

In 1939 there were 484,960 cases of adult offenders handled by the courts, as compared with 465,662 in 1938. Of this total, 56,352 cases were of an indictable nature, while 428,608 were non-indictable. The corresponding figures for 1938 were 50,998 indictable and 414,664 non-indictable cases. In the case of juvenile offenders, 9,497 young persons were brought before the courts, of whom 1,884 were either dismissed or had their cases adjourned *sine die*.

**Convictions for All Offences.**—Total convictions in 1939 increased by 19,030 or 4.1 p.c. as compared with 1938. Of the total, 7,613 were cases in which juveniles were found guilty of major or minor delinquency, an increase of 578 or 8.2 p.c. from 1938. The convictions of adults are treated in detail in Section 2 of this chapter and those of juveniles are shown in Section 3.

In using the statistics in Table 1, it should be remembered that, while the Criminal Code undergoes little change over periods of time, the figures of summary convictions are influenced very much by the changing customs of the people, and show a strong tendency to increase with the increasing urbanization of the population. Summary convictions, as a class, have generally increased in proportion to all offences, but the most significant figures in Table 1 are those of indictable offences per 100,000 population. Attention is drawn to the increase in the proportion to population of both indictable offences and summary offences in recent years.

**1.—Convictions for All Offences (Juveniles Included), Classified by Indictable and Summary (or Non-Indictable) Offences, Years Ended Sept. 30, 1921-39**

NOTE.—Figures for the years 1886 to 1920 will be found at pp. 1050-1051 of the 1939 Year Book.

Year	Indictable Offences							Summary Offences, Total and Ratios			Grand Total Con- victions
	Offences Against—			Other Indict- able Of- fences	Total and Ratios of Indictable Offences						
	the Per- son	Pro- perty with Violence	Pro- perty with- out Violence								
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	P.C. of All Of- fences	Per 100,000 Popu- lation	No.	P.C. of All Of- fences	Per 100,000 Popu- lation	
1921...	3,007	2,611	10,735	3,043	19,396	10.9	221	157,777	89.1	1,795	177,173
1922...	2,976	2,783	10,817	3,209	19,785	12.5	222	138,555	87.5	1,554	158,340
1923...	2,753	2,080	10,782	3,738	19,353	12.1	215	139,899	87.9	1,553	159,252
1924...	3,144	2,536	11,891	3,342	20,913	12.5	229	146,103	87.5	1,598	167,016
1925...	3,111	2,728	12,890	3,570	22,299	12.6	240	154,632	87.4	1,664	176,931
1926...	3,588	2,284	13,250	3,416	22,538	11.5	238	172,654	88.5	1,827	195,192
1927...	3,388	2,682	14,315	3,607	23,992	10.8	249	196,269	89.2	2,037	220,261
1928...	3,862	2,991	15,233	4,697	26,783	9.7	272	248,399	90.3	2,526	275,182
1929...	4,238	3,529	16,305	5,131	29,203	9.1	291	292,763	90.9	2,919	321,966
1930...	4,513	4,647	19,617	5,333	34,110	9.9	334	311,531	90.1	3,052	345,641
1931...	4,739	5,288	20,649	6,177	36,853	10.0	355	330,235	90.0	3,183	367,088
1932...	4,323	5,194	19,902	7,060	36,479	10.9	347	300,176	89.1	2,857	336,655
1933...	4,266	5,319	20,693	7,808	38,086	11.4	357	294,982	88.6	2,762	333,068
1934...	3,815	5,310	20,255	7,657	37,037	10.6	342	331,197	89.4	3,060	368,234
1935...	4,233	5,178	20,774	8,860	39,045	9.7	357	364,807	90.3	3,336	403,852
1936...	4,660	5,860	21,174	9,335	41,029	9.7	372	379,946	90.3	3,445	420,975
1937...	5,010	5,826	22,803	8,733	42,372	9.1	381	422,704	90.9	3,801	465,076
1938...	5,808	6,631	23,941	12,274	48,654	10.5	434	416,644	89.5	3,717	465,298
1939...	5,668	7,354	25,628	14,475	53,125	10.9	469	431,203	89.0	3,811	484,328

In 1939 there were increases in the number of convictions in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and Yukon and N.W.T.