

Chapter 11

British Columbia

11.1 Introduction

The One-Day Snapshot survey of British Columbia's inmate population included components from eight of the 11 modules covered in the standard Survey Instrument (see Appendix A for the survey instrument). British Columbia conducted an electronic compilation of all relevant information for the survey. Included in the data captured for the survey were: a profile of facility characteristics; demographic and background information on inmates; and, legal status, offence, sentence length data on each inmate.

The survey data are presented in seven sections. Section 11.1 provides an introduction to the One-Day Snapshot conducted in British Columbia, including a description of the methodology used (for a more in-depth description of the methodology used for this project, see Appendix B). Section 11.2 describes the adult correctional facilities in British Columbia, including the number, size and types of facilities utilized. Section 11.3 examines the number of inmates in adult correctional facilities in British Columbia, including rates of incarceration, and on-register versus actual-in capacity levels. Section 11.4 discusses current offence records for the inmate population, focusing on the types of crimes committed. Section 11.5 describes aggregate sentence lengths that inmates received. Section 11.6 provides a profile of the inmate population in British Columbia, in terms of demographic and socio-economic characteristics such as age, gender, Aboriginal status, employment status, etc. Finally, this section describes some management issues associated with inmate characteristics. Section 11.7 includes all the tables for this chapter.

Most analyses in this chapter are based on the "on-register" inmate population (i.e., inmates who have been placed in a correctional facility to serve their sentence, including those who may not physically be located at the facility on Snapshot day), in order to provide a picture of all inmates. This population may differ in some respects from the inmates who were actually-in the facilities on Snapshot day. When examining over-capacity, both "on-register" and "actual-in" (i.e., inmates who were physically located at the facility on Snapshot day) are examined. The actual-in population provides a more realistic indication of over-capacity situations.

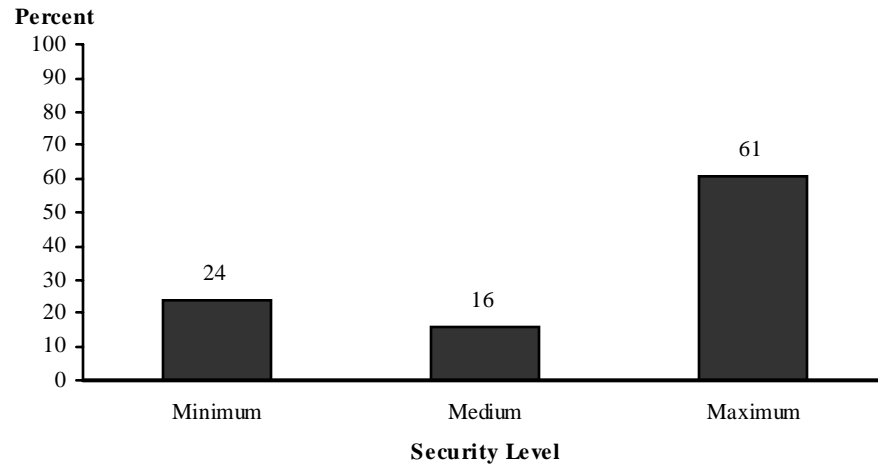
Although the focus of the chapter is British Columbia's provincial adult inmate population, in order to provide a useful frame of reference, some relevant comparisons are made with other jurisdictions. When reference is made to the "inmate population", this represents the "on-register" inmate population. Reference to this population or to the "total inmate population" in British Columbia includes only correctional facilities under provincial jurisdiction. It should also be noted that data in this report are based on one day. As such, generalizations should be made with caution.

11.2 Adult Correctional Facilities

On October 5th, 1996, there were 19 adult correctional facilities in operation in British Columbia. Together with Quebec, British Columbia ranked second to Ontario for number of facilities in operation (see Table 1-1 in national chapter). The total "operational capacity" (i.e., the total number of permanent beds in each facility) for the 19 facilities was 2,259. On average, this amounts to an operational capacity of 119 inmates per facility, a considerably smaller average than found in Quebec (183) and Ontario (168). This average capacity was also smaller than the average for all provinces/territories combined (132), and about one-half the size of the average operational capacity of federal facilities in Canada (269).

Table 11-1 shows the total operational capacity for each adult correctional facility in British Columbia. The operational capacity ranged from 28 beds at the Burnaby Correctional Centre for Women (a minimum-security facility) to 280 beds at the Fraser Regional Correctional Centre (a maximum-security facility).

Figure 11-A
Distribution of Beds by Security Level of Facilities: British Columbia



Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.

As can be seen in the table, the majority of British Columbia's facilities were minimum security. Ten of the 19 facilities were classified as minimum security, two as medium security, and seven as maximum-security facilities. There were no designated multi-level security facilities in British Columbia. Figure 11-A shows the number of beds in the facilities by security level¹. Almost two-thirds of the beds in British Columbia's facilities (61%) were classified as maximum security, 24% as minimum security, and the remainder (16%) as medium security. Unlike British Columbia, many other jurisdictions make extensive use of multi-level security facilities. In fact, in Quebec and Prince Edward Island, all facilities were designated as multi-level. Only Ontario, British Columbia and the Northwest Territories had a large proportion of beds in maximum security facilities. A large proportion of beds in Alberta and federal Correctional Service Canada facilities were classified as medium security.

Like other jurisdictions (except Ontario and New Brunswick, which classified the largest proportion of their facilities as jail/detention centres), the largest proportion of British Columbia's facilities (nine of 19) were classified as correctional centres (Table 11-1). In addition, British Columbia was operating six camps, two community residential centres and two remand centres. Saskatchewan and New Brunswick were the only other jurisdictions operating community residential centres. British Columbia had the largest number of camps in Canada.

Only two facilities housed female inmates: the Burnaby Correctional Centre for Women - Open (a minimum-security correctional centre), and the Burnaby Correctional Centre for Women – Secure (a maximum-security correctional centre). One facility (Prince George Regional Correctional Centre) housed both males and females. British Columbia had one facility that housed both adults and young offenders.

Regarding special features, eight of British Columbia's 19 facilities (all maximum security facilities and one medium security facility) had punitive or administrative segregation units. In addition, the seven maximum security facilities had special handling units and were equipped with units for the purpose of housing inmates who needed protective custody. One medium security facility also had a special handling unit for inmates requiring protective custody. Within British Columbia, none of these features were reported in minimum-security facilities.

There were seven institutions with psychiatric units in British Columbia. This number of psychiatric units in the province, similar only in Ontario, represented one-third (33%) of all such units in provincial/territorial jurisdictions across Canada. As well, four facilities in British Columbia reported dormitories used to accommodate inmates with intermittent sentences, while eight institutions used dormitory facilities for housing inmates with full-time sentences.

¹ In this report, the security level of beds are the same as the security level of the facility. However, this does not mean that the inmate who occupies the bed is rated at that security level.

11.3 Number of Inmates in Adult Correctional Facilities

11.3.1 Inmates On-Register

On Snapshot day, a total of 2,603 inmates were on-register in adult correctional facilities in British Columbia². Figure 1-B (in national chapter) shows British Columbia's on-register count, compared with other jurisdictions across Canada. British Columbia ranked fourth largest and accounted for 11% of all inmates on-register in provincial/territorial correctional facilities in Canada on Snapshot day. Alberta was the next largest jurisdiction to British Columbia with approximately 250 more inmates (2,889). The next smallest jurisdiction was Saskatchewan with less than one-half the number of inmates on-register (1,153) than in British Columbia.

