Research and Statistics Division

Exploring the Use of Extrajudicial Measures for Youth Who Come in Contact with the Police

Natacha Bourgon, Research and Statistics Division

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Key Highlights

The *Youth Criminal Justice Act*—the federal legislation that governs the youth criminal justice system—was implemented in 2003 in effort to reduce the overreliance on courts and incarceration by increasing the use of out-of-court responses, also known as diversion. To this end, the Act encourages police officers to exercise their discretion in using extrajudicial measures (EJMs) as an alternative to charging youth with a criminal offence. EJMs include actions such as verbal warnings, written cautions, referrals to a community program and referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program.[1]

This study examined trends in the use of EJMs from 2010 to 2021 using police-reported crime statistics from police services across the country via Statistics Canada's Uniform Crime Reporting Survey. Key findings are presented below:

- An examination of trends overtime show that the rate of youth diverted through EJMs has followed a similar decreasing trend as the rate of youth crime;[2] specifically, the rate of youth diverted by EJMs decreased by 74% from 1,261 per 100,000 youth in 2010 to 329 per 100,000 youth in 2021.

- From 2010 to 2021, on average, over half (54%) of all youth who came in contact with the police were not charged, meaning they were either diverted by EJMs (32%) or cleared via other means[3] (22%).
    - The percentage of youth diverted by EJMs was rather stable over the years, ranging from 32% to 34% until 2017, at which point a decreasing trend started, with the percentage reaching 28% in 2021; a corresponding increase was observed in the percentage of youth cleared by other means going from 20% in 2015 to 26% in 2021.

- Verbal warnings were the most frequently reported type of EJM used, representing two-thirds (64%; 296,736) of all youth diverted by EJMs, followed by referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program (14%; 63,531) and written cautions (12%; 57,181). The least frequently reported type of EJM used was a referral to a community program (10%; 47,198).

[1] An extrajudicial sanction is a more formal type of EJM and can be applied in accordance with an approved program. Extrajudicial sanctions may be used when a young person cannot be adequately dealt with by other types of EJMs because of the seriousness of the offence, the nature and extent of previous committed offences, or any other aggravating circumstances. Extrajudicial sanctions consist of conditions that a young person must fulfill outside of the court process. These sanctions may take different forms such as attending specialized programs, making restitution to the victim, and completing community service.

[2] The youth crime rate has generally been decreasing over the past decades, from 8,207 per 100,000 youth aged 12 to 17 years old in 2003 to 2,305 in 2021. Note that since the time of data analysis and reporting, new police data from 2022 and 2023 were released which indicates an increase in youth crime since 2021 (the last year of the study period).

[3] A youth is "cleared by other means" when police find there is sufficient evidence to lay a charge in connection with the associated incident, but the youth is processed by other means such as police deciding to take no further action, or in circumstances where the young person committed suicide or died (not by suicide), the death of the complainant/witness, reasons beyond control of the department (policy), diplomatic immunity, the young person was committed to a mental health facility, the young person was outside of Canada and could not be returned, victim/complainant requested no further action, the young person was involved in other incidents, the young person was already sentenced, and departmental discretion.

- EJMs were used across all types of offences (i.e., violent crimes,[4] property crimes,[5] drug offences and other offences[6]), although they were more frequently used for non-violent offences.
    - Over half (51%) of all youth who came in contact with the police due to drug offences were diverted by EJMs, the highest proportion of any offence type (compared to 41% of youth in contact for property offences; 25% for violent crimes; 18% for other offences).
    - Referrals to a community program were more frequently used with youth who came in contact with the police due to drug (13% of these youth) and property offences (12% of these youth; compared to 8% of youth in contact for violent crimes; 3% for other offences).
    - Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program were more frequently used with youth who came in contact with the police due to violent crimes (17% of these youth; compared to 15% of youth in contact for drug offences; 13% for property offences; 7% for other offences).
    - EJMs were least frequently used with youth involved in other offences (18%); a high proportion (67%) of youth involved in other offences were charged by police.

- There was a greater use of verbal warnings, written cautions and referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program in rural regions in comparison to urban regions. While referrals to a community program were more likely to be used in urban regions from 2010 to 2019, this trend inversed for 2020 and 2021 with a greater usage observed in rural regions.

- The Atlantic region, Ontario and British Columbia generally observed higher percentages of EJM usage in comparison to that observed in all of Canada, while the Prairies region and Quebec observed lower percentages of EJM usage.
    - Compared to national trends:
        - Newfoundland and Labrador, as well as British Columbia, recorded a higher use of verbal warnings;
        - Prince Edward Island recorded a higher use of referrals to a community program;
        - New Brunswick recorded a higher use of extrajudicial sanctions;
        - Quebec also recorded a higher use of extrajudicial sanctions, but very little use of written cautions;
        - Ontario recorded a higher use of written cautions as well as referrals to a community program; and,
        - The Prairies, especially Manitoba and Saskatchewan, recorded a higher use of written cautions.
    - The Prairies region, Quebec and British Columbia all observed higher percentages of youth cleared by other means.

[4] Violent crimes include offences such as homicide, attempted murder, robbery, sexual assault, offences in relation to sexual services and other sexual offences, major assault, common assault, uttering threats, criminal harassment, and other crimes against the persons.
[5] Property crimes include offences such as theft, motor vehicle theft, break and enter, fraud, mischief, possession of stolen property, and other property crimes.
[6] "Other offences" include other *Criminal Code* violations such as administration of justice offences and disturbing the peace, Federal Statute violations, and *Criminal Code* traffic violations.

- Despite having a higher volume and severity of youth crime,[7] the Territories observed much lower percentages of youth charged and higher percentages of youth diverted through EJMs and cleared via other means in comparison to that observed in all of Canada. The Territories recorded a higher use of verbal warnings and written cautions.

The study's main limitations include: the absence of disaggregated data on the Indigenous, Black and racialized identity of the young person; the inability to examine trends in the EJM of deciding to take no further legal action with the youth, applied by police; and, the lack of available data on EJMs during court proceedings.

Overall, the study's findings highlight some positive changes brought about by the YCJA, such as using diversionary measures through the application of EJMs rather than pursuing more punitive formal proceedings, particularly with less serious offences. Justice Canada will continue to monitor youth crime trends, including trends in the use of pre-charge diversion, and explore ways to address the study's limitations.

[7] It is important to note that due to small population sizes, the territories are more susceptible to fluctuations and more noticeable differences in their crime rates and CSIs, compared to the provinces. However, these differences are less about the severity of crime, and more about the amount of crime being reported (i.e., a higher proportion of less serious crimes are reported in the territories than in the rest of Canada). (Statistics Canada, 2009)

1 Introduction

In Canada, the youth criminal justice system (CJS) is governed by the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA), a federal legislation that applies to youth aged 12 to 17 years old who come in contact with the CJS. The YCJA came into force on April 1, 2003, replacing a more punitive legislation, the *Young Offenders Act* (YOA).[8] The YCJA recognizes that youth are still in a stage of development given their lack of maturity, greater level of dependency and unique needs. The Act was implemented in an effort to reduce the overreliance on courts and incarceration by having a greater focus on out-of-court responses. The Act promotes early and effective community-based interventions, rehabilitation and reintegration, all while holding youth accountable for their offending behaviour. One of the ways the Act enables the achievement of these principles is through the use of extrajudicial measures (EJMs).[9]

Under Part I of the YCJA, there are a number of provisions encouraging police officers to exercise their discretion to use EJMs, where appropriate, as an alternate means to charging youth with a criminal offence. According to the *YCJA,* EJMs are presumed to be adequate to hold a young person accountable when the youth committed a non-violent offence and has no prior convictions. That said, nothing precludes their use when dealing with a young person who has previously been dealt with by the use of EJMs or has been previously found guilty of a crime.[10]

EJMs include a number of actions such as: taking no further action (i.e., police officer decides no further response to an incident is required); verbal warnings; written cautions; referrals to community programs; and extrajudicial sanctions. Extrajudicial sanctions, which can be used pre- or post-charge, are the most formal type of EJM due to their potential legal consequences,[11] and are used when other forms of EJMs are not deemed adequate to hold a young person accountable.

Under section 5 of the YCJA, the use of EJMs aims to: provide an effective and timely response to criminal offending behaviour outside the bounds of judicial measures; acknowledge and address the harm caused to the victim and the community; encourage the involvement of families, victims and other members of the community; provide an opportunity for the victim to participate in decisions; respect the rights and freedoms of young persons; and, be proportionate to the seriousness of the offence.

April 2023 marked the 20-year anniversary of the YCJA, providing an opportunity to look back at the implementation of key components of the legislation such as the use of EJMs. This study examines the trends in the use of EJMs at the policing stage, over a 10-year period, from 2010 to 2021. To better contextualize trends in the use of EJMs, this report first examines the broader trends in youth crime and police charging practices (i.e., youth charged vs. not charged) pre- and post-YCJA (1998 to 2021). The report further explores incidents resulting in a decision to not charge youth by examining more recent trends in EJM usage (2010 to 2021) to answer five key questions: 1) To what extent were youth who come in contact with the police diverted by an EJM?; 2) Which types of EJMs are the most and least

[8] For more information on the evolution of Canada's youth CJS, see the State of the Criminal Justice System Dashboard's Youth thematic pages at https://www.justice.gc.ca/socjs-esjp/en/Youth/ecyc.
[9] As per s. 2 of the YCJA, EJMs are measures other than judicial proceedings used to deal with a young person alleged to have committed an offence. For more information, see the s. 3 of the YCJA, Declaration of Principle.
[10] YCJA, s. 4.
[11] Should a young person fail to comply with an extrajudicial sanction, the case may proceed through the court process and the failure to comply may be used as evidence at sentencing for a subsequent offence.

frequently used?; 3) How does the use of EJMs vary according to offence type?; 4) How does the use of EJM vary between urban and rural regions?; and 5) Are there jurisdictional differences in the use of EJMs?

2 Methodology

The data presented in this report were obtained through Statistics Canada and collected via their Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR), which gathers police-reported crime statistics from police services across Canada.[12] The data examined include:

- The youth crime rate which is the number of youth involved in police-reported incidents per 100,000 population aged 12 to 17. This incudes the number of youth charged with a criminal offence by police (or recommended for a charge), as well as the number of youth not charged.. The rate of youth not charged includes youth diverted through EJMs and youth cleared by other means.
- The number and rate of four types of EJMs used at the policing stage, namely verbal warnings, written cautions, referrals to a community program and referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program.

These data were examined from 2010 to 2021, across all provinces and territories, as well as urban and rural regions.[13] When possible, the study also examines trends according to different characteristics, such as gender[14] of the young person and offence type.

2.1 Limitations

This study focuses on the use of EJMs at the policing stage. Data on the use of EJMs during court proceedings (captured in court-level data collected via Statistics Canada's Integrated Criminal Court Survey) are not currently available. This means that this report does not capture instances where Crown pre-charge screening decisions[15] resulted in the use of an EJM, and the rejection or dismissal of police's charges or recommended charges due to a variety of reasons, such as procedural flaws and insufficient evidence to meet the standard of substantial likelihood of conviction.[16] The absence of court

[12] For more details, please see https://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=3302.
[13] Data disaggregated by urban and rural regions were provided for 2011 to 2021.
[14] Note that no differences were found in the use o EJMs based on gender of the youth. As such, these findings were not presented in the report but a note is mentioned in the discussion.
[15] Pre-charge screening—also known as charge approval—involves a review of police documentation and a Crown decision to charge (or approve the recommended charge), or to take no further action. Pre-charge screening programs are currently in place in Quebec, British Columbia, New Brunswick, Manitoba and Alberta, although other jurisdictions may have policies that allow the use pre-charge screening processes. For additional information on charge screening practices, see the Charge Screening Practices and Crown Evidentiary Thresholds in Canada report (2023) by the Steering Committee on Justice Efficiencies and Access to the Criminal Justice System.
[16] In 2020, of all youth who came in contact with the police in Canada and the interaction resulted in the police recommending a charge be laid (26,031 youth), 6% (1,565) were declined by the Crown through pre-charge screening. The majority of such cases (98%) were in Quebec, British Columbia, Manitoba and New Brunswick. Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.

data also means that the report is not reflective of youth cases where a section 19 conference[17] was convened and led to an EJM or the rejection of a police charge.[18]

Another noteworthy limitation is the availability of disaggregated data. When possible, the data examined were disaggregated by individual (i.e., gender, rural and urban) and offence characteristics (i.e., offence type). However, there is an absence of information on the Indigenous, Black and other racial identity of the young person in contact with police. This data gap is particularly important for understanding and addressing the overrepresentation of Indigenous and Black youth in the CJS. It should be noted that the lack of disaggregated data is a broader issue across the CJS. To address this critical data gap, Statistics Canada and the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police released a statement in July 2020 announcing their commitment to work together in the production of better disaggregated police-reported data to include the Indigenous, Black and racialized identity of people who come in contact with police; the Initiative entered Phase III – Implementation in Winter 2024.[19]

The data in this report capture all forms EJMs except one: police officers deciding to take no further legal action with the youth. This form of EJM is captured in the police-reported data under a "catch-all" category called cleared via other means which includes instances where the young person died (by suicide or not by suicide), the death of the complainant/witness, reasons beyond the control of the department (policy), diplomatic immunity, the young person was committed to a mental health facility, the young person was outside of Canada and could not be returned, victim/complainant requested no further action, the young person was involved in other incidents, the young person was already sentenced, and departmental discretion. In other words, the data cannot be disaggregated to isolate instances where youth were cleared by the EJM of police taking no further action.

Lastly, while the YCJA is under the federal government's responsibility, its application and the administration of youth justice falls under provincial and territorial jurisdiction, which varies across the country. As such, an analysis of jurisdictional trends was conducted and high-level findings are provided in this report. It is important to note that due to differences in policies and practices that are specific to each province and territory, comparisons between jurisdictions cannot be made. Additionally, there may be considerable variability in the completeness of the data with respect to youth who were not charged across police services.

[17] A section 19 conference, which provides an opportunity for professionals, stakeholders and family to come together with the youth to discuss the case in order to formulate recommendations such as the determination of an appropriate extrajudicial sanction, could also occur and lead to rejection or dismissal of a police charge or recommended charge.
[18] While section 19 conferences can be convened at various stages of the CJS, pre-charge conferences are currently only being convened in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Alberta, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. For more information on the use of section 19 conferences, see Paquin-Marseille and Higgison 2022, Section 19 of the Youth Criminal Justice Act: A look at the use of conferences across Canada.
[19] See Statistics Canada's Police-Reported Indigenous and Racialized Identity Data Collection Initiative, https://www.statcan.gc.ca/en/consultation/2021/ucrs and https://www.statcan.gc.ca/en/consultation/2021/ucrs/report-progress-update-july-2023.

3 Background

To understand trends in the use of EJMs, it is important to first consider trends in youth crime and police charging practices more broadly. To do this, data pertaining to youth crime trends and police charging practices pre- and post-YCJA (1998 to 2021) were examined. The following section presents findings for three key youth crime indicators:

1) Youth crime rate is a measure of the volume of crime and is calculated by combining the per capita rate of youth charged and youth not charged.

2) Rates of youth charged and youth not charged (which includes instances where the police decided to divert the youth from the CJS by using an EJM or to clear them by other means):[20] and

3) Youth Crime Severity Index (CSI), which measures year-to-year changes in the level of seriousness of youth crime, while also accounting for the volume of youth crime.[21]

Note: Since the time of data analysis and reporting, new police data from 2022 and 2023 were released which indicates an increase (32%; see page 13) in youth crime since 2021 (the last year of the study period). Ongoing monitoring of these data will be needed to determine if this is indicative of a new emerging trend in youth justice, and its impact on the use of EJMs.

Following the enactment of the YCJA, the youth crime rate showed decreases until 2021

Prior to the enactment of YCJA, data show the youth crime rate generally increased from 7,611 per 100,000 youth population in 1998 to 7,930 in 2002, representing a 4% increase during this time. In 2003, following the enactment of the YCJA, the trend completely inversed, with the youth crime rate showing a steady decrease (-72%) from 8,207 per 100,000 youth in 2003 to 2,305 in 2021. This overall decrease was mostly due to decreases in property crimes, such as theft of property $5,000 or under, breaking and entering, theft of a motor vehicle, possession of stolen property, fraud, arson, mischief, as well as drug offences.[22]

Rate of youth charged by police decreased post-YCJA; Youth who came in contact with the police were more likely to not be charged than charged following enactment

Looking specifically at police charging practices, similar to the youth crime rate, both the rate of youth charged and youth not charged decreased over the study period. However, a more meaningful way of examining trends in police charging practices is by looking at the proportion of youth who were charged versus the proportion of youth who were not charged (see Chart 1). The pre-YCJA years showed that in 1998 and 1999, 63% of all youth who came in contact with the police were charged, while 37% were not charged. This percentage started a decreasing trend in the following years leading up to the

[20] "Other means" include instances where the police decided to take no further action (which is also a type of extrajudicial measure), departmental discretion, death of the young person, and committal of the young person to a mental hospital. See section 2.1 Limitations for more information.
[21] For more details, please see https://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=assembleDESurv&DECId=1499746&RepClass=589&Id=1531530&DFId=244073
[22] Justice Canada, 2024; Moreau, 2022

enactment of the YCJA, but remain above 50% until 2002 (56%). Then, following the enactment of the YCJA in 2003, the trend in policing charging practices reversed, with less than half (45%) of all youth who came in contact with the police were charged, while the remaining 55% were not. This trend stayed rather stable from 2003 to 2021 (the end of the study period).

