



Beaumont Municipal Detachment

Quarterly Report

Town Council

September to December

2014

Issued by: S/Sgt. Kevin Kunetzki
Beaumont Det. Commander
April 14, 2015 - 3 -

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The RCMP endeavors to communicate regularly with its Federal, Provincial, and Municipal partners. The purpose of this report is to provide the Town of Beaumont with a quarterly update on any Detachment issues or trends, to provide an update on the progress of our annual policing priorities, and to provide information relative to our crime statistics.

ORGANIZATION OF REPORT

- ✓ Detachment Commentaries..... P (2)
- ✓ Annual Police Priorities Updates..... P (5)
- ✓ Detachment Crime Statistics P (11)

REPORT INTENT AND CONTENT

This report has been designed with input from the Town of Beaumont. This report is not intended to provide a comprehensive account of all policing activities in Beaumont. Rather, it is meant to provide Council with an update on the more salient policing issues and priorities. Requests for additional information or amendments to this report may be submitted through the Manager of Community and Protective Services.

DETACHMENT COMMENTARIES

OUR STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

In 2014, the Beaumont RCMP observed a number of increases and decreases in its crime rates. The most notable increase relates to assaults. The rate went up from 4.2 per/1000 population to 6.0. This had an adverse impact on Beaumont's persons crimes rate, which saw an increase from 8.4 to 10.6. The reason for the increase is not known; however, it will be an area where additional attention will be needed in 2015. The good news is that Beaumont saw a significant decrease in property crime in 2014. Although Break and Enters went up (slightly due to their lower numbers), mischiefs went down significantly, going from 12.1 to 9.2. Also encouraging from 2014 was a lower rate of impaired driving. The rate went from 8.0 to 6.6. While normally this can mean that impaired drivers might simply be evading police, 2014 saw a significant amount of traffic enforcement. In this context, the lower numbers are encouraging.

What is further evident from the statistics is that Beaumont continues to grow consistent with it being the 2nd fastest growing community in Alberta. This is the first year that Beaumont's file count exceeded 4,000 files. While we continue to see positive results in terms of our crime rates on a per/1000 basis, as well as with our Crime Severity Index rate (see previous Quarterly Report), it will be important in 2015 to ensure we continue planning for our anticipated human resource needs. Our resource plan will be updated for the 2016 budget process.

COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

In today's environment, it has become increasingly difficult to communicate effectively with wide ranges of audience without innovated strategies. After consultation with a number of community groups and persons, the Beaumont RCMP Detachment has determined there would be some benefit to establish a more comprehensive communications protocol. The new protocol, which essentially is an email fan-out protocol, will allow us to disseminate and share information with a wide range of audiences in the community, relatively quickly too where needed. Information released from the Beaumont RCMP will now fall within one of three categories: Media Release, 'Did you know?', and Bulletin/Advisory.

Media Release: This type of email is used now to send press releases to the Beaumont News and One FM. This will be expanded to include our social media group administrators (who can forward the message further if they choose).

Did you know? From time to time our members identify topics of public interest. It might be important to provide information about vehicle registration or insurance, or about statistics relating to false alarms. There are probably a million different topics that could come to mind. The idea here is to share this type of information or something of interest every couple of weeks, each month, or as appropriate.

Bulletin / Advisory: From time to time the Beaumont RCMP needs to get information out to the community quickly. This could be relative to an accident, a rash in thefts, or any other type of urgent information. This subject line will be used to share this type of information. Our communications will be going to the schools, our Citizens on Patrol group, Community Advisory Committee, social media sites, the Town Facebook page, and any others that are identified and have an interest in receiving these communications.

Any one group or agencies in Beaumont wishing to be added to this email fan-out system can contact the Detachment Commander at 780-929-7410.

56A STREET UPDATE

Effective November 1, 2014, Council approved a rate of speed change for 56A Street, between Rue Montalet and 55 Avenue, 40km/h to 30km/h. The purpose of the change was to determine what the impact would be relative to complaints of speeding, noise, and traffic volume on 56A Street. At this time the pilot project is continuing. The rate of speed change is being enforced by the RCMP, Municipal Enforcement, and with photo enforcement. Communication strategies were delivered prior to implementing the change to ensure the public would be advised of the change. In March of 2015 a public survey was sent out, such that the residents of 56A Street would be able to provide their comments on whether the change has had an impact. These comments, as well as data from the speed signs, will be put together in a report for Council for May of 2015.

