



Sault Ste. Marie
POLICE

Annual Report

2024



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Forward

On behalf of the members of the Sault Ste. Marie Police Service, and under the leadership of the Sault Ste. Marie Police Services Board, we are proud to present the 2024 Annual Report.

This past year presented both promising developments and significant challenges in our community. Encouragingly, property-related crimes, including thefts, frauds, and break and enters to homes and businesses, saw a decline. These reductions reflect the diligent work of our officers and ongoing partnerships and crime prevention efforts.

However, these positive trends are tempered by a troubling rise in Crimes of Violence, which increased by 13.9% in 2024. Notable increases were observed in assaults, sexual assaults, offences involving weapons, and incidents of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV). These figures highlight the complex and often traumatic nature of many of the calls our members respond to, and the lived realities of victims within our community.

In response, what began as a pilot initiative has now become a core element of our service delivery. Since March 2024, officers have been proactively following up on IPV-related calls for service in cases where no criminal charges were laid, such as verbal disputes or property exchanges. Between March and year-end, 835 follow-ups were conducted, 33 new investigations initiated, and eight individuals were charged. This proactive approach will continue in the year ahead, reflecting our commitment to the safety and wellbeing of those affected by IPV.

Technological innovation was another key focus in 2024. The launch of our Digital Evidence Management Systems (DEMS) Unit marked a significant step forward. Following this, we initiated the in-car camera program and laid the groundwork for both Body-Worn Cameras and Community CCTV infrastructure, further strengthening transparency and public trust.

We also renewed our commitment to community engagement. In collaboration with local school boards, the High School Liaison Officer Program was successfully reinstated. With support from the province, we established a Bail Compliance Unit to ensure individuals released on bail comply with their conditions—enhancing public safety and accountability.

In 2024, several of our members were honoured at local, provincial, and international levels. Constable Fred Brown was inducted into the Special Olympics Michigan Hall of Fame for over 30 years of dedicated involvement. Our Corporate Communications Team received the OACP Award of Excellence in Media Relations for their outstanding efforts in public engagement and social media communications.

The pages of this report reflect the dedication, resilience, and professionalism of our team. They also reaffirm our vision of being a modern police service working toward a safer tomorrow for the citizens of Sault Ste. Marie and Prince Township.



Brent Duguay
Interim Chief of Police
Sault Ste. Marie Police Service



John Bruno
Chair
Sault Ste. Marie Police Services Board

Mission

To protect and enhance the quality of life in Sault Ste. Marie and Prince Township by leveraging progressive, data-driven policing and strengthening dynamic partnerships in our community.

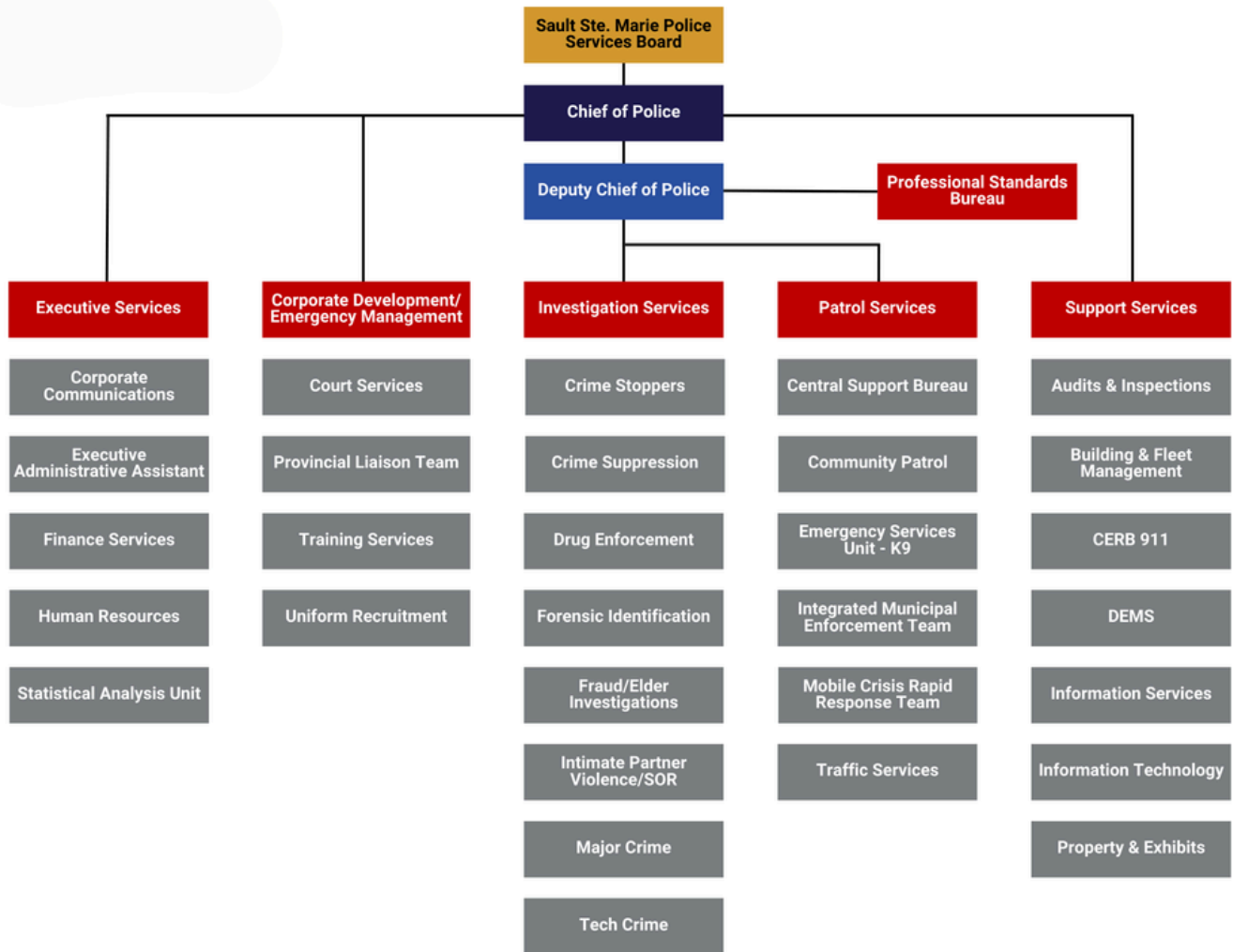
Vision

A modern police service for a safer tomorrow.

Values

- Respect - We treat all people with empathy, equity, and dignity
- Community - The community is us; we are the community
- Innovation - We use modern policing techniques to enhance community safety & wellbeing
- Integrity - We provide equal and quality policing to all we serve.
- Accountability - We are transparent and take responsibility for all we do.

Organization Structure



Sault Ste. Marie Police Services Board

Below are the members of the Sault Ste. Marie Police Services Board in 2024.



John Bruno
Chair - Provincial



Ian MacKenzie
Vice Chair - Provincial



Marchy Bruni
Municipal Appointee



Sonny Spina
Municipal Appointee



Eva Debutch
Community Representative



Sarah Miles
Board Administrator

Strategic Plan Progress

Per the [Community Safety and Policing Act](#), the Sault Ste. Marie Police Services Board must file an annual report with the municipality regarding the implementation of the [2024-2027 Strategic Plan](#) and the achievement of the performance objectives identified therein.

The following table summarizes Sault Ste. Marie Police Service achievements in 2024 which indicate progress toward the strategic priorities and goals set out in the Strategic Plan.

Priority	Goal	2024 Achievements
<p>Dynamic Partnerships for Community Safety</p>	<p>Strengthen (community engagement)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended community events, including the African Caribbean Canadian Association of Northern Ontario (ACCANO) gala, Sault Pride flag raising and pride walk, Anishinabek Police Service/Nogdawindamin Family & Community Services barbeque, and many more • Training partnership with Anishinabek Police Service • Set up an Indigenous cultural corner in the Police Services Building • Increased online engagement and followership across numerous social media platforms and the SSMPS website • Began development of "Communities, Cultures, & Religions: A Guidebook for Sault Police" in partnership with community groups
	<p>Provide (support to victims of crime)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintained partnership with Victim Services of Algoma by providing space for staff to work and meet and referring victims for services • Continued to offer Online Reporting option for victims of several types of offences • Began developing new Youth webpages with easy access to resources for victims seeking help • Trained more officers to work in Mobile Crisis Rapid Response Team to better respond to mental health crises • Renovated interview rooms to feel safer and more comfortable for victims of crime • Enhanced online resources to better support victims of family and intimate partner violence
	<p>Prevent (crime through community initiatives, awareness, and education)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivered a presentation at Sault College regarding crime prevention for newcomers to Canada • Fraud Unit presentations to senior citizens about fraud and scams impacting seniors • Technological Crime Unit presentations to youth about cyberbullying, sexploitation, and more • Participated in a Safety Day orientation at Algoma University • Developed new "Fraud & Scams" and "Emergency Services: An Introduction for New Canadians" webpages to provide easy access to crime prevention information • Educated community members on CPTED principles in 26 occurrences
	<p>Support (youth programs and partnerships)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnered with PUC and Police Services Board to purchase new stuffed canines to support young victims • Re-established High School Liaison Officer partnership with local school boards • Technological Crime Unit, and other officers, delivered many presentations to youth



Priority	Goal	2024 Achievements
Supportive & Diverse Workplace	Attract and retain (professional members with integrity who reflect the community)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivered recruitment presentations at high schools, colleges, universities - locally and around the province Partnered with Sault College Employment Solutions to host career information sessions Hosted several fitness test practice sessions with opportunity for participants to use results in application and received constructive feedback Visited a local mosque to discuss career opportunities Ongoing dialogue with Sault College Law and Justice students about careers in law enforcement
	Support (the health, well-being, and safety of all members)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added the PeerConnect app to all SSMPS devices Health and Safety Committee initiatives circulated service-wide monthly Training Services and Human Resources implemented member reintegration program
	Increase (employee engagement and communication)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members of Senior Command regularly attend officer lineups to encourage employee engagement and communication Encouraged members to participate in Push Up Challenge, Truth and Reconciliation Relay, Law Enforcement Torch Run, hockey tournaments, etc. Ongoing messaging to all members via computer desktops, poster frames around the Police Services Building, and a weekly Monday Minute newsletter
	Provide (opportunities for professional development and training)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many members participated in professional development opportunities such as courses and conferences and in promotional processes Many members were involved in relevant external committees



Priority	Goal	2024 Achievements
Professional & Quality Service	Provide (transparency and accountability)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posted monthly and year-to-date crime statistics to website as soon as they became available • Professional Standards Bureau held information sessions and attended lineups to educate members on the new Community Safety and Policing Act
	Target (crime proactively through effective call response, investigations, enforcement, and police visibility)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced focused patrols throughout the jurisdiction via Dynamic Patrol, Bicycle Patrol Unit, and RIDE checks • Established new Bail Compliance Unit • Intimate Partner Violence pilot project • Start of Project Kentucky (concluding in 2025) to target drug trafficking • Began renovating Division 2 building to prepare for 2025 launch of dedicated unit serving the downtown core
	Educate (the community about traffic safety while enforcing all laws and regulations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched “Safety Tips & Tangents with Traffic Joe” video series and posted regular traffic safety information on social media and website • Collaborated with the City of Sault Ste. Marie communications team to enhance reach of social media posts regarding road and traffic safety • Monitored number of traffic-related charges laid
	Advance (policing through technological innovation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched In-Car Camera Systems and prepared for implementation of body-worn cameras and CCTV cameras • Established new Digital Evidence Management Systems Unit • Ongoing officer training in use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems • Purchased and trained members in use of new faraday box for secure investigation of digital devices
Fiscal & Environmental Responsibility	Governance (over the delivery of policing services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hired a consultant for a third-party review of similar services provided by SSMPS and the City of Sault Ste. Marie to ensure efficient service delivery to the community
	Process (refinement)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed police service fees and updated for the first time since 2011
	Responsible (financial resource management)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applied for and received various grants • Began development of forecasting modules for next five years relating to business and operational impacts
	Technology (optimization)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing assessment of, and improvement to, security measures and monitoring • Purchase of electric vehicle and establishment of charging station at Police Services Building • Ongoing assessment of current technology to ensure the SSMPS is utilizing modern industry standards to improve service delivery

Highlights

New Deputy Chief of Police

On January 18, 2024, The Sault Ste. Marie Police Services Board announced Inspector Brent Duguay had been selected as the next Deputy Chief of Police for the Sault Ste. Marie Police Service.

