

YOUTH CUSTODY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES IN CANADA, 2000/01

by Julie Marinelli

Highlights

- In 2000/01, the rate of sentenced custody admissions declined by 6%, to 60 admissions per 10,000 youth.
- The remand (temporary detention) admissions rate declined by 6% from 1999/00, to 65 admissions per 10,000 youth.
- The rate of admissions to probation was down 1% compared to the previous year, to 149 admissions per 10,000 youth overall.
- Among the eight reporting jurisdictions, excluding Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut, the overall youth correctional services admissions declined by 7% in 2000/01. Admissions to sentenced custody accounted for 18% and remand 27% of the youth correctional services admissions with the remainder being probation.
- Time served by young offenders in remand is generally short approximately half of all remanded young
 offenders were released after one week or less. Half of young offenders in secure custody (53%) and 44% in
 open custody were released after one month or less.
- The most common offences resulting in sentenced custody (open and secure) were related to property offences, accounting for 39% of admissions. Violent offences accounted for 27% and offences under the *Young Offenders Act* for 14%. In comparison, property offences accounted for 48% of probation admissions, while violent offences accounted for 32% of these admissions.
- Aboriginal youth continue to be over-represented in the youth correctional system, accounting for 24% of admissions to sentenced custody and 22% of probation admissions, while representing only 5% of the youth population.
- On an average day, the number of young offenders on probation far exceeds the number of young offenders in custody, ranging from 5 to 11 times higher among reporting provinces and territories. In 2000/01, incarceration rates among reporting provinces ranged from 9 young offenders in custody per 10,000 youth in British Columbia to 36 per 10,000 youth in Saskatchewan. Probation rates ranged from 99 in British Columbia to 202 per 10,000 youth in Ontario.







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ISSN 0715-271X

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ISSN 1209-6393

October 2002

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Introduction

The nature of the youth correctional system in Canada has been widely debated over the years by the public, politicians, and policy-makers. Incarceration of youth has been accepted as one method of deterring youth from criminal behaviour. However, it has been argued that the "get tough" approach and its focus on punitive measures does not provide youth with effective treatment and rehabilitation that are needed to successfully reintegrate them back into the community (Varma & Marinos, 2000; Bala, 1997; Baron & Hartnagel, 1996).

The Youth Criminal Justice Act, which will come into force in April 2003, represents a new strategy toward the administration of youth justice in Canada. This Act is intended to promote accountability and responsibility while encouraging alternatives to youth imprisonment through the use of community-based sentences, which focus on rehabilitation, reintegration and reparation. The approach is intended to "provide immediate and long-term responses to youth crime by building links to community-based youth crime prevention programs and to initiatives that address the root causes of criminal behaviour" (Department of Justice, 2002).

The purpose of this *Juristat* is to provide information describing the case-flow and workload of the youth correctional system for 2000/01. Data are presented from three perspectives: 1) case-flow data presented here are drawn from the Youth Custody and Community Services (YCCS) survey and include statistics on youth admissions to remand, sentenced custody and to probation. YCCS data describe the characteristics of youth admitted to correctional institutions and probation according to the nature of the offence, the length of disposition ordered by the court and releases from correctional services by actual time served, as well as, their sex, age and aboriginal status; 2) data on alternative measures taken from the Alternative Measures survey, and, 3) data on average (workload) counts taken from the Corrections Key Indicator Reports (KIR). These daily workload counts form the basis for calculating incarceration and probation rates based on the number of youth aged 12 to 17 years of age in the population.

Jurisdictional comparison

When examining the data contained in this *Juristat* and the trends and differences between jurisdictions, it is important to consider that these results are in part a reflection of the differences in the administration of youth justice across Canada. Factors that contribute to differing trends include the use of informal (e.g., police discretion) and formal diversion measures (e.g. alternative measures) by police and Crown. Such diversion methods have an impact on both the court case-flow as well as intakes to correctional facilities and programs.

As the data are drawn from the local information systems, they also reflect local case management practices as well as differences in the way the information is maintained on jurisdictional case management systems. Consequently, the reader is advised to consider table notes and to use caution in making direct comparisons between jurisdictions and with prior years.

ADMISSIONS TO YOUTH CUSTODY AND PROBATION

Correctional supervision occurs when a youth¹ commences an uninterrupted period of supervision within a specific custody status (e.g., remand, secure or open) or probation under the authority of the provincial/territorial director responsible for the administration of youth corrections and/or programs. Admissions are counted each time a young offender commences a particular custody status or a term of probation, including changes from one status to another (e.g., one youth held during trial in remand custody and then begins a sentence of secure custody results in two admissions). An admission is tabulated according to the most serious offence (MSO).

A person who is twelve years of age or older, but less than eighteen years of age, at the time of committing an offence.



Sentencing Options Available in Youth Court

Youth court judges have many options available when sentencing a young offender. These options include custody, probation, fine, community service, restitution or a conditional or absolute discharge.

Custody is the most serious sentence that may be used against young offenders in Canada. Custody may be either secure or open. Secure custody refers to facilities designated for secure restraint. Open custody refers to facilities such as residential centres or group homes. Terms of custody for young offenders are limited to a maximum of two years for convictions for which the adult maximum is not life imprisonment. For crimes punishable by life or where multiple offences are involved, the maximum is three years. For first degree murder, a young offender may be sentenced for up to ten years: six years in custody followed by four years of conditional supervision.

Probation is served in the community and involves placing a number of conditions on the offender for a specified period of time – up to two years. Probation orders include a number of mandatory conditions and may include other optional conditions. The mandatory conditions require the offender to keep the peace, be of good behaviour, and appear before the court as required. Optional conditions may include a curfew, reporting to a probation officer, and attending school. Probation is often used in combination with other sanctions.

A community service order is a disposition where a young person is ordered to perform unpaid work for the community. The maximum length of a community service order is 240 hours with a maximum term of completion of twelve months.

Other available sanctions include fines, orders to pay restitution or compensation, prohibition (e.g. weapons) or a conditional or absolute discharge.

Although it is possible that a youth is being held for multiple offences related to a single admission, the admission appears only once in the counts in relation to the most serious offence. Therefore, less serious offences tend to be under-represented in tables that describe offence information. For more information on the YCCS survey, refer to the Methodology section at the end of this report.

