



# VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

## REPORT TO THE VANCOUVER POLICE BOARD

**REPORT DATE:** September 3, 2020  
**BOARD MEETING DATE:** September 17, 2020  
**BOARD REPORT #** 2009P02  
*Regular*

**TO:** Vancouver Police Board  
**FROM:** Drazen Manojlovic, Director, Planning, Research & Audit Section  
**SUBJECT:** Quarter 2, 2020 Year-to-Date Key Performance Indicators Report

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT the Vancouver Police Board receives this report for information.**

### **BACKGROUND:**

The quarterly Key Performance Indicators (KPI) reports review: violent crime; property crime; apprehensions under section 28 of the *Mental Health Act* (MHA); calls for service; priority 1 (P1) response time; the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia's (ICBC)-reported traffic incidents with injuries; traffic fatalities; and VPD-attended motor vehicle incidents with injuries. This report provides a macro-level perspective of organizational performance and overall public safety.

Beginning in 2018, Statistics Canada has changed crime counting standards to include 'unfounded' incidents. Beginning in 2019, all KPI reports reflected this change and previous years' results were retroactively calculated to include unfounded incidents. Also, crime statistics record the date the incident was reported to the police ('reported date') and the date the incident occurred ('occurred date'). KPI reports prior to 2019 used the occurred date as this date was more reflective of active crime trends emerging in Vancouver. Statistics Canada uses the reported date to report crime statistics and KPI Reports, from 2019 onwards, use that standard to maintain consistency. Results have been retroactively calculated to reflect the reported date.

Finally, of note, 2020 marked a historical anomaly in that a global pandemic was declared on March 11, 2020 and, as a result, comparing year-over-year statistics presents unique challenges and has statistically affected metrics such as certain crime types and P1 response times.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The following is a summary of the Quarter 2 (Q2) Year-to-Date (YTD) 2020 KPI Report (all results compare January 1 – June 30, 2020, with the results for the same period in 2019):

## **Violent Crime**

- In 2020, the number of violent crimes was 2,858; up 5.2% from 2019 (2,718)
  - The increase in violent crime is almost exclusively as a result of an increase in assaults, with the most serious types of assaults (i.e., “assault with a weapon or cause bodily harm” and “aggravated assault”) increasing by 21.7%
  - Every VPD Patrol District experienced an increase in the most serious types of assault, as did the majority of Vancouver’s neighbourhoods (15 of 24 neighbourhoods)
  - The top three neighbourhoods that experienced the most incidents of these serious assaults (in rank order) were the Central Business District, Strathcona, and the West End, and their respective percentage increases were as follows: Central Business District (15.9%); Strathcona (18.4%), and; the West End (42.0%)
  - There were 4 incidents of culpable homicide in 2020 and 8 in 2019
  - Sexual offences reported in 2020 decreased 7.3% from those reported in 2019 (for offences that occurred in 2020 compared to those that occurred in 2019, sexual offences decreased by 15.2% - please see page 4 for additional details)
  - There were 8 bank robbery incidents in 2020 compared to 9 in 2019
  - There were 3 shots fired incidents in 2020 compared to 8 incidents in 2019

## **Property Crime**

- The number of property crimes is 17,944 in 2020; down 12.9% from 2019 (20,612)
  - B&E - Business incidents increased by 47.9%
  - B&E - Residential incidents remained unchanged from 2019
  - Theft from motor vehicle incidents decreased by 29.6%, likely due to less people driving during the initial months of the pandemic and there being fewer vehicles to be targeted for theft

## **Section 28 MHA Apprehensions**

The number of section 28 MHA apprehensions decreased 11.0%, from 1,505 incidents in 2019 to 1,340 incidents in 2020.

## **Calls for Service**

Comparing Q2 2019 (127,603) to Q2 2020 (115,747), there was a 9.3% decrease in the total number of CFS; however, P1 calls, which are the most serious and labour intensive calls for service, increased by 4.4%.

## **P1 Response Time**

Vancouver has experienced its first Q2 decrease in P1 response times since 2011. The 2020 P1 response time (10:13) was 2.2% (or 14 seconds) faster when compared to the 2019 P1 response time (10:27).

A further statistical examination revealed that the decrease is very likely a combination of pandemic related factors including less traffic congestion and an increase in patrol unit availability. The increase in unit availability occurred due to a combination of courts being closed and training being cancelled, which resulted in a 12% increase in available patrol officers.

## **Traffic Injuries & Deaths**

The most recent data for ICBC reported motor vehicle incidents shows that in Q2 2019, there were 4,834 reported incidents. During the same time in 2020, there were 2,932 reported incidents, which is a decrease of 39.3% in ICBC reported claims. VPD-attended motor vehicle incidents with injuries decreased from Q2 2019 (348) to Q2 2020 (275). This represents a decrease of

21.0%. A reduction in vehicular traffic as a result of the pandemic is believed to be the primary reason for these decreases.

There were three fatal motor vehicle fatalities in 2020 and nine fatalities in 2019.

**REPORT SCHEDULE:**

The VPD will provide the Vancouver Police Board quarterly KPI reports scheduled for meetings in October (Q3 YTD) and February 2021 (year-end report for 2020).

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Author: Correen Smitas Telephone: 604-717-2689 Date: Sept. 3, 2020

Submitting Executive Member (signature):

DCC Steve Rai Date: September 3, 2020

## VIOLENT CRIME

A summary of violent crime incidents reported city-wide shows there were 2,858 incidents in 2020. The number of violent crime incidents increased by 5.2% when compared to 2019 (2,718).

The table below shows that violent crime incidents in District 1 decreased by 2.0%, District 2 increased by 10.5%, District 3 increased by 8.3%, and District 4 decreased by 0.8%.

