



Changing Perceptions

2011 Waterloo Region Area Survey



Changing Perceptions: 2011 Waterloo Region Area Survey

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Executive Summary

In a 2009 report, the Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council made a commitment to monitor fear of crime within Waterloo Region on an on-going basis. This report is the first follow up to that initial report. This report compares previous data examining fear of crime with results from the **2011 Waterloo Region Area Survey**.

The results of this survey show a general reduction in perceptions of crime within Waterloo Region. This was primarily assessed using two survey questions:

- During the last five years, do you think that crime in Waterloo Region has remained about the same, decreased or increased?
- During the last five years, do you think that crime in your neighbourhood has increased, decreased or remained about the same?

The results showed a significant decrease in the number of people that think crime had increased in Waterloo Region and in their own neighbourhood.

The next sets of questions were repeated from the **Statistics Canada 2009 General Social Survey** to explore fear of crime, which asked:

- How safe do you feel from crime walking alone in your area after dark?
- If alone in your home in the evening or at night how do you feel about your personal safety from crime?
- In general how satisfied are you with your personal safety from crime?

The results of these questions showed Waterloo Region residents felt safer than residents in Ontario or Canada. They also showed a general reduction in fear of crime.

Another fear of crime question was repeated from the previous area survey:

- In thinking about your feelings of safety in your downtown area at night, do you feel very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe?

These results showed a dramatic drop in fear of crime in downtown areas region wide.

Attitudes related to crime prevention approaches were then explored with three questions:

- In your opinion, is substance abuse and addiction better managed in our society using health approaches, criminal justice approaches or a combination of both?
- Which of the ways listed would in your view be the single most effective way to control crime?
- Although reducing crime is a responsibility shared by many, where do you think the main responsibility lies?

The first question showed that respondents favour a combination of health and criminal justice approaches to address substance abuse. The three most common answers to the most effective way to control crime were to reduce unemployment, increase the number of social programs and to make sentences harsher. Finally, a majority of respondents felt society generally was responsible for reducing crime.

The drop in fear of crime is a positive outcome and opportunities exist to continue reducing fear of crime in Waterloo Region by continuing to reduce signs of physical and social disorder. Ideally this work should be done as a partnership between neighbourhood residents, community agencies and police.



Introduction

In November 2009 the Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council released a report examining fear of crime within Waterloo Region. This report began with a review of the academic literature related to fear of crime, then summarized the results from the most recent Waterloo Region Area Survey. These results were then compared to other Waterloo Region surveys.

The report concluded with four recommendations for action within the Region of Waterloo.

2009 Fear of Crime Report Recommendations

The Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council recommends that:

Recommendation 1:

Local government, Business Improvement Associations, community agencies and Waterloo Regional Police increase their focus on a multi-sector approach to address the unique needs of the local communities in Waterloo Region to reduce fear of crime.

Recommendation 2:

Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council, Waterloo Regional Police, Business Improvement Associations and Waterloo Region municipal governments employ strategies to address fear of crime that are based on evidence and are tailored to the needs of the local communities.

Recommendation 3:

Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council, Waterloo Regional Police, Business Improvement Associations and community agencies work to ensure that perceptions of crime reflect the reality of crime.

Recommendation 4:

Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council and Waterloo Regional Police collaborate on future surveys to continue to measure fear of crime in Waterloo Region.

The current report is primarily a follow up to the 2009 Fear of Crime report. The data in this report, like the previous report, relies upon data gathered by the University of Waterloo Survey Research Centre from their Waterloo Region Area Survey. The Waterloo Region Area Survey is run on an irregular basis when the local community interest is large enough to support a random survey of Waterloo Region residents. Space in the survey is purchased by local governments, community agencies, and academics.

Survey Title	Conducted by:	Year	Method
Citizen Survey	Waterloo Region Police Service	2000	Phone
Local Area Survey	UW Survey Research Centre	2003	Mail
Citizen Survey	Waterloo Region Police Service	2003	Phone
General Social Survey	Statistics Canada	2004	Phone
Citizen Survey	Waterloo Region Police Service	2007	Phone
Local Area Survey	UW Survey Research Centre	2008	Mail
General Social Survey	Statistics Canada	2008	Phone
General Social Survey	Statistics Canada	2009	Phone
Local Area Survey	UW Survey Research Centre	2011	Phone

The 2003 and 2008 Area Surveys were mail based surveys. The 2011 Area Survey was conducted using telephone interviews. The difficulties presented by this change will be explored in the methodology section (see Appendix B for a comparison of sampling issue between surveys). In addition to using data from the Area Survey this report has also made comparisons to the 2000, 2003 and 2007 Citizen Survey. This survey is conducted by the Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS) to assist in strategic planning. Data has also been compared to the 2003, 2008 and 2009 General Social Survey's. These surveys are conducted annually by Statistics Canada but the focus changes in five year cycles. The 2003 and 2009 versions of this survey's explored issues related to victimization and crime, while the 2008 version explored community participation and social capital.

The 2009 Fear of Crime report primarily explored fear of crime in Waterloo Region. The focus and purpose of this report is:

- 1) to track the changes in levels of fear of crime within Waterloo Region,
- 2) to compare local levels of fear of crime to national and provincial data, and
- 3) to explore policy opportunities arising from the data which may reduce crime, victimization and fear of crime within Waterloo Region.



Methodology

The 2011 Waterloo Region Area Survey was a phone survey conducted from May 26 to July 14, 2011. Contact information for Waterloo Region residents was purchased from ASDE Survey Sampler. The sample included land line numbers and cell phone numbers. At least eight attempts were made for each phone line that was contacted. If someone answered a landline the respondent was asked to have the adult with the next birthday come to the phone to complete the survey. The survey contained questions looking at the following areas:

- Mental health measures,
- Political participation and political attitudes,
- Perceptions of crime in the Region,
- Awareness of Women's Crisis Services in the area,
- Attitudes towards storm water management, and
- Demographic data.

The final question in the survey asked if participants would be willing to participate in a follow up interview if \$20 was provided in compensation. Fourteen survey respondents who indicated they would be willing to participate in a follow up interview and whose answers indicated they had a higher fear of crime were contacted. Ten of these individuals then participated in a follow up interview. Two individuals who had a low fear of crime were also contacted for a follow up interview, they both participated. This method of breaking individuals into two groups was designed by Spelman (2004) who suggested that an appropriate method to address why individuals fear crime is to conduct a survey to assess an individual's fear of crime, pull out respondents with high fear of crime to interview, and then perform policy work on their largest concerns.

Comparisons are made to the 2003 and 2008 Area Survey's. Unfortunately these surveys do not provide a perfect comparison. The 2008 Area Survey almost exclusively surveyed homeowners with only 10 out of 703 respondents indicating that they rented. The 2008 Area Survey results appear to be a good sample on most other measures and therefore should be considered a survey of homeowners. The 2003 survey did not ask individuals if they rent or own their homes. In addition, the 2003 and 2008 Area Survey's were conducted using a mail questionnaire. In 2008 the option existed to answer online but most respondents choose to mail back their survey. Comparisons have also been made to the 2004 and 2009 General Social Survey which were phone surveys conducted by Statistics Canada. These surveys were conducted Canada wide and some results, but not all results, are available at the Kitchener Census Metropolitan Area level. The Kitchener Census Metropolitan Area is not a perfect match for the Region of Waterloo as it excludes the townships of Wilmot and Wellesley.

The sampling differences with respect to homeowners and renters present a significant challenge when comparing the results from the 2003, 2008 and 2011 Waterloo Region Area Survey. Additional challenges are presented by moving from a mail survey to a phone survey. Respondents who answer a phone survey are more likely to provide responses that are positive than individuals conducting a mail survey, this is called positivity bias (de Leeuw, 1992; Dilman, et. al, 2009). This has not been an issue in the past, even with the addition of a web option in 2008 as studies have found no difference exists in comparing the results to web and mail surveys (Yung & Trumbo, 2000; Dilman, et. al, 2009).



Results & Discussion

Response Rate

The survey was conducted from May 26 to July 14, 2011. During that time 610 surveys were completed (540 on landlines and 70 on cellular phones) and 34 surveys were partially completed. This took 818 hours of surveying. The survey contact rate was 50%, meaning one out of every two households that were attempted to be contacted never answered the phone. The survey response rate was 13%. The response rate was higher on cell phones at 22% then land lines at 12%.

Demographic Data

The survey respondents' demographics represent the residents of Waterloo Region reasonably well. Some variation still exists between the actual population, as described by the 2006 census, and the survey respondents. Most notably, females are over represented in the sample with 60% of respondents indicating they are female as opposed to the actual population which is 51%. This gender bias is not surprising as it is well documented in the academic literature that females are more likely to answer a survey than males (Rourke & Lakner, 1989). The sample is also skewed with respect to age. More individuals above the age of 55 completed the survey than would be expected if the survey had interviewed a proportion of individuals over the age of 55 that is reflective of the actual population of individuals above the age of 55. With individuals between the ages of 18 to 34 the opposite problem is presented with fewer individuals in this age group surveyed than would be expected. The survey did not attempt to interview anyone under the age of 18. The survey respondents were also on average wealthier than the residents of Waterloo Region. Income was estimated based upon job codes and matching salaries from 2005. The average salary¹ according to the survey was \$47,645 which is higher than the average salary in the region of \$38,474. Comparing the results based on municipality of residence shows an under sampling of residents from Cambridge, with an over sampling for Waterloo and Kitchener.

City	Population	Percentage of Population	Survey Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Cambridge	120,371	25.2%	115	17.9%
Kitchener	204,668	42.8%	292	45.3%
Waterloo	97,475	20.4%	163	25.3%
Townships	55,607	11.6%	74	11.5%
Waterloo Region	478,121	100%	644	100%

¹ When referring to the average salary this report uses the mean salary.

The survey respondents were also less likely to have moved in the last five years than the general population. Seventy-one percent of survey respondents indicated they had not moved in the last five years as opposed to 56% of the actual population. These results are not surprising given the age and income characteristics of the respondents.

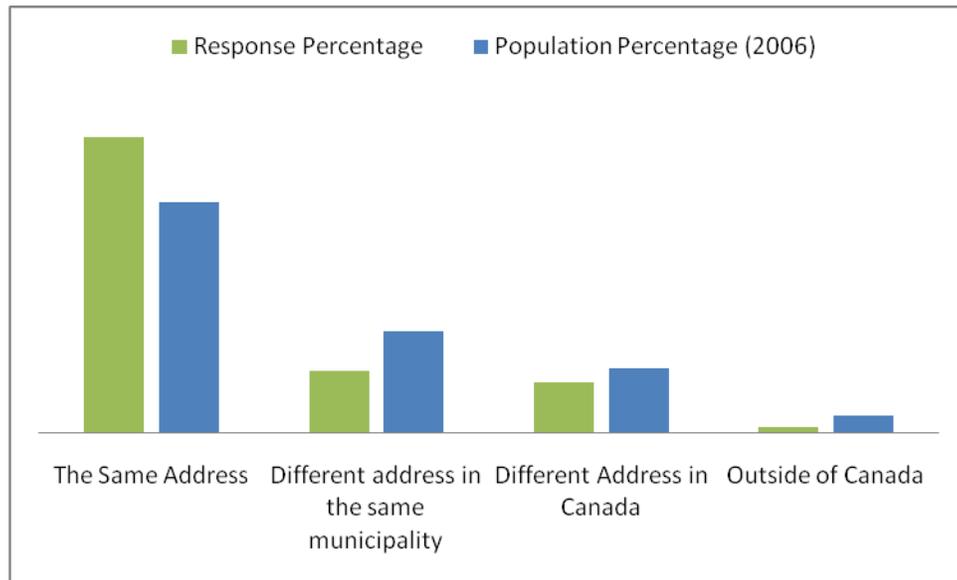


Figure #1 Place of Residence Five Years Ago

The survey closely matches when examining renting verses homeowners with 76% of respondents owning their home compared to 71% of the actual population which owned their home in 2006. The survey appropriately reflected country of birth as well, with 80% of survey respondents indicating they were born in Canada compared to the actual percentage which was 78% in 2006. These comparisons to the census show the survey results represent the residents of Waterloo Region reasonably well².