GRAFFITI PREVENTION STRATEGY

The Beaumont RCMP recently completed research and a business case relative to bringing a graffiti program to Beaumont. The research included an analysis of the problem in Beaumont, as well as projections relating to the problem if left unaddressed. The key to prevention in this area is to ensure graffiti is removed as soon as possible, so as to remove the rewards that offenders would otherwise have if others are able to view the graffiti. Having received Town support for the idea of having the program, the next phase will involve forming a working group with key

stakeholders in the community. The target date for implementation will be the summer of 2016, allowing time for proper consultation and program development. This will also take some time, as a budget will need to be projected and requested for the 2016 budget.

OFFICER CHANGES 2014/2015

Our officers are often transferred within the organization to gain different experiences and to meet the changing needs of our communities and/or our organization. Typically, an officer today will remain at his or her post for a 4-5 year duration. We are pleased to have a new recruit start her career here in Beaumont. Cst Leyla KAFADAR who is originally from Ontario has just started at the detachment after spending two months in Ottawa, due to the heighten security threat there. Cst Zane SMITH will be leaving the Community Policing position and moving back East where he is originally from. Cst Neil MUZ has agreed to fill in for the DARE program till the end of the school year. We are also looking forward to introducing Cpl. David VANDENBRINK, transferring from Leduc Detachment, in the near future.

FINGERPRINTING

In July or August of 2015, it is anticipated that the RCMP's fingerprinting process will change. Where in the past fingerprinting has not always been required for vulnerable sector criminal record checks, there will soon be a requirement to take fingerprints in all such cases. What this means for Beaumont is that on average more than 100 persons a month, based on historical numbers, will require fingerprints for their criminal record checks. This is a significant impact, especially given that it takes about 15-20 minutes for an officer to take one set of fingerprints.

As a solution to managing this issue, Beaumont RCMP has been discussing potential solutions with other communities. Airdrie, for example, is charging for volunteers, \$15 each, where previously this service was free. This is a nominal fee that is intended to cover the costs of the RCMP employees who are required to complete this task. Another strategy being considered is to have this service performed by our guards or support staff, which is significantly less expensive than having an officer(s) complete this task. More on this will follow in the coming months.

A question that arises with fingerprints is how often a person must have a criminal record check when volunteering. To add clarity to this question, the RCMP is only responsible for conducting the criminal record checks when requested. The RCMP does not mandate the frequency of the criminal record checks. This is a function of the organization or agency requesting the volunteers to get a criminal record check, and as such it varies from organization to organization. The most common period seen by our office, however, is one year.

ANNUAL POLICE PRIORITIES UPDATES

IMPAIRED DRIVING

During this past quarter in 2014, Detachment members engaged in significant proactive enforcement and prevention initiatives to curb impaired driving in the town of Beaumont. One traffic blitz was held in October, two in November, and one in December. Within these initiatives, over 220 vehicles were stopped in total. A few interesting statistics resulted: two Controlled Drugs and Substance Abuse (CDSA) charges, with over 200 grams of Marijuana and 13 grams of Hashish seized; one three day alcohol related suspension; one 30 day GDL alcohol related suspension; and 15 provincial tickets were issued for a variety of offences. Beaumont RCMP members also conducted a check stop on December 5th and December 22nd. Approximately 390 vehicles were checked in these check stops. Some interesting statistics included one road side suspension for drugs, one warrant executed, three liquor violation tickets, and four other provincial statistics. In terms of a couple prevention initiatives delivered the past quarter, Cst. KARMAND has continued to deliver quarterly messages about how to prevent impaired driving. The big message to the public here has been to leave your vehicle at home if planning to drink. The other initiative was involving Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) in the "I Promise" (not to drink and drive) campaign. A big thank you goes out respectively to our Citizens on Patrol group and our local businesses for helping to distribute the posters and for agreeing to post them.

POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Cst KOCH has been working with organizers of the annual Beaumont Blues Festival on getting a youth "Battle of the Bands" set up for the event. He hopes to have a number of youth interested in competing at this year's festival. Since April 1, 2014, there have been more than 90 Youth presentations in the community. This includes, but is not limited to, 40 DARE classes, 5 Detachment tours, 3 presentations to school classes on impaired driving, and a few HEROS classes. As previously mentioned, the Detachment is saying goodbye to Cst. Zane SMITH. Until a new community policing officer is identified, Cst. Neil Muz (seconded from the Airport) will continue to deliver the DARE program. Neil has been doing a great job, and the Detachment is appreciative to have his skills and knowledge in this area. Last year's positive ticketing program was a big hit with the kids. Approximately \$2000 in prizes was given out to deserving youth in October. The planning committee is already looking forward to the 2015 season!

