

DOCUMENT 9 – Police Statistics and Benchmarks

This section provides quantitative data on police statistics and benchmarks. This includes selected measures of police performance, for example, the crime rate, crime severity, clearance rate, and police-to-population levels.

Ottawa's results have been benchmarked with the national and provincial averages, including municipalities in Ontario serving populations greater than 100,000 residents. The information is drawn from the Statistics Canada Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) survey and Police Administrative Survey.

Also included are year-to-date statistics on crime, traffic and police-related data to provide a snapshot of current results.

These measures represent key indicators and data points that have been requested by previous and current Board members. Staff are able to conduct further analysis on these indicators as requested by the Board.

Crime Trends

Across the country, the national crime rate has risen nine percent over the past decade to 5,668 incidents per 100,000 population. The crime rate in the Province of Ontario (+13%) and locally in Ottawa (+15%) grew faster than the national level.

The increase locally is the result of growth in most offence categories. The most significant change has been seen in the rate of Fraud, Theft (including motor vehicle), Sexual Assault, Assault and Robbery offences.

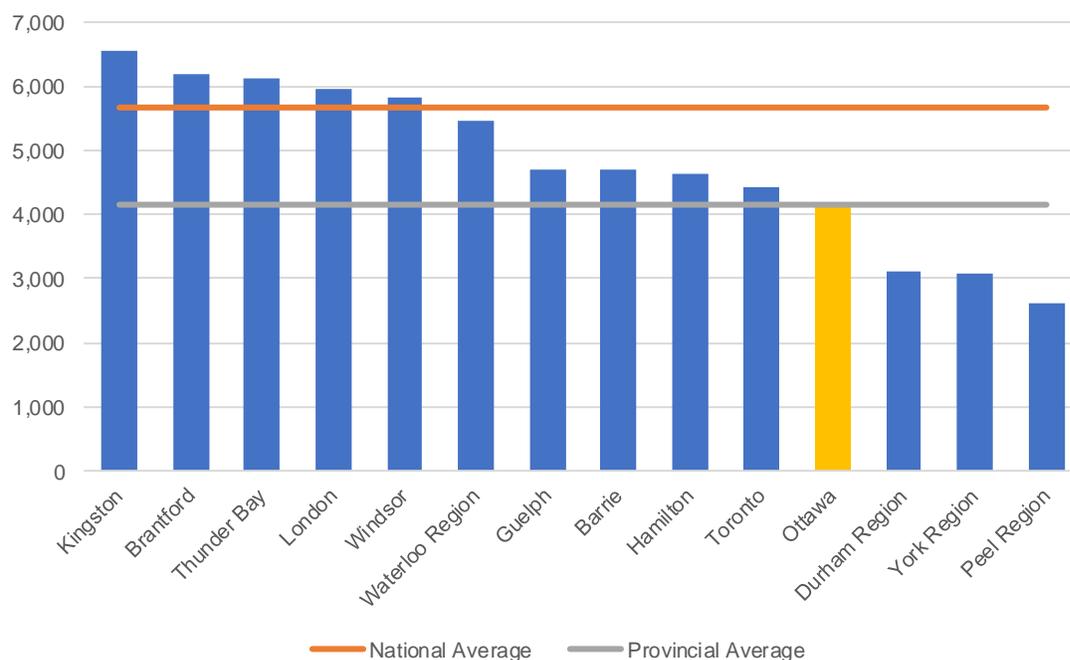


Figure 1: The crime rate per 100,000 population in 2022, for police services in Ontario serving populations greater than 100,000 residents

Crime Severity Index

The Crime Severity Index (CSI) considers both the volume and the seriousness of the crime. To calculate the CSI, each offence is assigned a weight derived from average sentences handed down by criminal courts—the more serious the average sentence, the higher the weight for that offence. As a result, more serious crimes have a greater impact on changes in the index.

