

**Special Meeting of the Panel on Security of the Legislative Council
29th January 2019**

Brief Report on Hong Kong's Law and Order Situation in 2018

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to give a brief account of the overall law and order situation of Hong Kong in 2018.

Overall Crime Situation

2. The overall law and order situation in Hong Kong continued to improve in 2018. The overall crime figure was 54 225, a decrease of 1 792 cases or 3.2% when compared with 2017. The overall crime figure was the lowest since 1974.

3. The detection rate was 46.5%, a drop of 1.7 percentage points when compared with 2017.

4. There were 8 884 cases of violent crime, a drop of 202 cases or 2.2% when compared with 2017. The detection rate was 65.1%, an increase of 0.6 percentage point.

5. Compared with 2017, crimes that recorded a rise /a drop over 10 cases are as follows:

Crimes that recorded a rise	
Deception	+ 1 281 cases
Pickpocketing	+ 58 cases
Blackmail	+ 56 cases
Child Abuse	+ 46 cases
Homicide	+ 24 cases
Indecent Assault	+ 22 cases
Domestic Violence Crimes	+ 19 cases

Crimes that recorded a drop	
Shop Theft	- 1 752 cases
Miscellaneous Theft	- 546 cases
Burglary	- 297 cases
Criminal Damage	- 211 cases
Criminal Intimidation	- 156 cases
Serious Drugs Offences	- 154 cases
Triad-related Crimes	- 83 cases
Missing Motor Vehicles	- 73 vehicles
Arson	- 64 cases
Elder Abuse	- 31 cases
Theft from Vehicle	- 25 cases
Snatching	- 18 cases
Wounding & Serious Assault	- 18 cases
Robbery	- 16 cases

Individual Crimes

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

Item 3. Homicide

7. 48 cases of homicide were recorded, a rise of 24 cases (increase by one-fold) when compared with 2017. The surge was due to the serious traffic accident in February 2018 when a bus side-turned on Tai Po Road and tragically claimed the life of 19 victims. As the driver had been charged with manslaughter, 19 homicide cases were registered accordingly. Majority of other cases involved disputes among couples, family members and relatives (19 cases or 39.6%). Two cases were triad-related. All cases in 2018 were detected.

Item 4. Robbery

8. A total of 147 cases of robbery were recorded, a drop of 16 cases (-9.8%). The number of robbery was the lowest since relevant record was first maintained in 1969. The detection rate was 63.9%, a rise of 6.2 percentage points when compared with that of 2017. In 2018, no case involving genuine or stun guns was recorded. Four cases were committed with pistol-like objects, up by one case when compared with 2017. There was one case of bank robbery, and none was recorded in 2017. Five cases occurred in goldsmith and watch shops, up by 3 cases when compared with 2017.

Item 5. Burglary

9. There were 1 575 cases of burglary, a drop of 297 cases (-15.9%). The number of burglary was the lowest since relevant record was first maintained in 1969. There were 1 120 cases of burglary in residential premises, a drop of 188 cases (-14.4%) and there were 455 cases of burglary in non-residential premises, a drop of 109 cases (-19.3%). The proportion of burglaries in residential premises to that in non-residential premises was 71.1% to 28.9%.

Item 6. Wounding and Serious Assault

10. A total of 4 593 cases of wounding and serious assault were recorded, a drop of 18 cases (-0.4%) when compared with 2017. These included 1 008 cases of wounding and 3 585 cases of serious assault. 813 cases or 17.7% were related to domestic violence, a rise of 25 cases (+3.2%). 64 cases or 1.4% were related to debt collection activities, a drop of eight cases (-11.1%). For triad-related cases, 393 cases (8.6%) were recorded, an increase of 85 cases (+27.6%).

Item 7. Serious Drugs Offences

11. There were 1 399 serious drugs cases, a drop of 154 cases (-9.9%). 'Ice'-related cases were the most prevalent drug offence, which totalled 402 cases, a drop of 135 cases (-25.1%). Cocaine-related cases shared the second largest portion, which totalled 392 cases, a rise of 59 cases (+17.7%). 264 cases involved cannabis, a rise of 36 cases (+15.8%). Cases involving heroin totalled 178 cases, a drop of 45 cases (-20.2%), while those involving ketamine totalled 118 cases, a drop of 53 cases (-31%). A total of 1 970 persons were arrested in 2018 in connection with serious drugs cases, a decrease of 243 persons (-11%). Of these, 202 persons or 10.3% were youths, a drop of 36 persons (-15.1%).

Item 8. Criminal Intimidation

12. There were 1 512 cases of criminal intimidation, a decrease of 156 cases (-9.4%). Among these, 398 cases or 26.3% were related to debt collection, a drop of 152 cases (-27.6%). 344 cases or 22.8% were related to domestic violence, a drop of 20 cases (-5.5%). For triad-related cases, 49 cases (3.2%) were recorded, a drop of 3 cases (-5.8%).

Item 9. Blackmail

13. A total of 635 cases of blackmail were recorded, a rise of 56 cases (+9.7%). 281 cases were related to 'Naked Chat', a drop of 24 cases (-7.9%), with \$1.1 million pecuniary loss, representing a rise of \$200,000 (+22.2%).

14. The increase in number of cases was mainly due to the emergence of a new modus operandi in the concerned period. Scammers sent out emails to victims claiming that their computer had been hacked, and then blackmailed them for money or virtual currency. Such modus operandi accounted for 109 cases, one of which involved loss of virtual currency worth \$16,000.

Item 10. Arson

15. 290 cases of arson were recorded, a drop of 64 cases (-18.1%). Majority (230 cases or 79.3%) of the cases occurred at public places, a decrease of 15 cases (-6.1%). The motives of 173 cases or 59.7% could not be ascertained, whereas 51 cases or 17.6% were caused by various disputes. 50 cases or 17.2% were found to be mischievous act. 11 cases or 3.8% aimed at destroying evidence after commission of crime. Three cases or 1% were related to debt collection. Two cases or 0.7% were related to domestic violence.

Item 11. Rape

16. 63 cases of rape were recorded in total, a drop of 2 cases (-3.1%). 61 cases were detected and the detection rate was 96.8%. 59 cases (93.7%) involved acquaintances. Four cases involved strangers and two of them were detected. There were 19 cases involving victims aged under 16, and all suspected perpetrators were acquaintances of the victims, including family members and friends.

Item 12. Indecent Assault

17. A total of 1 099 indecent assault cases were recorded, a rise of 22 cases (+2%). The detection rate was 78.3%. Of these, 779 cases or 70.9% occurred at public places, public transport or transport stations. The remaining 320 cases occurred at private places. 667 cases were committed by strangers, a drop of 10 cases (-1.5%). 24 cases involved social networking, a rise of 7 cases (+41.2%)

18. Police will continue to step up patrol by uniformed and plainclothes officers, mount publicity campaigns with public transport companies to encourage victims to come forward and remind the public of social networking pitfalls.

Item 13. Thefts

19. 21 309 cases of theft were recorded, a decrease of 2 497 (-10.5%), representing 39.3% of the overall crime. Except pickpocketing (740 cases, +58 cases, +8.5%), all other types of thefts were recorded with decreases, including miscellaneous theft (10 962 cases, -546 cases, -4.7%), shop theft (7 804 cases, -1 752 cases, -18.3%), theft from vehicles (853 cases, -25 cases, -2.8%), missing motor vehicles (438 cases, -73 cases, -14.3%) and snatching (119 cases, -18 cases, -13.1%).

Item 14. Deception

20. 8 372 cases of deception were recorded, a rise of 1 281 cases or 18.1%.

21. Significant drop was seen in telephone deception, down 376 cases to 615 cases, a drop of 37.9%. The pecuniary loss decreased significantly by \$168 million to around \$61 million, a drop of 73.4%.

22. The increase in deception case was mainly attributed to internet deception, including e-shopping fraud (2 187 cases, +524 cases, +31.5%), social media deception (2 064 cases, +1 001 cases, +94.2%) and email scam (894 cases, +201 cases, +29%).

23. Police will prevent and combat deception with publicity and education, enhanced enforcement, and interception of payment made by victims, etc. Since its establishment in 2017, the Anti-Deception Coordination Centre (ADCC) intercepted payments amounting to \$1,410 million made by victims in 551 cases, and prevented 254 would-be deception cases.

Item 15. Criminal Damage

24. There were 4 860 cases of criminal damage, a drop of 211 cases (-4.2%). 1 033 cases or 21.3% were related to debt collection, a decrease of 40 cases (-3.7%). 670 cases or 13.8% were related to various disputes, a rise of 50 cases (+8.1%). 474 cases or 9.8% were related to mischievous acts, an increase of 106 cases (+28.8%). 153 cases or 3.1% were related to domestic violence, a rise of 34 cases (+28.6%). 628 cases or 12.9% were related to other reasons (e.g. drunk and disorderly conduct), a drop of 28 cases (-4.3%).

Item 16. Triad-related Crimes

25. A total of 1 715 triad-related crimes were recorded, a drop of 83 cases (-4.6%). The detection rate was 93.5%. The majority of the offences were wounding and serious assault, accounting for 393 cases or 22.9%, a rise of 85 cases (+27.6%). 237 cases or 13.8% were serious drugs offences, a decrease of 62 cases (-20.7%). 232 cases or 13.5% were unlawful society offences, a drop of 6 cases (-2.5%). The number of triad-related crimes accounted for 3.2% of the overall crime, which was the same as 2017.

