



LETHBRIDGE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, November 26, 2025

Council Chamber, City Hall

4:00 p.m.

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Acknowledgement Statement
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Consent Agenda
 - a. October 29, 2025 Lethbridge Police Commission Meeting Minutes
5. Recognitions
 - a. New Commissioner Ryan Wolfe, Lethbridge City Council
6. Inquiries from the Public

Complaints, appeals, or any ongoing investigations are not topics for this forum
7. Presentations
8. Standing Items
 - a. Lethbridge Police Service Report – Chief Mehdizadeh
 - b. Monthly Compliments – Chief Mehdizadeh
 - c. Lethbridge Police Service Crime Report – Deputy Chief Grobmeier
9. New Business
 - a. Committee Appointment
10. **Closed Session (Access to Information Act sections 20, 23, 25, 28, 29, 30)**

-----Continuation of Open Session-----

11. Reports

- a. Finance Committee Report – Commissioner Heggie
- b. Human Resources Committee (Policy and Governance Subcommittee) Report – Commissioner Esene

12. Upcoming Events and Meetings

- a. Regular Meeting of January 28, 2025, 4:00 P.M.

13. Meeting Adjournment



LETHBRIDGE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 29, 2025
Council Chamber, City Hall
4:05 p.m.

In Attendance:

Commission Members:

Members Brett Carlson, Clement Esene (*attended virtually until 4:15 P.M.*), Hunter Heggie, Matthew McHugh, Noella Piquette, Jenn Schmidt-Rempel (*arrived at 5:06 P.M.*)

Absent: Doug Thornton and Jen Visser

Lethbridge Police Service Executive:

Chief Mehdizadeh, Deputy Chief Grobmeier, Inspector Klassen, Inspector Lawrence and Inspector Walper

Other:

Legal Counsel to Lethbridge Police Service Lee Cutforth, Finance Manager Kim Ordway, LPS Strategic Communications Manager Kristen Saturley, Executive Assistant to the Chief Carmen Hellawell, Commission Clerk Elizabeth Thompson-Wensveen

1. Meeting Called to Order

Chair Piquette opened the meeting of the Lethbridge Police Commission on October 29, 2025, the time being 4:05 p.m.

2. Acknowledgment Statement

Chair Piquette read the Acknowledgement Statement.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Commissioner McHugh, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the October 29, 2025, Lethbridge Police Commission Meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. Consent Agenda

The minutes of the September 24, 2025, Lethbridge Police Commission Meeting were circulated for approval in the consent agenda.

Moved by Commissioner Heggie, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lethbridge Police Commission adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.

CARRIED

5. Recognitions

The following individual was recognized and commissioned as a senior officer:

- Inspector Robin Klassen

6. Inquiries from the Public

7. Presentations

8. Standing Items

- a. Lethbridge Police Service Report – Chief Mehdizadeh
- b. Monthly Compliments - Chief Mehdizadeh
- c. LPS Crime Report - Deputy Chief Grobmeier

Moved by Commissioner McHugh, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lethbridge Police Commission receive as information the following reports:

- Lethbridge Police Service Report,
- Monthly Compliments, and
- LPS Crime Report

CARRIED

9. New Business

10. Closed Session

Moved by Commissioner McHugh, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission enter into a closed meeting at 4:32 P.M. to discuss confidential matters as per sections 20 (Disclosure harmful to personal privacy), 23 (Disclosure harmful to law enforcement), 25 (Disclosure and complaints), 26 (Disclosure harmful to intergovernmental relations), 28 (Local public body confidences), 29 (Advice from officials), and 32 (Privileged information) of the *Access to Information Act*.

CARRIED

Commissioner Schmidt-Rempel entered at 5:06 P.M.

*The remainder of the Commission attended
the entirety of the closed session meeting*

LPS Executive exited the closed session at 5:10 P.M.

The Chief exited the closed session at 5:35 P.M.

The Clerk exited the closed session from 6:20-6:40 P.M.

Moved by Commissioner Schmidt-Rempel, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission adjourn the closed meeting at 6:50 P.M.

CARRIED

Moved by Commissioner Carlson, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the closed session meeting discussions, reports, and documents relating to:

Finance Committee Report
Chief Report

remain confidential, pursuant to Sections 20 (personal privacy), 21 (harmful to individual or public safety), 28 (Local Public Body Confidences), and 29 (Advice from Officials) of the *Access to Information Act*.

Moved by Commissioner Esene, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the closed session meeting discussions, reports, and documents relating to:

Succession Planning
Professional Standards Report
Appeal Submission

Review of the Whistleblower Act
Skills Matrix
Human Resources Report

remain confidential, pursuant to Sections 20 (Disclosure harmful to personal privacy), 23 (Disclosure harmful to law enforcement), 25 (Disclosure and Complaints), 26 (Disclosure harmful to intergovernmental relations), 28 (Local public body confidences), 29 (Advice from officials), and 32 (Privileged information) of the *Access to Information Act*; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Police Commission direct administration to update the skills Matrix as discussed and return it to the City of Lethbridge Office of the City Clerk

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Police Commission direct Administration to proceed with the confidential direction provided during the Commission Only Closed Session.

CARRIED

11. Reports

a. Finance Committee Report

Moved by Commissioner Heggie, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission accept the Finance Committee Report as information.

CARRIED

b. Human Resources Committee (Policy and Governance Subcommittee) Report

Moved by Commissioner McHugh, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission approve the following recommendations from the Human Resources Committee (Policy and Governance Subcommittee):

1. That the report from the Human Resources Committee (Policy and Governance Subcommittee) be accepted as information.

2. That the Lethbridge Police Commission direct administration to set up a meeting with a member of the Lethbridge Police Commission Executive, the Lethbridge Police Association president and Chief of Police to review the Lethbridge Police Service Employee Engagement survey results.

CARRIED

Motion Arising

Moved by Commissioner Heggie, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission hire an Executive Director and submit a formal request for human resources/payroll support to the City of Lethbridge for this position.

CARRIED

12. Upcoming Events and Meetings

The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 26, 2025.

13. Meeting Adjournment

Chair Piquette declared the meeting adjourned at 6:56 P.M.

CARRIED

Noella Piquette, Chair

Elizabeth Thompson-Wensveen, Clerk



LPS Monthly Report

Lethbridge Police Commission

NOVEMBER 2025

The Lethbridge Police Service is committed to providing a safe community for all. Monthly highlights from each division that contribute to our organizational priorities – community safety, community engagement and healthy organization – and in line with our annual policing plan goals:

- *Reduce crime*
 - *Increase capacity by reducing police response to calls that can be alternatively reported and do not require the attendance of an officer*
 - *Increase citizen perceptions of safety*
 - *Increase community crime prevention initiatives*
 - *Increase satisfaction with LPS*
 - *Increase visibility within the community*
 - *Promote information-sharing and collaboration with partner agencies*
 - *Enhance employee health and wellness initiatives*
 - *Increase diversity within the organization to better represent the community we serve*
 - *Enhance technology to address security issues and keep pace with organizational needs*
-

FIELD OPERATIONS DIVISION:

- The Downtown Policing Unit (DPU) has been deploying a targeted enforcement project in conjunction with the Property Crimes Unit, Crime Suppression Team and the Lethbridge SCAN team leading to multiple arrests and charges. The October project led to the execution of 74 arrest warrants and the recovery of one stolen vehicle.
- DPU members performing proactive patrols resulted in a male being charged in connection with the theft of five firearms and \$60,000 worth of stolen property.
- Center Village Mall and Park Place Mall continue to experience increased levels of theft and trespassing.
- Encampments around the shelter continue to be a significant challenge leading to extensive time by DPU in the area.
- The Public Order Unit was deployed to a rally in Galt Gardens due to the potential for conflict with counter-protesters. The event was concluded with no major issues.
- The mail-out of Automated Enforcement Tickets has resumed via Canada Post.
- Two members of the Traffic Response Unit (TRU) are taking a Level 3 collision reconstruction course.
- TRU provided traffic control during the Take Back the Night event to ensure the safety of all participants.



LPS Monthly Report

Lethbridge Police Commission

NOVEMBER 2025

- Three Community Peace Officers will complete their field training and be signed off for solo deployment by the end of the month.
- PACT members met with City of Lethbridge employees to discuss a possible alternative response model for mental health calls and took part in the Mental Health and Addictions Advisory Committee.
- The Community Engagement Unit managed the Remembrance Day ceremony, participated in a training session regarding the Low German Mennonite community, met with Lethbridge Family Services about possible programming for newcomers to Canada and helped harvest the Blackfoot Medicine Gardens.
- The FASD Officer assisted in three investigations.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION:

- The Property Crimes Unit, High Risk Offenders Unit and Integrated Offender Management investigated more than 30 files. Five remain under investigation.
- The first-ever participant was signed in to the Integrated Offender Management Program.
- Two members of the Property Crimes Unit attended an in-house training program related to covert surveillance techniques.
- The Crime Suppression Team concluded five investigations.
- The Economic Crimes Unit has been averaging one awareness presentation per week to various community organizations and recently met with the Civil Forfeiture Office to learn more about roles and responsibilities as well as opportunities for further collaboration.
- The Violent Crimes Unit (VCU) assumed multiple investigations, including files involving a sexual assault, uttering threats, two assaults and extortion.
- The LPS polygrapher conducted a number of recruitment polygraph examinations and assisted RCMP with an historical file.
- One member of VCU completed a Statement Suitability training course.
- Lethbridge ALERT completed Operation Lineage, resulting in search warrants executed at two local residences. Investigators seized nearly \$15,000, 40 grams of cocaine and 145 MDMA tablets. One female was charged.
- November is Family Violence Prevention month and the Domestic Crimes Unit and Communications Unit have shared awareness messaging on social media.



LPS Monthly Report

Lethbridge Police Commission

NOVEMBER 2025

SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION:

- In October, the Recruiting Unit attended two police advisory committee meetings, the Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police fall meeting and hosted the Canadian Criminal Justice Academy students for an information session.
- The follow-up audit for the LPS vehicle impound lot has been completed. All items were accounted for with only minor clerical or administrative errors detected. These have been remedied and recommendations made to assist in the emphasis of protocol adherence among staff.
- Victim/Witness Services (V/WSU) received 79 applications during their recent recruitment – an all-time high! It is anticipated 15-20 new Crisis Support Workers will be selected from this group and join the team following training in January.
- Over the summer LPS staff tended four sacred plants in rooftop gardens – mint, sage, sweetgrass and tobacco. Under the guidance of local Blackfoot Elders the plants were harvested and the yield will be used in cultural ceremonies hosted by LPS and the V/WSU smudge kit program where volunteers create smudge kits that are provided to community members in times of crisis.
- V/WSU members attended the Dogs with Wings Gala. Facility Dog Cruiser was featured during the welcome and he and his handler, Cat Pooley, provided a demo for the event showcasing some of the games (Kerplunk) he plays with victims to help with regulation.
- For the period of October 1 – October 31, the Governance and Compliance Unit reviewed/updated/created and published two directives:
 - Administrative Review
 - Polygraph Examinations

Monthly Compliments October 2025



Citizen / External (4)

Team A, responding LPS members

VSU passed along a message from the staff, parents, and students impacted by a recent public mischief occurrence involving a suspected explosive device near a school. Impacted members of the public complimented the police response stating they all felt cared for and safe, and they commended LPS members for their swift response and professionalism.

Chief Mehdizadeh, LPS

LPS received a card from a member of the public expressing appreciation for LPS initiatives focused on public safety including the new prolific offender management position, and the effort of Chief Mehdizadeh to attend many community events.

Chief Mehdizadeh, Cst. Pagliericci, Cst. Brizinello, Tactical Team

A member of the public sent an email thanking these members for their positive experiences during a recent tour of LPS they had, writing “*The whole day was amazing! It was incredible to see the station working together in such a unified, professional, and welcoming environment*”.

Cst. MacQuarrie, LPS members

VSU Kim Fraser on behalf of a member of the public who was present during the attempted murder occurrence at the VisitLethbridge.com Arena sent a quick note to express their appreciation for Cst. MacQuarrie and all the responding LPS members for the work they do putting themselves out there for the community.

Internal (5)

Cst. White, Cst. Campbell

RMU staff member Lindsey Devin and Kristin Kenney wanted to recognize Cst. White and Cst. Campbell for their excellent documentation and report writing *“although it may seem like a small thing, when we’re having a busy day, quality documentation makes our job so much easier, and we really appreciate it*

Cst. McDonald, Cst. C Stock

Vicky Snider with VSU highlighted the excellent work of Cst. McDonald and Cst. C Stock who displayed excellent community policing abilities by assisting a buyer and seller to mitigate a unique civil law purchase situation in a manner that was efficient and acceptable to both parties.

PACT Cst. K Easter and AHS Registered Nurse Tower

Sgt. Hansen wanted to identify the excellent work of PACT member Cst. K Easter and RN Tower during a recent call involving a patient with dementia. Cst. K Easter did an outstanding job dealing with the patient utilizing her excellent communication skills to navigate the patient’s outbursts and guide them in agreeing to attend CRH - a feat which took multiple police officers during a previous Level 1 critical incident response with this same patient. RN Tower demonstrated a high level of professionalism in dealing with AHS during this challenging call.

Cst. Brett

Cst. K Easter sent the following email regarding the recent excellent work of Cst. Brett:

“During this call for service an elderly female was out of her medications, had mobility issues and was living in a situation not conducive to her needs. Cst. Brett did a community referral to a great program and then asked PACT to review the file and offer any other additional supports or recommendations. Cst. Brett contacted the female’s pharmacy, got them to deliver her medications and then delivered her an emergency food hamper the day after the initial interaction. Cst. Brett identified that the female really wished to speak and hug her son again before she died and attempts were made to contact him. Cst. Brett even sent a letter to the son’s last known address, asking him to contact Cst. Brett if he wished to have communication with his mother.

Cst. Brett is the type of officer I am proud to work alongside. Cst. Brett saw a need, found a solution and showed empathy and compassion.”

Sgt. Demone and Janay Spanos

Cst. S Stock sent an email to highlight how Sgt. Demone and Janay Spanos excelled during a Critical Incident Scribe training course they attended in Medicine Hat. They excelled at all tasks, scenarios and tests demonstrating their proficiency as scribes and created a lasting impression on other agencies regarding the LPS Scribe Unit as a whole. They were looked up to by their peers and commended by the instructors.

Community Partner (2)

Cst. Bucsis

TEMS team lead sent an email to highlight the enormous amount of work Cst. Bucsis had done to organize and manage a recent TEMS testing day, writing “*through him the day was a huge success, and ran smoothly with great communication*”.

Chief Mehdizadeh, LPS

LPS received a letter from the CEO of the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation expressing appreciation for the recent donation of \$3,710 raised towards the Bringing Hearts Home Campaign.

