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Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile, 2019

by Shana Conroy

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Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile, 2019

by **Shana Conroy**, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics

Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile is an annual report produced by the Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics at Statistics Canada as part of the Federal Family Violence Initiative. Since 1998, this report has provided data on the nature and extent of family violence in Canada, as well as an analysis of trends over time. The information presented is used extensively to monitor changes that inform policy makers and the public.

The 2019 edition of the report begins with an overview of police-reported family violence. The sections that follow present police-reported data dedicated to family violence against children and youth, intimate partner violence and family violence against seniors.

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in Canada, lockdown measures and safety protocols brought increased attention to the issue of family violence. While the latest annual police-reported data on this subject are from the 2019 Uniform Crime Reporting Survey and predate the pandemic, the data establish a baseline for future analysis of its impact on families in Canada. In the meantime, following a special data collection initiative, information from police services on selected types of crime during the first several months of the COVID-19 pandemic provide insight into crime during this period. These data, and information from police about calls for service, are discussed in the first section of this report for additional context.

Section 1: Police-reported family violence in Canada, 2019

Section 2: Police-reported family violence against children and youth in Canada, 2019

Section 3: Police-reported intimate partner violence in Canada, 2019

Section 4: Police-reported family violence against seniors in Canada, 2019

Survey description

Section 1: Police-reported family violence in Canada, 2019

Family violence, a serious public health issue, can take on many forms, including physical and sexual violence, and emotional and financial abuse (Public Health Agency of Canada 2014). It is an abuse of power within a relationship of trust and dependency. Family violence has immediate and long-term consequences for victims—including physical, mental, cognitive and financial—and recovery depends on the length and severity of abuse.

The costs are not just personal, but affect wider society as well. According to Justice Canada, “a considerable amount of Canadian resources are directed to address this issue including health care costs, costs to the justice system, to employers and businesses, and to social and community services” (Justice Canada 2017). In order to mitigate the impact on individuals, families and communities, it is important to monitor the issue of family violence, and invest in prevention measures and supports for victims. This is particularly true of the COVID-19 era, when Canadians have been subject to lockdown measures and safety protocols that required them stay at home and could have impacted their ability to seek help.

In this section, family violence refers to violence committed by spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law), parents (biological, step, adoptive and foster), children (biological, step, adopted and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster) and extended family members (e.g., grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws). Victims refer to those aged 89 years and younger.¹

One in four victims of police-reported violence victimized by a family member

In 2019, there were 399,846 victims of police-reported violence in Canada (Table 1.1). Of these victims, one-quarter (26%) were victimized by a family member, which represented 102,316 victims. While just over half (53%) of all victims of violence were female, two-thirds (67%) of family violence victims were female.

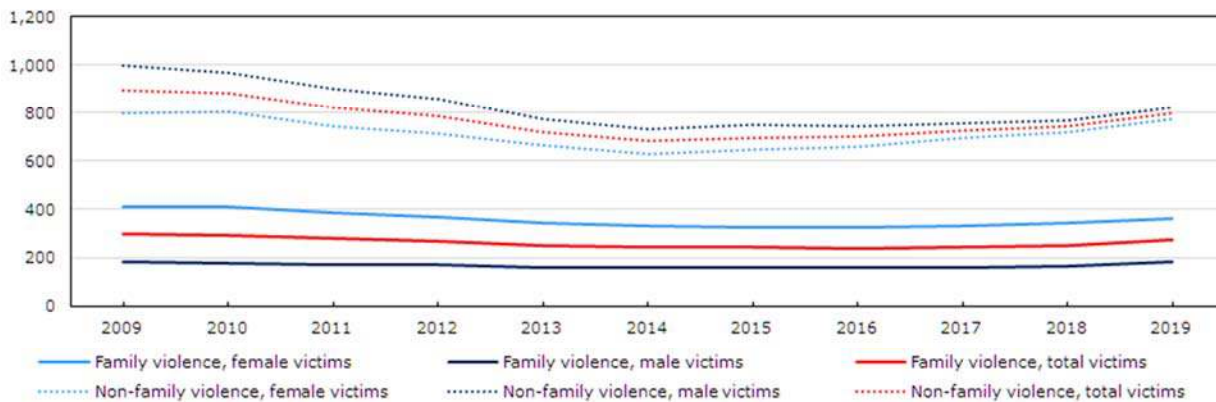
Family violence that came to the attention of police was most often perpetrated by a current spouse (31%) or a parent (20%) followed by a former spouse (13%), a sibling (11%) or a child (11%). A larger proportion of female victims experienced violence from a current or former spouse (51% versus 29% of male victims) while family violence perpetrated by someone other than a spouse was more common for male victims (71% versus 49% of female victims).

Family violence increases for the third year in a row, larger increase among men and boys

The rate of police-reported family violence increased 7% in 2019 from the previous year (Chart 1.1).² Between 2018 and 2019, the rate increased more for men and boys than women and girls (+10% versus +6%). While the overall rate of family violence steadily declined between 2009 and 2016 (-19%), 2019 marked the third consecutive annual increase, up 13% from 2016. Between 2009 and 2019, rates of family and non-family violence had similar decreases (-9% and -11%, respectively).

Chart 1.1
Victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and year, Canada, 2009 to 2019

rate per 100,000 population



Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 89 years and younger. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Victims refer to those aged 89 years and younger. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims of dating or other intimate partner violence under the age of 12 years. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Excludes a small number of victims in Quebec whose age was unknown but was miscoded as 0. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada. As a result, numbers may not match those presented elsewhere in the report.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database.

Family-related sexual violence more than five times higher for women and girls than men and boys

In 2019, the rate of police-reported family violence was 276 victims per 100,000 population (Table 1.2). The most common type of family violence was physical assault³ (accounting for 71% of victims, a rate of 197 per 100,000) followed by other offences involving violence or the threat of violence⁴ (50) and sexual offences⁵ (28). Differences were noted between female and male victims: while rates of physical assault (249 versus 146) and other offences involving violence or the threat of violence (70 versus 30) were 1.7 and 2.3 times higher for women and girls than men and boys, respectively, the rate of sexual offences was 5.5 times higher for women and girls (48 versus 9).

Seven in ten (71%) victims of family violence were assaulted using physical force (Table 1.3).⁶ An additional 17% of victims were assaulted with a weapon present, such as a knife, club or firearm. Nearly half (46%) of victims of family violence suffered a physical injury, somewhat higher than those who experienced non-family violence (42%).⁷ Among those who were physically injured resulting from family violence, nearly all (95%) had minor injuries. Physical injury resulting from family violence was slightly more common for men and boys than women and girls (49% versus 45%).

Text box 1**Police-reported crime and calls for service during the COVID-19 pandemic**

In the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic in Canada, the Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics at Statistics Canada began collecting monthly data from police services to track information on selected types of *Criminal Code* violations during the pandemic. In addition, information was collected on calls for police service—that is, calls for help which may not be related to crime—during this time. While the number of police services that submitted this information varied from one reference period to the next, these data provide insight into the volume and nature of incidents that occurred.⁸

Between March and October 2020, selected police-reported criminal incidents⁹ were 18% lower than the same period in 2019 (Statistics Canada 2021). Meanwhile, between March and October 2020, calls for service¹⁰ were 8% higher than the same eight-month period in 2019. More specifically, calls for service related to child welfare checks were up 17%, the largest difference from 2019. These were followed by calls related to general wellness checks (+13%), mental health issues (+12%), child custody matters (+12%), overdoses (+9%) and domestic disturbances (+8%).

In terms of family violence, three types of violent crime could be explored through this data collection initiative: physical assault, sexual assault and uttering threats. While the number of incidents for all types of police-reported crime in this study—family-related or not—was lower during the first eight months of the pandemic compared with the same period in 2019, there was one exception: the number of incidents of uttering threats by family was 2% higher during the pandemic while it was 9% lower for non-family. In contrast, compared to the same period in 2019, family-related physical assault and sexual assault were lower during the first eight months of the pandemic (-4% and -10%, respectively) but numbers were even lower for physical assault and sexual assault when victims and accused were not family (-10% and -21%, respectively).¹¹

The numbers for selected police-reported crime, while similar in pattern, need to be considered separately. Incidents perpetrated by non-family often occur when people are in the public domain, outside the home. It is expected that as individuals reduced their contact with others outside of their household—as a result of pandemic-related restrictions—that incidents of violence perpetrated by non-family would decrease as the opportunity for these crimes was reduced. Inversely, as individuals spent more time at home with family during the pandemic—while working from home and participating in virtual learning—heightened stress due to social isolation, economic uncertainty and increased substance use, among others, could lead to an increase in family violence (Campbell 2020; Usher et al. 2020).

Based on these police-reported data, a large increase in family violence did not materialize as family-related physical assault and sexual assault decreased, and uttering threats increased to a small degree. It should be noted that many victims might have been unable to seek help, and incidents of family violence that are normally suspected or witnessed by third-party individuals (such as friends and teachers) and reported to police are more likely to have gone undetected during the pandemic.

Saskatchewan and Manitoba have highest rates of family violence among the provinces

Similar to crime in general, rates of police-reported family violence were highest in the territories. Among the provinces, the rate of family violence was highest in Saskatchewan (519 per 100,000 population) and Manitoba (417) (Table 1.4).¹² Meanwhile, rates were lowest in Ontario (173), Prince Edward Island (203) and Nova Scotia (225). Compared with the provinces, rates were notably higher in the territories, with Nunavut reporting the highest rate (3,398) followed by the Northwest Territories (2,689) and Yukon (707).

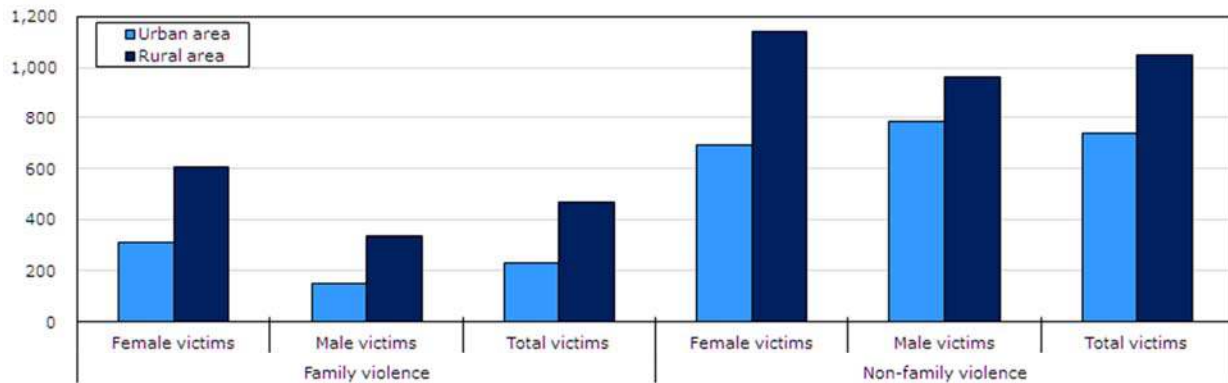
Women and girls experienced a higher rate of family violence than men and boys in every province and territory. The largest differences in the rate for women and girls compared with men and boys were noted in Ontario (239 versus 106, 2.2 times higher for women and girls), the Northwest Territories (3,739 versus 1,696, 2.2 times higher) and Quebec (478 versus 232, 2.1 times higher).

In every province and territory in 2019, the rate of family violence increased from the previous year, with the exception of Prince Edward Island (-2%).¹³ The largest provincial increases were noted in British Columbia (+25%), Newfoundland and Labrador (+20%) and New Brunswick (+11%).

In the provinces, the rate of family violence was 2.0 times higher in rural areas than urban areas (469 versus 234 per 100,000 population), and this pattern was the same for women and girls, and men and boys (Chart 1.2).¹⁵ In rural areas, women and girls had a rate of family violence that was 1.8 times higher than men and boys (606 versus 337). Notably, the difference between rural and urban rates was larger for family violence than non-family violence (2.0 versus 1.4 times higher in rural areas).

Chart 1.2
Victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and urban or rural area, provinces, 2019

rate per 100,000 population



Note: An urban area is defined as a census metropolitan area (CMA) or a census agglomeration (CA). A CMA consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000, of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CA must have a core population of at least 10,000. Rural areas are all areas outside of CMAs and CAs. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 89 years and younger. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Victims refer to those aged 89 years and younger. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims of dating or other intimate partner violence under the age of 12 years. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Excludes a small number of victims in Quebec whose age was unknown but was miscoded as 0. Excludes data from the territories.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

The rate of family violence was 2.0 times lower in Canada's largest cities—referred to as census metropolitan areas¹⁶ or CMAs—than it was in non-CMAs (215 versus 432) (Table 1.5).¹⁷ Of the CMAs, rates were highest in Lethbridge (383), Trois-Rivières (360) and Saguenay (352). Meanwhile, rates were lowest in Guelph (111), Ottawa¹⁸ (114) and London (123).

Among the CMAs, the largest differences in the rate of family violence for women and girls compared with men and boys were noted in Abbotsford–Mission (363 versus 124, 2.9 times higher for women and girls), Thunder Bay (406 versus 140, 2.9 times higher) and Guelph (161 versus 59, 2.8 times higher).

References

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Statistics Canada. 2021. "Selected police-reported crime and calls for service during the COVID-19 pandemic, March 2020 to October 2020." *The Daily*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 11-001-X.

Usher, K., Bhullar, N., Durkin, J., Gyamfi, N. and D. Jackson. 2020. "Family violence and COVID-19: Increased vulnerability and reduced options for support." *International Journal of Mental Health Nursing*. Vol. 29, no. 4.

Notes

1. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown. Counts represent the number of victims involved in incidents of violence. It is possible that individual victims may have experienced more than one incident, and would therefore be counted more than once here. For type of relationship, percentages have been calculated excluding unknown relationships.
2. Trend numbers are based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data from 99% of the population in Canada. As a result, trend numbers may not match those presented elsewhere in the report.
3. Includes assault level 1, assault level 2 (with a weapon or causing bodily harm) and assault level 3 (aggravated assault).
4. Includes, for example, uttering threats, criminal harassment, forcible confinement and indecent or harassing communications.
5. Includes sexual assault level 1, sexual assault level 2 (with a weapon or causing bodily harm) and sexual assault level 3 (aggravated sexual assault). Also includes sexual violations against children, which refer to a set of *Criminal Code* offences that specifically concern offences involving child and youth victims. These include offences such as sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching and sexual exploitation, but exclude sexual assault (levels 1, 2 and 3) and other sexual offences not specific to children.
6. Data on type of weapon present exclude the province of Quebec due to data quality concerns. Percentages have been calculated excluding unknown type of weapon present.
7. Data on level of injury exclude the province of Quebec due to data quality concerns. Percentages have been calculated excluding unknown level of injury.
8. For more information, see Statistics Canada 2021 and Survey description.
9. Selected types of crime types include: assault; sexual assault; uttering threats; assault against a peace or public officer; robbery; dangerous operation causing death or bodily harm; impaired driving, impaired driving causing death or bodily harm; breaking and entering; motor vehicle theft; shoplifting; fraud, identity theft, identity fraud; and failure to comply with order.
10. Calls for service are defined as calls received by police services that are generated by citizens or initiated by officers, which require the tasking of police resources (such as a call to a 9-1-1 emergency line that resulted in the dispatch of an officer).
11. In addition to family and non-family, a third category was included where the relationship was unknown for incidents of physical assault, sexual assault and uttering threats. These three violations where the accused-victim relationship was unknown decreased by 13%, 24% and 5%, respectively.
12. Trend numbers are based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data from 99% of the population in Canada. As a result, trend numbers may not match those presented elsewhere in the report.
13. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards. For more information, see Survey description.
14. Excludes data from the Saint John Police Service due to data quality concerns.
15. Excludes data from the territories. An urban area is defined as a census metropolitan area (CMA) or a census agglomeration (CA). A CMA consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000, of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CA must have a core population of at least 10,000. Rural

areas are all areas outside of CMAs and CAs. The populations for urban and rural areas have been adjusted to reflect the actual policing boundaries within the urban and rural geographies and do not reflect the official Statistics Canada population for these geographies. Excludes data from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police's Canadian Police Centre for Missing and Exploited Children as it responds to incidents nationally. The incidents themselves and the offenders are not limited to one specific province or territory.

16. For a definition of a census metropolitan area, see endnote 15.

17. Data for the census metropolitan area of Saint John are excluded due to data quality concerns associated with the Saint John Police Service.

18. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau census metropolitan area.

Detailed data tables

Table 1.1

Victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and relationship of accused to victim, Canada, 2019

| Relationship of accused to victim | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | number | percent | number | percent | number | percent |
| Family | 68,158 | 32 | 34,158 | 18 | 102,316 | 26 |
| Spouse ¹ | 34,769 | 16 | 9,894 | 5 | 44,663 | 11 |
| Current spouse | 24,694 | 12 | 7,038 | 4 | 31,732 | 8 |
| Former spouse | 10,075 | 5 | 2,856 | 2 | 12,931 | 3 |
| Non-spousal family | 33,389 | 16 | 24,264 | 13 | 57,653 | 14 |
| Parent ² | 11,707 | 6 | 9,039 | 5 | 20,746 | 5 |
| Child ³ | 6,714 | 3 | 4,067 | 2 | 10,781 | 3 |
| Sibling ⁴ | 6,472 | 3 | 4,961 | 3 | 11,433 | 3 |
| Other family ⁵ | 8,496 | 4 | 6,197 | 3 | 14,693 | 4 |
| Non-family | 144,381 | 68 | 152,800 | 82 | 297,181 | 74 |
| Dating or other intimate partner | 50,874 | 24 | 13,321 | 7 | 64,195 | 16 |
| Dating partner ⁶ | 49,520 | 23 | 12,800 | 7 | 62,320 | 16 |
| Current boyfriend or girlfriend | 31,043 | 15 | 8,371 | 4 | 39,414 | 10 |
| Former boyfriend or girlfriend | 18,477 | 9 | 4,429 | 2 | 22,906 | 6 |
| Other intimate partner ⁷ | 1,354 | 1 | 521 | 0 ^s | 1,875 | 0 ^s |
| Friend ⁸ | 10,823 | 5 | 10,016 | 5 | 20,839 | 5 |
| Casual acquaintance ⁹ | 37,744 | 18 | 44,592 | 24 | 82,336 | 21 |
| Authority figure ¹⁰ | 6,806 | 3 | 10,531 | 6 | 17,337 | 4 |
| Business relationship | 5,917 | 3 | 7,846 | 4 | 13,763 | 3 |
| Criminal relationship ¹¹ | 405 | 0 ^s | 1,721 | 1 | 2,126 | 1 |
| Stranger | 31,812 | 15 | 64,773 | 35 | 96,585 | 24 |
| Unknown | 95 | ... | 254 | ... | 349 | ... |
| Total | 212,634 | 100 | 187,212 | 100 | 399,846 | 100 |

... not applicable

0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

1. Includes current and former legally married spouses and common-law partners.

2. Includes biological, step, adoptive and foster parents.

3. Includes biological, step, adopted and foster children.

4. Includes biological, step, half, adopted and foster brothers and sisters.

5. Includes all other family members related by blood, marriage (including common-law) or adoption. Examples include grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws.

6. Includes current and former boyfriends and girlfriends (intimate relationships).

7. Includes sexual relationships or a mutual sexual attraction.

8. Includes roommates. "Roommates" was added as a relationship category in 2013.

9. Includes neighbours.

10. Includes persons in a position of trust or authority. Includes authority figures and reverse authority figures (e.g., student-to-teacher and patient-to-doctor). "Reverse authority figures" was added as a relationship category in 2013.

