



Police Service Evaluations for Lethbridge Regional Police Service

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Methodology

-  **Population** The city of Lethbridge has a total population of 93,004 residents (2014 census) approximately 80.5% of which are 18 years of age or older (74,905). A total of 45,575 Lethbridge residents are male (49%) while 47,429 are female (51%). South Lethbridge is home to 31,176 residents (33.5%) while the rapidly expanding west side is now home to 35,377 residents (38.0%). There are 26,451 north Lethbridge residents (28.4%). Coaldale has a total population of 7,493 residents (2011 census).
-  **Sample Data** Collected by Lethbridge College students enrolled in a variety of social science courses in the winter of 2015. Students interviewed 848 randomly selected, adult Lethbridge and Coaldale residents by telephone on February 7–11, 2015 under the supervision of School of Liberal Arts faculty member Faron Ellis. We sincerely appreciate and thank all those who took time to respond to our survey. Full methodological notes for samples from previous Lethbridge and Alberta Public Opinion Studies can be obtained by visiting the CSRL web pages at: www.lethbridgecollege.ab.ca/go/csrl.
-  **Representativeness** Analysis of the demographic data indicates that, within acceptable limits, the sample accurately represents the demographic distribution of the adult population within the city of Lethbridge. The sample has been statistically weighted to even better reflect that of the population (sex, age, and area of the city of Lethbridge).
-  **Confidence** The weighted sample yields a margin of error of ± 3.35 percentage points, 19 times out of 20. The margin of error increases when analyzing sub-samples of the data. For example, the Lethbridge subsample margin of error is ± 3.47 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, while the Coaldale subsample has a margin of error of ± 12.68 percentage points 19 times out of 20.
-  **IB Commons Call Centre** Students conducted interviews using the facilities of the Lethbridge College IB Commons Call Centre.
-  **Sponsorship** These data are part of a larger study of the opinions and attitudes of Lethbridge residents conducted by the Citizen Society Research Lab at Lethbridge College. This particular set of questions was sponsored by Lethbridge Regional Police Service. We thank LRPS for their continued support of our research program.

Executive Summary

Perceptions of Lethbridge Regional Police Service

Performance

A substantial majority of Lethbridge residents (72.7%) believe Lethbridge Regional Police Service is doing a good job policing their community, a slight increase from the 69.5% who thought similarly in 2014. Very few Lethbridge residents (5.6%) believe LRPS is doing a poor job, while approximately one-fifth (21.7%) say the police are performing adequately.

A majority of Coaldale residents (53.7%) believe Lethbridge Regional Police Service is doing a good job, down slightly from 60.9% in 2013, but still more than the 49.6% who thought similarly in 2007. Only 10.2% of Coaldale residents believe LRPS to be performing poorly, half as many as in 2007 (21.5%).

Meeting Expectations

Substantial majorities of Lethbridge (70.5%) and Coaldale (63.5%) residents believe LRPS is doing a good job meeting expectations. Only a very small minority of both Lethbridge (5.0%) and Coaldale (6.8%) residents believe LRPS is doing a poor job meeting expectations.

Changes in Meeting Expectations

Most Lethbridge residents (78.1%) believe LRPS has neither improved nor worsened in meeting expectations in the past year. Of those who believe LRPS has changed in meeting expectations, more than three times as many Lethbridge residents believe LRPS has improved (17.0%) than believe LRPS has gotten worse (4.9%). Most Coaldale residents (62.0%) also believe that LRPS has neither improved nor worsened in meeting expectations over the past year. A further 25.2% believe LRPS has improved in meeting expectations while only 12.7% believe LRPS has gotten worse.

Attitudes and Behavior of LRPS Officers

The vast majority of Lethbridge residents (88.5%) believe that LRPS officers are polite and respectful when conducting their duties. Only 11.5% of Lethbridge residents believe LRPS officers are impolite and disrespectful (9.8% somewhat so and only 1.7% believe LRPS officers to be very impolite and disrespectful.) Coaldale residents are just as likely to believe that LRPS officers are polite and respectful (93.5%) with only 6.5% perceiving LRPS officers to be somewhat or very impolite and disrespectful.