Waterloo Region Perceptions of Crime

During the 2003 and 2008 Area Survey respondents were asked about their perceptions of crime in their area and within the region as whole. These questions were asked again in 2011.

² Weights were considered based upon gender and age, and municipality and age. After reviewing the results with weights it was decided not to re-weight the sample for this report. Since, the weighted results reduced fear of crime the results are presented unweighted in the interest of presenting a conservative picture of the perceptions of crime in Waterloo Region. Weighted results based upon gender and age can be found in Appendix C.

The question about crime in the Region asked: *During the last five years, do you think that crime in Waterloo Region has remained about the same, decreased or increased?* The results indicate a majority of respondents (53.9%) thought crime had remained about the same. The second most common answer was that crime had increased (32.3%) with the least number of respondents thinking crime had decreased (13.7%).

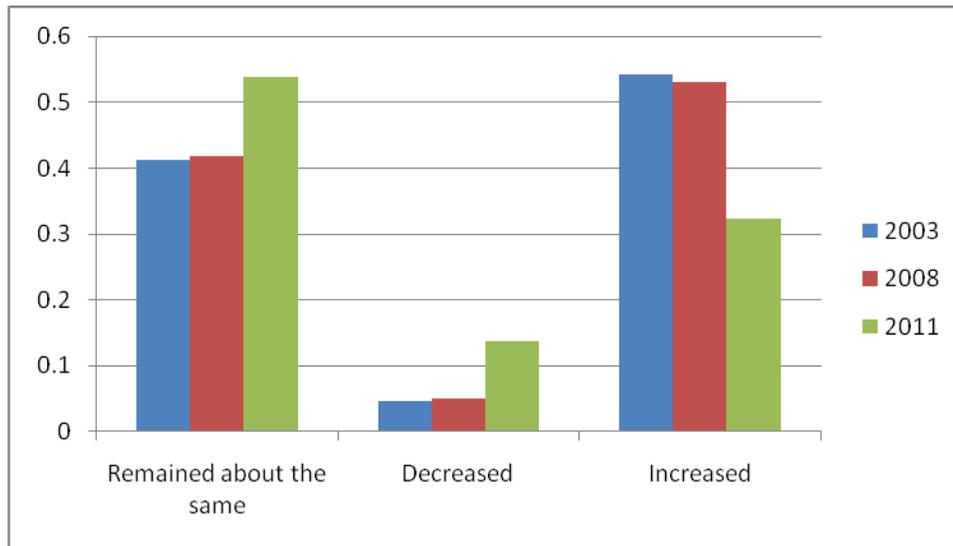


Figure #2: Perceptions of Crime in Waterloo Region

These results show a dramatic drop in the number of people who thought crime had increased. During the 2003 survey 54.2% thought crime had increased and in the 2008 survey 53.1% thought crime increased. In 2011 this number dropped to 32.3%. Survey results represent an estimate on the beliefs of the entire population. These estimates are typically off by a little bit; by using confidence intervals it is possible to know with reasonable certainty a range within which the actual beliefs of the population fall. This is expressed as a confidence interval. For example, using the 95% confidence interval we can say that we are confident that 19 times out of 20 the respondents fall within a range. Comparing the results from 2003, 2008 and 2011 the change in response can be seen as statistically significant at the 95% confidence interval³⁴.

³ All confidence intervals calculated using The Survey System Confidence Interval Calculator found at www.surveysystem.com/sscalc.htm

⁴ 54.2% +/-3.9 in 2003, 53.1% +/-3.8 in 2008 and 32.3 +/-3.9 in 2011

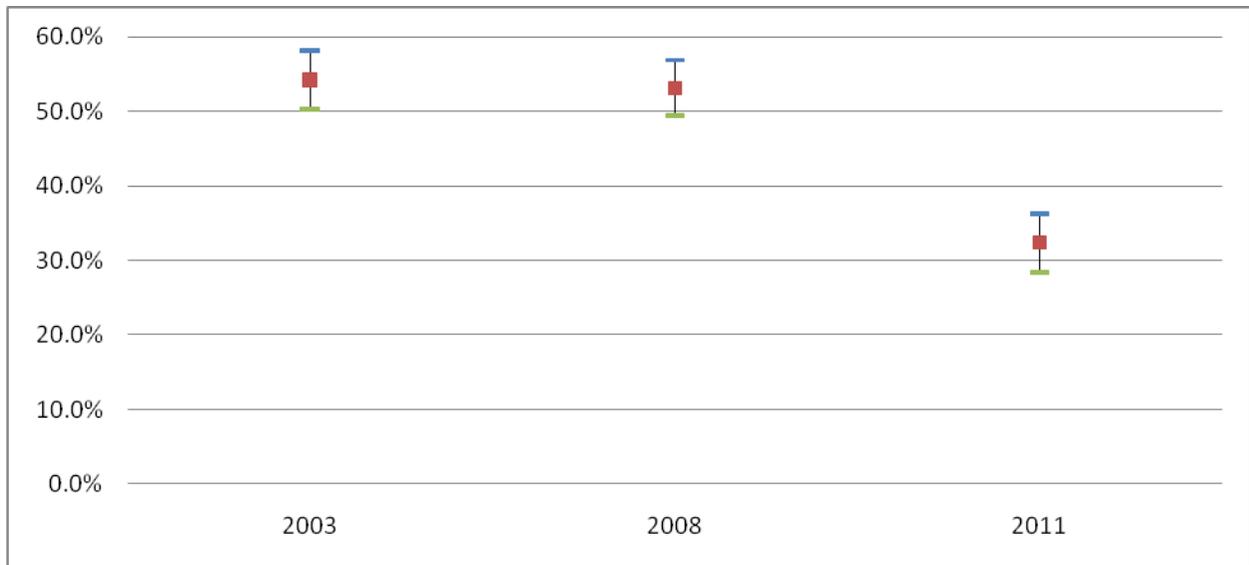


Figure #3: Crime in Waterloo Region Has Increased with 95% Confidence Intervals

The best measure of the crime rate available is police reported crimes. It is important to note that police reported crime is a significant undercount of actual crimes with Statistics Canada estimating that only 1/3 of crimes are reported to police (Perreault & Brennan, 2010). Statistics Canada annually reports police reported crime statistics for Waterloo Region. These numbers allow us to see if perception reflects reality.

The question asked if during the previous five years crime had changed in Waterloo Region, Results are not available for 2011 but if we compare 2010 to 2006 we see that crime had dropped 12%. Comparing 2008 to 2003 we see an 8% drop in crime and comparing 2003 to 1998 we see an 18% decrease in crime. Despite these drops a majority of respondents in 1998 and 2003 thought that crime was increasing. In contrast two-thirds of the 2011 survey respondent's state crime is about the same or decreasing.

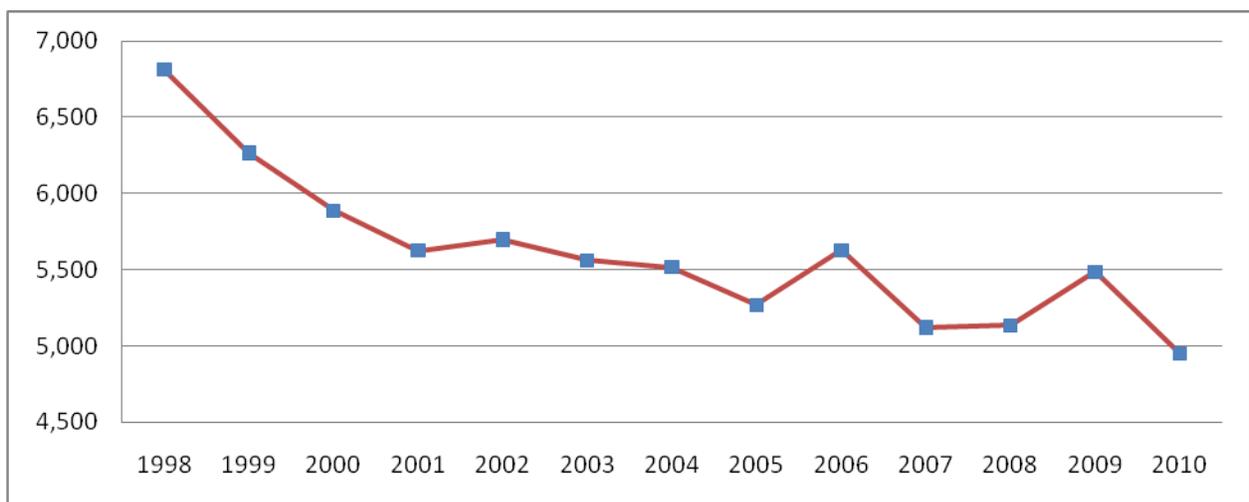
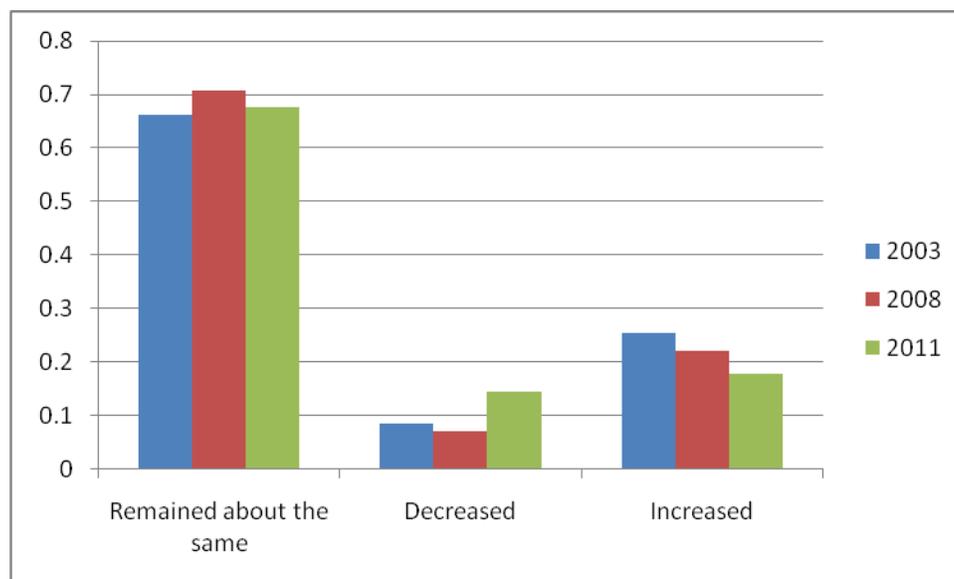


Figure #4: Kitchener Census Metropolitan Area Crime Rate

To test the limitations when comparing the 2008 sample, the results of homeowners and renters were compared⁵. Results show that renters were more likely to think crime is increasing than homeowners⁶. This lends credibility to these results. Since the 2008 sample contains more homeowners these results show that if there is a bias in the 2008 results it is likely that it is towards less individuals reporting they believe crime is increasing than the actual population. However, these results should still be interpreted carefully as there is still the possibility of a positivity bias.