Item 17. Domestic Violence Crimes

26. A total of 1 413 domestic violence crimes were recorded, up by 19 cases (+1.4%). Cases involved were mainly wounding and serious assault (57.5%), criminal intimidation (24.3%) and criminal damage (10.8%).

Item 18. Child Abuse (Crimes Against Children)

27. 893 child abuse cases were recorded, up by 46 cases (+5.4%). Of these, 456 cases were sexual abuse against children, down by 22 cases (-4.6%), and they were mainly indecent assault cases (293 cases). 437 cases were physical abuse against children, a rise of 68 cases (+18.4%).

Item 19. Elder Abuse

28. 314 cases of elder abuse were recorded, a decrease of 31 cases (-9%). The majority were physical abuse cases, which totalled 186 cases or 59.2%. It was followed by cases related to embezzlement of property and psychological abuse, which accounted for 90 cases (28.7%) and 37 cases (11.8%) respectively. One case (0.3%) was sexual abuse.

Item 20. Persons Arrested for Crime

29. In 2018, there were a total of 28 966 persons arrested for crimes, a drop of 1 400 persons (-4.6%) from 30 366 in 2017.

30. 928 juveniles (aged 10-15) and 1 841 young persons (aged 16-20), totalling 2 769 persons were arrested for crimes, a rise of 37 persons (+1.4%) when compared with 2017. The number of juveniles and young persons arrested made up 9.6% of the total number of persons arrested, a rise of 0.6 percentage point from 9% in 2017. They were mainly arrested for miscellaneous and shop thefts, which totalled 728 persons (26.3%), a drop of 39 persons (-5.1%). 422 (15.2%) of them were arrested for wounding and serious assault, a rise of 67 persons (+18.9%). 202 persons or 7.3% were arrested for serious drugs offences, a drop of 36 persons (-15.1%).

31. A total of 555 Mainland illegal immigrants were arrested, a drop of 167 persons (-23.1%) when compared with 722 persons in 2017. Among them, 53 persons were arrested for crimes, a drop of 23 persons (-30.3%) when compared with 76 persons in 2017.

32. There were 50.8 million Mainland visitor arrivals, a rise of 6.61 million arrivals (+15%). 31.3 million of these were under 'Individual Visit Scheme', an increase of 5.92 million arrivals (+23.3%). 1 631 Mainland visitors were arrested for crimes, a rise of 88 persons (+5.7%). 782 of them visited Hong Kong under the 'Individual Visitor Scheme', a drop of 192 persons (-19.7%).

3.2 persons out of every 100 000 Mainland visitor arrivals were arrested, which was lower than that in 2017 (3.5). The ratio was lower than those of visitors from other countries (13.3) and overall visitors (5.4).

Hong Kong Police Force

January 2019



警務處處長向
香港特別行政區立法會
保安事務委員會
匯報二零一八年
罪案統計數字

**COMMISSIONER OF POLICE
BRIEF TO THE HKSAR
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
PANEL ON SECURITY
CRIME STATISTICS
CALENDAR YEAR 2018**

二零一八年主要罪案
Major Crimes, 2018

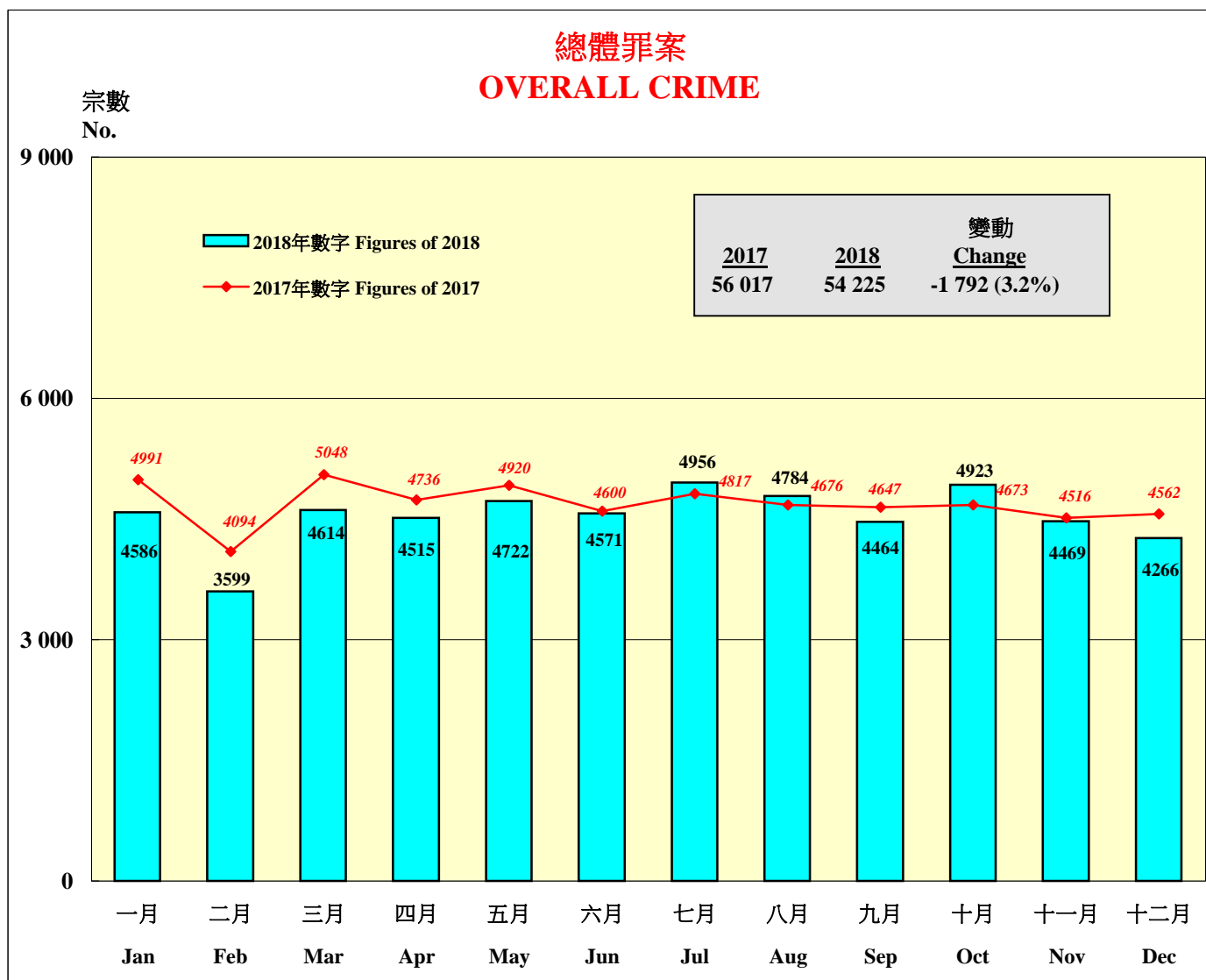
	2017	2018	2018年與2017年比較 2018 compared with 2017	
			變動 Change	幅度 Rate (%)
1. 總體罪案 Overall Crime	56 017	54 225	- 1 792	- 3.2
2. 暴力罪案 Violent Crime	9 086	8 884	- 202	- 2.2
3. 兇殺 Homicide ⁽¹⁾	24	48	+ 24	+ 100.0
4. 各類劫案，包括： All Robberies, including :	163	147	- 16	- 9.8
- 持真槍 with Firearms	-	-	-	-
- 持電槍 with Stun Guns	3	-	- 3	- 100.0
- 持類似手槍 with Pistol-like Objects	3	4	+ 1	+ 33.3
- 銀行劫案 Bank Robbery	-	1	+ 1	-
- 金舖／錶行劫案 Goldsmith/Watch Shop Robberies	2	5	+ 3	+ 150.0
5. 爆竊 Burglary	1 872	1 575	- 297	- 15.9
6. 傷人及嚴重毆打 Wounding and Serious Assault	4 611	4 593	- 18	- 0.4
- 傷人 Wounding	964	1 008	+ 44	+ 4.6
- 嚴重毆打 Serious Assault	3 647	3 585	- 62	- 1.7
7. 嚴重毒品罪行 Serious Drug Offences	1 553	1 399	- 154	- 9.9
8. 刑事恐嚇 Criminal Intimidation	1 668	1 512	- 156	- 9.4
9. 勒索 Blackmail	579	635	+ 56	+ 9.7
10. 縱火 Arson	354	290	- 64	- 18.1
11. 強姦 Rape	65	63	- 2	- 3.1
12. 非禮 Indecent Assault	1 077	1 099	+ 22	+ 2.0
13. 盜竊案，包括： All Thefts, including :	23 806	21 309	- 2 497	- 10.5
- 搶掠 Snatching	137	119	- 18	- 13.1
- 扒竊 Pickpocketing	682	740	+ 58	+ 8.5
- 店舖盜竊 Shop Theft	9 556	7 804	- 1 752	- 18.3
- 車內盜竊 Theft from Vehicle	878	853	- 25	- 2.8
- 雜項盜竊 Miscellaneous Thefts	11 508	10 962	- 546	- 4.7
- 失車 Missing Motor Vehicles	(511)	(438)	- 73	- 14.3
14. 詐騙 Deception	7 091	8 372	+ 1 281	+ 18.1
15. 刑事毀壞 Criminal Damage	5 071	4 860	- 211	- 4.2
16. 三合會相關罪案 Triad-related Crimes	1 798	1 715	- 83	- 4.6
17. 家庭暴力刑事案件 Domestic Violence Crimes	1 394	1 413	+ 19	+ 1.4
18. 虐兒 Child Abuse	847	893	+ 46	+ 5.4
19. 虐老 Elder Abuse	345	314	- 31	- 9.0
20. 被捕罪犯(總數) Persons Arrested for Crime (Total)	30 366	28 966	- 1 400	- 4.6
- 少年(10 - 15歲) Juveniles (Aged 10 - 15)	928	928	0	0
- 青年(16 - 20歲) Young Persons (Aged 16 - 20)	1 804	1 841	+ 37	+ 2.1
- 內地非法入境者 Mainland Illegal Immigrants	76	53	- 23	- 30.3
- 旅客(內地) Visitors (Mainland)	1 543	1 631	+ 88	+ 5.7
- 旅客(其他) Visitors (Others)	2 304	1 902	- 402	- 17.4

