



Police Service Evaluations  
for  
Lethbridge Regional Police Service

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## Methodology

-  **Population** The city of Lethbridge has a total population of **87,882 residents** (2011 census) approximately 80% of which are 18 years of age or older (70,305). A total of 43,011 Lethbridge residents are male (48.9%) while 44,871 are female (51.1%). South Lethbridge is home to 30,504 residents (34.7%) while the rapidly expanding west side is now home to 32,063 residents (36.5%). There are 25,315 north Lethbridge residents (28.8%). Coaldale has a total population of 6,943 residents (2009 census).
-  **Sample Data** Collected by Lethbridge College and Athabasca University students enrolled in STS270 – Social Science Research Methods in the winter of 2012. Students interviewed 738 randomly selected, adult Lethbridge and Coaldale residents by telephone on February 11–12, 2012 under the supervision of School of Liberal Arts faculty member Faron Ellis. Telephone numbers were selected from a sample drawn from InfoCanada directories. 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](http://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 (gender, age and area of the city of Lethbridge).
-  **Confidence** The weighted sample yields a margin of error of  $\pm 3.6$  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  $\pm 3.9$  percentage points, 19 times out of 20, while the Coaldale subsample has a margin of error of  $\pm 9.5$  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 and applications developed by the Open Source Learning Lab. We thank Dr. James Manis and the OSL for their efforts in working with us to establish and maintain the 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 question was sponsored by Lethbridge Regional Police Service. We thank LRPS for its support of our research efforts.

## Executive Summary

### Perceptions of Lethbridge Regional Police Service

#### **Performance**

A substantial majority of Lethbridge residents (70.3%) believe Lethbridge Regional Police Service is doing a good job policing their community, an almost identical numbers as in 2011 (70.5%). Only a small minority (4.1%) believes LRPS is doing a poor job, while approximately one-quarter (25.6%) say the police are performing adequately. A clear majority of Coaldale residents (68.5%) believe Lethbridge Regional Police Service is doing a good job, up slightly from 2011 (63.3%) but significantly more than the 49.6% who thought similarly in 2007. Only 4.3% of Coaldale residents believe LRPS to be performing somewhat or very poorly.

#### **Meeting Expectations**

A clear majority of Lethbridge residents (68.6%) believe LRPS is doing a good job in meeting expectations, up slightly from what was measured in 2011 (67.0%). A clear majority of Coaldale residents (65.6%) believe LRPS is doing a good job meeting expectations, down slightly from 69.2% in 2010, and up significantly from 2007 (43.3%). Only a very small minority of both Lethbridge (3.6%) and Coaldale (8.3%) residents believe LRPS is doing a poor job meeting expectations.

#### **Changes in Meeting Expectations**

Most Lethbridge residents (80.5%) believe LRPS has neither improved nor worsened in meeting expectations in the past year. Of those who believe LRPS has changed in meeting expectations, four times more Lethbridge residents believe LRPS has improved (16.0%) than believe LRPS has gotten worse (3.5%). Most Coaldale residents (71.1%) also state that LRPS has neither improved nor worsened in meeting expectations over the past year. A further 17.8% believe LRPS has improved in meeting expectations while 11.2% believe LRPS has gotten worse.

#### **Attitudes and Behavior of LRPS Officers**

The vast majority of Lethbridge residents (88.4%) believe that LRPS officers are polite and respectful when conducting their duties. Less than one in ten Lethbridge residents believe LRPS officers are somewhat impolite and disrespectful (9.1%) while 2.4% believe they are very impolite and disrespectful. Coaldale residents are almost as likely to believe that LRPS officers are polite and respectful (86.0%) with 14.0% perceiving LRPS officers to be somewhat or very impolite and disrespectful.

## Executive Summary (continued)

### Community Safety

#### **Direct Contact with LRPS Officer in Past Year**

A majority of Lethbridge residents (58.0%) had some direct in-person contact with a LRPS officer over the past year. A similar proportion of Coaldale residents (52.8%) had contact with a LRPS officer in the past year.

#### **Neighborhood Safety**

A majority of Lethbridge residents (62.1%) feel very safe in their neighborhoods and a further 34.9% feel somewhat safe. Very few feel somewhat unsafe (2.3%) while fewer still (0.7%) feel very unsafe in their neighborhoods. The vast majority of Coaldale residents feel very safe in their neighborhoods (80.1%) with a further 13.3% feeling somewhat safe. Only 5.5% feel somewhat unsafe while 1.1% feels very unsafe.

