

2020 - 2021 Crime Trends

City of Ottawa



This report examines all founded Criminal Code of Canada offences that were reported to the Ottawa Police over the last 5 years. Offences have been categorized according to the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey. Violent Crime, also referred to as Crimes Against The Person, involves the use or threat of force to harm another person. Non-Violent Crimes include Crimes Against Property and Other Criminal Code of Canada Offences.

The crime statistics published in this report are accurate on the day that they were produced. Due to ongoing police investigations and internal data quality control efforts, this information is subject to change, including addition, deletion and reclassification of any and all data. Rates and percentages have been rounded.

Crime Rate (1)

2020	3,286.4		653.2		2,633.2
2021	3,510.7	▲6.8%	688.9	▲5.5%	2,821.8

Reported Crime (2)

2020	33,607		6,680		26,927
2021	36,262	▲7.9%	7,116	▲6.5%	29,146

Crime Severity Index (3)

2020	48.2		52.0		46.8
2021	50.0	▲3.6%	58.3	▲12.0%	46.9

Clearance Rate % (4)

2020	33.7%		43.8%		31.2%
2021	31.8%	▼2.0%	40.8%	▼2.9%	29.5%

Calls for Service

2020	314,319		2,777		28,003
2021	337,364	▲7.3%	1,825	▼34.3%	28,124

(1) Rate is calculated per 100,000 of population. As provided by the City of Ottawa's Planning and Growth Management Department, the population for 2020 and 2021 was 1,022,603 and 1,032,890 respectively.

(2) Reported Crime refers to the actual crime reported to the Ottawa Police Service within a calendar year. Unfounded incidents, those deemed through investigation not to have occurred, are excluded.

(3) The Crime Severity Index is a measure of police-reported crime that reflects the relative seriousness of individual offences and tracks changes in crime severity. Values are estimated and do not represent the official CSI as published by Statistics Canada.

(4) Clearance Rate (%) is expressed as a percent and is the sum of all Criminal Code of Canada Offences cleared by charge and cleared otherwise, divided by the total number of actual reported incidents.

2020 - 2021 Crime Trends

City of Ottawa



Key Crime Trends

Offence	2020			2021			5-Year Average (2)	Change % (2)
	Actual	Rate (1)	Clearance %	Actual	Rate (1)	Clearance %		
Crimes Against The Person	6,680	653.2	43.8%	7,116	688.9	40.8%	6,984	6.5%
Crimes Against Property	22,089	2,160.1	19.1%	23,183	2,244.5	14.6%	24,660	5.0%
Other Criminal Code Violations	4,838	473.1	86.6%	5,963	577.3	87.8%	5,545	23.3%
Total CCC offences excl Traffic	33,607	3,286.4	33.7%	36,262	3,510.7	31.8%	37,189	7.9%
Criminal Code Traffic Offences	812	79.4	96.1%	717	69.4	94.4%	751	-11.7%
Total CCC Offences incl Traffic	34,419	3,365.8	35.2%	36,979	3,580.1	33.0%	37,940	7.4%

Crimes Against The Person

Offence	2020			2021			5-Year Average (2)	Change % (2)
	Actual	Rate (1)	Clearance %	Actual	Rate (1)	Clearance %		
Violations Causing Death (3)	9	0.9	88.9%	15	1.5	78.6%	15	66.7%
Attempting The Commission Of A Capital Crime	8	0.8	75.0%	13	1.3	84.6%	12	62.5%
Assaults	3,516	343.8	50.5%	3,743	362.4	48.3%	3,640	6.5%
Violations Resulting In The Deprivation Of Freedom	79	7.7	58.2%	89	8.6	44.9%	91	12.7%
Sexual Violations	784	76.7	36.1%	891	86.3	29.5%	851	13.6%
Commodification Of Sexual Activity	8	0.8	25.0%	2	0.2	100.0%	9	-75.0%
Other Violations Involving Violence Or The Threat Of Violence	2,269	221.9	35.3%	2,361	228.6	32.5%	2,361	4.1%
<i>Utter Threats To Person</i>	983	96.1	29.4%	1,176	113.9	24.1%	971	19.6%
<i>Indecent / Harassing Communications</i>	592	57.9	21.8%	506	49.0	22.1%	617	-14.5%
<i>Robbery</i>	453	44.3	45.3%	410	39.7	44.9%	520	-9.5%
<i>Criminal Harassment</i>	206	20.1	73.8%	208	20.1	71.6%	205	1.0%
<i>Subtotal</i>	2,234	218.5	34.7%	2,300	222.7	31.7%	2,313	3.0%
Total Crimes Against Person	6,680	653.2	43.8%	7,116	688.9	40.8%	6,984	6.5%

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(3) Violations Causing Death includes : Murder 1st Degree, Murder 2nd Degree, Manslaughter, Infanticide, Criminal Negligence Causing Death, Other Related Offences Causing Death.