Rates of incarceration provide a different perspective on the relative size of adult correctional populations. Based on the "on-register" inmate population, 8.8 persons per 10,000 of British Columbia's adult population were incarcerated on Snapshot day (Figure 1-C – national chapter). The incarceration rate in British Columbia was fifth lowest of all provinces/territories. Only the Atlantic provinces had lower rates of incarceration. Other jurisdictions ranged from 9.8 per 10,000 population in Ontario to 74.8 in the Northwest Territories. The rate of incarceration for federal inmates was 6.1 persons per 10,000 population.

11.3.2 Inmates' Legal Status

Provincial/territorial corrections in Canada are responsible for offenders who receive custodial sentences of less than two years and federal inmates on Exchange of Service Agreements. In addition, they are responsible for housing persons charged with offences who have been "remanded" to custody while awaiting trial. Remand refers to persons who have been charged with an offence and ordered by the court to custody while awaiting a further court appearance. They have not been sentenced to custody or community service but can be held for a number of reasons (e.g., risk that they will fail to appear for their court date, risk to re-offend, etc.). The dual responsibility for sentenced and remand inmates presents some particular difficulties for managing the inmate population. For example, sentenced and remanded inmates have to be considered as separate and distinct populations for purposes of accommodation planning, programming, etc. Where appropriate, throughout this report, comparisons between sentenced and remanded inmates will be made.

Inmates may be held in provincial/territorial facilities for several reasons. Inmates' legal status include: regular provincial/territorial sentence, serving an intermittent sentence³, on remand, or an "other" category which includes those on temporary detention, immigration holds, etc.

As illustrated in Figure 11-B, nearly three-quarters (73%) of inmates on-register in British Columbia were regular sentenced inmates. A further one-quarter (24%) were remand inmates, 2% had other legal status, and 1% were serving intermittent sentences.

In all provinces/territories, the largest proportions of inmates were regular sentenced inmates, ranging from 53% of inmates in Ontario to 83% in the Northwest Territories. The proportion of regularly sentenced inmates in British Columbia was considerably higher than the overall provincial/territorial average (73% versus 63%).

Compared to the national total, British Columbia had a considerably lower proportion of intermittent sentenced inmates (1% versus 10%). In Ontario and New Brunswick, 13% of the inmates were serving intermittent sentences.

The proportion of inmates on remand in British Columbia (24%) was similar to the overall provincial/territorial proportion (25%). Ontario had the greatest proportion (31%) of inmates on remand.

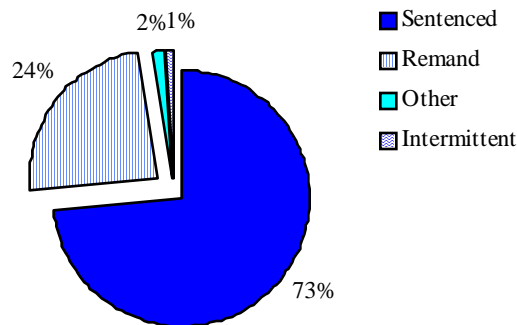
11.3.3 Inmate Capacity

Based on data from the Snapshot, inmate capacity can be examined in two ways – through "on-register" population counts (i.e., all inmates assigned to the correctional facility, including those not physically located at the facility on Snapshot day) and through "actual-in" population counts (i.e., inmates physically located at the facility on Snapshot day). On-register counts over-estimate capacity levels because inmates who are not located at the facility do not

² On Snapshot day, most of the inmates on-register in British Columbia (89%) were actually located in the institution where they were on-register. The remaining 11% were on temporary absences.

³ Intermittent sentences are for 90 days or less and inmates serve their sentences on a periodic basis of 2-3 days at one time, usually on weekends. These inmates return to the community to resume employment and family responsibilities when they are not in custody.

Figure 11-B
On-Register Inmate Population by Legal Status: British Columbia¹



Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.

n = 2,603.

¹ Data were missing for 14 inmates (<1%).

have a substantial impact on the operation or management of the facility. But, on-register counts do provide information on the number of inmates each facility is responsible for (and the correctional facility must deal with administrative issues associated with these inmates). Actual-in counts, on the other hand, provide a more accurate indication of overcrowding. Comparison of both on-register and actual-in counts allows an examination of the total number of inmates that facilities are responsible for, as well as the number of inmates who are not physically located at the facility, on Snapshot day.

As can be seen in Table 11-1, based upon the “on-register” population on Snapshot day, British Columbia’s correctional facilities were over capacity by 15%. One medium-security and all maximum-security facilities in British Columbia were operating over capacity. Three of the 10 minimum-security facilities were also operating above capacity. Across facilities, the highest percentages were reported in maximum security facilities. Within these, the greatest on-register over-capacity was reported at the Surrey Pre-Trial Services Remand Centre (172% of capacity) followed by the Vancouver Pre-Trial Services Remand Centre (132% of capacity). The Prince George Regional Correctional Centre and the Kamloops Regional Correctional Centre were also high (both operating at 129% of capacity).

When capacity was calculated on the basis of the “actual-in” inmate populations (the total number of inmates physically located in the correctional facility on Snapshot day), the number of facilities with over-capacity situations decreased. Overall, British Columbia’s correctional facilities were operating at 3% over capacity based on the actual-in inmate counts. The decreases in over-capacity levels occurred in the Surrey Pre-Trial Services Remand Centre (from 172% to 118% of capacity), the Vancouver Pre-Trial Remand Services (from 132% to 107% of capacity), the Nanaimo Correctional Centre (from 109% to 85% of capacity), the Burnaby Correctional Centre for Women (Secure) (116% to 110% of capacity), the Kamloops Regional Correctional Centre (from 129% to 107% of capacity), and the Vancouver Island Regional Correctional Centre (112% to 101% of capacity). The total number of facilities with over-capacity situations decreased from 11 to 10 when calculated using the actual-in inmate population. All maximum security facilities remained over capacity, with the highest percentage reported at the Prince George Regional Correctional Centre (129% of capacity).

Figure 1-E (national chapter) contrasts jurisdictions in terms of how closely their total “on-register” and “actual-in” inmate populations approached or exceeded the reported operational capacity⁴. British Columbia was among seven of the 12 provinces/territories reporting total “on-register” populations in excess of operational capacities. As noted above, the percent in excess of capacity for British Columbia was about 15%. When the “actual-in” population was used to calculate percentage capacity, the over-capacity level decreased to 3%. British Columbia remained as one of four jurisdictions operating over capacity.

⁴ It should be noted that the Snapshot was taken on a Saturday in order to include inmates serving intermittent sentences. The actual-in count may be smaller on other days of the week because there would be fewer inmates serving intermittent sentences in the institution.

In addition to information on overcrowding based on capacity, information was also available from eight jurisdictions⁵ on type of accommodation (see Figure 1-F – national chapter). In most jurisdictions, large proportions of inmates were housed in shared accommodations designed for more than two inmates. While specific information about the distribution of inmates housed in various types of accommodation in British Columbia was not available at the time the Snapshot survey was conducted, it was noted earlier that eight of the 19 facilities (many of them maximum security) report the existence of dormitories for full-time regularly-sentenced inmates⁶.

