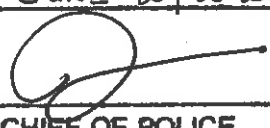


06-05-20



FORWARDED TO
POLICE SERVICES BOARD

DATE JUNE 2, 2020



CHIEF OF POLICE

RECEIVED BY
PEEL POLICE SERVICES BOARD

DATE June 5/2020 **REPORT**

LOG No. 43

FILE CLASS PO2 For Information

File Class: 1-01-02-01

Cross-Reference File Class: _____

DATE: May 29, 2020

SUBJECT: **2019 PERSONS AT RISK ANNUAL REPORT**

FROM: Nick Milinovich, Deputy Chief, Investigative Services Command

RECOMMENDATION

That the 2019 Persons at Risk Annual Report be received as information.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- Child Abuse and Neglect
- Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse
- Domestic Violence Occurrences
- Youth Crime Report
- Internet Child Exploitation

DISCUSSION

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board 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:

- i) **Child Abuse and Neglect** – reporting area, Special Victims Unit
- ii) **Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse** – reporting area, Community Mobilization and Well Being
- iii) **Domestic Violence Occurrences** – reporting area, Family and Intimate Partner Violence
- iv) **Youth Crime Report** – reporting area, Youth Engagement
- v) **Internet Child Exploitation** – reporting area, Internet Child Exploitation Unit

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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Background

One of the core responsibilities of the Peel Regional Police (PRP) Special Victims Unit (SVU) is to conduct thorough investigations into allegations of child abuse (children under 18) by caregivers, a category which includes, but is not limited to parents, babysitters, teachers, daycare providers, child youth workers and foster parents.

All investigations in SVU are conducted in accordance with the PRP Criminal Investigation Management Plan and the Region of Peel Child Abuse Investigation Protocol in partnership with the Peel District School Board, Trillium Health Partners, Peel Children's Centre and Peel Children's Aid Society (Peel CAS). The Inspector in charge of SVU has participated in the review of the Region of Peel Child Abuse Protocol that will be formally updated in the spring of 2019.

The Region of Peel Sexual Assault Emergency Response Protocol is no longer valid. Effective February 2019, it was replaced with the Enhanced Violence Against Women Protocol which was spear headed by the Peel Committee Against Women Abuse (PCAWA). Peel Regional Police were actively involved in the protocols development.

Certain designated offences are mandated by the Solicitor General and has been since 1995, to be investigated in accordance with Ontario Major Case Management System established guidelines. Officers within SVU are trained to a level that meets or exceeds the necessary investigative skills; they receive on-going training, participating in courses such as:

- Sexual Assault Investigators Course
- Major Case Management Course
- Powercase Course
- Investigating Offences Against Children Course
- Forensic Interviewing Course
- Search Warrant Course
- Preparation, Engage, Account, Closure and Evaluation (PEACE) Interviewing Course

Child abuse investigations where young victims suffer serious, life threatening injuries are usually complex and will often hinge on medical evidence. Over the last several years, SVU has on average, investigated 10 of these serious child abuse cases per year.

SVU liaises and works cooperatively with numerous social services and community agencies within the Region of Peel. The relationships are guided by the Region of Peel Child Abuse Investigation Protocol. Participating agencies include the following agencies:

- Trillium Health Partners
- Peel CAS
- Crown Attorney's Office
- Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board
- Ministry of Attorney General – Peel
- Peel Children's Centre
- Peel District School Board
- William Osler Health System

The Protocol communicates the required reporting, investigative and legal responsibility processes related to incidents of child abuse with the goal of ensuring the safety and well-being of children in Peel Region. The protocol directs that incidents of a criminal nature be investigated jointly by the PRP and the CAS, working together.

Findings

In 2019, SVU received 708 calls for assistance from the CAS. The calls for assistance were either a query for information or a consultation on an incident they were investigating, with some of these incidents leading to a joint investigation. The review of referrals is an ongoing joint process between PRP and CAS to maintain and refine the reporting criteria and achieve a consistent method of evaluating occurrences.

Calls for Assistance Received from the CAS

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
923	1055	880	773	693	708

Special Victims Unit Child Abuse Investigations

The table below lists the number of physical, sexual and neglect investigations undertaken in the Region in relation to children (<18).

ABUSE TYPES	2018	2019	2018-19 Change
Sexual Offences Against Children	494	308	- 37.6%
Physical Assaults Against Children	670	727	8.51%
Neglect	3	1	-66.67%
Total Investigations	1167	1036	- 11.2%

Partnerships

The Officer-in-Charge of SVU sits on numerous committees representing PRP. These include:

Child Abuse Review Team (CART) – mandated by the Family and Child Services Act of Ontario, this team reviews incidents of child abuse ensuring the protection of children and improving police and related agencies response.

Children's Aid Liaison (CAL) - The purpose is to meet on a quarterly basis to discuss new initiatives and policies in both organizations. The opportunity is also used to bring forward any incidents both positive and negative in order to maintain a progressive working relationship.

Victim Services of Peel (VSOP) - the Officer-in-Charge of SVU represents PRP as the police liaison officer on the Board of Directors.

The Peel Crown Attorney's office has a strong relationship with SVU investigators and ensures support, as may be required, through the investigative process and criminal prosecution.

SVU is well positioned to continue to effectively fulfill their investigative mandate. The assigned officers are currently well trained and will continue to receive the training required to develop and maintain the skills necessary to effectively manage the complex and sensitive nature of child abuse investigations.

PRP are recognized for the ability to work collaboratively with other agencies within the Region of Peel. Our Child Abuse Investigation Protocol has been recognized as a standard for the Province, and is a working document that is a testament to our commitment to children and families within the Region of Peel.

ELDER AND VULNERABLE ADULT ABUSE

Background

The following provides information about the mandate of the Peel Regional Police (PRP) Elder Abuse and Vulnerable Adult Coordinator ("Regional Coordinator") and the number of related investigations that were undertaken in adherence to Ontario Policing Standards LE-021.

Definitions:

Elderly Person: means an adult who is 60 years of age or older;

Vulnerable Adult: means an adult (18+ years) who depends upon others to meet their everyday needs due to mental illness and/or developmental disabilities, or requires long term or indefinite care due to age or medical conditions;

Elder Abuse/Vulnerable Adult Abuse: means 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 his or her 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 has historically been used by Peel Regional Police 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.

Number of Persons 60 Years of Age and Over in Mississauga & Brampton

2019 population estimates for the Cities of Mississauga and Brampton are as follows:

Total Population	1,420,649
Population 60+	282,399
Percentage of population 60+	19.9%

Source: Region of Peel Planning Department

Findings

Between January 1 and December 31, 2019, the Elder Abuse/Vulnerable Person Coordinator received a total of 3,575 criminal and non-criminal police occurrences that involved;

1. a) a person 60+ years of age, or
b) a person 18+ years of age considered vulnerable

whom has been the victim or a complainant of suspected abuse (Physical, Sexual, Psychological, Neglect, Financial)
2. An Elderly Person / Vulnerable Adult that is directly or indirectly involved in a domestic incident, or
3. Any occurrence that the reporting officer / review officer requests to be sent to the Elder Abuse Co-ordinator.

There was a notable increase in the number of occurrences received year-to-year between 2017 and 2019 predominantly due to;

- The process in which domestic occurrences are coded; since late 2017, the Review Office began coding all "Domestic" occurrences involving older adults (directly or indirectly) as potential "Elder/Vulnerable Abuse." The adjustment to the new coding occurred well into 2018 which resulted in a more expansive capture of occurrences,
- Ongoing education, information and awareness of Elder Abuse that promotes the reporting of such incidents, and
- An aging population within our region.

Of the 3,575 occurrences that were received, 1,955 were further reviewed for potential elder/vulnerable abuse, an increase of 110% from 2018 (929 incidents).

The 1,955 incidents were resolved as follows:

- 1683 were deemed non-criminal
- 238 were cleared by charge
- 34 were cleared other (*e.g. departmental discretion – Caution*)

The Coordinator made 131 referrals of qualified elder/vulnerable persons to PRP support bureaus and to social services agencies.

