

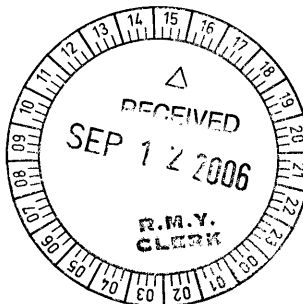
Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board

17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket, Ontario Canada L3Y 4W5
905-895-1231 or Toll Free: 1-877-464-9675 Ext. 7906
Fax: 905-895-5249 Web Site: www.yrpsb.ca

To Make a Difference in Our Community

September 12, 2006

Mr. Denis Kelly
Regional Clerk
The Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, Ontario
L3Y 6Z1



REGION OF YORK
CLERK'S OFFICE

FILE No. - *f03*

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Regional Councillor

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Barbara Munro
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Provincial Appointee

Executive Director
Connie Phillipson

Dear Mr. Kelly:

At its meeting on August 30, 2006, the Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board received a report from Chief Armand P. La Barge entitled *Re: 2205 National and Provincial Crime Statistical Comparison* and adopted recommendation (1) as follows:

(1) That the contents of this report be received by the Board for its information.

Furthermore, the Board requested that I bring forward a report to the September 21, 2006 Regional Council meeting to include the 2005 National & Provincial Crime Statistical Comparison and highlights of other York Regional Police 'good news' items.

The good news is that the 2005 Crime Statistics produced by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, a division of Statistics Canada, show an overall 16.6 decrease in the crime rate in York Region and an increase in the York Regional Police clearance rate of 6.6 percent. National and provincial statistical comparisons were drawn from annual aggregated crime data based on the most serious offence that occurs in an incident.

When compared with police services in Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Regina, Montreal, St. John and Halifax, York Regional Police had the lowest number of crimes against persons and property in 2005 and in each preceding year since 2001. When compared with its provincial counterparts – Toronto, Durham, Peel, Halton, Waterloo, Hamilton and Niagara – York Regional Police also had the lowest number of crimes against both persons and property in 2005.

Furthermore, I'm pleased to report that the York Regional Police achieved the highest clearance rate nationally for crimes against persons and property in 2005.

This is an incredible achievement by the York Regional Police and the Police Services Board commended Chief La Barge and his team of officers for their daily efforts in providing the high-profile, quality policing services to our citizens that they need and deserve.

As you receive the York Regional Police Annual Reports each year, I am attaching a summary of policing highlights for 2005 to this correspondence. Also, for your interest are attached the Chief's report to the Board and subsequent media release.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'David Barrow', written over a large, stylized, and somewhat abstract scribble.

David Barrow
Chair, Police Services Board

Attachments

YORK REGIONAL POLICE
2005 ANNUAL REPORT SUBMISSION FOR THE REGION OF YORK
MARCH 2006

York Regional Police is proud to serve our community through the efforts of our 1,188 officers and 375 civilian members. Committed community outreach enhanced our law enforcement and crime prevention initiatives in 2005, ensuring the safety and security of our growing and diverse region. The four cornerstones of York Regional Police are contained within the COPS philosophy – Community Focus, Operational Excellence, Preferred Place of Employment and Superior Quality Service.

COMMUNITY FOCUS: We and the Community are One

- 2005 was the Year of the Veteran and York Regional Police honoured our local heroes with a special ceremony and by flying the Year of the Veteran flag at our five police district buildings.
- The Community Safety Village of York Region opened in May, 2005 after more than six years of planning by York Regional Police and our community partners.
- More than 800 residents participated in our annual International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination with community partners showcasing our region's diversity through music, dance and displays.

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE: Doing our Best to be the Best

- A new York Regional Police Marine Unit boat, a 34-foot Hike30 vessel, was christened the Waawaatesi in 2005, after a First Nations folklore legend.
- York Regional Police launched the Mental Health Support Team in 2005, which offers a coordinated, mobile response to emotionally-distressed individuals.
- We provided our staff with the tools they need to succeed, introducing a new, state-of-the-art Computer Aided Dispatch and Records Management System in 2005, giving officers the opportunity to work with a system which is among the most progressive in Ontario.

