



Date: **June 8, 2026**

Subject: **2025 ANNUAL PERSONS AT RISK REPORT**

From: **Nick Milinovich, Deputy Chief - Investigative & Emergency Services Command**

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Peel Police Service Board (P.P.S.B.) receive the 2025 Persons at Risk Annual Report, as part of the annual reporting requirements.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- Child Abuse and Neglect
- Family and Intimate Partner Violence (I.P.V.)
- Internet Child Exploitation (I.C.E.) Safety and Public Awareness
- Youth Crime Report
- Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse

Discussion

The purpose of this report is to provide the P.P.S.B. with a summary of distinct fields related to Persons at Risk. The reporting categories set out in this report relate to the following five (5) areas:

1. **Child Abuse and Neglect** – Special Victims Unit (S.V.U.)
2. **Family and Intimate Partner Violence (I.P.V.)** – Family and I.P.V.
3. **Youth Crime Report** – Youth Engagement
4. **Internet Child Exploitation (I.C.E.)** – I.C.E. Unit
5. **Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse** – Community Mobilization and Well-Being

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

1. Background

One (1) of the core responsibilities of the Peel Regional Police (P.R.P.) S.V.U. is to conduct thorough investigations into allegations of child abuse involving persons under the age of 18 committed by caregivers.

Caregivers include, but are not limited to, parents, babysitters, teachers, daycare providers, child and youth workers, and foster parents.

Recognizing that child abuse can have significant and long-lasting impacts on victims, S.V.U. remains committed to a victim-centered approach that emphasizes sensitivity, support, and professionalism throughout all investigations. Members work collaboratively with the Children's Aid Society (C.A.S.) of the Region of Peel (Region) and community partners in accordance with the Region's Child Abuse Investigation Protocol and the P.R.P. Criminal Investigation Management Plan.

S.V.U. continues to support a coordinated, multi-agency response through established partnerships with health services, educational institutions, and justice sector stakeholders. These collaborative efforts promote consistent investigative practices, reduce systemic barriers for victims, and enhance the safety and well-being of children across the Region.

Certain designated offences are mandated by the Solicitor General, and have been since 1995, to be investigated in accordance with the Ontario Major Case Management System established guidelines. Officers within S.V.U. receive training that meets or exceeds required investigative standards and participate in ongoing specialized training, which include:

- Sexual Assault Investigators Course
- Major Case Management Course
- Power Case Operators Course
- Investigating Offences Against Children Course
- Shaken Baby and Advanced Head Trauma Conference
- Forensic Interviewing Course
- Search Warrant Course
- Advanced Search Warrant Course
- Preparation, Engage, Account, Closure and Evaluation (P.E.A.C.E.) Interviewing Course
- Phased Interview Model for Suspects (P.I.M.S.) Course

S.V.U. liaises and works collaboratively with social services and community agencies within the Region. The Region's Child Abuse Investigation Protocol guides these relationships. Participating agencies include the following:

- Trillium Health Partners
- Peel C.A.S.
- Crown Attorney's Office
- Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board
- Ministry of Attorney General

- Every Mind
- Peel District School Board
- William Osler Health System

The protocol communicates the required reporting and the investigative and legal responsibility processes related to incidents of child abuse with the goal of ensuring the safety and well-being of children in the Region. The protocol directs P.R.P. and C.A.S. to work collaboratively in the joint investigation of criminal incidents involving children.

In 2025, S.V.U. partnered with Victim Services of Peel (V.S.O.P.) in the “Justice for Me Too” Project. The project provided additional training for S.V.U. officers in trauma-informed and culturally responsive approaches to support victims and survivors.

2. Findings

C.A.S. Consultations Background

In 2025, S.V.U. received 317 consultations from C.A.S., representing a 15.3% increase from 2024. These consultations included requests for information, investigative support, and joint investigative responses to occurrences involving potential criminal offences.

Calls for Assistance received from the C.A.S.:

2023	2024	2025
287	275	283

Note: S.V.U. collects statistics for the total amount of C.A.S. consults, via referral forms received from C.A.S. The total does not include other methods of correspondence between C.A.S./S.V.U. including email, phone calls and faxes received from C.A.S.

Incident Type	2023	2024	2025
Non-Joint Investigations	161	123	108
Physical Assault Joint Investigations	72	119	126
Sexual Assault Joint Investigations	54	33	49
Total Consults	287	275	283

While the number of joint sexual assault investigations increased from 33 to 49 (+48.5%) during the reporting period, this increase may reflect several positive developments, including strengthened collaboration between P.R.P. and C.A.S., enhanced awareness among community partners, improved identification of at-risk children, and increased confidence among victims and caregivers in reporting concerns. These factors support earlier intervention and ensure vulnerable children receive timely investigative and support services.

Non-joint investigations decreased by (12.2%), reflecting a continued shift towards joint responses in high-risk occurrences.

The increase in joint investigations is a direct result of strengthened relationships and increased collaboration between C.A.S. and S.V.U.

Child Abuse and Neglect Statistics

The following table lists the number of physical, sexual and neglect investigations undertaken in the Region in relation to children under the age of 18.

Abuse Type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2024-25 Variation
Sexual Offences Against Children	203	318	292	209	249	+19.1
Physical Assaults Against Children	435	502	475	528	521	-1.3
Neglect	8	6	7	3	5	+2
Total Investigations	646	826	774	740	775	+4.7

Methodology

Victim report violation codes include: Aggravated Assault, Assault with a Weapon, Attempted Murder, Sex Assault, Sex Assault with a Weapon, Invitation, Interference, Sexual Exploitation, Child Pornography and Making Sexually Explicit Material Available to a Child.

- All victims were under the age of 18 at the time of the offence.
- The relationship between the offender and victim excludes spouses, current or former intimate partners, and separated or divorced relationships.
- Reports were excluded where the offender/culprit was under the age of 18 (youth on youth assaults, bullying and high school fights).
- Neglect related occurrences (Fail to Provide Necessities and Abandon Child) numbers were extracted using *Criminal Code of Canada* section numbers 215(1), and (2) and 218.
- The count reflects the number of victims not the occurrence numbers as some reports had multiple victims.
- Unfounded reports were excluded.
- The data pertains to all investigations within P.R.P, not solely those investigated by S.V.U.

In 2025, there were 775 total child abuse investigations, representing a 4.7% increase from 2024:

- Sexual offences against children increased by 19.1%.
- Physical assaults against children decreased slightly by 1.3%.
- Neglect investigations increased from 3 to 5 occurrences.

When examining the 19.1% increase in investigations of sexual offences against children from 2024 to 2025, it is believed that this rise may be attributed, in part, to enhanced training for officers in trauma-informed interviewing techniques, as well as strengthened collaborative relationships with community partners such as the Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect (S.C.A.N.) Program at the Hospital for Sick Children. These partnerships have provided officers with specialized training in child forensic interviewing, enhancing their ability to recognize, identify, and respond to signs of abuse in children.

It is also believed that, in addition to increased awareness and education provided to officers, healthcare professionals and educators have become more informed regarding the indicators of child sexual abuse.

The following is a detailed breakdown of the sexual and physical offences against children (not including Neglect offences):

Offence Type	2024	2025
Aggravated Assault Level 3	2	3
Assault Level 1	335	312
Assault w/ Weapon	187	206
Attempted Murder	4	0
Invitation to Sexual Touching	2	5
Sexual Assault	138	140
Sexual Assault w/ Bodily Harm	2	1
Sexual Assault w/ Weapon	0	1
Sexual Exploitation	3	7
Sexual Exploitation Disability	0	0
Sexual Interference	63	93
Explicit Material	1	1
Total	737	769

The 2025 data demonstrates a continued increase in investigative demand, particularly in relation to sexual offence-related investigations involving children. Notable increases were observed in sexual interference, sexual exploitation, and invitation to sexual touching. Several offence categories involving weapons demonstrated increases.

Overall, the data reflects both an increase in volume (+4.3%) and a shift toward more complex and serious occurrences.

3. Proposed Direction

S.V.U. will continue to advance its mandate of protecting children and supporting victims through a coordinated, victim-centered approach. In response to 2025 trends, S.V.U. will focus on:

- Enhancing investigative capacity in relation to sexual offences against children
- Strengthening collaboration with C.A.S. and community partners in joint investigations
- Maintaining a trauma-informed and victim-centered approach
- Monitoring and responding to emerging trends, including grooming and exploitation-related offences
- Supporting prevention and public education initiatives
- Continuing specialized training to address increasingly complex investigations

S.V.U. remains committed to integrating enforcement, prevention, and community engagement to enhance public safety outcomes.

4. Strategic Plan Alignment

Goal: 1. Community Safety and Well-Being (C.S.W.B.)

Objective: Identify and effectively respond to citizen calls for service and community crime trends.

S.V.U. contributes to the C.S.W.B. framework through proactive investigations, strong partnerships, and a focus on vulnerable populations.

The 2025 increase in sexual offences and investigative complexity reinforces the need for continued alignment with this framework. S.V.U. supports this objective through:

- Timely and effective response to calls for service
- Ongoing collaboration with C.A.S. and community stakeholders
- Identification of emerging crime trends
- Delivery of culturally responsive and trauma-informed services
- Integration of enforcement, prevention, and intervention strategies

These efforts support the reduction of victimization and enhance community safety across the Region.

5. Equity and Inclusion Considerations

Members of S.V.U. continue to develop awareness and understanding of differing beliefs and backgrounds, enabling the delivery of culturally sensitive services to all individuals who live, work, and visit the Region.

- a. The Religious and Cultural Guidebook from the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Bureau (D.E.I.) is utilized as a resource for our members when conducting investigations where religious or cultural beliefs might play a role or impact the situation in some capacity.
- b. The 2025 Management Action Plan incorporates a renewed emphasis on frontline policing and the adoption of the C.S.W.B. model within S.V.U.
- c. S.V.U. continues to implement a C.S.W.B. approach to investigations through engagement with external agencies, including V.S.O.P., C.A.S., Chantel's Place, Embrave, and Seva Food Bank. This approach is demonstrated through the coordination of education, prevention, and enforcement strategies aimed at addressing the root causes of crime and social disorder.
- d. S.V.U. investigators continue to work collaboratively and proactively within the C.S.W.B. framework in investigations where underlying factors include mental health, addictions, and/or socioeconomic challenges.

6. Organizational Wellness/Occupational Health and Safety/Risk Management

- a. Given the sensitive and graphic nature of investigations, members assigned to S.V.U. are designated as "high risk" and are subject to the wellness check-in program. P.R.P. is committed to the well-being of all personnel.

- b. Established protocols and partnerships with social services and community agencies help ensure that P.R.P. responds professionally and effectively to incidents involving physical and sexual abuse.

7. Conclusion

Members of S.V.U. continue to work collaboratively with internal Units and community partners to address child abuse in the Region.

The 2025 data reflects increasing demand and evolving offence patterns, particularly in relation to sexual offences involving children. Through continued collaboration, specialized training, and a victim-centered approach, S.V.U. remains committed to protecting vulnerable individuals and supporting safer communities.

