



VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

REPORT TO THE VANCOUVER POLICE BOARD

REPORT DATE: October 11, 2022
BOARD MEETING DATE: October 20, 2022
BOARD REPORT # 2210P01
Regular

TO: Vancouver Police Board
FROM: Simon Demers, Director, Planning, Research & Audit Section
SUBJECT: Public Safety Indicators Report for Q3 of 2022

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Vancouver Police Board (VPB) receives this report for information.

BACKGROUND:

The Public Safety Indicator (PSI) report of the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) covers the latest trends around: violent crime, property crime, cybercrime, apprehensions under the *Mental Health Act* (MHA), calls for service, priority 1 (P1) response times, traffic incidents with injuries reported to the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC), and traffic fatalities.

Starting in 2022, the PSI report also provides additional details around:

- sub-categories of violent and property crime;
- common assaults (Level 1), serious assaults (Levels 2 and 3 combined), and assaults against peace officers;
- Form 4 and Form 21 apprehensions under the *Mental Health Act* (MHA);
- calls to the non-emergency line abandoned before they could be answered by E-Comm.

DISCUSSION:

The following is a summary of the year-to-date (YTD) crime data as of the end of the third quarter (Q3) of 2022. The first nine months of 2022 are compared to the same nine months of 2021.

Of note, the global COVID-19 pandemic declared on March 11, 2020 has impacted all public safety metrics including, but not limited to, crime and calls for service.

Consistent with the [2021 Year-End PSI Report](#), this year's crime numbers are also compared against the same nine months from the three years preceding the COVID-19 pandemic (2017-2019 average). Such comparisons allow us to compare current crime patterns with those observed in Vancouver prior to the pandemic, in the absence of social restrictions.

Violent Crime

- The number of violent crimes in Vancouver increased by 6.7% year-to-date, from 4,440 in the first nine months of 2021 to 4,739 in 2022.
- Violent crime is up by 15.2% relative to the pre-pandemic average from 2017 to 2019.
- Serious assaults involving weapons or bodily harm (Level 2) and aggravated assaults involving life-threatening injuries (Level 3) are up 33.2% when compared to the three-year pre-pandemic average.

Violent Crime Offences	Q3 YTD 2022 vs. 2021	Q3 YTD 2022 vs. 2017-2019
Violent crimes	▲ 6.7%	▲ 15.2%
Sexual offences (reported date)	▼ -0.2%	▲ 2.9%
Sexual offences (occurrence date)	▲ 4.7%	▼ -
Level 1 assaults	▲ 8.8%	▲ 8.3%
Serious assaults (Level 2 and 3 combined)	▲ 1.9%	▲ 33.2%
Assaults against peace officers	▼ -11.9%	▲ 19.2%
Robbery	▲ 25.4%	▲ 15.7%

- Increases in violent crime have significant workload implications as violent crimes take longer to investigate, are more complex, and are more resource-intensive than the typical property crime.
- Unprovoked violent attacks, in particular, remain a concern citywide. Previous analysis indicated that there is an average of four unprovoked stranger assaults in Vancouver daily.
- There was a six-fold increase in anti-Asian hate crime year-to-date in 2022 relative to the three-year average preceding the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite efforts by the VPD to increase community awareness and facilitate the reporting of hate crimes, VPD statistics under-estimate the true extent of the problem. This idea is supported by academic research which shows that “Asian victims are significantly and substantially less likely to report victimization to the police than other victims” ([Lantz & Wenger, 2021](#)).
- There were 10 culpable homicides in the first nine months of 2022 compared to 14 in 2021. Attempted murders, however, more than doubled year-to-date from nine cases in 2021 to 19 in 2022. There were also 15 shots fired incidents in the first nine months of 2022 compared to 21 in 2021.

Property Crime

- The number of property crimes in Vancouver increased 8.1% year-to-date, from 21,834 in 2021 to 23,611 in 2022. Now that social restrictions are being relaxed, property crime in Vancouver is increasing back to historical baselines. This was predictable based on previous academic research findings out of the United States ([Riddell et al., 2022](#)), England and Wales ([Langton et al., 2021](#)), Northern Ireland ([Buil-Gil et al., 2022](#)), Queensland, Australia ([Andresen & Hodgkinson, 2020](#)), and China ([Borrion et al., 2020](#); [Dai et al., 2022](#)).

- When compared to the three-year average for the same period from 2017 to 2019, property crime is down by 24.9%. However, under-reporting remains a serious concern and contributes to drive down artificially property crime numbers in Vancouver.
- E-Comm has publicly stated they are both understaffed and underfunded and, as a result, are struggling to answer non-emergency calls for service within a reasonable time frame. When callers have to wait several minutes or even hours on the non-emergency line, they sometimes hang up and abandon the call before they even talk to an E-Comm call-taker. Some of these abandoned calls include crime reports that were never documented in the police data. Public frustration with E-Comm wait times has led to significant under-reporting of lower level crimes and quality of life issues, and is harmful to police reputation because members of the public do not differentiate E-Comm from VPD service levels.
- Moreover, there is evidence that some crime victims in Vancouver no longer call the non-emergency line in the first place because they are aware of lengthy delays and they are not willing to wait to speak to an E-Comm call-taker. Victims and complainants don't bother calling and this exacerbates the under-reporting problem.
- As a result of these two compounding effects, the official crime data is incomplete and underestimates the true level of crime in Vancouver.

Property Crime Offences	Q3 YTD 2022 vs. 2021	Q3 YTD 2022 vs. 2017-2019
Property crimes	▲ 8.1%	▼ -24.9%
B&E - Business	▼ -7.6%	▼ -7.5%
B&E - Residential	▼ -12.2%	▼ -51.6%
Theft from automobile	▲ 0.4%	▼ -48.8%
Arson	▼ -7.8%	▲ 42.3%
Mischief	▲ 5.4%	▲ 7.8%

Cybercrime

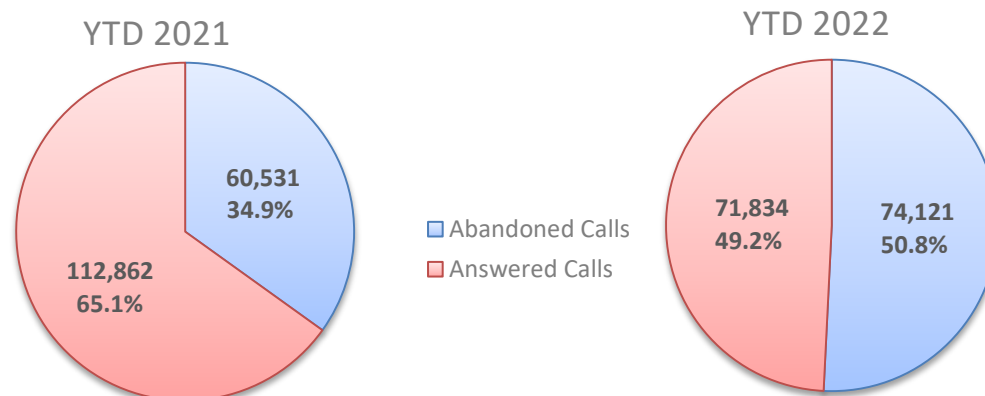
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, cybercrime rose sharply alongside lockdown-induced changes in online habits. As described by academic experts, it is likely that the pandemic accelerated the long-term upward trend in online crime ([Buil-Gil et al., 2022](#)). Unlike other crime trends that are expected to reverse themselves once social restrictions are relaxed, it is expected that cybercrime will remain higher than before the COVID-19 pandemic.
- There have been 1,575 cybercrime incidents reported to the VPD year-to-date, which is 26.2% fewer than in 2021 (2,134) but 66.3% more than the three-year pre-pandemic average.
- Vancouver victims of cybercrime reported total losses of \$13.52M. This is 53.3% lower than the \$28.97M in losses reported in the first nine months of 2021, but 33.0% more than the three-year average from 2017 to 2019.
- There were losses of at least \$8.60M as a result of frauds specifically involving cryptocurrencies. This is 59.7% lower than the \$21.33M in losses reported this time last year but 375.6% more than the three-year pre-pandemic average.
- While cases involving child sexual assault material remained stable between 2021 (367) and 2022 (371), they have increased 263.7% compared to the three-year average preceding the pandemic.

Mental Health Act (MHA)

- The number of Section 28 MHA apprehensions decreased by 8.2% year-to-date, from 2,087 apprehensions in the first nine months of 2021 to 1,915 in 2022.
- Form 21 apprehensions have increased by 12.3%, from 946 in 2021 to 1,062 in 2022.
- Form 4 apprehensions have decreased by 3.8%, from 341 in 2021 to 328 in 2022.
- Out of the 1,477 people apprehended under Section 28 of the MHA, 32% had been previously apprehended under Section 28 in the previous four years.

Calls for Service (CFS)

- The total number of CFS (164,193) is down 5.7% year-to-date relative to the same period in 2021 (174,035).
- Importantly, these figures exclude abandoned calls placed to the non-emergency line but never answered by an E-Comm call-taker. When these calls are not answered by E-Comm in a timely manner, the reputation of the VPD and other police departments in the region is negatively impacted because members of the public do not differentiate E-Comm from the police department.
- As they become aware of the lengthy delays plaguing the non-emergency line, many members of the public simply do not even try to call police in the first place because they are not willing to wait to speak to an E-Comm call-taker. This means some routine calls concerning property crimes that have already occurred, suspicious circumstances, motor vehicle incidents, or other quality of life issues are now missing from the police data.
- The number of abandoned calls increased by 22.5% year-to-date, between 2021 and 2022. Every five minutes or so, throughout the first nine months of 2022, one call placed to the non-emergency line was abandoned.
- During the first nine months of 2021, more than a third (34.9%) of all calls placed to the non-emergency line were abandoned by E-Comm. This ratio jumped to 50.8% in 2022. This means there is now one abandoned call for every call actually handled by E-Comm on the non-emergency line.



VIOLENT CRIME

Violent crime incidents increased by 6.7% year-to-date. Compared to the three-year, pre-pandemic average from 2017 to 2019, violent crime has increased by 15.2%.

The following table shows the changes to all offences in the violent crime category.