The National CSI has rose 10 points between 2013 and 2019. In 2022, Statistics Canada reported that the CSI increased for the second consecutive year, up four percent. However, the national CSI remains slightly lower than before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Motor vehicle theft had the greatest impact on the increase in the overall CSI in 2022, followed by robbery, breaking and entering, minor theft and shoplifting.

The CSI for Ottawa followed a similar trend to the national and provincial results. The CSI declined during the pandemic but is returning to historical levels. Last year the CSI increased by over 12 percent last year to 54 points. This increase is largely attributed to increased threats, assaults, robberies, and thefts.

Despite the increase, Ottawa's crime severity index is among the lowest third of Ontario municipalities with populations over 100,000.

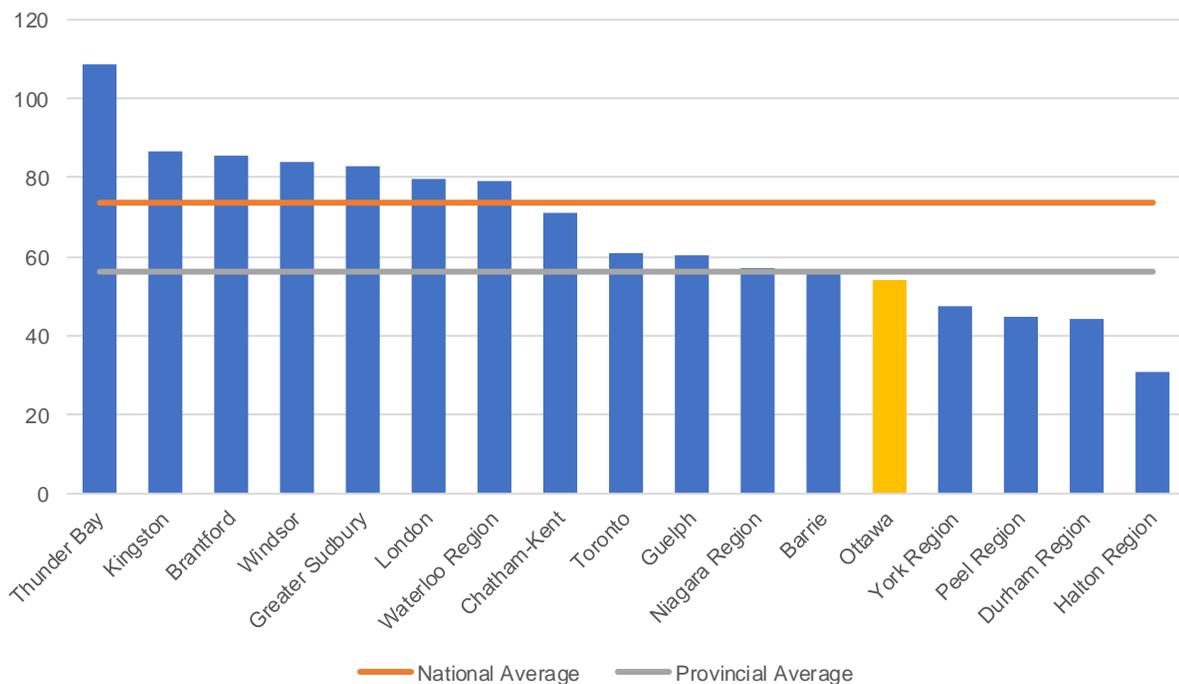


Figure 2: The Crime Severity Index (CSI) for police services in Ontario serving populations greater than 100,000 residents, 2022.

The Ottawa result is lower than both the national and provincial averages and is the fifth lowest of all Ontario municipalities with population over 100,000.

Weighted Clearance Rate (%)

Criminal incidents can either be cleared by charge or cleared otherwise (for example, through extrajudicial means in instances where a charge could otherwise be laid).

