
 **Violence**
and
Public Safety 
in the
Halifax Regional Municipality

***A Report to the
Mayor as a Result of the
Roundtable***

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SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT # 2: THE MAIL-BACK SURVEY

MAIL-BACK SURVEY (N = 1982)

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PART A: THE SAMPLE AND THE FREQUENCY OF RESPONSES

The mail-back survey proved to be much more successful than anticipated and nearly 2000 responses were received from the 4500 envelopes distributed by the Postal Service. There were two mailings and those returning the questionnaires were eligible for draws for gift certificates at a local restaurant. As the contracted company handling data entry reported, "Overall the quality of the survey is quite good". The mail-back respondents were older than the telephone sample (54.5 years compared to 51.5 years) but were less likely to be female (57% to 64%). The fact that a significantly higher proportion of the mail-back female respondents were quite elderly however accounted for a dramatic shift in the gender proportions when weights were applied to the sample for purposes of making estimates to the population of adults in HRM; males became the majority! An effort was made also to distribute more envelopes to areas deemed higher risk on the basis of actual police reports in the several years prior to 2004 but this factor was not taken into consideration when weighting the sample results because it introduced considerable complications in determining weights and the telephone survey was better suited to making population estimates. As will be noted below, the higher rate of fear and worry, perception of their area as high risk, and reported victimization than found in the telephone survey indicates that the strategy was effective. While it may distort somewhat estimation of population parameters, the rationale was to secure more respondents from high risk areas so as to do in-depth analyses and that strategy was successful as seen in Part B. The percentage of urban core respondents in the mail-back sample was almost twice as large as in the telephone grouping (31% to 16%). The overall frequencies, unweighted and weighted, for each question, are presented in Part A and detailed analyses are provided in Part B below.

Using weighted sample figures, it can be noted that the mail-back respondents' average length of residence in HRM and in their present local area were 22 years and 18 years respectively; this compares with 25 years and 10 years for the telephone sample. Both samples had essentially the same proportion of disabled respondents (about 8%), visible minorities (5%), aboriginals (1%) and recent immigrants (2%). More mail-back respondents – technically a member of the household owned - owned their own dwelling (87% to 68%) and about a quarter were retired compared to 22% in the telephone sample. About 75% of the mail-back respondents had obtained some post-secondary education (compared to 70% of the telephone sample). Some 40% reported annual household incomes of less than \$60,000 but a fifth reported such incomes in excess of \$100,000. The comparison to the telephone sample is problematic for household income since there were three times as many refusals / missing cases among the telephone respondents; if these cases are disregarded in the calculations, the income levels become quite similar for both samples. Overall, the mail-back respondents vis-à-vis the telephone respondents were similar but also older, more settled homeowners with relatively high levels of educational attainment, and, on average, they had modest household incomes.

The respondents generally considered that HRM had an "average level" of crime and that their own local area had less crime than the rest of HRM. However a significant minority (34%) held that HRM is best characterized as a high crime milieu, and (21%) that their own local area had more crime than HRM as a whole. More significantly, a majority (52%) believed that crime had increased in their area in recent years. As in other studies, few respondents considered

walking around HRM alone during the day to be a cause for worry but less than half the sample (40%) reported feeling very or reasonably safe doing so after dark. The personal and social costs of that worry is partially reflected in the fact that many respondents indicated that if they had less concern they would walk alone at night more and / or use more the public transit during evening hours. The mail-back respondents indicated that they worried more about property than person victimization; for example, only 14% worried very much or much about being assaulted but 40% reported that level of worry about property vandalism. The level of concern, about crime and their own victimization, expressed by respondents is clearly evident in the fact that 33% reported worrying more about these matters than they do about other things in life. The mail-back survey respondents expressed significantly more fear and worry about either property or person victimization than did the telephone respondents; for example while roughly two thirds of the telephone respondents reported they were “not at all” worried about being mugged or molested in their local area, only roughly a third of the mail-back respondents gave that response and in the case of property vandalism, the difference for the “not at all” response was 35% to 10%. Such a differential suggests that self-selection factors may be more important (e.g., previous victimization) for the mail-back respondents and also underlines the over-representation of respondents from the high risk areas as per the mail-back design.

The respondents were asked to assess the level of social problems and risks in their local area by indicating whether each of 12 designated possible issues was a big problem, somewhat of a problem or no problem at all. There was considerable variation in the responses and many “don’t know” answers (in Part B don’t know responses were recoded as “somewhat of a problem” for analyses). The chief matters identified as being big or fairly big problems were vandalism (40%), traffic (38%), drug use and dealing (35%), and residential break and enter (31%). About a fifth of the sample reported that each of people hanging around in the street or buildings, use of weapons, teen swarmings, fighting among groups in their local area, and lack of contact between residents and the police were fairly big or big problems. There were many fewer “not at all a problem” responses than among the telephone sample, a predictable difference given that the mail-back sample overrepresented high crime areas. Another dimension of risk is whether one goes out in the evening for any purposes, presumably increasing the opportunity for being victimized. Respondents were asked how many evenings per month they went out for each of seven different types of activities. A large percentage of the respondents did not go out at all in the evening for some activities such as work, sports events or visiting bars and pubs. Among those going out, a median was calculated for each of the different activities; the leading activities – each having a median of about 4 evenings out per month – were work or classes, sports and recreation, shopping, and visiting friends and/or relatives. The mail-back respondents generally reported (73%) that they feel either very safe or reasonably safe when they do go out in the evening.

The mail-back survey asked people what if any change strategies they had adopted over the past five years to protect themselves or their property from crime. Nine specific options were raised such as changing their routine or avoiding certain places, changing their phone number, carrying something to defend themselves or alert others, and installing burglar alarms. The respondents were asked too about other strategies they may have utilized and these answers were also incorporated in the analyses. The most frequently reported strategies were ‘lock my car doors when I am alone in the car’ (73%), ‘planned my route with safety in mind’(61%), ‘changed

my routine and avoided certain places'(49%), and 'purchased new locks, sensor lighting or altered shrubbery'(38%). When subsequently asked whether they were satisfied with their personal safety, 22% of the respondents reported themselves 'very satisfied' and another 58% 'somewhat satisfied'. While not a specific strategy, a person's sense of control or active mastery with respect to his/her milieu and life situation can be significant in how he or she deals with risk. Accordingly, mail-back respondents were asked about their level of agreement or disagreement with six statements that make up a widely used scale of active mastery. The statements include 'there is really no way you can solve some of the problems you have' and 'what happens to you in the future depends mostly on you'. Most respondents checked off answers indicating a positive sense of their control but there was sufficient variation that the variable proved useful in the analyses reported in Part B.

The survey also explored the amount and type of victimization that the respondents have experienced. Roughly 60% reported that they had been victimized within the past five years and about half that percentage reported victimization within the past twelve months. These are significantly higher levels of victimization than reported in the telephone survey; for example, in the latter only 40% of the respondents said they had been victimized in the past five years. As noted earlier, the mail-back sample was over-represented by design of the higher crime, urban core areas so more victimization was anticipated and, accordingly, the mail-back sample is less valid than the telephone sample when extrapolating to the adult population of HRM as a whole. Other factors also may partially account for the difference such as the greater anonymity of the mail-back format. Additionally, there were more elaborate write-in comments where it occasionally happened that a respondent would say "no" to the general victimization question but then write in the open spaces that he/she had been victimized; in such cases, the original "no" was changed to "yes". Also, cases where the victimization page was left blank were defined as missing cases and not used in the percentage calculation; if they were considered as "no" responses, the victimization percentage would drop by a few percentage points. Interestingly, when the two samples were compared with respect to the percentages of respondents reporting specific kinds of criminal victimization they experienced within the past twelve months, there only modest differences in the percentages for property crimes and almost no difference for the violent crimes. It is clear in the mail-back data, as in the telephone data, that property victimization was much more common than crimes against the person or violent crime. A maximum (i.e., not disaggregating for multiple types of victimization) of 6 % of the sample reported some kind of violent victimization while, using a similar crude measure, those enduring property victimization would be roughly five times as many (i.e., in the vicinity of 30%). Such a finding is to be expected in light of the usual criminal statistics for Canada and other Western societies. When victimized, respondents were about 50% more likely to report the matter to the police than not. Their top three reasons for not reporting were, in order of frequency, 'the crime was not serious enough', 'the police could not do anything about it', and 'the police would not do anything about'.

A number of questions sought respondents' views concerning their local police service. While only a few of the respondents (15%) reported that they knew by name any of the officers working in their local area, about half indicated that they knew where to contact them there. Virtually no respondents considered that there were too many police officers engaged in policing their local area but a majority (at least 51%) held that there were too few. Still, the mail-back

respondents, those who believed that they could make such a judgment, held that the police service in their local area was about the same as in other areas; a handful considered that their area received better service and a slightly larger handful deemed their area service to be poorer. When respondents were asked to rate their police service on the nine standard general police functions, a majority considered the police service to be either good or adequate on all but two (investigation and community development) and that was with the many 'don't know' responses included in the calculations; if these were not included or given a median response, the assessments would have been good or average on all the police functions. The police service received the largest percentage of "poor" responses on three functions, namely visibility in the local area, providing information to the public on ways to prevent crime, and helping people with local area problems. A small percentage of respondents reported that they had participated in various programs sponsored by their police service, the most frequently cited being Neighbourhood Watch (21%) and Block Parent (13%). The assessments of the police service differed significantly from those in the telephone sample in that on eight of the nine police functions, the telephone respondents were more likely to consider that the police service did "a good job"; the percentage difference in absolute terms ranged from a low of fourteen for "help with local area problems" to a high of twenty-two for "investigating and solving crimes". The telephone respondents were also significantly more likely to hold that the number of police they saw in the local area was "about the right number" (47% to 27%). Such differences between the two samples again seem chiefly explained by the larger number of mail-back respondents living in the high crime areas.

The mail-back respondents, like their telephone counterparts, were quite critical of the court system and of the youth justice system. A slight majority held that local courts were doing a good or average job with respect to 'providing a fair trial for the accused' (52%) and "determining if persons charged are guilty or not" (51%) but many fewer gave such approval to the courts' role in 'helping the victim' (24%) or 'providing justice quickly' (27%). The percentage rating the courts' work in each of these areas as "poor" was substantial (over 40% for three areas and with many 'don't know' for the fourth). The assessments, in conjunction with written-in comments, indicate clearly that most respondents believed that the courts provided due process but not good outcomes. This was apparent also in the assessments of sentences handed down; fully 76% of the sample held that the sentences were "not severe enough". Consistent with these positions, the mail-back respondents expressed very little confidence with the treatment of young people 12 to 17 years of age in the criminal justice system. Only 1% indicated that they felt 'very confident' that the justice system was accomplishing the various, formally stated objectives of Youth Justice. The majority, sometimes a very significant majority, reported that they had no confidence at all that the justice system is "preventing crime by young people" (67%), 'repairing the harm done to victims and communities' (50%), holding young people responsible and accountable for their actions' (73%) or 'reducing re-offending' (67%). The respondents were less definitive about whether Youth Justice was 'providing alternatives to formal court proceedings; here the percentage of 'don't know' responses outnumbered those expressing no confidence at all. The survey concluded this section by asking people to indicate the level of confidence they had in various institutions in society. The police topped the approval list with 78% indicating that they had a great deal or quite a lot of confidence in the service, followed well below by a second tier of the health system (58%), school system (50%) and the

banks (52%), and the bottom three were the justice system and the courts (27%), the provincial government (27%) and the federal parliament (20%).

The mail-back respondents basically depended upon three major sources for their information about crime and public safety in HRM, with 59%, 49% and 14% indicating that they got a great deal of the information from TV and radio news, newspapers and magazines, and friends and relatives respectively. Other sources such as the internet, police and personal experience garnered less than 8% of “a great deal” citation. Asked specifically which source of information they relied upon the most, the respondents reproduced the above rank order, with TV and radio topping the list at 64%. Exploring their community connections or embeddedness further, the mail-back questionnaire asked about friends and relatives and organizational involvement. About a quarter of the respondents reported that they had relatives living in other houses in their neighbourhood, 71% indicated that they had two or more close friends in other households there, and fully 80% that they knew many if not most people there. The large majority of respondents (80%) reported that theirs was a neighbourhood where neighbours help each other and roughly 70% gave high end scores of four or five on a scale of one to five asking how much they trusted the people in their neighbourhood. It would appear then that HRM adults are well-integrated in their local areas or neighbourhoods. The last question in this set asked about organizational involvement and participation over the past twelve months. The respondents most frequently cited their membership in a union/professional association (40%) and sports/recreational programs (37%) but at least a quarter of the sample also reported participation in religious-affiliated groups, cultural / hobby groups or school / community association bodies. Moreover, 72% of the respondents who answered the question about frequency of participation, reported that they attended such activities and meetings at least twice a month.

In Part B below, following the presentation of the frequencies, these descriptive patterns will be examined more closely.

THE FREQUENCY OF RESPONSES

Q1. How long have you lived in Halifax (HRM)? Your local area?		
Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
Halifax (HRM)	34.5 years (mdn)	22 years (mdn)
Local Area	30 years (mdn)	18 years (mdn)

Q2. Do you think the Halifax Regional Municipality is an area with a high amount of crime, an average amount of crime or a low amount of crime?		
Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
High	35 %	34 %
Average	56%	58 %
Low	6 %	6 %
Don't know	2 %	2 %
Total (Valid)	99 %	99 %
Missing/Refused/Not applicable	1 %	1 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Q3. How do you think your local area compares with the rest of HRM in terms of the amount of crime? Would you say it has:		
Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
Much more crime	5 %	5 %
More crime	15 %	16 %
About the same crime	30 %	29 %
Less crime	37 %	38 %
Much less crime	10 %	10 %
Don't know	2 %	2 %
Total (Valid)	99 %	99 %
Missing/Refused/Not applicable	1 %	1 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Q4. In the last several years do you think crime has increased, decreased or remained the same in your local area?		
Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
Increased	55 %	52 %
Remained the same	33 %	36 %
Decreased	4 %	4 %
Don't know	5 %	6 %
Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
Missing/Refused/Not applicable	2 %	2 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Q5. How safe do you feel walking alone in your local area:			
Questions	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
a) During the day?	Very safe	47 %	52 %
	Reasonably safe	40 %	34 %
	Somewhat safe	11 %	10 %
	Very unsafe	3 %	2 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused/Not applicable	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b) After dark?	Very safe	7 %	8 %
	Reasonably safe	29 %	32 %
	Somewhat safe	35 %	35 %
	Very unsafe	28 %	24 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused/Not applicable	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Q6. If you felt safer from crime, would you:			
Questions	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
a) Walk alone in your area after dark more often?	Yes	46 %	48 %
	No	37 %	35 %
	Don't know	13 %	13 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	96 %
	Missing/Refused/Not applicable	3 %	4 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b) Use public transportation alone after dark more often?	Yes	25 %	27 %
	No	48 %	47 %
	Don't know	20 %	20 %
	Total (Valid)	93 %	93 %
	Missing/Refused/Not applicable	7 %	7 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Q7. Do you worry very much if you have to leave your home, apartment or room unattended, though locked, for more than a few hours? Would you say:		
Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
Not at all	35 %	37 %
Some	54 %	53 %
Much	10 %	8 %
Don't know	0.1 %	0.1 %
Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
Missing/Refused/Not applicable	2 %	2 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Q8. Do you worry very much, much, some or not at all about any of the following things happening to you in your area:			
Questions	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
a) Being held up or mugged	Very much	7 %	6 %
	Much	9 %	8 %
	Some	47 %	46 %
	Not at all	35 %	37 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused/Not applicable	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b) Being attacked or molested	Very much	6 %	6 %
	Much	9 %	8 %
	Some	48 %	47 %
	Not at all	34 %	36 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused/Not applicable	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
c) Having your house or property broken into	Very much	15 %	14 %
	Much	19 %	19 %
	Some	54 %	54 %
	Not at all	10 %	11 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused/Not applicable	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
d) Having your car or other property vandalized	Very much	19 %	19 %
	Much	21 %	21 %
	Some	48 %	47 %
	Not at all	9 %	10 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused/Not applicable	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Q9. Do you worry about crime and being a victim more than you worry about most other things in life?		
Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
More than most things	8 %	8 %
Yes, qualified	27 %	25 %
No, qualified	63 %	65 %
Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
Refused/Not applicable	2 %	2 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Q10. I'm going to read a short list of things that are sometimes problems in areas. Please tell me if they are a very big problem, a fairly big problem, not a very big problem or not a problem at all in your local area?			
Questions	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
a) Homes being broken into	Very big	5 %	4 %
	Fairly big	28 %	27 %
	Not very big	47 %	47 %
	Not at all	7 %	8 %
	Don't know	11 %	12 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Not applicable	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b) Traffic problems	Very big	13 %	12 %
	Fairly big	26 %	26 %
	Not very big	38 %	39 %
	Not at all	19 %	18 %
	Don't know	2 %	2 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Not applicable	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
c) Vandalism or property destruction	Very big	9 %	10 %
	Fairly big	30 %	30 %
	Not very big	44 %	44 %
	Not at all	9 %	8 %
	Don't know	6 %	6 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Not applicable	3 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
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Q10. I'm going to read a short list of things that are sometimes problems in areas. Please tell me if they are a very big problem, a fairly big problem, not a very big problem or not a problem at all in your local area? (Continued)

