

Chapter 9

Saskatchewan

9.1 Introduction

The One-Day Snapshot survey of Saskatchewan's inmate population included components from eight of the 11 modules covered in the standard Survey Instrument (see Appendix A for the survey instrument). Saskatchewan conducted an electronic data compilation of all relevant information for the survey. Included in the data captured for the survey were: a profile of facility characteristics; demographic and background information on inmates; and, legal status, offence, and sentence length data on each inmate.

The survey data are presented in seven sections. Section 9.1 provides an introduction to the One-Day Snapshot conducted in Saskatchewan, including a description of the methodology used (for a more in-depth description of the methodology used for this project, see Appendix B). Section 9.2 describes adult correctional facilities in Saskatchewan, including the number, size and types of facilities utilized. Section 9.3 examines the number of inmates in adult correctional facilities in Saskatchewan, including rates of incarceration, and on-register versus actual-in capacity levels. Section 9.4 discusses current offence records for the inmate population, focusing on the types of crimes committed. Section 9.5 describes aggregate sentence lengths that inmates received. Section 9.6 provides a profile of the inmate population in Saskatchewan, in terms of demographic and socio-economic characteristics such as age, gender, Aboriginal status, education, employment, etc. Finally, this section discusses some management issues associated with inmate characteristics. Section 9.7 includes all the tables for this chapter.

Most analyses in this chapter are based on the "on-register" inmate population (i.e., inmates who have been placed in a correctional facility to serve their sentence, including those who may not physically be located at the facility on Snapshot day), in order to provide a picture of all inmates. This population may differ in some respects from the inmates who were actually-in the facilities on Snapshot day. When examining over-capacity, both "on-register" and "actual-in" (i.e., inmates who were physically located at the facility on Snapshot day) are examined. The actual-in population provides a more realistic indication of over-capacity situations.

Although the focus of the chapter is Saskatchewan's provincial adult inmate population, in order to provide a useful frame of reference, some relevant comparisons are made with other jurisdictions. When reference is made to the "inmate population", this represents the "on-register" inmate population. Reference to this population or to the "total inmate population" in Saskatchewan includes only correctional facilities under provincial jurisdiction. It should also be noted that data in this report are based on one day. As such, generalizations should be made with caution.

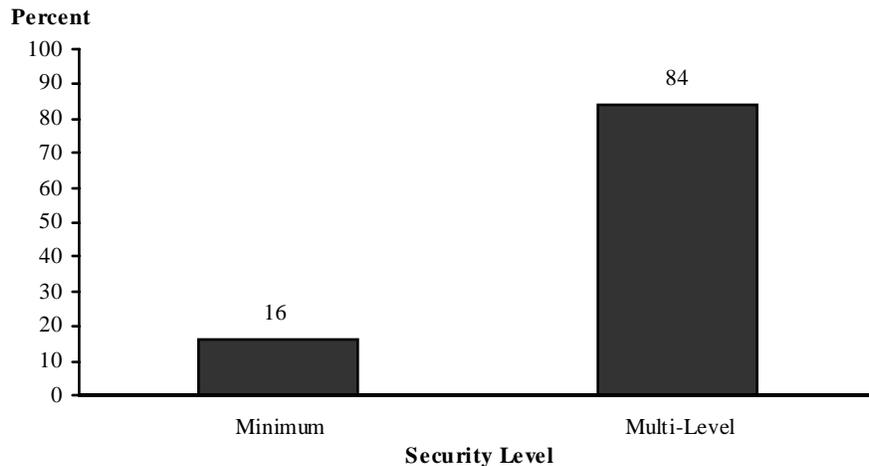
9.2 Adult Correctional Facilities

On October 5th, 1996, there were 15 adult correctional facilities in operation in Saskatchewan¹. Only three jurisdictions had more facilities in operation than Saskatchewan (Ontario, Quebec, and British Columbia) (see Table 1-1 in national chapter). The total "operational capacity" (i.e., the total number of permanent beds in each facility) for the 15 facilities in Saskatchewan was 1,228. On average, this amounts to an operational capacity of 82 inmates per facility, which is smaller than the average for Alberta, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia (241, 183, 168, 122, and 119 inmates per facility, respectively), but larger than other jurisdictions. Saskatchewan's average operational capacity per facility is about one-third the size of the average operational capacity of federal facilities in Canada (269).

Table 9-1 shows the total operational capacity for each adult correctional facility in Saskatchewan. Among the 15 correctional facilities, the reported operational capacity ranged from 4 for the smallest facility (YMCA Community Treatment Residence, a minimum security facility) to 380 for the largest (Regina Correctional Centre, a multi-level security facility).

¹ This includes two facilities that were operational but had no inmates.

Figure 9-A
Distribution of Beds by Security Level of Facilities: Saskatchewan



Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.

As can be seen in the table, the majority of Saskatchewan's facilities were minimum security. Eleven of the 15 facilities were classified as minimum security, and the other four as multi-level security. There were no designated medium or maximum security institutions in Saskatchewan. Figure 9-A shows the number of beds in the facilities by security level². Although 11 of the 15 facilities were classified as minimum security, the majority of the beds in Saskatchewan's facilities (84%) were classified as multi-level security. The remaining 16% were classified as minimum security. The more extensive use of multi-level security facilities appears to be common among many jurisdictions. In fact, in Quebec and Prince Edward Island, all facilities were designated as multi-level. Only Ontario, British Columbia and the Northwest Territories had a large proportion of beds in maximum security facilities. A large proportion of beds in Alberta and federal Correctional Service Canada facilities were classified as medium security.

Like other jurisdictions (except Ontario and New Brunswick, which classified the largest proportion of their facilities as jail/detention centres), many of Saskatchewan's facilities (seven out of 15) were classified as correctional centres (Table 9-1)³. However, unlike other jurisdictions, Saskatchewan also had a large number of community residential centres (six facilities). The only other jurisdictions with community residential centres were New Brunswick and British Columbia. Finally, Saskatchewan was operating two facilities as camps.

Three of the 15 facilities housed female inmates (two minimum security community residences and one multi-level security correctional centre). In addition, one minimum security correctional centre (St. Louis Rehabilitation Correctional Centre) housed both male and female inmates. The remaining 11 facilities housed only male inmates. Similar to the Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan had no facilities which housed both adults and young offenders.

Regarding special features, Saskatchewan had four institutions housing full-time inmates in dormitories and four facilities housing intermittent inmates in dormitories. Unlike other jurisdictions, none of Saskatchewan's 15 facilities had punitive/administrative segregation or protective custody units. Saskatchewan was the only jurisdiction without these units. No other special features were noted in Saskatchewan facilities.

It is clear from the Snapshot data that Saskatchewan has created flexibility in its accommodation strategy through the use of multi-level security designations for institutions.

