

Safest City Report 2012

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Foreword

It is estimated that by the year 2030 six out of ten persons in the world will live in a city (World Health Organization, 2010). Cities have become the hubs of creativity and innovation in many domains of human endeavor. Increasing levels of urbanization has, however, also resulted in many undesirable developments such as increased crime rates, over-crowding and poverty.

The notions of livable cities and quality of life are often used to understand the social and environmental conditions that promote the wellbeing of urban populations. One of the critical indicators of quality of life is measures of the prevalence and severity of crimes. Crime and crime victimization affect human life in multiple ways. The economic and social consequences of crime are of great concern to residents, policy makers and researchers alike. Crime and victimization weakens trust and social connectedness, undermining the very foundations of civic society. The fear of threat against persons or property denies the fundamental human need for a sense of safety and security, which is essential for human survival. The economic costs associated with crime and victimization are significant. The total economic and social costs of offences under the Criminal Code in Canada in the year 2008 were estimated to be approximately \$31.4 billion (Zhang, 2008). A more recent nationwide study by Justice Canada has estimated the economic costs of violent crimes alone to be \$12.7 billion (Beeby, 2014). Many cities are increasingly understanding the importance of tracking crime rates within their boundaries in order to implement proactive measures to ensure public safety.

Safe City Mississauga has been collating and analyzing information related to crime in the city of Mississauga since 2007. This Safest City Report 2012 analyzes the crime rates in the city of Mississauga in the year 2011-2012, and compares the findings to those of similar cities across Canada. The findings of the study will be of great interest to the residents and planners of the City of Mississauga and surrounding areas.

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Executive Summary

The “Safest City Report” is an annual publication produced by Safe City Mississauga with the goal of providing the city’s residents with information about crime and safety within their city. Crime rates and statistics, analyses of crime rates and the severity of crimes in Mississauga, and comparisons to other Canadian cities are the basis of the report.

Two standard police-reported crime measures serve as the key indicators of safety for the report: crime rates and the Crime Severity Index (CSI). While a crime rate measures the *volume* of police-reported incidences, the crime severity index (CSI) measures the *severity* of crime reported to the police. The local police service (Peel Regional Police) kindly provides Safe City Mississauga with crime rates and other applicable data needed for the annual report, and the remainder of the data comes from Statistics Canada’s annual Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

In 2012, Mississauga’s overall crime rate decreased 15% compared to 2009 and crime severity index has decreased 6% since 2011.

In 2012, Mississauga had a crime rate of 2,582 per 100,000 population, a 5.6% decrease from 2011 (2,736) and an even more substantial decrease of 15% from 2009 (3,033.5). The majority of these criminal incidents were property crimes (70%), followed by violent crime (19%), and “other” Criminal Code offences (11%). Break and enter was the only reported property crime to see an increase in 2012 (292 per 100,000 population in 2011, 296.2 in 2012). Additionally, Mississauga ranked as one of the top three cities with the largest decrease of motor vehicle theft in the past five years (183 per 100,000 population in 2011 to 170 in 2012).

The violent crime rate for Mississauga decreased in 2012 from 521.1 per 100,000 in 2011 to 491.4, the majority of which were physical assault (55%), followed by uttering threats (16%) and robbery (12%).

Sexual assault rates increased 12% from 2011 to 2012, while overall violent crime rates decreased 29.7 points over the same period.

The only increase seen in Mississauga’s violent crime rates for 2012 was in sexual assaults, which yielded a 12% increase from 2011. Mississauga’s homicide rates remain below the national average, which is currently at an all-time low.

Similarly, Mississauga’s robbery rates too are below the national average. While reported domestic and family dispute incidents have been on the rise the past few years, a slight 2.8% decrease was seen for 2012. The percentage of youths charged for a crime under the Youth Criminal Justice Act also decreased in 2012, down 9% from 2011 and 20% from 2010.

The overall crime rate and the crime severity index for Mississauga saw a decrease in 2012. This reduction of crime rates was nationwide, but even so Mississauga continues to be one of the safest cities in Canada. These trends are promising and, should they continue, are a good sign of things to come.

Introduction

Safety and crime are important factors to consider when moving into or living in a neighbourhood. Perception of safety and feelings of security are crucial components that contribute to quality of life in a city. It is important that citizens have access to information about crimes committed in their neighbourhoods. This report provides that information, and analyzes the 2012 crime rates and the severity of crimes in Mississauga relative to comparable census metropolitan areas specifically Calgary, Edmonton, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Vancouver, and Winnipeg. Specific changes in violent and non-violent offence rates are analyzed, both locally and nationally.

Methodology

Selection of Cities

The selection of cities for this report has been based on relative population size to Mississauga. All eight cities have populations of at least 500,000 and are classified as a Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) by Statistics Canada. A CMA is defined by Statistics Canada as a collection of “one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core.”¹

Table 1: CMA Population Data for Selected Cities

CMA	Population (2011 census)
Montreal	3,965,452
Ottawa	956,719
Toronto	5,885,871
Winnipeg	806,821
Calgary	1,311,481
Edmonton	1,229,672
Vancouver	2,464,189
Mississauga	742,000
Peel	1,328,000
Canada	34,880,491

To earn the designation of a CMA, the area in question must meet two criteria: it should have a total population of at least 100,000 (50,000 or more of which reside in the urban core of that area), and a sizeable level of integration between the urban core and its neighbouring municipalities.² A CMA also typically has more than one police service operating within its boundaries.³ The city of Mississauga is part of the Peel region, and in census counts is included

¹Ibid.

²Statistics Canada, (2013). “Table 4: Police-reported Crime Severity Indexes, by census metropolitan area, 2012” [Online]. Available: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/2013001/article/11854/tbl/tbl04-eng.htm> [2014, January].

³Ibid.

in Toronto calculations. The population of each CMA selected for this report, along with the total Peel region and Canadian populations as a reference, can be found above in Table 1.

Key Indicators of Crime

Two standard police-reported crime measures serve as the key indicators of safety in this report: crime rates and the Crime Severity Index (CSI). Both indicators are complementary to one another, but still contain marked differences.

Crime Rate

A crime rate measures the *volume* of police-reported incidents per 100,000 population. All types of criminal incidents are included in a crime rate calculation, and they are all treated equally regardless of severity, e.g. a count of homicide is treated the same as a count of motor vehicle theft.⁴ In the case of an incident that contains multiple charges, only the most serious offence is used in the crime rate calculation. While this method allows for more accurate comparisons across police services, it allows for an underrepresentation of minor offences.⁵ Conversely, an increase or decrease in minor crimes can skew the crime rate calculation, which can result in a misleading increase or decrease in the crime rate.⁶

Crime Severity Index

While a crime rate measures the *volume* of police-reported incidences, the crime severity index (CSI) measures the *severity* of crime reported to the police. Each type of offence is given a weight, and this weight is determined by the length of the average sentence for those convicted of the offence (i.e., more serious crimes are assigned higher weights and less serious offences are assigned lower weights). From there, the number of police reported incidents for each type of offence is multiplied by their corresponding weights, added together, and then divided by the population. The resulting crime severity index score is also then standardized to the results of an assigned base year.⁷

By taking into account both the volume of crimes and the relative seriousness of those crimes, the CSI corrects for the under- and overrepresentation of minor crimes that impacts the crime rate calculation.⁸ An individual CSI score for Mississauga is not calculated by Statistics Canada. Rather, it is incorporated into Toronto's CSI score.