11. Includes relationships based on illegal activities, such as drugs or prostitution.

Note: Family violence refers to violence committed by spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law), parents (biological, step, adoptive and foster), children (biological, step, adopted and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster) and extended family members (e.g., grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws). Victims refer to those aged 89 years and younger. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Spousal violence victims under the age of 15 years, and dating and other intimate partner violence victims under the age of 12 years, are included in the category "other family" and "unknown," respectively. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown. Excludes a small number of victims in Quebec whose age was unknown but was miscoded as 0. Percentages have been calculated excluding unknown relationships. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 1.2
Victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and type of violation, Canada, 2019

| Type of violation | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | |
|--|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate |
| Family violence | | | | | | |
| Homicide, other violations causing death and attempted murder ¹ | 154 | 1 | 128 | 1 | 282 | 1 |
| Sexual offences ² | 8,888 | 48 | 1,613 | 9 | 10,501 | 28 |
| Physical assault ³ | 46,205 | 249 | 26,899 | 146 | 73,104 | 197 |
| Other offences involving violence or the threat of violence ⁴ | 12,911 | 70 | 5,518 | 30 | 18,429 | 50 |
| Total family violence | 68,158 | 367 | 34,158 | 185 | 102,316 | 276 |
| Non-family violence | | | | | | |
| Homicide, other violations causing death and attempted murder ¹ | 196 | 1 | 838 | 5 | 1,034 | 3 |
| Sexual offences ² | 25,489 | 137 | 3,087 | 17 | 28,576 | 77 |
| Physical assault ³ | 76,337 | 411 | 94,219 | 510 | 170,556 | 460 |
| Other offences involving violence or the threat of violence ⁴ | 42,359 | 228 | 54,656 | 296 | 97,015 | 262 |
| Total non-family violence | 144,381 | 777 | 152,800 | 827 | 297,181 | 802 |
| Total victims | 212,539 | 1,144 | 186,958 | 1,012 | 399,497 | 1,078 |

1. Includes first degree murder, second degree murder, manslaughter, infanticide, criminal negligence causing death, other related violations causing death and conspiracy to commit murder.

2. Includes sexual assault level 1, sexual assault level 2 (with a weapon or causing bodily harm) and sexual assault level 3 (aggravated sexual assault). Also includes sexual violations against children, which refer to a set of *Criminal Code* offences that specifically concern offences involving child and youth victims. These include offences such as sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching and sexual exploitation, but exclude sexual assault (levels 1, 2 and 3) and other sexual offences not specific to children.

3. Includes assault level 1, assault level 2 (with a weapon or causing bodily harm) and assault level 3 (aggravated assault).

4. Includes all other violent violations not otherwise listed.

Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 89 years and younger. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Family violence refers to violence committed by spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law), parents (biological, step, adoptive and foster), children (biological, step, adopted and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster) and extended family members (e.g., grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws). Victims refer to those aged 89 years and younger. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims of dating or other intimate partner violence under the age of 12 years. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Excludes a small number of victims in Quebec whose age was unknown but was miscoded as 0.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 1.3**Victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim, type of weapon present and level of injury, Canada, 2019**

| Type of weapon present and level of injury | Family violence | | | | | | Non-family violence | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | |
| | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % |
| Type of weapon present | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No weapon ¹ | 2,856 | 6 | 1,072 | 5 | 3,928 | 6 | 12,475 | 11 | 5,949 | 5 | 18,424 | 8 |
| Threats ² | 3,033 | 7 | 1,516 | 6 | 4,549 | 7 | 10,515 | 9 | 11,842 | 10 | 22,357 | 9 |
| Physical force | 33,941 | 73 | 15,376 | 65 | 49,317 | 71 | 75,375 | 65 | 64,258 | 54 | 139,633 | 59 |
| Weapon | 6,521 | 14 | 5,520 | 24 | 12,041 | 17 | 17,910 | 15 | 37,196 | 31 | 55,106 | 23 |
| Firearm | 333 | 1 | 243 | 1 | 576 | 1 | 2,222 | 2 | 5,210 | 4 | 7,432 | 3 |
| Knife or other piercing instrument ³ | 1,781 | 4 | 1,919 | 8 | 3,700 | 5 | 4,824 | 4 | 13,002 | 11 | 17,826 | 8 |
| Club or other blunt instrument | 693 | 1 | 734 | 3 | 1,427 | 2 | 1,598 | 1 | 4,246 | 4 | 5,844 | 2 |
| Other weapon ⁴ | 3,714 | 8 | 2,624 | 11 | 6,338 | 9 | 9,266 | 8 | 14,738 | 12 | 24,004 | 10 |
| Unknown | 1,865 | ... | 965 | ... | 2,830 | ... | 4,493 | ... | 3,455 | ... | 7,948 | ... |
| Total | 48,216 | 100 | 24,449 | 100 | 72,665 | 100 | 120,768 | 100 | 122,700 | 100 | 243,468 | 100 |
| Level of injury | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No physical injury ⁵ | 24,696 | 55 | 11,604 | 51 | 36,300 | 54 | 68,080 | 60 | 64,731 | 56 | 132,811 | 58 |
| Physical injury | 19,980 | 45 | 11,200 | 49 | 31,180 | 46 | 44,734 | 40 | 51,640 | 44 | 96,374 | 42 |
| Minor physical injury ⁶ | 19,177 | 43 | 10,487 | 46 | 29,664 | 44 | 42,961 | 38 | 46,345 | 40 | 89,306 | 39 |
| Major physical injury or death ⁷ | 803 | 2 | 713 | 3 | 1,516 | 2 | 1,773 | 2 | 5,295 | 5 | 7,068 | 3 |
| Unknown | 3,540 | ... | 1,645 | ... | 5,185 | ... | 7,954 | ... | 6,329 | ... | 14,283 | ... |
| Total | 48,216 | 100 | 24,449 | 100 | 72,665 | 100 | 120,768 | 100 | 122,700 | 100 | 243,468 | 100 |

... not applicable

1. Includes no threat, physical force or weapon.

2. Includes threats that are construed to imply that death or injury is possible.

3. Includes other piercing or cutting instruments, such as hatchets, razor blades and arrows.

4. Includes other types of weapons such as explosives, fire, motor vehicles, poison and weapons not otherwise classified.

5. Includes incidents that did not involve the use of a weapon or physical force as well as those in which a weapon or physical force was used but no visible physical injury was noted by police.

6. Refers to injuries that required no professional medical treatment or only some first aid (e.g., bandage, ice).

7. Refers to injuries that required professional medical attention at the scene or transportation to a medical facility, or injuries that resulted in death.

Note: The weapon present in an incident (if any) may or may not have caused the injury to the victim (if any). Family violence refers to violence committed by spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law), parents (biological, step, adoptive and foster), children (biological, step, adopted and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster) and extended family members (e.g., grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws). Victims refer to those aged 89 years and younger. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims of dating or other intimate partner violence under the age of 12 years. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Excludes data from the province of Quebec due to data quality concerns. Percentages have been calculated excluding unknown type of weapon present and unknown level of injury. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 1.4
Victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and province or territory, 2018 to 2019

| Province or territory | 2019 | | | | | | Percent change in rate: 2018 to 2019 | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------|--------------|-------|---------------|-------|---|----------------|----------------|
| | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | | Female victims | Male victims | Total victims |
| | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | percent | | |
| Family violence | | | | | | | | | |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 928 | 355 | 682 | 265 | 1,610 | 311 | 16 | 28 | 20 |
| Prince Edward Island | 193 | 245 | 123 | 160 | 316 | 203 | -8 | 8 | -2 |
| Nova Scotia | 1,319 | 271 | 842 | 179 | 2,161 | 225 | 3 | 19 | 9 |
| New Brunswick ¹ | 1,313 | 374 | 836 | 240 | 2,149 | 307 | 8 | 16 | 11 |
| Quebec | 19,942 | 478 | 9,709 | 232 | 29,651 | 355 | 1 | 5 | 3 |
| Ontario | 17,193 | 239 | 7,514 | 106 | 24,707 | 173 | 7 | 8 | 7 |
| Manitoba | 3,523 | 537 | 1,971 | 299 | 5,494 | 417 | 2 | 15 | 6 |
| Saskatchewan | 3,747 | 666 | 2,157 | 375 | 5,904 | 519 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| Alberta | 8,725 | 404 | 4,566 | 208 | 13,291 | 305 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| British Columbia | 8,514 | 337 | 4,226 | 169 | 12,740 | 254 | 24 | 27 | 25 |
| Yukon | 181 | 905 | 107 | 516 | 288 | 707 | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| Northwest Territories | 813 | 3,739 | 390 | 1,696 | 1,203 | 2,689 | 14 | 18 | 15 |
| Nunavut | 848 | 4,499 | 469 | 2,356 | 1,317 | 3,398 | 18 | 32 | 23 |
| Canada | 67,239 | 363 | 33,592 | 183 | 100,831 | 273 | 6 | 10 | 7 |
| Non-family violence | | | | | | | | | |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 2,618 | 1,003 | 2,338 | 910 | 4,956 | 956 | 22 | 16 | 19 |
| Prince Edward Island | 568 | 720 | 535 | 696 | 1,103 | 708 | -8 | 10 | 0 ^s |
| Nova Scotia | 4,237 | 869 | 3,805 | 808 | 8,042 | 839 | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| New Brunswick ¹ | 4,047 | 1,151 | 3,648 | 1,047 | 7,695 | 1,100 | 22 | 20 | 21 |
| Quebec | 23,613 | 566 | 30,100 | 718 | 53,713 | 642 | 5 | 7 | 6 |
| Ontario | 45,049 | 626 | 46,833 | 663 | 91,882 | 644 | 2 | 0 ^s | 1 |
| Manitoba | 10,530 | 1,605 | 9,907 | 1,501 | 20,437 | 1,553 | 4 | 9 | 7 |
| Saskatchewan | 8,912 | 1,585 | 7,565 | 1,315 | 16,477 | 1,448 | 12 | 10 | 11 |
| Alberta | 18,830 | 873 | 19,469 | 887 | 38,299 | 880 | 6 | 5 | 5 |
| British Columbia | 20,275 | 802 | 24,443 | 980 | 44,718 | 890 | 20 | 22 | 21 |
| Yukon | 710 | 3,550 | 661 | 3,186 | 1,371 | 3,365 | 26 | 33 | 29 |
| Northwest Territories | 1,792 | 8,242 | 1,327 | 5,770 | 3,119 | 6,971 | 28 | 26 | 27 |
| Nunavut | 1,530 | 8,118 | 847 | 4,255 | 2,377 | 6,133 | 23 | 21 | 22 |
| Canada | 142,711 | 771 | 151,478 | 823 | 294,189 | 797 | 8 | 8 | 8 |

0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

1. Excludes data from the Saint John Police Service due to data quality concerns.

Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 89 years and younger. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Family violence refers to violence committed by spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law), parents (biological, step, adoptive and foster), children (biological, step, adopted and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster) and extended family members (e.g., grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws). Victims refer to those aged 89 years and younger. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims of dating or other intimate partner violence under the age of 12 years. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Excludes a small number of victims in Quebec whose age was unknown but was miscoded as 0. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada. As a result, numbers may not match those presented elsewhere in the report.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database.

Table 1.5
Victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and census metropolitan area, 2019

| Census metropolitan area (CMA) ^{1,2} | Family violence | | | | | | Non-family violence | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|------------|---------------|------------|----------------|------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | |
| | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate |
| St. John's | 219 | 209 | 162 | 159 | 381 | 184 | 754 | 718 | 745 | 729 | 1,499 | 724 |
| Halifax | 424 | 190 | 260 | 121 | 684 | 156 | 1,659 | 745 | 1,651 | 768 | 3,310 | 757 |
| Moncton | 301 | 366 | 172 | 213 | 473 | 290 | 1,099 | 1,338 | 1,082 | 1,340 | 2,181 | 1,339 |
| Saint John ³ | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Saguenay | 421 | 511 | 168 | 197 | 589 | 352 | 490 | 595 | 656 | 770 | 1,146 | 684 |
| Québec | 1,731 | 428 | 763 | 189 | 2,494 | 309 | 2,231 | 551 | 2,823 | 701 | 5,054 | 626 |
| Sherbrooke | 242 | 238 | 96 | 95 | 338 | 167 | 532 | 523 | 541 | 538 | 1,073 | 530 |
| Trois-Rivières | 402 | 510 | 162 | 208 | 564 | 360 | 456 | 578 | 603 | 774 | 1,059 | 676 |
| Montréal | 9,469 | 443 | 4,748 | 224 | 14,217 | 334 | 11,521 | 539 | 14,753 | 697 | 26,274 | 618 |
| Gatineau ⁴ | 671 | 395 | 385 | 230 | 1,056 | 313 | 1,091 | 643 | 1,398 | 834 | 2,489 | 738 |
| Ottawa ⁵ | 873 | 159 | 363 | 68 | 1,236 | 114 | 3,361 | 613 | 3,494 | 655 | 6,855 | 634 |
| Kingston | 166 | 192 | 63 | 74 | 229 | 134 | 560 | 647 | 480 | 566 | 1,040 | 607 |
| Belleville ⁶ | 167 | 296 | 87 | 156 | 254 | 227 | 612 | 1,086 | 400 | 718 | 1,012 | 903 |
| Peterborough | 125 | 193 | 47 | 76 | 172 | 135 | 450 | 693 | 302 | 486 | 752 | 592 |
| Toronto ⁷ | 7,100 | 243 | 2,825 | 100 | 9,925 | 172 | 15,752 | 540 | 19,503 | 688 | 35,255 | 613 |
| Hamilton ⁸ | 681 | 238 | 319 | 113 | 1,000 | 176 | 2,338 | 818 | 2,184 | 774 | 4,522 | 796 |
| St. Catharines–Niagara | 412 | 172 | 175 | 75 | 587 | 124 | 1,159 | 485 | 1,104 | 471 | 2,263 | 478 |
| Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo | 1,270 | 432 | 641 | 215 | 1,911 | 323 | 2,837 | 966 | 2,638 | 886 | 5,475 | 926 |
| Brantford | 325 | 456 | 140 | 198 | 465 | 328 | 615 | 863 | 555 | 785 | 1,170 | 824 |
| Guelph | 116 | 161 | 41 | 59 | 157 | 111 | 390 | 543 | 301 | 430 | 691 | 487 |
| London | 475 | 173 | 193 | 72 | 668 | 123 | 1,697 | 618 | 1,660 | 619 | 3,357 | 619 |
| Windsor | 408 | 258 | 157 | 98 | 565 | 177 | 1,023 | 646 | 983 | 614 | 2,006 | 630 |
| Barrie | 210 | 166 | 105 | 83 | 315 | 125 | 755 | 596 | 655 | 521 | 1,410 | 559 |
| Greater Sudbury | 230 | 273 | 102 | 123 | 332 | 199 | 680 | 808 | 599 | 721 | 1,279 | 765 |
| Thunder Bay | 253 | 406 | 87 | 140 | 340 | 273 | 613 | 985 | 630 | 1,011 | 1,243 | 998 |
| Winnipeg | 958 | 233 | 402 | 98 | 1,360 | 166 | 4,549 | 1,105 | 5,164 | 1,264 | 9,713 | 1,184 |
| Regina | 393 | 304 | 158 | 120 | 551 | 212 | 1,232 | 954 | 1,200 | 915 | 2,432 | 934 |
| Saskatoon | 519 | 315 | 213 | 128 | 732 | 221 | 1,446 | 877 | 1,522 | 914 | 2,968 | 896 |
| Lethbridge ⁶ | 326 | 526 | 148 | 240 | 474 | 383 | 774 | 1,248 | 803 | 1,304 | 1,577 | 1,276 |
| Calgary | 2,682 | 355 | 1,621 | 213 | 4,303 | 283 | 4,945 | 654 | 5,806 | 762 | 10,751 | 708 |
| Edmonton | 2,200 | 307 | 864 | 119 | 3,064 | 212 | 5,175 | 722 | 5,998 | 827 | 11,173 | 775 |
| Kelowna | 336 | 312 | 200 | 189 | 536 | 251 | 882 | 818 | 1,138 | 1,073 | 2,020 | 945 |
| Abbotsford–Mission | 356 | 363 | 126 | 124 | 482 | 241 | 633 | 645 | 743 | 730 | 1,376 | 688 |
| Vancouver | 3,301 | 244 | 1,464 | 111 | 4,765 | 178 | 9,153 | 677 | 12,150 | 922 | 21,303 | 798 |
| Victoria | 437 | 216 | 257 | 132 | 694 | 175 | 1,385 | 685 | 1,710 | 879 | 3,095 | 780 |
| CMA total⁹ | 39,129 | 292 | 18,150 | 137 | 57,279 | 215 | 85,056 | 634 | 98,151 | 743 | 183,207 | 688 |
| Non-CMA total | 29,029 | 562 | 16,008 | 305 | 45,037 | 432 | 59,325 | 1,148 | 54,649 | 1,040 | 113,974 | 1,094 |
| Canada | 68,158 | 367 | 34,158 | 185 | 102,316 | 276 | 144,381 | 777 | 152,800 | 827 | 297,181 | 802 |

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 1.5 — end**Victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and census metropolitan area, 2019**

.. not available for a specific reference period

1. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000, of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CMA typically comprises more than one police service.

2. Census metropolitan area (CMA) populations have been adjusted to follow policing boundaries. The Oshawa CMA is excluded from this table due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.

3. Data for the census metropolitan area of Saint John are excluded due to data quality concerns associated with the Saint John Police Service.

4. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa–Gatineau census metropolitan area.

5. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau census metropolitan area.

6. Following the 2016 Census of Population, Belleville and Lethbridge were reclassified as census metropolitan areas.

7. Excludes the portions of the Halton Regional Police Service and the Durham Regional Police Service that police the census metropolitan area of Toronto.

8. Excludes the portion of the Halton Regional Police Service that polices the census metropolitan area of Hamilton.

9. Includes Halton Regional Police Service and Durham Regional Police Service, which are responsible for policing more than one census metropolitan area (CMA). This total also includes the portion of the Durham Regional Police Service that polices the Oshawa CMA. This also includes the CMA of Saint John, excluding the Saint John Police Service due to data quality concerns. Because of these inclusions, the CMA total will not equal the total of the individual CMAs.

Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 89 years and younger. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Family violence refers to violence committed by spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law), parents (biological, step, adoptive and foster), children (biological, step, adopted and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster) and extended family members (e.g., grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws). Victims refer to those aged 89 years and younger. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims of dating or other intimate partner violence under the age of 12 years. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Excludes a small number of victims in Quebec whose age was unknown but was miscoded as 0.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Section 2: Police-reported family violence against children and youth in Canada, 2019

Family violence against children and youth—also referred to as child maltreatment—can lead to a range of impacts on young victims, including physical injury, delayed growth and development, emotional and mental health issues, alcohol and drug use, and other risky behavior (Public Health Agency of Canada 2014; United Nations 2006). In addition, research has shown an association between childhood maltreatment and violent victimization in adulthood—including intimate partner violence—and increased mental or psychological limitations and poor physical health (Burczycka 2017).

It is important to note that the victimization of children and youth is often difficult to detect—particularly in the context of family violence—and police-reported data are likely an underestimation of the true extent of the issue. For instance, younger victims are unique in that they may be unaware that they are being victimized, may not know how to seek help, may be unable to report their victimization and may be dependent on the perpetrator. During the COVID-19 pandemic, many children and youth have had minimal exposure to people outside the home—such as friends, teachers, doctors and counsellors—and thus violence against young victims has become more hidden. Further, as children and youth have spent more time online, the nature of their victimization might have changed.

In this section, family violence refers to violence committed by parents (biological, step, adoptive and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster), extended family members (e.g., grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws) and spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law). Victims refer to those aged 17 years and younger.¹

One in three child and youth victims of police-reported violence victimized by a family member

In 2019, there were 69,691 child and youth victims of police-reported violence in Canada, and victims were more commonly girls (57%) (Table 2.1). Perpetrators of violence against children and youth were most commonly a casual acquaintance (32%), a parent (19%) or a stranger (16%).

One-third (32%) of children and youth who were victims of violence that came to the attention of police were victimized by a family member. This represented 22,299 child and youth victims of family violence and, again, a larger proportion of victims were girls (60%). Within the family, child and youth victims were most often victimized by a parent (60%) while a sibling (15%) was less common.

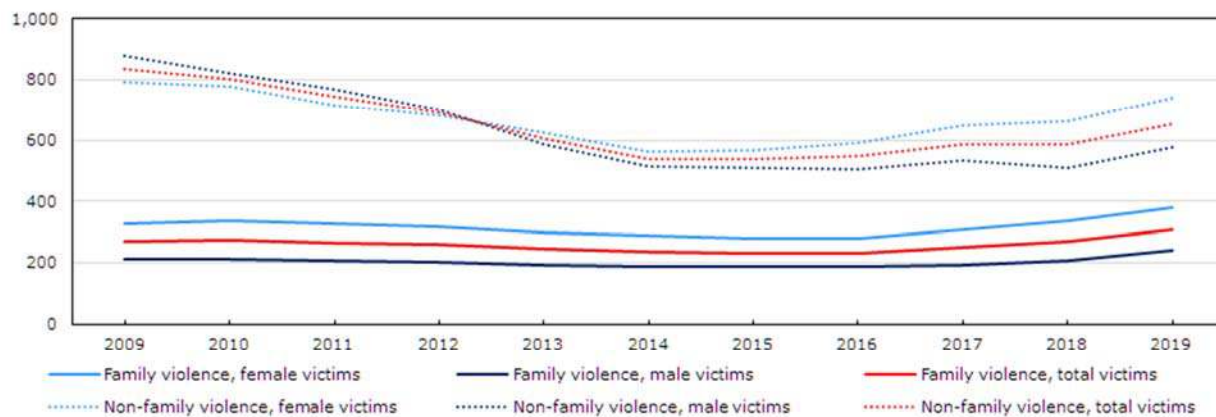
Younger children had the highest proportion of family violence, and this decreased with age. More than two-thirds (71%) of victims aged 5 and younger were victimized by a family member. Meanwhile, less than one-fifth (18%) of victims of violence aged 15 to 17 were victimized by a family member.