COMMISSION REPORT

2025-11-13



MONTHLY REPORTING TO COMMISSION

UCR CRIME DATA

JANUARY TO AUGUST 2019-2025

Data Extraction as of 2025-11-13

November 2025

REPORTED CRIME VIOLATIONS IN LETHBRIDGE: JANUARY TO AUGUST 2019- 2025

Executive Summary

When comparing January-August 2025 to January-August 2024:

- Total crime violations increased by 13.8%, and total Crime Severity Index (CSI) score increased by 8.1%
- Person crime violations increased by 7.4%, and person crime CSI score increased by 3.4%
- Property crime violations increased by 12.2%, and property crime CSI score increased by 5.3%

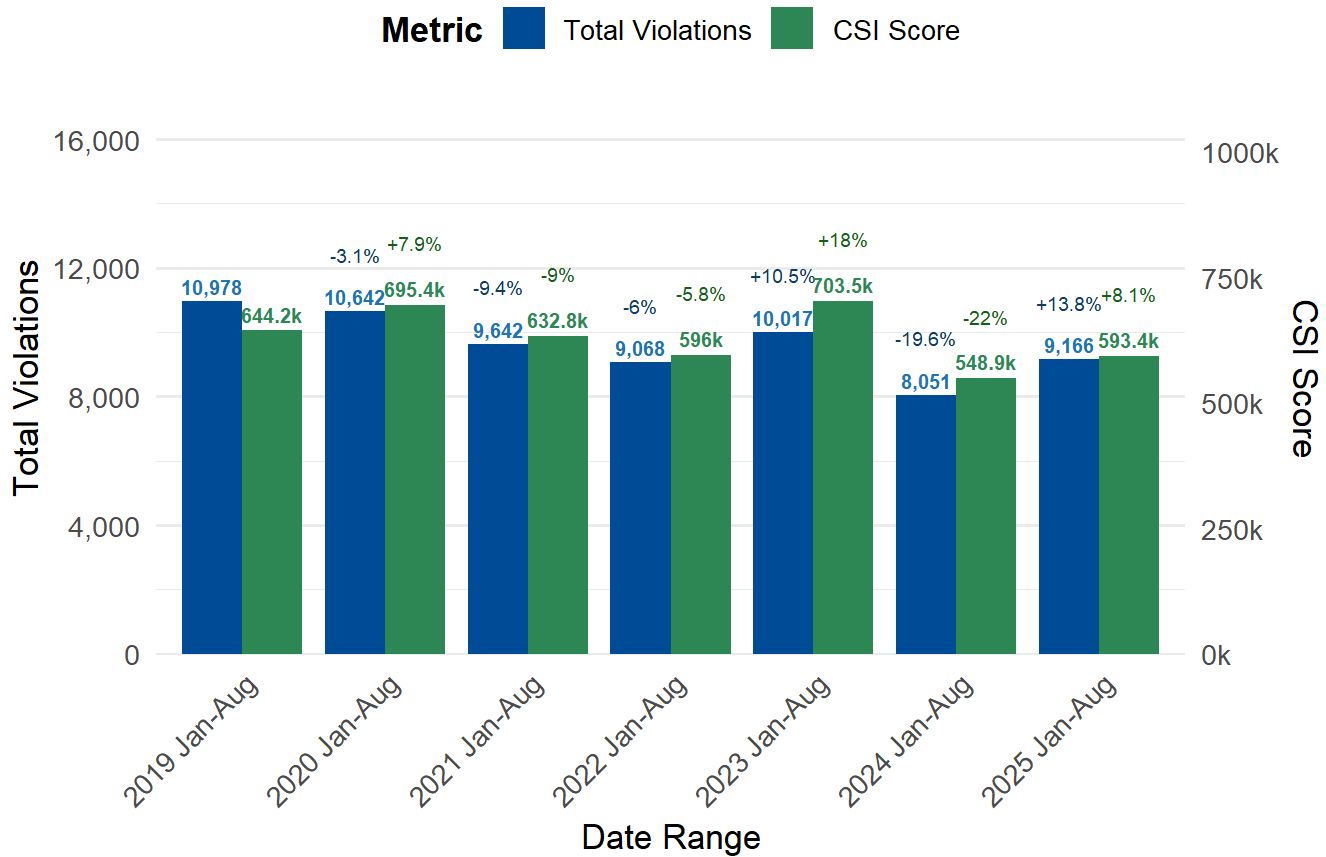
When comparing August 2025 to August 2024:

- Total crime violations increased by 27.6% and total crime Severity Index (CSI) score increased by 25.5%
- Person crime violations increased by 22.1% and person crime CSI score increased by 27%
- Property crime violations increased by 24.8% and property crime CSI score increased by 22.3%

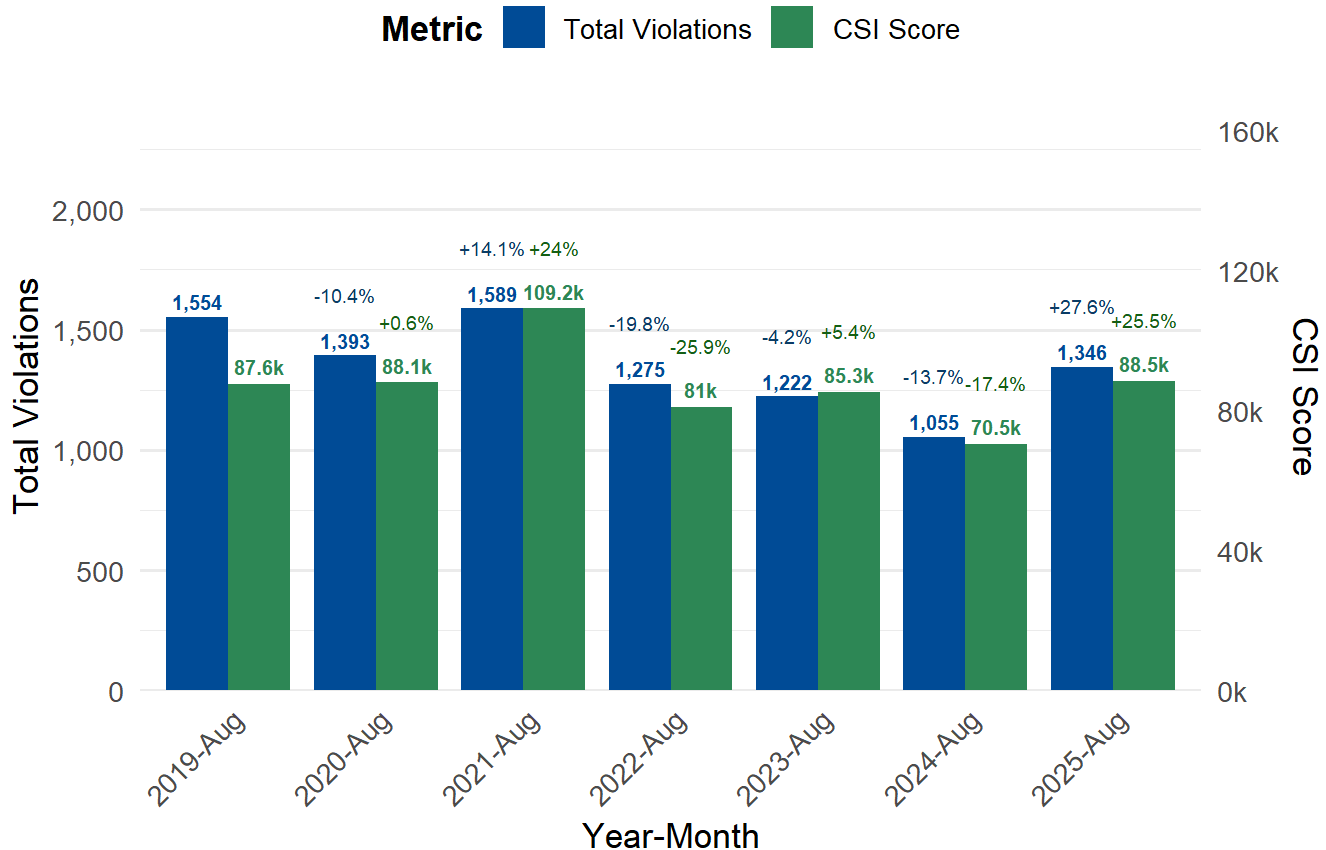
Crime by City Region: January-August 2025 compared to 2024

- Downtown Lethbridge; crime violations increased by 14.9% and CSI score increased by 9.2%
- North Lethbridge; crime violations increased by 10.7% and CSI score increased by 2.6%
- South Lethbridge; crime violations increased by 20.8% and CSI score increased by 11.1%
- West Lethbridge; crime violations increased by 0.6% and CSI score increased by 3.1%

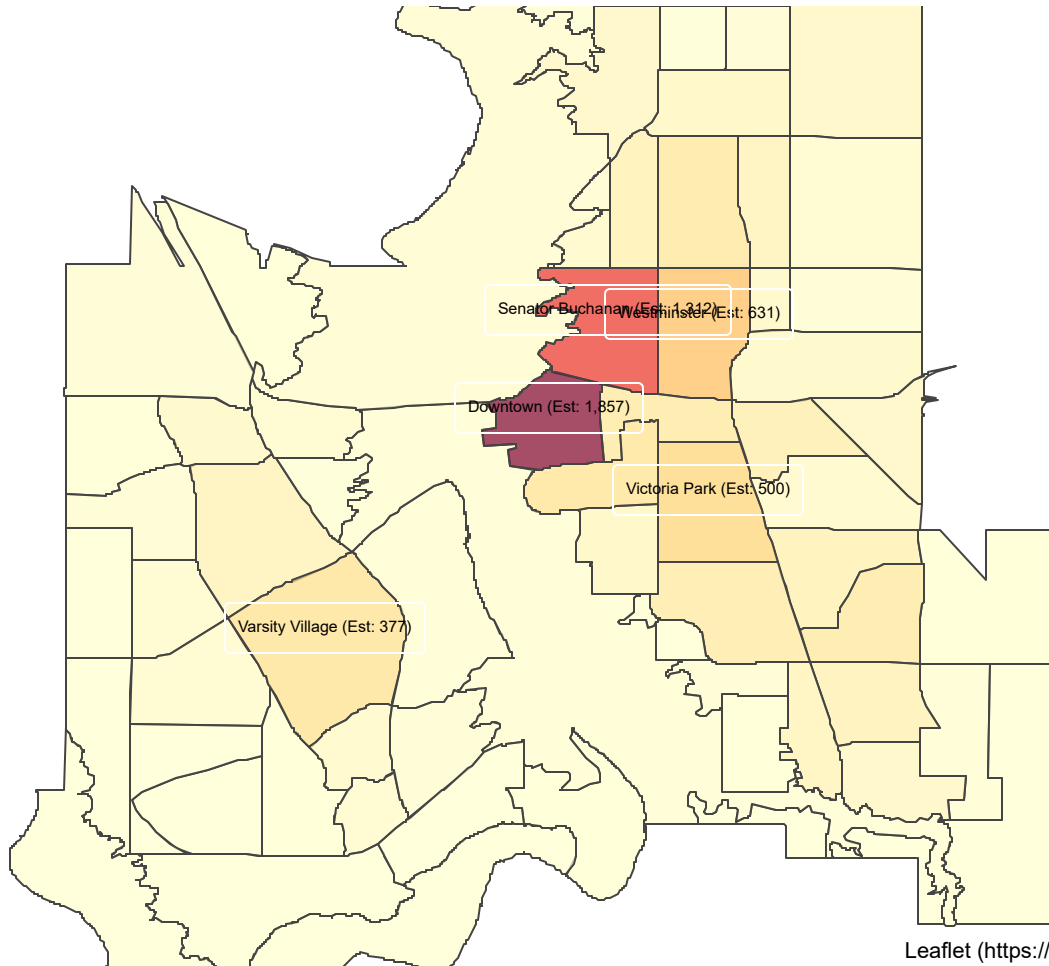
Total Crime: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



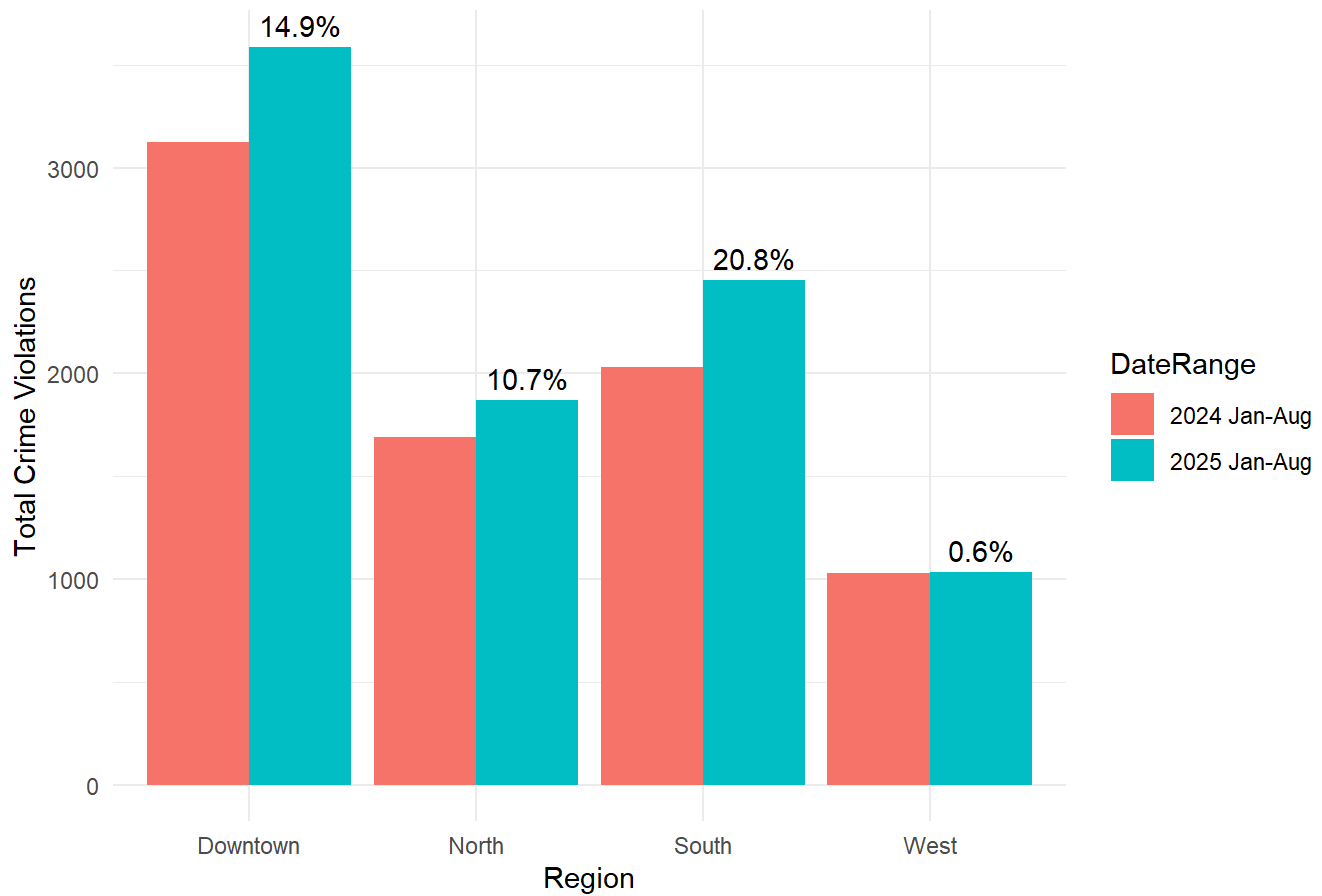
August Crime: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