FAMILY AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE (I.P.V.)

1. Background

All police services in Ontario are required by *Adequacy Standard* LE-024 to implement one (1) or more models set out in the Ministry's guidelines for the investigation of domestic violence occurrences and to ensure that the police service has access to trained domestic violence investigators. P.R.P. continues to meet organizational needs and has developed and implemented a specialized I.P.V. Unit responsible for undertaking, managing, and reviewing all intimate partner investigations.

The P.R.P. I.P.V. plays a key role in ensuring compliance with both internal and external legislation governing this Service's response to matters involving I.P.V.

The I.P.V. Unit consists of 71 Detective Constables, eight (8) Detectives, and two (2) Detective Sergeants dedicated to investigating incidents of I.P.V. and supporting victims and their families throughout the Region.

The Unit also includes the Safe Centre Response Team (S.C.R.T.), comprised of four (4) Constables who respond to non-violent verbal intimate partner and family dispute calls for service. S.C.R.T. members provide immediate support, risk assessment, safety planning, and navigation to appropriate community services and resources for individuals and families in need.

The I.P.V. Unit is co-located within the Safe Centre of Peel (S.C.O.P.) at 60 West Drive in Brampton. In December 2025, the Unit expanded its service delivery model by opening a second location at 25 Capston Drive in Mississauga, improving accessibility to critical wraparound supports and services for victims and their families across the Region.

The S.C.O.P. is led by Catholic Family Services of Peel-Dufferin (C.F.S.P.D.) and operates using the Family Justice Center model established in San Diego, California. This collaborative, multidisciplinary approach brings together police, social service agencies, and community partners in a centralized location to provide coordinated, trauma-informed support and intervention services to individuals impacted by I.P.V.

The S.C.O.P. includes organizations specializing in high-risk crisis support, housing, family services, child welfare, education, settlement services, multicultural support, legal assistance, and employment

services. Through collaboration with 29 victim support agencies, the partnership provides comprehensive, wraparound support designed to enhance victim safety, well-being, and access to critical services.

The I.P.V. Unit is the policy centre for the following P.R.P. Directives:

Issue Number	Subject
I-A-602 (F)	Criminal Harassment
I-B-718 (F)	Project Guardian – Pilot Project
I-B-713 (F)	Intimate Partner Incidents

Family and I.P.V. is one (1) of the top priorities of P.R.P. and aligns with the priorities of the C.S.W.B. framework. C.S.W.B. has been invaluable in ensuring service alignment to the communities' needs and interests.

2. Findings

I.P.V. calls remain the number one (1) call for service for P.R.P. and are of the highest priority. Frontline uniform officers are the first responding officers and once the offence is deemed as intimate partner related, the I.P.V. Unit is contacted and I.P.V. investigators take carriage of the investigation. The victim is transported to the S.C.O.P. where an interview is conducted by a specially trained investigator in a soft interview room. Upon completion of the interview, the victim is immediately referred to our community partners, providing them with wrap around support services.

The mandatory charge guideline, as directed by the Province of Ontario, is strictly adhered to. Where reasonable grounds exist to believe that a criminal offence has occurred within an intimate partner relationship, officers shall lay charges. P.R.P. remains in compliance with the mandatory charge guidelines set by the Province of Ontario. P.R.P. has comprehensive directives that provide guidelines to intimate partner investigations. These directives include detailed steps on how I.P.V. related investigations are documented to ensure that officers are conducting thorough investigations.

The partnership with the S.C.O.P. has further strengthened our community by providing two (2) locations that are both coordinated, responsive and accessible to those who have experienced I.P.V.

The development and continued expansion of the I.P.V. Unit have provided:

- Enhanced relationships with our community partners, creating a more collaborative information exchange
- A more effective and efficient level of service delivery
- A reduction in workload for frontline personnel
- Overall, better monitoring of high-risk offenders
- Enhanced and compassionate care for survivors
- Increased and immediate access to support and services for survivors exposed to I.P.V.
- Less barriers and a dedicated focus on building positive relationships between P.R.P. and the community
- Robust referral process for survivors of I.P.V.

Statistics

There were 1084 referrals made to the S.C.O.P. from the P.R.P. I.P.V. Unit between January 2025 and December 2025.

a. 2025 Regional I.P.V. Report

- There were 9,905 occurrences with the I.P.V. violation code in 2025.
- 3,407 I.P.V. occurrences were cleared by charge in 2025.
- 2,891 I.P.V. occurrences (cleared by charge) were eligible to be assigned to the I.P.V. Unit in 2025.
- 2,516 I.P.V. occurrences (cleared by charge) were assigned to the I.P.V. Unit in 2025.
- A total of 2,926 I.P.V. occurrences were assigned to the I.P.V. Unit.
- There were two (2) I.P.V. related homicides in 2025.

b. Charges Laid on I.P.V. Occurrences

- In 2025, there were 9,069 charges laid on occurrences with an I.P.V. violation code in 2025.
- There were 7,343 charges laid by the I.P.V. Unit in 2025.
- There were 1,726 I.P.V. related charges laid on occurrences that were not assigned to the I.P.V. Unit. 750 (43%) of these charges were on occurrences not under the mandate of the I.P.V. Unit.
- When the I.P.V. Unit is unable to take carriage of a call, Divisional officers take carriage of the investigation.
- 88% of charges were laid by the I.P.V. Unit (after non-mandated breach charges were excluded).

c. Top 5 Charges Laid on all I.P.V. Occurrences in 2025

- Assault
- Utter Threat to Cause Death or Bodily Harm
- Assault with A Weapon
- Chokes, Suffocates or Strangles
- Fail to Comply with release order - other than to attend court (Form 11)

NICHE Violations

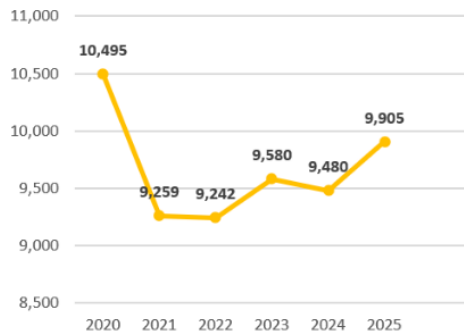
There were 9,876 intimate partner dispute violations in 2025.



Intimate Partner Violence Reduction Strategy

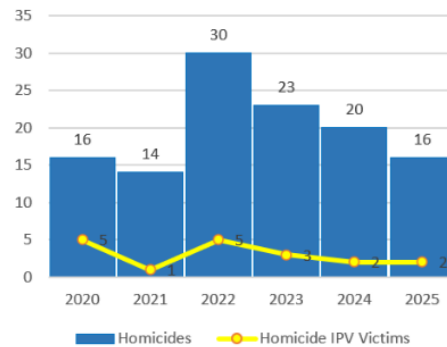
How the Strategy fits into Community Safety and Well-Being:

Reported * Intimate Partner Disputes
2020-2025



* Reported Occurrences (Includes Actual and Unfounded violations)

Yearly Homicide Victims & Homicide Victims Involving IPV
2020 – 2025



Incident Response

- Enhanced Front line Response
- Intimate Partner Violence Unit
- Trauma-Informed Response
- Collaborative Approach to Provide Wraparound Service

Risk Intervention

- Safety Planning
- Survivor Crisis Support
- Offender Management
- Situation Tables



Social Development

- Service Provider Advocacy
- Programming for Communities by Communities
- Survivor Support Programs
- Offender Support Programs

Prevention

- Risk Evaluation and Management in Peel (REVAMP) Referrals
- Early Intervention Support Program
- Public Education
- Media (Social Media, News)

3 of the top 6

most frequent incidents reported to Peel Regional Police are family and Intimate Partner Violence related.



Average rate

of family and Intimate partner Incidents Investigated by Peel Regional Police in 2025.



In 2025, police in Peel Region responded to

16,915 incidents

of family and intimate partner violence. Those are just the incidents that were reported.

PeelRegion.ca/ItsNotOkay

PeelPolice.ca/FIPV



Domestic Violence Investigator Training

Members of the I.P.V. Unit receive extensive specialized internal training focused on I.P.V. investigations and victim-centered response strategies. The training curriculum includes trauma-informed practices, interviewing techniques, and anti-racism education, ensuring members are equipped to conduct thorough, sensitive, and effective investigations while providing enhanced support to victims and their families.

This specialized training supports a trauma-informed approach that enhances investigative outcomes, reduces the potential for future harm, and promotes improved victim care, safety, and case management. In late 2025, the training program was expanded from three (3) to four (4) days to strengthen content delivery, align with evolving provincial standards, and support future opportunities for accreditation with the Ontario Police College Domestic Violence Investigator (D.V.I.) course.

The D.V.I. course is offered to frontline officers and those in investigative bureaus who are exposed to these types of investigations. Upon completion, officers are awarded the D.V.I. designation. P.R.P. currently has 1,266 officers with the D.V.I. designation.

Safety Issues

a. Children's Aid Society

P.R.P. takes a precautionary approach in dealing with matters where a child is likely to be exposed to I.P.V. These incidents are reported directly to C.A.S. C.A.S. address a variety of service needs for children and families experiencing struggles with I.P.V. They conduct child welfare assessments and provide ongoing work with families, youth and children who have experienced and been exposed to I.P.V., including intervention plans and referrals to other agencies for support. C.A.S. has two (2) domestic violence teams solely dedicated to providing support for children who have been exposed to I.P.V.

b. "Project Guardian" – Support Link

In December 2017, V.S.O.P. launched "Project Guardian," which replaced the previous personal alarm system, Domestic Violence Emergency Response System (D.V.E.R.S.). "Project Guardian" is a pilot project sponsored by V.S.O.P. This project provides victims who are at high risk of life-threatening violence with a portable, personal Global Positioning System (G.P.S.) locator device. Each recipient is provided with a small pendant. When the recipient is faced with immediate danger of physical harm, he/she depresses the S.O.S. button on the pendant. This automatically calls Northern 911 Emergency Centre through two (2) way hands-free voice technology who in turn notifies the appropriate police service. The criteria and suitability for the program is determined by V.S.O.P.

In 2025, the program maintained 30 active G.P.S. alarms. A total of 62 clients were offered services to the program, with 24 new clients successfully enrolled. During this period, there was one (1) emergency alarm triggered, and seven (7) false alarms recorded.

An additional 10 G.P.S. have been purchased in 2026 with the support of the Victim Support Grant, “Project SafeLink”, which is funded by the Ministry of the Solicitor General. The program will continue to be monitored and evaluated throughout 2026.

c. Risk Evaluation and Management in Peel (R.E.V.A.M.P.)

Every court jurisdiction in Ontario must have a functioning domestic violence high-risk committee. The R.E.V.A.M.P. committee identifies, monitors and manages high-risk I.P.V. cases. The goal of the committee is to enhance the safety of victims, their families, and the general community. The committee is comprised of a Peel domestic violence Assistant Crown attorney, a victim witness assistance program manager, and representatives from P.R.P., Peel Probation and Parole, V.S.O.P., and C.A.S.

