

UFOs haven't gone away: Number of UFO reports still high

The results of the 2016 Canadian UFO Survey have been released, and despite an apparent quiescence in media, UFO sightings are still being reported at a near-record level. **In 2016, 1,131 UFO reports were officially filed in Canada, the fifth year in a row above 1,000 cases.**

The Canadian UFO Survey is produced by Ufology Research, based in Manitoba, with the cooperation of investigators and researchers across the country.

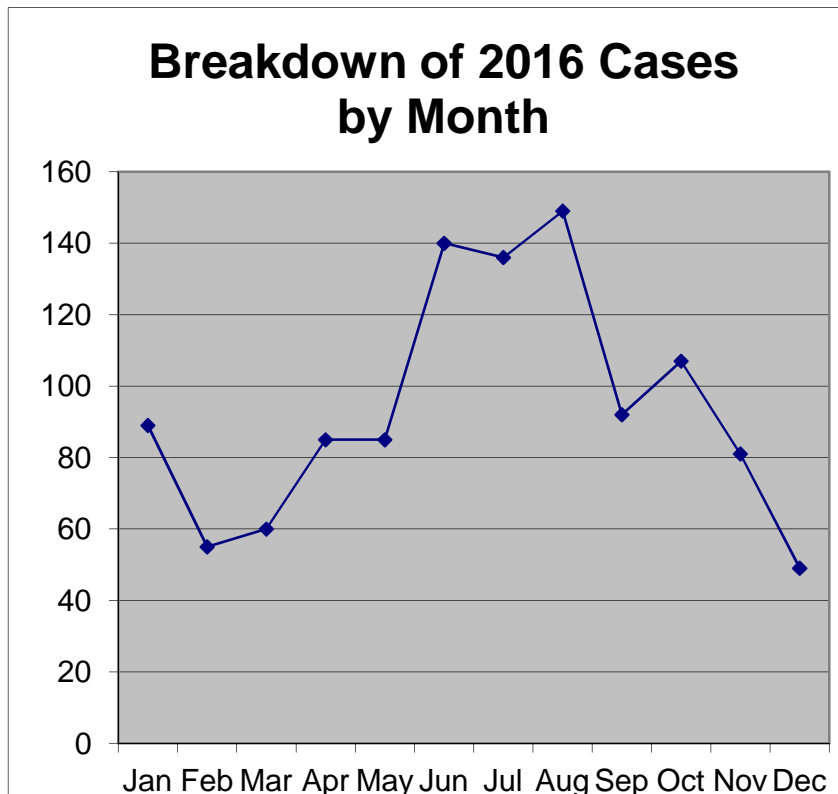
Since the annual Canadian UFO Survey was initiated in 1989, **18,038 Canadian UFO reports have been catalogued during the past 28 years.** This is much more than the files of the United States Air Force's infamous Project Blue Book, which investigated and recorded 12,618 UFO reports from around the world between 1947 and 1969. And, while Blue Book listed 701 cases as Unexplained, there are 2,145 Unexplained cases in the Canadian UFO Survey.