註：⁽¹⁾ 2018年兇殺案數字：19宗來自2月發生的大埔公路致命巴士交通事故。

Note: ⁽¹⁾ Homicide figure of 2018: 19 cases arising from the fatal bus accident on Tai Po Road in February 2018.

二零一八年一月至十二月罪案情況

Crime Situation during Jan - Dec 2018

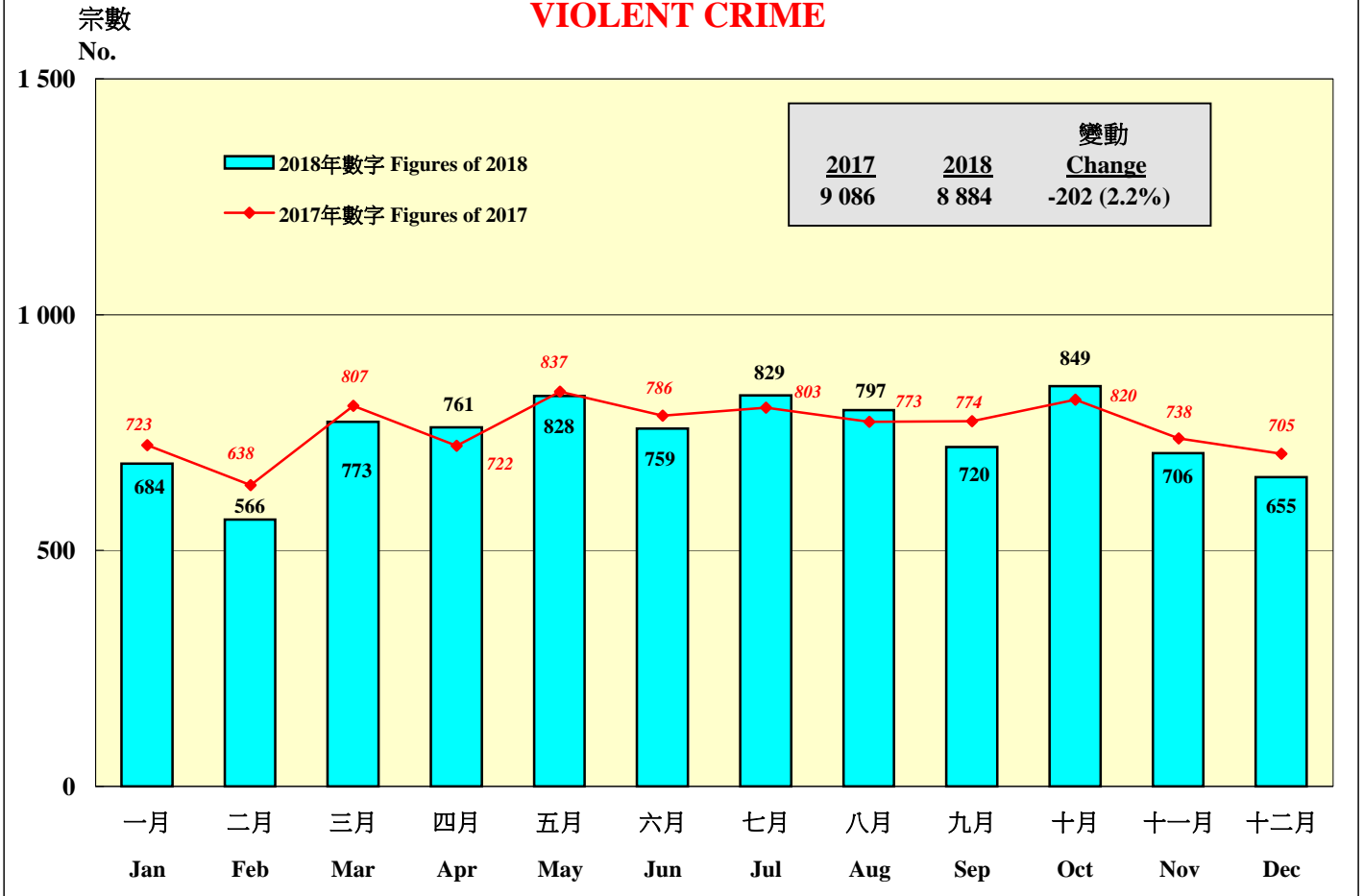


總體罪案 Overall Crime	2017	2018	變動 Change
罪案率(按每十萬人口計的罪案) Crime Rate (Crimes per 100 000 Population)	758	728	- 4.0%
破案率 Detection Rate	48.2%	46.5%	- 1.7 個百分點 % points

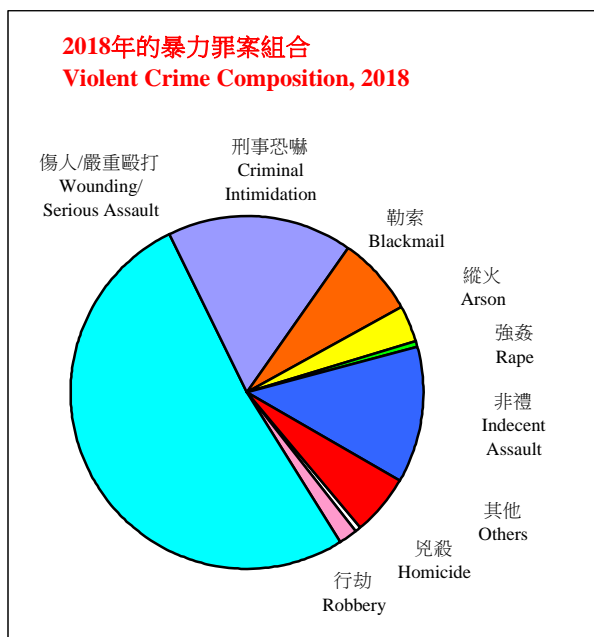
註：每月的罪案數字只反映該月份的治安情況。而有關的月數加起來未必能夠成為該季或全年的罪案數字，原因是在編製該季或全年的統計時，有些案件會被撤銷、重新分類或整理而被更新。