Youth crime severity also decreased in post-YCJA years until 2021

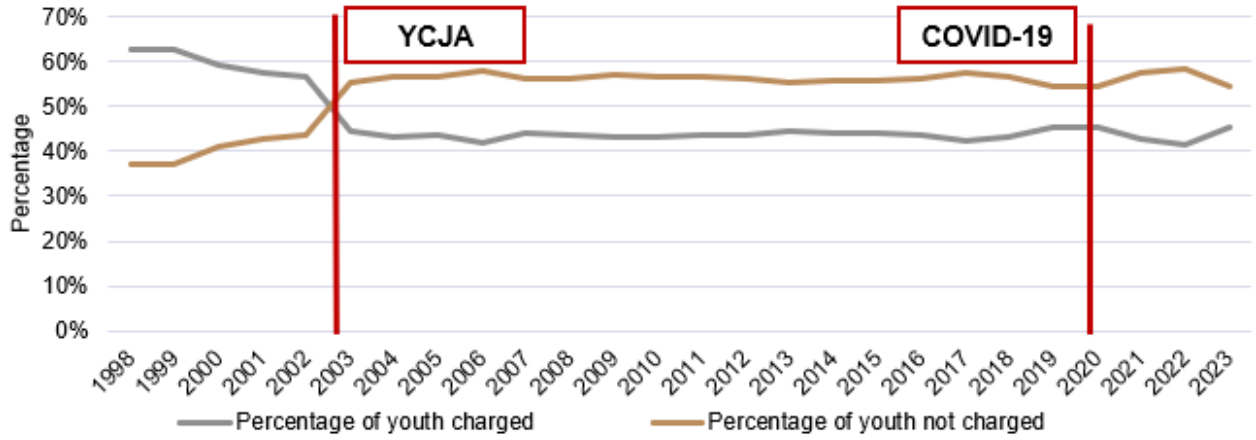
Similar to the youth crime rate, the Youth CSI showed an overall decrease in crime severity after the enactment of the YCJA. From 2003 to 2021, the Youth CSI decreased 61%, from an index value of 106 to 41, respectively.[23] This was largely due to the 78% decrease in the Youth Non-Violent CSI (from an index value of 116 in 2003 to 25 in 2021).[24] In comparison, the Youth Violent CSI decreased 31% during this time (from an index value of 93 in 2003 to 64 in 2021).[25]

As previously noted, the latest available UCR data from 2022 and 2023 show an increase in the volume and severity of youth crime. Specifically, the volume of crime (i.e., youth crime rate) increased 32%, from 2,305 per 100,000 youth population in 2021 to 3,049 per 100,000 in 2023. Similarly, the Youth CSI increased 31% from 2021, to an index value of 54 in 2023; this was primarily the result of an increase (+34%) in the Youth Violent CSI, although the Non-Violent CSI also saw an increase (+24%).

It is important to note that the causes of changes in the volume and severity of crime in recent years may be partly explained by various factors such as social and economic contexts, events, and movements that may have impacted the number and types of crime being committed and/or reported.[26]

[23] Note: the CSI has a base index value that has been adjusted to equal 100 in 2006, the base year.
[24] Statistics Canada, Table 35-0177-01
[25] *Ibid*.
[26] Justice Canada, 2024. "State of the Criminal Justice System Report: A Focus on Youth". See page 38.: "For example, the MeToo/Time's up movement, in 2017, may have contributed to enhancing reporting of sexual assault by victims. The Black Lives Matter movement, which reached new heights in 2020 with the murder of George Floyd, may have contributed to increased occurrence and/or reporting of hate crimes, particularly those targeting Black people. There was also the pandemic, which led to the temporary decrease in certain types of crime and changes in offending pattern, likely due to people spending more time at home and online."

Chart 1. Percentage of youth charged and youth not charged among all youth who came in contact with the police, Canada, 1998 to 2023



Source: Statistics Canada. Table 35-10-0177-01 Incident-based crime statistics, by detailed violations, Canada, provinces, territories, Census Metropolitan Areas and Canadian Forces Military Police, https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=3510017701.

Note: While trends in this chart examine the period from 1998 to 2023 for contextual purposes, the rest of the report focuses on the time period of 2010 to 2021.

4 Findings

The following section examines trends in the use of EJMs at the policing stage between 2010 and 2021. Findings are presented by five key research questions:

1) To what extent were youth who come in contact with the police diverted by an EJM?;
2) Which types of EJMs are the most and least frequently used?;
3) How does the use of EJMs vary according to offence type?;
4) How does the use of EJM vary between urban and rural regions?; and
5) Are there jurisdictional differences in the use of EJMs?

4.1 To what extent are youth who come in contact with the police diverted by EJMs?

Data on youth not charged includes instances where youth who come in contact with the police are cleared by EJMs (diverted) and where youth are cleared by other means. Youth who are diverted by EJMs include instances where instead of a charge, police opted for a verbal warning, a written caution, a referral to a community program, or an extrajudicial sanctions program. Disaggregated data on the use of theses specific EJMs are available and presented in the next sub-section (Section 4.2).

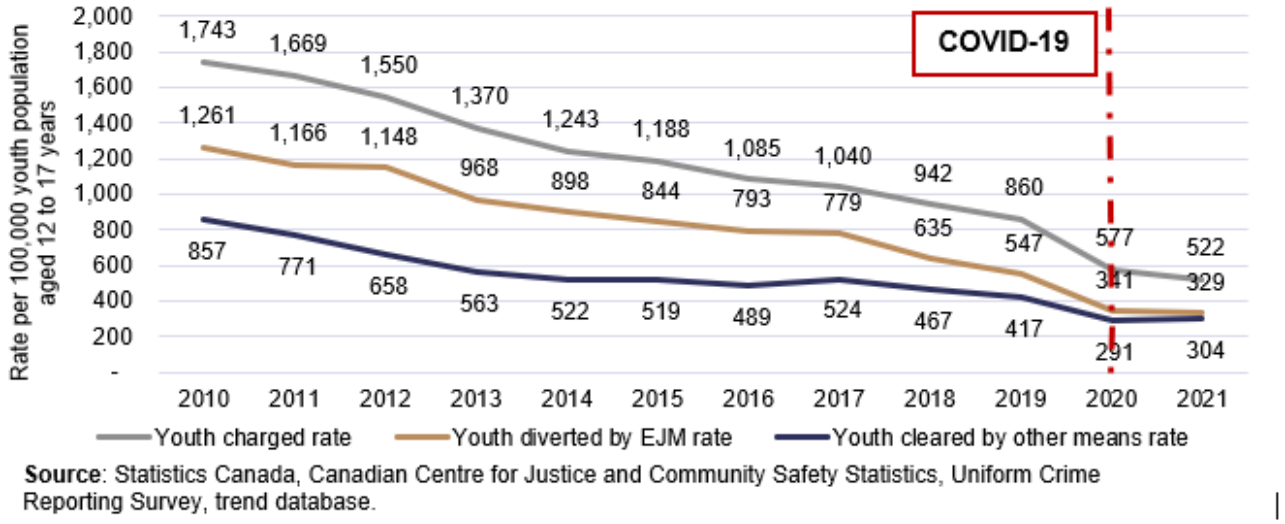
Data on youth cleared by other means include instances where the police officer decided to take no further action (a form of EJM), as well as other non-EJM instances as listed in the Limitations section.

Since this type of EJM (take no further action) cannot be disaggregated from other non-EJM instances, the data on youth cleared by other means are presented below separately from data on youth diverted by EJMs.

The rate of youth diverted by EJMs decreased from 2010 to 2021, mirroring the decreasing trend in youth crime

Similar to the youth crime rate, which decreased over time (-68% from 2010 to 2021), the rate of youth diverted by EJMs also decreased, by 74% from 1,261 per 100,000 youth in 2010 to 329 per 100,000 youth in 2021 (see Chart 2). A similar trend was found for the rate of youth cleared by other means, which decreased 65%, from 857 per 100,000 youth in 2010 to 304 per 100,000 in 2021. The only exceptions to this decreasing trend were in 2017 and 2021 when slight increases in the rate of youth cleared by other means were noted (+7% from 2016 and +4% from 2020, respectively).

Chart 2. Youth crime rate, by type of police action, Canada, 2010 to 2021



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.

From 2010 to 2021, over half of all youth who came in contact with the police were not charged

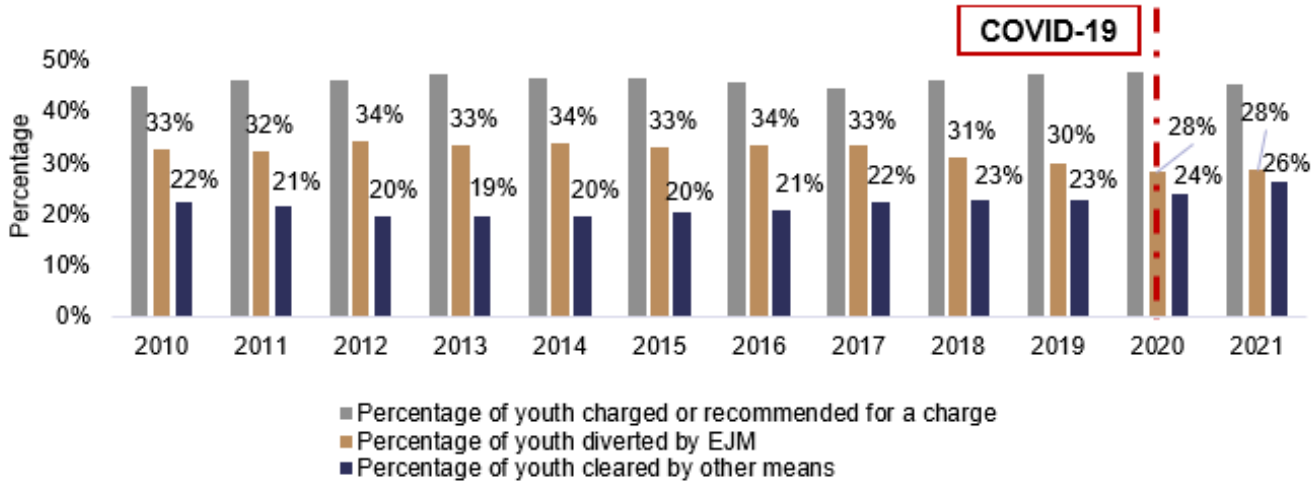
Looking at the two measures combined (youth diverted through EJMs and cleared by other means), on average, over half (54%) of all youth who came in contact with the police were not charged during the study period; this proportion was rather stable over the years, ranging between 52% and 56%.

On average, about one-third of all youth who came in contact with the police were diverted by EJMs from 2010 to 2021; this percentage slowly started to decrease in later years

From 2010 to 2021, on average, almost one-third (32%) of all youth who came in contact with the police were diverted through EJMs. This proportion was rather stable over the years, ranging between 32% and 34% up until 2017, at which point a decreasing trend started, reaching 28% in 2021 (see Chart 3).

From 2010 to 2021, on average, around one in five (22%) youth who came in contact with the police were cleared by other means. Contrary to the decreasing trend observed for EJMs, the percentage of youth cleared by other means showed slow and consistent yearly increases starting in 2015 (20%), and reached over one-quarter (26%) of youth in contact with police in 2021.

Chart 3. Percentage of youth who came in contact with police, by type of police action, Canada, 2010 to 2021



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.

4.2 Which types of EJMs are the most and least frequently used?

The following section examines the number and percentage of the various types of EJMs used from 2010 to 2021, in an effort to understand which type is most and least frequently used and how these trends have evolved over time. The types of EJMs examined include verbal warnings, written cautions, referrals to a community program and referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program.

A **verbal warning** involves police officers having a discussion with the young person and their parents or guardian, and warning them that further law-breaking behaviour may result in formal actions.

Written cautions are more formal warnings that typically involve a letter from the police to the young person and the parents. In certain circumstances, the young person and parents may be required to appear at the police station for an in-person meeting to discuss the incident.

A **referral to a community program** involves a police officer referring a young person to a program or agency in the community that may assist the young person in not engaging in further criminal behaviour. These community programs can take different forms such as recreational programs, counselling, mental health programs and services, and youth justice committees.

An **extrajudicial sanction** is a more formal type of EJM and can be applied in accordance with an approved program. Extrajudicial sanctions may be used when a young person cannot be adequately dealt with by other types of EJMs because of the seriousness of the offence, the nature and extent of

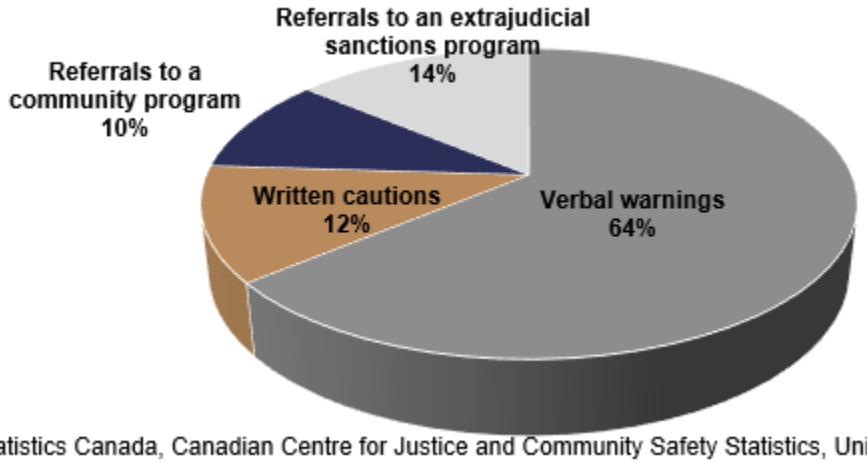
previously committed offences, or any other aggravating circumstances.[27] Extrajudicial sanctions consist of conditions that a young person must fulfill outside of the court process. These sanctions may take different forms such as attending specialized programs, making restitution to the victim, and completing community service. To be admitted to an extrajudicial sanctions program, the young person must accept responsibility for the offending behaviour and consent to the use of an extrajudicial sanction.[28] Additionally, there must be sufficient evidence to support a finding of guilt. The victim(s) of the alleged offence also has a right to be informed.[29]

From 2010 to 2021, verbal warnings were the most frequently used EJM while referrals to a community program were the least frequently used EJM

From 2010 to 2021, there were a total of 464,646 youth diverted by EJMs. Of these youth, the majority (two-thirds; 64%; 296,736) were cleared by a verbal warning. The second most frequently used EJM, although much less common, was a referral to an extrajudicial sanctions program (14% of all youth diverted by EJMs; 63,531), followed by a written caution (12%; 57,181). The least frequently used EJM was a referral to a community program, representing one in ten (10%; 47,198) of all youth diverted by EJMs (see Chart 4).

These trends remained consistent throughout the study period, although slight fluctuations were observed which are explored in more details below.

Chart 4. Percentage of youth cleared by EJMs, by type of EJM, Canada, 2010 to 2021



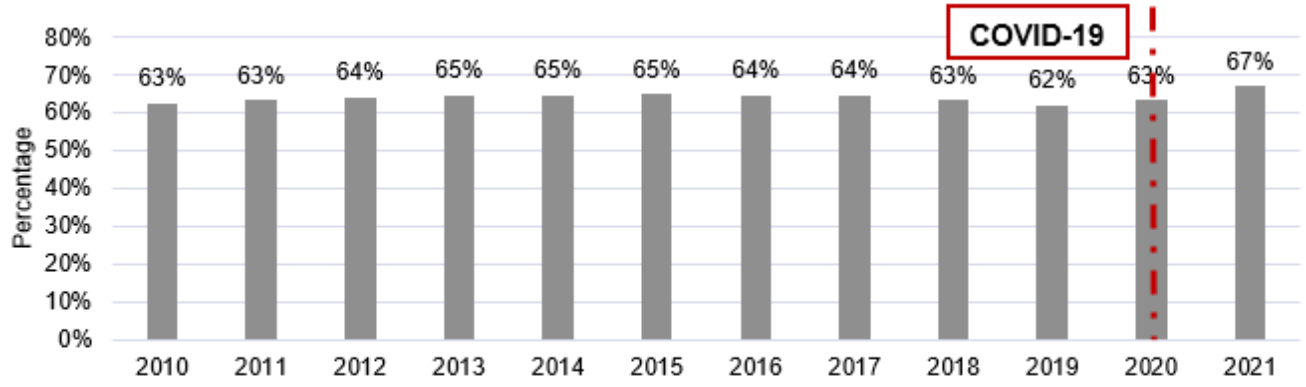
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.

[27] YCJA, s. 10.
[28] YCJA, s. 2.
[29] YCJA, s.10 (2), 11 and 12.

Verbal warnings was the most frequently used EJM across all years, reaching its peak in 2021

Verbal warnings were consistently the most frequently used EJM in Canada, ranging between 62% and 65% of all youth diverted by EJMs each year from 2010 to 2020, and reaching a peak of 67% in 2021 (see Chart 5).

Chart 5. Percentage of youth diverted by verbal warnings, among all youth diverted by EJMs, Canada, 2010 to 2021

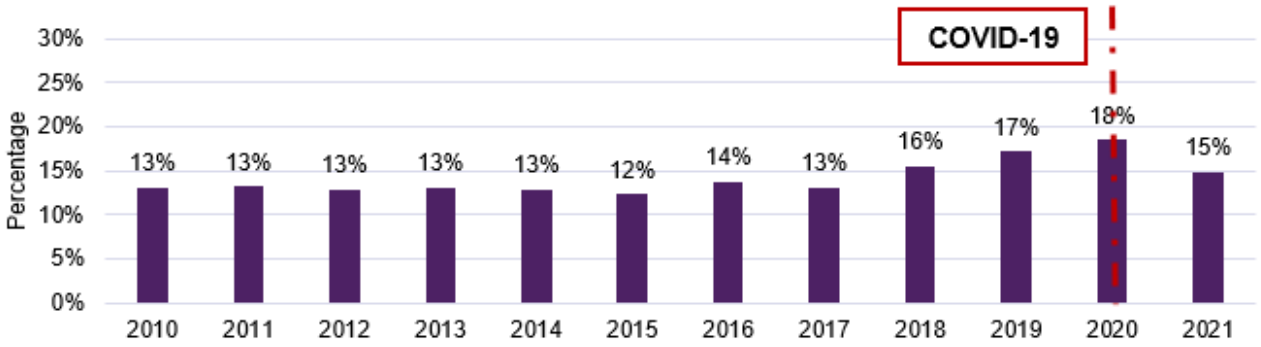


Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.

Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program—the second most frequently used EJM—remained somewhat stable until slight increases from 2018 to 2020

From 2010 to 2021, referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program were the second most frequently used EJM in Canada, representing 14% of youth diverted by EJMs from 2010 to 2021 (see Chart 6). From 2010 to 2017, this percentage was stable, between 12% and 14%. The following year (2018), this percentage started increasing, reaching its peak in 2020 at 18%, before dropping in 2021 to 15%.

Chart 6. Percentage of youth diverted by referral to an extrajudicial sanctions program, among all youth diverted by EJMs, Canada, 2010 to 2021

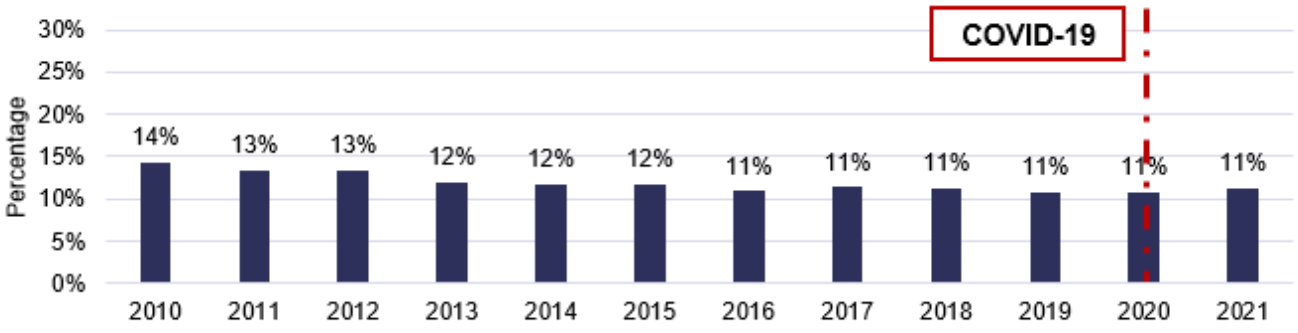


Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.

