



2012 Survey of British Columbians

Prepared for:
BC Ministry of Justice
Police Services Division



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BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The BC Ministry of Justice, Police Services Division sought information from British Columbians on their perceptions of public safety, crime and policing in their communities and British Columbia. The results of the study will be used to inform the Ministry and to provide a baseline against which future changes can be measured.

The specific objectives of the study are:

- To measure public confidence in local police departments and police in general in BC;
- To measure perceptions of how well police are doing on a variety aspects of policing including enforcement, public safety, public relations, etc.;
- To determine the type of contact the public has with police and measure satisfaction with the way in which they were dealt with;
- To measure perception of public safety in one's own neighbourhood and the perceived change in the level of safety compared to a year ago and to other neighbourhoods;
- To measure the degree to which the public is concerned about being victimized
- To determine the incidence of crime experienced by the public and the degree to which crime is not reported and the associated reasons for not doing so; and
- To measure the awareness of services and programs offered for victims of crime.

Sentis Market Research was retained to conduct the telephone survey of British Columbians, the results of which are presented in this report.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A total of 2,400 surveys were completed for this study between May 29 and July 10, 2012. The sample frame consisted of random digit dialing with preferential selection for those aged 15-34 as they are the most difficult age cohort to survey. If no one in the household fell into the 15-34 age category, the person with the next birthday was selected for the survey. Quotas were set by region, age and gender. The table below shows the percentage of BC residents aged 15 and older by region, age and gender. The table also shows the percentage of BC residents aged 15 and older surveyed in each category.

Region	Percentage of BC Population (15+)	Percentage Sample
Mainland/Southwest	60%	55%
Vancouver Island	18%	20%
Thompson Okanagan/ Kootenays	15%	17%
Northern BC	8%	8%
Age		
15-34	32%	22%
35-54	34%	38%
55+	34%	38%
Gender		
Male	49%	44%
Female	51%	56%

Some categories were somewhat under and over-represented in the survey population relative to the actual population. To correct for this, a weight variable was applied to the data. This weight variable ensures that the distributions for region, age and gender in the sample match exactly the distributions for region, age and gender in the actual BC population.

In order to conduct analyses comparing urban and rural populations, the sample included the household's forward sortation area (FSA), the first three digits of the household's postal code. Households for which the first two digits of the FSA are 'VO' are considered rural households.

All interviewing was conducted from Sentis Market Research's call center in downtown Vancouver during evening hours (4-9pm) on weekdays or during the day (10am- 5pm) on Saturdays.

As with all sample surveys, there are margins of error associated with the results. For the total sample of 2400, results have a maximum margin of error of +/-2% at the 95% level of confidence. The margins of error for various sub-groups will be larger as the sub-samples are smaller. For example, for a sample of 1000, results are accurate to +/- 3.0% at the 95% level of confidence.

Note that, throughout the document, when comparisons are made between the percentages of subgroups of the data, the differences of these comparisons are statistically reliable at the 95% level of confidence.

A copy of the questionnaire can be found in the Appendix.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PERCEPTIONS OF AND SATISFACTION WITH POLICE

- 79% of BC residents have quite a lot or a great deal of confidence in local police
- 69% have quite a lot or a great deal of confidence in police in general
- Police are doing the best at ensuring the safety of citizens in their area (71% good/very good job) and at being approachable (68% good/very good job)
- 79% who had contact with the police in the past 12 months are satisfied with the way in which police dealt with them

CRIME AND SAFETY IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

- 83% of BC residents feel their neighbourhood has the same or a lower crime rate than other neighbourhoods in BC
- 82% feel the crime level in their neighbourhood is the same or lower now than 12 months ago
- 77% feel safe in their neighbourhood when walking alone in the dark
- 96% feel safe when they are home alone in the evening
- 94% are satisfied with their personal safety from crime
- 81% are no more worried about crime now than 12 months ago

FEAR OF CRIME

87% of residents gave a 1-5 rating out of 10 meaning their quality of life is not very affected by fear of crime.

The types of crimes that residents are most worried about are:

1. Having credit card details stolen and the information misused (72%)
2. Being in an accident caused by a drunk driver (68%)
3. Having your vehicle broken into (55%)

VICTIMIZATION

- 17% of British Columbians have been a victim of crime in the past 12 months
- 57% of people who had been a victim of one or more crimes, reported all crimes to the police. 36% of people who had been a victim did not report any crimes, and 7% reported some crimes but not others
- The most common reason for not reporting a crime to police is that it was not important enough to the victim (55%)
- 86% of residents are aware of victim services and 2% have used them

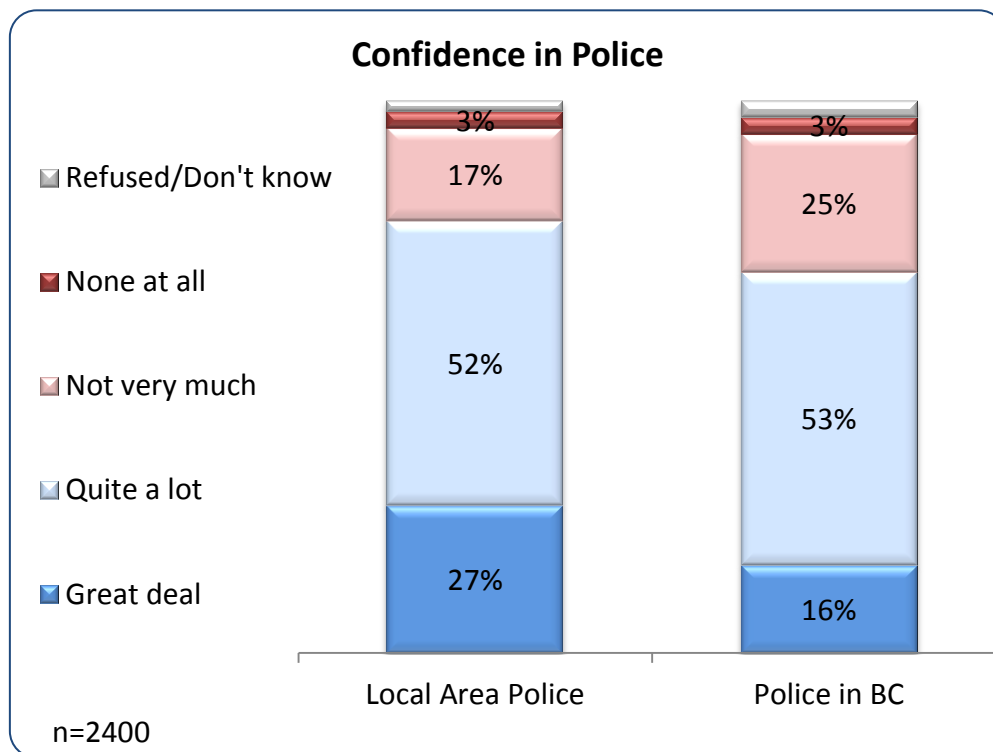
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

CONFIDENCE IN POLICE

- *Local police forces tend to garner more public confidence than police in general in BC.*
- 79% of BC residents have quite a lot or a great deal of confidence in local police
- 69% have quite a lot or a great deal of confidence in police in general

When analyzing differences in public perceptions of local police, the following differences exist:

- Women have more confidence than men (83% vs. 75%)
- The older one is, the more likely one is to have a great deal of confidence
- Those who have been a victim of crime have less confidence (22% not very much confidence vs. 16%) as do those who have reported a crime (25% vs. 14% not very much confidence)