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



2018年的暴力罪案組合 Violent Crime Composition, 2018

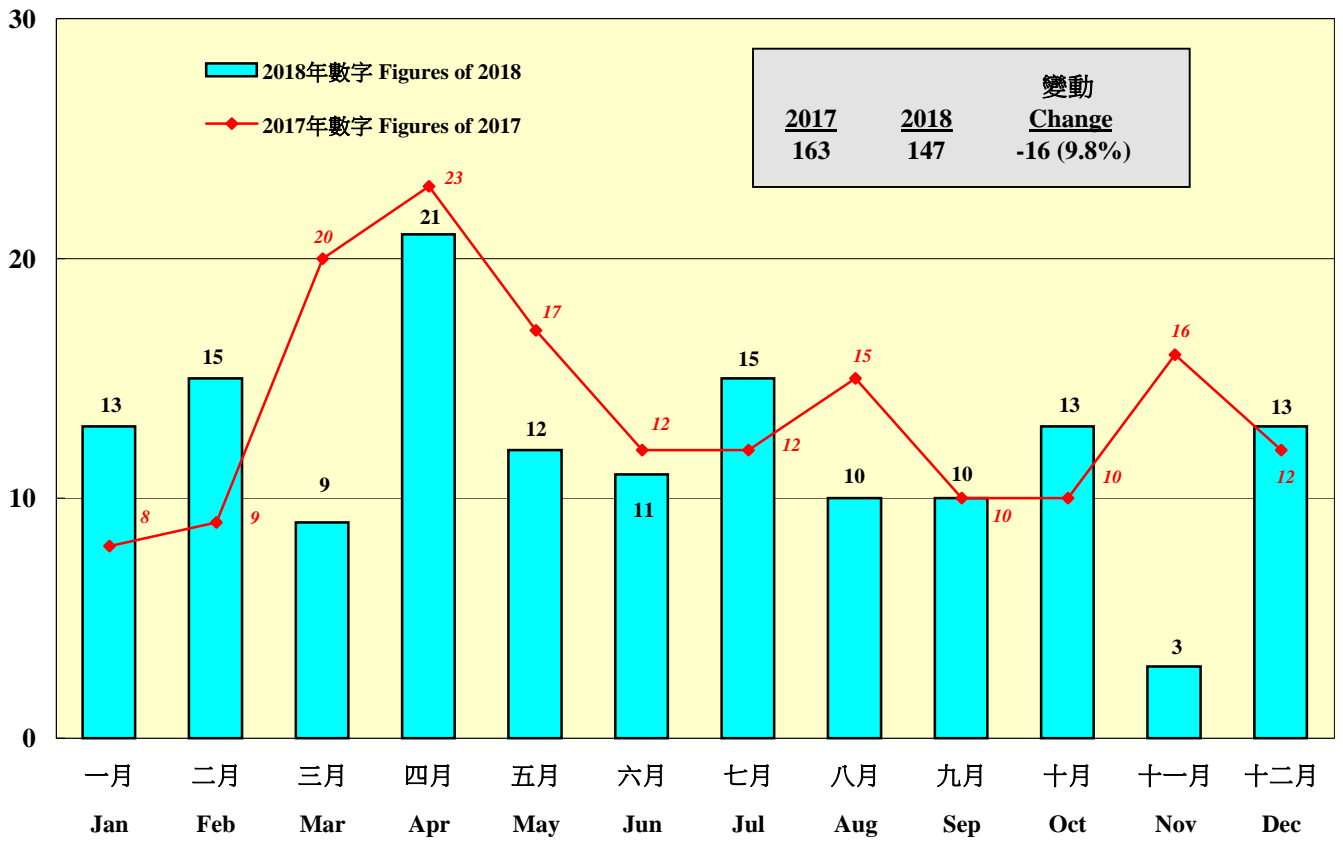


2018年舉報的暴力罪案如下：
Violent crimes reported in 2018 are as follows:

	2017	2018	變動 Change
兇殺 Homicide	24	48	+ 24
行劫 Robbery	163	147	- 16
傷人/嚴重毆打 Wounding/Serious Assault	4 611	4 593	- 18
刑事恐嚇 Criminal Intimidation	1 668	1 512	- 156
勒索 Blackmail	579	635	+ 56
縱火 Arson	354	290	- 64
強姦 Rape	65	63	- 2
非禮 Indecent Assault	1 077	1 099	+ 22
其他 Others	545	497	- 48
暴力罪案總數 Total Violent Crimes	9 086	8 884	- 202

行劫案 ROBBERY

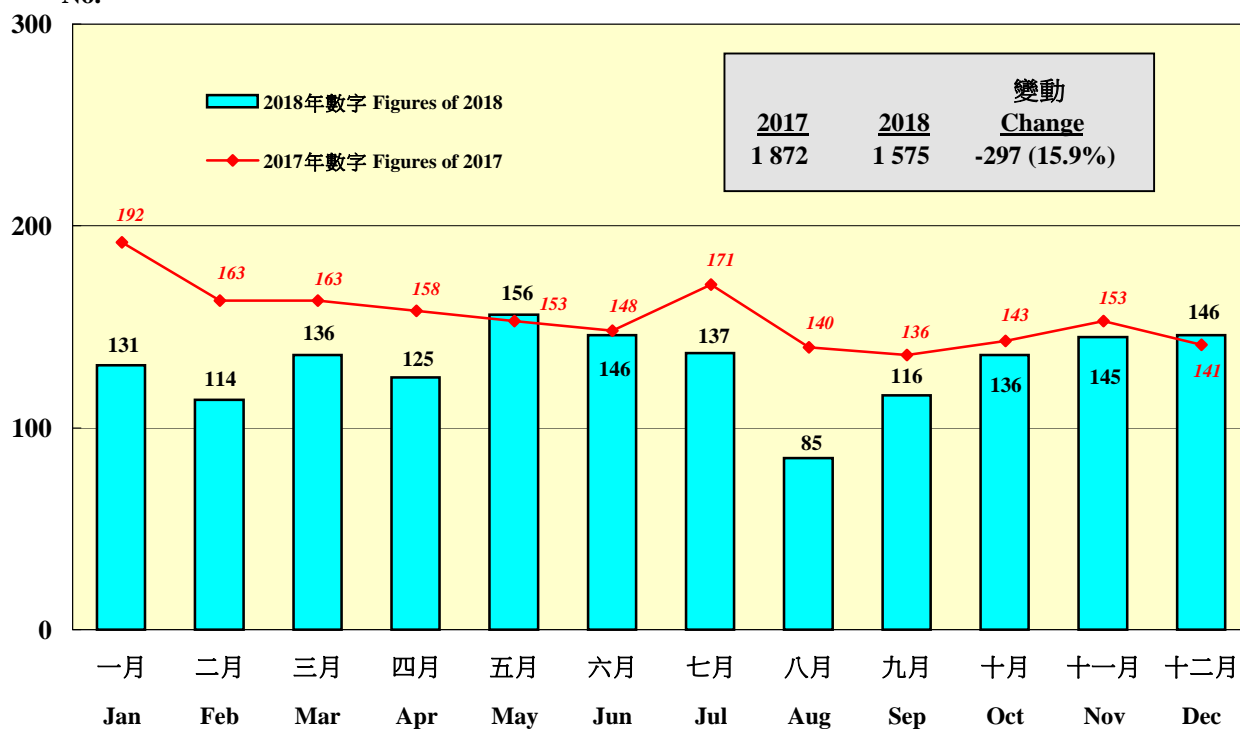
宗數
No.



	2017	2018	變動 Change
行劫案總數 TOTAL ROBBERIES	163	147	- 16
金舖和鐘錶店 Goldsmith & Watch Shops	2	5	+ 3
銀行 Banks	-	1	+ 1
持真槍 With Firearms	-	-	-
持電槍 With Stun Guns	3	-	- 3
持類似手槍 With Pistol-like Objects	3	4	+ 1

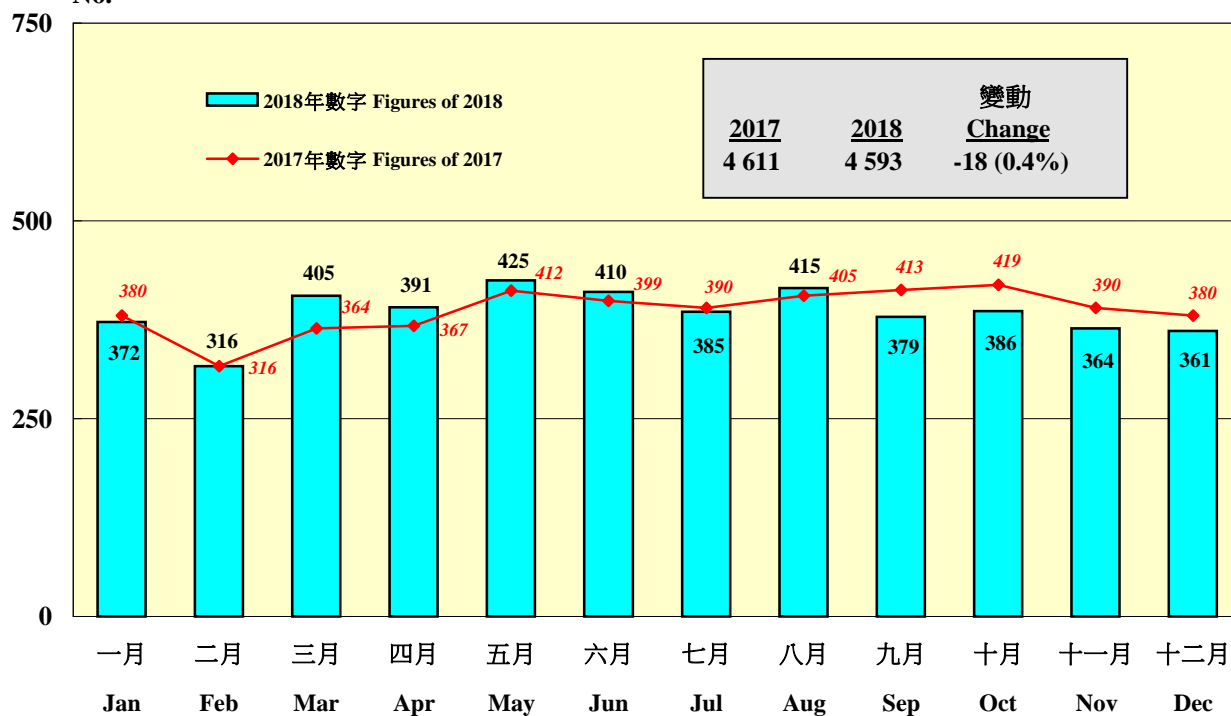
爆竊案 BURGLARY

宗數
No.