² In this report, the security level of beds are the same as the security level of the facility. However, this does not mean that the inmate who occupies the bed is rated at that security level.

³ Two correctional centres (North Battleford Correctional Centre and St. Louis Rehabilitation Correctional Centre, both minimum security facilities) are similar in nature to community residential centres.

9.3 Number of Inmates in Adult Correctional Facilities

9.3.1 Inmates On-Register

On Snapshot day, a total of 1,153 inmates were on-register in adult correctional facilities in Saskatchewan⁴. Figure 1-B (in national chapter) shows Saskatchewan's on-register count, compared with other jurisdictions across Canada. The 1,153 inmates in Saskatchewan facilities was the fifth largest of the 12 provinces/territories, and accounted for 5% of all inmates on-register in provincial/territorial correctional facilities in Canada on Snapshot day. British Columbia was the next largest jurisdiction, with more than double the number of inmates (2,603). The next smallest jurisdiction was Manitoba with approximately 100 fewer inmates on-register (1,062) than Saskatchewan.

Rates of incarceration provide a different perspective on the relative size of adult correctional populations. Based on the "on-register" inmate population, 15.5 persons per 10,000 of Saskatchewan's adult population were incarcerated on Snapshot day (Figure 1-C – national chapter). This was the third highest rate of incarceration among the 12 provinces/territories. Only the Northwest Territories (74.8) and Yukon (34.9) had higher rates. Other jurisdictions ranged from 6.5 to 14.1 persons per 10,000 adult population. The rate of incarceration for federal inmates was 6.1 persons per 10,000 adult population.

9.3.2 Inmates' Legal Status

Provincial/territorial corrections in Canada are responsible for offenders who receive custodial sentences of less than two years and federal inmates on Exchange of Service Agreements. In addition, they are responsible for housing persons charged with offences who have been "remanded" to custody while awaiting trial. Remand refers to persons who have been charged with an offence and ordered by the court to custody while awaiting a further court appearance. They have not been sentenced to custody or community service but can be held for a number of reasons (e.g., risk that they will fail to appear for their court date, risk to re-offend, etc.). The dual responsibility for sentenced and remand inmates presents some particular difficulties for managing the inmate population. For example, sentenced and remand inmates have to be considered as separate and distinct populations for purposes of accommodation planning, programming, etc. Where appropriate, throughout this report, comparisons between sentenced and remand inmates will be made.

Inmates may be held in provincial/territorial facilities for several reasons. Inmates' legal status include: regular provincial/territorial sentence, serving an intermittent sentence⁵, on remand, or an "other" category which includes those on temporary detention, immigration holds, etc.

As illustrated in Figure 9-B, more than four-fifths (81%) of on-register inmates in Saskatchewan were regular sentenced inmates. A further 16% were remand inmates, 3% were intermittent sentenced inmates, and 1% had other legal status. Of the inmates serving regular sentences, 13 were serving federal sentences under an Exchange of Service Agreement and 11 inmates were within the 15-day period awaiting transfer to serve a federal sentence.

In all provinces/territories, the largest proportions of inmates were regular sentenced inmates, ranging from 53% of inmates in Ontario to 83% in the Northwest Territories. Compared to the national total, Saskatchewan had a larger proportion of regular sentenced inmates (81% versus 63%), and a smaller proportion of inmates on remand (16% versus 25%) and intermittent sentences (3% versus 10%). The proportion of intermittent sentenced and remand inmates also varied among the provinces/territories. In three provinces/territories (British Columbia, the Northwest Territories, and Saskatchewan), 3% or fewer of the inmates were serving intermittent sentences. In Ontario and New Brunswick, 13% of the inmates were serving intermittent sentences. The proportion of inmates on remand ranged from 10% in Newfoundland to 31% in Ontario.

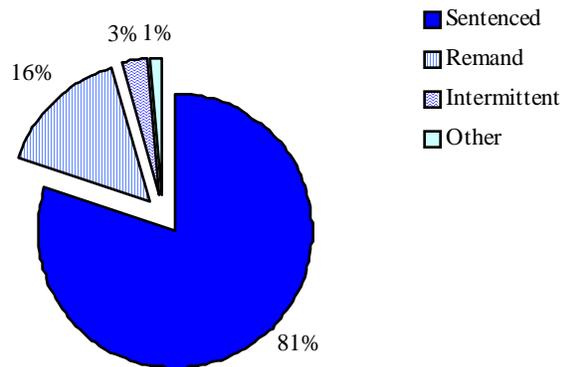
9.3.3 Inmate Capacity

Based on data from the Snapshot, inmate capacity can be examined in two ways – through "on-register" population counts (i.e., all inmates assigned to the correctional facility, including those not physically located at the facility on Snapshot day) and through "actual-in" population counts (i.e., inmates physically located at the facility on Snapshot day). On-register counts over-estimate capacity levels because inmates who are not located at the facility do not

⁴ On Snapshot day, most of the inmates on-register in Saskatchewan (97%) were actually accommodated in the institution where they were on-register. A further 3% were on temporary absences, and less than 1% were temporarily in a facility in another jurisdiction.

⁵ Intermittent sentences are for 90 days or less and inmates serve their sentences on a periodic basis of 2-3 days at one time, usually on weekends. These inmates return to the community to resume employment and family responsibilities when they are not in custody.

Figure 9-B
On-Register Inmate Population by Legal Status: Saskatchewan



Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.
n = 1,153.

have a substantial impact on the operation or management of the facility. But, on-register counts do provide information on the number of inmates each facility is responsible for (and the correctional facility must deal with administrative issues associated with these inmates). Actual-in counts, on the other hand, provide a more accurate indication of overcrowding. Comparison of both on-register and actual-in counts allows an examination of the total number of inmates that facilities are responsible for, as well as the number of inmates who are not physically located at the facility, on Snapshot day.

As can be seen in Table 9-1, based on the “on-register” population on Snapshot day, Saskatchewan’s correctional facilities were under capacity by 6%. Individually, most facilities were operating at close to capacity, and a few were operating slightly above capacity. One multi-level security facility (Saskatoon Correctional Centre) was operating at 101%. Also, three minimum security facilities were operating over capacity: Besnard Corrections Camp (104%); Prince Albert Community Treatment Residence (108%); and, Regina Community Treatment Residence (113%). Two facilities (E-Fry Community Treatment Residence and YMCA Community Treatment Residence) were operational but had no inmates on Snapshot day.

When capacity was calculated based on the “actual-in” inmate populations (i.e., the actual number of inmates physically located in the correctional facility on Snapshot day), the number of facilities with over-capacity situations decreased. Overall, Saskatchewan’s correctional facilities were operating at 91% capacity based on the actual-in inmate counts. Only Besnard Corrections Camp was still operating over capacity based on the actual-in count (104%).

