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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
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CRIMINAL STATISTICS

for the year ended

SEPTEMBER 30, 1929

Indictable offences by provinces 1927-29  
Indictable offences by classes 1925-29  
Summary conviction by provinces 1927-29  
Summary convictions by offences 1925-29



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OTTAWA

1930



DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
JUDICIAL STATISTICS BRANCH  
OTTAWA.

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Chief, Judicial Statistics Branch: E. E. Watts.

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Criminal Statistics for the year ended  
September 30th., 1929.

The total number of prosecutions for criminal offences (indictable) recorded in Canada for the year ended September 30th, 1929, was 29,572, compared with 26,693 for 1928, being an increase of 2,879 or 10.8 p.c. against an increase of 13.3 p.c. in 1928 over the previous year. The convictions for the two years were 24,097 and 21,720 respectively, the increase being 10.9 p.c. against 15.3 p.c. for 1928 over 1927. This indicates a check in the upward movement of crime in 1929, to the extent of 2.5 p.c. in prosecutions and of 4.4 p.c. in convictions.

By classes, the convictions for indictable offences increased as follows:- Class I, offences against the person, .89 p.c. Class II, offences against property with violence, 17.8 p.c. Class III, offences against property without violence, 10.2 p.c. Class IV, malicious injury to property, 20.9 p.c. Class V, forgery and offences against the Currency, 30.7 p.c. Class VI, other offences, 7.4 p.c.



The convictions for 1927, 1928 and 1929 were as follows:-

Indictable Offences by Provinces

|                                | 1927          | 1928          | 1929          | : Increase or decrease during |                |                |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                |               |               |               | 1927                          | 1928           | 1929           |
|                                | No.           | No.           | No.           | P. C.                         | P. C.          | P. C.          |
| Prince Edward Island .....     | 14            | 43            | 55            | -                             | +207.1         | + 27.9         |
| Nova Scotia .....              | 680           | 891           | 869           | - 9.6                         | + 16.4         | - 2.4          |
| New Brunswick .....            | 287           | 365           | 358           | +29.3                         | + 27.2         | - 1.9          |
| Quebec .....                   | 3,621         | 4,299         | 4,780         | +18.6                         | + 18.7         | + 11.2         |
| Ontario .....                  | 7,962         | 9,052         | 9,489         | + 9.8                         | + 13.7         | + 4.2          |
| Manitoba .....                 | 1,457         | 1,672         | 1,988         | + 5.4                         | + 14.7         | + 18.9         |
| Saskatchewan .....             | 1,492         | 1,761         | 1,918         | -27.2                         | + 18.0         | + 8.3          |
| Alberta .....                  | 1,483         | 1,701         | 2,201         | + 1.4                         | + 14.8         | + 29.4         |
| British Columbia .....         | 1,833         | 1,931         | 2,425         | +46.4                         | + 5.3          | + 25.6         |
| Yukon and N.W. Territories ... | 7             | 5             | 14            | -                             | -              | -              |
| <b>CANADA .....</b>            | <b>18,836</b> | <b>21,720</b> | <b>24,097</b> | <b>+ 7.95</b>                 | <b>+ 15.31</b> | <b>+ 10.94</b> |

The provinces that increased during each of the three years are Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia; the other provinces decreased in one or two years.

