

Special Meeting of the Panel on Security of the Legislative Council
27th January 2010

Brief Report on Hong Kong's Law and Order Situation in 2009

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to give a brief account of the overall law and order situation of Hong Kong in 2009.

Overall Crime Situation

2. The overall law and order situation in Hong Kong remained stable in 2009. The overall crime figure was 77 630, a decrease of 839 or 1.1% when compared with 78 469 in the previous year. The overall crime rate, that is, measuring by number of crimes per 100 000 population, stood at 1 108 cases, a drop of 1.5% when compared with 1 125 cases in the preceding year. Hong Kong is still one of the safest cities with a low crime rate when compared with other major cities in the world.

3. The detection rate was 45.6%, the same as in 2008.

4. There were 14 193 cases of violent crime, a drop of 236 cases or 1.6% when compared with 2008. For the violent crime rate, there were 203 cases per 100 000 population, a reduction of 4 cases or 2.1% when compared with 207 cases in the previous year.

5. Compared with the preceding year, crimes that recorded a rise /a drop are as follows:

Crimes that recorded a rise		Crimes that recorded a drop	
Shop theft	+ 1 390 cases	Miscellaneous thefts	- 1 549 cases
Deception	+ 477 cases	Theft from vehicle	- 323 cases
Criminal intimidation	+ 404 cases	Burglary	- 285 cases
Pickpocketing	+ 142 cases	Missing motor vehicles	- 254 cases
Blackmail	+ 45 cases	Serious assault	- 211 cases
Domestic violence crimes	+ 32 cases	Child abuse	- 128 cases
Rape	+ 31 cases	Arson	- 109 cases
Wounding	+ 17 cases	Criminal damage	- 97 cases
Homicide	+ 11 cases	Indecent assault	- 63 cases
Robbery with stun guns	+ 5 cases	Serious narcotics offences	- 37 cases
		Triad-related crimes	- 25 cases
		Snatching	- 20 cases
		Robbery with pistol-like objects	- 10 cases
		Bank robbery	- 4 cases
		Goldsmith/watch shop robberies	- 3 cases

No cases of robbery with genuine firearms occurred during the year. The number of elder abuse cases is the same as the preceding year.

Individual Crimes

6. The key points of the individual items in the List of Crimes (Please refer to the annex) are as follows:

Item 3. Homicide

7. A total of 47 cases of homicide were recorded, a rise of 11 cases or 30.6% when compared with the preceding year. 44 cases were detected and the detection rate was 93.6%. More than half of the cases were related to domestic violence or killings between relatives. In 32 cases or 68.1%, the culprits knew their victims.

Item 4. Robberies

8. Cases of robbery totalled 870, a drop of 230 cases or 20.9% when compared with the previous year. There was no robbery with genuine firearms in 2009. There were 5 robberies with stun guns, a rise of 5 cases compared with the previous year. Decrease was noted in most of the other robberies. Robbery with pistol-like objects and bank robbery decreased by 10 cases and 4 cases or 45.5% and 40% respectively. Among the bank robberies, no loss had been incurred in 3 cases whilst the total loss in the remaining 3 amounted to some HK\$90,000.

Item 5. Burglary

9. There were 4 489 cases of burglary, a drop of 285 cases or 6% when compared with the previous year. Burglaries on residential buildings were 2 876 cases (64.1%) and non-residential buildings were 1 613 cases (35.9%), a decrease of 142 cases (4.7%) and 143 cases (8.1%) respectively. The proportion of burglaries on residential buildings and non-residential buildings was similar to the preceding year.

Item 6. Wounding and Serious Assault

10. A total of 7 688 cases of wounding and serious assault were recorded, 1 903 cases were wounding and 5 785 cases were serious assault. The total number dropped by 194 cases or 2.5% when compared with the preceding year. Among them, 1 367 cases (17.8%) were related to domestic violence, a drop of 61 cases or 4.3% when compared with the preceding year; 603 cases (7.8%) were triad-related, a decrease of 45 cases or 6.9%; 36 cases (0.5%) were related to debt collection activities, an increase of 1 case or 2.9% when compared with the preceding year; and 5 576 cases (72.5%) were caused by various disputes, such as drunk and disorderly, traffic accidents and work disputes, etc., a decrease of 88 cases or 1.6% when compared with the preceding year.

Item 7. Serious Narcotics Offences

11. Altogether there were 2 929 serious narcotics cases, a drop of 37 cases or 1.2% when compared with the preceding year. Of these, 2 520 cases involved psychotropic drugs, making up 86% of the overall

cases, a drop of 11 cases or 0.4% when compared with the previous year. For psychotropic drugs, cases involving Ketamine still shared a considerable proportion, which increased from 1 555 cases in the previous year to 1 598 cases in 2009, an increase of 43 cases or 2.8%. Cases involving heroin decreased from 413 to 398, a drop of 15 cases or 3.6%. In 2009, 3 697 persons were arrested in connection with serious narcotics cases, a decrease of 21 or 0.6% when compared with the preceding year. Among the 3 697 persons, 1 115 (30.2%) were youths, a drop of 38 persons or 3.3% when compared with the preceding year.

Item 8. Criminal Intimidation

12. There were 2 338 cases of criminal intimidation in total, representing an increase of 404 cases or 20.9% when compared with the preceding year. Of these, 607 cases (26%) were related to domestic violence, a rise of 75 cases or 14.1% when compared with the preceding year; 84 cases (3.6%) were triad-related, a rise of 5 cases or 6.3% when compared with the preceding year; 507 cases (21.7%) were related to debt collection activities, a rise of 92 cases or 22.2% when compared with the preceding year; the remaining 1 140 cases (48.8%) were caused by various disputes, such as disputes over money or emotional feelings; a rise of 232 cases or 25.6% when compared with the preceding year.

Item 9. Blackmail

13. A total of 354 cases of blackmail were recorded, an increase of 45 cases or 14.6% when compared with the preceding year. Analysis showed that 22 cases (6.2%) were related to domestic violence, an increase of 11 cases or 100% when compared with the preceding year; 144 cases (40.7%) were triad-related, a drop of 1 case or 0.7% when compared with the preceding year; 8 cases (2.3%) were related to debt collection activities, an increase of 4 cases or 100% when compared with the preceding year; the remaining 180 cases (50.8%) were caused by various disputes, a rise of 31 cases or 20.8% when compared with the preceding year.

Item 10. Arson

14. 675 cases of arson were recorded, a drop of 109 cases or 13.9%

when compared with the preceding year. Among them, 99 cases or 14.7% involved vehicles, a decrease of 13 cases or 11.6% when compared with the previous year; 439 cases or 65% of them took place in a public place, a drop of 70 cases or 13.8% when compared with the previous year; 137 cases or 20.3% took place at non-public places, a decrease of 26 cases or 16% when compared with the preceding year. Out of the 675 cases, 9 cases (1.3%) were related to domestic violence, a rise of 2 cases (28.6%); 25 cases (3.7%) were triad-related, an increase of 7 cases (38.9%) when compared with the preceding year; 10 cases (1.5%) were related to debt collection activities, an increase of 2 cases or 25% when compared with the preceding year; 213 cases (31.6 %) were found to be mischievous acts, a decrease of 38 cases (15.1%); 77 cases (11.4%) were caused by various disputes, a drop of 27 cases (26%) when compared with the preceding year.

Item 11. Rape

15. 136 cases of rape in total were recorded, an increase of 31 cases or 29.5% when compared with the preceding year. 121 cases were detected and the detection rate stood at 89%. In 130 cases (95.6%), victims knew the offenders whereas in 104 cases the victims and their attackers were friends. There were 31 cases in which the victims were under 16 years old, 6 cases more than the previous year.

Item 12. Indecent Assault

16. Indecent assault cases totalled 1 318, a drop of 63 cases or 4.6% when compared with the preceding year. The detection rate was 70.9%, a rise of 3.3 percentage points when compared with 67.6% in the previous year. Of these, 931 cases (70.6%) took place at public places, such as streets, public spots or on board of public transport. The remaining 387 cases occurred at private places, such as domestic buildings, schools and commercial buildings.

Item 13. Thefts

17. 34 554 cases of theft were recorded, representing 44.5% of the overall crime, a decrease of 676 cases or 1.9% when compared with the preceding year. Pickpocketing and shop theft were the two sub-items

that registered a rise whereas the remaining sub-items saw a drop. A total of 1 082 cases of pickpocketing were recorded, an increase of 142 cases or 15.1%. A total of 10 733 cases of shop theft were recorded, an increase of 1 390 cases or 14.9%.

Item 14. Deception

18. 5 130 cases of deception were recorded, a rise of 477 cases or 10.3% when compared with 2008. Except for street deception (-152 cases), other common deception cases, such as telephone deception (+66 cases) and deception involving loss and stolen credit cards (+149 cases), registered an increase.

Item 15. Criminal Damage

19. There were 6 807 cases of criminal damage, a reduction of 97 cases (1.4%) when compared with the preceding year. Analysis showed that 179 cases (2.6%) were related to domestic violence, an increase of 11 cases (6.5%) when compared with the previous year; 94 cases (1.4%) were triad-related, a drop of 1 case (1.1%); 1 314 cases (19.3%) were related to debt collection activities, a drop of 29 cases (2.2%) when compared with the preceding year; 847 cases (12.4%) were related to various disputes, a decrease of 13 cases (1.5%); 870 cases (12.8%) were related to mischievous acts, an increase of 44 cases (5.3%); the causes of 648 cases (9.5%) were related to other reasons, such as psychosis and drunk and disorderly, etc., a decrease of 81 cases (11.1%) when compared with the preceding year.

