

# Justice and Public Safety

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

2023-2024

# **Justice and Public Safety**

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

Province of New Brunswick  
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## **TRANSMITTAL LETTERS**

### **From the Minister to the Lieutenant-Governor**

Her Honour the Honourable Brenda Murphy

### **Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick**

May it please your Honour:

It is my privilege to submit the annual report of the Department of Justice and Public Safety, Province of New Brunswick, for the fiscal year April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,



Honourable Robert K. McKee  
Minister of Justice and Attorney General

### **From the Minister to the Lieutenant-Governor**

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Respectfully submitted,



Honourable Robert Gauvin  
Minister of Public Safety

## **TRANSMITTAL LETTERS**

### **From the Deputy Minister to the Minister**

**Honourable Robert K. McKee**  
**Minister of Justice and Attorney General**

Sir:

I am pleased to be able to present the annual report describing operations of the Department of Justice and Public Safety for the fiscal year April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Comeau, K.C.  
Deputy Minister

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**Honourable Robert Gauvin**  
**Minister of Public Safety**

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## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

The Department of Justice and Public Safety made great strides in 2023-2024 to improve timely access to justice while meeting the challenges of increasing court caseloads and a growing population needing vital access to services.

To address the demands of increasing caseloads, investments were made in Public Prosecution Services, resulting in an increase of nearly 50 per cent in the number of Crown prosecutors and support staff. The budget for Family Crown Services was also increased to ensure that the most vulnerable New Brunswickers were protected. In addition, the grant to legal aid was boosted to ensure fair and equitable accessibility to the justice system.

Behind the scenes is a dedicated team committed to the functioning of our courts, the administration of justice, and the development of the laws that strengthen the foundation of our society. Their professionalism does not go unnoticed. To the employees of Justice and Public Safety, I express my gratitude for their service to the people of New Brunswick.



Honourable Robert K. McKee  
Minister of Justice and Attorney General

## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Making sure New Brunswickers felt safe at home and in their neighbourhoods continued to be the focus of the Department of Justice and Public Safety in 2023-2024.

Investments were targeted at improving the presence of frontline officers, particularly in rural New Brunswick, and in relieving pressures on our justice system. Additional resources were provided to peace officers who support police in community safety and to Sheriff Services who provide security in our courtrooms.

New programming was introduced for clients in provincial jails, designed to help them change their lives and avoid re-offending once released. Changes to the Coroners Act helped modernize the way coroner's inquests are held and the Motor Vehicle Act was amended to establish stiffer penalties for dangerous driving.

In challenging moments, department employees once again answered the call and offered their assistance. This included employees with the Office of the Fire Marshal, New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization and Inspections and Enforcement New Brunswick who joined other departments and agencies to contain and extinguish the Stein Lake wildfire.

I consider myself fortunate to represent a team of highly skilled, committed professionals dedicated to helping New Brunswickers.



Honourable Robert Gauvin  
Minister of Public Safety

## DEPUTY MINISTER'S MESSAGE

I am pleased to present the annual report for the Department of Justice and Public Safety for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2024.

It was a year of many accomplishments and milestones. Work progressed on the new Fredericton Law Courts, the new Central New Brunswick Correctional Centre and the next generation 911 system, which will provide vital services to the province.

Recognizing employees for their dedication and commitment remains an important part of our culture at Justice and Public Safety. I am happy to have once again participated in celebrations of long-service and retirement this past year, and several events recognizing exceptional work in the practice of law, as well as acts of service through the presentation of Justice and Public Safety Recognition Coins and other special commendation medals.

The achievements we have seen are all thanks to the determination and hard work of our many employees who I am proud to work with every day. Though we are a large and diverse department, we all share a common goal – to serve the people of New Brunswick.



Michael J. Comeau, K.C.  
Deputy Minister



# GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES

## Strategy and Operations Management

The Government of New Brunswick (GNB) uses leading business practices to develop, communicate and review strategy. This provides the public service with a proven methodology to execute strategy, increase accountability and continuously drive improvement.

## Government Priorities

Our vision for 2023-2024 was a vibrant and sustainable New Brunswick. To make progress toward this vision, we focused on our government's priorities.

- Energize the private sector
- Vibrant and sustainable communities
- Affordable, responsive and high-performing government
- Dependable public health care
- World-class education, and
- Environment

## HIGHLIGHTS

During the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the Department of Justice and Public Safety focused on the following strategic priorities:

- A site was chosen and a request for design proposals was filed for the new provincial correctional facility.
- The Office of Fire Marshal built three mobile fire prevention trailers to teach children and their families how to react when there is a fire in their home.
- \$1.5M was invested in the regional fire dispatch project, providing more mobile trunked radios to fire departments across the province, allowing for greater communications and collaboration.
- The *Coroners Act* was amended to modernize the way inquests are held, including a mandatory requirement for a coroner to conduct an inquest under specified circumstances.
- The *Motor Vehicle Act* was amended to increase penalties for motorists caught driving 50-80km/h over the speed limit.
- Peace officers with Inspections and Enforcement New Brunswick continued to work to curb the sale of illegal drugs and tobacco in our province through the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods program.
- The New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization kept New Brunswickers informed during extreme weather events, including spring flooding, heavy rain and snowstorms as well as wildfires.
- Department staff, including those with the New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization, the Office of the Fire Marshal, and Inspections and Enforcement New Brunswick, joined other departments, organizations and agencies in helping to contain and extinguish the Stein Lake wildfire.
- Legislative Services produced 40 Acts and 62 Regulations.

## PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES

### Outcome # 1: Increase public confidence in community safety

Year after year, Justice and Public Safety aims to increase public confidence in the programs and agencies that work to keep our communities safe. This is accomplished through legislation, initiatives that actively work to dismantle organized crime activities, and programs designed to increase transparency and accountability.

#### Why is it important?

As our population continues to grow, so does the risk of a rising crime rate and its impact on vulnerable communities. New Brunswickers deserve to feel safe in the communities they call home and have confidence in those working to promote and ensure safety. Public confidence is earned by continuously searching for and adopting best practices, and providing transparent, timely information through the Public Safety Crime Dashboard.

#### Initiatives or projects undertaken to achieve the outcome

- Inspections and Enforcement New Brunswick completed 281 inspections and investigations of salvage dealers to ensure safety and compliance with the *Salvage Dealers Licensing Act*.
- Inspections and Enforcement New Brunswick actively investigated 79 files related to illicit tobacco, alcohol and cannabis.
- Peace officers with the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods program performed 174 civil investigations in 2023-2024.
- Under the authority of the *Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act*, 25 properties were vacated due to illegal activity.

## **Outcome # 2: Drive efficiency and effectiveness in the province's justice system**

Ensuring timely access to justice and building safer communities requires a commitment to channelling resources where they are needed most. Investments in training, equipment and new facilities will help employees serve clients better, now and in the future, while adjustments to existing programs ensure responsible spending of taxpayer dollars.

### **Why is it important?**

An impartial, effective justice system is foundational to building a province that is vibrant, sustainable, and one that New Brunswickers can be proud to call home.

### **Initiatives or projects undertaken to achieve the outcome**

- Grand Lake was chosen as the site for New Brunswick's next correctional centre. The new facility will help address capacity issues and increase safety for employees and clients by reducing the risk of overcrowding among provincial correctional centres.
- Budgetary increases in 2023-2024 were channelled towards increasing capacity to respond to pressures in the justice system. This included investments in Family Crown Services to reflect the need for additional staff to manage the child protection caseload, and investments in Public Prosecution Services to increase the number of Crown prosecutors and add support staff.
- The *Coroner's Act* was amended to create a mandatory requirement for a coroner to conduct an inquest under specific circumstances related to nonnatural deaths in custody, in a hospital facility or where use of force may have been a factor. This provision is known as Hillary's Law.

### **Outcome # 3: Improve client satisfaction with the services that we deliver**

At any given time in a year, almost every New Brunswicker connects with the Department of Justice and Public Safety through a transaction or service – such as a motor vehicle inspection, a special events licence application, a roadcheck or a child support payment. The department continuously seeks ways to improve their program offerings to maximize ease and convenience while ensuring fair, equitable and compassionate service to clients.

#### **Why is it important?**

Improving programs to maximize client satisfaction is a long-term investment in resources that can lead to better outcomes and compliance.

#### **Initiatives or projects undertaken to achieve the outcome**

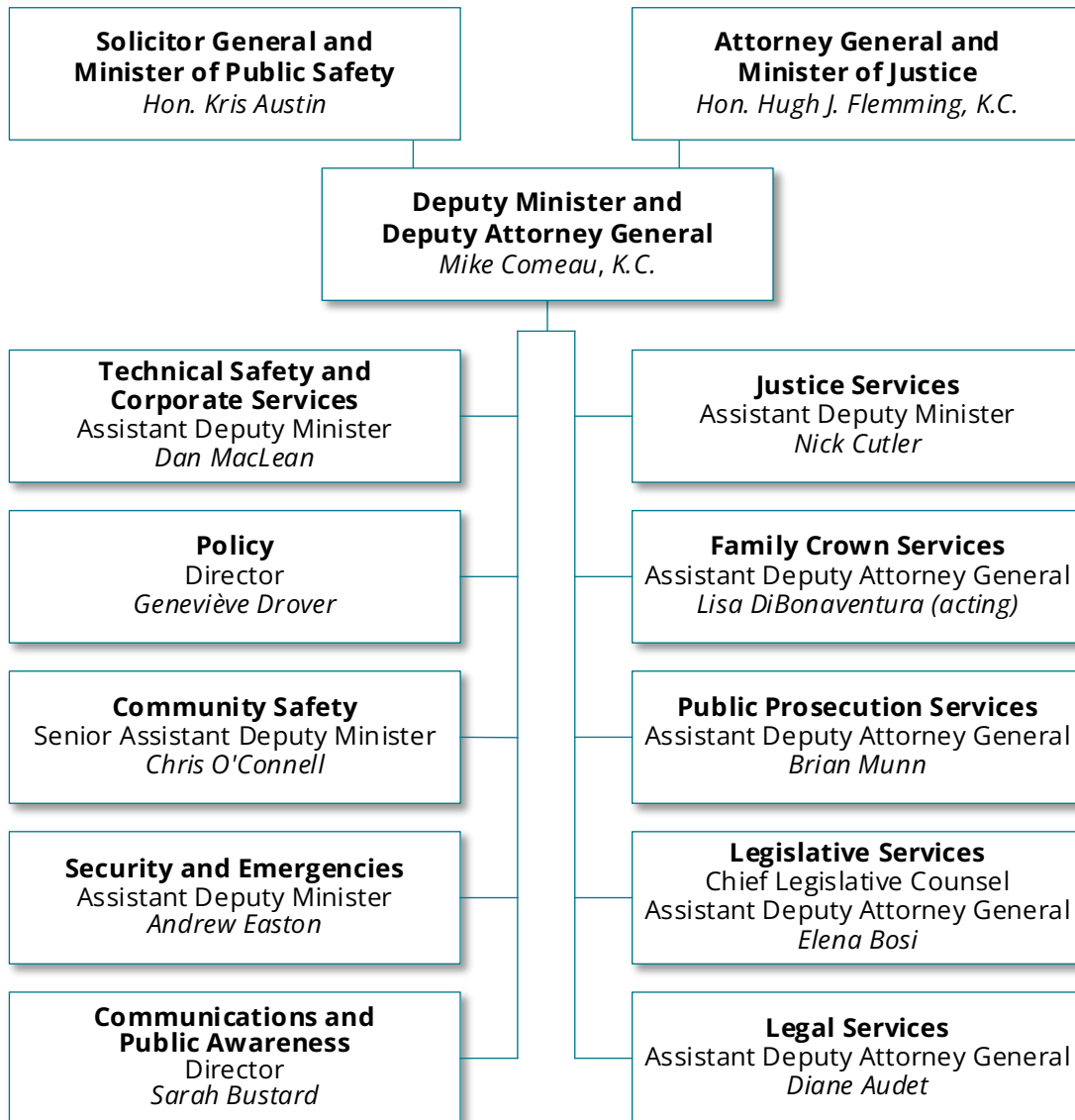
- Gaming Control and Licensing Services transformed their application process for charitable lottery licences and permits, moving from a paper-based system to an online platform. The move to online applications increased the efficiency of the licensing process, resulting in improved client satisfaction.
- The Court Services Branch launched an informative public web page on access to court records, which included an updated access to court records guide and new request forms for accessing records from Provincial Court, Court of King's Bench and the Court of Appeal.

