

**Town of Edson
Automated
Traffic
Enforcement
(ATE)
Annual Report
2023**



Purpose of Report

In accordance with the [Alberta Automated Enforcement Guidelines 2023](#), this annual report is intended to advise the public on Automated Traffic Enforcement (ATE) results, where ATE was deployed as well as collision rates for the community.

Automated Traffic Enforcement Background

ATE technology has been used in the Town of Edson since late 2006, with the goal of introducing another tool to reduce high levels of speeding within the community. The Town of Edson is centered in Yellowhead County with TransCanada Highway #16 running through the center of the community. The high levels of traffic and pedestrian travel along this a corridor requires a strong effort and places high demands on our Enforcement team which is comprised of the RCMP and Enforcement Services Community Peace Officers. ATE is another tool available to the community to assist with this challenge.

Automated Traffic Enforcement Operations Overview

The Town of Edson in cooperation and approval with the Edson RCMP utilizes Automated Traffic Enforcement (ATE) technology as one of the enforcement tools identified within the RCMP's multi-year Traffic Safety Plan.

The Town of Edson has a contract with [Global Traffic Group Ltd](#) to provide automated enforcement services to the community. The ATE program is overseen by the Manager of Enforcement Services for the Town of Edson, from a contract perspective.

The Edson RCMP, particularly the Detachment Commander, provides direction to the contractor in the form of ensuring that enforcement is done in accordance with local traffic safety plans, reviewing and approving all ATE sites, directing what sites to be used as well as what periods and duration of enforcement shall be done.

Public education and awareness issues are addressed by permanent signage posted at all entrances to the Town and major thoroughfares as well as in playground zones and other sites that are regularly used. The Town of Edson has developed a robust [webpage](#) associated to ATE operations including but not limited to the approved enforcement locations, daily zone use plans, zone justification sheets and FAQs.

In 2023, there were 20 approved sites for enforcement within Town boundaries. These sites are enforced utilizing mobile speed detection devices, operated by level 2 Community Peace Officers.

Traffic Safety Program Overview

The Town of Edson and Edson RCMP have developed a collaborative approach to traffic safety. The Edson Traffic Safety Plan was created as a continuation and reassessment of current and previous traffic safety plans and initiatives. It is operated in conjunction with the Alberta Traffic Safety Plan and the RCMP policies and guidelines associated to traffic. The plan focuses on cooperation, education, enforcement, community initiatives and traffic safety statistics. The goal is to encourage safe driving and reduce the number of collisions, injuries, and fatalities on our roadways.



The Town of Edson's long-term goal is to achieve Vision Zero: zero traffic related fatalities and serious injuries. Vision Zero has been adopted by leaders in traffic safety including countries such as Australia and England as well as major cities in Canada and world-wide. The premise is simple: all collisions are avoidable.



The Edson Traffic Safety Plan has two core pillars: Education and Enforcement

Education:

The Edson Traffic Safety Plan is relayed internally through senior management as well through the elected officials at the Town of Edson. Local media outlets are utilized to promote specific initiatives and to communicate the results. The Edson RCMP along with Edson Enforcement Services continue to create and deliver programs and initiatives at all levels of schooling. This is aimed at promoting effective communication with our members, and to provide education on healthier life choices and community safety. The Edson RCMP senior management team discusses components of its Traffic Safety Plan with numerous committees and community groups within the community.

Enforcement:

Using the Alberta yearly Traffic Safety Calendar as a guide, Edson's traffic safety Plan implements targeted enforcement of the following:

- Intersections
- School / playground zones
- Speeding
- Alcohol / Drug / impaired driving offences
- Distracted Driving
- Stunting and careless driving
- Suspended driving
- Uninsured driving
- Drug trafficking
- Special events
- Holiday and weekend enforcement.