The survey also asked a follow up question which focused more specifically on crime in the respondent's immediate neighbourhood. Interviewees were asked: *During the last five years, do you think that crime in your neighbourhood has increased, decreased or remained about the same?* The results indicate that a majority of respondents (67.7%) thought crime in their neighbourhood had remained about the same. In contrast not as many respondents thought crime had increased (17.8%) or decreased (14.5%).



Figure# 5 Perceptions of Crime in Respondents Neighbourhood

Once again these results compare favourably to the 2003 and 2008 Area Survey as significantly less respondents in 2011 think that crime has increased. In 2003's survey 25.4% thought crime increased in their neighbourhood and in 2008's survey 22.1% thought it had increased, but by 2011 this number dropped to 17.8%. These results can once again be compared using confidence intervals which show that the change is statistically significant⁷.

⁵ This comparison was made using a t-test.

⁶ These results were significant at the 0.1 level.

⁷ 25.4% +/-3.4 in 2003, 22.1% +/-3.1 in 2008 and 17.8% +/-3.1 in 2011.

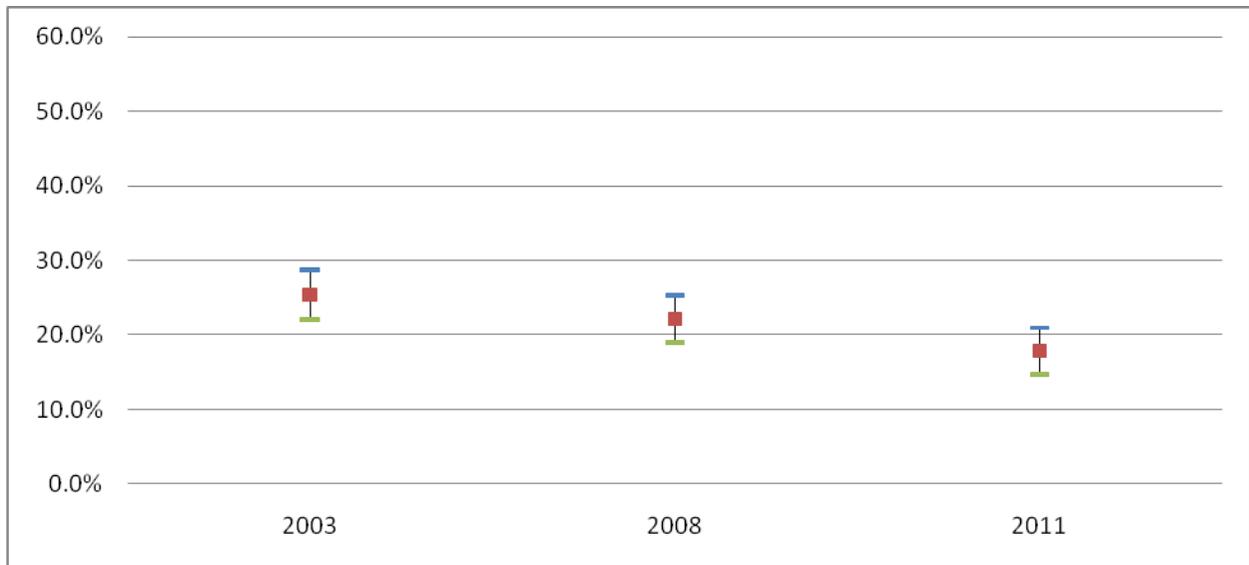


Figure #6: Crime in Respondents Neighbourhood Has Increased with 95% Confidence Intervals

To test the limitations when comparing to the 2008 sample the results of homeowners and renters were compared⁸. The results found no statistically significant difference between renters and homeowners responses.

This survey question offers a second test on validity as a similar question was asked during the 2000, 2003 and 2007 WRPS Citizen Survey. This survey was also a phone survey, so positivity bias does not present a problem when comparing the results. However, in the Citizen Survey as opposed to asking about crime in the last five years in respondents neighbourhoods the related survey question asked about the past three years: *During the past three years, would you say the level of crime in your neighbourhood has increased, decreased or remained the same?* These results are therefore not a perfect comparison but should provide a reasonable approximation.

⁸ This comparison was made using a t-test.

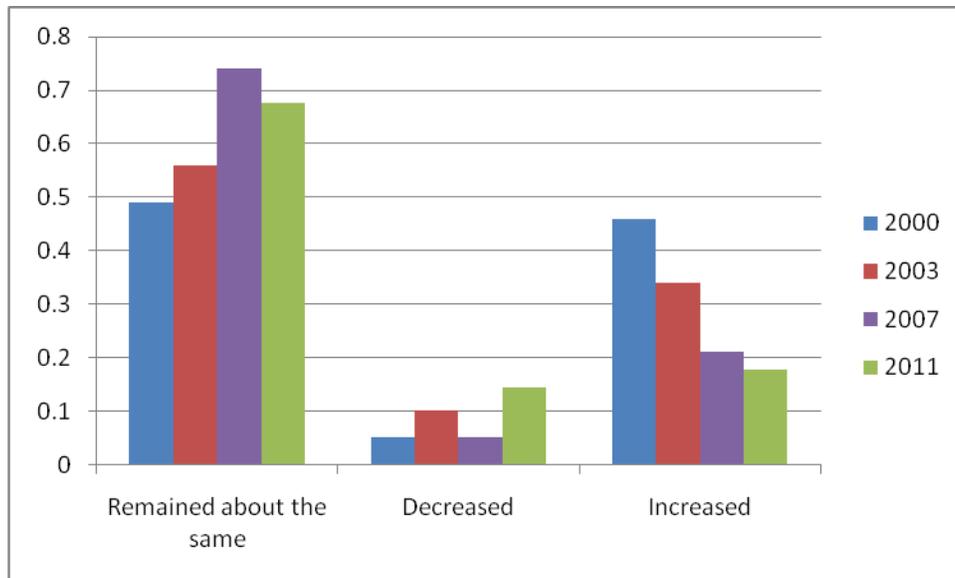


Figure #7: WRPS Citizen Survey Results - Crime in Respondents Neighbourhood

The results from the Citizen Survey and the Local Area Survey show that the percentage of individuals that think crime is increasing in their neighbourhood has been steadily declining over the past decade.

Waterloo Region Fear of Crime

Four survey questions explored fear of crime in different locations and situations. The first survey question explored fear of crime after dark in respondent's neighbourhoods. It asked: *How safe do you feel from crime walking alone in your area after dark?* The results to this question show 82.9% of respondents feel very safe or reasonably safe. A similar question was asked in the 2008 Area Survey and the 2007 Citizen Survey. This question asked: *In thinking about your feelings of safety in your neighbourhood at night please indicate whether you feel very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe during night time hours while walking in your neighbourhood?* The results from these surveys were lower with 75.5% of 2008 respondents and 74.4% of 2007 respondents indicating they felt very safe or somewhat safe.

	2011 Area Survey	2008 Area Survey		2007 Citizen Survey
Very Safe	35.6%	Very Safe	28.7%	40%
Reasonably Safe	47.3%	Somewhat Safe	46.6%	34%
Somewhat Unsafe	12.6%	Somewhat Unsafe	20.4%	21%

Very Unsafe	4.4%	Very Unsafe	4.4%	5%
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The question, *how safe do you feel from crime walking alone in your area after dark?* was also asked on the 2009 and 2004 General Social Survey (GSS) by Statistics Canada. This provides additional opportunities for comparison. When the results are compared between the 2011 Area Survey and the 2009 GSS Waterloo Region's results are similar to Ontario and Canada's results.

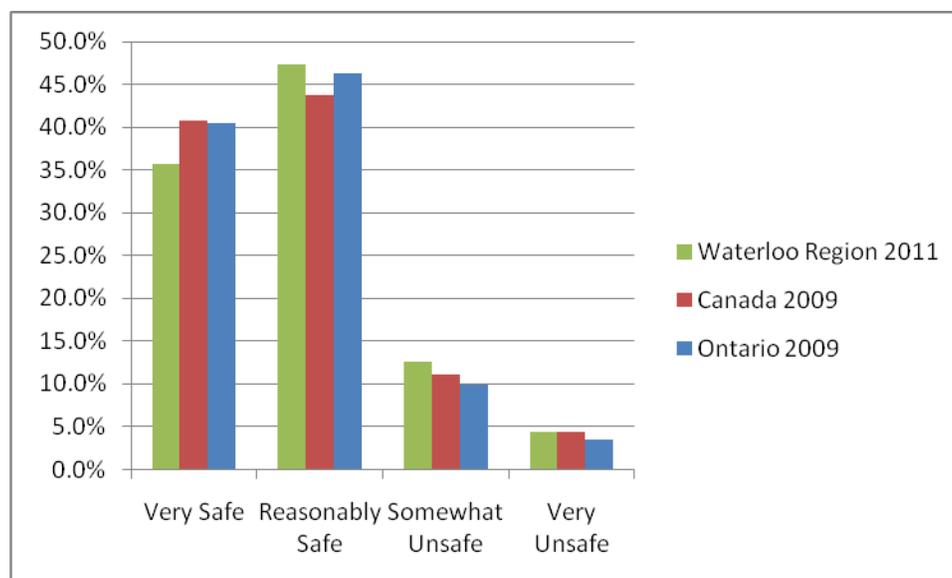


Figure #8: Feelings While Walking Alone After Dark in Respondents Area

The results also appear to be relatively stable over time as it is possible to compare the results to the 2009 General Social Survey. This survey shows that for the Kitchener CMA 79% of respondents felt very safe or reasonably safe which is comparable to 2011 when 82.9% of respondents indicated feeling very safe or reasonably safe. The results are also relatively stable from 2004 to 2009 for Canada and Ontario.

	2011 Area Survey	2009 General Social Survey			2004 General Social Survey	
	Waterloo Region	Canada	Ontario	Kitchener CMA	Canada	Ontario
Very Safe	35.6%	40.8%	40.4%	37.5%	40.6%	37.6%
Reasonably Safe	47.3%	43.8%	46.3%	41.5%	43.4%	45.7%
Very Safe/ Reasonably Safe	82.9%	84.5%	86.7%	79.0%	84.0%	83.4%

The 2011 Area Survey copied a second question from the 2004 and 2009 GSS: *If alone in your home in the evening or at night how do you feel about your safety from crime?* The results for Waterloo Region closely matched the 2009 Canada and Ontario results with 82.8% of Area Survey participants indicating they were not at all worried about crime at home in the evening.

