



Police Service Evaluations
for
Lethbridge Regional Police Service

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Methodology

-  **Population** The city of Lethbridge has a total population of 90,417 residents (2013 census) approximately 80% of which are 18 years of age or older (72,330). A total of 43,011 Lethbridge residents are male (48.9%) while 44,871 are female (51.1%). South Lethbridge is home to 30,655 residents (33.9%) while the rapidly expanding west side is now home to 33,988 residents (37.6%). There are 25,774 north Lethbridge residents (28.5%). 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 2014. Students interviewed 607 randomly selected, adult Lethbridge and Coaldale residents by telephone on February 8–9, 2014 under the supervision of School of Liberal Arts faculty members Faron Ellis and Marda Schindeler. 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 ± 4.0 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 ± 4.2 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, while the Coaldale subsample has a margin of error of ± 11.2 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 support of our research efforts.

Executive Summary

Perceptions of Lethbridge Regional Police Service

Performance

A substantial majority of Lethbridge residents (69.5%) believe Lethbridge Regional Police Service is doing a good job policing their community, a slight increase from 67.4% who thought similarly in 2013. Only a very small number (5.4%) believes LRPS is doing a poor job, while approximately one-quarter (25.1%) say the police are performing adequately.

A majority of Coaldale residents (60.9%) believe Lethbridge Regional Police Service is doing a good job, up slightly from 59.4% in 2013, but significantly more than the 49.6% who thought similarly in 2007. Only 6.5% of Coaldale residents believe LRPS to be performing poorly.

Meeting Expectations

Clear majorities of Lethbridge (68.1%) and Coaldale (63.0%) residents believe LRPS is doing a good job meeting expectations. Only a very small minority of both Lethbridge (3.7%) and Coaldale (4.3%) residents believe LRPS is doing a poor job meeting expectations.

Changes in Meeting Expectations

Most Lethbridge residents (75.9%) 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 twice as many Lethbridge residents believe LRPS has improved (16.8%) than believe LRPS has gotten worse (7.3%). Most Coaldale residents (80.4%) also believe that LRPS has neither improved nor worsened in meeting expectations over the past year. A further 17.4% believe LRPS has improved in meeting expectations while only 2.2% believe LRPS has gotten worse.

Attitudes and Behavior of LRPS Officers

The vast majority of Lethbridge residents (85.6%) believe that LRPS officers are polite and respectful when conducting their duties. Approximately one in seven Lethbridge residents believe LRPS officers are somewhat impolite and disrespectful (9.4%) while 5.0% believe they are very impolite and disrespectful. Coaldale residents are just as likely to believe that LRPS officers are polite and respectful (86.6%) with 13.4% 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 (53.7%) had some direct in-person contact with a LRPS officer over the past year. A clear majority of Coaldale residents (59.6%) had contact with a LRPS officer in the past year.

Neighborhood Safety

A majority of Lethbridge residents (61.8%) feel very safe in their neighborhoods and a further 30.7% feel somewhat safe. Very few feel somewhat unsafe (6.4%) and fewer still (1.1%) feel very unsafe in their neighborhoods. Two-thirds of Coaldale residents feel very safe in their neighborhoods (66.0%), similar to last year (67.6%). Despite the decline from a high of 80.1% in 2012, the overall feelings of safety have increased significantly from 2007. Further, fewer than one in twenty Coaldale residents feel somewhat (2.1%) or very unsafe (2.1%).

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 (54.4%) while just over one-quarter (25.4%) feel very safe downtown. Only about one in five Lethbridge residents do not feel safe downtown. Coaldale residents evaluate their safety in downtown Lethbridge similarly. Nearly four of every five Coaldale residents feel safe in downtown Lethbridge, with 31.1% feeling very safe and a further 46.7% feeling somewhat safe. Slightly more than one-fifth of Coaldale residents feel unsafe in downtown Lethbridge.

Frequency of Visits to Downtown Lethbridge

Most Lethbridge and Coaldale residents frequent downtown on a regular basis. Nearly one in five Lethbridge residents (18.0%) go downtown daily, while a further 46.5% visit downtown on a weekly basis. Although Coaldale residents visit downtown Lethbridge less frequently, a majority of Coaldale residents visit downtown Lethbridge at least weekly, with 16.7% making daily trips and a further 43.8% visiting on a weekly basis.

