



LETHBRIDGE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
AGENDA
Wednesday, September 23, 2026
Culver City Room, City Hall
4:00 p.m.

Due to safety requirements and room size, we ask that those who wish to observe the meeting to please register in advance

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Acknowledgement Statement
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Consent Agenda
 - 4.1. June 24, 2026, Regular Commission Meeting
5. Recognitions
 - 5.1. LPS Employee Recognitions: Inspector Kyle Meyers
Community Peace Officer Levi Clampitt
Community Peace Officer Adrian Lynch
Brad Flavell, IT Manager
Garrett Anderson, HR Manager
6. Public Correspondence

Members of the Public are asked to submit correspondence via email or webform
7. Presentations
8. Standing Items
 - 8.1. Lethbridge Police Service Monthly Report – Chief Mehdizadeh
 - 8.2. Monthly Compliments – Chief Mehdizadeh
 - 8.3. Lethbridge Police Service Crime Report – Deputy Chief Grobmeier
9. New Business
 - 9.1. CSI and 2026 LPS Community Survey Correspondence

10. Closed Session with Lethbridge Police Service

- 10.1. LPS Finance Report
- 10.2. Capital Improvement Projects & Advocacy
- 10.3. Ministerial Correspondence
- 10.4. Conference & Travel Updates
- 10.5. LPS Policy Report & Discussion

11. Closed Session with Lethbridge Police Commission Only

- 11.1. Chief's Report
- 11.2. Professional Standards Unit Report, Complaints Summary, & Extensions
- 11.3. Executive Committee Report
- 11.4. Human Resources Working Committee Report
- 11.5. LPC Policy Report
- 11.6. Executive Director Report
- 11.7. Committee of the Whole Reports

Continuation of Open Session

12. Upcoming Events and Meetings

- 12.1. Regular Meeting of October 28, 2026

13. Meeting Adjournment



LETHBRIDGE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 24, 2026
Culver City Room, City Hall
4:04p.m.

In Attendance:

Commission Members:

Members, Brett Carlson (*participated virtually*), Clement Esene (*exited at 6:06p.m.*), Hunter Heggie, Matthew McHugh, Jenn Schmidt-Rempel (*participated virtually, exited at 5:42p.m.*), Doug Thornton, Jen Visser, Ryan Wolfe.

Lethbridge Police Service Executive:

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

Other:

Lee Cutforth, Legal Counsel, LPS; Kim Ordway, LPS Finance Manager; Elizabeth Thompson-Wensveen, Executive Director, LPC.

Absent:

Noella Piquette

1. Meeting Called to Order

Chair Thornton opened the meeting of the Lethbridge Police Commission on June 24, 2026, the time being 4:04p.m.

2. Acknowledgment Statement

Chair Thornton read the Acknowledgement Statement.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Commissioner McHugh, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission adopt the agenda for the June 24, 2026 meeting as amended to correct the title of the meeting minutes by removing the words April 29 and replacing with the words May 27.

CARRIED

4. Consent Agenda

The Minutes of the May 27, 2026, Lethbridge Police Commission Meeting were circulated for approval in the consent agenda.

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

CARRIED

5. Recognitions

6. Inquiries from the Public

7. Presentations

8. Standing Items

- 8.1. Lethbridge Police Service Report – Chief Mehdizadeh
- 8.2. LPS Crime Report – Deputy Chief Grobmeier
- 8.3. Monthly Compliments – Chief Mehdizadeh

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

- Lethbridge Police Service Report; LPS Crime Report; and Monthly Compliments
- CARRIED

9. New Business

10. Confidential Reports – Lethbridge Police Service

*Commission Members, LPC Executive Director, LPS Chief,
LPS Deputy Chief, LPS Inspectorsx3, LPS Finance, LPS Legal*

Moved by Commissioner Esene, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission enter into a closed meeting at 4:39p.m. to discuss confidential matters with respect to items 10.1, 10.2, 11.1, 11.2, 11.3 and 11.4 in accordance with 20 (Harmful to personal privacy), 22 (Confidential evaluations), 23 (Harmful to law enforcement), 25 (Disclosure and complaints), 26 (Intergovernmental relations), 28 (Local public body confidences), 29 (Advice from officials), 30 (Economic interests), and 32 (Privileged information) of the *Access to Information Act*.

CARRIED

10.1. Finance Report – Finance Manager Kim Ordway
[ATIA Sections 29 (Advice from officials) & 30 (Economic interests)]

10.2. LPS Policy Review Report
[ATIA Sections 23 (Harmful to law enforcement) and 29 (Advice from officials)]

LPS Executive exited at 5:10p.m.

11. Confidential Reports – Lethbridge Police Commission

*Commission Members,
LPC Executive Director, LPS Chief*

11.1. Chief's Report – Chief Mehdizadeh
[ATIA Section 29 (Advice from officials)]

LPS Chief exited at 5:35p.m.

11.2. Professional Standards Reports & Extensions – Public Complaints Director Visser
[ATIA Sections 20 (Disclosure harmful to personal privacy), 23 (Harmful to law enforcement), 25 (Disclosure & complaints), and 29 (Advice from officials)]

11.3. Executive Director Report – Executive Director Thompson-Wensveen
[ATIA Sections 20 (Harmful to personal privacy), 22 (Confidential evaluations) 26 (Harmful to intergovernmental relations), 28 (Local public body confidences), 29 (Advice from officials), 30 (Harmful to economic interests), 32 (Privileged information)]

LPC Executive Director exited at 6:30p.m.

11.4. Personnel Matter – Vice Chair Visser
[ATIA Sections 20 (Harmful to personal privacy), 22 (Confidential evaluations), 26 (Harmful to intergovernmental relations), 29 (Advice from officials), 30 (Harmful to economic interests)]

Moved by Commissioner Wolfe, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission adjourn the closed meeting at 7:10p.m.

Moved by Commissioner Esene, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission direct that the confidential discussions, reports, and documents relating to:

Finance Report; LPS Policy Review Report

remain confidential pursuant to sections 26 (Intergovernmental relations), 29 (Advice from officials) and 30 (Economic interests) of the Access to Information Act; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission approve the monthly Operating Summary to be made public through the Commission website.

CARRIED

Moved by Commissioner Visser, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission direct that the confidential meeting discussions, reports, and documents relating to the Chief's Report; Professional Standards Reports & Extensions; Executive Director Report; Personnel Matter

remain confidential pursuant to sections 20 (Harmful to personal privacy), 22 (Confidential evaluations), 25 (Disclosure and complaints), 26 (Intergovernmental relations), 28 (Local public body confidences), 29 (Advice from officials), 30 (Economic interests), and 32 (Privileged information) of the *Access to Information Act*; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission approve time limit extensions for files 2024-059, 2025-017(a), and 2025-108 to September 30, 2026; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission approve the following decision options as provided in the closed session attachments and discussions:

Policy 7 (Reporting Structures) Option 1

Evaluation Methodology & Templates Confidential Option 2

Government Relations & Legal Recommendation Confidential Option 2

Meeting Location Option 2

Public Inquiry Confidential Option 2

Personnel Compensation Option 3

And direct the Executive Director to proceed with the related confidential direction provided in the closed session.

CARRIED

12. Upcoming Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 23, 2026, at 4:00p.m. in the Culver City Room at City Hall.

13. Meeting Adjournment

Chair Thornton declared the meeting adjourned at 7:15p.m.

Doug Thornton,
Chair

Elizabeth Thompson-Wensveen,
Executive Director



LPS Monthly Report Lethbridge Police Commission

SEPTEMBER 2026

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:

Community Engagement Unit:

The Community Engagement Unit remained highly active throughout the summer months, strengthening relationships with residents, community organizations, Indigenous communities, youth, seniors, businesses and partner agencies through a broad range of engagement, education and outreach initiatives. Activities were aligned with organizational goals focused on increasing visibility, enhancing community safety, and fostering collaboration.

Community engagement efforts included participation in advisory and planning committees, including the Equipment Advisory Committee, Yearbook Committee, Southern Kin Organization Dedicated Engagement Network (SKODEN) and Building Safer Communities planning meetings. Members continued to build relationships with residents through Coffee with a Cop sessions, veterans' breakfasts and outreach to seniors' organizations.

The unit participated in numerous public events and cultural celebrations, including National Indigenous Peoples Day, the Filipino Heritage Festival, Excite Lethbridge, Read On activities at the Lethbridge Public Library and the Whoop-Up Days Parade. Youth engagement remained a key focus through partnerships with Big Brothers Big Sisters, YMCA, YWCA programs, schools, and youth-serving agencies.



LPS Monthly Report

Lethbridge Police Commission

SEPTEMBER 2026

Indigenous engagement continued to be a significant component of the unit's work, with members participating in activities at the Blackfoot Resource Hub, Indigenous Awareness Training, local cultural events, Sundance activities, and various initiatives designed to strengthen relationships and cultural understanding.

The unit also expanded partnerships with community organizations, businesses, newcomer-serving agencies, and social service providers to support crime prevention, youth intervention, and community safety initiatives.

Highlights

- Participated in National Indigenous Peoples Day, Sundance, Kainai Peacemaking BBQ, and other Indigenous community initiatives.
- Delivered the Kids and Kops camp in partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters.
- Expanded Building Safer Communities collaboration to support high-risk youth.
- Conducted extensive outreach with seniors, businesses, newcomers, and community organizations.
- Two members received provincial recognition for exceptional community service and Indigenous engagement. Cst. Chris Andrade will receive a Community Justice Award under the Responding to and Preventing Crime Violence Category and Trissly Blackwater will receive an Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police Indigenous Award of Distinction.

Traffic Response Unit:

The Traffic Response Unit remained focused on traffic safety, impaired driving enforcement, and targeted traffic initiatives throughout July and August. Enforcement efforts supported provincial traffic safety priorities while increasing public awareness through coordinated education and enforcement campaigns.

In July, the Select Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) campaign focused on impaired driving. Members provided enhanced enforcement during Street Machine Weekend, issuing 257 violation tickets and identifying opportunities for future operational improvements through stakeholder consultations.

Targeted enforcement initiatives conducted throughout the reporting period resulted in 188 violation tickets, multiple impaired driving sanctions, warrant executions, vehicle seizures and enforcement action against suspended drivers.



LPS Monthly Report

Lethbridge Police Commission

SEPTEMBER 2026

The August STEP campaign focused on new drivers, combining enforcement with educational messaging. Members also provided radar and traffic enforcement training to police cadets and advanced plans to expand collision investigation training for Community Peace Officers.

Highlights

- Conducted STEP campaigns focused on impaired driving and new drivers.
- Issued 257 violation tickets during Street Machine Weekend.
- Conducted targeted enforcement resulting in 188 tickets and multiple enforcement actions.
- Delivered traffic enforcement training to police cadets.
- Advanced Level 2 collision investigation training for Community Peace Officers.

Downtown Policing Unit and Public Order Unit:

The Downtown Policing Unit (DPU) and Public Order Unit (POU) continued proactive enforcement and public safety operations with a focus on crime reduction, visibility and enhancing safety in the downtown core and other high-demand areas.

The DPU observed a decrease in calls for service along 2 Avenue North and continued improvements within the downtown core and Galt Gardens. Increased visibility, proactive patrols and targeted enforcement activities contributed to these positive outcomes.

Encampments in the shelter area remained an ongoing challenge. Working alongside City partners, members continued addressing concerns related to drug trafficking, violence and stolen property while balancing public safety considerations and community impacts.

To address criminal activity and public disorder, DPU collaborated with several LPS units and the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN) unit during two targeted enforcement operations, resulting in approximately 200 warrant executions, 25 criminal charges and more than 60 interactions involving open drug use.

Members also responded to a weapons complaint at Park Place Mall, resulting in four youth arrests and the seizure of an airsoft pistol. DPU and POU members further supported public safety during major community events including Street Wheelers Weekend and Whoop-Up Days.



LPS Monthly Report Lethbridge Police Commission

SEPTEMBER 2026

Highlights

- Observed reduced calls for service and improved conditions along 2 Avenue North and in the downtown core.
- Conducted two PREVAIL operations resulting in approximately 200 warrant executions and 25 criminal charges.
- Continued addressing public safety concerns associated with encampments.
- Responded to a significant weapons complaint resulting in four youth arrests.
- Supported public safety operations during Street Wheelers Weekend and Whoop-Up Days.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION:

The Criminal Investigation Division continued advancing complex investigations involving violent crime, property crime, drug trafficking, financial crime and prolific offenders. Through proactive enforcement and collaborative investigative efforts, members achieved several significant outcomes during the reporting period.

The Domestic Crimes Unit concluded an investigation into a shooting at a westside home during a large house party, resulting in charges.

The Property Crimes Unit remained active in addressing theft, repeat offenders and drug trafficking activities. Investigations resulted in the seizure of stolen property, illegal drugs, cash and proceeds of crime. Members also collaborated with Patrol Operations on an online marketplace investigation that successfully recovered stolen property.

The Crime Suppression Team focused on prolific offenders and organized criminal activity. Investigations into regional storage locker break-ins led to arrests, recovery of stolen property, and drug trafficking charges. Additional investigations resulted in the seizure of drugs, trafficking paraphernalia, and weapons.

The Economic Crimes Unit strengthened partnerships with local financial institutions to improve information sharing and support fraud prevention and investigations.

The Violent Crimes Unit concluded a 2023 homicide investigation, resulting in a 36-year-old female being charged with manslaughter in the death of a 62-year-old male. Members also continue extensive efforts in an ongoing missing person investigation where there are no footprints of life. Efforts to date have involved search operations, media appeals and collaboration with external partners.



LPS Monthly Report

Lethbridge Police Commission

SEPTEMBER 2026

Highlights

- Concluded a shooting investigation along Lafayette Blvd, resulting in charges.
- Seized stolen property, cash, and drugs through multiple Property Crimes Unit investigations.
- Recovered stolen property and laid drug trafficking charges through Crime Suppression Team initiatives.
- Expanded partnerships with financial institutions to support fraud prevention and investigations.
- Secured an arrest in a 2023 homicide investigation and continued efforts in an active missing person investigation.

SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION:

The Support Services Division continued to support organizational effectiveness through recruiting, training, accountability initiatives, technology implementation and victim services programming.

Recruiting and Training:

Recruitment activities focused on attracting qualified candidates and supporting organizational growth. Efforts included career fairs, information sessions and the successful hiring of six new Community Peace Officers.

The Training Unit continued developing new personnel through academy training, onboarding programs and police cadet instruction. Cadets also participated in Indigenous cultural learning opportunities as part of their development.

Quality Assurance and Accountability:

The annual property and exhibits audit accounted for more than 66,000 items and achieved an inventory accuracy rate of 99.99%, demonstrating strong accountability and effective property management practices.

Body-Worn Camera Program:

Implementation of the body-worn camera program continued through a phased rollout. As of the reporting period, 58 police and peace officers had been equipped with body-worn cameras,



LPS Monthly Report Lethbridge Police Commission

SEPTEMBER 2026

with full deployment expected by November. Ongoing compliance audits continue to demonstrate strong adherence to policy and activation requirements.

The Media Disclosure Team also supported the program by completing 235 video disclosure files for Crown prosecutors.

Victim/Witness Services Unit:

The Victim/Witness Services Unit remained highly engaged through community outreach, Indigenous engagement, volunteer recruitment and victim support initiatives. Facility Dog Cruiser participated in various youth-focused programs, helping build positive relationships between police and community members.

The unit also strengthened partnerships with educational institutions, Indigenous organizations and regional policing agencies while establishing the Society of Friends of the LPS Victim/Witness Services Unit to support victims through enhanced fundraising and community support opportunities.

Highlights

- Hired six new Community Peace Officers.
- Continued training and development of Community Peace Officers and police cadets.
- Completed the annual exhibits audit with a 99.99% accuracy rate.
- Expanded body-worn camera deployment to 58 members.
- Processed 235 body-worn camera disclosures.
- Enhanced victim services through outreach, Indigenous engagement, and community partnerships.

Monthly Compliments June 2026



Citizen / External (3)

LPS Members

A community member sent an email expressing their gratitude towards the members of LPS for “their brain power and courage” to do their work.

Crime Suppression Team, Cst. Motz, Cst. Wharf, Cst. Amjed, Sgt. Michelson, Cst. T Smith

A subject of a recent investigation attended LPS to say thank you to the officers who dealt with them the other day. They said that they were shown a lot of respect and kindness and could not say enough good things with how well they were treated during their arrest. The person was also impressed with the search team who completed the search of their residence and how happy they were that their house was left very neat and tidy.

Cst. Van Den Berg, Sgt. Cherpin

A letter was received expressing gratitude towards these officers for their kindness, compassion and professionalism shown to members of a grieving family after the sudden death of a loved one in a family home. The family was appreciative how the officer’s calm demeanor helped bring a sense of stability during an incredibly painful and confusing time, and the family was especially appreciative of how informative and patient these officers were in explaining the process that follows when someone dies at home.

Internal (4)

LPS Staff incl. LPS Cadets

Trissly Blackwater sent an email of appreciation to to all who participated in the activities for National Indigenous Peoples Month. This month we had the Blackfoot Medicine Garden where we planted sage, sweetgrass, tobacco and mint. On June 21st, we set up the canopy at the Lethbridge Public Library for the National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration. Our table served 200 people berry soup and frybread. It was a good way to give back to the community and build greater relationships with others.

I would also like to thank the LPS cadets for putting up a beautiful Blackfoot style tipi! Their determination and teamwork are what brought the tipi up so well.

Cst. Wahl

Cst. McCarthy wanted to highlight the effort and excellent assistance Cst. Wahl recently provided to Cst. McCarthy and TRU on a recent investigation. Cst. Wahl's assistance was offered voluntarily and without solicitation, and it was very much appreciated.

