

CORRECTIONAL SERVICE CANADA

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Pandemic Era Impacts on Provisional Federal Community Status Forecasts

Pandemic era impacts in 10-year population forecasts were evidenced across day and full parole as well as statutory release.

Why we are doing this study

Over the course of two recent fiscal years (2020-21 and 2021-22), marked by the COVID-19 pandemic era, the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) experienced an unprecedented decline in the federal community supervision (-903 or 9.6%) population¹. Consequently, a pause occurred in the annual forecasting exercise. Then, in 2022 new 10-year community supervision population projections were estimated to fiscal year-end 2031-32.²

What we did

Weekly snapshots of community supervision counts from 1990-91 to year-end 2021-22 was derived from CSC's Offender Management System. Community status projections for day parole, full parole, and statutory release were estimated to 2031-32 for men and women combined. SAS / ETS software was used for analyzing univariate time series data and to select the best-fitting model.

What we found

As tabled below, on 29 March 2022, the actual count on day parole was **1,396** a decline of -167 or 10.7% over the pandemic period from **1,563**. For 2031-32, the 10-year forecast for day parole is estimated to be **1,352**, a decrease by 2031-32 of 44 or 3.2%. With the exception of the Atlantic region, all others are projected to decline and the total on day parole is estimated to be 211 or 13.5% below the pre-pandemic population.

In relation to full parole, at fiscal year-end 2021-22 the actual count was **4,130**, a decline of -442 or 9.7% over the pandemic period from **4,572**. By year-end 2031-32, the full parole is estimated to be **3,735**, a slight decrease of 395 or 9.6%. All regions are projected to decrease by 2031-32 and the total on full parole is estimated to be 837 or 18.3% below the pre-pandemic population.

With respect to statutory release, at fiscal year-end 2021-22 the actual count was **2,475**, a decline of -258 or 9.4% over the pandemic period from **2,733**. By year-end 2031-32, the statutory release population is estimated to be **2,499**, a relatively small increase of 24 or 1.0%. With the exception of the Atlantic and Prairies regions, all others by 2031-32 are projected to decrease but the total number on

statutory release is estimated to be 234 or 8.6% below the pre-pandemic population.

Federal Community Status Forecasts to 2031-32

Day Parole	Atl.	Que.	Ont.	Pra.	Pac.	Total
19-20	153	324	390	375	321	1,563
21-22	136	259	423	297	281	1,396
31-32	151	239	413	281	278	1,352
Net ▲	+15	-20	-10	-16	-3	-44
Change	11.0%	7.7%	2.4%	5.4%	1.1%	3.2%

Full Parole	Atl.	Que.	Ont.	Pra.	Pac.	Total
19-20	519	1,175	1,225	1,006	647	4,572
21-22	474	963	1,237	840	616	4,130
31-32	433	816	1,159	755	567	3,735
Net ▲	-41	-147	-78	-85	-49	-395
Change	8.6%	15.3%	6.3%	10.1%	8.0%	9.6%

Statutory Release	Atl.	Que.	Ont.	Pra.	Pac.	Total
19-20	200	595	785	809	344	2,733
21-22	198	468	776	717	316	2,475
31-32	203	499	801	670	319	2,499
Net ▲	-5	+31	+25	-47	+3	+24
Change	2.3%	6.6%	3.2%	6.6%	0.9%	1.0%

¹ RIB-22-05 - Pandemic Era Impacts on the Federal Supervision Populations

² RIB-22-19 - Pandemic Era Impacts on Provisional Federal Population Forecasts

What it means

During the COVID-19 pandemic period there was a significant decline in both the federal institutional and community supervision populations. While the community supervision population is projected to decrease over a 10-year horizon, it appears that by 2031-32 the day and full parole populations will be lower whereas the statutory release population will be roughly the same.

For more information

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

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