Executive Summary (continued)

Community Safety

Direct Contact with LRPS Officer in Past Year

Slightly more than half of all Lethbridge residents (55.5%) had some direct in-person contact with a LRPS officer over the past year. A similar number of Coaldale residents (59.8%) had contact with a LRPS officer in the past year. Residents who visit downtown most frequently are also the most likely to have had direct contact with an LRPS officer (69.3%)

Neighborhood Safety

A majority of Lethbridge residents (60.9%) feel very safe in their neighborhoods and a further 33.8% feel somewhat safe. Very few feel somewhat unsafe (3.7%) and fewer still (1.6%) feel very unsafe in their neighborhoods. Similar numbers of Coaldale residents (61.3%) feel very safe in their neighborhoods while a further 30.0% feel somewhat safe. Few Coaldale residents feel somewhat unsafe (6.4%) or very unsafe (2.3%) in their neighborhoods.

Downtown Safety

Overall, Lethbridge and Coaldale residents feel safe in downtown Lethbridge, although less safe than they feel in their own neighborhoods. A majority of Lethbridge residents feel somewhat safe (53.9%) when visiting downtown Lethbridge, while just under one-quarter (22.4%) feel very safe downtown. About one-quarter of Lethbridge residents do not feel safe downtown, with most of those (19.8%) feeling somewhat unsafe while a very small number (3.9%) feel very unsafe while visiting downtown. Coaldale residents evaluate their safety in downtown Lethbridge similarly. Nearly three-quarters of all Coaldale residents feel safe when visiting downtown Lethbridge, with 23.8% feeling very safe and a further 48.3% feeling somewhat safe. Slightly more than one-quarter of Coaldale residents feel unsafe in downtown Lethbridge, with most of those feeling somewhat unsafe (25.0%) and very few feeling very unsafe (2.8%).

Frequency of Visits to Downtown Lethbridge

Most Lethbridge and Coaldale residents frequent downtown on a regular basis. One in five Lethbridge residents (20.2%) go downtown daily, while a further 43.0% visit downtown on a weekly basis. Although Coaldale residents visit downtown Lethbridge less frequently, almost half visit downtown Lethbridge at least weekly, with 11.5% making daily trips and a further 33.0% visiting on a weekly basis.

Perceptions of Lethbridge Regional Police Service

Performance

A substantial majority of Lethbridge residents (72.7%) believe Lethbridge Regional Police Service is doing a good job policing their community, a slight increase from the 69.5% who thought similarly in 2014. Very few Lethbridge residents (5.6%) believe LRPS is doing a poor job, while approximately one-fifth (21.7%) say the police are performing adequately.

Within the city of Lethbridge, majorities in all demographic groups provide Lethbridge Regional Police Service with positive evaluations. Women (74.9%), university graduates (77.1%), seniors (81.2%), south Lethbridge residents (75.7%) and upper income residents (75.9%) are most positive. Men (67.8%), north Lethbridge residents (68.3%), and the youth (58.3%) are less positive, although still much more positive than negative. Residents who had direct personal contact with a LRPS officer in the past year are nearly as likely (68.6%) as are those who had no contact (74.4%) to believe the police are doing a good job. Conversely, nearly one of every ten Lethbridge residents (9.5%) who had contact with an LRPS officer in the past year believes LRPS is performing poorly, compared to only 1.7% of those who had no contact with LRPS in the last year who thought similarly.

A majority of Coaldale residents (53.7%) believe Lethbridge Regional Police Service is doing a good job, down slightly from 60.9% in 2013, but still more than the 49.6% who thought similarly in 2007. Only 10.2% of Coaldale residents believe LRPS to be performing poorly, half as many as in 2007 (21.5%).

	Lethbridge								Coaldale						
	2006	2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Good	63.7	64.1	69.9	70.5	70.3	67.4	69.5	72.7	49.6	68.2	63.3	68.5	59.4	60.9	53.7
Adequate	27.7	28.7	24.5	23.6	25.6	29.0	25.1	21.7	28.9	29.0	31.5	27.2	31.3	32.6	36.1
Poor	8.6	7.2	5.6	5.9	4.1	3.6	5.4	5.6	21.5	2.8	5.2	4.3	9.4	6.5	10.2