Cst. C Running

Sgt. Darroch sent an email to highlight the recent efforts of Training Unit officer Cst. C Running who went the extra mile to help the Public Order Unit (POU) with the firearms portion during a recent mountain bike training course. Cst. C Running juggled his schedule to attend this training on short notice in order to make it work on a Friday while he was on-duty to limit any extra training costs.

Cadet Armstrong

Sgt. Magliocco wanted to acknowledge the recent off-duty actions of Cadet Armstrong who intervened in an occurrence of domestic violence he had witnessed at a local business. Cadet Armstrong had witnessed the altercation while he was off-duty and intervened by separating the parties preventing any further escalation or violence. Cadet Armstrong kept the peace until on-duty patrol officers responded, and he provided a detailed witness statement to responding officers that assisted them with their investigation.

Community Partner (4)

Sgt. Warner, Cst. Hine, Cst. Cousineau

Crown Prosecutor [REDACTED] sent an email commending these officers for their exceptional efforts and compassion in assisting a vulnerable homeless Indigenous female sexual assault victim in attending court so that she could provide her testimony, writing *“their empathy, compassion, and kindness put the victim at ease and gave her the confidence to testify. Without their efforts, it is highly unlikely she would have attended court or been in a position to provide meaningful evidence.”*

Cst. Trotta

Lethbridge Police Commission member Ryan Wolfe recently participated in a ride-along with Cst. Trotta, and he sent an email to pass along his thanks for the opportunity and to express his appreciation towards the LPS members on-shift that night.

Cst. Campbell

Sgt. Warner passed along a compliment received from the Crown Prosecutor’s office commending Cst. Campbell on his application and testimony for a Human Trafficking Protection Order (HTPO) regarding a vulnerable member of society. The reviewing Justice had specifically commented on Cst. Campbell’s professionalism, compassion and articulation he had displayed in court.

Chief Mehdizadeh and LPS members

RCMP Inspector Erick Youngstrom and RCMP Superintendent Matt Johnson sent a letter of appreciation for the outstanding support and professionalism members of LPS provided the RCMP Integrated National Security Enforcement Team (INSET) on a recent investigation focused on Nihilistic Violent Extremism (NVE) in the City of Lethbridge. The RCMP were grateful for the respect, patience and professionalism shown by members of LPS throughout investigation.

Monthly Compliments July 2026



Citizen / External (5)

Cst. K Easter, Cst. Grabler, Cst. B Hill, Cst. Wallace

A parent of young man who was recently the subject of a family dispute and in contact with responding LPS members sent an email to the Chief of Police to commend the LPS members, and specifically PACT Cst. K Easter, for her approach to speaking with the young man.

Cst. Van Den Berg

Cst. Van Den Berg recently investigated the theft of a phone from a young person, and their parent sent an email of appreciation to the Chief, writing:

“From our first interaction, Constable Van Den Berg was professional, compassionate, and committed to helping us. Although the theft of a phone may seem like a relatively minor matter compared to the many complex calls your officers respond to every day, he treated our concerns with respect and took the time to investigate thoroughly.

Throughout the investigation, Constable Van Den Berg kept us informed, followed up on leads, and demonstrated remarkable persistence. His dedication ultimately led to my son’s iPhone being located and recovered. His willingness to go the extra mile made a difficult and stressful situation much easier for our family.

Too often, exceptional service goes unrecognized, so I wanted to ensure that Constable Van Den Berg receives the acknowledgment he deserves. His professionalism, integrity,

and genuine commitment to serving the community reflect exceptionally well on both himself and your police service”

LPS member

A member of the public recently posted a toast to an LPS officer on social media, writing: *“I’m currently a parolee who went inside and ended up turning his life around and getting sober while in the penitentiary. It wasn’t easy at all but I’m just about three years sober now. I would like to toast the LPS officer who stopped to talk with me today and to congratulate me on my sobriety. It’s good knowing there are some good cops in Lethbridge”.*

Cst. Yasinski

A member of the public who had reported a harassment complaint sent a letter to the Chief of Police commending Cst. Yasinski for his outstanding work managing the complaint. The writer felt Cst. Yasinski was prompt, knowledgeable, supportive and effective.

LPS member

A member of the public posted a toast to an LPS officer on social media for reviving a person in Galt Gardens using Narcan and CPR.

Internal (3)

Cst. McDonald

VSU Manager Cat Pooley wanted to recognize Cst. McDonald for the exceptional care and compassion he demonstrated recently while working with a victim VSU was supporting. Pooley wrote *“his empathy, dedication and willingness to go above and beyond made a meaningful difference - both personally and to (their) immediate safety - during what was an incredibly difficult time for (them). (There were) navigating the complexities of an EPO, a DV file and a highly unexpected guardianship case and his work was an incredible example of the good an officer can do when they lean into their role. The way he approached the situation reflected the very best of policing and did not go unnoticed by our team”*

Cst. T Smith

Cst. Kenyon wanted to highlight the excellent work of his teammate and colleague Cst. T Smith for his assistance and guidance during the forensic processing of a challenging scene. His experience and wisdom were an immense help.

Recruiting unit Rachael deBoer, The Watch Shane Kisinger and Chantel Deazevedo, CPO Dominato, Cst. McQuarrie, Cst. Bourassa

Recruit Training Unit Sgt. Iwaasa wanted to send a thank you to everyone (incl. LPS FIS and Custodial staff) who assisted during the recent cadet OC exposure day. Special shout out to these listed staff members for being a huge help during the cadet and facility decontamination process.

Community Partner (2)

Sgt. Breedon, Cst. E Enkirch

Calgary Police Service (CPS) Organized Crime Enforcement Unit (OCEU) S/Sgt. Gow recently sent an email on behalf of the Organized Crime Enforcement Team (OCET) to express their appreciation for the exceptional support and accommodation shown to them by LPS members during a recent operation. S/Sgt. Gow wrote:

“It is important to me that Cst. Enkirch and Sgt. Breedon’s chain of command are aware of the exceptional support they provided throughout our recent deployment. Their willingness to accommodate our operational needs by granting access to their facility, providing a dedicated workspace, ensuring secure firearm storage, and assisting with surveillance, investigative checks, and various logistical challenges was invaluable to our success.

This is the second time in recent years that LPS has supported an OCET investigation, and on both occasions the professionalism, work ethic, and positive attitude demonstrated by the Lethbridge Police Service have been outstanding. Their continued support has contributed meaningfully to the success of our work and to reducing violence in both of our cities. We are grateful for their partnership.”

Cadets Yaschyshyn, Patkau, Laarman, Toth, Gammel, and Austin

Blood Tribe Police Service (BTPS) Inspector Najjar sent an email to extend his sincere thanks to the cadets who volunteered their time at the BTPS Kids Softball tournament.

The cadets braved the heat and took positions as pitchers, umpires, and other roles to ensure the tournament's success. All those in attendance appeared to be very thankful for their participation.

Monthly Compliments August 2026



Citizen / External (1)

Traffic Response Unit

A member of the public sent a note to LPS thanking TRU for their traffic enforcement efforts on Mayor Magrath Drive South noting a reduction in speeding, stunting, racing and illegal cars.

Internal (1)

Cst. M Smith, Cst. Enns, additional LPS various members and units

Cst. Hyggen wanted to highlight the contributions of LPS members towards the Law Enforcement Torch Run and Flame of Hope that was recently carried throughout the province leading up to the opening ceremonies of the 2026 Special Olympics Canada Summer Games in Medicine Hat.

Mark Smith and Gavin Enns volunteered many hours before and during the Torch Run to capture pictures and video. The video was played at the opening ceremonies which was a highlight (as confirmed by the energy in the Co-Op Place).

The Torch Run made a stop in Lethbridge on August 9th. Out of the 17 communities visited, Lethbridge had the largest turnout and support from the community and our members. The LPS Pipe Band, C-Team, CPO's and Chief Mehdizadeh all helped for a great stop in Lethbridge which was recognized by the National Team.

Community Partner (1)

Chief Mehdizadeh and LPS

Big Brothers and Big Sisters sent a thank you card on behalf of their Kids n Kops campers who recently participated in a camp hosted by LPS:

Chief Mehdi Zadeh and Lethbridge Police Services,
Thank you so much for your incredible hospitality,
welcoming our Kids N Kops campers, and for so generously
allowing us to take over the station for 3 amazing days.

We also wanted to thank the EDU, TAC, Forensics, Traffic Safety, Quartermasters, and Firearm Safety teams, as well as VSU for the amazing demos, hands-on learning opportunities, and behind-the-scenes experiences shared with our campers. Your teams brought each area of policing to life in a way that was exciting, engaging and meaningful to the kids.

Thank you as well for encouraging their endless curiosity and taking the time to answer every thoughtful, unexpected, and wild question they came up with. Your patience, kindness, and enthusiasm made the kids feel important, included, and inspired. Thank you for making kids N Kaps such a special and memorable camp for the youth in our community. Looking forward to next year,

Emma, Sam, and the ~~BBB~~ Team ☺

Thank You So
Much! Love [REDACTED]

thank you

thank you

THANK YOU

thanks

Thank
for EVERYTHING

COMMISSION'S REPORT

2026-09-14



MONTHLY REPORTING TO COMMISSION

UCR CRIME DATA

JANUARY TO MAY 2020-2026

Data Extraction as of 2026-09-14

September 2026

REPORTED CRIME VIOLATIONS IN LETHBRIDGE: JANUARY TO MAY 2020- 2026

Executive Summary

When comparing January-May 2026 to January-May 2025:

- Total crime violations increased by 7.5%, and total Crime Severity Index (CSI) score increased by 3.6%
- Person crime violations increased by 13%, and person crime CSI score increased by 21.6%
- Property crime violations decreased by -1.6%, and property crime CSI score decreased by -3.9%

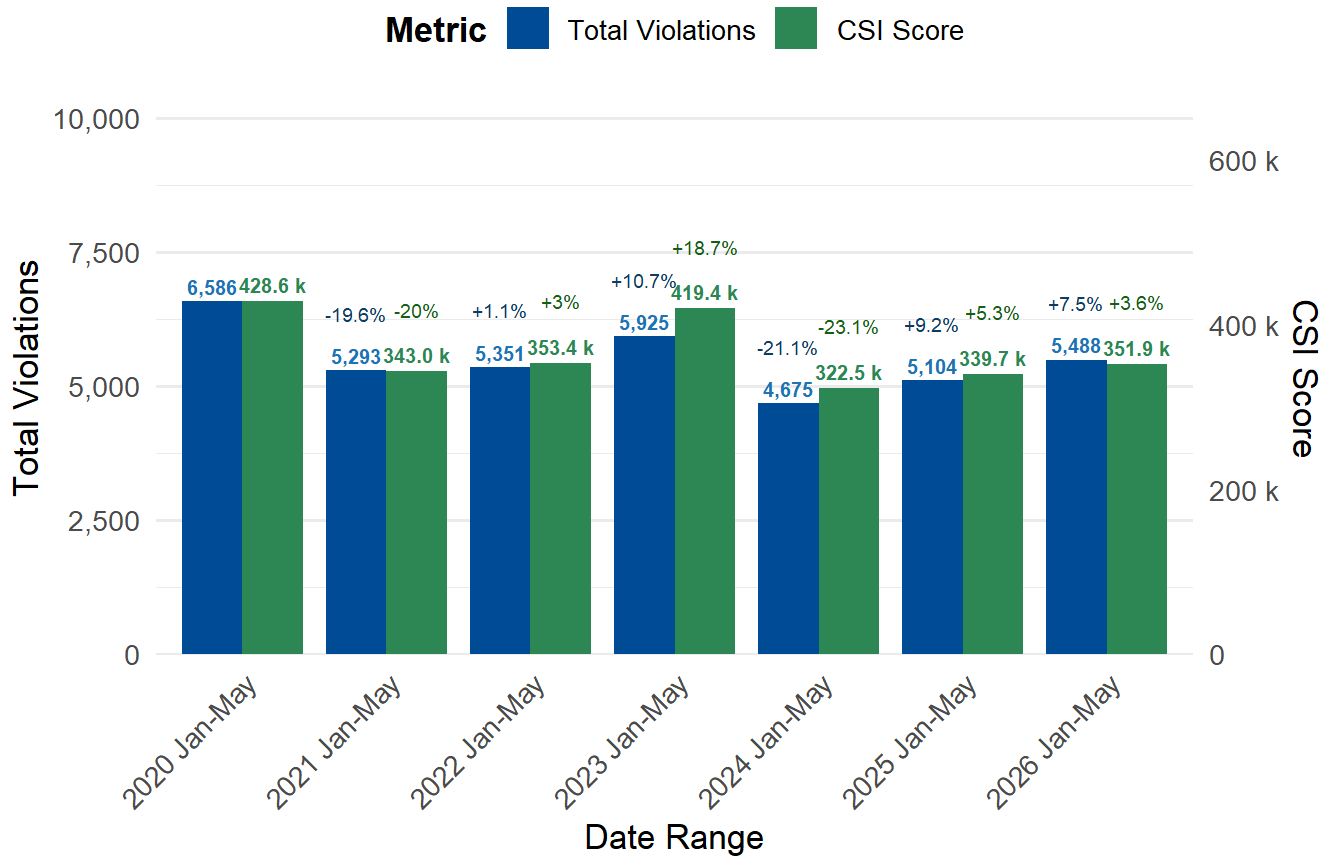
When comparing May 2026 to May 2025:

- Total crime violations increased by 3.2% and total crime Severity Index (CSI) score increased by 2.5%
- Person crime violations increased by 25.6% and person crime CSI score increased by 29.9%
- Property crime violations decreased by -9.9% and property crime CSI score decreased by -10.1%

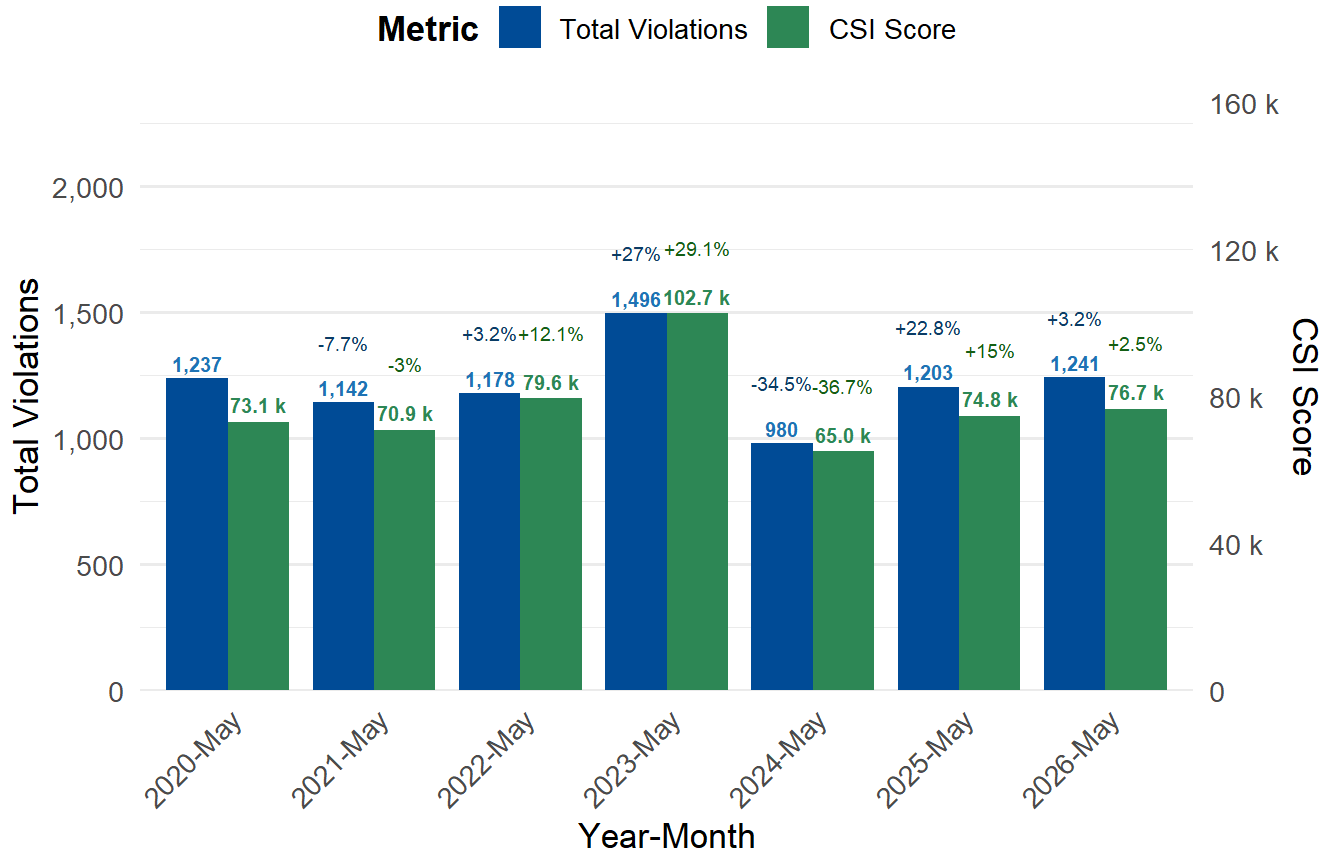
Crime by City Region: January-May 2026 compared to 2025

