Halton Regional Police Service
Public Agenda Recommendation Report

To: Chair and Police Board Members **From:** Chief Stephen J. Tanner

Subject: **MID-YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Report #: **P26-09-R-02** **Date:** September 24, 2026

RECOMMENDATION:

"That the Halton Police Board receives Report P26-09-R-02 for information and discussion."

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Stephen J. Tanner
Chief of Police

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INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

This report presents an overview of the Service's January-to-June 2026 performance in a number of key statistical measures compared to previous years, along with a discussion about noted trends. It also provides an overview of the Service's 2025 full-year performance in comparison to other large police agencies in Ontario, based on data released by Statistics Canada in July.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

<u>2026 Mid-Year Statistical Summary</u>

This section of the report provides a statistical summary for the January–June 2025 and 2026 timeframes, in addition to presenting a summary of five-year trends. Data was obtained from the in-house Niche Records Management System (RMS) and was prepared and analysed by the Police Analytics Unit. The crime categories are slightly different to those reported by Statistics Canada at each year's end due to the reporting requirements and data processes utilized by Statistics Canada. The Niche RMS statistics are valid for internal comparison purposes.

Analysis indicates that 900 less criminal offences were reported in the first six months of 2026 (6,623) than were recorded in the same period in 2025 (7,523). This is a raw number decrease of 12.0% but represents a decrease in the crime rate[i] of 14.6% when regional population growth is considered.

Violent crime[ii] offences decreased by 18.4% from 1,292 in 2025, to 1,054 in 2026. This, however, represents a violent crime rate decrease of 20.9% due to population increase. These crimes accounted for 15.9% of all criminal offences, down from 17.2% in 2025.

Property crime[iii] fell by 11.4% from 5,561 in 2025 to 4,929 in 2026. This represents a property crime rate decrease of 14.0% due to population increase.

The "Other Crimes"[iv] category of offences was down by 4.5% in 2026 (from 670 to 640 offences). This represents a crime rate decrease of 7.4% in this category of crimes due to population increase.

The 2026 clearance rate[v] (36.2%) was slightly lower than the 2025 value (37.8%).

<u>Other Trends:</u>

Motor vehicle collision totals were 4.4% higher during 2026 (up from 4,958 to 5,177). Property damage collisions[vii] were up from 4,486 to 4,708 (+4.9%). Injury collision[viii] totals were down from 470 to 467 (-0.6%). Fatal collisions were unchanged at 2.

Impaired driving apprehensions were up 14.0% in 2026 (from 214 to 244).

Warning notices (Warns) provide officers with an opportunity to document an offence and educate the public but proceed by way of a warning option instead of a charge. Total enforcement (Provincial Offence Notices issued, plus Warns) was down by 3,091, or 11.1%, to 24,750 (from 27,841 in 2025).

Total CAD events[vi] increased by 448, or 0.6%, to 75,304 (from 74,856 in 2025).

<u>Statistical Trend Discussion</u>

Drilling down into the data for the first six months of the year, the following key trends have been identified:

- Violent crime is significantly down (about 18% - 238 occurrences), and with population growth taken into account this represents a drop in the violent crime rate of approximately 21%. The decrease of 238 occurrences is statistically significant, and in raw occurrence count terms, the following were the most impactful:
    - Assault (down 115, from 725 to 610, -16%) – this marks the lowest 6-month count in the category since the COVID-impacted years of 2020 and 2021.

  - Other Violent Crime (down 82, from 339 to 257, -24%) – this catch-all category covers about 25% of all violent crime.

- Property crime is significantly down (this being for the second year running - having risen for five consecutive years before that) – decreasing by 11.4% (632 occurrences per 100,000 population) - this represents a drop in the property crime rate of about 14% when population is taken into account. The first six-months total of 4,929 is the lowest in a non-COVID year since 2022 and is 22% below the 2024 peak of 6,354 property crime occurrences. This 2026 decrease is due to declines in almost every property crime category (except Arson which was up 1 occurrence), including:

  - Theft – down 294 (-10%)
  - Break & Enter - down 87 (-22%)
  - Fraud – down 112 (-10%)
  - Mischief – down 70 (-17%)

  Of note: the massive growth of theft of motor vehicle offences between 2020 and 2024 continued its 2025 reversal into the first six months of 2026 (down 33, from 542 to 509, -6%) – and taking population growth into account, this actually represents a 9% decline in the theft of auto crime rate. In the first six months of 2019 there were 215 auto theft occurrences, and this number peaked in 2024 at 796. The 2025-2026 decline is both statistically significant and very welcome news (with the rate per 100,000 falling 40%). This positions the Service well with the 2024-2027 Strategic Plan objective of reducing auto theft by 50%.

- The overall clearance rate is down from 37.8% to 36.2%. The major factor related to this slight decline is:

  - Crime continued to decline significantly, particularly violent crime. Because violent crime traditionally achieves higher clearance rates than property crime, the larger reduction in violent crime slightly altered the offence mix and may have contributed to a modest reduction in the overall clearance rate. The 1.6% clearance rate change does not necessarily reflect a reduction in investigative effectiveness but should be interpreted in the context of changing crime volumes and offence composition.

- These very positive results from the first half of 2026 will be expanded upon in the year-end report that will be presented to the Board in early 2027. That report will provide important updates on the status of the performance trends in the 2024 – 2027 Strategic Plan Priorities.

Five Year Statistical Trends

The following four tables provide a summary of crime and workload trends over the past five years for a selection of key crime types and measures. The statistics presented below, excluding the clearance rate, are ***expressed as a rate*** (per 100,000 population) to remove the impact of population growth:

Halton Region:

	2022	2023	2024	2025	**2026**	**5-Year Average**
Robbery	13	7	10	11	**9**	**10**
Assault	115	101	104	101	**82**	**101**
Sexual Assault	22	16	13	12	**9**	**14**
Violent Crime	213	194	184	181	**142**	**183**
Break and Enter	53	64	78	56	**42**	**59**
Auto Theft	84	117	116	76	**69**	**92**
Theft	403	453	457	421	**365**	**420**
Fraud	108	98	186	155	**134**	**136**
Property Crime	750	817	926	778	**664**	**787**
Other Criminal Code	160	146	83	94	**86**	**114**
Total Crime	**1,124**	**1,157**	**1,193**	**1,053**	**892**	**1,084**
Impaired Driving	32	36	27	30	**30**	**31**
Property Damage Collisions	332	660	663	628	**634**	**584**
Personal Injury Collisions	65	68	66	66	**63**	**66**
PONs and Warns Issued	3,357	2,917	3,176	3,897	**3,334**	**3,336**
CAD Events	10,674	10,545	9,795	10,479	**10,143**	**10,327**
Crime Clearance Rate	43.1%	41.3%	34.5%	37.8%	**36.2%**	**38.6%**

District 1:

	2022	2023	2024	2025	**2026**	**5-Year Average**
Robbery	10	11	8	12	**8**	**10**
Assault	120	96	100	105	**80**	**100**
Sexual Assault	21	12	10	14	**8**	**13**
Violent Crime	203	188	178	176	**137**	**176**
Break and Enter	39	42	48	35	**27**	**38**
Auto Theft	96	104	90	56	**53**	**80**
Theft	311	338	367	347	**288**	**330**
Fraud	80	71	124	118	**96**	**98**
Property Crime	618	634	708	612	**516**	**618**
Other Criminal Code	247	276	97	120	**100**	**168**
Total Crime	**1,068**	**1,098**	**983**	**909**	**753**	**962**
Impaired Driving	37	32	24	31	**24**	**30**
Property Damage Collisions	607	394	472	215	**418**	**421**
Personal Injury Collisions	84	34	54	65	**46**	**57**
PONs and Warns Issued	2,916	2,936	2,932	3,592	**2,774**	**3,030**
CAD Events	9,641	10,029	8,890	9,365	**8,388**	**9,263**
Crime Clearance Rate	48.4%	55.9%	39.4%	40.3%	**43.9%**	**45.6%**

District 2:

	2022	2023	2024	2025	**2026**	**5-Year Average**
Robbery	17	6	11	11	**8**	**11**
Assault	103	99	102	99	**78**	**96**
Sexual Assault	24	16	12	10	**6**	**13**
Violent Crime	210	178	183	183	**132**	**177**
Break and Enter	62	66	92	73	**50**	**69**
Auto Theft	87	152	142	101	**84**	**113**
Theft	382	472	451	441	**360**	**421**
Fraud	114	101	218	169	**159**	**152**
Property Crime	738	859	990	854	**704**	**829**
Other Criminal Code	79	67	64	71	**70**	**70**
Total Crime	**1,027**	**1,104**	**1,237**	**1,108**	**906**	**1,076**
Impaired Driving	21	28	18	25	**28**	**24**
Property Damage Collisions	525	347	462	205	**430**	**394**
Personal Injury Collisions	49	29	35	35	**27**	**35**
PONs and Warns Issued	3,440	3,115	3,172	4,133	**3,766**	**3,525**
CAD Events	10,002	10,072	9,713	10,951	**11,585**	**10,464**
Crime Clearance Rate	37.2%	31.3%	30.5%	34.7%	**34.1%**	**33.6%**

