

# Crime by the numbers

July 15, 2008

These provide a detailed breakdown of people with criminal records in Canada, as well as related statistical information.



## GTA's most expensive neighbourhoods

The cost of imprisoning people from certain areas of the city reaches eight figures when provincial costs are extrapolated to reflect more expensive federal sentences.

POSTAL AREA	INMATES PER 10,000	PER CENT OF CITY'S TOTAL INCARCERATION COSTS	FEDERAL COST*
<b>MOST EXPENSIVE IN 416</b>			
M8V Toronto	4.3	5.8%	\$25,556,467
M5A Toronto	4.2	4.5%	\$19,733,475
M6N Toronto	3.3	4.4%	\$19,237,442
M3N Toronto	3.1	3.3%	\$14,379,557
M1E Toronto	2.4	3.3%	\$14,363,382
<b>MOST EXPENSIVE IN 905</b>			
L4T Mississauga	3.8	15.3%	\$12,601,430
L1J Oshawa	3.3	45.7%	\$11,238,353
L5N Mississauga	1.5	11.6%	\$9,558,734
L5B Mississauga	1.9	10.8%	\$8,886,480
L6V Brampton	2.4	17.9%	\$6,338,120

\*These figures are extrapolations, based on the per cent of provincial FSA costs in inmate counts for Toronto proper. It costs \$255 per day to house a federal inmate. This extrapolation assumes a proportionately equal number of inmates are sent to provincial and federal institutions, at proportionate sentence lengths, and that this is historically consistent. The turnover in provincial jail is faster than in federal institutions due to longer sentences.

SOURCE: Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services & Correctional Services Canada data  
TORONTO STAR ANALYSIS BY ANDREW BAILEY AND JIM RANKIN

## City by city penitentiary bills

Hamilton, Kitchener, Barrie and St. Catharines all have higher per capita prison costs than Toronto.

Home town	Number of inmates	Average sentence length, in days	Prisoners per 10,000 population	Total imprisonment cost (millions)	Per capita cost
Toronto (Ont.)	672	2,553.4	2.7	\$437.5	\$175
Montréal (Que.)	815	1,830.1	5	\$380.3	\$235
Ottawa (Ont.)	194	2,712.4	2.4	\$134.1	\$165
Hamilton (Ont.)	216	2,182.1	4.3	\$120.2	\$238
Québec (Que.)	178	1,944.4	3.6	\$88.3	\$180
Edmonton (Alta.)	214	1,602.4	2.9	\$87.4	\$120
Mississauga (Ont.)	92	3,512.8	1.4	\$82.4	\$123
Winnipeg (Man.)	173	1,775.8	2.7	\$78.3	\$124
Windsor (Ont.)	73	3,308.5	3.4	\$61.6	\$285
London (Ont.)	101	2,117.3	2.9	\$54.6	\$155
Calgary (Alta.)	130	1,640.4	1.3	\$54.4	\$55
Halifax (N.S.)	130	1,588.0	3.5	\$52.6	\$141
Longueuil (Que.)	99	1,982.2	4.3	\$50.0	\$218
Vancouver (B.C.)	111	1,518.8	1.9	\$42.9	\$74
Kitchener (Ont.)	72	2,151.3	3.5	\$39.5	\$193
Laval (Que.)	106	1,403.6	2.9	\$37.9	\$103
Abbotsford (B.C.)	40	3,561.5	3.2	\$36.3	\$293
Brampton (Ont.)	71	1,950.2	1.6	\$35.3	\$81
Barrie (Ont.)	35	3,433.3	2.7	\$30.6	\$239
Chilliwack (B.C.)	24	4,715.7	3.5	\$28.9	\$417
Surrey (B.C.)	56	1,745.9	1.4	\$24.9	\$63
Oshawa (Ont.)	52	1,852.5	3.7	\$24.6	\$173
Saint John (N.B.)	37	2,581.2	5.4	\$24.3	\$358
St. Catharines (Ont.)	40	2,374.3	3	\$24.2	\$183
Brantford (Ont.)	38	2,412.6	4.2	\$23.4	\$259
Regina (Sask.)	35	2,513.8	2	\$22.5	\$125
Greater Sudbury	38	2,250.1	2.4	\$21.8	\$138

## Towns with prisons

Prisons in these areas likely account for higher costs and inmates per 10,000. Prisoners may give last address as prison.

