



THE ENVIRONMENT FOR POLICING IN WINNIPEG 2022





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Environment for Policing in Winnipeg 2022 Report (Report) is intended to summarize factors that impact policing in Winnipeg and inform citizens about what guides the Winnipeg Police Board (Board) in developing strategic priorities for policing. These events, factors, and trends do not always occur in Winnipeg. The impact of instantaneous access to information, misinformation and active disinformation means that public opinion can be widely different.

The Board reviews the information provided here to inform strategic planning. The Winnipeg Police Service (Service) is charged with considering environmental factors in implementing public safety strategies that align with the Board's strategic direction. This assessment and planning is a necessary aspect of policing and public safety stewardship for the residents of Winnipeg.

The Service reports regularly to the Board to support transparency and provide an understanding of the successes, including partnerships, and challenges that are part of the backdrop for policing in Winnipeg.

Accountability is assessed through reporting on: policy, finances, business operations and the performance of the police chief. These quarterly reports provide information that inform the strategic direction of the Board.

This Report includes information on: social and cultural factors, population, economics, community health, policing, crime, legislative and technological trends.

The Board encourages citizens to provide their input on public safety and their feedback on community expectations. This Report is intended to support that dialogue. Data informing this Report was gathered from various sources, including the most recent census in 2021, the City of Winnipeg, the Conference Board of Canada and Statistics Canada.

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL FACTORS

Notable City Events and Decisions

Winnipeg – Made from What’s Real

A new brand for the City of Winnipeg was officially unveiled on June 8, 2022, to create a story by the people who live here. The new brand is to be used to attract more talent, investment and visitors to Winnipeg. The symbols in the emblem represent Winnipeg’s optimism, warmth and economic growth. Read more at: www.realwinnipeg.com



Winnipeg Named the World’s Most Intelligent Community

At the end of 2021, Winnipeg was named the most intelligent community in the world beating out six other cities as chosen by the Intelligent Community Forum (ICF). “Over the past nine years, we have watched Winnipeg evolve in its strategy and the maturity and interconnectedness of its programs,” said co-founder Louis Zacharilla, who led the award ceremony. “Like so many of the Intelligent Communities of the Year, it is a mid-size city proud of the diversity of its people, its economy and its cultures. There is much to learn from their example.” “This is the first time Winnipeg has been selected as the Most Intelligent Community by ICF, but it has made the Top7 list three times (2014, 2016, and 2018) and was chosen as a Smart21 Community nine times since 2011, when Winnipeg started developing submissions for the award.”

Trust & Public Confidence

Increasingly there is public expression of anti-government and anti-authority feelings. Some specifics are noted below that highlight some challenges and opportunities in Winnipeg that can affect institutional trust and the role and function of police in the context of public order and safety.

Protests and Public Assemblies

There was an increase in the occurrence of mass assemblies, demonstrations and major events, including those that interfered with the lawful use and enjoyment of personal and public property.

This came to a head in Winnipeg on January 22, 2022, when a convoy of truckers drove into Winnipeg and gathered near the Manitoba Legislative Building to protest against COVID-19 mandates and restrictions. Police were determined to work together with the protesters gathered in Winnipeg to ensure a peaceful protest and outcome to the demonstration. Many people were unhappy with the approach taken by police; however the protest was resolved without violence or major incident.

Action on Poverty

In November 2021, the City of Winnipeg approved its first ever Poverty Reduction Strategy. “The Strategy aims to be a catalyst for additional and increasing action and partnerships going forward to address underlying root causes and localized impacts of poverty in our city, which requires collaboration by all levels of governments, the community, and people with lived experience of poverty.”

In 2022, child poverty, especially for children under the age of 6, remains a serious issue. Winnipeg Centre is the federal urban riding with the highest child poverty rate in Canada. Near the end of 2021, the Manitoba Government announced investments to support Child Nutrition Programs in Schools. Increased funding to the Child Nutrition Council of Manitoba (CNCM) will be used to support more than 271 programs that reach 33,000 students every day.

The City estimates that 1 in 8 Winnipeg residents live in poverty. Poverty can represent a disconnect from community and activities that support vibrant, healthy relationships. The remedial costs of poverty related to lost productivity, lost opportunity, criminal justice, social services and health are substantial.

Winnipeg has many poverty reduction non-government organizations and councils, all working toward the same goal of addressing underlying issues.

Experiencing Homelessness

There is a combination of factors that may cause someone to experience homelessness. Some may include poverty, unemployment, family breakdown, family violence, lack of support, addictions, physical or mental health issues, stigmatization and lack of education. Many non-profit organizations have strategies in place to address these issues and are tailoring those strategies to the needs of particular groups. Homelessness is not a new issue but it became more visible due to the public health restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“According to the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, mass homelessness in Canada emerged around this time (1987) as a result of government cutbacks to social housing and related programs starting in 1984. In 1993, federal spending on the construction of new social housing came to an end. In 1996 the federal government transferred responsibility for most existing federal low-income social housing to the provinces”

It is estimated that homelessness costs Canada over 7 billion dollars every year and millions of dollars of investments have been made over many years to address homelessness. The issue has not been resolved.

Money continues to be provided to support the end of homelessness and there are some successful programs in Winnipeg. An appendix to this report provides a brief summary of investments related to homelessness in Winnipeg in 2022. There is more to be done on this issue as it poses a public safety risk to those that are unsheltered and to others if there are attendant issues such as mental health crises.

Mental Health and Addiction Services

There are many government and non-government organizations providing services to meet the gaps that exist in serving those with addiction and mental health issues. St. Boniface Street Links is one such organization that has been successful using a wraparound approach that assists individuals and maintains a monitoring role to make sure that positive outcomes are achieved. The approach is long-term and focused on recovery with a housing option (Morberg House). The outreach program allows the clients to maintain their relationships with staff for up to 2 years after their initial entry.