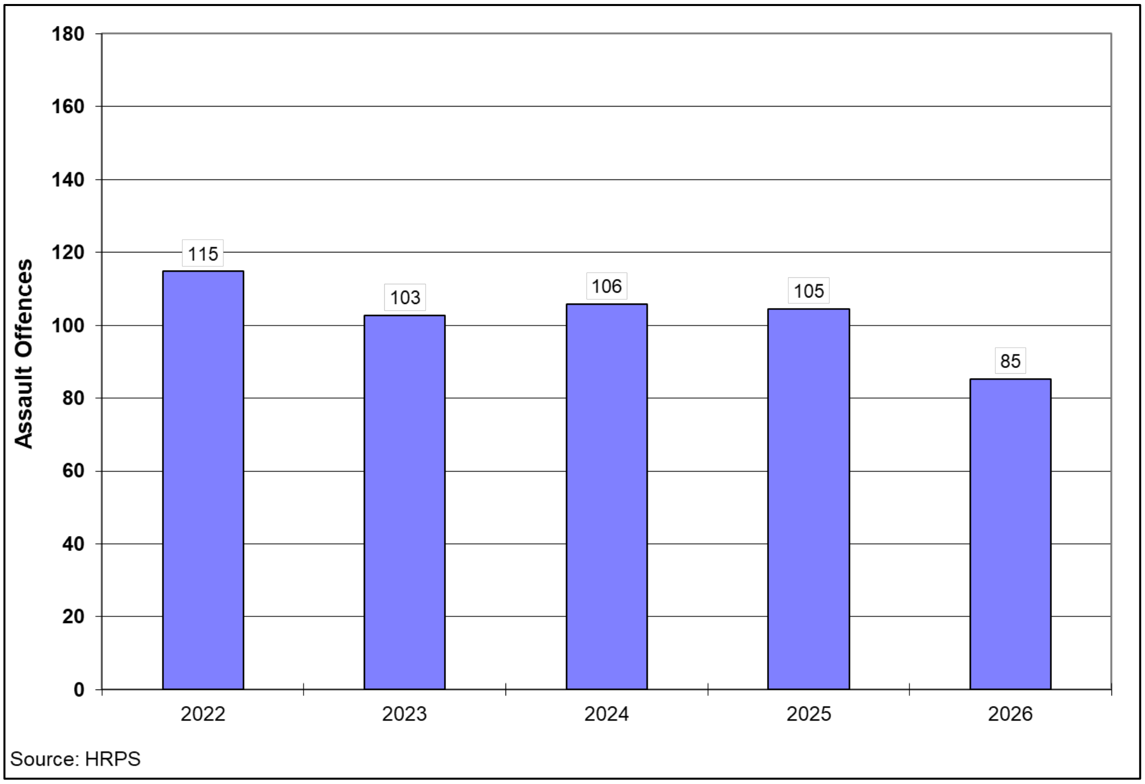
District 3:

	2022	2023	2024	2025	**2026**	**5-Year Average**
Robbery	11	4	11	11	**10**	**9**
Assault	120	110	108	99	**89**	**105**
Sexual Assault	21	19	19	12	**14**	**17**
Violent Crime	224	218	190	180	**158**	**194**
Break and Enter	60	83	96	60	**50**	**70**
Auto Theft	67	91	116	68	**70**	**82**
Theft	485	552	552	472	**455**	**503**
Fraud	127	125	210	178	**150**	**158**
Property Crime	856	958	1,073	868	**783**	**908**
Other Criminal Code	158	89	85	87	**85**	**101**
Total Crime	**1,238**	**1,264**	**1,348**	**1,136**	**1,025**	**1,202**
Impaired Driving	39	41	32	32	**35**	**36**
Property Damage Collisions	598	445	549	240	**425**	**451**
Personal Injury Collisions	63	33	40	49	**35**	**44**
PONs and Warns Issued	3,304	2,100	2,848	3,258	**2,850**	**2,872**
CAD Events	11,328	10,117	9,983	9,988	**9,582**	**10,200**
Crime Clearance Rate	45.1%	37.5%	34.8%	39.1%	**31.6%**	**37.6%**

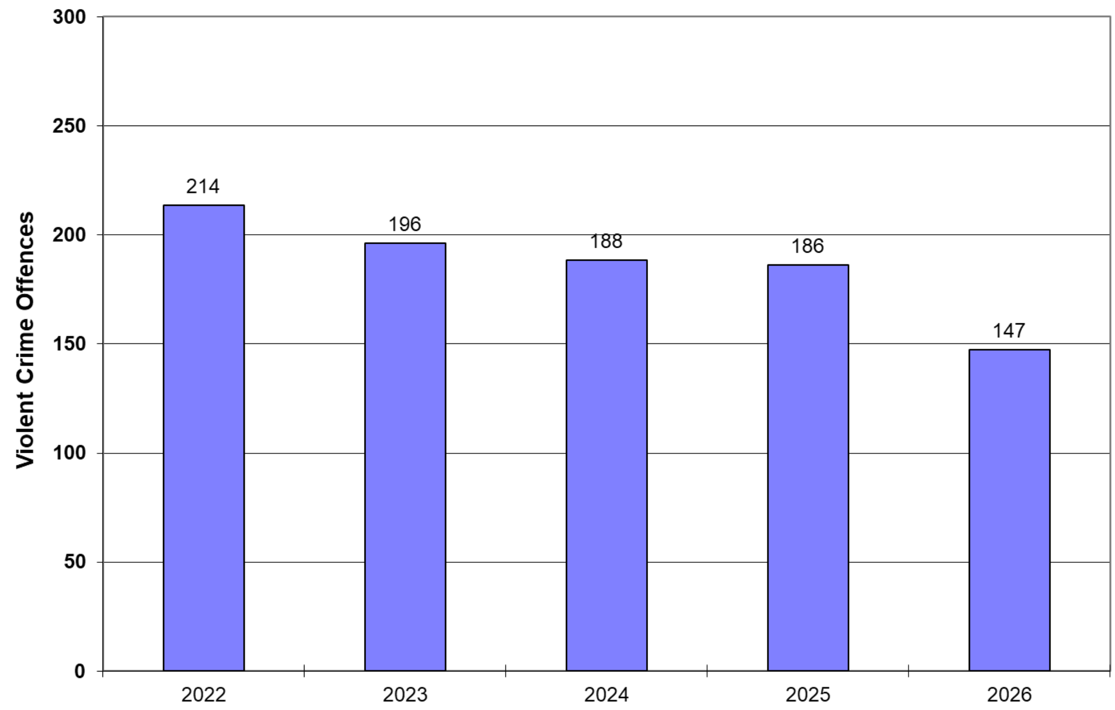
Key Trends

The following graphs give a quick visual update of the five-year trends in key measures tracked by the Service. The statistics presented below, excluding the clearance rate, are ***expressed as a rate*** (per 100,000 population) to remove the impact of population growth. The following data is for the Halton Region as a whole (January – June) for each year:

Assault Rate

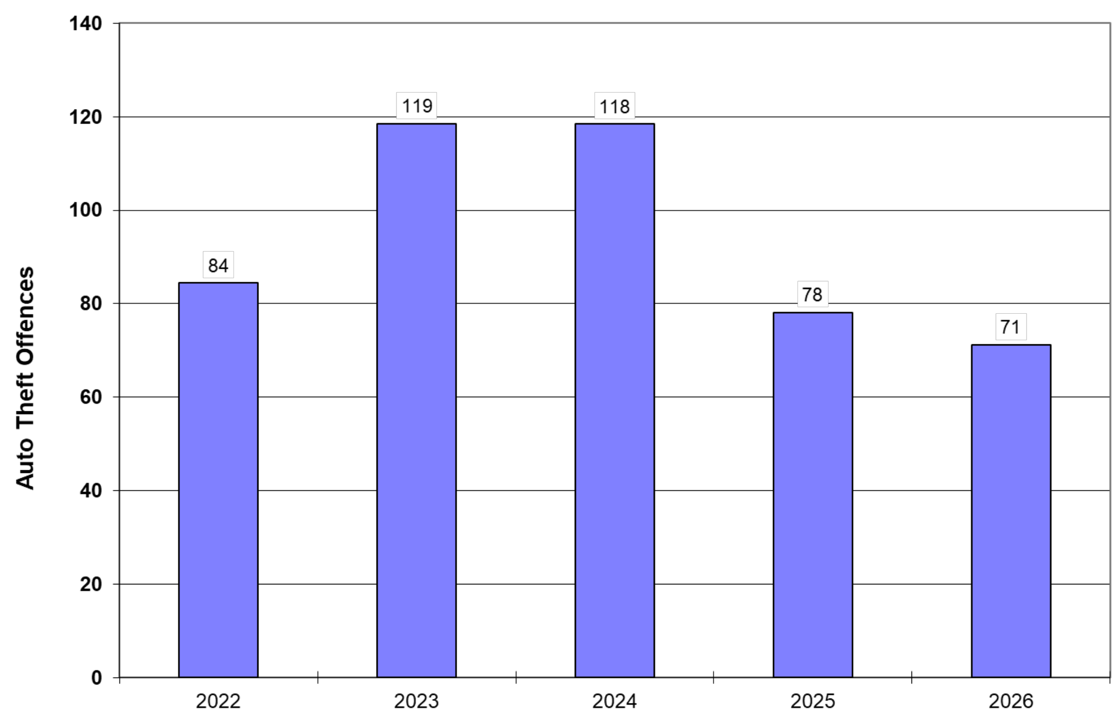


Violent Crime Rate



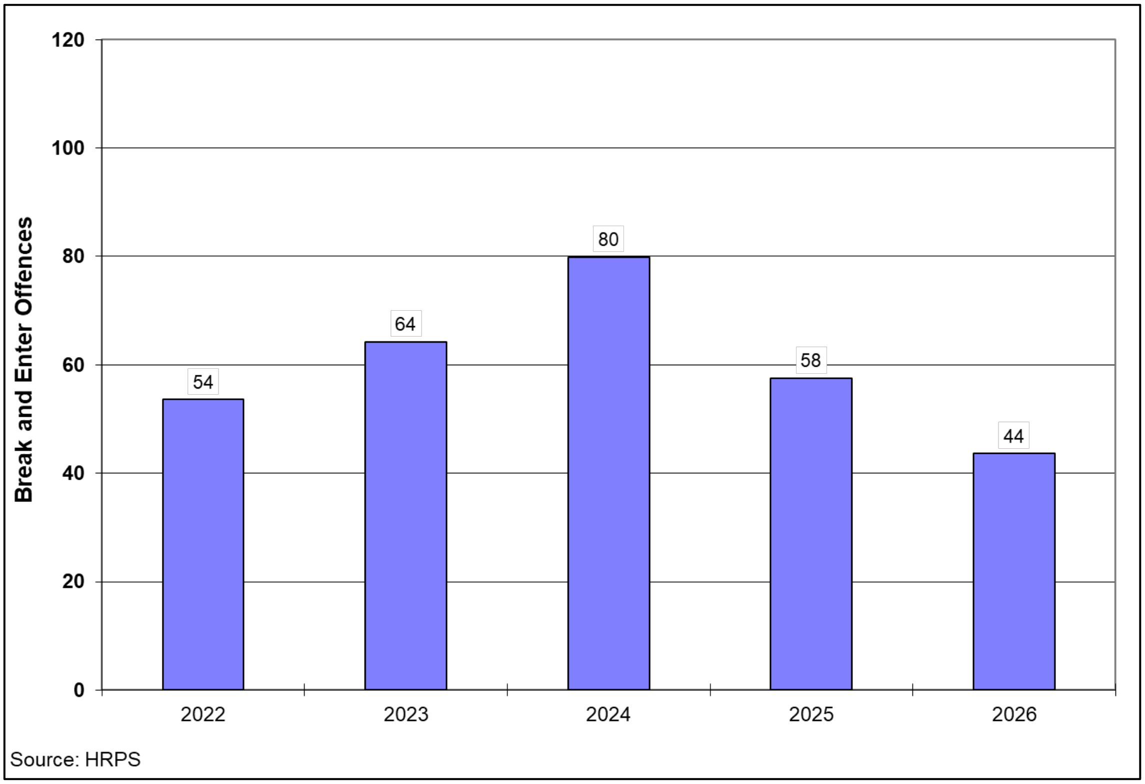
Source: HRPS

Auto Theft Rate

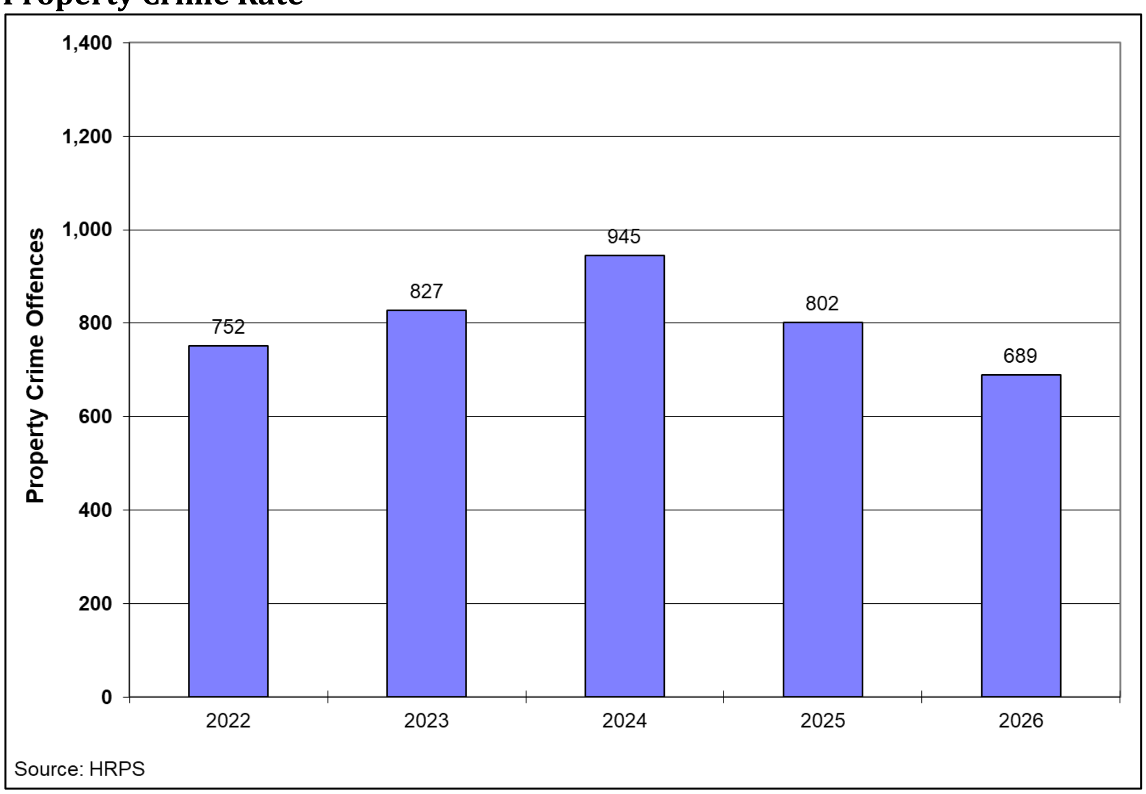


Source: HRPS

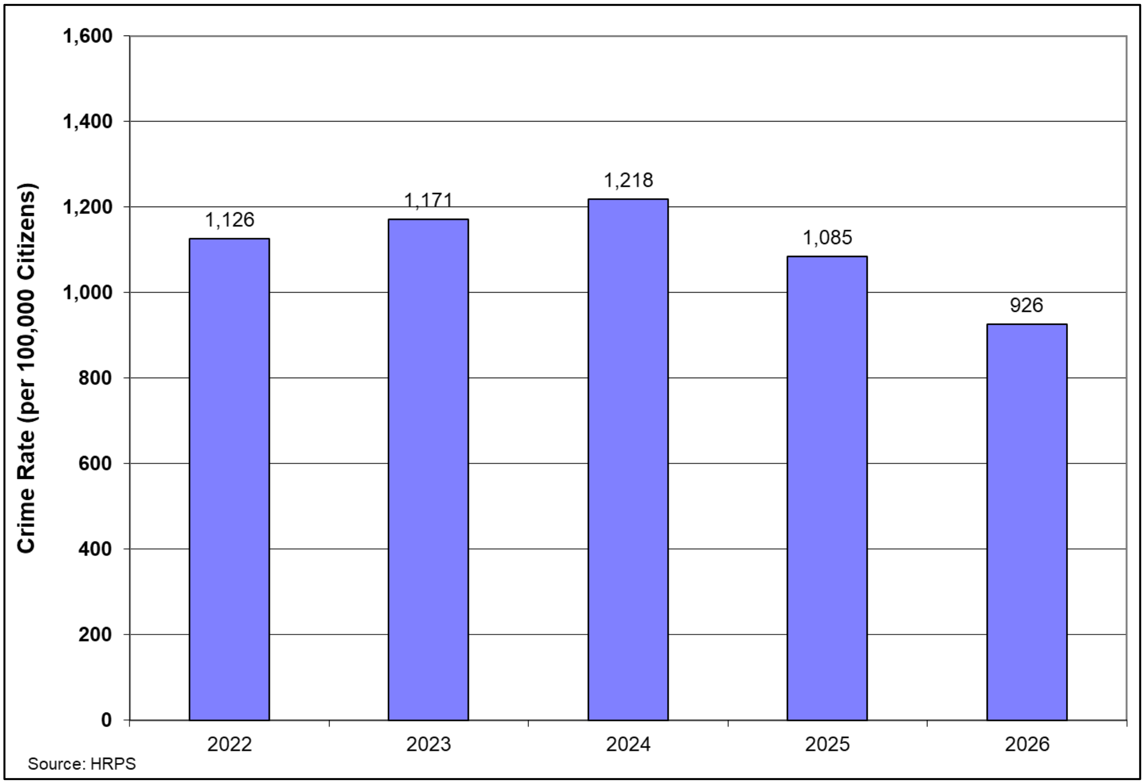
Break and Enter Rate



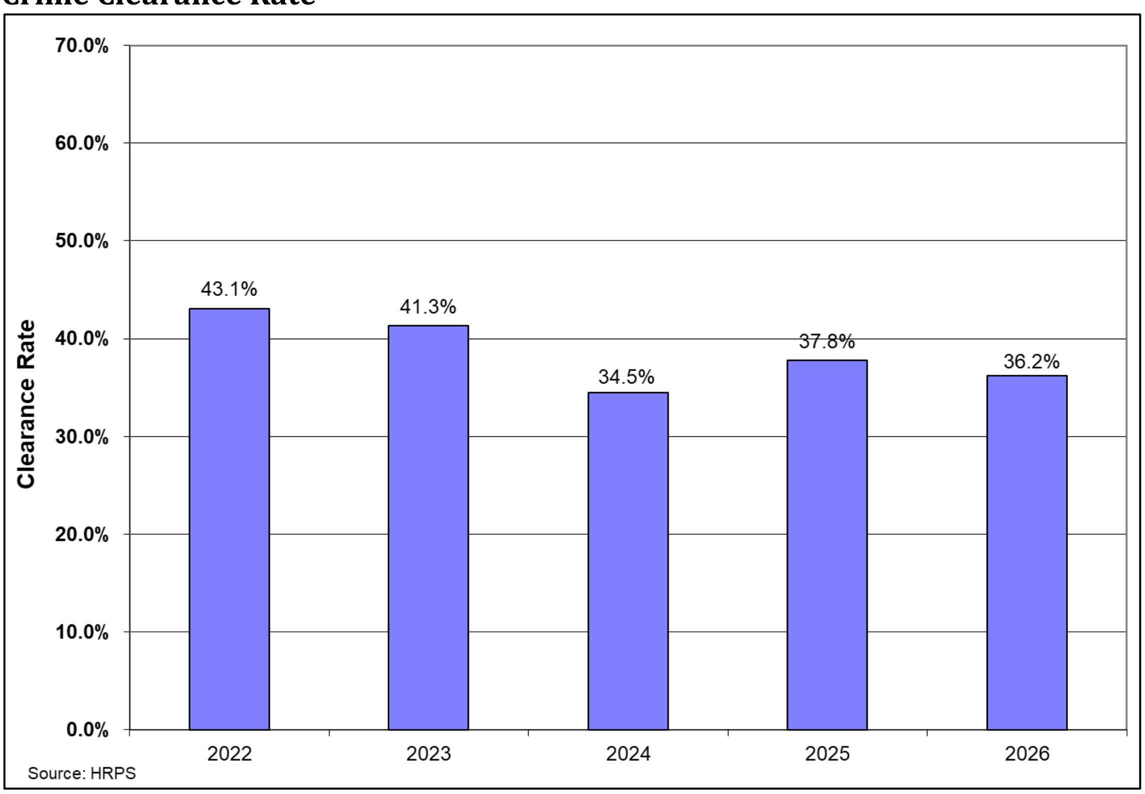
Property Crime Rate



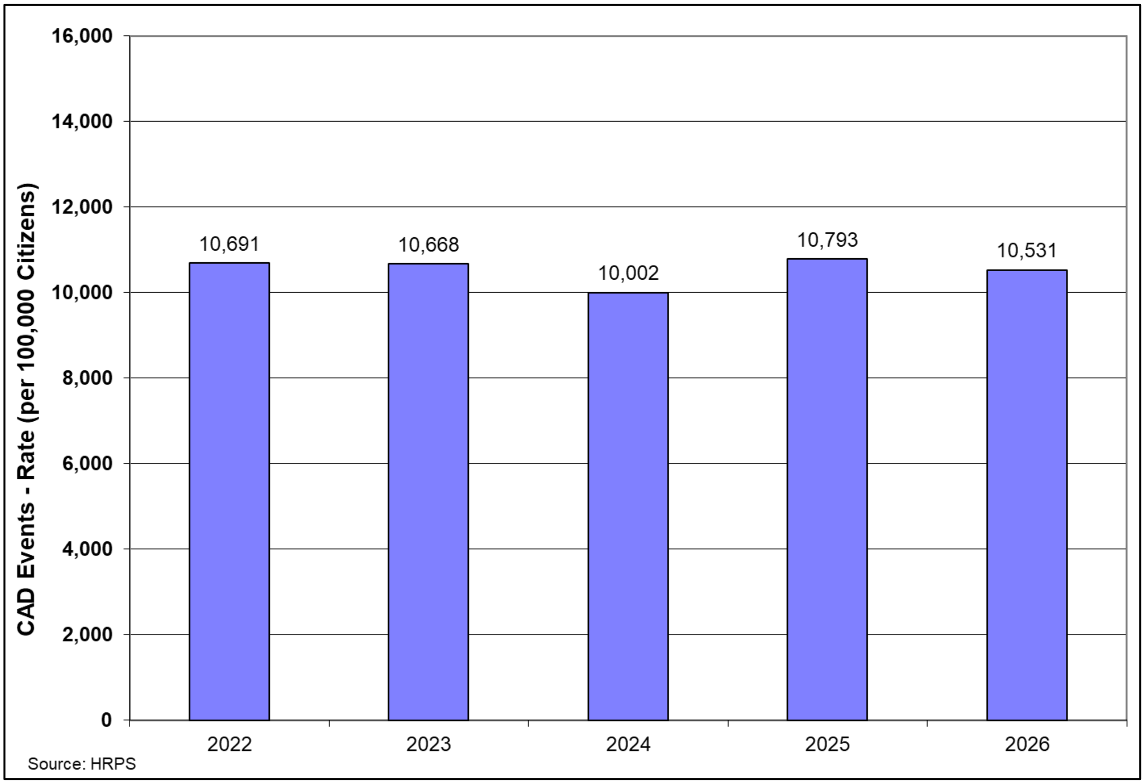
Overall Crime Rate



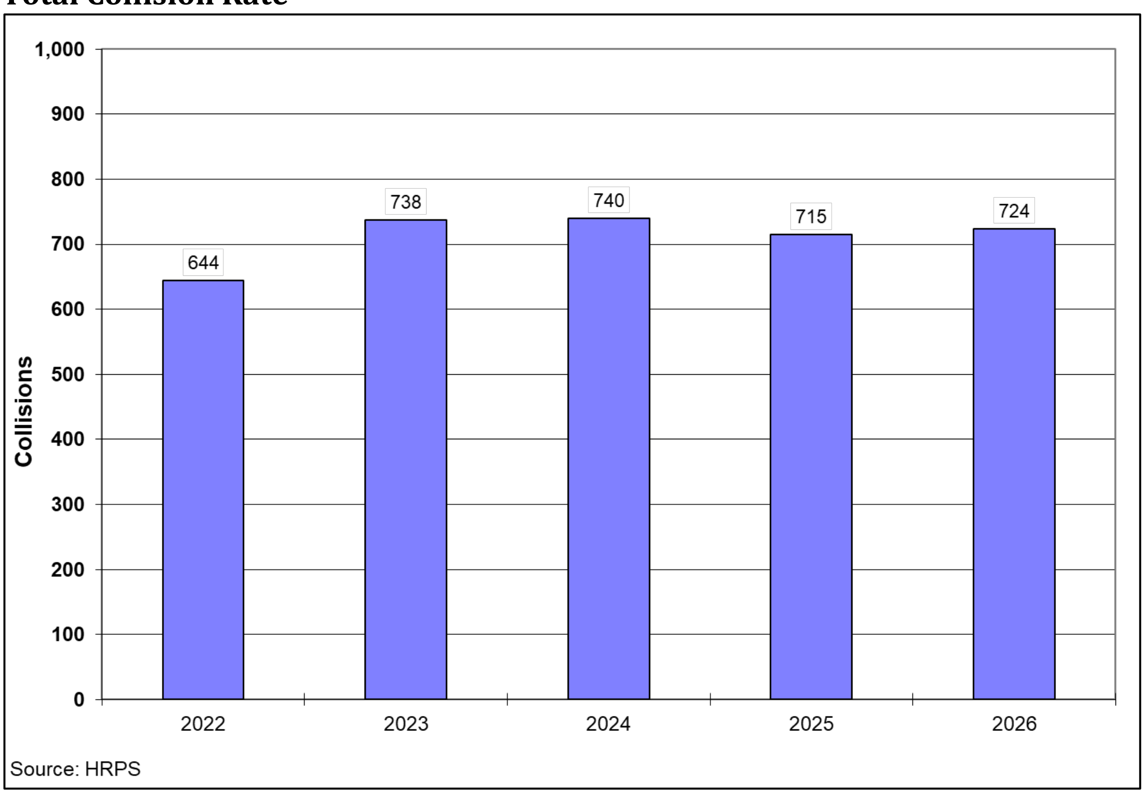
Crime Clearance Rate



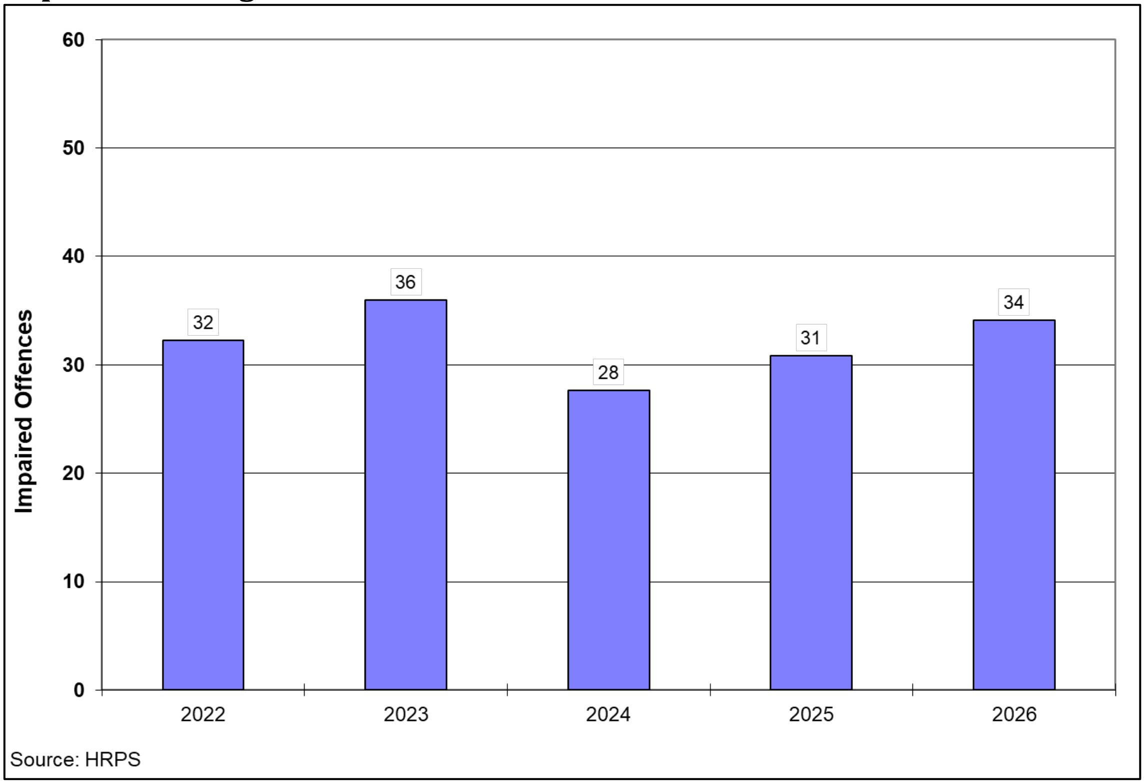
CAD Events



Total Collision Rate



Impaired Driving