Indictable Offences by Classes and Crimes

| O f f e n c e s                                      | N u m b e r   o f   C o n v i c t i o n s |              |              |              |              |
|--|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|  | 1925                                      | 1926         | 1927         | 1928         | 1929         |
| <b>CLASS I.</b>                                      |   |              |              |              |              |
| <u>Offences against the person</u>                   |   |              |              |              |              |
| Murder .....   | 18  | 15           | 10           | 19           | 26           |
| Murder, attempt to commit .....                      | 11  | 7            | 16           | 18           | 12           |
| Manslaughter .....                                   | 37  | 45           | 40           | 35           | 59           |
| Abortion and concealing birth ....                   | 20  | 19           | 21           | 21           | 16           |
| Rape and other offences against<br>decency .....     | 395                                       | 370          | 442          | 439          | 402          |
| Procuration .....                                    | 21  | 20           | 42           | 30           | 34           |
| Bigamy .....   | 34  | 31           | 66           | 52           | 40           |
| Shooting, stabbing and wounding ..                   | 126                                       | 168          | 192          | 159          | 143          |
| Assault of females and wife .....                    | 66  | 111          | 145          | 158          | 182          |
| Assault, aggravated .....                            | 414                                       | 482          | 519          | 640          | 892          |
| Assault, on police .....                             | 439                                       | 475          | 471          | 433          | 557          |
| Assault, on battery .....                            | 996                                       | 1,261        | 951          | 1,283        | 1,310        |
| Non-support of family .....                          | 237                                       | 218          | 170          | 220          | 193          |
| Wife desertion .....                                 | 15  | 23           | 12           | 15           | 19           |
| Causing injury by fast driving ...                   | 4   | 17           | 27           | 52           | 62           |
| Other offences against the person.                   | 73  | 106          | 84           | 74           | 68           |
| <b>TOTALS .....</b>                                  | <b>2,908</b>                              | <b>3,368</b> | <b>3,208</b> | <b>3,678</b> | <b>4,015</b> |
| <b>CLASS II.</b>                                     |   |              |              |              |              |
| <u>Offences against property with<br/>violence.</u>  |   |              |              |              |              |
| Burglary, house, warehouse and<br>shopbreaking ..... | 1,705                                     | 1,417        | 1,731        | 1,948        | 2,298        |
| Robbing and demanding with<br>menaces .....          | 229                                       | 208          | 168          | 219          | 255          |
| <b>TOTALS .....</b>                                  | <b>1,934</b>                              | <b>1,625</b> | <b>1,899</b> | <b>2,167</b> | <b>2,553</b> |



Indictable Offences -(Concluded).

| Offences  | Number of Convictions |               |               |               |               |
|---|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|   | 1925                  | 1926          | 1927          | 1928          | 1929          |
| <b>CLASS III.</b>   |                       |               |               |               |               |
| Offences against property without violence.                 |                       |               |               |               |               |
| Bringing stolen goods into Canada ..                        | 4                     | 2             | -             | 4             | 3             |
| Embezzlement .....  | 8                     | 6             | 34            | 8             | 8             |
| False pretences .....                                       | 805                   | 882           | 1,190         | 1,294         | 1,513         |
| Feloniously receiving stolen goods .                        | 403                   | 400           | 376           | 398           | 383           |
| Fraud and conspiracy to defraud ....                        | 667                   | 593           | 697           | 737           | 592           |
| Horse and cattle stealing .....                             | 44                    | 37            | 26            | 48            | 60            |
| Theft .....   | 6,610                 | 6,651         | 7,108         | 7,870         | 8,777         |
| Theft of mail .....   | 33                    | 21            | 32            | 19            | 28            |
| Theft of automobile .....                                   | 222                   | 366           | 465           | 638           | 774           |
| <b>TOTALS</b> .....   | <b>8,796</b>          | <b>8,958</b>  | <b>9,928</b>  | <b>11,016</b> | <b>12,138</b> |
| <b>CLASS IV.</b>  |                       |               |               |               |               |
| Malicious offences against property.                        |                       |               |               |               |               |
| Arson .....   | 34                    | 38            | 33            | 33            | 34            |
| Malicious injury to horses, cattle and other property ..... | 161                   | 201           | 245           | 282           | 347           |
| <b>TOTALS</b> .....   | <b>195</b>            | <b>239</b>    | <b>278</b>    | <b>315</b>    | <b>381</b>    |
| <b>CLASS V.</b>   |                       |               |               |               |               |
| Forgery and other offences against currency.                |                       |               |               |               |               |
| Offences against currency .....                             | 3                     | 2             | 3             | 5             | 4             |
| Forgery and Uttering forged documents .....                 | 405                   | 383           | 474           | 549           | 720           |
| <b>TOTALS</b> .....   | <b>408</b>            | <b>385</b>    | <b>477</b>    | <b>554</b>    | <b>724</b>    |
| <b>CLASS VI.</b>  |                       |               |               |               |               |
| Various Offences.   |                       |               |               |               |               |
| Breach of Trade-marks Act .....                             | 83                    | 48            | 60            | 26            | 23            |
| Carrying unlawful weapons .....                             | 89                    | 125           | 90            | 112           | 136           |
| Conspiracy .....  | 39                    | 53            | 34            | 49            | 52            |
| Criminal Negligence .....                                   | 44                    | 55            | 40            | 65            | 71            |
| Breach of gambling and lottery Act .                        | 450                   | 550           | 908           | 1,403         | 1,387         |
| Illicit stills .....  | 548                   | 405           | 353           | 291           | 280           |
| Keeping bawdy houses and inmate thereof .....               | 942                   | 739           | 809           | 844           | 1,130         |
| Perjury and subornation of perjury .                        | 60                    | 69            | 70            | 70            | 70            |
| Offences against public morals .....                        | 179                   | 191           | 66            | 69            | 128           |
| Offences against Opium and Narcotic Drug Act .....          | (a)                   | (a)           | (a)           | 302           | 220           |
| Prison breach, and escape from custody .....                | 142                   | 152           | 126           | 155           | 206           |
| Breach of Inland Revenue Laws .....                         | 120                   | 193           | 201           | 240           | 213           |
| Riot and affray .....                                       | 70                    | 113           | 78            | 103           | 136           |
| Attempt to commit suicide .....                             | 61                    | 71            | 78            | 74            | 97            |
| Sodomy .....  | 58                    | 55            | 49            | 69            | 71            |
| Various and miscellaneous .....                             | 93                    | 63            | 84            | 118           | 66            |
| <b>TOTALS</b> .....   | <b>2,978</b>          | <b>2,873</b>  | <b>3,045</b>  | <b>3,990</b>  | <b>4,286</b>  |
| <b>GRAND TOTALS</b> .....                                   | <b>17,219</b>         | <b>17,448</b> | <b>18,835</b> | <b>21,720</b> | <b>24,097</b> |