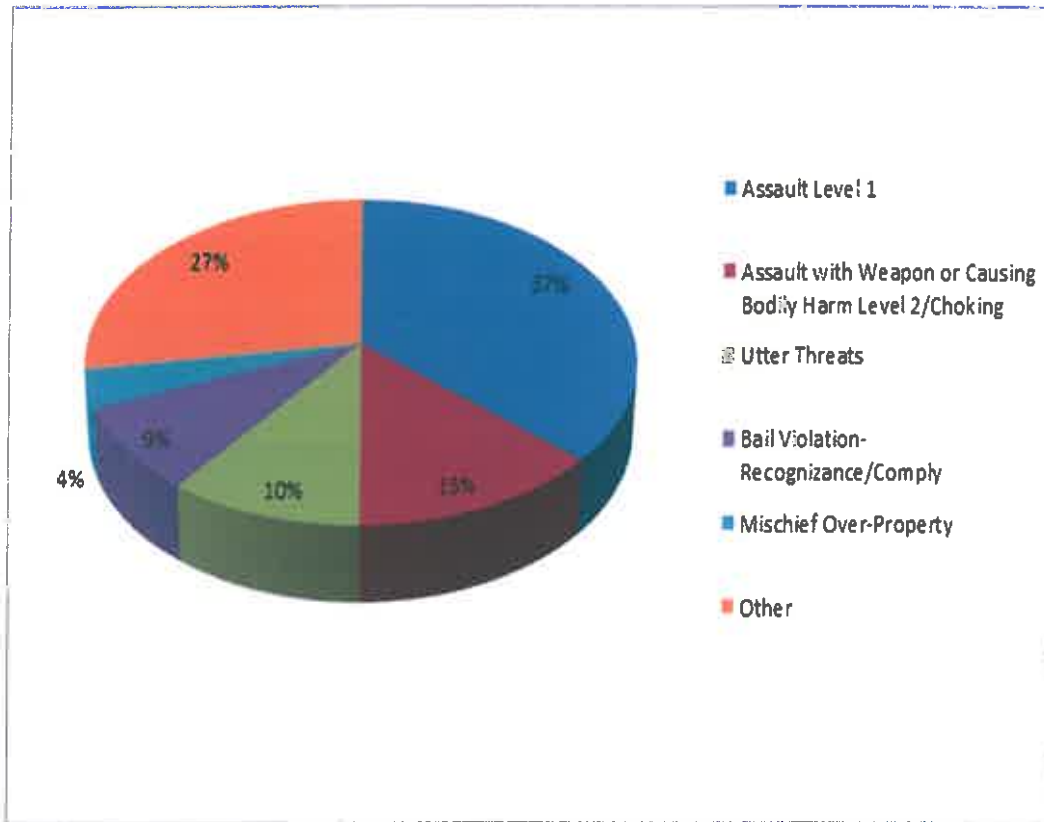
Elder Abuse Variation in Statistical Data 2015 – 2019

		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Variance 2018 - 2019	
							#	%
Actuals	Elder Abuse	117	133	316	929	1,053	1,026	110%
	Total Cleared by Charge	15	29	42	113	238	125	111%
	Total Cleared by Other	3	3	8	30	34	4	13%
	Non-Criminal	99	101	266	786	1,067	897	114%

Data Source: OccDiv 2015 - 2019

Non-Criminal = Actuals - Total Cleared by Charge and Cleared by other

Pie Chart Illustration: Breakdown of the 238 incidents cleared by charge – 2019



Presentations:

In 2019, the Elder Abuse Coordinator provided 22 presentations to various personnel including: newly promoted sergeants, recruit officers, officers attending the Domestic Violence and Intimate Partner course, Communications Bureau personnel and Victim Services staff. The Elder Abuse Coordinator also delivered 18 external presentations 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 are designed to raise awareness and educate participants as to the issues surrounding elder and vulnerable person's abuse.

Elder Abuse Committee Involvement:

The Elder Abuse Coordinator sits on two regional committees that impact Elder and Vulnerable Persons issues:

- Law Enforcement Agencies Protecting Seniors (L.E.A.P.S.)
- Peel Elder Abuse Prevention Network (P.E.A.P.N.)

The role of the Coordinator on these committees is to provide interpretation, direction and guidance along with a police perspective to the issues that are tabled. It is also an opportunity to engage stakeholders and partners.

FAMILY AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE UNIT

Background

The Peel Regional Police (PRP) Family and Intimate Partner Violence Unit (FIPV) plays a key role in ensuring compliance with both internal and external legislation governing our service's response to matters involving family and intimate partner violence. FIPV is staffed by a Regional Coordinator and is not an investigative unit. The Coordinator is responsible for ensuring that officers are effectively trained and kept apprised of evolving legislation with the goal of ensuring that PRP complies with provincial adequacy standards and emerging best practices.

FIPV is the policy centre for the following PRP directives:

Issue Number	Subject
I-A-602 (F)	Criminal Harassment
II-A-213 (F)	Project Guardian - Pilot Project
I-B-713 (F)	Family and Intimate Partner Violence

The majority of domestic incident calls received by PRP are investigated by Divisional front line uniform personnel. While many of these calls are non-criminal in nature, others may be more complex and potentially indicative of a threat to a person's safety. In complex cases, respective Divisional Criminal Investigation Bureau (CIB) takes carriage of the investigations.

Findings

Adequacy Standard LE-024 – Training Models

Commencing January 2001, all police services in Ontario were required by Adequacy Standard LE-024 to train Domestic Violence Investigators (DVI's) and to select a police response model for the investigation of domestic cases. The four models of service delivery offered were:

1. Ensuring that an adequate number of patrol officers are designated as DVI's, or;
2. Establishing a specialized unit of DVI's responsible for undertaking, managing, or reviewing all domestic violence investigations, or;
3. Designating a domestic violence occurrence as a threshold occurrence, thereby requiring that the investigation be undertaken or managed by a criminal investigator, or;
4. Designating patrol supervisors as DVI's, responsible for undertaking, managing, or reviewing all domestic violence investigations.

Domestic Violence Investigator Training

The Domestic Violence Investigator's (DVI) Course is an extensive four day course held twice yearly at the Emil V. Kolb Centre for Police Excellence. Upon completion, officers are awarded the DVI designation. Historically, priority was given to supervisors and acting supervisors, however, PRP has since adopted a more inclusive approach and includes front line officers and those in investigative bureaus who are exposed to these types of investigations. PRP currently has **845** officers with the DVI designation.

Divisional Family and Intimate Partner Violence (FIPV) Coordinators

Each PRP Division has a designated Divisional FIPV Coordinator. These Coordinators augment the training needs of front line officers through platoon/parade training.

The Regional FIPV Coordinator liaises regularly with the Divisional FIPV Coordinators and hosts quarterly meetings. These meetings provide an opportunity for ongoing support, to answer inquiries from investigators, provide mentoring, identify quality control, and NICHE tasking deficiencies. Additionally, by meeting as a group, concerning trends are identified and brought to the attention of managers. Coordinators continue to focus on the needs/safety concerns of the victim, which may include liaising with the Risk Evaluation and Management in Peel Committee (ReVAMP) described later in this document.

Family and Intimate Partner Violence (FIPV) Investigations

Peel Regional Police complies with the charging guidelines of the Province of Ontario. The Service has comprehensive directives that speak to family and intimate partner investigations. These directives include detailed steps on how domestic related investigations are documented to ensure that officers are conducting a comprehensive investigation.

Directives require officers to video record interviews and when not readily available, to take a written statement followed up by a video statement. A KGB statement is to be taken when criminal charges are anticipated¹.