Violent Crime Year-to-Date

	2021	2022			2017-19
Criminal Offences	Jan 1 to Sept 30	Jan 1 to Sept 30	%	Change	3-year Average
Violent Crimes	4,440	4,739	▲	6.7%	▲ 15.2%
Culpable Homicide	14	10	▼	-28.6%	▼ -21.1%
Attempted Murder	9	19	▲	111.1%	▲ 26.7%
Sexual Offences	474	473	▼	-0.2%	▲ 2.9%
All Assaults	3,522	3,709	▲	5.3%	▲ 17.1%
Robbery	421	528	▲	25.4%	▲ 15.7%

The VPD continues to investigate serious violent attacks that are unprovoked in nature, many of which appear to be hate-motivated or involve weapons such as knives and bear spray. Previous analysis indicates that there are more than four unprovoked stranger assaults in Vancouver every day.

In July and August 2021, there were at least 95 bear spray incidents in the city, with several of those linked to youth-related violence. There is growing evidence that the COVID-19 pandemic had an extraordinary emotional toll on young persons, and a lasting detrimental impact on their psychological and social well-being. For instance, [Reid et al. \(2021\)](#) found significant increases in aggressive behaviors, poor frustration tolerance, school conduct problems, and drug use across at-risk youths on probation regardless of biological sex, race, or ethnicity.

Crime and disorder issues in the Hastings Street Encampment Zone (HSEZ) increased significantly over the summer months. For example, assaults with weapons or causing injuries have increased by 52% in the HSEZ and the surrounding Downtown Eastside area when compared to the same summer months (July 1 – August 31) in 2021. Much of that violence is being perpetrated by predatory individuals and directed at the most vulnerable. There has also been an increase in assaults on police officers relative to the pre-pandemic baseline.

As shown by the following table, violent crime is trending up in every district relative to the pre-pandemic average.

Violent Crime Year-to-Date by District

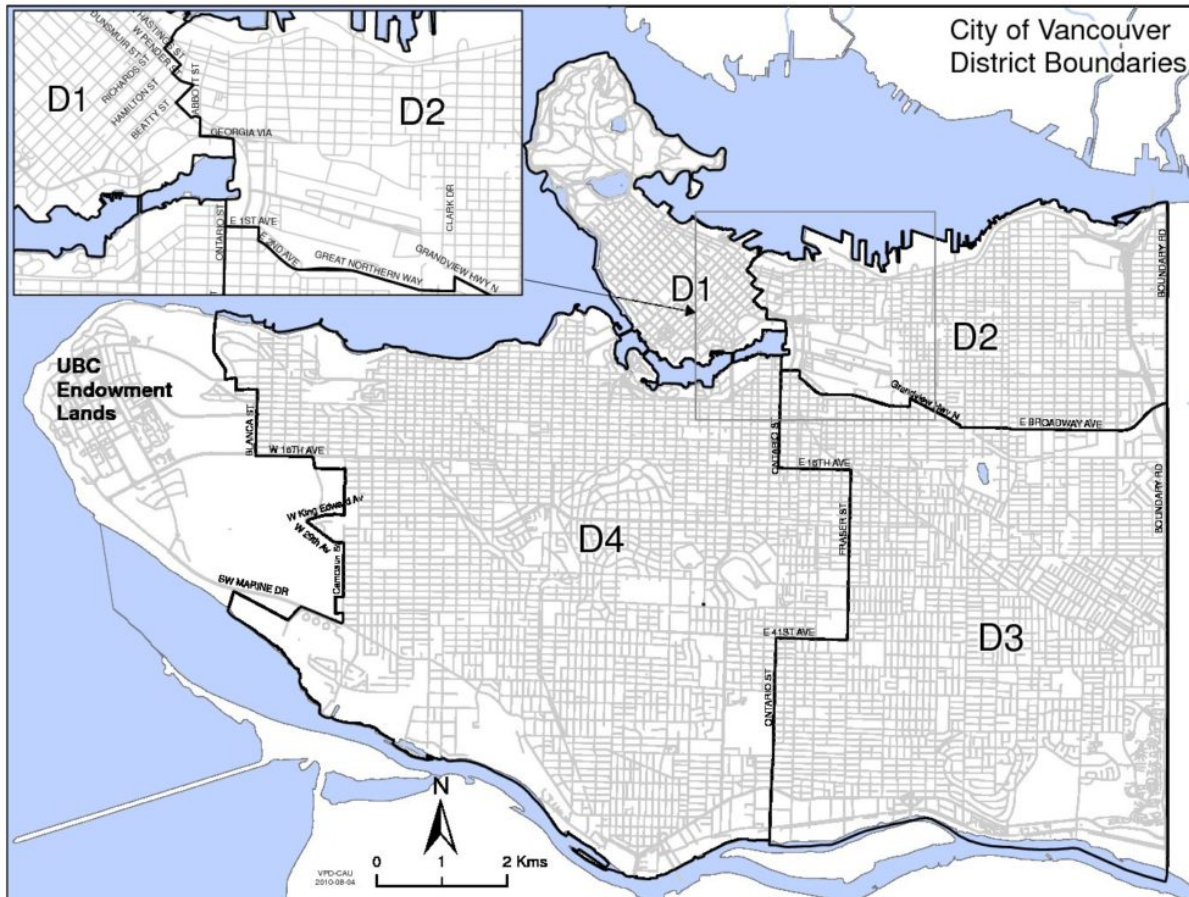
	2021	2022			2017-19
District **	Jan 1 to Sept 30	Jan 1 to Sept 30	%	Change	3-year Average
District 1	1,384	1,526	▲	10.3%	▲ 26.5%
District 2	1,697	1,760	▲	3.7%	▲ 6.2%
District 3	660	729	▲	10.5%	▲ 12.5%
District 4	628	615	▼	-2.1%	▲ 14.5%
Total Violent Crimes *	4,440	4,739	▲	6.7%	▲ 15.2%

* Includes a small number of offences for which the precise location was unknown.

** The geographic definition of each district is summarized below. See also the [VPD's website](#).

Relative to the pre-pandemic baseline, the number of violent crimes has increased by 26.5% in District 1, 6.2% in District 2, 12.5% in District 3, and 14.5% in District 4. Year-over-year, violent crime is up in 16 of the 24 Vancouver neighborhoods. In the Central Business District, for example, violent crime is up 12.9%.

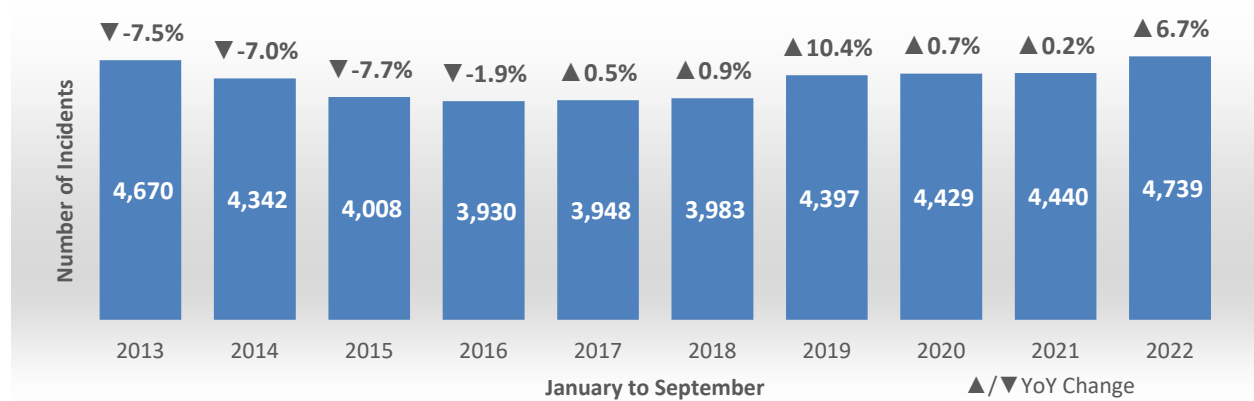
For reference the map below shows the division of patrol districts within Vancouver.



District 1 primarily consists of Vancouver's Downtown peninsula. District 2 is the North East portion of Vancouver and includes the East Vancouver neighbourhoods. District 3 is the South East portion of Vancouver. It is essentially bordered by Ontario Street to the West and Broadway to the North. District 4 is the largest geographical district of Vancouver and consists of the South West portion of the city. More details can be found on the [VPD's website](#).

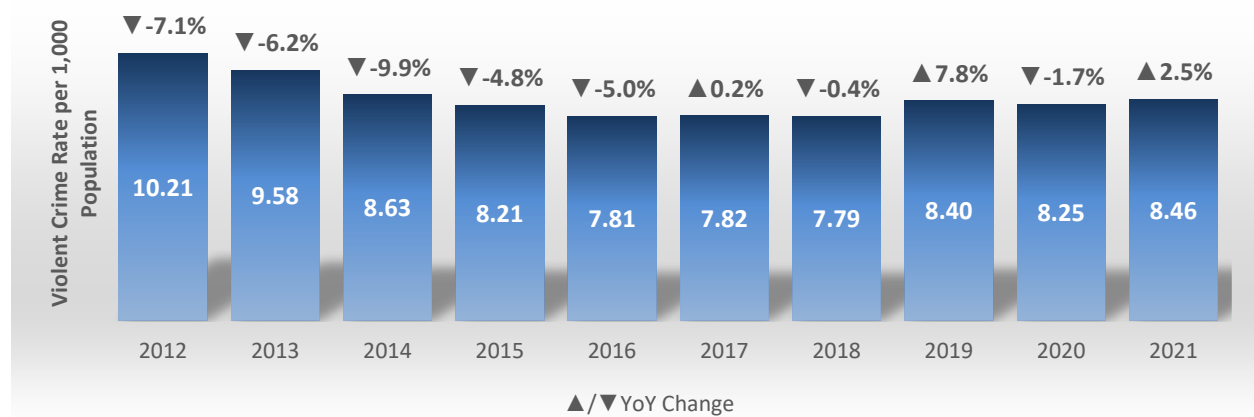
The following graph shows how violent crime evolved over the past decade.