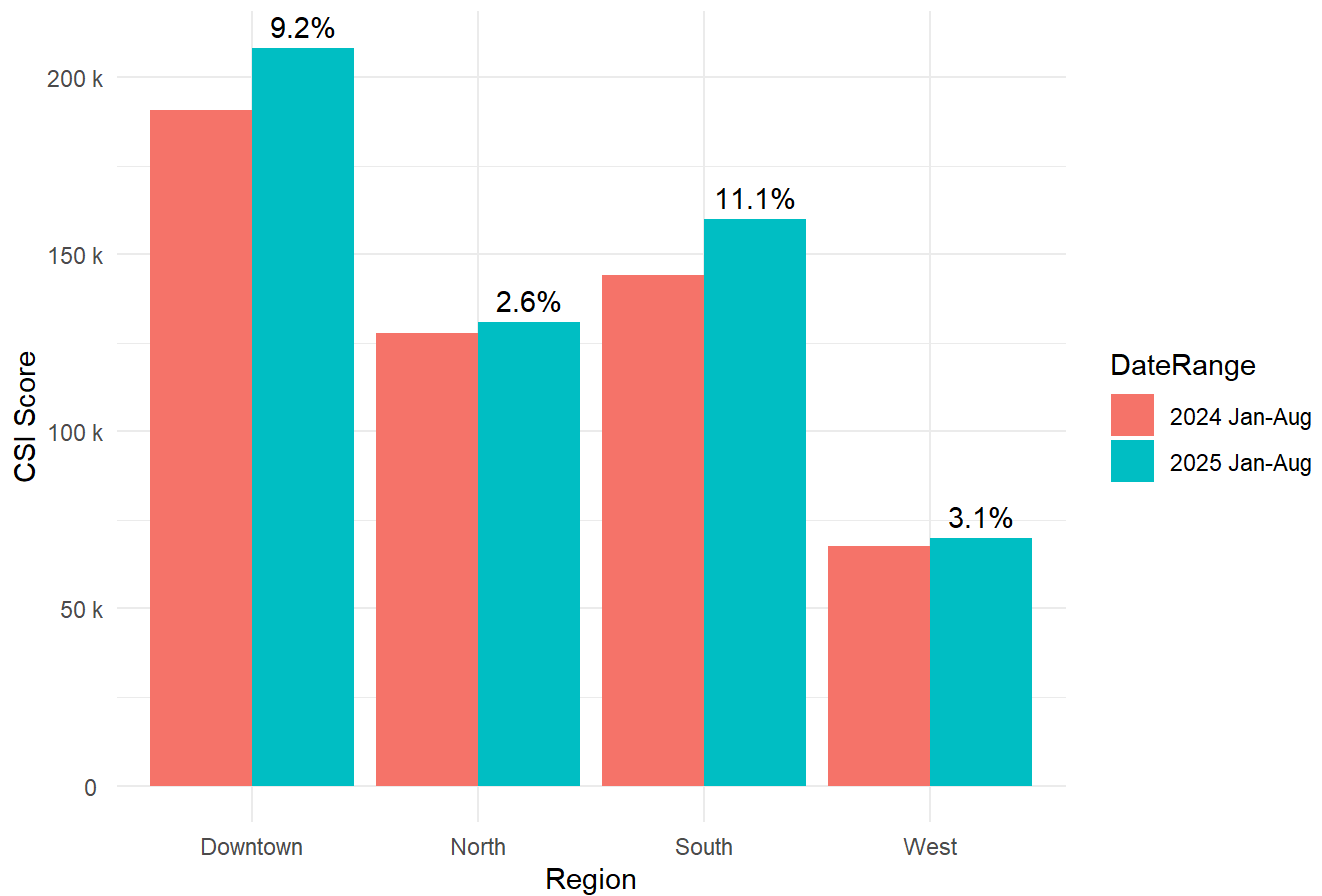
Crime Hotspots: Top Neighborhoods January to August 2025



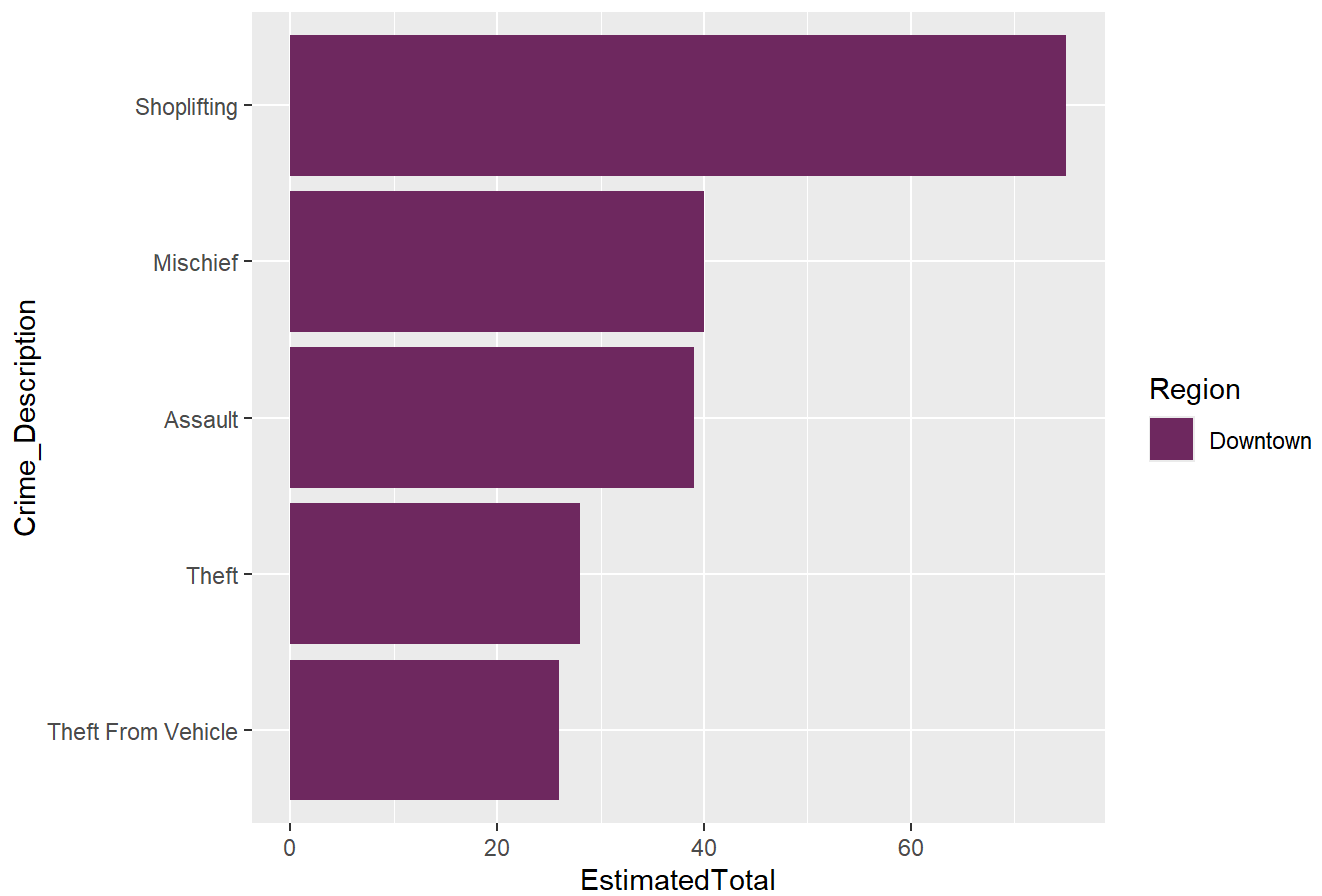
Lethbridge Regions: Crime Violations Previous Year VS Current Year



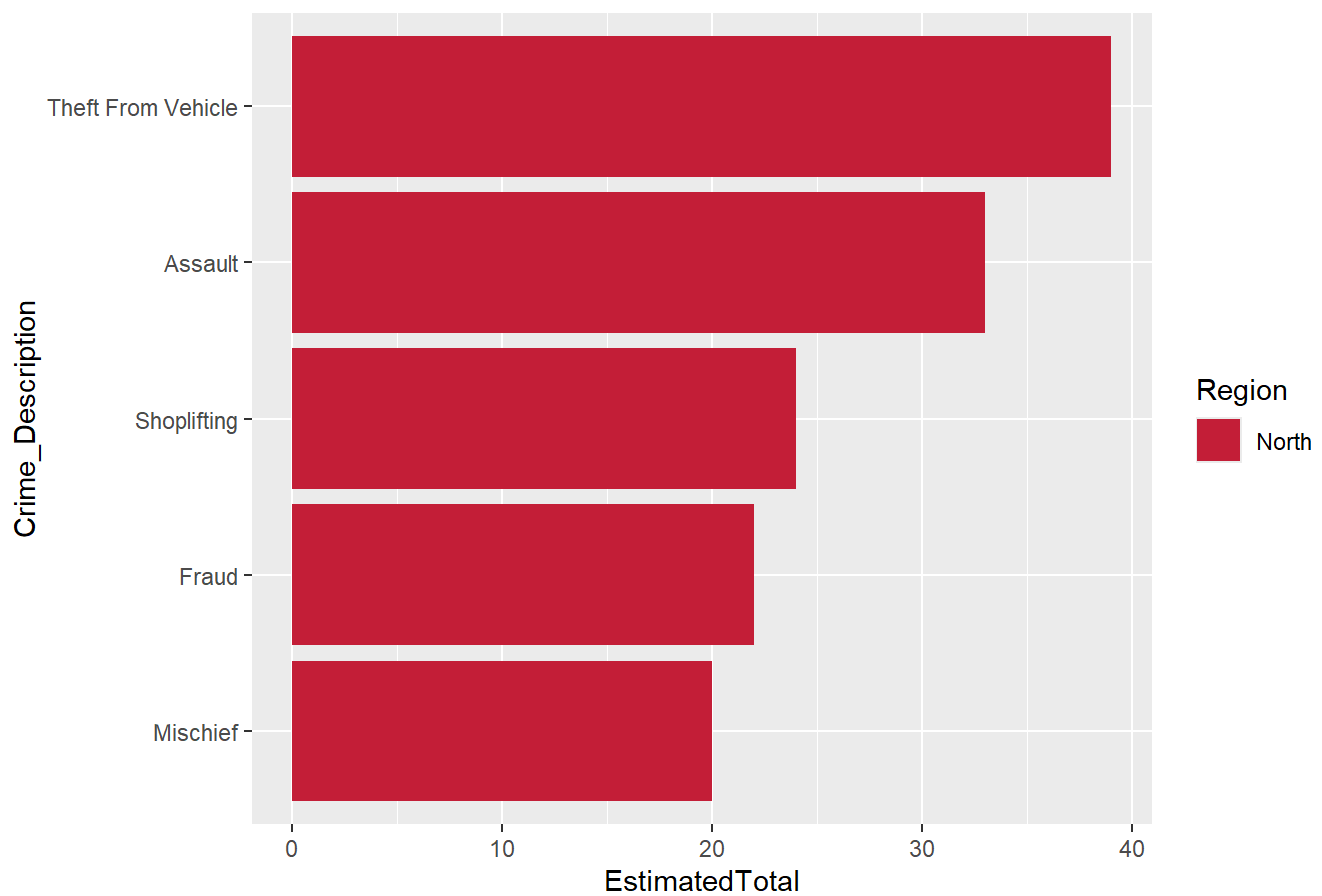
Lethbridge Regions: CSI Score Previous Year VS Current Year



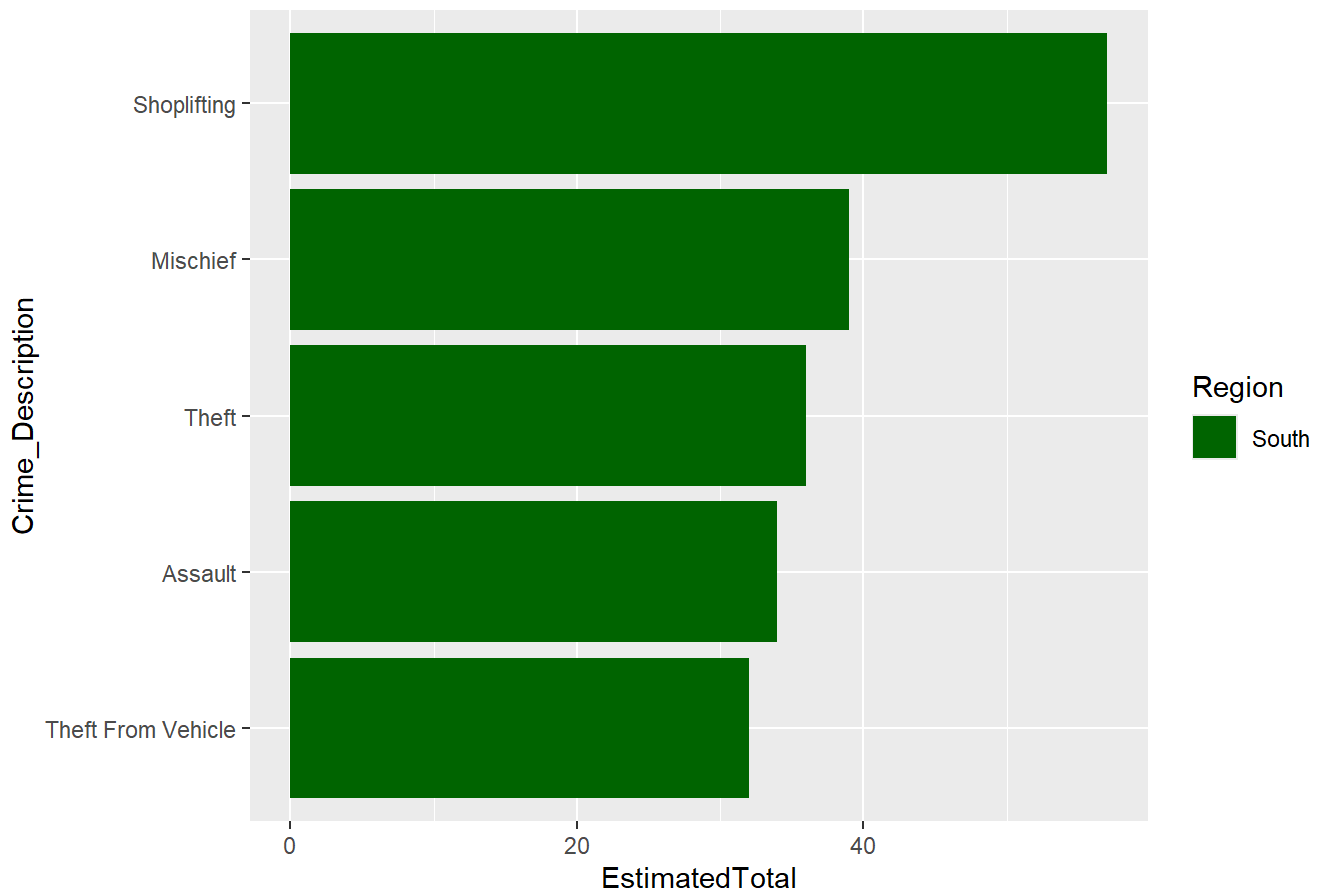
Downtown Lethbridge Top 5 Violations - August 2025