## OVERVIEW OF DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS

The Department of Justice and Public Safety was formed to provide a comprehensive and integrated approach to public safety. The department strives to provide quality programs and services that enhance the safety and security of New Brunswickers and their communities and a fair, accessible justice system.

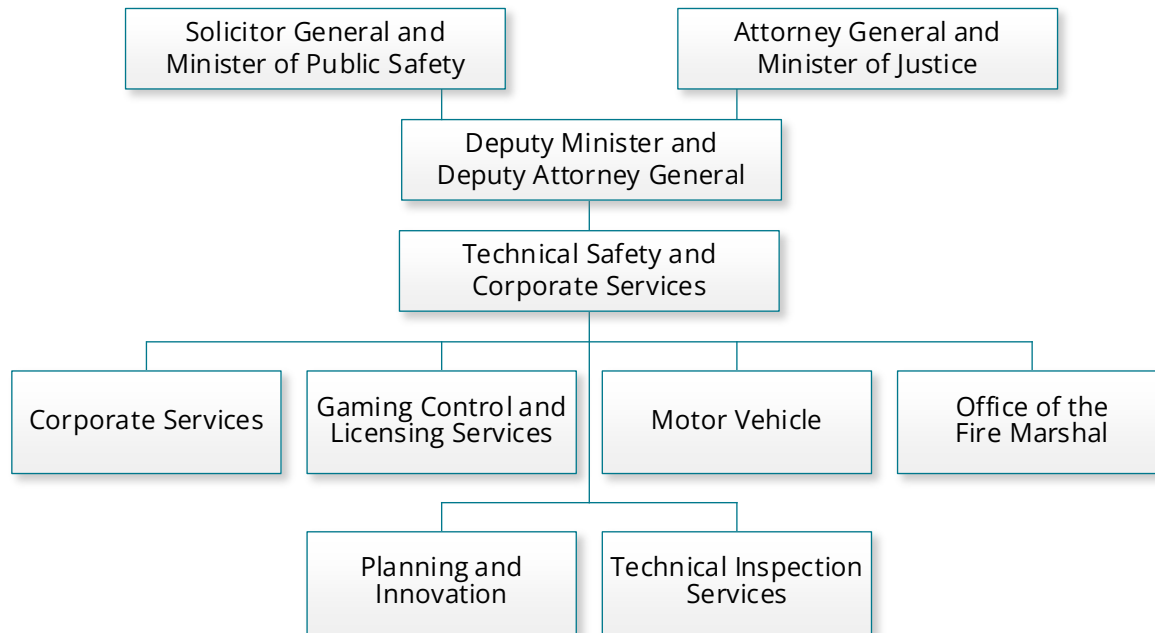
The vision of the department is “Working together for a safe, secure and just New Brunswick”.

The department had 1,717 regular, part-time, term and temporary employees, up from 1,684 in the previous fiscal year.



## DIVISION OVERVIEW AND HIGHLIGHTS

### TECHNICAL SAFETY AND CORPORATE SERVICES



#### Overview

The **Technical Safety and Corporate Services Division** provides direction and support to all departmental managers and employees in the areas of financial services, human resources, employee health and safety, information management, fleet and facilities management and accountability. The division is also responsible for the department's regulatory branches related to fire safety, technical inspections of buildings and structures, motor vehicles, liquor, gaming, and security services.

The **Gaming Control and Licensing Services Branch** is the regulatory authority responsible for the licensing, registration and permitting of applicants under the *Liquor Control Act*, *Gaming Control Act*, *Private Investigators and Security Services Act*, *Film and Video Act* and the *Salvage Dealers Licensing Act*. The branch coordinates with both internal and external inspectors, investigators, departments, corporate bodies, agencies, and systems. The branch is responsible to maintain and uphold the integrity of gaming in New Brunswick through the registration of suppliers and licensing of all employees of the casino gaming industry.

The **Motor Vehicle Branch** provides oversight of safety standards for motor vehicle registration; issues motor vehicle dealer licences; administers the motor vehicle inspection program through inspection stations; and administers the International Registration Plan program for the inter-jurisdictional registration of commercial vehicles. The branch promotes highway safety through testing aspiring drivers, issuing driver licences and ID cards, monitoring driver behaviour, and sanctioning unsafe drivers and carriers. The branch also administers educational and ignition interlock programs for persons convicted of impaired driving.

The **Office of the Fire Marshal** delivers fire prevention and protection programs, and works with fire departments, municipalities, and partner organizations to promote fire safety. The office monitors changes to the National Building Code and National Fire Code, National Fire Protection Association codes, and fire safety trends and concerns to develop and promote provincial policies, standards, and procedures for the fire service. The office works with multiple agencies to conduct fire safety inspections and perform fire cause and origin investigations. It is the lead agency for the response to all hazardous material emergencies for the province of New Brunswick.

The **Planning and Innovation Branch** is responsible for supporting the department's strategic direction through business planning, performance measurement, data analytics, continuous improvement, and accountability.

The **Technical Inspection Services Branch** is responsible for regulating the safe design, fabrication, installation, and operation of electrical, plumbing, propane, natural and medical gas systems, boilers, pressure vessels, elevating devices, amusement rides and buildings. Responsibilities also include qualifying and licensing specific tradespeople and contractors; performing accident investigations; providing education; and accrediting private sector services.

### **Overview of Corporate Services branches**

The **Finance and Administration Branch** provides financial leadership and expert advice to senior management, departmental managers and staff. The branch maintains the operational accounting function by providing financial consulting, budgeting, monitoring, accounting services, and revenue and expenditure forecasting. It also enforces financial policies and procedures and manages the department's facilities and fleet.

The **Human Resources Branch** is responsible for providing leadership and support to the department in the areas of human resource planning, recruitment, classification, labour relations, employee relations, training, performance management, change management, organizational development, human resource policies and program implementation.

The **Information Management Services Branch** is responsible for information management and security, risk management and records management. It supports business planning of information management solutions for the department. It ensures alignment of departmental business objectives and technology initiatives by providing strategic oversight, direction and advice.

The **Internal Communication and Employee Engagement Branch** supports the department by planning and executing strategic, timely communication to employees across the organization, and strengthening employee culture through engagement activities. The branch also coordinates departmental correspondence and provides advice and support on corporate projects.

The **Worker Safety Branch** is responsible for reducing the number and severity of workplace physical and psychological injuries through safe work practices, safe job practices, codes of practice, education, and completion of effective incident investigations. The branch also reduces the time lost from work through effective claim management and accommodation processes.

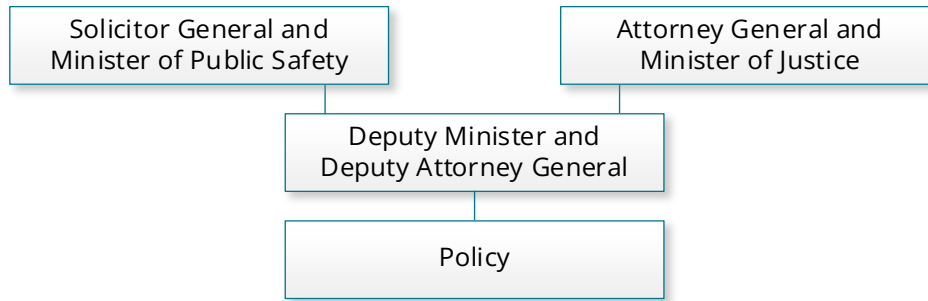
### **Highlights**

- The Office of Fire Marshal built three mobile fire prevention trailers to teach children and their families how to react when there is a fire in their home.



- \$1.5M was invested in the regional fire dispatch project, providing more mobile trunked radios to fire departments across the province, allowing for greater communications and collaboration.
- The *Motor Vehicle Act* was amended to increase penalties for motorists caught driving 50-80km/h over the speed limit.

## POLICY



The **Policy Branch** provides ministerial and departmental areas leadership and support in the development of program and policy initiatives. The branch also provides information and advice in support of legislation development, and federal/provincial/territorial relations, as well as coordination of legislative activities and departmental matters related to the *Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Personal Health Information Privacy and Access Act*.

## COMMUNITY SAFETY



### Overview

The **Community Safety Division** administers programs and services to contribute to a safer society. The division is responsible for institutional and community-based programs for offenders, youth justice initiatives, support for victims of crime, programs to reduce and prevent crime, firearms licensing, policing standards and contracts, and investigations of sudden and unexpected deaths. The division is also responsible for Inspections and Enforcement New Brunswick, a provincial non-direct policing law enforcement unit.

