

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK
POLICE SERVICES BOARD

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

24 SEPTEMBER 2008

**2007 National & Provincial Crime
Statistical Comparison**

RECOMMENDATION

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

SYNOPSIS

Our current reporting practice includes presentation of York Regional Police crime statistics in semi-annual and annual statistics reports and a separate provincial and national comparison/ranking report based on data obtained from the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS), a division of Statistics Canada. The 2007 Annual Statistical Report was presented at the March 26, 2008 meeting of the Police Services Board.

The national and provincial comparison is compiled utilizing data from CCJS that has been provided from police services in Canada based on the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey. The timing of the release of the Statistics Canada publication upon which the rankings are based occurs mid-year and the aggregate methodology of data collection utilized differs from the incident-based methodology upon which our Annual Statistical Report is based. Therefore, the national and provincial comparison is being presented in a separate report, as attached.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

BACKGROUND

The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) collects data from police services in Canada compiled based on the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) survey. The original survey developed to collect data was “aggregate-based” and was implemented in 1962. The aggregate methodology collects data based on the most serious offence which occurs in an incident. Using this methodology, less serious offences are under-represented. Also, in some cases, offences are located in different crime categories depending on the type of reporting methodology used. Based on the aggregate method of reporting, Mischief is counted under Other Criminal Code, whereas it is considered a Crime Against Property using the incident-based reporting.

Over time, it was felt that there were limitations to the aggregate method of data collection. In response to the concerns of Canadian Police Chiefs that aggregate based statistics were not a true reflection of crime in Canada, an incident-based survey tool was developed and implemented in 1988. York Regional Police started reporting incident-based crime data in 1992. The incident-based survey (UCR2) collects detailed data based on the incident, up to the four most serious violations which occur along with the characteristics of the incident; such as the property removed, values of theft and damage, weapons involved in violent offences, along with many other data elements.

The vast majority of police services in Canada now report incident-based data to CCJS. Police services have switched over from the aggregate to the incident-based survey as their records management systems have become capable of providing the level of detail required. There are, however, some small services, that still do not report incident-based data, possibly due to the financial implications of conversion. Unfortunately, this means that in order for Statistics Canada to produce their Uniform Crime Reports, they must convert all incident-based data to aggregate for an accurate comparison, hence the reason their crime statistics publications are reported in this manner.

At the March 26, 2008 meeting of the Police Services Board, the 2007 York Regional Police Annual Statistical Report was presented. The report indicated that the overall incident-based Crime Rate (total number of Criminal & Federal Violations excluding Traffic per 100,000 population) decreased for the fourth consecutive year, dropping 6.6 percent in 2007 from 2006. The overall incident-based Total Criminal Code Clearance Rate remained virtually unchanged, increasing slightly to 55.8 percent in 2007 from 55.1 percent in 2006.

By comparison, the 2007 Crime Statistics as produced by Statistics Canada utilizing the aggregate method of data compilation reported a drop in the York Regional Police Crime Rate of 8.4 percent and a slight increase in the clearance rate of 0.5 percent, by virtue of the different methodologies of reporting used. The table below shows the difference in the 2007 Crime and Clearance Rate categories over 2006 figures.

2007 Crime Rate (% change from 2006)	YRP STATISTICS (Incident-based)	CCJS STATISTICS (Aggregate-based)
Crimes Against Persons	-4.8	-2.2
Crimes Against Property	-8.0	-7.5
Total Criminal Code*	-6.6	-8.4
2007 Clearance Rate (% change from 2006)		
Crimes Against Persons	-2.3	-2.2
Property Crime	-0.4	-1.6
Total Criminal Code	+0.6**	+0.5

Notes: * Total Criminal Code YRP Statistics include federal violations whereas Total Criminal Code CCJS Statistics does not include federal violations.

** Clearance rate figures are rounded to one decimal point.

The following tables indicate the ranking of the York Regional Police CCJS Crime Rate and Clearance Rate data.

The national comparison/ranking was made based on data from Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Regina, Montreal, Saint John, and Halifax police services. The services compared at the provincial level were Durham, Toronto, Peel, Halton, Waterloo, Hamilton, Ottawa and Niagara.