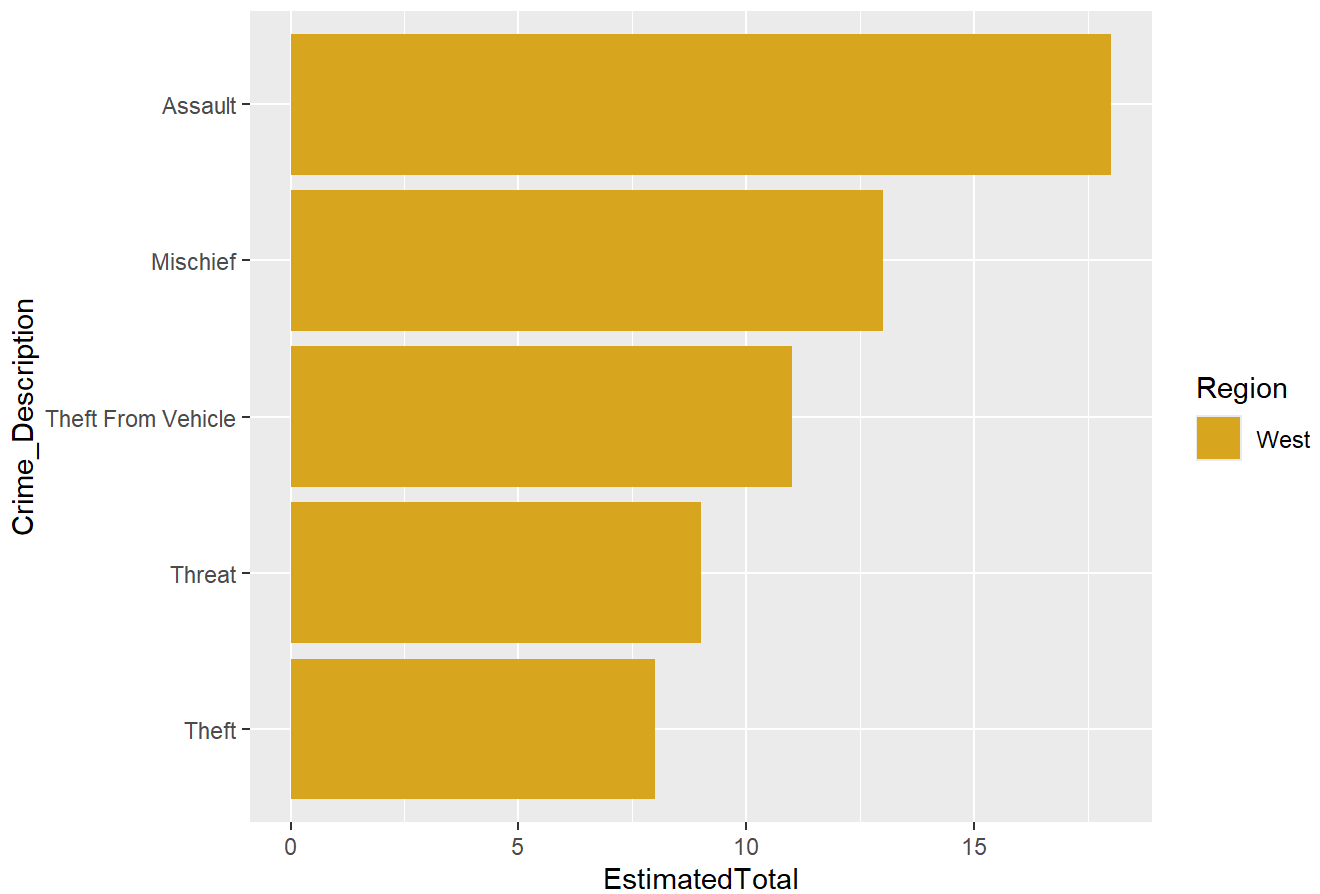
North Lethbridge Top 5 Violations - August 2025



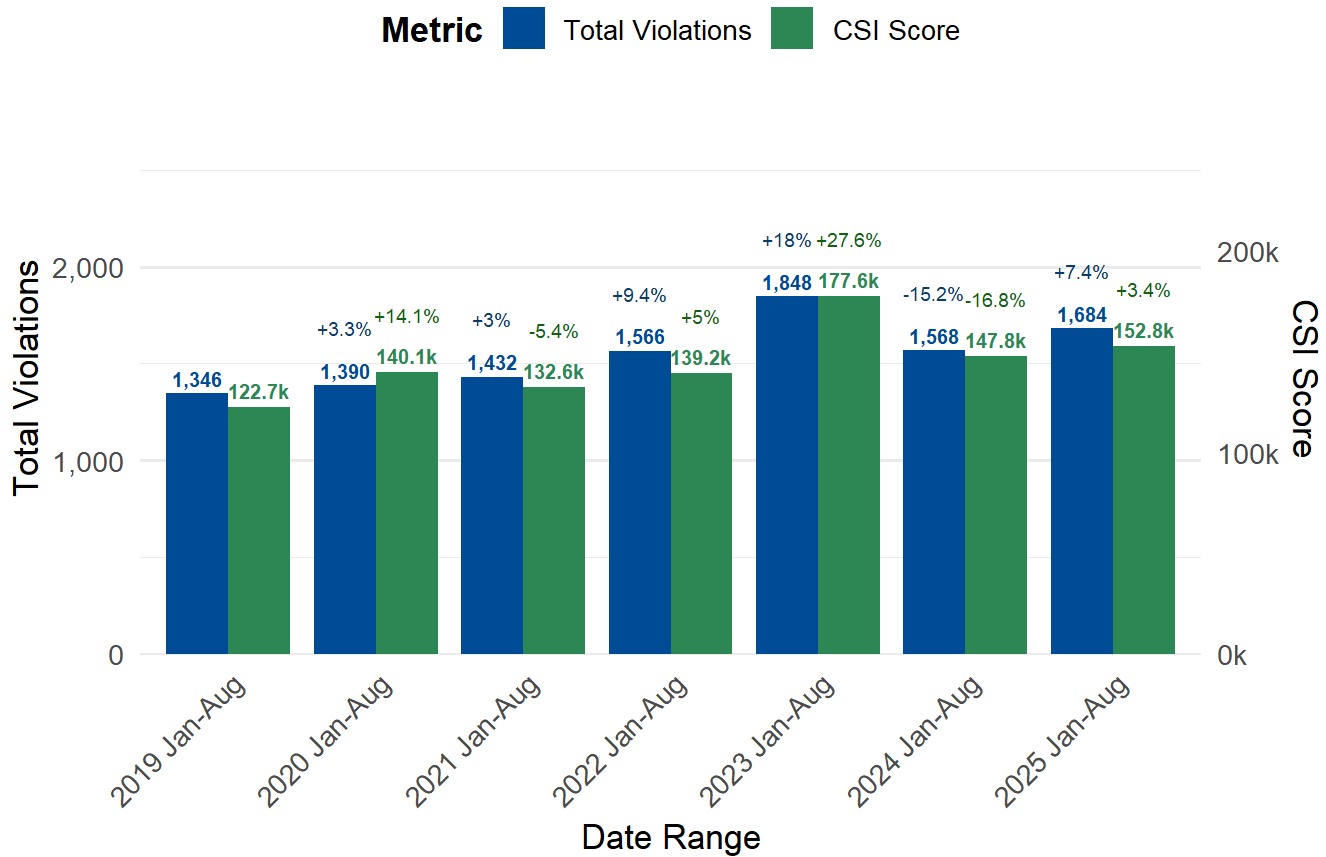
South Lethbridge Top 5 Violations - August 2025



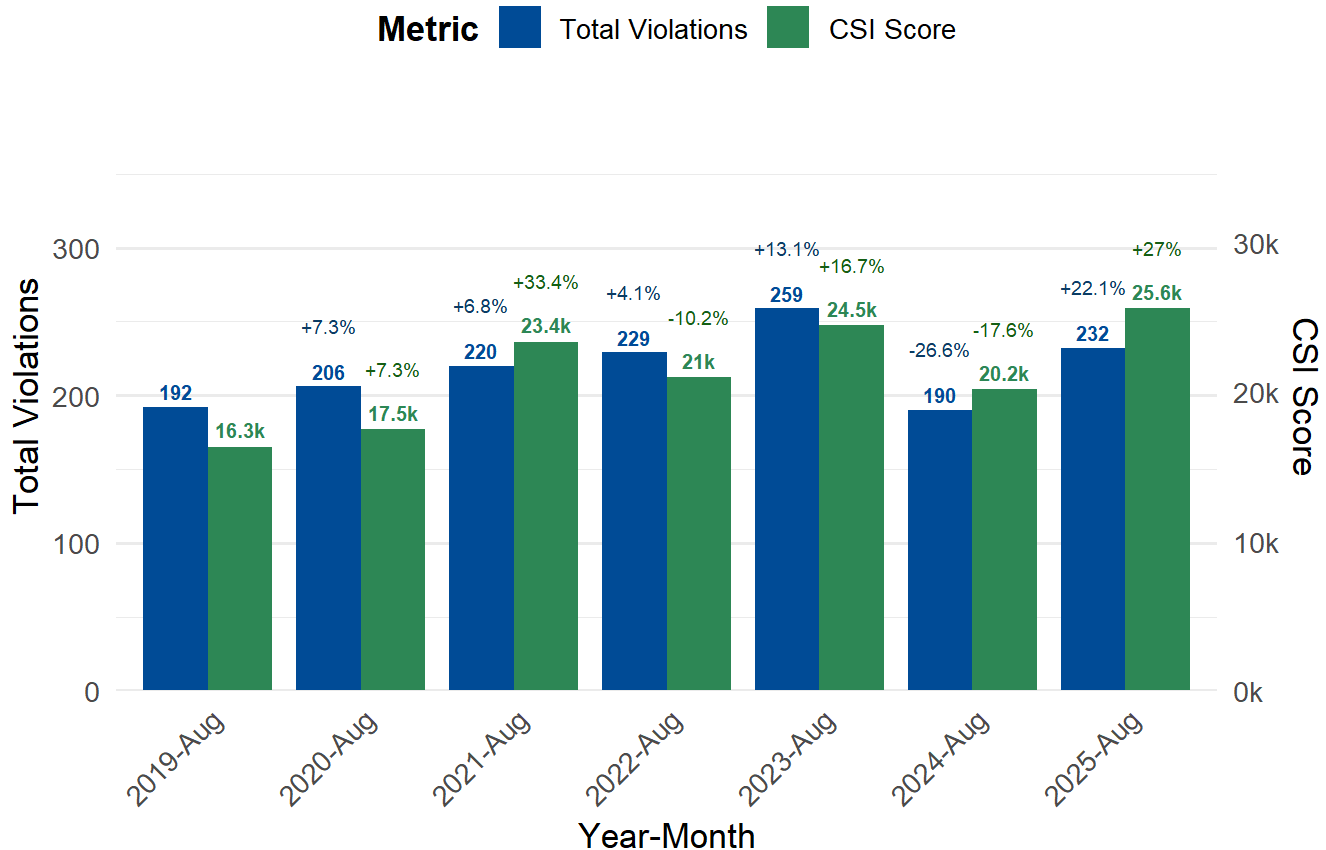
West Lethbridge Top 5 Violations - August 2025



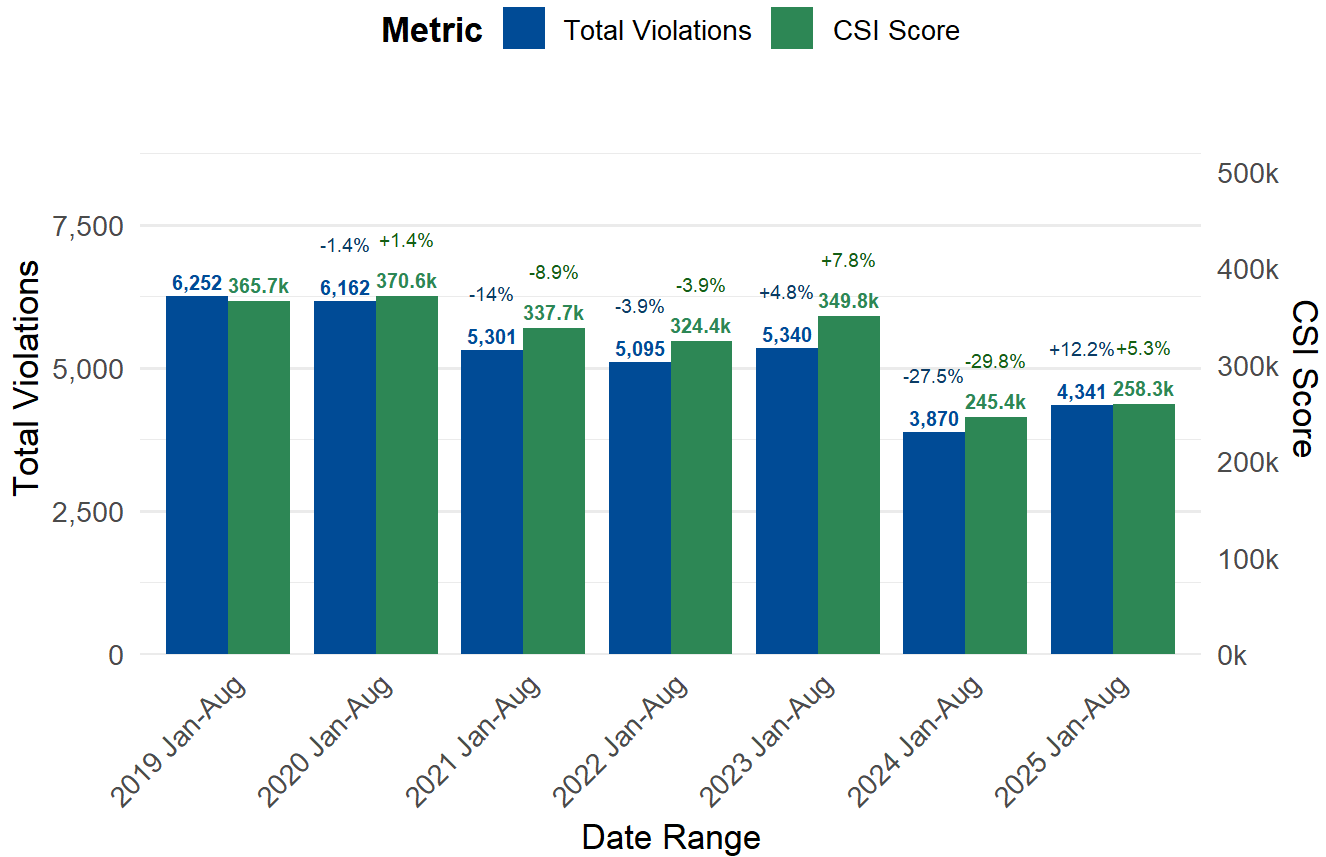
Total Person Crime: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



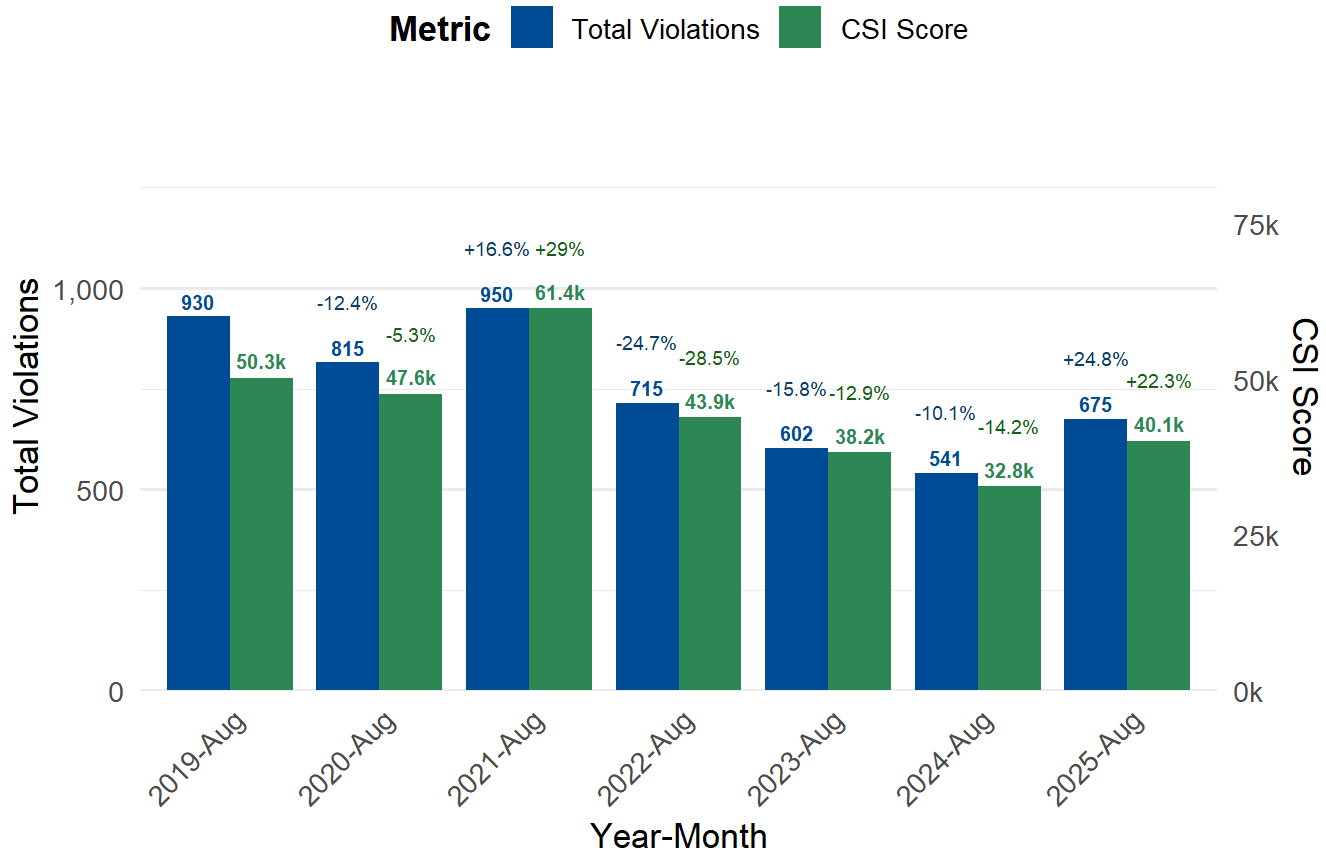
August Person Crime: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