Deputy Chief of Police Bob MacLachlan retired January 21, 2024, and then-Inspector Brent Duguay was sworn in as Deputy Chief of Police on January 26, 2024.

“It is a great honour to be named Deputy Chief,” says Inspector Brent Duguay. “I want to thank the Police Services Board, and Chief Hugh Stevenson for trusting me with this responsibility. I am truly honoured to be the next Deputy Chief.”

With nearly 30 years of experience with the Sault Ste. Marie Police Service, Deputy Duguay has worked extensively on major investigations, including Joint Forces Operations involving drugs and organized crime with other police agencies across the province.

“We are fortunate to have such an experienced law enforcement professional to promote from within,” says Police Services Board Chair John Bruno. “On behalf of the Board, we congratulate Deputy Duguay on the appointment. We are confident he will partner with Chief Stevenson to continue modernizing the Sault Police and providing community safety for the people of Sault Ste. Marie and Prince Township.”



New Auxiliary Unit

On January 24, 2024, six new Auxiliary Constables were sworn in as volunteer members of the Sault Police Auxiliary Unit: Hannah Booth, Gavin Dupuis, Issac Parise, Tomas Webb, Aaron Wheten, and Robert Wright. Auxiliary Sergeant Dalaina Orr also remained on the unit.

Throughout 2024, four members of this Auxiliary Unit were hired as Special Constables and/or Recruit Constables!

Training Partnership with Anishinabek Police Service

Beginning on March 22, 2024, Constable Al Nolan from the Anishinabek Police Service was partnered with a coach officer from the SSMPS for three months.

“This partnership is a great opportunity for our new officer to gain valuable experience answering emergency calls,” says Chief Jeff Skye of the Anishinabek Police Service. “We thank the Sault Police for helping us prepare our members for a career in policing.”



“We are happy to play a role in the development of their members and ensure they gain knowledge from an experienced member of the Sault Police,” said Inspector Derek Dewar. “Information sharing and relationship building will help both organizations as we collaborate moving forward.”

Since 2012, the Sault Ste. Marie Police Service has hosted seven officers from other police agencies during training partnerships. This includes members from the Anishinabek Police Service, Batchewana First Nation Police, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

New Plush Canines

In April of 2024, the SSMPS, in partnership with PUC Services Inc. and the Police Services Board, announced a new lineup of plush canines to comfort kids who might be dealing with stressful situations involving police.

Various studies have shown stuffed animals can help children cope with trauma, stress, fear, and even pain by providing emotional and physical comfort.

Sault Police thank PUC Services Inc. and the Sault Ste. Marie Police Services Board for their generous contributions of \$1,500 each for the plush canines.



DEMS Unit & In-Car Camera Systems

In 2024, the SSMPS established its Digital Evidence Management System (DEMS) Unit. Members of the DEMS Unit are responsible for managing and redacting digital evidence to support investigations and prepare evidence for court proceedings.

In October, the SSMPS equipped its cruisers with new in-car camera systems to enhance public trust, demonstrate accountability and transparency, and streamline investigations.



Each Patrol Services vehicle now features an interior-facing camera that will record occupants in the back seat of patrol vehicles and a front-facing dash camera. These cameras will record interactions between officers and the public, providing valuable and objective evidence for investigations and prosecutions.

“Trust and accountability are cornerstones of effective policing,” said Hugh Stevenson, former Chief of Police. “The implementation of in-car camera systems will ensure unbiased documentation of police interactions, enhancing the safety of both our officers and community members.”

The SSMPS also started preparing for the implementation of Body-Worn Cameras, which were later launched in 2025.

Donald Doucet Youth Centre Charity Hockey Tournament

In March of 2024, the Sault Ste. Marie Police Service beat Sault Fire Services and took home the championship trophy in the men’s open division at the Donald Doucet Youth Centre Charity Hockey Tournament.

This week-long tournament gives players the chance to hit the ice, show off their skills, and compete in a fun and friendly environment while raising funds for local charities and honouring the late Constable Doucet’s love of the game.



High School Liaison Officer Partnership

In November of 2024, the SSMPS announced a renewed partnership with the Algoma District School Board (ADSB) and the Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board (HSCDSB) that saw the return of a full-time, uniformed High School Liaison Officer (HSLO) to local high schools.

Constable Lyndsey Pilkington, who had been a constable for nine years, began her duties as a HSLO on November 12, 2024. Prior to joining the SSMPS, Lyndsey worked as a teacher in both Canada and Australia.



The High School Liaison Officer is shared between four ADSB high and alternative schools and one HSCDSB high school, ensuring students from across the region benefit from the officer's presence and support. The position is jointly funded by ADSB, HSCDSB, and the SSMPS, reflecting a shared commitment to fostering safe and welcoming environments for all students.

The focus of the High School Liaison Officer is on education, awareness, and building positive relationships within the school communities. Through responding to incidents involving students, participation in school activities, and informal interactions, the officer works to support students' safety and wellbeing, while also promoting a deeper understanding of the role of police in our community.

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Pilot Project

On March 5, 2024, the SSMPS launched a pilot project as part of a policy evaluation in response to the tragic IPV-related homicides in the fall of 2023. As part of the project, officers began to follow up on all IPV-related calls for service which did not result in charges, including verbal arguments and exchange of property.

As a result of this project: 835 calls received follow up, 33 new calls for service were generated, and eight individuals were charged. The practices implemented in this pilot project have since become policy.

Awards

Police Community Awards Night

In May of 2024, the SSMPs hosted its 36th Police Community Awards Night to recognize the kind, caring, and courageous people who have contributed to the safety and wellbeing of our community over the last year.

Groups and individuals recognized included: Mark Trudel, Lisa Damiginani, and their daughter Christina (owners and operators of O'Sullivan Funeral Home); Annette Katajamaki (CEO of CMHA Algoma, Mental Health & Addiction Services); Lisa Case, Annette Katajamaki, Pam Lefave, Rose Genua, and Michael Davies (Community Wellness Bus); Deb Corbett (Harvest Algoma) and David Thompson (Director of Rural Agri-Innovation Network RAIN Algoma); Steve Caruso, Tony Schoahs, and Joe Maurice (Korah C&VS); Keith Boissoneau and Steve Gjos; Perry Mattila; Jamie and Jessie Boston (founders of The Algoma Autism Foundation); Bryan Cleminson; Alex Thibodeau; and Liam Frenette.

Crime Stoppers of Sault Ste. Marie and Algoma Peace Officer of the Year Awards Gala

Also in May of 2024, Cst. Jaimie Peace and Cst. Chris Perri were awarded Peace Officer of the Year, and civilian member, Linda Maeumbaed, was awarded the Crime Stoppers Recognition Award.

Jaimie and Chris were awarded for jumping into action while off-duty during a fatal shooting at a sports bar in Sudbury. The pair secured the doors, contained the scene, and administered first aid to a victim.

Linda Maeumbaed was recognized for her pivotal role in overseeing the payment process to Crime Stoppers and ensuring a strong and effective partnership with Sault Police.

Special Olympics Michigan 2024 Hall of Fame Award

In May of 2024, Constable Fred Brown was awarded the Special Olympics Michigan 2024 Hall of Fame Award - the most prestigious award given in the Law Enforcement Torch Run community - for his more than 30 years of dedicated service and exceptional contributions.



Police Exemplary Service Awards

On September 6, 2024, the SSMPS and the Sault Ste. Marie Police Services Board hosted its annual Police Exemplary Service Awards luncheon to recognize members' milestone years of service as well as those who demonstrated outstanding character and/or went above and beyond in 2023.

- Staff Sergeant Kevin Dukes was recognized for 30 years of service
- Civilian member Lisa B., Sergeant Rob Chabot, Sergeant Michelle Johnson, Retired Staff Sergeant Tom Armstrong, Inspector Will Freeman, and Sergeant Dave Doucette were recognized for 25 years of service
- Sergeant Alison Campbell, Constable Dave Guizzetti, Constable Dan Turco, and Constable Greg Vallee were recognized for 20 years of service
- Drew B. was awarded Civilian of the Year Award
- Lisa H. was awarded the Julie Christenson Memorial Award
- Several members also received Sault Ste. Marie Police Services Board Commendations for their exemplary service.

25 Years of Service - City of Sault Ste. Marie

In December of 2024, Staff Sergeant Rodney Burrows, Inspector Ben Bolduc, Constable Mike Maniaco, Sergeant Derek MacFarlane, and civilian member, Keith G. were awarded watches for their 25 Years of Service with the City of Sault Ste. Marie.

OACP/CCN Catherine Martin Award of Excellence in Media Relations

In June of 2024, the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) announced the SSMPS Corporate Communications team of Lincoln Louttit and Chelsey Foucher as the recipients of the 2024 OACP/CCN Catherine Martin Award of Excellence in Media Relations.

This award recognizes a sworn or civilian member (or team) who demonstrate consistent dedication and professionalism in the strategic use of media and/or social media to educate and showcase the profession of policing in the community, supporting public safety, or advancing investigations in the Province of Ontario.



Chief's Coins

A Chief's Coin is a way for the Chief of Police to acknowledge an individual or group who has gone above and beyond for their outstanding service.

Constable Shawn Cuglietta

- In January of 2024, Constable Shawn Cuglietta was awarded a Chief's Coin in recognition of the tact and professionalism he exercised when being the first officer to respond to a shooting on February 6, 2023.

Constable Nick Servant

- In January of 2024, Constable Nick Servant was awarded a Chief's Coin in recognition of his quick thinking which helped save a life. On September 8, 2023, he rushed to the aid of someone who had been stabbed multiple times, applying a tourniquet and keeping the victim stable until paramedics arrived.

Detective Constable Brad Harfman & Retired Constable Karen Harfman

- In November of 2024, Detective Constable Brad Harfman and Retired Constable Karen Harfman were awarded Chief's Coins for their swift and selfless actions while off-duty, assisting a community member in a medical emergency.



Comparing Crime Statistics

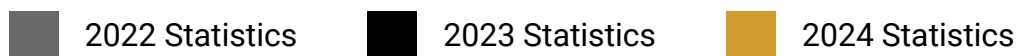
It is not recommended that the crime statistics in this report be compared to crime statistics prepared by other agencies due to the fact that different methods of categorization, geographic, technical data, and time constraints may affect the outcome. Although comparing exact numbers is not recommended, the general trends and magnitude of change should be similar regardless of the counting method.

The below crime statistics are compiled from incident-based data. Only the most serious violation in an incident is captured in these statistics.

Detailed information pertaining to Statistics Canada crime reporting methodology can be found in the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey documents posted on the [Statistics Canada website](#).