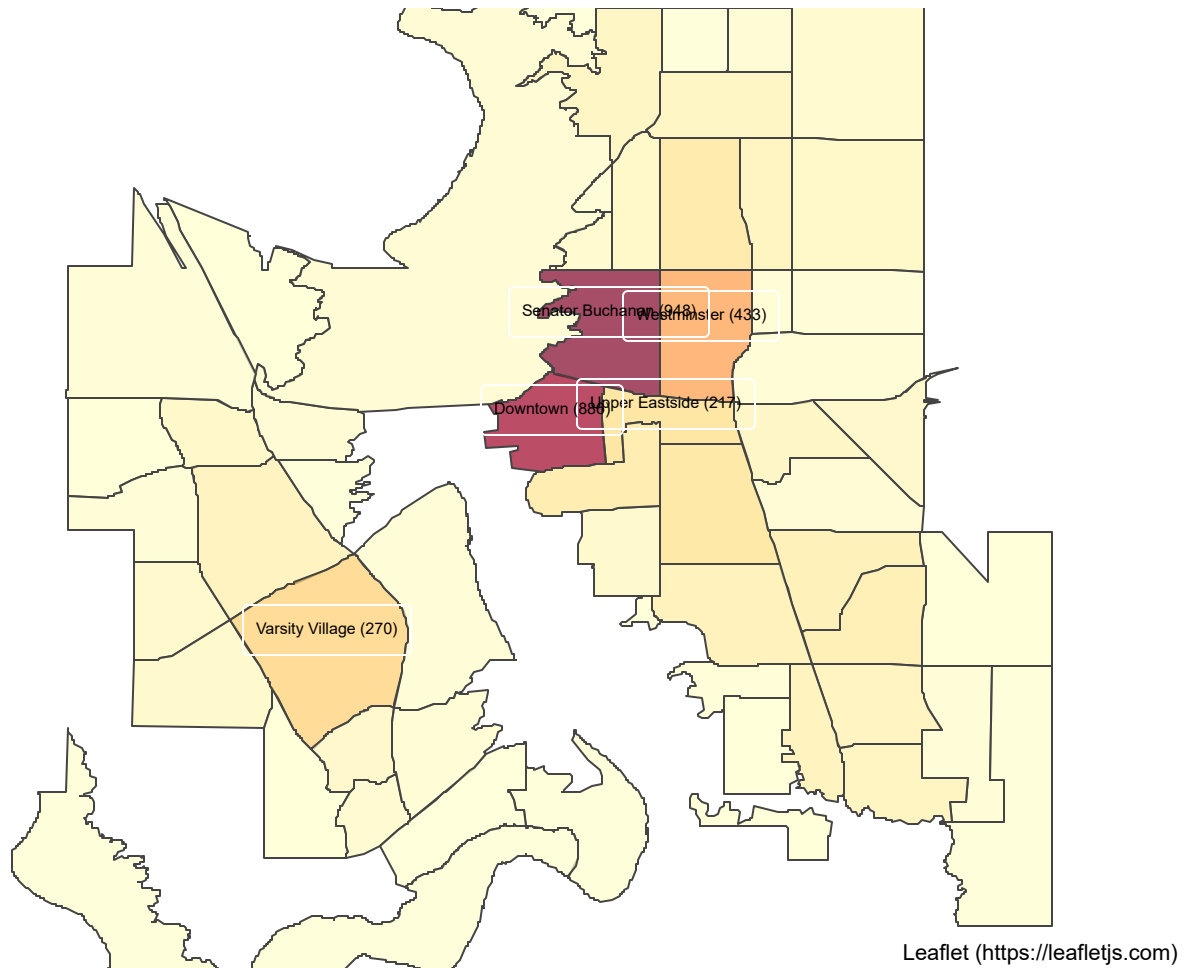
- Downtown Lethbridge; crime violations increased by 19.7% and CSI score increased by 7.7%
- North Lethbridge; crime violations decreased by -6.4% and CSI score decreased by -7.8%
- South Lethbridge; crime violations decreased by -5% and CSI score increased by 3.8%
- West Lethbridge; crime violations increased by 17.2% and CSI score increased by 11.9%

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

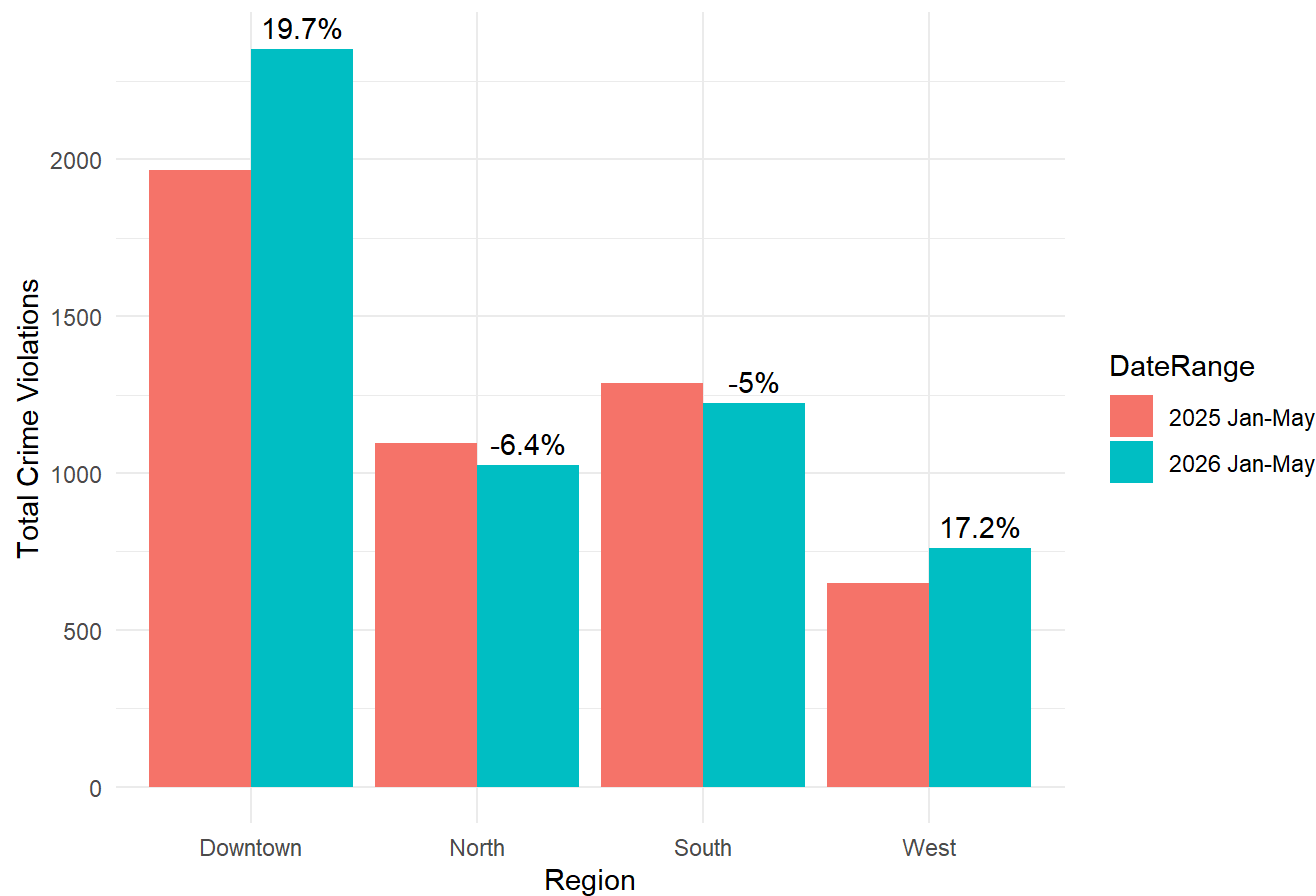


May Crime: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)

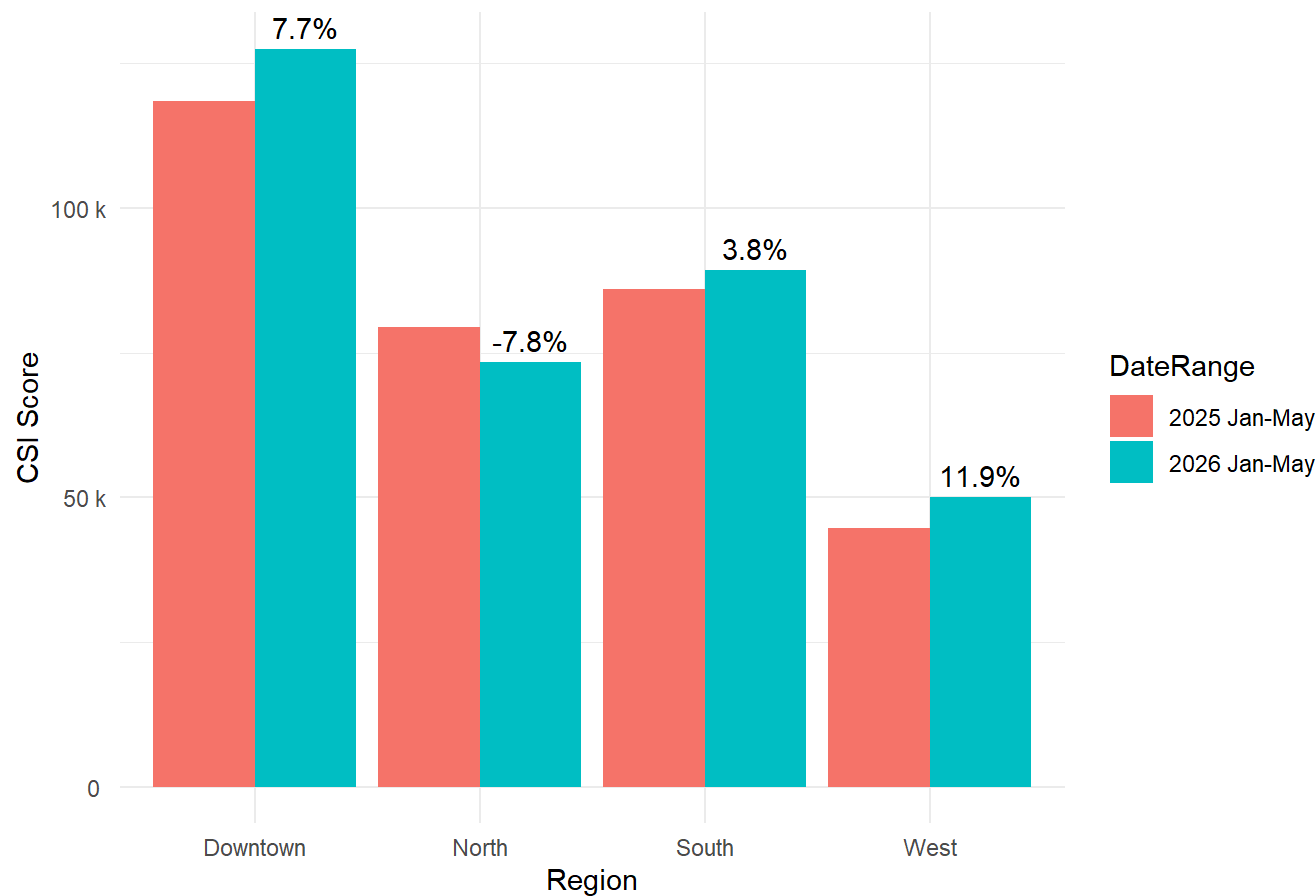


Crime Hotspots: Top Neighborhoods January to May 2026

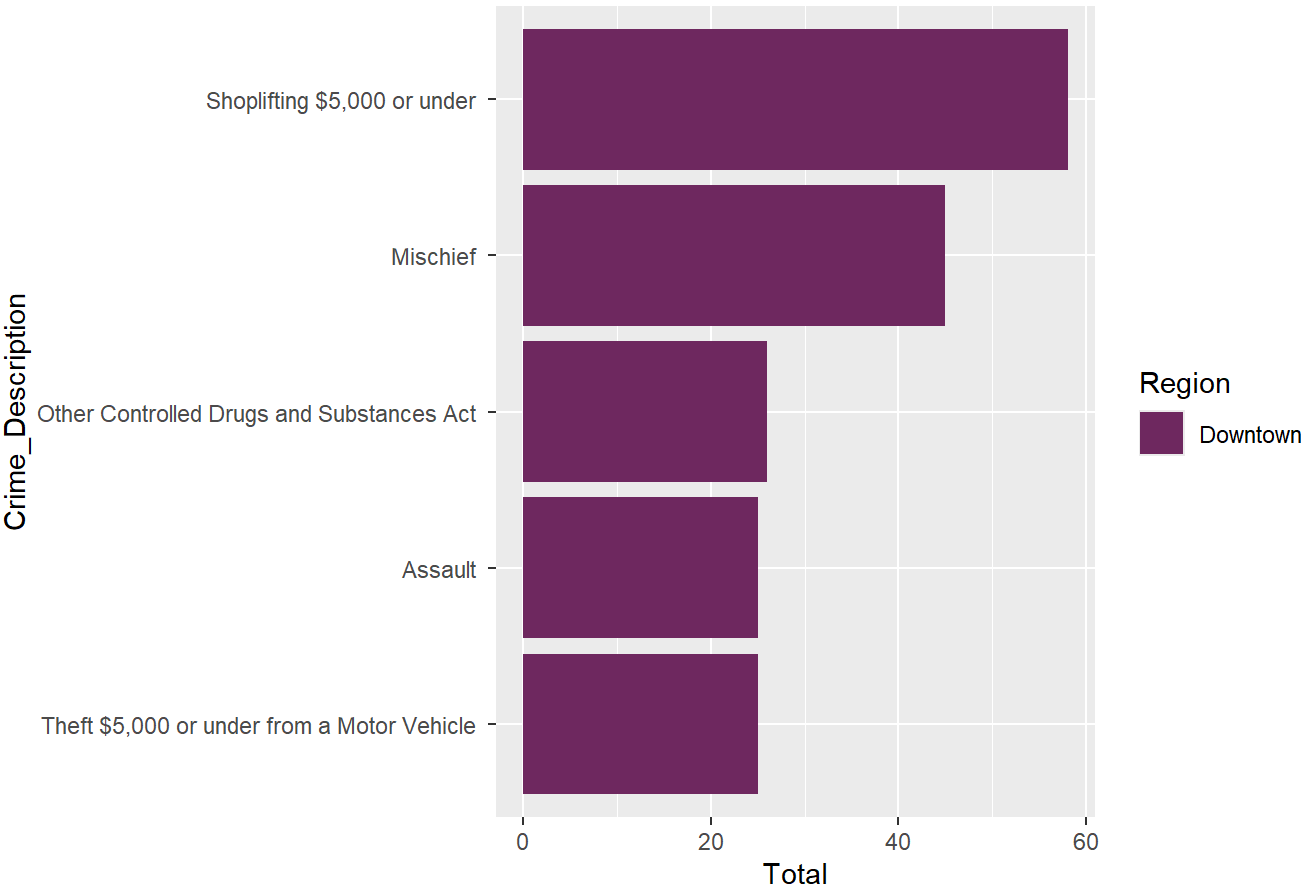
Lethbridge Regions: Crime Violations Previous Year VS Current Year



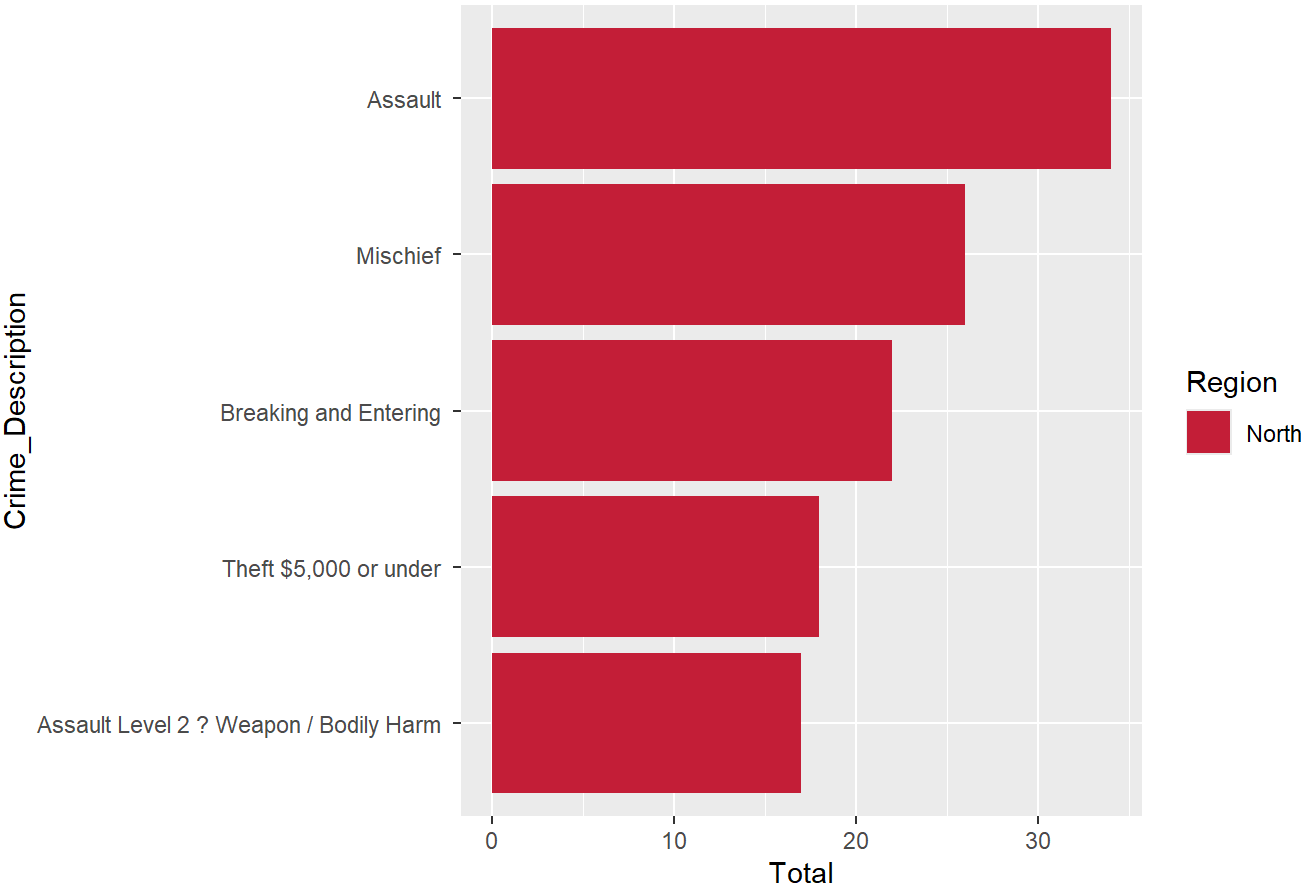
Lethbridge Regions: CSI Score Previous Year VS Current Year



