

Overview

Enforcement of laws affects all Canadians—whether a police officer is arresting someone in a small town or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are monitoring security on Parliament Hill. It is also a big-ticket item for governments: federal, provincial, territorial and municipal governments spent more than \$12 billion on policing, courts, legal aid, prosecutions and adult corrections in 2002/2003. (Calculating the total cost is difficult because all levels of government help pay the justice bill.) Policing accounted for 61% of justice costs; adult corrections, 22%; courts, 9%; legal aid, 5%; and criminal prosecutions, 3%.

The amount of crime taking place is measured by the crime rate—the number of reported incidents per 100,000 population in a year. Canada's crime rate in 2005 was 7,761 offences per 100,000, down 5% from 2004.

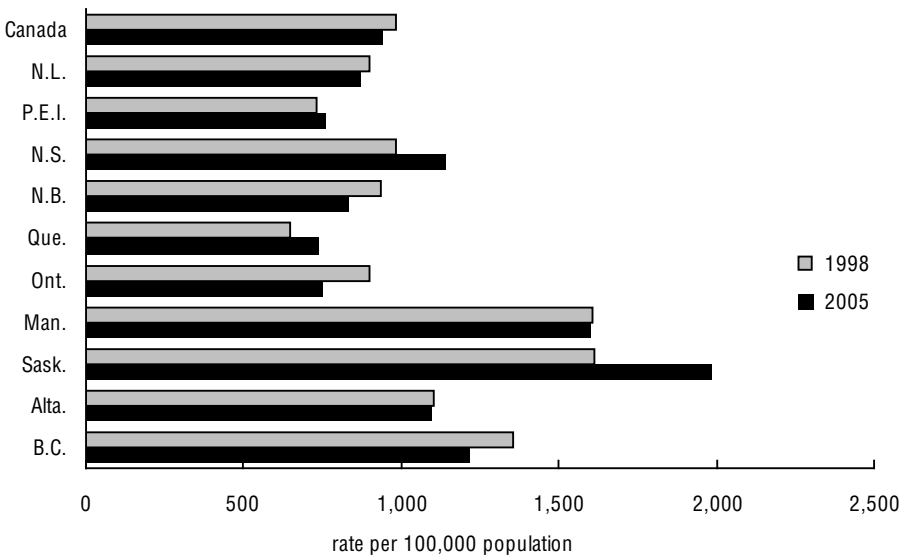
The decrease was primarily driven by a lower rate of non-violent crimes, such as counterfeiting, break-ins and auto thefts. Police services reported a 6% decrease for property crimes, a 7% drop each for motor vehicle thefts and break-ins, and a 6% drop for thefts under \$5,000.

Violent crime accounted for 12% of *Criminal Code* offences. The homicide rate rose in 2005 to its highest level in nine years, but the overall rate of violent crime, which also includes attempted murder, assault, robbery, sexual assault, other sexual offences and kidnapping, was unchanged.

Provincial crime rates ranged from a low of 5,780 incidents per 100,000 population in Ontario to a high of 14,320 incidents in Saskatchewan.

Saskatchewan's violent crime rate was the highest among the provinces for an

Chart 7.1
Violent crimes, by province



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 252-0013.

eighth year in a row and was 24% higher than the next highest, Manitoba. Although Quebec's violent crime rate rose 2% in 2005, it reported the lowest rates among the provinces over the past decade.

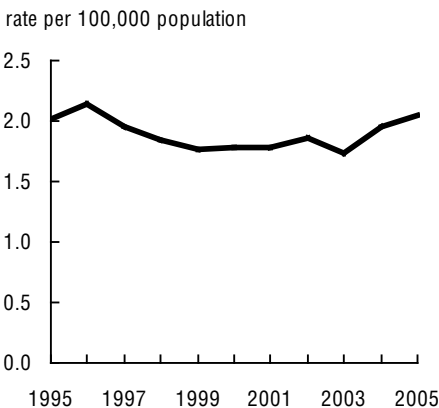
Homicide rate rises

Police services reported 658 homicides in 2005, or about two victims per 100,000 population. After reaching a 30-year low in 2003, Canada's homicide rate climbed 4% in 2005 to its highest point in a decade. The most substantial increases in the number of homicides were reported in Ontario, where 31 more homicides occurred than in 2004; the next highest, Alberta, had 23 more than in 2004.

Homicide victims are more likely to be killed by someone they know than by a stranger. In the 478 solved homicides in 2005, about 50% of the victims were killed by an acquaintance, about 30% by a family member and about 20% by a stranger.

Most homicide victims in 2005 were male—480 males versus 178 females. The victimization rate for males peaked at 25

Chart 7.2
Homicides in Canada



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 252-0013.

Table 7.a
Violent crimes

	2004	2005
	% of violent crime	
Total	100.0	100.0
Homicide	0.2	0.2
Attempted murder	0.2	0.3
Assaults (level 1 to 3) ¹	77.5	77.1
Sexual assault	7.6	7.7
Other sexual offences	0.9	0.9
Robbery	9.1	9.4
Other crimes of violence ²	4.5	4.4

1. Constitutes intentional application of force without consent, attempt or threat to apply force to another person, or openly wearing a weapon (or an imitation) while accosting or impeding another person.
2. Includes unlawfully causing bodily harm, discharging a firearm with intent, abduction, assault against police officers or other peace or public officers, as well as other assaults.

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 252-0013.

to 29 years; for females, it peaked at 30 to 39 years. Ninety percent of persons accused of homicide were male, and the rate of accused peaked at 18 to 24 years of age for both males and females.