#### **Downtown Safety**

Lethbridge and Coaldale residents also feel safe in downtown Lethbridge, although less safe than they feel in their own neighborhoods. A majority of Lethbridge residents feel somewhat safe (53.8%) while nearly another three in ten (29.5%) feel very safe downtown. Very few Lethbridge residents do not feel safe downtown, with most of those (14.9%) saying they feel somewhat unsafe. Only 4.1% feel very unsafe when visiting downtown Lethbridge.

Coaldale residents feel just as safe when visiting downtown Lethbridge as do Lethbridge residents. Over three-quarters of all Coaldale residents feel safe in downtown Lethbridge, with 25.9% feeling very safe and a further 55.0% feeling somewhat safe. Less than one-fifth of Coaldale residents feel unsafe in downtown Lethbridge, with most of those feeling somewhat unsafe (14.9%). Only 4.1% feel very unsafe in downtown Lethbridge.

## Perceptions of Lethbridge Regional Police Service

### Performance

A substantial majority of Lethbridge residents (70.3%) believe Lethbridge Regional Police Service is doing a good job policing their community, an almost identical numbers as in 2011 (70.5%). Only a small minority (4.1%) believes LRPS is doing a poor job, while approximately one-quarter (25.6%) 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 (77.5%), upper income earners (74.0%), university graduates (73.0%), seniors (76.5%) and west Lethbridge residents (75.6%) are most positive. Middle income earners (64.5%), men (62.5%), the youth (63.9%) and north Lethbridge residents (61.5%) 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 equally as likely to believe the police are doing a good job (70.4%) compared to those who had no contact (69.8%). Further, only 5.4% of those with contact believe LRPS is performing poorly, compared to 2.7% among those who had no contact with LRPS in the past year.

A clear majority of Coaldale residents (68.5%) believe Lethbridge Regional Police Service is doing a good job, up slightly from 2011 (63.3%) but significantly more than the 49.6% who thought similarly in 2007. Only 4.3% of Coaldale residents believe LRPS to be performing somewhat or very poorly.

Performance	Lethbridge					Coaldale			
	2006	2007	2010	2011	2012	2007	2010	2011	2012
Good	63.7	64.1	69.9	70.5	<b>70.3</b>	49.6	68.2	63.3	<b>68.5</b>
Adequate	27.7	28.7	24.5	23.6	<b>25.6</b>	28.9	29.0	31.5	<b>27.2</b>
Poor	8.6	7.2	5.6	5.9	<b>4.1</b>	21.5	2.8	5.2	<b>4.3</b>

Performance	Lethbridge					Coaldale			
	2006	2007	2010	2011	2012	2007	2010	2011	2012
Very good	19.9	23.7	17.3	21.1	<b>30.7</b>	11.1	20.6	17.6	<b>28.0</b>
Good	43.8	40.4	52.6	49.4	<b>39.6</b>	38.5	47.7	45.7	<b>40.5</b>
Adequate	27.7	28.7	24.5	23.6	<b>25.6</b>	28.9	29.0	31.5	<b>27.2</b>
Poor	6.1	5.5	3.4	4.6	<b>3.0</b>	12.6	1.9	3.5	<b>3.1</b>
Very Poor	2.5	1.7	2.2	1.4	<b>1.1</b>	8.9	0.9	1.7	<b>1.2</b>

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

# Lethbridge Regional Police Service Performance (February 2012)

Gender*/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Good	62.5	77.5	70.3	68.5
Adequate	33.7	18.2	25.6	27.2
Poor	3.8	4.3	4.1	4.3

Contact in past year	Yes	No
Good	70.4	69.8
Adequate	24.2	27.5
Poor	5.4	2.7

Area	South	North	West
Good	71.6	61.5	75.6
Adequate	25.4	31.8	21.3
Poor	3.0	6.7	3.1

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$80,000	Over \$80,000
Good	71.9	64.5	74.0
Adequate	27.3	29.4	21.4
Poor	0.8	6.1	4.7

Education	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Good	69.0	66.5	70.0	73.0
Adequate	28.0	25.8	26.9	23.9
Poor	3.0	7.7	3.1	3.1

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Good	63.9	74.8	65.8	76.5
Adequate	29.2	23.1	28.5	21.9
Poor	6.9	2.0	5.7	1.5

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Good	70.1	69.6	70.5
Adequate	24.1	25.2	27.6
Poor	5.8	5.3	2.0

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 (68.6%) believe LRPS is doing a good job in meeting expectations, up slightly from what was measured in 2011 (67.0%). A clear majority of Coaldale residents (65.6%) believe LRPS is doing a good job meeting expectations, down slightly from 69.2% in 2010, and up significantly from 2007 (43.3%). Only a very small minority of both Lethbridge (3.6%) and Coaldale (8.3%) residents believe LRPS is doing a poor job meeting expectations.