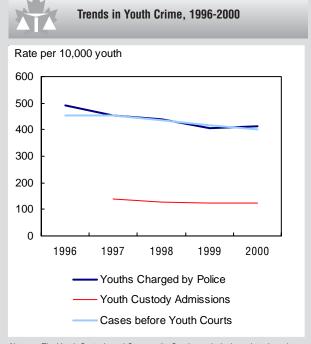
In 2000/01, there were 14,909 admissions to sentenced custody in Canada (Table 1). Slightly more than half of these (53%) were sentenced admissions to open custody, while the remainder were to secure custody. In addition, remand (temporary detention) accounted for 9,362 admissions to youth custody. Nevertheless, the majority of admissions to youth correctional programs were for probation. In 2000/01, there were 36,509 probation admissions. Comparing reporting jurisdictions to the previous year, admissions for young persons sentenced to custody and to remand decreased by 6% each, while probation remained fairly stable (-1%).

CUSTODY ADMISSIONS

In 2000/01, remand admissions accounted for the largest share (39%) of custodial admissions among the 11 reporting jurisdictions, while 33% of admissions were to open custody and 29% to secure custody (Figure 1).

Trends in Youth Crime

Police reported crime statistics show that since 1991 the rate of youths charged by police has dropped by 34%. In 2000, youths were charged at a rate of 411 youths per 10,000 in Canada (Logan, 2001). While the rate of youth property crime decreased consistently during this period of time, the youth crime rate for violent crimes increased by 7% in 2000, after four years of decline, the largest year-over-year increase since 1991. Consistent with the overall trend in police rates, the rate of cases processed in youth court declined by 11% from 1996/97 to 2000/01 (deSouza, 2002). Throughout these years, approximately 60% of cases heard in youth court resulted in a finding of guilt, one-half of cases with convictions ended with a probation order as the most serious sentence, while another one-third ended in custody.



Note: The Youth Custody and Community Services admissions data have been available since 1997/98.

Sources: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Youth Custody and Community Services Survey and the Youth Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

While remand is not a sentence under the YOA, the custodial nature of remand detention necessitates the inclusion of these data as a custody status. Youth are normally remanded because youth court has denied them bail (i.e., release prior to court hearing) based on the determination that the youth poses a danger to society or there may be a chance that they will not appear for their court hearing. In general, most youth held in remand are awaiting a court hearing or sentencing and, as such, are held in this status for relatively short periods of time. Accordingly, for this analysis, custody admissions refer to admissions to remand, as well as to programs of sentenced secure and open custody.



Alternative Measures in Canada

Alternative measures data are drawn from the Alternative Measures survey, which collects data on the number of agreements reached and completed. (Please refer to the Methodology section for detailed information regarding this survey). Alternative Measures refers to formalized programs across Canada through which persons who would otherwise proceed to court are dealt with via non-judicial, community-based alternatives. Alternative Measures include programs which have been authorized by the Attorney General that may be offered at the pre-charge stage, the post-charge stage, or both. Pursuant to the Young Offenders Act (YOA) these programs are designed to balance society's right to protection against the needs of youth in contact with the law.

The involvement of a youth in an alternative measures program is contingent upon the youth acknowledging participation in the incident and agreeing to enter into the program. There were 24,002 alternative measures cases that reached agreement in 2000/01. The rate of alternative measures decreased by 18 % from 120 per 10,000 youth in 1999/00 to 98 per 10,000 in 2000/01. The participation rate among the eight² reporting jurisdictions varied across the provinces ranging from 59 per 10,000 youth in Ontario to 242 per 10,000 youth in Saskatchewan in 2000/01.

There is considerable flexibility in the decision to establish alternative measures and the way in which the program will be offered.³ Typical programs include community service, personal service or restitution to a victim, apologies or educational sessions. In 2000/01, community service was the most frequent type of alternative measure administered by reporting jurisdictions (26%), followed by apology (19%) and social skills improvement (11%).

Male offenders represent the largest proportion of youth participating in alternative measures. In 2000/01, males accounted for 63% of the alternative measure cases. Fourteen and 15 year olds accounted for the majority of youth participating in alternative measures programs (22% and 24% respectively) followed by youth aged 16 and 17 (17% and 14% respectively).

Aboriginal youth are disproportionately represented at all levels of the criminal justice system, including alternative measures programs. While representing 5% of the youth population, Aboriginal youth accounted for 13% of alternative measures cases.

In 2000/01, property offences accounted for the highest proportion of alternative measures cases reaching agreement (68%).⁵ Mischief represented 8%, followed by violent offences (7%) and other Criminal Code offences (4%).

Youth are considered successful in alternative measures once all terms and conditions of the agreement have been satisfied. In 2000/01, 92% of youth successfully completed all measures stated within their agreements.6

Youth Criminal Justice Act: Extrajudicial Measures

The alternative measures provisions are not being continued in the YCJA. Instead, the Act recognizes a broader range of diversionary measures. Extrajudicial measures are set out in the Act according to the following principles:

- extrajudicial measures are an effective way to address youth crime;
- extrajudicial measures allow for effective and timely interventions focused on correcting offending behaviour, and;
- extrajudicial measures are presumed to be adequate to hold a young person accountable for his or her offending behaviour if the young person has committed a non-violent offence and has not previously been found guilty of an offence.

Specifically, the Act includes warnings, police and crown cautions, referrals and extrajudicial sanctions. These sanctions are comparable to the current alternative

The YCJA also states that extrajudicial measures be designed to provide an effective and timely response to offending behaviour outside the bounds of judicial measures. In addition, the Act encourages the youth and the victim/community to be involved in the design and implementation of the programs followed by participation in decisions related to accountability and reparation.