Item 16. Triad-related Crimes

20. A total of 2 351 triad-related crimes were recorded, a decrease of 25 cases or 1.1% when compared with 2 376 cases in the previous year. Analysis showed that the majority of the offences under this category were 'unlawful society cases' – 684 cases or 29.1%, a decrease of 91 cases or 11.7% when compared with the preceding year, 'wounding and serious assault' – 603 cases or 25.6%, a drop of 45 cases or 6.9% when compared with the preceding year and 'serious narcotics offences' – 290 cases or 12.3%, an increase of 66 cases or 29.5% when compared with the preceding year. The number of triad-related crimes accounted for

3% of the overall crime, which is around the average over the last ten years.

Item 17. Domestic Violence Crimes

21. A total of 2 373 criminal cases of domestic violence were recorded in 2009, a rise of 32 cases or 1.4% when compared with 2 341 cases in the previous year. The main causes of domestic violence were disputes over money and relationship problems.

Item 18. Child Abuse

22. 1 515 cases involving crimes against children were recorded, a drop of 128 cases or 7.8% when compared with 1 643 cases in the previous year. Of these, 627 cases were physical abuse against children, a drop of 35 cases or 5.3% whereas 888 were cases of sexual abuse against children, a drop of 93 cases or 9.5%. The drop was mainly attributed to the decrease of unlawful sexual intercourse with underage girl and indecent assault cases, which decreased by 27 cases and 73 cases respectively.

Item 19. Elder Abuse

23. 315 cases of elder abuse were recorded, the same number as in the preceding year. Under this category, the majority were physical abuse cases which stood at 181 cases (57.5%). The remaining cases related to embezzlement of property and psychological abuse which stood at 94 and 40 or 29.8% and 12.7% respectively.

Item 20. Persons Arrested for Crime

24. In 2009, 40 725 persons were arrested for crimes, 29 666 males (73%) and 11 059 females (27%). The proportion was similar to the preceding year. The total number of persons arrested dropped by 495 or 1.2% from 41 220 in the previous year.

Item 20. Youth Arrested

25. In 2009, the number of juveniles (aged 10-15) and young

persons (aged 16-20) arrested for crimes stood at 4 006 and 4 684 (8 690 in total), a decrease of 318 or 3.5% when compared with 2008. The number of youths arrested made up 21.3% of the total number of persons arrested, compared with 21.9% in the preceding year. A total of 2 882 or 33.2% of them were arrested for miscellaneous thefts and shop theft, a decrease of 79 persons (2.7%) when compared with the preceding year; 1 339 persons (15.4%) were arrested for wounding and serious assault, a drop of 27 persons (2%) when compared with the preceding year; and a total of 1 115 (12.8%) youths were arrested for serious narcotics offences, a decrease of 38 persons or 3.3% when compared with the preceding year.

Item 20. Mainland Illegal Immigrants and Visitors Arrested

26. In 2009, a total of 1 813 illegal immigrants from the Mainland were arrested, a drop of 463 persons (20.3%) when compared with 2 276 persons in the preceding year. Among them, 207 were arrested for criminal offences in Hong Kong, a drop of 26 or 11.2% when compared with 233 persons in the preceding year.

27. There were 17.69 million arrivals from the Mainland in 2009, a rise of 1.08 million or 6.5%, 10.59 million of which were under 'Individual Visitor Scheme', an increase of 0.97 million arrivals or 10.1%. During the period, 1 263 mainland visitors in total were arrested for criminal offences in Hong Kong, a drop of 265 persons or 17.3% when compared with the number in the preceding year. Of these, the number of persons under 'Individual Visitor Scheme' arrested for committing criminal offences was 463, a drop of 68 persons or 12.8% when compared with 2008. Per 100 000 arrivals, the number of mainland visitors that committed crimes were 7.1 persons in 2009 and 9.2 persons in 2008.

Hong Kong Police Force
January, 2010



警務處處長向
香港特別行政區立法會
保安事務委員會
匯報二零零九年
罪案統計數字

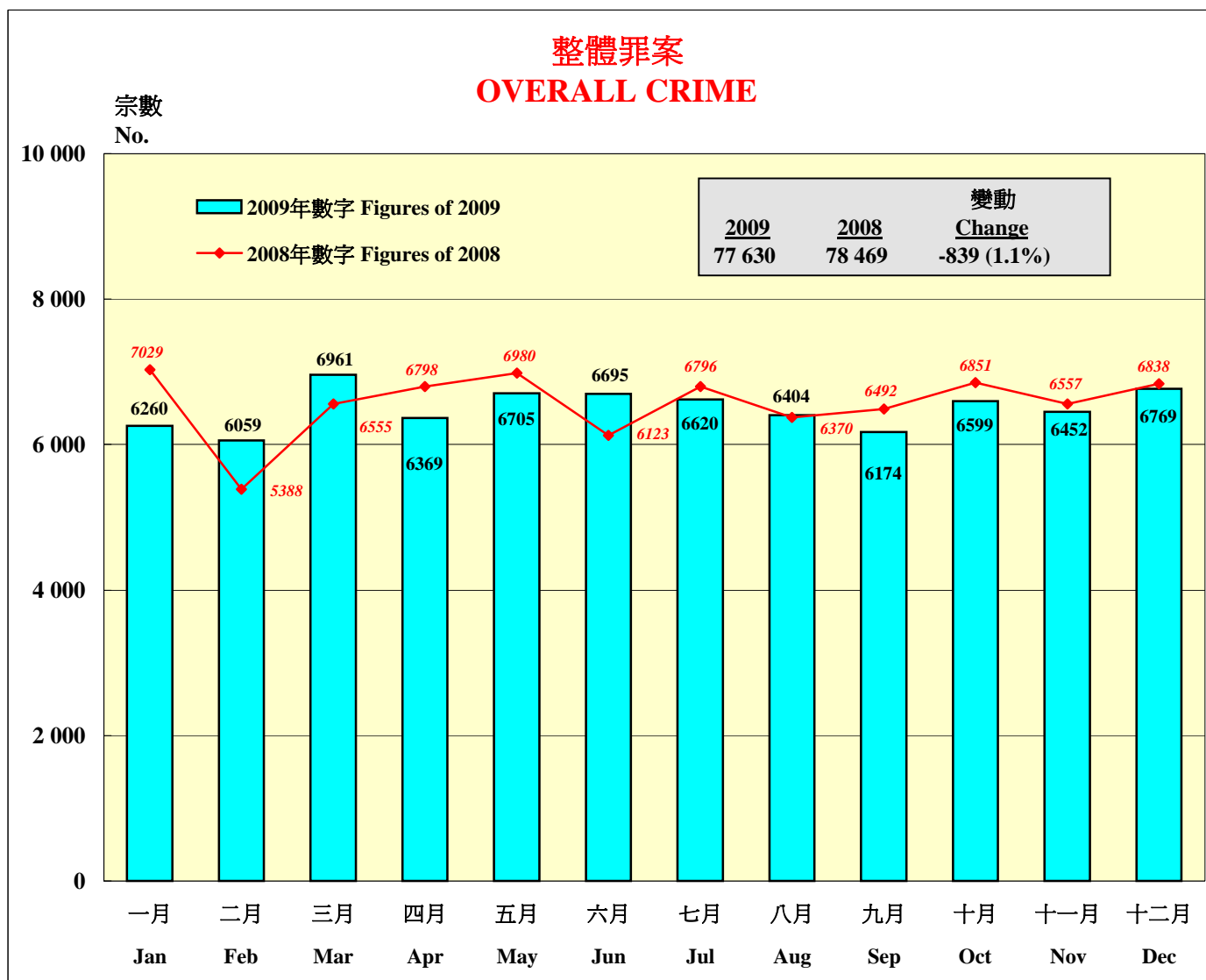
**COMMISSIONER OF POLICE
BRIEF TO THE HKSAR
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
PANEL ON SECURITY
CRIME STATISTICS
CALENDAR YEAR 2009**

二零零九年主要罪案
Major Crimes, 2009

	2009	2008	2009年與2008年比較 Comparison of 2009 v 2008	
			變動 Change	幅度 Rate (%)
1. 整體罪案 Overall Crime	77 630	78 469	- 839	- 1.1
2. 暴力罪案 Violent Crime	14 193	14 429	- 236	- 1.6
3. 兇殺 Homicide	47	36	+ 11	+ 30.6
4. 各類劫案，包括： All Robberies, including :	870	1 100	- 230	- 20.9
- 持真槍 with Firearms	-	-	-	-
- 持電槍 with Stun Guns	5	-	+ 5	-
- 持類似手槍 with Pistol-like Objects	12	22	- 10	- 45.5
- 銀行劫案 Bank Robbery	6	10	- 4	- 40.0
- 金舖／錶行劫案 Goldsmith/Watch Shop Robberies	2	5	- 3	- 60.0
5. 爆竊 Burglary	4 489	4 774	- 285	- 6.0
6. 傷人及嚴重毆打 Wounding and Serious Assault	7 688	7 882	- 194	- 2.5
- 傷人 Wounding	1 903	1 886	+ 17	+ 0.9
- 嚴重毆打 Serious Assault	5 785	5 996	- 211	- 3.5
7. 嚴重毒品罪行 Serious Narcotics Offences	2 929	2 966	- 37	- 1.2
8. 刑事恐嚇 Criminal Intimidation	2 338	1 934	+ 404	+ 20.9
9. 勒索 Blackmail	354	309	+ 45	+ 14.6
10. 縱火 Arson	675	784	- 109	- 13.9
11. 強姦 Rape	136	105	+ 31	+ 29.5
12. 非禮 Indecent Assault	1 318	1 381	- 63	- 4.6
13. 盜竊案，包括： All Thefts, including :	34 554	35 230	- 676	- 1.9
- 搶掠 Snatching	428	448	- 20	- 4.5
- 扒竊 Pickpocketing	1 082	940	+ 142	+ 15.1
- 店舖盜竊 Shop Theft	10 733	9 343	+ 1 390	+ 14.9
- 車內盜竊 Theft from Vehicle	1 782	2 105	- 323	- 15.3
- 雜項盜竊 Miscellaneous Thefts	18 640	20 189	- 1 549	- 7.7
- 失車 Missing Motor Vehicles	1 106	1 360	- 254	- 18.7
14. 詐騙 Deception	5 130	4 653	+ 477	+ 10.3
15. 刑事毀壞 Criminal Damage	6 807	6 904	- 97	- 1.4
16. 三合會相關罪案 Triad-related Crimes	2 351	2 376	- 25	- 1.1
17. 家庭暴力刑事案件 Domestic Violence Crimes	2 373	2 341	+ 32	+ 1.4
18. 虐兒 Child Abuse	1 515	1 643	- 128	- 7.8
19. 虐老 Elder Abuse	315	315	-	-
20. 被捕罪犯(總數) Persons Arrested for Crime (Total)	40 725	41 220	- 495	- 1.2
- 少年(10 - 15歲) Juveniles (Aged 10 - 15)	4 006	4 178	- 172	- 4.1
- 青年(16 - 20歲) Young Persons (Aged 16 - 20)	4 684	4 830	- 146	- 3.0
- 內地非法入境者 Mainland Illegal Immigrants	207	233	- 26	- 11.2
- 內地旅客 Mainland Visitors	1 263	1 528	- 265	- 17.3