PREFERRED PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT – Our Members Make the Difference

- York Regional Police is proud of its success in reflecting the communities we serve. Aggressive, targeted recruiting resulted in our diversity rate climbing to 13 per cent in 2005.
- York Regional Police officers received more than 150,000 hours of training in 2005, delivered by our Training and Education Bureau, the Ontario

Police College and the Canadian Police College.

- In 2005, we instituted the Police Diversity Speakers Series, where members of diverse communities regularly present topics relating to their culture and religion to officers.

SUPERIOR QUALITY SERVICE – Exceeding Community Expectations

- In 2005, York Regional Police introduced seven Quality Service Standards to ensure superior service and accountability to members of the public.
- Acting proactively in 2005, we introduced a pilot program in which frontline officers on patrol recognize youth who are making a positive difference in their community.
- York Regional Police believes in giving back to the community. We support a variety of community initiatives including Big Brothers Big Sisters of York, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and our own Toys for Tots program.

AWARDS:

January, 2005

Constable Monica Lees

- Outstanding Police Service Award
- Newmarket Community Action Committee

January, 2005

Chief Armand La Barge:

- For his leadership in supporting the elimination of all forms of racism and promoting peaceful co-existence of all communities in York Region.
- Presented by members of the Islamic Shia Ithna Asheri Jamaat of Toronto and Temple Har Zion, with support from the Mosaic Group.

February, 2005

Inspector Robertson Rouse

Inspector, #5 District, Markham/southern Whitchurch Stouffville

- For his leadership and community involvement as Inspector in the most diverse district in York Region.
- Presented by members of the Markham African Caribbean Association and Markham Deputy Mayor Frank Scarpitti.

March, 2005

Chief Armand La Barge

Sergeant Ricky Veerappan, Diversity and Cultural Resources Bureau

- Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Race Relations
- Presented by the Human Rights and Race Relations Centre during the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination celebrations in Toronto.

March, 2005

Staff Sergeant Heidi Schellhorn

- CHAMP Award for promoting excellence in community policing and enhancing race relations in the community.
- Presented by the York Region Police/Community Advisory Council.

April 2005

Detective Sergeant Denise La Barge

Ret. Sergeant Linda Doggett

- Outstanding contribution
- In Celebration of Women Association

June, 2005

Community Oriented Response Unit Constables Jen McCue, Shaun McKay, Rachel Balais, Bill Anderson, Reid Saxby, Hugh Currie, Steve Borovoskis and Alec Tompras

- For promoting the success of students in York Region by promoting and participating in initiatives which promote communication between police and youth.
- Presented by the York Region Secondary School Vice-Principals' Association.

July, 2005

York Regional Police

- For its innovative and forward-looking policies which help keep our neighbourhoods, streets and schools safe.
- Presented by the Association of Progressive Muslims in Canada

September, 2005

Staff Sergeant Heidi Schellhorn

- International Association of Women Police “Community Service Award” - for Heidi’s consistent focus on service to others; her initiatives to meet community needs; her ability to enhance the projects she participates in; and her availability to others.
- Presented by the International Association of Women Police during its annual conference, held in Leeds, England in 2005.

October, 2005

Video Support Unit

Marcus Gumpenberger, Dan Murphy and Andy Offield

- Award of Distinction for Best Overall Production of the Year for the training video Multi-Lane Highway Traffic Stops. The unit also picked up three other awards at this event.
- Presented by the Law Enforcement Video Association

October, 2005

Chief Armand La Barge

- Outstanding Contribution to the Community
- Presented by the Markham African Caribbean Association, in partnership with the Congress of Black Women, LEGACY4YOUTHS and the Vaughan African Canadian Association.



York Regional Police

Chief of Police
Armand P. La Barge

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THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK POLICE SERVICES BOARD

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

30 AUGUST 2006

Re: 2005 National & Provincial Crime Statistical Comparison

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) That the contents of this report be received by the Board for its information.

SYNOPSIS:

Pursuant to long standing practice, annual crime statistical data has been presented to the Board that includes both a provincial and national comparison/ranking of York Regional Police to other police services. Previously, this information was included within the Annual York Regional Police Statistical Report. The 2005 Annual Statistical Report was presented at the June 29, 2006 meeting of the Police Services Board.