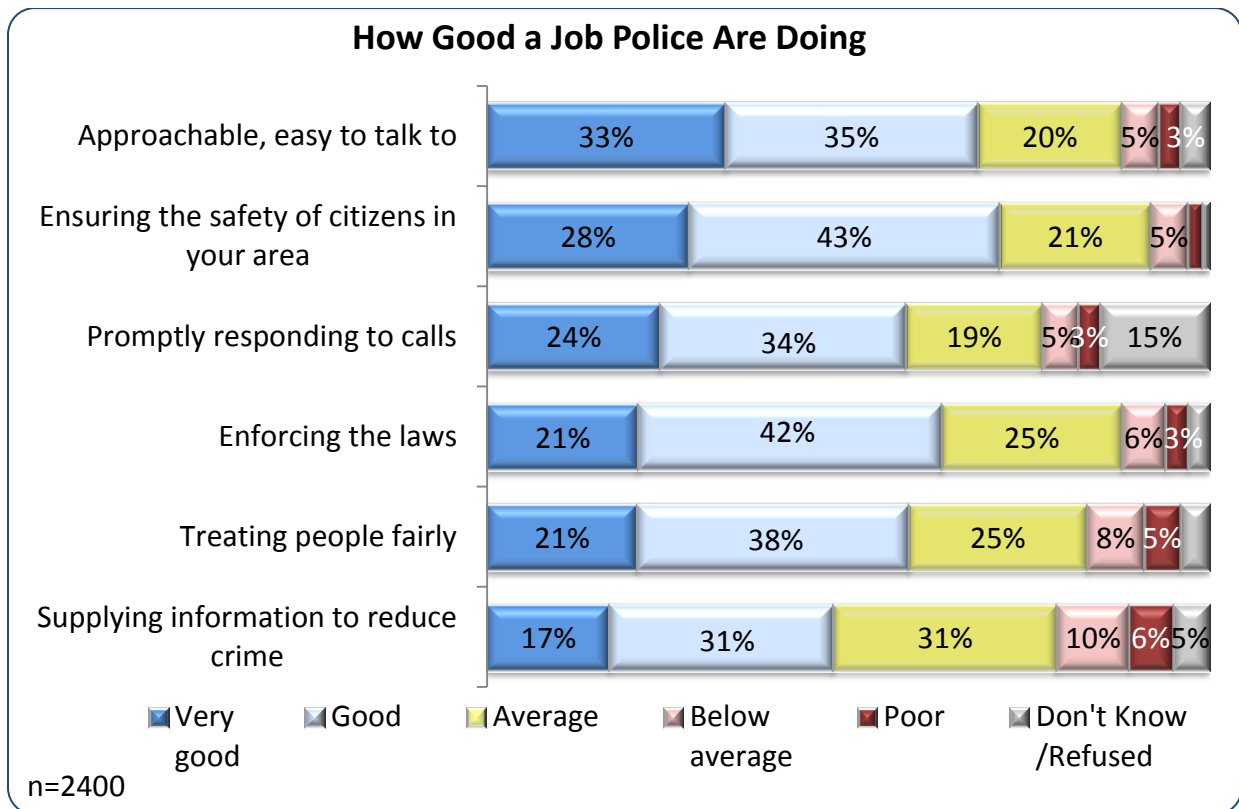


Q1. How much confidence do you have in the local police in your area?

Q2. How much confidence do you have in the police in general in BC?

PERFORMANCE OF SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF POLICE WORK

The two aspects of police work that the public feels the police are doing the best job of are being approachable (68% said police do a good/very good job) and ensuring the safety of citizens in their area (71% said police do a good/very good job). On the other hand, the two aspects that have the greatest room for improvement are supplying information to the public on ways to reduce crime (48% said police do a good/very good job) and treating people fairly (59%.)



Q3-Q8: I am going to read out some specific aspects of the work police do. I would like you to tell me for each these, how good a job do you think your local police do?

Those who reported a crime in the past 12 months have a more negative perception of police than those who have not reported a crime, as indicated by the following:

Prompt response to calls:	15% vs. 6% below average/poor
Enforcing the laws:	15% vs. 8% below average/poor
Being approachable:	11% vs. 6% below average/poor
Treating people fairly:	18% vs. 11% below average/poor

Ensuring safety of citizens: 38% vs. 24% average or lower
Supplying information for reducing crime: 56% vs. 45% average or lower

Victims of crime also have a more negative perception of police than non-victims, but not on all aspects:

Prompt response to calls: 14% vs. 8% below average/poor
Enforcing the laws: 15% vs. 8% below average/poor
Treating people fairly: 16% vs. 11% below average/poor
Supplying information for reducing crime: 54% vs. 45% average or lower

British Columbians living in urban areas are more likely to rate police as very good for promptly responding to calls (24% vs. 19% very good) while those living in rural areas are more likely to rate police as average or lower (35% vs. 26%). Urban residents also give higher ratings on police supplying information to the public on ways to reduce crime (50% vs. 39% good/very good).

Residents aged 15-34 are more likely than those 55 and older to rate police average or lower on treating people fairly (41% vs. 33%). This younger group also finds police slightly less approachable than their older counterparts: The younger the person, the more likely they are to give police an average or good rating while the older the person, the more likely they are to give police a very good rating.

POLICE CONTACT AND SATISFACTION

50% of residents reported having had contact with the police in the last 12 months.

The most common reason for having had contact was to report a crime or problem in the neighbourhood (47 % of the people who reported some contact, or almost one-quarter (24%) of the total sample of British Columbians.

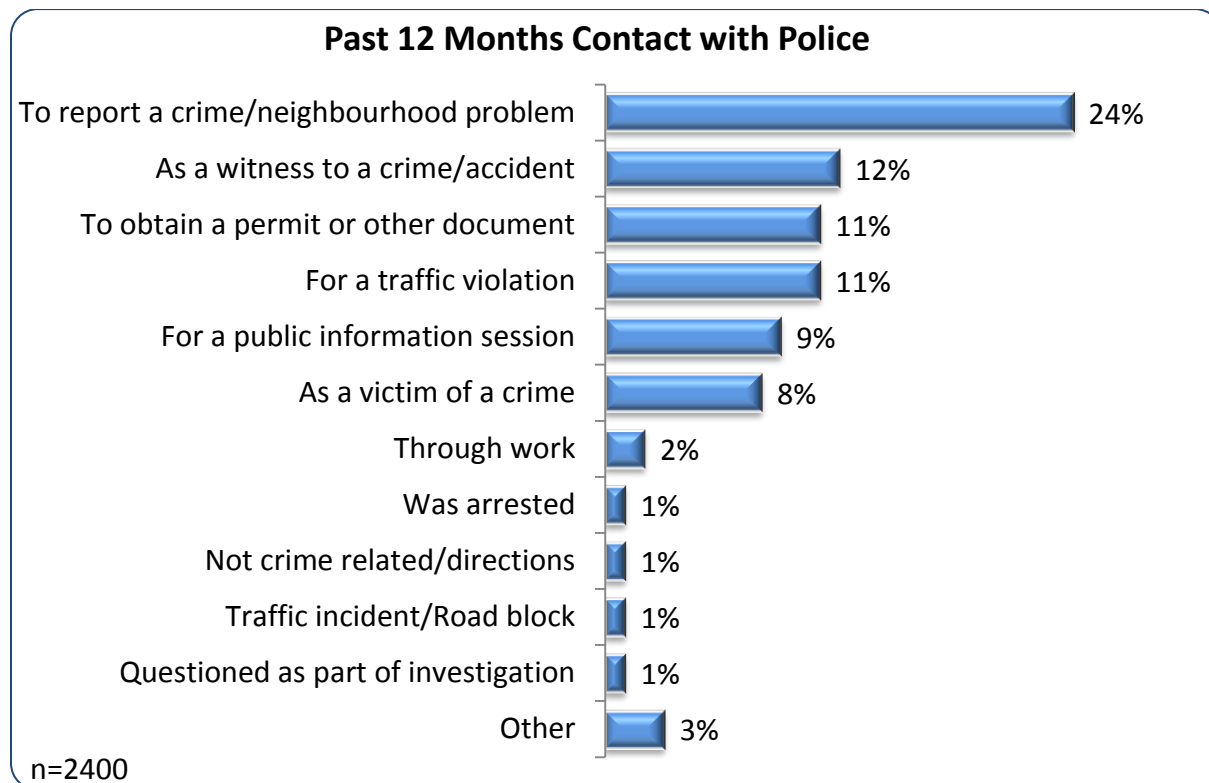
Residents under the age of 55 are more likely to have contacted police to report a crime and as a witness to a crime or incident:

Report a crime: 15-34 (25%), 35-54 (28%) vs. 55+ (18%)

As a witness: 15-34 (15%), 35-54 (15%) vs. 55+ (7%)

Men are more likely to have contact with the police regarding a traffic violation (14% vs. 8% among women) and those under 55 years old (13% vs. 6% among those 55+). Similarly, men are more likely to have been arrested (2% vs. less than 0.5%), as are those age 15-34 (2% vs. 1% of 35-44 year olds and 0% of 55+).