11.4 Current Offences

The Snapshot study produced detailed information for up to five of “the most serious offences” (MSO) for which inmates were currently incarcerated (see Appendix D for offence categories)⁷. Therefore, the MSO analyzed within this section is not necessarily the only offence for which an inmate was currently incarcerated.

The most serious current offence for 40% of British Columbia's inmates on Snapshot day was a property crime, primarily break and enter (Table 11-3). Another 37% were incarcerated for crimes against the person, primarily robbery and sexual assault. Finally, 22% were incarcerated for “other” *Criminal Code* or Federal Statute offences, primarily drug offences.

Higher proportions of remand than sentenced inmates were incarcerated for crimes against the person. Slightly more than one-half of remanded inmates are held for crimes against the person (51%) whereas one-third (33%) of sentenced inmates were incarcerated for these crimes. This was consistent with almost all other jurisdictions (the Northwest Territories was the exception). This would be expected since offenders who are held on remand are often those involved in more serious offences. However, it should be noted that remand inmates have not yet been convicted, and that they may be convicted of a less serious offence than that for which they are currently incarcerated, or acquitted.

More specifically, the differences between the two groups of inmates in British Columbia were that the greatest proportion of remanded inmates faced homicide/attempted murder as a most serious offence charge (15%) while for sentenced inmates it was for break and enter (19%).

While remanded inmates also had a large proportion of charges for break and enter (14%), the percentage of robberies (another crime against the person) was higher amongst remanded inmates (12%) than sentenced inmates (8%). Again, sentenced inmates tended to have greater proportions incarcerated for property crimes; theft represented (13%) of all incarcerations for this group whereas among remanded inmates 9% were charged with theft.

In relation to other provinces/territories, British Columbia had the fifth highest incidence of crimes against the person (see Figure 1-G in national chapter). This was substantially lower than the Northwest Territories, Yukon and Manitoba (70%, 59% and 44%, respectively), but it was close to Saskatchewan (38%), as well as Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and Ontario (ranging from 34% to 36%). Among federal inmates, almost three-quarters (73%) had a crime against the person as their most serious offence, which is not surprising since offenders in federal institutions are typically those involved in more violent or serious offences.

An analysis of up to five of the most serious offences for which each inmate was currently incarcerated was conducted to provide a picture of the number of different “types” of offences for which inmates were incarcerated. This essentially provides an indication of the variety of offending.

In examining not just the most serious but “any” of the five most serious non-violent offences, the data show that a large proportion of inmates in British Columbia had break and enter (18%) or theft (20%) as part of their current offence pattern – offence categories that are typically indicative of a high likelihood of repeat offending. This pattern was similar to that in other jurisdictions.

⁵ Data on type of accommodation were available from Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba, Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and CSC.

⁶ Table 11-2 is not included in this chapter because accommodation data were not available.

⁷ The most serious offence is based on the Seriousness Index of the Revised Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey Violation Coding Structure that defines seriousness in terms of length of maximum sentence and the degree of injury or threat of injury to the victim. Offences are grouped into the following major offence categories: Crimes Against the Person (e.g., homicide/attempt murder, sexual assault, serious assault, minor assault, robbery, and other violent); Property Offences (e.g., break and enter, theft, fraud, and other property); and Other Criminal Code and Federal Statute Offences (e.g., weapons offences, administration of justice offences, impaired driving offences, drug offences, other Criminal Code and Federal Statute offences).

As shown in Table 11-4, more than one-half (59%) of inmates in British Columbia facilities were currently incarcerated for non-violent offences only. A further 20% had both crimes against the person and other types of offences among their five most serious current offences, and 22% were currently incarcerated for only offences against a person (a total of 42% incarcerated for at least one violent offence). Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, and Alberta all had smaller proportions of inmates incarcerated for at least one violent offence (27%, 30%, 32% and 33%, respectively). Among the other provinces/territories, the proportion of those currently incarcerated for at least one crime against the person ranged from 43% in Newfoundland to 69% in the Northwest Territories⁸. Among federal inmates, 78% were currently incarcerated for at least one crime against the person.

Similar to most jurisdictions, a larger proportion of remand than sentenced inmates had offences against the person (including inmates who had both crimes against the person and other types of offences) (56% versus 37%).

In British Columbia, the largest proportion of inmates were currently incarcerated for one offence (32%) (Table 11-5). A further 23% were incarcerated for two offences, 14% for three offences, and 9% for four offences. Slightly more than one-fifth (22%) were incarcerated for five or more offences. A greater proportion of remand inmates (32%) had five or more offences than sentenced inmates (18%). Sentenced inmates were more likely to have been incarcerated for only one offence than remand inmates (36% versus 21%). This pattern was similar in most jurisdictions.

In other provinces/territories, except Saskatchewan and Alberta, the largest proportion of inmates were also incarcerated for one offence (ranging from 29% in Newfoundland to 50% in the Northwest Territories). In contrast, the largest proportion of federal inmates (30%) had five or more current offences, although 26% were incarcerated for one offence. The proportion of inmates incarcerated for five or more offences in British Columbia was one of the highest across all jurisdictions, lower only than Saskatchewan (43%) and Alberta (38%).

Some general conclusions can be derived from these data. In comparison to most other jurisdictions, British Columbia's inmates showed a greater incidence of property crimes as their most serious offence. The data for British Columbia also indicate that inmates have more numerous offences on their current records including a significant proportion of crimes against the person. This suggests a pattern of serious offending, and more versatility in offending for British Columbia's inmates.

11.5 Sentence Length

Figure 11-C presents a breakdown of total aggregate sentence lengths for sentenced inmates in British Columbia (also see Table 11-6)⁹. However, it should be noted that no sentence length information was available for British Columbia's "intermittent" sentenced inmates. On Snapshot day, 35% of sentenced inmates were serving terms of less than six months. An additional 33% were serving terms of six months to less than a year, 27% were serving terms of a year to less than two years, and 5% were serving terms of two years or more. Normally, a person who is sentenced to a term of incarceration of two years or more is housed in a federal facility. However, inmates with sentences of two years or more in a provincial/territorial facility may be federal inmates who have been newly re-admitted and awaiting transfer to a federal facility or inmates being held under an Exchange of Service Agreement.

On-register data produces longer average sentence lengths than admissions data. This is the case because those admitted for short sentences will show up in yearly admissions data. However, the one-day count will only include those who are currently on-register in the facility (and many short-term inmates will have completed their sentence). For instance, while sentences of less than one month account for more than one-third of sentenced admissions to provincial/territorial facilities, these offenders represent 10% or fewer of the inmates in the One-Day Snapshot.