ILLEGAL DRUGS

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From April to December there were 34 drug charges. In almost every case the persons arrested were either charged or sent to alternative measures. The goal is to ensure there is greater accountability, especially with the youth who may have experienced a warning previously.

Cst. TEJA is Beaumont's new drug officer. A priority for the position has been the cultivation of sources. The information obtained from this strategy is not just of benefit to our community, but also for other communities. Information collected from one confidential source in our community, for example, was recently used successfully in a drug search North of Red Deer. Drugs are a crime that see no boundaries, and here is an example of how we are working together to deal with this issue from a bigger picture perspective.

Upon analysis of our drug charges, we are seeing that drugs are being discovered more often in vehicle stops. As a result, our members are being training in "Pipeline" techniques where our officers are trained to identify signs of drug trafficking for interdiction purposes. Moving forward in 2015, a portion of our drug position will have a uniform presence to deliver more with this strategy. We will monitor the results and adjust accordingly.

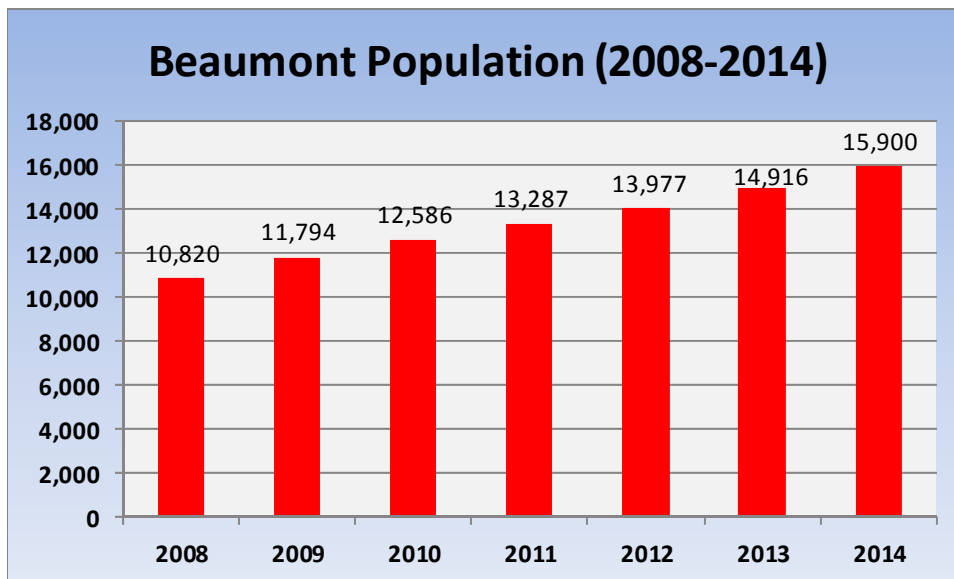
Cst. TEJA is also in the process of updating the contact information for our drug position. Once completed, the contact information will be posted at conspicuous locations, especially in areas where are youth are, i.e. our schools.

DETACHMENT CRIME STATISTICS

General

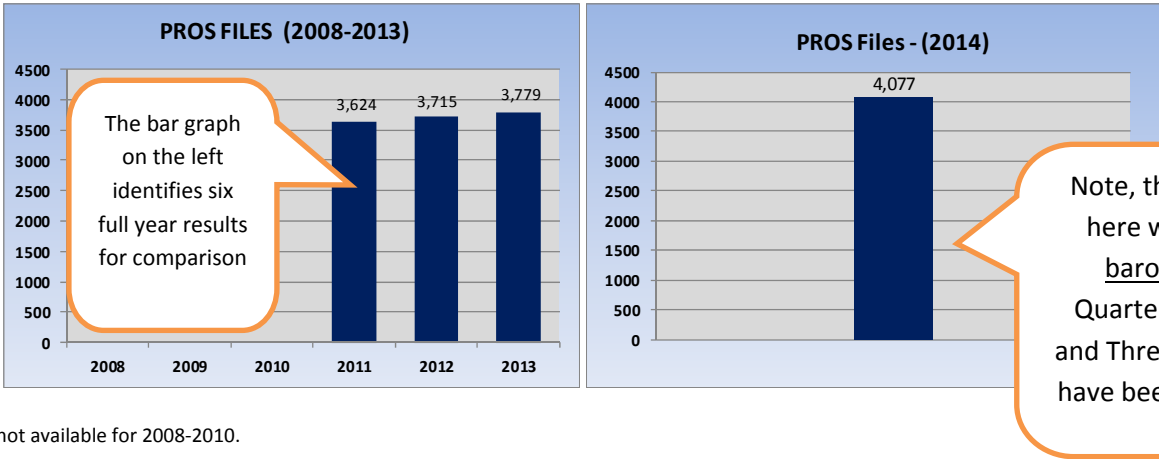
Note – Not all Detachment statistics are included in this report. Only those more significant statistics have been included. In accordance with previous discussions with Council, the idea of presenting the information in the format that follows is to provide more meaningful information and to enable greater comprehension and brevity. **If there are any specific statistics that the Town of Beaumont would like to have reported, they may be added in future reports.** The attached charts and graphs are prepared by C/M Geri-Ann Harding with the RCMP's Operations Strategies Branch.