Halton Data in Context and 2025 Statistics Canada Data

This section provides additional data to provide some context for the mid-year data presented above. Also, staff recently obtained year-end 2025 data for the largest police services in Ontario (from Statistics Canada) and graphs showing this data are provided below.

All crime rates have been recalculated back to 2021 using the population forecasts endorsed by the Police Services Board at its January 29, 2026, meeting, ensuring consistent year-over-year comparisons. Figure 1 below highlights the overall change within Halton.

Figure 1 – Population Change (Source: Regional Municipalities)

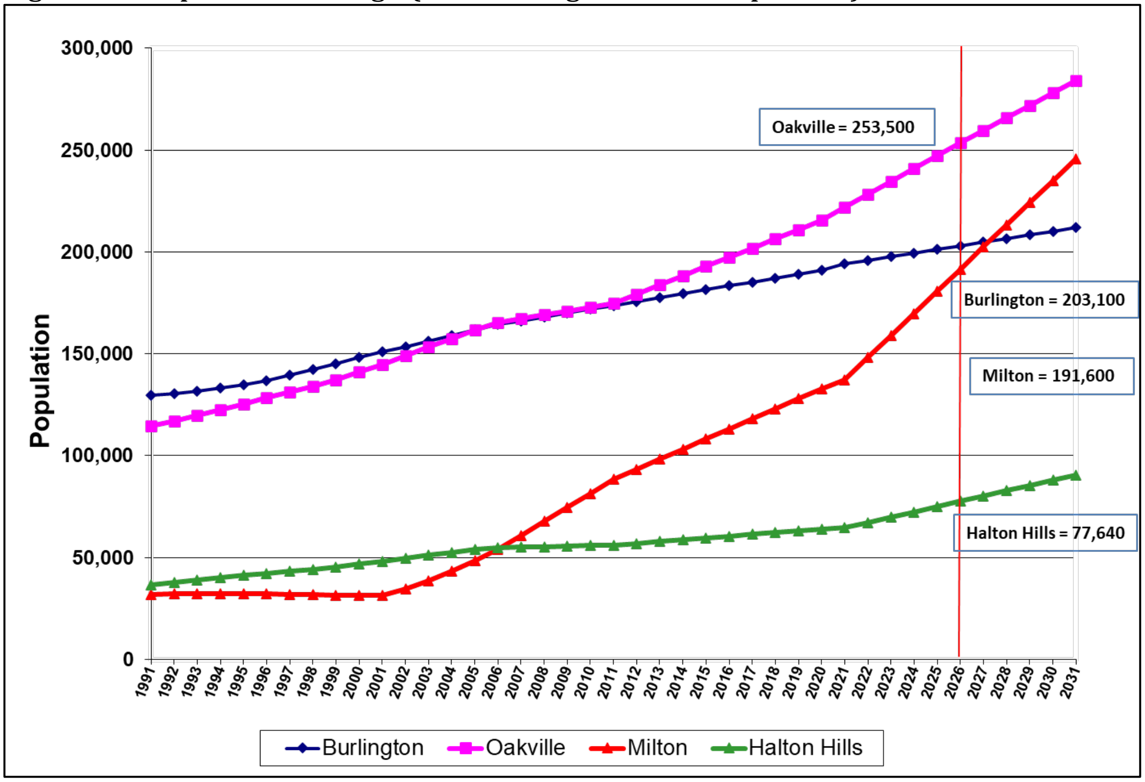
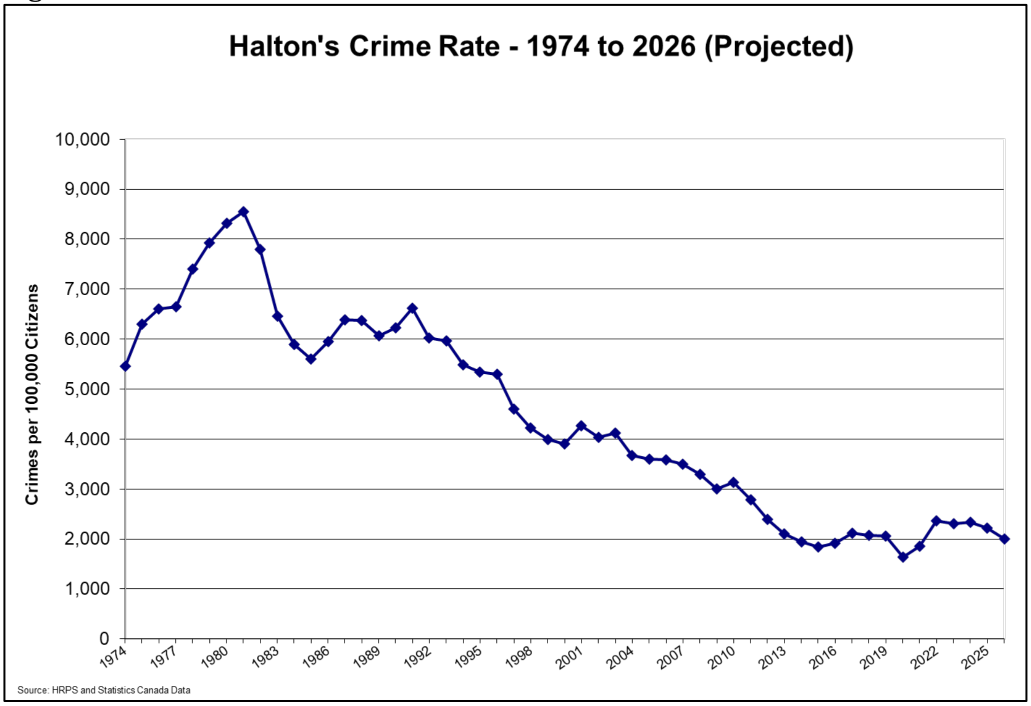


Figure 2 illustrates the changes in overall crime rate in Halton since regionalization in 1974. Similar to trends observed in much of the western world, crime rates have generally declined since the early 1990s and have remained near historical lows. However, there was an increase in 2021 and 2022 following the pandemic, returning to levels last seen from 2017 to 2019.