Safe Shelters

Winnipeg has numerous overnight shelters to support those who are unsheltered. For various reasons, there are those who choose not to access those facilities. Some began sleeping in transit passenger shelters meant to house riders waiting for the bus. There were incidents of fires, violence and vandalism that created both safety risks and danger. The City took proactive measures in partnership with community groups by facilitating the opening of more 24-7 safe spaces. This issue remains unresolved. Many partners provide services aimed at safety such as the Downtown Community Safety Partnership and the Bear Clan. Police and fire and paramedic services are also often engaged as a result of the risks and threats to safety.

Diversity, Equity Inclusion and Anti-Racism

On September 21, 2021, in support of the City of Winnipeg's Long-Term Commitment Plan – Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism, City Council adopted the following:

1. That the creation of an Equity Office within Corporate Human Resource Services with focus on hiring staff from a diverse background and who self-declare in one or more of the equity groups, be approved.
2. That the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Policy and Strategy, attached as Appendix B, be approved.
3. That, subject to the approval of funding and FTE's, that the City of Winnipeg host Anti-Racism training events, in collaboration with partners from First Nations, Metis, Inuit, Black, Racialized and Religious Minority groups.
4. That subject to the approval of funding and FTE's, that a new diversity dashboard reporting tool/report be created that encompasses the City's diversity report components as well as reporting on the effectiveness of the EDI Strategy and steps being taken to increase the diversity of the City's workforce.
5. That 2 additional permanent FTEs, 1 in 2022 for \$143,033 and 1 in 2023 for \$110,769, as well as additional funding for non-salary expenditures be referred to the 2022 and 2023 budget process.

The Service has made commitments in regard to increased mandatory training and reinforcement of core values and beliefs. The Service reports annually on Bias Free Policing to the Board.

In the statement provided by Chief Danny Smyth on February 12, 2021, he committed to ensuring that the police service reflects the needs and expectations of the community:

- This will be done through continued recruitment to ensure the Winnipeg Police reflect the diversity of our community.
- This will be done by continued partnership and support of Indigenous, Muslim, and Newcomer service providers.
- This will be done through continued training and education so that our members understand the generational trauma inflicted on people who have experienced colonization, or displacement through immigration and refugee status.
- It will also means being accountable for the things we do as a police service.

Defund Movement

There are still a number of proponents of the police abolishment movement including defund police. This point of view does not include any plan for managing the calls for service from residents of Winnipeg that police must respond to.

The response to some of the change ideas in terms of service delivery are activities aimed at targeting responses to better meet the needs of some types of calls for service. Among the current initiatives being reported on are:

Alternative Response to Citizens in Crisis (ARCC) pilot project

The City of Winnipeg, the Service, and Shared Health's Crisis Response Centre announced a pilot project that would offer support to those experiencing mental health crises in Winnipeg. The pilot project resulted from the work that was done through the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative with City of Winnipeg departments to collaborate on the alignment of existing supports with the needs of citizens who are calling 911. The ARCC teams include a plain clothes officer and a mental health clinician who are dispatched to assist WPS general patrol when needed.

Domestic Violence Intervention pilot project (extended for 2nd year)

The pilot teams consisted of two police officers and two victim service workers from the Victim Service's Domestic Violence Support Services. A Family Guide Specialist in the field of family law joined the team part way through 2021. The purpose of the initial project was to improve response to non-criminal domestic calls for service using a trauma-informed approach. This was a one-year pilot project in partnership with the Service and Manitoba Justice Victim Services, which due to its success, has been extended.

Connected Officer

The Service's Connected Officer pilot program provided 22 frontline members with mobile devices which used a series of secure applications to provide live access to police databases. This allowed the members to perform work functions while remaining in the field instead of returning to a vehicle or district station to complete the task. Notes were enhanced in quality as they were now digital and some narratives could be eliminated which saved time in the long run when reviewing the material at a later date. The WPS is to receive \$375,000 from the Province of Manitoba to fund the next phase for one year. These funds will provide 150 officers with mobile access to police information and databases, digital notes and evidence capture capabilities.

Family Support and Resource Advocate

In support of the Service's commitment to the families of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, a family support and resource advocate was hired. The advocate answers questions; coordinates access to appropriate agencies, justice partners and services; and connects families to culturally-safe resources in the community that may assist them in their healing journey.

Population Trends

From 2016 to 2021, Winnipeg's population grew by more than 44,000 people – an increase of 6.3 per cent, StatsCan data shows that for the 12 months ending on July 1, 2021, the Winnipeg area experienced a net loss of 7,466 people to other provinces. Indications are that jobs were the main reason for people leaving Winnipeg last year. The rate of population growth for the Winnipeg Metro area has declined since 2016 and it is still too early to determine the full impact of the pandemic. Major municipalities are considering ways to be more attractive to citizens who do not want the long commutes to their workplace from home. Winnipeg has developed a COVID-19 recovery strategy aimed at economic revitalization.

| WINNIPEG - Historical Population Data | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Year | Population | Growth Rate |
| 2022 | 833,000 | 0.97% |
| 2021 | 825,000 | 0.98% |
| 2020 | 817,000 | 1.11% |
| 2019 | 808,000 | 1.00% |
| 2018 | 800,000 | 1.27% |
| 2017 | 790,000 | 1.28% |
| 2016 | 780,000 | 1.30% |

<https://www.macrotrends.net/cities/20407/winnipeg/population>

The Manitoba Provincial Nominee program (MPNP) being the first of its kind in Canada, became a permanent immigration program in 1998 and has been a success story in terms of immigration for the Province and the City of Winnipeg. The program was created to assist in growing the province's economy based on the economic and labour market needs. While the program welcomed 418 new immigrants in its first year, currently more than 4,000 new immigrants are welcomed through the program. (This number may have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.)