	Lethbridge								Coaldale						
	2006	2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Very good	19.9	23.7	17.3	21.1	30.7	22.1	28.1	30.9	11.1	20.6	17.6	28.0	21.3	28.3	20.2
Good	43.8	40.4	52.6	49.4	39.6	45.3	41.4	41.8	38.5	47.7	45.7	40.5	38.1	32.6	33.5
Adequate	27.7	28.7	24.5	23.6	25.6	29.0	25.1	21.7	28.9	29.0	31.5	27.2	31.3	32.6	36.1
Poor	6.1	5.5	3.4	4.6	3.0	2.7	4.1	4.6	12.6	1.9	3.5	3.1	9.4	2.2	3.0
Very Poor	2.5	1.7	2.2	1.4	1.1	0.9	1.3	1.0	8.9	0.9	1.7	1.2	0.0	4.3	7.2

Note: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%

Lethbridge Regional Police Service Performance (February 2015) (%)

Gender*/Municipality*	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Good	67.8	74.9	72.7	53.7
Adequate	23.8	21.6	21.7	36.1
Poor	8.4	3.6	5.6	10.2

Contact in past year*	Yes	No
Good	68.6	74.4
Adequate	21.9	23.9
Poor	9.5	1.7

Area	South	North	West
Good	75.7	68.3	73.2
Adequate	18.9	24.5	22.3
Poor	5.4	7.2	4.5

Household Income*	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Good	63.3	70.3	75.9
Adequate	27.6	23.3	20.7
Poor	9.0	6.4	3.4

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Good	61.4	74.1	71.5	77.1
Adequate	29.8	19.4	23.8	19.0
Poor	61.4	74.1	71.5	77.1

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Good	58.3	74.2	74.7	81.2
Adequate	31.9	19.8	20.4	16.9
Poor	9.7	6.0	4.9	1.9

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Good	68.9	74.4	69.8
Adequate	22.4	21.7	24.0
Poor	8.7	4.0	6.2

Notes: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%; * sig < 0.05

Perceptions of Lethbridge Regional Police Service

Meeting Expectations

Substantial majorities of Lethbridge (70.5%) and Coaldale (63.5%) residents believe LRPS is doing a good job meeting residents expectations about what a police service should be doing. Only a very small minority of both Lethbridge (5.0%) and Coaldale (6.8%) residents believe LRPS is doing a poor job meeting expectations.

Women (74.4%), seniors (76.8%) and university graduates (72.8%) are most likely to believe LRPS is meeting their expectations of what a police service should be doing. Men (65.6%), those with the least amount of formal education (58.0%), lower income earners (61.8%) and the youth (58.8%), are among the somewhat less likely to state LRPS is meeting their expectations; however, all of these groups are still much more positive than negative.

Those who had direct personal contact with a LRPS officer in the past year are somewhat more critical of LRPS than are those who did not. For example. Although the vast majority of residents who had contact LRPS in the past year state that the police are meeting their expectations (66.4%), this evaluation is significantly lower than the 73.5% of those who had no contact and think similarly.

	Lethbridge									Coaldale						
	2006	2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015		2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Good	64.3	58.3	65.4	67.0	68.6	63.3	68.1	70.5		43.3	62.6	69.2	65.6	56.1	63.0	63.5
Adequate	30.2	35.0	29.6	26.7	27.8	32.1	28.2	24.5		40.3	31.8	26.2	26.1	30.7	32.6	29.7
Poor	5.6	6.7	5.0	6.3	3.6	4.6	3.7	5.0		16.4	5.6	4.6	8.3	13.2	4.3	6.8

	Lethbridge									Coaldale						
	2006	2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015		2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Very good	15.9	14.8	14.5	15.5	22.7	17.3	23.9	22.3		6.7	16.8	15.3	19.0	21.0	23.9	18.7
Good	48.4	43.5	50.9	51.6	45.9	46.0	44.2	48.2		36.6	45.8	53.9	46.6	35.1	39.1	44.8
Adequate	30.2	35.0	29.6	26.7	27.8	32.1	28.2	24.5		40.3	31.8	26.2	26.1	30.7	32.6	29.7
Poor	3.6	5.5	4.3	4.6	3.0	4.0	1.8	4.3		9.0	5.6	3.7	8.3	12.1	4.3	2.4
Very Poor	2.0	1.2	0.7	1.7	0.5	0.6	1.8	0.7		7.5	0.0	0.9	0.0	1.1	0.0	4.4

Note: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%

Meeting Expectations (February 2015) (%)

Gender*/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Good	65.6	74.4	70.5	63.5
Adequate	27.8	22.0	24.5	29.7
Poor	6.6	3.6	5.0	6.8