(a) Included in the summary convictions.





Summary Convictions of Non-indictable Offences  
by Provinces.

|                                | 1927           | 1928           | 1929           | Increase<br>in 1929<br>over 1928 | Percent      |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Prince Edward Island .....     | 392            | 662            | 783            | 121                              | 18.28        |
| Nova Scotia .....              | 4,362          | 4,499          | 6,231          | 1,732                            | 38.50        |
| New Brunswick .....            | 2,565          | 3,031          | 4,032          | 1,001                            | 33.02        |
| Quebec .....                   | 28,732         | 29,302         | 51,099         | 21,797                           | 74.38        |
| Ontario .....                  | 101,345        | 146,586        | 153,385        | 6,799                            | 4.64         |
| Manitoba .....                 | 16,420         | 19,921         | 26,536         | 6,615                            | 33.21        |
| Saskatchewan .....             | 8,243          | 9,108          | 11,413         | 2,305                            | 25.31        |
| Alberta .....                  | 8,801          | 10,927         | 13,939         | 3,012                            | 27.57        |
| British Columbia .....         | 22,292         | 21,598         | 22,499         | 901                              | 41.71        |
| Yukon and N.W. Territories ... | 88             | 51             | 126            | 75                               | 147.06       |
| <b>CANADA .....</b>            | <b>193,240</b> | <b>245,685</b> | <b>290,043</b> | <b>44,358</b>                    | <b>18.05</b> |

The above table shows an increase for the whole of Canada of 18.05 p.c. during 1929; whereas there was an increase of 27.14 p.c. in 1928, over the previous year. Excepting Ontario, all provinces show substantial increases. The reason for the small increase in this province is mainly due to an actual falling off of convictions in Toronto of approximately 3,000 cases. The large increase in the province of Quebec is, in a great measure, due to a more vigorous policy respecting the enforcement of traffic regulations, which increased in the Montreal district alone from 5,000 to over 17,000 during the year.