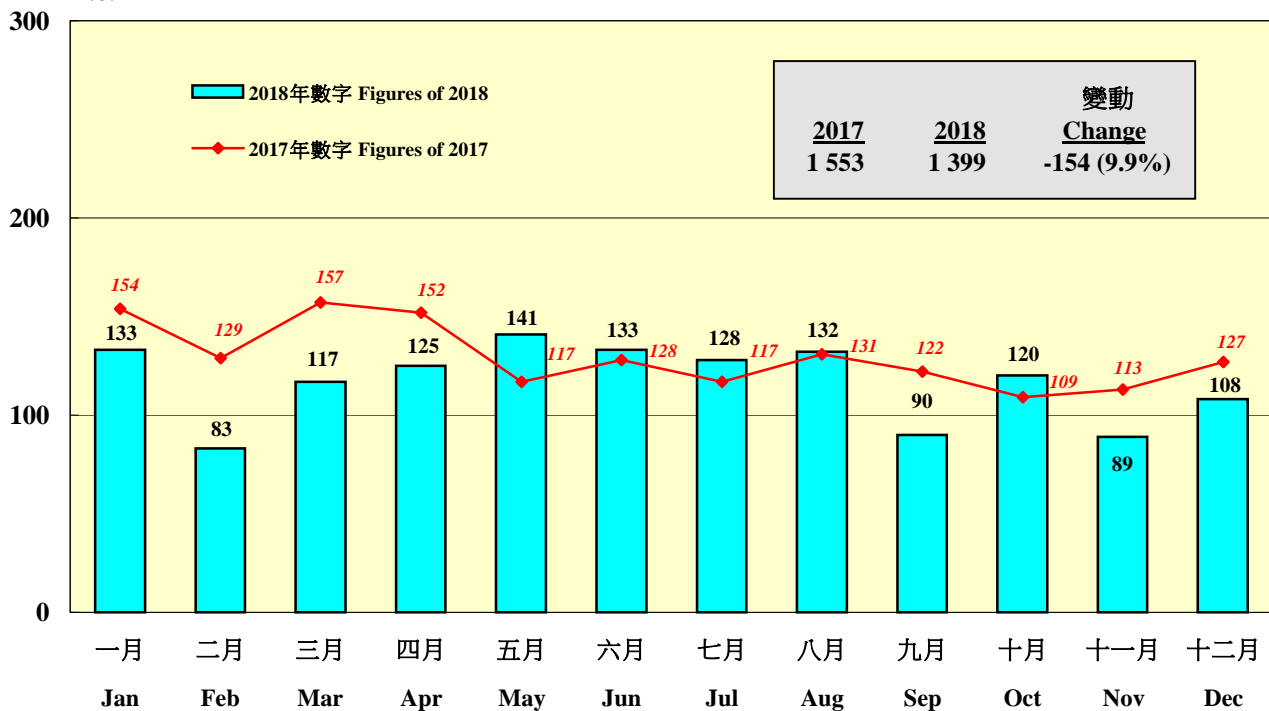
傷人及嚴重毆打案 WOUNDING & SERIOUS ASSAULT

宗數
No.



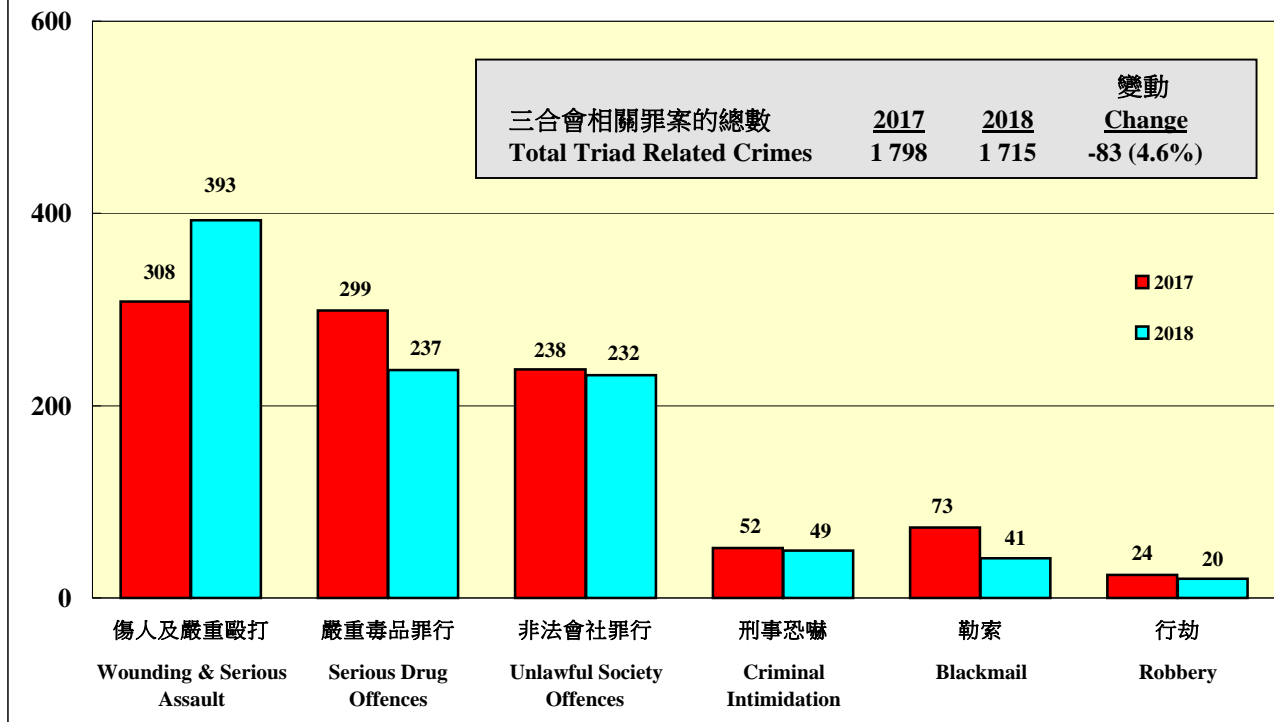
嚴重毒品罪行 SERIOUS DRUG OFFENCES

宗數
No.



