



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, February 13, 1997

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Street prostitution, 1995** 2
The street trade can be dangerous: between 1991 and 1995, 63 prostitutes were murdered, 60 of whom were female. During this period, known prostitutes accounted for 5% of all reported female homicides.

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MAJOR RELEASES

Street prostitution

1995

Between 1991 and 1995, 63 prostitutes were murdered in Canada. Sixty of them were female, including seven juveniles aged 15 to 17. During this period, known prostitutes accounted for 5% of all reported female homicides.

According to police records, 50 of the victims appeared to have been killed by customers. Eight others were suspected to have been murdered by a pimp or in a drug-related incident, while the remaining deaths were at the hands of a husband, common-law spouse or boyfriend.

On the other hand, over the five-year period, 18 prostitutes were charged in the deaths of 16 people, including 10 clients, 1 pimp and 5 others, mainly acquaintances.

Men and women charged in close to equal proportions

In 1995, police charged 7,646 individuals — 4,158 females and 3,488 males — with prostitution-related offences, that is, communicating, procuring and bawdy-house violations.

Females accounted for just over half (55%) of the 6,710 persons charged with communicating to buy or sell the services of a prostitute. Although the data do not indicate whether the person was a prostitute or a client, it is generally recognized that most prostitutes are female and virtually all clients are male.

In addition, females represented 64% of all those accused of a bawdy-house offence in 1995, while 7 in 10 individuals charged with procuring were male.

Only 3% of those accused of a prostitution-related offence in 1995 were youths aged 12 to 17. This relatively small proportion may reflect the fact that police frequently divert juveniles to social service agencies instead of laying charges.

Police charging practices vary

In total, police reported 7,165 prostitution-related incidents in 1995. (The number of incidents is not equal to the number of individuals charged, since more than one person may be charged in an incident.) Over 9 in 10 incidents involved communicating; the remaining incidents concerned procuring (5%) or bawdy-house (3%) offences.

Note to readers

Juristat: Street prostitution in Canada was released today by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. It deals with prostitution-related crime (that is, communicating, procuring and bawdy-house offences) from 1977 to 1995, with a focus on recent years.

Data on prostitution incidents, including prostitution-related homicides, were supplied by police agencies across the country.

Adult provincial court data were obtained from a limited number of jurisdictions: all criminal courts in Prince Edward Island, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories, and some courts in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Quebec. The 1993 and 1994 calendar years are covered, except for Ontario, where the 1993/94 and 1994/95 fiscal years are combined.

Prostitution incidents reported by police*

	All offences	Communi- cating	Bawdy- house	Procur- ing
1995	7,165	6,595	185	385
1994	5,575	5,090	164	321
1993	8,517	7,971	157	389
1992	10,137	9,616	212	309
1991	10,567	9,860	382	325
1990	10,273	9,686	256	331
1989	9,717	8,922	371	424
1988	10,721	9,965	297	459
1987	10,457	9,243	684	530
1986	7,426	6,439	614	373

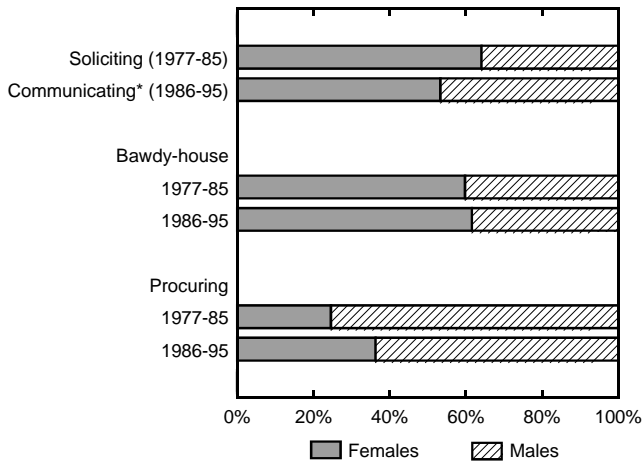
* Excludes incidents where prostitution was not the most serious offence.
Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey

The number of prostitution-related incidents in 1995 was 29% higher than the previous year. However, this increase came on the heels of steep declines between 1992 and 1994. Such fluctuations are common and usually reflect changes in the enforcement of the communicating law, rather than criminal activity. For example, if police conduct a few large crackdowns, the number of charges can be expected to rise temporarily.

