most serious cases, custody. For youth aged 14 and older charged with the most serious offences, such as homicide or aggravated sexual assault, the Crown must consider whether it would be appropriate to make an application for an adult sentence (YCJA, s. 64).

Violations under the YCJA include violations by individuals of any age assisting a young person to unlawfully leave a place of custody or infringing a publication ban on naming an offender, as well as violations by youth accused such as failure to comply with the conditions of a youth sentence (ex. breach of probation).

## Youth crime rate

### Police-reported youth crime rate lower than the rate for young adults aged 18 to 24, but double that of older adults aged 25 and over

In total, there were almost 101,000 youth aged 12 to 17 accused of *Criminal Code* violations reported by police in 2014, resulting in a youth crime rate of 4,322 youth accused per 100,000 youth population (Table 1).<sup>3</sup> While youth made up 7% of the Canadian population, they comprised 13% of persons accused of crime in 2014.<sup>4</sup> The number of youth accused includes youth who were either charged or recommended for charging, as well as those who were diverted from the formal criminal justice system through means that include warnings, cautions and referrals to community programs.

The overall rate of youth accused of *Criminal Code* offences in 2014 was 1.8 times higher than the rate of adult accused (4,322 vs. 2,452). When comparing youth and adult crime, however, it is important to distinguish between young adults (defined here as those between the ages of 18 to 24) and older adults 25 years of age and over. The rate of youth accused of crime was, in fact, lower than the rate for young adults aged 18 to 24 (5,428 per 100,000 young adults), but over twice the accused rate for older adults (2,048 per 100,000 older adults).

In addition to the youth who were accused of violations under the *Criminal Code* in 2014, there were approximately 15,300 youth accused in drug offences under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*, for a rate of 657 per 100,000 youth.<sup>5</sup> This was about three times the rate for older adults aged 25 and over (215 per 100,000 older adults), but substantially lower than the rate for young adults aged 18 to 24 (1,108 per 100,000 young adults).

In 2014, a total of about 1,200 youth were accused in *Criminal Code* traffic incidents, and about 5,000 accused in other federal statute violations, which includes those accused of violating the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (see Text box 1 for description of *YCJA* offences).

#### Text box 2

##### Measuring police-reported youth crime

Similar to the overall crime rate, the police-reported youth crime rate is comprised of violent crime, property crime, and other *Criminal Code* violations. It is important to note, however, that unlike the overall crime rate, which is based on the number of criminal incidents per 100,000 population, the youth crime rate measures the number of individuals aged 12 to 17 accused in a criminal incident per 100,000 youth (both charged and cleared without charge).<sup>6</sup> Similarly, the adult rates in this report are calculated as the number of adults accused per 100,000 of the relevant adult age group (such as the young adult accused rate per 100,000 young adults).

The overall youth crime rate, like the overall crime rate, does not include *Criminal Code* traffic offences or offences under other Federal Statutes such as drug offences or violations specific to the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*. Information on these offences is presented separately in this analysis.

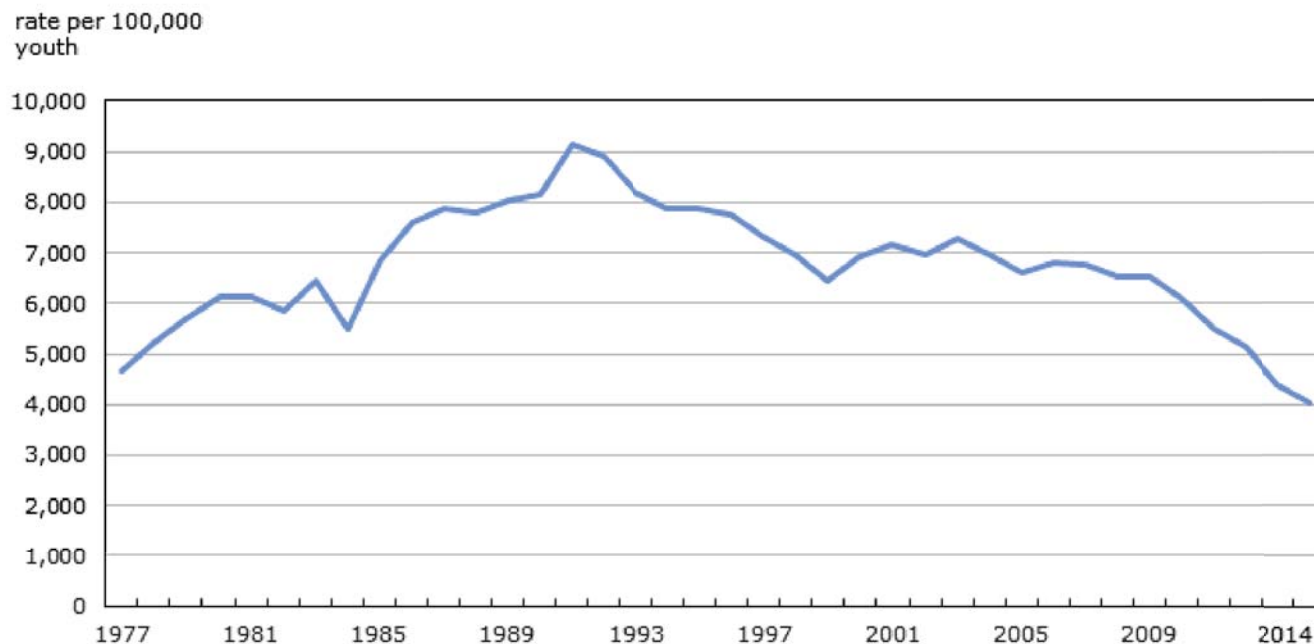
Another measure presented in this report is the Youth Crime Severity Index (YCSI). The YCSI is a measure which not only takes into account the volume of crime, but also the seriousness of crime, and includes traffic violations as well as drug offences, violations under the *YCJA* and other federal offences.

In Canada, children under the age of 12 cannot be held criminally responsible for violations of the law. They can, however, be identified by police as accused. There were about 5,400 “child accused” in 2014, comprising less than 1% of individuals accused in police-reported criminal incidents.

### Police-reported youth crime rate on the decline

The police-reported youth crime rate has fallen steadily since 2006, continuing a longer term downward trend since peaking in 1991. The youth crime rate fell through the 1990s, then increased slightly during the first few years of this century before resuming its decline (Chart 1). Between 2000 and 2014, the police-reported youth crime rate declined 42%, a notably larger decrease than the drop in the overall crime rate (-34%) over the same time period (Chart 2). This drop in the youth crime rate was primarily driven by a large (51%) decrease in the rate of youth accused of property crime, particularly in theft of \$5,000 and under and break and enter.

**Chart 1**  
**Rates of youth accused of crime, 1977 to 2014**

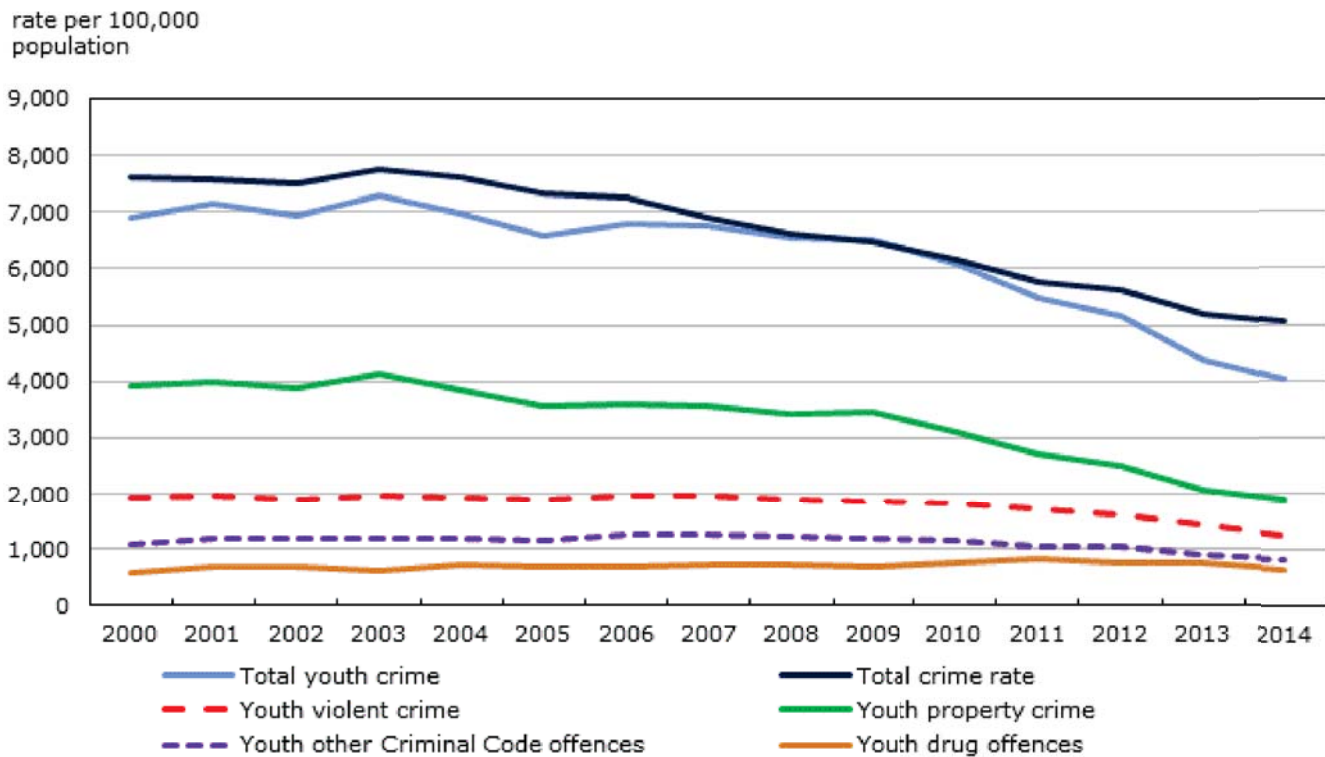


**Note:** Youth crime is the rate of youth (aged 12 to 17) accused in *Criminal Code* offences (excluding traffic). Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Rates in this chart are based on the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) and differ slightly from the rates in the tables and text of this report. (See 'Survey descriptions'). In addition, information presented in this chart represents data from the UCR Aggregate (UCR1) Survey, which 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 as presented in Chart 3.

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



**Chart 2**  
**Police-reported crime and youth crime rates, by offence type, 2000 to 2014**



**Note:** Youth crime is the rate of youth (aged 12 to 17) accused in *Criminal Code* offences (excluding traffic). Total crime rate is the rate of incidents of *Criminal Code* offences (excluding traffic) reported by police. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Rates in this chart are based on the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) and differ slightly from the rates in the tables and text of this report. (See 'Survey description').

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

The severity of police-reported youth crime, as measured by the YCSI, fell at the same rate as the youth crime rate over this same period. Between 2000 and 2014, the YCSI fell 42% compared to a 38% drop for the overall Crime Severity Index (See definition in Text box 7).

In contrast to the decline in the rate of youth accused in *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic), the rate of youth accused in drug offences (under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*) was 11% higher in 2014 than in 2000. However, youth drug crime has been falling since it peaked in 2011. The trend in drug crime has been mainly driven by changes in the rate of youth accused in incidents of cannabis possession, which accounted for about 80% of youth accused of drug offences in 2014.

## Nature of crimes committed by youth

**The most frequent criminal offences committed by youth were theft of \$5,000 and under, mischief, common assault, cannabis possession and offences related to the administration of justice**

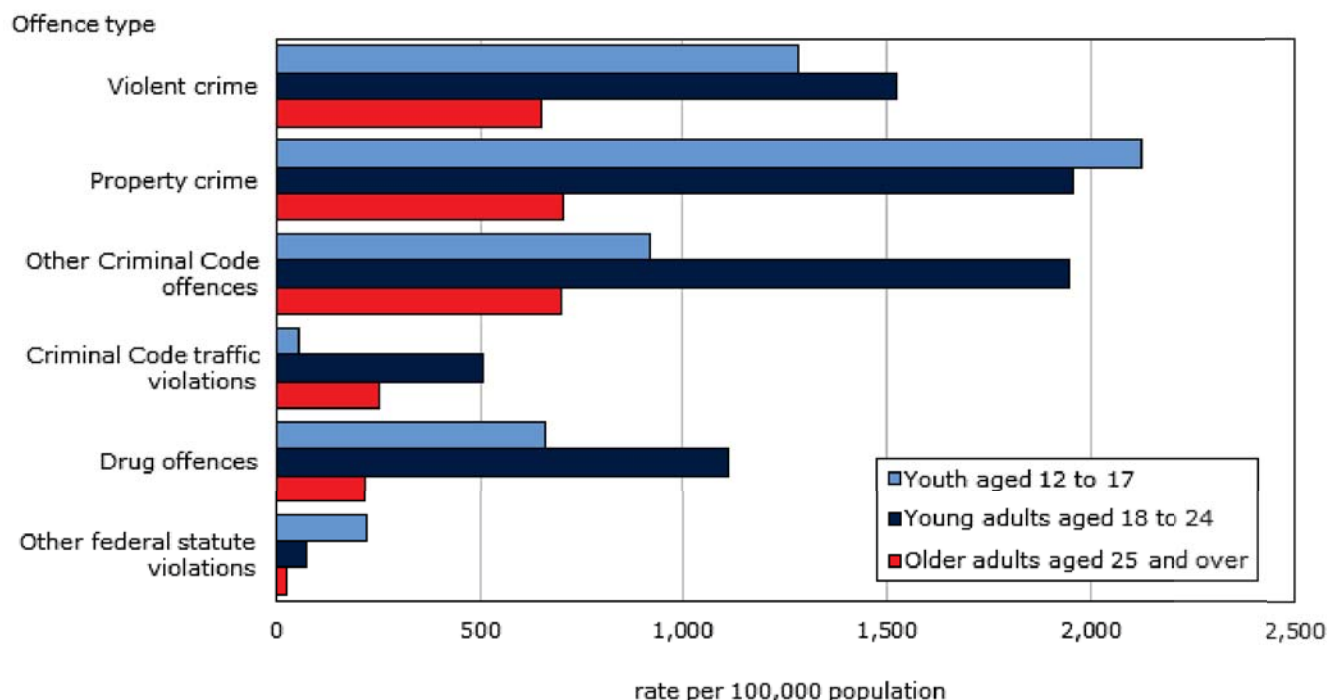
For the most part, police-reported youth crime involves relatively minor offences. The most frequent criminal offences committed by youth in 2014 were theft of \$5,000 and under (960 per 100,000 youth), mischief (574), and common assault (546) (one of the less serious violent crimes). The rate of cannabis possession was also high (531), as were the combined rates of youth accused of offences related to the administration justice together with violations under the *YCJA* (565 and 207 respectively) (Table 1).<sup>7</sup>



**Youth were notably more likely than adults to be accused in incidents of robbery, theft, break and enter, sexual assault and sexual violations against children**

While differences in youth and adult accused rates varied by offence, generally speaking, rates of property crimes (such as break and enter or theft) were highest among youth (Chart 3). Young adults aged 18 to 24, by comparison, had the highest rates for violent crime and other *Criminal Code* offences (such as disturbing the peace, offences related to the administration of justice and drug offences).<sup>8</sup>

**Chart 3**  
**Persons accused of selected offences, by age group of accused and offence type, 2014**



**Note:** Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population in each age group. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Excludes accused where age is over 89. See table 1 for a list of offences comprising each offence type.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey, 2014.

For some specific offences, however, youth had notably higher rates than other age groups. In 2014, youth were more likely than adults (both younger and older) to be accused of theft of \$5,000 and under, break and enter, sexual assault level 1 and sexual violations against children. In addition, they also had the highest rates for robbery, uttering threats and motor vehicle theft as compared to adults.

