



Halton Regional Police Service Public Agenda Recommendation Report

To: Chair and Police Board Members

From: Chief Stephen J. Tanner

Subject: ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR REPORTING PERIOD: 2024

Report #: P25-03-R-05

Date: March 27, 2025

RECOMMENDATION:

"That the Halton Police Board receives the Annual Performance Report for the 2024 reporting period - for information and discussion."

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. Tanner", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Stephen J. Tanner
Chief of Police

:KF/KM

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

This report presents an overview of the Service's 2024 performance in a number of key statistical measures compared to previous years. New to this performance report is analysis related to the 2024 – 2027 Strategic Plan's five key objectives, and also bail breach arrests as requested by the Board.

Statistical Summary

This section of the report provides a statistical summary for 2023 and 2024, in addition to presenting a summary of five-year trends. Data was obtained from the in-house Niche Records Management System (RMS) and was analysed by the *Police Analytics Unit* and the *Planning and Research Unit* for inclusion in this report. The crime categories are slightly different to those reported by Statistics Canada each year due to the reporting requirements, timing and data manipulation processes utilized by Statistics Canada. Official 2024 statistics for Halton will be issued by Statistics Canada in July 2025, and will be reported to the Police Services Board in September. The statistics contained within this report are valid for internal year-end comparison purposes.

All crime rates presented in this document have been updated back to 2020 - using recent population forecasts developed by the Halton Region and four local municipalities in late 2023.

Analysis indicates that 705 more criminal offences were reported in 2024 (15,967) than were recorded in 2023 (15,262). This is a raw number increase of 4.6%, but represents only an increase in the crime rateⁱ of 0.4% when regional population growth is taken into account.

Violent crimeⁱⁱ offences decreased by 5.6% from 2,518 in 2023 to 2,377 in 2024. This represents a violent crime rate decrease of 9.4%. These crimes accounted for 14.8% of all criminal offences, down from 16.4% in 2023.

Property crimeⁱⁱⁱ increased by 10.7% from 11,254 in 2023 to 12,455 in 2024. This represents a property crime rate increase of 6.2%. These crimes accounted for 78.0% of all criminal offences in 2024, which has increased from 73.7% in 2023.

The “Other Crimes”^{iv} category of offences was down by 23.8% in 2024 (from 1,490 to 1,135 offences). This represents a crime rate decrease of 26.9% in this category of crime.

The 2024 clearance rate^v (34.9%) was down from the 2023 value (38.3%).

It is clear that Property Crime has taken up a greater proportion of overall crime during this period (rising from 65.9% of all criminal offences in 2020, to 78.0% in 2024). As a result of this increased “share” of total crime, the impact on overall clearance rates by the Property Crime sector has also grown. Consequently, the declining overall clearance rate in Halton between 2020 and 2024 is directly attributable to the growth of property crime and the decrease in violent crime, given that property crimes are cleared (solved) at lower rates.

Other Trends

Reportable motor vehicle collision totals were 5.3% higher during 2024, compared to 2023 (up from 9,955 to 10,480). Property damage collisions^{vii} were up from 8,937 to 9,434 (5.6%). Injury collision^{viii} totals were up 3.3% in 2024, rising from 1,004 to 1,037. Fatal collisions decreased from 14 in 2023, to 9 in 2024.

Impaired driving apprehensions were down 12.8% in 2024 (from 446 to 389). This is the lowest count in the past 5 years.

Warning Notices (Warns) provide officers with an opportunity to document an offence and educate the public, but proceed by way of a warning option instead of a charge. Total enforcement (including Warns) was up by 7.3% to 39,234 (from 36,551 in 2023).

Total CAD Events^{vi} increased by 224, or 0.2%, to 139,119 (from 138,895 in 2023).

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

Five Year Statistical Trends

The following four tables provide a summary of selected crime and workload trends over the past five years for a selection of key crime types and measures (for the Region as a whole, and the three Districts individually). The statistics presented below, excluding clearances, are ***expressed as a rate*** (per 100,000 population) to remove the impact of population growth. Official Halton statistics will be released by Statistics Canada in July 2025:

Halton Region:

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	5-Year Average
Robbery	14	11	24	17	19	17
Assault	203	190	217	195	193	200
Sexual Assault	27	35	41	29	25	31
<i>Violent Crime</i>	<i>358</i>	<i>339</i>	<i>419</i>	<i>375</i>	<i>339</i>	<i>366</i>
Break and Enter	108	110	127	132	152	126
Auto Theft	91	142	202	253	200	178
Theft	557	614	821	889	928	762
Fraud	137	165	219	231	322	215
<i>Property Crime</i>	<i>1,075</i>	<i>1,211</i>	<i>1,571</i>	<i>1,674</i>	<i>1,779</i>	<i>1,462</i>
<i>Other Criminal Code</i>	<i>199</i>	<i>316</i>	<i>355</i>	<i>222</i>	<i>162</i>	<i>251</i>
Total Crime	1,632	1,866	2,345	2,270	2,280	2,079
Impaired Driving	82	80	65	66	56	70
Property Damage Collisions	911	878	1,198	1,330	1,347	1,133
Personal Injury Collisions	110	124	145	149	148	135
PONs and Warns Issued	8,236	6,405	5,839	5,438	5,602	6,304
CAD Events	24,172	21,780	20,875	20,663	19,866	21,471
Crime Clearance Rate	52.1%	43.8%	40.8%	38.3%	34.9%	42.0%

District 1:

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	5-Year Average
Robbery	13	11	18	19	10	14
Assault	210	205	220	186	185	201
Sexual Assault	20	35	43	26	20	29
<i>Violent Crime</i>	338	355	396	372	320	356
Break and Enter	83	66	77	83	93	80
Auto Theft	91	144	200	203	155	158
Theft	502	565	642	661	851	644
Fraud	115	138	158	178	220	162
<i>Property Crime</i>	965	1,058	1,255	1,269	1,470	1,203
<i>Other Criminal Code</i>	281	528	653	351	193	401
Total Crime	1,584	1,941	2,303	1,991	1,983	1,960
Impaired Driving	98	73	70	64	57	74
Property Damage Collisions	898	866	1,246	795	937	948
Personal Injury Collisions	127	133	183	76	157	135
PONs and Warns Issued	8,179	5,480	5,511	5,158	5,201	5,934
CAD Events	24,969	19,489	19,360	18,955	17,645	20,084
Crime Clearance Rate	60.1%	49.7%	49.8%	48.6%	35.8%	48.8%