**Inspections and Enforcement New Brunswick** is a provincial law enforcement agency responsible for providing education, inspection, and enforcement functions under provincial and federal acts. Peace officers with special authority have general public safety and policing mandates. They work to enhance public safety and protect government revenues, the environment and natural resources. This section has additional responsibilities in the areas of liquor control; commercial, passenger and off-road vehicle safety; gaming control; tobacco sales to minors; smoke-free places investigations; disrupting the sale of illegal cannabis, tobacco, drugs, and alcohol; and protecting communities against the harmful effects of crime. Agri-food and public health inspectors protect the public from health hazards, maintain healthy environments and reduce the incidence of disease in the areas of food safety, environmental health, recreational and institutional sanitation, water quality, abattoirs and dairy-related operations, emergency preparedness and communicable disease control.

### Overview of Correctional Services branches

**Adult Custody Services** is responsible for the administration of five provincial correctional institutions for adult offenders sentenced to incarceration of two years less a day and for holding accused persons deemed to be dangerous and/or a security risk while awaiting trial.

The **Community and Youth Justice Services Branch** is responsible for developing and delivering programs for justice-involved youth and adults using evidence-based prevention approaches and supporting the rights of victims of crime. These programs include provincial adult and youth diversion programs; restorative justice approaches; rehabilitative case management for adults and youth sentenced to community correctional supervision; and support services for victims of crime like court preparation and victim impact statements. It provides custody placements for youth

aligned with a continuum of care model of intervention that addresses the young person's risks and needs. The branch employs peace officers that, in addition to their primary areas of responsibility, may be called on to complete other duties during large-scale civic emergencies.

The **Crime Prevention and Program Development Branch** is responsible for developing collaborative, evidence-based, and cost-effective crime prevention approaches throughout New Brunswick. The branch offers research, development, and evaluation support to operational branches in the department to ensure that strategies and programs align with a best-practice continuum of care model.

The **Sheriff Services Branch** is responsible for providing court security for all courthouse locations in accordance with the *Court Security Act*. The branch coordinates detainees' security, including transportation, escort and detention supervision, as well as jury management, document service and court orders execution. Sheriffs also perform peace officer duties as prescribed by over 80 federal and provincial statutes.

### **Overview of Policing, Firearms and Coroner Services branches**

**Coroner Services** is an independent and publicly accountable agency that investigates deaths. The agency is responsible for reviewing all suspicious or questionable deaths in New Brunswick, and for conducting inquests as may be required by statute and/or in the public interest. Coroner Services does not have a vested interest of any kind in the outcome of death investigations. The agency administers the Child Death Review Committee and Domestic Violence Death Review Committee.

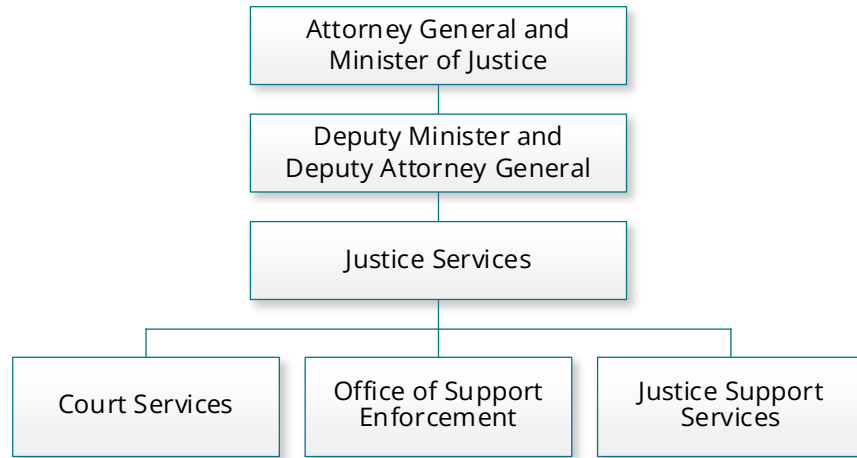
The **Policing Standards and Contract Management Branch** aims to prevent and reduce crime and victimization through the coordination of effective and efficient policing services and evidence-based programs. The branch is responsible for developing and promoting provincial policies, standards, agreements and collaborative partnerships that ensure the delivery of consistent and standardized police services throughout New Brunswick. It oversees contract management services and supports the provision of RCMP services under the Provincial Police Service Agreement as well as managing agreements with municipalities and local service districts for the provision of RCMP services.

The **Provincial Firearms Office** contributes to the safety of communities by managing the ownership, purchase, movement and use of firearms within the province through the administration of federal firearms legislation.

### **Highlights**

- A site was chosen and a request for design proposals was filed for the new provincial correctional facility.
- The *Coroners Act* was amended with provisions to help modernize the way inquests are held, including a mandatory requirement for a coroner to conduct an inquest in under specified circumstances.
- Peace officers with Inspections and Enforcement New Brunswick continued to work to curb the sale of illegal drugs and tobacco in our province through the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods program.

## JUSTICE SERVICES



### Overview

The **Justice Services Division** is responsible for ensuring transparent and unbiased access to the justice system in New Brunswick. It provides comprehensive administrative and operational support to all three levels of court, enforcement and recalculation of family and child support orders, and legal documentation processing. The division also supports the judiciary in delivering timely justice and leverages technology to improve service efficiency and accessibility.

The **Office of Support Enforcement** enforces family support provisions in court orders and agreements in accordance with the *Support Enforcement Act* and the *Divorce Act* by using progressive enforcement actions to ensure compliance.

The **Justice Support Services Branch** provides strategic and operational support for the technological and functional processes related to the administration of justice in New Brunswick. Responsibilities include the management of case management systems for the Provincial Court and Court of King's Bench, management of business intelligence, evaluation of legislative and policy changes and the establishment and oversight of service level agreements.

### Overview of Court Services branches

The **Court Services Branch** supports New Brunswick's court system across eight geographical locations, including the Court of King's Bench, Small Claims Court, Probate Court, Bankruptcy and Insolvency Division, Criminal Court and Youth Justice Court. It manages court attendance, order production, case files, registry services and other administrative services in support of the judiciary and the public. The branch is also responsible for the delivery of specialized initiatives, including the Elsipogtog Healing to Wellness Court, Domestic Violence Court, Family Case Management, Family Law Information Center, Mental Health Docket, and Intimate Partner Violence Intervention.

The **Office of the Registrar** supports the Court of Appeal and its judiciary by providing guidance to the public and lawyers regarding the Rules of Court, order/judgment production, case file management and other administrative services including conducting hearings as authorized by legislation and the Rules of Court. This branch serves as the registry for New Brunswick for all bankruptcies and divorces, processes inter-jurisdictional applications for the establishment of variation of family support orders and processes all New Brunswick adoptions.

The **Office of the Chief Legal Officer** provides legal support to the Court of King's Bench and the public for eight judicial districts. The legal officers are responsible for conducting hearings and adjudicating matters including but not limited to support enforcement hearings for determination of arrears; Administrative Default Hearings pursuant to the *Support Enforcement Act*; Judgment Debtor Examinations; Payment Hearings; and assessment of costs on a party/party and solicitor-client basis.

### **Highlights**

- The Court Services Branch launched an informative public web page on access to court records, which included an updated access to court records guide and new request forms for accessing records from Provincial Court, Court of King's Bench and the Court of Appeal.

## OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



### Overview

The **Office of the Attorney General** promotes the impartial administration of justice to enable the Attorney General to discharge their constitutional responsibilities regarding the enforcement of the criminal law, the provision of legal advice and the representation of the Crown in all civil and constitutional matters, as well as the drafting of legislation and regulations.

The **Family Crown Services Branch** provides professional legal services, including litigation and legal opinions to the Department of Social Development and to the director of support enforcement in the area of family law. It also acts as designate and agent of the Attorney General under specific federal and provincial legislation and international treaties in the areas of family law and the civil aspects of international child abduction.

The **Legal Services Branch** provides professional legal services to government departments and some agencies in the areas of employment and administrative law, constitutional law, corporate, commercial and property law, and litigation. It also provides legal opinions on issues and matters related to the ongoing operations of government.

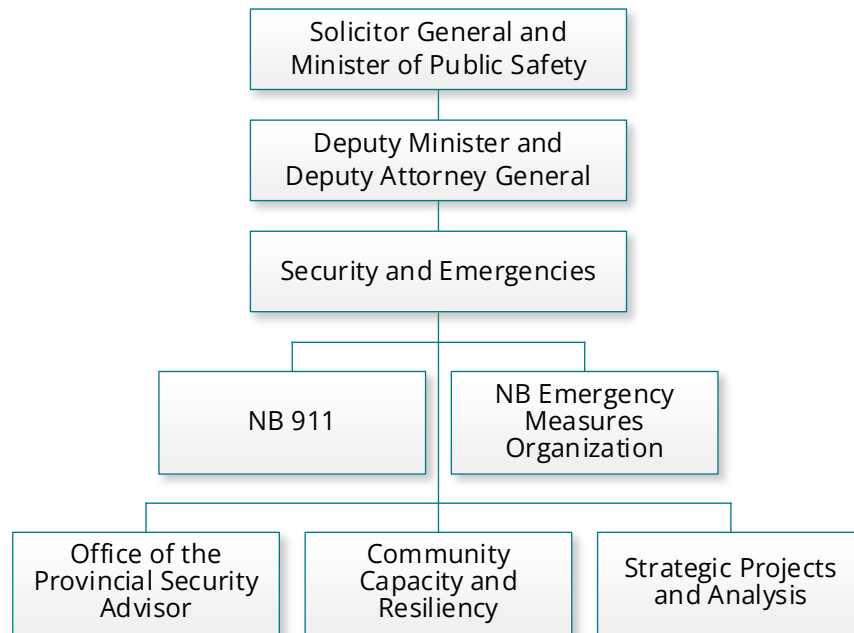
The **Legislative Services Branch** provides a central legislative drafting service in both official languages, for all public acts and regulations, to all government departments and agencies; provides advice to the Executive Council on legislative matters; discharges the responsibilities conferred upon the Registrar of Regulations under the *Regulations Act*; provides legal advice on Cabinet agenda; and discharges the responsibilities conferred upon the King's Printer under the *King's Printer Act*.

The **Public Prosecution Services Branch** ensures that laws enacted for the protection of all citizens are respected and enforced by providing independent, effective, and impartial prosecution services. With the decision to continue or terminate a prosecution, the Crown prosecutors exercise broad discretion in the public interest.

### Highlights

- Legislative Services produced 40 Acts and 62 Regulations.

## SECURITY AND EMERGENCIES



### Overview

The **Security and Emergencies Division** is responsible for coordination amongst different levels of government and the private sector to improve prevention, preparedness and response capabilities in New Brunswick for deliberate, accidental or natural events. Responsibilities include 911 services, emergency management and recovery programs, security, and critical infrastructure.

