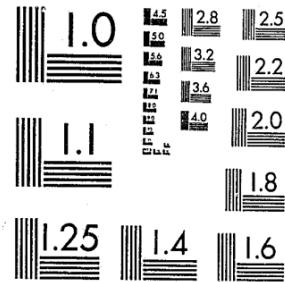


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SOME SELECTED STATISTICS ON HOMICIDE  
AND OTHER VIOLENT CRIME  
IN CANADA

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U.S. Department of Justice 76234  
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April, 1979

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## INTRODUCTION

This report presents an overview and description of information on violent crime in Canada, utilizing the most recent data available, and is in a "question-and-answer" format. We have attempted to pose the questions most likely to be raised on the subject of violent crime, and answer those questions within the constraints of data which could be culled from various sources.

It will be remarked that we have dealt most extensively with those crimes of violence which are subsumed under the heading of homicide. This was not a chance occurrence; of all the crimes of violence listed in the Criminal Code, it is homicide with which the general public appears to be most concerned.

### *Q.1 What constitutes violent crimes?*

Violent crimes are Criminal Code offences in which the use or threat of force against the victim is an intrinsic element. They include homicide (murder, attempted murder, manslaughter, and infanticide), rape and other sexual offences, assaults (not indecent), and robbery. Penalties for these crimes range from punishment on summary conviction to imprisonment for life.

#### HOMICIDE

For statistical purposes, homicide is comprised of murder, attempted murder, manslaughter, and infanticide.

##### 1. Murder:

In the years prior to 1961, all murder was capital murder. The punishment fixed by law was death. This penalty could be commuted to life imprisonment by the Governor General in Council.

As of September 1, 1961, amendments to the Criminal Code differentiated between Capital and Non-Capital murder. Capital murder included premeditated murder, the murder of a policeman, of a prison officer or a prison employee, or murder committed during the carrying out of another criminal act. The required penalty was death by hanging. All other types of murder constituted non-capital murder, for which the penalty was life imprisonment.

As of December 30, 1967, capital murder was limited to the killing of police officers or prison officers and employees. All other murders were classified as non-capital. Death remained the mandatory penalty for capital murder and life imprisonment remained the mandatory penalty for non-capital murder.

As of January 1, 1974, the Criminal Law Amendment (Capital Punishment) Act was proclaimed law. Capital murder was replaced by murder punishable by death and consisted of killing a law officer, a prison officer or a prison employee. Non-capital murder was replaced by murder punishable by life imprisonment.

As of July 26, 1976, Bill C-84 was proclaimed law. By this law the government redefined murder again, abolished the death penalty and instituted mandatory sentences of life imprisonment for both first and second degree murder, with rigorous conditions of parole eligibility.

Persons convicted of first degree murder must serve twenty-five years of imprisonment before they are eligible for parole; persons convicted of second degree murder must serve at least ten years.

3.

First degree murder includes:

- (a) planned or deliberate murder, including "contract" killing;
- (b) the murder of a police officer or of an employee of a penitentiary or prison while in the line of duty;
- (c) murder committed in the course of an aircraft hijacking, a kidnapping, and certain sexual offences including rape and attempted rape;  
and
- (d) murder committed after a person has been previously convicted of first and second degree murder.

Second degree murder includes all other murders.

2. Attempted Murder:

Everyone who attempts to commit murder is liable to imprisonment for life.

3. Manslaughter:

Manslaughter is culpable homicide that is not murder, infanticide, or causing death by criminal negligence. The maximum penalty incurred is imprisonment for life.

4. Infanticide:

This offence was first introduced in the law of Canada in 1948. It is the act of a mother who, under certain circumstances, takes the life of her newly-born child. The maximum punishment upon conviction is five years imprisonment.

For statistical purposes, infanticide offences have been classified as a distinct type of homicide since 1974 only. Previously, they belonged to the other lesser offences category.

4.

RAPE AND OTHER SEXUAL OFFENCES

1. Rape:

A male person commits rape when he has sexual intercourse with a female person who is not his wife, either without her consent, or with her consent but, if the consent is extorted by threats or fear of bodily harm, if it is obtained by personating her husband, or by false and fraudulent representations as to the nature and quality of the act. The maximum penalty for rape is imprisonment for life.

2. Other Sexual Offences:

Other sexual offences include sexual intercourse with feeble-minded females and with very young females, incest, various forms of seduction, buggery or bestiality, and acts of gross indecency.

For these, the maximum penalties range from imprisonment for two years to imprisonment for fourteen years.

ASSAULTS (NOT INDECENT)

These include wounding, causing bodily harm, assaulting a peace officer or a public officer, and other assaults.

They entail penalties ranging from punishment on summary conviction to life imprisonment.