Since the mid-1980s, firearms have been used in about one out of three homicides each year. Firearms were used to kill 222 Canadians in 2005, 49 more than in 2004. Homicides committed with a firearm increased in all regions except Manitoba, British Columbia and the territories. Since the early 1970s, however, the type of firearm used in homicides has changed. Rifles and shotguns have steadily become less common, handguns have become more so.

Homicides aside, firearms are rarely used in most other crimes in Canada.

Gang-related homicides

Data about the extent of gang activity in Canada are very limited. And while it is generally accepted that organized crime

exists in Canada, the full extent of it is unknown. Gang-related homicides—which stem from the activities of organized crime groups and street gangs—gained steadily from 4% of all homicides in 1994 to 15% in 2003, then fell back to 11% in 2004. In 2005, however, the number of gang-related homicides rose to 107, or 16% of all homicides. The largest increase was in Ontario, where gang-related homicides more than doubled from 14 in 2004 to 31 in 2005.

In 2005, the highest numbers of gang-related homicides occurred in Toronto (23), Edmonton (16), Montréal (15) and Calgary (9). Of all gang-related killings, 69% were committed with a firearm, usually a handgun, compared with 27% of non gang-related homicides.

Youth crime rate declines

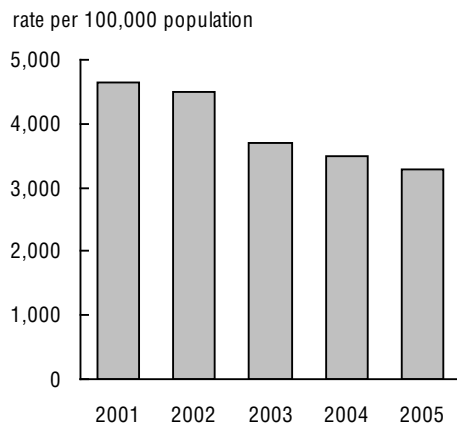
The youth crime rate fell 6% from 2004 to 2005, and youth violent crime declined 2%. During the same period, the rate of youths—those aged 12 to 17 years—who were charged decreased 6%, and those cleared otherwise fell 7%. Changes in legislation—such as the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*

(YCJA), which came into force in 2003—can significantly affect the number of youths who are diverted from further exposure in the justice system. The YCJA contains provisions that are designed to allow youth who have committed less serious offences to be diverted from courts and custodial facilities; serious offenders serve longer sentences.

Since the introduction of the YCJA, the proportion of apprehended youths who are formally charged has dropped, from 56% in 2002—when the *Young Offenders Act* was still in effect—to 43% in 2005.

Youths accused of crimes are not always formally charged, even though police might have sufficient evidence to do so. Police have a range of alternatives to laying formal charges, mainly taking no further action, issuing an informal warning, referring the youth to community programs or issuing a formal police caution.

Chart 7.3
Youths charged with crimes



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 252-0014.

Selected sources

Statistics Canada

- *Child and Spousal Support: Maintenance Enforcement Survey Statistics*. Annual. 85-228-XIE
- *Family Violence in Canada: A Statistical Profile*. Annual. 85-224-XIE
- *Juristat*. Irregular. 85-002-XIE
- *Measuring Violence Against Women: Statistical Trends*. Occasional. 85-570-XIE
- *Police Resources in Canada*. Annual. 85-225-XIE

Child and spousal support enforcement

People who are separated or divorced can find it difficult to collect court-ordered spousal and child support payments. Federal guidelines on child support emphasize the need for children to benefit from the financial means of both spouses after a separation.

About one-half of all support obligations for spousal and child support payments in Canada—court-ordered and voluntary—are now registered with ‘maintenance enforcement programs’ (MEPs). Although MEPs are intended to help people collect these payments, more difficult cases may still end up in court. More than 90% of MEP cases involve support for children.

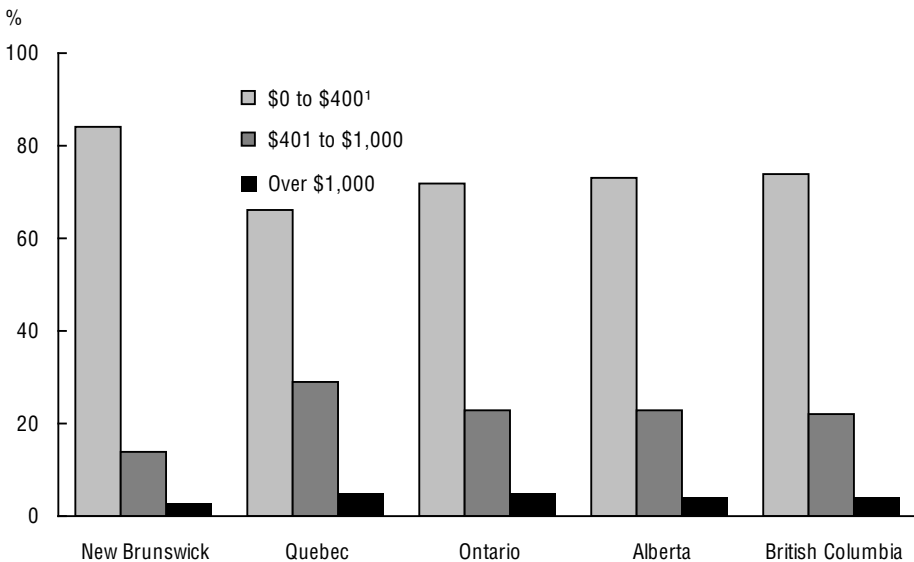
Nearly 407,800 cases were enrolled in MEPs in March 2006—data are excluded for Newfoundland and Labrador, Manitoba and Nunavut. The types of clients and

their obligations, enforcement powers and practices, enrolment procedures and payments processes all differ from one province or territory to another. And not all cases are automatically enrolled in an MEP.

