
Justice and Public Safety

**ANNUAL REPORT
2020-2021**

**Justice and Public Safety
Annual Report 2020-2021**

Province of New Brunswick
PO 6000, Fredericton NB E3B 5H1 CANADA

www.gnb.ca

ISBN 978-1-4605-2925-6 (bilingual print edition)
ISBN 978-1-4605-2926-3 (PDF: English edition)

ISSN 2564-3452 (Bilingual print edition)
ISSN 2564-3460 (PDF: English edition)

13525 | 2021.11 | Printed in New Brunswick

TRANSMITTAL LETTERS

From the Minister to the Lieutenant-Governor
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, 2020, to March 31, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,



Honourable Hugh J. Flemming, Q.C.
Minister and Solicitor General

From the Deputy Minister to the Minister
Honourable Hugh J. Flemming, Q.C.
Minister of Justice and Public Safety

Sir:

I am pleased to be able to present the annual report describing operations of the Department of Justice and Public Safety, Province of New Brunswick, for the fiscal year April 1, 2020, to March 31, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Comeau, Q.C.
Deputy Minister

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Minister's message

In the last 12 months, the Department of Justice and Public Safety (JPS) executed remarkable feats as they mobilized to ensure New Brunswickers could access fundamental services as the province and the rest of the world adjusted to the realities brought on by a global pandemic.

From the enforcement of the State of Emergency order, to the creation of a travel registration program, to the swift and safe resumption of court proceedings including Canada's first jury trial post-lockdown, JPS employees rose to the occasion and accomplished what seemed daunting at the outset. It should not be a surprise that New Brunswick's response to the pandemic is considered by many to be successful. This is thanks, in large part, to the tremendous and tireless work of this team.

We also ensured progress in making life better and safer for New Brunswickers, amending the *Family Law Act* by expanding criteria related to the best interests of the child, implementing new rules for the use of off-road vehicles, improving road and highway safety, and requiring hospitals to report gunshot and stab wounds to law enforcement to help prevent further violence.

Our commitment to vibrant, sustainable and resilient communities and the impartial administration of justice has never been more vital. I thank JPS employees for their remarkable service in the last year.

Honourable Hugh J. Flemming, Q.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. J. Flemming', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Attorney General
Minister of Justice and 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, 2021.

Our results and outcomes represent an extraordinary year for our department. In the midst of our province's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, our employees adjusted to the merger of the former departments of Justice and Attorney General and Public Safety. Once again, our team demonstrated its professionalism and resilience by integrating seamlessly with these changes.

The department was at the forefront of the response to COVID-19. Most employees continued to maintain operations or were reassigned to response-related duties in the early weeks of the pandemic. Border enforcement and travel registration teams were created where none existed before. We also built regional resiliency teams to help our communities build back stronger from the economic and social impacts of the pandemic.

As we supported Public Health in enforcement and response efforts, we maintained the regular business of the department, including the tabling of 15 bills that received Royal Assent and the filing of 18 regulations.

Our employees are nothing short of remarkable, and I thank them for their tireless work in a year that was like no other.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mike Comeau". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael J. Comeau, Q.C.
Deputy Minister of Justice and Public Safety

Government Priorities

DELIVERING FOR NEW BRUNSWICKERS - ONE TEAM ONE GNB

One Team One GNB is a new, collaborative approach to how we operate. It represents a civil service that works together as a single unit for New Brunswickers. We have discovered new and innovative ways of doing business, ways that have allowed us to achieve the outcomes needed for New Brunswickers and we are working more efficiently and effectively than ever before. Our new path forward includes a mindset of focus, urgency and results.

We are working every day to improve the way government departments:

- Communicate with one another
- Work side-by-side on important projects
- And drive focus and accountability

STRATEGY AND OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

The Government of New Brunswick (GNB) uses a Formal Management system built on leading business practices to develop, communicate and review strategy. This process provides the Public Service with a proven methodology to execute strategy, increase accountability and continuously drive improvement.

The development of the strategy, using the Formal Management system, starts with our government's roadmap for the future of New Brunswick that focuses on key priorities and the importance of public accountability.

GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES

Our vision for 2020-2021 is a vibrant and sustainable New Brunswick. To make progress towards this vision, we must focus on our government's priorities:

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

COVID RESPONSE

On March 19, 2020, GNB declared a state of emergency under section 12 of the *Emergency Measures Act* to limit the spread of COVID-19 and help protect vulnerable New Brunswickers. As the department responsible for enforcement of the act and guided by the New Brunswick Provincial Pandemic Coordination Plan, Justice and Public Safety worked to ensure the compliance of individuals, businesses and institutions with evolving public health measures.

Highlights

During the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the Department of Justice and Public Safety focused on the following strategic priorities:

- Enforcement operations were established at several travel entry points throughout New Brunswick to screen travellers and ensure compliance with the provincial state of emergency order.
- The Travel Registration Program was launched to pre-screen travellers and authorize entry into the province in accordance with the state of emergency and public health measures against COVID-19.
- Provincial Court and Court of Queen's Bench operations were modified to allow for continued access to justice during the state of emergency.
- The Community Capacity and Resiliency branch was established to align government and community efforts to recover from the extensive impacts of COVID-19 and build resiliency to future disasters and crises.
- Changes to the *Family Law Act* were implemented to align with recent changes to the federal *Divorce Act*.
- The *Liquor Control Act* was amended to provide greater flexibility to customers and businesses with respect to the sale of liquor with food takeout and delivery.
- The *Gunshot and Stab Wound Mandatory Reporting Act* was introduced to make it mandatory for hospitals to report such injuries to law enforcement and prevent further violence.
- An act respecting the *Enduring Powers of Attorney Act* and the *Wills Act* was also introduced, to allow for electronic witnessing of both wills and enduring powers of attorney until the end of 2022, accommodating those who require these services during the pandemic.
- An amendment to the *Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act* added illegal cannabis to the list of activities that can be reported for investigation and provides more tools to shut down illegal cannabis retail operations.

Performance Outcomes

The information below outlines some of the department's priorities and how we measured our performance.

OUTCOME # 1

COVID Response

Justice and Public Safety was at the forefront of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, as the department responsible for enforcement of the mandatory order related to the provincial state of emergency. Restrictions on unnecessary travel and gatherings and the application of protective measures allowed public health officials to effectively control the spread of COVID-19 and limit the impact on hospital services, while awaiting the development of a vaccination program. Public health measures were supported by Justice and Public Safety through education and enforcement operations.

- The Provincial Emergency Operations Centre (PEOC) was increased to level 3 (Full Activation) to coordinate COVID-19 and state of emergency response efforts, under the guidance of the New Brunswick Provincial Pandemic Coordination Plan.
- The New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization's emergency supply warehouse processed orders to more than 30 government departments, partners and outside organizations across the province. This operation ensured government workers, long-term care and support workers, enforcement officers, fire services, First Nations and schools had access to personal protective equipment and could safely operate.
- Enforcement operations were established at several travel entry points throughout New Brunswick to screen travellers and ensure compliance with the provincial state of emergency order.
- The Travel Registration Program was launched to screen travellers and authorize entry into the province in accordance with the mandatory order. To compliment this service, a call-back team was assigned to check in with registered clients by phone to ensure their mental and physical wellbeing during their period of mandated self-isolation due to travel.
- An Order Interpretation Team was established to answer questions on the Mandatory State of Emergency Order received from members of the public and organizations and provide consistent, accurate direction.
- The Community Capacity and Resiliency branch was established to align government and community efforts to recover from the extensive impacts of COVID-19 and build resiliency to future disasters and crises.

OUTCOME # 2

Justice Modernization

Ensuring timely access to justice requires continuous evaluation and improvement of existing systems to provide equitable, effective service to New Brunswickers. This includes the use of technology, the streamlining of processes, and the examination of alternate methods and best practices. The importance of justice modernization was heightened as the COVID-19 pandemic emerged. The Justice Modernization branch responded quickly, making improvements to video conferencing technology and securing alternate locations to allow court proceedings to continue to take place while abiding by public health restrictions. The improvements will benefit access to justice in New Brunswick going forward.

- Court operations were relocated in some communities in the early months of the pandemic. The use of technology, such as video conferencing, increased to ensure continuous and safe access to justice.
- Improvements were made to the jury summons and selection processes, including the creation of an automated registration system, reducing time for potential jurors to wait in registration lines. The improvements allowed Fredericton to hold the first full jury selection during the pandemic, and resulted in greater efficiency and significant cost avoidance.
- Video rooms in correctional facilities were equipped with hardware, software and sound panels to allow for improved video conferencing with courtrooms. Prior to the pandemic, 98 per cent of bail hearings took place in person in a courtroom. As of March 2021, 85 per cent of bail hearings were performed via video conference.
- A new process was introduced to identify relevant attendees for a hearing in order to ensure contact tracing and maximum occupancy can be maintained within the courtroom.

OUTCOME # 3

Police Reform and Drug Enforcement

Justice and Public Safety supports the work of provincial law enforcement agencies to curb the illegal drug trade, which devastates families, harms communities and impacts provincial revenues. This is accomplished through legislation and various initiatives, such as the Safer Communities Program, which aims to dismantle organized crime activities, as well as the Crime Prevention Conditional Grant Fund, which applies a community-based approach to address the underlying causes of criminality.

This year, the department also continued its work to modernize the effectiveness of municipal and regional police forces and to safeguard the professionalism of police officers, through legislative changes and the development of tools for municipalities examining their police service delivery models.

- The Crime Prevention Conditional Grant Fund was launched, providing an opportunity for local governments, community groups, First Nations, non-profit organizations, educational institutions and others to develop projects aimed at reducing gun and gang violence.
- *The Gunshot and Stab Wound Mandatory Reporting Act* passed, making it mandatory for hospitals to report gunshot and stab wounds to the police.
- The department worked with law enforcement agencies to establish Crime Reduction Units dedicated to dismantling the illegal drug trade in New Brunswick.
- Legislation amendments were prepared to modernize provisions in the *Police Act*, addressing issues such as suspension with and without pay and the overall time limits for the processing and arbitration of a complaint under the act.