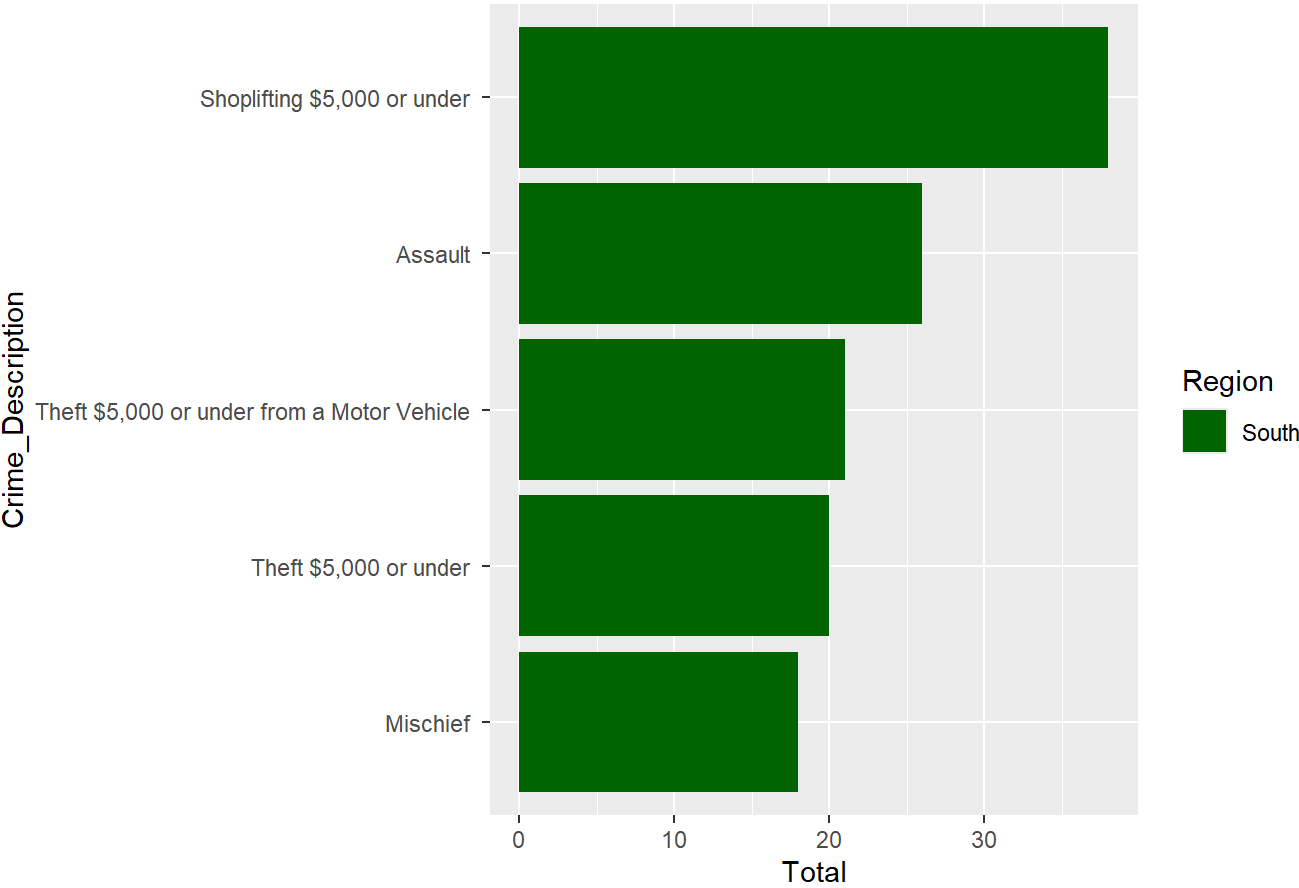
Downtown Lethbridge Top 5 Violations - May 2026



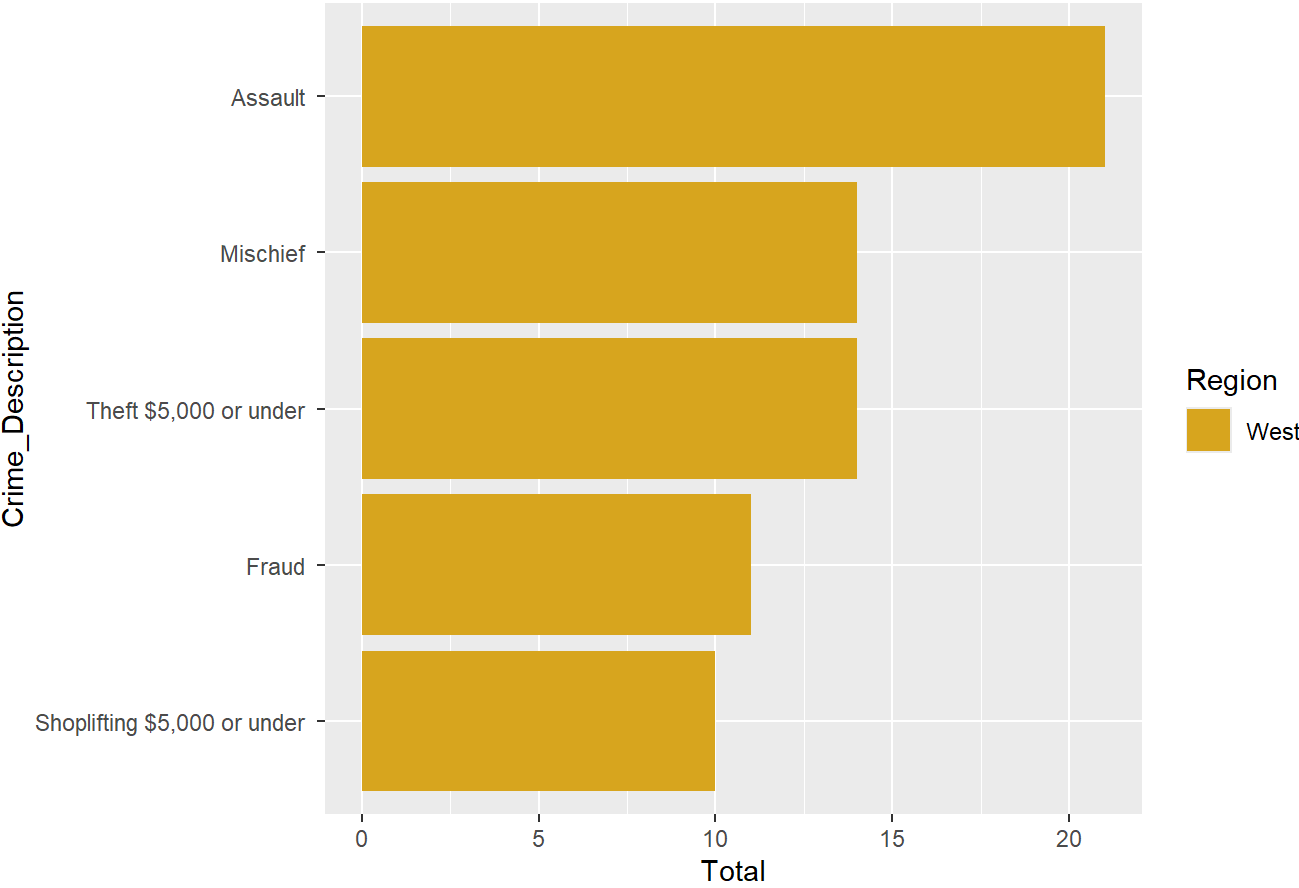
North Lethbridge Top 5 Violations - May 2026



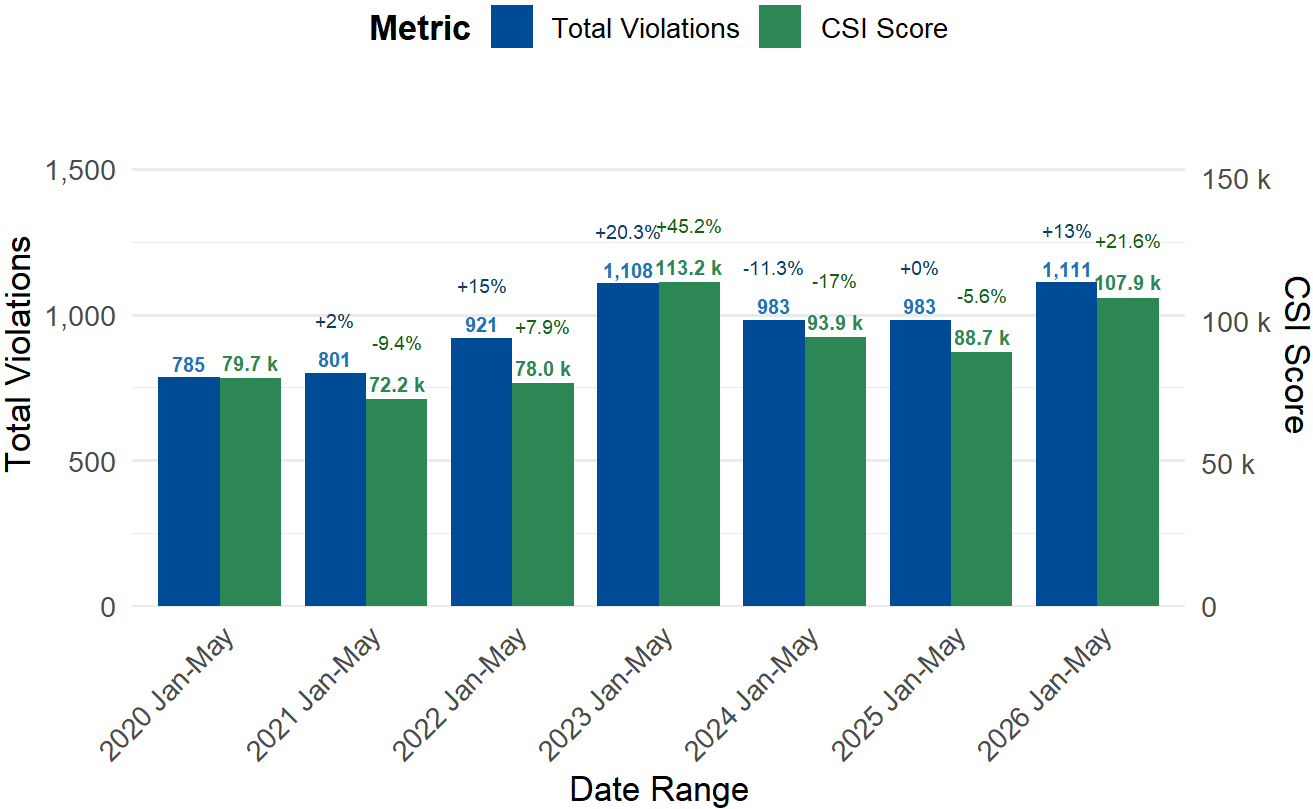
South Lethbridge Top 5 Violations - May 2026



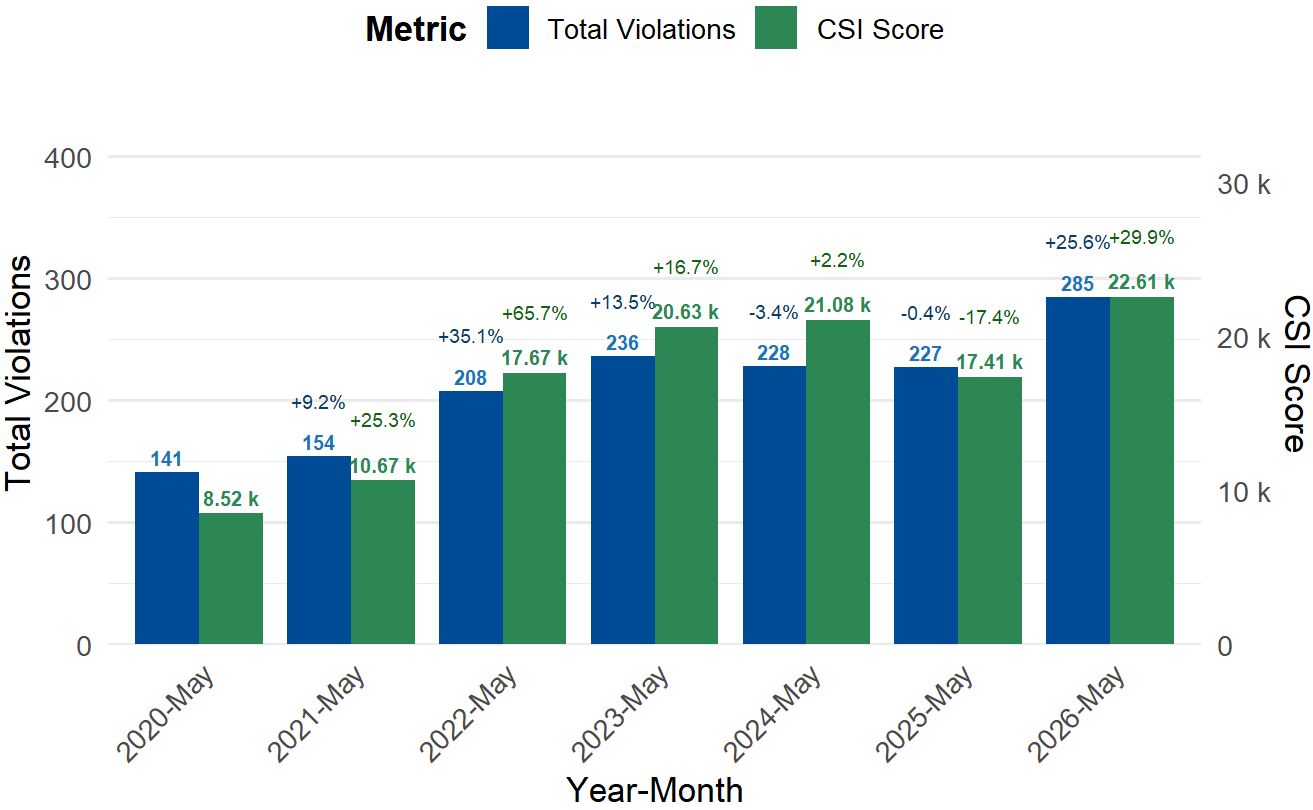
West Lethbridge Top 5 Violations - May 2026



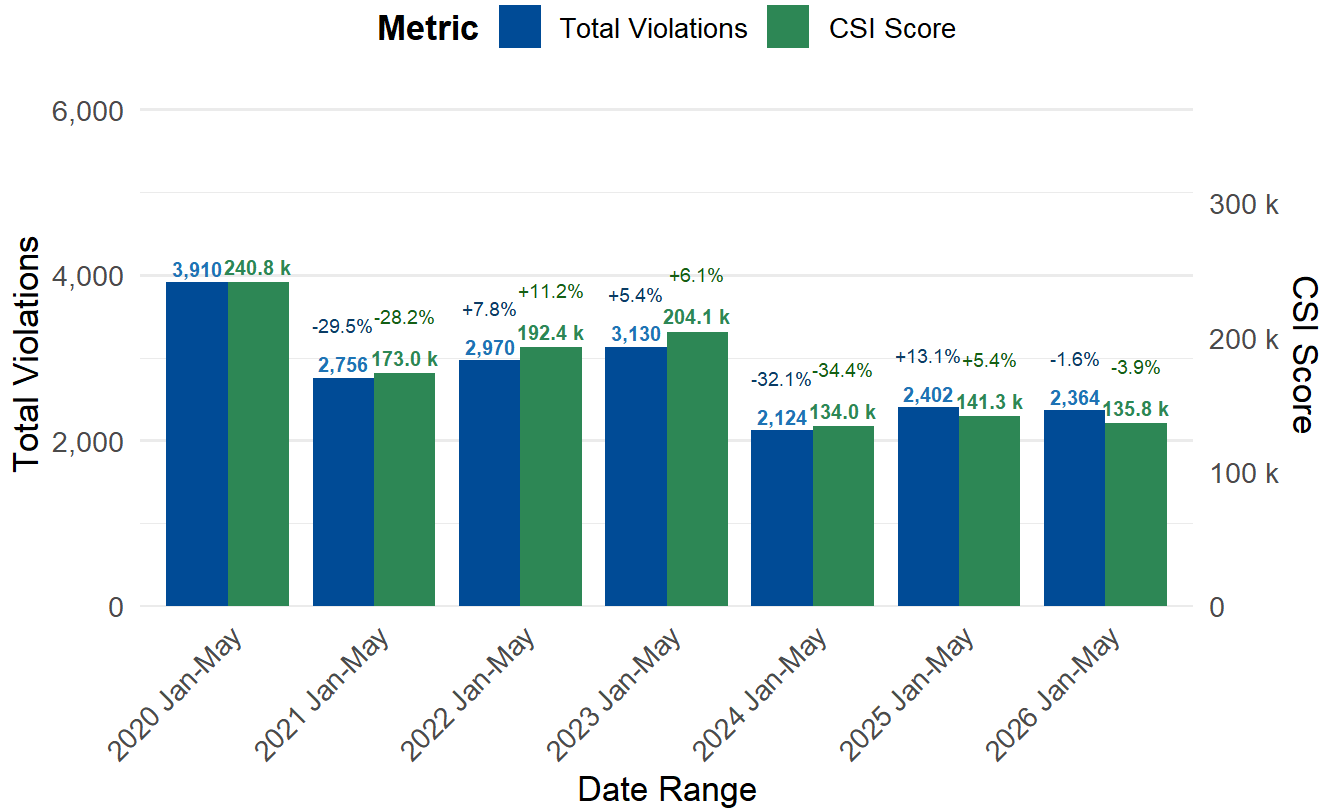
Total Person Crime: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



