

In Table 13 the rates per 100,000 estimated population show the proportions of young offenders in three age groups.

13.—Rates per 100,000 Population of Young Adults Convicted of Indictable Offences, by Age Groups, Years Ended Sept. 30, 1949 and 1950

(Exclusive of Newfoundland)

Age Group	1949			1950		
	Number of Offenders	Per 100,000 Population in Respective Group	Percentage Change from Preceding Year	Number of Offenders	Per 100,000 Population in Respective Group	Percentage Change from Preceding Year
16-17 years.....	2,682	627	..	2,926	684	+9.1
18-19 "	2,932	675	..	3,107	718	+6.0
20-24 "	6,858	617	..	6,716	606	-2.1

The sentences meted out to these young people varied somewhat from those given to offenders of over 24 years of age. A higher proportion of them in 1950 were given suspended sentence, put on probation or sent to reformatories while a lower proportion were fined or given gaol or penitentiary sentences.

14.—Disposition of Sentences for Indictable Offences, Year Ended Sept. 30, 1950

(Exclusive of Newfoundland)

Disposition of Sentences	Males		Females	
	16-24 Years	25 Years or Over	16-24 Years	25 Years or Over
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
Suspended sentence.....	14.5	9.8	23.1	17.2
Probation.....	11.1	3.9	24.1	10.3
Fined.....	22.4	33.8	17.5	34.7
Gaol.....	35.4	40.9	26.4	32.6
Reformatory.....	9.6	4.6	8.0	2.6
Penitentiary.....	6.8	7.0	0.9	2.5
Death.....	0.2	0.1	—	0.1

Through suspending sentence and probation supervision many of these young offenders received another chance to make good, while reformatory training gave others an opportunity to better their employment possibilities. In this connection it is interesting to note that 34.7 p.c. of the males were recorded as labourers, which indicates that they had no particular skill by which to earn a living; the proportion of male offenders of all ages recorded as labourers was 22.9 p.c. About 6 p.c. of the youths were unemployed and 78.8 p.c. lived in urban centres.

Of the young female offenders, 28.8 p.c. were not gainfully employed; domestic or personal service was the occupation of 39.5 p.c. and 85.1 p.c. lived in urban centres.

Since those convicted of non-indictable offences are not reported by age of offender, it is not possible to segregate young people of 16 to 24 years of age who have had summary convictions.