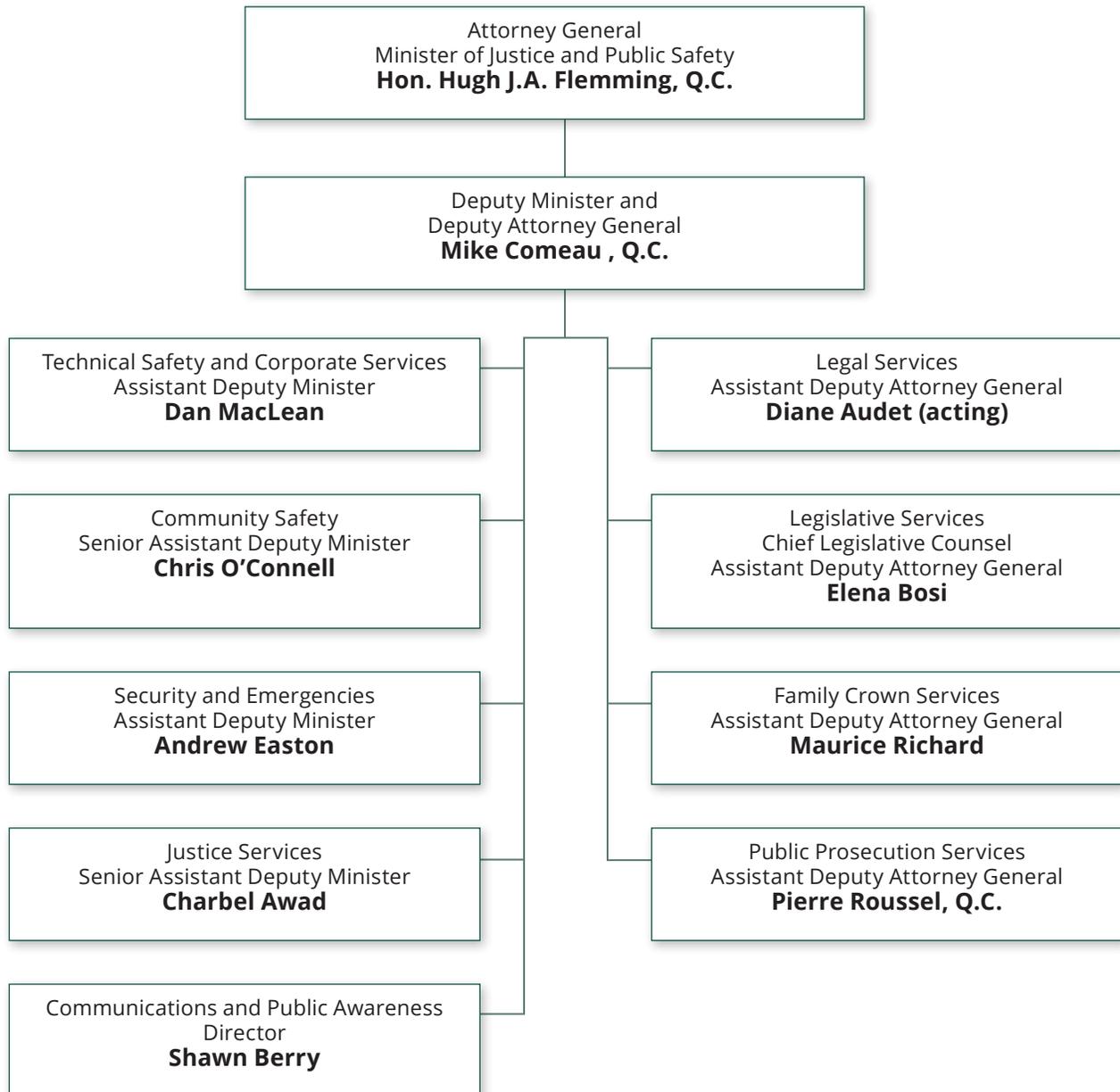
Overview of departmental operations

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.*

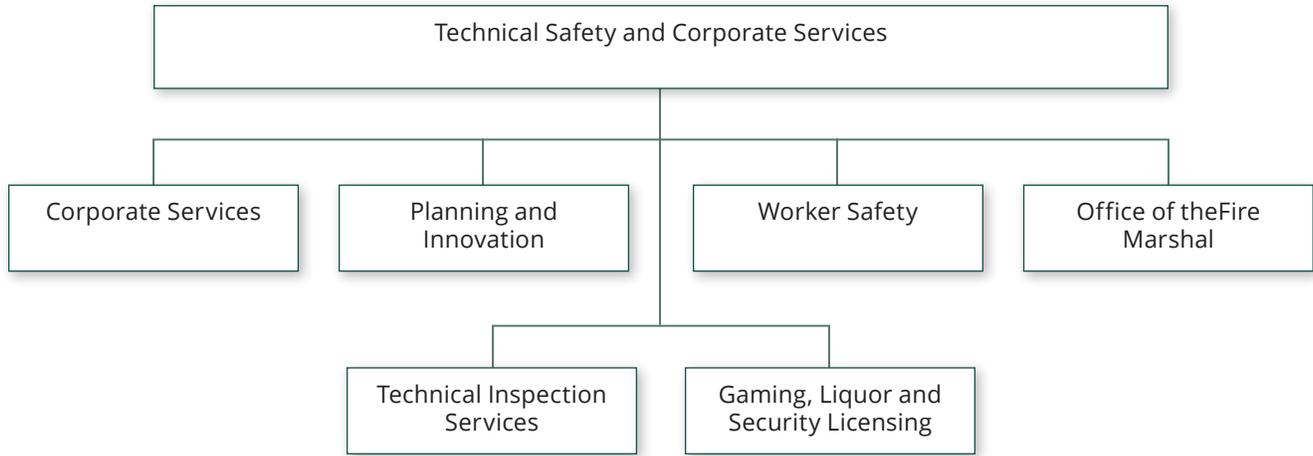
The department had 1,702 regular, part-time, term and temporary employees, up from 1,658 in the previous fiscal year.

HIGH-LEVEL ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Division overview and highlights

TECHNICAL SAFETY AND CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION



The **Technical Safety and Corporate Services Division** is responsible for providing quality support, advice, consultation, monitoring and coordinating services to all managers and employees in the areas of departmental services, financial services, human resources, employee health and safety, information management, fleet and facilities management and accountability. The division is also responsible for ensuring a safe society by conducting fire plan reviews, fire inspections and investigations, provincial fire reporting and investigations and expertise in electrical, plumbing, elevator and boiler and pressure vessel, and licensing, registration and permitting of the province’s liquor, gaming and security industry.

The **Finance and Administration Branch** is responsible to provide 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. Facilities Management, Fleet Management, internal control, and enforcement of financial policies and procedures also fall under its umbrella. The branch is actively involved in continuous improvement projects aimed at helping to streamline information and process flows to support better decision making by departmental management.

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, train-

ing, Performance Management, Change Management, organizational development, human resource policies and program implementation.

The **Information Management Services Branch** is responsible for providing departmental Information Management, information security and Risk Management and Records Management services. 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 advisory services.

The **Planning and Innovation Branch** is responsible to support the refinement and implementation of the department’s Integrated Business Planning Cycle that incorporates strategic direction, employee engagement, internal communications, work planning, continuous improvement, performance measurement, data analytics and an accountability framework.

The **Office of the Fire Marshal** is responsible for administering the *Fire Prevention Act*; delivering fire prevention and protection programs; and working with fire departments, municipalities and partner organizations to promote fire safety. The office monitors fire trends, changes to the *National Building Code* and *National Fire Code*, National Fire Protection Association codes, and rising fire safety concerns to develop and promote provincial policies, standards, procedures for the fire service as a whole. The office effectively uses multiple agencies to conduct fire safety inspections, perform fire cause and origin investigations, and implement

fire prevention programs under the authority of the Fire Marshal. It is the lead agency for the response to all hazardous material emergencies for GNB.

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 and amusement rides. Activities include developing safety legislation; setting standards; conducting design reviews, equipment registrations and quality system audits; issuing installation and operating permits; conducting inspections; ordering compliance; qualifying and licensing specific trades people and contractors; carrying out accident investigations; providing education; and accrediting private sector services. These services are provided to ensure that potentially hazardous electrical, mechanical and pressurized systems do not pose an undue risk to the public; to ensure that these potentially hazardous systems are installed by qualified and licensed tradespeople.

The **Gaming, Liquor and Security Licensing 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*. This involves coordination 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. Services include providing information and education to the public on the program areas, receiving complaints, gathering relevant facts and referral to an inspector or agency for further investigation when necessary.

Highlights

- ♦ Business continuity and recovery/resiliency plans were developed and continue to be updated and adapted for the department.
- ♦ Equipped critical staff to work from home by providing mobile solutions such as laptop, tablets, and VPN.
- ♦ The *Liquor Control Act* was amended to provide greater flexibility to customers and businesses with respect to the sale of liquor with food takeout and delivery.

COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION



The **Community Safety Division** is responsible for regulating and delivering programs and services that contribute to a safe society by leading crime prevention efforts in the province, providing institutional and community-based services to offenders, providing services to victims of crime, delivering inspection and enforcement services that make highways, communities and off-road trails safer, providing oversight of driver licensing, vehicle registration and motor vehicle inspections, delivering firearm licencing for individuals and businesses, inspection and authorization of shooting range operations, administering provincial policing standards and policing contracts and investigating all sudden and unexpected deaths in pursuit of preventing

non-natural deaths. To support the safe and impartial administration of justice, the division provides court security, detainees security, jury management, document service and court orders execution. The division also provides quality support, advice and consultation in the areas of legislative, regulatory and legal analysis.

