

HALTON GETTING SAFER, SAYS MACLEAN'S CRIME SURVEY

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The Halton region is becoming a safer place to live, says a survey conducted by Maclean's magazine.

The Canadian publication released its latest list of the Most Dangerous Places in Canada on Tuesday, Nov. 19, and Halton region was ranked 215th of 237 communities when it comes to the level of violent crime present.

Halton falls further down the list when all types of crime are taken into consideration, with a ranking of 227th.

The report ranks Canadian communities with populations of 10,000 or

more according to the crime severity index, a Statistics Canada measure of all police reported crime, which takes into consideration both the volume and seriousness of offences.

It is important to point out the data in the report is from 2018 and, as such, the four homicides that occurred in Halton in 2019 are not represented.

Maclean's says the 2018 information is the most current data available.

The report notes that Halton, with its population of 580,014, had a violent crime severity index of 26, far below Canada's average of 82.44.

The region's overall crime severity index sits at 27, again well below Cana-

da's average of 75.01.

The report did note local crime is trending upward slightly, as its overall crime severity index was 25.55 in 2013.

The criminal incidents listed in Halton for the 2018 period included:

- Two homicides
- 1,083 assaults
- 203 sexual assaults
- Four firearms offences
- 100 robberies
- 995 break-ins
- 980 fraud incidents
- 537 impaired-driving incidents

.13 Youth Criminal Justice Act offences

Again, the report showed all these numbers to be well below the national average.

2018 Halton crime statistics



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News of Halton's ranking was well received by Halton Region Police Board Chair Rob Burton.

"I'm very proud of the high level of community engagement we have as a result of our foundation in the Peel Principles of Com-

munity Policing and the highly trained and diligent members of our police service," he said.

Halton region's ranking in this survey is an improvement over last year, when it ranked 197th on the Maclean's violent

crime list and 221st on its overall crime list.

Those lists featured 2017 data and saw Halton region receive a violent crime severity index score of 29 and an overall crime

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