
This report provides detailed analysis of the detention provisions of the *Corrections and Conditional Release Act* in preparation for a legislated parliamentary review of the Act. The study addresses three main questions.

1. Are the right people referred for detention? That is, are the highest risk violent offenders referred for detention?
2. Are the right people being detained? That is, are the detained people the highest risk offenders?
3. Are those who have been detained the most likely to reoffend after release and are they most likely to reoffend violently?

Presented in the report are descriptions of the changes in the number and types of referred and detained offenders, offence histories and recidivism rates. The study also looks at gender, regional and racial differences in referral and detention patterns. The report provides an extensive summary and discussion of the findings.

In brief, the overall results suggest that it is very difficult to discriminate within the high risk group of offenders who are held until their statutory release date. Revised methods of selecting inmates for detention based on objective assessment risk may be more effective at selecting the most serious offenders, rather than relying on a set of offences as specified in schedules 1 and 2 of the Act. The report proposes that additional research would assist in the development of better selection criteria for those most likely to commit new offences.