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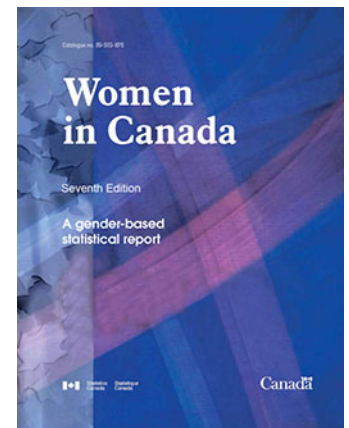
Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report

Women and the Criminal Justice System

by Tina Hotton Mahony, Joanna Jacob and Heather Hobson

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- . not available for any reference period
- .. not available for a specific reference period
- ... not applicable
- 0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
- 0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
- ^P preliminary
- ^r revised
- X suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
- ^E use with caution
- F too unreliable to be published
- * significantly different from reference category ($p < 0.05$)

On June 16, 2017, a correction was made in the first paragraph of the sub-section entitled "Immigrant women report lower rates of violent victimization." Non-immigrant women reported 42 incidents of sexual victimization per 1,000 population, not 43 incidents as was originally stated.

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Women and the Criminal Justice System

Introduction

Violence against women has a harmful impact on the lives of women, their families, and their communities throughout Canada. Victimization research has shown that violence against women is a serious and persistent problem, one with which many women live^{1,2} and one that is compounded for Aboriginal women, many of whom face multiple risk factors.³ This chapter of *Women in Canada* explores the criminal victimization of women and girls as well as their involvement in the criminal justice system as offenders. It covers the types of criminal victimization experienced by females over time, highlighting important differences in violent crime by Aboriginal identity, immigrant status, visible-minority status, and age. The use of formal and informal support services is explored, including changes over time in the use of police services.

Historically, females have accounted for a small proportion of offenders. This means that their offending patterns are often overshadowed by trends that reflect the larger male population. Looking at this issue from a gender-based perspective is important for assessing how the justice and social systems respond to females who offend and for developing gender-informed crime-prevention strategies. In this chapter, trends in the number and types of crimes committed by females will be explored, along with their involvement in the criminal courts and correctional systems. Wherever possible, differences between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal offenders are presented, owing to the over-representation of the former as both victims and offenders.

Female victims of violent crime

Statistics Canada collects data on crime in Canada by means of two complementary sources of information: the quinquennial General Social Survey (GSS) on Canadians' Safety (Victimization)⁴ (for the purposes of this report, the 2014 iteration of this survey is used; it is hereinafter referred to as the "2014 GSS") and the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey.⁵ Although both sources measure crime in Canada, there are important differences in the coverage, scope and methodology of the two surveys, which limit their direct comparability.⁶ The GSS on Canadians' Safety (Victimization) is a sample survey that collects data every five years from the (non-institutionalized) population aged 15 and older in the 10 provinces, while the UCR Survey is an annual census of all *Criminal Code* offences and some federal offences reported to police. The GSS on Canadians' Safety (Victimization) has an important advantage in that it collects information directly from respondents, including information on crimes that were not reported to police. The GSS on Canadians' Safety (Victimization) also collects retrospective information on different types of abuse, such as experiences of violence in childhood, emotional and financial abuse, use of social services, and the personal consequences of victimization. The UCR Survey, however, collects both broader and more detailed information on offences, and is a key source of information on criminal incidents that proceed with formal charges for possible entry into the criminal courts and correctional services. Regardless of the source used, there is a possibility of undercounting victimization as some women (and men) may be uncomfortable disclosing their victimization experiences to survey interviewers or to police authorities.⁷

Self-reported criminal victimization

According to data from the 2014 GSS, almost 20% of Canadians (or about 5.6 million people) aged 15 and older, living in the provinces⁸ reported that they or a member of their household⁹ had been a victim of at least one type of crime in the previous 12 months. The eight types of crime for which data were collected were those in the categories of violent victimization, theft of personal property, and household victimization. In the 2014 GSS,¹⁰ Canadians reported 6.4 million incidents¹¹ of victimization.

Violent victimization incidents accounted for approximately 2.2 million (or slightly more than one-third) of the victimization incidents reported by Canadians in 2014. Violent victimization offences include sexual assault, robbery, and physical assault. Sexual assault offences refer to forced sexual activity; unwanted sexual touching; unwanted grabbing, kissing or fondling; or sexual relations without the victim being able to give consent. Robbery includes theft or attempted theft in which the offender had a weapon or in which an act of violence was committed or the threat of violence was made against the victim. Physical assault includes any physical attack (the victim was hit, slapped,

1. Burczycka, M. 2016. "Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 36, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

2. Sinha, M. 2013. "Measuring violence against women: Statistical trends." *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

3. Boyce, J. 2016. "Victimization of Aboriginal people in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 36, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

4. For more information on the General Social Survey on Canadians' Safety (Victimization), please see <http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=4504> (accessed February 2, 2017).

5. For more information on the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, please see <http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=3302> (accessed February 2, 2017).

6. Perreault, S. 2015. "Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 35, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

7. Sinha, M. 2013. "Measuring violence against women: Statistical trends." *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

8. Perreault, S. 2015. "Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 35, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

9. Although the respondent does report on behalf of the household, we refer to the GSS results as "self-reported victimization" throughout the text.

10. Unless otherwise noted, the rates of victimization and the number of incidents of victimization pertain to incidents having taken place in the 12 months prior to the time of data collection for the 2014 GSS.

11. Perreault, S. 2015. "Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 35, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

grabbed, knocked down, or beaten), any face-to-face threat of physical harm, and any incident where a weapon was present.

Overall in 2014, rates of self-reported violent victimization were higher among women (85 incidents per 1,000 population) than among men (67 incidents per 1,000 population). Among women, physical assault accounted for the greatest number of violent victimization incidents (43 incidents per 1,000 women), followed by sexual assault (37 incidents per 1,000 women). Robbery contributed the fewest incidents (5^{E12} incidents per 1,000 women). Among men, physical assault also accounted for the greatest number of violent victimization incidents (54 incidents per 1,000 men), followed by robbery (8^E incidents per 1,000 men). Incidents of sexual assault accounted for the smallest proportion of violent victimizations of which men were the victims (5^E incidents per 1,000). Overall, rates of sexual assault were much lower among men than among women (Table 1).

Table 1
Number and rate of victims of self-reported violent crimes, by sex and type of crime, 2014

	Sexual Assault		Robbery		Physical Assault		Total Violent Victimization	
	number (thousands)	rate per 1,000	number (thousands)	rate per 1,000	number (thousands)	rate per 1,000	number (thousands)	rate per 1,000
Sex								
Male [†]	80 ^E	5 ^E	113 ^E	8 ^E	786	54	979	67
Female	553	37*	77 ^E	5 ^E	636	43*	1,266	85*

^E use with caution

* statistically significant difference from reference category (p < 0.05)

[†] reference category

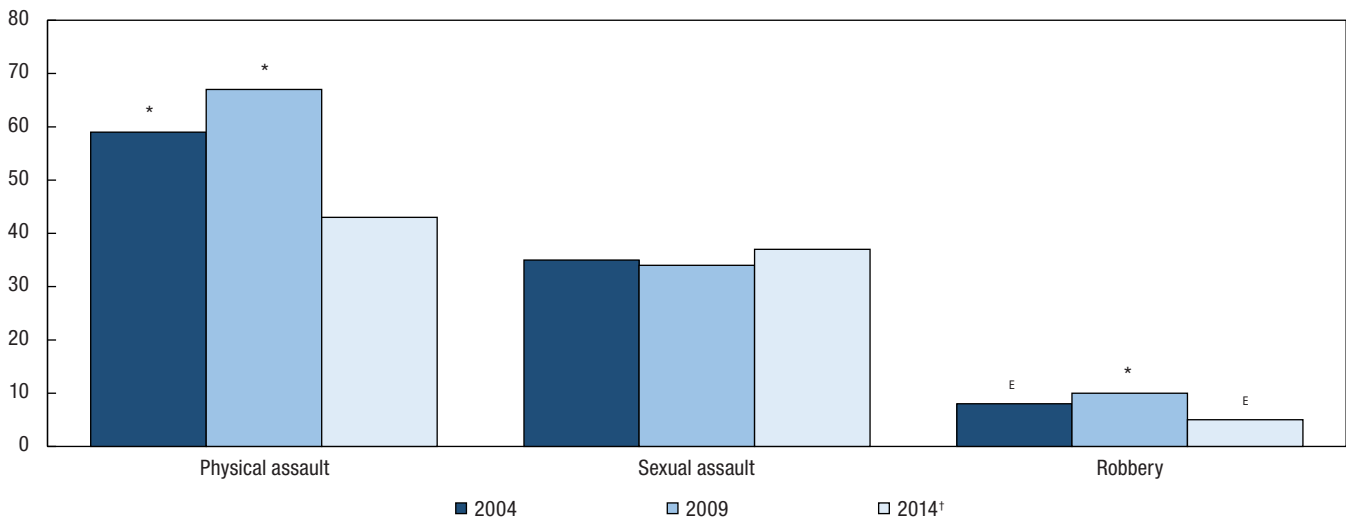
Notes: Rates are calculated per 1,000 population aged 15 and older. Excludes data from the Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut.

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 2014.

In 2014, women reported slightly more than 1.2 million violent victimization incidents, representing 56% of all violent incidents. The rate of violent victimization incidents reported by females in the 2014 GSS was 17% lower than the rate measured in the 2004 GSS (85 incidents per 1,000 women in 2014 compared with 102 incidents per 1,000 women in 2004). The decline in the overall rate of violent victimization among women during this 10-year period was mainly a result of a decrease in reported incidents of physical assault (from 59 incidents per 1,000 population in 2004, to 43 incidents per 1,000 population in 2014, Chart 1).

Chart 1
Rate of females' self-reported victimization, population aged 15 and over, 2004, 2009, and 2014

rate per 1,000 population



^E use with caution

* statistically significant difference from reference category (p < 0.05)

[†] reference group

Note: Excludes data from the Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut.

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 2004, 2009 and 2014.

12. ^E use with caution

The 2014 GSS collected a new measure of sexual assault that had not been collected in previous surveys. In addition to being asked about forced sexual activity and unwanted sexual touching, respondents were also asked about sexual incidents in which they were not able to consent to the sexual act for reasons such as being drugged, intoxicated, manipulated, or forced in ways other than physical. Sexual touching accounted for 71% of reported sexual assaults, followed by forced sexual activity (20%) and being unable to consent (9%).^{13,14} The rate of sexual assault, not including the “not able to consent” question, was 20 incidents per 1,000 population; this rate compares with the rate of 22 incidents per 1,000 population obtained when this question was included.¹⁵ The sexual assault rate of women did not differ significantly between 2004 and 2014¹⁶ (Chart 1).

Police-reported violent crime

Police-reported data from the 2015 UCR survey showed that approximately 52% of victims of crimes¹⁷ reported to the police were female. The most common offence perpetrated against females was common assault, which represents approximately 48% of all violent incidents reported to police (Table 2). The next-most-common offences were uttering threats (12%), sexual assaults (11%), assault with a weapon and assault causing bodily harm (10%), and criminal harassment (6%). The most common offence perpetrated against male victims was also common assault (43%); it was followed by assault with a weapon and assault causing bodily harm (18%), uttering threats (15%), robbery (8%), and other assaults (6%).

Females were over-represented among victims of sexual assault (88% of total incidents) and victims of “other sexual violations”¹⁸ (83% of total incidents) (Table 2). Other offences reported to police that were committed primarily against females included forcible confinement and related offences (79%), criminal harassment (76%), and making threatening and harassing phone calls (71%). All of the victims (100%) of offences under the “commodification of sexual activity” category were female. Offences under this category include purchasing sexual services or communicating for the purpose of purchasing sexual services; receiving a material benefit from the purchase of sexual services; procuring of persons for the purpose of prostitution; and advertising the sale of sexual services. New legislation concerning the commodification of sexual activity came into force in December 2014, and one of its objectives was to target the violence inherent in prostitution. In this context, several of these types of offences are considered crimes against the person under the *Criminal Code*.¹⁹

Males, by comparison, accounted for almost three-quarters of victims of homicide, attempted murder, and aggravated assault, and for approximately two-thirds of victims of robbery. This is consistent with data from 2009.²⁰

13. Perreault, S. 2015. “Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2014.” *Juristat*. Vol. 35, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

14. The small sample size does not allow for disaggregating by sex.

15. Perreault, S. 2015. “Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2014.” *Juristat*. Vol. 35, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

16. The measure of sexual assault in this report includes the new measure of incidents where the respondent was unable to consent.

17. Counts of police-reported crime include victims of all ages.

18. “Other sexual violations” include primarily sexual offences against children (i.e., sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, etc.), whereas some “other sexual offences” involve adults as victims (i.e., voyeurism, bestiality and incest).

19. Allen, M. 2016. “Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2015.” *Juristat*. Vol. 36, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

20. Hotton Mahony, T. 2011. “Women and the Criminal Justice System.” *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report, sixth edition*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 89-503-X.

Table 2
Victims of police-reported crimes, by type of crime, 2015

Type of violent crime	Female victim		Male victim		Females as a percentage of all victims
	number	percent	number	percent	
Homicide	175	0.1	426	0.3	29.1
Attempted murder	193	0.1	616	0.4	23.9
Other violations causing death	36	0.0	52	0.0	40.9
Sexual assaults - all levels	18,626	10.7	2,499	1.5	88.2
Other sexual violations ¹	4,251	2.4	847	0.5	83.4
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	894	0.5	2,356	1.5	27.5
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	17,744	10.2	28,882	17.9	38.1
Assault - level 1 - common assault	84,435	48.4	70,000	43.4	54.7
Other types of assaults ²	2,255	1.3	8,878	5.5	20.3
Forcible confinement, kidnapping or abduction ³	3,268	1.9	848	0.5	79.4
Robbery	6,217	3.6	13,516	8.4	31.5
Extortion	726	0.4	1,445	0.9	33.4
Criminal harassment	10,244	5.9	3,283	2.0	75.7
Threatening or harassing phone calls	3,655	2.1	1,512	0.9	70.7
Uttering threats	20,404	11.7	24,117	15.0	45.8
Commodification of sexual activity	11	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Other violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations ⁴	1,366	0.8	2,026	1.3	40.3
Total	174,500	100.0	161,303	100.0	52.0

1. Other sexual violations include primarily sexual offences against children (i.e., sexual interference; invitation to sexual touching; sexual exploitation; parent/guardian procuring sexual activity; householder permitting sexual activity; etc.). However, some "other sexual offences" involve adults as victims (i.e., voyeurism, bestiality and incest).

2. Includes assaults against peace officers; unlawfully causing bodily harm; criminal negligence causing bodily harm; and other assaults.

3. Includes forcible confinement; kidnapping; abduction under 14, not by a parent/guardian; abduction under 16; removal of children from Canada; abduction under 14 contravening a custody order; abduction under 14, by a parent/guardian.

4. Includes firearms violations and non-consensual distribution of intimate images. The offence of non-consensual distribution of intimate images came into effect in March 2015.

Notes: Counts are based upon the most serious violation against the victim. Incidents where the sex of the victim is unknown were excluded.

Sources: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, 2015.

Police-reported data show that females were most likely to be victimized by someone they knew. The 2015 police-reported data show that spouses (current or former) and other intimate partners committed approximately 42% of violent incidents involving female victims. Other family members and acquaintances accounted for another 43% of violent incidents (Table 3).

Table 3
Female victims of violent crime, by relationship of the accused to the victim, 2015

Type of violent crime	Current / former spouse ⁵		Intimate Relationship ⁶		Other family ⁷		Acquaintance ⁸		Stranger		Total	
	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
Homicide	53	36.1	17	11.6	42	28.6	26	17.7	9	6.1	147	100.0
Attempted murder	45	23.3	29	15.0	44	22.8	28	14.5	47	24.4	193	100.0
Other violations causing death	1	2.8	1	2.8	7	19.4	10	27.8	17	47.2	36	100.0
Sexual Assaults - all levels	923	5.0	1,991	10.7	3,549	19.1	8,235	44.3	3,904	21.0	18,602	100.0
Other sexual violations ¹	26	0.6	408	9.6	1,378	32.5	1,631	38.5	795	18.8	4,238	100.0
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	167	18.7	348	38.9	103	11.5	177	19.8	99	11.1	894	100.0
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	3,575	20.1	4,808	27.1	2,838	16.0	4,152	23.4	2,369	13.4	17,742	100.0
Assault - level 1 - common assault	20,426	24.2	24,613	29.2	13,594	16.1	18,368	21.8	7,419	8.8	84,420	100.0
Other types of assaults ²	110	4.9	153	6.8	71	3.1	664	29.4	1,257	55.7	2,255	100.0
Forcible confinement, kidnapping or abduction ³	916	28.1	1,373	42.1	259	7.9	372	11.4	345	10.6	3,265	100.0
Robbery	69	1.1	217	3.5	65	1.0	650	10.5	5,216	83.9	6,217	100.0
Extortion	39	5.4	149	20.5	49	6.7	234	32.2	255	35.1	726	100.0
Criminal harassment	2,203	21.5	3,025	29.5	598	5.8	3,361	32.8	1,053	10.3	10,240	100.0
Threatening or harassing phone calls	344	9.4	895	24.5	296	8.1	1,302	35.6	818	22.4	3,655	100.0
Uttering threats	2,910	14.3	2,960	14.5	3,093	15.2	8,475	41.5	2,960	14.5	20,398	100.0
Commodification of sexual activity	0	0.0	1	9.1	0	0.0	10	90.9	0	0.0	11	100.0
Other violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations ⁴	152	11.1	149	10.9	186	13.6	543	39.8	335	24.5	1,365	100.0
Total	31,959	18.3	41,137	23.6	26,172	15.0	48,238	27.7	26,898	15.4	174,404	100.0

1. Other sexual violations include primarily sexual offences against children (i.e., sexual interference; invitation to sexual touching; sexual exploitation; parent/guardian procuring sexual activity; householder permitting sexual activity; etc.). However, some "other sexual offences" involve adults as victims (i.e., voyeurism, bestiality and incest).

2. Includes assaults against peace officers; unlawfully causing bodily harm; criminal negligence causing bodily harm; and other assaults.

3. Includes forcible confinement; kidnapping; abduction under 14, not by a parent/guardian; abduction under 16; removal of children from Canada; abduction under 14 contravening a custody order; abduction under 14, by a parent/guardian.

4. Includes firearms violations and non-consensual distribution of intimate images. The offence of non-consensual distribution of intimate images came into effect in March 2015.

5. Includes common-law relationships. Victims under the age of 15 were excluded for data quality reasons.

6. Includes current and former dating relationships as well as "other intimate relationships," such as extra-marital lovers. In some cases, the victim and the accused were living together at the time of the offence.

7. Includes siblings and all others related by blood, marriage (including common-law), adoption or foster care.

8. Includes friends; neighbours; authority figures; business relationships; as well as criminal relationships (such as prostitutes, drug dealers and their clients).

Note: Excludes incidents where the relationship between the victim and the accused, the sex and/or the age of victim was unknown.

Sources: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, 2015.

Sexual assaults against females that were brought to the attention of police were more likely to be committed by an acquaintance (44%), a stranger (21%), or other family member (19%) than by either an intimate partner (11%) or a spouse (5%) (Table 3). The same is true of "other sexual violations": acquaintances accounted for 39% of perpetrators, and other family members accounted for another 33% of perpetrators. Approximately 19% of individuals accused of "other sexual violations" were strangers to their respective victims.

Characteristics of self-reported violent victimization

Individuals' risks of victimization differ. Many factors have been identified in past research as increasing the likelihood of victimization.^{21,22} This section highlights some of these factors for women as measured in the 2014 GSS.

Aboriginal women are more likely than non-Aboriginal women in the Canadian provinces to experience violent victimization

Studies on the victimization of Aboriginal²³ women have consistently shown that this group is more likely to be affected by all types of violent victimization.^{24,25,26,27,28,29} The rate of Aboriginal people (female and male) who reported experiencing violent victimization was more than double that of non-Aboriginal people (160 incidents per 1,000 population compared with 74 incidents per 1,000 population³⁰).

21. Boyce, J. 2016. "Victimization of Aboriginal people in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 36, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

22. Perreault, S. 2015. "Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 35, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

23. There are many different ways, including terminology, to represent the Aboriginal population in Canada. The analysis in this chapter focuses on Aboriginal identity as measured in the 2014 GSS.

Aboriginal identity includes First Nations, Métis and Inuit living in the provinces; this definition is consistent with the population of study for the GSS referred to in this chapter. See "Boyce, J. 2016.

"Victimization of Aboriginal people in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 36, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X" for data that include Aboriginal people living in the Northwest Territories, Yukon, and Nunavut.

24. Boyce, J. 2016. "Victimization of Aboriginal people in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 36, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

25. Perreault, S., and L. Simpson. 2016. "Criminal victimization in the territories, 2014." *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

26. Perreault, S. 2015. "Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 35, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

27. Miladinovic, Z., and L. Mulligan. 2015. "Homicide in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

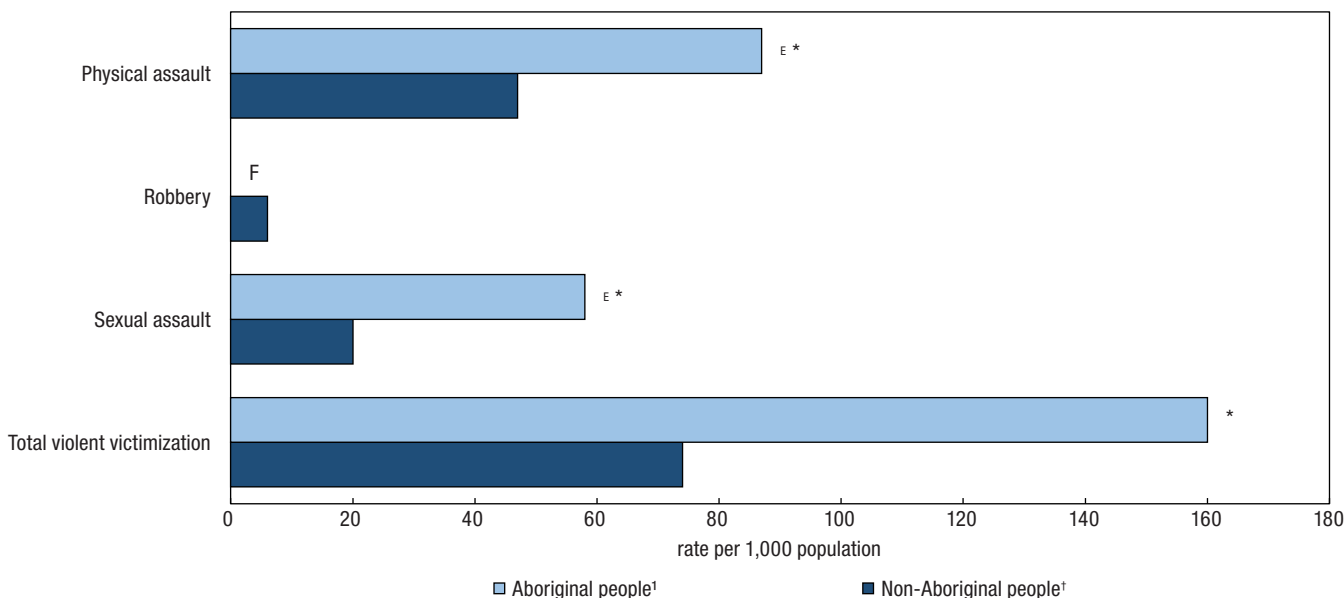
28. Brennan, S. 2011. "Violent victimization of Aboriginal women in the Canadian Provinces, 2009." *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

29. Brzozowski, J.-A., A. Taylor-Butts, and S. Johnson. 2006. "Victimization and offending among the Aboriginal population in Canada." *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-XIE.

