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# Juristat

Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics



Statistics Canada – Catalogue no. 85-002-XIE, Vol. 24, no. 6

## Crime Statistics in Canada, 2003

by Marnie Wallace

### Highlights

- The national crime rate increased by 6% in 2003, the first substantial increase in over a decade. The crime rate had fallen steadily from 1991 to 1999 and been relatively stable from 2000 to 2002.
- The rise in crime was driven by a large increase in counterfeiting in most areas of the country, as well as an increase in property crimes. In addition, increases in relatively minor offences such as mischief and disturbing the peace contributed to the overall jump in crime.
- Crime rates increased in all provinces and territories except Ontario and Yukon, where they remained stable. Double-digit increases were reported in Nunavut (+18%), Northwest Territories (+13%), Saskatchewan (+12%), Nova Scotia (+11%), Manitoba (+11%) and Prince Edward Island (+10%).
- The violent crime rate remained relatively stable in 2003 (-1%), with all violent crime categories recording declines except robbery (+5%) and attempted murder (+4%).
- The homicide rate dropped 7%, continuing the downward trend seen since the mid-1970s. The rate of 1.7 homicides per 100,000 population was the lowest since 1967. There were 548 homicides reported by police in 2003, 34 fewer than in 2002. However, there were 32 more attempted murders in 2003.
- The sexual assault rate declined 5% to its lowest point since 1985.
- The robbery rate increased (+5%) for the first time since 1996. Robberies committed with a firearm increased (+10%) in 2003, and continue to account for about one in seven robberies.
- The property crime rate was up 4% in 2003, the first substantial increase since 1991. The increase was driven by higher rates of break-ins (+2%), motor vehicle thefts (+5%) and thefts under \$5,000 (+4%).
- The impaired driving rate has been generally declining for nearly 20 years, including a 5% drop in 2003. Police reported approximately 77,000 incidents of impaired driving last year.
- Following nearly a decade of increases, the rate of drug crimes in Canada fell by 8% in 2003. This decline was driven by an 18% drop in the rate of cannabis possession incidents, which comprise about half of all drug crimes reported by police. The rate of cannabis cultivation incidents, also known as marijuana grow-ops, increased by 3% in 2003.
- The rate of persons charged with cannabis possession fell by 30% in 2003. This drop may in part be the result of a climate of uncertainty within the law enforcement and criminal justice community given the introduction of legislation to decriminalize possession of small amounts of cannabis, as well as a number of recent court rulings questioning the constitutionality of current laws regarding cannabis possession. It may also be a result of a re-prioritization of police resources towards the larger drug problem, focusing on the more serious offences.
- In 2003, the rate of youths charged by police dropped 15% while the rate of youths cleared otherwise rose 30%, resulting in an overall increase of 5% in the youth crime rate. This is a continuation of the general increase that began in 2000. The violent crime rate (+3%) and property crime rate (+4%) both increased for youth in 2003. It should be noted that any increase in youths cleared otherwise may be partly attributable to increased reporting by police of youths not formally charged, due to the new *Youth Criminal Justice Act* provisions on extrajudicial measures, introduced in April 2003.



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## Introduction

This report is an examination of 2003 police-reported crime in Canada. Data are presented within the context of both short and long-term trends. The analysis focuses on trends in violent crime, property crime, impaired driving offences, drug offences and youth crime. Crime rates are examined at the national, provincial/territorial and census metropolitan area levels. Detailed information on incidents and accused persons is also presented where appropriate.

Incidents that come to the attention of the police are captured and forwarded to the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) according to a nationally-approved set of common crime categories and definitions. The reader should note, however, that many factors may influence police-reported crime statistics. These include: reporting by the public to the police; reporting by police to the CCJS; the impact of new initiatives such as changes in legislation, policies or enforcement practices; and, social, economic and demographic changes.

Since 1962, Canada's police agencies have reported criminal incidents that come to their attention, or that are detected through police investigation, to the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey (see methodology section for a description of the survey). The CCJS gratefully acknowledges the assistance of Canada's police agencies and the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police in making this report possible.

### Reporting to police

To measure the magnitude, nature and impact of criminal activity, there are two main sources of information in Canada: police-reported crime data and victimization surveys. While police-reported data measure crimes known to the police, victimization surveys collect information directly from the general population, whether or not the self-reported victimization was reported to or substantiated by police.

There are many reasons why victims may not report criminal incidents to police. According to the 1999 General Social Survey (GSS), these reasons include: the level of perceived seriousness of the incident; not wanting to involve the police; and, fear of reprisals from the aggressor. However, other factors such as the desire to see the offender punished, social obligation to report criminal behaviour, as well as the need to obtain a police report for insurance purposes, may encourage people to report certain types of criminal offences to police.<sup>1</sup>

The failure to report crimes to the police can lead to an under-counting of crime in official police statistics. Further, the tolerance of Canadians for certain types of crimes may affect crime rates. For example, greater awareness by the public, police and prosecutors in the areas of family violence, sexual assault and youth crime may lower society's tolerance for these behaviours, which in turn, may encourage victims and witnesses to report to police as well as encourage police to lay charges. The most recent version of the GSS Victimization Survey is underway in 2004, and results will be available in 2005.

### Reporting by police to the UCR Survey

Crimes reported to the UCR Survey by police agencies are subject to numerous quality-control procedures, both on-site at the police agency and at Statistics Canada. Statistics Canada and police agencies work together on an ongoing basis to detect and resolve any difficulties in the reporting of data. Once the data have been processed and edited at Statistics Canada, police services are required to "sign-off" on the final data before it is published.

1. Besserer, S and Trainor, C., "Criminal Victimization in Canada, 1999", *Juristat*, Catalogue 85-002, Vol. 20, No. 10, p. 11 & 12, 2000.

### Changes in legislation, policies and practices

Changes in legislation, policies and police enforcement practices may also have an impact on police-reported statistics. For instance, where an amendment to the *Criminal Code* creates a new offence or broadens the definition of an existing offence, the number of incidents reported to police and by police will likely increase.

For certain crimes, the number of offences reported is largely driven by police enforcement. Crimes such as prostitution and drug offences are most often identified through police-enforcement activities, or “proactive” policing, and are rarely reported by the public. Therefore, changes in police enforcement practices, such as special operations to target certain types of crimes, will be reflected in official crime statistics. For example, the recent court rulings concerning the constitutionality of current laws regarding the possession of small amounts of cannabis may have resulted in police laying significantly fewer charges for cannabis possession in 2003. Another example is the implementation of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA) in April 2003. For further information on the introduction of this new legislation, see the section on Youth Crime. Where possible, explanations for these types of situations are included throughout this report.

### Social, economic and demographic factors affecting the crime rate

In addition to various legislative changes, social, demographic and economic trends have been associated with the general downward trend in the crime rate over the 1990s both in Canada and the United States.

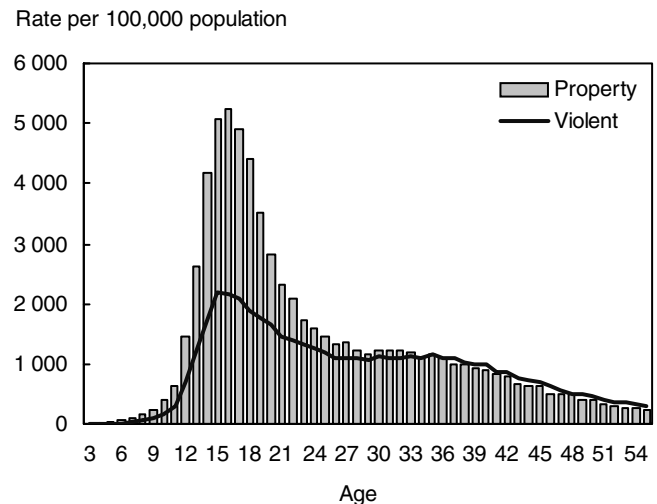
In terms of demographics, persons aged 15 to 24 in Canada have higher rates of offending and victimization than other age groups. Generally, rates of offending decrease with age after the age of 25 (Figure 1). In 2003, those aged 15 to 24 represented 14% of the total population while accounting for 45% of those accused of property crimes and 32% of persons accused of violent crimes.

Significant changes to the demographic composition of the population over time may have some effect on the crime rate. Canada’s “baby boom” occurred between 1947 and 1966. As baby-boomers aged and moved into adulthood, those 35 years of age and older steadily increased their share of the population while the group aged 15-24 declined. Figure 2 shows the trends in the relative size of the 15 to 24 age group and the crime rate between 1962 and 2003. While there are some parallels, there are clearly other factors having an influence on crime.

Unemployment and measures of poverty and income inequality are also frequently cited as risk factors of criminal activity. Fluctuations in other social or economic conditions may interact with demographic shifts to affect crime rates as well. For instance, demographers throughout the past three decades, and more recently Ouimet<sup>2</sup>, contended that a very large cohort of young people born in Canada during the 1960s had higher levels of criminal involvement than any other, due to more serious difficulties integrating into the job market during the recession in the early 1980s.

Figure 1

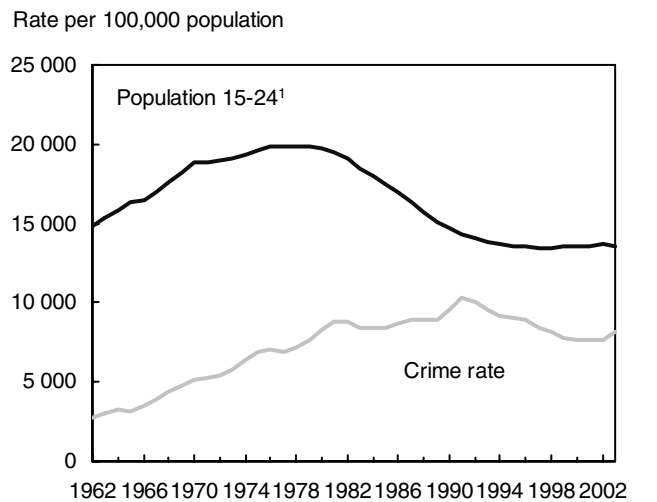
### Persons accused of property crimes and violent crimes by age, Canada, 2003



Source: Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Figure 2

### Crime rate and population aged 15-24, Canada, 1962 to 2003



1. This line represents the number of 15-24 year olds expressed as a rate per 100,000 population and not the crime rate of this age group.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS and Annual Demographic Statistics, 2003.

2. Ouimet, M. (2002) Explaining the American and Canadian crime “drop” in the 1990s, *Canadian Journal of Criminology* 44 (1) :33-50.

A more-detailed analysis of the impact of these and other socio-economic factors on the crime rate will be released in a report in Fall 2004.

**Text Box 1: Key terminology and definitions**

**Criminal Incident**

One incident can include more than one offence. For incidents involving multiple offences, only the most serious offence in the incident is counted. Except for robbery, violent crime counts reflect the number of victims in the incident, whereas non-violent crime counts reflect the number of incidents or occurrences of crime.

**Crime rate**

Crime rates are based on the number of incidents reported to police per 100,000 population. Rates are used to make comparisons among geographic areas with different populations and over time. **The "crime rate" represents all Criminal Code incidents excluding traffic violations and other federal statutes, such as drug offences.**

**Accused persons**

This includes all persons identified by police as having committed a crime, and against whom enough evidence exists to lay a charge, regardless of whether or not they have been formally charged with an offence.

**Persons cleared by charge**

This term refers to persons who have been formally charged or recommended to be charged by police.

**Persons cleared otherwise**

This term refers to people who have not been formally charged by police, though there is sufficient evidence for the police to do so. This could occur for a number of reasons: the police used extrajudicial measures (see Youth Crime section), the police may have used discretion and decided not to lay a charge, the complainant did not want police to lay a charge or the accused was involved in other incidents in which one or more charges were laid.

For more information on the UCR Survey, refer to the Methodology section at the end of this report, and *Canadian Crime Statistics 2002*, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Catalogue 85-205, 2003.

**2003 Crime Trends**

In 2003, there were more than 2.5 million *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic offences and other federal statutes such as drug offences) reported to police. Of these, 12% were violent crimes, 51% were property crimes, and 37% were "other" *Criminal Code* offences, such as mischief, counterfeiting, disturbing the peace and bail violations (Table 1). Twenty-five years ago the breakdown was quite different, with violent crimes accounting for 8% of all *Criminal Code* incidents, property crimes accounting for 64%, and "other" *Criminal Code* offences accounting for 28%.

In addition, there were nearly 116,000 *Criminal Code* traffic incidents (two-thirds were impaired driving offences), almost 86,000 drug incidents, and 36,000 other federal statute incidents (e.g. *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*, *Canada Shipping Act*) reported. In total, police reported 2.8 million criminal incidents in 2003.

**First substantial increase in crime in over a decade**

The crime rate increased 6% in 2003, to 8,132 incidents per 100,000 population, driven by a 72% increase in counterfeiting

and an increase in property crimes. Most categories of property crimes increased in 2003. Notable increases were also seen in other large-volume minor offences such as mischief and disturbing the peace. Some forces have attributed the increase in minor offences to new reporting procedures introduced in 2003 which make it easier for the public to report minor crimes to the police.

The overall increase followed a period of general decline seen throughout the 1990s and the relative stability from 2000 to 2002 (Table 2). The crime rate in 2003 was 15% lower than a decade ago, but 14% higher than 25 years ago.

The violent crime rate remained relatively stable (-1%) in 2003. However, both the property crime rate and the rate of "other" *Criminal Code* offences increased, up 4% and 10% respectively.

**International Trends**

While Canada reported a stable rate of violent crime in 2003, preliminary data released by the Federal Bureau of Investigation indicated that the number of violent crimes in the United States declined (-3%), driven by fewer incidents of aggravated assault than in the previous year<sup>3</sup>. The number of victims recorded by the Australian police declined in most offence categories in 2003<sup>4</sup>, including a 7% decline in the robbery rate and a 5% decline in homicides. Only England and Wales reported an increase in its police reported violent crime (+13%) in October to December 2003, compared with the same period in the previous year<sup>5</sup>.

While police in Canada reported a 4% increase in the rate of property crimes, the number of property crimes recorded in the United States remained stable. Australian police recorded fewer victims of property crimes in 2003 than in 2002, including a 14% drop in motor vehicle thefts and a 12% drop in unlawful entry. Police reported property crime in England and Wales also declined, down 2%.

**Crime up in most provinces and territories**

All the provinces and territories reported an increase in crime rates in 2003, with the exception of Ontario and Yukon which remained relatively stable. Double-digit increases were recorded in Nunavut (+18%), Northwest Territories (+13%), Saskatchewan (+12%), Nova Scotia (+11%), Manitoba (+11%) and Prince Edward Island (+10%).

Looking at a longer time period, the largest increase in crime rates over the past decade has been reported by Saskatchewan, up 41% compared to 1993. Increases over this time period were also reported in Newfoundland and Labrador (+9%), Prince Edward Island (+7%) and Manitoba (+6%). The

3. Federal Bureau of Investigation National Press Office. 2004. Preliminary Crime Statistics for 2003. [www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel04/ucrpelim2003.htm](http://www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel04/ucrpelim2003.htm). It should be noted that these data refer to the number of criminal incidents coming to the attention of police rather than the rate.  
 4. Australian Bureau of Statistics. 2004. Recorded Crime- Victims, Australia. Depending on the type of offence, a victim may be a person, a premise, an organization, or a motor vehicle.  
 5. Christophersen, Olivia, Katharine Thorpe and Anna Upson. April, 2004. Crime in England and Wales: Quarterly Update to December 2003. Home Office, England. The percentage change figures from this report are based on the actual numbers of incidents and not rates.



remaining six provinces have all seen declines in their crime rates over the last 10 years. The largest were recorded by Ontario and British Columbia, down 32% and 14% respectively.