District 2:

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	5-Year Average
Robbery	16	9	31	17	26	20
Assault	201	174	188	188	181	186
Sexual Assault	29	33	37	30	23	30
<i>Violent Crime</i>	<i>369</i>	<i>326</i>	<i>391</i>	<i>341</i>	<i>335</i>	<i>353</i>
Break and Enter	110	114	152	157	187	144
Auto Theft	88	159	224	339	243	211
Theft	514	583	789	905	859	730
Fraud	164	170	231	241	364	234
<i>Property Crime</i>	<i>1,067</i>	<i>1,204</i>	<i>1,580</i>	<i>1,790</i>	<i>1,827</i>	<i>1,494</i>
<i>Other Criminal Code</i>	<i>169</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>136</i>	<i>133</i>	<i>151</i>
Total Crime	1,605	1,688	2,131	2,268	2,294	1,997
Impaired Driving	63	64	51	54	39	55
Property Damage Collisions	861	849	1,073	774	905	892
Personal Injury Collisions	92	113	109	64	116	99
PONs and Warns Issued	7,479	7,346	6,011	6,063	5,550	6,527
CAD Events	22,062	20,822	19,473	20,231	19,549	20,427
Crime Clearance Rate	50.6%	40.0%	33.6%	31.5%	32.5%	37.7%

District 3:

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	5-Year Average
Robbery	13	11	21	15	21	16
Assault	198	192	244	209	214	211
Sexual Assault	34	36	43	31	32	35
<i>Violent Crime</i>	<i>365</i>	<i>334</i>	<i>470</i>	<i>409</i>	<i>362</i>	<i>388</i>
Break and Enter	132	151	151	155	177	153
Auto Theft	92	118	178	209	202	160
Theft	652	672	992	1,108	1,070	899
Fraud	130	187	268	275	375	247
<i>Property Crime</i>	<i>1,182</i>	<i>1,341</i>	<i>1,821</i>	<i>1,966</i>	<i>2,030</i>	<i>1,668</i>
<i>Other Criminal Code</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>270</i>	<i>252</i>	<i>171</i>	<i>156</i>	<i>200</i>
Total Crime	1,695	1,945	2,543	2,546	2,548	2,255
Impaired Driving	61	104	76	68	65	77
Property Damage Collisions	979	926	1,279	953	1,109	1,049
Personal Injury Collisions	113	126	144	78	133	119
PONs and Warns Issued	7,144	6,255	5,247	3,869	5,140	5,587
CAD Events	23,381	22,985	21,485	20,318	20,701	21,774
Crime Clearance Rate	46.5%	42.2%	39.8%	36.3%	36.9%	40.4%

Key Trends

The following graphs give a quick visual update of the five-year trends in key measures tracked by the Service. The statistics presented below, excluding the clearance rate, are **expressed as a rate** (per 100,000 population) to remove the impact of population growth. The following data is for the Halton Regional Police Service only:

Figure 1: Assault Crime Rate

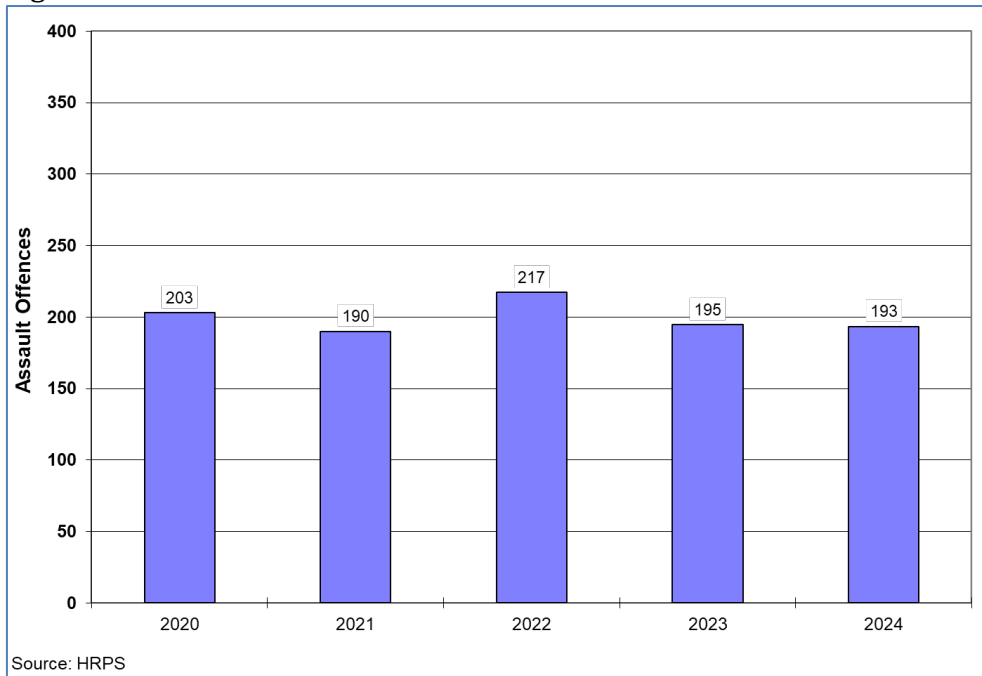


Figure 2: Violent Crime Rate

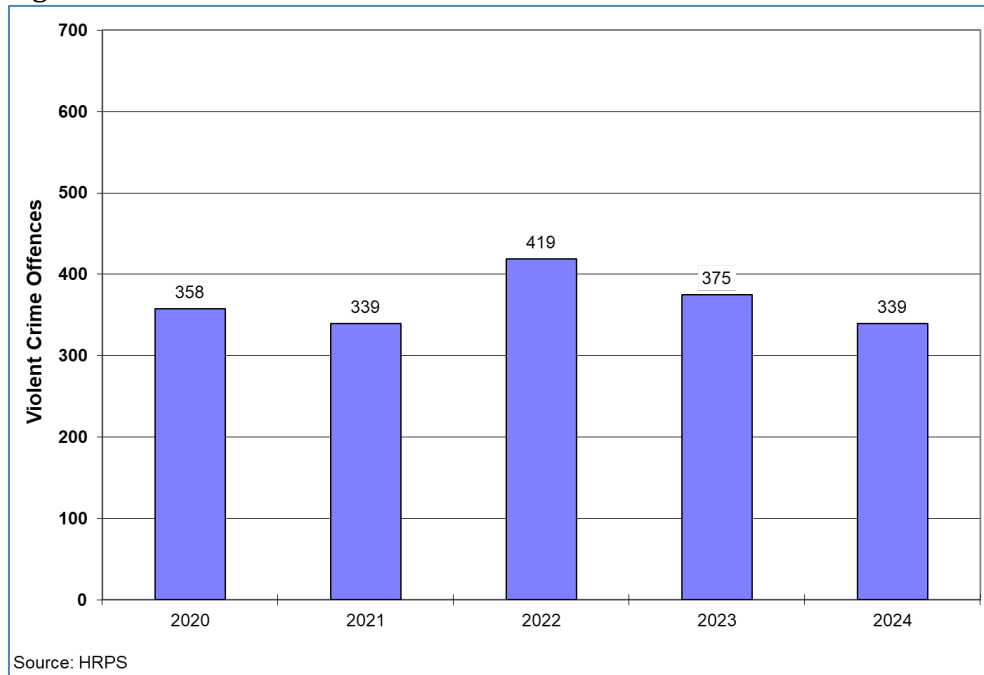


Figure 3: Theft Crime Rate

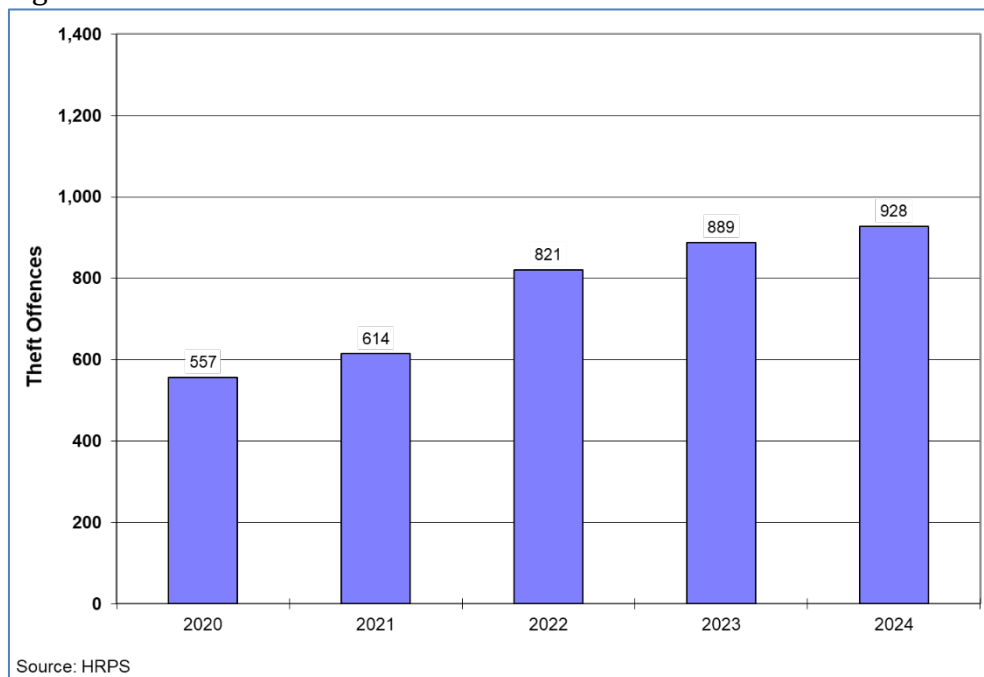


Figure 4: Auto Theft Crime Rate

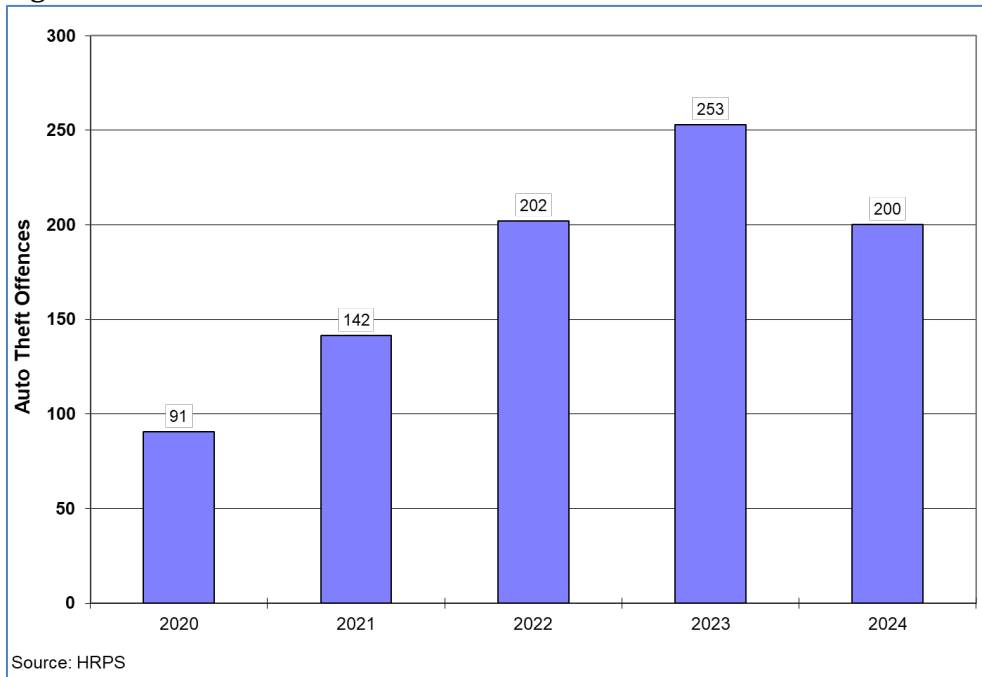


Figure 5: Property Crime Rate

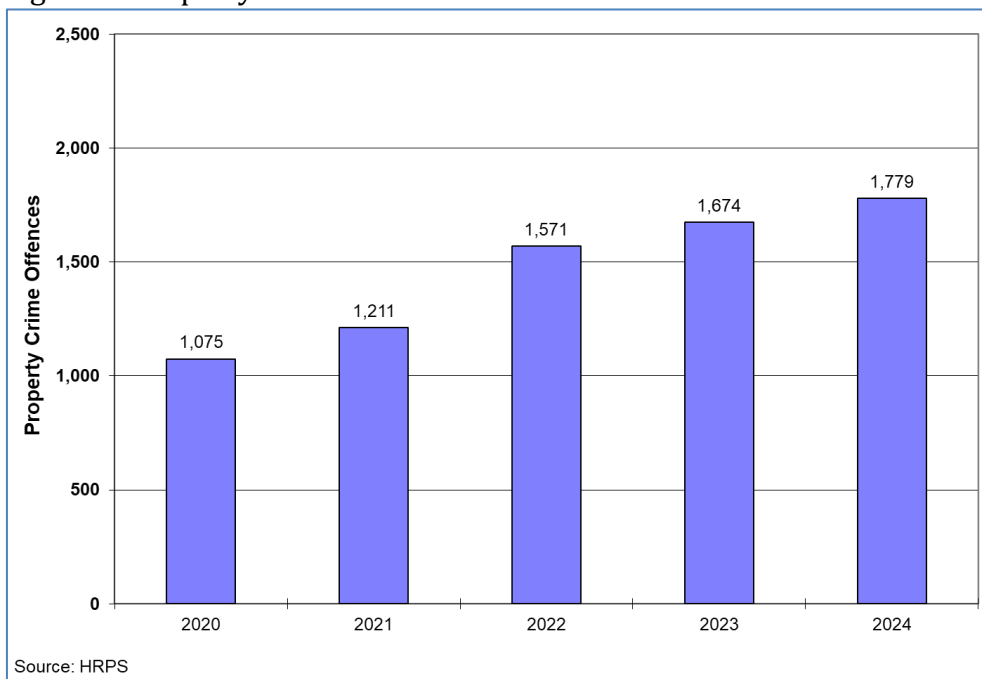


Figure 6: Overall Crime Rate

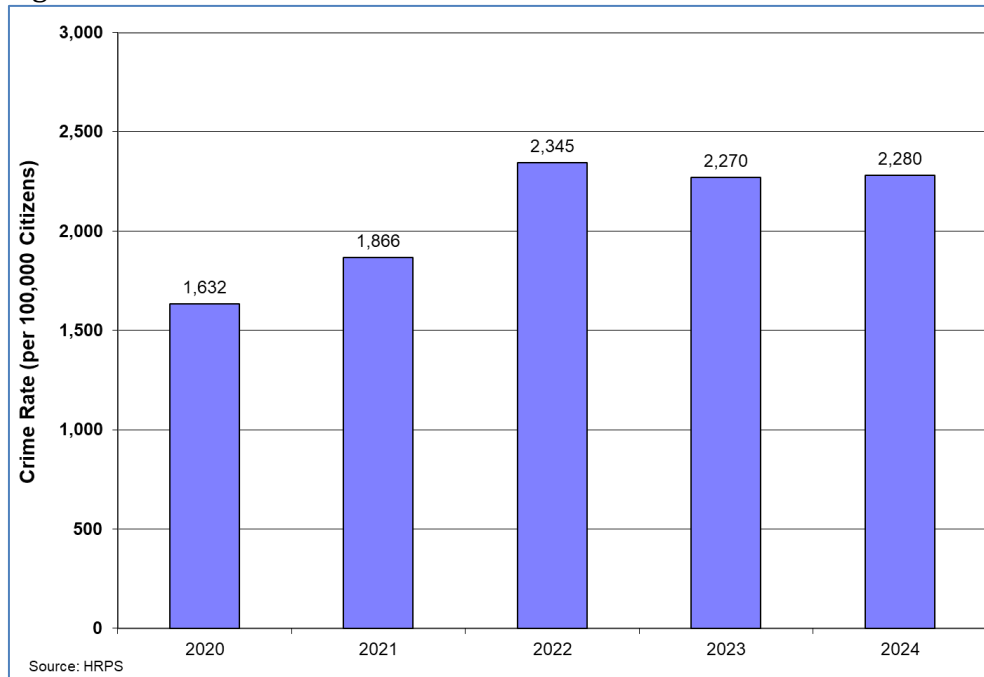