Data Sources

The data used for analysis in this report comes from two sources: the Peel Regional Police and the Uniform Crime Reporting survey (UCR). While the former provides detailed information regarding crime at the local level, the latter provides information regarding crime

⁴Statistics Canada, (2012). "Section 1: The Crime Severity Index" [Online]. Available:

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-004-x/2009001/part-partie1-eng.htm> [2014, January].

⁵Statistics Canada, (2013). "Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2012" [Online]. Available:

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/2013001/article/11854-eng.htm> [2014, January].

⁶Ibid.

⁷Ibid.

⁸Statistics Canada, (2013). "Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2012" [Online]. Available:

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/2013001/article/11854-eng.htm> [2014, January].

rates across Canada in other jurisdictions. The use of both sources of data allows for an accurate evaluation and comparison of Mississauga's crime rate and overall safety.

Peel Regional Police data

Crime rates and other applicable data for the city of Mississauga are provided by the Peel Regional Police upon request. There are 5 police divisions within the region of Peel, as can be seen in Figure 1, and Mississauga is policed by 3 of them: Division 11, 12, and 21 north of Derry Road. The data, excluding that of the Airport division, accurately reflects crimes committed *in* Mississauga; criminal acts committed by residents of Mississauga outside of city boundaries are not included in this report. Peel Police Corporate Planning staff select incidents from their records management system based on the location in which a crime took place. The data provided by the Peel Regional Police for the purposes of this report can be found in Appendix A.

Uniform Crime Reporting Survey

The Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) is an annual survey undertaken by Statistics Canada, designed to measure the occurrence and characteristics of crime in Canada.⁹ The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS), mandatorily assisted by the policing community, collects police-reported crime statistics across the country to produce the UCR survey results. As such, the UCR survey reflects 100% of the total caseload for all police services in Canada. To ensure accurate comparability, the CCJS classifies and reports incidents based on the most serious offence, in accordance with the crime rate standard classification rule used by all police services.¹⁰

Data Limitations

Certain factors exist that limit the accuracy of crime data calculations. First, the crime rate number that is generated from the corresponding formula does not completely reflect the true amount crime within a city. According to the Statistics Canada 2009 General Social Survey (GSS)¹¹ on Victimization, only 31% of Canadians report crimes they experience or witness. The vast majority of criminal behaviour goes unreported. Therefore, crime rate calculations cannot and do not include instances of crime that are not reported to the police.

Second, the data provided by the Peel Regional Police only indicates offences that are substantiated and officially recorded by the police as a crime. As a result, the crime data provided does not include the actual total calls received for service in a given year.

Third, limitations exist as a result of differences in the crime rate calculation process. The UCR Survey, for example, counts one incident containing multiple offences as one single offence, with the most serious offence being counted. Meanwhile, Peel Regional Police uses

⁹Statistics Canada, (2013). "Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR)" [Online]. Available: http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=3302&Item_Id=1044&lang=en [2013, December].

¹⁰Statistics Canada, (2013). "Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2011" [Online]. Available: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/2012001/article/11692-eng.htm> [2013, December].

¹¹Statistics Canada, (2014). "General Social Survey: An overview, 2009" [Online]. Available: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89f0115x/89f0115x2009001-eng.htm> [2014, January].

incident-based statistics, counting multiple offences separate from one another. Therefore, the incident-based statistics provided by the Peel Regional Police are an over-count relative to the

Figure 1: Map of Peel Regional Police service divisions¹²



¹²Peel Regional Police, (2014). "Police Stations Map" [Online]. Available: <http://www.peelpolice.on.ca/en/aboutus/findapolicestationinyourneighbourhood.asp> [2014, February].

UCR Survey.¹³ Consequently, incident-based crime counts for the city of Mississauga appear much higher when compared to Statistics Canada UCR crime count data.

Finally, population data counts present a challenge in crime rate calculations. Many data collection strategies exist for population counts, further complicating the crime rate calculation process. The use of different population counts yields different crime rates, making it hard to compare across different data sets. This report continues to use the same population count parameters as in past years (i.e., half year counts from Peel Data Centre). The Peel Data Centre calculates the region's population through the use of Statistics Canada's population and dwelling unit counts¹⁴ on a regular annual and semi-annual basis, allowing for a more up-to-date and specific population data for the city of Mississauga. Statistics Canada provides census population data; however, this data only reflects the population counts in a given census year.

¹³Statistics Canada, (2013). "Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR)" [Online]. Available: http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=3302&Item_Id=1044&lang=en [2013, December].

¹⁴Peel Data Centre. "Population and Housing Estimates" [Online]. Available: <http://www.peelregion.ca/planning/pdc/data/population-est/population-housing-est.htm> [2014, January].

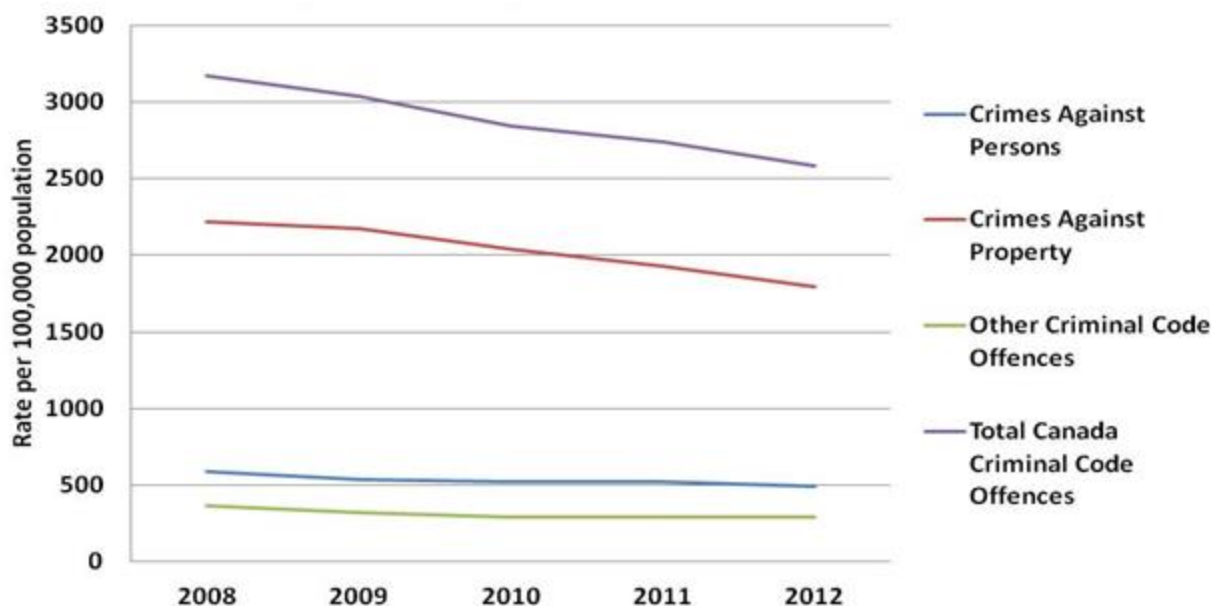
Results and Analysis

With the use of crime data from the Peel Regional Police and results of the 2012 UCR Survey, an evaluation of Mississauga and the selected CMAs' safety is completed. The crime rates and CSI scores for each city serve as the basis of comparison. Trends in violent crime and property crime rates are discussed both generally and in terms of their respective offence classifications. Additionally, information regarding offences other than violent and property crimes is highlighted.

