Canadian Femicide Observatory for Justice and Accountability

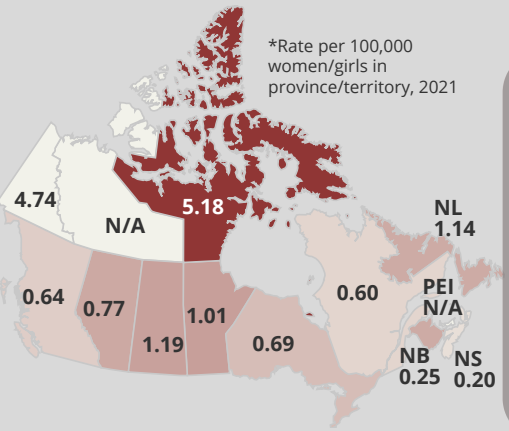
Observatoire canadien du fémicide pour la justice et la responsabilisation

#CallItFemicide 2021 Report

173 Women & Girls Violently Killed in Canada in 2021

When accused was identified (N=149), 133 were male (89%)

Rate and number of women & girls killed involving male accused



	N	No accused Identified
PEI	0	0
NFLD	3	0
NB	1	2
NS	1	0
QC	26	2
ON	52	1
MB	7	4
SK	7	5
AB	17	2
BC	17	8
YK	1	0
NT	0	0
NU	1	0
Canada	133	24

Overview

Geographic patterns

NFLD, MB, SK, AB, YK, NU have rates above the national average for killings of women & girls involving male accused; **NU** and **YK** having the highest rates.

45% of victims were killed in rural areas/small towns (N=60)

- **33%** (N=44) in rural (<10,000 population)
- **12%** (N=16) in small towns (10,000-49,000 population)

Situational factors

47% of women/girls were killed in their own home or the home they shared with accused; **23%** killed in unspecified residence; **15%** killed in public area.

When information known (**41%**), the most common method of killing was stabbing (**45%**) followed by shooting (**38%**)

Age Distribution of the Victims*

Women and Girls Killed		General Population
9%	<18	18%
28%	18 to 34	22%
35%	35 to 54	26%
28%	55 +	34%

*Age unknown for 9 victims

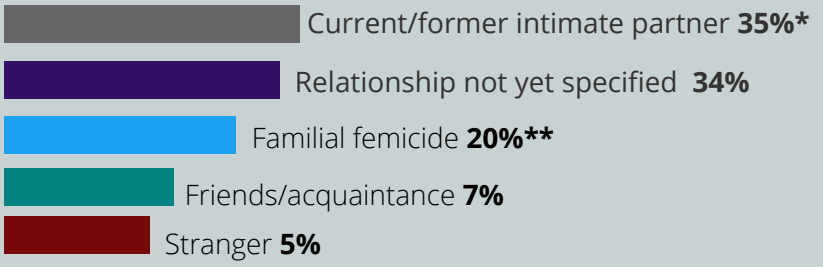
Women aged 18-54 overrepresented as victims

Average age of Victims

42 years old

Youngest	Oldest
< 1 year old	97 years old

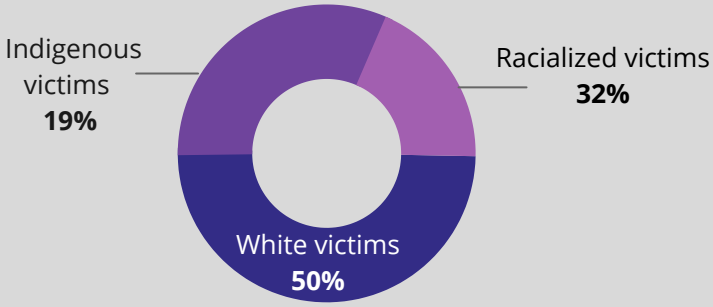
Victim-Accused Relationship



*22% of which involved a reported history of physical or non-physical violence (N=10)
**69% of which involved accused who were sons of the victims (N=18)

Race/Ethnicity

(Based on information available for 71% of victims)



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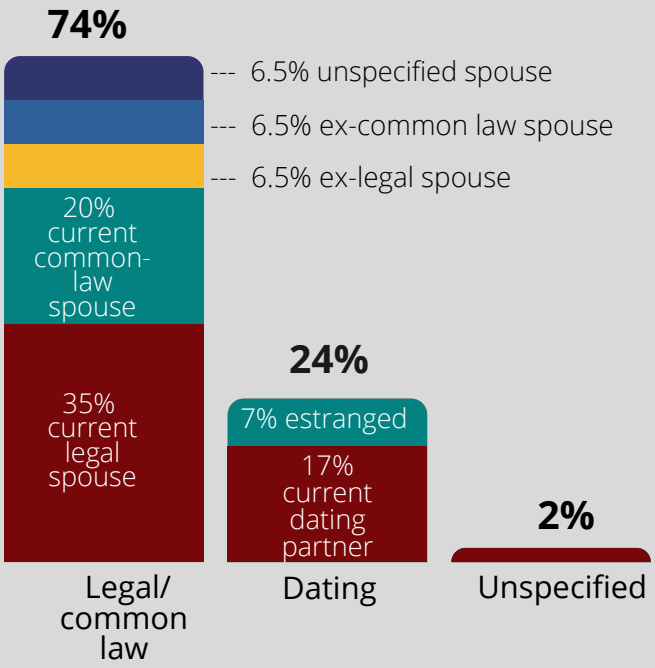
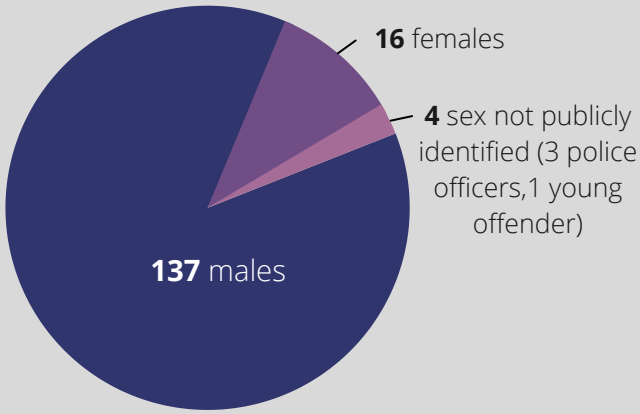
Intimate Partner Femicide (N=46)



157 Total Accused



Focusing on Male Accused Only:

Average age	Youngest	Oldest
37 years old	13 year old	82 years old

More than 164 children left without a mother

- 4 women were pregnant

Accused Suicide

- **15% of all male accused died by suicide**
- **24% of males accused of intimate partner femicide died by suicide**

'26% increase in killings of women and girls from 2019 to 2021'

Compared to pre-pandemic year 2019, using number recorded by Dec. 31 each year:

23 more deaths in 2020 **(17% increase)**

36 more deaths in 2021 **(26% increase)**

Number of women and girls violently killed in Canada, 2018-2021

Year	Annual number (as of Dec 31 each year)	Yearly increase in number over time ***	Current Annual Number (as of Feb 28, 2022)
2018	148 *	19	167
2019	137	13	150
2020	160 **	11	171
2021	173	14 ****	187 (projected)

*This includes 11 women killed in the Toronto Van Attack on April 23, 2018.
** This includes 13 women killed in the Nova Scotia Mass Killings on April 18-19, 2020.
*** Numbers increase over time as investigations completed, suspicious deaths become homicide, or new deaths recorded.
**** Projected increase based on average increase over previous three years.

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