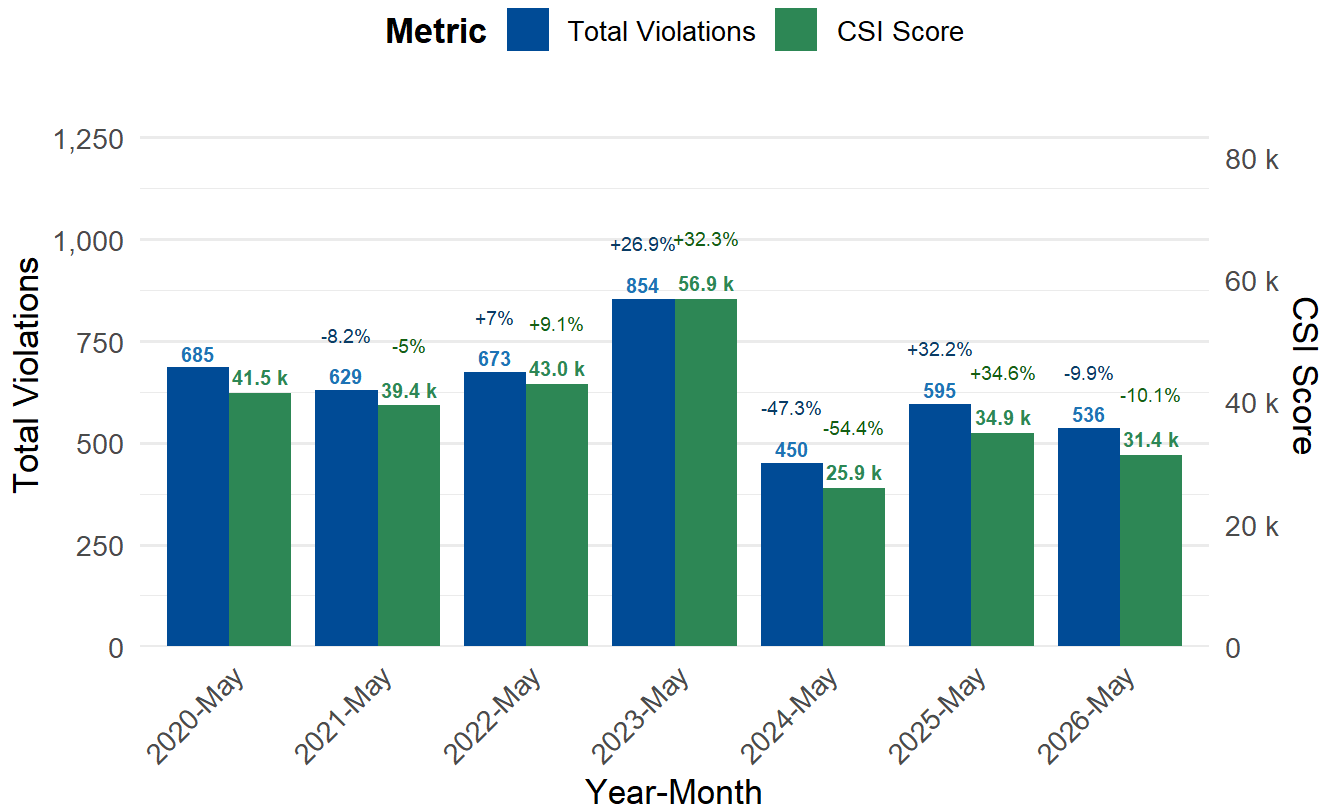
May Person Crime: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



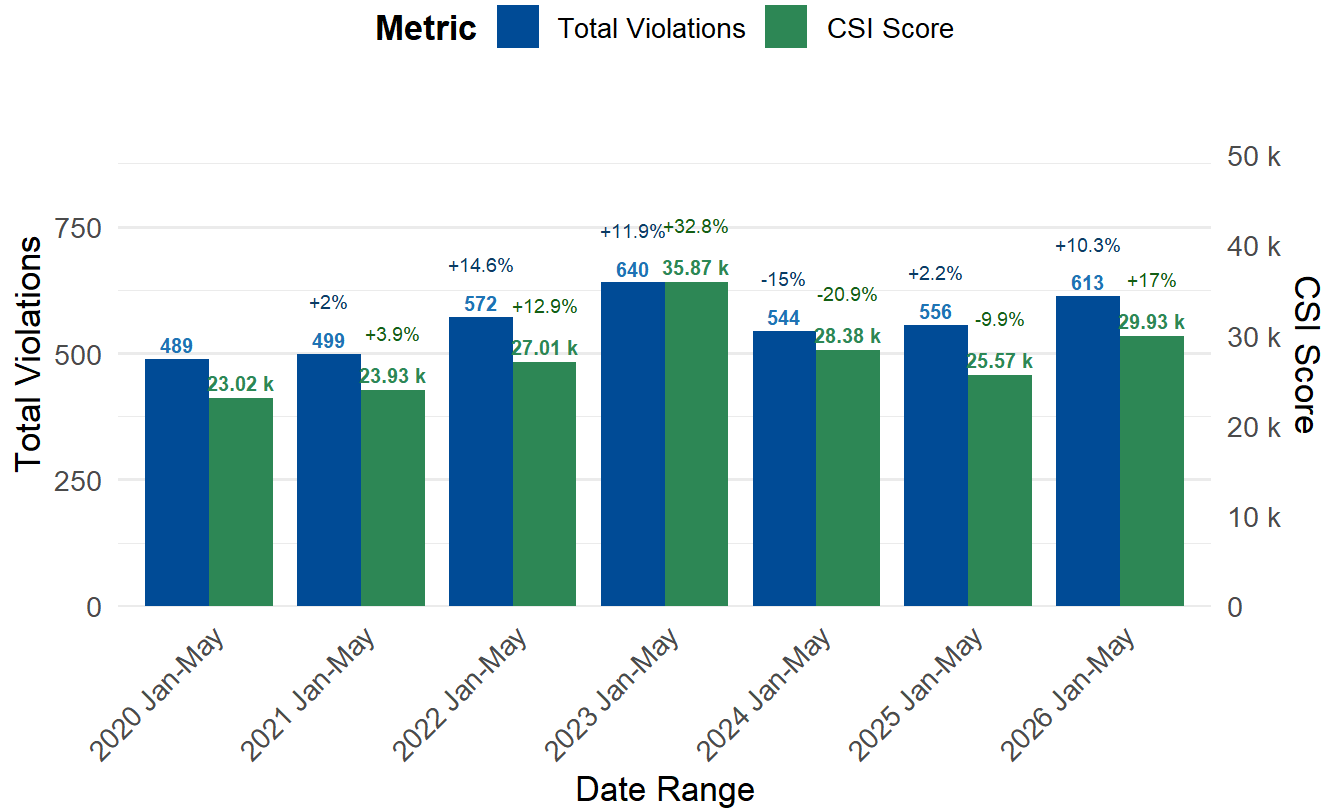
Total Property Crime: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



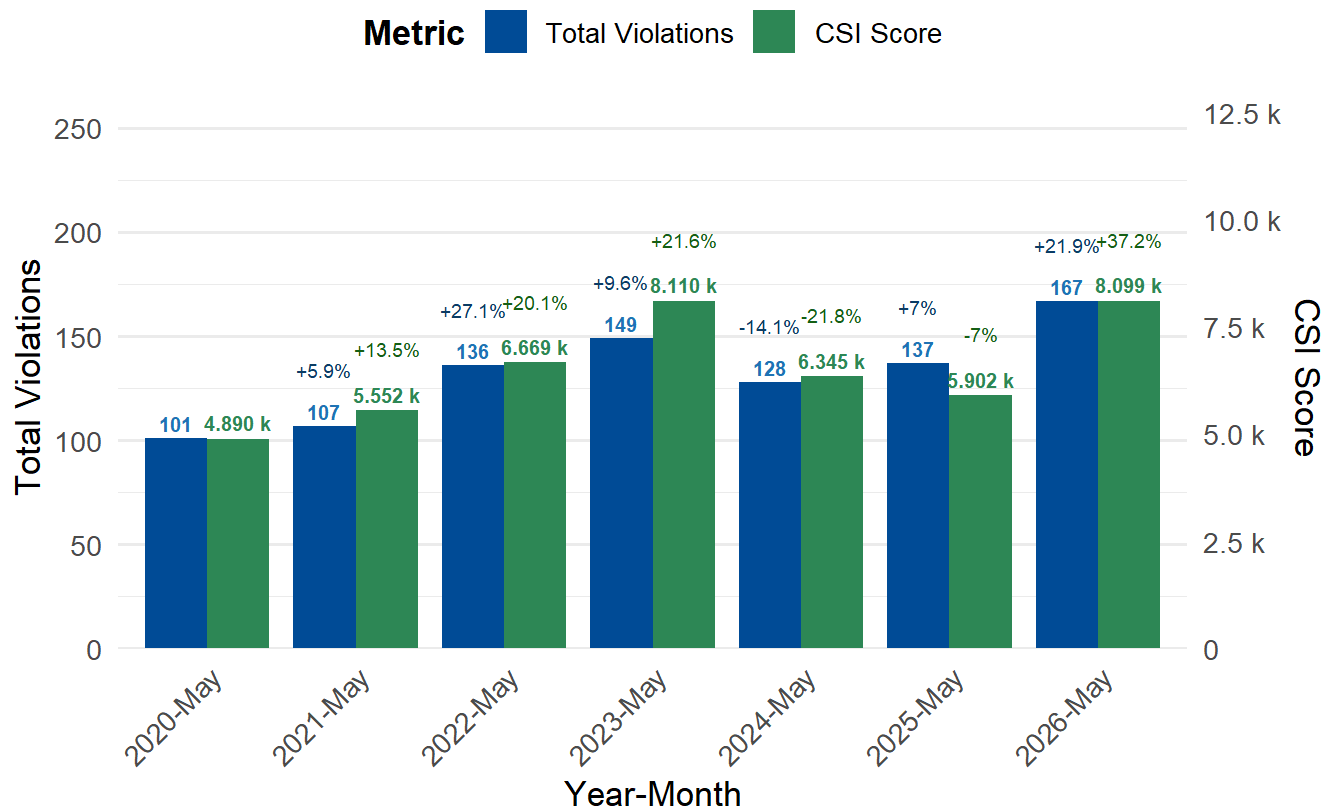
May Property Crime: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



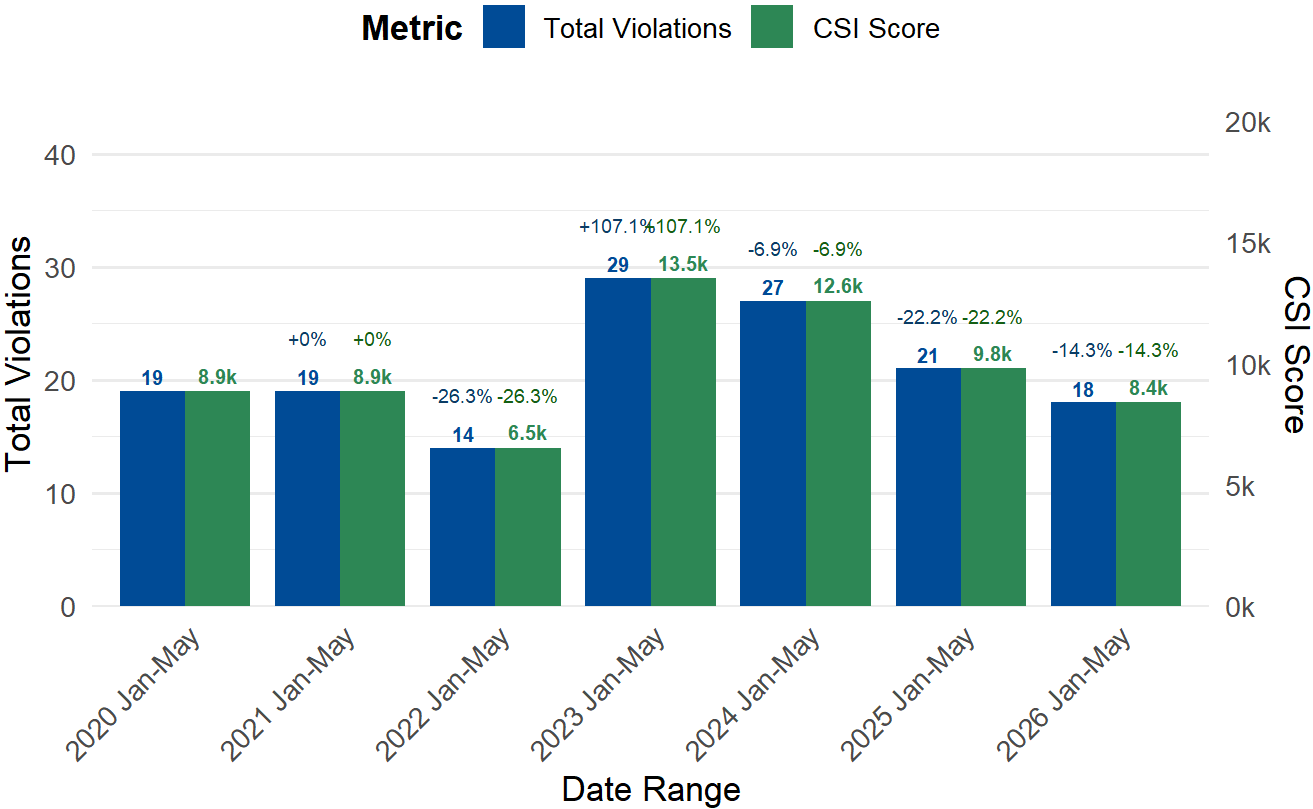
Total Assault: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



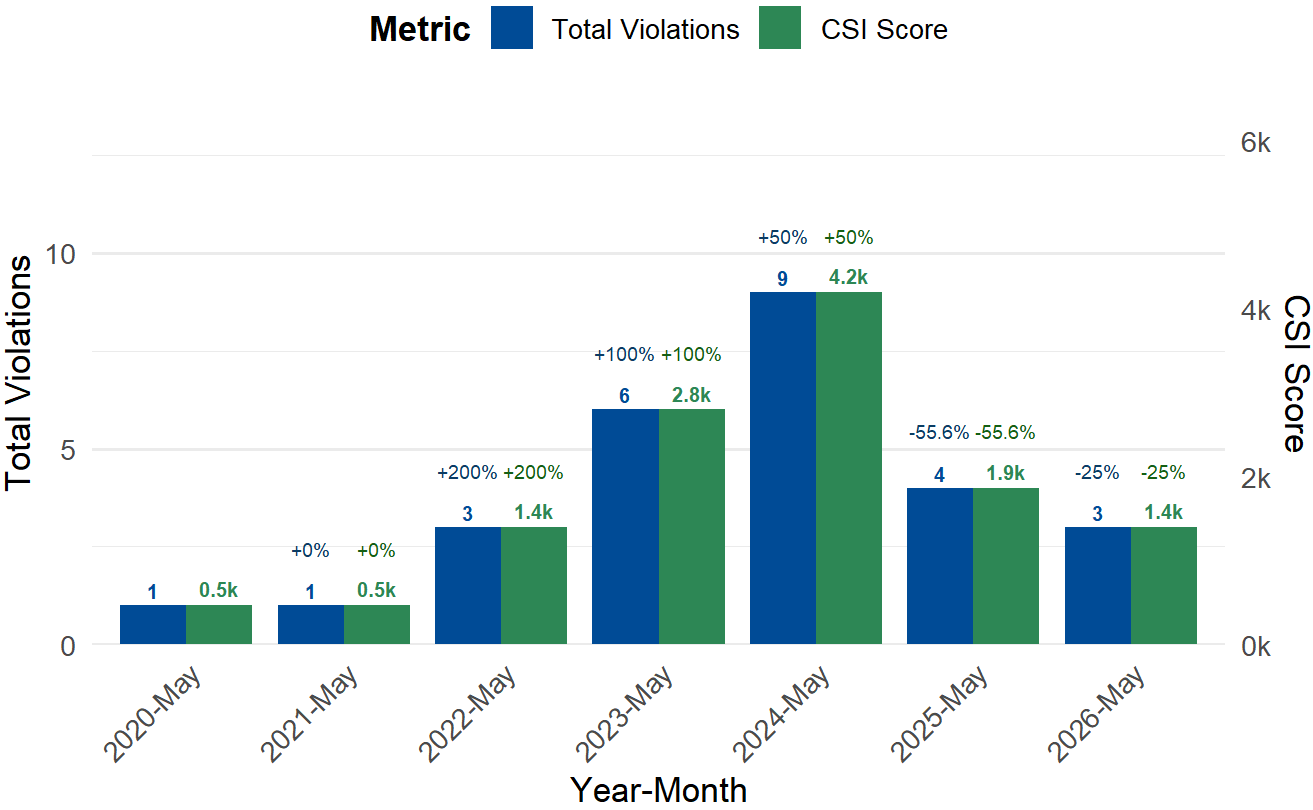
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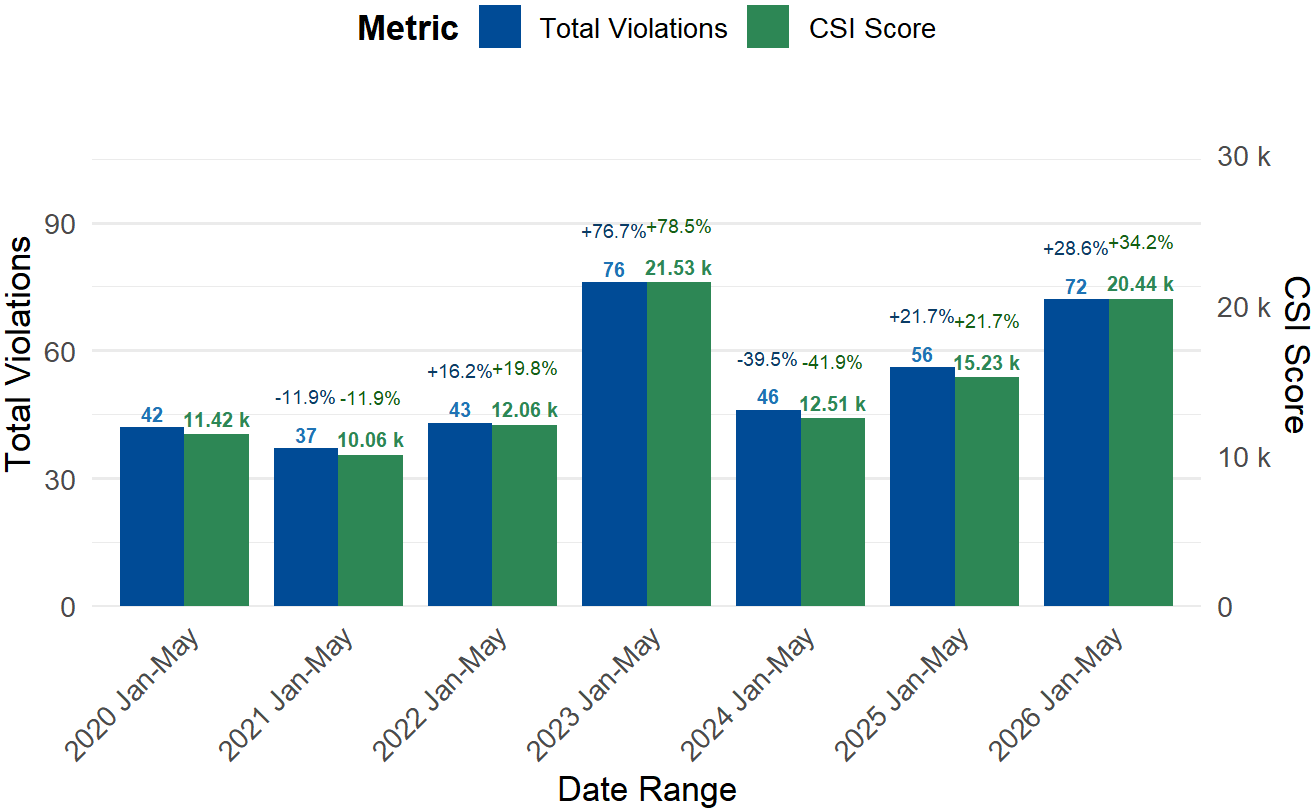
Total Robbery: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