Written cautions—the third most frequently used EJM—remained rather stable over time

Written cautions were the third most reported type of EJM used from 2010 to 2021, representing 12% of youth diverted by EJMs during this time (see Chart 7). In 2010, this percentage was at its highest at 14%, but then slowly decreased over time reaching 11% in 2016, and stayed stable until the end of the study period.

Chart 7. Percentage of youth diverted by written caution, among all youth diverted by EJMs, Canada, 2010 to 2021



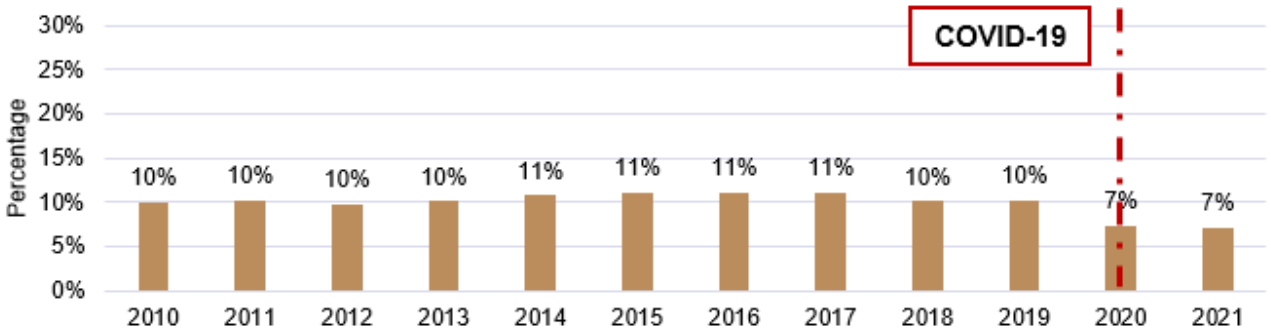
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.

Referrals to a community program—the least frequently used EJM—also remained stable over the years, until 2020 where a drop was recorded

From 2010 to 2021, referrals to a community program were the least frequently used EJM in Canada, representing 10% of all youth diverted by EJMs from 2010 to 2021 (see Chart 8). This percentage was

mostly stable over the years (varying between 10% to 11%), until 2020 where the percentage decreased to 7% and maintained this level in 2021.

Chart 8. Percentage of youth diverted by referral to a community program, among all youth diverted by EJMs, Canada, 2010 to 2021



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.

4.3 How does the use of EJMs vary according to offence type?

The YCJA promotes the use of diversion through EJMs primarily for less serious offences; however, nothing precludes their use in dealing with more serious offences.[30] The following section provides an examination of the use of EJMs by most serious type of offence in the case: violent crimes,[31] property offences,[32] drug offences and other offences[33]. These trends, and how they have evolved over time, are further described below. Of note, due to small counts, analyses by the type of offence are only available by grouped years: 2010-2012, 2013-2015, 2016-2018 and 2019-2021.

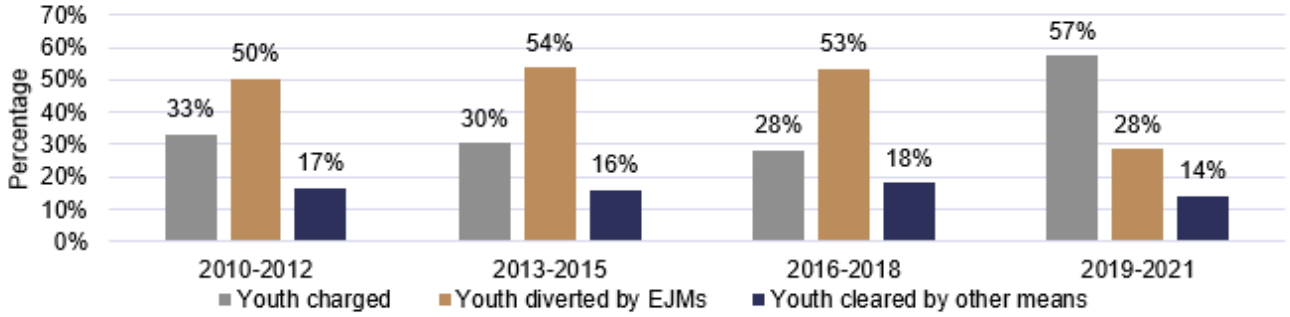
Half of all youth who came in contact with the police due to drug offences were diverted by EJMs, the highest proportion of any offence type

From 2010 to 2021, almost one-third (32%) of all youth who came in contact with the police due to drug offences were charged by police, while over half (51%) were diverted by EJMs and 17% were cleared by other means.

[30] It is important to note that these analyses are about pre-charge diversion, meaning that in these cases, youth have not been found guilty by the courts for their alleged criminal behaviour.
[31] Violent crimes include offences such as homicide, attempted murder, robbery, sexual assault, offences in relation to sexual services and other sexual offences, major assault, common assault, uttering threats, criminal harassment, and other crimes against the persons.
[32] Property crimes include offences such as theft, motor vehicle theft, break and enter, fraud, mischief, possession of stolen property, and other property crimes.
[33] "Other offences" include other *Criminal Code* violations such as administration of justice offences and disturbing the peace, Federal Statute violations, and *Criminal Code* traffic violations.

Over time, the percentage of youth charged for drug offences decreased from 33% in 2010-2012 to 28% in 2016-2018. In 2019-2021, this proportion sharply increased to over half (57%) of all youth who came in contact with the police due to drug offences. This led to a corresponding decrease in the use of EJMs (28% of youth in contact with police due to drug offences; see Chart 9).[34]

Chart 9. Percentage of youth who came in contact with the police due to drug offences, by action taken by police, Canada, 2010-2012 to 2019-2021



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.

From 2010 to 2021, among youth who came in contact with the police due to drug offences who were diverted by EJMs, the majority (61%) were diverted by a verbal warning, 11% by a written caution, 13% by a referral to a community program and 15% by referral to an extrajudicial sanctions program. These trends remained stable throughout the study period, with the exception of 2019-2021, where there was a considerable drop in the use of verbal warnings (53%) and referrals to a community program (6%), with a corresponding increase in referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program (35%).

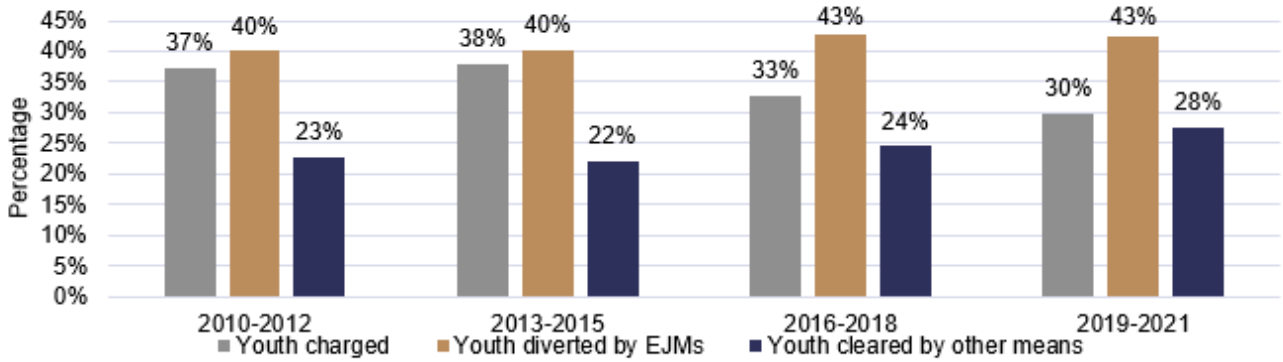
Two in five youth who came in contact with the police due to property offences were diverted by EJMs, the second most common offence type diverted by EJMs

From 2010 to 2021, over one-third (36%) of all youth who in came in contact with police due to property offences were charged by police, while about four in ten (41%) were diverted by EJMs and 23% were cleared by other means.

Over time, among all youth involved in property crimes, the percentage of youth charged decreased from 37% in 2010-2012 to 30% in 2019-2021, with corresponding increases in the use of EJMs (from 40% to 43%, respectively) and other means (from 23% to 28%, respectively) (see Chart 10).

[34] It is important to note that in October 2018, former *Bill C-45 An Act respecting cannabis and to amend the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, the Criminal Code and other Acts* came into effect. Following its legalization, cannabis-related drug offences made up a much smaller proportion of drug-related offences. As a result, drug-related offences may comprise of a larger proportion of more serious and severe drug-related offences, leading to an increasing proportion of charges being laid among youth coming in contact with the police for such offences. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic also may have had an impact on the types of drug-related offences being committed, particularly as health measures such as stay-at home orders, as well as business and border closures were implemented affecting substance use behaviour as well as the production and trafficking of drugs.

Chart 10. Percentage of youth who came in contact with the police due to property offences, by action taken by police, Canada, 2010-2012 to 2019-2021



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.

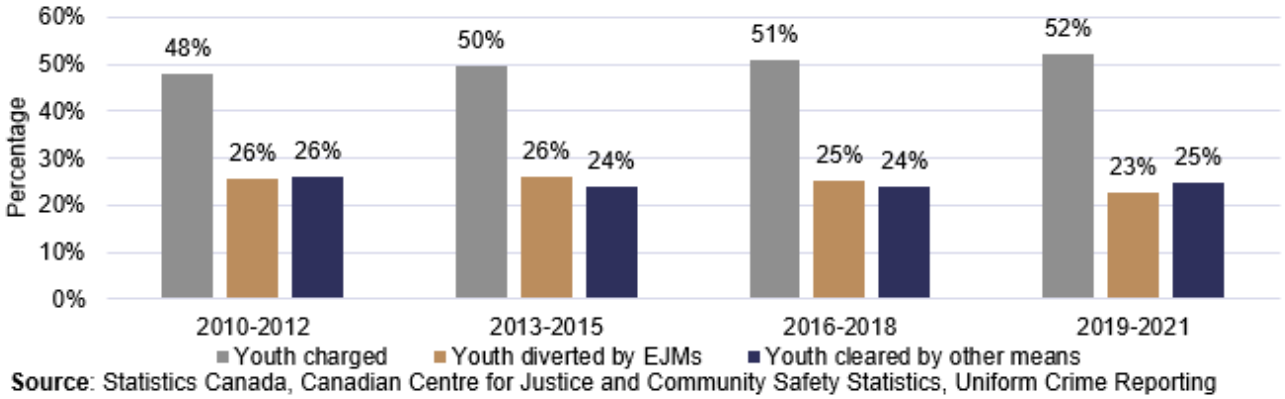
Of all youth involved in property offences diverted through EJMs, just under two-thirds (63%) were diverted by use of a verbal warning, 12% by written caution, 12% by referrals to a community program and 13% by an extrajudicial sanction. These trends remained stable throughout the study period.

A quarter of all youth who came in contact with the police due to violent crimes were diverted by EJMs, while half were charged by police

From 2010 to 2021, half (50%) of all youth who came in contact with police due to violent crimes were charged, while a quarter (25%) were diverted by EJMs and another quarter (25%) were cleared by other means.

Over time, among youth involved in violent crimes, the percentage of youth charged increased slightly from 48% in 2010-2012 to 52% in 2019-2021, with a corresponding decrease in the use of EJMs (from 26% to 23%, respectively) (see Chart 11).

Chart 11. Percentage of youth who came in contact with the police due to violent crimes, by action taken by police, Canada, 2010-2012 to 2019-2021



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.

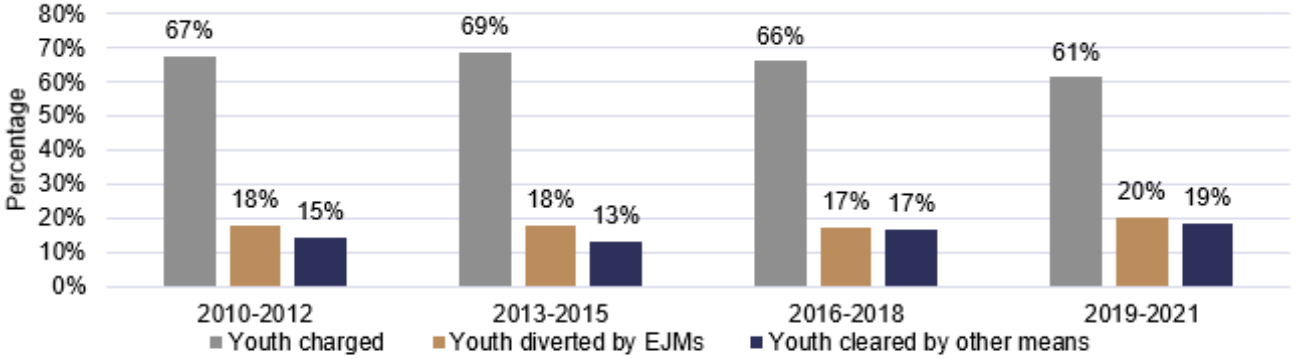
Of all youth involved in violent crimes who were diverted by EJMs, under two-thirds (61%) were diverted by use of verbal warning, 13% by written caution, 8% by referrals to a community program and 17% by an extrajudicial sanction. These trends remained throughout the study period, with slight fluctuations in youth diverted through verbal warnings and extrajudicial sanctions.

EJMs are least often used with youth in contact with police due to other offences

From 2010 to 2021, over two-thirds (67%) of all youth who came in contact with police due to other offences—which includes for example other *Criminal Code* violations such as administration of justice offences and disturbing the peace—were charged, while 18% were diverted by EJMs and 15% were cleared by other means.

These trends remained stable from 2010-2012 to 2016-2018. Afterwards, the percentage of youth charged decreased from 66% in 2016-2018 to 61% in 2019-2021, with slight corresponding increases among youth diverted by EJMs (from 17% to 20%, respectively) and youth cleared by other means (17% to 19%, respectively) (see Chart 12).

Chart 12. Percentage of youth who came in contact with the police due to other offences, by action taken by police, Canada, 2010-2012 to 2019-2021



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.

Of all youth involved in other offences who were diverted by EJMs, three-quarters (75%) were diverted by use of verbal warning, 15% by written caution, 7% by an extrajudicial sanction and 3% by referrals to a community program. These trends remained rather stable throughout the study period, although youth referred to an extrajudicial sanctions program increased from 5% in 2010-2012 to 10% in 2019-2021.

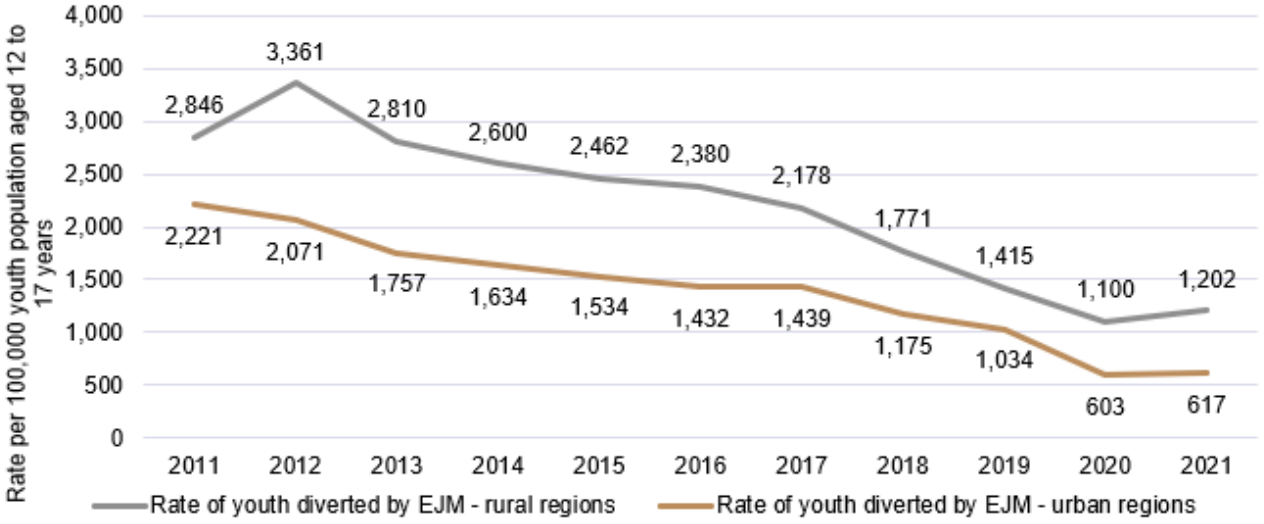
4.4 How does the use of EJMs vary between urban and rural regions?

The following section provides an examination of the use of EJMs by rural and urban regions. To do this, both rural and urban rates (which takes population size into account) of youth diverted by EJMs are examined and compared against each other, to generate a ratio. These trends, and how they have evolved over time, are further described below.

From 2011 to 2021, the rate of youth diverted by EJMs in rural regions was on average 1.6 times higher than the rate of those in urban regions (see Chart 13). The ratio fluctuated over time, ranging from 1.3 to 1.9 times higher in rural regions compared to urban regions. And notably, 2012 showed a spike in the use of EJMs in the rural regions only. [35] However, it is important to take into account the differences in police-reported crime across rural and urban regions and the difference in policing practices. Notably, rural areas vary in terms of their demographic, economic, and geographic characteristics, particularly between the rural provincial North and South. For more information on the characteristics of police-reported crimes in rural areas, see Statistics Canada's Characteristics of police-reported crime in rural areas in the Canadian provinces, 2023.

[35] This may be partly explained by the differences in police services' capacity to record the use of EJMs.

Chart 13. Rural vs. urban rates of youth diverted by EJMs, Canada, 2011 to 2021



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.

