



INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

This fact sheet summarizes information on intimate partner violence in Nova Scotia and in Canada. The data presented here has been collected by Statistics Canada through the **Incident-Based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey and reflects incidents reported to police**. For this fact sheet, **intimate partners** includes legally married, common-law, separated, divorced, current and former dating partners, and other intimate relationships, for victims aged 15 to 89.

Other relevant sources of data regarding intimate partner violence are available from the police-reported **Homicide Survey** and the **General Social Survey on Victimization**, which collects self-reported victimization data from Canadians aged 15 and over every five years.

Women in Nova Scotia are the predominant victims of intimate partner violence.

In 2014, there were 2,404 victims of police-reported violence by an intimate partner in Nova Scotia.

The vast majority (76%) of victims were female. (See Table 1).

TABLE 1. Victims of police-reported intimate partner violence in Nova Scotia, by sex of victim

| | 2012 | | 2013 | | 2014 | |
|---------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| | Number of victims | Percentage | Number of victims | Percentage | Number of victims | Percentage |
| Female | 2134 | 79% | 1998 | 78% | 1819 | 76% |
| Male | 565 | 21% | 577 | 22% | 585 | 24% |
| Total | 2699 | 100% | 2575 | 100% | 2404 | 100% |

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-Based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (custom data tabulation).

The rate of intimate partner violence is higher for female victims (445.7 per 100,000) than for male victims (150.1 per 100,000 population). Compared to 2013, the rate for 2014 decreased in Nova Scotia by 9% for female victims of intimate partner violence, and remained relatively stable with a 1% increase for male victims. (See Tables 1 and 2).

In 2014, the rate of intimate partner violence involving female victims was lower in Nova Scotia than the national rate. In 2012 and 2013 the rates of intimate partner violence involving females in Nova Scotia were similar to the national rates.

TABLE 2: Intimate Partner Violence Rates for Nova Scotia and Canada, by sex of victim

| | 2012 | | 2013 | | 2014 | |
|-------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male |
| Nova Scotia | 523.9 | 145.0 | 490.4 | 148.2 | 445.7 | 150.1 |
| Canada | 520.1 | 137.5 | 487.9 | 131.2 | 468.2 | 129.0 |

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-Based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (custom data tabulation)

In 2014, the most common intimate partner violence offence was physical assault, followed by uttering threats, for both male and female victims in Nova Scotia (See Table 3).

TABLE 3. Victims of Police-reported intimate partner violence by type of offence and sex of victim, Nova Scotia, 2014

| Type of Offence | Nova Scotia | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
| | Female | | Male | | Total | |
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Violations causing death | 1 | 0.1% | 1 | 0.2% | 2 | 0.1% |
| Attempted Murder | 4 | 0.2% | 6 | 1.0% | 10 | 0.4% |
| Sexual Assaults | 64 | 3.5% | 2 | 0.3% | 66 | 2.7% |
| Physical Assault | 1322 | 72.7% | 486 | 83.1% | 1808 | 75.2% |
| Criminal Harassment | 95 | 5.2% | 10 | 1.7% | 105 | 4.4% |
| Indecent/Harassing Phone Calls | 61 | 3.4% | 30 | 5.1% | 91 | 3.8% |
| Uttering Threats | 170 | 9.3% | 42 | 7.2% | 212 | 8.8% |
| Robbery | 6 | 0.3% | 2 | 0.3% | 8 | 0.3% |
| Other Violent Offences ¹ | 96 | 5.3% | 6 | 1.0% | 102 | 4.2% |
| Total | 1819 | 100% | 585 | 100% | 2404 | 100% |

1. Includes criminal negligence causing bodily harm, abduction, kidnapping, hostage-taking, arson and other violent crimes.

Notes: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Incident-Based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (custom data tabulation)



Nova Scotia
Advisory Council on
the Status of Women

Conseil consultatif sur la
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