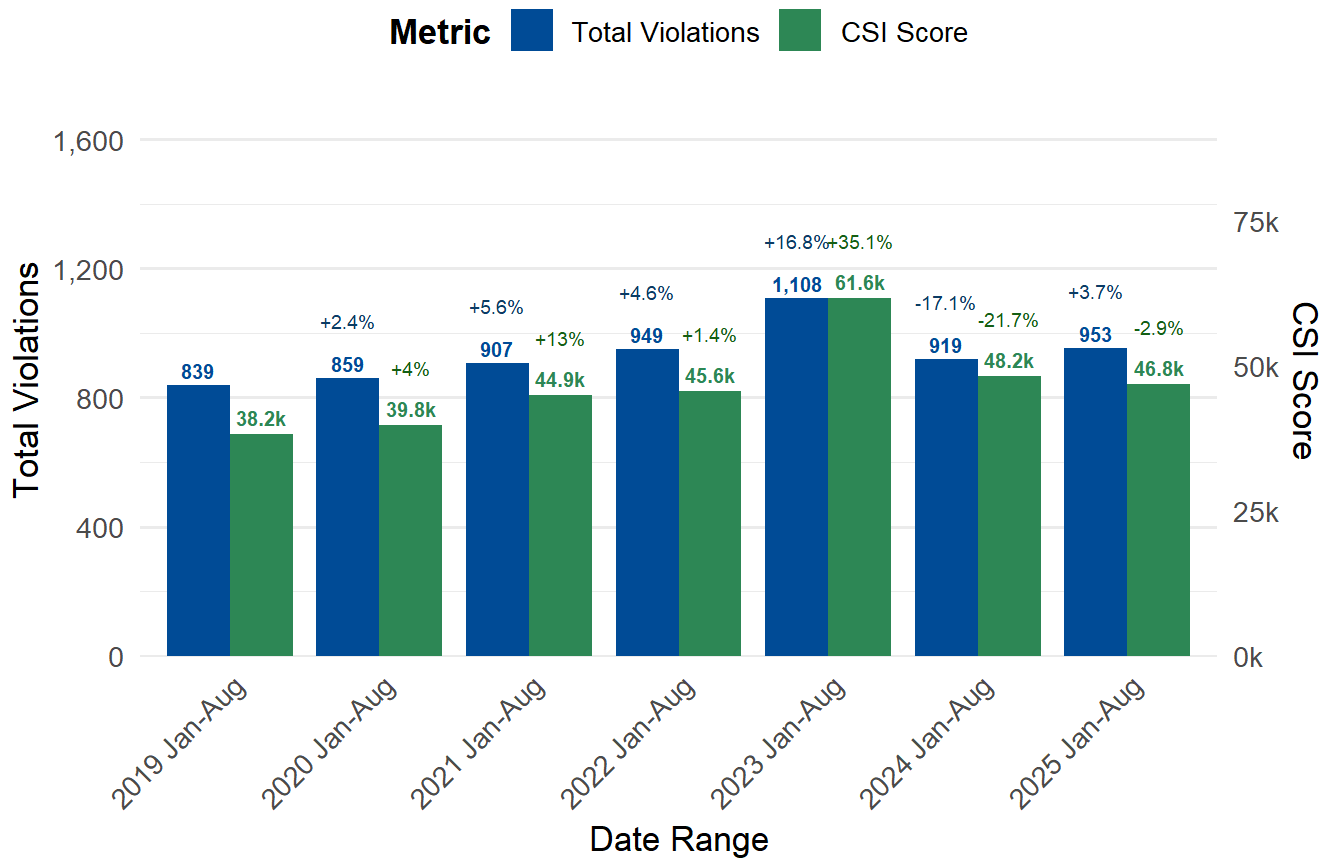
Total Property Crime: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



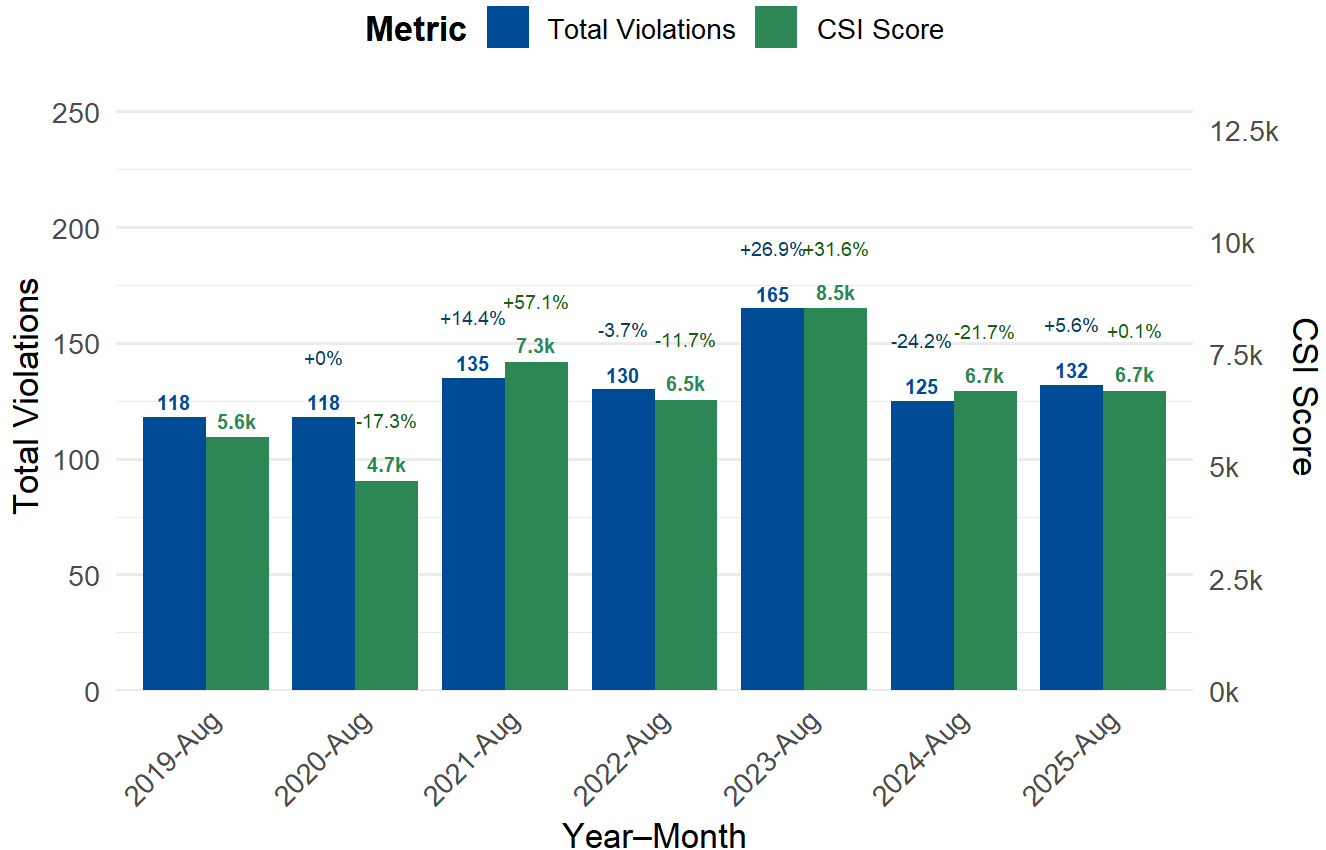
August Property Crime: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



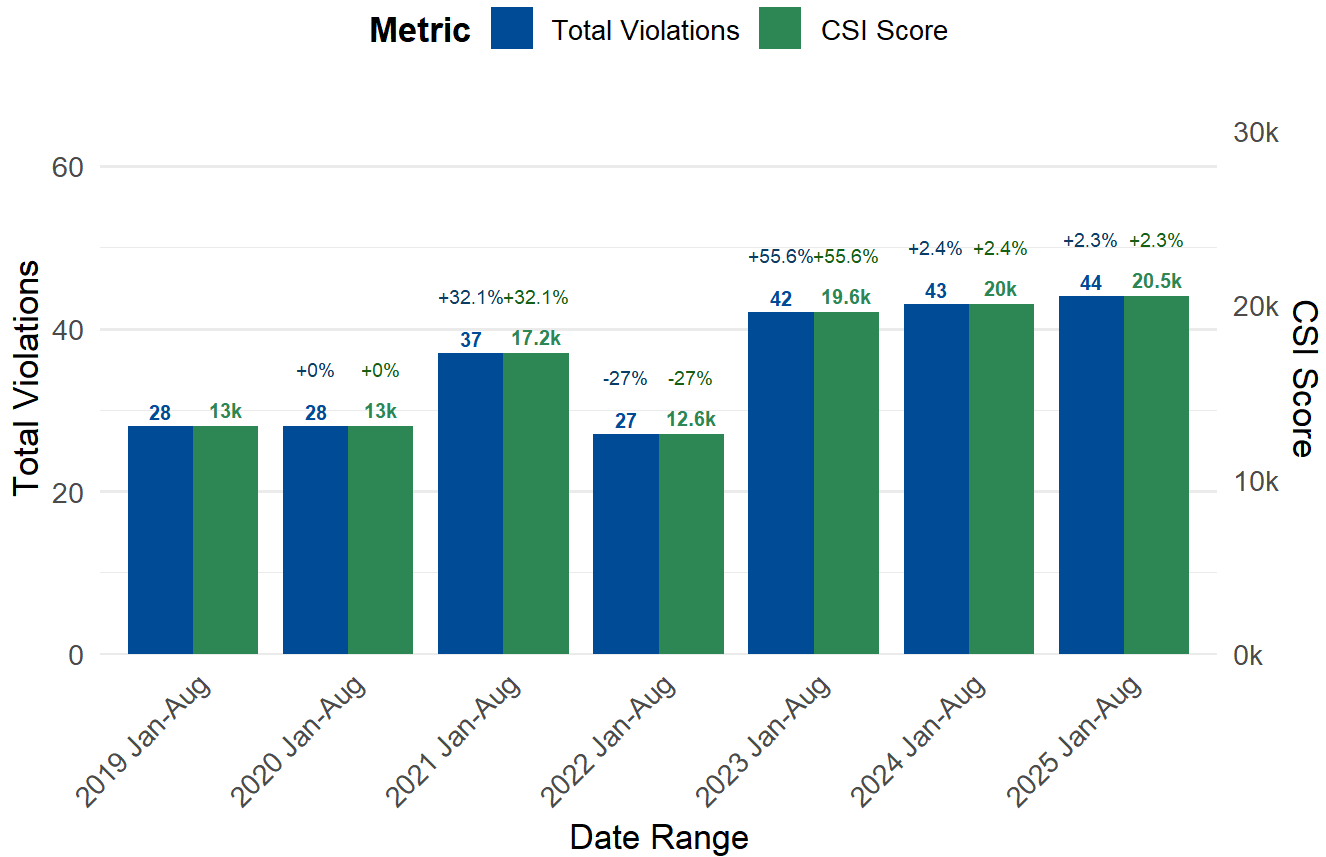
Total Assault: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



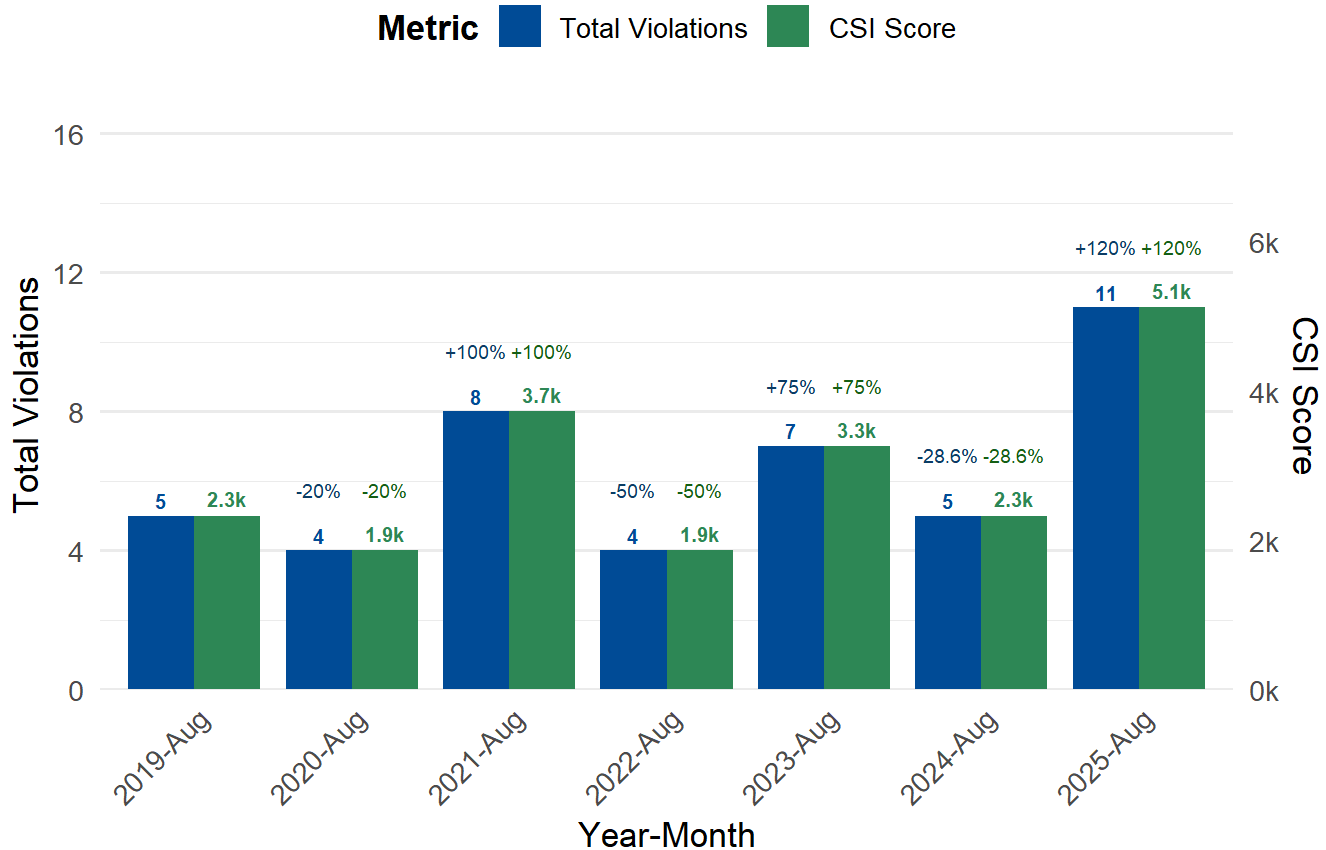
August Assault: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