The weighted clearance rate is based on the same principles used to create the police-reported CSI; whereby more serious offences are assigned a higher weight than less serious offences.¹

Ottawa's clearance rate is within the lowest quarter of Ontario municipalities. Since 2012, the weighted clearance rate has declined six percent from 39 percent to 33 percent. This is partly due to operational processes designed to be more victim-centric and responsive to community concerns, such as reporting sexual assault and intimate partner violence investigations.

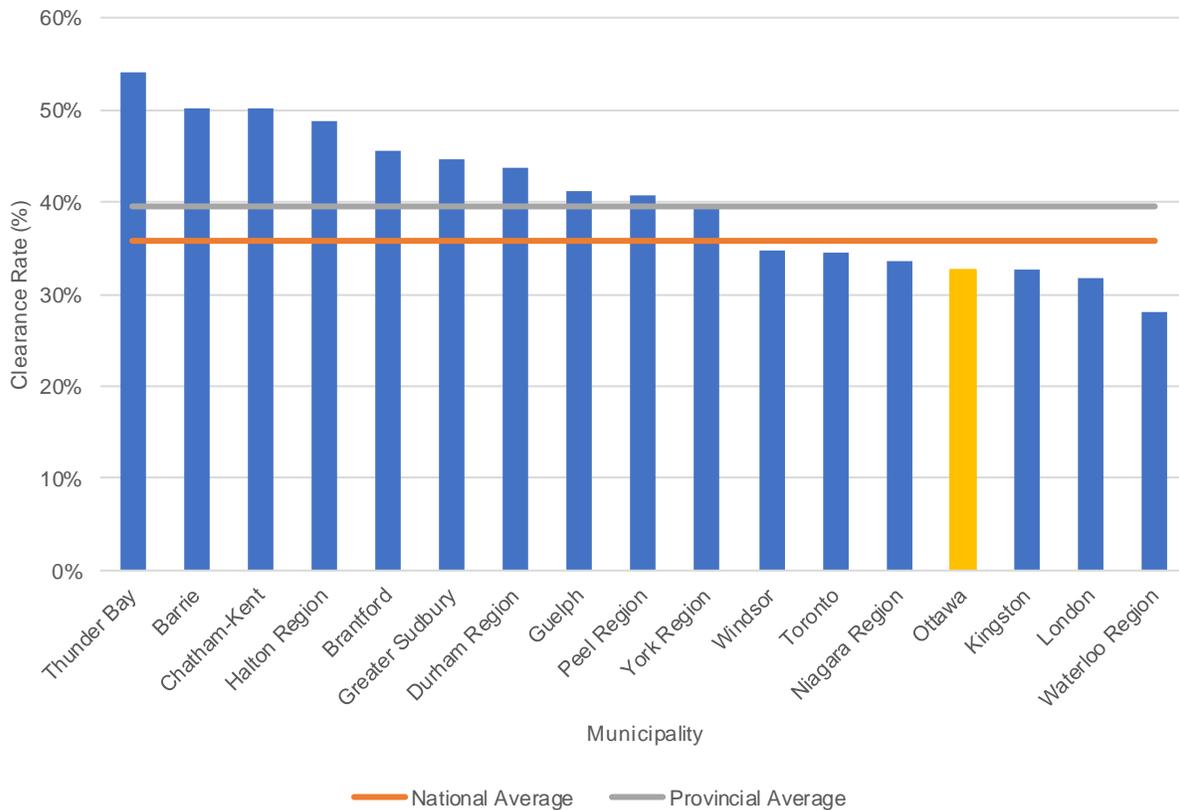


Figure 3: The weighted clearance rate for police services in Ontario serving populations greater than 100,000 residents, 2022.

¹ Source: Statistics Canada. Table 35-10-0077-01 Police personnel and selected crime statistics, municipal police services, Weighted Clearance Rate. Table 35-10-0076-01 Police personnel and selected crime statistics. Included in the chart are the police services in Ontario municipalities with population over 100,000 where data is available.