Questions	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
d) Prostitution	Very big	3 %	3 %
	Fairly big	5 %	6 %
	Not very big	14 %	14 %
	Not at all	54 %	56 %
	Don't know	21 %	19 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Not applicable	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
e) Drug use or dealing	Very big	12 %	12 %
	Fairly big	23 %	23 %
	Not very big	24 %	26 %
	Not at all	16 %	16 %
	Don't know	24 %	22 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Not applicable	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
f) Fighting among different groups in the area	Very big	5 %	6 %
	Fairly big	11 %	11 %
	Not very big	25 %	25 %
	Not at all	37 %	37 %
	Don't know	21 %	19 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Not applicable	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
g) Spousal / partner assault	Very big	1 %	1 %
	Fairly big	4 %	4 %
	Not very big	22 %	22 %
	Not at all	29 %	28 %
	Don't know	41 %	41 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Not applicable	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

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Q10. I'm going to read a short list of things that are sometimes problems in areas. Please tell me if they are a very big problem, a fairly big problem, not a very big problem or not a problem at all in your local area? (Continued)

Questions	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
h) Noisy parties, quarrels, loud music	Very big	4 %	4 %
	Fairly big	9 %	10 %
	Not very big	43 %	43 %
	Not at all	38 %	37 %
	Don't know	4 %	3 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Not applicable	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
i) People hanging around in streets, buildings	Very big	7 %	7 %
	Fairly big	16 %	17 %
	Not very big	36 %	37 %
	Not at all	33 %	32 %
	Don't know	6 %	5 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Not applicable	2 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
j) Lack of contact between residents and police	Very big	5 %	6 %
	Fairly big	12 %	13 %
	Not very big	30 %	31 %
	Not at all	29 %	27 %
	Don't know	21 %	21 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Not applicable	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
k) Swarming by teens	Very big	6 %	7 %
	Fairly big	14 %	14 %
	Not very big	33 %	34 %
	Not at all	31 %	30 %
	Don't know	14 %	13 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Not applicable	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
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Q10. I'm going to read a short list of things that are sometimes problems in areas. Please tell me if they are a very big problem, a fairly big problem, not a very big problem or not a problem at all in your local area? (Continued)

Questions	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
l) Guns and other weapons being used	Very big	6 %	6 %
	Fairly big	14 %	15 %
	Not very big	25 %	26 %
	Not at all	28 %	28 %
	Don't know	25 %	23 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Not applicable	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Q11. On average, how many times a month do you go out *during the evening* to do the following activity?

Questions	Unweighted	Weighted
a) Work nights, attend night classes or do volunteer work	0 or Blank: 1027 or 52%	0 or Blank: 870 or 48%
	1 or more: 4 times (mdn)	1 or more: 4 times (mdn)
b) Attend sports events	0 or Blank: 1309 or 66%	0 or Blank: 1128 or 62%
	1 or more: 2 times (mdn)	1 or more: 2 times (mdn)
c) Go to restaurants, movies or the theatre	0 or Blank: 344 or 17%	0 or Blank: 271 or 15%
	1 or more: 2 times (mdn)	1 or more: 2.5 times (mdn)
d) Go to bars, pubs or comedy clubs	0 or Blank: 1338 or 68%	0 or Blank: 1094 or 60%
	1 or more: 1.5 times (mdn)	1 or more: 1.5 times (mdn)
e) Go out for sports, exercise or recreational activities	0 or Blank: 757 or 38%	0 or Blank: 597 or 33%
	1 or more: 4 times (mdn)	1 or more: 4.5 times (mdn)
f) Visit relatives or friends in their homes	0 or Blank: 275 or 14%	0 or Blank: 241 or 13%
	1 or more: 3.5 times (mdn)	1 or more: 3.5 times (mdn)
g) Go out shopping (include window shopping)	0 or Blank: 416 or 21%	0 or Blank: 330 or 18%
	1 or more: 3.5 times (mdn)	1 or more: 4 times (mdn)

Q12. Do you worry about your personal safety when you go out in the evening? Do you feel very safe, reasonably safe, somewhat safe or very unsafe:

Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
Very safe	13 %	14 %
Reasonably safe	58 %	59 %
Somewhat unsafe	21 %	20 %
Very unsafe	4 %	3 %
Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Q13. In the last five years, have you ever done any of the following things to protect yourself or your property from crime?

Questions	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
a) Changed your routine or avoided certain places?	Yes	48 %	49 %
	No	48 %	48 %
	Don't know	1 %	1 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b) Installed new locks or security bars?	Yes	38 %	38 %
	No	59 %	59 %
	Don't know	0.4 %	0.3 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
c) Changed your phone number?	Yes	2 %	3 %
	No	95 %	94 %
	Don't know	0.3 %	0.2 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
d) Changed residence or moved?	Yes	4 %	6 %
	No	93 %	92 %
	Don't know	0.2 %	0.1 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
e) Obtained a dog?	Yes	12 %	13 %
	No	85 %	85 %
	Don't know	0.2 %	0.2 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

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Q13. In the last five years, have you ever done any of the following things to protect yourself or your property from crime? (Continued)			
Questions	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
f) Carried something to defend yourself or alert others?	Yes	24 %	25 %
	No	73 %	72 %
	Don't know	1 %	0.4 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
g) Planned your route with safety in mind?	Yes	60 %	61 %
	No	37 %	36 %
	Don't know	0.3 %	0.2 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
Locked the car doors for personal safety when alone in a car?	Yes	77 %	73 %
	No	20 %	24 %
	Don't know	1 %	1 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
Installed burglar alarms	Yes	28 %	28 %
	No	69 %	69 %
	Don't know	0.3 %	0.3 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Q15. In general, how satisfied are you with your personal safety from crime and violence?		
Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
Very satisfied	21 %	22 %
Somewhat satisfied	60 %	58 %
Somewhat dissatisfied	13 %	13 %
Very dissatisfied	4 %	4 %
Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Q16. Now I am going to read you a list of statements that people might use to describe themselves. Please tell me if you strongly agree, agree, neither agree or disagree, disagree or strongly disagree that:

Questions	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
a) You have little control over what happens to you	Strongly Agree	3 %	3 %
	Agree	15 %	15 %
	Neither agree nor disagree	11 %	11 %
	Disagree	53 %	54 %
	Strongly disagree	14 %	14 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	96 %
	Missing/Not applicable	4 %	4 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b) There is really no way you can solve some of the problems you have	Strongly Agree	2 %	2 %
	Agree	13 %	12 %
	Neither agree nor disagree	11 %	11 %
	Disagree	54 %	54 %
	Strongly disagree	16 %	17 %
	Total (Valid)	95 %	96 %
	Missing/Not applicable	5 %	4 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
c) There is little you can do to change many of the important things in life	Strongly Agree	2 %	2 %
	Agree	11 %	9 %
	Neither agree nor disagree	7 %	8 %
	Disagree	57 %	56 %
	Strongly disagree	19 %	22 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	96 %
	Missing/Not applicable	5 %	4 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
d) Sometimes you feel like you are pushed around in life	Strongly Agree	2 %	2 %
	Agree	17 %	18 %
	Neither agree nor disagree	13 %	14 %
	Disagree	44 %	43 %
	Strongly disagree	20 %	20 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	96 %
	Missing/Not applicable	5 %	4 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

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Q16. Now I am going to read you a list of statements that people might use to describe themselves. Please tell me if you strongly agree, agree, neither agree or disagree, disagree or strongly disagree that: (Continued)

Questions	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
e) What happens to you in the future depends mostly on you	Strongly Agree	26 %	28 %
	Agree	54 %	53 %
	Neither agree nor disagree	8 %	8 %
	Disagree	7 %	6 %
	Strongly disagree	3 %	2 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Not applicable	4 %	4 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
f) You can do just about anything you really set your mind to	Strongly Agree	25 %	28 %
	Agree	54 %	53 %
	Neither agree nor disagree	9 %	8 %
	Disagree	6 %	6 %
	Strongly disagree	2 %	2 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Not applicable	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Q17a. Thinking about your own experiences, has anything happened to you in the *past five years* that may have been a crime? Please remember that crime includes vandalism, theft, fraud, break and enter, robbery, assault and sexual assault as well as other crimes. Please include acts committed by both family and non-family members.

Questions	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
a) Have you been victimized?	Yes	61 %	62 %
	No	35 %	35 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b1) Vandalism (something damaged)	Yes	34 %	36 %
	No	33 %	31 %
	Not applicable	30 %	29 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

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Q17a. Thinking about your own experiences, has anything happened to you in the past five years that may have been a crime? Please remember that crime includes vandalism, theft, fraud, break and enter, robbery, assault and sexual assault as well as other crimes. Please include acts committed by both family and non-family members. (Continued)

Questions	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
b2) Theft (or Attempt) of personal property	Yes	35 %	38 %
	No	32 %	30 %
	Not applicable	30 %	29 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b3) Theft (or Attempt) of household goods	Yes	15 %	15 %
	No	52 %	52 %
	Not applicable	30 %	29 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b4) Break and enter (or Attempt)	Yes	20 %	20 %
	No	46 %	48 %
	Not applicable	30 %	29 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b5) Fraud	Yes	6 %	7 %
	No	60 %	61 %
	Not applicable	30 %	29 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Missing/System	0.1 %	0.1 %
	Missing/Total	4 %	3 %
Total	100 %	100 %	
b6) Motor vehicle theft (from, of or attempt)	Yes	16 %	16 %
	No	51 %	52 %
	Not applicable	30 %	29 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b7) Assault	Yes	6 %	7 %
	No	61 %	60 %
	Not applicable	30 %	29 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
...Continued on next page			

Q17a. Thinking about your own experiences, has anything happened to you in the *past five years* that may have been a crime? Please remember that crime includes vandalism, theft, fraud, break and enter, robbery, assault and sexual assault as well as other crimes. Please include acts committed by both family and non-family members. (Continued)

Questions	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
b8) Stalking (persistent unwanted attention)	Yes	4 %	4 %
	No	63 %	63 %
	Not applicable	30 %	29 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b9) Robbery (or attempted)	Yes	5 %	5 %
	No	62 %	63 %
	Not applicable	30 %	29 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b10) Sexual assault (unwanted touching etc)	Yes	2 %	3 %
	No	64 %	65 %
	Not applicable	30 %	29 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Q17c. Thinking about your own experiences, has anything happened to you in the past twelve months that may have been a crime? Please remember that crime includes vandalism, theft, fraud, break and enter, robbery, assault and sexual assault as well as other crimes. Please include acts committed by both family and non-family members. (Continued)

Questions	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
c) Have you been victimized?	Yes	35 %	32 %
	No	35 %	38 %
	Don't know	27 %	27 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
c1) Vandalism (something damaged)	Yes	16 %	19 %
	No	53 %	52 %
	Not applicable	27 %	27 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
c2) Theft (or Attempt) of personal property	Yes	13 %	15 %
	No	56 %	55 %
	Not applicable	27 %	27 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
c3) Theft (or Attempt) of household goods	Yes	4 %	5 %
	No	65 %	66 %
	Not applicable	27 %	27 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
c4) Break and enter (or Attempt)	Yes	5 %	5 %
	No	65 %	65 %
	Not applicable	27 %	27 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
c5) Fraud	Yes	3 %	3 %
	No	67 %	67 %
	Not applicable	27 %	27 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

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Q17c. Thinking about your own experiences, has anything happened to you in the *past twelve months* that may have been a crime? Please remember that crime includes vandalism, theft, fraud, break and enter, robbery, assault and sexual assault as well as other crimes. Please include acts committed by both family and non-family members. (Continued)

Questions	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
c6) Motor vehicle theft (from, of or attempt)	Yes	5 %	5 %
	No	64 %	65 %
	Not applicable	27 %	27 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
c7) Assault	Yes	2 %	3 %
	No	67 %	67 %
	Not applicable	27 %	27 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
c8) Stalking (persistent unwanted attention)	Yes	1 %	2 %
	No	68 %	68 %
	Not applicable	27 %	27 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
c9) Robbery (or attempted)	Yes	1 %	1 %
	No	68 %	69 %
	Not applicable	27 %	27 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
c10) Sexual assault (unwanted touching etc)	Yes	0.2 %	0.2 %
	No	69 %	67 %
	Not applicable	27 %	27 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Q17d. How often did you report crimes to police?		
Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
Never	12 %	12 %
Rarely	13 %	14 %
Often	13 %	14 %
Always	29 %	28 %
Not applicable	27 %	27 %
Total (Valid)	94 %	95 %
Missing/Refused	7 %	5 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Q17e. Reason for not contacting police			
Reasons	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
e1) Crime not serious enough	Yes	14 %	15 %
	No	14 %	15 %
	Not applicable	71 %	67 %
	Total (Valid)	100 %	100 %
	Missing/Refused	0.5 %	0.3 %
	Total	100.0	100 %
e2) Matter too personal	Yes	2 %	2 %
	No	27 %	28 %
	Not applicable	71 %	70 %
	Total (Valid)	100 %	100 %
	Missing/Refused	0.5 %	0.3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
e3) Decided to solve myself	Yes	3 %	3 %
	No	26 %	27 %
	Not applicable	71 %	70 %
	Total (Valid)	100 %	100 %
	Missing/Refused	0.5 %	0.3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
e4) Police couldn't do anything	Yes	11 %	11 %
	No	18 %	19 %
	Not applicable	71 %	70 %
	Total (Valid)	100 %	100 %
	Missing/Refused	0.5 %	0.3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
e5) Police wouldn't do anything	Yes	5 %	7 %
	No	23 %	24 %
	Not applicable	71 %	70 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
	Missing/Refused	0.5 %	0.3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
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Q17e. Reason for not contacting police (Continued)			
Reasons	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
e6) Afraid of offender or others	Yes	3 %	3 %
	No	26 %	27 %
	Not applicable	71 %	70 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
	Missing/Refused	0.5 %	0.3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
e7) Didn't want to increase insurance	Yes	2 %	2 %
	No	27 %	28 %
	Not applicable	71 %	70 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
	Missing/Refused	0.5 %	0.3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Q18. How much information do you get about crime and public safety in HRM from the following sources? Do you get a great deal of information, some information, or no information at all from			
From	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
a) TV or radio news	Great deal	60 %	59 %
	Some	37 %	38 %
	None	2 %	2 %
	Total (Valid)	99 %	99 %
	Missing/Not applicable	1 %	1 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b) Friends and relatives	Great deal	14 %	14 %
	Some	70 %	71 %
	None	10 %	9 %
	Don't know	0.1 %	0.1 %
	Total (Valid)	94 %	95 %
	Missing/Not applicable	6 %	5 %
Total	100.0	100 %	
c) Newspapers, magazines	Great deal	50 %	49 %
	Some	41 %	42 %
	None	6 %	7 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	98 %
	Missing/Not applicable	3 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
...Continued on next page			

Q18. How much information do you get about crime and public safety in HRM from the following sources? Do you get a great deal of information, some information, or no information at all from (Continued)

From	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
d) Personal experience	Great deal	7 %	7 %
	Some	45 %	49 %
	None	38 %	35 %
	Don't know	0.2 %	0.2 %
	Total (Valid)	89 %	92 %
	Missing/Not applicable	11 %	8 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
e) Movies and TV shows	Great deal	5 %	4 %
	Some	26 %	26 %
	None	58 %	62 %
	Don't know	0.2 %	0.2 %
	Total (Valid)	89 %	91 %
	Missing/Not applicable	11 %	9 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
f) The Internet	Great deal	6 %	8 %
	Some	28 %	31 %
	None	55 %	52 %
	Don't know	0.2 %	0.2 %
	Total (Valid)	89 %	91 %
	Missing/Not applicable	11 %	9 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
g) Government materials	Great deal	2 %	2 %
	Some	34 %	32 %
	None	53 %	56 %
	Don't know	0.3 %	0.2 %
	Total (Valid)	89 %	91 %
	Missing/Not applicable	11 %	9 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
h) Police	Great deal	6 %	6 %
	Some	41 %	41 %
	None	44 %	47 %
	Don't know	0.2 %	0.2 %
	Total (Valid)	91 %	93 %
	Missing/Not applicable	9 %	7 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

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Q18. How much information do you get about crime and public safety in HRM from the following sources? Do you get a great deal of information, some information, or no information at all from (Continued)

From	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
i) Justice officials	Great deal	1 %	1 %
	Some	13 %	13 %
	None	74 %	77 %
	Don't know	0.3 %	0.3 %
	Total (Valid)	88 %	91 %
	Missing/Not applicable	12 %	9 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Q20. Which of the above sources of information do you rely on the most?