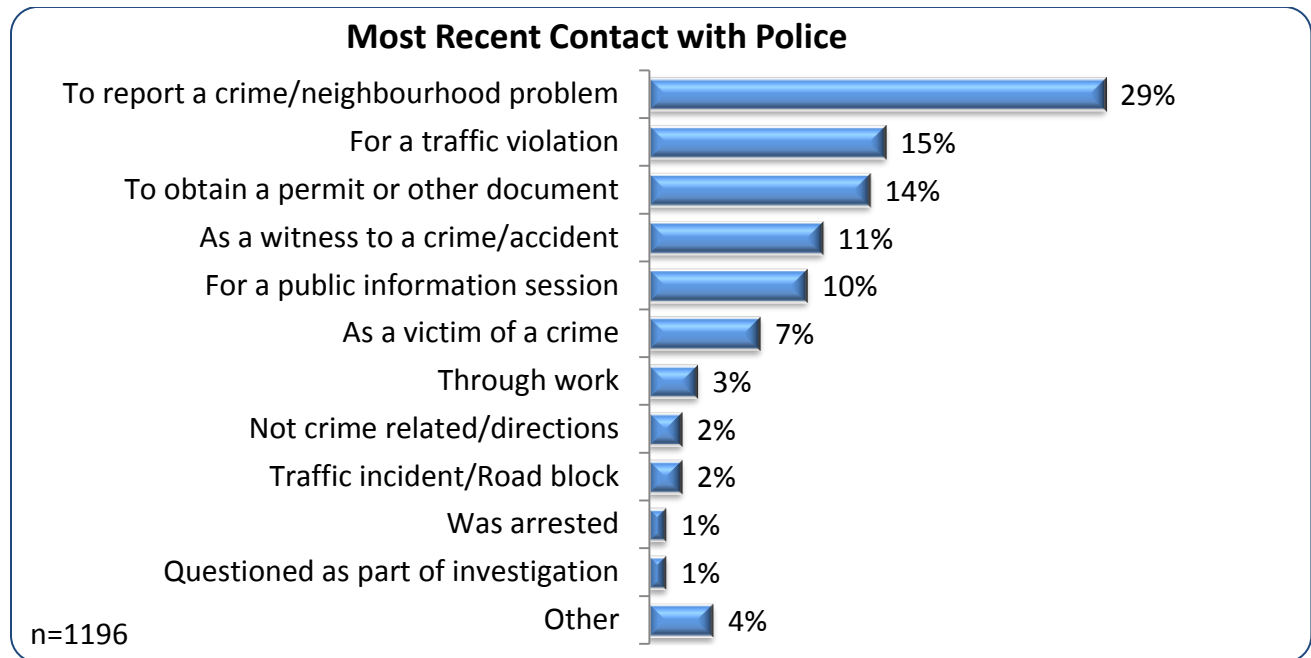
The chart below shows the percentage of respondents who indicated that they had contact with the police for each of the 11 types of contact inquired about in the survey.



Q9. During the past 12 months, did you have contact with the police for any of the following reasons?

The respondents who had contact with police in the past 12 months were also asked to indicate what their most recent contact had been.

Among those who have had contact with the police in the past 12 months, three in ten (29%) indicated that their most recent contact was to report a crime or neighbourhood problem.

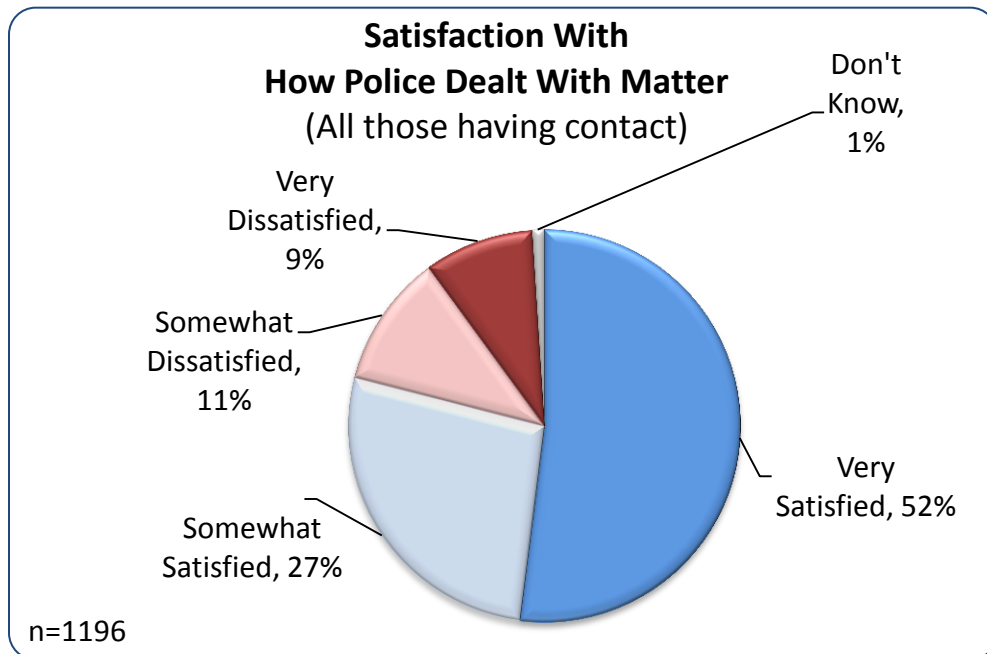


Q10. What was your most recent contact with the police?

Respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction with their most recent contact with the police.

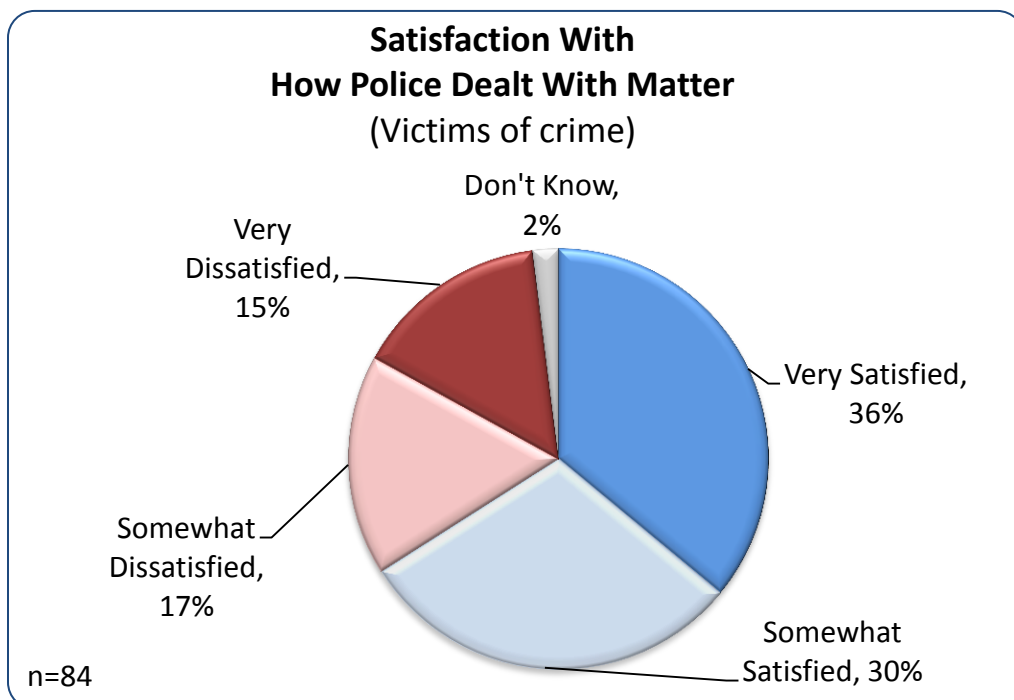
79% of residents who had contact with the police in the past 12 months are satisfied with the way in which police dealt with them, including 52% who are very satisfied.

Women are more likely to be very satisfied (57% vs. 47%), as are older residents (55% among those aged 35+ vs. 45% among 15-34 year olds). Victims of crime and those who reported a crime are less likely to be very satisfied and more likely to be dissatisfied.

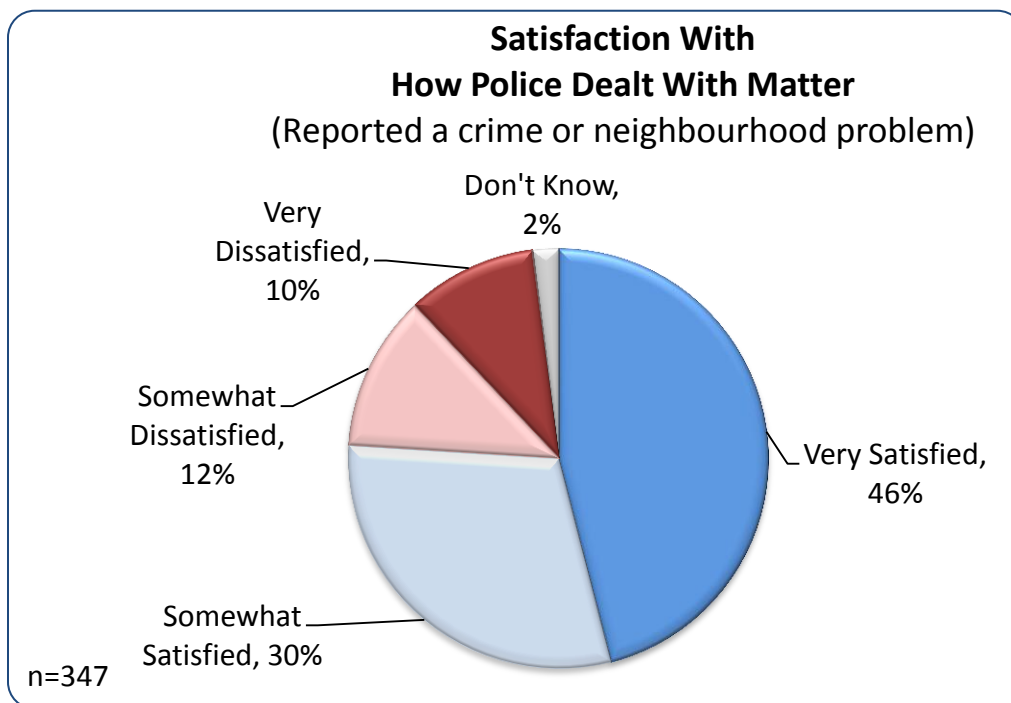


Q11. For the most recent contact, overall, how satisfied were you with the way the police dealt with the matter?