Population

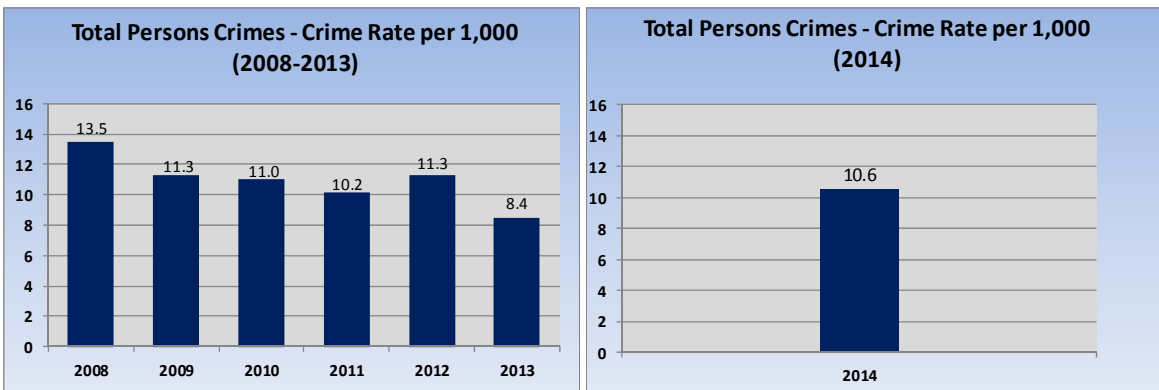


*Municipal Affairs used as source for populations for 2008-2013, 2014 has been provided by Sgt Kunezki as the official population has not yet been released (official 2014 population released on 2014-07-29 as 15, 828).

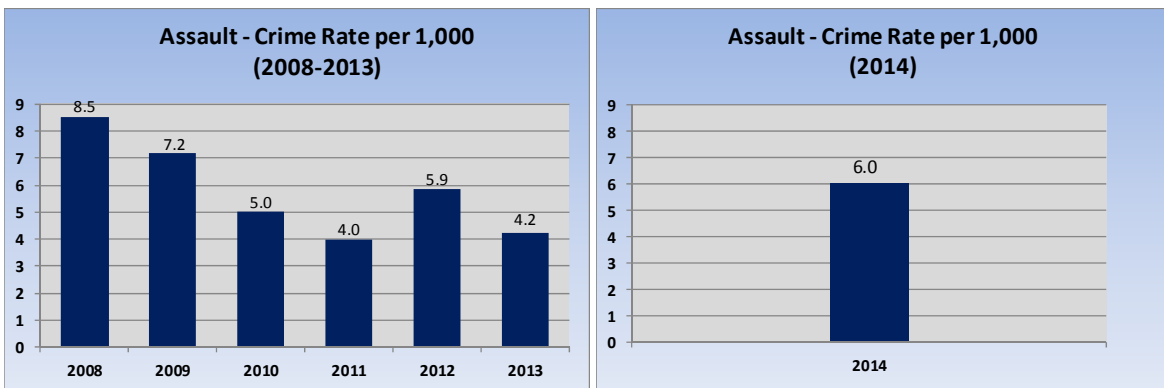
PROS (Occurrence Files)