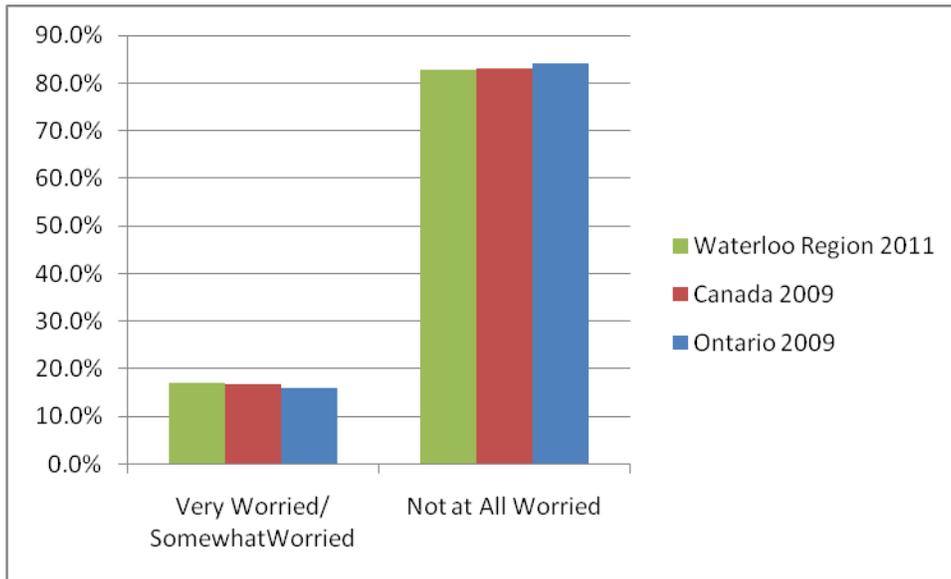


Figure #9: Feelings of Safety in Respondents Home After Dark

	2011 Area Survey	2009 General Social Survey		2004 General Social Survey	
	Waterloo Region	Canada	Ontario	Canada	Ontario
Not at All Worried	82.8%	83.2%	84.0%	80.4%	79.5%

Finally, in the 2011 Area Survey a third question was repeated from the 2004 and 2009 GSS: *In general how satisfied are you with your personal safety from crime?* The results to this question show 96.9% of respondents are satisfied with their personal safety from crime. This result is approximately the same as the results for the Kitchener Census Metropolitan Area in the 2009 GSS where 96.3% of respondents felt satisfied. High satisfaction rates for safety from crime are also seen in Ontario and Canada.

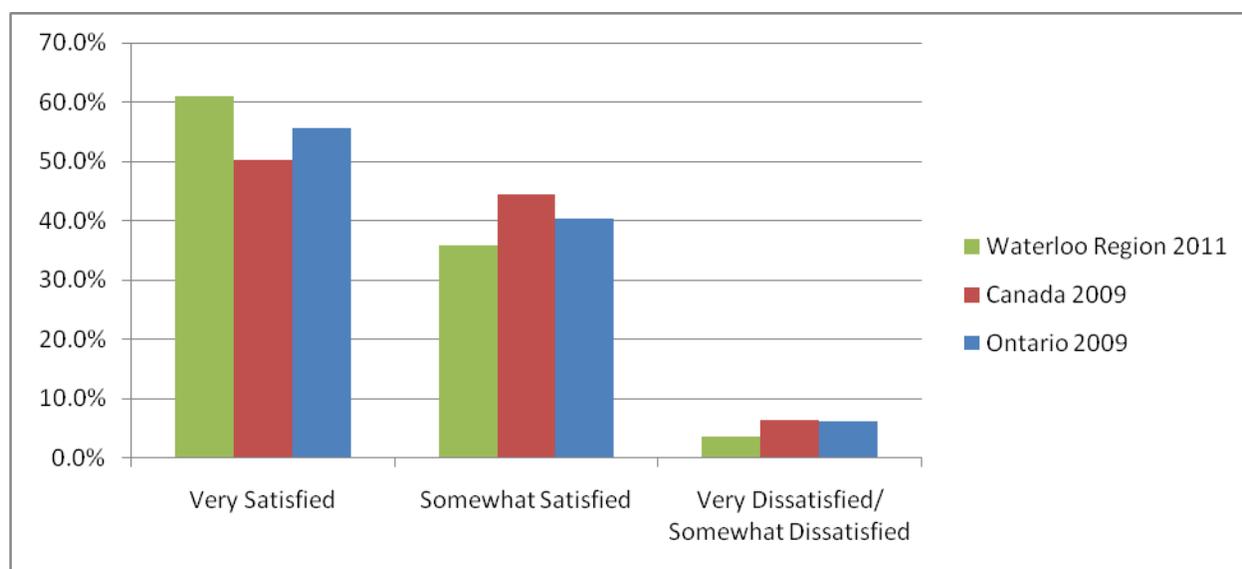


Figure #10: Respondents General Satisfaction with Safety from Crime

	2011 Area Survey	2009 General Social Survey			2004 General Social Survey	
	Waterloo Region	Canada	Ontario	Kitchener CMA	Canada	Ontario
Very Satisfied	61.0%	50.2%	55.7%	63.0%	47.0%	49.7%
Somewhat Satisfied	35.9%	44.4%	40.4%	33.3%	48.9%	46.4%
Very Satisfied/ Somewhat Satisfied	96.9%	94.7%	96.0%	96.3%	95.9%	96.1%

The next question asked: *In thinking about your feelings of safety in your downtown area at night, do you feel very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe?* These results show a dramatic drop in fear of crime in the downtown cores. In the 2007 WRPS Citizen Survey 48% of respondents indicated they felt somewhat unsafe or very unsafe in their downtown area. A similar result was obtained in the 2008 Area Survey with 47.5% of respondents indicating they felt somewhat unsafe or very unsafe in their downtown. The 2011 Area Survey shows a dramatic drop with only 36.8% of respondents indicating they felt somewhat unsafe or very unsafe in their downtown.

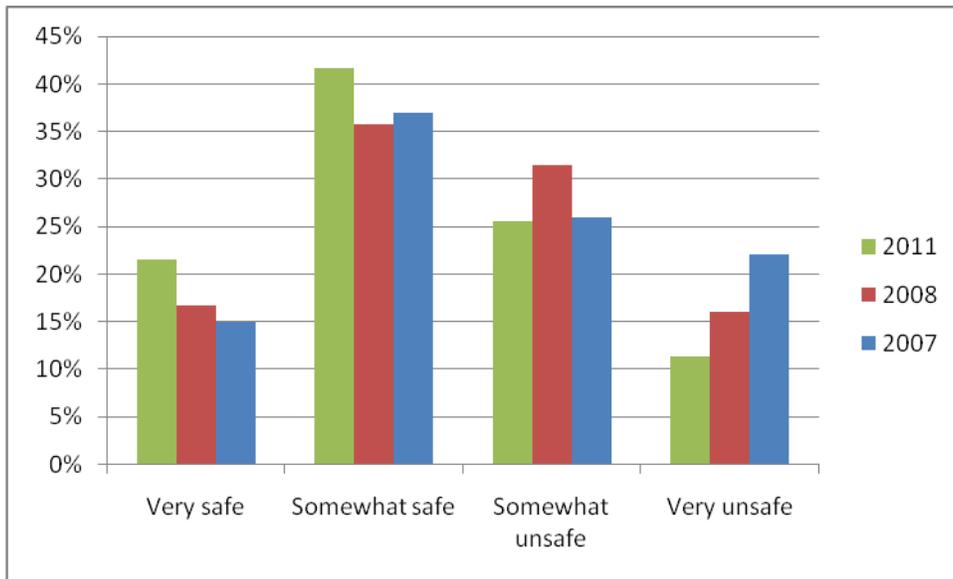


Figure #11: Respondents Feelings of Safety in Downtown Core

	Area Survey		Citizen Survey
	2011	2008	2007
Very Safe	21.5%	16.7%	15%
Somewhat Safe	41.6%	35.8%	37%
Somewhat Unsafe	25.5%	31.5%	26%
Very Unsafe	11.3%	16.0%	22%

The results from the 2008 and 2011 Area Survey were also examined by city. Combining the respondents that said they felt somewhat unsafe and very unsafe shows a drop from 2008 to 2011 in every city within Waterloo Region and the townships as a whole.

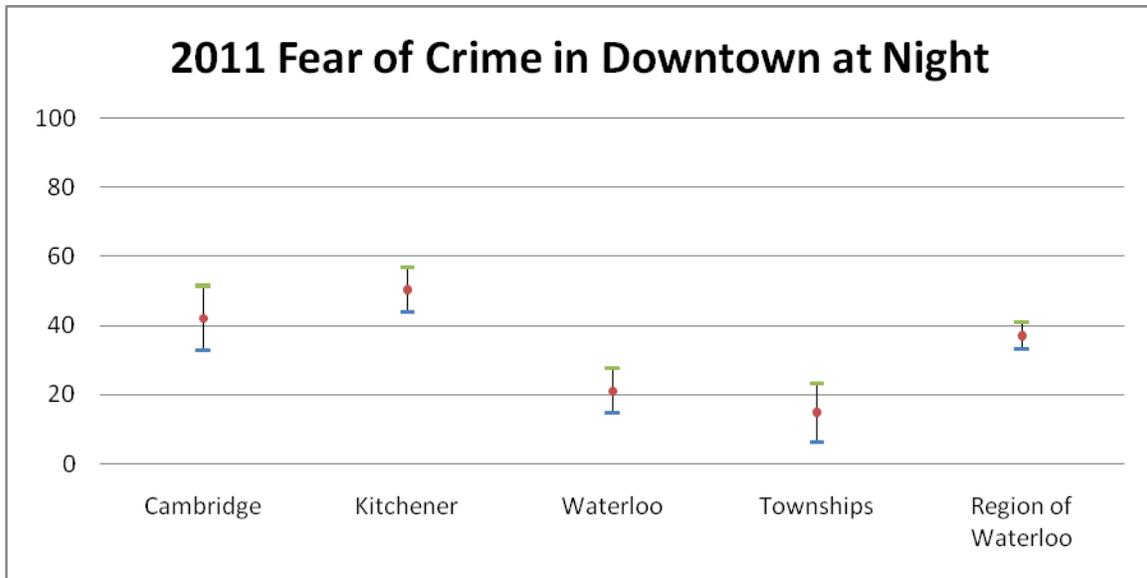


Figure #12: Percent Reporting Feeling Somewhat or Very Unsafe and 95% Confidence Interval

