CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

JUDICIAL STATISTICS BRANCH

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

Major and Minor delinquency for the principal
cities of Canada — 1925

Major delinquencies classified — 1923 — 1924

Delinquencies by provinces — 1925

Repeaters, dispositions, birth place, religon,
age, sex and school grades, 1925

Minor offences, 1925

+ + +

Published by Authority of the Hon. J. A. Robb, M. P.,

Acting Minister of Trade and Commerce.

+ + +

OTTAWA

1926

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

The total number of Juvenile delinquents as shown by returns for the year ended September 30, 1925 is 8,739, being 8,064 boys and 675 girls. These are classified as major offenders, 4,867 boys and 379 girls; and minor offenders, 3,197 boys and 296 girls. In addition to these there were 321 boys and 23 girls charged with major offences but dismissed.

The returns from nineteen principal cities as shown below give a total of 7,053 major and minor offences or 80 per cent of the total delinquencies.

Juvenile Delinquencies as returned from nineteen of the
principal cities, by major and minor offences and by
sexes for 1925.

	Major offences		Minor offences		Total	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Charlottetown...........P.E.I.	18	-	-	-	18	-
Halifax.................N.S.	130	1	66	7	196	8
St. John................N.B.	36	2	26	1	62	3
Montreal................Que.	762	102	622	81	1,384	183
Westmount............... "	34	1	17	1	51	2
Quebec.................. "	22	2	-	-	22	2
Toronto................Ont.	989	54	1,132	53	2,121	107
Hamilton............... "	143	7	26	6	169	13
Ottawa................. "	141	17	166	11	307	28
London................. "	85	12	80	-	165	12
Fort William.......... "	57	-	-	-	57	-
Winnipeg..............Man.	640	119	641	89	1,281	208
Brandon............... "	80	8	10	-	90	8
Dauphin............... "	54	1	2	-	56	1
Regina................Sask.	81	6	16	2	97	8
Calgary...............Alta.	38	-	2	2	40	2
Edmonton.............. "	59	-	38	1	97	1
Vancouver.............B.C.	34	-	20	-	54	-
Victoria..............B.C.	160	6	20	14	180	20
Totals for the nineteen cities............	3,563	338	2,884	268	6,447	606

The juvenile delinquents are distributed by provinces as follows:-

Juvenile Delinquents, by Provinces for 1925.

Provinces	Major offences		Minor offences		Total	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Prince Edward Island	18	-	-	-	18	-
Nova Scotia	254	9	146	7	400	16
New Brunswick	75	2	27	1	102	3
Quebec	865	106	642	89	1,507	195
Ontario	2,123	107	1,569	87	3,692	194
Manitoba	787	128	661	90	1,448	218
Saskatchewan	263	17	28	4	291	21
Alberta	213	2	56	3	269	5
British Columbia	269	8	68	15	337	23
Totals	4,867	379	3,197	296	8,064	675

MAJOR OFFENCES

The major offences of which juveniles were convicted, classified into the six classes used in classifying the offences of adults, are shown as follows for 1924 and 1925.

	Numbers Convicted	
	1924	1925
Class I - Offences against the person		
Rape	2	-
Assault aggravated	20	9
" common	102	118
" indecent	29	37
" on females	2	-
Shooting, stabbing and wounding	8	3
Endangering life by obstructing railway	51	40
Other offences against the person	-	5
Totals of Class I	214	212
Class II - Offences against property with violence		
Burglary-shop and house breaking	812	798
Robbery	6	17
Totals of Class II	818	815
Class III - Offences against property without violence		
False pretences	8	12
Receiving stolen money	7	8
Receiving stolen goods	55	62
Horse stealing	9	18
Theft, undefined	2,308	2,509
" of automobile	99	108
" of bicycles	187	142
" of money	63	363
" of mail	6	4
" from the person	1	6
" of fruit, vegetables	35	128
" other petty	12	19
Various other offences against property	1	19
Totals of Class III	2,791	3,398
Class IV - Wilful damage to property		
Arson	19	12
Other damage to property	767	628
Totals of Class IV	786	640
Class V - Forgery and uttering	10	7
Class VI - Miscellaneous offences		
Attempt to commit suicide	2	2
Immorality	94	145
Escape from custody	7	19
Other offences	-	8
Totals of Class VI	103	174
T O T A L S	4,722	5,246

Disposition of Juvenile Offenders

The disposition of Juveniles convicted of major offences for 1924 and 1925 are as follows:-

	1924	1925
Reprimanded	418	416
On probation:-		
Made wards of Court	1,633	1,980
Returned to parents	321	84
Ordered to make restitution	655	149
Fined or paid costs	329	561
Detained indefinitely	100	96
Sent to Industrial School	453	516
Sentence suspended	747	1,242
Otherwise disposed of	X 66	# 202
Totals	4,722	5,246

X 40 and # 34 Received corporal punishment.