2007 CRIME RATE – RANKING BY POLICE SERVICE (Lowest to Highest)					
National	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth
Crimes Against Persons	York	Calgary	Montreal	Edmonton	Vancouver
Crimes Against Property	York	Calgary	Montreal	Saint John	Halifax
Total Criminal Code	York	Calgary	Montreal	Vancouver	Edmonton
Provincial					
Crimes Against Persons	York	Halton	Peel	Waterloo	Niagara
Crimes Against Property	York	Halton	Peel	Durham	Waterloo
Total Criminal Code	York	Halton	Peel	Durham	Waterloo

2007 CLEARANCE RATE – RANKING BY POLICE SERVICE (Highest to Lowest)					
National	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth
Crimes Against Persons	York	Regina	Calgary	Montreal	Halifax
Crimes Against Property	York	Halifax	Saint John	Calgary	Regina
Total Criminal Code	Regina	York	Halifax	Saint John	Edmonton
Provincial					
Crimes Against Persons	Halton	York	Durham	Waterloo	Peel
Crimes Against Property	Peel	Halton	York	Waterloo	Durham
Total Criminal Code	Waterloo	Peel	Halton	Durham	York

CRIME RATE – YRP FIVE YEAR RANKING (Lowest to Highest)					
National	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Crimes Against Persons	First	First	First	First	First
Crimes Against Property	First	First	First	First	First
Total Criminal Code	First	First	First	First	First
Provincial					
Crimes Against Persons	Second	Second	First	First	First
Crimes Against Property	Third	Third	First	First	First
Total Criminal Code	Third	Third	First	First	First

CLEARANCE RATE – YRP FIVE YEAR RANKING (Highest to Lowest)					
National	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Crimes Against Persons	Second	First	First	First	First
Crimes Against Property	Fifth	Third	First	First	First
Total Criminal Code	Sixth	Third	Second	First	Second
Provincial					
Crimes Against Persons	Sixth	Sixth	Third	First	Second
Crimes Against Property	Fifth	Third	Second	Second	Third
Total Criminal Code	Eighth	Sixth	Second	First	Fifth

In 2007, the York Regional Police crime rate ranked first/lowest amongst both its national and provincial comparitors in overall Crimes Against Persons/Violent Crime, Crimes Against Property and Total Criminal Code incidents. We have maintained this ranking for five consecutive years at the national level and for three years at the provincial level. Although the clearance rate rankings in 2007 have fallen, our overall clearance rate continued to rise with a modest increase of 0.5 percent from 2006. The change in ranking is due to larger increases in the actual clearance rate of other police services over their 2006 rates. A more detailed summary of the CCJS National and Provincial Crime and Clearance Rate rankings is attached to this report.

We are pleased to maintain positive results in both our Crime Rate and Clearance Rate rankings over the past five years. They are a direct reflection of the strides we have made in law enforcement, crime prevention, community safety initiatives and in building bridges between all our communities. We recognize that our success would not be possible without the continued support of the Police Services Board, Regional and Local Councils, our community partners and the citizens of York Region who help us to ensure York Region still remains one of the safest communities in Canada in which to live, raise a family, visit and conduct business.

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

APL:wd

Attachments: 2007 CCJS National and Provincial Comparison

ONTARIO CRIME RATE COMPARISON, SELECTED POLICE SERVICES IN CENTRAL ONTARIO (2003 – 2007)

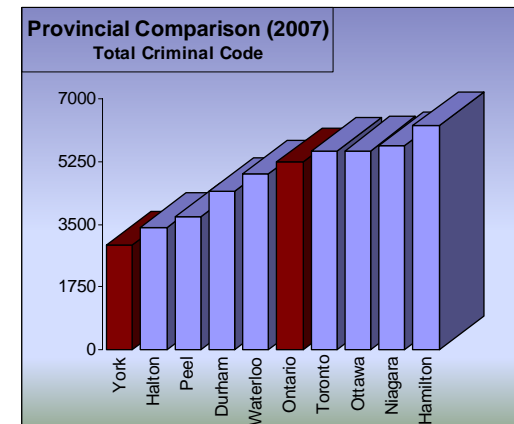
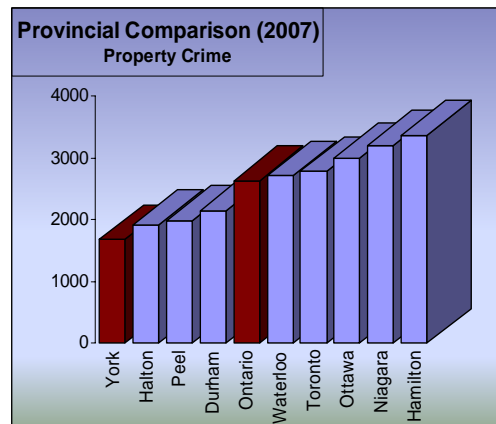
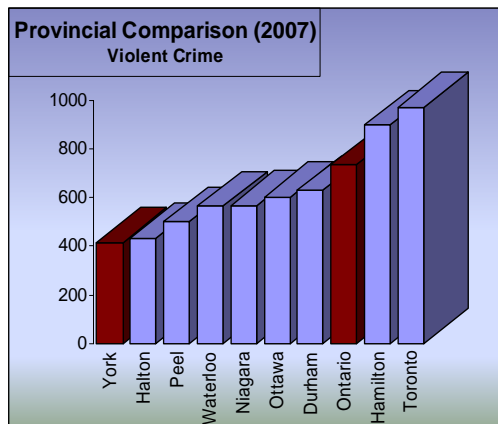
RANKED FROM LOWEST TO HIGHEST