### Q2 Violent Crime Incidents: 2020 Compared to 2019

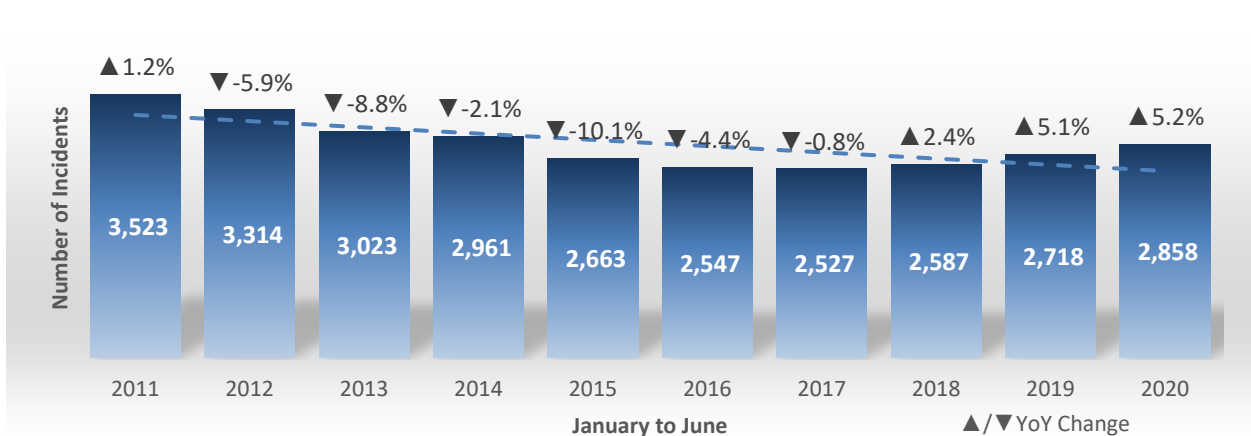
	2019	2020		% Change
<b>Incidents</b>	<b>2,718</b>	<b>2,858</b>	<b>▲</b>	<b>5.2%</b>
District 1	862	845	▼	-2.0%
District 2	1,046	1,156	▲	10.5%
District 3	397	430	▲	8.3%
District 4	372	369	▼	-0.8%

Assaults were the most prevalent form of violent crime, accounting for 77.4% of all violent crimes in 2019 and 79.7% in 2020. Comparing 2019 (2,103) to 2020 (2,278), there were 175 more assaults (or 8.3%), which were also up in every District. Assaults against peace officers increased by 10.4%; there were 67 incidents in 2019 and 74 in 2020.

It should be noted that the most serious types of assaults (i.e., “assault with a weapon or cause bodily harm” and “aggravated assault”) increased by 21.7%. Every VPD Patrol District experienced an increase in the most serious types of assault, as did 15 of Vancouver’s 24 neighbourhoods. The top three neighbourhoods that experienced the most incidents of these serious assaults (in rank order) were the Central Business District, Strathcona, and the West End, and their respective percentage increases were as follows: Central Business District (15.9%); Strathcona (18.4%), and; the West End (42.0%)

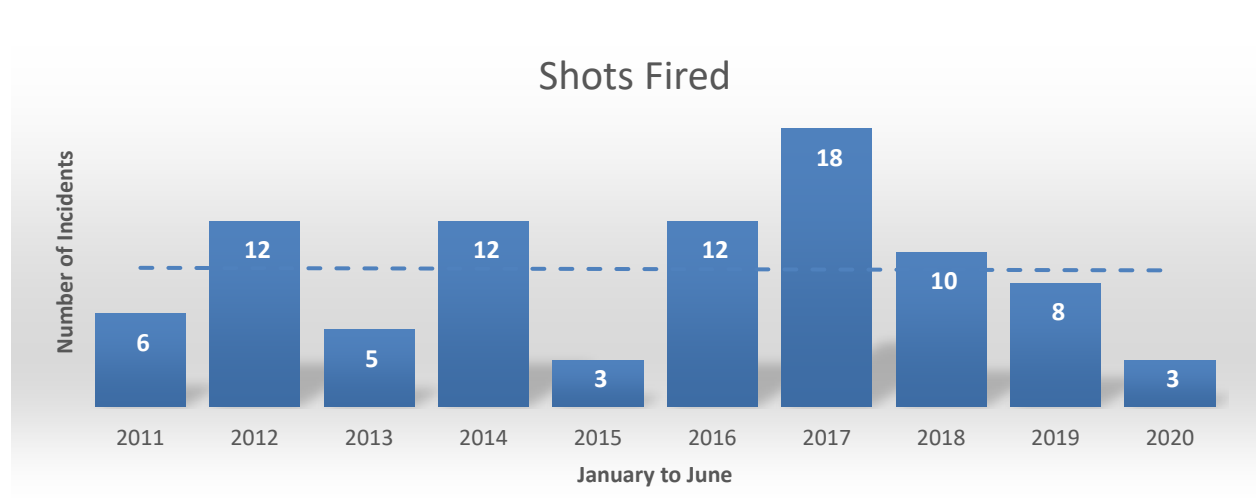
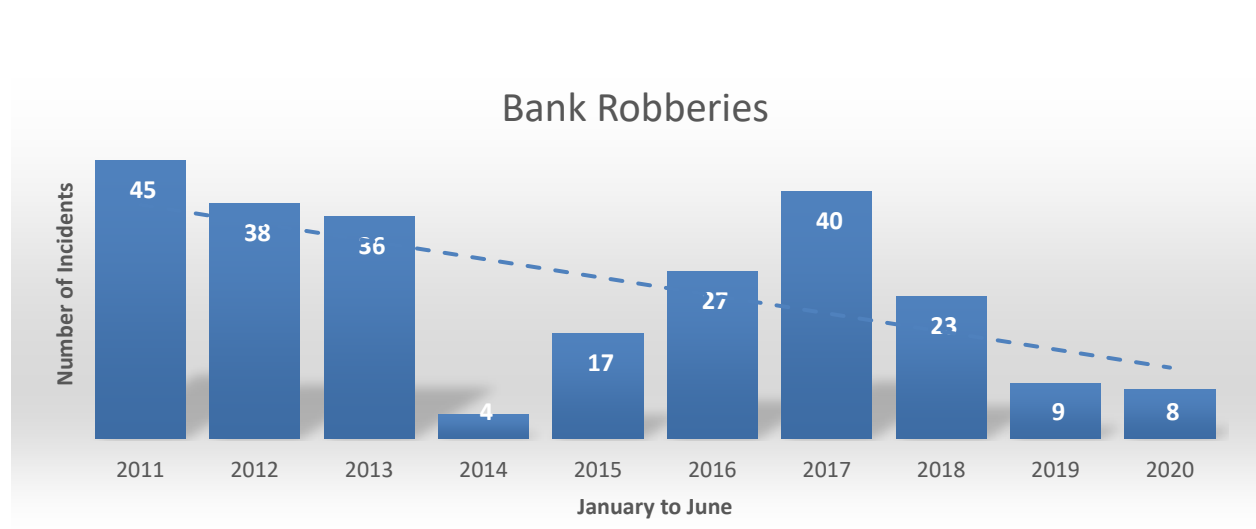
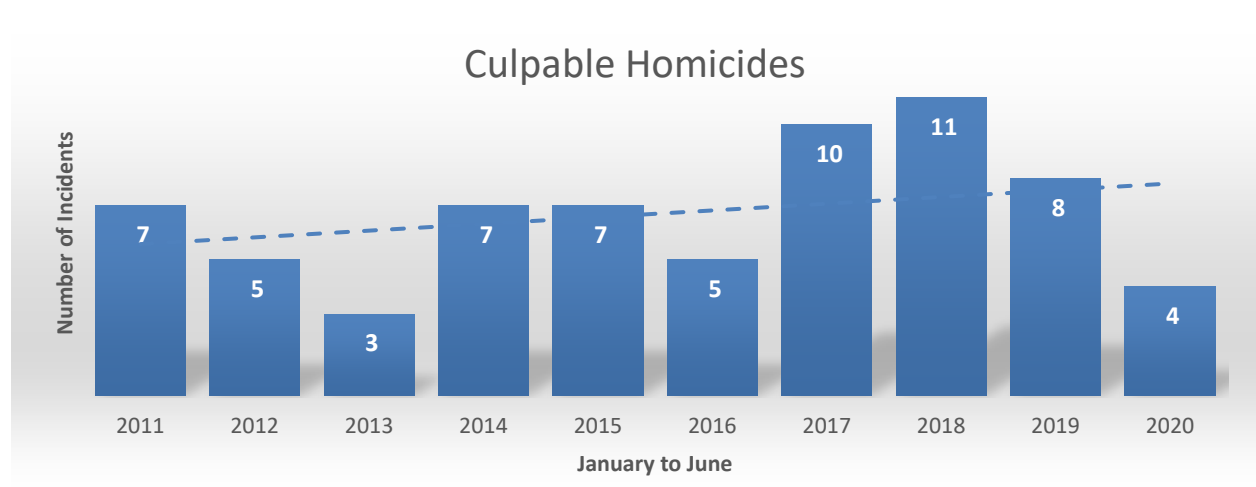
The following graph shows the total amount of violent crime incidents over the past decade for Q2.