10-Year Trend for Violent Crime Year-to-Date



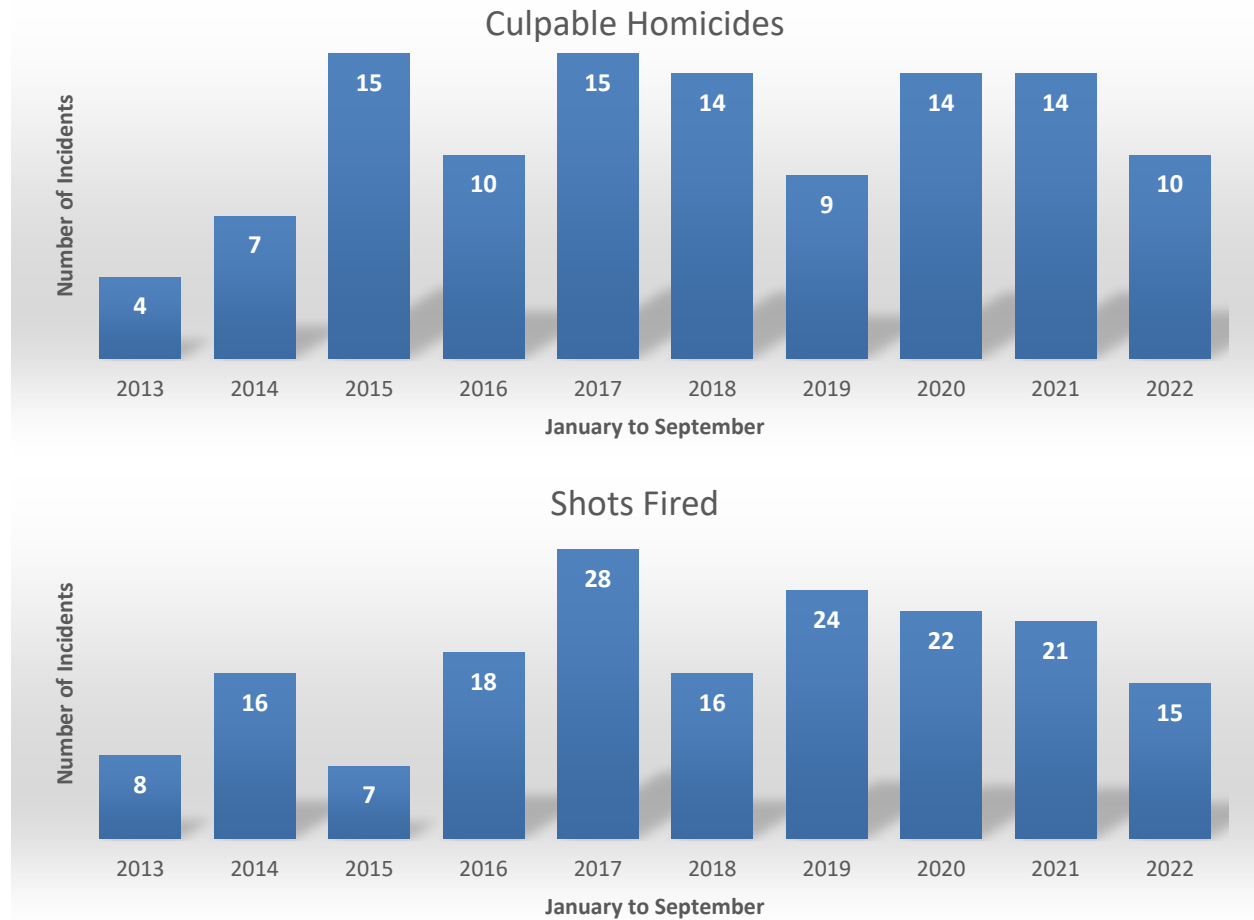
The following graph shows how the violent crime rate evolved during the past decade in Vancouver. Even after accounting for population growth, violent crime in Vancouver is now the highest it has been since 2014.

10-Year Trend for Year-End Violent Crime Rate



The following graphs show how the number of homicides and shots fired calls have fluctuated in the first nine months of each year going back to 2013.

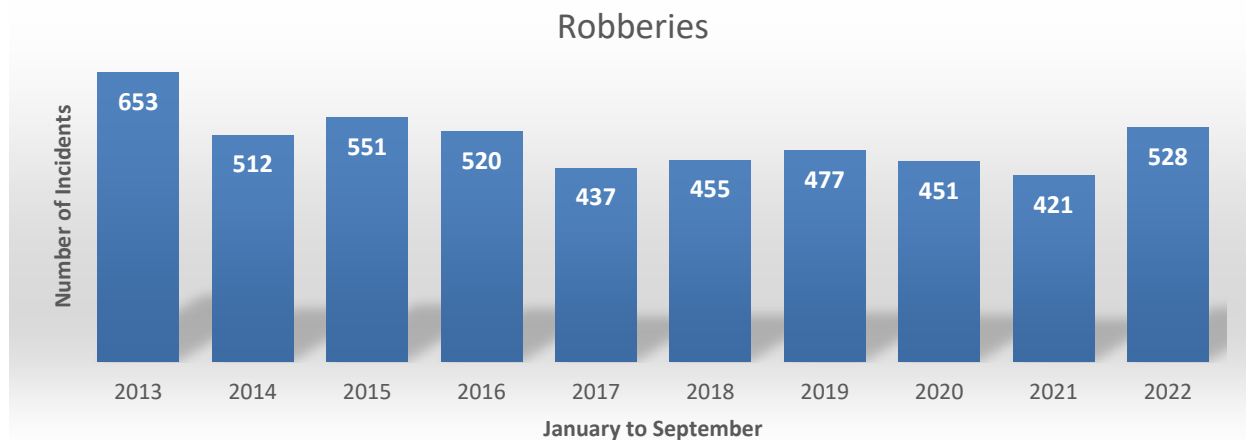
10-Year Trends for Homicides and Shots Fired Year-to-Date



The following graph shows how robbery incidents have evolved in the past decade. Regarding robberies, the *Rapid Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence in British Columbia* ([Butler & LePard, 2022](#)) released in September 2022 attributed the following quote to the Retail Council of Canada (RCC):

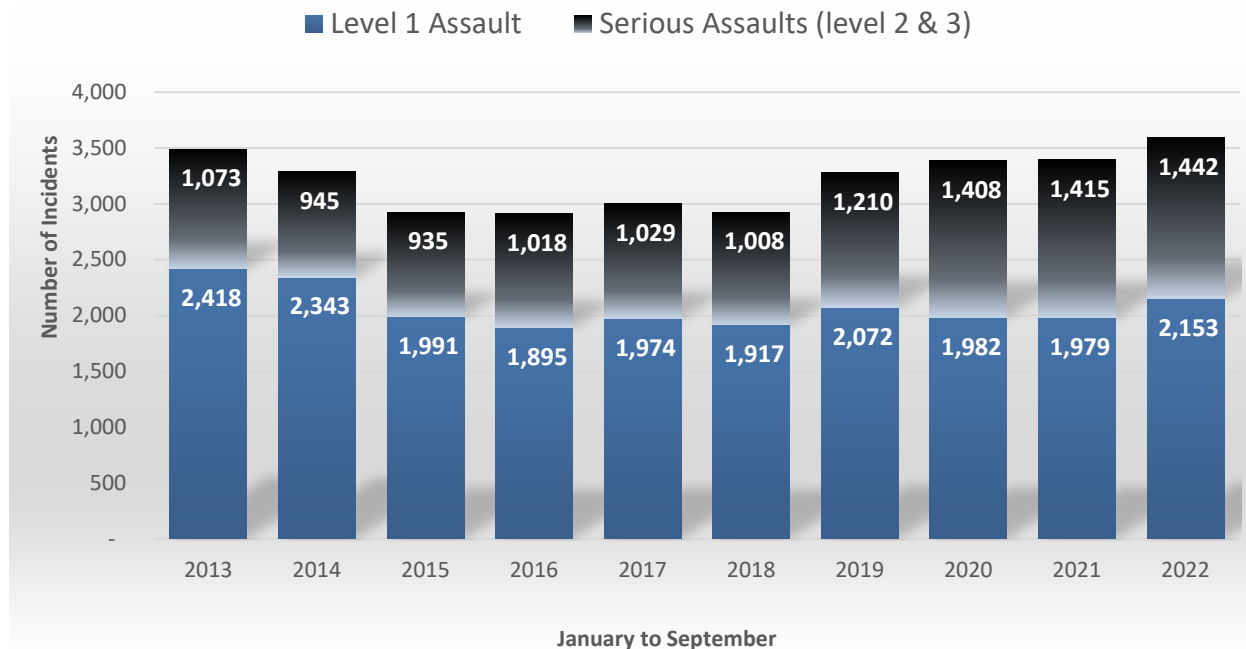
“Retail staff have been assaulted and threatened repeatedly. We are also seeing increasing use of noxious substances, bladed and blunt weapons and firearms in store robberies, and recent, but alarming incidences of arson, jeopardizing the lives and health of customers and store employees alike. [...] Members have also seen an alarming increase in the use of weapons ranging from bear spray and knives to guns.” (p. 48-49)

10-Year Trend for Robberies Year-to-Date



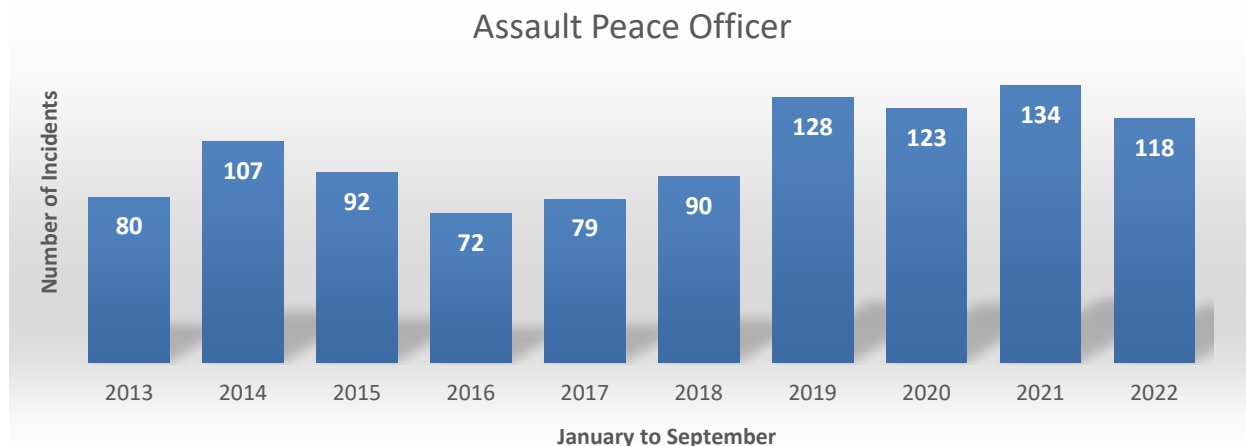
The following graph shows how the number of assaults has fluctuated in the first nine months of each year going back to 2013. Assaults are the most prevalent form of violent crime, consistently accounting for close to 80% of all violent crimes. Importantly, the historical data shows that assaults in Vancouver have not only increased in number but have also progressively become more serious and more violent. Historically, typically less than 33% of all assaults in Vancouver were serious assaults that were committed using weapons or caused bodily harm (Level 2) or aggravated assaults that caused life-threatening injuries (Level 3). Starting in 2020, the proportion of serious assaults in Vancouver increased above 40%.