From	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
aa) TV or radio news	Yes	66 %	64 %
	No	31 %	34 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
ab) Friends and relatives	Yes	13 %	13 %
	No	85 %	85 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
ac) Newspapers, magazines	Yes	38 %	37 %
	No	60 %	61 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
ad) Personal experience	Yes	4 %	4 %
	No	94 %	95 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
ae) Movies and TV shows	Yes	1 %	1 %
	No	96 %	97 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

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Q20. Which of the above sources of information do you rely on the most? (Continued)			
From	Answers	Unweighted	Weighted
af) The Internet	Yes	4 %	5 %
	No	94 %	93 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
ag) Government materials	Yes	2 %	1 %
	No	96 %	97 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
ah) Police	Yes	5 %	5 %
	No	92 %	93 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
ai) Justice officials	Yes	1 %	1 %
	No	97 %	97 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
aj) Combination (more than one)	Yes	0.1 %	0.1 %
	No	97 %	98 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Questions about policing and the justice system			
Question	Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
Q21a) Know police officers by name?	Yes	14 %	15 %
	No	83 %	83 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
Q21b) Know where officers can be contacted in the local area?	Yes	52 %	50 %
	No	45 %	47 %
	Don't know	0.1 %	0 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
Q22. Thinking about the number of police you see in your area, would you say that there are:	Too many	1 %	1 %
	About the right number	27 %	28 %
	Too few	51 %	51 %
	Don't know	20 %	18 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Questions about policing and the justice system			
Q23. Do you think your local police service does a good job, an average, or a poor job in the following areas:			
Question	Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
a) Enforcing the law and keeping order	Good job	30 %	31 %
	Average job	48 %	48 %
	Poor job	8 %	8 %
	Don't know	10 %	10 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b) Responding to calls for service	Good job	31 %	31 %
	Average job	32 %	32 %
	Poor job	10 %	10 %
	Don't know	24 %	25 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
...Continued on next page			

Questions about policing and the justice system			
Q23. Do you think your local police service does a good job, an average, or a poor job in the following areas: (Continued)			
Question	Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
c) Responding timely to emergencies	Good job	36 %	36 %
	Average job	26 %	26 %
	Poor job	7 %	7 %
	Don't know	28 %	29 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
d) Investigating and solving crimes	Good job	12 %	12 %
	Average job	35 %	35 %
	Poor job	14 %	15 %
	Don't know	36 %	36 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
e) Being visible in the local area	Good job	20 %	20 %
	Average job	43 %	44 %
	Poor job	29 %	29 %
	Don't know	5 %	5 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
f) Being approachable and easy to talk to	Good job	37 %	36 %
	Average job	25 %	25 %
	Poor job	10 %	12 %
	Don't know	26 %	25 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
g) Providing information to the public on ways to prevent crime	Good job	19 %	16 %
	Average job	37 %	37 %
	Poor job	17 %	20 %
	Don't know	23 %	24 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
...Continued on next page			

Questions about policing and the justice system			
Q23. Do you think your local police service does a good job, an average, or a poor job in the following areas: (Continued)			
Question	Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
h) Helping people with local area problems	Good job	13 %	11 %
	Average job	30 %	30 %
	Poor job	14 %	15 %
	Don't know	41 %	41 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
i) Treating people fairly	Good job	26 %	25 %
	Average job	32 %	32 %
	Poor job	8 %	9 %
	Don't know	31 %	31 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Q24. Does your area receive better, about the same, or poorer police quality service than other areas?		
Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
Better	5 %	6 %
About the same	47 %	47 %
Poorer	9 %	10 %
Don't know	36 %	35 %
Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
Missing/Refused/Not applicable	3 %	3 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Questions about policing and the justice system			
Q25. Have you participated in any of the following programs sponsored by your police service?			
Programs	Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
a) Neighbourhood watch	Yes	24 %	21 %
	No	68 %	72 %
	Don't know	2 %	2 %
	Total	94 %	95 %
	Missing/Refused	6 %	5 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b) Block Parents	Yes	16 %	13 %
	No	74 %	77 %
	Don't know	1 %	2 %
	Total	91 %	92 %
	Missing/Refused	10 %	8 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
c) Crime Stoppers	Yes	5 %	5 %
	No	82 %	84 %
	Don't know	1 %	2 %
	Total	89 %	91 %
	Missing/Refused	11 %	9 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
d) Police volunteer	Yes	1 %	1 %
	No	86 %	88 %
	Don't know	2 %	2 %
	Total	88 %	90 %
	Missing/Refused	12 %	10 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
e) Operation Identification	Yes	10 %	9 %
	No	77 %	80 %
	Don't know	2 %	3 %
	Total	89 %	91 %
	Missing/Refused	11 %	9 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
f) Police area meetings	Yes	13 %	11 %
	No	76 %	79 %
	Don't know	2 %	2 %
	Total	90 %	92 %
	Missing/Refused	10 %	8 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

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Questions about policing and the justice system			
Q25. Have you participated in any of the following programs sponsored by your police service? (Continued)			
Programs	Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
g) Citizen on Patrol	Yes	2 %	2 %
	No	85 %	87 %
	Don't know	2 %	2 %
	Total	89 %	91 %
	Missing/Refused	12 %	9 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Questions about the criminal courts			
Q26. Do you think the local courts are doing a good job, an average, or a poor job of:			
Question	Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
a) Providing justice quickly	Good job	2 %	2 %
	Average job	25 %	25 %
	Poor job	51 %	50 %
	Don't know	20 %	20 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Missing/System	0.1 %	0.1 %
	Missing/Total	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b) Helping the victim	Good job	3 %	2 %
	Average job	21 %	22 %
	Poor job	43 %	42 %
	Don't know	31 %	32 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
c) Ensuring a fair trial	Good job	22 %	22 %
	Average job	35 %	35 %
	Poor job	8 %	7 %
	Don't know	32 %	33 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
...Continued on next page			

Questions about the criminal courts			
Q26. Do you think the local courts are doing a good job, an average, or a poor job of: (Continued)			
Question	Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
d) Determining if the person charged is guilty or not	Good job	13 %	13 %
	Average job	38 %	38 %
	Poor job	12 %	12 %
	Don't know	33 %	34 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Missing/System	0.1 %	0.1 %
	Missing/Total	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Q27. In general, would you say that sentences handed down by the court are too severe, about right or not severe enough?		
Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
Too severe	1 %	1 %
About right	9 %	9 %
Not severe enough	75 %	76 %
Don't know	12 %	12 %
Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Questions about the criminal courts			
Q28. I am going to read you some statements about young people, aged 12 to 17, and their treatment in the criminal justice system in Canada. How confident are you that the criminal justice system is [Insert Item and Read]: not at all confident, neither confident or unconfident, somewhat confident or very confident.			
Question	Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
a) Preventing crime by young people	Not at all	66 %	67 %
	Neither	11 %	11 %
	Somewhat	14 %	14 %
	Very	1 %	1 %
	Don't know	5 %	5 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b) Repairing the harm done to victims and communities	Not at all	50 %	50 %
	Neither	15 %	17 %
	Somewhat	16 %	17 %
	Very	1 %	1 %
	Don't know	14 %	13 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
c) Holding young people responsible and accountable for their actions	Not at all	73 %	73 %
	Neither	8 %	8 %
	Somewhat	11 %	11 %
	Very	1 %	1 %
	Don't know	4 %	3 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
d) Reducing re-offending by young people	Not at all	67 %	67 %
	Neither	11 %	11 %
	Somewhat	8 %	8 %
	Very	1 %	1 %
	Don't know	11 %	10 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	3 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
...Continued on next page			

Questions about the criminal courts			
Q28. I am going to read you some statements about young people, aged 12 to 17, and their treatment in the criminal justice system in Canada. How confident are you that the criminal justice system is [Insert Item and Read]: not at all confident, neither confident or unconfident, somewhat confident or very confident.			
(Continued)			
Question	Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
e) Providing alternatives to formal court proceedings	Not at all	26 %	25 %
	Neither	16 %	16 %
	Somewhat	17 %	17 %
	Very	3 %	3 %
	Don't know	36 %	36 %
	Total (Valid)	96 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	4 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Q29. I'd like to ask you about the level of confidence you have in various institutions. For each type of institution could you tell me whether you have a great deal of confidence, quite a lot of confidence, not very much confidence or no confidence at all in:			
Institution	Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
a) The Police	A great deal	17 %	16 %
	Quite a lot	62 %	62 %
	Not very much	16 %	17 %
	None at all	1 %	2 %
	Don't know	2 %	2 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Not applicable/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
b) The justice system & courts	A great deal	3 %	2 %
	Quite a lot	25 %	25 %
	Not very much	54 %	54 %
	None at all	11 %	11 %
	Don't know	5 %	5 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Not applicable/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
...Continued on next page			

Q29. I'd like to ask you about the level of confidence you have in various institutions. For each type of institution could you tell me whether you have a great deal of confidence, quite a lot of confidence, not very much confidence or no confidence at all in: (Continued)

Institution	Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
c) The health care system	A great deal	9 %	9 %
	Quite a lot	47 %	49 %
	Not very much	35 %	34 %
	None at all	5 %	5 %
	Don't know	2 %	2 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Not applicable/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
d) The school system	A great deal	6 %	6 %
	Quite a lot	43 %	44 %
	Not very much	35 %	35 %
	None at all	5 %	5 %
	Don't know	10 %	9 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Not applicable/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
e) The federal parliament	A great deal	1 %	1 %
	Quite a lot	19 %	19 %
	Not very much	52 %	52 %
	None at all	18 %	17 %
	Don't know	9 %	9 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 5
	Missing/Not applicable/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
f) The banks	A great deal	8 %	8 %
	Quite a lot	46 %	44 %
	Not very much	33 %	34 %
	None at all	7 %	8 %
	Don't know	4 %	4 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Not applicable/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

...Continued on next page

Q29. I'd like to ask you about the level of confidence you have in various institutions. For each type of institution could you tell me whether you have a great deal of confidence, quite a lot of confidence, not very much confidence or no confidence at all in: (Continued)

Institution	Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
g) Major corporations	A great deal	3 %	3 %
	Quite a lot	26 %	27 %
	Not very much	42 %	43 %
	None at all	13 %	13 %
	Don't know	15 %	13 %
	Total (Valid)	97 %	98 %
	Missing/Not applicable/Refused	3 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
h) The provincial government	A great deal	1 %	1 %
	Quite a lot	25 %	26 %
	Not very much	52 %	52 %
	None at all	15 %	15 %
	Don't know	6 %	5 %
	Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
	Missing/Not applicable/Refused	2 %	2 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Questions about community involvement		
Q30. Do you have any <i>relatives</i> living in other households in your neighbourhood? Would you say in many, some, very few or no other households?		
Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
Many	6 %	6 %
Some	20 %	21 %
Very few	16 %	17 %
No other households	53 %	53 %
Don't know	3 %	2 %
Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
Missed/Refused	2 %	2 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Q31. you have any <i>close friends</i> living in other households in your neighbourhood? Would you say the number of such friends is:		
Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
Ten or more	17 %	17 %
Five to nine	22 %	22 %
Two to four	32 %	32 %
One	7 %	7 %
None	19 %	20 %
Don't know	2 %	1 %
Total (Valid)	98 %	99 %
Missing/Refused	2 %	2 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Q32. Would you say you know most, many, a few or nobody else in your neighbourhood (apart from household members of course)?		
Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
Most	13 %	12 %
Many	38 %	38 %
A few	46 %	47 %
Nobody else	2 %	2 %
Total (Valid)	98 %	98 %
Missing/Don't know	1 %	1 %
Missing/Refused	2 %	1 %
Missing/Total	2 %	2 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Questions about community involvement		
Q33. Would you say that the neighbourhood you live in is a place where neighbours help each other?		
Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
Yes	80 %	80 %
No	10 %	11 %
Don't know	8 %	8 %
Total (Valid)	98 %	99 %
Missing/Refused	2 %	1 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Q34. How much do you trust the people in your neighbourhood? On a scale from 1 to 5 where 1 is “cannot be trusted at all” and 5 is “can be trusted a lot”, what number from 1 to 5 would you chose?		
Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
Cannot be trusted at all (1)	2 %	2 %
2	5 %	5 %
3	18 %	19 %
4	34 %	36 %
Can be trusted a lot (5)	35 %	33 %
Don't know	0.1 %	-
Total (Valid)	94 %	96 %
Missing/Refused	6 %	4 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Questions about community involvement			
Q35. In the past twelve months have you been a member or participant in any of the following organizations or networks?			
Question	Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
aa) A union or professional association	Yes	36 %	40 %
	No	59 %	57 %
	Total	95 %	97 %
	Missing/Refused	5 %	3 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
ab) A political party or group	Yes	10 %	10 %
	No	85 %	86 %
	Total	94 %	96 %
	Missing/Refused	6 %	4 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
ac) A sports or recreation organization	Yes	34 %	37 %
	No	60 %	59 %
	Total	95 %	96 %
	Missing/Refused	5 %	4 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
ad) A cultural, education or hobby group	Yes	30 %	30 %
	No	64 %	66 %
	Total	94 %	96 %
	Missing/Refused	6 %	4 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
ae) A religious-affiliated group	Yes	30 %	27 %
	No	65 %	69 %
	Total	95 %	96 %
	Missing/Refused	5 %	4 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
af) A school group, neighbourhood or community association	Yes	22 %	24 %
	No	72 %	73 %
	Total	94 %	96 %
	Missing/Refused	6 %	4 %
	Total	100 %	100 %
ag) A service or fraternal organization	Yes	14 %	13 %
	No	80 %	83 %
	Total	94 %	96 %
	Missing/Refused	6 %	4 %
	Total	100 %	100 %

Questions about community involvement		
Q36. Frequency of participation in group activities and meetings in past twelve months		
Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
At least once a week	27 %	28 %
A few times a month	21 %	21 %
Once a month	7 %	7 %
Once or twice a year	7 %	7 %
Not in the past year	4 %	4 %
Don't know	1 %	1 %
Total (Valid)	66 %	67 %
Missing/Refused	35 %	33 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Q37. Age	
Unweighted	Weighted
54.5 years old (mdn)	49 years old (mdn)

Q38. Gender		
Gender	Unweighted	Weighted
Male	42 %	54 %
Female	57 %	46 %
Total (Valid)	98 %	100 %
Missing/Refused	2 %	-
Total	100 %	100 %

Q39. Marital status		
Status	Unweighted	Weighted
Single	11 %	14 %
Married/common law	69 %	72 %
Widowed	10 %	7 %
Separated/Divorced	9 %	8 %
Total (Valid)	99 %	100 %
Missing/Refused	1 %	0.2 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Q40. Do you consider yourself to belong to any of the following groups?			
Group	Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
a) A disabled person	Yes	8 %	6.8
	No	81 %	81.8
	Don't know	12 %	11.4
	Total (Valid)	100 %	100.0
	Missing/Refused	0.2 %	-
	Total	100 %	100.0
b) Member of a visible minority	Yes	5 %	5 %
	No	83 %	83 %
	Don't know	12 %	11 %
	Total (Valid)	100 %	100 %
	Missing/Refused	0.2 %	-
	Total	100 %	100 %
c) An aboriginal person	Yes	1 %	1 %
	No	88 %	88 %
	Don't know	12 %	11 %
	Total (Valid)	100 %	100 %
	Missing/Refused	0.2 %	-
	Total	100 %	100 %
d) A recent immigrant	Yes	1 %	2 %
	No	87 %	87 %
	Don't know	12 %	11 %
	Total (Valid)	100 %	100 %
	Missing/Refused	0.2 %	-
	Total	100 %	100 %
f) Don't know	Yes	0.1 %	0.1 %
	No	88 %	89 %
	Don't know	12 %	11 %
	Total (Valid)	100 %	100 %
	Missing/Refused	0.2 %	-
	Total	100 %	100 %

Q41. What type of dwelling are you now living in?		
Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
Single house	72 %	70 %
Semi-detached or double	9 %	9 %
Townhome or rowhouse	5 %	6 %
Duplex (one above the other)	2 %	2 %
Condominium	2 %	1 %
Lowrise apartment (up to five stories)	3 %	4 %
Highrise apartment (five or more stories)	0.4 %	1 %
Mobile home or trailer	3 %	3 %
Flat or room in house	3 %	3 %
Other	1 %	1 %
Refused	0.1 %	0 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Q42. Is this dwelling owned or is it being rented by a member of this household?		
Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
Owned	89 %	87 %
Rented	8 %	10 %
Total	97 %	98 %
Missing/Don't know	0.1 %	0.1 %
Missing/Refused	3 %	2 %
MissingTotal	3 %	2 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Q43. Which of the following best describes your main activity during 2007 so far?		
Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
Working at a paid job or business	54 %	62 %
Looking for paid work	1 %	1 %
Going to school	2 %	3 %
Household work	5 %	4 %
On temporary leave	1 %	1 %
Retired	33 %	24 %
Other	1 %	1 %
Refused	5 %	4 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Q44. What is the highest level of schooling that you have completed?		
Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
Some high school or less	11 %	9 %
High school graduate	16 %	14 %
Some college	5 %	5 %
Community college, technical college graduate	22 %	23 %
Some university	9 %	10 %
Bachelor's degree	19 %	22 %
Graduate degree	16 %	16 %
Refused	2 %	2 %
Total	100 %	100 %

Q45. What would you estimate to be your household income from all sources before taxes?		
Answer	Unweighted	Weighted
Less than \$30,000	13 %	12 %
Between \$30,000 and \$59,000	29 %	27 %
Between \$60,000 and \$99,000	25 %	28 %
Over \$100,000	19 %	22 %
Don't know	5 %	5 %
Refused	9 %	7 %
Total	100 %	100 %

PART B: THE ANALYSES

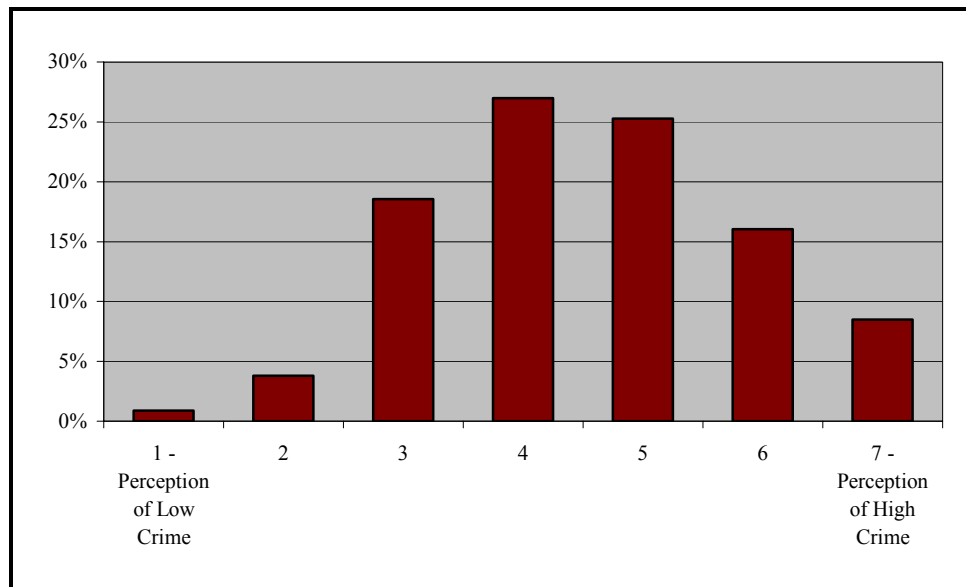
THE FIVE TOPICS

- 1. Perception of Crime**
- 2. Fear and Worry about Victimization**
- 3. Reported Victimization**
- 4. Assessments of Police and the Justice System**
- 5. Change and Adaptation of Crime Prevention Strategies**

1. PERCEPTION OF CRIME IN HRM

Perception of crime in HRM was analysed using a created index score of perceived crime level for HRM as a whole (q2, q3, q4) and as illustrated in Graph A, this perception reflected the view that, overall, it was an area with modest to high levels of crime.