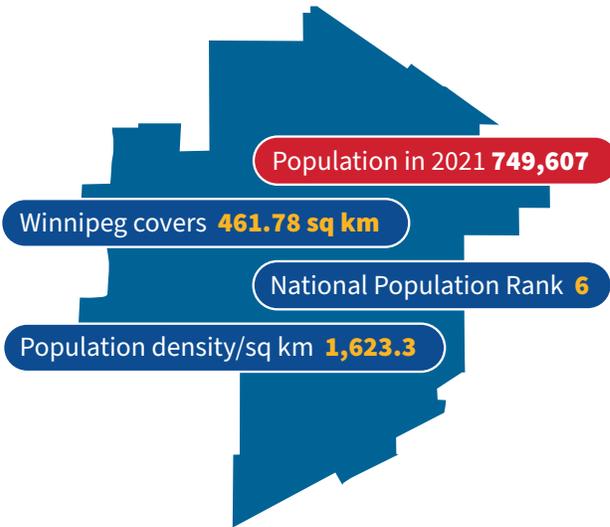


WINNIPEG

FAST FACTS POPULATION TRENDS 2022

Population growth and the construction of new neighbourhoods affect the size of the city that police serve and has a significant impact on Winnipeg's policing needs.

This section provides a general overview of Winnipeg's population and demographics.



- 1720** kilometres of Regional streets
- 5030** kilometres of Local streets
- 900** kilometres of alleys
- 196** bridges and structures

32% of Winnipeg residents identify as members of a visible minority

13.6% of Winnipeg's population is made up of Indigenous people

70.1% of Winnipeg residents speak English as their first language

6.83% speak the second most spoken language— Tagalog (Filipino)

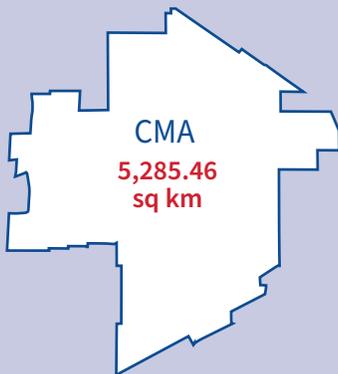
3.8% of residents speak French as their first language

50.7% of Winnipeg residents are female

average age is 41.5 years

49.2% of Winnipeg residents are male

average age is 39 years



THE CENSUS METROPOLITAN AREA (CMA) OF WINNIPEG

The census metropolitan area (CMA) of Winnipeg includes the City of Winnipeg and the municipalities of:

- West St. Paul, East St. Paul, Headingley, Macdonald, Richot, Tache, Springfield, Rosser, St. Francois Xavier, and St. Clements and Brokenhead First Nation.

CMA Population in 2021: 834,678



ECONOMIC TRENDS

Economic trends and comparators provide a general profile of who lives in our city and the successes and challenges that affect vibrancy and full participation in community building activities. Social and cultural factors that are unique to Winnipeg are briefly highlighted above. Though poverty, homelessness and public safety are critical barriers to full participation in community building, the City has undertaken several initiatives aimed at reducing these barriers. Police are only one part of the web of safety that supports the most vulnerable residents.

The cost of policing is the subject of considerable research. It is largely felt that it is not sustainable in its present form. It forms the largest part of most municipal budgets and there are different results based on each city's unique environment. Municipalities must provide police services. The bulk of costs are for personnel. Less funding means less personnel as infrastructure costs (i.e., buildings, capital expenditures related to equipment) are primarily fixed and partly dictated by the shape of the law and what may or may not be required of a police service.

Funding Model for the Service

Late in 2021, the City launched a public engagement campaign on possible changes to its funding model for the Service, including an online survey, a series of virtual events and a telephone townhall.

The Board must make an annual budget recommendation to the City that is based on needs, values and expectations. The Board reviews information and data and provides environmental information about trends and issues that inform strategic goals to the public. A formula that does not consider the Board's recommendation is not compliant with the present legislation.

An administrative report prepared for the city's Executive Policy Committee indicated that there was no firm agreement on which option was best. This resulted in the Executive Policy Committee recommending that the funding for the Service remain under the current Multi-Year Balanced Budget Policy, Model #1 which is the Status Quo. This exercise had a committed budget from Council of \$150,000 which was spent by the Office of Public Engagement to support it.



WINNIPEG

FAST FACTS ECONOMIC TRENDS AND SOCIAL FACTORS 2022



The average selling price of a home **\$367,000** (2022)



The vacancy rate for rental accommodation **5%** (2021)
Avg. monthly rental for a 1-bedroom apt: **\$1,164** (2022)



12.9% Winnipeg residents had low-income status (2020)

The Canadian low-income threshold for a person living alone in 2017 was **\$22,060** after taxes.

1 in 8 people

Poverty affects 13% of the population (92,000 people)

11,500 people

Employment increased by 2.8% in the Winnipeg economic region

\$15/hr

Minimum wage will increase by \$3.05 by October 2023.

\$39,600

Median individual income (2021)

\$80,000

Median household income (2021)

335,995

Current workforce (2021)

Rate of unemployment **4.2%**

42%

Demand for food hampers from Winnipeg Harvest has increased to **14,000 hampers** per month



Family Affordability Package

The **\$87 million** provincial project will help approximately 145,000 families with a net household income less than **\$175,000**, and seniors with a household income less than **\$40,000**.



Hudson's Bay Redevelopment

The plan is expected to create employment by converting the building into mixed use space including 300 housing units, restaurants, a museum, art gallery and centres for health and child care.



Kapyong Barracks Redevelopment

The plan will create employment with the building of housing units, commercial space and a new hospital. The **\$620 million** proposed project is Indigenous led.



COMMUNITY HEALTH

COVID-19

The COVID-19 global pandemic continued to overshadow life in 2022. The effects of the pandemic cannot be overstated in terms of health, social and economic harms. Some of the lingering effects are around trust in public institutions, not restricted to policing, but in all major institutions. Distrust in legacy media and previously trusted sources of public discourse (academics and experts) has never been higher.

In an era where information, misinformation and disinformation are almost indistinguishable, public views are more difficult to gauge. Social media platforms are one of the most significant contributors to the lack of credibility and value in what is offered as information. Governments are beginning to demand accountability and that efforts be made to stop mis and dis information.

The Service is accountable to the public through the Board in regard to the information that is provided regarding business continuity including: pandemic-related safety measures, staff management and maintaining the required complement of police available to respond to demands for service. This included declaring a state of emergency and activating aspects of the Service's business continuity plan in 2022.

