

# Office for the Status of Women

## Fact Sheets on Violence





# MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER



As Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, I am pleased to present this document – a series of fact sheets related to violence in Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador.

On November 8, 2018, Premier Ball announced Newfoundland and Labrador's first stand-alone Minister Responsible for the Status of Women. I was honoured to be appointed to that role. Since that time, we have been working to advance the status of women and girls in Newfoundland and Labrador through a number of important initiatives.

One area in which we are devoting significant effort is that of violence prevention. It is essential that all efforts in violence prevention are informed by research, lived-experience and best practices. The following document is just one piece of that key research produced by the Office for the Status of Women which will be used to inform upcoming planning regarding future directions.

This research is based on the most recent statistics released by Statistics Canada over the past five years. I hope that you find it useful in your efforts to prevent violence in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol Anne Haley".

Hon. Carol Anne Haley  
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women



# Get all the Facts

## Fact Sheets on Violence

- The Office for the Status of Women have created a series of fact sheets on violence. Five are specifically related to violence in Newfoundland and Labrador, while 18 refer to Canada overall.
- The data cited in these fact sheets is based on the most recently available data from Statistics Canada and have been sourced from surveys conducted over the past 5 years.
  - Statistics Canada largely relies on four surveys to inform violence-related releases:
  - General Social Survey (GSS) on Canadians' Safety (Victimization)
  - The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey
  - Homicide Survey
  - Survey of Residential Facilities for Victims of Abuse (SRFVA)
- These surveys have varying collection dates ranging from 2014-2018. Therefore, although data may appear outdated, the data included in these factsheets is based on the most recent data available on that topic.

# Get all the Facts

## Police-reported Crime Statistics in Canada, 2017

- At the national level, the rate of crime is higher among rural populations. The rate of violent crime was 63% higher in rural communities than in urban areas in 2017 (1,620 versus 995).
- A recent Juristat article on the characteristics of police-reported sexual assaults examined incidents reported by police between 2009 and 2014. It found that the large majority (87%) of sexual assault victims were females, and 60% of sexual assault victims were females under age 25.
- Self-reported data from the General Social Survey on Canadians' Safety (Victimization) showed that only 5%<sup>1</sup> of sexual assaults experienced by Canadians aged 15 years and older in 2014 were brought to the attention of police.
- As in previous years, the majority (98%) of police-reported sexual assaults were classified as level 1 sexual assault<sup>2</sup>, which increased 13% in 2017.
- Between 2016 and 2017, the rate of police-reported sexual assaults (all levels combined) increased in all provinces and territories, with the exception of Yukon (-17%), Nunavut (-6%), Saskatchewan (-5%), and Manitoba (no change).
- In 2017, there were 8,046 incidents of sexual violations against children reported by police: the majority of these (69% or 5,550 incidents) were sexual interference, followed by luring a child via telecommunications (16% or 1,310 incidents).
- Physical assault continued to be the most prevalent form of police-reported violent crime in Canada in 2017, accounting for close to 6 in 10 (57%) violent offences reported by police.
- In 2017, the rate for the relatively new violation of non-consensual distribution of intimate images, enacted in March 2015 with Bill C-13, continued to increase. In 2017, police reported 1,469 such incidents, compared to 833 in 2016, marking a 74% increase in rate.
- In 2017, there were 1,106 police-reported incidents of violations related to the commodification of sexual activity, which is categorized as a violent crime or crime against the person<sup>3</sup>.
- The number of police-reported commodification of sexual activity offences increased from 759 incidents in 2016 to 1,106 incidents in 2017, marking a 44% increase in the rate.
- In contrast, the rate of other prostitution-related offences (categorized as non-violent crime)<sup>4</sup> decreased 32% between 2016 and 2017.
- In all, 134 incidents of prostitution were reported in 2017.
- In 2017, there were a total of 375 incidents of human trafficking reported by police: this included 271 incidents of trafficking in persons under the **Criminal Code** and another 104 incidents falling under the **Immigration and Refugee Protection Act**. Compared to 2016, this represented an 8% increase in the rate of Criminal Code trafficking in persons and a 1% increase in human trafficking under the **Immigration and Refugee Protection Act**.



## Select Definitions from Statistics Canada:

### **Commodification of Sexual Activity:**

In December 2013, new legislation came into effect governing prostitution-related activities. The new legislation is listed under “crimes against the person” in the Criminal Code and targets “the exploitation that is inherent in sex work and the risks of violence posed to those who engage in it” (Criminal Code, Chapter 25, preamble). New violations classified as “violent crime” under “commodification of sexual activity” include: the purchasing of sexual services or communicating for that purpose, receiving a material benefit deriving from the purchase of sexual services, procuring of persons for the purpose of prostitution, and advertising sexual services offered for sale. In addition, a number of other offences related to prostitution continue to be considered non-violent offences and are classified under “other Criminal Code offences.” These include communicating to provide sexual services for consideration, and stopping or impeding traffic for the purpose of offering, providing or obtaining sexual services for consideration.

**Sexual assault:** Is classified into one of three levels: level 1, assault of a sexual nature that violates the sexual integrity of the victim; level 2, sexual assault with a weapon, threats to use a weapon, or causing bodily harm; and level 3, sexual assault that wounds, maims, disfigures or endangers the life of the victim.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54974-eng.htm>

# 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>





## Police-reported Family Violence against Children and Youth in Canada, 2017

- In 2017, there were 59,236 child and youth victims (aged 17 years and younger) of police-reported violence in Canada. Females represented over half (56%) of victims in this age group.
- The rate of police-reported family violence against children and youth was 250 per 100,000 population in 2017.
- Physical assault was the most common type of family violence reported (56%), followed by sexual offences (32%).
- Female children and youth had similar rates for physical assault (138 per 100,000 population) and sexual offences (134 per 100,000 population).
- Male children and youth had much higher rates of physical assault versus sexual offences (142 versus 27 per 100,000 population).
- In 2017, the rate of family violence was higher for children and youth in rural areas than it was in urban areas (406 versus 214 per 100,000 population), for both female and male victims.
- Rates of violence were higher for female victims in every Census Metropolitan Area.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54978/01-eng.htm>

# Get all the Facts

## Police-reported Family Violence against Seniors in Canada, 2017

- In 2017, there were 11,380 senior victims (aged 65 to 89 years) of police-reported violence in Canada. One-third (33%) of these were victimized by a family member such as a child, spouse, sibling or other family member.
- Females accounted for over half (58%) of senior victims of family violence.
- Spouses were the most common perpetrator in incidents of family violence against senior women (32%).
- The overall rate of police-reported family violence among seniors was 65 victims per 100,000 population in 2017.
- Physical assault had the highest rate for family violence against seniors (44 per 100,000 population).
- Between 2009 and 2017, the rate of police-reported family violence against seniors increased 6%, from 60 victims per 100,000 population in 2009 to 64 in 2017.
- Senior women were more likely than senior men to die by family-related homicide. Rates of family-related homicides of female seniors was double that of senior males (4.4 versus 2.2 victims per 1 million population, respectively).

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54978/03-eng.htm>



## Police-reported Violence against Girls and Young Women in Canada, 2017

- Girls and young women are disproportionately victims of violent crime, and this pattern appears to continue until they reach age 45.
- In 2014, the overall rate of self-reported violent victimization among Canadians aged 15 and older was significantly higher for women than men (85 versus 68 incidents per 1,000 population).
- Young women aged 15 to 24 had the highest rate of self-reported violent victimization (216), which was significantly higher than the rates for young men aged 15 to 24 and women aged 25 and older (115 and 63, respectively).
- The police-reported violent crime rate in Canada was highest for victims who were girls and young women aged 24 and younger in 2017.
- Between 2009 and 2017, police-reported violence declined overall but the decrease was smaller for victims who were girls and young women. While physical assault offences and other violent offences decreased, sexual offences increased.
- Every province and territory recorded a decline in the rate of police-reported violence against girls and young women between 2009 and 2017, with the exception of Quebec.
- Between 2007 and 2017, Aboriginal girls and young women were over-represented among victims of homicide. Aboriginal identity was recorded for 450 of the 454 girls and young women who were victims of homicide. Of these, 34% were Aboriginal and 66% were non-Aboriginal.
- In 2017, the rate of police-reported violence was 1.8 times higher for girls and young women in rural areas than it was in urban areas (2,212 versus 1,236 per 100,000 population)
- Among younger girls aged 11 and younger, the rate for both sexual offences and physical assault offences was 2.0 times higher in rural

areas. Meanwhile, the rate for physical assault offences in rural areas was 1.9 times higher for older girls aged 12 to 17 and 2.4 times higher for young women aged 18 to 24.

### Type of Offence

- In 2017, girls and young women and boys and young men experienced similar rates of physical assault and other violent offences but rates for sexual offences were consistently higher for victims who were girls and young women, regardless of age group.
- Of all police-reported violence rates were similar for female and male victims aged 24 and younger for:
  - Physical assault offences (693 versus 676 per 100,000 population)
  - Other violent offences (291 versus 289)
- Yet, victims who were girls and young women had an overall rate for sexual offences that was seven times higher than the rate for boys and young men (407 versus 58).
- Regardless of age group, rates for sexual offences were higher for girls and young women than their male counterpart:
  - Three times higher for younger girls aged 11 and younger (181 versus 60);
  - Over nine times higher for older girls aged 12 to 17 (921 versus 98); and,
  - Nearly 14 times higher for young women and 18 to 24 (371 versus 27).
- As girls and young women aged, the type of offence they experienced changed:
  - For younger girls aged 11 and younger and older girls aged 12 to 17, sexual offences had the highest rate (181 and 921 per 100,000 population, respectively); and,
  - For young women aged 18 to 24, physical assault offences had a higher rate than sexual offences (1,392 versus 371).