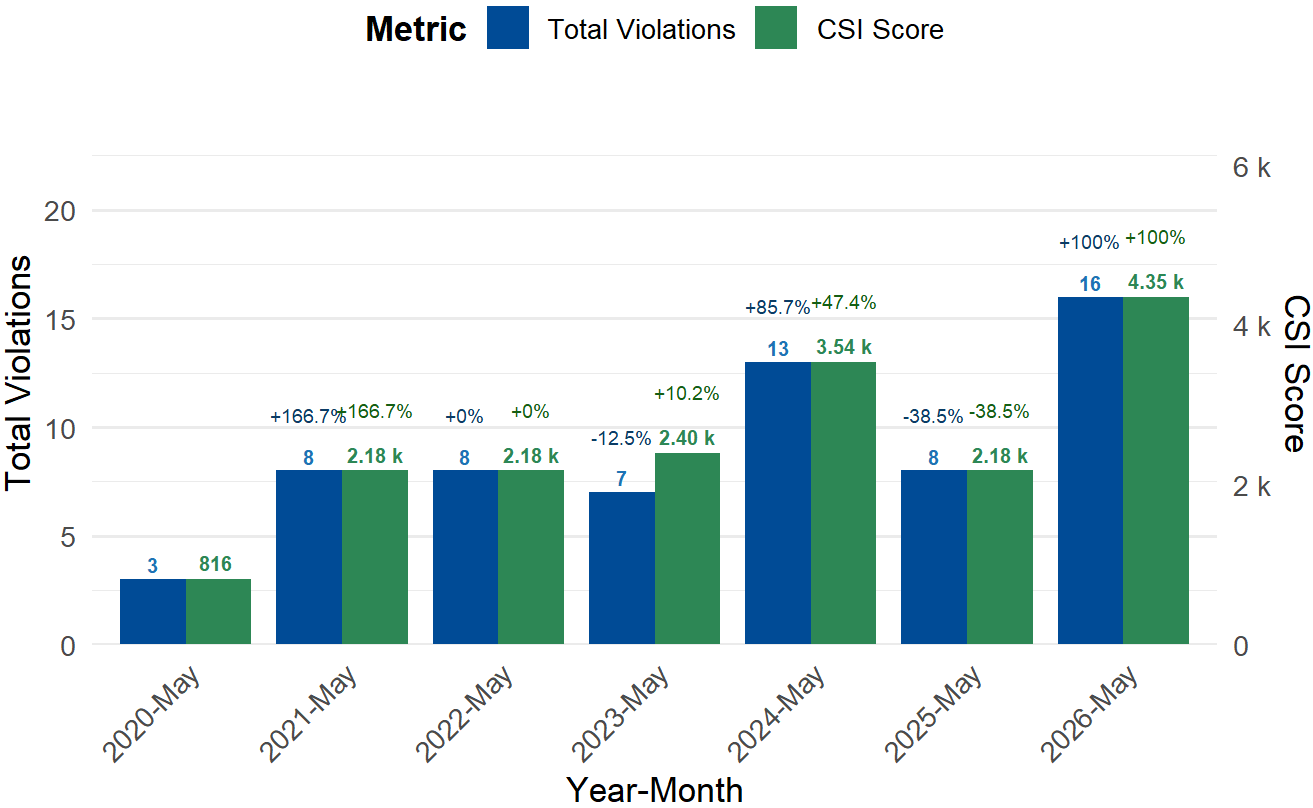
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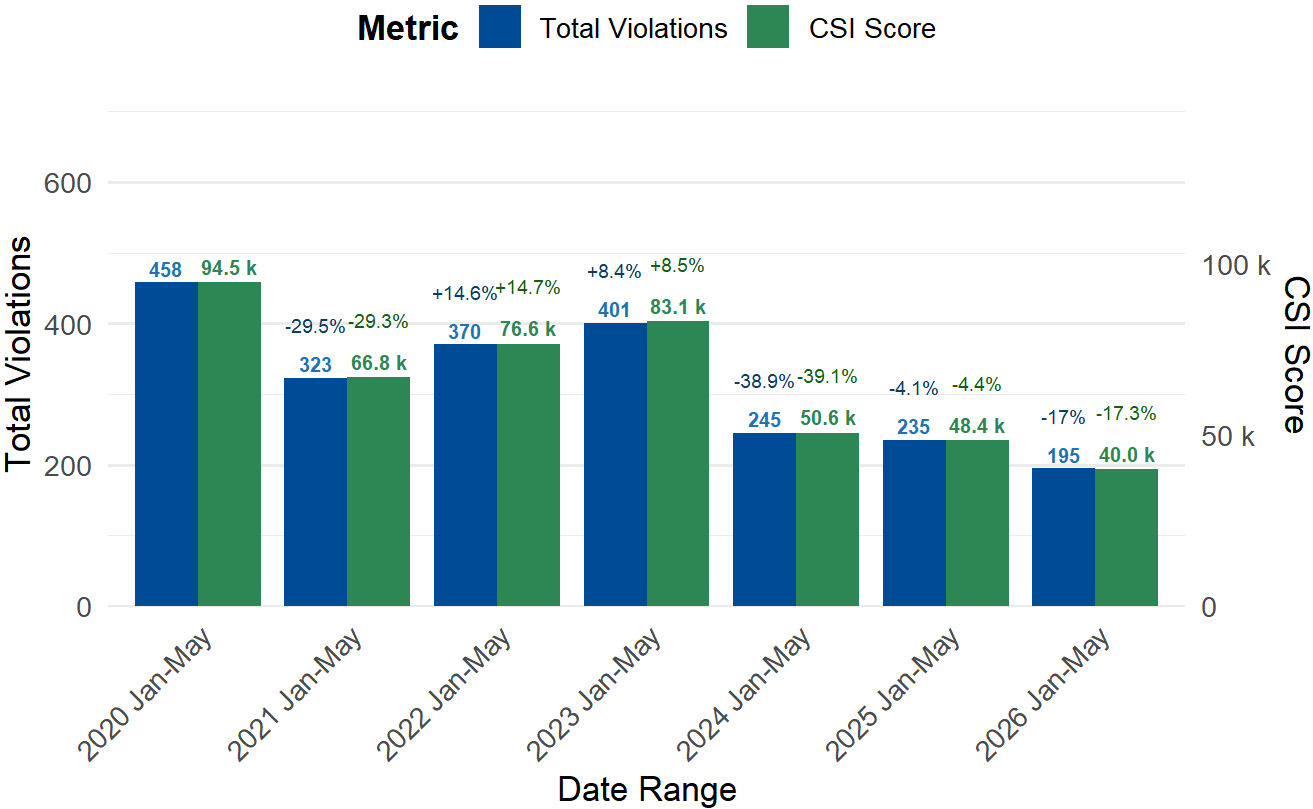
Total Sexual Assault: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



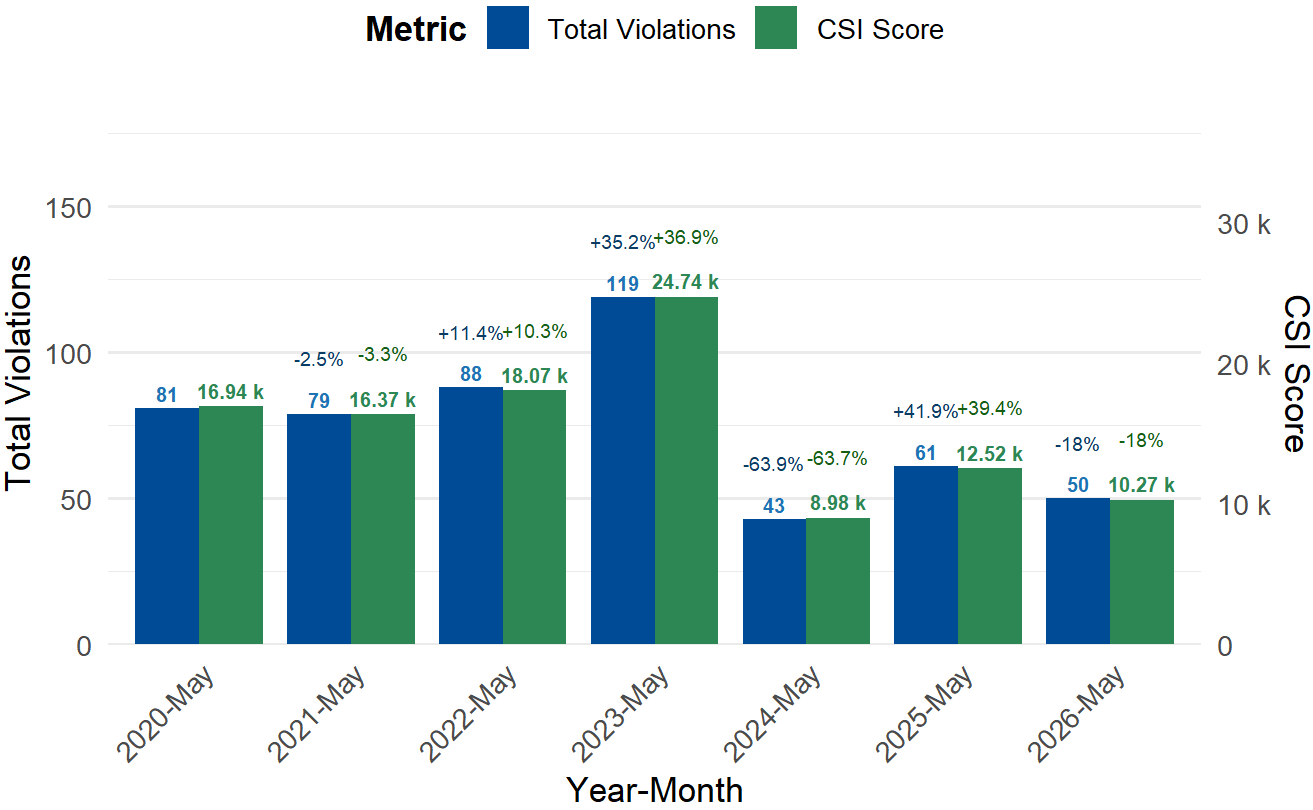
May Sexual Assault: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



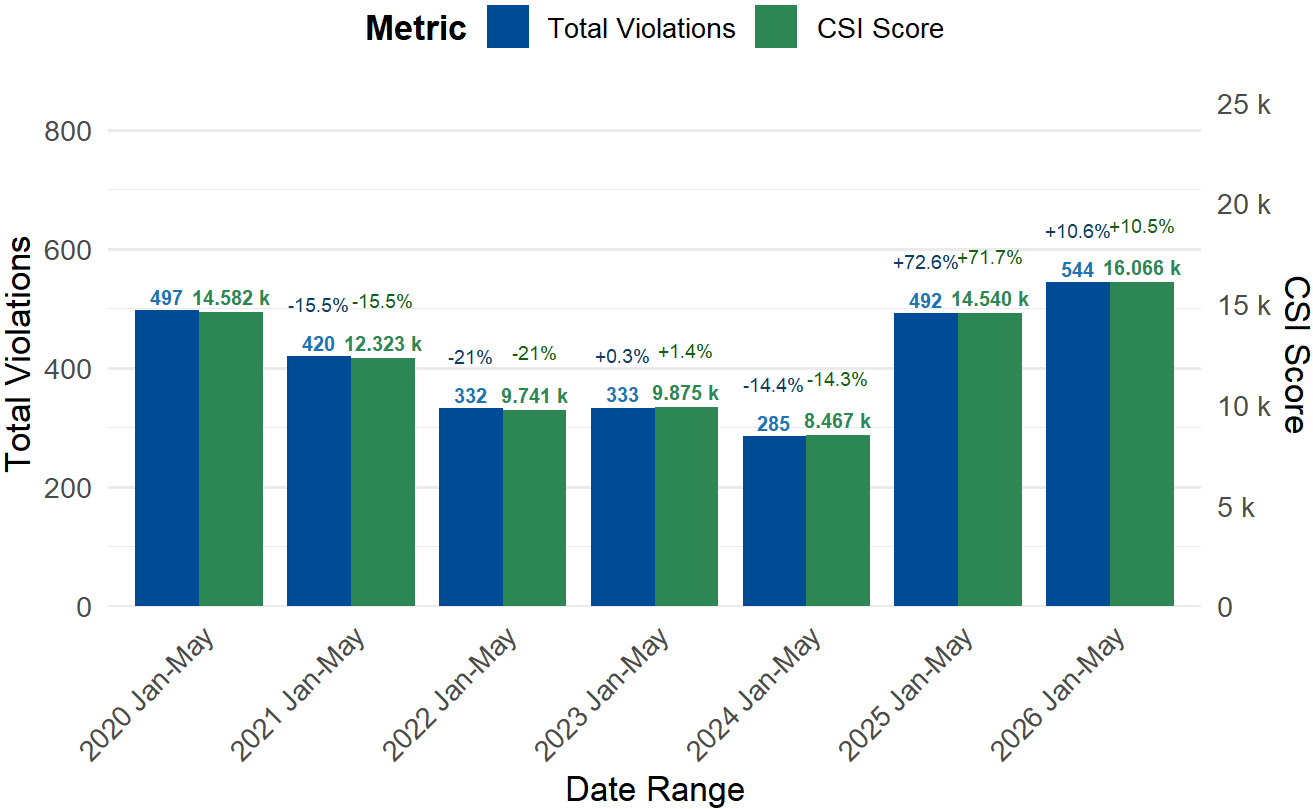
Total Break & Enter:
Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



