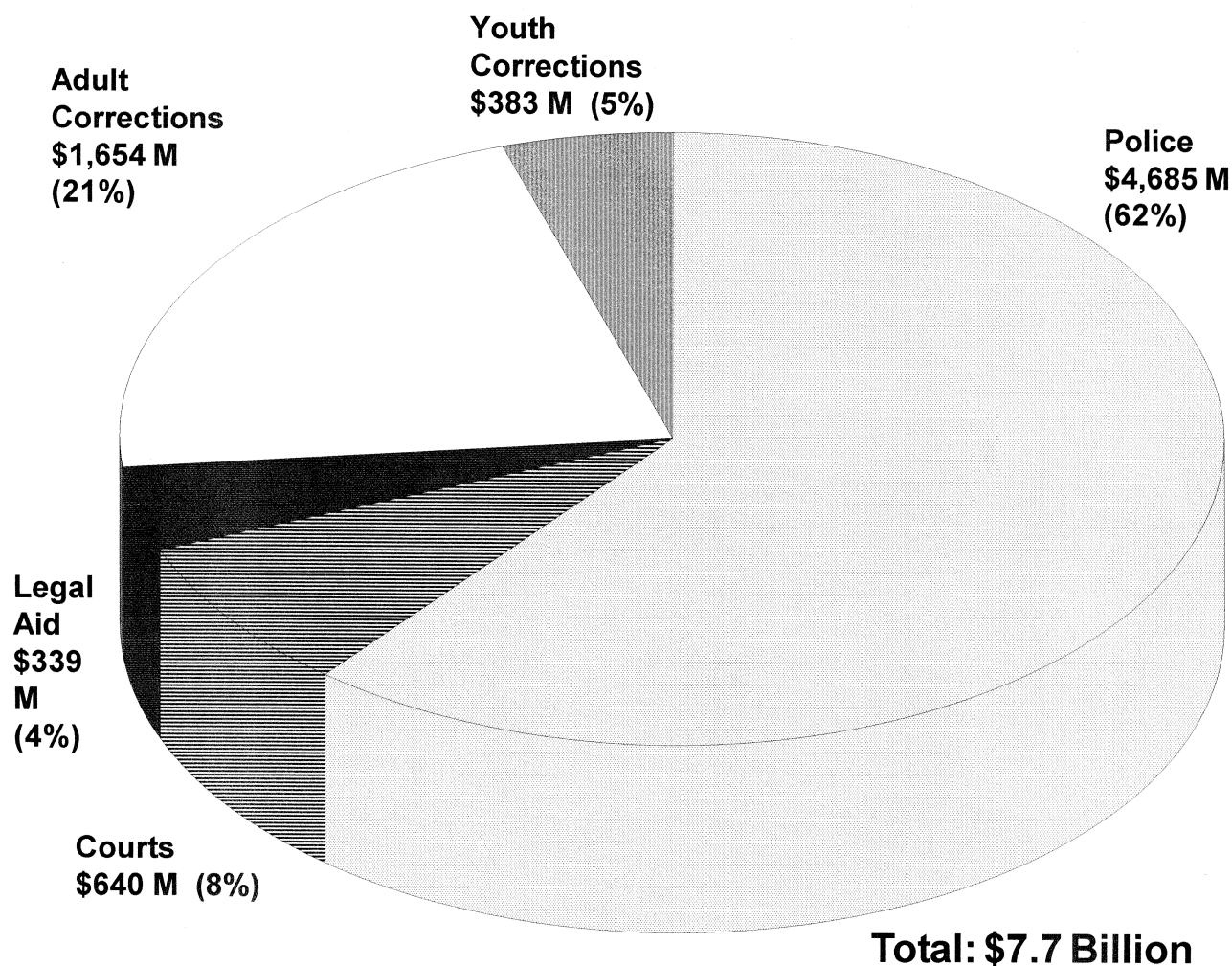


# FACT SHEET

*#1 in a series of fact sheets, published by the John Howard Society of Ontario, examining the questions most frequently asked about the criminal justice system.*

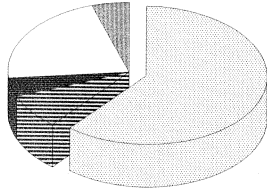
## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST ?

**Costs of the Canadian Criminal Justice System  
in 1989/90 (millions).**



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Studies for Justice Statistics, Juristat 11(7).

## POLICE



62%

The operating costs of municipal, provincial and federal policing in Canada rose 12% from 1989/90 to 1990/91 from \$4.68 billion to \$5.25 billion. In a thirteen year period between 1975 and 1988, total Canadian police costs increased 188%.