# Get all the Facts

- For girls and young women, rates for physical assault offences peaked at age 20 (1,450), while sexual offences peaked at age 15 (1,243) and other violent offences peaked at age 18 (546).
- Among the most common types of police-reported violence committed against girls and young women, were:
  - physical assault offences (50%),
  - sexual offences (29%) and
  - other violent offences (21%).
- Offences related to homicide or death were rare (0.2%) for girls and young women.
- Boys and young men were most often victims of:
  - physical assault offences (66%)
  - other violent offences (28%)
- Sexual offences were far less common for men and boys (6%).
- Physical assault offences were the most common type of offence committed against women aged 25 and older (65%); however, among women, other violent offences (27%) were more common than sexual offences (8%).
- Girls and young women were most commonly victimized on private property and of those, nearly two-thirds were victimized in their own home.
- The large majority of those accused of police-reported violence were male. This is true for violence against girls and young women as well as boys and young men (81% and 79%, respectively). For physical assault offences and other violent offences, three-quarters of accused were male (76% and 77%, respectively). Meanwhile, the accused was male for nearly all (98%) sexual offences.
- Six in ten (59%) girls and young women were victimized by someone close in age (within five years). However, while older girls and young women were most often victimized by someone within five years of their own age (63% and 61%, respectively), it was less common for younger girls (24%).
- Between 2007 and 2017, girls and young women who were victims of homicide were most often killed by a male accused (78%). A male accused was much more common for boys and young men and women aged 25 and older who were victims of homicide (both 92%).
- The proportion of female accused was nearly three times higher when victims were girls and young women than their male counterparts (22% versus 8%), and the proportion of female accused was highest for victims who were younger girls (44%).
- Girls and young women were killed by someone close to them far more often than boys and young men.
- As girls and young women aged, the most common perpetrator of homicide also shifted:
  - Three in four (75%) younger girls aged 11 and younger were killed by a parent.
  - One in four (24%) older girls aged 12 to 17 was killed by a parent, 22% by a casual acquaintance and 19% by a non-spousal intimate partner.

## Characteristics of Perpetrators

- Girls and young women were often victimized by someone close to them. Around six in ten (57%) girls and young women were victimized by a family member, a non-spousal intimate partner or a friend, compared to three in ten (31%) of their male counterparts.
- Boys and young men were far more often victims of a casual acquaintance or a stranger than girls and young women (62% versus 37%).
- Their relationship with the perpetrator also differed by age:
  - Younger girls were most often victimized by a family member;
  - Older girls by a casual acquaintance; and,
  - Young women by a non-spousal intimate partner.



- Young women aged 18 to 24 were most often killed by a spouse (25%) or a non-spousal intimate partner (24%).
- Half (48%) of girls and young women who were victims of homicide were killed by someone who had a previous conviction in Canada, most often another violent offence such as sexual assault or physical assault.
- Girls and young women were most often killed by someone under the influence of an intoxicating substance (63%); however, this was more common among boys and young men (70%).

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54981-eng.htm>

# Get all the Facts

## Police-reported Sexual Assaults in Canada Before and After #MeToo, 2016 and 2017

- Police-reported Sexual Assaults in Canada Before and After #MeToo, 2016 and 2017
- There were more police-reported sexual assaults in 2017 than in any year since 1998 among criminal incidents founded by police.
- According to police-reported data, there were 23,834 victims of founded sexual assaults (level 1, 2 and 3 combined) in 2017 (65.5 victims of sexual assault per 100,000 population). This was a 13% increase from the previous year (58.0 per 100,000 population).
- The average rate of sexual assault was slightly higher in rural Canada, both before (19.2 versus 14.0 per 100,000 population) and after #MeToo (21.5 versus 17.8).
- The vast majority of victims of police-reported sexual assault were women or girls (89%).
- In the last three months of 2017, 6,043 women and girls were victims of sexual assault, 25% more than the average quarter pre-#MeToo (4,840) according to police-reports.
- There was also a 25% increase in the number of male victims post-#MeToo (723 compared with 578).
- Nearly all persons accused of sexual assault in 2016 or 2017 were male (97% before #MeToo, and 96% after).

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54979-eng.htm>



## Police-reported Violence among Same-sex Intimate Partners in Canada, 2009 to 2017

- Between 2009 and 2017, there were a total of 22,323 incidents of police-reported same-sex intimate partner violence in Canada. This represented approximately 3% of all police-reported incidents of intimate partner violence (IPV) over this time period.
- The proportion involved in police-reported spousal violence over the nine-year period (3%) was higher than the share of couples in Canada who reported being in same-sex spousal relationships (1%), for whom national data are available.
- While the majority (82%) of police-reported IPV involving opposite-sex partners most often involved female victims and their male assailants, just over half (55%) of police-reported same-sex IPV involved male partners.
- Common assault (level 1—the least serious form of assault) was the most common police-reported form of violence among male (59%) and female (64%) same-sex partners. Major assault, which includes assault levels 2 and 3, was more common among males (18% compared to 12% among females).
- Charges were laid or recommended considerably less often in incidents of police-reported IPV involving same-sex partners (65%) compared to those involving opposite-sex partners (82%).
- Between 2009 and 2017, there were 36 homicides involving same-sex partners, representing 5% of all intimate partner homicides over this time period.
- The number of police-reported same-sex IPV incidents declined by 11% between 2009 and 2017 and was fairly consistent for both male and female victims (-10% and -12%, respectively). The decline was smaller among opposite-sex intimate partners (-6%).
- According to a recent Statistics Canada report based on data from the the General Social Survey (GSS) on Canadians' Safety (Victimization), individuals aged 18 and over who self-identified as lesbian, gay or bisexual were generally more likely to report experiencing violence.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2019001/article/00005-eng.htm>

# Get all the Facts

## Police-reported Crime in Rural and Urban Areas in the Canadian Provinces, 2017

- A disproportionate amount of crime occurred in rural areas in 2017. While police services serving a mostly rural population served 16% of the population in the provinces, they reported:
  - 23% of violent crimes;
  - 17% of property crimes;
  - 27% of Criminal Code traffic offences; and,
  - 23% of other Criminal Code violations.
- The police-reported crime rate in rural areas (6,210 incidents per 100,000 population) was 23% higher than the urban crime rate (5,051 incidents per 100,000 population).
- Overall, the rate of police-reported violent crimes was higher in rural areas than in urban areas and certain violent crimes were more likely in rural areas and others in urban areas.

### Rural areas:

- **Physical assaults** - In both urban and rural areas, physical assaults - common assaults (level 1) - was most reported violent crime. However, the rates of physical assault were approximately twice as high in rural areas than in urban areas, for level 1,2 or 3 assaults as well as for assault against a peace officer.
- **Homicides** - From 2009 to 2017, rural police services reported 1,078 homicides (average annual rate of 2.02 homicides per 100,000 population) versus 4,068 homicides (a rate of 1.55 homicides per 100,000 population) for urban areas.
- **Sexual assault** - The rate of sexual assault in 2017 was slightly higher in rural areas than urban areas: 82 sexual assaults per 100,000 population to 63 sexual assaults per 100,000 population.
- **Sexual violations against children** - In 2017,


there were 37 incidents per 100,000 population in rural areas compared with the police-reported number in urban areas (18 incidents per 100,000 population).

- **Violent firearms offences** - the rate of violent firearms offences, such as discharge of a firearm or pointing a firearm, was more than twice as high in rural areas than in urban areas in 2017 (13 incidents per 100,000 population compared with 6 incidents per 100,000 population). Moreover, Violent firearms offences have risen sharply in rural areas, where the rate rose 60% between 2009 and 2017. Urban areas also saw a significant increase during this period, but on a smaller scale (+38%).
- **Indecent and harassing communications** - A rate of 62 in rural versus 40 in urban per 100,000 population.
- **Impaired driving** - The rate of impaired driving was about twice as high in rural areas as it was in urban areas.
- **Family violence** - Compared with urban rates in the provinces, rural rates were 1.9 times higher for child and youth victims of family violence, 1.7 times higher for victims of intimate partner violence, and 1.5 times higher for senior victims of family violence.

### Urban areas:

- **Robberies** - Although common across the country, these crimes are relatively rare in rural areas. While the 71 robberies per 100,000 population made this offence the fourth most common violenturban crime, it ranked ninth in rural, where the rate was four times lower (18 robberies per 100,000 population)



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- **Commodification of sexual activity and human trafficking offences** – Also more prevalent in urban areas than in rural areas, proportionally these crimes were reported five times more often by urban police services than by rural police services.
  - **Attempted murder** - The rate of attempted murder was lower in rural areas (2 versus 1.9 per 100,000 population)
  - The crime rate in the Provincial North was more than double that observed in the South. Whereas in the South, the crime rate is lower in rural areas, the reverse is true in the North. The homicide rate in rural areas was especially high in the Provincial North, where the average rate from 2009 to 2017 was 5.34 homicides per 100,000 population. This rate it is comparable to that recorded in the United States, i.e., 5.4 homicides per 100,000 population (FBI 2018). In the Provincial South, the homicide rate in rural areas was slightly below urban areas; averaging 1.41 homicides per 100,000 population from 2009 to 2017 compared with 1.52 in urban areas.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2019001/article/00009-eng.htm>  
<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/181205/dq181205a-eng.htm>

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## 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.