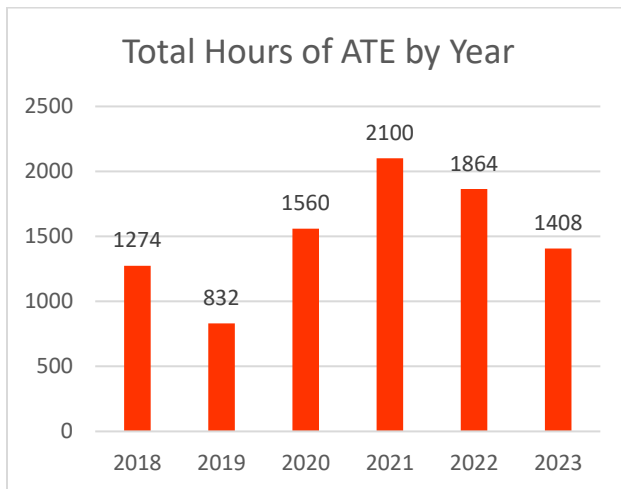
Automated Traffic Enforcement is an additional tool utilized in the community to help achieve the goals set out in the Traffic Safety Plan. The Edson RCMP, in conjunction with the Town of Edson, determines the strategies for the ATE program, this includes but is not limited to the monitoring of locations and speed tolerances.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Automated Enforcement Program Data

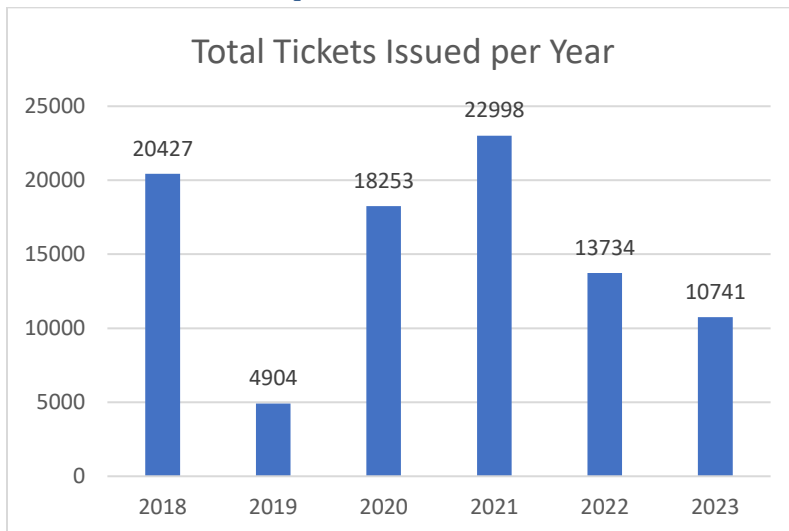
This section outlines several key enforcement statistics directly associated with automated enforcement. This is not a complete summary of all enforcement or traffic safety work completed by the RCMP or the Town of Edson Community Peace Officers.

ATE Hours of Enforcement



The total hours of Enforcement have increased since 2020, due to a change in operating philosophy. Moving from fixed 24 hours of ATE enforcement per week to flexible 24 – 40 hours per week schedule.

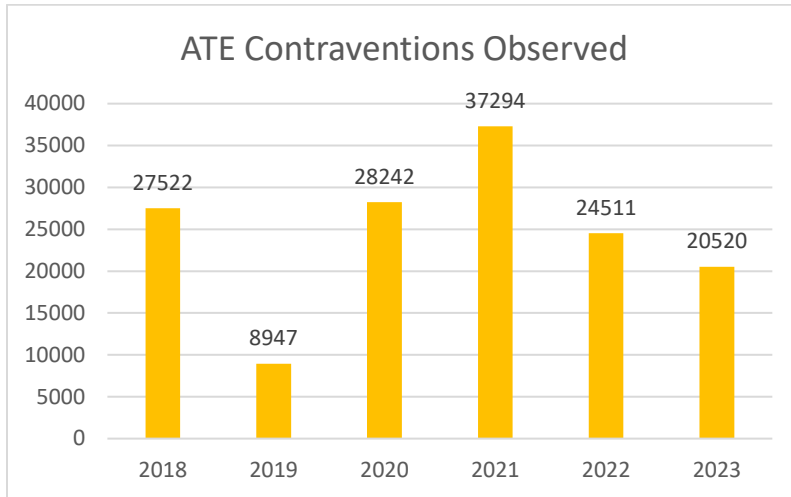
ATE Tickets Issued per Year



The tickets issued per year fluctuated over the 6-year span with 2019 being an anomalous year which was the result of some Peace Officer challenges. 2021 is the high year and is attributed to the surging economy in the area with several major construction projects happening within the region resulting in increased traffic flows.