COVID-19 – Protecting Public Health and Implications for Human Rights

The Manitoba Human Rights Commission published a report titled “A Human Rights Based Approach to the COVID-19 Pandemic Principles and Actions” which highlighted possible impacts on vulnerable groups. The report provided that without a human rights-based approach and independent oversight, the pandemic will further exacerbate existing inequalities for communities that are considered vulnerable. Further, the Manitoba Human Rights Commission published a fact sheet covering COVID-19 Terminations, Time-off and Lay-Offs which provided answers to frequently asked questions on the subject. These factors further impacted poverty in Winnipeg.

Community Health and Well-Being During COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic of 2020-2022 revealed many issues that affect the health and well-being of all citizens of Winnipeg. It has now been determined that every person will likely be exposed to the virus or variant of and therefore governments have shifted focus away from limiting the spread of the disease to management of health care resources.

Mental Health

According to the World Health Organization, COVID-19, in its first year, caused a 25% increase in the prevalence of anxiety and depression world-wide. This concern has prompted countries to include mental health in their response/recovery plans. The social isolation for two years contributed to individual stress as families were separated by physical distancing, restricted travelling and closed borders. The loss of employment due to the pandemic created financial hardships and, now that many emergency benefits have ceased, people are struggling to survive. Those with pre-existing mental health conditions saw supports decreased or stopped all together which created a gap in services during the pandemic. Many remain unable to get the support they need for both pre-existing and newly developed mental health conditions.

The Province of Manitoba has begun work on a five-year action plan to address and improve mental health and substance supports. Results of the pre-consultation survey on mental health, wellness and recovery can be found at the link:

https://gov.mb.ca/asset_library/en/proactive/20212022/what-we-heard-mental-health-pre-consultation.pdf

Addiction

Addiction continues to be a threat to health and safety in our community. Government services to support people suffering from addiction are being improved and augmented. There is still a need for police involvement in terms of interrupting supply and distribution but addressing the health harms of addiction is largely outside the control of policing services.

There are agencies that offer residential and long-term recovery services as well as day programs and programming available through other community institutions. These programs can be difficult to access at the time when someone is ready to accept help.

Adult and Teen Challenge of Central Canada has proposed a rehabilitation facility to assist those recovering from addictions and provide access to safe and affordable housing. The plan includes converting a building for this purpose to provide transitional housing.

Safe Injection Sites

These sites are described as being public facilities for drug users to consume heroin, fentanyl and methamphetamine under the supervision of medical staff. A benefit to offering supervised injection sites is reducing the number of overdose deaths which have been described as epidemic in proportion.

The City of Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Strategy approved by Winnipeg City Council includes a goal to support the establishment of safe injection sites in Winnipeg either by the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, community-based health organizations, and/or other partners (and) remove any municipal barriers by spring 2023. In November, the Province of Manitoba announced that it would not be supporting safe consumption sites and instead would be promoting recovery-oriented systems of care, including treatment spaces and the Rapid Access to Addictions Medicine (RAAM) clinics.

There is divisive debate on whether or not these sites are effective and whether or not they have a negative social and economic impact on the community. A report from one province indicated that the sites did not reduce overall overdose deaths or opioid-related emergency calls and they led to an increase in crime, discarded needles and social disorder in surrounding neighborhoods. Others are strong proponents of this as a way to reduce the harms of addiction.

Overdose and Drug Related Harms

In Winnipeg, like elsewhere in the country, drug overdose is an increasing public health concern, particularly those involving opioid drugs. There are a number of resources and programs aimed at reducing the effects associated with overdose, including a take-home naloxone program through the Province of Manitoba. “Free take-home naloxone kits are available to members of the public who are at risk of opioid overdose (toxicity) and family or friends who may witness opioid toxicity.”

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/naloxone.html>

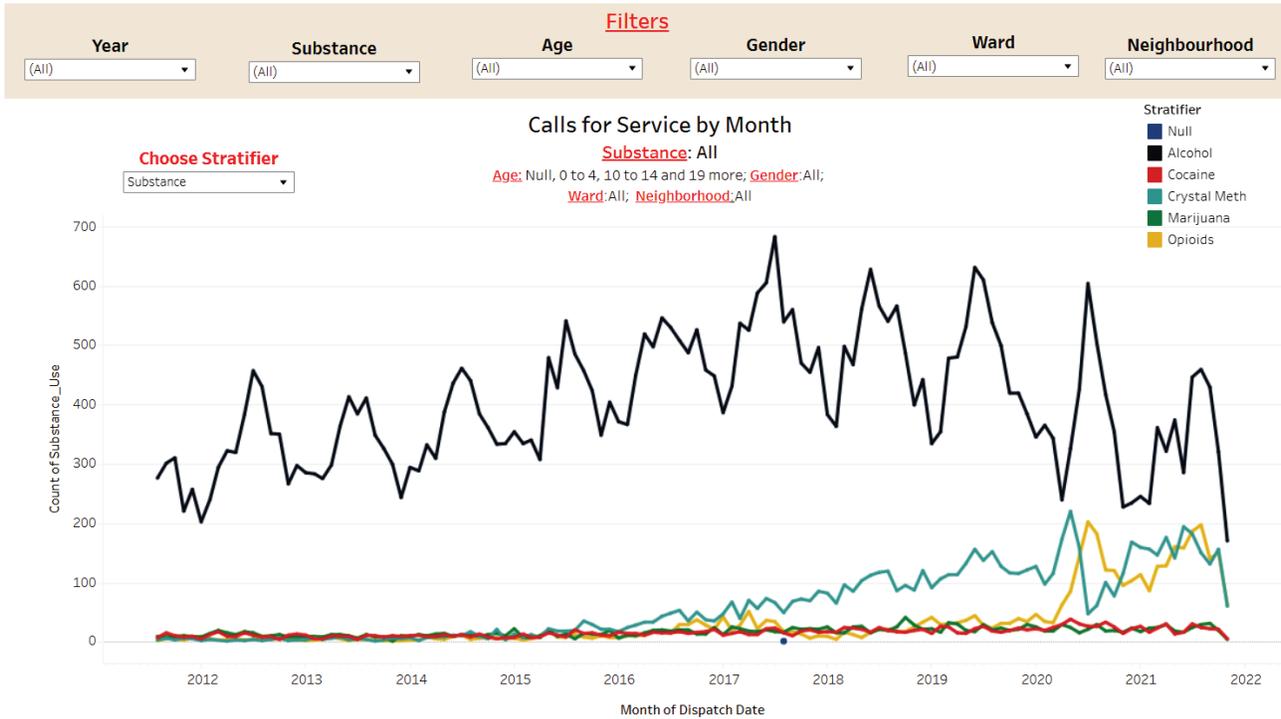
Community organizations, such as the Downtown Community Safety Partnership (DCSP) Mobile Assist and Connect Team (MAC24/7), are trained and equipped to administer naloxone to reverse an opioid overdose.