There is considerable regional variation in crime rates across Canada (Table 3). Historically, crime rates have increased from East to West. However, in recent years that pattern has begun to change, with rates in the Atlantic Provinces now generally surpassing those in Ontario and Quebec. Only Newfoundland and Labrador had a rate lower than Quebec, but still higher than Ontario. In 2003, the crime rate in Alberta was lower than the rates in other Western provinces for the eleventh consecutive year.

Provincial crime rates ranged from a low of 6,097 incidents per 100,000 population in Ontario to a high of 15,375 in Saskatchewan. This is the first time since data collection began in 1962 that Ontario has had the lowest crime rate of all the provinces. The territories reported crime rates that were nearly, or more than, double those of any of the provinces.

### Crime in Census Metropolitan Areas

Nearly half (47%) of all offences were reported by police services in the nine largest census metropolitan areas (CMAs)<sup>6</sup> in Canada, which are home to 50% of the Canadian population. The crime rate increased in seven of these nine large CMAs in 2003, while rates in two remained stable (Toronto and Hamilton). The largest increases were reported by Montréal (+11%), Winnipeg (+10%) and Edmonton (+10%). The increase in Montréal's crime rate was primarily due to a large increase in counterfeiting<sup>7</sup>. Of those CMAs reporting increases, Calgary, Edmonton and Ottawa were the only ones to report an increase in all major categories of crime.

Similar to the larger CMAs, virtually all of the 18 smaller CMAs reported increases in the crime rate. The largest increases were recorded by Saskatoon (+16%), Trois-Rivières (+10%) and Sudbury (+9%). The only substantial declines were reported in St. John's and Sherbrooke (both down 6%).

Among all 27 CMAs<sup>8</sup>, the lowest crime rate was reported by Saguenay, followed by Québec, Toronto and Trois-Rivières. This is the third consecutive year that Saguenay has reported the lowest crime rate. Saskatoon reported the highest crime rate, followed closely by Regina, both in excess of 15,000 incidents per 100,000 population. The next highest rates were recorded in Abbotsford, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Edmonton and Victoria, each reporting rates in excess of 10,000 incidents per 100,000 population.

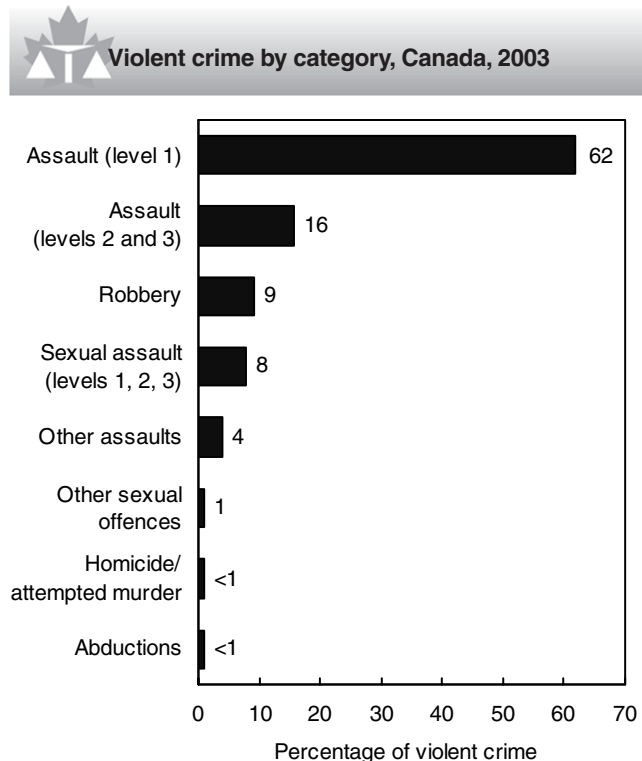
In many instances, a single CMA will comprise a number of individual police services. Examining specific police services within CMA boundaries provides a clearer picture of how and where crime rates are changing (Table 6). For example, within the Toronto CMA, the crime rate increased in areas policed by Durham Regional Police (+10%), Halton Regional Police (+8%) and York Regional Police (+6%), while decreasing for Peel Regional Police (-6%) and remaining stable for Toronto Police<sup>9</sup> (-0.4%).

## Violent Crime

### Violent crime relatively stable since 1999

There were more than 300,000 violent crimes reported by police in 2003. This translates to a rate of 963 violent incidents per 100,000 population. Violent crime includes homicide, attempted murder, assault, sexual assault, other assaults, other sexual offences, abduction and robbery (Figure 3). Three out of every five violent incidents are classified as level 1 assault.

Figure 3



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

6. A census metropolitan area refers to a large urban core (over 100,000 population) together with adjacent urban and rural areas that have a high degree of economic and social integration. In this report, the CMA boundaries have been modified slightly in order to more accurately reflect policing boundaries. The areas that police forces serve may differ in their mix of urban/suburban populations, making the comparability of crime rates among these forces difficult. This lack of comparability is addressed by analyzing crime rates by CMA. Usually, more than one police force is responsible for enforcing the law within the boundaries of a single census metropolitan area.

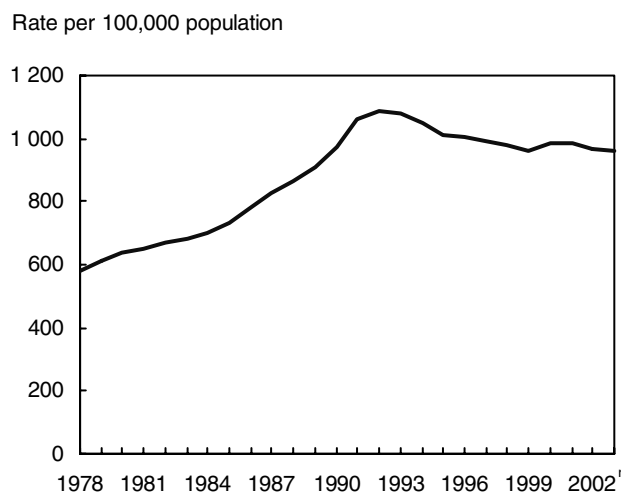
7. While a large increase in the number of incidents was reported for the city of Montréal, it was likely the subject of over-reporting on behalf of increases in other areas within the province, due to the location of a number of bank data centres centralized within the city's core. It should be noted, however, that the increase in counterfeit currency within Montréal was comparable to the national increase.

8. The Oshawa census metropolitan area is excluded from this analysis due to incongruity between the police agency jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.

9. Toronto Police implemented a new records management system in September. As the transition had a short-term impact on data quality, data for September to December 2003 were estimated from 2002 data for the same period.

The rate of violent crime has been generally declining slightly (-11%) over the past decade, after having increased steadily through most of the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s (figure 4). In 2003, the total violent crime rate remained relatively stable. All violent crime categories recorded declines, except robbery (+5%) and attempted murder (+4%). The 2003 violent crime rate was 11% lower than its near-peak in 1993, but still 66% higher than 25 years ago.

Figure 4  
Violent crime rate, Canada, 1978 to 2003



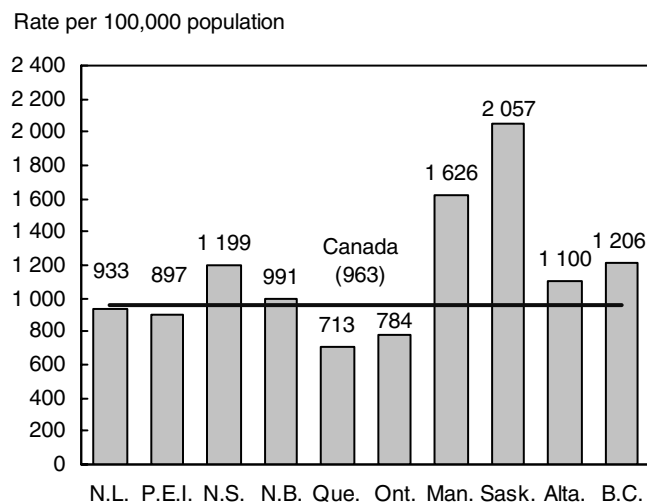
revised  
Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Saskatchewan recorded the highest rate of violent crime of all the provinces for the fifth consecutive year. At 2,057 violent incidents per 100,000 population, Saskatchewan's rate was about 25% higher than the next highest province, Manitoba (figure 5). For the ninth straight year, Quebec reported the lowest violent crime rate (713). The next lowest rate was reported by Ontario (784) for the second year in a row.

The violent crime rate was relatively stable in all provinces, except for a 5% decline in Ontario and substantial increases in Saskatchewan (+11%) and Nova Scotia (+7%). Ontario recorded a 6% decline in assaults, while Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia both reported increases for this large-volume offence, up 12% and 9% respectively.

Most of the nine largest CMAs reported lower violent crime rates in 2003 than in 2002. The largest declines occurred in Hamilton (-6%), Toronto (-6%) and Winnipeg (-5%), all driven by lower rates of assault than in the previous year. The largest increase in violent crime rates were reported by Ottawa (+4%) and Calgary (+4%), and were driven by increased rates of assault and robbery.

Figure 5  
Violent crime, Canada and the provinces, 2003



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Among the smaller CMAs, about half reported higher rates of violent crime in 2003 than in the previous year. The most substantial increase was recorded by Sherbrooke (+19%), though it still has one of the lowest violent crime rates among the CMAs. Of the CMAs experiencing decreased violent crime rates, the largest drops occurred in Sudbury (-17%) and St. Catharines-Niagara (-16%).

Saskatoon reported the highest violent crime rate (1,718 incidents per 100,000 population) of all 27 CMAs, followed by Regina (1,578) and Halifax (1,343). This is the fourth consecutive year that Saskatoon and Regina have reported the two highest rates of violent crime, but the first year that Halifax has been in the top three. The lowest violent crime rates were recorded by Québec (489), Saguenay (509), Trois-Rivières (541) and Kitchener (564).

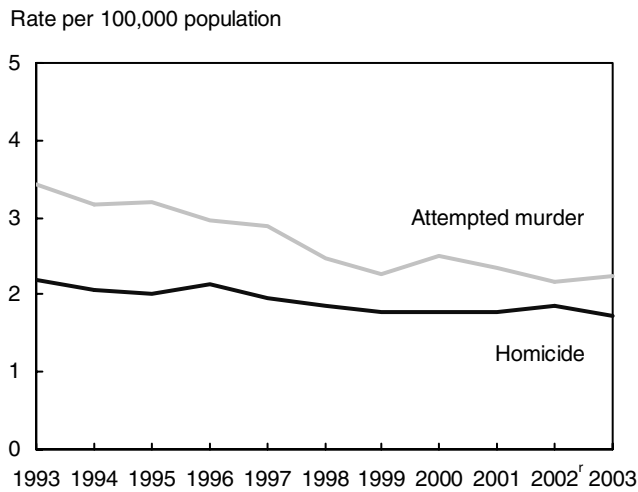
### Homicide rate lowest since 1967

Homicide includes first and second degree murder, manslaughter and infanticide. In 2003, there were 548 homicides and 710 attempted murders reported by police. Together these crimes account for less than half of one percent of all violent crimes.

The homicide rate continued its downward trend seen since the mid-1970s. The rate decreased by 7% in 2003, to stand at a rate of 1.7 incidents per 100,000 population (Figure 6). This is the lowest rate of homicides in Canada since 1967. However, the rate of attempted murders increased by 4% in 2003.

Figure 6

**Homicide and attempted murder incidents, Canada, 1993 to 2003<sup>r</sup>**



<sup>r</sup> revised

1. Homicide investigations undertaken by the Missing Women's Task Force in Port Coquitlam, B.C. resulted in 15 homicides being reported by police in 2002 and 6 in 2003. Homicide counts reflect the year in which police file the report.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

The drop in the number of homicides at the national level (-34) was driven by large decreases in British Columbia<sup>10</sup> (from 126 homicides in 2002 to 93 in 2003) and Quebec (from 118 homicides in 2002 to 100 in 2003). Of the three provinces reporting an increase in homicides in 2003, Saskatchewan had the largest increase, from 27 homicides in 2002 to 41 in 2003.

Among the provinces, the highest homicide rate was reported by Saskatchewan (4.1 incidents per 100,000 population), followed by Manitoba (3.7). This is the highest homicide rate in Saskatchewan since 1977. The four lowest rates were reported in the four Atlantic Provinces. The homicide rates in Nova Scotia (0.9) and Quebec (1.3) were the lowest that they have been in over 25 years.

Among the nine largest CMAs, the highest homicide rate was reported by Winnipeg (2.6 incidents per 100,000 population), though reporting 5 fewer homicides than in the previous year. The next highest rates were reported by Edmonton (2.2), Vancouver<sup>11</sup> (2.1) and Toronto (1.9). The lowest homicide rates among the largest CMAs occurred in Québec (0.4) and Calgary (1.1). Montréal and Québec both reported their lowest rates since CMA statistics were first collected in 1981.

The highest homicide rates in the country were reported by some of the smaller CMAs, with Abbotsford (8 homicides) and Regina (10 homicides) both reporting 5.1 homicides per 100,000 population. It should be noted that, due to small numbers and populations, homicide rates are subject to fluctuations from year to year. Only three CMAs reported no homicides in 2003: Saguenay, Sherbrooke and Trois-Rivières.

**Sexual assault rate lowest since 1985**

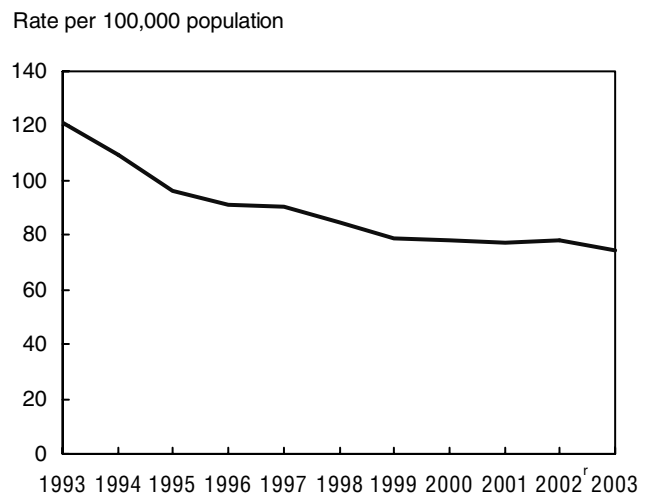
Sexual assault is classified into one of three levels according to the seriousness of the incident: level 1 (the category of least physical injury to the victim); level 2 (sexual assault with a weapon, threats to use a weapon, or causing bodily harm); and level 3 (sexual assault that wounds, maims, disfigures or endangers the life of the victim). Among the more than 23,000 sexual assaults reported by police in 2003, 98% were classified as level 1.

The rate of sexual assaults in Canada peaked in the early 1990s, and then generally declined, reaching a period of stability from 1999 to 2002 before dropping by 5% in 2003. (Figure 7). The rate in 2003 (74 incidents per 100,000 population) was 39% lower than a decade ago and is at its lowest level since 1985. However, although the numbers are relatively small (180 incidents), the rate of level 3 sexual assaults increased 17% in 2003, the first increase in nearly a decade.

All three levels of sexual assault have declined over the past decade. The rate of level 1 assaults is down 38%, the rate of level 2 assaults is down 62%, and the rate of level 3 assaults is down 54% from 1993.

Figure 7

**Rate of sexual assaults, Canada, 1993 to 2003**



<sup>r</sup> revised

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

10. Homicide investigations undertaken by the Missing Women's Task Force in Port Coquitlam, B.C. resulted in 15 homicides being reported by police in 2002, and a further 6 in 2003. Homicide counts reflect the year in which police file the report.