Juristat 11(7), 11(17)

Policing cost each Canadian \$197 in 1990. This cost has risen from \$141 in 1985 - a 40% increase.

Juristat 11(17)

In 1990 the average cost of each of the 56,034 police officers in Canada was \$93,667 (including salary, benefits, training, equipment and overhead.)

Juristat 11(17)

In 1990 the average cost of each of the 20,685 police officers in Ontario was \$88,875.

Juristat 11(17)

Total operating expenditures for policing in Ontario was \$1.84 billion in 1990.

Juristat 11(17)

Excluding federal policing, in 1990 policing in Ontario cost each resident \$170.

Juristat 11(17)

The estimated expenditures of the Metropolitan Toronto Police Force in 1990 were \$497 million - a 10.2% increase from the previous year.

Annual Report

The average cost of each Toronto police officer in 1990 was \$89,055.

Annual Report

Policing costs for each Toronto resident rose from \$161 in 1986 to \$231 in 1990.

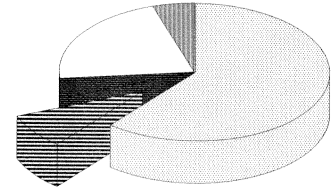
Annual Report

The 1992 Metropolitan Toronto Police budget request included:

- a 35% increase in the Chief's budget (from \$643,000 to \$861,700)
- a 18% increase in the police public relations department (from \$1.6 million to \$1.9 million)
- \$1.85 million for dry cleaning police officers' uniforms.

Toronto Star Feb. 24, 1992

## COURTS



8%

\$640 million was spent on the administration of criminal, civil and family courts in Canada in 1988/89.

Juristat 11(7)

The cost of courts to each Canadian was \$25 in 1988/1989.

Juristat 11(7)

Court expenditures rose 6.2% between 1987/88 and 1988/89 and increased 188% between 1975/76 and 1987/88.

Juristat 11(7)

Ontario's spending on court services in 1988/89 was \$210 million - approximately 1/3 of the total spent in all of Canada.

Juristat 11(3)

A recent Supreme Court decision requiring that cases come to trial within 6 months has added an extra \$39 million to the continually rising costs of court services in Ontario.

Ministry of the Attorney General

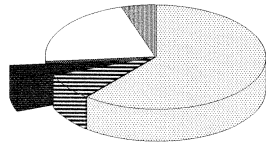
About 100 new Ontario courtrooms will be required in the next 20 years if trends continue.

The cost of building these courtrooms will be approximately \$300 million (in 1992 dollars).

Ministry of the Attorney General

## LEGAL AID

4%



In 1989/90, criminal and civil legal aid services cost \$342 million. 81% of these costs are borne by federal, provincial and territorial governments.

Juristat 11 (11)

The cost to each Canadian citizen for Legal Aid in 1989/90 was \$13. The highest per capita cost was Ontario at \$18.

Juristat 11 (11)

The number of approved applications rose 22% between 1985/86 and 1989/90 while costs rose 20%.

Juristat 11 (11)

The cost of legal aid in Ontario has risen from \$143 million 1988/89 to \$272 million in 1991/92 - a 90% increase.

Ministry of the Attorney General

Due to the federal government's cap on its contribution to legal aid, the Ontario government's contribution has risen from \$57 million to \$162 million in the same period - an increase of 184%.

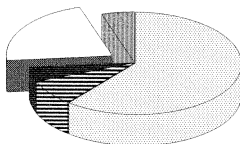
Ministry of the Attorney General

The need for legal aid services in Ontario rose 25% in 1991. Welfare costs in the province also rose at approximately the same rate.

Ministry of the Attorney General

## ADULT CORRECTIONS

21%



In 1989/90, adult correctional services in Canada cost \$1.65 billion. Federal corrections cost \$806 million while \$847 million was spent on provincial corrections.

Adult Correctional Services in Canada

By 1990/91, the costs of adult correctional services in Canada were \$1.8 billion - an increase of 9%. Costs of federal corrections increased 7% while provincial corrections increased 11%.

Adult Correctional Services in Canada

Between 1975 and 1988, adult correctional expenditures increased by 305%.

Juristat 11 (7)

Adult correctional services in Canada cost each Canadian citizen \$63 in 1989/90.