Home town	Number of inmates	Average sentence length, in days	Prisoners per 10,000 population	Total imprisonment cost (millions)	Per capita cost
Kingston (Ont.)	120	1,952.1	10.2	\$59.7	\$510
Victoria (B.C.)	67	2,023.4	8.6	\$34.6	\$443
Campbellford (Ont.)	23	4,399.9	72.5	\$25.8	\$8,133

SOURCE: Correctional Services Canada data

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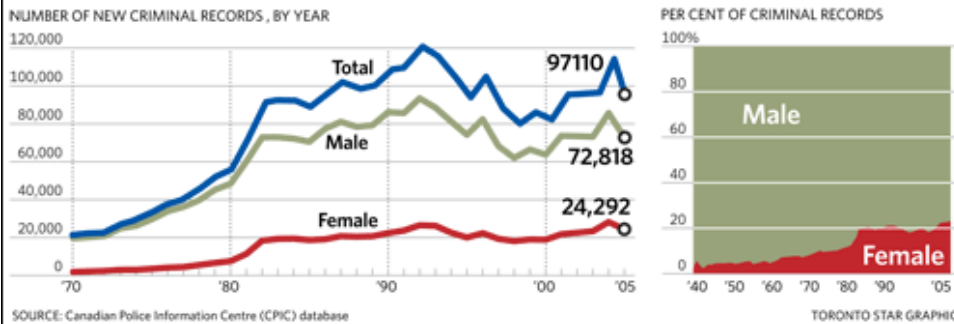
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## Prison costs highest in small centres

	PER CENT OF POPULATION	INMATES	PER CENT OF TOTAL INMATES	PER CAPITA COST
Big Cities (Over 100,000)	65.0%	4,344	63.2%	<b>\$140.03</b>
Middle (10,000 to 99,999)	28.0%	1,587	23.1%	<b>\$113.12</b>
Small Places (Under 10,000)	7.1%	938	13.7%	<b>\$282.86</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>6,869</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$142.60</b>

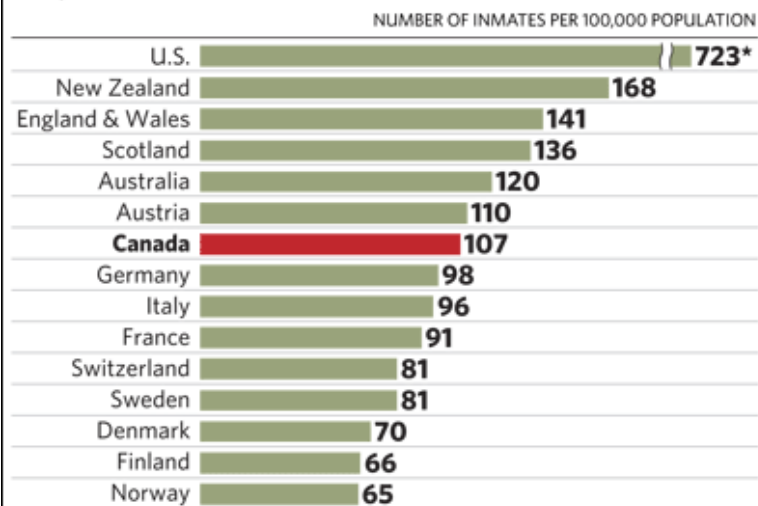
SOURCE: Correctional Services Canada data TORONTO STAR ANALYSIS BY ANDREW BAILEY AND JIM RANKIN TORONTO STAR GRAPHIC

## Crimes by gender



## Prisoner populations

Canada's incarceration rate is high relative to most Western European countries.



