



Impaired driving in Canada, 2019

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In 2019, Yukon's rate of police-reported incidents of alcohol-impaired driving was 1,956 per 100,000 population. Yukon's rate of both alcohol- and drug-impaired was 22 and the rate of drug-impaired driving alone was 91 per 100,000 population. Nationally, these rates were 194, 12 and 17, respectively

Ontario had the lowest alcohol-impaired driving rate in the country in 2019, at 81 per 100,000 population. The Northwest Territories had the highest alcohol-impaired driving rate at 2,918 per 100,000 population and Yukon had the second-highest at 1,956 per 100,000 population.

Rate of police-reported impaired driving by substance causing impairment and province and territory, 2019

	Alcohol	Alcohol and drugs	Drugs	Unspecified
	Rate per 100,000			
Canada	194	12	17	5
Newfoundland and Labrador	341	25	52	12
Prince Edward Island	536	61	48	0
Nova Scotia	322	17	31	8
New Brunswick	316	14	36	1
Quebec	151	7	17	1
Ontario	81	11	6	6
Manitoba	284	11	13	1
Saskatchewan	479	32	27	1
Alberta	290	12	22	2
British Columbia	297	16	32	11
Yukon	1,956	22	91	0
Northwest Territories	2,918	132	89	0
Nunavut	1,640	114	26	0

Note: The data presented in this article are derived mainly from two data sources: the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) and the Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS). Data from the UCR represent impaired driving incidents, as defined in the Criminal Code, which the police became aware of. To distinguish impaired driving incidents based on impairment by alcohol, drugs or a combination of alcohol and drugs, ICCS data were linked with UCR data.

*Police-reported statistics may be affected by differences in the way police services deal with offences. In 2018, Statistics Canada, in collaboration with police services, updated the definition of "founded criminal incidents" to reflect a more victim-centred approach to recording crimes. The purpose of the changes to these definitions was to begin including incidents where there is no credible evidence that the incident **did not** take place, as well as those based on reports by third parties (e.g., a road user reporting a potentially impaired driver), in "founded criminal incidents." Given these new definitions, the police may classify more cases as "founded" and thus contribute to an increase in the number of police-reported incidents of impaired driving.*