The **Corrections Branch** is responsible for providing secure custody at the department's New Brunswick Youth Centre in Miramichi. Secure custody is used as the last resort for youth in conflict with the law where community and open custody sanctions have been deemed not inappropriate by the courts. The branch is also responsible for providing correctional institu-

tions 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 or awaiting immigration hearings.

The **Community Services Branch** is responsible for the prevention and reduction of crime and victimization and ensuring community safety by providing effective community programs for justice-involved persons and by developing and promoting provincial policies, standards, agreements and collaborative partnerships that foster evidence-based prevention approaches throughout New Brunswick. The branch is responsible for delivering, through regional offices, provincial adult and youth diversion programs and rehabilitative Case Management and intervention services to adults and young persons sentenced to some form of community correctional supervision. It provides open custody

placements for youth whose level of supervision has been deemed by the courts to require a less restrictive custodial environment as would be provided in a secure custody facility. It administers programs and support services to help victims of crime who come to the attention of the criminal justice system.

The **Crime Prevention Branch** is responsible for the prevention and reduction of crime and victimization and ensuring community safety by fostering collaborative partnerships with justice, health, social service and community stakeholders, and developing and promoting evidence-based and cost-effective prevention approaches throughout New Brunswick. The branch coordinates the research, planning, implementation, evaluation and sustainability of improvements to New Brunswick crime prevention policy and practice through the New Brunswick Crime Prevention and Reduction Strategy.

The **Sheriff Services Branch** is responsible for providing court security for all Courthouse locations (in accordance with the *Court Security Act*), detainees' security (transportation, escort and detention supervision), jury management, document service and court orders execution (Seizure and Sale, Evictions and Warrants of Arrest). Sheriffs also perform peace officer duties as prescribed by over 80 Federal and Provincial Statutes.

The **Motor Vehicle Branch** is responsible for providing oversight of required safety standards for vehicle registration; providing policy and legislative clarification as it relates to the registration of vehicles; providing for the issuance of motor vehicle dealer licences; administering the compulsory motor vehicle inspection program through inspection stations; and administering the International Registration Plan program involving the

inter-jurisdictional registration of commercial vehicles. This program promotes highway safety through testing aspiring drivers, issuing driver licences and ID cards and monitoring driver behaviour and sanctioning unsafe drivers and carriers. The branch also administers educational and ignition interlock programs for individuals convicted of impaired driving, funded by those drivers.

The **Policy and Operations Support Branch** is responsible for providing Ministerial, Senior Leadership, Branches and program areas the leadership and support in the identification, analysis, and development of program, policy initiatives and data management systems. The branch also provides information and advice in support of legislation development, and federal / provincial / territorial relations. The branch administers the *Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Personal Health Information Privacy and Access Act* with respect to get access to information and privacy. The branch ensures that the Client Information System and the Electronic Ticketing repository System meets the needs of the branches, program areas and users.

The **Inspections and Enforcement Branch** is a non-direct policing, law enforcement unit responsible for providing education, inspection and enforcement functions under Provincial and Federal Acts. Peace officers with special constable appointment within the branch provide services to the trucking industry, forestry sector, hunters, fishermen, off-road enthusiasts, the motoring public, various licensees and New Brunswickers. Services intended to enhance public safety and protect government revenues are offered in the areas of environment and natural resources, liquor control, commercial vehicle enforcement; National Safety Code audits; off-road vehicle enforcement; motor vehicle inspections; gaming control; tobacco sales to minors; smoke-free places investigations; Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN); as well as inspections, enforcement and licensing matters relevant to film, video and video game, restricted beverages, artificial tanning, agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, salvage dealers and the security services industry. Through inspection, enforcement, licensing and monitoring, Agri-food and Public Health Inspectors protect the public from health hazards, reduce risk, maintain healthy environments and reduce the incidence of disease in New Brunswick in the following areas: food safety, environmental health, recreational and institutional sanitation, water quality, abattoirs and dairy-related operations, emergency preparedness and, communicable disease control.

Coroner Services is an independent and publicly accountable investigation of death agency. The service

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 and does not have a vested interest of any kind in the outcome of death investigations. The service also administers the Child Death Review Committee and Domestic Violence Death Review Committee.

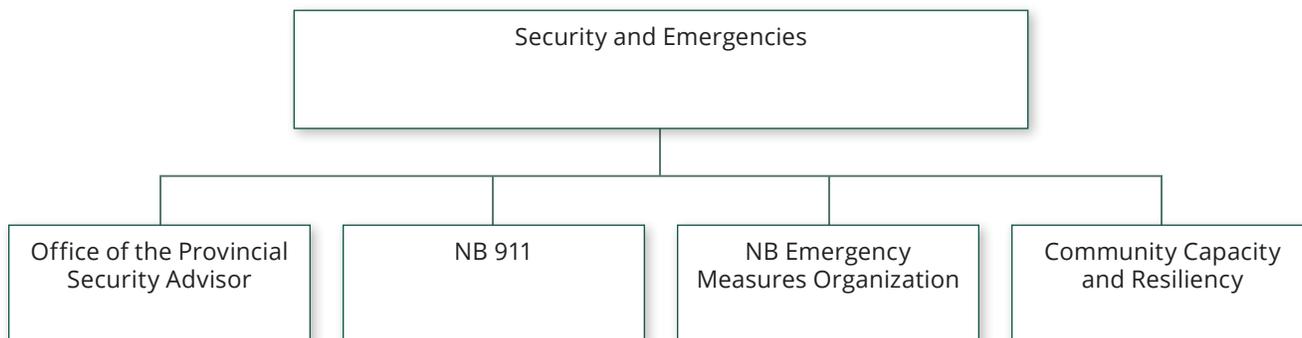
The **Policing Standards and Contract Management Branch** contributes to making New Brunswick the best place in which to raise a family by preventing and reducing crime and victimization through the coordination of effective and efficient policing services and evidence-based programs. The branch is responsible for the following key areas: developing and promoting provincial policies, standards, agreements and collaborative partnerships that ensure the delivery of consistent and standardized police services throughout New Brunswick; and overseeing contract management services and supporting 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** is responsible for supporting safe communities by managing the ownership, purchase, movement and use of firearms within the province through the administration of federal firearms legislation.

Highlights

- ♦ Peace officers with the division provided security at land, sea and air borders, enforcing the emergency mandatory order and screening potential visitors to the province.
- ♦ Coordinated Community Response (CCR) to Domestic/ Intimate Partner Violence expanded to more locations across New Brunswick.
- ♦ The *Gunshot and Stab Wound Mandatory Reporting Act* was introduced to make it mandatory for hospitals to report such injuries to law enforcement and prevent further violence.

SECURITY AND EMERGENCIES DIVISION



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, including 911 services, emergency management and recovery programs, security, and critical infrastructure.

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 working cooperatively and collaboratively with telecommunications partners and emergency response stakeholders to manage effectively and efficiently the province-wide 911 emergency response services. The bureau develops, implements and ensures compliance with standards, policies and operating procedures to ensure quality service and response to all emergencies when 911 calls are received throughout New Brunswick.

The **New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization (NB EMO)** promotes the development of emergency programs at all levels of government encompassing prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. The organization leads the coordination of provincial emergency operations, assists communities

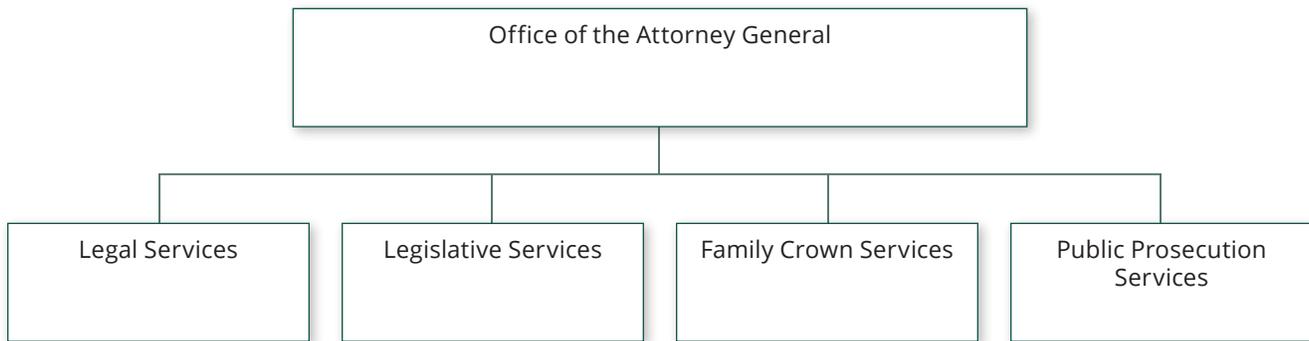
municipalities and regional service commissions with resources and encourages a cooperative and harmonized approach to operations to facilitate resource and information sharing.

The **Community Capacity and Resiliency Branch** is responsible for aligning government and community efforts to recover from the extensive impacts of Covid-19 and build resiliency to future disasters and crises. This will be achieved through a whole of society approach by increasing collaboration among NB communities, government, NGOs, and the private sector to improve key measures of community capacity and resiliency.

Highlights

- ♦ The NBEMO Emergency PPE Pandemic warehouse processed 652 orders to 31 government departments, partners and outside organizations across the province. This operation ensured government workers, senior citizen long term care workers, enforcement officers, fire services, First Nations, schools could be safe and continue to operate.
- ♦ NBEMO coordinated six days of pandemic exercises with over 700 participants from all sectors to prepare for the fall and winter of living with COVID-19.
- ♦ 12 regional resiliency teams completed an initial assessment of pandemic impacts in their communities and identified priority concerns, submitting 12 plans in draft or final stages.