Figure 1-E (national chapter) contrasts jurisdictions in terms of how closely their total “on-register” and “actual-in” inmate populations approached or exceeded the reported operational capacity⁶. Saskatchewan was among five of the 12 provinces/territories reporting total “on-register” populations which were below operational capacities. As mentioned above, when the “actual-in” population was used to calculate percentage capacity, Saskatchewan was utilizing only 91% of its’ available space to accommodate inmates.

In addition to information on overcrowding based on capacity, information was also available from eight jurisdictions⁷ on type of accommodation (see Figure 1-F – national chapter). In most jurisdictions, large proportions of inmates were housed in shared accommodations designed for more than two inmates. These data were not available for Saskatchewan⁸.

⁶ It should be noted that the Snapshot was taken on a Saturday in order to include inmates serving intermittent sentences. The actual-in count may be smaller on other days of the week because there would be fewer inmates serving intermittent sentences in the institution.

⁷ Data on type of accommodation were available from Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba, Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and CSC.

⁸ Table 9-2 is not included in this chapter because accommodation data were not available.

9.4 Current Offences

The Snapshot survey produced detailed information for up to five of the “most serious offences” (MSO) for which inmates were currently incarcerated (see Appendix D for offence categories)⁹. Therefore, the MSO analyzed within this section is not necessarily the only offence for which an inmate was currently incarcerated.

The most serious current offence for 41% of Saskatchewan’s inmates on Snapshot day was a property crime (Table 9-3). Another 38% were incarcerated for crimes against the person, primarily serious assaults. Finally, 21% were incarcerated for “other” *Criminal Code* or Federal Statute offences, primarily impaired driving offences.

Higher proportions of remand than sentenced inmates were incarcerated for crimes against the person (64% versus 33%). This was consistent with almost all other jurisdictions (the Northwest Territories was the exception). This would be expected since offenders who are held on remand often are those involved in more serious offences. However, it should be noted that remand inmates have not yet been convicted, and that they may be convicted of a less serious offence than that for which they are currently incarcerated, or acquitted.

In relation to other provinces/territories, Saskatchewan had the fourth highest incidence of crimes against the person (see Figure 1-G in national chapter). This was substantially lower than the Northwest Territories, Yukon and Manitoba (70%, 59% and 44%, respectively), but it was close to Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Ontario, and British Columbia (ranging from 34% to 37%). Among federal inmates, almost three-quarters (73%) had a crime against the person as their most serious offence, which is not surprising since offenders in federal institutions are typically those involved in more violent or serious offences.

An analysis of up to five of the most serious offences for which each inmate was currently incarcerated was conducted to provide a picture of the number of different “types” of offences for which inmates were incarcerated. This essentially provides an indication of the variety of offending.

In examining not just the most serious but “any” of the five most serious non-violent offences, the data show that a large proportion of inmates in Saskatchewan had break and enter (20%) or theft (19%) as part of their current offence pattern – offence categories that are typically indicative of a high likelihood of repeat offending. This pattern was similar to that in other jurisdictions.

More than one-half (54%) of inmates in Saskatchewan facilities were currently incarcerated for non-violent offences only (Table 9-4). A further 30% had both crimes against the person and other types of offences among their five most serious current offences, and 16% were currently incarcerated for only offences against a person (a total of 46% incarcerated for a violent offence). This is a larger proportion of violent offenders than some provinces/territories. Less than one-third of inmates in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Quebec (27%, 30% and 32%, respectively) were incarcerated for violent offences. In other provinces/territories, the proportion of those currently incarcerated for a crime against the person ranged from 33% in Alberta to 69% in the Northwest Territories¹⁰. Among federal inmates, 78% were currently incarcerated for at least one crime against the person.

Similar to most jurisdictions, a larger proportion of remand inmates had offences against the person (including inmates who had both crimes against the person and other types of offences) (68% versus 42%).

Unlike most other jurisdictions, in Saskatchewan, the largest proportion of inmates were currently incarcerated for five or more offences (43%) (Table 9-5). A further 16% were incarcerated for one offence, 16% for two offences, 13% for three offences, and 12% for four offences. Larger proportions of remand than sentenced inmates had five or more offences (60% versus 40%). In other jurisdictions (except Alberta, Saskatchewan and federally), the largest proportion of inmates were incarcerated for one offence (ranging from 29% in Newfoundland to 50% in the Northwest Territories). In Alberta and federal facilities, the largest proportion of inmates were currently incarcerated for five or more offences (38% and 30%, respectively).

⁹ The most serious offence is based on the Seriousness Index of the Revised Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey Violation Coding Structure that defines seriousness in terms of length of maximum sentence and the degree of injury or threat of injury to the victim. Offences are grouped into the following major offence categories: Crimes Against the Person (e.g., homicide/attempt murder, sexual assault, serious assault, minor assault, robbery, and other violent); Property Offences (e.g., break and enter, theft, fraud, and other property); and Other Criminal Code and Federal Statute Offences (e.g., weapons offences, administration of justice offences, impaired driving offences, drug offences, other Criminal Code and Federal Statute offences).

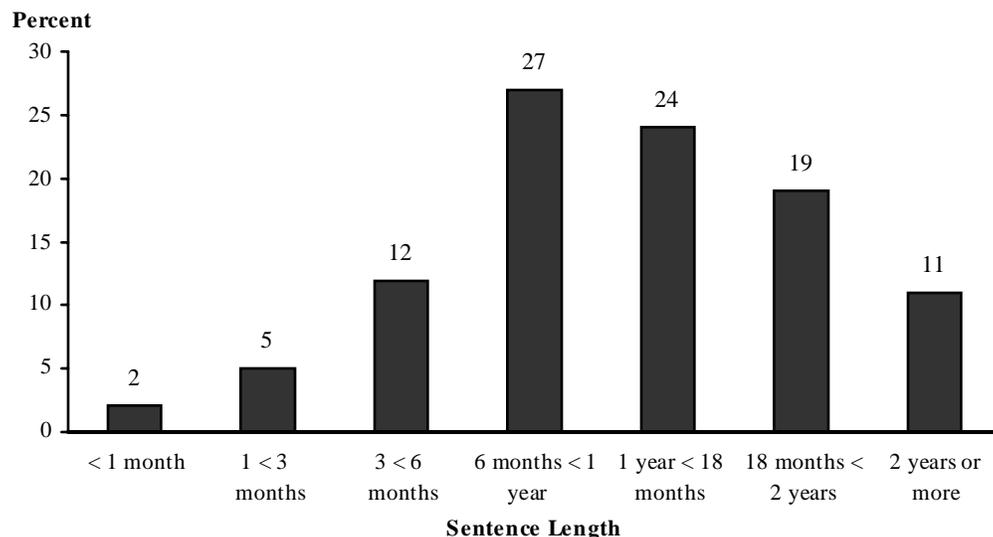
¹⁰ Data were not available for Ontario.