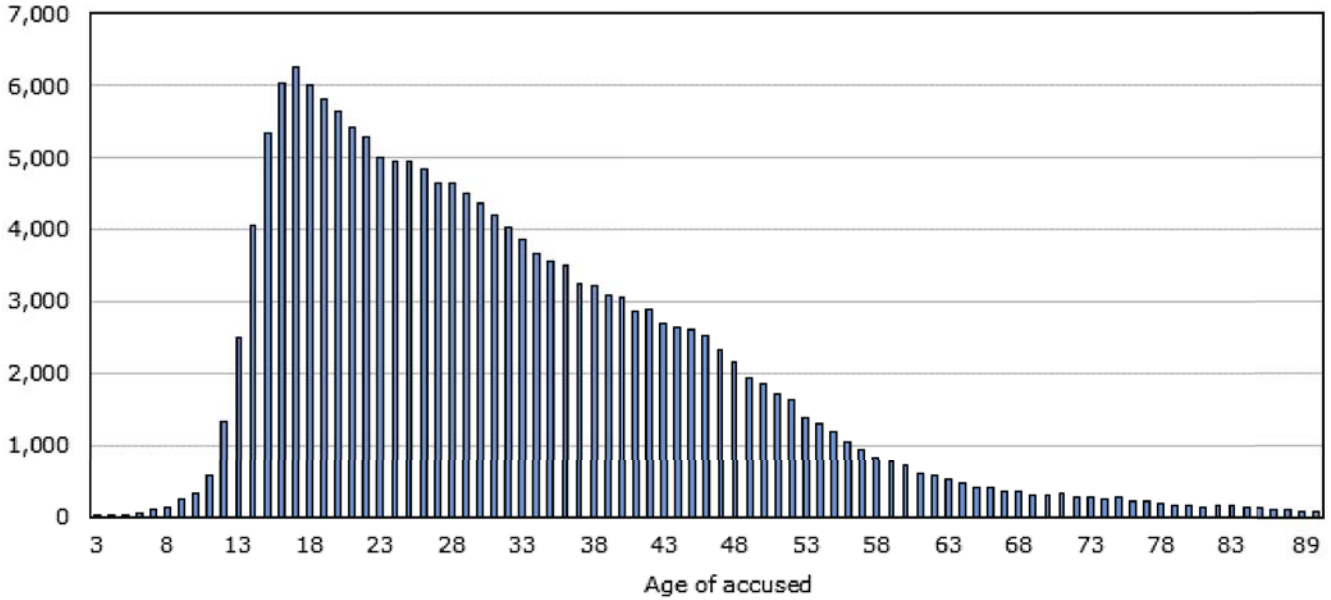
**Police-reported crime highest at age 17, and even younger for some offences**

According to 2014 police-reported data, the peak age at which individuals were accused of crimes was 17 years (Table 2). The rate of youth accused at 12 years of age was lowest at 1,317 per 100,000 while those 17 years of age had a rate of 6,242 per 100,000 (Chart 4).<sup>9</sup> The relationship between age and crime has been noted in other studies in Canada and elsewhere, and a number of explanations can be found in the literature. Research suggests, for example, that desistance from crime is a result of a combination of psychological and social factors. These factors include brain development and maturity, as well as transitions into adulthood with accompanying employment and changes in family situations, social context and peer groups (Farrington et al. 2012; Howell et al. 2013; Steinberg et al. 2015; Sweeten et al. 2013; Ullmer and Steffensmeier 2014).

For some specific crimes, accused rates were highest before age 17 (Table 2, Chart 5).<sup>10</sup> In particular, in 2014, the rate of persons accused of sexual assault and sexual violations against children was highest among younger youth (see Text box 3).

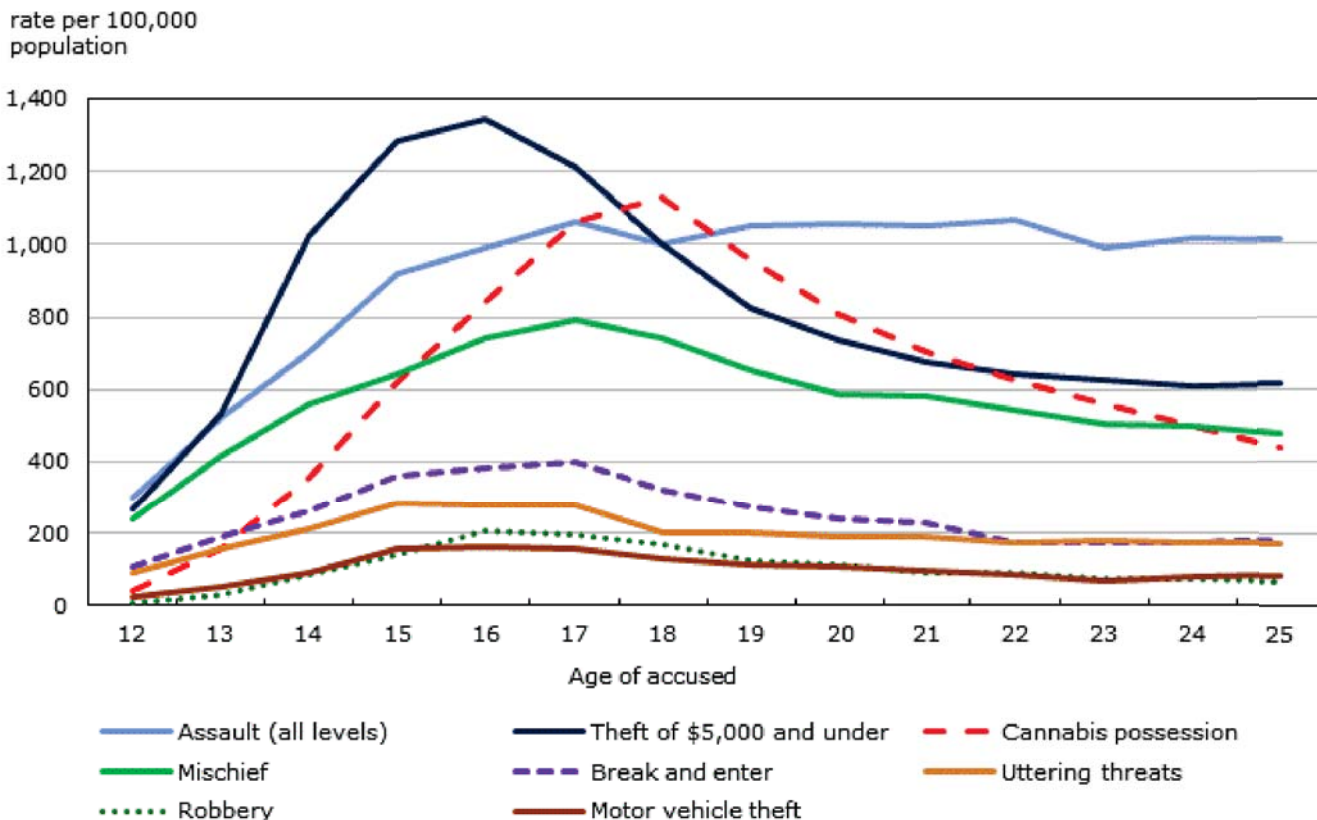
**Chart 4**  
**Rate of persons accused, by age, 2014**

rate per 100,000  
 population



**Note:** Rates are for all *Criminal Code* offences (excluding traffic). Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population at each age. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Accused under age 12 cannot be charged with an offence under the *Criminal Code*.  
**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey, 2014.

**Chart 5**  
**Rates of youth and young adult accused, selected offences, by age of accused, 2014**



**Note:** Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population at each age. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Assault includes all levels and types of assault (see Table 1), excluding sexual assaults.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey, 2014.

In incidents of motor vehicle theft, uttering threats, robbery and theft of \$5,000 and under, accused rates were highest between the ages of 15 and 17, and then declined. Rates of assault (all types), however, were highest among youth at age 17, and remained high among young adults aged 18 to 24. For disturbing the peace and administration of justice offences, rates increased with age among youth and were highest among young adults.

For drug offences, rates of accused increased through adolescence, with the highest rates of cannabis offences recorded between age 17 and 19. However, crime related to other drugs such as cocaine or heroin was highest among young adults, especially those aged 20 to 24.

**Use of weapons in police-reported youth crime**

Weapons (knives, firearms, or other weapons such as a club or blunt instrument) were slightly more likely to be present in violent incidents involving youth accused than those where no youth was involved (21% vs. 16%).<sup>11</sup> Regardless of the age of the accused, very few criminal incidents in 2014 involved a firearm. A firearm was present in 2.8% of violent incidents involving at least one youth accused, and 1.5% of violent incidents involving only adult accused.

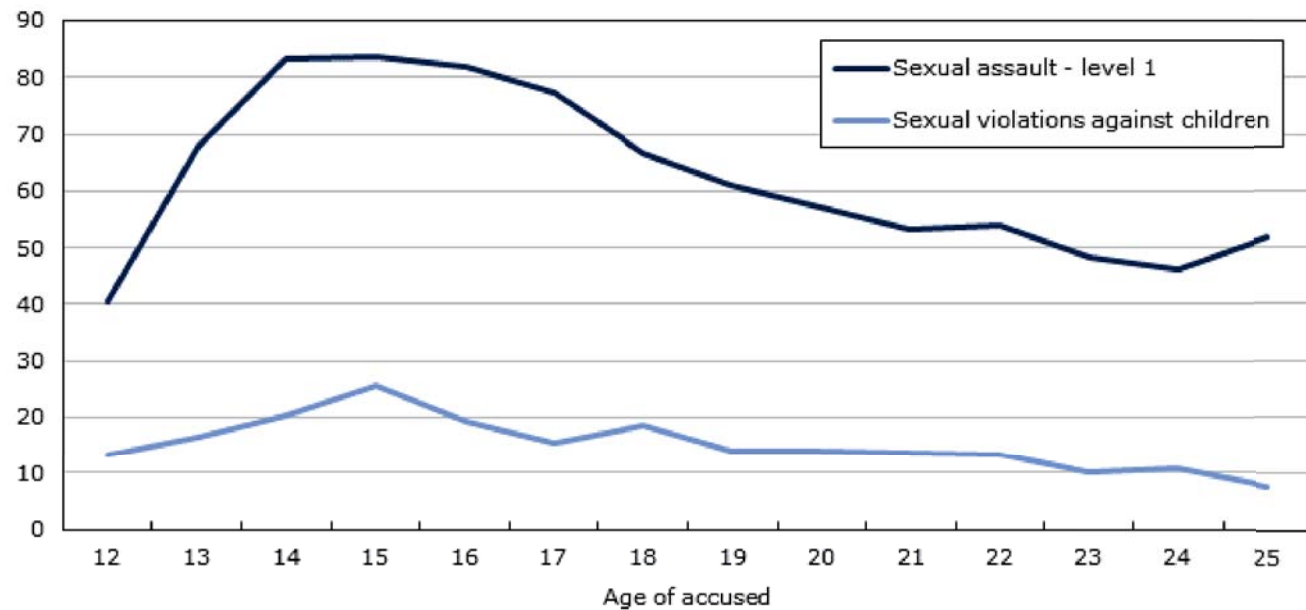
Weapons were not present in most violent crimes occurring on school property, either during or after supervised hours. In 2014, 13% of violent incidents involving youth accused that took place on school grounds at any time involved weapons, primarily knives or blunt instruments (1% involved a firearm or firearm-like weapon). Three-quarters (77%) involved physical force or threats.

**Text box 3****Rates of police-reported sexual offences highest among youth**

According to police-reported data in 2014, youth accounted for 17% of persons accused of sexual offences (both sexual assaults and sexual violations against children). Youth comprised 26% of all accused in sexual offences involving victims under the age of 18.<sup>12</sup> The highest rates for all individuals accused of sexual assault (level 1) in 2014 were among youth 14 to 16 years of age (primarily boys) (Chart 6). Moreover, the peak age of accused in sexual assault (level 1) in 2014 was higher than over the previous five years (combined). The highest rates of persons accused of sexual assault (level 1) between 2009 and 2013 were among those aged 13 and 14 years. An American study on young sexual offenders in 2004 found that sexual offending “increases sharply at age 12 and plateaus after age 14,” and that offences against younger children peaked in early adolescence (Finkelhor 2009). This study also cited research showing that a large majority of juvenile sex offenders are not repeat sexual offenders.

**Chart 6****Rates of youth and young adult accused, sexual offences, by age of accused, 2014**

rate per 100,000 population



**Note:** Sexual violations against children includes sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, luring a child via a computer/agreement or arrangement, and (as of 2012) making sexually explicit material available to a child for the purpose of facilitating sexual offences against children/youth, and excludes sexual assaults against children and youth, which are reported as level 1, 2 or 3 sexual assault. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population at each age. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey, 2014.

Sexual violations against children include a variety of *Criminal Code* sexual offences specific to child victims (see Text box 7 for more detail). The most common of these is sexual interference, which accounted for 62% of youth accused of sexual violations against children committed in 2014. Another 18% were accused of invitation to sexual touching, and 17% accused of luring a child with a computer. These proportions were similar among adult accused (61% sexual interference, 15% invitation to sexual touching, and 18% luring a child with a computer).

In sexual offences of all types where the relationship between victim and accused could be clearly identified (specifically in incidents where there was a single accused and single victim), 64% of youth accused were a friend or acquaintance, and 31% were family members of the victim.

For about four in ten (41%) youth accused in a sexual offence, the victim was a child under 12 years of age (in incidents with single accused and single victim). In fact, youth accused accounted for 33% of all sexual offences where the victim was a child. Most (79%) of these youth accused with child victims were 12 to 15 years of age. The accused was a family member of the victim in over half (57%) of incidents where a youth was accused of sexual offences (including sexual assault) against a child, most often a sibling (33%).

Younger youth (aged 12 to 15) were most likely to be charged by police when the victim was a child (61%) and least likely to be charged in sexual offences involving peers (49%). Similarly, charge rates for older youth (aged 16 and 17) were also highest (73%) when the victim was a child. Nearly two-thirds (65%) of 16 to 17 year olds were charged when the victim was in the same age group. When the victim was an adult, 59% of 12 to 15 year olds accused and 72% of 16 to 17 year olds were charged.<sup>13</sup>

#### **Text box 4**

##### **Gang-related homicides consistently higher for youth than for adults**

Homicide is the most serious criminal offence and one of great concern to the public and policy makers. There is particular concern when youth are involved in homicide. According to the Homicide Survey, there were 25 youth accused of homicide in 2014, notably fewer than in 2013 (40) and also below the 10 year average (58). Overall youth accused of homicide accounted for 6% of all individuals accused of homicide in 2014. This is lower than the ten year average: Between 2005 and 2014, 10% of individuals accused of homicide were youth.

According to the Homicide Survey, youth were more likely than adults to co-offend in homicides (where there was more than one individual accused). Over the ten year period from 2005 to 2014, 60% of youth accused in homicides were co-offenders compared to 35% of adults.

Similarly, over the past decade the proportion of gang-related homicides was also consistently greater for youth than for adults. From 2005 to 2014, 29% of homicides involving a youth accused were identified as gang related, a much larger proportion than was found among homicides involving adult accused (14%).<sup>14</sup>

## **Police-reported youth crime at school**

### **About one in ten police-reported crimes involving a youth accused occurred at school**

According to police-reported statistics in 2014, a private residence was the most frequent location for all criminal incidents, regardless of whether the accused was an adult or a youth. In addition, 12% of criminal incidents involving at least one youth accused occurred on school property (10% at school during or just outside regular school hours or during a school-sanctioned extracurricular activity such as at a supervised school dance or sporting event).