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



The **Office of the Attorney General** promote the impartial administration of justice to enable the Attorney General to discharge his or her 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 **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, litigation and 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 Queen's Printer under the *Queen's Printer Act*.

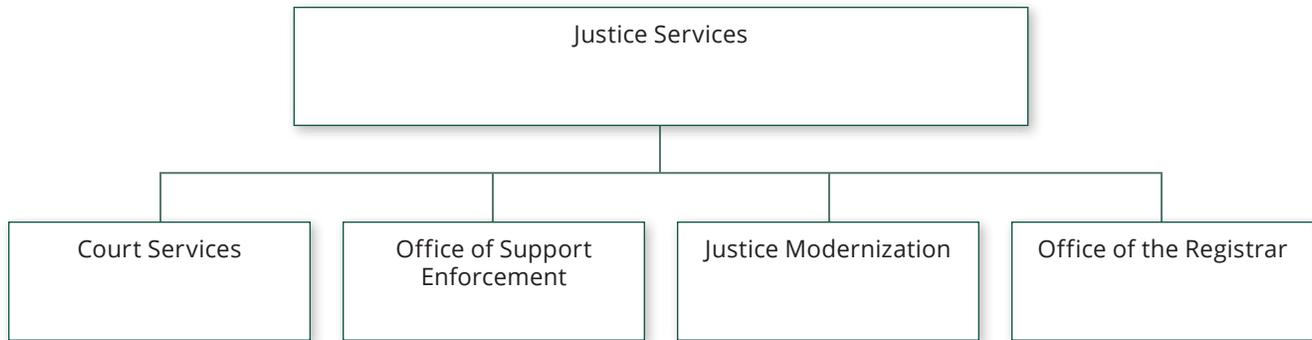
The **Family Crown Services Branch** provides professional legal services, including litigation and legal opinions to the Department of Social Development and to the Director of Support Enforcement in the area of family law and acts as designate and agent of the Attorney General under specific federal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

The **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

- ♦ Family Crown Services maintained all services and dealt with an unprecedented increase in child protection matters during the COVID-19 pandemic.

JUSTICE SERVICES DIVISION



The **Justice Services Division** delivers a transparent and unbiased justice system to the public, and provide legal support services, administrative services, security services and operational services to the public while supporting the Judiciary in carrying out their mandate in delivering expeditious access to justice.

The **Court Services Branch** supports the New Brunswick court system across 11 geographical locations (Court of Appeal, Court of Queen’s Bench, Small Claims Court, Probate Court, Bankruptcy and Insolvency Division, Criminal Court and Youth Justice Court) by providing court attendance, order production, case file management, registry services and other administrative services in support of the Judiciary and the public. The branch is responsible for the delivery of specialized initiatives, including the Healing to Wellness Court, Domestic Violence Court, Family Case Management, Family Law Information Center, Mental Health Docket and Intimate Partner Violence Intervention. Additionally, through the Office of the Registrar, the 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 **Justice Modernization Branch** provides strategic and operational frameworks and services in support of the technological and functional processes underlying the delivery of both existing and emerging programs and services administered by this branch, including the business ownership of Information Technology systems utilized by the branch both within the courtroom and back-end functions; the evaluation of legislative/policy

changes for impact assessment and integration planning; the establishment and oversight of service level standards, including the development of process manuals and training protocols; the delivery of analytical and business intelligence services; the oversight of specialty programs and services; and administrative support services for the Branch.

The **Office of Support Enforcement** enforces family support provisions (Child and Spousal Support Payments) in court orders and agreements in accordance with the *Support Enforcement Act* and the *Divorce Act* by using progressive enforcement actions to ensure compliance. Enforcement may include garnishing wages, reporting the defaulting payer to credit reporting agencies, passport revocation or denial, and in some cases, suspension of the payer’s driver’s licence.

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..

Highlights

- ♦ Court operations were relocated in some communities and the use of technology, such as video conferencing, increased to ensure continuous and safe access to justice during the pandemic.
- ♦ The first full jury selection during the pandemic was held in Fredericton, and resulted in greater efficiency, significant cost avoidance and improved measurability throughout the process.
- ♦ Legal Services provided timely legal advice and representation on a large volume of urgent and sensitive matters.

Financial information

TABLE 1: ORDINARY EXPENDITURE STATUS REPORT BY PRIMARY

Fiscal year ending March 31, 2021 (\$000)

	Main Estimates	Appropriation Transfers	Final Budget	Actual	Variance (Under) Over
Personal services	121,306.3	18,512.1	139,818.4	137,973.4	(1,845)
Other services	115,981.2	9,745.8	125,727	128,682.9	2,955.9
Materials and supplies	3,853.4	16,672.4	20,525.8	18,298.4	(2,227.4)
Property and equipment	282.2	111.5	393.7	1,897.8	1,504.1
Contributions, grants and subsidies	11,486.8	294.2	11,781	11,693.7	(87.3)
Debt and other charges	39,069.5	-	39,069.5	41,422.4	2,352.9
Chargeback recoveries	(5,075.4)	-	(5,075.4)	(6,845.7)	(1,770.3)
Total	286,904	45,336	332,240	333,122.9	882.9

Actual expenditures were over budget by \$0.9M; this was primarily the result of COVID related spending. Incremental costs included staffing for border security and enforcement, the establishment of a COVID response team, the procurement of personal protective equipment, and costs associated to meeting COVID protocols within JPS facilities.

TABLE 2: ORDINARY EXPENDITURE STATUS REPORT BY PROGRAM

Fiscal year ending March 31, 2021 (\$000)

	Main Estimates	Appropriation vTransfers	Final Budget	Actual	Variance (Under) Over
Technical Safety & Corporate Services	16,322	91.3	16,413.3	15,753.5	(659.8)
Community Safety	170,864	17,771	188,635	192,783.2	4,148.2
Office of the Attorney General	20,302	488.8	20,790.8	21,245.9	455.1
Justice Services	25,859	1,593.9	27,452.9	27,056.5	(396.4)
Legal Aid	10,358	371.8	10,729.8	10,712.6	(17.2)
Security and Emergencies	43,199	25,019.2	68,218.2	65,571.2	(2,647)
Total	286,904	45,336	332,240	333,122.9	882.9

Actual expenditures were over budget by \$0.9M; this was primarily the result of COVID-19 related costs, specifically in the areas of border enforcement and security within the Community Safety branch, as well as the procurement and management of personal protective equipment within JPS.

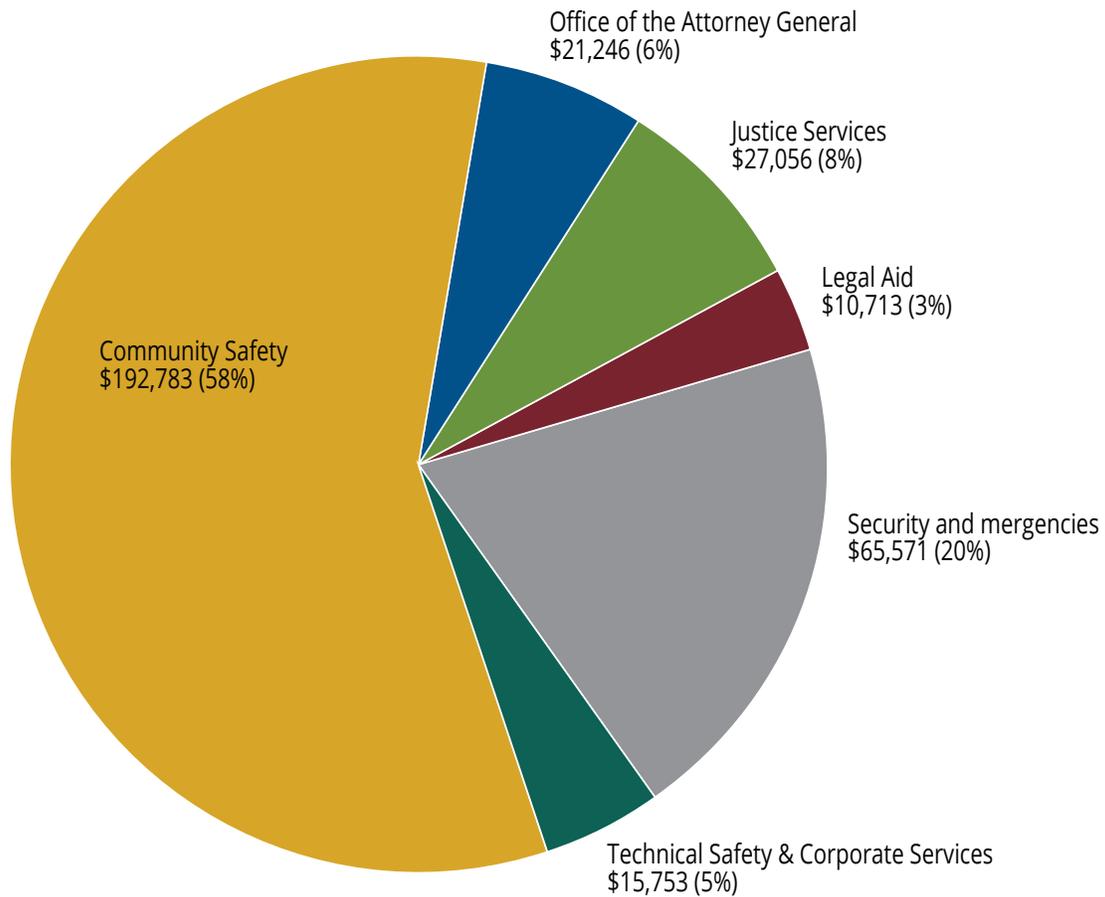


TABLE 3: ORDINARY REVENUE STATUS REPORT BY SOURCE

Fiscal year ending March 31, 2021 (\$000)

	Budget	Actual	Variance (Under) Over
Other taxes	3,600	4,919.2	1,319.2
Return on investment	59	53	(6)
Licences and permits	148,425	149,974.6	1,549.6
Sale of goods and services	28,619	28,777.2	158.2
Fines and penalties	6,332	7,490	1,158
Miscellaneous	330	271.7	(58.3)
Conditional Grants - Canada	37,153	38,195.9	1,042.9
Total	224,518	229,681.6	5,163.6

Actual revenues exceeded budgeted amounts by \$5.2M. This was due partially to volume increases in the provincial fire levy, as well as the introduction of an E-Ticketing solution which resulted in higher collection of Motor Vehicle fines. Revenues recognized on eligible DFA events were also higher than expected.