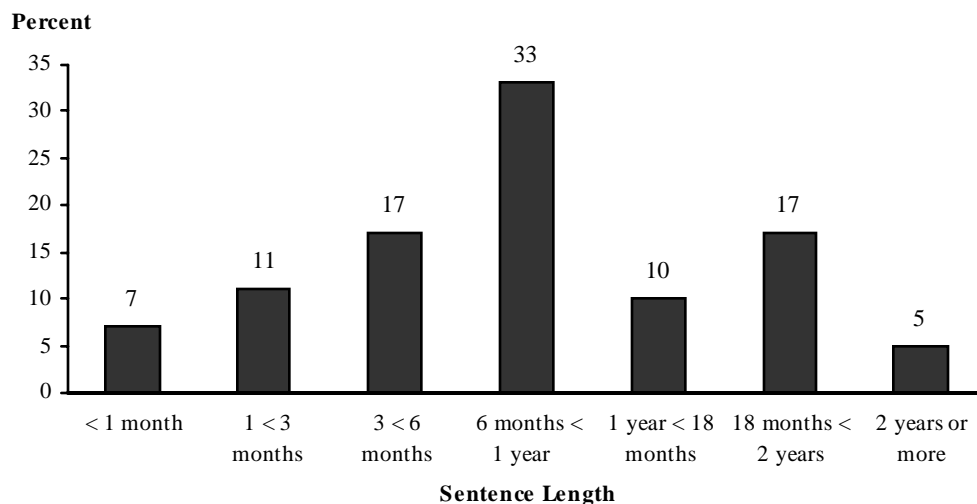
The median¹⁰ aggregate sentence length for inmates in British Columbia was 244 days (approximately eight months). This was substantially shorter than that found in Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories (365 days each). It was also shorter than the median for Manitoba and Newfoundland (273 days each). All remaining jurisdictions had shorter median aggregate sentences than British Columbia.

⁸ Data were not available for Ontario.

⁹ For this analysis, sentenced inmates include regular sentenced inmates and those serving intermittent sentences. However, it should be noted that no sentence length information was provided on intermittent offenders from British Columbia (only 1% of the inmates). It excludes those on remand and "other" inmates, such as those on temporary detention, immigration holds, etc.

¹⁰ The median represents the mid-point when all values are arranged in order of magnitude. One-half of the observations have a value less than or equal to the median, and one-half have a value greater than or equal to the median.

Figure 11-C
Aggregate Sentence Length for On-Register Inmates: British Columbia^{1,2}



Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.

¹ Sentencing data includes only inmates serving regular and intermittent sentences ($n = 1,924$).

² Data were missing for 79 inmates (4%).

A detailed analysis of sentence lengths for major offence categories was not possible with data from the Snapshot as information on sentence length was based on the aggregate sentence (i.e., the sum of all sentences that the offender must serve for the current incarceration). An offender can be convicted of multiple charges and a judge may order that various prison sentences be served either consecutively to, or concurrently with, one another. With data from the Snapshot, it was not possible to discern what sentence was received for which offence.

11.6 A Profile of Adult Inmates

11.6.1 Gender

Although there are approximately equal proportions of adult males and females in the population in British Columbia (49% male and 51%)¹¹, 94% of inmates on-register in adult correctional facilities in the province on Snapshot day were male. The over-representation of males within the inmate population relative to the provincial/territorial population was found in all other jurisdictions, including the federal inmate population.

As shown in Table 11-7, while the majority of both male and female inmates were serving regular sentences, this was more often the case for females - 78% of females were regular sentenced inmates compared to 73% of males. Very similar proportions of males and females were serving intermittent or "other" types of sentences. However, larger proportions of males than females were on remand (24% of males versus 21% of females).

Males and females differed in the offence types for which they were currently incarcerated (Table 11-3). For both males and females, there were similar proportions currently incarcerated for property offences (40% and 41%). However, a larger proportion of males than females were incarcerated for crimes against the person (38% versus 29%). For "other" *Criminal Code*/Federal Statutes, a greater proportion of females than males were incarcerated (30% versus 22%).

It should be noted that, due to small numbers of female inmates in several jurisdictions, gender analyses by offence type was not always possible. However, where this analysis was possible, gender differences were found in some jurisdictions. Similar to British Columbia, a larger proportion of males than females were incarcerated for crimes against the person in Newfoundland, Ontario, Saskatchewan, and federally. In Nova Scotia, Quebec, and Manitoba, the proportions were very similar between the sexes. However, in New Brunswick, Alberta, and the Northwest Territories, a larger proportion of females than males were currently incarcerated for crimes against the person.

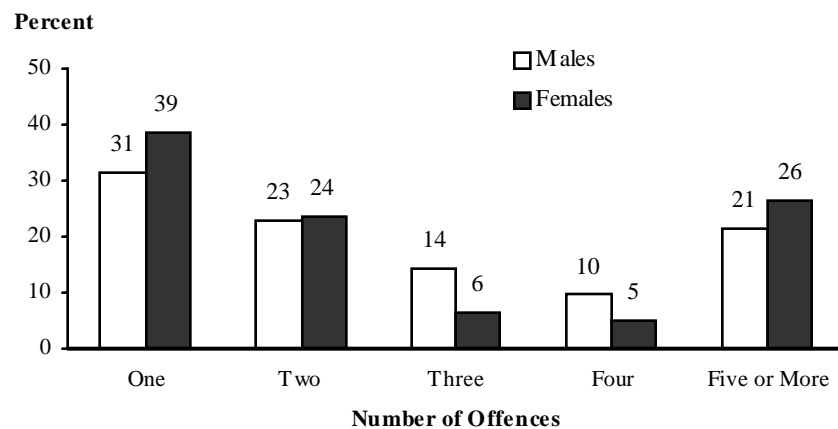
¹¹ Based on data from the 1996 Census of Population, Statistics Canada.

A more specific examination of the types of crimes in British Columbia revealed that the greatest proportion of females were incarcerated for theft (20%), followed closely by drug offences (19%). Among males, the greatest proportion were incarcerated for break and enter (18%), followed by theft (12%). A much smaller proportion of females were incarcerated for break and enters (6%), however, females were more likely to be incarcerated for fraud than males (9% versus 2%).

Within British Columbia, the profile of specific offences committed against the person is quite distinct between the sexes when the offences are compared. A greater proportion of females were incarcerated for homicide/attempted murder (14%) than males (5%). On the other hand, a greater proportion of males than females were incarcerated for sexual assaults (10% compared to almost no females) and serious assaults (8% versus 4%).

As illustrated in Figure 11-D, slightly larger proportions of males than females were currently incarcerated for more than one offence. More than two-thirds (68%) of males had more than one current offence compared to 61% of females. However, the proportion of males convicted of five or more offences (21%) was slightly lower than that for females (26%) (also see Table 11-5). Gender differences on the number of offences for the current admission was similar in other jurisdictions where a gender analysis could be performed. However, of these jurisdictions, British Columbia was the only one where a higher proportion of females than males had five or more offences.

Figure 11-D
Number of Current Offences by Gender: British Columbia¹



Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.

¹ Data were missing for 108 inmates (4%).

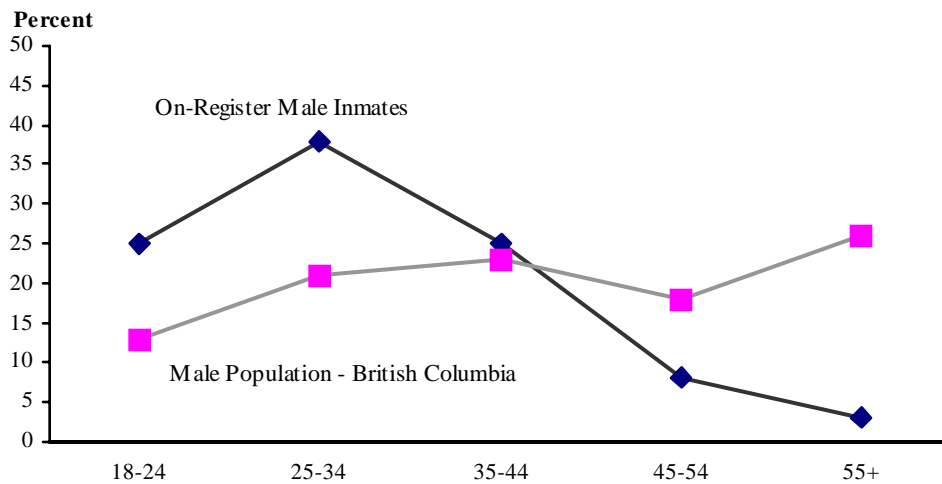
It is notable that the median aggregate sentence length for males and females in British Columbia was similar (247 and 240 days, respectively) (Table 11-6). This was not the case in other jurisdictions - typically, the median sentence for males was longer than that received by females. Any differences are likely due to factors such as severity of offence or the criminal history of the offender. Since it is not possible to analyze sentence length by offence categories using data from the Snapshot, this cannot be examined further.

