

Subsection 1.—Adults Convicted of Indictable Offences

Statistics of indictable crimes are based on persons, so that it may be possible to evaluate the population engaged in prohibited activities and to help in the treatment of anti-social behaviour in terms of subject-centred action. In the present counting system, while individuals may be charged with more than one offence, only one offence is tabulated for each person. This offence is selected according to the following criteria: (1) if the person were tried on several charges, the offence selected is that for which proceedings were carried to the farthest stage—conviction and sentence; (2) if there were several convictions, the offence selected is that for which the heaviest punishment was awarded; (3) if the final result of proceedings on two or more charges were the same, the offence selected is the more serious one, as measured by the maximum penalty allowed by the law; (4) if a person were prosecuted for one offence and convicted of another—for example, charged with murder and convicted of manslaughter—the offence selected is the one for which the person was convicted.

In 1962 there were 42,935 adults charged with 81,181 indictable offences, of whom 38,663 were found guilty of 71,507 offences. In the previous year there were 43,161 adults charged with 81,867 indictable offences, of whom 38,679 were found guilty of 71,262 offences.

1.—Persons Convicted of Indictable Offences, with Ratio per 100,000 Population 16 Years of Age or Over, by Province, 1961 and 1962

Province or Territory	Persons Convicted		Persons Convicted per 100,000 Population 16 Years of Age or Over	
	1961	1962	1961	1962
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Newfoundland.....	703	905	274	343
Prince Edward Island.....	42	75	65	114
Nova Scotia.....	1,383	1,353	297	287
New Brunswick.....	1,038	1,194	290	327
Quebec.....	8,064	7,698	245	228
Ontario.....	13,985	13,764	339	329
Manitoba.....	2,368	2,191	391	357
Saskatchewan.....	1,743	1,675	293	282
Alberta.....	4,012	4,246	477	493
British Columbia.....	5,092	5,313	465	478
Yukon and Northwest Territories.....	249	249	1,103	1,092
Canada.....	38,679	38,663	330	324

At the time of going to press, the classification of indictable offences by type of offence was not available for 1962. Table 2 gives this classification for 1961 offences, compared with 1960. Class I covers offences against the person and in 1961 there were 5,234 males and 299 females convicted in this category, mostly for assaults of various kinds. Classes II to IV deal with offences against property. Thefts predominate among the offences in these classes, and breaking and entering and robbery, serious crimes which involve acts of violence, are the next most numerous. Class V deals with offences relating to currency and Class VI with miscellaneous offences; among the latter, the most numerous convictions are for offences connected with gaming, betting and lotteries. In 1961 there were 315 men and 171 women convicted under federal statutes of whom 290 men and 170 women were offenders under the Narcotic Control Act.