Numbers of Canadian UFO Reports Each Year Since 1989

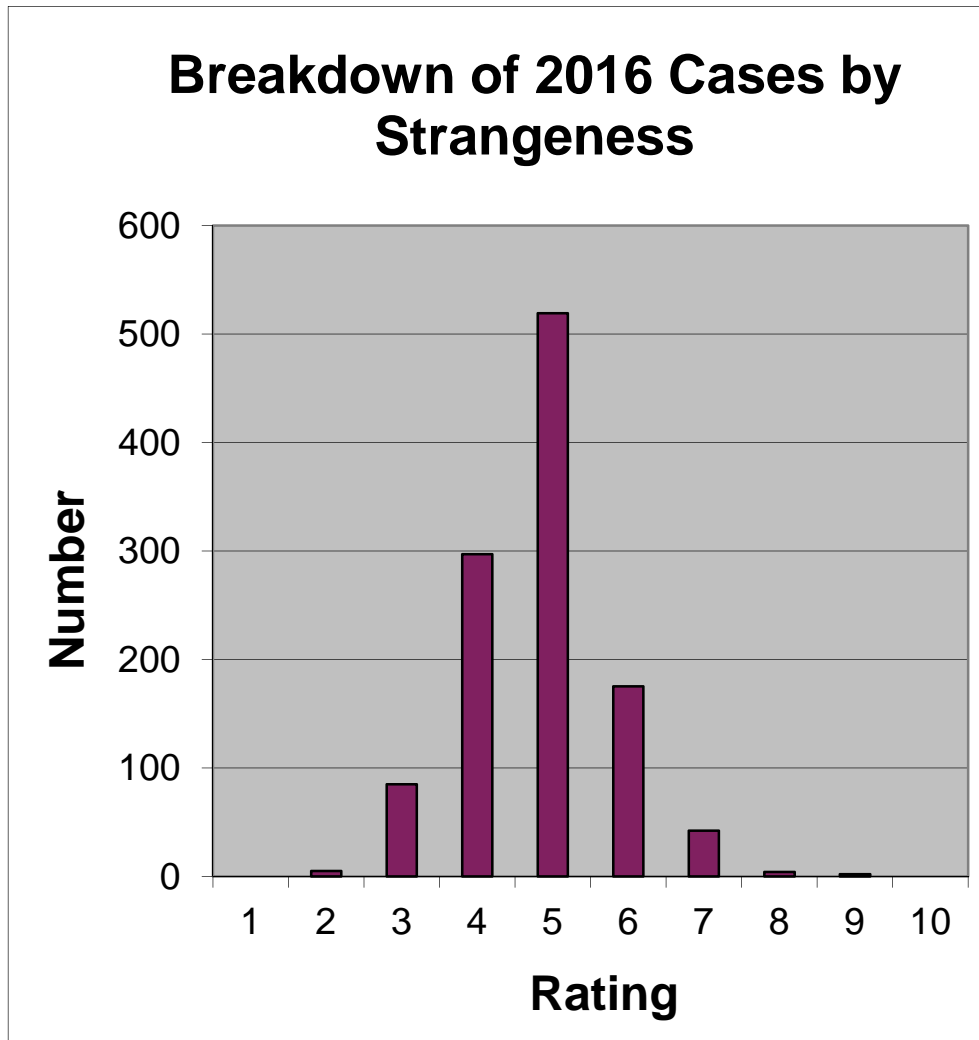
| Year | Number | Average |
|------|--------|---------|
| 1989 | 141 | 141.0 |
| 1990 | 194 | 167.5 |
| 1991 | 165 | 166.7 |
| 1992 | 223 | 180.8 |
| 1993 | 489 | 242.4 |
| 1994 | 189 | 233.5 |
| 1995 | 183 | 226.3 |
| 1996 | 258 | 230.3 |
| 1997 | 284 | 236.2 |
| 1998 | 194 | 232.0 |
| 1999 | 259 | 234.5 |
| 2000 | 263 | 236.8 |
| 2001 | 374 | 247.4 |
| 2002 | 483 | 264.2 |
| 2003 | 673 | 291.5 |

| | | |
|-------|-------|-------|
| 2004 | 882 | 328.4 |
| 2005 | 769 | 354.3 |
| 2006 | 738 | 375.8 |
| 2007 | 794 | 399.8 |
| 2008 | 1004 | 430.0 |
| 2009 | 831 | 433.3 |
| 2010 | 968 | 438.2 |
| 2011 | 986 | 461.9 |
| 2012 | 1981 | 525.3 |
| 2013 | 1180 | 551.4 |
| 2014 | 1021 | 601.5 |
| 2015 | 1267 | 626.1 |
| 2016 | 1131 | 644.2 |
| Total | 18039 | |

This data clearly contradicts comments by those who would assert that UFOs are a 'passing fad' or that UFO sightings are decreasing in number.

