

17.—Convictions for Breaches of Traffic Regulations by Provinces, Years Ended Sept. 30, 1931-43

NOTE.—Figures for 1900-20 are given at p. 1023 of the 1933 Year Book and for 1921-30 at p. 915 of the 1942 edition.

Year	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Yukon	Canada
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1931.....	95	999	1,200	64,611	111,718	16,556	4,259	5,070	7,851	2	212,361
1932.....	174	643	842	70,253	94,188	13,251	2,811	2,755	5,743	Nil	190,660
1933.....	82	628	693	72,464	91,521	11,021	1,859	3,282	5,298	"	186,848
1934.....	57	638	528	64,429	128,604	12,725	1,624	2,819	6,403	"	217,827
1935.....	101	760	609	69,671	153,142	11,664	1,720	2,669	5,787	"	246,123
1936.....	77	1,099	720	46,464	162,951	12,900	1,839	2,817	8,315	1	237,183
1937 ¹	252	1,179	1,011	57,174	186,825	23,711	2,706	3,536	12,294	Nil	288,688
1938 ¹	200	1,572	835	52,395	185,709	26,682	2,939	4,068	11,550	1	285,951
1939 ¹	191	1,725	725	51,858	193,815	24,732	3,055	5,397	11,403	3	292,904
1940 ¹	240	2,388	2,064	47,927	210,834	23,795	3,815	6,709	13,906	Nil	311,678
1941 ¹	530	2,444	2,314	73,367	231,823	26,092	5,625	8,253	18,784	2 ²	369,234
1942 ¹	331	2,594	1,765	110,579	232,646	25,522	4,034	7,779	14,705	2 ²	399,957
1943 ¹	209	2,772	1,722	82,884	152,557	16,074	2,961	4,745	10,628	21	274,573

¹ Since 1937 convictions for driving a car while drunk have been classed as indictable offences. In 1938 and later years dangerous and reckless driving was so classed and since the War the breach of Defence of Canada Regulations and leaving the scene of an accident have also been so classed. ² Includes one in the Northwest Territories. No convictions were reported for the Northwest Territories for other years.

For the year 1943, Ontario, which had 45.7 p.c. of the registrations of motor-vehicles in Canada (see p. 673), had 56 p.c. of the total convictions; Quebec in the same year had 14.7 p.c. of the motor-vehicles and 30.1 p.c. of the convictions, and Manitoba 6.2 p.c. of the motor-vehicles and 6 p.c. of the convictions. In interpreting the figures in this way, however, it should be pointed out that traffic regulations are by no means uniform throughout Canada and no account is taken of the differences in the degrees of urbanization in the provinces. Thus, the above three provinces have large urban centres, while in provinces with lower degrees of urbanization such as the Maritimes, Saskatchewan and Alberta, convictions were low in proportion to the number of motor-vehicles registered.

Convictions of Females.—The number of females convicted of non-indictable offences in 1943 was 23,078 a decrease of 15.5 p.c. as compared with 1942.

Among the more important offences listed, breaches of street and traffic regulations were the most important single offences, accounting for 7,146 convictions as compared with 11,426 in 1942; drunkenness came next with 3,030 compared with 2,845; and 1,202 convictions as compared with 1,427 in 1942 were recorded as infractions of the liquor laws. Vagrancy accounted for 1,697 convictions as compared with 1,560 in 1942.

Among the total of 23,078 convictions in 1943, no less than 3,846 were convictions for the relatively minor offence of operating a radio receiving set without a licence.

As a general rule the proportion of female convictions to total convictions tends to be greater in the western provinces although all provinces except Nova Scotia and Ontario showed higher rates in 1943 than in 1942. The very high rate in 1943 for Prince Edward Island is out of line with the previous record.