In 2025, 233 cases were reviewed and monitored, and there were 85 new referrals.

Public Education and Awareness

Delivering education, promoting awareness, and facilitating access to resources for individuals impacted by I.P.V. remained a key priority for P.R.P. Throughout the year, the I.P.V. Unit participated in and supported more than 17 public awareness initiatives, community events, training sessions, educational presentations, and media engagements across the Region and the Greater Toronto Area.

The Unit strengthened partnerships with community organizations, advocacy groups, educational institutions, faith-based organizations, healthcare partners, and municipal stakeholders to enhance awareness, prevention, and victim support initiatives. This included collaboration with the S.C.O.P., V.S.O.P., community advocacy organizations, and regional partners through initiatives such as the Family and Intimate Partner Violence (F.I.P.V.) “Break the Silence” campaign, aimed at increasing public awareness and encouraging access to supports for victims and survivors.

I.P.V. members delivered presentations and specialized training to police personnel, community agencies, students, crisis workers, healthcare professionals, and community leaders on topics including I.P.V. investigations, warning signs of abuse, reporting processes, victim support services, and multidisciplinary collaboration. Outreach efforts also focused on newcomer communities, youth engagement, and culturally responsive education and prevention strategies.

Additional public engagement activities included participation in community forums, awareness campaigns, information booths, panel discussions, radio and podcast interviews, and advocacy initiatives designed to foster dialogue, strengthen community partnerships, and improve community awareness of available supports and resources for individuals and families impacted by I.P.V. Notably, the I.P.V. Unit presented to Brampton City Council in support of the “Purple Bench Campaign,” advocating for the installation of purple benches to raise awareness of I.P.V. The initiative was well received, further reinforcing the importance of community-wide engagement and awareness efforts.

P.R.P. hosted its first annual Victims and Survivors Symposium, the first policing-led event of its kind in Ontario. The symposium brought together more than 250 survivors, justice sector leaders, elected officials, community partners, and law enforcement professionals to discuss the impacts of violent crime, repeat offenders, and challenges within Canada's bail system. By centering the voices of victims and survivors, the event fostered collaboration, highlighted opportunities for legislative reform, and reinforced

a shared commitment to enhancing victim support, improving public safety, and driving meaningful systemic change.

3. Proposed Direction

Continue to take steps that align directly with the C.S.W.B. plan and the I.P.V. reduction strategy.

Safe Centre Response Teams (S.C.R.T.)

In 2023, the S.C.O.P. launched a new pilot program called the S.C.R.T. This pilot program is developed through collaboration between the S.C.O.P. and P.R.P. This program has been created to respond to verbal, non-criminal family and intimate partner situations. The team consists of mobile support workers with experience in gender-based violence and specially trained police constables, who attend calls for service to provide early intervention and assist families in accessing supports and services.

The Key Functions of the S.C.R.T.:

- a. Connect families with existing community services to help stabilize the family situation over the short term and help increase their resiliency over the extended period
- b. Help bridge the gap between identifying risk factors and direct intervention, thereby reducing the number of families looking for help being overlooked
- c. Ensure a range of existing prevention and intervention services are provided in a timely manner to reduce the risk of harm and increase the safety of family members

Statistical Overview (S.C.R.T. Calls for Service 2025):

Type of Call	Number
Custody Dispute	4
Disturbance	1
Domestic Family	234
Domestic I.P.V.	255
Police Info	1
Premise Check	1
Property Removal	19
Trespass	1
Grand Total	516

- Number of calls dispatched and attended by S.C.R.T. = **516**
- Total number of referrals/interventions made = **1,084**
- Total number of referrals/interventions accepted = **917**
- Total number of calls that were resolved by S.C.R.T. vs calls that required uniform to attend = **497**

4. Strategic Plan Alignment

Goal: Community Safety and Well-Being (C.S.W.B.)

Objective: Support awareness/education/response and advocacy for partners, related to intimate partner and family violence

In alignment with P.R.P.'s strategic priority of C.S.W.B., the I.P.V. Unit continues to strengthen collaborative partnerships and support community-based initiatives focused on prevention, education, victim support, and community engagement.

Throughout the year, the I.P.V. Unit participated in and supported more than 10 collaborative initiatives and outreach activities alongside community agencies, advocacy organizations, and social service partners across the Region. These partnerships reinforced a coordinated, trauma-informed approach to supporting individuals and families impacted by I.P.V., homelessness, poverty, and other social vulnerabilities.

Key initiatives included the coordination of specialized B-Safer risk assessment training in partnership with the S.C.O.P., resulting in the certification of 16 I.P.V. investigators and 19 community partners in evidence-based spousal assault risk assessment practices. The Unit also collaborated with C.A.S. to implement a Best Practice Guideline for responding to survivors of I.P.V. and their children, which has since been incorporated into the 2025 Child Abuse Investigation Protocol.

The I.P.V. Unit further supported numerous community-based programs and awareness initiatives focused on vulnerable populations and community well-being, including food insecurity initiatives, holiday support programs, women's shelter donation campaigns, homelessness fundraising events, youth mentoring programs, and public awareness campaigns such as Dress Purple Day, Woman Abuse Prevention Month, and the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

In addition, members participated in culturally significant and community healing events, including the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Annual Walk, reinforcing P.R.P.'s ongoing commitment to inclusivity, community engagement, and relationship building with diverse communities across the Region.

5. Equity and Inclusion Considerations

Members of I.P.V. continue to build cultural competence by deepening their understanding of diverse values, traditions and communication styles. This ongoing development enhances their ability to interact respectfully and effectively with individuals from all backgrounds and ensures the delivery of culturally sensitive and equitable services to everyone who lives, works and visits the Region.

- a. Reflecting the diversity of the community they serve, I.P.V. officers collectively speak 18 different languages and represent a wide range of cultural backgrounds, further strengthening their ability to connect with and support victims and their families in meaningful and inclusive ways.

- b. I.P.V. works collaboratively with a network of diverse community partners to ensure victims have access to culturally relevant support. When appropriate, I.P.V. officers refer individuals to these community agencies so their specific cultural, linguistic and social needs can be met in a safe and respectful environment.
- c. The Religious and Cultural Guidebook, developed by P.R.P. D.E.I.'s Bureau, serves as a key resource for I.P.V. investigators when religious or cultural beliefs may influence or impact the circumstances of an investigation. It supports members in conducting respectful, informed and culturally sensitive investigations.
- d. When laying charges in criminal matters involving individuals identified as experiencing a mental health crisis, living with a mental illness, dementia, cognitive delay, or an acquired brain injury, I.P.V. investigators utilize the Alternative Resolution Court (A.R.C.). A.R.C. is a specialized court in the Region designed to provide appropriate resources for hearing such cases and offering the highest level of support to the accused.

6. Organizational Wellness/Occupational Health and Safety/Risk Management

- a. Due to the sensitive and often graphic nature of I.P.V. investigations, members assigned to the I.P.V. Unit are designated as 'high risk' and are required to participate in the annual P.R.P. wellness check-in program. The risk of vicarious trauma resulting from ongoing exposure to victim-related cases remains a significant concern and is actively monitored and managed.
- b. Established protocols and strong partnerships with community agencies play a critical role in P.R.P.'s ability to effectively respond to incidents of I.P.V. These collaborative efforts not only enhance service delivery to those affected, but also serve as an important aspect of organizational risk management. This ensures consistent, coordinated responses that reduce liability, support victim safety and strengthen public trust.

7. Conclusion

P.R.P.'s response to I.P.V. consistently meets, and in many areas exceeds, established adequacy standards. As part of its ongoing commitment to prevention, early intervention, and victim-centered service delivery, P.R.P. has continued to strengthen and expand the I.P.V. Unit. In partnership with the S.C.O.P., a second service location was opened at 25 Capston Drive in Mississauga to increase operational capacity and improve timely access to critical, lifesaving supports and wraparound services for individuals and families experiencing intimate partner violence.

P.R.P. has also continued the S.C.R.T. pilot program, which provides support, risk assessment, and navigation to services for individuals involved in non-criminal verbal intimate partner incidents, reinforcing a proactive and preventative approach to community safety and well-being.

Through longstanding collaborative relationships with community and social service agencies, P.R.P. continues to enhance its ability to provide coordinated, trauma-informed care and connect victims and survivors with specialized support tailored to their needs. These partnerships, combined with proactive community engagement, public education initiatives, strategic media communications, and ongoing collaboration with external stakeholders, reflect an innovative and comprehensive approach to addressing intimate partner violence within the Region.

The I.P.V. Unit and the S.C.O.P. are widely recognized as a leading and collaborative model of response to I.P.V., representing a gold standard approach in victim-centered policing, multidisciplinary partnership, and coordinated community care. This commitment to excellence was notably recognized in 2025 when the I.P.V. Unit received the Purple Ribbon Award for Law Enforcement Partner of the Year from Alliance for HOPE International, acknowledging the Unit's substantial positive impact on the lives of domestic violence survivors.

INTERNET CHILD EXPLOITATION (I.C.E.) UNIT

1. Background

In 2025, the I.C.E. Unit maintained a complement of one (1) Detective, eight (8) Detective Constables and one (1) Online Luring Investigator for a total of 10 members in the office.

The mandate of the P.R.P. I.C.E. Unit is to locate, identify, and rescue victims of child sexual abuse by identifying, locating, and prosecuting persons involved in the online victimization of children. Both reactive and proactive investigations are undertaken.

As internet crime has no geographical boundaries, the P.R.P. I.C.E. Unit regularly works with law enforcement partners around the world. In 2025, some of those agencies included United States of America (U.S.A.) Department of Homeland Security (D.H.S.) as well as numerous local and state law enforcement services in the U.S.A., the Canadian Border Services Agency (C.B.S.A.), local and national elements of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (R.C.M.P.), Ontario Provincial Police (O.P.P.), and 25 other Municipal Police Services that make up the Provincial Strategy.

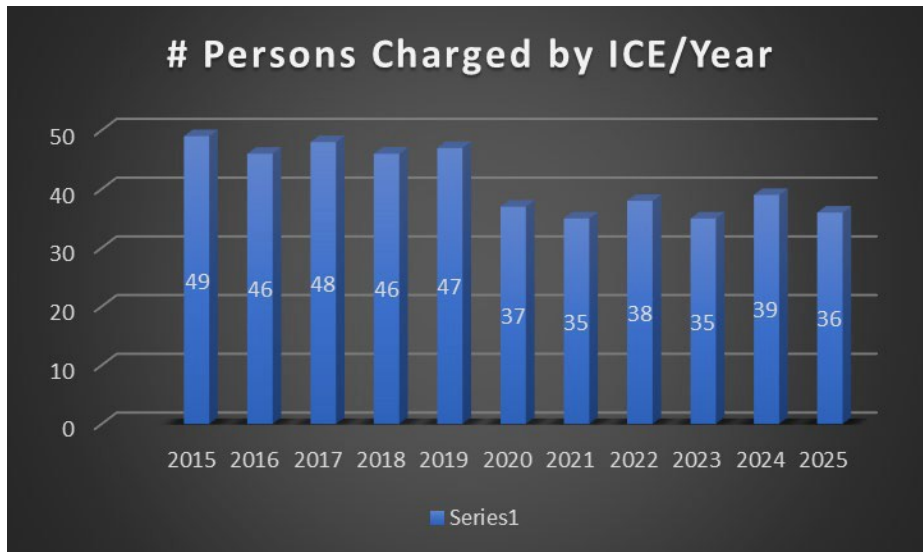
External to the Law Enforcement Community, the P.R.P. I.C.E. Unit works closely with several Non-Governmental Organizations (N.G.O.'s). One (1) of these is the Canadian Centre for Child Protection (C.3.P.) in Winnipeg, which operates Canada's national tip line for online child exploitation. The C.3.P. also provides resource material that has been federally approved for dissemination in schools. In addition to referring cases regarding online child exploitation, the I.C.E. Unit is the point of contact with C.3.P. who will also refer tips regarding any kind of abuse of children including physical abuse and underage human trafficking. When received from C.3.P., the I.C.E. Unit refers the tip to the appropriate bureaus within P.R.P.