Legend

Graphs throughout this annual report use the following colour breakdown:



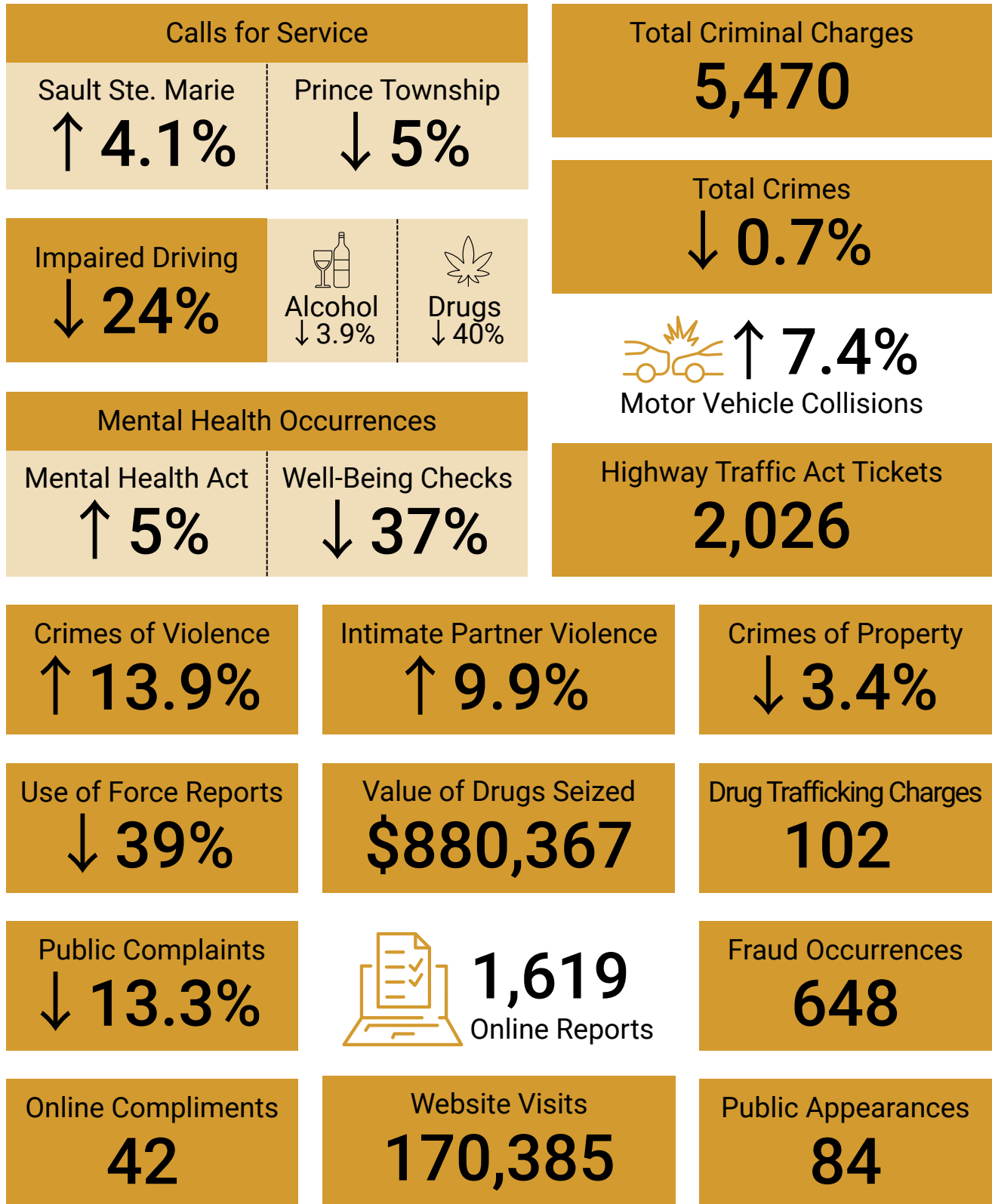
Acronyms

CCC = Criminal Code of Canada

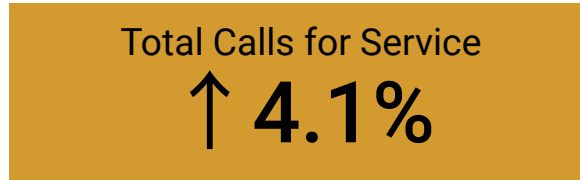
YCJA = Youth Criminal Justice Act



Fast Facts

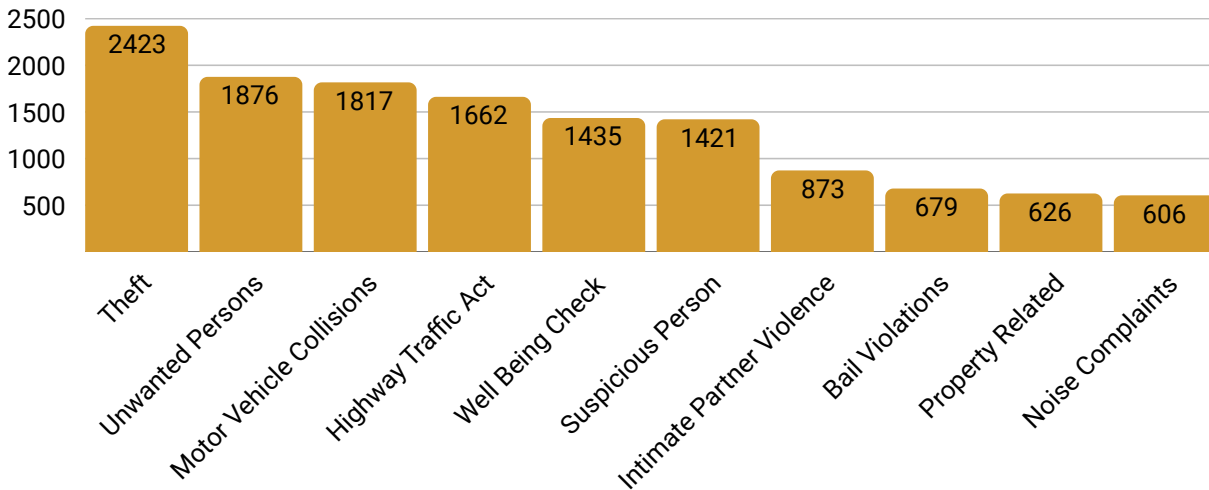


Calls for Service - Sault Ste. Marie

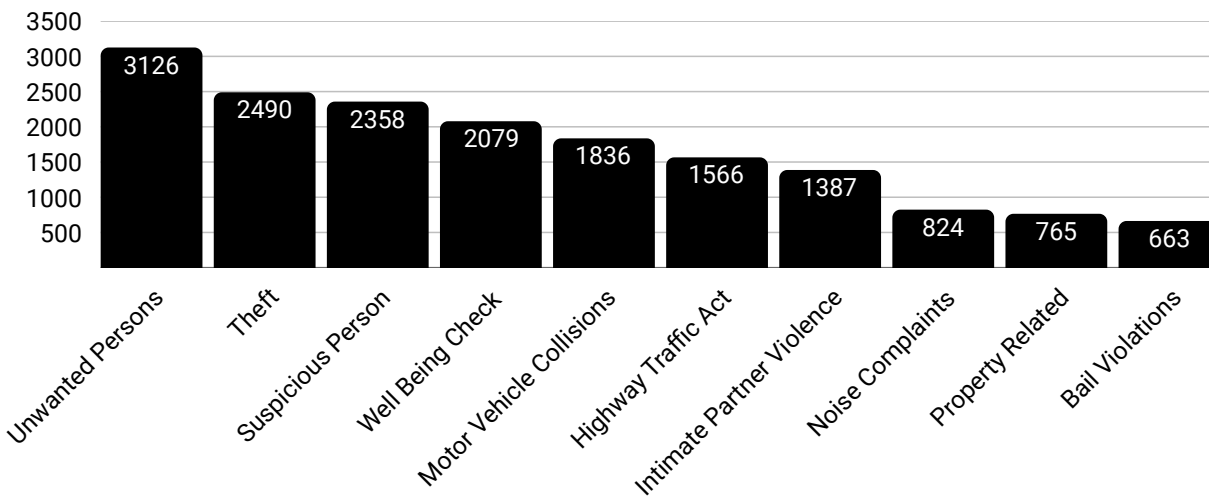


The below numbers represent our Top 10 calls for service in Sault Ste. Marie where the violation (criminal or non-criminal) is the most serious in a single occurrence.

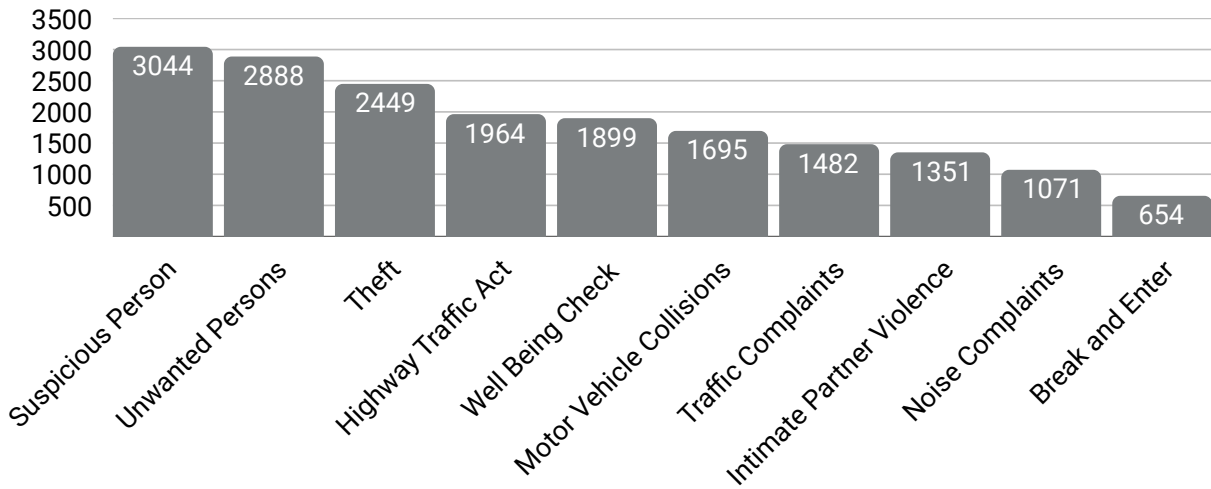
Top 10 Calls for Service (SSM) - 2024



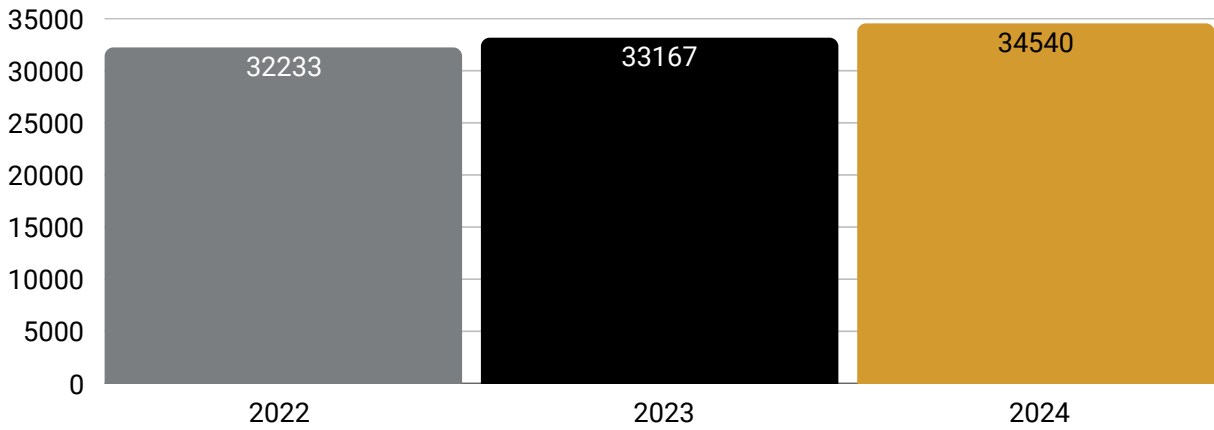
Top 10 Calls for Service (SSM) - 2023



Top 10 Calls for Service (SSM) - 2022



Total Incidents



Includes: Calls for Service, Proactive Initiatives, and Administrative Occurrences