Repeaters

The court records of those delinquents for 1924 and 1925 are as follows:-

Number of times in Court	1924	1925
First offence	3,656	4,072
Second offence	550	598
Third offence	233	276
Fourth offence	146	139
Fifth offence and more	137	161
Totals	4,722	5,246

Birth Places of Delinquents and their Parents

According to birth place of delinquents and their parents, the returns show that of the 5,246 convicted of major offences 4,481 were born in Canada, 539 were born out of Canada and in 226 cases the birth place was not given.

Of the 4,481 native born children, 2,425 were native born of native born parents; 558 were native born of parents British born out of Canada; 1,245 were native of foreign born parents. Delinquents numbering 253 had one parent native born and one born out of Canada.

Of the 539 delinquents born out of Canada, 259 were born within the Empire and 280 were born in foreign countries. The following table shows the country of birth of delinquents and their parents in detail.

Country of Birth of Delinquents and
of Parents for 1924 and 1925.

Country of Birth	Population by country of Birth 1921	Native Born Delinquents				British and foreign born delinquents	
		Both parents born in country named		One parent born in Canada and one in country named			
		1924	1925	1924	1925	1924	1925
Canada	6,832,747	2,164	2,425	-	-	-	-
England	686,663	322	361	100	106	185	168
Wales	13,779	5	11	3	-	7	7
Scotland	226,483	108	122	41	23	102	58
Ireland	93,301	45	58	41	24	20	15
Newfoundland	23,107	19	2	3	1	3	1
Other British	21,468	6	4	2	3	8	10
Total British	1,064,801	505	558	190	157	325	259
Austria	57,535	117	290	2	1	31	23
Belgium	13,276	3	1	2	-	2	1
Czecho Slovakia	4,322	111	16	-	-	1	1
Denmark	7,192	3	4	-	-	-	-
Finland	12,156	6	4	-	-	3	3
France	19,240	10	1	4	1	2	2
Galicia	36,025	12	39	-	-	5	4
Germany	25,266	43	45	5	3	6	6
Holland	5,828	3	1	-	-	-	1
Hungary	7,493	20	2	-	-	4	2
Iceland	6,776	4	8	1	-	-	3
Italy	35,531	113	183	2	5	22	39
Jugo Slavia	1,946		3	-	-	2	-
Norway	23,127	5	10	3	-	2	1
Poland	29,279	136	249	-	4	41	43
Roumania	22,779	26	36	1	-	5	5
Russia	101,055	157	245	7	5	52	36
Sweden	27,700	12	7	1	4	1	2
Ukrania	11,357	32	29	-	-	5	1
Other European	11,436	4	14	2	2	5	3
Total Europe	459,328	821	1,178	30	25	189	176
China	36,924	-	4	-	3	4	18
Japan	11,650	1	1	1	-	-	-
Syria	3,879	1	5	-	-	1	1
Turkey	401	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Countries	4,076	1	4	-	1	-	1
United States	374,024	56	53	65	67	106	84
Total Foreign	890,282	880	1,245	96	96	300	280
At Sea	653	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not Given	-	258	226	4	-	-	-
Totals	8,788,483	3,807	4,454	290	253	625	539

Rates of Juvenile Delinquency by Birthplace of Delinquents.

The following tables show the number of children between the possible legal ages of juvenile delinquency, viz., 7 to 15 years (inclusive) living in each province as given by the Census of 1921, divided according to place of birth, viz., Canada, Great Britain and Foreign Countries, and the rates of juvenile delinquents of the same ages for 1925 per 100,000 of such population. These rates refer only to children convicted of major offences. Taken as a whole, the table establishes the fact that there is not the great difference in rates of juvenile delinquency between the Canadian-born, British-born, and foreign-born juvenile populations, which has often been assumed to exist. It may also be remembered that, on the whole, immigrants are probably not as well off as the average of the native-born population, and that this may be a factor in their higher rate of delinquency.

It appears probable that in Ontario and in British columbia the high rate of juvenile delinquency among the foreign-born children is due to their being largely resident in the cities where juvenile courts exist. As for Canadian-born and British-born the rates of juvenile delinquency seem to be fairly parallel in the provinces where there is any considerable number of British-born children. Compare for example the rates of 434 Canadian-born and 411 British-born in Ontario, 189 Canadian-born and 186 British-born in Saskatchewan, 216 Canadian-born and 211 British-born in Alberta, 314 Canadian-born and 349 British-born in British Columbia. It seems difficult to account for the vast difference between 783 for Canadian-born and 450 for British-born in Manitoba, except on the assumption that Winnipeg has a large number of Canadian-born children who are in no real sense Canadians.