11.6.2 Age

The median age for inmates was less than that for the adult population in British Columbia. On Snapshot day, the median age of inmates in British Columbia's facilities was 31. The median age for the adult population in British Columbia in 1996 was 42.

Figures 11-E and 11-F illustrate how the male and female adult population in British Columbia is distributed by age compared with the on-register inmate population. Generally, younger age groups are over-represented in custodial populations, particularly adults between the ages of 18 and 34. From age 35 onwards, this pattern is reversed (see Table 11-7).

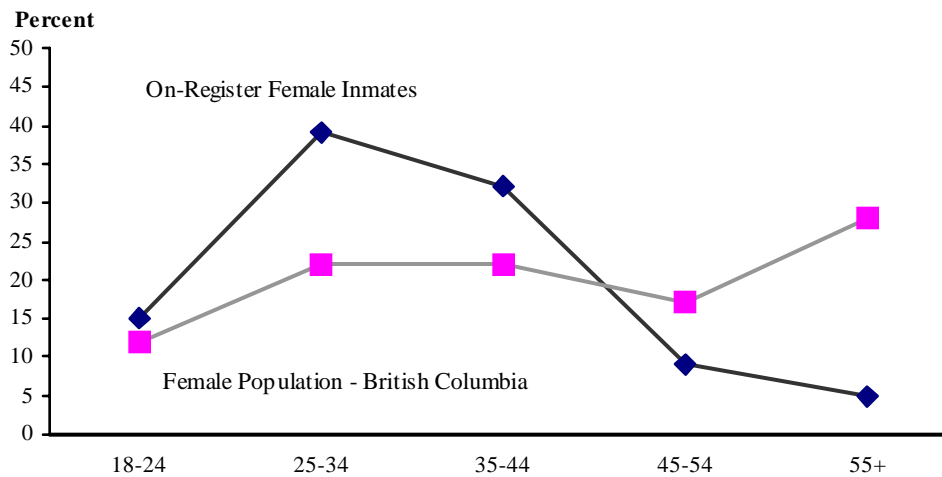
Figure 11-E
Males - Age Distribution of Adult Population¹ and On-Register Inmates: British Columbia



Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.

¹ Based on 1996 Census.

Figure 11-F
Females - Age Distribution of Adult Population¹ and On-Register Inmates: British Columbia



Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.

¹ Based on 1996 Census.

On Snapshot day, males aged 18-24 were the most over-represented. One-quarter (25%) of the male inmate population falls within this age group, compared to 13% of the adult male population in British Columbia. The next most over-represented age group were those 25-34 – 38% of male inmates were in this age group, compared to 21% of the adult male population in British Columbia. Among female inmates, those aged 25-34 were the most over-represented. Thirty-nine percent of the female inmates were in this age group, compared to 22% of the adult female population in British Columbia.

These age distributions are similar in other jurisdictions.

When the general types of offences were examined, it was found that the proportions of inmates incarcerated for a crime against the person (only most serious offence analyzed) or for "other" *Criminal Code* and Federal Statute violations increased with age (Table 11-3). The reverse was true for property crimes.

While slightly more than one-third of inmates aged 18-24 (34%) and 25-34 (36%) committed crimes against the person as a most serious offence, 37% of inmates aged 35-44, 45% of inmates aged 45-54, and 57% of inmates aged 55 and over did so. For both the groups aged 18-24 and 25-34, robbery comprised the largest proportion of crimes against the person (12% and 11%, respectively). For all other older age groups, sexual assault accounted for the greatest proportions and these proportions increased with age. More than one-third (41%) of inmates aged 55 and over committed a sexual offence.

The largest proportion of inmates aged 18-24 and 25-34 were incarcerated for property offences (50% and 44%, respectively), in particular break and enter. Among other age groups, the largest proportion of inmates were incarcerated for crimes against the person.

The largest proportion of all inmates were currently incarcerated for one offence (32%). However, older inmates were currently incarcerated for fewer offences (Figure 11-G). One-quarter (25%) of inmates aged 18-24 were currently incarcerated for one offence. This was the case for nearly one-third (29%) of inmates aged 25-34, 36% of those aged 35-44, 43% of those aged 45-54, and 59% of inmates aged 55 and over. Further, approximately one-quarter of inmates aged 18-24 and 25-34 were currently incarcerated for five or more offences (24% and 26%, respectively) (also see Table 11-5).

Figure 11-G
Number of Current Offences by Age: British Columbia¹



Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.

¹ Missing data for 108 inmates (4%).

Taken together with the results of the general analysis of type of crime committed, it may be concluded that, while younger offenders in British Columbia committed greater numbers of offences, older inmates in general were convicted of more serious crimes.

As can be seen in Table 11-6, unlike some jurisdictions, inmates of various age groups did not differ substantially in aggregate sentence lengths. The exception is that a larger proportion (59%) of inmates aged 55 and over received sentences of one year or longer (median sentence length of 471 days). The median sentence length was 224 days for inmates aged 18-24, 243 days for those aged 25-34, 272 for those aged 35-44 and 244 days for inmates aged 45-54. As noted earlier, it is not possible to discern the reason for varying sentence lengths from the Snapshot data.

11.6.3 Aboriginal Inmates

While Aboriginal persons accounted for approximately 3% of the adult population in British Columbia in 1996, they accounted for 17% of the inmates on Snapshot day. As illustrated in Figure 1-L (national chapter), the proportion of Aboriginal inmates varied considerably across jurisdictions. However, in all jurisdictions the proportion of Aboriginal inmates was substantially larger than the proportion of Aboriginal persons in the provincial/territorial population. In British Columbia, the over-representation of Aboriginal persons relative to the general population was less marked than in the other western provinces.

Unlike some jurisdictions, there were only slight differences between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal inmates in type of sentence (see Table 11-7). While the majority of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal inmates were serving regular sentences, this was slightly more often the case for Aboriginal inmates (76% versus 73%). Another one-quarter were on remand (23% and 24%, respectively), and the remainder were serving intermittent or other sentences. In most jurisdictions, there were greater proportions of Aboriginal inmates serving regular sentences, and smaller proportions serving intermittent sentences, as compared to non-Aboriginal inmates. Two exceptions were Saskatchewan (no differences) and New Brunswick (slightly larger proportion of non-Aboriginal inmates were serving regular sentences). In British Columbia, the proportions were fairly similar. It should be noted that British Columbia was distinct from other jurisdictions in its relative absence of inmates serving intermittent sentences.