Youth Participation in Alternative Measures (AM), by Jurisdiction, 1997/98 to 2000/01

	1	Number of Case	s Reaching Agr	eement in AM			Rate per 10),000 youth	
Jurisdiction	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	% change 1999/00 to 2000/01	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01
Newfoundland and Labrador	780	502	577	537	-7	150	101	120	115
Prince Edward Island	180	187	127	106	-17	153	155	103	86
Nova Scotia	1,182	1,010				155	134		
New Brunswick	718	726				115	117		
Quebec	9,683	9,279	9,162	9,126	0	167	165	167	169
Ontario	7.294	6,000	6,037	5,508	-9	81	66	66	59
Manitoba	1,934	1,509	1,866	1,509	-19	201	155	190	153
Saskatchewan ¹	1,731	1,796	1,415	2,312	63	179	186	147	242
Alberta ²	9,111	10,014	4,636	4,854	5	359	384	176	183
British Columbia	.,	2,003	.,	.,			63		
Yukon	47	42	44	50	14	168	140	148	168
Northwest Territories	212	105				312	150		
Nunavut									
Total	32,872	33,173	23,864	24,002	1	134	135	120	98

- Figures not available for any reference period
- Figures not available for a specific reference period

Figures not applicable

Alberta reported partial data for 1999/00 and 2000/01.

Source: Alternative Measures Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

Due to data fluctuations for alternative measure cases in Saskatchewan, caution should be exercised when making comparisons between 2000/01 data and previous years data because of changes in their data collection procedures

Excludes Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, British Columbia, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut, while partial data were reported by Alberta.

La Prairie, C. "Some Reflections on New Criminal Justice Policies in Canada: Restorative Justice, Alternative Measures and Conditional Sentences." The Australian & New Zealand Journal of Criminology, 32.2 (1999): 139-152.

Excludes Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Manitoba, British Columbia, Northwest Territories and Nunavut, while partial data were reported by Ontario.

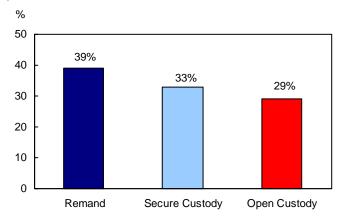
Excludes Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, British Columbia, Northwest Territories and Nunavut, while partial data were reported by Ontario.

Excludes Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, British Columbia, Northwest Territories and Nunavut, while partial data were reported by Ontario.



Figure 1





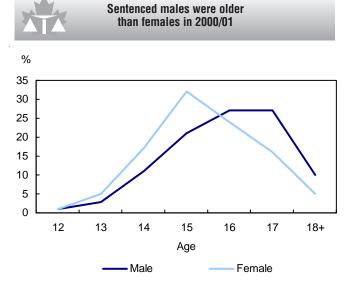
Note: Excludes remand data for Saskatchewan and partial Ontario.

Source: Youth Custody and Community Services Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

Characteristics of Young Offenders

As with adults, the majority of youths involved in crime are males. Over three-quarters (77%) of youth charged with a Criminal Code offence in 2000 were male and 23% were female (Logan, 2001). Similarly, eight in ten youth court cases in 2000/01 involved males (deSouza, 2002). Correctional admission data also reflect this pattern in that 78% of youths admitted to all correctional programs were male.

Figure 2



Note: Excludes Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Quebec.

Source: Youth Custody and Community Services Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice

Statistics

Males in custody tend to be older than females (Figure 2). In 2000/01, 58% of male youths admitted to remand were aged 16 years or older compared to 44% for females. Similarly, male offenders aged 16 or older accounted for 64% of sentenced custody admissions compared to 45% of female offenders. These age distributions were consistent among the jurisdictions, with the exception of Manitoba, Nunavut, Yukon and Nova Scotia, where the ages of males and females were evenly distributed.

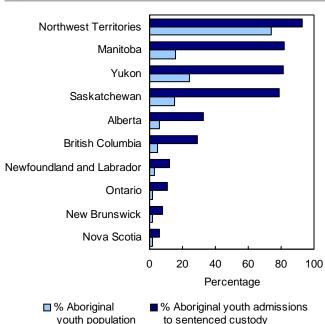
Aboriginal youth over-represented in remand, secure and open custody

While Aboriginal youth constituted 5% of the youth population, they accounted for approximately one in four admissions to remand (26%) and sentenced custody (24%) in 2000/01. This over-representation is particularly evident among the western provinces (Figure 3). Manitoba showed the largest differences between the Aboriginal youth population (16%) and Aboriginal sentenced custody admissions (82%) as well as remand admissions (70%).

Of the total admissions for females, Aboriginal youth constituted 33% of remand admissions and 30% of admissions to sentenced custody. The proportions of Aboriginal males admitted to remand and to sentenced custody were 25% and 24% respectively.

Figure 3





Note: Excludes Prince Edward Island, Quebec and Nunavut.

Source: Youth Custody and Community Services Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. Statistics Canada, 1996 Census: Aboriginal population.

Excludes New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, partial Ontario data, and Saskatchewan.

⁸ Excludes New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Quebec.



Remand Admissions

In 2000/01, there were 9,362 remand admissions in 11 jurisdictions, accounting for approximately six in ten custody admissions (Table 1). Large proportions of custody admissions to remand were in Manitoba (82%), British Columbia (62%) and Alberta (63%). In contrast, 16% of custodial admissions in the Northwest Territories and 32% in New Brunswick were admissions to remand.

In 2000/01, among the 11 reporting jurisdictions, the rate of remand was 65 admissions per 10,000 youth population (Table 2).¹⁰ In comparison to the previous year, the number of remand admissions declined by 6%. The highest rates of remand admissions were reported in Yukon and Manitoba (at 212 and 210 per 10,000 youth respectively); the lowest rate was reported in New Brunswick (32 per 10,000 youth).

In 2000/01, property offences (break and enter, theft over \$5,000, theft \$5,000 and under, other property and possession of stolen goods) accounted for the highest proportion of remand admissions (33%), followed by violent crimes (common assault, robbery, and sexual assault) (29%), other Criminal Code (17%) and YOA offences (13%) (Table 4).¹¹ In British Columbia, the YOA offence category represented the largest proportion of remand admissions (36%). (Please note that admissions are calculated according to the most serious offence and, as such, the effect of less serious offences is underestimated.)