### 10-Year Trend for Q2 Violent Crime Incidents



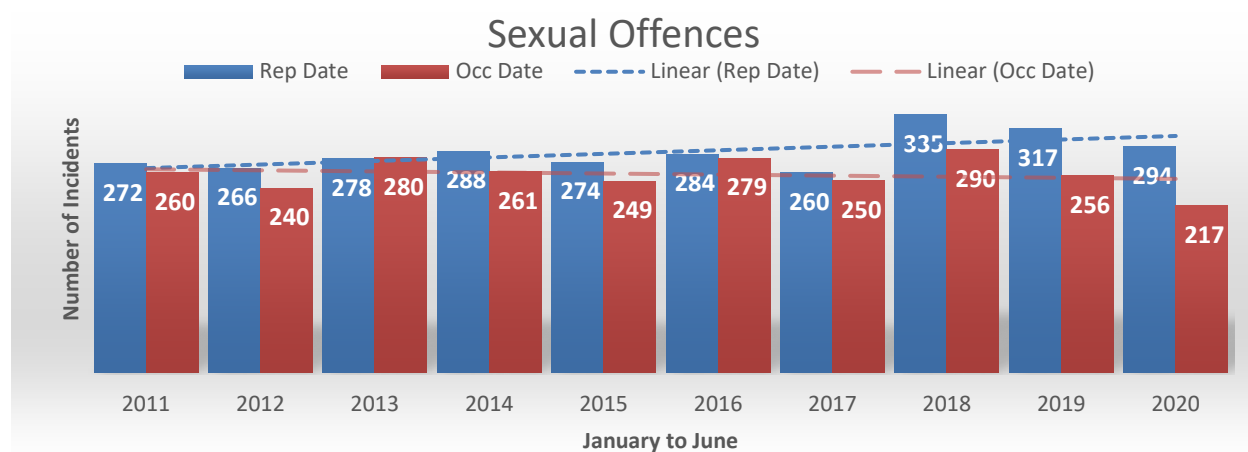
The following three graphs depict the 10-year trend for culpable homicide, bank robberies, and shots fired calls for service.

**10-Year Trend for Q2 Select Violent Crime Incidents**



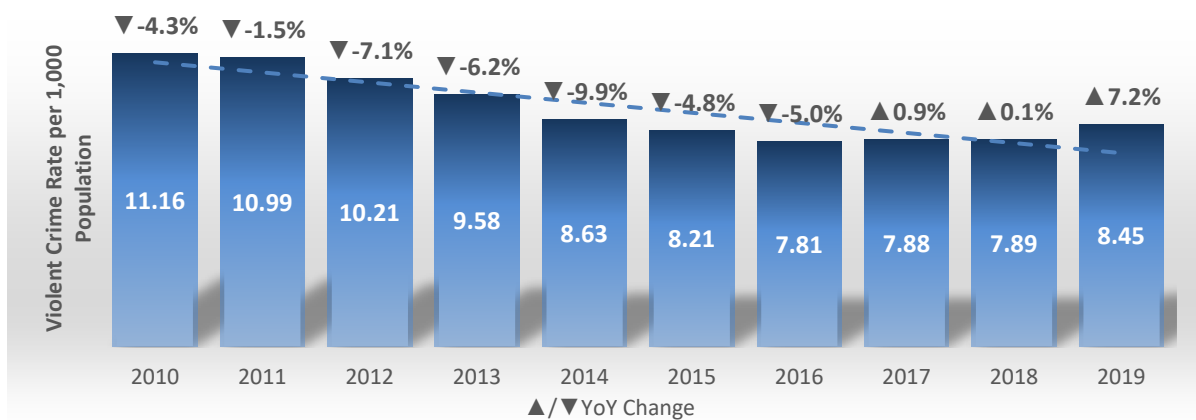
As previously mentioned, this report counts unfounded and founded incidents, and uses the reported date of the offence (as opposed to occurred date). These changes were made to ensure consistency with Statistics Canada crime reporting standards. The largest statistical effect resulting from these changes is seen in the reporting of sexual offences, where 22.6% of the sexual offences reported to the VPD in 2019 occurred in previous years. For comparison, 98.7% of all property crimes, 99.3% of assaults, and 100% of all robberies that were reported in 2019 also occurred in 2019.

Sexual offences are often reported historically, due to the traumatic and personal nature of these offences, which is reflected in the difference between the reported date and the occurred date. In order to provide an indication of non-historical reporting results, sexual offences have decreased by 15.2% (comparing 2020 to 2019 – see the following graph) when analyzed by the occurred date (the previous method used to count sexual offences).



The following shows changes to the violent crime rate (a metric that measures the complete year) between 2010 and 2019. From 2018 to 2019 the violent crime rate increased from 7.89 to 8.45 victims per 1,000 population. This is an increase of 7.2%.