10-Year Trend for Assaults Year-to-Date



After reaching an historical high in 2021, assaults against peace officers in Vancouver decreased by 11.9% in the first nine months of 2022. However, they remain significantly more prevalent than prior to the pandemic.

10-Year Trend for Assaults on Peace Officers Year-to-Date



Hate-Motivated Crimes

There was a six-fold increase in anti-Asian hate crime in the first eight months of 2022 relative to the three-year average preceding the COVID-19 pandemic.¹

From 2019 to 2021, there was a 296% increase in graffiti in Chinatown. This included defaced murals and statues as well as racist graffiti on businesses. Recent high-profile hate-motivated assaults have only highlighted this problem and the VPD is actively pursuing initiatives to address both anti-Asian hate crime and graffiti issues around Chinatown.

Despite efforts by the VPD to increase community awareness and facilitate the reporting of hate crimes, there are reasons to believe that VPD statistics under-estimate the true extent of the problem. This idea is supported by academic research which shows that “Asian victims are significantly and substantially less likely to report victimization to the police than other victims” ([Lantz & Wenger, 2021](#)).

Hate Crime Incidents – January to August 2022

Year	Anti-Asian Hate Crime	Total Hate Crime
2022	36	140
2021	47	160
2020	84	217
2019	8	92
2017-2019 Average	6	78

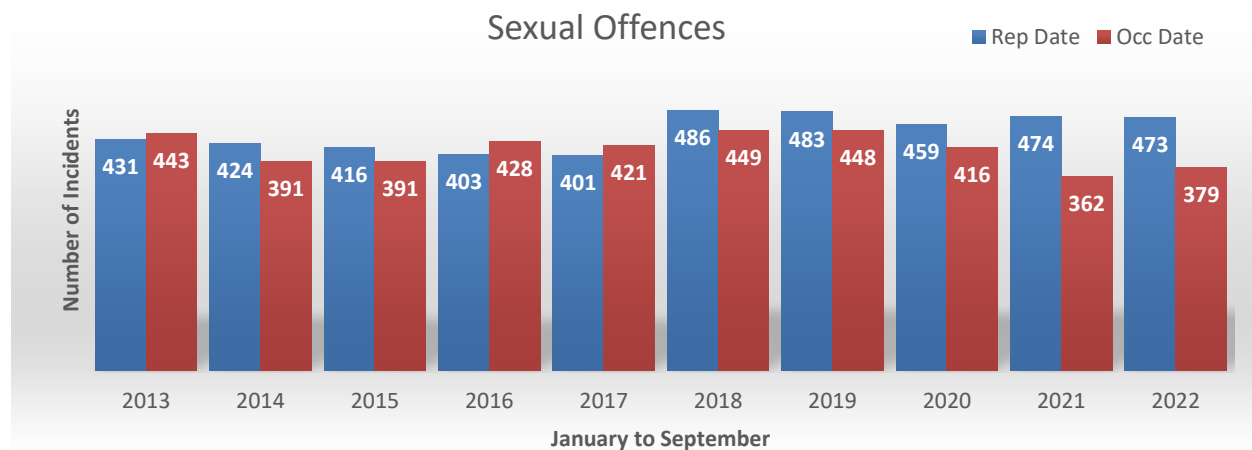
¹ The VPD data on hate-motivated incidents for September 2022 was not finalized at the time this report was prepared.

Sexual Offences

For the purpose of this quarterly PSI report, crimes are typically counted based on the date they were *reported*, as opposed to when they actually *occurred*. This ensures consistency with Statistics Canada's crime reporting standards.

For most crime types, the difference is immaterial anyway. However, this approach impacts the counts of sexual offences because many of them are reported to the VPD long after they have occurred, sometimes after many years. For example, 27.0% of the sexual offences reported to the VPD in 2021 were historical in the sense that they occurred in previous years. For comparison, 98.1% of all property crimes, 99.3% of assaults, and 99.7% of all robberies that were reported in 2021 also occurred in 2021.

Analyzing trends in sexual offences based on occurred date means that historical cases are excluded. Based on occurred date, sexual offences in Vancouver increased by 4.7% year-to-date in 2022 (379) compared to the same period in 2021 (362). This increase may be attributable to the fact that in-person events are returning and liquor establishments are reopening as COVID-19 restrictions are being lifted.



Importantly, there is often a lag between when a sexual offence occurs and when it is reported to police. This means more sexual offences that occurred in the first nine months of 2022 will continue to be reported in the last quarter of 2022, throughout 2023, and thereafter. Again, the numbers are also expected to climb as special events come back, bars and nightclubs reopen for business, and the overall number of patrons increases.

PROPERTY CRIME

After reaching an historical low in 2021, property crime increased by 8.1% year-to-date in 2022. The following table shows what happened to each property crime type.

Property Crime Year-to-Date

	2021	2022	2017-19		
Criminal Offences	Jan 1 to Sept 30	Jan 1 to Sept 30	% Change	3-year Average	
Property Crimes	21,834	23,611	▲ 8.1%	▼	-24.9%
B&E Total	2,771	2,432	▼ -12.2%	▼	-26.7%
B&E - Business	1,609	1,487	▼ -7.6%	▼	-7.5%
B&E - Residence	630	553	▼ -12.2%	▼	-51.6%
B&E - Other	532	392	▼ -26.3%	▼	-31.0%
Theft of Motor Vehicle	632	751	▲ 18.8%	▼	-39.2%
Theft from Auto	5,388	5,412	▲ 0.4%	▼	-48.8%
Theft	6,705	8,435	▲ 25.8%	▼	-14.0%
Possession of Stolen Property	259	235	▼ -9.3%	▼	-48.7%
Fraud	2,116	2,203	▲ 4.1%	▼	-2.8%
Arson	269	248	▼ -7.8%	▲	42.3%
Mischief	3,694	3,895	▲ 5.4%	▲	7.8%

As shown by the following table, three of the four districts experienced an increase in property crime year-over-year.

Property Crime Year-to-Date by District

	2021	2022	2017-19		
District	Jan 1 to Sept 30	Jan 1 to Sept 30	% Change	3-year Average	
District 1	5,832	6,865	▲ 17.7%	▼	-31.2%
District 2	4,689	4,826	▲ 2.9%	▼	-35.6%
District 3	4,746	5,508	▲ 16.1%	▼	-5.5%
District 4	5,954	5,655	▼ -5.0%	▼	-28.2%
Total Property Crimes *	21,834	23,611	▲ 8.1%	▼	-24.9%

* Includes offences for which the precise location was unknown.

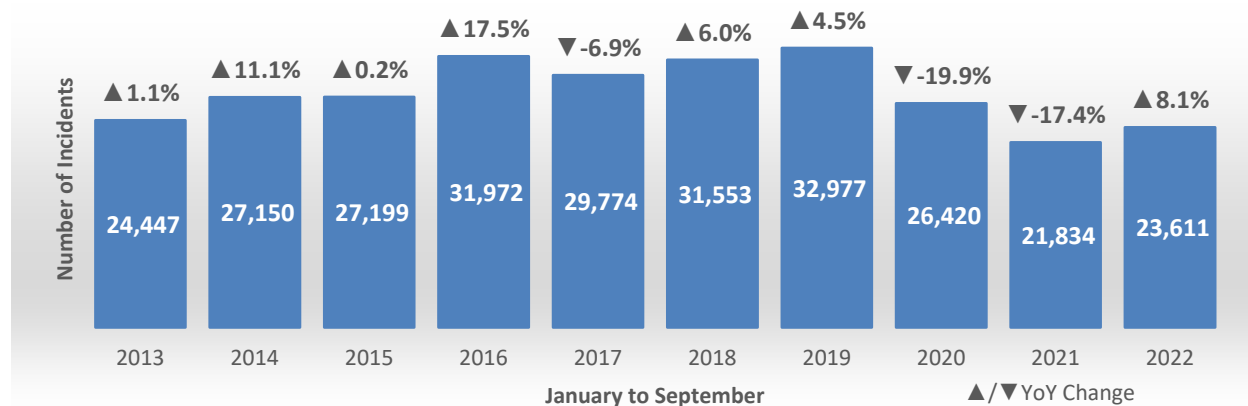
Looking at the three-year, pre-pandemic average from 2017 to 2019, property crime has decreased by 24.9%. However, under-reporting remains a serious concern because it contributes to drive down artificially property crime numbers in Vancouver.

E-Comm has publicly stated they are both understaffed and underfunded and, as a result, are struggling to answer non-emergency calls for service within a reasonable time frame. Public frustration with E-Comm wait times has led to significant under-reporting of lower level crimes and quality of life issues. When callers have to wait several minutes or even hours on the non-emergency line, they sometimes hang up and abandon the call before they even talk to an E-Comm call-taker. Some of these abandoned calls include crime reports that were never documented in the police data. Moreover, there is evidence that some crime victims in Vancouver no longer call the non-emergency line in the first place because they are aware of lengthy delays and they are not willing to wait to speak to an E-Comm call-taker. As a result, the official property crime data is incomplete and underestimates the true level of crime in Vancouver.

In the first nine months of 2021, more than one third (34.9%) of the calls placed to the non-emergency line were abandoned by E-Comm. This ratio increased to 50.8% in 2022. This supports the idea that there is an increasing amount of unreported crime in Vancouver.

