

as homicide, assault and robbery, a jurisdiction may also compensate for other offences, such as abduction, and impaired or dangerous driving.

Compensation may be in lump-sum awards, periodic awards or a combination of both. There are variations in the maximum amounts payable. As a general rule, no compensation is paid for property damage.

## 20.9 Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics

The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics is the focal point of a federal-provincial initiative dedicated to national statistics and information on the justice system in Canada. Established in Statistics Canada in 1981, the centre is responsible for producing information on the extent and nature of reported crime and the administration of criminal, civil and administrative justice in Canada.

This information is designed to serve governments in the development, operation and evaluation of justice policies and programs, as well as to contribute to public understanding of how the justice system operates and of its cost. The centre also provides assistance to federal and provincial agencies in developing information systems that can serve both local and national needs.

Reflecting these two responsibilities, the centre has two main operational arms, one dedicated to the development and operation of statistical programs, the other designed to provide technical assistance to individual jurisdictions.

The centre operates under the responsibility and authority of Statistics Canada, but its programs and priorities are established in conjunction with federal, provincial and territorial departments and agencies responsible for the administration of justice, represented through a number of formal committees.

### 20.9.1 Statistics and information programs

The centre's statistical programs provide information on the number and nature of cases dealt with by each major sector of the justice system: law enforcement, legal aid, courts and correctional services, as well as on resources, expenditures and personnel in each sector. Descriptive information is available on the structure, legislative authority and programs of each sector.

Ongoing data collection programs provide time series information and in-depth studies to provide information on high priority national justice issues.

**Law enforcement.** This program produces statistics on criminal incidents reported to the police, how they are dealt with, and police administration in Canada. Information is provided by accredited police and other law enforcement agencies. In-depth information on homicide incidents is also produced, covering such areas as the characteristics of offenders and victims, and means of committing the offence.

**Legal aid.** This program produces statistical and descriptive information on such legal aid activities as the provision of legal advice, counsel representation, and other legal services in criminal and civil cases.

**Courts.** A courts program provides information on courts and court services. Data scheduled to be published in late 1989 will include information on court resources, expenditures and personnel. Developmental projects are under way to produce more detailed information on court cases. Descriptive information is compiled on civil and criminal courts and the administrative arrangements related to these courts.

**Correctional services.** A corrections program provides information on basic aspects of federal and provincial correctional services such as prisons, penitentiaries, probation and parole services. Statistics are available on expenditures and personnel of the corrections sector, as well as on the inmate, probation and parole populations.

**Juvenile justice.** This program is designed to produce information on the juvenile justice system in such areas as law enforcement, screening, alternative measures, pre-court, court and post-court processes. It currently produces information on young offenders dealt with by the courts.

### 20.9.2 Technical assistance program

The technical assistance directorate supports the development of statistical programs and the transfer of technology between jurisdictions, helping them to develop operational information systems through technical expertise and resource support. The technical assistance program touches upon the major sectors of the justice system in the provinces, territories and the federal government.

**The federal-provincial partnership.** The centre operates on the principle that national justice information is a shared responsibility. A justice information council consists of all deputy ministers responsible for the administration of justice together with the Chief Statistician of Canada. Its main responsibility is to provide direction to and monitor the federal-provincial initiative, reviewing programs, priorities and progress.