

# Public Perceptions of Domestic Violence

## Highlights

### Seriousness

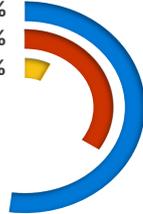


Violence Against women **6.9** Sexual violence **6.9** Domestic violence **6.8**

Average rating on 10-pt scale:  
(1=not at serious problem;  
10=a very serious problem)

### Amount of domestic violence in NS in the last 5 yrs

Stayed the same 52%  
Increased 28%  
Decreased 6%



95%

agree domestic violence is a crime in NS



94%

believe they have a **responsibility to report suspicions of domestic violence to police**

### % Agree

88% Most people in Nova Scotia who experience domestic violence **do not contact the police**

82% believe domestic violence is an issue that the **community should address**

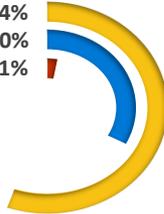
VS.

13% who believe domestic violence is a **private matter**



Number willing to talk about being victims of domestic violence in the last 5 yrs

Increased 64%  
Stayed the same 30%  
Decreased 1%



53%



say **mainly men** commit acts of domestic violence in NS

35%



say **both men and women equally**, and

7%



say **both**, but **men more often**

### Most Likely to be Victims of Domestic Violence

47% Women

29% Children & youth

18% Lower income

16% Any group

13% Older people

70% Domestic violence **can be prevented**

59% It's **hard to understand** why victims of abuse **stay** in violent relationships

53% In some cases, domestic violence **can be provoked**

42% Most victims of abuse **could leave** a violent relationship **if they really wanted to**

### Would seek help for if suspected domestic violence % Definitely/probably

Friend 95%

Family 89%

Neighbour 55%

Co-Worker/employee 52%

Stranger 31%

### Barriers to providing help

29% Nothing would prevent me

20% Concern for **personal safety**

17% Depends on situation/Need to be aware

73%

know where to go to get outside **help, advice, resources** or **support** about a domestic violence issue

Police are top of mind source of support

74%