Perceptions of Lethbridge Regional Police Service

Performance

A substantial majority of Lethbridge residents (69.5%) believe Lethbridge Regional Police Service is doing a good job policing their community, a slight increase from 67.4% who thought similarly in 2013. Only a very small number (5.4%) believes LRPS is doing a poor job, while approximately one-quarter (25.1%) 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 (72.2%), university graduates (72.8%), seniors (79.2%), south Lethbridge residents (73.4%) and those most likely to visit downtown (71.3%) are most positive. Men (65.5%), west Lethbridge residents (66.0%), and the youth (55.9%) 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 just as likely (70.1%) as are those who had no contact (68.5%) to believe the police are doing a good job. Further, only 7.8% of those who had contact believe LRPS is performing poorly, compared to 2.7% of those who had no contact with LRPS in the last year.

A majority of Coaldale residents (60.9%) believe Lethbridge Regional Police Service is doing a good job, up slightly from 59.4% in 2013, but significantly more than the 49.6% who thought similarly in 2007. Only 6.5% of Coaldale residents believe LRPS to be performing poorly, down considerably from the 9.4% who thought similarly in 2013.

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

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

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

Lethbridge Regional Police Service Performance (February 2014) (%)

Gender*/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Good	65.5	72.2	69.5	60.9
Adequate	26.3	25.1	25.1	32.6
Poor	8.2	2.7	5.4	6.5

Contact in past year	Yes	No
Good	70.1	68.5
Adequate	22.1	28.8
Poor	7.8	2.7

Area*	South	North	West
Good	73.4	69.8	66.0
Adequate	22.3	22.6	30.0
Poor	4.3	7.5	3.9

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Good	66.2	70.1	70.8
Adequate	25.0	27.0	23.8
Poor	8.8	2.8	5.4

Education	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Good	65.9	66.7	70.2	72.8
Adequate	20.5	30.5	25.5	25.9
Poor	13.6	2.8	4.3	1.4

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Good	55.9	70.7	74.2	79.2
Adequate	35.3	24.1	22.5	17.9
Poor	8.8	5.3	3.4	2.8

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Good	71.3	69.8	65.4
Adequate	24.8	22.8	30.8
Poor	4.0	7.5	3.8

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

Perceptions of Lethbridge Regional Police Service



Meeting Expectations

A clear majority of Lethbridge residents (68.1%) believe LRPS is doing a good job in meeting expectations, up substantially from what was measured in 2013 (63.3%). A majority of Coaldale residents (63.0%) believes LRPS is doing a good job meeting expectations, up considerably from 56.1% in 2013, and up significantly from 2007 (43.3%). Only a very small minority of both Lethbridge (3.7%) and Coaldale (4.3%) residents believe LRPS is doing a poor job meeting expectations.

Women (70.8%), seniors (78.5%) and university graduates (71.1%) are most likely to believe LRPS is meeting their expectations of what a police service should be doing. Men (64.6%), those with the least amount of formal education (62.8%), lower income earners (62.2%) and the youth (52.4%), are among the least likely to state LRPS is meeting their expectations; however, all of these groups are still much more positive than negative. No statistically significant differences are measured between those who had direct personal contact with a LRPS officer in the past year and those who did not.

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

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

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

Meeting Expectations (February 2014) (%)

Gender/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Good	64.6	70.8	68.1	63.0
Adequate	29.2	27.9	28.2	32.6
Poor	6.2	1.3	3.7	4.3

Contact in past year	Yes	No
Good	68.0	68.6
Adequate	25.9	30.3
Poor	6.1	1.1

Area	South	North	West
Good	69.2	67.1	68.5
Adequate	26.5	29.2	29.6
Poor	4.3	3.7	2.0

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Good	62.2	70.4	66.4
Adequate	29.1	26.9	32.1
Poor	8.8	2.8	1.5

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Good	62.8	65.5	68.8	71.1
Adequate	27.9	29.7	30.0	27.6
Poor	9.3	4.8	1.2	1.3

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Good	52.4	71.6	72.6	78.5
Adequate	41.8	26.1	24.0	18.7
Poor	5.9	2.2	3.4	2.8

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Good	67.0	70.4	63.1
Adequate	30.2	25.1	33.5
Poor	2.8	4.5	3.4

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 (75.9%) 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 twice as many Lethbridge residents believe LRPS has improved (16.8%) than believe LRPS has gotten worse (7.3%).