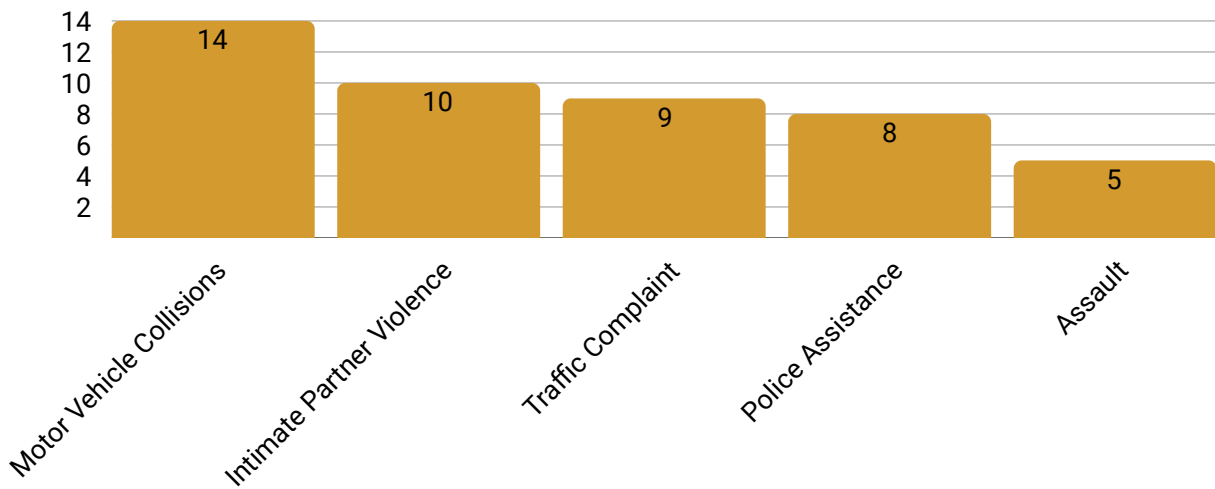


Calls for Service - Prince Township

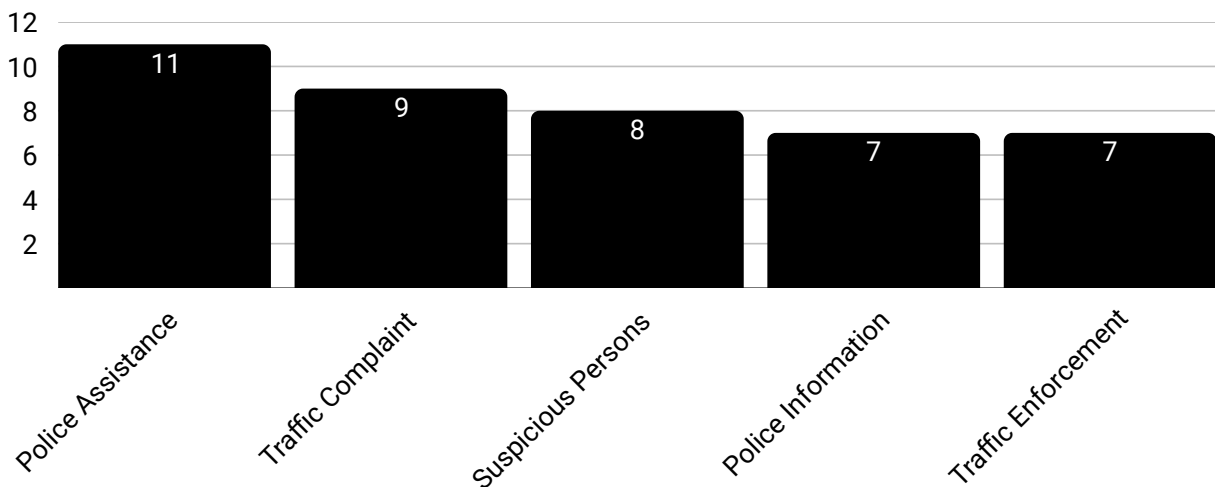


The below numbers represent our Top 5 calls for service in Prince Township where the violation (criminal or non-criminal) is the most serious in a single occurrence.

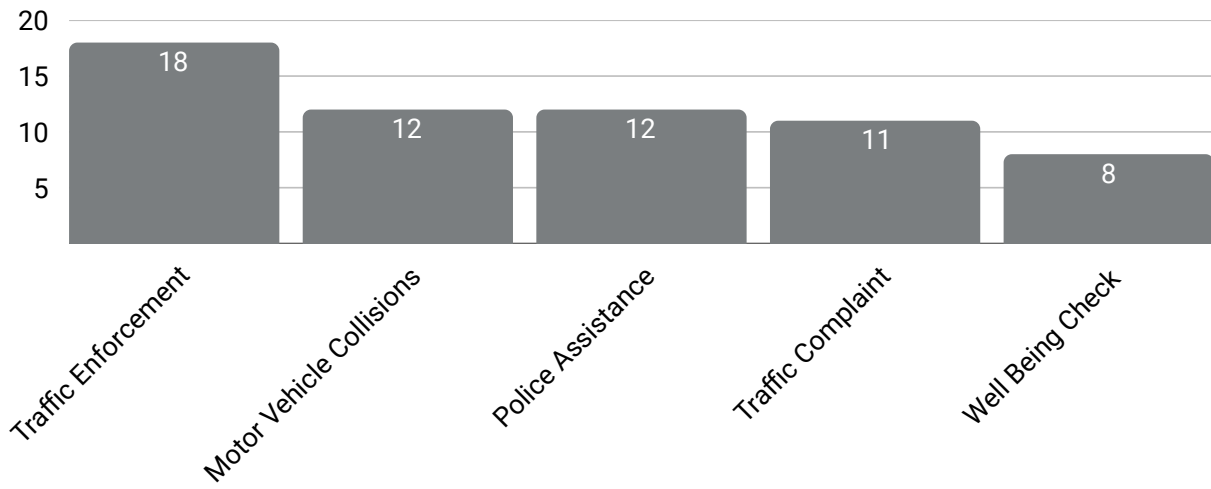
Top 5 Calls for Service (Prince) - 2024



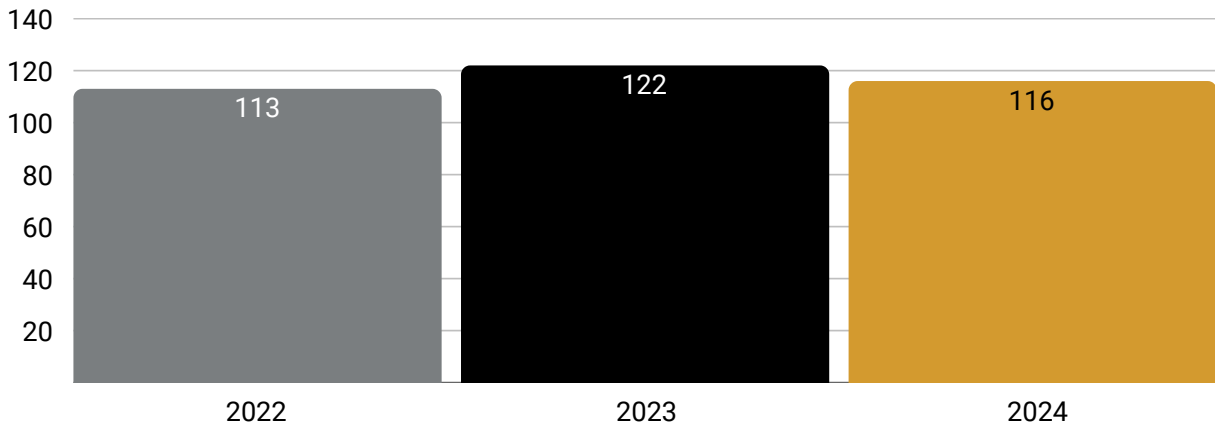
Top 5 Calls for Service (Prince) - 2023



Top 5 Calls for Service (Prince) - 2022



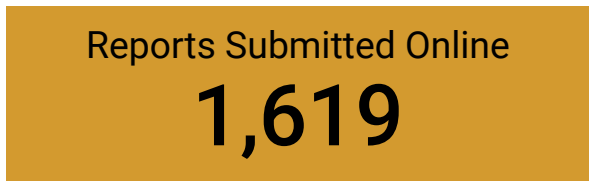
Total Incidents



Includes: Calls for Service, Proactive Initiatives, and Administrative Occurrences



Online Reports



A variety of reports—such as bicycle registrations, lost property, mischief, sexual assaults, shoplifting, and more—can now be conveniently submitted online. This streamlined process enables frontline officers to focus their time and resources on higher-priority calls, improving response times and enhancing public safety.

Total Online Reports



Top 5 Reports Submitted Online

2022		2023		2024	
Theft	483	Shoplift	857	Shoplift	988
Shoplift*	319	Theft	288	Theft	238
Bicycle Registration	66	Police Information**	119	Bail Violations	56
Bail Violations	42	Bail Violations	71	Mischief	53
Mischief	31	Mischief	57	Breach of Probation	37

*Portions may be contained in Theft

**Police Information reports include the Security Camera Registry and Bicycle Registry

Online Registries

In 2024, the Sault Ste. Marie Police Service continued its commitment to community safety through accessible and proactive online registry programs.

Bicycle Registry

52

New Registrations

Registering a bicycle can help the SSMPS return it to its rightful owner if it becomes lost or stolen and is recovered by police.

Security Camera Registry

22

New Registrations

Registering a residential/business security camera can help the SSMPS to quickly and effectively direct resources when investigating nearby incidents.

Wandering/Vulnerable Person Registry

33

New Registrations

Registering a wandering and/or vulnerable person can aid in a more safe and efficient police response for those at risk of going missing.



Crimes of Violence



	2022	2023	2024
Abduction	2	0	0
Assault	750	735	851
Attempt Murder	2	6	3
Homicide	3	7	1
Intimate Partner Violence*	1351	1387	1524
Offensive Weapons**	55	47	54
Robbery	66	85	85
Sexual Assault	122	85	105

*Portions may be contained in other violent offences

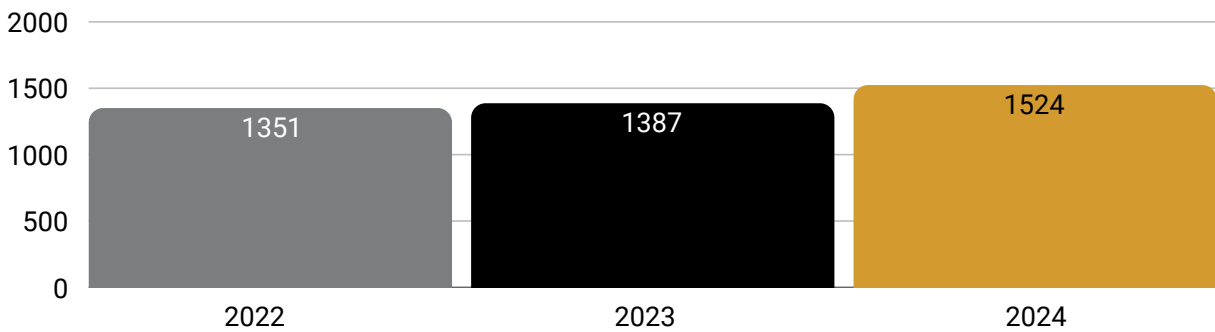
**Represents incidents where improper care, use, storage, and/or illegal possession of a weapon is the most serious violation. Offensive weapons include any object used or intended to be used to inflict harm, intimidate, or commit an offence. This includes, but is not limited to: firearms, knives, brass knuckles, mace, and objects designed to look like a weapon.