In providing follow-up to the post court judicial process, the PRP Offender Management Unit is the policy centre for the Federal and Provincial Sex Offender Registry and high-risk individuals. The local courts utilize the Partner Assault Response Program (PAR), a program offering various

¹ A KGB statement refers to *R v B (KG)* - a 1993 Supreme Court of Canada decision serving to guide police process in relation to the admissibility of prior inconsistent statements as proof of the truth of their contents.

supports including rehabilitation, healthy relationship education and anger management for offenders found guilty of domestic violence offences. There are two court approved PAR providers in Peel Region: Catholic Family Services of Peel-Dufferin (serves Brampton) and Family Services of Peel (serves Mississauga). The John Howard Society of Peel offers a Healthy Partners Program for offenders.

Safety Issues and Public Awareness

a) Peel Children's Aid

Peel Regional Police takes a precautionary approach in dealing with matters where a child is likely to be exposed to domestic violence. These incidents are reported directly to the Peel CAS. Peel CAS has two Domestic Violence Teams solely dedicated to providing support for children who have been exposed to intimate partner violence. This practice exceeds the requirements of the Child and Family Services Act.

b) Project Guardian – SupportLink

In December 2017, VSOP launched Project Guardian, which replaced the previous personal alarm system (Domestic Violence Emergency Response System - DVERS). Project Guardian is a pilot project sponsored by VSOP. 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, which is carried by the individual. When the recipient is faced with immediate danger of physical harm, he/she depresses the SOS button on the pendant. This automatically calls Northern 911 Emergency Centre through 2-way hands-free voice technology who in-turn notifies the appropriate police service.

Criteria and suitability for the program is determined by VSOP. The criterion includes: the accused does not reside with the client; the incident is reported to police; there is a court order of protection (restraining order, peace bond, recognizance etc.) in place; and, the individual is at high risk of being the victim of physical violence.

In 2019, 6 clients benefited from the program, which will continue to be piloted through 2020.

Public Education and Awareness:

Delivering education, promoting awareness, and facilitating access to appropriate resources both within the service and the community in general is a high priority for PRP.

In order to provide the public with information regarding family and intimate partner violence and identify community agencies that provide assistance and support to victims and their families the following have been made available:

- Access to safety planning tips and suggestions are available to the public on the PRP FIPV webpage.
- The previous "Intimate Relationship Domestic Violence/Abuse pamphlet" was updated, improved and renamed to the "Family and Intimate Partner Violence Pamphlet". The new pamphlet was launched in 2019 and is available in five languages: English, Urdu, Punjabi, Arabic and Simplified Chinese. These languages were selected after consultation with the Region of Peel and a review of the top ten languages spoken at home (2016 Census

Language data release for Peel and GTA) that have experienced growth; subject to ongoing feedback from the community, additional languages can be added in the future.

Presentations to PRP and VSOP Staff (Appendix I)

Incorporated into the four-day PRP DVI training course are presentations from PRP's multiagency partners who work with victims of IPV on a daily basis. In 2019, 80 personnel received training in Domestic Violence and/or Victims' Issues through the Domestic Violence Investigator's Course.

Community Partnerships / Committees (Appendix II)

The Regional Coordinator is an active participant on various external committees. PRP continues to maintain long standing, working relationships with several community/social services agencies. These agencies focus primarily on the needs of victims and the families of victims impacted by Family and Intimate Partner Violence.

Beyond formal partnerships, efforts to reduce intimate partner violence through community engagement continue with innovative approaches including providing presentations to external partners and developing strategies to identify and support victims.

Statistical Information

FIPV statistics have shown an increase in the number of intimate partner criminal charges laid when compared to 2018 and in the number of intimate partner verbal and non-intimate partner calls.

This increase could be attributed in part to the following;

- An increase in population,
- Education and awareness of intimate partner violence within the community.
- An increase in internal training on Family and Intimate Partner Violence and engagement of the Divisional Coordinators to continue supporting and educating officers at the divisional level,
- PRP has worked closely with community partners and stakeholders to build relationships, assist with their internal training and create strategies and forums that encourage victims to come forward and report violence.

The Family and Intimate Partner Violence occurrence categories are defined as follows:

a) Intimate Partner Occurrences (Total Cleared)

Statistics for this category relate to occurrences of intimate relationships involving persons who are married, living common-law, same-sex couples and dating relationships, whether past or current. These figures identify the number of occurrences cleared by charge or cleared by other.

Examples of Cleared by Other include but are not limited to; death/suicide of the accused, the accused was involved in an Intimate Partner Verbal Dispute (No Charges) incident in conjunction with a unrelated offence and was cleared by departmental discretion for the unrelated offence.

Intimate Partner					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total Cleared	2,199	2,407	2,402	2,706	3,053
Cleared by Charge	2,150	2,347	2,329	2,660	3,017
Cleared by Other	49	60	73	46	36

Source: OCCDIV 2015-2019

b) Intimate Partner Occurrences (Intimate Partner: Verbal – No Charges)

These statistics involve intimate relationship verbal disputes where no criminal charges have been laid:

Intimate Partner					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
No Criminal Charges	6,310	6,521	7,024	7,253	7,765

No Criminal Charges = Actual - Total Cleared

c) Family Dispute Occurrences (Total Cleared)

These statistics involve family incidents (non-intimate partner), including child, parent, siblings, cousins etc. where occurrences were either cleared by charged or cleared by other.

Family Dispute					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total Cleared	958	1,019	1,001	1,090	1,189
Cleared by Charge	793	868	788	880	963
Cleared by Other	165	151	213	210	226

d) Family Dispute Occurrences (Verbal – No Charges)

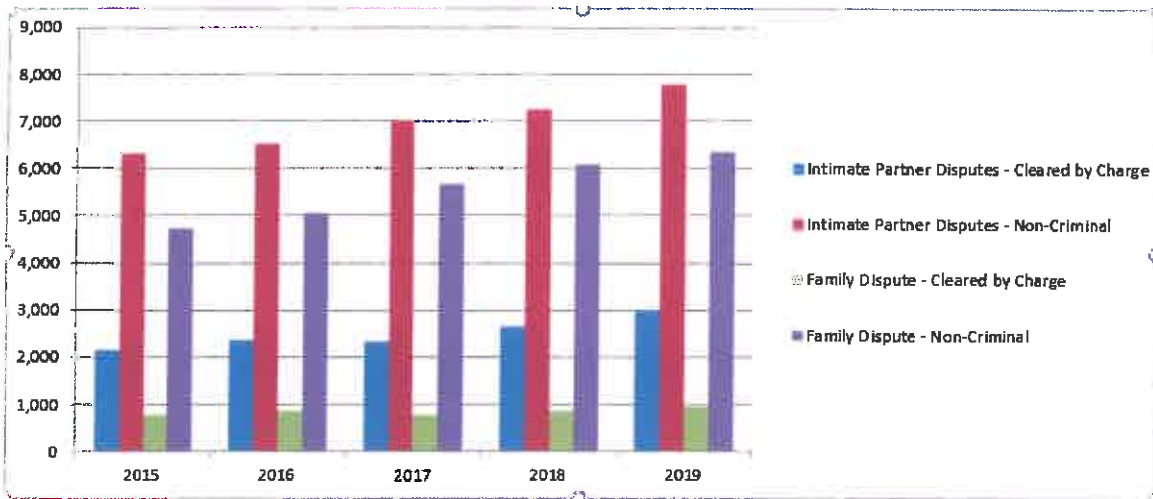
These statistics relate to verbal family disputes (parent/child, siblings etc.) where no criminal charges were laid:

Family Dispute					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
No Criminal Charges	4,727	5,066	5,660	6,082	6,330

Source: OCCDIV 2015-2019

Graph illustration of the statistics provided

The following graph provides a comparative view of the four preceding charts:



The response of PRP to matters of Family and Intimate Partner Violence continues to meet, and in some cases, exceed the requirements of established adequacy standards. PRP exceeds the levels set out in the 2016 National Framework for Collaborative Police Action on Intimate Partner Violence.

The PRP Family and Intimate Partner Violence Unit continues to work collaboratively with operational divisions to ensure that training needs are met and that best practices are adhered to. This is in keeping with our 2017-2019 Strategic Plan's *Strategic Objective in providing assistance to victims of crime and maintain public trust, confidence and satisfaction by delivering quality services and ensuring transparency and accountability*

YOUTH CRIME

Background

The following provides an overview of crime statistics and trends as they relate to young persons investigated by Peel Regional Police. The statistics that are cited in this report were provided by Corporate Planning and Research.

The Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA) defines a young person as someone between the ages of 12 and 17. The YCJA came into effect in April 2003 and includes guiding principles that promote the protection of society while also striking a balance between the need for a meaningful consequence for youth who contravene the law and addressing underlying causes to facilitate rehabilitation.

a) Population

In 2019, the combined population of the Cities of Brampton and Mississauga was 1,420,649. Of those, 106,490 were young persons (+1% from 2018). In 2019, Young Persons represented 7.75% of the area population.

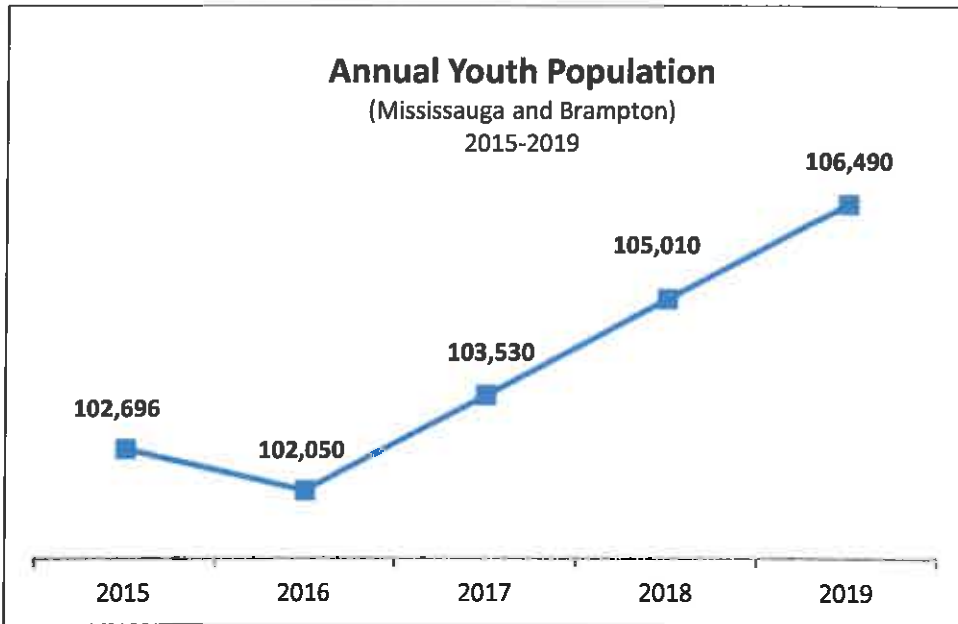


Figure 1

b) Crimes Against Persons

Crimes against persons include offences such as assault, robbery, sexual offences, criminal harassment, and threatening. In 2019, 697 young persons were charged with one of the noted offences. This represented a decrease of 241 young persons (-27.7%) in comparison to 2018.

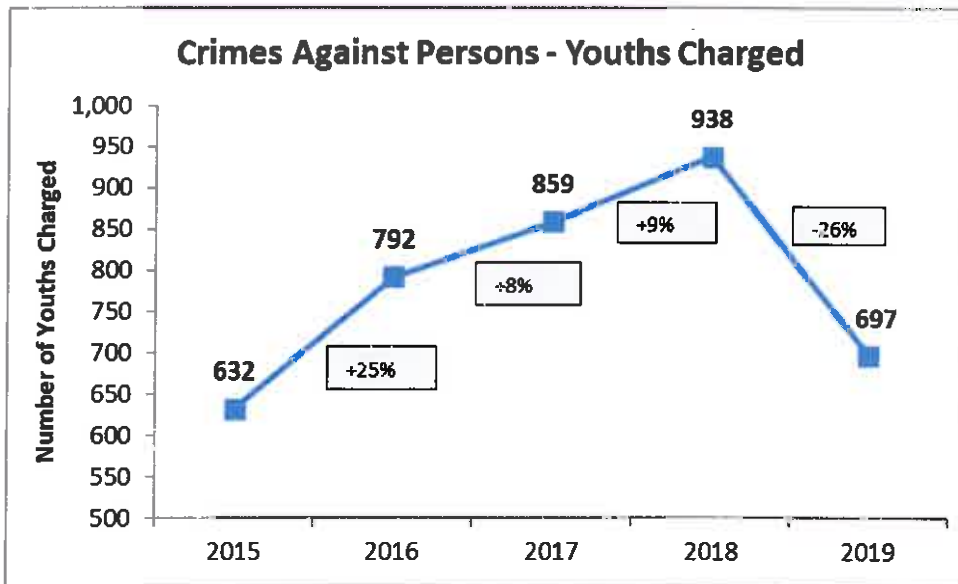


Figure 2

The four most frequently occurring incident types for crimes committed by youths against persons were robbery, assault level 1, assault level 2 and uttering threats.

Figure 3

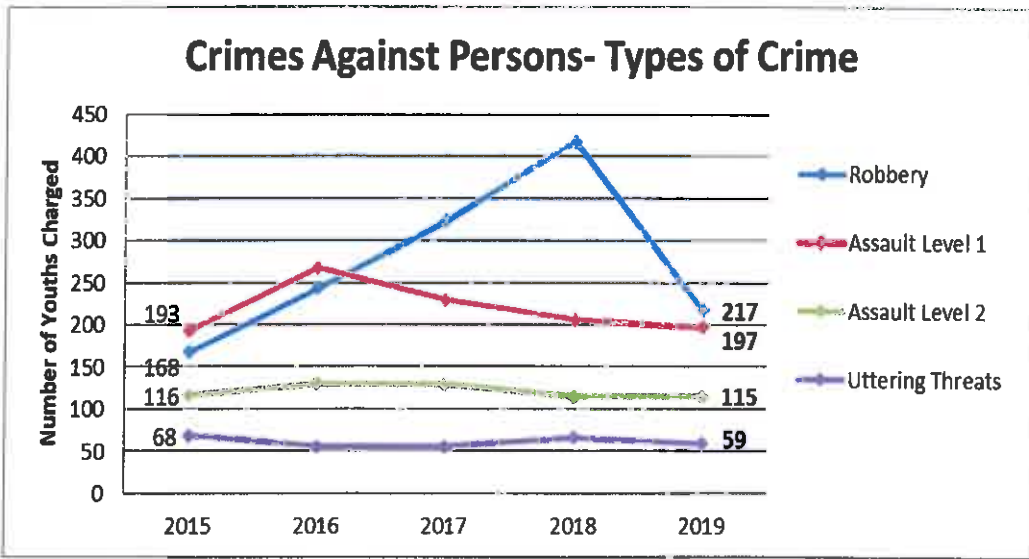


Figure 3

c) Crimes Against Property

Crimes against property include offences such as break and enter, theft, possession of property obtained by crime, fraud, mischief and arson. In 2019, 378 young persons were charged with one of the noted offences. This represented a decrease of 134 (26.2%) in comparison to 2018.