Within the city of Lethbridge, some differences in opinion are measured between areas of the city and different age groups. For example, north Lethbridge residents are almost twice as likely (23.1%) to think LRPS has improved, as are west Lethbridge residents (11.8%). Other groups that see significant improvement are the least educated residents (25.2%), seniors (25.3%) and women (19.9%). Nearly one in five of those who had contact with LRPS (18.0%) believe they had improved in meeting expectations.

Most Coaldale residents (80.4%) also believe that LRPS has neither improved nor worsened in meeting expectations over the past year. A further 17.4% believe LRPS has improved in meeting expectations while only 2.2% believe LRPS has gotten worse.

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

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

Changes in Meeting Expectations (February 2014) (%)

Gender/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Improved	13.9	19.9	16.8	17.4
Stayed the same	78.5	73.8	75.9	80.4
Worsened	7.6	6.4	7.3	2.2

Contact in past year	Yes	No
Improved	18.0	16.5
Stayed the same	71.8	79.9
Worsened	10.2	3.6

Area	South	North	West
Improved	16.4	23.1	11.8
Stayed the same	74.6	67.9	85.6
Worsened	9.0	9.0	2.6

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Improved	17.5	18.4	11.8
Stayed the same	74.1	76.8	81.1
Worsened	8.4	4.8	7.1

Education	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Improved	25.2	14.8	16.2	12.9
Stayed the same	62.6	77.5	81.2	81.0
Worsened	12.2	7.7	2.6	6.1

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Improved	13.3	14.1	17.6	25.3
Stayed the same	74.0	80.5	78.2	70.7
Worsened	12.7	5.5	4.1	4.0

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Improved	15.4	16.5	18.9
Stayed the same	81.7	73.6	75.5
Worsened	2.9	10.0	5.6

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 (85.6%) believe that LRPS officers are polite and respectful when conducting their duties. Approximately one in seven Lethbridge residents believe LRPS officers are somewhat impolite and disrespectful (9.4%) while 5.0% believe they are 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, where other sub-group differences are measured they are slight and those believing LRPS officers to be polite and respectful far outnumber those who think otherwise.

Coaldale residents are just as likely to believe that LRPS officers are polite and respectful (86.6%) with 13.4% perceiving LRPS officers to be somewhat or very impolite and disrespectful.

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

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

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

Attitudes and Behavior (February 2014) (%)

Gender*/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Polite and respectful	81.6	89.5	85.6	86.6
Impolite and disrespectful	18.4	10.5	14.4	13.4

Contact in past year	Yes	No
Polite and respectful	85.0	87.7
Impolite and disrespectful	15.0	12.3

Area*	South	North	West
Polite and respectful	91.2	75.0	88.4
Impolite and disrespectful	8.8	25.0	11.6

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Polite and respectful	83.3	85.4	86.7
Impolite and disrespectful	16.7	14.6	13.3

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Polite and respectful	76.6	86.0	89.5	89.5
Impolite and disrespectful	23.4	14.0	10.5	10.5

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Polite and respectful	74.5	89.9	87.6	95.8
Impolite and disrespectful	25.5	10.1	12.4	4.2

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Polite and respectful	85.9	86.0	84.7
Impolite and disrespectful	14.1	14.0	15.3

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

Attitudes and Behavior (February 2014) (%)

Gender*/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Very polite/respectful	30.5	43.0	37.0	35.1
Somewhat polite/respectful	51.1	46.6	48.6	51.5
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	11.7	7.6	9.4	10.3
Very impolite/disrespectful	6.8	2.9	5.0	3.1

Contact in past year	Yes	No
Very polite/respectful	41.5	32.0
Somewhat polite/respectful	43.5	55.7
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	9.0	9.2
Very impolite/disrespectful	6.0	3.1

Area	South	North	West
Very polite/respectful	40.0	39.2	33.2
Somewhat polite/respectful	51.8	36.4	55.3
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	5.3	12.6	11.1
Very impolite/disrespectful	2.9	11.9	0.5

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Very polite/respectful	34.7	38.9	35.0
Somewhat polite/respectful	48.6	46.5	51.7
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	11.8	9.6	8.3
Very impolite/disrespectful	4.9	5.1	5.0