Figure 7: Crime Clearance Rate

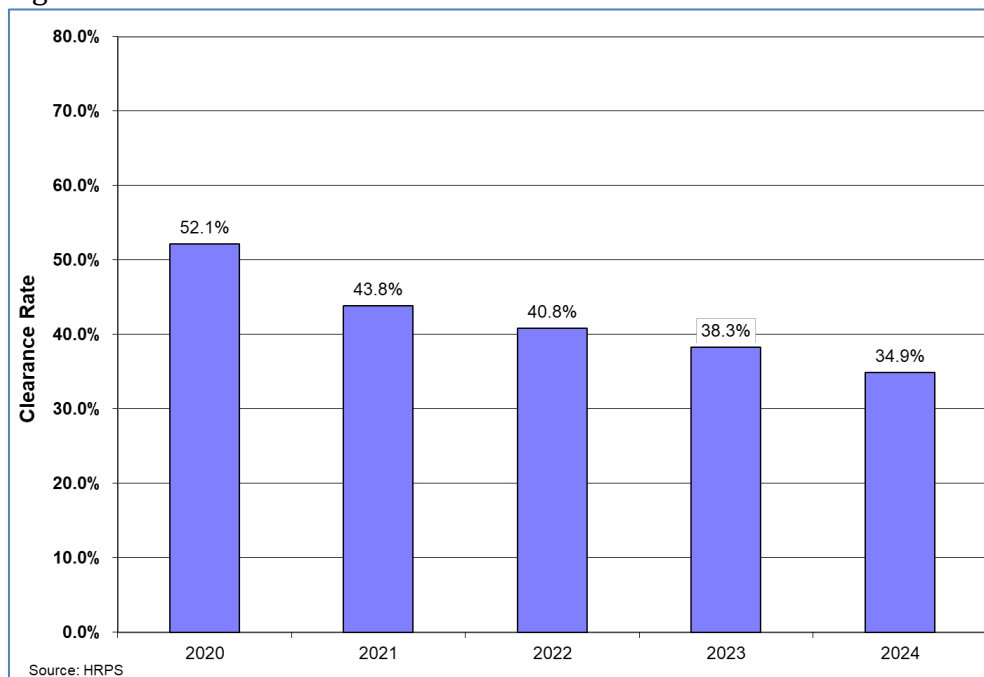


Figure 8: CAD Events

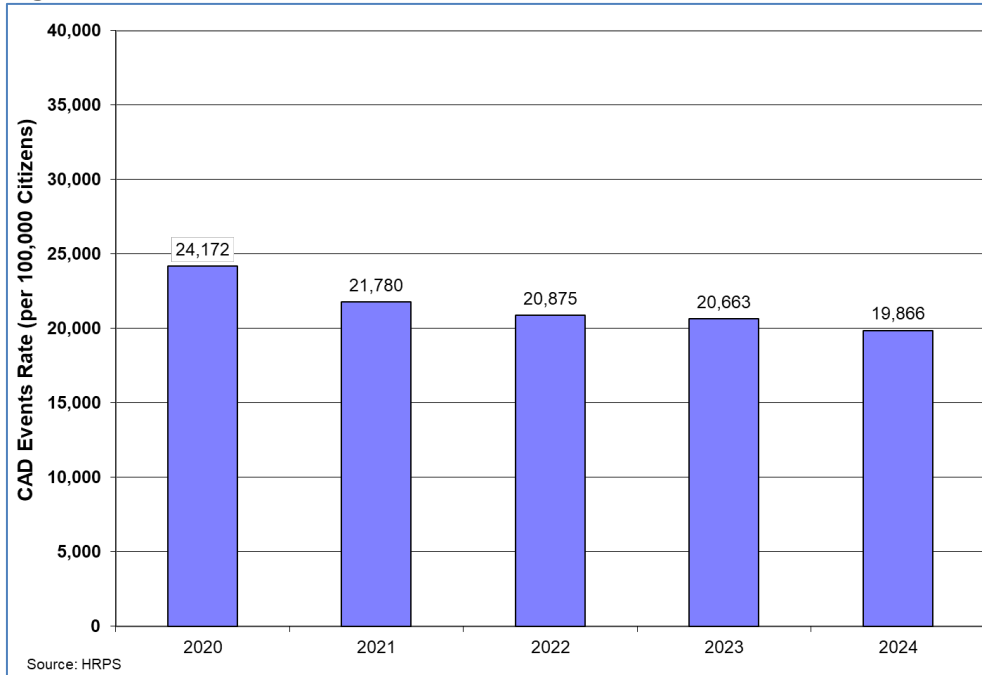


Figure 9: Total Collision Rate

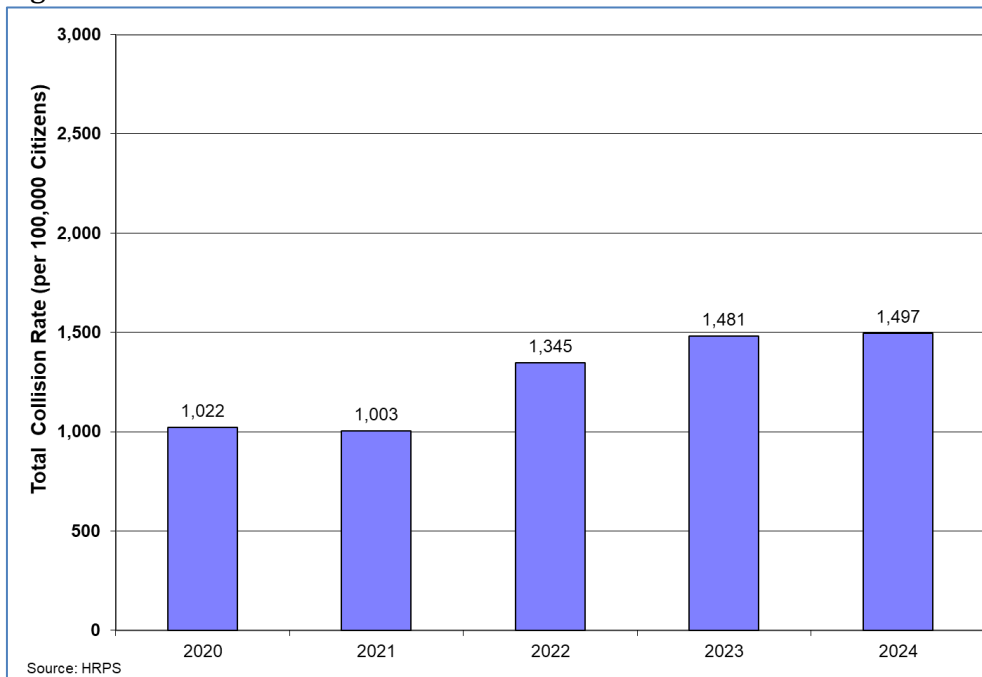


Figure 10: Impaired Driving

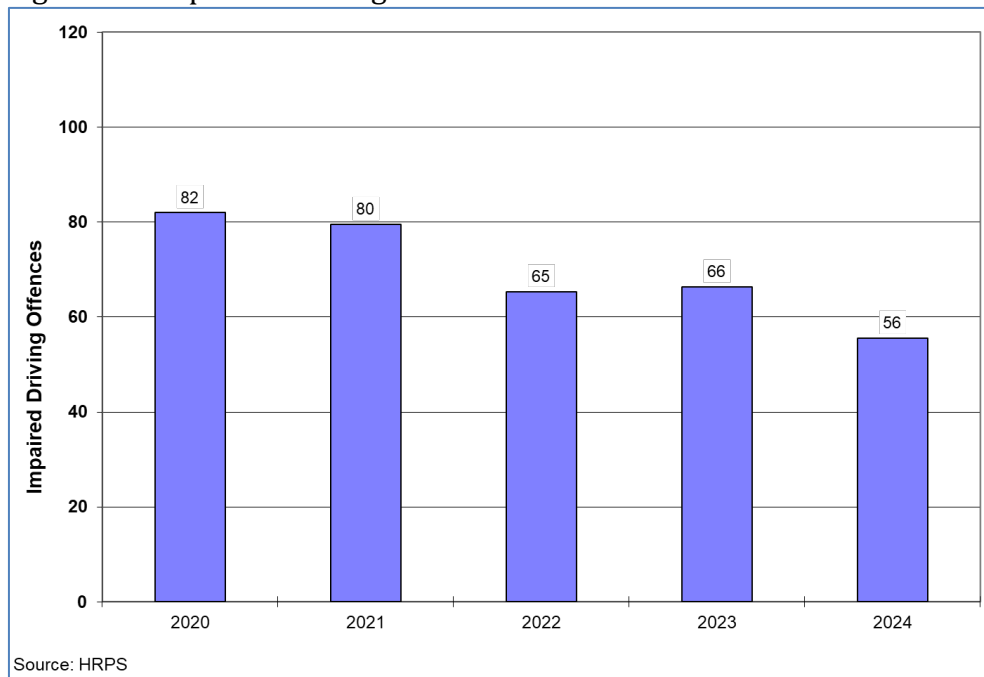
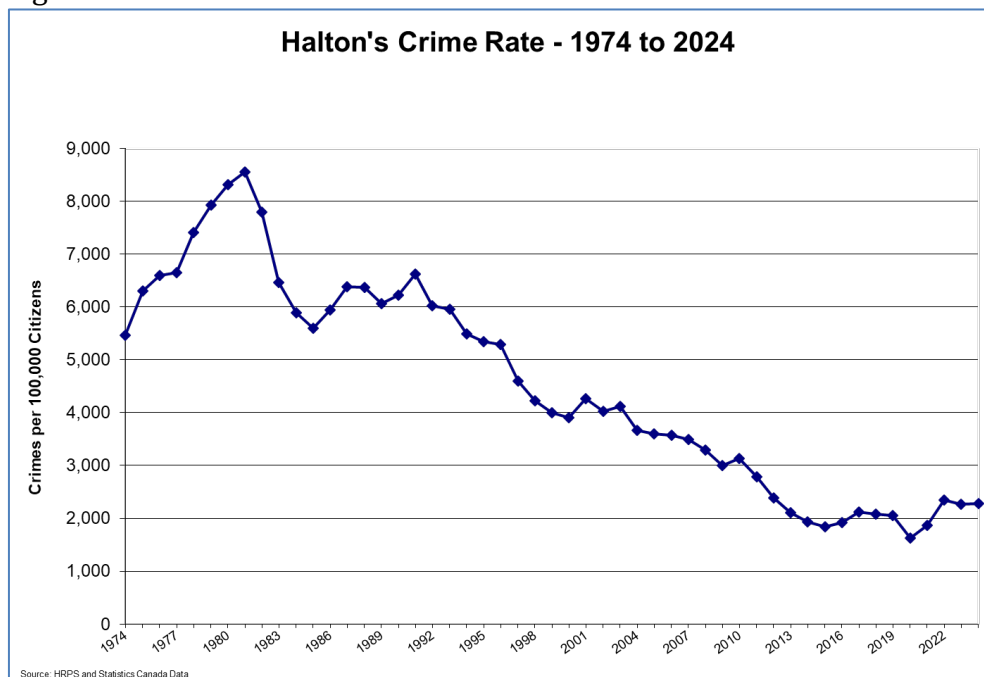


Figure 11: Halton's Historical Crime Rate

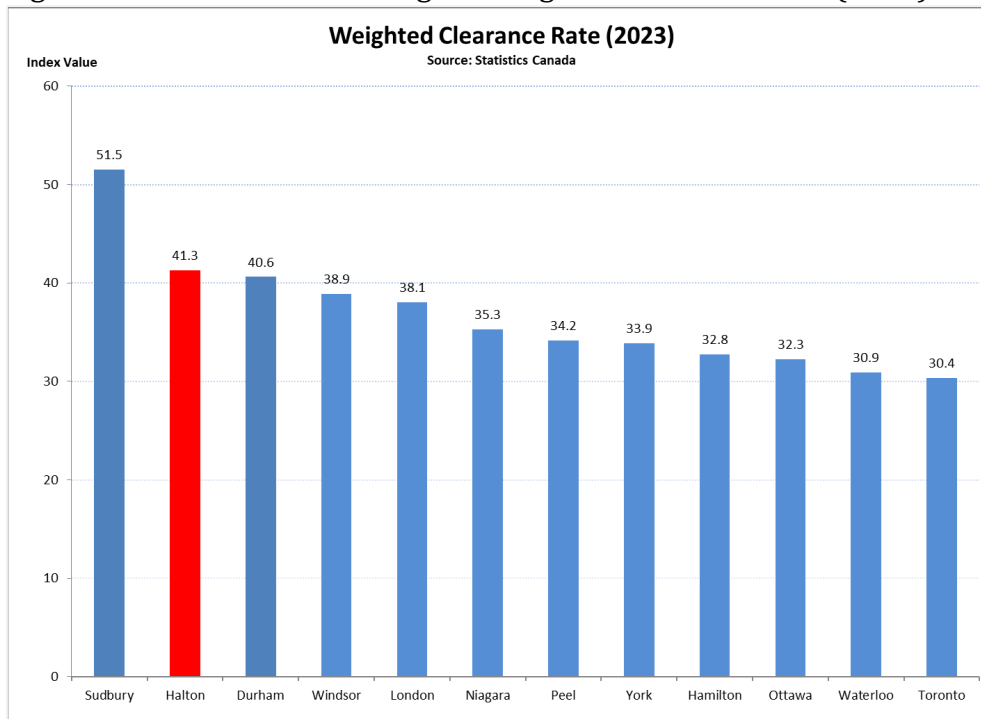


Strategic Plan Performance Trends

1. Highest Weighted Clearance Rate

Weighted Clearance rates is a measure that is held by Statistics Canada and is only released to the public in July for the previous year's stats. That means that for 2024, Statistics Canada will release the weighted clearance rates in July 2025. Below is the ranking of weighted clearance rates for the Big-12 Police Services in Ontario for 2023.

Figure 12: Statistics Canada Big-12 Weighted Clearance Rate (2023)



Although the Weighted Clearance Rate data is not yet available for Halton, it is worth noting that the Overall Crime Clearance rate^v (the total number of cleared criminal offences divided by the total number of reported criminal offences) declined in 2024. Indeed, the Overall Crime Clearance has dropped annually from 52.1% in 2020, to 34.9% in 2024.