Crime Rates

Overall, Mississauga continues to be amongst the safest cities within Canada. In 2012, Mississauga had a crime rate of 2,582 per 100,000 population, a 5.6% decrease since 2011 (2,736) and an even more substantial decrease of 15% from 2009 (3,033.5). The proportion of crimes remained similar, with property crime comprising 70% of all criminal incidents reported to Police, followed by violent crime (19%), and "other" Criminal Code offences (11%) which also remained unchanged from 2011.

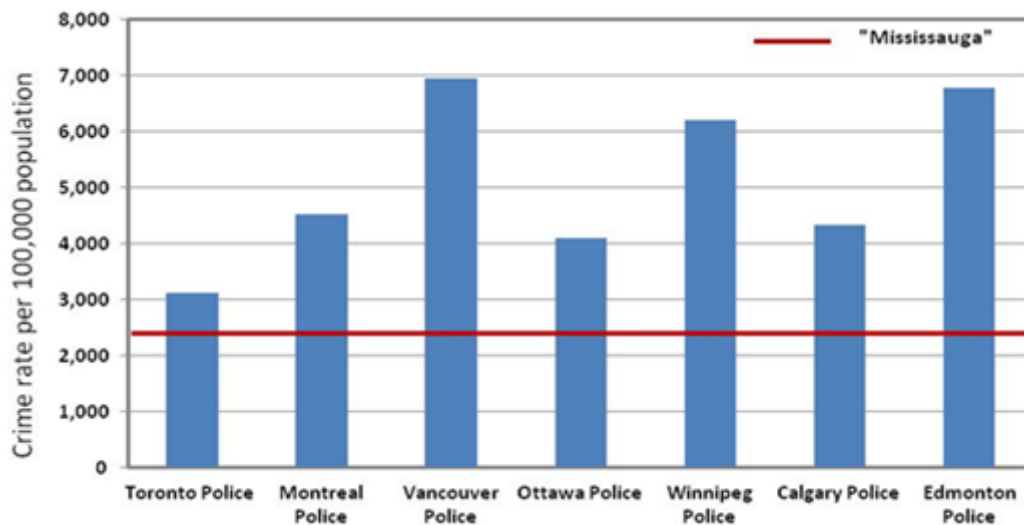
Figure 2: Mississauga Crime rates, 2008-2012¹⁵



As shown in Figure 3 the crime rate for the Toronto CMA, which includes Mississauga, was the lowest crime rate in Canada for 2012 (3,131 per 100,000 population), a 7% decrease from 2011's 3,382 per 100,000 population (see Appendix C).

¹⁵All graphs were generated by Safe City Mississauga using the data provided from Peel Regional Police and Statistics Canada

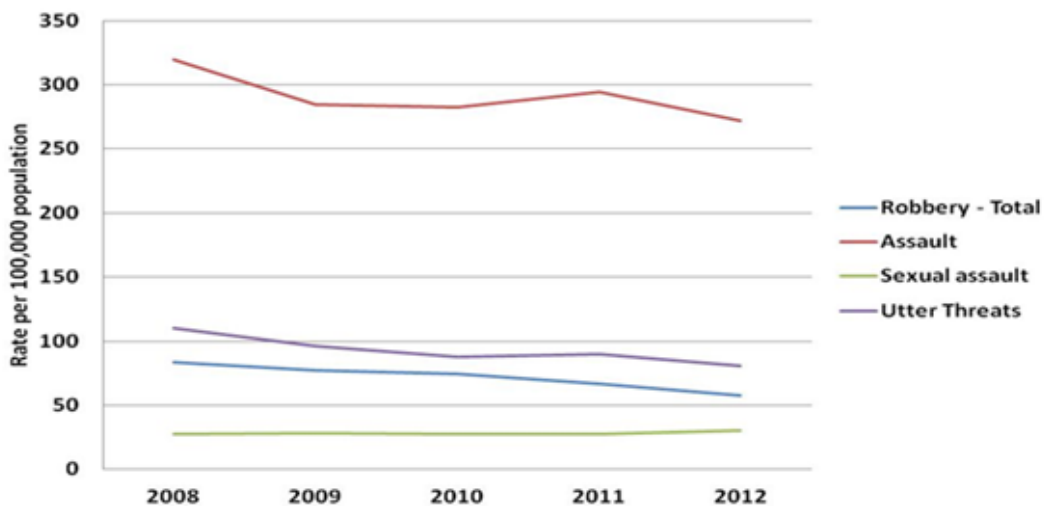
Figure 3: Crime Rates by Census Metropolitan Area, 2012



Trends in Violent Crime

Statistics Canada defines violent crimes as crimes that “involve the use or threatened use of violence against a person, including homicide, attempted murder, assault, sexual assault and robbery”.¹⁶ The violent crime rate for Mississauga decreased in 2012 from 521.1 per 100,000 in 2011 to 491.4, a contrast to the increase seen in 2011 in violent offences. Physical assault rates remained the predominantly reported violent crime at 55% (down from 57%), followed by uttering threats at 16% (down from 17%) and robbery at 12%.

Figure 4: Crime rates for selected violent offences, Mississauga, 2008-2012



The only increase seen in Mississauga’s violent crime rates for 2012 was in sexual assaults, which yielded a 12% increase from 2011. Toronto CMA as a whole saw a 1% increase in sexual

¹⁶Statistics Canada, (2013). “Juristat: Definitions” [Online]. Available: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/2013001/definitions-eng.htm#v1> [2014, February].

assaults. A 5-year history of violent crime in Mississauga can be found in Figure 4. Police-reported violent crime rates for Canada as a whole declined 3% in 2012, reaching their lowest level since 1987 and Ontario reported the lowest violent crime rate among all the provinces for 2012 (Appendix B). With regards to CMAs, Toronto (including Mississauga) saw a 1% increase in sexual assaults and a 7% reduction in robbery over the past year.

Homicide

Both homicide and attempted homicide in Mississauga decreased in 2012, 26% and 75% respectively. This is also a national trend, with Canada seeing its lowest homicide rate in more than 40 years, falling 10% from 2011. Figure 5 reflects the changes in homicide and attempted homicide rates in Mississauga over the past 5 years.

In 2012, there were 8 homicides in Mississauga (1.1 homicides per 100,000 populations), down from 11 homicides in 2011, making Mississauga's homicide rate the second lowest (a 26% decrease from 2011) compared to the other 7 CMAs selected for this report. Homicide rates range considerably across CMAs from 0.7 per 100,000 population in Ottawa to 4.1 in Winnipeg (Table 1). Mississauga's homicide rates remain below the national average, which is currently at an all-time low.

Table 2: Police-reported crime for selected offences, by Census Metropolitan Area, 2012

Census metropolitan area	Homicide		Sexual assault (Levels 1, 2 and 3)		Robbery		Break and enter		Motor vehicle theft	
	number	rate	rate	percent change in rate 2011 to 2012	rate	percent change in rate 2011 to 2012	rate	percent change in rate 2011 to 2012	rate	percent change in rate 2011 to 2012
Montréal	47	1.2	43	-2	119	-18	561	-9	312	-7
Ottawa	7	0.7	42	7	81	-8	295	1	135	9
Toronto	80	1.4	47	1	118	-7	256	-7	130	-13
Winnipeg	33	4.1	91	-4	240	-7	644	-3	301	-5
Calgary	19	1.4	51	-3	71	-23	429	-3	323	1
Edmonton	33	2.7	85	0	96	-7	470	6	326	-11
Victoria	4	1.1	37	-22	68	10	434	9	114	1
Canada	543	1.6	63	-1	79	-8	504	-4	223	-7

Robbery

Mississauga's robbery rate for 2012 experienced a decrease from 2011, maintaining a four year long trend. Though a majority of the selected CMAs also experienced a decrease in robbery rates, Mississauga had the lowest among them with 58 per 100,000 population. Calgary had the second lowest, with a robbery rate of 71, followed by Ottawa with 81. Toronto on the other hand had a reported a rate of 118 robberies per 100,000 population (Table 2). Robbery rates on a national level reached their lowest in 30 years, with Montreal and Calgary experiencing the most significant drops. Just like its homicide rates, Mississauga's robbery rates too are below the national average.