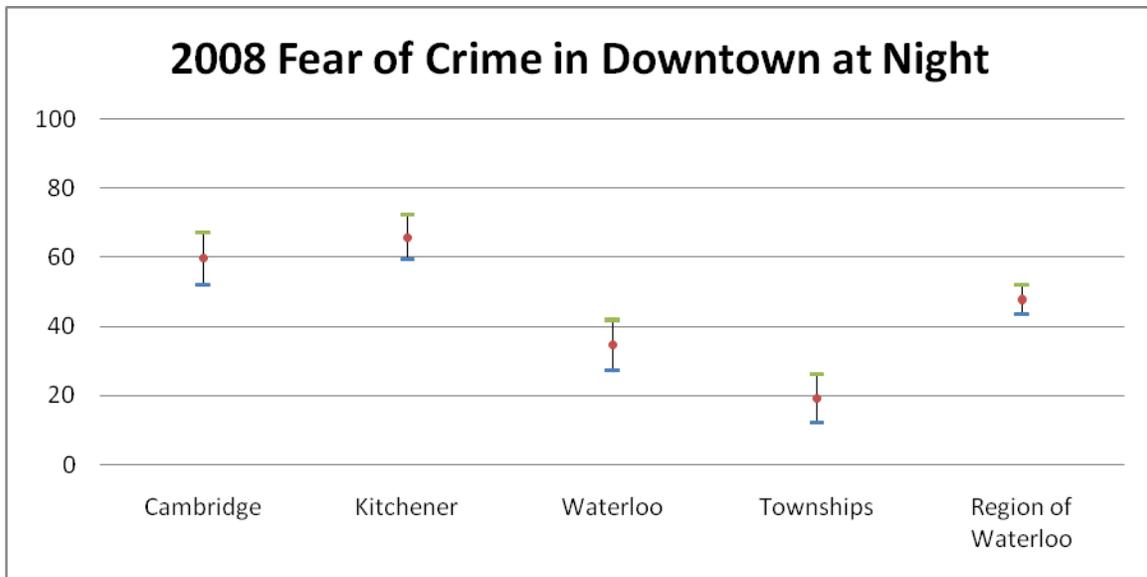


Figure #13: Percent Reporting Feeling Somewhat or Very Unsafe and 95% Confidence Interval

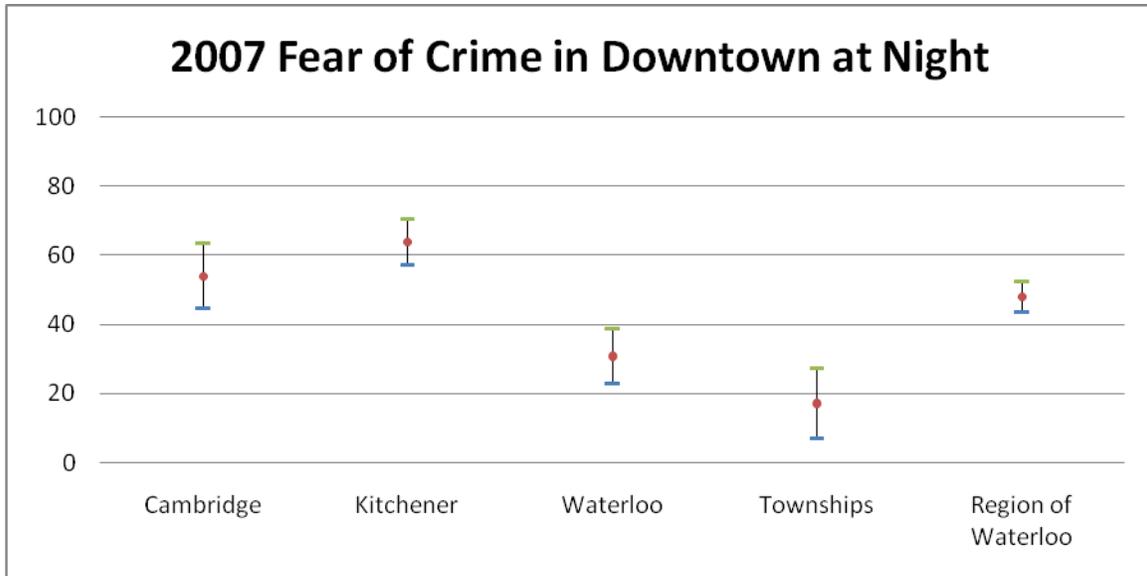


Figure #14: Percent Reporting Feeling Somewhat or Very Unsafe and 95% Confidence Interval

Since the 2008 Area Survey included mostly home owners a test was performed using the 2011 survey to compare home owners fear in the downtown with renters⁹. The results showed that renters were more fearful in the downtown core¹⁰. This indicates that the 2008 survey results may have under-represented the fear of crime in downtown areas.

The 2007 WRPS Citizen Survey results were also explored by city. When these results are compared to the 2011 and 2008 Area Survey the results are relatively similar in 2008 and once again show a significant drop in 2011 of number of respondents indicating they feel somewhat unsafe or very unsafe in their downtown area at night.

Waterloo Region Attitudes Related to Crime Prevention

The next questions explored opinions on how to address crime. The first question in this area asked: *In your opinion, is substance abuse and addiction better managed in our society using health approaches, criminal justice approaches or a combination of both?* This question was repeated from the 2008 Area Survey. The results once again indicated that respondents felt a combination of both was the best approach (87.7%) and the second choice was health approaches (11.6%).

Area Survey	2011	2008
Health approaches	11.6%	20.1%
Criminal justice approaches	0.7%	1.6%

⁹ This was examined using a t-test.

¹⁰ This result was significant at the .001 level.

A combination of both	87.7%	78.3%
Sample Size	587	672

The next question was a repeat from a 1985-1986 Gallop Poll question asked across Canada. This question asked: *Which of the ways listed would in your view be the single most effective way to control crime?* Three answers stood out as the most common: to reduce unemployment at 25.9%, to increase the number of social programs at 24.8% and making sentences harsher at 22.5%. The fourth most common answer with 11.5% was increase the number of police and the fifth most common answer with 10.4% was increase the use of alternatives to incarceration. A total of 4.9% of respondents reported they did not know or did not answer the question.

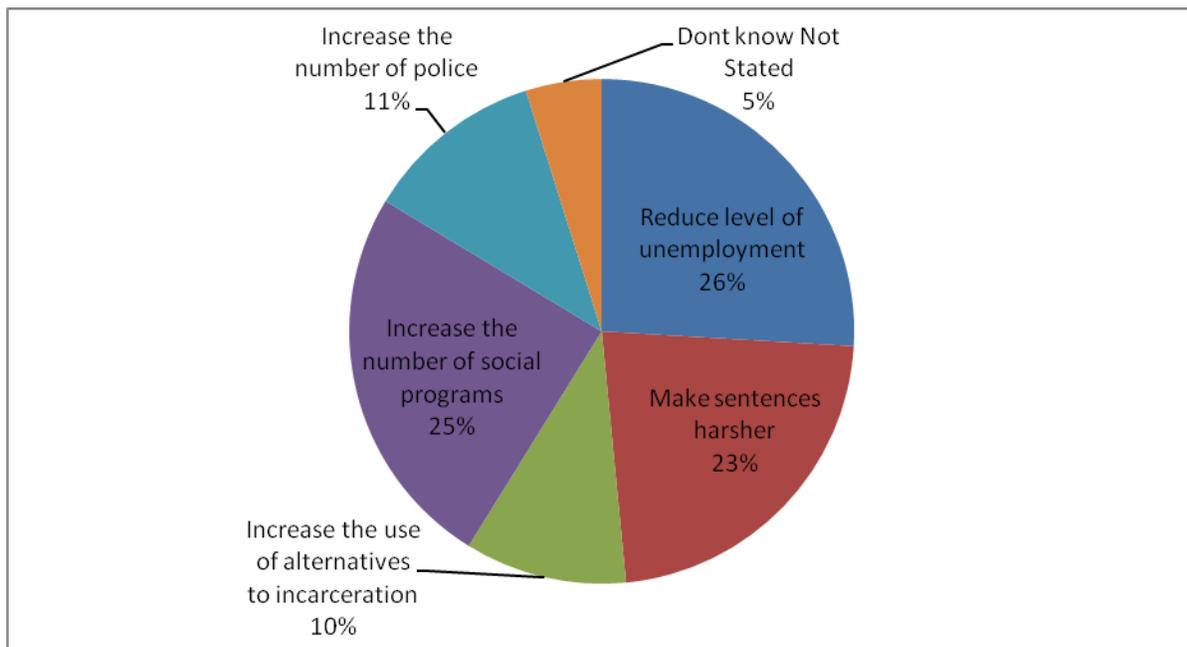


Figure #15: Most Effective Way to Control Crime

These results represent a large change from 1986. Reducing unemployment as an answer was the most common answer (41%), make sentences harsher was second (27%) and increase number of social programs was much lower (10%). These comparisons should be viewed with caution as they may be showing difference between Canada and Waterloo Region, differences in time or possibly both.

1985-1986 Canada Wide - Canadian Gallop Poll		2011 Area Survey
Reduce Level of Unemployment	41%	25.9%
Make Sentences Harsher	27%	22.5%
Increase the Use of Alternatives to Incarceration	13%	10.4%
Increase the Number of Social Programs	10%	24.8%
Increased the Number of Police	4%	11.5%
Other/Don't Know/ Not Stated	5%	4.9%

The next question asked: *Although reducing crime is a responsibility shared by many, where do you think the main responsibility lies?* This survey question was a repeat of a question asked on the 1985-1986 Gallop Poll. The most common answer on this question in the 2011 Area Survey was society generally at 62.8%, courts were next at 11.7%, followed closely by community programs at 11.4%, then police at 6.8%, and then corrections at 3.1%. A total of 4.2% of respondents reported they did not know, did not answer the question or had an unlisted opinion. Among those that indicated they had a different opinion than was listed the most common answer was family or parents, followed by the government.

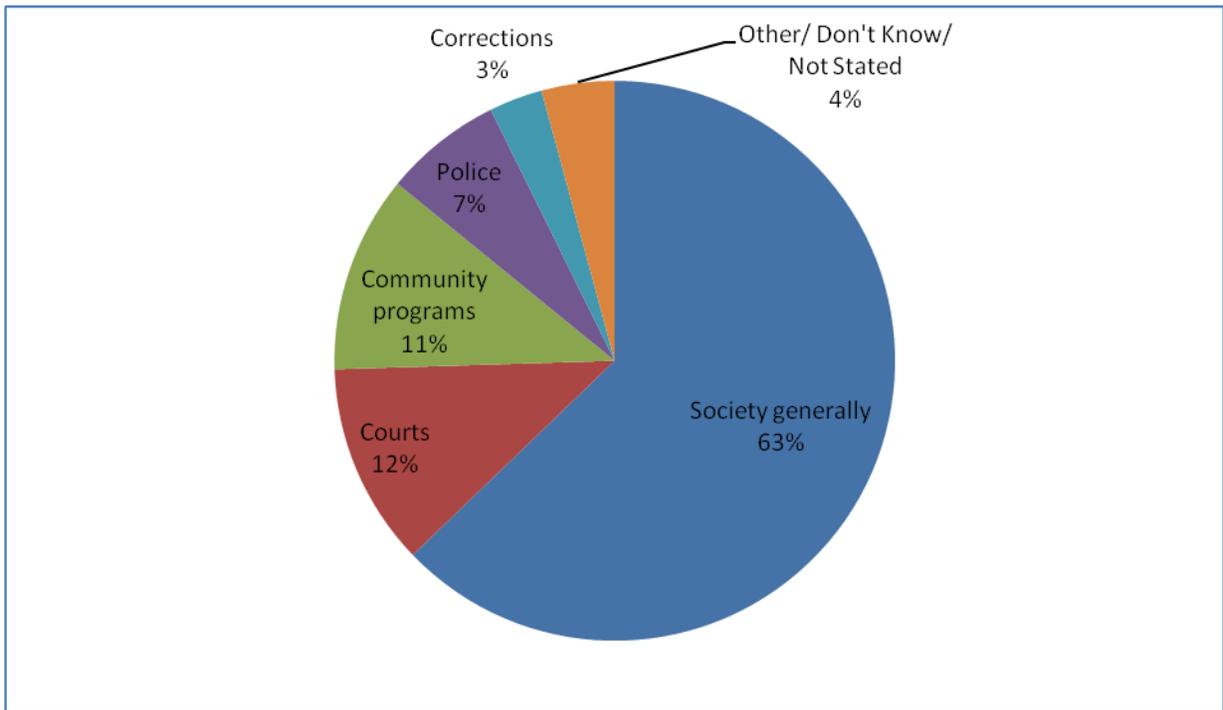


Figure #16: Who is Responsible for Crime Control

The order of the results in the 2011 Area Survey was the same as in the 1985-1986 Gallop Poll. However, there was an increase in the number of respondents that indicated Society Generally (47% in 1986) and a decrease in number of respondents that said courts (24% in 1986). Once again these comparisons should be viewed with caution as they may be showing difference between Canada and Waterloo Region, differences in time or possibly both.