30. Data not shown in table form.

Rates of self-reported victimization were higher for Aboriginal people for all types of violent victimizations³¹ (Chart 2). The reported sexual assault rate was nearly three times higher for Aboriginal people than for non-Aboriginal people (58^E incidents per 1,000 population compared with 20 incidents per 1,000 population). Aboriginal people also reported experiencing higher rates of physical assault (87 incidents per 1,000 population versus 47 incidents per 1,000 population). The high rates of victimization experienced by Aboriginal people in 2014 were similar to the rates observed among this group in 2009.^{32,33}

Chart 2
Incidents of victimization by physical assault, sexual assault, and robbery, by Aboriginal identity, population aged 15 and over, 2014



^E use with caution
^F too unreliable to be published
^{*} statistically significant difference from reference category (p < 0.05)
[†] reference group
 1. Includes those who self-identify as First Nations, Métis or Inuit.
Note: Excludes data from the Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut.
Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 2014.

Aboriginal women, in particular, are vulnerable to violent victimization (Table 4). Aboriginal females reported experiencing violent victimizations at a rate (219^E incidents per 1,000 population) 2.7 times higher than that reported by non-Aboriginal females (81 incidents per 1,000 population). First Nations females (living in the provinces) experienced an incidence rate of overall violent victimization of 270^E incidents per 1,000 population, and Métis females experienced violent victimizations at a rate of 177^E incidents per 1,000 population.³⁴ According to a previous study of victimization among Aboriginal people in Canada,³⁵ even when other victimization risk factors were taken into account, Aboriginal women remained at a significantly higher risk for violent criminal victimization.

31. Perreault, S. 2015. "Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 35, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.
 32. Brennan, S. 2011. "Violent victimization of Aboriginal women in the Canadian Provinces, 2009." *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.
 33. Hotton Mahony, T. 2011. "Women and the Criminal Justice System." *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report, sixth edition*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 89-503-X.
 34. Sample size does not allow for a more detailed analysis of First Nations, Métis and Inuit women individually. Given the small sample size, rates marked with an "E" should be interpreted with caution.
 35. Boyce, J. 2016. "Victimization of Aboriginal people in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 36, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

Table 4
Number and rate of female victims of self-reported violent crimes, selected characteristics and type of crime, 2014

Selected Characteristics	Sexual Assault		Robbery		Physical Assault		Total Violent Victimization	
	number (thousands)	rate	number (thousands)	rate	number (thousands)	rate	number (thousands)	rate
Age								
15 to 24 [†]	295	134	F	F	156 ^E	71 ^E	473	215
25 to 34	142 ^E	58 ^{E*}	24 ^E	10 ^E	150	61	315	128*
35 to 44	38 ^E	16 ^{E*}	F	F	115	49	160	68*
45 to 54	53 ^E	20 ^{E*}	F	F	112	43	178	68*
55 to 64	F	F	F	F	83 ^E	35 ^{E*}	99 ^E	42 ^{E*}
65 and older	F	F	F	F	20 ^E	7 ^{E*}	40 ^E	14 ^{E*}
Immigrant status								
Yes [†]	52 ^E	16 ^E	F	F	90 ^E	27 ^E	152 ^E	45 ^E
No	480	42*	68 ^E	6 ^E	541	48*	1,088	96*
Visible minority								
Yes [†]	81 ^E	33 ^E	F	F	62 ^E	25 ^E	153 ^E	62 ^E
No	445	37	68 ^E	6 ^E	568	47*	1,080	89
Aboriginal identity¹								
Non-Aboriginal [†]	500	35	71 ^E	5 ^E	594	41	1,165	81
Aboriginal	F	F	F	F	40 ^E	89 ^E	97 ^{E*}	219 ^{E*}
First Nations	F	F	F	F	F	F	61 ^E	270 ^{E*}
Métis	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	177 ^E
Inuit	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F
Sexual orientation²								
Heterosexual [†]	394	29	58 ^E	4 ^E	551	41	1,002	75
Homosexual / Bisexual	60 ^E	155 ^{E*}	F	F	37 ^E	94 ^{E*}	109 ^E	281 ^{E*}
Drug use in the past month								
Yes [†]	125 ^E	196 ^E	F	F	92 ^E	144 ^E	229	358*
No	408	29*	66 ^E	5 ^E	539	38*	1,012	72
Binge drinking in the past month								
Yes [†]	235 ^E	89 ^E	F	F	195	73	462	174
No	297	25*	45 ^E	4 ^E	434	36*	777	65*
Self-rated mental health								
Good, Very good or Excellent [†]	367	26	58 ^E	4 ^E	522	38	947	68
Poor or Fair	166 ^E	204 ^{E*}	F	F	108 ^E	133*	293	361*
Learning disability								
Yes [†]	65 ^E	122 ^E	F	F	51 ^E	95 ^E	129 ^E	242 ^E
No	468	33*	64 ^E	4 ^E	581	41*	1,113	78*
Mental health-related disability								
Yes [†]	145 ^E	131 ^E	F	F	119	107	289	260
No	388	29*	52 ^E	4 ^E	512	38*	952	70*
Number of evening activities in the past month								
None	F	F	F	F	31 ^E	24 ^{E*}	44 ^E	33 ^{E*}
1 to 10	100 ^E	16 ^{E*}	F	F	176	28*	295	47*
11 to 20	143 ^E	35 ^{E*}	28 ^E	7 ^E	198	49	369	91*
21 or more [†]	294	97	F	F	221	73	540	177

^E use with caution

F too unreliable to publish

* statistically significant difference from reference category ($p < 0.05$)

[†] reference category

1. Aboriginal identity includes First Nations, Métis and Inuit.

2. Sexual orientation was asked only of respondents 18 years of age and over.

Notes: Rates are calculated per 1,000 population aged 15 and older. Excludes data from the Northwest Territories, Yukon, and Nunavut. Values may not add up to totals because figures have been rounded.

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 2014.

Immigrant women report lower rates of violent victimization

As measured in the 2014 GSS, the rates of self-reported violent victimization were lower among immigrant³⁶ women than among non-immigrant women³⁷ (Table 4). Immigrant women reported lower rates of both sexual victimization (16^E incidents per 1,000 immigrant women) and physical assault (27^E incidents per 1,000 immigrant women) than non-immigrant women (42 incidents of sexual victimization per 1,000 population and 48 incidents of physical assault per 1,000 population). Among immigrant women, no statistically significant difference in rates of assault or overall victimization, between recent immigrants³⁸ and those who immigrated prior to 2000, was found.

36. Respondents were asked whether they were born in Canada or born outside Canada. Respondents who were not born in Canada were asked when they first arrived in Canada. This variable therefore includes all individuals born outside Canada who first arrived in Canada from prior to 1946 through to 2014.

37. Past research has shown that there are potential differences in reporting rates by ethno-cultural background and number of years in Canada. See "McKenna, K.M.J. 2016. "Violence against women in Canada." *Feminist Issues: Race, Class and Sexuality*, 6th Edition. Mandell, N., and J.L. Johnson, ed. Toronto: Pearson Education."

38. To allow more detailed analysis, "recent immigrants" include individuals who immigrated to Canada between 2000 and 2014 (the time of the survey).

The rate of violent victimization observed for women who belonged to a visible minority group—and women who did not belong to a visible-minority group did not differ significantly.^{39,40} The rate of self-reported sexual assault among women belonging to a visible-minority group was similar to that observed among women who did not belong to a visible-minority group. However, the rate of physical assault reported by women belonging to a visible-minority group was nearly 53% lower than that reported by women who did not belong to a visible-minority group—25^E incidents per 1,000 population versus 47 incidents per 1,000 population. Immigrant men (43^E incidents per 1,000 population) and men belonging to a visible-minority group (48^E incidents per 1,000 population) were significantly less likely than non-immigrant men (75 incidents per 1,000 population) and men who did not belong to a visible-minority group (71 incidents per 1,000 population) to report incidents of victimization.⁴¹

Homosexual and bisexual women are more likely to be victimized than heterosexual women

Research on the victimization of minority groups shows that individuals, who self-identify as homosexual or bisexual,⁴² are much more likely than individuals who self-identify as heterosexual^{43,44,45} to experience victimization. As measured in the 2014 GSS, the rate of victimization of women, who identified as homosexual or bisexual, was more than 3.5 times that of women who identified as heterosexual (281^E incidents per 1,000 population compared with 75⁴⁶ incidents per 1,000 population, Table 4). Compared with homosexual or bisexual women, the rate of victimization among homosexual or bisexual men was less than half (121^E incidents per 1,000 population).⁴⁷

Young women are more likely to experience violent victimization

The 2014 GSS showed that rates of victimization declined with age, with reports of victimization being highest among younger women. The rate of violent victimization was the highest among women aged 15 to 24 (215 incidents per 1,000 population); the next-highest rate was observed among women aged 25 to 34 (128 incidents per 1,000 population) (Table 4). The rate was significantly lower for women aged 35 to 44 and women aged 45 to 54 (68 incidents per 1,000 population for both groups). Women aged 55 to 64 reported being victims of violent victimization at a rate of 42^E incidents per 1,000 population. Canadian women aged 65 and older reported the lowest rates of violent victimization among women of all the age groups: 14^E incidents per 1,000 population. The negative relationship between the rate of victimization and age was also observed among men,⁴⁸ for whom rates of victimization were highest before the age of 35: 114 incidents per 1,000 population among men aged 15 to 24, and 107 incidents per 1,000 population among men aged 25 to 34. The lowest rates appeared among men aged 65 and older (11^E incidents per 1,000 population).

Although the overall rates of victimization were highest among the youngest age group (15 to 24 years old) for both males and females, females reported experiences of victimization at a rate that was nearly 1.9 times higher than that observed among males. For young women, the rate of self-reported sexual assault contributed the largest proportion of incidents to the overall violent victimization rate (134 incidents per 1,000 population); physical assault contributed the next-largest proportion (71^E incidents per 1,000 population). Young women aged 15 to 24 reported higher rates of sexual assault than women in any other age group (Table 4). Physical assault was the most common type of violent victimization experienced by young men aged 15 to 24 (77⁴⁹ incidents per 1,000 population); reported rates of sexual assault for men were too unreliable to publish given the small sample sizes.

39. Given the sample size, it was not possible to look at specific visible-minority groups. Arrival of immigrants to Canada is set to 15 years prior to the 2014 GSS in order to allow sufficient sample size for analysis.

40. There is considerable overlap in the immigrant and visible-minority populations. Slightly more than 55% of immigrants are members of a visible-minority group. Slightly more than 75% of members of visible-minority groups are immigrants. The same proportions result when the population is separated by sex.

41. Data for men are not shown in the table.

42. The 2014 GSS asked respondents to describe their sexual orientation by selecting one of the following response categories: (1) heterosexual (sexual relations with persons of the opposite sex), (2) homosexual (sexual relations with persons of the same sex), or (3) bisexual (sexual relations with persons of both sexes). For reasons of sample size, respondents who reported being homosexual or bisexual are examined together. The term "homosexual" rather than the terms "gay" or "lesbian" is used to reflect the way the data are collected in the GSS.

43. Perreault, S. 2015. "Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 35, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

44. Perreault, S., and S. Brennan. 2010. "Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2009." *Juristat*. Vol. 30, no. 2. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

45. Beauchamp, D. 2008. *Sexual Orientation and Victimization, 2004*. Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics Profile Series, no. 16. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85F0033M.

46. Although these rates are statistically significant, they should be used with caution given the small sample size.

47. Rates are based on self-reported data relating to incidents having taken place in the 12 months prior to the time of data collection for the 2014 GSS. Rates for men are not shown in tables.

48. Rates for men are not shown in the table.

49. This rate is not shown in the table.

Women report a large proportion of violent incidents occur at a private residence or in the workplace

Approximately one-third of incidents of non-spousal violence⁵⁰ against women (35%) and men (32%) occurred in the victim's home or another private residence. Commercial or institutional establishments (often places of work⁵¹) were reported as the location for nearly 40%⁵² of victimizations. By comparison, fewer incidents (21%⁵³) occurred on the street or in a public place.⁵⁴ Respondents reported that more than half of the robberies had occurred in their homes or in the surrounding area, or in another private residence rather than on the street or in another public area. Robberies also accounted for the highest percentage of violent victimizations in the home for both females (64%⁵⁵) and males (51%). About 30% of sexual assaults reported by women occurred in their homes or in another private residence.⁵⁶

Many incidents of violent victimization reported in the 2014 GSS occurred in individuals' place of work. This is consistent with findings from the 2004 GSS.⁵⁷ In the 2014 GSS, women reported that 30% of the violent incidents of which they had been victims had occurred in the workplace, while men reported that about one-quarter of such incidents had occurred there. Women reported a large proportion of incidents of assault (38%) and incidents of sexual assault (23%⁵) as having occurred in the workplace. Slightly more than 25% of incidents of physical assault reported by men occurred in the workplace; the number of incidents of sexual assault in the workplace of which men reported being the victims was too unreliable to publish.

Drug use, binge drinking, and frequency of evening activities are associated with heightened risk of violent victimization for women

Research has shown that some lifestyle activities increase one's vulnerability to victimization, including the use of drugs,⁵⁸ binge drinking, and the frequency of evening activities outside of the house.^{59,60,61,62} Women who stated that they had used drugs during the month preceding the survey recorded a rate of victimization five times higher than that recorded for women who did not report drug use (358 incidents per 1,000 women compared with 72 incidents per 1,000 women, Table 4). Breaking this down by type of violent victimization showed that women who used drugs reported rates of sexual victimization that were about seven times higher than those reported by women who did not use drugs (196^E incidents per 1,000 women compared with 29 incidents per 1,000 women). Women who reported drug use also reported assault at a rate that was about four times higher than the rate of assault reported by women who did not report drug use (144^E incidents per 1,000 women compared with 38 incidents per 1,000 women). Similarly, men who reported drug use reported a higher rate of violent victimization than men who were not drug users (209 to 52 per 1,000 men⁶³). However, for men, approximately 80% of the total violent victimization rate involved incidents of physical assault (167 of 209 incidents per 1,000 men) as opposed to sexual victimization.⁶⁴

Binge drinking, defined as the consumption of at least five alcoholic beverages on a single occasion, at least once in the month preceding the survey, was also associated with a higher rate of victimization for women. The overall rate of victimization for women, who reported at least one instance of binge drinking, was more than double that observed among women who did not binge-drink in the previous month—174 incidents per 1,000 women versus 65 incidents per 1,000 women (Table 4). In regard to sexual assault, the rate was higher for women who reported binge drinking (89^F incidents per 1,000 women) than for women who did not binge-drink (25 incidents per 1,000 women). Men who reported at least one instance of binge drinking in the month preceding the survey had a rate of violent victimization that was more than double that observed among men who reported no binge drinking (102 incidents per 1,000 men versus 50 incidents per 1,000 men). This was due mainly to the higher rate of physical assault (physical assault accounted for 85 incidents of the 102 incidents reported per 1,000 men).

The frequency of evening activities⁶⁵—which could include working; attending night classes; attending evening meetings; volunteering; going out to bars, clubs or pubs; going out to restaurants, shops, or sports events—was also associated with a higher rate of violent incidents for women. In particular, the victimization rate for women, who reported having taken part in more than 20 evening activities in an average month, was slightly more than five

50. The location of incidents was measured in the GSS incident file; it does not include incidents of spousal violence.

51. Other locations may also be places of work.

52. Includes both males and females. For reasons of sample size, incidents in commercial or institutional establishments and incidents on the street or in a public place could not be disaggregated by sex.

53. Includes both males and females for reasons of sample size.

54. Perreault, S. 2015. "Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 35, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

55. Percentages not shown in table form.

56. In order to examine the type of victimization by location and by sex, "location of incident" is defined as private (home or other private residence) or public (commercial or institutional establishment, street, or other) location.

57. Gannon, M., and K. Mihorean. 2005. "Criminal victimization in Canada, 2004." *Juristat*. Vol. 25, no. 7. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-XPE.

58. Includes the use of marijuana, hashish, hashish oil, any other product derived from cannabis, or any other non-prescription drug (for example, magic mushrooms, cocaine, speed, methamphetamines, ecstasy, phencyclidine (also known as "PCP"), mescaline or heroin).

59. Perreault, S. 2015. "Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 35, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

60. Boyce, J. 2016. "Victimization of Aboriginal people in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 36, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

61. Perreault, S., and S. Brennan. 2010. "Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2009." *Juristat*. Vol. 30, no. 2. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

62. Besserer, S., and C. Trainor. 2000. "Criminal Victimization in Canada, 1999." *Juristat*. Vol. 20, no. 10. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-XIE.

63. Rates for men are not shown in the table.

64. Rates for men relating to sexual assault were too unreliable to publish.

65. Respondents were asked to state the average number of evening activities in which they take part outside the home in a month.

times higher than that of women who reported no evening activities during an average month—177 incidents per 1,000 women versus 33^E incidents per 1,000 women—and nearly four times that of women who reported going out for 1 to 10 evening activities per month on average —177 incidents per 1,000 women versus 47 incidents per 1,000 women.

The rate of sexual assault for women who reported having taken part in more than 20 evening activities was six times higher than that reported by women who had taken part in 1 to 10 evening activities per month—97 incidents per 1,000 women versus 16^E incidents per 1,000 women. In addition, this rate was more than double that reported by women who went out for 11 to 20 evening activities per month—97 incidents per 1,000 women versus 35^E incidents per 1,000 women. Women also reported a higher rate of physical assault (73 incidents per 1,000 women) when they went out for more than 20 evening activities than when they did not go out (24^E incidents per 1,000 women) or went out for 1 to 10 evening activities (28 incidents per 1,000 women). Men who went out for more than 20 evening activities had a violent victimization rate (114 incidents per 1,000 men)—three times higher than that observed for men who did not go out at all (36^E incidents per 1,000 men) or men who went out for 1 to 10 evening activities (36 incidents per 1,000 men) and about double the rate observed for men who went out for 11 to 20 evening activities (63 incidents per 1,000 men⁶⁶). The rate of violent victimization for men by frequency of evening activities largely reflected physical assaults (93 incidents out of 114 incidents per 1,000 men for more than 20 evening activities).

Mental health is associated with the risk of violent victimization for women

Research has demonstrated that the risk of violent victimization is higher among those with poorer mental health.^{67,68} As Perreault discussed in his report,⁶⁹ the causal direction of this relationship cannot be determined: the mental health condition of victims of violence may have existed prior to the victimization or may be the result of their victimization. The 2014 GSS surveyed respondents on daily activity limitations related to a mental-health-related disability or a learning or developmental disability. Respondents were also asked to assess their mental health on a scale of “poor” to “excellent.”

Women who rated their mental health as “fair” or “poor” had a violent victimization rate five times higher than that of women who assessed their mental health as “good”, “very good” or “excellent” (361 incidents per 1,000 population versus 68 incidents per 1,000 population, Table 4). Men who rated their mental health as “fair” or “poor” had a violent victimization rate slightly more than four times that of men who assessed their mental health as “good”, “very good” or “excellent” (242^E incidents per 1,000 men versus 58 incidents per 1,000 men).

As with some of the other risk factors for victimization, examining the type of violent victimization by sex indicates differences in risks among women and men. Women who assessed their mental health as “fair” or “poor” reported being victims of sexual assault at a rate that was close to eight times higher than that of women who assessed their mental health as “good”, “very good” or “excellent” (204^E incidents per 1,000 population versus 26 incidents per 1,000 population). The rate of assault for women who assessed their mental health as “fair” or “poor” was more than three times higher than the rate of assault for women who assessed their mental health as “good”, “very good” or “excellent” (133 incidents per 1,000 women versus 38 incidents per 1,000 women). For men, the assault rate contributed 81% of the overall violent victimization rate observed among men who assessed their mental health as “fair” or “poor” (assault accounted for 197^E incidents of 242^E incidents per 1,000 men⁷⁰).

66. Rates for men are not shown in the table.

67. All terminology in this section reflects the terminology used in the GSS data collection.

68. Rates for men are not shown in the table.

69. Perreault, S. 2015. “Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2014.” *Juristat*. Vol. 35, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

70. Rates for men are not shown in the table. Note: Sexual assault and robbery rates are too unreliable to publish.

Victims of childhood assault

Many victimization studies provide evidence that there is a strong relationship between experiencing assault during childhood and being at a greater likelihood of experiencing incidents of victimization as an adult.^{71,72} In 2014, questions were added to the GSS to measure childhood assault. These items examine incidents of victimization (including incidents of physical assault and sexual assault) that occurred before the age of 15, where the perpetrator was an adult.

Overall, 30% of Canadians (27% of women and 32% of men) reported having experienced physical or sexual assault before the age of 15. Women were more likely than men to have experienced sexual assault during childhood (5% versus 1%), and were twice as likely as men to have experienced both physical and sexual assault (6% versus 3%).⁷³

More than half of female (59%) and male (53%) victims of childhood physical or sexual assault indicated that a parent⁷⁴ was responsible for the abuse.⁷⁵ However, distinguishing between the types of assault shows that this kind of relationship applies mainly to physical assault and to a lesser extent to sexual assault.

Female victims of childhood sexual assault were more likely than male victims to report having been victimized by a relative (31% versus 4%)⁷⁵ or a parent (14% versus 13%). Male victims of childhood sexual assault were most often victimized by a stranger (35%), a friend, a current or ex-boyfriend or girlfriend, a neighbour, an acquaintance (24%), or someone else⁷⁶ (24%).

More than 90% of victims of childhood assault did not talk to or see the police or child welfare services regarding the assault they experienced. Females were more likely than males to talk to police or child welfare services (9% versus 5%). Female victims were also more likely than male victims to talk to someone informally, such as a family member or a friend, about the abuse they experienced (37% versus 27%).

71. Perreault, S. 2015. "Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 35, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

72. Parks, S.E., K.H. Kim, N.L. Day, M.A. Garza, and C.A. Larkby. 2011. "Lifetime self-reported victimization among low-income, urban women: The relationship between childhood maltreatment and adult violent victimization." *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. Vol. 6, no. 6. p. 1111–1128.

73. Perreault, S. 2015. "Criminal Victimization in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 35, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X: Text box 3 chart.