二零零九年一月至十二月罪案情況

Crime Situation during Jan - Dec 2009

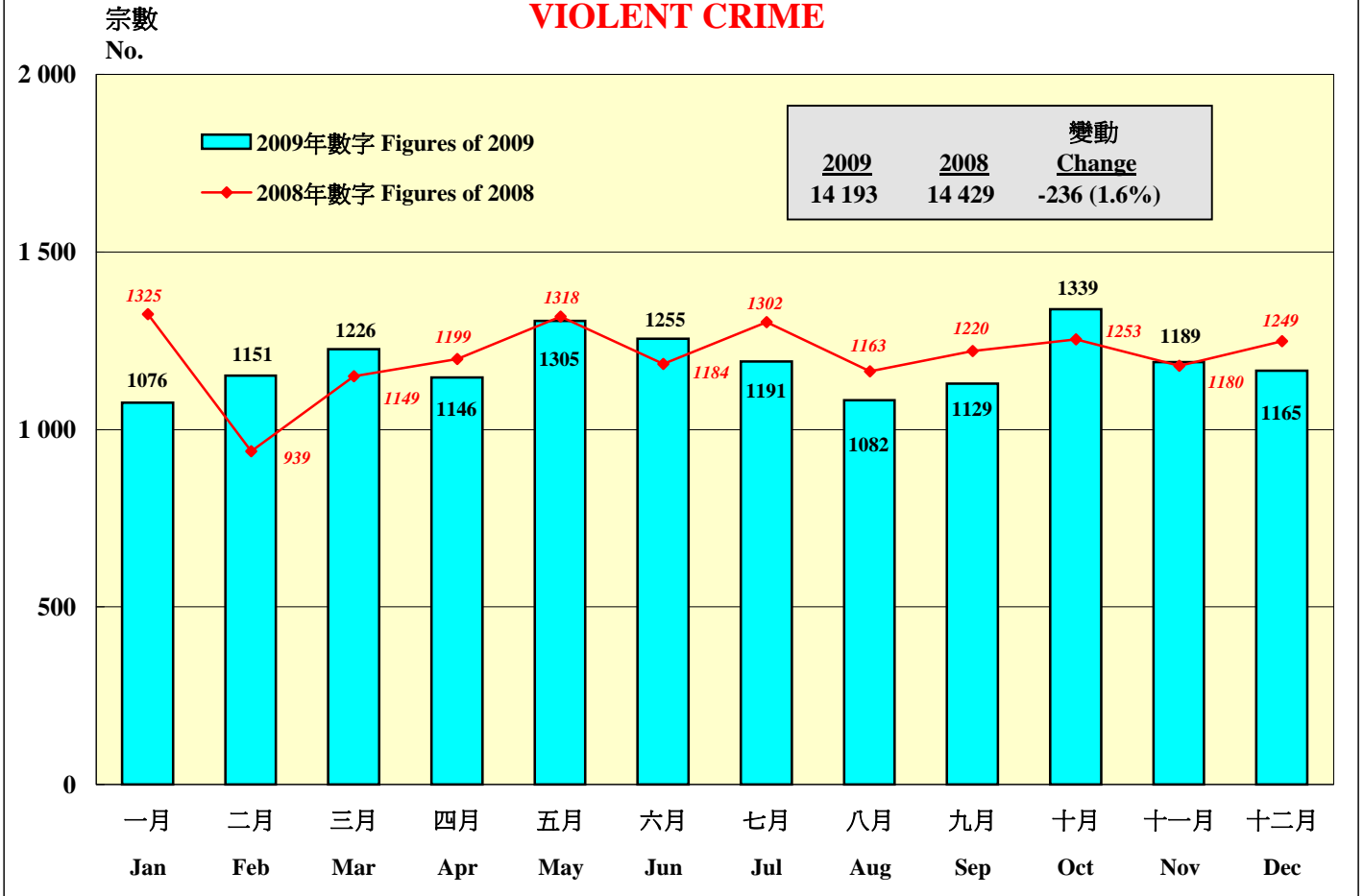


整體罪案 Overall Crime	2009	2008	變動 Change
罪案率(按每十萬人口計的罪案) Crime Rate (Crimes per 100 000 Population)	1 107.7	1 124.6	- 1.5%
破案率 Detection Rate	45.6%	45.6%	-

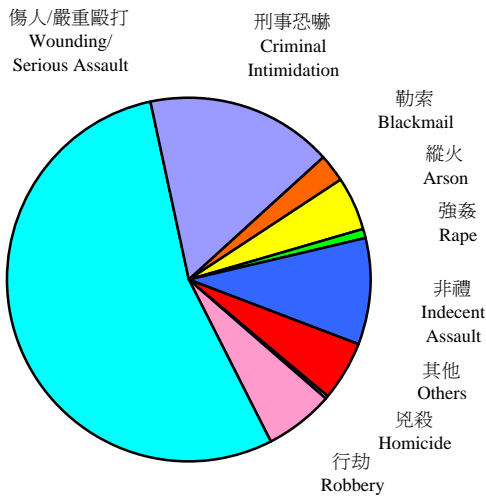
註：每月的罪案數字只反映該月份的治安情況。而有關的月數加起來未必能夠成為該季或全年的罪案數字，原因是在編製該季或全年的統計時，有些案件會被撤銷、重新分類或整理而被更新。

Note: The monthly figures represent snapshots of the corresponding months which may not add up to the quarterly or yearly figures. Some records may have been updated to take account of those "de crime" cases, reclassification of offences and cleared up cases in the compilation of quarterly or yearly statistics.

暴力罪案 VIOLENT CRIME



2009年的暴力罪案組合 Violent Crime Composition, 2009

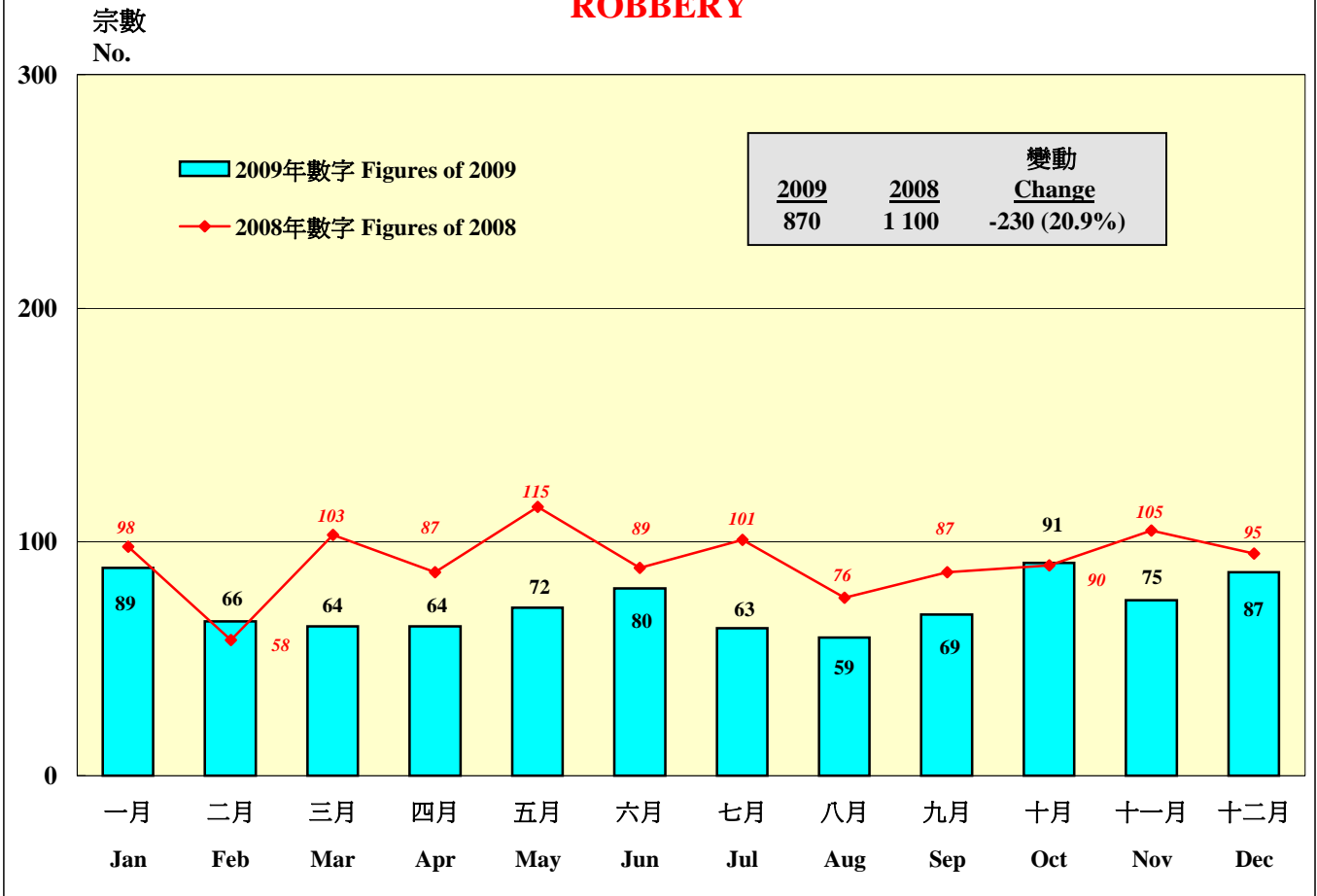


2009年舉報的暴力罪案如下：

Violent crimes reported in 2009 are as follows:

	2009	2008	變動 Change
兇殺 Homicide	47	36	+ 11
行劫 Robbery	870	1 100	- 230
傷人/嚴重毆打 Wounding/Serious Assault	7 688	7 882	- 194
刑事恐嚇 Criminal Intimidation	2 338	1 934	+ 404
勒索 Blackmail	354	309	+ 45
縱火 Arson	675	784	- 109
強姦 Rape	136	105	+ 31
非禮 Indecent Assault	1 318	1 381	- 63
其他 Others	767	898	- 131
暴力罪案總數 Total Violent Crimes	14 193	14 429	- 236

行劫案 ROBBERY

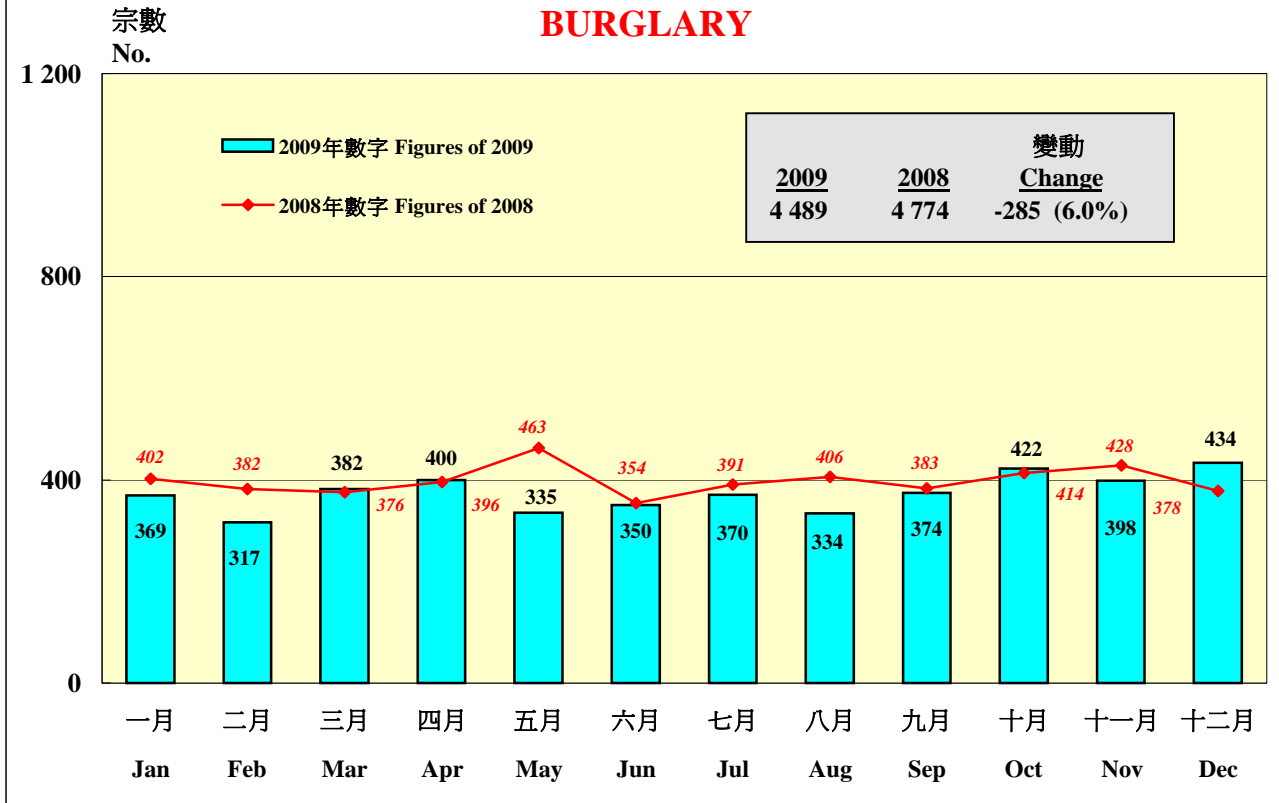


	2009	2008	變動 Change
行劫案總數 TOTAL ROBBERIES	870	1 100	- 230
金舖和鐘錶店 Goldsmith & Watch Shops	2	5	- 3
銀行 Banks	6	10	- 4
持真槍 With Firearms	-	-	-
持電槍 With Stun Guns	5	-	+ 5
持類似手槍 [#] With Pistol-like Objects [#]	12	22	- 10

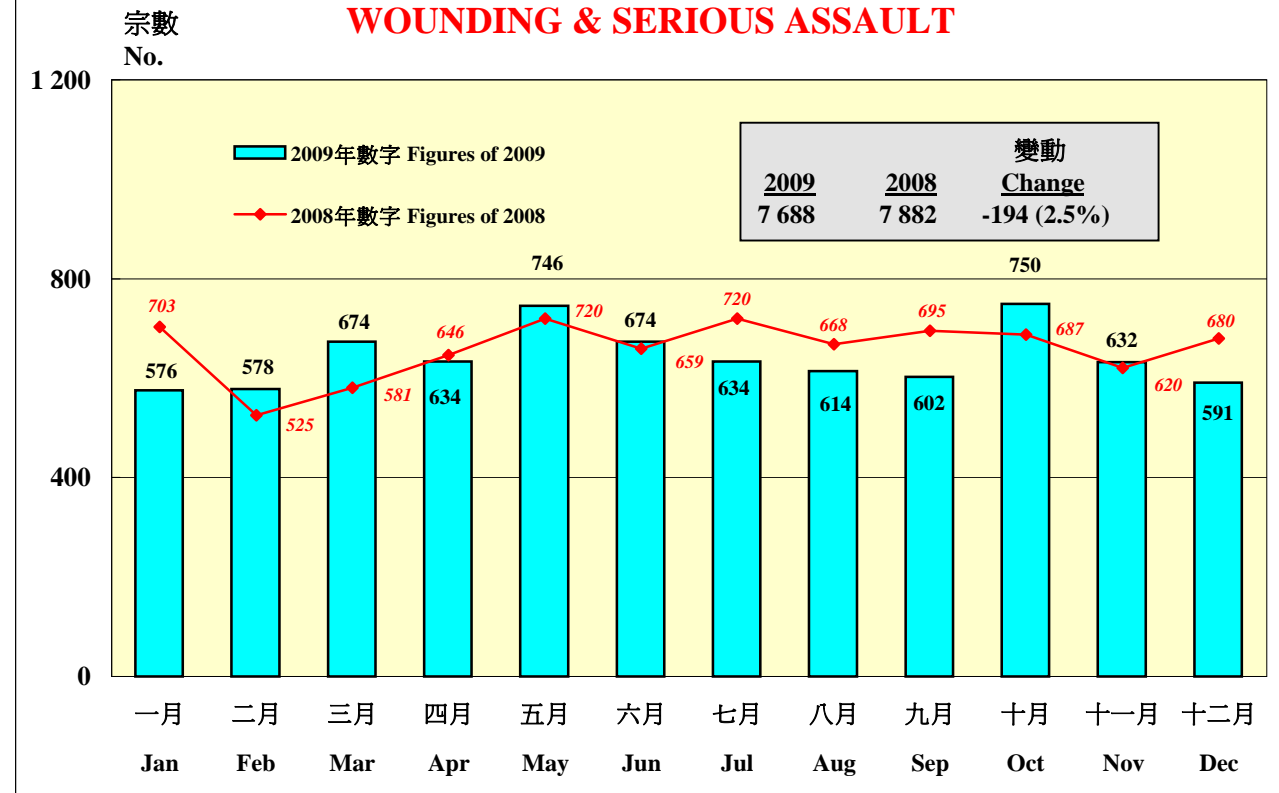
[#] 涉案的類似手槍可能是真槍或做製槍械。由於槍枝未經使用及沒有被檢獲，因此不可列為真槍。

[#] Pistol-like objects involved may be genuine or imitation firearms. They are not classified as firearms because they have not been used / seized.