I.C.E. investigations strive to rescue the victims of online exploitation, one (1) of our most important community partners is the Victim Services of Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry, and Akwesasne (S.D.G.A.). Victim Services of S.D.G.A. offers a counselling program supported by the Provincial Strategy that is made available to the victims (and their siblings and parents) of child sexual exploitation. All identified victims are referred to this program where they receive immediate service that is paid for by the Provincial Strategy.

2. Findings

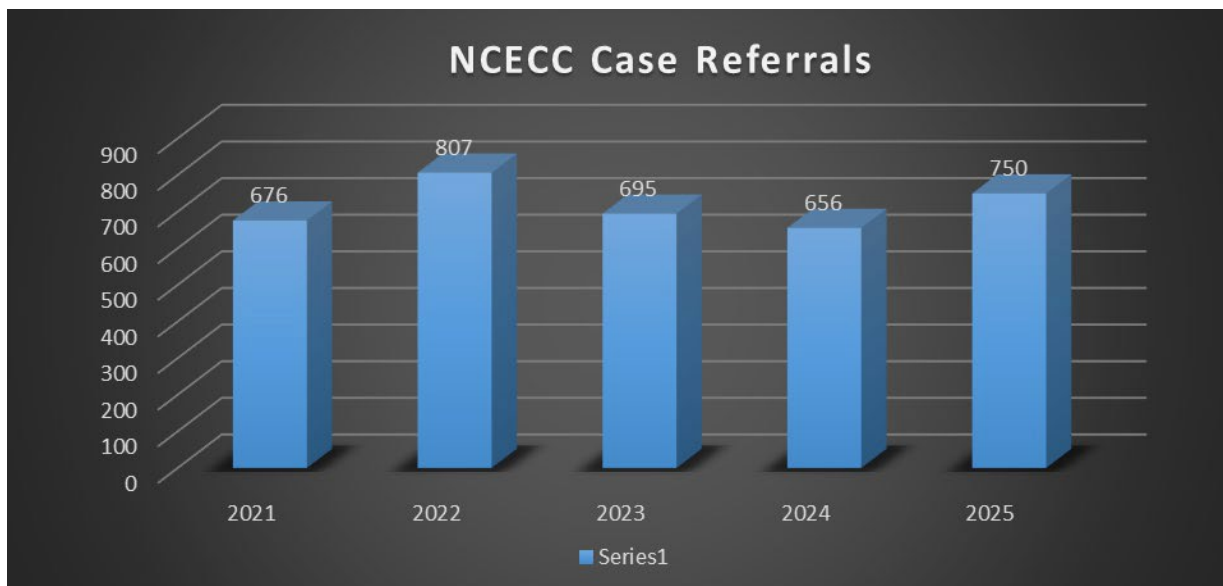
In 2025, the I.C.E. Unit laid a total of 158 charges related to the online exploitation of children and 36 persons were arrested and charged with I.C.E. related offences. The Unit also obtained a total of 120 judicial authorizations in 2025. While looking at the graph below, it is evident that after 2019, there was an approximate 20% drop in the average number of arrests from year to year. It is worth noting that this is a provincial wide trend, and not something that is isolated to the Region.

This is generally attributed to the increase in the amount of work that must be done on each case due to resource, technical, and legal hurdles that must be overcome with each investigation.

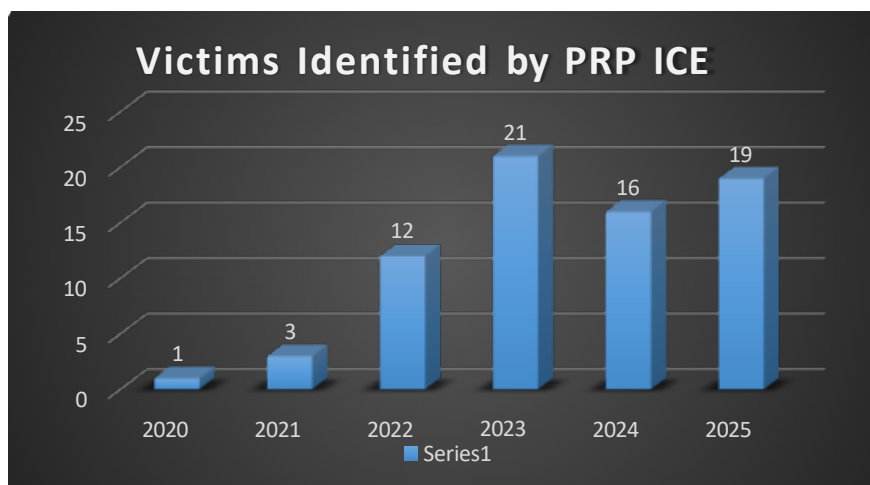


In total, the I.C.E. Unit handled 1,039 occurrences in 2025, 750 of which were from the National Child Exploitation Crime Centre (N.C.E.C.C.) in Ottawa. Referrals from the N.C.E.C.C. mostly originate from National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (N.C.M.E.C.) in the U.S.A. who are forwarding reports that originate with internet-based companies such as Google and Microsoft, social media companies such as Meta (Facebook & Instagram) and messaging applications like Snapchat or Kik.

The N.C.E.C.C. is a department within the R.C.M.P. that acts as the national receiver of incoming cases into Canada from other countries. The total of 750 cases from the N.C.E.C.C. is a slight increase from the previous year of 656, however, it remains within the range of occurrences that we have seen since 2020.



Regarding victims identified and rescued, the number in 2025 was significant. P.R.P. I.C.E. Unit identified a total of 19 victims in 2025, which was an increase from the 16 victims identified in 2024. This is part of a continuing trend where the number of victims identified is in double digits. This indicates that the I.C.E. Unit is targeting the right offenders and is in the right virtual spaces to meet our mandate of reaching and safeguarding unidentified victims.



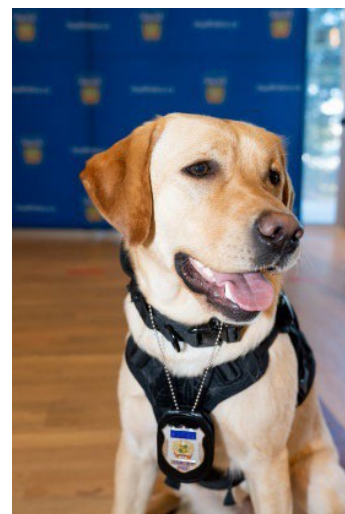
Electronic Storage Detection Canine (E.S.D.K9)

In 2023, the P.R.P. I.C.E. Unit became the first organization in Canada to deploy an E.S.D.K9. An E.S.D.K9 is a dog that is trained to detect via scent items of digital storage. E.S.D.K9's have been used with great success in the U.S.A. since 2013 but have not been deployed in Canada until P.R.P. obtained Harley. Members of the I.C.E. Unit partnered with the charity "Our Rescue" in the U.S.A., who have provided full funding for the P.R.P. E.S.D.K9.

In 2025, the E.S.D.K9 conducted searches in 25 warrants. In 14 warrants, she found 41 devices. This represents a 56% success rate of finding devices missed at warrants and in some cases, devices found did have child exploitation material on them.

In addition to I.C.E. search warrants, the E.S.D.K9 is used to help other bureaus in P.R.P. A notable success occurred in January of 2025 when the E.S.D.K9 was used to assist a neighbouring agency with a search warrant, and located a device missed in a previous search. The device was hidden in the ceiling tiles and had child sexual abuse and exploitation material (C.S.A.E.M.) of known victims. This made its recovery very important for both the case and for the well-being of the victims.

In addition to assisting with search warrants, Harley has also had great success providing comfort and assistance to victims who are providing statements to police. Harley has been able to provide support with numerous sex assault and human trafficking victims who have had to re-live their traumatic experiences for the purpose of providing evidence to investigators or testimony to the court.



Since P.R.P. acquired the first E.S.D.K9, eight (8) other police services in three (3) provinces have followed our lead and are now using E.S.D.K9's to support their respective I.C.E. Units. The P.R.P. I.C.E. Unit is proud to have taken the lead in bringing this new resource not just to the Region, but to all of Canada.

Investigations and Projects

In 2025, the P.R.P. I.C.E. Unit participated in the R.C.M.P. led "Project Steel". This was a Canada-wide project that was focusing on reports from the N.C.E.C.C. and N.C.M.E.C. P.R.P. participated in the project and over the course of two (2) weeks, executed six (6) warrants on suspected online offenders. Amongst those arrested were two (2) repeat offenders with previous convictions for online child exploitation offences.

In the spring and summer of 2025, the I.C.E. Unit teamed up with S.V.U. to target two (2) separate offenders who were each using social media to find young teen girls for the purpose of meeting them in person so they could exchange money for sex acts. While these two (2) offenders were unknown to one another, they did each victimize one (1) of the victims on different occasions. The joint investigation resulted in the execution of search warrants at the homes of both offenders, followed by their prompt arrest. Subsequent analysis identified several victims who have since been safeguarded.

Also in the spring of 2025, the P.R.P. I.C.E. Unit teamed up with the York Regional Police (Y.R.P.) I.C.E. Unit for the Provincial Strategy led "Project Support". This project focused on online undercover luring offences, primarily in York Region. 2025 was the third year in a row where the P.R.P. and Y.R.P. I.C.E. Units teamed up for this kind of enforcement effort. When the two (2) services combine their resources, it allows for a quicker and more effective response to the suspects that we engage online in an undercover capacity.

3. Proposed Direction

I.C.E. Unit Expansion

The I.C.E. Unit received approval for two (2) additional investigator positions. In the coming year, the Unit will be concentrating on the training and integration of new investigators into the office.

Expanding Digital Forensic Capacity

With the increase in investigators, it means there will be more arrests, and more devices seized each year. Currently, I.C.E. is assisted by a dedicated digital forensic analyst whose position is funded by Provincial Strategy. With the I.C.E. Unit increasing to 11 investigators, we will need more dedicated assistance in the area of digital forensics to keep up with the disclosure demands associated with I.C.E. investigations. In 2026 there will be a focus on obtaining that increased support.