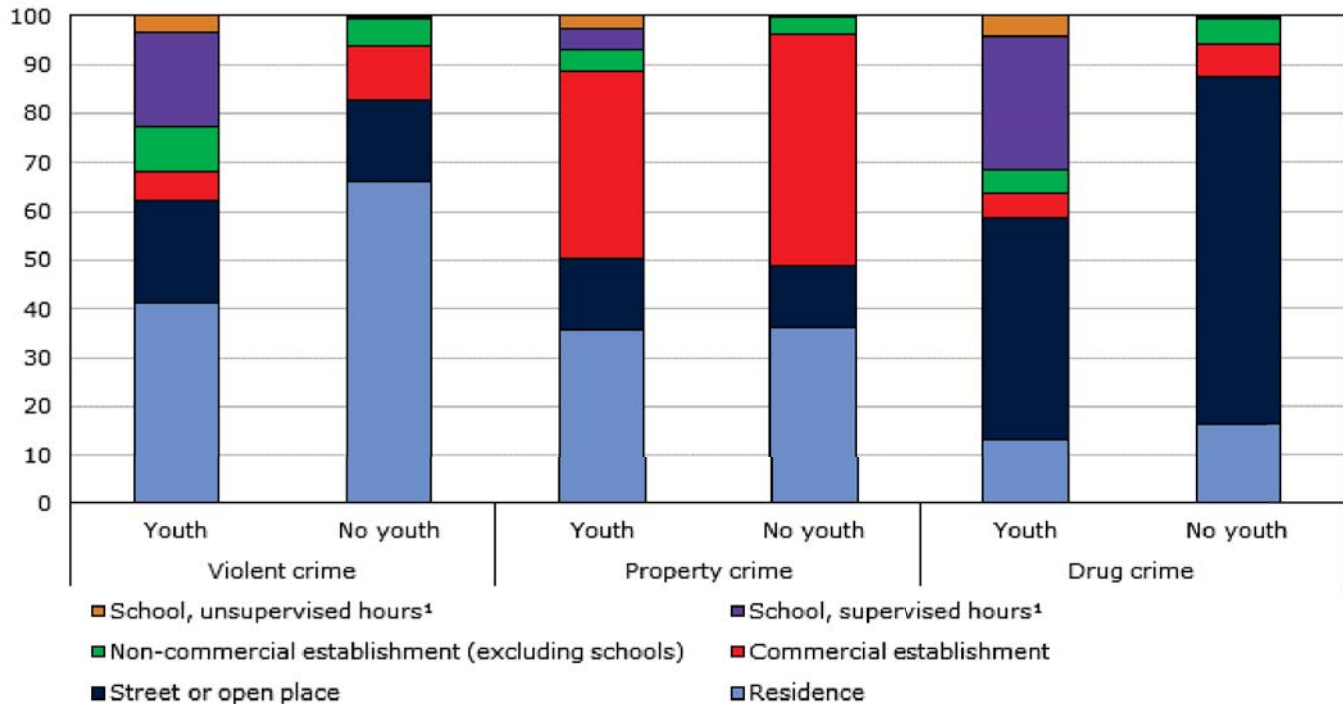
### **Cannabis possession and common assault most frequent crimes committed by youth at school**

Among police-reported criminal incidents in 2014 where youth were accused, one in five (19%) violent criminal incidents and more than one quarter (27%) of drug crimes occurred at school during or just outside supervised hours or during school-sanctioned extracurricular activities (Chart 7). In particular, the most frequent offences involving youth accused occurring at school during supervised activity were cannabis possession and common assault, representing 23% and 22% (respectively) of all incidents committed by youth at school. Uttering threats constituted another 12%. Property crime by youth occurred less often at school (4%) (Chart 8).



**Chart 7**  
**Location of criminal incidents, by involvement of youth accused,**  
**selected offences, 2014**

percent of incidents



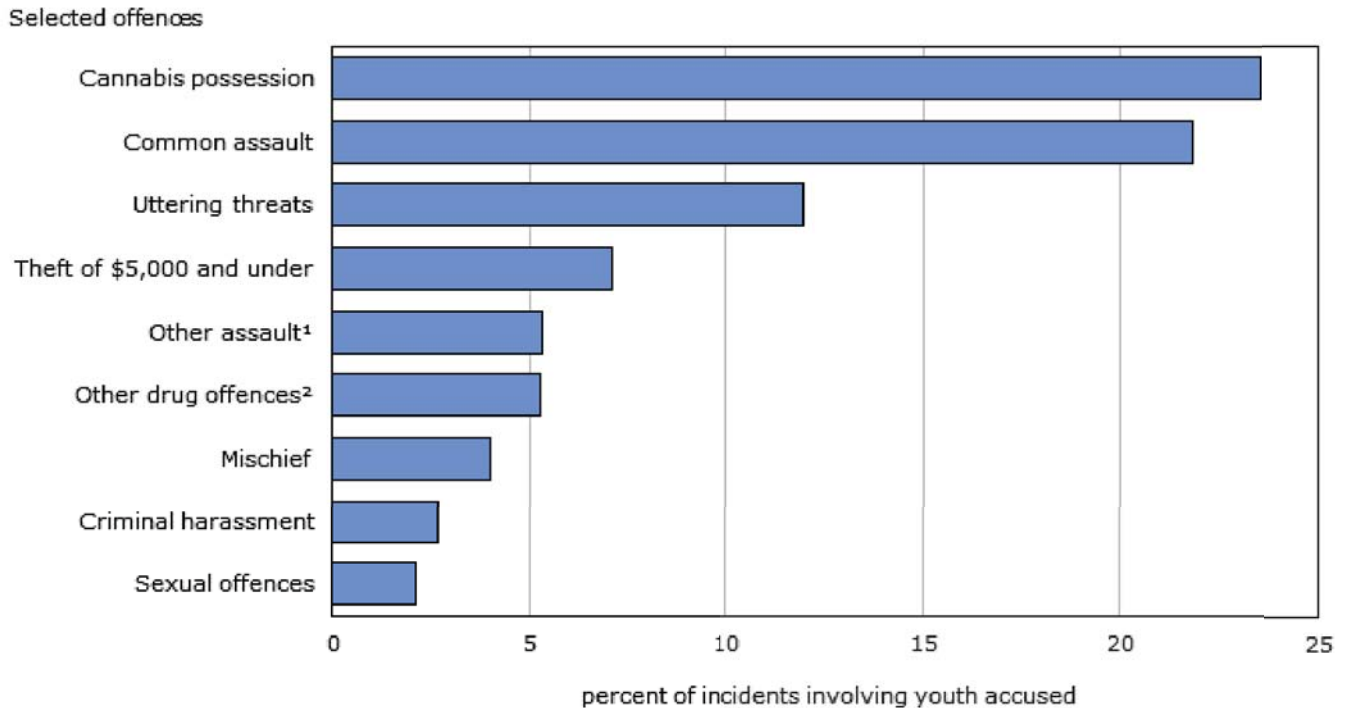
1. Includes all police-reported incidents occurring in school or on school grounds during or just outside of regular school hours or during a school-sanctioned extracurricular activity.

**Note:** Incidents involving youth include incidents with single youth accused as well as incidents with multiple offenders where at least one accused was aged 12 to 17. Excludes incidents involving only child accused (under age 12) or where age of any of the accused is unknown or over 89. Excludes incidents where location is unknown. See table 1 for a list of offences comprising each offence type.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey, 2014.



**Chart 8**  
**Selected offences as a proportion of police-reported incidents with youth accused committed at school during supervised hours, 2014**



1. Other assault includes assault levels 2 and 3, assault against a peace officer, violent firearm offences and other assaults.

2. Other drug offences includes possession of drugs other than cannabis and trafficking, production or distribution of cannabis and other drugs.

**Note:** Incidents involving youth include incidents with single youth accused as well as incidents with multiple offenders where at least one accused was aged 12 to 17. Excludes incidents involving only child accused (under age 12) or where age of any of the accused is unknown or over 89. Includes all police-reported incidents occurring in school or on school grounds during or just outside of regular school hours or during a school-sanctioned extracurricular activity. Includes *Criminal Code* violations as well as drug offences and violations of other federal statutes.

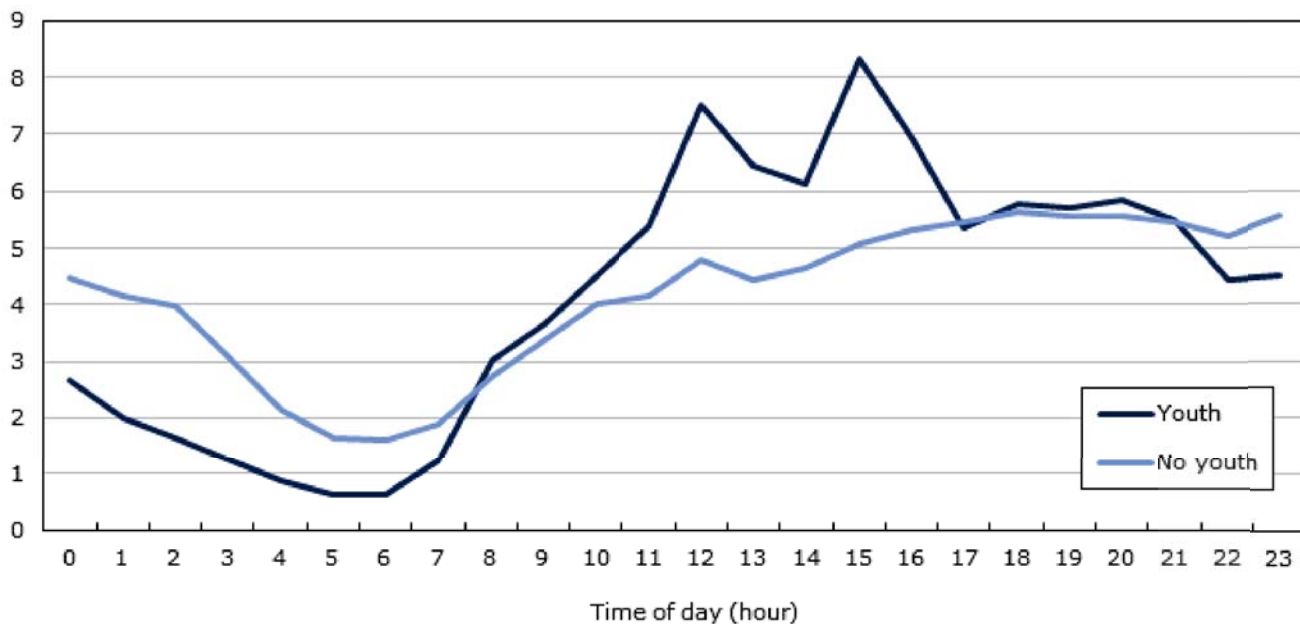
**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey, 2014.

An examination of the times of the day when criminal incidents occurred also highlights differences between youth and adult crime. Specifically, violent incidents involving youth accused occurred most frequently at noon hour (between 12 and 1 pm) or shortly after school (between 3 pm and 4 pm) (Chart 9). Violent crimes in which only an adult or adults were accused did not peak during these periods and were generally highest during evening hours (5 pm to midnight).

Property and drug crimes involving youth accused did not show similar peak activity at noon and after school. Instead, property crime tended to occur in the late afternoon and drug crimes at night whether there was a youth accused or not.

**Chart 9**  
**Time of day of violent criminal incidents, by involvement of youth accused, 2014**

percent of incidents



**Note:** Includes all *Criminal Code* violations (excluding traffic). Incidents involving youth include incidents with single youth accused as well as incidents with multiple offenders where at least one accused was aged 12 to 17. Excludes incidents involving only child accused (under age 12) or where age of any of the accused is unknown or over 89. Excludes incidents where time of incident is unknown. For incidents where a time range is reported, time of day is the most recent time reported.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey, 2014.

## Co-offending among youth

### Youth more likely than adults to be involved in crimes involving more than one accused

Consistent with previous research (Carrington et al. 2013), co-offending, where there are multiple individuals accused in a criminal incident, is relatively uncommon in police-reported crime in Canada. Of the 709,685 cleared criminal incidents reported by police in 2014, 10% involved more than one accused person (co-offending). Among criminal incidents involving youth accused in 2014, however, one quarter (26%) involved more than one accused. By comparison, in incidents involving adult accused in which no youth accused was involved, a much smaller proportion involved more than one accused in the criminal act (7%) (Table 3).<sup>15</sup>

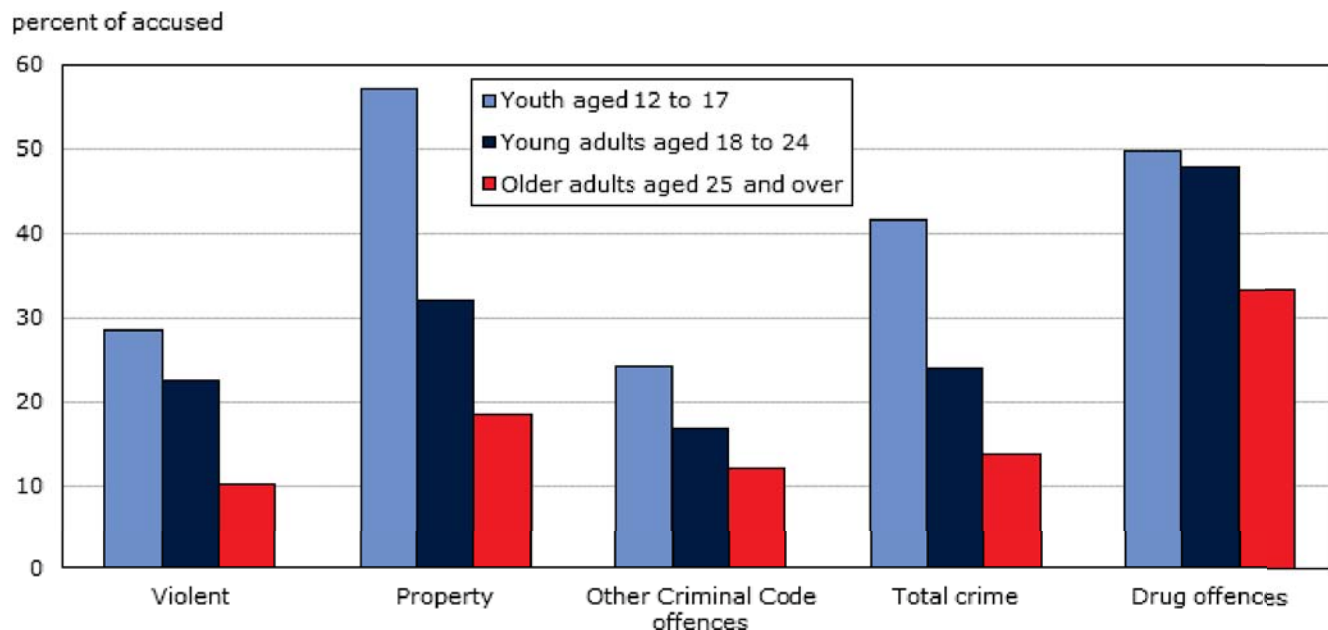
Because co-offending was more frequent in incidents involving youth, a relatively high proportion of youth accused were co-offenders compared to their young adult and older adult counterparts. Among all youth accused of crime in 2014, 42% were co-offenders compared to 24% of their young adult and 14% of their adult counterparts. The differences among the various age groups are especially pronounced when looking specifically at group crime (defined as incidents which involve 3 or more offenders): 19% of youth accused were involved in group crime compared to 8% of young adult and 3% of adult accused.

The majority (75%) of youth co-offenders were accused in criminal incidents involving other accused who were youth or child(ren) under age 12. One-quarter (25%) of youth co-offenders were accused in incidents where there was also an adult accused. Co-offending with adult(s) was more common in violent crimes and drug crimes, where 31% and 36% (respectively) of youth co-offenders were accused alongside adult(s). Co-offending with adult(s) was less common for youth co-offenders in property crimes (21%).<sup>16</sup>

**Co-offending most common among youth accused in incidents involving property crime**

Co-offending for youth differed by the type of offence and was most frequent in incidents involving property crime, where 57% of accused were co-offenders (Chart 10). This was most common for those accused of breaking and entering (77%) (Table 4).<sup>17</sup>

**Chart 10**  
**Percentage of accused in incidents involving multiple accused, by most serious violation, Canada, 2014**



**Note:** Crime is categorized by the most serious violation of the incident in which the individual was accused. In incidents with multiple accused involving multiple offences, it is possible that this is not the specific offence of which the individual was accused or charged, but one committed by another individual accused in the incident. Excludes accused where age is over 89. See table 1 for a list of offences comprising each offence type.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey, 2014.

As with adults, youth accused in police-reported violent incidents generally committed crimes alone; just over a quarter (28%) were co-offenders. However, the majority of youth accused in some of the most serious offences were co-offenders. In particular, 75% of youth accused in robberies, 64% of those accused in homicides or attempted murders, 62% of accused in incidents of serious sexual assault (levels 2 and 3) and 57% in incidents of aggravated assault (level 3) were co-offenders.

Among adults, co-offending was generally less frequent than among youth for most police-reported offences. A notable exception was for drug crimes, where co-offending was similarly frequent among young adults aged 18 to 24 and youth: 50% of youth accused were co-offenders compared to 48% of young adults. Older adults (aged 25 and over) accused in drug offences were less likely to co-offend (33%).

**Text box 5****Female youth accused****About one in four youth accused was female**

According to police-reported data males are more likely to be the accused in crimes committed by adults, and this is the case with youth crime as well. In 2014, the rate of male youth accused (6,071 per 100,000 male youth) was about 2.5 times higher than the rate for females (2,461 per 100,000 female youth).

Overall, 72% of youth accused in criminal offences were male and 28% were female (Table 5). While a majority of youth accused were male in all offences except prostitution (included in the category “other *Criminal Code* offences”), for some offences the proportion of accused who were female was higher than what is generally seen among youth accused. In particular, among youth accused in offences involving common assault, criminal harassment and disturbing the peace, over 35% of accused were female. By comparison, fewer than 30% of adults accused in incidents involving these offences were female. In incidents of theft of \$5,000 and under, just over 35% of accused in all age groups were female.