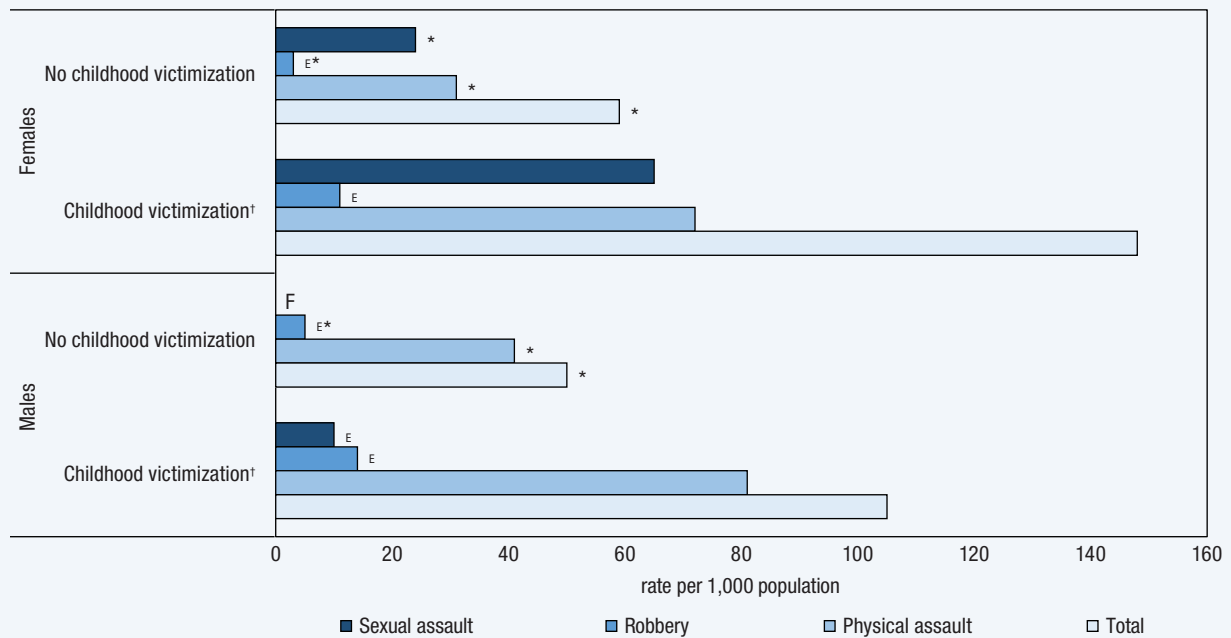
74. Includes a parent or a step-parent.

75. Respondents are asked to report on the relationship with respect to **the most serious incident of abuse** only. In cases involving multiple incidents and different perpetrators, only the relationship related to the most serious incident of abuse is captured by the GSS.

76. "Someone else" includes a teacher, a babysitter / nanny, a classmate, someone known by sight only, and "other-specify."

Victims of childhood assault (continued)

Chart 3
Child victimization¹ and rates of adult victimization, by sex, population aged 15 and over, 2014



^E use with caution
^F too unreliable to be published
 * statistically significant difference from reference category (p < 0.05)
[†] reference group (Childhood victimization v. no childhood victimization for each sex)
 1. Physically and/or sexually assaulted by an adult before the age of 15.

Note: Values may not add up to totals because figures have been rounded. Excludes data from the Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut.

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 2014.

Data from the 2014 GSS support research showing a relationship between childhood abuse and adulthood victimization (Chart 3). Overall, women who experienced abuse (incidents of sexual and/or physical assault) during childhood reported violent victimization⁷⁷ as adults at a rate that was more than double that observed among women who did not experience sexual and/or physical assault before the age of 15 (148 incidents per 1,000 women compared with 59 incidents per 1,000 women). Women who experienced physical and/or sexual assault during childhood reported experiences of adult sexual victimization at a rate that was nearly three times higher than that reported by women who did not experience assault during childhood—65 incidents per 1,000 women versus 24 per 1,000 women). The overall rate of violent victimization among men was just over two times higher among men who had experienced physical and / or sexual assault by an adult before the age of 15, compared with men who had not (105 incidents per 1,000 men compared with 50 incidents per 1,000 men).

Self-reported spousal violence

Studies have shown the harmful impact of spousal⁷⁸ violence—a reality for many Canadians—on women, families, and communities across Canada.^{79,80,81} The 2014 GSS calculated spousal violence for the married and common-law population and for the population that was separated or divorced, but had contact with an ex-spouse or ex common-law partner during the previous five years.⁸² In the 2014 GSS, approximately 4% of both women (342,000) and men (418,000) in Canada reported having been a victim of spousal violence in the previous five years.

77. In the 12 months preceding the survey.

78. "Spousal" includes legally married spouses, common-law partners, and same-sex partners. It also includes separated and divorced spouses who reported having experienced violence within the five-year period preceding the survey. It excludes those who refused to state their marital status.

79. Burczycka, M. 2016. "Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 36, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

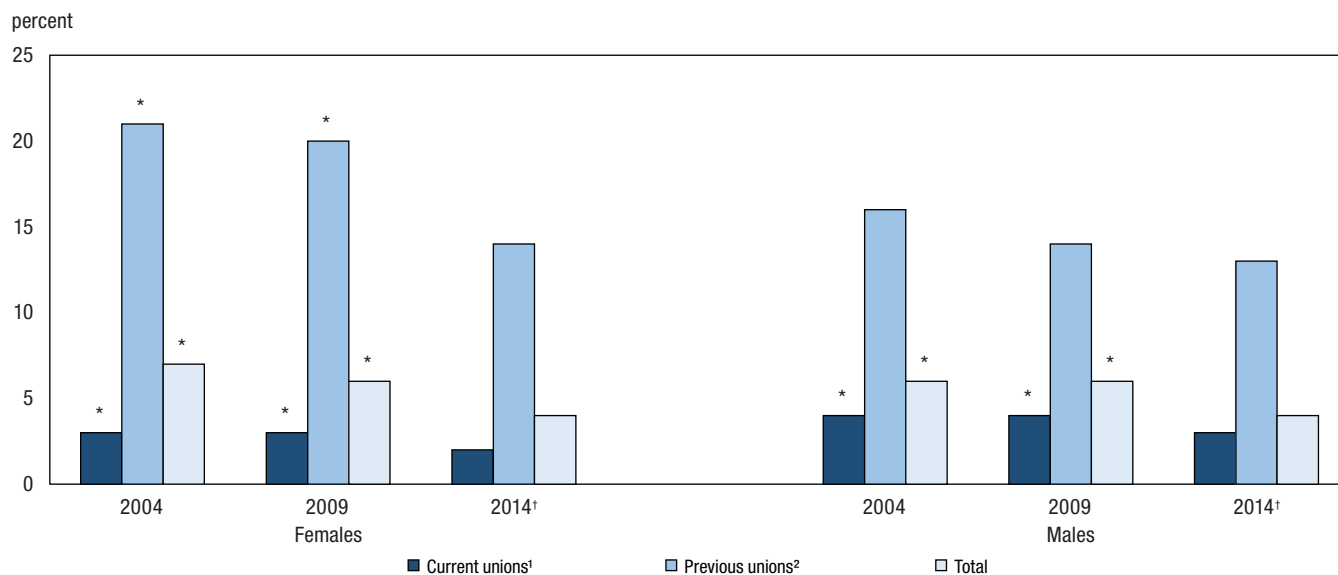
80. Sinha, M. 2013. "Measuring violence against women: Statistical trends." *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

81. Brennan, S. 2011. "Violent victimization of Aboriginal women in the Canadian Provinces, 2009." *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

82. Unless noted otherwise, the section on spousal violence using the GSS refers to the five years preceding the 2014 GSS.

The overall proportion of self-reported spousal violence declined between 2004 and 2014 (Chart 4). The percentage of women who reported some kind of physical⁸³ or sexual⁸⁴ spousal violence fell from 7% in 2004 to 4% in 2014. The percentage of men reporting some kind of physical or sexual spousal violence also decreased, from 6% in 2004 to 4% in 2014. Both women and men reported a higher percentage of violence from previous unions than from their current unions (Chart 4).

Chart 4
Victims of self-reported spousal violence within the last five years, by sex and current and previous unions, population aged 15 and over, 2004, 2009, 2014



* statistically significant difference from reference category ($p < 0.05$)

[†] reference group

1. Includes legally married, common-law and same-sex spouses. Excludes people who refused to state their marital status.

2. Includes those separated from a legal marriage, a common-law relationship, or a same-sex relationship, as well as divorced spouses. Only those in contact with a former spouse or a former common-law partner in the last five years were included in this analysis.

Notes: Responses of "Don't know" and "Not stated" were included in the calculation but are not presented in the chart. Therefore, the sum of percentages may not add up to 100%. Excludes data from the Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut.

Sources: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 2004, 2009 and 2014.

Despite similar overall proportions of females and males experiencing spousal violence, the severity and frequency of spousal violence differed between females and males. Nearly half of both women and men who reported spousal violence experienced a single such incident. However, more women (20%) than men (13%^E) reported experiencing 11 or more violent incidents⁸⁵ (Table 5). Women reported about twice as many incidents involving the most serious forms of physical and sexual violence⁸⁶ as men did (34% versus 16%^E). Women were also more likely than men to report having sustained physical injuries (40% versus 24%) and having feared for their lives (31% versus 8%^E). Of those women who reported injuries, 8%^E reported receiving medical attention for those injuries.

Immigrant women and men reported victimization by a spouse less frequently than non-immigrants; this is similar to what was observed with respect to the reporting of overall victimization rates by immigrants.⁸⁷ Approximately 3% of immigrant women and 4% of non-immigrant women reported experiencing spousal violence.⁸⁸ Immigrant men (3%^E) were also less likely than non-immigrant men (5%) to report spousal abuse. Differences based on immigrant status were statistically significant for both women and men.

Experiencing abuse in childhood was associated with the risk of violence and of emotional and financial abuse by a spouse, regardless of the sex of the victim. Both women and men who had experienced childhood abuse reported a higher percentage of violence by a spouse (6% each) than women and men who had not experienced childhood abuse (3%⁸⁹ each). Women (21%) and men (20%) who experienced abuse in childhood also more frequently reported emotional and financial abuse than women (10%) and men (12%) who were not abused in childhood. Differences

83. Physical spousal violence measures include the spouse threatening to hit the respondent with the fist; throwing anything that could have hurt; pushing, grabbing or shoving the respondent; slapping, kicking, biting or hitting the respondent; hitting the respondent with something that could have hurt; beating, choking or using, or threatening to use, a gun or a knife.

84. Sexual violence by a spouse includes forced unwanted sexual activity, forced sexual activity, and sexual activity where the respondent was not able to consent.

85. For those who experienced 11 or more incidents of abuse, there was no statistically significant difference.

86. The most serious forms of sexual and physical violence include being sexually assaulted, beaten, choked, and threatened with a gun or a knife.

87. Past research has shown that there are potential differences in reporting rates, by ethno-cultural background and number of years in Canada. See "McKenna, K.M.J. 2016. "Violence against women in Canada." *Feminist Issues: Race, Class and Sexuality*, 6th Edition. Mandell, N., and J.L. Johnson, ed. Toronto: Pearson Education." However, the sample size of the immigrant population was not large enough for the study to explore this in further detail.

88. Percentages not shown in table.

89. Percentages not shown in table.

in terms of spousal violence and emotional and financial abuse between those who did and those who did not experience childhood abuse were statistically significant for both women and men.

Table 5
Severity of spousal¹ violence reported by female and male victims, 2014

	Female victim [†]		Male victim	
	number (thousands)	percent	number (thousands)	percent
Most serious type of violence				
Threatened, threw something	54	16	75 ^E	18
Pushed, shoved, slapped	137	40	128	31*
Kicked, bit, hit, hit with something	33	10	147	35*
Sexually assaulted, beaten, choked, threatened with a gun or knife	118	34	69 ^E	16 ^{E*}
Percent injured				
Physical injury	135	40	98	24*
No physical injury	203	59	315	75*
Not stated / Don't know	F	F	F	F
Percent receiving medical attention				
Received medical attention	26 ^E	8 ^E	F	F
Did not receive medical attention	108	32	87 ^E	21*
No physical injury	203	60	315	75*
Not stated / Don't know	F	F	F	F
Percent fearing for their lives				
Feared for their lives	106	31	35	8 ^{E*}
Did not fear for their lives	229	67	381	91*
Not stated / Don't know	F	F	F	F
Number of incidents				
1 incident	153	45	202	48
2 to 5 incidents	79	23	128	31
6 to 10 incidents	29 ^F	8 ^E	16	4 ^{E*}
11 or more	67	20	55	13 ^E
Don't know / not stated	10 ^F	F	F	F
Total spousal violence	342	100	418	100

^E use with caution

F too unreliable to be published

* statistically significant difference from the reference group at $p < 0.05$

[†] reference group

1. Includes legally married, common-law, and same-sex spouses. Also includes separated and divorced spouses who reported having experienced violence in the five-year period preceding the survey.

Notes: Values may not add up to totals because figures have been rounded. Excludes data from the Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 2014.

The results of extensive research indicate that Aboriginal people also experience higher rates of spousal violence in Canada.^{90,91,92,93,94,95} The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada⁹⁶ has called for an increase in the collection and publication of data on the criminal victimization of Aboriginal people, including data related to homicide and family violence victimization with the goal of reducing the high rates of family victimization.

As measured in the 2014 GSS, the likelihood of Aboriginal women reporting that they had experienced spousal violence was more than three times that of non-Aboriginal women doing so (10%^E versus 3%, respectively). The difference in this regard between non-Aboriginal men (4%) and Aboriginal men (8%^E) was not statistically significant.

Also according to the 2014 GSS, nearly twice as many Aboriginal women who reported spousal violence experienced the most serious forms of sexual and physical violence (61%^E), whereas this was the case for 32% of non-Aboriginal women. Aboriginal women also reported that they feared for their lives at a greater frequency than did non-Aboriginal women (53%^E versus 29%).

90. Boyce, J. 2016. "Victimization of Aboriginal people in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 36, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

91. Burczycka, M. 2016. "Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 36, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

92. Status of Women Canada. 2015. *Action Plan to Address Family Violence and Violent Crimes Against Aboriginal Women and Girls*. <http://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/violence/efforts/aboriginal-autochtones-eng.html> (accessed August 18, 2016).

93. Sinha, M. 2013. "Measuring violence against women: Statistical trends." *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

94. Brennan, S. 2011. "Violent victimization of Aboriginal women in the Canadian Provinces, 2009." *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

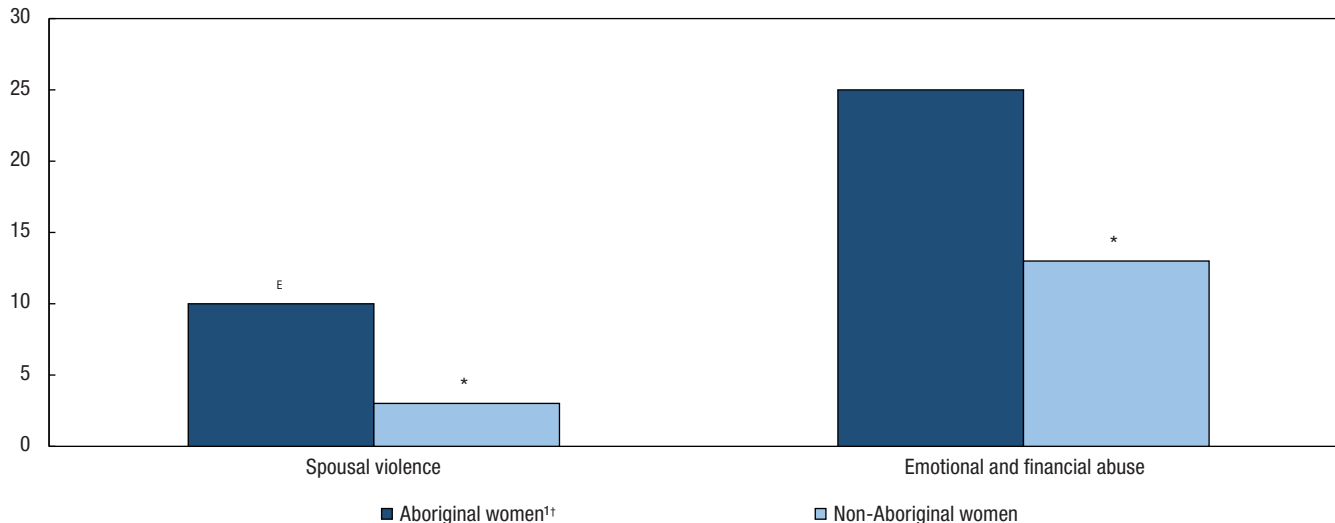
95. Brownridge, D.A. 2008. "Understanding the elevated risk of partner violence against Aboriginal women: A comparison of two nationally representative surveys of Canada." *Journal of Family Violence*. Vol. 23, p. 353.

96. Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. 2015. *Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action*. http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/File/2015/Findings/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf (accessed August 26, 2016).

Chart 5

Proportion of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal women reporting spousal violence and/or emotional and financial abuse, population aged 15 and over, 2014

percent



^E use with caution

* statistically significant difference from reference category ($p < 0.05$)

[†] reference group

1. Includes those who identify as First Nations, Métis or Inuit.

Notes: Includes legally married, common-law and same-sex spouses. Excludes people who refused to state their marital status. Responses of "Don't know" and "Not stated" were included in the calculation but are not presented in the chart. Estimates of spousal violence include abuse that occurred over the last five years. Emotional and financial abuse are lifetime estimates, but were asked only of respondents who had a spouse or common-law partner within the last five years. Excludes data from Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut.

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 2014.

Aboriginal women (25%) were nearly twice as likely as non-Aboriginal women (13%) to report having experienced emotional or financial abuse (Chart 5). While the proportion of non-Aboriginal women who reported emotional or financial abuse declined significantly between 2009 and 2014 (from 34% in 2009 to 25% in 2015)⁹⁷, no statistically significant decrease in the proportion of Aboriginal women who reported abuse was evident. Aboriginal men (20%) were not statistically more likely than non-Aboriginal men (15%) to report being victims of emotional or financial abuse.

The proportion of immigrant women who reported experiences of emotional or financial abuse (12%) was statistically comparable with that observed among non-immigrant women (14%). On the other hand, immigrant men were more likely (17%) than non-immigrant men (14%) to report being emotionally or financially abused by a spouse.

Violence in dating relationships

Intimate-partner violence encompasses a broad range of romantic partnerships, including dating relationships and spousal relationships.⁹⁸ The 2014 GSS includes several questions on dating⁹⁹ violence that measure emotional abuse,¹⁰⁰ physical violence, and sexual violence experienced over the previous five years.

Nearly 1 in 10 (9%) individuals who reported having been in dating relationships during the previous five years reported experiencing at least one of these kinds of violence. Attempting to limit contact with family or friends, name calling, or threatening behaviours were the types most commonly reported by both women (8%) and men (6%). Slightly more women (4%) than men (3%) reported experiencing physical abuse in a dating relationship. Of those who reported having been in a dating relationship in the previous five years, 1% reported sexual violence.

97. Hotton Mahony, T. 2011. "Women and the Criminal Justice System." *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report, sixth edition*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 89-503-X.

98. Burczykca, M. 2016. "Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile, 2014." *Juristat* Vol. 36, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

99. Dating includes being with a partner whom the respondent does not identify as a marital partner. This can include someone with whom the respondent has lived for less than five years and whom the respondent does not consider a marital partner.

100. Emotional abuse was measured through the question: "Has anyone you were dating tried to limit your contact with family or friends, called you names to make you feel bad, or threatened to harm you or someone close to you?"

Women's use of formal support services increased

The impact on women of violence perpetrated by their spouse is reflected in their use of informal and formal services. In the five years preceding the 2014 GSS, women who were victims of spousal violence were much more likely (80%) than male victims (58%) to discuss any such incident with someone they knew (a family member, a friend, or a neighbour; a co-worker; a doctor or a nurse; or a spiritual advisor) (Table 6). In 2014, female victims (56%) were more likely than male victims (20%) to contact or use formal services, such as a crisis centre or crisis line; a counsellor or psychologist; a community or family centre; a shelter; centres for women, men or seniors; or other victim services.¹⁰¹ This is consistent with data for 2009.¹⁰² Among women, the use of formal services also increased from 2009, when only 38% of female victims of spousal violence made use of them.¹⁰³ Of those who contacted formal services in the previous five years, the type of service used was most often support from a counsellor, psychologist or social worker; a larger proportion of females than males reported visiting these professionals (49% versus 17%).¹⁰⁴ Women also used crisis centres or phone crisis lines (13%) or victims' services or witness assistance programs (13%).¹⁰⁵

Table 6

Victims of spousal violence in the five years prior to the General Social Survey, by sex and service contacted or used, 2014

Victims' use of services	Female victim [†]		Male victim		Total	
	number (thousands)	percent	number (thousands)	percent	number (thousands)	percent
Told informal sources¹						
Yes	275	80.4	244	58.4*	519	68.3
No	63	18.6	170	40.6*	233	30.7
Contacted or used formal services²						
Yes	190	55.8	83	19.9*	274	36.0
No	148	43.2	331	79.1*	479	63.0
Police found out about the incident						
Yes	120	35.1	100	24.0*	220	29.0
No	218	63.8	316	75.6*	534	70.3
Respondent reported to police						
Yes	81	23.6	62 ^E	14.8 ^{E*}	143	18.8
No	257	75.3	354	84.7*	611	80.5
Police found out some other way						
Yes	39 ^E	11.5 ^E	38 ^E	9.1 ^E	77	10.2
No	298	87.4	379	90.5	677	89.2
Total	342	100.0	418	100.0	760	100.0

^E use with caution

* statistically significant difference from the reference group at $p < 0.05$

[†] reference group

1. Informal sources include family, a friend or neighbour, a co-worker, a doctor or nurse, a lawyer, and a spiritual advisor.

2. Formal services include a crisis centre or crisis line, a counsellor or psychologist, a community or family centre, a shelter, centres for women, men or seniors, and victim services or victim witness assistance programs.

Notes: Includes legally married, common-law, same-sex, separated and divorced spouses. "Don't know" and "Not stated" are included in the total, but are not listed. Therefore totals will not add up to 100%. Excludes data from the Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut.

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 2014.

Increase in the percentage of violent incidents coming to the attention of police services

According to the 2014 GSS, approximately 30% of spousal violence incidents came to the attention of the police. Police were more likely to find out about incidents¹⁰⁶ involving female victims (35%) than about incidents involving male victims (24%). With respect to incidents involving female victims, 24% were reported to police by the victim herself, and 12% were reported by someone else. Similarly, nearly 15%^E of incidents involving a male victim were reported by the victim himself, and 9%^E of such incidents were reported by someone else.

101. Approximately 42% of immigrant women and 30% of immigrant men contacted or used formal services; however, this difference is not statistically significant.

102. Hotton Mahony, T. 2011. "Women and the Criminal Justice System." *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report, sixth edition*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 89-503-X.

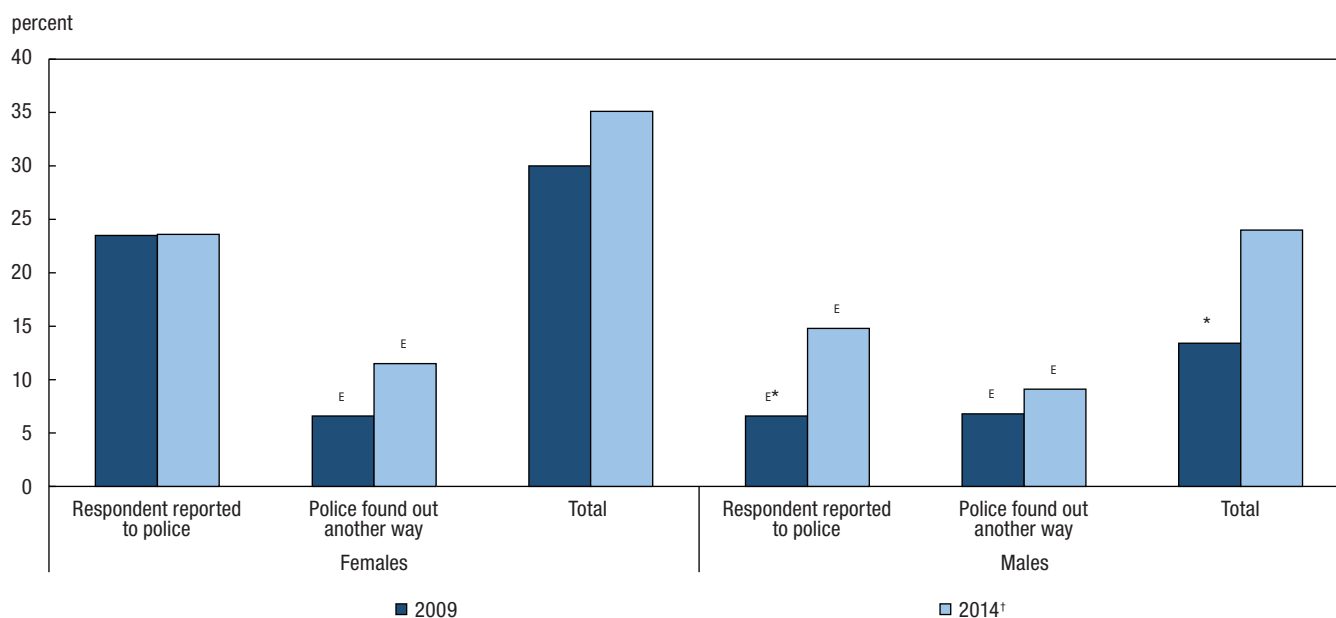
103. *Ibid.*

104. Burczycka, M. 2016. "Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile, 2014." *Juristat*. Vol. 36, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X: Chart 1.1.