Winnipeg Police Service officers have carried naloxone since 2016 and administered the medication 47 times in 2021.

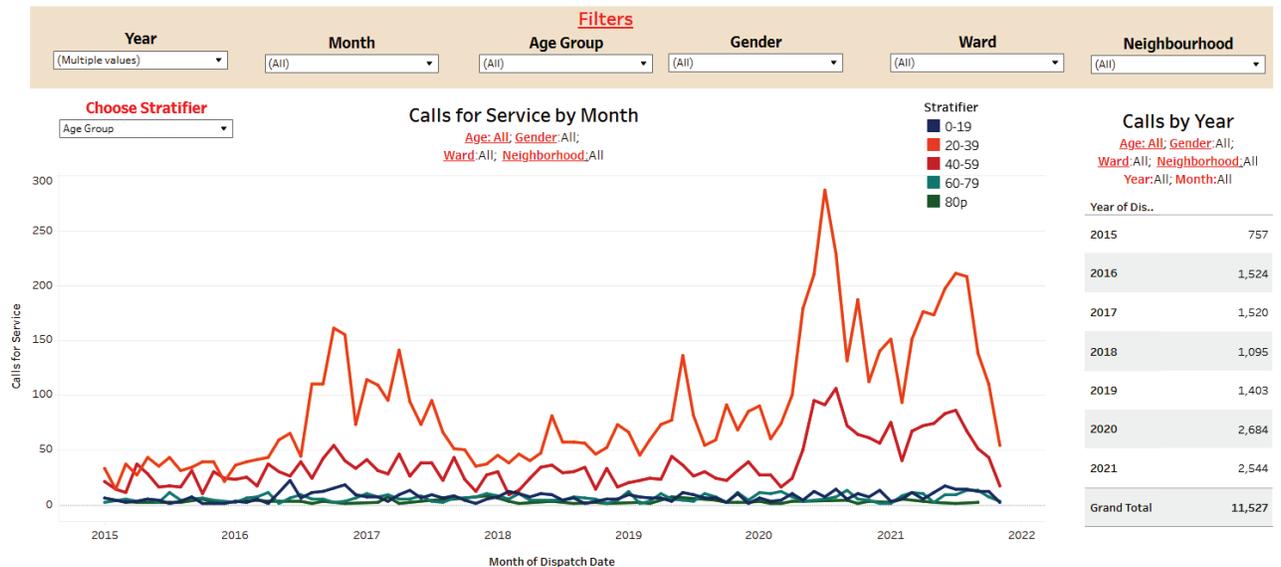
Data on the number of Winnipeg Fire and Paramedic Service substance use calls for service and Narcan calls for service are readily available via the Manitoba Collaborative Data Portal (A Collective Impact Project coordinated by the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg) <http://www.mbcdp.ca/> as provided in the charts following. (data to November 18, 2021)



Winnipeg Fire and Paramedic Service Substance Use Calls for Service



Narcan Calls for Service Winnipeg Fire and Paramedic Services (updated Nov. 18, 2021)



POLICING

Public Safety

As provided by the information in the Service's 2021 Annual Statistical Report, the City of Winnipeg is served by 1,355 dedicated police officers and 562 civilian members which includes the cadets. The Police Complement identifies as 12% Indigenous, 8.6 % Visible Minorities, 16.2 % Women. Civilians and Cadets identify as 10.6 % Indigenous, 13.1% Visible Minorities and 58.6% Women.

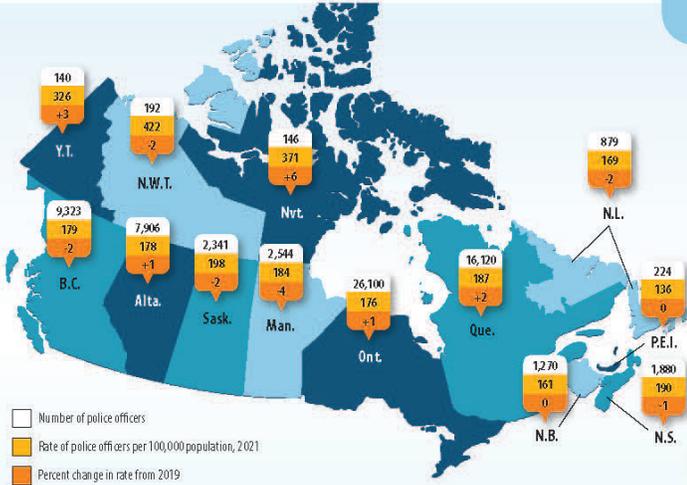
The rate of officers to 100,000 population is 176.7. The rate of residents per police officer is 566.1 with a per capita cost of \$418.20 Total calls for assistance to the 911 Communications Centre was 671,364 and of those 234,058 were police dispatched events.