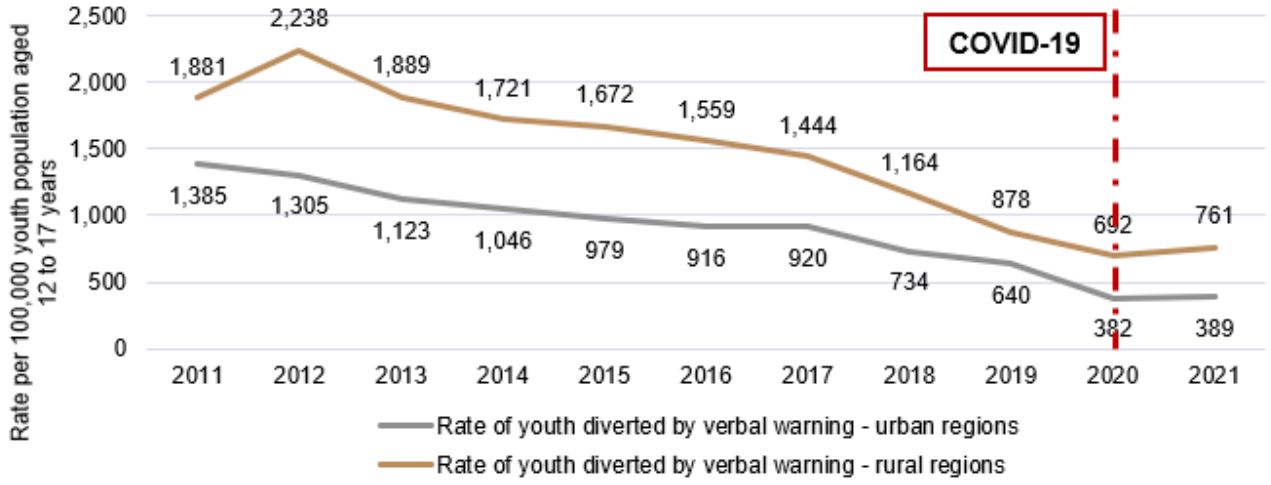
Greater use of verbal warnings, written cautions and referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program in rural regions, from 2011 to 2021

From 2011 to 2021, the rate of youth diverted by a verbal warning in rural regions was on average over 1.6 times higher than the rate of those in urban regions (see Chart 14). The ratio fluctuated over time, ranging from 1.4 to 2.0 times higher in rural regions compared to urban regions.

For youth diverted by a written caution, the rate in rural regions was on average over 2.4 times higher than the rate in urban regions from 2011 to 2021 (see Chart 15). The gap between rural and urban rates generally increased over time; in 2011 the rural rate was 1.7 times higher than the urban rate, and by 2021, the rural rate reached 3.5 times the urban rate.

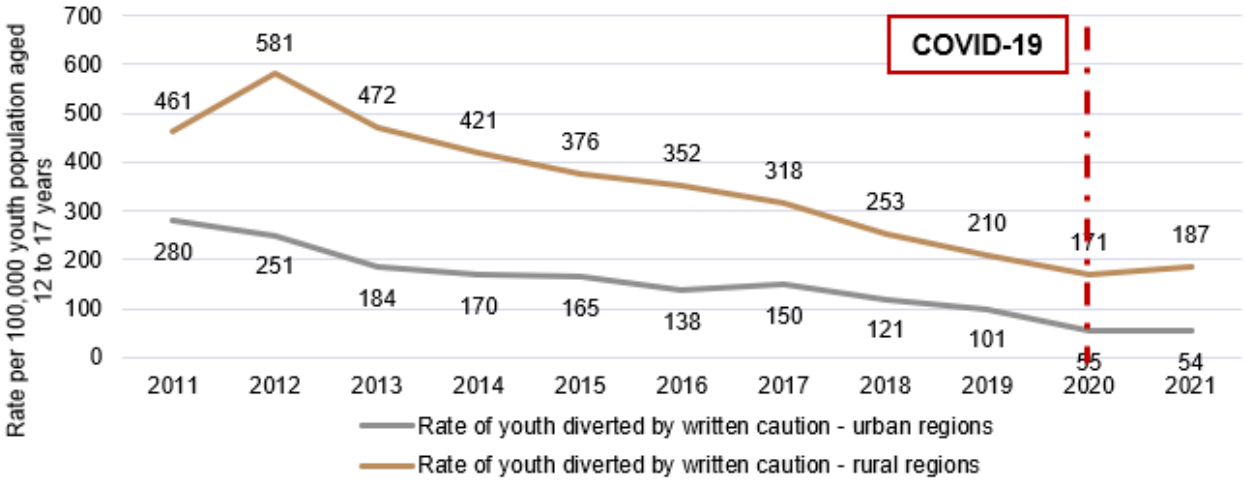
For youth diverted by a referral to an extrajudicial sanctions program, the rate in rural regions was on average 1.4 times higher than the rate of those in urban regions from 2011 to 2021 (see Chart 16). However, the ratio varied over time; the rate in rural regions went from being 1.1 times higher than that in urban regions in 2011, to 1.7 times higher than that in urban regions in 2016. From 2017 to 2021, the ratio fluctuated between 1.2 and 1.5 times higher in rural regions compared to urban regions.

Chart 14. Rural vs. urban rates of youth diverted by a verbal warning, Canada, 2011 to 2021



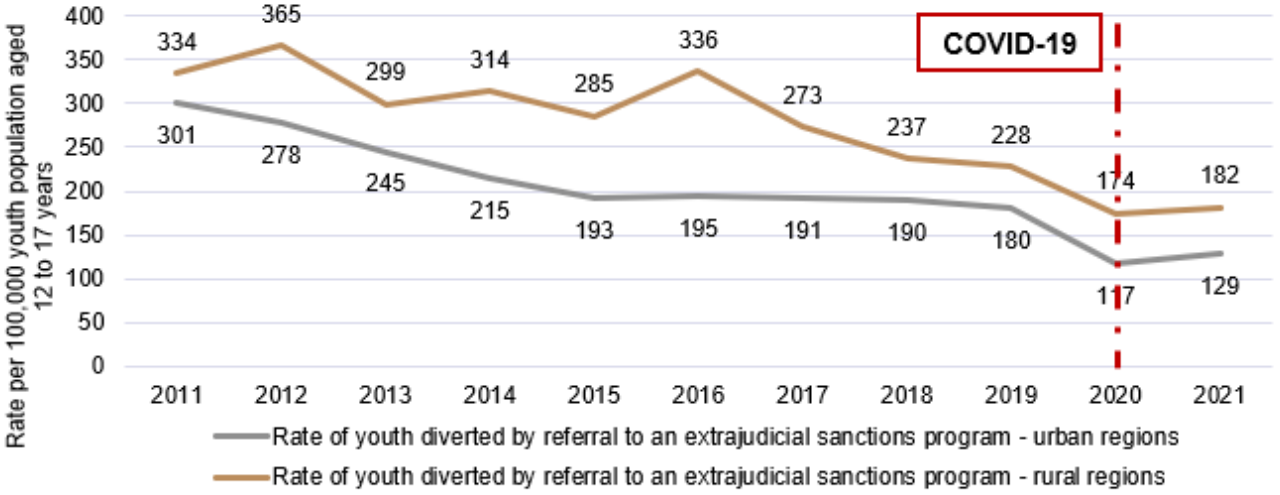
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.

Chart 15. Rural vs. urban rates of youth diverted by a written caution, Canada, 2011 to 2021



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.

Chart 16. Rural vs. urban rates of youth diverted by a referral to an extrajudicial sanctions program, Canada, 2011 to 2021

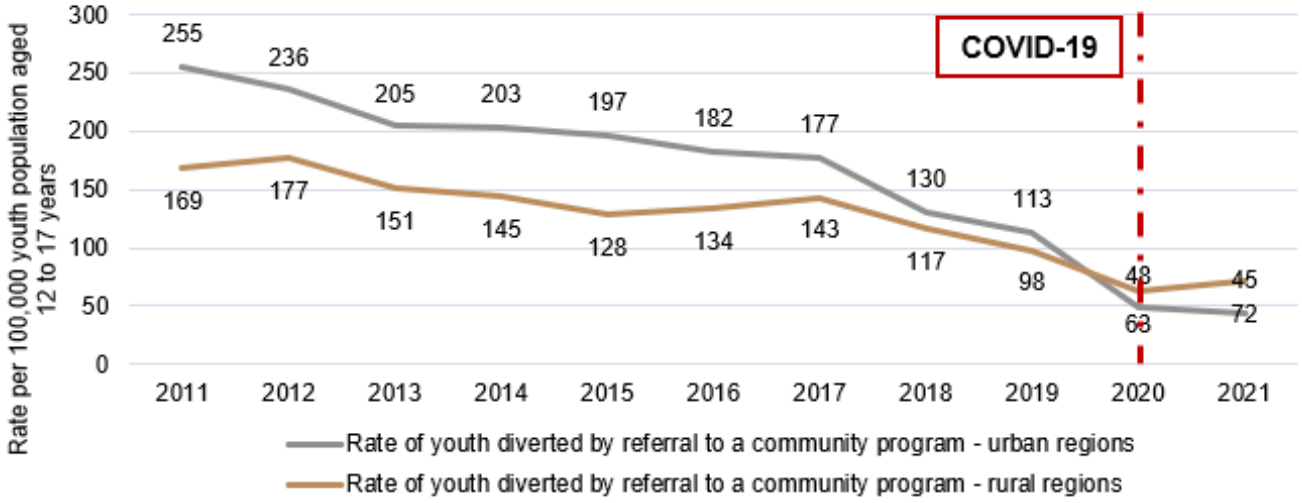


Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.

Greater use of referrals to community programs in urban regions until 2019; greater use in rural regions in 2020 and 2021

From 2011 to 2021, the rate of youth diverted by a referral to a community program was slightly more prominent in urban regions, on average over 1.2 times higher than the rate in rural regions (see Chart 17). In 2011, the rate in urban regions was 1.5 times higher than the rate in rural regions; this ratio stayed overall stable until 2016. The following year (2017), the ratio slowly started to decrease. By 2020, the trend had completely inversed, with the rate of youth diverted by a referral to a community program more prominent in rural regions than urban regions (ratio of 1.3 in 2020 and 1.6 in 2021).

Chart 17. Rural vs. urban rates of youth diverted by a referral to a community program, Canada, 2011 to 2021



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.

4.5 Are there any jurisdictional differences in the use of EJMs?

The following section examines jurisdictional differences in the use of EJMs, by comparing jurisdictional trends to national trends for the following three areas: 1) volume and severity of youth crime; 2) action taken by police: youth charged, youth diverted to EJMs and youth cleared by other means; and 3) types of EJMs used. This section provides a high-level summary of key findings. Data tables are available in Annex II.

Atlantic region observed higher percentages of youth diverted by EJMs, but lower percentages of youth cleared by other means compared to national trends

Provinces in the Atlantic region[36] generally saw slightly lower percentages of their youth charged in comparison to that observed at the national level. However, some jurisdictions (Newfoundland and Labrador (NFLD) and Prince Edward Island (PEI)) saw increases in youth charged the later years, where at times over half of all youth who came in contact with the police were charged, surpassing the national levels. The Atlantic region also recorded a higher percentage of youth diverted by use of EJMs—primarily for drug and property offences—but a lower percentage of youth cleared by other means. Looking at the different types of EJMs used, compared to national trends, NFLD most notably recorded a higher usage of verbal warnings; PEI saw a slightly higher use of referrals to a community program; Nova Scotia (NS) had a lower use of referrals to a community program; and, New Brunswick (NB) a higher use of referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program.

[36] Newfoundland and Labrador (NFLD), Prince Edward Island (PEI), Nova Scotia (NS) and New Brunswick (NB)

Quebec observed lower percentages of youth diverted by EJMs, but higher percentages of youth cleared by other means compared to national trends

Quebec (QC) generally saw similar or lower percentages of their youth charged in comparison to that observed at the national level. QC also recorded a lower percentage of youth diverted by use of EJMs—primarily for drug and property offences—but a higher percentage of youth cleared by other means. Looking at the different types of EJMs used in comparison to the national trends, QC notably recorded a higher use of referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program, and very little usage of written cautions.

Ontario observed higher percentages of youth diverted by EJMs, but lower percentages of youth cleared by other means compared to national trends

Ontario (ON) generally saw similar or higher percentages of youth charged in comparison to that observed at the national level. This was particularly the case in 2020 and 2021, where ON recorded charges for over half (52% and 50%, respectively) of all youth who came in contact with the police. ON also recorded a higher percentage of youth diverted by use of EJMs—primarily for drug and property offences—but a lower percentage of youth cleared by other means. Looking at the different types of EJMs used in comparison to the national trends, ON notably recorded a higher usage of written cautions and referrals to a community program.

The Prairies region observed lower percentages of youth diverted by EJMs, but higher percentages of youth cleared by other means compared to national trends

Provinces in the Prairies region[37] generally saw higher percentages of their youth charged in comparison to that recorded at the national level.[38] Jurisdictions in the Prairies region also recorded a lower percentage of youth diverted by use of EJMs—primarily for drug and property offences—but higher percentage of youth cleared by other means. Looking at the different types of EJMs used in comparison to the national trends, the Prairies most notably recorded a higher usage of verbal warnings and written cautions.

British Columbia observed higher percentages of youth diverted by EJMs and higher percentages of youth cleared by other means compared to national trends

British Columbia (BC) saw lower percentages of youth charged in comparison to that observed at the national level. BC also recorded a higher percentage of youth diverted by EJMs—primarily for drug and property offences—as well as a higher percentage of youth cleared via other means. Looking at the

[37] Manitoba (MB), Saskatchewan (SK) and Alberta (AB)

[38] It is important to note that the Prairies region continues to have higher crime rates than other jurisdictions in Canada, which can mainly be attributed to the larger presence of rural communities where there are greater levels of mischief, common assault, and disturbing the peace. Mischief and disturbing the peace are offences which may be more likely to come to the attention of police in smaller communities; the differences in police practices may be impacted by the use of provincial violations and municipal by-laws for this type of behaviour. Further, it is important to recognize the ongoing impact of colonization on Indigenous peoples in Canada, many which reside in the Prairies region, particularly regarding the effects of socioeconomic marginalization, trauma, and intergenerational violence on life outcomes, which contribute to an increased contact with the criminal justice system. For more information, please see Crime reported by police serving areas where the majority of the population is Indigenous, 2018.

different types of EJMs used in comparison to the national trends, BC notably recorded a higher usage of verbal warnings.

The Territories observed higher percentages of youth diverted by EJMs and much higher percentages of youth cleared by other means compared to national trends

Jurisdictions in the Territories[39] saw much lower percentages of youth charged in comparison to that observed at the national level, despite higher volume and severity of crime.[40] The Territories also observed a higher percentage of youth diverted by EJMs—primarily for drug and property offences—as well as much higher percentage of youth cleared via other means. Looking at the different types of EJMs used in comparison to the national trends, Northwest Territories (NWT), Yukon (YK) and Nunavut (NU) most notably recorded a higher usage of verbal warnings and written cautions.

5 Discussion

Coinciding with the enactment of the YCJA, there has been an overall decrease in the volume and severity of youth crime. Specifically, from 2003 to 2021, the youth crime rate showed a 72% decrease, mostly due to decreases in property crimes, such as theft of property $5,000 or under, breaking and entering, theft of a motor vehicle, possession of stolen property, fraud, arson, mischief, as well as drug offences.[41] Similarly, the Youth CSI decreased 61% over this time, again largely due to the decrease in the Youth Non-Violent CSI (-78% over this time; -31% decrease for the Youth Violent-CSI).

The implementation of the Act also resulted in changes to police charging practices. In pre-YCJA years, the majority of youth who came in contact with the police were charged (ranging from 63% to 56%). Following the enactment of the YCJA in 2003, the trend in policing charging practices reversed, with less than half (45%) of all youth who came in contact with the police were charged while over half (55%) were not. This trend stayed rather stable from 2003 to 2021 (the end of the study period).

A large contributor to these changes in police charging practice is the increasing use of EJMs as prescribed by the YCJA. Focusing on a more recent period (2010 to 2021), this study examined the trends in the use of EJMs at the policing stage, using police-reported data collected by Statistics Canada's Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR). Results showed that, on average, over half (54%) of all youth who came in contact with the police during this timeframe were not charged by police. Specifically, on average, almost one in three (32%) youth who came in contact with the police were diverted through EJMs each year from 2010 to 2021, while about one in five (22%) youth who came in contact with the police were cleared by other means each year. There were variations in these trends; the proportion of youth diverted through EJMs was rather stable until 2017 (ranging between 32% to

[39] Northwest Territories (NWT), Yukon (YK) and Nunavut (NU)
[40] It is important to note that due to small population sizes, the territories are more susceptible to fluctuations and more noticeable differences in their crime rates and CSIs, compared to the provinces. However, these differences are less about the severity of crime, and more about the amount of crime being reported (i.e., a higher proportion of less serious crimes are reported in the territories than in the rest of Canada). (Statistics Canada, 2009) Furthermore, it is also important to note the context in the Territories which is covered under federal policing jurisdiction and serve primarily Indigenous communities. Due its composition, the Territories have closer ties to Indigenous communities and governments, which includes some self-governing First Nation communities and Inuit's own system of government. More data and information about the different policies and practices in the Territories would be needed to understand their impacts on charging and diversion practices.
[41] Justice Canada, 2024; Moreau, 2022

34%) but started decreasing and reached 28% in 2020 and 2021. The proportion of youth cleared by other means also fluctuated over time and started slightly increasing in 2015, going from 20% to 26% in 2021.

These findings are consistent with a preliminary statistical assessment of police charging practices with youth completed in 2005[42], examining UCR data on the use of police charges and use of EJMs, from 1986 to 2003. The authors noted a substantial reduction in the number of youth who came in contact with the police who were charged, and a corresponding increase in EJMs.

Results from the current study also showed that from 2010 to 2021, verbal warnings were the most frequently used type of EJM (64% of all EJMs), followed by extrajudicial sanctions (14%) and then written cautions (12%). Referrals to a community program (10%) were the least frequently used EJM. This is also consistent with past research (Statistics Canada's 2014 Youth crime in Canada), which found that verbal warnings and written cautions were the most common diversion method used at the time.[43]

Although this study did not examine factors influencing police officers' decision-making with respect to charging and diverting youth who are alleged to have engaged in offending behaviour, a look at past research provides interesting insights into this. The literature notes a few factors that may influence these decisions, including the young person's criminal history[44] and their demeanour,[45] as well as the young person's age. Previous literature highlights differences in charging rate between younger (i.e., 12 to 15 years old) and older youth (i.e., 16 to 17 years old), in that the proportion of youth who came in contact with the police and were charged, increased with age.[46] Other factors that may impact police officers' decision to lay a charge include police officer characteristics such as age,[47] years of service,[48] and education with respect to youth crime and approaches.[49] The literature also notes that the seriousness of the alleged offence is the most influential factor.[50] As previously mentioned, the YCJA (2003) promotes the use of EJMs in diverting youth from the courts and custody, primarily for less serious offences.