Family violence against children and youth increases for the third consecutive year

The rate of police-reported family violence against children and youth was 14% higher in 2019 compared with the previous year, and increases were similar for girls and boys (Chart 2.1).² Since 2016, there has been a year-over-year increase in the rate of family violence against children and youth, marking a 33% increase. Between 2009 and 2019, the rate increased 15% while the rate of non-family violence against children and youth decreased 22%.

Chart 2.1
Child and youth victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and year, Canada, 2009 to 2019

rate per 100,000 population



Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 17 years and younger. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Victims refer to those aged 17 years and younger. Excludes victims of dating or other intimate partner violence under the age of 12 years. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Excludes a small number of victims in Quebec whose age was unknown but was miscoded as 0. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada. As a result, numbers may not match those presented elsewhere in the report.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database.

Physical assault most common form of family violence against children and youth

In 2019, the rate of police-reported family violence against children and youth was 311 victims per 100,000 population (Table 2.2). The most common type of family violence perpetrated against children and youth was physical assault³ (accounting for 54% of victims, a rate of 169 per 100,000 population). While the rate of physical assault was similar for girls and boys (167 versus 171), the rate of sexual offences⁴ was 4.6 times higher for girls than boys (170 versus 37).

Among child and youth victims of family violence, rates of physical assault generally increased with age. Meanwhile, rates of sexual offences peaked among girls aged 12 to 14 and boys aged 6 to 11 (275 and 50 per 100,000 population, respectively).

Three-quarters (74%) of child and youth victims of family violence were assaulted using physical force (Table 2.3).⁵ A further 15% of young victims of family violence were assaulted with a weapon present, such as a knife, club or firearm. More than one-third (36%) of child and youth victims of family violence suffered a physical injury.⁶ Among those who were physically injured, nearly all (96%) had minor injuries. Physical injury resulting from family violence was more common for boys than girls (43% versus 31%).

Text box 2

Self-reported childhood experiences of physical and sexual abuse

As mentioned, measuring violence against children and youth is challenging. Gathering information from a range of sources is critical for monitoring this issue (Public Health Agency of Canada 2019). Police-reported data are likely an underestimation of the true extent of violence against children and youth, particularly in the family context. For this reason, self-reported data offer additional insight into the nature and extent of violence against young victims and complement police-reported data.

The 2018 Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces included retrospective questions about experiences of childhood physical and sexual abuse.⁷ Just over one-quarter (27%) of Canadians experienced abuse before age 15.⁸ A slightly lower proportion of women than men had experienced physical abuse early in life (22% versus 25%) while the proportion that experienced sexual abuse was three times higher for women than men (12% versus 4%).

When it came to violence during childhood, 78% of victims of physical abuse and 45% of victims of sexual abuse said the most serious incident they experienced was perpetrated by a family member. Victimization by a family member was more common for female victims of physical abuse (83% versus 74% of male victims) and sexual abuse (49% versus 32% of male victims).

Of those victimized within the family context during childhood, 6% of victims said the violence they experienced came to the attention of police while another 6% said they spoke with someone from child protective services.

Saskatchewan, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Manitoba have highest provincial rates of family violence against children and youth

Among the provinces, the rate of police-reported family violence against children and youth was highest in Saskatchewan (540 per 100,000 population), Newfoundland and Labrador (433) and Manitoba (414) (Table 2.4).⁹ Meanwhile, it was lowest in Ontario (211), Alberta (286) and British Columbia (291). Compared with the provinces, rates were notably higher in the territories, with Nunavut reporting the highest rate (1,913) followed by the Northwest Territories (1,349) and Yukon (764).

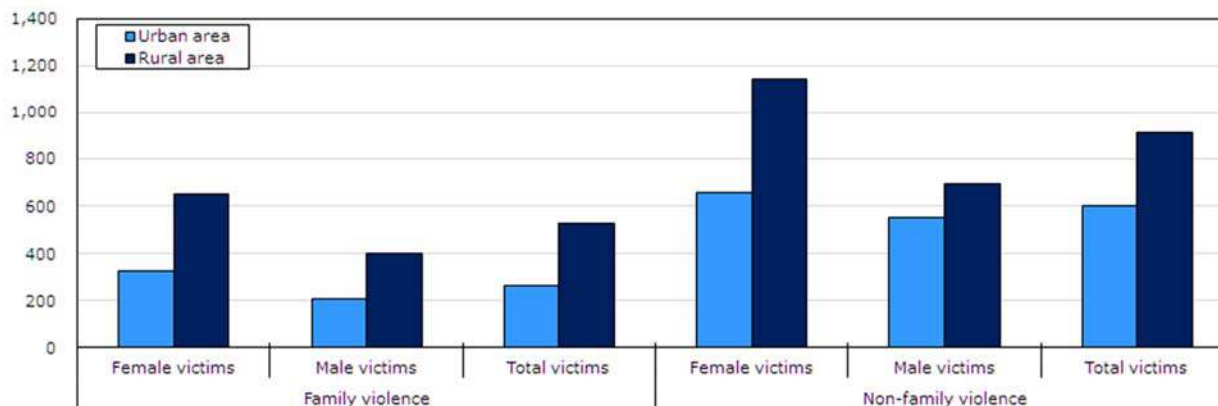
Girls experienced a higher rate of family violence than boys in every province and territory. The largest differences in the rate for girls and boys were noted in the Northwest Territories (1,953 versus 748, 2.6 times higher for girls), Yukon (999 versus 546, 1.8 times higher) and British Columbia (374 versus 213, 1.8 times higher).

In every province and territory in 2019, the rate of family violence against children and youth increased from the previous year, with the exception of Prince Edward Island (-1%).¹⁰ The largest provincial increases were noted in Newfoundland and Labrador (+46%) and British Columbia (+41%).

The rate of family violence against children and youth in the provinces was 2.0 times higher in rural areas than urban areas (522 versus 265 per 100,000 population), and this pattern was similar for girls and boys (Chart 2.2).¹¹ In rural areas, girls had a rate of family violence that was 1.6 times higher than boys (652 versus 398). Of note, when it came to child and youth victims, the difference between rural and urban rates was larger for family violence than non-family violence (2.0 versus 1.5 times higher in rural areas).

Chart 2.2
Child and youth victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and urban or rural area, provinces, 2019

rate per 100,000 population



Note: An urban area is defined as a census metropolitan area (CMA) or a census agglomeration (CA). A CMA consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000, of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CA must have a core population of at least 10,000. Rural areas are all areas outside of CMAs and CAs. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 17 years and younger. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Victims refer to those aged 17 years and younger. Excludes victims of dating or other intimate partner violence under the age of 12 years. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Excludes a small number of victims in Quebec whose age was unknown but was miscoded as 0. Excludes data from the territories.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

The rate of family violence against children and youth was 2.1 times lower in Canada's largest cities—referred to as census metropolitan areas¹² or CMAs—than it was in non-CMAs (239 versus 492) (Table 2.5).¹³ Among the CMAs, rates were highest in Saguenay (488), Trois-Rivières (417) and Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo (389). Meanwhile, rates were lowest in Guelph (106), Ottawa¹⁴ (121) and Barrie (163).

Among the CMAs, the largest differences in the rate of family violence between girls and boys were noted in Thunder Bay (389 versus 111, 3.5 times higher for girls) and Kingston (274 versus 93, 2.9 times higher).

References

Burczycka, M. 2017. "Profile of Canadian adults who experienced childhood maltreatment" in *Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile, 2015*. Juristat. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

Public Health Agency of Canada. 2019. "A pathfinding country: Canada's road map to end violence against children."

Public Health Agency of Canada. 2014. *Family Violence Initiative*.

United Nations. 2006. "World report on violence against children." Geneva, Switzerland: United Nations Publishing Services.

Notes

1. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown. Counts represent the number of victims involved in incidents of violence. It is possible that individual victims may have experienced more than one incident, and would therefore be counted more than once here. For type of relationship, percentages have been calculated excluding unknown relationships.

2. Trend numbers are based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data from 99% of the population in Canada. As a result, trend numbers may not match those presented elsewhere in the report.

3. Includes assault level 1, assault level 2 (with a weapon or causing bodily harm) and assault level 3 (aggravated assault).

4. Includes sexual assault level 1, sexual assault level 2 (with a weapon or causing bodily harm) and sexual assault level 3 (aggravated sexual assault). Also includes sexual violations against children, which refer to a set of *Criminal Code* offences that specifically concern offences involving child and youth victims. These include offences such as sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching and sexual exploitation, but exclude sexual assault (levels 1, 2 and 3) and other sexual offences not specific to children.

5. Data on type of weapon present exclude the province of Quebec due to data quality concerns. Percentages have been calculated excluding unknown type of weapon present.

6. Data on level of injury exclude the province of Quebec due to data quality concerns. Percentages have been calculated excluding unknown level of injury.

7. For physical abuse, the following questions were asked: "Before age 15 [...] did any adult do any of the following to you? Slap you on the face, head or ears, or hit you with something hard to hurt you? Push, grab, shove or throw something at you to hurt you? Kick, bite, punch, choke or burn you, or physically attack you in some way?" For sexual abuse, the following questions were asked: "Before age 15 [...] did any adult do any of the following to you? Force you or attempt to force you into any unwanted sexual activity by threatening you, holding you down or hurting you in some way? Touch you against your will in any sexual way, meaning anything from unwanted touching or grabbing, to kissing or fondling?"

8. Totals include female, male and gender diverse respondents, and respondents who did not state their gender.

9. Trend numbers are based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data from 99% of the population in Canada. As a result, trend numbers may not match those presented elsewhere in the report.

10. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards. For more information, see Survey description.

11. Excludes data from the territories. An urban area is defined as a census metropolitan area (CMA) or a census agglomeration (CA). A CMA consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000, of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CA must have a core population of at least 10,000. Rural areas are all areas outside of CMAs and CAs. The populations for urban and rural areas have been adjusted to reflect the actual policing boundaries within the urban and rural geographies and do not reflect the official Statistics Canada population for these geographies. Excludes data from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police's Canadian Police Centre for Missing and Exploited Children as it responds to incidents nationally. The incidents themselves and the offenders are not limited to one specific province or territory.

12. For a definition of a census metropolitan area, see endnote 11.

13. Data for the census metropolitan area of Saint John are excluded due to data quality concerns associated with the Saint John Police Service.

14. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau census metropolitan area.

Detailed data tables

Table 2.1

Child and youth victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender and age group of victim, and relationship of accused to victim, Canada, 2019

| Gender of victim and relationship of accused to victim | Age group of victim | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| | 5 years and younger | | 6 to 11 years | | 12 to 14 years | | 15 to 17 years | | Total victims | |
| | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % |
| Female victims | | | | | | | | | | |
| Family | 2,414 | 72 | 4,291 | 58 | 3,366 | 27 | 3,377 | 21 | 13,448 | 34 |
| Parent ¹ | 1,707 | 51 | 2,479 | 33 | 1,757 | 14 | 1,435 | 9 | 7,378 | 19 |
| Sibling ² | 314 | 9 | 809 | 11 | 518 | 4 | 609 | 4 | 2,250 | 6 |
| Other family ³ | 393 | 12 | 1,003 | 14 | 1,091 | 9 | 1,333 | 8 | 3,820 | 10 |
| Non-family | 917 | 28 | 3,112 | 42 | 9,009 | 73 | 13,085 | 79 | 26,123 | 66 |
| Dating or other intimate partner ⁴ | ... | ... | ... | ... | 979 | 8 | 3,280 | 20 | 4,259 | 11 |
| Friend ⁵ | 85 | 3 | 412 | 6 | 1,539 | 12 | 1,800 | 11 | 3,836 | 10 |
| Casual acquaintance ⁶ | 366 | 11 | 1,579 | 21 | 4,497 | 36 | 5,175 | 31 | 11,617 | 29 |
| Authority figure ⁷ | 226 | 7 | 391 | 5 | 304 | 2 | 350 | 2 | 1,271 | 3 |
| Stranger | 231 | 7 | 718 | 10 | 1,644 | 13 | 2,273 | 14 | 4,866 | 12 |
| Other ⁸ | 9 | 0 ^s | 12 | 0 ^s | 46 | 0 ^s | 207 | 1 | 274 | 1 |
| Unknown | 16 | ... | 46 | ... | 0 | ... | 0 | ... | 62 | ... |
| Total female victims | 3,347 | 100 | 7,449 | 100 | 12,375 | 100 | 16,462 | 100 | 39,633 | 100 |
| Male victims | | | | | | | | | | |
| Family | 2,058 | 70 | 3,438 | 50 | 1,721 | 20 | 1,634 | 14 | 8,851 | 29 |
| Parent ¹ | 1,598 | 54 | 2,584 | 38 | 1,047 | 12 | 845 | 7 | 6,074 | 20 |
| Sibling ² | 180 | 6 | 389 | 6 | 245 | 3 | 310 | 3 | 1,124 | 4 |
| Other family ³ | 280 | 10 | 465 | 7 | 429 | 5 | 479 | 4 | 1,653 | 6 |
| Non-family | 876 | 30 | 3,409 | 50 | 6,898 | 80 | 9,986 | 86 | 21,169 | 71 |
| Dating or other intimate partner ⁴ | ... | ... | ... | ... | 69 | 1 | 345 | 3 | 414 | 1 |
| Friend ⁵ | 60 | 2 | 422 | 6 | 806 | 9 | 867 | 7 | 2,155 | 7 |
| Casual acquaintance ⁶ | 277 | 9 | 1,791 | 26 | 3,906 | 45 | 4,692 | 40 | 10,666 | 36 |
| Authority figure ⁷ | 293 | 10 | 433 | 6 | 249 | 3 | 211 | 2 | 1,186 | 4 |
| Stranger | 235 | 8 | 747 | 11 | 1,828 | 21 | 3,729 | 32 | 6,539 | 22 |
| Other ⁸ | 11 | 0 ^s | 16 | 0 ^s | 40 | 0 ^s | 142 | 1 | 209 | 1 |
| Unknown | 17 | ... | 14 | ... | 0 | ... | 7 | ... | 38 | ... |
| Total male victims | 2,951 | 100 | 6,861 | 100 | 8,619 | 100 | 11,627 | 100 | 30,058 | 100 |
| Total victims | | | | | | | | | | |
| Family | 4,472 | 71 | 7,729 | 54 | 5,087 | 24 | 5,011 | 18 | 22,299 | 32 |
| Parent ¹ | 3,305 | 53 | 5,063 | 36 | 2,804 | 13 | 2,280 | 8 | 13,452 | 19 |
| Sibling ² | 494 | 8 | 1,198 | 8 | 763 | 4 | 919 | 3 | 3,374 | 5 |
| Other family ³ | 673 | 11 | 1,468 | 10 | 1,520 | 7 | 1,812 | 6 | 5,473 | 8 |

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 2.1 — end**Child and youth victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender and age group of victim, and relationship of accused to victim, Canada, 2019**

| Gender of victim and relationship of accused to victim | Age group of victim | | | | | | | | Total victims | |
|--|---------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----|---------------|-----|
| | 5 years and younger | | 6 to 11 years | | 12 to 14 years | | 15 to 17 years | | | |
| | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % |
| Non-family | 1,793 | 29 | 6,521 | 46 | 15,907 | 76 | 23,071 | 82 | 47,292 | 68 |
| Dating or other intimate partner ⁴ | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,048 | 5 | 3,625 | 13 | 4,673 | 7 |
| Friend ⁵ | 145 | 2 | 834 | 6 | 2,345 | 11 | 2,667 | 9 | 5,991 | 9 |
| Casual acquaintance ⁶ | 643 | 10 | 3,370 | 24 | 8,403 | 40 | 9,867 | 35 | 22,283 | 32 |
| Authority figure ⁷ | 519 | 8 | 824 | 6 | 553 | 3 | 561 | 2 | 2,457 | 4 |
| Stranger | 466 | 7 | 1,465 | 10 | 3,472 | 17 | 6,002 | 21 | 11,405 | 16 |
| Other ⁸ | 20 | 0 ^s | 28 | 0 ^s | 86 | 0 ^s | 349 | 1 | 483 | 1 |
| Unknown | 33 | ... | 60 | ... | 0 | ... | 7 | ... | 100 | ... |
| Total victims | 6,298 | 100 | 14,310 | 100 | 20,994 | 100 | 28,089 | 100 | 69,691 | 100 |

... not applicable

0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

1. Includes biological, step, adoptive and foster parents.

2. Includes biological, step, half, adopted and foster brothers and sisters.

3. Includes all other family members related by blood, marriage (including common-law) or adoption. Examples include grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws.

4. Includes current and former boyfriends and girlfriends (intimate relationships) and other intimate partners (sexual relationships or a mutual sexual attraction).

5. Includes roommates. "Roommates" was added as a relationship category in 2013.

6. Includes neighbours.

7. Includes persons in a position of trust or authority. Includes authority figures and reverse authority figures (e.g., student-to-teacher and patient-to-doctor). "Reverse authority figures" was added as a relationship category in 2013.

8. Includes business relationships and criminal relationships (relationships based on illegal activities, such as drugs or prostitution).