**Female youth accused about as likely to co-offend as males overall, but more likely for some crimes**

Female youth were about as likely to co-offend as males: 42% vs. 41% for all police-reported criminal offences. However, females were notably more likely than males to be co-offenders in incidents involving criminal harassment (52% vs. 37%) and uttering threats (21% vs. 16%). For accused in incidents involving mischief, male youth were notably more likely to co-offend (51% vs. 44%). Females comprised only 4.5% of youth accused in sexual offences, but were much more likely to co-offend in those incidents (29% vs. 11% for males).<sup>18</sup>

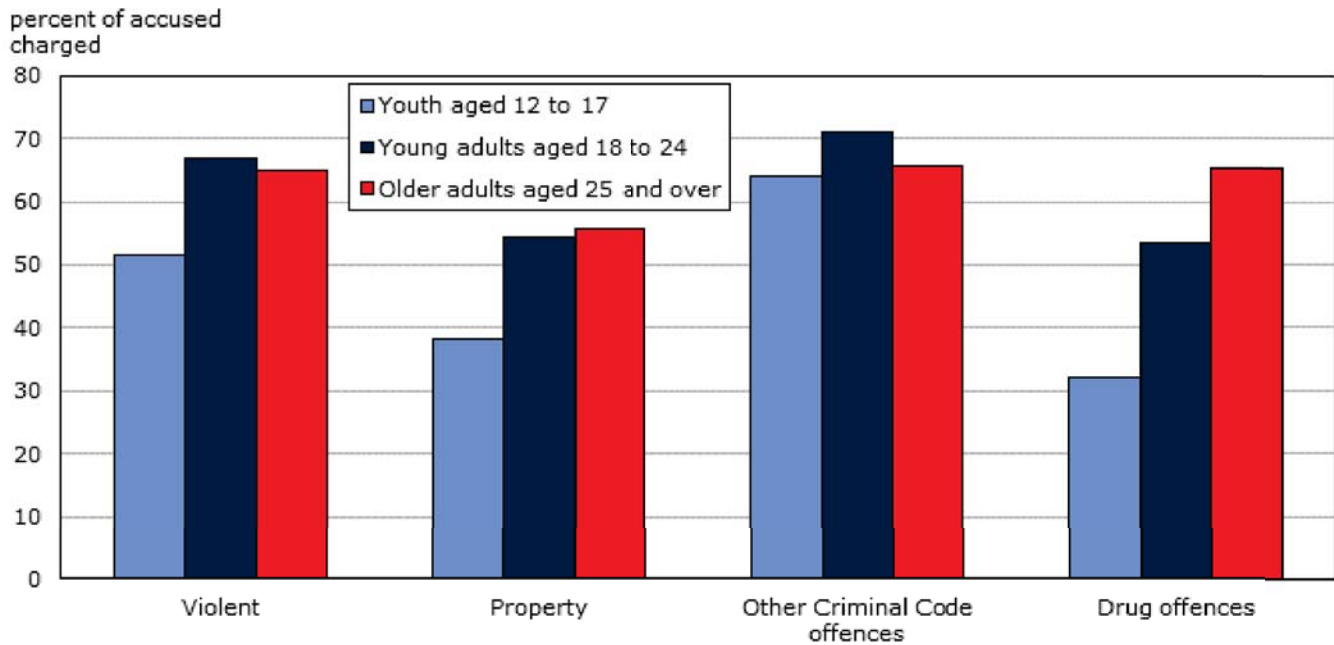
**Female youth less likely to be charged by police**

The likelihood of being charged by police also differed by sex of the youth accused. For both violent and non-violent offences, girls were less likely to be charged than boys: 44% vs. 55% in violent offences, 28% vs. 42% in property crimes, and 24% vs. 34% in drug crimes. Instead, girls were more likely than boys to be cleared without charge, more often with a warning or caution. There was little difference between males and females in the proportion of youth charged in incidents of assault (all levels) or offences related to the administration of justice and violations under the *YCJA*.

**Charging of youth and use of extrajudicial measures by police****Youth less likely to be charged by police than adults**

One of the goals of the 2003 *YCJA* was to divert youth away from the court system, especially when they were accused of relatively minor offences (see Text box 1). Given this goal, the *YCJA* explicitly lays out a variety of options available to police to clear an incident without having to charge the accused. For example, police may give a verbal warning or a written caution, or the accused may be referred to a community or extrajudicial sanctions program. As with adult accused, the charge may be cleared through ‘other means’, such as incidents where departmental discretion is exercised by police or where the complainant declines to lay charges. In 2014, 48% of youth accused in criminal incidents were charged, compared to 63% of adults. However, the difference in charge rates for adults and youth varied by type of offence (Chart 11).

**Chart 11**  
**Proportion of accused charged, by age group of accused and offence type, 2014**



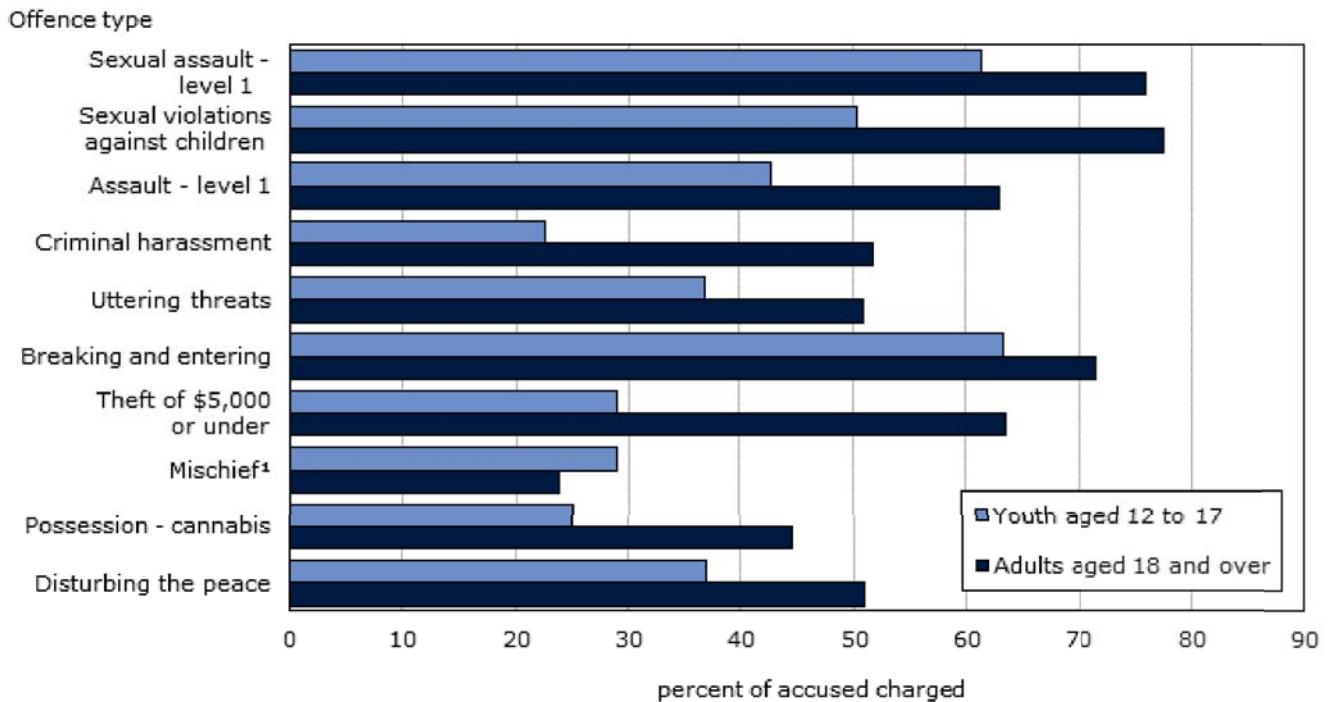
**Note:** Excludes accused where age is over 89. Crime is categorized by the most serious violation of the incident in which the individual was accused. In incidents with multiple accused involving multiple offences, it is possible that this is not the specific offence of which the individual was accused or charged, but one committed by another individual accused in the incident. See table 1 for a list of offences comprising each offence type.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey, 2014.

The YCJA promotes the use of extrajudicial measures to divert youth from the court system primarily for lesser offences. Charge rates for youth accused in 2014 reflect this. More serious offences (those with the most severe penalties), such as homicide, attempted murder, sexual assault (levels 2 and 3), aggravated assault and robbery most often resulted in charges in 2014. Those offences that are generally considered less severe (with more minor penalties), such as common assault (43%), criminal harassment (22%), mischief (29%) and disturbing the peace (5%) were less likely to result in charges (Table 6).<sup>19</sup>

While youth were about as likely as adults to be charged in more serious violent incidents, they were less likely to be charged in relatively less serious violent incidents. For example, youth accused in incidents of criminal harassment (22%) and common assault (43%) were much less likely to be charged than adults (52% and 63% respectively) (Chart 12). The proportion of accused charged in incidents of sexual assault level 1 and sexual offences against children was also lower for youth than for adults. Charge rates also differed between younger and older youth accused: for youth accused of sexual offences, the charge rate for those aged 12 to 15 was lower than the charge rate for those aged 16 to 17.<sup>20</sup>

**Chart 12**  
**Proportion of accused charged, by age group of accused, selected offences, 2014**



1. Mischief includes altering/removing/destroying a vehicle identification number.

**Note:** Excludes accused where age is over 89. Crime is categorized by the most serious violation of the incident in which the individual was accused or charged. In incidents with multiple accused involving multiple offences, it is possible that this is not the specific offence of which the individual was accused or charged, but one committed by another individual accused in the incident.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey, 2014.

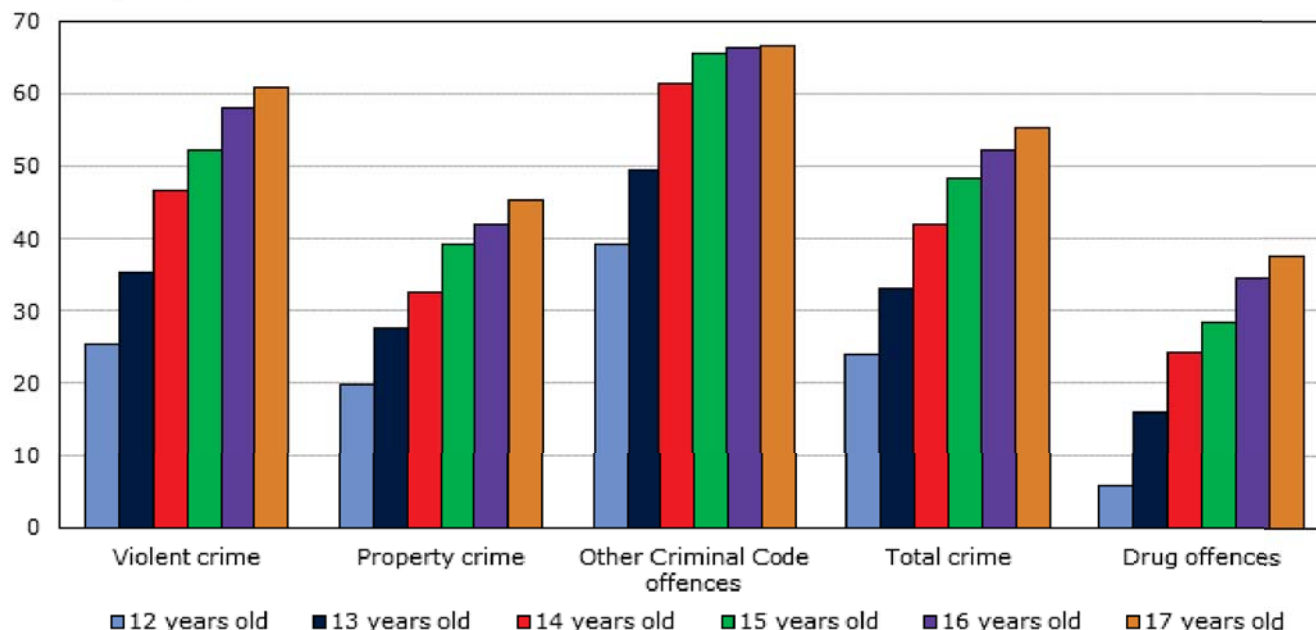
While the YCJA aims to reduce charging for lesser offences, the proportion of youth accused who were charged in non-violent incidents was not substantially lower than for adults for some crimes (Chart 12). The proportion charged in incidents involving the more serious property offences of break and enter and motor vehicle theft were high for both youth and adults, and similarly low for both youth and adults in the less serious non-violent offences of disturbing the peace and mischief. The non-violent offences where youth were notably less likely than adults to be charged were theft (both over and under \$5,000) and drug offences.

For all categories of offences (violent, property, etc.), the proportion of accused who were cleared by charge increased with age (Chart 13).



**Chart 13**  
**Proportion of youth accused cleared by charge, by age of accused and offence type, 2014**

percent of accused cleared by charge



**Note:** Youth accused are aged 12 to 17. Youth crime is categorized by the most serious violation of the incident in which the youth was accused. In incidents with multiple accused involving multiple offences, it is possible that this is not the specific offence of which the youth was accused or charged, but one committed by another individual accused in the incident. Total crime is the rate of youth accused in *Criminal Code* offences (excluding traffic) and excludes drug offences. See table 1 for a list of offences comprising each offence type.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey, 2014.

### Warnings and cautions are the most common alternative to charging youth

As noted above, the *YCJA* outlines a variety of extrajudicial measures that can be used by police in lieu of charging a youth with an offence. When charges were not laid or recommended in relation to a *Criminal Code* offence, youth were most likely to be cleared with a warning or caution (25%).<sup>21</sup> Warnings or cautions were most frequently given to youth accused in incidents of disturbing the peace (59%), cannabis possession (43%), criminal harassment (42%), theft of \$5,000 and under (38%) and mischief (36%) (Table 7).

Another six percent of youth accused in criminal incidents were referred by police to community programs (such as substance abuse programs), or to a formal *YCJA* extrajudicial sanctions program. Finally, about one in five youth accused (21%) was cleared by other means. For these accused, the most common reasons reported for the clearance of the incident were when a complainant declined to proceed with charges or through departmental discretion.

### Youth less likely to be charged when co-offending, unless there was also an adult accused

According to police reported statistics in 2014, 51% of youth were charged when they were the sole accused in crimes (excluding traffic). When there were other accused involved, 42% of youth were charged (Table 8). However, when there was an adult accused involved, youth were more likely to be charged (55%) than when the other(s) accused in the incident were not adults (38%).<sup>22</sup>

For violent offences, 50% of youth accused were charged when they were the lone offender, but 56% were charged when co-offending. Two-thirds (67%) were charged in violent crimes when co-offending with an adult compared to 51% when co-offending with other youth. Charge rates for youth were higher when an adult co-offender was present in almost all violent offences.

Among youth accused in property crimes, the presence of another accused had little impact on the charge rate (38% for single accused, 39% co-offending), unless an adult accused was involved (54%).

**Text box 6****Geographic differences in youth crime generally reflect differences in overall crime**

In 2014, the youth crime rate was lowest in British Columbia (3,071), Quebec (3,295), Ontario (3,456) and Prince Edward Island (3,459). As with overall police-reported crime, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and the territories reported the highest rates of youth crime. Youth crime rates were higher than overall adult rates in all jurisdictions except in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, where rates of accused for both younger and older adults were higher than for youth (Table 9 and Table 10).

The proportion of youth charged and youth cleared by other means differs by jurisdiction. Youth in British Columbia and the territories were the least likely to be charged. In British Columbia youth were much less likely to be charged by police than adult accused (31% compared to 54%), while in the territories, the charge rate was relatively low for both youth and adults. In 2014, charge rates for youth in the territories ranged from 18% in Nunavut to 22% in Yukon. Adult charge rates were not notably different, ranging from 11% for older adults over age 25 in the Northwest Territories to 24% for young adults (aged 18 to 24) in Yukon and Nunavut (Table 11).