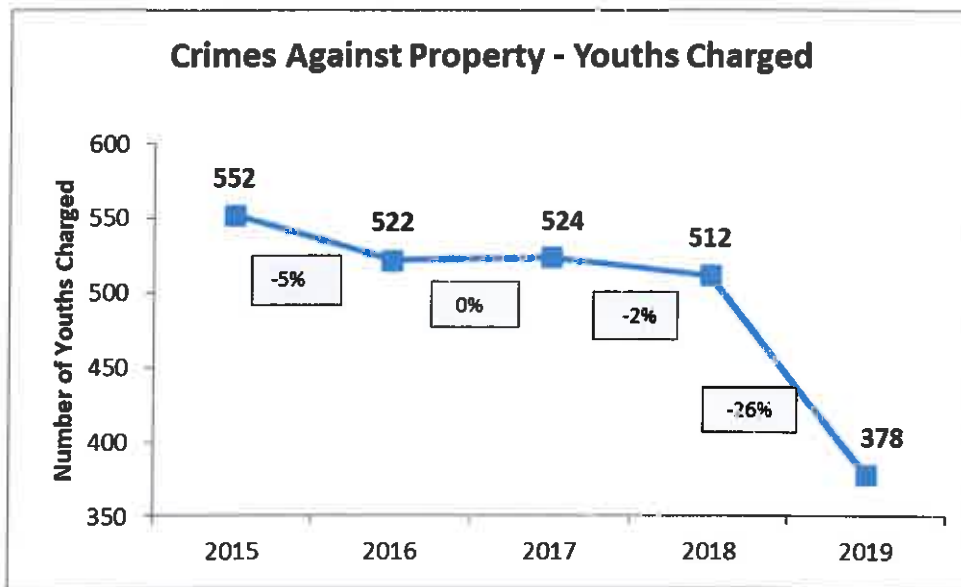


Figure 4

The four most frequently occurring incident types for crimes against property were; Theft, Break and Enter, Mischief and Possession of Stolen Goods.

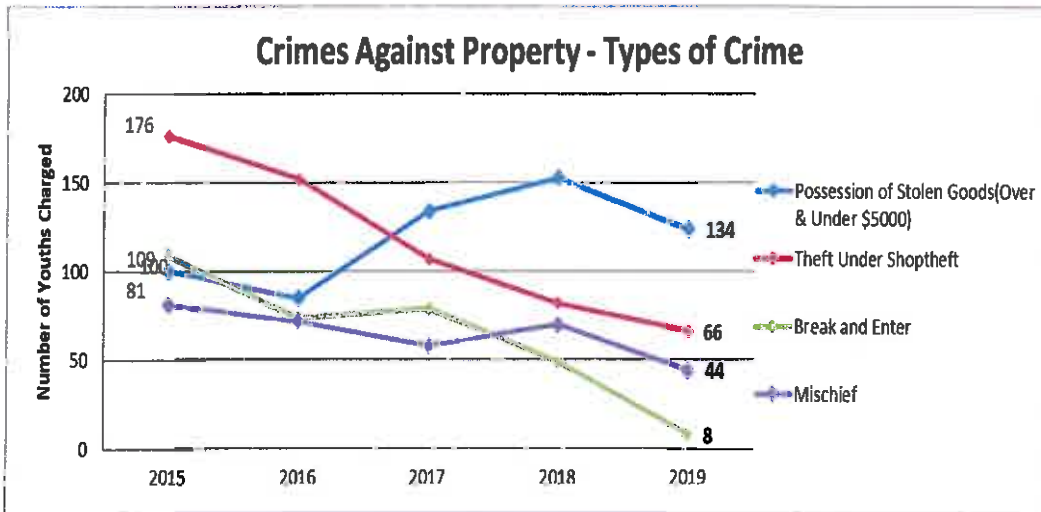


Figure 5

d) Criminal Driving Offences

Criminal driving offences include offences such as Dangerous Driving, Impaired Driving, Fail to Remain at the Scene of an Accident and Street Racing. In 2019, 24 young persons were charged with one of the noted offences, an increase of 3 (+14.3%) from 2018.

In 2019, the majority of criminal driving offence charges involving youth (11) was Dangerous Operation of a Motor Vehicle, down 21% from 2018. There was a 37.5% increase in Failure to Stop or Remain incidents.

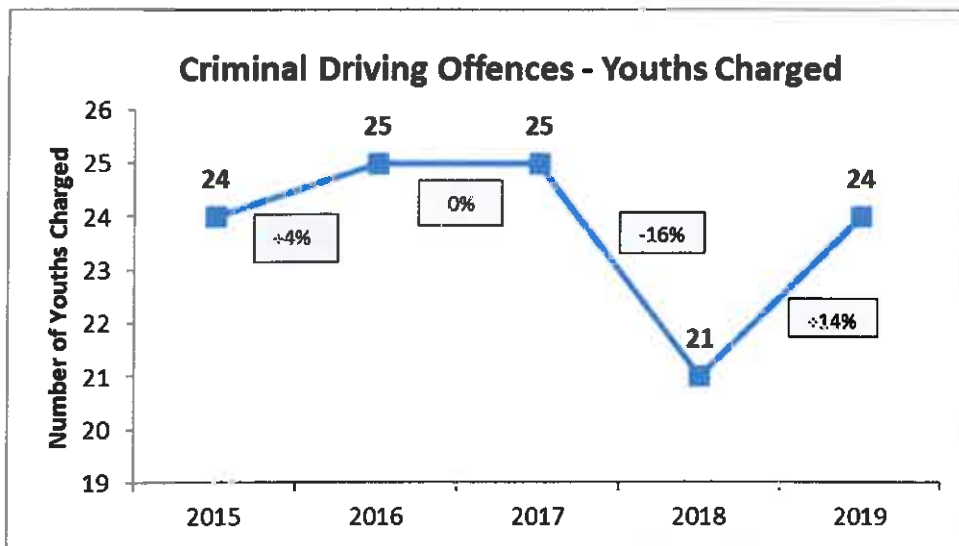


Figure 6

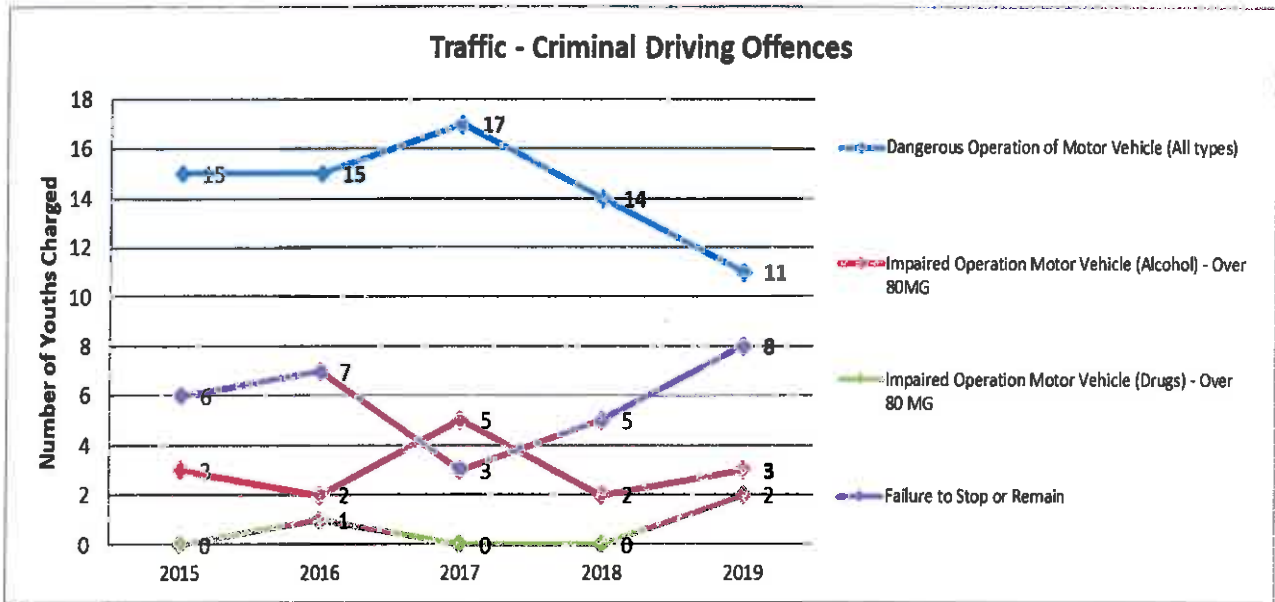


Figure 7

e) Drug Offences

Drug offences include possession, trafficking, and other related crimes. In 2019, 10 young persons were charged in relation to one of these offences. This represented a decrease of 53 (-84.1%) from 2018.