Graph A

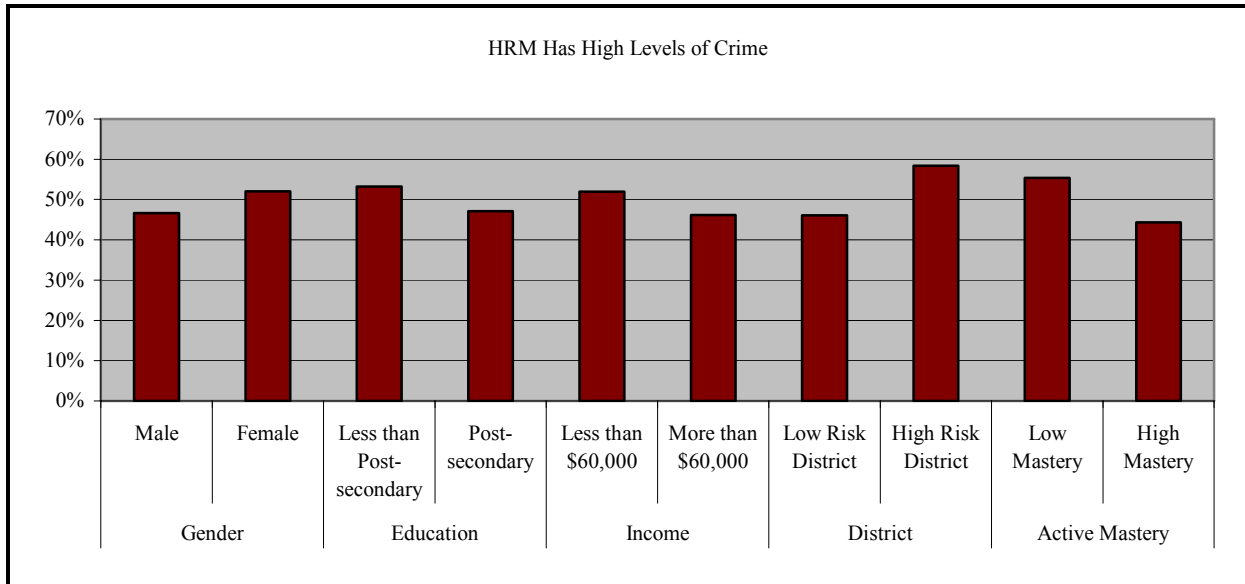


There were a number of factors which were significantly related to this perception, including respondent's gender, level of education, income, the community they lived in, and their approach to life. Graph B shows the differences among these groups of those with a perception that Halifax is a municipality with high levels of crime (based on categorizing scores into high and low). Females were significantly more likely to believe that HRM was an area with high levels of crime (52% to 46%), as were those without a post-secondary education (53% to 47%), those who made less than \$60,000 a year (52% to 46%), those who lived in the urban core, in high risk municipal districts (58% to 46%),¹ and those who had lower scores on a created "active mastery" variable (55% to 44%).² Person or violent victimization within the past five years had the strongest relationship to perception of crime level as 60% of those so victimized perceived crime levels in HRM to be high compared to 48% of those not so victimized. A similar difference was found in the case of property victimization (55% to 42%).

¹ In this analysis those four districts were the urban core of HRM, Dartmouth Centre (District 5), Albro Lake-Harbourview (District 9), Halifax North End (District 11), and Halifax Downtown (District 12); 31% of the total sample in was living in one of these risk areas.

² The "active mastery" index was created using survey questions q16a to q16f; these questions have to do with the levels of personal control and empowerment respondents feel in relation to their lives and personal destiny.

Graph B

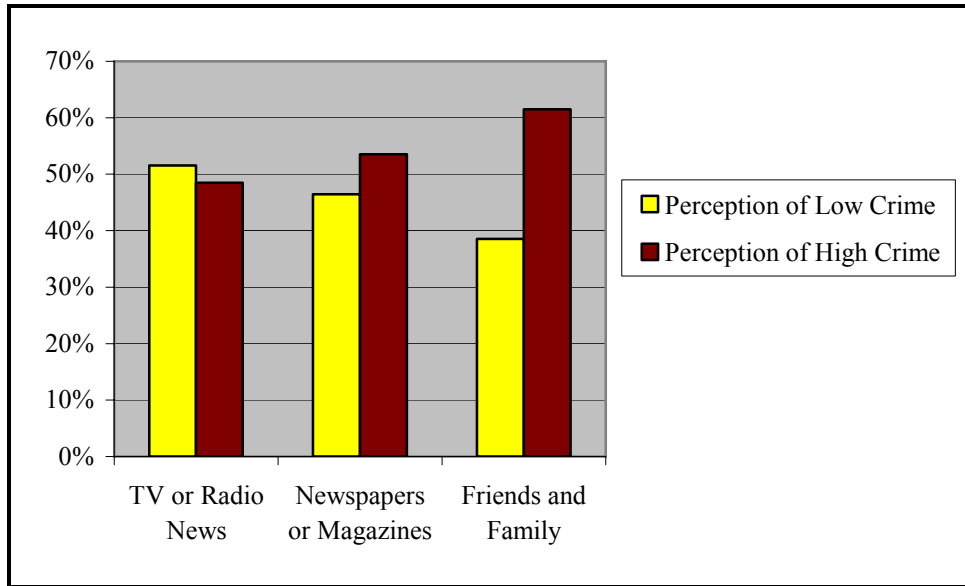


N varies from 1783 to 1884

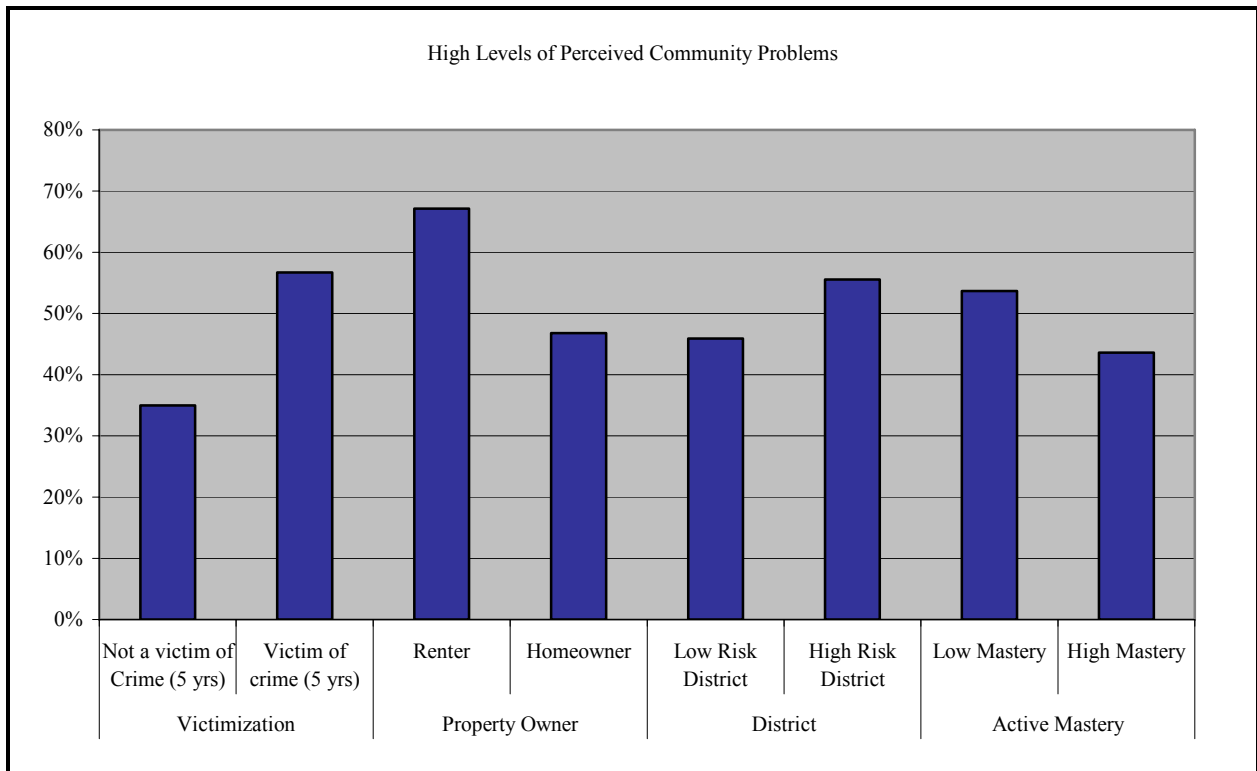
Another factor significantly related to respondents' perception of crime in HRM was where they turned for information on crime and public safety. Unexpectedly, in the light of many claims that the mass media exaggerates public safety risks, as shown in Graph C, although not a statistically significant difference, those who relied on television or radio news were more likely to have a perception that the area had lower levels of crime. However, the pattern shifts for those who relied on print media for information on crime and public safety, where over half of those respondents perceived HRM to have high levels of crime. It was among those who relied on information from their friends and family where the highest proportions of high crime perceivers were found; 62% compared to 48% of those who did not rely mostly on this source for their information about crime and violence.

Graph C2 indicates that the objective variables determining the perception of the respondents' own local area as having many problems and risks are very similar to those impacting on respondents' perception of HRM as a high crime area, namely victimization, living in the urban core district, being a renter, and having a lower sense of control over matters affecting themselves (active mastery). Not shown in Graph C2 but also statistically significant were age (those under 55 years of age reported their own area as having many problems and risks more often than those older, 55% to 43%) and 'minority' status (54% to 47%). Income split at under and over \$60,000 was not significant but, in terms of annual household income, the respondents reporting the most problems / risks in their area were in the 'less than \$30,000' category. Gender and educational level (split at post-secondary or not) were not significant.

Graph C



Graph C2



In order to sort out the specific impact of these variables, which often interact with one another in different ways, a regression analysis was employed, considering victimization, gender, income, education, active mastery, urban core residence, being a homeowner, community

embeddedness, and primary source of information on crime and public safety. Taken together, these factors accounted for a modest 6% of the total variation in crime perception. Understandably, the factor which had the largest direct effects on perception of crime was whether or not a respondent had been a victim of crime in the last year ($B=.147$). Other significant factors were one's sense of active mastery (the higher it was, the lower the level of perceived crime), whether one lived in a high risk area (urban core), if the respondent was female, if one was a renter, and if one depended for information about crime mostly on friends and / or relatives. Further, education, income and relying on media sources for information on crime and public safety were found to not have any direct effects on perception of crime once the other variables were included in the model. Table 1 shows the significant variables for this regression.

Table 1

<i>Dependent variable=Perception of Crime in HRM</i>	β	Sig.
Victim of Crime (1 yr)	0.15	0.000
Active Mastery	-0.10	0.000
Urban Core High Risk Area	0.09	0.000
Gender	0.07	0.000
Homeowner	-0.06	0.023
Family and Friends Main Source of Crime and Safety Info	-0.05	0.046

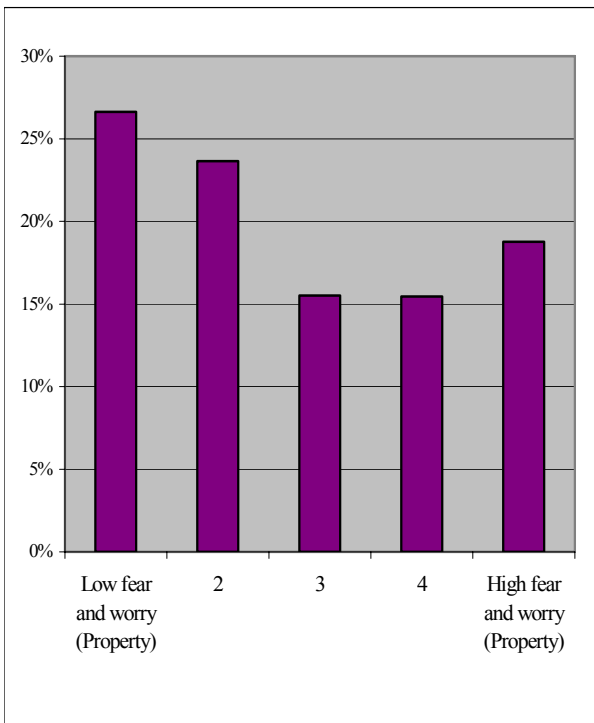
$N=1524; r^2=.06$

So while the public perception of crime in HRM is skewed towards the perception that it is a municipality with higher than average crime, there is much variation among the respondents that is unaccounted for. The central explanatory variables identified indicate that the perception of high levels of crime is influenced by personal experience with crime in the municipality. As we shall see in subsequent sections, the factors which directly effect perception of crime also play a role in generating fear and worry and in one's being a victim of crime. It may also be noted that if kindred variables such as fear and worry about victimization, perception of one's local area as having many social and safety problems, and perception that the youth justice system is ineffective if not contributing to safety problems, were added to the regression, the explained variance would increase five-fold ($R^2 =.30$) and inclusion of the kindred variables would eliminate the statistical significance of the more objective variables such as victimization, gender, source of information and sense of active mastery.

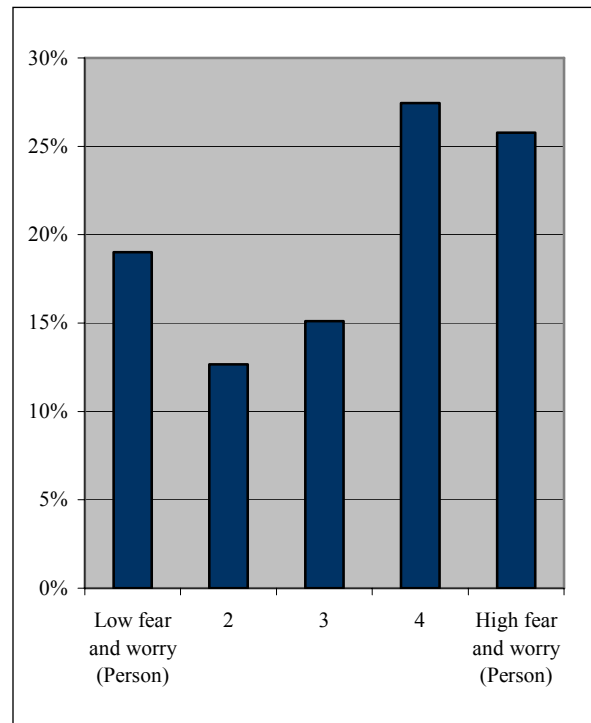
2. FEAR AND WORRY ABOUT CRIME

The fear and worry index which was concerned with fear of person victimization was created using the survey questions “How safe do you feel walking alone in your local area after dark?” (q5b), “How much do you worry about being held up or mugged?” (q8a), and “How much do you worry about being attacked or molested?” (q8b). For fear and worry about property victimization, the survey questions “How much do you worry if you leave your home unattended?” (q7), “How much do you worry about having your property broken into?” (q8c), “How much do you worry about having your car or other property vandalized?” (q8d) were used to create the scale. For both indexes, the item “Do you worry about bring a victim of crime more than most other things in life’ (q9) was also included. As shown in Graphs D and E, there were higher levels of worry about the fear of being attacked personally rather than in relation to property victimization but this is an artifact of the cut-off points used in creating index scores and is only depicted to show the range of scores were taken into consideration when categorizing the variables into low and high.

