

**Subsection 1.—Convictions of Adults for Indictable Offences**

The progress of a community, from a moral point of view, is often judged by the number of convictions for indictable offences, as these are less affected than non-indictable offences by extraneous circumstances and the varying methods of law enforcement in different areas and in different years. However, in the study of such statistics it is important to have comparable figures over a period of years. Table 5, along with the figures published in earlier editions of the Year Book (see headnote to table), provides the necessary background.

It may be stated that during the 42-year period from 1900 to 1942 crimes increased from 5,768 to 39,309 or 582 p.c. The increase in the population during the same period was 117.1 p.c., revealing that the increase in the crime rate was almost five times that of the population.

*War-Time Trends.*—Convictions for indictable offences, which had increased from 36,059 in 1936 to 48,107 in 1939, or by 33.4 p.c. during the three years preceding the outbreak of war, have decreased steadily during the first three war years. The 1942 total of convictions was 39,309, a decrease of 18.3 p.c. since the War started.

**5.—Convictions of Adults for Indictable Offences, by Provinces, Years Ended Sept. 30, 1931-42**

NOTE.—For figures for 1900-20, see p. 1016 of the 1933 Year Book and for 1921-30, p. 908 of the 1942 Year Book.

Year	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Yukon	N.W.T.	Canada
1931.....	57	1,184	461	5,737	12,000	3,102	2,716	2,887	3,385	8	5	31,542
1932.....	78	1,072	514	7,086	12,428	2,982	1,893	2,241	3,072	6	11	31,383
1933.....	70	1,160	479	7,713	13,152	2,667	2,049	2,544	3,094	7	7	32,942
1934.....	88	992	525	7,687	11,761	2,571	2,396	2,708	2,946	3	7	31,684
1935.....	59	1,002	576	9,354	12,653	2,382	1,976	2,424	3,088	3	14	33,531
1936.....	75	1,147	744	9,497	13,594	2,631	2,194	3,138	3,021	8	10	36,059
1937.....	98	1,081	759	7,781	14,569	2,839	3,083	3,589	3,331	8	10	37,148
1938.....	225	1,269	912	10,277	17,248	3,041	2,555	3,619	4,443	7	3	43,599
1939.....	268	1,635	1,107	10,804	19,804	3,220	3,450	4,087	3,701	7	24	48,107
1940.....	251	1,573	1,131	12,152	17,558	3,353	2,886	4,411	3,392	3	13	46,723
1941.....	207	1,675	1,185	11,514	15,861	2,811	3,106	3,263	2,996	6	22	42,646
1942.....	205	1,646	1,063	10,269	15,070	2,419	2,621	3,193	2,792	5	26	39,309

**Multiple Convictions.**—The total number of convictions for any one year must not be confused with the total number of persons convicted for the same period since an increasing number of persons tried for indictable offences have been convicted for more than one offence at the same trial. The trend of such multiple convictions is of value to students of sociology.

**6.—Persons Convicted of More than One Crime at the Time of Trial Compared with Persons Convicted of One Crime, Years Ended Sept. 30, 1938-42**

Persons Convicted of—	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
2 offences.....	2,546	2,901	2,652	1,850	1,838
3 ".....	624	713	623	554	453
4 ".....	285	340	289	235	222
5 ".....	172	164	181	135	130
6 ".....	107	103	99	96	81
7 ".....	59	87	61	43	55
8 ".....	44	60	37	41	49
9 ".....	23	39	27	31	26
10 ".....	17	32	27	20	22
11 to 20 offences.....	73	68	87	56	74
21 offences or over.....	14	25	19	18	15
Totals, Convicted of more than One Crime.....	3,964	4,532	4,102	3,079	2,965
Totals, Convicted of One Crime.....	31,478	33,700	33,879	32,692	29,340
<b>Grand Totals.....</b>	<b>35,442</b>	<b>38,232</b>	<b>37,981</b>	<b>35,771</b>	<b>32,305</b>