[42] Carrington and Schulenberg, 2005
[43] *Ibid*.
[44] Youth with who had previous criminality were less likely to be diverted.
[45] The demeanour of the youth was identified as a proxy for taking responsibility. Youth who were viewed as having a "bad attitude" were significantly less likely to be diverted.
[46] *Ibid*.
[47] Vogt, Cohen and Czeck 2011 explains that past research, although dated, found that older officers were less likely to take youth into custody, and younger officers tended to make more arrests and were more aggressive in their encounters with civilians than more experienced officers. Also see Allen 2005; Carrington 1998; Carrington and Schulenberg 2005; Doob and Chan 1982; Doob and Cesaroni 2004; Marinos and Innocente 2008; Schulenberg and Warren 2004; Sherman 1980.
[48] Vogt, Cohen and Czeck 2011 explains that past research, although dated, found that an officer's length of service (8 years or less) was inversely related to going out of one's way to 'detect' crime. Also see Allen 2005; Carrington 1998; Carrington and Schulenberg 2005; Doob and Chan 1982; Doob and Cesaroni 2004; Marinos and Innocente 2008; Schulenberg and Warren 2004; Sherman 1980.
[49] Vogt, Cohen and Czeck 2011 explains that past research, although dated, found that police officers with a specialization in youth crime were more likely to approach situations on a case-by-case basis (e.g., by taking various factors affecting youth behaviour into account), were more prevention-focused and more likely to use EJMs. Also see Allen 2005; Carrington 1998; Carrington and Schulenberg 2005; Doob and Chan 1982; Doob and Cesaroni 2004; Marinos and Innocente 2008; Schulenberg and Warren 2004; Sherman 1980.
[50] Vogt, Cohen and Czeck 2011; also see Allen 2005; Carrington 1998; Carrington and Schulenberg 2005; Doob and Cesaroni 2004; Marinos and Innocente 2008; Schulenberg and Warren 2004; Sherman 1980.

Results from this present study showed differences in the use of EJMs based on the type of offence for which the youth came in contact with police, ultimately finding a more common use of EJM among less serious offences such as drug offences and property crimes. From 2010 to 2021, half (51%) of all youth who came in contact with the police due to drug offences were diverted by EJM, which is the highest percentage of EJM use amongst all offence types, followed by property offences (41%). In contrast, a quarter (25%) of all youth who came in contact with the police due to violent crimes (i.e., the most serious type of offence) were diverted by EJM, while half (50%) were charged by police. Interestingly, EJMs were least used among youth who came in contact with the police due to other types of offences (less than one-fifth; 18%); over two-thirds (67%) of these youth were charged by police, which is the highest proportion of youth charged across all types of offences. A large proportion of other offences are administration of justice offences, including specific violations of the law where people released on bail or probation do not follow the conditions set out in their release (e.g., failure to comply with conditions of release, failure to appear in court, and disobeying a court order). It is possible that because of these young people's previous CJS involvement, police may be less inclined to use EJMs.

Furthermore, the types of EJMs used also vary according to the type of offending behaviour. For example, a higher percentage of extrajudicial sanctions (i.e., the most serious type of EJM) were observed among youth involved in violent crimes, compared to youth involved in any other types of offences. The fact that a victim has allegedly been harmed in cases of violent crimes may explain the higher use of sanctions, which can include repairing the harm caused, but also align with considerations regarding the seriousness of the offending behaviour and proportionality of the penalty associated with that behaviour. Finally, a higher percentage of referrals to a community program was observed among youth who came in contact with the police due to drug offences compared to youth involved in all other types of offences, which may be explained by the need to address and treat drug and substance use issues.

Past research from Statistics Canada (Youth crime in Canada) provides slightly more details into these findings: "in 2014, more serious offences (i.e., those associated with the most severe penalties) such as homicide, attempted murder, sexual assault (levels 2 and 3), aggravated assault and robbery, most often resulted in a police charge." More serious property crimes such as break and enter and motor vehicle theft also had higher proportion of charging. Less serious offences (i.e., those associated with minor penalties) such as "common assault, criminal harassment, mischief and disturbing of the peace were less likely to result in charges."[51]

Results from this study also found differences in the types of EJMs used between rural and urban regions. From 2010 to 2021, there were greater use of verbal warnings, written cautions and extrajudicial sanctions in rural regions compared to urban regions. Conversely, referrals to community programs were more likely to be used in urban regions until 2019. This could be explained by the increased presence of programs in urban regions as opposed to rural regions. Ricciardelli and colleagues (2017) found that in smaller rural areas, police officers may experience staff shortages, thus impacting their level of involvement in cases, including the early and effective timing in interventions such as EJMs. In 2020, this trend inversed; rural regions saw an increase in referrals to community programs while urban regions observed a decrease. Overall, the rates for youth charged and youth

[51] Allen and Superle 2016

diverted by EJMs were higher in rural regions in comparison to urban regions. However, looking specifically at the youth who came into contact with the police, urban regions observed a higher percentage of youth diverted by EJMs as well as a higher percentage of youth charged, while rural regions observed a higher percentage of youth cleared by other means. Differing trends in usage of EJMs may be partly explained by differences in rural and urban policing approaches, where police services in rural areas may be more likely to use more informal approaches such as community-based resolutions to divert youth from the CJS due to a variety of factors, including small population sizes, transport/commute limitations due to, for example, the absence of youth facilities and courts nearby, and general awareness and understanding of social and criminal histories.[52] Further, less serious offences may be addressed through municipal by-laws, which are more common in urban and southern areas of the provinces, rather than the *Criminal Code.* Therefore, it is possible that police services in rural areas handle crimes that would otherwise be dealt with through urban by-laws, which would ultimately impact the amount of police-reported crime across provinces.[53] (Cotter, 2025; Perreault, 2023)

No gender differences were observed when looking at the frequency and types of EJMs used among male and female youth who come in contact with the police, a finding supported by past literature.[54]

Lastly, it is important to note that the changes in volume and severity of crime, as well as the related use of EJMs, may be partly explained by various factors such as legislative changes (e.g., legalization of cannabis), social and economics contexts, events, and movements. [55]

6 Conclusion

This research study was conducted in an effort to further understand to what extent and in what ways youth who come in contact with the police as a result of an alleged criminal incident are being diverted out of the CJS. Specifically, the study examined the use of various types of EJMs at the policing stage (in accordance to Part I of the YCJA), across Canada, from 2010 to 2021, while considering urban/rural differences and offence types.

The findings of this study support previous literature noting the positive changes brought about by the YCJA such as the use of diversion through the application of EJMs rather than pursuing more punitive formal proceedings, as evidenced through trends in police charging practices. This trend has remained throughout the post-YCJA period, with less than half of all youth who came in contact with the police resulted in a police charge being laid, while the remaining youth (i.e., over half) were either diverted by EJMs or cleared by other means. Findings of this study also support the YCJA's principles of promoting diversion, particularly with less serious offences. With respect to the various types of EJMs, verbal warnings were the most frequently used EJM throughout the study period, followed by extrajudicial sanctions; referrals to a community program were the least frequently used EJM. Looking at differences

[52] Ricciardelli et al., 2017; also see Carrington and Schulenberg, 2003
[53] Cotter, 2025; Perreault, 2023
[54] *Ibid*.
[55] Justice Canada, 2024

among rural and urban regions, data showed all types of EJMs more prominently used in rural areas, except for referrals to a community program, which were more common in urban regions until 2019.

This study highlights the value of data on pre-charge diversion to better understand and track youth CJS trends. Moving forward, to support ongoing performance monitoring efforts in this area, Justice Canada will track the number, percentage and rate of youth who come in contact with the police who are diverted at pre-charge via Justice Canada's Departmental Results Framework, which consists of the department's core responsibilities, the results it plans to achieve and the monitoring of such through performance indicators.

While data on pre-charge diversion available through Statistics Canada' Uniform Crime Reporting Survey provide important information on the frequency and use of various types of EJMs across Canada, additional disaggregated data and research would be valuable to further understand instances where youth who come in contact with the police are cleared by other means. Currently, these data capture a variety of circumstances such as suicide of the young person, committal to a mental health facility and the victim/complainant's request for no further action, to name a few examples. This makes it challenging to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the trends in the use of diversion at the pre-charge stage.

Future research and data collection should also include EJM data disaggregated by Indigenous, Black and racialized identity to understand how diversion impacts the overrepresentation of Indigenous, Black, and other racialized groups in the youth CJS. Additional disaggregation of data by age category and specific offences could also provide important insights into findings. Follow-up research could also be conducted to examine the perceptions and attitudes of CJS professionals with respect to the decision to use an EJM.[56] Lastly, data and research on the use of EJMs during formal judicial proceedings (i.e., captured via court data) would also be helpful to gain a more fulsome understanding of diversion practices at all stages of the CJS.

[56] Some research has been conducted in this area, although dated, see Doob and Chan 1982; Doob and Cesaroni 2004; Carrington 1998.

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Annex I – Abbreviations

AOJO	Administration of justice offence
CCJCSS	Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics
CJS	Criminal justice system
CSI	Crime Severity Index
EJM	Extrajudicial measures
SOCJS	State of the Criminal Justice System
UCR	Uniform Crime Reporting Survey
YCJA	*Youth Criminal Justice Act*

Annex II – Data Tables

Table 1. Number of police-reported youth accused by accused status, offence group, and province and territory, 2010 to 2021.

Province/Territory	Type of offence	2010-2012						2013-2015						2016-2018						2019-2021					
		Charged or charges recommended	Verbal warnings	Written cautions	Referrals to a community program	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	Other means[2]	Charged or charges recommended	Verbal warnings	Written cautions	Referrals to a community program	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	Other means[2]	Charged or charges recommended	Verbal warnings	Written cautions	Referrals to a community program	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	Other means[2]	Charged or charges recommended	Verbal warnings	Written cautions	Referrals to a community program	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	Other means[2]
Newfoundland and Labrador	Violent offences	908	608	43	13	74	505	837	529	21	1	63	353	814	413	27	4	68	165	675	270	26	7	72	80
	Property offences	1,253	1,467	63	20	182	602	914	964	42	16	130	294	716	827	32	38	85	178	295	389	22	4	55	98
	Drug offences	106	124	5	1	20	23	60	131	17	1	9	21	34	88	8	3	3	14	3	9	0	0	0	2
	Other offences[1]	875	345	20	3	25	175	807	335	8	0	14	84	774	281	13	2	29	59	608	149	3	2	55	38
Prince Edward Island	Violent offences	191	137	14	16	15	147	164	49	6	23	10	55	141	34	10	27	13	39	151	23	7	14	12	32
	Property offences	485	349	66	89	62	239	305	157	31	45	31	85	174	123	14	33	30	40	68	72	15	20	12	47
	Drug offences	47	37	8	9	6	20	13	25	4	11	3	6	13	25	2	1	3	1	5	0	0	0	0	0
	Other offences[1]	152	72	11	5	2	48	119	35	5	8	4	37	80	31	7	8	5	20	76	29	1	6	12	19
Nova Scotia	Violent offences	2,208	910	170	57	162	1,731	1,505	745	85	53	94	876	1,397	507	101	56	77	749	1,051	406	88	33	80	633
	Property offences	3,144	1,952	559	212	708	2,622	1,908	1,454	286	115	342	1,350	1,007	883	187	64	228	1,196	444	498	122	31	102	676
	Drug offences	465	331	80	24	136	606	284	283	68	15	51	513	131	202	20	10	32	303	19	10	5	2	7	10
	Other offences[1]	2,664	616	112	29	48	885	1,640	515	67	22	36	443	1,251	327	45	19	34	354	571	252	66	4	25	177
New Brunswick	Violent offences	1,215	514	104	73	122	941	843	414	122	99	122	260	779	322	105	65	173	213	756	220	94	24	158	195
	Property offences	2,035	1,195	243	147	401	1,204	1,182	809	209	116	362	370	674	592	142	58	270	217	376	354	99	22	155	205
	Drug offences	246	208	43	17	62	110	130	173	63	38	60	38	73	173	33	11	44	36	30	12	6	1	1	3
	Other offences[1]	1,309	213	33	19	21	377	931	225	53	22	47	118	843	182	21	18	30	71	502	75	14	3	31	57
Quebec	Violent offences	11,158	1,764	0	379	3,095	9,642	9,221	1,104	0	216	2,640	7,744	9,387	776	0	196	3,169	8,335	11,138	780	1	194	2,678	7,519
	Property offences	15,100	7,477	0	1,581	5,134	7,612	9,544	4,940	0	968	3,390	5,776	6,372	4,568	0	839	3,070	6,297	4,049	3,152	0	431	1,923	4,026

	Drug offences	5,107	3,696	0	1,566	2,964	2,411	4,129	3,029	0	1,252	2,477	1,923	2,750	2,009	0	983	1,839	1,577	1,064	123	0	19	414	194
	Other offences[1]	8,860	297	1	34	503	1,853	6,694	182	0	18	564	1,635	4,983	236	25	31	535	4,160	4,006	570	36	18	434	2,396
Ontario	Violent offences	24,345	8,975	2,882	1,266	704	7,245	16,853	6,370	1,788	1,198	563	4,265	17,818	6,491	1,908	1,417	595	4,674	14,167	4,542	1,181	1,123	697	4,192
	Property offences	27,753	20,399	7,446	5,381	2,749	12,274	17,392	14,418	3,800	4,497	1,557	8,227	12,638	12,378	3,239	3,665	1,351	7,565	6,823	5,939	1,548	1,627	915	3,903
	Drug offences	7,745	6,884	2,974	1,782	899	2,583	5,075	5,602	1,770	1,517	683	1,887	2,808	3,754	877	737	336	1,366	924	194	42	52	38	128
	Other offences[1]	22,733	3,601	1,185	259	250	2,253	14,657	2,861	721	313	190	1,651	12,452	2,288	738	304	166	1,587	6,927	1,429	466	174	162	1,251
Manitoba	Violent offences	4,950	1,159	578	40	36	2,588	3,652	1,014	413	41	17	1,955	4,208	1,007	251	27	48	2,026	3,184	776	185	40	99	1,984
	Property offences	5,650	2,808	1,041	98	152	3,291	5,222	2,116	794	74	97	2,621	3,428	1,745	421	72	103	2,582	1,711	922	310	45	59	1,856
	Drug offences	684	279	81	10	8	228	534	338	100	3	4	194	289	238	57	2	4	123	111	18	2	0	2	12
	Other offences[1]	6,430	1,034	358	15	5	1,557	5,634	911	411	10	2	1,086	5,073	1,181	208	4	18	1,000	2,457	705	131	3	10	821
Saskatchewan	Violent offences	4,128	987	251	18	73	3,262	3,593	703	194	21	30	1,852	3,604	586	183	33	26	1,570	3,054	437	137	21	23	1,099
	Property offences	11,279	3,491	753	74	476	8,590	8,760	2,273	392	72	246	4,991	5,473	1,801	460	95	225	3,325	2,143	967	230	40	146	1,982
	Drug offences	1,087	297	63	98	49	568	870	310	68	62	32	427	487	227	68	49	9	213	146	20	5	0	0	20
	Other offences[1]	14,496	755	294	6	22	2,303	13,152	679	220	8	5	1,357	10,331	664	149	9	8	1,080	5,739	453	124	8	2	780
Alberta	Violent offences	7,002	2,360	581	96	133	4,843	5,734	1,919	462	102	81	3,164	5,974	1,683	343	154	90	2,693	5,453	1,362	285	62	175	2,449
	Property offences	12,899	6,636	1,169	917	1,360	9,829	9,653	5,002	936	636	751	6,053	6,624	4,332	615	392	533	4,330	3,194	2,817	380	135	397	2,877
	Drug offences	2,160	1,243	231	134	142	843	1,746	1,486	237	133	96	605	909	836	147	43	30	438	228	42	9	0	2	32
	Other offences[1]	12,487	2,803	765	56	42	3,241	10,504	1,814	470	52	36	2,216	8,470	1,231	306	47	27	1,673	4,595	682	175	17	48	840
British Columbia	Violent offences	5,211	3,369	204	298	318	1,927	3,773	2,205	95	219	173	1,389	3,482	1,954	77	210	200	1,604	3,519	1,914	63	199	266	2,205
	Property offences	5,085	9,735	485	2,222	1,273	4,354	3,084	6,156	193	1,021	841	2,911	2,020	4,769	124	1,024	738	2,809	1,091	3,342	107	459	420	2,505
	Drug offences	1,708	4,369	295	241	193	2,378	1,245	4,188	153	159	128	1,712	671	2,210	31	82	64	1,104	185	291	11	2	9	266
	Other offences[1]	5,788	4,955	406	103	117	2,740	3,831	3,233	212	68	61	1,700	3,057	2,296	122	74	67	1,410	1,805	1,883	98	59	71	1,632
Yukon	Violent offences	130	42	14	0	5	118	108	84	13	7	5	123	118	78	12	22	14	99	87	61	16	6	9	79
	Property offences	129	180	68	17	5	259	129	224	42	20	12	303	94	232	29	29	10	157	25	120	18	18	19	116
	Drug offences	18	35	6	0	1	9	8	23	1	7	2	11	4	44	1	1	0	4	3	1	1	0	0	1

	Other offences[1]	201	132	54	5	4	241	223	264	38	3	7	480	115	233	47	33	9	175	43	120	15	0	3	88
Northwest Territories	Violent offences	233	198	27	13	16	351	184	117	38	7	16	230	175	106	18	7	8	200	168	62	24	7	13	147
	Property offences	369	602	125	61	71	1,051	225	473	139	45	53	547	231	352	80	32	22	433	60	209	42	11	23	262
	Drug offences	55	75	5	2	6	59	23	75	19	2	5	39	11	27	8	0	0	20	9	2	0	0	0	5
	Other offences[1]	504	426	69	3	5	555	242	269	60	4	3	229	241	213	45	2	5	189	92	153	24	3	6	109
Nunavut	Violent offences	341	138	24	19	11	265	219	130	30	13	6	230	175	117	29	9	10	207	245	79	33	7	9	182
	Property offences	567	456	107	94	38	625	287	506	94	98	79	461	234	366	99	70	51	440	127	215	78	31	28	322
	Drug offences	12	19	1	0	1	8	11	24	1	2	1	11	4	12	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	0
	Other offences[1]	196	322	46	3	1	332	113	210	84	5	8	181	111	228	58	6	2	203	44	137	56	12	1	171
Canada	Violent offences	62,020	21,161	4,892	2,288	4,764	33,565	46,686	15,383	3,267	2,000	3,820	22,496	48,072	14,074	3,064	2,227	4,491	22,574	43,648	10,932	2,140	1,737	4,291	20,796
	Violent offences	85,748	56,747	12,125	10,913	12,611	52,552	58,605	39,492	6,958	7,723	7,891	33,989	39,685	32,968	5,442	6,411	6,716	29,569	20,406	18,996	2,971	2,874	4,254	18,875
	Drug offences	19,440	17,597	3,792	3,884	4,487	9,846	14,128	15,687	2,501	3,202	3,551	7,387	8,184	9,845	1,252	1,924	2,364	5,203	2,727	722	81	76	474	673
	Other offences[1]	76,695	15,571	3,354	540	1,045	16,560	58,547	11,533	2,349	533	977	11,217	47,781	9,391	1,784	557	935	11,981	27,465	6,637	1,209	309	860	8,379

1. Includes other *Criminal Code* violations, *Federal Statute* violations, and *Criminal Code* traffic violations.

2. Includes suicide of the accused, death of the accused (not suicide), death of complainant/witness, reasons beyond control of department (policy), diplomatic immunity, the accused is committed to a mental health facility, the accused is outside of Canada and cannot be returned, victim/complainant request no further action, the accused is involved in other incidents, the accused is already sentenced, and departmental discretion.