Within the city of Lethbridge, women (71.5%), west Lethbridge residents (74.6%), seniors (74.1%) and university graduates (71.8%) are most likely to believe LRPS is meeting their expectations of what a police service should be doing. North Lethbridge residents (60.9%) and the youth (63.9%) are among the least likely to state LRPS is meeting their expectations, but both 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, although those without contact (72.0%) are somewhat more likely to think LRPS is doing a good job meeting expectations than are those who had no contact (65.6%).

Meeting Expectations	2006	2007	Lethbridge				Coaldale		
			2010	2011	2012		2010	2011	2012
Good	64.3	58.3	65.4	67.0	<b>68.6</b>	43.3	62.6	69.2	<b>65.6</b>
Adequate	30.2	35.0	29.6	26.7	<b>27.8</b>	40.3	31.8	26.2	<b>26.1</b>
Poor	5.6	6.7	5.0	6.3	<b>3.6</b>	16.4	5.6	4.6	<b>8.3</b>

Meeting Expectations	2006	2007	Lethbridge				Coaldale		
			2010	2011	2012		2010	2011	2012
Very good	15.9	14.8	14.5	15.5	<b>22.7</b>	6.7	16.8	15.3	<b>19.0</b>
Good	48.4	43.5	50.9	51.6	<b>45.9</b>	36.6	45.8	53.9	<b>46.6</b>
Adequate	30.2	35.0	29.6	26.7	<b>27.8</b>	40.3	31.8	26.2	<b>26.1</b>
Poor	3.6	5.5	4.3	4.6	<b>3.0</b>	9.0	5.6	3.7	<b>8.3</b>
Very Poor	2.0	1.2	0.7	1.7	<b>0.5</b>	7.5	0.0	0.9	<b>0.0</b>

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



## Meeting Expectations (February 2012)

Gender/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Good	64.8	71.5	68.6	65.6
Adequate	31.1	24.7	27.8	26.1
Poor	4.1	3.8	3.6	8.3

Contact in past year	Yes	No
Good	65.6	72.0
Adequate	29.3	25.6
Poor	5.0	2.4

Area	South	North	West
Good	68.4	60.9	74.6
Adequate	28.9	34.2	22.2
Poor	2.6	4.9	3.2

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$80,000	Over \$80,000
Good	69.1	63.2	71.6
Adequate	28.2	32.0	24.3
Poor	2.7	4.8	4.1

Education	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Good	62.7	72.0	65.4	71.8
Adequate	34.3	22.7	30.0	25.1
Poor	3.0	5.3	4.6	3.1

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Good	63.9	66.9	66.8	74.1
Adequate	30.6	30.4	27.9	23.8
Poor	5.6	2.7	5.2	2.1

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Good	69.4	69.2	66.7
Adequate	26.1	27.2	29.6
Poor	4.5	3.6	3.7

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 (80.5%) believe LRPS has neither improved nor worsened in meeting expectations in the past year. Of those who believe LRPS has changed in meeting expectations, four times more Lethbridge residents believe LRPS has improved (16.0%) than believe LRPS has gotten worse (3.5%).

Within the city of Lethbridge, statistically significant differences in opinion are measures only between areas of the city and education groups. For example, north Lethbridge residents are almost twice as likely (22.0%) to think LRPS has improved, compared to only 11.1% of west Lethbridge residents. Thus, despite the lower overall performance rating north Lethbridge residents provide LRPS, improvement is underway. Further improvements are noticed amongst the youth (20.3%), lower income residents (20.0%), and those with less formal education (21.5%). No statistically significant differences were measured between those who had contact with LRPS and those who did not.

Most Coaldale residents (71.1%) also state that LRPS has neither improved nor worsened in meeting expectations over the past year. A further 17.8% believe LRPS has improved in meeting expectations while 11.2% believe LRPS has gotten worse.