11. See note 10.



Quebec was the only province to report an increase (+4%) in the rate of sexual assaults in 2003. Even with this increase, Quebec reported the lowest rate (58) in Canada, followed by Ontario (63). Of the provinces reporting decreases, New Brunswick had the largest decline (-14%), followed by Newfoundland and Labrador (-10%), Ontario (-9%) and Alberta (-9%).

Three of the 27 CMAs reported a drop in sexual assault rates of more than 20%: London (-32%), Sudbury (-32%) and St. Catharines (-21%). Corresponding to the increased sexual assault rate in the province of Quebec, the largest increases among the CMAs were seen in Trois-Rivières (+54%), Sherbrooke (+38%) and Saguenay (+22%). However, these rates remain relatively low in comparison to the other CMAs.

The highest sexual assault rates among the CMAs were seen in Saskatoon (118 incidents per 100,000 population) and Winnipeg (107). The lowest rates were recorded by Ottawa and London (both with 41 incidents per 100,000 population). This is the second year in a row that Ottawa has reported the lowest rate of sexual assaults and Saskatoon the highest.

**Assaults remain stable**

In 2003, police reported more than 236,000 incidents of assault. The rate (746 incidents per 100,000 population) remained stable (-1%) compared to 2002 and stands about 4% lower than a decade ago.

Assaults represent approximately 4 out of every 5 violent crimes. They are classified into three main categories: common assault (level 1 assault); assault with a weapon, or causing bodily harm (level 2 assault); and, aggravated assault (level 3 assault). There were a further 12,000 "other" assaults reported in 2003, such as assault against a police officer and unlawfully causing bodily harm.

Common assaults account for 4 out of every 5 assaults, and 3 out of every 5 violent crimes. Behaviours such as pushing, slapping, punching and face-to-face threats are included in this category. The rate of common assault dropped 1% in 2003. The rate of "other" assaults also declined (-2%), while rates of assault with a weapon and aggravated assault increased, up 1% and 4% respectively.

**First increase in robberies since 1996**

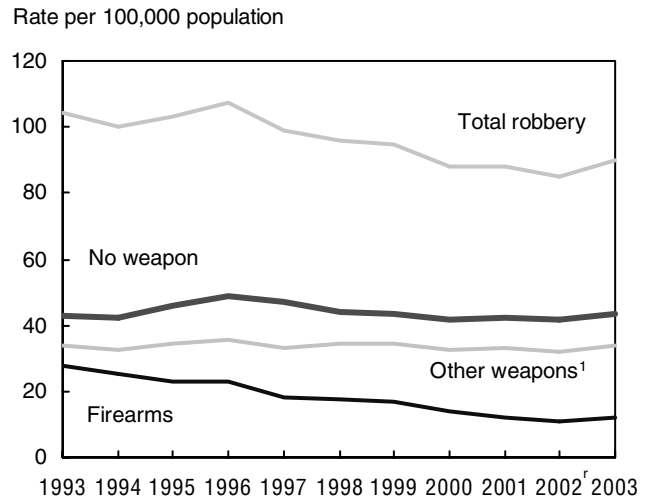
In 2003, the rate of robberies in Canada increased (+5%) for the first time since 1996. The rate of robberies has been generally declining since 1991, when it reached a peak of 119 incidents per 100,000 population. The 2003 rate of 90 is 24% lower than that peak but 10% higher than twenty-five years ago.

Nearly half of the over 28,000 robbery incidents reported by police in 2003 were committed without a weapon. A further 14% were committed with a firearm, and the remaining 38% with a weapon other than a firearm. Handguns are the most popular type of firearm present during robberies, accounting for approximately four out of every five robberies committed with a firearm in 2003. Knives accounted for nearly three out of every five robberies committed with a weapon other than a firearm in 2003.

The rate of firearm robbery increased 10% from the previous year, the first increase since 1991 (Figure 8). However, the 2003 rate was still about 50% lower than in 1993. The rates of robberies committed without a weapon and with a weapon other than a firearm were both up 5% from 2002.

Figure 8

**Robbery incidents by type, Canada, 1993 to 2003**



<sup>r</sup> revised  
 1. Knives are the most common type of "other" weapon present during a robbery.  
 Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Of the provinces reporting increased robbery rates in 2003, the largest were reported in Saskatchewan (+33%), Alberta (+21%) and Nova Scotia (+11%). The largest decline in robbery rates among the provinces in 2003 was recorded by Newfoundland and Labrador (-20%).

Robbery tends to be an offence for which there is a wide range in rates among the CMAs. In 2003, robbery rates ranged from 235 incidents per 100,000 population in Winnipeg to 18 in Saguenay.

**Criminal harassment rate stable**

The *Criminal Code* defines criminal harassment (commonly referred to as stalking) as repeatedly following or communicating with someone, watching that person's residence or place of business, or engaging in threatening conduct directed at that person or a member of their family. Data on criminal harassment are available only from the subset of police services providing data to the Incident-Based (UCR2) Survey. In order to permit trend analysis, a separate UCR2 Trend Database has been created for respondents who have been reporting incident-based data since 1998 (see Methodology).

Although the 2003 rate<sup>12</sup> was unchanged from the previous year, the rate of criminal harassment incidents has been generally increasing over the past five years and was 26% higher than in 1998.

Three-quarters (76%) of all criminal harassment victims in 2003 were female, and 86% of all accused were male. Of all female victims, 31% were harassed by ex-spouses, 22% by close friends (which includes ex-boyfriends), 22% by casual acquaintances, 12% by strangers, 3% by current spouses and 11% by all others.

The majority of persons accused of stalking male victims were also male (7 in 10). Male victims were most commonly harassed by casual acquaintances (35%), followed by close friends (18%), strangers (15%), ex-spouses (14%), current spouses (1%) and all others (18%).

## Property Crime

### First substantial increase in property crime since 1991

Theft, breaking and entering, motor vehicle thefts and fraud are among the most frequently reported property crimes (Figure 9). Thefts, excluding thefts of motor vehicles, account for more than half of all property crimes. After having reached an almost 20 year low in 2002, the property crime rate increased 4% in 2003, the first substantial rise in over a decade. The property crime rate in 2003 was still 26% lower than ten years ago. The increase in property crimes was driven by increases in the rate of thefts under \$5,000, motor vehicle thefts and break-ins.

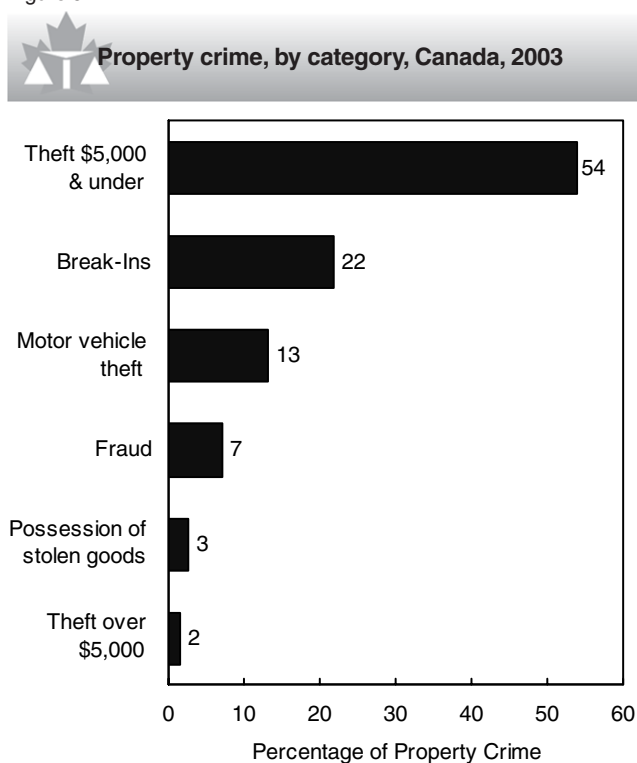
Among the provinces, property crime rates tend to be lower in the East than in the West, and ranged in 2003 from 2,611 incidents per 100,000 population in Newfoundland and Labrador to 6,922 in British Columbia (Figure 10). This is the fifteenth consecutive year that Newfoundland and Labrador has reported the lowest property crime rate while British Columbia has reported the highest rate for over 25 years.

Nearly all of the provinces reported increased property crime rates in 2003, with the largest jumps being recorded in Saskatchewan (+14%) and Manitoba (+12%). Only Quebec reported a decline (-2%), while Ontario's rate remained virtually unchanged.

Most of the nine largest CMAs reported relatively stable property crime rates in 2003, except for large increases in Winnipeg (+15%) and Edmonton (+13%). Both of these CMAs recorded substantial increases in break-ins, motor vehicles thefts and other thefts. Among the smaller CMAs, Saskatoon reported a 25% increase in property crime, followed by Sudbury (+14%) and Thunder Bay (+13%).

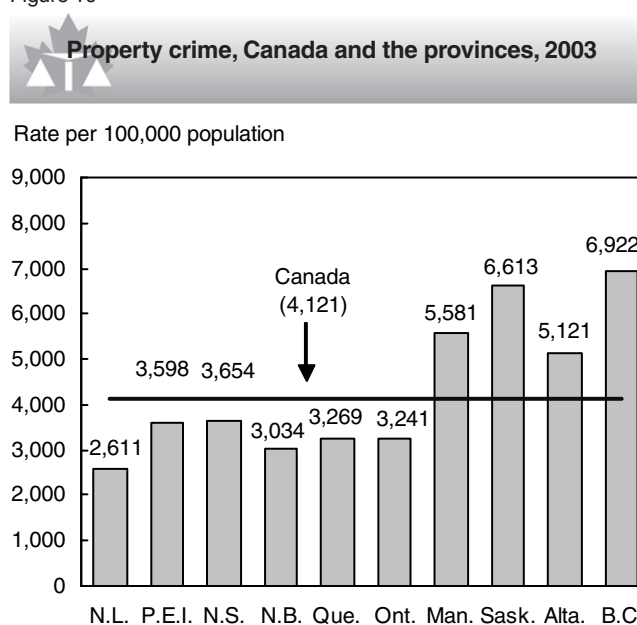
12. Data on the rate of criminal harassment incidents represent all incidents of criminal harassment, regardless of whether or not it was the most serious offence committed in an incident with multiple offences. Data on the relationship of the accused to the victim represent only incidents in which criminal harassment was the most serious violation against that victim.

Figure 9



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Figure 10



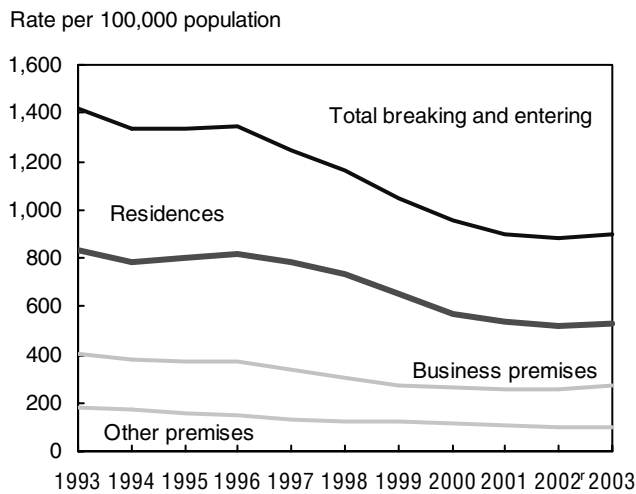
Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

### Break-ins increase

With more than 284,000 incidents reported by police in 2003, the rate of break-ins in Canada recorded its first increase in over a decade, up 2% (Figure 11). The 2003 rate was 37% lower than the rate both ten and twenty years ago. Break-ins represent the third-largest offence category, accounting for over 1 in 10 *Criminal Code* incidents.

Figure 11

#### Breaking and entering incidents, by type, Canada, 1993 to 2003



<sup>r</sup> revised  
 Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

The majority of break-ins occurred in private residences (58%), followed by businesses (30%) and all other locations (11%). The rate of break-ins at all locations increased in 2003, with break-ins at businesses up 6%, residential break-ins up 1%, and break-ins at “other” locations up 2%.

Eight provinces reported increased rates of break-ins in 2003, with the largest occurring in Nova Scotia, up 16% from the previous year. Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Alberta, New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador also reported double-digit increases. Only Quebec reported a notable decline (-5%).

Provincially, rates of break-ins ranged from 667 incidents per 100,000 population in Ontario to 1,737 in Saskatchewan. This is the first year Ontario has reported the lowest rate of break-ins.

### Vehicle thefts increase

The rate of motor vehicle thefts increased (+5%) in 2003, returning to the same level recorded in 2001. The motor vehicle theft rate increased steadily from 1984 to 1996, including double-digit increases from 1989 to 1991, and in 1996. The rate dropped slightly from 1996 to 2000, and has fluctuated since then.

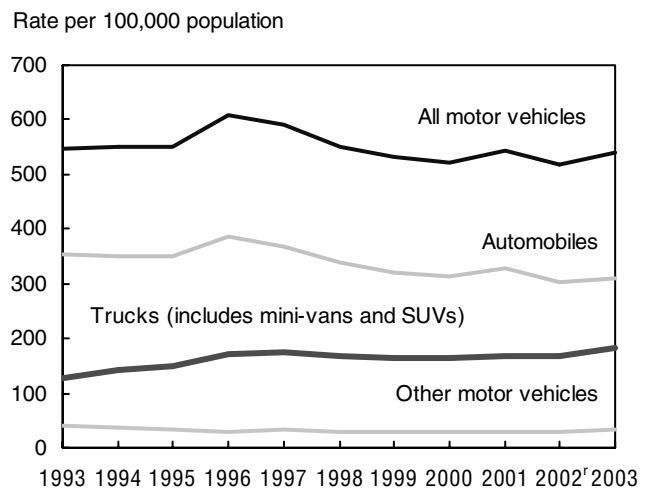
It should be noted that although the UCR Survey generally includes both attempted and completed incidents for all offence categories, motor vehicle theft is the only offence for which attempts make up a notable proportion of all incidents. In 2003, approximately 15% of the 171,000 motor vehicle theft incidents reported by police were attempts rather than completed thefts.

Every province reported an increase in motor vehicle theft rates, except Quebec and Ontario which remained stable. The largest increase was reported by Alberta (+15%), primarily due to a 22% increase in Edmonton. Large increases were also reported in Saskatchewan (+12%), Newfoundland and Labrador (+12%), New Brunswick (+12%) and Prince Edward Island (+11%).

Cars continued to be the most common type of vehicle stolen, accounting for 57% of all vehicle thefts in 2003 (Figure 12). Trucks, including mini vans and sport utility vehicles (SUVs), accounted for a further 34% of stolen vehicles, while the remaining 9% included motorcycles, construction equipment and all other motor vehicles. The rate of truck thefts increased 8% from the previous year compared to a 2% increase in the rate of car thefts. Compared to a decade ago, the rate of truck thefts is up 42%, whereas the rate of car thefts is down 12%. This is primarily due to an increase in the popularity of vans and SUVs among consumers and also as a target for theft.

Figure 12

#### Motor vehicle theft incidents, by type of vehicle, Canada, 1993 to 2003



<sup>r</sup> revised  
 Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Vehicle theft rates among the CMAs ranged from 161 incidents per 100,000 population in St. John's to 1,580 in Abbotsford. Following a decline of more than 50% last year, Thunder Bay's vehicle theft rate jumped up by 37% in 2003. An equally large increase was recorded by Saskatoon. In addition to

Edmonton, the other CMAs with increases over 20% were Québec and Saint John.