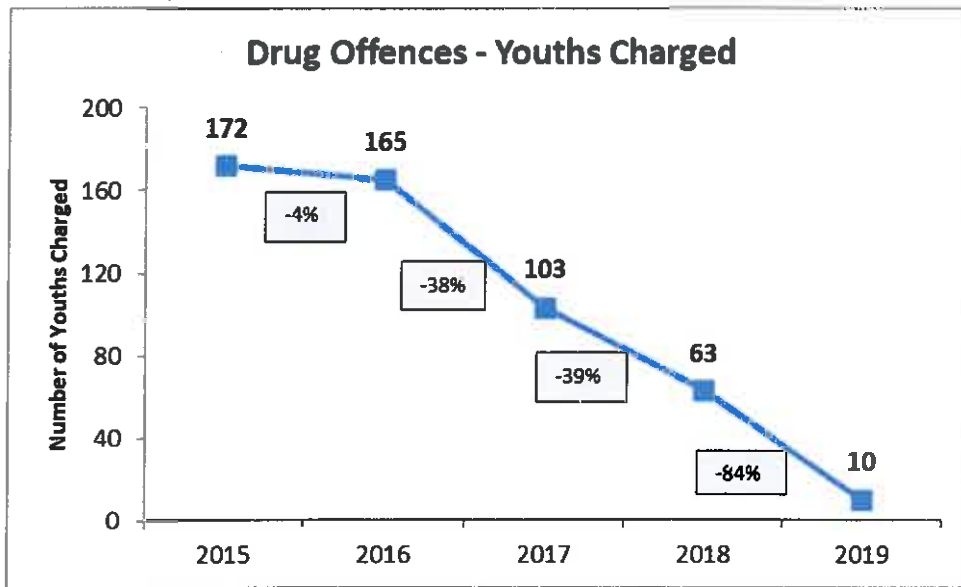


Figure 8

Total Young Persons Charged

In 2019, a total of 1,287 young persons were charged by police, a decrease of 501 (-28%) from 2018.

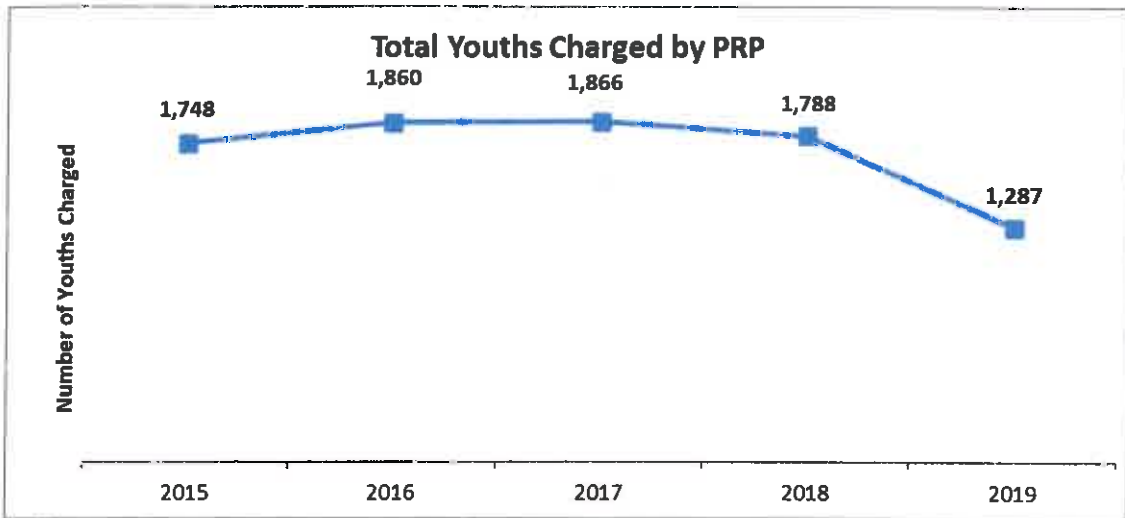


Figure 9

Young persons represented 8.7% of all persons charged by the Peel Regional Police in 2019. The following chart summarizes the comparative analysis of both youth and adult offenders, related to 2018 and 2019.