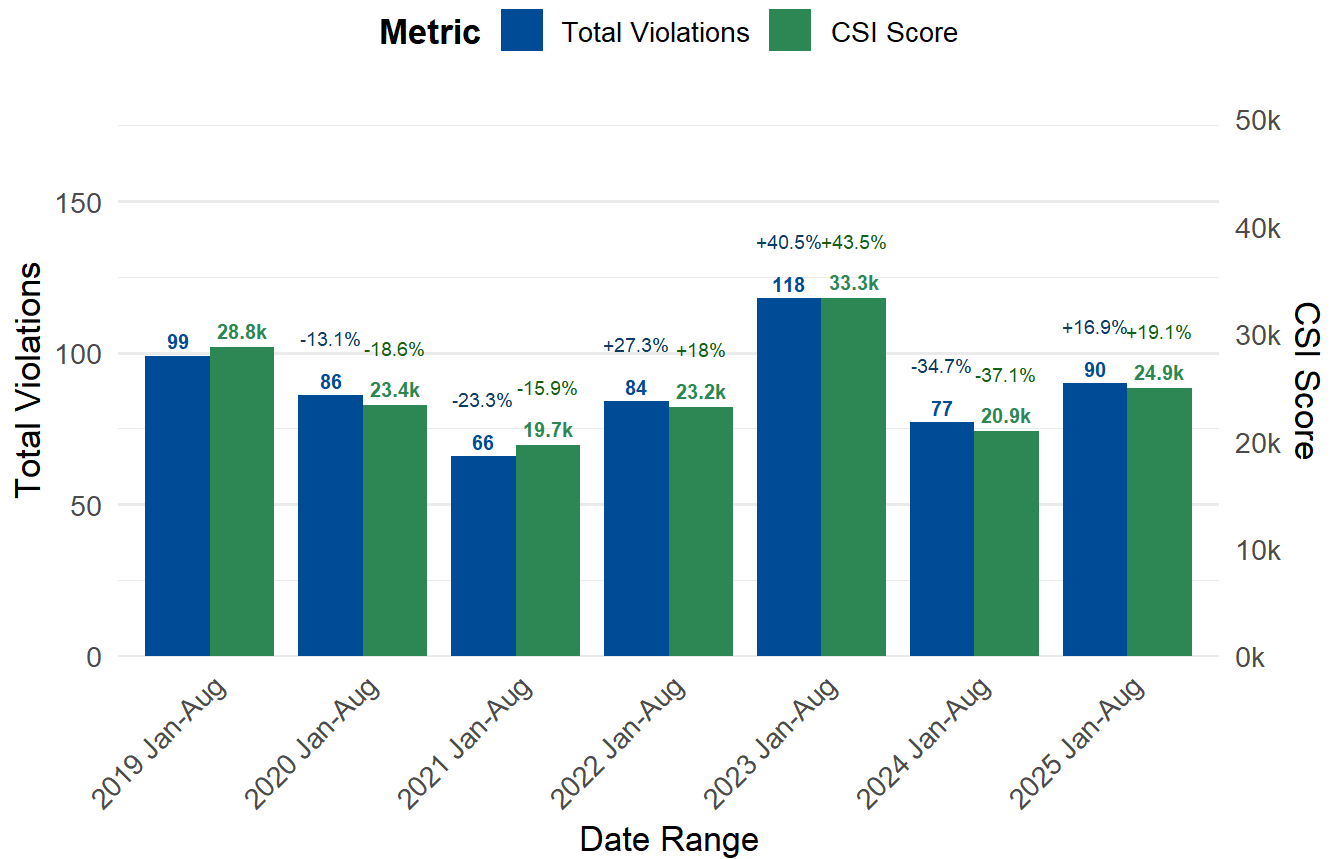
Total Robbery: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



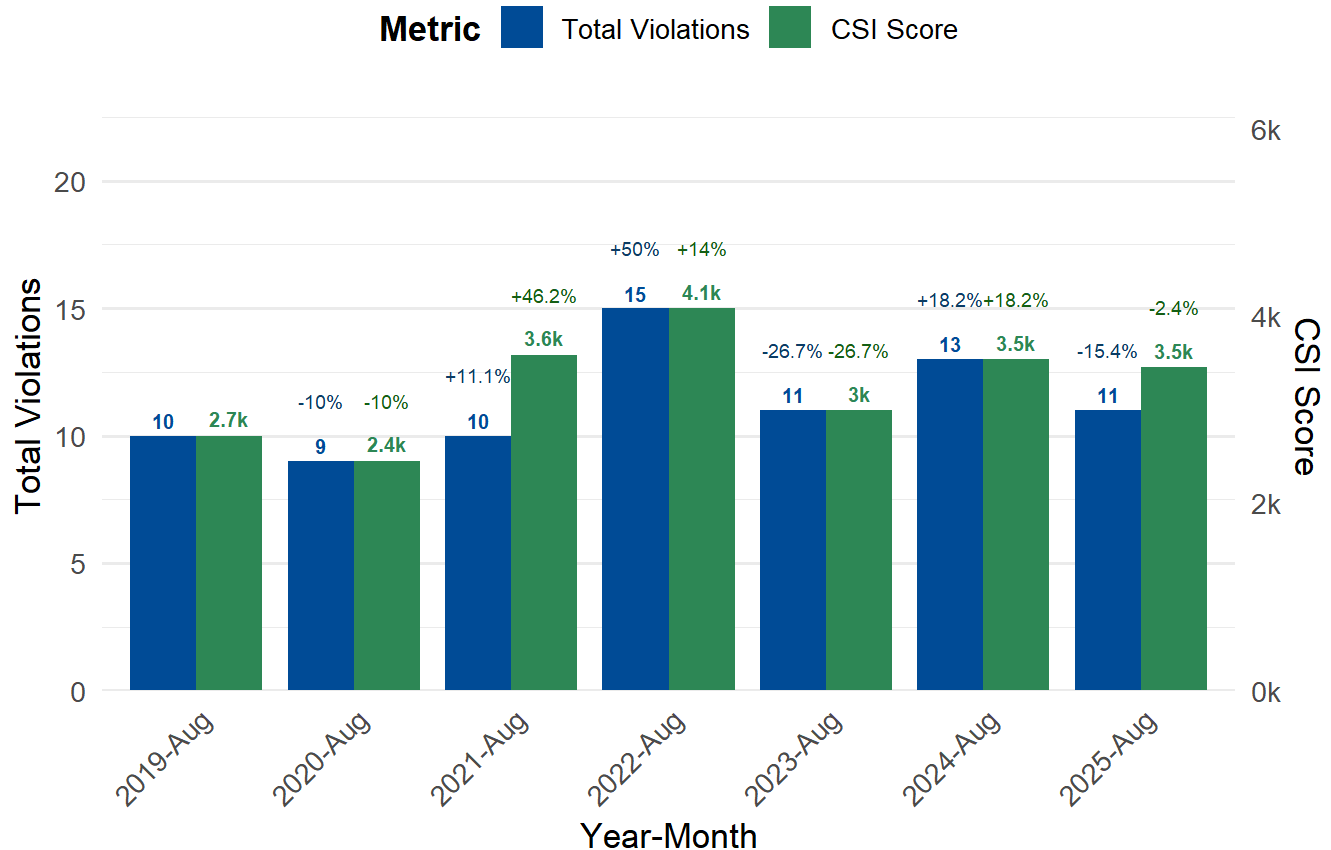
August Robbery: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



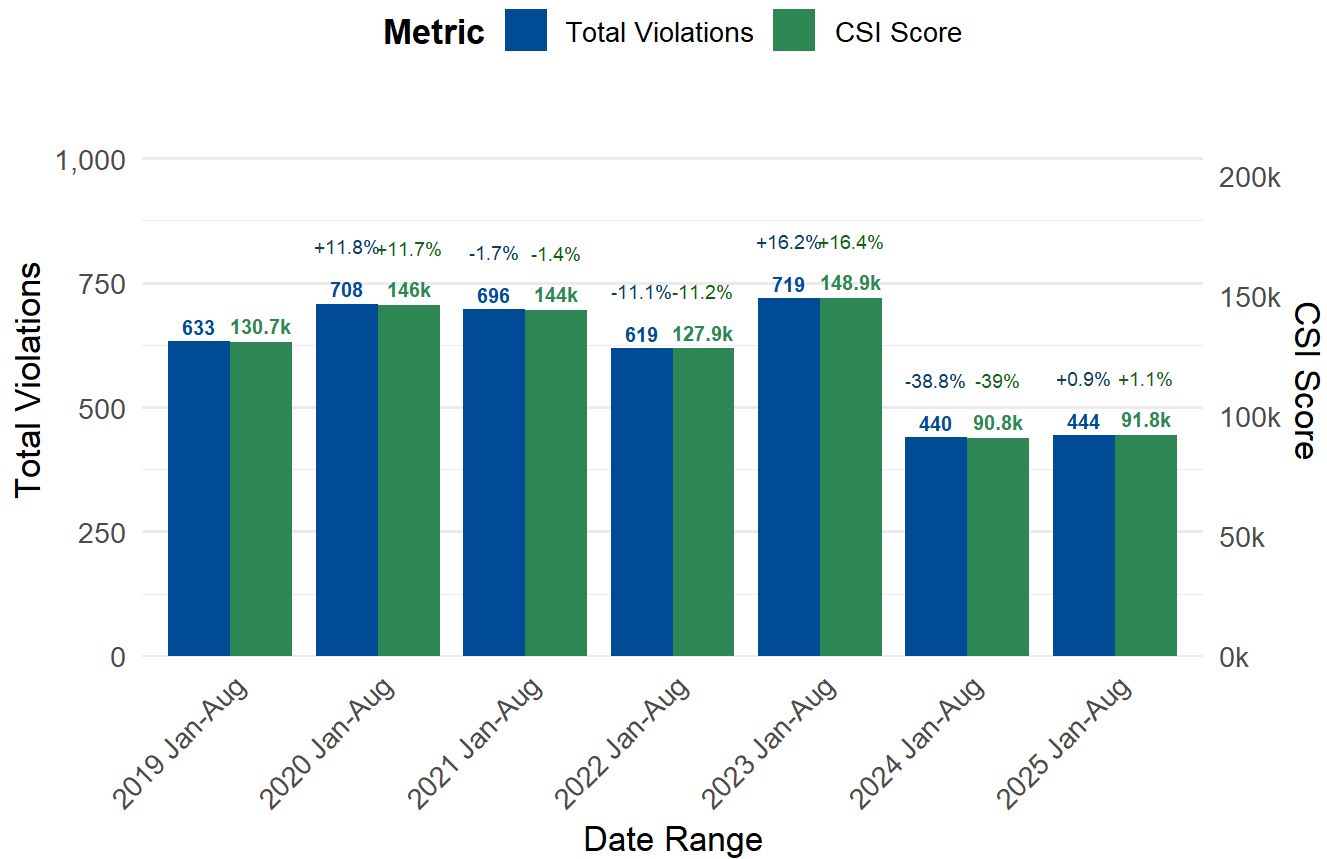
Total Sexual Assault: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



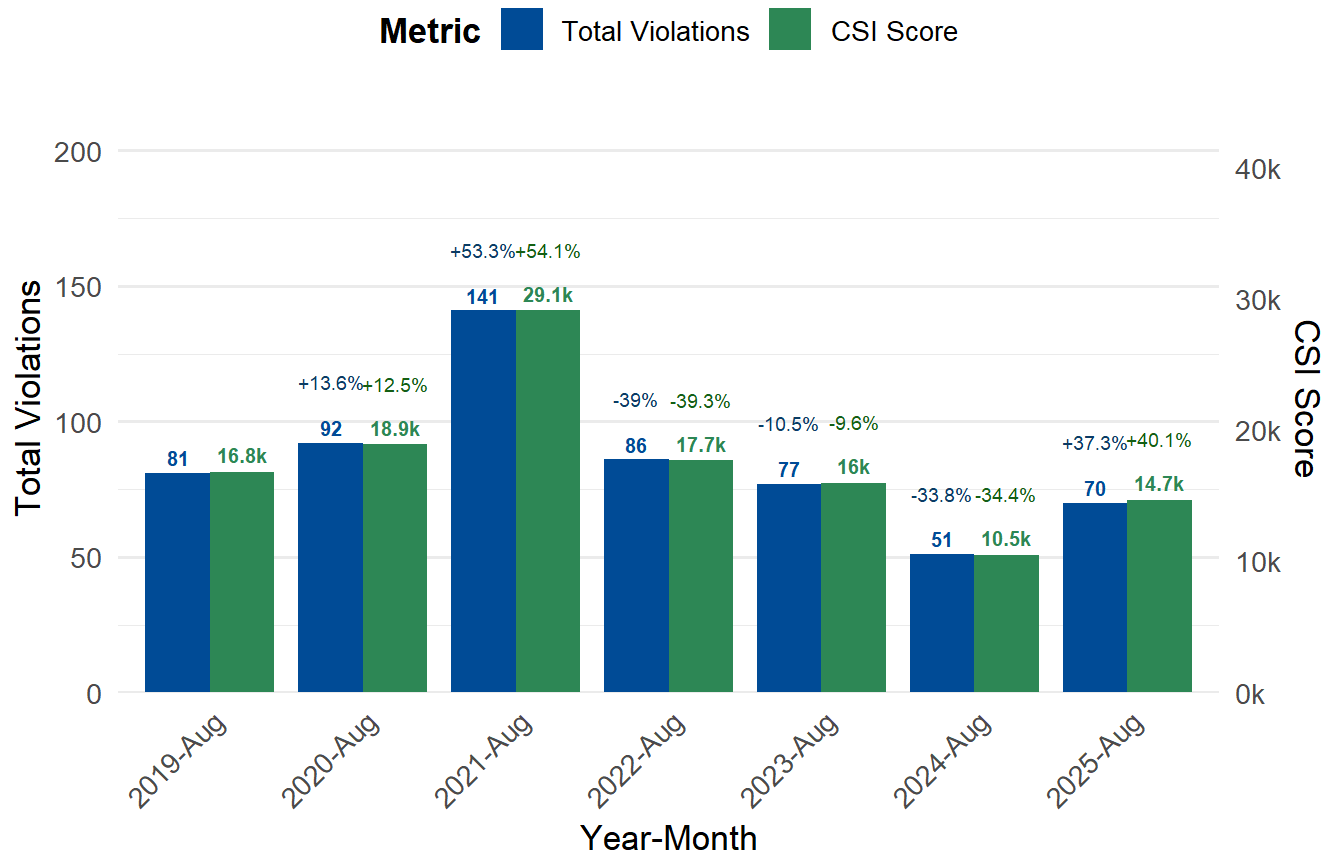
August Sexual Assault: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