The Ottawa result is lower than both the national (39%) and provincial (36%) averages and is the fourth lowest of all Ontario municipalities with population over 100,000.

Calls for Service

In the past decade the OPS has received an average of 333,100 calls that were entered into the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system.

Calls for service have risen steadily since 2016. Non-dispatched administrative calls coded as False 911 have most significantly contributed to this trend, rising from 95,200 in 2013 to over 132,000 in 2022.

The OPS has identified a growing trend of “hang-up, pocket and misdialed calls” made to 911. Each ‘dropped’ call warrants a follow-up by the Communications Centre to determine whether there was an emergency. Some of the increase is due to the SOS function on Android phones. Various public safety agencies are working with the CRTC and manufacturers to reduce pocket/misdialed calls.

Figure 5 illustrates the trend in calls for service from members of the public requiring a mobile police response for the past decade. On average, the OPS dispatches 147,500 calls for service annually. In 2022 these results increased to the highest levels in the past ten years (+4%), with 155,100 calls for service dispatched.

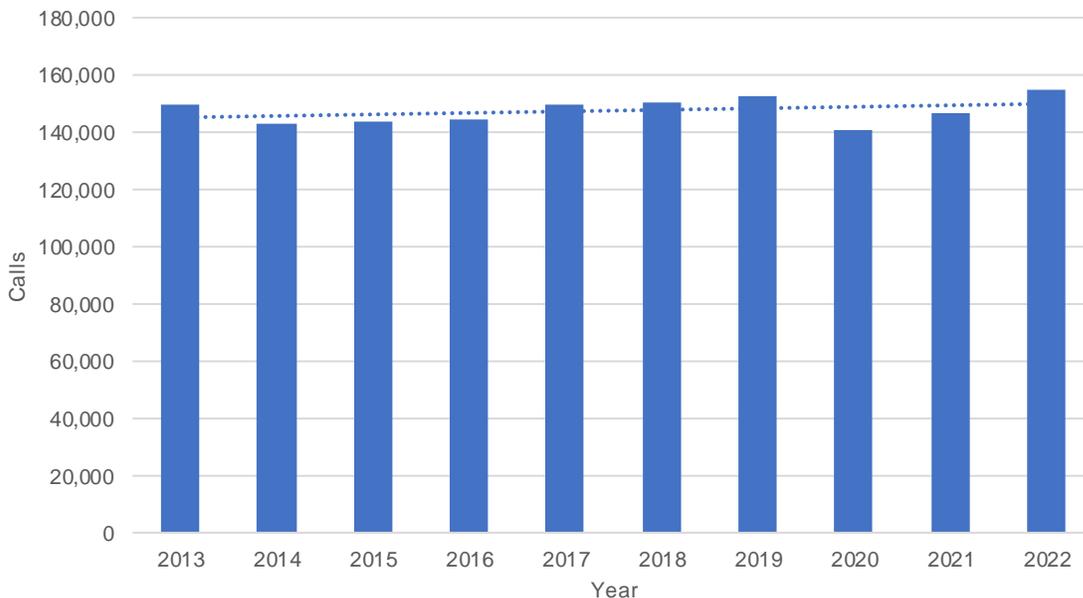


Figure 4: Ottawa Police calls for service from members of the public that required an on-scene police presence, 2013-2022

Service time refers to the cumulative amount of time (in hours) that officers spend responding to and dealing with calls for service from the public. The service time metric is used for operational planning and the deployment of personnel. In 2022, service time

increased by eight percent to approximately 339,000 hours. The service time in 2022 was 11 percent higher than the five-year average of 305,000 hours indicating that officers are spending a greater amount of time managing calls. This reflects the increasing complexity of crime and other social factors that officers are facing.

There is currently no national standard for calls for service data. This is an ongoing priority initiative of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACCP) to better understand the full responsibilities of police in Canada, including non-criminal demands.