Figure 5: Rates of Homicide and Attempted Homicide, Mississauga, 2008-2012

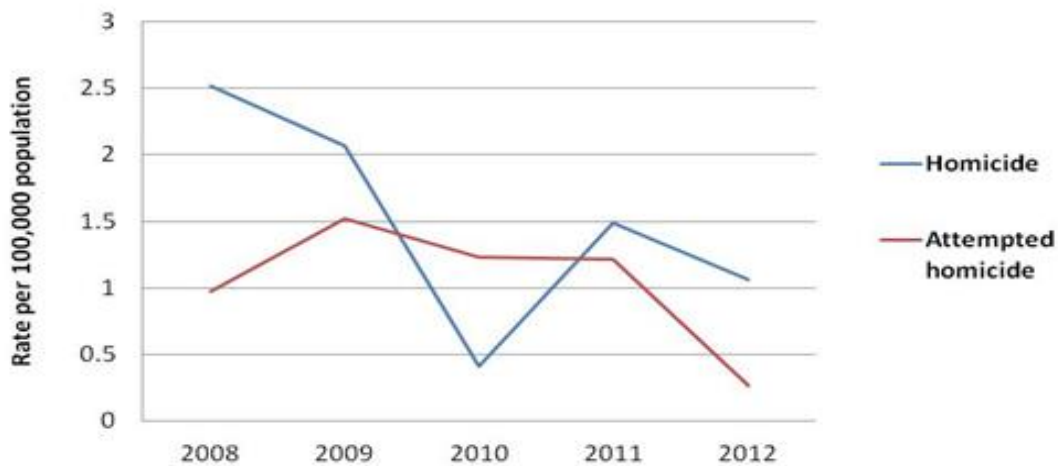
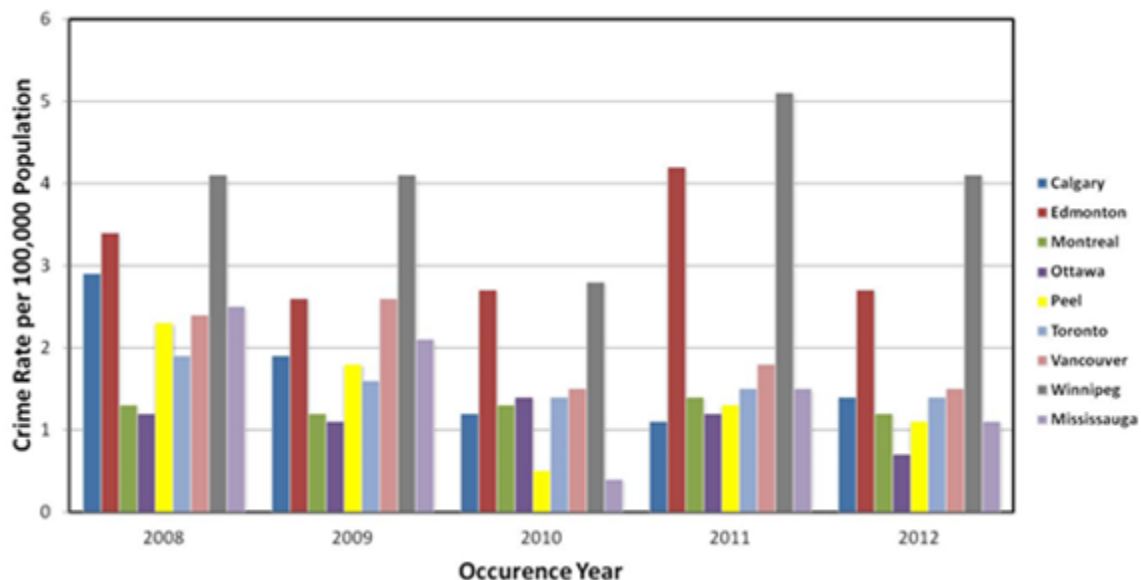


Figure 6: Police Reported Homicides by Census Metropolitan Area, 2008-2012



Trends in Property Crime

Property crime is defined by Statistics Canada as “unlawful acts to gain property, but do not involve the use or threat of violence against the person” and “include offences such as break and enter, theft and fraud”.¹⁷

Consistent with 2011, property crime and other criminal code offences made up 79% of all police reported offences in Canada for 2012; however, this number was nearly half of what it was in the early 1990s.¹⁸

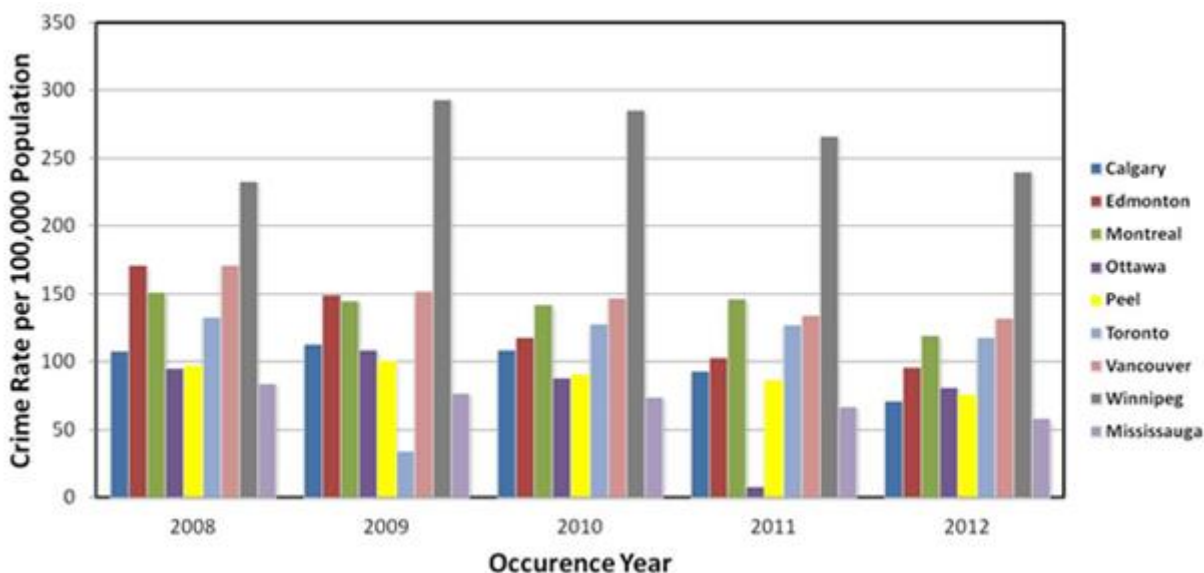
¹⁷Ibid.

In Mississauga, property crime accounts for the majority of criminal code offences (70%) reported to the police, with theft under \$5,000 being the most frequently reported property crime (48%), followed by break and enter (17%), and mischief (15%). Fraud also increased in 2012 by 13%, reflecting a national increase of 5% that is perhaps indicative of a new criminal trend. A comparison of Mississauga's property crime trends for 2011 and 2012 can be found in Figure 8.