Summary of staffing activity

Pursuant to section 4 of the *Civil Service Act*, the Deputy Minister of the Department of Human Resources delegates staffing to each Deputy Head for his or her respective department(s). Please find below a summary of the staffing activity for 2020-2021 for Department of Justice and Public Safety.

The department advertised 91 competitions, including 52 open (public) competitions and 39 closed (internal) competitions.

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

Appointment type	Appointment description	Section of the <i>Civil Service Act</i>	Number
Specialized Professional, Scientific or Technical	An appointment may be made without competition when a position requires: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a high degree of expertise and training - a high degree of technical skill - recognized experts in their field 	15(1)	2
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)	1
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)	0
Lateral transfer	The GNB transfer process facilitates the transfer of employees from within Part 1, 2 (school boards) and 3 (hospital corporations) of the Public Service.	16(1) or 16(1)(c)	22
Regular appointment of casual or 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)	0
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

Pursuant to section 33 of the *Civil Service Act*, no complaints alleging favouritism were made to the Deputy Head of Department of Justice and Public Safety, and no complaints were submitted to the Ombud.

Summary of legislation and legislative activity

Bill #	Name of legislation	Date of Royal Assent	Summary of changes
14	An Act to Amend the <i>Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act</i> Bill-14.pdf (gnb.ca)	June 18, 2020	Amendments addressed disparity between federal and provincial legislation created by the legalization of cannabis and allowed civil legal processes under the <i>Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act</i> .
15	An Act Respecting the Enhancement of Off-Road Vehicle Safety Bill-15.pdf (gnb.ca)	June 18, 2020	Amendments made to the Off-Road Vehicle Act enhanced enforcement measures, increased compliance and improved off-road vehicle safety.
33	An Act Respecting Security for the Legislative Assembly Bill-33.pdf (gnb.ca)	June 18, 2020	Amendments to the <i>Legislative Assembly Act</i> and the <i>Sheriffs Act</i> provided consistent security services within the Legislative Assembly precinct and simplified the process of appointing sheriffs and deputy sheriffs.
41	An Act to Amend the <i>Emergency Measures Act</i> Bill-41.pdf (gnb.ca)	April 17, 2020	Amendments to the <i>Emergency Measures Act</i> authorized Government to provide emergency daycare services in areas of need, and authorized the Minister of Justice and Public Safety, on the recommendation of the Attorney General, to suspend the operation of provisions establishing limitation periods for commencing proceedings and time periods for taking steps in proceedings during the state of emergency and for up to 90 days after the state of emergency ends.
42	An Act to Amend the <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i> Bill-42.pdf (gnb.ca)	June 18, 2020	Amendments to the <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i> permitted online renewal of Class 5 driver's licences. The Class 5 driver's licence permits the operation of specific classes of motor vehicles (e.g., private passenger and light commercial vehicles) on New Brunswick highways.
6	<i>Family Law Act</i> Bill-6.pdf (gnb.ca)	December 18, 2020	The <i>Family Law Act</i> replaced Part VII of the <i>Family Services Act</i> to provide an updated framework for determining post-separation obligations relating to support, parenting responsibilities and contact arrangements. Family law is a shared responsibility of the Federal and Provincial governments, this Act aligns policy between federal and provincial laws to provide a high degree of consistency for New Brunswickers regardless of their marital status. The new legislation made a number of changes, including: replacing outdated terminology, updating how the "best interests of the child" are defined; identifying factors to better address situations of family violence in the context of separation; and, establishing a provincial child support service to allow for the recalculation of child support orders to reflect updated income.
7	An Act Respecting the <i>Family Law Act</i> Bill-7.pdf (gnb.ca)	December 18, 2020	An Act Respecting the <i>Family Law Act</i> contains consequential amendments required as result of the proclamation of the <i>Family Law Act</i> . This Act also includes a number of amendments that are not directly related to the <i>Family Law Act</i> but are the result of the amendments to the <i>Divorce Act</i> (Canada) or amendments made during previous legislative projects. There were 16 acts and 7 regulations amended by this Act.
9	<i>Gunshot and Stab Wound Mandatory Reporting Act</i> Bill-9.pdf (gnb.ca)	December 18, 2020	The new <i>Gunshot and Stab Wound Mandatory Reporting Act</i> makes it mandatory for health care facilities to report gunshot or stab wounds to the police to enable the police to take immediate steps to prevent further violence, injury or death.

Bill #	Name of legislation	Date of Royal Assent	Summary of changes
10	An Act to Amend the <i>Coroners Act</i> Bill-10.pdf (gnb.ca)	December 18, 2020	Amendments to the <i>Coroners Act</i> provides for: the establishment of the child and domestic violence death review committees by legislation; grants authority to the Chief Coroner to share information for research purposes; and implements changes to the coroner appointment process.
11	An Act to Amend the <i>Queen's Counsel and Precedence Act</i> Bill-11.pdf (gnb.ca)	December 18, 2020	Amendments to the <i>Queen's Counsel and Precedence Act</i> provide for automatic revocation of Queen's Counsel appointments when lawyers with that distinction are disbarred. These amendments applied retroactively to those previously disbarred.
12	<i>Construction Remedies Act</i> Bill-12.pdf (gnb.ca)	December 18, 2020	The <i>Construction Remedies Act</i> is a comprehensive modernization of the legislation relating to security of payment in the construction industry. It replaces the <i>Mechanics' Lien Act</i> and makes related amendments to the <i>Crown Construction Contracts Act</i> . This Act provides protection for those who supply services or materials to construction projects on real property by giving such persons certain rights and remedies that will better enable them to recover monies they are owed. These remedies include a lien on the land, access to holdback funds retained by a project owner and the requirement that certain project funds be held in trust for those who contribute to the project.
13	An Act to Amend the <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i> Bill-13.pdf (gnb.ca)	December 18, 2020	Amendments to the <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i> were made to allow for ride-sharing services.
14	An Act to Amend the <i>Enduring Powers of Attorney Act and the Wills Act</i> Bill-14.pdf (gnb.ca)	December 18, 2020	Amendments to the <i>Enduring Powers of Attorney Act</i> and the <i>Wills Act</i> allow for electronic witnessing of signatures on wills and enduring powers of attorney until December 31, 2022.
15	An Act to Amend the <i>Notaries Public Act</i> Bill-15.pdf (gnb.ca)	December 18, 2020	Amendments to the <i>Notaries Public Act</i> repealed obsolete provisions, clarified terminology. The amendments also suspend a lawyer's status as a notary if they are disbarred, suspended or otherwise cease to be a member of the Law Society and bar non-practising members of the Law Society from doing work as at notary public if it involves the practice of law.
22	An Act to Amend the <i>Liquor Control Act</i> Bill-22.pdf (gnb.ca)	December 18, 2020	Amendments to the <i>Liquor Control Act</i> were intended to reduce barriers to industry, modernize administrative processes and expand growth opportunities in the private sector.

Name of regulation	Effective date	Summary of changes
New Brunswick Regulation 91-50, the <i>General Regulation – Provincial Offences Procedure Act</i>	April 2, 2020	Amendments were made to Regulation 91-50, the <i>General Regulation</i> , to make offences under the <i>Emergency Measures Act</i> subject to the ticket procedure.
Repeals New Brunswick Regulation 2002-24, <i>Electronic Transactions Act</i>	May 15, 2020	The <i>Exclusion Regulation</i> under the <i>Electronic Transactions Act</i> was repealed to allow use of electronic transactions where appropriate.
New Brunswick Regulation 2020-43, the <i>General Regulation – Enduring Powers of Attorney Act</i>	July 1, 2020	The <i>Enduring Powers of Attorney Act</i> came into force on July 1, 2020. The <i>General Regulation</i> under this Act establishes record-keeping requirements for attorneys and expands the definition of "financial institution".
New Brunswick Regulation 82-73, Rule 62 of the <i>Rules of Court – Judicature Act</i> and the <i>Provincial Offences Procedure Act</i>	November 4, 2020	Amendments to <i>Rule 62 – Civil Appeals to the Court of Appeal</i> were made to better align the authority of the Chief Justice of New Brunswick with existing authority under the <i>Judicature Act</i> and to correct French terminology.

