



## The Regional Municipality of York Police Service Board

Public Board Meeting  
April 23, 2025  
For Information

### Report of the Chief of Police **2024 Annual Statistics Report**

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## 1. Recommendation

That the Board receives this report for information.

## 2. Purpose

In accordance with the Police Service Board Policy No. 02/00-5 Crime, Call and Public Disorder Analysis, annual crime statistics are presented to the Board. A detailed report that summarizes incidents reported to police between January 1 and December 31, 2024 has been attached as an Annual Statistics Report 2024. High level findings of the report are:

- Total crime rate (excluding traffic) decreased 4.2 percent
- Violent crime rate decreased 5.3 percent
- Property crime rate decreased 6.5 percent
- Theft of Vehicle (incidents) decreased 31.1 percent
- Clearance rate increased 4.9 percent

## 3. Background

York Regional Police collects crime incident data using the incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey methodology. This survey is designed to measure criminal incidents reported to police, either by the public or through police detection. Established in 1962 by Statistics Canada with the support of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP),

the UCR survey is utilized by all federal, provincial/territorial, and municipal police services across Canada to collect crime incident data.

Each incident report can document up to four of the most serious law violations associated with the incident. In situations involving multiple victims within a single criminal event, a separate aggregate incident is counted for each victim. Incidents deemed unfounded are excluded from the analysis and from the calculation of crime rates per 100,000 population. The crime statistics presented in this report encompass all violations within a reported incident.

Crime incident data captured in York Regional Police's Record Management System is submitted monthly to the Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics (CCJCSS) at Statistics Canada. The CCJCSS uses this data to compile results at national, provincial, and municipal levels. For most analyses and reports, CCJCSS focuses on the most serious violation reported in an incident. Statistics Canada will release the 2024 crime statistics in July 2025, followed by a national-provincial comparison report presented to the Board in the Fall.

## **4. Analysis**

The report presents crime statistics of 2024, providing a two-year comparison of 2023-2024 and five-year comparison of 2020-2024 for most indicators. The crime statistics presented in the report for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022 were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. While almost all the pandemic restrictions were lifted in Spring 2022, the impacts of COVID-19 on people and businesses were multidirectional as it disrupted the global supply chain, higher commodity prices and cost of living. COVID-19 lockdown restrictions also had a significant impact on crime trends and crime statistics.

### **FINDINGS**

Police undertake a broad array of work to ensure community safety in York Region neighbourhoods. Contemporary policing includes a broad spectrum of responsibilities such as emergency response and crime prevention, directed and general patrol, speaking at public engagement sessions, providing assistance to victims, and collaborating with external agencies. There is no single measure that reflects the overall effectiveness of police performance. Traditional measures of performance include crime severity, clearance rates and calls for service. These measures have been reported annually to the Board.

### **Summary Statistics**

The following table summarizes Criminal Code violation statistics for incidents reported to police, or identified by, York Regional Police through proactive patrols from January 1 to December 31, 2024. The 2024 results are compared with those from the previous year, and changes are highlighted. A more detailed breakdown of each crime category and additional statistics are included in the attached appendix.