Contact in past year*	Yes	No
Good	66.4	73.5
Adequate	27.3	22.6
Poor	6.3	3.9

Area	South	North	West
Good	73.1	66.0	71.0
Adequate	22.3	26.9	24.5
Poor	4.6	7.1	4.5

Household Income*	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Good	61.8	73.4	70.5
Adequate	30.4	20.5	27.2
Poor	7.8	6.1	2.3

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Good	58.0	73.2	73.6	72.8
Adequate	33.3	20.9	22.2	24.4
Poor	8.6	5.9	4.2	2.8

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Good	58.8	72.0	73.3	76.8
Adequate	32.6	23.6	21.5	22.0
Poor	8.6	4.4	5.3	1.2

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Good	66.0	72.6	69.5
Adequate	26.5	23.7	25.0
Poor	7.4	3.6	5.5

Notes: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%; * sig < 0.05

Perceptions of Lethbridge Regional Police Service



Changes in Meeting Expectations

Most Lethbridge residents (78.1%) believe LRPS has neither improved nor worsened in meeting expectations in the past year. Of those who believe LRPS has changed in meeting expectations, more than three times as many Lethbridge residents believe LRPS has improved (17.0%) than believe LRPS has gotten worse (4.9%).

Few differences in opinion are measured between different demographic groups, although lower income residents are significantly more likely than are other income groups to believe LRPS has improved in meeting those residents' expectations about what a police service should be doing. Nearly one in five of those who had contact with LRPS (19.2%) believe LRPS has improved in meeting expectations, more than twice as many as those who had contact but believe LRPS has worsened in meeting expectations (7.2%).

Most Coaldale residents (62.0%) also believe that LRPS has neither improved nor worsened in meeting expectations over the past year. A further 25.2% believe LRPS has improved in meeting expectations while only 12.7% believe LRPS has gotten worse.

	Lethbridge								Coaldale						
	2006	2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Improved	24.3	17.4	18.2	16.0	16.0	17.0	16.8	17.0	16.7	15.6	11.1	17.8	18.4	17.4	25.2
Stayed Same	71.9	77.2	78.4	79.9	80.5	77.0	75.9	78.1	67.5	80.2	82.8	71.1	72.6	80.4	62.0
Worsened	3.7	5.4	3.4	4.1	3.5	6.0	7.3	4.9	15.9	4.2	6.2	11.2	8.9	2.2	12.7

Note: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%

Changes in Meeting Expectations (February 2015) (%)

Gender/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Improved	18.3	17.0	17.0	25.2
Stayed the same	74.6	79.0	78.1	62.0
Worsened	7.1	4.1	4.9	12.7

Contact in past year	Yes	No
Improved	19.2	16.0
Stayed the same	73.5	80.7
Worsened	7.2	3.3

Area	South	North	West
Improved	17.8	18.7	15.7
Stayed the same	78.9	75.4	78.4
Worsened	3.2	5.9	6.0

Household Income*	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Improved	25.8	17.3	11.8
Stayed the same	67.2	77.8	82.6
Worsened	7.1	4.9	5.6

Education	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Improved	22.9	15.3	21.5	11.8
Stayed the same	65.7	80.9	75.1	83.6
Worsened	11.4	3.8	3.4	4.6

Age	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Improved	20.0	15.3	14.8	21.9
Stayed the same	70.2	79.7	81.2	75.3
Worsened	9.8	5.1	3.9	2.7

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Improved	19.5	18.8	15.0
Stayed the same	76.0	75.9	78.9
Worsened	4.5	5.4	6.1

Notes: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%; * sig < 0.05

Perceptions of Lethbridge Regional Police Service



Attitudes and Behavior of LRPS Officers

The vast majority of Lethbridge residents (88.5%) believe that LRPS officers are polite and respectful when conducting their duties. Only 11.5% of Lethbridge residents believe LRPS officers are impolite and disrespectful (9.8% somewhat so and only 1.7% believe LRPS officers to be very impolite and disrespectful.)