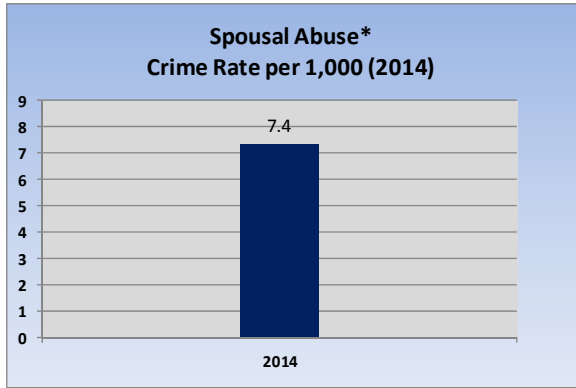
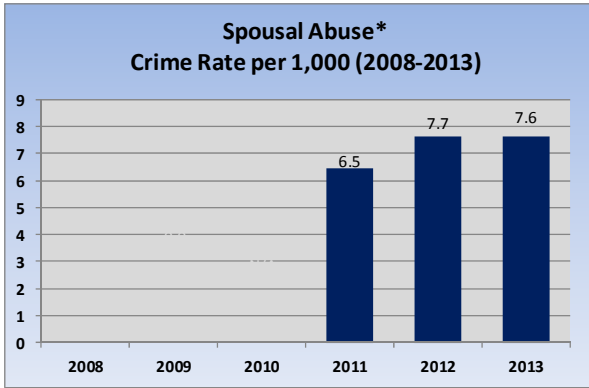
Total Persons Crime



Assault

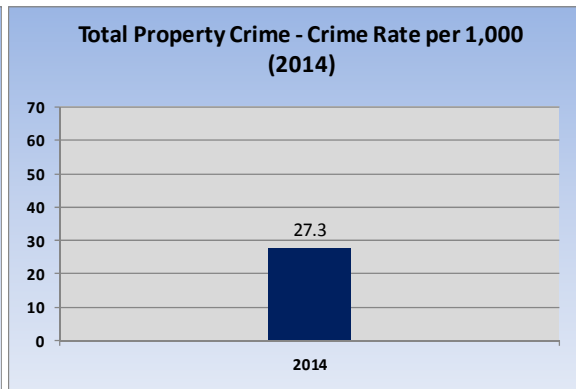
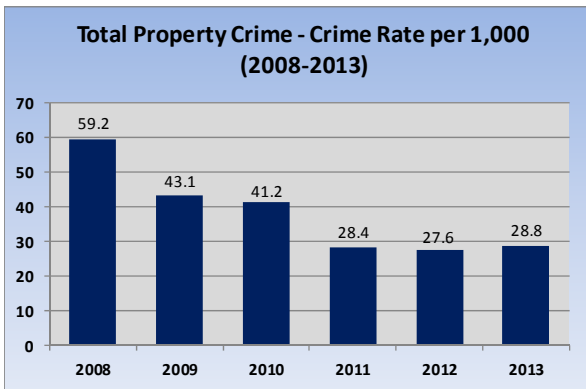


Spousal Abuse

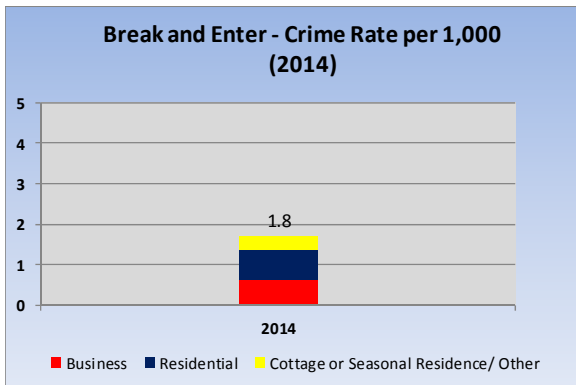
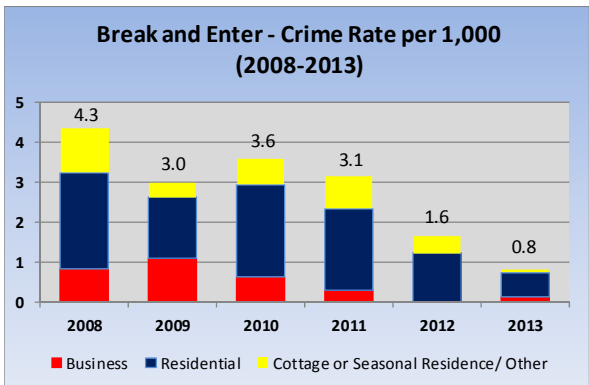


* As defined by The Family Violence Report.
 **Data not available for 2008-2010.