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Crimes of Violence									
2007	York	Halton	Peel	Waterloo	Niagara	Ottawa	Durham	Hamilton	Toronto
2006	York	Halton	Peel	Durham	Ottawa	Niagara	Waterloo	Hamilton	Toronto
2005	York	Halton	Peel	Waterloo	Niagara	Ottawa	Durham	Hamilton	Toronto
2004	Halton	York	Peel	Niagara	Waterloo	Durham	Ottawa	Hamilton	Toronto
2003	Halton	York	Peel	Waterloo	Niagara	Durham	Ottawa	Toronto	Hamilton
Property Crimes									
2007	York	Halton	Peel	Durham	Waterloo	Toronto	Ottawa	Niagara	Hamilton
2006	York	Halton	Peel	Durham	Waterloo	Toronto	Ottawa	Niagara	Hamilton
2005	York	Halton	Peel	Durham	Toronto	Ottawa	Waterloo	Niagara	Hamilton
2004	Halton	Peel	York	Durham	Toronto	Ottawa	Niagara	Waterloo	Hamilton
2003	Peel	Halton	York	Durham	Toronto	Waterloo	Ottawa	Niagara	Hamilton
Total Criminal Code									
2007	York	Halton	Peel	Durham	Waterloo	Toronto	Ottawa	Niagara	Hamilton
2006	York	Halton	Peel	Durham	Waterloo	Ottawa	Niagara	Hamilton	Toronto
2005	York	Peel	Halton	Durham	Waterloo	Ottawa	Niagara	Hamilton	Toronto
2004	Peel	Halton	York	Toronto	Durham	Waterloo	Ottawa	Niagara	Hamilton
2003	Peel	Halton	York	Durham	Waterloo	Toronto	Ottawa	Niagara	Hamilton

This analysis is based on Statistics Canada's, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting 2007 Survey database. All computations, use and interpretation of these data are entirely that of the author(s) or York Regional Police.

Based on the rate per 100,000 population.

Statistics are compiled based on aggregate reporting. Counts for all responses include RCMP cases occurring within the respondent's jurisdiction.



ONTARIO CLEARANCE RATE COMPARISON, SELECTED POLICE SERVICES IN CENTRAL ONTARIO (2003 – 2007)

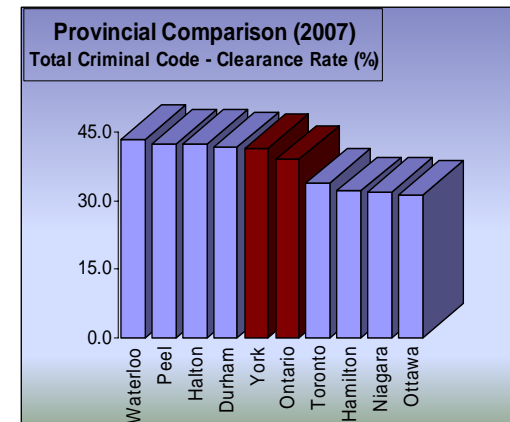
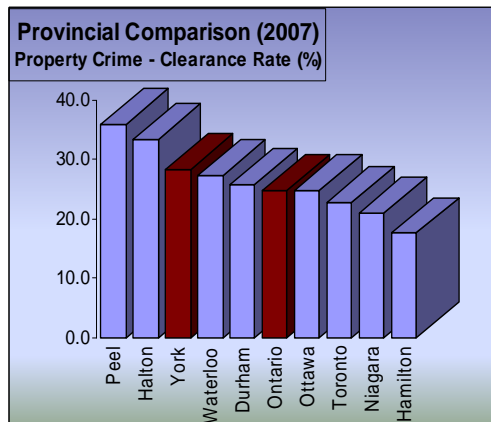
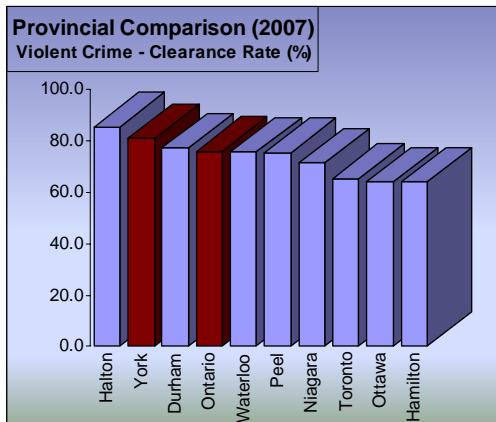
RANKED FROM HIGHEST TO LOWEST