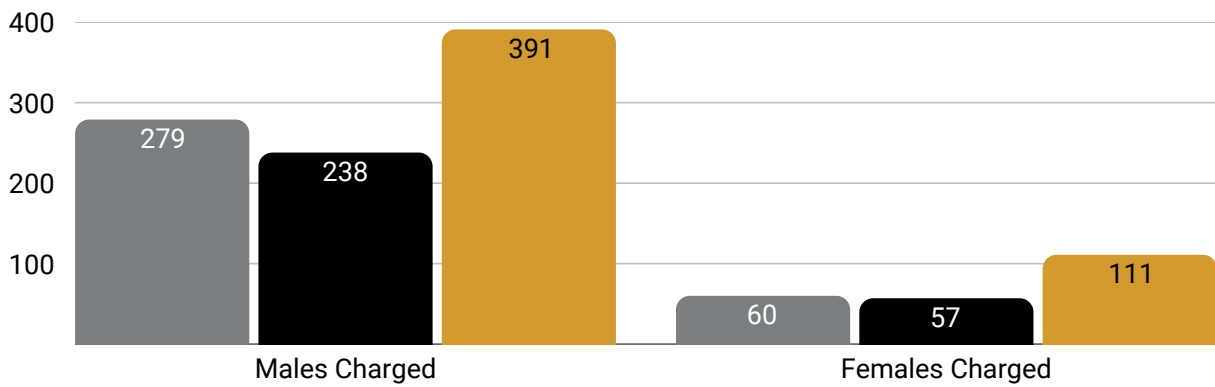
Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)

Total IPV Occurrences
↑ 9.9%

Total Occurrences

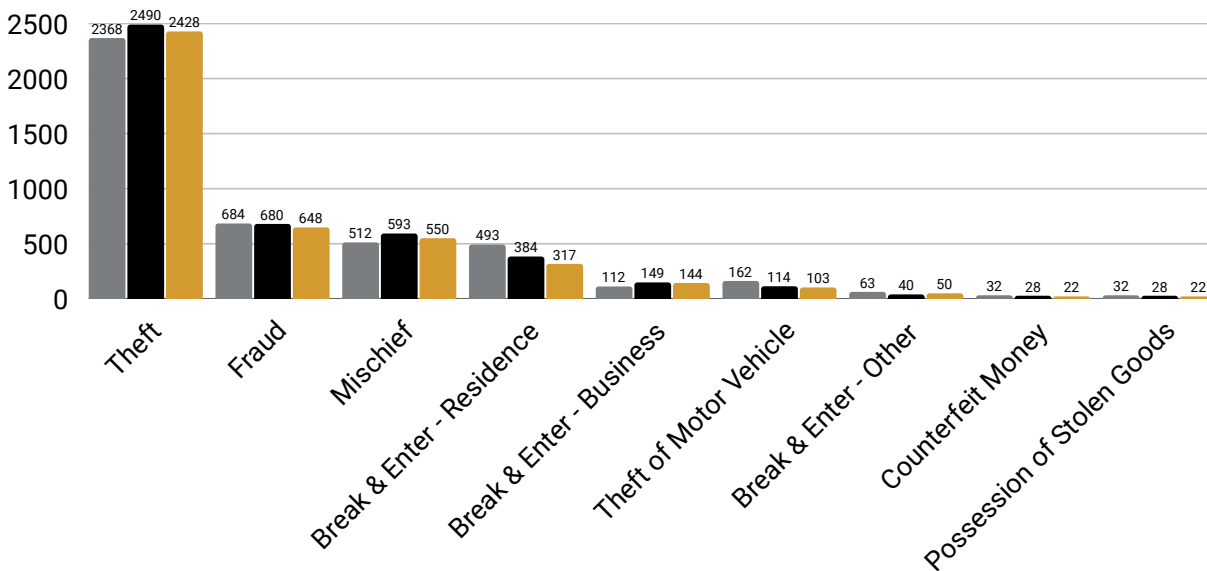


Individuals Charged



Crimes of Property

Total Crimes of Property
 ↓ 3.4%



Break & Enter and Theft of Motor Vehicle occurrence totals contain attempts.

Excluded from this chart are “Gaming/Betting” and “Other CCC”, which can be found in 2024 Year End Statistics.



Fraud & Elder Abuse Unit

Fraud Occurrences

648

The Fraud Unit of the Sault Ste. Marie Police Service investigates all fraud-related complaints received by the Service.

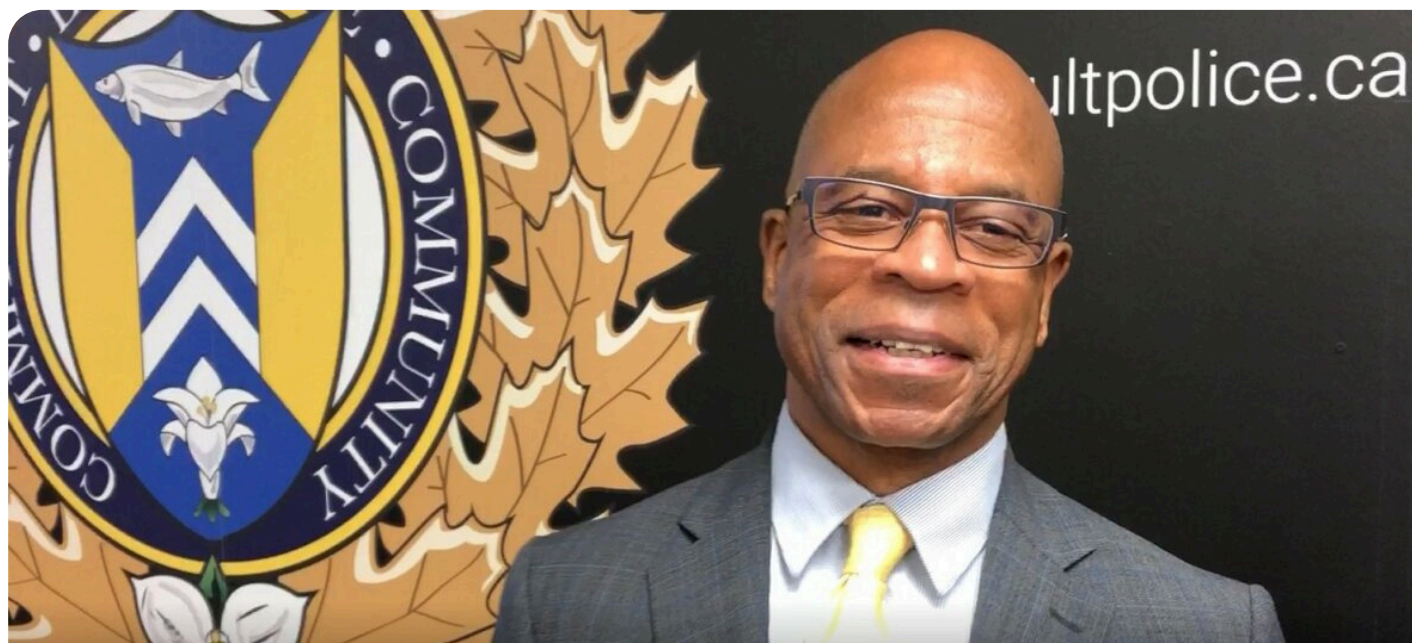
The detective in this unit works closely with banks, credit card companies, and other financial institutions to identify and pursue individuals involved in financial crimes. The unit also specializes in investigations of financial crimes targeting seniors, complaints related to nursing homes and senior care facilities, and offences involving Powers of Attorney.

Alongside its investigative work, the unit focuses on prevention by delivering presentations and educational outreach, often to at-risk seniors.

Significant Investigations

In 2024, the Fraud Unit conducted several major investigations related to fraud in our community. The unit made many arrests throughout the year, with the most notable below:

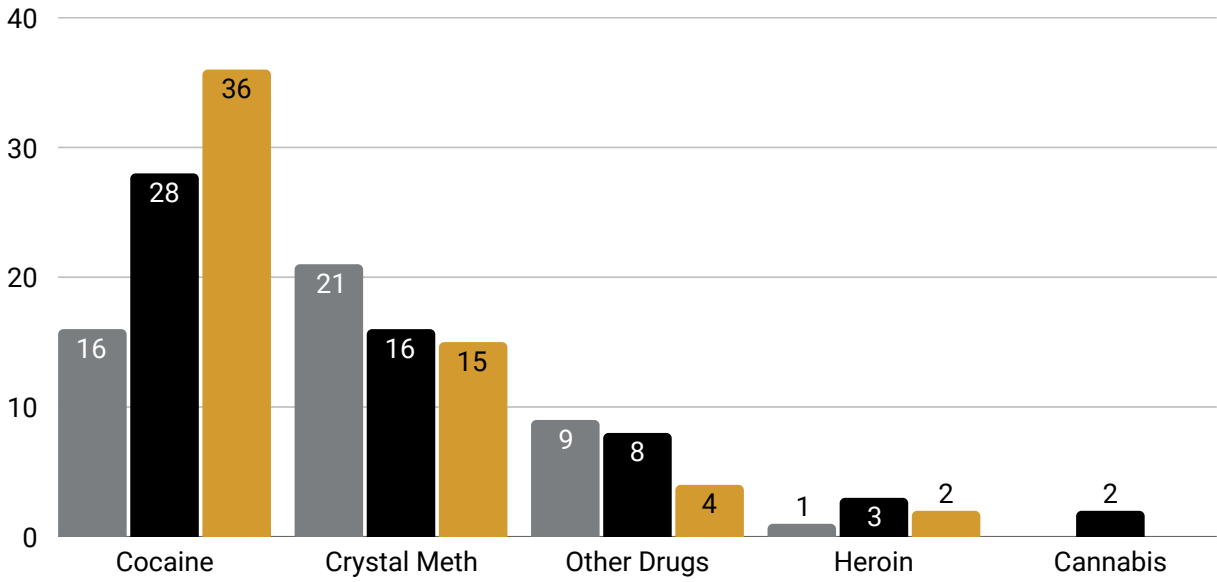
- On February 5, 2024, the Fraud Unit charged a local 54-year-old with fraud over \$5,000, theft by person holding power of attorney, and fraudulently using a credit card after an investigation revealed they had defrauded a victim of approximately \$362,283
- On August 26, 2024, the Fraud Unit charged a local 52-year-old with fraud over \$5,000 after an investigation revealed they had made approximately \$30,000 in fraudulent credit card transactions on a card belonging to their employer
- On December 10, 2024, the Fraud Unit charged a local 50-year-old with fraud over \$5,000 after an investigation revealed they had defrauded their employer of approximately \$559,701