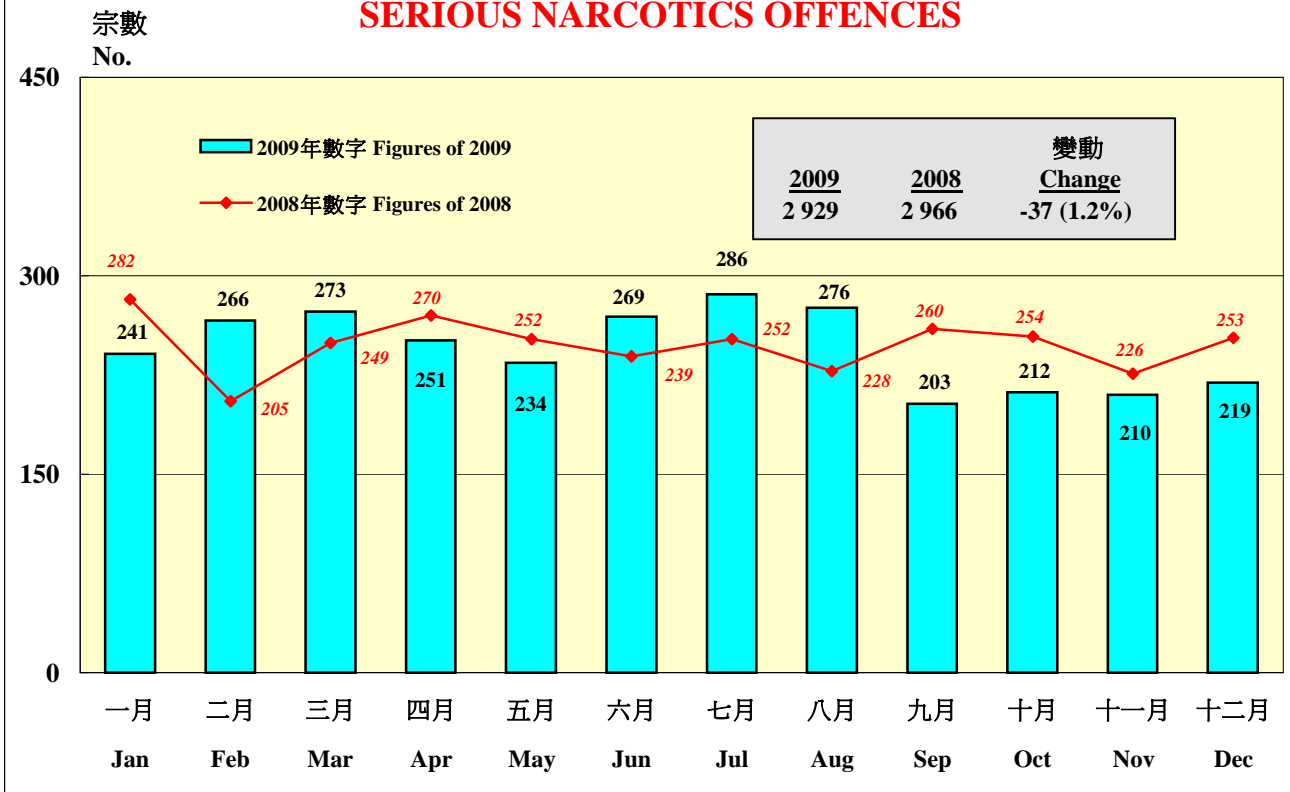
爆竊案 BURGLARY



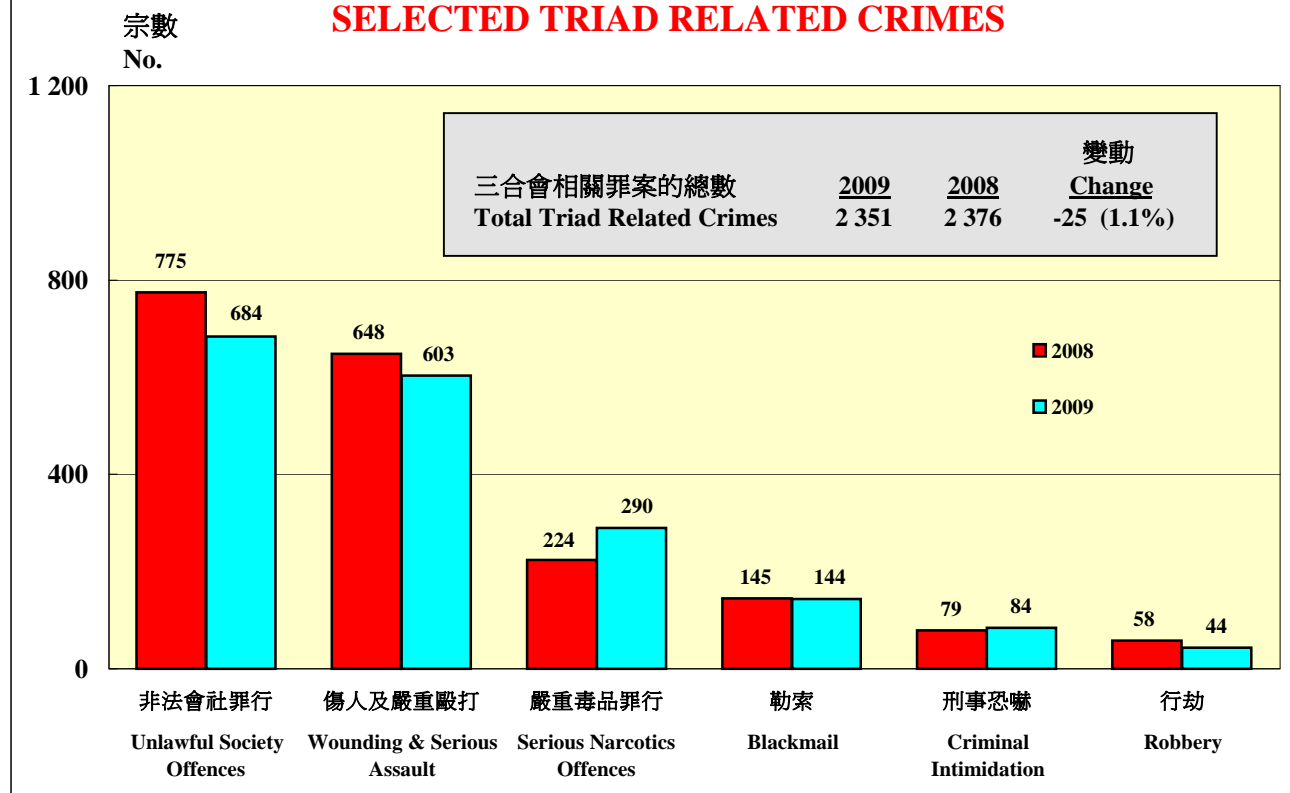
傷人及嚴重毆打案 WOUNDING & SERIOUS ASSAULT