#### 10-Year Trend for Year-end Violent Crime Rate



## PROPERTY CRIME

City-wide, there were 17,944 property crime incidents reported in 2020. This is 12.9% lower when compared with 2019 (20,612). It should be noted that the decrease in property crime is almost exclusively attributable to a decrease in all types of thefts, while other more serious types of property crime (i.e., break and enter) increased.

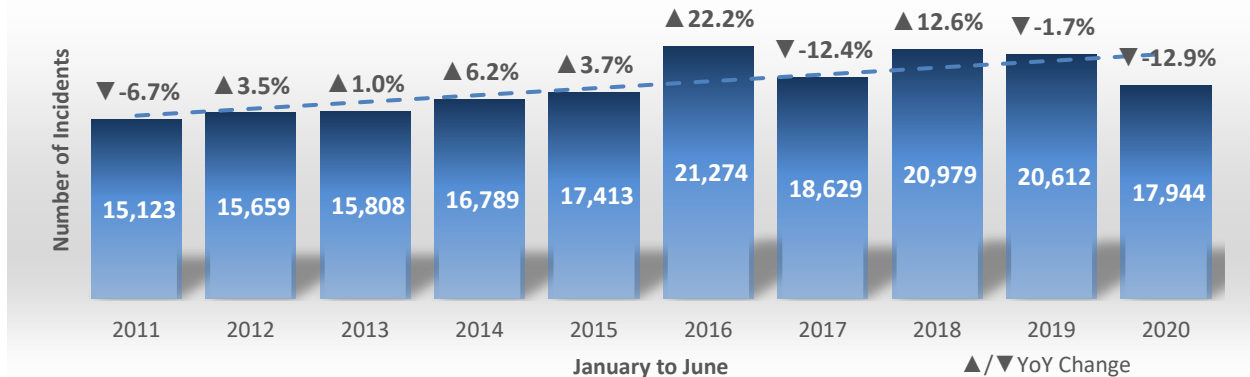
District 1 experienced the largest decrease (25.5%) in property crime when compared to the same time last year.

### **Q2 Property Crime Incidents: 2020 Compared to 2019**

	2019	2020		% Change
<b>Incidents</b>	<b>20,612</b>	<b>17,944</b>	↓	<b>-12.9%</b>
District 1	6,681	4,977	↓	-25.5%
District 2	4,961	4,124	↓	-16.9%
District 3	3,868	3,561	↓	-7.9%
District 4	4,958	4,794	↓	-3.3%

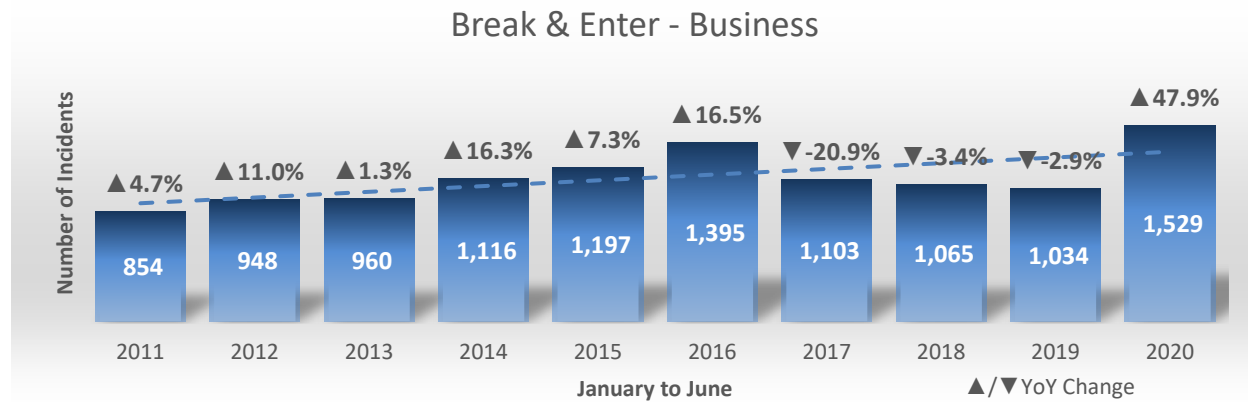
The following graph shows the total amount of property crime incidents over the past decade for Q2. The city of Vancouver has experienced two consecutive years of decreases in property crime when reviewing Q2 statistics.

### **10-Year Trend for Q2 Property Crime Incidents**

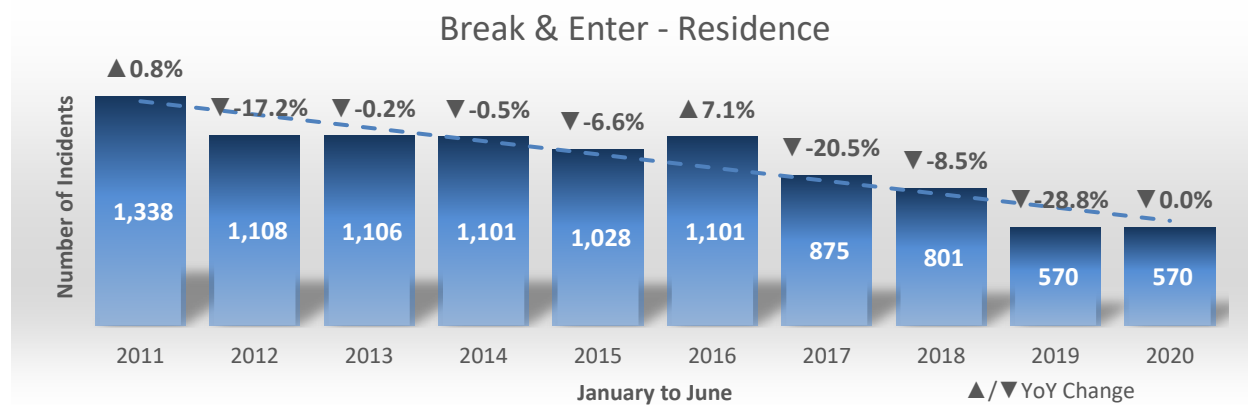


The following graphs display results for break & enters (B&E) into businesses and residences as well as thefts from automobiles (over and under \$5,000), over the past 10 years for Q2. Q2 of 2020 experienced the most B&Es to businesses of any other Q2 since 2011.

