

murder and convicted of manslaughter, the offence is the one for which the person was convicted.

Table 2.6 classifies indictable offences by type of offence. Class I covers offences against the person. Classes II to IV deal with offences against property. Thefts predominate among the offences in these classes, and breaking and entering, extortion 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.

Two kinds of sentences — probation and commitment to an institution — link the person dealt with by the court and the legal institutions of a community. There are several types of institutions — penitentiaries, reformatories, jails and industrial farms. Theoretically, each has a specific purpose which is supposed to be taken into account when arriving at a legal decision. In practice, however, the availability of an institution in a given community is a factor in determining the court decision.

**Convictions for summary conviction offences.** Offences punishable on summary conviction under the criminal code or under the provincial summary conviction acts can be tried by magistrates and justices of the peace. Data relating to these offences are based on convictions; no information is available on either the number of persons involved in these offences or the number of charges.

## 2.8.2 Juvenile delinquents

Juvenile delinquent, as defined in the Juvenile Delinquents Act, means any child who violates any provision of the criminal code, any federal or provincial statute, any bylaw or ordinance of any municipality, 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 known as a delinquency. The upper age limit of children brought before the juvenile courts in the provinces varies. The Juvenile Delinquents Act defines a child as meaning any boy or girl apparently or actually under 16 or such other age as may be directed in any province. In Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario and Saskatchewan under 16 is the official age; in Alberta under 16 for boys and under 18 for girls; in Newfoundland and British Columbia under 17; and in Quebec and Manitoba under 18 years. Up to 1967, it was the practice of Statistics Canada to publish information about juvenile delinquents 16 and over separate from that of juveniles under 16. From 1968 on, the figures include all those considered as juveniles by the respective provinces, regardless of the differing upper age limits.

Should a juvenile be brought before the courts and charged with committing more than one offence during the year, only one delinquency — the most serious — is selected for tabulation. With the exception of Manitoba, juveniles involved only in informal hearings are not included. Also excluded are 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 influence the number of cases referred to court and, therefore, the statistics.

## 2.9 Correctional institutions

Correctional institutions may be classified under three headings: training schools — operated by the provinces or private organizations under provincial charter for juvenile offenders serving indefinite terms up to the legal age for children in the particular province; provincial adult institutions; and penitentiaries — operated for adult offenders by the federal government in which sentences of over two years are served.

### 2.9.1 Correctional service of Canada

The correctional service operates under the Penitentiary Act and is under the jurisdiction of the solicitor general. It is responsible for all federal penitentiaries and for