It may also be added that the laws relating to juvenile delinquency are naturally most enforced in urban communities where also special juvenile courts are most likely to exist. Now, the British-born population of Canada is proportionately much more largely urban than either the Canadian-born or the foreign-born, as shown by the following table. This large proportion of the British-born residing in urban communities accounts for the somewhat higher figure of juvenile delinquency among the British-born. x

x Total Canadian-born, British-born and Foreign-born Population of Canada, 1921, with Urban Population in each class and Percentage Urban.

	Total Population	Urban Population	Percentage Urban
Canadian-born	6,832,747	3,249,725	47.5
British-born outside Canada	1,065,454	695,730	65.3
Foreign-born	890,282	406,667	47.5
Grand Total	8,788,483	4,352,122	49.5

In other words, nearly two-thirds of our British-born are urban dwellers, as compared with less than half of our Canadian-born and foreign-born.

Population by Provinces of Children between the
ages of 7 to 15 inclusive, according to Birth place,
from the Census of 1921.

Province	Place of Birth			
	Canada	Other British	Foreign	Total
Prince Edward Island	16,388	49	450	16,887
Nova Scotia	98,041	2,611	2,269	102,921
New Brunswick	76,310	831	1,964	79,105
Quebec	485,530	7,276	10,947	503,753
Ontario	447,860	37,486	17,742	503,088
Manitoba	104,991	7,797	8,417	121,205
Saskatchewan	123,677	6,447	22,512	152,636
Alberta	82,499	7,572	20,199	110,270
British Columbia	63,300	11,176	6,457	80,933
Canada	1,498,596	81,245	90,957	1,670,798

Rates of Canadian-born, British-born and Foreigh-born
Juvenile Delinquents 7 to 15 years of age, convicted
of Major Offences per 100,000 of such population and
to grand total population of these ages by provinces,
1925.

	Place of Birth			
	Canada	Other British	Foreign	Total
Prince Edward Island	109	x	x	106
Nova Scotia	265	114	x	255
New Brunswick	99	x	x	97
Quebec	196	151	91	193
Ontario	434	411	750	443
Manitoba	783	450	677	755
Saskatchewan	189	186	151	184
Alberta	216	211	104	195
British Columbia	314	349	604	342
Canada	312	331	323	314

x No delinquents

Considering first, the total rate, it is shown that the lowest rate is in
the province of New Brunswick where there were only 97 delinquents for every 100,-
000 children of the same ages. The highest rate is in Manitoba, with 755. The
next highest rates are in Ontario 443 and British Columbia 342.

Judging from the great variation of the figures in this column, it
would appear that delinquency is greater in the provinces with the larger centres
of population, and further, that in some provinces, probably the same provinces
with large centres of population, delinquency, so far as is shown by court records,
is more rigorously dealt with than in others.

By place of birth the rate in Canada is highest for the British-born, 331
per 100,000, with Foreign-born next with 323, and Canadian-born lowest with 312.
With respect to the Canadian-born, it is seen by the table on page 4 that 715 were
of British, and 1,341 of Foreign parentage, (either one or both parents foreign)
leaving but 2,425 Canadian-born of Canadian-born parents. As the census does not
give the ages of these particular classes, further ratios than those shown above
cannot be computed.

RELIGIONS OF JUVENILE DELINQUENTS

The Principal Religions of Delinquents of Major Offences for 1924 and 1925 are shown as follows:

Religions	Total Religions 1921 Census	No. of Delinquents 1924	No. of Delinquents 1925	Rate of 1925 Delinquents per 100,000 of population
Anglicans	1,407,959	585	630	44.7
Baptists	421,730	159	188	44.6
Greek Church	169,822	225	230	135.4
Jews	125,190	164	162	129.4
Lutherans	287,484	95	99	34.4
Methodists	1,158,744	400	413	34.5
Presbyterians	1,408,812	572	488	40.6
Roman Catholics	3,383,663	1,772	2,222	65.6
Salvation Army	24,763	55	45	182.1
Various other sects	480,965	412	525	109.2
No Religion	-	19	14	-
Not given	19,351	264	230	1,188.5
Total	8,788,483	4,722	5,246	59.7

Age and School Grade.

The grading of the school years differs throughout the several provinces, and as between separate and public schools, but care has been taken in the compilation to reduce the various entries to a uniform basis. In all the provinces, with the exception of Quebec, it has been possible to do this. The Protestant schools of Quebec could also have been included in the general totals, but the returns showed them all in uniformity with the Catholic schools. The difference in these grades is as follows: The Roman Catholic grades I and II are approximately equal to Protestant grades I and II. But grades III and IV of the Catholic schools cover approximately grades III, IV, V and VI of the Protestant schools, and the Catholic grades V and VI equal the Protestant grades VII and VIII. Therefore, the totals of Quebec could not be included with those of the other provinces.