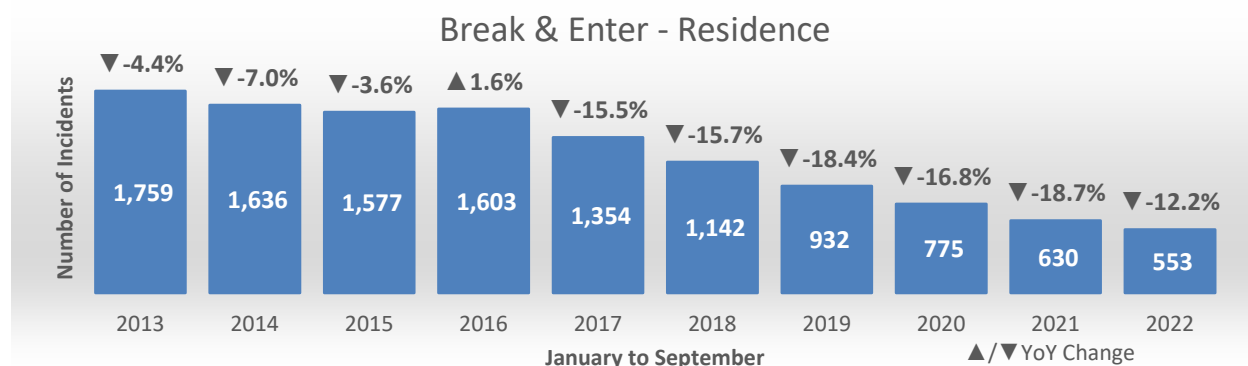
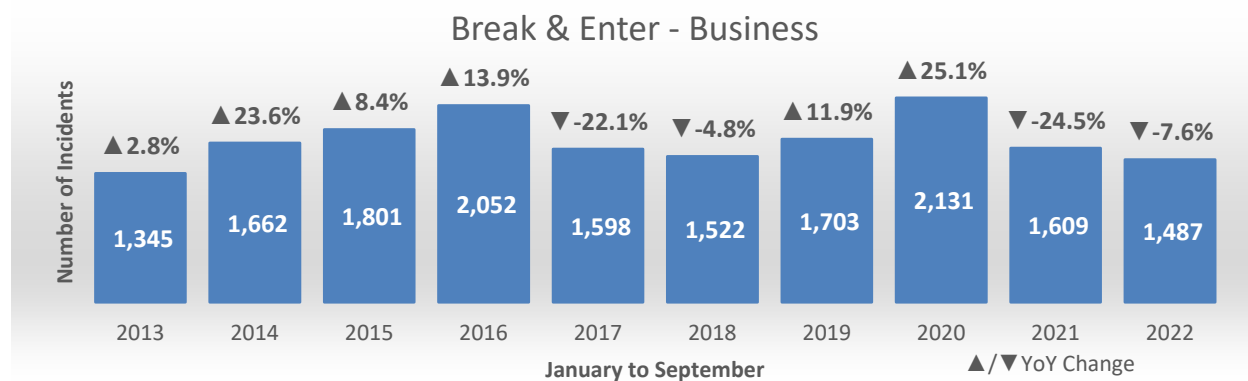
The following graph shows how property crime evolved in the first nine months of each year over the past decade.

10-Year Trend for Property Crime Year-to-Date



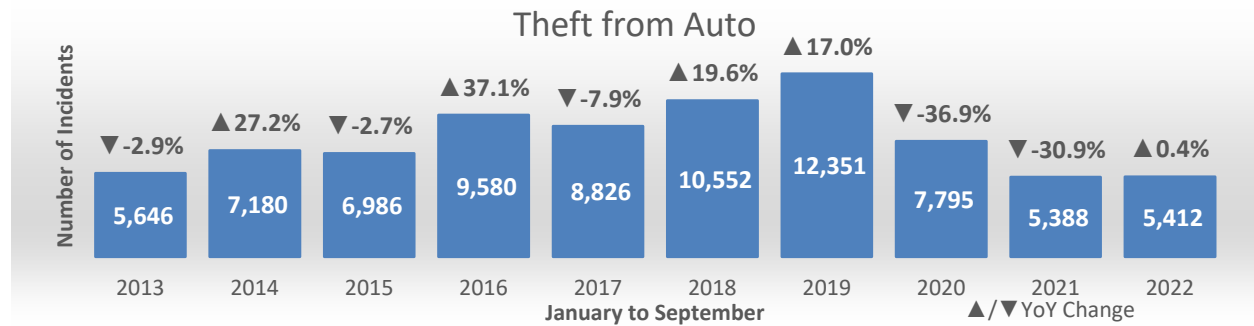
The following graphs illustrate the sudden surge in commercial break & enters (B&E) experienced during the first nine months of 2020, during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the sustained decreasing trend for residential B&Es in the past decade.

10-Year Trends for B&Es Year-to-Date



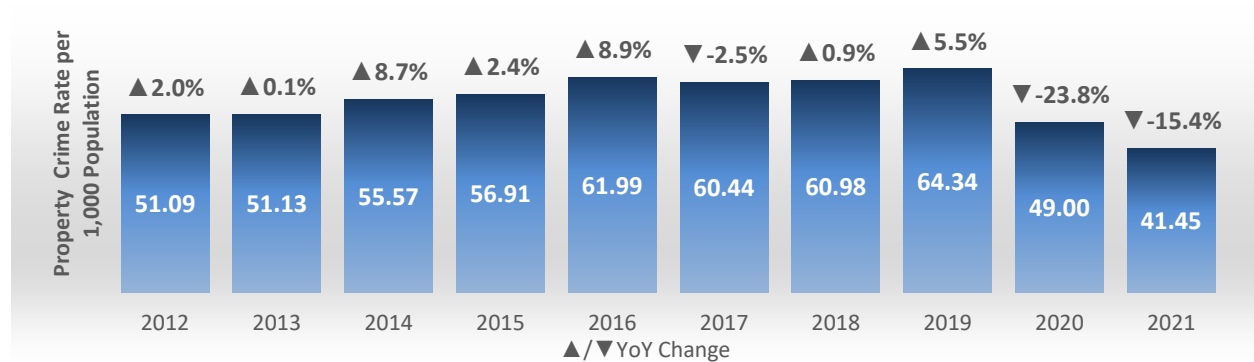
The following graph illustrates the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on theft from auto (TFA) incidents in Vancouver. Social restrictions and work-from-home arrangements resulted in fewer people driving during the pandemic and, as a result, there were fewer parked vehicles that could be targeted for theft.

10-Year Trend for Theft from Auto (TFA) Incidents Year-to-Date



Driven largely by reductions in residential B&Es and TFAs, the property crime rate in Vancouver decreased during the first two years of the COVID-19 pandemic. Now that social restrictions are being relaxed, however, property crime in Vancouver is increasing back to historical baselines. This was predictable based on previous academic research findings out of the United States ([Riddell et al., 2022](#)), England and Wales ([Langton et al., 2021](#)), Northern Ireland ([Buil-Gil et al., 2022](#)), Queensland, Australia ([Andresen & Hodgkinson, 2020](#)), and China ([Borrion et al., 2020](#); [Dai et al., 2022](#)).

10-Year Trend for Year-End Property Crime Rate



CYBERCRIME

Cybercrimes are committed online daily and represent persisting threats to personal privacy, financial security, and organizational reputation. The VPD's Cybercrime Unit investigates advanced cybercrimes and supports investigations of traditional crimes that have an online or technical component to them.

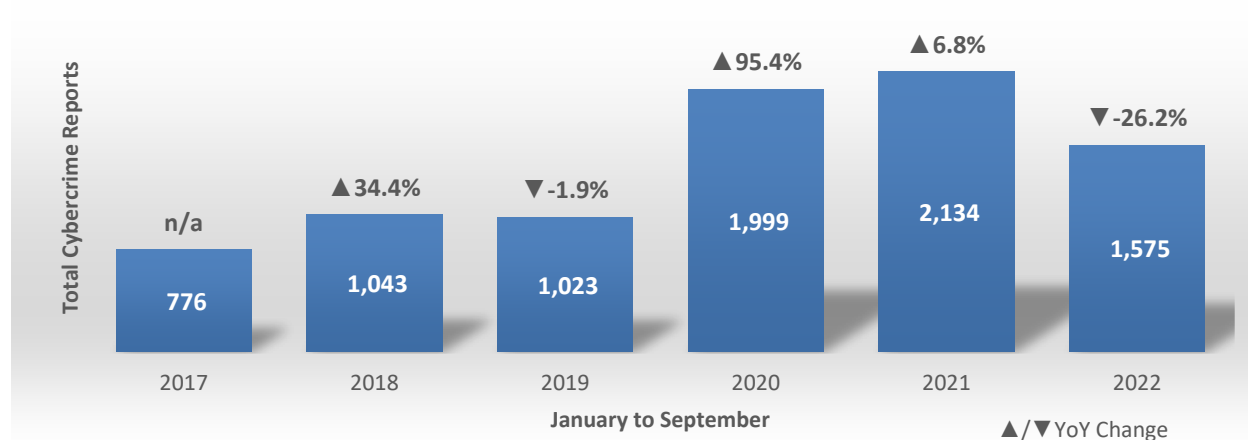
Common examples of Internet-related crimes include: making, distributing, possessing or accessing child sexual abuse material (CSAM – images and videos meeting the definition of Child Pornography under the Criminal Code), luring a child via a computer, non-consensual distribution of intimate images, criminal harassment (also known as “cyber-stalking”), uttering threats, extortion, fraud, impersonation, identity theft, data theft (hacking), and other intellectual property crimes.

The cybercrime data presented in this report includes two types of cases. “Technology as target” cases involve attacks to destroy or disrupt computer networks and system. “Technology as instrument” cases involve the use of technology to facilitate a crime (e.g. distribution of CSAM or online frauds).

During the COVID-19 pandemic, cybercrime rose sharply alongside lockdown-induced changes in online habits. As described by academic experts, it is likely that the pandemic accelerated the long-term upward trend in online crime ([Buil-Gil et al., 2022](#)), especially “technology as instrument” crimes. Unlike other crime trends that are expected to reverse themselves once social restrictions are relaxed, it is expected that cybercrime will remain higher than before the COVID-19 pandemic.

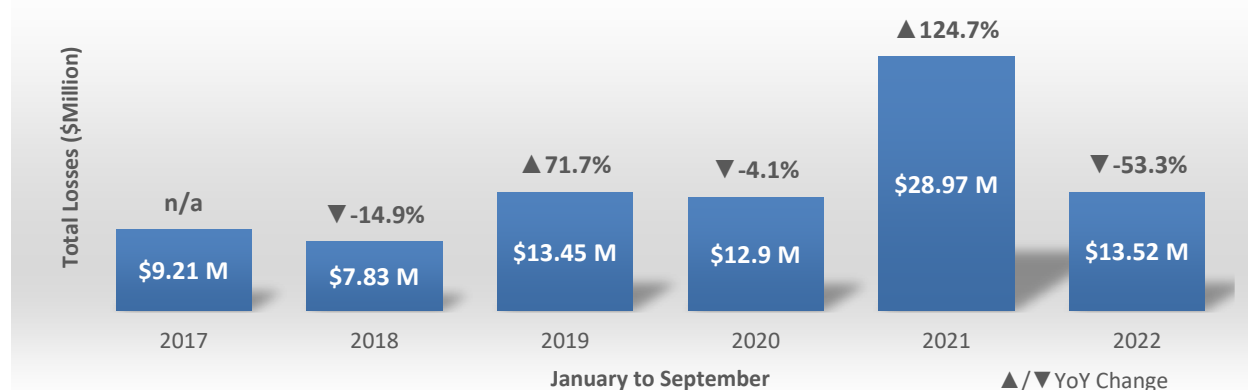
The following graph illustrates the growth in cybercrimes reported to the VPD over the past six years. Year-to-date, there have been 1,575 cybercrimes reported to the VPD. While this is 26.2% fewer cases than the same period in 2021, it is 66.3% more than the three-year pre-pandemic average.