ROBBERY

Robbery includes stealing with violence, threats of violence, and stealing while armed. The maximum penalty is imprisonment for life.

Q.2 For Canada as a whole, what are the most recent statistics on each type of violent crime?

The most recent statistics are for 1977 and are shown in the table below.

VIOLENT OFFENCES BY TYPE OF OFFENCE IN NUMBERS AND RATES PER 100,000 POPULATION, SHOWING PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL VIOLENT CRIMES<sup>(1)</sup>, CANADA, 1977

TYPE OF OFFENCE	NUMBER	% OF TOTAL	RATE
<b>HOMICIDE</b>	1,391	1.0	5.9
Murder, first degree	199		
Murder, second degree	425		
Manslaughter	78		
Infanticide	5		
Attempted Murder	684		
<b>SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	10,932	8.1	46.9
Rape	1,886		
Indecent Assault (Female)	5,278		
Indecent Assault (Male)	1,344		
Other Sexual Offences	2,424		
<b>ASSAULTS (NOT INDECENT)</b>	103,931	76.5	446.2
Wounding	2,070		
Bodily Harm	24,245		
Police	5,340		
Other Peace-Public Officers	732		
Other Assault	71,544		
<b>ROBBERY</b>	19,491	14.4	83.6
Firearms	7,507		
Other Offensive Weapons	3,350		
Other Robbery	8,634		
<b>TOTAL VIOLENT OFFENCES</b>	135,745	100.0	582.6

(1) Percentages are shown for major categories only.

SOURCE: Statistics Canada, Crime and Traffic Enforcement Statistics 1977, (Catalogue #85-205)

PREPARED BY: Statistics Division,  
Ministry of the Solicitor General  
March 1979

Q.3 What are the most recent statistics on violent offences in each of the provinces and territories?

VIOLENT OFFENCES IN NUMBERS AND RATES PER 100,000 POPULATION, CANADA, PROVINCES, AND TERRITORIES<sup>(1)</sup>, 1977

	NUMBER	RATE
CANADA	135,745	582.8
Newfoundland	2,475	440.0
Prince Edward Island	384	319.2
Nova Scotia	4,076	487.9
New Brunswick	2,797	407.4
Quebec	25,345	403.3
Ontario	50,366	601.4
Manitoba	6,078	589.3
Saskatchewan	6,263	668.7
Alberta	15,066	793.0
British Columbia	20,649	826.7
Yukon	565	2627.9
Northwest Territories	1,681	3882.2

(1) The high rates in Yukon and Northwest Territories should be interpreted with caution because of the low population on which they are based.

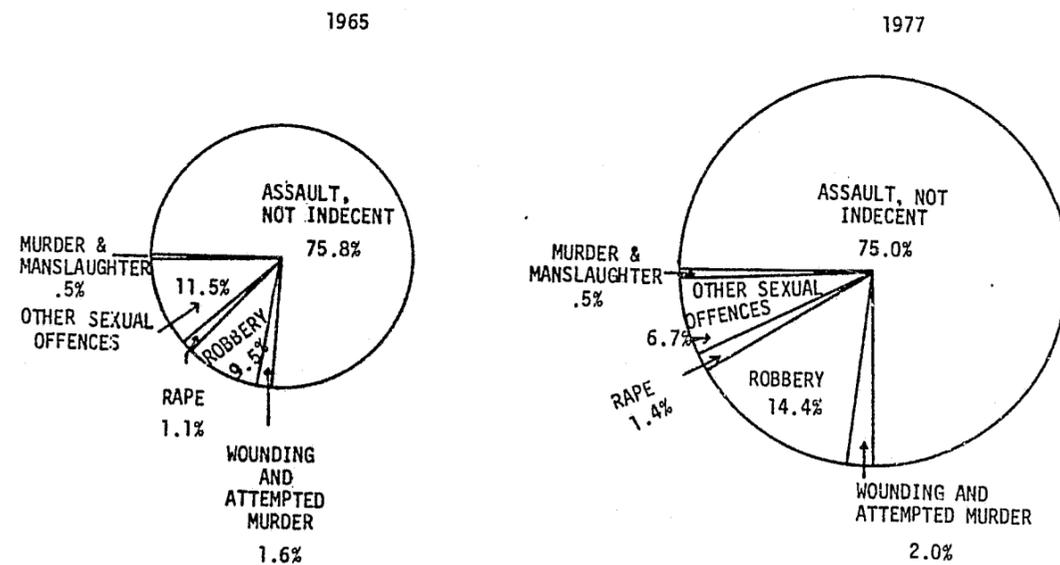
Violent offences include homicides, rape and other sexual offences, assaults (not indecent) and robbery.

SOURCE: Statistics Canada, Crime and Traffic Enforcement Statistics 1977, (Catalogue #85-205)

PREPARED BY: Statistics Division,  
Ministry of the Solicitor General  
March, 1979

Q.4 Is violent crime on the increase?