Among those whose most recent contact with the police was as a victim of a crime, two-thirds (66%) report being satisfied with how the police dealt with the matter.



Among those whose most recent contact with the police was to report a crime or neighbourhood problem, three-quarters (76%) report being satisfied with how the police dealt with the matter.



There were too few cases to produce a separate chart illustrating the satisfaction levels among those whose most recent contact with the police was for an arrest. Among the 15 respondents for which this applied, 7 were satisfied with the way the way the police dealt with the matter, 6 were dissatisfied and 2 did not provide a rating.

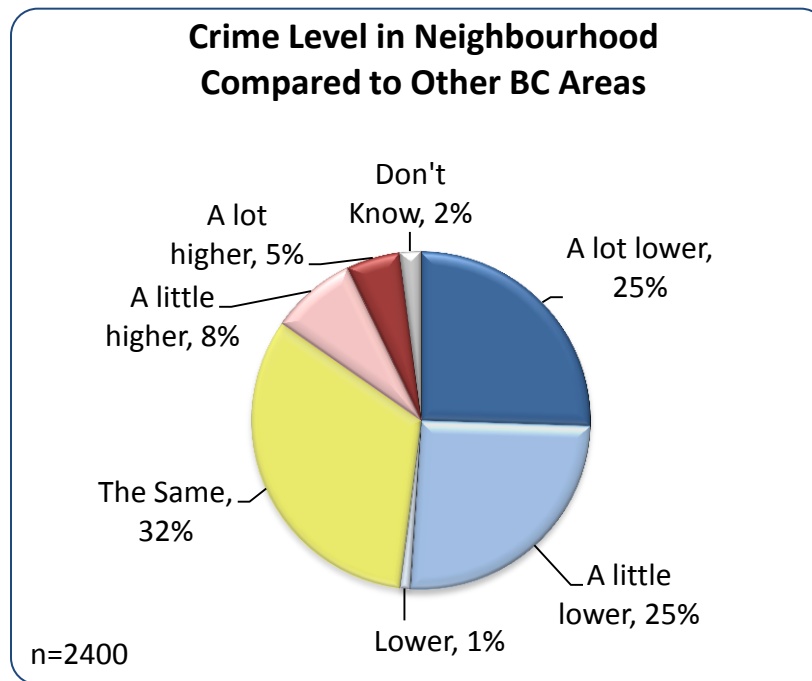
FEAR OF CRIME / PERCEPTIONS OF SAFETY IN NEIGHBOURHOOD

CRIME IN YOUR AREA

One-half of residents (50%) feel their neighbourhood has a lower crime rate than other neighbourhoods in BC while 13% feel crime in their neighbourhood is higher.

Residents in urban areas are more likely than rural residents to feel crime in their neighbourhood is higher than others (15% vs. 8%).

Victims of crime and those who have reported a crime are also more likely to feel crime is higher in their neighbourhood (20% among victims and 21% among those reporting a crime vs. 12%).

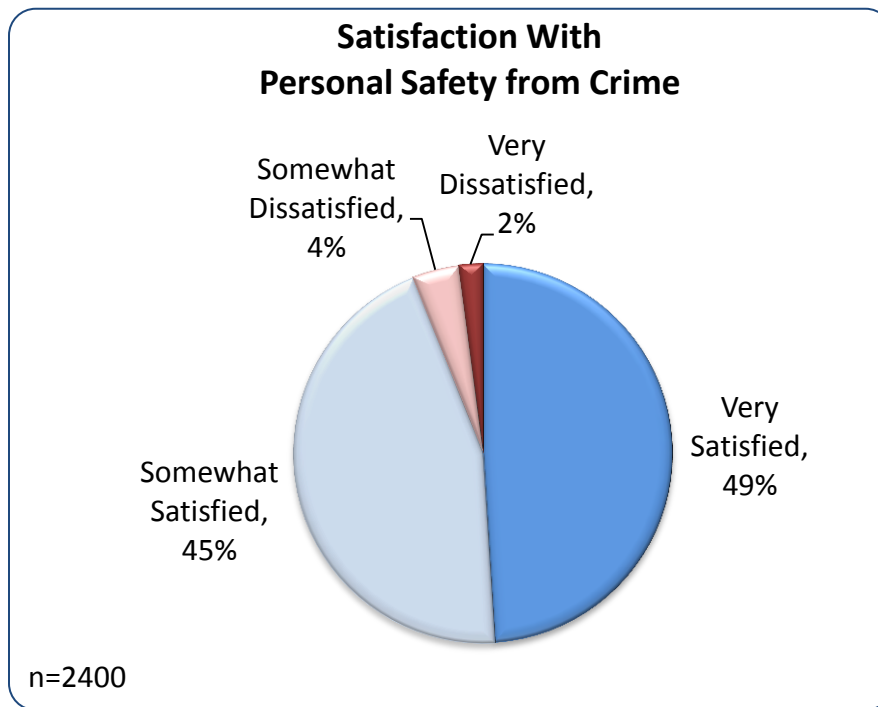


Q12. Compared to other areas in British Columbia, do you think your neighbourhood has a higher amount of crime, about the same, or a lower amount of crime? Do you think it is a lot or a little higher/lower?

The vast majority of residents, 94%, are satisfied with their personal safety from crime, including almost half who are very satisfied.

Those more likely to be very satisfied include:

- Rural residents (63% vs. 46% urban)
- Non-victims of crime (51% vs. 38%)
- Non-reporters of crime (52% vs. 39%)
- Residents with household incomes \$90,000 or higher (56% vs. 46% among lower income households)

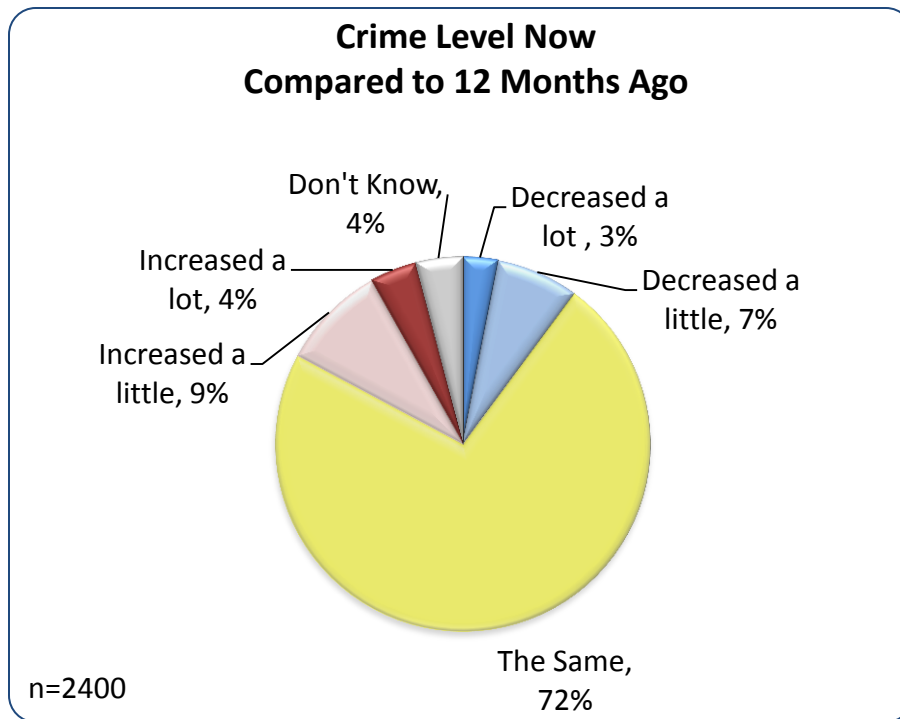


Q13. In general, how satisfied are you with your personal safety from crime?

Almost three-quarters (72%) of residents feel the crime level in their neighbourhood now is the same as it was 12 months ago. Slightly more (13%) feel it has increased rather than decreased (10%).