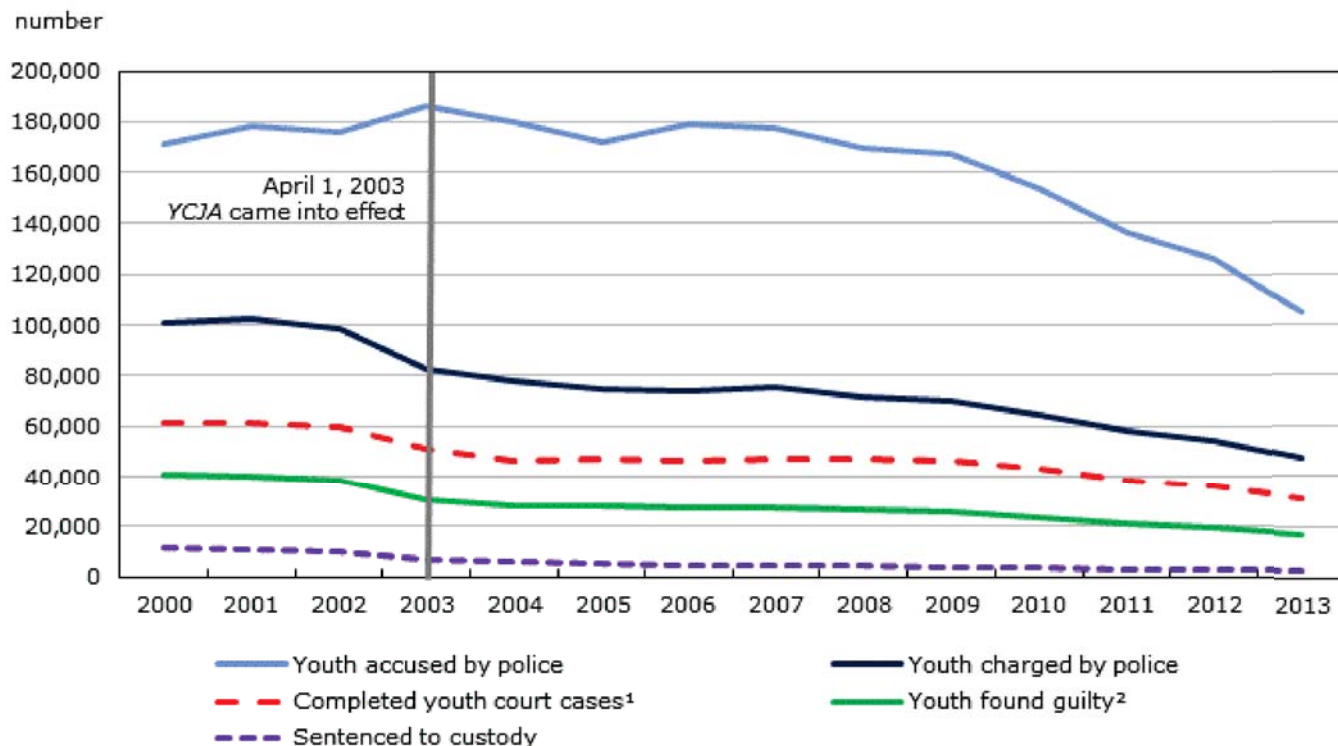
Differences in youth crime rates and the proportion of youth charged by province and territory partly reflect geographic differences in the volume and nature of crime. In addition, it should also be noted that the administration of the youth justice system is the responsibility of the provinces and territories. As a result, jurisdictional differences in youth crime and its treatment may also reflect differences in the administration of justice across Canada, particularly with respect to the availability of extrajudicial programs and recording practices surrounding their usage.

**Trends since the introduction of the YCJA****The introduction of the YCJA in 2003 had a notable impact on the number of youth accused entering the various stages of the justice system**

The overall police-reported crime rate and the rate of youth accused of crime have followed similar downward trends since the early 2000s. Between 2000 and 2014, the rate of youth accused of police-reported crime declined by 42%, while the overall rate of police-reported criminal incidents fell 34% (Boyce 2015). Youth crime has followed a similar decline, with its highest rates recorded in 1991 (Chart 1). In 2003, when the YCJA was introduced, the overall police-reported crime rate was at its highest point since 2000, following small increases in the first years of this century (+2% between 2000 and 2003). Youth crime had also increased slightly in those years (+5%).

While the decline in youth accused of crime since 2003 is a continuation of a longer term trend, there was a notable drop in the number of youth formally charged with crime with the introduction of the YCJA. This decrease in formal charges was followed by a decline in the number of youth appearing in court and the number sentenced to custody, as increased numbers of youth were diverted away from the criminal justice system (Chart 14).<sup>23</sup>

**Chart 14**  
**Number of youth accused and charged by police, number of completed youth court cases and number of youth found guilty, 2000 to 2013**



1. A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. Cases that involve more than one charge are represented by the most serious offence. Includes all complete youth court cases where the most serious offence is a *Criminal Code* offence (excluding traffic).

2. Guilty findings include guilty of the offence, of an included offence, of an attempt of the offence, or of an attempt of an included offence. Also includes guilty pleas, and cases where an absolute or conditional discharge has been imposed.

**Note:** Youth are aged 12 to 17 at the time of offence. Information on the number of accused and charged is based on data from police services. Information on the number of accused in the courts, found guilty and sentenced is based on data provided by the courts. Court information is for fiscal years. For example 2013 refers to court data for 2013/2014.

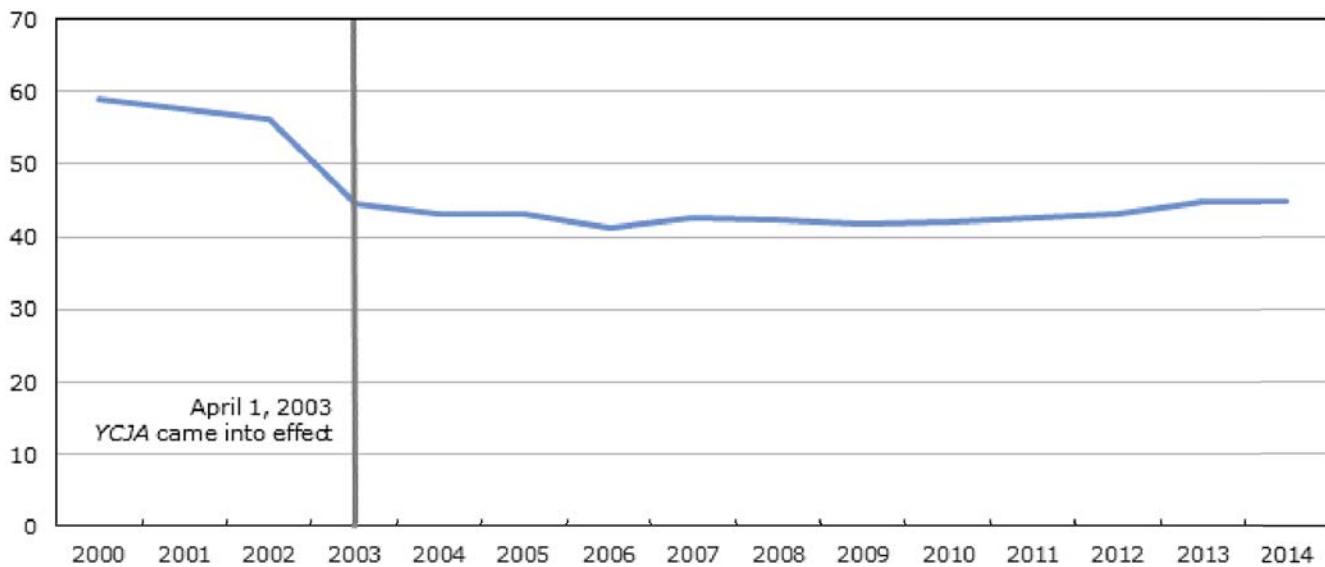
**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey and Integrated Criminal Court Survey.

**Drop in the proportion of youth charged by police coincided with the introduction of the YCJA**

The most immediate impact of the YCJA was on the proportion of youth charged by police. In the three years prior to the 2003 introduction of the YCJA, the percentage of youth accused who were formally charged had declined slightly from 59% to 56%. In 2003, however, the rate dropped sharply to 45% and has ranged between 41% and 45% in the years since (Chart 15).

**Chart 15**  
**Proportion of youth charged by police, 2000 to 2014**

percent cleared by charge



**Note:** Percent of youth accused who were charged in 2014 in Criminal Code offences (excluding traffic). Youth accused are aged 12 to 17. Percentages in this chart are based on the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) and differ slightly from the charge rates in the tables and text of this report. (See 'Survey description').

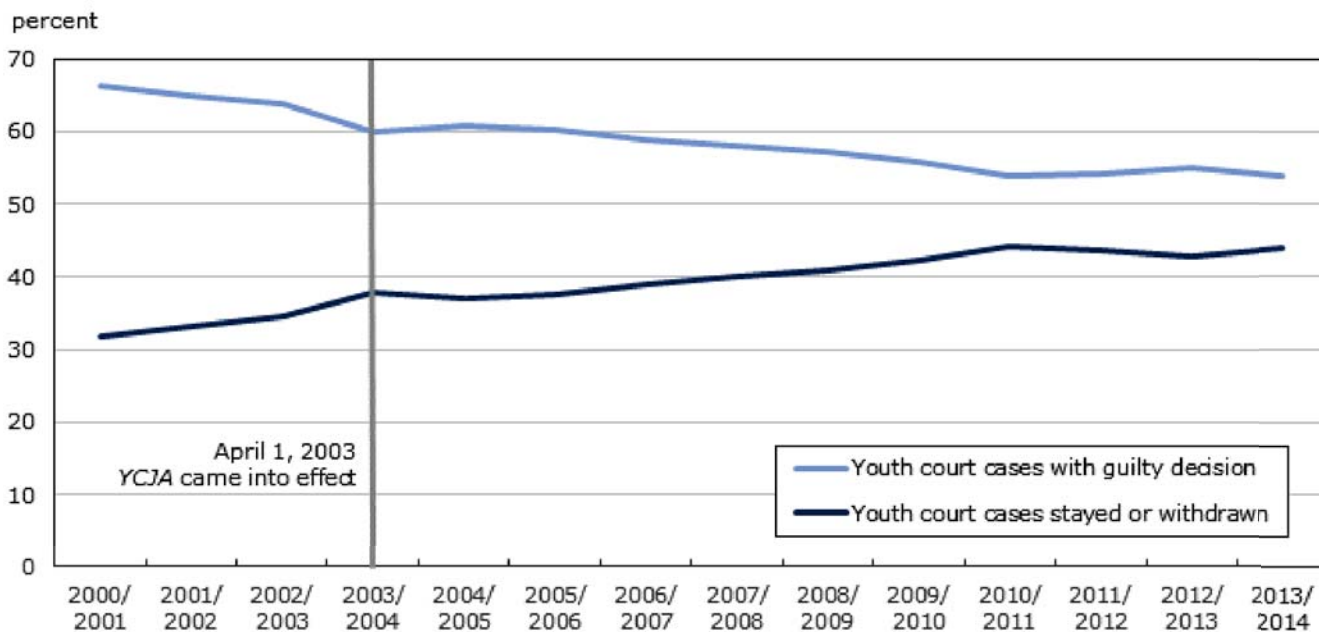
**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

One of the objectives of the *YCJA* was to reduce the number of youth charged and tried primarily for minor offences. This objective is clearly reflected in the 2003 drop in the percentage of youth who were charged with specific offences. The proportion of youth accused charged in a violent criminal incident decreased from 58% to 49% between 2002 and 2003; meanwhile, the proportion charged in property crimes fell more substantially, from 52% to 38%. Similarly, the proportion charged in incidents of cannabis possession (the most common drug offence) fell from 43% to 24% of youth accused. Moreover, much of the decline in charges among youth accused in violent incidents is influenced by incidents involving common assault, also considered a less serious offence.<sup>24</sup>

#### Gradual decline since 2003 in the percentage of youth found guilty and sentenced to custody

In addition to the large drop in 2003 in the number of youth charged by police, and the subsequent decreases in the number of youth court cases (Chart 14), there was a gradual decline between 2000/2001 and 2013/2014 in the percentage of youth who were found guilty in court.<sup>25</sup> Between 2000/2001 and 2013/2014, the percentage of youth court cases resulting in a guilty decision fell from 66% to 54%. Instead, more youth court cases were stayed or withdrawn over this time period, possibly because of court referrals to extrajudicial programs.<sup>26</sup> (Chart 16).

**Chart 16**  
**Proportion of completed youth court cases, by decision, 2000/2001 to 2013/2014**



**Note:** Youth are aged 12 to 17 at time of offence. Information on the number of accused in the courts, found guilty and sentenced is based on data provided by the courts. A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. Cases that involve more than one charge are represented by the most serious offence. Includes all complete youth court cases where the most serious offence is a *Criminal Code* offence (excluding traffic).

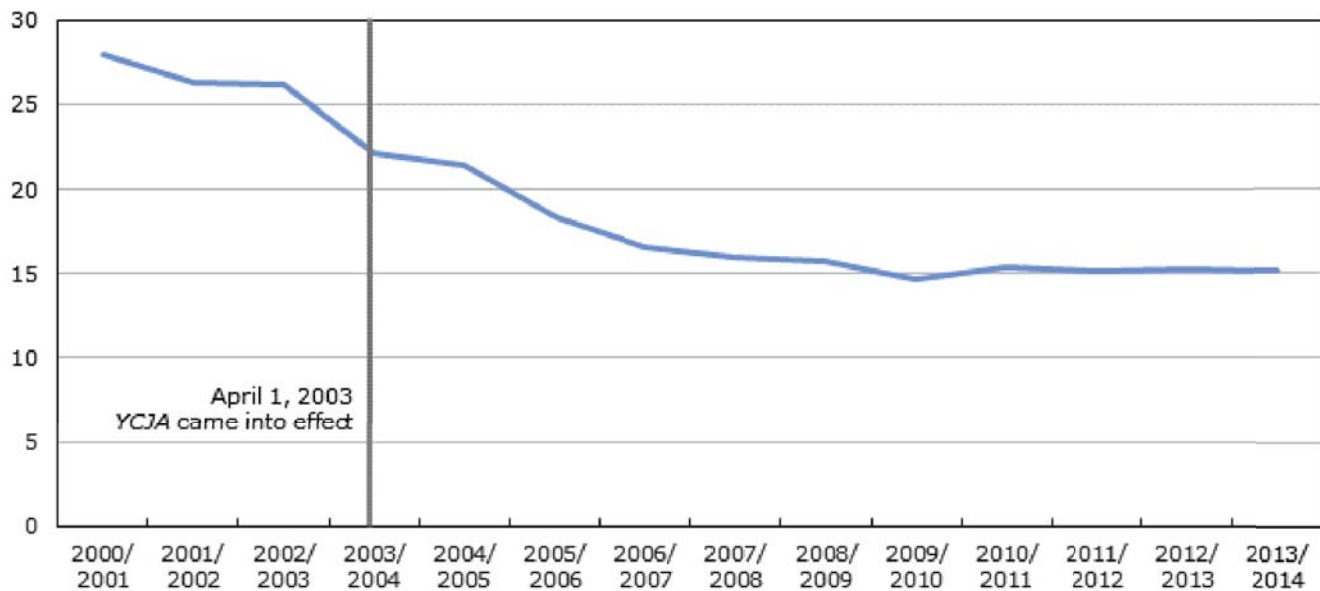
**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey.

Sentencing guidelines are another key component of the YCJA. As such, there has also been a decline in the number of youth sentenced to custody since the introduction of the YCJA. Between 2000/2001 and 2013/2014, the proportion of guilty youth who were sentenced to custody fell from 28% to 15% (Chart 17). While there was a noticeable drop in custodial sentences in 2003/2004 with the introduction of the YCJA (four percentage points), the decrease was not as marked a change as was seen in the proportion of youth charged by police.



**Chart 17**  
**Proportion of completed youth court cases with guilty verdicts resulting in sentence of custody, by decision, 2000/2001 to 2013/2014**

percent



**Note:** Youth are aged 12 to 17 at time of offence. Information on the number of accused in the courts, found guilty and sentenced is based on data provided by the courts. A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. Cases that involve more than one charge are represented by the most serious offence. Includes all complete youth court cases where the most serious offence is a *Criminal Code* offence (excluding traffic).

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey.

## Summary

Police-reported youth crime, like overall police-reported crime in Canada, has been on the decline since 1991. In 2014, youth aged 12 to 17 were more likely to be accused of crime than adults. They were less likely, however, to be accused than young adults aged 18 to 24, especially for violent offences.

The most frequent offences among youth in 2014 were theft of \$5,000 and under, mischief and common assault. While the rate of individuals accused of crime (excluding traffic) was highest at age 17 in 2014, for some offences the rates were highest at younger ages. This was especially the case for sexual offences, uttering threats and theft.

With the introduction of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA)* in 2003, the proportion of youth accused who were charged by police dropped substantially as more youth were dealt with by extrajudicial measures, especially for less serious offences. Extrajudicial measures include warnings, cautions and referrals to community or formal extrajudicial sanctions programs as outlined in the *YCJA*.