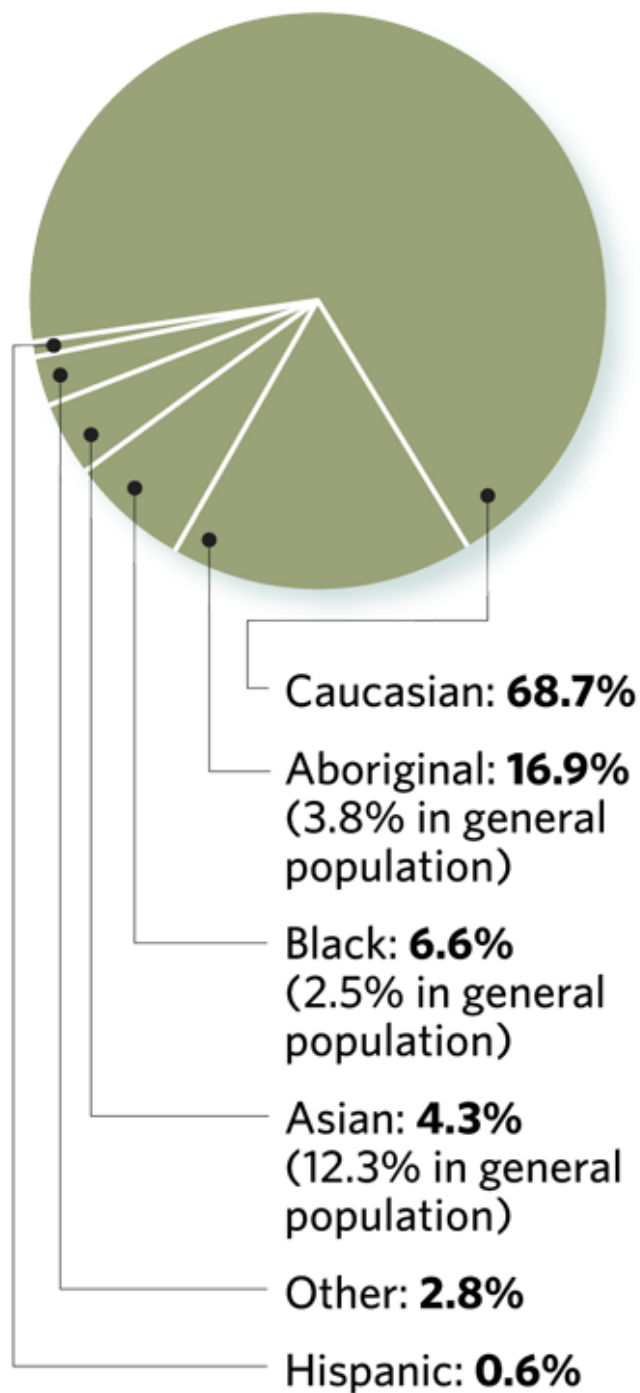
\*Figures for the United States are for incarcerated adults only (i.e., youths are excluded). The incarceration rate, in this figure, is a measure of the number of people (i.e., adults and youth) in custody per 100,000 people in the general population. Different practice and variations in measurement in different countries limit the comparability of these figures.

SOURCE: Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada; World Prison Brief, International Centre for Prison Studies, [www.prisonstudies.org](http://www.prisonstudies.org).

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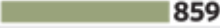


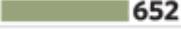
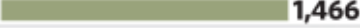


# Federal offender population by race

SELF-REPORTED AS OF APRIL 8, 2007



SOURCE: Correctional Service Canada, 2006 Census

## Where our criminals come from

PROVINCE OR COUNTRY	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE	CRIMINAL RECORDS PER 10,000
Alberta	196,406	8.1%	 572
B.C.	163,509	6.8%	 377
Manitoba	119,941	5.0%	 1,016
N.B.	64,149	2.7%	 857
Nfld.	54,435	2.3%	 1,070
N.S.	80,227	3.3%	 859
Ontario	635,828	26.3%	 500
P.E.I.	11,705	0.5%	 844
Quebec	500,958	20.7%	 652
Sask.	144,857	6.0%	 1,466
Yukon/N.W.T.	16,405	0.7%	 1,581
Canada	12,210	0.5%	
Europe	154,830	6.4%	
U.S.	42,976	1.8%	
OTHER	215,900	8.9%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,414,336</b>	<b>100%</b>	 736

SOURCE: Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) database

# Canadians conflicted on crime

Survey shows longer sentences are popular, but mandatory minimums get a mixed review.



## Treat or punish ...

Criminals can be rehabilitated back into society:



Canada should jail its criminals for longer terms:



## On racial profiling...

Racial profiling — the practice of targeting people of certain ethnic or racial background in the belief that most people who commit certain crimes belong to these groups — is a useful tool for law enforcement officers:



Mandatory documentation by police of the reasons for stopping and searching an individual, and tracking the individual's ethnic or racial background, is a useful way to monitor for patterns of ethnic or racial bias:



## On longer sentences ...

The government was right to impose mandatory minimum sentences for more crimes:



Judges should be allowed to sentence criminals without having to abide by a mandatory minimum sentence:



Mandatory minimum sentences have served to deter crime in Canada:



Stiffer sentences actually lead to a reduction in crime levels:



The federal government is considering whether to eliminate statutory releases. Do you agree or disagree with eliminating statutory releases and replacing them with earned parole?