Of the CMAs reporting declines in 2003, the largest were reported by Kingston (-38%), Ottawa (-16%) and Kitchener (-15%).

### More than half of all property crimes are thefts

There were more than 720,000 thefts (excluding motor vehicle thefts and theft of property during a break-in) in 2003. Theft continued to account for 55% of all property crimes, and 28% of all *Criminal Code* offences. In 2003 the theft rate was 4% higher than the previous year.

The largest increase in theft rates was recorded by Manitoba (+18%) and was driven by a 21% jump in Winnipeg. The Winnipeg Police Service attributed part of this increase to the implementation of a telephone reporting system which has resulted in more minor offences, such as thefts and mischief, coming to the attention of police<sup>13</sup>.

Thefts from motor vehicles accounted for 38% of all thefts in 2003. Shoplifting accounted for 12% of theft incidents and theft of bicycles a further 9%. The remaining 42% of thefts fell into the "other" category. The most common items in this category are personal accessories, radios or televisions, money and identification<sup>14</sup>.

### Other *Criminal Code* Incidents

*Criminal Code* incidents that are classified as neither property crimes nor violent crimes fall into the category of "Other *Criminal Code*" offences. In 2003, more than 960,000 incidents, or 37% of all *Criminal Code* incidents, were in this category (Figure 13). Together these crimes increased by 10% in 2003. This rise was a result of increases in the rates of the three largest volume offences in this category: mischief (+6%), counterfeiting currency (+72%) and disturbing the peace (+15%).

#### Increase in rate of mischief offences

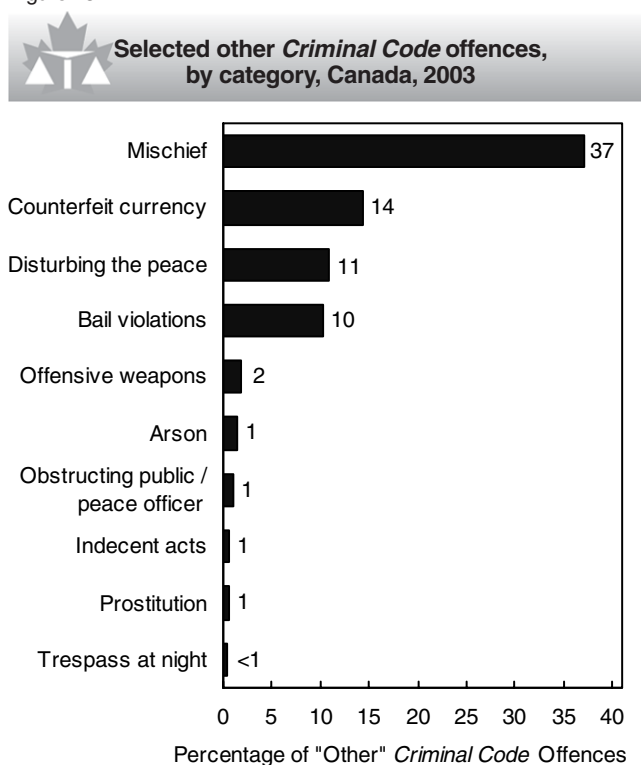
With more than 356,000 incidents reported in 2003, mischief offences accounted for 37% of Other *Criminal Code* offences, and 14% of all *Criminal Code* offences. After decreasing steadily between 1993 and 1999, the rate of mischief offences increased in 2000 and remained relatively stable until experiencing a 6% increase in 2003. The rate in 2003 was 22% lower than a decade ago.

All of the provinces reported increased rates of mischief in 2003, except for Ontario and Quebec which remained relatively stable. The largest increases were reported by Nova Scotia (+17%), Saskatchewan (+17%) and Manitoba (+13%). Rates of mischief ranged from 677 incidents per 100,000 population in Quebec to 2,585 in Manitoba.

#### Large increase in counterfeiting

The over 138,000 counterfeiting incidents reported by police represented 14% of all Other *Criminal Code* incidents in 2003. This proportion has increased tenfold over the past decade,

Figure 13



Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

having accounted for only 1.5% of Other *Criminal Code* offences in 1993. Counterfeiting currency incidents now represent 5% of all *Criminal Code* offences, making it the sixth largest volume crime in Canada. The rate of counterfeiting incidents reported by police increased 72% over the previous year.

The Bank of Canada's *Annual Report* for 2003 indicated that there were more than twice as many counterfeit notes detected in circulation in 2003 than in the previous year<sup>15</sup>. Some of this increase may be attributable to an increase in the detection of counterfeit currency rather than solely an increase in counterfeiting activity. In 2003, the Bank of Canada expanded its counterfeit-detection training activities with retailers and other groups. The *Annual Report* further indicated that the \$10 and \$20 denominations were the most frequently counterfeited in 2003. In response to the increasing rates of counterfeiting currency in recent years, the Bank of Canada has greatly increased its efforts to enhance bank note security, and will be introducing a number of new anti-counterfeiting features into the notes it will be issuing in 2004.

13. Winnipeg Police Service source, June 2, 2004.

14. Data from UCR2 Survey. For more information on this version of the UCR Survey, refer to the Methodology section.

15. Bank of Canada. 2004. Annual Report, 2003.



Rates of counterfeiting currency tripled in Newfoundland and Labrador in 2003, nearly doubled in Ontario and were up over 80% in Quebec and British Columbia. Only one province, Prince Edward Island, reported a decrease (-14%) in 2003.

Even with its 200% increase, Newfoundland and Labrador reported the lowest rate of counterfeiting currency (48 incidents per 100,000 population) among the provinces in 2003. The next lowest rates were recorded by Manitoba (69) and New Brunswick (104). Quebec recorded the highest rate (1,001), which was more than two and a half times the next highest rate (British Columbia, 400).

### Disturbing the peace incidents continue to increase

The rate of disturbing the peace incidents increased by 15% in 2003. With the exception of a slight decline in 2002, the rate of disturbing the peace incidents has been increasing steadily since hitting an almost 20-year low in 1995. The nearly 104,000 incidents reported by police in 2003 represented one in every ten Other *Criminal Code* incidents.

Every province except Ontario reported an increase in the rate of disturbing the peace incidents in 2003. The largest increases were reported by Manitoba (+55%), New Brunswick (+47%) and Alberta (+25%).

It should be noted that some of this increase may be due to a number of police services implementing new reporting systems in recent years which make it easier for the public to report minor offences.

### Administration of justice offences

There were more than 103,000 administration of justice offences reported in 2003. These include such offences as judicial interim release violations (also referred to as bail violations), failure to appear in court, and failure to comply with a condition of undertaking or recognizance, a summons, or an appearance notice and escaping custody. Together, these accounted for 11% of all Other *Criminal Code* offences. The large volume of these offences creates a strain on the entire justice system by increasing remand rates and creating backlogs in the court system.

### Increase in offensive weapons

In 2003, police reported nearly 17,000 *Criminal Code* offensive weapons offences. This translates to a rate of 54 incidents per 100,000 population, up 5% from the previous year.

Illegal possession of a weapon accounted for 59% of weapons-related offences in 2003. Illegal possession includes having an unregistered firearm or failing to possess a license to possess a firearm. A further 12% of weapons-related offences fell into the illegal firearms usage category (e.g. using a firearm in the commission of an offence or pointing a firearm), and 28% into the "other" weapons offences category (e.g. careless use, illegal destruction of a firearm, tampering with serial numbers).

## Criminal Code Traffic Incidents

Police reported nearly 116,000 *Criminal Code* traffic incidents in 2003. The rate of 366 incidents per 100,000 population was 2% lower than the previous year. Impaired driving incidents accounted for two-thirds of all *Criminal Code* traffic incidents. A further 20% of incidents were failures to stop and/or remain at the scene of an accident, and the final 14% were incidents of dangerous driving and driving while prohibited.

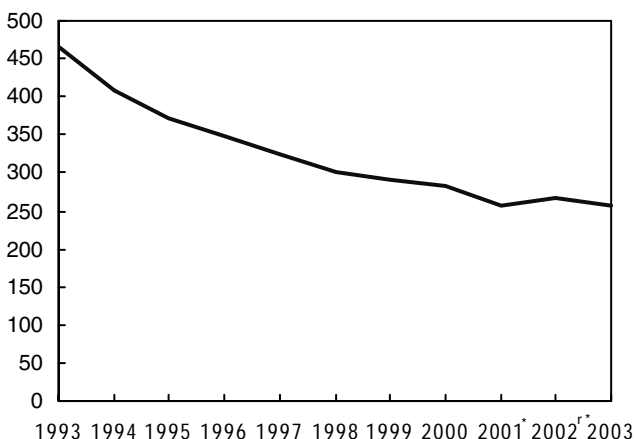
### Impaired driving continues to decline

Impaired driving offences include impaired operation of a motor vehicle, boat or aircraft causing death or bodily harm; driving with over 80 mg of alcohol per 100 ml of blood; and, failing to provide a breath and/or blood sample when requested by a police officer. The rate of impaired driving in Canada has been generally declining for nearly 20 years, including a 5% drop in 2003 (Figure 14). Police reported more than 77,000 incidents of impaired driving in 2003, down more than 40% over the past decade. The number of impaired driving incidents includes instances of police issuing roadside suspensions, rather than laying a formal charge, to drivers found to have a blood-alcohol reading slightly above the legal limit.

Figure 14



Rate per 100,000 population



<sup>r</sup> revised

\* In 2001 the RCMP began reporting incidents of impaired driving in which a roadside suspension was issued, rather than a charge laid, to the CCJS. In 2002, all other police services began reporting this way as well.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

The rate of impaired driving offences can be quite sensitive to changes in enforcement policies and practices such as the presence of roadside spot checks and increased police patrols during particular time periods.



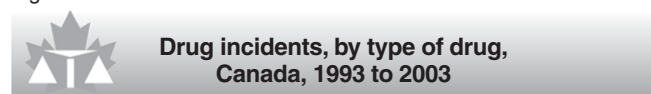
Among the provinces, the highest rate of impaired driving was reported by Saskatchewan (554 incidents per 100,000 population), followed by Prince Edward Island (441). Saskatchewan has reported the highest rate of impaired driving for twelve consecutive years. The lowest rate of impaired driving was recorded by Ontario (156), followed by Newfoundland and Labrador (183).

Prince Edward Island reported the largest increase in impaired driving rates among the provinces, up 11% from the previous year. The largest declines were reported in New Brunswick (-11%) and Ontario (-9%).

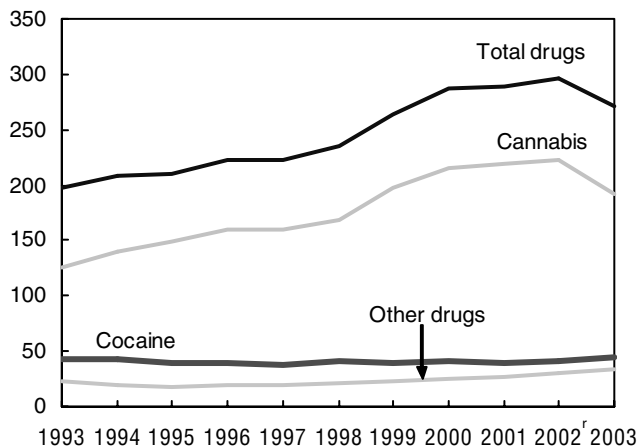
## First decrease in drug crimes since 1993

Following nearly a decade of increases, the rate of drug crimes in Canada fell by 8% in 2003 (Figure 15). A large drop in cannabis offences was mainly responsible for this decline. Police reported nearly 86,000 incidents related to the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (CDSA).

Figure 15



Rate per 100,000 population



<sup>r</sup> revised

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Cannabis offences accounted for 7 out of every 10 drug crimes in 2003, and were down 14% from the previous year. This decline was driven by an 18% decrease in the rate of cannabis possession in 2003. Possession of cannabis accounts for 7 out of every 10 cannabis offences, and nearly half (48%) of all drug crimes. This drop may in part be the result of a climate of uncertainty within the law enforcement and criminal justice community given the introduction of legislation to decriminalize possession of small amounts of cannabis, as well as a number of court rulings over this time period questioning the constitutionality of current laws regarding cannabis possession, rather than the result of an actual decrease in drug crimes. It may

also be a result of a re-prioritization of police resources towards the larger drug problem, focusing on the more serious offences which could have a greater impact on the drug trade.

In May 2003, a Bill was introduced into Parliament which proposed the decriminalization of possessing small quantities of cannabis, held for personal use, and introduced fines. The Bill was not passed before Parliament ended its session. In the face of uncertainty about the eventual outcome of the proposed amendments, many police services have continued to count incidents of, but stopped laying charges for, possession of small amounts of cannabis<sup>16</sup>. In fact, though the rate of incidents of cannabis possession decreased in 2003, the rate of persons charged with cannabis possession dropped even more (-30%).

The only cannabis-related offence to have increased in 2003 was cultivation, up 3% from the previous year. Cannabis cultivation, also referred to as “marijuana grow-ops”, accounts for 14% of all cannabis offences. The rates of cocaine offences and “other” drug offences both increased, up 9% and 11% respectively, while heroin offences declined by 17%.

Among the provinces, drug crime rates ranged from 158 incidents per 100,000 population in Newfoundland and Labrador to 584 in British Columbia. British Columbia has reported the highest rate of drug crimes for over 20 years. In 2003, British Columbia was the only province to report an increase in its drug rate, up 6% from the previous year. British Columbia was also the only province in 2003 to record an increase in the rate of cannabis offences, including a 3% increase in the rate of possession incidents. In Vancouver, the introduction of high visibility walking beats in areas with high rates of drug crimes may have resulted in more incidents coming to the attention of police, and therefore contributed to the province’s increased drug crime rate<sup>17</sup>.

Of the provinces reporting decreases in their drug rates, the largest was recorded by Ontario (-24%) followed by Prince Edward Island (-23%). These declines are associated with large decreases in the rates of cannabis offences.

In February, 2004, cannabis law reform was reintroduced into the House of Commons in the form of Bill C-10, and underwent its first reading. In May, 2004 the House of Commons rose prior to Bill C-10 completing the legislative process.

## Youth Crime

### Measuring youth crime

Youths aged 12 to 17 who come into contact with the law can be formally charged or dealt with by other means. While this has always been true, the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA), which came into force on April 1, 2003 replacing the *Young*

16. In a June 2003 press release, the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) came out in favour of this policy. The OACP advised its members to continue to seize and process marijuana according to established policies and procedures. However, rather than proceeding with a charge, it recommended that officers document the incident with a view to possibly instituting a charge following a clarification of the law. [www.oacp.on.ca/news/pdfs/PotPossessionJune03.pdf](http://www.oacp.on.ca/news/pdfs/PotPossessionJune03.pdf).

17. Vancouver Police source.

*Offenders Act*, requires that police consider the use of extrajudicial (non-court) measures for less serious offences (see text box *Youth Criminal Justice Act*) before considering a charge. As a result, it is essential to take into account both youths formally charged by police and youths “cleared otherwise” in measuring youth criminal activity coming to the attention of police. This analysis will present trends for youths charged, youths “cleared otherwise”, and the crime rate resulting from the combined counts. However, it should be noted that any increase in youths cleared otherwise may be partly attributable to increased reporting by police of youths not formally charged, due to the new YCJA provisions on extrajudicial measures.

An incident is “cleared otherwise” when police have identified at least one accused and there is sufficient evidence to lay a charge in connection with the incident, but the accused is processed by other means. In the case of youths, this could include formal measures such as a Crown caution or extrajudicial sanctions, or informal measures such as a police warning or referral to a community program.

Of the extrajudicial measures reported by police in 2003, 71% were informal verbal warnings, 12% were formal police cautions, 11% were formal referrals to extrajudicial sanctions programs, and 6% were informal referrals to community-based programs, activities or agencies<sup>18</sup>.