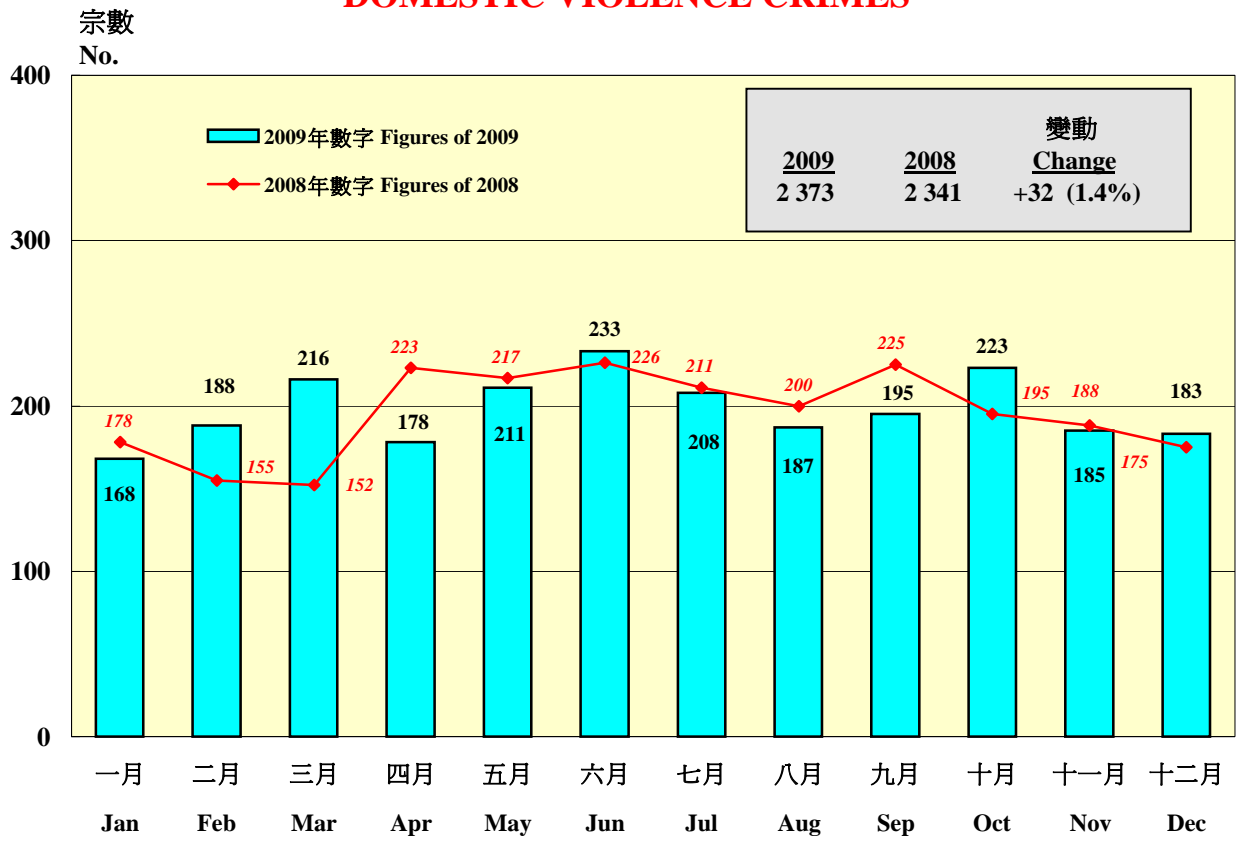
嚴重毒品罪行 SERIOUS NARCOTICS OFFENCES

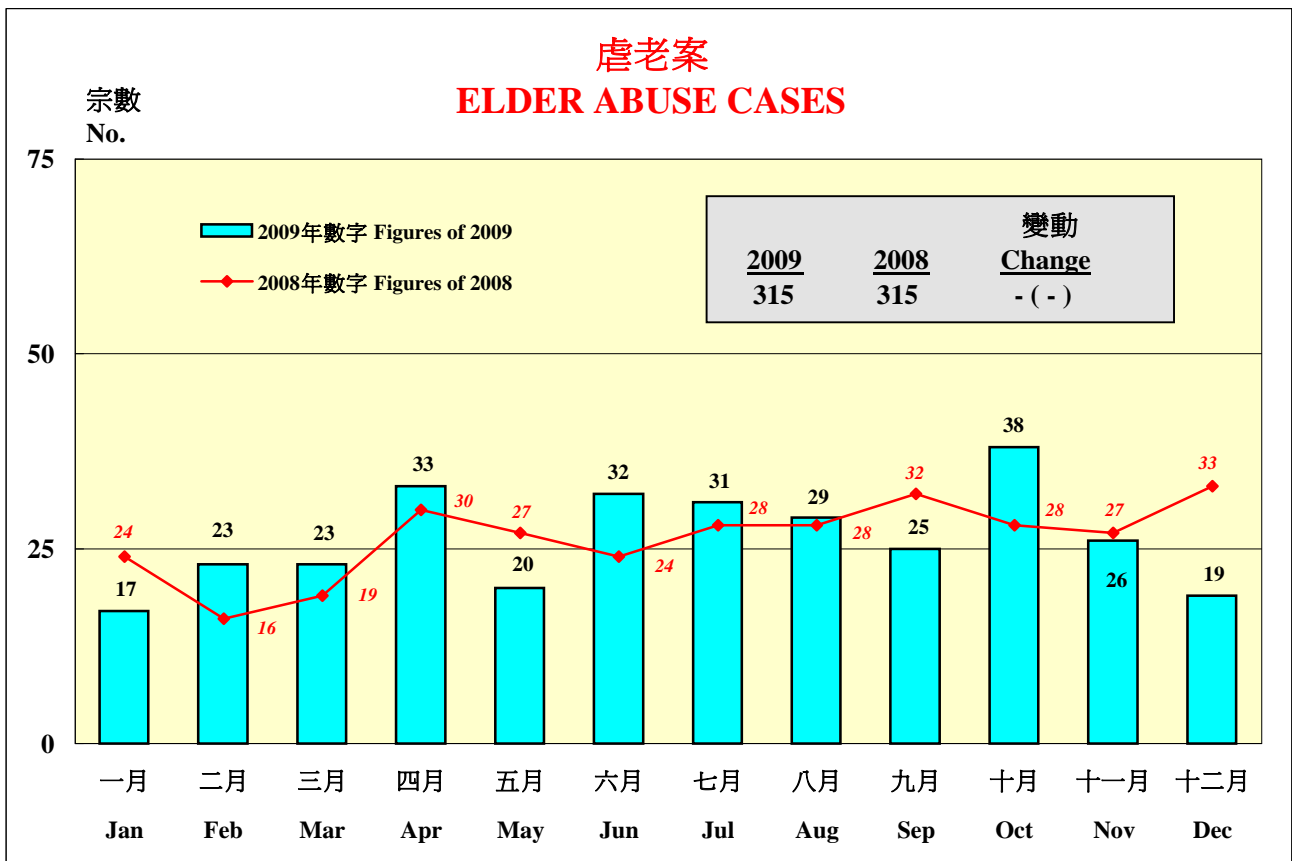
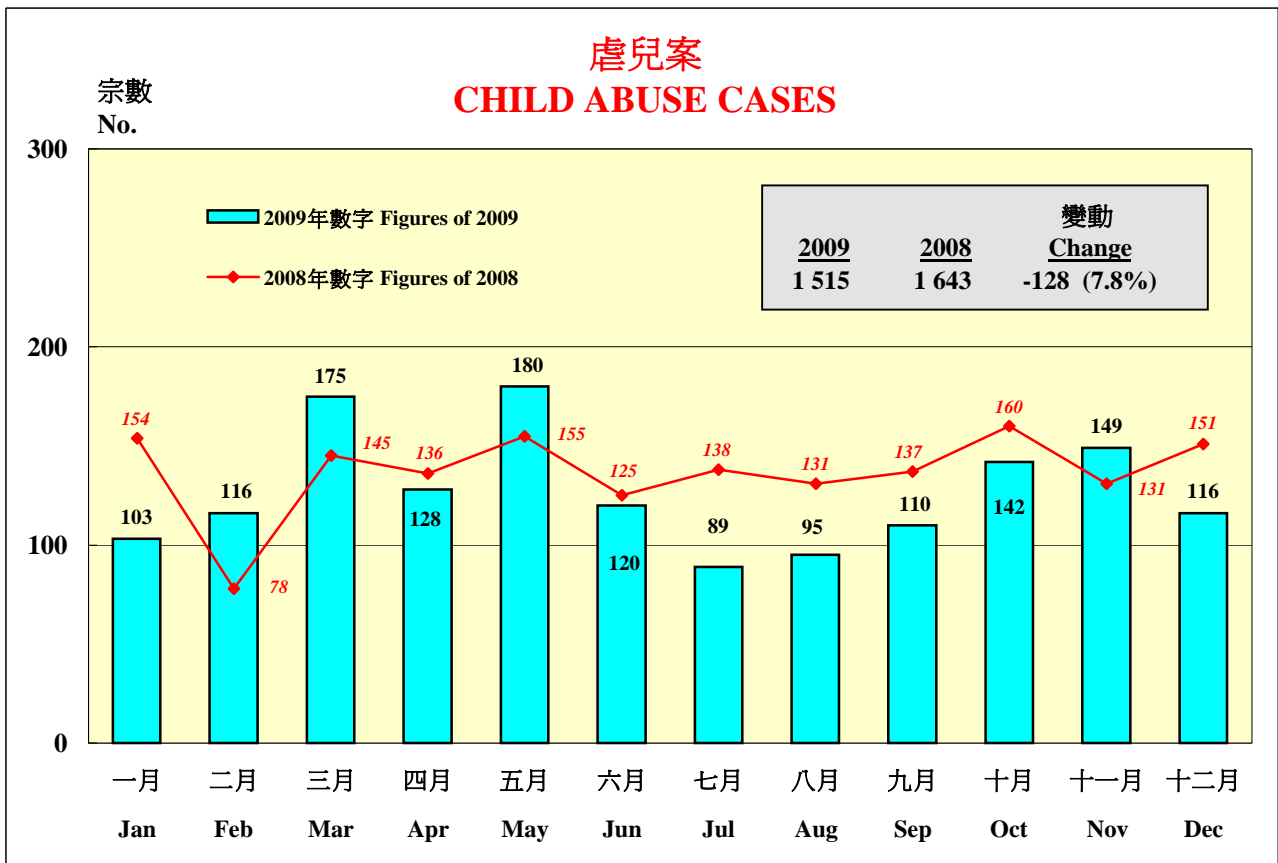