Most MEP cases with monthly support payments involve amounts of \$400 or less. Fewer than 5% require a monthly payment over \$1,000. Most cases—anywhere from 56% to 78%—are in compliance with their regular monthly payments.

As of March 31, 2006, from 46% to 72% of support cases had payments in arrears when the parties enrolled, be it months or years earlier. However, many of these cases have paid all or some of the amounts owed. MEPs in seven provinces collected \$604 million in regular payments, excluding arrears, in the year ending March 31, 2006. Most of the money was for the benefit of children.

Chart 7.4
Cases enrolled in maintenance enforcement programs, by regular monthly payment, selected provinces, 2006



Note: Payment due at March 31.

¹ Cases may have a \$0 monthly payment because they have no regular ongoing obligation, they only have arrears, or they have a different payment schedule, such as quarterly.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 85-228-XIE.

Violence against women

Women are at greater risk than men of being the victims of the most severe forms of spousal violence, including being killed by a spouse, sexual assault and criminal harassment (also called stalking). Although men are more likely than women to be killed, physically attacked and robbed by strangers and acquaintances in a public place, women are at greater risk of being victims of violence in their homes from an intimate partner.

From 1975 to 2004, over three times more women than men were victims of spousal homicide—2,178 women compared with 638 men. In this period, men were twice as likely as women to be charged with first degree murder in spousal homicide cases.

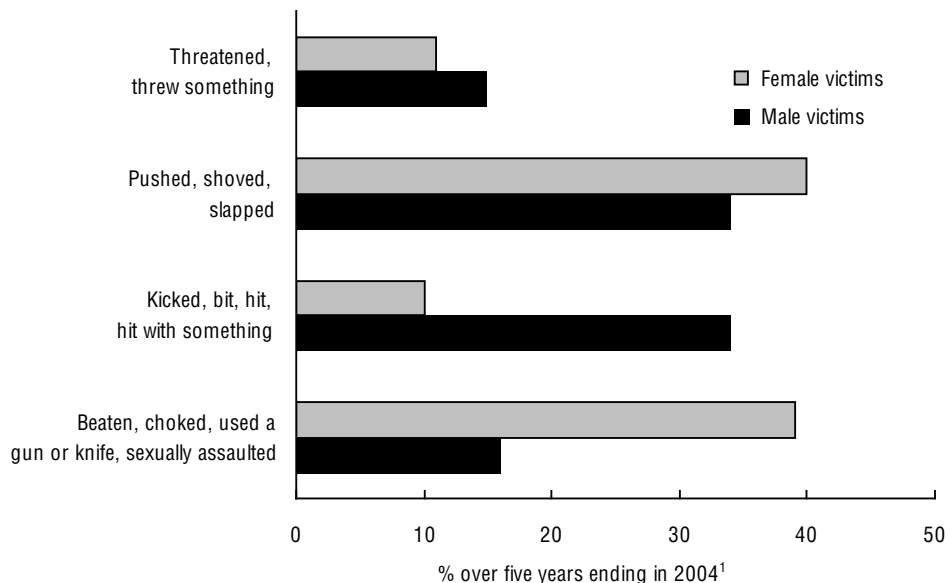
According to the 1999 and 2004 General Social Surveys (GSS), fewer than one-third of self-reported female and male victims of spousal violence seek police help. Reasons

for not reporting the abuse are similar for both men and women, but significantly more male (44%) than female victims (27%) say they do not want anyone to find out about the violence.

In 2004, 86% of victims of police-reported sexual offences were female. Data consistently show that women under 25 are at greatest risk of being sexually assaulted. In 2005, police reported over 23,000 sexual assault incidents—this rate was little changed from 2004. However, the 2004 GSS showed that 88% of sexual assaults go unreported.

Women are more likely than men to be victims of stalking. Data from 68 police departments show incidents of criminal harassment rose steadily from 1998 to 2004. This increase may indicate a rise in stalking, but it may also reflect a rise in reporting or changes in the application of the law.

Chart 7.5
Victims of violence, by type of violence and sex, 2004



1. Population aged 15 and older.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 85-570-XIE.

Shifts in the adult custodial population

Since the 1980s, the profile of Canada's adult custodial population in the provincial/territorial correctional system has shifted dramatically. For the first time, the number of adults held on remand or other temporary detention and the number of sentenced offenders were virtually equal.

On an average day in 2005, about 9,800 adults were in provincial/territorial custody serving a sentence, while another 9,900 adults were in remanded custody or in another form of temporary detention. Only a decade earlier, offenders serving a prison sentence made up 72% of the provincial/territorial custodial population; the remand population accounted for the remaining 28%.