Change in Meeting Expectations	Lethbridge					Coaldale			
	2006	2007	2010	2011	<b>2012</b>	2007	2010	2011	<b>2012</b>
Improved	24.3	17.4	18.2	16.0	<b>16.0</b>	16.7	15.6	11.1	<b>17.8</b>
Stayed Same	71.9	77.2	78.4	79.9	<b>80.5</b>	67.5	80.2	82.8	<b>71.1</b>
Worsened	3.7	5.4	3.4	4.1	<b>3.5</b>	15.9	4.2	6.2	<b>11.2</b>

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

## Changes in Meeting Expectations (February 2012)

Gender/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Improved	16.6	15.7	16.0	17.8
Stayed the same	78.2	81.4	80.5	71.1
Worsened	16.6	15.7	3.5	11.2

Contact in past year	Yes	No
Improved	16.9	15.1
Stayed the same	79.7	80.0
Worsened	3.5	4.9

Area*	South	North	West
Improved	16.7	22.0	11.1
Stayed the same	79.6	72.3	87.7
Worsened	3.7	5.6	1.3

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$80,000	Over \$80,000
Improved	20.0	16.3	13.6
Stayed the same	78.1	76.7	84.0
Worsened	1.9	6.9	2.4

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Improved	21.5	20.9	14.6	10.7
Stayed the same	75.9	73.6	80.5	86.1
Worsened	2.5	5.4	4.9	3.3

Age	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Improved	20.3	12.2	10.9	22.3
Stayed the same	72.5	85.6	85.5	74.3
Worsened	7.2	2.2	3.6	3.4

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Improved	10.6	19.2	14.7
Stayed the same	84.8	77.4	80.8
Worsened	4.5	3.5	4.5

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 (88.4%) believe that LRPS officers are polite and respectful when conducting their duties. Less than one in ten Lethbridge residents believe LRPS officers are somewhat impolite and disrespectful (9.1%) while 2.4% 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. Younger residents, those who had contact with a LRPS officer in the past year, those with the least amount of formal education, and those who visit downtown Lethbridge most are somewhat less likely than other age 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 almost as likely to believe that LRPS officers are polite and respectful (86.0%) with 14.0% perceiving LRPS officers to be somewhat or very impolite and disrespectful.

LRPS Officers' Attitudes and Behavior	Lethbridge 2010	Lethbridge 2011	<b>Lethbridge 2012</b>	Coaldale 2010	Coaldale 2011	<b>Coaldale 2012</b>
Polite & respectful	89.2	89.9	<b>88.4</b>	91.8	95.1	<b>86.0</b>
Impolite & disrespectful	10.8	10.1	<b>11.6</b>	8.2	4.9	<b>14.0</b>

LRPS Officers' Attitudes and Behavior	Lethbridge 2010	Lethbridge 2011	<b>Lethbridge 2012</b>	Coaldale 2010	Coaldale 2011	<b>Coaldale 2012</b>
Very polite & respectful	40.8	40.0	<b>43.4</b>	45.9	43.7	<b>45.6</b>
Somewhat polite & respectful	48.4	50.0	<b>45.0</b>	45.9	51.4	<b>40.4</b>
Somewhat impolite & disrespectful	8.1	7.5	<b>9.1</b>	7.1	3.9	<b>13.3</b>
Very impolite & disrespectful	2.7	2.6	<b>2.4</b>	1.1	1.0	<b>0.7</b>

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

## Attitudes and Behavior (February 2012)

Gender*/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Polite and respectful	83.2	93.1	88.4	86.0
Impolite and disrespectful	16.8	6.9	11.6	14.0

Contact in past year*	Yes	No
Polite and respectful	85.0	93.9
Impolite and disrespectful	15.0	6.1

Area	South	North	West
Polite and respectful	89.4	86.6	88.9
Impolite and disrespectful	10.6	13.4	11.1

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$80,000	Over \$80,000
Polite and respectful	90.2	86.2	85.0
Impolite and disrespectful	9.8	13.8	15.0

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Polite and respectful	94.8	85.6	87.7	85.3
Impolite and disrespectful	5.2	14.4	12.3	14.7

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Polite and respectful	82.8	84.9	89.9	94.0
Impolite and disrespectful	17.2	15.1	10.1	6.0

Visits Downtown*	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Polite and respectful	85.4	85.8	93.4
Impolite and disrespectful	14.6	14.2	6.6