Some general conclusions can be derived from these data. In comparison to most other jurisdictions, Saskatchewan's inmates show a slightly greater incidence of crimes against the person and a larger proportion of inmates with both crimes against the person and non-violent offences occurring together. The data for Saskatchewan also indicate that inmates have substantially more numerous offences on their current records. This suggests a pattern of more versatility and greater volume in offending for Saskatchewan's inmates.

9.5 Sentence Length

Figure 9-C presents a breakdown of the total aggregate sentence lengths for sentenced inmates in Saskatchewan (also see Table 9-6)¹¹. On Snapshot day, 19% of sentenced inmates were serving terms of less than six months. An additional 27% were serving terms of six months to less than one year, 43% were serving terms of one year to less than two years, and 11% were serving terms of two years or more. Normally, a person who is sentenced to a term of incarceration of two years or more is housed in a federal facility. However, inmates with sentences of two years or more in a provincial/territorial facility may be federal inmates who have been newly re-admitted and awaiting transfer to a federal facility or inmates being held under an Exchange of Service Agreement.

Figure 9-C
Aggregate Sentence Length for On-Register Inmates: Saskatchewan^{1,2}



Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.

¹ Sentencing data includes only inmates serving regular and intermittent sentences ($n = 960$).

² Data were missing for 1 inmate (<1%).

On-register data produces longer average sentence lengths than admissions data. This is the case because those admitted for short sentences will show up in yearly admissions data. However, the one-day count will only include those who are currently on-register in the facility (and many short-term inmates will have completed their sentence). For instance, while sentences of less than one month account for more than one-third of sentenced admissions to provincial/territorial facilities, these offenders represent 10% or fewer of the inmates in the One-Day Snapshot.

The median¹² aggregate sentence length for inmates in Saskatchewan was 365 days (12 months). This was the same as the Northwest Territories, and was the longest median aggregate sentence of all jurisdictions. Other jurisdictions ranged from 153 days (in Ontario) to 273 days (Newfoundland and Manitoba).

¹¹ For this analysis, sentenced inmates include regular sentenced inmates and those serving intermittent sentences. It excludes those on remand and "other" inmates, such as those on temporary detention, immigration holds, etc.

¹² The median represents the mid-point when all values are arranged in order of magnitude. One-half of the observations have a value less than or equal to the median, and one-half have a value greater than or equal to the median.

A detailed analysis of sentence lengths for major offence categories was not possible with data from the Snapshot. Information on sentence length was based on the aggregate sentence (i.e., the sum of all sentences that the offender must serve for the current incarceration). An offender can be convicted of multiple charges and a judge may order that various prison sentences be served either consecutively to, or concurrently with, one another. With data from the Snapshot, it was not possible to discern what sentence was received for which offence.

9.6 A Profile of Adult Inmates

9.6.1 Gender

Although there are approximately equal proportions of adult males and females in the population in Saskatchewan (49% male and 51% female)¹³, 94% of inmates on-register in adult correctional facilities in the province on Snapshot day were male. The over-representation of males within the inmate population relative to the provincial/territorial population was found in all other jurisdictions, including the federal inmate population.

As shown in Table 9-7, while the majority of both male and female inmates were serving regular sentences, this was slightly more often the case for males – 81% of males were regular sentenced inmates compared to 78% of females.

Males and females differed in the offence types for which they were currently incarcerated (Table 9-3). A larger proportion of males than females were incarcerated for crimes against the person (38% versus 30%). However, a larger proportion of females than males were incarcerated for property offences (50% versus 40%). There were similar proportions of males and females incarcerated for “other” *Criminal Code*/Federal Statute offences (21% and 20%, respectively). The most common offence for which males were incarcerated was break and enter (21%). Females, on the other hand, were most often incarcerated for theft (23%).

It should be noted that, due to small numbers of female inmates in several jurisdictions, gender analyses by offence type was not always possible. However, where this analysis was possible, gender differences were found in some jurisdictions. A larger proportion of males than females were also incarcerated for crimes against the person in Newfoundland, Ontario, British Columbia, and federally. In Nova Scotia, Quebec and Manitoba, the proportions were very similar between the sexes. However, in New Brunswick, Alberta, and the Northwest Territories, a larger proportion of females than males were currently incarcerated for crimes against the person.

As illustrated in Figure 9-D, there were similar proportions of males and females currently incarcerated for more than one offence. Eighty-four percent of males and 86% of females had more than one current offence (also see Table 9-5).

Figure 9-D
Number of Current Offences by Gender: Saskatchewan¹



Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.

¹ Data were missing for 25 inmates (2%).

¹³ Based on data from the 1996 Census of Population, Statistics Canada.

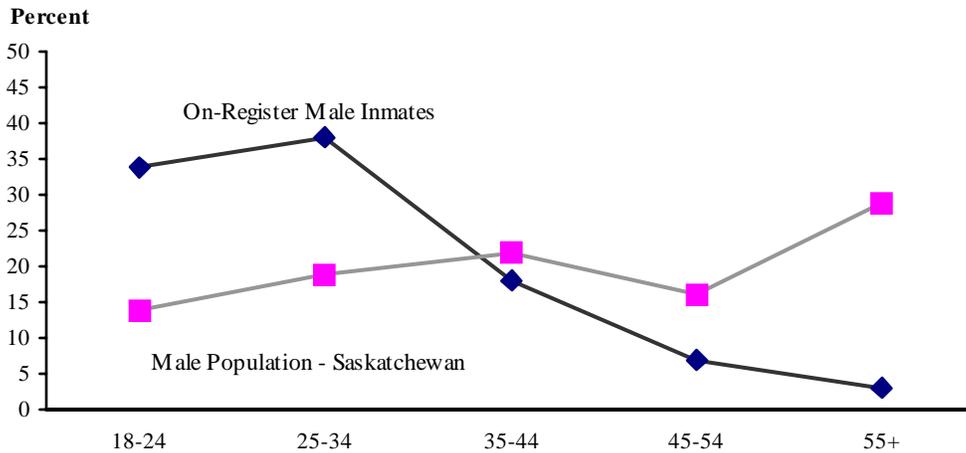
Males tended to receive longer sentences than females (Table 9-6). The median aggregate sentence length for males was 365 days, compared to 213 days for females. These differences are likely due to factors such as severity of offence or the criminal history of offender. Since it is not possible to analyze sentence length by offence categories using data from the Snapshot, this cannot be examined further.

9.6.2 Age

The median age for inmates was less than that for the adult population in Saskatchewan. On Snapshot day, the median age of inmates in Saskatchewan's facilities was 29. The median age for the adult population in Saskatchewan in 1996 was 42.