Eight in ten remand releases occurred within one month of admission

A youth may be released from remand for a number of reasons that include: a transfer into another form of supervision (i.e., open custody, secure custody, probation), a court finding of not guilty, or alternatively, a court finding of guilty where the court has considered the time spent in remand as sufficient punishment for the crime (time already served). In 2000/01, among eight reporting jurisdictions¹² over one-half (54%) of youth remand releases occurred within one week of admission, 30% spent between one week and one month in custody on remand, 15% served between one to six months, and less than one percent of remand releases took place after a period of more than 6 months (Table 5).

Admissions to Secure and Open Custody

In 2000/01, there were 14,909 admissions to secure and open custody among 13 reporting jurisdictions, representing 60 admissions for every 10,000 youth (Tables 1 and 2). Secure custody admissions accounted for 47% of sentenced custody admissions compared to 53% for open custody.

At the national level, the secure custody admission rate was 28 admissions per 10,000 youth in 2000/01 compared to a rate of 32 per 10,000 youth for open custody (Table 3). In comparison to the previous year, the rate of open custody admissions decreased by 5%, while the secure custody rate decreased by 7%. While the highest rates were reported in the territories, there was a great deal of variation among the provinces. Secure custody admission rates ranged from 3 admissions per 10,000 youth in Nova Scotia to 39 per 10,000 youth in Newfoundland and Labrador. Among the provinces, open custody admissions rates ranged from a low of 17 per

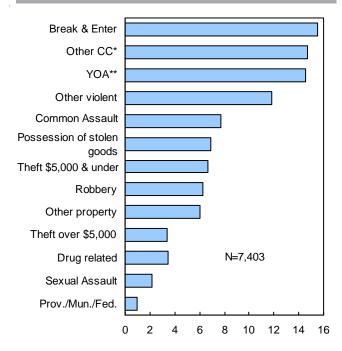
10,000 youth in Prince Edward Island and Quebec to a high of 46 per 10,000 youth in Ontario.¹³

Four in ten custody sentences for property offences

In 2000/01, property offences accounted for 39% of sentenced admissions to programs of secure and open custody. Violent offences represented 27%, YOA offences, 14%; Other Criminal Code offences, 15%; drug-related offences, 3%; and other offences, 1%.¹⁴ (Figure 4 and Table 4)

Figure 4

Break and Enter, Other Criminal Code and YOA offences account for one half of admissions to secure and open custody



% of secure and open custody admissions

- Other CC includes offences such as mischief, failure to appear and disorderly conduct.
 YOA includes offences such as failure to comply with a disposition and contempt against youth court.
- Note: Excludes Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, and Saskatchewan, while partial data were reported by Ontario.

Source: Youth Custody and Community Services Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

⁹ Excludes partial Ontario data and Saskatchewan.

¹⁰ Excludes Ontario, Saskatchewan, and Nunavut.

Excludes Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, and Saskatchewan.

Excludes Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, and Saskatchewan.

Note that the administration of youth justice and the way secure and open custody facilities are used varies widely across the country. In addition, these youth may have been moved from remand custody. Refer to Methodology section for a more detailed explanation.

¹⁴ Excludes Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, and Saskatchewan, while partial data was reported by Ontario.



Yukon reported the lowest proportion of sentenced custody admissions for violent offences (15%) while Manitoba reported the highest (42%). Admissions to sentenced custody for property offence admissions ranged from 26% in British Columbia to 47% in Newfoundland and Labrador. The highest proportion of sentenced admissions for YOA offences (e.g. failure to comply with a disposition) – the highest proportion, 45% was reported in British Columbia. In contrast, Ontario (4%)¹⁵, Manitoba (6%), Alberta (13%) and Newfoundland and Labrador (15%).

Sentence Length

When examining sentence lengths, it is important to distinguish between sentence lengths on admission and those on release. While a youth court judge stipulates the period of custody, events such as appeals, reviews, escapes, and the administration of additional sentences may influence the amount of time served. Time served on release may differ from time ordered for these reasons. In addition, correctional service officials may move the young offender from secure custody to open custody, in compliance with jurisdictional procedures.

Half of releases from sentenced custody occur within one month

In 2000/01, there were 12,295 releases from sentenced custody of which 5,463 were secure custody releases and 6,832 were open custody releases as reported by nine jurisdictions. Forty-eight percent of releases from sentenced custody occurred within one month of admission or less, 44% between one and 6 months, 7% within 6 months to 1 year, and 1% after more than 1 year (Table 6) among the jurisdictions reporting data on duration.

The proportion of individuals with a duration of time served between 1 month to 6 months increased, from 36% in 1999/00 to 44% in 2000/01. The percentage of releases with a duration of less than 1 month decreased from 53% in 1999/00 to 48% in 2000/01, and those of 6 months or greater decreased from 11% to 8%. This change can be largely attributed to Ontario, as the remaining jurisdictions reported relatively little change proportionately. A four-year analysis of distributions indicates slight variations in durations of time served for sentenced custody releases (Table 6).

PROBATION ADMISSIONS

Over half of the correctional caseload is probation

In 2000/01, there were 36,509 admissions to probation among 11 reporting jurisdictions. Probation represented 54% of correctional service program admissions among the jurisdictions Teporting all admission types (Table 1). Probation admissions varied from 32% of admissions in Manitoba to 66% in Nova Scotia.

Despite a noticeable decrease in the rate of custody admissions, the rate of youth probation admissions per 10,000 youth declined slightly by 1% (Table 2). Overall, the probation admission rate has been decreasing since 1997/98. In 1997/98, the rate was 155 per 10,000 youth as compared to 149 per 10.000 youth in 2000/01. Among reporting jurisdictions, large decreases in the rate of youth probation admissions were reported in Yukon (40%), Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick (16% each) and Prince Edward Island (8%). The remaining jurisdictions experienced only minor changes. Regarding offences, 48% of probation admissions had property offences as the most serious offence. Violent offences accounted for 32% of probation admissions; other types of Criminal Code offences (e.g. failure to appear and disorderly conduct), 10%; YOA offences, 3%; drug-related offences, 5% and other offences, 2% (Table 4). Similar to previous years, the specific offences that predominated were common assault, theft of goods valued at \$5,000 and under, and break and enter (14% each).