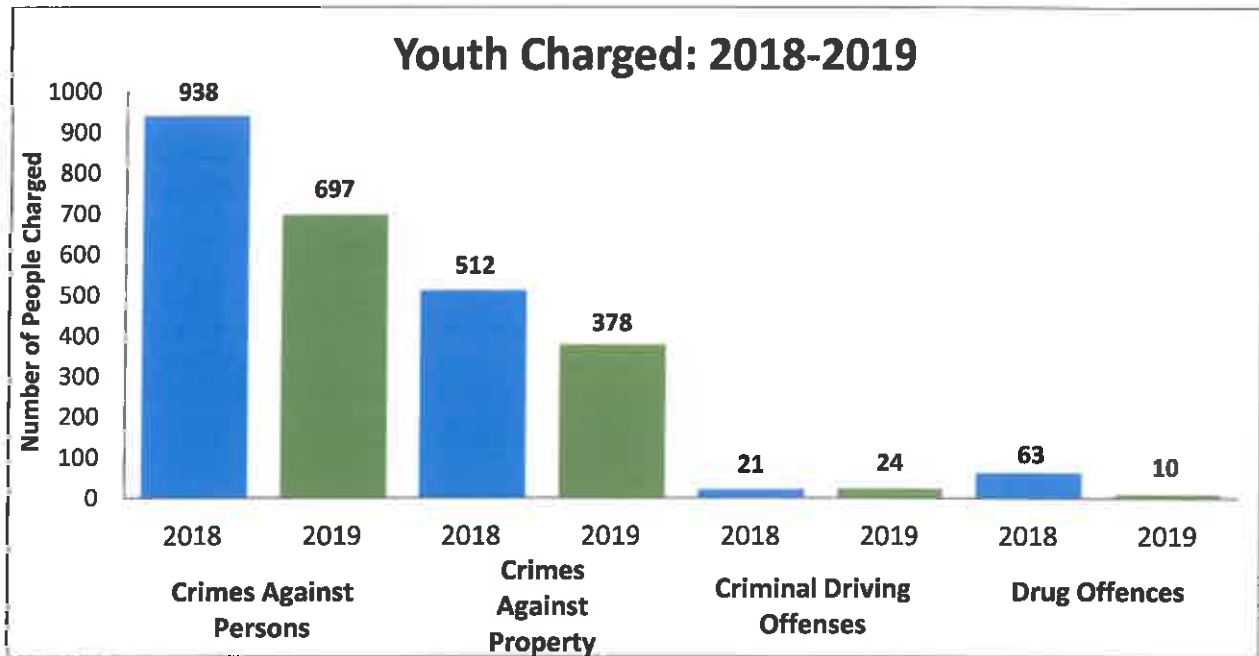


Figure 10

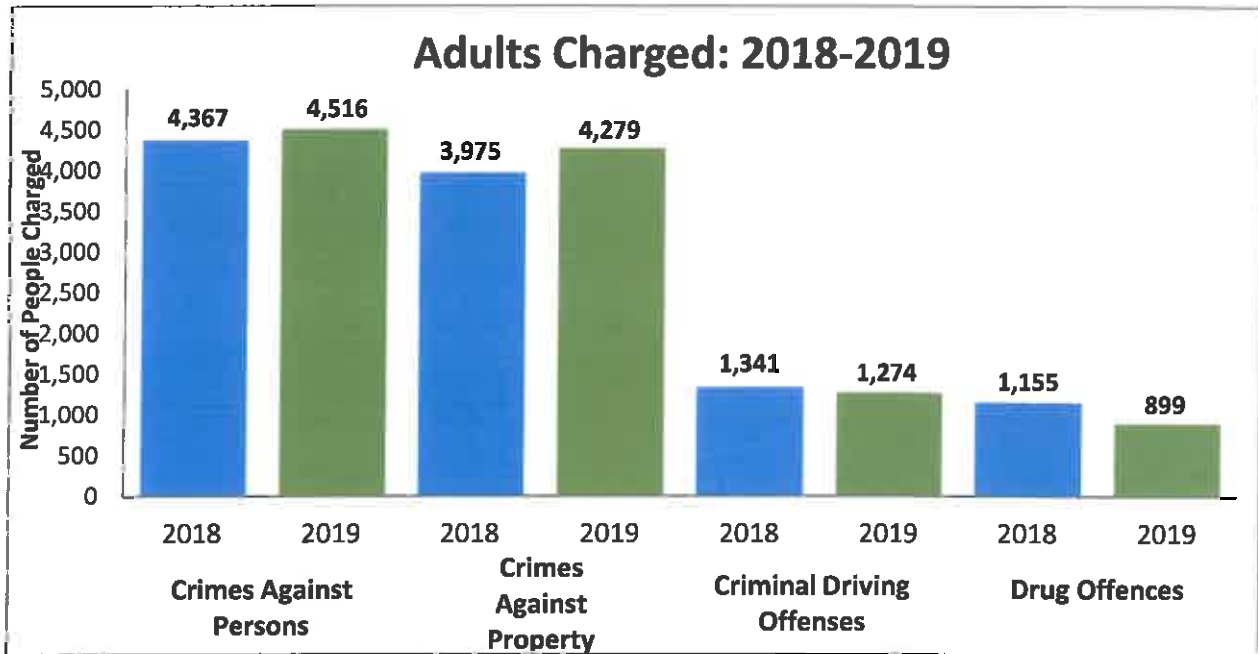


Figure 11

Findings

In general terms, there was a decrease in reported crime from 2018 to 2019. As illustrated in Figure 9, there was a decrease of 501 total criminal charges involving youth from 2018 to 2019 (-28%).

Pre-charge Diversion

A significant component of the Youth Criminal Justice Act is the application of Extrajudicial Measures, a means by which young people are diverted away from the criminal justice system while still ensuring that they are held accountable for their actions. The legislation directs that extrajudicial measures for youth be considered before a charge is laid. Where appropriate, police will refer youth who have committed a criminal offence to the 'Pre-charge Diversion Program' administered by Associated Youth Services of Peel (AYSP).

In 2019, officers referred 532 cases to AYSPP as compared to 2018, when 435 cases were referred (+18.2%). The Youth Engagement Bureau is committed to educating frontline officers on the importance and value of the Pre-Charge Diversion program.

The decision to refer a young person to the program is solely that of the investigating officer; the option is one of four prescribed under the YCJA. The four options are:

- Take no further action;
- Warn the young person;
- Administer a caution; or,
- Refer the youth to a program or agency in the community

In 2019, officers referred 532 youths to the program as compared to 437 youths in 2018, an increase of 95 (+ 21.7%). Closing minor cases by caution is appropriate if the investigating officer deems it the correct course of action. It is worth noting that most of the cases referred to the Pre-

Charge Diversion Program are minor in nature. With referral to the program, youth are simply given a more significant consequence for their actions.

Some of the more common minor offences where officers can consider the pre-charge diversion program include theft, mischief, and minor assault. Minor cannabis possession is no longer a divertible offence due to the new cannabis legislation. Although it is still illegal for anyone under 19 years of age to possess cannabis, it is now a provincial matter rather than a criminal one thus making it an ineligible offence for the pre-charge diversion program.

Each month's analysis is conducted on the recidivism rate of youth in comparison with the same period of the previous year. Of the youths who successfully completed the program in 2019, only 10.6% committed another crime within a one-year period. For those who did not complete the program, the recidivism rate was considerably higher at 35%.

The Pre-charge Diversion Program enabled 532 young people to have a second chance to learn from their mistakes, instead of exposing them to our criminal justice system.

Neighbourhood Policing Units / School Resource Officers

Divisional School Resource Officers (SROs) are assigned to every secondary school in Mississauga and Brampton. The relationships these officers have established with students and staff continue to help maintain a safe environment for young people to learn. Officers have continued to balance enforcement with the development of meaningful and impactful relationships, enabling them to serve as positive role models for the students. SROs have spent countless hours on fundraising, sports, and other volunteer school activities.

Officers in the schools investigated 1,736 daytime incidents during 2019, a decrease of 12.9%.

Youth Education

The Youth Education Bureau is responsible for providing safety-related education to elementary level students, hosting 15,578 youth at the *Peel Children's Safety Village*. This has allowed Peel Regional Police to positively impact a broad spectrum of children.

Youth Education officers also attended classrooms throughout the year to present topics such as Bullying Awareness, Internet Safety, Youth and the Law, Street Proofing, Drug Abuse Prevention, and Youth Gangs. In 2019, 79,021 youths were provided with educational presentations on these topics.

In 2019, the Youth Education Bureau identified a need to update current programming. Two new presentations; (1) Vaping and (2) Human Trafficking (Identifying Vulnerable Youths – IVY) along with an updated Bullying piece were added to the school boards' "Menu Card" of presentations.

In the summer of 2019, the Peel Children's Safety Village was able to expand its programming to include those with special needs. Two hundred twenty-three (223) individuals were provided with Pedestrian Safety education.

In addition, in the summer of 2019, the Peel Children's Safety Village continued its program to provide a summer camp experience to youths aged 5-8, from priority neighbourhoods at no cost to the participants. Officers welcomed 159 youths who received safety presentations and learned about community helpers, including Paramedics, Fire Department, CN Police, and the Peel Regional Police K9 unit.

To further engage with youth in the community, Youth Education officers attended various community events. The events include Bike/Walk-To-School days, Terry Fox Run/Walk, After-School Run & Read program, Kids for Cancer/Kids for Change, Shania Kids Can Program, school athletic engagements, PA day camps, and Peel Regional Police Divisional Open Houses.

Youth in Policing Initiative (YIPI)

During the summer of 2019, the Peel Regional Police employed 25 young people in a mentoring relationship for a period of eight (8) weeks. The Ministry of Children and Youth Services provided funding for 20 students, while the Peel Police Services Board provided funding for five. With the assistance of the Peel District School Board, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board, our French-language secondary schools, and Peel Children's Aid Society, 25 students were selected to work alongside officers and civilians. This mentoring opportunity was well received by these young people.

The Youth in Policing Initiative (YIPI) program was augmented to provide meaningful employment and mentorship experience to the students. As part of their learning experience, the students worked in groups to create a video outlining their experiences with the YIPI program. Students presented their videos to other students and officers from the Youth Education Bureau, with the winning video being presented during their graduation ceremony.

The 2019 YIPI program also continued with the YIPI Team Leader position, which was created in collaboration with the United Way and Safe City Mississauga. This Team Leader was hired through Safe City Mississauga to work alongside Peel Regional Police during the eight-week YIPI program.

The position placed a university/college student from the community in a mentorship role for the YIPI students and served as a liaison between the students and officers. This individual also assisted our officers in planning and organizing events for the students. This position was deemed very valuable for both youths and officers and will be continued going forward in collaboration with the United Way and Safe City Mississauga.

Feedback from the participants of the YIPI program has been extremely positive, with many expressing an interest in actively pursuing a career in policing. Many of them have gone on to pursue post-secondary education in police-related studies.

INTERNET AND CHILD EXPLOITATION

Background

The function of the PRP Internet and Child Exploitation (I.C.E.) Unit is to identify, investigate and prosecute persons involved in the online victimization of children. Both reactive and proactive investigations are undertaken.