1985-1986 Canada Wide - Canadian Gallop Poll	2011 Area Survey
Society generally	47%
Courts	24%
Community programs	10%
Police	8%

Corrections	6%	3.1%
Other/ Don't Know/ Not Stated	5%	4.2%

In-Depth Fear of Crime Interviews

Twelve in-depth interviews were conducted with individuals who participated in the Waterloo Region Area Survey and consent to a follow up interview. An index was built to measure fear of crime by combining the results from the following three survey questions:

- *How safe do you feel from crime walking alone in your area after dark?*
- *If alone in your home in the evening or at night how do you feel about your safety from crime?*
- *In general how satisfied are you with your personal safety from crime?*

Individuals could score from 0 to 3 on this index. Individuals with scores below 1 were classified as having low fear of crime, from 1 to 2 as having moderate fear of crime and above two as having high fear of crime. Four individuals with high fear of crime, six individuals with moderate fear of crime and two individuals with low fear of crime were interviewed. The gender split of interviewees was four males and eight females. The Waterloo Region Area Survey asked these individuals if they had been a victim of crime. Seven indicated they had been a victim more than one year ago, three had been victims in the past year and two had never been a victim of crime. The final question each person was asked during the follow up interview was *Generally speaking would you say that most people can be trusted or that you cannot be too careful in dealing with people?* This is a widely accepted and simple measure of social capital (Halpern, 2005, p. 33). Five interviewees indicated they believed most people can be trusted and seven felt that you cannot be too careful in dealing with people.

Gender	Fear	Past Victimization	Generally speaking would you say
Male	High	Past Week	Cannot be too careful in dealing with people
Female	High	Past year	Cannot be too careful in dealing with people
Female	High	Past year	Cannot be too careful in dealing with people
Female	High	More than one year	Cannot be too careful in dealing with people
Male	Moderate	More than one year	Cannot be too careful in dealing with people
Male	Moderate	Never a victim	Most people can be trusted
Female	Moderate	More than one year	Cannot be too careful in dealing with people
Female	Moderate	More than one year	Cannot be too careful in dealing with people
Female	Moderate	More than one year	Most people can be trusted
Female	Moderate	More than one year	Most people can be trusted
Male	Low	More than one year	Most people can be trusted
Female	Low	Never a victim	Most people can be trusted

The results of these interviews were coded using an open coding scheme based upon a grounded theory approach. Six themes emerged from these interviews. The first theme was *social disorder*.

This theme was primarily a validation of existing theory which argues that social disorder is a cause of fear of crime (Wilson & Kelling, 1982; Kohm, 2009; Fitzgerald, 2009). Social disorder occurs when there are visible indications of a lack of social control in a neighbourhood involving individuals. For example, this could include seeing drug deals done in public or individuals openly soliciting for the purposes of prostitution.

When individuals were asked what made them afraid of crime they repeatedly noted issues of social disorder. One respondent cited concerns about seeing people using drugs and tied it to crime simply stating “with drugs comes crime.” Another individual noted concern about gangs operating in areas stating “You know which areas to kind of stay out of because they’re known for gang activity” and another person expressed concern about seeing “Groups of kids hanging around on street corners”. These are all classic examples of social disorder. Interestingly, when a few individuals indicated that they thought their downtown area had become safer they were asked what showed them it was safe. These individuals noted some social disorder issues improving but they mostly discussed signs of physical disorder improving. Physical disorder is similar to social disorder, except that it identifies signs of lack of control in an area that do not directly involve people. Graffiti, litter and vandalism are all considered physical disorder.

Respondents who noted an improvement in downtown areas generally talked about improved maintenance of buildings along side other changes. For example one individual stated the city had “cleaned up a lot of the buildings around there, or generally have done some focus on redevelopment and bringing people into the areas.”

Two themes emerged as individuals talked about things that would make them feel safer in their communities. One thing noted by a number of respondents is an increase in *community policing*. Some respondents explicitly stated that they would like to see an increase in community policing. Other individuals described activities commonly associated with community policing. For example, one interviewee said “I feel safer around spring and summer and that is because I know they have officers patrolling on bikes”. Additionally the idea of *Community Crime Prevention Programs* emerged as a theme. A few individuals explicitly noted the program neighbourhood watch. Others when prompted about neighbourhood watch or block parent programs expressed support. For example, when one interviewee was asked if a neighbourhood watch program would make her feel safer she said “Oh, my gosh! Absolutely!”

Some individuals when asked about neighbourhood watch brought up the third theme *informal watch*. These individuals said that an informal neighbourhood watch already existed in their area. One respondent put it succinctly stating “We all look out for each other”. A few other respondents talked about things they have done to keep an eye on the neighbourhood. For example, one person said “If I see people walking around the neighbourhood, even if it’s door-to-door people, I watch” and another talked about a specific issue saying “Once there was a van and it appeared to be watching a neighbour’s place, and I called the police”. These individuals

felt that keeping an eye out for crime in a neighbourhood is one way a community can help to reduce crime.

Individuals also discussed measures they personally took to reduce crime. Almost everyone took some sort of protective measures. The amount of *protective measures individuals took increased as their fear of crime increased*. When asked about protective measures almost all respondents covered locking their doors. Then as individuals fear increased they discussed more measures, like limiting walking at night or installing a security system. Persons with high fear of crime were more likely to discuss moving. For example one individual with particularly high fear noted that not only were they moving, their neighbours were as well. She said “Well, our neighbour to our right is moving, our neighbour to our left is talking about moving, and we’re moving in, like, about a month-and-a-half”. A number of individuals with high fear of crime also noted protective measures they took with respect to their children and grandchildren. One of these people noted the difficulty with this approach. She talked about an increased fear of crime leading to an increase in parents driving their children to school, which she argued made the neighbourhood less safe because when parents walked their kids to school “...then you have all these eyes out there looking out for anything, not just the kids. Anything”.

The final theme that emerged took a different direction. Nine out of the twelve respondents indicated *scepticism of federal political parties’ plans to address crime*. This scepticism was put succinctly by one respondent when asked if any political party had a good plan to address crime, he said “From one to another, I don’t know at the moment”. Despite a general scepticism about federal parties plans to address crime there was no consensus on how best to address crime. Some respondents argued for an approach focused upon longer sentences for offenders, others argued for an increase in social programs and some argued for an approach that balanced these two methods. One person arguing for the balanced approach said “A diversified plan would probably have more effectiveness”.

Waterloo Region Social Capital

The interview findings present opportunities when combined with results from the 2008 General Social Survey. This survey contains two questions related to social capital which can be reported based upon the boundaries of the Kitchener Census Metropolitan Area. The first question asks *Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted or that you cannot be too careful in dealing with people?* This, as previously mentioned, is a simple and widely accepted measure of social capital (Halpern, 2005, p. 33). The results show that 52% of people in the Kitchener CMA think most people can be trusted, this compares to 46% or respondents in Canada and 49% or respondents in Ontario who felt most people could be trusted. The second question asked *Using a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 means ‘cannot be trusted at all’ and 5 means ‘can be trusted a lot’ how much do you trust people in your neighbourhood?* In the Kitchener CMA

61% of respondents answered a four or a five, this compared to 44% in Canada and 45% in Ontario.