In 2000/01, the majority of probation admissions involved males (77%). Similar to custody, male probationers tended to be older than female probationers – 59% of males on probation were 16 years and older whereas 48% of females were 16 years or older. Also similar to custody, Aboriginal youth were over-represented with respect to probation, again particularly among the western provinces. However, the degree of Aboriginal over-representation within probation was slightly lower compared with custody. In 2000/01, of the nine jurisdictions that reported both probation and sentenced custody data, Aboriginal youth accounted for 22% of probation admissions compared with 24% of sentenced custody admissions and 26% of remand admissions. ¹⁸ In these jurisdictions, Aboriginal youth accounted for only 5% of the general youth population.

Most young offenders on probation for more than six months

The majority of probation admissions are for terms longer than six months. For most reporting jurisdictions, the median probation sentence for young offenders was one year (Figure 5). In 2000/01, 14% of probation admissions were for terms of 6 months or less, 45% were greater than six months to one year, 36% for one to two years, and only 6% were longer than two years.

From 1997/98 to 2000/01the proportion of terms of six months or less decreased from 17% in 1997/98 to 14% in 2000/01. The proportion of probationers serving terms greater than six months to one year has also decreased (51% in 1997/98 to 45% in 2000/01). Probation admissions for terms longer than one year have however, increased by 11% (31% in 1997/98 to 42% in 2000/01).

¹⁵ Partial data reported by Ontario.

¹⁶ Excludes Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

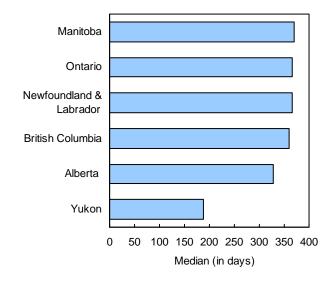
Excludes Ontario, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia and Yukon reported both custody (secure/open) and probation admissions by Aboriginal status.



Figure 5





Excludes Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, while partial Ontario data was

Youth Custody and Community Services Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice

Statistics.

DAILY WORKLOAD

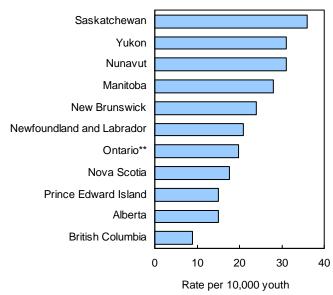
Data on daily workload provide a different view of the youth correctional system compared with admission data. While admission data represent the movement of young offenders in and out of supervision (or case-flow), average daily counts (or caseload) provide workload data, which measure the volume of offenders held in custody or on probation on an average day. Although the average daily counts are more general in nature, they are an important and well-established management tool for correctional service officials. The average daily counts are also typically used to calculate the incarceration and probation rates. A short-term trend analysis of these counts is possible since these data have been supplied to the CCJS since 1994.

Among the reporting jurisdictions, the daily average number of young probationers ranged from five to eleven times higher than the average number of young offenders in custody (Table 7). This finding is not unexpected given that youth are more likely to be sentenced to probation than to custody, and youth on probation tend to receive longer terms than those sentenced to custody.

Incarceration rates¹⁹ and probation rates²⁰ varied across the country in 2000/01. These figures reflect the number of young offenders in custody or on probation on an average day in relation to the number of youth in the population. In British Columbia, for example, there were 9 young offenders in custody for every 10,000 youth, while the rate in Saskatchewan was

Figure 6





- Incarceration rate: average daily count of young offenders in custody per 10,000 youth population.
- Ontario remand/temporary detention data for 12-15 year olds are not available. Excludes Quebec, and Northwest Territories.

Source: Corrections Key Indicator Report for Adults and Young Offenders, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

36 per 10,000 youth (Figure 6). Provincial probation rates ranged from 99 young offenders per 10,000 youth in British Columbia to 225 per 10,000 in Yukon.

Custody: Short-term trends²¹

From 1996/97 to 2000/01, incarceration rates declined in all reporting jurisdictions except for New Brunswick, which reported an increase of 2%. Prince Edward Island reported the largest decrease (55%) from 32.8 young offenders in custody per 10,000 youth in 1996/97 to 14.8 in 2000/01. In contrast, the Saskatchewan incarceration rate decreased marginally, from a rate of 37.3 to 35.8 per 10,000 during these years. Noteworthy decreases were also reported in the Northwest Territories (49%), Yukon (42%), Alberta (33%), and British Columbia (29%).

Probation: Short-term trends²²

From 1996/97 to 2000/01, most jurisdictions showed decreases in youth probation rates. Of the nine reporting jurisdictions, the largest declines occurred in Yukon (52%), Prince Edward

Excludes partial Ontario remand data for 12-15 year olds and Quebec.

Excludes New Brunswick, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut.

²¹ Excludes New Brunswick, Quebec, and partial Ontario data (for young persons 12-15 years of age) from remand data.

Excludes New Brunswick, Quebec, Northwest Territories from 1997/98 to 2000/01, and Nunavut.



Island (46%), and British Columbia (31%). In contrast, Saskatchewan reported a 4% increase in the probation rate during this period.

METHODOLOGY

This Juristat contains data collected from three different sources, the Youth Custody and Community Services (YCCS) survey, Alternative Measures (AM) survey, and the Key Indicator Report. The YCCS survey maintains both micro and aggregate level data, which are collected by provincial and territorial agencies responsible for the delivery of youth corrections and young offender programs. These data are collected annually on a fiscal year basis (April 1 to March 31). These data have been available since 1997-98. In 2000/01, Newfoundland and Alberta provided case-specific information to the YCCS (i.e., micro-level data) that were then used to generate the aggregate level admission counts reported in this Juristat. These respondents represent roughly 13% of the national caseload. The remainder of reporting jurisdictions provided aggregate counts.²³ Because of the limited coverage provided by the case-specific survey, analysis in this report has been limited to aggregated data.

Jurisdictions providing aggregate data complete a set of standard data tables, which are used to compile national data on admissions and releases. Microdata, on the other hand, are extracted directly from provincial operational systems, through the use of interface programs. The interface programs are designed to extract specific data elements and values identified in the survey's National Data Requirements developed by provincial/territorial and federal members of the National Justice Statistics Initiative. Micro data reported by the jurisdictions are centrally processed, edited, and loaded onto the YCCS database. These data are later used to generate admission counts, which are tabulated in the aggregate standard data tables. In 2000/01, YCCS data for Alberta and Newfoundland and Labrador have been tabulated from micro data based on standardized definitions. Accordingly, YCCS units of count, while based on standardized definitions, may differ from those generated locally (i.e., similar units of count generated by Alberta Corrections are approximately 18% higher). As such, caution should be used when comparing YCCS statistics against similar statistics produced by these jurisdictions.