**Text Box 2: Youth Criminal Justice Act**

The extrajudicial measures encouraged by the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*, proclaimed in April 2003, include taking no further action, informal police warnings, referrals to community programs, formal police cautions, Crown cautions and extrajudicial sanctions programs. These measures should be used in all cases in which they would be adequate to hold the young person accountable, such as with non-violent offenders who have not previously been found guilty in court.

The Act also establishes new sentencing principles. These principles include: sentences must be proportionate to the seriousness of the offence and the degree of responsibility of the young person; within the limit of proportionality, the sentence must be the least restrictive alternative and the sentence that is most likely to promote rehabilitation; and the sentence must not be more severe than what an adult would receive for the same offence. In addition, the Act sets out specific restrictions on the use of custody that reserve custody primarily for violent offenders and serious repeat offenders for whom there is no alternative to custody. The Act also creates several new non-custodial sentencing options and provides that custodial sentences include a period of supervision in the community.

Source: Justice Canada. [www.canada.justice.gc.ca](http://www.canada.justice.gc.ca).

**Youth crime up**

More than 84,000 youths were charged with *Criminal Code* offences in Canada in 2003, and a further 100,000 were cleared otherwise (Table 7). It should be noted that this figure likely under-estimates the true number of youths cleared otherwise as not all police services maintain records for all youths dealt with in this manner.

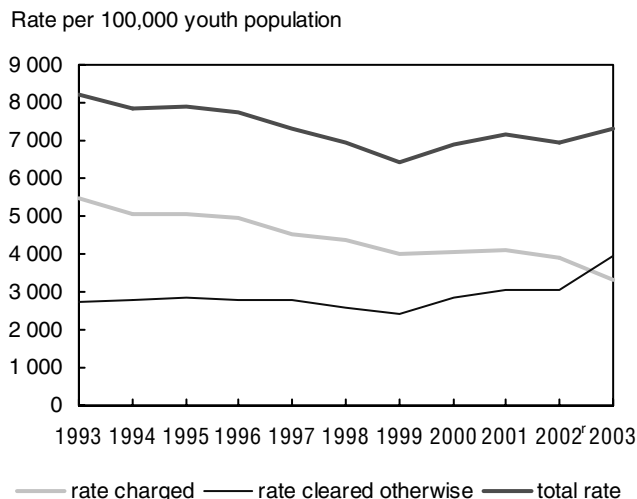
The rate of youths charged dropped by 15% in 2003, but was more than offset by a 30% jump in the rate of youths cleared otherwise. This suggests that the charging practices of police services have adjusted in response to the YCJA, introduced

in 2003. However, it should be noted that any increase in youths cleared otherwise may be partly attributable to increased reporting by police of youths not formally charged, due to the new YCJA provisions on extrajudicial measures. The resulting combined rate of youths charged and youths cleared otherwise was 5% higher than in the previous year, continuing the general increase that began in 2000.

Over the past decade, the rate of youths charged with *Criminal Code* offences has generally declined, with the exception of a brief period of stability in 2000 and 2001 (Figure 16). However, the rate of youths cleared otherwise has not followed the same trend. Between 1993 and 1997 the rate remained relatively stable, followed by a decrease in the late 1990s. Beginning in 2000, the rate of youths cleared otherwise increased, including the 30% increase in 2003.

Figure 16

**Youth crime<sup>1</sup> rates, Canada, 1993 to 2003**



<sup>1</sup> revised  
1. Includes total Criminal Code offences, excluding traffic offences.  
Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

The combined rate of youths charged and youths cleared otherwise ranged from 4,219 per 100,000 population in Quebec to 19,267 in Saskatchewan in 2003 (Table 8). Only three provinces reported declines in 2003: British Columbia (-4%), Manitoba (-3%) and New Brunswick (-2%). Of the provinces reporting increases, the largest was recorded by Prince Edward Island (+25%), followed by Newfoundland and Labrador (+16%), Saskatchewan (+14%), and Nova Scotia (+13%).

18. Data comes from those UCR2 Survey respondents able to provide a breakdown by YCJA categories. See Methodology for further information on this version of the UCR Survey.

Data from the UCR2 Survey indicate that youth make up 17% of all persons accused of *Criminal Code* offences (excluding traffic) (Table 9). Robbery and other sexual offences are the only violent crimes for which youth account for more than one-quarter of accused persons. However, youth tend to make up higher proportions of all persons accused of property crimes, accounting for one-third of all persons accused of break-ins and thefts under \$5,000, and two out of every five persons accused of motor vehicle thefts.

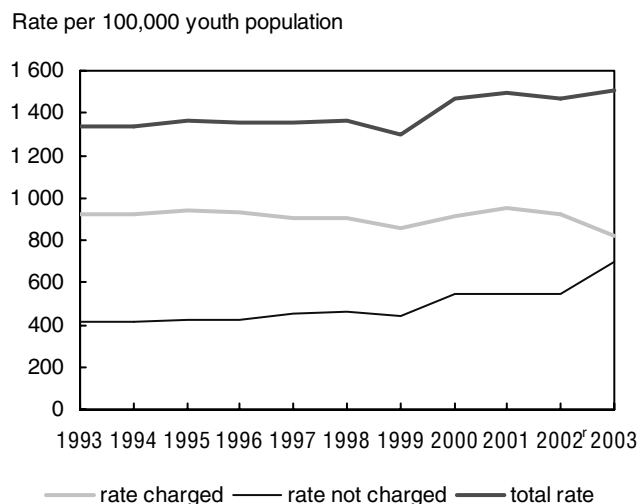
### Youth violent crime rate increased slightly

When both youths charged and youths cleared otherwise are taken into account, violent crime accounted for 21% of youth crime in 2003.

The combined rate of youths charged with and youths cleared otherwise of violent crimes showed a slight increase (+3%) from the previous year. The rate of youths charged with violent crimes decreased 11% in 2003, while the rate of youths cleared otherwise jumped by 27%. Throughout the past decade, the trend in the rate of youth violent crime was relatively stable until it began a general increase in 2000. (Figure 17).

Figure 17

### Youth violent crime rates, Canada, 1993 to 2003



<sup>r</sup> revised

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

There were 57 youths accused of homicide in 2003, 15 more than in 2002. There were also nine more youths accused of attempted murder in 2003 (69) than the previous year.

### Youth property crime up

The combined rate of youths charged with a property offence and youths cleared otherwise increased slightly (+4%) in 2003. This was the first increase after three years of stability.

The rate of youths charged with property crimes has generally declined over the past decade, including double-digit decreases in 1997 and 1999. The rate of youths cleared otherwise of property crimes decreased between 1996 and 1999, and then began increasing in 2000, including a 33% jump in 2003. This more than offset the 19% drop in the rate of youths charged in 2003.

The overall increase in the rate of youths involved in property offences was driven by a 7% increase in the rate of break-ins and a 6% increase in the rate of thefts under \$5,000. However, the rate of youths accused of motor vehicle theft declined 7%.

## Methodology

### The Uniform Crime Reporting Survey

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey was developed by Statistics Canada with the co-operation and assistance of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police. The survey, which became operational in 1962, collects crime and traffic statistics reported by all police agencies in Canada. UCR survey data reflect reported crime that has been substantiated through police investigation. Coverage of the UCR Survey in 2003 was at 99.9% of the caseload of all police services in Canada.

It should be noted that Toronto Police implemented a new records management system in September. As the transition had a short-term impact on data quality, Toronto data for September to December 2003 were estimated from 2002 data for the same period.

In this report, the "crime rate" excludes Criminal Code traffic violations as these data have proven to be volatile over time as a result of changes in police procedures that allow for some traffic violations to be scored under either a provincial statute or the *Criminal Code* (e.g. failure to stop or remain at an accident). Other federal statutes such as drug offences are also excluded from the "crime rate" in this report.

Currently, there are two levels of detail collected by the UCR survey:

#### 1. Aggregate UCR Survey

The aggregate UCR survey records the number of incidents reported to the police. It includes the number of reported offences, actual offences, offences cleared by charge or cleared otherwise, persons charged (by sex and by an adult/youth breakdown) and those not charged. It does not include victim characteristics. Unless otherwise mentioned, all analysis in this report is based on aggregate survey counts.

The aggregate UCR survey classifies incidents according to the most serious offence in the incident (generally the offence that carries the longest maximum sentence under the *Criminal Code*). In categorizing incidents, violent offences always take precedence over non-violent offences. As a result, less serious offences are under-represented by the UCR survey.

The aggregate UCR survey scores violent incidents (except robbery) differently from other types of crime. For violent crime, a separate incident is recorded for each victim (i.e. if one person assaults three people, then three incidents are recorded; but if three people assault one person, only one incident is recorded). Robbery, however, is counted as if it were a non-violent crime in order to avoid inflating the number of victims (e.g. for a bank robbery, counting everyone present in the bank would result in an over-counting of robbery incidents). For non-violent crimes, one incident (categorized according to the most serious offence) is counted for every distinct or separate occurrence.

## 2. 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. Police forces switch over from the aggregate to the incident-based survey as their records management systems become capable of providing this level of detail.

In 2003, 122 police services in 9 provinces supplied data for the complete year to the UCR2 survey. These data represent 61% of the national volume of reported actual (substantiated) *Criminal Code* crimes. The incidents contained in the 2003 database were distributed as follows: 41% from Ontario, 30% from Québec, 11% from Alberta, 5% from British Columbia, 5% from Manitoba, 5% from Saskatchewan, 2% from Nova Scotia, 1% from New Brunswick, and 1% from Newfoundland and Labrador. Other than Ontario and Québec, the data are

primarily from urban police departments. The reader is cautioned that these data are not geographically representative at the national or provincial level. Continuity with the UCR aggregate survey data is maintained by a conversion of the incident-based data to aggregate counts at year-end.

The UCR2 Trend Database contains historical data, which permits the analysis of trends in the characteristics of the incidents, accused and victims, such as weapon use and victim/accused relationships. This database currently includes 71 police services who have reported to the UCR2 survey constantly since 1998. These respondents accounted for 46% of the national volume of crime in 2003. This list of respondents will remain unchanged until such time as large police services such as the RCMP and OPP have been providing at least 6 years of data to the UCR2 survey, at which point they will become part of this trend database.

### Data Revisions

During the production of each year's crime statistics, data from the previous year are revised to reflect any updates or changes that have been received from the police services.

In 2004/05, an analysis will be undertaken of the impact on the historical data series for Ontario of a discrepancy in the methodology applied by the forces using the Ontario Municipal & Provincial Police Automated Co-operative (OMPPAC) system that was detected in 2002 and that resulted in a revision to 2001 Ontario data.

Table 1


**Federal statute incidents reported to police, by most serious offence, Canada, 1999 to 2003<sup>1</sup>**

	1999		2000		2001 <sup>2</sup>		2002 <sup>r</sup>		2003		% change in rate* 2002-2003	% change in rate* 1993-2003
	number	rate	number	rate	number	rate	number	rate	number	rate		
<b>Population</b>	<b>30,403,878</b>		<b>30,689,035</b>		<b>31,021,251</b>		<b>31,361,611</b>		<b>31,629,677</b>			
Homicide <sup>3</sup>	538	2	546	2	553	2	582	2	548	2	-6.6	-20.7
Attempted murder	687	2	767	2	725	2	678	2	710	2	3.8	-34.6
<b>Assaults - Total (levels 1, 2, 3)</b>	<b>221,348</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>233,719</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>236,957</b>	<b>764</b>	<b>235,710</b>	<b>752</b>	<b>236,103</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>-4.3</b>
Level 1	181,330	596	190,467	621	191,147	616	189,185	603	188,457	596	-1.2	-6.0
Level 2-Weapon	37,501	123	40,686	133	43,094	139	43,793	140	44,791	142	1.4	4.8
Level 3-Aggravated	2,517	8	2,566	8	2,716	9	2,732	9	2,855	9	3.6	-18.6
Other assaults	12,126	40	12,164	40	12,260	40	12,454	40	12,299	39	-2.1	-24.4
<b>Sexual assaults - Total</b>	<b>23,859</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>24,001</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>24,044</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>24,499</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>23,425</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>-5.2</b>	<b>-38.9</b>
Level 1	23,185	76	23,428	76	23,563	76	23,973	76	22,884	72	-5.4	-38.1
Level 2-Weapon	461	2	391	1	320	1	373	1	361	1	-4.0	-61.9
Level 3-Aggravated	213	1	182	1	161	1	153	0	180	1	16.6	-54.4
Other sexual offences	3,300	11	3,114	10	2,689	9	2,756	9	2,538	8	-8.7	-44.8
Abduction	729	2	750	2	674	2	605	2	560	2	-8.2	-57.8
<b>Robbery - Total</b>	<b>28,740</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>27,037</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>27,284</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>26,662</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>28,332</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>-14.2</b>
Firearms	5,122	17	4,323	14	3,818	12	3,483	11	3,877	12	10.4	-56.3
Other Weapons	10,500	35	9,901	32	10,280	33	10,104	32	10,660	34	4.6	-0.6
No Weapons	13,118	43	12,813	42	13,186	43	13,075	42	13,795	44	4.6	2.6
<b>Violent crime - Total</b>	<b>291,327</b>	<b>958</b>	<b>302,098</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>305,186</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>303,946</b>	<b>969</b>	<b>304,515</b>	<b>963</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>-11.0</b>
<b>Break &amp; enter - Total</b>	<b>318,054</b>	<b>1,046</b>	<b>293,357</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>279,461</b>	<b>901</b>	<b>275,573</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>284,496</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>-36.5</b>
Business	83,971	276	82,074	267	80,264	259	81,162	259	86,469	273	5.6	-32.3
Residential	197,022	648	175,804	573	166,500	537	163,156	520	165,959	525	0.9	-37.1
Other	37,061	122	35,479	116	32,697	105	31,255	100	32,068	101	1.7	-43.4
Motor vehicle theft	161,388	531	160,315	522	168,595	543	161,912	516	171,017	541	4.7	-1.0
Theft over \$5,000 <sup>4</sup>	22,493	74	21,354	70	20,845	67	19,816	63	20,124	64	0.7	-84.5
Theft \$5,000 and under <sup>4</sup>	678,367	2,231	663,040	2,161	659,589	2,126	667,312	2,128	702,317	2,220	4.4	-17.7
Possession of stolen goods	29,308	96	28,530	93	26,960	87	30,056	96	32,777	104	8.1	-3.6
Fraud	90,371	297	85,791	280	86,486	279	91,812	293	92,838	294	0.3	-25.5
<b>Property crime - Total</b>	<b>1,299,981</b>	<b>4,276</b>	<b>1,252,387</b>	<b>4,081</b>	<b>1,241,936</b>	<b>4,004</b>	<b>1,246,481</b>	<b>3,975</b>	<b>1,303,569</b>	<b>4,121</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>-26.1</b>
Mischief	312,266	1,027	326,374	1,063	333,136	1,074	333,334	1,063	356,143	1,126	5.9	-22.3
Counterfeiting currency	36,265	119	35,937	117	38,674	125	79,970	255	138,430	438	71.6	911.1
Bail violations	72,192	237	78,105	255	90,545	292	96,206	307	98,164	310	1.2	34.3
Disturbing the peace	69,570	229	80,085	261	89,971	290	89,354	285	103,691	328	15.1	72.6
Offensive weapons	16,007	53	15,324	50	15,876	51	15,930	51	16,940	54	5.4	-17.3
Prostitution	5,255	17	5,051	16	5,087	16	5,770	18	5,658	18	-2.8	-39.8
Arson	12,756	42	13,733	45	14,484	47	13,131	42	13,851	44	4.6	0.7
Other	241,212	793	243,674	794	239,916	773	233,322	744	231,282	731	-1.7	-11.9
<b>Other Criminal Code - Total</b>	<b>765,523</b>	<b>2,518</b>	<b>798,283</b>	<b>2,601</b>	<b>827,689</b>	<b>2,668</b>	<b>867,017</b>	<b>2,765</b>	<b>964,159</b>	<b>3,048</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>5.8</b>
<b>Criminal Code without traffic - Total (Crime Rate)</b>	<b>2,356,831</b>	<b>7,752</b>	<b>2,352,768</b>	<b>7,666</b>	<b>2,374,811</b>	<b>7,655</b>	<b>2,417,444</b>	<b>7,708</b>	<b>2,572,243</b>	<b>8,132</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>-14.7</b>
Impaired driving <sup>5</sup>	85,997	283	79,225	258	82,718	267	80,045	255	77,038	244	-4.6	-40.6
Fail to stop/remain	17,972	59	19,522	64	22,538	73	22,040	70	22,932	73	3.2	-65.4
Other - Criminal Code Traffic	13,681	45	13,698	45	14,978	48	15,486	49	15,884	50	1.7	-28.6
<b>Criminal Code Traffic - Total</b>	<b>117,650</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>112,445</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>120,234</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>117,571</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>115,854</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>-2.3</b>	<b>-46.9</b>
<b>Criminal Code - Total</b>	<b>2,474,481</b>	<b>8,139</b>	<b>2,465,213</b>	<b>8,033</b>	<b>2,495,045</b>	<b>8,043</b>	<b>2,535,015</b>	<b>8,083</b>	<b>2,688,097</b>	<b>8,499</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>-16.9</b>
<b>Drugs</b>	<b>80,142</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>88,091</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>89,395</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>92,781</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>85,953</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>-8.1</b>	<b>37.2</b>
Cannabis	60,011	197	66,274	216	67,921	219	69,687	222	60,670	192	-13.7	52.8
Cocaine	11,963	39	12,829	42	12,145	39	12,737	41	13,938	44	8.5	0.9
Heroin	1,323	4	1,226	4	951	3	786	3	655	2	-17.4	-62.8
Other drugs	6,845	23	7,762	25	8,378	27	9,571	31	10,690	34	10.7	44.6
<b>Other federal statutes</b>	<b>38,942</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>34,587</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>38,013</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>40,122</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>36,186</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>-10.6</b>	<b>-32.0</b>
<b>Total federal statutes</b>	<b>2,593,565</b>	<b>8,530</b>	<b>2,587,891</b>	<b>8,433</b>	<b>2,622,453</b>	<b>8,454</b>	<b>2,667,918</b>	<b>8,507</b>	<b>2,810,236</b>	<b>8,885</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>-16.1</b>