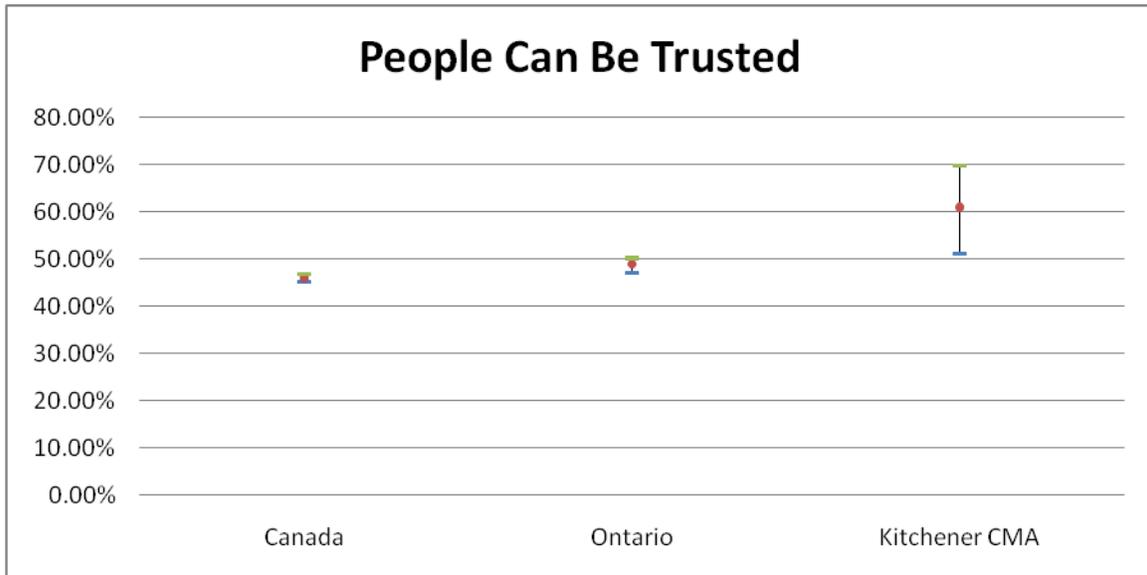


Figure #17: Most People Can Be Trusted with 95% Confidence Intervals

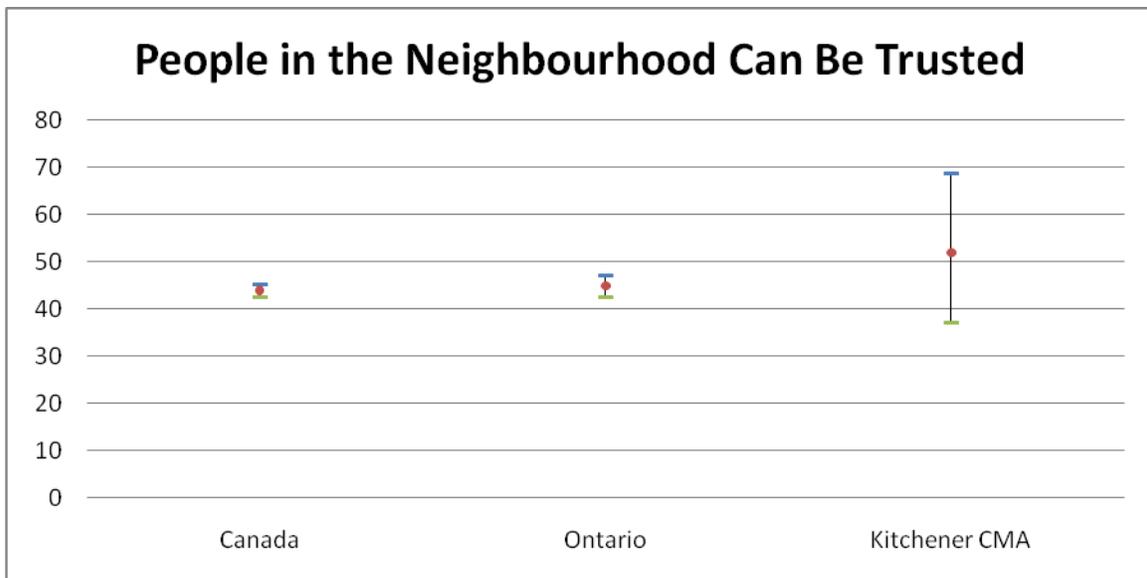


Figure #18: People in the Neighbourhood Can be Trusted with 95% Confidence Intervals



Conclusions

The results from the 2011 Waterloo Region Area Survey are a positive sign for Waterloo Region. Fear of crime has shown a significant drop. This drop is seen region wide. In addition, perceptions of crime rates have begun to closer reflect actual police data with significantly less respondents thinking that crime had increased in the last five years. The report also highlights some areas where continued work is needed as fear of crime remains higher in downtown Kitchener and Cambridge. However, both of these areas saw a decline in fear from previous surveys indicating that the measures taken to improve community perceptions of these areas have started to have an effect.

The drop in fear of crime Region wide is positive but continued improvement will require continued community efforts. The survey provides some insights into where the public expects efforts to focus. Interviewees' highlighted fear of crime is partially caused by seeing individuals with substance abuse issues using drugs in public. The survey results suggest the public overwhelmingly expects this issue to be addressed by a combination of health approaches and criminal justice approaches. The survey also suggested Waterloo Region residents favour three approaches to addressing crime; increasing social programs, increasing employment or implementing harsher sentences. They also believe that society generally has an important role to play in reducing crime.

When these results were explored in the follow up interviews three themes emerged that are noteworthy. People believe community policing can reduce crime. Many people informally watch their neighbourhood to keep an eye out for crime and there is a willingness to devote time to a community crime prevention program if one was developed.

The 2004 General Social Survey results suggest that social capital within Waterloo Region is particularly strong. This could aid in expanding community crime prevention initiatives, like neighbourhood watch, throughout Waterloo Region. This approach should be considered as Morenoff, Sampson & Raudenbush (2001) found that strong social ties in themselves were not enough to prevent crime; instead strong social ties gave communities the means to exercise informal social control. If a community does not exercise social control, having strong social ties alone will not prevent crime. Facilitating the creation of community crime prevention initiatives is an effective means to turn social ties into social control.

Neighbourhood watch is one specific idea suggested by interviewees. The research suggests there may be opportunities to expand neighbourhood watch to additional communities' throughout Waterloo Region. This could represent a positive opportunity for the region as a number of

academic papers reviewing studies of neighbourhood watch have found them to be generally effective at addressing crime issues, with neighbourhood watching being seen as particularly effective at reducing break and enters (Bennet, Holloway & Farrington, 2006; Bennet, Holloway & Farrington, 2009; Garofalo & McLeod, 1989). However, this approach should be approached cautiously as neighbourhood watch is not a panacea and when it is implemented poorly it can actually increase fear of crime (Rosenbaum, 1987). There is also evidence to suggest that the location of neighbourhood watch matters. Neighbourhood watches started in neighbourhoods without a crime issue are generally thought to be ineffective (Waller, 2006).

In the 2008 Report, *Fear of Crime: Perceptions in Waterloo Region*, the importance of addressing community disorder was discussed. The results from this study affirm the need to continue this focus as in-depth interviews showed that fear is associated with signs of social disorder. One possible approach to address fear of crime within Waterloo Region would be to focus on areas with higher fear of crime and attempting to reduce signs of physical and social disorder. Reducing signs of disorder is most effective when it involves neighbourhood residents, police and community partners (Braga & Bond, 2008). This type of approach is ideal as Waterloo Region has consistently favoured using partnerships to address crime, victimization and fear of crime.

Appendix A: Selected 2011 Waterloo Region Area Survey Questions

- F1) During the last five years, do you think that crime in Waterloo region has increased, decreased or remained about the same?
- F2) During the last five years, do you think that crime in your neighbourhood has increased, decreased, or remained about the same?
- F3) How safe do you feel from crime walking alone in your area after dark, very safe, reasonably safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe?
- F4) If alone in your home in the evening or at night how do you feel about your safety from crime, very worried, somewhat worried or not at all worried?
- F5) In general how satisfied are you with your personal safety from crime, very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?
- F6) In thinking about your feelings of safety in your downtown area at night, do you feel, very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe, or very unsafe?
- F7) In your opinion, is substance use and addiction better managed in our society using, health approaches, criminal justice approaches or a combination of both?
- F8) Which of the ways listed would in your view be the single most effective way to control crime, reduce level of unemployment, make sentences harsher, increase the use of alternatives to incarceration, increase the number of social programs or increase the number of police?
- F9) Although reducing crime is a responsibility shared by many, where do you think the main responsibility lies, society generally, courts, community programs, police, corrections or other (Specify)?

Appendix B: Survey Sampling Issues

Survey	Year	Major Sampling Issues
Citizen Survey	2000	Unknown data not available
Local Area Survey	2003	Suspected bias towards homeowners
Citizen Survey	2003	Unknown data not available
General Social Survey	2004	None, sample is weighted to reflect demographics
Citizen Survey	2007	Gender bias towards females, age bias towards older respondents, over samples the City of Waterloo
Local Area Survey	2008	Survey focuses on homeowners
General Social Survey	2008	None, sample is weighted to reflect demographics
General Social Survey	2009	None, sample is weighted to reflect demographics
Local Area Survey	2011	Gender bias towards females, age bias towards older respondents, over samples the City of Kitchener

Appendix C: 2011 Waterloo Region Area Survey Results

Unweighted Results

During the last five years, do you think that crime in Waterloo region has increased, decreased or remained about the same?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Increased	186	32.3
Decreased	79	13.7
Remained About the Same	310	53.9
Total	575	99.9

During the last five years, do you think that crime in your neighbourhood has increased, decreased, or remained about the same?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Increased	107	17.8
Decreased	87	14.5
Remained About the Same	406	67.7
Total	600	100

How safe do you feel from crime walking alone in your area after dark, very safe, reasonably safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Very Safe	217	35.6
Reasonably Safe	288	47.3
Somewhat Unsafe	77	12.6
Very Unsafe	27	4.4
Total	609	99.9

If alone in your home in the evening or at night how do you feel about your safety from crime, very worried, somewhat worried or not at all worried?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Very Worried	4	0.6
Somewhat Worried	102	16.5
Not At All Worried	512	82.8
Total	618	100

In general how satisfied are you with your personal safety from crime, very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Very Satisfied	376	60.9
Somewhat Satisfied	221	35.8
Somewhat Dissatisfied	19	3.1
Very Dissatisfied	1	0.2
Total	617	100

In thinking about your feelings of safety in your downtown area at night, do you feel, very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe, or very unsafe?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Very Safe	127	21.5
Somewhat Safe	246	41.6
Somewhat Unsafe	151	25.5
Very Unsafe	67	11.3
Total	591	99.9

In your opinion, is substance use and addiction better managed in our society using, health approaches, criminal justice approaches or a combination of both?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Health Approaches	68	11.6
Criminal Justice Approaches	4	0.7
A Combination of Both	515	87.7
Total	587	100

Which of the ways listed would in your view be the single most effective way to control crime, reduce level of unemployment, make sentences harsher, increase the use of alternatives to incarceration, increase the number of social programs or increase the number of police?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Reduce Level of Unemployment	160	25.9
Make Sentences Harsher	139	22.5
Increase the Use of Alternatives to Incarceration	64	10.4
Increase the Number of Social Programs	153	24.8
Increase the Number of Police	71	11.5
Don't Know/Refused	30	4.9
Total	617	100

Although reducing crime is a responsibility shared by many, where do you think the main responsibility lies, society generally, courts, community programs, police, corrections or other (Specify)?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Society Generally	387	62.8
Courts	72	11.7
Community Programs	70	11.4
Police	42	6.8
Corrections	19	3.1
Other	11	1.8
Don't Know/Refused	15	2.4
Total		100

How safe do you feel from crime walking alone in your area after dark, very safe, reasonably safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe?

(n = 608 $\chi^2 = 14.21$, df = 15, $p = .510$)

Age	Very Safe	Reasonably Safe	Somewhat Unsafe	Very Unsafe
18 to 24	16	20	6	1
25 to 34	28	38	4	2
35 to 44	42	53	12	5
45 to 54	51	54	15	5
55 to 64	40	48	21	5
65 plus	40	74	19	9

How safe do you feel from crime walking alone in your area after dark, very safe, reasonably safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe?

(n = 598 $\chi^2 = 49.51$, df = 3, $p < .001$)

	Very Safe	Reasonably Safe	Somewhat Unsafe	Very Unsafe
Rent	29	61	35	15
Own	186	219	41	12

How safe do you feel from crime walking alone in your area after dark, very safe, reasonably safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe?

(n = 608 $\chi^2 = 71.30$, df = 3, $p < .001$)

Gender	Very Safe	Reasonably Safe	Somewhat Unsafe	Very Unsafe
Female	86	182	66	25
Male	131	105	11	2

How safe do you feel from crime walking alone in your area after dark, very safe, reasonably safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe?

(n = 609 $\chi^2 = 26.38$, df = 9, $p < .005$)

City	Very Safe	Reasonably Safe	Somewhat Unsafe	Very Unsafe
Cambridge	35	62	15	3
Kitchener	78	133	42	17
Waterloo	67	65	17	6
Townships	37	28	3	1

If alone in your home in the evening or at night how do you feel about your safety from crime, very worried, somewhat worried or not at all worried?