Note: Family violence refers to violence committed by parents (biological, step, adoptive and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster), extended family members (e.g., grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws) and spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law). Victims refer to those aged 17 years and younger. Victims of dating or other intimate partner violence under the age of 12 years are included in the category "unknown." Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown. Excludes a small number of victims in Quebec whose age was unknown but was miscoded as 0. Percentages have been calculated excluding unknown relationships. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 2.2
Child and youth victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender and age group of victim, and type of violation, Canada, 2019

| Gender of victim and type of violation | Age group of victim | | | | | | | | Total victims | |
|--|---------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | 5 years and younger | | 6 to 11 years | | 12 to 14 years | | 15 to 17 years | | | |
| | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate |
| Family violence | | | | | | | | | | |
| Female victims | | | | | | | | | | |
| Homicide, other violations causing death and attempted murder ¹ | 9 | 1 | 5 | 0 ^s | 2 | 0 ^s | 2 | 0 ^s | 18 | 1 |
| Sexual offences ² | 1,019 | 90 | 2,230 | 186 | 1,606 | 275 | 1,117 | 190 | 5,972 | 170 |
| Sexual assault ³ | 436 | 38 | 906 | 75 | 675 | 116 | 711 | 121 | 2,728 | 78 |
| Sexual violations against children ⁴ | 583 | 51 | 1,324 | 110 | 931 | 160 | 406 | 69 | 3,244 | 92 |
| Physical assault ⁵ | 972 | 86 | 1,634 | 136 | 1,432 | 245 | 1,827 | 311 | 5,865 | 167 |
| Other offences involving violence or the threat of violence ⁶ | 414 | 36 | 422 | 35 | 326 | 56 | 431 | 73 | 1,593 | 45 |
| Total female victims | 2,414 | 213 | 4,291 | 357 | 3,366 | 577 | 3,377 | 574 | 13,448 | 383 |
| Male victims | | | | | | | | | | |
| Homicide, other violations causing death and attempted murder ¹ | 18 | 2 | 6 | 0 ^s | 6 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 35 | 1 |
| Sexual offences ² | 386 | 32 | 629 | 50 | 210 | 35 | 135 | 22 | 1,360 | 37 |
| Sexual assault ³ | 205 | 17 | 295 | 24 | 111 | 18 | 89 | 15 | 700 | 19 |
| Sexual violations against children ⁴ | 181 | 15 | 334 | 27 | 99 | 16 | 46 | 8 | 660 | 18 |
| Physical assault ⁵ | 1,235 | 104 | 2,426 | 194 | 1,320 | 218 | 1,282 | 209 | 6,263 | 171 |
| Other offences involving violence or the threat of violence ⁶ | 419 | 35 | 377 | 30 | 185 | 31 | 212 | 35 | 1,193 | 33 |
| Total male victims | 2,058 | 173 | 3,438 | 274 | 1,721 | 284 | 1,634 | 267 | 8,851 | 242 |
| Total victims | | | | | | | | | | |
| Homicide, other violations causing death and attempted murder ¹ | 27 | 1 | 11 | 0 ^s | 8 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 53 | 1 |
| Sexual offences ² | 1,405 | 60 | 2,859 | 116 | 1,816 | 153 | 1,252 | 104 | 7,332 | 102 |
| Sexual assault ³ | 641 | 28 | 1,201 | 49 | 786 | 66 | 800 | 67 | 3,428 | 48 |
| Sexual violations against children ⁴ | 764 | 33 | 1,658 | 68 | 1,030 | 87 | 452 | 38 | 3,904 | 54 |
| Physical assault ⁵ | 2,207 | 95 | 4,060 | 165 | 2,752 | 232 | 3,109 | 259 | 12,128 | 169 |
| Other offences involving violence or the threat of violence ⁶ | 833 | 36 | 799 | 33 | 511 | 43 | 643 | 54 | 2,786 | 39 |
| Total victims | 4,472 | 192 | 7,729 | 315 | 5,087 | 428 | 5,011 | 418 | 22,299 | 311 |
| Non-family violence | | | | | | | | | | |
| Female victims | | | | | | | | | | |
| Homicide, other violations causing death and attempted murder ¹ | 2 | 0 ^s | 1 | 0 ^s | 1 | 0 ^s | 5 | 1 | 9 | 0 ^s |
| Sexual offences ² | 396 | 35 | 1,426 | 119 | 4,270 | 732 | 5,077 | 863 | 11,169 | 318 |
| Sexual assault ³ | 190 | 17 | 552 | 46 | 2,251 | 386 | 3,926 | 668 | 6,919 | 197 |
| Sexual violations against children ⁴ | 206 | 18 | 874 | 73 | 2,019 | 346 | 1,151 | 196 | 4,250 | 121 |
| Physical assault ⁵ | 341 | 30 | 998 | 83 | 2,414 | 414 | 4,573 | 778 | 8,326 | 237 |
| Other offences involving violence or the threat of violence ⁶ | 178 | 16 | 687 | 57 | 2,324 | 398 | 3,430 | 583 | 6,619 | 189 |
| Total female victims | 917 | 81 | 3,112 | 259 | 9,009 | 1,544 | 13,085 | 2,225 | 26,123 | 745 |

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 2.2 — end**Child and youth victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender and age group of victim, and type of violation, Canada, 2019**

| Gender of victim and type of violation | Age group of victim | | | | | | | | Total victims | |
|--|---------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-------|----------------|-------|---------------|------|
| | 5 years and younger | | 6 to 11 years | | 12 to 14 years | | 15 to 17 years | | | |
| | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate |
| Male victims | | | | | | | | | | |
| Homicide, other violations causing death and attempted murder ¹ | 1 | 0 ^s | 1 | 0 ^s | 11 | 2 | 46 | 8 | 59 | 2 |
| Sexual offences ² | 204 | 17 | 538 | 43 | 509 | 84 | 477 | 78 | 1,728 | 47 |
| Sexual assault ³ | 116 | 10 | 288 | 23 | 278 | 46 | 302 | 49 | 984 | 27 |
| Sexual violations against children ⁴ | 88 | 7 | 250 | 20 | 231 | 38 | 175 | 29 | 744 | 20 |
| Physical assault ⁵ | 478 | 40 | 2,077 | 166 | 3,815 | 630 | 5,580 | 912 | 11,950 | 326 |
| Other offences involving violence or the threat of violence ⁶ | 193 | 16 | 793 | 63 | 2,563 | 424 | 3,883 | 634 | 7,432 | 203 |
| Total male victims | 876 | 73 | 3,409 | 272 | 6,898 | 1,140 | 9,986 | 1,632 | 21,169 | 578 |
| Total victims | | | | | | | | | | |
| Homicide, other violations causing death and attempted murder ¹ | 3 | 0 ^s | 2 | 0 ^s | 12 | 1 | 51 | 4 | 68 | 1 |
| Sexual offences ² | 600 | 26 | 1,964 | 80 | 4,779 | 402 | 5,554 | 463 | 12,897 | 180 |
| Sexual assault ³ | 306 | 13 | 840 | 34 | 2,529 | 213 | 4,228 | 352 | 7,903 | 110 |
| Sexual violations against children ⁴ | 294 | 13 | 1,124 | 46 | 2,250 | 189 | 1,326 | 110 | 4,994 | 70 |
| Physical assault ⁵ | 819 | 35 | 3,075 | 125 | 6,229 | 524 | 10,153 | 846 | 20,276 | 283 |
| Other offences involving violence or the threat of violence ⁶ | 371 | 16 | 1,480 | 60 | 4,887 | 411 | 7,313 | 609 | 14,051 | 196 |
| Total victims | 1,793 | 77 | 6,521 | 266 | 15,907 | 1,338 | 23,071 | 1,922 | 47,292 | 659 |

0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

1. Includes first degree murder, second degree murder, manslaughter, infanticide, criminal negligence causing death, other related violations causing death and conspiracy to commit murder.

2. Includes sexual assault and sexual violations against children.

3. Includes sexual assault level 1, sexual assault level 2 (with a weapon or causing bodily harm) and sexual assault level 3 (aggravated sexual assault).

4. Sexual violations against children refer to a set of *Criminal Code* offences that specifically concern offences involving child and youth victims. These include offences such as sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching and sexual exploitation, but exclude sexual assault (levels 1, 2 and 3) and other sexual offences not specific to children.

5. Includes assault level 1, assault level 2 (with a weapon or causing bodily harm) and assault level 3 (aggravated assault).

6. Includes all other violent violations not otherwise listed.

Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 17 years and younger. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Family violence refers to violence committed by parents (biological, step, adoptive and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster), extended family members (e.g., grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws) and spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law). Victims refer to those aged 17 years and younger. Excludes victims of dating or other intimate partner violence under the age of 12 years. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Excludes a small number of victims in Quebec whose age was unknown but was miscoded as 0.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 2.3
Child and youth victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim, type of weapon present and level of injury, Canada, 2019

| Type of weapon present and level of injury | Family violence | | | | | | Non-family violence | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|----------------|--------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | |
| | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % |
| Type of weapon present | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No weapon ¹ | 876 | 10 | 312 | 5 | 1,188 | 8 | 3,197 | 17 | 961 | 6 | 4,158 | 12 |
| Threats ² | 253 | 3 | 266 | 4 | 519 | 3 | 1,660 | 9 | 1,692 | 11 | 3,352 | 9 |
| Physical force | 6,840 | 76 | 4,260 | 71 | 11,100 | 74 | 12,386 | 64 | 8,901 | 56 | 21,287 | 60 |
| Weapon | 1,080 | 12 | 1,128 | 19 | 2,208 | 15 | 2,038 | 11 | 4,482 | 28 | 6,520 | 18 |
| Firearm | 35 | 0 ^s | 44 | 1 | 79 | 1 | 307 | 2 | 746 | 5 | 1,053 | 3 |
| Knife or other piercing instrument ³ | 215 | 2 | 249 | 4 | 464 | 3 | 586 | 3 | 1,742 | 11 | 2,328 | 7 |
| Club or other blunt instrument | 132 | 1 | 136 | 2 | 268 | 2 | 100 | 1 | 332 | 2 | 432 | 1 |
| Other weapon ⁴ | 698 | 8 | 699 | 12 | 1,397 | 9 | 1,045 | 5 | 1,662 | 10 | 2,707 | 8 |
| Unknown | 752 | ... | 316 | ... | 1,068 | ... | 962 | ... | 441 | ... | 1,403 | ... |
| Total | 9,801 | 100 | 6,282 | 100 | 16,083 | 100 | 20,243 | 100 | 16,477 | 100 | 36,720 | 100 |
| Level of injury | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No physical injury ⁵ | 5,933 | 69 | 3,193 | 57 | 9,126 | 64 | 13,593 | 73 | 9,738 | 63 | 23,331 | 68 |
| Physical injury | 2,641 | 31 | 2,408 | 43 | 5,049 | 36 | 5,114 | 27 | 5,748 | 37 | 10,862 | 32 |
| Minor physical injury ⁶ | 2,561 | 30 | 2,311 | 41 | 4,872 | 34 | 4,985 | 27 | 5,379 | 35 | 10,364 | 30 |
| Major physical injury or death ⁷ | 80 | 1 | 97 | 2 | 177 | 1 | 129 | 1 | 369 | 2 | 498 | 1 |
| Unknown | 1,227 | ... | 681 | ... | 1,908 | ... | 1,536 | ... | 991 | ... | 2,527 | ... |
| Total | 9,801 | 100 | 6,282 | 100 | 16,083 | 100 | 20,243 | 100 | 16,477 | 100 | 36,720 | 100 |

... not applicable

0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

1. Includes no threat, physical force or weapon.

2. Includes threats that are construed to imply that death or injury is possible.

3. Includes other piercing or cutting instruments, such as hatchets, razor blades and arrows.

4. Includes other types of weapons such as explosives, fire, motor vehicles, poison and weapons not otherwise classified.

5. Includes incidents that did not involve the use of a weapon or physical force as well as those in which a weapon or physical force was used but no visible physical injury was noted by police.

6. Refers to injuries that required no professional medical treatment or only some first aid (e.g., bandage, ice).

7. Refers to injuries that required professional medical attention at the scene or transportation to a medical facility, or injuries that resulted in death.

Note: The weapon present in an incident (if any) may or may not have caused the injury to the victim (if any). Family violence refers to violence committed by parents (biological, step, adoptive and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster), extended family members (e.g., grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws) and spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law). Victims refer to those aged 17 years and younger. Excludes victims of dating or other intimate partner violence under the age of 12 years. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Excludes data from the province of Quebec due to data quality concerns. Percentages have been calculated excluding unknown type of weapon present and unknown level of injury. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 2.4
Child and youth victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and province or territory, 2018 to 2019

| Province or territory | 2019 | | | | | | Percent change in rate: 2018 to 2019 | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------|--------------|-------|---------------|-------|---|--------------|---------------|
| | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | | Female victims | Male victims | Total victims |
| | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | percent | | |
| Family violence | | | | | | | | | |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 190 | 449 | 188 | 419 | 378 | 433 | 27 | 71 | 46 |
| Prince Edward Island | 56 | 385 | 40 | 263 | 96 | 323 | 6 | -9 | -1 |
| Nova Scotia | 318 | 395 | 248 | 293 | 566 | 343 | -2 | 13 | 4 |
| New Brunswick ¹ | 295 | 484 | 206 | 328 | 501 | 405 | 11 | 33 | 19 |
| Quebec | 3,647 | 474 | 2,569 | 320 | 6,216 | 396 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Ontario | 3,502 | 263 | 2,248 | 162 | 5,750 | 211 | 14 | 15 | 14 |
| Manitoba | 770 | 528 | 461 | 305 | 1,231 | 414 | 9 | 14 | 11 |
| Saskatchewan | 894 | 684 | 542 | 401 | 1,436 | 540 | 15 | 12 | 14 |
| Alberta | 1,686 | 354 | 1,095 | 220 | 2,781 | 286 | 9 | 13 | 10 |
| British Columbia | 1,582 | 374 | 948 | 213 | 2,530 | 291 | 43 | 39 | 41 |
| Yukon | 39 | 999 | 23 | 546 | 62 | 764 | 42 | 35 | 40 |
| Northwest Territories | 104 | 1,953 | 40 | 748 | 144 | 1,349 | 15 | 4 | 12 |
| Nunavut | 154 | 2,210 | 120 | 1,631 | 274 | 1,913 | 14 | 51 | 27 |
| Canada | 13,237 | 379 | 8,728 | 239 | 21,965 | 308 | 13 | 15 | 14 |
| Non-family violence | | | | | | | | | |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 449 | 1,061 | 368 | 819 | 817 | 936 | 23 | 29 | 26 |
| Prince Edward Island | 110 | 756 | 93 | 612 | 203 | 682 | -8 | 93 | 21 |
| Nova Scotia | 834 | 1,036 | 551 | 652 | 1,385 | 839 | 25 | 8 | 17 |
| New Brunswick ¹ | 656 | 1,077 | 533 | 848 | 1,189 | 961 | 22 | 24 | 23 |
| Quebec | 5,880 | 764 | 4,692 | 585 | 10,572 | 673 | 11 | 15 | 13 |
| Ontario | 7,764 | 583 | 7,199 | 518 | 14,963 | 549 | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| Manitoba | 1,788 | 1,226 | 1,135 | 750 | 2,923 | 984 | 3 | 11 | 6 |
| Saskatchewan | 1,703 | 1,304 | 1,153 | 852 | 2,856 | 1,074 | 21 | 15 | 18 |
| Alberta | 3,087 | 649 | 2,504 | 504 | 5,591 | 575 | 12 | 10 | 11 |
| British Columbia | 3,005 | 710 | 2,446 | 549 | 5,451 | 628 | 25 | 40 | 31 |
| Yukon | 106 | 2,714 | 67 | 1,590 | 173 | 2,131 | 20 | 91 | 41 |
| Northwest Territories | 202 | 3,793 | 113 | 2,114 | 315 | 2,952 | 26 | 46 | 33 |
| Nunavut | 220 | 3,157 | 102 | 1,387 | 322 | 2,248 | 22 | 14 | 19 |
| Canada | 25,804 | 739 | 20,956 | 575 | 46,760 | 655 | 11 | 13 | 12 |

1. Excludes data from the Saint John Police Service due to data quality concerns.

Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 17 years and younger. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Family violence refers to violence committed by parents (biological, step, adoptive and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster), extended family members (e.g., grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws) and spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law). Victims refer to those aged 17 years and younger. Excludes victims of dating or other intimate partner violence under the age of 12 years. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Excludes a small number of victims in Quebec whose age was unknown but was miscoded as 0. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada. As a result, numbers may not match those presented elsewhere in the report.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database.

Table 2.5
Child and youth victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and census metropolitan area, 2019

| Census metropolitan area (CMA) ^{1,2} | Family violence | | | | | | Non-family violence | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|------------|--------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | |
| | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate |
| St. John's | 38 | 208 | 46 | 238 | 84 | 224 | 97 | 532 | 97 | 503 | 194 | 517 |
| Halifax | 127 | 340 | 107 | 273 | 234 | 306 | 311 | 833 | 238 | 608 | 549 | 718 |
| Moncton | 68 | 458 | 40 | 260 | 108 | 357 | 146 | 984 | 152 | 988 | 298 | 986 |
| Saint John ³ | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Saguenay | 92 | 648 | 49 | 333 | 141 | 488 | 153 | 1,078 | 113 | 768 | 266 | 920 |
| Québec | 217 | 309 | 160 | 220 | 377 | 263 | 495 | 704 | 376 | 516 | 871 | 608 |
| Sherbrooke | 55 | 310 | 42 | 222 | 97 | 265 | 127 | 716 | 70 | 370 | 197 | 537 |
| Trois-Rivières | 63 | 506 | 44 | 333 | 107 | 417 | 114 | 916 | 76 | 576 | 190 | 741 |
| Montréal | 1,685 | 416 | 1,237 | 294 | 2,922 | 354 | 2,435 | 601 | 2,244 | 533 | 4,679 | 566 |
| Gatineau ⁴ | 113 | 326 | 97 | 268 | 210 | 296 | 267 | 770 | 219 | 604 | 486 | 685 |
| Ottawa ⁵ | 161 | 154 | 95 | 89 | 256 | 121 | 511 | 489 | 437 | 410 | 948 | 449 |
| Kingston | 39 | 274 | 14 | 93 | 53 | 181 | 91 | 639 | 53 | 353 | 144 | 492 |
| Belleville ⁶ | 51 | 495 | 27 | 252 | 78 | 371 | 115 | 1,117 | 66 | 616 | 181 | 861 |
| Peterborough | 39 | 364 | 17 | 152 | 56 | 255 | 61 | 569 | 33 | 294 | 94 | 429 |
| Toronto ⁷ | 1,130 | 216 | 889 | 162 | 2,019 | 188 | 2,439 | 466 | 3,090 | 562 | 5,529 | 515 |
| Hamilton ⁸ | 148 | 277 | 118 | 211 | 266 | 243 | 373 | 698 | 334 | 597 | 707 | 646 |
| St. Catharines–Niagara | 105 | 257 | 52 | 121 | 157 | 187 | 227 | 555 | 150 | 350 | 377 | 450 |
| Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo | 294 | 499 | 174 | 284 | 468 | 389 | 517 | 877 | 453 | 740 | 970 | 807 |
| Brantford | 54 | 376 | 35 | 234 | 89 | 304 | 132 | 920 | 78 | 522 | 210 | 717 |
| Guelph | 20 | 145 | 10 | 69 | 30 | 106 | 91 | 661 | 53 | 367 | 144 | 510 |
| London | 105 | 203 | 76 | 142 | 181 | 172 | 226 | 437 | 214 | 399 | 440 | 418 |
| Windsor | 83 | 273 | 42 | 134 | 125 | 202 | 154 | 507 | 125 | 397 | 279 | 451 |
| Barrie | 55 | 206 | 33 | 121 | 88 | 163 | 144 | 540 | 109 | 398 | 253 | 468 |
| Greater Sudbury | 66 | 444 | 39 | 251 | 105 | 345 | 125 | 841 | 83 | 534 | 208 | 684 |
| Thunder Bay | 41 | 389 | 12 | 111 | 53 | 249 | 70 | 664 | 45 | 418 | 115 | 540 |
| Winnipeg | 223 | 274 | 117 | 139 | 340 | 205 | 719 | 883 | 470 | 556 | 1,189 | 717 |
| Regina | 88 | 311 | 40 | 137 | 128 | 223 | 235 | 831 | 149 | 512 | 384 | 669 |
| Saskatoon | 162 | 448 | 87 | 230 | 249 | 336 | 325 | 899 | 211 | 557 | 536 | 724 |
| Lethbridge ⁶ | 55 | 410 | 36 | 258 | 91 | 333 | 84 | 626 | 89 | 638 | 173 | 632 |
| Calgary | 465 | 289 | 348 | 206 | 813 | 247 | 821 | 511 | 872 | 517 | 1,693 | 514 |
| Edmonton | 446 | 293 | 226 | 144 | 672 | 217 | 999 | 656 | 766 | 487 | 1,765 | 570 |
| Kelowna | 54 | 312 | 28 | 157 | 82 | 234 | 106 | 613 | 103 | 579 | 209 | 596 |
| Abbotsford–Mission | 78 | 383 | 48 | 221 | 126 | 299 | 105 | 516 | 112 | 515 | 217 | 515 |
| Vancouver | 561 | 255 | 361 | 155 | 922 | 204 | 1,265 | 575 | 1,214 | 522 | 2,479 | 548 |
| Victoria | 103 | 339 | 66 | 212 | 169 | 274 | 184 | 605 | 153 | 491 | 337 | 547 |
| CMA total⁹ | 7,286 | 290 | 4,947 | 189 | 12,233 | 239 | 14,812 | 590 | 13,658 | 522 | 28,470 | 555 |
| Non-CMA total | 6,162 | 616 | 3,904 | 374 | 10,066 | 492 | 11,311 | 1,131 | 7,511 | 719 | 18,822 | 921 |
| Canada | 13,448 | 383 | 8,851 | 242 | 22,299 | 311 | 26,123 | 745 | 21,169 | 578 | 47,292 | 659 |

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 2.5 — end**Child and youth victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and census metropolitan area, 2019**

.. not available for a specific reference period

1. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000, of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CMA typically comprises more than one police service.

2. Census metropolitan area (CMA) populations have been adjusted to follow policing boundaries. The Oshawa CMA is excluded from this table due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.

3. Data for the census metropolitan area of Saint John are excluded due to data quality concerns associated with the Saint John Police Service.

4. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa–Gatineau census metropolitan area.

5. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau census metropolitan area.

6. Following the 2016 Census of Population, Belleville and Lethbridge were reclassified as census metropolitan areas.

7. Excludes the portions of the Halton Regional Police Service and the Durham Regional Police Service that police the census metropolitan area of Toronto.

8. Excludes the portion of the Halton Regional Police Service that polices the census metropolitan area of Hamilton.

9. Includes Halton Regional Police Service and Durham Regional Police Service, which are responsible for policing more than one census metropolitan area (CMA). This total also includes the portion of the Durham Regional Police Service that polices the Oshawa CMA. This also includes the CMA of Saint John, excluding the Saint John Police Service due to data quality concerns. Because of these inclusions, the CMA total will not equal the total of the individual CMAs.

Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 17 years and younger. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Family violence refers to violence committed by parents (biological, step, adoptive and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster), extended family members (e.g., grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws) and spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law). Victims refer to those aged 17 years and younger. Excludes victims of dating or other intimate partner violence under the age of 12 years. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Excludes a small number of victims in Quebec whose age was unknown but was miscoded as 0.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Section 3: Police-reported intimate partner violence in Canada, 2019

Intimate partner violence—also known as domestic violence—has been identified as a widespread public health issue (Stewart et al. 2012). While it most often presents as physical violence between current and former dating or spousal partners, verbal, sexual, emotional and financial abuse are also possible forms of this type of violence. It can range from unhealthy and destructive behaviour to criminal conduct, even homicide. Victims of intimate partner violence may experience injury and chronic pain, post-traumatic stress disorder, and challenges with relationships and maintaining stable employment (Public Health Agency of Canada 2014).

Intimate partner violence affects people from all types of demographic and socioeconomic backgrounds; however, victims are most often women and the violence is commonly perpetrated by men (Women and Gender Equality Canada 2020). The issue of intimate partner violence gained increased attention with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and its related public health restrictions. With people required to stay home, concern has been raised about those who would be unable to leave abusive environments. In addition, the nature of the virus has created unique challenges for vital social supports like shelters for victims of abuse.

In the coming months, the Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics at Statistics Canada will release a series of analytical reports about intimate partner violence based on self-reported data from the 2018 Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces. These will include an overview of intimate partner violence, and additional reports profiling intimate partner violence among Indigenous women, ethno-cultural minority women, women with disabilities, young women, and sexual minority women and men.

In this section, intimate partner violence refers to violence committed by current and former legally married spouses, common-law partners, dating partners and other intimate partners. Victims refer to those aged 15 to 89 years.¹

Three in ten victims of police-reported violence victimized by an intimate partner

In 2019, there were 358,244 victims of police-reported violence in Canada (Table 3.1). Of these victims, three in ten (30%) were victimized by an intimate partner, which represented 107,810 victims.

Intimate partner violence that came to the attention of police was most often perpetrated by a current partner; that is, a current boyfriend or girlfriend (36%) or a spouse (29%). Former partners like an ex-boyfriend or ex-girlfriend (21%) or an ex-spouse (12%) were less common, likely reflecting the reality that these victims and accused were not living together.

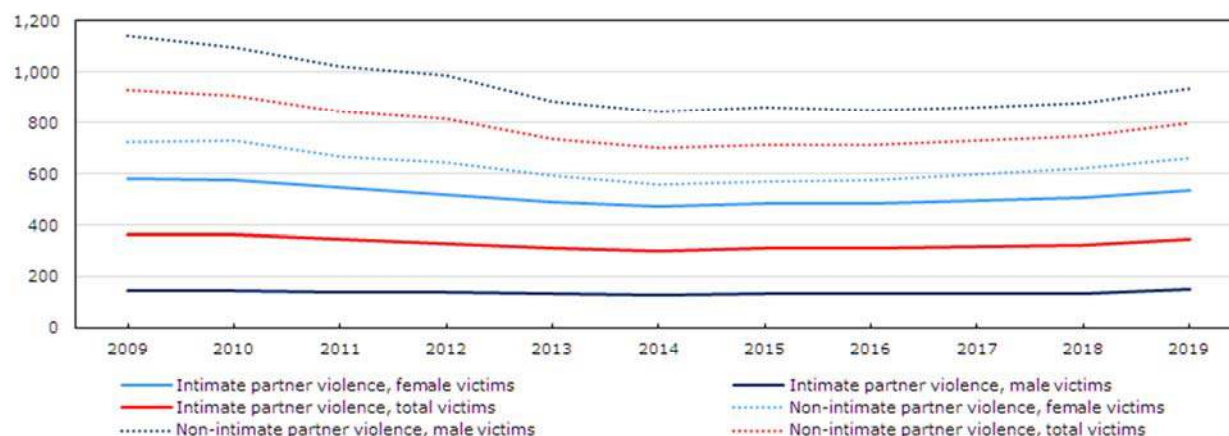
While just over half (53%) of victims of violence were female, the large majority (79%) of victims of intimate partner violence were women, and this held true regardless of the type of intimate partner relationship. Nearly half (45%) of all female victims of violence were victimized by an intimate partner.

Intimate partner violence increases for the fifth year in a row, larger increase among men

The rate of police-reported intimate partner violence increased 6% in 2019 from the previous year (Chart 3.1).² Between 2018 and 2019, the rate of intimate partner violence increased more for men than women (+10% versus +5%). This marked the fifth consecutive annual increase overall, up 14% from 2014. Between 2009 and 2019, intimate partner violence had a smaller decrease than non-intimate partner violence (-6% versus -14%).

Chart 3.1
Victims of police-reported intimate partner and non-intimate partner violence, by gender of victim and year, Canada, 2009 to 2019

rate per 100,000 population



Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 15 to 89 years. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Victims refer to those aged 15 to 89 years. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada. As a result, numbers may not match those presented elsewhere in the report.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database.

More than half of victims of intimate partner violence suffer a physical injury

In 2019, the rate of police-reported intimate partner violence was 347 victims per 100,000 population (Table 3.2). The most common type of intimate partner violence was physical assault³ (accounting for 75% of victims, a rate of 261 per 100,000 population) followed by other offences involving violence or the threat of violence⁴ (68) and sexual assault⁵ (17). Given that the large majority of victims of intimate partner violence were women, rates for these types of violations were notably higher for women specifically (391, 115 and 33, respectively).

Overall, intimate partner violence rates peaked for victims aged 25 to 34 (715 per 100,000 population), and this applied to both women and men (1,173 and 277, respectively). In contrast, the rate of non-intimate partner violence was highest for younger victims—those aged 15 to 24—and declined with age. Among victims of intimate partner violence, sexual assault was the only type of violation that did not peak among those aged 25 to 34; instead, victims aged 15 to 24 had the highest rate of sexual assault (48 overall and 97 for women). Whether related to intimate partner violence or not, the rate of sexual assault was highest for young women and men.

Nearly three-quarters (72%) of victims of intimate partner violence were assaulted using physical force (Table 3.3).⁶ An additional 15% of these victims were assaulted with a weapon present, such as a knife, club or firearm. Over half (54%) of victims of intimate partner violence suffered a physical injury, more common than those who experienced non-intimate partner violence (40%).⁷ Among those who were physically injured as a result of intimate partner violence, nearly all (96%) had minor injuries. Physical injury resulting from intimate partner violence was slightly more common for men than women (56% versus 53%).

Text box 3 Intimate partner homicide

Between 2014 and 2019, there were 497 victims of intimate partner homicide, and—similar to intimate partner violence in general—eight in ten (80%) victims were female.⁸ Most (75%) female victims were killed by a current or former spouse or common-law partner while a non-spousal intimate partner—such as a current or former boyfriend or girlfriend, or an extra-marital lover—was less common (25%). Similarly, a larger proportion of male victims were killed by a spouse (65%) than a non-spousal partner (35%).

Indigenous people—that is, those who are First Nations, Métis or Inuit—are overrepresented as victims of violent crime in Canada and, more specifically, Indigenous people are over twice as likely to experience spousal violence as non-Indigenous people (Boyce 2016; Perreault 2015). When looking at the most severe form of intimate partner violence, homicide, a similar pattern emerges: while about 5% of the population is Indigenous (Statistics Canada 2020), one-quarter (26%, 125 victims) of intimate partner homicide victims between 2014 and 2019 were Indigenous.⁹ The issue of Indigenous victimization is complex, and violence experienced by Indigenous people—both in the family and in the community—stems from historic and ongoing colonialism in Canada. Intimate partner violence among the Indigenous population is the result of many compounding factors. For instance, intergenerational trauma—from the residential school system, the Sixties Scoop and the child welfare system—can lead to many issues, such as addiction and poverty, which contribute to the conditions for conflict and violence (Hoffart and Jones 2018; National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls 2019; O'Neill et al. 2018).

Regardless of Indigenous identity, a similar proportion of homicide victims were killed by an intimate partner (14% of Indigenous and 13% of non-Indigenous victims). Overall, one-quarter of victims killed by a spouse (26%) or a non-spousal partner (25%) were Indigenous. Of the 125 Indigenous victims of intimate partner homicide, 66% were female and 34% were male. While nearly four in ten (37%) Indigenous female homicide victims were killed by an intimate partner, it was somewhat more common among non-Indigenous female victims (43%). Inversely, it was more common for Indigenous male homicide victims than non-Indigenous male victims to be killed by an intimate partner (7% versus 3%). Considered another way, a larger proportion of male victims of intimate partner homicide were Indigenous while this was less common for female victims (44% versus 21%).

In 2019, the Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics at Statistics Canada began collecting information on visible minority identity as part of the Homicide Survey. Of the 72 victims of intimate partner homicide in 2019, police reported that 25% belonged to a group designated as visible minority.¹⁰ Similar to intimate partner violence broadly, the large majority of these intimate partner homicide victims were female.¹¹ Among homicide victims in general, intimate partner homicide was less common for visible minority victims than non-visible minority victims (9% versus 13%).

Saskatchewan and Manitoba have highest rates of intimate partner violence among the provinces

Similar to crime in general, rates of police-reported intimate partner violence were generally highest in the prairies and territories. Among the provinces, the rate of intimate partner violence was highest in Saskatchewan (724 per 100,000 population) and Manitoba (607) (Table 3.4).¹² Meanwhile, it was lowest in Ontario (251) and Prince Edward Island (270). Compared with the provinces, rates were notably higher in the territories, with Nunavut reporting the highest rate (5,249) followed by the Northwest Territories (4,083) and Yukon (1,365).

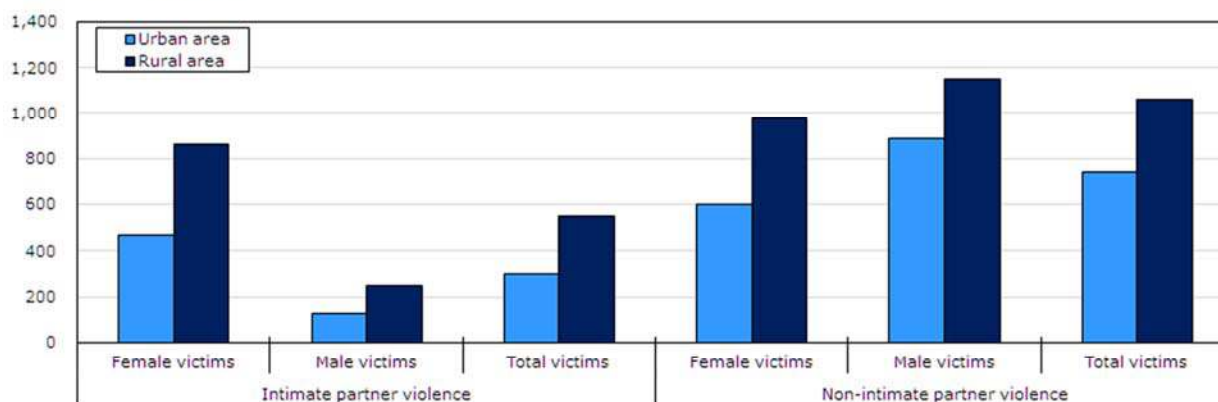
Women experienced a higher rate of intimate partner violence than men in every province and territory. The largest differences were noted in Nunavut, where the rate for women was 6.7 times higher than men (9,303 versus 1,390), and in Saskatchewan (1,175 versus 281, 4.2 times higher for women), Manitoba (979 versus 235, 4.2 times higher) and Ontario (398 versus 99, 4.0 times higher).

In every province and territory in 2019, the rate of intimate partner violence increased from the previous year, with the exception of Prince Edward Island (-13%).¹³ The largest provincial increases were noted in New Brunswick¹⁴ (+25%), British Columbia (+19%) and Newfoundland and Labrador (+18%).

In the provinces, the rate of intimate partner violence was 1.8 times higher in rural areas than urban areas (548 versus 300 per 100,000 population), and this pattern was the same for women and men (Chart 3.2).¹⁵ In rural areas, women had a rate of intimate partner violence that was 3.5 times higher than men (860 versus 246). Notably, the difference between rural and urban rates was larger for intimate partner violence than non-intimate partner violence (1.8 versus 1.4 times higher in rural areas).

Chart 3.2**Victims of police-reported intimate partner and non-intimate partner violence, by gender of victim and urban or rural area, provinces, 2019**

rate per 100,000 population



Note: An urban area is defined as a census metropolitan area (CMA) or a census agglomeration (CA). A CMA consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000, of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CA must have a core population of at least 10,000. Rural areas are all areas outside of CMAs and CAs. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 15 to 89 years. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Victims refer to those aged 15 to 89 years. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Excludes data from the territories.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

The rate of intimate partner violence was 2.0 times lower in Canada's largest cities—referred to as census metropolitan areas¹⁶ or CMAs—than it was in non-CMAs (273 versus 538) (Table 3.5).¹⁷ Of the CMAs, rates were highest in Lethbridge (618), Moncton (527) and Thunder Bay (459). Meanwhile, rates were lowest in St. Catharines–Niagara (153), Sherbrooke (208) and Ottawa¹⁸ (211).

Among the CMAs, the largest differences in the rate of intimate partner violence between women and men were noted in Abbotsford–Mission (524 versus 86, 6.1 times higher for women), Winnipeg (549 versus 91, 6.0 times higher) and Greater Sudbury (486 versus 86, 5.7 times higher).

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Women and Gender Equality Canada. 2020. *Intimate partner violence*.

Notes

1. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown. Counts represent the number of victims involved in incidents of violence. It is possible that individual victims may have experienced more than one incident, and would therefore be counted more than once here. For type of relationship, percentages have been calculated excluding unknown relationships.

2. Trend numbers are based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data from 99% of the population in Canada. As a result, trend numbers may not match those presented elsewhere in the report.

3. Includes assault level 1, assault level 2 (with a weapon or causing bodily harm) and assault level 3 (aggravated assault).

4. Includes, for example, uttering threats, criminal harassment, forcible confinement and indecent or harassing communications.

5. Includes sexual assault level 1, sexual assault level 2 (with a weapon or causing bodily harm) and sexual assault level 3 (aggravated sexual assault).

6. Data on type of weapon present exclude the province of Quebec due to data quality concerns. Percentages have been calculated excluding unknown type of weapon present.

7. Data on level of injury exclude the province of Quebec due to data quality concerns. Percentages have been calculated excluding unknown level of injury.

8. The data in this text box are from the Homicide Survey. Excludes victims where the gender was unknown.

9. Indigenous identity is reported for victims who are First Nations, Métis or Inuit, or who are Indigenous but the Indigenous group was unknown. Excludes victims where the gender or the Indigenous identity was unknown.

10. A visible minority identity is reported for victims who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour, or who do not identify solely as an Indigenous person. Visible minority identity groups include, for example, South Asian, Chinese, Black, Filipino and Latin American. Excludes victims where the gender was unknown. Due to small counts, numbers for unique visible minority identity groups are not shown.

11. Due to small counts, numbers for female and male victims are not shown.

12. Trend numbers are based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data from 99% of the population in Canada. As a result, trend numbers may not match those presented elsewhere in the report.

13. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards. For more information, see Survey description.

14. Excludes data from the Saint John Police Service due to data quality concerns.

15. Excludes data from the territories. An urban area is defined as a census metropolitan area (CMA) or a census agglomeration (CA). A CMA consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000, of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CA must have a core population of at least 10,000. Rural areas are all areas outside of CMAs and CAs. The populations for urban and rural areas have been adjusted to

reflect the actual policing boundaries within the urban and rural geographies and do not reflect the official Statistics Canada population for these geographies. Excludes data from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police's Canadian Police Centre for Missing and Exploited Children as it responds to incidents nationally. The incidents themselves and the offenders are not limited to one specific province or territory.

16. For a definition of a census metropolitan area, see endnote 15.

17. Data for the census metropolitan area of Saint John are excluded due to data quality concerns associated with the Saint John Police Service.

18. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau census metropolitan area.

Detailed data tables

Table 3.1

Victims of police-reported intimate partner and non-intimate partner violence, by gender and age group of victim, and relationship of accused to victim, Canada, 2019

| Gender of victim and relationship of accused to victim | Age group of victim | | | | | | | | | | Total victims | |
|--|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | 15 to 24 years | | 25 to 34 years | | 35 to 44 years | | 45 to 54 years | | 55 years and older | | | |
| | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % |
| Female victims | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Intimate partner | 21,614 | 39 | 29,823 | 55 | 20,189 | 53 | 9,027 | 39 | 4,011 | 22 | 84,664 | 45 |
| Spouse ¹ | 4,678 | 8 | 11,881 | 22 | 10,570 | 28 | 4,964 | 21 | 2,676 | 14 | 34,769 | 18 |
| Current spouse | 3,053 | 5 | 8,385 | 16 | 7,408 | 19 | 3,679 | 16 | 2,169 | 12 | 24,694 | 13 |
| Former spouse | 1,625 | 3 | 3,496 | 7 | 3,162 | 8 | 1,285 | 6 | 507 | 3 | 10,075 | 5 |
| Dating partner ² | 16,517 | 30 | 17,531 | 33 | 9,349 | 25 | 3,927 | 17 | 1,263 | 7 | 48,587 | 26 |
| Current boyfriend or girlfriend | 10,492 | 19 | 11,024 | 21 | 5,897 | 15 | 2,336 | 10 | 724 | 4 | 30,473 | 16 |
| Former boyfriend or girlfriend | 6,025 | 11 | 6,507 | 12 | 3,452 | 9 | 1,591 | 7 | 539 | 3 | 18,114 | 10 |
| Other intimate partner ³ | 419 | 1 | 411 | 1 | 270 | 1 | 136 | 1 | 72 | 0 ^s | 1,308 | 1 |
| Non-intimate partner | 34,031 | 61 | 23,938 | 45 | 17,938 | 47 | 14,312 | 61 | 14,547 | 78 | 104,766 | 55 |
| Non-spousal family ⁴ | 6,734 | 12 | 3,715 | 7 | 3,961 | 10 | 4,059 | 17 | 4,849 | 26 | 23,318 | 12 |
| Stranger | 9,045 | 16 | 7,691 | 14 | 5,195 | 14 | 3,757 | 16 | 3,531 | 19 | 29,219 | 15 |
| Other ⁵ | 18,252 | 33 | 12,532 | 23 | 8,782 | 23 | 6,496 | 28 | 6,167 | 33 | 52,229 | 28 |
| Unknown | 3 | ... | 10 | ... | 7 | ... | 2 | ... | 11 | ... | 33 | ... |
| Total female victims | 55,648 | 100 | 53,771 | 100 | 38,134 | 100 | 23,341 | 100 | 18,569 | 100 | 189,463 | 100 |
| Male victims | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Intimate partner | 3,466 | 8 | 7,366 | 17 | 6,331 | 19 | 3,739 | 15 | 2,244 | 9 | 23,146 | 14 |
| Spouse ¹ | 805 | 2 | 2,760 | 6 | 3,163 | 10 | 1,918 | 8 | 1,248 | 5 | 9,894 | 6 |
| Current spouse | 539 | 1 | 1,946 | 4 | 2,217 | 7 | 1,370 | 5 | 966 | 4 | 7,038 | 4 |
| Former spouse | 266 | 1 | 814 | 2 | 946 | 3 | 548 | 2 | 282 | 1 | 2,856 | 2 |
| Dating partner ² | 2,580 | 6 | 4,447 | 10 | 3,046 | 9 | 1,744 | 7 | 917 | 4 | 12,734 | 8 |
| Current boyfriend or girlfriend | 1,700 | 4 | 2,948 | 7 | 2,004 | 6 | 1,106 | 4 | 585 | 2 | 8,343 | 5 |
| Former boyfriend or girlfriend | 880 | 2 | 1,499 | 3 | 1,042 | 3 | 638 | 3 | 332 | 1 | 4,391 | 3 |
| Other intimate partner ³ | 81 | 0 ^s | 159 | 0 ^s | 122 | 0 ^s | 77 | 0 ^s | 79 | 0 ^s | 518 | 0 ^s |
| Non-intimate partner | 38,721 | 92 | 36,579 | 83 | 26,228 | 81 | 21,695 | 85 | 22,189 | 91 | 145,412 | 86 |
| Non-spousal family ⁴ | 4,516 | 11 | 3,020 | 7 | 2,506 | 8 | 2,897 | 11 | 4,108 | 17 | 17,047 | 10 |
| Stranger | 16,946 | 40 | 16,817 | 38 | 11,350 | 35 | 8,734 | 34 | 8,116 | 33 | 61,963 | 37 |
| Other ⁵ | 17,259 | 41 | 16,742 | 38 | 12,372 | 38 | 10,064 | 40 | 9,965 | 41 | 66,402 | 39 |
| Unknown | 60 | ... | 73 | ... | 33 | ... | 24 | ... | 33 | ... | 223 | ... |
| Total male victims | 42,247 | 100 | 44,018 | 100 | 32,592 | 100 | 25,458 | 100 | 24,466 | 100 | 168,781 | 100 |