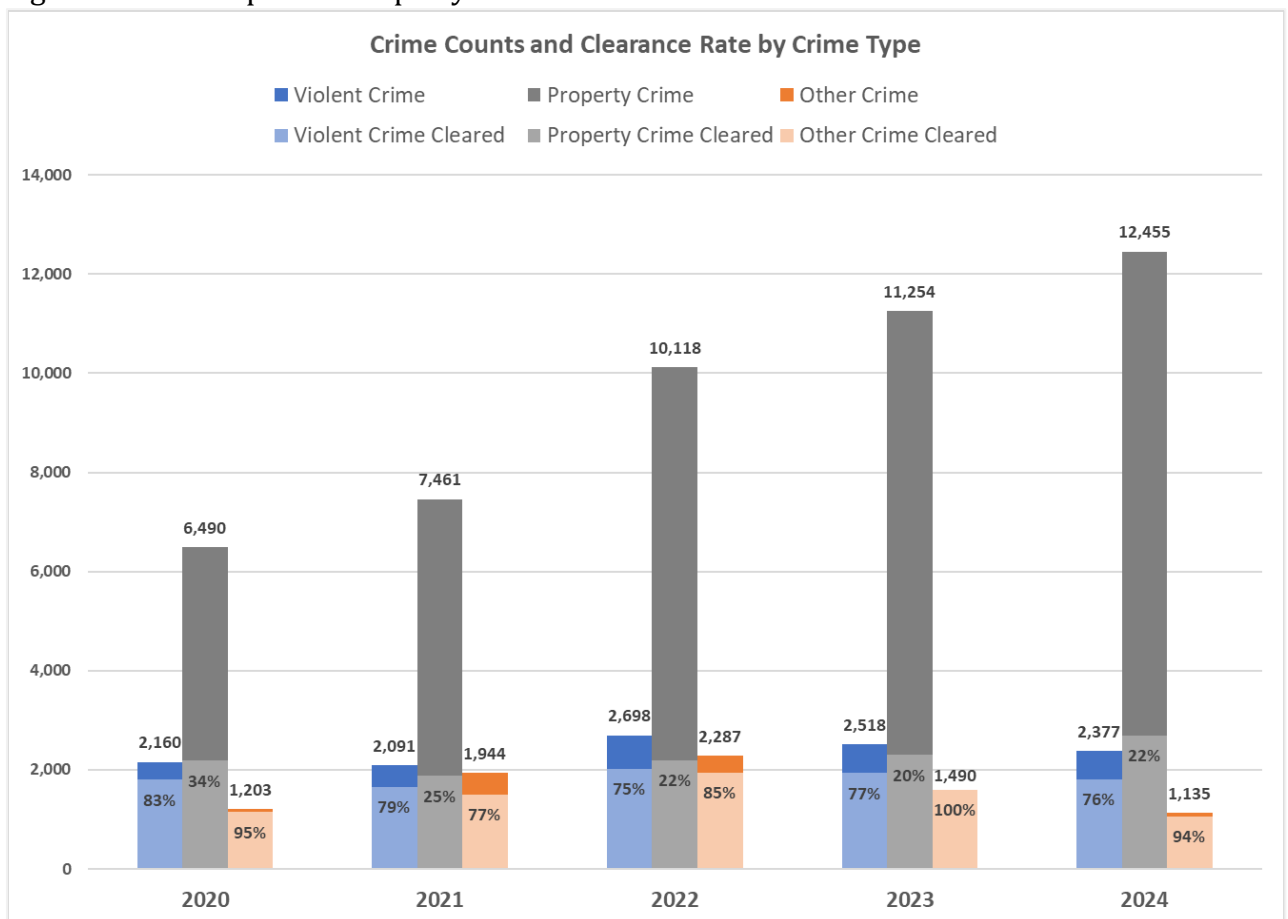
As reported in the 2023 Annual Performance report, the crime category having the greatest impact on clearance rates is Property Crime compared to Violent Crime and Other Crime. For context, Violent Crime has higher clearance rates (between 76.2% to 83.3% over the past five years) due to the nature of the crimes and related factors (such as witnesses and victims who see the offender; the type/severity of the crime; and the relative infrequency of violent crime). Property Crime is, by its very nature, less “solvable” (crimes are often undetected until long after the offender has committed the offence, have fewer witnesses, and there’s significantly more volume). Property Crime clearance rates over the past five years have been between 33.7% (2020) and 21.7% (2024), generally falling year by year as the proportion of the less solvable crimes within the Property Crime category has increased (particularly Fraud, Auto Theft and

Theft). This trend has levelled off in the post-pandemic years, with the Property Crime clearance rate averaging 21.3% between 2022 and 2024.

The following chart shows each of the three crime categories and how the proportion of the cleared occurrences has changed over the past five years. The chart shows the total number of occurrences and the percentage of cleared occurrences in each group. It is clear that Property Crime has taken up a greater proportion of overall crime during this period (rising from 65.9% of all criminal offences in 2020, to 78.0% in 2024).

As a result of this increased “share” of total crime, the impact of the Property Crime sector on overall clearance rates has also grown. It is the growth of Property Crime in Halton that is directly responsible for the declining overall clearance rate between 2020 and 2024.

Figure 13: The Impact of Property Crime on Overall Crime Totals and Clearance Rates



2. 80% or Better Community Satisfaction

The most recent survey was conducted by the Board in 2023 as part of the development of the current Strategic Plan. This metric will be subject to update upon the completion of a subsequent survey by the Board and the dissemination of the results to HRPS.

3. Improve Member Wellness

The Board is respectfully referred to the Wellness Unit's annual performance report (P25-02-I-07), which was submitted on February 27, 2025. That report provides a comprehensive overview of the unit's activities, outcomes, and key performance indicators for the reporting period.

4. Reduce Property Crime Rates

Property crimeⁱⁱⁱ increased by 10.7% from 11,254 in 2023 to 12,455 in 2024. This represents a property crime rate increase of 6.2%. These crimes accounted for 78.0% of all criminal offences in 2024, which has increased from 73.7% in 2023.

