

While, officially, juveniles are persons under 16 years of age, public interest in the question of offences committed by 'young persons' has greatly increased in recent years, and, in response to this interest, the following table has been compiled, in which the convictions for indictable offences of persons aged over 16 and under 21 have been added to the figures of juveniles found guilty of major offences. The rates per 100,000 population are the proportion of the offences committed by persons in any one age group, the figures of population being taken from the decennial censuses, except in the case of the two latest years, where the population in each age group is the officially estimated population.

It will be observed that the age group 16 to under 21 years shows a much higher crime rate than the juvenile group (7 to 16 years) or the total young persons group (7 to under 21 years). For 1911, the 16 to under 21 group shows a rate per 100,000 population of the same age which is 127 greater than that shown for juveniles and 83 greater than the general rate for young persons; for 1921, the proportion is 227 per 100,000 greater than the juvenile rate and 155 greater than the young persons rate; by 1931 the rate had increased to 359 greater than the juvenile rate and 236 greater than the young persons rate. In the two latest years the rate of this group continued to rise, reaching 443 convictions per 100,000 over the juvenile rate and 289 over the young persons rate in 1937.

19.—Convictions of Juveniles for Major Offences and of Adults Aged 16-21 for Indictable Offences, by Age Groups and Rates per 100,000 Population of the Same Age, years ended Sept. 30, 1911, 1921, 1931, and 1936-37.

Year.	Con- victions of Persons 7 to Under 16 Years of Age. (Juveniles).	Con- victions of Persons 16 to Under 21 Years of Age.	Total Con- victions of Persons 7 to Under 21 Years of Age.	Proportion of Offenders per 100,000 7 to Under 16 Years.	Proportion of Offenders per 100,000 16 to Under 21 Years.	Proportion of Offenders per 100,000 7 to Under 21 Years.
1911.....	1,439	1,640	3,079	111	238	155
1921.....	3,247	3,288	6,535	192	419	264
1931.....	5,311	6,453	11,764	271	630	394
1936.....	4,970	6,875	11,845	247	664	389
1937.....	5,224	7,508	12,732	265	708	419

20.—Juvenile Delinquents Convicted of Major and Minor Offences, by Provinces and Sex, years ended Sept. 30, 1936 and 1937.

Province.	Major Offences.				Minor Offences.			
	Males.		Females.		Males.		Females.	
	1936.	1937.	1936.	1937.	1936.	1937.	1936.	1937.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Prince Edward Island.....	19	44	1	2	Nil	4	Nil	1
Nova Scotia.....	309	328	12	16	82	148	14	22
New Brunswick.....	194	262	10	14	61	86	1	7
Quebec.....	1,278	1,350	46	42	633	633	224	292
Ontario.....	1,959	1,955	63	61	802	906	102	86
Manitoba.....	243	184	32	12	38	15	11	7
Saskatchewan.....	217	301	11	10	8	19	2	1
Alberta.....	296	332	19	12	95	97	6	7
British Columbia.....	259	287	3	12	138	93	23	18
Canada¹.....	4,774	5,443	196	181	1,857	2,051	383	441

¹ No convictions were reported for the Territories.