

patrol on more than 22 000 km of highways and 993 000km² of rural area, enforces the Liquor Licence Act for Ontario and maintains a criminal investigation branch and other branches to assist other forces to investigate major crimes.

The force has 187 detachments and 16 policing districts, each commanded by a superintendent. Contract policing services are provided to 10 municipalities. To police Indian reserves in Ontario, the force has 120 Indian reserve special constables (1983) employed on 58 Indian reserves.

Quebec Police Force. Under the authority of the attorney general, the Quebec Police Force is responsible for maintaining peace, order and public safety throughout the province, and for prevention and investigation of criminal offences and violations of provincial law. The force is under the command of a director general assisted by five assistant directors general and a director of personnel and communications.

For police purposes, the province is divided into nine districts, each under the command of a chief inspector or an inspector, and named as follows: Bas St-Laurent, Saguenay-Lac St-Jean, Québec, Mauricie, Estrie, Montréal, Outaouais, Nord-Ouest and Côte-Nord. Strength of the force at the end of December 1983 was 4,450 members and 941 civilian employees.

Municipal police forces. Provincial legislation makes it mandatory for cities and towns to furnish adequate municipal policing for the maintenance of law and order in their communities. Also, all villages and townships or parts of townships having a population density and a real property assessment sufficient to warrant maintenance of a police force, and having been so designated by order-in-council, are responsible for policing their municipalities.

Police personnel. After a slight decline in 1978-79, the period from the end of 1979 to the end of 1981 saw a slight overall increase in the number of police personnel in Canada, both in absolute and per capita figures. The national number of police officers at the end of 1983 was 53,413, down from 53,725 in 1982 and the total number of full-time personnel was down to 67,818 from 68,589 in 1982. The decrease in officers was the second observed since 1962; the first was in 1982. The ratio of police officers per 1,000 population also decreased during 1983, from 2.2 to 2.1.

Police personnel in 1983 included, besides police officers, 14,405 other full-time personnel (comprising cadets, bylaw enforcement officers and civilian personnel). Municipal forces accounted for 36,421 personnel, while the RCMP accounted for 19,577. The remaining 11,820 personnel were employed by the OPP, the QPF, the New Brunswick Highway Patrol, the Canadian National and Canadian Pacific Railway Police, and the Ports Canada Police (Table 20.6). The 1983 national ratio of

full-time police officers per 1,000 population was 2.1, while provincial ratios ranged from 1.5 in Prince Edward Island to 5.5 in Yukon.

20.5 Adult criminal court adjudications

Offences may be classified in three groups: indictable offences, summary conviction offences and dual procedure offences which allow the prosecutor to choose whether the prosecution will be by summary conviction or indictment. Indictable offences are grouped in two main categories: offences that violate the criminal code and offences against federal statute. Offences punishable on summary conviction — those not expressly made indictable — include offences against the criminal code, federal statutes, provincial statutes and municipal bylaws. Many summary conviction offences amount to mere disturbances of the peace, minor upsets to public safety, health and comfort such as parking violations, intoxication and practising trades without a licence. Nevertheless, summary conviction offences may include more serious charges such as assault.

There are two important differences between summary conviction and indictable offences. First, indictable offences are tried by a more complex and formal procedure than are summary conviction offences. Second, the maximum penalty which can be imposed in a summary conviction is a \$500 fine or six months imprisonment, or both. The criminal code provides that a magistrate's or provincial court has exclusive jurisdiction over summary conviction offences and certain named indictable offences. Other indictable offences require the accused person to elect whether he wishes to be tried by the magistrate or provincial court judge alone, a higher judge alone or a higher judge sitting with a jury.

More serious offences such as murder, rape or treason are the exclusive jurisdiction of a superior court and must be tried in a superior court usually with a jury.

20.6 Juvenile courts — charges of delinquency

The term juvenile delinquent, as defined in the Juvenile Delinquents Act, was any child who violated any provision of the criminal code or of any federal or provincial statute, or of any bylaw or ordinance of any municipality, or who was guilty of sexual immorality or any similar form of vice, or who was 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 was an offence referred to as a delinquency.

The Juvenile Delinquents Act was never operative in Newfoundland, where a provincial statute, the Welfare of Children Act, provided for the