Adapting to Bill C-22

At the time of writing, Bill C-22 is in second reading in Parliament. This bill, "An Act Respecting Lawful Access", proposes some significant changes to the *Criminal Code of Canada* that will most certainly have an impact on how the I.C.E. Unit conducts investigations. Given that the governing party now has a majority in Parliament, it is very likely that C-22 will pass and become law before the end of 2026.

The I.C.E. Unit will need to alter some of its approaches and procedures as it pertains to gaining lawful access to computer data and obtaining suspect data from third parties.

P.R.P. has been a strong advocate for legislative modernization through Bill C-22, recognizing that effective investigations increasingly depend on timely access to digital evidence. As child exploitation and other serious offences continue to migrate to online platforms, investigators require modern legal authorities that reflect today's technological realities while maintaining appropriate judicial oversight and privacy protections. Bill C-22 seeks to reduce unnecessary investigative barriers and streamline lawful access to digital information, allowing investigators to obtain critical evidence more efficiently before it is deleted, altered, encrypted, or otherwise lost. For I.C.E. investigators, timely access to digital evidence is often essential to identifying offenders, locating victims, preventing ongoing abuse, and supporting successful prosecutions. P.R.P.'s advocacy underscores the importance of ensuring law enforcement has the tools necessary to protect vulnerable victims while balancing the privacy rights of Canadians.

4. Strategic Plan Alignment

Goal: Community Safety and Well-Being (C.S.W.B.)

Objective: Identify and effectively respond to citizen calls for service and community crime trends

As an investigative bureau, the efforts of the I.C.E. Unit directly contribute to the achievement of the community safety and well-being priority of crime prevention and response. The Unit works with the N.C.E.C.C. in Ottawa to use the latest information on relevant trends to make sure we are up-to-date on how technology and legal issues are evolving. The I.C.E. Unit also uses bi-weekly meetings so members can keep each other up-to-date on their respective investigations, which creates buy-in with all members of the office on all investigations. Lastly, as a member of the Provincial Strategy, we are in constant communication with our provincial partners on trends that are developing and new problems that arise.

Because the nature of I.C.E. work is largely proactive, so is our response to community safety. I.C.E. investigations work to uncover crimes that would often otherwise not be discovered, and therefore contributes significantly to future crime prevention. In 2025, the I.C.E. Unit increased the number of victims identified and safeguarded through better investigative and analytic efforts. By apprehending offenders through proactive measures, we stop them from creating future victims which is the most effective manner of crime prevention. I.C.E. works closely with victims and families to ensure they get the support they need by connecting them to resources dedicated to victim assistance.

5. Equity and Inclusion Considerations

The increase in investigative positions, along with the efforts at expanding Digital Forensic Services (D.F.S.) capacity, provides more opportunities for all members of P.R.P. The I.C.E. Unit is relatively small in size, and the office has a low turnover, so there are limited opportunities for any officer who aspires to transition to this Unit. By increasing the number of investigators along with expanding D.F.S. capacity, it provides more opportunities for interested members.

Also, the recent expansion of the Unit over the last several years has attracted a wider range of experience levels among members and has sparked interest from members who previously would not have sought positions within the I.C.E. Unit.

6. Organizational Wellness/Occupational Health and Safety/Risk Management

Given the nature of I.C.E. work, it goes without saying that officer wellness is a high priority. The threat posed by vicarious trauma from viewing child exploitation material is a constant concern, and has therefore been continuously managed. The I.C.E. Unit takes part in the Wellness Check-in program that sees all members meet bi-annually with a psychiatrist to ensure they remain healthy and have access to resources, should they be required.

The most notable improvement regarding officer wellness has been the addition of the E.S.D.K9 to the I.C.E. Unit. The E.S.D.K9 is present in the office daily and regularly interacts with I.C.E. members, providing a pleasant and healthy distraction from their work. Since the introduction of the E.S.D.K9, the I.C.E. Unit also has a regular stream of visitors who come to visit the dog for their own well-being, which in turn relaxes the atmosphere in the I.C.E. office. Feedback from the doctor who administers the I.C.E. safeguarding program indicates that there has been an improvement in well-being amongst the members since the introduction of the E.S.D.K9.

Emphasis is also placed on ensuring a positive and empowered workplace. I.C.E. officers provide input concerning the day-to-day administration of the office which gives them buy-in and makes them invested in its success. They are provided with the means and resources to do their jobs, which makes them feel enabled to accomplish their tasks. Open communication and a tight-knit supportive team atmosphere have been crucial to protecting the officers' well-being as they continue to do their work.

It's important for the well-being of the office for the I.C.E. Unit to be a desirable place to work. An office that members enjoy working in provides resiliency from vicarious trauma due to exposure to child abuse material and encourages quality officers to apply to the Unit when vacancies arise.

7. Organizational Impacts

In addition to funding received by the Region, there is also funding from the Provincial government via the Provincial Strategy. In the last two (2) years, there has also been Federal government funding. The Provincial Strategy funding covers 65% of the wage and benefit costs of the full-time luring position. It also covers training for all the officers, as well as technology acquisitions and upgrades. The funding received from the Provincial Strategy is crucial to making the I.C.E. Unit an effective investigative bureau capable of staying current in a rapidly changing field that protects the public.

The total 2025 budget of the I.C.E. Unit was \$1,853,740 and the I.C.E. Unit operating expenses were \$1,817,059.79, which meant the I.C.E. Unit came in under budget. Of that total amount, approximately \$497,735 was recovered from the Ontario Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services and the Federal government.

8. Communication Issues

The I.C.E. Unit utilizes media releases to keep the public informed of significant investigations and incidents that meet the threshold for public notification. These communications support transparency, public safety, and community awareness, while also encouraging victims and witnesses to come forward.

Historically, media releases have proven to be an effective investigative tool, resulting in additional victims being identified and new charges being laid that may not otherwise have been detected or reported. This proactive approach continues to enhance investigative outcomes and supports the Unit's commitment to victim identification, safeguarding vulnerable persons, and offender accountability.

The I.C.E. Unit also uses community outreach to speak directly to members of the community about online safety and the threat posed by online child exploitation. This seeks to inform community members of current and historical trends. The I.C.E. Unit believes that an informed community is much better positioned to protect itself from the online harm that exists every day.

9. Conclusion

The actions of the I.C.E. Unit are meant to align with the goal of creating better community safety and well-being. Members of I.C.E. routinely share knowledge and expertise through internal training and assistance provided to both uniform and other bureaus.

The I.C.E. Unit addresses risk intervention through collaboration with the Threat Assessment Unit, which evaluates high-risk offenders and provides risk-based assessments and expert opinions to support detention, bail, and sentencing hearings.

To enhance public safety and support victim identification, the I.C.E. Unit also distributes media releases in cases where there is a potential risk to the community or where additional victims may exist in other jurisdictions. In addition, the unit utilizes Missing Children/Missing (M.C.M.) bulletins and Violent Crime Linkage Analysis System reports in investigations that meet the established threshold criteria, supporting intelligence sharing, linkage analysis, and coordinated investigative efforts across jurisdictions.

Regarding crime prevention, I.C.E. cooperates with N.G.O.'s that educate and support citizens to prevent children from becoming victims in the first place. This combined with closer collaboration with members of Offender Management Unit will increase efforts to obstruct the efforts of offenders to commit more crimes and target more victims.

Finally, the I.C.E. Unit works to improve social development by working within the Provincial Strategy to advocate with various levels of government and private sector entities to increase awareness of children's safety online and come up with technological solutions that help solve cases and identify victims. We also improve social victims. development by working with victim service networks to help victims and their families recover from the aftermath of online child exploitation crimes.

The I.C.E. Unit's mandate is aligned with the Region and P.R.P. priorities for addressing crime targeting priority populations. This direction is a critical step in achieving meaningful change and ensuring community safety.

YOUTH CRIME ANNUAL REPORT

1. Background

The 2025 Youth Crime Report provides insight into crime statistics and trends related to young persons investigated by the P.R.P.

The *Youth Criminal Justice Act (Y.C.J.A.)* defines a young person as someone between the ages of 12 and 17 years of age. This legislation includes multi-disciplinary approaches where P.R.P. takes reasonable steps to prevent youth crime, address the underlying causes and provide guidance to those at risk of committing crimes. While recognizing the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and the *Canadian Bill of Rights*, members of P.R.P. also respect the interests of victims and witnesses. This ensures accountability through meaningful consequences and effective rehabilitation and reintegration and reserves the most serious intervention for the most serious crimes with the goal being to reduce incarceration for non-violent young persons.

2. Findings

Population

The 2021 Statistics Canada population data for P.R.P. policing area to be 1,374,445 of which 102,905 (7.5%) were considered young persons (12 – 17 years of age). The next census data compilation will be completed in 2026.

Youth Crime Statistics

The Youth Crime Statistics as prepared by P.R.P.'s Corporate Planning and Research Bureau include comparison data from 2021-2025 for the following: Crimes Against Persons, Crimes Against Property, Criminal Driving Offences and Drug Offences. In addition, Total Young Persons Charged, and a comparative analysis of Persons Charged (both Youth and Adult offenders) for 2024-2025.

a. Crimes Against Persons:

Crimes Against Persons includes offences of Assault, Robbery, Sexual Offences, Criminal Harassment and Threatening.

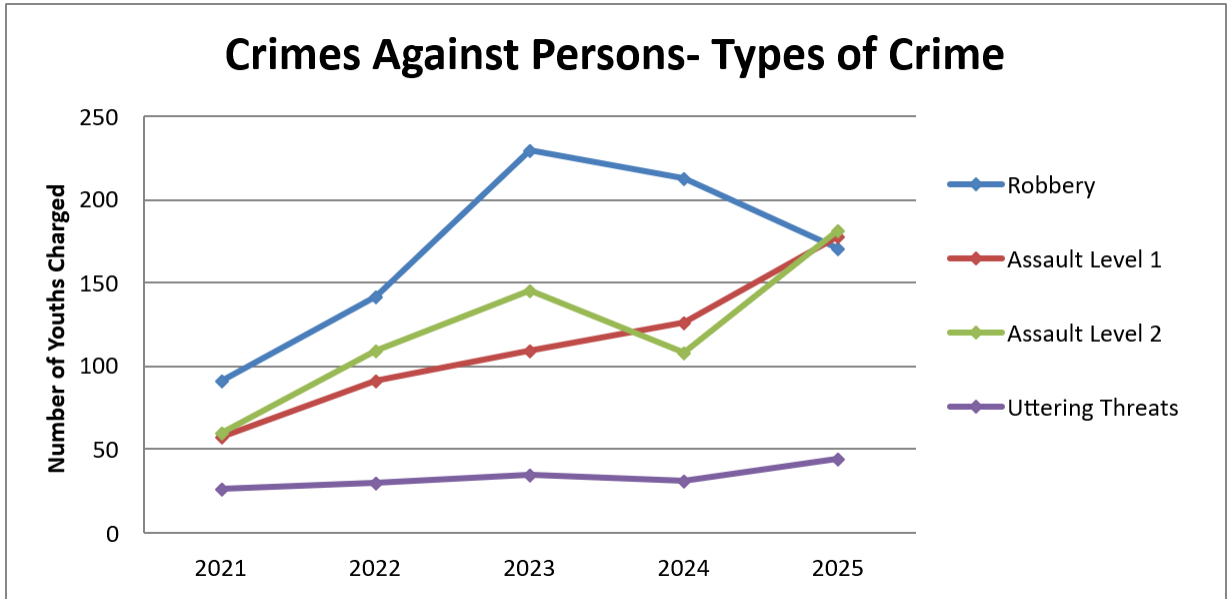


Figure 1

Youth charged with Crimes Against Persons violations increased 19% from 590 in 2024 to 702 in 2025.