Break and enter

Break and enters occur on average every three minutes in Canada.¹⁹ Break and enter is a notable category in this report since within Mississauga its rate increased from 292 per 100,000 population in 2011 to 296.2 in 2012. It is also the only one of the most frequently reported property crimes to see an increase in 2012. In comparison, Toronto CMA overall (including Mississauga) saw a reduction of 7% in break and enter. Within the break and enter category,

Figure 7: Police Reported Robbery by Census Metropolitan Area, 2008-2012



break and enter of a *residence* increased, while break and enter of a *business* continued to decrease.

Though break and enter rates saw an increase in 2012, this rate was lower than the 2010 (322 per 100,000 population) and 2008 (363 per 100,000 population) rates. With regards to the comparison CMAs, Toronto and Ottawa both had lower break and enter rates than Mississauga, with Toronto recording the lowest break and enter rate of the CMAs with 256 per 100,000 population. Information regarding police-reported break and enters for both Ontario and the selected CMAs can be found in Figures 9 and 10, respectively.

¹⁸Statistics Canada, (2013). "Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2012" [Online]. Available: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/2013001/article/11854-eng.htm> [2014, January].

¹⁹Statistics Canada, (2013). "Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2012" [Online]. Available: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/2013001/article/11854-eng.htm> [2014, January].

Figure 8: Mississauga Property Crime Trends, 2011 and 2012

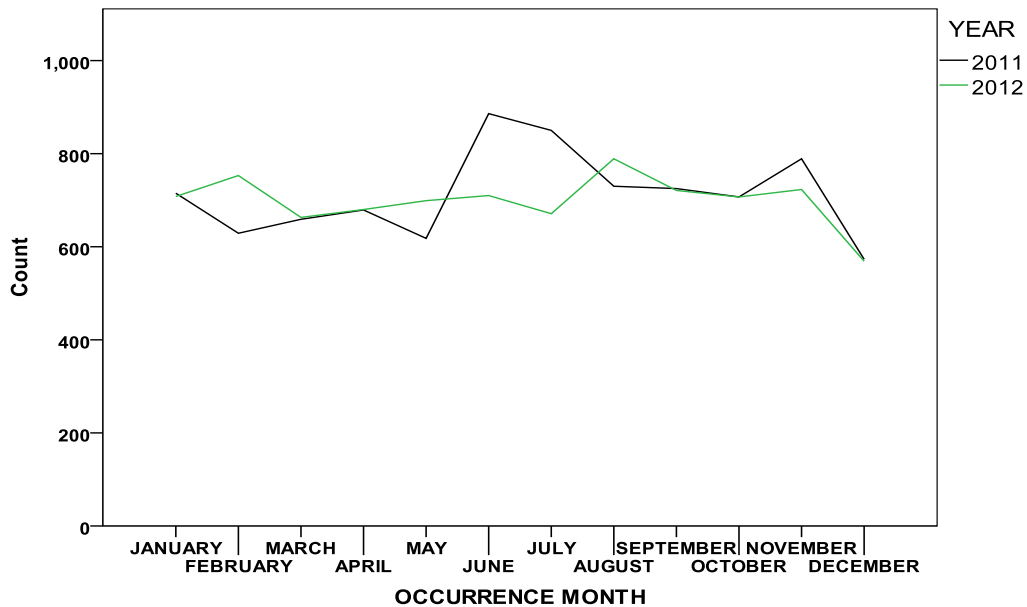
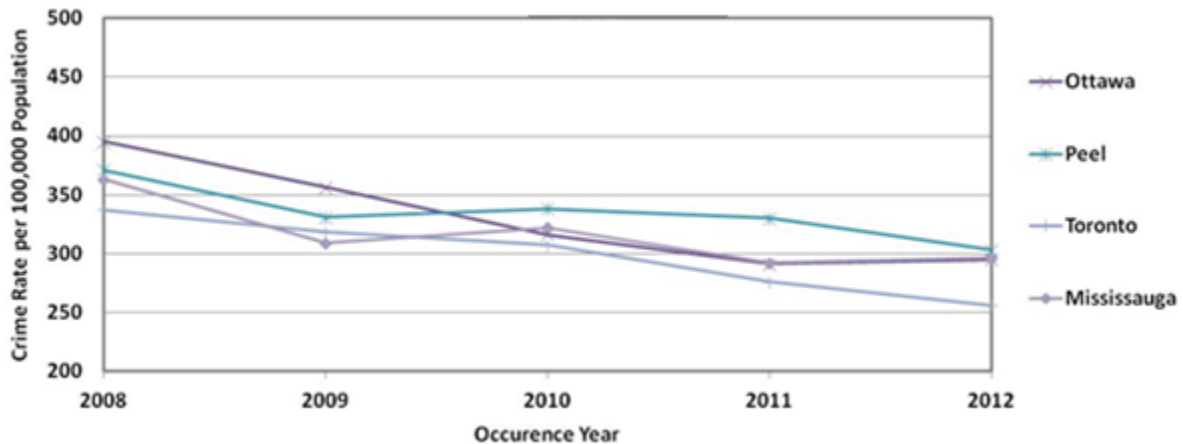


Figure 9: Police Reported Break and Enter for various Ontario CMAs, 2008-2012

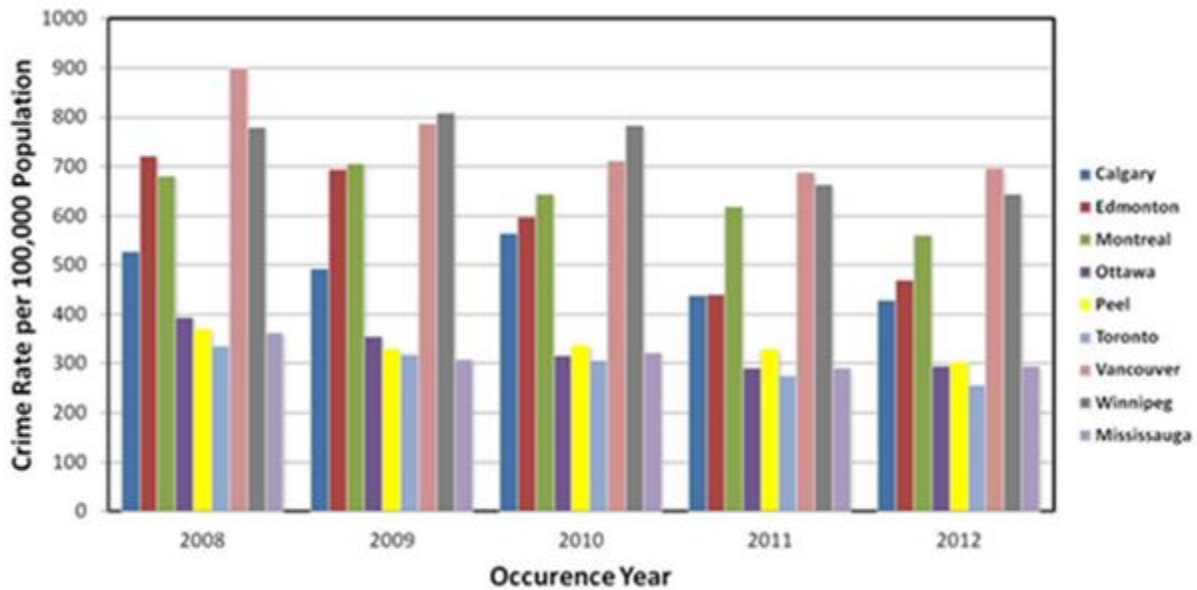


Motor Vehicle Theft

Although Statistics Canada reports that every seven minutes there is one motor vehicle theft in Canada,²⁰ motor vehicle theft is actually on the decline both locally and nationally. Although most of the selected CMAs reported standing or decreased rates, Mississauga ranked as one of the top three cities with the largest decrease of motor vehicle theft in the past five years (183 per 100,000 populations in 2011 to 170 in 2012).