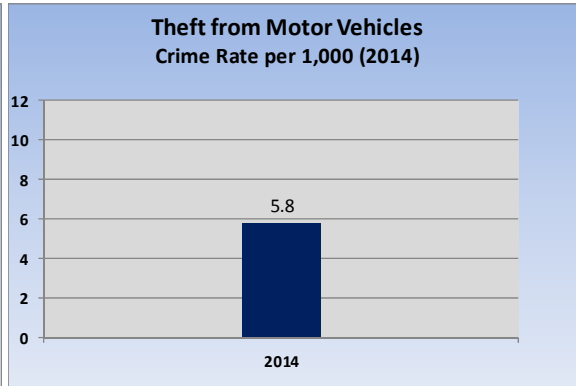
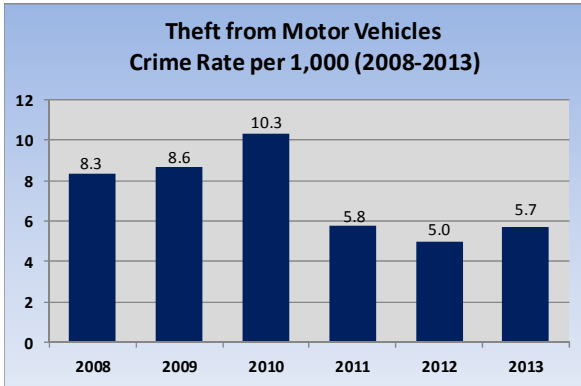
Total Property Crime



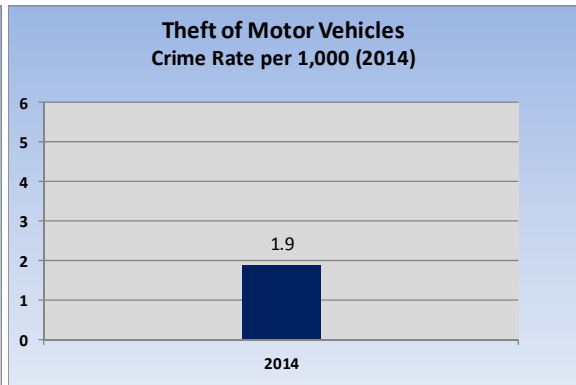
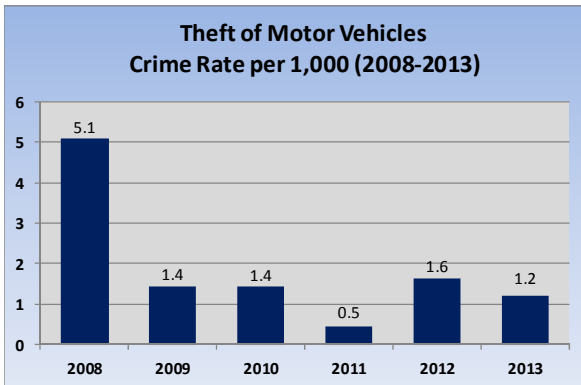
Break and Enter



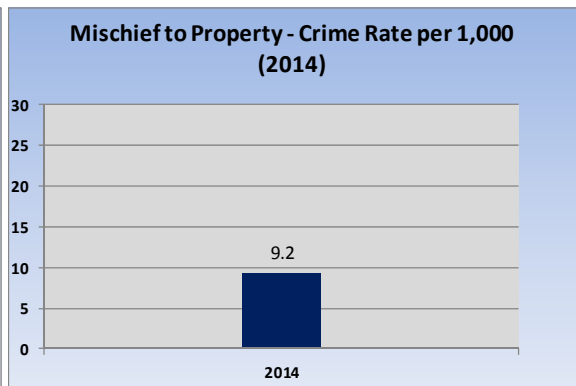
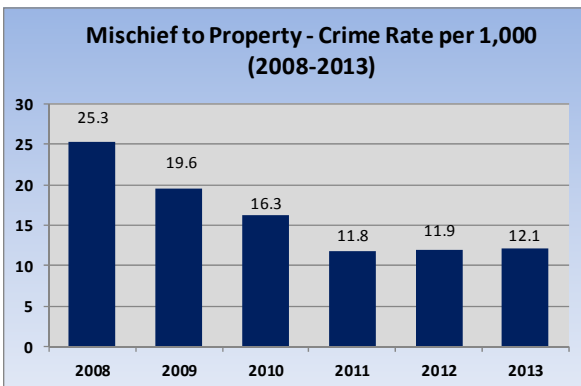
Theft from Motor Vehicles



