

# SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

## INDICATOR #38 Youth Conviction Rate

### DEFINITIONS

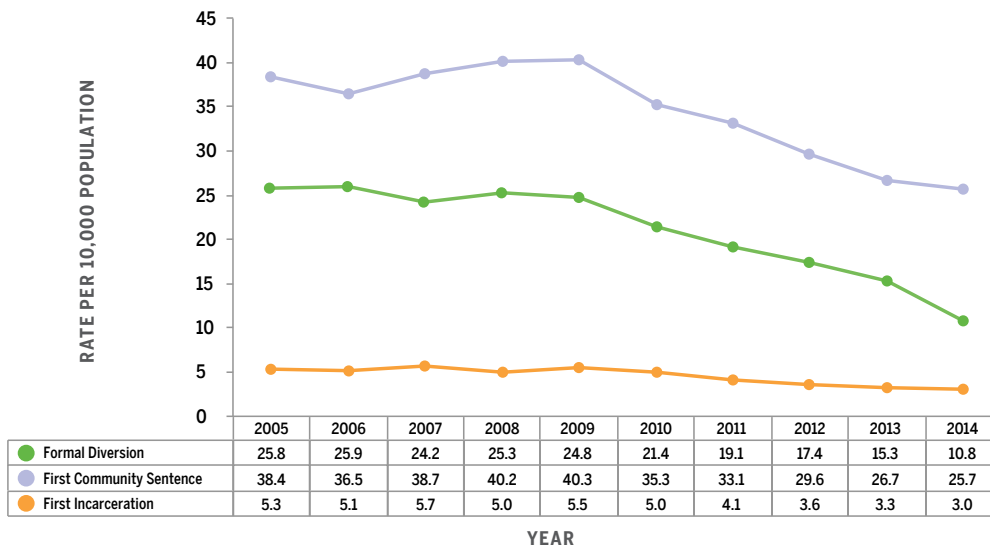
**INDICATOR #38A** — Youth justice community rate per 10,000 youth population.

**INDICATOR #38B** — Youth justice custody rate per 10,000 youth population.

### KEY MESSAGES

- ▶ Involvement in the youth justice system is often the consequence of poor childhood outcomes such as social exclusion, low educational achievement, and poverty.<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ In 2014, the rate of youth in custody in BC was 2 per 10,000, which is one-third the Canadian rate of 6 per 10,000.<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ The youth justice system in BC includes three categories:
  - **Formal Diversion:** Youth who are diverted from the court system to be managed by police in a formal community service such as the John Howard Society.
  - **First Community Sentence:** Youth under a first court order to serve a sentence in the community (rather than incarceration).
  - **Incarceration:** Youth ordered to serve a sentence in a Youth Custody Centre.<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ As shown in Figure 38AB.1, the rate per 10,000 youth in the BC justice system declined substantially from 2009 to 2014.

**FIG 38AB.1** Youth in the Justice System Age 12-17, Rate per 10,000 Population, BC, 2005 to 2014



**Notes:** "Diversion" includes youth who are diverted from the court system to be managed by police in a formal community service such as the John Howard Society. "First Community Sentence" includes youth under a first court order to serve a sentence in the community rather than incarceration. "Incarceration" includes youth in a Youth Custody Centre. See Appendix B for more information about this data source.

**Source:** BC Ministry of Children and Family Development, Corporate Data Warehouse, 2015. Prepared by the Surveillance and Epidemiology Team, BC Office of the Provincial Health Officer, 2016.

## REFERENCES

<sup>1</sup>McMurtry R, Curling A. Review of the roots of youth violence: literature reviews. Vol. 5. Toronto, ON: Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services; 2008.

<sup>2</sup>BC Ministry of Children and Family Development. Performance management report. Vol. 7. Victoria, BC: BC Ministry of Children and Family Development; 2015 Sep [cited 2016 Jun 30]. Available from: [http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/family-and-social-supports/services-supports-for-parents-with-young-children/reporting-monitoring/03-operational-performance-strategic-management/performance\\_management\\_report\\_sept\\_2015.pdf](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/family-and-social-supports/services-supports-for-parents-with-young-children/reporting-monitoring/03-operational-performance-strategic-management/performance_management_report_sept_2015.pdf).