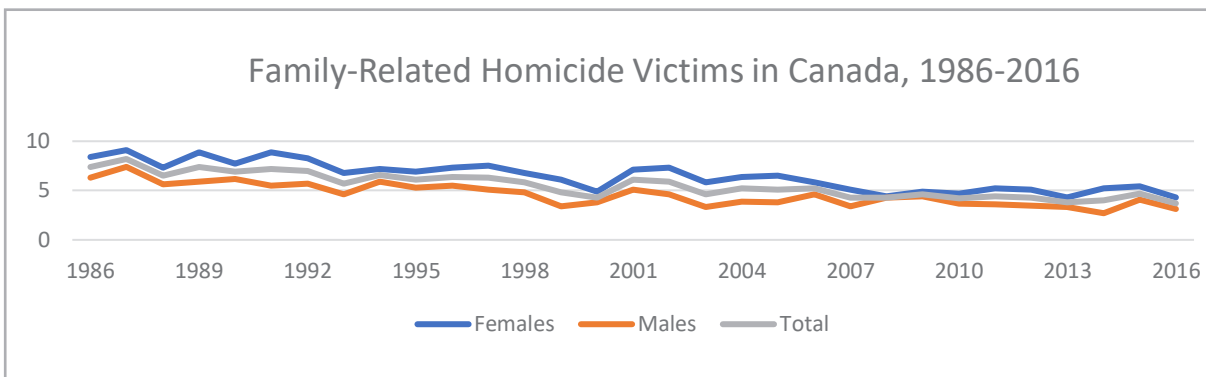
<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2019001/article/00007-eng.htm>



## Family Violence in Canada: A Statistical Profile, 2016

- In 2016, one-quarter (26%) of all victims of violent crime had been victimized by a family member.
- While women and girls made up just over half (52%) of violent crime victims overall, two-thirds (67%) of family violence victims were female.
- Rates of family violence victimization increased with age, peaking among those aged 30 to 34 years (379 victims per 100,000 population). This largely reflected the victimization of women and girls, which also peaked among 30 to 34-year-olds (562). Among males, the highest rates of family violence were among those aged 15 to 19 (227 per 100,000), as well as among those aged 10 to 14 (213).
- Physical assault was the most common type of offence involved in incidents of family violence (73%):
  - Eight in ten (79%) male victims
  - Seven in ten (70%) female victims
- Common (level 1) assault was reported by 58% of both male and female victims of family violence. A larger proportion of male victims (21%) reported major assault (levels 2 and 3) when compared to female victims (12%).
- In terms of family violence, women were particularly over-represented as victims of sexual offences (84%) and criminal harassment, also known as stalking (84%).
- According to the results of the survey, the rate of family violence had decreased by 15% overall, including a 17% decline among females and a 9% decrease among males.
- Rates of non-family violence were almost three times as high as family violence in 2016. The rate of non-family violence declined by 16%.
- Between 2015 and 2016, increases in the rate of family violence were recorded in Nunavut (+6%), Saskatchewan (+3%) and Quebec (+2%), while Prince Edward Island (-13%), British Columbia (-9%), Newfoundland and Labrador (-8%) and Alberta (-3%) saw declines.
- Rates of the most serious family violence offences decreased between 2011 and 2016, including rates of:
  - Attempted murder (-2%)
  - Sexual assault (-29%)
  - Physical assault (-12%)
  - Violations causing death, which include homicide as well as manslaughter and crimes such as criminal negligence causing death (-8%)
  - Sexual assault by a family member other than a spouse (-36%)
- In 2016, 58% of family-related homicide victims were women and girls. This contrasts overall homicide rates. In 2016, 75% of all homicide victims were men and boys.
- In 2016, just under one-third (32%) of persons accused in all incidents of violent crime that involved one victim and one accused person were accused of family violence. The largest proportion of those accused in family-related incidents were accused of violence against a spouse (57%).
- Just under one-quarter (23%) of those accused of family violence in 2016 were women.
- Slightly over half (53%) of those accused of family violence were aged between 25 and 44.

# Get all the Facts



<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54893/02-eng.htm>



## Self-Reported Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2014

- Just under one in five Canadians aged 15 years and older (approximately 5.6 million people) reported that they or their household had been the victim of at least one of the eight crimes in the 12 months preceding the survey.
- The majority (65%) of incidents were non-violent. Physical assault was the most frequent violent crime and was reported by 22% of respondents.
- Sexual assault was the only crime for which the victimization rate remained relatively stable over the past decade. There were 22 incidents reported per 1,000 people.
- Previously, men and women showed relatively similar rates of violent victimization. However, in 2014, women recorded a higher rate (85 incidents per 1,000 women) than men (67 per 1,000).
- This is primarily due to the fact that the sexual assault rate—a crime in which the majority of victims are women—remained stable over the past decade, while the rates for robbery and physical assault—in which the majority of victims are men—dropped significantly since 2004.
- When all other risk factors were taken into account, women maintained a risk of violent victimization that was about 20% higher than men.
- Approximately one-third of Canadians (30%) reported being victims of some form of abuse by an adult at least once before the age of 15
  - 22% reported experiencing physical abuse
  - 3% suffered sexual abuse
  - 5% experienced both physical and sexual violence
- In most cases of physical abuse, the offender was a family member, generally the father (35%) or mother (23%). In cases of sexual abuse, the offender was often also a member of the immediate family (18%) or extended family (20%).
- The majority of self-reported cases of child maltreatment (93%) never came to the attention of authorities.
- People self-identifying as homosexual or bisexual recorded the highest violent victimization rate at 207 incidents per 1,000 population, compared to 69 per 1,000 for heterosexuals.
- Close to one in three (30%) Aboriginal people reported that they or their household had been the victim of at least one of the eight crimes measured by the General Social Survey in the 12 months preceding the survey.
- The differences between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people were most pronounced for break-ins and sexual assaults, with the rates for Aboriginals being more than double those for non-Aboriginals.
- Violent victimization rates were especially high among Aboriginal females. For example, they recorded a sexual assault rate of 115 incidents per 1,000 population, much higher than the rate of 35 per 1,000 recorded by their non-Aboriginal counterparts.
- Offenders were generally male (86% of violent incidents) and sexual assaults were more likely to be committed by a male offender (94%) than were physical assaults (82%).

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- Victims often know their attacker.  
The offender was a stranger in just under half (48%) of violent incidents, after excluding incidents of spousal abuse. Sexual assault was the least likely to be perpetrated by a stranger.
- Only 5% of sexual assaults were brought to the attention of the police in 2014.
- Women who were victims of violence were more than twice as likely as men to make use of one of support services (19% compared to 7%).

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2015001/article/14241-eng.htm>



## Self-reported Sexual Assault in Canada, 2014

- A higher risk of sexual assault was noted among those who were:
  - Women
  - Young
  - Aboriginal
  - Single
  - Homosexual or bisexual
- And among those who had
  - Poorer mental health
  - Experienced childhood abuse
  - Experienced homelessness
  - Spent more evening activities outside the home
- The vast majority (87%) of all sexual assault incidents were committed against women.
- Nearly half (47%) of all sexual assault incidents were committed against women aged 15 to 24.
- The rate of sexual assault among Aboriginal people was approximately three times higher than among non-Aboriginal people (58 versus 20 per 1,000 population).
- Canadians who identified as homosexual or bisexual had a rate of sexual assault that was six times higher than those who identified as heterosexual (1021 versus 17 per 1,000 population).
- The rate of sexual assault among those with a disability was approximately two times higher than those with no disability (37 versus 16 per 1,000 population).
- Individuals with mental disabilities had a rate of sexual assault that was about five times higher than those with no such disability (83 versus 16 per 1,000 population), whereas the difference between individuals with physical disabilities and those with no such disability was not statistically significant (251 versus 20 per 1,000 population).
- Sexual assault offenders were often known to their victims. A friend, acquaintance or neighbour was the offender for 52% of sexual assault incidents, while a stranger was the offender for 44% of incidents.
- The large majority (94%) of sexual assault incidents were perpetrated by a man. However, a considerable difference was noted depending on the sex of the victim. For instance, women almost exclusively reported that they were sexually assaulted by a man (99%), while similar proportions of men reported that they were sexually assaulted by a man (52%) or a woman (48%).
- Physical assault incidents were most often perpetrated by a man (82%) and by one offender acting alone (75%).
- Most sexual assault incidents did not involve the presence of a weapon (86%) and did not cause physical injury to the victim (93%).
- One in twenty (5%) incidents of sexual assault was reported to the police. 17% of sexual assault victims reported that they consulted a support service.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2017001/article/14842-eng.htm>

# Get all the Facts

## Stalking in Canada, 2014

- Nearly 2 million Canadians experienced stalking in the five years preceding the 2014 General Social Survey (GSS) on Canadians' Safety (Victimization): about 8% of women and 5% of men aged 15 and older.
- Most stalking victims were women (62%) and most stalkers were male (74%). After controlling for many other factors, being female resulted in 85% greater odds of being a victim of stalking.
- Almost half (48%) of stalking victims were between 15 and 34 years of age and 31% were females between the ages of 15 and 34.
- Nearly 4 out of 10 (39%) victims reported the stalking to police and 21% said that charges were laid.
- The most commonly reported stalking or harassing behaviour (39% of victims or about 720,000 Canadians) was threats or intimidation against someone else in the victim's life, such as the victim's child or other family member.
- Most frequently, someone the victim knew was responsible for the stalking. Half of all victims (49%) identified their stalker as someone that they knew who was not a current or former intimate partner.
- There was a particularly high incidence of stalking indicated for both women and men with a learning disability. Overall, 21% of people with a condition that makes it hard for them to learn (learning disability) had been the victim of stalking, compared to 6% without such a condition.
- Stalking was especially common for women with a learning disability (25%) but also prevalent among male counterparts (16%). Even after controlling for a multitude of factors, people who reported a learning disability had double the odds of being a victim of stalking.
- Aside from police, most victims of stalking (84%) spoke to someone about what they had experienced, including:
  - Family (67%)
  - Friends or neighbours (61%)
  - Coworkers (20%)
  - Counsellors or psychologists (11%)
- Speaking to doctors, nurses, lawyers, spiritual advisors and others was less common.