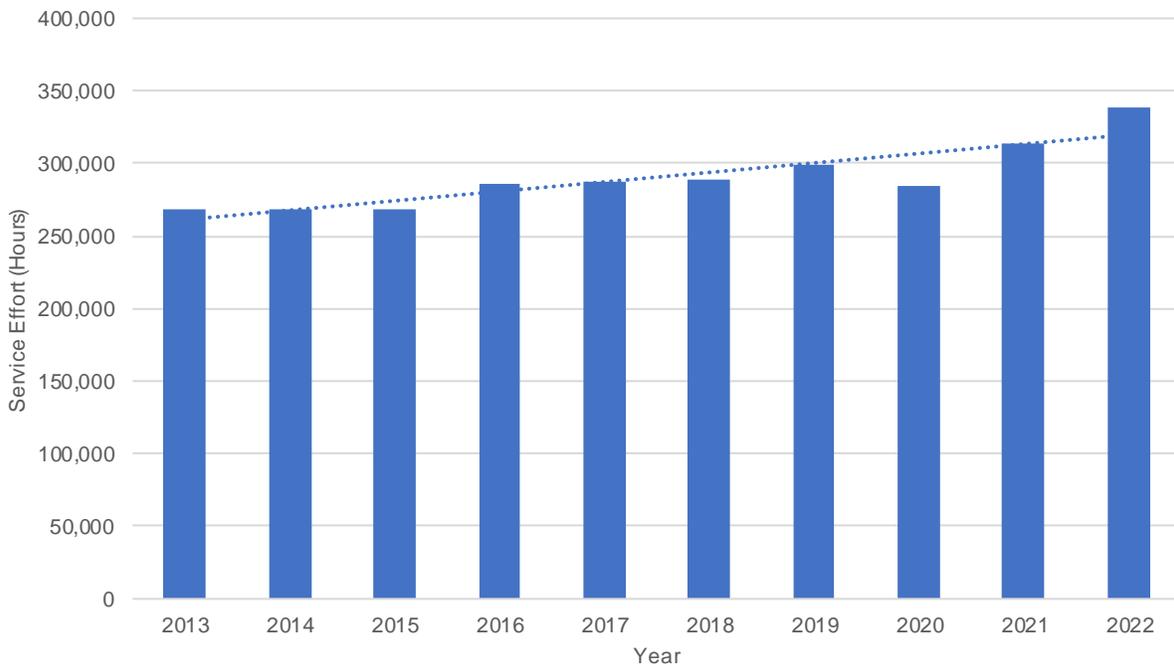


Figure 5: Service time hours Ottawa Police officers spent managing calls for service from the public, 2013-2022

Traffic and Road Safety

Criminal Code of Canada traffic offences in Ottawa increased by 15 percent in 2022. This included over 700 incidents of operation while impaired by alcohol, drugs or a combination of both. This represents an increase of 10 percent when compared to the previous year.

Provincial Offences Act (Part I) tickets are issued under multiple provincial statutes. Provincial Offence Notices (PON) categories include moving, document, equipment and parking violations. Moving violations generally refer to offences that occur while a vehicle is in motion, including failing to yield right-of-way or failing to stop at a traffic signal. Document violations refer to “paper violations,” such as offences relating to insurance, licenses and permits. Equipment violations are related to vehicle maintenance and the use of safety equipment such as seatbelts and the use of hand-held devices.

In 2022, the OPS issued nearly 27,000 traffic-related Provincial Offences Act (Part I) tickets; approximately 50% of these tickets were for moving violations such as speeding.

Overall, motor vehicle collisions increased to just over 15,000 in 2022, up from 10,809 in 2021. There were over 2,200 collisions causing injuries and 22 fatal collisions resulting in 23 fatalities in 2022. Tragically, these fatalities included pedestrians (10), drivers (8), passengers (2), motorcyclists (2) and one cyclist.