- Assault Level 2 increased by 68%
- Uttering Threats increased 42%
- Robberies decreased 20%

b. Crimes Against Property:

Crimes Against Property include offences such as Break, Enter to Commit an Offence, Theft Under \$5,000, Possession of Property Obtained by Crime, Fraud, Mischief and Arson.

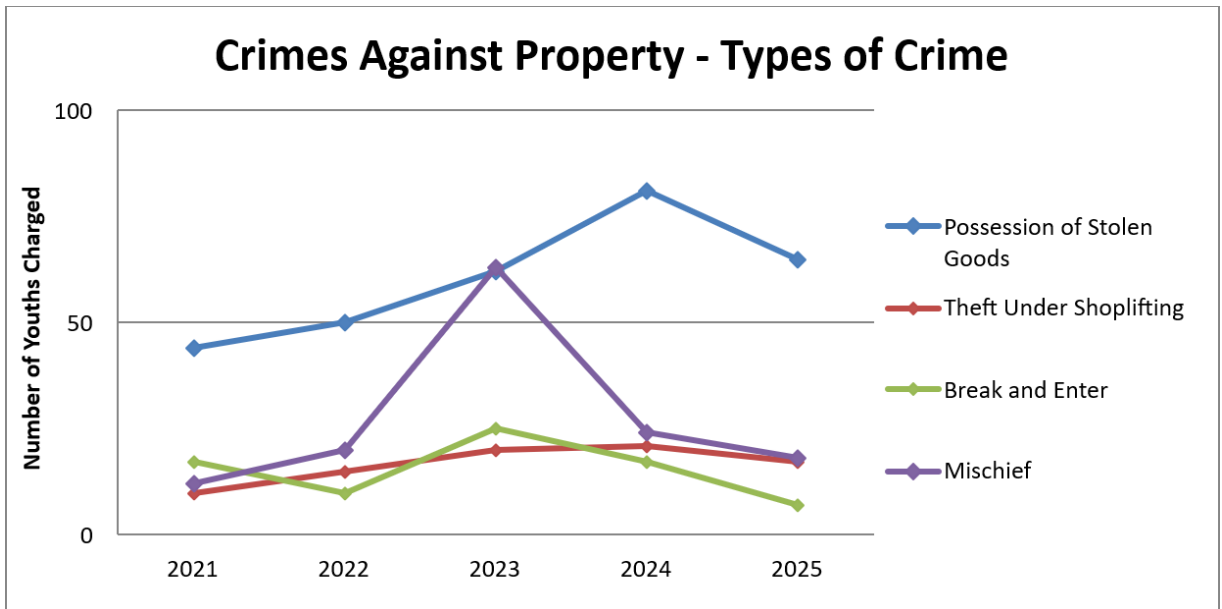


Figure 2

Youth charged with Crimes Against Property violations decreased 30% from 198 in 2024 to 138 in 2025.

- Break and Enters decreased 59% from 17 in 2024 to 7 in 2025
- Mischiefs also decreased 25% from 24 in 2024 to 18 in 2025

c. Criminal Driving Offences:

Criminal Driving Offences include Dangerous Driving, Fail to Remain at the Scene of an Accident, Driving While Impaired and Street Racing.

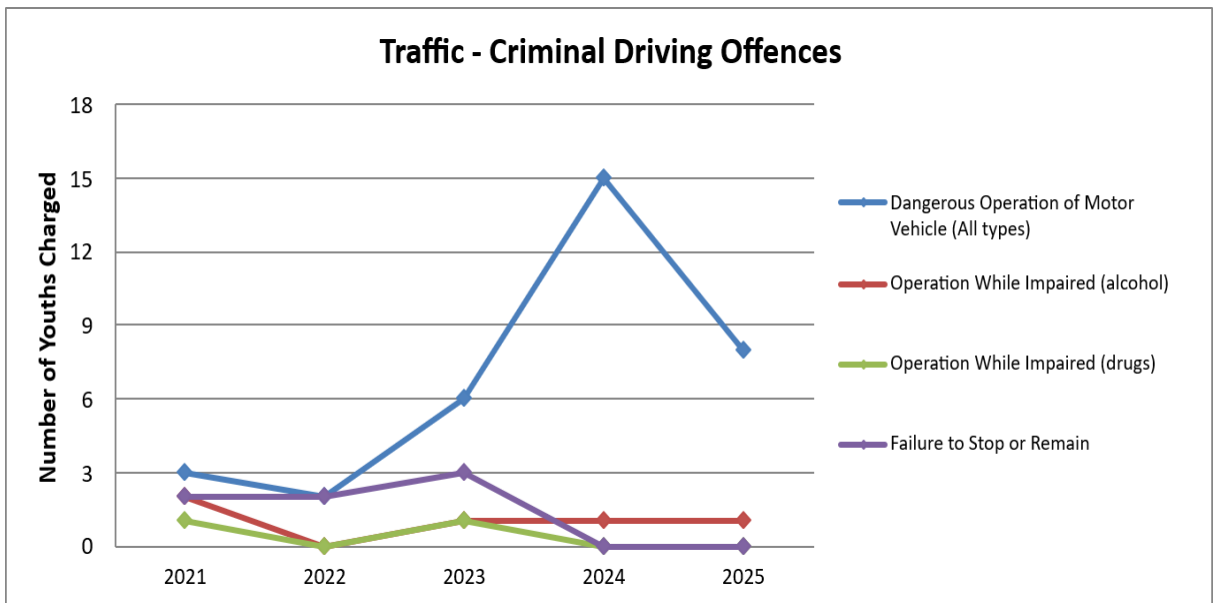


Figure 3

Youth charged with criminal driving offences decreased 6.25% from 16 in 2024 to 15 in 2025.

d. Drug Offences:

Drug offences include Possession, Trafficking and other controlled substance related crimes.

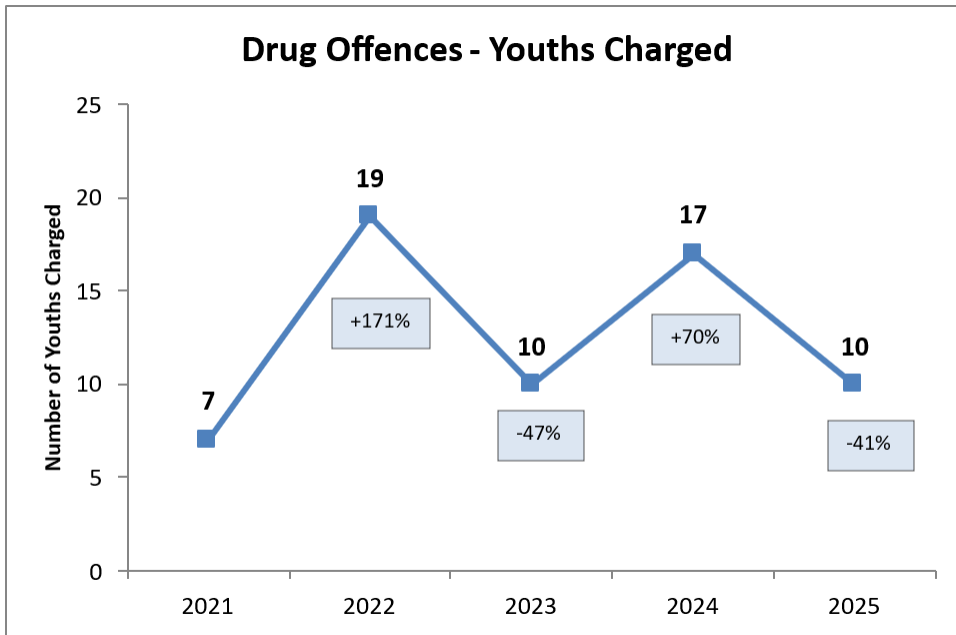


Figure 4

Youth charged with Drug offences decreased 42% from 17 in 2024 to 10 in 2025.

e. Total Youth Charged:

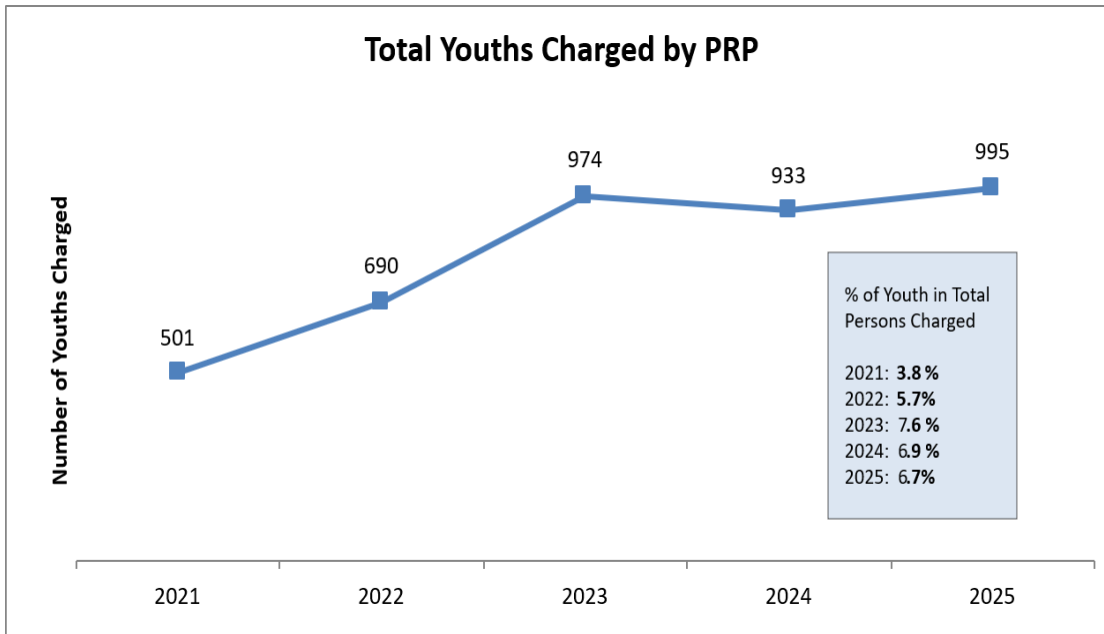


Figure 5

Youths charged by P.R.P. increased 7% from 933 in 2024 to 995 in 2025.

