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Prison population and costs

1994/95

More adults than ever were in Canada's jails in fiscal year 1994/95, and many were serving longer sentences. However, the cost of keeping them behind bars fell marginally.

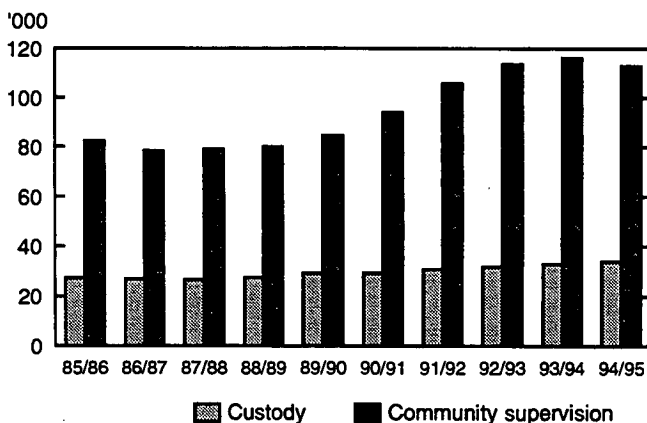
On any given day, about 33,800 adults were behind bars in Canada, the highest number ever and an increase of 3.3% from the year before. In 1994/95, each inmate cost taxpayers an average \$41,289 to keep in jail for a year, down about 1% from 1993/94.

As with many other sectors, shrinking budgets have required correctional administrators to cut costs, even though the number of inmates is rising.

On an average day in 1994/95, 146,890 individuals were incarcerated or under community supervision—mostly on probation or parole—in the corrections system (provincial and federal), down 1.4% from the year before. This drop was the first in several years.

Despite the 1.4% drop, the average daily caseload was still almost 20% higher than in 1990/91.

Average number of adults in custody and under community supervision



Most served their time on probation or parole

Over the past four years, about three out of four offenders in both the provincial and federal systems were serving sentences on some type of community supervision program, mostly probation or parole.

In 1994/95, a monthly average of 113,008 men and women—77% of all offenders—were on probation or

parole. This total represented a 2.8% drop—the first ever—from the record 116,229 in 1993/94. Before then, levels had been steadily increasing each year.

Far more offenders were on community supervision than behind bars in provincial correctional systems. It was the opposite in the federal system.

Since 1990/91, the number of offenders on probation or parole has increased much faster than the jail population. The number on community supervision has gone up 20%, compared with only a 16% rise in the number behind bars.

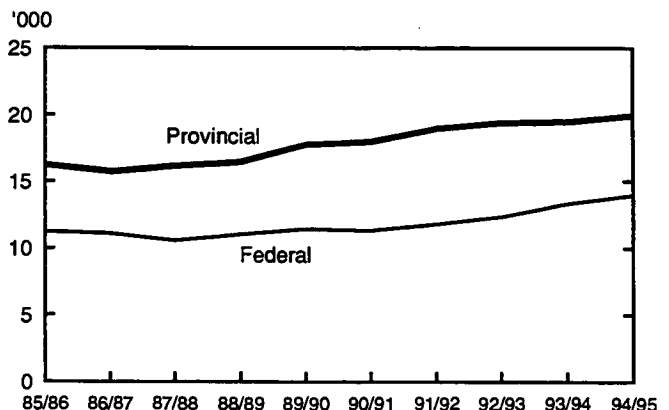
While three-quarters of all offenders were under some form of community supervision, the cost of this service amounted to only 12% of Canada's total correctional budget in 1994/95.

Number of offenders in provincial facilities increasing steadily

An average of 19,934 men and women were in provincial jails at any one time during 1994/95, up 11% since 1990/91. About 72% of these inmates were serving sentences, and the other 28% were being detained in custody while awaiting court disposition or were on temporary detention. The number of offenders in federal prisons rose at twice the rate of those in provincial jails, increasing 24% over the same period to 13,948.

However, the long-term trend shows that over the last 10 years, the numbers of provincial and federal offenders increased at almost the same rate (provincial +23% and federal +24%).