105. *Ibid.*

106. Measured in the 2014 GSS because the respondent reported the incident to the police or the incident was reported to police by other means.

Chart 6
Comparison of percentage of incidents of spousal violence brought to the attention of the police in the last five years for 2009 and 2014, by sex, population aged 15 and over



^E use with caution

^{*} statistically significant difference from reference category ($p < 0.05$)

[†] reference group

Notes: Includes legally married, common-law, same-sex, separated and divorced spouses who had contact with their previous spouse / partner in the five years preceding the survey. Responses of "Don't know" and "Not stated" were included in the calculation but are not presented in the chart. Therefore, totals will not add up to 100%. Excludes data from the Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut.

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 2009 and 2014.

Since 2009,¹⁰⁷ there has been an increase in the proportion of incidents of spousal violence coming to the attention of the police that involve male victims (11 percentage point increase), while there was no statistically significant increase among women. Specifically, the proportion of male victims reporting incidents to police more than doubled between 2009 and 2014 (Chart 6).

One in three incidents that cause women to seek shelter are reported to police

The 2013/2014 Transition Home Survey (THS) takes a snapshot of women who sought shelter on April 16, 2014. Shelters responding to the THS reported that fewer than one in three of the incidents that motivated the stay (30%) were brought to the attention of police while 49% of these incidents were not reported to police. For the remaining 21% of incidents that motivated shelter stays, it was not known whether the incident was reported to police.¹⁰⁸

In results similar to those observed for the 2008 THS,¹⁰⁹ the most frequently reported reasons for seeking shelter on April 16, 2014, were emotional abuse (66%), physical abuse (50%), financial abuse (38%), threats (36%), harassment (27%), sexual abuse (21%), human trafficking (2%), and other abuse (12%). Other common reasons for seeking shelter were the need to protect children from witnessing abuse (26%) or from experiencing psychological abuse (18%) or physical abuse (10%).

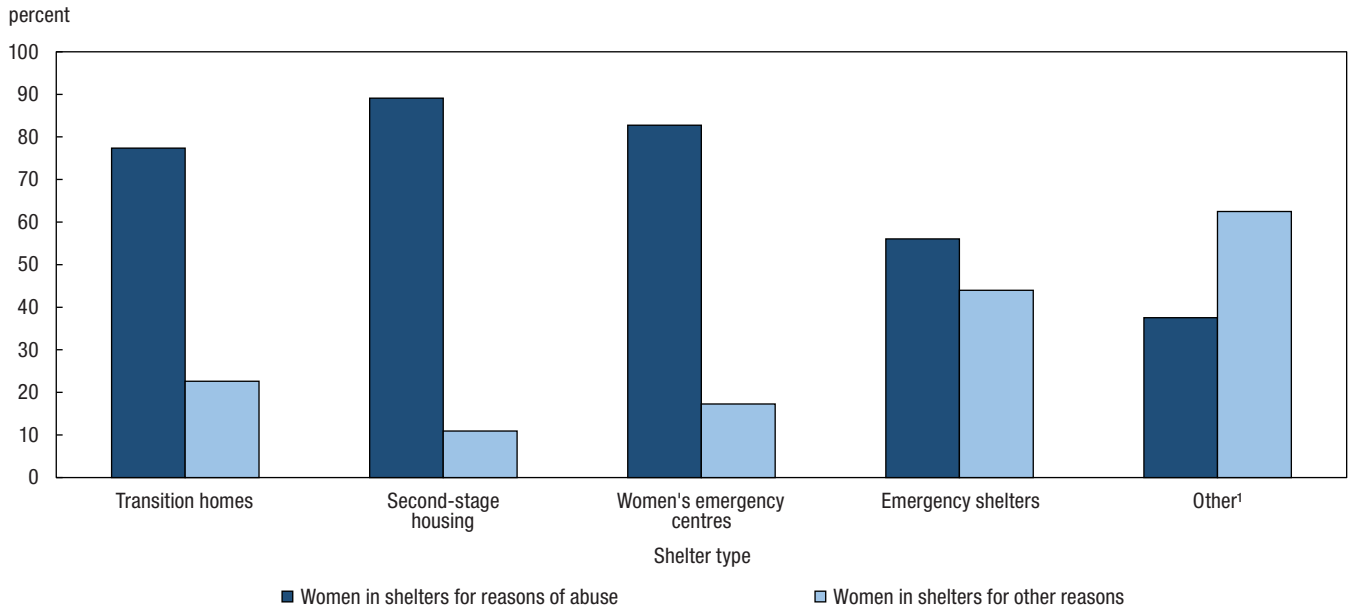
Abuse was the primary reason for seeking shelter in most types of facilities, including transition homes, second-stage housing, and women's emergency centres (Chart 7). Most women staying at other types of shelters (such as safe home networks, family resource centres, and interim housing) reported reasons other than abuse as having motivated their stay.

107. Hotton Mahony, T. 2011. "Women and the Criminal Justice System." *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report, sixth edition*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 89-503-X.

108. Beattie, S., and H. Hutchins. 2015. "Shelters for abused women in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

109. Hotton Mahony, T. 2011. "Women and the Criminal Justice System." *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report, sixth edition*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 89-503-X.

Chart 7
Women staying at shelters, by type of shelter and whether for reasons of abuse, Canada, April 16, 2014



1. Includes all other residential facilities offering services to abused women with or without children, not otherwise classified.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Transition Home Survey.

In the case of the majority of women (78%) residing in shelters on the reference date, the abuser was an intimate partner.¹¹⁰ The largest proportion of women seeking shelter primarily because they had been the victims of abuse indicated that their abuser was their current common-law partner (38%); the second-largest proportion cited the women’s legal spouse (26%). When calculated as a rate per 100,000 population, the rate of women in a common-law relationship residing in shelters for reasons of abuse was more than six times higher than the rate for legally married women.¹¹¹ Other abusers reported by women residing in shelters included other family members (10%), current or former dating partners (8%), former common-law partners (9%), former spouses (5%), and individuals with whom the respondent had another type of relationship, such as friends or acquaintances, authority figures, or caregivers (5%).¹¹²

Female victims of homicide

Although homicide is a rare event relative to other types of violent crime, it is an important general indicator of changes in crime over time. Unlike other violent crimes, most homicides are reported to police and are captured in official police statistics.¹¹³

According to the Homicide Survey, in 2015, females accounted for 29% of all homicide victims in Canada. Calculated as a rate per 100,000 population, the homicide rate for females (0.97 per 100,000 population) was found to be approximately 2.5 times lower than the homicide rate for males (2.41 per 100,000 population). As was the case with other types of violent crime,¹¹⁴ there was a marked decline in homicide rates between 1991 and 2015 (Chart 8). During this period, the homicide rate for females decreased by approximately 49%, from 1.91 per 100,000 population to 0.97 per 100,000 population. The rate for males decreased by 31%, from 3.48 per 100,000 population to 2.41 per 100,000 population, during this time.

110. "Intimate partners" include individuals who are legally married, individuals in a common-law relationship (with a same-sex or opposite-sex partner), individuals in a dating relationship, and other intimate partners.

111. Beattie, S., and H. Hutchins. 2015. "Shelters for abused women in Canada, 2014." *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

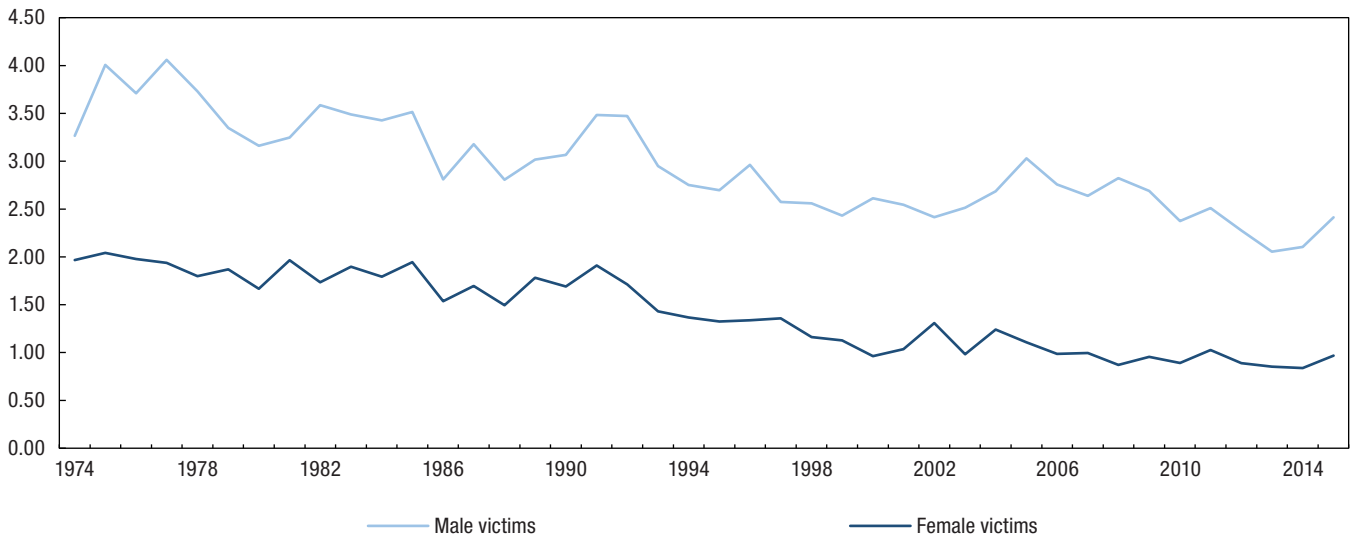
112. *Ibid.*

113. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. 2011. *2011 Global Study on Homicide: Trends, Context, Data*. Vienna: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

114. Allen, M. 2016. "Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2015." *Juristat*. Vol. 36, no 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

Chart 8
Homicide rates,¹ by sex of victim, 1974 to 2015, Canada

rate per 100,000 population



1. Rates are calculated per 100,000 population using revised population estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

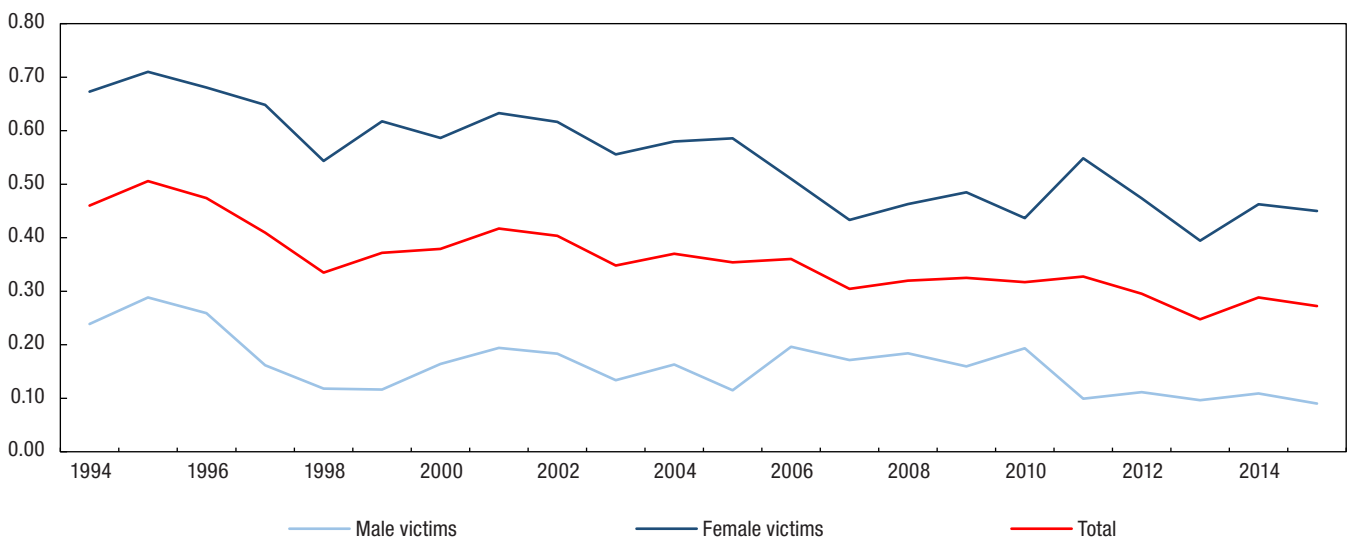
Notes: There may be a small number of homicides in a given year's total that occurred in previous years. Homicides are counted according to the year in which they are reported to Statistics Canada. Excludes seven homicide victims whose sex was reported as unknown between 1974 and 2015.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey, 1974 to 2015.

Historical trends indicate that females continue to be at an elevated risk of homicide by intimate partners. The rate of homicide perpetrated against women by intimate partners in 2015 was more than five times the rate of homicide involving male victims (0.45 per 100,000 population versus 0.09 per 100,000 population). Despite some annual fluctuation, the rate of intimate partner homicide generally declined between 1994 and 2015 (Chart 9). The number of females killed by intimate partners was 69 in 2015, down from 79 in 1994. The number of males killed by their intimate partners saw a larger decline over the same period (from 27 in 1994 to 13 in 2015).

Chart 9
Rates of intimate partner homicides,¹ by sex of victim, population aged 15 and over, Canada, 1994 to 2015

rate per 100,000 population



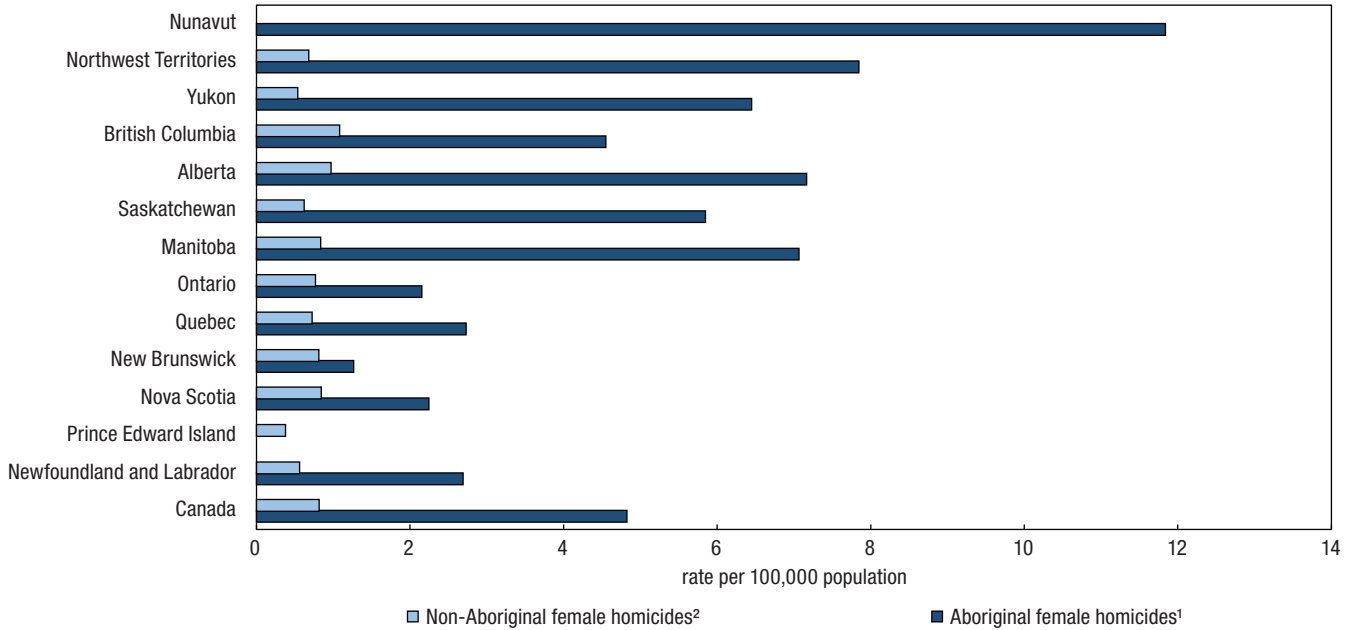
1. Rates are calculated per 100,000 population aged 15 years and over using revised July 1 population estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

Note: Intimate partners include current and former same-sex and opposite-sex spouses, common-law partners, dating partners, and other intimate relationships.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey, 1994 to 2015.

As was observed with violent victimization, some groups are at higher risk of homicide than others.¹¹⁵ In the 14-year period from 2001 to 2015, the homicide rate for Aboriginal females was nearly six times higher than that for non-Aboriginal females—4.82 per 100,000 population versus 0.82 per 100,000 population. The over-representation of Aboriginal women among homicide victims was observed in most provinces and in the territories, but was most notable in the territories and the provinces of Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan (Chart 10).

Chart 10
Rates of female homicide, by Aboriginal identity, provinces and territories, 2001 to 2015



1. Rates are calculated per 100,000 Aboriginal female population.

2. Rates are calculated per 100,000 non-Aboriginal female population.

Notes: Population projections were not available for the years prior to 2001 for this report; therefore, rates could not be calculated for the period before 2001. Population counts were provided by Statistics Canada’s Demography Division. The counts for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations are based on Aboriginal identity. For the years 2001 to 2011, they are derived from an interpolation carried out between the censuses of population and the National Household Survey adjusted for net undercoverage, partially enumerated reserves, and populations living in collective dwellings; the population counts from 2012 to 2015 are based on custom population projections.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey, 2001 to 2015.

115. Unlike the GSS, administrative surveys collecting data reported to police services in Canada, such as the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey and the Homicide Survey, do not collect any information on the visible-minority status or racial background of the victim or the accused. However, some information is collected on the Aboriginal identity of the victim and the accused, and is presented wherever a data quality assessment has determined the suitability of these data for release (see Text Box 3).

Collection of information on missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls

The Homicide Survey is an administrative survey that collects police-reported data on the characteristics of all homicide incidents, victims, and accused persons in Canada.¹¹⁶ Given Canada's colonial history as well as the cultural and political status of Aboriginal people within Canada, collection of data on the Aboriginal identity of victims and accused persons is important, particularly in the justice field. A question on the Aboriginal identity of both victims and accused persons was introduced in the Homicide Survey in 1997. Since collection of data on Aboriginal identity began, underreporting by police services has affected the quality of data on Aboriginal identity. For example, between 2003 and 2013, Aboriginal identity was reported by police as "unknown" for about half of all victims and persons accused of homicide. This is due, in large part, to local policies followed by police services to protect the privacy of victims and persons accused of homicide.^{117,118}

Between 2004 and 2014, there was growing pressure from national and international organizations to monitor the issue of missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls.^{119,120,121,122,123,124} One of the calls to action made by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (2015) is for the federal government to improve data collection on the criminal victimization of Aboriginal peoples in Canada. In response to these recommendations, in 2014, Statistics Canada and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) worked in collaboration with the policing community across Canada to update the identity of Aboriginal female homicide victims for 1980 and subsequent years. This information served for the analysis presented in this report. In 2014, police services across Canada began reporting complete information on the majority of victims and accused persons.

According to the Homicide Survey, police solved approximately 9 in 10 (89%) homicides of Aboriginal females reported between 1980 and 2014. A comparable proportion of non-Aboriginal female homicides were solved during this period.¹²⁵ According to data collected directly by the RCMP for its *National Operational Review on Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women*, RCMP jurisdictions, which police more than 40% of the Aboriginal population of Canada, had overall resolution rates of 81% for homicide cases involving Aboriginal females and 83% for homicide cases involving non-Aboriginal females with respect to homicide cases investigated in 2013/2014.¹²⁶

Administered by the RCMP, the National Centre for Missing Persons and Unidentified Remains (NCMPUR) provides national data sharing, coordination, and development of investigational best practices in missing-persons and unidentified-remains cases.¹²⁷ The RCMP also collects information on the number of missing Aboriginal females in Canada, whether foul play is expected in each case, and the outcome of any ongoing investigation. According to the 2015 operational update,¹²⁸ NCMPUR recorded 204 unsolved cases of missing and murdered Aboriginal women. This represents a reduction of approximately 9% from the 225 unsolved cases recorded in 2014: a 12% decrease in homicides and a 7% decrease in missing-person cases. As police services solve historical homicide cases reported to Statistics Canada, this information is added to the Homicide Survey data on an annual basis for capture in national statistics.

In 2015, the Homicide Survey added a question regarding the status of homicide victims as missing persons. Approximately 17% of Aboriginal female victims and 18% of non-Aboriginal female victims were previously on record as missing persons.¹²⁹ In contrast, 7% of Aboriginal male victims and 8% of non-Aboriginal male victims were previously reported as missing.¹³⁰

116. For more information on the Homicide Survey, please see <http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=3315> (accessed February 3, 2017).

117. *Ibid.*

118. Kong, R., and K. Beattie. 2005. "Collecting data on Aboriginal people in the Criminal Justice System: Methods and challenges." *Juristat*. Vol. 2005, no. 1. Statistics Canada Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-564-XWE.

119. Native Women's Association of Canada. 2010. *What Their Stories Tell Us: Research Findings from the Sisters in Spirit Initiative*. <https://nwc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/2010-What-Their-Stories-Tell-Us-Research-Findings-SIS-Initiative.pdf> (accessed August 24, 2016).

120. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. 2015. *Summary of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada*. <http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/index.php?p=890> (accessed August 5, 2016).

121. Royal Canadian Mounted Police. 2015. *Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women: 2015 Update to the National Operational Overview*. <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/missing-and-murdered-aboriginal-women-2015-update-national-operational-overview> (accessed August 23, 2016).

122. Royal Canadian Mounted Police. 2014. *Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women: A National Operational Overview*. <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/missing-and-murdered-aboriginal-women-national-operational-overview> (accessed August 23, 2016).

123. United Nations. 2015. Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. *Report of the Inquiry concerning Canada of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women under article 8 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*. http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CEDAW/Shared%20Documents/CAN/CEDAW_C_OP-8_CAN_1_7643_E.pdf (accessed August 26, 2016).

124. United Nations. 2014. Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. James Anaya. *The Situation of Indigenous Peoples in Canada*. <http://unsr.jamesanaya.org/country-reports/the-situation-of-indigenous-peoples-in-canada> (accessed August 26, 2016).

125. Miladinovic, Z., and L. Mulligan. 2015. Homicide in Canada, 2014. *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

126. Royal Canadian Mounted Police. 2015. *Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women: 2015 Update to the National Operational Overview*. <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/missing-and-murdered-aboriginal-women-2015-update-national-operational-overview> (accessed August 23, 2016).

127. Royal Canadian Mounted Police. 2014. *Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women: A National Operational Overview*. <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/missing-and-murdered-aboriginal-women-national-operational-overview> (accessed August 23, 2016).