**Table 1**  
**Criminal Code Violation Statistics, 2023-2024**

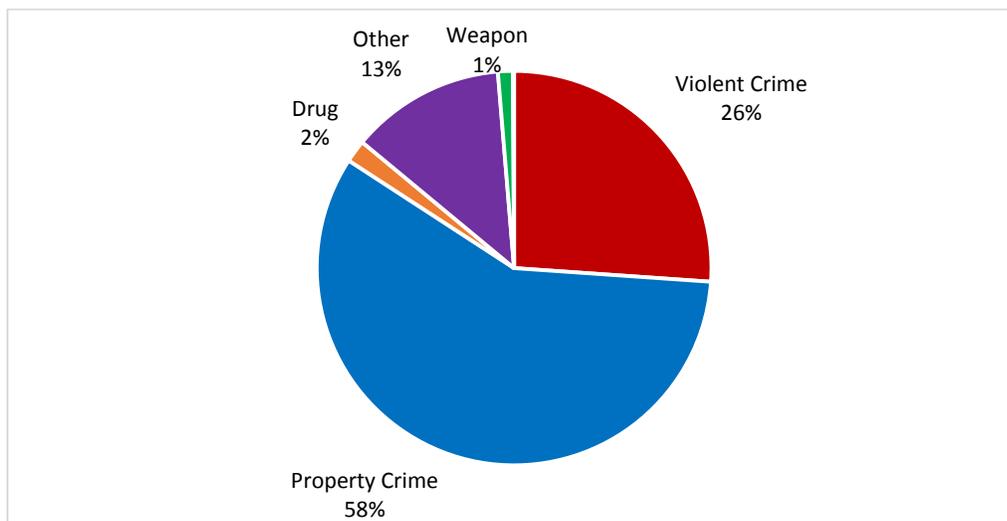
| Crime Category | 2023 Actual   | 2023 Crime Rate* | 2024 Actual   | 2024 Crime Rate* | 2023/24 Actual (%) | 2023/24 Crime Rate (%) |
|----------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| VIOLENT        | 14,410        | 1145.3           | 13,882        | 1084.9           | -3.7               | -5.3                   |
| PROPERTY       | 32,472        | 2580.9           | 30,886        | 2413.7           | -4.9               | -6.5                   |
| DRUG           | 886           | 70.4             | 977           | 76.4             | 10.3               | 8.4                    |
| WEAPON         | 761           | 60.5             | 650           | 50.8             | -14.6              | -16.0                  |
| OTHER          | 6,019         | 478.4            | 6,734         | 526.3            | 11.9               | 10.0                   |
| FEDERAL        | 43            | 3.4              | 50            | 3.9              | 16.3               | 14.3                   |
| TRAFFIC        | 5,524         | 439.1            | 5,501         | 429.9            | -0.4               | -2.1                   |
| <b>TOTAL**</b> | <b>54,591</b> | <b>4339.0</b>    | <b>53,179</b> | <b>4156.1</b>    | <b>-2.6</b>        | <b>-4.2</b>            |

Note: Other Crime Type includes Bail Violations, Fail to Appear, Breach of Probation, Public Moral Violations and other Criminal Code offences.

\*Crime Rate is expressed per 100,000 population using year-end population estimates received from the Planning Department of York Region.

\*\*Total calculation excludes Traffic Violations.

**Figure 1**  
**Crime Incidents (Excluding Traffic) in York Region, 2024**



## **Other Observations**

The total number of violent crimes marginally decreased in 2024; however, we observed slight increases in Assaults, Discharge of Firearms, Sexual Interference, and Carjacking. Other prevalent violent crimes, such as Sexual Assault, Uttering Threats to a person, Harassing Communications, Criminal Harassment, and Extortion, decreased. In terms of property crimes, the offenses of Motor Vehicle Theft, Residential Break and Enter, and Theft Under \$5,000 saw a reduction, while Commercial Break and Enter, Shoplifting, Fraud, and Mischief increased.

The reduced volume of property crimes in 2024 can be attributed to the decline in Motor Vehicle Theft and Theft Under \$5,000 charges. York Regional Police has implemented a number of data-driven campaigns and initiatives focused on enforcement and crime prevention efforts related to Motor Vehicle Theft, including for example, Operation Auto Guard 1.0 and 2.0. These initiatives focused on disrupting organized crime groups involved in Vehicle Thefts, particularly those involved in shipping stolen vehicles overseas. Other investigative projects like Project Viper and Boa resulted in the recovery of over a hundred stolen vehicles and laying of over two hundred criminal charges. In addition, York Regional Police engaged with the community, providing crime prevention information and distributing Faraday bags to block signal-duplicating devices used by thieves. Furthermore, York Regional Police partnered with other agencies and supported multi-level government initiatives aimed at combating Motor Vehicle Theft, which included, enhanced information sharing between law-enforcement agencies, increased federal funding for the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), technological advancements to prevent Motor Vehicle Theft, and collaboration with the Department of Justice Canada for possible amendments to the Criminal Code. These initiatives positively impacted statistics showing a decrease in Theft from Vehicles.

To combat Organized Crime, special projects and initiatives were implemented within Investigative Services and the Organized Crime and Intelligence Services. These efforts are reflected in the increased number of charges laid for offenses such as Forcible Confinement, Human Trafficking, Firearms Trafficking, Drug Trafficking, Bail Violations, and Breaches of Probation.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, incidents of Intimate Partner Violence and Family Violence had been rising in York Region. However, there was a slowdown in 2024. A similar pattern was observed for Hate Crimes and non-criminal hate bias incidents. The number of hate incidents spiked immediately after the Israel-Hamas conflict started on October 7, 2023, but sharply declined due to the strategic deployment of resources in York Region neighborhoods.

## **Case Clearances**

The overall clearance rate increased 4.9 percent in 2024, and can be attributed to the organizational efforts to enhance case clearances. One such initiative was dubbed “Case Closed”, which identified efficiencies in the manner in which our Criminal Investigation Bureau’s (CIB) manage case clearances. York Regional Police cleared 2,029 more cases in 2024 compared to 2023.