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 3.1 — end**Victims of police-reported intimate partner and non-intimate partner violence, by gender and age group of victim, and relationship of accused to victim, Canada, 2019**

| Gender of victim and relationship of accused to victim | Age group of victim | | | | | | | | | | Total victims | |
|--|---------------------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|------------|
| | 15 to 24 years | | 25 to 34 years | | 35 to 44 years | | 45 to 54 years | | 55 years and older | | | |
| | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % |
| Total victims | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Intimate partner | 25,080 | 26 | 37,189 | 38 | 26,520 | 38 | 12,766 | 26 | 6,255 | 15 | 107,810 | 30 |
| Spouse ¹ | 5,483 | 6 | 14,641 | 15 | 13,733 | 19 | 6,882 | 14 | 3,924 | 9 | 44,663 | 12 |
| Current spouse | 3,592 | 4 | 10,331 | 11 | 9,625 | 14 | 5,049 | 10 | 3,135 | 7 | 31,732 | 9 |
| Former spouse | 1,891 | 2 | 4,310 | 4 | 4,108 | 6 | 1,833 | 4 | 789 | 2 | 12,931 | 4 |
| Dating partner ² | 19,097 | 20 | 21,978 | 22 | 12,395 | 18 | 5,671 | 12 | 2,180 | 5 | 61,321 | 17 |
| Current boyfriend or girlfriend | 12,192 | 12 | 13,972 | 14 | 7,901 | 11 | 3,442 | 7 | 1,309 | 3 | 38,816 | 11 |
| Former boyfriend or girlfriend | 6,905 | 7 | 8,006 | 8 | 4,494 | 6 | 2,229 | 5 | 871 | 2 | 22,505 | 6 |
| Other intimate partner ³ | 500 | 1 | 570 | 1 | 392 | 1 | 213 | 0 ^s | 151 | 0 ^s | 1,826 | 1 |
| Non-intimate partner | 72,752 | 74 | 60,517 | 62 | 44,166 | 62 | 36,007 | 74 | 36,736 | 85 | 250,178 | 70 |
| Non-spousal family ⁴ | 11,250 | 11 | 6,735 | 7 | 6,467 | 9 | 6,956 | 14 | 8,957 | 21 | 40,365 | 11 |
| Stranger | 25,991 | 27 | 24,508 | 25 | 16,545 | 23 | 12,491 | 26 | 11,647 | 27 | 91,182 | 25 |
| Other ⁵ | 35,511 | 36 | 29,274 | 30 | 21,154 | 30 | 16,560 | 34 | 16,132 | 38 | 118,631 | 33 |
| Unknown | 63 | ... | 83 | ... | 40 | ... | 26 | ... | 44 | ... | 256 | ... |
| Total victims | 97,895 | 100 | 97,789 | 100 | 70,726 | 100 | 48,799 | 100 | 43,035 | 100 | 358,244 | 100 |

... not applicable

0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

1. Includes current and former legally married spouses and common-law partners.

2. Includes current and former boyfriends and girlfriends (intimate relationships).

3. Includes sexual relationships or a mutual sexual attraction.

4. Includes all other family members related by blood, marriage (including common-law) or adoption. Examples include siblings, grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws.

5. Includes friends, roommates, casual acquaintances, neighbours, authority figures and reverse authority figures (e.g., student-to-teacher and patient-to-doctor), business relationships and criminal relationships (relationships based on illegal activities, such as drugs or prostitution).

Note: Intimate partner violence refers to violence committed by current and former legally married spouses, common-law partners, dating partners and other intimate partners. Victims refer to those aged 15 to 89 years. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown. Percentages have been calculated excluding unknown relationships. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.**Source:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 3.2

Victims of police-reported intimate partner and non-intimate partner violence, by gender and age group of victim, and type of violation, Canada, 2019

| Gender of victim and type of violation | Age group of victim | | | | | | | | | | Total victims | |
|--|---------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| | 15 to 24 years | | 25 to 34 years | | 35 to 44 years | | 45 to 54 years | | 55 years and older | | | |
| | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate |
| Intimate partner violence | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Female victims | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Homicide, other violations causing death and attempted murder ¹ | 16 | 1 | 47 | 2 | 28 | 1 | 28 | 1 | 27 | 0 ^s | 146 | 1 |
| Sexual assault ² | 2,138 | 97 | 1,459 | 57 | 975 | 39 | 469 | 19 | 177 | 3 | 5,218 | 33 |
| Physical assault ³ | 14,533 | 660 | 22,339 | 879 | 14,855 | 594 | 6,552 | 268 | 2,947 | 49 | 61,226 | 391 |
| Other offences involving violence or the threat of violence ⁴ | 4,927 | 224 | 5,978 | 235 | 4,331 | 173 | 1,978 | 81 | 860 | 14 | 18,074 | 115 |
| Total female victims | 21,614 | 982 | 29,823 | 1,173 | 20,189 | 807 | 9,027 | 369 | 4,011 | 67 | 84,664 | 541 |
| Male victims | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Homicide, other violations causing death and attempted murder ¹ | 5 | 0 ^s | 8 | 0 ^s | 17 | 1 | 6 | 0 ^s | 10 | 0 ^s | 46 | 0 ^s |
| Sexual assault ² | 51 | 2 | 47 | 2 | 32 | 1 | 18 | 1 | 5 | 0 ^s | 153 | 1 |
| Physical assault ³ | 2,966 | 126 | 6,482 | 244 | 5,473 | 221 | 3,170 | 131 | 1,886 | 34 | 19,977 | 130 |
| Other offences involving violence or the threat of violence ⁴ | 444 | 19 | 829 | 31 | 809 | 33 | 545 | 23 | 343 | 6 | 2,970 | 19 |
| Total male victims | 3,466 | 147 | 7,366 | 277 | 6,331 | 256 | 3,739 | 154 | 2,244 | 41 | 23,146 | 150 |
| Total victims | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Homicide, other violations causing death and attempted murder ¹ | 21 | 0 ^s | 55 | 1 | 45 | 1 | 34 | 1 | 37 | 0 ^s | 192 | 1 |
| Sexual assault ² | 2,189 | 48 | 1,506 | 29 | 1,007 | 20 | 487 | 10 | 182 | 2 | 5,371 | 17 |
| Physical assault ³ | 17,499 | 384 | 28,821 | 554 | 20,328 | 409 | 9,722 | 200 | 4,833 | 42 | 81,203 | 261 |
| Other offences involving violence or the threat of violence ⁴ | 5,371 | 118 | 6,807 | 131 | 5,140 | 103 | 2,523 | 52 | 1,203 | 10 | 21,044 | 68 |
| Total victims | 25,080 | 550 | 37,189 | 715 | 26,520 | 533 | 12,766 | 262 | 6,255 | 55 | 107,810 | 347 |
| Non-intimate partner violence | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Female victims | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Homicide, other violations causing death and attempted murder ¹ | 52 | 2 | 45 | 2 | 15 | 1 | 24 | 1 | 48 | 1 | 184 | 1 |
| Sexual assault ² | 8,977 | 408 | 3,531 | 139 | 1,922 | 77 | 1,106 | 45 | 1,024 | 17 | 16,560 | 106 |
| Physical assault ³ | 14,483 | 658 | 12,251 | 482 | 9,782 | 391 | 8,342 | 341 | 8,667 | 145 | 53,525 | 342 |
| Other offences involving violence or the threat of violence ⁴ | 10,519 | 478 | 8,111 | 319 | 6,219 | 249 | 4,840 | 198 | 4,808 | 81 | 34,497 | 220 |
| Total female victims | 34,031 | 1,546 | 23,938 | 941 | 17,938 | 717 | 14,312 | 584 | 14,547 | 244 | 104,766 | 669 |

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 3.2 — end**Victims of police-reported intimate partner and non-intimate partner violence, by gender and age group of victim, and type of violation, Canada, 2019**

| Gender of victim and type of violation | Age group of victim | | | | | | | | | | Total victims | |
|---|---------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|------|-----------------------|------|------------------|------|
| | 15 to 24 years | | 25 to 34 years | | 35 to 44 years | | 45 to 54 years | | 55 years and older | | | |
| | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate |
| Male victims | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Homicide, other violations causing death and attempted murder ¹ | 241 | 10 | 278 | 10 | 148 | 6 | 113 | 5 | 97 | 2 | 877 | 6 |
| Sexual assault ² | 886 | 38 | 414 | 16 | 228 | 9 | 135 | 6 | 161 | 3 | 1,824 | 12 |
| Physical assault ³ | 23,819 | 1,009 | 21,698 | 816 | 15,798 | 639 | 13,782 | 569 | 14,693 | 267 | 89,790 | 582 |
| Other offences involving violence or the threat of violence ⁴ | 13,775 | 583 | 14,189 | 534 | 10,054 | 406 | 7,665 | 316 | 7,238 | 132 | 52,921 | 343 |
| Total male victims | 38,721 | 1,640 | 36,579 | 1,376 | 26,228 | 1,060 | 21,695 | 896 | 22,189 | 403 | 145,412 | 943 |
| Total victims | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Homicide, other violations causing death and attempted murder ¹ | 293 | 6 | 323 | 6 | 163 | 3 | 137 | 3 | 145 | 1 | 1,061 | 3 |
| Sexual assault ² | 9,863 | 216 | 3,945 | 76 | 2,150 | 43 | 1,241 | 25 | 1,185 | 10 | 18,384 | 59 |
| Physical assault ³ | 38,302 | 840 | 33,949 | 653 | 25,580 | 514 | 22,124 | 454 | 23,360 | 204 | 143,315 | 461 |
| Other offences involving violence or the threat of violence ⁴ | 24,294 | 532 | 22,300 | 429 | 16,273 | 327 | 12,505 | 257 | 12,046 | 105 | 87,418 | 281 |
| Total victims | 72,752 | 1,595 | 60,517 | 1,164 | 44,166 | 888 | 36,007 | 739 | 36,736 | 320 | 250,178 | 805 |

0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

1. Includes first degree murder, second degree murder, manslaughter, criminal negligence causing death, other related violations causing death and conspiracy to commit murder.

2. Includes sexual assault level 1, sexual assault level 2 (with a weapon or causing bodily harm) and sexual assault level 3 (aggravated sexual assault).

3. Includes assault level 1, assault level 2 (with a weapon or causing bodily harm) and assault level 3 (aggravated assault).

4. Includes all other violent violations not otherwise listed.

Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 15 to 89 years. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Intimate partner violence refers to violence committed by current and former legally married spouses, common-law partners, dating partners and other intimate partners. Victims refer to those aged 15 to 89 years. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 3.3

Victims of police-reported intimate partner and non-intimate partner violence, by gender of victim, type of weapon present and level of injury, Canada, 2019

| Type of weapon present and level of injury | Intimate partner violence | | | | | | Non-intimate partner violence | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|-------------------------------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | |
| | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % |
| Type of weapon present | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No weapon ¹ | 5,037 | 8 | 976 | 6 | 6,013 | 7 | 7,871 | 10 | 5,232 | 5 | 13,103 | 7 |
| Threats ² | 4,158 | 6 | 625 | 4 | 4,783 | 6 | 8,383 | 10 | 11,616 | 10 | 19,999 | 10 |
| Physical force | 47,585 | 73 | 11,328 | 67 | 58,913 | 72 | 50,814 | 62 | 59,964 | 53 | 110,778 | 57 |
| Weapon | 8,240 | 13 | 4,065 | 24 | 12,305 | 15 | 14,461 | 18 | 35,888 | 32 | 50,349 | 26 |
| Firearm | 559 | 1 | 101 | 1 | 660 | 1 | 1,834 | 2 | 5,037 | 4 | 6,871 | 4 |
| Knife or other piercing instrument ³ | 2,188 | 3 | 1,401 | 8 | 3,589 | 4 | 3,995 | 5 | 12,600 | 11 | 16,595 | 9 |
| Club or other blunt instrument | 838 | 1 | 503 | 3 | 1,341 | 2 | 1,309 | 2 | 4,264 | 4 | 5,573 | 3 |
| Other weapon ⁴ | 4,655 | 7 | 2,060 | 12 | 6,715 | 8 | 7,323 | 9 | 13,987 | 12 | 21,310 | 11 |
| Unknown | 2,090 | ... | 561 | ... | 2,651 | ... | 3,186 | ... | 3,349 | ... | 6,535 | ... |
| Total | 67,110 | 100 | 17,555 | 100 | 84,665 | 100 | 84,715 | 100 | 116,049 | 100 | 200,764 | 100 |
| Level of injury | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No physical injury ⁵ | 29,328 | 47 | 7,240 | 44 | 36,568 | 46 | 51,851 | 65 | 61,089 | 55 | 112,940 | 60 |
| Physical injury | 33,497 | 53 | 9,370 | 56 | 42,867 | 54 | 27,362 | 35 | 49,069 | 45 | 76,431 | 40 |
| Minor physical injury ⁶ | 32,135 | 51 | 8,971 | 54 | 41,106 | 52 | 26,255 | 33 | 43,621 | 40 | 69,876 | 37 |
| Major physical injury or death ⁷ | 1,362 | 2 | 399 | 2 | 1,761 | 2 | 1,107 | 1 | 5,448 | 5 | 6,555 | 3 |
| Unknown | 4,285 | ... | 945 | ... | 5,230 | ... | 5,502 | ... | 5,891 | ... | 11,393 | ... |
| Total | 67,110 | 100 | 17,555 | 100 | 84,665 | 100 | 84,715 | 100 | 116,049 | 100 | 200,764 | 100 |

... not applicable

1. Includes no threat, physical force or weapon.

2. Includes threats that are construed to imply that death or injury is possible.

3. Includes other piercing or cutting instruments, such as hatchets, razor blades and arrows.

4. Includes other types of weapons such as explosives, fire, motor vehicles, poison and weapons not otherwise classified.

5. Includes incidents that did not involve the use of a weapon or physical force as well as those in which a weapon or physical force was used but no visible physical injury was noted by police.

6. Refers to injuries that required no professional medical treatment or only some first aid (e.g., bandage, ice).

7. Refers to injuries that required professional medical attention at the scene or transportation to a medical facility, or injuries that resulted in death.

Note: The weapon present in an incident (if any) may or may not have caused the injury to the victim (if any). Intimate partner violence refers to violence committed by current and former legally married spouses, common-law partners, dating partners and other intimate partners. Victims refer to those aged 15 to 89 years. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Excludes data from the province of Quebec due to data quality concerns. Percentages have been calculated excluding unknown type of weapon present and unknown level of injury. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 3.4**Victims of police-reported intimate partner and non-intimate partner violence, by gender of victim and province or territory, 2018 to 2019**

| Province or territory | 2019 | | | | | | Percent change in rate: 2018 to 2019 | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|-------|--------------|-------|---------------|-------|---|----------------|---------------|
| | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | | Female victims | Male victims | Total victims |
| | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | percent | | |
| Intimate partner violence | | | | | | | | | |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 1,352 | 597 | 393 | 178 | 1,745 | 390 | 18 | 18 | 18 |
| Prince Edward Island | 282 | 422 | 72 | 112 | 354 | 270 | -14 | -7 | -13 |
| Nova Scotia | 2,246 | 533 | 662 | 165 | 2,908 | 354 | 5 | 11 | 7 |
| New Brunswick ¹ | 2,111 | 700 | 648 | 219 | 2,759 | 461 | 19 | 48 | 25 |
| Quebec | 17,554 | 499 | 5,591 | 159 | 23,145 | 329 | 1 | 7 | 2 |
| Ontario | 24,293 | 398 | 5,892 | 99 | 30,185 | 251 | 2 | 9 | 4 |
| Manitoba | 5,228 | 979 | 1,252 | 235 | 6,480 | 607 | 1 | 7 | 2 |
| Saskatchewan | 5,311 | 1,175 | 1,295 | 281 | 6,606 | 724 | 10 | 9 | 10 |
| Alberta | 11,427 | 651 | 3,188 | 180 | 14,615 | 414 | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| British Columbia | 11,128 | 510 | 3,229 | 152 | 14,357 | 333 | 18 | 22 | 19 |
| Yukon | 338 | 2,027 | 124 | 723 | 462 | 1,365 | 27 | 25 | 26 |
| Northwest Territories | 1,147 | 6,640 | 311 | 1,687 | 1,458 | 4,083 | 25 | 40 | 28 |
| Nunavut | 1,198 | 9,303 | 188 | 1,390 | 1,386 | 5,249 | 23 | 24 | 24 |
| Canada | 83,615 | 536 | 22,845 | 149 | 106,460 | 344 | 5 | 10 | 6 |
| Non-intimate partner violence | | | | | | | | | |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 1,812 | 800 | 2,249 | 1,021 | 4,061 | 909 | 18 | 13 | 15 |
| Prince Edward Island | 382 | 571 | 506 | 787 | 888 | 677 | -7 | 10 | 2 |
| Nova Scotia | 2,674 | 635 | 3,475 | 866 | 6,149 | 748 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| New Brunswick ¹ | 2,691 | 892 | 3,395 | 1,145 | 6,086 | 1,018 | 17 | 15 | 16 |
| Quebec | 20,051 | 570 | 29,363 | 835 | 49,414 | 702 | 4 | 6 | 5 |
| Ontario | 31,550 | 517 | 42,903 | 724 | 74,453 | 619 | 2 | 0 ^s | 1 |
| Manitoba | 7,374 | 1,381 | 9,667 | 1,813 | 17,041 | 1,597 | 6 | 10 | 8 |
| Saskatchewan | 5,735 | 1,269 | 7,366 | 1,598 | 13,101 | 1,435 | 8 | 9 | 8 |
| Alberta | 13,388 | 763 | 18,784 | 1,058 | 32,172 | 911 | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| British Columbia | 15,105 | 692 | 23,479 | 1,103 | 38,584 | 895 | 22 | 21 | 21 |
| Yukon | 498 | 2,986 | 587 | 3,421 | 1,085 | 3,206 | 19 | 24 | 21 |
| Northwest Territories | 1,311 | 7,589 | 1,313 | 7,123 | 2,624 | 7,348 | 21 | 20 | 21 |
| Nunavut | 966 | 7,502 | 970 | 7,169 | 1,936 | 7,331 | 17 | 24 | 20 |
| Canada | 103,537 | 663 | 144,057 | 937 | 247,594 | 799 | 7 | 7 | 7 |

0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

1. Excludes data from the Saint John Police Service due to data quality concerns.

Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 15 to 89 years. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Intimate partner violence refers to violence committed by current and former legally married spouses, common-law partners, dating partners and other intimate partners. Victims refer to those aged 15 to 89 years. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada. As a result, numbers may not match those presented elsewhere in the report.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database.