6-Year Trend for Cybercrime Reports Year-to-Date



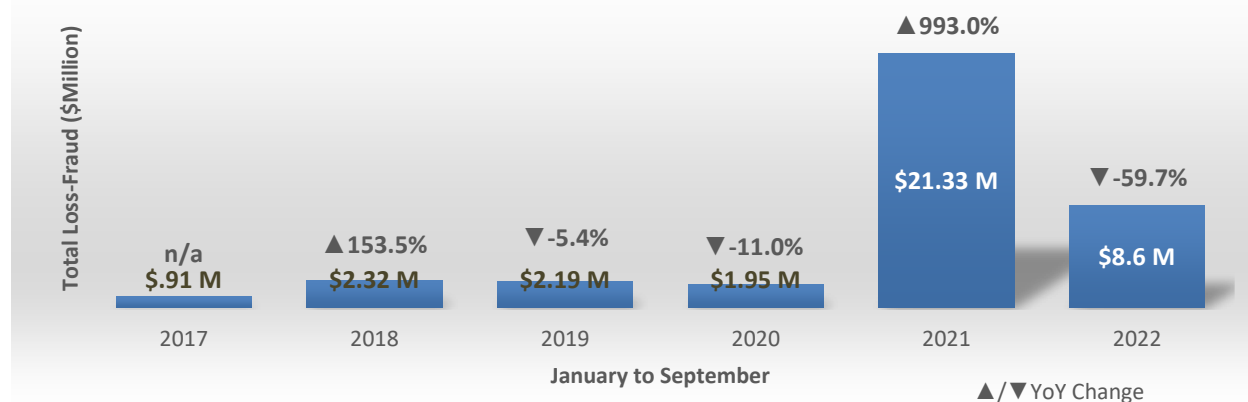
The following graph tracks the millions of dollars in cybercrime losses suffered by Vancouver victims who reported their case to the VPD. Vancouver residents reported a total of \$13.52M in losses attributable to cybercrime in the first nine months of 2022. While this is 53.3% lower than the \$28.97M in losses reported during the same period in 2021, it is 33.0% higher than the three-year pre-pandemic average.

6-Year Trend for Total Losses for Cybercrime Year-to-Date



Frauds involving various types of cryptocurrencies account for an increasingly large share of these losses, as illustrated by the following graph. Relative to the three-year pre-pandemic baseline, frauds involving cryptocurrency have increased more than four-fold.

6-Year Trend for Cryptocurrency Fraud Losses Year-to-Date



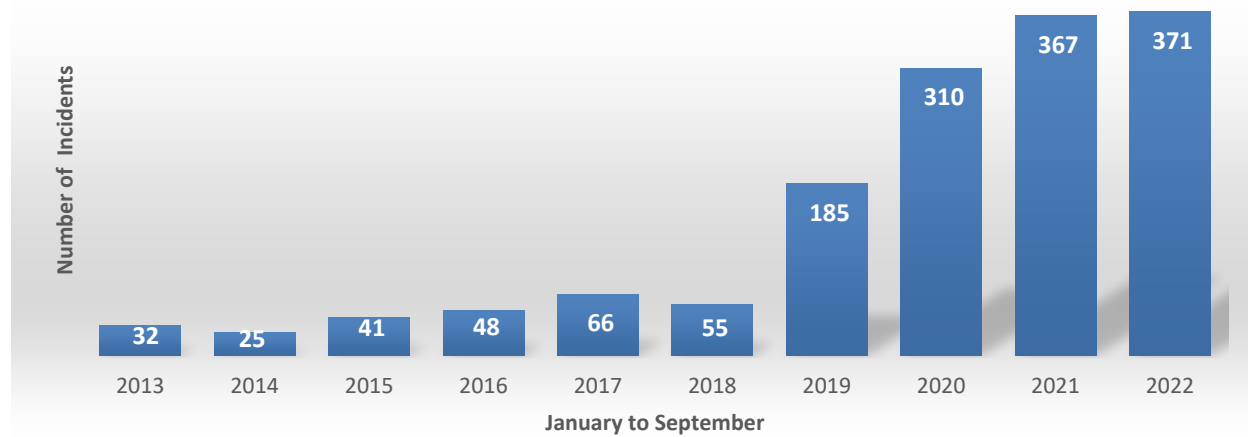
The Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) Unit investigates the global problem of child sexual abuse and possession and distribution of CSAM online. The ICE Unit’s broad objectives are to identify and prosecute offenders in Vancouver and to work with national and international partners to safeguard children who are being abused, wherever they may be in the world.

The increase in 2019 is attributable to an investigation involving a Vancouver suspect and victims from across the world and the investigation of Vancouver suspects identified in a worldwide project known as Project Heketara, which involved encrypted cloud storage of some of the most horrific CSAM ever created.

The increase in 2020 and 2021 is attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is widely recognized in the child protection community that lockdowns and stay at home orders necessitated by the pandemic resulted in a significant increase in child sexual abuse as children did not leave residences and had reduced contact with the wider community presenting offenders with an increased opportunity to physically offend. As well, the same lockdowns meant offenders working from home had greater opportunity to engage in the online distribution of CSAM.

The following graph illustrates the growth in CSAM incidents that were reported to police within the first nine months of each year during the past decade. Relative to the three-year pre-pandemic average, CSAM incidents in 2022 were up 263.7%.

10-Year Trend for Child Sexual Assault Material Year-to-Date



MENTAL HEALTH ACT (MHA) APPREHENSIONS

Section 28 MHA Apprehension

Under Section 28 of the MHA, “a police officer may apprehend and immediately take a person to a physician for examination if satisfied that the person is acting in a manner likely to endanger themselves or others and apparently has a mental health disorder.”

Form 21 MHA Apprehension

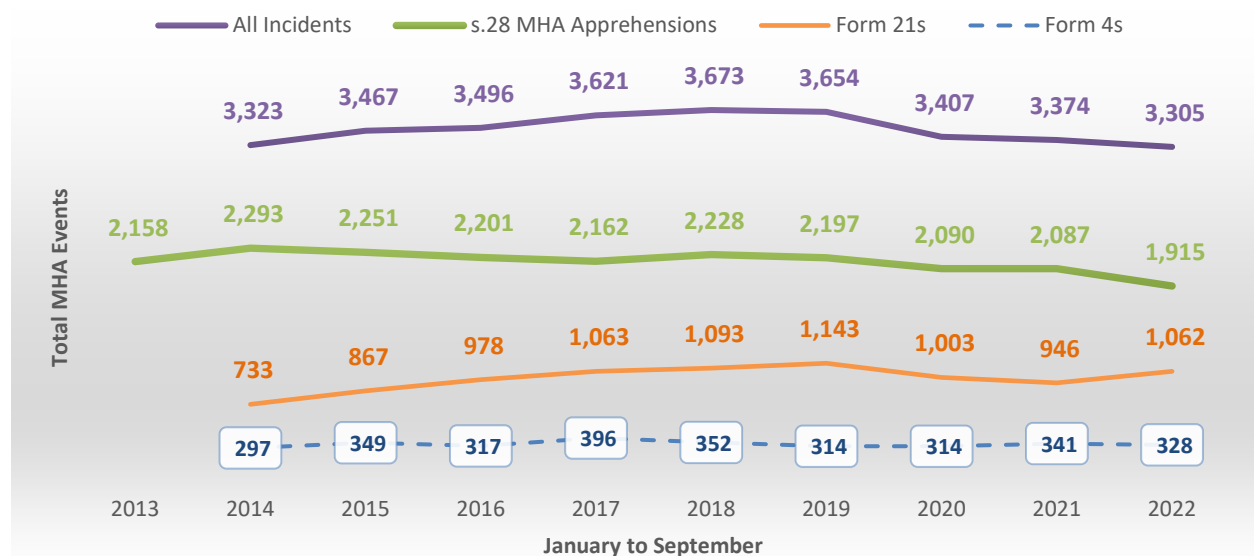
Under the MHA, a Form 21 Director’s Warrant allows a director or designate to recall a patient back to a hospital. A recall would occur when a person who is living in community under certain conditions imposed by their doctor, such as a requirement to take medication, fails to do so. A Form 21 may also be issued if a patient leaves a hospital without permission.

Form 4 MHA Apprehension

Also under the MHA, a medical physician may issue a Form 4 for involuntary admission. This Form is a medical certificate that allows a mentally ill person to be apprehended, transported, admitted, treated, and detained as an involuntary patient for up to 48 hours after admission. After 48 hours, the person must be discharged from the facility or admitted as a voluntary patient. A second examination by another doctor may then be completed which allows the hospital to keep person involuntarily for up to 30 days.

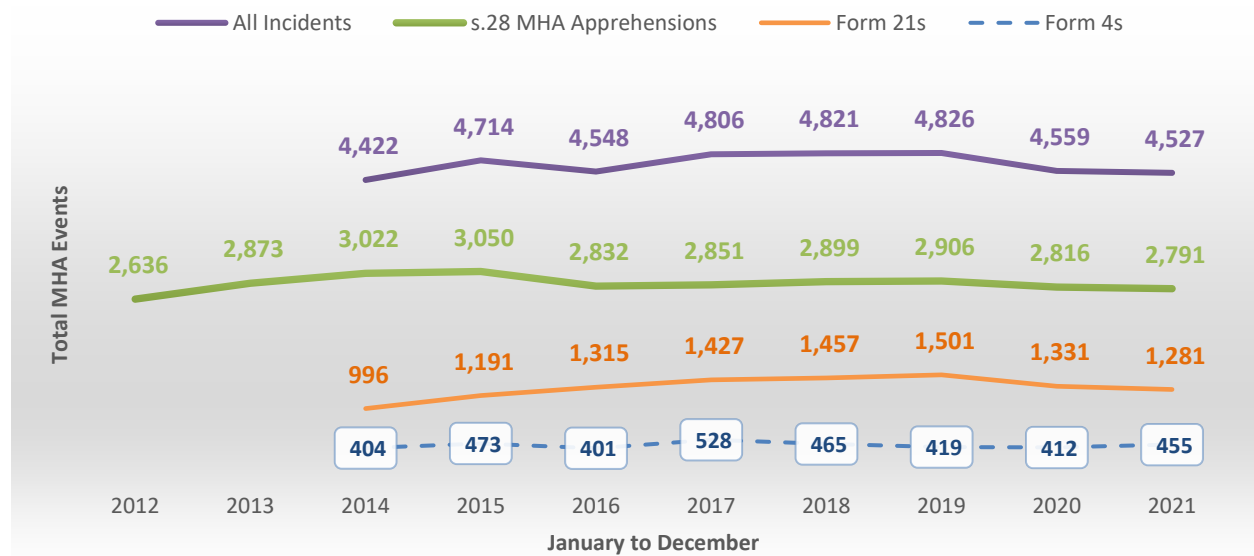
Prior to 2012, data was only collected for Section 28 apprehensions. Data collection for Form 4 and Form 21 apprehensions was implemented in the first quarter of 2012 and it wasn’t until 2014 that the total number of Form 4 and Form 21 apprehensions began to increase. The number of Section 28 MHA apprehensions decreased by 8.2% year-to-date, from 2,087 incidents in the first nine months of 2021 to 1,915 incidents in 2022. Form 21 apprehensions have increased by 12.3%, from 946 in 2021 to 1,062 in 2022. Form 4 apprehensions decreased slightly, from 341 in the first nine months of 2021 to 328 over the same time period in 2022. When combining all three types of MHA apprehensions, there were 69 (2.0%) fewer apprehensions when comparing the first nine months of 2021 (3,374) to 2022 year-to-date (3,305).