Note: Youth accused includes those aged between 12 and 17 years old. Children under the age of 12 cannot be charged with a criminal offence. Violations are based on the most serious violation on the incident.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (trend database).

Table 2. Rate of police-reported youth accused by accused status, offence group, and province and territory, 2010 to 2021.

Province/Territory	Type of offence	2010-2012						2013-2015						2016-2018						2019-2021					
		Charged or charges recommended	Verbal warnings	Written cautions	Referrals to a community program	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	Other means[2]	Charged or charges recommended	Verbal warnings	Written cautions	Referrals to a community program	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	Other means[2]	Charged or charges recommended	Verbal warnings	Written cautions	Referrals to a community program	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	Other means[2]	Charged or charges recommended	Verbal warnings	Written cautions	Referrals to a community program	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	Other means[2]
Newfoundland and Labrador	Violent offences	878.1	588.0	41.6	12.6	71.6	488.4	845.5	534.4	21.2	1.0	63.6	356.6	847.7	430.1	28.1	4.2	70.8	171.8	714.9	286.0	27.5	7.4	76.3	84.7
	Property offences	1,211.8	1,418.7	60.9	19.3	176.0	582.2	923.3	973.8	42.4	16.2	131.3	297.0	745.6	861.2	33.3	39.6	88.5	185.4	312.4	412.0	23.3	4.2	58.2	103.8
	Drug offences	102.5	119.9	4.8	1.0	19.3	22.2	60.6	132.3	17.2	1.0	9.1	21.2	35.4	91.6	8.3	3.1	3.1	14.6	3.2	9.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1
	Other offences[1]	846.2	333.6	19.3	2.9	24.2	169.2	815.2	338.4	8.1	0.0	14.1	84.9	806.0	292.6	13.5	2.1	30.2	61.4	643.9	157.8	3.2	2.1	58.2	40.2
Prince Edward Island	Violent offences	585.0	419.6	42.9	49.0	45.9	450.2	541.7	161.9	19.8	76.0	33.0	181.7	466.8	112.6	33.1	89.4	43.0	129.1	467.4	71.2	21.7	43.3	37.1	99.1
	Property offences	1,485.5	1,068.9	202.2	272.6	189.9	732.0	1,007.5	518.6	102.4	148.6	102.4	280.8	576.0	407.2	46.3	109.2	99.3	132.4	210.5	222.9	46.4	61.9	37.1	145.5
	Drug offences	144.0	113.3	24.5	27.6	18.4	61.3	42.9	82.6	13.2	36.3	9.9	19.8	43.0	82.8	6.6	3.3	9.9	3.3	15.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Other offences[1]	465.6	220.5	33.7	15.3	6.1	147.0	393.1	115.6	16.5	26.4	13.2	122.2	264.8	102.6	23.2	26.5	16.6	66.2	235.3	89.8	3.1	18.6	37.1	58.8
Nova Scotia	Violent offences	1,153.6	475.4	88.8	29.8	84.6	904.4	851.8	421.7	48.1	30.0	53.2	495.8	814.1	295.5	58.9	32.6	44.9	436.5	610.7	235.9	51.1	19.2	46.5	367.8
	Property offences	1,642.6	1,019.8	292.0	110.8	369.9	1,369.9	1,079.9	823.0	161.9	65.1	193.6	764.1	586.9	514.6	109.0	37.3	132.9	697.0	258.0	289.3	70.9	18.0	59.3	392.8
	Drug offences	242.9	172.9	41.8	12.5	71.1	316.6	160.7	160.2	38.5	8.5	28.9	290.4	76.3	117.7	11.7	5.8	18.6	176.6	11.0	5.8	2.9	1.2	4.1	5.8
	Other offences[1]	1,391.8	321.8	58.5	15.2	25.1	462.4	928.2	291.5	37.9	12.5	20.4	250.7	729.1	190.6	26.2	11.1	19.8	206.3	331.8	146.4	38.3	2.3	14.5	102.8
New Brunswick	Violent offences	862.6	364.9	73.8	51.8	86.6	668.1	638.1	313.4	92.4	74.9	92.4	196.8	601.5	248.6	81.1	50.2	133.6	164.5	575.3	167.4	71.5	18.3	120.2	148.4
	Property offences	1,444.8	848.4	172.5	104.4	284.7	854.8	894.8	612.4	158.2	87.8	274.0	280.1	520.4	457.1	109.6	44.8	208.5	167.6	286.1	269.4	75.3	16.7	117.9	156.0
	Drug offences	174.7	147.7	30.5	12.1	44.0	78.1	98.4	131.0	47.7	28.8	45.4	28.8	56.4	133.6	25.5	8.5	34.0	27.8	22.8	9.1	4.6	0.8	0.8	2.3
	Other offences[1]	929.4	151.2	23.4	13.5	14.9	267.7	704.8	170.3	40.1	16.7	35.6	89.3	650.9	140.5	16.2	13.9	23.2	54.8	382.0	57.1	10.7	2.3	23.6	43.4
Quebec	Violent offences	700.3	110.7	0.0	23.8	194.2	605.1	626.5	75.0	0.0	14.7	179.4	526.1	647.3	53.5	0.0	13.5	218.5	574.7	727.2	50.9	0.1	12.7	174.8	490.9
	Property offences	947.6	469.2	0.0	99.2	322.2	477.7	648.4	335.6	0.0	65.8	230.3	392.4	439.4	315.0	0.0	57.9	211.7	434.2	264.4	205.8	0.0	28.1	125.6	262.9
	Drug offences	320.5	232.0	0.0	98.3	186.0	151.3	280.5	205.8	0.0	85.1	168.3	130.6	189.6	138.5	0.0	67.8	126.8	108.7	69.5	8.0	0.0	1.2	27.0	12.7
	Other offences[1]	556.0	18.6	0.1	2.1	31.6	116.3	454.8	12.4	0.0	1.2	38.3	111.1	343.6	16.3	1.7	2.1	36.9	286.8	261.6	37.2	2.4	1.2	28.3	156.4
Ontario	Violent offences	824.5	304.0	97.6	42.9	23.8	245.4	601.1	227.2	63.8	42.7	20.1	152.1	635.9	231.7	68.1	50.6	21.2	166.8	499.2	160.1	41.6	39.6	24.6	147.7

	Property offences	939.9	690.8	252.2	182.2	93.1	415.7	620.3	514.2	135.5	160.4	55.5	293.4	451.0	441.8	115.6	130.8	48.2	270.0	240.4	209.3	54.6	57.3	32.2	137.5
	Drug offences	262.3	233.1	100.7	60.4	30.4	87.5	181.0	199.8	63.1	54.1	24.4	67.3	100.2	134.0	31.3	26.3	12.0	48.8	32.6	6.8	1.5	1.8	1.3	4.5
	Other offences[1]	769.9	122.0	40.1	8.8	8.5	76.3	522.8	102.0	25.7	11.2	6.8	58.9	444.4	81.7	26.3	10.8	5.9	56.6	244.1	50.4	16.4	6.1	5.7	44.1
Manitoba	Violent offences	1,682.8	394.0	196.5	13.6	12.2	879.8	1,269.8	352.6	143.6	14.3	5.9	679.8	1,457.3	348.7	86.9	9.4	16.6	701.6	1,096.7	267.3	63.7	13.8	34.1	683.4
	Property offences	1,920.7	954.6	353.9	33.3	51.7	1,118.8	1,815.8	735.8	276.1	25.7	33.7	911.4	1,187.1	604.3	145.8	24.9	35.7	894.2	589.4	317.6	106.8	15.5	20.3	639.3
	Drug offences	232.5	94.8	27.5	3.4	2.7	77.5	185.7	117.5	34.8	1.0	1.4	67.5	100.1	82.4	19.7	0.7	1.4	42.6	38.2	6.2	0.7	0.0	0.7	4.1
	Other offences[1]	2,185.9	351.5	121.7	5.1	1.7	529.3	1,959.0	316.8	142.9	3.5	0.7	377.6	1,756.8	409.0	72.0	1.4	6.2	346.3	846.3	242.8	45.1	1.0	3.4	282.8
Saskatchewan	Violent offences	1,676.4	400.8	101.9	7.3	29.6	1,324.7	1,493.0	292.1	80.6	8.7	12.5	769.5	1,468.7	238.8	74.6	13.4	10.6	639.8	1,190.9	170.4	53.4	8.2	9.0	428.5
	Property offences	4,580.3	1,417.7	305.8	30.1	193.3	3,488.3	3,639.9	944.5	162.9	29.9	102.2	2,073.8	2,230.4	733.9	187.5	38.7	91.7	1,355.0	835.7	377.1	89.7	15.6	56.9	772.9
	Drug offences	441.4	120.6	25.6	39.8	19.9	230.7	361.5	128.8	28.3	25.8	13.3	177.4	198.5	92.5	27.7	20.0	3.7	86.8	56.9	7.8	1.9	0.0	0.0	7.8
	Other offences[1]	5,886.7	306.6	119.4	2.4	8.9	935.2	5,464.9	282.1	91.4	3.3	2.1	563.9	4,210.1	270.6	60.7	3.7	3.3	440.1	2,237.9	176.6	48.4	3.1	0.8	304.2
Alberta	Violent offences	829.4	279.6	68.8	11.4	15.8	573.7	672.8	225.2	54.2	12.0	9.5	371.3	673.3	189.7	38.7	17.4	10.1	303.5	575.9	143.9	30.1	6.5	18.5	258.7
	Property offences	1,528.0	786.1	138.5	108.6	161.1	1,164.3	1,132.6	586.9	109.8	74.6	88.1	710.2	746.5	488.2	69.3	44.2	60.1	488.0	337.3	297.5	40.1	14.3	41.9	303.9
	Drug offences	255.9	147.2	27.4	15.9	16.8	99.9	204.9	174.4	27.8	15.6	11.3	71.0	102.4	94.2	16.6	4.8	3.4	49.4	24.1	4.4	1.0	0.0	0.2	3.4
	Other offences[1]	1,479.2	332.0	90.6	6.6	5.0	383.9	1,232.5	212.8	55.1	6.1	4.2	260.0	954.6	138.7	34.5	5.3	3.0	188.5	485.3	72.0	18.5	1.8	5.1	88.7
British Columbia	Violent offences	554.9	358.8	21.7	31.7	33.9	205.2	420.5	245.7	10.6	24.4	19.3	154.8	387.1	217.2	8.6	23.3	22.2	178.3	387.5	210.7	6.9	21.9	29.3	242.8
	Property offences	541.5	1,036.6	51.6	236.6	135.6	463.6	343.7	686.0	21.5	113.8	93.7	324.4	224.5	530.1	13.8	113.8	82.0	312.2	120.1	368.0	11.8	50.5	46.2	275.8
	Drug offences	181.9	465.2	31.4	25.7	20.6	253.2	138.7	466.7	17.1	17.7	14.3	190.8	74.6	245.7	3.4	9.1	7.1	122.7	20.4	32.0	1.2	0.2	1.0	29.3
	Other offences[1]	616.3	527.6	43.2	11.0	12.5	291.8	426.9	360.3	23.6	7.6	6.8	189.4	339.8	255.2	13.6	8.2	7.4	156.7	198.7	207.3	10.8	6.5	7.8	179.7
Yukon	Violent offences	1,723.2	556.7	185.6	0.0	66.3	1,564.2	1,485.1	1,155.1	178.8	96.3	68.8	1,691.4	1,588.8	1,050.2	161.6	296.2	188.5	1,333.0	1,132.2	793.9	208.2	78.1	117.1	1,028.1
	Property offences	1,710.0	2,386.0	901.4	225.3	66.3	3,433.2	1,773.9	3,080.3	577.6	275.0	165.0	4,166.7	1,265.7	3,123.7	390.5	390.5	134.6	2,113.9	325.4	1,561.7	234.3	234.3	247.3	1,509.6
	Drug offences	238.6	463.9	79.5	0.0	13.3	119.3	110.0	316.3	13.8	96.3	27.5	151.3	53.9	592.4	13.5	13.5	0.0	53.9	39.0	13.0	13.0	0.0	0.0	13.0
	Other offences[1]	2,664.4	1,749.7	715.8	66.3	53.0	3,194.6	3,066.6	3,630.4	522.6	41.3	96.3	6,600.7	1,548.4	3,137.2	632.8	444.3	121.2	2,356.3	559.6	1,561.7	195.2	0.0	39.0	1,145.2
Northwest Territories	Violent offences	2,033.0	1,727.6	235.6	113.4	139.6	3,062.6	1,810.3	1,151.1	373.9	68.9	157.4	2,262.9	1,738.4	1,052.9	178.8	69.5	79.5	1,986.7	1,617.7	597.0	231.1	67.4	125.2	1,415.5
	Property offences	3,219.6	5,252.6	1,090.7	532.2	619.5	9,170.2	2,213.7	4,653.7	1,367.6	442.7	521.4	5,381.7	2,294.6	3,496.6	794.7	317.9	218.5	4,301.2	577.8	2,012.5	404.4	105.9	221.5	2,522.9

	Drug offences	479.9	654.4	43.6	17.5	52.4	514.8	226.3	737.9	186.9	19.7	49.2	383.7	109.3	268.2	79.5	0.0	0.0	198.7	86.7	19.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	48.1
	Other offences[1]	4,397.5	3,717.0	602.0	26.2	43.6	4,842.5	2,381.0	2,646.6	590.3	39.4	29.5	2,253.0	2,394.0	2,115.8	447.0	19.9	49.7	1,877.4	885.9	1,473.3	231.1	28.9	57.8	1,049.6
Nunavut	Violent offences	2,913.8	1,179.2	205.1	162.4	94.0	2,264.4	1,905.0	1,130.8	261.0	113.1	52.2	2,000.7	1,468.7	982.0	243.4	75.5	83.9	1,737.3	1,901.3	613.1	256.1	54.3	69.8	1,412.4
	Property offences	4,844.9	3,896.4	914.3	803.2	324.7	5,340.5	2,496.5	4,401.5	817.7	852.5	687.2	4,010.1	1,963.9	3,071.8	830.9	587.5	428.0	3,692.8	985.6	1,668.5	605.3	240.6	217.3	2,498.8
	Drug offences	102.5	162.4	8.5	0.0	8.5	68.4	95.7	208.8	8.7	17.4	8.7	95.7	33.6	100.7	0.0	16.8	0.0	33.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.8	0.0
	Other offences[1]	1,674.8	2,751.4	393.1	25.6	8.5	2,836.9	983.0	1,826.7	730.7	43.5	69.6	1,574.5	931.6	1,913.6	486.8	50.4	16.8	1,703.7	341.5	1,063.2	434.6	93.1	7.8	1,327.0
Canada	Violent offences	420.8	143.6	33.2	15.5	32.3	227.7	332.5	109.6	23.3	14.2	27.2	160.2	341.9	100.1	21.8	15.8	31.9	160.6	301.8	75.6	14.8	12.0	29.7	143.8
	Property offences	581.8	385.0	82.3	74.0	85.6	356.6	417.4	281.3	49.6	55.0	56.2	242.1	282.3	234.5	38.7	45.6	47.8	210.3	141.1	131.3	20.5	19.9	29.4	130.5
	Drug offences	131.9	119.4	25.7	26.4	30.4	66.8	100.6	111.7	17.8	22.8	25.3	52.6	58.2	70.0	8.9	13.7	16.8	37.0	18.9	5.0	0.6	0.5	3.3	4.7
	Other offences[1]	520.4	105.7	22.8	3.7	7.1	112.4	417.0	82.1	16.7	3.8	7.0	79.9	339.8	66.8	12.7	4.0	6.7	85.2	189.9	45.9	8.4	2.1	5.9	57.9

1. Includes other *Criminal Code* violations, *Federal Statute* violations, and *Criminal Code* traffic violations.

2. Includes suicide of the accused, death of the accused (not suicide), death of complainant/witness, reasons beyond control of department (policy), diplomatic immunity, the accused is committed to a mental health facility, the accused is outside of Canada and cannot be returned, victim/complainant request no further action, the accused is involved in other incidents, the accused is already sentenced, and departmental discretion.

Note: Youth accused includes those aged between 12 and 17 years old. Children under the age of 12 cannot be charged with a criminal offence. Violations are based on the most serious violation on the incident. Rates are calculated per 100,000 population ages 12 to 17.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (trend database).

Table 3. Number and rate of police-reported youth accused by accused status, and province and territory, 2010 to 2021.