All demographic groups within the city of Lethbridge agree by overwhelming majorities that LRPS officers are polite and respectful. Statistically significant differences can be measured within four demographic groups. Men, younger, less well educated, and north Lethbridge residents are somewhat less likely than other groups to think LRPS are polite and respectful. But even here it must be noted that all groups are much more likely to think LRPS officers are polite and respectful than to think they are impolite and disrespectful. Similarly, although those who had direct contact with an LRPS member are somewhat more critical, the overwhelming majority (86.5%) believing LRPS officers to be polite and respectful.

Coaldale residents are just as likely to believe that LRPS officers are polite and respectful (93.5%) with only 6.5% perceiving LRPS officers to be somewhat or very impolite and disrespectful.

	Lethbridge						Coaldale					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2014
Polite & respectful	89.2	89.9	88.4	87.5	85.6	88.5	91.8	95.1	86.0	86.0	86.6	93.5
Impolite & disrespectful	10.8	10.1	11.6	12.5	14.4	11.5	8.2	4.9	14.0	14.0	13.4	6.5

	Lethbridge						Coaldale					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Very polite & respectful	40.8	40.0	43.4	38.5	37.0	40.4	45.9	43.7	45.6	39.6	35.1	35.9
Somewhat polite & respectful	48.4	50.0	45.0	49.0	48.6	48.1	45.9	51.4	40.4	46.4	51.5	57.7
Somewhat impolite & disrespectful	8.1	7.5	9.1	10.5	9.4	9.8	7.1	3.9	13.3	9.0	10.3	3.9
Very impolite & disrespectful	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.0	5.0	1.7	1.1	1.0	0.7	5.0	3.1	2.6

Note: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%

Attitudes and Behavior (February 2015) (%)

Gender*/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Polite and respectful	86.1	91.8	88.5	93.5
Impolite and disrespectful	13.9	8.2	11.5	6.5

Contact in past year*	Yes	No
Polite and respectful	86.5	92.1
Impolite and disrespectful	13.5	7.9

Area*	South	North	West
Polite and respectful	93.4	85.1	87.1
Impolite and disrespectful	6.6	14.9	12.9

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Polite and respectful	82.3	88.8	94.4
Impolite and disrespectful	17.7	11.2	5.6

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Polite and respectful	81.2	88.2	90.6	93.9
Impolite and disrespectful	18.8	11.8	9.4	6.1

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Polite and respectful	79.3	90.4	92.1	94.6
Impolite and disrespectful	20.7	9.6	7.9	5.4

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Polite and respectful	89.2	88.9	89.1
Impolite and disrespectful	10.8	11.1	10.9

Notes: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%; * sig < 0.05

Attitudes and Behavior (February 2015) (%)

Gender*/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Very polite/respectful	35.8	44.2	40.4	35.9
Somewhat polite/respectful	50.3	47.5	48.1	57.7
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	11.8	7.0	9.8	3.9
Very impolite/disrespectful	2.1	1.3	1.7	2.6

Contact in past year	Yes	No
Very polite/respectful	40.5	40.3
Somewhat polite/respectful	46.0	52.1
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	11.1	6.9
Very impolite/disrespectful	2.4	0.7

Area*	South	North	West
Very polite/respectful	44.4	41.0	36.7
Somewhat polite/respectful	49.0	44.1	50.4
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	5.4	12.3	11.0
Very impolite/disrespectful	1.2	2.6	1.9

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Very polite/respectful	36.1	45.8	37.5
Somewhat polite/respectful	46.6	43.0	56.9
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	13.1	10.8	3.8
Very impolite/disrespectful	4.2	0.4	1.9

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Very polite/respectful	39.6	36.5	39.3	45.4
Somewhat polite/respectful	41.5	51.7	51.3	48.5
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	14.5	9.5	9.4	5.6
Very impolite/disrespectful	4.4	2.4	0.0	0.5

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Very polite/respectful	23.6	37.3	44.9	59.9
Somewhat polite/respectful	55.8	53.6	47.1	34.7
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	16.3	8.4	7.5	4.1
Very impolite/disrespectful	4.3	0.6	0.4	1.4

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Very polite/respectful	34.2	43.1	39.2
Somewhat polite/respectful	54.4	45.5	50.2
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	10.1	8.7	9.5
Very impolite/disrespectful	1.3	2.7	1.1

Notes: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%; * sig < 0.05

Perceptions of Lethbridge Regional Police Service



Direct Contact with LRPS Officer in Past Year

Slightly more than half of all Lethbridge residents (55.5%) had some direct in-person contact with a LRPS officer over the past year. Younger Lethbridge residents (66.7%) are much more likely to have contact with LRPS officers than are seniors (37.6%). Interestingly, those who frequent downtown Lethbridge most often were also most likely to have direct contact with an LRPS officer (66.7%), clearly a reflection of LRPS's efforts at being visible and interactive with downtown Lethbridge businesses, their employees and patrons.