10-Year Trend for MHA Apprehensions Year-to-Date



As shown by the figure below, Section 28 and Form 4 apprehensions have remained relatively stable over the past six years. Although there was an increase in Form 21 apprehensions between 2014 and 2019, this trend was reversed during the first two years of the COVID-19 pandemic.

10-Year Trend for Year-End MHA Apprehensions



Persons Previously Apprehended under Section 28 of the MHA

There were 1,915 Section 28 apprehensions in the first nine months of 2022. These incidents involved 1,477 different individuals. As shown by the following table, 32% of these individuals had been previously apprehended under Section 28 within the previous 4 years.

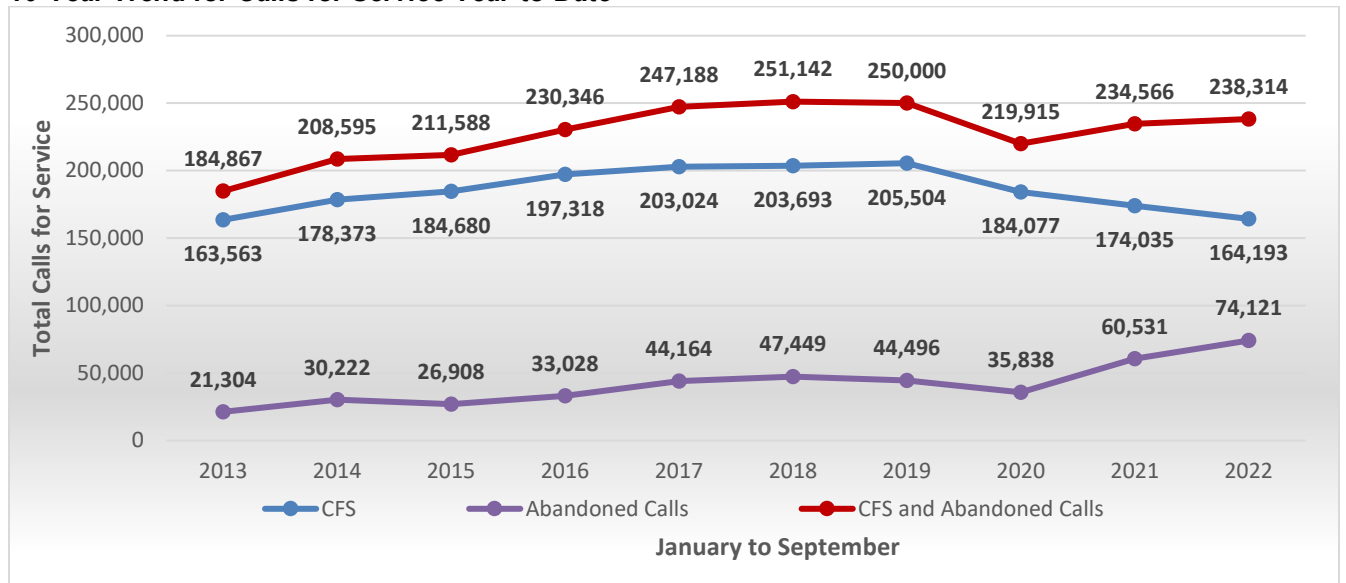
MHA Section 28 Apprehensions	2022 YTD
# of apprehensions	1,915
# of people apprehended	1,477
# of people previously apprehended in the last 4 years	468
% of people previously apprehended	32%

CALLS FOR SERVICE

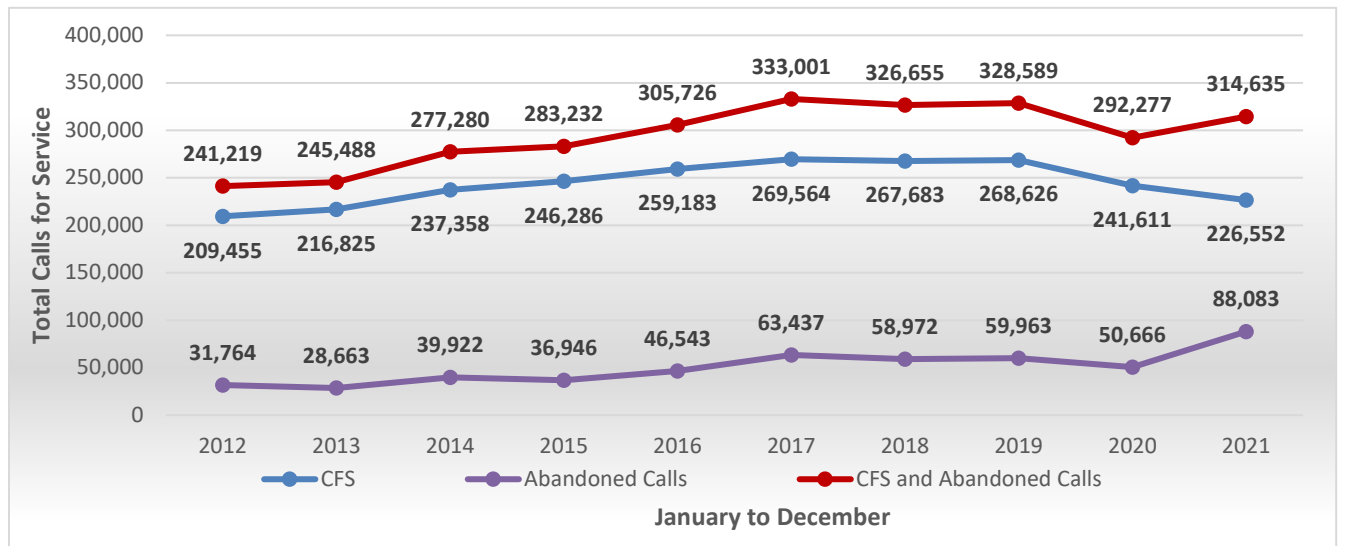
Calls for service (CFS) include calls to '911' for emergency assistance, non-emergency calls for service, and online crime reporting. It is important to note the following two figures do not include E-Comm abandoned calls for service. These are calls from the public to the non-emergency line managed by E-Comm that were attempted but eventually were abandoned by the caller. E-Comm has attributed the increase in abandoned calls to severe and ongoing staffing challenges.

The two figures below illustrate how completed calls for service (CFS) started decreasing during the COVID-19 pandemic just as the number and proportion of abandoned calls started to rise. If all abandoned calls on the non-emergency line did reach the VPD, calls for service would have increased by 1.6% between 2021 and 2022 year-to-date, and 28.9% since 2013.

10-Year Trend for Calls for Service Year-to-Date



10-Year Trend for Year-end CFS



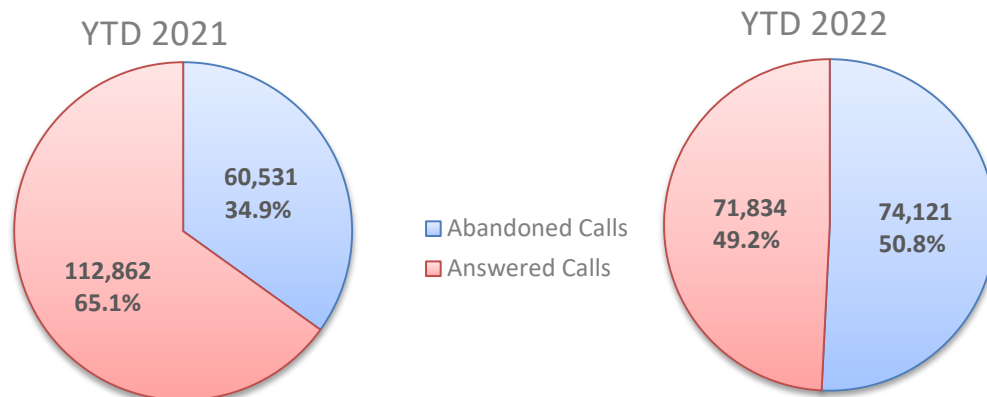
E-Comm Abandoned Calls for Service

There are concerns regarding E-Comm’s ability to answer VPD non-emergency calls in a timely manner. This is illustrated by E-Comm data showing long answering delays on the non-emergency line and an increasing number of abandoned calls.

In the first nine months of 2021, more than one third (34.9%) of the calls placed to the non-emergency line were abandoned by E-Comm. This ratio increased to 50.8% in 2022. The number of E-Comm abandoned calls also increased by 22.5% when comparing 2021 (60,531) to 2022 (74,121). If this trend continues into the latter quarter of the year, it is projected that approximately 100,000 calls from the public will go unanswered.

This is a concerning issue as it has a negative impact on the public, and the reputation of affected police departments using E-Comm. Callers often do not distinguish E-Comm from the police department they are trying to reach. It also results in an undercounting of crime and may result in those who have had to wait significant amounts of time not reporting future crime due to the lengthy delays. It also means that completed calls for service (answered by E-Comm or filed using the VPD’s online reporting platform) underestimate the true demand for policing in Vancouver.

