

CORRECTIONAL SERVICE CANADA

CHANGING LIVES. PROTECTING CANADIANS.

Correctional Performance in the Federal Offender Population

Improved correctional results for federal offenders are the product of effective case management and intervention.

Why we are doing this study

A “performance story” in federal corrections for Indigenous and Non-indigenous offenders can be told through the standardized reporting of selected metrics. Correctional results may not be necessarily limited to but can be reflected by the following: *minimum security designations, educational upgrading, discretionary releases, reaching their sentence completion without readmission and not being re-admitted to federal custody within five years of sentence completion*. It is anticipated that sustained attention on performance results such as these will lead to more targeted interventions, and hopefully contribute to closing observed performance gaps between Indigenous and Non-indigenous offenders to an appreciable degree.

What we did

Correctional outcomes reflected in Correctional Service of Canada’s Offender Management System were extracted from the automated Corporate Reporting System-Modernized (CRS-M) and Performance Direct (PD) system. The CRS-M and PD systems standardize the historical reporting of a wide variety of metrics at the national and regional levels. Comparative data were drawn for two separate fiscal years (2015-16 and 2017-18) for both Indigenous and Non-indigenous offenders.

What we found

As reflected in the correctional results table, a number of reintegration levers are reflective of recent performance success for both Indigenous and Non-indigenous offenders. Most notably, there are observed increases in minimum security designations, educational upgrades and discretionary releases.

While PD results show that, over the past two years, the percentage of Indigenous offenders who successfully reached their sentence expiry date without readmission has increased from 37.4% to 42.4% (or +13.7%), a wide performance gap still separates them from the Non-indigenous (62.1% versus 66.4% in 2017-18). Although this gap has persisted over the years, the performance differentials between Indigenous and Non-indigenous

offenders appear to have ceased to widen between 2015-16 and 2017-18 (24.7% and 24.2%, respectively).¹

Also noteworthy, the percentage of Indigenous and Non-Indigenous offenders not being re-admitted to federal custody within five years of their sentence expiry continues to increase in this recent time period.

Correctional Results: 2015-16 and 2017-18

Measure	Indigenous		Non-indigenous		Overall	
	15-16	17-18	15-16	17-18	15-16	17-18
Minimum Designations	15.1%	18.9%	21.7%	22.9%	20.0%	21.9%
Educational Upgrading	56.4%	60.6%	55.3%	55.1%	56.7%	55.6%
Discretionary Releases	28.6%	40.4%	47.0%	58.1%	42.9%	53.8%
Successful Sentence completion	37.4%	42.4%	62.1%	66.4%	56.6%	61.0%
Not re-admitted within 5 years	76.2%	79.0%	84.4%	87.4%	82.8%	85.7%

What it means

While correctional results are reflective of concerted efforts being made to improve reintegration results for Indigenous and Non-indigenous offenders, more correctional intervention and community development work is needed to effectively moderate federal readmission rates.

¹ Motiuk, L. (2016). *Federal Indigenous and Non-indigenous offenders reaching sentence completion*. Research in Brief 16-08, Correctional Service Canada.

For more information

Please e-mail the [Research Branch](#) or contact us by phone at (613) 995-3975.

You can also visit the [Research Publications](#) section for a full list of reports and one-page summaries.

Prepared by: Larry Motiuk and Bruno Jean