Year-to-date Quick Facts (August 16)

- The volume of **crime** has risen by +8% to 28,400 offences (+2,100).
- The volume of **violent crime** has risen +4% or 140 offences to 4,300 offences.
- Assaults make up over 50% of violent crime, growing by +8% or 192 incidents.
- There have been nine **homicide** victims so far this year, with seven cases solved
- There have been 47 **shootings** to date compared to 39 last year
- OPS members have seized 37 crime **guns**
- The volume of **property crime** has risen by +11% to 19,580 incidents
- Theft under \$5,000 shoplifting has risen +51% (or 2,300 offences) on track to exceed pre-pandemic levels.
- Theft – Motor Vehicle has risen +16% to 1,219
- The number of Arson offences has risen +8% to 86
- Break and Enter offences have declined by -16% or 284 fewer crimes
- **Traffic complaints** have risen +9% to 2,550
- Reported **Collisions** have risen +35% to 10,059
- Officers have handed out -1,700 fewer **tickets**, declining -10% from 16,994 last year.
- **Hate or bias-motivated crimes** have increased +2% (3 incidents) to 192
- Total reported **hate incidents** (criminal & non-criminal) have risen +13% to 267

Police Strength

The overall rate of police strength in Canada has continued its decade-long decline. Currently, across Canada, there is of 181 **officers per 100,000** population, which is 1% lower than the previous year. The actual number of police officers has increased, but not at a rate that matches population growth.

Ottawa has 133 officers per 100,000 population. This is the fourth-lowest result among municipalities in Ontario serving populations greater than 100,000