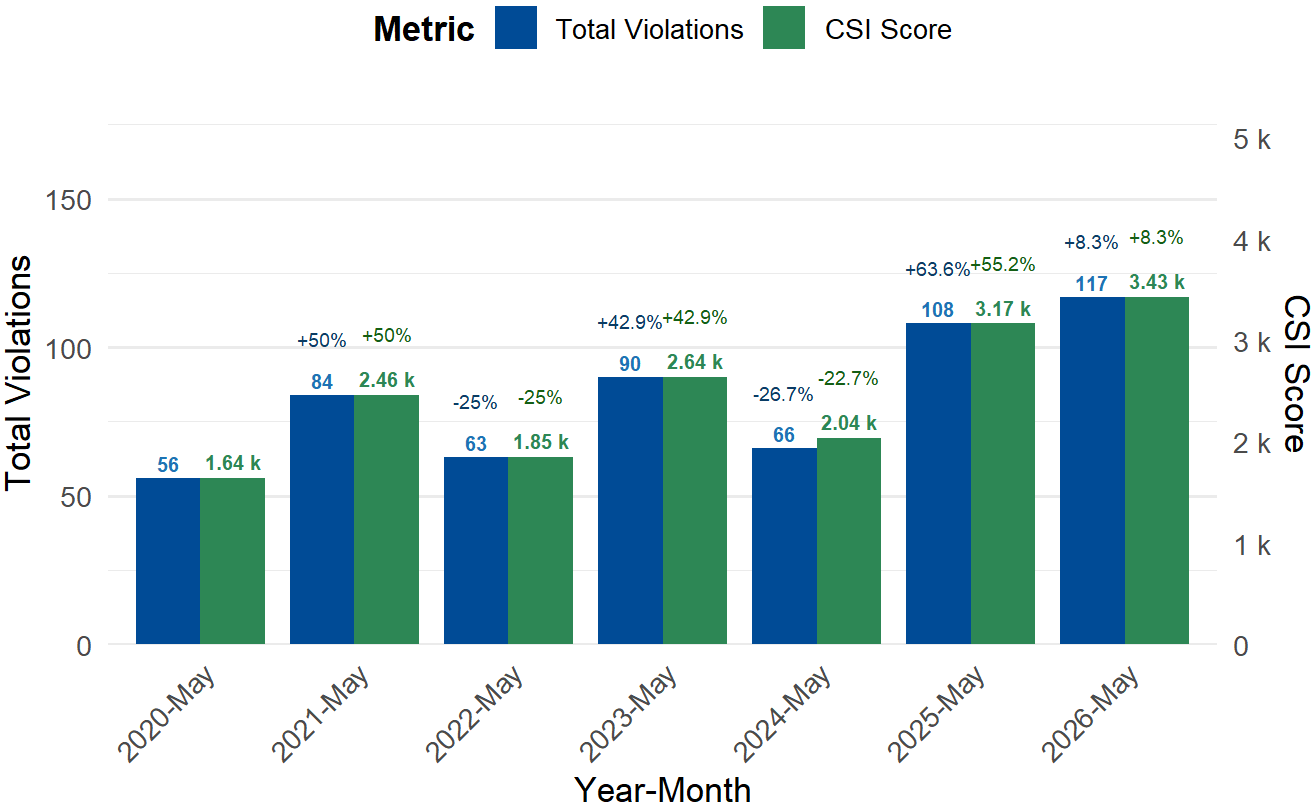
May Break & Enter:
Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



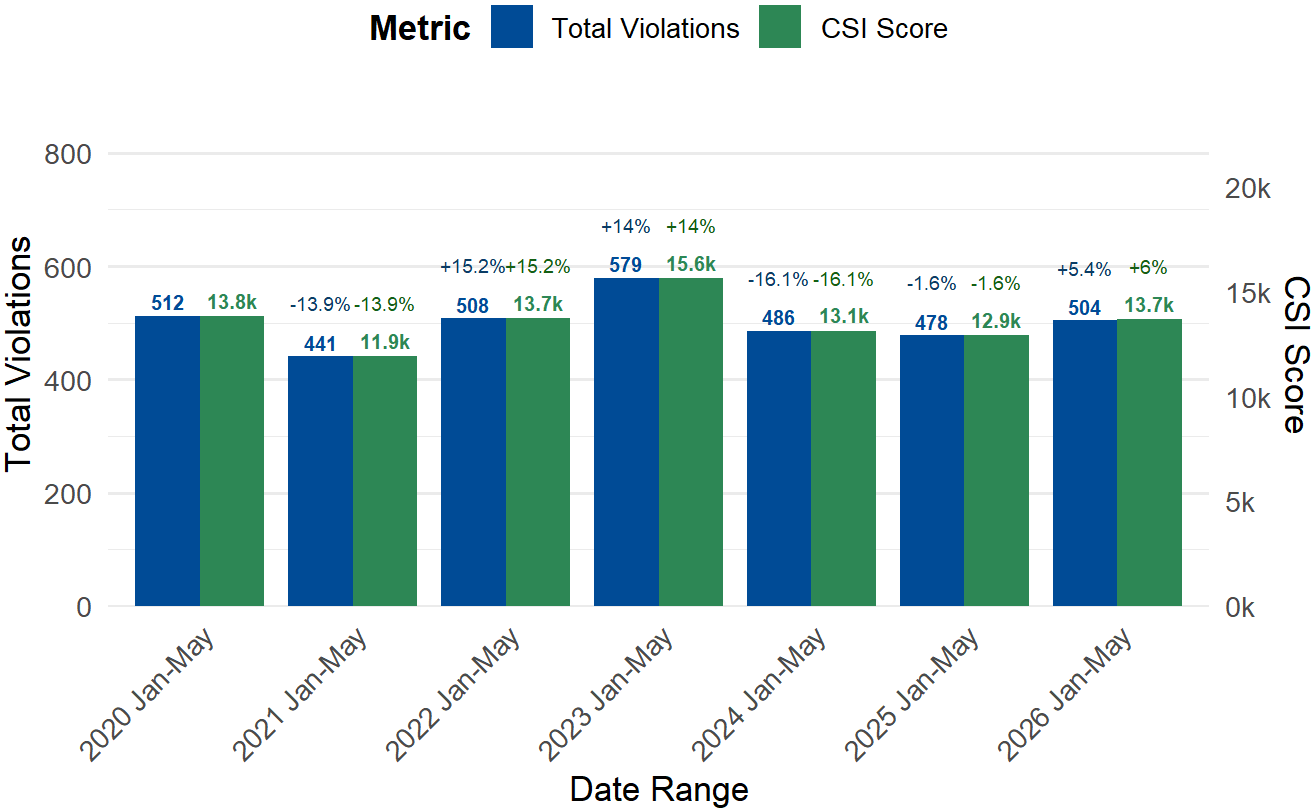
Total Shoplifting:
Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



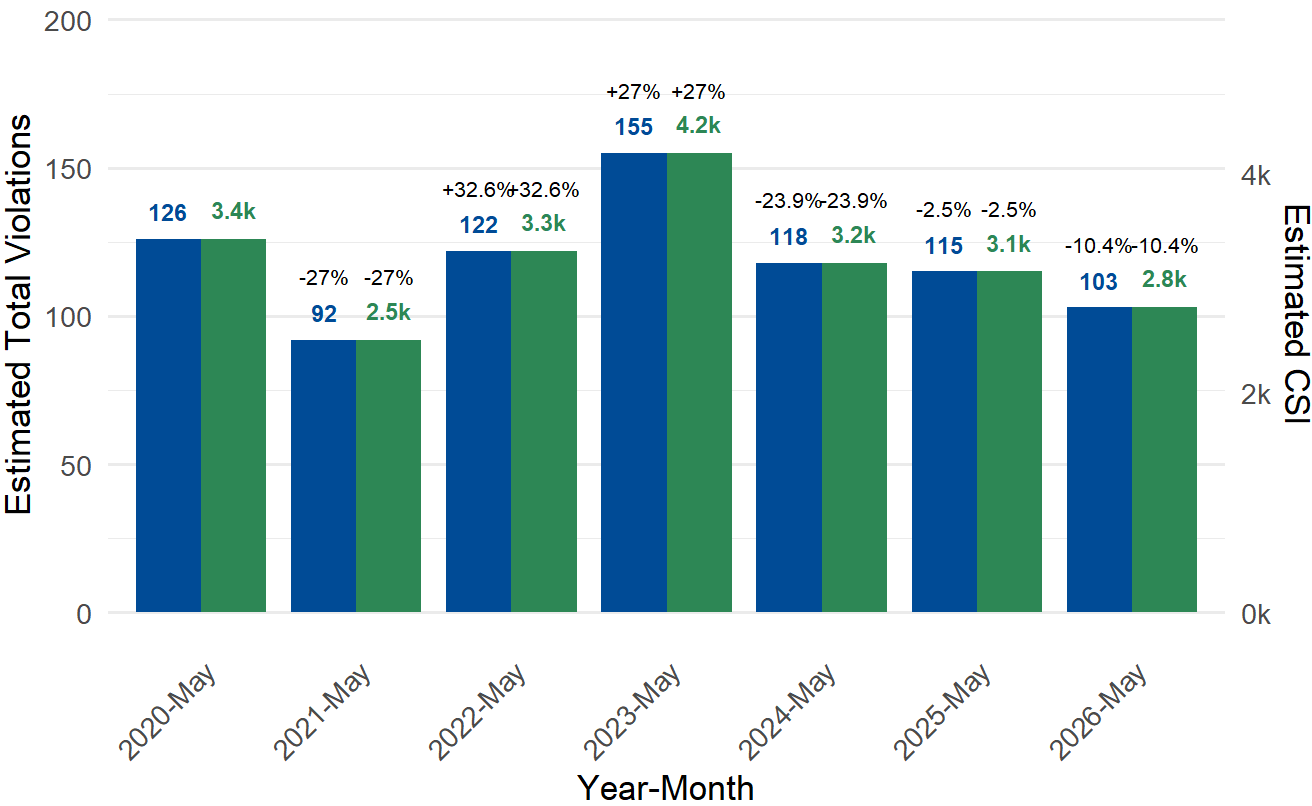
May Shoplifting:
Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



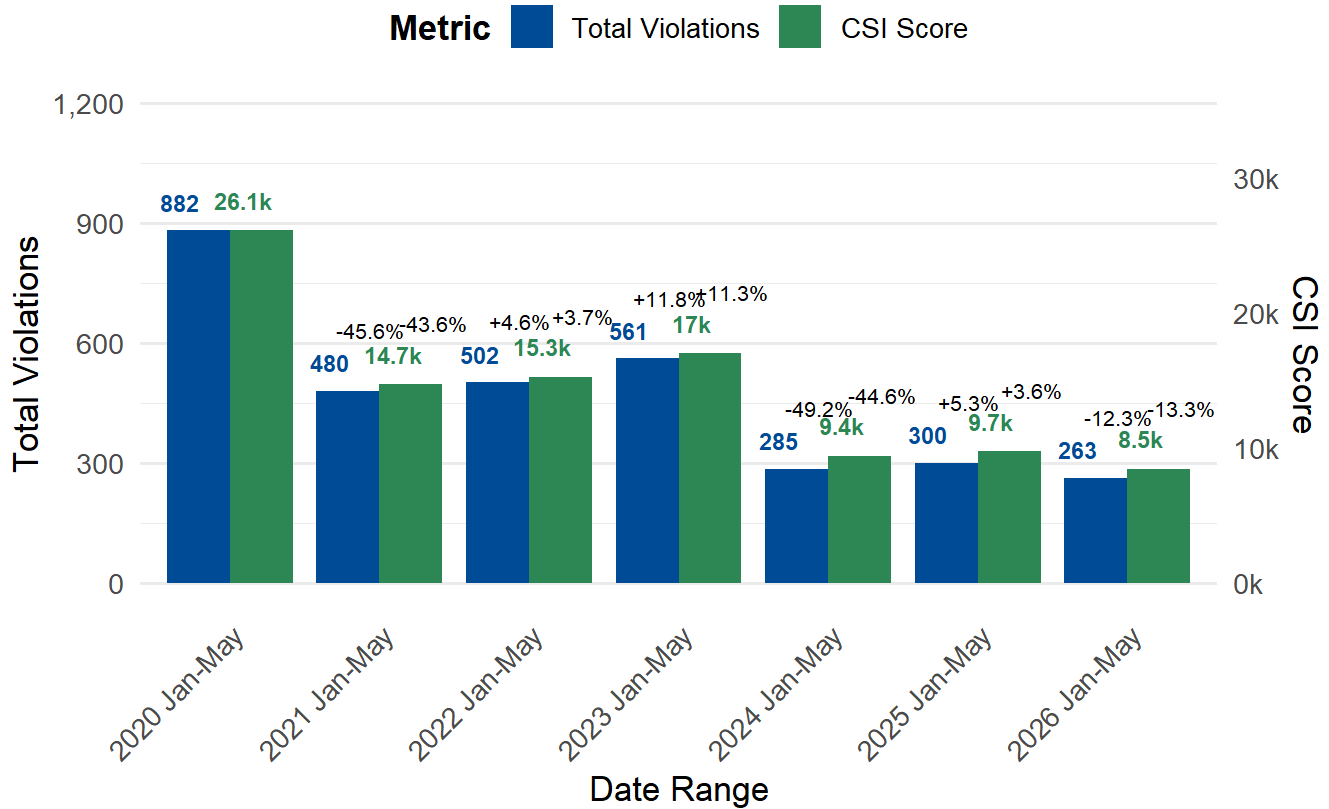
Total Mischief: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



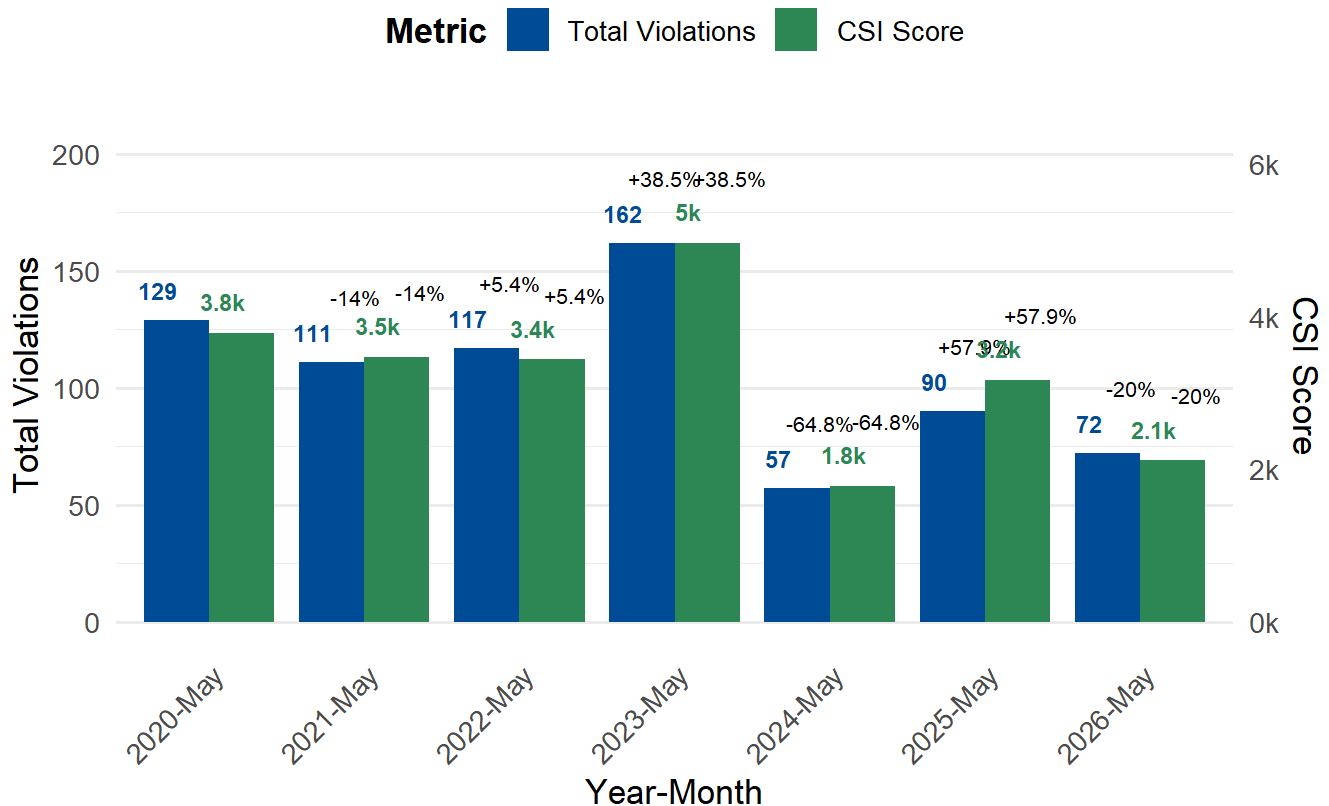
May Mischief: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



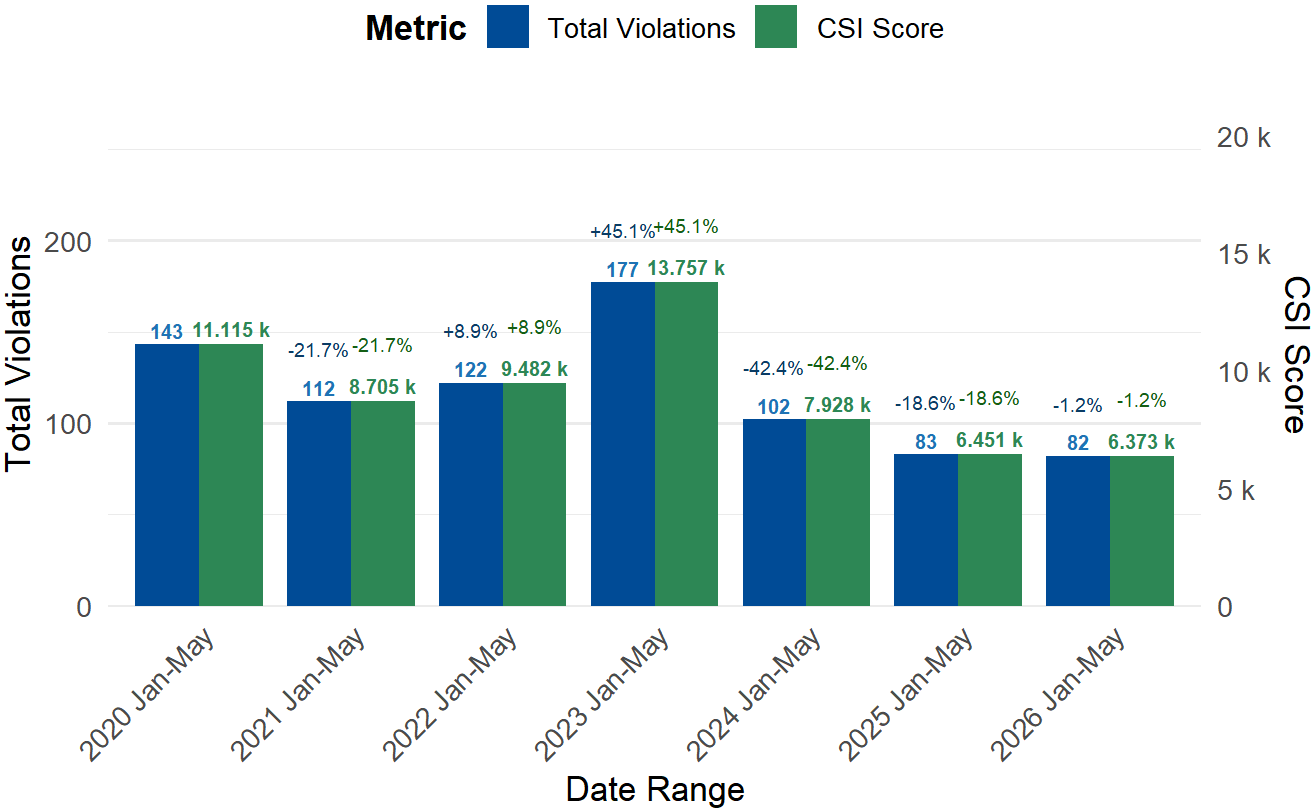
Total Theft from Motor Vehicle: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