128. Royal Canadian Mounted Police. 2015. *Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women: 2015 Update to the National Operational Overview*. <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/missing-and-murdered-aboriginal-women-2015-update-national-operational-overview> (accessed August 23, 2016).

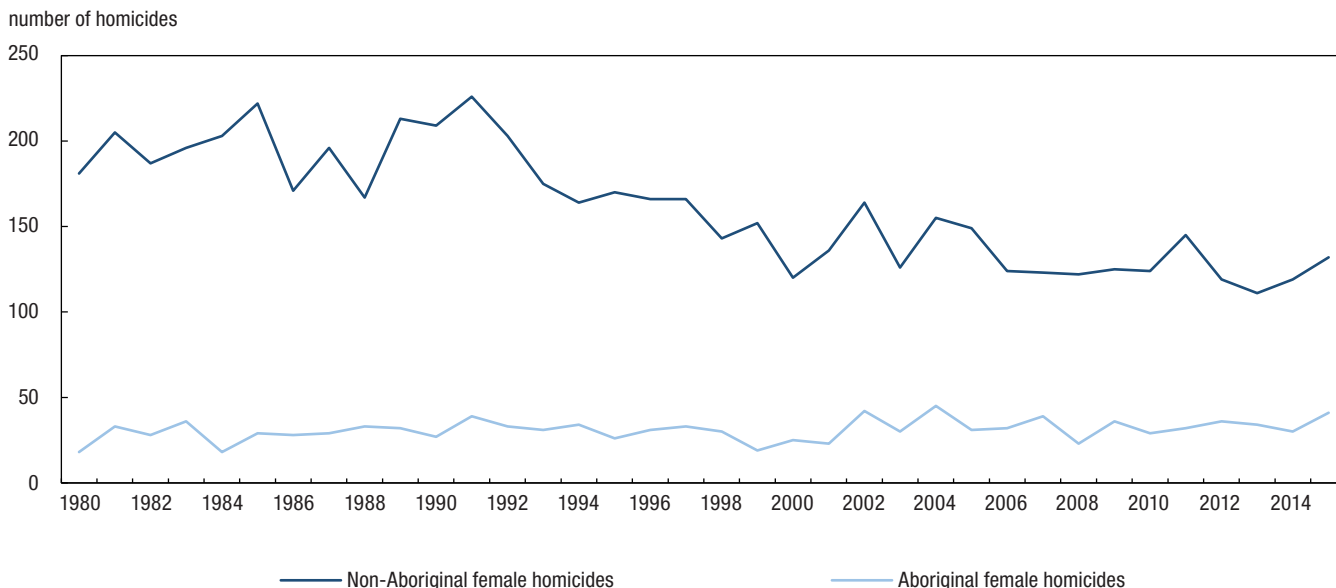
129. Mulligan, L., M. Axford, and A. Solecki. 2016. "Homicide in Canada, 2015." *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no 85-002-X.

130. *Ibid.*

Aboriginal females account for an increasing proportion of homicide victims

While the number of homicides for non-Aboriginal females generally declined between 1980 and 2015, the same is not true for Aboriginal females (Chart 11). The number of homicides among Aboriginal females has increased over the past several decades. As a result, Aboriginal females account for an increasing proportion of female homicide victims. For example, Aboriginal females accounted for 9% of all female homicide victims in 1980, compared with 24% in 2015.

Chart 11
Number of female homicides, by Aboriginal identity, Canada, 1980 to 2015



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey, 1980 to 2015.

Among solved homicides recorded in 2015, the relationships between victims and their accused were found to be similar for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal females. A slightly larger proportion of non-Aboriginal females (66%) than Aboriginal females (62%) were killed by a current or former spouse or common-law partner or by another family member. However, a dating partner or other intimate partner killed a larger proportion of Aboriginal females than non-Aboriginal females—15% compared with 10%. Similar proportions of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal females were killed by acquaintances (18%) and by strangers (6%).¹³¹

Female offenders in Canada

Most information about female offenders in Canada is obtained from administrative data collected in police reports, the courts or the correctional systems. As results from the 2014 GSS have shown, not all crimes committed are brought to the attention of the police. The statistics presented below were derived from data collected by Canadian policing agencies and based on the crimes reported to the police.

131. The figures reported in this paragraph do not appear in the tables and charts.

Table 7
Number and percentage of females and males accused, by type of crime, 2015

Type of Offence	Total accused ¹		Total female accused		Total male accused	
	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
Total, all <i>Criminal Code</i> violations (including traffic)	992,764	100.0	235,760	23.7	757,004	76.3
Total violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations	246,917	100.0	55,550	22.5	191,367	77.5
Homicide	522	100.0	60	11.5	462	88.5
Attempted murder	638	100.0	94	14.7	544	85.3
Other violations causing death	68	100.0	11	16.2	57	83.8
Sexual assault -- all levels	10,800	100.0	301	2.8	10,499	97.2
Other sexual violations ²	2,814	100.0	144	5.1	2,670	94.9
Sexual violations specific to children	2,078	100.0	87	4.2	1,991	95.8
Sexual violations not specific to children	736	100.0	57	7.7	679	92.3
Assault, level 3, aggravated	3,072	100.0	501	16.3	2,571	83.7
Assault, level 2, weapon or bodily harm	34,037	100.0	8,103	23.8	25,934	76.2
Assault, level 1	113,317	100.0	29,848	26.3	83,469	73.7
Other assaults ³	8,773	100.0	2,424	27.6	6,349	72.4
Forcible confinement, kidnapping or abduction ⁴	3,466	100.0	328	9.5	3,138	90.5
Robbery	11,298	100.0	1,465	13.0	9,833	87.0
Extortion	1,028	100.0	166	16.1	862	83.9
Criminal harassment	13,100	100.0	2,866	21.9	10,234	78.1
Threatening or harassing phone calls	4,412	100.0	1,677	38.0	2,735	62.0
Uttering threats	35,720	100.0	6,937	19.4	28,783	80.6
Commodification of sexual activity	411	100.0	26	6.3	385	93.7
Other violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations ⁵	3,441	100.0	599	17.4	2,842	82.6
Property crime violations	293,510	100.0	84,388	28.8	209,122	71.2
Arson	1,408	100.0	229	16.3	1,179	83.7
Break-and-enter	32,059	100.0	4,313	13.5	27,746	86.5
Motor vehicle theft	11,831	100.0	2,287	19.3	9,544	80.7
Theft \$5,000 and over	2,322	100.0	554	23.9	1,768	76.1
Theft under \$5,000	120,171	100.0	44,690	37.2	75,481	62.8
Possession / Trafficking of stolen goods	17,246	100.0	3,636	21.1	13,610	78.9
Fraud	24,668	100.0	8,074	32.7	16,594	67.3
Mischief ⁶	80,534	100.0	19,702	24.5	60,832	75.5
Identity fraud / Theft	3,271	100.0	903	27.6	2,368	72.4
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> violations	260,675	100.0	59,268	22.7	201,407	77.3
Prostitution	102	100.0	26	25.5	76	74.5
Violations relating to the administration of justice	177,322	100.0	39,552	22.3	137,770	77.7
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> violations	83,251	100.0	19,690	23.7	63,561	76.3
Total <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic violations	79,516	100.0	15,523	19.5	63,993	80.5
Dangerous operation	5,892	100.0	809	13.7	5,083	86.3
Flight from peace officer	1,989	100.0	235	11.8	1,754	88.2
Impaired operation / Related violations	60,718	100.0	12,541	20.7	48,177	79.3
Street racing	76	100.0	11	14.5	65	85.5
Other (traffic-related) <i>Criminal Code</i> violations	10,841	100.0	1,927	17.8	8,914	82.2
Other federal statutes	112,146	100.0	21,031	18.8	91,115	81.2
Drug offences	98,461	100.0	17,968	18.2	80,493	81.8
Possession and Trafficking	96,294	100.0	17,502	18.2	78,792	81.8
Cannabis	59,908	100.0	9,688	16.2	50,220	83.8
Cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine and methylenedioxyamphetamine (ecstasy)	26,181	100.0	5,486	21.0	20,695	79.0
Other controlled drugs and substances	10,205	100.0	2,328	22.8	7,877	77.2
Importation, exportation and production	2,167	100.0	466	21.5	1,701	78.5
Cannabis	1,667	100.0	351	21.1	1,316	78.9
Cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine and methylenedioxyamphetamine (ecstasy)	198	100.0	59	29.8	139	70.2
Other controlled drugs and substances	302	100.0	56	18.5	246	81.5
Other federal statutes violations	13,685	100.0	3,063	22.4	10,622	77.6

1. Includes accused persons between the ages of 12 and 89, inclusively.

2. Other sexual violations include primarily sexual offences against children (i.e., sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, corrupting children, making sexually explicit material available to children, luring a child via a computer, agreeing to or arranging a sexual offence against a child, obtaining sexual services for consideration, procuring persons for the purpose of prostitution, receiving a material benefit from the purchase of sexual services provided by individuals under 18). However, some "other sexual offences" involve adults as victims (i.e., voyeurism, bestiality, incest, nonconsensual distribution of intimate images, obtaining sexual services for consideration, procuring, or material benefit from sexual services).

3. Includes assaults against peace officers; unlawfully causing bodily harm; criminal negligence causing bodily harm; and other assaults.

4. Includes forcible confinement; kidnapping; abduction under 14, not by a parent/guardian; abduction under 16; removal of children from Canada; abduction under 14 contravening a custody order; abduction under 14, by a parent/guardian.

5. Includes firearm violations.

6. Includes altering, removing and destroying a vehicle identification number.

Notes: One incident may involve multiple violations. Counts are based upon the most serious violation in the incident. Incidents where the age or sex of the accused is unknown were excluded.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, 2015.

Table 8
Rates of *Criminal Code* and other federal statute violations by sex and age of accused, 2015

Type of Offence	Female accused						
	Aged	Aged	Aged	Aged	Aged	Aged	Aged
	12 to 17	18 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65 to 89
	rate per 100,000						
Total, all <i>Criminal Code</i> violations (including traffic)	2,895.3	3,301.1	2,707.7	1,766.1	1,035.4	409.9	128.4
Total violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations	729.6	737.3	601.7	438.5	257.6	97.2	34.7
Homicide	0.2	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.1
Attempted murder	0.6	1.7	1.1	0.7	0.4	0.1	0.1
Other violations causing death	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Sexual assault -- all levels	5.7	4.1	2.7	2.4	1.2	0.3	0.2
Other sexual violations ¹	5.1	1.5	1.5	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.0
Sexual violations specific to children	2.6	1.1	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0
Sexual violations not specific to children	2.5	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Assault, level 3, aggravated	3.5	10.1	6.6	3.1	1.8	0.5	0.0
Assault, level 2, weapon or bodily harm	82.1	112.0	96.3	67.3	36.4	12.9	4.0
Assault, level 1	405.4	411.3	324.9	235.7	124.6	45.8	21.1
Other assaults ²	30.3	42.6	26.9	16.0	9.4	3.5	0.6
Forcible confinement, kidnapping or abduction ³	2.9	4.0	5.0	2.9	1.0	0.3	0.1
Robbery	26.8	25.1	19.2	8.0	2.4	1.0	0.2
Extortion	1.2	2.6	1.4	1.6	0.9	0.6	0.1
Criminal harassment	29.3	25.2	25.3	24.9	22.9	10.1	2.5
Threatening or harassing phone calls	12.5	13.5	15.8	15.7	14.2	5.8	1.5
Uttering threats	112.0	74.8	67.3	54.3	39.6	15.2	3.9
Commodification of sexual activity	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations ⁴	11.4	7.3	6.7	4.8	2.0	0.6	0.2
Property crime violations	1,239.2	1,114.7	918.1	604.4	366.5	164.9	59.7
Arson	9.4	2.3	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.4	0.1
Break-and-enter	84.3	61.9	50.9	27.1	12.9	4.1	0.7
Motor vehicle theft	55.3	37.0	26.8	11.9	3.4	1.1	0.1
Theft \$5,000 and over	4.5	5.6	5.9	5.3	3.2	2.0	0.4
Theft under \$5,000	750.9	548.4	439.3	306.5	197.9	110.1	47.0
Possession / Trafficking of stolen goods	48.9	59.5	49.8	23.4	9.6	2.3	0.7
Fraud	29.8	109.7	111.4	69.7	41.7	15.4	3.0
Mischief ⁵	252.0	276.2	216.7	153.4	94.2	29.2	7.5
Identity fraud / Theft	4.1	14.1	16.1	6.2	2.7	0.4	0.1
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> violations	534.9	872.7	774.8	467.8	249.8	77.1	14.4
Prostitution	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0
Violations relating to the administration of justice	360.2	602.8	550.5	307.9	140.5	37.5	6.9
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> violations	174.5	269.5	223.9	159.6	109.2	39.6	7.5
Total <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic violations	26.1	191.2	192.2	136.5	95.7	47.8	16.2
Dangerous operation	6.1	12.9	10.0	6.0	3.4	1.3	0.7
Flight from peace officer	2.3	4.5	2.9	1.4	0.9	0.2	0.1
Impaired operation / Related violations	12.7	151.4	156.5	113.3	82.0	40.2	9.2
Street racing	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other (traffic-related) <i>Criminal Code</i> violations	4.8	22.1	22.7	15.9	9.4	6.1	6.1
Other federal statutes	365.4	385.3	220.9	118.9	65.7	22.9	3.5
Drug offences	243.7	355.6	199.2	104.9	57.6	18.4	2.6
Possession and Trafficking	242.7	351.1	194.0	100.4	53.9	16.7	2.3
Cannabis	201.4	224.4	80.1	39.6	22.3	9.5	1.3
Cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine and methylenedioxyamphetamine (ecstasy)	25.2	88.5	81.5	42.5	22.8	5.2	0.7
Other controlled drugs and substances	16.1	38.2	32.5	18.3	8.8	2.0	0.3
Importation, exportation and production	1.1	4.5	5.3	4.5	3.7	1.7	0.2
Cannabis	1.0	2.9	3.7	3.4	3.1	1.4	0.2
Cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine and methylenedioxyamphetamine (ecstasy)	0.0	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.0
Other controlled drugs and substances	0.1	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.0
Other federal statutes violations	121.7	29.7	21.7	14.0	8.1	4.5	0.9

Table 8
Rates of *Criminal Code* and other federal statute violations by sex and age of accused, 2015 (continued)

Type of Offence	Male accused						
	Aged 12 to 17	Aged 18 to 24	Aged 25 to 34	Aged 35 to 44	Aged 45 to 54	Aged 55 to 64	Aged 65 to 89
	rate per 100,000						
Total, all <i>Criminal Code</i> violations (including traffic)	7,183.9	10,267.7	8,492.2	5,815.9	3,665.1	1,589.8	553.2
Total violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations	1,792.7	2,306.5	2,075.1	1,569.7	1,008.6	447	197.4
Homicide	2.8	8.8	5.2	3.3	1.7	0.8	0.3
Attempted murder	3.3	11.3	6.3	3.4	2.0	0.9	0.1
Other violations causing death	0.3	0.7	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1
Sexual assault -- all levels	147.9	114.1	87.1	75.8	56.6	31.2	24.3
Other sexual violations ¹	47.2	30.8	20.9	19.6	13.6	6.7	3.4
Sexual violations specific to children	37.6	24.2	14.0	13.7	9.8	5.4	2.9
Sexual violations not specific to children	9.6	6.6	6.9	5.9	3.8	1.3	0.4
Assault, level 3, aggravated	17.0	49.3	34.4	16.6	7.5	2.4	0.9
Assault, level 2, weapon or bodily harm	250.7	363.6	294.2	197.8	118.4	50.1	18.5
Assault, level 1	668.0	951.2	951.9	732.1	447.2	188.1	85.6
Other assaults ²	40.3	99.9	83.1	44.9	27.1	9.8	3.8
Forcible confinement, kidnapping or abduction ³	10.5	48.5	44.2	26.8	13.0	3.7	1.0
Robbery	200.1	189.6	98.5	44.6	21.8	4.6	1.1
Extortion	10.4	11.2	9.5	6.3	4.3	1.3	0.7
Criminal harassment	53.4	82.3	101.7	101.8	72.8	39.1	17.0
Threatening or harassing phone calls	15.0	22.2	27.2	25.8	20.9	10.5	3.9
Uttering threats	289.9	277.9	276.9	249.5	186.3	89.1	32.9
Commodification of sexual activity	0.4	3.3	3.9	2.8	2.6	2.4	1.4
Other violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations ⁴	35.6	41.7	29.4	18.4	12.6	6.1	2.6
Property crime violations	2,975.7	2,713.4	2,222.4	1,537.1	921.3	363.4	123.8
Arson	44.9	14.3	7.3	4.3	3.0	1.2	0.4
Break-and-enter	486.1	389.3	296.6	203.8	96.8	21.3	3.9
Motor vehicle theft	188.4	151.2	105.4	54.5	22.6	7.6	1.6
Theft \$5,000 and over	12.0	17.0	21.8	16.5	10.3	4.7	0.9
Theft under \$5,000	1,161.6	855.6	740.7	557.2	368.1	172.4	70.2
Possession / Trafficking of stolen goods	162.4	185.4	172.0	105.6	49.8	14.8	3.6
Fraud	57.7	216.8	221.6	154.7	82.3	29.6	7.3
Mischief ⁵	853.2	850.6	618.9	420.0	281.2	109.2	35.7
Identity fraud / Theft	9.4	33.4	38.1	20.4	7.2	2.7	0.2
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> violations	1,228.9	2,763.5	2,435.8	1,663.0	1,036.0	412.6	111.6
Prostitution	0.0	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.8
Violations relating to the administration of justice	811	1,975.3	1,782.4	1,149.8	630.5	216.7	49.6
Other <i>Criminal Code</i> violations	417.9	788.1	652.9	512.6	404.9	195.4	61.3
Total <i>Criminal Code</i> traffic violations	83.3	733.9	781.3	539.1	400.6	233.3	89.8
Dangerous operation	28.6	90.2	62.7	34.6	19.4	9.6	3.4
Flight from peace officer	11.7	31.2	23.6	12.2	5.6	1.5	0.9
Impaired operation / Related violations	29.5	522.8	584.0	407.9	320.8	194.3	68.2
Street racing	1.2	1.6	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0
Other (traffic-related) <i>Criminal Code</i> violations	12.3	88.1	110.6	84.1	54.7	27.8	17.2
Other federal statutes	1,103.3	1,750.3	977.5	507.0	298.6	133.5	30.5
Drug offences	832.2	1,644.9	905.2	445.0	249.6	103.0	17.2
Possession and Trafficking	829	1,629.6	887.2	430.9	235.6	94.4	15.3
Cannabis	725.2	1,186.5	483.3	199.5	116.0	53.1	9.6
Cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine and methylenedioxyamphetamine (ecstasy)	54.0	318.2	301.3	170.3	88.1	29.3	3.7
Other controlled drugs and substances	49.7	124.9	102.6	61.1	31.5	12.0	1.9
Importation, exportation and production	3.2	15.3	18.0	14.1	14.0	8.6	1.9
Cannabis	2.7	11.7	12.9	10.6	11.5	7.2	1.6
Cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine and methylenedioxyamphetamine (ecstasy)	0.3	1.5	1.6	1.3	0.9	0.7	0.0
Other controlled drugs and substances	0.3	2.1	3.6	2.2	1.5	0.8	0.2
Other federal statutes violations	271.1	105.4	72.3	62.0	49.0	30.5	13.3

1. Other sexual violations include primarily sexual offences against children (i.e., sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, corrupting children, making sexually explicit material available to children, luring a child via a computer, agreeing to or arranging a sexual offence against a child, obtaining sexual services for consideration, procuring persons for the purpose of prostitution, receiving a material benefit from the purchase of sexual services provided by individuals under 18). However, some "other sexual offences" involve adults as victims (i.e., voyeurism, bestiality, incest, nonconsensual distribution of intimate images, obtaining sexual services for consideration, procuring, or material benefit from sexual services).

2. Includes assaults against peace officers; unlawfully causing bodily harm; criminal negligence causing bodily harm; and other assaults.

3. Includes forcible confinement; kidnapping; abduction under 14, not by a parent/guardian; abduction under 16; removal of children from Canada; abduction under 14 contravening a custody order; abduction under 14, by a parent/guardian.

4. Includes firearm violations.

5. Includes altering, removing and destroying a vehicle identification number.

Notes: One incident may involve multiple violations. Counts are based upon the most serious violation in the incident. Incidents where the age or sex of the accused is unknown were excluded.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, 2015.

Police-reported crime rates higher among female youth than adult females

Approximately 993,000 individuals were accused of committing at least one *Criminal Code* offence (including traffic violations) in 2015 (Table 7). Females comprised just under 24% of the total number of individuals accused of such offences. Almost 73% of the 56,000 females accused of violent crimes were involved in level I, level II, level III, or other assaults.¹³²

With respect to violent *Criminal Code* offences, the highest representation of females was observed for the offence of making threatening or harassing phone calls (38%). With respect to non-violent *Criminal Code* offences, females represented 37% of individuals accused of theft under \$5,000 and 33% of individuals accused of fraud. In 2015, as in previous years, men comprised the majority of those accused of committing violent offences: 97% of individuals accused of sexual assault (all levels); 95% of individuals accused of “other” sexual violations; 94% of individuals accused of offences involving the commodification of sexual activity; 91% of individuals accused of kidnapping / forcible confinement; and 89% of individuals accused of homicide. With respect to non-violent crimes, males accounted for 88% of those accused of fleeing from a peace officer and 87% of those accused of break-and-enter.

Table 8 presents the rate of crime by the age and sex of the accused. Results show that the rates at which adult females were accused of committing an offence was generally highest among women aged 18 to 24 and that these rates decreased as offenders’ age increased.

For some *Criminal Code* violations, the rates of offence among female adolescents (aged 12 to 17) were notably higher than the rates among their 18-to-24-year-old and 25-to-34-year-old counterparts. The offences included property crimes, such as theft under \$5,000 (751 per 100,000 population among the 12-to-17-year-old cohort, 548 per 100,000 population among the 18-to-24-year-old cohort, and 439 per 100,000 population among the 25-to-34-year-old cohort). As well, female adolescents were more likely to be accused of uttering threats (112 per 100,000 population) than their older cohorts (75 per 100,000 among the 18-to-24-year-old cohort and 67 per 100,000 population among the 25-to-34-year-old cohort). On the other hand, young women aged 18 to 24 had higher rates of being accused of drug offences (356 per 100,000 population) than girls aged 12 to 17 (244 per 100,000 population), and slightly higher overall rates of violent *Criminal Code* offences (737 per 100,000) than females aged 12 to 17 (730 per 100,000 population).

Generally, adult males aged 18 to 24 years exhibited higher rates of being accused of crimes than male adolescents (cohort aged 12 to 17 years). The rate of male adolescents accused of committing a *Criminal Code* offence (7,184 per 100,000 population) was 43% lower than the rate for adult males aged 18 to 24 (10,268 per 100,000 population) and 18% lower than the rate for adult males aged 25 to 34 (8,492 per 100,000 population). However, rates for crimes involving theft under \$5,000 were higher for male adolescents (1,162 per 100,000 population), break-and-enter (486 per 100,000 population), sexual assault (148 per 100,000 population), other sexual violations (47 per 100,000 population), and arson (45 per 100,000 population) than for males belonging to the older cohorts of adult males (the cohorts aged 18 to 24 and aged 25 to 34).