### Intimate Partner Stalking

- Three-quarters (74%) of intimate partner stalking victims were women. One in fifty Canadian women aged 15 and older experienced intimate partner stalking in the previous five years.
- Experiencing physical violence from a stalker was more common when the stalker was an intimate partner. Grabbing or physical attacks was reported by one-third (33%) of those stalked by an intimate partner, versus by a stranger (12%<sup>1</sup>) or someone else the victim knew (16%).

<sup>1</sup> Use with caution.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54893/01-eng.htm>





## Victimization of Aboriginal People in Canada, 2014

- A higher proportion of Aboriginal people reported being a victim of crime than non-Aboriginal people: 28% of Aboriginal people and 18% of non-Aboriginal people reported being the victim of one of the eight types of offences measured by the General Social Survey (GSS) on Victimization.
- Aboriginal females in particular were more likely to be a victim of violent crime. Aboriginal females (220<sup>1</sup> violent incidents per 1,000 people) had an overall rate of violent victimization that was:
  - Double that of Aboriginal males (110<sup>1</sup> per 1,000);
  - Close to triple that of non-Aboriginal females (81 per 1,000); and,
  - More than triple that of non-Aboriginal males (66 per 1,000).
- The proportion of Aboriginal people living the provinces that reported being a victim decreased from 38% in 2009 to 28% in 2014 and the proportion of Aboriginal victims in the Territories decreased from 36% to 28% over the same period.
- Aboriginal people (9%) were proportionately more likely than non-Aboriginal people (4%) to have been a victim of spousal violence in the past five years. Aboriginal women (10%<sup>1</sup>) were about three times as likely to report being a victim of spousal violence as non-Aboriginal women (3%). Aboriginal men (8%<sup>1</sup>) were twice as likely as their non-Aboriginal counterparts (4%).
- Over three quarters (77%) of non-spousal violent incidents that were committed against Aboriginal people went unreported to the police compared to 66% of non-Aboriginal people (66%).
- Aboriginal people were proportionately more likely than non-Aboriginal people to report spousal violence to police (50% and 28%, respectively).
- Aboriginal people were twice as likely as non-Aboriginal people to report experiencing two or more violent and/or household victimizations in the previous 12 months (12% and 6%, respectively).
- In 2014, the sexual assault rate for Aboriginal people (58<sup>1</sup> incidents per 1,000 people) was almost three times that of non-Aboriginal people (20 per 1,000).
- Aboriginal peoples' rate of physical assault (90<sup>1</sup> per 1,000) was close to double that of non-Aboriginal people (47 per 1,000).
- Aboriginal people were more likely than non-Aboriginal people to speak about the spousal violence with someone else (92% versus 66%). A higher proportion of Aboriginal spousal violence victims reported speaking about the violence with a family member (79% and 53%, respectively) or a spiritual leader (22%<sup>1</sup> and 6%<sup>1</sup>, respectively).

<sup>1</sup> Use with caution.

# Get all the Facts

- Aboriginal people were victims of homicide at a rate which was approximately six times higher than that of non-Aboriginal people (7.20 Aboriginal victims per 100,000 Aboriginal population versus 1.13 non-Aboriginal victims per 100,000 non-Aboriginal population).
- The rate of homicide for Aboriginal males was seven times higher than for non-Aboriginal males (10.86 per 100,000 versus 1.61 per 100,000). The rate of homicide for Aboriginal females was six times higher (3.64 per 100,000 versus 0.65 per 100,000).

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2016001/article/14631-eng.htm>



## Violent Victimization of Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals in Canada, 2014

- According to the 2014 General Social Survey on Canadians' Safety (Victimization), Canadians aged 18 years and older who identified as lesbian or gay (142<sup>1</sup>) and bisexual (267<sup>1</sup>) were much more likely than their heterosexual (69) counterparts to be victims of violent crime.
- Even after controlling for other factors, the odds of being a victim of violent victimization were two times higher among lesbian, gay or bisexual Canadians than among their heterosexual counterparts.
- Compared with heterosexual Canadians, bisexual individuals were almost nine times more likely to be sexually assaulted (151<sup>1</sup> versus 17 incidents per 1,000 population) in the previous 12 months.
- The rate of self-reported violent victimization of lesbian and gay individuals decreased by 67% between 2009 and 2014. This is compared to a decrease of 30% for heterosexual individuals.
- In 2014, overall, there were more than 100,000<sup>1</sup> incidents of violent victimization involving a bisexual victim and more than 49,000<sup>1</sup> incidents involving a lesbian or gay victim, corresponding to rates of 267<sup>1</sup> and 142<sup>1</sup> incidents per 1,000 population, respectively.
- Bisexual individuals were particularly over-represented as victims of violent crime. For example, in 2014, bisexual Canadians were almost nine times more likely than their heterosexual counterparts to report experiencing sexual assault (151<sup>1</sup> versus 17 incidents per 1,000 population). There were no statistically significant differences between the rates of physical assault for heterosexual and lesbian, gay and bisexual individuals.
- Results from the 2016 Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey show that police-reported hate crimes targeting sexual orientation rose 25% from the previous year, accounting for 13% of all hate crimes reported to the police during that year.
- Discrimination incidents motivated by a hatred of sexual orientation were more likely to be violent (71%) and were more likely to result in injuries to the victim (44%). Most (82%) of the victims were male and almost half (43%) of all victims were under the age of 25.
- Bisexual women were four times more likely to report experiencing violent victimization (327<sup>1</sup> versus 75 incidents per 1,000 population) and seven times more likely to report experiencing sexual assault (208<sup>1</sup> versus 29 incidents per 1,000 population) than their heterosexual counterparts in the 12 months preceding the survey. The age-standardized rate of sexual assault for bisexual women was 112<sup>1</sup> incidents per 1,000 population.
- The large majority (86%) of victims who were victimized by a single offender reported that the offender was male. Most (69%) violent incidents did not include the presence of a weapon.

<sup>1</sup> Use with caution.

# Get all the Facts

- Bisexual individuals were far less likely than heterosexual counterparts to report violent victimization to the police. Almost nine in ten (85%) bisexual victims stated that they had not reported the incident to the police, versus 64% of heterosexual victims. However, lesbian and gay Canadians were as likely to report the same to police (58% versus 64%).
- Discrimination was far more common among lesbian and gay (31%) and bisexual (39%) individuals, compared to their heterosexual (13%) counterparts.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54923-eng.htm>



## Violent Victimization, Discrimination and Perceptions of Safety: An Immigrant Perspective, Canada, 2014


- Immigrants experienced violent victimization—which includes sexual assault, robbery and physical assault—at a rate significantly lower than the rate among non-immigrants (39 incidents per 1,000 population compared to 86 per 1,000 population).
- Self-reported violent victimization rates among immigrants declined 43% compared to rates reported ten years prior in 2004 (39 incidents versus 68 incidents per 1,000 population). Among non-immigrants, rates declined 26% over the same period (86 versus 116 incidents per 1,000 population).
- Rates were similar between immigrant men and women. This was not the case among the non-immigrant population where women were at a higher risk for victimization.
- More than 3.9 million (13%) Canadians 15 years and older experienced some form of discrimination in the five years preceding the survey. Immigrants (17%) were more likely to report being a victim of discrimination than non-immigrants (12%).
- Discrimination appeared to be related to visible minority status. Visible minorities in general were more likely to report experiencing discrimination (20%) than non-visible minorities (12%). Visible minorities who were immigrants had a similar prevalence of discrimination to visible minorities who were not immigrants.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54911-eng.htm#a8>

# Get all the Facts

## Violent Victimization of Women with Disabilities, 2014

- Rates of violent victimization were higher among women and men with a disability compared to Canadians who did not have a disability, regardless of the type of disability.
- Women and men with a cognitive disability or mental health-related disability had a rate of violent victimization about four times higher than among those who did not have a disability.
- Women with a mental health-related or cognitive disability had rates four times higher compared to those without a disability (261 per 1,000 and 241<sup>1</sup> per 1,000, respectively, versus 65 per 1,000). Rates of violent victimization were also higher among men: 4.5 times higher among men with a cognitive disability (259<sup>1</sup>) and 3 times higher among those with a mental health-related disability (193) when compared to men who did not have a disability (58).
- Women and men with a sensory or physical disability had a rate of violent victimization roughly twice as high as those who did not have a disability.
- Four in ten (40%) Canadians with a disability were physically and/or sexually abused during their childhood, compared to about one-quarter (27%) of those who did not have a disability.
- Almost half (46%) of all Canadian women who reported having ever experienced homelessness had a disability, as did nearly four in ten (37%) men.
- Almost a quarter (23%) of women with a disability experienced emotional, financial, physical or sexual violence or abuse committed by a current or former partner in the past 5 years, a similar proportion as men with a disability (22%). For both women and men, this was roughly two times higher when compared to those without a disability.
- For the 12 months preceding the survey, Canadians with a disability reported a rate of violent victimization about twice as high as those who did not report a disability. Women 15 years of age and older with a disability had 137 incidents of violent victimization for every 1,000, compared to 65 incidents per 1,000 women without a disability. The rate for men with a disability was also close to double that of men who did not have a disability (105 versus 58).
- Women with a disability (56 incidents per 1,000 population) were close to twice as likely as women without a disability (29 per 1,000) and about 14 times more likely than men without a disability (4<sup>1</sup> per 1,000) to have been sexually assaulted.
- The odds of violent victimization among women with a disability who identified as lesbian, gay, or bisexual were 2.3 times higher than among heterosexual women with a disability. Sexual orientation did not impact the risk of violent victimization for men with a disability.
- Aboriginal persons with a disability were more likely than non-Aboriginal persons with a disability to have been violently victimized in the past 12 months (206<sup>1</sup> incidents per 1,000 versus 120 per 1,000).
- One in five (18%) women with a disability reported that an adult touched them in a sexual way before the age of 15, a proportion double that of women without a disability (9%). The same pattern was evident among men with a disability but at a lower prevalence.