Figure 2 – Halton's Crime Rate



Recently released data (July 2026) from Statistics Canada indicates that Halton's 2025 crime rate was lower than every major police service in Ontario. Figures 3, 4 and 5 below show the rankings for various crime rate categories:

Figure 3 - Overall Crime Rate (2025 – crimes per 100,000 population)

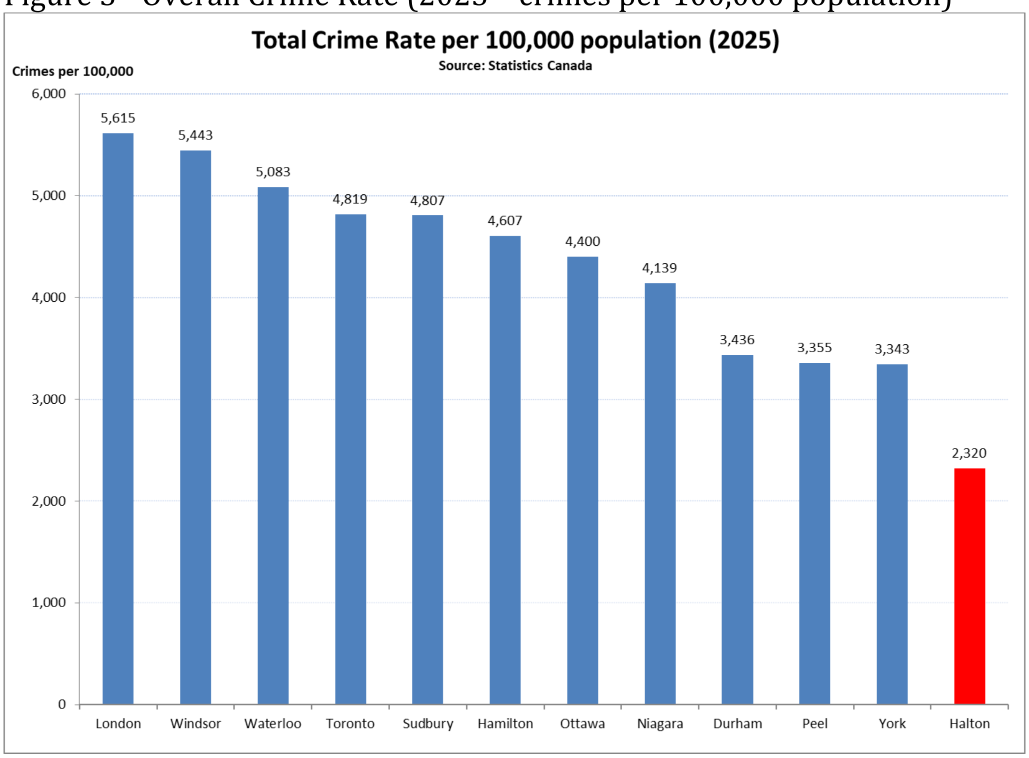


Figure 4 - Violent Crime Rate (2025 – crimes per 100,000 population)

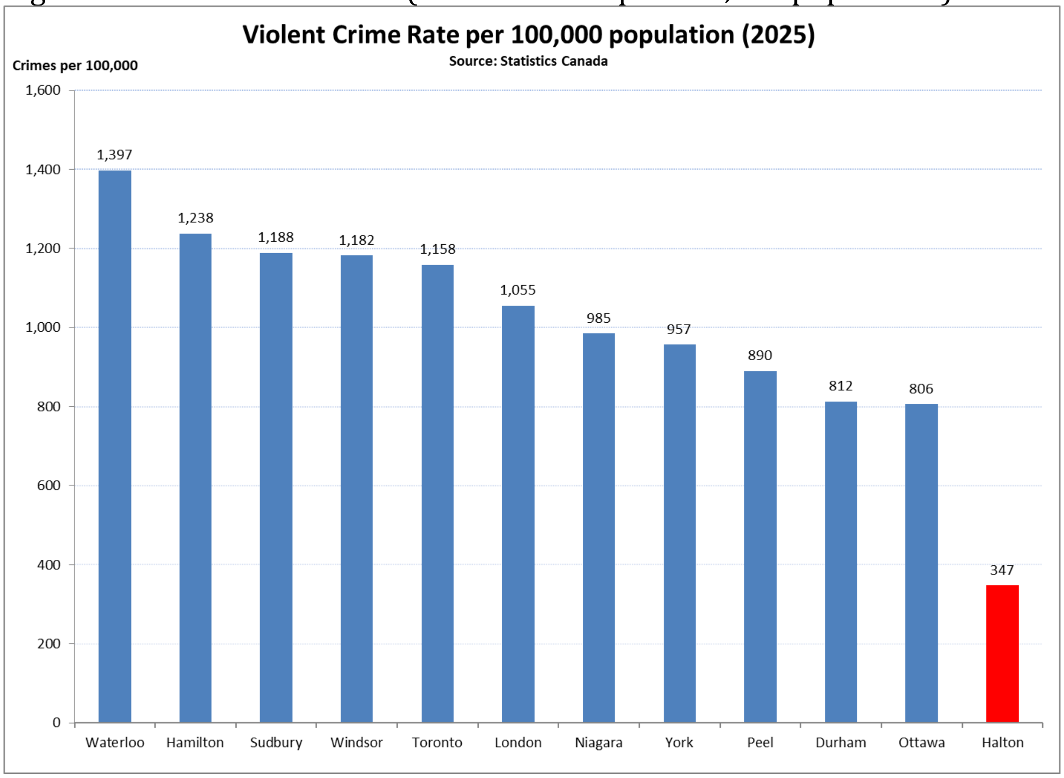
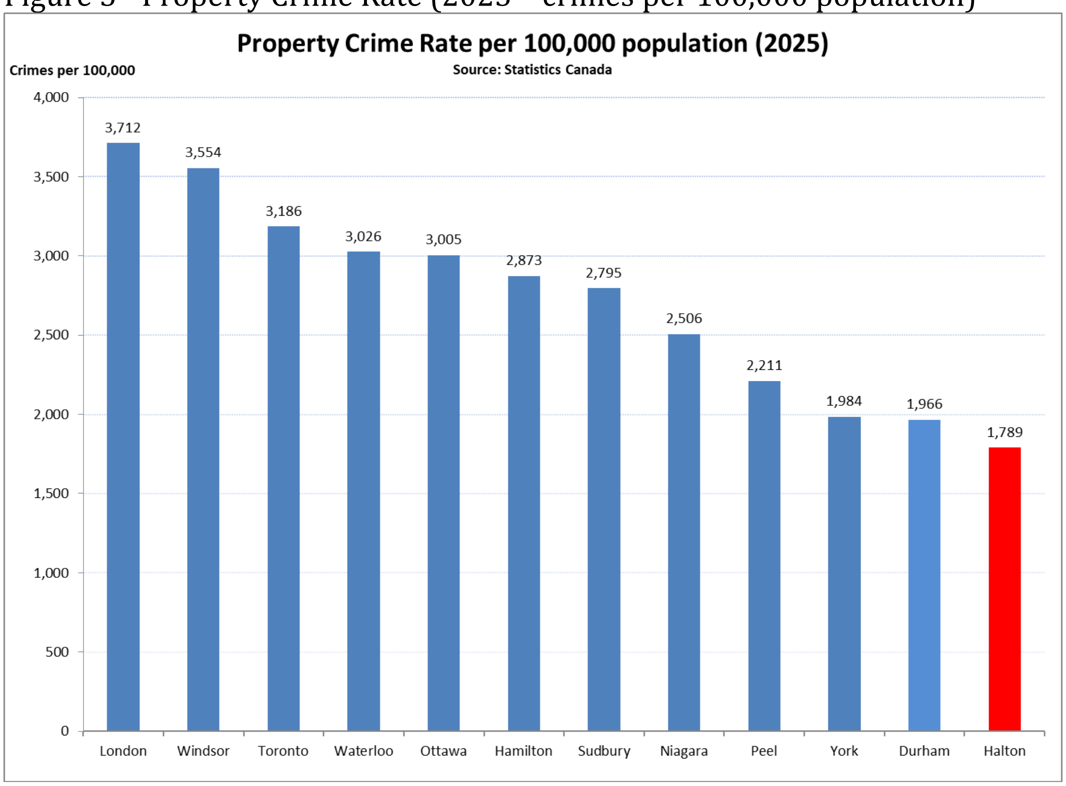


Figure 5 - Property Crime Rate (2025 – crimes per 100,000 population)



Figures 6 and 7 show the clearance rates for overall crime and violent crime respectively. Halton's crime clearance rates exceed the majority of the Big 12 in both categories.