A similar number of Coaldale residents (59.8%) had contact with a LRPS officer in the past year.

Direct Contact with LRPS Officer in the Past Year (February 2015)

Gender*/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Yes	62.0	49.6	55.5	59.8
No	38.0	50.4	44.5	40.2

Area	South	North	West
Yes	51.3	58.3	58.5
No	48.7	41.7	41.5

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Yes	55.0	58.8	62.9
No	45.0	41.2	37.1

Education	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Yes	51.4	57.3	55.3	58.1
No	48.6	42.7	44.7	41.9

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Yes	66.7	59.2	56.9	37.6
No	33.3	40.8	43.1	62.4

Visits Downtown*	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Yes	69.3	60.2	43.8
No	30.7	39.8	56.2

Notes: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%; * sig < 0.05

Community Safety

Neighborhood Safety

For the most part, Lethbridge and Coaldale residents feel very safe in their neighborhoods.

A majority of Lethbridge residents (60.9%) feel very safe in their neighborhoods and a further 33.8% feel somewhat safe. Very few feel somewhat unsafe (3.7%) and fewer still (1.6%) feel very unsafe in their neighborhoods.

Men, west Lethbridge residents, university graduates and upper income residents are most likely to feel safe in their neighborhoods. Women, lower income earners, north Lethbridge residents, and the youth are less likely to feel very safe in their neighborhoods and slightly more likely to feel somewhat unsafe. However, even these groups are much more likely to feel safe or very safe living in their neighborhoods than to feel unsafe.

Similar numbers of Coaldale residents (61.3%) feel very safe in their neighborhoods while a further 30.0% feel somewhat safe. Few Coaldale residents feel somewhat (6.4%) or very unsafe (2.3%) in their neighborhoods.

	Lethbridge								Coaldale						
	2006	2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Very safe	60.7	49.8	59.9	54.2	62.1	59.0	61.8	60.9	48.2	67.9	77.6	80.1	67.6	66.0	61.3
Somewhat safe	32.2	42.9	36.2	41.4	34.9	35.8	30.7	33.8	43.9	30.3	20.8	13.3	30.9	29.8	30.0
Somewhat unsafe	4.9	6.6	3.5	3.5	2.3	4.6	6.4	3.7	5.8	1.8	1.6	5.5	1.5	2.1	6.4
Very unsafe	2.1	0.7	0.4	1.0	0.7	0.6	1.1	1.6	2.2	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	2.1	2.3

Note: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%

Evaluations of Neighborhood Safety (February 2015) (%)

Gender*/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Very safe	64.0	58.0	60.9	61.3
Somewhat safe	32.0	34.9	33.8	30.0
Somewhat unsafe	2.4	5.5	3.7	6.4
Very unsafe	1.7	1.6	1.6	2.3

Contact in past year	Yes	No
Very safe	60.5	62.1
Somewhat safe	32.8	34.1
Somewhat unsafe	4.5	2.7
Very unsafe	2.1	1.1

Area*	South	North	West
Very safe	61.1	52.1	66.1
Somewhat safe	33.6	40.0	30.5
Somewhat unsafe	3.4	6.5	1.4
Very unsafe	1.9	1.4	2.0

Household Income*	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Very safe	56.2	62.5	70.2
Somewhat safe	36.2	32.1	27.5
Somewhat unsafe	4.8	4.0	1.1
Very unsafe	2.9	1.3	1.1

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Very safe	52.3	61.0	63.6	65.5
Somewhat safe	39.8	32.3	33.6	30.0
Somewhat unsafe	5.1	4.9	2.3	2.7
Very unsafe	2.8	1.8	0.5	1.8

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Very safe	56.0	62.2	61.4	67.7
Somewhat safe	35.6	34.6	34.3	26.8
Somewhat unsafe	6.2	0.5	3.2	4.3
Very unsafe	2.2	2.7	1.2	1.2