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- Women and men with a disability who were physically abused as children were more likely to report having been violently victimized in the 12 months preceding the survey:
    - Women were almost twice as likely (199 incidents per 1,000 population versus 110).
    - Men were three times more likely (174 per 1,000 compared with 57). Men with a physical disability or a cognitive disability who had been physically abused during their childhood reported a rate close to 4 times higher.
  - The proportion of those with a disability who had experienced homelessness of any kind was about double that of those without a disability, for both men and women
  - Incidents of violent victimization of people with a disability tended to involve a male perpetrator (85%), an offender under the age of 35 (65%), and a lone offender (72%).
  - One in five persons with a disability (22% of women and 21% of men) reported that they were emotionally or financially abused by a current or former partner with whom they had contact in the past 5 years, approximately double what was reported by persons without a disability (11% of women and 13% of men).
  - Women without a disability were slightly less likely than men to have experienced any form of spousal violence or abuse (11% and 14%, respectively), though women in general are most likely to experience the most serious forms of spousal violence, such as being sexually assaulted, beaten, choked, or threatened with a weapon.
  - Women with a cognitive disability were more likely than men to have been a victim of violence or abuse by a current or former spouse or common-law partner: More than four in ten (43%) women with a cognitive disability were victims of some form of abuse or violence, compared to approximately one-quarter (27%) of men.
  - Most notably, 71% of women with a disability used or contacted some sort of victims' service as a result of spousal violence, significantly higher than women who did not have a disability (44%) or men with or without a disability (29%<sup>1</sup> and 17%<sup>1</sup>, respectively).

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54910-eng.htm>


<sup>1</sup> Use with caution.

# Get all the Facts

## Police-reported Violent Crimes against Young Women and Girls in Northern Canada, 2017

- Young women and girls in Canada's northern areas were victims of violent crime at the highest rates versus any other sex/age groups.
- The violent crime rate for females aged 24 and younger in the North was 3,643 victims per 100,000 population. This was:
  - Level 2 physical assaults had a rate nearly four (3.8x) times higher than in the South (417 versus 109)
  - Homicide and other offences causing death rates were more than 3 times higher in the North than in the South (3.4x; 3.33 versus 0.98)
- Nearly three (2.9x) times higher than the rate for young women and girls in the South (1,235)
  - Close to twice (1.7x) as high as the rate for young men and boys in the North (2,090)
  - Nearly four (3.8x) times higher than for the total Canadian population overall (968)
- Young women and girls aged 24 and younger in the North accounted for less than 7% of young Canadian females under 25 and 17% of all young female victims of violent crimes.
- Rural northern Canada had rates of violent crime against young women and girls about twice (2.1x) that of the urban North (5,023 versus 2,354 victims per 100,000 population).
- Young adult women between 18 and 24 years old in the North were victims of violent crime at the highest rate (6,910 victims per 100,000 population), followed by teenage girls between 15 and 17 years old in the North (6,557).
- Violent crimes against young women and girls in the North were both more prevalent and more severe in nature than in the South. More young women and girls in the North:
  - Suffered a physical injury as a result of violent crime (45% versus 32%)
  - Were victims of the more serious violent crimes—including homicide and level 3 physical assault
    - Aggravated physical assaults (level 3) had a rate seven (7.0x) times greater in the North than in the South (34 versus 5 victims per 100,000 population)
- Violence against young women and girls in the North was most commonly perpetrated by:
  - An intimate partner or spouse (44%)
  - A casual acquaintance (22%)
  - A family member (20%)
- Compared to in the South, young women and girls in the North were more likely to be assaulted by:
  - Someone they knew (95% versus 92%)
  - Someone they were dating at the time of the crime (27% versus 20%)
  - An extended family member (9% versus 4%)
- Compared with their male counterparts in the North, young women and girls in the North were victimized at a higher rate across all almost major types of violent offences. Homicide offences were the exception, where young males in the North were victims of offences related to homicide or death at a higher rate than young females in the North (9.93 versus 3.93 victims per 100,000 population).
- Most young women and girls aged 24 and younger in the North were victimized by a male (77%), the vast majority (82%) of whom were older than them. Over half (53%) of these older male assailants were more than five years older than their young female victim, and over one-third (36%) were 10 or more years older.



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- The rate of intimate partner violence was three-and-a-half (3.5x) times greater for young female victims in the North than in the South (959 versus 271 victims per 100,000 population), which is a wider gap than for the overall rate of violent crimes committed against young women and girls in the North compared with the South (2.9x).
  - Violent crimes committed against young women and girls by a family member had a rate nearly four-and-a-half (4.4x) times higher in the North than in the South (438 versus 99 victims per 100,000 population).
  - In addition to a higher prevalence, a higher proportion of young female victims in the North were victimized by a family member than in the South (20% versus 16%). Among these, extended family members accounted for nearly double the proportion of assailants in the North than they did in the South (43% versus 23%), which translated to a rate of violent victimization at the hands of an extended family member more than eight (8.4x) times higher in the North (187 versus 22).
  - From 2009 to 2017, 74 young women and girls in the North were victims of police-reported homicide. Overall, 14% of all female homicide victims in Canada were killed in the North, over one-third (37%) of whom were aged 24 and younger. For reference, in 2017, 6% of all females in Canada resided in the North, less than one-third (31%) of whom were aged 24 and younger.
  - Compared with the South, a higher proportion of young victims of homicides from 2009 to 2017 in the North were female (31% versus 24%). On average, homicide rates for young women and girls were more than three (3.4x) times higher in the North than in the South.
  - Compared with young women and girl victims of homicide in the South, female victims in the North were more likely to be killed by someone who was:
    - Male (87% versus 74%),
    - Aged 24 and younger (62% versus 39%),
    - Known to them (97% versus 90%)
    - Their intimate partner (38% versus 32%)
    - Consuming alcohol and/or drugs prior to the crime (86% versus 62%)
    - Previously convicted of a crime (56% versus 47%)

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2019001/article/00012-eng.htm>

# Get all the Facts

## Police-reported Crime Statistics in Canada, 2018

- Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2018
- Police-reported crime in Canada, as measured by the Crime Severity Index (CSI), increased 2% from 73.6 in 2017 to 75.0 in 2018.
- The change in the CSI was the result of increases in numerous offences including:
  - Fraud (+13%)
  - Sexual assault (level 1) (+15%)
  - Shoplifting of \$5,000 or under (+14%)
  - Theft over \$5,000 (+15%)
- In 2018, the Violent Crime Severity Index (VCSI) increased 1% to 82.4.
- In 2018, police-reported violent crime accounted for about one-fifth (21%) of all police-reported Criminal Code offences (excluding traffic) with over 423,700 police-reported violent incidents a 3% increase in the rate of police-reported violent incidents from the previous year (1,143 per 100,000 population versus 1,113 in 2017). Increases included:
  - Extortion (+44%)
  - Level 1 sexual assault (+15%)
  - Other violations causing death (e.g., criminal negligence causing death) (+13%)
  - Level 2 sexual assault (+7%)
- The largest decreases were:
  - Trafficking in persons (-16%)
  - Forcible confinement or kidnapping (-10%)
  - commodification of sexual activity (-9%)
- In 2018, there were more than 28,700 police-reported sexual assaults, or 78 incidents per 100,000 population. This marked an increase of 15% in 2018. These incidents represented 7% of violent crimes in 2018.
- The Non-violent CSI (NVCSI)—increased 2% in 2018, but was 19% lower than in 2008. The primary offences contributing to the increase were fraud, shoplifting of \$5,000 or under, and theft over \$5,000. These were partially offset by a decline in breaking and entering.
- The rate of fraud (including identity theft and identity fraud) increased 12% between 2017 and 2018, a 46% increase over the rate reported a decade earlier in 2008.
- In 2018, police reported 651 homicides, 15 fewer than the previous year. This represents a 4% decrease in the homicide rate from 1.82 homicides per 100,000 population in 2017 to 1.76 homicides per 100,000 population in 2018.
- Both firearm-related (-8%) and gang-related (-5%) homicides decreased in 2018.
- Police-reported rates of all cannabis-related drug offences declined for the seventh consecutive year in 2018.
- The rate of police-reported impaired driving (alcohol- or drug-impaired) remained stable in 2018 at 190 incidents per 100,000 population. This overall stability, however, was the result of an increase in drug-impaired driving (+25%) and a decrease in alcohol-impaired driving (-1%).
- There were 4,423 incidents of police-reported drug-impaired driving in 2018, 929 more than the previous year. The rate of drug-impaired driving (12 per 100,000 population) remained low compared to the rate of alcohol-impaired driving (177 per 100,000 population). In 2018, rates of police-reported drug-impaired driving increased in all provinces and territories except Nunavut and Newfoundland and Labrador.