Name of regulation	Effective date	Summary of changes
New Brunswick Regulation 2008-23, the <i>NB 911 Service Fee Regulation – Emergency 911 Act</i>	January 1, 2021	Amendments to the <i>NB 911 Service Fee Regulation</i> to increase the fee payable by a subscriber for the NB 911 service.
New Brunswick Regulation 2021-2, the <i>General Regulation – Building Code Administration Act</i>	February 1, 2021	Amendments to Regulation 2021-2, the <i>General Regulation</i> under the <i>Building Code Administration Act</i> are as follows: exemption for buildings designed for overnight accommodation with a total floor area of less than 56.08 square metres (625 square feet); exemption for accessory structures not designed for overnight accommodation and defining accessory structure; the option for developers and builders to either use the 2010 or 2015 National Building Code until December 31st, 2021. After December 31st, only the 2015 is to be used.
New Brunswick Regulation 2021-3, the <i>Barrier-Free Design Building Code Regulation – Building Code Administration Act</i>	February 1, 2021	Regulation 2021-3, the <i>Barrier-Free Design Building Code Regulation</i> under the <i>Building Code Administration Act</i> replaced all provisions of Regulation 2011-61 under the <i>Community Planning Act</i> . It provides for such things as a requirement in residential occupancies of multiple suites to provide one barrier-free unit in every 20 units and better consistency in regard to the number of parking stalls reserved for those with physical disabilities.
New Brunswick Regulation 82-73, Rules 19.01, 72, 73 and 81 of the <i>Rules of Court – Judicature Act</i> and the <i>Provincial Offences Procedure Act</i>	March 1, 2021	Amendments to Regulation 82-73, Rule 19.01, Rule 72, Rule 73 and Rule 81 of the <i>Rules of Court – Judicature Act</i> and the <i>Provincial Offences Procedure Act</i> updated terminology, created and updated forms, and established processes to align with legislative amendments to the <i>Divorce Act</i> (Canada) and the <i>Family Law Act</i> .
New Brunswick Regulation 2021-18, the <i>General Regulation – Family Law Act</i>	March 1, 2021	The new <i>Family Law Act</i> provides an updated framework for determining post-separation obligations relating to parenting responsibilities, contact arrangements and support obligations. As a result of the new Act, a number of regulatory amendments were required. The new <i>General Regulation</i> under the <i>Family Law Act</i> sets out the procedures and forms to be used under the <i>Family Law Act</i> . The regulation deals primarily with prescribing the information required for notices of relocation and the format of, and the information to be contained in, agreements involving the payment of support for a dependent which are filed with the court.
New Brunswick Regulation 2021-19, the <i>Child Support Guidelines Regulation – Family Law Act</i>	March 1, 2021	The new <i>Family Law Act</i> provides an updated framework for determining post-separation obligations relating to parenting responsibilities, contact arrangements and support obligations. As a result of the new Act, a number of regulatory amendments are required. The <i>Child Support Guidelines Regulation</i> under the <i>Family Services Act</i> adopts federal guidelines and replaces Regulation 98-27.
New Brunswick Regulation 84-270, the <i>Queen's Counsel Regulation – Queen's Counsel and Precedence Act</i>	March 17, 2021	Amendments to the <i>Queen's Counsel Regulation</i> updated terminology.
New Brunswick Regulation 2008-56, the <i>General Regulation – Public Trustee Act</i>	March 30, 2021	Amendments to the <i>General Regulation</i> under the <i>Public Trustee Act</i> updated the fees structure and fees charged for services performed.

The acts for which the department was responsible in 2020-2021 may be found at:
<http://laws.gnb.ca/en/deplinks?subjectnumber=22>

Summary of Official Languages activities

INTRODUCTION

The Department of Justice and Public Safety continued to ensure its obligations under the *Official Languages Act* were met throughout the organization. Below are associated activities that were carried out throughout the year to support the four sectors of activity (focus) in GNB's [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:

- The language of service policy was reviewed with employees in the context of their annual task planning meeting.
- Correspondence related to the different services rendered to the public is in the language chosen by the client.
- To improve the quality of services provided by all employees of the Inspection and Enforcement Branch in New Brunswick, the following quality assurance measures were implemented:
 - Circulation of communications explaining New Brunswick government policies on Official Languages.
 - Reference documents and language tools in the form of policies and cards were made available.
 - The addition of bilingual staff in northern New Brunswick to better meet the needs related to the state of emergency.
 - Information sessions were developed and circulated to emphasize the importance of respecting the clients' language of choice.
- Another example of the ongoing improvement of the quality of services offered around the province to our clients was carried out with the Motor Vehicle Branch. It worked with service provider Alcolock to ensure that linguistic obligations were respected and that the guides, documentation, and equipment were made available without delay in English and French.

FOCUS 2

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

- All offers of employment, appointment, and hiring letters contain a response section where candidates and employees must indicate their preferred language for written and oral communication.
- 88 per cent of employees hired in 2020-2021 completed compulsory training modules on Language of Service and Language of Work, and this was during the COVID-19 global pandemic. (That outcome was achieved by March 31, 2021, since reminders were issued to ensure completion of the modules).
- Managers are encouraged to hold gatherings and meetings in both Official Languages with all their staff.
- All official memos and news releases issued by senior management to all employees are sent out in both Official Languages.
- Managers conduct performance reviews 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.
- As of their hiring, employees must choose the language in which they want their computer and computer hardware (keyboard, etc.) to be installed.
- Task-specific training is offered 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. Ensure performance reviews are conducted in the employee's Official Language of choice;

FOCUS 3

What strategic means did your department implement 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)?

- JPS, in cooperation with the Department of Health, established a COVID-19 dashboard, available in real time in both official languages. Essential data on the number of cases, vaccination rates, etc., were made available to all New Brunswickers on an ongoing basis.
- Emergency alerts from the department were conveyed to New Brunswickers in both official languages via different social networks, radio, television stations, and wireless devices compatible with the National Public Alert System.

FOCUS 4

Ensure Civil 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.

- In the turmoil of the COVID-19 pandemic, we noticed an upsurge in the number of official languages-related complaints; however, JPS was able to take advantage of the occasion to educate, inform, and raise awareness of the various stakeholders affected by the complaints of the importance of understanding the act, policies, and regulations involved.

CONCLUSION:

Despite an increase in the number of Official Languages-related complaints, our organization was able to put effective corrective action in place to improve the quality of service in the client's language of choice. The Human Resources Branch was able, in cooperation with the official languages coordinators and the directors responsible for teams having received complaints, to make exceptional efforts to correct the problems raised. The department continues to promote second-language training and is pleased to have seven employees registered in different second-language training programs (basic, improvement, maintenance, and tutoring).

Summary of recommendations from the Office of the Auditor General

SECTION 1

Name and year of audit area with link to online document	Recommendations		Actions or Activities Undertaken
	Total	Adopted	
<p>Addiction and Mental Health Services in Provincial Adult Correctional Institutions, 2018 Volume 1 Chapter 3 Recommend the Department Public Safety in Consultation with the Department of Health, develop comprehensive solutions to the recommendations in the report. This includes responsibility for health services including addiction and mental health services in provincial correctional institutions. This would also include the collaboration, sharing of data between departments to identify needs in institutions, the development of service delivery and treatment plans, screening tools, staff training and the incorporation of best practices in the care of inmates. https://www.agnb-vgnb.ca/content/dam/agnb-vgnb/pdf/Reports-Rapports/2018V1/Chap3e.pdf</p>	14	14	The two departments will develop a working committee comprised of representatives from both departments, as well as from regional health authorities. The working committee is to develop comprehensive solutions that address the report's recommendations.

SECTION 2

Name and year of audit area with link to online document	Recommendations	
	Total	Adopted
<p>Charitable gaming oversight, 2016 Volume 1 Recommend the Department of Public Safety develop a standardized process and implement associated procedures for evaluating initial and ongoing eligibility of agricultural fair associations for licensing under the Charitable Gaming program. http://www.agnb-vgnb.ca/content/dam/agnb-vgnb/pdf/Reports-Rapports/2016V1/agrepe.pdf (page 83)</p>	1	1
<p>Enforcement of unauthorized VLT's, 2015 Volume 3 Recommend the Department of Public Safety more proactively monitor and increase compliance initiatives to reduce or eliminate unauthorized VLTs. This could include setting measurable targets and evaluating achievement towards stated objectives to reduce or eliminate the existence of unauthorized VLTs. http://www.agnb-vgnb.ca/content/dam/agnb-vgnb/pdf/Reports-Rapports/2015V3/Agrepe.pdf (page 109)</p>	1	1
<p>2008 Flood Claim, 2015 Volume 3 Recommend the Department of Public Safety work towards completing all outstanding requests as soon as possible in order to ensure timely receipt of funding from the Federal government. http://www.agnb-vgnb.ca/content/dam/agnb-vgnb/pdf/Reports-Rapports/2015V3/Agrepe.pdf (page 140)</p>	1	1
<p>Accounting/ Documentation Concerns With Estimates, 2014 Volume 1 Need to review allowance for doubtful accounts – loans and accounts receivable http://www.agnb-vgnb.ca/content/dam/agnb-vgnb/pdf/Reports-Rapports/2014V1/Agrepe.pdf (page 91)</p>	1	1