With fewer youth charged after the introduction of the *YCJA*, there were subsequently fewer youth prosecuted in youth court. In addition, there was also a decreased proportion of guilty youth sentenced to custody after the introduction of the *YCJA*.



**Text box 7****Key terminology and definitions**

**Accused:** An accused person is someone against whom enough information exists to lay a charge in connection with a criminal incident/offence.

**Age groups:** Youth are aged 12 to 17. Young adults are 18 to 24 years of age. Older adults are aged 25 to 89. Accused persons and victims aged 90 years and older are considered of 'unknown' age, due to the possible miscoding of age within this age category.

**Youth crime rate:** includes youth, aged 12 to 17, accused of a criminal offence and formally charged, recommended to the Crown for charging by police or cleared by means other than the laying of a charge. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 youth aged 12 to 17 in the population.

**Youth Crime Severity Index (YCSI):** provides a measure of the severity of youth crime. It takes into account not only the number of youth accused, but also the seriousness of their crimes, using weights based on the most serious violation's incarceration rate as well as the average length of prison sentence handed down by criminal courts. Data for the YCSI are available in CANSIM Table 252-0052.

**Cleared by charge:** For an incident to be cleared by charge, at least one accused must have been identified and either a charge has been laid, or recommended to be laid, against this individual in connection with the incident. For an incident to be cleared otherwise, an accused must be identified and there must be sufficient evidence to lay a charge in connection with the incident, but the accused is processed by other means for one of many reasons.

**Co-offending:** Co-offending refers to those incidents that were cleared by police for which two or more accused persons were identified.

**Violent offences:** involve the use or threatened use of violence against a person, including homicide, attempted murder, assault, sexual assault and robbery. Robbery is considered a violent offence because, unlike other theft offences, it involves the use or threat of violence. See Table 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, accidental or justifiable homicides are not included in this classification.
- **Assault (physical):** refers to the *Criminal Code* categories of physical assault.
  - **Common assault:** includes the *Criminal Code* category assault (level 1) which includes pushing, slapping, punching, and face-to-face verbal threats.
  - **Major assault:** includes *Criminal Code* assaults levels 2 and 3:
    - **Level 2—assault with a weapon:** involves carrying, using or threatening to use a weapon against someone or causing someone bodily harm, i.e. assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm.
    - **Level 3—aggravated assault:** involves wounding, maiming, disfiguring or endangering the life of someone.
  - **Other assaults:** includes other forms of physical assault including: unlawfully causing bodily harm, discharge firearm with intent, using firearm/imitation of firearm in commission of offence, pointing a firearm, criminal negligence causing bodily harm, trap likely to or causing bodily harm, and other assaults.
- **Sexual assault:** is classified into one of three levels according to the seriousness of the incident: level 1, the category of least physical injury to the victim; level 2, sexual assault with a weapon, threats to use a weapon, or causing bodily harm; and level 3, sexual assault that wounds, maims, disfigures or endangers the life of the victim.
- **Sexual violations against children:** include *Criminal Code* violations that specifically concern offences involving child and youth victims. These include sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, making sexually explicit material available to children for the purpose of facilitating sexual offences against children/youth, and luring a child via a computer/agreement or arrangement. Excludes incidents of sexual assault levels 1, 2 and 3 against children and youth which are counted within those three violation categories.
- Other sexual offences not involving assault or sexual violations against children are included with "other violent offences".

**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 such as failure to comply with an order, failure to appear, or breach of probation.

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

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

**Most serious violation:** Youth crime is categorized by the most serious violation occurring in a police-reported incident where a youth was 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 that the person was accused of. It is therefore possible that the most serious violation is not the offence for which the youth was accused, but one committed by another accused in the incident. Moreover, in this type of incident, any charges against the youth may be for less serious offences in the incident.

## Survey description

### The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey

The UCR Survey was developed in 1962 with the cooperation and assistance of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police. UCR Survey data reflects reported crime that has been substantiated through police investigation from all separate federal, provincial and municipal police services in Canada. There are currently two versions of the UCR Survey: aggregate and incident-based microdata.

### Uniform Crime Reporting (aggregate) Survey

The aggregate UCR Survey includes the number of reported offences, actual offences, offences cleared by charge or cleared otherwise, persons charged (by sex and by adult/youth breakdown) and those not charged. It does not include victim or incident characteristics. Coverage of the UCR Survey in 2014 was at 99.9% of the caseload of all police services in Canada. Data from the aggregate UCR Survey are used in this report for comparisons in youth crime rates over time. Information for total youth crime is available back to 1977. More detailed aggregate data on youth crime by type of offences is available back to 1998.

Detailed data tables containing information on youth crime using data from the aggregate UCR are available through Statistics Canada CANSIM:

Table 252-0051 Incident-based crime statistics, by detailed violations, annual  
Table 252-0052 Crime Severity Index and weighted clearance rates, annual

### Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR2) Survey

The Incident-based UCR2 Survey captures detailed information on individual criminal incidents reported to police, including characteristics of victims, accused persons and incidents. Unless otherwise mentioned, all analysis in this report (including all data in the tables) is based on Incident-based Survey counts. Police services switch over from the Aggregate to the Incident-based Survey as their records management systems become capable of providing this level of detail. Coverage of the UCR2 Survey for 2014 represented 99.6% of the population in Canada.

### The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR2) Trend Database

The UCR2 Trend Database contains historical data, which permits the analysis of trends from 2009 to 2014 in the characteristics of the incidents, accused and victims, such as weapon use and accused-victim relationships. This database includes respondents accounting for 99.2% of the population of Canada in 2014.

### Homicide Survey

The Homicide Survey collects police-reported data on the characteristics of all homicide incidents, victims and accused persons in Canada.

### The Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS)

The Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS) is administered by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (Statistics Canada) in collaboration with provincial and territorial government departments responsible for criminal courts in Canada. The survey collects statistical information on adult and youth court cases involving *Criminal Code* and other federal statute charges. Data contained in this article represent the youth court portion of the survey. The individuals involved are persons aged 12 to 17 years (up to the 18th birthday) at the time of the offence. All youth courts in Canada have reported data to the youth component of the survey since the 1991/1992 fiscal year. The primary unit of analysis is a case. A case is defined as one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. A case combines all charges against the same person having one or more key overlapping dates (date of offence, date of initiation, date of first appearance, date of decision, or date of sentencing) into a single case.

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## Notes

1. For this report, youth are defined as aged 12 to 17. Children are defined as under the age of 12. Children cannot be held criminally responsible for violations of the law.
2. While police may identify children under age 12 as accused in criminal incidents, children cannot be charged with an offence under the *Criminal Code*.
3. Throughout this report, the total crime rate excludes *Criminal Code* traffic violations. Youth crime rates in this report differ slightly from the rates published in CANSIM or the *Juristat* on police-reported crime statistics as they are produced from the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR2) which uses a different method for counting accused than the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) used for standard dissemination of crime statistics. See "Survey description" for more information.
4. Young adults aged 18 to 24 account for 10% of the population and 23% of accused. Older adults aged 25 and over account for 70% of the population and 64% of accused.
5. These drug violations as well as other federal statute offences, including violations of the YCJA are not included in the "crime rate" or "youth crime rate" which are limited to *Criminal Code* violations (excluding traffic).
6. Throughout this report, the total crime rate excludes *Criminal Code* traffic violations. Youth crime rates in this report differ slightly from the rates published in CANSIM or the *Juristat* on police-reported crime statistics as they are produced from the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR2) which uses a different method for counting accused than the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) used for standard dissemination of crime statistics. See "Survey description" for more information.

7. Many of the violations under the *YCJA*, such as failure to comply with a youth sentence, are related to the administration of justice.
8. Youth crime is categorized by the most serious violation occurring in a police-reported incident where a youth was accused. For more information, see Text box 7.
9. Rates for a specific age are per 100,000 population of that specific age.
10. For some offences with low counts by detailed age, peak ages may change from year to year. The peak age of offending for 2014 presented here was compared to the average peak age of offending for 2009 to 2013. The findings noted here were similar to the previous five year average except in the case of sexual offences as noted in Text box 3.
11. Weapons include all weapons such as firearms, knives, clubs or blunt instruments, poison, motor vehicles, ligature, or fire. Excludes Quebec due to a large proportion of incidents where the most serious weapon present was reported as unknown.
12. In incidents where there was a single accused and single victim.
13. Charge rates for younger youth accused of sexual offences may, in part, be related to a variety of exceptions in the *Criminal Code* (s. 150) involving accused under 16 years of age. For example, youth aged 12 and 13 cannot be tried for sexual interference or invitation to sexual touching, or exposure unless they are in a position of trust or responsibility (CC. s 150.1 (3)). Information on charge rates by age of victim are based on incidents where there is a single victim and single accused.
14. 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.
15. Information specifically identifying gang-related crime is only available for the Homicide Survey.
16. Excludes accused where age of any of the accused in the incident is unknown or over 89.
17. Youth crime is categorized by the most serious violation of the offence in which the youth was accused. In incidents with multiple accused involving multiple offences, it is possible that this is not the offence for which the youth was accused, but one committed by another accused in the incident.
18. A large majority of these female accused who co-offended in sexual offences did so with a male accused. For males co-offending in sexual offences, however, only 4% co-offended with female(s).
19. For this analysis the comparison of the relative severity of violations was based on the weight of the violation used in the calculation of the Crime Severity Index, and determined by the violation's incarceration rate, as well as the average length of prison sentence handed down by criminal courts. This approach is not based on the *YCJA* definition of "serious offence".
20. Charge rates for younger youth accused of sexual offences may, in part, be related to a variety of exceptions in the *Criminal Code* (s. 150) involving accused under 16 years of age. For example, youth aged 12 and 13 cannot be tried for sexual interference or invitation to sexual touching, or exposure unless they are in a position of trust or responsibility (CC. s 150.1 (3)).
21. A warning occurs when an officer verbally warns a youth of the seriousness of the action. A caution is a more formal warning usually written in the form of a letter to the youth and/or parents. It may also involve a meeting between the police, the youth and others (parents, social worker, etc.).
22. Information for youth who co-offend in incidents where no adult is accused includes youth co-offending with other youth as well as youth co-offending with child accused under age 12. Excludes accused where age of any of the accused in the incident is unknown or over 89.
23. Information on youth in the courts refers to youth court cases completed in each reference year.
24. For example, the weight given to common assault in calculating the Crime Severity Index is similar to the weight for mischief. This weight is based on the violation's incarceration rate as well as the average length of prison sentence handed down by the criminal courts.
25. Information on youth court cases includes cases with one or more charges against an accused person that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final decision. These may include some cases for accused who have completed extrajudicial sanctions with the court then stopping criminal proceedings against the accused.
26. In addition, court cases may result in acquittals or other decisions such as finding that the accused is not criminally responsible.

## Detailed data tables

**Table 1**  
**Persons accused of crime for selected offences, by age group of accused, Canada, 2014**

Type of offence	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Total adults <sup>1</sup>	Total accused <sup>2</sup>
	rate per 100,000 population				
<b>Total accused of <i>Criminal Code</i> offences (excluding traffic)</b>	<b>4,322</b>	<b>5,428</b>	<b>2,048</b>	<b>2,452</b>	<b>2,259</b>
<b>Violent crime</b>					
Homicide and attempted murder <sup>3</sup>	3	9	2	3	3
Sexual assault - level 3 - aggravated	0 <sup>s</sup>	0 <sup>s</sup>	0 <sup>s</sup>	0 <sup>s</sup>	0 <sup>s</sup>
Sexual assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	2	2	1	1	1
Sexual assault - level 1	73	55	27	30	29
Sexual violations against children <sup>4, 5</sup>	18	13	5	6	6
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	10	27	7	9	8
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	167	239	83	102	93
Assault - level 1 (common assault)	546	682	306	351	319
Other assaults <sup>6</sup>	39	86	23	30	27
Robbery	114	104	18	28	30
Criminal harassment	47	55	41	43	38
Uttering threats	219	187	101	112	105
Other violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations <sup>7</sup>	42	64	34	38	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,281</b>	<b>1,524</b>	<b>649</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>693</b>
<b>Property crime</b>					
Breaking and entering	288	223	67	86	89
Theft of motor vehicle	108	95	23	32	33
Theft over \$5,000 (non-motor vehicle)	7	12	6	7	6
Theft of \$5,000 or under (non-motor vehicle)	960	727	298	349	345
Mischief <sup>8</sup>	574	585	189	236	231
Other property crimes <sup>9</sup>	189	316	118	142	126
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,124</b>	<b>1,959</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>829</b>
<b>Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences</b>					
Disturbing the peace	156	399	176	203	173
Administration of justice violations <sup>10</sup>	565	1,286	441	542	470
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences <sup>11</sup>	196	261	82	103	96
<b>Total</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>1,945</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>848</b>	<b>738</b>

See notes at the end of the table.



**Table 1 (continued)**  
**Persons accused of crime for selected offences, by age group of accused, Canada, 2014**

Type of offence	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Total adults <sup>1</sup>	Total accused <sup>2</sup>
	rate per 100,000 population				
<b>Criminal Code traffic violations</b>					
Impaired driving	21	383	198	220	177
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic violations	32	123	54	62	52
<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>229</b>
<b>Drug offences</b>					
Possession - cannabis	531	747	98	176	175
Trafficking, production or distribution - cannabis	51	86	20	28	26
Possession, trafficking, production or distribution - other drugs	75	276	97	118	99
<b>Total</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>1,108</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>301</b>
<b>Other federal statute violations</b>					
<i>Youth Criminal Justice Act</i>	207	33	0 <sup>5</sup>	4	17
Other federal statutes	14	38	25	27	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Total - all violations</b>	<b>5,253</b>	<b>7,113</b>	<b>2,541</b>	<b>3,087</b>	<b>2,828</b>

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

1. Excludes accused where age is over 89.

2. Total accused includes accused under the age of 12 as well as accused where age is unknown or over 89. Accused under age 12 cannot be charged with an offence under the *Criminal Code*.

3. Includes other violations causing death such as criminal negligence causing death as well as attempted murder and conspiracy to commit murder.

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

5. Includes sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, luring a child via a computer/agreement or arrangement, and (as of 2012) making sexually explicit material available to a child for the purpose of facilitating sexual offences against children/youth.

6. Includes assault against a peace officer, violent firearm offences such as pointing or discharging a firearm, or using a firearm in the commission of an offence, and other assaults.

7. Includes forcible confinement and kidnapping, abduction, extortion, threatening or harassing phone calls and other violent *Criminal Code* violations.

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

9. Includes possession and trafficking of stolen property, fraud, identity theft and fraud, and arson.

10. Includes failure to comply with an order, failure to appear, breach of probation and other violations against the administration of law and justice.

11. Includes non-violent weapons offences, counterfeiting, child pornography, prostitution and other *Criminal Code* violations.

**Note:** Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population in each age group. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Youth crime rates in this report differ slightly from the rates published in CANSIM or the *Juristat* on police-reported crime statistics as they are produced from the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR2) which uses a different method for counting accused than the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) used for standard dissemination of crime statistics.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey.



**Table 2**  
**Persons accused of crime for selected offences, by detailed age group of accused, Canada, 2014**

Type of offence	Age of accused							Total youth (12 to 17)
	Under age 12	12	13	14	15	16	17	
	rate per 100,000 population							
Assault (all types)	28	300	523	704	921	990	1,061	762
Sexual assault (levels 1, 2, 3)	4	41	69	85	85	83	81	74
Sexual violations against children <sup>1, 2</sup>	1	13	16	20	26	19	15	18
Robbery	0 <sup>s</sup>	9	32	83	140	205	198	114
Uttering threats	9	89	155	214	285	279	276	219
Breaking and entering	10	107	188	262	361	381	399	288
Theft of motor vehicle	1	24	49	88	156	159	156	108
Theft of \$5,000 or under (non-motor vehicle)	19	266	533	1,025	1,283	1,344	1,214	960
Mischief <sup>3</sup>	33	242	414	561	642	742	791	574
Disturbing the peace	2	25	64	116	174	230	302	156
Administration of justice violations <sup>4</sup>	1	61	183	459	705	916	975	565
Impaired driving	0	0	0 <sup>s</sup>	3	9	26	82	21
Possession - cannabis	1	43	157	353	622	844	1,064	531
Trafficking, production or distribution - cannabis	0 <sup>s</sup>	2	13	28	55	85	113	51
Possession, trafficking, production or distribution - other drugs	0 <sup>s</sup>	2	15	40	80	122	172	75
<i>Youth Criminal Justice Act</i>	0 <sup>s</sup>	14	57	153	260	358	364	207
<b>Total accused of <i>Criminal Code</i> offences</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>1,317</b>	<b>2,483</b>	<b>4,050</b>	<b>5,338</b>	<b>6,029</b>	<b>6,242</b>	<b>4,322</b>

See notes at the end of the table.