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Crimes of Violence									
2007	Halton	York	Durham	Waterloo	Peel	Niagara	Toronto	Ottawa	Hamilton
2006	York	Waterloo	Peel	Durham	Niagara	Halton	Toronto	Hamilton	Ottawa
2005	Peel	Waterloo	York	Durham	Halton	Niagara	Toronto	Hamilton	Ottawa
2004	Durham	Peel	Waterloo	Niagara	Halton	York	Ottawa	Hamilton	Toronto
2003	Durham	Peel	Niagara	Halton	Waterloo	York	Hamilton	Toronto	Ottawa
Property Crimes									
2007	Peel	Halton	York	Waterloo	Durham	Ottawa	Toronto	Niagara	Hamilton
2006	Peel	York	Halton	Waterloo	Toronto	Durham	Ottawa	Niagara	Hamilton
2005	Peel	York	Halton	Toronto	Durham	Waterloo	Ottawa	Niagara	Hamilton
2004	Halton	Peel	York	Durham	Waterloo	Ottawa	Niagara	Toronto	Hamilton
2003	Halton	Peel	Durham	Toronto	York	Niagara	Hamilton	Ottawa	Waterloo
Total Criminal Code									
2007	Waterloo	Peel	Halton	Durham	York	Toronto	Hamilton	Niagara	Ottawa
2006	York	Waterloo	Peel	Halton	Durham	Toronto	Niagara	Ottawa	Hamilton
2005	Peel	York	Durham	Halton	Hamilton	Waterloo	Niagara	Toronto	Ottawa
2004	Peel	Halton	Durham	Toronto	Hamilton	York	Waterloo	Ottawa	Niagara
2003	Peel	Toronto	Halton	Durham	Hamilton	Niagara	Ottawa	York	Waterloo

This analysis is based on Statistics Canada's, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting 2007 Survey database. All computations, use and interpretation of these data are entirely that of the author(s) or York Regional Police.

Based on the rate per 100,000 population.

Statistics were compiled based on aggregate reporting. Counts include RCMP cases occurring within the respondent's jurisdiction.



NATIONAL CRIME RATE COMPARISON, SELECTED POLICE SERVICES (2003 – 2007)

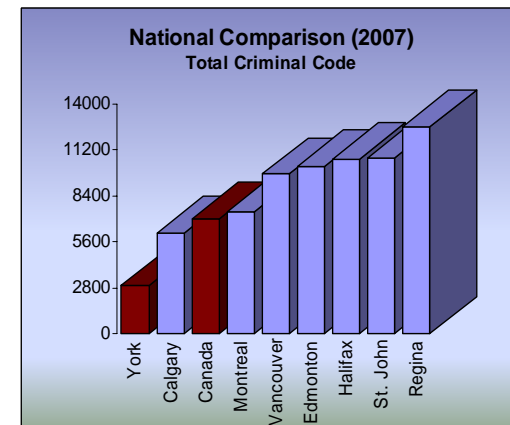
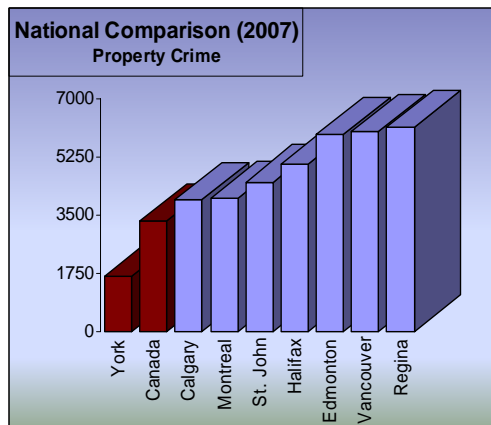
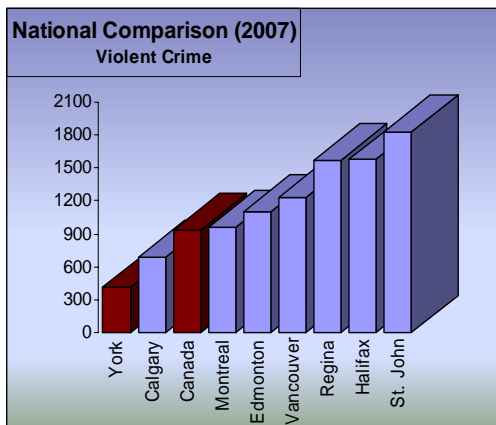
RANKED FROM LOWEST TO HIGHEST