The **Community Capacity and Resiliency Branch** is responsible for taking learning from crises and coordinating provincial efforts to help communities become more resilient to future emergencies. Regional teams work in direct alignment with Regional Service Commissions to help implement strategies targeting the social issues that drive the inequitable impact of emergencies on communities.

The **Office of the Provincial Security Advisor** is responsible for providing security advice and services regarding high-value and high-risk services, networks, facilities, assets, and persons critical to New Brunswick's safety, security, and economy, in both the public and private sectors. The focus is to align efforts among different levels of government and the private sector to improve prevention, preparedness, and response capabilities in New Brunswick for natural, accidental, and deliberate events.

The **NB 911 Branch** is responsible for ensuring an effective province-wide system for the coordination of emergency services and for the reporting of emergencies to emergency service providers through a public safety answering point. The branch develops, implements and ensures compliance with standards, policies and operating procedures that ensure response to all emergencies reported via 911.

The **New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization** promotes the development of emergency programs at all levels of government encompassing prevention, preparedness, response



and recovery. It coordinates provincial emergency operations and supports communities, municipalities and regional service commissions with resources and information to ensure effective local response to major emergencies.

The **Strategic Projects and Analysis Branch** provides analysis and leadership on priority projects and programs within the Security and Emergencies Division. The team delivers business intelligence/data analytics support, collaborates with the divisional leadership team on corporate strategy, and supports the development and implementation of outcome-focused operational policies.

## Highlights

- In 2023-2024, Community Resiliency and Capacity led 127 projects, working with 12 regional teams with over 500 members from community, local and provincial governments.
- The New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization and the NB Power Corporation worked with the International Atomic Energy Agency, Health Canada, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, and other emergency response organizations to complete the 2019-2023 Emergency Preparedness Review, an appraisal of Canada's emergency response capabilities for nuclear or radiological emergency.
- The New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization led all government departments and partners including the NB Power Corporation, the RCMP, the Canadian Red Cross and Public Safety Canada in a provincial level training exercise called "PEAC Full Response" that focused on managing an emergency caused by wildfire affecting an urban area and requiring evacuations.
- The New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization kept New Brunswickers informed during extreme weather events, including spring flooding, heavy rain and snowstorms as well as wildfires.
- Department staff, including those with the New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization, the Office of the Fire Marshal, and Inspections and Enforcement New Brunswick, joined other departments, organizations and agencies in helping to contain and extinguish the Stein Lake wildfire.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

**TABLE 1: ORDINARY EXPENDITURE STATUS REPORT BY PRIMARY**

**Fiscal year ending March 31, 2024 (\$000)**

	MAIN ESTIMATES	APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS	FINAL BUDGET*	ACTUAL	VARIANCE (UNDER) OVER
Personal services	160,120.5	7,588.2	167,708.7	159,568.2	(8,140.5)
Other services	155,692.3	-	155,692.3	168,911.3	13,219.0
Materials and supplies	5,662.7	-	5,662.7	8,846.0	3,183.3
Property and equipment	587.6	-	587.6	4,408.8	3,821.2
Contributions, grants and subsidies	14,632.1	-	14,632.1	18,798.3	4,166.2
Debt and other charges	35,143.8	1,300.0	36,443.8	41,196.6	4,752.8
Chargeback recoveries	(5,121.0)	-	(5,121.0)	(13,260.3)	(8,139.3)
Total	366,718.0	8,888.2	375,606.2	388,468.9	(12,862.7)

Actual expenditures were over budget by \$12.9M; this was primarily the result of deferred disaster recovery costs; many of these expenditures were previously expected to be incurred within 2022-2023 but were delayed until 2023-2024. In addition, the flash flood in the Madawaska region on June 29, 2023, caused further over-expenditures.

\*Note that the final budget does not include a \$13M special warrant granted in 2023-2024. If this was included, the overall variance for the department would be a \$137K surplus. Funding is not reflected as it was not voted upon.

**TABLE 2: ORDINARY EXPENDITURE STATUS REPORT BY PROGRAM**

**Fiscal year ending March 31, 2024 (\$000)**

	MAIN ESTIMATES	APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS	FINAL BUDGET*	ACTUAL	VARIANCE (UNDER) OVER
Technical Safety and Corporate Services	24,545.0	986.6	25,531.6	26,932.2	1,400.6
Community Safety	230,188.0	3,973.3	234,161.3	242,075.5	7,914.2
Office of the Attorney General	28,796.0	396.7	29,192.7	28,011.5	(1,181.2)
Justice Services	27,739.0	2,193.6	29,932.6	29,241.7	(690.9)
Legal Aid	12,986.0	12.3	12,998.3	12,998.3	-
Security and Emergencies	42,464.0	1,325.7	43,789.7	49,209.7	5,420
<b>Total</b>	<b>366,718.0</b>	<b>8,888.2</b>	<b>375,606.2</b>	<b>388,468.9</b>	<b>(12,862.7)</b>

Actual expenditures were over budget by \$12.9M; this was largely the result of a deficit within the Security and Emergency Division; specifically, Disaster Financial Assistance. The program was overspent due to a weather event which occurred in June of 2023, which was not known at the time of creating the budget for 2023-2024. Government does not allocate funding to the department for Disaster Financial Assistance for events that have yet to occur. In addition, the Community Safety branch was met with cost pressures because of inmate population pressures within Adult Institutional Services.

\*Note that the final budget does not include a \$13M special warrant granted in 2023-2024. If this was included, the overall variance for the department would be a \$137K surplus. Funding is not reflected as it was not voted upon.

**TABLE 3: ORDINARY REVENUE STATUS REPORT BY SOURCE****Fiscal year ending March 31, 2024 (\$000)**

	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>VARIANCE (UNDER) OVER</b>
Other taxes	4,400.0	6,445.1	2,045.1
Return on investment	47.0	65.5	18.5
Licences and permits	149,140.0	158,455.3	9,315.3
Sale of goods and services	58,968.0	61,503.2	2,535.2
Fines and penalties	6,708.0	6,737.9	29.9
Miscellaneous	340.0	320.2	(19.8)
Conditional Grants – Canada	38,330.0	30,459.6	(7,870.4)
<b>Total</b>	<b>257,933.0</b>	<b>263,986.8</b>	<b>6,053.8</b>

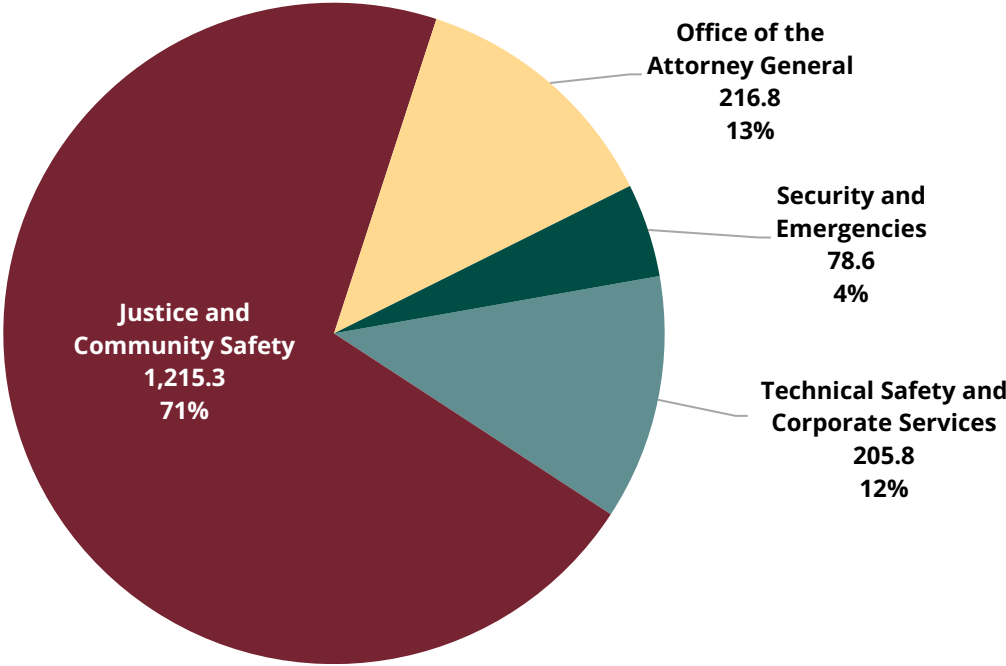
Total revenues were higher than budgeted amounts – the overall surplus for 2023-2024 was \$6M. The major variance was for revenues recognized on eligible Disaster Financial Assistance events, which falls under the Conditional Grants – Canada line item. This variance is offset by increased fees received under the *Motor Vehicle Act* (Licences and permits), electrical installations and inspections (licences and permits) and the *Fire Prevention Act* (other taxes), and recoveries from municipalities for the RCMP (sale of goods and services).

# SUMMARY OF STAFFING ACTIVITY

Pursuant to section 4 of the *Civil Service Act*, the Secretary to Treasury Board delegates staffing to each Deputy Head for their respective department(s). Please find below a summary of the staffing activity for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 for Justice and Public Safety.

NUMBER OF PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES <sup>1</sup>		
EMPLOYEE TYPE	2023-2024	2022-2023
Permanent	1577.5	1558.3
Temporary	139.0	125.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1716.5</b>	<b>1683.8</b>

<sup>1</sup>Does not include casuals.



The department advertised 92 competitions, including 85 open (public) competitions and 7 closed (internal) competitions.

Pursuant to sections 15 and 16 of the *Civil Service Act*, the department made the following appointments using processes to establish merit other than the competitive process:

APPOINTMENT TYPE	APPOINTMENT DESCRIPTION	SECTION OF THE CIVIL SERVICE ACT	NUMBER
Specialized professional, scientific or technical	An appointment may be made without competition when a position requires: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a high degree of expertise and training</li> <li>a high degree of technical skill</li> <li>recognized experts in their field</li> </ul>	15(1)	1
Equal Employment Opportunity Program	Provides Aboriginals, persons with disabilities and members of a visible minority group with equal access to employment, training and advancement opportunities.	16(1)(a)	7
Department Talent Management Program	Permanent employees identified in corporate and departmental talent pools, who meet the four-point criteria for assessing talent, namely performance, readiness, willingness and criticalness.	16(1)(b)	110
Lateral transfer	The GNB transfer process facilitates the transfer of employees from within Part 1, 2 (school districts) and 3 (hospital authorities) of the public service.	16(1) or 16(1)(c)	11
Regular appointment of casual/temporary	An individual hired on a casual or temporary basis under section 17 may be appointed without competition to a regular properly classified position within the civil service.	16(1)(d)(i)	N/A*
Regular appointment of students/apprentices	Summer students, university or community college co-op students or apprentices may be appointed without competition to an entry level position within the civil service.	16(1)(d)(ii)	0

\*Note that the number of regular appointment of casual/temporary was not tracked during the fiscal year 2023-2024. The appointments for this category are included in the total for Department Talent Management Program appointments.