Average number of offenders in provincial and federal facilities



The number of individuals behind bars in Canada represented only a quarter of the total correctional caseload in 1994/95. Yet they accounted for almost 80% of total expenditures.

Inmates were serving slightly longer sentences in both the federal and provincial correctional systems during 1994/95.

In provincial jails, the median sentence was 33 days, compared with 31 the year before. In other words, half the inmates were serving more than 33 days and half were serving less.

The inmates in federal prisons were serving an average sentence of 44.0 months in 1994/95, up slightly from 43.9 the year before. The longer federal term reflects more serious offences punishable by longer sentences.

Slight rise in cost of jailing offenders in federal institutions

A slight increase in the average cost of keeping a federal offender in prison was offset by a decrease in the average cost of keeping a provincial offender.

Provincial governments spent an average \$39,150 a year on each inmate in 1994/95, down 3.6% from the previous year. The average cost per inmate in federal penitentiaries rose a marginal 1.0% to \$44,344.

Even so, when adjusted for inflation, average federal costs have dropped 18.3% over the past four years, while average provincial costs have fallen 10.6%.

In 1994/95, the combined expenditures on federal and provincial corrections reached \$1.89 billion, compared with \$1.77 billion four years earlier.

Taking inflation into account, total operating expenses decreased 1.0% in 1994/95 from the previous year.

Federal expenditures in 1994/95 amounted to \$913 million, a 5.9% increase over four years, but a 2.0% drop after adjusting for inflation. Provincial expenditures climbed 7.9% to \$980 million over the same four years, which was a marginal 0.1% decline when adjusted for inflation.

Comparisons of federal and provincial corrections systems 1994/95

	Federal	Provincial	Combined
Caseload	23,370	123,520	146,890
Inmates in correctional facilities	13,948	19,934	33,882
Offenders on community supervision	9,422	103,586	113,008
Average cost per year (\$)	44,344	39,150	41,289
Budget (\$ million)	913	980	1,893

Available on CANSIM: tables 00180701 and 00180703-00780706.

Adult correctional services in Canada, 1994/95 (85-211, \$32) is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Information and Client Services (1-800-387-2231, 613-951-9023, fax: 613-951-6615), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. ■

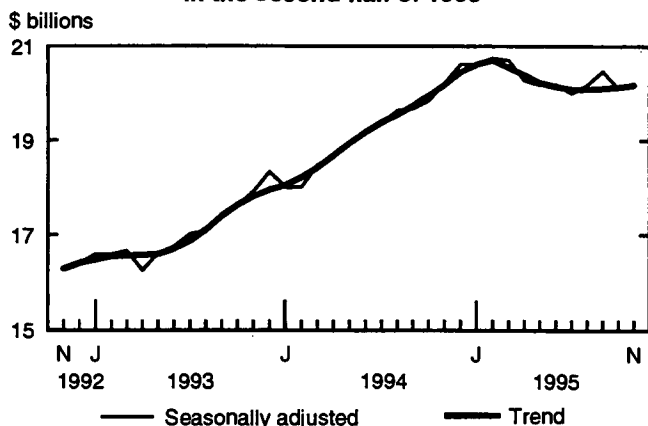
Wholesale trade

November 1995 (preliminary)

Wholesale merchants' sales grew 0.6% to \$20.2 billion in November, after falling 1.8% in October. Although sales have fluctuated in recent months, demand has increased overall. November sales were 1.1% or \$221 million higher than in July, the lowest point in 1995. This contrasted with the weak economy-wide demand during the first half of 1995, when wholesalers saw monthly sales fall 3.7% or \$765 million in July from the peak in February.

Even though the economy slowed down during 1995, wholesalers' cumulative sales since the beginning of 1995 were 6.5% higher than in the same period of 1994. This was partly attributable to price increases and the performance by wholesalers of export-oriented goods.