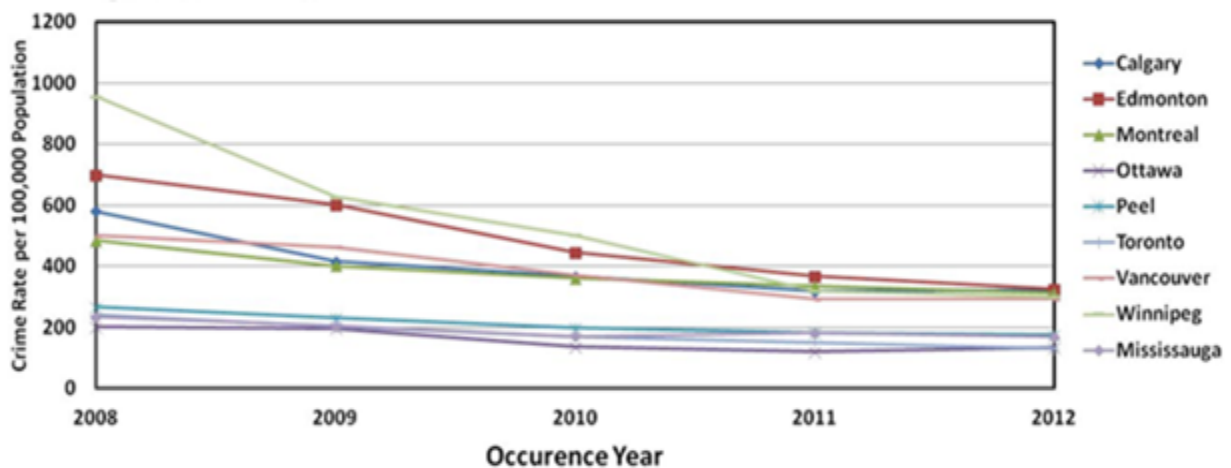
²⁰Ibid.

Figure 10: Police Reported Break and Enter by Census Metropolitan Area, 2008-2012



Although this decrease is a positive change, Mississauga still had higher rates of motor vehicle theft than both Toronto and Ottawa. Toronto CMA (including Mississauga) saw a reduction of 13% in motor vehicle theft. Mississauga did, however, remain substantially lower than the remainder of the CMAs examined in this report, whose rates are at least double that of Mississauga's (Figure 11).

Figure 11: Police Reported Motor Vehicle Theft for various Canadian CMAs, 2008-2012



Crime Severity

For the second year in a row, Ontario had the lowest crime severity index score for provinces in Canada, followed by New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador (which replaced Prince Edward Island from 2011). Canada's overall 2012 crime severity index score decreased 3.14% from 2011, making this its sixth consecutive decrease. The highest CSI scores

in Canada remained in the northern territories as well as the western provinces of Saskatchewan, Manitoba and British Columbia.²¹

Table 3: Police-reported Crime Severity Indexes, by Census Metropolitan Area, 2012

Census metropolitan area	Population	Total Crime Severity Index		Violent Crime Severity Index		Non-violent Crime Severity Index	
	number	index	percent change 2011 to 2012	index	percent change 2011 to 2012	index	percent change 2011 to 2012
Montréal	3,965,452	75.1	-6	87.8	-10	70.3	-5
Ottawa	956,719	57.0	-2	58.2	-6	56.5	-1
Toronto	5,885,871	52.1	-6	78.4	-5	42.5	-6
Winnipeg	806,821	96.1	-5	145.4	-9	78.0	-2
Calgary	1,311,481	60.5	-7	61.2	-12	60.1	-5
Edmonton	1,229,672	85.0	-3	95.8	-10	80.9	-1
Vancouver	2,464,189	92.7	-1	92.6	-3	92.5	-1
Canada	34,880,491	75.0	-3	81.4	-5	72.5	-3

Decreases in CSI rates were reported in all selected CMAs for 2012. For the same reasons listed in the 2011 Safe City report,²² it is not possible to calculate a CSI specific to the city of Mississauga for this report. Toronto though, which again includes Mississauga, saw a decrease of 6% in its score. Its score of 52 is not only lower than the national average of 75, but is also amongst the lowest in the country.

Other Offences

Domestic and Family Violence Investigations in Peel Region

Reported domestic and family dispute incidents have been on the rise within Peel throughout the past few years, with a 9% increase in 2009 and a 3% increase in 2011. In contrast, a slight 2.8% decrease was seen for 2012.²³ Compared to the 7,775 reported crimes against persons in 2012, the 14,116 domestic and family disputes is nearly double. As mentioned in the 2011 Safe City Report,²⁴ this demonstrates that a large number of calls for service of domestic violence incidents are not counted as crimes against persons within the records management system.

²¹Statistics Canada, (2013). "Crime severity index, by province and territory" [Online]. Available: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/tables-tableaux/sum-som/l01/cst01/legal51a-eng.htm> [2014, January].

²²Safe City Mississauga, (2011). "Safe City Report 2011" [Online]. Available: <http://safecitymississauga.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Safest-City-Report-2011.pdf> [2014, February].

²³Peel Regional Police, (2013). "2012 Annual Performance Report" [Online]. Available: <http://www.peelpolice.on.ca/en/aboutus/resources/2012-AnnualPerformanceReport.pdf> [2013, December].

²⁴Safe City Mississauga, (2011). "Safe City Report 2011" [Online]. Available: <http://safecitymississauga.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Safest-City-Report-2011.pdf> [2014, February].

Youth Crime and School Occurrences in Peel Region

While youth between the ages of 12-17 only represent 8.3% of the population in the Peel region, a disproportionate number of them (13.9%) are charged by Police.²⁵ Yet, the percentage of youths charged for a crime under the Youth Criminal Justice Act (CYJA) decreased in 2012 by 9% from 2011 and 20% from 2010.

Of the charges against youth, 35% were crimes of violence which include assault (highest recorded offence), robbery and threatening. These violent offences decreased 12% in 2012, and charges for property crimes fell 17%. The most common property crimes committed by youth included shoplifting and break and enter.²⁶

The number of reported school occurrences also dropped 18.4% from 2011, most of them non-criminal code offences. Overall, according to Peel Police, fewer youth in Peel have been charged of a crime (both violent and non-violent) and the number of investigated occurrences at Peel schools has also decreased.

Although we cannot substantiate where this reduction is coming from, some possible sources may include the CYJA's diversion program²⁷, which offers a second chance to youth who have committed "very minor" offences and are referred to the services of a local community organization instead of being charged and the funnelling of more resources to help youth in Mississauga.

Conclusion

The city of Mississauga continues to be among the safest cities in Canada. In 2012, the overall crime rate in Mississauga fell 5.7% from 2011, while the crime severity index fell 6% over the same period²⁸. This reduction of crime rates in Mississauga mirrors a national trend, whereby the overall crime rate and violent crime rate in Canada has reached its lowest point in three decades.²⁹ The crime rate in Canada dropped 3% between 2011 and 2012, and the severity of crimes reduced by the same percentage over the same period³⁰.

²⁵Pam Douglas, (2013). "Violent youth crime is on the decline for fourth straight year" [Online]. Available: <http://www.bramptonguardian.com/news-story/4155229-violent-youth-crime-is-on-the-decline-for-fourth-straight-year/> [2014, January].