The national and provincial comparison is compiled utilizing data from the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS), a division of Statistics Canada, 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 it utilizes differs from the incident-based methodology upon which our Annual Statistical Report is based. Therefore, the national and provincial comparison is now being presented in a separate report, as attached.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Not applicable.

"Deeds Speak"

BACKGROUND:

The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) collect 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 developed 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 and violent offences are scored differently than other types of crime, recording a separate incident for each victim (ie. if one person assaults three people, then three incidents are recorded; but if three people assault one person, only one incident is recorded).

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 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 June 29, 2006 meeting of the Police Services Board, the 2005 York Regional Police Annual Statistical Report was presented and after several years of annual increases, the report indicated that the overall incident-based Crime Rate (total number of Criminal & Federal Violations per 100,000 population) decreased for the second consecutive year, dropping 13.3 percent in 2005 from 2004. The overall incident-based Total Criminal Code Clearance Rate increased 6.2 percent in 2005.

By comparison, the 2005 Crime Statistics as produced by Statistics Canada utilizing the aggregate method of data compilation reported a slightly greater drop in the York Regional Police Crime Rate of 16.6 percent and an increase in the clearance rate of 6.6 percent, by virtue of the different methodologies of reporting used. The table below shows the difference in the 2005 Crime and Clearance Rate categories over 2004 figures.

2005 Crime Rate (% change)	YRP STATISTICS (incident based)	CCJS STATISTICS (aggregate based)
Crimes Against Persons	-1.7	-1.0
Crimes Against Property	-16.2	-17.1
Total Criminal Code	-13.3	-16.6
2005 Clearance Rate (% change)		
Crimes Against Persons	+3.6	+4.5
Property Crime	+4.5	+5.2
Total Criminal Code	+6.2	+6.6

The following is a summary of the findings of the analysis of the ranking of the York Regional Police CCJS Crime Rate and Clearance Rate data:

The national comparison/ranking was made based on data from seven (7) other police services including Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Regina, Montreal, St. John, and Halifax. The seven services compared at the provincial level were Durham, Toronto, Peel, Halton, Waterloo, Hamilton, and Niagara.

2005 CRIME RATE – RANKING BY POLICE SERVICE (Lowest to Highest)					
National	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth
Crimes Against Persons	York	Calgary	Edmonton	Montreal	Vancouver
Crimes Against Property	York	St. John	Calgary	Montreal	Halifax
Total Criminal Code	York	Calgary	St. John	Montreal	Edmonton
Provincial					
Crimes Against Persons	York	Halton	Peel	Waterloo	Niagara
Crimes Against Property	York	Halton	Peel	Durham	Toronto
Total Criminal Code	York	Peel	Halton	Durham	Waterloo

2005 CLEARANCE RATE – RANKING BY POLICE SERVICE (Highest to Lowest)					
National	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth
Crimes Against Persons	York	Calgary	Regina	Montreal	Edmonton
Crimes Against Property	York	St. John	Calgary	Regina	Halifax
Total Criminal Code	Regina	York	Calgary	St. John	Edmonton
Provincial					
Crimes Against Persons	Peel	Waterloo	York	Durham	Halton
Crimes Against Property	Peel	York	Halton	Toronto	Durham
Total Criminal Code	Peel	York	Durham	Halton	Hamilton

CRIME RATE – YRP FIVE YEAR RANKING (Lowest to Highest)					
National	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
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	Second	Second	First
Crimes Against Property	Third	Third	Third	Third	First
Total Criminal Code	Second	Third	Third	Third	First

CLEARANCE RATE – YRP FIVE YEAR RANKING (Highest to Lowest)					
National	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Crimes Against Persons	Second	Second	Second	First	First
Crimes Against Property	Fourth	Fourth	Fifth	Third	First
Total Criminal Code	Fifth	Fifth	Sixth	Third	Second
Provincial					
Crimes Against Persons	Eighth	Sixth	Sixth	Sixth	Third
Crimes Against Property	Seventh	Sixth	Fifth	Third	Second
Total Criminal Code	Seventh	Seventh	Seventh	Sixth	Second

A more detailed summary of the CCJS National and Provincial Crime and Clearance Rate rankings is attached to this report.