Figure 6 - Overall Crime Clearance Rate (2025)

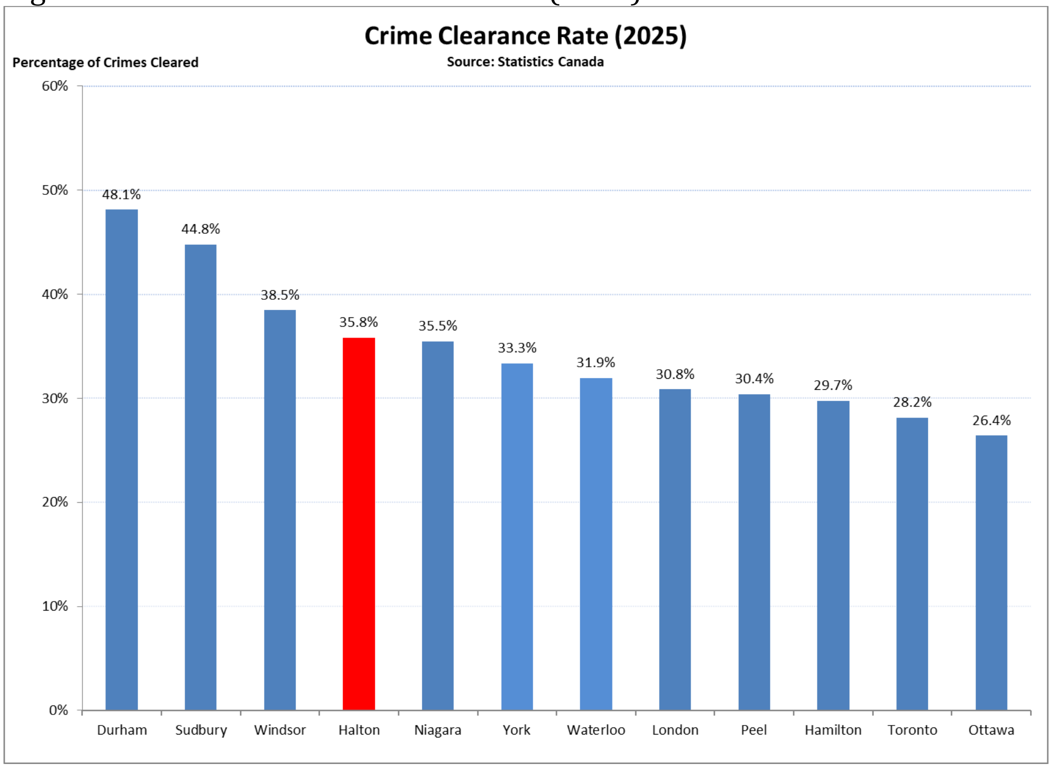
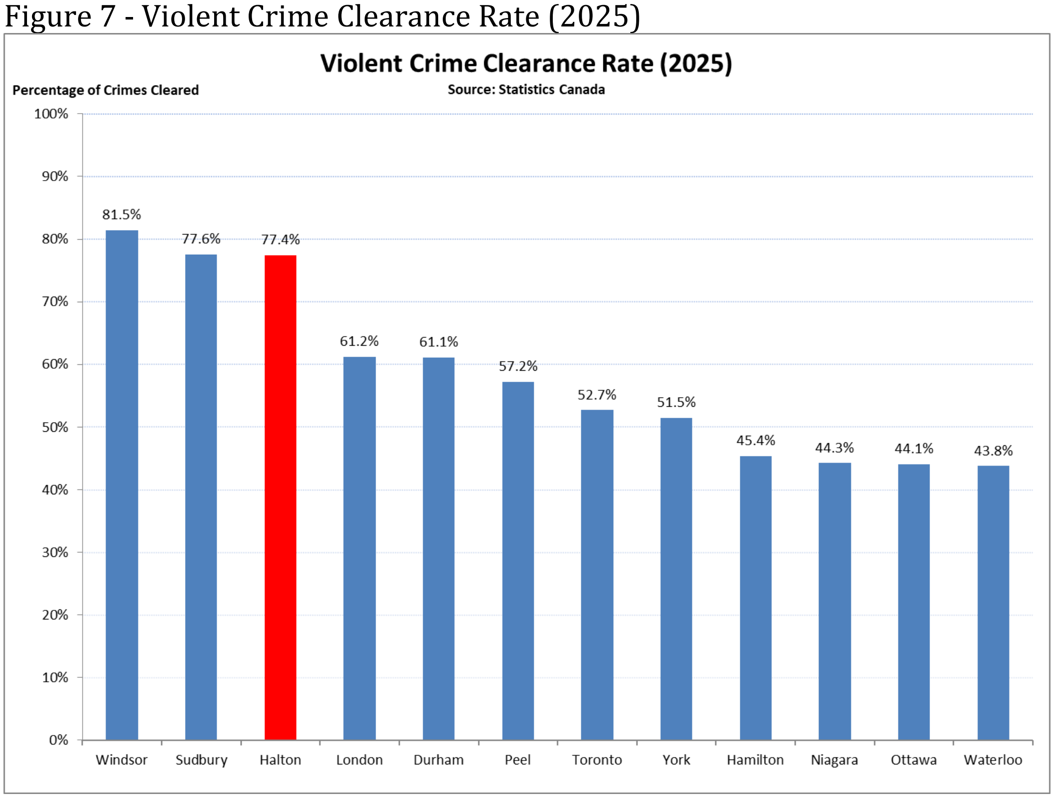


Figure 7 - Violent Crime Clearance Rate (2025)



Data from July shows that Halton ranked highest among Ontario's large police services in all measures of the national Crime Severity Index for 2025 (Overall, Violent, and Non-Violent), and placed fourth in the Weighted Clearance Rate, as illustrated in Figures 8–11.

Figure 8 - Overall Crime Severity Index (2025)

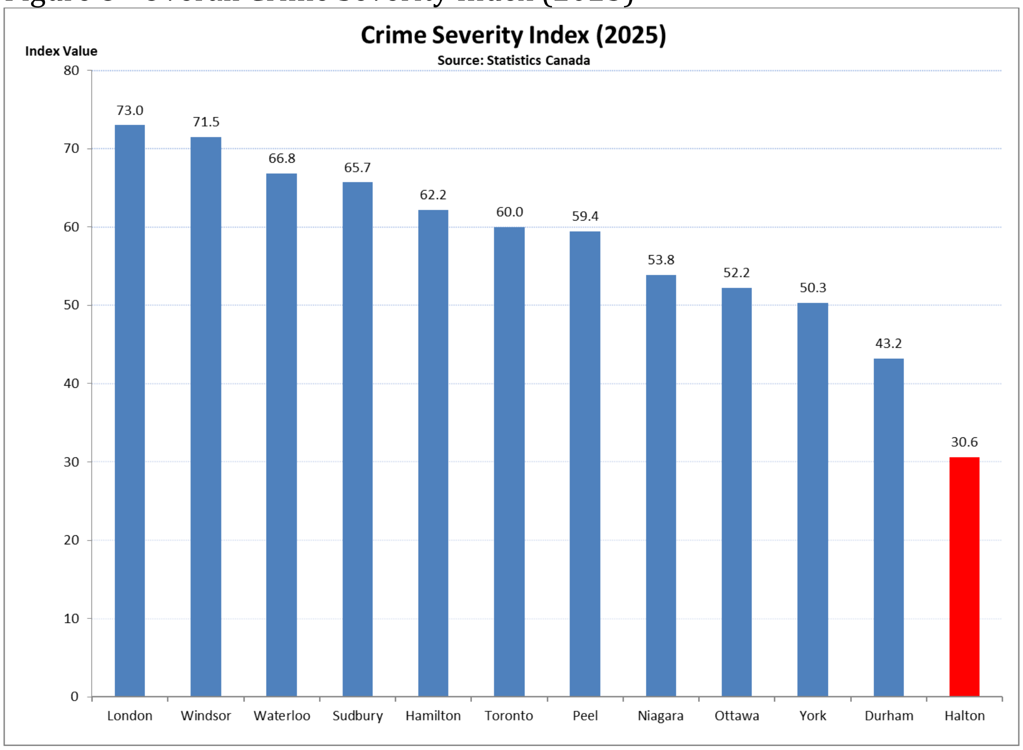


Figure 9 – Violent Crime Severity Index (2025)

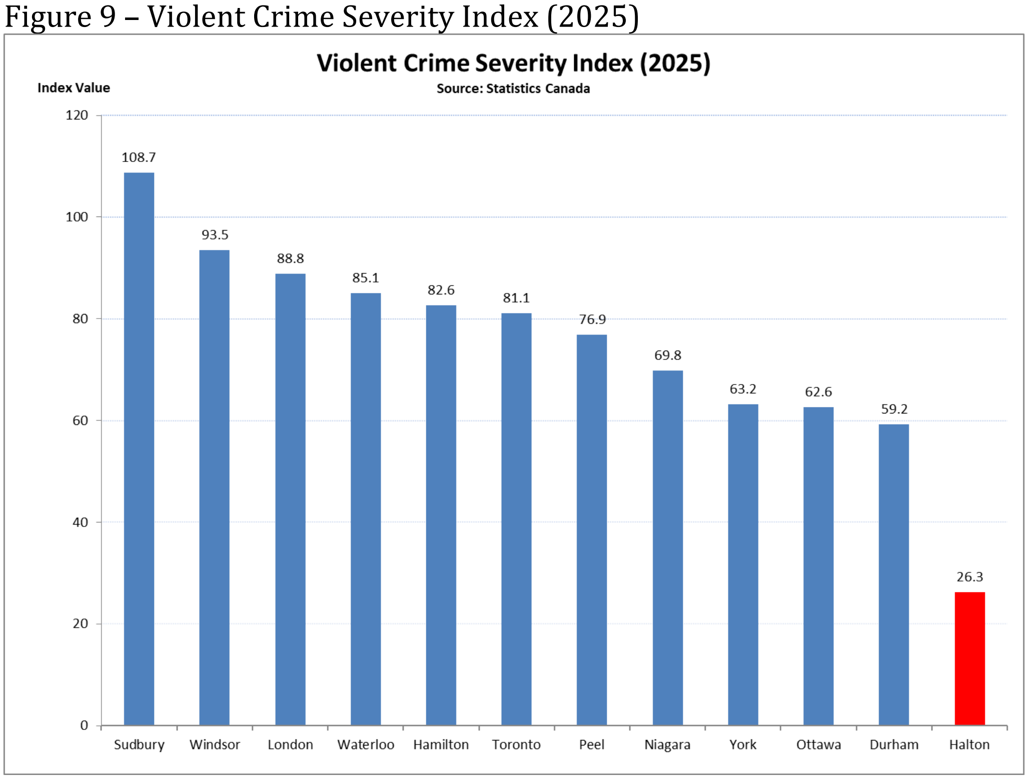


Figure 10 – Non-Violent Crime Severity Index (2025)