Most victims of violent crime perpetrated by females were known to the offender

Earlier in this report, it is stated that the majority of female victims of violence and the individuals accused of perpetrating this violence were known to each other. Table 9 presents the analysis of the nature of the relationships between females accused of violent crimes and their victims.¹³³ In those cases, the data show that the majority of victims of violent crimes committed by females in 2015 were also individuals known or related to the offenders, whereas the accused were strangers to the victim in almost 12% of cases. The remaining 88% of female-perpetrated violent crimes involved acquaintances (35%), other family members (17%), intimate partners (20%), or current / former spouses (17%).¹³⁴

132. “Other assaults” include assaults against peace officers, unlawfully causing bodily harm, criminal negligence causing bodily harm, and other assaults.

133. A single incident reported in the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey may involve multiple violations, multiple victims and multiple accused individuals. In order to avoid misinterpreting the accused–victim relationship when multiple individuals are involved, Table 9 excludes incidents with multiple victims and/or multiple accused individuals, as well as incidents in which the relationship between the accused and the victim was unknown.

134. Although the results are not shown, analysis of the accused–victim relationships among males accused of violent crimes reflected patterns similar to those observed among females accused of such crimes. Approximately 19% of males accused of violent crimes were strangers to their victims; the remaining 81% of violent crimes in which the accused was male involved acquaintances (30%), intimate partners (20%), current / former spouses (17%), or other family members (15%).

Table 9
Violent crime perpetrated by females, by relationship of the accused to the victim, 2015

Type of violent crime	Current / former spouse ⁵		Intimate relationship ⁶		Other family ⁷		Acquaintance ⁸		Stranger		Total	
	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
Homicide	10	23.8	0	0.0	16	38.1	13	31.0	3	7.1	42	100.0
Attempted murder	9	23.1	10	25.6	6	15.4	8	20.5	6	15.4	39	100.0
Other violations causing death	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	40.0	3	60.0	5	100.0
Sexual assaults - all levels	8	4.0	23	11.6	43	21.7	106	53.5	18	9.1	198	100.0
Other sexual violations ¹	0	0.0	9	10.1	28	31.5	42	47.2	10	11.2	89	100.0
Sexual violations specific to children	0	0.0	8	12.9	18	29.0	27	43.5	9	14.5	62	100.0
Sexual violations NOT specific to children	0	0.0	1	3.7	10	37.0	15	55.6	1	3.7	27	100.0
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	45	16.7	93	34.4	42	15.6	68	25.2	22	8.1	270	100.0
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	1,310	22.9	1,476	25.8	985	17.2	1,452	25.3	506	8.8	5,729	100.0
Assault - level 1 - common assault	4,227	18.3	4,910	21.3	4,400	19.1	7,540	32.7	1,993	8.6	23,070	100.0
Other assaults ²	11	0.7	13	0.9	18	1.2	439	28.9	1,038	68.3	1,519	100.0
Forcible confinement, kidnapping or abduction ³	19	13.7	25	18.0	64	46.0	18	12.9	13	9.4	139	100.0
Robbery	1	0.3	18	4.6	9	2.3	109	27.9	254	65.0	391	100.0
Extortion	6	7.8	24	31.2	5	6.5	24	31.2	18	23.4	77	100.0
Criminal harassment	191	14.0	291	21.3	120	8.8	687	50.2	79	5.8	1,368	100.0
Threatening or harassing phone calls	46	7.7	128	21.3	96	16.0	282	46.9	49	8.2	601	100.0
Uttering threats	336	8.3	316	7.8	536	13.2	2,475	61.0	397	9.8	4,060	100.0
Commodification of sexual activity	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	100.0
Other violent <i>Criminal Code</i> violations ⁴	8	5.7	7	5.0	33	23.6	75	53.6	17	12.1	140	100.0
Total	6,227	16.5	7,343	19.5	6,401	17.0	13,340	35.3	4,426	11.7	37,737	100.0

1. Other sexual violations include primarily sexual offences against children (i.e., sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, corrupting children, making sexually explicit material available to children, luring a child via a computer, agreeing to or arranging a sexual offence against a child, obtaining sexual services for consideration, procuring persons for the purpose of prostitution, receiving a material benefit from the purchase of sexual services provided by individuals under 18). However, some "other sexual offences" involve adults as victims (i.e., voyeurism, bestiality, incest, nonconsensual distribution of intimate images, obtaining sexual services for consideration, procuring, or material benefit from sexual services).

2. Includes assaults against peace officers; unlawfully causing bodily harm; criminal negligence causing bodily harm; and other assaults.

3. Includes forcible confinement; kidnapping; abduction under 14, not by a parent/guardian; abduction under 16; removal of children from Canada; abduction under 14 contravening a custody order; abduction under 14, by a parent/guardian.

4. Includes firearm violations; intimidation of justice and non-justice participants; explosives causing death/bodily harm; and arson.

5. Includes common-law relationships. Victims under the age of 15 were excluded for data quality reasons.

6. Includes current and former dating relationships as well as "other intimate relationships," such as extra-marital lovers. In some cases, the victim and the accused were living together at the time of the offence.

7. Includes siblings and all others related by blood, marriage (including common-law), adoption or foster care.

8. Includes friends; neighbours; authority figures; business relationships; and criminal relationships (such as prostitutes, drug dealers and their clients).

Notes: This table includes only incidents involving a single accused and a single victim. Incidents in which the relationship between the accused and victim is unknown are excluded.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, 2015.

Assault¹³⁵ was the most common type of violent crime of which females were accused in 2015 (tables 7, 8 and 9). Among females accused of assault level 1 (common assault) 40% of victims were spouses or other intimate partners, as were 49% of victims of assault level 2 (assault with a weapon or assault causing bodily harm), and 51% of victims of assault level 3 (assault with a weapon).

Although female perpetrated sexual assault is relatively rare compared with males, more than half (54%) of all females accused of sexual assault¹³⁶ were acquaintances of their victims, as were 50% of criminal harassment offences and 47% of incidents of threatening or harassing phone calls committed by females. Crimes perpetrated by females against strangers largely involved other assaults (68%), robbery (65%), other violations causing death (60%), or extortion (23%).

Victims of females accused of homicide were most often an intimate partner or a family member

According to the Homicide Survey, females accounted for 11% of persons accused of homicide between 2001 and 2015.¹³⁷ Females were most likely to kill an intimate partner (32%) or a family member (32%), followed by an acquaintance (29%) or a stranger (6%) (Table 10). In contrast, males were most likely to kill an acquaintance (47%), and less likely to kill an intimate partner (18%), a stranger (17%), or a family member (17%).

135. This is based only on incidents involving a single victim and a single accused.

136. *Ibid.*

137. The analysis in this section focuses on the time period from 2001 to 2015 since more complete information on the Aboriginal status of accused persons is available for 2001 and subsequent years.

Table 10
Homicides by closest accused–victim relationship and sex of closest accused, 2001 to 2015, Canada

Closest accused–victim relationship ¹	Male accused		Female accused	
	number	percent	number	percent
Intimate relationship	1,121	18.2	244	32.3
Spouse ¹	634	10.3	176	23.3
Ex-spouse ¹	226	3.7	20	2.6
Other intimate relationship ²	261	4.2	48	6.3
Family (non-spousal)	1,037	16.8	244	32.3
Parent ³	278	4.5	151	20.0
Child ³	319	5.2	37	4.9
Other family	440	7.1	56	7.4
Acquaintances	2,889	46.8	218	28.8
Criminal relationship ⁴	691	11.2	25	3.3
Casual acquaintance	1,417	23.0	126	16.7
Other acquaintance ⁵	781	12.7	67	8.9
Other	1,121	18.2	50	6.6
Stranger	1,065	17.3	45	6.0
Unknown	56	0.9	5	0.7
Total solved homicides	6,168	100.0	756	100.0

... not applicable

1. Includes common-law relationships.

2. Includes dating relationships (current and former) as well as other intimate relationships, such as extra-marital lovers.

3. Includes biological and step relationships.

4. Includes, for example, sex workers, drug dealers and their clients, loan sharks, and gang members. Although prostitution is not illegal in Canada, certain acts related to sex work are prohibited, such as purchasing sexual services and communicating for the purpose of purchasing sexual services.

5. Includes close friends, neighbours, business relationships (legal), and authority figures.

Notes: Collection of data on accused–victim relationships began in 1961. Modifications made to relationship categories in 1991, 1997 and 2005. Analysis of accused–victim relationships is based on solved homicides (i.e., homicides for which police have identified an accused person).

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Homicide Survey.

Aboriginal females were over-represented among female homicide victims as well as among females accused of homicide. In 2015, there were 37 Aboriginal females and 24 non-Aboriginal females accused of homicide. The rate at which Aboriginal females were accused of homicide was 31 times higher than the rate at which non-Aboriginal females were accused (4.33 per 100,000 population compared with 0.14 per 100,000 population). In comparison, the rate at which Aboriginal males were accused was eight times higher than the rate at which non-Aboriginal males were accused (16.09 per 100,000 population compared with 1.90 per 100,000 population).¹³⁸

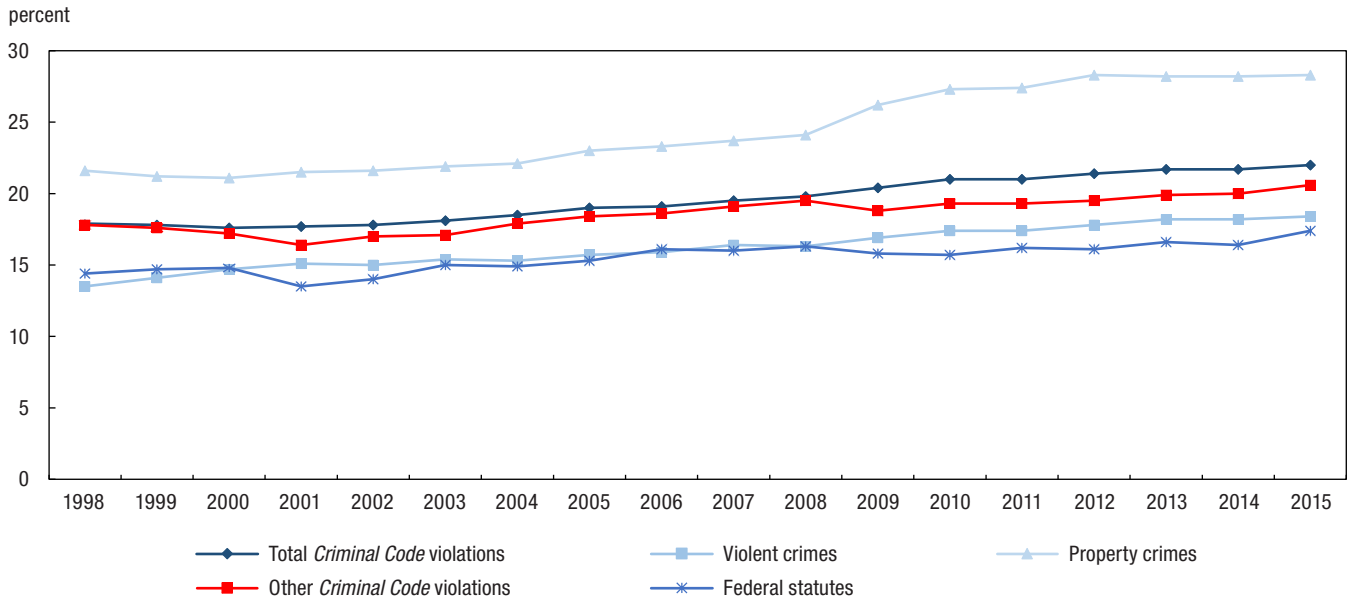
Increase in the proportion of adult females charged with violent offences

Between 1998¹³⁹ and 2015, the percentage of adult females charged with *Criminal Code* offences increased by about 4 percentage points as a proportion of total *Criminal Code* violations. The share of adult females as a percentage of adults charged increased by nearly 5% for violent crimes and by close to 7% for property crimes. The increase in the proportion of adult females charged with property crimes is due to a significant drop in the number of males charged with property offences rather than to an actual increase in the number of adult females charged with this type of crime.

138. The figures reported in this paragraph do not appear in the tables and charts.

139. In 1998, the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey introduced revised offence category definitions that caution against comparing current offence data with data relating to violations that took place before 1998.

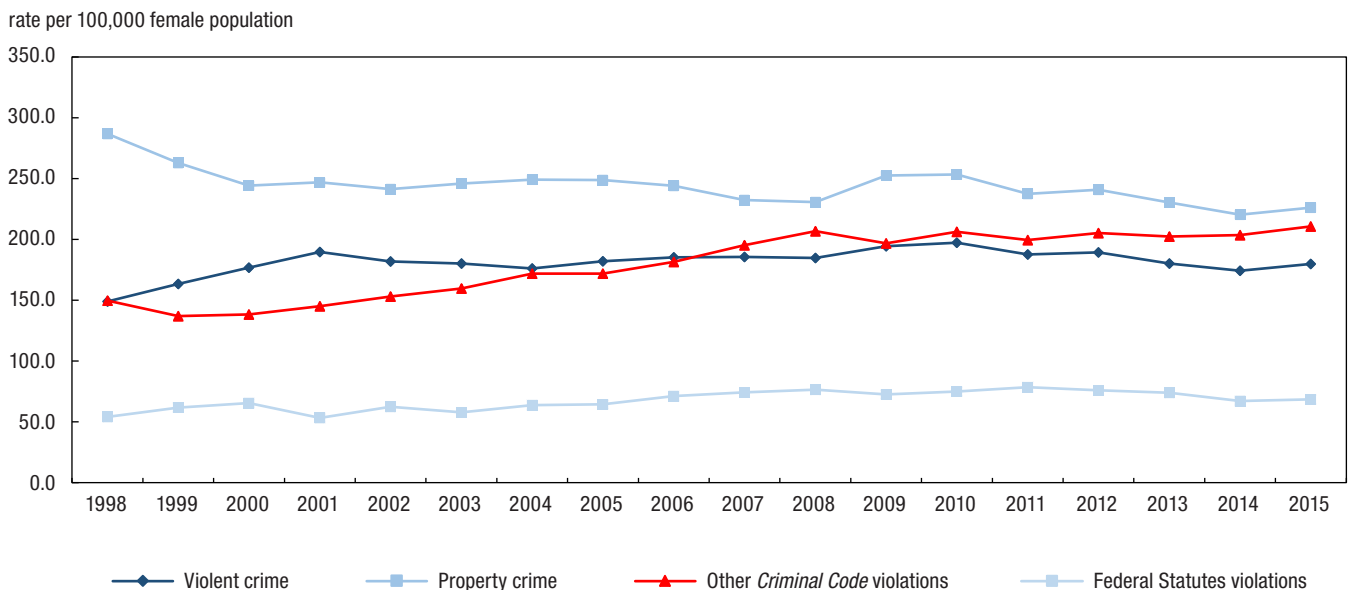
Chart 12
Women as a percentage of adults charged with *Criminal Code* offences, 1998 to 2015



Note: Data exclude traffic violations.
Source: Statistics Canada, Uniform Crime Reporting (Aggregate) Survey, 1998 to 2015.

Since 1998, there has been a decline in the rates of charges for property offences brought against adult women, and an even deeper decline in such charges being brought against adult men (charts 13 and 14). The rate of adult females charged with perpetrating property crimes declined by almost 21% between 1998 and 2015 (Chart 13). Within that time, the rate of adult males charged with property crimes decreased by 45%, while adult males charged with violent crimes fell by 17% (Chart 14). However, charges against adult females for violent crimes rose between 1998 and 2001, but have been fairly stable since that time. During this time period, charges for other *Criminal Code* violations increased by 41%.

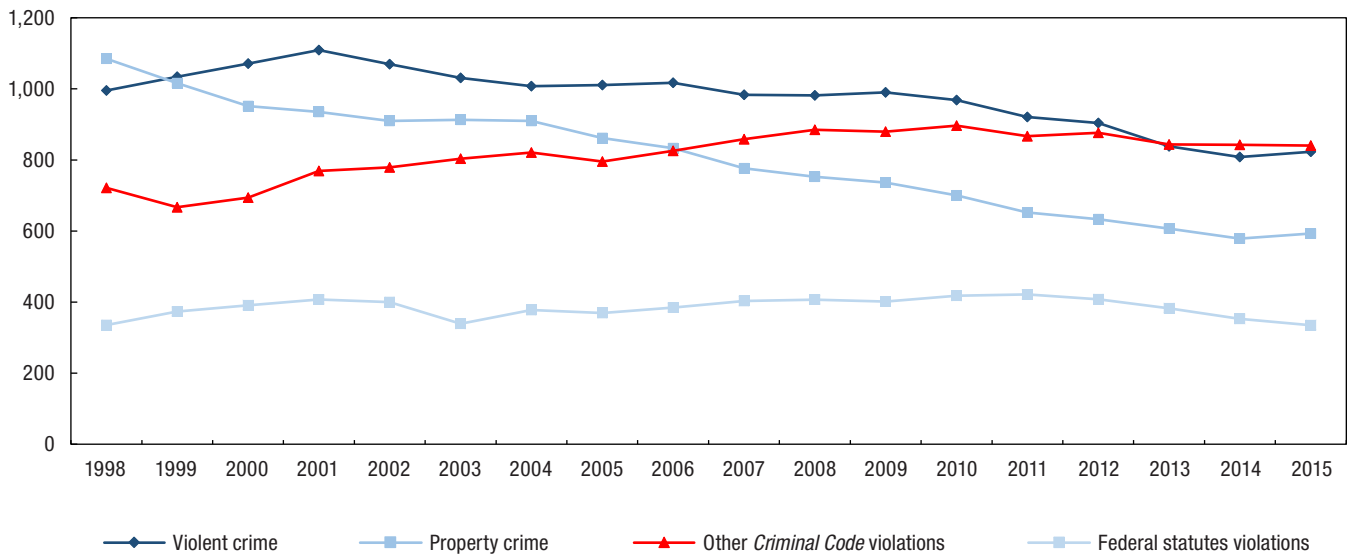
Chart 13
Rates of adult females charged by police, by offence category, 1998 to 2015



Note: Data exclude traffic violations.
Source: Statistics Canada, Uniform Crime Reporting (Aggregate) Survey, 1998 to 2015.

Chart 14
Rates of adult males charged by police, by offence category, 1998 to 2015

rate per 100,000 male population



Note: Data exclude traffic violations.

Source: Statistics Canada, Uniform Crime Reporting (Aggregate) Survey, 1998 to 2015.

One in five completed criminal court cases involve a female accused

Several factors; for example, the use of pre-charge diversion programs to reduce the number and types of cases proceeding to court, as well as the use of pre-charge screening by Crown attorneys to increase the vetting of charges before prosecution, affect the number of cases heard in adult and youth criminal courts.^{140,141} According to the 2014/2015 Integrated Criminal Court Survey,¹⁴² one in five completed court cases involved a female accused. The percentage of cases involving a female accused disposed of in youth criminal courts was slightly higher (22%) than the percentage of cases involving a female accused disposed of in adult criminal courts (20%).

The types of offences in which females are most likely to be involved changed very little between 2004 and 2014. Of all cases involving a female accused disposed of in adult criminal court in 2014/2015, property crimes (34%), violent crimes (21%), and offences relating to the administration of justice (20%) made up the majority of cases. Among cases involving a female accused settled in youth courts, 34% were property offences, 30% were violent crimes, and 17% were violations of other federal statutes.

The most common charges in cases involving a female accused completed in adult criminal court included theft (19%), level I assault (10%), impaired driving (10%), failure to comply with a court order (9%), breach of probation (7%), major assault¹⁴³ (6%), and fraud (5%). Combined, these seven offences accounted for approximately two-thirds of all cases involving a female accused disposed of in adult criminal courts. Among cases completed in youth criminal court, theft (16%) and level I assault (14%) were the most common offences involving a female accused, followed by *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA) offences (11%) and failure to comply with a court order (9%).

140. Alam, S. 2015. "Youth Court Statistics in Canada, 2013/2014." *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

141. Thomas, J. 2008. "Youth Court Statistics, 2006/2007." *Juristat*. Vol. 28, no. 4. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-XIE.

142. The 2015 Integrated Criminal Court Survey is administered by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics in collaboration with provincial and territorial government departments responsible for criminal courts in Canada. The survey collects statistical information on adult-court and youth-court cases involving *Criminal Code* and other federal statute offences. Data are based on a fiscal year (April 1 through March 31). For more information, please see <http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=3312> (accessed February 3, 2017).

143. Includes assault with a weapon (level 2) and aggravated assault (level 3).

Table 11
Cases completed in youth court and adult court, by type of offence and sex of the accused, Canada, 2014/2015

Type of offence ¹	Youth court					Adult court					
	Females		Males		Total Youth	Females		Males		Total adults	Total
	number ²	percent	number	percent		number ²	percent	number	percent		
Violent offences	2,011	22.6	6,885	77.4	8,896	12,783	18.0	58,059	82.0	70,842	79,738
Homicide	2	10.5	17	89.5	19	29	13.5	186	86.5	215	234
Attempted murder	4	21.1	15	78.9	19	14	10.6	118	89.4	132	151
Robbery	118	9.0	1,199	91.0	1,317	313	11.4	2,434	88.6	2,747	4,064
Sexual assault	17	3.0	555	97.0	572	50	2.1	2,316	97.9	2,366	2,938
Other sexual offences ²	25	4.1	584	95.9	609	89	3.0	2,844	97.0	2,933	3,542
Major assault ³	468	25.4	1,377	74.6	1,845	3,621	22.9	12,189	77.1	15,810	17,655
Common assault	918	36.5	1,595	63.5	2,513	6,285	22.8	21,336	77.2	27,621	30,134
Uttering threats	379	23.2	1,255	76.8	1,634	1,684	12.2	12,160	87.8	13,844	15,478
Criminal harassment	53	31.2	117	68.8	170	356	13.1	2,364	86.9	2,720	2,890
Other crimes against persons	27	13.6	171	86.4	198	342	13.9	2,112	86.1	2,454	2,652
Property offences	2,248	23.1	7,473	76.9	9,721	20,172	28.1	51,678	71.9	71,850	81,571
Theft ⁴	1,066	31.9	2,277	68.1	3,343	11,144	34.7	20,936	65.3	32,080	35,423
Break-and-enter	268	12.3	1,914	87.7	2,182	1,010	12.8	6,871	87.2	7,881	10,063
Fraud	106	31.0	236	69.0	342	3,260	33.2	6,556	66.8	9,816	10,158
Mischief	372	19.6	1,525	80.4	1,897	1,986	17.6	9,277	82.4	11,263	13,160
Possess stolen property	419	24.4	1,298	75.6	1,717	2,609	27.4	6,906	72.6	9,515	11,232
Other property offences	17	7.1	223	92.9	240	163	12.6	1,132	87.4	1,295	1,535
Offences relating to the administration of justice	900	29.2	2,183	70.8	3,083	12,267	18.2	55,045	81.8	67,312	70,395
Failure to appear	73	37.4	122	62.6	195	881	24.0	2,795	76.0	3,676	3,871
Breach of probation	10	22.2	35	77.8	45	4,326	16.4	21,973	83.6	26,299	26,344
Unlawfully at large	22	10.7	184	89.3	206	224	9.8	2,058	90.2	2,282	2,488
Failure to comply with order	595	29.8	1,404	70.2	1,999	5,280	18.6	23,053	81.4	28,333	30,332
Other offences relating to the administration of justice	200	31.3	438	68.7	638	1,556	23.1	5,166	76.9	6,722	7,360
Other Criminal Code offences	211	11.9	1,561	88.1	1,772	1,693	13.5	10,872	86.5	12,565	14,337
Weapons	121	10.4	1,048	89.6	1,169	800	10.1	7,112	89.9	7,912	9,081
Prostitution	7	43.8	9	56.3	16	58	17.4	275	82.6	333	349
Disturbing the peace	17	32.1	36	67.9	53	175	16.9	858	83.1	1,033	1,086
Residual Criminal Code offences	66	12.4	468	87.6	534	660	20.1	2,627	79.9	3,287	3,821
Criminal Code (excluding traffic)	5,370	22.9	18,102	77.1	23,472	46,915	21.1	175,654	78.9	222,569	246,041
Criminal Code traffic offences	94	19.3	394	80.7	488	6,954	17.7	32,351	82.3	39,305	39,793
Impaired driving	57	26.0	162	74.0	219	5,862	19.0	24,953	81.0	30,815	31,034
Other Criminal Code traffic offences	37	13.8	232	86.2	269	1,092	12.9	7,398	87.1	8,490	8,759
Total Criminal Code offences	5,464	22.8	18,496	77.2	23,960	53,869	20.6	208,005	79.4	261,874	285,834
Other federal statutes offences ⁵	1,151	20.7	4,402	79.3	5,553	6,216	15.3	34,470	84.7	40,686	46,239
Drug possession	273	16.0	1,435	84.0	1,708	1,954	15.2	10,879	84.8	12,833	14,541
Other drug offences ⁶	108	13.1	714	86.9	822	1,680	20.5	6,499	79.5	8,179	9,001
Youth Criminal Justice Act	733	25.6	2,126	74.4	2,859	136	19.1	577	80.9	713	3,572
Residual federal statutes offences	37	22.6	127	77.4	164	2,446	12.9	16,515	87.1	18,961	19,125
Total offences	6,615	22.4	22,898	77.6	29,513	60,085	19.9	242,475	80.1	302,560	332,073

1. The primary unit of analysis is the case. It combines all charges against the same person having one or more key overlapping dates (date of offence, date of initiation, date of first appearance, date of decision, date of sentencing) into a single case. Cases that involve more than one charge are represented by the most serious offence.