Wholesale sales rose slightly
in the second half of 1995



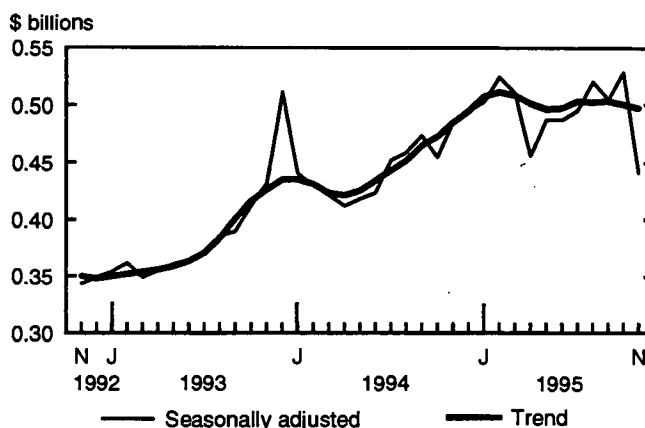
Sales of computers led the monthly advance

Of the 11 trade groups, wholesalers in 7 recorded higher sales (accounting for about 70% of total sales in November). Wholesalers of computers and packaged software (including other electronic machinery, equipment and supplies) contributed the most in current dollars to November's increase, advancing 4.5% or \$81 million from October. Second were motor vehicles, parts and accessories (+3.0% or +\$61 million), followed by food products (+1.5% or +\$52 million).

Partly offsetting the increase were sales by wholesalers of farm machinery, equipment and supplies (-16.4% or -\$86 million). Monthly sales in this trade group have fluctuated considerably since the beginning of 1995, though overall growth in sales has

been relatively flat compared with the sustained growth in 1994. Nevertheless, cumulative sales from January to November 1995 for this group jumped 12.0% or \$585 million compared with the same period in 1994.

Sales growth rate for farm machinery wholesalers
was relatively flat in 1995 compared with 1994



Prairie provinces posted lower sales

Despite the increase recorded nationally in November, wholesalers in six provinces and territories registered lower sales. Wholesalers in all the Prairie provinces posted declines, for a combined drop of \$109 million from October. The decrease recorded by wholesalers of farm machinery, equipment and supplies largely contributed to the lower sales in the three Prairie provinces.

Inventories continued to accumulate

Wholesalers' inventories increased for a 21st consecutive month in November, climbing 0.9% to \$32.0 billion. Although the increase in inventories has been widespread, it has recently been more pronounced for certain trade groups, notably motor vehicles and other products. As their sales declined throughout 1995, wholesalers of motor vehicles, parts and accessories saw their inventories grow by 10.2% since January 1995. The inventories of wholesalers of other products (which notably includes distributors of pulp and paper products) rose 6.1% in the last five months alone, while worldwide sales of paper slowed.

The inventories-to-sales ratio stood at 1.58 in November, unchanged from October, as the rate of growth for both inventories and sales was about equal. The ratio thus remained at one of its highest levels in over two years (it was 1.60 in April 1993).

Available on CANSIM: matrices 59, 61, 648 and 649.

For further information on this release, contact Gilles Berniquez (613-951-3540) or Catherine Mamay (613-951-9683), Industry Division.

The November 1995 issue of *Wholesale trade* (63-008, \$18/\$180) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