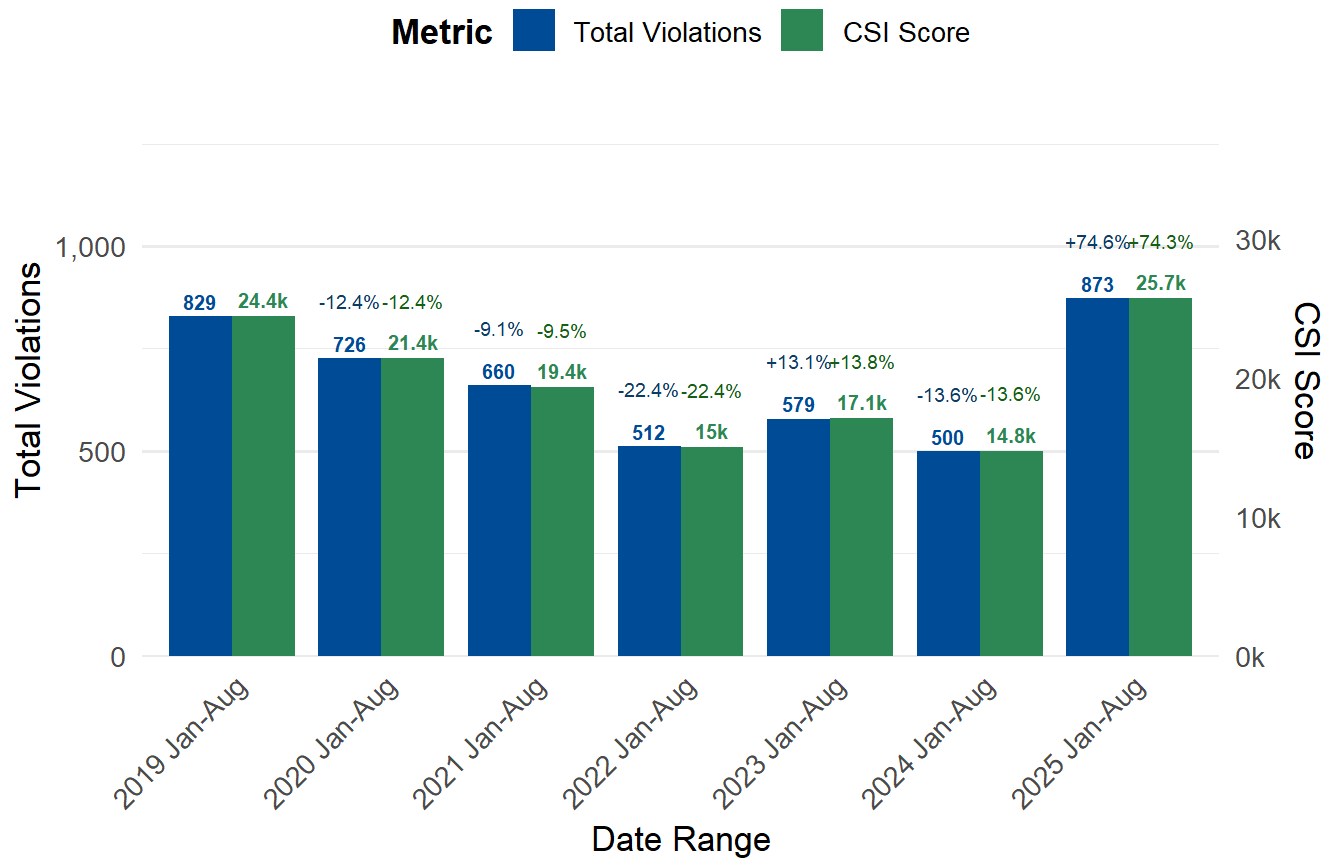
Total Break & Enter: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



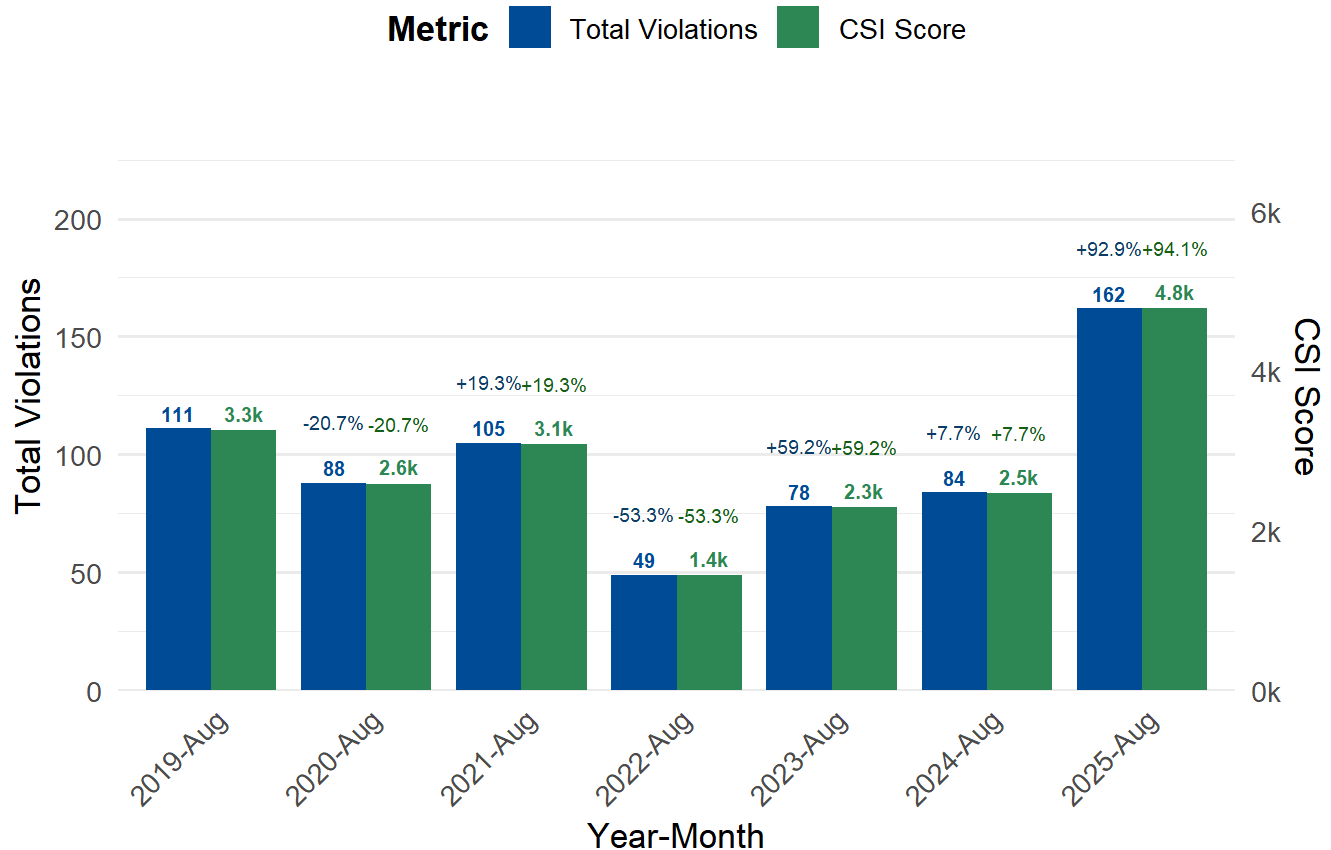
August Break & Enter: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



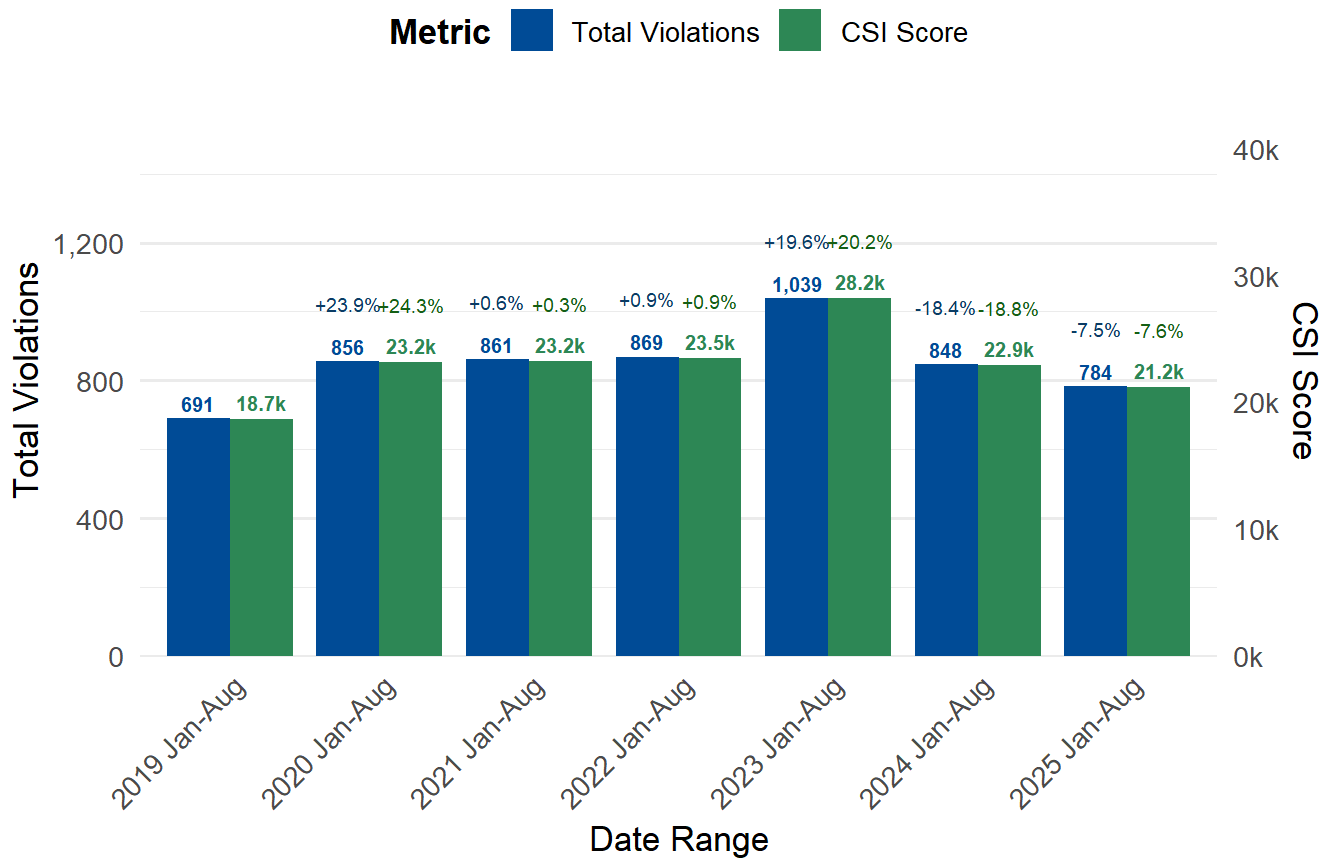
Total Shoplifting: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



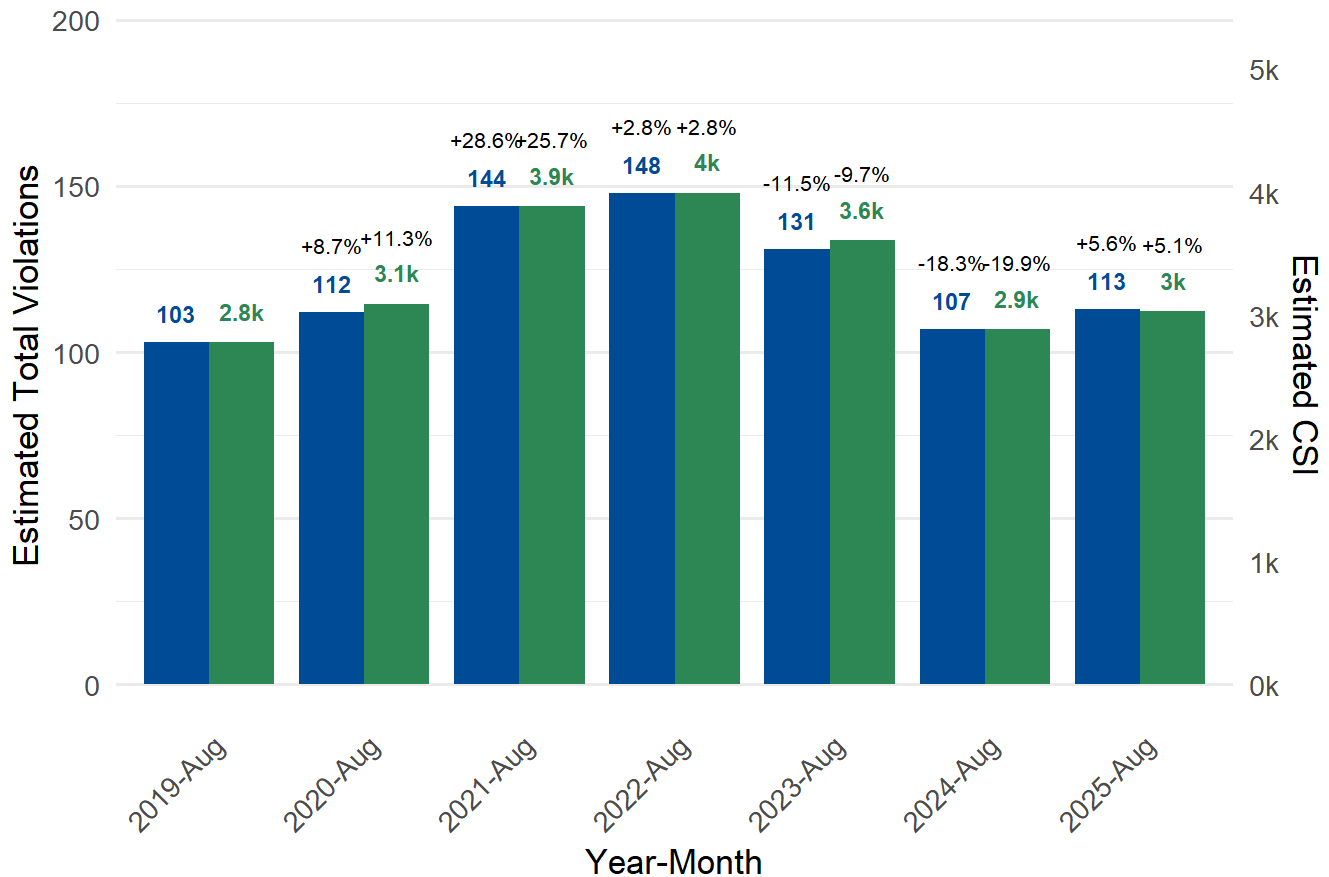
August Shoplifting: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