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Crimes of Violence								
2007	York	Calgary	Montreal	Edmonton	Vancouver	Regina	Halifax	Saint John
2006	York	Calgary	Edmonton	Montreal	Vancouver	Saint John	Regina	Halifax
2005	York	Calgary	Edmonton	Montreal	Vancouver	Saint John	Regina	Halifax
2004	York	Calgary	Edmonton	Montreal	Vancouver	Saint John	Regina	Halifax
2003	York	Calgary	Edmonton	Montreal	Vancouver	Regina	Saint John	Halifax
Property Crimes								
2007	York	Calgary	Montreal	Saint John	Halifax	Edmonton	Vancouver	Regina
2006	York	Calgary	Saint John	Montreal	Halifax	Edmonton	Regina	Vancouver
2005	York	Saint John	Calgary	Montreal	Halifax	Edmonton	Regina	Vancouver
2004	York	Saint John	Calgary	Montreal	Halifax	Edmonton	Vancouver	Regina
2003	York	Montreal	Calgary	Saint John	Halifax	Edmonton	Vancouver	Regina
Total Criminal Code								
2007	York	Calgary	Montreal	Vancouver	Edmonton	Halifax	Saint John	Regina
2006	York	Calgary	Montreal	Saint John	Edmonton	Vancouver	Halifax	Regina
2005	York	Calgary	Saint John	Montreal	Edmonton	Vancouver	Halifax	Regina
2004	York	Calgary	Saint John	Montreal	Halifax	Edmonton	Vancouver	Regina
2003	York	Calgary	Montreal	Saint John	Halifax	Edmonton	Vancouver	Regina

This analysis is based on Statistics Canada's, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting 2007 Survey database. All computations, use and interpretation of these data are entirely that of the author(s) or York Regional Police.

Based on the rate per 100,000 population.

Statistics were compiled based on aggregate reporting. Counts include RCMP cases occurring within the respondent's jurisdiction.



NATIONAL CLEARANCE RATE COMPARISON, SELECTED POLICE SERVICES (2003 – 2007)

RANKED FROM HIGHEST TO LOWEST

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Crimes of Violence								
2007	York	Regina	Calgary	Montreal	Halifax	Saint John	Edmonton	Vancouver
2006	York	Regina	Calgary	Montreal	Edmonton	Halifax	Vancouver	Saint John
2005	York	Calgary	Regina	Montreal	Edmonton	Halifax	Vancouver	Saint John
2004	York	Calgary	Regina	Montreal	Edmonton	Halifax	Vancouver	Saint John
2003	Calgary	York	Regina	Montreal	Edmonton	Halifax	Vancouver	Saint John
Property Crimes								
2007	York	Halifax	Saint John	Calgary	Regina	Edmonton	Montreal	Vancouver
2006	York	Calgary	Saint John	Regina	Halifax	Edmonton	Montreal	Vancouver
2005	York	Saint John	Calgary	Regina	Halifax	Edmonton	Montreal	Vancouver
2004	Calgary	Saint John	York	Regina	Edmonton	Halifax	Montreal	Vancouver
2003	Vancouver	Calgary	Saint John	Edmonton	York	Halifax	Regina	Montreal
Total Criminal Code								
2007	Regina	York	Halifax	Saint John	Edmonton	Calgary	Montreal	Vancouver
2006	York	Regina	Calgary	Edmonton	Saint John	Halifax	Montreal	Vancouver
2005	Regina	York	Calgary	Saint John	Edmonton	Halifax	Montreal	Vancouver
2004	Calgary	Regina	York	Saint John	Edmonton	Halifax	Montreal	Vancouver
2003	Calgary	Regina	Edmonton	Saint John	Halifax	York	Montreal	Vancouver

This analysis is based on Statistics Canada's, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting 2007 Survey database. All computations, use and interpretation of these data are entirely that of the author(s) or York Regional Police.

Based on the rate per 100,000 population.

Statistics were compiled based on aggregate reporting. Counts include RCMP cases occurring within the respondent's jurisdiction.