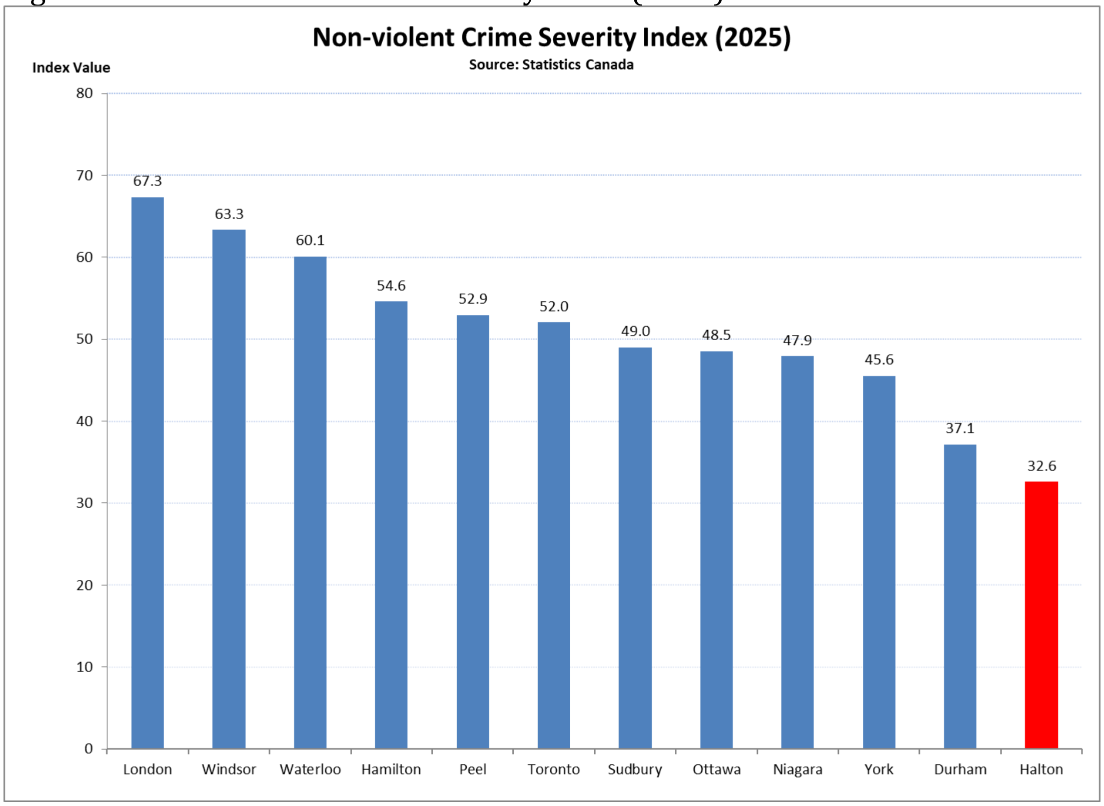
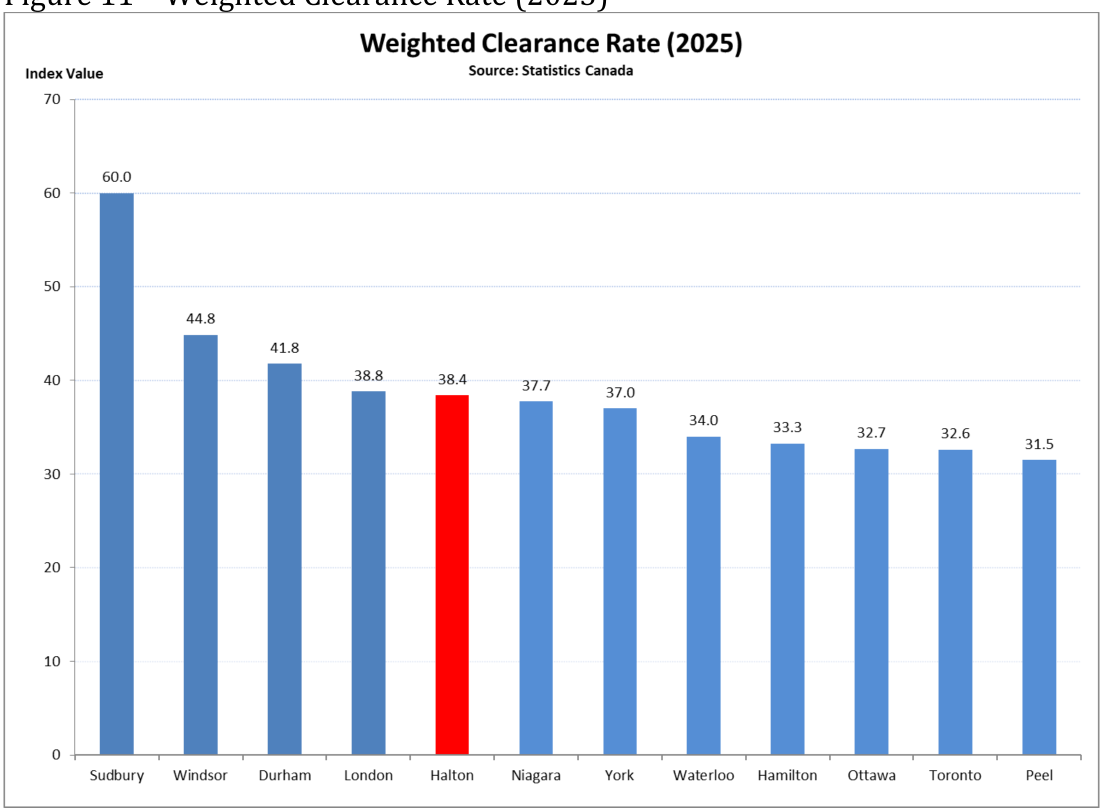


Figure 11 – Weighted Clearance Rate (2025)



ALTERNATIVES:

N/A

CONSULTATION:

Senior Management
Police Analytics Unit

FINANCIAL / HUMAN RESOURCE / LEGAL ISSUES:

N/A

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT ISSUES:

HRPS 2024-2027 Strategic Plan – Strategic Objectives 1,2,4 & 5

Definitions

[i] The **crime rate** is the number of crimes that occurred for a set number of residents. The Service and Statistics Canada report the number of crimes per 100,000 people. Using a rate of crime measurement allows us to compare crime statistics between communities with different populations, and within communities over different time periods.

[ii] **Violent crime** incidents involve offences that deal with the application, or threat of application, of force to a person. These include homicide, attempted murder, and various forms of assault, robbery and abduction/confinement.

[iii] **Property crime** incidents involve unlawful acts with the intent of gaining property but do not involve the use or threat of violence against an individual. Theft, breaking and entering, mischief, fraud and possession of stolen goods are examples of property crimes.

[iv] **Other Crimes** incidents involve the remaining Criminal Code offences that are not classified as violent or property incidents (excluding traffic). Examples include bail violations, counterfeit currency, disturbing the peace, prostitution and offensive weapons.

[v] The **clearance rate** is the percentage of the total number of crimes that occur which are solved (cleared). Criminal incidents can either be cleared "by charge" or "cleared otherwise". When a police investigation leads to the identification of a suspect, an "information" is laid against that person (i.e., the person is formally charged). From a statistical point of view, the laying of an information means that at least one actual incident can be "cleared by charge".

Incidents can also be "cleared otherwise." In some cases, police cannot lay an information even if they have identified a suspect and have enough evidence to support the laying of an information. Examples include cases of diplomatic immunity, instances where the complainant declines to proceed with charges against the accused, or cases where the alleged offender dies before he or she can be formally charged. Such incidents are considered to be "cleared otherwise," that is, other than by the laying of a charge.

[vi] **CAD Events** is a measure of service delivery and represents a self-contained unit of police activity as captured in the Computer Aided Dispatch system. The number quantifies work for both uniformed police officer and civilian members. Please note that to best capture response and service delivered to the public as opposed to internal administrative work, certain CAD event types are excluded in the calculation such as OUTS, BUSY, Abandoned 911 calls and non-police calls received through communications.

[vii] **A Property Damage Collision** is a motor vehicle collision where property damage has occurred but in which no parties are injured.

[viii] **An Injury Collision** is a motor vehicle collision where one or more parties involved are injured.