**10-Year Trend for Q2 Select Property Crime Incidents**

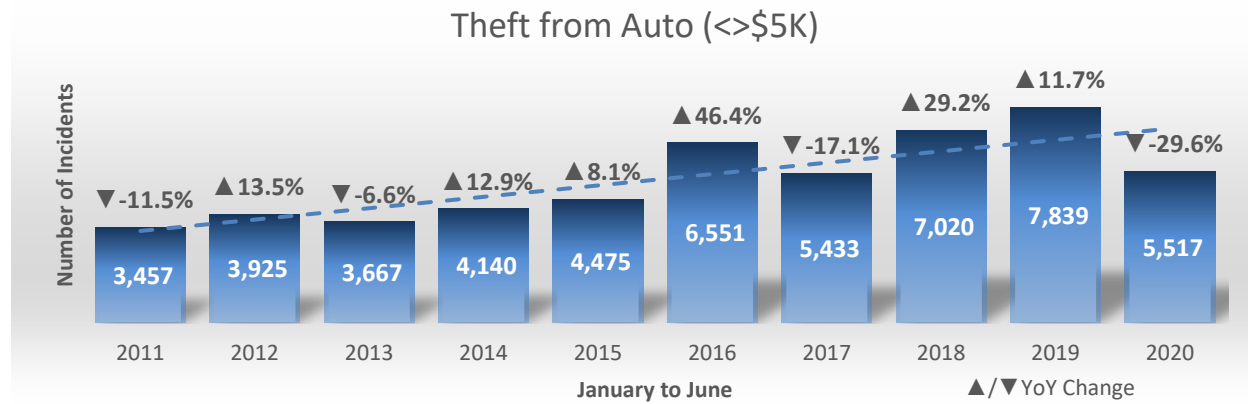


The following graph shows no change in residential B&Es in Q2 2020 compared to Q2 2019.



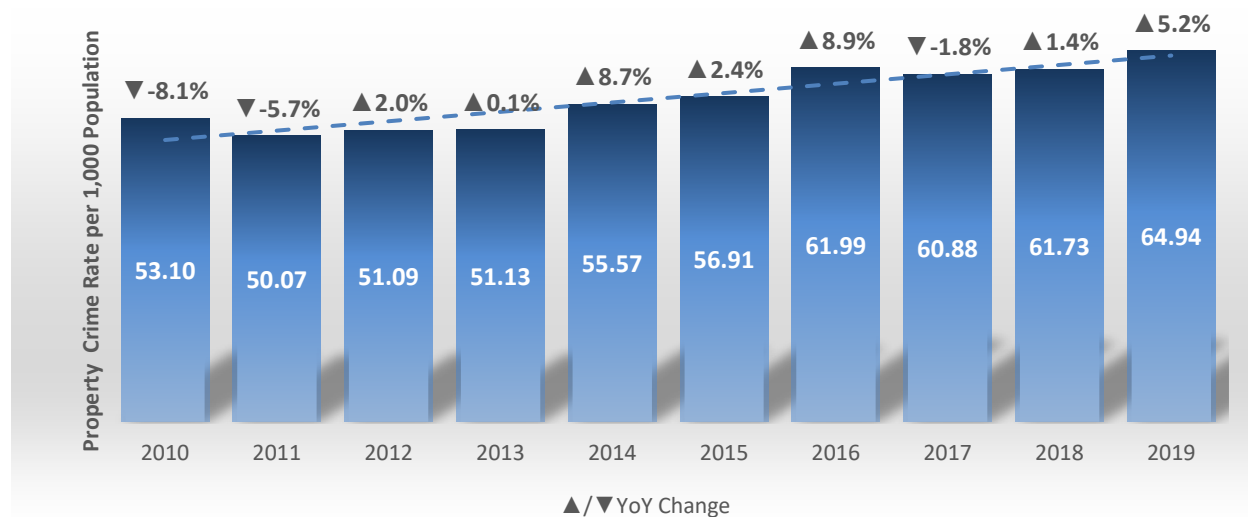


Theft from automobile (TFA) is the offence most often reported to the VPD. TFAs make up 30.7% of all Q2 2020 property crime incidents, making this crime type the largest driver of property crime. However, TFAs have decreased 2,322 incidents (-29.6%) from the same period last year. This is believed to be due to less people driving during the initial months of the pandemic and there being fewer vehicles that could be targeted for theft.



Overall, between 2018 and 2019, the year-end property crime rate was up 5.2%, from 61.73 offences per 1,000 population in 2018 to 64.94 in 2019. The 2019 property crime rate is 22.3% higher than the 2010 property crime rate.

#### 10-Year Trend for Year-end Property Crime Rate

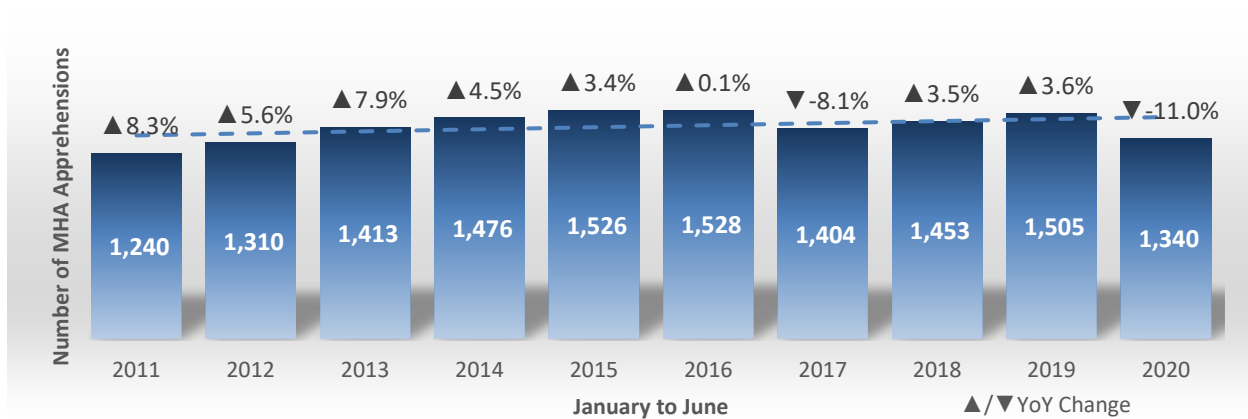


## S. 28 MENTAL HEALTH ACT APPREHENSIONS

Under section 28 of the MHA, a police officer may apprehend and immediately take a person to a physician for examination if satisfied that the person is acting in a manner likely to endanger themselves or others and apparently has a mental health disorder.