Those more likely to feel an increase in crime include:

- Women (15% vs. 11%)
- Victims of crime (19% vs. 11%)
- Reporters of crime (20% vs. 11%)



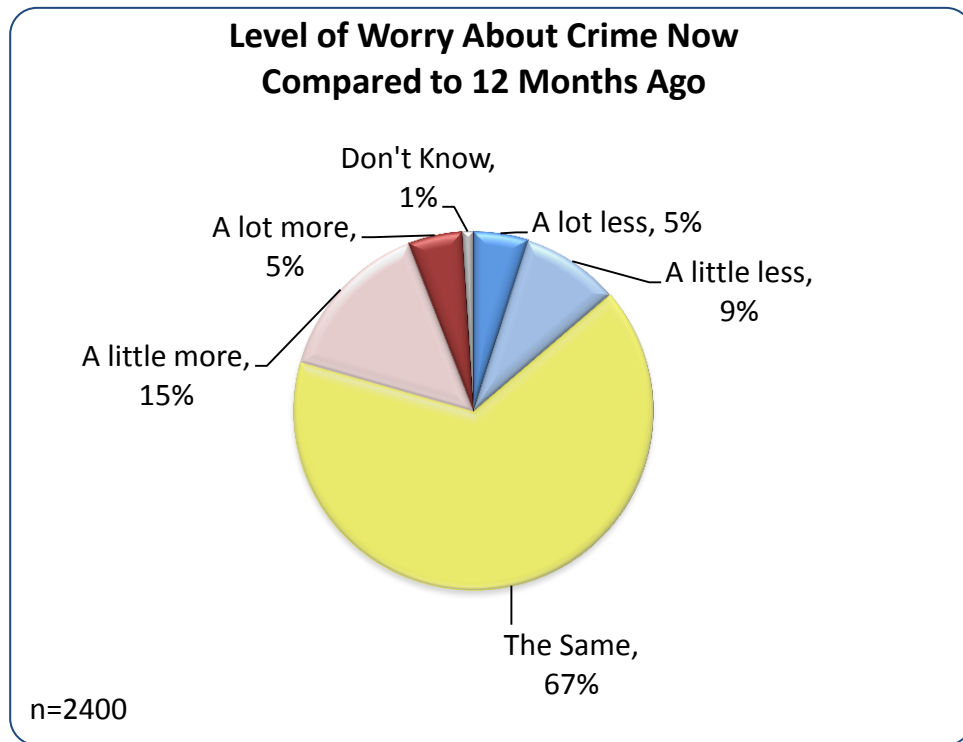
Q14. During the past 12 months, do you think that crime in your neighbourhood has increased, decreased, or stayed the same? Do you think it is a lot or a little higher/lower?

Two-thirds (67%) of residents are no more or less worried about crime now than they were 12 months ago. A larger percentage of residents (20%) are more worried rather than less worried (14%).

Those more likely to be more worried now than 12 months ago include:

- Women (22% vs. 16%)
- Victims of crime (28% vs. 18%)
- Reporters of crime (26% vs. 17%)
-

Those with household incomes less than \$30,000 are less worried than those with household incomes of \$120,000 or more (18% vs. 8%, respectively)



Q15. How worried do you feel about crime now, in comparison to 12 months ago?

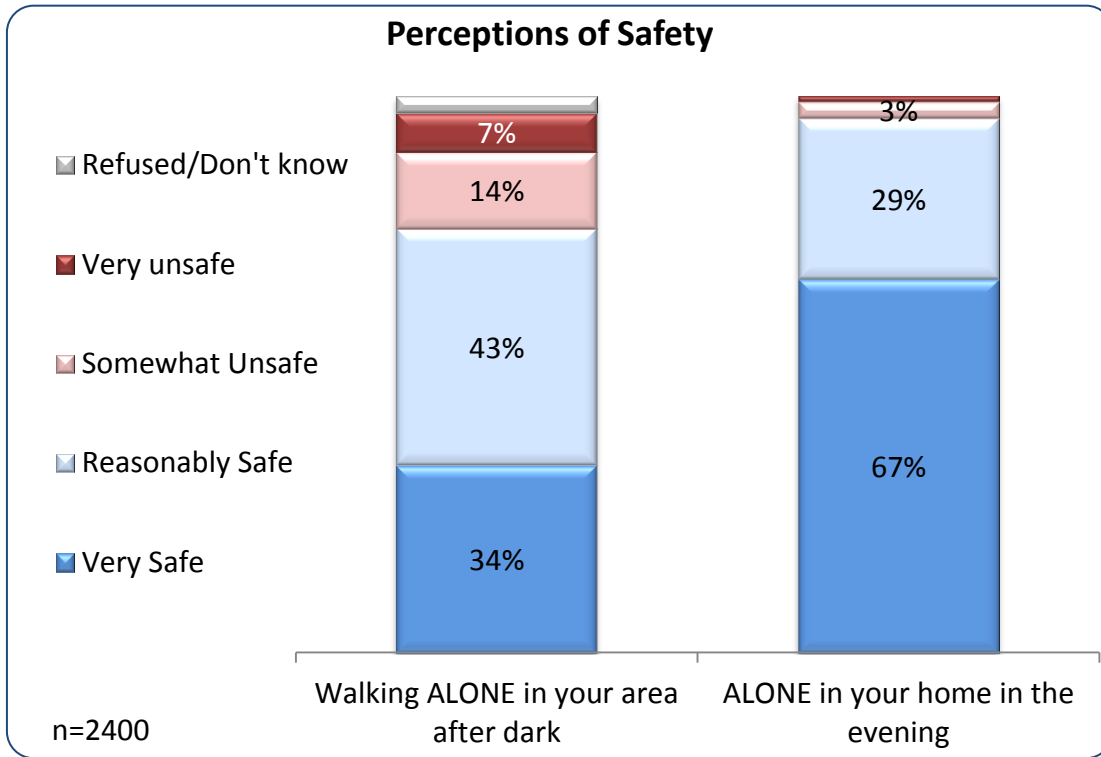
PERCEIVED SAFETY WHEN ALONE

British Columbians generally feel safe in their neighbourhood when walking alone in the dark, and even more so when they are home alone in the evening.

Specifically, three-quarters (77%) of residents feel safe walking alone in the dark in their neighbourhood. Those who are more likely to feel unsafe about walking alone include:

- Women (30% vs. 10%)
- Urban residents (22% vs. 9%)
- Victims of crime (26% vs. 19%)
- Reporters of crime (27% vs. 18%)
- Those with household incomes less than \$30,000 (27%) and between \$30,000 and \$59,999 (23%) compared to those with household incomes of \$60,000 or more (14%)

Almost all residents (96%) feel safe in their home in the evening, including two-thirds who feel very safe. Those less likely to feel “very safe” include women, urban residents, victims of crime, reporters of crime and those with household incomes of less than \$90,000.

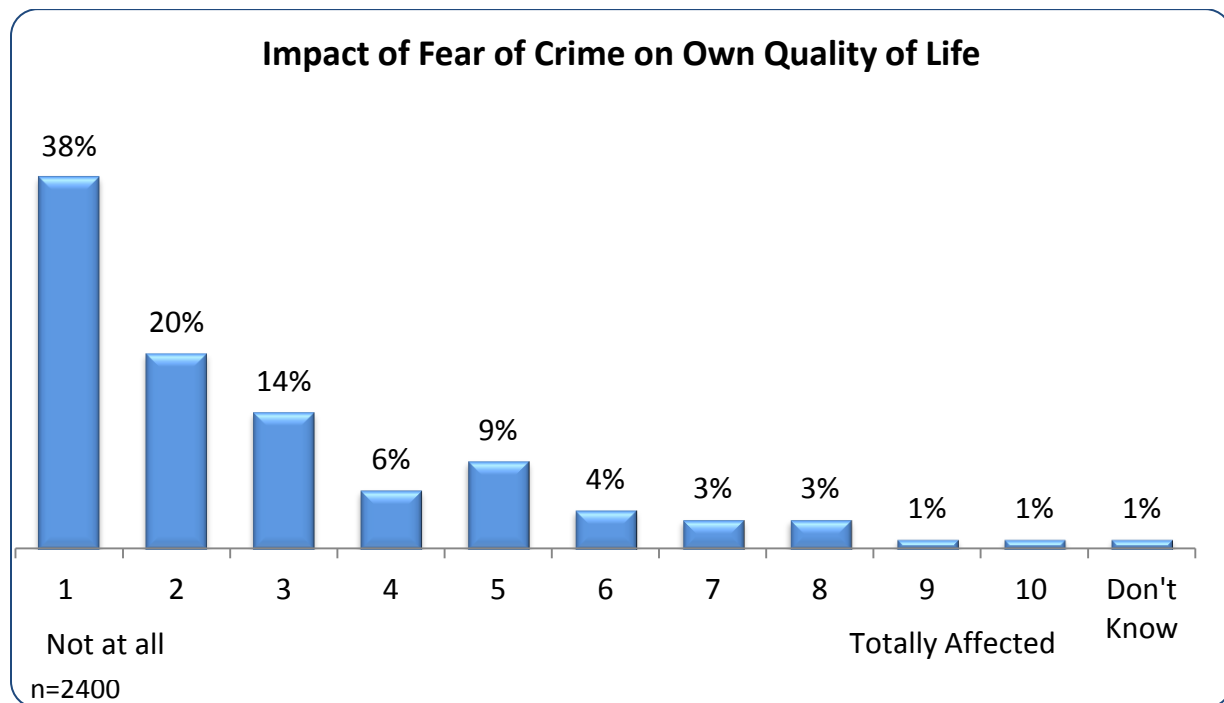


Q16. How safe do you feel from crime when walking alone in your area after dark?