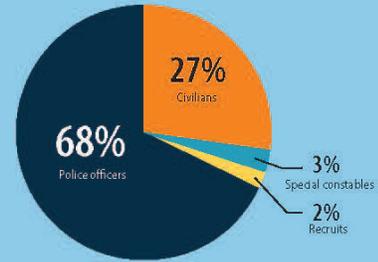
POLICE PERSONNEL AND EXPENDITURES IN CANADA, 2021

NUMBER OF POLICE OFFICERS BY PROVINCE AND TERRITORY

As of May 15, 2021, there were **70,114** police officers in Canada, **1,267 more** than in 2019. This represents a rate of police strength of **183** officers per 100,000 population, and is **stable** from two years earlier.¹



POLICE PERSONNEL



Top 5 measures put in place by police services in response to the pandemic

- 1 Adjustment of training methods (88%)
- 2 Change in the workplace layout (77%)
- 3 Change to how police services deal with suspects in cells (76%)
- 4 Change of work schedule (70%)
- 5 Teleworking (65%)

Across Canada, police services received 11.8 million calls for service

POLICE OPERATING EXPENDITURES

In 2020/2021, operating expenditures for policing totalled **\$16.5 billion**, up **5%** from 2018/2019.



Close to **\$33 million** in additional costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic were spent in 2020/2021 to adequately equip policing personnel.



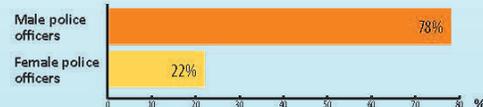
Just over **4 in 10** police services reported that **20% or more** of their personnel had been absent from work for at least one day at some point in 2020/2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

INDIGENOUS AND VISIBLE MINORITY POLICE OFFICERS²

- 8%** of police officers were members of a population group designated as a visible minority
- 4%** of police officers were Indigenous



WOMEN IN POLICING



- In 2021, there were **404 more** female police officers than in 2019.
- 18%** of commissioned officers and **20%** of non-commissioned officers were women.
- Women accounted for **70%** of civilian positions in police services.
- 33%** of special constables and **31%** of recruits were women.

¹ Canada includes personnel from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police operation and corporate headquarters, training academy depot division and forensic labs. They are not represented on the map.
² Data are collected from police services through self-identification by personnel.
Note: Data on police personnel, women in policing, visible minorities, and Indigenous people are based on a "snapshot date" of May 15, 2021. COVID-19 data refer to the period from April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021. The other data on this infographic represent the calendar year ending December 31, 2020 (or March 31, 2021 as some police services operate on a fiscal year basis). Percentages may not add up due to rounding. Despite the Police Administration Survey being an annual survey, collection for the 2020 cycle was cancelled due to the pandemic. Therefore, the 2021 cycle data are compared to 2019 cycle data.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Police Administration Survey, 2021.

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A correction was made to police personnel data for 2019 and 2021 reference years. This change affects some of the figures in the infographic.



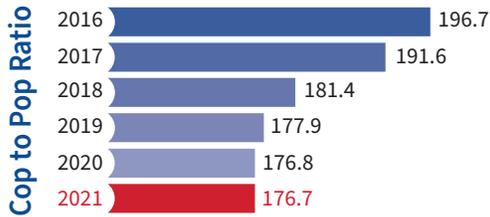
POLICING IN WINNIPEG



566:1
Residents per
Police Officer

\$418.20
Per Capita
Cost

The officer to population ratio has been shrinking since 2015.



CALLS FOR SERVICE (2021 DATA)



Dispatched Calls for Service
234,058



Citizen Generated Events
149,647



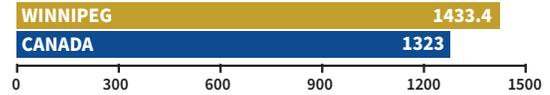
Police Initiated Events
84,411



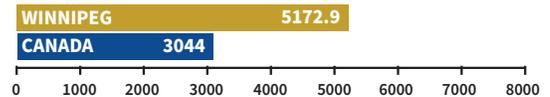
Total Calls to Comms Centre
671,364

CRIME RATES (2021)

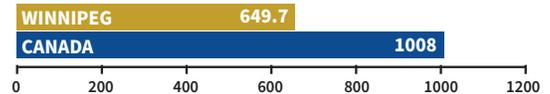
Violent Crime



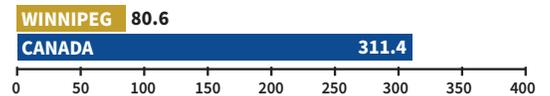
Property Crime



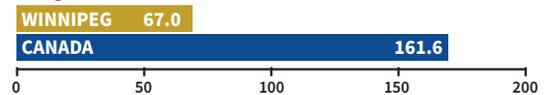
Other Crimes



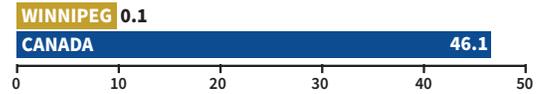
Traffic Offences



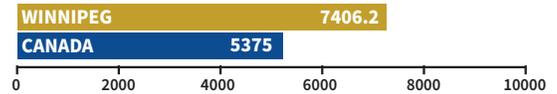
Drug Crime



Federal Offences



Total Crime*



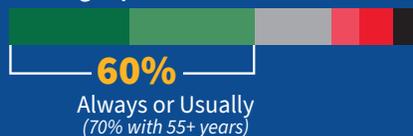
*Other crime categories not listed affect total.

2022 SURVEY RESULTS

Confidence



Meeting Expectations



Trustworthiness



LEGISLATIVE & POLICY TRENDS

New legislation, policy, funding and precedent-setting court decisions can all affect how police services are delivered in Winnipeg. Recent initiatives include the following.

In Manitoba, policy developments have centered around providing greater supports to the health care system and responding to barriers to accessing treatments and programs that support people to stay out of the criminal justice system. A recent poll of municipal governments was presented by the Association of Manitoba Municipalities that indicated that resources in rural Manitoba are also stretched thinly and that a greater police presence would be helpful.

The Province is continuing with the legislative agenda related to policing and much of the work is underway. Implementation of the new standards for policing should be efficient as the Service already complied with internationally established policing standards through the Commission for Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

There continues to be quarterly reporting on Criminal Justice Modernization on the Manitoba Justice website. Time to disposition for criminal matters has increased after a period of decline in both criminal courts. The custody population has remained consistent and the recidivism rate has also continued to decline for both custody and community corrections.

