

Youth Custody and Community Services (YCCS) Survey

Program: Corrections

Project: Youth Custody and Community Services (YCCS) Survey

Project Description:

The YCCS project collects both machine-readable micro-level data and aggregate level data on youth serving custody and/or community service dispositions. Respondents providing aggregate data complete a set of standard data tables, which are used to compile national data on admissions and releases. Micro-data, on the other hand, are extracted directly from jurisdictional operational systems through the use of interface programs. The interface programs are designed to extract specific data elements and values identified in the survey National Data Requirements. These data contain more detailed information on the young offender, offences, court-ordered dispositions and their compliance, events and reviews. The micro-data are used to generate aggregate admission and release counts, which are tabulated into the aggregate standard data tables comparable to the aggregate survey.

Outputs:

Youth Custody and Community Services – Data Tables (Annual) – Youth Custody and Community Services, Catalogue number 85-226-XIE. This product has been discontinued as of October 2002. The last issue of this publication was “Youth Custody and Community Services Data, 2000-2001”.

Data tables are available on request, at the time of the release of the annual Youth Custody and Community Services *Juristat*. Other data tables are available through CANSIM; tables 251-0009 to 251-0017 at <http://cansim2.statcan.gc.ca> and in the *Summary tables* section (free) at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/>.

Youth Custody and Community Services *Juristat* (Annual)

Background:

The LOC approved initiation of the YCCS project in 1986. In October 1990 the survey NDR were approved and data collection began in 1992 on a pilot basis. The project was considered developmental until the Fall of 1998 when the LOC approved the public release of the YCCS report (for the 1997-1998 survey cycle). At this time, seven jurisdictions were participating in the micro-data survey. Supplemental aggregate data were received from other jurisdictions. Since this time, microdata coverage has gradually diminished as a result of several factors: systems replacement in some jurisdictions, year 2000 system problems, and data verification/interface quality issues. As of the 2000-2001 survey cycle, two respondents continue to supply micro-data. The remaining jurisdictions provide data in aggregate form.

As part of its plan to improve micro-data collection in correctional services, the Correctional Services program has been developing a micro-data survey to replace the aggregate Adult Correctional Services survey. In April 2000 the LOC approved expanding the scope of this project to include the collection of youth corrections data using integrated data requirements and an integrated data extraction methodology. The project was re-titled the Integrated Correctional Services survey (ICSS). The adult data requirements and survey specifications were approved by LOC in May 2002.

Decision History:

YCCS project initiation approved October 1986

LOC approval for implementation of the microdata YCCS April 1990

LOC approval of the NDR October 1990

LOC approval to restrict prototype report to Initiative Members only November 1995

LOC approval for public release of YCCS report November 1998

LOC approval of expanding scope of ACS micro-data survey development to include youth April 2000

Future Plans:

Implementation of interfaces for the collection of youth microdata have been completed in Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick, Ontario, Alberta. Development work in Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia are ongoing and will continue in 2008/2009.

For the fiscal years 2007/2008 and 2008/2009, the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics received additional funding from Statistics Canada to undertake the necessary work to support internal systems development of the Integrated Correctional Services Survey (ICSS) as well as to aid the program to manage the transition to the ICSS from the legacy aggregate corrections surveys.