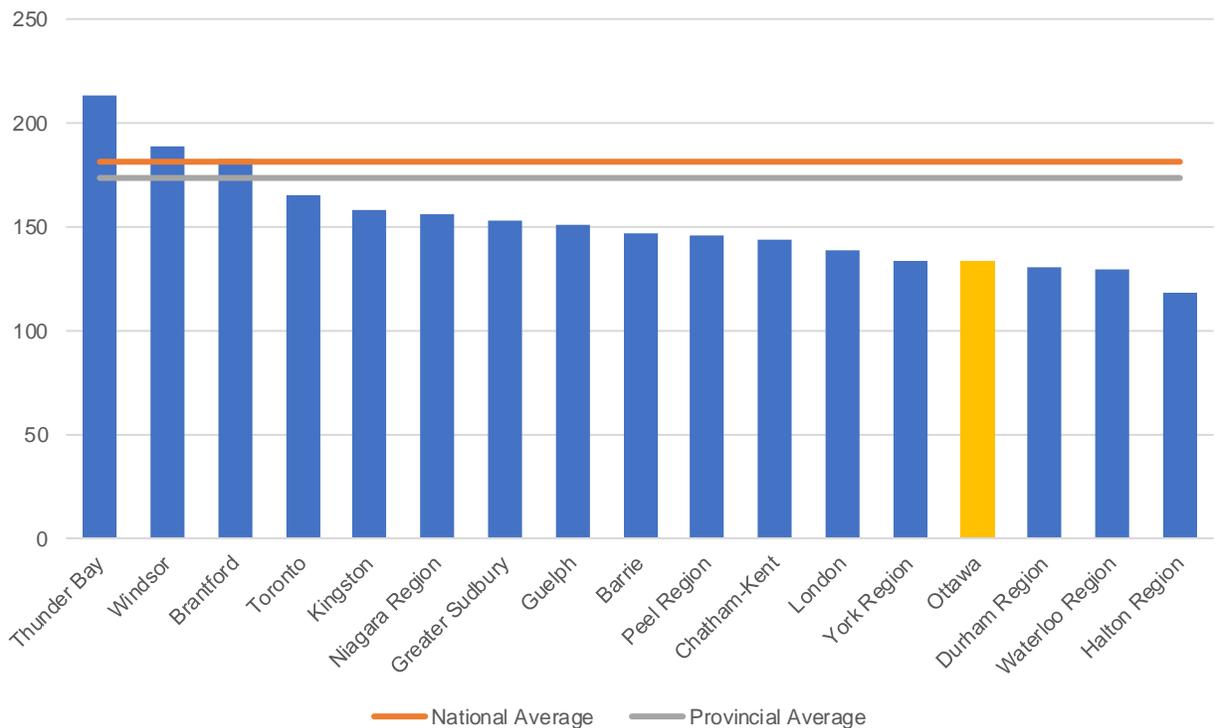


Figure 6: The rate of police strength per 100,000 population for police services in Ontario serving populations greater than 100,000 residents, 2022.

Female Officers

The number **female officers** in all ranks continues to grow across Canada. In 2022, women represented 23% of all sworn officers, (18% of commissioned officers). Women also represent 69% of civilian personnel within police services.

Although Ottawa has a comparatively low cop-to-pop ratio, among Ontario municipalities, in 2022 the City has the highest percentage of female police officers.² Women make up just over one-quarter of sworn members of the OPS.

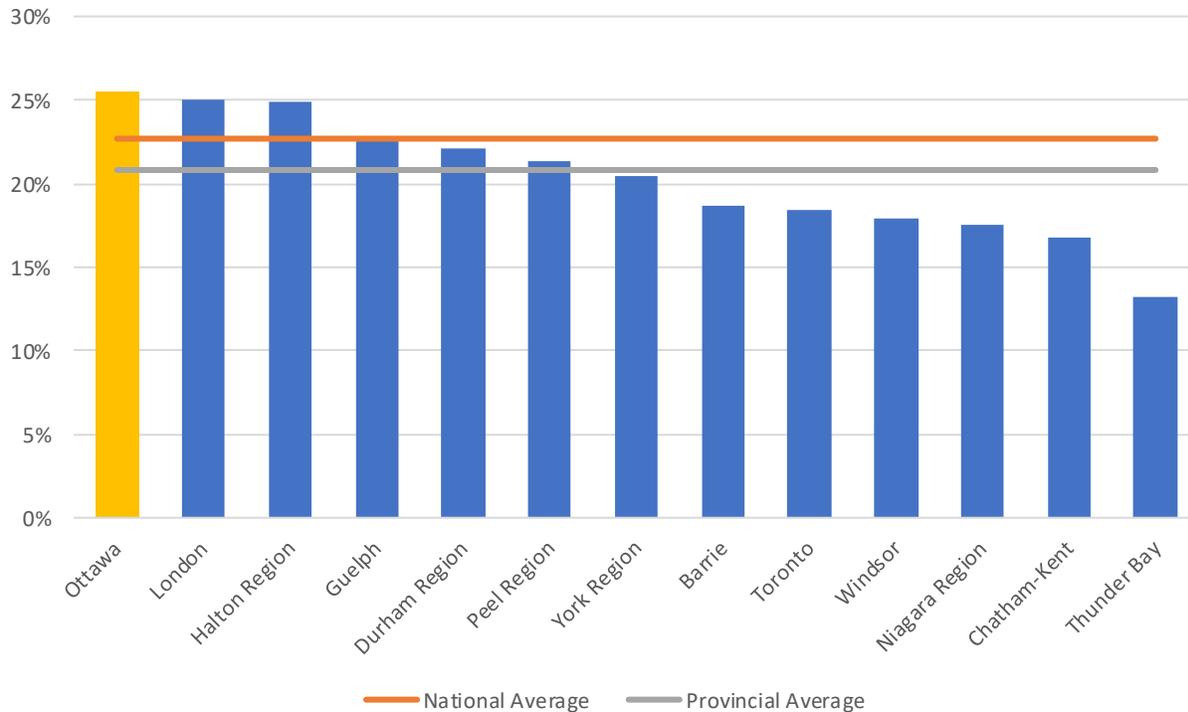


Figure 7: Percentage of female officers by police service in Ontario serving populations greater than 100,000 residents, 2022.