We are pleased to see such positive trends in both our Crime Rate and Clearance Rate rankings over the past five years. Both the incident-based and aggregate-based methodologies of data compilation reflect these positive trends. They are a direct reflection of the strides we have made in law enforcement, crime prevention, community safety initiatives and in bulding bridges between all our communities. We recognize that our success would not be possible without the continued support of 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, visit and conduct business.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Armand P. La Barge'.

Armand P. La Barge,
Chief of Police.

APL:wd

Attachments: 2005 CCJS National and Provincial Comparison

PROVINCIAL CRIME RATE COMPARISON (2001 – 2005)

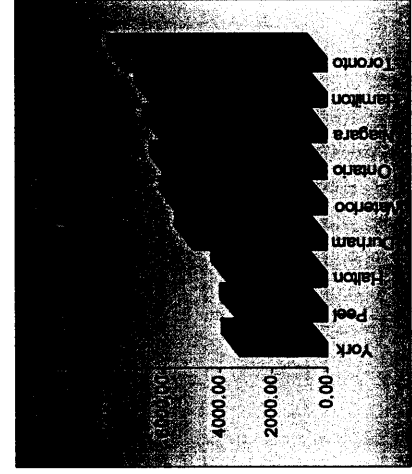
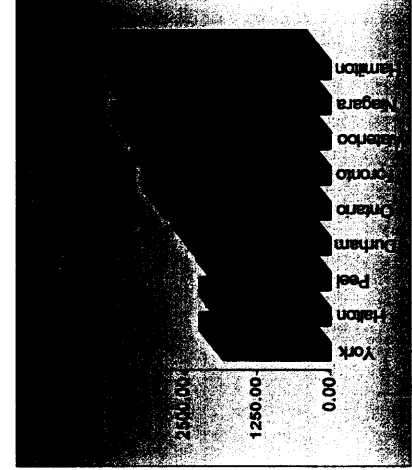
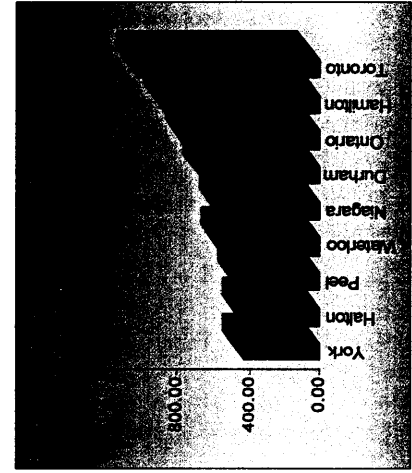
RANKED FROM LOWEST TO HIGHEST

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Crimes of Violence								
2005	York	Halton	Peel	Waterloo	Niagara	Durham	Hamilton	Toronto
2004	Halton	York	Peel	Niagara	Waterloo	Durham	Hamilton	Toronto
2003	Halton	York	Peel	Waterloo	Niagara	Durham	Toronto	Hamilton
2002	Halton	York	Peel	Waterloo	Durham	Niagara	Toronto	Hamilton
2001	Halton	York	Peel	Waterloo	Niagara	Durham	Toronto	Hamilton
Property Crimes								
2005	York	Halton	Peel	Durham	Toronto	Waterloo	Niagara	Hamilton
2004	Halton	Peel	York	Durham	Toronto	Niagara	Waterloo	Hamilton
2003	Peel	Halton	York	Durham	Toronto	Waterloo	Niagara	Hamilton
2002	Halton	Peel	York	Durham	Toronto	Waterloo	Niagara	Hamilton
2001	Halton	Peel	York	Durham	Toronto	Waterloo	Niagara	Hamilton
Total Criminal Code								
2005	York	Peel	Halton	Durham	Waterloo	Niagara	Hamilton	Toronto
2004	Peel	Halton	York	Toronto	Durham	Waterloo	Niagara	Hamilton
2003	Peel	Halton	York	Durham	Waterloo	Toronto	Niagara	Hamilton
2002	Peel	Halton	York	Durham	Waterloo	Toronto	Niagara	Hamilton
2001	Peel	York	Halton	Waterloo	Durham	Toronto	Niagara	Hamilton

Adapted from the Statistics Canada web site <http://ccj.sccsj.statcan.ca>.

Counts for all responses include RCMP cases occurring within the respondent's jurisdiction.

Statistics are compiled based on aggregate reporting.