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

## Attitudes and Behavior (February 2012)

Gender*/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Very polite/respectful	39.9	47.1	43.4	45.6
Somewhat polite/respectful	43.4	45.9	45.0	40.4
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	13.9	5.1	9.1	13.3
Very impolite/disrespectful	2.8	1.8	2.4	0.7

Contact in past year	Yes	No
Very polite/respectful	43.6	43.0
Somewhat polite/respectful	41.4	50.9
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	11.6	5.7
Very impolite/disrespectful	3.4	0.4

Area	South	North	West
Very polite/respectful	49.3	40.4	40.4
Somewhat polite/respectful	40.1	46.2	48.4
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	6.3	10.5	10.7
Very impolite/disrespectful	4.3	2.9	0.4

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$80,000	Over \$80,000
Very polite/respectful	39.6	37.1	48.8
Somewhat polite/respectful	51.5	49.1	36.6
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	7.9	8.9	14.1
Very impolite/disrespectful	1.0	4.9	0.5

Education	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Very polite/respectful	40.9	46.0	38.5	46.4
Somewhat polite/respectful	53.9	39.6	49.2	39.1
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	3.9	10.8	11.5	11.6
Very impolite/disrespectful	1.3	3.6	0.8	3.0

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Very polite/respectful	35.1	37.4	43.0	56.9
Somewhat polite/respectful	47.8	47.5	46.9	37.1
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	11.2	14.4	8.7	4.2
Very impolite/disrespectful	6.0	0.7	1.4	1.8

Visits Downtown	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Very polite/respectful	37.7	41.9	49.3
Somewhat polite/respectful	47.7	43.9	44.1
Somewhat impolite/disrespectful	9.2	11.6	6.6
Very impolite/disrespectful	5.4	2.6	0.0

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

A majority of Lethbridge residents (58.0%) had some direct in-person contact with a LRPS officer over the past year. The youth (81.9%) are much more likely than are other age groups to have contact with LRPS officers, especially seniors (32.7%). Upper income residents (68.9%) had more contact than did lower income residents (49.2%). Also, those who visit downtown most (68.9%) were much more likely to have had direct contact with a LRPS officer in the past year than were those who visit downtown least (44.1%).

A similar proportion of Coaldale residents (52.8%) had contact with a LRPS officer in the past year.

#### Direct Contact with LRPS Officer in the Past Year (February 2012)

Gender/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Yes	57.5	57.9	58.0	52.8
No	42.5	42.1	42.0	47.2

Area	South	North	West
Yes	53.2	60.2	60.7
No	46.8	39.8	39.3

Household Income*	Under \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$80,000	Over \$80,000
Yes	49.2	56.0	68.9
No	50.8	44.0	31.1

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Yes	50.3	53.7	59.5	63.7
No	49.7	46.3	40.5	36.3

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Yes	81.9	62.4	59.6	32.7
No	18.1	37.6	40.4	67.3

Visits Downtown*	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Yes	68.9	64.1	44.1
No	31.1	35.9	55.9

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 (62.1%) feel very safe in their neighborhoods and a further 34.9% feel somewhat safe. Very few feel somewhat unsafe (2.3%) while fewer still (0.7%) feel very unsafe in their neighborhoods. The vast majority of

Women are just as likely to feel safe as men, while seniors are just as likely to feel safe in their neighborhoods as are other age groups. Seniors, south and west Lethbridge residents, and upper income residents are most likely to feel safe in their neighborhoods. North Lethbridge residents are least likely to feel very safe in their neighborhoods and slightly more likely than other residents to feel somewhat unsafe.

Coaldale residents feel very safe in their neighborhoods (80.1%) with a further 13.3% feeling somewhat safe. Only 5.5% feel somewhat unsafe while 1.1% feels very unsafe.