Some differences were evident in the offence characteristics reported for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal inmates (Table 11-3). A larger proportion of Aboriginal than non-Aboriginal inmates were incarcerated for crimes against the person (47% versus 35%). The difference is primarily due to a larger proportion of Aboriginal than non-Aboriginal inmates incarcerated for sexual assault (13% versus 8%), serious assault (13% versus 6%), and minor assault (8% versus 4%).

Non-Aboriginal inmates were most likely to be incarcerated for a property crime (41% versus 34% among Aboriginal inmates). The difference is primarily due to a larger proportion of non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal inmates incarcerated for break and enter (18% versus 15%) and "other property"¹² (9% versus 5%). Similar proportions of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal inmates were incarcerated for "other" *Criminal Code*/Federal Statute offences (19% and 23%, respectively).

Overall, among the jurisdictions, some differences in offence types between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal inmates were found, although in some, such as Ontario, the differences were less evident.

There were slightly larger proportions of female inmates among Aboriginal than non-Aboriginal inmates (8% versus 5%). A smaller proportion of Aboriginal than non-Aboriginal females were incarcerated for crimes against the person (24% of Aboriginal females compared to 31% of non-Aboriginal females). This difference between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal females is primarily due to a large proportion of non-Aboriginal females incarcerated for homicide/attempted murder (16%). However, it must be qualified that the numbers of Aboriginal women in British Columbia were too small to allow valid comparisons by specific offences.

As illustrated in Figure 11-H, similar proportions of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal inmates were incarcerated for more than one offence. Slightly more than two-thirds (67%) of Aboriginal inmates had more than one current offence compared to 68% of non-Aboriginal inmates (also see Table 11-5).

In most other jurisdictions, there were slightly larger proportions of Aboriginal than non-Aboriginal inmates incarcerated for more than one offence. These differences were most noticeable in Quebec, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories.

In British Columbia, Aboriginal inmates received shorter aggregate sentences than non-Aboriginal inmates (Table 11-6). The median aggregate sentence length for Aboriginal inmates was 213 days, compared to 270 days for non-Aboriginal inmates. Unlike some jurisdictions, the difference was not due to gender - Aboriginal females received a median aggregate sentence of 183 days, compared to 244 days for non-Aboriginal females. Aboriginal males received a median aggregate sentence of 213 days, compared to 271 days for non-Aboriginal males. It is not possible from the Snapshot to determine the reasons for these differences.

¹² Such as arson and mischief.

Figure 11-H
Number of Current Offences by Aboriginal Status: British Columbia¹



Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. *A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996)*.

¹ Data were missing for 116 inmates (4%).

11.6.4 Socio-Demographic Characteristics

As part of the Snapshot survey, some additional background and demographic data on inmates were gathered to provide a more comprehensive profile of the inmate populations. The survey included information on marital status, educational level, and employment situation at the time of the most recent admission to custody¹³. As well, information was provided on citizenship and home language.

As illustrated in Table 11-8, one-third (34%) of inmates who reported that they were in the labour market at the time of incarceration were unemployed at the time of admission to the facility, compared to 9% of adults in British Columbia¹⁴. A slightly larger proportion of remand than sentenced inmates were unemployed (37% versus 33%). Compared to other jurisdictions that reported data, British Columbia had the lowest proportion of inmates who were unemployed at the time of admission. The next lowest province/territory was Alberta, where over one-half (54%) of the inmates were unemployed. Among federal inmates, 43% were unemployed at the time of admission to the facility.

Approximately one-quarter (26%) of inmates were married at the time of admission, compared to 63% of adults in British Columbia. This finding was similar in other jurisdictions. In British Columbia, similar proportions of remand and sentenced inmates were married (25% and 27%, respectively).

Nearly all inmates in British Columbia (99%) reported that English was their home language. Further, the majority of inmates (96%) reported Canadian citizenship.

11.6.5 Criminal History

Data on criminal history were not available from British Columbia¹⁵.

11.6.6 Offender-Victim Relationship

Data on the offender-victim relationship were not available from British Columbia¹⁶.

¹³ Educational level was not available for British Columbia.

¹⁴ Percent unemployed refers to those not employed and seeking work. It does not include those who report that they would like work, but who have stopped searching because they believe no work is available. Younger adults in Canada generally experience higher rates of unemployment, and, since younger age groups are generally over-represented in custodial populations, the proportion of unemployed inmates may be slightly inflated.

¹⁵ Because data on criminal history were not available from British Columbia, Table 11-9 is not included in this chapter.

¹⁶ Because data on offender-victim relationship were not available from British Columbia, Table 11-10 is not included in this chapter.

11.6.7 Risk and Need Profile of Inmates

Data on risk and needs were not available from British Columbia¹⁷.

11.6.8 Management of the Inmate Population

Data on the security concerns and use of segregation were not available from British Columbia¹⁸.

Another question that arises in looking at management of inmate populations is how inmates are being differentiated by level of security. Table 11-16 provides a profile of inmates by security level of facilities for British Columbia. As can be seen in the table, remand inmates were almost non-existent at the minimum level of security and there were no remand inmates within medium level security facilities. Only at the maximum level of security was there a large proportion of remand inmates (36% of inmates in maximum were on remand). Further, inmates housed in minimum or maximum security facilities were less likely to have committed a crime against the person than those in medium security facilities (40% and 38% versus 30%). Unlike other jurisdictions, the median aggregate sentence length for those in minimum security facilities (273 days) was longer than in medium and maximum security facilities (185 and 243 days, respectively).

Regarding inmate characteristics, in minimum and maximum security facilities there were a larger proportion of female inmates compared to in medium security facilities (6% and 7% versus 2%). There were higher proportions of Aboriginal inmates in minimum security facilities (23%) compared to medium and maximum security facilities (16% each). Those in minimum security facilities were slightly older (median age of 35) than those in medium or maximum security facilities (31 and 30, respectively).

11.7 Tables

| | |
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| Table 11-16 | Differentiation of Inmates by Security Level of Facilities: British Columbia |

¹⁷ Because data on risks and needs were not available from British Columbia, Tables 11-11 through 11-14 and Figures 11-I and 11-J are not included in this chapter.

¹⁸ Because data on security concerns, use of segregation, and risk were not available from British Columbia, Table 11-15 and Figures 11-K through 11-M are not included in this chapter.

Table 11-1

Distribution of Correctional Facilities and Inmate Populations on October 5th, 1996: British Columbia¹