2. Includes sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, child pornography, luring a child via a computer, sexual exploitation, and other offences.

3. Includes assault with a weapon (level 2), aggravated assault (level 3), and other offences.

4. Includes theft over \$5,000, theft \$5,000 or under, as well as motor vehicle theft.

5. Federal statutes offences refer to offences against Canadian federal statutes, such as the *Customs Act*, the *Employment Insurance Act*, the *Firearms Act*, the *Food and Drugs Act (FDA)*, the *Income Tax Act*, and the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA)*.

6. Includes drug trafficking, production, importing and exporting.

Notes: Includes information on accused persons aged 12 and over at the time of the offence. Excludes cases in which the sex of the accused was unknown and cases in which the accused is a company. Includes cases where the age of the accused is unknown. A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and received a final disposition. Information on the sex of the accused is not available from Manitoba as of 2005/2006.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey, 2014/2015.

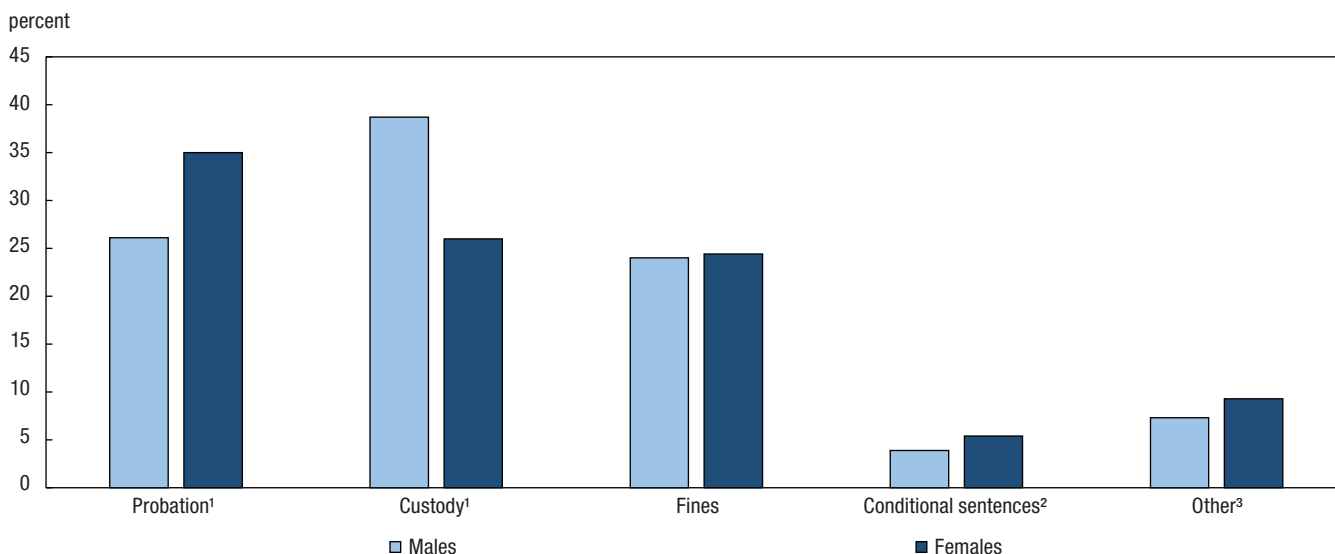
The number of cases completed in adult criminal court involving a male accused was greater than the number of cases involving a female accused in all offence categories. The highest representation of women was observed in cases of theft (35%), fraud (33%), possession of stolen property (27%), failure to appear in court (24%), other offences relating to the administration of justice (23%), and physical assault (23%). Among youth, the highest representation of females occurred in cases of prostitution (44%), failure to appear in court (37%), common assault (37%), disturbing the peace (32%), and theft (32%).

In 2014/2015, cases involving a female accused that were adjudicated in criminal courts, were less likely to result in a guilty finding¹⁴⁴—54%¹⁴⁵ in adult criminal courts and 49% of in youth criminal courts¹⁴⁶—than cases involving a male accused—65% and 58% of cases in adult criminal courts and youth criminal courts respectively). This is consistent with results from previous years. However, cases involving a female accused were more likely to be resolved by charges being stayed or withdrawn¹⁴⁷ (42% for adult females and 50% for female youth) than cases involving a male accused (30% for adult males and 40% for male youth).

Previous research has suggested that some of these differences can be attributed to the fact that cases involving a female accused are less likely to involve multiple charges and the fact that females are more likely than males to be first-time offenders.¹⁴⁸ Although information on the criminal history of the accused is not available from these data, a slightly lower percentage of adult males (39%) and male youth (36%) than females (45% for both adults and youth) incurred a single charge. Cases involving multiple charges were more likely to result in a guilty finding than cases involving a single charge. Approximately 73% of multiple-charge cases in adult court and 69% of such cases in youth court received a guilty finding, whereas this was the case for 49% of single-charge cases in adult court and 36% of such cases in youth court.¹⁴⁹

Consistent with previous research, in 2014/2015, adult females were less likely (26%) than adult males (39%) to receive a custodial sentence upon conviction (Chart 15). When custody was ordered, average sentence lengths were generally shorter for adult females than for adult males. The average length of incarceration in cases disposed of in adult court was 71 days for women and 109 days for men.¹⁵⁰ A smaller proportion of female youth than male youth were sentenced to custody (12% versus 16%).¹⁵¹ Among cases completed in youth court, average custodial sentences were 61 days for females and 87 days for males.

Chart 15
Type of sentence by sex, adult criminal court, Canada, 2014/2015



1. Since 2004/2005, for the Northwest Territories, the number of custody orders have been under-reported and the number of probation orders have been over-reported by unknown amounts as a result of clerical procedures. The majority of custody orders were captured as probation.
 2. Quebec and the Northwest Territories do not report conditional sentencing data at this time.
 3. Other most serious sentences include restitution, absolute and conditional discharge, suspended sentence, community service order, and prohibition orders, among others. Figures for "other" as the most serious sentence are low since they are among the least serious sentence types, and are often used in combination with other more serious sentences.
Notes: Cases may involve more than one type of sentence, therefore, percentages do not total 100%. A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company that were processed by the courts at the same time and with respect to which a final decision has been rendered. Information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as from municipal courts in Quebec was not available for extraction from these provinces' electronic reporting systems and was therefore not reported to the survey. The absence of data from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan may have resulted in a slight underestimation of the severity of sentences since some of the most serious cases, which are likely to result in the most severe sanctions, are processed in superior courts. Includes cases where the age of the accused is unknown.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey, 2014/2015.

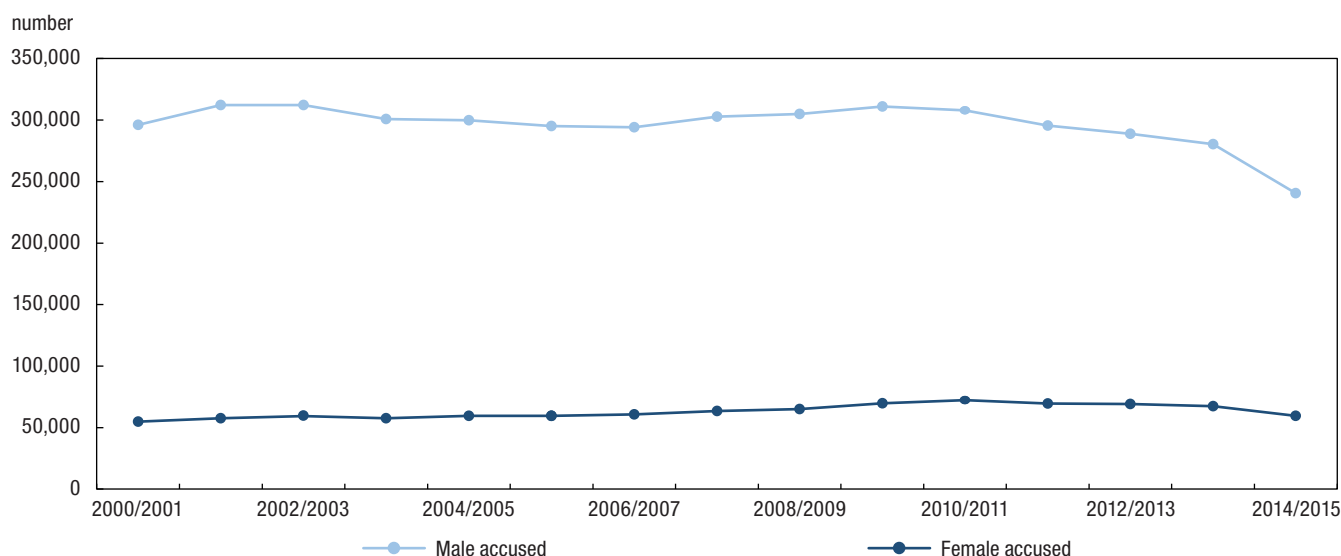
144. Guilty findings include "guilty of the charged offence," "guilty of an included offence," "guilty of an attempt of the charged offence," or "guilty of an attempt of an included offence." This category also includes guilty pleas as well as cases where an absolute or conditional discharge has been imposed.
 145. Figures for adults were taken from CANSIM Table 252-0053 Adult criminal courts, number of cases and charges by type of decision.
 146. Figures for youth were taken from CANSIM Table 252-0064 Youth courts, number of cases and charges by type of decision.
 147. This includes stays, withdrawals, dismissals and discharges at preliminary inquiry, as well as court referrals to alternative or extrajudicial measures and restorative justice programs. These decisions all refer to the court stopping criminal proceedings against the accused.
 148. Kong, R., and K. AuCoin. 2008. "Female Offenders in Canada." *Juristat* Vol. 28, no. 1. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.
 149. These figures are not presented in table form but can be found in CANSIM Table 252-0053, Adult criminal courts, number of cases and charges by type of decision, and CANSIM Table 252-0064, Youth courts, number of cases and charges by type of decision.
 150. These figures are not presented in table form.
 151. These figures are not presented in table form but can be found in CANSIM Table 252-0067, Youth criminal courts, guilty cases by most serious sentence.

Small increase in the number of cases involving a female accused completed in adult criminal court

Overall, the number of cases disposed of in adult criminal courts in the 10 reporting jurisdictions¹⁵² remained fairly stable between the year for which the trend data became available, 2000/2001, and 2014/2015 (Chart 16). The number of cases involving a female accused increased (from 54,831 in 2000/2001 to 59,633 in 2014/2015) during this period whereas cases involving a male accused decreased (from 296,161 in 2000/2001 to 240,525 in 2014/2015). This means that females accounted for a larger share of the accused in adult criminal court than they did 14 years earlier (approximately 16% in 2000/2001 versus 20% in 2014/2015).

Chart 16

Cases¹ completed in adult court by sex of the accused², 10 jurisdictions,³ 2000/2001 to 2014/2015



1. A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company, which were processed by the courts at the same time (date of offence, date of initiation, date of first appearance, or date of decision), and received a final decision. The definition attempts to reflect court processing. All data have been processed using this case definition. The case definition changed for the 2006/2007 release of data. The former definition (used in Statistics Canada releases prior to October 2007) combined all charges against the same person disposed of in court on the same day into a case. Consequently, comparisons should not be made with data tables and reports released before that time.

2. Data for the province of Manitoba are excluded as information on the sex of the accused is not available as of 2005/2006.

3. The ten jurisdictions are: Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia and Yukon. These ten provinces and territories have reported to the adult component of the Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS) since 2000/2001. Information from superior courts in Prince Edward Island, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as municipal courts in Quebec was not available for extraction from their electronic reporting systems and was therefore not reported to the survey.

Notes: This product is based on data from the adult component of the Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS). Data contained in this chart represent the adult criminal court portion of the survey, namely, individuals who were 18 years of age or older at the time of the offence. Includes cases where the age of the accused is unknown. Data are based on a fiscal year (April 1 through March 31). Cases are counted in the fiscal year in which they are completed. Every year, the Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS) database is considered final at the end of March for the production of court statistics for the previous fiscal year. However, these counts do not include cases pending an outcome at the end of the reference period. If an outcome is reached in the next fiscal year, these cases are included in the completed case counts for that fiscal year. However, cases that are inactive for one year are deemed complete and the originally published counts for the previous fiscal year are updated and reported in the next fiscal year's data release. Historically, updates to a previous year's counts have resulted in an increase of approximately 2%.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey, 2000/2001 to 2014/2015.

Youth criminal court caseloads continue to decline for both females and males

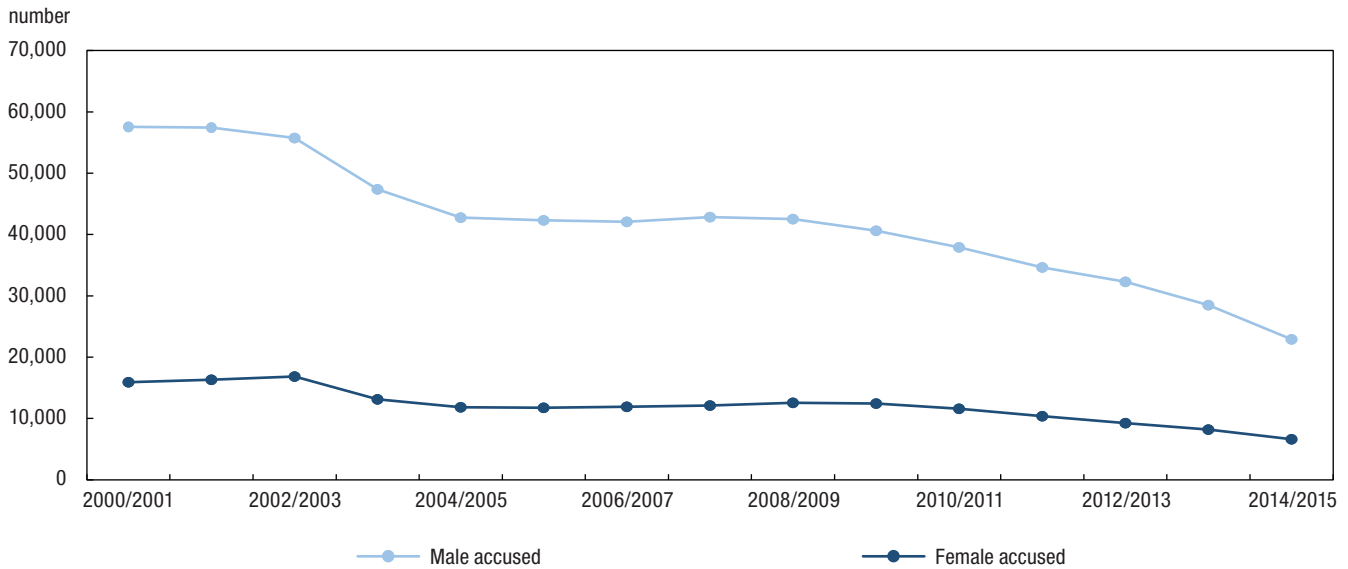
Youth criminal court caseloads declined to a greater extent than adult criminal court caseloads. In 2014/2015, youth court caseloads in Canada totaled fewer than half the number of cases they comprised in 2000/2001, a notable decline being observed in the two years from 2002/2003 to 2004/2005 (from 76,204 cases to 57,675 cases). Some of this decline has been attributed to the coming-into-force of the YCJA, in 2003, which encourages the diversion of youth who have committed non-violent and minor offences away from the formal court system.^{153,154} During this period, the number of cases involving property crimes (such as theft, break-and-enter, and mischief) declined substantially. Female youth accounted for more than one in five (22%) of all completed cases in 2014/2015, a proportion similar to that recorded in 2000/2001, more than a decade earlier.

152. The 10 jurisdictions are Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia and Yukon. These nine provinces and one territory have reported to the adult component of the Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS) since 2000/2001.

153. Alam, S. 2015. "Youth Court Statistics in Canada, 2013/2014." *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

154. Hotton Mahony, T. 2011. "Women and the Criminal Justice System." *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report, sixth edition*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 89-503-X.

Chart 17
Cases¹ completed in youth court, by sex of the accused,² 2000/2001 to 2014/2015



1. A case is one or more charges against an accused person or company, which were processed by the courts at the same time (date of offence, date of initiation, date of first appearance, or date of decision), and received a final decision. The definition attempts to reflect court processing. All data have been processed using this case definition. The case definition changed for the 2006/2007 release of data. The former definition (used in Statistics Canada releases prior to October 2007) combined all charges against the same person disposed of in court on the same day into a case. Consequently, comparisons should not be made with data tables and reports released before that time.

2. Data for the province of Manitoba are excluded as information on the sex of the accused is not available as of 2005/2006.

Notes: This product is based on data collected from the youth component of the Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS). The individuals involved are persons aged 12 to 17 years at the time of the offence. Includes cases where the age of the accused is unknown. Data are based on a fiscal year (April 1 through March 31). Cases are counted according to the fiscal year in which they are completed. However, these counts do not include cases that were pending a final decision at the end of the reference period. If a final decision is reached in the next fiscal year, then these cases are included in the completed case counts for that fiscal year. However, if a one-year period of inactivity elapses, then these cases are deemed complete and the originally published counts for the previous fiscal year are subsequently updated and reported in the next year's release of the data. Historically, updates to a previous year's counts have resulted in an increase of about 2%.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Criminal Court Survey, 2000/2001 to 2014/2015.

Females account for more than 1 in 10 admissions to adult correctional facilities

According to data from the Adult Correctional Services survey¹⁵⁵ (Table 12), there were more than 330,000 adult female admissions¹⁵⁶ to correctional supervision in Canada in 2014/2015. More than 15% of admissions to provincial / territorial correctional services and 6% of admissions to federal correctional services were adult females. Approximately one in five (19%) admissions to adult community correctional supervision (e.g., probation, conditional sentences, or parole) were women. Women also accounted for 13% of admissions to provincial / territorial custody and 7% of admissions to federal custody. Four jurisdictions exceeded the provincial / territorial average for adult female admissions to provincial / territorial custody: Manitoba (18%), Prince Edward Island (17%), Saskatchewan (15%), and Yukon (14%).

155. The Adult Correctional Services (ACS) survey collects annual data on the delivery of adult correctional services from both the provincial / territorial and federal correctional systems. For more information on the ACS survey, please see <http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=3306>. (accessed February 3, 2017).

156. Admissions represent movement from one legal status to another. For instance, an individual who moves from remand to sentenced custody is counted as one admission to remand and one admission to sentenced custody. Admissions data exclude Alberta because data from that province were unavailable.

Table 12
Admissions to adult correctional services by type of supervision and jurisdiction, 2014/2015

Jurisdiction	Remand ¹		Sentenced custody ²		Custody		Total custody ⁴	
	number ⁹	percent female ¹⁰	number ⁹	percent female ¹⁰	Other temporary custody ³		number ⁹	percent female ¹⁰
					number ⁹	percent female ¹⁰		
Newfoundland and Labrador ¹¹	759	11	1,125	11	85	6	1,969	11
Prince Edward Island	207	13	547	18	..	..	754	17
Nova Scotia	2,859	15	1,755	12	235	6	4,849	13
New Brunswick	1,987	12	2,306	12	443	17	4,736	13
Quebec	30,106	11	10,290	9	3,447	14	43,843	11
Ontario	46,259	14	24,845	10	4,553	9	75,657	12
Manitoba	12,717	18	6,229	13	7,456	24	26,402	18
Saskatchewan	7,470	16	4,399	13	316	9	12,185	15
British Columbia ¹²	13,290	11	9,546	11	1,402	7	24,238	11
Yukon	423	15	256	13	12	8	691	14
Northwest Territories ¹³	440	5	374	8	..	..	814	6
Nunavut ¹⁴	547	4	517	4	..	..	1,064	4
Provincial and territorial - total¹⁵	117,064	13	62,189	11	17,949	16	197,202	13
Federal ¹⁶	..	..	4,849	7	2,716	5	7,565	7
Total - all jurisdictions	117,064	13	67,038	10	20,665	15	204,767	13

Jurisdiction	Probation ⁵		Conditional sentences ⁶		Other ⁷		Total community supervision ⁸		Total correctional supervision	
	number ⁹	percent female ¹⁰	number ⁹	percent female ¹⁰	number ⁹	percent female ¹⁰	number ⁹	percent female ¹⁰	number ⁹	percent female ¹⁰
Newfoundland and Labrador ¹¹	1,386	21	455	23	..	..	1,841	21	3,810	16
Prince Edward Island	854	22	20	45	167	34	1,041	24	1,795	21
Nova Scotia	2,573	19	620	22	1,202	26	4,395	21	9,244	17
New Brunswick	1,588	20	500	25	311	32	2,399	23	7,135	16
Quebec	9,168	16	2,457	19	11,736	17	23,361	17	67,204	13
Ontario	28,455	18	3,544	22	380	12	32,379	19	108,036	14
Manitoba	8,015	25	974	25	1,848	30	10,837	26	37,239	20
Saskatchewan	4,405	26	1,547	22	4,628	23	10,580	24	22,765	19
British Columbia ¹²	8,808	18	2,242	19	19,105	19	30,155	19	54,393	15
Yukon	288	18	65	26	641	23	994	22	1,685	19
Northwest Territories ¹³	310	17	34	35	83	18	427	19	1,241	11
Nunavut ¹⁴	145	24	40	20	624	14	809	16	1,873	9
Provincial and territorial - total¹⁵	65,995	19	12,498	21	40,725	20	119,218	20	316,420	15
Federal ¹⁶	..	..	..	..	7,462	6	7,462	6	15,027	6
Total - all jurisdictions	65,995	19	12,498	21	48,187	18	126,680	19	331,447	15

.. not available for a specific reference period

... not applicable

1. Remand is the detention of persons in custody while they are awaiting a further court appearance. These persons have not been sentenced and can be held for a number of reasons (e.g., risk that they will not appear for their court date, danger to themselves and/or others, risk to re-offend). Remand is the responsibility of provincial / territorial correctional services.