It is important to note that for both aggregate and micro level respondents, once the data are processed and compiled into the standard data tables, these data are analysed and returned to the jurisdictions for final verification. The participation of the jurisdictions in the survey process is vital to ensuring data quality and understanding the differences in provincial and territorial youth justice/correctional systems.

The Alternative Measures (AM) survey is conducted in conjunction with the YCCS survey. The AM survey provides statistical information on the administration of alternative measures in Canada. The survey collects aggregate data. The unit of analysis that is used for the Alternative Measures survey is the case. A case refers to one person's activity in

Unit of analysis

Admissions data measure the movement of young offenders through admissions to different types of supervision. The following example provides an illustration of how admissions for one young offender are calculated by the YCCS survey. Where a youth has been denied bail and held in custody until he or she is sentenced to serve a term of secure custody, followed by a term of open custody and probation, the YCCS counts:

e.g. remand + secure + open + probation (all served consecutively)

admissions: 1 admission to remand

1 admission to secure custody 1 admission to open custody 1 admission to probation.

It is also important to point out that youth transferred from one facility to another while still under the same level of supervision are not counted as a new admission. As well, new admission counts exclude young offenders placed in secure custody as transfers from open custody facilities. These "administrative" transfers are for a short period of time, not to exceed 15 days, and are authorized by a senior correctional official. In addition, youth returning from a period of temporary absence are not included as a new admission.

the alternative program for one incident. An incident is a specific event wherein a person is alleged to have committed one or more related offences with or without victims. "Related" refers to a sequence of criminal actions that occur at the same location or where one action led to the occurrence of another. The focus of this survey is on cases for which an agreement for alternative measures has been reached (i.e., when a person agrees to participate in the alternative measures process, according to the conditions and obligations contained therein. The processes and compilation of AM data are identical to those of the YCCS survey.

Data from the Key Indicator Report measure the average counts of youth in custody (remand, secure, and open) and on probation. The data are collected annually on a fiscal year basis (April 1 to March 31). Jurisdictions submit monthly counts in aggregate format, which are compiled by Correctional Services Program staff. Average counts include all youth on remand and temporary detention, sentenced offenders and other young offenders who are legally required to be at a facility and are present at the time the count is taken by correctional facility officials. Average counts for young offenders on probation include young offenders on supervised probation at the end of the month.

The YCCS standard data tables and the Key Indicator Report data are available in the *Youth Custody and Community Services Data Tables, 2000/01* publication (catalogue number 85-226-XIE).

²³ Includes Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan. British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.



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Table 1



Youth Correctional Service Admissions, 1999/00 and 2000/01

		Remand ¹			entenced cus	tody ²		Probation ³			
	1999/00	2000/01	% change	1999/00	2000/01	% change	1999/00	2000/01	% change		
TOTAL	9,933	9,362	-6	15,729	14,909	-6	35,681	36,509	-1		
Newfoundland and Labrador	177	211	19	358	329	-8	631	627	-1		
Prince Edward Island	37	47	27	50	54	8	167 ^r	154	-8		
Nova Scotia	316	303	-4	409	369	-10	1,545	1,290	-17		
New Brunswick ⁴	263	194	-26	452	411	-9	862	718	-17		
Quebec	2,271	2,021	-11	2,343	2,044	-13	8,036	7,867	-2		
Ontario ⁵				7,538 ^r	7,618	1	16,267	16,634	2		
Manitoba	1,858	2,077	12	579	478	-17		1,183			
Saskatchewan				645	614	-5	1,634	1,507	-8		
Alberta	2,484	2,406	-3	1,643	1,429	-13	3,115	3,139	1		
British Columbia	2,377	1,946	-18	1,352	1,209	-11	3,329	3,333	0		
Yukon	77	63	-18	77 r	53	-31	95 r	57	-40		
Northwest Territories ⁶	73	39	-47	283	206	-27					
Nunavut		55			95						

Figures not available for any reference period

Note: YCCS data for Alberta and Newfoundland and Labrador have been tabulated from microdata based on standardized definitions that may differ from those being applied locally. Accordingly, YCCS units of count, while based on standardized definitions, may differ from those generated locally (i.e., similar units of count generated by Alberta Corrections are approximately 18% higher). As such, caution should be used when comparing statistics for these jurisdictions against similar statistics having been generated locally. Percent change calculations are subject to rounding.

^{..} Figures not available for any specific reference period ... Figures not applicable

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Remand counts in 2000/01 exclude Ontario, and Saskatchewan; the percent change over the previous year for total admissions excludes these jurisdictions and Nunavut.

Sentenced admission counts in 1999/00 exclude Nunavut; the percent change over the previous year for total admissions excludes this jurisdiction.

Probation counts in 2000/01 exclude the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, the percent change over the previous year also excludes these jurisdictions and Manitoba.

Due to information system problems, all New Brunswick figures in 1999/00 are projections based on six months of actual data.

Ontario provided revised data counts for 1999/00. Partial remand data (4,927 in 1999/00 and 5,693 in 2000/01) have been excluded from the totals. Remand data for those 12-15 years of age are unavailable.

Northwest Territories data prior to 1999/00 may not be compared with the current year due to the creation of Nunavut on April 1, 1999. The 1999/00 data include an unknown number of transfers from Nunavut. This change influences frequency count, rates and trend analysis.

Source: Youth Custody and Community Services Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.