**Table 2 (continued)**  
**Persons accused of crime for selected offences, by detailed age group of accused, Canada, 2014**

Type of offence	Age of accused							Total <sup>6</sup>
	18 to 19	20 to 21	22 to 24	25 to 29	30 to 34	35 and older <sup>5</sup>	Total adult <sup>5</sup>	
	rate per 100,000 population							
Assault (all types)	1,027	1,054	1,026	957	817	304	493	448
Sexual assault (levels 1, 2, 3)	66	57	51	48	41	23	31	30
Sexual violations against children <sup>1, 2</sup>	16	14	11	8	9	4	6	6
Robbery	147	102	79	65	45	9	28	30
Uttering threats	202	191	176	175	176	83	112	105
Breaking and entering	297	234	171	169	158	43	86	89
Theft of motor vehicle	120	101	76	75	54	13	32	33
Theft of \$5,000 or under (non-motor vehicle)	913	707	627	597	557	230	349	345
Mischief <sup>3</sup>	697	585	517	454	356	136	236	231
Disturbing the peace	389	409	398	343	280	143	203	173
Administration of justice violations <sup>4</sup>	1,249	1,349	1,268	1,155	962	290	542	470
Impaired driving	245	393	460	419	335	155	220	177
Possession - cannabis	1,041	756	561	355	215	53	176	175
Trafficking, production or distribution - cannabis	108	91	68	53	38	14	28	26
Possession, trafficking, production or distribution - other drugs	248	288	285	276	231	58	118	99
<i>Youth Criminal Justice Act</i>	115	6	1	0 <sup>s</sup>	0 <sup>s</sup>	0 <sup>s</sup>	4	17
<b>Total accused of <i>Criminal Code</i> offences</b>	<b>5,903</b>	<b>5,531</b>	<b>5,072</b>	<b>4,712</b>	<b>4,022</b>	<b>1,480</b>	<b>2,452</b>	<b>2,259</b>

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

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

2. Includes sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, luring a child via a computer/agreement or arrangement, and (as of 2012) making sexually explicit material available to a child for the purpose of facilitating sexual offences against children/youth.

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

4. Includes failure to comply with an order, failure to appear, breach of probation and other violations against the administration of law and justice.

5. Excludes accused where age is over 89.

6. Total accused includes accused under the age of 12 as well as accused where age is unknown or over 89.

**Note:** Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population in each age group. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey.

**Table 3**  
**Prevalence of co-offending by age group, Canada, incident and accused counts, *Criminal Code* offences (excluding traffic), 2014**

Type of offence	Lone offence (1 accused)		Pair offence (2 accused)		Group offence (3 or more accused)		Total	
	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
<b>Number of incidents by age of accused</b>								
Incidents with at least one youth accused aged 12 to 17	58,805	74	13,902	17	7,004	9	79,711	100
Youth accused, no adult involved	58,805	82	9,351	13	3,853	5	72,009	100
Youth where adult accused involved	...	...	4,551	59	3,151	41	7,702	100
Incidents with only child accused under age 12	2,893	80	492	14	216	6	3,601	100
Incidents with adults, but no youth accused	579,218	93	38,876	6	7,381	1	625,475	100
Incidents where age unknown <sup>1</sup>	696	78	142	16	60	7	898	100
<b>Total incidents<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>641,612</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>53,412</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>14,661</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>709,685</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Number of accused</b>								
Youth accused aged 12 to 17	58,805	58	23,036	23	18,872	19	100,713	100
Young adult accused aged 18 to 24	139,471	76	28,834	16	14,983	8	183,288	100
Older adult accused and 25 and older	439,747	86	53,558	11	16,102	3	509,407	100
Child accused under age 12	2,893	54	1,242	23	1,255	23	5,390	100
Unknown age	696	74	154	16	86	9	936	100
<b>Total accused</b>	<b>641,612</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>106,824</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>51,298</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>799,734</b>	<b>100</b>

... not applicable

1. Age is unknown or over 89 for at least one accused in the incident.

2. Incidents involving youth include incidents where at least one accused under aged 12 to 17. Incidents with youth, but no adult accused may include a child accused. Similarly, incidents with no youth accused include a small number of incidents where there are adult and child accused but no youth. Child accused are under age 12 and cannot be charged with a *Criminal Code* offence.

**Note:** The first section of this table provides a count of criminal incidents according to the age composition of those accused in the incident. The second section of the table provides a count of accused individuals (by age) by their co-offending status.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey.

**Table 4**  
**Percentage of accused in incidents involving multiple accused, by most serious violation, Canada, 2014**

Type of offence	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Total adults <sup>1</sup>	Total accused <sup>2</sup>
	percent				
<b>Total accused of <i>Criminal Code</i> offences (excluding traffic)</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Violent crime</b>					
Homicide and attempted murder <sup>3</sup>	64	53	21	32	35
Sexual assault - level 3 - aggravated	0	27	23	24	23
Sexual assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	62	38	18	24	30
Sexual assault - level 1	11	9	4	5	6
Sexual violations against children <sup>4, 5</sup>	11	6	3	4	6
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	57	43	28	33	35
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	31	28	14	18	20
Assault - level 1 (common assault)	22	17	9	11	12
Other assaults <sup>6</sup>	31	26	15	19	20
Robbery	75	63	34	47	54
Criminal harassment	43	12	6	6	10
Uttering threats	17	14	6	8	9
Other violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations <sup>7</sup>	35	23	11	14	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Property crime</b>					
Breaking and entering	77	50	32	37	47
Theft of motor vehicle	54	34	24	27	33
Theft over \$5,000 (non-motor vehicle)	53	44	29	32	34
Theft of \$5,000 or under (non-motor vehicle)	56	28	14	18	25
Mischief <sup>8</sup>	50	27	17	20	26
Other property crimes <sup>9</sup>	55	35	22	25	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences</b>					
Disturbing the peace	55	41	29	32	33
Administration of justice violations <sup>10</sup>	10	6	4	5	5
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences <sup>11</sup>	42	32	18	23	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>

See notes at the end of the table.

**Table 4 (continued)**  
**Percentage of accused in incidents involving multiple accused, by most serious violation, Canada, 2014**

Type of offence	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Total adults <sup>1</sup>	Total accused <sup>2</sup>
	percent				
<b>Criminal Code traffic violations</b>					
Impaired driving	14	4	2	3	3
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic violations	27	12	5	6	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Drug offences</b>					
Possession - cannabis	50	47	25	36	39
Trafficking, production or distribution - cannabis	56	57	50	53	53
Possession, trafficking, production or distribution - other drugs	46	48	38	41	41
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Other federal statute violations</b>					
<i>Youth Criminal Justice Act</i>	6	7	68	8	7
Other federal statutes	32	30	21	23	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Total - all violations</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>21</b>

1. Excludes accused where age is over 89.

2. Total accused includes accused under the age of 12 as well as accused where age is unknown or over 89. Accused under age 12 cannot be charged with an offence under the *Criminal Code*.

3. Includes other violations causing death such as criminal negligence causing death as well as attempted murder and conspiracy to commit murder.

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

5. Includes sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, luring a child via a computer/agreement or arrangement, and making sexually explicit material available to a child for the purpose of facilitating sexual offences against children/youth.

6. Includes assault against a peace officer, violent firearm offences such as pointing or discharging a firearm, or using a firearm in the commission of an offence, and other assaults.

7. Includes forcible confinement and kidnapping, abduction, extortion, threatening or harassing phone calls and other violent *Criminal Code* violations.

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

9. Includes possession and trafficking of stolen property, fraud, identity theft and fraud, and arson.

10. Includes failure to comply with an order, failure to appear, breach of probation and other violations against the administration of law and justice.

11. Includes non-violent weapons offences, counterfeiting, child pornography, prostitution and other *Criminal Code* violations.

**Note:** Youth crime is categorized by the most serious violation of the offence in which the youth was accused. In incidents with multiple accused involving multiple offences, it is possible that this is not the specific offence of which the youth was accused or charged, but one committed by another individual accused in the incident.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey.

**Table 5**  
**Proportion of accused of crime that were male, by age group and offence, Canada, 2014**

Type of offence	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Total adults <sup>1</sup>
	percent male			
<b>Total accused of <i>Criminal Code</i> offences (excluding traffic)</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>Violent crime</b>				
Homicide and attempted murder <sup>2</sup>	84	89	86	87
Sexual assault - level 3 - aggravated	100	93	86	87
Sexual assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	97	91	92	92
Sexual assault - level 1	96	98	98	98
Sexual violations against children <sup>3, 4</sup>	92	93	97	96
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	75	85	82	83
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	77	77	76	76
Assault - level 1 (common assault)	62	70	76	75
Other assaults <sup>5</sup>	66	76	76	76
Robbery	90	88	85	86
Criminal harassment	61	75	78	78
Uttering threats	73	80	83	82
Other violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations <sup>6</sup>	74	78	75	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>Property crime</b>				
Breaking and entering	88	87	86	86
Theft of motor vehicle	80	82	82	82
Theft over \$5,000 (non-motor vehicle)	77	74	76	75
Theft of \$5,000 or under (non-motor vehicle)	63	64	63	63
Mischief <sup>7</sup>	79	77	74	75
Other property crimes <sup>8</sup>	77	73	72	72
<b>Total</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences</b>				
Disturbing the peace	60	72	74	74
Administration of justice violations <sup>9</sup>	72	79	79	79
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences <sup>10</sup>	84	84	85	85
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>79</b>

See notes at the end of the table.



**Table 5 (continued)**  
**Proportion of accused of crime that were male, by age group and offence, Canada, 2014**

Type of offence	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Total adults <sup>1</sup>
	percent male			
<b>Criminal Code traffic violations</b>				
Impaired driving	69	80	80	80
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic violations	85	85	84	84
<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>Drug offences</b>				
Possession - cannabis	79	85	86	86
Trafficking, production or distribution - cannabis	86	87	81	83
Possession, trafficking, production or distribution - other drugs	75	79	80	80
<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Other federal statute violations</b>				
<i>Youth Criminal Justice Act</i>	72	83	64	83
Other federal statutes	74	77	84	83
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Total - all violations</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>77</b>

1. Excludes accused where age is over 89.

2. Includes other violations causing death such as criminal negligence causing death as well as attempted murder and conspiracy to commit murder.

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 a computer/agreement or arrangement, and (as of 2012) making sexually explicit material available to a child for the purpose of facilitating sexual offences against children/youth.

5. Includes assault against a peace officer, violent firearm offences such as pointing or discharging a firearm, or using a firearm in the commission of an offence, and other assaults.

6. Includes forcible confinement and kidnapping, abduction, extortion, threatening or harassing phone calls and other violent *Criminal Code* violations.

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

8. Includes possession and trafficking of stolen property, fraud, identity theft and fraud, and arson.

9. Includes failure to comply with an order, failure to appear, breach of probation and other violations against the administration of law and justice.

10. Includes non-violent weapons offences, counterfeiting, child pornography, prostitution and other *Criminal Code* violations.

**Note:** Excludes accused where sex is unknown.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey.

**Table 6**  
**Percentage of accused charged, by age group and most serious violation, Canada, 2014**

Type of offence	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Total adults <sup>1</sup>	Total accused <sup>2</sup>
	percent cleared by charge				
<b>Total accused of <i>Criminal Code</i> offences (excluding traffic)</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Violent crime</b>					
Homicide and attempted murder <sup>3</sup>	96	96	91	93	93
Sexual assault - level 3 - aggravated	100	93	80	83	84
Sexual assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	76	91	95	93	90
Sexual assault - level 1	61	75	76	76	72
Sexual violations against children <sup>4, 5</sup>	50	74	79	78	70
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	93	93	94	93	93
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	69	80	82	81	79
Assault - level 1 (common assault)	43	60	64	63	60
Other assaults <sup>6</sup>	79	89	87	88	87
Robbery	91	91	92	92	91
Criminal harassment	22	49	52	52	49
Uttering threats	37	51	51	51	48
Other violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations <sup>7</sup>	39	61	46	49	48
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>Property crime</b>					
Breaking and entering	63	73	71	72	69
Theft of motor vehicle	59	61	56	58	58
Theft over \$5,000 (non-motor vehicle)	49	71	70	70	68
Theft of \$5,000 or under (non-motor vehicle)	29	59	65	63	57
Mischief <sup>8</sup>	29	29	22	24	24
Other property crimes <sup>9</sup>	62	77	77	77	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences</b>					
Disturbing the peace	5	7	6	6	6
Administration of justice violations <sup>10</sup>	85	91	89	89	89
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences <sup>11</sup>	50	71	68	69	66
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>67</b>

See notes at the end of the table.

**Table 6 (continued)**  
**Percentage of accused charged, by age group and most serious violation, Canada, 2014**

	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Total adults <sup>1</sup>	Total accused <sup>2</sup>
<b>Type of offence</b>	percent cleared by charge				
<b>Criminal Code traffic violations</b>					
Impaired driving	79	83	81	82	82
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic violations	80	86	85	86	85
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Drug offences</b>					
Possession - cannabis	25	41	49	45	41
Trafficking, production or distribution - cannabis	68	84	80	82	80
Possession, trafficking, production or distribution - other drugs	59	80	79	79	78
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Other federal statute violations</b>					
<i>Youth Criminal Justice Act</i>	88	94	45	93	89
Other federal statutes	35	39	33	34	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Total - all violations</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>62</b>

1. Excludes accused where age is over 89.

2. Total accused includes accused under the age of 12 as well as accused where age is unknown or over 89. Accused under age 12 cannot be charged with an offence under the *Criminal Code*.

3. Includes other violations causing death such as criminal negligence causing death as well as attempted murder and conspiracy to commit murder.

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

5. Includes sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, luring a child via a computer/agreement or arrangement, and (as of 2012) making sexually explicit material available to a child for the purpose of facilitating sexual offences against children/youth.

6. Includes assault against a peace officer, violent firearm offences such as pointing or discharging a firearm, or using a firearm in the commission of an offence, and other assaults.

7. Includes forcible confinement and kidnapping, abduction, extortion, threatening or harassing phone calls and other violent *Criminal Code* violations.

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

9. Includes possession and trafficking of stolen property, fraud, identity theft and fraud, and arson.

10. Includes failure to comply with an order, failure to appear, breach of probation and other violations against the administration of law and justice.

11. Includes non-violent weapons offences, counterfeiting, child pornography, prostitution and other *Criminal Code* violations.

**Note:** Youth crime is categorized by the most serious violation of the offence in which the youth was accused. In incidents with multiple accused involving multiple offences, it is possible that this is not the specific offence of which the youth was accused or charged, but one committed by another individual accused in the incident.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey.

**Table 7**  
**Proportion of youth accused charged or cleared by other means, by most serious violation, Canada, 2014**

Type of offence	Charge	Warning	Caution	Referral to community program	Referral to extrajudicial sanctions program	Other <sup>1</sup>	Total
	percent						
<b>Total accused of <i>Criminal Code</i> offences (excluding traffic)</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Violent crime</b>							
Homicide and attempted murder <sup>2</sup>	96	0	0	0	0	4	100
Sexual assault - level 3 - aggravated	100	0	0	0	0	0	100
Sexual assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	76	3	0	3	0	19	100
Sexual assault - level 1	61	9	2	3	1	23	100
Sexual violations against children <sup>3, 4</sup>	50	10	2	2	4	31	100
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	93	0 <sup>s</sup>	0 <sup>s</sup>	0 <sup>s</sup>	0	5	100
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	69	9	2	1	2	16	100
Assault - level 1 (common assault)	43	20	4	3	4	27	100
Other assaults <sup>5</sup>	79	7	2	1	2	8	100
Robbery	91	2	0 <sup>s</sup>	0 <sup>s</sup>	1	5	100
Criminal harassment	22	34	8	4	4	28	100
Uttering threats	37	23	4	2	5	30	100
Other violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations <sup>6</sup>	39	23	4	2	2	30	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Property crime</b>							
Breaking and entering	63	11	3	2	5	16	100
Theft of motor vehicle	59	9	2	1	2	25	100
Theft over \$5,000 (non-motor vehicle)	49	15	7	1	1	28	100
Theft of \$5,000 or under (non-motor vehicle)	29	32	5	8	5	21	100
Mischief <sup>7</sup>	29	30	6	3	3	29	100
Other property crimes <sup>8</sup>	62	13	3	3	3	15	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences</b>							
Disturbing the peace	5	49	10	1	0 <sup>s</sup>	34	100
Administration of justice violations <sup>9</sup>	85	5	1	0 <sup>s</sup>	0 <sup>s</sup>	8	100
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences <sup>10</sup>	50	23	5	3	3	17	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100</b>

See notes at the end of the table.