Graph D

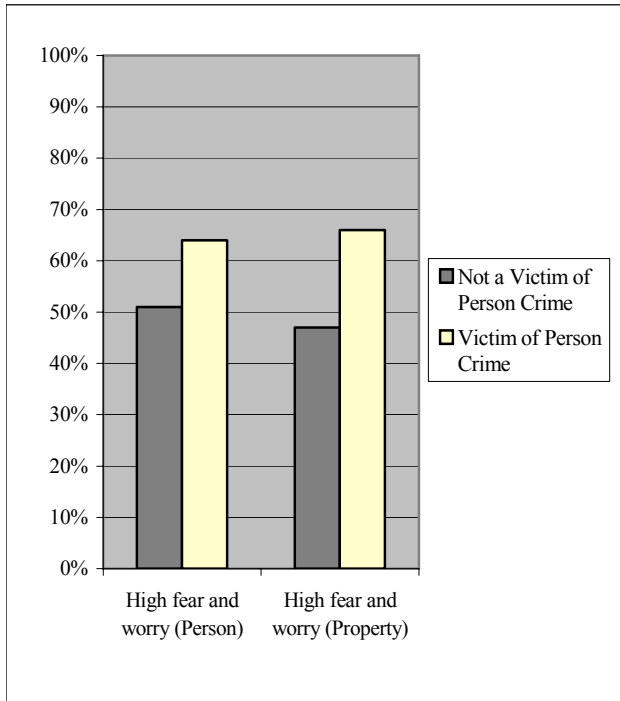


Graph E

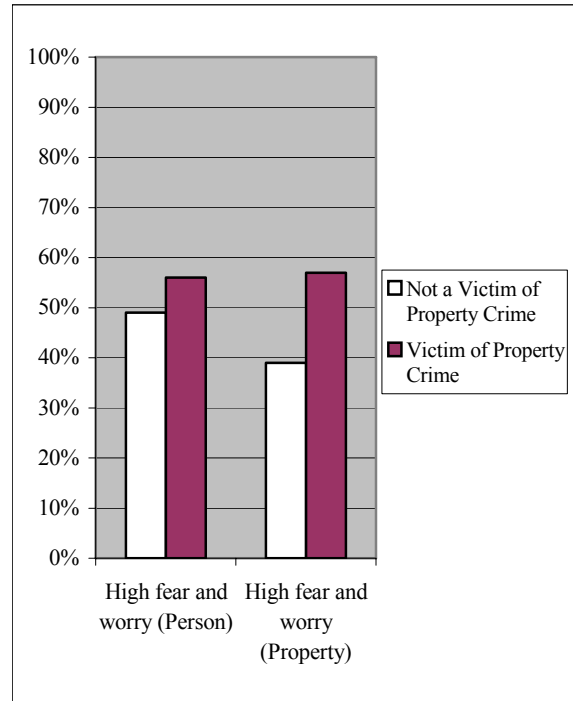


Being a victim of crime (self-reported) was, not surprisingly, related to how much an individual was fearful of becoming a victim of crime, either by an attack against their person or their property, particularly so if the nature of that victimization was a person crime. Graphs F and G show the differences in levels of fear and worry between victims and non-victims of person and property crimes; those respondents reporting themselves to have been victims of person crimes showed higher levels of fear and worry about further victimization.

Graph F



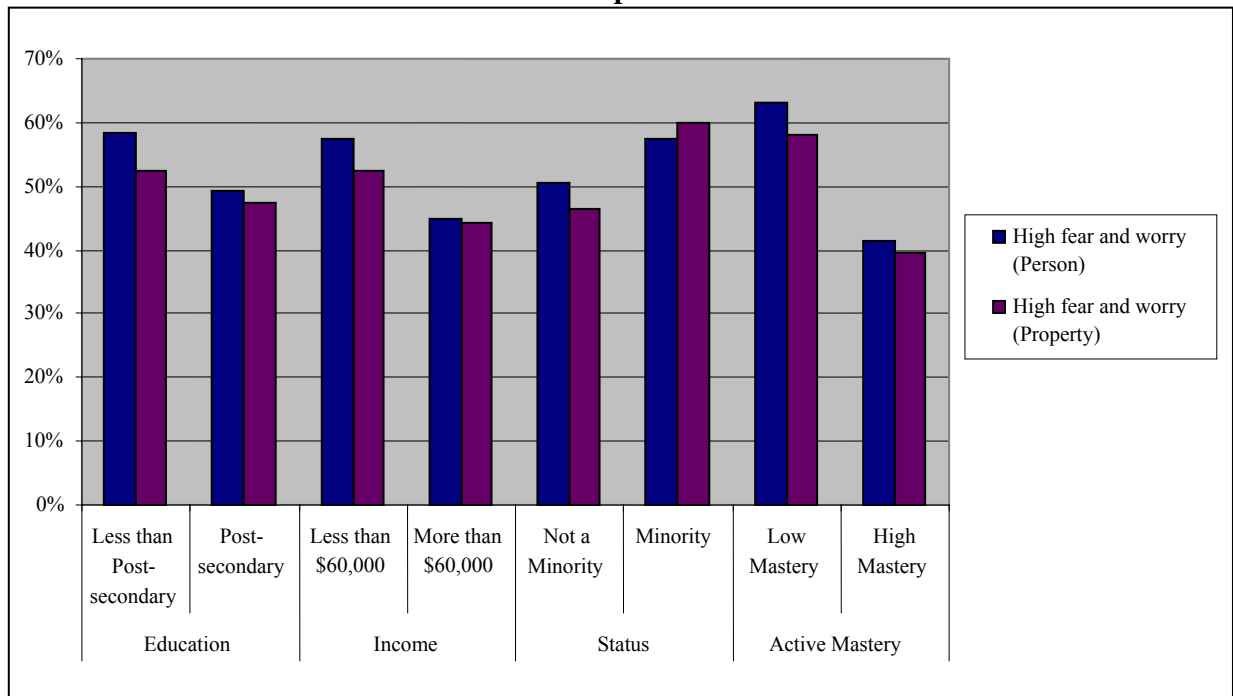
Graph G



Other differences observed in both fear of person and property attack are seen in Graph H. On all indicators, it is those who are conventionally held to be the most vulnerable to crime and violence who are more worried that they may become a victim of either a violent or property crime, regardless of whether or not they have experienced crime in any way; even though, in many cases, along socio-economic dimensions in particular, it was those which had more (high income, post-secondary education) who reported experiencing more crime (driven by property crime) in the past five years. This is perhaps where the mastery variable comes into effect at least in a modest way, as those who have more formal education and a larger income have greater feelings of personal control,³ and are therefore less fearful of random criminal acts against them.

³ The relationship between education and mastery is $r=.13$ and between income and mastery, it is $r=.17$.

Graph H



Of note, but not shown, were the additional significant differences observed for fear and worry of person victimization based on gender ($r=.12$), living in a high risk district ($r=.10$), and being a homeowner ($r=-.08$). Females were significantly more likely to reported high fear and worry of person victimization than males (58% to 46%) as were urban core residents than those residing elsewhere (61% to 50%), renters more than homeowners (66% to 52%), and minority members more than others (58% to 50%). As for fear and worry of property, the major correlates were previous victimization whether person or property as noted above, and the variable active mastery shown in Graph H. Minority group identity was also significantly linked to high fear and worry of property victimization.

Tables 2 and 3 show the results of the regression analyses for fear and worry of both person and property victimization. The variables that emerged as most significant from this “free fight” for direct impact on fear and worry of person victimization were sense of personal control (active mastery), gender, living in a high risk area, and reported victimization. Being female, living in the urban core, having experienced previous victimization, and having a low sense of personal control were all linked to high fear and worry about future person victimization. The crucial impact factors for fear and worry of property victimization were having a low sense of personal control, previous victimization of any sort, being a member of a minority group, being a homeowner and frequently going out in the evening. The regression explained roughly 10% of the variation in responses for both types of fear and worry (person and property).

Further regressions (not shown here) incorporated perceived social problems and safety and perception of high crime area as independent variables and, not surprisingly, they were strongly related to the fear and worry dependent variables, driving the explained variance of the

regression models to almost $R^2 = .30$, a three-fold increase. In the case of fear and worry about person victimization, their inclusion reduced the variables ‘reported victimization’ and risk area / urban core residence to statistical insignificance but active mastery and gender remained as solid impact variables. Interestingly, age (older adults expressed more fear and worry of victimization) and community embeddedness (the less integrated in one’s neighbourhood, the more fear and worry reported) which had been marginally significant in the basic regressions became more significant in these later regressions. In the case of fear and worry about property victimization, all the significant variables identified in table 3 remained significant but the new variables had the great statistical impact on the dependent variable.

Table 2

<i>Dependent Variable=Fear and Worry of Property Crime</i>	β	Sig.
Active Mastery	-0.17	0.000
Victim of Property Crime	0.16	0.000
Victim of Person Crime	0.10	0.000
Member Minority	0.07	0.006
Income	-0.06	0.037
Homeowner	0.06	0.036
Opportunities	0.05	0.037

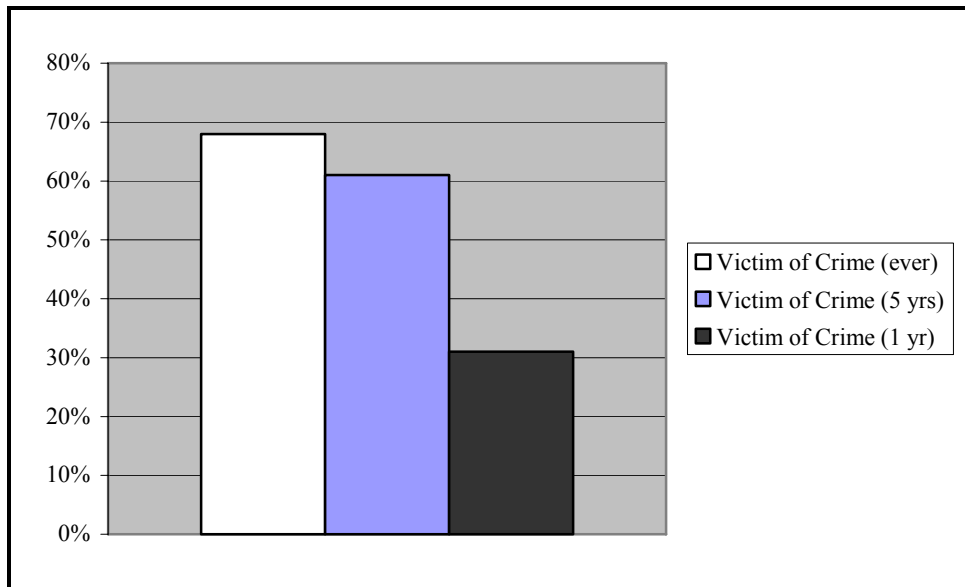
Table 3

<i>Dependent Variable=Fear and Worry of Person Crime</i>	β	Sig.
Active Mastery	-0.20	0.000
Victim of Property Crime	0.08	0.001
Urban Core Risk Area	0.08	0.002
Victim of Person Crime	0.06	0.012
Gender	0.13	0.000

3. REPORTED VICTIMIZATION IN HRM

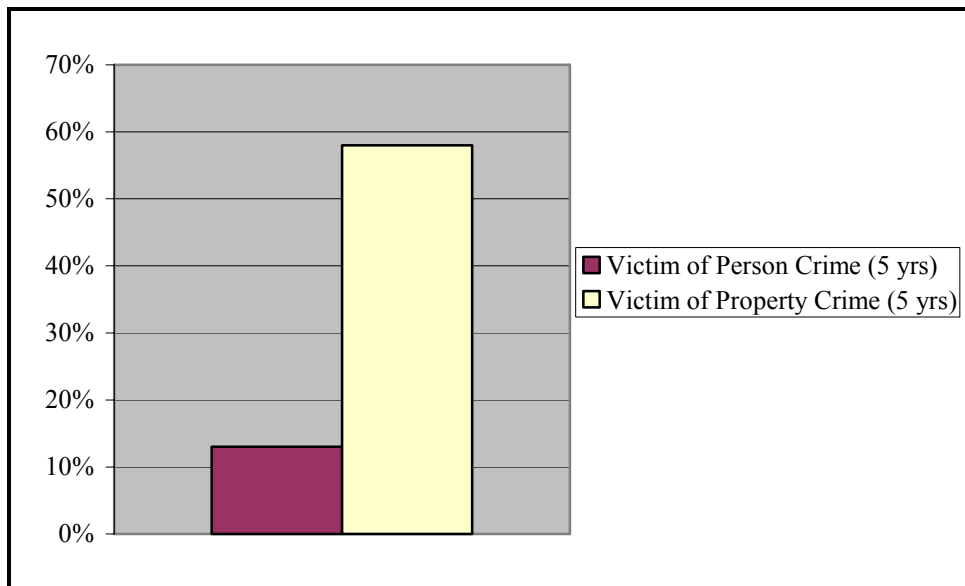
Analyses of the mail-back survey found that 68% of the total sample reported that they had been a victim of crime at some point in their lives. Further, 61% reported themselves having being victimized in the past 5 years, and 31% in the past year, as illustrated in Graph I.

Graph I



N varies from 1906 to 1907

Graph J



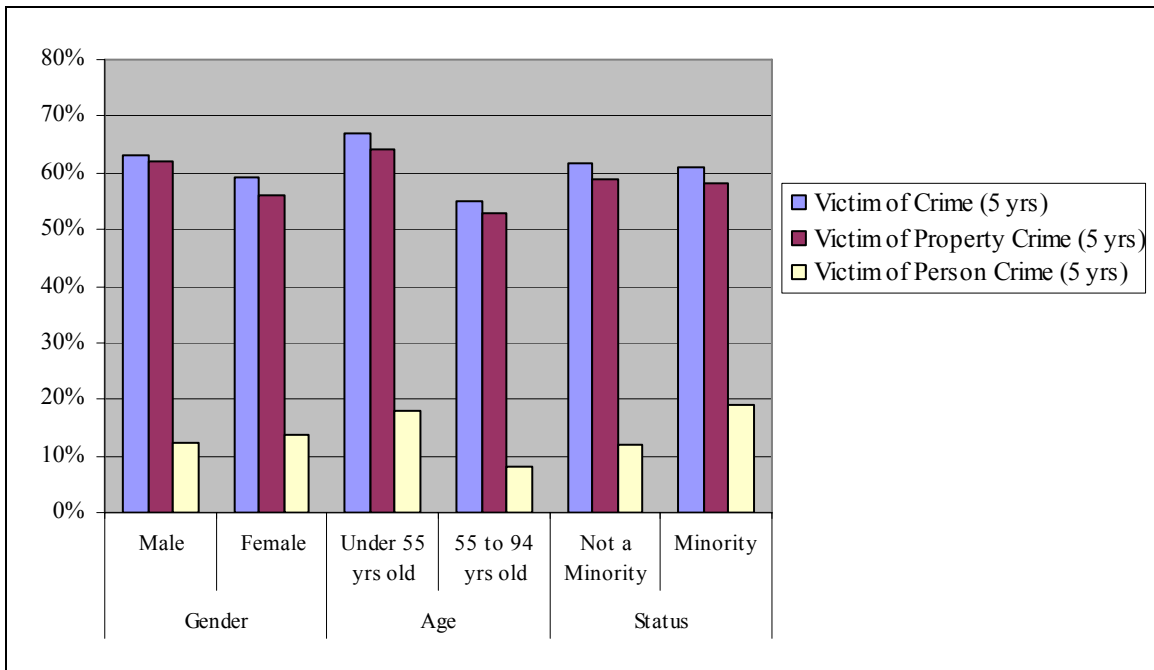
N=1906

Types of crimes that reportedly occurred in the last 5 years were classified into either incidents of “person victimization” (assault, stalking, robbery, and sexual assault) or “property victimization” (vandalism, theft of personal property or household goods, break and enter, fraud and theft or attempted vehicle theft). As shown in Graph J, a majority of the crime experienced by survey respondents was property type crimes.

There were a number of differences observed in victimization within the 5 year period that related to certain socio-demographic characteristics as well as to aspects of one’s local community. Graph K illustrates the differences in victimization by the demographic factors of gender, age and minority status. Age was the only demographic variable which was statistically significant for total victimization over 5 years; a larger percentage of respondents under the age of 55 indicated that they had been a victim of crime (67%) compared to those between the ages of 55 and 94 (55%). Breaking down the age variable further, among those under 55, there was unexpectedly, no discernible trend for younger adults (i.e., those under 30 years of age) to have experienced more victimization than those between 30 and 55 years of age. The age difference was significant not only for overall victimization but also for person and property victimization. While gender was significantly related to being a victim of property crime (62% of men reporting such victimization compared to 56% of women) person victimization did not differ as much between men (12%) and women (14%)*. Along the dimension of minority / majority status, the opposite pattern was observed. While minority status was not significantly related to property crime, it was to person crime; with 19% of minority respondents reporting being a victim of a person crime in the last 5 years, compared to 12% of those who did not self-identify as a minority group member.