PERCENTAGE BREAKDOWN OF SPECIFIC OFFENCES CLASSIFIED AS CRIMES OF VIOLENCE, CANADA, 1965 AND 1977



As illustrated by the difference in the sizes of the above circles, there has been more than a two-fold increase in the number of violent crimes in Canada between 1965 and 1977. This closely parallels the overall increase in all crimes during the same period. Throughout this time, violent crime has formed a constant 6% of the total number of all crimes committed.

The diagrams also show that there has been little change in the relative frequencies of the various types of violent crimes. The only deviation from the pattern is the increase in the relative frequency of robbery and a compensating decrease in that of "other sexual offences".

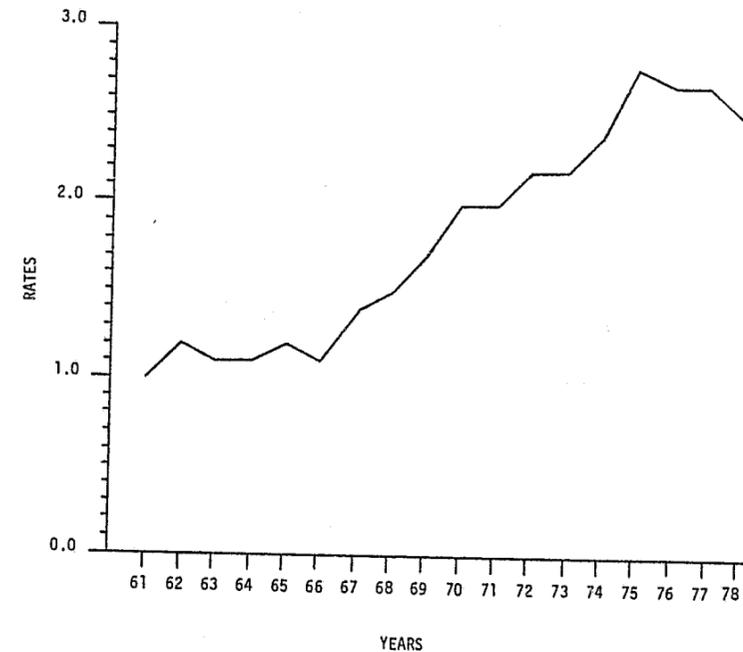
SOURCES: Statistics Canada, "Crime Statistics" (Cat. #85-205)  
 Statistics Canada, "Law Enforcement, Judicial and Correctional Statistics", Service Bulletin, Vol. 6, No. 1.  
 Preliminary crime statistics in 1977, Canada, Provinces & Territories. Sept. 1978 (Cat. #85-001)

PREPARED BY: Statistics Division,  
 Ministry of the Solicitor General.  
 February, 1979

Q.5 Has there been an increase in the number and rates of murder in recent years?

In the 18 year period from 1961 to 1978, the number of murder offences has more than tripled. However, the numbers reported by the police in 1976, 1977 and 1978 were less than in 1975, when the number increased substantially over what could have been expected. It may be too soon yet to say whether these recent data indicate the beginning of a levelling-off in the number of murder offences.

RATE OF MURDER OFFENCES PER 100,000 POPULATION CANADA, 1961 TO 1978



The murder rates have increased at a slower pace; they have increased less than three fold over the same period. Again in 1975, the rate increased slightly more than would have been expected, then decreased slightly and appears to be stabilizing. However, it may be too soon to suggest that this is indicative of a trend.

SOURCES: Statistics Canada, "Homicide Statistics, 1977" (Cat. #85-209)  
 "Preliminary Statistics, 1978, Canada, Provinces and Territories". (Cat. #85-001)

PREPARED BY: Statistics Division,  
 Ministry of the Solicitor General  
 March, 1979

Q.6 Since 1970, what have been the murder rates for Canada's three largest cities?

RATES OF MURDER PER 100,000 POPULATION,  
MONTREAL, TORONTO, VANCOUVER AND  
CANADA TOTAL, 1970-1977

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Montreal	1.8	2.3	4.4	2.5	3.0	5.0	4.0	4.5
Toronto	0.7	1.9	2.0	2.1	1.7	2.2	2.4	2.5
Vancouver	2.5	2.0	3.4	3.3	4.2	4.1	4.0	3.5
CANADA	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.1	2.4	2.8	2.7	2.6