(n = 617 $\chi^2 = 3.67$, df = 5, $p = .598$)

Age	Not at All Worried	Somewhat Worried or Very Worried
18 to 24	34	9
25 to 34	60	11
35 to 44	90	22
45 to 54	104	22
55 to 64	92	22

65 plus	132	19
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If alone in your home in the evening or at night how do you feel about your safety from crime, very worried, somewhat worried or not at all worried?
(n = 608 $\chi^2 = 2.54$, df = 1, $p = .111$)

	Not at All Worried	Somewhat Worried or Very Worried
Rent	112	31
Own	391	74

If alone in your home in the evening or at night how do you feel about your safety from crime, very worried, somewhat worried or not at all worried?
(n = 617 $\chi^2 = 23.10$, df = 1, $p < .001$)

Gender	Not at All Worried	Somewhat Worried or Very Worried
Female	281	85
Male	230	21

If alone in your home in the evening or at night how do you feel about your safety from crime, very worried, somewhat worried or not at all worried?
(n = 618 $\chi^2 = 10.24$, df = 3, $p < .050$)

City	Not at All Worried	Somewhat Worried or Very Worried
Cambridge	87	28
Kitchener	222	51
Waterloo	137	21
Townships	66	6

In general how satisfied are you with your personal safety from crime, very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?
(n = 616 $\chi^2 = 7.95$, df = 10, $p = .634$)

Age	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied or Very Dissatisfied
18 to 24	28	14	1
25 to 34	42	25	4
35 to 44	70	39	3
45 to 54	77	43	6
55 to 64	61	49	4
65 plus	98	50	2

In general how satisfied are you with your personal safety from crime, very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?
(n = 607 $\chi^2 = 5.52$, df = 2, $p < .100$)

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied or Very Dissatisfied
Rent	75	60	7
Own	294	158	13

In general how satisfied are you with your personal safety from crime, very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?
(n = 616 $\chi^2 = 13.12$, df = 2, $p < .005$)

Gender	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied or Very Dissatisfied
Female	201	149	15
Male	174	72	5

In general how satisfied are you with your personal safety from crime, very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?
(n = 617 $\chi^2 = 11.90$, df = 6, $p < .100$)

City	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied or Very Dissatisfied
Cambridge	71	38	6
Kitchener	151	111	11
Waterloo	104	52	1
Townships	50	20	2

In thinking about your feelings of safety in your downtown area at night, do you feel, very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe, or very unsafe?
(n = 590 $\chi^2 = 14.29$, df = 10, $p = .160$)

Age	Very Safe	Somewhat Safe	Somewhat Unsafe or Very Unsafe
18 to 24	13	16	14
25 to 34	12	41	17
35 to 44	19	48	43
45 to 54	30	48	45
55 to 64	24	44	44
65 plus	29	48	55

In thinking about your feelings of safety in your downtown area at night, do you feel, very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe, or very unsafe?
(n = 582 $\chi^2 = 15.31$, df = 2, $p < .001$)

	Very Safe	Somewhat Safe	Somewhat Unsafe or Very Unsafe
Rent	25	42	70
Own	100	199	146

In thinking about your feelings of safety in your downtown area at night, do you feel, very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe, or very unsafe?
(n = 590 $\chi^2 = 36.56$, df = 2, $p < .001$)

Gender	Very Safe	Somewhat Safe	Somewhat Unsafe or Very Unsafe
Female	58	130	163
Male	69	116	54

In thinking about your feelings of safety in your downtown area at night, do you feel, very

safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe, or very unsafe? (n = 591 $\chi^2 = 76.47$, df = 6, $p < .001$)			
City	Very Safe	Somewhat Safe	Somewhat Unsafe or Very Unsafe
Cambridge	17	48	46
Kitchener	30	101	130
Waterloo	48	72	32
Townships	32	25	10

Weighted Results

The following results have been weighted for age and gender.

During the last five years, do you think that crime in Waterloo region has increased, decreased or remained about the same?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Increased	171	13.9
Decreased	80	56.5
Remained About the Same	325	29.6
Total	575	100

During the last five years, do you think that crime in your neighbourhood has increased, decreased, or remained about the same?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Increased	105	17.4
Decreased	88	14.6
Remained About the Same	410	68.0
Total	603	100

How safe do you feel from crime walking alone in your area after dark, very safe, reasonably safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Very Safe	247	40.1
Reasonably Safe	279	45.2
Somewhat Unsafe	69	11.2
Very Unsafe	22	3.5
Total	616	100

If alone in your home in the evening or at night how do you feel about your safety from crime, very worried, somewhat worried or not at all worried?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Very Worried	3	0.6
Somewhat Worried	99	16.0
Not At All Worried	519	83.5

Total		100
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In general how satisfied are you with your personal safety from crime, very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Very Satisfied	389	62.6
Somewhat Satisfied	212	34.2
Somewhat Dissatisfied	19	3.1
Very Dissatisfied	1	0.1
Total		100

In thinking about your feelings of safety in your downtown area at night, do you feel, very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe, or very unsafe?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Very Safe	134	22.3
Somewhat Safe	270	44.9
Somewhat Unsafe	141	23.5
Very Unsafe	56	9.3
Total	601	100

In your opinion, is substance use and addiction better managed in our society using, health approaches, criminal justice approaches or a combination of both?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Health Approaches	75	12.7
Criminal Justice Approaches	3	0.5
A Combination of Both	514	86.8
Total	592	100

Which of the ways listed would in your view be the single most effective way to control crime, reduce level of unemployment, make sentences harsher, increase the use of alternatives to incarceration, increase the number of social programs or increase the number of police?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Reduce Level of Unemployment	171	27.5
Make Sentences Harsher	136	21.9
Increase the Use of Alternatives to Incarceration	66	10.6
Increase the Number of Social Programs	157	25.3
Increase the Number of Police	68	10.9
Don't Know/Refused	24	3.9
Total	621	100

Although reducing crime is a responsibility shared by many, where do you think the main

responsibility lies, society generally, courts, community programs, police, corrections or other (Specify)?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Society Generally	404	65.1
Courts	68	10.9
Community Programs	72	11.6
Police	37	5.9
Corrections	19	3.1
Other	10	1.6
Don't Know/Refused	12	1.8
Total	620	100

How safe do you feel from crime walking alone in your area after dark, very safe, reasonably safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe? (n = 617 $\chi^2 = 26.253$, df = 15, $p < .050$)				
Age	Very Safe	Reasonably Safe	Somewhat Unsafe	Very Unsafe
18 to 24	27	38	14	3
25 to 34	47	59	5	3
35 to 44	67	52	11	4
45 to 54	52	47	13	4
55 to 64	29	34	14	3
65 plus	26	47	12	6

How safe do you feel from crime walking alone in your area after dark, very safe, reasonably safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe? (n = 604 $\chi^2 = 49.15$, df = 3, $p < .001$)				
	Very Safe	Reasonably Safe	Somewhat Unsafe	Very Unsafe
Rent	39	64	34	13
Own	206	206	34	8

How safe do you feel from crime walking alone in your area after dark, very safe, reasonably safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe? (n = 615 $\chi^2 = 94.25$, df = 3, $p < .001$)				
Gender	Very Safe	Reasonably Safe	Somewhat Unsafe	Very Unsafe
Female	71	154	57	20
Male	176	124	12	1

How safe do you feel from crime walking alone in your area after dark, very safe, reasonably safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe? (n = 616 $\chi^2 = 28.08$, df = 9, $p < .005$)				
City	Very Safe	Reasonably Safe	Somewhat Unsafe	Very Unsafe
Cambridge	35	64	13	2
Kitchener	94	126	36	15
Waterloo	78	64	17	4

Townships	40	24	3	1
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If alone in your home in the evening or at night how do you feel about your safety from crime, very worried, somewhat worried or not at all worried?

(n = 620 $\chi^2 = 5.68$, df = 5, $p = .339$)

Age	Not at All Worried	Somewhat Worried or Very Worried
18 to 24	62	20
25 to 34	96	16
35 to 44	113	20
45 to 54	97	19
55 to 64	66	15
65 plus	84	12

If alone in your home in the evening or at night how do you feel about your safety from crime, very worried, somewhat worried or not at all worried?

(n = 612 $\chi^2 = 6.92$, df = 1, $p < .010$)

	Not at All Worried	Somewhat Worried or Very Worried
Rent	117	36
Own	393	66

If alone in your home in the evening or at night how do you feel about your safety from crime, very worried, somewhat worried or not at all worried?

(n = 620 $\chi^2 = 28.93$, df = 1, $p < .001$)

Gender	Not at All Worried	Somewhat Worried or Very Worried
Female	230	75
Male	288	27

If alone in your home in the evening or at night how do you feel about your safety from crime, very worried, somewhat worried or not at all worried?

(n = 621 $\chi^2 = 10.28$, df = 3, $p < .050$)

City	Not at All Worried	Somewhat Worried or Very Worried
Cambridge	87	28
Kitchener	226	46
Waterloo	142	23
Townships	64	5

In general how satisfied are you with your personal safety from crime, very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

(n = 622 $\chi^2 = 6.24$, df = 10, $p = .795$)

Age	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied or Very Dissatisfied
18 to 24	52	29	2
25 to 34	68	39	5

35 to 44	89	41	4
45 to 54	74	37	5
55 to 64	44	34	3
65 plus	63	32	1

In general how satisfied are you with your personal safety from crime, very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

(n = 612 $\chi^2 = 6.97$, df = 2, $p < .050$)

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied or Very Dissatisfied
Rent	82	64	7
Own	300	146	13

In general how satisfied are you with your personal safety from crime, very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

(n = 620 $\chi^2 = 17.27$, df = 2, $p < .001$)

Gender	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied or Very Dissatisfied
Female	166	126	13
Male	222	86	7

In general how satisfied are you with your personal safety from crime, very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

(n = 621 $\chi^2 = 8.96$, df = 6, $p = .176$)

City	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied or Very Dissatisfied
Cambridge	71	38	6
Kitchener	160	101	11
Waterloo	109	54	1
Townships	49	19	2

In thinking about your feelings of safety in your downtown area at night, do you feel, very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe, or very unsafe?

(n = 600 $\chi^2 = 20.54$, df = 10, $p < .050$)

Age	Very Safe	Somewhat Safe	Somewhat Unsafe or Very Unsafe
18 to 24	22	30	30
25 to 34	21	65	24
35 to 44	25	67	38
45 to 54	30	44	39
55 to 64	16	33	31
65 plus	19	31	35

In thinking about your feelings of safety in your downtown area at night, do you feel, very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe, or very unsafe?

(n = 592 $\chi^2 = 11.29$, df = 2, $p < .005$)

	Very Safe	Somewhat Safe	Somewhat Unsafe or Very Unsafe
Rent	32	52	65
Own	100	213	130

In thinking about your feelings of safety in your downtown area at night, do you feel, very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe, or very unsafe?

(n = 599 $\chi^2 = 51.01$, df = 2, $p < .001$)

Gender	Very Safe	Somewhat Safe	Somewhat Unsafe or Very Unsafe
Female	45	114	136
Male	88	157	59

In thinking about your feelings of safety in your downtown area at night, do you feel, very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe, or very unsafe?

(n = 601 $\chi^2 = 74.72$, df = 6, $p < .001$)

City	Very Safe	Somewhat Safe	Somewhat Unsafe or Very Unsafe
Cambridge	16	55	42
Kitchener	34	111	118
Waterloo	53	80	28
Townships	31	24	9

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