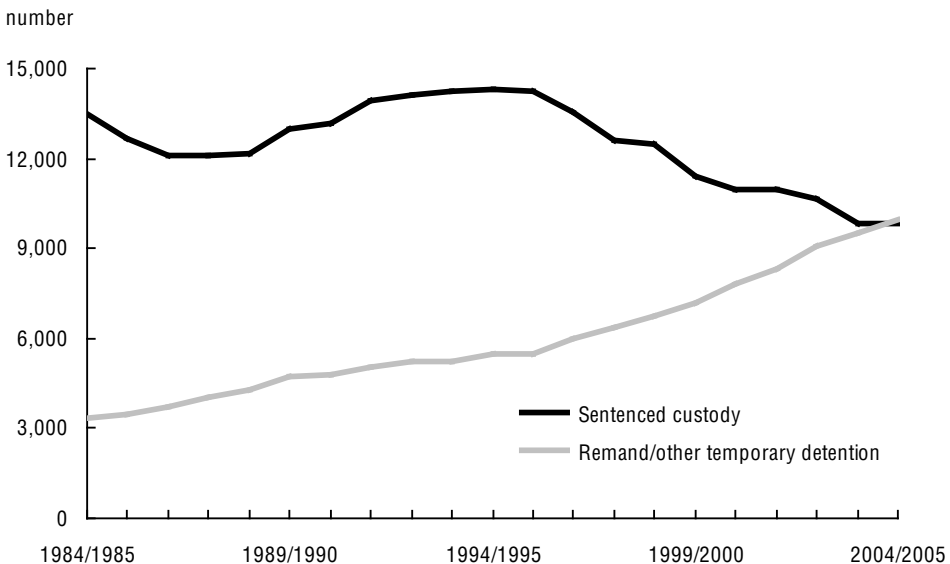
This represents an 83% increase in remand counts from 1995 to 2005. During the same period, sentenced custody dropped 31%. Several factors may be contributing to the

rising number of remanded individuals. For example, bail might be more frequently denied because of changing practices and policies. Also, processing cases in criminal courts has become more lengthy and complex, keeping adults in remand longer.

From 1995 to 2005, the proportion of remanded adults who served between one week and one month rose from 20% to 25%, and adults who were held in remanded custody for more than a month increased from 14% to 22%.

The conditional sentence, introduced as a punitive option in 1996, is likely contributing to the decreasing number of adults who serve their sentence in custody. The number of admissions to conditional sentences nearly doubled from 1997 to 2005—offenders who would have been admitted to a detention facility may instead be serving a conditional sentence in the community.

Chart 7.6
Adult correctional population, by status



Note: Average annual actual in-counts in provincial/territorial custody.
Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 251-0005.

Police services: size and spending

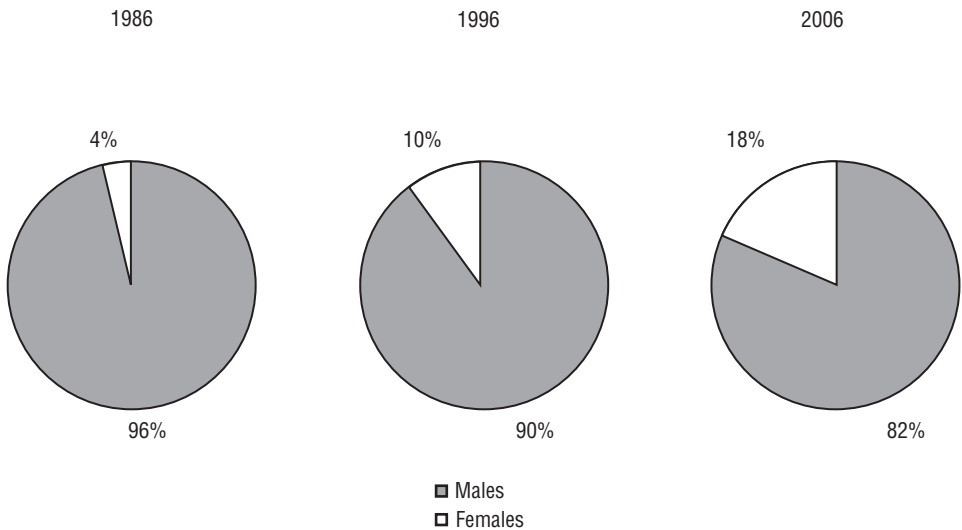
Canada had almost 62,500 police officers in May 2006—or one officer for every 520 Canadians—as the number of police reached its highest level in over a decade. However, for the past 30 years, police strength has remained relatively stable.

The national rate of 192 officers per 100,000 population in 2006 was 7% below the peak of 206 reached in 1976. Saskatchewan, which has had the highest provincial crime rate since 1997, had the highest police strength in Canada for a sixth consecutive year, at 205 officers per 100,000 population in 2006. Quebec reported the next greatest police strength and had one of the lowest crime rates in the country. The lowest levels of police strength in 2006 were in Newfoundland and Labrador—156 police officers per 100,000—and in Prince Edward Island, 159 per 100,000. Crime rates in the two provinces are relatively low.

From 1996 to 2006, the number of women working as police officers grew three times faster than the number of men. In 2006, 11,200 women worked as police officers, 6% more than in 2005. With these increases, almost one out of five police officers were women. In 2006, the highest proportions of female officers were in British Columbia, 21%, and in Quebec, 20%. Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Manitoba had the lowest shares, about 14% each.

Policing expenditures totalled \$9.3 billion, or \$288 per person, in 2005. Adjusted for inflation, this was a 4% increase from 2004. For every dollar spent in all justice sectors, 61 cents goes to policing. The federal, provincial/territorial and municipal governments share the responsibility and costs for policing.

Chart 7.7
Police officers, by sex



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 254-0003.