Drug Crimes

Value of Drugs Seized
\$880,367

Trafficking Charges Laid
102



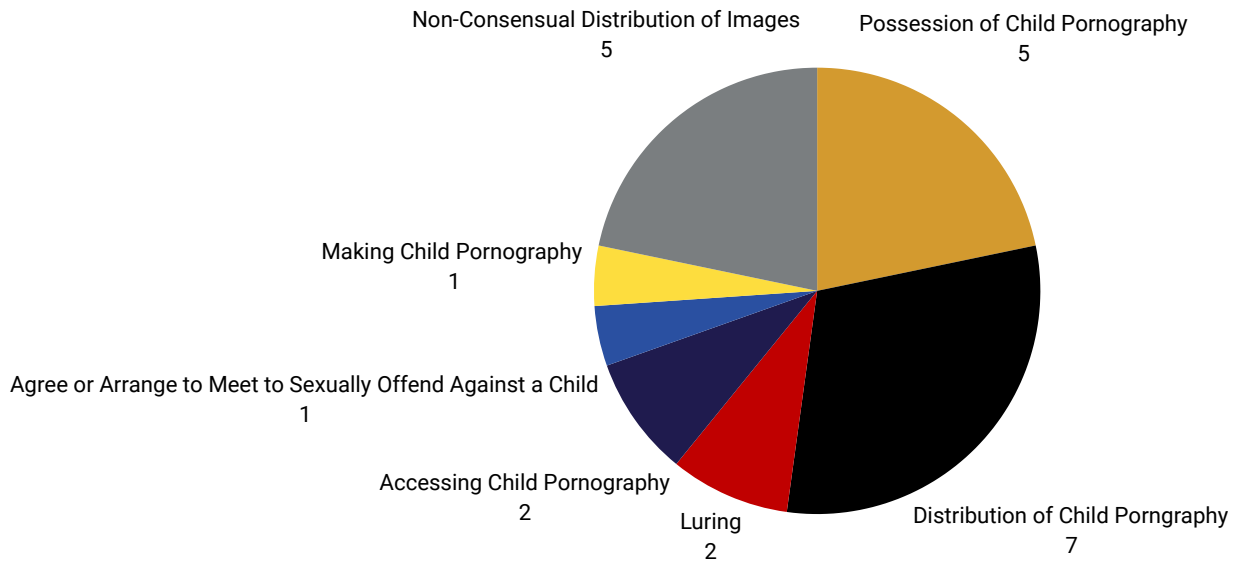
Technological Crime Unit (TCU)



The TCU is a proud member of the Ontario Provincial Strategy to Protect Children from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation on the Internet, which consists of 27 partnering municipal agencies working collaboratively to rescue victims and combat child exploitation. This strategy has been made possible by a grant from the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services.

In 2024, the TCU was involved with 124 investigations. Of these investigations, 29 were related to internet child exploitation.

As a result of these investigations, 23 charges related to internet child exploitation were laid against nine people. These charges are broken down below:



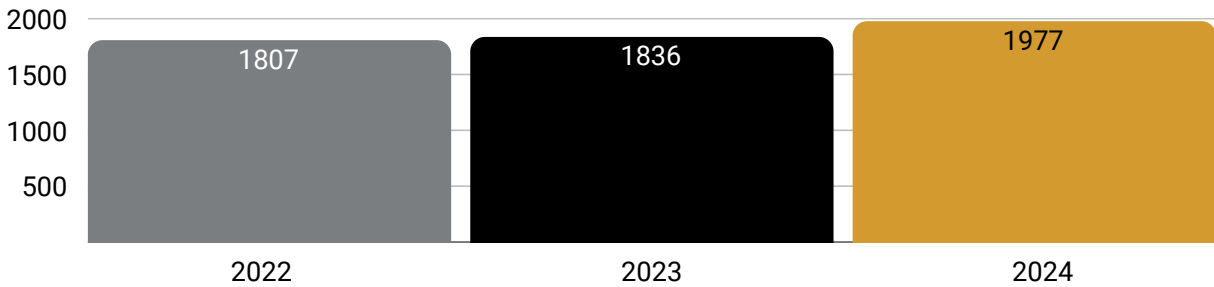
Two members of the TCU received specialized training in conducting proactive undercover investigations online, resulting in some of the charges listed above.

The TCU also located approximately eight children/youth who were self-exploiting via the internet. They, along with their parents, were educated on the risks of sharing intimate images online and support services were offered.

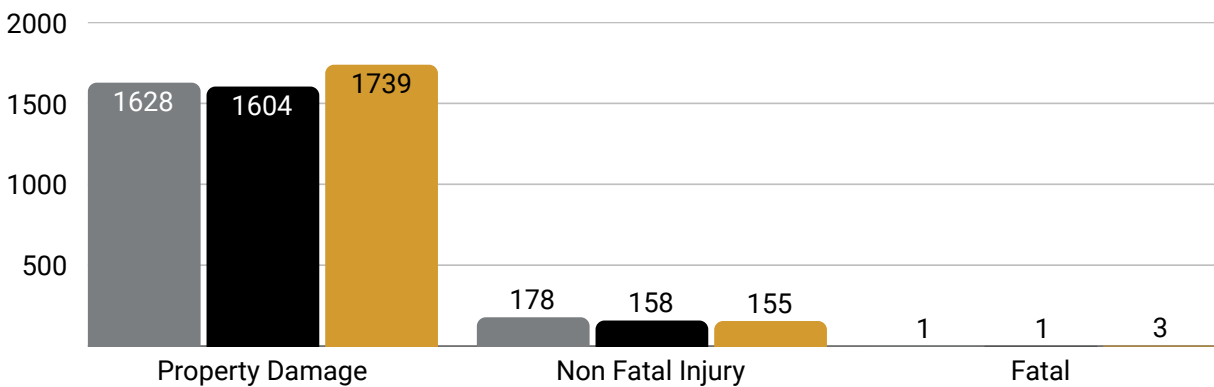
In 2024, the TCU partnered with the Ontario Provincial Police, London Police Service, Timmins Police Service, and Greater Manchester Police.

Motor Vehicle Collisions (MVC)

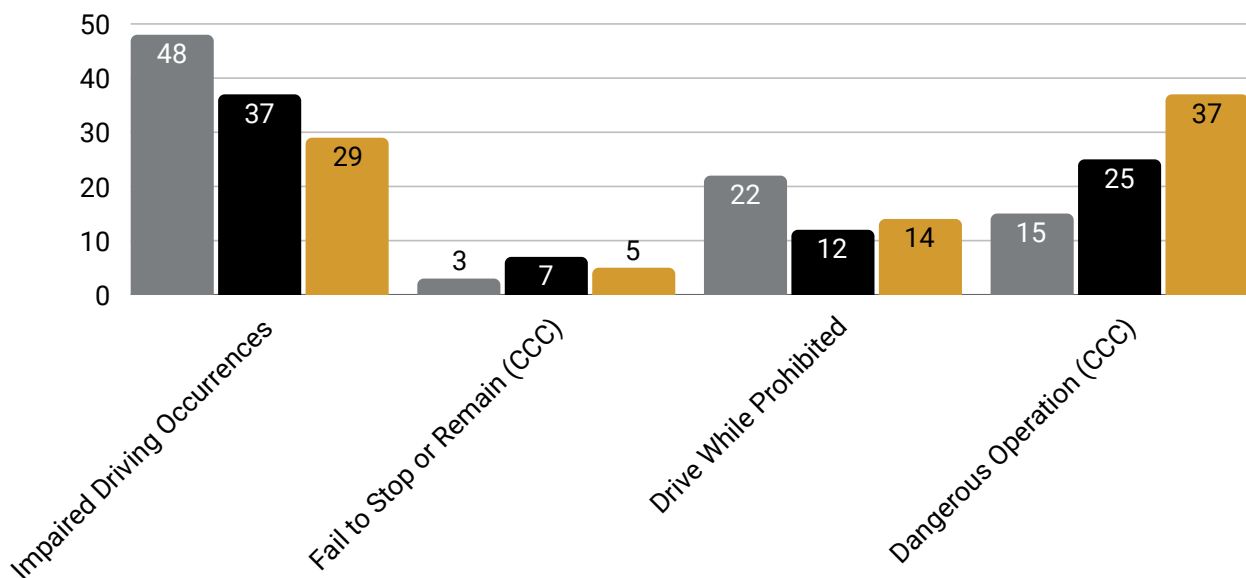
Total MVC Occurrences



MVC Results



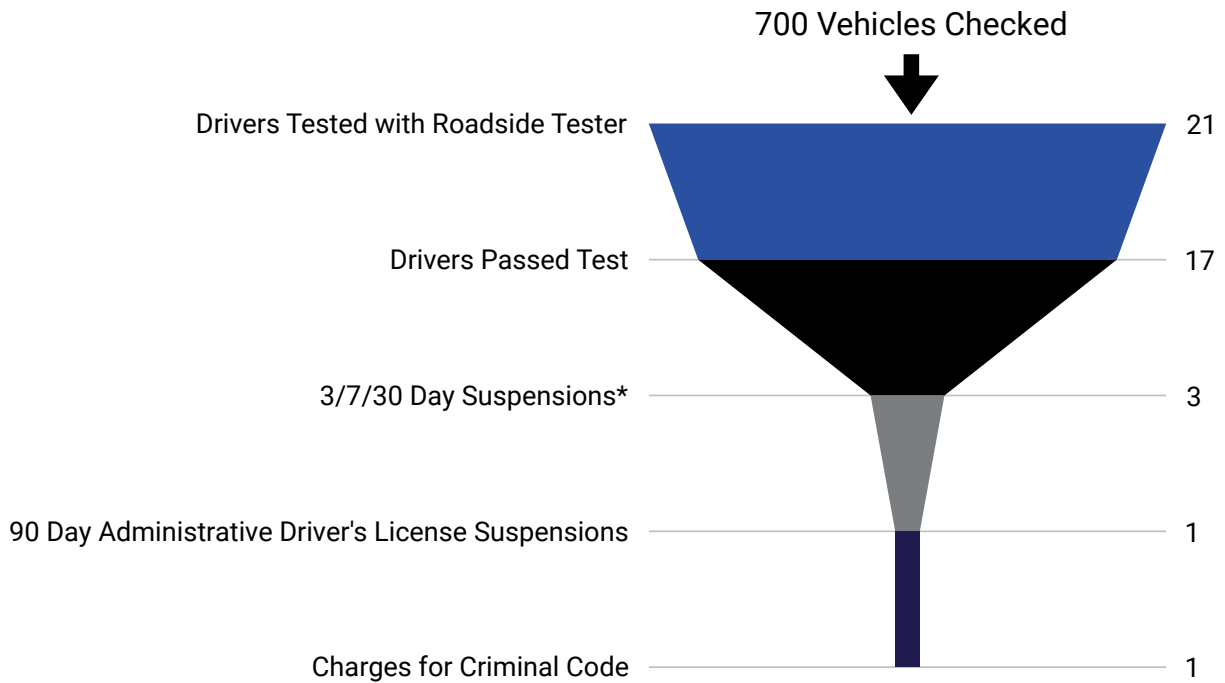
Driving Offences



RIDE Program

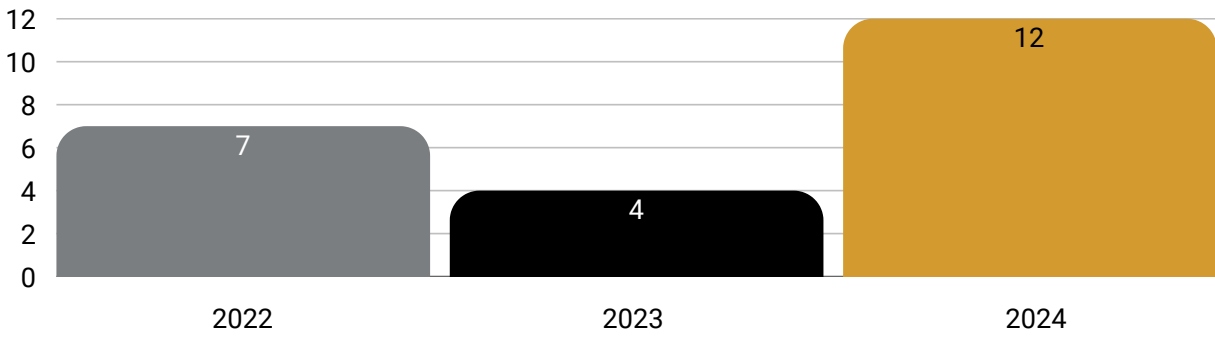
	2022	2023	2024
Vehicles Checked	4,888	2,044	700
Drivers Tested with Roadside Tester	1	22	21
Drivers Passed Test	1	20	17
3/7/30 Day Suspensions*	0	2	3
90 Day ADLS (Administrative Driver's License Suspe	0	0	1
Charges for Criminal Code	0	1	1