Q17. How safe do you feel from crime when alone in your home in the evening?

FEAR OF CRIME

Generally speaking, British Columbians' lives are not negatively impacted because of their fear of crime – 87% gave a 1-5 rating out of 10 where 10 means high impact. Almost four in ten (38%) gave a “1” rating meaning their quality of life is not at all affected by fear of crime. Conversely, 12% of residents do indicate that their quality of life is affected by their fear of crime, including 5% who gave a rating of 8-10 out of 10, which suggests a very high impact.



Q18. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is not at all affected and 10 is totally affected, how much is your own quality of life affected by fear of crime?

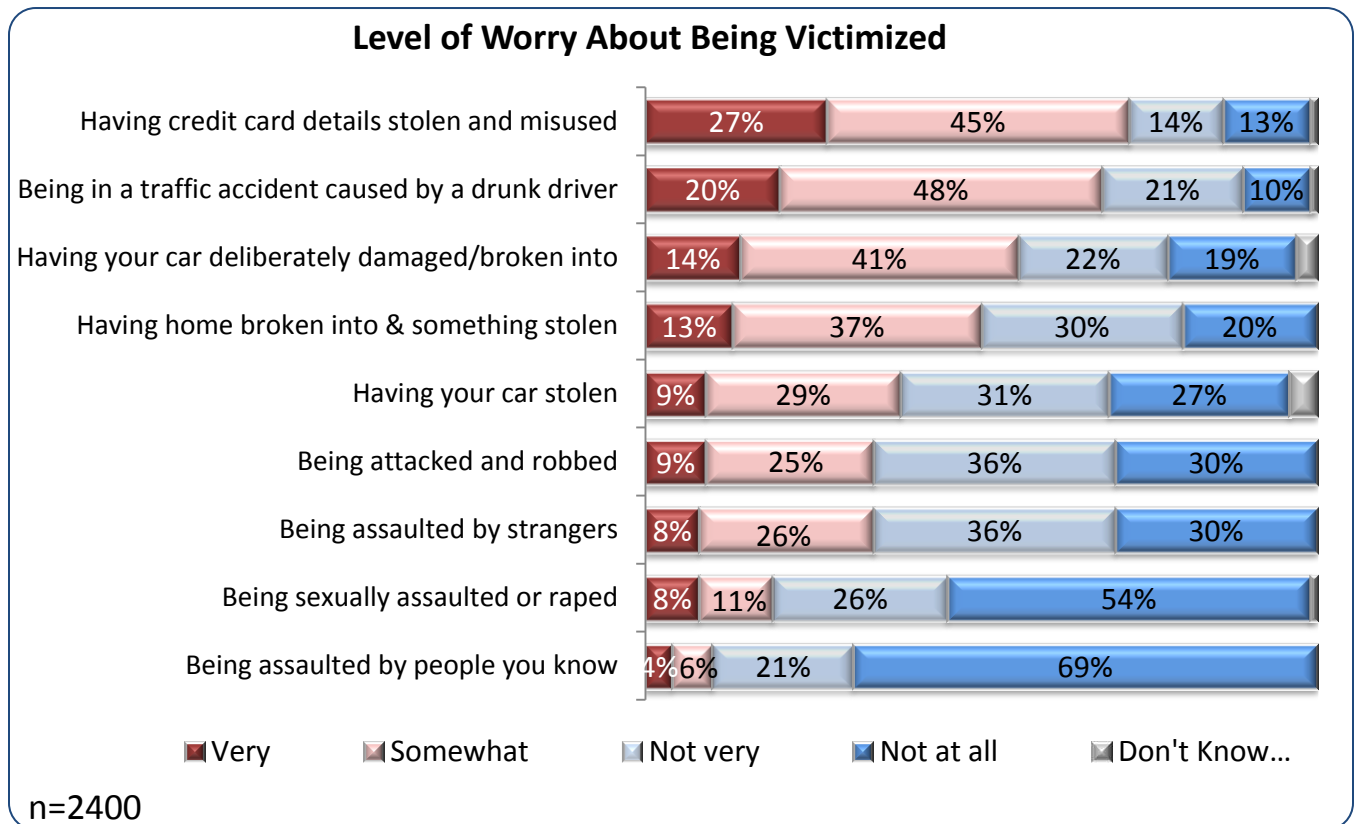
While most residents do not let their fear of crime negatively impact their quality of life, most are concerned about being victimized by crime to some extent. Given a choice of 9 different types of crime, the crime that causes the most worry is having credit card details stolen and the information misused, as expressed by 72% of residents.

Being in an accident caused by a drunk driver is the second most worrisome crime at 68%. Car and/or property theft and damage make up the next three crimes that people worry about (55% having your vehicle broken into, 50% for having something stolen from your home and 38% for having your car stolen).

Personal assault crimes cause the least amount of worry among residents but still, 9% of the population are “very worried” about being attacked and robbed, or being assaulted by strangers (8%) or being sexually assaulted or raped (8%).

For most of these crimes, women are more worried than men and urban residents are more worried than rural residents about being a victim. With respect to age differences, younger residents aged 15 to 34 are more likely than their older counterparts to worry about being attacked, assaulted or raped. There are no age differences with regard to worrying about property crime, with the exception that younger residents (15-34) are less likely to worry about credit card fraud (61%) than older residents (35-54, 79%; 55+, 75%).

Women are more likely worry about being raped (32%) than men are (6%).

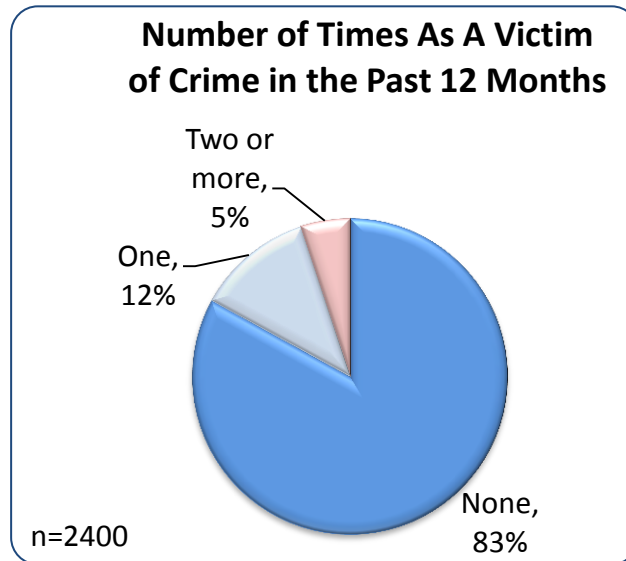


Q19-Q27. I am going to read out some types of crime. I would like you to tell me for each one, how worried you are about being a victim of this type of crime.

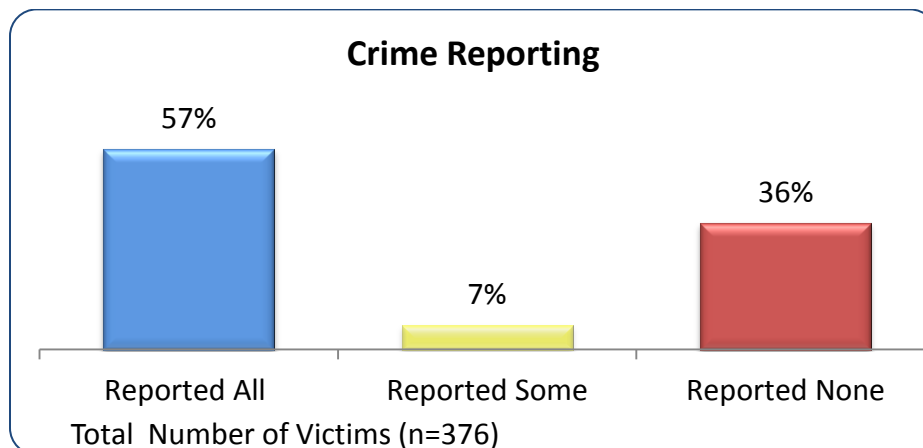
VICTIMIZATION AND REPORTING

17% of British Columbians have been a victim of crime in the past 12 months, including 5% who have been a victim more than once. Residents under the age of 55 are most likely to have been a victim (19% vs. 11% among those aged 55 or older).

The majority of victims (57%) reported these crimes to the police. However, 36% of victims did not report any crimes to police. 7% of victims reported some but not all crimes.



Q28. How many times, if at all, have you been a victim of a crime in the past 12 months?



Q29A. Did you report this crime to the police?

