

Section 4.—Penal Institutions and Training Schools

Penal institutions may be classified under three headings: (1) penitentiaries, where prisoners have long sentences and the turnover is slow; (2) reformatories, where the turnover is also rather slow; and (3) common gaols, where the turnover is extremely rapid.

If the average of the figures for inmates at the beginning and at the end of the year be considered the average population for the year, and the number of discharged as the turnover, the turnover in the years 1956 and 1957 was: in penitentiaries, 57 and 56 p.c.; in reformatories, 373 and 362 p.c.; and in gaols, no less than 1,742 and 1,833 p.c. respectively.

In considering these figures it should be borne in mind that the common gaol population changes from day to day and is made up partly of accused persons awaiting trial who may be either liberated or sent to a penitentiary or reformatory.

33.—Movement of Population in Penitentiaries, Reformatories and Gaols, 1953-57

Type of Institution and Item	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Penitentiaries—					
Inmates in custody at beginning of year.....	4,686	4,934	5,120	5,507	5,508
Admitted during the year.....	3,119	3,275	3,096	3,112	2,977
Discharged during the year.....	2,871	3,089	2,709	3,112	3,053
In custody at end of year.....	4,934	5,120	5,507	5,508	5,432
Reformatories for Men—					
Inmates in custody at beginning of year.....	2,828	2,818	2,906	2,990	2,924
Admitted during the year.....	9,331	10,081	10,804	10,964	11,532
Discharged during the year.....	9,341	9,993	10,720	11,030	11,197
In custody at end of year.....	2,818	2,906	2,990	2,924	3,259
Reformatories for Women—					
Inmates in custody at beginning of year.....	178	160	155	165	168
Admitted during the year.....	513	591	622	630	541
Discharged during the year.....	531	603	612	627	564
In custody at end of year.....	160	148	165	168	145
Common Gaols—					
Inmates in custody at beginning of year.....	5,599	5,779	6,279 ^r	6,391	5,901
Admitted during the year.....	93,890	100,519	108,661 ^r	106,563	112,610
Discharged during the year.....	93,710	100,019 ^r	108,549 ^r	107,053	112,171
In custody at end of year.....	5,779	6,279 ^r	6,391 ^r	5,901	6,340
Totals—					
Inmates in custody at beginning of year.....	13,291	13,691	14,460 ^r	15,053	14,501
Admitted during the year.....	106,853	114,466	123,183 ^r	121,269	127,660
Discharged during the year.....	106,453	113,704 ^r	122,590 ^r	121,822	126,985
In custody at end of year.....	13,691	14,453 ^r	15,053 ^r	14,501	15,176

Subsection 1.—Penitentiaries*

The penitentiaries of Canada are administered by the Penitentiaries Branch of the Department of Justice. Eight institutions are included in the system, the two largest being at Kingston, Ont., and St. Vincent de Paul, Que. Others are at Dorchester, N.B., Prince Albert, Sask., Stony Mountain, Man., New Westminster, B.C., Collin's Bay, Ont., and St. John's, Nfld., though the latter is operated under provincial authority. Included also in the system is a Federal Training Centre at St. Vincent de Paul operated for the treatment and training of offenders under 25 years of age and a Penitentiary Staff College

* Prepared under the direction of R. B. Gibson, Commissioner of Penitentiaries, Ottawa.