Table 3.5**Victims of police-reported intimate partner and non-intimate partner violence, by gender of victim and census metropolitan area, 2019**

| Census metropolitan area (CMA) ^{1,2} | Intimate partner violence | | | | | | Non-intimate partner violence | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|------------|---------------|------------|----------------|------------|-------------------------------|------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | |
| | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate |
| St. John's | 366 | 407 | 97 | 113 | 463 | 263 | 523 | 582 | 715 | 829 | 1,238 | 703 |
| Halifax | 850 | 444 | 272 | 149 | 1,122 | 300 | 981 | 512 | 1,429 | 785 | 2,410 | 645 |
| Moncton | 549 | 787 | 177 | 261 | 726 | 527 | 709 | 1,016 | 949 | 1,397 | 1,658 | 1,204 |
| Saint John ³ | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Saguenay | 302 | 429 | 80 | 110 | 382 | 267 | 442 | 628 | 617 | 847 | 1,059 | 740 |
| Québec | 1,501 | 435 | 479 | 141 | 1,980 | 289 | 2,036 | 590 | 2,739 | 804 | 4,775 | 696 |
| Sherbrooke | 303 | 348 | 54 | 64 | 357 | 208 | 367 | 422 | 510 | 601 | 877 | 511 |
| Trois-Rivières | 346 | 506 | 99 | 148 | 445 | 329 | 386 | 564 | 574 | 860 | 960 | 710 |
| Montréal | 8,863 | 494 | 2,935 | 167 | 11,798 | 332 | 9,628 | 536 | 14,315 | 813 | 23,943 | 673 |
| Gatineau ⁴ | 655 | 467 | 193 | 141 | 848 | 306 | 897 | 639 | 1,396 | 1,019 | 2,293 | 827 |
| Ottawa ⁵ | 1,533 | 332 | 381 | 85 | 1,914 | 211 | 2,373 | 513 | 3,218 | 722 | 5,591 | 616 |
| Kingston | 281 | 376 | 67 | 93 | 348 | 236 | 378 | 505 | 436 | 602 | 814 | 553 |
| Belleville ⁶ | 320 | 670 | 67 | 143 | 387 | 409 | 365 | 764 | 369 | 788 | 734 | 776 |
| Peterborough | 225 | 402 | 42 | 80 | 267 | 246 | 293 | 524 | 275 | 521 | 568 | 522 |
| Toronto ⁷ | 8,866 | 356 | 1,905 | 80 | 10,771 | 221 | 11,927 | 479 | 18,128 | 761 | 30,055 | 617 |
| Hamilton ⁸ | 1,233 | 510 | 263 | 111 | 1,496 | 313 | 1,497 | 619 | 1,971 | 834 | 3,468 | 725 |
| St. Catharines–Niagara | 523 | 254 | 98 | 49 | 621 | 153 | 872 | 424 | 1,067 | 536 | 1,939 | 479 |
| Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo | 1,477 | 604 | 445 | 180 | 1,922 | 391 | 2,165 | 885 | 2,452 | 993 | 4,617 | 939 |
| Brantford | 371 | 625 | 80 | 137 | 451 | 383 | 469 | 790 | 536 | 920 | 1,005 | 854 |
| Guelph | 220 | 364 | 42 | 73 | 262 | 222 | 241 | 399 | 263 | 455 | 504 | 426 |
| London | 994 | 429 | 209 | 94 | 1,203 | 264 | 994 | 429 | 1,452 | 650 | 2,446 | 538 |
| Windsor | 626 | 469 | 148 | 110 | 774 | 289 | 662 | 496 | 905 | 673 | 1,567 | 584 |
| Barrie | 396 | 378 | 97 | 94 | 493 | 237 | 452 | 432 | 578 | 561 | 1,030 | 496 |
| Greater Sudbury | 349 | 486 | 60 | 86 | 409 | 288 | 448 | 624 | 569 | 811 | 1,017 | 716 |
| Thunder Bay | 388 | 725 | 103 | 193 | 491 | 459 | 428 | 800 | 585 | 1,095 | 1,013 | 947 |
| Winnipeg | 1,889 | 549 | 309 | 91 | 2,198 | 322 | 3,092 | 899 | 4,917 | 1,453 | 8,009 | 1,174 |
| Regina | 710 | 676 | 174 | 163 | 884 | 418 | 737 | 701 | 1,085 | 1,019 | 1,822 | 861 |
| Saskatoon | 680 | 507 | 124 | 92 | 804 | 300 | 993 | 740 | 1,426 | 1,062 | 2,419 | 901 |
| Lethbridge ⁶ | 482 | 952 | 138 | 278 | 620 | 618 | 526 | 1,039 | 743 | 1,495 | 1,269 | 1,265 |
| Calgary | 3,065 | 494 | 1,061 | 171 | 4,126 | 333 | 3,814 | 615 | 5,707 | 922 | 9,521 | 768 |
| Edmonton | 2,708 | 461 | 575 | 97 | 3,283 | 278 | 3,837 | 653 | 5,726 | 967 | 9,563 | 811 |
| Kelowna | 488 | 521 | 165 | 180 | 653 | 353 | 646 | 690 | 1,114 | 1,219 | 1,760 | 951 |
| Abbotsford–Mission | 426 | 524 | 72 | 86 | 498 | 302 | 453 | 558 | 707 | 844 | 1,160 | 703 |
| Vancouver | 4,393 | 375 | 1,122 | 100 | 5,515 | 240 | 7,053 | 601 | 11,628 | 1,032 | 18,681 | 812 |
| Victoria | 677 | 381 | 193 | 114 | 870 | 251 | 1,000 | 563 | 1,652 | 978 | 2,652 | 765 |
| CMA total⁹ | 48,288 | 426 | 12,660 | 115 | 60,948 | 273 | 63,158 | 558 | 92,609 | 839 | 155,767 | 697 |
| Non-CMA total | 36,376 | 840 | 10,486 | 239 | 46,862 | 538 | 41,608 | 961 | 52,803 | 1,204 | 94,411 | 1,083 |
| Canada | 84,664 | 541 | 23,146 | 150 | 107,810 | 347 | 104,766 | 669 | 145,412 | 943 | 250,178 | 805 |

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 3.5 — end**Victims of police-reported intimate partner and non-intimate partner violence, by gender of victim and census metropolitan area, 2019**

.. not available for a specific reference period

1. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000, of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data.

A CMA typically comprises more than one police service.

2. Census metropolitan area (CMA) populations have been adjusted to follow policing boundaries. The Oshawa CMA is excluded from this table due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.

3. Data for the census metropolitan area of Saint John are excluded due to data quality concerns associated with the Saint John Police Service.

4. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa–Gatineau census metropolitan area.

5. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau census metropolitan area.

6. Following the 2016 Census of Population, Belleville and Lethbridge were reclassified as census metropolitan areas.

7. Excludes the portions of the Halton Regional Police Service and the Durham Regional Police Service that police the census metropolitan area of Toronto.

8. Excludes the portion of the Halton Regional Police Service that polices the census metropolitan area of Hamilton.

9. Includes Halton Regional Police Service and Durham Regional Police Service, which are responsible for policing more than one census metropolitan area (CMA). This total also includes the portion of the Durham Regional Police Service that polices the Oshawa CMA. This also includes the CMA of Saint John, excluding the Saint John Police Service due to data quality concerns. Because of these inclusions, the CMA total will not equal the total of the individual CMAs.

Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 15 to 89 years. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Intimate partner violence refers to violence committed by current and former legally married spouses, common-law partners, dating partners and other intimate partners. Victims refer to those aged 15 to 89 years. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Section 4: Police-reported family violence against seniors in Canada, 2019

Violence against seniors—sometimes referred to as elder abuse—is often perpetrated by family members and occurs in residential settings. It can take on many forms, including physical, sexual, emotional and financial abuse, and neglect and abandonment (Justice Canada 2015; World Health Organization 2020). Controlling and coercive behaviours from family members may also isolate seniors from others outside the home. Consequences for seniors who experience this type of violence may include loneliness and depression, increased dependency, financial problems and a shorter life span (Public Health Agency of Canada 2014).

As the Canadian population ages, this issue will continue to grow in importance. COVID-19 restrictions have had widespread impacts for the older population. Due to their age, seniors were designated as high risk for severe illness and complications with the virus. Thus, for many seniors, their social contacts and supports outside the family have been drastically reduced. An important area for further analysis will be violence against seniors in nursing homes and long-term care facilities. While not necessarily family-related, the relationship between a caregiver and a dependant in these environments mirrors that which typically exists within a family.

In this section, family violence refers to violence committed by spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law), children (biological, step, adopted and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster) and extended family members (e.g., grandchildren, nephews, nieces, cousins and in-laws). Victims refer to those aged 65 to 89 years.¹

One in three senior victims of police-reported violence victimized by a family member

In 2019, there were 14,156 senior victims of police-reported violence in Canada, and over half (55%) were men (Table 4.1). One-third (32%) of senior victims were victimized by a family member, which represented 4,518 victims.

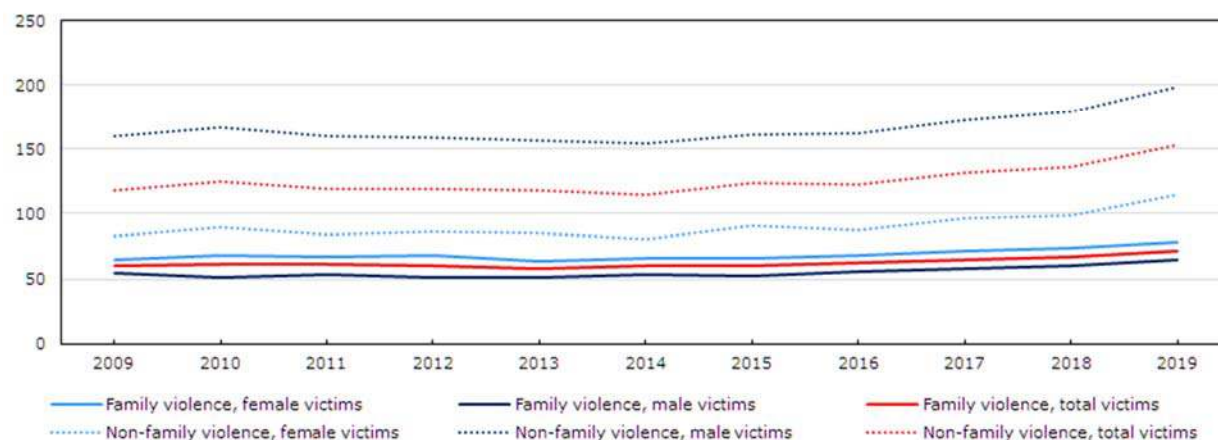
Family violence against seniors that came to the attention of police was most often perpetrated by their child (34%) followed by a spouse (26%) and a sibling (12%), and this pattern was the same for female and male seniors. Similar to family violence in general, women were overrepresented as victims of family violence against seniors (58%).

Family violence against seniors increases for the fourth consecutive year

The rate of police-reported family violence against seniors was 8% higher in 2019 compared with the previous year, while the rate of non-family violence against seniors increased 13% (Chart 4.1).² For family violence against seniors, this marked the fourth consecutive annual increase, up 20% from 2015. During this time, the rate of family violence against seniors increased 18% for women and 23% for men. Between 2009 and 2019, the rate increased 19% overall while the rate of non-family violence against seniors increased 31%.

Chart 4.1
Senior victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and year, Canada, 2009 to 2019

rate per 100,000 population



Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 65 to 89 years. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Victims refer to those aged 65 to 89 years. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada. As a result, numbers may not match those presented elsewhere in the report.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database.

Physical assault most common form of family violence against seniors

In 2019, the rate of police-reported family violence against seniors was 72 victims per 100,000 population (Table 4.2). The most common type of family violence perpetrated against seniors was physical assault³ (accounting for 72% of victims, a rate of 52 per 100,000 population) followed by other offences involving violence or the threat of violence (19).⁴ This pattern was similar for women and men.

Two-thirds (67%) of senior victims of family violence were assaulted using physical force (Table 4.3).⁵ A further 16% of victims were assaulted with a weapon present, such as a knife, club or firearm. Four in ten (41%) senior victims of family violence suffered a physical injury, somewhat higher than those who experienced non-family violence (36%).⁶ Of the seniors who were physically injured as a result of family violence, the vast majority (93%) had minor injuries. Physical injury resulting from family violence against seniors was similar for women and men (40% and 42%, respectively).

Text box 4

Violence against seniors in nursing and retirement homes

Seniors represent nearly one-fifth (18%) of the Canadian population (Statistics Canada 2021). According to the 2016 Census, 7% of all seniors live in collective dwellings such as nursing homes, residences for seniors and other residential care facilities (Employment and Social Development Canada 2019). These environments are often an extension of the family unit, a place where their needs are met and where trust is built over time. As the senior age group continues to grow in size, so too will their need for adequate, suitable and affordable housing—and, most importantly, housing that is safe.

Of the 14,156 senior victims of police-reported violence in Canada in 2019, 1,530 (11%) were victimized in a nursing or retirement home and two-thirds (66%) of these seniors were women.⁷ Most (81%) seniors who experienced violence in these settings were physically assaulted, while around one in seven (15%) were sexually assaulted. Differences emerged according to gender, however: 76% of female victims were physically assaulted (while 20% were sexually assaulted) and 90% of male victims were physically assaulted (while 5% were sexually assaulted). The remaining victims experienced other types of violence.

Where incidents involved a single victim and a single accused person—and occurred in a nursing or retirement home—a small proportion (5%) of senior victims experienced violence by a family member. They were most commonly victimized by a casual acquaintance (48%), a neighbour (18%), a stranger (11%) or a roommate (10%) in the nursing or retirement home. The large majority (81%) of these senior victims experienced violence perpetrated by another senior.⁸

Saskatchewan and Manitoba have highest provincial rates of family violence against seniors

Similar to crime in general, rates of police-reported family violence against seniors were highest in the territories. Among the provinces, the rate of family violence against seniors was highest in Saskatchewan (101 per 100,000 population) followed by Manitoba (98) (Table 4.4).⁹ Meanwhile, it was lowest in Ontario (53) and Nova Scotia (61). Compared with the provinces, rates were notably higher in the territories, with Nunavut reporting the highest rate (1,970) followed by the Northwest Territories (1,403) and Yukon (276).

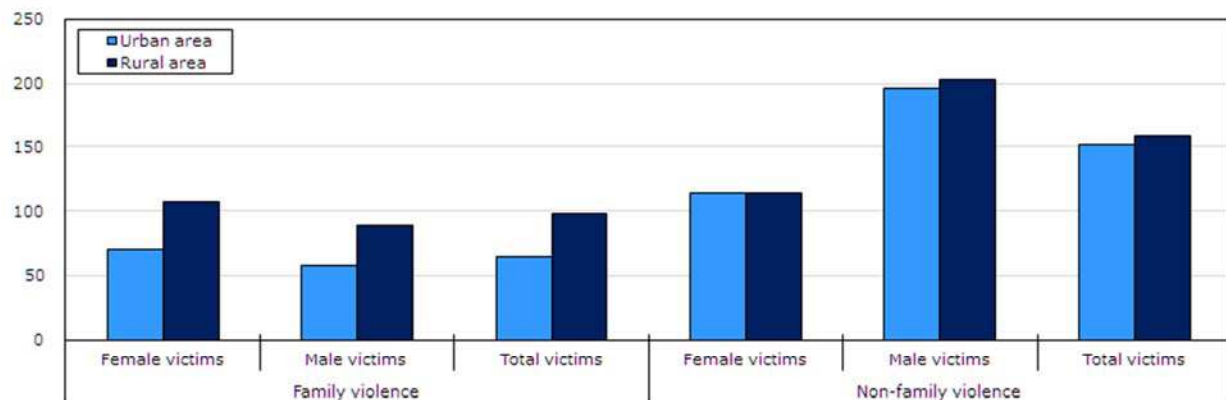
Female seniors experienced a higher rate of family violence than their male counterparts in every province and territory, with the exception of Saskatchewan and New Brunswick.¹⁰

In most provinces and territories in 2019, the rate of family violence against seniors increased from the previous year.¹¹ Provincially, the rate decreased by 7% in Alberta while it remained relatively stable in Ontario (-0.2%).

The rate of family violence against seniors in the provinces was higher in rural areas than urban areas (98 versus 65 per 100,000 population), and this pattern was the same for women and men (Chart 4.2).¹² In rural areas, senior women had a rate of family violence that was 1.2 times higher than senior men (107 versus 89). Of note, when it came to senior victims, the difference between rural and urban rates was larger for family violence (1.5 times higher in rural areas) as rates of non-family violence were comparable regardless of the type of area.

Chart 4.2
Senior victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and urban or rural area, provinces, 2019

rate per 100,000 population



Note: An urban area is defined as a census metropolitan area (CMA) or a census agglomeration (CA). A CMA consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000, of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CA must have a core population of at least 10,000. Rural areas are all areas outside of CMAs and CAs. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 65 to 89 years. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Victims refer to those aged 65 to 89 years. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Excludes data from the territories.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

The rate of family violence against seniors was 1.4 times lower in Canada's largest cities—referred to as census metropolitan areas¹³ or CMAs—than it was in non-CMAs (64 versus 89) (Table 4.5).¹⁴ Among the CMAs, rates were highest in Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo (123), Gatineau¹⁵ (107) and Kelowna (94). Meanwhile, they were lowest in Peterborough (26), Ottawa¹⁶ (28) and Thunder Bay (28).

Contrary to family violence in general, family violence against seniors was higher for men than women in several CMAs: Peterborough, Moncton, Thunder Bay, Halifax, Barrie, Greater Sudbury and Saskatoon.

References

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Notes

1. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown. Counts represent the number of victims involved in incidents of violence. It is possible that individual victims may have experienced more than one incident, and would therefore be counted more than once here. For type of relationship, percentages have been calculated excluding unknown relationships.

2. Trend numbers are based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data from 99% of the population in Canada. As a result, trend numbers may not match those presented elsewhere in the report.

3. Includes assault level 1, assault level 2 (with a weapon or causing bodily harm) and assault level 3 (aggravated assault).

4. Includes, for example, uttering threats, criminal harassment, forcible confinement and indecent or harassing communications.

5. Data on type of weapon present exclude the province of Quebec due to data quality concerns. Percentages have been calculated excluding unknown type of weapon present.

6. Data on level of injury exclude the province of Quebec due to data quality concerns. Percentages have been calculated excluding unknown level of injury.

7. Nursing and retirement homes were added as incident locations in the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey in 2017. Percentages have been calculated excluding unknown location.

8. Percentages have been calculated including accused aged 89 years and younger, and excluding accused where the gender or the age was unknown.

9. Trend numbers are based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data from 99% of the population in Canada. As a result, trend numbers may not match those presented elsewhere in the report.

10. Excludes data from the Saint John Police Service due to data quality concerns.

11. Part of the overall increase in police-reported crime may be attributed to the implementation of new reporting standards. For more information, see Survey description.

12. Excludes data from the territories. An urban area is defined as a census metropolitan area (CMA) or a census agglomeration (CA). A CMA consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core.

A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000, of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CA must have a core population of at least 10,000. Rural areas are all areas outside of CMAs and CAs. The populations for urban and rural areas have been adjusted to reflect the actual policing boundaries within the urban and rural geographies and do not reflect the official Statistics Canada population for these geographies. Excludes data from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police's Canadian Police Centre for Missing and Exploited Children as it responds to incidents nationally. The incidents themselves and the offenders are not limited to one specific province or territory.

13. For a definition of a census metropolitan area, see endnote 12.

14. Data for the census metropolitan area of Saint John are excluded due to data quality concerns associated with the Saint John Police Service.

15. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa–Gatineau census metropolitan area.

16. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau census metropolitan area.

Detailed data tables

Table 4.1

Senior victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and relationship of accused to victim, Canada, 2019

| Relationship of accused to victim | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | |
|---|----------------|------------|--------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| | number | percent | number | percent | number | percent |
| Family | 2,613 | 41 | 1,905 | 25 | 4,518 | 32 |
| Spouse ¹ | 806 | 13 | 365 | 5 | 1,171 | 8 |
| Child ² | 826 | 13 | 688 | 9 | 1,514 | 11 |
| Sibling ³ | 290 | 5 | 239 | 3 | 529 | 4 |
| Other family ⁴ | 691 | 11 | 613 | 8 | 1,304 | 9 |
| Non-family | 3,810 | 59 | 5,811 | 75 | 9,621 | 68 |
| Dating or other intimate partner ⁵ | 208 | 3 | 192 | 2 | 400 | 3 |
| Friend ⁶ | 282 | 4 | 413 | 5 | 695 | 5 |
| Casual acquaintance ⁷ | 1,783 | 28 | 2,245 | 29 | 4,028 | 28 |
| Authority figure ⁸ | 159 | 2 | 138 | 2 | 297 | 2 |
| Stranger | 1,184 | 18 | 2,350 | 30 | 3,534 | 25 |
| Other ⁹ | 194 | 3 | 473 | 6 | 667 | 5 |
| Unknown | 4 | ... | 13 | ... | 17 | ... |
| Total victims | 6,427 | 100 | 7,729 | 100 | 14,156 | 100 |

... not applicable

1. Includes current and former legally married spouses and common-law partners.

2. Includes biological, step, adopted and foster children.

3. Includes biological, step, half, adopted and foster brothers and sisters.

4. Includes all other family members related by blood, marriage (including common-law) or adoption. Examples include grandchildren, nephews, nieces, cousins and in-laws.

5. Includes current and former boyfriends and girlfriends (intimate relationships) and other intimate partners (sexual relationships or a mutual sexual attraction).