These tables are published as a comparison of the Educational achievement of delinquent children with that of normal children, as shown, for example on page 39 of the Bureau's Annual Survey of Education in Canada, 1924.

Totals of Canada, Exclusive of Quebec

M a l e s

Age	Primary Grades								Secondary	Reads, Writes Grades N.G.	Illiterate	Degree of education unstated	Total
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII					
7	28	12	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	8	2	6	61
8	30	55	25	13	3	-	-	-	-	12	-	8	146
9	23	71	65	43	17	4	-	-	-	23	1	18	265
10	10	32	103	114	49	16	5	-	-	40	1	30	400
11	7	18	75	116	97	43	17	2	-	40	-	25	440
12	3	20	51	103	158	109	44	12	2	69	-	25	596
13	6	15	34	67	109	132	83	56	15	100	2	31	650
14	1	5	19	58	75	101	86	102	39	110	5	51	652
15	3	7	19	30	54	76	79	88	81	129	2	117	685
N.G.	-	2	1	2	1	1	1	-	-	24	3	72	107
Total	111	237	396	547	563	482	315	260	137	555	16	383	4,002

Totals of Canada, Exclusive of Quebec - Con.

Females

Age	Primary Grades								Secondary	Reads, Writes Grades N.G.	Illiterate	Degree of education unstated	Total
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII					
7	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
8	5	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
9	3	1	2	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
10	1	1	7	6	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
11	1	-	3	6	10	5	1	-	-	2	-	1	29
12	1	1	4	5	14	9	2	-	-	1	-	-	37
13	-	-	4	3	15	11	7	3	1	2	-	2	48
14	-	1	8	1	7	13	5	10	2	1	-	6	54
15	-	-	3	6	-	6	7	5	5	6	-	16	54
N.G.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	2	6
Total	14	6	34	29	54	46	22	18	8	15	-	27	273

TOTALS OF QUEBEC

Males

Age	Primary Grades								Secondary	Reads, Writes Grades N.G.	Illiterate	Degree of education unstated	Total
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII					
7	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	8
8	2	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	16
9	-	34	9	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
10	-	48	27	1	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	82
11	-	28	61	2	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	104
12	-	16	93	16	2	-	-	-	-	10	-	1	138
13	-	1	59	72	3	-	-	-	-	22	-	-	157
14	-	-	30	72	22	-	-	-	-	38	1	3	166
15	-	4	19	50	28	6	-	-	-	43	-	-	150
N.G.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	6	146	298	214	55	6	-	-	-	135	1	4	865

Females

Age	Primary Grades								Secondary	Reads, Writes Grades N.G.	Illiterate	Degree of education unstated	Total
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII					
7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
8	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
9	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
10	-	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
11	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
12	-	2	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	12
13	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	9
14	-	1	10	13	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	34
15	-	-	4	7	5	-	-	-	-	5	-	13	34
N.G.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	15	27	28	6	-	-	-	-	5	-	25	106

MINOR OFFENCES

The Minor Offences for 1925 have been tabulated as follows:-

Offences	1925		
	Male	Female	Total
Breach of Municipal Acts and By Laws -			
Breach of Bicycle regulations	224	1	225
Breach of Motor regulations	9	-	9
Breach of other traffic regulations	16	-	16
Carrying firearms, and using catapult or air gun	42	-	42
Playing ball, or throwing missiles on street	357	6	363
Ringing false fire alarm	24	1	25
Various other breaches of bylaws	27	-	27
Breach of bylaws not specified	290	1	291
Total Municipal Acts and Bylaws	989	9	998
Other minor offences -			
Breach of game and fishery act	1	-	1
Cruelty to Animals	19	-	19
Incorrigibility	242	87	329
Disorderly conduct	659	22	681
Disturbing the peace	28	-	28
Drunkenness	1	2	3
Gambling	59	-	59
Insulting language	10	4	14
Mischief	43	-	43
Trespass on railway	251	12	263
Trespass	264	4	268
Truancy	260	36	296
Unsatisfactory under probation	68	23	91
Vagrancy and indecent conduct	161	36	197
Wandering away from home	93	48	141
Various other minor offences	49	13	62
TOTAL	2,208	287	2,495
Grand Total Minor Offences	3,197	296	3,495

The minor offences were disposed of as shown in the following table.

	1925
Reprimanded and released under Supervision	1,611
Detained indefinitely	735
Sent to Industrial School	147
Fined or paid damages	488
Sentence suspended and otherwise disposed of	512
TOTAL	3,493