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Very polite/respectful	30.6	34.6	39.2	42.1
Somewhat polite/respectful	46.0	50.8	50.3	47.4
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	12.9	10.8	6.5	9.0
Very impolite/disrespectful	10.5	3.8	3.9	1.5

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Very polite/respectful	15.9	46.9	40.4	51.6
Somewhat polite/respectful	58.6	42.3	47.2	44.2
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	15.3	8.5	8.7	3.2
Very impolite/disrespectful	10.2	2.3	3.7	1.1

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Very polite/respectful	35.4	38.7	34.9
Somewhat polite/respectful	50.5	47.3	49.5
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	12.1	6.6	12.5
Very impolite/disrespectful	2.0	7.4	3.1

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 (53.7%) had some direct in-person contact with a LRPS officer over the past year. Younger Lethbridge residents are much more likely to have had contact with LRPS officers than are seniors (33.7%), who along with university graduates (40.5%) were among the least likely to have had contact. Also, those who visit downtown most (63.8%) were more likely to have had direct contact with a LRPS officer in the past year than were those who visit downtown least (49.0%).

A clear majority of Coaldale residents (59.6%) had contact with a LRPS officer in the past year.

Direct Contact with LRPS Officer in the Past Year (February 2014)

Gender/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Yes	57.9	50.3	53.7	59.6
No	42.1	49.7	46.3	40.4

Area	South	North	West
Yes	53.3	54.8	54.3
No	46.7	45.2	45.7

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Yes	53.4	54.8	57.1
No	46.6	45.2	42.9

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Yes	57.4	56.5	61.3	40.5
No	42.6	43.5	38.7	59.5

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Yes	56.9	69.2	52.2	33.7
No	43.1	30.8	47.8	66.3

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Yes	63.8	55.4	49.0
No	36.2	44.6	51.0

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 (61.8%) feel very safe in their neighborhoods and a further 30.7% feel somewhat safe. Very few feel somewhat unsafe (6.4%) and fewer still (1.1%) 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 than other residents to feel somewhat unsafe. However, even these groups are much more likely to feel safe or very safe living in their neighborhoods.

Two-thirds of Coaldale residents feel very safe in their neighborhoods (66.0%), similar to last year (67.6%). Despite the decline from a high of 80.1% in 2012, the overall feelings of safety have increased significantly from 2007. Further, fewer than one in twenty Coaldale residents feel somewhat (2.1%) or very unsafe (2.1%).

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

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

Evaluations of Neighborhood Safety (February 2014) (%)

Gender/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Very safe	64.7	59.5	61.8	66.0
Somewhat safe	30.1	31.1	30.7	29.8
Somewhat unsafe	4.8	7.4	6.4	2.1
Very unsafe	0.3	2.0	1.1	2.1

Contact in past year*	Yes	No
Very safe	55.7	69.6
Somewhat safe	33.5	27.3
Somewhat unsafe	8.5	3.1
Very unsafe	2.2	0.0

Area	South	North	West
Very safe	60.0	58.0	65.7
Somewhat safe	33.0	37.6	24.6
Somewhat unsafe	6.5	4.5	7.2
Very unsafe	0.5	0.0	2.4

Household Income*	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Very safe	55.1	64.8	70.3
Somewhat safe	32.0	31.5	27.3
Somewhat unsafe	8.8	3.7	2.3
Very unsafe	4.1	0.0	0.0

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Very safe	57.3	51.4	66.0	73.5
Somewhat safe	35.9	35.6	26.4	25.2
Somewhat unsafe	6.1	9.6	6.9	1.3
Very unsafe	0.8	3.4	0.6	0.0

Age	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Very safe	50.8	77.4	59.8	65.1
Somewhat safe	33.9	18.8	36.8	31.1
Somewhat unsafe	12.4	3.8	2.3	3.8
Very unsafe	2.8	0.0	1.1	0.0

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

Community Safety

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 (54.4%) while just over one-quarter (25.4%) feel very safe downtown. Only about one in five Lethbridge residents do not feel safe downtown, with most of those (15.6%) saying they feel somewhat unsafe. Only 4.6% feel very unsafe when visiting downtown Lethbridge.

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 four of every five Coaldale residents feel safe in downtown Lethbridge, with 31.1% feeling very safe and a further 46.7% feeling somewhat safe. Slightly more than one-fifth of Coaldale residents feel unsafe in downtown Lethbridge, with all of those feeling somewhat unsafe (22.2%).