Q29B. [IF MORE THAN 1 CRIME] Did you report any of these crimes to the police?

Q29C: [IF CRIMES REPORTED & MULTIPLE CRIMES]. Were any of these crimes not reported to the police?

The most common reason for not reporting a crime to police is that it was simply not important enough to the victim (55%). However, second to this reason is the perception that the police could not do anything about it (54%). Rounding out the top three reasons is having the incident dealt with another way (36%).

21% of victims did not report their crime because they have little or no confidence in BC's criminal justice system and another 12% did not report because they felt police would be biased.

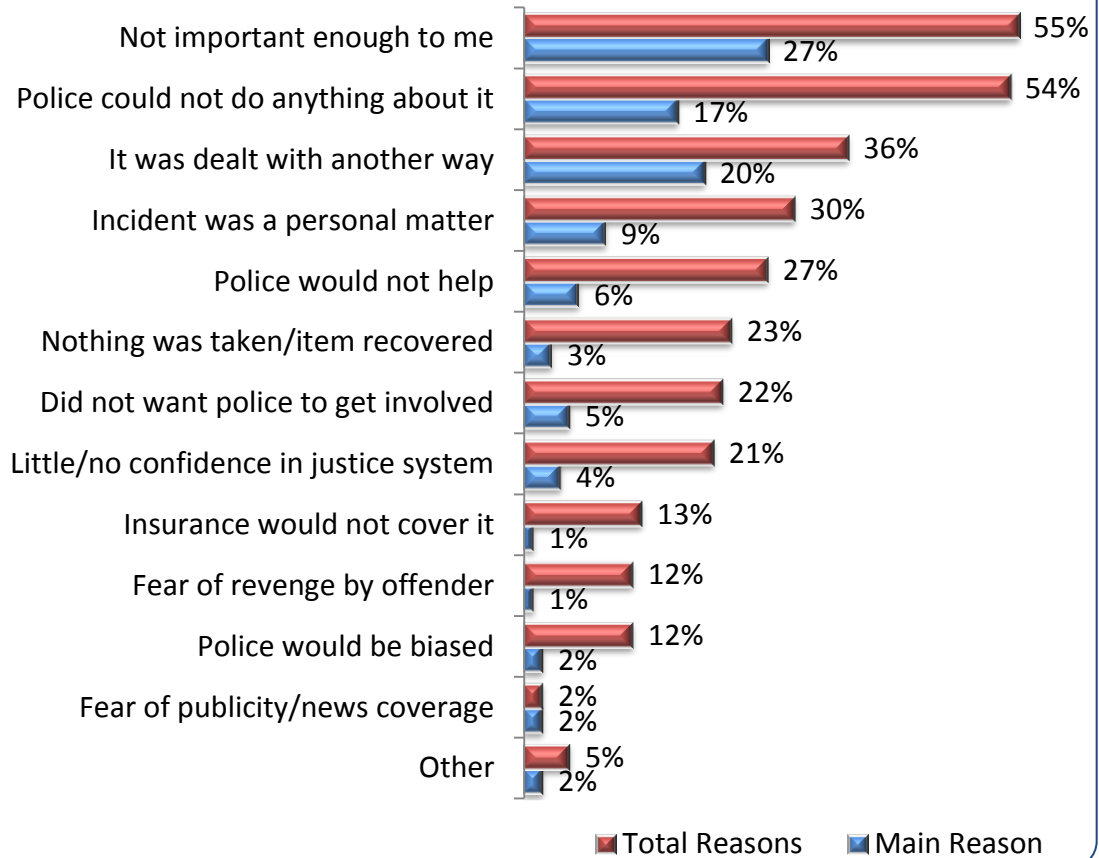
The comparisons between men and women regarding reasons for not reporting crimes illustrate clear differences. Women were more likely to give reasons suggesting that they want to minimize the involvement of the police. Women were more likely to indicate that they did not report a crime because 'it was dealt with in another way' (women, 49%; men, 25%), because 'you did want to get the police involved' (women, 28%; men, 16%), and because 'the incident was a personal matter and did not involve the police' (women, 34%; men, 26%).

Men, on the other hand, are more likely to give reasons suggesting that the police would not be effective. Men were more likely to indicate that they did not report a crime because 'the police would not help' (men, 37%; women, 15%), and because 'the police would be biased' (men, 18%; women, 5%).

Younger residents (15-34) were also more likely to indicate that they did not report a crime because 'the police would not help' (15-34, 40%; 35-54, 20%; 55+, 22%), and because 'the police would be biased' (15-34, 21%; 35-54, 5%; 55+, 10%)

Note however, neither men nor women, or those in the different age groups, differed significantly in their likelihood of expressing a lack of confidence in the criminal justice system as a reason that they did not report a crime to the police.

Reasons For Not Reporting Incidents to Police



Q30. People have different reasons for not reporting incidents to the police. I am going to read a list of why some people choose not to contact the police. Please tell me which reasons apply in your case.

Q30B. IF ANSWERED "YES" TO MORE THAN ONE IN Q30, INSERT REASONS FOR WHICH YES WAS GIVEN AND ASK: Which was the main reason?

VICTIM SERVICES

The vast majority (86%) of British Columbians are aware of services and programs for victims of crime. Among those who have been victims in the past 12 months, 22% reported that they were informed about victim services by police. 2% of the population has accessed these services in the past 12 months. Six percent of those who had been a victim of a crime had accessed these services in the past year.

Awareness of victim services is higher among the following groups:

- Women (88% vs. 83% among men)
- Rural residents (90% vs. 85% among urban residents)
- Residents aged 55+ (90% vs. 86% of 35-54 year olds and 81% of 15-34 year olds)

Women who were victimized were more likely to be informed about victim service by police (29% vs. 14% of men). This may be a reflection of the types of crimes that women were victims of.

Q31. Are you aware that services and programs are available in BC for victims of crime?

Q32. You indicated that you had reported a crime to the police in the past 12 months. Were you informed about victim services by the police?

Q33. Over the past 12 months, did you access any programs or services in BC for victims of crime?

APPENDIX – QUESTIONNAIRE

BC Ministry of Justice Police Services Division

2012 Public Survey

FINAL DRAFT: REVISED MAY 31, 2012

NOTE: TEXT IN CAPS IS NOT READ OUT TO RESPONDENTS

SURVEY INTRODUCTION

Hello. My name is _____, and I am calling on behalf of the BC Ministry of Justice from Sentis—a professional research firm. We're conducting a survey on public safety, crime and policing in British Columbia. We're not selling anything – this is a research study. All answers provided will be anonymous and completely confidential.

May I please speak with a person living in your household who is between the ages of 15 to 34?

IF 15 TO 34 YEAR OLD LIVES IN HOUSEHOLD BUT UNAVAILABLE – ARRANGE CALL BACK
IF NO 15 TO 34 YEAR OLD LIVES IN HOUSEHOLD – ASK TO SPEAK WITH THE ADULT IN THE HOUSEHOLD WHO WILL HAVE THE NEXT BIRTHDAY.

IF NEW RESPONDENT ON LINE, REINTRODUCE.

WHEN TARGET RESPONDENT ON LINE:

Your feedback will be used to help improve public safety and policing in British Columbia. All answers provided will be anonymous and confidential, and your participation is voluntary. . The survey will take 10 to 15 minutes to complete, depending on your answers

Would you be willing to complete this survey with me?

IF YES: THANK AND CONTINUE
IF NO: THANK AND TERMINATE

IF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS REQUESTED BY RESPONDENT:

Your telephone number was selected at random from a list of BC households. You can verify that this is a legitimate survey by contacting Dr. Gabi Hoffmann at 604-660-0838.

GENDER AND AGE

GENDER. RECORD GENDER FROM VOICE

MALE

FEMALE

Before we start, to make sure we have an accurate representation of BC residents...

AGE. Into which of the following age categories may I place you. READ CATEGORIES

15 to 24

25 to 34

35 to 44

45 to 54

55 to 64

65 to 74

75 or older

CONFIDENCE IN POLICE

Let's begin with some questions about your perceptions of the police.

POLICE IN GENERAL

Q1. How much confidence do you have in the local police in your area? Is it: READ ALL SCALE OPTIONS BEFORE ACCEPTING A RESPONSE

A great deal of confidence

Quite a lot of confidence

Not very much confidence, or

No confidence at all

DON'T KNOW / REFUSED

Q2. How much confidence do you have in the police in general in BC? Is it: READ ALL SCALE OPTIONS BEFORE ACCEPTING A RESPONSE

A great deal of confidence

Quite a lot of confidence

Not very much confidence

No confidence at all

DON'T KNOW / REFUSED

SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF POLICING

I am going to read out some specific aspects of the work police do. I would like you to tell me for each these, how good a job do you think your local police do? RANDOMIZE PRESENTATION OF Q3 – Q8. The first is [INSERT ITEM]

Would you say your local police are...