| Facility | Type | Gender | Total Capacity ² | On-Register Count | Capacity "On-Register" | Actual-In Count ³ | Capacity "Actual-In" | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| | | | No. | No. | % | No. | % | | | |
| Minimum | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hutda Lake Camp | Camp | Males | 60 | 65 | 108 | 65 | 108 | | | |
| New Haven Camp | Correctional Centre | Males | 56 | 64 | 114 | 64 | 114 | | | |
| Stave Lake Camp | Camp | Males | 60 | 59 | 98 | 59 | 98 | | | |
| Terrace Community Correctional Centre | Community Residence | Males | 33 | 32 | 97 | 30 | 91 | | | |
| Chilliwack Community Correctional Centre | Community Residence | Males | 39 | 30 | 77 | 30 | 77 | | | |
| Ford Mountain Camp | Camp | Males | 56 | 59 | 105 | 59 | 105 | | | |
| Mount Thurston Camp | Camp | Males | 70 | 59 | 84 | 59 | 84 | | | |
| Bear Creek Camp | Camp | Males | 64 | 51 | 80 | 51 | 80 | | | |
| Burnaby Correctional Centre for Women-Open | Correctional Centre | Females | 28 | 28 | 100 | 27 | 96 | | | |
| Rayleigh Camp | Camp | Males | 65 | 53 | 81 | 53 | 82 | | | |
| Subtotal | | | 531 | 500 | 94 | 497 | 94 | | | |
| Medium | | | | | | | | | | |
| Alouette River Correctional Centre | Correctional Centre | Males | 151 | 142 | 94 | 142 | 94 | | | |
| Naniamo Correctional Centre | Correctional Centre | Males | 203 | 222 | 109 | 172 | 85 | | | |
| Subtotal | | | 354 | 364 | 103 | 314 | 89 | | | |
| Maximum | | | | | | | | | | |
| Burnaby Correctional Centre for Women-Secure | Correctional Centre | Females | 89 | 103 | 116 | 98 | 110 | | | |
| Vancouver Pre-Trial Services Centre | Remand Centre | Males | 206 | 271 | 132 | 221 | 107 | | | |
| Fraser Regional Correctional Centre | Correctional Centre | Males | 280 | 296 | 106 | 294 | 105 | | | |
| Kamloops Regional Correctional Centre | Correctional Centre | Males | 192 | 247 | 129 | 205 | 107 | | | |
| Prince George Regional Correctional Centre | Correctional Centre | Males & Females | 180 | 233 | 129 | 232 | 129 | | | |
| Surrey Pre-Trial Services | Remand Centre | Males | 186 | 319 | 172 | 219 | 118 | | | |
| Vancouver Island Regional Correctional Centre | Correctional Centre | Males | 241 | 270 | 112 | 244 | 101 | | | |
| Subtotal | | | 1,374 | 1,739 | 127 | 1,513 | 110 | | | |
| Total | | | 2,259 | 2,603 | 115 | 2,324 | 103 | | | |
| Special Features within Facilities | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Special Handling Unit | Protective Custody | Punitive/Administrative Segregation | Psychiatric Unit | Dormitory for Intermittent Sentences | Dormitory for Regular Sentences | Holding Cells | Young Offenders with Adults | Alcohol Treatment Facility | Total Special Features |
| Minimum | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hutda Lake Camp | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| New Haven Camp | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 2 |
| Stave Lake Camp | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Terrace Community Correctional Centre | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Chilliwack Community Correctional Centre | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Ford Mountain Camp | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Mount Thurston Camp | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| Bear Creek Camp | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| Burnaby Correctional Centre for Women-Open | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Rayleigh Camp | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 2 |
| Medium | | | | | | | | | | |
| Alouette River Correctional Centre | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| Naniamo Correctional Centre | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 4 |
| Maximum | | | | | | | | | | |
| Burnaby Correctional Centre for Women-Secure | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | 5 |
| Vancouver Pre-Trial Services Centre | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 4 |
| Fraser Regional Correctional Centre | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 4 |
| Kamloops Regional Correctional Centre | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 4 |
| Prince George Regional Correctional Centre | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 4 |
| Surrey Pre-Trial Services | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 4 |
| Vancouver Island Regional Correctional Centre | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | - | 5 |
| Total | 7 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 8 | - | 1 | - | 43 |

Source: Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996).

- nil or zero.

¹ Includes all facilities that were operational on Snapshot Day.

² Defined as the number of permanent beds in the facility.

³ Defined as the total number of inmates who were physically located in the correctional facilities on Snapshot Day.

Table 11-3
Distribution of Offence Types¹: British Columbia

| | Number of Inmates | Crimes Against the Person | | | | | | TOTAL | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------|
| | | Homicide/ Attempt Murder | Sexual Assault | Serious Assault | Minor Assault | Robbery | Other Violent | | | | |
| % | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Legal Status² | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sentenced ³ | 1,878 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 33 | | | |
| Remand | 617 | 15 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 12 | 3 | 51 | | | |
| Total | 2,495 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 37 | | | |
| Gender² | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 2,355 | 5 | 10 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 38 | | | |
| Females | 140 | 14 | -- | 4 | -- | 8 | 2 | 29 | | | |
| Aboriginal Status⁴ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Non-Aboriginal | 2,059 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 35 | | | |
| Aboriginal | 428 | 4 | 13 | 13 | 8 | 8 | 1 | 47 | | | |
| Age² | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18-24 | 614 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 3 | 12 | 2 | 34 | | | |
| 25-34 | 947 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 11 | 1 | 36 | | | |
| 35-44 | 646 | 5 | 11 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 37 | | | |
| 45-54 | 207 | 7 | 21 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 45 | | | |
| 55+ | 81 | 9 | 41 | -- | 4 | -- | - | 57 | | | |
| | | Property Crimes | | | | Other <i>Criminal Code</i> (CC) / Federal Statutes | | | | | |
| | Break and Enter | Theft | Fraud | Other Property | TOTAL | Weapons Offences | Admin- istration of Justice | Impaired Driving Offences | Drug Offences | Other CC / Federal | TOTAL |
| % | | | | | | % | | | | | |
| Legal Status² | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sentenced ³ | 19 | 13 | 3 | 9 | 44 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 24 |
| Remand | 14 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 30 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 18 |
| Total | 18 | 12 | 2 | 8 | 40 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 22 |
| Gender² | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 18 | 12 | 2 | 8 | 40 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 22 |
| Females | 6 | 20 | 9 | 6 | 41 | - | -- | 6 | 19 | -- | 30 |
| Aboriginal Status⁴ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Non-Aboriginal | 18 | 12 | 3 | 9 | 41 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 23 |
| Aboriginal | 15 | 12 | 2 | 5 | 34 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 19 |
| Age² | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18-24 | 25 | 11 | 1 | 13 | 50 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 16 |
| 25-34 | 20 | 13 | 2 | 8 | 44 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 20 |
| 35-44 | 11 | 13 | 3 | 6 | 34 | 1 | 3 | 10 | 10 | 6 | 29 |
| 45-54 | 8 | 13 | 2 | 3 | 26 | 1 | 2 | 13 | 7 | 5 | 29 |
| 55+ | -- | -- | 7 | 4 | 15 | -- | - | 11 | 4 | 11 | 28 |

Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996).

- nil or zero.

-- amount too small to be expressed.

¹ Based on the current most serious offence.

² Missing data for 108 inmates (4%).

³ "Sentenced" includes regular, intermittent and inmates with "other" legal status.

⁴ Missing data for 116 inmates (4%).

Table 11-4

Nature of Current Offences^{1,2}: British Columbia

| | Number of Inmates | Only Against Person | Against Person & "Other" ³ | Only "Other" Offence ³ |
|------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | | % | |
| Legal Status | | | | |
| Sentenced ⁴ | 1,878 | 19 | 18 | 63 |
| Remand | 617 | 30 | 26 | 44 |
| Total | 2,495 | 22 | 20 | 59 |

Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996).

¹ Analysis of up to five of the most serious offences for which an inmate was incarcerated.

² Data were missing for 108 inmates (4%).

³ "Other" Offence = property crimes, other Criminal Code violations, and other offences not against the person.

⁴ "Sentenced" includes regular, intermittent and inmates with "other" legal status.