- The attempted murder rate decreased 3% between 2017 and 2018 to 2.18 per 100,000 population.
- There were 807 attempted murders reported in Canada in 2018, 14 fewer than 2017.
- Physical assault continued to be the most prevalent form of police-reported violent crime in Canada in 2018, accounting for close to 6 in 10 (57%) violent offences.
- Police reported just under 240,500 assaults in 2018, over 8,500 more incidents than in 2017, marking a 2% increase in the rate of physical assault, most (70%) were classified as common assault (level 1). Part of this increase could have been due to changes in the definition of “founded” when classifying incidents.
- The national rate of major assault (level 2 and 3) increased in 2018 for the fourth consecutive year due to higher rates of assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm (level 2) (+2%).
- The rate of robbery (61 per 100,000 population) decreased -3% in 2018. Police reported approximately 22,400 robberies in 2018, about 380 fewer than 2017.
- In 2018, most crime was non-violent in nature, with property offences and other Criminal Code offences accounting for nearly four out of five (79%) police-reported Criminal Code incidents (excluding traffic).
- Almost 160,000 incidents of breaking and entering were reported to police in 2018, accounting for 13% of property crime.
- Even with 1,017 more motor vehicle thefts in 2018 than 2017, the rate remained stable due to a population increase. Motor vehicle theft was 38% lower in 2018 than a decade earlier.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2019001/article/00013-eng.htm#n23-refa>

# Get all the Facts

## Overview of Violence in Newfoundland and Labrador

- Newfoundland and Labrador also did not have the highest, or even amongst the highest, crime rate for any violent crime across Canada. In fact, the data indicates that many of the crime rates are also decreasing.
- According to the 2014 General Social Survey on Criminal Victimization (the most recent self-reported victimization rates available from Statistics Canada) Newfoundlanders and Labradorians also have the lowest self-reported levels of violent victimization.
- Newfoundland and Labrador does not rank within the highest region for any violent crime and in fact, ranks among the lowest for: homicide, attempted murder, major assault and sexual assault.
- Overall, Statistics Canada found Newfoundland and Labrador to have decreases in both the severity of violent crime (-5%) and overall crime (-9%) in 2017. This is due to decreases in breaking and entering (-21%), attempted murder (-37%), robbery (-17%) and homicide.
- Newfoundland and Labrador had the second lowest homicide rates in 2017 (0.76 per 100,000 population), following Prince Edward Island.
- According to most recent statistics, in 2016-17 Newfoundland and Labrador was slightly above the Canadian average when it comes to Intimate Partner Violence (321 versus 313).
- In 2016-17, Newfoundland and Labrador had the 6th highest (or 5th lowest) provincial rate of Intimate Partner Violence in Canada (not including territories).
- Although Newfoundland and Labrador accounted for 1% of the Intimate Partner Violence incidents reported in Canada from 2009-2017, incidents involving same-sex partners accounted for 5.1% of the incidents reported in the province—the largest provincial proportion in the country.
- Between 2015 and 2016, Newfoundland and Labrador saw a decline in family violence overall (-8%).
- Similar to Intimate Partner Violence, recent statistics indicate Newfoundland and Labrador's rates of child and youth victims of family violence are comparable to the rest of Canada.
- Newfoundland and Labrador is slightly above the Canadian average when it comes to child and youth victims of family violence (279 vs 247).
- In 2016-17, Newfoundland and Labrador had the 6th highest (or 5th lowest) provincial rate of child and youth victims of family violence in Canada.
- The rate of violence in Labrador is substantially higher than in the “provincial south” (the island portion of the province). This is the case for males and females however, as in the rest of Canada, young women and girls are at the highest risk of violence.

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- The rate of violence against young women and girls (aged 24 and under) in Labrador is 6,153 per 100,000 population. Comparatively, this rate is:
    - 1.7 times higher than Northern Canada average for young women and girls (3,643 per 100,000)
    - 1.8 times higher than the Provincial Northern average for young women and girls (3,391 per 100,000)
    - 4.6 times higher than in Newfoundland for young women and girls (1,351 per 100,000)
    - 5.5 times higher than in St. John's for young women and girls (1,113 per 100,000)
    - 2.4 times higher than the rate for young men and boys in Labrador (2,602 per 100,000)
    - 6.4 times higher than Canada overall (968 per 100,000)

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2015001/article/14241-eng.htm>

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54974-eng.htm>

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2013001/article/11805/11805-3-eng.htm>

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2014001/article/14114/section02-eng.htm>

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2017001/article/14698/03-eng.htm>

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54893/03-eng.htm>

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

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2019001/article/00005-eng.htm>

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54893/02-eng.htm>

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54978/tbl/tbl1.6-eng.htm>

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2019001/article/00012-eng.htm>

# Get all the Facts

## Police-reported Crime in Newfoundland and Labrador, 2017

- Overall, Statistics Canada found Newfoundland and Labrador to have decreases in both the severity of violent crime (-5%) and overall crime (-9%) in 2017. This is due to decreases in breaking and entering (-21%), attempted murder (-37%), robbery (-17%) and homicide.
- In 2017, Newfoundland and Labrador was one of only four provinces that reported decreases in their Crime Severity Index: Newfoundland and Labrador (-9%), Prince Edward Island (-7%), Saskatchewan (-6%) and British Columbia (-5%).
- St. John's is the Census Metropolitan Area with the largest declines in CSI from 2016-17 at -15%.
- According to Statistics Canada, a large decrease in the rate of breaking and entering (-21%) was the main contributor to the 9% drop in the CSI in Newfoundland and Labrador.
- Newfoundland and Labrador was one of the only provinces to report a rural crime rate that was notably higher than the urban crime rate in 2017 (11% higher).
- Newfoundland and Labrador, along with Saskatchewan, was one of only two provinces which reported that the volume and severity of violent crime decreased, both by -5%. In all other provinces and territories the volume and severity of violent crime increased, as measured by Statistics Canada using the Violent Crime Severity Index.
- In Newfoundland and Labrador, the lower Violent Crime Severity Index was the result of decreases in homicide and robbery, partly offset by an increase in sexual assault (level 1).
- Newfoundland and Labrador had the second lowest lowest homicide rates in 2017 (0.76 per 100,000 population), following Prince Edward Island.
- In contrast to the 25% increase in Quebec, notable decreases in attempted murders were reported by Saskatchewan (-38%) and Newfoundland and Labrador (-37%).
- Newfoundland and Labrador also had notable decreases in robbery in 2017 (-17%).
- Canada's 2017 increase in the number of these violent firearm offences (+200 incidents) was primarily the result of increases in rates reported in Saskatchewan (+47%, +116 incidents) and Ontario (+10%, +92 incidents). Increases were also reported in New Brunswick (+56%), Nunavut (+29%), and Alberta (+4%). All other provinces and territories reported declines.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54974-eng.htm>



## Victims of Police-reported Violent Crime in Newfoundland and Labrador, 2016

- There were 5,462 victims of violent crime and criminal traffic offences causing death or bodily harm reported by police in Newfoundland and Labrador in 2016. This represented 1,067 victims per 100,000 population, above the overall national rate (951).
- Most (82%) victims of police-reported crime were adults aged 18 and older; 65% were aged 25 and older. Meanwhile, 13% of victims were youth aged 12 to 17 and 4% were children under age 12. When controlling for population, the rate of victimization was highest among young adults aged 18 to 24 and youth aged 16 to 17.
- Over two-thirds (69%) of victims of police-reported crime in 2016 were victims of assault: 55% were victims of common assault (level 1) and 11% were victims of major assault (level 2 or 3). Assault victims accounted for seven in ten (71%) of adult victims of police-reported violent crime. In comparison, assault accounted for almost two-thirds (63%) of child and youth victims. Rates of assault were highest among youth aged 16 to 17.
- Overall, 7% of police-reported victims were victims of sexual offences. However, these offences were much more prevalent among child and youth victims that came to the attention of police. Among child victims (under age 12), 13% were victims of sexual assault (all sexual assault level 1) and another 14% were victims of sexual violations against children. For youth victims (aged 12 to 17 years), 10% were victims of sexual assault (almost all sexual assault level 1) and 8% were victims of sexual violations against children. Among victims of all ages, rates of police-reported sexual assault were highest among youth aged 16 to 17, while sexual violations against children were highest among youth aged 12 to 15 years.
- Nearly one-quarter (23%) of police-reported victims in 2016 were victims of other violent offences including uttering threats (15%).
- While just over half (52%) of police-reported victims were female, they represented a much larger proportion of victims of sexual offences (87%) and of some other violent offences such as criminal harassment (81%) and indecent and harassing communications (65%).
- Assault was the most common police-reported offence among both male (74%) and female (65%) victims in 2016. Meanwhile, 12% of female victims were victims of sexual offences (10% sexual assault—mostly level 1—and 3% sexual violations against children). In comparison, 2% of males were victims of sexual offences.
- Male and female victims of police-reported sexual offences differed notably by age. Overall, among female victims of all sexual offences, 47% were either children under the age of 12 (14%) or youth aged 12 to 17 (33%). Of all female child and youth victims, 32% were victims of sexual offences: 18% were sexual assault and 14% were sexual violations against children.