Table 7.1 Crimes, by type of offence and by province and territory, 2005

	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon	Northwest Territories	Nunavut
	rate per 100,000 population													
All offences	8,512.6	6,603.8	8,625.6	8,963.5	7,449.5	6,744.9	6,336.7	12,554.1	15,956.2	10,841.4	13,104.4	24,183.6	44,037.0	34,292.5
<i>Criminal Code</i> offences (excluding traffic offences)	7,761.1	6,088.8	7,985.5	8,345.2	6,755.5	6,032.1	5,779.8	11,743.1	14,319.5	10,023.4	11,946.6	22,399.0	41,245.2	32,782.1
Crimes against the person	942.9	868.7	761.7	1,138.2	834.0	739.3	747.8	1,599.7	1,983.4	1,096.0	1,214.5	3,088.3	6,614.4	7,041.9
Homicide	2.0	1.7	0.0	2.1	1.2	1.3	1.7	4.2	4.3	3.4	2.3	3.2	0.0	6.7
Attempted murder	2.4	0.6	0.0	4.2	1.5	3.5	1.7	1.6	5.4	1.7	2.5	6.5	4.7	16.7
Assault (level 1 to 3) ¹	727.4	728.5	648.7	935.1	685.6	524.7	558.1	1,253.0	1,625.9	877.2	977.9	2,765.6	5,942.0	5,974.9
Sexual assault	72.2	84.5	64.4	82.6	68.0	65.0	62.2	111.9	131.5	69.0	80.3	180.7	407.2	796.9
Other sexual offences	8.5	4.1	7.2	6.9	14.0	14.1	4.8	7.5	16.4	6.5	8.9	19.4	23.3	26.7
Robbery	88.8	28.9	12.3	75.4	32.7	88.9	79.1	170.4	125.0	91.3	108.6	51.6	34.9	20.0
Other crimes against the person ²	41.5	20.3	29.0	31.9	31.1	41.9	40.2	51.0	74.8	47.0	34.1	61.3	202.4	200.1
Property crimes	3,737.6	2,534.7	3,468.2	3,625.7	2,722.9	3,132.8	2,807.7	4,994.7	5,483.6	4,874.0	6,234.5	6,028.1	6,484.1	5,554.8
Break and enter	804.2	813.6	611.8	778.1	647.6	857.7	545.0	1,122.5	1,468.2	891.6	1,166.1	1,603.9	2,284.7	2,844.1
Motor vehicle theft	496.1	150.2	165.8	280.6	191.5	507.3	314.8	1,205.9	621.4	651.9	818.0	477.6	639.8	546.8
Theft over \$5,000	54.2	22.9	26.1	40.7	45.5	66.7	46.3	58.4	52.1	67.8	52.6	113.0	76.8	46.7
Theft \$5,000 and under	1,985.5	1,296.2	2,331.4	2,009.4	1,518.6	1,425.7	1,523.5	2,315.2	2,772.4	2,669.3	3,677.6	3,475.5	3,029.2	1,830.5
Possession of stolen goods	104.9	35.9	55.8	213.9	52.5	38.3	100.8	85.9	193.6	177.0	160.3	116.2	153.6	66.7
Fraud	292.7	215.9	277.3	302.9	267.2	237.1	277.4	206.8	375.9	416.3	360.0	242.0	300.1	220.1
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences	3,080.7	2,685.5	3,755.6	3,581.3	3,198.6	2,160.0	2,224.2	5,148.8	6,852.6	4,053.5	4,497.7	13,282.6	28,146.7	20,185.4
<i>Criminal Code</i> traffic offences	368.0	231.0	472.8	339.6	359.3	394.9	253.2	328.7	998.4	486.3	434.8	1,232.7	1,277.3	596.8
Impaired driving	234.3	169.0	399.0	278.8	283.2	216.9	141.6	252.5	520.2	364.4	335.6	1,013.3	1,056.3	480.1
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic offences ³	133.6	62.0	73.9	60.8	76.1	178.0	111.6	76.2	478.2	121.9	99.2	219.4	221.0	116.7
Federal statute offences	383.5	283.9	167.3	278.7	334.7	317.9	303.8	482.2	638.4	331.6	723.0	551.8	1,514.6	913.6
Drugs ⁴	285.9	164.0	134.7	214.7	239.4	252.4	225.1	163.2	310.2	258.2	606.7	309.8	1,019.0	816.9
Other federal statute offences	97.6	120.0	32.6	64.0	95.3	65.5	78.7	319.0	328.1	73.4	116.3	242.0	495.6	96.7

1. Constitutes the intentional application of force without consent, the attempt or threat to apply force to another person or openly wearing a weapon (or an imitation) while accosting or impeding another person.

2. Includes unlawfully causing bodily harm, discharging firearms with intent, abductions, assaults against police officers, assaults against other peace or public officers and other assaults.

3. Includes dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, boat, vessel or aircraft; dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, boat, vessel or aircraft causing bodily harm or death; driving a motor vehicle while prohibited; and failure to stop or remain.

4. Includes possession, trafficking, importation and production.

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 252-0013.

Table 7.2 Crimes, by type of offence, 2000 to 2005

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
	rate per 100,000 population					
All offences	8,432.6	8,453.7	8,504.0	8,902.5	8,954.9	8,512.6
<i>Criminal Code</i> offences (excluding traffic offences)	7,666.5	7,655.4	7,705.6	8,144.1	8,165.8	7,761.1
Crimes against the person	984.4	983.8	968.8	965.2	945.0	942.9
Homicide	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.7	2.0	2.0
Attempted murder	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.4
Assault (level 1 to 3) ¹	761.6	763.9	751.3	747.7	732.7	727.4
Sexual assault	78.2	77.5	78.1	74.3	72.1	72.2
Other sexual offences	10.2	8.7	8.8	8.1	8.2	8.5
Robbery	88.1	88.0	85.0	89.8	86.0	88.8
Other crimes against the person ²	42.1	41.7	41.6	41.4	42.1	41.5
Property crimes	4,080.9	4,003.5	3,973.2	4,121.5	3,971.9	3,737.6
Break and enter	955.9	900.9	878.4	899.7	862.8	804.2
Motor vehicle theft	522.4	543.5	516.1	550.1	531.6	496.1
Theft over \$5,000	69.6	67.2	63.2	61.3	53.1	54.2
Theft \$5,000 and under	2,160.5	2,126.3	2,127.1	2,212.3	2,107.9	1,985.5
Possession of stolen goods	93.0	86.9	95.8	104.7	111.8	104.9
Fraud	279.6	278.8	292.7	293.4	304.8	292.7
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences	2,601.2	2,668.1	2,763.6	3,057.5	3,248.9	3,080.7
<i>Criminal Code</i> traffic offences	366.4	387.6	374.8	369.8	377.3	368.0
Impaired driving	258.2	266.7	255.1	245.2	251.3	234.3
Other traffic offences ³	108.2	120.9	119.6	124.7	126.0	133.6
Federal statute offences	399.8	410.7	423.6	388.6	411.7	383.5
Drugs ⁴	287.0	288.2	295.7	274.1	305.3	285.9
Other federal statute offences	112.7	122.5	127.9	114.5	106.4	97.6

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4. Includes possession, trafficking, importation and production.