Police target customers

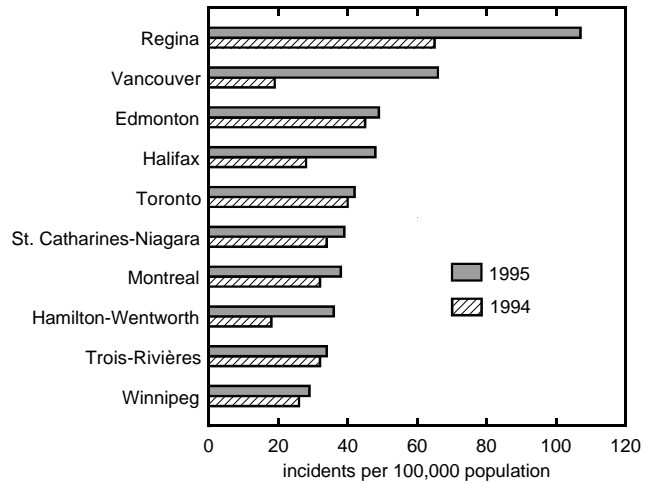
Since December 1985, when the communicating law replaced the soliciting law, there has been a shift towards more men being charged. For example, between 1986 and 1995, almost half (47%) of all individuals charged with communicating were male, compared with just over a third (36%) of those charged with soliciting between 1977 and 1985.

Sex of the accused by type of offence



* The communicating law replaced the soliciting law in December 1985.
Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey

Communicating rates in top 10 CMAs*



* Census metropolitan areas with the highest 1995 rates.
Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey

This increase may reflect changes in enforcement practices, in that some police agencies are charging more men in an attempt to hold customers more accountable for their participation in the sex trade. Also, since 1985, the law in force has clearly applied to clients as well as prostitutes.

Arrests are concentrated in large urban centres

In 1995, almost two in every three reported incidents of prostitution originated in the Toronto, Montreal or Vancouver census metropolitan areas (CMAs). Only 4% of incidents were reported from areas outside CMAs.

Over half (55%) of the 1994 to 1995 increase in prostitution incidents was traced to a substantial rise in the number of communicating offences reported from Vancouver. However, this growth followed steep declines in Toronto, Edmonton and Calgary in 1994, and in Vancouver in 1993.

When comparing geographical areas with different population sizes, incident rates are more appropriate than counts. Based on police reports from all CMAs, the 1995 communicating rate was highest in Regina: 107 communicating incidents for each 100,000 individuals.

Vancouver came second with 66 incidents per 100,000, followed by Edmonton (49) and Halifax (48). Rates in the nation's two largest CMAs were somewhat lower — 42 in Toronto and 38 in Montreal.

Convictions result in a variety of sentences

Communicating was the most serious offence in 7,062 reported adult court cases resulting in convictions in 1993 and 1994. Nine in ten cases involved a single charge.

While men aged 18 and over accounted for 56% of convicted communicating offenders, their female counterparts tended to receive tougher sentences. For example, a jail term was the most serious penalty administered to 39% of women convicted in 1993 or 1994, while for 22% it was probation. In contrast, only 3% of men were imprisoned and 13% were put on probation. It is possible that women were more likely

than men to be sent to jail or given probation because of previous convictions or multiple charges.

The most severe penalty for men was usually a fine, which was levied in 56% of cases. In comparison, only 32% of women were fined. The remaining offenders received some other penalty (such as a driver's licence suspension), or were given an absolute or conditional discharge.

