

Get all the Facts

Police-Reported Intimate Partner Violence in Canada, 2017

- Women were overrepresented as victims of intimate partner violence, accounting for almost 8 in 10 victims (79%).
- Intimate partner violence was the most common kind of violence experienced by women (45% of all female victims aged 15 to 89).
- In 2017, people aged 25 to 34 years experienced the highest rates of police-reported intimate partner violence. This finding was consistent for both males and females.
- In terms of physical assault of women, intimate partners were the most common assailant (359 victims per 100,000 versus 298).
- In terms of sexual assault, intimate partner sexual assault was considerably less common than non-intimate partner violence sexual assault (24 victims per 100,000 population versus 90).
- Approximately 7 in 10 (72%) victims of intimate partner violence had physical force used against them, rather than weapons including firearms, knives or blunt instruments.
- In 2017, rural areas experienced higher rates of violent crime. Both rates of police-reported violent crime and intimate partner violence were higher in rural areas than in urban ones (474 victims per 100,000 population versus 276).
- Almost two-thirds (62%) of intimate partner homicides between 2007 and 2017 were preceded by a history of family violence. Statistics Canada cites the primary motive in these cases as most often an argument or quarrel (50%), frustration, anger or despair (24%) and jealousy (17%).
- Female victims were involved in the vast majority (79%) of the 933 intimate partner homicides between 2007 and 2017. A current or former legally married or common-law husband (75%) were the most common perpetrator of intimate partner homicide with female victims.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54978/02-eng.htm>

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