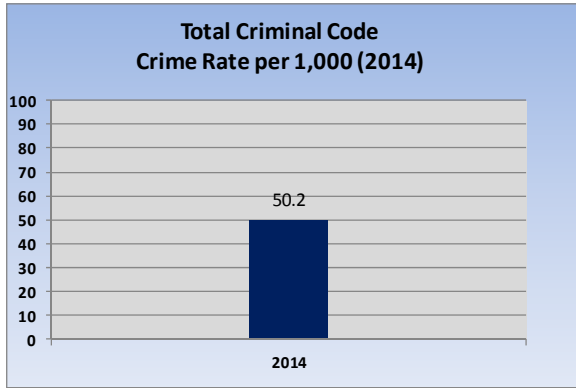
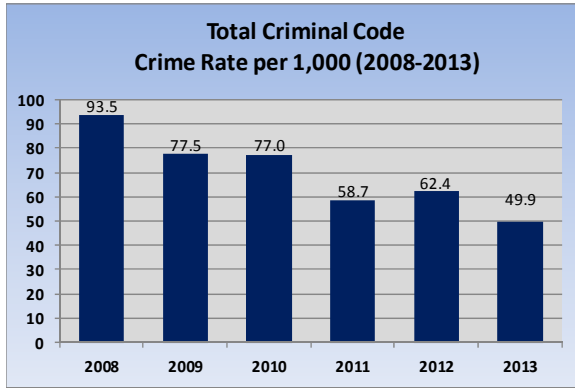
Theft of Motor Vehicles



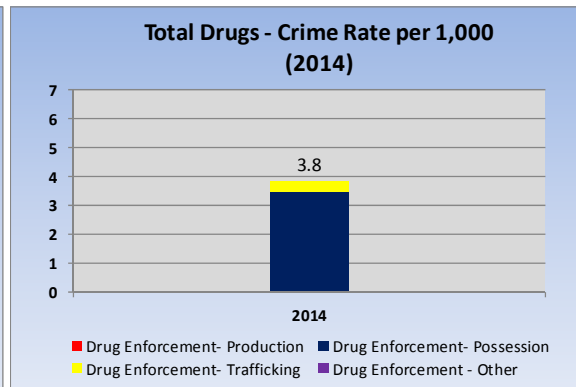
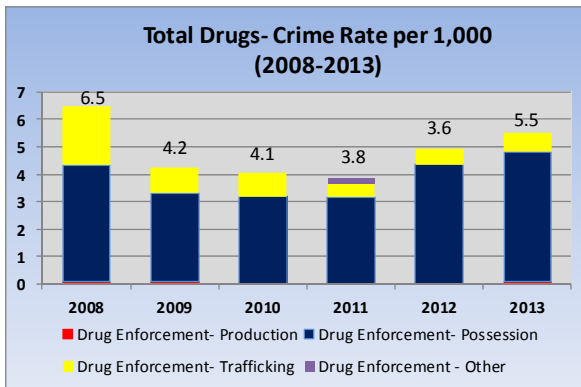
Mischief to Property



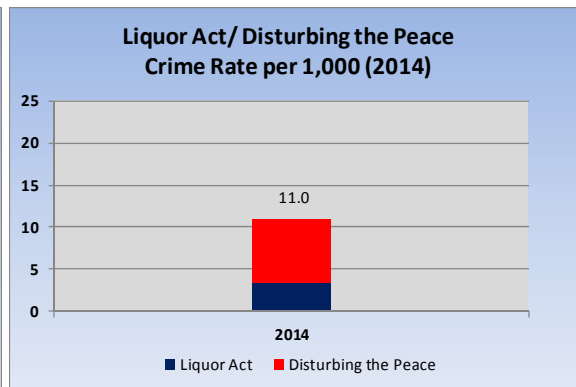
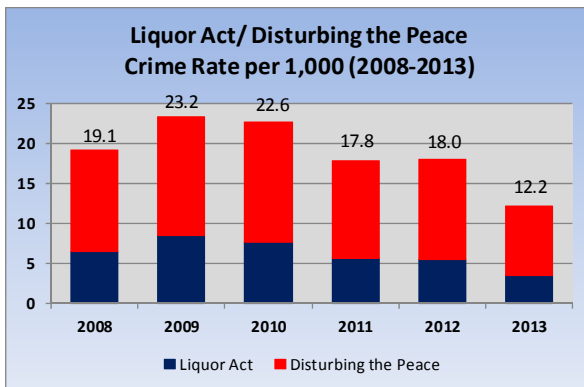
Total Criminal Code