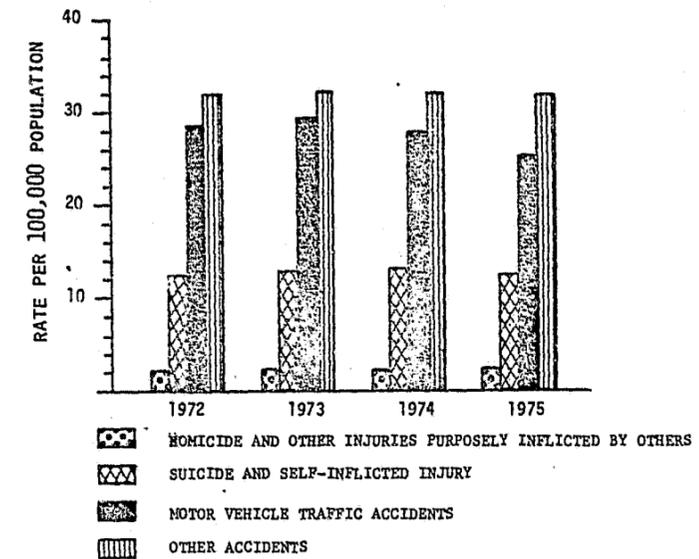
SOURCES: Uniform Crime Reporting Program,  
Judicial Division, Statistics Canada

Statistics Canada, Crime and Traffic Enforcement Statistics,  
(Cat. #85-205) 1975, 1976, 1977

PREPARED BY: Statistics Division,  
Ministry of the Solicitor General.  
February, 1979.

Q.7 In Canada, how does the homicide rate compare with the rate of other deaths - i.e. suicide, motor vehicle deaths, accidental deaths?

HOMICIDE RATE PER 100,000 COMPARED TO SUICIDE,  
MOTOR VEHICLE TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS AND OTHER ACCIDENTAL  
DEATHS, CANADA 1972 TO 1975



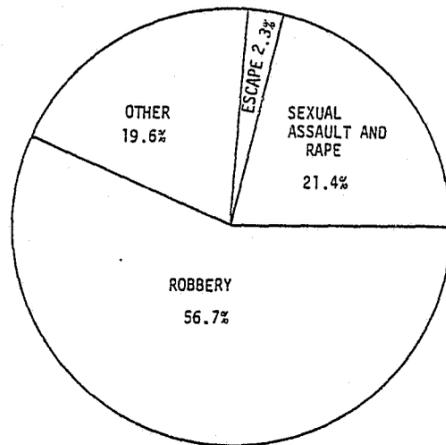
The rates of non-natural deaths remain stable from year to year and consequently the averages can give a realistic picture. The average rate for homicide and injury purposely inflicted by others is in contrast to the high average rate for suicides. Motor vehicle accidents are by far the most likely single cause of non-natural death.

SOURCE: Statistics Canada, Causes of Death. (Cat. #84-203)

PREPARED BY: Statistics Division,  
Ministry of the Solicitor General.  
February, 1979

Q.8 What are the statistics on homicides committed during the carrying out of "other criminal acts"?

HOMICIDE VICTIMS BY PERCENTAGE IN CANADA, 1961 TO 1977



During the period 1961-1977, there were 1,119 people killed during the commission of another criminal act, accounting for 17% of the total number of homicide victims.

Homicides occurring during robberies, thefts, and breaking and entering accounted for the majority of "during commission of a criminal act" homicides.

Rape and sexual assault were the next most frequent criminal acts which accompanied homicide. Not surprisingly, 88% of the victims of these crimes were females.

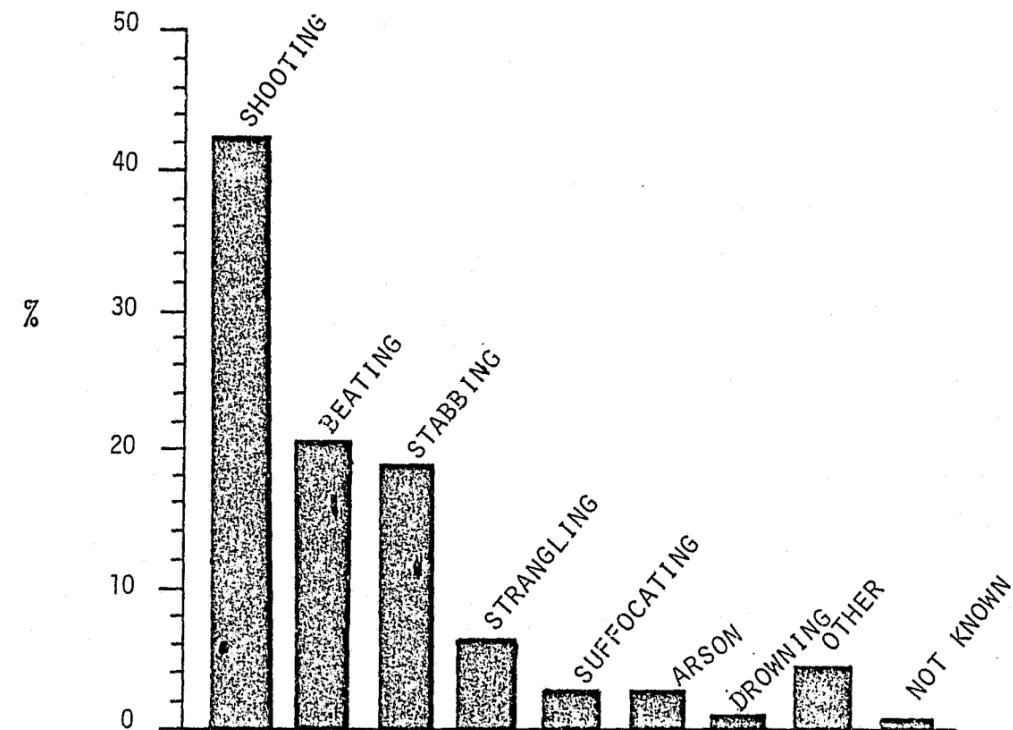
Only 2.3% of these victims were killed by suspects who were either escaping from a correctional institution, attempting to avoid arrest, or to escape detection as a parole or probation violator.