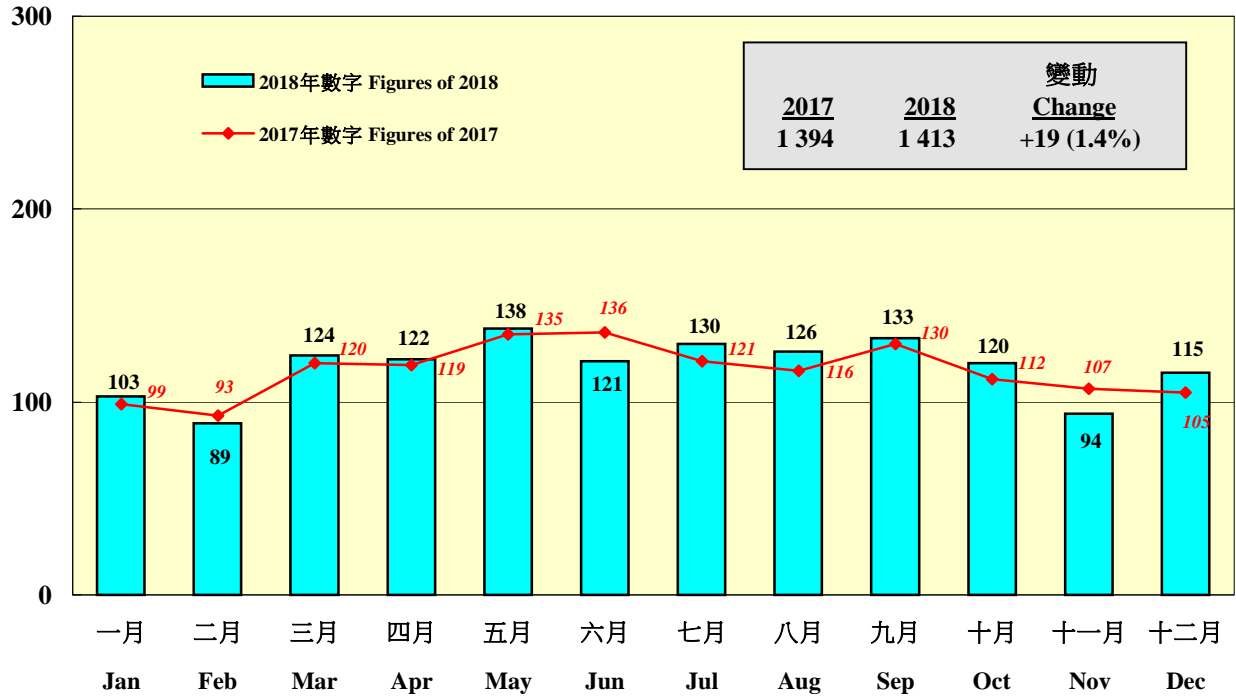
三合會相關罪案 SELECTED TRIAD RELATED CRIMES

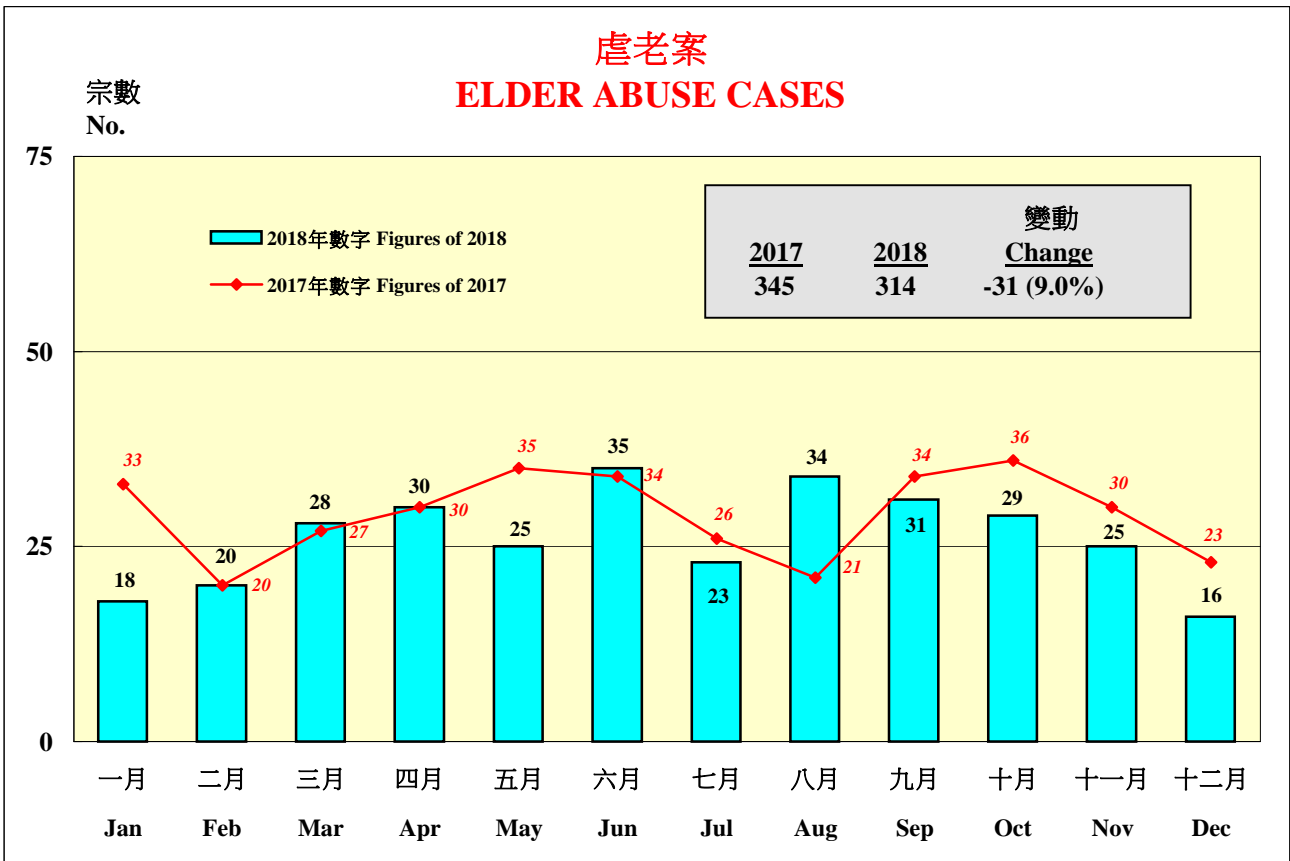
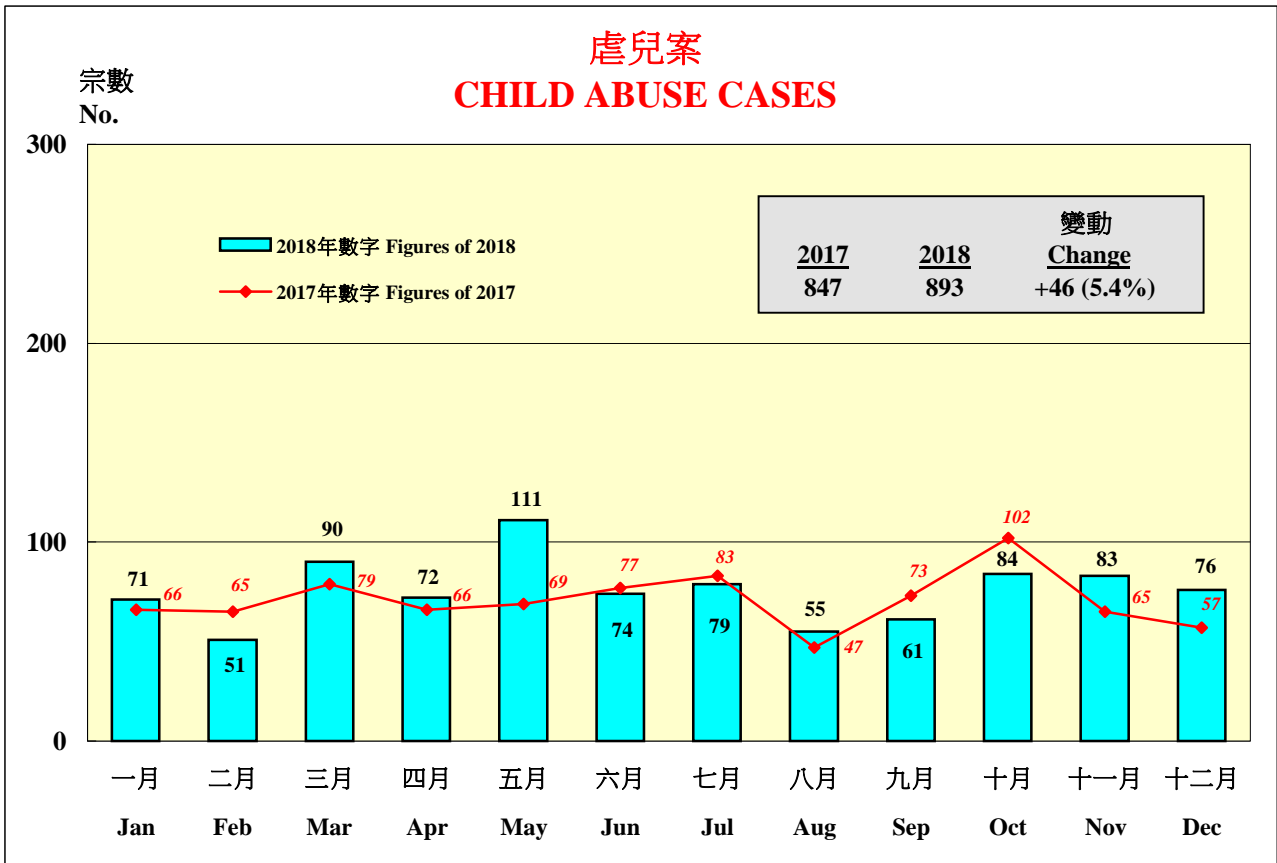
宗數
No.

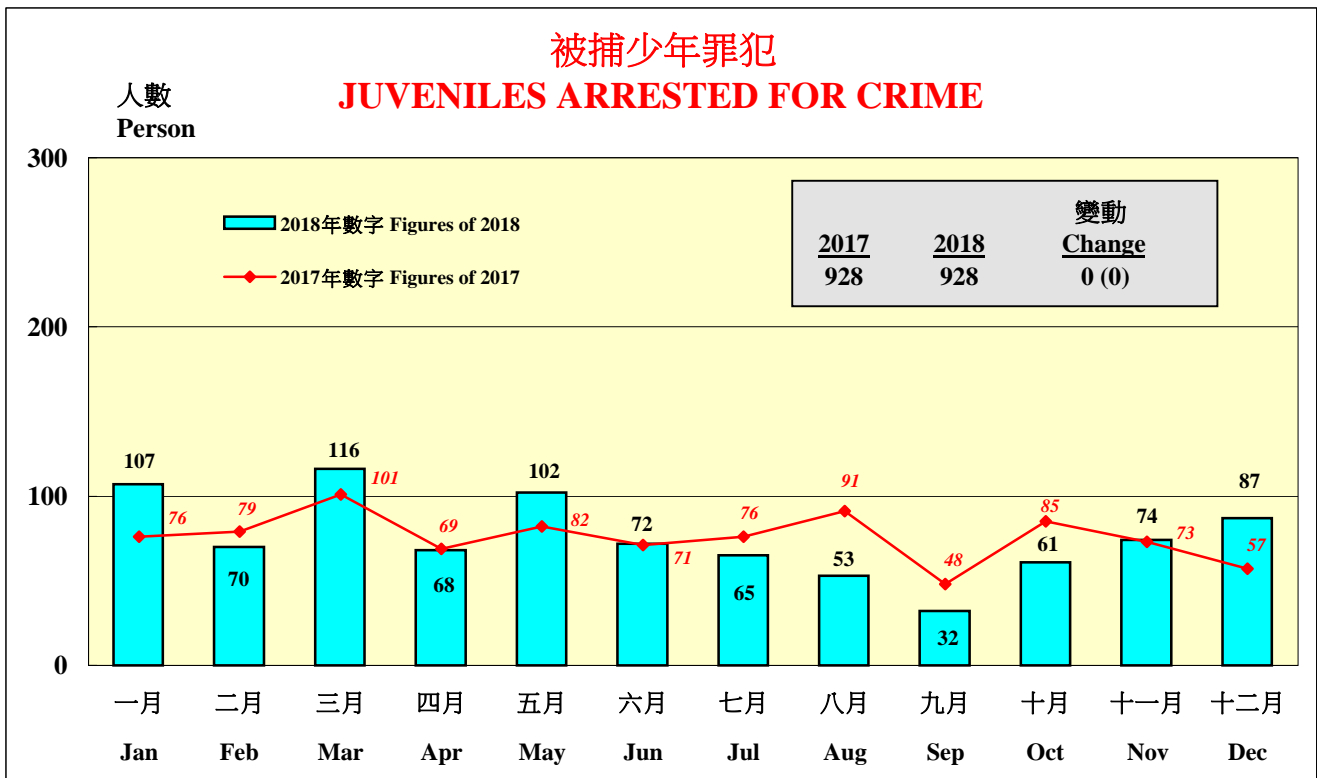


家庭暴力刑事案件 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CRIMES

宗數
No.