²⁶Ibid.

²⁷Ibid.

²⁸Crime Severity Index for the Toronto CMA, of which Mississauga is a part. CSI is only calculated at the CMA level.

²⁹Statistics Canada, (2013). "Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2012" [Online]. Available: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/2013001/article/11854-eng.htm> [2014, January].

³⁰Statistics Canada, (2013). "Table 4: Police-reported Crime Severity Indexes, by census metropolitan area, 2012" [Online]. Available: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/2013001/article/11854/tbl/tbl04-eng.htm> [2014, January].

Appendix A: Crime rates for the city of Mississauga, 2008-2012¹

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	Number of Occurrences					Rate per 100,000 population				
Crimes Against Persons	4,212	3,917	3,804	3,851	3,690	588.3	540.3	519.7	521.1	491.4
Homicide	18	15	3	11	8	2.5	2.1	0.4	1.5	1.1
Attempt murder	7	11	9	9	2	1.0	1.5	1.2	1.2	0.3
Robbery - Total	600	558	543	496	435	83.8	77.0	74.2	67.1	57.9
Non-sexual assault	2,287	2,061	2,066	2,177	2,040	319.4	284.3	282.2	294.6	271.7
Sexual assault	199	204	203	202	229	27.8	28.1	27.7	27.3	30.5
Other sexual offences	58	77	65	66	88	8.1	10.6	8.9	8.9	11.7
Abduction	1	3	3	3	2	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
Utter Threats	790	697	644	662	607	110.3	96.1	88.0	89.6	80.8
Criminal harassment (stalking)	125	133	133	115	158	17.5	18.3	18.2	15.6	21.0
Other crimes against persons	127	158	135	110	120	17.7	21.8	18.4	14.9	16.0
Crimes Against Property	15,877	15,750	14,909	14,231	13,487	2217.5	2172.4	2036.7	1925.7	1796.1
Break and enter-total	2,598	2,242	2,356	2,158	2,224	362.8	309.2	321.9	292.0	296.2
Residence	1,311	1,333	1,462	1,362	1,551	183.1	183.9	199.7	184.3	206.6
Business	1,245	828	798	684	599	173.9	114.2	109.0	92.6	79.8
Other	42	81	96	112	74	5.9	11.2	13.1	15.2	9.9
Theft motor vehicle	1,672	1,496	1,253	1,354	1,278	233.5	206.3	171.2	183.2	170.2
Theft Over \$5,000 - total	359	340	293	305	285	50.1	46.9	40.0	41.3	38.0
Theft Under \$5,000 - total	6,898	7,681	7,500	7,058	6,411	963.4	1059.4	1024.6	955.1	853.8
Possession stolen goods	379	358	350	304	311	52.9	49.4	47.8	41.1	41.4
Frauds	1,122	1,023	841	859	969	156.7	141.1	114.9	116.2	129.0
Mischief Total	2,784	2,549	2,260	2,144	1,964	388.8	351.6	308.7	290.1	261.6
Arson	65	61	56	49	43	9.1	8.4	7.7	6.6	5.7
Other Criminal Code Offences	2,619	2,326	2,120	2,140	2,212	365.8	320.8	289.6	289.6	294.6
Offensive weapons	467	384	382	347	343	65.2	53.0	52.2	47.0	45.7
Counterfeiting	43	6	21	3	9	6.0	0.8	2.9	0.4	1.2
Indecent acts	75	83	64	62	85	10.5	11.4	8.7	8.4	11.3
Total Criminal Code Offences²	22,708	21,993	20,833	20,222	19,389	3171.5	3033.5	2846.0	2736.4	2582.1
Drugs	1,920	2,113	2,230	2,068	2,085	268.2	291.4	304.6	279.8	277.7

Heroin	15	13	15	23	42	2.1	1.8	2.0	3.1	5.6
Cocaine	317	310	288	228	286	44.3	42.8	39.3	30.9	38.1
Cannabis	1,433	1,586	1,755	1,637	1,585	200.1	218.8	239.8	221.5	211.1
Other Drugs	155	204	172	180	172	21.6	28.1	23.5	24.4	22.9
Traffic Offences	2,827	2,689	2,684	2,893	2,758	394.8	370.9	366.7	391.5	367.3
Impaired driving	693	669	725	789	801	96.8	92.3	99.0	106.8	106.7
Fail/refuse breath/blood sample	84	90	80	79	71	11.7	12.4	10.9	10.7	9.5
Fail to stop/remain	2,050	1,930	1,733	1,835	1,732	286.3	266.2	236.7	248.3	230.7
1. Excludes Airport Division										
2. Includes: Crimes Against Persons, Property, Other CCC. Excludes: Drugs, Traffic										
Notes: Occurrences for the city of Mississauga were provided by Corporate Planning and Research, Peel Regional Police. The 2008 /2009 data were run on August 13, 2010, and 2010/2011 data were prepared August 2, 2012. Population estimates were taken from the Region of Peel Data Centre November 2012.										

Appendix B: Provincial Crime Rates per 100,000 population, 2012 ³¹

	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QB	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YK	NT	NU
Total Criminal Code offences	6,638.3	6,966.2	6,687.1	5,902.6	4,835.3	4,254.7	9,205.4	12,584.0	7,815.5	8,116.5	22,043.7	49,851.2	40,398.3
Total Crimes Against Persons	1,538.6	1,168.3	1,365.5	1,475.6	1,047.2	901.3	2,040.9	2,200.7	1,382.0	1,382.0	4,035.9	7,993.3	10,003.9
Homicide	0.59	0	1.79	0.79	1.34	1.2	4.1	2.69	2.19	1.54	0	11.53	14.84
Attempted murder	0	0.68	3.58	1.46	2.37	1.95	1.74	2.5	1.08	1.8	0	4.61	0
Robbery - total	27.7	17.11	46.48	21.69	71.8	79.49	168.11	95.93	69.05	97.52	30.47	53.06	17.81
Non-sexual assault	3.9	1.37	1.16	2.78	5.21	13.73	4.18	8.52	4.62	5.17	8.31	6.92	17.81
Sexual assault, level 3	0	0	0.63	0.13	0.36	0.34	0.55	1.11	0.49	0.19	0	0	2.97
Sexual assault, level 2	1.37	0.68	0.95	1.06	0.76	1.19	2.13	1.48	0.72	0.87	11.08	13.84	2.97
Sexual assault, level 1	71	49.96	68.83	64.69	48.36	57.55	112.55	93.89	71.53	55.06	202.21	392.17	525.27
Abduction	1.17	0	0.53	1.72	1.44	0.71	1.97	1.85	1.39	1.17	0	0	2.97
Uttering threats	389.73	257.35	290.19	342.48	214.63	122.36	303.63	295.66	211.27	266.28	689.73	1,264.16	1,552.07
Criminal harassment (stalking)	39.21	75.29	66.51	91.14	62.87	71.75	25.26	49.26	57.52	56.29	44.32	140.72	175.09
Other crimes against persons	6.63	6.16	8.96	13.89	21.28	11.02	10.42	11.85	11.36	9.54	24.93	46.14	44.51
Total Crimes Against Property	3,674.2	4,585.7	3,932.5	3,229.5	2,703.3	2,622.3	4,871.8	6,190.0	4,293.9	4,711.0	8,667.4	24,023.6	16,580.1
Break and enter - total	544.61	570.82	508.49	480.19	572.64	361.73	731.1	790.03	499.34	649.59	567.85	1,520.22	1,845.86
Theft motor	98.7	108.83	139.88	151.2	258.48	141.03	294	400.66	356.22	272.23	407.19	456.76	465.92

