

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK
POLICE SERVICES BOARD

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

24 SEPTEMBER 2008

2008 Semi-Annual Statistics

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Board receive this report pursuant to Crime, Call and Public Disorder Analysis, York Regional Police Procedure LE-003.

SYNOPSIS

Pursuant to the long-standing practice of York Regional Police, crime statistics are presented to the Board every six months. For the benefit of the Board, a summary of selected crime statistics providing an overview of incidents that were reported between January 1 and June 30, 2008, has been compiled and is included in this report. A detailed 2008 year-end statistical report will be presented in the new year.

During the first half of 2008 as compared to the first half of 2007, the overall Crime Rate was up 1.5 percent. The rate of Crimes Against Persons increased 2.0 percent while the rate of Crimes Against Property remained virtually unchanged with a 0.1 percent increase. When looking at the breakdown of the crime categories, increases were also seen in the rates of Attempt Capital Crime (+254.7 percent), Sexual Assault (+23.8 percent), Violations Deprivation Freedom (+29.9 percent), Arson (+40.7 percent), Fraud (+23.8 percent), Drug Violations (+22.3 percent), Impaired Operation/Related Violations (+15.0 percent) and Other Criminal Code Traffic Violations (+14.6 percent). Categories that experienced notable decreases in rates included Theft Over \$5,000 (-23.1 percent), Have Stolen Goods (-17.1 percent), Weapons Violations (-11.0 percent), and Other Federal Violations (-21.4 percent).

The numbers contained in this report represent only a preliminary year-to-year comparison of six month data. A more detailed analysis including both a one year and five year trend analysis will be undertaken in early 2009 and incorporate statistics for the entire year. It is important to note that many factors may influence police-reported crime statistics including the level of reporting by the public to the police; the impact of new initiatives such as changes in legislation, policies or enforcement practices; and demographic, social and economic changes. In addition, the magnitude of the percentage increase or decrease in crime rates is

a reflection of the total number of actual occurrences. The fewer the overall number of occurrences, the greater the magnitude of percentage change. It is therefore, important to view absolute changes in addition to percentage changes to get a true reflection of reported crime.

In summary, based on the preliminary crime statistics for January 1 to June 30, 2008, we remain confident that York Region is still one of Canada's safest communities, as highlighted in the 2007 National/Provincial Comparison Report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

BACKGROUND

The following chart summarizes criminal code violation statistics reported January to June 2008 as compared to the same time period in the preceding year.

	Jan-June 2007		Jan-June 2008		Variance (%)	
	Actual	Rate	Actual	Rate	Actual	Rate
Total Crime	18,705	1,938.34	19,630	1,967.90	4.9	1.5
Crimes Against Persons	3,342	346.32	3,525	353.38	5.5	2.0
Crimes Against Property	11,436	1,185.08	11,839	1,186.85	3.5	0.1
Other Criminal Code¹	2,443	253.16	2,457	246.31	0.6	-2.7
Total Clearance	58.2%	na	56.1%	na	-2.1%	na
Criminal Code Traffic	1,292	133.89	1,514	151.78	17.2	13.4

¹ total includes Other Criminal Code, Weapons, and Public Morals

TOTAL CRIMINAL & FEDERAL VIOLATIONS

- 19,630 **CRIMINAL & FEDERAL** violations were reported between January 1 and June 30, 2008, compared to 18,705 during the corresponding period in 2007. This represents an increase of 925 violations or 4.9 percent. The Crime rate the first six months of 2008 was 1,967.90 compared to 1,938.34 during the corresponding period in 2007. This represents an increase of 1.5 percent. (See breakdown of Crime Statistics in Appendix A)

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

- 3,525 **CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS** (Violent Crime) violations were reported between January 1 and June 30, 2008, compared to 3,342 during the corresponding period in 2007. This represents an increase of 183 violations or 5.5 percent. The Violent Crime rate the first six months of 2008 was 353.38 compared to 346.32 during the corresponding period in 2007. This represents an increase of 2.0 percent.
- 1 **VIOLATION CAUSING DEATH** (Homicide & Criminal Negligence Causing Death) was reported between January 1 and June 30, 2008, compared to 3 during the corresponding period in 2007.