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

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

Evaluations of Downtown Safety (February 2014) (%)

Gender*/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Very safe	27.4	24.1	25.4	31.1
Somewhat safe	56.8	50.7	54.4	46.7
Somewhat unsafe	12.8	19.7	15.6	22.2
Very unsafe	3.0	5.4	4.6	0.0

Contact in past year	Yes	No
Very safe	28.0	23.8
Somewhat safe	48.2	59.6
Somewhat unsafe	18.6	13.1
Very unsafe	5.1	3.5

Area	South	North	West
Very safe	27.1	26.8	22.4
Somewhat safe	55.8	51.6	55.7
Somewhat unsafe	13.8	19.7	14.8
Very unsafe	3.3	1.9	7.1

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Very safe	25.3	27.6	22.3
Somewhat safe	59.6	52.9	61.5
Somewhat unsafe	11.0	16.3	12.3
Very unsafe	4.1	3.2	3.8

Education	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Very safe	30.1	21.4	25.8	27.5
Somewhat safe	52.8	52.4	56.4	53.6
Somewhat unsafe	10.6	22.1	14.1	15.7
Very unsafe	6.5	4.1	3.7	3.3

Age	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Very safe	20.8	27.1	26.0	32.7
Somewhat safe	57.3	51.1	54.8	49.5
Somewhat unsafe	16.3	18.0	15.3	14.9
Very unsafe	5.6	3.8	4.0	3.0

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Very safe	16.3	30.9	24.5
Somewhat safe	57.7	50.4	56.9
Somewhat unsafe	21.2	15.1	13.7
Very unsafe	4.8	3.7	4.9

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

Downtown Lethbridge

Frequency of Visits to Downtown Lethbridge

Most Lethbridge residents frequent downtown on a regular basis. Nearly one in five (18.0%) go downtown daily, while a further 46.5% visit downtown on a weekly basis. One-quarter of Lethbridge residents (25.2%) visits downtown at least monthly, while only 6.7% go downtown a few times per year. Only 3.6% of Lethbridge residents report rarely or never going downtown. Upper income earners, west Lethbridge residents, and university graduates are among those who visit downtown Lethbridge most frequently.

Coaldale residents visit downtown Lethbridge less frequently than do Lethbridge residents. Nevertheless, a majority of Coaldale residents visit downtown Lethbridge at least weekly, with 16.7% making daily trips and a further 43.8% visiting on a weekly basis. Another one-fifth (21.3%) report making monthly visits to downtown Lethbridge, while 12.8% report visiting only a few time per year. Only 4.3% of Coaldale residents told us they rarely or never visit downtown Lethbridge.

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

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

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

Frequency of Visits to Downtown Lethbridge (February 2014) (%)

Gender/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Daily	13.8	22.0	18.0	16.7
Weekly	48.7	43.7	46.5	43.8
Monthly or less	37.6	34.3	35.6	39.6

Contact in past year*	Yes	No
Daily	21.1	14.4
Weekly	47.0	45.6
Monthly or less	31.9	39.9

Area	South	North	West
Daily	16.7	8.2	25.5
Weekly	48.9	47.5	44.3
Monthly or less	34.4	44.3	30.2

Household Income*	Under \$40,000	\$40,001 to \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Daily	9.3	20.8	23.1
Weekly	53.0	42.1	50.0
Monthly or less	37.7	37.1	26.9

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Daily	13.0	18.1	15.3	25.0
Weekly	45.8	51.7	39.3	48.7
Monthly or less	41.2	30.2	45.4	26.3

Age	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Daily	15.3	23.1	20.4	12.1
Weekly	51.1	47.8	43.1	41.1
Monthly or less	33.5	29.1	36.5	46.7

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

Demographics

Gender (%)		Area of City (%)		Income (%)		Education (%)		Age (%)	
Male	49.8	South	33.7	Under \$40,000	29.9	H-School/less	21.8	18-29	29.6
Female	50.2	North	28.9	\$40-100,000	43.9	Some P-Sec.	24.7	30-44	22.3
		West	37.5	Over \$100,000	26.2	Col-Tech-Grad	27.8	45-64	30.2
						University Grad	25.7	65 or older	17.9

Contact w/LRPS (%)	
Yes	54.1
No	45.9

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)?