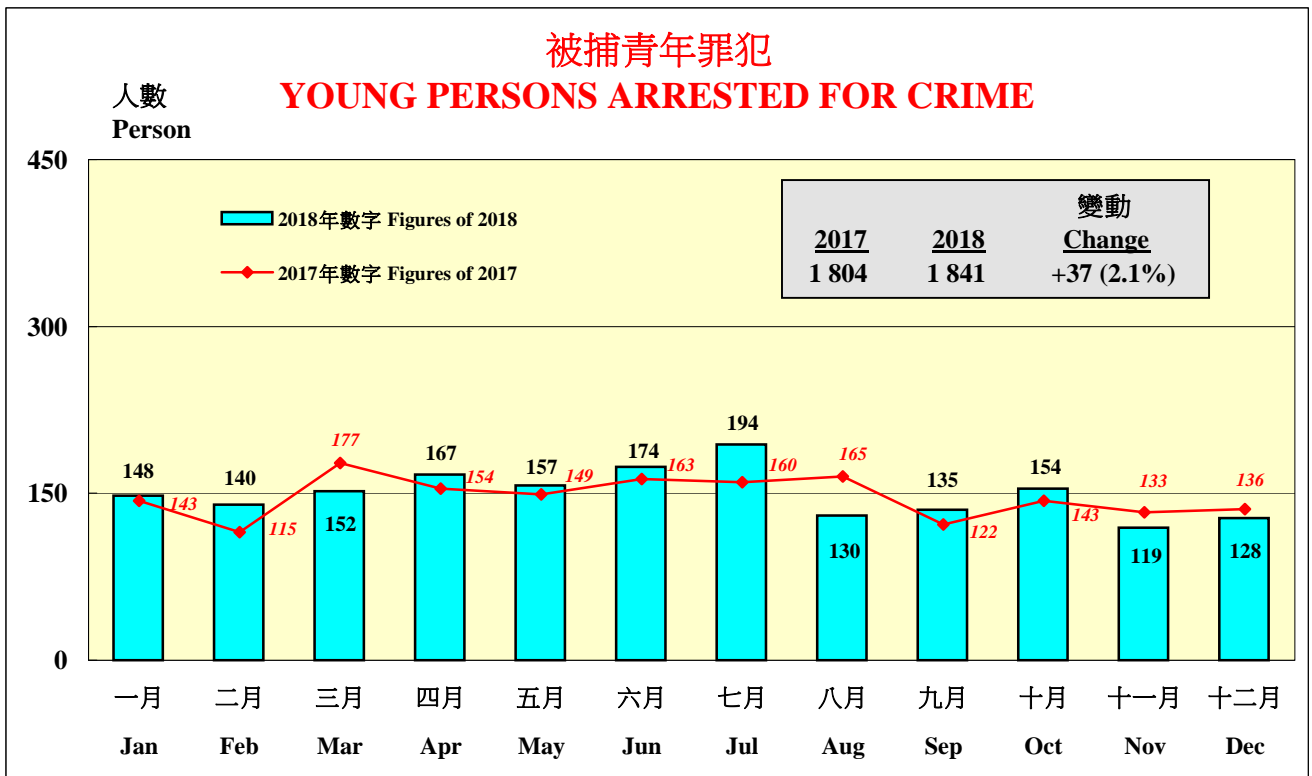






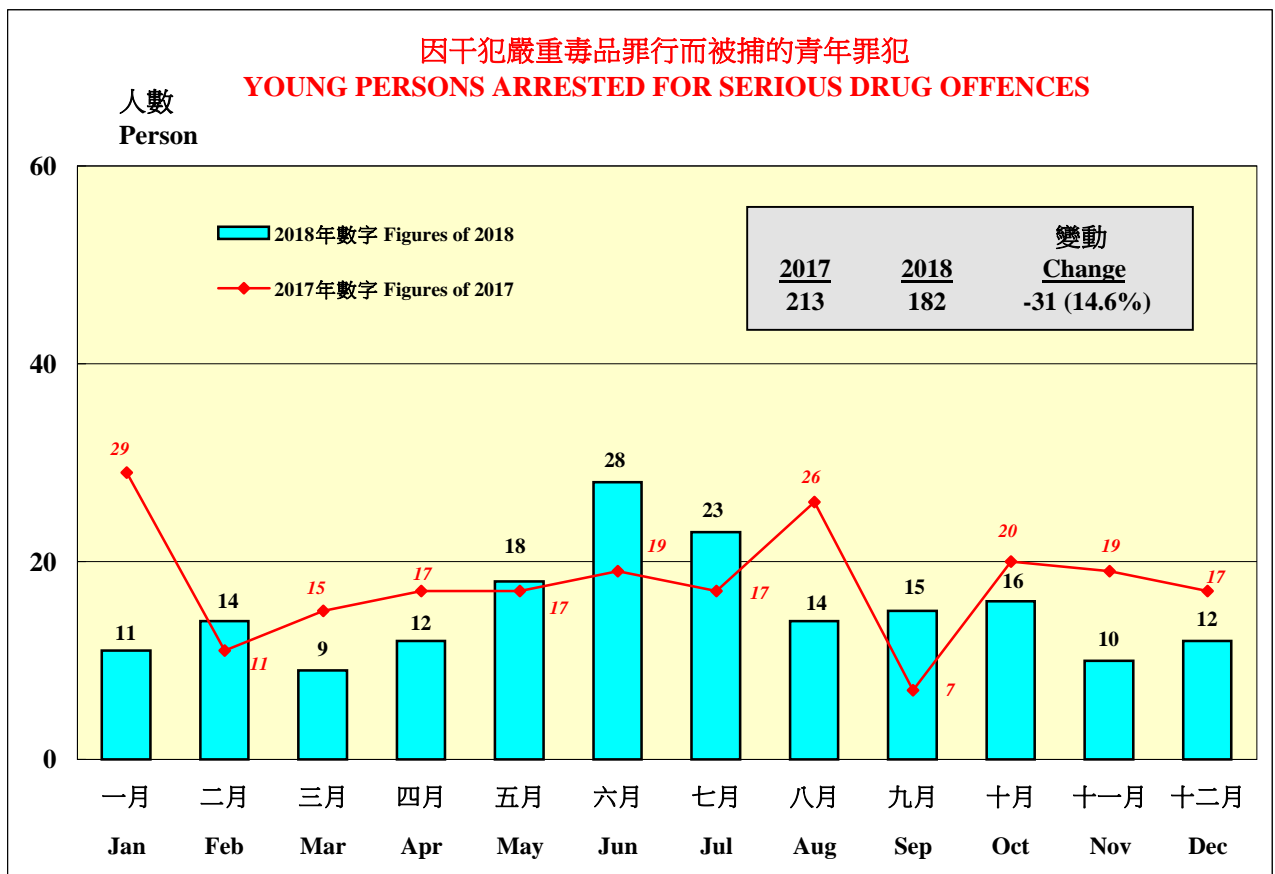
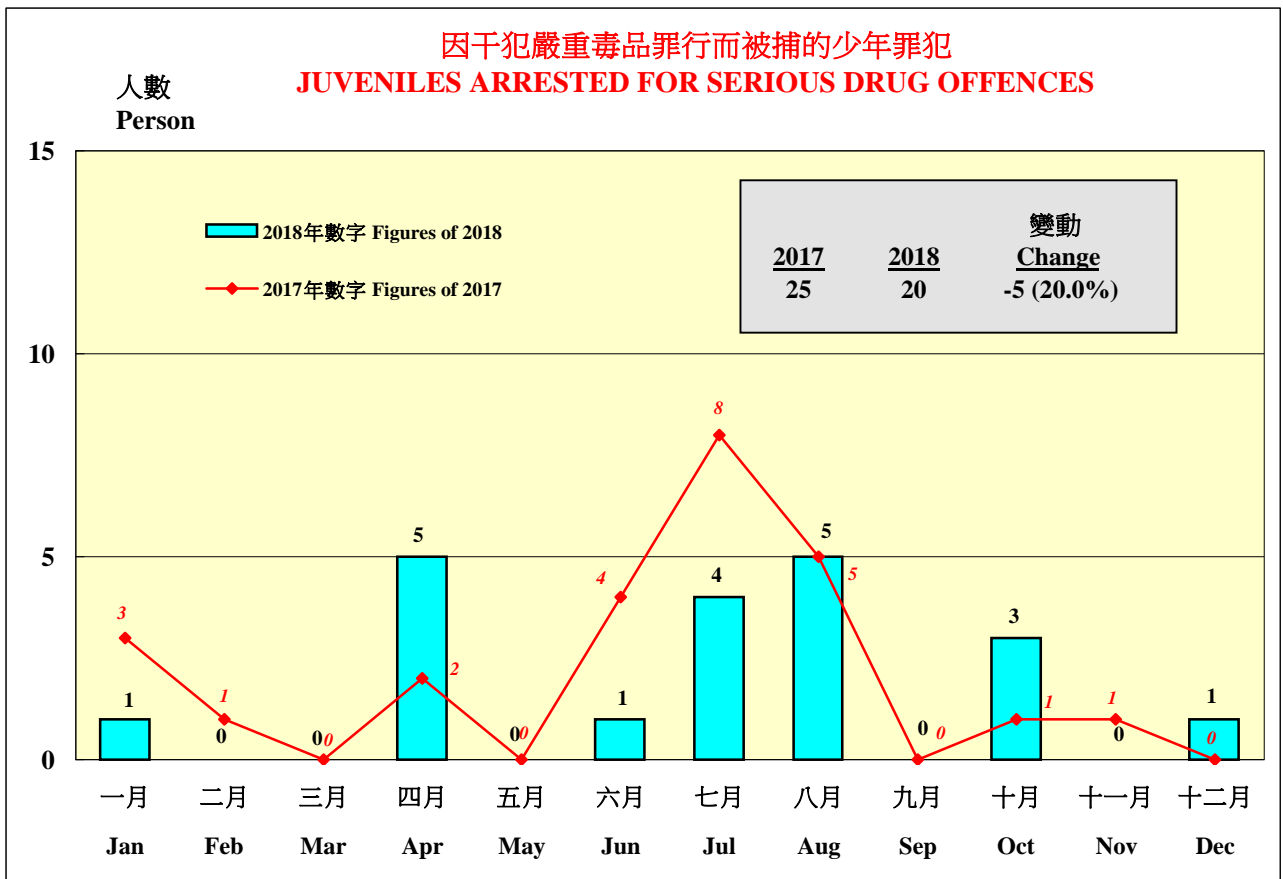
註：少年罪犯年齡是10-15歲。涉案多數是店舖盜竊、雜項盜竊及傷人及嚴重毆打。