SOURCES: Statistics Canada, Murder Statistics, 1975, Cat. #85-209  
 Statistics Canada, Homicide Statistics, 1976 and 1977  
 Cat. #85-209.

PREPARED BY: Statistics Division,  
 Ministry of the Solicitor General.  
 February, 1979

Q.9 What are the methods employed in murder incidents?

TOTAL MURDER INCIDENTS BY METHOD OF COMMISSION, CANADA, 1961 TO 1977



Data on the methods employed in murder incidents were examined for the 17 years 1961 to 1977. Over this time the percentage distributions of the various methods remained quite stable from year to year.

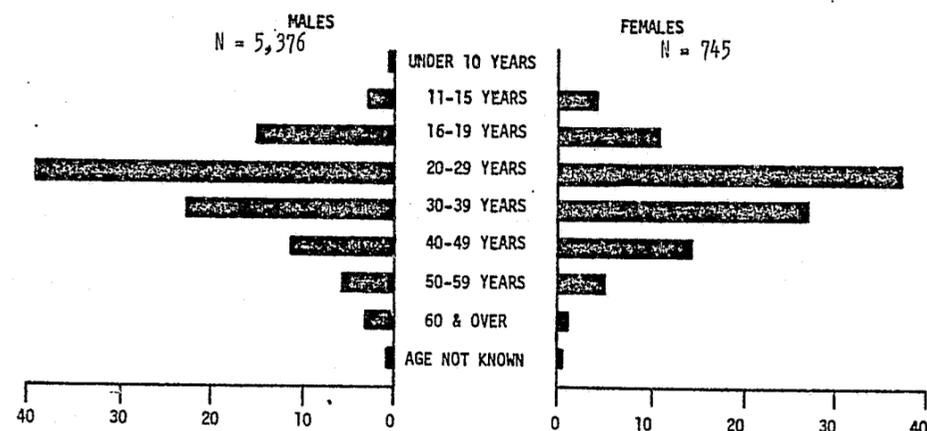
By far the most prevalent method is shooting, followed by beating, and then stabbing.

SOURCE: Statistics Canada, Murder Statistics, 1969-1970, 1974, 1976, 1977, Catalogue #85-209.

PREPARED BY: Statistics Division,  
 Ministry of the Solicitor General  
 February, 1979

Q.10 What is the age and sex distribution of suspects of homicide?

AGE AND SEX OF HOMICIDE SUSPECTS BY PERCENTAGE IN CANADA, 1961 TO 1977



As can be seen from the above graph, homicide is a crime of the relatively young. The most homicide prone years are the twenties, followed by the thirties. This is consistent with the pattern found for violent crime in general. It is interesting that male and female suspects have very similar age distributions. The size of the male population of suspects is almost eight times that of the females.

SOURCES: Statistics Canada, *Homicide in Canada*, Cat. #85-505, 1976  
 Statistics Canada, *Homicide Statistics*, Cat. #85-209 Annual.

PREPARED BY: Statistics Division,  
 Ministry of the Solicitor General,  
 February, 1979.

Q.11 Over the past ten years, what are the statistics on the number of police officers and prison staff murdered?