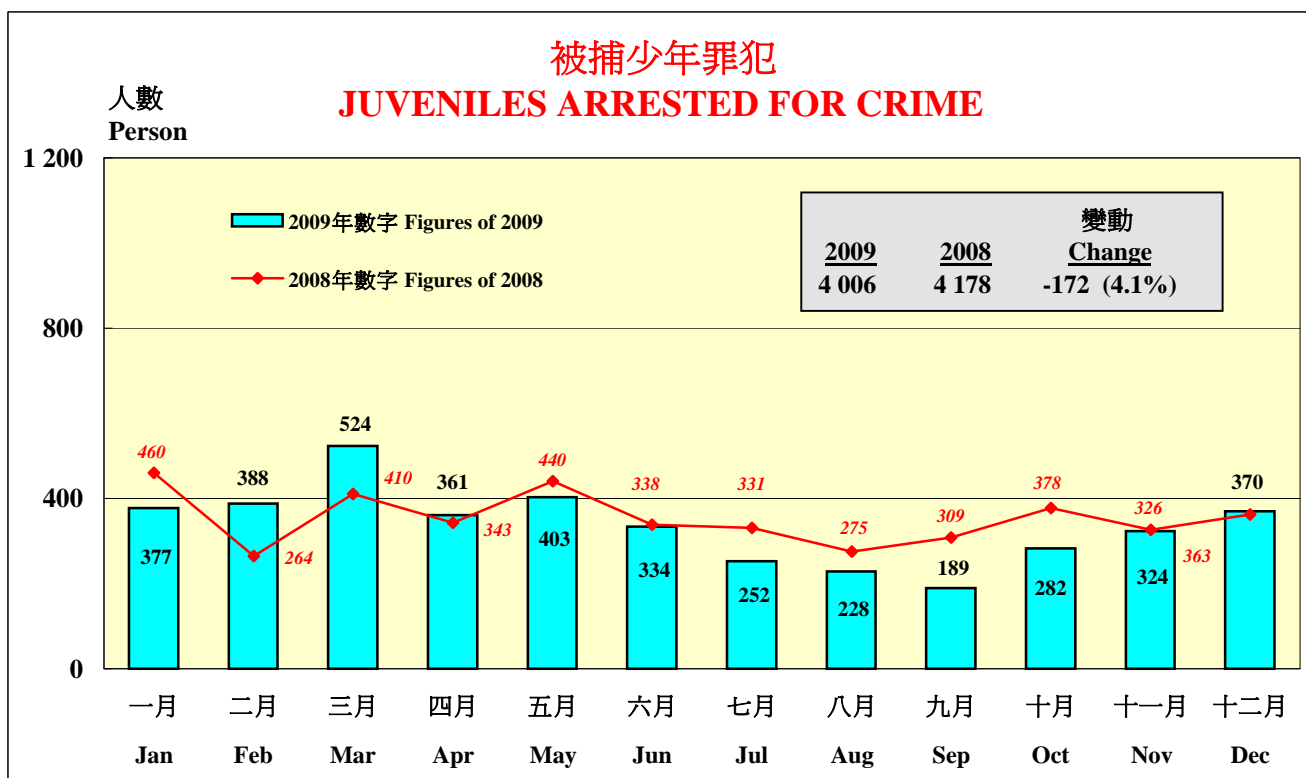
三合會相關罪案 SELECTED TRIAD RELATED CRIMES



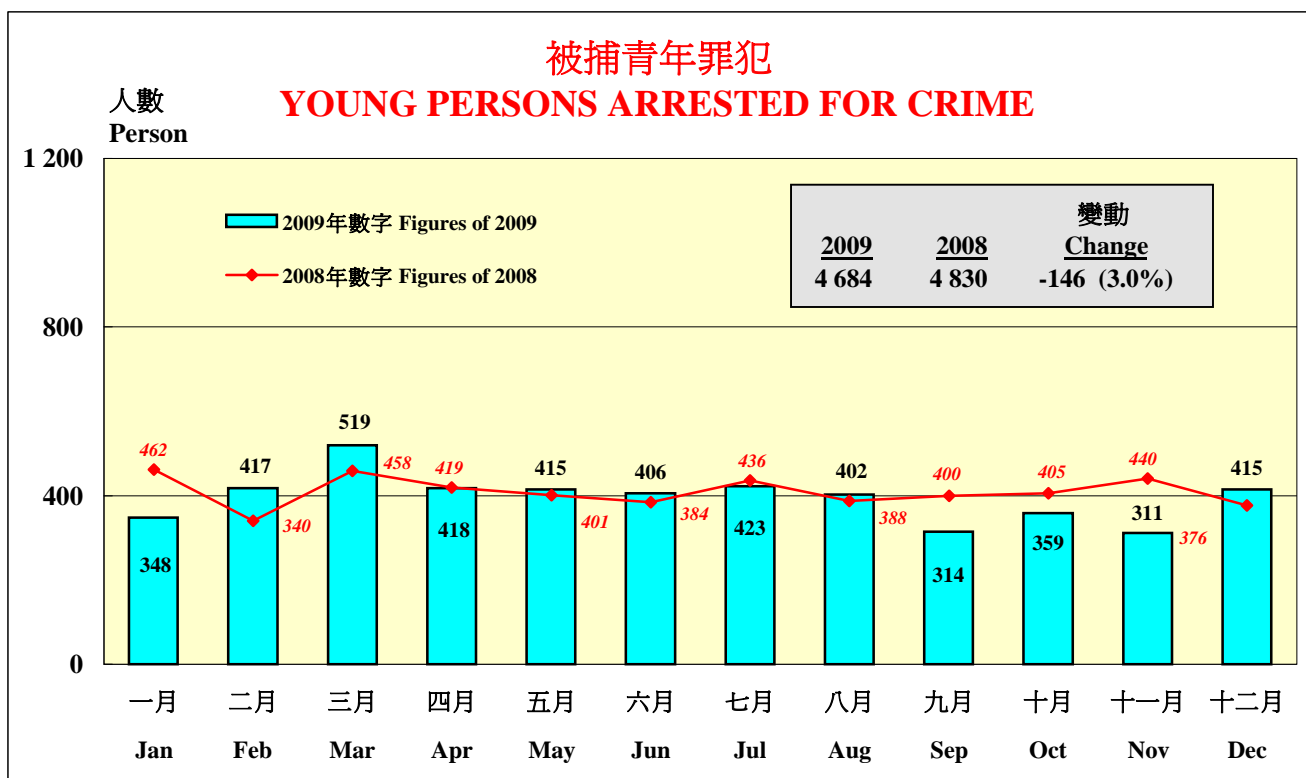
家庭暴力刑事案件 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CRIMES





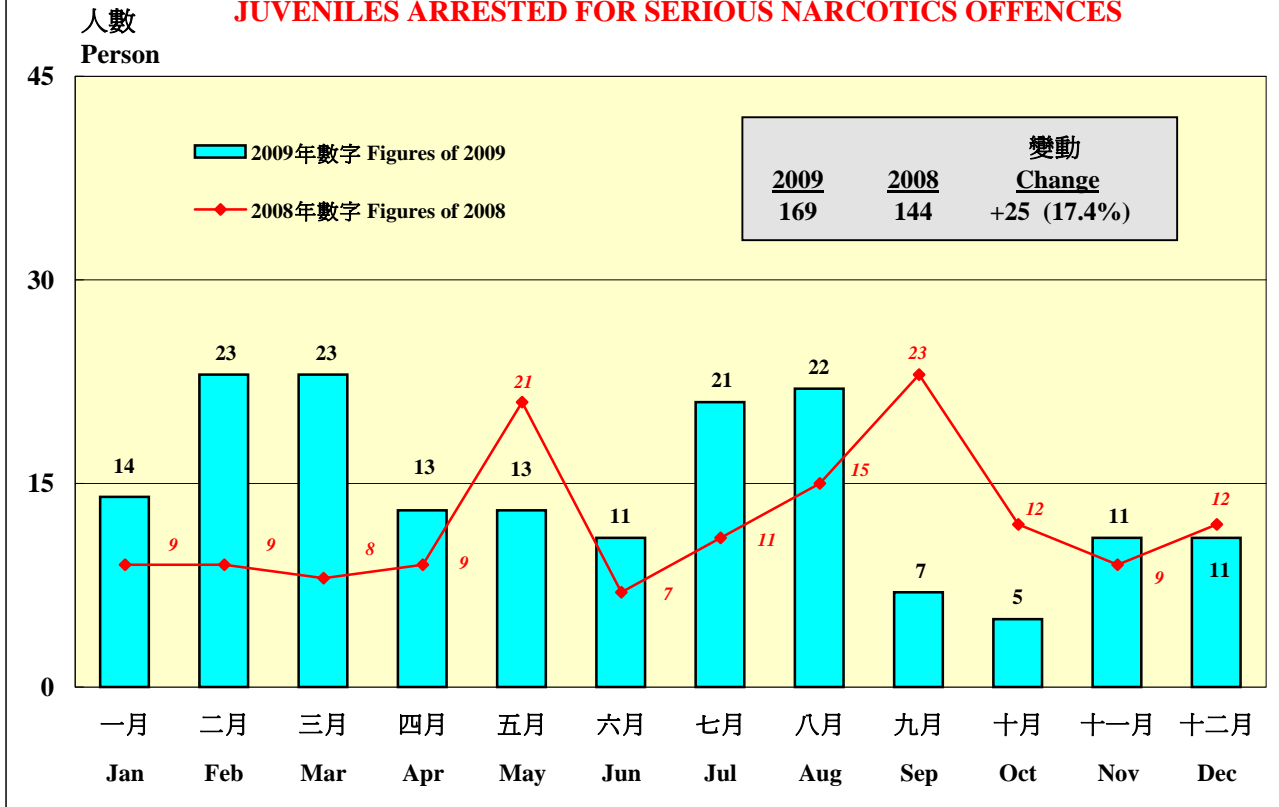


註：少年罪犯年齡是10-15歲。涉案多數是店舖盜竊、雜項盜竊、傷人及嚴重毆打及嚴重毒品罪行。
 Note: Juveniles refer to those aged 10-15. The most prevalent offences were shop theft, miscellaneous thefts, wounding and serious assault, and serious narcotics offences.

