

Crime Severity Index For Canada's Largest Seven Cities

Source: Statistics Canada. Table 35-10-0026-01 Crime severity index and weighted clearance rates, Canada, provinces, territories and Census Metropolitan Areas

Census Metropolitan Area	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Montréal, Quebec										
Crime severity index	75.1	66.62	60.87	61.47	58.7	59.05	58.21	57.71	52.82	55.93
Violent crime severity index	88.78	80.13	73.28	77.44	72.28	74.41	71.92	75.98	73.13	82.04
Non-violent crime severity index	69.97	61.56	56.22	55.53	53.67	53.39	53.14	51	45.39	46.4
Ottawa-Gatineau										
Crime severity index	59.96	51.16	47.88	48.52	52.24	52.5	55.05	56.93	48.47	49.32
Violent crime severity index	61.46	58.62	52.16	54.74	63.12	65.5	69.82	69.87	60.15	64.69
Non-violent crime severity index	59.29	48.34	46.22	46.16	48.2	47.71	49.61	52.15	44.16	43.68
Toronto, Ontario										
Crime severity index	52.74	47.12	45.07	46.16	47.88	49.86	53.8	54.15	46.19	45.45
Violent crime severity index	79.14	67.99	63.8	65.7	70.64	73.44	79.01	77.91	66.23	65.01
Non-violent crime severity index	43.02	39.42	38.17	38.96	39.58	41.26	44.6	45.48	38.87	38.31
Winnipeg, Manitoba										
Crime severity index	98.41	84.13	81.58	90.35	103.45	108.64	119.91	132.09	116.55	113.55

Attachment 2

Violent crime severity index	148.8	121.69	117.16	125.98	145.38	155.36	162.53	174.9	155.18	159.62
Non-violent crime severity index	79.87	70.29	68.46	77.2	88.13	91.57	104.3	116.37	102.38	96.71
Calgary, Alberta										
Crime severity index	61.28	61.28	61.06	79.77	78.35	83.64	89.34	93.46	79.17	72.27
Violent crime severity index	61.83	62.99	64.46	73.52	64.82	76.03	80.37	85.21	78.86	82.74
Non-violent crime severity index	60.95	60.53	59.7	81.87	83.03	86.17	92.36	96.21	79.1	68.34
Edmonton, Alberta										
Crime severity index	84.68	85.86	88.48	103.42	107.37	113.63	116.49	115.68	105.37	97.45
Violent crime severity index	96.09	91.54	94.8	105.95	102.95	108.19	108.96	110.3	111.91	109.98
Non-violent crime severity index	80.35	83.62	86	102.29	108.7	115.32	118.92	117.35	102.77	92.72
Vancouver, British Columbia										
Crime severity index	94.44	89.12	94.27	94.33	92.83	86.77	85.65	95.43	88.65	81.64
Violent crime severity index	94.34	81.87	77.57	83.83	71.08	69.59	69.18	80.79	77.43	79
Non-violent crime severity index	94.28	91.58	100.15	97.96	100.43	92.75	91.37	100.47	92.48	82.4

Notes:

1. The crime severity index is calculated using Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR2) data. Incident-based UCR2 data are not available for all respondents. In order to report this level of detail for police services still reporting to the Aggregate Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) over this time, a process of imputation was applied to derive counts for violations that do not exist on their own in the aggregate survey. For approximately 80% of the aggregate offence codes, there is a 1:1 mapping with a new incident-based