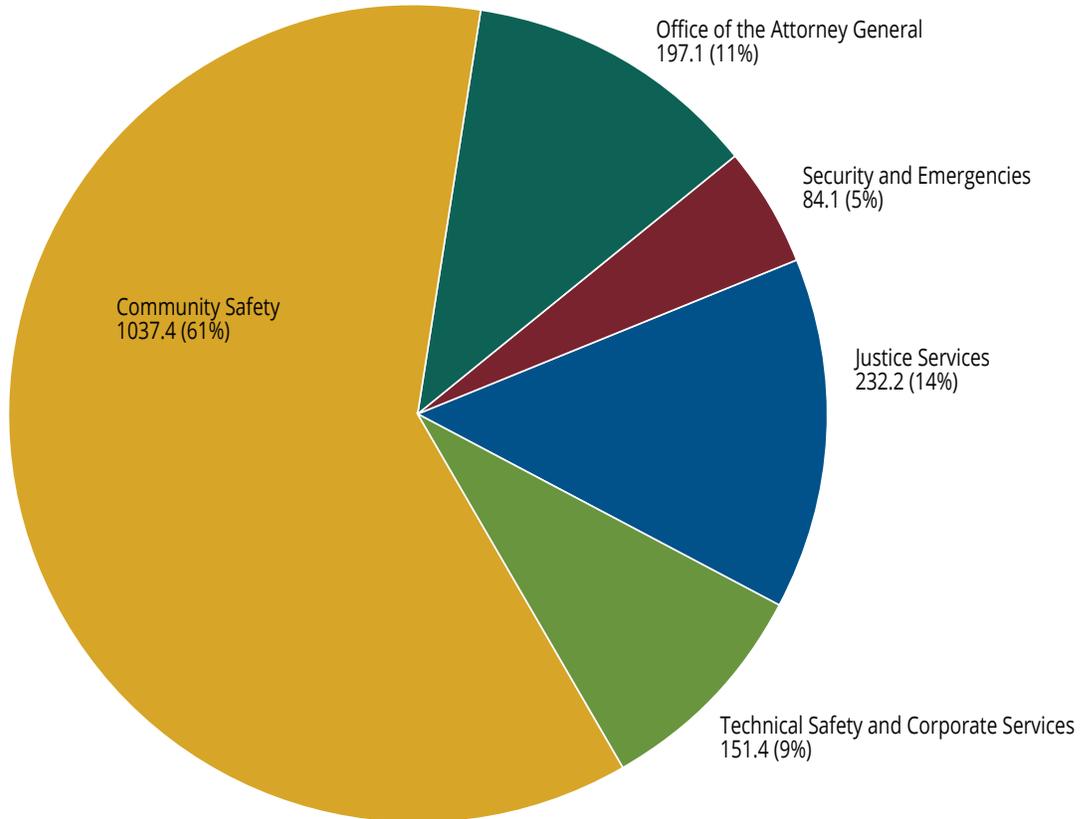
Report on the *Public Interest Disclosure Act*

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 did not receive any disclosure(s) of wrongdoing in the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

Appendix A – Human resources data

Number of permanent and temporary employees ¹		
Employee type	2020-2021	2019-2020
Permanent	1,531.3	1,485.2
Temporary	170.8	173.2
Total	1,702.2	1,658.4

1 Does not include casuals



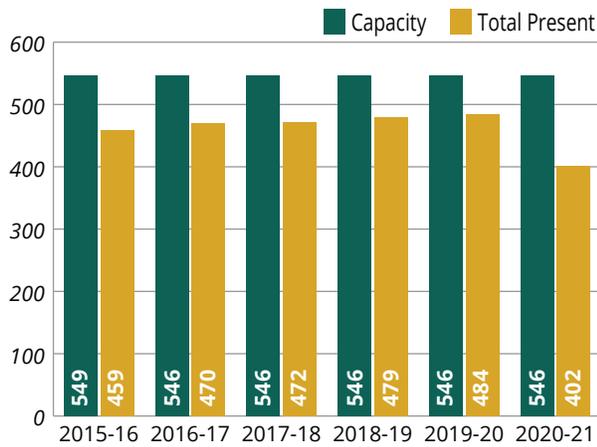
Appendix B – Statistical information

Technical Safety and Corporate Services	2019-2020	2020-2021
Gaming Control		
Liquor licences	2,372	2,115
Liquor permits	1,272	60
Charitable gaming licences	1,422	622
Charitable gaming permits	1,012	312
Film and video licences	360	311
Private Investigator and Security Guard licences	1,922	1,959
Salvage Dealer licences	100	95
Manufacturer licences	107	113
Registration of employees and suppliers in the gaming industry	615	525
Registration of video lottery site holders	214	197
Office of the Fire Marshal		
Fires reported	2,739	3,831
Non fire related responses	21,068	17,677
Fires investigated by regional fire marshals	163	148
Buildings Inspected:		
By regional fire inspectors	2,847	2,373
By local assistants	4,617	2,951
Total of inspections	7,464	5,324
Building plan reviewed	442	507
Sprinkler system installations reviewed	63	62
Participants in provincially funded firefighter training courses	429	412
Provincial firefighter examinations	656	642
Volunteer firefighters	5,000	5,000
Emergency inspections during spring flood by regional fire inspectors	469	207
Incident reports recorded for analysis	23,807	21,508
Technical Inspection Services		
Inspections completed	23,207	23,615
Plans reviewed and/or registered	2,162	1,395
Installation permits issued	17,992	20,461
Licences issued or renewed	13,356	12,163
Operating permits	18,146	18,873
Exams administered	2,094	2,066

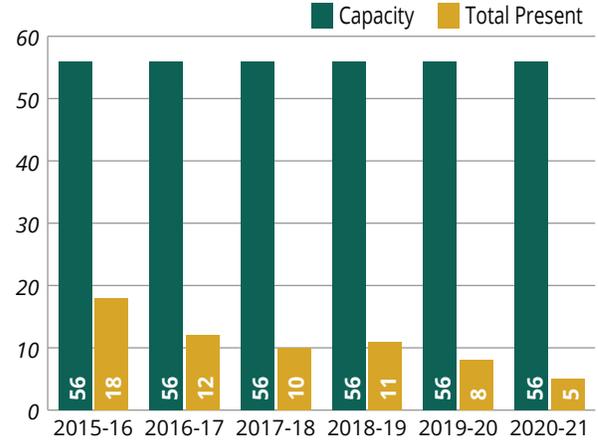
Community Safety	2019-2020	2020-2021
Community Services		
Adult Community Services		
Pre-Sentence Reports requested	2,535	1,914
Number of admissions:		
Alternative Measures	380	558
Fine Option Program	118	27
Community Service Work Program	98	60
Number of admissions:		
Placed on probation	1,669	1,185
Conditional Sentence	493	368
Adult Program interventions	337	271
Average monthly caseload count:	2,525	2,014
Youth Community Services		
Pre-sentence Reports requested	217	157
Number of admissions:		
Extrajudicial Sanctions Program	264	253
Community Service Work Program	49	18
Placed on probation	118	88
Intensive Support program	7	7
Deferred Custody and Supervision Order	28	15
Portage Substance Abuse Treatment Program	12	15
Open custody	11	3
Youth Program interventions	47	28
Average monthly count:		
Average monthly caseload count	208.6	189.1
Average monthly Open Custody count	2.8	1.3
Victim Services		
Victims referred to Victim Services	7,559	6,703
Victim Impact statements	1,072	794
Short-term counselling	775	635
Trauma counselling	135	101
Compensation for victims of crime	1,017	765
Institutional Services		
Adult provincial correctional institutions		
Adult Custody admissions	3,432	2,513
Sentence to custody	1,594	897
Remands pending a court appearance	1,332	1,899
Temporary Absence program	197	142
Island View Community Residential Centre	88	41
Youth Secure Custody Services		
Youth secure custody admissions	136	66
Remand	95	51
Custody and supervision orders	18	10

Community Safety	2019-2020	2020-2021
Average daily count		
Saint John Regional Correctional Centre	140.0	132.0
Southeast Regional Correctional Centre	172.0	134.0
Dalhousie Regional Correctional Centre	70.8	55.0
Madawaska Regional Correctional Centre	53.2	51.4
New Brunswick Women's Correctional Centre	47.9	29.3
New Brunswick Youth Centre	7.8	5.3
	491.7	407.0

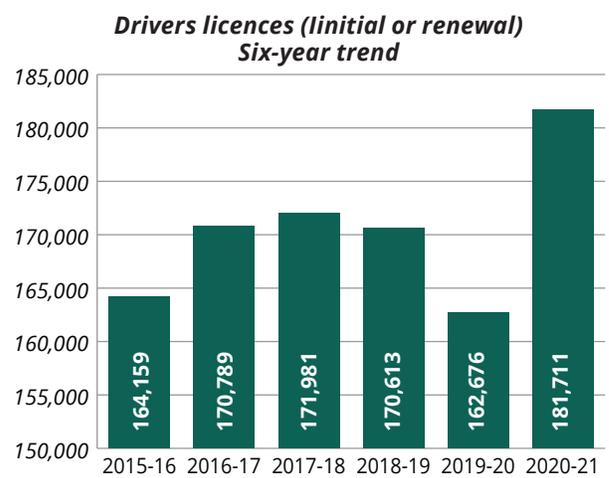
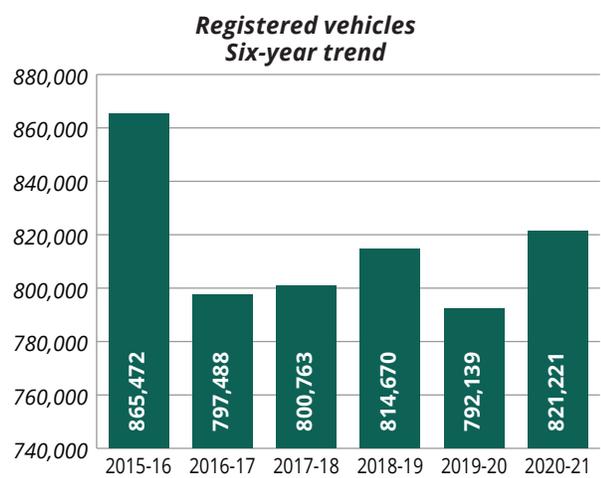
**Adult provincial institutions average daily count
Six-year trend**



**NB Youth Centre average daily count
Six-year trend**



Sheriff Services		
Persons Transported	23,760	8,551
Persons in Custody	12,230	4,577
Orders for Execution		
Evictions / Orders for Possession	489	455
Order for Seizure and Sale	352	227
Intimate Partner Violation Interventions	75	35
Motor Vehicle Services		
Drivers licences (initial or renewal)	162,676	181,711
Helmets to hardhats driver licence exchanges	68	49
Identity cards (non-driving)	8,439	5,626
Vehicle registration	792,139	821,221
Motorcycle veteran plate	104	120
Vehicle Registration reminder opt-out	24,960	24,795
Interlock clients	430	445
Dealers and inspection stations	2,387	2,073
Passenger vehicle driving schools	29	29
Commercial vehicle driving schools	9	10
Passenger vehicle driver instructor permit	108	111
Commercial vehicle driver instructor permit	19	19
Motorcycle driving schools	8	9
Motorcycle driver instructor permit	17	47
International Registration Plan (IRP) audits completed	28	31