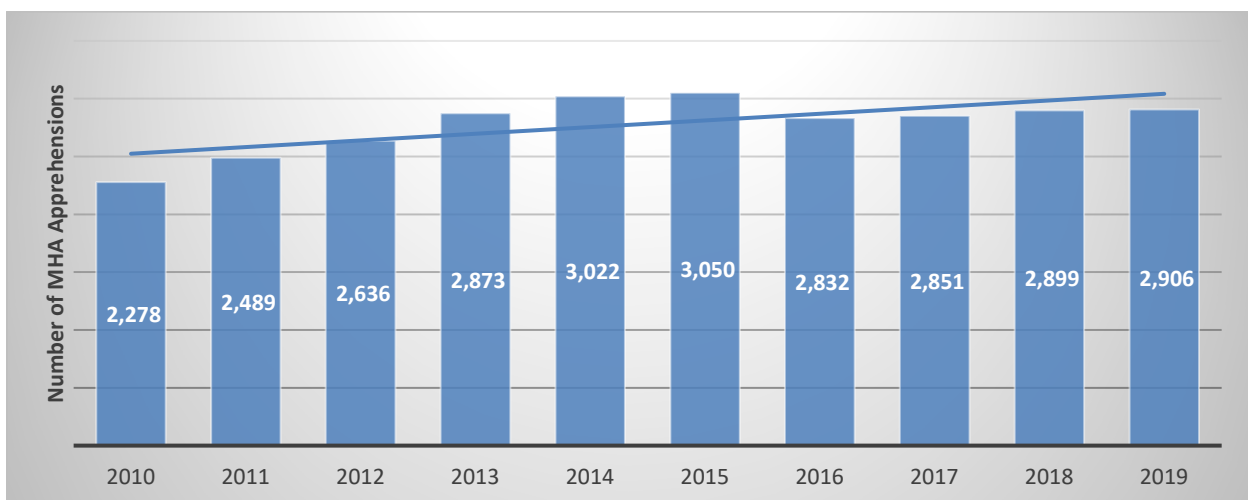
The number of Q2 section 28 MHA apprehensions have decreased with 1,505 incidents in 2019 to 1,340 incidents in 2020. This is the third lowest number of MHA apprehensions in Q2 compared to previous Q2 MHA apprehensions since 2011.

### 10-Year Trend for Q2 Section 28 MHA Apprehensions



For complete years, from 2010 to 2015, MHA apprehensions increased each year (from 2,278 to 3,050). Although these apprehensions decreased in 2016 (2,832) they have since increased three consecutive years. Comparing 2019 to 2010, apprehensions are up 27.6%. From 2018 to 2019, apprehensions are slightly up by 0.2%, which is a marginal increase of seven apprehensions. Overall, the total number of section 28 MHA apprehensions calls have remained relatively stable over the past four years.

### 10-Year Trend for Year-end Section 28 MHA Apprehensions

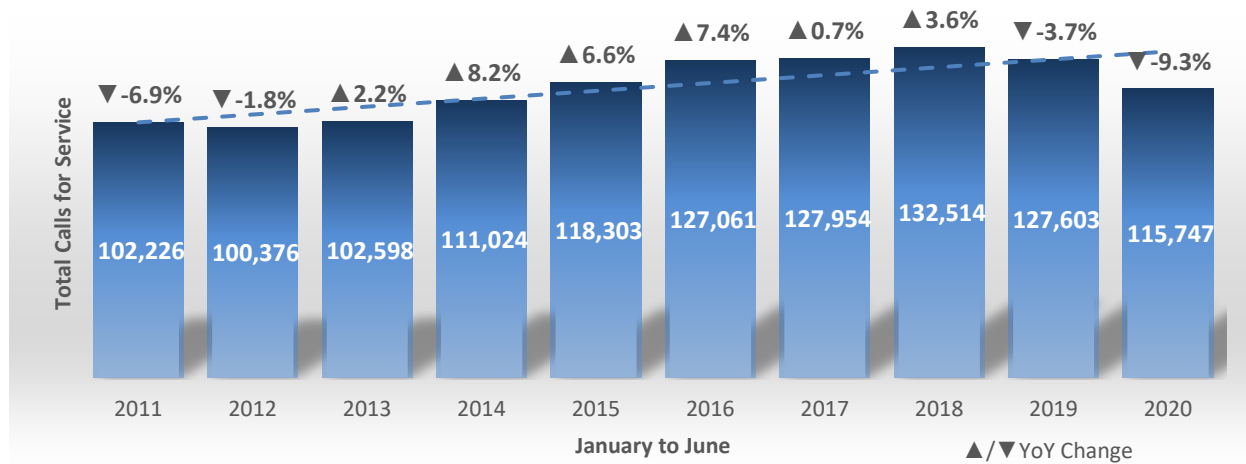


## CALLS FOR SERVICE

Calls for service (CFS) are an important strategic metric as they are a more accurate reflection of the total workload of members as opposed to crime rates. As shown below, comparing Q2 2019 (127,603) to Q2 2020 (115,747), there was a 9.3% decrease in the total number of CFS; however, it should be noted that P1 calls, which are the most serious and labour intensive calls for service, increased by 4.4%.

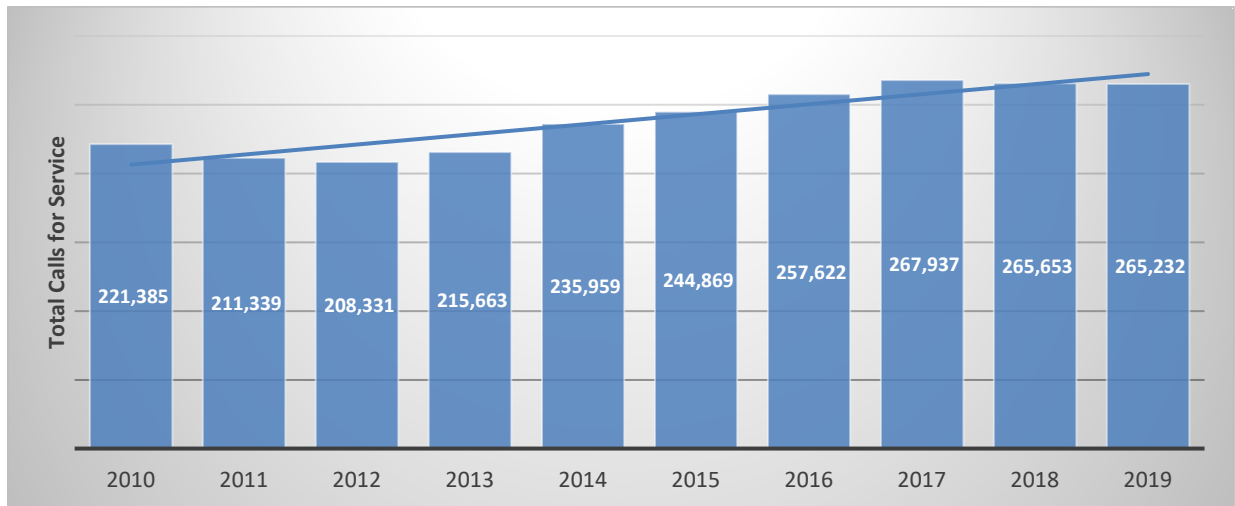
Long-term, over the past decade, CFS have increased 13.2% since 2011 (102,226).