Wholesale merchants' sales and inventories

	Nov. 1994	Aug. 1995 ^r	Sept. 1995 ^r	Oct. 1995 ^r	Nov. 1995 ^p	Oct. 1995 to Nov. 1995	Nov. 1994 to Nov. 1995
seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions					% change	
Sales, all trade groups	20,206	20,166	20,471	20,093	20,207	0.6	0.0
Food products	3,478	3,425	3,527	3,462	3,514	1.5	1.0
Beverage, drug and tobacco products	1,167	1,183	1,185	1,206	1,205	-0.1	3.3
Apparel and dry goods	471	458	451	427	438	2.6	-7.0
Household goods	688	666	662	612	615	0.4	-10.6
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	2,402	2,177	2,192	2,066	2,127	3.0	-11.4
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	1,630	1,589	1,614	1,597	1,589	-0.5	-2.5
Lumber and building materials	1,818	1,644	1,715	1,681	1,694	0.7	-6.8
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	486	520	504	528	441	-16.4	-9.2
Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,068	3,133	3,070	3,077	3,043	-1.1	-0.8
Computers and packaged software	1,626	1,728	1,829	1,782	1,863	4.5	14.6
Other products	3,373	3,642	3,722	3,655	3,677	0.6	9.0
Newfoundland	180	192	189	187	185	-1.3	2.7
Prince Edward Island	46	41	45	46	49	6.3	5.1
Nova Scotia	427	447	446	452	461	1.9	8.1
New Brunswick	284	289	284	289	287	-0.4	1.2
Quebec	4,500	4,446	4,479	4,375	4,430	1.2	-1.6
Ontario	8,709	8,788	9,077	8,820	8,906	1.0	2.3
Manitoba	671	687	668	696	689	-1.0	2.7
Saskatchewan	641	667	645	675	654	-3.1	2.0
Alberta	1,960	1,914	1,940	2,003	1,923	-4.0	-1.9
British Columbia	2,765	2,668	2,672	2,526	2,599	2.9	-6.0
Yukon	9	13	11	11	10	-9.7	5.1
Northwest Territories	12	15	15	13	15	15.1	18.0
Inventories, all trade groups	29,120	31,235	31,460	31,710	31,983	0.9	9.8
Food products	2,256	2,252	2,277	2,302	2,353	2.2	4.3
Beverage, drug and tobacco products	1,455	1,408	1,424	1,438	1,466	1.9	0.8
Apparel and dry goods	1,034	1,028	1,028	1,076	1,062	-1.3	2.6
Household goods	1,424	1,514	1,551	1,551	1,545	-0.3	8.5
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	3,793	4,210	4,164	4,197	4,275	1.9	12.7
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	2,601	2,882	2,914	2,901	2,886	-0.5	11.0
Lumber and building materials	2,979	3,203	3,202	3,238	3,222	-0.5	8.2
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	1,659	1,509	1,526	1,552	1,609	3.6	-3.1
Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies	6,186	6,863	6,853	6,906	6,977	1.0	12.8
Computers and packaged software	1,738	1,748	1,852	1,840	1,869	1.5	7.5
Other products	3,994	4,618	4,670	4,711	4,719	0.2	18.1

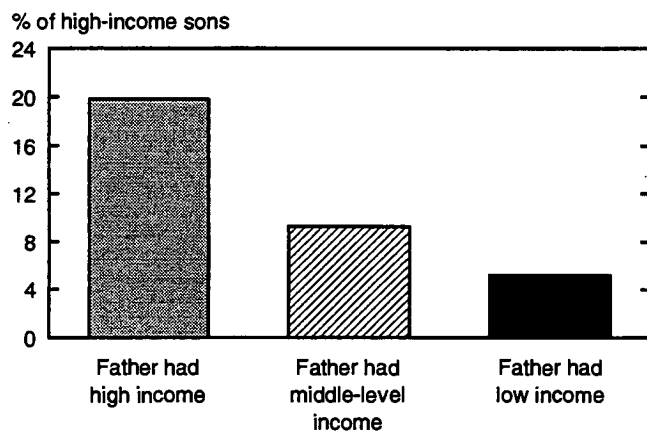
^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

Income through the generations

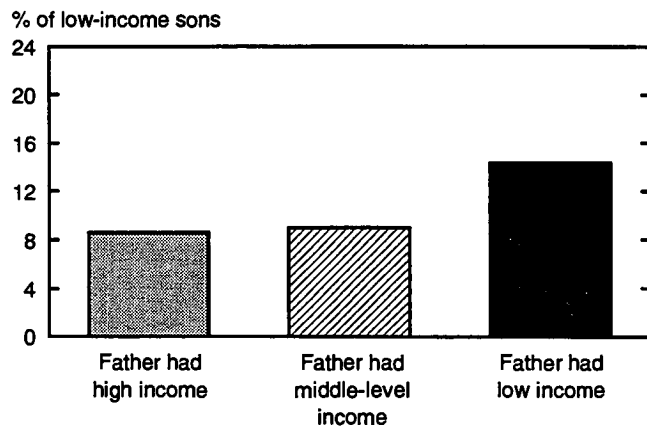
Low income may beget low income. A child's income as an adult is strongly associated with household income during childhood. High-income fathers are likely to have high-income sons, and low-income dads are likely to have low-income sons.

