

# Get all the Facts



## 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.

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- 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>

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