Firearms		
Shooting ranges inspected	16	12
Shooting ranges met the provincial standard	14	11
Ranges required re-inspection	2	4
Firearm safety training	4,216	1,533
Firearm transfers reviewed	1,959	1,803
Coroner Services	Calendar year	2019
Sudden and unexpected death investigations initiated		
Inspections and Enforcement		
Motor Vehicle Safety Enforcement Section		
Commercial Vehicle Enforcement		
Speed enforcement on commercial vehicles on provincial highways – charges	1,014	899
Speed enforcement on commercial vehicles on provincial highways – warnings	267	46
Commercial vehicles checked or weighed	352,149	37,814
Inspections conducted	15,910	2,954
Charges laid	4,916	2,473
Warnings given	4,027	625
Annual Roadcheck - trucks inspected (includes motorcoach)	299	0
Operation Air Brake – vehicles inspected	0	0
National Safety Code		
Carrier contacts (includes education, inspections and enforcement activities)	503	645
Off-road Vehicle Enforcement		
Off-road vehicles checked	8,111	1,988
Calls for service	2,350	389
Trail kilometres	32,809	4,619
Charges laid	250	97
Warnings given	134	37
Checkpoints	1,613	129

Community Safety	2019-2020	2020-2021
Inspection and Investigation Section		
Motor Vehicle, casino and licensee Inspections		
Inspections and investigations completed		
Liquor	2,192	1,198
Lotteries	1,288	442
Tobacco sales to minors	931	400
Film and video	4	0
Salvage dealers	28	14
Private Investigators	48	16
Smoke-free places	1,646	713
Motor vehicle inspections	1,072	644
Gaming equipment	1,218	1,081
Audits on gaming equipment	278	0
Tobacco Tax	380	293
Casino operational inspections	467	87
Casino operational audits	420	69
Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods		
Investigated public complaints	87	113
Properties vacated due to illegal activity	25	
Investigations with community resolution	50	
Investigations based on illegal drug activity	64	
General Investigation Unit		
Files received by GIS Unit	20	32
Files concluded (without court action)	23	7
Files under investigation or before the courts	53	5
Files concluded in court	19	12
Conservation Enforcement Section		
Apprehensions for illegal activity		
Fish and Wildlife	580	461
Watercourse and fish habitat	41	12
Illegal timber harvest	206	77
Other (off-road vehicle, forest fire, etc.)	2,026	1,360
Health Protection Services Section		
Public Health Inspection		
Food Safety		
Number of food service establishment inspections (by risk level)		
High	652	318
Medium	5,374	3,742
Low	692	356
Total food service establishments inspected	6,718	4,416
Licenses Issued	3,454	4,754
Licences revoked	3	6
Food handlers trained	52	0
Inspections of unlicensed, temporary or special event food vendors	402	33

Community Safety	2019-2020	2020-2021
Agri-Food Services		
Raw Milk Quality Program		
Number of raw milk samples tested	2,156	2,087
Dairy Farm Inspections		
Number of routine dairy farm inspections	183	177
Number of follow-up, quality and other inspections	251	182
Number of Premise Penalties	0	0
Number of Bulk Tank Milk Graders inspections	39	33
Number of Bulk Milk Tank Truck inspections	24	24
Water Quality		
Public Drinking Water Supplies		
Boil Orders Issued	425	160
Private Drinking Water Supplies		
Private well owners contacted	742	413
Water Quality		
Recreational Water Quality		
Number of sites monitored	37	20
Number of beaches closed	-	1
Environmental Health and Community Sanitation		
On-Site Sewage Disposal System		
Application Assessments	85	163
Inspections	295	123
Air Quality		
Indoor air quality investigations	64	10
Housing complaint investigations	444	217
Institutional Health		
Special Care Home inspections	623	1,020
Daycare inspections	986	983
<i>Smoke-free Places Act</i>		
Complaints investigated	58	18

Security and Emergencies	2019-2020	2020-2021
Emergency Measures Organization		
Emergency plans registered with NB EMO (of 104 municipalities)	103	103
Planning assistance provided to communities	321	111
Exercises conducted involving communities, institutions, industry and private agencies.	20	3
Participants in Emergency Management training courses	283	535
Provincial Emergency Operation Centre activated (significant events)	7	4
Property owners reported damage	872	269
Property owners applied for disaster financial assistance	527	159

Security and Emergencies	2019-2020	2020-2021
NB 9-1-1 Bureau		
Volume for 911 calls	200,410	210,141
Number of requests for 911 call investigations	31	63
Number of new civic addresses assigned in unincorporated areas of the province	1,129	1,528

Justice Services	2019-2020	2020-2021
Court Services		
Court Activity		
Court of Appeal		
Civil Matters	103	75
Criminal Cases	36	26
Court of Queen's Bench, Trial Division		
Causes filed	2,400	2,097
Matters filed	667	810
Family Division filing activity	9,112	7,770
Trial records for petitions	2,644	2,372
Motions	1,657	1,386
Applications	4,254	3,697
Separation agreements	353	238
Voluntary Agreement (Department of Social Development clients)	20	7
Affidavits of Default	184	70
Court activity		
Small Claims Court		
Claims filed	1,826	1,204
Up to \$3,000	524	354
\$3,000 to \$30,000	1,302	850
Small claims hearings held	1,026	1,399
Provincial Court - Adults only		
Charges disposed of (excluding municipal by-laws)	38,633	23,647
Youth Justice Court		
Charges disposed of	1,470	1,160
Child-Centered Family Justice Initiatives		
Court-Ordered Evaluations Support Program		
Applications received	39	26
Approved for help with cost of evaluation	29	22
Office of the Registrar		
Adoption files processed	134	100
Bankruptcies filed	636	533
Commencement of divorce proceedings	1,343	1,253
Filing of decrees absolute and divorce judgments	1,174	1,051
Interjurisdictional Support Orders (ISO) files received	323	235

Justice Services	2019-2020	2020-2021
Office of Support Enforcement		
Total caseload	11,254	10,657
Average caseload per enforcement officer	562	533
Payment transactions processed	\$56,362,368	\$56,754,741
Payments toward support accounts	\$51,687,958	\$52,018,072
Payments toward Minister of Finance (social assistance client)	\$4,674,409	\$4,736,669
Total Obligations Due	\$59,284,576	57,826,366
Collection Rate	95%	98%

CRIME STATISTICS ⁽¹⁾

	2019	2020	% change
Crime rate	6,069	5,985	-1.4%
Percentage of crimes solved (clearance rate)	31%	28%	-10.8%
Crime Severity Index (2)	80	83	3.2%
Adult crime rate	1,486	1,290	-13.2%
Youth crime rate	3,278	2,285	-30.3%
Violent crime rate	1,604	1,634	1.9%
Percentage of violent crimes solved (clearance rate)	46%	44%	-4.0%
Property crime rate	3,301	3,252	-1.5%
Percentage of property crimes solved (clearance rate)	17%	14%	-17.9%
Motor vehicle theft rate	190	192	1.3%
Break and enter rate	476	399	-16.3%
Homicide rate	2.19	1.79	-18.3%
Sexual assault rate	81	78	-4.2%
Percentage of sexual assault crimes solved (clearance rate)	53%	53%	-0.3%
Luring a child via a computer rate	5.0	4.1	-18.5%
Robbery rate	22	17	-20.7%
Impaired driving rate	366	335	-8.4%

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

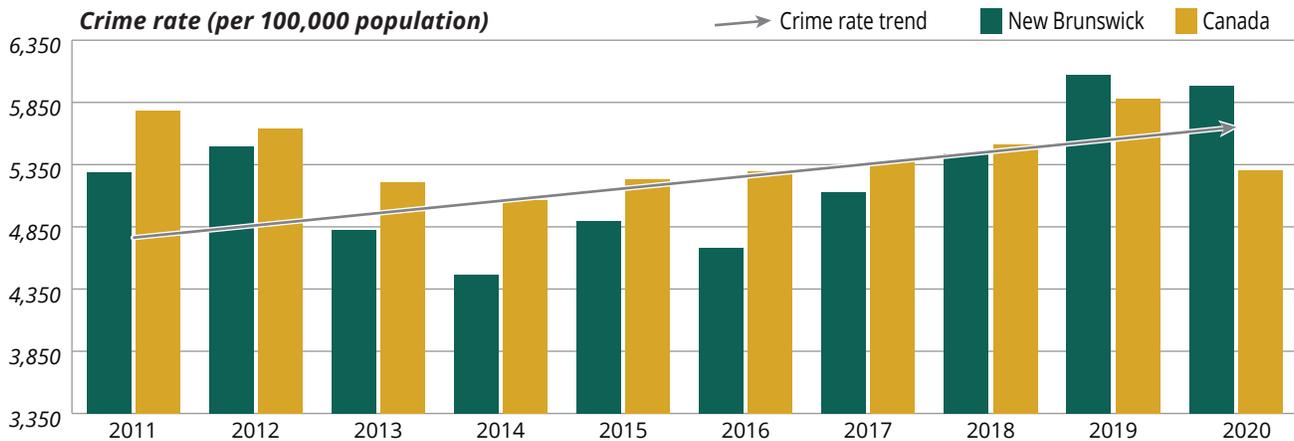
(1) Source: Statistics Canada. Table 35-10-0177-01 Incident-based crime statistics, by detailed violations

(2) 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 2020, the New Brunswick crime rate was 5,985 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. This is why the *New Brunswick Crime Prevention and Reduction Strategy* includes additional indicators as a way to more accurately measure reductions in crime during the long term, including crime severity, self-reported victimization, public perception of crime and underlying crime factors.