Neighborhood Safety	Lethbridge					Coaldale			
	2006	2007	2010	2011	2012	2007	2010	2011	2012
Very safe	60.7	49.8	59.9	54.2	<b>62.1</b>	48.2	67.9	77.6	<b>80.1</b>
Somewhat safe	32.2	42.9	36.2	41.4	<b>34.9</b>	43.9	30.3	20.8	<b>13.3</b>
Somewhat unsafe	4.9	6.6	3.5	3.5	<b>2.3</b>	5.8	1.8	1.6	<b>5.5</b>
Very unsafe	2.1	0.7	0.4	1.0	<b>0.7</b>	2.2	0.0	0.0	<b>1.1</b>

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



## Evaluations of Neighborhood Safety (February 2012)

Gender/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Very safe	67.0	60.4	62.1	80.1
Somewhat safe	30.1	36.2	34.9	13.3
Somewhat unsafe	2.3	2.6	2.3	5.5
Very unsafe	0.6	0.8	0.7	1.1

Contact in past year	Yes	No
Very safe	62.4	64.4
Somewhat safe	33.8	33.2
Somewhat unsafe	2.9	2.0
Very unsafe	1.0	0.3

Area*	South	North	West
Very safe	65.8	48.1	69.3
Somewhat safe	31.6	46.5	29.5
Somewhat unsafe	2.1	3.8	1.2
Very unsafe	0.4	1.6	0.0

Household Income*	Under \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$80,000	Over \$80,000
Very safe	54.7	59.8	70.5
Somewhat safe	40.2	36.9	26.8
Somewhat unsafe	2.6	2.8	2.7
Very unsafe	2.6	0.4	0.0

Education *	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Very safe	57.1	59.3	63.6	69.9
Somewhat safe	39.3	38.3	29.5	28.6
Somewhat unsafe	2.4	2.5	4.5	1.5
Very unsafe	1.2	0.0	2.3	0.0

Age	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Very safe	57.6	64.4	62.9	67.9
Somewhat safe	39.1	33.6	32.3	29.6
Somewhat unsafe	3.3	0.7	4.3	1.5
Very unsafe	0.0	1.4	0.4	1.0

Visits Downtown*	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Very safe	64.7	61.6	64.7
Somewhat safe	30.9	35.7	31.8
Somewhat unsafe	3.7	2.4	2.3
Very unsafe	0.7	0.3	1.2

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

## Community Safety

### Downtown Safety

Overall, Lethbridge and Coaldale residents also feel safe in downtown Lethbridge, although less safe than they feel in their own neighborhoods.

A majority of Lethbridge residents feel somewhat safe (53.8%) while nearly another three in ten (29.5%) feel very safe downtown. Very few Lethbridge residents do not feel safe downtown, with most of those (14.9%) saying they feel somewhat unsafe. Only 4.1% feel very unsafe when visiting downtown Lethbridge.

Women feel slightly less safe when they are 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 feel just as safe when visiting downtown Lethbridge as do Lethbridge residents. Over three-quarters of all Coaldale residents feel safe in downtown Lethbridge, with 25.9% feeling very safe and a further 55.0% feeling somewhat safe. Less than one-fifth of Coaldale residents feel unsafe in downtown Lethbridge, with most of those feeling somewhat unsafe (14.9%). Only 4.1% feel very unsafe in downtown Lethbridge.

Downtown Lethbridge Safety	2006	2007	Lethbridge			2007	Coaldale		
			2010	2011	<b>2012</b>		2010	2011	<b>2012</b>
Very safe	24.1	23.2	25.1	30.7	<b>29.5</b>	16.2	24.5	25.5	<b>25.9</b>
Somewhat safe	54.9	53.1	53.6	52.4	<b>53.8</b>	56.2	57.8	57.0	<b>55.0</b>
Somewhat unsafe	16.9	19.6	18.1	15.0	<b>14.9</b>	22.3	15.7	17.4	<b>14.9</b>
Very unsafe	4.0	4.0	3.2	1.9	<b>1.8</b>	5.4	2.0	0.0	<b>4.1</b>

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

## Evaluations of Downtown Safety (February 2011)

Gender*/Municipality	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Very safe	36.6	22.7	29.5	25.9
Somewhat safe	49.9	57.5	53.8	55.0
Somewhat unsafe	13.3	16.3	14.9	14.9
Very unsafe	0.3	3.5	1.8	4.1

Contact in past year	Yes	No
Very safe	31.0	27.1
Somewhat safe	52.1	56.0
Somewhat unsafe	15.5	14.4
Very unsafe	1.5	2.4

Area	South	North	West
Very safe	33.2	25.8	28.9
Somewhat safe	51.1	52.8	57.0
Somewhat unsafe	14.0	20.2	11.7
Very unsafe	1.7	1.1	2.3

Household Income	Under \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$80,000	Over \$80,000
Very safe	30.4	26.6	31.1
Somewhat safe	54.8	54.9	51.8
Somewhat unsafe	13.0	16.8	14.9
Very unsafe	1.7	1.6	2.3

