

Gender-based violence is affecting every aspect of Canadian life and hindering the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The following is a look at gender-based violence in Canada across the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

#EndGBVtoAchieveSDGs



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GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN CANADA ACROSS THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1 NO POVERTY



Each year in Canada, an estimated **362,000** CHILDREN ARE EXPOSED TO FAMILY VIOLENCE.⁶

Children who witness family violence have 2x the rate of psychiatric disorders as children from non-violent homes.⁷

2 ZERO HUNGER



64% of women who have experienced IPV exhibit symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.⁸

IPV leads to significantly poorer general health, mental health, and quality of life. Women with both recent IPV and IPV experience over 12 months ago have the poorest health.⁹

Women who have experienced sexual assault are more likely to attempt suicide.¹⁰

Canadian women, girls and gender diverse people cannot enjoy good health and well-being when they are experiencing violence.

GBV is a major cause of homelessness and poverty among women and their children.¹

ON ANY GIVEN NIGHT, **6,000+**

women and children in Canada sleep in emergency shelters because it is not safe at home.²

Many Canadian women must choose between leaving an abusive relationship or facing poverty.³

Evidence shows that women sometimes stay in violent relationships to avoid poverty for themselves and their children.⁴

Women who leave a partner to raise children on their own are **MORE LIKELY TO BE POORER THAN IF THEY HAD STAYED.**⁵

Gender-based violence perpetuates and feminizes poverty and food insecurity in Canada.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



63% of university students in Ontario have experienced some form of sexual violence AT SCHOOL.¹²

The rate of sexual assault for Canadians aged 15-24 is 18x higher than those aged 55+.¹³

Sexual violence at school is affecting access to quality and safe education for Canadians.

5 GENDER EQUALITY



Canadian women and girls are more likely than Canadian men to experience sexual harassment and sexual abuse in the form of rape, child sexual abuse, IPV, incest, drug-facilitated sexual assault, stalking, and sexual exploitation.¹⁴

90% OF REPORTED SEXUAL ASSAULTS IN CANADA ARE COMMITTED AGAINST WOMEN.¹⁵

Every 3 days ONE WOMAN OR GIRL IS KILLED IN CANADA.¹⁶

87% of the accused in Canadian femicide cases are male.¹⁷

Women are 2x as likely as men to be victims of family violence.¹

Women who experience spousal violence are more likely to endure extreme forms including choking, beating, being threatened with a knife or gun, and sexual violence.¹⁹

Girls are 1.5x more likely than boys to experience violence at home.²⁰

79% of police-reported IPV is against women.²¹

Women most likely to experience online harassment in its most severe forms, including stalking, sexual harassment and physical threats, are aged 18-24.²²

Women were more than twice as likely as men to say they had experienced unwanted sexual contact while at work.²³

Canada will not achieve gender equality while women and girls continue to experience violence at these rates.

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



29% of women have experienced one or more unwanted sexual behaviours in the workplace.²⁴

1 in 4 women working in a male-dominated environment were personally targeted by unwanted sexual behaviour.²⁵

A Canadian study suggests that domestic violence (DV) can carry over into the workplace, threatening women's ability to maintain economic independence.²⁶

53% of respondents who had experienced DV said that at least one type of abuse HAPPENED AT OR NEAR THEIR WORKPLACE.²⁷

81.9% from the same study reported that DV negatively affected their job²⁸ and 8.5% had lost a job due to DV.²⁹

\$7.4 BILLION is the annual cost to Canadians to deal with the aftermath of spousal violence alone.³⁰

\$3.4 BILLION is the collective annual financial impact for Canadian women who experience sexual assault, including medical costs, lost productivity, and pain and suffering.³¹

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN CANADA ACROSS THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Globally, GBV can cost countries 1.2% to 3.7% of their GDP.³²

Gender-based violence is affecting women's ability to maintain and excel at their jobs and achieve economic empowerment. It is also limiting economic growth as the cost of gender-based violence leaves Canada with less money to invest in industry, innovation and infrastructure. How are we to achieve SDGs 8 and 9 without eradicating gender-based violence?

To achieve SDG 10, Canada must work to eradicate gender-based violence against all women, especially the most marginalized.

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



ON ANY GIVEN NIGHT IN CANADA, **3,491 AND THEIR 2,724 CHILDREN** SLEEP IN EMERGENCY SHELTERS.⁴¹

300+ women and children are turned away from shelters on any given night in Canada because they are full.⁴²



12x more likely to be murdered than any other women in Canada.³³

Those who commit crimes against Indigenous women in Canada are often punished less severely (or not at all) than those who commit crimes against white women.³⁴

Although Métis women experience more violence than non-Indigenous women, issues facing Métis women, girls and two-spirit people are under-researched.³⁶

3x spousal violence higher than non-Indigenous women and double that of Indigenous men.³⁷

Women with a disability were nearly 2x as likely as women without a disability to have been sexually assaulted in the past year.³⁸

For women with disabilities, the risk of violence increases when they are racialized, younger, Indigenous, LGBTQI2S, migrant workers, immigrants, non-status migrants or living in rural areas.³⁹

Women in rural areas experienced the highest overall rates of IPV, with rates almost 4X higher than those for men in these areas.⁴⁰

Women and girls are in the greatest danger in their homes - 55% of femicide victims are killed in their own home or the home they shared with the accused.⁴³

In Toronto, women and children are staying in violence against women shelters an average of 10-14 months or longer while they wait for housing to become available.^{43B}

Gender-based violence perpetuates homelessness and increases housing instability for women and their children.

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



The National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) concluded that the violence experienced by Indigenous women, girls and two-spirit people in Canada amounts to **GENOCIDE.**⁴⁴

MURDERS OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN ARE MORE LIKELY TO GO UNSOLVED. ONLY

53% of murder cases in the Native Women's Association of Canada's database have been solved, compared to 84% of all murder cases in Canada.⁴⁵

Indigenous women and girls only make up 4% of Canada's population, but 50% of human trafficking survivors.⁴⁶

There is no exact number of MMIWG in Canada. **THOUSANDS** of deaths and disappearances have gone unrecorded over the decades and families are still waiting for justice.⁴⁷

We can't have peace and justice until we have peace and justice for Indigenous women in Canada.

How is Canada to achieve SDG 16 when Indigenous women are still being trafficked, going missing and being killed?



There are approximately 19 million women and girls in Canada.⁴⁸ Half of them have experienced at least one incident of physical/sexual violence since age 16.⁴⁹

When half of the women and girls in Canada are experiencing violence and forced to deal with its effects on their health, wealth and well-being, how are they to contribute as meaningfully to their families and communities?

IMAGINE A CANADA FREE FROM GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE.

Ending GBV in Canada will:

- Create healthier and stronger families and communities.
- Create a more peaceful, just and equitable society.
- Increase wealth and economic growth for all Canadians.
- Increase the political and economical participation of women, as well as increase their decision-making skills.
- Increase the participation of women and girls in mitigating climate change and bringing forth climate justice, especially in Indigenous communities, where women are often the traditional custodians of the land and water.
- Harness the untapped talent and power of all women, girls and gender diverse people and all they can contribute to Canada.

End GBV and watch Canada flourish.

End GBV and watch the world flourish.

#EndGBVtoAchieveSDGs

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