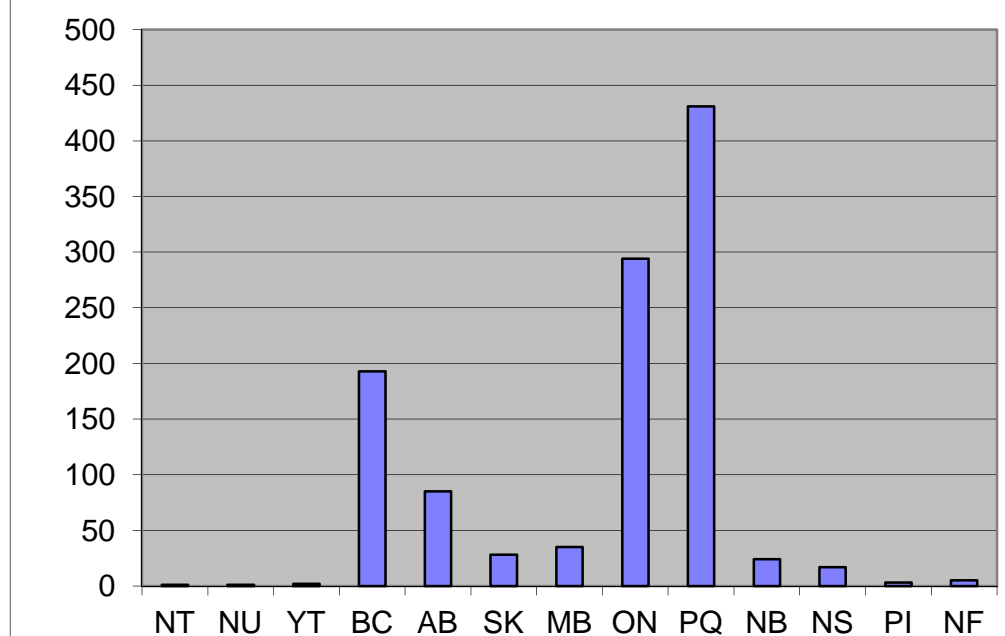


In 2016, Most UFO reports were recorded during the summer with June, July and August having a combined 37.7 per cent of all cases. **Most UFOs were simple lights** in the sky, known as Nocturnal Lights (54.9 per cent), and Close Encounters comprised less than one per cent of the total. This is borne out by the bell-shaped distribution of Strangeness in 2016, where most UFO sightings were unremarkable and simply lights or distant objects moving in the sky.



The provinces with the largest populations also tended to have the most UFO reports: Ontario (26.3 per cent), BC (17.2 per cent), but Quebec had a significantly unusual overabundance of UFO reports in 2016 (38.5 per cent). This is because Quebec currently has several civilian UFO groups, all with active public awareness campaigns and thus receiving substantial media attention.

Breakdown of 2016 Cases by Province



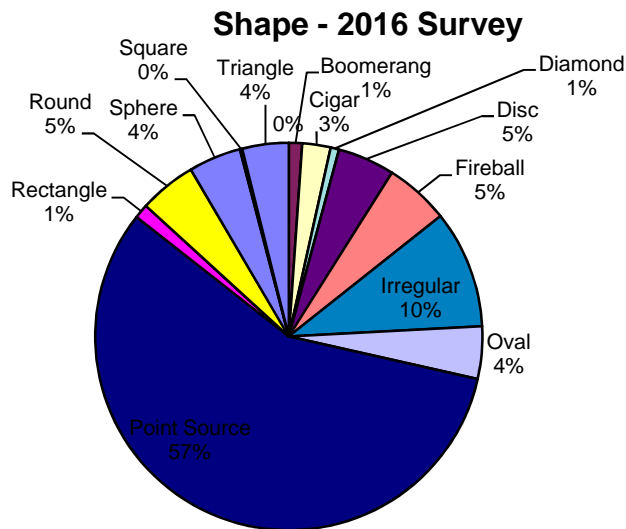
The metropolitan city centres with the most UFO reports in 2016 were:

| City | Number of UFO Reports |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| Montreal | 73 |
| Vancouver | 70 |
| Toronto | 65 |
| Hamilton | 28 |
| Ottawa | 24 |
| Edmonton | 23 |
| Calgary | 18 |
| London | 18 |
| Quebec City | 18 |
| Winnipeg | 17 |

Western cities such as Edmonton and Winnipeg dropped a bit in ranking, while other cities remained more or less the same.