* Overall gender differences were observed for total victimization in past year, with 35% of males reporting being a victim of crime in the last year compared to 28% of females.

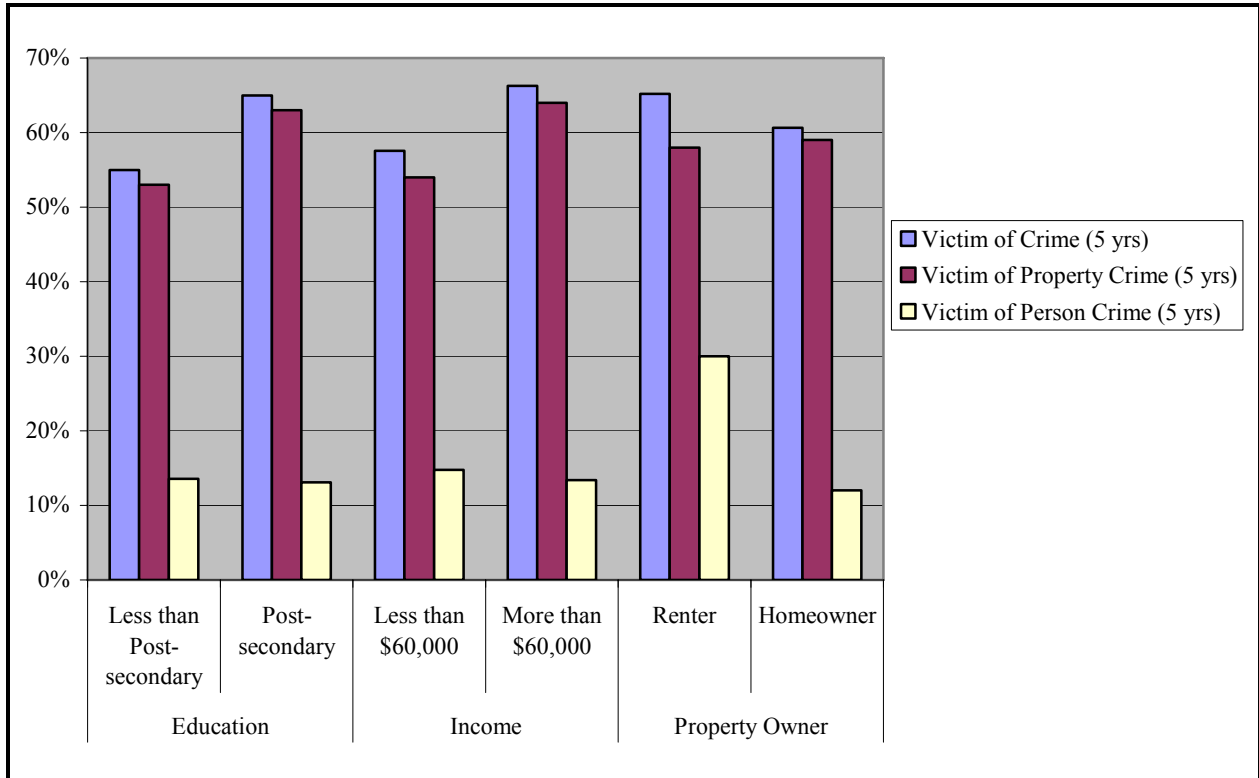
Graph K



N varies from 1643 to 1872

Differences were also seen in reported victimization based on a respondent's socio-economic status, as shown in Graph L. The largest differences observed in victimization for these socio-economic factors were specifically in respondent's education and reported income. A larger proportion of those who had a post-secondary education (65%) reported being a victim of crime in the last 5 years than those who had a high school education or incomplete post-secondary training (55%). This difference was being driven by incidents of property victimization, rather than person victimization where victimization levels were pretty much the same. This pattern was the same along the dimension of income, where a larger percentage of high income earners (66%) reported being a victim of crime than those earning under \$60,000 annually (58%), and that difference too was being driven by property crime. Interestingly, while there were no significant differences in overall victimization between respondents who were homeowners or renters, a statistically significant relationship was observed between these two groups for person victimization. A far greater percentage of renters reported being a victim of a person crime compared to homeowners; 30% compared to 12%. This difference, while not large enough to influence the overall pattern of 5 year victimization, reinforces the trend noticeable in other socio-economic considerations, namely that property victimization is more common among the high socio-economic groupings while person victimization is more likely to be found among those of less socio-economic advantage.

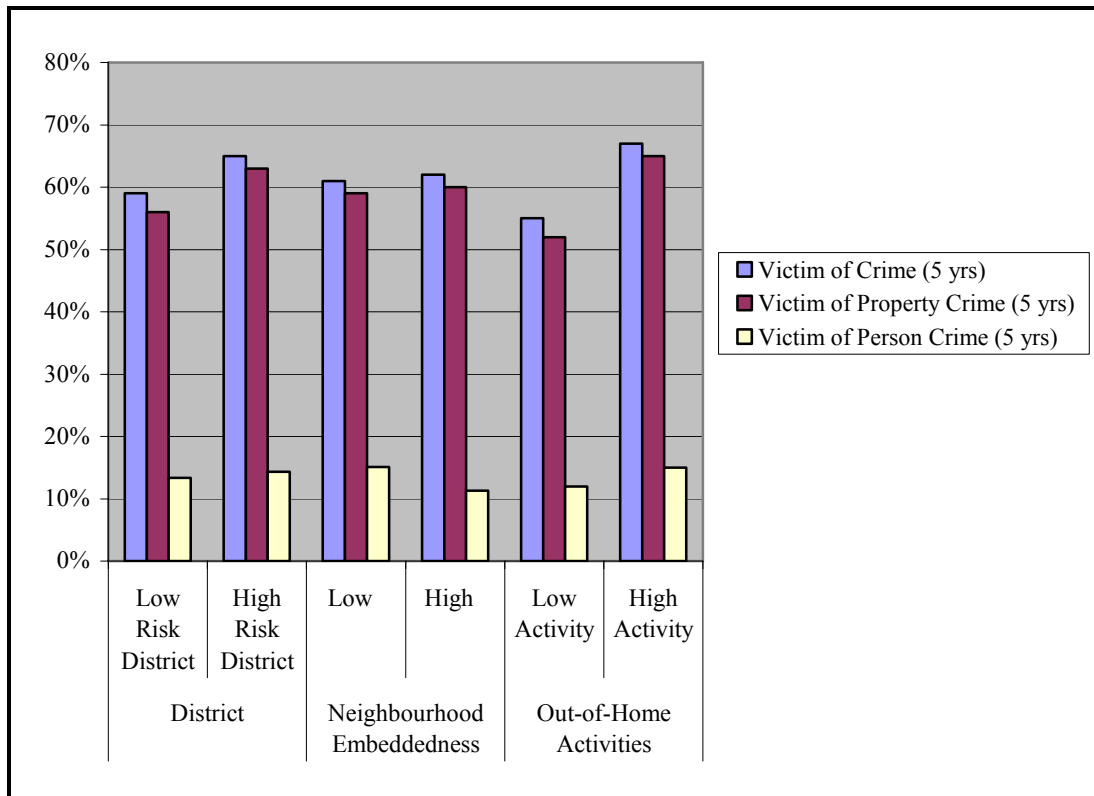
Graph L



N varies from 1561 to 1865

A number of community characteristics were related to reported victimization as well. As shown in Graph M, a larger percentage of those who lived in areas identified as “high risk” crime areas reported crime victimization (65% compared to 59% in “low risk” areas), and a larger percentage of those who reported engaging in high levels of out-of-home evening activities were victims of crime in the past 5 years (67% compared to 55% of those who reported lower levels of activities). Both of these significant relationships were being driven by incidents of property crime and had no or little implication for person victimization. Neighborhood embeddedness, as measured by the number of neighbors known to the respondent and level of trust with unknown neighbors, was significant for person victimization (low community embeddedness was more linked with person victimization), however, not for property victimization, and not enough to influence overall victimization patterns.

Graph M



N varies from 1754 to 1893

As shown in Table 4, a regression analysis considered all of these socio-demographic and community factors thought to be having direct effects on victimization; the model accounted for only 4% of the total variation in victimization ($r^2=.04$), suggesting either that individual factors may be playing a larger role in victimization, or that crime is perhaps more random in HRM than not. The number of times a person went out in the evening in a month had the largest direct effects on victimization, which is in keeping with opportunity theory, namely that the more someone is out and around, the more opportunity they have in becoming a victim of crime. Being a younger adult, living in high risk area (the urban core in Halifax and Dartmouth) and having a post-secondary level of education were also significant.

Table 4

Dependent Variable =Victim in last 5 yrs	β	Sig.
Out-of-Home Activity Level	0.09	0.001
Age	-0.09	0.003
Urban Core Risk Area	0.07	0.010
Education	0.06	0.020

N=1524; $r^2=.04$

Looking at property and person crime separately, clear differences emerged in the relationship of these variables to each individual measure. In a regression analysis of person victimization in the past 5 years (not shown), all nine socio-demographic variables accounted for

5% of the variance in victimization ($r^2=.05$). The key variables impacting on person victimization were being a younger adult (age $\beta=-.15$) and being a renter rather than an owner ($\beta=-.11$); being a minority group member (visible minority, aboriginal, disabled or immigrant) was marginally significant. With property victimization, the independent variables accounted for 4% of the variation ($r^2=.04$), with opportunities, living in the higher risk urban core area, being a young adult, being a male, and having higher educational attainment all significantly related to reported property victimization. As shown in Table 5, opportunities or out-of-home evening activity had the largest direct effects on being a victim of property crime ($\beta=.09$).

Table 5

Dependent Variable=Victim Property Crime (5yrs)	β	Sig.
Opportunities	0.10	0.000
Urban Core Risk Area	0.08	0.002
Age	-0.07	0.011
Gender (Female=1)	-0.06	0.028
Education	0.06	0.030

N=1524; r²=.04

So while opportunity as defined did not play a role in person victimization, it did play an important role in property victimization, which suggests that, not surprisingly perhaps, that the more a person goes out, away from their home and their property, the more vulnerable a target it is for property crime or theft.

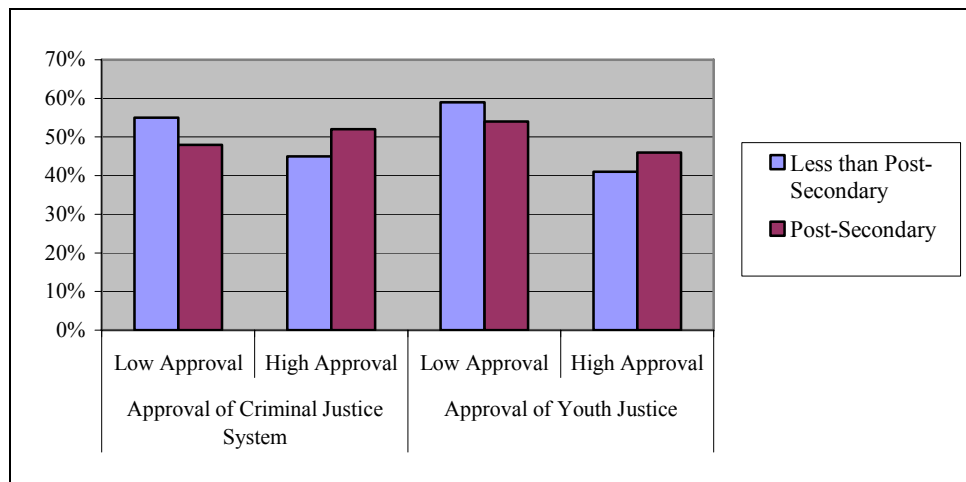
It can be noted that while the results are not presented here, the same correlates found for victimization within the past five years were also found significant for reported victimization within the past year, namely age, education, income and opportunity.

4. ASSESSMENTS OF POLICE AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Examination of the frequency distributions in Part A of this supplemental report indicates that, overall, there was little variation in the approval of the delivery of law and order in HRM. To ferret out the factors responsible for what variation there was in the data, index scores were developed and then split into low and high approval. Three measures of approval were constructed using a variety of questions in the specific areas of justice (Q26a to Q26d), youth justice (Q28a to Q28e), and policing (Q23a to Q23i). Measures were developed following both purist and practical guidelines, the difference being that in the purist modality all cases with “don’t know” responses were excluded whereas in the practical version such responses were recoded and utilized. There were no differences between the two procedures with respect to the statistical significance of the differences so the practical modality was adopted.

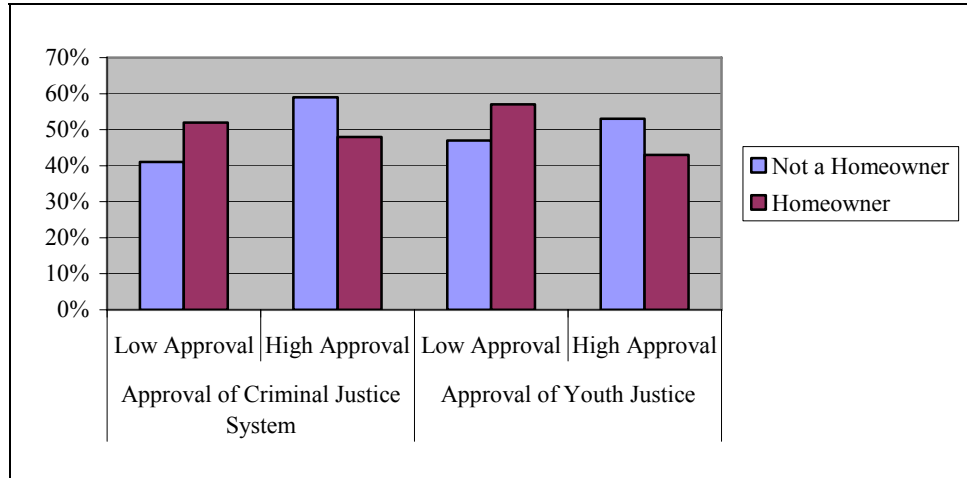
As depicted in Graphs N, O and P, the differences observed regarding approval of the criminal justice system were similar to those regarding approval of youth justice practices, although in all cases the lowest approval is given to the youth justice practices. It can also be seen that those with greater formal education attainment and those who are renters rather than owners gave higher approval scores. Approval of the criminal justice system and youth justice also varied by gender; females were more approving of both aspects of justice than males as shown in Graph P. These differences by gender, educational attainment and homeowner/rental status were quite modest; for example, the absolute percentage difference between males and females concerning high levels of approval was just roughly 5% in both the criminal justice system and youth justice system assessments.

Graph N



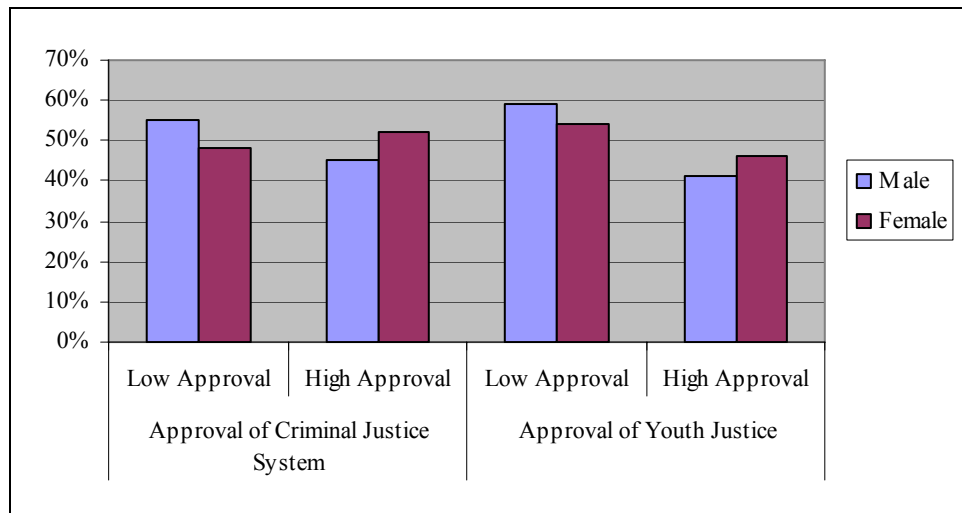
N=1850, 1857

Graph O



N=1844, 1850

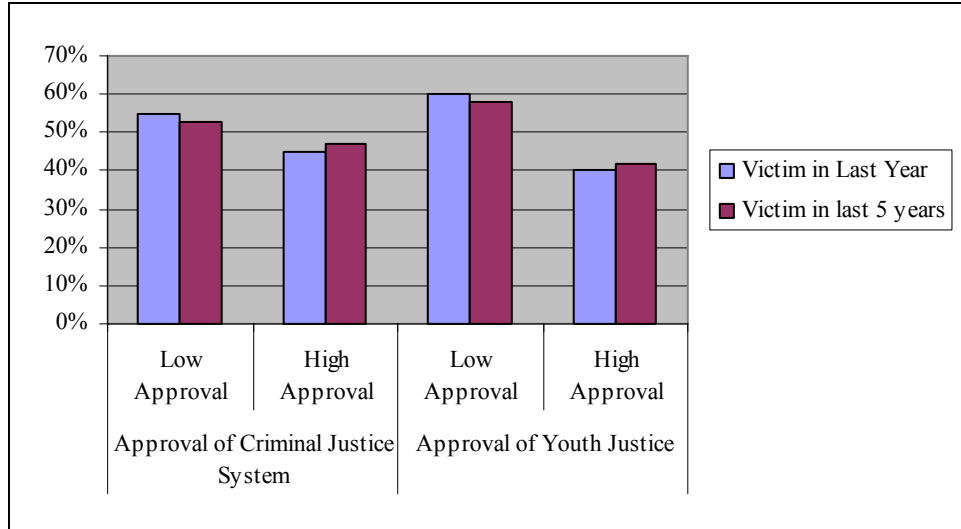
Graph P



N=1859, 1863

Graph Q is a comparison of approval for crime victims of one year and five years. As shown, recent victims of crime were slightly less approving of the delivery of justice and youth justice than those who indicated being victims in the last 5 years. In both cases, victims gave significantly lower approval than non-victims. Not shown were patterns of marginally significant positive association between minority status and approval of youth justice and strong significant negative associations between approval of either the justice system or youth justice practices and perception of high crime levels and high levels of fear and worry.