# Get all the Facts

- Compared to females, a much larger proportion (65%) of male victims of police-reported sexual offences were either children (31%) or youth (33%). Despite this, sexual offences were still less common among young male children and youth, representing 7% of victims (compared to 32% for their female counterparts). Instead, assault was the most common (76%) offence for male child and youth victims.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54960/s2-eng.htm>





## Intimate Partner Violence in Newfoundland and Labrador, 2013-2017

- According to most recent statistics, in 2016-17 Newfoundland and Labrador was slightly above the Canadian average when it comes to Intimate Partner Violence (321 versus 313).
- In 2016-17, Newfoundland and Labrador had the 6th highest (or 5th lowest) provincial rate of Intimate Partner Violence in Canada.
- If the territories are included, Newfoundland and Labrador has the 9th highest (or 5th lowest) rate of Intimate Partner Violence in Canada.
- Intimate Partner Violence victims are disproportionately female. When it comes to Intimate Partner Violence in Newfoundland and Labrador, 79% of the victims are female and 21% are male. These are the same rates as the Canadian average.
- In terms of violence that is not intimate partner in Newfoundland and Labrador, 44% of the victims are female and 56% are male. In Canada, 41% of the victims are female and 59% are male.
- Although Newfoundland and Labrador accounted for 1% of the Intimate Partner Violence incidents reported in Canada from 2009-2017, incidents involving same-sex partners accounted for 5.1% of the incidents reported in the province—the largest provincial proportion in the country.
- Same-sex Intimate Partner Violence made up 11.6% of all Intimate Partner Violence in the census metropolitan area of St. John's, followed by 7.0% in Trois-Rivières and 6.7% in Barrie, however, in all three cases total Intimate Partner Violence (same-sex and opposite-sex Intimate Partner Violence combined) accounted for relatively small proportions (less than 0.5% each) of the overall national number reported by police.

2013: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2013001/article/11805/11805-3-eng.htm>

2014: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2014001/article/14114/section02-eng.htm>

2015: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2017001/article/14698/03-eng.htm>

2016: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54893/03-eng.htm>

2017: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54978/02-eng.htm>

Same-sex Intimate Partner Violence,

2009-2017: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2019001/article/00005-eng.htm>

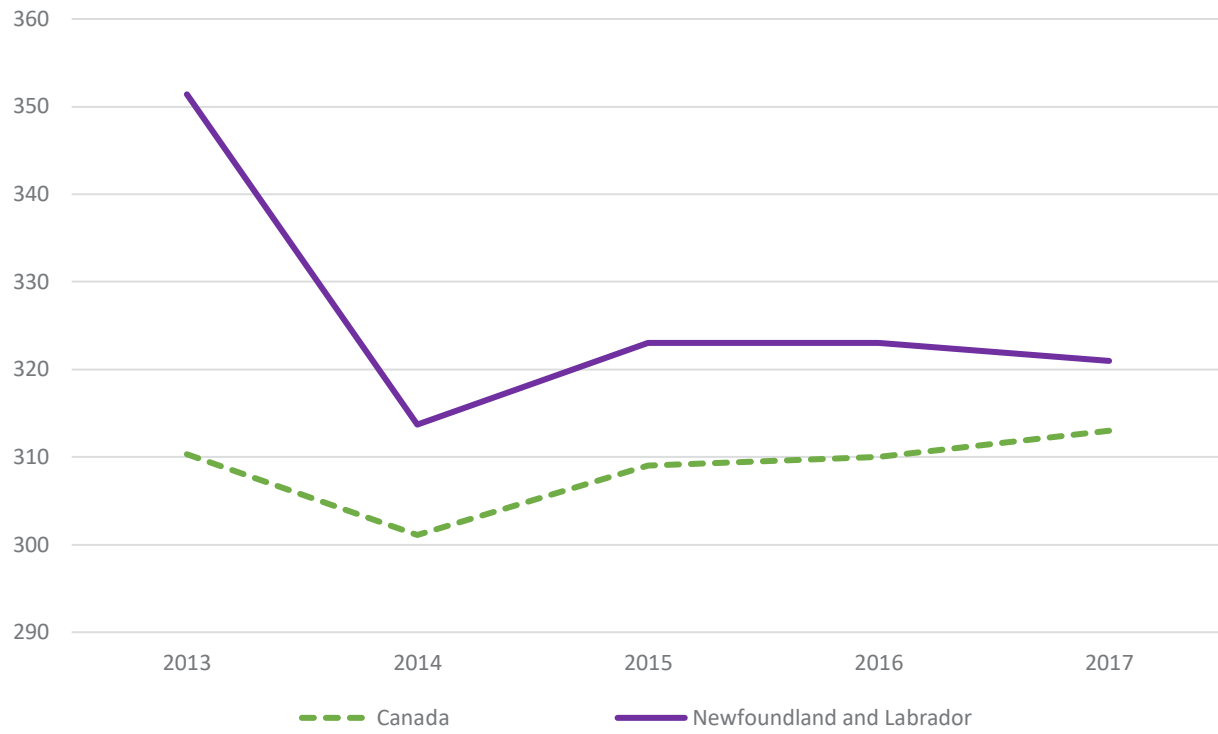
# Get all the Facts

Intimate Partner Violence Rates, All Provinces and Territories, 2017			
	Number	Rate	Rank
Alberta	13715	395	6
British Columbia	11516	283	11
Manitoba	6275	599	5
New Brunswick	2003	344	7
Newfoundland and Labrador	1445	321	9
Northwest Territories	1012	2906	2
Nova Scotia	2603	322	8
Nunavut	985	3753	1
Ontario	26131	223	13
Prince Edward Island	285	225	12
Quebec	22098	317	10
Saskatchewan	6199	682	4
Yukon	359	1118	3
Canada	94626	313	N/A

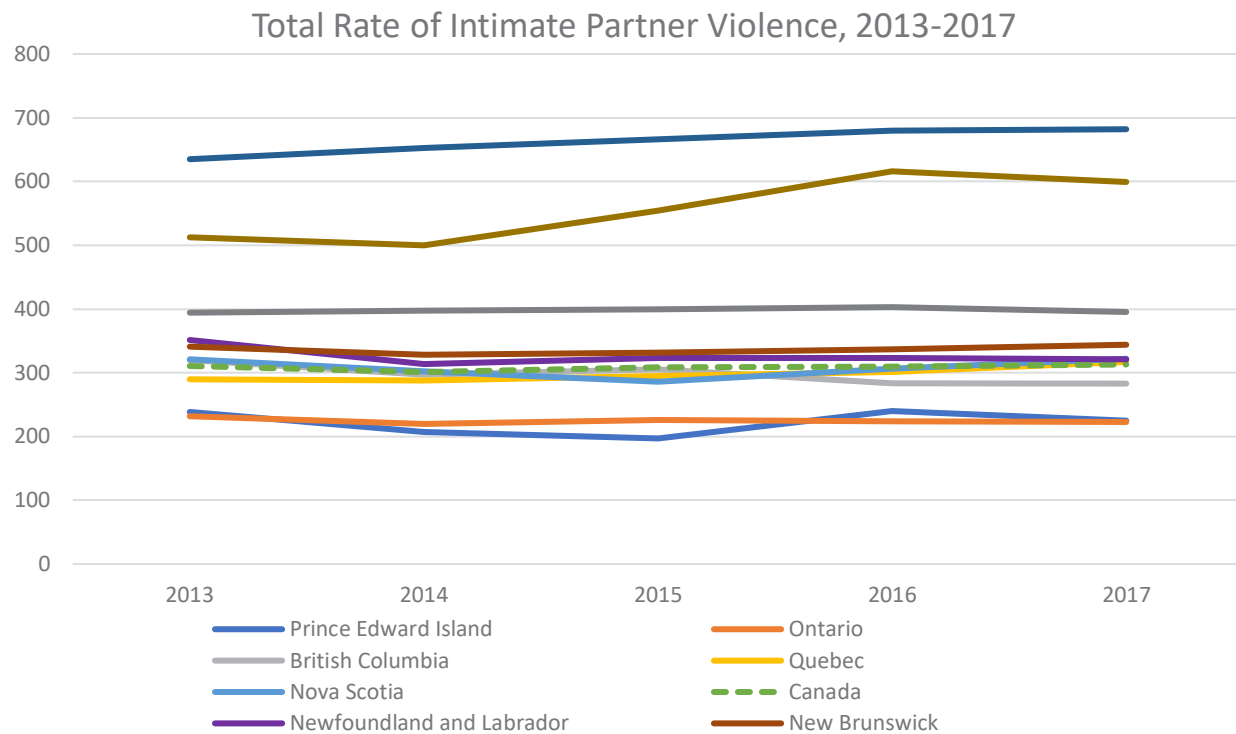
Intimate Partner Violence Rate, All Provinces, 2013-2017					
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Prince Edward Island	239	207.6	197	240	225
Ontario	231.8	219.8	226	224	223
British Columbia	319.8	296.9	305	284	283
Quebec	289.8	287.9	295	301	317
Nova Scotia	321.2	302.1	286	307	322
Newfoundland and Labrador	351.4	313.7	323	323	321
New Brunswick	341.5	328.3	332	337	344
Alberta	394.3	397.4	400	403	395
Manitoba	512.7	499.9	554	616	599
Saskatchewan	635	652.1	666	680	682
Yukon	1247	1330.3	1122	1180	1118
Northwest Territories	2103.5	2212	2575	2555	2906
Nunavut	3955.4	3578	3575	3790	3753
Canada	310.3	301.1	309	310	313



Total Rate of Intimate Partner Violence, Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador, 2013-2017



# Get all the Facts





## Family Violence in Newfoundland and Labrador

- There are two sources of recent family violence statistics for Newfoundland and Labrador: Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile, 2017 and Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile, 2016. While 2017 has the most recent data, 2016 includes analysis that is not available for the 2017 data, including a general overview.
- Between 2015 and 2016, Newfoundland and Labrador saw a decline in family violence overall (-8%).