When prison sentences were handed out for communicating, the median duration was the same for both men and women (30 days). However, when probation was the most severe penalty imposed, the

median length of time was twice as long for women as for men (one year versus six months). In cases where a fine was administered, the median amount was \$200 for both sexes.

Juristat: Street prostitution in Canada, vol. 17, no. 2 (85-002-XPE, \$10/\$90) is now available. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Information and Client Services (613-951-9023; 1 800 387-2231), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. ■

OTHER RELEASES

Shipments of rolled steel

December 1996

Rolled steel shipments for December totalled 1 027 590 tonnes, down 14.2% from 1 197 092 tonnes in November and up 2.3% from 1 004 957 tonnes in December 1995.

Year-to-date shipments at the end of December 1996 totalled 14 130 314 tonnes, up 6.0% from 13 334 662 tonnes the previous year.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 58 and 122 (series 22-25).

The December 1996 issue of *Primary iron and steel* (41-001-XPB, \$6/\$60) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-9827; Internet: milsomg@statcan.ca), Industry Division. ■

Pulpwood and wood residue statistics

December 1996

Pulpwood receipts in December totalled 3 484 582 cubic metres, up 9.3% from 3 188 423 cubic metres in December 1995. Wood residue receipts totalled 5 073 940 cubic metres, down 0.1% from 5 076 779 cubic metres in December 1995.

Consumption of pulpwood and wood residue totalled 8 485 174 cubic metres, up 4.4% from 8 125 846 cubic metres in December 1995.

The closing inventory of pulpwood and wood residue decreased 7.6% to 14 234 724 cubic metres, down from 15 401 160 cubic metres in December 1995.

Year-to-date consumption of pulpwood and wood residue (106 811 127 cubic metres) increased 0.2% from 106 627 259 cubic metres a year earlier.

Figures for 1995 have been revised.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 54.

The December 1996 issue of *Pulpwood and wood residue statistics* (25-001-XPB, \$7/\$70) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Liisa Pent (613-951-3531; Internet: pentlii@statcan.ca), Industry Division. ■

Steel primary forms

Week ending February 8, 1997 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending February 8 totalled 278 186 tonnes, up 0.7% from the week-earlier 276 355 tonnes and up 16.8% from the year-earlier 238 077 tonnes.

The cumulative total at the end of the week was 1 487 665 tonnes, a 1.4% increase from 1 466 906 tonnes for the same period in 1996.

For further information on this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-9827; Internet: milsomg@statcan.ca), Industry Division. ■

Dairy statistics

October to December 1996 (preliminary)

Monthly dairy statistics are now available for October to December 1996.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3428, 5632-5638, 5650-5661, 5664-5667 and 5673.

These data will be included in the October–December 1996 issue of *The dairy review* (23-001QXPB, \$35/\$115), which will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Debbie Dupuis (1 800 465-1991; fax: 613-951-3868), Agriculture Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Juristat: Street prostitution in Canada, vol. 17, no. 2
Catalogue number 85-002-XPE
 (Canada: \$10/\$90; United States: US\$12/US\$108;
 other countries: US\$14/US\$126).

Quarterly demographic statistics,
 July–September 1996
Catalogue number 91-002-XPB
 (Canada: \$10/\$32; United States: US\$12/US\$39; other
 countries: US\$14/US\$45).

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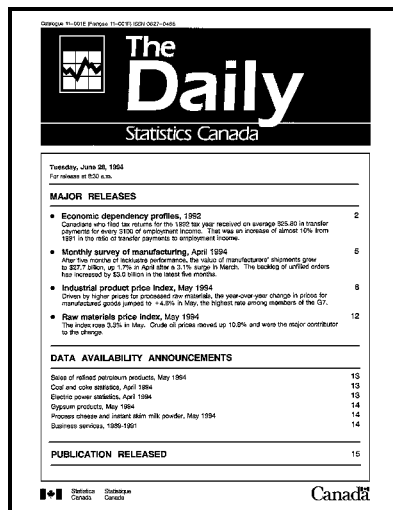
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