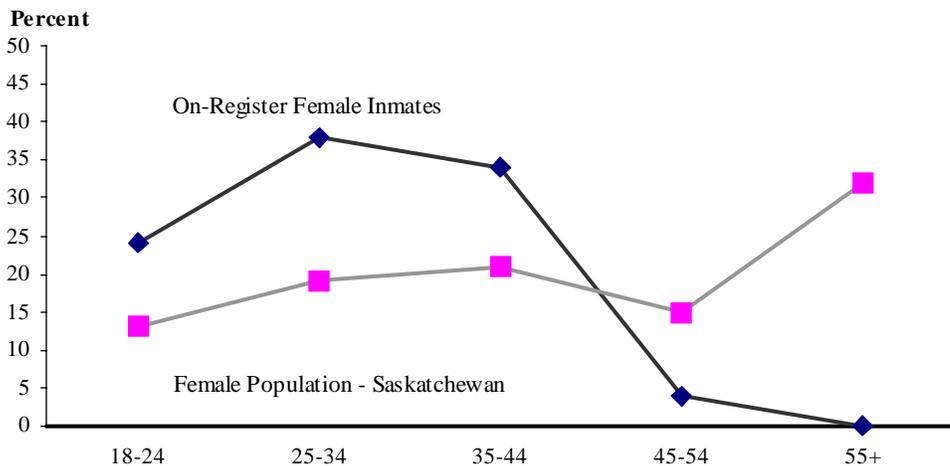
Figures 9-E and 9-F illustrate how the male and female adult population in Saskatchewan is distributed by age compared with the on-register inmate population. Generally, younger age groups are over-represented in custodial populations, particularly adults between the ages of 18 and 34. From age 35 onwards, this pattern is reversed (see Table 9-7).

Figure 9-E
Males - Age Distribution of Adult Population¹ and On-Register Inmates: Saskatchewan



Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.
¹ Based on 1996 Census.

Figure 9-F
Females - Age Distribution of Adult Population¹ and On-Register Inmates: Saskatchewan



Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.
¹ Based on 1996 Census.

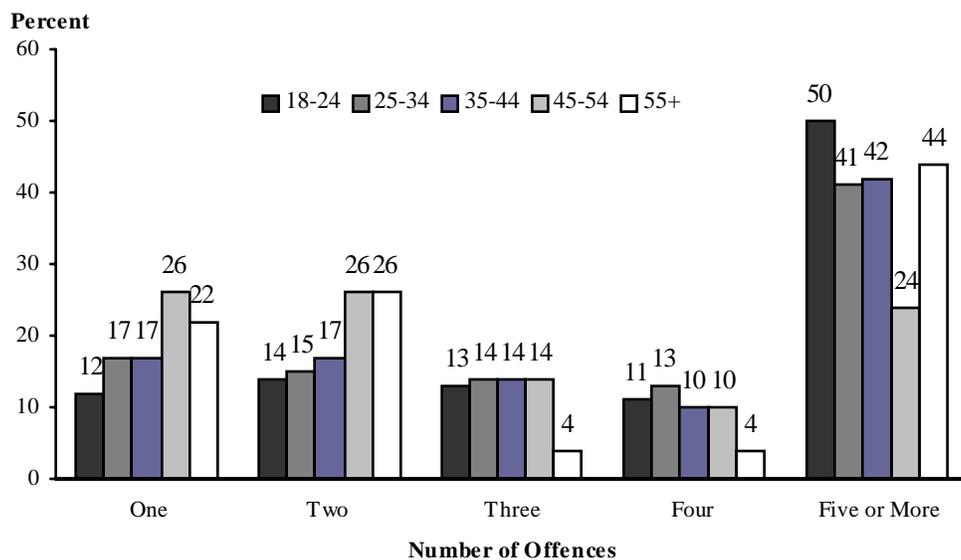
On Snapshot day, males aged 18-24 were the most over-represented. Over one-third (34%) of the male inmate population falls within this age group, compared to 14% of the adult male population in Saskatchewan. Males aged 25-34 were the next most over-represented compared to the adult male population in Saskatchewan (38% versus 19%). Among female inmates, those aged 25-34 were the most over-represented. Thirty-eight percent of the female inmates were in this age group, compared to 19% of the adult female population in Saskatchewan. Females aged 18-24 were the next most over-represented compared to the adult female population in Saskatchewan (24% versus 13%).

These age distributions are similar in other jurisdictions.

The largest proportion of inmates aged 18-24 were incarcerated for property offences (58%) (Table 9-3), in particular break and enter. Among other age groups, the largest proportion of inmates were incarcerated for crimes against the person.

As mentioned earlier, unlike most other jurisdictions, the largest proportion of inmates in Saskatchewan were currently incarcerated for five or more offences (43%). However, generally, older inmates were currently incarcerated for fewer offences (Figure 9-G). One-half (50%) of inmates aged 18-24 were currently incarcerated for five or more offences. This was the case for 41% of inmates aged 25-34, 42% of those aged 35-44, 24% of those aged 45-54, and 44% of inmates aged 55 and over. Further, about one-quarter of inmates aged 45-54 and 55 and over were currently incarcerated for only one offence (26% and 22%, respectively), compared to only 12% of those aged 18-24 (also see Table 9-5).

Figure 9-G
Number of Current Offences by Age: Saskatchewan¹



Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.

¹ Missing data for 24 inmates (2%).

As can be seen in Table 9-6, sentence lengths were similar across all age groups. The median sentence length was 369 days for inmates aged 18-24, and 365 days inmates in older age groups. As noted earlier, it is not possible to discern the reason for varying sentence lengths from the Snapshot data.

9.6.3 Aboriginal Inmates

While Aboriginal persons accounted for approximately 8% of the adult population in Saskatchewan in 1996, they accounted for 76% of the inmates on Snapshot day. As illustrated in Figure 1-L (national chapter), the proportion of Aboriginal inmates varied considerably across jurisdictions. However, in all jurisdictions the proportion of Aboriginal inmates was substantially larger than the proportion of Aboriginal persons in the provincial/territorial population.

The majority of Aboriginal inmates in Saskatchewan were North American Indian (87%, compared to 66% in the Saskatchewan population). The remaining 13% were Métis (33% in Saskatchewan population). Among Aboriginal inmates, similar proportions of regular sentenced, remand and intermittent inmates were North American Indian (87%, 85%, and 86%, respectively).

The majority of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal inmates were serving regular sentences. Unlike some jurisdictions, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal inmates did not differ substantially in the proportion that were serving a regular sentence (see Table 9-7). Over three-quarters of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal inmates were regular sentenced inmates (81% each), less than one-fifth were on remand (16% and 15%, respectively), and the remainder were serving intermittent or other sentences. In most jurisdictions, there were greater proportions of Aboriginal inmates serving regular sentences, and smaller proportions serving intermittent sentences, as compared to non-Aboriginal inmates. Two exceptions were Saskatchewan (no differences) and New Brunswick (slightly larger proportion of non-Aboriginal inmates were serving regular sentences).