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 252-0013.

Table 7.3 Persons charged, by type of offence, 1995 and 2005

	1995			2005		
	Youth and adults charged	Youths charged	Adults charged	Youth and adults charged	Youths charged	Adults charged
	rate per 100,000 population					
All offences	2,781.2	5,402.4	2,498.9	2,196.5	3,297.9	2,084.8
<i>Criminal Code</i> offences (excluding traffic offences)	2,158.8	5,060.8	1,846.3	1,698.4	2,864.2	1,580.2
Crimes against the person	570.2	941.2	530.3	492.1	782.4	462.6
Homicide	2.3	2.6	2.3	2.0	2.5	1.9
Attempted murder	3.3	3.6	3.3	2.0	1.8	2.0
Assault (level 1 to 3) ¹	437.1	666.8	412.4	384.7	549.0	368.1
Sexual assault	44.1	66.5	41.7	28.4	48.2	26.4
Other sexual offences	4.9	8.0	4.5	2.6	5.6	2.2
Robbery	40.9	148.3	29.3	38.0	128.5	28.8
Other crimes against the person ²	37.7	45.5	36.8	34.3	46.7	33.1
Property crimes	926.5	2,856.4	718.7	533.4	1,045.1	481.5
Break and enter	190.5	782.4	126.8	92.9	316.9	70.1
Motor vehicle theft	63.2	288.4	38.9	36.4	127.4	27.1
Theft over \$5,000	18.6	38.4	16.5	6.8	8.3	6.7
Theft \$5,000 and under	433.7	1,377.7	332.1	229.6	372.9	215.1
Possession of stolen goods	94.6	273.1	75.3	88.2	175.9	79.3
Fraud	126.0	96.6	129.2	79.5	43.6	83.2
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences	662.0	1,263.2	597.3	673.0	1,036.7	636.1
<i>Criminal Code</i> traffic offences	403.0	0.0	446.4	267.4	0.0	294.6
Impaired driving	342.8	0.0	379.8	215.0	0.0	236.8
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic offences ³	60.2	0.0	66.6	52.5	0.0	57.8
Federal statute offences	219.4	341.7	206.3	230.6	433.7	210.0
Drugs ⁴	174.7	212.5	170.6	185.4	221.2	181.7
Other federal statute offences	44.8	129.1	35.7	45.3	212.5	28.3

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4. Includes possession, trafficking, importation and production.

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 252-0014.

Table 7.4 Homicides, by province and territory, 2003 to 2005

	2003		2004		2005	
	number	rate per 100,000 people	number	rate per 100,000 people	number	rate per 100,000 people
Canada	549	1.7	624	2.0	658	2.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	5	0.1	2	0.4	9	1.7
Prince Edward Island	1	0.7	0	0.0	0	0.0
Nova Scotia	8	0.9	14	1.5	20	2.1
New Brunswick	8	1.1	7	0.9	9	1.2
Quebec	99	1.3	111	1.5	100	1.3
Ontario	178	1.5	187	1.5	218	1.7
Manitoba	43	3.7	50	4.3	49	4.2
Saskatchewan	41	4.1	39	3.9	43	4.3
Alberta	64	2.0	86	2.7	109	3.4
British Columbia	94	2.3	113	2.7	98	2.3
Yukon	1	3.3	7	22.7	1	3.2
Northwest Territories	4	9.5	4	9.3	0	0.0
Nunavut	3	10.3	4	13.5	2	6.7

Note: Homicide includes murder, manslaughter and infanticide.

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 253-0001.

Table 7.5 Homicides, by method, 2003 to 2005

	2003		2004		2005	
	number	%	number	%	number	%
All methods	549	100.0	624	100.0	658	100.0
Shooting	161	29.3	173	27.7	222	33.7
Stabbing	142	25.9	205	32.9	198	30.1
Beating	121	22.0	136	21.8	145	22.0
Strangulation	64	11.7	63	10.1	45	6.8
Fire (burns/suffocation)	12	2.2	13	2.1	7	1.1
Other methods	27	4.9	21	3.4	24	3.6
Not known	22	4.0	13	2.1	17	2.6

Note: Homicide includes murder, manslaughter and infanticide.

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 253-0002.

Table 7.6 Solved homicides, by type of accused–victim relationship, 2000 to 2005

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
	number					
Total accused–victim relationship	420	453	468	430	476	478
Total family relationships	132	187	184	142	163	156
Spouse	69	89	84	78	75	74
Parent	31	43	36	31	36	20
Other family relationship	32	55	64	33	52	62
Other intimate relationship	24	13	17	11	24	16
Acquaintance	187	185	188	207	214	217
Stranger	72	62	72	61	73	86
Accused–victim relationship unknown	5	6	7	9	2	3

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 253-0006.