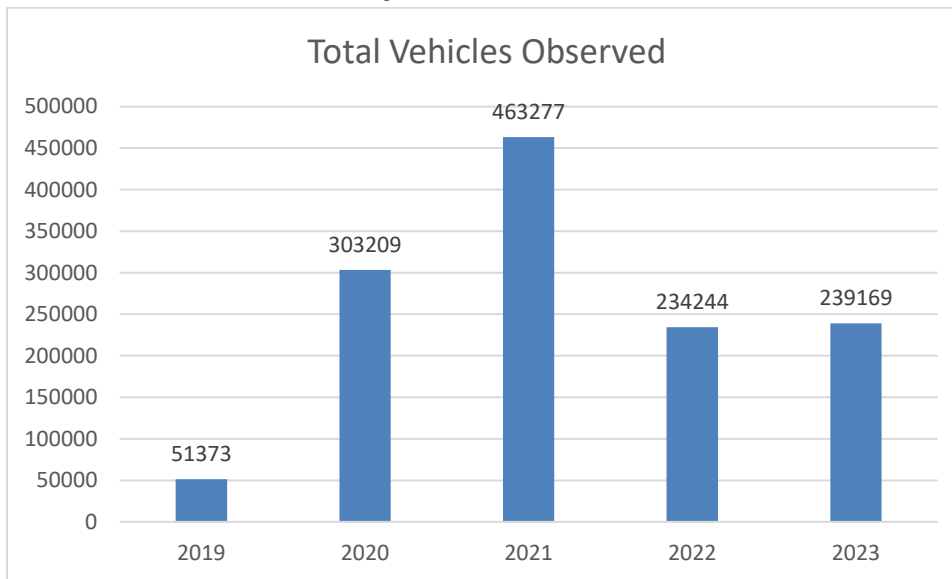


ATE Contraventions Observed



The total contraventions observed includes all contraventions including tickets issued. The difference between observed and issued tickets are a result of policy reasons, license plates not visible, vehicle registration not being traceable or same day multiple tickets.

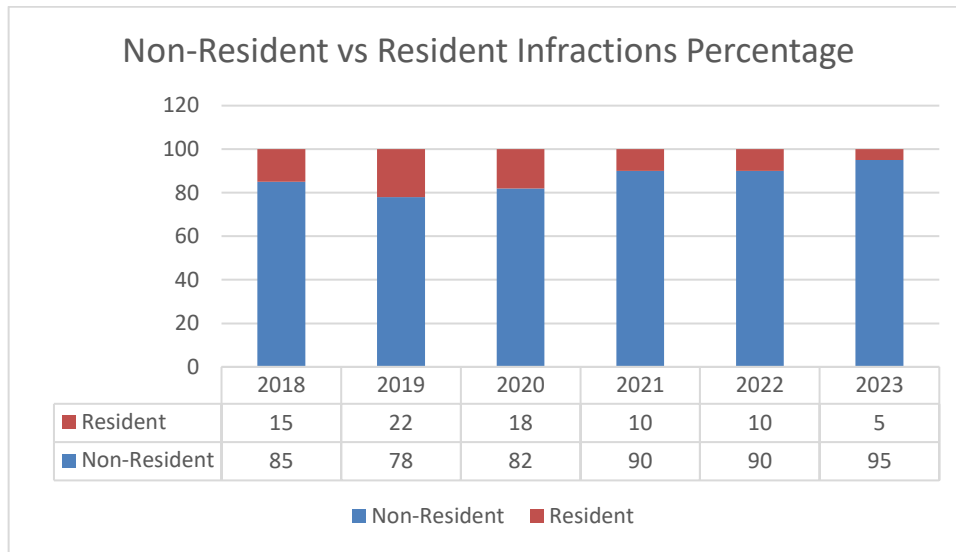
Total Vehicles Observed by ATE



The total numbers observed utilizing ATE is shown above with 2021 being a spike year which is the result of a surging economy due to several major construction project happening in the region resulting in increased traffic flows within the community.