Police Officers Eligible to Retire

Workforce management and succession planning are key risks monitored by the OPS leadership. One indicator to support staffing forecasts and plan for attrition is monitoring the number of eligible officers to retire.

² Source: Statistics Canada. Table 35-10-0077-01 Police personnel and selected crime statistics, municipal police services, Female police officers/Total number of police officers. Table 35-10-0076-01 Police personnel and selected crime statistics. Included in the chart are the police services in Ontario municipalities with population over 100,000 where data is available. Data not available: Waterloo Region, Hamilton, Greater Sudbury, Kingston, Brantford

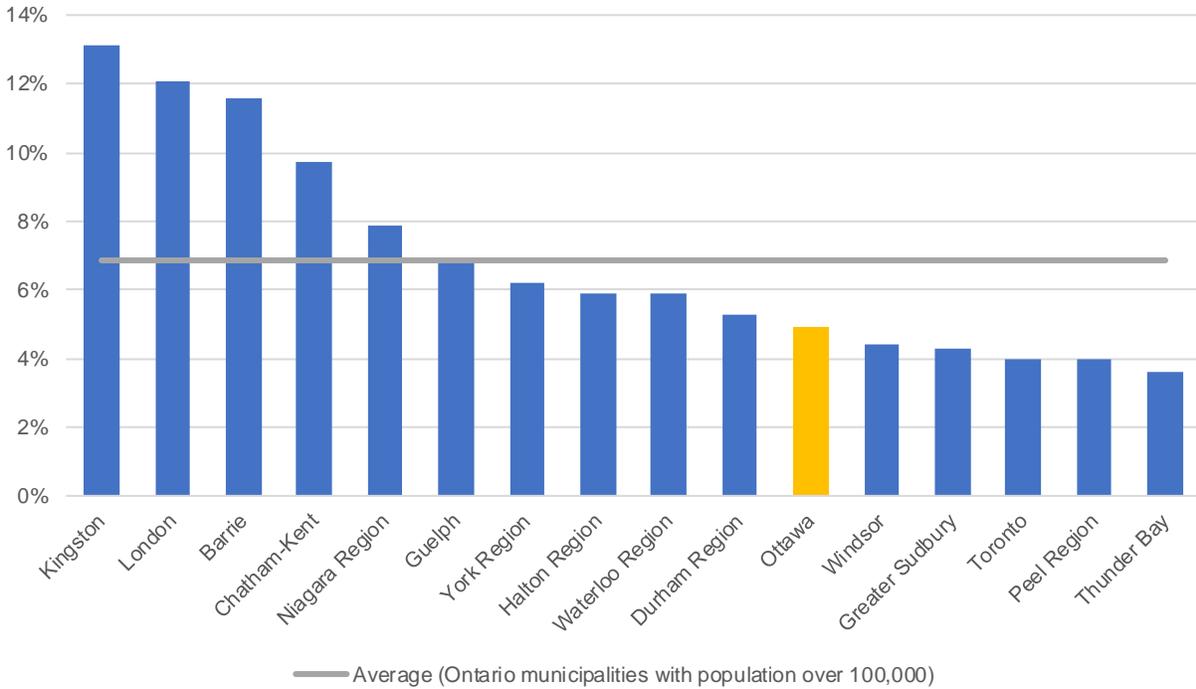


Figure 8: Police officers eligible to retire by police service in Ontario serving populations greater than 100,000 residents, 2022.

Among OPS members, five percent of officers are eligible for retirement.³ This result is below average (7%) for the 15 largest municipalities in the province.

³ Source: Statistics Canada. Table 35-10-0077-01 Police personnel and selected crime statistics, municipal police services, Police officers eligible to retire. Table 35-10-0076-01 Police personnel and selected crime statistics. Included in the chart are the police services in Ontario municipalities with population over 100,000 where data is available. Data not available: Hamilton