### 10-Year Trend for Q2 Calls for Service



For complete years, comparing 2018 (265,653) to 2019 (265,232), the below graph shows there was a marginal decrease of 0.2% (or 421 fewer) in the total number of CFS. Since 2011, CFS have increased 19.8% since 2010 (221,385) which is an increase in nearly 44,000 CFS.

### 10-Year Trend for Year-end Calls for Service

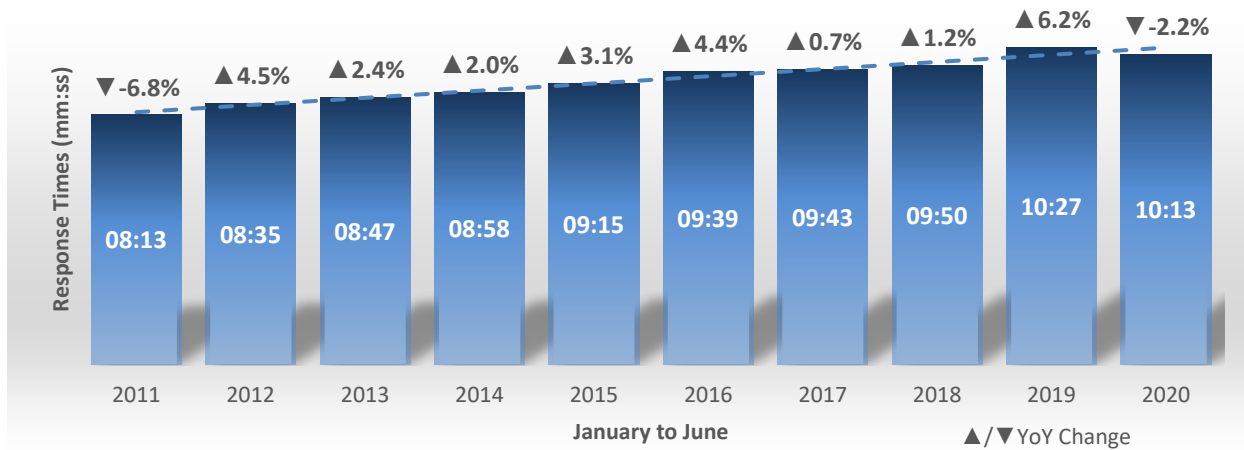


## PRIORITY 1 RESPONSE TIMES

The following graph compares Q2 P1 response times between 2011 and 2020. Vancouver has experienced its first Q2 decrease in P1 response times since 2011. The 2020 Q2 P1 response time (10:13) was 2.2% (or 14 seconds) faster when compared to the 2019 Q2 P1 response time (10:27). In addition, the number of P1 CFS received in Q2 2020 (7,443) increased by 4.4% when compared to the same time last year (7,130).

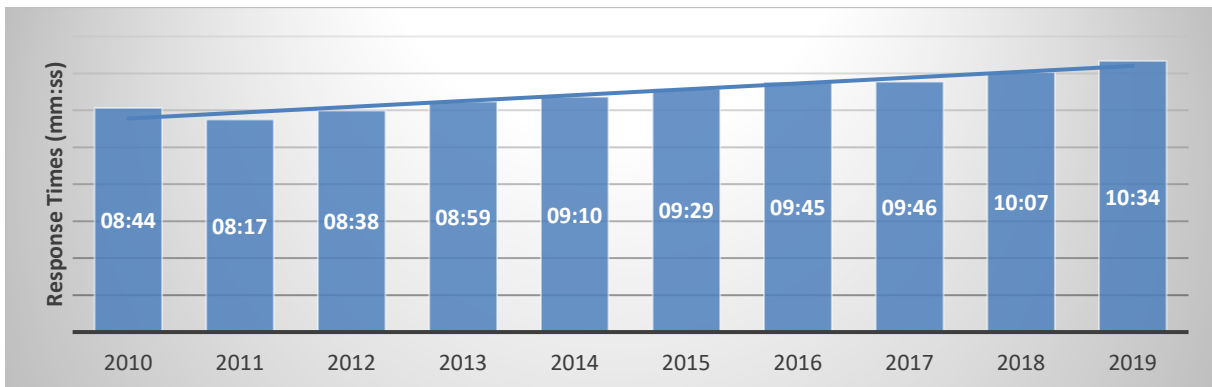
A further statistical examination reveals that the decrease is very likely a combination of pandemic specific factors - less traffic congestion and an increase in patrol unit availability. The increase in patrol unit availability occurred due to courts being closed and training being cancelled, which resulted in 12% more patrol officers being available.

### 10-Year Trend for Q2 P1 Response Times



For complete years, the following graph compares P1 response times from 2010 to 2019. Vancouver's 2019 P1 response time (10:34) was 4.3%, or 27 seconds, slower when compared to 2018 (10:07). In fact, P1 response time increased in all Patrol Districts. It should be noted that the number of P1 CFS increased by 2.8% in 2019 compared to 2018. Since 2011, there have been consistent annual increases in P1 response time, with 2019 having the highest response time (10:34) recorded in the past 10 years.