Table 2



Youth Correctional Service Admission Rates per 10,000 youth, 1999/00 and 2000/01

	Remand ¹ rate per 10,000 youth*			Sentenced custody ² rate per 10,000 youth*			Probation ³ rate per 10,000 youth*		
	1999/00	2000/01	% change	1999/00	2000/01	% change	1999/00	2000/01	% change
TOTAL	69	65	-6	64	60	-6	152	149	-1
Newfoundland and Labrador	37	45	23	74	71	-5	131	135	3
Prince Edward Island	30	38	27	40	44	8	135 ^r	125	-7
Nova Scotia	42	40	-4	54	48	-10	203	169	-16
New Brunswick ⁴	43	32	-25	74	68	-8	141	119	-16
Quebec	41	37	-10	43	38	-11	146	145	0
Ontario ⁵				82 ^r	82	0	182 ^r	179	-1
Manitoba	189	210	11	59	48	-18		120	
Saskatchewan				67	64	-4	170	158	-7
Alberta	94	91	-4	62	54	-14	118	118	0
British Columbia	75	61	-18	42	38	-10	104	105	0
Yukon	259	212	-18	259 ^r	178	-31	320 r	192	-40
Northwest Territories ⁶	183	97	-47	711	511	-28			
Nunavut		166			286				

Figures not available for any reference period

Note: Percent change calculations are subject to rounding.

Source: Youth Custody and Community Services Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics and Census and Demographic Statistics Branch, Statistics Canada.

Figures not available for any specific reference period

^{...} Figures not applicable

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Rate calculations based on postcensal estimates as of July 1st, 2000, Demography Division, Census and Demographic Statistics Branch, Statistics Canada.

Remand counts in 2000/01 exclude Ontario, and Saskatchewan; the percent change over the previous year for total admissions excludes these jurisdictions and Nunavut.

Sentenced admission counts in 1999/00 exclude Nunavut; the percent change over the previous year for total admissions excludes this jurisdiction.

Probation counts in 2000/01 exclude the Northwest Territories and Nunavut; the percent change over the previous year also excludes these jurisdictions and Manitoba.

Due to information system problems, all New Brunswick figures in 1999/00 are projections based on six months of actual data.

Ontario provided revised data counts for 1999/00. Partial remand data (4,927 in 1999/00 and 5,693 in 2000/01) have been excluded from the totals. Remand data for those 12-15 years of age are unavailable.

Northwest Territories data prior to 1999/00 may not be compared with the current year due to the creation of Nunavut on April 1, 1999. The 1999/00 data include an unknown number of transfers from Nunavut. This change influences frequency counts, rate and trend analysis.



Table 3



Youth Correctional Service Admissions to Secure and Open Custody, 1999/00 and 2000/01

			Secui	re custody			Open custody						
		Admissions	3*	Rates per 10,000 youth**				Admissions*			Rates per 10,000 youth**		
	1999/00	2000/01	% change	1999/00	2000/01	% change	1999/00	2000/01	% change	1999/00	2000/01	% change	
TOTAL	7,426	6,958	-7	30	28	-7	8,303	7,951	-5	34	32	-5	
Newfoundland and Labrador	160	183	14	33	39	18	198	146	-26	41	31	-24	
Prince Edward Island	30	33	10	24	27	13	20	21	5	16	17	6	
Nova Scotia	45	25	-44	6	3	-50	364	344	-5	48	45	-6	
New Brunswick ¹	269	221	-18	44	37	-16	183	190	4	30	31	3	
Quebec	1,285	1,111	-14	23	21	-9	1,058	933	-12	19	17	-11	
Ontario ²	3,350 ^r	3,359	0	37 ^r	36	-3	4,188 ^r	4,259	2	46 ^r	46	0	
Manitoba	202	168	-17	21	17	-19	377	310	-18	38	31	-18	
Saskatchewan	301	285	-5	31	30	-3	344	329	-4	36	34	-6	
Alberta	1,005	845	-16	38	32	-16	638	584	-8	24	22	-8	
British Columbia	649	560	-14	20	18	-10	703	649	-8	22	20	-9	
Yukon	36	26	-28	121	87	-28	41 ^r	27	-34	138	91	-34	
Northwest Territories ³	94	96		236	238	1	189	110	-42	475 ^r	273	-43	
Nunavut		46			139			49			148		

^{..} Figures not available for any specific reference period

Note: Percent change calculations are subject to rounding.

Source: Youth Custody and Community Services Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics and Census and Demographic Statistics Branch, Statistics Canada.

^{...} Figures not applicable

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Received admission counts and rates in 2000/01; the total percent change over the previous year excludes Ontario, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Rate calculations based on postcensal estimates as of July 1st, 2000, Demography Division, Census and Demographic Statistics Branch, Statistics Canada.

Due to information system problems, all New Brunswick figures in 1999/00 reflect projections based on six months of actual data.

Due to a change in local data extraction methods caution should be exercised when making comparisons between data in this report and prior publications. Ontario provided revised data for 1999/00.

Northwest Territories data prior to 1999/00 may not be compared with the current year due to the creation of Nunavut on April 1, 1999. The 1999/00 data include an unknown number of transfers from Nunavut. This change influences frequency counts, rates and trend analysis.



Table 4



Custody Admissions and Probation by Most Serious Offence, 2000/01

Type of Offence	Sentenced Custody	Secure Custody ¹	Open Custody ²	Remand ³	Probation ⁴
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Break and enter	15	14	17	12	14
Other Criminal Code*	15	17	13	17	10
YOA**	14	15	14	13	3
Other violent	12	12	12	12	13
Common assault	8	8	8	7	14
Possession of stolen goods	7	7	6	8	7
Theft \$5,000 & under	7	5	8	7	14
Robbery	6	5	7	8	4
Other property	6	6	6	4	11
Theft over \$5,000	4	5	3	2	1
Drug related	3	3	3	3	5
Sexual assault	1	1	1	1	1
Prov./Mun./Fed.	1	1	1	1	2

Other CC includes offences such as mischief, failure to appear and disorderly conduct.

Source: Youth Custody and Community Services Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

^{**} YOA includes offences such as failure to comply with a disposition and contempt against youth court.

Secure custody percentages exclude Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, partial Ontario data, and Saskatchewan.

Open custody percentages exclude Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, partial Ontario data, and Saskatchewan.

Remand percentages exclude Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, partial Ontario data, Saskatchewan and Yukon.

⁴ Probation percentages exclude New Brunswick, Quebec, partial Ontario data, Manitoba Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.



