

Subsection 1.—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 2, along with the figures published in earlier editions of the Year Book (see headnote to table), provides the necessary background.

In 1935 the total number of convictions for indictable crimes was 33,531; in 1945 they had increased to 41,965 or by 25.2 p.c. The increase in the population during the same period was 11.7 p.c.

2.—Convictions of Adults for Indictable Offences, by Provinces, Years Ended Sept. 30, 1936-45

NOTE.—Figures for 1900-20 are given at p. 1016 of the 1933 Year Book, for 1921-30 at p. 908 of the 1942 edition and for 1931-35 at p. 1108 of the 1946 edition.

Year	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Yukon	N.W.T.	Canada
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
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
1943....	174	1,725	1,211	11,669	16,779	2,060	2,213	2,787	3,092	22	20	41,752
1944....	262	1,782	1,310	10,386	17,613	2,420	2,074	3,164	3,418	71	11	42,511
1945....	231	2,116	1,248	9,592	17,287	2,517	2,204	3,201	3,480	84	5	41,965

3.—Indictable Offences of Adults, by Classes, Years Ended Sept. 30, 1944 and 1945

Class and Offence	1944		1945		Increase or Decrease in Convictions
	Charges	Con- victions	Charges	Con- victions	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	p.c.
Class I.—Offences Against the Person—					
Abduction.....	42	30	17	9	-70.0
Assault, common and aggravated.....	5,276	4,183	5,988	4,814	+15.1
Offences against females ¹	1,097	795	1,151	817	+2.8
Manslaughter and murder.....	140	58	137	59	+1.7
Attempted murder; shooting and wounding.....	119	99	132	91	-8.1
Non-support, desertion.....	410	255	404	290	+13.7
Other offences against the person.....	151	129	145	117	-9.3
Totals, Class I.....	7,235	5,549	7,974	6,197	+11.7

¹ Offences against females include the following crimes: abortion, assault against females, assault against wife, indecent assault, carnal knowledge, incest, procreation, rape, attempted rape, seduction and wife desertion.