The most popular shape of UFO reported in 2016 was a simple point source of light (57 per cent). Other shapes reported were Triangle (4 per cent), Ball (9 per

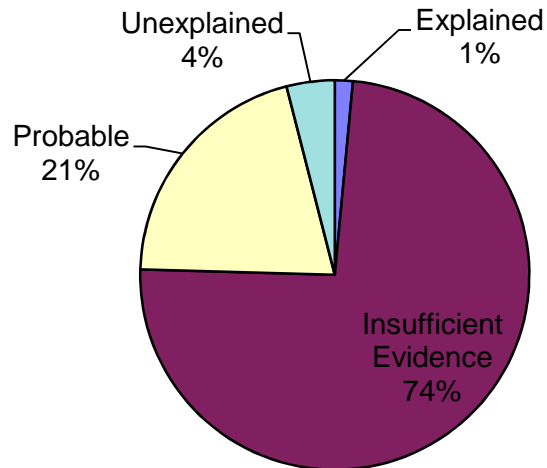
cent), Cigar (3 per cent) and Fireball (5 per cent). The classic “flying saucer” was only reported 48 times (5 per cent) in 2016.



The most noticeable difference in the 2016 data compared with other years is a distinct shift from classifications of Probable or Possible Explanation to that of Insufficient Information for explanations. In 2015, Probable cases represented 66 per cent of the total and Insufficient cases were 20 per cent, whereas in 2016, the percentages flipped, with Probable cases at 21 per cent and Insufficient cases at 74 per cent. This was because of a more rigorous evaluation process during data entry in 2016, objectively assessing the amount of information available for review in the reports. This makes comparisons with previous years a challenge, but does not adversely affect other categories.

The percentage of UFO cases considered Unexplained in 2016 has dropped to 4 per cent, the lowest in 28 years of study. Again, this is likely a result of more careful scrutiny of raw report information available. Curiously, the percentage of Explained cases is likewise low, only 1.5 per cent, the lowest since 1992.

Breakdown of 2016 Reports by Conclusion



Sources for UFO reports in 2016 included several civilian Canadian UFO organizations, major USA-based groups such as MUFON and NUFORC, cases reported directly to Ufology Research, and also Canadian government agencies.

It should be emphasized the classification of Unknown does not imply alien visitation. Each case may still have an explanation following further investigation. And of those that remain unexplained, they may remain unexplained, but still are not incontrovertible proof of extraterrestrial intervention or some mysterious natural phenomenon.

Most Interesting 2016 Unknowns

January 6, 9:16 pm

Deep Cove, BC

A “huge” disc-shaped, hovering craft with “searchlights” was seen. It had blue lights along its exterior. It was in view for 24 minutes.

<http://www.ufosnw.com/newsite/man-sees-huge-hovering-craft-emit-beams-of-light/>

January 6, 9:30 pm

North Vancouver, BC

A “gigantic,” disc-shaped object with “searchlights” was seen moving over the mountains. Two minutes’ duration.

<http://www.nuforc.org/webreports/125/S125184.html>

January 6, 9:30 pm

North Vancouver, BC

Separate and independently reported case of apparently same object as other report from same day.

<http://www.nuforc.org/webreports/125/S125150.html>

February 26, 12:50 am

Vancouver, BC

Ring-shaped grey object with “dusty” spots on it was seen moving through sky for about a minute.