2024 RIDE Results

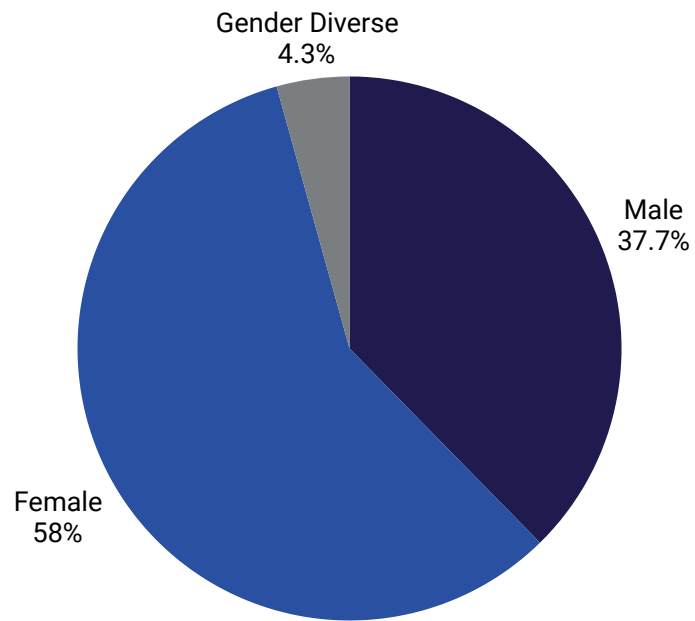


YCJA Involvement

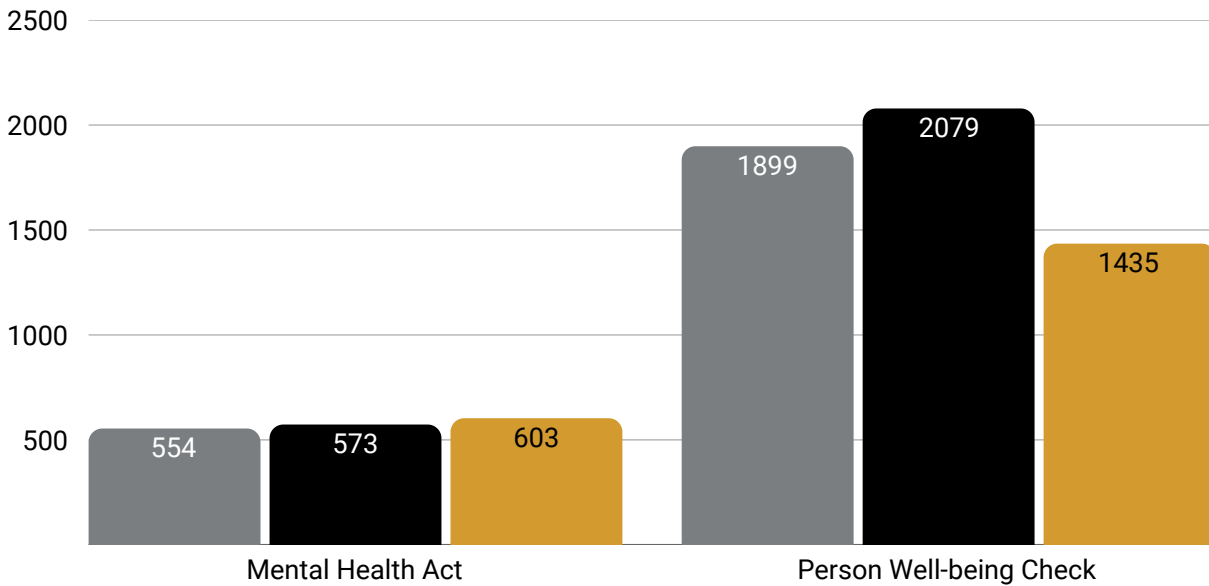
Total Youth Diverted



2024 Involvement by Gender



Mental Health Occurrences



Integrated Municipal Enforcement Team (IMET)

In 2020, Sault Police along with Sault Fire Services, City of Sault Ste. Marie Building and By-Law, the housing commission and other partners formed the Integrated Municipal Enforcement Team (IMET).

This enforcement-oriented team brings together all agencies with enforcement mandates, with the support of other partner agencies, to develop action plans in order to address a variety of community issues and concerns.

One of the duties of IMET is to locate neglected properties and buildings in disrepair that are unsafe for tenants and community members.

Community Safety Officers play a vital role with IMET and in educating community members of crime prevention methods.

IMET Calls for Service

79

Crime Stoppers

The Sault Ste. Marie Police Service is proud to partner with Crime Stoppers of Sault Ste. Marie and Algoma.

Crime Stoppers encourages members of the community to assist local law enforcement agencies in the fight against crime by overcoming the two key elements that inhibit community involvement: fear and apathy.

Crime Stoppers provides an anonymous telephone line (705-942-7867 or 1-800-222-8477) and anonymous online reporting system (www.p3tips.com) to encourage citizens in the community to provide vital information on criminal activity. Crime Stoppers processes the reports and disseminates them to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Tipsters remain anonymous and are eligible to receive a cash reward if the information provided leads to an arrest or successful conclusion.

	2022	2023	2024
Arrests	9	6	2
Cases Cleared	8	5	4
Charges Laid	20	11	4
Property Recovered	\$1,000	\$300	\$800
Drugs Seized	\$0	\$7,000	\$0
Tipster Calls	699	822	740



Provincial Offences Act

Provincial Offence Notices Issued	2022	2023	2024
Highway Traffic Act	1783	2506	2026
Trespass to Property Act	139	170	152
Liquor Licence and Control Act	43	80	42
Compulsory Automobile Insurance Act	270	535	417
By-Law	13	14	19
Motorized Snow Vehicle Act	3	0	0
Off Road Vehicle Act	4	0	1
Total	2255	3305	2657



Community Engagement

Public Appearances

84

The Sault Ste. Marie Police Service prioritizes meaningful community engagement by proactively conducting outreach and accepting invitations to participate in events. These efforts aim to build and strengthen relationships, educate community members on safety and crime prevention, and support recruitment initiatives.

In 2024, members from various areas of the service—including, but not limited to, the Fraud Unit, Technological Crime Unit, High School Liaison Officer, Uniform Recruitment, and the Central Support Bureau—made at least 84 public appearances.

Many of these appearances were educational presentations for students, community groups, or general members of the public about topics like career opportunities in policing, online safety, fraud/scam awareness and prevention, and crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED). Officers also attended and participated in community events such as the Emergency Preparedness Showcase, Touch-a-Truck, Sault Area Hospital Family Fun Day, T.A.P.S. baseball game, Social Services Awareness Day, and many more!



Bicycle and Foot Patrol

The Bicycle Patrol Unit, comprised of Constables and Special Constables, is a highly visible and approachable presence in the community during the warmer months. This unit, as well as officers working foot patrol, respond to calls for service and engage with community members with initiatives such as positive ticketing.



Day Shifts

69

Emergency Services Unit

The Emergency Services Unit (ESU), which is comprised of a sergeant and 12 constables, has specialized training to handle situations which involve an increased level of violence or risk of violence.

Calls

61





Canine Unit

In 2024, the Canine Unit was comprised of two handlers and four canines (three Police Service Dogs and one Search and Rescue/Human Remains Detection Canine). The Canine Unit is highly trained in suspect apprehension, evidence detection, and locating missing people.

Calls
178

Rest in Peace, PSD Justice

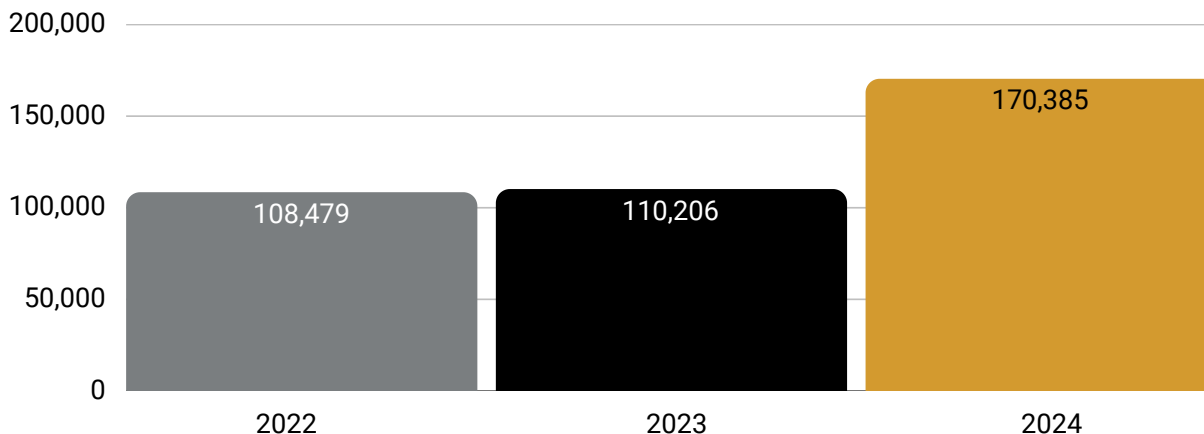
In December of 2024, Police Service Dog (PSD) Justice passed away at the age of 13 years old. Justice was a loyal teammate to and protector who served our community with courage and dedication since July of 2012.

The Sault Ste. Marie Police Service thanks Justice for his service and send our condolences to his partner, Cst. Dan Turco, who remains a canine handler with his partners PSD Hektor and SAR/HRD canine Red.

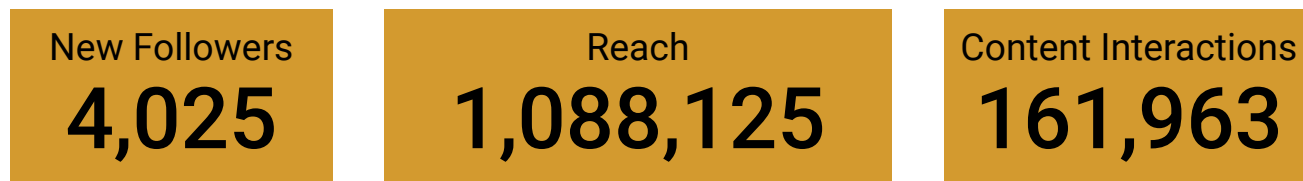


Website & Social Media

Website Visits



Facebook



Facebook is the SSMPS’s most effective social media platform for engaging with the community.

The SSMPS’s top social media post by reach—the number of unique users who saw a post—is a [video](#) posted on October 1, 2024, in which police officers answer the question: “Why do police officers like donuts?”

In 2024, this video reached 91,820 people on Facebook alone! It received 1,199 reactions and 81 shares.



Instagram

In 2024, the SSMPS’s Instagram gained 526 new followers, reached 116,885 users, and had 8,016 content interactions.

LinkedIn

In 2024, the SSMPS’s LinkedIn account gained 877 new followers.