- violation code. For violations where this was not the case, such as the aggregate other Criminal Code category, it was necessary to estimate (impute) this figure using the distribution of other Criminal Code offences from existing Incident-based UCR2 respondents.
2. 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.
 3. The methodology for calculating census metropolitan area (CMA) populations was modified in 2003. Starting in 1996, the populations for CMAs have been adjusted to reflect the actual policing boundaries within the CMA and do not reflect the official Statistics Canada population for these CMAs. CMA data are included within province-level data.
 4. Police reported statistics may be affected by differences in the way police services deal with minor offences. In some instances, police or municipalities might choose 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.
 5. In January 2018, the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) definitions of "founded" and "unfounded" criminal incidents were updated to reflect a more victim-centred approach for recording crimes that consider the complexities of certain offences such as sexual assault, family violence and intimate partner violence. Under the new reporting standards, specific offences may be more likely reported by police as founded rather than unfounded (or unsubstantiated), which would exclude them from police-reported crime rates and crime severity indices. Data for 2019 represent the first complete year of UCR data collected under the new reporting standards. As a result, for selected violations and police services, the actual proportion of incidents in 2019 that were classified as "not cleared" has increased. Use caution when comparing these data with prior years.
 6. A high crime rate or Crime Severity Index (CSI) may indicate that a municipality is a geographical area that provides commercial business, human or public services, or entertainment for many people who reside outside, as well as inside, the municipality. As a result, these municipalities may have large part-time or temporary populations which are excluded from both their population bases and their crime rate and CSI calculations.
 7. It is important to note that while official police-reported data on crime from the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey use Statistics Canada's standard Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) names, the boundaries for the policing-based CMAs do not always fully align with the standard CMA geographic units used for disseminating information about the Census of Population.
 8. In 2016, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) detachment in Montréal underwent an exercise in making corrective measures to address under-counting of incidents importation/exportation and trafficking of drug offences. In response, Statistics Canada applied estimates to the 2015 revised data. As a result, numbers and rates from 2015 onwards should not be compared to data prior to 2015.
 9. In 2020, the Montréal CMA in Quebec accounted for the majority of the national decrease in importation or exportation offences reported under the Cannabis Act, decreasing 72% (4,180 fewer incidents) from 2019 to 2020. The large decrease in offences year-over-year was due in part to fewer postal seizures and seizures conducted by the Canada Border Services Agency in Montréal since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.
 10. Between April 1 and September 30 2014, the British Columbia Integrated Child Exploitation Unit (BC ICE) undertook a proactive project to record Internet Protocol (IP) addresses in possession of, and possibly sharing child pornography. This resulted in an increase in reported child pornography violations that year and all incidents detected by the BC ICE unit were recorded in the records management system used by Surrey Police Service. Therefore, while the incidents were reported through Surrey and appear in crime statistics for Surrey (and

the Vancouver census metropolitan area [CMA] as Surrey is within this CMA's boundaries), neither the incidents themselves nor the offenders are limited to Surrey.

11. The increase in incidents of child pornography between 2015 and 2016 in Vancouver can be in part attributed to a proactive project initiated by the British Columbia Integrated Child Exploitation Unit which recorded Internet Protocol (IP) addresses that were in possession of, and possibly sharing child pornography. As the initiative focused on Vancouver in 2016, notable increases in these offences were reported by this jurisdiction. As a result, comparison with previous years should be done with caution.
12. In 2020, the Vancouver CMA in British Columbia accounted for 56% of all importation or exportation offences reported under the Cannabis Act (4,194 of the 7,552 offences reported nationally). The high proportion of offences was due in part to seizure cases, conducted by the Canada Border Services Agency and the Canada Post Mail Centre in the Vancouver CMA, being forwarded for processing and investigation to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). As a result of this exchange, the year in which occurrences were reported by the RCMP may not always correspond to the year in which they occurred.
13. The crime severity index includes all Criminal Code violations including traffic, as well as drug violations and all Federal Statutes.
14. The Crime Severity Index (CSI) measures changes in the level of severity of crime in Canada from year to year. In the index, all crimes are assigned a weight based on their seriousness. The level of seriousness is based on actual sentences handed down by the courts in all provinces and territories. More serious crimes are assigned higher weights, less serious offences lower weights. As a result, more serious offences have a greater impact on changes in the index. The PRCSI is standardized to 100 in base year 2006. CSI weights are updated using data from the Integrated Criminal Courts Survey (ICCS) every 5 years. 2017 marks the second update to the CSI weights since 1998. 2016 revised and 2017 CSI data are presented here using the updated weights and may have a marginal impact on the CSI data itself.
15. Population figures reflect only the permanent or resident population of a jurisdiction. Where a jurisdiction serves as the centre for commercial businesses, human or public services, or entertainment, it may have substantial "part-time" populations, e.g., tourists, cabin owners, commuters, students, and seasonal staff. These temporary populations, whose permanent residence is within another jurisdiction, are excluded from a jurisdiction's population figures. This may be a factor to consider when examining the crime rate and Crime Severity Index for some municipalities.
16. The violent crime severity index includes all Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR2) violent violations, some of which were not previously included in the aggregate violent crime category, including uttering threats, criminal harassment and forcible confinement.
17. The non-violent crime severity index includes all non-violent Criminal Code violations including traffic, as well as drug violations and all Federal Statutes.