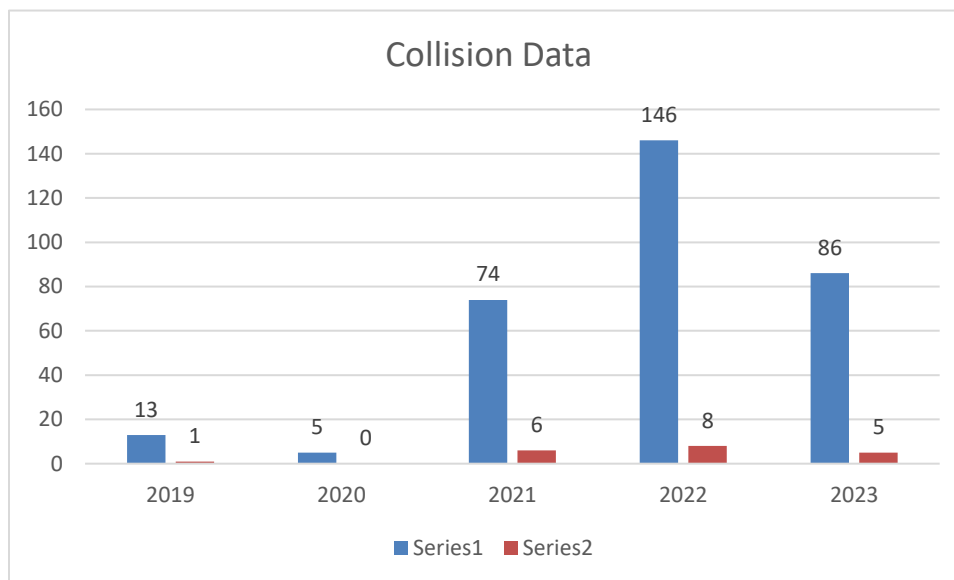


Resident vs Non-resident Infractions



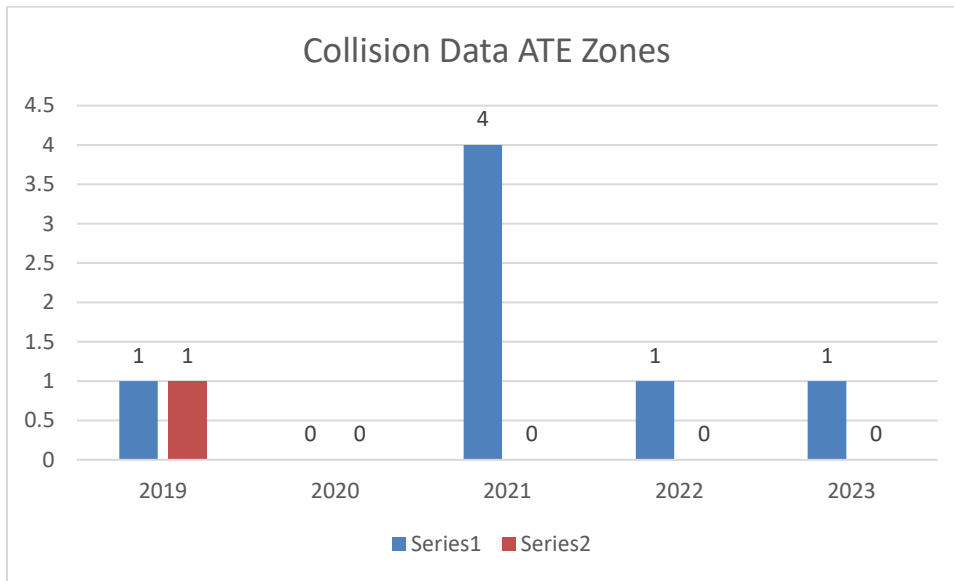
The resident vs non-resident infractions are reflective in the above chart and is consistently illustrating a high degree of non-resident infractions.

