

Domestic Violence in Nova Scotia

December 2019

Women continue to be the predominant victims of domestic violence in Nova Scotia.

78%
women

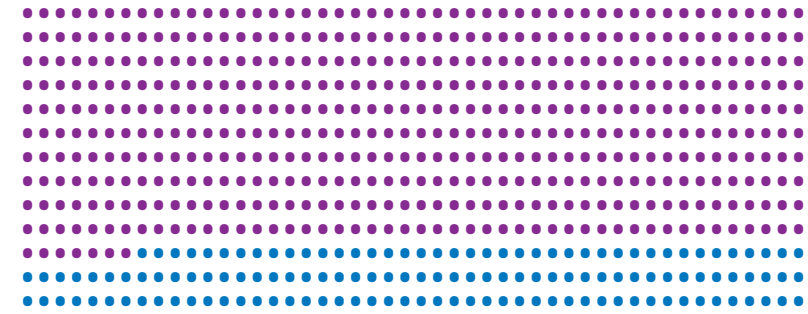
22%
men

What is domestic violence?

Domestic violence is deliberate and purposeful violence, abuse, and intimidation by one person against another in an intimate relationship. It may be a single act or a series of acts forming a pattern of abuse. Domestic violence can occur in any relationship, however, women are primarily the victims and men are primarily the perpetrators. Children and young people experience harm by being exposed to violence in adult relationships, being the direct victims of violence, or a combination of the two.

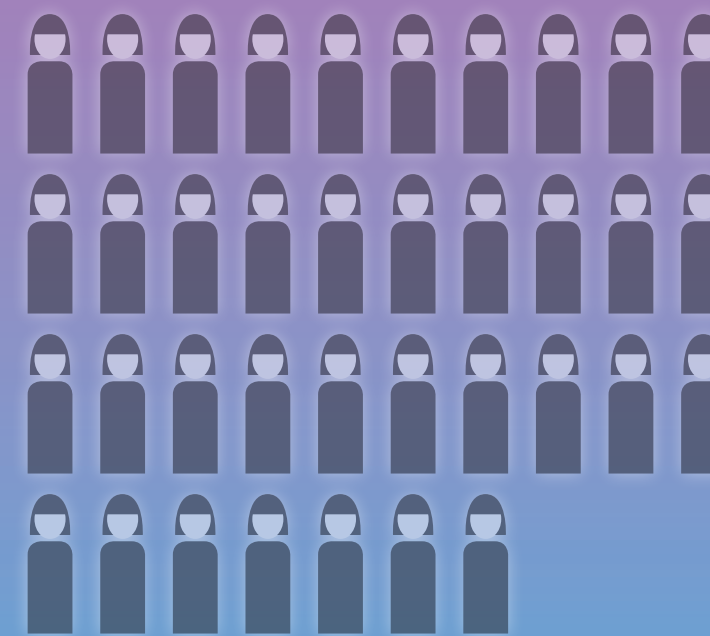
What is reported?

In 2018, the rate of police-reported incidents of domestic violence against females was over 3 times higher than the rate of police-reported instances of domestic violence against males.

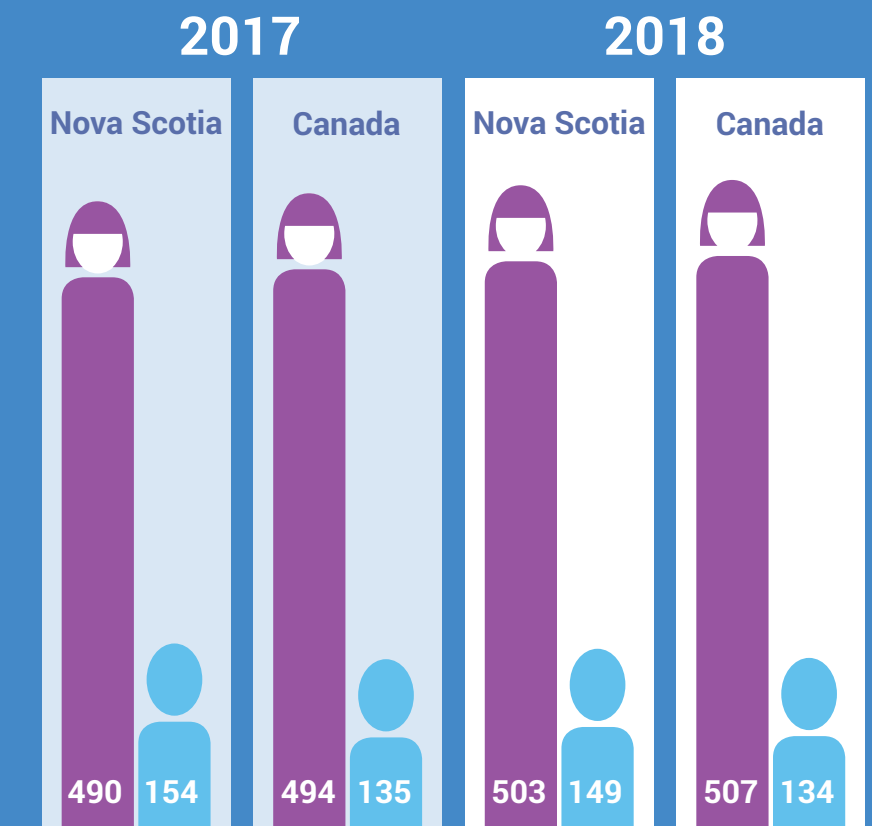


In 2018, the rate of police-reported domestic violence against females in Nova Scotia **increased by 7.8%** compared to 2016. This is higher than the 4.4% rate increase for Canada.