This represents a decrease of 2 violations or 66.7 percent. Based on the rate of Violations Causing Death per 100,000 population, there has been a decrease of 67.8 percent.

- 11 **ATTEMPT CAPITAL CRIME** violations were reported between January 1 and June 30, 2008, compared to 3 during the corresponding period in 2007. This represents an increase of 8 violations or 266.7 percent. Based on the rate of Attempt Capital Crime violations per 100,000 population, there has been an increase of 254.7 percent.
- 206 **SEXUAL ASSAULT** violations were reported between January 1 and June 30, 2008, compared to 161 during the corresponding period in 2007. This represents an increase of 45 violations or 28.0 percent. Based on the rate of Sexual Assault violations per 100,000 population, there has been an increase of 23.8 percent.
- 1,862 **ASSAULT** violations were reported between January 1 and June 30, 2008, compared to 1,866 during the corresponding period in 2007. This represents a decrease of 4 violations or 0.2 percent. Based on the rate of Assault violations per 100,000 population, there has been a decrease of 3.5 percent.
- 193 **ROBBERY** violations were reported between January 1 and June 30, 2008, compared to 209 during the corresponding period in 2007. This represents a decrease of 16 violations or 7.7 percent. Based on the rate of Robbery violations per 100,000 population, there has been a decrease of 10.7 percent. (See Appendix B)

CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY

- 11,839 **CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY** violations (Property Crime) were reported between January 1 and June 30, 2008, compared to 11,436 during the corresponding period in 2007. This represents an increase of 403 violations or 3.5 percent. The Property Crime rate the first six months of 2008 was 1,186.85 compared to 1,185.08 during the corresponding period in 2007. This represents an increase of 0.1 percent.
 - After several years of decline, the property crime rate increased slightly over the past year although the five year trend continues to show a decrease of 23.6 percent
 - Increases were seen in the one year rates of arson (+40.7 percent), theft under \$5,000 (+2.2 percent), fraud (+23.9 percent), and mischief (+7.5 percent).
 - Significant decreases were seen in the one year rates of theft over \$5,000 (-23.1 percent), and have stolen goods (-17.1 percent). The rate of break and enter violations decreased 2.0 percent although the actual number reported increased 1.3 percent.

OTHER CRIMINAL CODE

- 2,457 **OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (INCLUDING WEAPONS AND PUBLIC MORALS)** violations were reported between January 1 and June 30, 2008, compared to 2,443 during the corresponding period in 2007. This represents an increase of 14 violations or 0.6 percent. Based on the rate of Other Criminal Code violations per 100,000 population, there has been a decrease of 2.7 percent.

CLEARANCE RATE

- The **CLEARANCE RATE** for Crimes Against Persons decreased from 81.4 percent during the first six months of 2007 to 78.3 percent during the corresponding period in 2008. The clearance rate for Crimes Against Property decreased from 40.5 percent during the first six months of 2007 to 37.7 percent during the corresponding period in 2008. The overall clearance rate decreased from 58.2 percent to 56.1 percent. (See Appendix C)