Graph Q



N ranges from 1790 to 1835

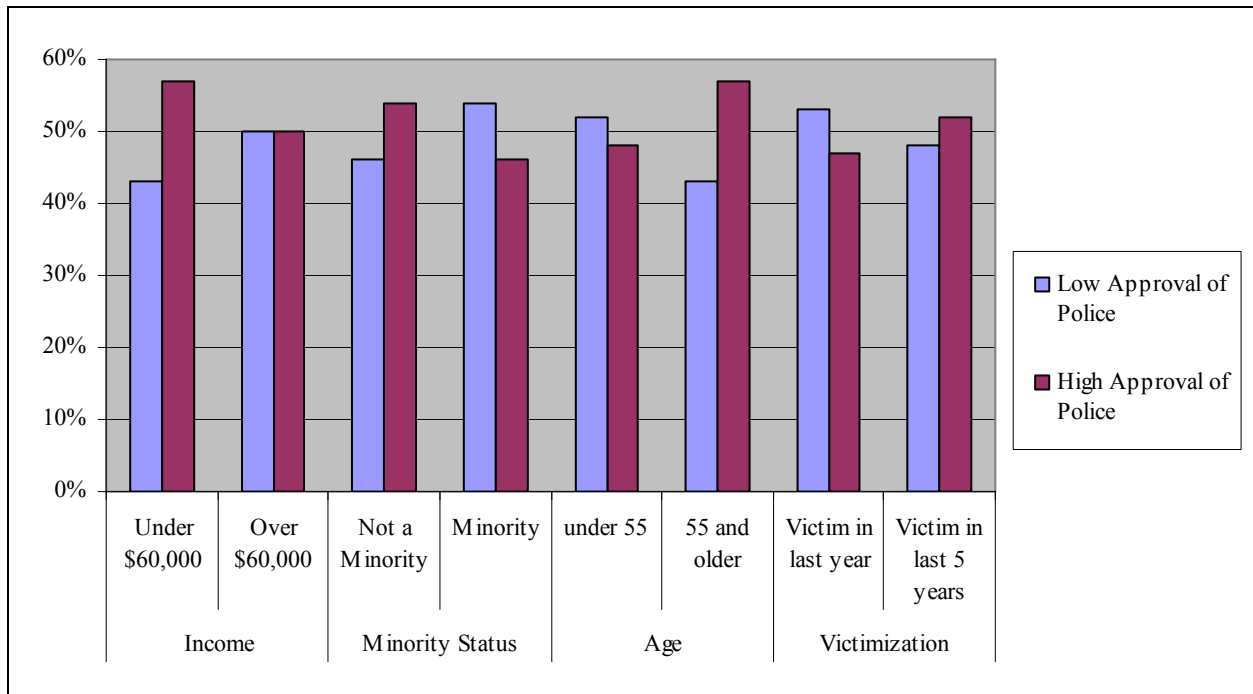
Regression analysis (not shown here) that included the independent variables of gender, age, education, victimization, minority status, being a homeowner, income, risk area, perceived problem or safety issues in one's local area, community embeddedness, out-of-home evening activities and active mastery, accounted for about 6% of the variance in CJS approval and 6% of the variance in approval of youth justice. The overwhelming consensus of the mail back respondents with respect to the criminal justice system and the youth justice practices made any search to explain variation largely fruitless. The most important determinant of approval found was 'perceived social problems and public safety issues in one's local area'; respondents perceiving much risk in those regards were also less approving of the justice system. Education had significant direct effects for approval of both the criminal justice system and the delivery of youth justice; those who had post-secondary educational credentials (i.e., graduates) were more approving of the delivery of justice in these areas. Gender also had direct effects on appraisals of the criminal justice system and youth justice practices with females more approving. Housing status was also a significant determinant as renters were more approving than homeowners. The consensus in respondents' views is evidenced by the fact that income level, minority status, living in the urban core or beyond, community embeddedness, and opportunity level (number of evenings one is out) were all non-differentiating variables.

There was more variation to be accounted for in the respondents' assessments (i.e., index scores) of their police services. Here the respondents' assessment of policing (i.e., whether it was good, average or poor) over nine commonly recognized police functions (see Q23a to Q23i) were transformed into an index score of approval. Interestingly, apart from the 'active mastery' variable, variation in the approval of the job that the HRM police were doing was influenced by factors that had no or weak relationship to perceptions of the delivery of justice. As shown in Graph R, income, minority status and age all had significant effects on approval for the HRM police. Respondents with lower income gave higher ratings to the police service than did their wealthier counterparts; older respondents gave higher ratings than younger adults, while minorities gave lower ratings than non-minorities. Those scoring high on the active mastery

index also gave the HRM police high approval. The impact of reported victimization depended on whether it was within the past year or earlier, with those recently experiencing victimization giving lower approval. None of these variables were related to approval with the criminal justice system, or youth justice, just as, aside from victimization, the factors which influenced appraisals of the justice systems (education, homeownership and gender) had no effects on approval of the HRM police. The police approval scores were significantly correlated with the justice system and youth justice system approval scores but the correlations were quite modest, namely .18 and .12 respectively.

The regression equation for approval of HRM policing did not fare much better than those carried out for approval of the justice system and youth justice as dependent variables. Only 5% of the variation in respondents' assessments of policing was accounted for. Four variables had significant direct impact, namely income, minority status, community integration or embeddedness and worry about property victimization. As noted above, low income persons, non-minority group members, those less worried about property victimization, and those more embedded in their local community were more likely than their counterparts to give HRM police high approval.

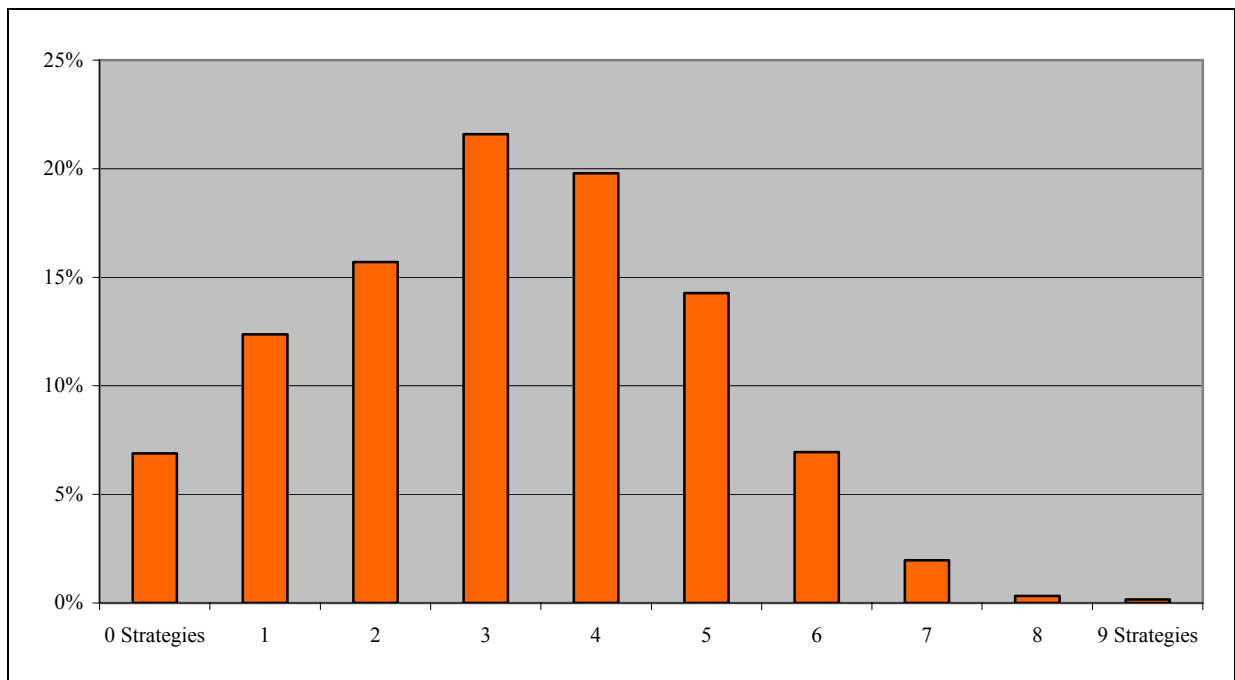
Graph R



5. CHANGE AND ADAPTATION OF CRIME PREVENTION STRATEGIES

As noted above, influencing whether or not a respondent had high levels of fear and worry was the number of crime prevention strategies they adapted into their lives. The survey queried residents about the types of precautions they have made in their lives and to their property for crime prevention purposes. The strategies' index score was created by counting the number of strategies an individual reported employing, and ranged from 0 to 9 strategies employed. The survey also provided space for survey respondents to contribute additional comments, which will be discussed also in this section of the analysis. The distribution of the strategies' index score is depicted in Graph S.

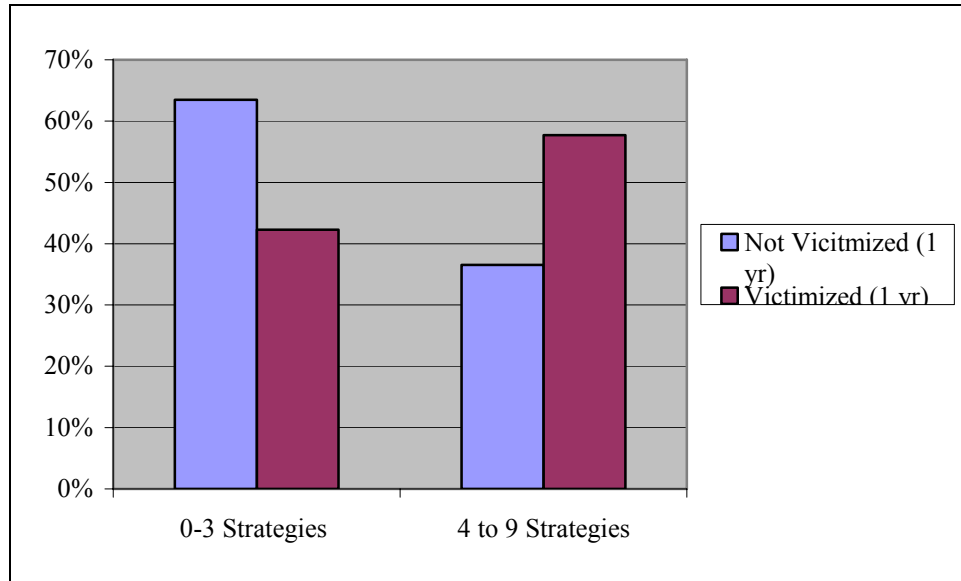
Graph S



A number of factors were related to the number of crime prevention strategies respondents incorporated into their lives. Significant relationships were observed between crime prevention strategies and gender ($r=.06$), age ($r=-.08$) and risk area (urban core areas) ($r=.08$). Females (46% to 40%), respondents living in the urban core areas (50% to 41%) and younger adults (48% to 40%) were more likely than their counterparts to employ a high level of adaptation strategies. Respondents who, on monthly average, spent a high number of evenings out utilized a higher level of adaptive strategies than those who did not (48% to 40%); in a separate analysis not shown here, where multiple categories of each variable were cross-tabulated, it was found that the more a respondent went out in the evening the more prevention strategies he or she used (Sp correlation .13 <.0000). Victimization played a significant role in the number of crime prevention strategies employed; as shown in Graph T, 58% of those who were victims of crime in the past year indicated that they had taken a high number of preventative

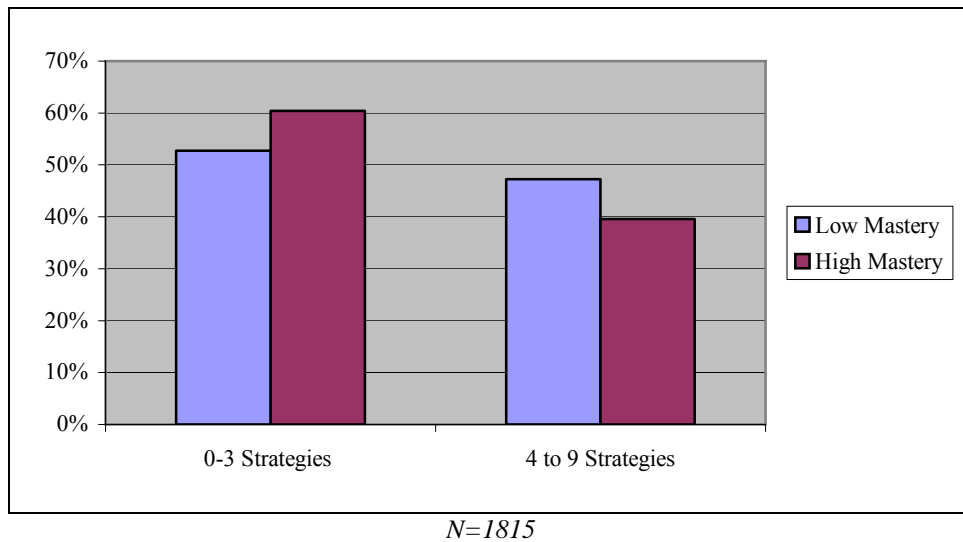
measures against crime in the past five years, compared to 37% of those who were not crime victims. Victimization within the past five years, whether it was person / violent victimization or property victimization, was also strongly associated with the number of adaptive strategies utilized (see table 6 below). High levels of fear and worry about violent or property victimization were also strongly linked to use of adaptive strategies (60% to 27% among those with low levels of fear).

Graph T

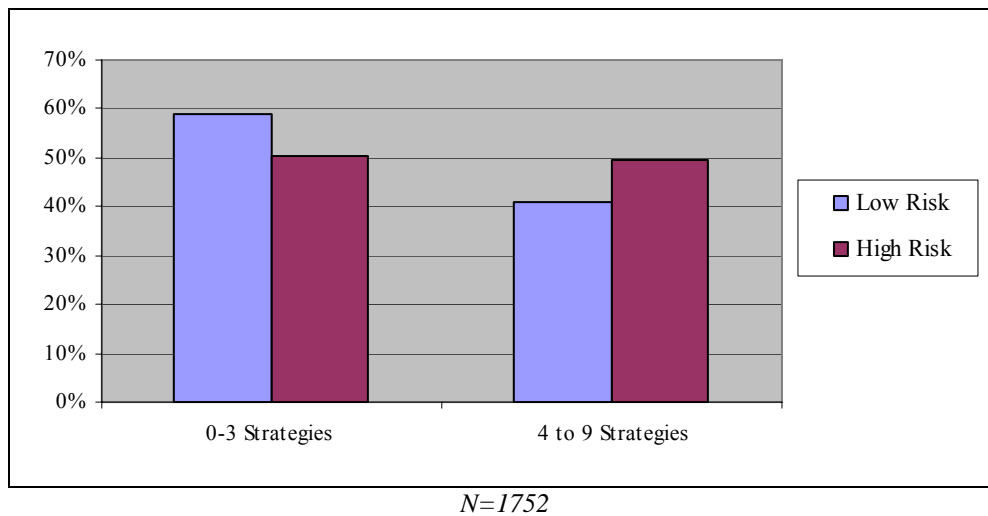


Active Mastery also played a role in the number of crime prevention strategies Halifax residents incorporated into their lives. Interestingly, this was a negative relationship; the more that a respondent felt in control of their own life, the fewer strategies they implemented, as shown in Graph U. This could be due to a number of factors; recall that those with higher mastery did not perceive Halifax to be a municipality with high crime, therefore, the negative relationship between strategies and mastery may be interpreted as those with higher mastery do not feel the need to prevent crime, because they do not feel immediately threatened by it. Those who lived in high risk urban core areas also reported making more adaptive changes to their lives and their property than those living in low risk areas, as shown in Graph V. In the high risk areas the split was 50% using 0 to 3 strategies and 50% using 4 to 9, compared to 59% and 41% respectively, in low risk areas.