- This follows a 4% decrease from 2023 to 2025 (974 to 933)

f. Total Persons Charged:

The following chart summarizes the comparative analysis of statistics of both youth and adult offenders, related to 2024 and 2025.

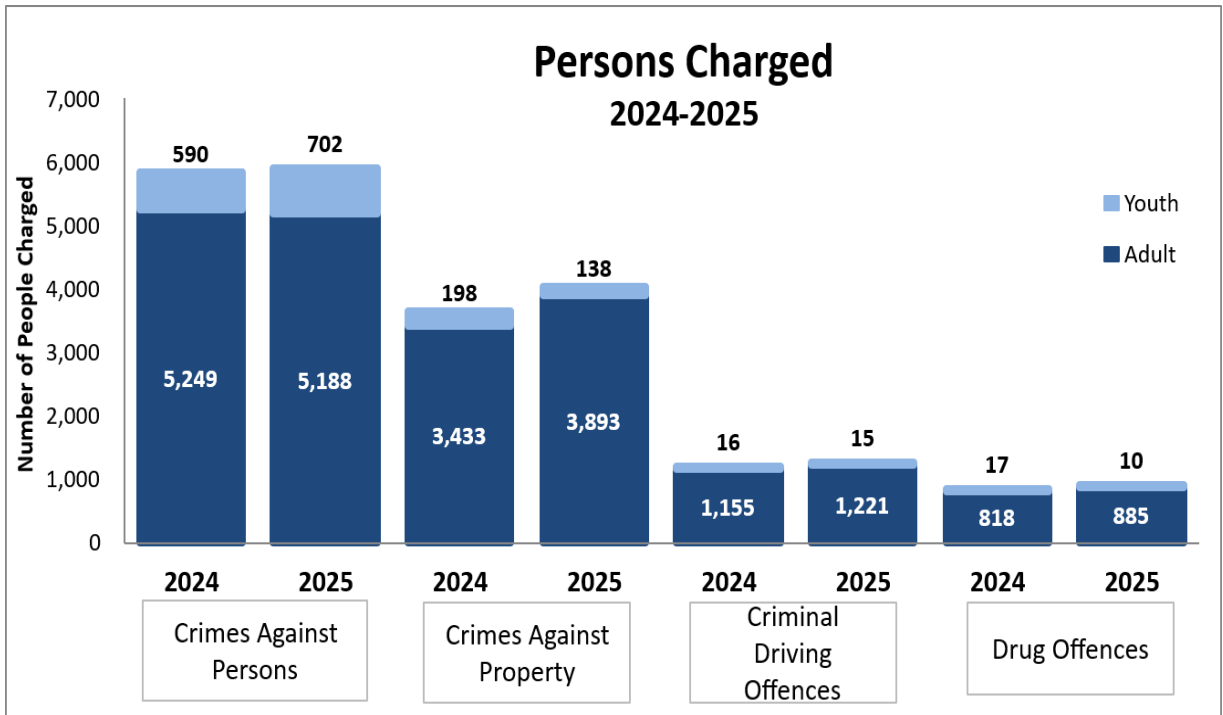


Figure 6

Pre- Charge Diversion

A significant component of the Y.C.J.A. is the application of Extrajudicial Measures – a means by diverting young people away from the criminal justice system while still adhering to the principle of ensuring that young offenders are accountable for their actions. Legislation directs officers to consider extrajudicial measures when a young person has committed an offence before laying a charge. Where appropriate, P.R.P. refer youth who have committed a criminal offence to the ‘Pre-charge Diversion Program’ administered by the Associated Youth Services of Peel (A.Y.S.P.).

In respect to policy guidance, a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ontario Human Rights Commission (O.H.R.C.), P.P.S.B. and P.R.P. was signed in October 2020, which included the objective to adopt and implement all appropriate standards, guidelines, policies and strict directives to address and end racial profiling in law enforcement. P.R.P. Directive I-B-515 (Diversion Referral Programs) reflects the expectations of the community, legislation and the O.H.R.C.

The A.Y.S.P. counsels and administers task performance and group counselling that help youth identify the behaviours that lead to criminal activity and help them understand the significance of good citizenship.

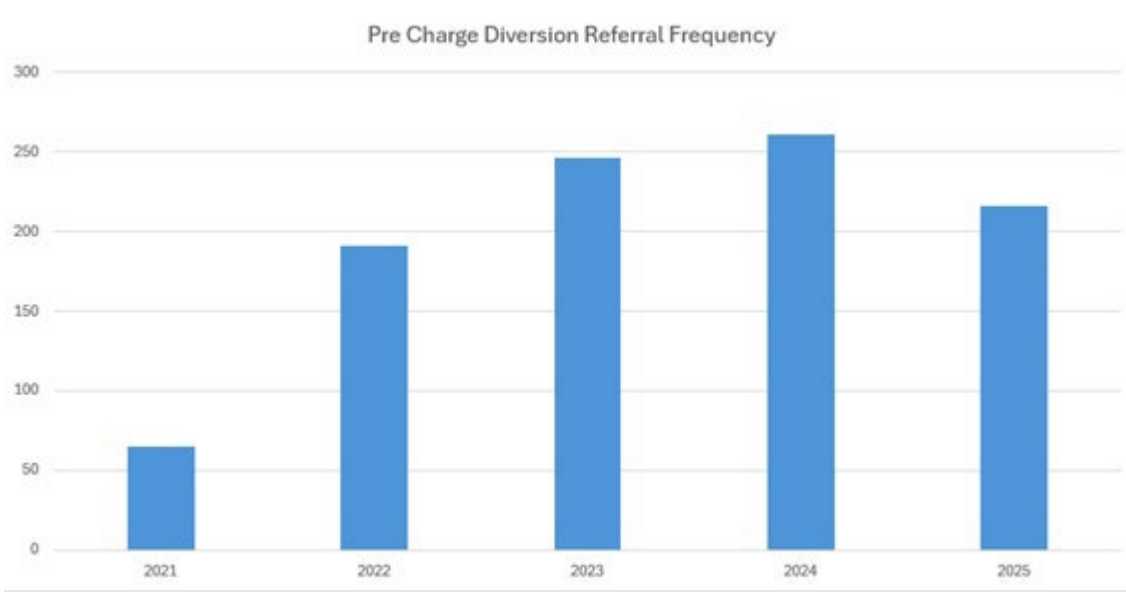


Figure 7

In 2025, P.R.P. referred 216 cases to the A.Y.S.P. compared to 261 cases in 2024, 246 cases in 2023, 191 cases in 2022 and 65 cases in 2021. This represented a decrease of 17% in 2025 from 2024.

Of the 261 individuals with a status of “Youth Accused Diverted” in 2024, 34 individuals reoffended within 12 months of that initial diversion date. This includes instances where they were diverted a second time.

Based on those totals, 87% of youth referred to the Pre-Charge Diversion Program in 2024 did NOT reoffend within 12 months of their diversion. A slight increase over 85% from 2023.

87% of the youth referred to the Pre-Charge Diversion Program in 2024, successfully completed all the program requirements; a slight increase above the 85% completion rate in 2023.

Analysis is conducted on the recidivism rate of youth in comparison with the same period from the previous year where:

- 87% of the youth referred to the Pre–Charge diversion in 2024 did not reoffend within a 12-month period
- 5% were returned to the police as unsuccessful
- 8% of referrals were closed for other reasons or transferred to other jurisdictions

Pre-Charge Diversion Program

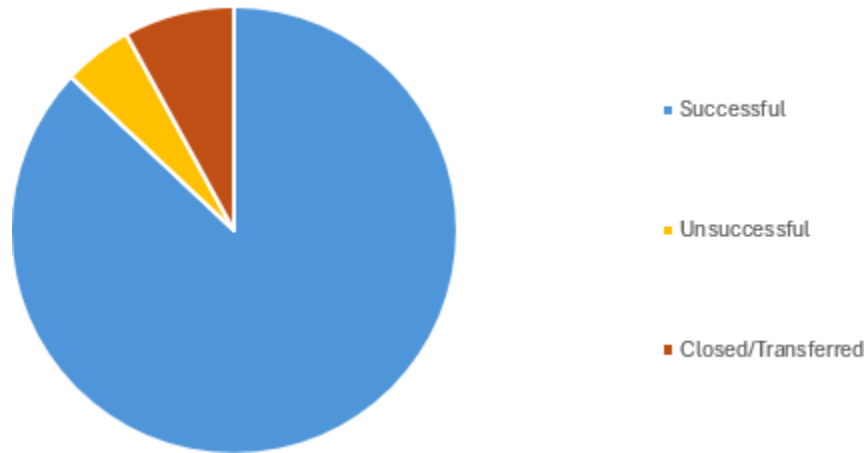


Figure 8

3. Strategic Plan Alignment

Goal: Community Safety and Well-Being (C.S.W.B.)

Objective: Align with the C.S.W.B. Plan to implement strategies identifying/supporting victims/offenders/priority populations.

4. Conclusion

It is recommended that the 2025 Youth Crime Report be received for information purposes by the P.P.S.B.

ELDER AND VULNERABLE ADULT ABUSE

1. Background

This report provides information about the mandate of the P.R.P. Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Coordinator and the number of related investigations undertaken in adherence to *Ontario Policing Standards* LE-021. PRP Directive 1-B-701 (F) also provides instructions and guidelines and serves to educate members of the existence of abuse and neglect of elderly and/or vulnerable adults. It also provides instructions for what action is to be taken when encountered.

The role of the Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Coordinator includes:

- Act as a liaison for all frontline officers and all P.R.P. bureaus when they require assistance in the investigation of Elder/Vulnerable Person Abuse
- Provide assistance by referring members of the community to external partners and community groups. These groups work collaboratively with the Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Coordinator to provide support and resources for victims, people in need, family members and caregivers.

- Coordinate training programs, conduct lectures, and disseminate information to members of this service and the public
- Review all police occurrences identified as “Elder Abuse” or “Vulnerable Person Abuse” which is any occurrence involving a person 60 years of age or more or who is considered a “Vulnerable” (18+) person, who has been the Victim, the Accused or the Complainant of abuse or suspected abuse
- Review police occurrences that involve personal injury or threat of personal injury, loss of property, general mistreatment of older adults or vulnerable persons. These occurrences could be both criminal and non-criminal in nature

The Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Coordinator is the policy centre for the following P.R.P. directives:

<u>Issue Number</u>	<u>Subject</u>
I-B-701 (F)	Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse

Definition:

Elder abuse and vulnerable adult abuse refers to any act or behaviour that harms or threatens to harm the health or well-being of an elderly or vulnerable adult. The abuse is often caused by someone in a position of trust or authority that the elderly/vulnerable adult relies upon for their basic needs. Forms of abuse include, but are not limited to physical, sexual, financial and psychological abuse and neglect, whether active or passive.

The age of 60 years or more has historically been used by P.R.P. as a benchmark for collecting data with respect to incidents involving possible or actual elder abuse and is the standard amongst police services throughout Ontario.

Persons 60 Years of Age and Over

2021 population estimates for the City of Brampton and City of Mississauga are as follows:

Total Population = 1,374,445

Source: Statistics Canada; 2021 Census of Population.

