

Section 3.—Juvenile Delinquents

Juvenile Delinquent, as defined in the Juvenile Delinquents Act, means any child who violates any provision of the Criminal Code or of any federal or provincial statute, or of any by-law or ordinance of any municipality, or who is guilty of sexual immorality or any similar form of vice, or who is liable by reason of any other act to be committed to an industrial school or juvenile reformatory under the provision of any federal or provincial statute. The commission by a child of any of these acts constitutes an offence to be known as a delinquency.

The upper age limit of children brought before the juvenile courts in the provinces varies. The Act defines a child as meaning any boy or girl apparently or actually under the age of 16 years, or such other age as may be directed in any province. In Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta under 16 is the official age; in Newfoundland the official age is under 17; in Quebec, Manitoba and British Columbia the official age is under 18 years. In the interests of uniformity, it has been the practice of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics to publish information about juvenile delinquents 16 years of age or over in the annual report on *Statistics of Criminal and Other Offences* and to publish data relating to those under 16 years of age in a report entitled *Juvenile Delinquents*. In 1960, 2,664 juveniles 16 and 17 years of age were found delinquent in those provinces where the upper age limit is under 17 or under 18 years of age.

Included in the statistics of juvenile delinquents are cases (alleged as well as adjudged) which were brought before the courts and dealt with formally. A case was counted separately each time a child appeared before the court for a new delinquency or delinquencies. In instances where multiple delinquencies were dealt with at one court appearance, only one delinquency—the most serious—was selected for tabulation. Delinquencies reported as informal cases by the courts were not included nor were cases of children presenting conduct problems which were not brought to court or which were dealt with by the police, social agencies, schools, or youth-serving agencies. Thus, community facilities for dealing with children's problems may have an influence on the number of cases referred to court and, therefore, an effect on the statistics of juvenile delinquents.

19.—Juveniles brought before the Courts, by Province, 1956-60

Province or Territory	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	Percentage Change, 1959-60
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	
Newfoundland.....	368	319	354	274	421	+53.6
Prince Edward Island.....	48	36	26	42	35	-16.7
Nova Scotia.....	524	581	780	723	792	+ 9.5
New Brunswick.....	319	341	453	371	481	+29.6
Quebec.....	1,634	2,436	2,434	2,504	2,795	+11.6
Ontario.....	4,462	4,861	5,263	5,355	6,698	+25.1
Manitoba.....	676	792	891	754	1,212	+60.7
Saskatchewan.....	47	29	88	198	275	+38.9
Alberta.....	756	824	985	980	1,189	+21.3
British Columbia.....	1,475	1,705	1,850	2,093	2,111	+ 0.9
Yukon Territory.....	1	—	—	35	—	—
Northwest Territories.....	5	4	10	—	—	—
Canada.....	10,315	11,928	13,134	13,329	16,009	+20.1

20.—Juveniles before the Courts, Dismissed and Delinquent, 1956-60

Item	1956		1957		1958		1959		1960	
	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.	No.	p.c.
Before the Courts.....	10,315	100.0	11,928	100.0	13,134	100.0	13,329	100.0	16,009	100.0
Dismissed.....	221	2.1	331	2.8	416	3.2	370	2.8	517	3.2
Adjourned <i>sine die</i>	1,109	10.8	1,918	16.1	1,327	10.1	1,273	9.5	1,527	9.6
Delinquent.....	8,985	87.1	9,679	81.1	11,391	86.7	11,686	87.7	13,965	87.2