CRIMINAL CODE TRAFFIC

- 1,514 **CRIMINAL CODE TRAFFIC** violations were reported during the first six months of 2008 compared to 1,292 during the corresponding period in 2007. This represents an increase of 222 violations or 17.2 percent. Based on the rate of Criminal Code Traffic violations per 100,000 population, there has been an increase of 13.4 percent. (See Appendix A)
 - The number of Criminal Code Traffic violations are being driven by a significant increases in the number of Impaired Operation (+92/+19.6 percent) and Fail to Remain violations (+103/+19.7 percent)
- 643 **IMPAIRED OPERATION/RELATED** violations were reported during the first six months of 2008 compared to 541 during the corresponding period in 2007. This represents an increase of 102 violations or 18.9 percent. Based on the rate of Impaired Operation/Related violations per 100,000 population, there has been an increase of 15.0 percent.
- 205 **DANGEROUS OPERATION** violations were reported during the first six months of 2008 compared to 189 during the corresponding period in 2006. This represents an increase of 16 violations or 8.5 percent. Based on the rate of Dangerous Operation violations per 100,000 population, there has been an increase of 4.9 percent.
- 16 **FATAL COLLISIONS** occurred on our roadways during the first six months of 2008 as compared to 12 during the corresponding period in 2007. This represents an increase of 4 collisions or 33.3 percent. (See Appendix D). As a result of these collisions, 17 **PERSONS DIED** compared to 15 during the corresponding period in 2007. This represents an increase of 2 persons or 13.3 percent.

YOUTH CRIME

- **YOUTH CRIME** (the number of youths formally charged and processed by other means) in York Region decreased 2.9 percent compared to the corresponding period in 2007. Decreases were seen in both charges laid against young persons (-1.9 percent) and the number of youths processed by other means (-3.6 percent). The Youth Crime rate decreased 4.5 percent. (See Appendix E)

The numbers contained in this report represent only a preliminary year-to-year comparison of six month data. A more detailed analysis including both a one year and five year trend analysis will be undertaken in early 2009 and incorporate statistics for the entire year. We will also have an opportunity to review the trends across other Greater Toronto Area (GTA) police services.

We are pleased that York Region continues to be one of the safest communities in Canada. This is a direct reflection of the progress we have made in crime prevention, law enforcement, and community safety initiatives, and in building bridges between all our communities. We recognize that this would not be possible without the continued support of our Police Services Board, Regional Council, community partners and the citizens of York Region.

Armand P. La Barge, O.O.M.
Chief of Police.

APL:wd

Attachments: Crime Statistics (Appendix A)
Robbery (Appendix B)
Clearance Rate (Appendix C)
Fatal Motor Vehicle Collisions (Appendix D)
Youth Crime (Appendix E)

APPENDIX A - CRIME STATISTICS

JANUARY – JUNE (2007 – 2008)

	2007			2008			2007 - 2008	
	Actual	Percent Cleared	Rate Per 100,000 Population	Actual	Percent Cleared	Rate Per 100,000 Population	Variance in Actual (%)	Variance in Rates (%)
Crimes Against Persons	3,342	81.4	346.32	3,525	78.3	353.38	5.5	2.0
Violations Causing Death	3	133.3	0.31	1	0.0	0.10	-66.7	-67.8
Attempt Capital Crime	3	100.0	0.31	11	81.8	1.10	266.7	254.7
Sexual Assault	161	72.7	16.68	206	75.7	20.65	28.0	23.8
Assault	1,866	86.8	193.37	1,862	85.5	186.66	-0.2	-3.5
Violations Deprivation Freedom	70	58.6	7.25	94	93.6	9.42	34.3	29.9
Robbery & Other Violent Violations	1,239	75.5	128.39	1,351	67.7	135.44	9.0	5.5
Crimes Against Property	11,436	40.5	1,185.08	11,839	37.7	1,186.85	3.5	0.1
Arson	66	9.1	6.84	96	18.8	9.62	45.5	40.7
Break and Enter	1,336	13.9	138.45	1,354	21.9	135.74	1.3	-2.0
Theft Over \$5000	1,050	14.2	108.81	835	21.1	83.71	-20.5	-23.1
Theft Under \$5000	4,463	38.1	462.49	4,713	32.7	472.48	5.6	2.2
Have Stolen Goods	1,549	102.6	160.52	1,328	101.2	133.13	-14.3	-17.1
Fraud	1,256	40.0	130.16	1,607	33.4	161.10	27.9	23.8
Mischief	1,716	29.5	177.82	1,906	29.3	191.08	11.1	7.5
Other Criminal Code	2,071	84.7	214.61	2,095	82.8	210.02	1.2	-2.1
Other Criminal Code (Part A)	1,760	85.3	182.38	1,804	83.5	180.85	2.5	-0.8
Other Criminal Code (Part B)	311	81.0	32.23	291	78.4	29.17	-6.4	-9.5
Weapons Violations	314	79.9	32.54	289	76.1	28.97	-8.0	-11.0
Public Morals Violations	58	69.0	6.01	73	56.2	7.32	25.9	21.8
Prostitution/Public Morals	56	67.9	5.80	68	52.9	6.82	21.4	17.5
Gaming and Betting	2	100.0	0.21	5	100.0	0.50	150.0	141.9
Total Criminal Violations	17,221	54.6	1,784.56	17,821	51.7	1,786.55	3.5	0.1
Drug Violations	1,335	100.2	138.34	1,688	98.4	169.22	26.4	22.3
Other Federal Violations	149	101.3	15.44	121	100.8	12.13	-18.8	-21.4
Total Criminal & Federal Violations (excluding traffic)	18,705	58.2	1,938.34	19,630	56.1	1,967.90	4.9	1.5
Traffic Violations	1,292	62.2	133.89	1,514	62.5	151.78	17.2	13.4
Dangerous Operation	189	95.8	19.59	205	99.5	20.55	8.5	4.9
Impaired Operation/Related Violations	541	100.9	56.06	643	100.5	64.46	18.9	15.0
Other Criminal Code Traffic Violations	562	13.5	58.24	666	14.4	66.77	18.5	14.6
Street Racing	0	0.0	0.00	0	0.0	0.00	N.C.	N.C.