Pursuant to section 33 of the *Civil Service Act*, one (1) complaint alleging favouritism was made to the Deputy Head of Justice and Public Safety and one (1) complaint was submitted to the Ombud.

## SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION AND LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

BILL #	NAME OF LEGISLATION	DATE OF ROYAL ASSENT	SUMMARY OF CHANGES
30	<p><i>An Act to Amend the Coroners Act</i></p> <p><a href="https://www.legnb.ca/en/legislation/bills/60/2/30/an-act-to-amend-the-coroners-act">https://www.legnb.ca/en/legislation/bills/60/2/30/an-act-to-amend-the-coroners-act</a></p>	June 16, 2023	<p>Amendments create a new provision to protect the identity of jurors for a coroner's inquest, eliminates the three-hour limit on inquest jury deliberations, and expands mandatory inquest requirements to include nonnatural deaths in custody or hospital facility or where use of force by a peace officer may have been a factor, regardless of detention/custody. Amendments change a mandatory requirement for inquests for deaths in specified workplaces to discretionary. A coroner will now be able to hold a single inquest for more than one death if the deaths are sufficiently similar, and the Minister can appoint more than one coroner to be a Deputy Chief Coroner. Amendments also include changes for modernization and updating statutory language.</p>
34	<p><i>An Act Respecting Highway Safety Act</i></p> <p><a href="https://www.legnb.ca/en/legislation/bills/60/2/34/an-act-respecting-highway-safety">https://www.legnb.ca/en/legislation/bills/60/2/34/an-act-respecting-highway-safety</a></p>	June 16, 2023	<p>Amendments in this bill improve highway safety by increasing penalties (fines and demerit points) for excessive speeding. It also contains amendments improving the administration of the <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i> including changing the requirement for re-examination after a driver's licence expires from two years to five years, raising the amount for non-reportable</p>



BILL #	NAME OF LEGISLATION	DATE OF ROYAL ASSENT	SUMMARY OF CHANGES
			collisions from \$1,000 to \$2,000, outlining and clarifying the requirements for dealer licencing and amending the definition of 'Authorized Emergency Vehicle' for clarity. Also, the <i>Off-Road Vehicle Act</i> is amended to provide tow companies with the ability to dispose of abandoned vehicles of low value.
35	<i>An Act to Amend the Building Code Administration Act</i>  <a href="https://www.legnb.ca/en/legislation/bills/60/2/35/an-act-to-amend-the-building-code-administrat">https://www.legnb.ca/en/legislation/bills/60/2/35/an-act-to-amend-the-building-code-administrat</a>	June 16, 2023	This bill creates an appeal process to resolve disputes in interpretation of the technical requirements of the National Building Code. The Building Code Administrator is designated with the power to render decisions on appeals brought forward under the <i>Act</i> .
41	<i>An Act Respecting Holdback Trust Accounts</i>  <a href="https://www.legnb.ca/en/legislation/bills/60/2/41/an-act-respecting-holdback-trust-accounts">https://www.legnb.ca/en/legislation/bills/60/2/41/an-act-respecting-holdback-trust-accounts</a>	June 16, 2023	This bill repeals provisions relating to holdback trust accounts required to be held by owners under the <i>Construction Remedies Act</i> . The repealing of the provision ends the requirement that holdbacks must be deposited into a separate trust account.
42	<i>Construction Prompt Payment and Adjudication Act</i>  <a href="https://www.legnb.ca/en/legislation/bills/60/2/42/const-ruktion-prompt-payment-and-adjudication">https://www.legnb.ca/en/legislation/bills/60/2/42/const-ruktion-prompt-payment-and-adjudication</a>	June 16, 2023	This legislation was created to set out timeframes, applicable to all public and private sector construction projects, for timely payments to be made to contractors, subcontractors, and suppliers. It also provides a mechanism for resolving payment disputes and establishes regulation-making

BILL #	NAME OF LEGISLATION	DATE OF ROYAL ASSENT	SUMMARY OF CHANGES
			authority for a future process for adjudication.
44	<p><i>An Act Respecting the Demise of the Crown</i></p> <p><a href="https://www.legnb.ca/en/legislation/bills/60/2/44/an-act-respecting-the-demise-of-the-crown">https://www.legnb.ca/en/legislation/bills/60/2/44/an-act-respecting-the-demise-of-the-crown</a></p>	June 16, 2023	Due to the passing of Queen Elizabeth II on September 8, 2022, and the transfer of the Crown to her heir, King Charles III, this bill amends numerous Acts and regulations accordingly. For example, “The Court of Queen’s Bench” is changed to “The Court of King’s Bench.”
7	<p><i>An Act to Amend the Trespass Act</i></p> <p><a href="https://www.legnb.ca/en/legislation/bills/60/3/7/an-act-to-amend-the-trespass-act">https://www.legnb.ca/en/legislation/bills/60/3/7/an-act-to-amend-the-trespass-act</a></p>	December 13, 2023	Amendments provide the mechanisms necessary to enable private property owners to have a trespasser removed from their property. The <i>Act</i> previously only applied to a limited type of premise, such as schools or shopping centers. These amendments clarify the definition of premise to cover residential properties, including apartment buildings, condos and unoccupied premises. The amendments also authorize peace officers to arrest without warrant if they have reasonable grounds.
8	<p><i>An Act to Amend the Private Investigators and Security Services Act</i></p> <p><a href="https://www.legnb.ca/en/legislation/bills/60/3/8/an-act-to-amend-the-private-investigators-and">https://www.legnb.ca/en/legislation/bills/60/3/8/an-act-to-amend-the-private-investigators-and</a></p>	December 13, 2023	In response to an increased number of licensed security providers and private investigators due to the pandemic, these amendments support compliance by setting out service standards for licensed providers pertaining to guard dogs, licence photo identification, criminal record checks, record-keeping requirements, and authorized

BILL #	NAME OF LEGISLATION	DATE OF ROYAL ASSENT	SUMMARY OF CHANGES
			equipment, and clarifies the role and powers of inspection.

NAME OF REGULATION	EFFECTIVE DATE	SUMMARY OF CHANGES
Support Enforcement, General	November 3, 2023	Amendments allow for the currency conversion for support orders where one party is in another country (thus not in Canadian dollars) to be converted on the date the order was registered instead of when the order was made. It also provides the authority to periodically update the conversion needed, allowing for the account balances in the two countries to stay consistent as currency rates fluctuate.
Provincial Offences Procedure, Amendment to General	May 18, 2023	Amendment to authorize transportation certificates in a digital format as an alternative to paper certificates for the transport of primary forest products.
<i>Judicature Act</i> and the Provincial Offences Procedure, Amendment to the Rules of Court	December 14, 2023	Regulation amendments set out the procedures for court applications and replace the existing rule for court under the <i>Infirm Persons Act</i> . Amendments also include new forms for court applications under the <i>Act</i> .
Motor Vehicle, Amendment to General	February 6, 2024	Amendment makes completion of entry-level training that is compliant with the <i>National Safety Code Standard 16: Commercial Truck Driver Entry Level Training (Class 1)</i> a condition of receiving a Class 1 licence.
Motor Vehicle, Amendment to Driver Training Course	February 6, 2024	Amendment requires that students being instructed in the operation of Class 1 commercial vehicles receive instruction in conformity with <i>National Safety Code Standard 16: Commercial Truck Driver Entry Level Training (Class 1)</i> .

NAME OF REGULATION	EFFECTIVE DATE	SUMMARY OF CHANGES
Private Investigators and Security Services, Amendment to General	February 27, 2024	Amendments increase minimum liability insurance requirements, reduce photograph requirements with licence applications from two to one, establish relevant training requirements, establish a licensing framework for the provision and carrying of handcuff and batons when appropriate, and make prohibitions against using any equipment, vehicles or uniforms with marking that resemble those used by police.

# SUMMARY OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGES ACTIVITIES

## Introduction

The Department of Justice and Public Safety has consistently met its obligations under the *Official Languages Act* across the department. The following activities were undertaken throughout the year to support the four focus areas outlined in the [Plan on Official Languages – Official Bilingualism: A Fundamental Value](#).

## Focus 1

Ensure access to service of equal quality in English and French throughout the province:

- All written and oral communication, including departmental correspondence, is provided in the recipient's chosen Official Language.
- The Language of Service policy is reviewed with employees during their annual performance evaluations and at the start of their employment.

## Focus 2

An environment and climate that encourages, for all employees, the use of the Official Language of their choice in their workplace:

- Employment offers, appointment letters, and hiring communications include a section where candidates and employees can indicate their preferred language for written and oral communication.
- Performance reviews are conducted in the employee's language of choice. This ensures sound personnel management and guarantees that all employees clearly understand what is expected of them in their work.
- Communications from senior leadership and Corporate Services are issued in both Official Languages.
- All employees who so wish are supported by their respective management teams and are encouraged to express themselves in their second language if they want to practise.

## Focus 3

Strategic means the department implemented to ensure that new and revised government programs and policies took into account the realities of the province's Official Language communities (promotion of Official Languages):

- Emergency alerts issued by the department are delivered simultaneously in both Official Languages across various social media platforms, radio, television stations, and compatible wireless devices via the National Public Alerting System.

#### **Focus 4**

Ensure Public Service employees have a thorough knowledge and understanding of the *Official Languages Act*, relevant policies, regulations, and the province's obligations with respect to Official Languages:

- All new employees are required to complete the Language of Service and Language of Work e-learning modules.
- Current employees are reminded to review the Language of Service and Language of Work policies in their annual performance review.
- All employees are informed of their obligations as part of their orientation program and/or through their work planning meetings.

#### **Conclusion**

The department made strides in 2023-2024 to improve service in both official languages and foster a bilingual work environment.

# SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

## Section 1

NAME AND YEAR OF AUDIT AREA WITH LINK TO ONLINE DOCUMENT	RECOMMENDATIONS
	TOTAL
Pandemic Preparedness and Response – Department of Justice and Public Safety: <a href="https://www.agnb-vgnb.ca/content/dam/agnb-vgnb/pdf/Reports-Rapports/2023V2/Chap5e.pdf">https://www.agnb-vgnb.ca/content/dam/agnb-vgnb/pdf/Reports-Rapports/2023V2/Chap5e.pdf</a>	6
COVID-19 Pandemic Response: Oversight Executive Council Office: <a href="https://www.agnb-vgnb.ca/content/dam/agnb-vgnb/pdf/Reports-Rapports/2023V1/Chap2e.pdf">https://www.agnb-vgnb.ca/content/dam/agnb-vgnb/pdf/Reports-Rapports/2023V1/Chap2e.pdf</a>	2, that pertain to Justice and Public Safety

IMPLEMENTED RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTIONS TAKEN
<b>Pandemic Preparedness and Response – Department of Justice and Public Safety</b>	
<b>The Office of the Auditor General recommends Justice and Public Safety:</b>	
5.34: implement the outstanding recommendations from the privacy impact assessments related to formalizing a departmental privacy policy and complaint-management process.	Underway: Justice and Public Safety commits to a review of the remaining requirements to implement department-wide policy and process and implement change where risks warrant.
5.37: evaluate the efficacy of the hotel isolation program to determine if it contributed to a reduction in non-essential travel or the spread of COVID-19. Lessons learned should be considered in future emergency planning and preparedness.	Underway: Justice and Public Safety will undertake a fulsome review of the New Brunswick response to the public health threat from COVID-19. Disease-control measures, such as movement controls, personal protective measures and isolation, will be considered.
5.45: publicly report on the outcomes of its responsibilities pertaining to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• emergency planning for municipalities</li> <li>• emergency and business continuity planning for departments and agencies</li> </ul>	Underway: Justice and Public Safety will take steps so that the New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization will implement enhanced reporting on its public website and report in the department’s annual report.

IMPLEMENTED RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTIONS TAKEN
<p><b>Pandemic Preparedness and Response – Department of Justice and Public Safety</b></p> <p><b>The Office of the Auditor General recommends the New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization:</b></p>	
<p>5.42: in conjunction with provincial departments, ensure departments and agencies have up to date business continuity plans at all times.</p>	<p>Underway: Justice and Public Safety will review the current hazards and risks with GNB departments and agencies and bring forward recommendations for action.</p>
<p>5.44: in conjunction with provincial departments, ensure departments and agencies have up to date emergency plans at all times.</p>	<p>Underway: Justice and Public Safety will review the current hazards and risks with GNB departments and agencies and bring forward recommendations for action.</p>
<p>5.49 : ensure the Province of New Brunswick Emergency Measures Plan is up to date at all times.</p>	<p>Ongoing: Justice and Public Safety continuously reviews and improves the plan and its appendices based on the hazard and risk environment</p>
<p><b>COVID-19 Pandemic Response: Oversight Executive Council Office</b></p> <p><b>The Office of the Auditor General Recommends:</b></p>	
<p>2.94: Executive Council Office, in collaboration with the New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization, undertake a post-operation review and incorporate communication lessons learned into an updated New Brunswick Emergency Public Information Plan.</p>	<p>Underway: A COVID-19 after-action review will be performed, analyzed and incorporated into the plan.</p>
<p>2.100: Executive Council Office ensure the Department of Justice and Public Safety, in collaboration the Department of Health:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• undertake an after-action review to evaluate the provincial response to the COVID-19 pandemic;</li> <li>• incorporate lessons learned into an updated provincial pandemic emergency plan; and</li> <li>• create and implement a schedule to regularly test and update the provincial pandemic emergency plan</li> </ul>	<p>Underway: A COVID-19 after-action review will be performed, analyzed and incorporated into the plan.</p>



**Section 2**

Justice and Public Safety did not receive any recommendations from the Auditor General's reports for 2020, 2021, or 2022.

## **REPORT ON THE *PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE ACT***

As provided under section 18(1) of the *Public Interest Disclosure Act*, the chief executive shall prepare a report of any disclosures of wrongdoing that have been made to a supervisor or designated officer of the portion of the public service for which the chief executive officer is responsible. The Department of Justice and Public Safety received one (1) disclosure of wrongdoing in the 2023-2024 fiscal year. However, no investigation was warranted.

## APPENDIX A: STATISTICAL INFORMATION

<b>TECHNICAL SAFETY AND CORPORATE SERVICES</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2023-2024</b>
<b>GAMING, LIQUOR AND SECURITY LICENSING</b>		
Liquor licences	2,269	2,323
Liquor permits	1,021	1,012
Charitable gaming licences	1,513	1,718
Film and video licences	284	184
Private investigator and security guard licences	2,651	2,752
Salvage dealer licences	96	89
Manufacturer licences	128	133
Registration of employees and suppliers in the gaming industry	677	640
Registration of video lottery site holders	186	177
<b>MOTOR VEHICLE SERVICES</b>		
Driver's licences (initial or renewal)	183,982	175,928
Helmets to Hardhats driver's licence exchanges	46	25
Identity cards (non-driving)	10,017	10,974
Vehicle registration	819,406	835,841
Motorcycle veteran plate	-	111
Vehicle registration reminder opt-out	23,916	23,889
Interlock clients	761	838
Dealers and inspection stations	2,274	1,758
Passenger vehicle driving schools	31	33
Commercial vehicle driving schools	7	6
Passenger vehicle driver instructor permit	100	124
Commercial vehicle driver instructor permit	24	32
Motorcycle driving schools	9	8
Motorcycle driver instructor permit	78	82
International Registration Plan audits completed	19	33
<b>OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL</b>		
Fires reported	3,067	2,957
Non-fire related responses	16,710	20,023
Fires investigated by regional fire marshals	147	109
Buildings inspected:		
By regional fire inspectors	2,977	3,174
By local assistants	4,752	5,539
Total of inspections	7,729	8,713
Building plans reviewed	397	555
Sprinkler system installations reviewed	72	92
Participants in provincially funded firefighter training courses	350	861
Provincial firefighter examinations	1,062	2,027
Volunteer firefighters	5,000	5,000
Emergency inspections during spring flood by regional fire inspectors	271	283
Incident reports recorded for analysis	19,777	22,980
<b>TECHNICAL INSPECTION SERVICES</b>		
Inspections completed	25,687	25,848
Plans reviewed and/or registered	1,427	1,584
Installation permits issued	25,727	28,856
Licences issued or renewed	13,725	13,859
Operating permits	19,142	19,670

<b>TECHNICAL SAFETY AND CORPORATE SERVICES</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2023-2024</b>
Exams administered	2,159	2,276

<b>COMMUNITY SAFETY</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2023-2024</b>
<b>CORRECTIONAL SERVICES</b>		
<b>ADULT CUSTODY SERVICES</b>		
<b>Provincial correctional institutions - Admissions</b>		
Adult custody	3,231	3,143
Sentenced to custody	1,159	1,027
Pre-trial detention - remands	2,479	2,453
<b>Adult Custody Programs</b>		
<b>Electronic Monitoring Program</b>		
Bail release on Electronic Monitoring program	149	196
Temporary Absence program on Electronic Monitoring	284	191
Temporary Absence program without Electronic Monitoring	317	284
<b>Provincial Correctional Institutions - total count</b>		
Saint John Regional Correctional Centre	163.0	153.0
Southeast Regional Correctional Centre	177.0	171.2
Dalhousie Regional Correctional Centre	80.4	77.0
Madawaska Regional Correctional Centre	75.8	63.0
New Brunswick Women's Correctional Centre	58.7	55.3
Total count*	554.9	519.5
Island View Community Residential Centre	57	49

\*Total count includes remanded, sentenced, and intermittent individuals, those in hospital, temporary release and unlawfully at large.

<b>COMMUNITY AND YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICES</b>		
<b>Adult Community Services</b>		
<b>Average yearly adult community caseload</b>	2,403	1,979
Court-ordered pre-sentence reports	2,340	2,116
<b>Number of referrals:</b>		
Alternative Measures Program	616	654
Alternative Measures Referrals to Adult Restorative Justice Program	19	11
Fine Option Program	32	39
Community Services Work Program	41	53
<b>Number of admissions:</b>		
Probation	1,403	1,391
Conditional sentence	454	543
<b>Youth Justice Services</b>		
Average yearly - Youth Justice Services caseload	251	115
Court-ordered pre-sentence reports	139	125
<b>Number of referrals:</b>		
Extrajudicial Sanctions Program	440	464
Extrajudicial Sanctions Referrals to Youth Restorative Justice Program	15	2
Community Services Work Program	25	42
Portage Substance Abuse Treatment Program	14	25
Intensive Support Program participation	4	2
Integrated Service Delivery Program participation	8	12

<b>Number of admissions:</b>		
Probation	127	114
Deferred custody and supervision	10	11
<b>Youth in Custody</b>		
Sentenced open admissions	3	7
Average yearly total count - open	2.1	1.4
Sentenced secure admissions	7	12
Remand secure admissions	54	84
Average yearly total count – Miramichi Youth Centre - Secure	6.6	6.6
<b>Victims of Crime</b>		
Referrals to the Victim Services Program	6,167	6,246
Victim Impact Statements requested by Court	2,649	2,764
Victims receiving counselling	816	934
Victims receiving court preparation and support	284	304
Victims receiving compensation	892	882
<b>SHERIFF SERVICES</b>		
Persons transported	12,708	13,432
Persons in custody	5,440	7,400
<b>Orders for execution</b>		
Evictions / orders for possession	607	491
Order for seizure and sale	277	357
Intimate partner violation interventions	34	36
<b>INSPECTIONS AND ENFORCEMENT</b>		
<b>Highway Safety Enforcement</b>		
<b>Commercial Vehicle Enforcement</b>		
Commercial vehicles checked or weighed	343,656	253,922
Inspections conducted	11,971	11,143
Charges laid	5,093	4,849
Warnings given	3,895	3,168
Annual roadcheck - trucks inspected (includes motorcoach)	353	389
Operation Air Brake - vehicles inspected	37	81
Speed enforcement on commercial vehicles on provincial highways - charges	1,194	1,359
Speed enforcement on commercial vehicles on provincial highways - warnings	181	133
<b>Motor vehicle inspections</b>		
Inspections concluded	1,228	1,050
<b>National Safety Code</b>		
Carrier contacts	2,143	1,910
<b>Off-road Vehicle Enforcement</b>		
Off-road vehicles checked	15,677	16,442
Calls for service	1,184	1,307
Trail kilometres	29,660	21,768
Charges laid	256	256
Warnings given	130	147
Checkpoints	864	1,157
<b>Safer Communities Section</b>		
<b>Motor vehicle, casino, and licensee inspections</b>		
<b>Inspections and investigations completed</b>		
Liquor	336	530
Lotteries	119	252