Some differences were evident in the offence characteristics reported for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal inmates (Table 9-3). A slightly larger proportion of Aboriginal than non-Aboriginal inmates were incarcerated for crimes against the person (39% versus 32%). The difference is primarily due to a larger proportion of Aboriginal than non-Aboriginal inmates incarcerated for serious assault (16% versus 7%) and minor assault (7% versus 2%).

A slightly larger proportion of non-Aboriginal inmates were incarcerated for property offences (44% versus 40%) and "other" *Criminal Code* and Federal Statute offences (24% versus 20%). These differences were primarily due to a larger proportion of non-Aboriginal than Aboriginal inmates incarcerated for fraud (6% versus 2%), and drug-related offences (10% versus 4%).

Overall, among the jurisdictions, some differences in offence types between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal inmates were found, although in some, such as Ontario, the differences were less evident.

There were similar proportions of female inmates among Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal inmates (6% and 5%, respectively). However, larger proportions of Aboriginal than non-Aboriginal females were incarcerated for "other" *Criminal Code* and Federal Statute offences (21% of Aboriginal females compared to 14% of non-Aboriginal females). This difference between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal females is primarily due to a larger proportion of Aboriginal females incarcerated for administration of justice (10%) and impaired driving offences (8%).

As illustrated in Figure 9-H, slightly larger proportions of Aboriginal than non-Aboriginal inmates were currently incarcerated for more than one offence. Eighty-five percent of Aboriginal inmates had more than one current offence compared to 82% of non-Aboriginal inmates (also see Table 9-5).

In most other jurisdictions, there were also slightly larger proportions of Aboriginal than non-Aboriginal inmates incarcerated for more than one offence. These differences were most noticeable in Quebec, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories.

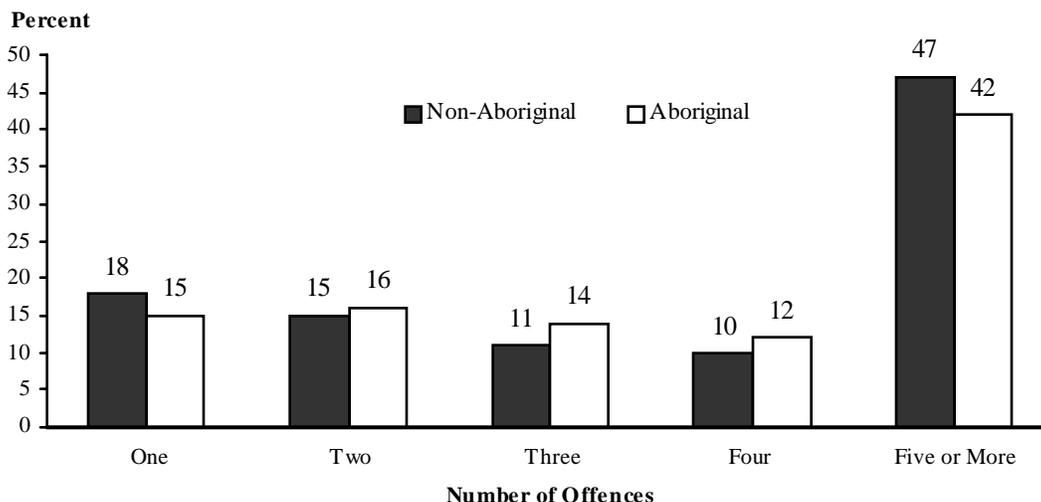
In Saskatchewan, Aboriginal inmates received slightly shorter aggregate sentences than non-Aboriginal inmates (Table 9-6). The median aggregate sentence length for Aboriginal inmates was 365 days, compared to 392 days for non-Aboriginal inmates. The difference was primarily among females – Aboriginal females received a median aggregate sentence of 212 days compared to 366 days for non-Aboriginal females. Among males, the median aggregate sentence length for Aboriginal inmates was 365 days compared to 392 days for non-Aboriginal males. It is not possible from the Snapshot to determine the reasons for these differences.

9.6.4 Socio-Demographic Characteristics

As part of the Snapshot survey, some additional background and demographic data on inmates were gathered to provide a more comprehensive profile of the inmate populations. The survey included information on marital status, educational level, and employment situation at the time of the most recent admission to custody. As well, information was provided on citizenship and home language¹⁴.

¹⁴ Home language was not available for Saskatchewan.

Figure 9-H
Number of Current Offences by Aboriginal Status: Saskatchewan¹



Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.

¹ Data were missing for 29 inmates (3%).

As illustrated in Table 9-8, almost one-half (44%) of those incarcerated on Snapshot day had a grade 9 education or less, compared to 20% of adults in Saskatchewan. Another 37% had grade 10 or 11, and 20% had grade 12 or higher. A larger proportion of sentenced than remand inmates had grade 9 education or less (46% versus 35%).

Almost three-quarters (71%) of inmates who reported that they were in the labour market at the time of incarceration were unemployed at the time of admission to the facility, compared to 7% of adults in Saskatchewan¹⁵. Similar proportions of remand and sentenced inmates were unemployed (71% and 72%, respectively).

Forty-one percent of inmates were married at the time of admission, compared to almost two-thirds (65%) of adults in Saskatchewan. This finding was similar in other jurisdictions. Similar proportions of remand and sentenced inmates were married (40% and 42%, respectively).

The majority of inmates (99%) in Saskatchewan reported Canadian citizenship.

9.6.5 Criminal History

Data on criminal history were not available from Saskatchewan¹⁶.

9.6.6 Offender-Victim Relationship

Data on the offender-victim relationship were not available from Saskatchewan¹⁷.

9.6.7 Risk and Need Profile of Inmates

Data on risk and needs were not available from Saskatchewan¹⁸.

¹⁵ Percent unemployed refers to those not employed and seeking work. It does not include those who report that they would like work, but who have stopped searching because they believe no work is available. Younger adults in Canada generally experience higher rates of unemployment, and, since younger age groups are generally over-represented in custodial populations, the proportion of unemployed inmates may be slightly inflated.

¹⁶ Because data on criminal history were not available from Saskatchewan, Table 9-9 is not included in this chapter.

¹⁷ Because data on offender-victim relationship were not available from Saskatchewan, Table 9-10 is not included in this chapter.

¹⁸ Because data on risks and needs were not available from Saskatchewan, Tables 9-11 through 9-14 and Figures 9-I and 9-J are not included in this chapter.

9.6.8 Management of the Inmate Population

Data on the security concerns and use of segregation were not available from Saskatchewan¹⁹.

A significant question that arises in looking at management of inmate populations is how inmates are being differentiated by level of security. Table 9-16 provides a profile of inmates by security level of facilities for Saskatchewan. As can be seen in the table, remand inmates were non-existent at the minimum level of security. All remand inmates were housed in multi-level security facilities. Further, inmates housed in minimum security facilities were much less likely than those in multi-level security facilities to have a crime against the person (28% versus 39%). The median aggregate sentence length for those in minimum security facilities was shorter than in multi-level security facilities (274 days versus 365 days).

