

2020 Highlights



Total Workforce

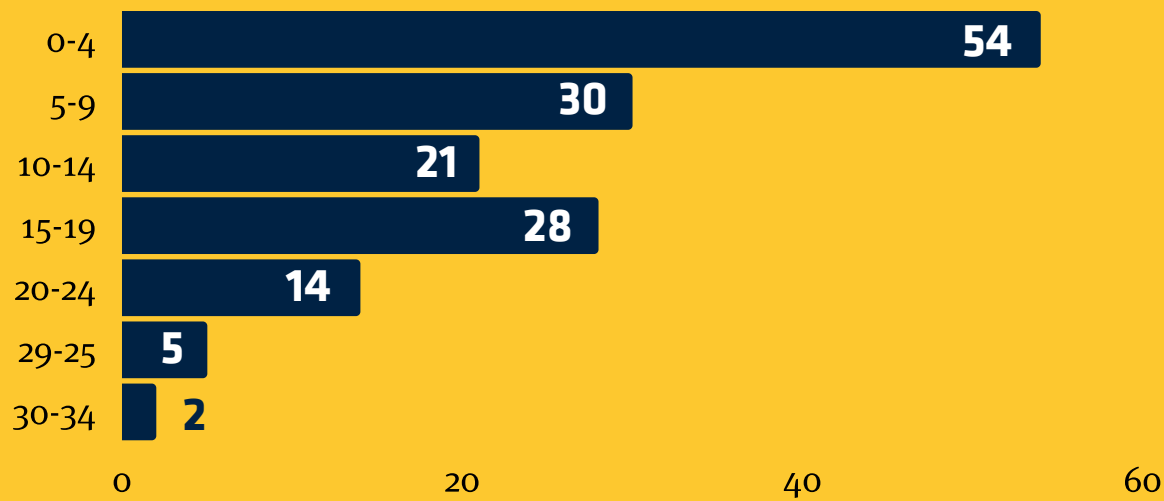
The New Westminster Police Department comprises of 27 civilian employees and 137 police officers.



19,694

Calls for service

Breakdown of Police Officers by years of service at NWPD



\$1 million

Street value of drugs seized by the New Westminster Police Department Street Crime Unit. This included 12 kilograms cocaine, 10 kilograms methamphetamine, a suitcase with approximately \$270,000 inside, two firearms with ammunition, one armored vest, high end jewelry, various drug trafficking equipment, and two vehicles. The investigation involved working with other police agencies in the province and began at the beginning of the summer 2020 with a focus on a residence in the city of New Westminster.



Police Board Motion For Police Reform

The New Westminster Police Board passed a motion related to police reform. This motion includes redirecting police resources away from laws that criminalize vulnerable people toward community initiatives and developing a diversity and inclusion framework to guide the direction of community policing. The motion calls on the police board to engage with residents, members of the police department, groups that represent those who have experienced discrimination, the province, and city council to inform this work.

Response to COVID-19

COVID-19 brought both hardships and challenges to the community of New Westminster. As a police department, staff were faced with the challenges of providing emergency services while keeping citizens and each other safe. To support front line officers, select staff from specialized teams were reassigned to join patrol watches, and schedules for patrol watches were adjusted to maintain levels of service in the event someone was required to isolate. A Department Operations Centre was activated to coordinate the New Westminster Police Department's response to COVID-19. This team oversaw the procurement of personal protective equipment (PPE), and worked with the Training Unit to ensure that all staff were trained on how to use PPE and incorporate Ministry of Health guidelines into their work. COVID-19 tested our intranet as many employees began using it to find COVID-19 related safety information, mental health resources, and opportunities to connect virtually. A dedicated news stream for COVID-19 updates was integrated into our intranet homepage. COVID-19 prompted staff to digitize numerous processes. All employees and visitors are required to complete a digital COVID-19 self-screening form. This form was been made available on our intranet so that employees could complete it on their mobile phone before entering the building. The New Westminster Police Department would like to thank all residents who demonstrated both patience and kindness in working with us through COVID-19.