2021 population estimates for age cohort over 60 years estimates for the City of Brampton and City of Mississauga are as follows:

Population 60+ = 283,455

Percentage of population 60+ = 20.6%

Source: Statistics Canada; 2021 Census of Population.

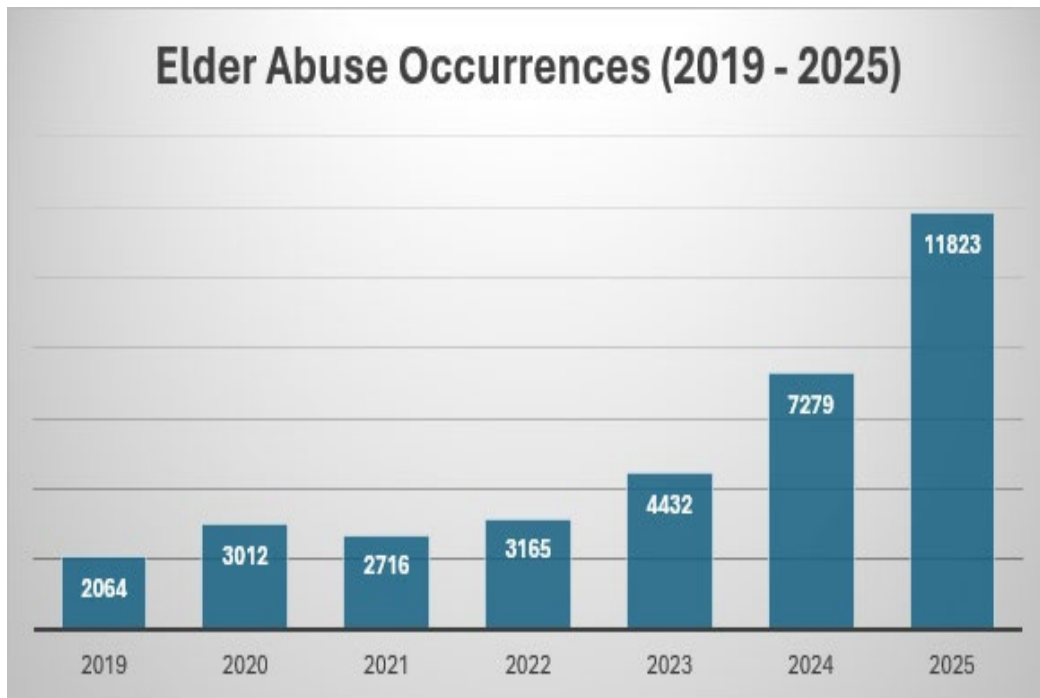
2. Findings

Between January 1st, 2025, and December 31st, 2025, the Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Coordinator reviewed **11,823** police occurrences involving elder person(s) and vulnerable adult(s). This was a 62% increase from the **7,279** occurrences reviewed in 2024.

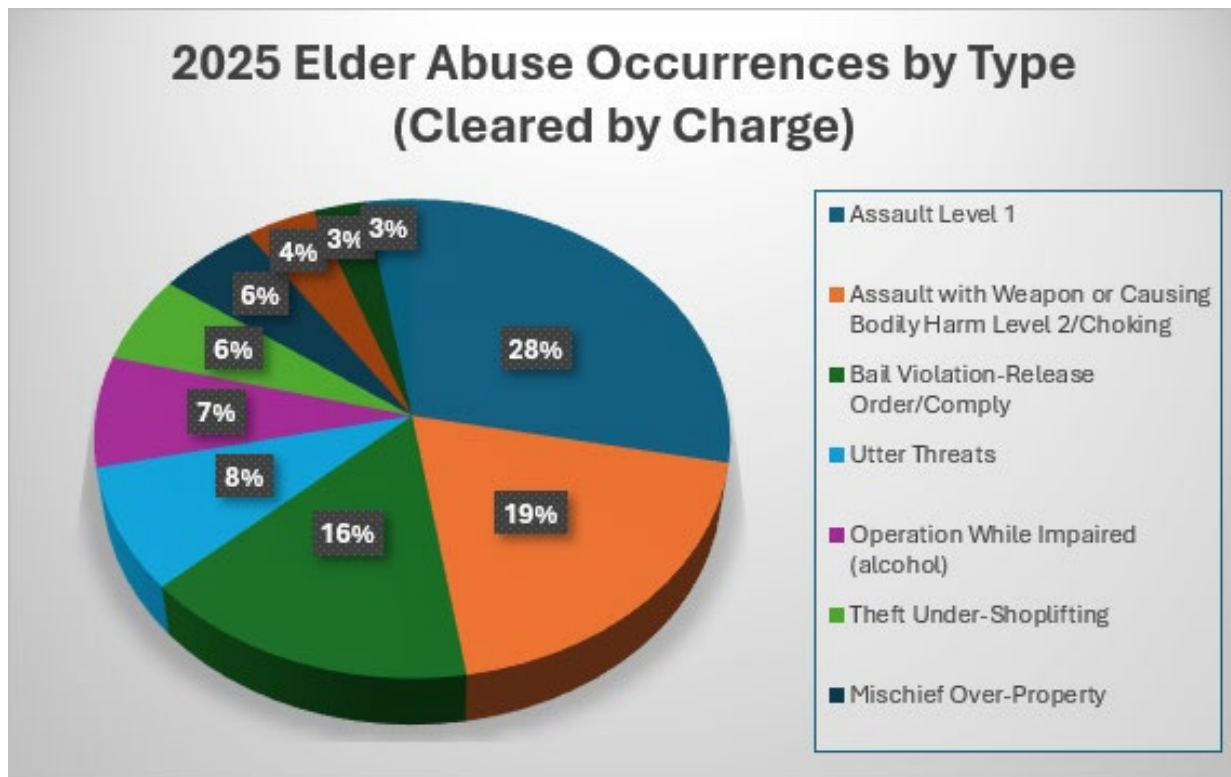
These **11,823** occurrences were resolved as follows:

Occurrence Status	Count	%
Complete - solved (non-criminal)	6088	51.49%
Open/still under investigation	2281	19.29%
Insufficient evidence to proceed	1399	11.83%
Cleared by charge (includes charges recommended)	1360	11.50%
Unfounded	336	2.84%
Clr other: Departmental discretion	289	2.44%
Clr other: CSC identified - vic/comp request no further action	60	0.51%
Victim/complainant declines to proceed (no CSC identified)	3	0.03%
Clr other: CSC under 12 years of age	2	0.02%
Clr other: CSC involved in other incidents	2	0.02%
Clr other: Reason beyond control of department (policy)	1	0.01%
Clr other: Death of CSC (not suicide)	1	0.01%
Clr other: Incident cleared by other muni/prov/fed agency	1	0.01%
Grand Total	11823	100%

Number of Incidents Identified as Potential Elder Abuse 2019 – 2025:



Breakdown of the 881 incidents cleared by charge - 2025:



Community Referrals

Upon review of the 11,823 occurrences, the Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Coordinator provided 326 consultations to community members to offer education and resources. Of those consultations, the Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Coordinator made 38 direct referrals to social services, public guardian and trustee and to internal P.R.P. bureaus. This included referrals to Crisis Outreach and Support Team (C.O.A.S.T.) and the Divisional Mobilization Unit for follow-up and continued support for elder and vulnerable persons within the community.

Presentations

In 2025, the Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Coordinator provided 12 internal training sessions to various P.R.P. personnel including officers attending the Mental Health Course, new recruits and Divisional Mobilization Training.

Externally, 32 virtual and in-person presentations were delivered to community members comprised of emergency medical services, community agency workers, long-term care service providers, residents, caregivers, elders living in their own home, volunteers and neighbourhood associations. The presentations were designed to educate the participants as to the issues surrounding elder abuse and vulnerable person abuse.

Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Coordinator: Engagement and Oversight

Starting in September 2025, data was collected on the volume of phone calls and emails handled monthly by the Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Coordinator. The data was categorized by internal assistance, external agency coordination, and public inquiries:

Category	Phone Calls	Emails	Combined Total
Internal Assistance	55	57	112
External Agency	34	38	72
Public Inquiries	54	35	89
Total Communications	143	130	273
Diverted to Investigation	-	-	11

Senior Safety Calendars

The Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Coordinator worked with Corporate Communications in developing a “Safety for Seniors” calendar. This calendar included information and resources in relation to senior safety and elder abuse. 7000 calendars were distributed to various seniors’ groups and organizations within the Region. The “Safety for Seniors” calendar is extremely popular with seniors and demonstrates to the public one (1) of the many ways that P.R.P. is dedicated to making the Region, “A Safer Community Together.”

Elder Abuse Committee Involvement

The Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Coordinator sits on three (3) committees in the Region that impact Elder and Vulnerable Persons. The role of the coordinator on these committees is to provide interpretation, direction and guidance from a police perspective on issues tabled. It is also an opportunity to engage stakeholders and partners.

- Law Enforcement Agencies Protecting Seniors (L.E.A.P.P.S.)
- Peel Elder Abuse Prevention Network (P.E.A.P.N.)
- Vulnerable Person Registry Committee (V.P.R.C.)

3. Strategic Plan Alignment

Goal: Community Safety and Well-Being (C.S.W.B.)

Objective: Align with the C.S.W.B. Plan to implement strategies identifying/supporting victims/offenders/priority populations.

4. Equity and Inclusion Considerations

Addressing elder abuse in the Region requires a comprehensive approach that considers equity and inclusion. Here are some key considerations:

- a. **Respecting Different Cultures:** Peel Region has people from many cultures, each with their own views on aging and family. It's important to understand and respect these differences when helping with elder abuse. Support should be sensitive to different cultural needs.
- b. **Language Help:** Some elders might struggle to get help because of language barriers. Offering support in multiple languages spoken in Peel Region ensures everyone can get the help they need.
- c. **Making Services Accessible:** Some older adults have disabilities or mobility issues. Services like hotlines or shelters need to be easy for everyone to use, including those with disabilities.
- d. **Involving the Community:** Work with community leaders, religious groups, and others to talk about elder abuse and how to stop it. This helps reach out to older adults who might be isolated or at risk of abuse.

In summary, elder abuse continues to be a priority for P.R.P. with the continued growth in our aging community. The Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Coordinator will continue to represent P.R.P. with various community partners and social agencies to provide the necessary resources and education to support seniors and vulnerable adults. This priority population will continue to be supported by the 2024-2027 Strategic Plan "Community Safety and Well Being Together" by focusing on a plan to implement strategies and initiatives identifying and supporting victims, offenders and priority populations (1.4).

5. Conclusion

It is recommended that the 2025 Elder and Vulnerable Adult Persons at Risk report be received for information purposes by the P.P.S.B.

Approved for Submission



Nick Milinovich, Deputy Chief - Investigative & Emergency Services Command

For further information regarding this report, please contact Inspector Rebecca Miller-Small at extension 3400 or via email at 2221@peelpolice.ca.

Authored By: Inspector Rebecca Miller-Small