37 women were murdered by their intimate partner in Nova Scotia between 1999-2018



Rates of police-reported domestic violence incidents in 2017 and 2018 (per 100,000).



Domestic Violence is a complex social issue rooted in gender inequality.

Where to get help

If you have experienced domestic violence, know that you are not alone. There are supports available to you.

If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

If you are seeking help or are looking for information about abuse, you can call the **Transition House Association of Nova Scotia's 24-hour toll-free line:**



1-855-225-0220

To connect with community resources in Nova Scotia, call 211.

Types of offences

In 2018, the most common offence involved in domestic violence was assault for both female and male victims in Nova Scotia.

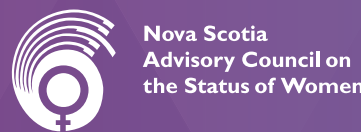
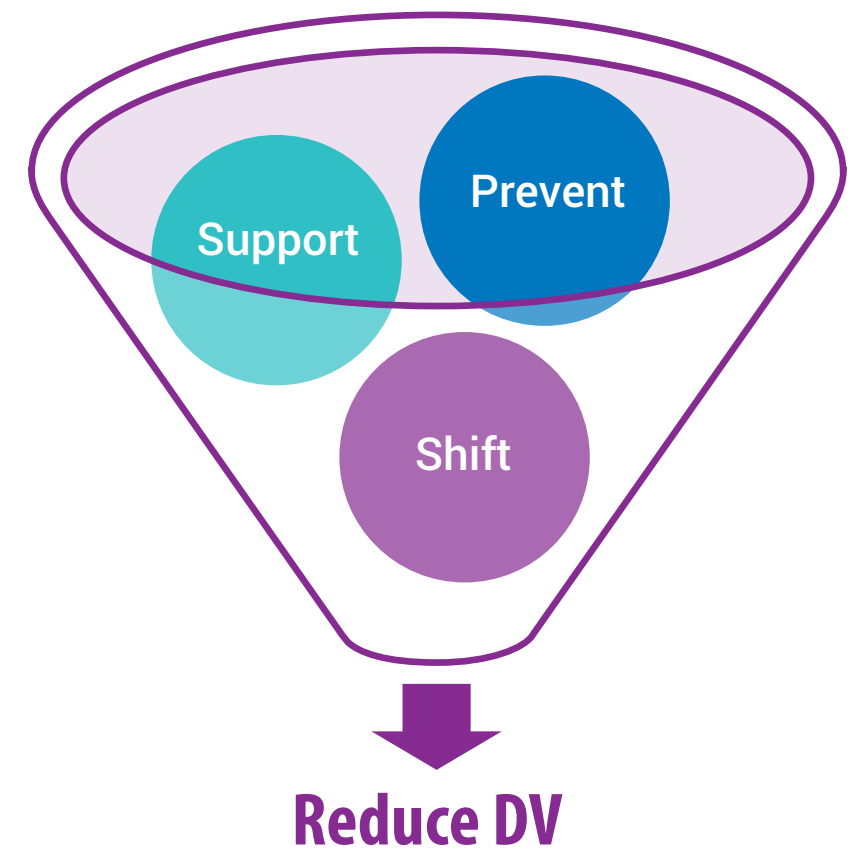
Victims

	female	male
Assault	1,540	530
Uttering threats	174	30
Other violent offences	162	6
Sexual offences	108	8
Criminal harassment	72	9
Indecent or harassing phone calls	37	14
Robbery	4	1
Attempted murder	3	2
Violations causing death	1	0
Total violent offences	2,101	600

In 2018, the rate of **police-reported domestic violence increased** for both females and males in Nova Scotia and across Canada.

We can prevent domestic violence, help victims, and develop better supports.

- **prevent** by disrupting cycles of violence and ensuring that Nova Scotians are better prepared to develop healthy, violence-free relationships
- **support** victims with an improved system of programs that help them rebuild their lives and prevent violence in the future
- **shift** policies and interventions so support systems better respond to people's needs, understand and promote gender equality, and address barriers facing the most vulnerable Nova Scotians



Nova Scotia
Advisory Council on
the Status of Women

The Domestic Violence in Nova Scotia 2019 fact sheet uses the most recent statistics available as of November 19, 2019:

Rates of police-reported intimate partner violence by sex of victim, Nova Scotia and Canada, 2016 to 2018: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (trend file).

Victims of police-reported intimate partner homicide, by sex of victim, Nova Scotia and Canada, 1999-2018: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

Victims of police-reported intimate partner violence, by sex of victim and type of offence, Nova Scotia, 2018: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Victims of police-reported intimate partner violence, by sex of victim and type of offence, Nova Scotia, 2018: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (trend file).