

Get all the Facts

Canadian Residential Facilities for Victims of Abuse, 2017/2018

- In 2017/2018, there were:
 - 552 residential facilities for victims of abuse operating across Canada
 - 68,000 admissions in the previous year
- The vast majority of admissions were women (60.3%) and their accompanying children (39.6%).
- Over three-quarters of women residing in facilities for reasons of abuse on snapshot day with parental responsibilities were admitted with their children.
- The rate of Aboriginal women and children was respectively 5 and 3 times higher in facilities compared to their representation in the Canadian population.
- The rate of non-permanent resident women was 6 times higher in facilities than in the general population, and for their children, representation was nearly 10 times higher.
- Nationally, 78% of short-term beds were occupied on snapshot day.
- On snapshot day, there were 7,397 individuals staying in residential facilities for victims of abuse. Of these:
 - 4,020 (54.3%) were women
 - 3,361 (45.4%) were accompanying children
 - 16 (0.2%) were men
- On snapshot day, April 18, 2018, residents of residential facilities for reasons of abuse included:
 - 3,565 women;
 - 3,137 accompanying children; and
 - 8 men
- The vast majority (91%) of residents were residing in a facility primarily because of abuse.

The remaining 9% of residents were there primarily for other reasons (e.g., homelessness, crisis intervention, or emergency shelter).

- Of the 3,565 women reporting abuse as their primary reason for seeking shelter, over eight in ten were there due to abuse by a current or former intimate partner: 66% identified a current intimate partner as their abuser and 18% identified a former intimate partner.
- 1.5% residents were there due to abuse by a same-sex intimate partner.
- In facilities where the type of abuse was reported, women reported:
 - Emotional or psychological abuse (89%)
 - Physical abuse (73%)
 - Financial abuse (51%)
 - Sexual abuse (33%)
 - Harassment (31%)
 - Cultural abuse (7%)
 - Spiritual abuse (6%)
 - Other unspecified abuse (5%)
 - Forced marriage (2%)
- Also, 3% of women residents sought shelter to escape human trafficking or exploitation by being forced into sex work, and 1% of women residents sought shelter to escape human trafficking or exploitation through forced labour or other means.
- 4% of Canadian women aged 18 and older and 8% of children aged 0 to 17 are Aboriginal (First Nations, Métis or Inuit). More than one in five (22%) women aged 18 and over, and one in four (25%) children residing in facilities for victims of abuse on that day were Aboriginal.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2019001/article/00007-eng.htm>

Contact info

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