Very good

Good

Average

Below average, or

Poor

DON'T KNOW / REFUSED

Q3. Enforcing the laws

Q4. Ensuring the safety of citizens in your area

Q5. Treating people fairly

Q6. Approachable, easy to talk to

Q7. Promptly responding to calls

Q8. Supplying information to the public on ways to reduce crime

POLICE CONTACT AND SATISFACTION

Q9. During the past 12 months, did you have contact with the police for any of the following reasons? RANDOMIZE ALL BELOW EXCEPT 'ANY OTHER REASON'

YES

NO

DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

A. As a victim of a crime

B. For a traffic violation

C. To report a crime or a neighbourhood problem

D. To obtain a permit or other document

E. For a public information session

F. As a witness to a crime or incident

G. By being arrested

H. For any other reason (IF YES: And what would that reason be? RECORD ANSWER

Q10. IF ANSWERED "YES" TO MORE THAN ONE OF THE ABOVE IN Q9 INSERT THE REASONS MARKED AS YES IN Q9, THEN ASK: Which was the most recent contact? READ THE REASONS AS NECESSARY.

Q11. ASK IF THE RESPONDENT HAD AT LEAST ONE CONTACT WITH POLICE, OTHERWISE SKIP TO FEAR OF CRIME/PERCEPTIONS OF SAFETY SECTION. For the most recent contact, overall, how satisfied were you with the way the police dealt with the matter? Were you:

Very satisfied
Somewhat satisfied
Somewhat dissatisfied, or
Very dissatisfied
DON'T KNOW / REFUSED

FEAR OF CRIME / PERCEPTIONS OF SAFETY

The next set of questions deal with your perceptions of crime and safety.

CRIME IN YOUR AREA

Q12A. Compared to other areas in British Columbia, do you think your neighbourhood has a higher amount of crime, about the same, or a lower amount of crime?

Higher amount of crime
About the same amount of crime
Lower amount of crime
DON'T KNOW / REFUSED

IF ANSWER ABOUT THE SAME IN Q12A SKIP TO Q13

Q12B: ASK IF ANSWERED HIGHER IN Q12A ASK, Do you think it is a lot or a little higher?

A lot higher
A little higher
DON'T KNOW / REFUSED

Q12C: ASK IF ANSWERED LOWER IN Q12A, ASK, Do you think it is a lot or a little lower?

A lot lower
A little lower
DON'T KNOW / REFUSED

Q13. In general, how satisfied are you with your personal safety from crime? Are you: READ SCALE OPTIONS

Very satisfied
Somewhat satisfied
Somewhat dissatisfied, or
Very dissatisfied
DON'T KNOW / REFUSED

CHANGE IN CRIME

Q14A. During the past 12 months, do you think that crime in your neighbourhood has increased, decreased, or stayed the same?

Increased
Stayed about the same
Decreased
DON'T KNOW / REFUSED

IF ANSWER ABOUT THE SAME IN Q12A SKIP TO Q15

Q14B. ASK IF ANSWERED HIGHER IN Q14A, ASK, Do you think it is a lot or a little higher?

A lot higher
A little higher
DON'T KNOW / REFUSED

Q14C. ASK IF ANSWERED LOWER IN Q14A, ASK, Do you think it is a lot or a little lower?

A lot lower
A little lower
DON'T KNOW / REFUSED

Q15. How worried do you feel about crime now, in comparison to 12 months ago? Do you feel: READ OPTIONS

A lot more worried
A little more worried
About the same
A little less worried, or
A lot less worried
DON'T KNOW / REFUSED

WALKING ALONE AFTER DARK

Q16. How safe do you feel from crime when walking alone in your area after dark? Do you feel: READ OPTIONS. IF INITIAL ANSWER "DOES NOT WALK ALONE", ASK How safe would you feel if you were to walk alone in your areas after dark?

Very safe
Reasonably safe
Somewhat unsafe
Very unsafe
DON'T KNOW / REFUSED

HOME ALONE IN THE EVENING

Q17. How safe do you feel from crime when alone in your home in the evening? Do you feel:
READ OPTIONS. IF INITIAL ANSWER IS "NEVER HOME ALONE", ASK, How safe would you feel if you were alone at home in the evening?

Very safe
Reasonably safe
Somewhat unsafe
Very unsafe
DON'T KNOW / REFUSED

QUALITY OF LIFE

Q18. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is not at all affected and 10 is totally affected, how much is your own quality of life affected by fear of crime?

1 not at all affected
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10 totally affected
DON'T KNOW / REFUSED

FEAR OF SPECIFIC CRIMES

I am going to read out some types of crime. I would like you to tell me for each one, how worried you are about being a victim of this type of crime? Are you: READ OPTIONS FOR EACH ITEM. RANDOMIZE ORDER OF PRESENTATION OF ITEMS

Very worried
Somewhat worried
Not very worried
Not at all worried
DON'T KNOW / REFUSED

- Q19.** Having someone get your credit card details and misuse them.
- Q20.** Having your home broken into and something stolen.
- Q21.** Having your car stolen.
- Q22.** Having your car deliberately damaged or broken into.
- Q23.** Being attacked and robbed.
- Q24.** Being assaulted by strangers.
- Q25.** Being assaulted by people you know.

Q26. Being sexually assaulted or raped.

Q27. Being in a traffic accident caused by a drunk driver.

VICTIMIZATION AND REPORTING

The next questions ask about incidents which may have happened to you during the past 12 months. Please include acts committed by both family and non-family members.

VICTIMIZATION

Q28. How many times, if at all, have you been a victim of a crime in the past 12 months?

RECORD EXACT NUMBER OF TIMES – SET MAXIMUM TO 97

IF ANSWER 0 OR NONE TO Q28 SKIP TO Q31

REPORTING TO THE POLICE

Q29A. [ASK IF Q28=1]. Did you report this crime to the police?

YES

NO

DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

IF NO TO Q29A GOTO Q30; IF YES TO Q29A OR DON'T KNOW SKIP TO Q31

Q29B. [ASK IF Q28=GREATER THAN 1.] Did you report any of these crimes to the police?

YES

NO

DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

IF NO OR DON'T KNOW/REFUSED TO Q29B GOTO Q30

Q29C: [ASK IF YES TO Q29B OR DON'T KNOW/REFUSED TO Q29B]. Were any of these crimes not reported to the police?

YES – SOME CRIMES WERE NOT REPORTED

NO – ALL CRIMES WERE REPORTED

DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

IF NO OR DON'T KNOW/REFUSED TO Q29C SKIP TO Q31; IF YES TO Q29C CONTINUE TO Q30

Q30. People have different reasons for not reporting incidents to the police. I am going to read a list of why some people choose not to contact the police. Please tell me which reasons apply in your case.

Was it because: RANDOMIZE PRESENTATION OF ITEMS BELOW EXCEPT FOR ANY OTHER REASON

- A. It was dealt with another way
- B. Fear of revenge by the offender
- C. The police could not do anything about it
- D. The police would not help
- E. You did not want to get involved with the police
- F. It was not important enough to you
- G. The incident was a personal matter and did not concern the police
- H. You have little or no confidence in the Criminal Justice System
- I. The police would be biased
- J. Fear of publicity or news coverage
- K. Your insurance would not cover it
- L. Nothing was taken or the items were recovered
- M. For any other reason, not already mentioned (IF YES, ASK: What was the reason? RECORD RESPONSE)

Q30B. IF ANSWERED "YES" TO MORE THAN ONE IN Q30, INSERT REASONS FOR WHICH YES WAS GIVEN AND ASK: Which was the main reason? READ REASONS AS NECESSARY

VICTIM SERVICES

The final set of questions discuss your awareness of victim services.

Q31. Are you aware that services and programs are available in BC for victims of crime?

YES
NO
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED TO ANSWER

ASK Q32 ONLY IF ANSWERED YES TO Q29A OR Q29B OTHERWISE SKIP TO Q33

Q32. You indicated that you had reported a crime to the police in the past 12 months. Were you informed about victim services by the police?

YES
NO
DON'T KNOW/PREFER NOT TO ANSWER

Q33. Over the past 12 months, did you access any programs or services in BC for victims of crime?

YES
NO
DON'T KNOW/ PREFER NOT TO ANSWER

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

And just a few final questions for statistical purposes.

FSA. What are the first three digits of your postal code? [INTERVIEWER READ BACK
POSTAL CODE DIGITS USING PHONETICS WHERE APPROPRIATE]

INCOME. And into which of the following categories may I place your total annual household income, before taxes?

Less than \$30,000
\$30,000 to less than \$60,000
\$60,000 to less than \$90,000
\$90,000 to less than \$120,000
\$120,000 to less than \$150,000
\$150,000 or more?
DON'T KNOW
PREFER NOT TO ANSWER

Those are all of my questions today/this evening. On behalf of the Ministry of Justice, thank you again for participating in our research project.