PROVINCIAL CLEARANCE RATE COMPARISON (2001 – 2005)

RANKED FROM HIGHEST TO LOWEST

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Crimes of Violence

2005	Peel	Waterloo	York	Halton	Niagara	Toronto	Hamilton
2004	Durham	Peel	Waterloo	Halton	York	Hamilton	Toronto
2003	Durham	Peel	Niagara	Waterloo	York	Hamilton	Toronto
2002	Durham	Niagara	Peel	Waterloo	York	Hamilton	Toronto
2001	Peel	Durham	Niagara	Halton	Hamilton	Toronto	York

Property Crimes

2005	Peel	York	Halton	Durham	Waterloo	Niagara	Hamilton
2004	Halton	Peel	York	Waterloo	Niagara	Toronto	Hamilton
2003	Halton	Peel	Durham	York	Niagara	Hamilton	Waterloo
2002	Halton	Peel	Durham	Toronto	York	Niagara	Waterloo
2001	Peel	Halton	Hamilton	Niagara	Durham	York	Waterloo

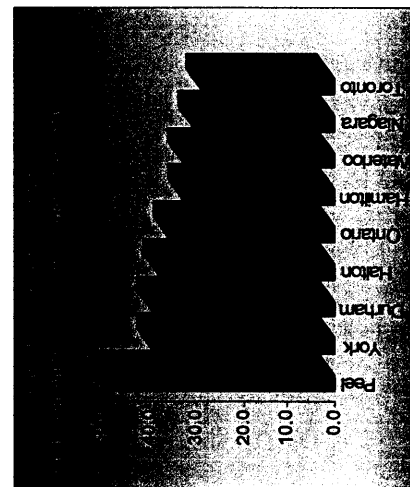
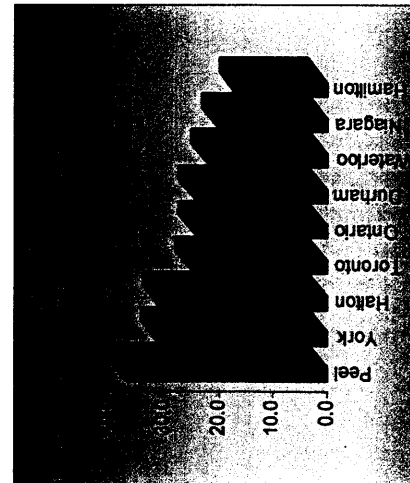
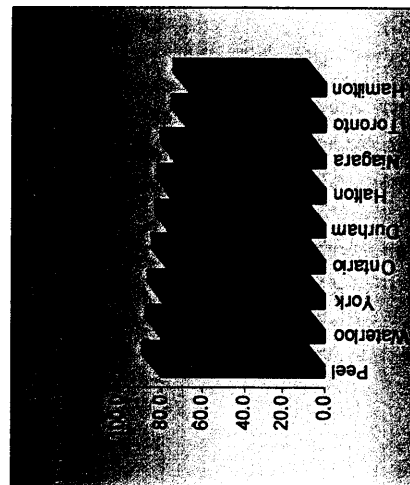
Total Criminal Code

2005	Peel	York	Durham	Halton	Waterloo	Niagara	Toronto
2004	Peel	Halton	Durham	Toronto	York	Waterloo	Niagara
2003	Peel	Toronto	Halton	Durham	Niagara	York	Waterloo
2002	Peel	Toronto	Halton	Durham	Niagara	York	Waterloo
2001	Peel	Toronto	Durham	Halton	Niagara	York	Waterloo

Adapted from the Statistics Canada web site <http://ccjjsccsj.statcan.ca>.

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 (2001 – 2005)

RANKED FROM LOWEST TO HIGHEST

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Crimes of Violence

2005	York	Edmonton	Montreal	Vancouver	St. John	Regina	Halifax
2004	York	Edmonton	Montreal	Vancouver	St. John	Regina	Halifax
2003	York	Edmonton	Montreal	Vancouver	Regina	St. John	Halifax
2002	York	Edmonton	Montreal	Vancouver	Regina	St. John	Halifax
2001	York	Vancouver	Edmonton	Montreal	Regina	St. John	Halifax