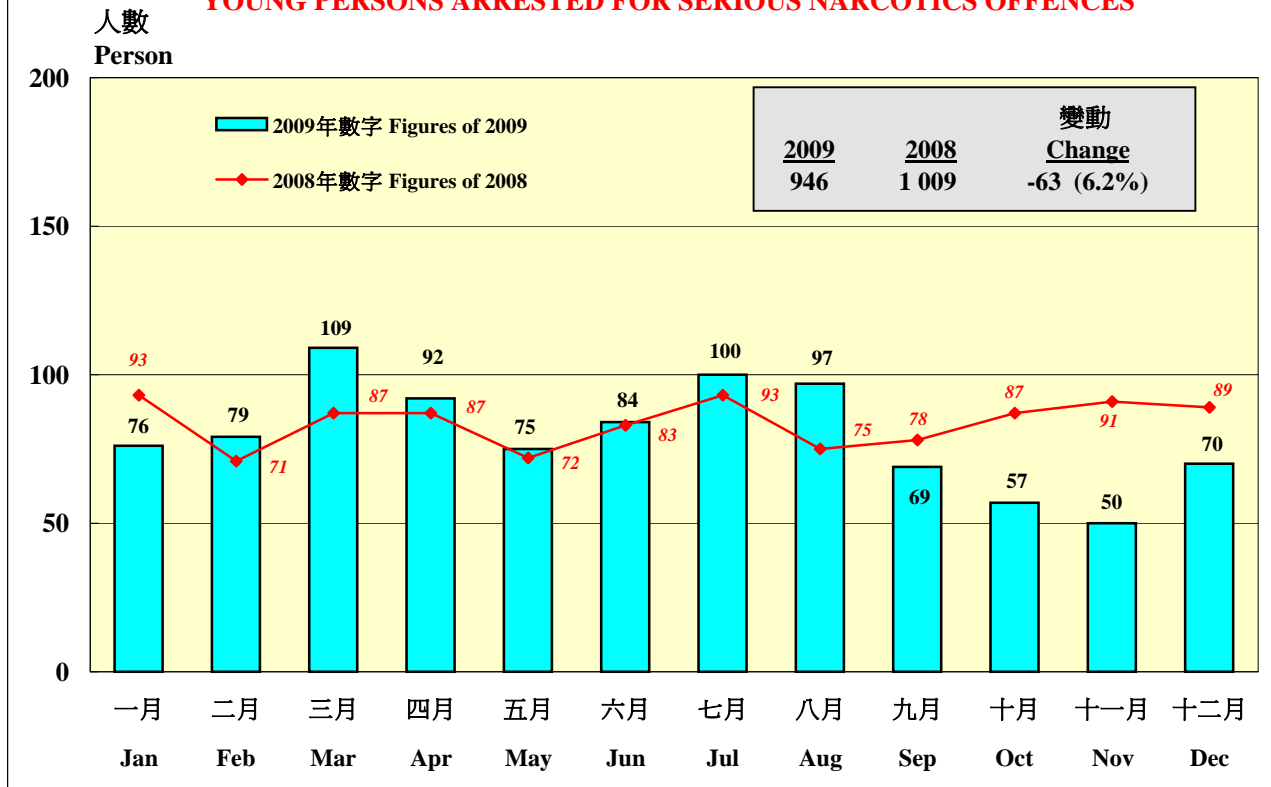


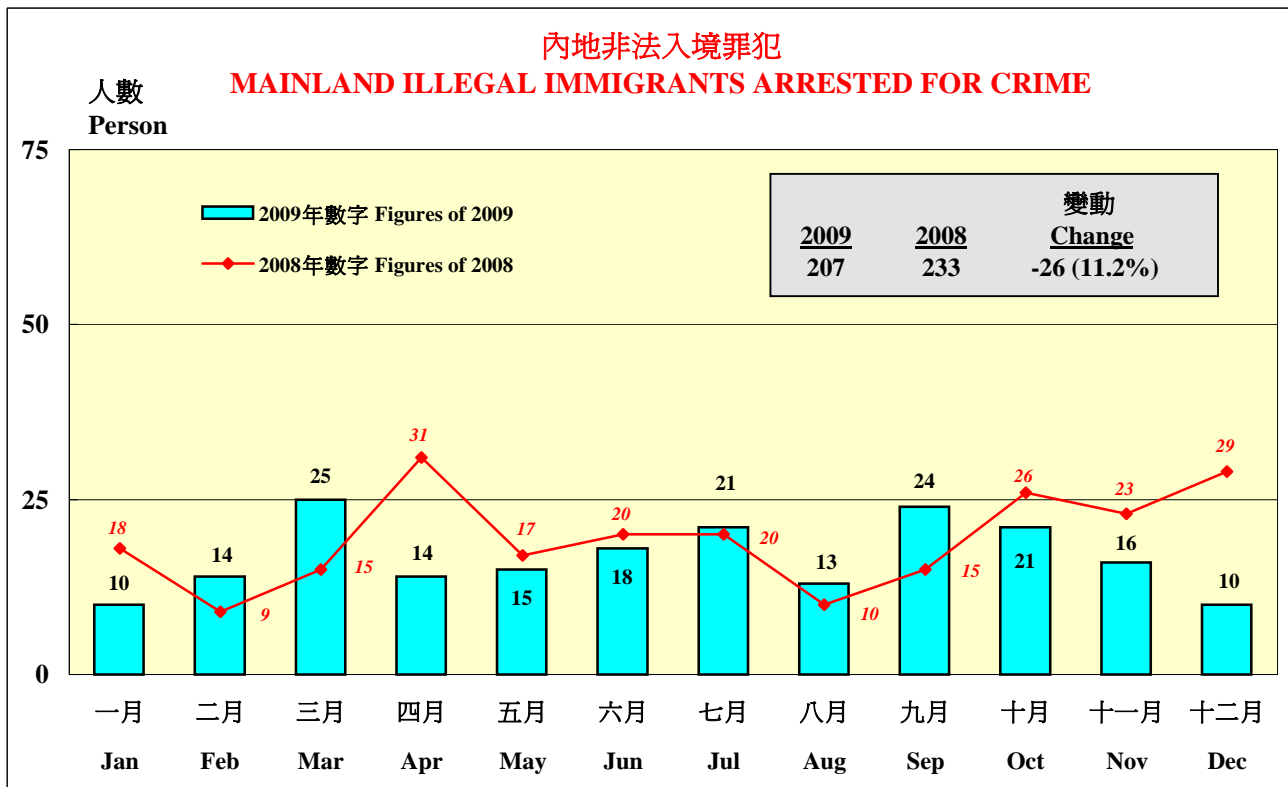
註：青年罪犯年齡是16-20歲。涉案多數是嚴重毒品罪行、傷人及嚴重毆打、雜項盜竊及店舖盜竊。
 Note: Young persons refer to those aged 16-20. The most prevalent offences were serious narcotics offences, wounding and serious assault, miscellaneous thefts, and shop theft.

因干犯嚴重毒品罪行而被捕的少年罪犯
JUVENILES ARRESTED FOR SERIOUS NARCOTICS OFFENCES



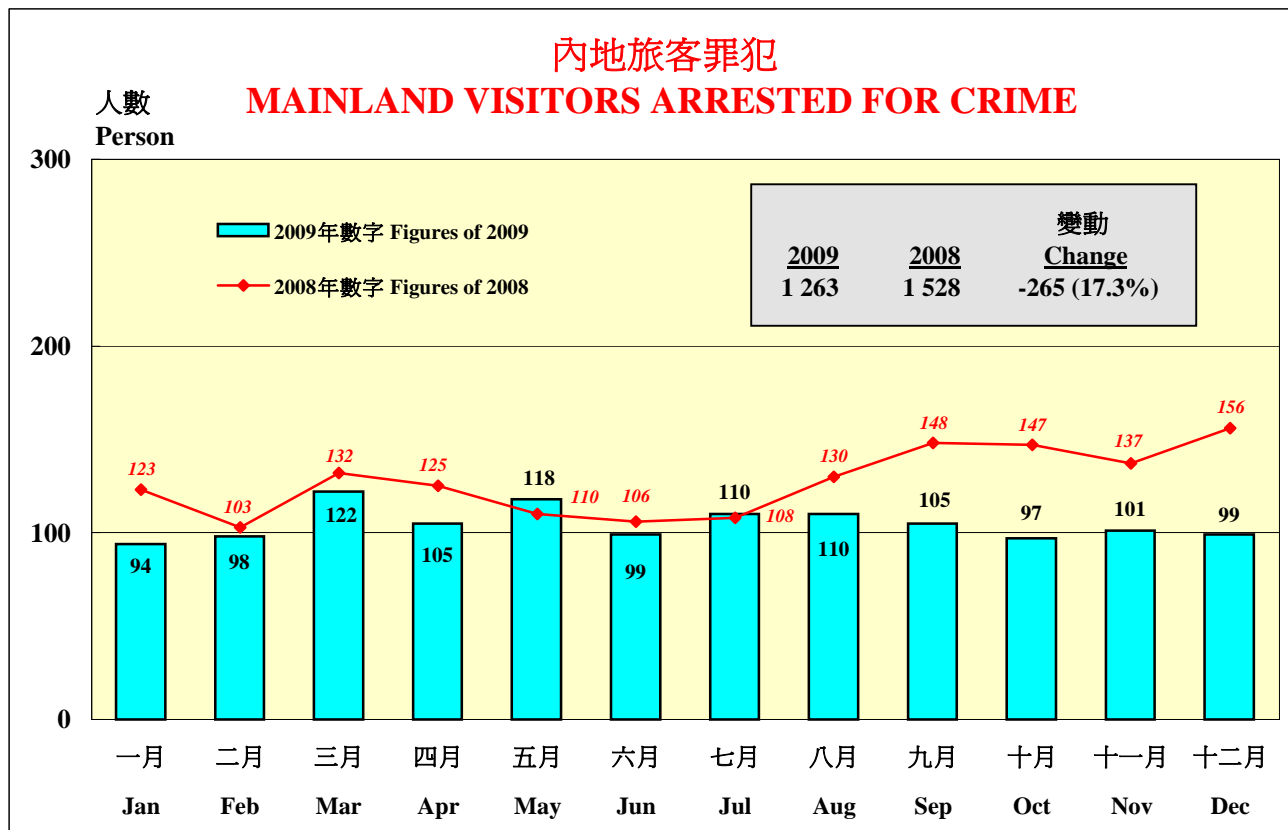
因干犯嚴重毒品罪行而被捕的青年罪犯
YOUNG PERSONS ARRESTED FOR SERIOUS NARCOTICS OFFENCES





註： 涉案多數是嚴重非法入境罪行、偽造文件及假錢及雜項盜竊。

Note: The most prevalent offences were serious immigration offences, forgery and coinage, and miscellaneous thefts.



註： (一) 以上包括持雙程證、護照訪港人士和逾期居留旅客， 但不包括內地非法入境者。

(二) 涉案多數是偽造文件及假錢、嚴重非法入境罪行及店舖盜竊。

Notes: (1) Including Two-way Permit, Passport holders and overstayed visitors, but excluding illegal immigrants.

(2) The most prevalent offences were forgery and coinage, serious immigration offences, and shop theft.