6. Includes roommates. "Roommates" was added as a relationship category in 2013.

7. Includes neighbours.

8. Includes persons in a position of trust or authority. Includes authority figures and reverse authority figures (e.g., student-to-teacher and patient-to-doctor). "Reverse authority figures" was added as a relationship category in 2013.

9. Includes business relationships and criminal relationships (relationships based on illegal activities, such as drugs or prostitution).

Note: Family violence refers to violence committed by spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law), children (biological, step, adopted and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster) and extended family members (e.g., grandchildren, nephews, nieces, cousins and in-laws). Victims refer to those aged 65 to 89 years. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown. Percentages have been calculated excluding unknown relationships. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 4.2
Senior victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and type of violation, Canada, 2019

| Type of violation | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | |
|--|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|------------|
| | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate |
| Family violence | | | | | | |
| Homicide, other violations causing death and attempted murder ¹ | 24 | 1 | 10 | 0 ^s | 34 | 1 |
| Sexual assault ² | 32 | 1 | 5 | 0 ^s | 37 | 1 |
| Physical assault ³ | 1,886 | 57 | 1,374 | 47 | 3,260 | 52 |
| Other offences involving violence or the threat of violence ⁴ | 671 | 20 | 516 | 18 | 1,187 | 19 |
| Total family violence | 2,613 | 79 | 1,905 | 65 | 4,518 | 72 |
| Non-family violence | | | | | | |
| Homicide, other violations causing death and attempted murder ¹ | 13 | 0 ^s | 25 | 1 | 38 | 1 |
| Sexual assault ² | 507 | 15 | 55 | 2 | 562 | 9 |
| Physical assault ³ | 2,207 | 67 | 3,822 | 131 | 6,029 | 97 |
| Other offences involving violence or the threat of violence ⁴ | 1,083 | 33 | 1,909 | 66 | 2,992 | 48 |
| Total non-family violence | 3,810 | 115 | 5,811 | 199 | 9,621 | 154 |
| Total victims | 6,423 | 194 | 7,716 | 265 | 14,139 | 227 |

0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

1. Includes first degree murder, second degree murder, manslaughter, criminal negligence causing death, other related violations causing death and conspiracy to commit murder.

2. Includes sexual assault level 1, sexual assault level 2 (with a weapon or causing bodily harm) and sexual assault level 3 (aggravated sexual assault).

3. Includes assault level 1, assault level 2 (with a weapon or causing bodily harm) and assault level 3 (aggravated assault).

4. Includes all other violent violations not otherwise listed.

Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 65 to 89 years. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Family violence refers to violence committed by spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law), children (biological, step, adopted and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster) and extended family members (e.g., grandchildren, nephews, nieces, cousins and in-laws). Victims refer to those aged 65 to 89 years. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 4.3

Senior victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim, type of weapon present and level of injury, Canada, 2019

| Type of weapon present and level of injury | Family violence | | | | | | Non-family violence | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|------------|--------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------------|------------|--------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | |
| | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % |
| Type of weapon present | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No weapon ¹ | 134 | 7 | 91 | 7 | 225 | 7 | 266 | 9 | 250 | 6 | 516 | 7 |
| Threats ² | 188 | 10 | 151 | 11 | 339 | 10 | 231 | 8 | 511 | 12 | 742 | 10 |
| Physical force | 1,303 | 69 | 870 | 64 | 2,173 | 67 | 2,163 | 71 | 2,664 | 62 | 4,827 | 66 |
| Weapon | 276 | 15 | 250 | 18 | 526 | 16 | 373 | 12 | 895 | 21 | 1,268 | 17 |
| Firearm | 14 | 1 | 14 | 1 | 28 | 1 | 43 | 1 | 98 | 2 | 141 | 2 |
| Knife or other piercing instrument ³ | 71 | 4 | 84 | 6 | 155 | 5 | 78 | 3 | 256 | 6 | 334 | 5 |
| Club or other blunt instrument | 34 | 2 | 33 | 2 | 67 | 2 | 44 | 1 | 131 | 3 | 175 | 2 |
| Other weapon ⁴ | 157 | 8 | 119 | 9 | 276 | 8 | 208 | 7 | 410 | 9 | 618 | 8 |
| Unknown | 48 | ... | 29 | ... | 77 | ... | 53 | ... | 103 | ... | 156 | ... |
| Total | 1,949 | 100 | 1,391 | 100 | 3,340 | 100 | 3,086 | 100 | 4,423 | 100 | 7,509 | 100 |
| Level of injury | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No physical injury ⁵ | 1,096 | 60 | 772 | 58 | 1,868 | 59 | 2,049 | 69 | 2,530 | 60 | 4,579 | 64 |
| Physical injury | 740 | 40 | 555 | 42 | 1,295 | 41 | 900 | 31 | 1,685 | 40 | 2,585 | 36 |
| Minor physical injury ⁶ | 683 | 37 | 522 | 39 | 1,205 | 38 | 856 | 29 | 1,550 | 37 | 2,406 | 34 |
| Major physical injury or death ⁷ | 57 | 3 | 33 | 2 | 90 | 3 | 44 | 1 | 135 | 3 | 179 | 2 |
| Unknown | 113 | ... | 64 | ... | 177 | ... | 137 | ... | 208 | ... | 345 | ... |
| Total | 1,949 | 100 | 1,391 | 100 | 3,340 | 100 | 3,086 | 100 | 4,423 | 100 | 7,509 | 100 |

... not applicable

1. Includes no threat, physical force or weapon.

2. Includes threats that are construed to imply that death or injury is possible.

3. Includes other piercing or cutting instruments, such as hatchets, razor blades and arrows.

4. Includes other types of weapons such as explosives, fire, motor vehicles, poison and weapons not otherwise classified.

5. Includes incidents that did not involve the use of a weapon or physical force as well as those in which a weapon or physical force was used but no visible physical injury was noted by police.

6. Refers to injuries that required no professional medical treatment or only some first aid (e.g., bandage, ice).

7. Refers to injuries that required professional medical attention at the scene or transportation to a medical facility, or injuries that resulted in death.

Note: The weapon present in an incident (if any) may or may not have caused the injury to the victim (if any). Family violence refers to violence committed by spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law), children (biological, step, adopted and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster) and extended family members (e.g., grandchildren, nephews, nieces, cousins and in-laws). Victims refer to those aged 65 to 89 years. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Excludes data from the province of Quebec due to data quality concerns. Percentages have been calculated excluding unknown type of weapon present and unknown level of injury. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 4.4
Senior victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and province or territory, 2018 to 2019

| Province or territory | 2019 | | | | | | Percent change in rate: 2018 to 2019 | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------|--------------|-------|---------------|-------|---|--------------|----------------|
| | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | | Female victims | Male victims | Total victims |
| | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | percent | | |
| Family violence | | | | | | | | | |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 56 | 100 | 47 | 90 | 103 | 95 | 18 | 46 | 29 |
| Prince Edward Island | 13 | 82 | 10 | 72 | 23 | 77 | 25 | 38 | 30 |
| Nova Scotia | 68 | 66 | 49 | 55 | 117 | 61 | -6 | 13 | 1 |
| New Brunswick ¹ | 67 | 88 | 68 | 99 | 135 | 93 | -9 | 13 | 1 |
| Quebec | 664 | 81 | 514 | 70 | 1,178 | 76 | 5 | 19 | 11 |
| Ontario | 749 | 59 | 504 | 46 | 1,253 | 53 | -5 | 7 | 0 ^s |
| Manitoba | 105 | 100 | 87 | 94 | 192 | 98 | 52 | 14 | 32 |
| Saskatchewan | 83 | 92 | 89 | 111 | 172 | 101 | 9 | 13 | 11 |
| Alberta | 287 | 98 | 190 | 73 | 477 | 86 | -4 | -11 | -7 |
| British Columbia | 438 | 93 | 299 | 70 | 737 | 82 | 37 | 7 | 23 |
| Yukon | 10 | 415 | 4 | 151 | 14 | 276 | 54 | -25 | 19 |
| Northwest Territories | 29 | 1,686 | 22 | 1,149 | 51 | 1,403 | 0 ^s | -19 | -9 |
| Nunavut | 22 | 3,103 | 8 | 983 | 30 | 1,970 | 95 | -36 | 26 |
| Canada | 2,591 | 78 | 1,891 | 65 | 4,482 | 72 | 7 | 9 | 8 |
| Non-family violence | | | | | | | | | |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 54 | 96 | 92 | 177 | 146 | 135 | 34 | 56 | 47 |
| Prince Edward Island | 10 | 63 | 31 | 224 | 41 | 138 | -13 | 15 | 7 |
| Nova Scotia | 68 | 66 | 139 | 155 | 207 | 108 | 10 | 33 | 24 |
| New Brunswick ¹ | 101 | 132 | 164 | 238 | 265 | 183 | 36 | 50 | 44 |
| Quebec | 724 | 88 | 1,388 | 190 | 2,112 | 136 | 0 ^s | 9 | 6 |
| Ontario | 1,844 | 145 | 1,970 | 181 | 3,814 | 162 | 21 | 3 | 11 |
| Manitoba | 122 | 117 | 216 | 234 | 338 | 172 | 17 | 8 | 11 |
| Saskatchewan | 71 | 79 | 166 | 207 | 237 | 139 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Alberta | 259 | 89 | 539 | 206 | 798 | 144 | 10 | 5 | 6 |
| British Columbia | 510 | 108 | 1,002 | 234 | 1,512 | 168 | 33 | 28 | 29 |
| Yukon | 9 | 374 | 19 | 715 | 28 | 553 | -31 | 5 | -10 |
| Northwest Territories | 15 | 872 | 40 | 2,090 | 55 | 1,513 | 179 | 33 | 53 |
| Nunavut | 4 | 564 | 11 | 1,351 | 15 | 985 | -51 | 50 | -3 |
| Canada | 3,791 | 115 | 5,777 | 199 | 9,568 | 154 | 16 | 11 | 13 |

0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded

1. Excludes data from the Saint John Police Service due to data quality concerns.

Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 65 to 89 years. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Family violence refers to violence committed by spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law), children (biological, step, adopted and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster) and extended family members (e.g., grandchildren, nephews, nieces, cousins and in-laws). Victims refer to those aged 65 to 89 years. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada. As a result, numbers may not match those presented elsewhere in the report.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database.

Table 4.5
Senior victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and census metropolitan area, 2019

| Census metropolitan area (CMA) ^{1,2} | Family violence | | | | | | Non-family violence | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|---------------------|------------|--------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | | Female victims | | Male victims | | Total victims | |
| | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate | number | rate |
| St. John's | 9 | 51 | 5 | 33 | 14 | 43 | 22 | 124 | 24 | 158 | 46 | 140 |
| Halifax | 16 | 43 | 20 | 64 | 36 | 53 | 24 | 65 | 40 | 128 | 64 | 94 |
| Moncton | 9 | 57 | 13 | 97 | 22 | 76 | 20 | 127 | 44 | 329 | 64 | 220 |
| Saint John ³ | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Saguenay | 12 | 64 | 7 | 40 | 19 | 52 | 15 | 80 | 40 | 228 | 55 | 151 |
| Québec | 69 | 79 | 37 | 50 | 106 | 66 | 101 | 116 | 127 | 173 | 228 | 142 |
| Sherbrooke | 9 | 40 | 7 | 37 | 16 | 39 | 15 | 67 | 22 | 115 | 37 | 90 |
| Trois-Rivières | 10 | 51 | 5 | 30 | 15 | 41 | 14 | 71 | 27 | 160 | 41 | 112 |
| Montréal | 350 | 94 | 254 | 81 | 604 | 88 | 353 | 94 | 605 | 193 | 958 | 139 |
| Gatineau ⁴ | 30 | 116 | 22 | 96 | 52 | 107 | 23 | 89 | 52 | 228 | 75 | 154 |
| Ottawa ⁵ | 29 | 33 | 17 | 23 | 46 | 28 | 88 | 99 | 119 | 158 | 207 | 126 |
| Kingston | 8 | 45 | 4 | 27 | 12 | 37 | 46 | 259 | 31 | 209 | 77 | 236 |
| Belleville ⁶ | 5 | 41 | 4 | 38 | 9 | 40 | 15 | 123 | 7 | 67 | 22 | 97 |
| Peterborough | 1 | 7 | 6 | 48 | 7 | 26 | 2 | 13 | 6 | 48 | 8 | 29 |
| Toronto ⁷ | 302 | 67 | 211 | 56 | 513 | 62 | 626 | 139 | 746 | 200 | 1,372 | 166 |
| Hamilton ⁸ | 33 | 64 | 16 | 37 | 49 | 52 | 104 | 201 | 96 | 223 | 200 | 211 |
| St. Catharines–Niagara | 19 | 35 | 14 | 30 | 33 | 33 | 35 | 65 | 51 | 111 | 86 | 86 |
| Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo | 60 | 134 | 42 | 111 | 102 | 123 | 71 | 158 | 88 | 232 | 159 | 192 |
| Brantford | 12 | 89 | 5 | 44 | 17 | 68 | 36 | 268 | 36 | 316 | 72 | 290 |
| Guelph | 6 | 53 | 2 | 23 | 8 | 40 | 9 | 79 | 8 | 90 | 17 | 84 |
| London | 22 | 45 | 9 | 22 | 31 | 35 | 55 | 113 | 58 | 144 | 113 | 127 |
| Windsor | 23 | 79 | 12 | 47 | 35 | 64 | 37 | 126 | 33 | 131 | 70 | 128 |
| Barrie | 6 | 31 | 6 | 39 | 12 | 35 | 19 | 100 | 28 | 180 | 47 | 136 |
| Greater Sudbury | 11 | 66 | 10 | 72 | 21 | 69 | 14 | 84 | 20 | 144 | 34 | 112 |
| Thunder Bay | 3 | 23 | 4 | 35 | 7 | 28 | 5 | 38 | 14 | 122 | 19 | 77 |
| Winnipeg | 39 | 59 | 28 | 51 | 67 | 55 | 80 | 120 | 128 | 232 | 208 | 171 |
| Regina | 10 | 54 | 1 | 6 | 11 | 32 | 9 | 48 | 27 | 174 | 36 | 105 |
| Saskatoon | 13 | 57 | 11 | 59 | 24 | 58 | 14 | 62 | 31 | 166 | 45 | 109 |
| Lethbridge ⁶ | 10 | 97 | 5 | 57 | 15 | 79 | 10 | 97 | 22 | 253 | 32 | 169 |
| Calgary | 81 | 86 | 63 | 76 | 144 | 81 | 74 | 79 | 147 | 176 | 221 | 124 |
| Edmonton | 70 | 72 | 40 | 47 | 110 | 60 | 90 | 92 | 178 | 210 | 268 | 147 |
| Kelowna | 25 | 109 | 16 | 79 | 41 | 94 | 19 | 83 | 37 | 182 | 56 | 129 |
| Abbotsford–Mission | 16 | 97 | 3 | 21 | 19 | 62 | 14 | 85 | 26 | 182 | 40 | 130 |
| Vancouver | 196 | 90 | 113 | 59 | 309 | 76 | 266 | 122 | 482 | 253 | 748 | 183 |
| Victoria | 28 | 64 | 24 | 64 | 52 | 64 | 34 | 78 | 74 | 198 | 108 | 133 |
| CMA total⁹ | 1,573 | 71 | 1,063 | 56 | 2,636 | 64 | 2,485 | 112 | 3,566 | 190 | 6,051 | 147 |
| Non-CMA total | 1,040 | 95 | 842 | 82 | 1,882 | 89 | 1,325 | 121 | 2,245 | 217 | 3,570 | 168 |
| Canada | 2,613 | 79 | 1,905 | 65 | 4,518 | 72 | 3,810 | 115 | 5,811 | 199 | 9,621 | 154 |

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 4.5 — end**Senior victims of police-reported family and non-family violence, by gender of victim and census metropolitan area, 2019**

.. not available for a specific reference period

1. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000, of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CMA typically comprises more than one police service.

2. Census metropolitan area (CMA) populations have been adjusted to follow policing boundaries. The Oshawa CMA is excluded from this table due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.

3. Data for the census metropolitan area of Saint John are excluded due to data quality concerns associated with the Saint John Police Service.

4. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa–Gatineau census metropolitan area.

5. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau census metropolitan area.

6. Following the 2016 Census of Population, Belleville and Lethbridge were reclassified as census metropolitan areas.

7. Excludes the portions of the Halton Regional Police Service and the Durham Regional Police Service that police the census metropolitan area of Toronto.

8. Excludes the portion of the Halton Regional Police Service that polices the census metropolitan area of Hamilton.

9. Includes Halton Regional Police Service and Durham Regional Police Service, which are responsible for policing more than one census metropolitan area (CMA). This total also includes the portion of the Durham Regional Police Service that polices the Oshawa CMA. This also includes the CMA of Saint John, excluding the Saint John Police Service due to data quality concerns. Because of these inclusions, the CMA total will not equal the total of the individual CMAs.

Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population aged 65 to 89 years. Populations based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Family violence refers to violence committed by spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law), children (biological, step, adopted and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster) and extended family members (e.g., grandchildren, nephews, nieces, cousins and in-laws). Victims refer to those aged 65 to 89 years. Victims aged 90 years and older are excluded from analyses due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims where the gender or the age was unknown or where the accused-victim relationship was unknown.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Survey description

Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey

The Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey collects detailed information on criminal incidents that have come to the attention of, and have been substantiated by, police services in Canada. Information includes characteristics of victims, accused persons and incidents. In 2019, data from police services covered 99% of the population of Canada.

One incident can involve multiple offences. In order to ensure comparability, counts are presented based on the most serious offence related to the incident as determined by a standard classification rule used by all police services.

Victim age is calculated based on the end date of an incident, as reported by the police. Some victims experience violence over a period of time, sometimes years, all of which may be considered by the police to be part of one continuous incident. Information about the number and dates of individual incidents for these victims of continuous violence is not available.

Given that small counts of victims identified as “gender diverse” may exist, the UCR data available to the public has been recoded to assign these counts to either “female” or “male” in order to ensure the protection of confidentiality and privacy. Victims identified as gender diverse have been assigned to either female or male based on the regional distribution of victims’ gender.

As part of reinstating the collection of information on unfounded incidents, the definition of “founded” and “unfounded” criminal incidents was updated in January 2018 to reflect a more victim-centred approach to recording crimes that accounts for the complexities of certain offences such as sexual assault, family violence and intimate partner violence. While the effective date of the new reporting standards was January 2018, police services transitioned to the new standards at different points throughout the year. Some police services, including all of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachments across Canada and municipal police services in British Columbia, transitioned to the new standards on January 1, 2019. Therefore, part of the overall increase in police-reported crime may be attributed to the implementation of the new reporting standards. For more information, see “Revising the classification of founded and unfounded criminal incidents in the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey” and “Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2019.”

Selected police-reported crime statistics: Special COVID-19 report to Statistics Canada

The Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics at Statistics Canada is conducting a special survey collection from a sample of police services across Canada to measure the impact of COVID-19 on selected types of crimes and calls for service. In addition, counts of police responses to infractions of municipal by-laws, or provincial or territorial acts, related to the containment of COVID-19 were requested. The latest release includes findings from March to October 2020 compared with the same period a year earlier.

For the reference period of March to October, 19 police services provided data on a voluntary basis. These included: Calgary Police Service, Edmonton Police Service, Halton Regional Police Service, Kennebecasis Regional Police Force, London Police Service, Montréal Police Service, Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), Ottawa Police Service, Regina Police Service, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), Royal Newfoundland Constabulary, Saskatoon Police Service, Sûreté du Québec, Toronto Police Service, Vancouver Police Department, Victoria Police Department, Waterloo Regional Police Service, Winnipeg Police Service and York Regional Police.

Police services that responded to this survey serve more than two-thirds (71%) of the Canadian population. The Edmonton Police Service, Montréal Police Service, RCMP, Sûreté du Québec and Winnipeg Police Service were unable to provide data on calls for service; therefore, police services that provided these data serve one-third (32%) of the Canadian population.

Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces

In 2018, Statistics Canada conducted the first cycle of the Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces (SSPPS). The purpose of the survey is to collect information on Canadians' experiences in public, at work, online and in their intimate partner relationships. Information is also collected on lifetime experiences of physical and sexual violence, and childhood experiences of abuse. The target population for the SSPPS is the Canadian population aged 15 and older, living in the provinces and territories. Canadians residing in institutions are not included.

Homicide Survey

The Homicide Survey collects detailed information on all homicide that has come to the attention of, and have been substantiated by, police services in Canada. Information includes characteristics of victims, accused persons and incidents. In 2019, the survey went through a comprehensive redesign in order to improve data quality and enhance relevance.