³¹Statistics Canada, (2013). "Crimes, by type of violation, and by province and territory" [Online]. Available: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/tables-tableaux/sum-som/l01/cst01/legal50a-eng.htm> [2014, February].

vehicle													
Theft over \$5,000 - total	45.84	27.38	29.62	30.82	52.09	33.96	34.73	51.21	59.19	54.52	69.25	71.51	47.48
Theft under \$5,000 - total	1,183.8	2,210.1	1,701.2	1,319.4	1,017.9	1,277.2	1,412.7	1,667.8	1,627.9	2,285.3	2,501.3	2,242.3	1,178.2
Possession stolen goods	23.99	58.18	69.15	41.93	23.33	41.63	43.01	105.47	96.44	57.82	130.19	71.51	92
Fraud	192.53	321	242.97	216.42	170.04	229.22	168.67	316.4	272.55	259.14	260.38	320.65	172.12
Mischief - total	1,562.8	1,248.4	1,169.8	921.9	497.4	498.9	2,101.6	2,778.8	1,312.1	1,045.2	4,670.2	19,248.4	12,686.6
Arson	16.97	28.06	50.49	54.9	37.8	16.2	75.45	52.32	34.31	40.28	44.32	64.59	86.06
Other Criminal Code offences	983.5	770.0	1031.0	814.2	565.6	492.8	1896.6	3122.6	1586.6	1634.2	8013.6	16035.0	12645.0
Offensive weapons	9.36	2.74	6.22	9.52	4.39	3.69	15.55	17.59	8.67	5.11	22.16	36.91	65.29
Counterfeiting	1.17	0	4.32	0.4	1.55	0.9	0.79	3.06	1.24	1.12	0	2.31	0
Indecent acts	18.34	17.8	13.81	13.23	9.51	11.21	9.16	13.43	15.15	24.96	24.93	34.6	17.81
Total drug violations	275.4	240.9	336.6	257.3	271.8	243.6	260.3	563.7	303.5	550.2	526.3	1,370.3	1,207.8
Heroin - possession	0.2	0	0.21	0.79	0.29	1.54	0.24	0.37	0.7	10.82	0	0	0
Cocaine - possession	15.41	4.11	13.91	9.79	13.11	17.73	14.52	23.8	27.18	55.64	27.7	66.9	2.97
Cannabis - possession	112.55	84.87	186.26	110.46	134.64	135.04	89.74	186.58	159.38	328.76	274.23	588.25	489.66
Other Drugs	31.8	23.27	22.66	20.24	40.96	24.34	9.39	21.85	17.76	52.42	16.62	9.23	0
Traffic offences	442.0	442.2	358.2	383.4	519.2	238.3	396.1	1070.7	553	389.3	1326.8	1799.4	1169.2
Impaired driving	361.25	328.53	283.86	287.85	205.78	127.12	296.84	725.4	417.06	311.41	1,074.76	1,534.06	1,006.02

Appendix C1: Police-reported crime rates, by selected census metropolitan area, 2012

Census metropolitan area	Total crime (crime rate)			Violent crime		Property crime		Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences		Drug offences	
	rate	percent change in rate 2011 to 2012	percent change 2007 to 2012	rate	percent change in rate 2011 to 2012	rate	percent change in rate 2011 to 2012	rate	percent change in rate 2011 to 2012	rate	percent change in rate 2011 to 2012
Montréal	4,541	-5	-19	959	-6	3,041	-5	541	2	210	-6
Ottawa	4,102	-1	-23	644	-2	2,959	0	498	-2	184	-6
Toronto	3,131	-7	-27	809	-7	2,067	-7	254	-8	214	-2
Winnipeg	6,222	-3	-35	1,265	-5	4,243	-4	714	5	127	-14
Calgary	4,330	-6	-29	735	-9	3,177	-5	418	-9	141	-6
Edmonton	6,796	-2	-27	1,210	-2	3,955	-3	1,631	-1	244	-2
Vancouver	6,958	-2	-25	1,125	-6	4,682	3	1,152	-14	432	-11
Canada	5,588	-3	-19	1,190	-3	3,414	-3	984	-2	314	-5

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

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

Appendix C2: Crime rates by Census Metropolitan Area, 2012¹

	Homicide Rate	Robbery Rate	Break and Enter Rate	Motor Vehicle Theft Rate	Total Crime Severity Index	Total Crime Rate
St. John's	0	60	717	135	86.3	7,056
Halifax	2.9	79	369	133	74.3	5,810
Moncton	0	37	524	166	79.3	7,039
Saint John	1.4	30	412	110	67.1	5,646
Saguenay	2.7	25	529	144	71.1	4,101
Québec	0.8	39	399	130	47.8	3,216
Sherbrooke	0.5	35	442	122	59.6	3,925
Trois-Rivières	1.3	36	599	178	65.8	4,192
Montréal	1.2	119	561	312	75.1	4,541
Gatineau	1.9	38	578	118	65.9	4,621
Ottawa	0.7	81	295	135	57	4,102
Kingston	0	22	378	81	58.3	5,166
Peterborough	1.6	55	484	98	63.4	4,648
Toronto	1.4	118	256	130	52.1	3,131
Hamilton	0.9	72	394	318	60.1	4,241
St. Catharines–Niagara	0.7	52	539	186	63.9	4,490
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	0.7	60	368	111	58.3	4,524
Brantford	0	49	743	423	92.2	6,921
Guelph	0	41	333	82	50.5	4,084
London	1.6	63	589	211	74.5	5,639
Windsor	0.9	71	506	185	66.5	4,768
Barrie	1	25	305	84	51.3	4,555
Greater Sudbury	0.6	65	596	165	71.7	5,061
Thunder Bay	5.8	100	545	122	88	7,050
Winnipeg	4.1	240	644	301	96.1	6,222
Regina	3.1	124	679	473	116	8,755
Saskatoon	2.1	162	657	364	107.1	8,512
Calgary	1.4	71	429	323	60.5	4,330
Edmonton	2.7	96	470	326	85	6,796
Kelowna	1.6	84	724	433	104.1	8,875
Abbotsford–Mission	2.2	88	564	269	83.4	6,148
Vancouver	1.5	132	696	294	92.7	6,958
Victoria	1.1	68	434	114	69.6	5,958
Mississauga	1.1	58	296	170	...	2,582
Canada	1.6	79	504	223	75	5,588

1. Information for this table was taken from the annual *Jurisdats* publication "Police-Reported Crime Statistics in Canada (Perreault, 2014).

Appendix D: Police-reported crime for selected offences, by Census Metropolitan Area, 2012

Census metropolitan area	Homicide		Sexual assault (Levels 1, 2 and 3)		Robbery		Break and enter		Motor vehicle theft	
	number	rate	rate	percent change in rate 2011 to 2012	rate	percent change in rate 2011 to 2012	rate	percent change in rate 2011 to 2012	rate	percent change in rate 2011 to 2012
Montréal	47	1.2	43	-2	119	-18	561	-9	312	-7
Ottawa	7	0.7	42	7	81	-8	295	1	135	9
Toronto	80	1.4	47	1	118	-7	256	-7	130	-13
Winnipeg	33	4.1	91	-4	240	-7	644	-3	301	-5
Calgary	19	1.4	51	-3	71	-23	429	-3	323	1
Edmonton	33	2.7	85	0	96	-7	470	6	326	-11
Victoria	4	1.1	37	-22	68	10	434	9	114	1
Canada	543	1.6	63	-1	79	-8	504	-4	223	-7