Province/ Territory	Accused status	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020		2021	
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Newfoundland and Labrador	Charged or charges recommended	1,088	3,103.7	1,045	3,035.5	1,009	2,974.6	1,000	2,997.6	770	2,337.2	848	2,594.5	817	2,524.1	797	2,488.1	724	2,289.1	731	2,321.4	509	1,617.8	341	1,083.6
	Verbal warnings	807	2,302.1	910	2,643.4	827	2,438.0	676	2,026.4	650	1,972.9	633	1,936.7	591	1,825.9	606	1,891.9	412	1,302.6	348	1,105.1	260	826.4	209	664.1
	Written cautions	59	168.3	42	122.0	30	88.4	40	119.9	28	85.0	20	61.2	34	105.0	15	46.8	31	98.0	16	50.8	13	41.3	22	69.9
	Referrals to a community program	17	48.5	10	29.0	10	29.5	5	15.0	7	21.2	6	18.4	21	64.9	16	50.0	10	31.6	4	12.7	4	12.7	5	15.9
	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	95	271.0	100	290.5	106	312.5	74	221.8	57	173.0	85	260.1	64	197.7	45	140.5	76	240.3	54	171.5	45	143.0	83	263.8
	Other means[1]	536	1,529.0	421	1,222.9	348	1,025.9	290	869.3	260	789.2	202	618.0	203	627.2	139	433.9	74	234.0	85	269.9	42	133.5	91	289.2
Prince Edward Island	Charged or charges recommended	297	2,706.9	285	2,600.6	293	2,733.7	255	2,464.0	191	1,903.3	155	1,567.4	188	1,883.8	121	1,199.4	99	976.5	152	1,450.7	81	746.6	67	610.4
	Verbal warnings	201	1,831.9	187	1,706.4	207	1,931.3	105	1,014.6	103	1,026.4	58	586.5	79	791.6	75	743.5	59	582.0	37	353.1	48	442.4	39	355.3
	Written cautions	32	291.7	31	282.9	36	335.9	15	144.9	18	179.4	13	131.5	10	100.2	14	138.8	9	88.8	7	66.8	5	46.1	11	100.2
	Referrals to a community program	31	282.5	46	419.7	42	391.9	42	405.8	14	139.5	31	313.5	19	190.4	29	287.5	21	207.1	16	152.7	11	101.4	13	118.4
	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	36	328.1	23	209.9	26	242.6	15	144.9	25	249.1	8	80.9	11	110.2	19	188.3	21	207.1	14	133.6	10	92.2	12	109.3
	Other means[1]	190	1,731.7	132	1,204.5	132	1,231.6	89	860.0	55	548.1	39	394.4	31	310.6	36	356.9	33	325.5	34	324.5	25	230.4	39	355.3
Nova Scotia	Charged or charges recommended	2,920	4,461.4	2,948	4,623.2	2,613	4,201.5	2,064	3,425.6	1,838	3,128.8	1,435	2,487.7	1,463	2,535.8	1,270	2,220.0	1,053	1,857.5	942	1,657.4	569	990.0	574	993.1
	Verbal warnings	1,034	1,579.8	1,242	1,947.8	1,533	2,464.9	1,210	2,008.2	1,025	1,744.8	762	1,321.0	746	1,293.0	704	1,230.6	469	827.3	500	879.7	301	523.7	365	631.5
	Written cautions	380	580.6	275	431.3	266	427.7	212	351.9	141	240.0	153	265.2	104	180.3	143	250.0	106	187.0	102	179.5	69	120.1	110	190.3
	Referrals to a community program	153	233.8	84	131.7	85	136.7	53	88.0	69	117.5	83	143.9	49	84.9	58	101.4	42	74.1	37	65.1	16	27.8	17	29.4
	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	392	598.9	321	503.4	341	548.3	225	373.4	170	289.4	128	221.9	169	292.9	139	243.0	63	111.1	90	158.4	75	130.5	49	84.8
	Other means[1]	2,124	3,245.2	2,087	3,273.0	1,633	2,625.7	1,228	2,038.1	920	1,566.1	1,034	1,792.6	902	1,563.4	895	1,564.5	805	1,420.0	591	1,039.8	475	826.5	430	743.9

New Brunswick	Charged or charges recommended	2,054	4,263.8	1,524	3,253.2	1,227	2,677.3	1,071	2,397.4	1,059	2,415.9	956	2,193.0	821	1,888.8	726	1,682.6	822	1,916.4	668	1,542.7	514	1,170.0	482	1,091.0
	Verbal warnings	592	1,228.9	806	1,720.5	732	1,597.2	596	1,334.1	543	1,238.7	482	1,105.7	542	1,247.0	399	924.7	328	764.7	265	612.0	254	578.2	142	321.4
	Written cautions	151	313.5	127	271.1	145	316.4	148	331.3	174	396.9	125	286.7	135	310.6	95	220.2	71	165.5	92	212.5	47	107.0	74	167.5
	Referrals to a community program	32	66.4	64	136.6	160	349.1	96	214.9	124	282.9	55	126.2	55	126.5	66	153.0	31	72.3	18	41.6	9	20.5	23	52.1
	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	256	531.4	159	339.4	191	416.8	163	364.9	194	442.6	234	536.8	184	423.3	172	398.6	161	375.4	181	418.0	88	200.3	76	172.0
	Other means[1]	1,232	2,557.4	786	1,677.8	614	1,339.8	294	658.1	265	604.5	227	520.7	177	407.2	210	486.7	150	349.7	198	457.3	139	316.4	123	278.4
Quebec	Charged or charges recommended	13,474	2,457.3	13,324	2,511.6	13,427	2,609.2	11,553	2,307.9	9,502	1,941.9	8,533	1,770.4	8,037	1,669.5	7,831	1,625.5	7,624	1,565.3	8,089	1,625.0	5,852	1,145.6	6,316	1,207.7
	Verbal warnings	4,817	878.5	4,457	840.2	3,960	769.5	3,290	657.2	2,951	603.1	3,014	625.3	2,656	551.7	2,747	570.2	2,186	448.8	1,856	372.8	1,186	232.2	1,583	302.7
	Written cautions	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.4	7	1.5	16	3.3	19	3.8	0	0.0	18	3.4
	Referrals to a community program	1,409	257.0	1,203	226.8	948	184.2	841	168.0	799	163.3	814	168.9	769	159.7	760	157.8	520	106.8	270	54.2	191	37.4	201	38.4
	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	4,088	745.5	3,882	731.8	3,726	724.1	3,245	648.2	3,014	615.9	2,812	583.4	3,072	638.1	2,823	586.0	2,718	558.0	2,604	523.1	1,833	358.8	1,012	193.5
	Other means[1]	7,571	1,380.7	7,475	1,409.1	6,472	1,257.7	6,084	1,215.4	5,605	1,145.5	5,389	1,118.1	5,974	1,240.9	7,332	1,521.9	7,063	1,450.1	6,168	1,239.1	3,744	732.9	4,223	807.5
Ontario	Charged or charges recommended	30,357	3,038.1	27,736	2,812.8	24,483	2,530.6	19,349	2,045.1	17,890	1,921.3	16,738	1,806.6	15,976	1,713.4	15,733	1,684.4	14,007	1,497.3	12,839	1,364.6	8,539	899.8	7,463	787.4
	Verbal warnings	14,042	1,405.3	13,280	1,346.8	12,537	1,295.8	10,476	1,107.2	9,804	1,052.9	8,971	968.3	8,737	937.0	9,046	968.5	7,128	762.0	5,926	629.9	3,206	337.8	2,972	313.6
	Written cautions	5,568	557.2	4,697	476.3	4,222	436.4	2,882	304.6	2,628	282.2	2,569	277.3	2,261	242.5	2,543	272.3	1,958	209.3	1,646	174.9	834	87.9	757	79.9
	Referrals to a community program	3,008	301.0	2,905	294.6	2,775	286.8	2,521	266.5	2,526	271.3	2,478	267.5	2,176	233.4	2,290	245.2	1,657	177.1	1,724	183.2	680	71.7	572	60.3
	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	1,811	181.2	1,537	155.9	1,254	129.6	1,160	122.6	1,051	112.9	782	84.4	806	86.4	787	84.3	855	91.4	794	84.4	481	50.7	537	56.7
	Other means[1]	9,377	938.5	7,888	799.9	7,090	732.8	5,075	536.4	5,147	552.8	5,808	626.9	5,426	581.9	5,222	559.1	4,544	485.7	4,028	428.1	2,753	290.1	2,693	284.1
Manitoba	Charged or charges recommended	6,256	6,346.8	5,796	5,902.7	5,662	5,813.3	5,126	5,326.1	4,663	4,881.1	5,253	5,482.2	4,687	4,848.7	4,184	4,344.8	4,127	4,308.2	3,309	3,446.3	2,365	2,440.8	1,789	1,836.7
	Verbal warnings	1,438	1,458.9	1,415	1,441.0	2,427	2,491.9	1,368	1,421.4	1,540	1,612.0	1,471	1,535.2	1,489	1,540.4	1,495	1,552.5	1,187	1,239.1	899	936.3	738	761.6	784	804.9
	Written cautions	766	777.1	549	559.1	743	762.9	655	680.6	542	567.4	521	543.7	400	413.8	275	285.6	262	273.5	202	210.4	216	222.9	210	215.6

	Referrals to a community program	41	41.6	48	48.9	74	76.0	52	54.0	35	36.6	41	42.8	48	49.7	31	32.2	26	27.1	33	34.4	25	25.8	30	30.8
	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	52	52.8	66	67.2	83	85.2	42	43.6	37	38.7	41	42.8	53	54.8	71	73.7	49	51.2	65	67.7	64	66.1	41	42.1
	Other means[1]	3,458	3,508.2	2,787	2,838.3	1,419	1,456.9	2,098	2,179.9	1,894	1,982.6	1,864	1,945.3	1,812	1,874.5	2,115	2,196.3	1,804	1,883.2	1,581	1,646.6	1,507	1,555.3	1,585	1,627.2
Saskatchewan	Charged or charges recommended	10,331	12,435.5	11,159	13,625.2	9,500	11,689.1	9,208	11,456.3	8,767	10,928.4	8,400	10,491.2	7,747	9,522.8	6,918	8,466.2	5,230	6,353.1	4,831	5,783.8	3,416	3,990.4	2,835	3,246.9
	Verbal warnings	1,935	2,329.2	1,871	2,284.5	1,724	2,121.3	1,416	1,761.7	1,274	1,588.1	1,275	1,592.4	1,206	1,482.4	1,189	1,455.1	883	1,072.6	771	923.1	514	600.4	592	678.0
	Written cautions	494	594.6	458	559.2	409	503.2	281	349.6	284	354.0	309	385.9	325	399.5	333	407.5	202	245.4	158	189.2	159	185.7	179	205.0
	Referrals to a community program	63	75.8	66	80.6	67	82.4	56	69.7	63	78.5	44	55.0	98	120.5	55	67.3	33	40.1	42	50.3	10	11.7	17	19.5
	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	259	311.8	176	214.9	185	227.6	119	148.1	100	124.7	94	117.4	119	146.3	75	91.8	74	89.9	88	105.4	45	52.6	38	43.5
	Other means[1]	5,668	6,822.6	5,029	6,140.4	4,026	4,953.7	3,239	4,029.9	2,674	3,333.3	2,714	3,389.7	2,194	2,696.9	2,302	2,817.2	1,692	2,055.3	1,522	1,822.2	1,205	1,407.6	1,154	1,321.7
Alberta	Charged or charges recommended	12,162	4,315.2	11,675	4,149.9	10,711	3,811.6	9,920	3,519.1	9,053	3,195.8	8,664	3,018.0	7,194	2,459.9	7,451	2,524.1	7,332	2,446.7	6,158	2,005.8	3,754	1,186.3	3,558	1,100.4
	Verbal warnings	4,971	1,763.8	4,137	1,470.5	3,934	1,400.0	3,729	1,322.8	3,244	1,145.2	3,248	1,131.4	2,941	1,005.7	2,834	960.0	2,307	769.8	2,059	670.7	1,306	412.7	1,538	475.6
	Written cautions	942	334.2	883	313.9	921	327.7	781	277.1	733	258.8	591	205.9	483	165.2	483	163.6	445	148.5	329	107.2	254	80.3	266	82.3
	Referrals to a community program	376	133.4	479	170.3	348	123.8	290	102.9	325	114.7	308	107.3	262	89.6	151	51.2	223	74.4	117	38.1	61	19.3	36	11.1
	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	638	226.4	575	204.4	464	165.1	414	146.9	304	107.3	246	85.7	209	71.5	259	87.7	212	70.7	187	60.9	179	56.6	256	79.2
	Other means[1]	7,287	2,585.5	5,989	2,128.8	5,480	1,950.1	4,349	1,542.8	3,943	1,391.9	3,746	1,304.9	3,171	1,084.3	3,110	1,053.5	2,853	952.0	2,367	771.0	1,728	546.1	2,103	650.4
British Columbia	Charged or charges recommended	6,919	2,180.4	5,772	1,838.5	5,101	1,657.2	4,523	1,501.5	3,711	1,246.6	3,699	1,239.5	3,260	1,086.1	3,128	1,043.0	2,842	948.7	2,764	919.2	2,034	670.1	1,802	592.9
	Verbal warnings	8,496	2,677.4	7,130	2,271.1	6,802	2,209.8	6,003	1,992.8	5,134	1,724.6	4,645	1,556.5	4,166	1,388.0	3,783	1,261.5	3,280	1,094.9	3,023	1,005.4	2,214	729.3	2,193	721.5
	Written cautions	487	153.5	441	140.5	462	150.1	281	93.3	210	70.5	162	54.3	139	46.3	107	35.7	108	36.1	108	35.9	78	25.7	93	30.6
	Referrals to a community program	1,070	337.2	922	293.7	872	283.3	601	199.5	471	158.2	395	132.4	484	161.3	521	173.7	385	128.5	330	109.7	197	64.9	192	63.2
	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	579	182.5	663	211.2	659	214.1	499	165.7	388	130.3	316	105.9	342	113.9	347	115.7	380	126.8	360	119.7	185	60.9	221	72.7
	Other means[1]	4,019	1,266.5	3,969	1,264.2	3,411	1,108.1	2,961	983.0	2,551	856.9	2,200	737.2	2,254	751.0	2,415	805.3	2,258	753.7	2,640	878.0	2,003	659.8	1,965	646.5

Yukon	Charged or charges recommended	201	7,811.9	126	5,031.9	151	6,120.8	151	6,296.9	150	6,172.8	167	6,833.1	131	5,318.7	118	4,733.3	82	3,318.5	68	2,712.4	46	1,796.2	44	1,682.0
	Verbal warnings	145	5,635.4	122	4,872.2	122	4,945.3	150	6,255.2	171	7,037.0	274	11,211.1	217	8,810.4	163	6,538.3	207	8,377.2	107	4,268.0	92	3,592.3	103	3,937.3
	Written cautions	53	2,059.9	57	2,276.4	32	1,297.1	25	1,042.5	22	905.3	47	1,923.1	57	2,314.3	27	1,083.0	5	202.3	17	678.1	19	741.9	14	535.2
	Referrals to a community program	8	310.9	9	359.4	5	202.7	9	375.3	14	576.1	14	572.8	39	1,583.4	8	320.9	38	1,537.8	9	359.0	6	234.3	9	344.0
	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	8	310.9	1	39.9	6	243.2	11	458.7	8	329.2	7	286.4	12	487.2	20	802.2	1	40.5	6	239.3	7	273.3	18	688.1
	Other means[1]	230	8,939.0	212	8,466.5	185	7,499.0	240	10,008.3	309	12,716.0	368	15,057.3	146	5,927.7	181	7,260.3	108	4,370.7	119	4,746.7	89	3,475.2	76	2,905.2
Northwest Territories	Charged or charges recommended	497	12,443.7	382	9,924.7	282	7,794.4	268	7,633.2	208	6,216.4	198	5,987.3	209	6,287.6	246	7,306.2	203	6,013.0	154	4,550.8	97	2,785.8	78	2,216.5
	Verbal warnings	579	14,496.7	364	9,457.0	358	9,895.0	327	9,313.6	337	10,071.7	270	8,164.5	222	6,678.7	233	6,920.1	243	7,197.9	177	5,230.5	162	4,652.5	87	2,472.3
	Written cautions	70	1,752.6	65	1,688.8	91	2,515.2	107	3,047.6	84	2,510.5	65	1,965.5	47	1,414.0	59	1,752.3	45	1,332.9	34	1,004.7	37	1,062.6	19	539.9
	Referrals to a community program	20	500.8	36	935.3	23	635.7	22	626.6	16	478.2	20	604.8	17	511.4	14	415.8	10	296.2	11	325.1	8	229.8	2	56.8
	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	39	976.5	30	779.4	29	801.5	18	512.7	27	806.9	32	967.6	15	451.3	7	207.9	13	385.1	8	236.4	19	545.7	15	426.3
	Other means[1]	729	18,252.4	706	18,342.4	581	16,058.6	389	11,079.5	369	11,028.1	287	8,678.6	272	8,182.9	290	8,613.0	280	8,293.8	236	6,974.0	174	4,997.1	113	3,211.1
Nunavut	Charged or charges recommended	523	13,170.5	275	7,058.5	318	8,289.9	293	7,644.1	176	4,621.8	161	4,176.4	203	5,209.1	173	4,339.1	148	3,671.5	189	4,555.3	131	3,049.3	96	2,161.7
	Verbal warnings	353	8,889.4	301	7,725.9	281	7,325.3	282	7,357.2	272	7,142.9	316	8,197.1	283	7,262.0	251	6,295.5	189	4,688.7	155	3,735.8	148	3,445.1	128	2,882.2
	Written cautions	64	1,611.7	41	1,052.4	73	1,903.0	75	1,956.7	77	2,022.1	57	1,478.6	50	1,283.0	51	1,279.2	85	2,108.7	76	1,831.8	59	1,373.4	32	720.6
	Referrals to a community program	55	1,385.0	25	641.7	36	938.5	34	887.0	49	1,286.8	35	907.9	44	1,129.1	27	677.2	16	396.9	27	650.8	6	139.7	17	382.8
	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	19	478.5	20	513.3	12	312.8	27	704.4	26	682.8	41	1,063.6	28	718.5	21	526.7	14	347.3	15	361.5	13	302.6	11	247.7
	Other means[1]	426	10,727.8	436	11,191.0	368	9,593.3	293	7,644.1	339	8,902.3	251	6,511.0	287	7,364.6	271	6,797.1	296	7,343.1	272	6,555.8	177	4,120.1	226	5,088.9
Canada	Charged or charges recommended	87,079	1,742.6	82,047	1,668.9	74,777	1,550.0	64,781	1,369.7	57,978	1,242.9	55,207	1,188.1	50,733	1,085.1	48,696	1,040.0	44,293	941.9	40,894	859.8	27,907	577.4	25,445	521.9
	Verbal warnings	39,410	788.7	36,222	736.8	35,444	734.7	29,628	626.4	27,048	579.8	25,419	547.0	23,875	510.7	23,525	502.4	18,878	401.5	16,123	339.0	10,429	215.8	10,735	220.2
	Written cautions	9,066	181.4	7,666	155.9	7,431	154.0	5,502	116.3	4,941	105.9	4,632	99.7	4,047	86.6	4,152	88.7	3,343	71.1	2,806	59.0	1,790	37.0	1,805	37.0

	Referrals to a community program	6,283	125.7	5,897	119.9	5,445	112.9	4,622	97.7	4,512	96.7	4,324	93.1	4,081	87.3	4,026	86.0	3,012	64.1	2,638	55.5	1,224	25.3	1,134	23.3
	Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	8,272	165.5	7,553	153.6	7,082	146.8	6,012	127.1	5,401	115.8	4,826	103.9	5,084	108.7	4,785	102.2	4,637	98.6	4,466	93.9	3,044	63.0	2,369	48.6
	Other means[1]	42,847	857.4	37,917	771.2	31,759	658.3	26,629	563.0	24,331	521.6	24,129	519.3	22,849	488.7	24,518	523.6	21,960	467.0	19,841	417.2	14,061	290.9	14,821	304.0

1. Includes suicide of the accused, death of the accused (not suicide), death of complainant/witness, reasons beyond control of department (policy), diplomatic immunity, the accused is committed to a mental health facility, the accused is outside of Canada and cannot be returned, victim/complainant request no further action, the accus incidents, the accused is already sentenced, and departmental discretion.

Note: Youth accused includes those aged between 12 and 17 years old. Children under the age of 12 cannot be charged with a criminal offence. Rates are calculated per 100,000 population ages 12 to 17.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (trend database).

Table 4. Number and rate of police-reported youth accused by accused status, and region, 2011 to 2021.