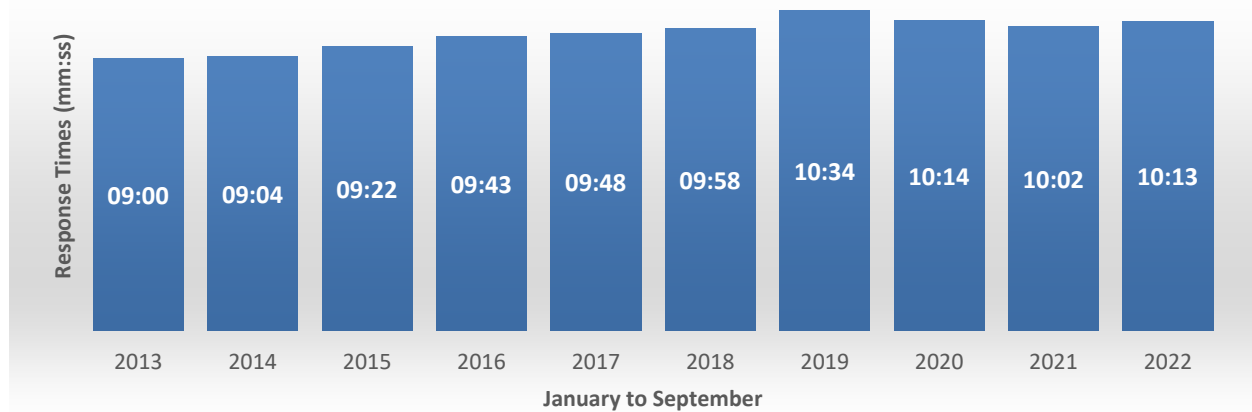
Calls to Non-Emergency Line Managed by E-Comm



PRIORITY 1 RESPONSE TIMES

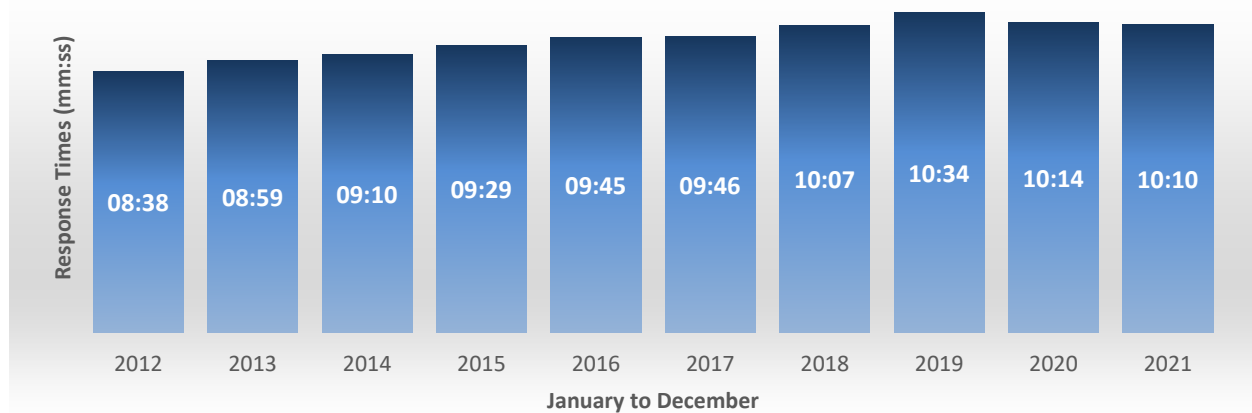
The following graph compares Q3 P1 response time from 2013 to 2022. The average Q3 2022 P1 response time (10:13) was 1.8%, or 11 seconds, slower when compared to the Q3 2021 (10:02). The actual number of P1 calls received are 2.1% higher than the same time last year.

10-Year Trend for Average P1 Response Time Year-to-Date



Vancouver’s 2021 P1 response time (10:10) was 0.6%, or 4 seconds, faster when compared to 2020 (10:14). With the exception of 2021 and 2022, there have been consistent annual increases in P1 response time. As aforementioned, almost three months of the 2020 P1 calls occurred pre-pandemic and they are being compared to 2021 when the entire year was in the midst of a pandemic with significant public health restrictions. Over the past decade, P1 response times have increased 17.9% from 2012 (08:38) to 2021 (10:10).

10-Year Trend for Year-End P1 Response Times

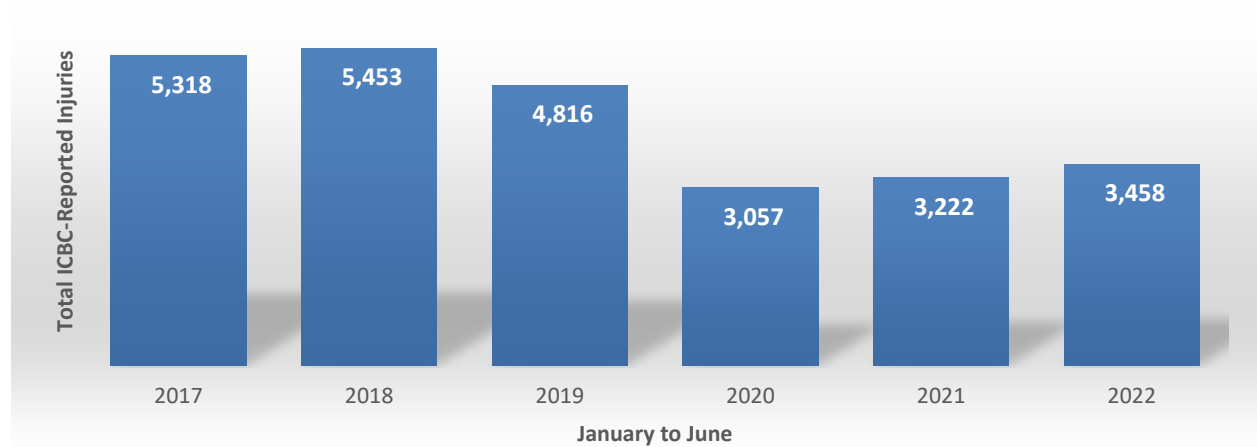


TRAFFIC RELATED INJURIES & DEATHS

The Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) collects data on all reportable motor vehicle incidents in BC to help address various road safety issues with the goal of reducing the number of traffic related fatalities and injuries. ICBC updated their claims database and it is recommended that 2017 be used as the base year to compare motor vehicle incidents that resulted in an injury.

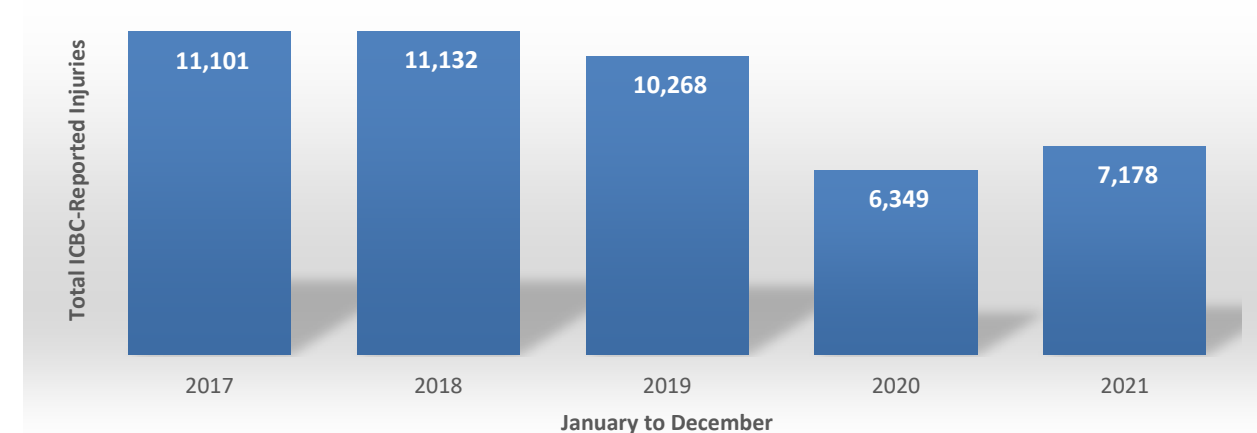
ICBC data for Q3 was not available at the time of the report's submission. The most recent ICBC-reported data shows that there were 3,458 reported motor vehicle incidents in the first half of 2022, which was a 7.3% increase compared to the same time period in 2021.

6-Year Trend for ICBC-Reported Motor Vehicle Incidents with Injuries Year-to-Date as of Q2



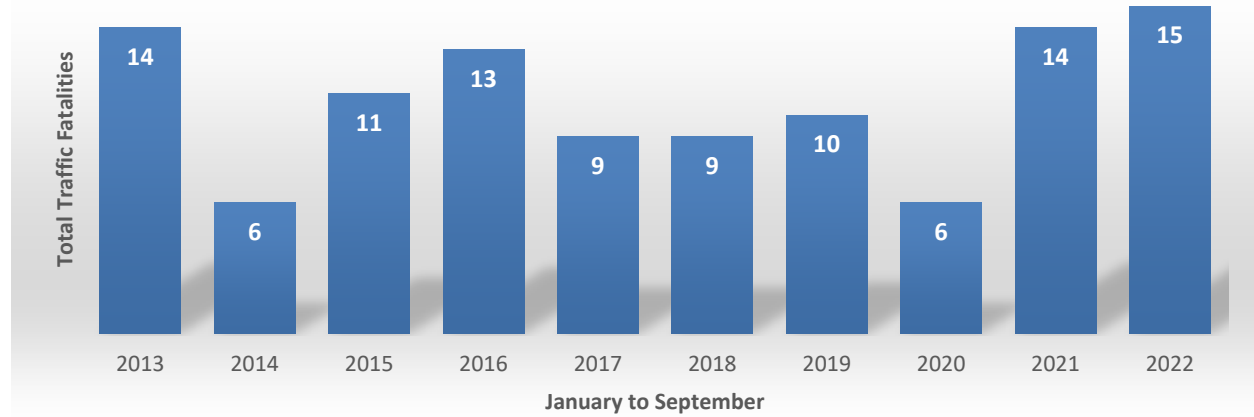
As shown by the following graph, Vancouver experienced 13.1% more ICBC-reported motor vehicle incidents with injuries in 2021 (7,178) compared to 2020 (6,349).

Year-End ICBC-Reported Motor Vehicle Incidents with Injuries



The following graph compares year-to-date traffic fatalities in Vancouver over the past 10 years. There were 14 fatalities in 2021 compared to 15 in 2022.

10-Year Trend for Year-to-Date Traffic Fatalities



Since 2012, the average annual number of fatal traffic incidents is 15. As shown by the following graph, there was a low of eight fatal motor vehicle incidents in Vancouver in 2020 and a high of 22 in 2021.

10-Year Trend for Year-End Traffic Fatalities