Tobacco sales to minors	513	725
Salvage dealers	70	281
Private investigators	6	18
Smoke-free places	366	308
Gaming equipment	1,442	1,554
Audits on gaming equipment	58	48
Tobacco tax	343	444
Casino operational inspections	383	247
Casino operational audits	49	65
<b>Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods</b>		
Investigations (Civil)	174	174
Properties vacated due to illegal activity	56	25
Investigations with community resolution	79	65
Investigations based on illegal drug activity	106	141
<b>General Investigation Unit</b>		
Files received by General Investigation Unit	96	57
Files concluded (without court action)	-	10
Files under investigation or before the courts	77	26
Files concluded in court	19	21
<b>Conservation Enforcement</b>		
<b>Apprehensions for illegal activity</b>		
Fish and wildlife	586	689
Watercourse and fish habitat	46	37
Illegal timber harvest	104	114
Other	2,715	2723
<b>Health Protection Services Section</b>		
<b>Public Health Inspection</b>		
<b>Food Safety</b>		
<b>Number of food service establishment inspections (by risk level)</b>		
High	704	433
Medium	3,240	3,346
Low	1,067	1,392
Total food service establishments inspected	5,011	5,171
Licences issued	4,172	4,675
Licences revoked	5	6
Food handlers trained	46	179
Inspections of unlicensed, temporary or special event food vendors	-	99
<b>Agri-Food Services</b>		
<b>Raw Milk Quality Program</b>		
Number of raw milk samples tested	3,000	7,045
<b>Dairy farm inspections</b>		
Number of routine dairy farm inspections	162	137
Number of follow-up, quality, and other inspections	212	106
Number of bulk tank milk graders inspections	11	4
Number of bulk milk tank truck inspections	14	6
<b>Water Quality</b>		
<b>Public drinking water supplies</b>		
Boil orders issued	82	140
<b>Private drinking water supplies</b>		
Private well owners contacted	339	230

<b>Recreational water quality</b>			
Number of sites monitored		33	35
Number of beaches closed		2	8
<b>Environmental Health and Community Sanitation</b>			
<b>On-site sewage disposal system</b>			
Application assessments		178	197
Inspections		178	178
<b>Air quality</b>			
Indoor air quality investigations		2	21
Housing complaint investigations		56	60
<b>Institutional health</b>			
Special care home inspections		483	500
Daycare inspections		693	813
<b>Smoke-free Places Act</b>			
Complaints investigated		22	35
<b>POLICING, FIREARMS AND CORONER SERVICES</b>			
<b>FIREARMS</b>			
Shooting ranges inspected		35	3
Shooting ranges meeting the provincial standard		33	3
Ranges requiring re-inspection		2	0
Firearm safety training		5,339	4,653
Firearm transfers reviewed		2,363	47
<b>CORONER SERVICES</b>	<b>CALENDAR YEAR</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Sudden and unexpected death investigations initiated		2,027	1,830 <sup>1</sup>

<b>JUSTICE SERVICES</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2023-2024</b>
<b>COURT SERVICES</b>		
<b>Court Activity</b>		
<b>Court of Appeal</b>		
Civil matters	88	97
Criminal cases	39	50
<b>Court of King's Bench, Trial Division and Probate</b>		
Causes filed	2,268	2,383
Matters filed	930	1,024
Criminal Matters filed	110	95
Probate filed	1,827	1,828
<b>Court of King's Bench, Family Division</b>		
Trial records for divorce	1,255	1,300
Motions	1,314	1,237
Private family matter applications	1,160	1,128
Child protection applications	529	607
Interjurisdictional support orders	116	108
<b>Small Claims Court</b>		
Claims filed	1,725	1,892

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary figure. Finalized number to be reported in 2023 Annual Report from Office of the Chief Coroner.

<b>JUSTICE SERVICES</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2023-2024</b>
Small claims hearings held	620	602
<b>Provincial Court - Adults only</b>		
Charges disposed of (excluding municipal by-laws)	25,825	26,843
<b>Youth Justice Court</b>		
Charges disposed of	1,194	1,568
<b>Child-Centered Family Justice Initiatives</b>		
<b>Court-Ordered Evaluations Support Program</b>		
Applications received	49	71
Approved for help with cost of evaluation	47	64
<b>Online Parent Information Program</b>		
Certificates of completion sent	272	228
<b>OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR</b>		
Adoption files processed	124	114
Bankruptcies filed	315	192
Commencement of divorce proceedings	1,341	1,465
Filing of decrees absolute and divorce judgments	1,215	1,274
Interjurisdictional Support Orders files received	190	233
<b>OFFICE OF SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT</b>		
Total caseload	9,648	9,050
Average caseload per enforcement officer	482	452
Payment transactions processed	\$52,721,000	\$52,693,000
Payments toward support accounts	\$51,859,000	\$51,965,000
Payments toward Minister of Finance (social assistance client)	\$862,000	\$728,000
Total obligations due	\$57,225,000	\$55,793,000
Collection rate	92%	95%

<b>SECURITY AND EMERGENCIES</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2023-2024</b>
<b>EMERGENCY MEASURES ORGANIZATION</b>		
Emergency plans registered with NB EMO (of 104 municipalities)	103	103
Planning assistance provided to communities	295	310
Exercises conducted involving communities, institutions, industry, and agencies	2	7
Internal exercises	-	8
Participants in emergency management training courses	248	1,002
Provincial Emergency Operation Centre activated (significant events)	4	7
Property owners reported damage	692	1,029
Property owners applied for Disaster Financial Assistance	388	180
<b>OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL SECURITY ADVISOR</b>		
Team activations and support during emergency and security events	-	12
Support during smaller scale incidents (not requiring PEOC activation)	-	18
Security threats assessed	-	103
Open Source Information Notices issued to partners	-	158
Foreign Direct Investment files reviewed	-	52
Security clearances completed	-	62
Critical infrastructure advisories and alerts	-	22



<b>NB 9-1-1</b>		
Volume for 911 calls	243,038	273,128
Number of requests for 911 call investigations	69	73
Number of new civic addresses assigned in unincorporated areas of the province	2,001	1,109

## CRIME STATISTICS <sup>(1)</sup>

	2022	2023	% CHANGE
Crime rate	6,523	6,587	1.0%
Percentage of crimes solved (clearance rate)	25%	25%	0.0%
Crime Severity Index <sup>(2)</sup>	87	86	-1.1%
Adult crime rate	1,352	1,342	-0.7%
Youth crime rate	2,542	2,670	5.0%
Violent crime rate	1,762	1,799	2.1%
Percentage of violent crimes solved (clearance rate)	38%	39%	2.6%
Property crime rate	3,655	3,701	1.3%
Percentage of property crimes solved (clearance rate)	13%	13%	0.0%
Motor vehicle theft rate	257	268	4.3%
Break and enter rate	423	435	2.8%
Homicide rate	1.9	1.1	-42.1%
Sexual assault rate	103	103	0.0%
Percentage of sexual assault crimes solved (clearance rate)	41%	45%	9.8%
Luring a child via a computer rate	8.4	5.0	-40.5%
Robbery rate	24	21	-12.5%
Impaired driving rate	240	251	4.6%

**Note:** Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population.

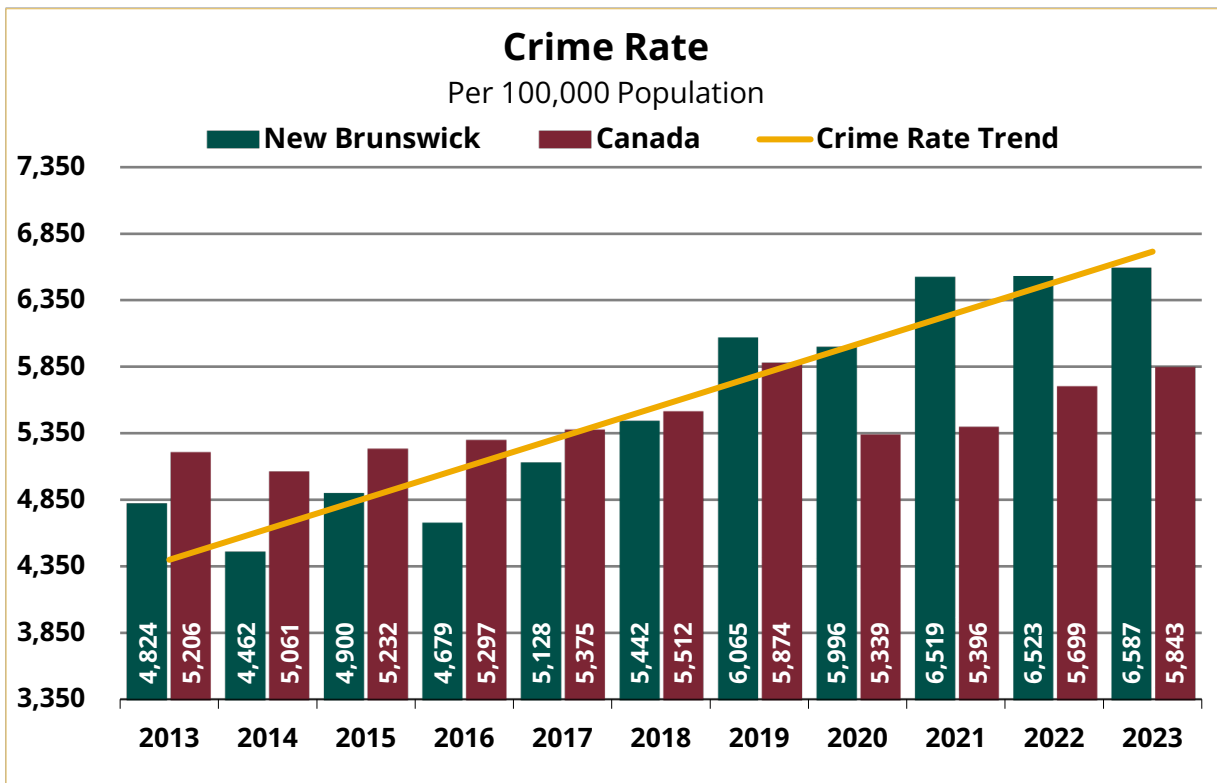
<sup>(1)</sup> Source: Statistics Canada. Table 35-10-0177-01 Incident-based crime statistics, by detailed violations.

<sup>(2)</sup> Source: Statistics Canada. Table 35-10-0026-01 Crime severity index and weighted clearance rates.

## CRIME RATE

New Brunswick ranking: fifth lowest in Canada

**Why it matters:** Crime rates affect the sense of security that people have about their communities. These rates can also influence business investment and residential development.