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Very safe	26.4	25.8	24.6	35.4
Somewhat safe	56.0	55.2	57.1	50.2
Somewhat unsafe	15.7	18.4	14.3	12.5
Very unsafe	1.9	0.6	4.0	1.9

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Very safe	17.9	24.7	27.9	43.7
Somewhat safe	65.4	53.4	54.6	43.7
Somewhat unsafe	16.0	19.9	14.8	10.4
Very unsafe	0.6	2.1	2.6	2.2

Visits Downtown*	Daily	Weekly	Monthly or less
Very safe	36.8	31.9	22.0
Somewhat safe	46.3	53.8	58.1
Somewhat unsafe	13.2	14.0	17.5
Very unsafe	3.7	0.3	2.4

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 (18.9%) go downtown daily, while a further 46.5% visit downtown on a weekly basis. Nearly one-quarter of Lethbridge residents (22.1%) visits downtown at least monthly, while only 12.4% go downtown infrequently. Men, upper income earners, and non-seniors residents are among those who visit downtown Lethbridge most frequently.

Coaldale residents visit downtown Lethbridge less frequently than do Lethbridge residents. Nevertheless, almost one-third of all Coaldale residents (30.2%) visit downtown Lethbridge on a weekly basis, and a further 13.0% make daily trips to downtown Lethbridge. Another one-third (31.3%) report making monthly visits to downtown Lethbridge while about one-quarter of (25.5%) report more infrequent visits to downtown Lethbridge.

	Lethbridge					Coaldale			
	2006	2007	2010	2011	2012	2007	2010	2011	2012
Daily	23.6	19.9	20.4	15.9	18.9	12.2	7.5	7.5	13.0
Weekly	47.8	46.2	47.0	51.6	46.5	36.7	35.5	46.5	30.2
Monthly or less	28.7	33.8	32.6	32.4	34.6	51.0	57.0	46.1	56.8

	Lethbridge					Coaldale			
	2006	2007	2010	2011	2012	2007	2010	2011	2012
Daily	23.6	19.9	20.4	15.9	18.9	12.2	7.5	7.5	13.0
Weekly	47.8	46.2	47.0	51.6	46.5	36.7	35.5	46.5	30.2
Monthly	17.4	19.3	21.3	19.7	22.1	27.3	31.8	27.0	31.3
Few times per year	4.8	7.3	6.3	7.1	6.0	12.9	15.0	13.2	20.6
Rarely or never	6.4	7.3	5.0	5.6	6.4	10.8	10.3	5.9	4.9

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

## Frequency of Visits to Downtown Lethbridge (February 2012)

Gender*/Municipality*	Male	Female	Lethbridge	Coaldale
Daily	20.7	16.5	18.9	13.0
Weekly	47.6	43.5	46.5	30.2
Monthly or less	31.7	40.1	34.6	56.8

Contact in past year*	Yes	No
Daily	22.2	13.7
Weekly	50.4	38.6
Monthly or less	27.4	47.7

Area	South	North	West
Daily	18.3	17.2	20.6
Weekly	48.1	45.7	45.8
Monthly or less	33.6	37.1	33.6

Household Income*	Under \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$80,000	Over \$80,000
Daily	14.8	19.8	24.1
Weekly	37.7	45.6	46.4
Monthly or less	47.5	34.5	29.5

Education*	High School or less	Some Post-secondary	College-Tech-Trade	University Grad
Daily	14.9	13.1	26.5	20.5
Weekly	36.9	52.4	32.6	52.5
Monthly or less	48.2	34.5	40.9	27.0

Age*	18-29	30-44	45-64	65 and older
Daily	20.4	21.6	22.3	9.6
Weekly	54.8	45.9	41.2	42.6
Monthly or less	24.8	32.4	36.5	47.7

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

## Demographics

Gender (%)		Area of City (%)		Income (%)		Education (%)		Age (%)	
Male	48.0	South	34.3	Under \$40,000	20.7	H-School/less	23.4	18-29	21.3
Female	52.0	North	27.3	\$40-\$80,000	42.2	Some P-Sec.	22.9	30-44	20.2
		West	38.4	Over \$80,000	37.0	Col-Tech-Grad	18.0	45-64	31.6
						University Grad	35.7	65 or older	26.9

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 visiting, working or shopping in the Downtown core of Lethbridge?

How often do you visit downtown for work, shopping, entertainment or other business?