N.C. = not calculable

APPENDIX B - ROBBERY

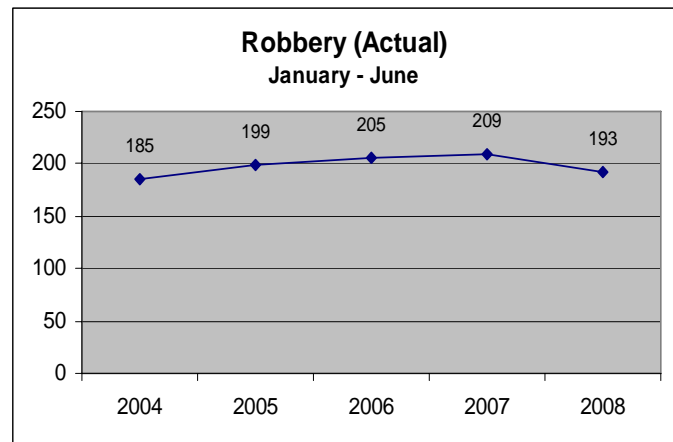
FIVE YEAR TREND

JANUARY – JUNE (2004 – 2008)

Year	Actual	1 Year Comparison		5 Year Comparison		Rate per 100,000 Population	Rate Variance (%)	
		Variance	(%)	Variance	(%)		1 Year	5 Year
2004	185	10	5.7	45	32.1	21.16	1.8	10.3
2005	199	14	7.6	35	21.3	22.02	4.1	3.6
2006	205	6	3.0	41	25.0	21.96	-0.3	9.5
2007	209	4	2.0	34	19.4	21.66	-1.4	4.2
2008	193	-16	-7.7	8	4.3	19.35	-10.7	-8.6

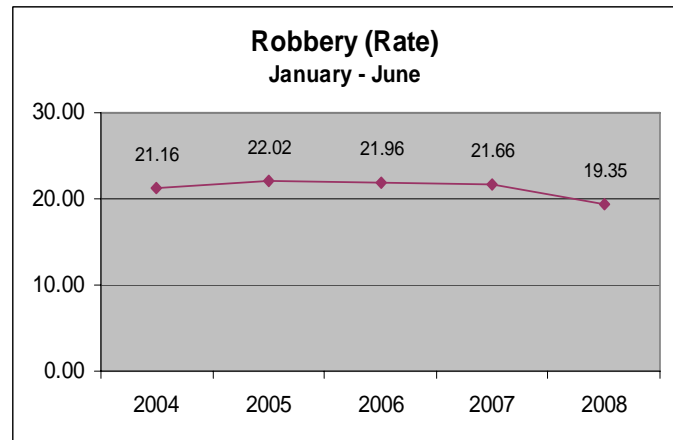
1 Year Comparison:

As indicated above, 193 Robbery violations were reported during the first six months of 2008 compared to 209 during the corresponding period in 2007. This represents a decrease of 16 violations or 7.7%. Based on the rate of Robbery violations per 100,000 population, there has been a decrease of 10.7%.



