

Birthplaces of Juvenile Delinquents and their Parents.—Canada was the country of birth of 96.2 p.c. of the juvenile delinquents in 1953 (the place of birth was not recorded in 1.1 p.c. of the cases). One hundred and seventy-four (2.7 p.c.) were born in the British Isles, Europe, the United States, China and Latin American countries. Ontario was the province of residence of 62.1 p.c. of those born outside Canada.

Both parents of 72.4 p.c. of the delinquent children in 1953 were born in Canada and another 13.4 p.c. had one parent born in this country. To evaluate these figures comparison should be made of population ratio of children from 7-15 years of age whose parents were Canadian-born with those whose parents were born elsewhere.

Home Circumstances.—The type of home in which he lives and the amount and quality of supervision he receives are important factors in a child's behaviour. The statistics of the marital status of the parents and the place and type of residence of the child reflect home conditions and are worth recording as possible reasons for social or emotional maladjustment. The parents of 74.2 p.c. of the delinquent children were reported to be living together in 1953 but homes broken by separated parents, divorce or death was the background of 20.8 p.c. of the delinquent boys and girls. The mothers of 10.1 p.c. of the juvenile delinquents were employed other than in the home and the mothers of another 3.4 p.c. were dead. The fathers of 7.4 p.c. of the cases were deceased. For every four juveniles who appeared in court, three resided in an urban centre and one in a rural district. Of these boys and girls, 87.9 p.c. were living in their own homes at the time they got into difficulties; 5.3 p.c. of them were in foster homes, either with a relative or some other person, and institutions were the homes of 1.4 p.c. of them.

Sources of Complaint.—The police were the complainants in the majority of juvenile cases, 80.2 p.c. of the boys having been charged by them. Probation officers and parents were responsible for 2.6 p.c. and 2.5 p.c. respectively, of those charged. School authorities referred 2.1 p.c. of the boys to the courts and social agencies another 0.7 p.c.

The proportion (51.8 p.c.) of girls charged by the police was considerably less than the proportion of boys. Parents made more use of the courts for girls than for boys (17.6 p.c.). School authorities laid complaints in 6.3 p.c., probation officers in 6.8 p.c. and social agencies in 6.3 p.c. of the girls' cases.

Repeaters.—In 1953 approximately one in every five children brought before the courts failed to heed the first warning and made at least a second appearance. In that year 81.1 p.c. of the delinquent children appeared before the courts for the first time, 11.8 p.c. were second offenders, 3.6 p.c. third, and 3.5 p.c. were dealt with by the courts four or more times.

29.—First Offenders and Repeaters of Major Offences 1944-53

Norw.—See headnote to Table 22, p. 331.

Year	Total Delinquents	First Offenders	Repeaters					Total	Percentage of Total Delinquents
			Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth or More			
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.		
1944	6,529	4,665	943	429	221	271	1,864	28.6	
1945	5,758	4,231	812	337	137	241	1,527	26.5	
1946	4,949	3,430	799	344	155	221	1,519	30.7	
1947	4,683	3,376	673	329	138	167	1,307	27.9	
1948	4,591	3,340	674	266	147	164	1,251	27.3	
1949 ¹	6,198	5,195	603	208	109	83	1,003	16.2	
1950 ¹	6,418	5,039	892	314	140	33	1,379	21.5	
1951 ¹	6,644	5,141	909	324	132	38	1,503	22.6	
1952 ¹	6,068	4,412	963	367	155	171	1,656	27.3	
1953 ¹	6,377	5,170	752	230	124	101	1,207	18.9	

¹ Includes minor offences.