## On news coverage ...

Canadian politicians focus too much on crime:



The Canadian media focus too much on crime:



Concentrated media coverage of sensational crimes leads to hasty changes in policy and criminal laws:



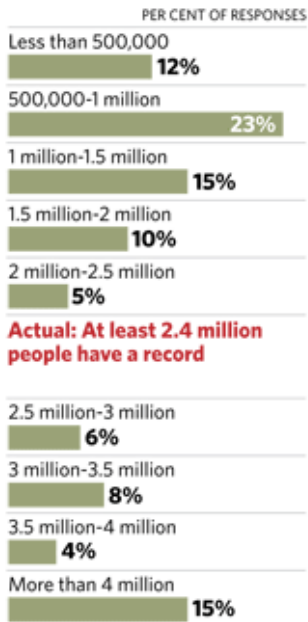
From May 26 to May 27, 2008 Angus Reid Strategies conducted an online survey among a randomly selected, representative sample of 1,021 adult Canadians. The margin of error for the total sample is +/- 3.1%, 19 times out of 20. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure a sample representative of the entire adult population of Canada. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

SOURCE: Angus Reid Strategies survey

# Wrong on race

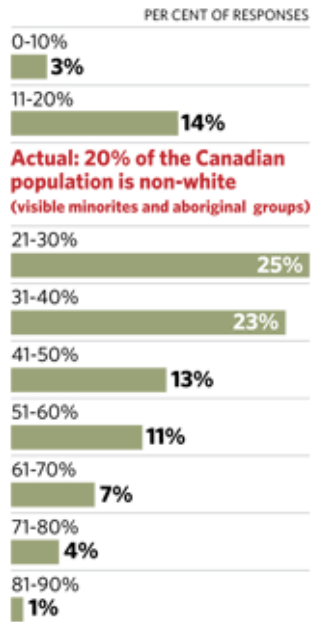
Survey shows that Canadians underestimate how many people have criminal records, while overestimating how many visible minorities are in the country and how many visible minorities have committed crimes. "Actual" numbers are based on analysis of an RCMP-maintained database and census data.

**1. How many people in Canada do you believe have a criminal record?**



**Actual: At least 2.4 million people have a record**

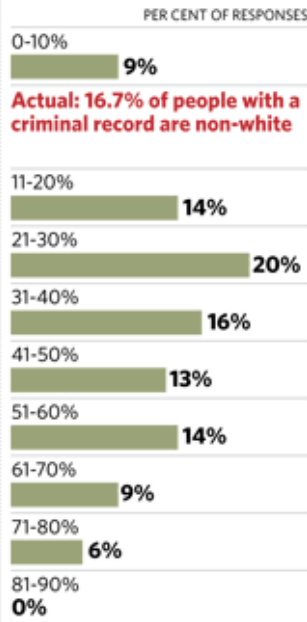
**2. What proportion of the Canadian population do you believe is non-white?**



**Actual: 20% of the Canadian population is non-white (visible minorities and aboriginal groups)**

Average survey response: **36.2%**

**3. What proportion of people in Canada with a criminal record do you believe is non-white?**



**Actual: 16.7% of people with a criminal record are non-white**

Average survey response: **36.7%**

	Perception AVERAGE SURVEY RESPONSE	Actual FROM DATABASE
● What proportion of people with a criminal record for violence are non-white:	35.5%	23.9%
● What proportion of people with a criminal record for weapons offences are non-white:	36.2	28.1
● What proportion of people with a criminal record for drug offences are non-white:	38.4	15.3
● What proportion of people with a criminal record for sex offences are non-white:	26.5	22.9
● What proportion of people with a criminal record for criminal driving offences are non-white:	24.2	13.2
● What proportion of people with a criminal record for robbery are non-white:	35.4	23.9
● What proportion of people with a criminal record for theft are non-white:	35.5	18.1
● What proportion of people with a criminal record for fraud are non-white:	23.8	17.4

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SOURCE: Angus Reid Strategies survey, Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) database, Census data

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