Region		Accused status	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020		2021	
			Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Atlantic	Urban	Charged or charges recommended	3,737	4,183.6	3,267	3,702.5	2,609	3,017.9	2,544	2,906.3	2,268	2,610.5	2,187	2,471.2	1,886	2,136.3	1,754	1,994.1	1,675	1,875.7	1,099	1,210.2	925	1,011.8
		Verbal warnings	1,168	1,307.6	1,198	1,357.7	887	1,026.0	935	1,068.2	687	790.7	699	789.8	625	707.9	413	469.5	405	453.5	398	438.3	245	268.0
		Written cautions	251	281.0	236	267.5	243	281.1	188	214.8	186	214.1	149	168.4	142	160.8	128	145.5	99	110.9	57	62.8	95	103.9
		Referrals to a community program	114	127.6	172	194.9	113	130.7	137	156.5	102	117.4	61	68.9	76	86.1	50	56.8	34	38.1	16	17.6	35	38.3
		Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	407	455.6	457	517.9	336	388.7	313	357.6	285	328.0	228	257.6	228	258.3	194	220.6	204	228.4	136	149.8	179	195.8
		Other means[1]	2,069	2,316.2	1,809	2,050.1	1,336	1,545.4	1,080	1,233.8	1,028	1,183.2	906	1,023.7	946	1,071.5	784	891.3	647	724.5	485	534.1	447	489.0
	Rural	Charged or charges recommended	2,065	3,097.3	1,875	2,910.5	1,781	2,864.1	1,314	2,264.4	1,126	1,976.5	1,102	2,003.3	1,028	1,897.1	944	1,768.2	818	1,549.1	574	1,085.7	550	1,040.9
		Verbal warnings	1,977	2,965.4	2,101	3,261.3	1,700	2,733.9	1,386	2,388.5	1,248	2,190.6	1,259	2,288.7	1,159	2,138.8	855	1,601.5	745	1,410.9	465	879.5	531	1,005.0
		Written cautions	224	336.0	241	374.1	172	276.6	173	298.1	125	219.4	134	243.6	125	230.7	89	166.7	118	223.5	77	145.6	130	246.0
		Referrals to a community program	90	135.0	125	194.0	83	133.5	77	132.7	73	128.1	83	150.9	93	171.6	54	101.1	41	77.6	24	45.4	34	64.3
		Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	196	294.0	207	321.3	141	226.8	133	229.2	170	298.4	200	363.6	147	271.3	127	237.9	135	255.7	82	155.1	76	143.8
		Other means[1]	1,357	2,035.4	918	1,425.0	565	908.6	420	723.8	474	832.0	407	739.9	334	616.4	278	520.7	261	494.3	196	370.7	257	486.4
Quebec	Urban	Charged or charges recommended	10,955	2,512.1	11,157	2,618.2	9,677	2,317.2	8,004	1,957.0	7,211	1,781.6	6,912	1,707.4	6,641	1,636.6	6,534	1,587.8	6,771	1,607.2	4,872	1,127.0	5,295	1,196.4
		Verbal warnings	3,717	852.3	3,243	761.0	2,724	652.3	2,429	593.9	2,484	613.7	2,204	544.4	2,288	563.8	1,821	442.5	1,635	388.1	942	217.9	1,286	290.6
		Written cautions	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.5	0	0.0	1	0.2
		Referrals to a community program	964	221.1	778	182.6	675	161.6	638	156.0	666	164.6	650	160.6	603	148.6	413	100.4	196	46.5	135	31.2	152	34.3
		Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	3,148	721.9	2,943	690.6	2,593	620.9	2,364	578.0	2,270	560.9	2,442	603.2	2,211	544.9	2,243	545.1	2,093	496.8	1,457	337.0	1,520	343.4
		Other means[1]	5,727	1,313.2	4,971	1,166.6	4,703	1,126.1	4,410	1,078.3	4,316	1,066.4	4,883	1,206.2	5,034	1,240.5	4,482	1,089.1	4,079	968.2	2,812	650.5	3,377	763.0

	Rural	Charged or charges recommended	2,369	2,509.7	2,270	2,565.8	1,876	2,261.3	1,498	1,864.6	1,322	1,711.5	1,125	1,468.9	1,190	1,566.4	1,090	1,442.5	1,318	1,722.8	980	1,248.1	1,138	1,402.7
		Verbal warnings	740	783.9	717	810.4	566	682.3	522	649.8	530	686.1	452	590.2	459	604.2	365	483.0	221	288.9	244	310.8	352	433.9
		Written cautions	0	0.0	1	1.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	2.6	7	9.2	16	21.2	17	22.2	0	0.0	14	17.3
		Referrals to a community program	239	253.2	170	192.2	166	200.1	161	200.4	148	191.6	119	155.4	157	206.7	107	141.6	74	96.7	56	71.3	56	69.0
		Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	734	777.6	783	885.0	652	785.9	650	809.1	542	701.7	630	822.6	612	805.6	475	628.6	511	667.9	376	478.9	429	528.8
		Other means[1]	1,748	1,851.8	1,501	1,696.6	1,381	1,664.7	1,195	1,487.5	1,073	1,389.1	1,091	1,424.5	2,298	3,024.8	2,581	3,415.7	2,089	2,730.6	932	1,187.0	1,206	1,486.5
Ontario	Urban	Charged or charges recommended	23,982	2,706.2	21,320	2,446.4	16,887	1,975.0	15,865	1,876.3	14,598	1,733.1	14,136	1,666.1	14,000	1,646.0	12,486	1,463.0	11,410	1,331.2	7,560	875.4	6,531	757.4
		Verbal warnings	11,791	1,330.5	11,043	1,267.1	9,234	1,079.9	8,872	1,049.3	8,071	958.2	7,939	935.7	8,357	982.6	6,547	767.1	5,546	647.0	2,955	342.2	2,733	317.0
		Written cautions	4,069	459.2	3,594	412.4	2,412	282.1	2,260	267.3	2,169	257.5	1,900	223.9	2,233	262.5	1,751	205.2	1,512	176.4	722	83.6	673	78.1
		Referrals to a community program	2,792	315.1	2,606	299.0	2,411	282.0	2,417	285.9	2,379	282.4	2,067	243.6	2,142	251.8	1,528	179.0	1,623	189.3	611	70.8	504	58.5
		Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	1,305	147.3	1,053	120.8	988	115.6	851	100.6	636	75.5	557	65.6	668	78.5	682	79.9	702	81.9	394	45.6	458	53.1
		Other means[1]	6,621	747.1	5,974	685.5	4,391	513.5	4,419	522.6	5,210	618.5	4,949	583.3	4,631	544.5	4,077	477.7	3,608	420.9	2,465	285.4	2,418	280.4
	Rural	Charged or charges recommended	3,682	3,710.0	3,126	3,278.0	2,444	2,701.1	1,992	2,343.4	2,110	2,523.7	1,786	2,141.6	1,667	2,009.8	1,471	1,805.5	1,384	1,664.2	962	1,144.9	1,006	1,180.4
		Verbal warnings	1,482	1,493.3	1,464	1,535.2	1,231	1,360.5	908	1,068.2	882	1,054.9	775	929.3	679	818.6	581	713.1	380	456.9	251	298.7	285	334.4
		Written cautions	627	631.8	628	658.5	469	518.3	368	432.9	400	478.4	361	432.9	308	371.3	201	246.7	134	161.1	109	129.7	100	117.3
		Referrals to a community program	113	113.9	169	177.2	110	121.6	109	128.2	99	118.4	108	129.5	147	177.2	129	158.3	101	121.5	69	82.1	84	98.6
		Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	231	232.8	197	206.6	172	190.1	191	224.7	143	171.0	245	293.8	115	138.7	173	212.3	92	110.6	87	103.5	89	104.4
		Other means	1,240	1,249.4	1,074	1,126.2	668	738.3	701	824.7	568	679.4	462	554.0	564	680.0	439	538.8	387	465.4	259	308.2	308	361.4
Prairies	Urban	Charged or charges recommended	19,266	5,833.7	17,624	5,281.0	16,670	4,961.0	15,204	4,513.4	15,314	4,478.0	13,103	3,781.3	12,834	3,669.7	12,144	3,432.1	10,281	2,841.6	6,582	1,773.8	5,805	1,532.1
		Verbal warnings	4,998	1,513.4	4,653	1,394.3	4,015	1,194.9	3,533	1,048.8	3,655	1,068.8	3,384	976.6	3,426	979.6	2,699	762.8	2,569	710.1	1,569	422.8	1,763	465.3
		Written cautions	896	271.3	729	218.4	686	204.2	651	193.3	665	194.5	513	148.0	467	133.5	410	115.9	308	85.1	274	73.8	269	71.0

		Referrals to a community program	487	147.5	381	114.2	286	85.1	344	102.1	322	94.2	317	91.5	176	50.3	221	62.5	121	33.4	56	15.1	36	9.5
		Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	653	197.7	595	178.3	455	135.4	313	92.9	279	81.6	271	78.2	329	94.1	274	77.4	292	80.7	239	64.4	291	76.8
		Other means[1]	5,825	1,763.8	4,794	1,436.5	4,027	1,198.4	3,603	1,069.6	3,639	1,064.1	3,128	902.7	3,270	935.0	2,878	813.4	2,570	710.3	1,947	524.7	2,356	621.8
	Rural	Charged or charges recommended	9,291	7,100.8	8,168	6,502.1	7,538	6,171.5	7,218	5,925.3	6,931	5,746.5	6,480	5,245.6	5,684	4,617.6	4,527	3,663.2	3,998	3,214.4	2,945	2,316.2	2,647	2,047.8
		Verbal warnings	2,395	1,830.4	3,350	2,666.8	2,470	2,022.2	2,465	2,023.5	2,284	1,893.7	2,225	1,801.2	2,067	1,679.2	1,647	1,332.8	1,140	916.6	966	759.7	1,171	905.9
		Written cautions	987	754.3	1,333	1,061.1	1,024	838.4	894	733.9	746	618.5	683	552.9	618	502.1	491	397.3	377	303.1	344	270.5	398	307.9
		Referrals to a community program	106	81.0	108	86.0	112	91.7	78	64.0	63	52.2	91	73.7	61	49.6	61	49.4	71	57.1	40	31.5	56	43.3
		Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	157	120.0	134	106.7	120	98.2	128	105.1	101	83.7	110	89.0	76	61.7	58	46.9	48	38.6	49	38.5	45	34.8
		Other means[1]	7,927	6,058.4	6,128	4,878.2	5,611	4,593.8	4,830	3,965.0	4,569	3,788.2	4,005	3,242.1	4,207	3,417.7	3,430	2,775.6	2,854	2,294.6	2,461	1,935.5	2,566	1,985.2
British Columbia	Urban	Charged or charges recommended	4,895	1,756.5	4,293	1,567.9	3,844	1,430.8	3,145	1,182.3	3,062	1,145.6	2,774	1,032.0	2,589	963.9	2,437	908.8	2,351	874.5	1,780	656.5	1,596	589.0
		Verbal warnings	6,195	2,223.0	5,752	2,100.8	5,048	1,879.0	4,386	1,648.9	3,859	1,443.7	3,513	1,306.9	3,221	1,199.3	2,832	1,056.1	2,535	942.9	1,810	667.5	1,850	682.8
		Written cautions	371	133.1	386	141.0	226	84.1	172	64.7	127	47.5	94	35.0	81	30.2	83	31.0	73	27.2	53	19.5	51	18.8
		Referrals to a community program	803	288.2	770	281.2	538	200.3	414	155.6	358	133.9	451	167.8	488	181.7	339	126.4	287	106.8	165	60.9	183	67.5
		Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	570	204.5	499	182.2	442	164.5	339	127.4	269	100.6	310	115.3	307	114.3	359	133.9	317	117.9	142	52.4	188	69.4
		Other means[1]	3,623	1,300.1	3,048	1,113.2	2,660	990.1	2,287	859.8	1,959	732.9	1,989	740.0	2,177	810.6	1,956	729.4	2,327	865.5	1,711	631.0	1,716	633.3
British Columbia	Rural	Charged or charges recommended	877	2,486.2	808	2,375.4	679	2,084.3	566	1,786.3	637	2,045.5	486	1,550.4	539	1,721.7	405	1,289.4	413	1,297.4	254	788.9	254	776.4
		Verbal warnings	935	2,650.6	1,050	3,086.9	955	2,931.5	748	2,360.7	786	2,523.9	653	2,083.1	562	1,795.1	448	1,426.3	488	1,533.0	404	1,254.8	393	1,201.2
		Written cautions	70	198.4	76	223.4	55	168.8	38	119.9	35	112.4	45	143.6	26	83.0	25	79.6	35	109.9	25	77.6	35	107.0
		Referrals to a community program	119	337.3	102	299.9	63	193.4	57	179.9	37	118.8	33	105.3	33	105.4	46	146.4	43	135.1	32	99.4	23	70.3
		Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	93	263.6	160	470.4	57	175.0	49	154.6	47	150.9	32	102.1	40	127.8	21	66.9	43	135.1	43	133.6	41	125.3
		Other means[1]	346	980.9	363	1,067.2	301	924.0	264	833.2	241	773.9	265	845.4	238	760.2	302	961.4	313	983.3	292	906.9	312	953.7

Territories	Urban	Charged or charges recommended	154	4,171.2	160	4,470.5	136	3,937.5	139	4,048.9	160	4,553.2	97	2,727.0	125	3,438.8	133	3,636.9	90	2,407.7	50	1,325.2	51	1,325.0
		Verbal warnings	171	4,631.6	174	4,861.7	189	5,471.9	218	6,350.1	307	8,736.5	225	6,325.6	177	4,869.3	211	5,769.8	120	3,210.3	93	2,464.9	98	2,546.1
		Written cautions	73	1,977.2	69	1,927.9	54	1,563.4	44	1,281.7	64	1,821.3	56	1,574.4	31	852.8	15	410.2	19	508.3	17	450.6	15	389.7
		Referrals to a community program	6	162.5	4	111.8	2	57.9	7	203.9	7	199.2	32	899.6	4	110.0	27	738.3	8	214.0	2	53.0	4	103.9
		Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	15	406.3	14	391.2	13	376.4	9	262.2	11	313.0	8	224.9	19	522.7	1	27.3	4	107.0	11	291.5	18	467.7
		Other means[1]	328	8,884.1	272	7,599.9	306	8,859.3	345	10,049.5	406	11,553.8	161	4,526.3	184	5,061.9	137	3,746.2	152	4,066.3	111	2,942.0	98	2,546.1
	Rural	Charged or charges recommended	629	9,592.8	591	9,318.8	576	9,160.3	395	6,421.7	366	6,007.9	446	7,279.3	412	6,632.3	300	4,822.4	321	5,093.6	224	3,386.8	170	2,499.3
		Verbal warnings	616	9,394.5	587	9,255.8	570	9,064.9	562	9,136.7	553	9,077.5	497	8,111.6	470	7,566.0	428	6,879.9	319	5,061.9	309	4,671.9	220	3,234.3
		Written cautions	90	1,372.6	127	2,002.5	153	2,433.2	139	2,259.8	105	1,723.6	98	1,599.5	106	1,706.4	120	1,929.0	108	1,713.7	98	1,481.7	50	735.1
		Referrals to a community program	64	976.1	60	946.1	63	1,001.9	72	1,170.5	62	1,017.7	68	1,109.8	45	724.4	37	594.8	39	618.9	18	272.1	25	367.5
		Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	36	549.0	33	520.3	43	683.8	52	845.4	69	1,132.6	47	767.1	29	466.8	27	434.0	25	396.7	28	423.3	26	382.2
		Other means[1]	1,026	15,647.4	862	13,591.9	616	9,796.4	672	10,925.1	500	8,207.5	544	8,878.7	558	8,982.6	547	8,792.8	475	7,537.3	329	4,974.3	323	4,748.6
Canada	Urban	Charged or charges recommended	62,989	3,111.7	57,821	2,895.5	49,823	2,532.6	44,901	2,304.6	42,613	2,189.0	39,209	1,999.8	38,075	1,936.1	35,488	1,793.6	32,578	1,627.2	21,943	1,079.5	20,203	985.5
		Verbal warnings	28,040	1,385.2	26,063	1,305.1	22,097	1,123.2	20,373	1,045.7	19,063	979.2	17,964	916.2	18,094	920.1	14,523	734.0	12,810	639.8	7,767	382.1	7,975	389.0
		Written cautions	5,660	279.6	5,014	251.1	3,621	184.1	3,315	170.1	3,211	164.9	2,712	138.3	2,954	150.2	2,387	120.6	2,013	100.5	1,123	55.2	1,104	53.9
		Referrals to a community program	5,166	255.2	4,711	235.9	4,025	204.6	3,957	203.1	3,834	196.9	3,578	182.5	3,489	177.4	2,578	130.3	2,269	113.3	985	48.5	914	44.6
		Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	6,098	301.3	5,561	278.5	4,827	245.4	4,189	215.0	3,750	192.6	3,816	194.6	3,762	191.3	3,753	189.7	3,612	180.4	2,379	117.0	2,654	129.5
		Other means[1]	24,193	1,195.2	20,868	1,045.0	17,423	885.7	16,144	828.6	16,558	850.6	16,016	816.9	16,242	825.9	14,314	723.5	13,383	668.4	9,531	468.9	10,412	507.9
	Rural	Charged or charges recommended	18,913	4,368.0	16,838	4,064.9	14,894	3,755.1	12,983	3,389.6	12,492	3,325.3	11,425	3,038.6	10,520	2,815.0	8,737	2,351.0	8,252	2,200.6	5,939	1,557.3	5,765	1,485.9
		Verbal warnings	8,145	1,881.1	9,269	2,237.6	7,492	1,888.9	6,591	1,720.8	6,283	1,672.5	5,861	1,558.8	5,396	1,443.9	4,324	1,163.5	3,293	878.2	2,639	692.0	2,952	760.9
		Written cautions	1,998	461.4	2,406	580.8	1,873	472.2	1,612	420.9	1,411	375.6	1,323	351.9	1,190	318.4	942	253.5	789	210.4	653	171.2	727	187.4

		Referrals to a community program	731	168.8	734	177.2	597	150.5	554	144.6	482	128.3	502	133.5	536	143.4	434	116.8	369	98.4	239	62.7	278	71.7
		Referrals to an extrajudicial sanctions program	1,447	334.2	1,514	365.5	1,185	298.8	1,203	314.1	1,072	285.4	1,264	336.2	1,019	272.7	881	237.1	854	227.7	665	174.4	706	182.0
		Other means[1]	13,644	3,151.1	10,846	2,618.3	9,142	2,304.9	8,082	2,110.1	7,425	1,976.5	6,774	1,801.6	8,199	2,193.9	7,577	2,038.8	6,379	1,701.1	4,469	1,171.8	4,972	1,281.5

1. Includes suicide of the accused, death of the accused (not suicide), death of complainant/witness, reasons beyond control of department (policy), diplomatic immunity, the accused is committed to a mental health facility, the accused is outside of Canada and cannot be returned, victim/complainant request no further action, the accused is involved in other incidents, the accused is already sentenced, and departmental discretion.

Note: Youth accused includes those between 12 and 17 years old. Children under the age of 12 cannot be charged with a criminal offence. Rates are calculated per 100,000 population ages 12 to 17.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, trend database.