Juristat 12(8)

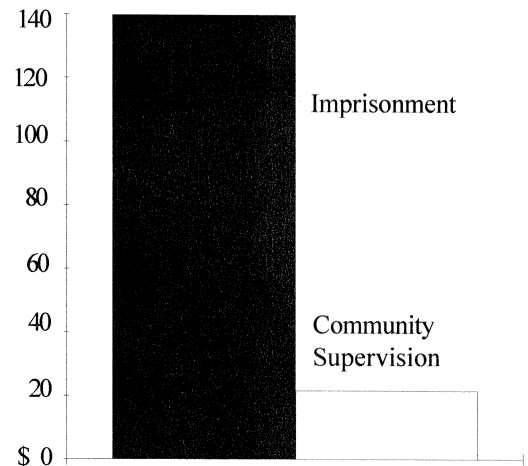
The average annual cost of keeping an inmate in a federal penitentiary in 1989/90 was \$51,047 (\$140/day).

Basic Facts

The average annual cost of supervising a federal offender on parole or mandatory supervision in 1989/90 was \$7,916 (\$22/day).

Basic Facts

### Average Daily Cost per Offender Federal (1989/90)



Source: Basic Facts About Corrections 1991

It cost \$110 per day to house an inmate in an Ontario provincial custody facility in 1989/90.

Adult Correctional Services in Canada

Quebec, Alberta and British Columbia with a total population of 12.2 million accounted for 38% of the total spent on provincial corrections in Canada while Ontario with a population of 9.6 million spent 45%.

Adult Correctional Services in Canada

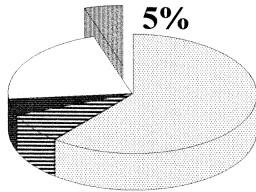
Spending on corrections in Ontario increased 44% between 1985/86 and 1989/90.

Adult Correctional Services in Ontario

The cost to each Ontario citizen rose from \$30 in 1985/86 to \$40 in 1989/90 - a 25% increase.

Adult Correctional Services in Ontario

## YOUTH CORRECTIONS



In 1989/90, governments spent \$383 million on correctional services for youth. The cost to each Canadian citizen for that year was \$15.

Juristat 11(7)

In Ontario during 1988/89, the Ministry of Community and Social Services spent \$75 million on youth corrections for those under age 16 while the Ministry of Correctional Services spent \$83 million on those aged 16 and 17 years old.

The State of the Child in Ontario

In 1988/89 it cost about \$100,000 per year for each secure custody bed for young offenders in Ontario under the age of 16.

The State of the Child in Ontario

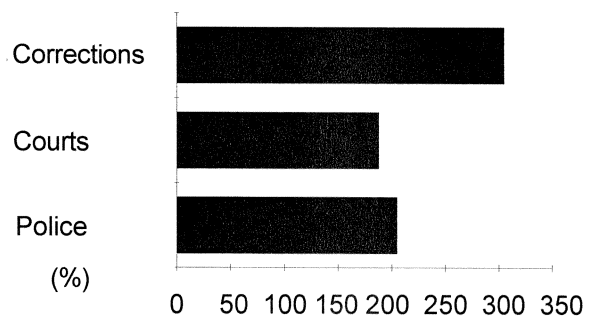
The Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services planned to increase the number of secure custody beds by 38% between 1990 and 1992 from 208 to 282 - an extra \$7.8 million per year using 1988/89 estimates.

The State of the Child in Ontario

The operating cost to keep a young offender under the age of 16 in open custody was estimated to be about \$50,000 per year in 1988/89.

The State of the Child in Ontario

### Percentage Increase in Expenditures 1975/76 to 1987/88



Source: Juristat 11 (7)

### Sources

Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics:  
Adult Correctional Services in Canada  
Juristat Service Bulletin

Metropolitan Toronto Police, Annual Report 1990

Ministry of the Attorney General, Court System and Legal Aid Implementation Projects, Project Descriptions and News Release, June 1992

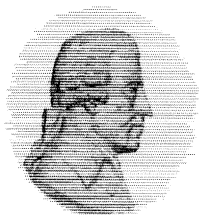
Correctional Services Canada  
Basic Facts About Corrections in Canada, 1991,

Toronto Star, "Council's 'pit bulls' gnawing 'bare-bones' police budget", February 24, 1992

The Child, Youth and Family Policy Research Centre, *The State of the Child in Ontario*, Barnhorst and Johnson (eds.),

**The John Howard Society is an organization of citizens who accept responsibility for understanding and dealing with the problems of crime and the criminal justice system.**

Should you wish more information about the Society or feel that you would like to contribute to the work of the Society in any way, please write or contact us by phone at:



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