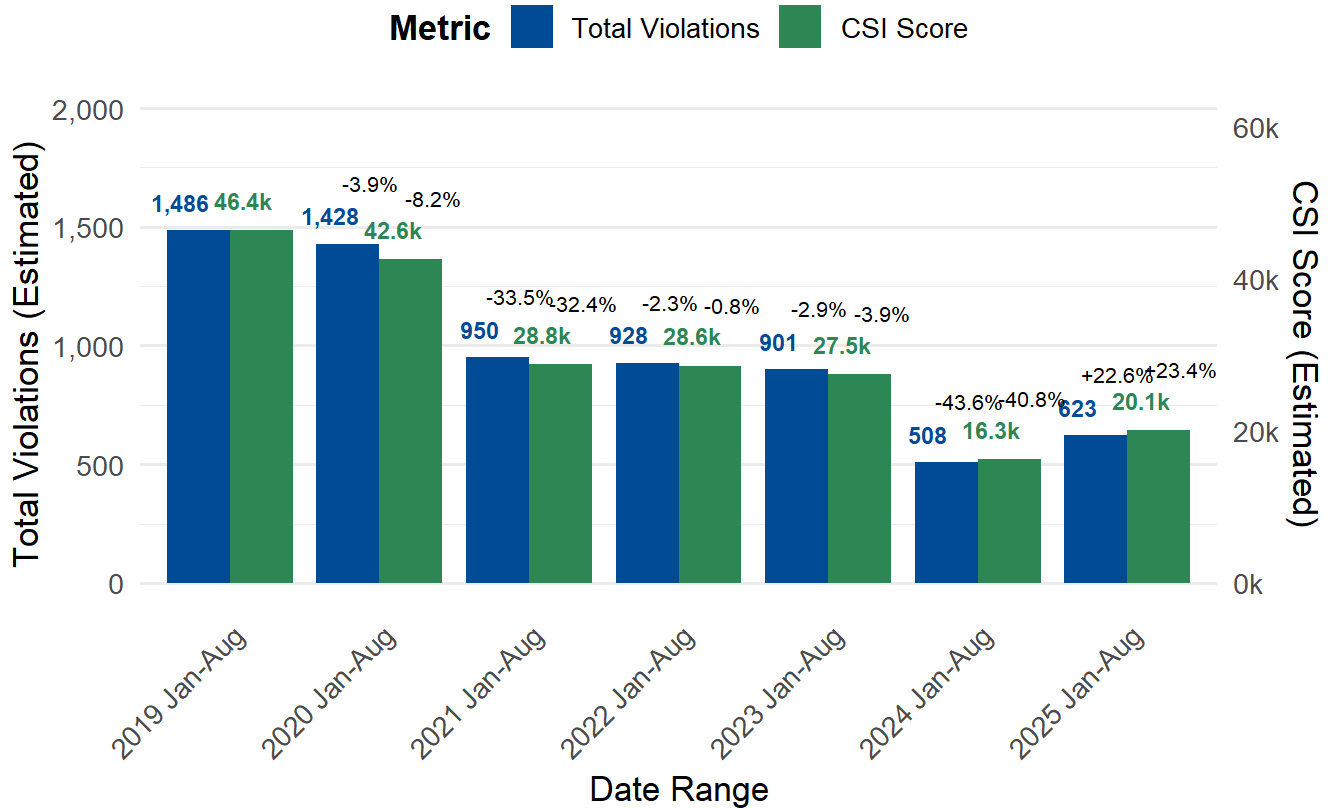
Total Mischief: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



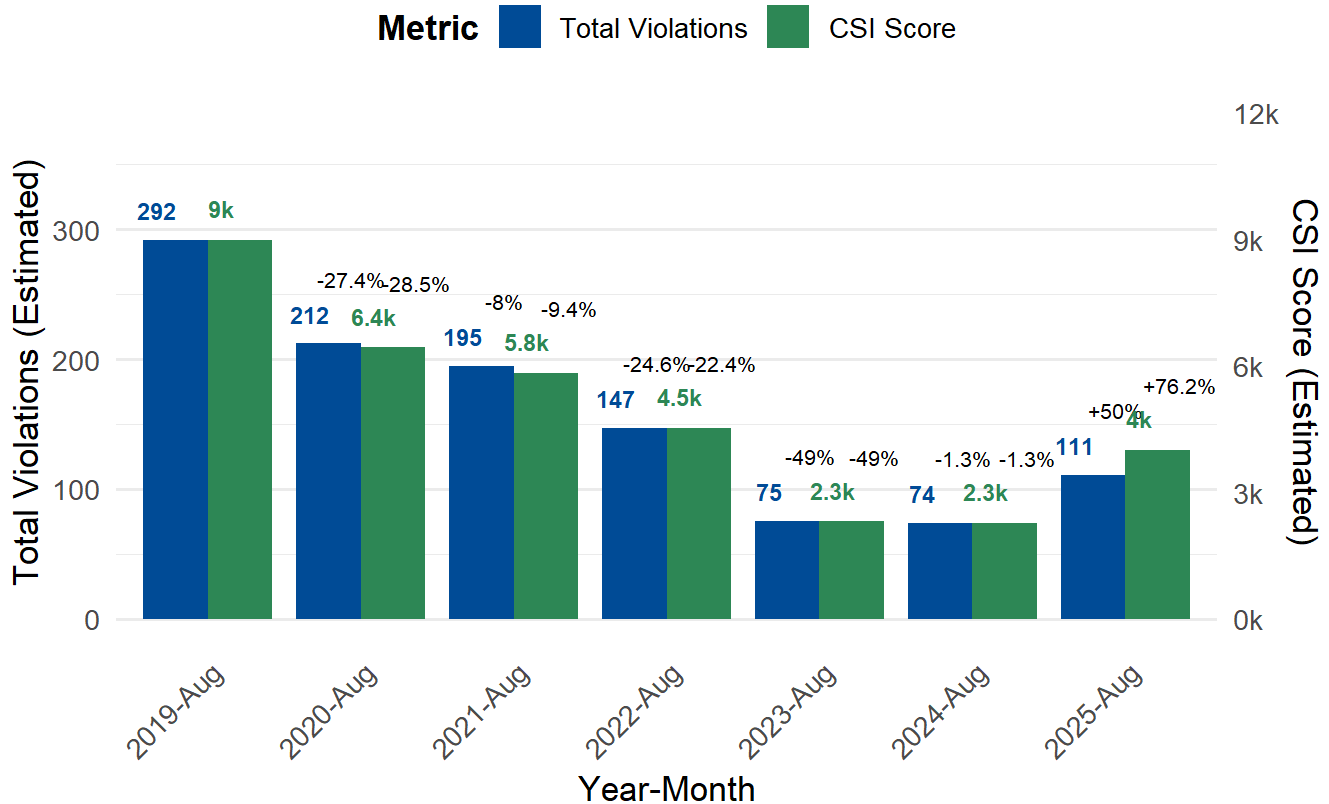
August Mischief: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



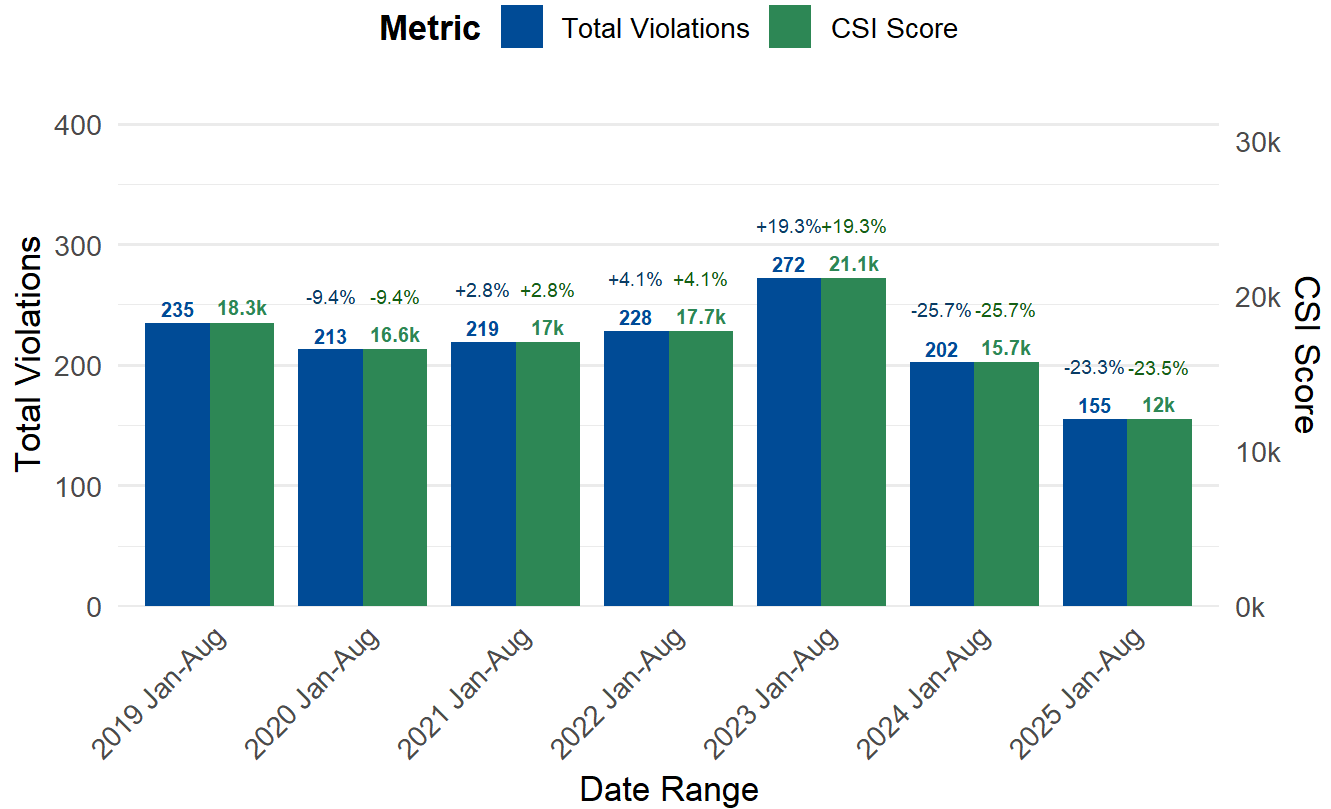
Total Theft from Motor Vehicle: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



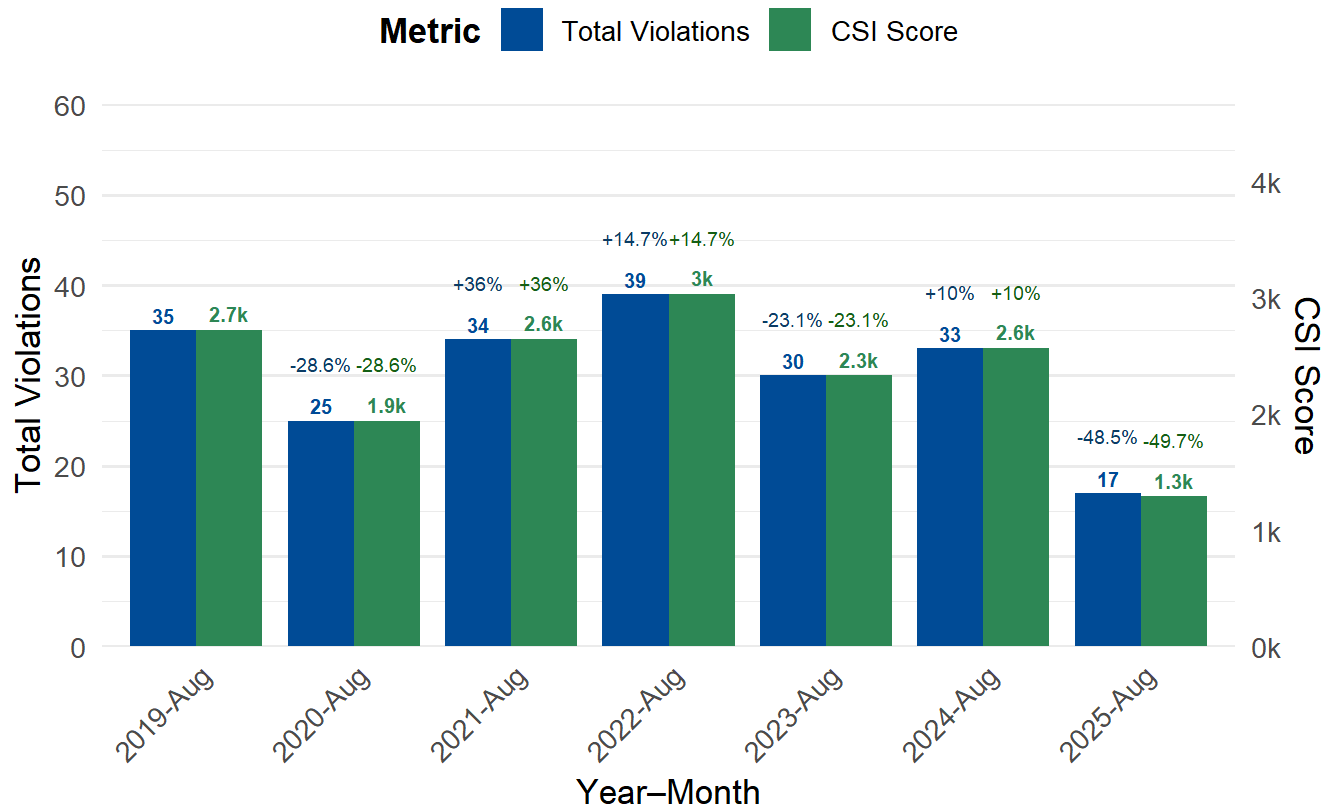
August Theft from Motor Vehicle: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



Total Theft of Motor Vehicle: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



August Theft of Motor Vehicle: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



Briefing Note

Date:

Nov-26-2025

Submitted by:

Elizabeth Thompson-Wensveen

Issue: Opening on Finance Committee

Key Messages:

- Councillor Paladino did not seek re-election and therefore ceased to be a member of the Lethbridge Police Commission as of October 20th, 2025 .
- Councillor Ryan Wolfe was elected and appointed by Council to the Lethbridge Police Commission on November 3rd, 2025.
- Commissioner Wolfe provided staff with a clear Police Information Check and received orientation on November 24th.
- Committee appointments usually occur on the first meeting in January, and there is a succession planning discussion set for January 7th wherein 2026 appointments to committees could be discussed. However in the meantime, Councillor Wolfe has no committee, and the Finance Committee has one less person for their January meeting now that Commissioner Paladino has left.

Staff Recommendation:

- BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission appoint Commissioner Wolfe to the Finance Committee effective immediately, until the Commission's January 26, 2026 organizational meeting.



Lethbridge Police Service

Financial Report – period ended October 31, 2025

Purpose

In consultation with the Chief of Police, the Lethbridge Police Commission is responsible to determine the funding required to operate the Lethbridge Police Service, and allocate funding received from the City of Lethbridge. The fiduciary responsibility is supported by the Lethbridge Police Commission Finance Committee, who receives financial data from the Service and reports findings to the Commission.

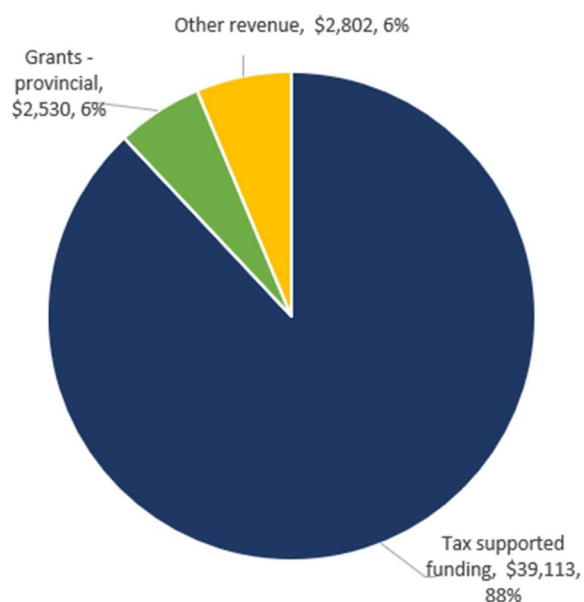
Financial Report

Figures presented are book values at the period end date, without forecasting future period revenues and expenses. As a result, they represent the transaction record at a point in time and are not the complete financial position or estimate to yearend.

(in thousands)

	2025 Budget	2025 Actuals
Revenue		
Tax supported funding	\$ 47,263	\$ 39,113
Grants - provincial	3,087	2,530
Other revenue	2,789	2,802
Total revenue	53,139	44,446
Wages and benefits	\$ 41,853	\$ 34,020
Operations	11,120	10,307
Commission	166	83
Total expenditure	53,139	44,410
	\$ -	\$ 36

Revenue



Expenditure