Table 11-5

Number of Current Offences: British Columbia

| | Number of Inmates | One | Two | Three | Four | Five+ |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| | | | | % | | |
| Legal Status¹ | | | | | | |
| Sentenced ² | 1,878 | 36 | 23 | 15 | 8 | 18 |
| Remand | 617 | 21 | 23 | 12 | 12 | 32 |
| Total | 2,495 | 32 | 23 | 14 | 9 | 22 |
| Gender¹ | | | | | | |
| Males | 2,355 | 31 | 23 | 14 | 10 | 21 |
| Females | 140 | 39 | 24 | 6 | 5 | 26 |
| Aboriginal Status³ | | | | | | |
| Non-Aboriginal | 2,059 | 32 | 23 | 14 | 9 | 22 |
| Aboriginal | 428 | 33 | 25 | 14 | 9 | 19 |
| Age¹ | | | | | | |
| 18-24 | 614 | 25 | 25 | 14 | 11 | 24 |
| 25-34 | 947 | 29 | 21 | 14 | 10 | 26 |
| 35-44 | 646 | 36 | 25 | 14 | 8 | 18 |
| 45-54 | 207 | 43 | 21 | 13 | 11 | 13 |
| 55+ | 81 | 59 | 20 | 6 | 5 | 10 |

Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996).

¹ Missing data for 108 inmates (4%).

² "Sentenced" includes regular, intermittent and inmates with "other" legal status.

³ Missing data for 116 inmates (4%).

Table 11-6
Distribution of Aggregate Sentence Length: British Columbia¹

| | Number of Inmates | < 6 months | 6 months - < 1 year % | 1 year or more | Median Sentence days |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Total Inmates² | 1,845 | 35 | 33 | 32 | 244 |
| Gender² | | | | | |
| Males | 1,727 | 34 | 34 | 32 | 247 |
| Females | 118 | 38 | 31 | 31 | 240 |
| Aboriginal Status³ | | | | | |
| Non-Aboriginal | 1,509 | 35 | 32 | 33 | 270 |
| Aboriginal | 331 | 33 | 39 | 28 | 213 |
| Age² | | | | | |
| 18-24 | 443 | 35 | 37 | 27 | 224 |
| 25-34 | 710 | 36 | 33 | 30 | 243 |
| 35-44 | 476 | 34 | 33 | 33 | 272 |
| 45-54 | 150 | 33 | 30 | 37 | 244 |
| 55+ | 66 | 21 | 20 | 59 | 471 |

Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996).

¹ Includes data only for inmates serving intermittent and regular sentences (n = 1,924).

² Missing data for 79 inmates (4%).

³ Missing data for 84 inmates (4%).

Table 11-7
Selected Inmate Characteristics: British Columbia

| | Number of Inmates | Gender | | Number of Inmates | Aboriginal Status | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|------------|------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------|
| | | Males | Females | | Non- Aboriginal | Aboriginal |
| | | % | | | % | |
| Legal Status¹ | | | | | | |
| Intermittent | 24 | 1 | - | 24 | 1 | -- |
| Other | 42 | 2 | 2 | 42 | 2 | -- |
| Sentenced | 1,900 | 73 | 78 | 1,895 | 73 | 76 |
| Remand | 623 | 24 | 21 | 620 | 24 | 23 |
| Total | 2,589 | 100 | 100 | 2,581 | 100 | 100 |
| Age² | | | | | | |
| 18-24 | 635 | 25 | 15 | 634 | 23 | 30 |
| 25-34 | 990 | 38 | 39 | 986 | 38 | 38 |
| 35-44 | 669 | 25 | 32 | 666 | 26 | 22 |
| 45-54 | 219 | 8 | 9 | 219 | 9 | 8 |
| 55+ | 90 | 3 | 5 | 89 | 4 | 2 |
| Total | 2,603 | 100 | 100 | 2,594 | 100 | 100 |
| Gender² | | | | | | |
| Males | | | | 2,436 | 94 | 92 |
| Females | | | | 158 | 6 | 8 |
| Total | | | | 2,594 | 100 | 100 |

Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996).

- nil or zero.

-- amount too small to be expressed.

¹ Missing data for 14 inmates (1%) for gender analysis and 22 inmates (1%) for Aboriginal analysis.

² Missing data for 9 inmates (<1%) for Aboriginal analysis.

Table 11-8
Background Characteristics^{1,2} of Inmates: British Columbia

| | | Total | Sentenced ³ | Remand |
|--------------------------------------|----------|--------------|------------------------|------------|
| Employment Status | | | | |
| Number of Inmates⁴ | | 2,494 | 1,895 | 599 |
| Unemployed | % | 34 | 33 | 37 |
| Employed | % | 66 | 67 | 63 |
| Total | % | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Marital Status | | | | |
| Number of Inmates⁵ | | 2,570 | 1,954 | 616 |
| Single | % | 61 | 60 | 64 |
| Married | % | 26 | 27 | 25 |
| Separated or Divorced | % | 12 | 12 | 10 |
| Widowed | % | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Total | % | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Language | | | | |
| Number of Inmates⁶ | | 2,589 | 1,966 | 623 |
| English | % | 99 | 99 | 99 |
| French | % | -- | -- | -- |
| Aboriginal | % | - | - | - |
| Other | % | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Total | % | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Citizenship | | | | |
| Number of Inmates⁶ | | 2,589 | 1,966 | 623 |
| Canadian | % | 96 | 96 | 96 |
| Other | % | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Total | % | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996).

- nil or zero.

-- amount too small to be expressed.

¹ The characteristics listed in this table refer to the status of the inmate at the time of admission to the correctional facility.

² Data on education were not available.

³ Includes inmates serving regular, intermittent and "other" types of sentences.

⁴ Excludes inmates who were "not in the market" for employment at the time of admission (n = 78). Missing data for 31 inmates (1%).

⁵ Missing data for 33 inmates (1%).

⁶ Missing data for 14 inmates (1%).

Table 11-16
Differentiation of Inmates by Security Level of Facilities: British Columbia

| Inmate Characteristics | Number of Inmates | Level of Security | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| | | Minimum | Medium | Maximum |
| | | | % | |
| Legal Status¹ | | | | |
| Sentenced ² | 1,966 | -- | 100 | 64 |
| Remand | 623 | -- | - | 36 |
| Total | 2,589 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Offence Type³ | | | | |
| Crimes Against the Person | 929 | 40 | 30 | 38 |
| Property and Other Crimes ⁴ | 1,566 | 60 | 70 | 62 |
| Total | 2,495 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Median Aggregate Sentence (in days)⁵ | 1,845 | 273 | 185 | 243 |
| Gender | | | | |
| Males | 2,444 | 94 | 98 | 93 |
| Females | 159 | 6 | 2 | 7 |
| Total | 2,603 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Aboriginal Status⁶ | | | | |
| Non-Aboriginal | 2,151 | 77 | 84 | 84 |
| Aboriginal | 443 | 23 | 16 | 16 |
| Total | 2,594 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Median Age (in years) | 2,603 | 35 | 31 | 30 |

Source: The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. A One-Day Snapshot of Inmates in Canada's Adult Correctional Facilities Survey (1996).

- nil or zero.

-- amount too small to be expressed.

¹ Missing data for 14 inmates (1%).

² "Sentenced" includes inmates serving regular, intermittent and "other" types of sentences.

³ Missing data for 108 inmates (4%).

⁴ "Other Crimes" includes all other Criminal Code and Federal Statute offences.

⁵ Sentencing data includes regular and intermittent types of sentences (n = 1,924). Missing data for 79 inmates (4%).

⁶ Missing data for 9 inmates (<1%).