5 Year Comparison:

As indicated above, 193 Robbery violations were reported during the first six months of 2008 compared to 185 during the corresponding period in 2004. This represents an increase of 8 violations or 4.3%. Based on the rate of Robbery violations per 100,000 population, there has been a decrease of 8.6%.

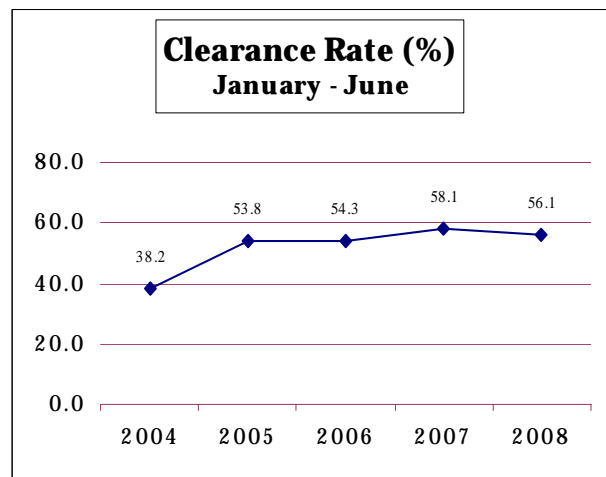
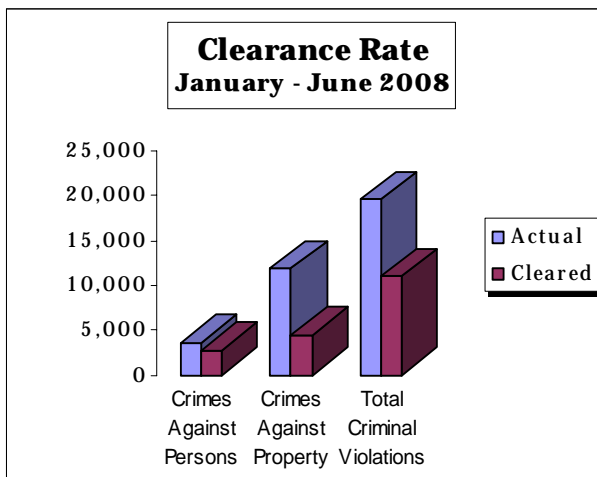


APPENDIX C - CLEARANCE RATE

JANUARY – JUNE (2007 – 2008)

	2007			2008			2007 - 2008
	Actual	Total Cleared	Cleared (%)	Actual	Total Cleared	Cleared (%)	Variance Cleared (%)
Crimes Against Persons	3,342	2,719	81.4	3,525	2,760	78.3	-3.1
Crimes Against Property	11,436	4,637	40.5	11,839	4,467	37.7	-2.8
Other Criminal Code	2,071	1,754	84.7	2,095	1,734	82.8	-1.9
Weapons Violations	314	251	79.9	289	220	76.1	-3.8
Public Morals Violations	58	40	69.0	73	41	56.2	-12.8
Total Criminal Violations	17,221	9,401	54.6	17,821	9,222	51.7	-2.8
Drug Violations	1,335	1,338	100.2	1,688	1,661	98.4	-1.8
Other Federal Violations	149	151	101.3	121	122	100.8	-0.5
Total Criminal & Federal Violations (excluding Traffic)	18,705	10,890	58.2	19,630	11,005	56.1	-2.1
Traffic Violations	1,292	803	62.2	1,514	946	62.5	0.3

