

## Custodial populations during the COVID-19 pandemic, July to September 2020

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*The Canadian courts and correctional systems have taken steps to reduce the size of the correctional institution population during the COVID-19 pandemic, while balancing public safety concerns. Measures include the temporary or early release of people in custody who are considered at low risk to reoffend; extended periods for parole appeal deadlines and access to medical leave privileges; and alternatives to custody while awaiting trials, sentencing and bail hearings.*

In February 2020, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Yukon's average daily count of the adult correctional institution population was 56. The average went down to 46 in March 2020, and then remained around 40 in the months from May through July before gradually returning to close to the pre-pandemic monthly average in September 2020 (55).

Nationally, comparing September 2020 to February 2020, the adult correctional institution population decreased by 15.4% over this time period.

### Total custody and average daily counts of adults in custody, by jurisdiction, February to September 2020

	February 2020	March 2020	April 2020	May 2020	June 2020	July 2020	August 2020	September 2020
<b>Total custody</b>								
Total federal custody	13,891	13,957	13,720	13,378	13,141	12,992	12,829	12,761
Total provincial and territorial custody	24,085	23,003	18,518	17,802	18,010	18,368	18,891	19,380
<b>Average daily counts</b>								
Newfoundland and Lab.	310	295	205	194	187	284	316	332
Prince Edward Island	114	107	80	82	94	109	115	115
Nova Scotia	440	371	260	255	268	283	307	325
New Brunswick	450	459	358	333	358	384	402	417
Quebec	4,381	4,223	4,079	3,969	3,955	3,949	3,940	3,961
Ontario	8,269	7,748	5,859	5,703	5,811	5,924	6,138	6,315
Manitoba	2,238	2,179	1,775	1,623	1,688	1,763	1,805	1,804
Saskatchewan	1,984	1,953	1,531	1,477	1,537	1,637	1,734	1,771
Alberta	3,384	3,264	2,482	2,369	2,370	2,327	2,418	2,582
British Columbia	2,193	2,101	1,630	1,509	1,474	1,424	1,418	1,445
<b>Yukon</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>55</b>
Northwest Territories	143	139	116	133	112	119	120	107
Nunavut	122	119	105	115	118	122	135	151

*Note: Statistics Canada's Adult Corrections Key Indicator Report (KIR) collects data from all adult correctional service programs in Canada that provide an average daily count of people in federal, provincial and territorial custody, for each month of the year. To do this, correctional services generally take a count of people in custody every day, and it is averaged over the number of days in that month.*

*At the federal level, the monthly numbers represent the counts at the mid-point of each month as reported by Correctional Service Canada (CSC) and include people in custody on temporary absence. Given that the federal March counts were taken mid-month, they do not reflect the full impact of COVID-19, as measures to address the pandemic began to be implemented in the second half of the month.*

*There may be differences in jurisdictional operations, custodial populations and implementation of measures to address COVID-19 among correctional service programs, resulting in differences in the relative decreases in custodial populations. Caution should be used in making any jurisdictional comparisons.*