Number of Policemen on Staff  
 and Number Murdered  
 Canada 1961-1978 (1)

Number of Prison Guards and  
 Number of Prison Guards Murdered  
 Canada 1961-1978 (1)

Year	Number of Police- men on Staff	Number of Policemen murdered	Year	Number of Prison Guards	Number of Prison guards murdered
1968	37,044	5	1968	Not Available	-
1969	38,589	5	1969	Available	-
1970	40,295	3	1970	Available	-
1971	41,940	3	1971	Not Available	-
1972	43,762	3	1972	Available	1
1973	45,809	5	1973	Available	-
1974	48,051	6	1974	Not Available	1
1975	50,667	2	1975	Available	2(2)
1976	51,629	3	1976	Available	-
1977	52,308	5	1977	Available	-
1978(1)	**	6	1978(1)	Available	4(3)
TOTAL		46	TOTAL		8

\*\* Not available as of November 1978.

(1) As of December 31, 1978.

(2) One other employee (Steinhauser) was mortally wounded during a hostage taking at British Columbia Penitentiary.

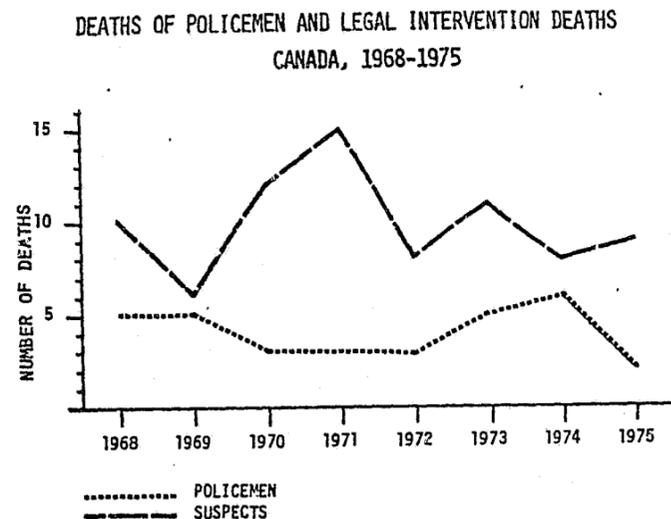
(3) The murder of Michel Roy (Director of Archambault Institute) is counted here. He was shot in the driveway of his home.

A statistical analysis of the murders of policemen relative to the number of policemen at risk indicates that there has been no statistically significant change in the murder rate for on-duty police officers over the years presented. This indicates that random fluctuations explain the apparent increase in 1977 and 1978.

SOURCE: Statistics Canada, *Murder Statistics*, (Catalogue #85-209)

PREPARED BY: Statistics Division,  
 Ministry of the Solicitor General,  
 February, 1979

Q.12 What is the relationship between the number of policemen killed and the number of suspects killed?



Legal intervention deaths include deaths occurring as a result of injuries inflicted by the police or other law enforcement agents in the course of arresting or attempting to arrest suspected lawbreakers.

Death by legal intervention can also occur while the law officers are attempting to suppress a disturbance, to maintain order or are taking other legal action. Legal intervention also includes legal executions, but it does not include injuries caused by civil insurrections.

During the period examined, although the police may well have been the agents in the legal interventions shown, it may have been prison guards or other law enforcement agents as well. However, this distinction by "agent" is not apparent from the data, except for 1968 when the only interventions reported were those by the police.

As the graph shows there has been little average change in the relationship between the number of policemen killed and the number of suspects. Roughly speaking, two suspects are killed for every policeman.

SOURCE: Statistics Canada, Causes of Death, 1968-1975 (Cat. #84-203)

PREPARED BY: Statistics Division,  
Ministry of the Solicitor General.  
February, 1979

Q.13 For the major violent offences, how many persons were admitted to penitentiary and what were their sentences?

MAJOR VIOLENT OFFENCES BY LENGTH OF MAJOR SENTENCE, CANADA, 1976

MAJOR VIOLENT OFFENCE	TOTAL ADMIS- SIONS	UNDER 2 (1) YEARS	2 YEARS AND UNDER 3	3 YEARS AND UNDER 4	4 YEARS AND UNDER 5	5 YEARS AND UNDER 6	6 YEARS AND UNDER 10	10 YEARS AND UNDER 15	15 YEARS AND UNDER 20	20 YEARS AND OVER	DEATH COMMUTED TO LIFE	LIFE	AVERAGE* SENTENCE (YEARS)
Homicide (2)	284	8	18	28	17	15	61	23	7	2	0	105	7.0
Sexual Offences (3)	247	38	69	52	32	20	26	6	2	0	0	2	4.0
Assaults (not indecent) (4)	173	98	32	24	11	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	2.0
Robbery (5)	1,047	282	269	215	103	48	90	36	3	1	0	0	3.5
TOTAL	1,751	426	388	319	163	87	180	66	12	3	0	107	4.0

\* For the purpose of this calculation, death commuted to life and life sentences were omitted.

