



VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT | *Beyond the Call*

July 3, 2019

I&P Unit Reference: 19-0369A

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Re: Records Access Request

We are replying to your request for information that was received in our office on April 4, 2019. In that request, you sought access to a copy of the following:

1. The number of reported sexual assaults in Vancouver by neighbourhood and year from January 1, 2016 until January 1, 2019 inclusive.
2. The number of sexual assaults cleared for charge by the VPD in the same time period as #1.
3. The number of reports of sexual assault considered unfounded, unsubstantiated and founded by year for the same time period as #1.

We conducted our search using the following criteria:

- Stats Canada definition of sexual assault (please see page two of this letter);
- All offense method;
- Reported date (not date of occurrence); and
- All reported sexual assault (founded and unfounded).

Attached please find the responsive data.

Please be advised that the attached statistics represent a point in time. These numbers are dynamic and could change due to file conclusions and quality control.

You will notice that the number of founded incidents differs greatly from the number of recommended charges. It is important to note that there are several reasons a case could be coded as founded without charges. For example, it could still be under investigation (cases involving forensic analysis can take time), the accused could be unidentified, or it could be that there was not enough evidence to meet the Crown charge approval threshold. About 80 per cent of sexual assaults are groping incidents. Due to the nature of these offences, it is often difficult to obtain enough evidence to secure a charge.

For important information regarding statistical data, please refer to the "Accuracy of Statistics / Comparing Data" page on our website: <https://vancouver.ca/police/organization/planning-research-audit/stats-accuracy-comparing-data.html>.

Please also be advised that the attached information is not necessarily representative of documented police activities in the neighbourhoods as defined. A police incident may be linked to a neighbourhood when that address is listed as the primary residence of an involved party. For example, an incident at a nightclub may be reported at the registered address of the complainant. The Vancouver Police Department therefore does not warrant the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of the information provided in the requested by neighbourhood.

If you have any questions, please contact the Information and Privacy Unit at (604) 717-3071 or email foi@vpd.ca.

Yours truly,



Civilian Analyst (VA5029)
Information and Privacy Unit
/ks

Statistics Canada defines "Sexual Assaults" as follows:

Sexual assaults (PART VIII of the criminal code - OFFENCES AGAINST THE PERSON AND REPUTATION):

- *Violations:*

- *1310 (SEXUAL ASSAULT-AGGRAVATED)*
- *1320 SEXUAL ASSAULT W/WEAPON OR CBH*
- *1330 (SEXUAL ASSAULT)*

- *Mapped to sections **273,272,271** respectively of the criminal code*

- *Falls under "Assaults" in the section VII of CC.*

1. The number of reported sexual assaults in VPD jurisdiction by neighbourhood and year from January 1, 2016 to January 1, 2019.

Neighbourhood	2016	2017	2018	Total
Arbutus Ridge	2	4	3	9
Central Business District	132	120	147	399
Dunbar - Southlands	3	2	3	8
Fairview	16	20	21	57
Grandview - Woodland	23	23	26	72
Hastings - Sunrise	20	22	25	67
Kensington - Cedar Cottage	22	25	19	66
Kerrisdale	2	1	5	8
Killarney	4	13	11	28
Kitsilano	17	18	20	55
Marpole	6	4	9	19
Mount Pleasant	28	18	28	74
Musqueam	1	0	3	4
NULL	20	42	48	110
Oakridge	7	1	8	16
Renfrew - Collingwood	17	25	31	73
Riley Park	11	11	9	31
Shaughnessy	4	1	2	7
South Cambie	4	3	5	12
Stanley Park	2	4	3	9
Strathcona	35	34	35	104
Sunset	21	16	8	45
Victoria - Fraserview	11	13	7	31
West End	34	41	41	116
West Point Grey	3	7	1	11
Total	445	468	518	1,431

2. The number of sexual assaults cleared by recommended charge by VPD in the same time period.

3. The number of reports of sexual assault considered unfounded, unsubstantiated and founded by year for the same time period.

Cleared by	2016	2017	2018	Total
Recommended Charges	85	82	104	271
Unfounded	14	17	19	50
Founded	346	369	395	1,110
Total	445	468	518	1,431

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Please be advised that the attached statistics represent a point in time. These numbers are dynamic and could change due to file conclusions and quality control.

You will notice that the number of founded incidents differs greatly from the number of recommended charges. It is important to note that there are several reasons a case could be coded as founded without charges. For example, it could still be under investigation (cases involving forensic analysis can take time), the accused could be unidentified, or it could be that there was not enough evidence to meet the Crown charge approval threshold. About 80 per cent of sexual assaults are groping incidents. Due to the nature of these offences, it is often difficult to obtain enough evidence to secure a charge.

Please also be advised that the attached information is not necessarily representative of documented police activities in the neighbourhoods as defined. A police incident may be linked to a neighbourhood when that address is listed as the primary residence of an involved party. For example, an incident at a nightclub may be reported at the registered address of the complainant. The Vancouver Police Department therefore does not warrant the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of the information provided in the requested premise history check.

Search parameter:

- Stats Canada definition of sexual assault (please see reply letter);
- All offense method;
- Reported date (not date of occurrence); and
- All reported sexual assault (founded and unfounded).