\* Percent change based on unrounded rates.

<sup>r</sup> revised

1. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. The population estimates come from the Annual Demographic Statistics, 2003 report, produced by Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: final intercensal estimates for 1999 and 2000, final postcensal estimates for 2001; updated postcensal estimates for 2002; and preliminary postcensal estimates for 2003.

2. Last year, data for 2001 were revised for Ontario and Canada due to reporting changes for the OPP and most of the 41 police services reporting to the Ontario OMPACC system. For further information on this change refer to the Methodology section.

3. Homicide investigations undertaken by the Missing Women's Task Force in Port Coquitlam, B.C. resulted in 15 homicides being reported by police in 2002, and 6 in 2003. Homicide counts reflect the year in which police file the report.


4. Prior to 1995, theft offences were categorized as Theft \$1,000 and Under and Theft Over \$1,000. In 1995 the dollar value was increased.

5. Includes impaired operation of a vehicle causing death, causing bodily harm, alcohol rate over 80mg, failure/refusal to provide a breath/blood sample. In 2001, the RCMP began reporting incidents in which a roadside suspension was issued, rather than a charge laid, to the CCJS. In 2002, all other police services began reporting this way as well.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.



Table 2



**Rates of Criminal Code incidents, Canada, 1962 - 2003<sup>1</sup>**

	Total Criminal Code <sup>2</sup>		Violent crime		Property crime		Other Criminal Code	
	rate	% change*	rate	% change*	rate	% change*	rate	% change*
		%		%		%		%
1962	2,771	...	221	...	1,891	...	659	...
1963	3,022	9.0	249	13.0	2,047	8.2	726	10.1
1964	3,245	7.4	284	13.8	2,146	4.9	815	12.3
1965	3,199	-1.4	299	5.4	2,091	-2.6	809	-0.7
1966	3,511	9.8	347	15.9	2,258	8.0	907	12.0
1967	3,850	9.6	381	9.9	2,484	10.0	985	8.7
1968	4,336	12.6	423	11.0	2,826	13.8	1,087	10.3
1969	4,737	9.3	453	7.1	3,120	10.4	1,164	7.1
1970	5,212	10.0	481	6.2	3,515	12.6	1,217	4.6
1971	5,311	1.9	492	2.4	3,649	3.8	1,170	-3.9
1972	5,355	0.8	497	1.0	3,634	-0.4	1,224	4.6
1973	5,773	7.8	524	5.3	3,704	1.9	1,546	26.3
1974	6,388	10.6	553	5.6	4,151	12.1	1,684	8.9
1975	6,852	7.3	585	5.9	4,498	8.4	1,769	5.0
1976	6,984	1.9	584	-0.2	4,533	0.8	1,867	5.6
1977	6,971	-0.2	572	-2.0	4,466	-1.5	1,933	3.5
1978	7,154	2.6	580	1.4	4,579	2.5	1,995	3.2
1979	7,666	7.2	610	5.1	4,903	7.1	2,153	7.9
1980	8,343	8.8	636	4.3	5,444	11.0	2,263	5.1
1981	8,736	4.7	654	2.8	5,759	5.8	2,322	2.6
1982	8,773	0.4	671	2.7	5,840	1.4	2,262	-2.6
1983	8,470	-3.5	679	1.2	5,608	-4.0	2,182	-3.5
1984	8,387	-1.0	701	3.1	5,501	-1.9	2,185	0.1
1985	8,413	0.3	735	4.8	5,451	-0.9	2,227	1.9
1986	8,727	3.7	785	6.9	5,550	1.8	2,392	7.4
1987	8,957	2.6	829	5.7	5,553	0.1	2,575	7.6
1988	8,919	-0.4	868	4.7	5,439	-2.0	2,613	1.5
1989	8,892	-0.3	911	5.0	5,289	-2.7	2,692	3.0
1990	9,485	6.7	973	6.8	5,612	6.1	2,900	7.8
1991	10,342	9.0	1,059	8.9	6,160	9.8	3,122	7.7
1992	10,040	-2.9	1,084	2.3	5,904	-4.2	3,052	-2.3
1993	9,538	-5.0	1,082	-0.2	5,575	-5.6	2,881	-5.6
1994	9,125	-4.3	1,047	-3.2	5,257	-5.7	2,821	-2.1
1995	9,008	-1.3	1,009	-3.7	5,292	0.7	2,707	-4.0
1996	8,932	-0.8	1,002	-0.7	5,274	-0.3	2,656	-1.9
1997	8,475	-5.1	993	-0.9	4,880	-7.5	2,603	-2.0
1998	8,161	-3.7	982	-1.1	4,569	-6.4	2,610	0.3
1999	7,752	-5.0	958	-2.4	4,276	-6.4	2,518	-3.5
2000	7,666	-1.1	984	2.7	4,081	-4.6	2,601	3.3
2001 <sup>3</sup>	7,655	-0.1	984	-0.1	4,004	-1.9	2,668	2.6
2002 <sup>r</sup>	7,708	0.7	969	-1.5	3,975	-0.7	2,765	3.6
2003	8,132	5.5	963	-0.7	4,121	3.7	3,048	10.3

\* In comparison to the previous year's rate. Percent change based on unrounded rates.

... not applicable

<sup>r</sup> revised

1. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. The population estimates come from the Annual Demographic Statistics, 2003 report, produced by Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: intercensal estimates for 1962 to 1970, without adjustment for net census undercoverage. Populations as of July 1st: revised intercensal estimates for 1971 to 1995, final intercensal estimates for 1996 to 2000, final postcensal estimates for 2001, updated postcensal estimates for 2002, and preliminary postcensal estimates for 2003.

2. Excluding traffic offences.

3. Last year, data for 2001 were revised for Ontario and Canada due to reporting changes for the OPP and most of the 41 police services reporting to the Ontario OMPPAC system. For further information on this change, refer to the Methodology section.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 3


**Selected *Criminal Code* incidents, Canada and the Provinces/Territories, 2003<sup>1</sup>**

	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que. <sup>2</sup>	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C. <sup>3</sup>	Yukon	N.W.T.	Nvt.	Canada <sup>2</sup>
<b>Population, 2003</b>	<b>519,570</b>	<b>137,781</b>	<b>936,025</b>	<b>750,594</b>	<b>7,487,169</b>	<b>12,238,300</b>	<b>1,162,776</b>	<b>994,843</b>	<b>3,153,723</b>	<b>4,146,580</b>	<b>31,060</b>	<b>41,872</b>	<b>29,384</b>	<b>31,629,677</b>
Homicide														
number	5	1	8	8	100	178	43	41	63	93	1	4	3	548
rate	1.0	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.5	3.7	4.1	2.0	2.2	3.2	9.6	10.2	1.7
% change in rate*	149.9	-0.6	-11.3	-11.2	-15.7	-1.2	18.7	52.0	-11.1	-26.8	...	-1.0	46.7	-6.6
Assault (1.2.3)														
number	4,098	1,020	9,304	6,079	37,657	73,246	14,829	16,678	27,227	40,481	1,028	2,532	1,924	236,103
rate	789	740	994	810	503	598	1,275	1,676	863	976	3,310	6,047	6,548	746
% change in rate*	2.8	2.1	8.7	2.6	-1.0	-6.4	-1.6	12.0	1.6	0.4	3.9	19.9	11.2	-0.7
Sexual Assault (1.2.3)														
number	496	142	889	645	4,326	7,682	1,504	1,381	2,405	3,424	65	176	290	23,425
rate	95	103	95	86	58	63	129	139	76	83	209	420	987	74
% change in rate*	-10.2	-4.0	-4.2	-13.6	3.8	-9.2	0.6	-7.6	-8.5	-2.0	-31.5	-3.2	-7.9	-5.2
Robbery														
number	64	18	623	206	6,952	9,567	1,753	1,427	3,210	4,443	33	27	9	28,332
rate	12	13	67	27	93	78	151	143	102	107	106	64	31	90
% change in rate*	-20.0	-0.6	11.1	-9.7	0.7	6.0	6.7	33.3	20.7	-4.2	10.4	27.2	-2.2	5.4
<b>Violent crime - Total</b>														
<b>number</b>	<b>4,845</b>	<b>1,236</b>	<b>11,220</b>	<b>7,442</b>	<b>53,373</b>	<b>95,948</b>	<b>18,906</b>	<b>20,466</b>	<b>34,696</b>	<b>50,025</b>	<b>1,180</b>	<b>2,844</b>	<b>2,334</b>	<b>304,515</b>
<b>rate</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>897</b>	<b>1,199</b>	<b>991</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>784</b>	<b>1,626</b>	<b>2,057</b>	<b>1,100</b>	<b>1,206</b>	<b>3,799</b>	<b>6,792</b>	<b>7,943</b>	<b>963</b>
<b>% change in rate*</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>-5.4</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>-0.7</b>
Breaking & Entering														
number	3,824	1,033	7,665	5,337	67,346	81,661	14,122	17,279	30,692	52,949	565	1,003	1,020	284,496
rate	736	750	819	711	899	667	1,215	1,737	973	1,277	1,819	2,395	3,471	899
% change in rate*	10.0	5.2	16.2	10.7	-4.8	-1.1	11.3	14.1	11.1	4.3	2.6	9.2	16.1	2.4
Motor Vehicle Theft														
number	656	273	2,709	1,761	36,981	46,549	12,913	7,763	20,868	39,729	190	381	244	171,017
rate	126	198	289	235	494	380	1,111	780	662	958	612	910	830	541
% change in rate*	11.9	11.2	3.1	12.4	-0.5	-0.4	5.9	12.2	14.6	9.5	-17.4	11.5	17.6	4.7
Other Theft														
number	7,699	3,169	19,280	12,652	120,435	223,670	34,445	34,290	90,883	172,398	1,367	1,405	748	722,441
rate	1,482	2,300	2,060	1,686	1,609	1,828	2,962	3,447	2,882	4,158	4,401	3,355	2,546	2,284
% change in rate*	2.2	12.3	6.5	4.3	0.1	0.8	17.6	16.3	8.6	4.8	4.3	27.2	16.7	4.2
<b>Property crime - Total</b>														
<b>number</b>	<b>13,565</b>	<b>4,957</b>	<b>34,206</b>	<b>22,770</b>	<b>244,757</b>	<b>396,655</b>	<b>64,899</b>	<b>65,784</b>	<b>161,490</b>	<b>287,036</b>	<b>2,305</b>	<b>3,023</b>	<b>2,122</b>	<b>1,303,569</b>
<b>rate</b>	<b>2,611</b>	<b>3,598</b>	<b>3,654</b>	<b>3,034</b>	<b>3,269</b>	<b>3,241</b>	<b>5,581</b>	<b>6,613</b>	<b>5,121</b>	<b>6,922</b>	<b>7,421</b>	<b>7,220</b>	<b>7,222</b>	<b>4,121</b>
<b>% change in rate*</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>3.7</b>
Offensive weapons														
number	166	71	664	431	1,326	5,020	1,262	967	2,338	4,450	86	92	67	16,940
rate	32	52	71	57	18	41	109	97	74	107	277	220	228	54
% change in rate*	-23.5	85.8	5.7	8.2	9.7	0.6	12.2	8.7	7.6	5.7	32.4	15.2	52.4	5.4
Mischief														
number	6,359	2,035	13,902	8,145	50,696	99,083	30,052	24,693	48,488	64,007	1,807	4,392	2,484	356,143
rate	1,224	1,477	1,485	1,085	677	810	2,585	2,482	1,537	1,544	5,818	10,489	8,454	1,126
% change in rate*	8.1	10.2	17.2	8.0	0.8	1.4	13.4	17.1	8.4	4.8	3.7	13.4	28.5	5.9
<b>Other <i>Criminal Code</i> - Total</b>														
<b>number</b>	<b>13,861</b>	<b>5,683</b>	<b>34,623</b>	<b>23,211</b>	<b>181,558</b>	<b>253,612</b>	<b>61,245</b>	<b>66,711</b>	<b>127,772</b>	<b>175,962</b>	<b>4,590</b>	<b>9,569</b>	<b>5,762</b>	<b>964,159</b>
<b>rate</b>	<b>2,668</b>	<b>4,125</b>	<b>3,699</b>	<b>3,092</b>	<b>2,425</b>	<b>2,072</b>	<b>5,267</b>	<b>6,706</b>	<b>4,051</b>	<b>4,244</b>	<b>14,778</b>	<b>22,853</b>	<b>19,609</b>	<b>3,048</b>
<b>% change in rate*</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>23.9</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>-4.1</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>10.3</b>
<b><i>Criminal Code</i> - Total - without traffic offences</b>														
<b>number</b>	<b>32,271</b>	<b>11,876</b>	<b>80,049</b>	<b>53,423</b>	<b>479,688</b>	<b>746,215</b>	<b>145,050</b>	<b>152,961</b>	<b>323,958</b>	<b>513,023</b>	<b>8,075</b>	<b>15,436</b>	<b>10,218</b>	<b>2,572,243</b>
<b>rate</b>	<b>6,211</b>	<b>8,619</b>	<b>8,552</b>	<b>7,117</b>	<b>6,407</b>	<b>6,097</b>	<b>12,474</b>	<b>15,375</b>	<b>10,272</b>	<b>12,372</b>	<b>25,998</b>	<b>36,865</b>	<b>34,774</b>	<b>8,132</b>
<b>% change in rate*</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>5.5</b>

\* In comparison to the previous year rate. Percent change based on unrounded rates.

1. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. The population estimates come from the Annual Demographic Statistics, 2003 report, produced by Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st; preliminary postcensal estimates for 2003.

2. The 24% increase in the rate of Other Criminal Code offences in Quebec was driven by an 81% increase in counterfeiting currency incidents.

3. Homicide investigations undertaken by the Missing Women's Task Force in Port Coquitlam, B.C resulted in 15 homicides being reported by police in 2002 and another 6 in 2003. Homicide counts reflect the year in which police file the report.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 4


**Selected Criminal Code incidents for the largest census metropolitan areas, 2003<sup>1,2</sup>**

	Toronto <sup>4</sup>	Montréal <sup>5</sup>	Vancouver <sup>6</sup>	Calgary	Edmonton	Ottawa <sup>7</sup>	Québec	Winnipeg	Hamilton
<b>Population<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>5,118,992</b>	<b>3,586,221</b>	<b>2,126,111</b>	<b>1,023,666</b>	<b>997,938</b>	<b>866,621</b>	<b>709,323</b>	<b>688,746</b>	<b>682,741</b>
Homicide									
number	95	57	44	11	22	10	3	18	9
rate	1.9	1.6	2.1	1.1	2.2	1.2	0.4	2.6	1.3
% change in rate *	3.6	-14.4	-37.0	-27.9	-19.2	24.0	-0.6	-22.3	-31.5
Assault (1,2,3)									
number	29,075	20,370	16,673	6,349	6,401	4,719	2,518	5,829	4,791
rate	568	568	784	620	641	545	355	846	702
% change in rate *	-7.5	-2.2	1.0	2.7	-0.6	2.7	-1.3	-9.4	-8.1
Sexual assault (1,2,3)									
number	2,586	1,918	1,260	555	698	351	381	737	548
rate	51	53	59	54	70	41	54	107	80
% change in rate *	-11.1	5.4	-3.4	-2.6	-8.1	3.9	5.2	3.7	4.9
Robbery									
number	5,746	5,649	3,244	1,186	1,616	865	416	1,618	658
rate	112	158	153	116	162	100	59	235	96
% change in rate *	7.1	2.6	-7.3	18.6	22.8	8.9	-1.8	6.5	-1.8
<b>Violent crime - Total</b>									
<b>number</b>	<b>39,654</b>	<b>29,978</b>	<b>21,854</b>	<b>8,647</b>	<b>9,317</b>	<b>6,540</b>	<b>3,469</b>	<b>8,556</b>	<b>6,213</b>
<b>rate</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>1,028</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>934</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>1,242</b>	<b>910</b>
<b>% change in rate *</b>	<b>-5.5</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>-1.8</b>	<b>-5.0</b>	<b>-6.1</b>
Break & enter									
number	27,680	33,046	28,706	8,611	10,182	5,749	5,876	8,006	5,557
rate	541	921	1,350	841	1,020	663	828	1,162	814
% change in rate *	-2.0	-5.3	3.4	7.4	6.3	6.6	-3.9	11.6	-2.7
Motor vehicle theft									
number	19,067	23,635	26,801	5,494	9,492	3,481	1,880	10,286	5,050
rate	372	659	1,261	537	951	402	265	1,493	740
% change in rate *	7.0	-2.6	6.3	-0.1	22.4	-16.3	34.9	7.8	1.6
Other theft									
number	84,150	70,415	89,365	25,699	32,931	18,124	11,655	24,249	13,129
rate	1,644	1,963	4,203	2,510	3,300	2,091	1,643	3,521	1,923
% change in rate *	-1.1	3.0	0.7	0.5	13.8	1.4	-0.9	21.3	1.5
<b>Property crime - Total</b>									
<b>number</b>	<b>150,789</b>	<b>138,456</b>	<b>155,426</b>	<b>45,342</b>	<b>60,432</b>	<b>31,229</b>	<b>21,139</b>	<b>44,405</b>	<b>25,518</b>
<b>rate</b>	<b>2,946</b>	<b>3,861</b>	<b>7,310</b>	<b>4,429</b>	<b>6,056</b>	<b>3,604</b>	<b>2,980</b>	<b>6,447</b>	<b>3,738</b>
<b>% change in rate *</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Offensive weapons									
number	1,887	552	2,281	415	606	309	54	443	212
rate	37	15	107	41	61	36	8	64	31
% change in rate *	1.2	19.4	6.7	-3.3	25.6	-4.2	-13.5	3.7	-4.2
Mischief -									
number	27,707	24,255	25,108	9,626	13,880	7,502	5,426	18,157	5,464
rate	541	676	1,181	940	1,391	866	765	2,636	800
% change in rate *	-1.9	1.7	3.2	-1.4	10.9	3.7	-1.4	15.2	-3.9
<b>Other Criminal Code - Total</b>									
<b>number</b>	<b>81,088</b>	<b>116,237</b>	<b>68,844</b>	<b>20,239</b>	<b>39,710</b>	<b>17,051</b>	<b>11,333</b>	<b>28,755</b>	<b>13,603</b>
<b>rate</b>	<b>1,584</b>	<b>3,241</b>	<b>3,238</b>	<b>1,977</b>	<b>3,979</b>	<b>1,968</b>	<b>1,598</b>	<b>4,175</b>	<b>1,992</b>
<b>% change in rate *</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>36.9</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>2.5</b>
<b>Criminal Code - Total - excluding Traffic</b>									
<b>number</b>	<b>271,531</b>	<b>284,671</b>	<b>246,124</b>	<b>74,228</b>	<b>109,459</b>	<b>54,820</b>	<b>35,941</b>	<b>81,716</b>	<b>45,334</b>
<b>rate</b>	<b>5,304</b>	<b>7,938</b>	<b>11,576</b>	<b>7,251</b>	<b>10,969</b>	<b>6,326</b>	<b>5,067</b>	<b>11,864</b>	<b>6,640</b>
<b>% change in rate *</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>-0.1</b>

\* In comparison to the previous year rate. Percent change based on unrounded rates.

1. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. The population estimates come from the Annual Demographic Statistics, 2003 report, produced by Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st are preliminary postcensal estimates for 2003.

2. Note that a CMA typically comprises more than one police force.

3. Populations for all CMAs have been adjusted to follow policing boundaries.

4. Toronto Police implemented a new records management system in September 2003. As the transition had a short-term impact on data quality, data for September to December 2003 were estimated from 2002 data for the same period.

5. The increase in other Criminal Code offences in Montréal was driven by an 87% increase in counterfeiting currency incidents. While a large increase in the number of incidents was reported for the city of Montréal, it was likely the subject of over-reporting on behalf of increases in other areas within the province, due to the location of a number of bank data centres centralized within the city's core. It should be noted, however, that the increase in counterfeit currency within Montréal was comparable to the national increase.

6. Homicide investigations undertaken by the Missing Women's Task Force in Port Coquitlam, B.C. (part of the Vancouver CMA) resulted in 15 homicides being reported by police in 2002, and 6 in 2003. Homicide counts reflect the year in which police file the report.

7. Ottawa represents the Ontario part of the Ottawa-Gatineau CMA.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 5


**Crime Rates for Census Metropolitan Areas by Type of Incident, Canada, 2003<sup>1,2</sup>**

	Population <sup>3</sup>	Total CC offences		Violent crime		Property crime		Other crimes	
		Rate	% change in rate*	Rate	% change in rate	Rate	% change in rate	Rate	% change in rate
<b>CMA with population of 500,000 and over</b>									
Winnipeg	688,746	11,864	10.5	1,242	-5.0	6,447	15.1	4,175	9.0
Vancouver	2,126,111	11,576	4.5	1,028	-1.1	7,310	2.9	3,238	10.5
Edmonton	997,938	10,969	10.3	934	2.3	6,056	13.1	3,979	8.2
Montréal <sup>4</sup>	3,586,221	7,938	11.3	836	-1.0	3,861	-1.5	3,241	36.9
Calgary	1,023,666	7,251	2.0	845	4.1	4,429	2.2	1,977	0.7
Hamilton	682,741	6,640	-0.1	910	-6.1	3,738	0.1	1,992	2.5
Ottawa <sup>5</sup>	866,621	6,326	3.0	755	4.1	3,604	1.1	1,968	6.4
Toronto <sup>6</sup>	5,118,992	5,304	0.1	775	-5.5	2,946	-0.2	1,584	3.9
Québec	709,323	5,067	3.0	489	-1.8	2,980	0.9	1,598	8.8
<b>CMA with population between 100,000 and 499,999</b>									
Saskatoon	241,391	15,164	16.5	1,718	7.5	7,975	25.2	5,472	8.3
Regina	197,734	15,143	4.8	1,578	2.8	8,699	4.7	4,866	5.8
Abbotsford <sup>7</sup>	157,720	13,356	3.5	1,163	-1.6	7,927	2.6	4,266	6.7
Victoria	323,592	10,588	3.7	1,136	1.5	5,549	0.0	3,903	10.2
Halifax	377,932	9,324	5.1	1,343	3.5	4,797	3.7	3,184	8.0
Thunder Bay	124,628	8,533	6.9	1,222	-8.7	3,813	13.5	3,498	6.5
Saint John	144,752	7,689	3.0	1,169	1.7	3,339	-2.2	3,181	9.5
London	464,076	7,510	2.6	666	-6.9	4,339	0.2	2,505	10.1
Windsor	329,241	7,292	2.3	691	-1.1	4,041	5.7	2,560	-1.7
St. Catharines–Niagara	429,949	6,850	0.5	591	-16.1	3,781	0.1	2,478	6.3
Kingston <sup>7</sup>	153,707	6,822	1.9	696	-8.0	3,623	-2.6	2,503	12.9
Sherbrooke	145,766	6,646	-5.8	587	19.2	3,812	-7.4	2,247	-8.1
Sudbury	160,113	6,498	8.9	755	-17.4	3,679	14.2	2,064	12.8
St. John's	177,843	6,480	-6.4	788	-9.8	3,772	-1.0	1,920	-14.2
Gatineau <sup>8</sup>	276,933	6,199	1.6	810	-9.2	3,469	3.1	1,919	4.0
Kitchener	470,022	5,887	-0.7	564	-1.6	3,647	-1.5	1,676	1.3
Trois-Rivières <sup>9</sup>	144,262	5,310	9.8	541	5.0	3,011	3.6	1,759	24.3
Saguenay	148,061	4,193	-1.4	509	4.0	2,421	-2.2	1,264	-1.8

\* In comparison to the previous year rate. Percent change based on unrounded rates.

- Note that a CMA typically comprises more than one police force. Also, note that the Oshawa CMA is excluded from this table due to the incongruity between the police agency jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.
- Rates are calculated per 100,000 population. The population estimates come from the Annual Demographic Statistics, 2003 report, produced by Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: preliminary postcensal estimates for 2003.
- Populations for all CMAs have been adjusted to follow police service boundaries.
- The increase in other Criminal Code offences in Montréal was driven by an 87% increase in counterfeiting currency incidents. While a large increase in the number of incidents was reported for the city of Montréal, it was likely the subject of over-reporting on behalf of increases in other areas within the province, due to the location of a number of bank data centres centralized within the city's core. It should be noted, however, that the increase in counterfeit currency within Montréal was comparable to the national increase.
- Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa-Gatineau CMA.
- Toronto Police implemented a new records management system in September 2003. As the transition had a short-term impact on data quality, data for September to December 2003 were estimated from 2002 data for the same period.
- Abbotsford, British Columbia and Kingston, Ontario became new CMAs as of the 2001 Census.
- Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa-Gatineau CMA.
- The increase in Other Criminal Code offences in Trois-Rivières was driven by a 109% increase in counterfeiting currency incidents.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 6


**Crime Rates for the 30 Largest Municipal Police Services<sup>1</sup>, by Type of Incident, Canada, 2003**

	Population <sup>2</sup>	Total CC offences		Violent crime		Property crime		Other crimes	
		Rate <sup>3</sup>	% change in rate*	Rate <sup>3</sup>	% change in rate*	Rate <sup>3</sup>	% change in rate*	Rate <sup>3</sup>	% change in rate*
<b>Toronto CMA Police Services<sup>4</sup></b>									
Toronto Police <sup>5</sup>	2,611,661	6,284	-0.4	1,043	-3.4	3,436	0.7	1,805	-0.6
Peel Regional Police	1,063,393	3,817	-5.8	496	-8.1	2,297	-4.8	1,024	-7.0
York Regional Police	851,705	4,489	5.9	467	-9.7	2,633	-1.0	1,390	30.7
Durham Regional Police <sup>6</sup>	547,759	5,706	10.2	683	0.7	2,710	4.1	2,313	21.9
Halton Regional Police <sup>6</sup>	413,454	4,321	7.8	463	-2.7	2,308	5.3	1,549	15.5
<b>Montréal CMA Police Services<sup>4</sup></b>									
Montréal Police <sup>7</sup>	1,871,774	10,355	15.9	1,074	-2.5	4,607	-1.8	4,674	48.7
Longueuil Police	383,396	6,633	-0.6	807	-2.9	3,672	-4.7	2,153	8.3
Laval Police	359,707	5,757	11.3	660	8.4	3,453	8.6	1,644	18.6
<b>Vancouver CMA Police Services<sup>4</sup></b>									
Vancouver Police	569,814	12,861	2.1	1,222	0.3	8,634	-0.9	3,005	13.1
Surrey (RCMP) Police	390,145	12,922	3.0	1,234	2.2	8,217	1.5	3,471	7.2
Burnaby (RCMP) Police	205,261	12,322	8.6	963	-4.2	8,256	8.5	3,102	13.7
Richmond (RCMP) Police	174,201	8,441	8.4	579	-5.3	4,841	2.8	3,021	22.4
<b>Other Large Police Services</b>									
Calgary Police	936,270	7,312	0.7	870	4.0	4,616	2.1	1,826	-3.9
Ottawa Police	823,608	6,450	2.9	764	3.8	3,706	1.2	1,980	5.8
Edmonton Police	702,379	12,427	7.8	994	-1.8	7,179	11.3	4,254	4.7
Winnipeg Police	644,417	12,316	10.4	1,294	-5.5	6,719	15.3	4,303	8.8
Québec Police	524,054	5,603	1.7	540	-3.5	3,300	0.2	1,763	6.4
Hamilton Regional Police	516,776	7,370	-1.3	1,052	-6.5	4,196	-0.5	2,122	0.0
Waterloo Regional Police	470,022	5,861	-0.8	561	-1.7	3,635	-1.6	1,665	1.1
Niagara Regional Police	429,949	6,786	1.3	590	-15.3	3,745	0.3	2,451	8.1
London Police	355,169	8,245	5.0	697	-7.2	4,864	2.3	2,684	14.5
Gatineau-Métro Police	226,888	6,560	-0.7	879	-11.6	3,634	0.8	2,047	2.0
Windsor Police	221,091	9,225	3.7	865	-0.1	5,193	7.2	3,166	-0.7
Saskatoon Police	202,542	16,898	16.7	1,934	8.3	8,926	25.2	6,038	8.5
Halifax Regional Police	211,607	11,840	2.4	1,851	0.3	6,595	2.2	3,395	3.9
Regina Police	181,167	15,895	5.2	1,657	3.5	9,189	5.2	5,049	5.8
St. John's (RNC) Police	177,843	6,480	-6.4	788	-9.8	3,772	-1.0	1,920	-14.2
Greater Sudbury Police	160,113	6,498	8.9	755	-17.4	3,679	14.2	2,064	12.8
Saguenay Police	148,061	4,193	-1.4	509	4.0	2,421	-2.2	1,264	-1.8
Région Sherbrookoise Police	145,766	6,646	-5.8	587	19.2	3,812	-7.4	2,247	-8.1

\* In comparison to the previous year rate. Percent change based on non-rounded rates.