### 10-Year Trend for Year-end P1 Response Times

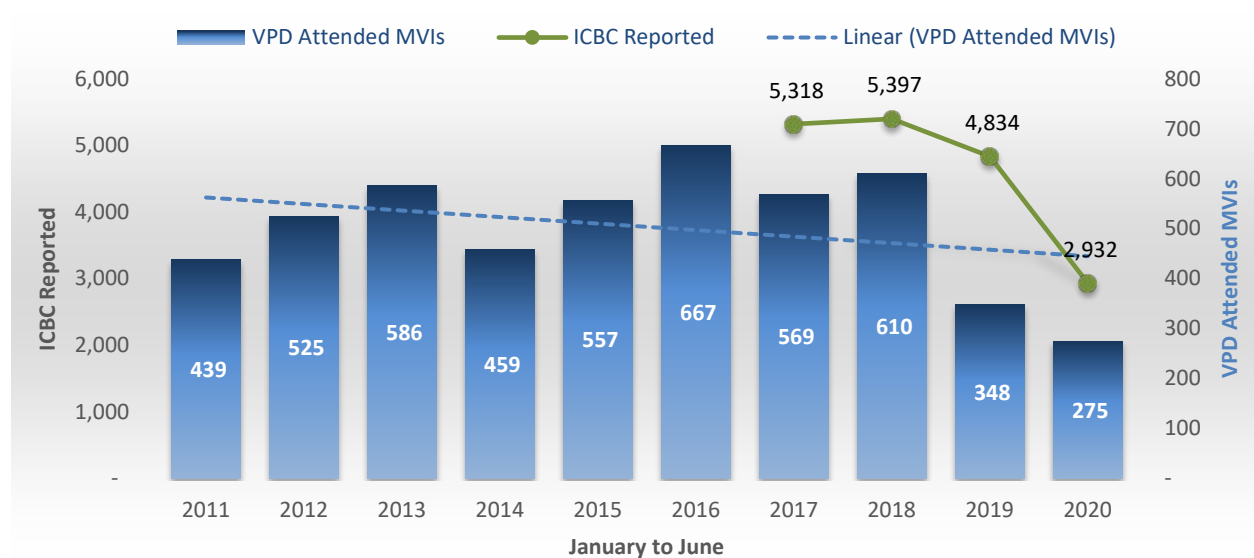


## TRAFFIC RELATED INJURIES & DEATHS

The Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) collects data on all reportable motor vehicle incidents in BC to help address various road safety issues with the goal of reducing the number of traffic related fatalities and injuries. ICBC updated their claims database and it is recommended that 2017 be a base year to compare motor vehicle incidents that resulted in an injury.

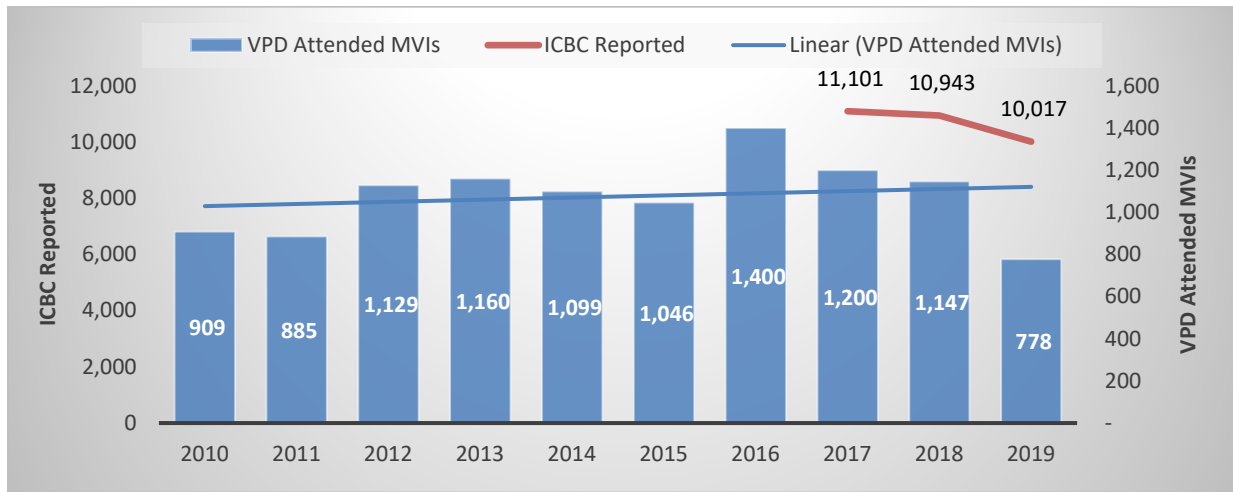
The most recent data for ICBC reported motor vehicle incidents shows that in Q2 2019, there were 4,834 reported incidents, and during the same time in 2020, there were 2,932 reported incidents (a decrease of 39.3% ICBC reported claims). VPD-attended motor vehicle incidents with injuries (VPD-attended MVIs) decreased from Q2 2019 (348) to Q2 2020 (275). This represents a decrease of 21.0%. A reduction in vehicular traffic as a result of the pandemic is believed to be the primary reason for these decreases.

### 4-Year Trend for Q1 ICBC-Reported and 10-Year Trend for VPD-Attended MVIs



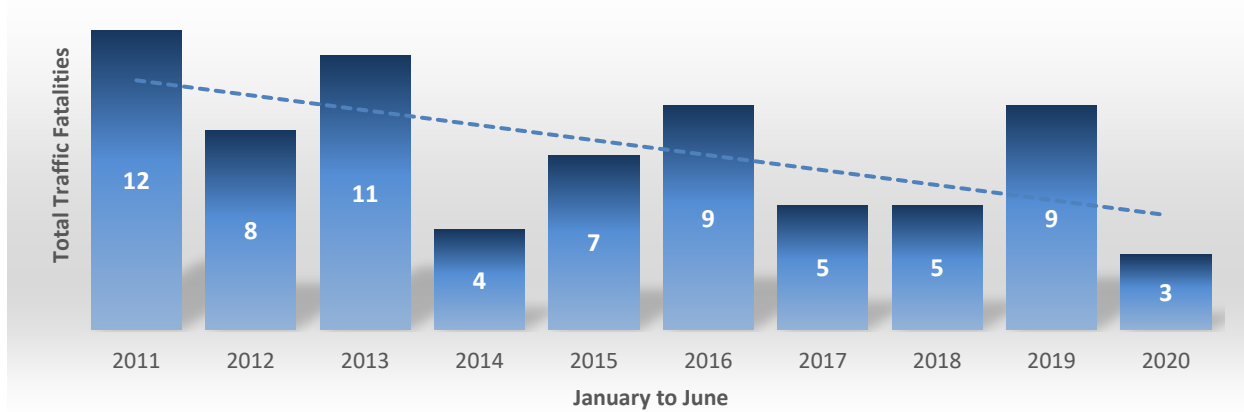
For complete years, the following graph shows the city of Vancouver experienced 8.5% fewer ICBC reported motor vehicle incidents with injuries in 2019 (10,017) compared to 2018 (10,943). Whereas VPD-attended motor vehicle incidents with injuries have declined from 2016 (1,400) to 2019 (778), which is a 44.4% decrease. This figure also shows a decrease of 32.2% when compared to the 2018 figure (1,147) and a decrease of 14.4% when compared to 2010 (909).

**10 Year Trend for Year-end ICBC Reported and VPD Attended MVIs**



The following graph compares Q2 traffic fatalities over the past 10 years. There were three fatalities in 2020 compared to nine for in 2019.

**10-Year Trend for Q2 Traffic Fatalities**



For complete years, the following graph shows there were a total of 14 fatal victims of motor vehicle related incidents in the city of Vancouver and 13 in 2018. Since 2010, the average annual number of fatal traffic incidents is 14.

**10-Year Trend for Year-end Traffic Fatalities**

