

## CORRECTIONAL SERVICE CANADA

CHANGING LIVES. PROTECTING CANADIANS.

## Indigenous Federal Admissions and Releases: 2000-01 to 2019-20

*Increasing Indigenous federal custody representation is largely due to proportionally more newly sentenced admissions.*

## Why we are doing this study

Over the past twenty years, there has been a steady increase in the number of Indigenous offenders under federal jurisdiction [from **3,058** at year-end in 2000-01 to **6,027** in 2019-20]. While the representation of Indigenous offenders in federal custody has changed from **17.1%** at year-end 2000-01 to **30.2%** in 2019-20, there has also been steady growth in the conditional release supervision population [from **11.8%** at year-end in 2000-01 to **20.2%** in 2019-20]. A broader understanding of the sources for growth can facilitate the effective allocation of resources.

## Indigenous Offender Population: 2000-01 to 2019-20

Fiscal Year	00-01	04-05	09-10	14-15	19-20
<b>Custody</b>	2,162	2,433	2,916	3,657	4,135
<b>Community</b>	896 <sup>1</sup>	1,016	1,095	1,352	1,892
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,058</b>	<b>3,449</b>	<b>4,011</b>	<b>5,009</b>	<b>6,027</b>

<sup>1</sup> Basic Facts About Federal Corrections, 2001 Edition

## What we did

Historical year-end institutional and community supervision counts and profiles for all federal offenders are recorded as standardized reports in CSC's Corporate Reporting System-Modernized (CRS-M). Similarly, historical counts of federal admissions and releases are recorded in CRS-M. Data was extracted from CRS-M (December 15, 2020) movement module to establish a twenty-year trend (2000-01 to 2019-20) of the flows in and out of federal custody.

## What we found

As reflected in the following table, new admissions to federal custody for Indigenous offenders have risen from **786** in 2000-01 to **1,303** in 2019-20; a substantial difference of **+517** (or +65.8%). Unpacking new federal admissions by administrative region, it is notable that there has been a new admission decline in the Pacific region. However, in all other regions there has been an increase. In 2019-20, the Prairies region accounted for two-thirds of all new Indigenous admissions to federal custody.

Importantly, relative to 2000-01 Indigenous federal re-admissions due to revocation of conditional release appear to have increased as well. However, in recent years this trend has changed direction to fewer revocations<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>2</sup> RIB September 2019, 19-12, Indigenous Federal Admissions and Releases: 2013-14 to 2018-19

## Indigenous Admissions: 2000-01 to 2019-20

	Newly Sentenced		Revocations	
	2000-01	2019-20	2000-01	2019-20
<b>Atlantic</b>	26	68	29	36
<b>Quebec</b>	56	79	50	51
<b>Ontario</b>	105	224	76	103
<b>Prairies</b>	486	823	380	607
<b>Pacific</b>	113	109	82	92
<b>Total</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>1,303</b>	<b>617</b>	<b>889</b>
<b>National</b>	<b>4,153</b> <b>(18.9%)</b>	<b>4,646</b> <b>(28.1%)</b>	<b>2,696</b> <b>(22.9%)</b>	<b>2,297</b> <b>(38.7%)</b>

With respect to Indigenous population flows out of custody, discretionary releases have increased from **395** in 2000-01 to **539** in 2019-20; a difference of **+144** (or +36.5%). Also noteworthy, the Prairie region now accounts for one-half of this type of release for Indigenous offenders.

## Indigenous Releases: 2000-01 to 2019-20

	Discretionary		Non-discretionary	
	2000-01	2019-20	2000-01	2019-20
<b>Atlantic</b>	13	57	43	73
<b>Quebec</b>	18	55	79	147
<b>Ontario</b>	48	64	162	225
<b>Prairies</b>	262	276	643	1,024
<b>Pacific</b>	54	87	109	214
<b>Total</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>1,036</b>	<b>1,682</b>
<b>National</b>	<b>2,650</b> <b>(14.9%)</b>	<b>2,706</b> <b>(19.9%)</b>	<b>4,498</b> <b>(23.0%)</b>	<b>4,545</b> <b>(37.0%)</b>

## What it means

The result that newly sentenced admissions of Indigenous offenders to federal custody continue to exceed the rate of discretionary releases points to the intersection between Canadian society, criminal justice policy and corrections.

## For more information

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

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**Prepared by:** Larry Motiuk and Andre Arnet-Zargarian