High-income fathers are more likely to have high-income sons



Note: High income refers to the top 10% of the income distribution.
Middle-level income refers to the median of the income distribution.
Low income refers to the bottom 10% of the income distribution.

Low-income fathers are more likely to have low-income sons



Note: High income refers to the top 10% of the income distribution.
Middle-level income refers to the median of the income distribution.
Low income refers to the bottom 10% of the income distribution.

Note to readers

This release is based on a study titled Research paper series no. 89: The intergenerational income mobility of Canadian men. That study uses income tax data to estimate the extent to which being raised in a low-income household predisposes a child to a low income during adulthood.

Income refers to before-tax income from all sources as reported by the individual. Government transfer payments form part of this income. Social assistance payments are not accounted for at all.

The study is based on a group of over 400,000 men aged 16 to 19 in 1982 who filed a tax return at some point between 1982 and 1986, still lived at home, and had a father present then.

The study compared their income in 1993, at the time they were 27- to 30-years-old, with the average annual income earned by their fathers between 1978 and 1982. Income is measured in constant 1986 dollars, and adjusted for the fact that individuals are not at the same point in their life-cycles.

The source for this information is the longitudinal administrative data developed by the Small Area and Administrative Data Division at Statistics Canada.

This analysis raises a host of questions about related issues that will be studied in the future. The most obvious question is why relative income levels often remain unchanged from one generation to the next.

However, this is only a partial analysis of the impact of family circumstances on adult incomes. The analysis in this release is based on the income of the father alone, not on family income. In addition, it does not incorporate women or households headed by single women, groups that have been the focus of considerable attention in discussions of child poverty.

Almost one in five sons raised by fathers with income in the top 10% of all fathers went on to earn an annual income that also placed them in the top 10% of their counterparts. A further 14% ranked in the top 20%. Only about 15% of these children fell to the bottom 20% of income earners, with about 9% in the bottom 10%.

In contrast, sons raised by fathers with income in the bottom 10% of the population were much more likely to be ranked at the bottom as young adults. A full 14% of these male children wound up in the bottom 10% of their age cohort.

A significant proportion of these male children achieved better income levels. But only about 1 in 10 made it to the top 20% of the income distribution, and only 1 in 20 climbed to the top 10%.

These patterns show a significant income advantage to being raised by a high-income father. A young adult who was raised by a father in the top 10% of the income distribution earned on average 40% more than one raised in the bottom 10%.

**Little income association between middle-income
dads and their sons**

There was little association between the earnings of middle-income fathers and the incomes that their sons eventually earned as young adults. These fathers were as likely to produce high-ranking sons as they were to have low-ranking sons. About 10% of the sons rose to the top of their income distribution, and about 10% dropped to the bottom.

To obtain a copy of the study, *Research paper series no. 89: The intergenerational income mobility of Canadian men*, contact Hélène Lemadeleine (613-951-5231, the Internet: www.statcan.ca).

For further information on this release, contact Miles Corak (613-951-9047, the Internet: coramil@statcan.ca), Business and Labour Market Analysis Division. ■



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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

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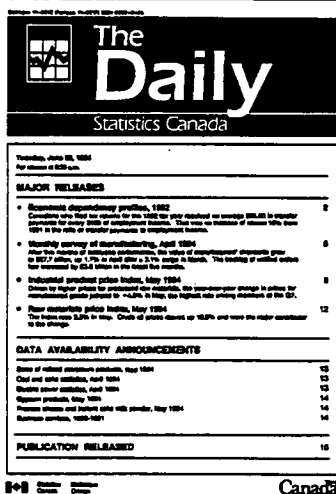
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