2020 - 2021 Crime Trends

City of Ottawa



Crimes Against Property

Offence	2020			2021			5-Year Average (2)	Change % (2)
	Actual	Rate (1)	Clearance %	Actual	Rate (1)	Clearance %		
Arson	98	9.6	7%	107	10.4	10%	94	9%
Break and Enter	2,493	243.8	29%	2,355	228.0	25%	2,529	-6%
Theft - Motor Vehicle	811	79.3	16%	1,069	103.5	11%	882	32%
Theft Over \$5000	762	74.5	10%	903	87.4	8%	616	19%
Theft \$5000 and Under	8,896	869.9	24%	10,170	984.6	15%	12,252	14%
Possession / Trafficking Stolen Goods	114	11.1	82%	114	11.0	79%	112	0%
Fraud	5,740	561.3	9%	5,289	512.1	9%	4,948	-8%
Mischief	3,175	310.5	16%	3,176	307.5	16%	3,227	0%
Total Crimes Against Property	22,089	2,160.1	19.1%	23,183	2,244.5	14.6%	24,660	5.0%

Other Criminal Code of Canada (CCC) Offences

Offence	2020			2021			5-Year Average (2)	Change % (2)
	Actual	Rate (1)	Clearance %	Actual	Rate (1)	Clearance %		
Offensive Weapons	183	17.9	83%	192	18.6	84%	181	5%
Gaming and Betting	0	0.0	0.0%	0	0.0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Prostitution	0	0.0	0.0%	0	0.0	0.0%	1	0.0%
Other Criminal Code	4,655	455.2	87%	5,771	558.7	88%	5,363	24%
<i>Failure to Comply with Order</i>	2,857	279.4	92%	3,266	316.2	93%	2,947	14%
<i>Failure to Appear</i>	395	38.6	100%	1,000	96.8	100%	857	153%
<i>Breach Of Probation</i>	603	59.0	99%	649	62.8	94%	672	8%
<i>Indecent Acts</i>	137	13.4	33%	152	14.7	41%	134	11%
<i>Subtotal</i>	3,992	390.4	92%	5,067	490.6	93%	4,610	27%
Total Other CCC Offences	4,838	473.1	86.6%	5,963	577.3	87.8%	5,545	23.3%

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2020 - 2021 Crime Trends

City of Ottawa



Controlled Drug and Substances Act Offences

Offence	2020			2021			5-Year Average (2)	Change % (2)
	Actual	Rate (1)	Clearance %	Actual	Rate (1)	Clearance %		
Possession	370	36.2	98.6%	297	28.8	93.9%	478	-19.7%
Trafficking	190	18.6	91.6%	145	14.0	91.0%	184	-23.7%
Importation and Exportation	3	0.3	100.0%	0	0.0	0.0%	1	-100.0%
Production	2	0.2	100.0%	1	0.1	100.0%	3	-50.0%
Other Drug Violations	0	0.0	0.0%	0	0.0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total Drug Offences	565	55.3	96.3%	443	42.9	93.0%	667	-21.6%

Criminal Code Traffic Offences

Offence	2020			2021			5-Year Average (2)	Change % (2)
	Actual	Rate (1)	Clearance %	Actual	Rate (1)	Clearance %		
Dangerous Operation	74	7.2	89.2%	53	5.1	92.5%	68	-28.4%
Flight From Peace Officer	12	1.2	75.0%	13	1.3	30.8%	7	8.3%
Operation while Impaired/Low Blood Drug Concentration Violations	503	49.2	98.0%	447	43.3	97.1%	500	-11.1%
Failure or Refusal to Comply with Demand	115	11.2	100.0%	113	10.9	100.0%	88	-1.7%
Failure to Stop after Accident	23	2.2	69.6%	23	2.2	34.8%	23	0.0%
Operation while Prohibited	85	8.3	95.3%	68	6.6	101.5%	64	-20.0%
Other Criminal Code Violations	0	0.0	0.0%	0	0.0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total Criminal Code Traffic Offences	812	79.4	96.1%	717	69.4	94.4%	750	-11.7%

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City of Ottawa



Calls For Service

Priority Level (3)	Response Type	2020		2021		Change % (2)
		Actual	Rate (1)	Actual	Rate (1)	
Priority 1	Mobile	2,774	271.3	1,824	176.6	-34.2%
	Alternate	3	0.3	1	0.1	-66.7%
	Total	2,777	271.6	1,825	176.7	-34.3%
Priority 2	Mobile	27,967	2,734.9	28,097	2,720.2	0.5%
	Alternate	36	3.5	27	2.6	-25.0%
	Total	28,003	2,738.4	28,124	2,722.8	0.4%
Priority 3	Mobile	50,371	4,925.8	52,881	5,119.7	5.0%
	Alternate	182	17.8	239	23.1	31.3%
	Total	50,553	4,943.6	53,120	5,142.9	5.1%
Priority 4	Mobile	113,380	11,087.4	108,478	10,502.4	-4.3%
	Alternate	88,391	8,643.7	109,803	10,630.7	24.2%
	Total	201,771	19,731.1	218,281	21,133.0	8.2%
Priority 5	Mobile	3,609	352.9	3,626	351.1	0.5%
	Alternate	443	43.3	364	35.2	-17.8%
	Total	4,052	396.2	3,990	386.3	-1.5%
Priority 6	Mobile	22,146	2,165.6	27,255	2,638.7	23.1%
	Alternate	3,790	370.6	3,578	346.4	-5.6%
	Total	25,936	2,536.3	30,833	2,985.1	18.9%
Priority 7	Mobile	466	45.6	469	45.4	0.6%
	Alternate	761	74.4	722	69.9	-5.1%
	Total	1,227	120.0	1,191	115.3	-2.9%
All Priorities	Total Mobile Response	220,713	21,583.4	222,630	21,554.1	0.9%
	Total Alternative Response	93,606	9,153.7	114,734	11,108.1	22.6%
	Total Calls For Service	314,319	30,737.1	337,364	32,662.1	7.3%

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- (3) Call priority is determined based on the seriousness of the incident, ranging from imminent danger to life (P1) to property pickup (P7). The assignment of priority also considers the safety of police officers and the general public in traveling to the scene of the event.