Gang Suppression Unit

Gang crime and violence has negatively impacted every community in the Lower Mainland and it continues to exist. The City of New Westminster is not immune to this issue. This crime and violence puts our community's public safety at extreme risk.

The New Westminster Police Gang Suppression Unit (GSU) was formed in October 2020 in response to the escalating gang violence in the Lower Mainland.

The primary role of the NWPD GSU is to suppress gang and gun violence by employing effective strategies in the key areas of prevention, intervention, and enforcement. The GSU identifies and targets high risk offenders involved in the gang conflict, with the aim of investigating, prosecuting and disrupting unlawful and violent activity.

The NWPD GSU also engages with the community, conducting presentations and lectures and implementing proactive strategies to engage at-risk youth entering the gang lifestyle. Within the first several months, the NWPD GSU partnered with two community organizations, Game Ready and Her Time, both of which provide mentorship, structure, and opportunities for at-risk youth. The GSU also collaborates with the CFSEU "End Gang Life" program, providing referrals to assist entrenched gang members who are seeking to leave the lifestyle.

Since its inception the NWPD GSU has seen success within all three of the key areas of their mandate, prevention, intervention and enforcement. This includes the seizure of two restricted handguns from a high risk gang member; the seizure of over \$300,000 cash that was derived from criminal activity; the seizure of 13 kilograms of cocaine and 10 kilograms of methamphetamine from a high level drug trafficker; and numerous charges being forwarded to Crown Counsel relating to known gang members involved in the Lower Mainland Gang Conflict.

The NWPD GSU will continue to be a visible presence within the city of New Westminster to enhance feelings of public safety and confidence in the police during the gang conflict.



Silver Branch

The Silver Branch Project is a coordinated police response and prevention program to locate wandering and disoriented loved ones due to Alzheimer's, autism or other conditions or disorders.

Constable Camille Oliveira, the Vulnerable Persons Liaison Officer, works with families in creating a customized safety plan, gathering the most up-to-date information for the Silver Branch registry, connecting families with local resources, and seeing if GPS smart technology and alarms are a good fit. Constable Oliveira provides crime prevention sessions, training, and visits seniors in their homes, in addition to hosting the NWPD Safe-Tea and Seniors Day events.

The Silver Branch registry allows an improved police response to vulnerable people who may require emergency assistance due to their condition. It expedites the process of locating and assisting vulnerable residents by making essential personal information readily available to responding officers. In the event a vulnerable person requires police assistance, their physical description, medical history, areas he/she frequents, triggers and de-escalation techniques will be provided to emergency responders, will be provided to officers responding to the call.

Constable Oliveira is the New Westminster Police Department's Vulnerable Persons Liaison Officer. She's worked in policing for 23 years and is passionate about empowering families with the safety knowledge they need to provide a safe environment for their loved ones.

Cops for Cancer

COVID-19 didn't stop NWPD members from raising money for childhood cancer research. In September, three New Westminster Police Department constables laced up their shoes and embarked on a 470 kilometer bicycle ride through the British Columbia interior. Constables Wlodyka, Massoud, and Adam, were training for the Cops for Cancer Tour de Coast when the event had to make some adjustments to accommodate COVID-19 health guidelines. Despite the added challenge of COVID-19, the trio organized their own route, support team, and redoubled their efforts to fundraise for the worthy cause.

"Our ride took us from Oliver, along the Kettle Valley Trail, up to Salmon Arm and back," stated Constable Massoud. "While the weather and route definitely proved challenging, we were motivated by the brave kids who are going through cancer treatment and the overwhelming support we've received from our donors."

"Even though the ride was challenging, we thought about the cancer patients, cancer survivors, our colleagues, and long-time volunteers who have been involved in supporting this ride," stated Constable Adam.