5. Increased Enforcement and Intervention

a. Intimate Partner Violence (IPV):

In 2024, Intimate Partner Violence occurrences increased from 3,560 in 2023 to 3,729 in 2024, which is a 4.7% increase.

b. Hate crime:

In 2024, a total of 115 hate-related occurrences were reported to the HRPS, a decrease from the 146 reported in 2023. In 2024, the HRPS laid 8 criminal charges stemming from investigations into alleged criminal offenses against persons or property motivated, in whole or in part, by hate, bias, or prejudice. For additional information the Board can refer to the annual Hate Crime report (P25-02-I-03) that was part of the February 2025 Board meeting agenda.

c. Human Trafficking:

In 2024, human trafficking incidents decreased from 13 in 2023 to 11 in 2024, representing a 15.3% decrease.

d. Child Exploitation:

CASA unit investigated 533 occurrences in 2024 that resulted in 175 criminal code charges being laid.

e. Guns & Gangs/Firearms:

In 2024, the total firearms seized was almost identical from 66 in 2023 to 65 in 2024, which is a 1.5% decrease. In addition, there were 19 instances of discharges of firearms reported/responded to by HRPS in 2024. That total is down from 22 instances in 2023.

f. Road Safety:

In 2024, impaired driving occurrences dropped by 12.8% from 446 in 2023 to 389, with over 2,200 roadside tests being conducted. Motor vehicle collisions occurrences increased from 9,955 in 2023 to 10,480 in 2024, which is a 5.3% increase. Additionally, there was a 7.3% increase in the total number of tickets (Provincial Offence Notices + Warnings) issued in 2024 from 36,551 (2023) to 39,234.

Notable projects on road safety:

- Project SafeStart – Over 2,600 officer hours over two weeks of enforcement, with 2,611 tickets issued.
- RIDE program – 1,067 hours in 2024, 1465 hours in 2023
- Project Mohawk – 322 charges laid (10% increase over 2023) - with 487 trucks inspected over two days, resulting in 132 trucks being taken out of service.

Halton Breach of Bail

The Board requested some insight into whether persons on recognizance (bail) are reoffending more often. To determine this, there are two charges that are always laid against a person when they are in breach of their bail; fail to comply, or breach. Therefore, when looking at all arrests in 2024, and identifying those arrests that had either one those charges laid, we are able to calculate the percent of reoffence while on bail. To provide a long-term outlook, and identify any possible trends, the below table shows the past 10 years of arrest counts and breach charge arrests. Interestingly, the percent of breach arrests stays relatively consistent throughout the past 10 years.

HRPS Breach Arrests by Year (2015-2024)

Year	Count of Arrests	Count of Arrests with Breach's	Percent
2015	4,160	449	10.79%
2016	4,268	450	10.54%
2017	4,351	488	11.22%
2018	4,579	511	11.16%
2019	4,560	555	12.17%
2020	3,724	461	12.38%
2021	3,651	468	12.82%
2022	4,066	476	11.71%
2023	4,135	499	12.07%
2024	3,998	456	11.41%

In examining 2024 alone, and categorizing the data by occurrence type, we can see that there are some criminal occurrences that have a higher propensity to have a breach arrest. All of the below occurrence types have a higher breach arrest percentage than the 10-year average.

HRPS Top 10 Breach Arrests by Occurrence Type (2024)

Occurrence Description	Count of Arrests	Count of Arrests with Breach's	Percent
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE	442	129	29.19%
BREAK AND ENTER SHOP	56	15	26.79%
THEFT OF BICYCLE	9	2	22.22%
INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE	739	159	21.52%
THEFT OF VEHICLE	74	14	18.92%
FAIL TO STOP	11	2	18.18%
FAIL/REFUSE SAMPLE	11	2	18.18%
POSSESSION OF STOLEN PROPERTY	121	22	18.18%
FEDERAL STATS - DRUGS	101	18	17.82%
BREAK AND ENTER HOUSE	38	5	13.16%

CONSULTATION:

Senior Management
Police Analytics Unit
Executive Services – Planning and Research

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT ISSUES:

This report is presented in support of the 2024-2027 Strategic Plan for policing in Halton and is critical in addressing the following Strategic Priorities:

Strategic Priority 1 – Achievement of the highest weighted clearance rate among comparator police services.

Strategic Priority 2 – Achievement of 80% or better community satisfaction with the HRPS.

Strategic Priority 4 – Reduced per capita property crime rate, including, through partnerships and collaboration, a 50% reduction in auto theft.

Strategic Priority 5 – Increased enforcement and intervention in the following community-responsive policing priorities: Intimate Partner Violence, Hate Crime, Human Trafficking, Child Exploitation, Guns & Gangs/Firearms, and Road Safety.

Definitions

i The **crime rate** is the number of crimes that occurred for a set number of residents. The Service and Statistics Canada report the number of crimes per 100,000 people. Using a rate of crime measurement allows us to compare crime statistics between communities with different populations, and within communities over different time periods.

ii **Violent crime** incidents involve offences that deal with the application, or threat of application, of force to a person. These include homicide, attempted murder, and various forms of assault, robbery and abduction/confinement.

iii **Property crime** incidents involve unlawful acts with the intent of gaining property but do not involve the use or threat of violence against an individual. Theft, breaking and entering, mischief, fraud and possession of stolen goods are examples of property crimes.

iv **Other Crimes** incidents involve the remaining Criminal Code offences that are not classified as violent or property incidents (excluding traffic). Examples include bail violations, counterfeit currency, disturbing the peace, prostitution and offensive weapons.

v The **clearance rate** is the percentage of the total number of crimes that occur which are solved (cleared). Criminal incidents can either be cleared "by charge" or "cleared otherwise". When a police investigation leads to the identification of a suspect, an "information" is laid against that person (i.e., the person is formally charged). From a statistical point of view, the laying of an information means that at least one actual incident can be "cleared by charge".

Incidents can also be "cleared otherwise." In some cases, police cannot lay an information even if they have identified a suspect and have enough evidence to support the laying of an information. Examples include cases of diplomatic immunity, instances where the complainant declines to proceed with charges against the accused, or cases where the alleged offender dies before he or she can be formally charged. Such incidents are considered to be "cleared otherwise," that is, other than by the laying of a charge.

vi **CAD Events** is a measure of service delivery and represents a self-contained unit of police activity as captured in the Computer Aided Dispatch system. The number quantifies work for both uniformed police officer and civilian members. Please note that to best capture response and service delivered to the public as opposed to internal administrative work, certain CAD event types are excluded in the calculation such as OUTS, BUSY, Abandoned 911 calls and non-police calls received through communications.

vii **A Property Damage Collision** is a motor vehicle collision where property damage has occurred but in which no parties are injured.

viii **An Injury Collision** is a motor vehicle collision where one or more parties involved are injured.