Table 7.7 Homicides, by census metropolitan area, 1995 to 2005

	Average from 1995 to 2004		population of census metropolitan area ²	2005 ¹	
	number	rate per 100,000 population		number	rate per 100,000 population
Population of 500,000 or more					
Toronto	81	1.7	5,306,912	104	2.0
Montréal ³	70	2.0	3,675,155	48	1.3
Vancouver ⁴	53	2.6	2,156,509	62	2.9
Calgary	15	1.6	1,061,524	26	2.5
Edmonton ³	24	2.5	1,024,946	44	4.3
Ottawa ⁵	10	1.2	876,798	11	1.3
Québec	8	1.2	720,787	5	0.7
Winnipeg	21	3.1	698,791	26	3.7
Hamilton ⁶	11	1.7	697,239	11	1.6
Population from 100,000 to 499,999					
Kitchener	5	1.0	485,248	7	1.4
London	5	1.0	471,033	14	3.0
St. Catharines–Niagara	6	1.4	434,347	14	3.2
Halifax	7	2.0	380,844	10	2.6
Victoria	6	1.9	336,030	2	0.6
Oshawa	2	0.8	333,617	1	0.3
Windsor	6	2.0	333,163	5	1.5
Gatineau ⁷	4	1.3	284,963	3	1.1
Saskatoon	6	2.5	244,826	9	3.7
Regina	6	3.2	201,435	8	4.0
St. John's	2	1.1	181,527	2	1.1
Abbotsford ⁸	5	3.0	162,907	4	2.5
Greater Sudbury / Grand Sudbury	3	1.6	160,912	2	1.2
Kingston ^{8,9}	3	1.6	154,389	5	3.2
Sherbrooke	2	1.1	148,225	0	0.0
Saguenay	1	0.8	147,071	1	0.7
Trois-Rivières	2	1.0	145,567	0	0.0
Saint John	1	0.9	145,363	0	0.0
Thunder Bay	2	1.8	124,262	3	2.4

1. Thirteen homicides included in the 2005 totals occurred in previous years: two in Montréal, one in Toronto, one in Kitchener, one in Edmonton, three in Vancouver and five in areas with a population less than 100,000.

2. Estimates have been revised and adjusted by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics to correspond with police boundaries.

3. Includes one homicide that occurred in a correctional institution in 2005.

4. As a result of ongoing investigations in Port Coquitlam, British Columbia, there were five homicides reported in the Vancouver total for 2004 that occurred in previous years, since homicides are counted according to the year in which police file the report.

5. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of Ottawa–Gatineau.

6. Includes one homicide that occurred in a correctional institution in 2004.

7. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of Ottawa–Gatineau.

8. Abbotsford and Kingston became census metropolitan areas in 2001. Average number and rate are calculated from 2001 to 2004.

9. Includes one homicide that occurred in a correctional institution and one that occurred in a halfway house in 2005.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 85-002-XIE.

Table 7.8 Adult criminal court, cases sentenced to prison, 1999 to 2003

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
	number				
All offences	74,309	74,941	86,399	88,990	83,077
<i>Criminal Code</i> offences	68,713	69,494	80,197	82,624	77,326
Crimes against the person	17,045	17,491	20,352	20,803	18,736
Homicide	89	100	142	129	105
Attempted murder	50	36	38	69	35
Robbery	969	766	939	876	738
Sexual assault	482	480	466	436	398
Other sexual offences	4,819	5,036	5,704	6,037	5,387
Major assault	5,227	5,516	6,254	6,398	5,615
Common assault	2,865	2,999	3,615	3,661	3,327
Uttering threats	343	399	508	502	497
Criminal harassment	1,847	1,757	2,188	2,192	2,173
Other crimes against the person ¹	354	402	498	503	461
Property crimes	20,843	19,859	23,659	24,447	23,601
Theft	5,106	4,659	4,920	5,021	4,795
Break and enter	7,224	6,901	9,099	9,477	9,405
Fraud	1,041	1,100	1,328	1,368	1,207
Mischief	3,767	3,536	4,345	4,467	4,343
Possession of stolen property	3,505	3,495	3,789	3,898	3,641
Other property crimes	200	168	178	216	210
Administration of justice	17,806	19,600	22,708	24,049	23,075
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences	4,533	4,456	5,003	5,213	4,736
<i>Criminal Code</i> traffic offences	8,486	8,088	8,475	8,112	7,178
Impaired driving	5,249	5,035	5,143	4,950	4,167
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic offences ²	3,237	3,053	3,332	3,162	3,011
Federal statute offences	5,596	5,447	6,202	6,366	5,751
Drug possession	945	945	1,182	1,193	1,104
Drug trafficking	2,214	2,227	2,841	3,011	2,520
<i>Youth Criminal Justice Act</i>	426	458	507	480	253
Residual federal statute offences	2,011	1,817	1,672	1,682	1,874

Notes: Adult Criminal Court Survey data are not reported by Manitoba and Nunavut. The Northwest Territories last participated in the survey in 1999/2000. The survey's data for 2002/2003 were revised because of a data processing error. Revisions primarily affected the 2002/2003 case count for Quebec. Since 2001/2002, adult criminal courts in nine provinces and one territory reported to the survey. Reporting jurisdictions include Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia and Yukon. These jurisdictions represent approximately 90% of the completed adult criminal court caseload in Canada. New Brunswick and British Columbia began reporting to the survey in 2001/2002.

Excludes cases where the length of the prison sentence was not known and cases where the length was specified as indeterminate.

1. Includes unlawfully causing bodily harm, discharging firearms with intent, abductions, assaults against police officers, assaults against other peace or public officers and other assaults.
2. Includes dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, boat, vessel or aircraft; dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, boat, vessel or aircraft causing bodily harm or death; driving a motor vehicle while prohibited; and failure to stop or remain.

