

show the ratio per 10,000 of the general population: 1890, 38.61; 1910, 32.5; 1914, 31.05; 1932, 22.9; 1935, 13.76; 1939, 15.38; 1942, 18.46; 1943, 15.17; 1944, 12.68; 1945, 12.13.

RECEPTIONS

The usual table of receptions and discharges is published as an annexure hereto. The following is a comparative summary for the past five years. The figures for receptions include in some cases the same person more than once and also persons received on transfer as between one institution and another. The net receptions of direct committals by the Courts during the year were 3,008, as compared with 3,284 for the previous year. The number of distinct persons dealt with was 2,065, made up of 1,973 males and 92 females, as compared with a total of 2,099 for the previous year.

	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Number in custody at beginning of year ..	895	1,615	1,064	1,077	993
Number received during year ..	4,828	5,216	4,622	4,089	3,996
Number discharged or transferred ..	4,708	5,167	4,608	4,173	3,949
Number in prison at end of year ..	1,615	1,064	1,077	993	1,040

NATURE OF OFFENCES

The following table gives a comparative summary showing the offences classified under three main groupings—*i.e.*, offences against the person, offences against property, and miscellaneous offences. It is to be noted that although the aggregate number of offences has fallen slightly there has been a small increase in the number of offences against the person and against property. These figures unhappily are symptomatic of a drift that appears to have set in, the numbers since the beginning of this year having shown an upward movement.

Year.	Offences against the Person.	Offences against Property.	Miscellaneous Offences.	Total.
1945 ..	226	985	854	2,065
1944 ..	218	947	934	2,099
1943 ..	239	1,060	1,183	2,482
1942 ..	309	969	1,751	3,029
1941 ..	249	781	1,339	2,369
1940 ..	238	789	1,174	2,201
1939 ..	238	777	1,490	2,505
1938 ..	197	740	1,287	2,224
1937 ..	191	675	1,125	1,991
1936 ..	189	599	1,002	1,790

LENGTH OF SENTENCE

Hereunder is set out a comparative table showing the lengths of sentence imposed on offenders. It is interesting to observe that the proportions under the various terms of sentence have remained fairly static, although the number who received sentences of five years or over is fewer than for several years past. During the year approximately 50 per cent. of the total number of distinct persons dealt with by the Courts were sentenced to terms of three months or less.