Summary Convictions by Offences

| O f f e n c e s  | N u m b e r   o f   C o n v i c t i o n s |         |         |         |         |
|--|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|  | 1925                                      | 1926    | 1927    | 1928    | 1929    |
| Assaults .....   | 3,404                                     | 2,967   | 3,436   | 3,499   | 4,146   |
| Disturbing the peace .....   | 163                                       | 155     | 152     | 193     | 159     |
| Carrying firearms and unlawful<br>weapons .....                    | 410                                       | 385     | 386     | 383     | 564     |
| Contempt of court .....  | 21  | 29      | 32      | 28      | 21      |
| Cruelty to animals .....   | 422                                       | 446     | 545     | 474     | 390     |
| Disturbing religious and like .....                                |   |         |         |         |         |
| meetings .....   | 40  | 22      | 25      | 28      | 38      |
| Fishery and Game Acts, offences .....                              |   |         |         |         |         |
| against .....  | 1,369                                     | 1,195   | 1,245   | 1,599   | 1,858   |
| Gambling Acts, offences against.....                               | 5,252                                     | 6,347   | 5,858   | 5,923   | 8,244   |
| Immigration Act, offences against....                              | 57  | 77      | 61      | 40      | 51      |
| Inspection and Sales Acts, offences<br>against .....               | 194                                       | 142     | 227     | 198     | 191     |
| Adulteration of food -<br>(Food and Drug Acts) .....               | 263                                       | 231     | 240     | 221     | 198     |
| Weights and Measures -<br>Acts, offences against .....             | 136                                       | 106     | 82      | 87      | 162     |
| Liquor, Prohibition and Temperance<br>Acts, offences against ..... | 11,636                                    | 13,512  | 12,477  | 15,263  | 19,327  |
| Malicious or wilful damage to property                             | 738                                       | 679     | 807     | 782     | 896     |
| Masters' and Servants' Acts, offences<br>against .....             | 233                                       | 140     | 210     | 244     | 321     |
| Non-payment of wages .....   | 1,103                                     | 1,277   | 1,231   | 882     | 1,484   |
| Breaches of traffic regulations .....                              | 63,778                                    | 78,027  | 96,340  | 141,493 | 166,337 |
| Breaches of other by-laws .....                                    | 11,243                                    | 12,874  | 13,437  | 14,564  | 14,171  |
| TOTALS .....   | 75,621                                    | 90,901  | 109,777 | 156,057 | 180,508 |
| Non-support of family and neglecting<br>children .....             | 1,003                                     | 932     | 1,192   | 1,486   | 1,708   |
| Contributing to delinquency of<br>children .....                   | 836                                       | 709     | 1,002   | 608     | 720     |
| Opium and narcotic Drug Act, various<br>offences against .....     | 823                                       | 743     | 491     | (a) 304 | (a) 396 |
| Profanation of the Lord's Day .....                                | 1,067                                     | 784     | 824     | 1,115   | 635     |
| Railway Acts, various offences against .                           | 615                                       | 730     | 775     | 917     | 1,031   |
| Trespass on railway .....  | 1,070                                     | 731     | 925     | 1,062   | 1,283   |
| Stealing ride on railway ..  | 681                                       | 404     | 929     | 633     | 944     |
| Revenues Laws, offence against .....                               | 502                                       | 422     | 804     | 1,069   | 1,668   |
| Trespass .....   | 645                                       | 829     | 593     | 604     | 858     |
| Vagrancy .....   | 5,665                                     | 6,805   | 7,701   | 8,502   | 11,648  |
| Drunkenness .....  | 26,751                                    | 28,317  | 31,171  | 33,224  | 38,826  |
| Insulting, abusive and profane<br>language .....                   | 611                                       | 576     | 629     | 568     | 320     |
| Frequenting bawdy houses .....                                     | 3,553                                     | 3,267   | 2,397   | 2,162   | 4,220   |
| Loose, idle, disorderly .....                                      | 5,265                                     | 4,281   | 5,292   | 5,297   | 4,538   |
| Various other offences .....                                       | 1,675                                     | 1,772   | 1,724   | 2,311   | 2,690   |
| TOTALS .....   | 151,825                                   | 169,913 | 193,240 | 245,763 | 290,043 |

(a) Not including selling and possessing drugs, which appear in the tables for indictable offences.

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