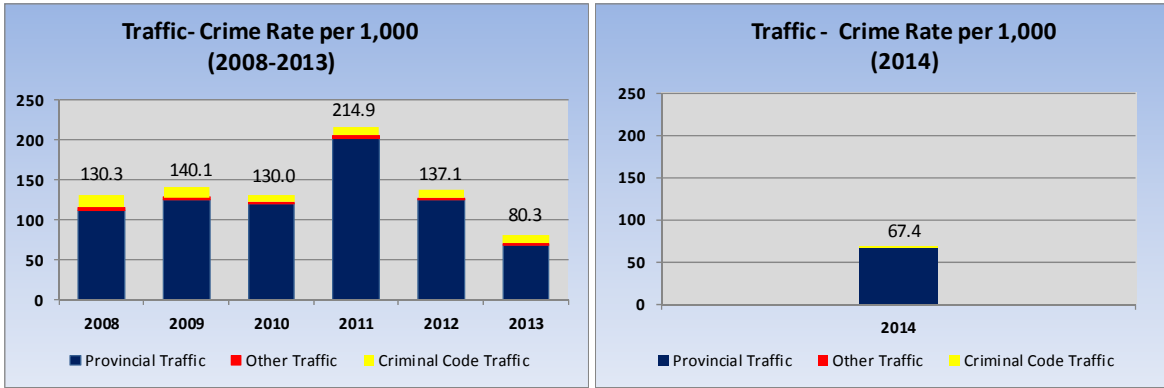
Total Drugs



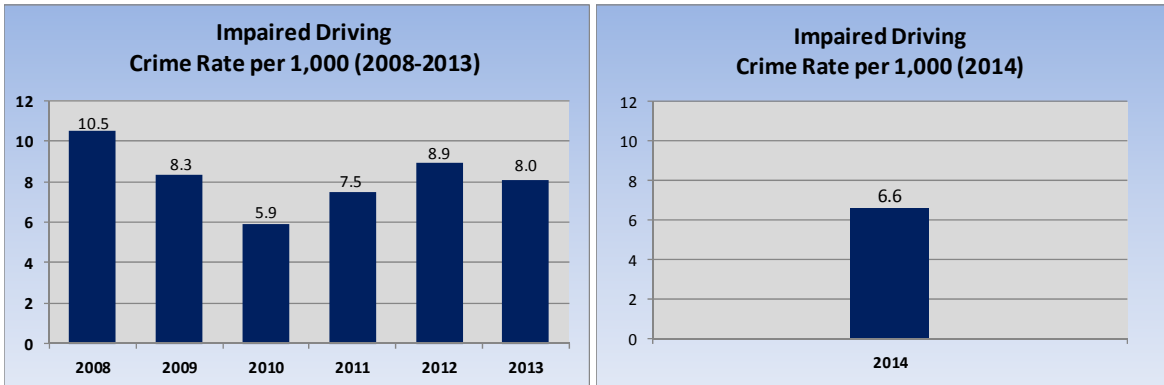
Liquor Act/ Disturbing the Peace



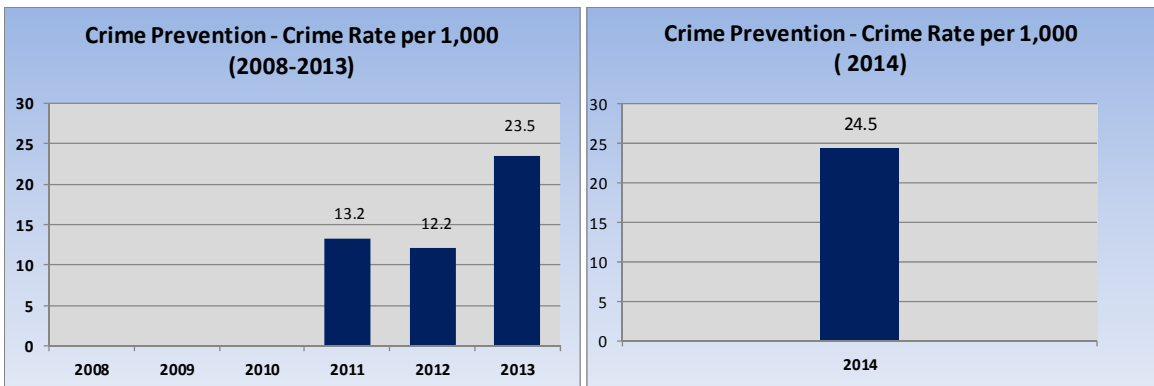
Traffic



Impaired Driving



Crime Prevention



*Data not available for 2008-2010.

* Due to a program update; 2012-2014 data for crime prevention was pulled using a detailed find in PROS.