Regarding inmate characteristics, in multi-level security facilities there was a higher proportion of females (7% of inmates were female), compared to minimum security (1%). However, there were similar proportions of Aboriginal inmates in both minimum and multi-level security facilities (78% and 76%, respectively). Inmates in minimum security facilities were slightly older than those in multi-level security (median ages of 31 versus 28).

9.7 Tables

Table 9-1	Distribution of Correctional Facilities and Inmate Populations on October 5th, 1996: Saskatchewan
Table 9-2	Distribution of On-Register Inmates by Type of Accommodation: Saskatchewan [Not in this Chapter]
Table 9-3	Distribution of Offence Types: Saskatchewan
Table 9-4	Nature of Current Offences: Saskatchewan
Table 9-5	Number of Current Offences: Saskatchewan
Table 9-6	Distribution of Aggregate Sentence Length: Saskatchewan
Table 9-7	Selected Inmate Characteristics: Saskatchewan
Table 9-8	Background Characteristics of Inmates: Saskatchewan
Table 9-9	Criminal History of Inmates: Saskatchewan [Not in this Chapter]
Table 9-10	Nature of Offender-Victim Relationships by Types of Offences for Crimes Against the Person: Saskatchewan [Not in this Chapter]
Table 9-11	Distribution of Risk Levels: Saskatchewan [Not in this Chapter]
Table 9-12	Characteristics of Inmates Within Each Risk Level: Saskatchewan [Not in this Chapter]
Table 9-13	Distribution of Risk Level by Offence Type: Saskatchewan [Not in this Chapter]
Table 9-14	Proportion of Inmates with Needs Assessed to be 'High': Saskatchewan [Not in this Chapter]
Table 9-15	Use of Segregation: Saskatchewan [Not in this Chapter]
Table 9-16	Differentiation of Inmates by Security Level of Facilities: Saskatchewan

¹⁹ Because data on security concerns, use of segregation, and risk were not available from Saskatchewan, Table 9-15 and Figures 9-K through 9-M are not included in this chapter.

Table 9-1

Distribution of Correctional Facilities and Inmate Populations on October 5th, 1996: Saskatchewan¹

Facility	Type	Gender	Total Capacity ²	On-Register Count	Capacity "On-Register"	Actual-In Count ³	Capacity "Actual-In"
			No.	No.	%	No.	%
Minimum							
Besnard Corrections Camp	Correctional Camp	Males	23	24	104	24	104
Waden Lake Corrections Camp	Correctional Camp	Males	16	14	88	13	81
Buffalo Narrows Correctional Centre	Correctional Centre	Males	18	16	89	15	83
North Battleford Community Training Residence	Community Residence	Males	12	12	100	10	83
North Battleford Correctional Centre	Correctional Centre ⁴	Males	30	25	83	24	80
Prince Albert Community Training Residence	Community Residence	Males	12	13	108	5	42
Saskatoon Community Training Residence	Community Residence	Males	14	12	86	11	79
Regina Community Training Residence	Community Residence	Males	24	27	113	22	92
E-Fry Community Training Residence	Community Residence	Females	12	-	-	-	-
YMCA Community Training Residence	Community Residence	Females	4	-	-	-	-
St. Louis Rehab. Correctional Centre	Correctional Centre ⁴	Males & Females	26	24	92	23	89
Subtotal			191	167	87	147	77
Multi-Level							
Pine Grove Correctional Centre	Correctional Centre	Females	70	66	94	65	93
Prince Albert Correctional Centre	Correctional Centre	Males	290	286	99	281	97
Regina Correctional Centre	Correctional Centre	Males	380	334	88	327	86
Saskatoon Correctional Centre	Correctional Centre	Males	297	300	101	297	100
Subtotal			1,037	986	95	970	94
Total			1,228	1,153	94	1,117	91

Special Features within Facilities

	Special Handling Unit	Protective Custody	Punitive/Administrative Segregation	Psychiatric Unit	Dormitory for Intermittent Sentences	Dormitory for Regular Sentences	Holding Cells	Young Offenders with Adults	Alcohol Treatment Facility	Total Special Features
Minimum										
Besnard Corrections Camp	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Waden Lake Corrections Camp	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Buffalo Narrows Correctional Centre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Battleford Community Training Residence	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Battleford Correctional Centre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prince Albert Community Training Residence	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saskatoon Community Training Residence	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regina Community Training Residence	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
E-Fry Community Training Residence	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
YMCA Community Training Residence	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
St-Louis Rehab. Correctional Centre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Multi-Level										
Pine Grove Correctional Centre	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Prince Albert Correctional Centre	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Regina Correctional Centre	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Saskatoon Correctional Centre	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Total	-	-	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	8

Source: Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996).

- nil or zero.

¹ Includes all facilities that were operational on Snapshot Day.

² Defined as the number of permanent beds in the facility.

³ Defined as the total number of inmates who were physically located in the correctional facilities on Snapshot Day.

⁴ These two correctional centres are similar in nature to community residential centres.

Table 9-3
Distribution of Offence Types¹: Saskatchewan

	Number of Inmates	Crimes Against the Person						TOTAL				
		Homicide/ Attempt Murder	Sexual Assault	Serious Assault	Minor Assault	Robbery	Other Violent					
		%										
Legal Status²												
Sentenced ³	947	1	6	14	5	6	1	33				
Remand	182	9	14	14	8	13	5	64				
Total	1,129	2	7	14	6	7	2	38				
Gender⁴												
Males	1,062	3	8	13	6	7	2	38				
Females	66	-	-	18	--	9	--	30				
Aboriginal Status⁵												
Non-Aboriginal	262	3	10	7	2	8	3	32				
Aboriginal	862	2	6	16	7	7	2	39				
Age²												
18-24	382	2	4	14	4	8	2	34				
25-34	436	3	5	14	7	6	2	38				
35-44	214	--	12	15	5	9	--	44				
45+	97	--	18	8	7	3	--	39				
		Property Crimes				Other <i>Criminal Code</i> (CC) / Federal Statutes						
		Break and Enter	Theft	Fraud	Other Property	TOTAL	Weapons Offences	Admin- istration of Justice	Impaired Driving Offences	Drug Offences	Other CC/ Federal	TOTAL
		%										
Legal Status²												
Sentenced ³	22	10	3	10	45	1	4	10	5	3	23	
Remand	10	3	--	--	21	2	4	--	7	--	15	
Total	10	9	3	10	41	1	4	8	5	3	21	
Gender⁴												
Males	21	8	2	10	40	1	4	8	5	3	21	
Females	6	23	9	12	50	--	8	6	5	--	20	
Aboriginal Status⁵												
Non-Aboriginal	21	8	6	9	44	1	3	7	10	3	24	
Aboriginal	20	9	2	10	40	1	5	8	4	3	20	
Age²												
18-24	34	9	2	13	58	--	3	3	1	--	8	
25-34	16	7	3	9	35	1	4	8	9	6	27	
35-44	11	9	4	7	30	--	6	12	5	--	26	
45+	--	12	5	--	25	-	5	20	5	6	36	

Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.