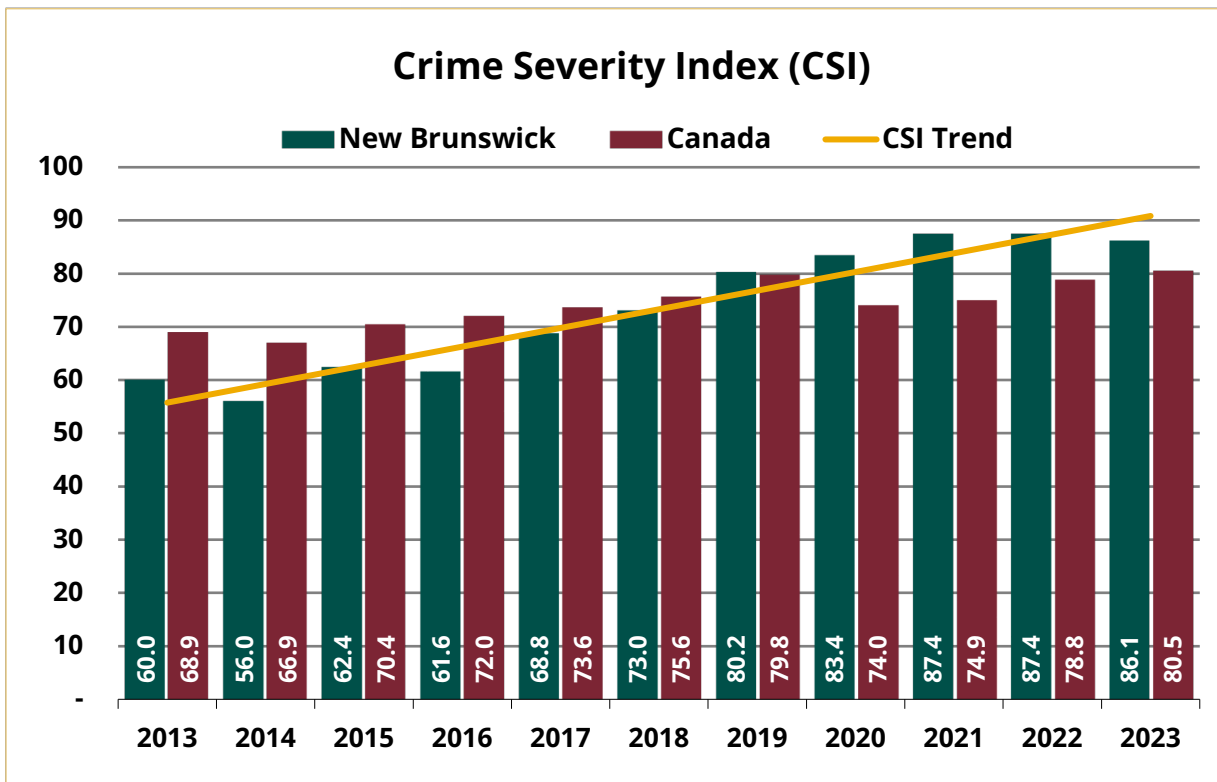
In 2023, the New Brunswick crime rate was 6,587 per 100,000 population. New Brunswick was fifth among the provinces for lowest rates of crime.

To be understood fully, crime rates need to be looked at during a period of years. Several factors can influence the crime rate, including whether crime is reported to police, police enforcement practices, changes to legislation and actual (real) reductions in crime.

## CRIME SEVERITY INDEX

New Brunswick ranking: fifth lowest in Canada

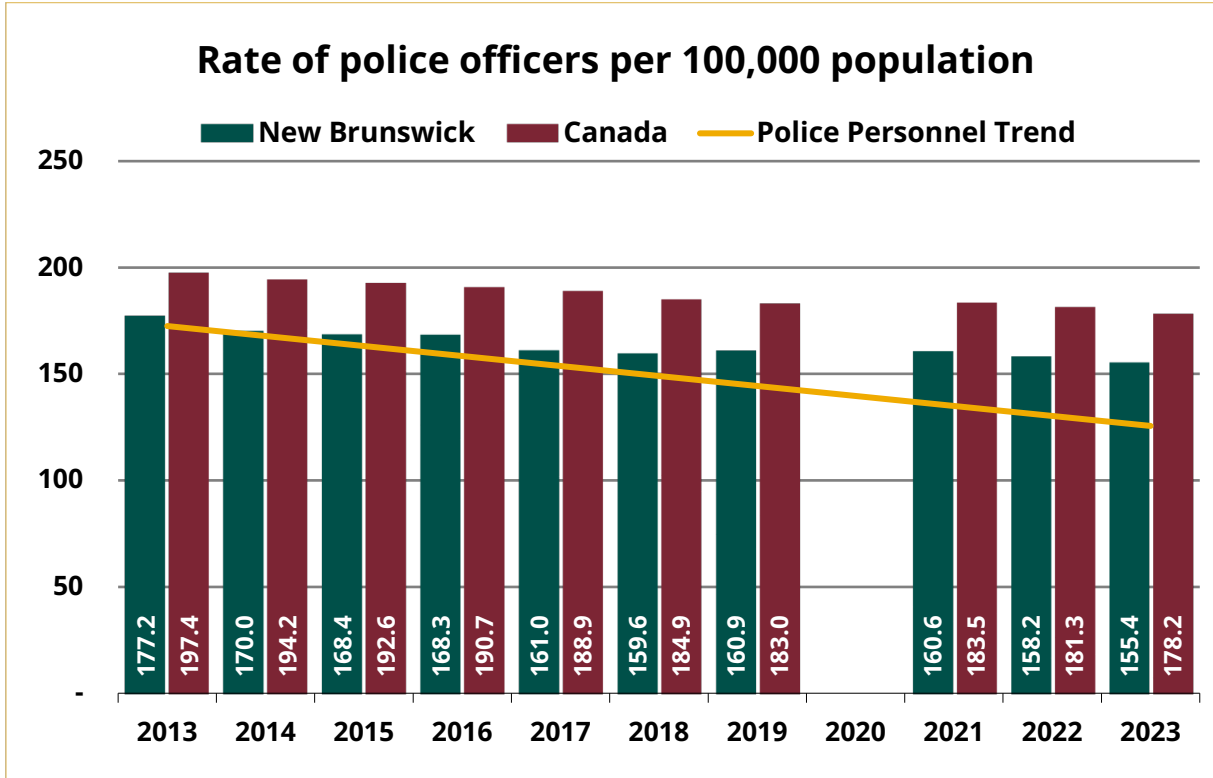
**Why it matters:** The Crime Severity Index track changes in the severity of police-reported crime from year to year. It does so by taking into account not only the change in volume of a particular crime, but also the relative seriousness of that crime in comparison to other crimes. The Crime Severity Index helps answer such questions as: is the crime coming to the attention of police more or less serious than before; and is police-reported crime in a given city or province more or less serious than in Canada overall?



Source: Statistics Canada. Table 35-10-0026-01 Crime severity index and weighted clearance rates.

## TRENDS IN POLICE PERSONNEL

New Brunswick ranking: second lowest in Canada



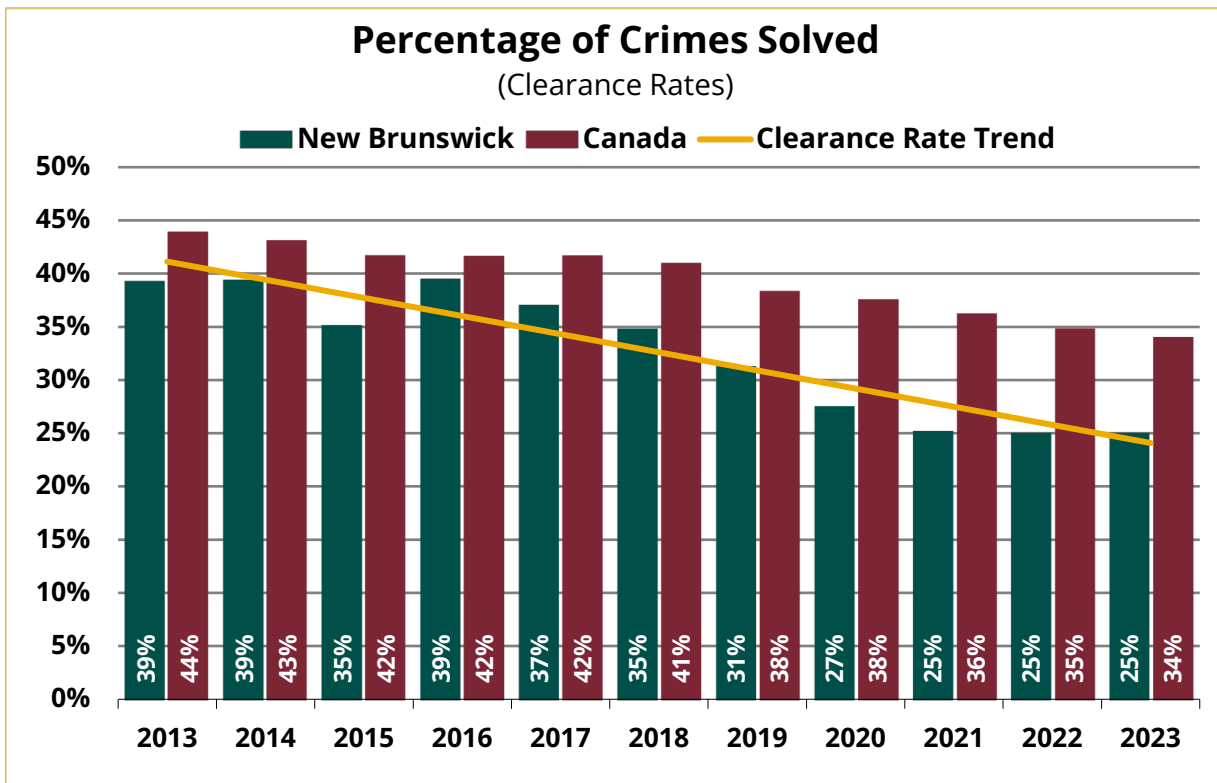
The Police Administration Survey was not conducted in 2020.

Source: Statistics Canada. Table 35-10-0076-01 Police personnel and selected crime statistics.

## PERCENTAGE OF CRIMES SOLVED (CLEARANCE RATES)

New Brunswick ranking: second lowest in Canada

**Why it matters:** Clearance rates are a measure of crimes solved by the police. A high clearance rate means that police are finding and arresting people who commit crimes.



Source: Statistics Canada. Table 35-10-0177-01 Incident-based crime statistics, by detailed violations.