### Child and Youth Victims, 2017

- Similar to Intimate Partner Violence, recent statistics indicate Newfoundland and Labrador's rates of child and youth victims of family violence are comparable to the rest of Canada.
- In 2016-17, Newfoundland and Labrador had the 6<sup>th</sup> highest (or 5<sup>th</sup> lowest) provincial rate of child and youth victims of family violence in Canada.
- If the territories are included, Newfoundland and Labrador has the 9<sup>th</sup> highest (or 5<sup>th</sup> lowest) rate of child and youth victims of family violence in Canada.
- Newfoundland and Labrador is slightly above the Canadian average when it comes to child and youth victims of family violence (279 versus 247).
- While the majority of child and youth victims of family violence victims are female, the rates are not as disproportionate as with Intimate Partner Violence. When it comes to family violence in Newfoundland and Labrador, 57.5% of the victims are female and 42.5% are male. In Canada, a slightly higher proportion of the victims are female (60%) and a slightly lower proportion are male (40%).
- In terms of child and youth victims of violence that is not family violence in Newfoundland and Labrador, 53% of the victims are female and 47% are male. These proportions are similar to Canada where 54% of the victims are female and 46% are male.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54893/02-eng.htm>

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54978/tbl/tbl1.6-eng.htm>

# Get all the Facts

Province	Number	Rate	Rank
Alberta	2,277	243	4
British Columbia	1,530	180	2
Manitoba	1,021	351	9
New Brunswick	362	296	6
Newfoundland and Labrador	254	279	5
Northwest Territories	103	932	12
Nova Scotia	516	319	7
Nunavut	188	1,384	13
Ontario	4,482	168	1
Prince Edward Island	53	181	3
Quebec	5,194	338	8
Saskatchewan	1,234	475	10
Yukon	36	480	11
Canada	10,352	247	N/A



## Police-reported Violent Crimes against Young Women and Girls in Labrador, 2017

- Police-reported Violent Crimes against Young Women and Girls in Labrador, 2017
- In regards to Newfoundland and Labrador, Statistics Canada defines the “provincial north” as referring exclusively to Labrador. Therefore, Statistics Canada reports on the “provincial north” for this province can be taken to be referencing Labrador exclusively.
- The rate of violence in Labrador is substantially higher than in the “provincial south” (the island portion of the province). This is the case for males and females however, as in the rest of Canada, young women and girls are at the highest risk of violence.
- The rate of violence against young women and girls (aged 24 and under) in Labrador is 6,153 per 100,000 population. Comparatively, this rate is:
  - 1.7 times higher than Northern Canada average for young women and girls (3,643 per 100,000)
  - 1.8 times higher than the Provincial Northern average for young women and girls (3,391 per 100,000)
  - 4.6 times higher than in Newfoundland for young women and girls (1,351 per 100,000)
  - 5.5 times higher than in St. John’s for young women and girls (1,113 per 100,000)
  - 2.4 times higher than the rate for young men and boys in Labrador (2,602 per 100,000)
  - 6.4 times higher than Canada overall (968 per 100,000)
- In 2017, young women and girls in Labrador were:
  - 1.7 times more likely to experience violence offences than young women and girls in Canada, on average (6,153 per 100,000 vs 3,643 per 100,000)
  - 1.5 times more likely to experience sexual offences than young women and girls in Canada, on average (1,322 per 100,000 vs 868 per 100,000)
  - 1.9 times more likely to experience physical assault offences than young women and girls in Canada, on average (4,307 per 100,000 vs 2,283 per 100,000)
  - 1.2 times more likely to experience criminal harassment and threat offences than young women and girls in Canada, on average (433 per 100,000 vs 360 per 100,000)
- In 2017, there were 270 violent offences reported against young women and girls in Labrador, including:
  - 58 sexual offences;
  - 189 physical assault offences; and,
  - 19 criminal harassment and threat offences.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2019001/article/00012-eng.htm>

# Get all the Facts







## Police-reported Crime Statistics in Newfoundland and Labrador, 2018

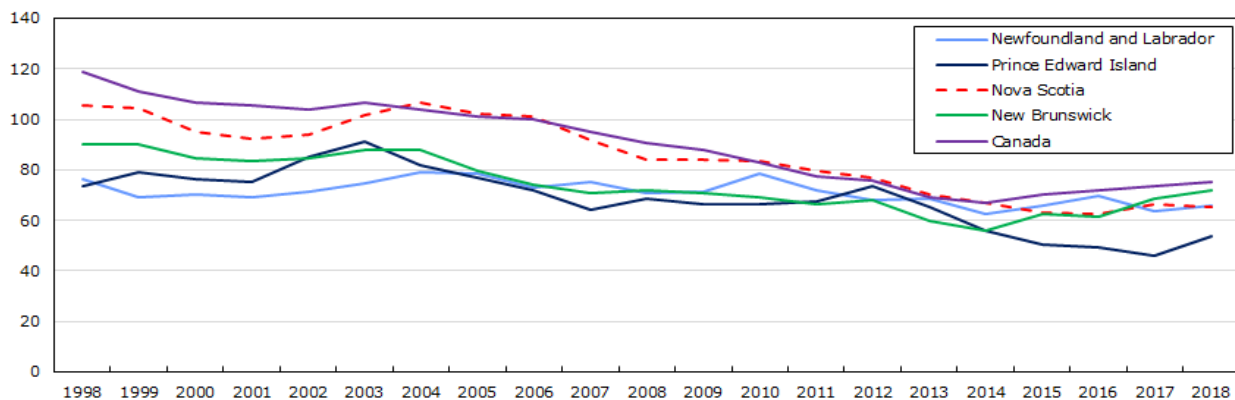
- Between 2017 and 2018, 7 of Canada's 13 provinces and territories reported increases in their Crime Severity Index. Increases included:
  - Prince Edward Island (+17%)
  - Ontario (+6%)
  - Manitoba (+6%)
  - New Brunswick (+4%)
  - Newfoundland and Labrador (+4%)
  - Nunavut (+6%)
  - Northwest Territories (+5%).
- Newfoundland and Labrador Violent Crime Severity Index remained stable in 2018.
- The increase in the national Violent Crime Severity Index was largely driven by increases in Ontario (+5%) and Manitoba (+6%), together accounting for the vast majority (87%) of the national increase. Prince Edward Island (+20%), Nunavut (+16%), the Northwest Territories (+13%) and New Brunswick (+9%) all also recorded increases in their Violent Crime Severity Index, although their national impact was relatively modest given their smaller populations. The other provinces and territories reported decreases.
- In 2018, rates of police-reported drug-impaired driving increased in all provinces and territories except Nunavut and Newfoundland and Labrador.
- The combined rate of police-reported fraud (including identity theft and identity fraud) increased in all provinces and territories except for Yukon (-3%) in 2018. Newfoundland and Labrador had notable increases in the rate of total fraud (+24%) along with:
  - Nunavut (+36%)
  - The Northwest Territories (+32%)
  - New Brunswick (+24%)
  - Manitoba (+18%)
  - Nova Scotia (+16%)
- Homicide rates were highest in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the territories. Manitoba (4.07 homicides per 100,000 population) recorded the highest homicide rate among the provinces, followed by Saskatchewan (2.93). In contrast, Prince Edward Island recorded no homicides in 2018, while rates were lowest in Newfoundland and Labrador (0.38 homicides per 100,000 population), Quebec (0.99) and Nova Scotia (1.15).
- Between 2017 and 2018, the largest increases in the Non-violent Crime Severity Index were reported in Prince Edward Island (+16%), Ontario (+7%), Manitoba (+6%), and Newfoundland and Labrador (+6%). Increases in fraud, and breaking and entering were important contributors to the rise in Non-violent Crime Severity Index in these provinces.
- Newfoundland and Labrador (-6%), along with Nunavut (-19%), Quebec (-15%), reported the largest declines in rates of breaking and entering in 2018. Provinces and territories that reported the largest increases included Prince Edward Island (+21%), Ontario (+6%) and Yukon (+5%).
- At a 6% decline, Newfoundland and Labrador (-6%) was one of five provinces that reported decreases in the rate of police-reported impaired along with Manitoba (-9%), Ontario (-3%), Quebec (-2%) and Saskatchewan (-1%). The remaining provinces and the three territories reported increases.

# Get all the Facts

- In 2018, only Nunavut (-30%) and Newfoundland and Labrador (-1%) reported declines in drug-impaired driving. The rate for all drug-impaired driving violations increased 25% between 2017 and 2018. In total, there were 4,423 drug-impaired driving violations in 2018, 929 more than the previous year. The national increase was largely driven by Ontario (+36%), Alberta (+34%), British Columbia (+21%) and Quebec (+17%).
- In comparison to the other provinces and territories, in 2018, NL had the:
  - 2nd lowest homicide rate (0.38 per 100,000)
  - Lowest attempted homicide rate (0.57 per 100,000)
  - 3rd lowest major assault rate (117 per 100,000)
  - Around mid-range robbery rate, or 6th lowest, (214 per 100,000)
  - 4th lowest impaired driving rate (250 per 100,000)
  - 2nd lowest sexual assault rate (351 per 100,000)
  - 5th lowest breaking and entering rate (380 per 100,000)
  - 2nd lowest motor vehicle theft rate (93 per 100,000)
  - 3rd lowest total fraud (305 per 100,000)
- The Crime Severity Index Rate has been consistently lower than Canada's average since 1998 (see chart below).

**Chart 7**  
**Police-reported Crime Severity Index, Atlantic provinces and Canada, 1998 to 2018**

Crime Severity Index



**Note:** The Crime Severity Index is based on *Criminal Code* incidents, including traffic offences, as well as other federal statute violations. The base index was set at 100 for 2006 for Canada. Populations are based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2019001/article/00013-eng.htm#n23-refa>