<http://www.nuforc.org/webreports/126/S126189.html>

April 15, 1:26 am

Toronto, ON

A pilot of an aircraft observed a bright light flying above him, in the opposite direction of his airplane. ATC noted that the nearest air traffic was three miles away. CADORS 201600730

May 31, 6:00 am

Olds-Didsbury, AB

Transport Canada noted that fireworks were seemingly discharged intentionally within 50 ft of aircraft. “The pilot asserts it seemed intentional.” Fortunately, there was no impact on the flight. Upon investigation RCMP found no evidence found of fireworks activity in the area.

CADORS 2016C1893

June 21, 3:05 pm

Courtenay, BC

A disc-shaped glowing object, with lights on it that changed relative position, was seen moving in the sky for about 45 minutes. The object itself changed direction while flying.

http://www.ufobc.ca/Sightings/sights2016_v2.html

October 30, 8:00 pm

St. Thomas, ON

A boomerang-shaped “cluster of stars” moved across sky for two minutes.

<http://www.nuforc.org/webreports/130/S130927.html>

November 14, 6:22 am

Toronto, ON

A commercial aircraft had a “near miss” with an object while on a routine flight. “While passing through 8300 feet approximately 29 nautical miles East on the initial approach to CYTZ, the flight crew noticed an object directly ahead on their flight path. The object appeared to be solid, approximately 5 to 8 feet in diameter and shaped like an upright doughnut or inner tube.” Cabin crew members received minor injuries when evasive action was taken. While the object was not likely a balloon and was suggested to be a drone, it was noted that drones could not fly at that altitude and distance. According to the Transportation Safety Board: “The incident will remain identified as a near collision with an unidentified airborne object.”

CADORS 201602991

<http://www.citynews.ca/2016/11/23/object-caused-near-collision-porter-plane-not-drone/>

Some Unusual UFO Reports in 2016

While the vast majority of cases reported to UFO groups and official agencies are of low Strangeness, some rather odd incidents are reported each year. Close Encounter cases are definitely in the minority, but some of these cases are *extremely* close indeed.

January 10, 2016

Cornwall, PEI

A witness reported that a thin, six-foot-tall, long fingered, white alien in a black suit appeared in his bedroom. The witness spoke to the alien, which then left by walking through a wall.

January 10, 2016

Lanaudiere, Quebec

The same night, a witness reported seeing a white light then was somehow transported into a field of plants with large leaves. Suddenly, the witness said he was plunged into a bathtub where he was surrounded by three green, big-eyed humanoid creatures who communicated with him telepathically. After a while, he found himself back in his home, and at least four hours had passed. The witness said that he found strange scratches on his body, and that his and eye colour changed after the incident.

January 12, 2016

Tecumseh, Ontario

A witness reported that an alien entity was responsible for stealing his sunglasses, belt and silver possessions. Later, the witness produced a photograph in which he thought a “rip in space and time” could be seen.

August 5, 2016

Cap-de-la-Madeline, Quebec

A Man-in-Black visited a person who had witnessed a UFO. The MIB claimed to be from a Quebec UFO organization and knew personal details about the witness. The MIN claimed that the government controlled the weather and that Nikola Tesla had met extraterrestrials.

August 6, 2016

St-Croix, Quebec

Grey humanoids were seen. Later, odd markings were found on the ground, as if something had been dragged through the dirt.

December 31, 2016

Rimouski, Quebec

A report was received which read simply, “They contacted me!”

2016?

Donnacona, Quebec

A man reported that he had been having regular encounters with aliens for several years. He met one along a river where the alien seemed to float in the air. Another time, he saw a face in a tree with eyes that were staring at him. Others were "silhouettes that were blurry and stood in the trees." He had taken some photographs that he claimed showed the aliens.

2016?

Manawan, Quebec

A Sasquatch was reported to have been seen in Northern Quebec.

Data Sources:

Yukon UFO
National UFO Reporting Center (NUFORC)
UFOINFO
UFO BC
UFOS North West
Mutual UFO Network (MUFON)
Ufology Research
Transport Canada
National Defence and the Canadian Forces
YouTube
NOUFORS
PSICan
Sightings.com
GARPAN
Association Québécoise d'Ufologie (AQU)

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