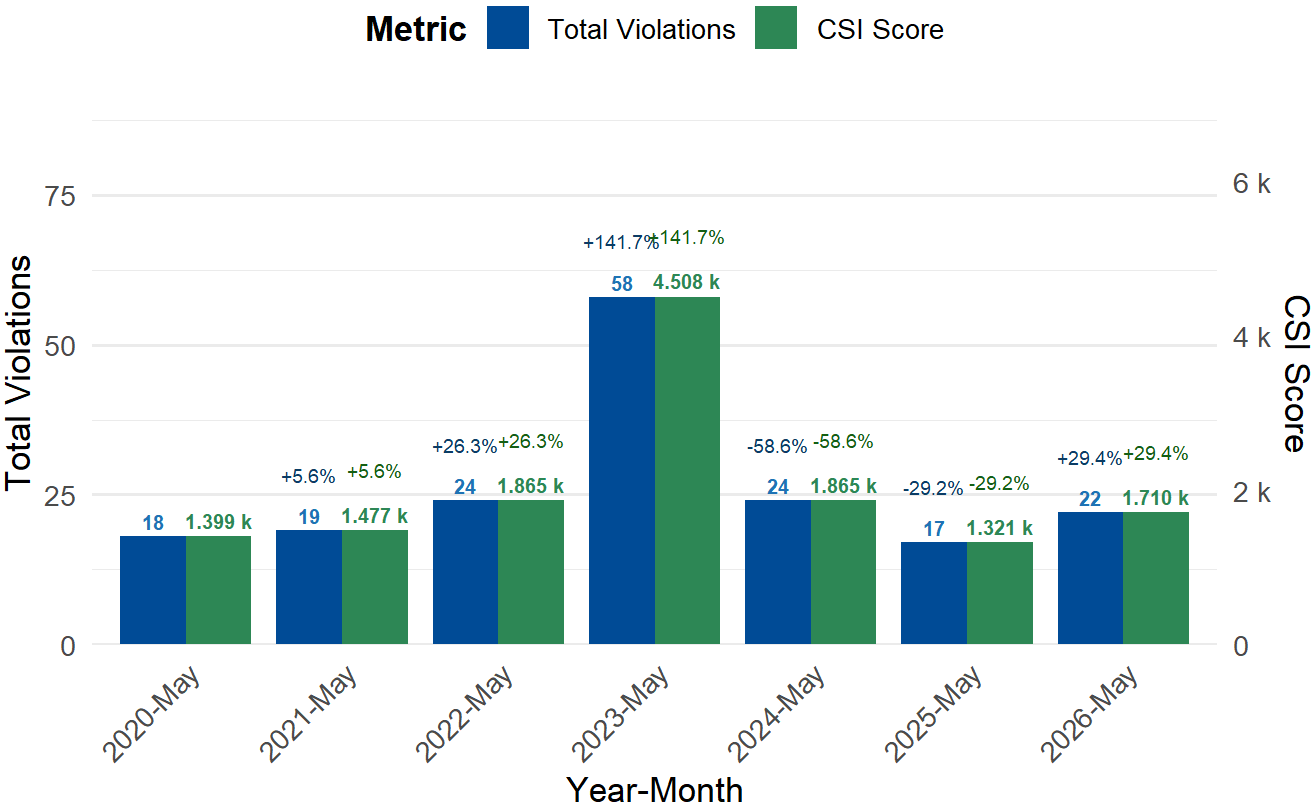
May Theft from Motor Vehicle: Violations vs CSI (Year Over Year Change)



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



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



KEY MESSAGES:

- Lethbridge continues to make progress in reducing crime and improving offender accountability. In 2025, the overall crime rate decreased by 13%, while the police service's clearance rate increased by nearly 4%, meaning more crimes were solved and more offenders were held accountable.
- Fewer reported crimes means fewer people were impacted by crime in our community. The reduction in crime reflects the continued effectiveness of targeted enforcement, crime prevention initiatives, community partnerships and collaborative approaches to public safety.
- While overall crime declined, the Crime Severity Index (CSI) increased slightly by 1.87%. This reflects increases in several higher-severity offence categories and does not mean more crime occurred overall.
- Several of the offences that contributed to the slight CSI increase are directly linked to strong police work. In other words, when we identify more offenders, detect more breaches, conduct more investigations and lay more charges, those activities contribute to CSI outcomes while simultaneously improving community safety.
- Increases in failure to comply with court-imposed conditions reflect enhanced monitoring of offenders subject to release conditions, probation orders and other judicial restrictions. Increased enforcement in this area resulted in more breaches being detected and more charges being laid.
- Increases in drug trafficking offences are tied to targeted enforcement initiatives, intelligence-led policing and special projects focused on disrupting drug trafficking networks and holding offenders accountable.
- Increases in sexual assault offences may reflect several factors, including enhanced investigative capacity through the Lethbridge Police Service's dedicated Sexual Assault Unit and increased reporting by survivors. The availability of specialized supports through community partners, including Aurora, may be helping more victims come forward, report offences and access services.
- From a community safety perspective, identifying offences, supporting victims and holding offenders accountable are positive outcomes, even when they contribute to higher CSI figures.
- The increase in attempted murder charges should be viewed in context. Lethbridge investigated three attempted murder occurrences in 2025, which is generally consistent with the one to three investigations the city typically records each year. However, one incident involved five victims, resulting in five counts of attempted murder being laid against a single accused. Because attempted murder carries one of the highest weights in the Crime Severity Index, incidents involving multiple victims can have a significant impact on CSI results.
- Shoplifting increased significantly in 2025 and was a significant contributor to CSI growth. This reflects a broader national trend, with communities across Canada experiencing increases in retail theft. Locally, LPS continued to work closely with retailers and loss-prevention personnel to address repeat offenders and organized retail theft activity.
- The 2025 results present a balanced picture: overall crime is down, more crimes are being solved, and more offenders are being held accountable.
- At the same time, several serious offences increased and continue to require focused attention from police and community partners.
- The Lethbridge Police Service is encouraged by the reduction in overall crime and improvements in investigative outcomes, while remaining committed to addressing violent crime, repeat offending, drug trafficking and the underlying factors that contribute to criminal behaviour.

BACKGROUND:

Earlier today, Statistics Canada released its 2025 police-reported crime statistics, and the data shows that Lethbridge continues to make progress in reducing crime and improving offender accountability.

In 2025, the overall crime rate decreased by 13% and our clearance rate increased by nearly 4%, reflecting fewer reported incidents, more crimes solved and more offenders held accountable

Any time we see fewer people becoming victims of crime, that's positive news. It tells us that targeted enforcement, crime prevention initiatives and collaborative community-based approaches are having an impact.

At the same time, the data also highlights areas where there is more work to do.

While the overall volume of crime declined, the Crime Severity Index increased slightly by 1.87%. The reason is, the CSI measures not only how much crime occurs, but also how serious that crime is. Several categories of higher-severity offences increased in 2025, which placed upward pressure on the index despite the overall reduction in crime.

What is important for the community to understand is some of those increases are actually linked to proactive policing efforts and enhanced investigative capacity that are helping us identify offences, support victims and hold offenders accountable.

For example, Statistics Canada identified failures to comply with court-imposed conditions as one of the primary drivers of CSI growth in Lethbridge. This increase is partly the result of proactive policing initiatives. We have enhanced our monitoring of offenders who are subject to release conditions, probation orders and other judicial restrictions. As a result, officers are identifying more breaches, conducting more investigations and laying more charges when those conditions are violated.

Similarly, increases in drug trafficking offences are closely tied to focused enforcement efforts. Through targeted operations, intelligence-led policing and special projects, our officers have been actively disrupting drug trafficking networks in our community. Those proactive efforts have resulted in more trafficking charges being laid and more offenders being held accountable.

Another area that saw an increase was sexual assault.

In 2025, the Lethbridge Police Service established a dedicated Sexual Assault Unit. That specialized team has enhanced our ability to investigate these complex offences, support victims and advance cases that may otherwise have remained unresolved. Through thorough investigations, officers have identified additional offences, pursued historical and related files, and laid charges where evidence supported them.

Increased reporting may also be a factor. The availability of specialized supports through community partners, including Aurora, may be helping more survivors come forward, report incidents and access services. While any increase in sexual assault is concerning, increased reporting can also indicate that victims have greater confidence in seeking help and engaging with the justice system.

From a public safety perspective, that is a positive outcome. Victims are being supported, offences are being investigated and offenders are being held accountable.

However, those additional charges are reflected in Statistics Canada's reporting and contribute to a higher Crime Severity Index.

In other words, some of the increases we are seeing are a direct result of focused enforcement and enhanced investigative capacity. While that can place upward pressure on the CSI, it also reflects meaningful police work that is identifying crime, supporting victims and bringing offenders before the courts.

Some of the other offence categories impacting our CSI reflect a small number of serious incidents that can fluctuate significantly from year to year.

Attempted murder is a good example. While Statistics Canada data reflects seven counts of attempted murder in 2025, those charges stemmed from just three investigations. In two investigations, one count of attempted murder was laid. In the third, a single accused was charged with five counts of attempted murder involving five victims.

Historically, Lethbridge averages between one and three attempted murder investigations annually, so the number of occurrences investigated in 2025 was generally consistent with what we would expect to see. However, because attempted murder carries one of the highest weights in the Crime Severity Index, a single incident involving multiple victims can have a significant impact on the overall CSI.

With respect to property crime, in 2025 businesses in Lethbridge experienced a significant increase in shoplifting incidents. This was a challenge not only locally, but across Canada, with Statistics Canada reporting that shoplifting continued to rise nationally. The increase reflects broader retail theft trends that many communities have been managing in recent years.

Locally, we worked closely with retailers, loss-prevention personnel and our business community to address repeat offenders and organized retail theft activity. While the increase in reported shoplifting incidents contributed to CSI pressures, it also reflects strong reporting by businesses and targeted enforcement efforts focused on repeat offenders who have a disproportionate impact on our community.

When we look at the data as a whole, it's important to understand that several of the offences driving CSI increases fall into very different categories. Some, such as failures to comply with court-imposed conditions and drug trafficking, reflect proactive enforcement and increased offender accountability. Others, such as sexual assault, reflect enhanced investigative efforts and greater support for victims. Shoplifting reflects a broader trend that communities across Canada continue to experience. And in the case of attempted murder, the increase was driven largely by a single occurrence involving multiple victims and resulting in multiple attempted murder charges. This illustrates how a relatively small number of serious incidents can have a significant impact on Crime Severity Index results.

At the same time, we are seeing positive results in our ability to solve crime. Our overall clearance rate increased by nearly four per cent in 2025, meaning more crimes were solved and more offenders were held accountable. That's an important measure of police effectiveness and speaks to the dedication of our officers and investigative teams

Overall, the statistics shared today demonstrate that policing and public safety are complex.

Ultimately, a 13 per cent reduction in the overall crime rate means fewer crimes occurred in our community. That is encouraging and is evidence that many of our strategies and partnerships are producing results.

At the same time, the data highlights areas where continued attention is required.

The takeaway today is we are moving in the right direction in many respects. We are seeing fewer crimes overall. We are investing in specialized units. We are proactively monitoring high-risk offenders. We are targeting drug traffickers. And we are identifying and investigating offences that may previously have gone undetected.

Those efforts improve community safety, support victims and hold offenders accountable, even when they may contribute to increases in certain statistical measures.

We will continue building on that work, strengthening our partnerships and focusing our resources where they can have the greatest impact on public safety.

Executive Summary

The 2026 Community Survey reflects a significant improvement in public perceptions of both the Lethbridge Police Service (LPS) and overall community safety. Most key performance indicators increased from 2024 levels, with several reaching their highest recorded levels in recent years. Overall satisfaction, confidence in policing, perceptions of professionalism, staffing confidence, and feelings of safety all improved substantially.

The results suggest that residents are seeing positive changes in the community and increasingly view LPS as effective, professional, and responsive. While concerns remain regarding drugs, crime, homelessness, and community disorder, public sentiment appears to be moving in a more positive direction than in previous surveys.

Key Findings

Public satisfaction with LPS is at a record high

- 85% of residents are satisfied with LPS overall, the highest level recorded in the past four surveys.
- Satisfaction has steadily increased from:
 - o 78% (2022)
 - o 83% (2023)
 - o 84% (2024)
 - o 85% (2026)
- Residents generally believe LPS is providing quality service and there is broad confidence in police operations across demographic groups.

Confidence in policing performance increased significantly

Residents reported stronger confidence in several core policing measures:

Measure	2024	2026
Job LPS is doing policing the community	85%	91%
Meeting expectations for keeping Lethbridge safe	83%	88%
Professionalism of LPS personnel	85%	90%
LPS adequately staffed	55%	64%

- Residents not only like the service overall but increasingly believe the organization is effective, professional, and properly resourced.

Perceptions of safety improved dramatically

Overall community safety

- 83% of residents describe Lethbridge as a safe community, up from 70% in 2024.
- Only 17% describe Lethbridge as unsafe.

Change in safety over the past year

- 22% say Lethbridge has become safer, up from 13% in 2024.
- 16% say it has become less safe, down from 31% in 2024.
- 60% report no change
- This represents one of the most notable findings in the survey. Residents increasingly believe public safety conditions are improving rather than deteriorating.

Visible police presence matters

Among residents who believe LPS is doing a good job:

- 17% cited general satisfaction/no issues.
- 15% cited visible police presence, up from 10% in 2024.
- 10% cited quick response times.
- 9% cited keeping the community safe
- Visibility continues to be a major contributor to public confidence and perceptions of effective policing.

Contact with police remains common

- 56% of residents had direct contact with an LPS officer within the past year.
- This level has remained relatively stable since 2023 and 2024.
- This suggests public views are informed by direct interactions, not solely media coverage or public narratives.

Community Priorities

Top policing priorities remain crime-focused

Residents continue to prioritize core enforcement and public safety issues.

1. Drug crime – 77%
2. Crimes against persons – 68%
3. Property crime – 64%

Lower priorities included:

- Traffic enforcement – 28%
- Fraud – 25%
- Nuisance offences – 23%
- Residents continue to expect LPS to focus resources on serious and harmful criminal activity affecting community safety.

Crime prevention is the strongest area for growth

When residents were asked where they would like to see more activity:

- Crime prevention – 65%
- Community visibility – 53%
- Community partnerships and engagement – 39%
- Traffic enforcement – 37%
- Residents support a balanced approach that combines enforcement with prevention, visibility, and proactive policing.

Community policing expectations have stabilized

- 55% believe LPS should continue doing about the same amount of community policing.
- 35% want more.
- Only 5% want less.
- The public appears generally satisfied with current levels of community policing and engagement activities.

Remaining Challenges

Although perceptions improved, several concerns remain consistent.

Residents who feel Lethbridge became less safe most commonly cited:

- Drugs/addictions (41%)
- Crime increasing (31%)
- Homelessness (22%)

Among residents critical of LPS, common concerns included:

- Poor personal experiences
- LPS focused on the wrong things
- Slow response times
- Enforcement concerns
- Visibility concerns
- Substance use, social disorder, homelessness, and visible crime continue to shape public perceptions of safety and remain areas where residents expect ongoing police and community action.

KEY MESSAGES

The 2026 survey represents a very positive result for the Lethbridge Police Service. Public satisfaction, confidence in police performance, perceptions of staffing, and feelings of community safety all improved from 2024, with several measures reaching their highest levels in recent years. Residents continue to prioritize enforcement against serious crime while supporting visible, prevention-focused policing and community engagement.

- Overall satisfaction reached 85%, the highest level recorded in recent years.
- Residents report increased confidence in LPS professionalism, service delivery, and effectiveness.
- Residents are feeling safer in Lethbridge. Community safety perceptions increased significantly compared with 2024.
- More residents say the city has become safer, while substantially fewer believe it has become less safe.
- The community supports a balanced approach to policing. Residents continue to prioritize enforcement against drug crime, violent crime, and property crime. At the same time, they want strong crime prevention initiatives and visible policing in neighbourhoods.
- Visible policing and community engagement matter. Residents frequently cite police visibility as a reason for positive perceptions.
- Most residents support maintaining current levels of community policing activities.
- Work remains to be done. Concerns regarding drugs, addictions, homelessness, and crime remain top drivers of negative perceptions. These issues will continue to require collaborative responses across community partners.