Property Crimes

2005	York	Calgary	Montreal	Halifax	Edmonton	Vancouver	Regina
2004	York	St. John	Montreal	Halifax	Edmonton	Regina	Vancouver
2003	York	St. John	Montreal	Halifax	Edmonton	Vancouver	Regina
2002	York	Montreal	St. John	Halifax	Edmonton	Vancouver	Regina
2001	York	Calgary	St. John	Edmonton	Halifax	Vancouver	Regina

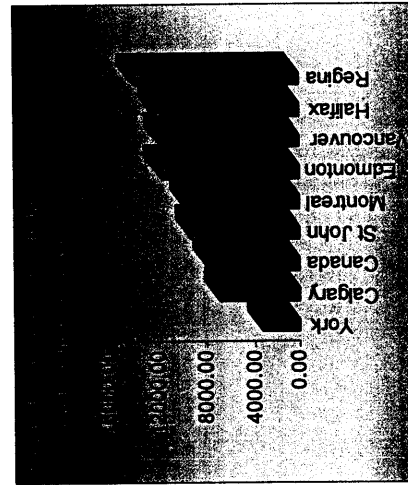
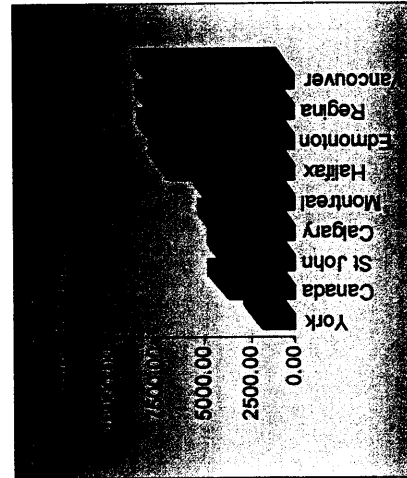
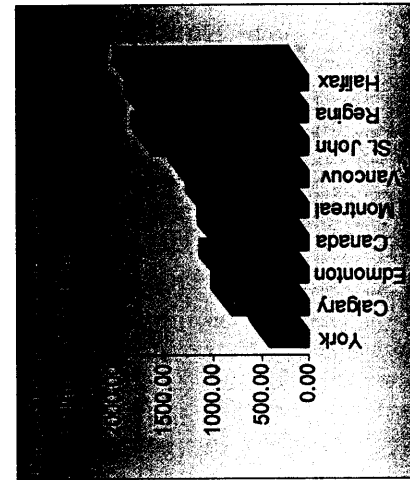
Total Criminal Code

2005	York	St. John	Montreal	Edmonton	Vancouver	Halifax	Regina
2004	York	St. John	Montreal	Halifax	Vancouver	Regina	Regina
2003	York	Montreal	St. John	Halifax	Vancouver	Regina	Regina
2002	York	Montreal	St. John	Edmonton	Halifax	Vancouver	Regina
2001	York	Montreal	St. John	Edmonton	Halifax	Vancouver	Regina

Adapted from the *Statistics Canada* web site <http://cejscesj.statcan.ca>.

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 (2001 – 2005)

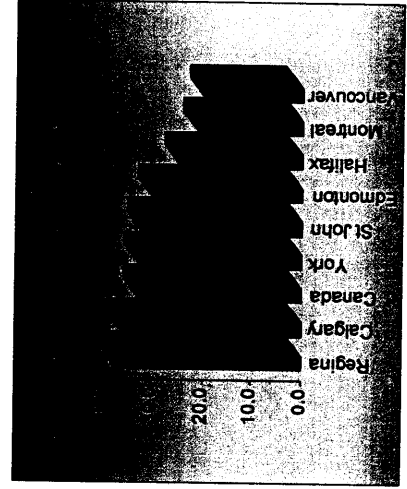
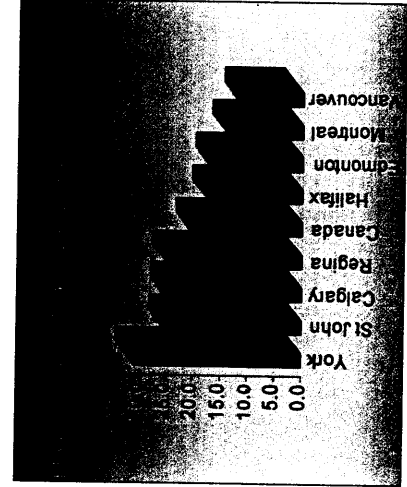
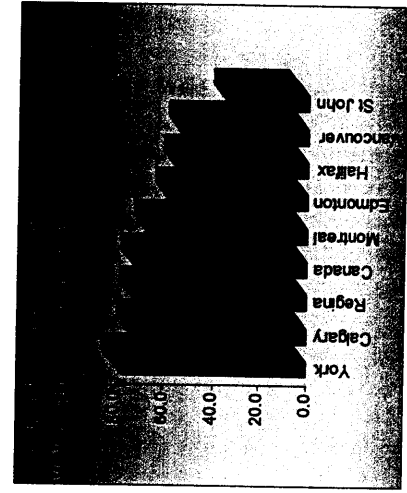
RANKED FROM HIGHEST TO LOWEST