- (1) A person returned to penitentiary on parole violation or forfeiture whose original sentence had been for a major violent offence, including homicide, would be categorized as admitted under the original charge.
- (2) Homicide includes murder, manslaughter and attempted murder.
- (3) Sexual Offences include indecent assault (on a male or a female), rape and attempted rape, and other sexual offences.
- (4) Assaults (not indecent) include wounding, bodily harm, assaults on police, other peace/public officers, and other assaults.
- (5) Robbery includes with firearms, other offensive weapons and other robbery.

SOURCE: Statistics Canada, Correctional Institutions Statistics 1976  
(Catalogue #85-207)

PREPARED BY: Statistics Division  
Ministry of the Solicitor General  
March, 1979

Q.14 With regard to the legislation to abolish capital punishment, passed into law on July 26, 1976, how many persons were admitted to penitentiaries each year on conviction for murder charges?

MURDER ADMISSIONS TO FEDERAL PENITENTIARIES CANADA, 1976-1978					
YEAR	CAPITAL MURDER	NON- CAPITAL MURDER	1ST DEGREE MURDER	2ND DEGREE MURDER	TOTAL
1976	0	84	11	6	102
1977	0	20	29	84	133
1978	0	1	44	96	141
TOTAL	0	105	84	186	375

Where proceedings for offences of non-capital murder commenced before July 26, 1976, the person was sentenced as if the Act to abolish the death penalty had not come into force. In cases of capital murder, the person was sentenced as if the offence had been committed after the coming into force of the new legislation, that is, as if he had been charged with first degree murder.

SOURCE: Operational Information Services  
Inmate Record System  
Correctional Services of Canada

PREPARED BY: Statistics Division,  
Ministry of the Solicitor General.  
February, 1979

Q.15 As of 1978 how many murderers are currently serving time in penitentiary and in what year were they sentenced?

Year of Sentence	YEAR OF SENTENCE FOR CURRENT MURDERERS IN CUSTODY:				Total
	First Degree Murder	Capital Murder	Second Degree Murder	Non-Capital Murder	
CANADA 1921 to 1978.					
1921	—	1	—	—	1
1924	—	1	—	—	1
1948	—	1	—	—	1
1950	—	1	—	—	1
1952	—	2	—	—	1
1953	—	2	—	—	2
1955	—	1	—	—	2
1956	—	2	—	—	1
1957	—	1	—	—	2
1958	—	1	—	—	1
1959	—	4	—	—	1
1960	—	1	—	—	4
1961	—	1	—	—	1
1962	—	2	—	—	1
1963	—	5	—	3	5
1964	—	2	—	10	15
1965	—	6	—	10	12
1966	—	3	—	9	15
1967	—	5	—	13	16
1968	—	—	—	9	14
1969	—	—	—	28	28
1970	—	2	—	33	37
1971	—	—	—	51	53
1972	—	1	—	53	53
1973	2	—	—	80	81
1974	2	—	—	58	60
1975	2	—	—	76	78
1976	7	—	10	79	81
1977	35	—	77	80	97
1978	40	—	105	14	126
TOTAL	88	45	192	611	936

SOURCE: Operational Information Services  
Inmate Records Systems  
Correctional Services of Canada

PREPARED BY: Statistics Division,  
Ministry of the Solicitor General  
20 April 1979

Q. 16 How long do convicted murderers remain in penitentiaries before they are released on first parole, and how does this compare to persons serving long terms for other offences?

RELEASES ON FIRST PAROLE (INDEFINITE SENTENCES) FOR PERSONS  
ADMITTED BY WARRANT OF COMMITTAL, CANADA, 1970-1978

YEAR OF RELEASE	TOTAL PERSONS RELEASED	CAPITAL MURDER			NON-CAPITAL MURDER			OTHER OFFENCES		
		ORIGINAL SENTENCE	# PERSONS	AV. TIME SERVED	ORIGINAL SENTENCE	# PERSONS	AV. TIME SERVED	ORIGINAL SENTENCE	# PERSONS	AV. TIME SERVED
1970	2	Death	1	9.8	Life	1	8.3			
1971	2				Life	1	7.6	Life	1	12.2
1972	1	Death	1	16.6						
1973	1				Life	1	6.6			
1974	3							Prev. Det.	3	11.5
1975	18	Death	4	19.6	Life	4	9.3	Prev. Det.	10	7.4
1976	39	Death	12	15.8	Life	19	10.7	Prev. Det.	4	10.2
								Life	4	12.0
1977	32	Death	9	12.5	Life	12	10.2	Prev. Det.	8	12.3
								Life	3	11.9
1978	23	Death	2	43.4	Life	14	10.9	Prev. Det.	5	13.4
								Life	2	11.8

For capital murder, twenty-seven inmates served an average of 15 years; two convicts deviated from this pattern, averaging 43 years in penitentiary. For non-capital murder, the average time served to first parole was 10.3 years. For other offences, this average time was 10.9 years.