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Very safe	61.8	62.6	59.1
Somewhat safe	31.5	32.7	35.6
Somewhat unsafe	4.8	3.9	3.1
Very unsafe	1.8	0.8	2.2

Notes: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%; * sig < 0.05

Community Safety

Downtown Safety

Overall, Lethbridge and Coaldale residents feel safe when visiting downtown Lethbridge, although less safe than they feel in their own neighborhoods. A majority of Lethbridge residents feel somewhat safe (53.9%) when visiting downtown Lethbridge, while just under one-quarter (22.4%) feel very safe downtown. About one-quarter of Lethbridge residents do not feel safe downtown, with most of those (19.8%) feeling somewhat unsafe. Only a very small number (3.9%) feel very unsafe while visiting downtown.

Women feel slightly less safe downtown than do men. Seniors are more likely than any other age group to feel very safe downtown, while younger residents are the least likely to feel very safe when visiting downtown Lethbridge.

Coaldale residents evaluate their safety in downtown Lethbridge similarly. Nearly three-quarters of all Coaldale residents feel safe when visiting downtown Lethbridge, with 23.8% feeling very safe and a further 48.3% feeling somewhat safe. Slightly more than one-quarter of Coaldale residents feel unsafe in downtown Lethbridge, with most of those feeling somewhat unsafe (25.0%) and very few feeling very unsafe (2.8%).

	Lethbridge								Coaldale						
	2006	2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Very safe	24.1	23.2	25.1	30.7	29.5	23.1	25.4	22.4	16.2	24.5	25.5	25.9	31.1	31.1	23.8
Somewhat safe	54.9	53.1	53.6	52.4	53.8	55.6	54.4	53.9	56.2	57.8	57.0	55.0	50.7	46.7	48.3
Somewhat unsafe	16.9	19.6	18.1	15.0	14.9	18.9	15.6	19.8	22.3	15.7	17.4	14.9	13.1	22.2	25.0
Very unsafe	4.0	4.0	3.2	1.9	1.8	2.3	4.6	3.9	5.4	2.0	0.0	4.1	5.1	0.0	2.8

Note: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%

Evaluations of Downtown Safety (February 2015) (%)

Gender*/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Very safe	27.7	17.4	22.4	23.8
Somewhat safe	51.5	55.5	53.9	48.3
Somewhat unsafe	18.2	22.1	19.8	25.0
Very unsafe	2.7	5.0	3.9	2.8

Contact in past year	Yes	No
Very safe	22.8	22.0
Somewhat safe	54.1	52.3
Somewhat unsafe	19.6	21.2
Very unsafe	3.5	4.5

Area*	South	North	West
Very safe	24.7	24.3	19.0
Somewhat safe	56.0	49.5	56.1
Somewhat unsafe	15.4	23.3	20.8
Very unsafe	3.9	2.9	4.2

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Very safe	23.5	25.3	18.6
Somewhat safe	52.9	51.7	54.8
Somewhat unsafe	20.1	19.9	22.0
Very unsafe	3.4	3.1	4.5

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Very safe	26.3	15.7	24.3	24.0
Somewhat safe	44.9	56.7	50.5	59.3
Somewhat unsafe	22.8	22.6	22.0	14.9
Very unsafe	6.0	5.1	3.3	1.8

Age	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Very safe	11.2	24.5	24.6	30.1
Somewhat safe	56.1	59.6	50.8	48.1
Somewhat unsafe	27.4	13.3	20.9	18.6
Very unsafe	5.4	2.7	3.7	3.2

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Very safe	25.5	24.6	18.3
Somewhat safe	47.3	53.5	56.9
Somewhat unsafe	20.6	19.0	21.6
Very unsafe	6.7	2.8	3.3

Notes: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%; * sig < 0.05

Downtown Lethbridge

Frequency of Visits to Downtown Lethbridge

Most Lethbridge and Coaldale residents frequent downtown on a regular basis. One in five Lethbridge residents (20.2%) go downtown daily, while a further 43.0% visit downtown on a weekly basis. One-quarter of Lethbridge residents (25.6%) visits downtown at least monthly, while 6.1% go downtown only a few times per year. Fewer than one in twenty Lethbridge residents (4.9%) report that they rarely or never go downtown. Upper income earners, younger residents, west and south Lethbridge residents, and university graduates are among those who visit downtown Lethbridge most frequently.