Budget

	2022	2023	2024
Operating Budget	\$30,753,473.00	\$31,862,767.00	\$35,558,502.00
Capital Budget	\$1,247,810.00	\$1,404,070.00	\$1,598,570.00
Total Budget	\$32,001,283.00	\$33,266,837.00	\$37,157,072.00

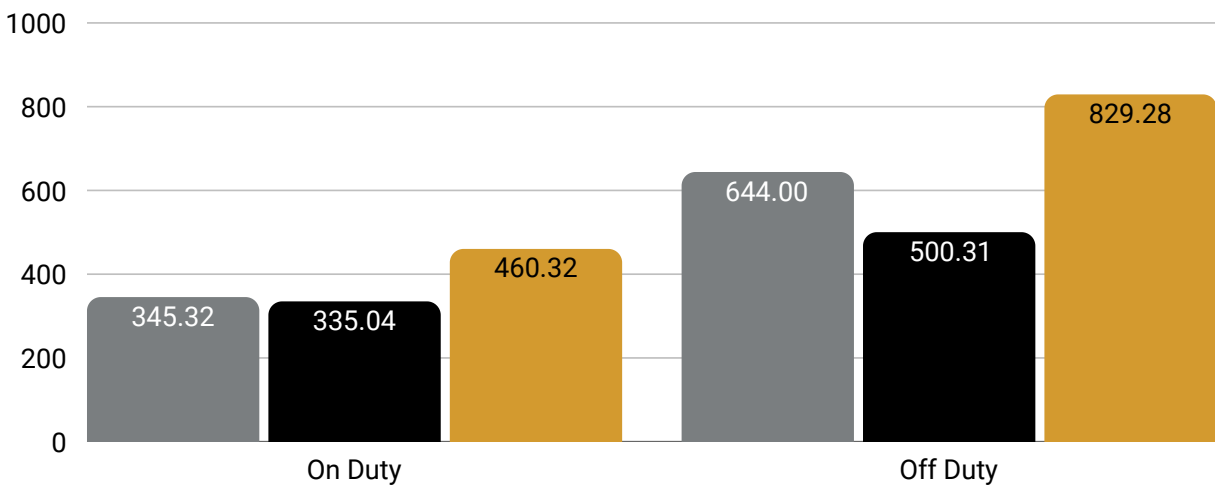
Total Grant Funding
\$2,830,507.61



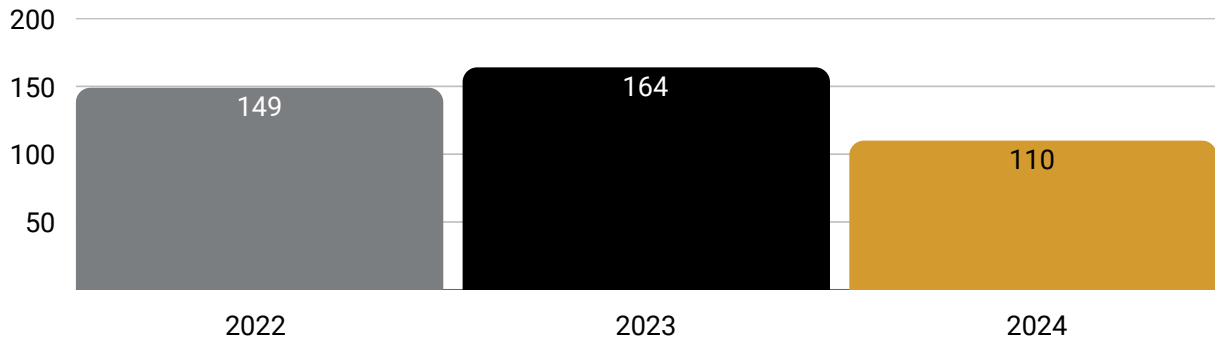
Authorized Members

	2022	2023	2024
Full-Time Authorized Officers	142	146	156
Full-Time Authorized Civilians	50	64	58
Total Authorized Members	192	210	214

Court Hours



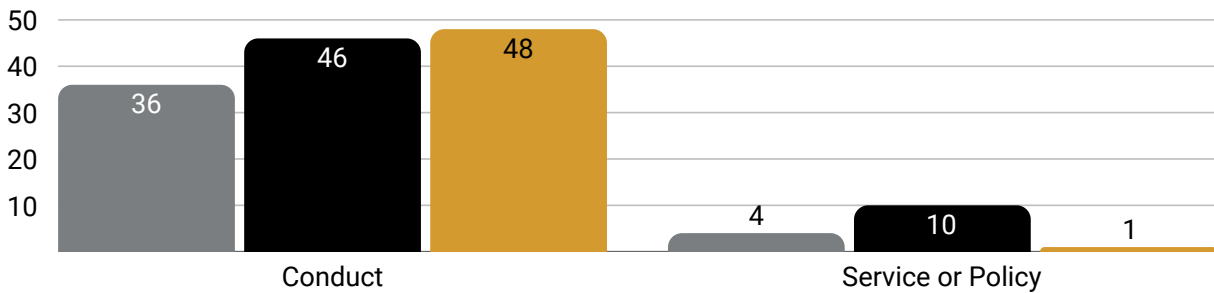
Use of Force Reports



The total number of Use of Force Reports does not equal the total number of occurrences where force was used.



Public Complaints



Results of Public Complaints

	2022	2023	2024
Not Directly Affected; Over Six Months;	-	3	4
Frivolous/Vexatious	6	1	1
NFA (No Further Action)	21	26	3
Informal Discipline	1	0	0
Informal Resolution	1	3	2
Not Dealt with under Section 59 P.S.A.^	0	0	-
Withdrawn	2	1	1
Hearing	0	0	0
Pending	1	1	1
Not in the Public Interest*	-	-	31
Unsubstantiated/Insufficient Evidence*	-	-	7

*New categories

^No longer a category

Online Compliments

Online Compliments

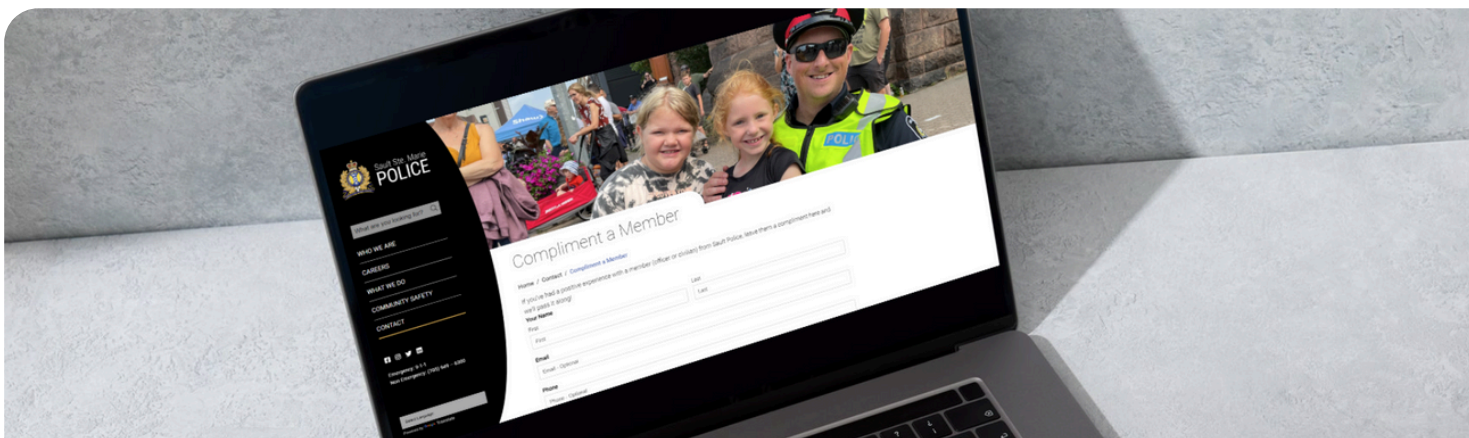
42

Members of the public can submit compliments and/or messages of thanks on the SSMPS website about positive interactions with members of the service. Submissions are circulated internally to recognize members for their outstanding work in the community. Some examples of compliments received in 2024 are included below:

I am the SAH SACC nurse who attended the police station with a patient who required some extra emotional support for a IPV related matter. Officer Tassone was very kind and compassionate. He has an incredible way of communicating with people using a trauma informed lens. I'm so thankful he was the person to speak to my patient as his kind and caring nature was exactly what she needed.

I was charged with impaired charges and Cst. Morin provided the breathalyzer. She was very neutral and kind. She explained each step by detail and I felt safe with the instructions. It was an opportunity for me to stay calm and focus on the present, even though it was a short time in her surroundings. I want thank her for not showing judgement and kept very professional.

I truly appreciate my most recent interaction with Constable Creedon and the rest of the members that assisted me when I reached out. Constable Creedon is very knowledgeable and provided me with very useful information regarding my situation. He was also respectful and very reassuring to someone like me who has never dealt with situations like these before. I am also appreciative and thankful that domestic situations are taken very seriously as they should be. The Sault police is doing an amazing job and thank you for all you do.



Promotions



Inspector

Year	Members Promoted
2022	0
2023	2
2024	1



Staff Sergeant

Year	Members Promoted
2022	0
2023	3
2024	2



Sergeant

Year	Members Promoted
2022	0
2023	3
2024	2



Awards



40 Year Bar

Year	Members Awarded
2022	0
2023	1
2024	0



30 Year Bar

Year	Members Awarded
2022	3
2023	0
2024	1



20 Year Bar

Year	Members Awarded
2022	7
2023	8
2024	4



25 Years Civilian

Year	Members Awarded
2022	0
2023	1
2024	1



25 Years City Service

Year	Members Awarded
2022	2
2023	6
2024	7



Civilian Awards

Year	Members Awarded
2022	0
2023	2
2024	2



Year End Statistics

	2022	2023	2024	% Change from Previous Year
Crimes of Violence				
Assault	750	735	851	15.8%
Sexual Assault	122	85	105	23.5%
Abduction	2	0	0	0.0%
Homicide	3	7	1	-85.7%
Attempt Murder	2	6	3	-50.0%
Robbery	66	85	85	0.0%
Prostitution	2	0	0	0.0%
Offensive Weapons	55	47	54	14.9%
Total Crimes of Violence	1002	965	1099	13.9%



	2022	2023	2024	% Change from Previous Year
Crimes of Property				
Break & Enter Total	668	573	511	-10.8%
~ Business	112	149	144	-3.4%
~ Residence	493	384	317	-17.4%
~ Other	63	40	50	25.0%
Attempt Break & Enter*	76	45	37	-17.8%
Theft of Motor Vehicle	162	114	103	-9.6%
Attempt Theft of Motor Vehicle*	9	2	1	-50.0%
Theft	2368	2490	2428	-2.5%
Mischief	512	593	550	-7.3%
Have Stolen Goods	32	28	22	-21.4%
Fraud	684	680	648	-4.7%
Gaming/Betting	0	0	0	0.0%
Other CCC	656	755	792	4.9%
Total Crimes of Property	5082	5233	5054	-3.4%

*Totals included in primary classification



	2022	2023	2024	% Change from Previous Year
Drug Crimes				
Heroin	1	3	2	-33.3%
Cocaine	16	28	36	28.6%
Other Drugs	9	8	4	-50.0%
Cannabis	0	2	0	-100.0%
Crystal Meth	21	16	15	-6.3%
Ecstasy	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Drug Crimes	47	57	57	0.0%

	2022	2023	2024	% Change from Previous Year
Total Crimes*	6131	6255	6210	-0.7%

*Intimate Partner Violence, Mental Health Act and Motor Vehicle Collisions not included in Total Crimes

The below numbers represent any occurrence where these non-criminal classifications have been captured. These classifications may not be the most serious violation on the occurrence, therefore, these may be included under one of the above criminal violations in our crime statistics.

	2022	2023	2024	% Change from Previous Year
Intimate Partner Violence	1351	1387	1524	9.9%





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