2. Sentenced custody is the detention of offenders convicted of a crime, either in a federal facility (two years or more) or a provincial / territorial facility (less than two years). Sentenced custody admissions include admissions to intermittent sentences.

3. Other temporary detention includes persons who are being held in provincial / territorial correctional institutions for lock-ups or parole violations or suspensions; immigration holds; and those who are temporarily detained without warrants of any type.

4. Total custodial admissions are totals of remand, sentenced (including intermittent sentences), and other custodial status admissions.

5. Probation orders are dispositions imposed by the court for non-custodial sentences. The offender is released into the community under the supervision of a probation officer. The release is conditional on the offender acting in a manner stipulated by the court. Probation is mandatory when the accused is given a suspended sentence or a conditional discharge. For those jurisdictions that do not operate a provincial or territorial parole board (i.e., all but Quebec and Ontario), the probation caseload may also include a small number of provincial or territorial parolees. Probation is supervised by provincial / territorial correctional services.

6. When a conditional sentence is imposed, the offender serves their sentence in the community under supervision. The prerequisites for imposing a conditional sentence include: the offence must not have a prescribed minimum sentence; the maximum sentence of imprisonment for the offence must be less than two years; and the court must be satisfied that the offender would not endanger the safety of the community. The offender who receives such a conditional sentence of imprisonment must abide by certain conditions, such as "house arrest", curfew, alcohol or driving prohibition, treatment programs or a community service order, and may be sent to prison if he or she violates those conditions. Conditional sentences are supervised by provincial/territorial correctional services.

7. Other community programs include community service orders, provincial parole (Quebec and Ontario), fine option programs, bail supervision, and restitution orders. Given the limitations of, and the differences among, jurisdictional programs, inter-jurisdictional comparisons of the data should be made with caution.

8. Total community admissions are the sum of probation, conditional sentence, and other community programs.

9. Excludes cases where gender is unknown.

10. Percentage calculations exclude cases where gender is unknown.

11. Remand admission data in Newfoundland and Labrador exclude remands involving short periods of incarceration as these are managed by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

12. In British Columbia, other custodial status admissions represent pre-court lock-ups in a correctional facility.

13. For the Northwest Territories, other custodial status admissions are not available.

14. For Nunavut, other custodial status admissions are not available.

15. Alberta data for 2014/2015 are not available.

16. Federal sentenced custody includes warrant of committal admissions. Revocations of conditional release are included under "other temporary custody." Federal community supervision includes provincial / territorial parole (except Quebec and Ontario), federal offenders on day parole and full parole, and federal offenders on statutory release.

Notes: Admissions represent movement from one legal status to another. For instance, an individual who moves from remand to sentenced custody is counted as one admission to remand and one admission to sentenced custody. Admissions data excludes Alberta because data from that province are not available.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, CANSIM Table 251-0025, Adult Correctional Services Survey (ACSS), Adult correctional services, custodial admissions to provincial and territorial programs by sex, annual.

Table 13
Admissions to youth correctional services by type of supervision and jurisdiction, 2014/2015

Jurisdiction	Custody						Total custody ⁴		Total community ⁵		Total correctional services ⁵	
	Pre-trial detention ¹		Secure custody ²		Open custody ³		number	percent female	number	percent female	number	percent female
	number	percent female	number	percent female	number	percent female						
Newfoundland and Labrador	61	30	13	8	9	33	83	27	173	22	256	23
Prince Edward Island	22	23	12	8	25	20	70	17	212	31	282	28
New Brunswick	258	24	49	24	59	24	408	26	457	18	865	22
Ontario	3,234	20	264	14	274	16	3,772	20	3,867	19	7,639	19
Manitoba	1,989	30	173	12	158	27	2,527	29	1,859	27	4,386	28
British Columbia	742	31	65	29	171	29	1,047	30	3,049	25	4,096	26
Yukon	37	43	2	0	10	40	54	43	37	30	91	37
Northwest Territories	14	0	5	80	3	0	25	24	50	24	75	24
Nunavut	8	13	6	17	9	11	23	13	31	19	54	17
Total⁶	6,365	25	589	16	718	23	8,009	24	9,735	23	17,744	23

1. Pre-trial detention consists in holding a young person in custody temporarily while he or she is awaiting trial or sentencing.

2. A facility is considered secure when youth are detained by security devices. Secure facilities include facilities that operate with full-perimeter security features and/or facilities where youth are under constant observation. The extent to which facilities are "secure" varies across jurisdictions.

3. A facility is considered "open" when there is minimal use of security devices or there is partial-perimeter security. Open facilities include custody facilities such as community residential centres, group homes, childcare institutions, forest or wilderness camps, or any like place or facility. The extent to which facilities are "open" varies across jurisdictions.

4. Total custody includes "provincial director remand," which is to hold a young person in custody following the breach of community supervision conditions of a custody and community supervision pursuant to a warrant issued by the provincial director.

5. "Total community" and "total correctional services" exclude a small number of admissions, for which the individual's sex is unknown.

6. Provincial data from Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan and Alberta are not available for 2014/2015.

Notes: Admissions are collected each time a person begins any type of custodial or community supervision, and describe and measure the case-flow in correctional agencies over time. The same person can be included several times in the admission counts where the individual moves from one type of legal status to another (e.g., from open to secure custody) or re-enters the system in the same year. As a result, admissions represent the number of entries within a fiscal year to sentenced custody, to pre-trial detention, and to community supervision, regardless of the individual's preceding or following legal status. Data are based on a fiscal year (April 1 through March 31). Totals include all services in which young persons may be supervised. The *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA), which came into force on April 1, 2003, stipulates that the final one-third of most custody sentences shall be served under community supervision.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, CANSIM Table 251-0012, Youth custody and community services (YCCS), admissions to correctional services, by Aboriginal identity and sex, annual (2014/2015).

Table 13 presents the distribution of admissions¹⁵⁷ to correctional services for female youth (females aged 12 to 17 at the time of the offence) living in the three territories and six of the ten provinces in 2014/2015. Within the nine jurisdictions where data were available,¹⁵⁸ there were slightly more than 17,700 admissions to youth correctional services in 2014/2015. About one-quarter (23%) of the youth admitted were female. The proportion of female admissions to pre-trial detention, open custody, and community-based supervision was about the same as the overall average. However, the percentage of admissions of female youth to secure custody was relatively low (16%).

157. Admissions are collected each time a person begins any type of custodial or community supervision, and describe and measure the case-flow in correctional agencies over time. The same person can be included several times in the admission counts where the individual moves from one type of legal status to another (e.g., from open to secure custody) or re-enters the system in the same year. As a result, admissions represent the number of entries within a fiscal year to sentenced custody, to pre-trial detention, and to community supervision regardless of the individual's preceding or following legal status. Data are based on a fiscal year (April 1 through March 31). Totals include all services in which young persons may be supervised. The *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA), which came into force April 1, 2003, stipulates that the final one-third of most custody sentences shall be served under community supervision.

158. Youth corrections data are unavailable for 2014/2015 for the provinces of Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Table 14
Characteristics of adult women involved in provincial and federal correctional custodial services, 2014/2015

Characteristics	Provincial custody ¹				Federal custody			
	Total ²		Female		Total		Female	
	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
Total persons	72,687	100	8,801	11	22,023	100	1,164	5
Age³								
Younger than 18	19	0	2	0	14	0	1	0
18 to 19	3,218	4	426	5	478	2	18	2
20 to 24	12,513	17	1,682	19	3,695	17	201	17
25 to 29	13,018	18	1,656	19	4,111	19	237	20
30 to 34	11,704	16	1,490	17	3,495	16	204	18
35 to 39	9,048	13	1,121	13	2,706	12	141	12
40 to 44	7,572	10	916	10	2,422	11	132	11
45 to 49	6,427	9	728	8	1,950	9	94	8
50 and older	9,151	13	778	9	3,152	14	136	12
Unknown	17	...	2	...	0	...	0	...
Marital status³								
Single (never married)	46,957	67	5,730	67	10,982	51	637	56
Married	6,305	9	556	7	1,807	8	100	9
Common-law	10,311	15	1,281	15	6,703	31	248	22
Separated / divorced	6,562	9	886	10	1,747	8	133	12
Widowed	434	1	118	1	252	1	30	3
Unknown	2,118	...	230	...	532	...	16	...

... not applicable

1. Provincial custody represents the most recent custodial status. It can take the form of remand, sentenced custody, or other temporary detention.

2. Total provincial includes cases where gender is unknown.

3. Age and marital status are as of the date the inmate was admitted to his or her most recent custodial status.

Notes: This table displays the number of persons in custody and not the number of admissions to custody. Provincial custody includes data from Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. Percentage calculations exclude "unknown."

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Correctional Services Survey.

Characteristics of adult females involved with provincial and federal correctional custodial services

Women in provincial and federal correctional institutions tended to be younger than the overall female population in Canada (Table 14). In 2014/2015, 60% of women in provincial custody and 57% of women in federal custody were younger than 35 years of age. Among the overall female population 18 years and older, 28% of women were between the ages of 18 and 34.¹⁵⁹

The marital status of women in correctional institutions tended to differ from the marital status of women in the broader population. In 2014/2015, two-thirds (67%) of women in provincial custody and 56% of women in federal custody were "single, never married." Meanwhile, 37% of women 18 years of age and older in the Canadian population were "single, never married."¹⁶⁰

Aboriginal women continue to be over-represented in correctional institutions

The high representation of Aboriginal women among women under correctional supervision¹⁶¹ is well-documented and has been steadily increasing.^{162,163} In 2014/2015, Aboriginal women accounted for 39% of admissions of women to federal custody and 38% of admissions to provincial / territorial custody.¹⁶⁴ In comparison, Aboriginal women comprised less than 5% of the total female population of Canada in 2015. The representation of Aboriginal women in admissions increased for all three types of custody (remand, sentenced, and other) during the period; the greatest change was observed in sentenced custody, whereas the proportion for the eight reporting jurisdictions doubled, increasing from 18% in 2000/2001 to 37% in 2014/2015.¹⁶⁵ Aboriginal men accounted for one in four (25%) admissions to provincial sentenced custody, while they accounted for 15% of such admissions in 2000/2001 (Chart 18).

159. Source: Statistics Canada. CANSIM Table 051-0001.

160. Source: Statistics Canada. CANSIM Table 051-0042.

161. Aboriginal identity information is collected on admission to correctional services through self-identification. At admission, each person is asked to self-identify with at least one Aboriginal classification (Non-Aboriginal, Non-Status Indian, North American Indian, Aboriginal—Status unknown, Métis, or Inuit). Overall, the percentage of admissions to provincial or territorial custody (sentenced custody, remand, or temporary detention) in which the Aboriginal identity is unknown is less than 1%.

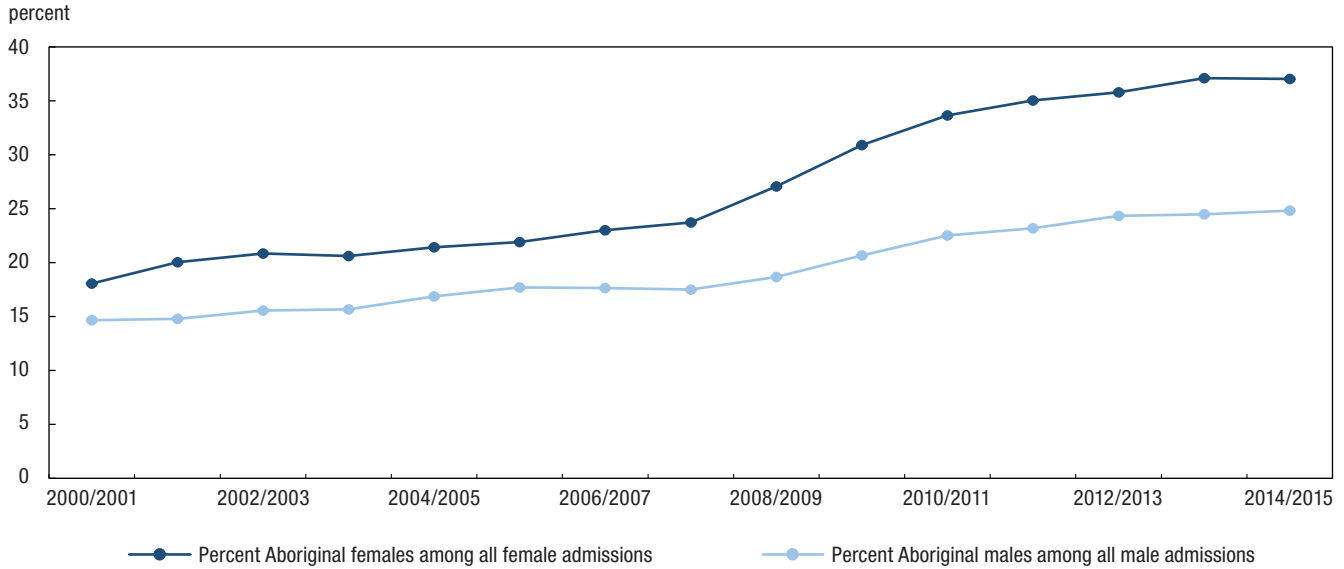
162. Hotton Mahony, T. 2011. "Women and the Criminal Justice System." *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report, sixth edition*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 89-503-X.

163. Perreault, S. 2009. "The incarceration of Aboriginal people in adult correctional services." *Juristat*. Vol. 29, no. 3. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

164. Correctional services data for the province of Alberta were not available in 2014/2015.

165. Data for Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Alberta, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut are not included, as they are not available for the full time period.

Chart 18
Adult admissions to sentenced custody, by sex and Aboriginal status, 2000/2001 to 2014/2015

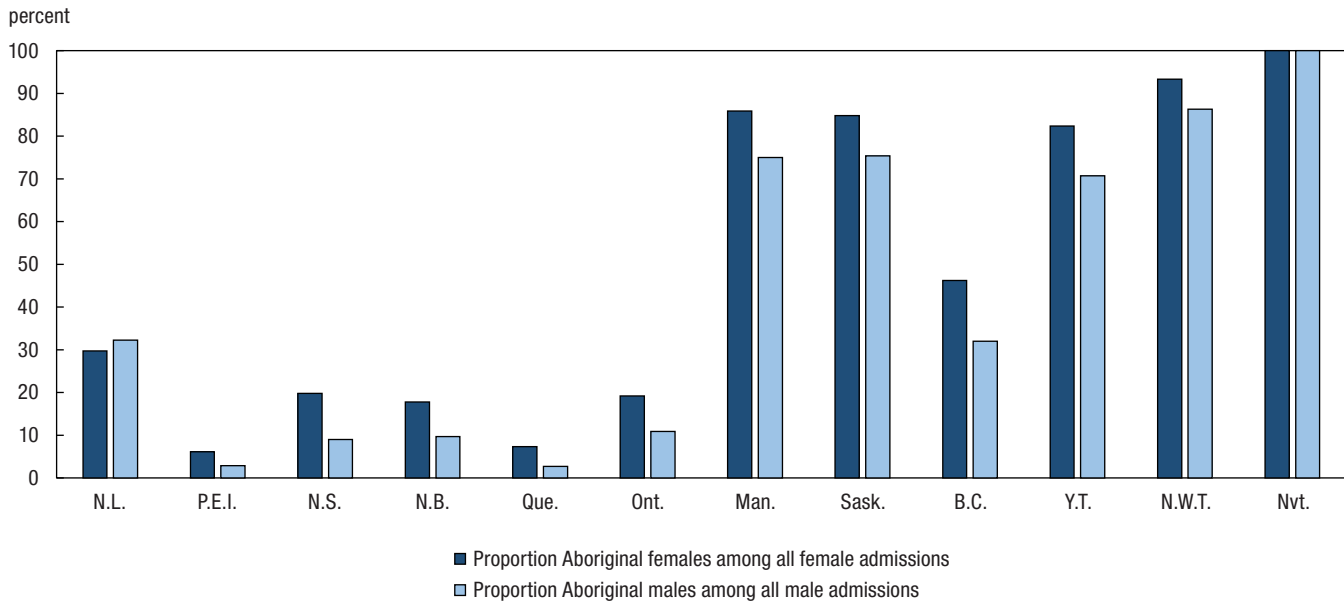


Notes: Data for Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Alberta, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut are not included, as they are not available for the full time period. The calculation of percentages excludes admissions in which the Aboriginal identity was unknown.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Correctional Services Survey, 2000/2001 to 2014/2015.

Differences in the representation of Aboriginal women in sentenced custody varies across Canada; the largest proportions were recorded in the western provinces and the territories. In 2014/2015, Aboriginal women comprised 86% of admissions of women to adult provincial sentenced custody in Manitoba and 85% of such admissions in Saskatchewan. In comparison, in 2011, Aboriginal females 15 years and older accounted for 14% and 15% of these provincial populations, respectively.¹⁶⁶ Although Aboriginal females comprise a larger proportion of the populations in the territories (24% in Yukon, 49% in the Northwest Territories, and 84% in Nunavut), their representation in admissions to sentenced custody in 2014/2015 was even higher (82% in Yukon, 93% in the Northwest Territories, and 100% in Nunavut) (Chart 19).

Chart 19
Adult admissions to sentenced custody, by sex and Aboriginal status, 2014/2015



Notes: Data for Alberta for this reference period are not available. The calculation of percentages excludes admissions in which the Aboriginal identity was unknown.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Correctional Services Survey, 2014/2015.

166. Statistics Canada. 2013. *Aboriginal Peoples in Canada: First Nations People, Métis and Inuit*. Ottawa: Statistics Canada. Catalogue no. 99-011-X2011029.

Previous research¹⁶⁷ has shown that the younger age distribution, education and employment characteristics of the Aboriginal population can account for some of its higher representation in custody. However, even when high school graduation and employment are considered, Aboriginal adults aged 20 to 34 still have higher representation in custody than non-Aboriginal people in Canada.¹⁶⁸

Women as a percentage of those employed in justice-related occupations

The percentage of women working in the criminal justice system increased between 1991 and 2011 within all the justice-related occupations examined. In particular, the percentage of female judges employed in the criminal justice system increased from 14% to 36%; the percentage of female correctional workers increased from 22% to 32%; and the percentage of female lawyers and notaries increased from 27% to 42%. In 1991, 50% of probation and parole officers were women. By 2011, women held almost two-thirds of probation and parole-officer positions and 85% of paralegal and related positions.

Table 15

Women as a percentage of those employed in justice-related occupations, 1991 to 2011

Occupation	1991		1996		2001		2006		2011 ³	
	number	percent total	number	percent total	number	percent total	number	percent total	number	percent total
Judges	345	14.0	485	21.0	620	22.0	695.0	25.0	1,095	36.0
Lawyers and notaries	14,845	27.0	17,985	31.0	23,185	35.0	29,520	39.0	33,950	42.0
Paralegal and related occupations	12,835	76.0	15,875	79.0	24,415	81.0	33,160	88.0	22,145	85.0
Probation and parole officers	1,885	50.0	2,165	47.0	3,735	54.0	3,475	59.0	4,200	65.0
Correctional service officers	3,960	22.0	4,455	24.0	5,415	29.0	6,285	31.0	7,250	32.0
Sworn officers ^{1,2}	3,965	7.0	5,635	10.0	8,275	14.0	11,210	18.0	13,600	20.0

1. Includes personnel who have obtained senior officer status, normally at the rank of lieutenant or higher ranks (chiefs, deputy chiefs, staff superintendents, staff inspectors, inspectors, lieutenants, and other equivalent ranks).

2. Includes personnel between the ranks of constable and lieutenant (staff-sergeants, sergeants, detective sergeants, corporals, and all equivalent ranks).

3. The results of the 2011 National Household Survey reflect a change in methodology from a mandatory long-form census in 2006 to a voluntary survey in 2011. Such a significant change in the method of collection could impact the comparability of data over time. For more information, please refer to the *National Household Survey: Data Quality and Confidentiality Standards and Guidelines documentation*, available at: <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/ref/DQ-QD/index-eng.cfm>.

Notes: Occupational data concerning sworn officers were derived from the Police Administration Survey (1991, 1996, 2001, 2006 and 2011). The data for the remaining occupations were derived from the censuses of population or the National Household Survey.

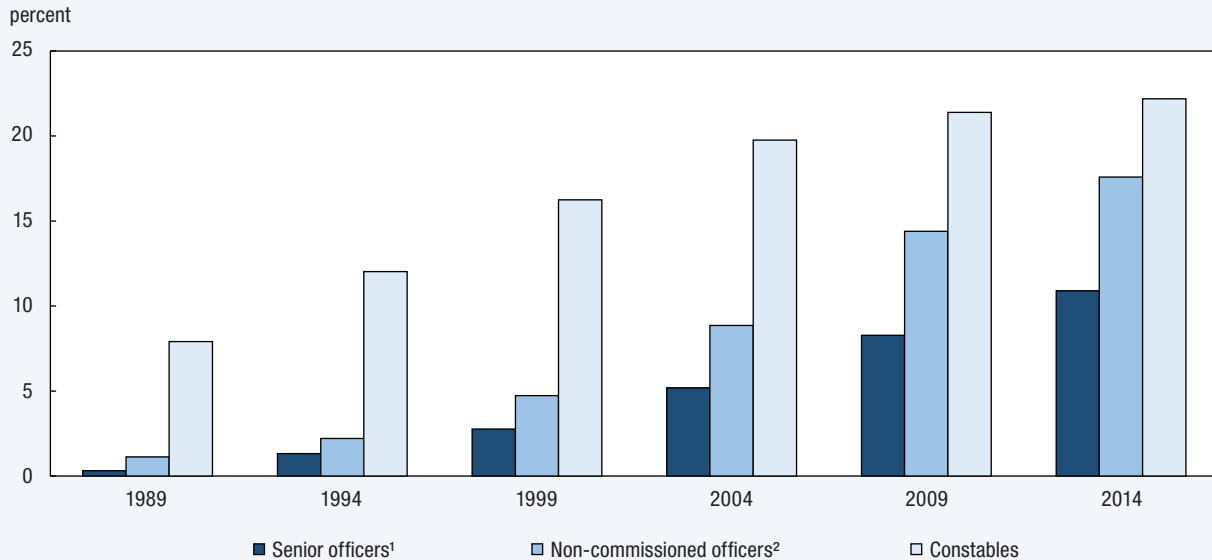
Sources: Statistics Canada, 1991, 1996, 2001 and 2006 censuses of population; 2011 National Household Survey; and Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Police Administration Survey, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006, and 2011.

167. Perreault, S. 2009. "The incarceration of Aboriginal people in adult correctional services." *Juristat*. Vol. 29, no. 3. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.
168. *Ibid.*

Large increase in the percentage of women employed in policing

According to data from the Police Administration Survey,¹⁶⁹ the percentage of women employed in policing increased substantially between 1989 and 2014 (Chart 20). In 1989, 8% of constables within Canadian police forces were women. By 2014, 22% of Canadian police constables were female. Women are also increasingly making their way into management positions in policing. In 2014, 11% of senior police officers were women, while in 1989, well below 1% of such positions were held by women.

Chart 20
Women as a percentage of police officers, by level, 1989 to 2014



1. Includes personnel who have obtained senior officer status, normally at the rank of lieutenant or higher ranks (chiefs, deputy chiefs, staff superintendents, staff inspectors, inspectors, lieutenants, and other equivalent ranks).

2. Includes personnel between the ranks of constable and lieutenant (staff-sergeants, sergeants, detective sergeants, corporals, and all equivalent ranks).

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Police Administration Survey, 1989 to 2014.

169. For more information on the Police Administration Survey, please see <http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=3301> (accessed February 3, 2017).