**Table 7 (continued)**  
**Proportion of youth accused charged or cleared by other means, by most serious violation, Canada, 2014**

Type of offence	Charge	Warning	Caution	Referral to community program	Referral to extrajudicial sanctions program	Other <sup>1</sup>	Total
	percent						
<b>Criminal Code traffic violations</b>							
Impaired driving	79	6	3	0	0	13	100
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic violations	80	5	1	0 <sup>s</sup>	1	13	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0<sup>s</sup></b>	<b>0<sup>s</sup></b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Drug offences</b>							
Possession - cannabis	25	37	6	8	7	17	100
Trafficking, production or distribution - cannabis	68	12	2	4	5	8	100
Possession, trafficking, production or distribution - other drugs	59	17	3	2	5	14	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Other federal statute violations</b>							
<i>Youth Criminal Justice Act</i>	88	4	1	0 <sup>s</sup>	0 <sup>s</sup>	7	100
Other federal statutes	35	18	17	1	0 <sup>s</sup>	29	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0<sup>s</sup></b>	<b>0<sup>s</sup></b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Total - all violations</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>

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

1. Other means may include other means of clearing an accused such as where the accused is under age 12, where the accused is already incarcerated, or where the accused is deceased.
2. Includes other violations causing death such as criminal negligence causing death as well as attempted murder and conspiracy to commit murder.
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 a computer/agreement or arrangement, and (as of 2012) making sexually explicit material available to a child for the purpose of facilitating sexual offences against children/youth.
5. Includes assault against a peace officer, violent firearm offences such as pointing or discharging a firearm, or using a firearm in the commission of an offence, and other assaults.
6. Includes forcible confinement and kidnapping, abduction, extortion, threatening or harassing phone calls and other violent *Criminal Code* violations.
7. Includes altering/removing/destroying a vehicle identification number.
8. Includes possession and trafficking of stolen property, fraud, identity theft and fraud, and arson.
9. Includes failure to comply with an order, failure to appear, breach of probation and other violations against the administration of law and justice.
10. Includes non-violent weapons offences, counterfeiting, child pornography, prostitution and other *Criminal Code* violations.

**Note:** Youth includes all accused aged 12 to 17. Youth crime is categorized by the most serious violation of the offence in which the youth was accused. In incidents with multiple accused involving multiple offences, it is possible that this is not the specific offence of which the youth was accused or charged, but one committed by another individual accused in the incident. Percentages may not add to totals due to rounding.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey.

**Table 8**  
**Percentage of youth accused charged, by co-offending and most serious violation, Canada, 2014**

Type of offence	Single accused	Co-offenders	Total youth accused
	percent		
<b>Total accused of <i>Criminal Code</i> offences (excluding traffic)</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Violent crime</b>			
Homicide and attempted murder <sup>1</sup>	97	96	96
Sexual assault - level 3 - aggravated	100	...	100
Sexual assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	86	70	76
Sexual assault - level 1	63	48	61
Sexual violations against children <sup>2, 3</sup>	53	31	50
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	98	90	93
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	68	71	69
Assault - level 1 (common assault)	43	40	43
Other assaults <sup>4</sup>	80	77	79
Robbery	89	92	91
Criminal harassment	28	14	22
Uttering threats	39	27	37
Other violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations <sup>5</sup>	42	34	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Property crime</b>			
Breaking and entering	67	62	63
Theft of motor vehicle	55	63	59
Theft over \$5,000 (non-motor vehicle)	44	53	49
Theft of \$5,000 or under (non-motor vehicle)	30	28	29
Mischief <sup>6</sup>	31	26	29
Other property crimes <sup>7</sup>	62	63	62
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences</b>			
Disturbing the peace	7	4	5
Administration of justice violations <sup>8</sup>	86	78	85
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences <sup>9</sup>	51	48	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>64</b>

See notes at the end of the table.



**Table 8 (continued)**  
**Percentage of youth accused charged, by co-offending and most serious violation, Canada, 2014**

Type of offence	Single accused	Co-offenders	Total youth accused
		percent	
<b>Criminal Code traffic violations</b>			
Impaired driving	80	73	79
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic violations	80	81	80
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>Drug offences</b>			
Possession - cannabis	30	20	25
Trafficking, production or distribution - cannabis	77	61	68
Possession, trafficking, production or distribution - other drugs	59	59	59
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Other federal statute violations</b>			
<i>Youth Criminal Justice Act</i>	89	71	88
Other federal statutes	39	27	35
<b>Total</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Total - all violations</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>48</b>

... not applicable

1. Includes other violations causing death such as criminal negligence causing death as well as attempted murder and conspiracy to commit murder.
2. Excludes sexual assaults against children and youth, which are reported as level 1, 2 or 3 sexual assault.
3. Includes sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, luring a child via a computer/agreement or arrangement, and making sexually explicit material available to a child for the purpose of facilitating sexual offences against children/youth.
4. Includes assault against a peace officer, violent firearm offences such as pointing or discharging a firearm, or using a firearm in the commission of an offence, and other assaults.
5. Includes forcible confinement and kidnapping, abduction, extortion, threatening or harassing phone calls and other violent *Criminal Code* violations.
6. Includes altering/removing/destroying a vehicle identification number.
7. Includes possession and trafficking of stolen property, fraud, identity theft and fraud, and arson.
8. Includes failure to comply with an order, failure to appear, breach of probation and other violations against the administration of law and justice.
9. Includes non-violent weapons offences, counterfeiting, child pornography, prostitution and other *Criminal Code* violations.

**Note:** Youth includes all accused aged 12 to 17. Youth crime is categorized by the most serious violation of the incident in which the youth was accused. In incidents with multiple accused involving multiple offences, it is possible that this is not the specific offence of which the youth was accused or charged, but one committed by another individual accused in the incident.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey.

**Table 9**  
**Persons accused of crime by type of crime, by age group of accused, by province and territory, 2014**

Province and territory	Violent crime			Property crime			Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences			Total crime (excluding traffic)		
	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>
	rate per 100,000 population											
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,765	1,778	657	2,115	2,458	739	830	1,690	622	4,710	5,926	2,017
Prince Edward Island	1,030	1,253	435	1,989	2,324	600	440	814	246	3,459	4,391	1,281
Nova Scotia	1,897	2,008	672	2,908	2,650	673	1,216	2,126	576	6,020	6,784	1,920
New Brunswick	1,473	1,516	579	2,444	2,022	477	1,113	1,274	375	5,030	4,811	1,431
Quebec	1,348	1,396	609	1,513	1,334	408	434	1,160	391	3,295	3,890	1,408
Ontario	1,081	1,167	484	1,795	1,518	563	581	1,196	397	3,456	3,881	1,444
Manitoba	2,283	3,244	1,119	3,636	3,444	1,127	1,879	3,864	1,474	7,798	10,552	3,719
Saskatchewan	2,458	3,642	1,340	6,337	5,228	1,757	4,290	8,277	2,416	13,084	17,147	5,513
Alberta	1,303	1,794	855	2,577	2,873	1,096	1,499	3,320	1,334	5,380	7,987	3,285
British Columbia	795	1,187	639	1,550	1,544	701	726	1,898	859	3,071	4,628	2,200
Yukon	5,161	5,977	3,587	8,980	9,698	4,783	8,371	14,503	8,978	22,511	30,179	17,349
Northwest Territories	5,893	10,880	6,330	15,506	26,440	21,004	8,163	17,560	13,967	29,562	54,880	41,301
Nunavut	5,909	14,210	8,895	12,856	21,304	14,242	4,871	14,996	11,059	23,636	50,510	34,196
<b>Canada</b>	<b>1,281</b>	<b>1,524</b>	<b>649</b>	<b>2,124</b>	<b>1,959</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>1,945</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>4,322</b>	<b>5,428</b>	<b>2,048</b>

See notes at the end of the table.

**Table 9 (continued)**  
**Persons accused of crime by type of crime, by age group of accused, by province and territory, 2014**

Province and territory	Criminal Code traffic violations			Drug offences			Other federal statute violations			Total violations		
	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>
	rate per 100,000 population											
Newfoundland and Labrador	53	480	205	201	541	62	229	38	16	5,193	6,985	2,300
Prince Edward Island	10	638	257	170	440	74	220	51	4	3,858	5,519	1,616
Nova Scotia	64	630	284	593	1,173	181	134	24	12	6,811	8,611	2,397
New Brunswick	58	514	242	460	598	114	125	37	18	5,673	5,960	1,805
Quebec	39	559	244	847	988	164	88	20	5	4,268	5,458	1,822
Ontario	28	283	162	610	1,119	200	110	44	16	4,204	5,327	1,822
Manitoba	92	505	249	455	780	147	647	188	20	8,992	12,025	4,135
Saskatchewan	261	1,559	611	739	1,161	224	1,874	671	187	15,958	20,538	6,534
Alberta	94	753	379	498	1,051	236	250	76	18	6,222	9,867	3,919
British Columbia	40	548	324	788	1,532	387	170	66	64	4,069	6,774	2,975
Yukon	284	1,465	744	1,016	1,670	378	3,088	264	58	26,900	33,577	18,529
Northwest Territories	473	2,360	1,025	1,355	2,020	591	725	380	116	32,115	59,640	43,033
Nunavut	213	1,168	633	373	1,062	526	293	21	102	24,514	52,761	35,457
<b>Canada</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>1,108</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>5,253</b>	<b>7,113</b>	<b>2,541</b>

1. Excludes accused where age is over 89.

**Note:** Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population in each age group. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Youth crime rates in this report differ slightly from the rates published in CANSIM or the *Juristat* on police-reported crime statistics as they are produced from the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR2) which uses a different method for counting accused than the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) used for standard dissemination of crime statistics. The administration of the youth justice system is the responsibility of the provinces and territories. Thus, it is important to note that jurisdictional differences in youth crime are, in part, a reflection of the differences in the administration of youth justice across Canada.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey.

**Table 10**  
**Persons accused of crime for selected offences, by age group of accused, by province and territory, 2014**

Province and territory	Assault (all types)			Sexual assault (levels 1, 2, 3)			Sexual offences against children			Robbery		
	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>
	rate per 100,000 population											
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,192	1,177	409	37	71	23	22	28	5	15	97	11
Prince Edward Island	620	784	274	100	51	10	20	15	4	40	59	9
Nova Scotia	1,153	1,350	415	73	52	23	15	16	3	91	85	10
New Brunswick	1,003	1,053	361	69	56	24	13	23	4	25	43	11
Quebec	694	863	359	77	39	19	45	15	6	77	89	17
Ontario	612	746	303	77	52	29	7	9	3	150	107	15
Manitoba	1,518	2,438	786	122	140	57	16	18	5	209	224	37
Saskatchewan	1,697	2,757	976	114	111	44	15	27	6	204	219	21
Alberta	838	1,293	581	75	67	29	12	12	3	85	94	22
British Columbia	503	852	436	36	45	22	17	15	7	69	82	22
Yukon	3,657	4,659	2,446	81	146	148	81	29	19	163	117	35
Northwest Territories	4,444	8,740	4,453	252	320	250	0	60	18	126	80	47
Nunavut	4,418	10,641	6,313	346	850	451	80	170	64	106	106	43
<b>Canada</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>1,034</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>18</b>

See notes at the end of the table.

**Table 10 (continued)**  
**Persons accused of crime for selected offences, by age group of accused, by province and territory, 2014**

Province and territory	Uttering threats			Break and Enter			Motor vehicle theft			Theft under \$5000		
	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>
	rate per 100,000 population											
Newfoundland and Labrador	430	323	158	443	396	57	59	78	9	644	878	307
Prince Edward Island	220	227	82	170	220	52	130	51	17	780	1,202	323
Nova Scotia	431	346	131	546	333	48	107	107	13	877	974	289
New Brunswick	299	249	119	261	241	52	178	101	19	1,126	848	236
Quebec	318	249	123	275	212	53	72	75	16	767	588	213
Ontario	145	119	61	181	183	66	59	65	17	1,064	742	312
Manitoba	334	304	159	736	423	94	328	178	39	962	788	327
Saskatchewan	324	365	181	1,286	583	111	472	349	69	1,564	1,052	425
Alberta	206	194	120	251	213	80	184	169	51	938	725	317
British Columbia	141	130	101	127	153	68	55	58	19	793	711	361
Yukon	894	586	573	610	410	125	569	264	82	2,479	1,084	530
Northwest Territories	693	1,060	880	2,332	1,200	319	977	800	134	1,986	1,400	638
Nunavut	852	1,529	1,213	3,993	2,273	693	373	255	86	2,050	1,211	505
<b>Canada</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>298</b>

See notes at the end of the table.

**Table 10 (continued)**  
**Persons accused of crime for selected offences, by age group of accused, by province and territory, 2014**

Province and territory	Mischief <sup>2</sup>			Disturbing the peace			Administration of justice <sup>3</sup>			Drug offences		
	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>
	rate per 100,000 population											
Newfoundland and Labrador	830	845	278	161	410	195	570	1,118	352	201	541	62
Prince Edward Island	740	476	79	70	103	30	320	601	185	170	440	74
Nova Scotia	970	772	172	205	452	96	773	1,349	403	593	1,173	181
New Brunswick	693	489	77	79	105	35	643	899	261	460	598	114
Quebec	263	187	41	1	4	2	297	954	335	847	988	164
Ontario	345	253	61	51	110	31	371	897	312	610	1,119	200
Manitoba	1,256	1,626	520	427	1,204	661	1,108	2,272	707	455	780	147
Saskatchewan	2,292	2,693	941	373	976	430	3,292	6,557	1,761	739	1,161	224
Alberta	904	1,165	412	336	889	413	941	2,061	795	498	1,051	236
British Columbia	469	398	130	316	872	379	230	718	352	788	1,532	387
Yukon	4,917	7,735	3,911	3,007	9,142	6,610	4,754	4,454	1,998	1,016	1,670	378
Northwest Territories	9,297	22,460	19,703	4,381	10,380	11,076	2,994	6,280	2,250	1,355	2,020	591
Nunavut	5,856	16,992	12,717	3,647	10,896	8,208	772	3,483	2,335	373	1,062	526
<b>Canada</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>1,286</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>1,108</b>	<b>215</b>

1. Excludes accused where age is over 89.

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

3. Includes failure to comply with an order, failure to appear, breach of probation and other violations against the administration of law and justice.

**Note:** Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population in each age group. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Youth crime rates in this report differ slightly from the rates published in CANSIM or the *Juristat* on police-reported crime statistics as they are produced from the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR2) which uses a different method for counting accused than the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) used for standard dissemination of crime statistics. The administration of the youth justice system is the responsibility of the provinces and territories. Thus, it is important to note that jurisdictional differences in youth crime are, in part, a reflection of the differences in the administration of youth justice across Canada.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey.



**Table 11**  
**Percentage of accused charged, by age group, *Criminal Code* offences (excluding traffic), Canada, 2014**

Province and territory	Youth aged 12 to 17	Young adults aged 18 to 24	Older adults aged 25 and older <sup>1</sup>	Total adults <sup>1</sup>	Total accused <sup>2</sup>
	percent cleared by charge				
Newfoundland and Labrador	44	67	61	62	59
Prince Edward Island	44	66	65	65	62
Nova Scotia	45	61	61	61	58
New Brunswick	47	68	72	71	66
Quebec	49	72	70	70	67
Ontario	47	72	73	73	69
Manitoba	51	55	49	51	50
Saskatchewan	64	68	62	64	63
Alberta	49	61	59	60	58
British Columbia	31	51	55	54	52
Yukon	22	24	20	21	21
Northwest Territories	19	20	11	13	13
Nunavut	18	24	20	21	21
<b>Canada</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>60</b>

1. Excludes accused where age is over 89.

2. Total accused includes accused under the age of 12 as well as accused where age is unknown or over 89. Accused under age 12 cannot be charged with an offence under the *Criminal Code*.

**Note:** The administration of the youth justice system is the responsibility of the provinces and territories. Thus, it is important to note that jurisdictional differences in youth crime are, in part, a reflection of the differences in the administration of youth justice across Canada.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-based Crime Reporting Survey.