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Crimes of Violence								
2005	York	Calgary	Regina	Montreal	Edmonton	Halifax	Vancouver	St. John
2004	York	Calgary	Regina	Montreal	Edmonton	Halifax	Vancouver	St. John
2003	Calgary	York	Regina	Montreal	Edmonton	Halifax	Vancouver	St. John
2002	Calgary	York	Regina	Edmonton	Halifax	St. John	Vancouver	Montreal
2001	Calgary	York	Regina	Montreal	Edmonton	St. John	Halifax	Vancouver
Property Crimes								
2005	York	St. John	Calgary	Regina	Halifax	Edmonton	Montreal	Vancouver
2004	Calgary	St. John	York	Regina	Edmonton	Halifax	Montreal	Vancouver
2003	Vancouver	Calgary	St. John	Edmonton	York	Halifax	Regina	Montreal
2002	Calgary	St. John	Edmonton	York	Halifax	Regina	Montreal	Vancouver
2001	St. John	Calgary	Edmonton	York	Halifax	Regina	Montreal	Vancouver
Total Criminal Code								
2005	Regina	York	Calgary	St. John	Edmonton	Halifax	Montreal	Vancouver
2004	Calgary	Regina	York	St. John	Edmonton	Halifax	Montreal	Vancouver
2003	Calgary	Regina	Edmonton	St. John	Halifax	York	Montreal	Vancouver
2002	Edmonton	Calgary	Regina	St. John	York	Halifax	Montreal	Vancouver
2001	Edmonton	St. John	Calgary	Regina	York	Montreal	Halifax	Vancouver

Adapted from the *Statistics Canada* web site <http://ccjcsesj.statcan.ca>.

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.





MEDIA RELEASE

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NATIONAL STATISTICS SHOW YORK REGION AMONG CANADA'S SAFEST COMMUNITIES

York Region continues to be among the safest communities in Canada according to figures released recently by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS).

The data was based on comparisons between seven other police services at both national and provincial levels.

York Region had the lowest rate of Crimes against Persons, Crimes against Property and total Criminal Code offences amongst both its national and provincial comparators. York Regional Police also had the highest clearance rate amongst its national comparators for Crimes against Persons and Crimes against Property.

The statistics show York Region has retained the lowest crime rate among comparable services for the last five years on a national level. Provincially, the region had the lowest crime rate in 2005.

The CCJS statistics show a drop in the region's crime rate of 16.6 per cent in 2005 and an increase in the York Regional Police clearance rate of 6.6 per cent, compared to 2004 figures.

"These numbers prove what we have been seeing over the last few years," said Richmond Hill Deputy Mayor and Police Services Board Chair David Barrow. "Residents can be assured our community is safe and York Regional Police officers are doing an outstanding job of keeping it that way."

"I would like to acknowledge the men and women of York Regional Police who work hard each and every day to keep our community safe as well as the important contributions of our many community partners," said Chief Armand La Barge. "I would also like to thank our Police Services Board and Regional Council for the strong support and leadership that has resulted in higher staffing levels to keep pace with growth, advanced training to meet the changing needs of our community and state-of-the-art technologies that assist us in ensuring we remain one of the safest communities in Canada."

The report is available on the Police Services Board website at www.yrpsb.ca and a link to that site can be found at www.yrp.ca.

Prepared by: Kathleen Griffin
August 30, 2006

Distribution: Original: Corporate Communications

YRP383 (09/04E)