1. Data in this table include all incidents reported within the jurisdiction of each police force, including incidents such as drug offences or counterfeiting currency which may have been handled by other police services.
2. Police Service population estimates were derived from 2003 preliminary postcensal population estimates, Demography Division, Statistics Canada.
3. Rates are calculated per 100,000 population.
4. The police services listed under the Toronto, Montréal, and Vancouver CMAs do not represent all the police services in the CMA.
5. Toronto Police implemented a new records management system in September 2003. As the transition had a short-term impact on data quality, data for September to December 2003 were estimated from 2002 data for the same period.
6. Note that 60% of the crime handled by Halton Regional Police, and 35% of the crime handled by Durham Regional Police fall within Toronto CMA boundaries.
7. The increase in other Criminal Code offences in Montréal was driven by a 90% increase in counterfeiting currency incidents. While a large increase in the number of incidents was reported for the city of Montréal, it was likely the subject of over-reporting on behalf of increases in other areas within the province, due to the location of a number of bank data centres centralized within the city's core. It should be noted, however, that the increase in counterfeit currency within Montréal was comparable to the national increase.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.



Table 7


**Youths cleared by charge and cleared otherwise for selected *Criminal Code* incidents, Canada<sup>1</sup>, 2003**

	2002				2003				% change in rate* 2002-2003
	Number charged	Number cleared otherwise <sup>2</sup>	Total number	Total rate	Number charged	Number cleared otherwise <sup>2</sup>	Total number	Total rate	
<b>Population (aged 12-17)</b>	<b>2,518,200</b>				<b>2,532,002</b>				
Homicide	42	0	42	2	56	1	57	2	35.0
Attempted Murder	59	1	60	2	69	0	69	3	14.4
<b>Assaults - Total (levels 1, 2, 3)</b>	<b>16,876</b>	<b>12,187</b>	<b>29,063</b>	<b>1,154</b>	<b>14,731</b>	<b>15,728</b>	<b>30,459</b>	<b>1,203</b>	<b>4.2</b>
Level 1	11,698	10,709	22,407	890	9,477	13,921	23,398	924	3.9
Level 2-Weapon	4,851	1,454	6,305	250	4,814	1,778	6,592	260	4.0
Level 3-Aggravated	327	24	351	14	440	29	469	19	32.9
Other Assaults	1,102	199	1,301	52	1,097	258	1,355	54	3.6
<b>Sexual assaults - Total</b>	<b>1,620</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>2,440</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>2,376</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>-3.2</b>
Level 1	1,579	812	2,391	95	1,402	920	2,322	92	-3.4
Level 2-Weapon	30	5	35	1	34	5	39	2	10.8
Level 3-Aggravated	11	3	14	1	14	1	15	1	6.6
Other Sexual Offences	157	131	288	11	133	143	276	11	-4.7
Abduction	5	1	6	0	1	2	3	0	-50.3
<b>Robbery - Total</b>	<b>3,292</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>3,705</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>3,127</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>3,628</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>-2.6</b>
Firearms	203	17	220	9	270	23	293	12	32.5
Other weapons	1,145	65	1,210	48	1,157	96	1,253	49	3.0
No weapons	1,944	331	2,275	90	1,700	382	2,082	82	-9.0
<b>Violent crime - Total</b>	<b>23,153</b>	<b>13,752</b>	<b>36,905</b>	<b>1,466</b>	<b>20,664</b>	<b>17,559</b>	<b>38,223</b>	<b>1,510</b>	<b>3.0</b>
<b>Break &amp; enter - Total</b>	<b>11,327</b>	<b>5,046</b>	<b>16,373</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>11,158</b>	<b>6,393</b>	<b>17,551</b>	<b>693</b>	<b>6.6</b>
Residence	6,727	2,739	9,466	376	6,623	3,502	10,125	400	6.4
Business premises	3,437	1,552	4,989	198	3,534	2,013	5,547	219	10.6
Other	1,163	755	1,918	76	1,001	878	1,879	74	-2.6
Motor vehicle theft	5,536	2,165	7,701	306	4,949	2,220	7,169	283	-7.4
Theft Over \$5,000	292	148	440	17	284	162	446	18	0.8
Theft \$5,000 and Under	18,617	23,537	42,154	1,674	12,307	32,547	44,854	1,771	5.8
Possession of Stolen Goods	5,686	1,113	6,799	270	4,985	1,985	6,970	275	2.0
Fraud	1,719	1,053	2,772	110	1,409	1,314	2,723	108	-2.3
<b>Property crime - Total</b>	<b>43,177</b>	<b>33,062</b>	<b>76,239</b>	<b>3,028</b>	<b>35,092</b>	<b>44,621</b>	<b>79,713</b>	<b>3,148</b>	<b>4.0</b>
Mischief	7,050	13,388	20,438	812	5,561	18,171	23,732	937	15.5
Counterfeiting currency	179	235	414	16	285	226	511	20	22.8
Bail violations	11,330	523	11,853	471	11,190	841	12,031	475	0.9
Disturbing the peace	737	5,053	5,790	230	601	6,204	6,805	269	16.9
Offensive Weapons	1,558	1,171	2,729	108	1,506	1,758	3,264	129	19.0
Prostitution	41	52	93	4	40	47	87	3	-7.0
Arson	556	798	1,354	54	576	853	1,429	56	5.0
Other	10,900	8,851	19,751	784	8,967	10,126	19,093	754	-3.9
<b>Other <i>Criminal Code</i> - Total</b>	<b>32,351</b>	<b>30,071</b>	<b>62,422</b>	<b>2,479</b>	<b>28,726</b>	<b>38,226</b>	<b>66,952</b>	<b>2,644</b>	<b>6.7</b>
<b><i>Criminal Code</i> without traffic - Total</b>	<b>98,681</b>	<b>76,885</b>	<b>175,566</b>	<b>6,972</b>	<b>84,482</b>	<b>100,406</b>	<b>184,888</b>	<b>7,302</b>	<b>4.7</b>

\* Percent change based on unrounded rates.

<sup>r</sup> revised

1. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 youth. The population estimates come from the Annual Demographic Statistics, 2003 report, produced by Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: updated postcensal estimates for 2002; preliminary postcensal estimates for 2003.

2. An incident is "cleared otherwise" when police have identified at least one accused and there is sufficient evidence to lay a charge in connection with the incident, but the accused is processed by other means. In the case of youths, this could include formal measures such as a Crown caution or extrajudicial sanctions, or informal measures such as a police warning or referral to a community program.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 8

	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Yukon	N.W.T.	Nvt.	Canada
<b>Population (aged 12-17)</b>	<b>42,302</b>	<b>12,285</b>	<b>75,057</b>	<b>58,484</b>	<b>557,101</b>	<b>984,553</b>	<b>101,182</b>	<b>92,547</b>	<b>274,853</b>	<b>322,681</b>	<b>2,892</b>	<b>4,235</b>	<b>3,830</b>	<b>2,532,002</b>
Homicide														
number	0	0	1	0	4	26	11	7	4	4	0	0	0	57
rate	0	0	1	0	1	3	11	8	1	1	0	0	0	2
% change in rate*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sexual Assault (1,2,3)														
number	49	13	67	64	470	858	142	179	227	258	3	21	25	2,376
rate	116	106	89	109	84	87	140	193	83	80	104	496	653	94
% change in rate*	4.9	30.3	-19.3	-10.1	13.6	-5.3	22.5	7.2	-23.7	-12.2	-41.0	13.4	9.7	-3.2
Assault (1,2,3)														
number	633	137	1,414	696	4,593	10,824	1,899	2,274	3,731	3,754	87	221	196	30,459
rate	1,496	1,115	1,884	1,190	824	1,099	1,877	2,457	1,357	1,163	3,008	5,218	5,117	1,203
% change in rate*	14.5	59.7	23.4	3.1	1.8	5.7	-1.2	22.4	1.0	-8.4	20.6	16.1	41.2	4.2
Robbery														
number	13	1	97	23	605	1,629	206	293	449	300	8	1	3	3,628
rate	31	8	129	39	109	165	204	317	163	93	277	24	78	143
% change in rate*	-11.0	-74.9	7.8	22.5	-3.3	2.9	-34.3	24.1	-1.7	-19.6	12.5	-75.7	...	-2.6
<b>Violent crime - Total</b>														
<b>number</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>1,641</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>6,021</b>	<b>13,902</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>2,899</b>	<b>4,607</b>	<b>4,480</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>38,223</b>
<b>rate</b>	<b>1,702</b>	<b>1,254</b>	<b>2,186</b>	<b>1,443</b>	<b>1,081</b>	<b>1,412</b>	<b>2,323</b>	<b>3,132</b>	<b>1,676</b>	<b>1,388</b>	<b>3,769</b>	<b>6,187</b>	<b>6,110</b>	<b>1,510</b>
<b>% change in rate*</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>48.4</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>-5.0</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-9.2</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>3.0</b>
Breaking & Entering														
number	584	77	712	413	2,441	4,563	1,253	2,331	2,566	1,792	90	315	414	17,551
rate	1,381	627	949	706	438	463	1,238	2,519	934	555	3,112	7,438	10,809	693
% change in rate*	22.2	11.9	13.4	39.3	-2.1	3.2	1.8	22.9	8.6	-1.2	-10.5	5.5	19.7	6.6
Motor Vehicle Theft														
number	106	23	199	139	925	1,989	840	914	1,111	747	7	93	76	7,169
rate	251	187	265	238	166	202	830	988	404	231	242	2,196	1,984	283
% change in rate*	-10.0	-11.3	-12.7	-13.2	3.2	-11.8	-16.3	4.8	-10.1	-5.8	-72.4	70.5	26.5	-7.4
Other Theft														
number	682	190	1,373	897	6,148	15,720	2,143	3,402	7,442	6,805	144	169	185	45,300
rate	1,612	1,547	1,829	1,534	1,104	1,597	2,118	3,676	2,708	2,109	4,979	3,991	4,830	1,789
% change in rate*	7.0	14.7	15.8	-7.5	14.1	15.3	-7.2	9.8	-2.5	-5.9	16.2	6.6	3.3	5.8
<b>Property crime - Total</b>														
<b>number</b>	<b>1,458</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>2,852</b>	<b>1,578</b>	<b>10,355</b>	<b>26,574</b>	<b>4,583</b>	<b>7,492</b>	<b>12,704</b>	<b>10,257</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>79,713</b>
<b>rate</b>	<b>3,447</b>	<b>2,523</b>	<b>3,800</b>	<b>2,698</b>	<b>1,859</b>	<b>2,699</b>	<b>4,529</b>	<b>8,095</b>	<b>4,622</b>	<b>3,179</b>	<b>8,679</b>	<b>14,451</b>	<b>17,937</b>	<b>3,148</b>
<b>% change in rate*</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>-7.7</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>-3.9</b>	<b>-6.8</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>
Offensive weapons														
number	17	3	95	34	160	1,270	256	225	546	641	4	5	8	3,264
rate	40	24	127	58	29	129	253	243	199	199	138	118	209	129
% change in rate*	24.8	0.0	23.4	32.3	44.3	24.8	10.0	41.4	18.8	4.8	-64.2	-30.6	28.7	19.0
Mischief														
number	675	159	1,225	577	2,946	5,633	1,394	2,550	3,924	3,903	147	370	229	23,732
rate	1,596	1,294	1,632	987	529	572	1,378	2,755	1,428	1,210	5,083	8,737	5,979	937
% change in rate*	56.2	37.4	24.8	6.3	27.1	29.7	18.4	20.1	-3.6	3.5	-7.9	61.9	10.6	15.5
<b>Other Criminal Code - Total</b>														
<b>number</b>	<b>1,527</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>3,079</b>	<b>1,487</b>	<b>7,126</b>	<b>18,974</b>	<b>4,125</b>	<b>7,440</b>	<b>10,732</b>	<b>10,540</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>66,952</b>
<b>rate</b>	<b>3,610</b>	<b>2,613</b>	<b>4,102</b>	<b>2,543</b>	<b>1,279</b>	<b>1,927</b>	<b>4,077</b>	<b>8,039</b>	<b>3,905</b>	<b>3,266</b>	<b>10,650</b>	<b>17,851</b>	<b>14,021</b>	<b>2,644</b>
<b>% change in rate*</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>29.7</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>-5.0</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>-2.3</b>	<b>-24.6</b>	<b>34.8</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>6.7</b>
<b>Criminal Code - Total (excluding traffic)</b>														
<b>number</b>	<b>3,705</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>7,572</b>	<b>3,909</b>	<b>23,502</b>	<b>59,450</b>	<b>11,058</b>	<b>17,831</b>	<b>28,043</b>	<b>25,277</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>1,630</b>	<b>1,458</b>	<b>184,888</b>
<b>rate</b>	<b>8,758</b>	<b>6,390</b>	<b>10,088</b>	<b>6,684</b>	<b>4,219</b>	<b>6,038</b>	<b>10,929</b>	<b>19,267</b>	<b>10,203</b>	<b>7,833</b>	<b>23,098</b>	<b>38,489</b>	<b>38,068</b>	<b>7,302</b>
<b>% change in rate*</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>25.3</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>-1.6</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>-3.1</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-4.3</b>	<b>-12.9</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>4.7</b>

\* In comparison to the previous year rate. Percent change based on unrounded rates.

... not applicable

1. Youths accused equals the total of youths cleared by charge and youths cleared otherwise (e.g. by diversion).

2. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. The population estimates come from the Annual Demographic Statistics, 2003 report, produced by Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Populations as of July 1st: preliminary postcensal estimates for 2003.

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, CCJS.

Table 9


**Persons accused by age group and sex, selected incidents, 2003**

	Age group by sex				Total by age group	
	Adults (18 and over)		Youth (12 to 17)		Adult	Youth
	Male	Female	Male	Female		
	%		%		%	
Homicide	90	10	79	21	86	14
Attempted murder	85	15	94	6	88	12
Assaults	82	18	71	29	81	19
Sexual assaults	98	2	97	3	79	21
Other sexual offences	97	3	94	6	75	25
Abduction	42	58	100	0	98	2
Robbery	91	9	86	14	65	35
<b>Violent crime - Total</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>18</b>
Break and enter	93	7	91	9	67	33
Motor vehicle theft	91	9	84	16	61	39
Fraud	71	29	66	34	93	7
Theft over \$5,000	82	18	84	16	81	19
Theft \$5,000 and under	70	30	61	39	67	33
<b>Property crime - Total</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>31</b>
Mischief	87	13	90	10	56	44
Arson	83	17	91	9	45	55
Prostitution	51	49	23	77	99	1
Offensive weapons	82	18	92	8	98	2
<b>Criminal Code - Total (excluding traffic)</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>17</b>
Impaired driving <sup>1</sup>	87	13	84	16	99	1
Cannabis Offences	88	12	85	15	72	28
Cocaine Offences	82	18	79	21	95	5
Other Drug Offences	84	16	83	17	80	20

1. Includes impaired operation of a vehicle causing death, causing bodily harm, alcohol rate over 80 mg., failure/refusal to provide a breath/blood sample.

Source: Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR2) Survey, CCJS

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