As internet crime has no geographical boundaries, the PRP I.C.E. Unit regularly works with Law Enforcement Partners around the world. In 2019, some of those agencies included; INTERPOL, United States of America Department of Homeland Security (H.S.I), Canadian Border Services Agency (C.B.S.A.), Federal Bureau of Investigation (F.B.I.), R.C.M.P., Ontario Provincial Police (O.P.P.), and 26 other Municipal Police Services that make up the Provincial Strategy. The

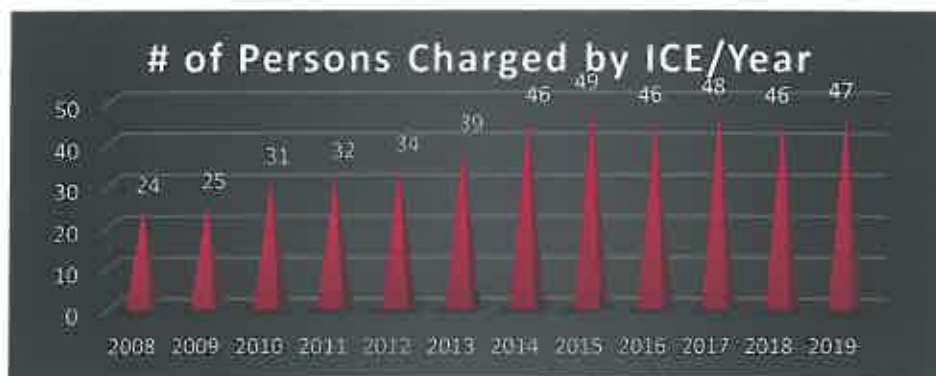
Provincial Strategy is a multi-disciplinary, coordinated province-wide approach to combat internet crimes against children.

External to the Law Enforcement Community, the PRP I.C.E. Unit works closely with several Non-Governmental Organizations (N.G.O.'s). One of these is the Canadian Centre for Child Protection (C3P) in Winnipeg, which operates Canada's national tip line for online exploitation. The Centre also provides resource material that has been federally approved for dissemination in schools. By connecting the Centre with PRP's Youth Education Bureau, age appropriate information regarding online exploitation has been distributed to Peel's Youth.

Finally, as all ICE investigations strive to rescue the victims of online exploitation, one of our most important community partners is the BOOST Child and Youth Advocacy Centre. BOOST 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 Strategy.

Findings

The PRP I.C.E. Unit has continued to grow its capacity, and enforcement within the Unit has remained steady in 2019. The below graph captures the historical performance of the PRP I.C.E. Unit:



In past years, there was growth in the ICE Units capacity to charge more individuals. However, when the five years before 2019 are examined, it is evident that there has been a levelling off in the number of persons charged by the unit in the area of 46-49 persons. The stall in growth of arrests and prosecutions is due to an increase in the complexity of investigations. This is the result of advances in technology, but also due to the increase in obligations and limits imposed on police by the courts.

Challenges being faced by ICE include an exponential growth of cases, specifically in regards to the files received from the NCECC. Most of the cases are referrals from companies that run Internet applications made available to the public and are based in the USA. The referrals occur due to mandatory reporting legislation that compels them to report any known incidents of online child exploitation that occur while utilizing their services. Typically, the nature of these cases involve someone storing, emailing, or posting images/videos of child exploitation material. The ICE Unit experienced a 253% increase in referrals from the NCECC in 2019 over 2018 (396 over 156).

ICE investigators continue to see an increase in the amount of data that needs to be analysed year over year and this presents significant challenges. In 2010 ICE investigators dealt with megabytes and gigabytes, in 2020 they deal with gigabytes and terabytes. In 2016 after arresting 46 individuals, ICE officers analyzed 3.21 TB worth of data. In 2019 after arresting 47, it was 12 TB of data. This represents a volume increase of 373% in data analyzed. Large collections of child sex abuse material measured in the past in tens of thousands are now described in the hundreds of thousands. In 2019, ICE officers categorized 166,000 unique videos and 2.35 million unique images.

Proposed Direction

In regards to the aforementioned challenges facing the ICE Unit, a three-pronged approach will be adapted to try to mitigate problems going forward. Triage, training and technology will help keep the ICE Unit more efficient and focused on its goals of identifying child sex abuse offenders and rescuing victims.

Triage

In 2019 the ICE Unit received 396 referrals from the NCECC. These cases are in addition to the proactive cases, calls for service generated by patrol officers and undercover luring cases overseen by ICE. Going forward from 2019, the ICE Unit intends to develop a triage protocol to separate out those cases that seem to be most serious, and that likely represent a threat to public safety. These cases will be prioritized over cases that most likely do not involve a dedicated effort to collect and disseminate child exploitation material. Time is a finite resource and the ICE Unit will strive to spend it in a way that best protects the public. Training that helps identify and prioritize cases at the referral stage will be obtained from the RCMP. That, combined with the hands on experience of the investigators, should help identify the cases that most urgently require attention.

Training

Training and skill maintenance is always important in a bureau like the ICE Unit. New in-house training will be rolled out for ICE officers to help develop greater skill sets in investigating computer systems, conducting peer-to-peer investigations and increasing categorization proficiency. The developer of the categorization program "Semantics 21" has made available training for officers that will increase their skill set with the program and help them to utilize it as an investigative tool on top of its base function as a categorizer.

Technology

The procurement of new, updated technology will help ICE and its partners in the Digital Forensics Unit (D.F.U.) tackle some of the issues around encryption and secured mobile devices. The technology will help bypass some of the barriers that previously made some devices out of reach.

CONCLUSION

This report is the product of five (5) combined annual area statements previously reported upon separately. All five areas continue to convey positive progression, stand by the goals stated within the strategic plan and are positioned well for continued success into 2020.

Approved for Submission:



Nick Milinovich, Deputy Chief, Investigative Services Command

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APPENDIX I

Presentations: Internal and External - 2019

The Regional Coordinator is responsible for creating and delivering presentations both internally and externally to various community groups and organizations:

FIPV 2019 – Internal Presentations		
Type of Presentation	Number of Presentations	Total Number of Participants
Communications Platoon Training	5	130
Field Training Officers	4	76
Newly Promoted Sgt's	1	37
Newly Promoted S/Sgt's	1	17
Recruits - Post OPC	3	120
Communications - New Call Takers	2	8
Domestic Violence Investigators Course	2	80
New Auxiliary Officers	1	24
Mandatory NCO Sgt-Det Training Day	5	248
Mandatory NCO S/Sgt-D/Sgt Training Day	2	77
12 Division B Platoon	1	15

FIPV 2019 – External Presentations		
Type of Presentation	Number of Presentations	Total Number of Participants
Victim Services of Peel	1	32
Victim Witness Assistance Program	1	15
Acorn Women's Place	1	15
United Achiever's	1	25
St. Roch Secondary School	1	31

Topics Covered include:

- Domestic related offences
- Mandatory policies - charging and reporting
- Cycle of Abuse
- Effects of abuse on Victim/Children
- May/Illes and Hadley inquest implications
- Aim of police investigation
- Enhanced investigations
- Post arrest support for victim/witness
- Victim's safety and other victim issues
- Criminal Harassment related domestics
- Firearms and Weapons in domestics
- Identifying the Primary Aggressor
- Risk Factors
- Police Perpetrated Domestic Violence
- Strangulation Investigations
- Cultural Issues
- Interpreter Services
- Court Orders and Child Custody
- Community based support
- Mental Health and Domestic Violence
- Review applicable legislation e.g. Family Law Act

APPENDIX II**Community Partnerships / Committees - 2019**

Peel Regional Police maintain a strong community partnership and/or committee membership with the following agencies in relation to Family and Intimate Partner Violence:

- Armagh House
- Brampton Probation and Parole
- Catholic Cross- Cultural Services of Peel
- Catholic Family Services of Peel-Dufferin
- Domestic Violence Court Advisory Committee (DVCAC)
- Family Justice / Child Advocacy Centre (Safe Center of Peel) (SCoP)
- Family Services of Peel
- Hope 24/7 Crisis Line
- India Rainbow Community Services of Peel
- Interim Place North
- Interim Place South
- Ministry of the Solicitor General
- Multilingual Community Interpreter Services (M.C.I.S.)
- Peel Children's Aid Society (CAS)
- Peel Committee Against Women Abuse (P.C.A.W.A.)
- Peel Crown Attorney's Office
- Probation and Parole (Brampton and Mississauga)
- ReVAMP (Risk Evaluation and Management in Peel) (*Co-chair*)
- Ontario Domestic Violence Coordinators Network (ODVCN)
- Salvation Army Family Life Resource Centre
- Trillium Health Centre (Chantel's Place)
- Victim Services of Peel (VSOP)
- Victim Witness Assistance Program (VWAP)