- nil or zero.

-- amount too small to be expressed.

¹ Based on the current most serious offence.

² Missing data for 24 inmates (2%).

³ "Sentenced" includes regular, intermittent and inmates with "other" legal status.

⁴ Missing data for 25 inmates (2%).

⁵ Missing data for 29 inmates (3%).

Table 9-4

Nature of Current Offences^{1,2}: Saskatchewan

	Number of Inmates	Only Against Person	Against Person & "Other" ³	Only "Other" Offence ³
			%	
Legal Status				
Sentenced ⁴	947	12	30	59
Remand	182	38	30	32
Total	1,129	16	30	54

Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996).

¹ Analysis of up to five of the most serious offences for which an inmate was incarcerated.

² Data were missing for 24 inmates (2%).

³ "Other" Offence = property crimes, other Criminal Code violations, and other offences not against the person.

⁴ "Sentenced" includes regular, intermittent and inmates with "other" legal status.

Table 9-5

Number of Current Offences: Saskatchewan

	Number of Inmates	One	Two	Three	Four	Five+
				%		
Legal Status¹						
Sentenced ²	947	17	17	14	11	40
Remand	182	9	8	9	14	60
Total	1,129	16	16	13	12	43
Gender³						
Males	1,062	16	16	13	12	43
Females	66	14	17	17	11	42
Aboriginal Status⁴						
Non-Aboriginal	262	18	15	11	10	47
Aboriginal	862	15	16	14	12	42
Age¹						
18-24	382	12	14	13	11	50
25-34	436	17	15	14	13	41
35-44	214	17	17	14	10	42
45-54	70	26	26	14	10	24
55+	27	22	26	4	4	44

Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996).

¹ Missing data for 24 inmates (2%).

² "Sentenced" includes regular, intermittent and inmates with "other" legal status.

³ Missing data for 25 inmates (2%).

⁴ Missing data for 29 inmates (3%).

Table 9-6
Distribution of Aggregate Sentence Length: Saskatchewan¹

	Number of Inmates	< 6 months	6 months - < 1 year %	1 year or more	Median Sentence days
Total Inmates²	959	19	27	54	365
Gender³					
Males	901	18	27	55	365
Females	57	30	30	40	213
Aboriginal Status⁴					
Non-Aboriginal	226	16	22	62	392
Aboriginal	728	19	29	52	365
Age²					
18-24	329	14	30	57	369
25-34	358	22	27	51	365
35-44	182	20	26	54	365
45-54	69	22	23	55	365
55+	21	19	19	62	365

Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996).

¹ Includes data only for inmates serving intermittent and regular sentences (n = 960).

² Missing data for 1 inmate (<1%).

³ Missing data for 2 inmates (<1%).

⁴ Missing data for 6 inmates (1%).

Table 9-7
Selected Inmate Characteristics: Saskatchewan

	Number of Inmates	Gender		Number of Inmates	Aboriginal Status	
		Males	Females		Non- Aboriginal	Aboriginal
		%			%	
Legal Status¹						
Intermittent	30	2	--	27	2	3
Other	10	1	--	10	1	1
Sentenced	929	81	78	928	81	81
Remand	183	16	13	183	15	16
Total	1,152	100	100	1,148	100	100
Age¹						
18-24	386	34	24	386	29	35
25-34	438	38	38	434	33	39
35-44	223	18	34	223	19	19
45-54	76	7	4	76	13	5
55+	29	3	-	29	6	1
Total	1,152	100	100	1,148	100	100
Gender²						
Males				1,079	95	94
Females				68	5	6
Total				1,147	100	100

Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996).

- nil or zero.

-- amount too small to be expressed.

¹ Missing data for 1 inmate (<1%) for gender analysis and 5 inmates (<1%) for the Aboriginal analysis.

² Missing data for 6 inmates (<1%).

Table 9-8
Background Characteristics^{1,2} of Inmates: Saskatchewan

		Total	Sentenced ³	Remand
Grade Completed				
Number of Inmates⁴		1,133	955	178
9 or less	%	44	46	35
10 to 11	%	37	37	37
12 or higher	%	20	18	28
Total	%	100	100	100
Employment Status				
Number of Inmates⁵		1,129	952	177
Unemployed	%	71	72	71
Employed	%	29	28	29
Total	%	100	100	100
Marital Status				
Number of Inmates⁶		1,147	965	182
Single	%	50	49	52
Married	%	41	42	40
Separated or Divorced	%	9	9	--
Widowed	%	--	--	--
Total	%	100	100	100
Citizenship				
Number of Inmates⁷		1,148	965	183
Canadian	%	99	99	99
Other	%	1	1	1
Total	%	100	100	100

Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.

-- amount too small to be expressed.

¹ The characteristics listed in this table refer to the status of the inmate at the time of admission to the correctional facility.

² Data on language were not available.

³ Includes inmates serving regular, intermittent and "other" types of sentences.

⁴ Excludes inmates who were "not in the market" for employment at the time of admission (n = 0). Missing data for 20 inmates (2%).

⁵ Missing data for 24 inmates (2%).

⁶ Missing data for 6 inmates (1%).

⁷ Missing data for 5 inmates (<1%).

Table 9-16
Differentiation of Inmates by Security Level of Facilities: Saskatchewan

Inmate Characteristics	Number of Inmates	Level of Security	
		Minimum	Multi-Level
		%	
Legal Status			
Sentenced ¹	970	100	81
Remand	183	-	19
Total	1,153	100	100
Offence Type²			
Crimes Against the Person	426	28	39
Property and Other Crimes ³	703	72	61
Total	1,129	100	100
Median Aggregate Sentence (in days)⁴	959	274	365
Gender⁵			
Males	1,084	99	93
Females	68	1	7
Total	1,152	100	100
Aboriginal Status⁶			
Non-Aboriginal	272	22	24
Aboriginal	876	78	76
Total	1,148	100	100
Median Age (in years)	1,153	31	28

Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996).

- nil or zero.

¹ "Sentenced" includes inmates serving regular, intermittent and "other" types of sentences.

² Missing data for 24 inmates (2%).

³ "Other Crimes" includes all other Criminal Code and Federal Statute offences.

⁴ Sentencing data includes regular and intermittent types of sentences (n = 960). Missing data for 1 inmate (<1%).

⁵ Missing data for 1 inmate (<1%).

⁶ Missing data for 5 inmates (<1%).