Although Coaldale residents visit downtown Lethbridge less frequently, almost half visit downtown Lethbridge at least weekly, with 11.5% making daily trips and a further 33.0% visiting on a weekly basis. Another one-third (33.5%) report making monthly visits to downtown Lethbridge, while 13.5% visit downtown only a few time per year. Only 8.5% of Coaldale residents told us they rarely or never visit downtown Lethbridge.

	Lethbridge								Coaldale						
	2006	2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Daily	23.6	19.9	20.4	15.9	18.9	18.5	18.0	20.2	12.2	7.5	7.5	13.0	6.7	16.7	11.5
Weekly	47.8	46.2	47.0	51.6	46.5	45.9	46.5	43.2	36.7	35.5	46.5	30.2	50.5	43.8	33.0
Monthly or less	28.7	33.8	32.6	32.4	34.6	35.5	35.6	36.7	51.0	57.0	46.1	56.8	42.8	39.6	55.5

	Lethbridge								Coaldale						
	2006	2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2007	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Daily	23.6	19.9	20.4	15.9	18.9	18.5	18.0	20.2	12.2	7.5	7.5	13.0	6.7	17.0	11.5
Weekly	47.8	46.2	47.0	51.6	46.5	45.9	46.5	43.2	36.7	35.5	46.5	30.2	50.5	44.7	33.0
Monthly	17.4	19.3	21.3	19.7	22.1	23.3	25.2	25.6	27.3	31.8	27.0	31.3	26.1	21.3	33.5
Few times/year	4.8	7.3	6.3	7.1	6.0	9.0	6.7	6.1	12.9	15.0	13.2	20.6	10.8	12.8	13.5
Rarely or never	6.4	7.3	5.0	5.6	6.4	3.3	3.6	4.9	10.8	10.3	5.9	4.9	5.9	4.3	8.5

Note: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%

Frequency of Visits to Downtown Lethbridge (February 2015) (%)

Gender*/Municipality*	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Daily	21.2	17.9	20.2	11.5
Weekly	44.3	40.7	43.2	33.0
Monthly or less	34.5	41.4	36.7	55.5

Contact in past year*	Yes	No
Daily	24.8	13.9
Weekly	45.3	37.8
Monthly or less	30.0	48.4

Area	South	North	West
Daily	22.3	14.7	22.5
Weekly	43.0	41.9	44.7
Monthly or less	34.7	43.3	32.8

Household Income*	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Daily	17.8	16.3	26.8
Weekly	42.8	44.9	41.9
Monthly or less	39.4	38.9	31.3

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Daily	20.1	16.6	19.7	21.6
Weekly	39.7	43.0	39.9	48.6
Monthly or less	40.2	40.4	40.4	29.7

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Daily	20.1	25.9	18.7	15.2
Weekly	48.7	35.4	42.1	41.8
Monthly or less	31.2	38.6	39.3	43.0

Notes: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%; * sig < 0.05

Demographics

Gender (%)		Area of City (%)		Income (%)		Education (%)		Age (%)	
Male	49.2	South	34.3	Under \$40,000	30.5	H-School/less	21.1	18-29	27.1
Female	50.8	North	27.9	\$40-100,000	43.6	Some P-Sec.	26.6	30-44	22.7
		West	37.8	Over \$100,000	25.9	Col-Tech-Grad	25.9	45-64	30.2
						University Grad	26.3	65 or older	20.0

Contact w/LRPS (%)	
Yes	55.8
No	44.2

Note: Due to rounding, proportions may not total exactly 100%

Questions

How would you rate the job the Lethbridge police are doing in policing our community?

We would like to know how the Lethbridge Regional Police Service is meeting your expectations about what the police should be doing to keep Lethbridge a safe and secure place to live and work.

In the past year, would you say that Lethbridge Regional Police Service has improved in meeting your expectations of what a police service should be doing, has neither improved nor worsened, or that Lethbridge Police Service has gotten worse in meeting your expectations of what a police service should be doing?

Overall, how would you rate Lethbridge Regional Police Service officers' attitudes and behavior?

Have you had direct contact with a Lethbridge Regional Police Service officer in the past year?

Overall, how safe do you feel in your neighborhood?

Overall, how safe do you feel when you visit downtown Lethbridge for work, business, shopping or entertainment (including dining)?

How often do you visit downtown Lethbridge for work, business, shopping, or entertainment (including dining)?