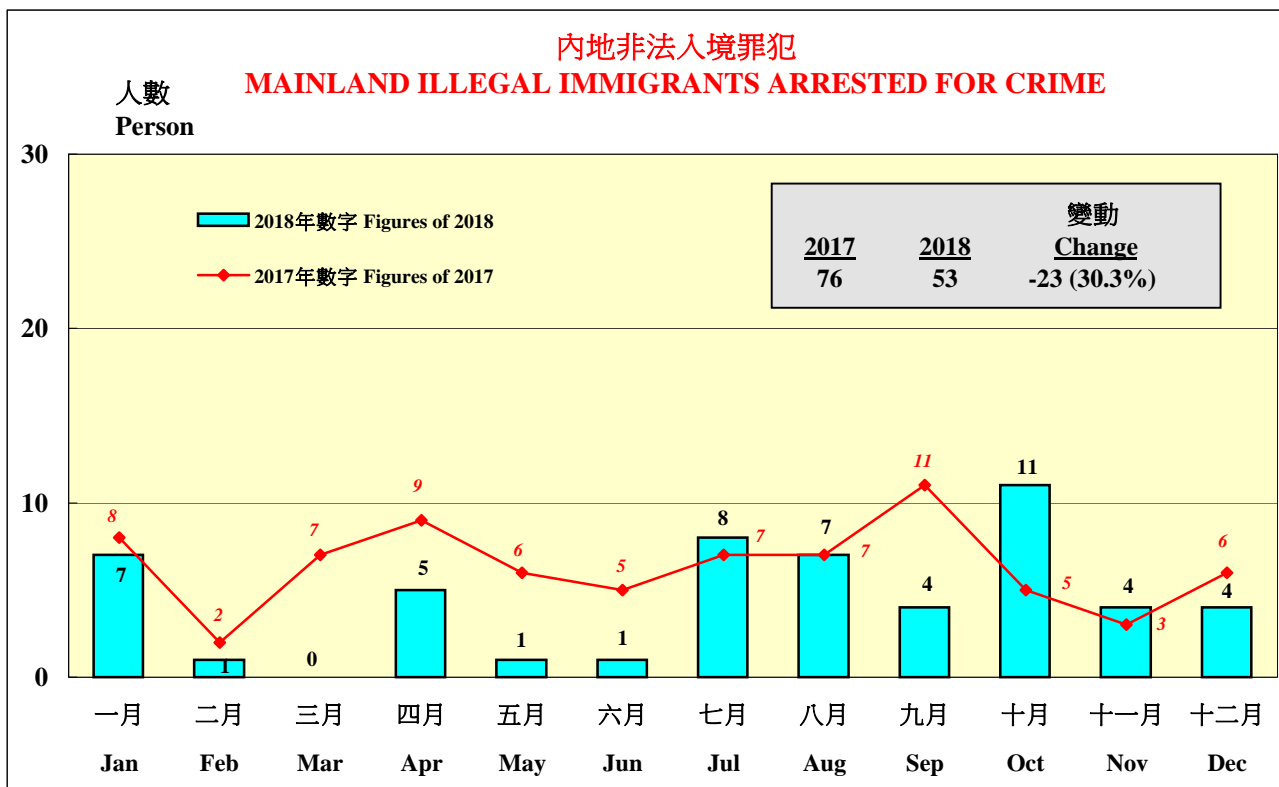
Note: Juveniles refer to those aged 10-15. The most prevalent offences were shop theft, miscellaneous thefts, and wounding and serious assault.



註：青年罪犯年齡是16-20歲。涉案多數是傷人及嚴重毆打、雜項盜竊、店舖盜竊及嚴重毒品罪行。

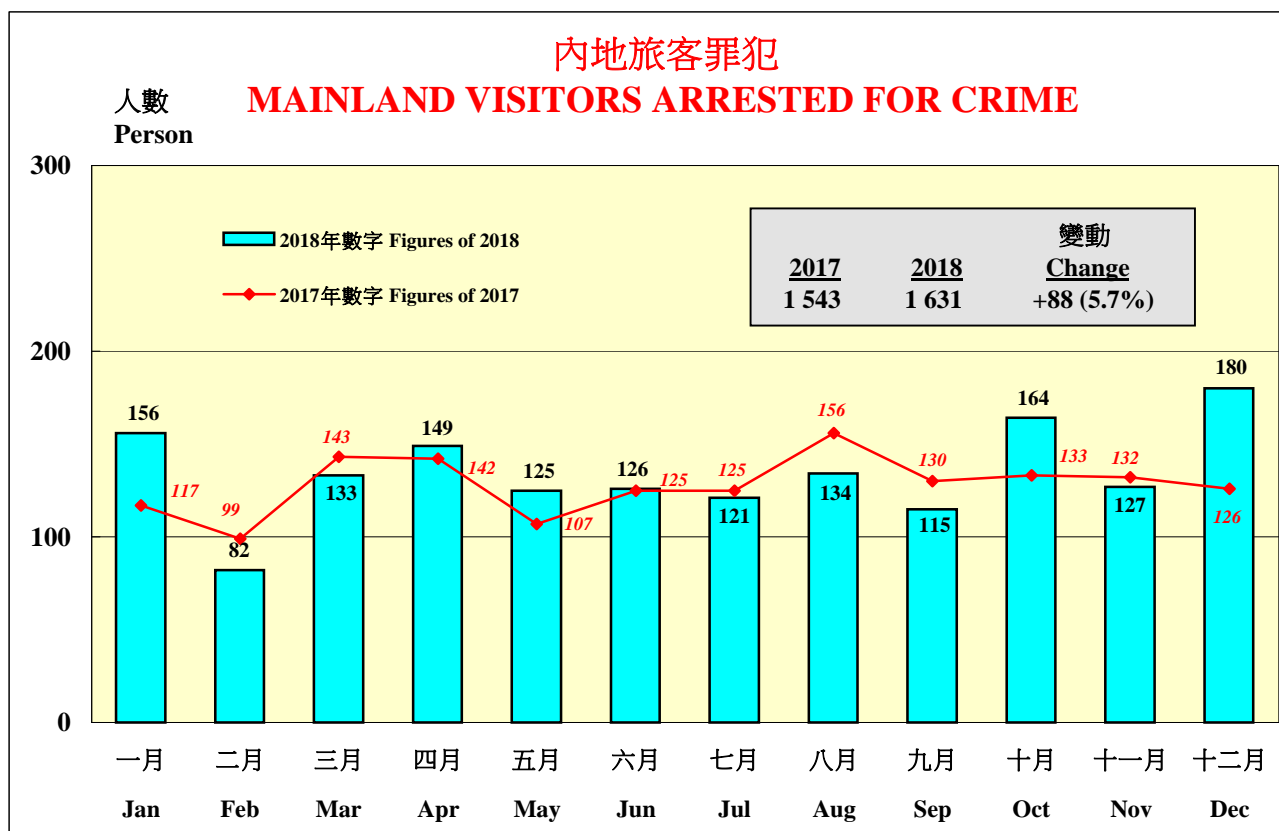
Note: Young persons refer to those aged 16-20. The most prevalent offences were wounding and serious assault, miscellaneous thefts, shop theft, and serious drug offences.





註： 涉案多數是嚴重非法入境罪行、爆竊、詐騙及偽造文件及假錢。

Note: The most prevalent offences were serious immigration offences, burglary, deception, and forgery and coinage.



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) 涉案多數是店舖盜竊、嚴重非法入境罪行及偽造文件及假錢。

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

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

附加資料
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