Some contemplated and newly enacted legislation:

- The Police Services Act – Manitoba
Introduced in late 2021, proposed amendments to The Police Services Act that would strengthen the Independent Investigations Unit (IIU) and support greater responsiveness and accountability in policing across the province.
- The Police Services Act - Manitoba
The Province introduced amendments, in March 2022, to The Police Services Act that would establish a criminal intelligence centre and provincial policing standards and codes of conduct. Amendments include an extension on the filing time under the Law Enforcement Review Act.
- Association of Manitoba Municipalities Position Paper (March 1, 2021)
The paper outlined the Association's position and recommendations on issues relevant to the Justice portfolio. These included Local Crime and Community Safety Issues, The Police Services Act Review and Review of Policing Structure and Provincial Funding Support.
- Amendments to The Highway Traffic Act and The Drivers and Vehicles Act
Amendments were passed in March 2022. The legislation allows the public to submit online police reports and electronic signatures for motor vehicle collision or hit and run reports. This offers greater flexibility and convenience to file online reports instead of in-person.
- Amendments to The Highway Traffic Act and The Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation Act
In March 2022, amendments to the Acts would allow pilot testing of micro-mobility devices such as personal transportation vehicles, electric scooters and low-speed vehicles on the roads. This provides greater opportunities to expand the use of active and alternative forms of transportation while maintaining safety for users of the road.

The Highway Traffic Act – Photo Enforcement Review

In 2019, the provincial government committed to conducting a review of the current automated enforcement policy, legislation and program frameworks. The review was paused due to the pandemic and had not been reinitiated to date.

Decriminalization of Small Amounts of Drugs

In July of 2020, the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police called upon federal lawmakers to decriminalize the possession of small amounts of illegal drugs for personal consumption. The Association recommended a health-care approach that would divert people from the criminal justice system and replace the current enforcement-based approach for possession in Canada. Similarly, the Manitoba Association of Chief of Police supported and recommended decriminalization for simple possession of illicit drugs; enforcement resources and strategies target importation, production and distribution of illegal drugs; and the adoption of a health-based diversionary approach be considered.

Several Canadian municipalities have sought an exemption and requested to be included in a federal pilot project to determine if this approach is effective in reducing fatal overdoses. Winnipeg City Council did not approve a motion to be included in such a pilot.



REPORTS AND INQUIRIES OF INTEREST

Systemic Racism in Policing in Canada – Report of the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security June 2021 (6th Report) Provided that “a transformative national effort is required to ensure that all Indigenous, Black and other racialized people in Canada are not subject to the discrimination and injustice that is inherent in the system as it exists today.” The report contains recommendations for consideration of the Government. <https://www.ourcommons.ca/Content/Committee/432/SECU/Reports/RP11434998/securp06/securp06-e.pdf>

The Path to Reconciliation – Annual Progress Report – February 2022 Annually, a report is prepared on the measures that the Province is taking to advance reconciliation. <https://www.gov.mb.ca/inr/reports-and-expenses/pubs/ptr-act-annual-progress-report-2020-2021.pdf>

Winnipeg Newcomer Welcome and Inclusion Policy – framework and implementation plan for the City to better serve the needs of newcomers <https://clkapps.winnipeg.ca/DMIS/ViewDoc.asp?DocId=19480&SectionId=556654&InitUrl=>

Manitoba: Missed Opportunities

Report provided that child poverty in Manitoba is 28.4 percent which is an increase from the previous year at 28.3 percent. Daily realities for those can include insecure/unaffordable/overcrowded housing, lack of suitable/nutritious food and/or inadequate clothing. Winnipeg Centre poverty rate is 39.6 percent, making it the urban riding with the highest child poverty rate in Canada.

https://spcw.mb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/C2000-Report-Card_2021_Manitoba-Missed-Opportunities.pdf

Understanding Systems: The 2021 report of the National Advisory Council on Poverty

In addition to reporting on the Government’s progress, provides and understanding of the systems, programs and supports that exist and the role they may play in creating, sustaining and perpetuating poverty. (The data does not capture the full impact of COVID-19) <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/poverty-reduction/national-advisory-council/reports/2021-annual.html#h2.2>

Public Safety Canada Departmental Plan 2021-22 (Building a safe and resilient Canada)

Report outlining the responsibilities, planned results, resources and key risks in advancing the initiatives. <https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/pblctns/dprtmntl-pln-2021-22/dprtmntl-pln-2021-22-en.pdf>

Independent Reports

1. End Homelessness Winnipeg - Kikininaw Oma: A strategy to support unsheltered Winnipeggers
2. End Homelessness Winnipeg- 2021 Interim Street Census Community Report
3. Manitoba: Poverty Central – an update to Broken Promise Stolen Futures
4. The Pan-Canadian Women’s Housing & Homelessness Survey
5. Take a look at Yourself: Digital displays at Police Museums as Camouflage
6. Annual Review of Interdisciplinary Justice Research
7. Community Based Organizations Call for Police Accountability and the Reallocation of Resources (Submission from the Police Accountability Coalition)

POLICE OVERSIGHT

The Law Enforcement Review Agency (LERA) is a provincial body that is authorized to investigate public complaints about police conduct. The Independent Investigation Unit (IIU) is a provincial body that investigates serious incidents involving police officers in Manitoba. Both agencies have mandates that empower them to investigate the actions of police officers when warranted. The Board's oversight role is specifically in regard to strategic goals, allocation of the budget and evaluation of the police chief.

The Province of Manitoba, having undertaken a review of The Police Services Act, introduced amendments to the legislation to address the gaps in the current legislation, such as length of time to submit a complaint under LERA.