Table 5



Releases from Youth Custody by Time Served, 2000/01

			Remand	d (%)		
	Total (N)	1 Week or less	> 1 week to 1 month	>1 to 6 months	>6 months to 1 year	>1 year
TOTAL reported	13,477	54	30	15	<1	<1
Newfoundland and Labrador	209	46	34	18	<1	<1
Prince Edward Island Nova Scotia	300	 71	20	 9		
New Brunswick						
Quebec Ontario ¹	6.668					
Manitoba	1,726	52	28	20	<1	0
Saskatchewan Alberta	2,415	53	33	 14	 <1	 <1
British Columbia	2,002	56	31	12	<1	<1
Yukon Northwest Tarritorias ²	63	54	33	13	0	0
Northwest Territories ² Nunavut	39 55	28 27	51 29	21 44	0 0	0
			Secure cus	tody (%)		
	Total (N)	1 Week or less	> 1 week to 1 month	>1 to 6 months	>6 months to 1 year	>1 year
TOTAL reported	5,463	53	38	7	2	<1
Newfoundland and Labrador	170	56	36	6	1	1
Prince Edward Island Nova Scotia	 15	 27	33	 40		
New Brunswick						
Quebec Ontario ¹	3,427	 52	 39	 7	2	 <1
Manitoba	120	35	59	6	0	0
Saskatchewan Alberta	264 872	 59	 36	4	 1	 <1
British Columbia	436	58 58	33	8	2	0
Yukon	31	65	23	6	6	0
Northwest Territories ²	82	17	40	29	13	0
Nunavut	46	26	30	24	15	4
			Open custo	,		
	Total (N)	1 Week or less	> 1 week to 1 month	>1 to 6 months	>6 months to 1 year	>1 year
TOTAL reported	6,832	44	49	6	1	<1
Newfoundland and Labrador	152	17	71	10	2	0
Prince Edward Island Nova Scotia	276	36	56	9	0	0
New Brunswick Quebec	**				•••	
Ontario ¹	4,381	47	47	5	1	<1
Manitoba	224 289	28	67	6	0	0
Saskatchewan Alberta	289 626	29	 61	9	 1	0
British Columbia	709	62	30	6	2	0
Yukon	27	41	56	4	0	0
Northwest Territories ² Nunavut	99 49	5 22	67 53	25 16	3 8	0
INUITAVUL	49	22	53	16	8	U

Figures not available for any reference period

^{..} Figures not available for any specific reference period

^{...} Figures not applicable

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Note: Due to rounding, figures may not add to totals.

1 Due to a change in local data extraction methods caution should be exercised when making comparisons between data in this report and prior publications. Remand/temporary

detention releases for youth aged 12-15 years of age were unavailable.

Northwest Territories data prior to 1999/00 may not be compared with the current year due to the creation of Nunavut on April 1, 1999. The 1999/00 data include an unknown number of transfers from Nunavut. This change influences frequency counts, rates and trend analysis.

Source: Youth Custody and Community Services Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.



Table 6



Durations of Time Served, Open and Secure Custody Releases, 1997/98 to 2000/01

		< 1 mo	nth			1 month to 6 months			
	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	
				% of Re	eleases				
Total	45	45	53	48	45	45	36	44	
Newfoundland and Labrador	31	34	33	38	55	53	54	53	
Prince Edward Island	41	34	36		51	46	45		
Nova Scotia	30	37	35	35	65	54	57	55	
New Brunswick	30	30			52	52			
Quebec									
Ontario	47	47	57	49	44	43	31	43	
Manitoba	20	24		30	60	57		64	
Saskatchewan			••			٠.	••	٠.	
Alberta	46	45	45	46	45	46	48	47	
British Columbia	58	56	62	61	33	7	29	31	
Yukon	54	57	57	53	40	7	38	38	
Northwest Territories	-	-	12	10			51	55	
Nunavut				24				42	
			•••						
		> 1 year							
	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	
				% of Ro	eleases				
Total	8	8	9	7	2	2	2	1	
Newfoundland and Labrador	13	10	11	8	2	3	2	2	
Prince Edward Island	6	15	16		2	5	3		
Nova Scotia	5	9	8	 10	0	0	0	0	
New Brunswick	15	14			4	4			
Quebec					7	7			
Ontario	7	7	9	6	2	2	2	1	
Manitoba	15	15		6	5	4		0	
Saskatchewan	13	13		0	3	4		U	
Alberta	8	8	6	6	2	i	;	i	
British Columbia	8	8 7	8	6	<u> </u>	2	2		
	8 5	7		5	1	0		2	
Yukon	5	1	3		ı	U	3	3	
Northwest Territories		••	30	27	••		7	8 14	
Nunavut				20				14	

Figures not available for any reference period
 Figures not available for a specific reference period
 Source: Youth Custody and Community Services Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.



Table 7



Daily Number of Young Offenders in Custody and in Probation, 2000/01

		А		Average ¡	probation count		
	Secure custody	Open custody	Remand/ temporary detention	Total custody	Incarceration rate per 10,000 youth	Total at month-end	Probation rate per 10,000 youth
Newfoundland and Labrador	33	48	15	96	21	858	186
Prince Edward Island ¹	5	10	3	18	15	176	143
Nova Scotia	20	97	21	138	18	1,105	145
New Brunswick ²	48	84	15	146	24		
Quebec						**	
Ontario	684	810	357	1,851	20	18,737	201
Manitoba	67	105	104	276	28	1,998	202
Saskatchewan	161	101	79	341	36	1,810	190
Alberta	131	136	119	386	15	2,852	107
British Columbia	83	128	78	294	9	3,165	99
Yukon	2	5	3	10	31	67	225
Northwest Territories ³	16	37	2	54	134		
Nunavut	4	4	5	12	31		

^{..} Figures not available for any specific reference period

... Figures not applicable

Note: Due to rounding, figures may not add to totals. These data represent yearly averages.

Probation data include alternative measures.

Secure custody counts are daily counts while open custody counts are weekly counts.

Northwest Territories data prior to 1999/00 may not be compared with the current year due to the creation of Nunavut on April 1, 1999. The 1999/00 data include an unknown number of transfers from Nunavut. This change influences frequency counts, rates and trend analysis.

Source: Corrections Key Indicator Report for Adults and Young Offenders, 2000/01, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.



Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics

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