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 252-0021.

Table 7.9 Youth court, sentenced cases, by outcome, 2003

	Cases sentenced to custody		Cases sentenced to probation	
	number	median days of sentence	number	median days of sentence
All offences	9,084	33	25,261	360
<i>Criminal Code</i> offences	7,433	40	21,727	360
Crimes against the person	2,774	60	8,806	360
Homicide	11	720	3	360
Attempted murder	4	450	8	360
Robbery	119	180	481	540
Sexual assault	46	120	241	540
Other sexual offences	732	65	2,076	360
Major assault	841	30	3,594	360
Common assault	335	33	1,120	360
Uttering threats	22	52	88	360
Criminal harassment	615	112	1,071	360
Other crimes against the person ¹	49	120	124	360
Property crimes	2,834	45	9,788	360
Theft	1,087	60	3,385	360
Break and enter	865	30	3,191	360
Fraud	105	28	969	360
Mischief	625	40	1,565	360
Possession of stolen property	120	40	506	360
Other property crimes	32	60	172	360
Administration of justice	1,383	20	1,590	360
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> offences	378	40	1,221	360
<i>Criminal Code</i> traffic offences	64	60	322	360
Impaired driving	3	40	111	360
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic offences ²	61	60	211	360
Federal statute offences	1,651	20	3,534	360
Drug possession	32	18	343	360
Drug trafficking	114	60	726	360
<i>Youth Criminal Justice Act / Young Offenders Act</i>	1,411	20	2,369	360
Other federal statute offences	94	9	96	207

1. Includes unlawfully causing bodily harm, discharging firearms with intent, abductions, assaults against police officers, assaults against other peace or public officers and other assaults.

2. Includes dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, boat, vessel or aircraft; dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, boat, vessel or aircraft causing bodily harm or death; driving a motor vehicle while prohibited; and failure to stop or remain.

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 252-0041.

Table 7.10 Composition of the adult correctional population, 2002 to 2005

	2002	2003	2004	2005
	number			
All correctional services	154,653	159,013	154,351	152,618
Custodial supervision	32,012	32,523	31,747	32,117
All provincial/territorial custody	19,262	19,685	19,368	19,816
Provincial/territorial custody, sentenced	10,931	10,607	9,863	9,830
Remand	7,980	8,727	9,163	9,640
Other temporary detention, provincial/territorial	351	351	342	346
Federal custody, sentenced	12,750	12,838	12,380	12,301
Community supervision	122,641	126,490	122,604	120,500
All provincial community supervision	115,243	119,268	115,510	113,546
Probation	101,915	105,061	100,993	98,805
Provincial parole	1,388	1,014	885	810
Conditional sentences	11,941	13,193	13,632	13,931
Community releases ¹	7,397	7,222	7,094	6,954

Note: Data refer to the average daily midnight count of offenders who are legally required to be at a facility and are present at the time a head count is taken.

1. Movement from custody to federal conditional release and includes provincial/territorial and federal offenders on day parole and full parole, and federal offenders on statutory release. Offenders released on warrant expiry and other release types are excluded.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 85-002-XIE.

Table 7.11 Adult correctional services, incarceration and probation rates in federal, provincial and territorial programs, selected years from 1994 to 2004

	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2004
	rate per 100,000 adults					
Incarceration rates¹						
Canada²	155	150	141	134	133	129
Provinces and territories ³	91	87	84	80	81	79
Federal jurisdiction ⁴	64	63	57	54	52	49
Probation rates						
Canada²	462	462	444	438	433	396
Provinces and territories ³	462	462	444	438	433	396
Federal jurisdiction ⁴

Note: Not all variables are applicable to or available for all jurisdictions. Interjurisdictional comparisons of the data should be made with caution.

1. Based on total actual-in counts.

2. Represents the total or weighted average of provincial, territorial and federal jurisdiction figures.

3. Represents the total for all reporting jurisdictions and therefore does not represent a complete provincial and territorial total where data for some jurisdictions are incomplete or not available. The sentenced and other actual-in counts for 1999/2000 and 2000/2001 were revised in 2003/2004.

4. Federal values represent the total of the five Correctional Service Canada regions.

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 251-0004.

Abbreviations and symbols



Provinces and territories

Newfoundland and Labrador	N.L.
Prince Edward Island	P.E.I.
Nova Scotia	N.S.
New Brunswick	N.B.
Quebec	Que.
Ontario	Ont.
Manitoba	Man.
Saskatchewan	Sask.
Alberta	Alta.
British Columbia	B.C.
Yukon	Y.T.
Northwest Territories	N.W.T.
Nunavut	Nvt.

Measurements

centimetre	cm
metre	m
kilometre	km
gram	g
kilogram	kg
litre	L
millilitre	mL
hour	h
watt	W
kilowatt	kW
degrees Celsius	°C

The symbols described in this document apply to all data published by Statistics Canada from all origins, including surveys, censuses and administrative sources, as well as straight tabulations and all estimations.

.	not available for any reference period
..	not available for a specific reference period
...	not applicable
0	true zero or a value rounded to zero
0 ^s	value rounded to zero where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
P	preliminary
r	revised
x	suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the <i>Statistics Act</i>
E	use with caution
F	too unreliable to be published

Note: In some tables, figures may not add to totals because of rounding.

When the figure is not accompanied by a data quality symbol, it means that the quality of the data was assessed to be 'acceptable or better' according to the policies and standards of Statistics Canada.

The statistics in this edition are the most up-to-date available at the time of its preparation. For more recent data, visit Canadian Statistics at www.statcan.ca