

THE INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION

On May 20, 1991 there were 864 persons in institutions inclusive of children's homes, rest homes, adult shelters, prisons, hospitals and homes for the physically challenged. Fully comparable data are not available from the 1980 Census and hence the following analysis focuses primarily on the results of the 1991 Census.

Table 1
Distribution of Institutional Population by Type of Institution 1991

Type	Number	% of Total
All Institutions	864	100
Children's Homes	13	2
Rest Homes	202	23
Adult Shelters	78	9
Homes for Physically Challenged	28	3
Hospitals & Hospices	211	24
Prisons & Detention Centres	332	39

The full census questionnaire was not administered to the institutional population but basic demographic information as well as data on educational attainment is available.

It is clear from Table 1 that rest homes, hospitals and prisons account for the majority (86%) of persons in some form of custodial care. The following table provides a brief profile of the major demographic characteristics of the population in each of the three major institutional groupings, and a combined profile for those persons in children's homes, adult shelters and homes for the physically challenged.

Table 2
Profile of the Institutional Population 1991

Type of Institution	Number of Persons	Median Age	Sex		Race	
			% Male	% Female	% Black	% White & Other
Rest Homes	202	80	32	68	66	34
Hospitals & Hospices	211	62	52	48	83	17
Prisons & Detention Centres	332	30	90	10	89	11
Other Institutions*	119	42	77	23	90	10

*Includes children's homes, adult shelters and homes for the physically challenged.

This profile gives a picture of rest homes that generally accords with common perceptions about this aspect of community life: rest homes cater to senior citizens who are predominantly female and the racial composition is not very different from that of the wider population.

For hospitals and hospices, the significant fact is that blacks occupy these facilities out of proportion to their numbers in the general population.

A similar pattern pertains to the prison population where it can be seen from the table that inmates are predominantly young black males. Additional detail on the age distribution of the prison population and levels of educational attainment are given below in Table 3.

Table 3
Prison* Population by Age Group and Highest Level of Schooling 1991

a) Age	Number	% of Total
Total	332	100
Under 16	20	6
16 - 24	85	26
25 - 34	121	36
35 - 44	86	26
45+	20	6
b) Highest Level of Schooling		
Primary	17	5
Secondary	220	66
Technical	25	8
University	25	8
None/Not Stated	45	13

*Includes youth detention centres
