

CORRECTIONAL SERVICE CANADA

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Post-pandemic Provisional Federal Community Status Forecasts

Post-pandemic changes in 10-year population forecasts were evidenced across day, full parole and statutory release.

Why we are doing this study

Over the course of two recent fiscal years (2020-21 and 2021-22), marked by the COVID-19 pandemic era, the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) experienced an unprecedented decline in the federal community supervision (-903 or 9.6%) population¹. Consequently, a pause occurred in the annual forecasting exercise. Then, in 2022 new 10-year community supervision population projections were estimated to fiscal year-end 2031-32.²

What we did

Weekly snapshots of community supervision counts from 1990-91 to year-end 2022-32 was derived from CSC's Offender Management System. Community status projections for day parole, full parole, and statutory release were estimated to 2032-33 for men and women combined. SAS / ETS software was used for analyzing univariate time series data and to select the best-fitting model.

What we found

As tabled below, on 29 March 2023, the actual count on day parole was **1,471** an increase of 75 or 5.4% over the previous year from **1,396**. For 2032-33, the 10-year forecast for day parole is estimated to be **1,470**, a negligible decrease of 1. With the exception of the Atlantic and Prairie regions, all others are projected to decline and the total on day parole is estimated to be slightly above.

In relation to full parole, at fiscal year-end 2022-23 the actual count was **4,036**, a decline of -94 or 2.3% over the previous year from **4,130**. By year-end 2032-33, the full parole is estimated to be **3,910**, a projected decrease of 126 or 3.1%. All regions are projected to decrease by 2032-33.

With respect to statutory release, at fiscal year-end 2022-23 the actual count was **2,318**, a decline of -157 or 6.3% over the previous period from **2,475**. By year-end 2032-33, the statutory release population is estimated to be **2,240**, a decrease of 78 or 3.4%. With the exception of the Atlantic region, all others by 2032-33 are projected to decrease.

Federal Community Status Forecasts to 2032-33

Day Parole	Atl.	Que.	Ont.	Pra.	Pac.	Total
21-22	136	259	423	297	281	1,396
22-23	123	317	378	343	310	1,471
32-33	131	312	375	347	309	1,470
Net ▲	+8	-5	-3	+4	-1	-1
Change	6.5%	1.6%	0.8%	1.2%	0.3%	0.1%

Full Parole	Atl.	Que.	Ont.	Pra.	Pac.	Total
21-22	474	963	1,237	840	616	4,130
22-23	451	983	1,191	817	594	4,036
32-33	442	942	1,139	793	593	3,910
Net ▲	-9	-41	-52	-24	-1	-126
Change	2.0%	4.2%	4.4%	2.9%	0.2%	3.1%

Statutory Release	Atl.	Que.	Ont.	Pra.	Pac.	Total
21-22	198	468	776	717	316	2,475
22-23	172	447	780	661	258	2,318
32-33	178	424	742	643	249	2,240
Net ▲	+6	-23	-38	-18	-9	-78
Change	3.5%	5.1%	4.9%	2.7%	3.5%	3.4%

Note: Regional and Total forecasts are run separately so numbers will vary.

¹ Pandemic Era Impacts on the Federal Supervision Populations: RIB 22-05;

² Pandemic Era Impacts on Provisional Federal Population Forecasts: RIB 22-19

What it means

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic period there was a significant decline in both the federal institutional and community supervision populations. While the community supervision population is still projected to decrease over a 10-year horizon, it appears that relative to 2022-23 by 2032-33 the day parole and full parole populations as well as the statutory release populations will be lower.

For more information

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