Collision Data for the Town of Edson



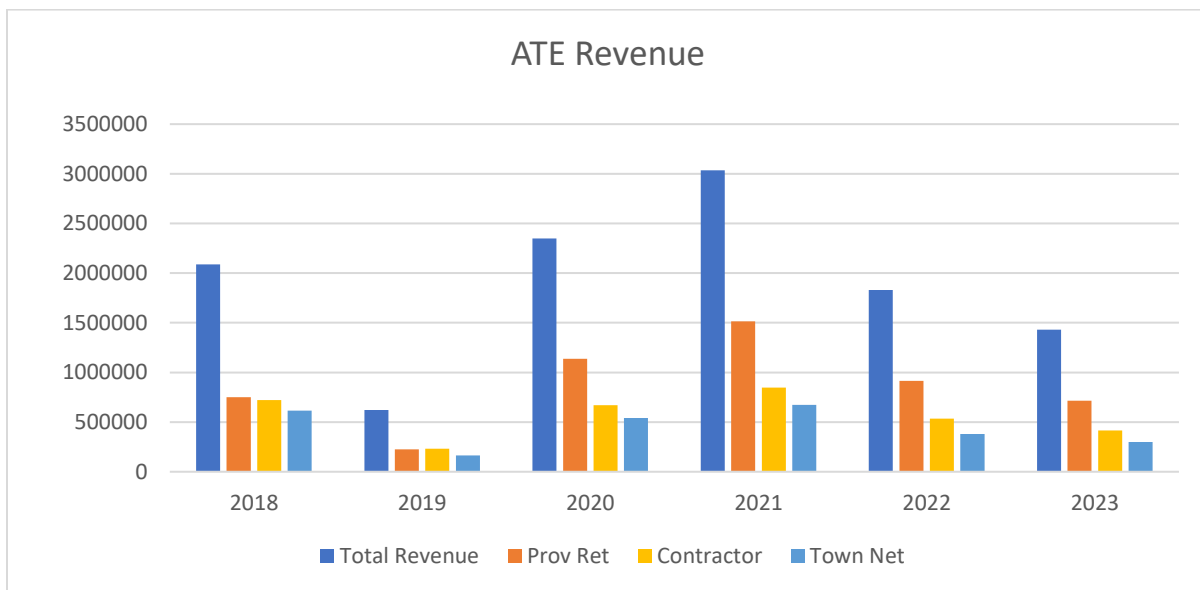
The above chart shows the total collision data collected from the Edson RCMP. 2020 shows very little collisions which probably can be explained due to the COVID restrictions which were in place, reducing vehicle traffic. 2021 and 2022 show increased collisions which are trending upwards. These are of concern and are attributed partially to the higher traffic flows due to increased construction activity.

Collision Data for ATE Zones



The above chart reflects the collisions which happened in zones with ATE enforcement. In comparison to the overall collision data, these zones have experienced much lower collisions which may be the result of many factors which include traditional enforcement, education and ATE operations.

Fine Revenue



The above chart shows the revenue generated through the photo enforcement program. For 2023, the total revenue generated through ticketing was \$1,429,410. Of this total \$713,801 was retained by the Province which includes a portion \$142,760 retained for the Victims of Crime fund, \$416,360 was for the contractor with the remaining \$299,249 retained by the Town of Edson.



The Town of Edson portion is used within the community to assist with the cost of policing. In addition to off setting the RCMP costs, a small percentage is used for Public Safety initiatives which enhance traffic safety for both pedestrians and traveling public.

Public Safety Initiatives

The installation of Lighted pedestrian crossing signals through-out the community.



Speed Advisory Devices

The installation of mounted speed advisory devices in school / playground zones. A portable speed advisor device for deployment within the community for traffic safety.



Performance Targets

The performance targets identified within the traffic safety plan are to achieve Vision Zero, zero traffic related fatalities and serious injuries.

To achieve this goal the Traffic Safety plan has two core pillars, Education and Enforcement.

1. Education has been achieved through several initiatives which are listed:
 - a. RCMP townhall meeting
 - b. Town of Edson web-site information
 - c. Speed signage through-out the community
 - d. Speed advisory signs through-out the community
2. Enforcement is achieved through conventional enforcement and ATE enforcement
3. The collision data does indicate trends which have increased traffic collisions which will need to be review in 2023 to determine effective strategies to reduce the collisions.
4. Collision data in the ATE zones is low which is a positive as some zones have very high pedestrian and traffic flows.

Conclusion

In 2023, the Automated Traffic Enforcement program was deployed in a fashion that helped achieve the traffic safety concerns within the community. Review of the program operations and reporting and how it contributes to overall traffic safety will continue in 2024.

Contacts:

S/Sgt. Christian Delisle
Edson RCMP

Eric Christensen, Manager of Enforcement Services
Town of Edson