COURT DECISIONS

Decisions made by the courts can influence how police agencies investigate criminal cases and participate in the prosecution process. Some key judicial decisions that affect policing include:

- *R. v. Oake* 2021 MBPC 39 (CanLII)
Provincial Court of Manitoba — Manitoba
2021-09-13 | 11 pages
In this decision a police member in Thompson was held to account for an assault and employment, factors including burn out and trauma were considerations in the sentencing.
- *Hudson (Re)*, 2022 MBPC 20 (CanLII)
Provincial Court of Manitoba — Manitoba
2022-04-19 | 15 page
This is the reasons for granting/denying standing in the above noted inquest; several requests framed around systemic over representation of Indigenous people in the criminal justice system.
- *M.R. v. Winnipeg Police Association*, 2022 CanLII 50576 (MB LB)
Manitoba Labour Board - Manitoba
2022-05-03 | 9 pages
The Labour Board denying a request to find the WPA in breach of its duty to defend the interests of members on COVID 19 policies.

There are cases that include references to systemic racism and police conduct in Canada.

1. *Mcdougall (Re)*, 2016 CanLII 95034 (MB PC), 2016/03/17
2. *R. v. Morris*, 2018 ONSC 5186 (CanLII), 2018/09/11
3. *R. v. Odle*, 2020 ONSC 3991 (CanLII), 2020/06/26

TECHNOLOGICAL TRENDS

New technology has created more ways for police agencies to enhance overall service delivery. The Service continues to receive positive feedback on the Virtual Police Response (VPR) initiative which is an alternative reporting method designed to expedite, triage and complete a police report. Through the Manitoba Justice Criminal Property Forfeiture Fund, the Service will have funding to expand on the VPR capabilities.

The Service uses different platforms to share information that is timely and relevant. Included in these are Service media releases, E-watch, YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and a blog on Substack titled “Tried and True”, which are accessible to the public, though some do require an account.

The use of technology continues to improve service in keeping with public expectations of the Service to be more efficient with the resources that are available to deliver that service.

In 2025, the current 911 system is mandated to be decommissioned and will be transitioned to the Next Generation 911 (NG911) will enable citizens to use multimedia (text, photo, video and audio) to contact the police.

CONCLUSION

The intention of this report is to provide a value free summary of some key factors that impact police response and the Board’s review of strategic priorities. Policing is a complex business bound in law and tradition and public feeling. Responding to calls for greater safety and a better community is part of what makes Winnipeg real. The Board is pleased to provide this document for discussion and to provide a backdrop for the review and update of the strategic plan that occurs annually.

The City and its institutions continue to work on recovery and adjust to new ways of working, delivering citizen services and growing as a community. There are many positive things happening and all of the efforts of community organizations, recreational facilities and individuals will continue to build toward a culture of safety for all. There is a public conversation going on across the country about what expectations are of police. Residents of Winnipeg are strongly encouraged to provide their opinions on tools to enhance public safety and the role of police as part of the solution.

Feedback on this Report or comments for the Board can be provided by attending a public Board meeting or by contacting the Board by email, mail or phone. For more information, please visit the Board’s website, www.winnipegpoliceboard.ca

APPENDIX

Brief summary of investments related to homelessness in Winnipeg in 2022:

In January 2022, the Manitoba and Federal Governments announced \$1.5 million in funding for Winnipeg's Main Street Project for a COVID-19 expansion of its shelter facility increasing the overnight capacity by 50 spaces. This funding was in addition to the other recent Manitoba government investments in housing and initiatives to address homeless. These include:

- investing \$100,000 in capital construction for a 21-unit affordable housing project at 545 Broadway for the 2SLGBTQ+ community;
- investing nearly \$2 million at 390 Ross Ave., an affordable housing project in Winnipeg's inner city for vulnerable people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, and for those dealing with mental health and addictions issues;
- providing \$1.5 million to End Homelessness Winnipeg to create an additional warming space called N'Dinawekmak – Our Relatives, which will create up to 150 new overnight beds and a community care camp in Winnipeg for those most in need;
- investing more than \$6 million to address homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic, including \$5.8 million for Siloam Mission, Resource Assistance for Youth and Salvation Army in Winnipeg for overnight beds and physical distancing, as well as for daytime drop-in and alternative isolation accommodations operated by Main Street Project; and
- creating the province's first rent bank program to support stable housing for low-income to moderate-income families by investing \$5.6 million for interest-free loans to tenants who are behind in their rent or need more suitable housing.

In August 2022, the Government of Manitoba announced further funding to support homelessness initiatives. New funding is to be invested:

- toward community-based organizations that are modernizing the emergency response and meeting acute needs in Winnipeg.
- in the planned Homes for Heroes Veterans Village to help fund the construction of 20 tiny homes that will be serviced by on-site counselling.
- to support transitional housing services offered by the West Central Women's Resource Centre.
- in the relaunch of the Proposal Development Funding (PDF) program, which supports the development of new affordable and social housing projects while leveraging new federal funding program opportunities.
- in the indexation of Rent Assist and the creation of Manitoba's first-ever rent bank
- to support End Homelessness Winnipeg, which has played a coordinating role in the delivery of homelessness initiatives in Winnipeg since 2014.

The Government of Canada created a national strategy to build and renovate hundreds of housing units and

provide affordable housing to people across the county. Funding through this strategy will go towards three new projects in Winnipeg. This funding was announced in January 2022 and will be used in the following way:

- The first project, located at 670 Main Street, will be operated by Manitoba Metis Federation and will convert an existing building into 22 residential units for Indigenous people.
- The second project located at 590 Victor Street will be operated by West Central Women's Resource Centre. It will rehabilitate and repair an existing building to create 16 homes for women and children fleeing domestic violence.
- The third and final project, operated by Westminster Housing Society, will be modularly constructed at 545 Broadway Avenue and will assemble 21 new homes for LGBTQ2+ Canadians.

This is in addition to the Government of Canada's previous investment of \$12.5 million through the first phase of the Rapid Housing Initiative to support the creation of 77 housing units in Winnipeg.

The City of Winnipeg, through the 2022 budget committed \$1.1 million to its own initiatives to help those experiencing homelessness. Those include:

- Accessible public washrooms downtown
- Staffing support for the delivery of the Federal Government Rapid Housing Initiative
- Mobile Outreach