"Of the over \$20,000 raised by the three of us, \$7,745 was donated directly from members of NWPD to Camp Goodtimes," stated Constable Wlodyka. "The summer camp is operated by the Canadian Cancer Society for children fighting cancer. Kids have shared that it allows them to take on new challenges and have fun."



Serving New Westminster since 1873



Criminal Code violations

	2018	2019	2020	% change 20-19	2019 (per 1000)	2020 (per 1000)	% change 20-19 (per 1000)
Total Calls for Service	22569	21092	19694	-7%	269.4	0.0	-100%
Criminal Code							
1000-Persons (Violent) Offenses	576	995	975	-2%	12.7	12.2	-4%
2000-Property Crime	3448	3472	3129	-10%	44.3	39.2	-12%
3000-Other Crime	871	993	912	-8%	12.7	11.4	-10%
Total Criminal Code	4895	5460	5016	-8%	69.7	62.8	-10%
1000-Persons (Violent) Offenses							
Homicide	0	1	0	-	0.0	0.0	-100%
Murder-Attempted	0	4	2	-50%	0.1	0.0	-
Sexual Assault	22	61	69	13%	0.8	0.9	11%
Assault-Common/Trespass	222	374	375	0%	4.8	4.7	-2%
Robbery	27	32	31	-3%	0.4	0.4	-5%
2000-Property Crime							
Break & Enter Business	193	226	196	-13%	2.9	2.5	-15%
Break & Enter Residence	110	119	95	-20%	1.5	1.2	-22%
Break & Enter Other	102	88	95	8%	1.1	1.2	6%
Motor Vehicle Theft	225	219	164	-25%	2.8	2.1	-27%
Theft from Motor Vehicle	1036	870	934	7%	11.1	11.7	5%
Theft-Other >\$5000	17	23	13	-43%	0.3	0.2	-45%
Theft-Other <\$5000	481	503	428	-15%	6.4	5.4	-17%
Mischief \$5000 or Under	451	503	484	-4%	6.4	6.1	-6%
Fraud Related	386	455	337	-26%	5.8	4.2	-27%
3000-Other Crime							
Breach/Bail Violation	134	173	212	23%	2.2	2.7	20%
Breach Probation-Adult	118	114	98	-14%	1.5	1.2	-16%
Cause a Disturbance	476	514	439	-15%	6.6	5.5	-16%
Counterfeiting Currency	14	28	11	-61%	0.4	0.1	-61%
Indecent Act/Exposure	23	27	29	7%	0.3	0.4	5%
4000-CDSA							
Total Drugs	118	98	105	7%	1.3	1.3	5%
8000-9000 Municipal & Traffic							
Bylaw - Other	132	97	189	95%	1.2	2.4	91%
Bylaw - Noise	312	297	323	9%	3.8	4.0	7%
Domestic Dispute-No Assault	576	498	484	-3%	6.4	6.1	-5%
Assist Public/Unwanted Guest	1789	1943	1802	-7%	24.8	22.6	-9%
Unspecified Assistance	70	28	19	-32%	0.4	0.2	-33%
Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Occurrence	1016	1033	1344	30%	13.2	16.8	28%
False Alarms	263	277	152	-45%	3.5	1.9	-46%
Impaired Op MV (Drugs)	11	17	9	-47%	0.2	0.1	-48%
Impaired Op MV (Alcohol)	51	93	81	-13%	1.2	1.0	-15%
Dangerous Operation of MV	10	12	12	0%	0.2	0.2	-2%
Collision-Non-Fatal Injury	196	128	129	1%	1.6	1.6	-1%

Join Nextdoor, your online neighbourhood network

With Nextdoor, you can join your neighbours to keep your communities safe, access trusted information, and collaborate with the New Westminster Police Department.

- Recieve crime prevention messages based on crime trends in your neighbourhood.
- Engage with your local police department. Let us know about your crime concerns.
- Receive critical, real-time information from the New Westminster Police Department.

Neighbours can join Nextdoor by visiting nextdoor.ca or by downloading the free app.