The above data indicate that with very few exceptions, murderers and inmates given long sentences for other offences serve fairly similar portions of their terms before they are released on first parole. However, with the implementation of the legislation to abolish capital punishment (as of July 26, 1976), people convicted of first degree murder or of high treason must spend twenty-five years in penitentiary before they are considered for parole; people convicted of second degree murder must serve at least ten years.

SOURCE: Operational Information Services,  
Inmate Records System, CSC

PREPARED BY: Statistics Division,  
Ministry of the Solicitor General.  
March, 1979

Q.17 How many murderers have escaped from penitentiary?

UNLAWFUL LEAVES AND RETURNS  
TO CUSTODY 31 AUG. 1975 - 31 DEC. 1977

YEAR	UNLAWFUL LEAVES	RETURNS TO CUSTODY
31 Aug. - 31 Dec. 1975	Escapes 2	2
1 Jan. - 31 Dec. 1976	Escapes 2 Temp. Absence 1 Day Parole 3 TOTAL 6	2 1 3 6
1 Jan. - 31 Dec. 1977	Escapes 5 Temp. Absence 7 Temp. Absence with Escort 2 Walkaway 2 Day Parole 1 TOTAL 17	5 6 2 2 0 15
TOTAL	25 (1)	23

(1) This includes one inmate who is counted twice because he failed to return from a temporary absence in 1976 and again in 1977.

SOURCE: Inmate Population Movement  
Operational Information Services  
Correctional Services of Canada

PREPARED BY: Statistics Division  
Ministry of the Solicitor General  
March 1979

2.18 During 1972 to 1978, how many inmates of federal penitentiaries died, and from what causes?

TYPES OF DEATHS OF FEDERAL INMATES ON REGISTER BY (P)  
INSTITUTIONAL SECURITY LEVEL, CANADA, 1972 TO 1978

TYPE OF DEATH AND SECURITY LEVEL	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	TOTAL 1972-1978 (P)	
								NUMBER	% <sup>(1)</sup>
<u>Deaths by Natural Causes</u>									
Maximum	3	8	5	5	6	3	6	36	
Medium	4	4	5	10	5	6	3	37	
Minimum	0	2	1	0	4	0	2	9	
Total Natural Causes	7	14	11	15	15	9	11	82	37.6
<u>Accidental Deaths</u>									
Maximum	2	0	1	2	3	1	0	9	
Medium	4	2	3	1	1	3	0	14	
Minimum	1	0	1	3	2	0	3	10	
Total Accidents	7	2	5	6	6	4	3	33	15.1
<u>Suicides</u>									
Maximum	7	9	4	5	5	7	2	39	
Medium	1	3	4	3	0	4	2	17	
Minimum	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	3	
Total Suicides	8	12	10	8	5	11	5	59	27.1
<u>Deaths by Murder</u>									
Maximum	1	1	3	4	4	6	2	21	
Medium	1	2	1	0	1	2	2	9	
Minimum	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	
Total Murders	3	3	4	4	7	8	4	33	15.1
<u>Deaths by Legal Intervention</u>									
Maximum	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	5	
Medium	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	3	
Minimum	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	3	
Total Legal Intervention <sup>(2)</sup>	1	1	1	1	3	3 <sup>(3)</sup>	1	11	5.0
<u>Deaths by all causes</u>									
Maximum	14	18	14	17	19	18	12	111	
Medium	10	12	13	14	8	16	8	80	
Minimum	2	2	4	3	10	2	7	28	
Total Deaths	26	32	31	34	37 <sup>(4)</sup>	36 <sup>(5)</sup>	27 <sup>(6)</sup>	223	100.0

- (1) Percentages are based on a total of 218 inmates.  
(2) Inmates shot by authorities while resisting arrest or committing an offence while on temporary absence or day parole.  
(3) Includes two outside institution and one inside.  
(4) Includes one death, cause unknown, in maximum.  
(5) Includes one death, cause unknown, in minimum.  
(6) Includes three deaths, cause unknown, one in each of the categories.  
(P) Preliminary, as of September 11, 1978.

During the years presented, slightly more than a third of all inmate deaths were due to natural causes. The second major type of deaths was suicides, followed by accidents and murders. Deaths by legal intervention occurred the least often.

Data available on the cases in which inmates were murdered do not indicate who the suspects were. Furthermore, no conclusions can be drawn about the relative mortality risks of inmates in specific institutions and no comparison can be made between the types of deaths related to different security levels. The above counts do not take into consideration either the characteristics of the inmates sent to each institution or the number of institutions to which a given security level is attached.

SOURCE: Directorate of Operational Information Services,  
Canadian Penitentiary Service,  
May, 1978

PREPARED BY: Statistics Division  
Ministry of the Solicitor General  
March, 1979

**END**