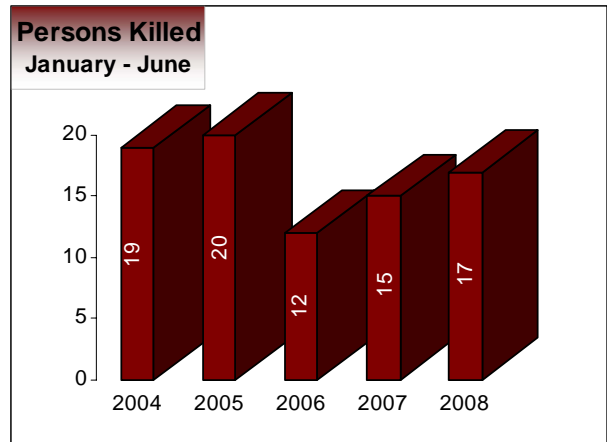
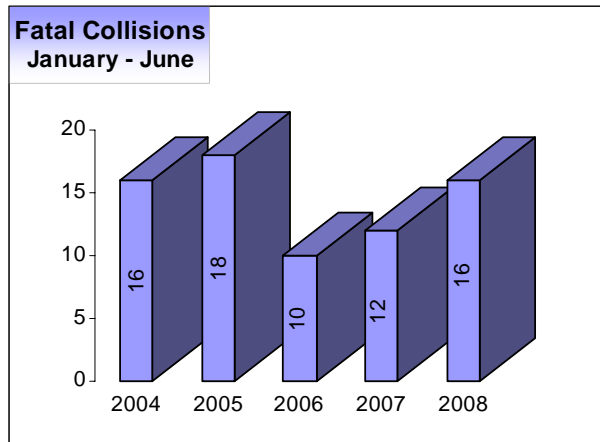
Note: due to rounding, figures may not subtract exactly to variance cleared.



APPENDIX D - FATAL MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISIONS

JANUARY – JUNE (2008 – 2008)

	2007		2008		2007 - 2008	
	Actual	Rate Per 100,000 Population	Actual	Rate Per 100,000 Population	Variance in Actual (%)	Variance in Rates (%)
Fatal Collisions	12	1.24	16	1.60	33.3	29.0
Persons Killed	15	1.55	17	1.70	13.3	9.6
Driver	9	0.93	12	1.20	33.3	29.0
Passenger	3	0.31	2	0.20	-33.3	-35.5
Pedestrian	2	0.21	3	0.30	50.0	45.1
Cyclist	1	0.10	0	0.00	-100.0	-100.0
Major Contributing Factors						
Alcohol	2	0.21	2	0.20	0.0	-3.3
Speed	4	0.41	4	0.40	0.0	-3.3
Seatbelt	3	0.31	1	0.10	-66.7	-67.8



APPENDIX E - YOUTH CRIME

JANUARY – JUNE (2007 - 2008)

	2007			2008			2007-08 Variance (%)		
	CHGD	PBOM	Total	CHGD	PBOM	Total	CHGD	PBOM	Total
Violent Crime	265	298	563	230	257	487	-13.2	-13.8	-13.5
Property Crime	290	717	1,007	285	658	943	-1.7	-8.2	-6.4
All Other	289	262	551	313	316	629	8.3	20.6	14.2
Total	844	1,277	2,121	828	1,231	2,059	-1.9	-3.6	-2.9

Total Youth Crime Rate		25.43			24.29			-4.5
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Note: CHGD – Youths formally charged. Includes persons aged 12 -17 years inclusive for criminal, federal, and criminal traffic charges.
 PBOM - processed by other means. Includes persons under the age of 18 years.

Youth Crime rate is expressed as a rate of youths per 1,000 youth population (aged 12 – 17 inclusive), rounded to two decimals. The number of persons aged 12 – 17 years inclusive formally charged or processed by other means have been used in this calculation. Year-end (2005 and 2006) youth population estimates supplied by York Region Planning and Development Services Department.