Graph U

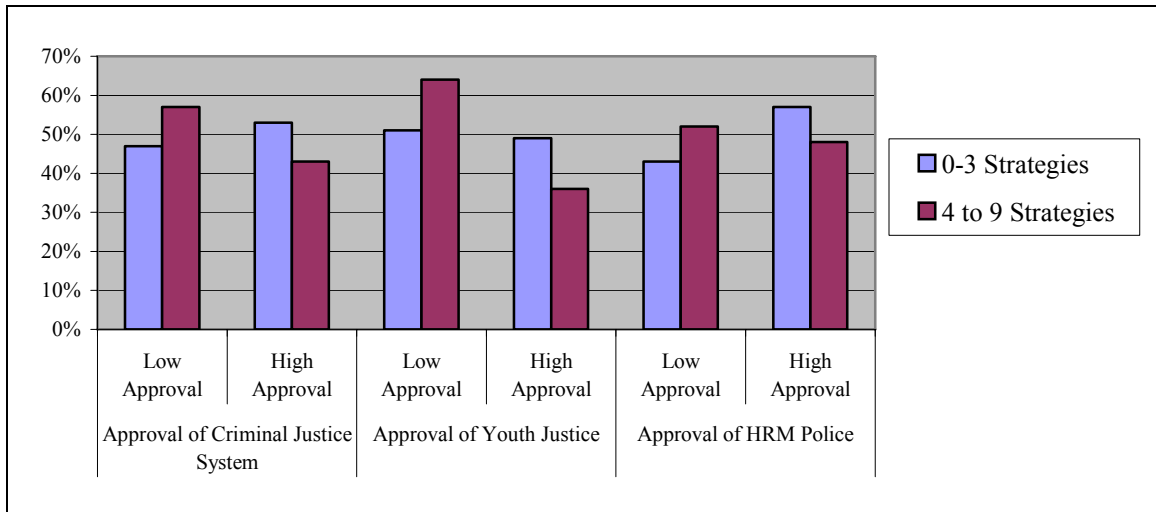


Graph V



The number of strategies a resident employed was also related to their appraisals of the Criminal Justice System. As shown in Graph W, respondents who had higher levels of approval for each aspect of the Criminal Justice System did not take as many precautions as those with lower approval for the delivery of law and order in the municipality; all these relationships were statistically significant at the <.000 level.

Graph W



N ranges from 1772 to 1805

In a regression analysis of crime prevention strategies, considering as independent variables victimization (property and person), fear and worry scores, gender, age, income, minority status, education, active mastery, risk district, being a homeowner, community embeddedness, and number of out-of-home activities, 19% of the variation in the number of adaptive strategies used was explained. Reported victimization, both property and person victimization experiences, fear and worry about possible victimization, and living in the urban core areas were the only variables that generated statistically significant direct effects on number of strategies employed, as shown in Table 6. The biggest impact on adopting prevention strategies was worry about potential violent victimization.

Table 6

Dependent Variable=Crime Prevention Strategies	β	Sig.
Victim of Property Crime (5 yrs)	0.12	0.000
Victim of Person Crime (5 yrs)	0.09	0.000
Worry person	0.21	0.000
(Urban Core)Risk Area	0.05	0.05
Worry property	0.18	0.000

N=1524; r²=.19

Table 7 shows the most used strategies reported by the respondents. Significant differences were observed for specific strategies between men and women, those living in low

risk and high risk areas, and especially those who were victimized in recent years compared to those who were not. In virtually every category of strategic adaptation, those recently victimized were significantly more likely to utilize the particular strategy.

Table 7

Strategies	Percent
Locked Car Doors While in Car	79%
Planned Route Mindful of Safety	63%
Changed Routine	58%
Installed New Locks/Security Bars	42%
Installed Burglar Alarm	30%
Carried Something for Defense	27%
Got a dog	13%
Changed residence	4%

Of the provided options, the majority of respondents (79%) indicated that in the last five years they had locked their car doors for personal safety when they were alone in car. Women were far more likely to indicated this as a crime prevention strategy than men; 88% compared to 67%. Likewise, being a victim of crime in the last 5 years also influenced whether or not a respondent locked the car door when they were alone in it; 83% of crime victims employed this strategy compared to 77% of non-victims.

Another way whereby HRM residents adapted their fear and worry into crime prevention strategies was by making a change to their routine or avoiding certain places. 58% of the respondents reported that strategy. In general, all the significant relationships identified for use of many adaptive strategies – high levels of fear and worry, victimization, perceived high risks, younger adults, females, living in the urban core, frequent evening outings and disapproval of the justice system - were also highly significant (i.e., at the <.000 level) for this specific strategy. More women (69%) indicated that they had changed their routine or avoided certain places than men did (55%). While both men and women frequently indicated in the comments section that they did not go out alone after dark, more women noted that they simply did not go out at night at all; for example, one 61-year-old woman from the North Dartmouth wrote, “I don’t go out after dark unless it’s an emergency.” More renters than owners reported changing their routines as did those victimized within the past year versus non-victims (68% to 54%) and those spending many evenings out per month versus their counterparts (62% to 55%). People living in neighborhoods identified as high-risk areas (i.e., the urban cores) were more likely than those residing elsewhere (71% to 59%) to indicate that they had changed their routine or planned their routes mindful of safety, and avoiding certain areas. Victimized respondents any time in the past five years were more likely to plan their routes than the non-victimized (74% to 58%). Interestingly, older people were less likely to indicate that they changed their routine or avoided certain places than younger people. Only 54% of those over the age of 55 indicated this was a measure of their adaptation compared to 63% of those under the age of 55. The difference is undoubtedly related to the fact that the older respondents spend far fewer evenings out per month than those under 55 years of age (within the latter category respondents under 35 spent far more evenings out per month than those over 35). Several specific areas were mentioned by as places to avoid by the mail back respondents (the specific places mentioned were in keeping with The

Daily News poll published October 3, 2007). However, the Downtown area was by far most frequently cited as a destination to avoid for preventative purposes. A 41-year old woman from Spryfield wrote, "When downtown or at the mall I make sure I am aware of my surroundings-make a point of looking around me and walk more diligently. [I] will not walk downtown alone at night anymore." "We never go down town to restaurants anymore. At one time we went once a week or more," wrote a 62-year old man from Rockingham. Indeed, a large number of respondents reported that they have sharply curtailed their walking anywhere at night and several indicated greater use of their automobiles; for example, one person commented, "I have consciously decided to drive my car to and from work rather than walk, bike or take the bus".

Many residents (42%) indicated that they made adaptations to their property by securing their homes using locks and security bars, installing burglar alarms, investing in special lighting (e.g., motion sensor lights) and so forth. One woman, who was 53 and lived in the municipal district of the more rural part of HRM, indicated that she had taken numerous precautions with her property, "Have solar lights on 2 back steps sensor light garage, sensor lights on front steps, dead bolts on 2 back and front doors. Locks on windows, dead bold basement stairs also chair [and] bars on basement windows and locks. Cut trees around property, none near house and windows. Paint trees and objects white. Beware of dog sign. Alarm and police sign." This type of adaptive strategy was significantly more likely to be employed by males (33% to 26% among females), by those with higher incomes (35% to 26%), by respondents who spent a large number of evenings out per month (45% to 39%), and of course more by home owners than by renters (33% to 9%). Victimized respondents were also significantly more likely to use such adaptations (54% to 36%).

Carrying something (especially a cell phone but occasionally a whistle) to defend oneself or alert others was an adaptation employed by 27% of respondents. While there were no statistically significant differences observed among high-risk and low-risk area residents, low and high income groupings or minority and non-minority respondents, such differences were present across the dimensions of gender, age, renter status, and victimization. Renters were far more likely than homeowners to report "carrying something" (45% to 25%). Women (29%) were more likely than men (24%) to report carrying an item for protection, as were respondents under the age of 55 (32% compared to 22% of those over 55 and older). Those who had been victims of crime were also more likely to report carrying something for defense (33%) than those who had not been victims (24%). Women, more often than men, cited their use of protection tools such as their keys and car alarms. "Sometimes I carry my keys in my hand, locked between my fingers to use as a weapon (stabbing) if necessary. It depends on the area and if I see/ hear people around. It's not something I worry about, it's just a precaution I sometimes take," wrote a 35 year old woman from the Dartmouth Centre. Another woman reported that she keeps at the ready, her key chain with a sharp object attached to it.

Overall, then, the key determinants of respondents using adaptive strategies to deal with real or perceived threats of victimization were being female, a renter, a younger adult, a resident of an objectively defined high risk area, or having experienced either property or person victimization at any time over the previous five years. These independent variable all generated statistically significant associations with age, gender and victimization being the most significant in the cross-tabulations (all have a Spearman correlations of roughly .15, significant at <.000).

Variables such as fear and worry and perceived risks in one's local area were of course more directly causal with respect to using strategies of adaptation and not surprisingly when they were added in, their impact was even more powerful and significant.

Other strategies mentioned in the comments section of this question included common sense solutions such as being aware of surroundings, knowing how and when to avoid confrontation, and maintaining the appearance of confidence when in a potentially harmful situation. Both men and women noted that "awareness" was a strategy that they employed as a crime prevention strategy. One 49 year old woman from East Dartmouth wrote, "[I] don't take chances. Maintain situation awareness [and] use common sense." Another woman, who is 29 from the North End of Halifax wrote, "I think having awareness is important which may/can cause me to avoid certain places," however awareness in this case was indicated to be a somewhat normal state regardless of a perceived threat of crime, "But I do not feel it affects my quality of life. I would be aware no matter where I was." Situational awareness did not just mean awareness of physical surroundings, but also of other people who are perceived as being a threat. "Be more aware when out, watching other people movements, keeping at a distance," wrote a 48 year old woman from the Albro Lake area of Dartmouth. Large groups of youth were indicated as requiring awareness, "[I] try to stay clear of young people (teens and young adults) that are in groups, especially evenings and at night," noted a 58 year old man from the North End of Halifax. Women, in particular, mentioned a need to be aware of their movements around men; as a 56 year old woman from the South End of Halifax wrote, "Awareness of people - especially younger men." Not all people were comfortable with their inclinations to fear the other, "[I] make judgments I wish I didn't have to and am uncomfortable with," wrote a 38 year old woman from Rockingham.

A number of men indicated that confidence and projecting a presence of strength was a strategy that they often employed. "[I] have a willingness to confront and fight back against teens who fear retaliation or punishment," wrote a 39 year old man from Purcell's Cove. A 54 year old man from Spryfield noted, "I maintain a presence that creates the illusion I am not someone to mess with. Look at this in their eyes. Let them know I am aware of their presence in a non-threatening manner. Don't get my power away." "[I] look angry," wrote a 65 year old man from Woodside-Eastern Passage. Another man, who is 55 years old from Portland/East Woodlawn noted, "[I] do not dress rich." Management of appearance was also noted by some women, however towards slightly different ends; "[I] carry bag so they don't think [I'm a] prostitute (Big problem!)," noted a 40 year old woman from the Albro Lake/Harbourview area of Dartmouth. On the other hand, several women indicated that they no longer carry a purse for fear of mugging.

PART C: SOME POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The mail-back survey essentially reproduced the results of the telephone survey with respect to HRM adults' perception of crime levels, of crime trends in their own neighbourhood, and their fears and worries about violent and property victimization. The larger sample of residents from high risk areas sharpened the trends found among the telephone sample (e.g., fully a third of the respondents agreed at least somewhat that they feared being a victim of crime more than other things in their lives), and resulted in some variables becoming statistically significant when they were only marginally so in the first survey (e.g., relying mostly on friends and relatives for information about crime and safety and perceiving high levels of crime or expressing fear and worry about possible victimization). The same variables, however, were associated with perception of HRM as a high crime milieu (being female, lower household income, living in the urban cores, past victimization, less sense of personal control, and past victimization) as in the telephone survey. Similar results were obtained when variation in high scores for perceived high local area risks was examined. Experience and socio-economic factors were crucial in accounting for the variation in respondents' responses in both surveys. That was also the case with respect to fear and worry about violent or property victimization. In the telephone survey the main factors associated with fear and worry of either violent or property victimization were past victimization, living in the urban core areas and low active mastery but, in case of fear of violent crime, socio-economic factors and vulnerability were also important (i.e., low income, gender (being female), renters rather than homeowners, and minority group member). In the mail-back the same pattern was found. Fear and worry of violent or property crime were both related to previous victimization and low sense of personal control but, additionally, fear of violent crime was related to social vulnerability (being female, renting, living in the urban core, being a member of a minority group) while high fear of property crime was more common among homeowners and those more frequently out in the evening.

One of the major advantages of the mail-back survey was that it allowed more detailed examination of actual victimization. There was considerable congruence between the telephone and mail-back surveys. Some factors with the high odds risk ratios in the telephone sample for violent victimization were significant in the analyses here too (e.g., renters, minority member, low community integration scores) and most of the variables with odds risk ratios for property victimization were significant for the property victimization reported here in the mail-back survey (e.g., higher income, employment or post-secondary education). The factors accounting best for any victimization within the past five years were almost virtually identical in the two surveys (i.e., less than 55 years old, higher income, post-secondary education, frequent evening outings, and living in the urban core areas). The mail-back results underlined the somewhat different trajectories for violent as opposed to property victimization; while adults under 55 years reported more victimization than those over 55 in both cases, renting and being a minority were crucial determinants for violence victimization whereas being male, having post-secondary education and frequently going out in the evening were key determinants of property victimization. Even with the larger sample and more 'at risk' respondents it was not possible to account for much of the variation in respondents' reported victimization and one might well speculate that a lot of victimization is random.

Mail-back respondents generally expressed much approval for and confidence in HRM policing, whether it be in assessing policing in their local area compared to that in other parts of the municipality, wanting more police officers, assessing performance on the standard police functions or rating the police vis-a-vis other institutions in society. Still, reflecting perhaps the greater proportion in the high risks areas, they were more critical than those in the telephone survey and gave significantly more “poor job” assessments for three functions, namely visibility, crime prevention information, and help in dealing with local area problems. In the generally positive context, there was variation in responses; older respondents, non-minority respondents, those with high community integration scores, those with a high sense of personal control, and, surprisingly, lower income respondents were more likely to render high approval. The ‘explanatory’ patterns were similar to those in the telephone surveys save for surprisingly income result (which may be accounted for by noting the larger number of older, retired persons in the mail-back survey).

The views and assessments of mail-back respondents concerning the courts and the youth justice system were just as consensually critical as in the telephone sample. Over 40% indicated that the courts did a “poor job” on its key functions and only 1% of the entire sample reported themselves “very confident” that youth justice was accomplishing its formal objectives (beyond de-incarceration). In both cases – court and youth justice – the same variables yielded some positive assessments, namely respondents with post-secondary education, females, and renters compared to owners. These are different from the mix associated with high approval in the telephone survey. Victimization, especially recent victimization, and perception of one’s neighbourhood as high risk, were especially likely to generate low approval or confidence scores.

Adaptive responses to actual and possible victimization essentially followed the rank order found in the telephone sample and, as in the latter, the similar variables were associated both with using a high number of strategies and using the single, most general one (i.e., changing one’s routine or avoiding certain places), namely being female, adults under 55 years of age, living in the urban core area, all measures of actual victimization, worry about both violence and property crime, lower sense of personal control, lower approval of policing, the courts or the youth justice system, and more frequent evenings out. While there was much overlap with the variables found to be associated with the two adaptive strategies in the telephone survey, the larger sample, and especially the increased representation from the more at-risk areas of HRM, resulted in more variables being statistically significant and living in the urban core areas replaced gender as the dominant objective factor in generating adaptive responses.

Given the similarities with the telephone survey results, the mail-back results essentially confirm and underline the four central themes discussed in relation to that sample. They are

- 1. There are some widely held positions, namely that crime and violence are increasing in HRM and in the local neighbourhood, that the police services are doing a good or average job in dealing with the issues, that the courts and youth justice are not, and that adaptive strategies are required by the residents.**

- 2. There is significant variation in perceptions, fear and worry, victimization, and assessments of the criminal justice system and the key objective variables correlated with high values on all these matters are usually (property victimization being less so) lower socio-economic status, living in the urban core, and being vulnerable (female, minority).**
- 3. Respondents have high approval for policing but do identify some areas for improvement such as police visibility and crime prevention assistance. The dependence on enhancement of police services is significantly a consequence of respondents' poor ratings for the courts and youth justice.**
- 4. The adaptive responses of HRM residents indicate the value of more crime prevention information becoming available and also of the need for system-level changes whether in policing or in the delivery and communication about alternatives to standard court processing of crimes and violence.**

Clearly the extra-attention given to the at-risk areas in the mail-back sampling has drawn more attention to the concerns and risks of adults living in the urban core areas and to vulnerable people more generally. The critique of the criminal justice system was even more pronounced in the mail-back survey as was the concern for more visible policing presence, more crime prevention programming and information dissemination, and assistance in dealing with local area problems. While any kind of victimization proved significant in accounting for variations in respondents' answers, violent or person victimization was especially crucial and itself was largely found among the less socially advantaged people and areas as well as the more otherwise vulnerable.