

Canadian Detention Statistics
Average Numbers During 2002

	Atlantic	Quebec	Ontario	Prs&Ters*	BC&Yuk*	Total
average number of persons detained in provincial jails	2	18	232	12	19	284
average number of persons detained in immigration holding centers	0	69	84	0	3	156
average number of total detainees (jails and centres)	2	87	316	12	22	440
average percentage of total detainees (jails and centres)	<1%	19.81%	71.84%	2.78%	5.11%	100%
average number of accompanied detained minors	0	5.4	3.6	0	0	9.1
average number of unaccompanied detained minors	0	0.3	1.1	0	0.2	1.6

Prs&Ters* = Prairies and Territories
BC&Yuk* = British Columbia and Yukon

From these statistics, we can see that on any one day, during 2002:

- an average of 440 people were in immigration detention in Canada.
- of these, an average of 284 people were in provincial jails and the rest (156) were in immigration holding centres.
- 72% of detainees were in Ontario, 20% in Québec, 3% in the Prairies and Territories, 5% in BC/Yukon and less than 1% in the Atlantic.
- despite its immigration detention centre, Ontario specializes in detention in provincial jails, with an average of 232 in jail, compared to 84 in the immigration centre.
- by contrast, in Québec, there is an average of 18 in jails, compared to 69 in the immigration centre.
- the recently opened short-term holding centre in Vancouver is not seeing a lot of business: there has been an average of just 3 people in the centre over the year.
- there is not enormous variation in the numbers detained over the period covered: the lowest was on 5 September (381 people detained) and the highest was 11 April (496 people detained).
- there were on average 11 minors in detention, most of them accompanied, but on any day there were one or two unaccompanied minors in detention.
- the highest number of minors in detention was found on 11 April (23 minors) and the lowest on 17 January (3 minors).
- of those detained, an average of 5 were detained for security reasons.
- the security cases are divided between those detained before September 11 and those detained after. According to these statistics, of pre-September cases, there are 3 people detained on security certificates in Ontario. Of post-September 11 cases, the statistics show one person on a security certificate in Québec (since 10 January) and a handful identified as security related, but not on a certificate, and apparently mostly not staying long in detention, in Québec, Ontario and Prairies/Territories.

source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Enforcement Branch. CIC warns us that that these statistics are manually tabulated and may contain inaccuracies. No statistics were available during the last week of December.