COALITION OF REGIONAL sexual assault centres SASKATCHEWAN

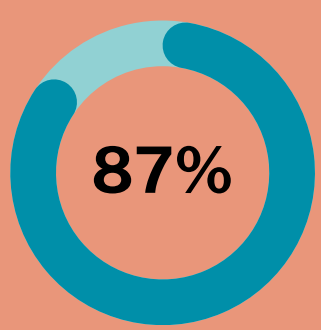
THE STATS ON

Sexual Assault

Sexual assault is a highly gendered crime in Canada, with women and girls accounting for 90% of victims involved in incidents reported to police in 2022. The vast majority (96%) of accused persons were men and boys, and most (74%) victims of sexual assault knew the person accused of the crime.[1]

30%
of women aged 15-24 (~4.7 million) in Canada have been sexually assaulted.[2]

There are approximately 22 incidents of sexual assault for every 1,000 people in Canada aged 15 and older. Of all sexual assault incidents, the vast majority (87%) were committed against women.[3]



In the case that perpetrators were accused and charged, Canadian police have confirmed 87% of survivors knew their perpetrators.[4]

SOME GROUPS EXPERIENCE EVEN HIGHER RATES...

2SLGBTQ+ people are 3x more likely to be physically or sexually assaulted than those not identifying as a sexual minority.[6]

Indigenous women are 3x more likely to be sexually assaulted at least once since the age of 15 than non-indigenous women in Canada.[5]

People with disabilities are more than 2x as likely to be sexually assaulted as those without disabilities.[7]

IN SASKATCHEWAN,

- Saskatchewan has the **second-highest rate of sexual violence** among the Canadian provinces.[8]
- In 2022, **1,449 people** reported a sexual assault, an increase of 368 reports since 2017.
- If only ~6% of survivors report, that means more than 24,000 Saskatchewanians experience sexual violence each year, or **68 each day**.
- The odds of sexual assault being reported to police were about 80% lower than for other violent crimes;[9] only one quarter (27% according to one study) of victims in Saskatchewan report to police.[10]

BARRIERS TO REPORTING

Victims avoid reporting to police because of:

- concerns that the perpetrator would not be held responsible;
- a lack of understanding of what constitutes sexual assault;
- feelings of shame or embarrassment about what happened to them;
- a perception that they wouldn't be believed; and
- concerns about bringing shame and dishonour to their families.[11]

The impact of sexual assault goes far beyond just the individual victims / survivors. In 2009, the Government of Canada spent

$4.8 BILLION

on sexual assault and related offenses, including justice system costs, victim costs, and third-party costs.[12]

Sources:

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4. Statistics Canada. (2017). Police-reported sexual assaults in Canada, 2009 - 2014,
5. Statistics Canada. (2017). Self-reported sexual assault in Canada, 2014,
6. Statistics Canada. (2020). Experiences of violence victimization and unwanted sexual behaviours among gay, lesbian, bisexual and other sexual minority people, and the transgender population, in Canada, 2018,
7. Statistics Canada. (2017). Self-reported sexual assault in Canada, 2014,
8. Statistics Canada. (2021). Table 3.4 Victims of police-reported intimate partner and nonintimate partner violence, by gender of victim and province or Territory, 2018 to 2019.
9. Statistics Canada. (2021). Criminal victimization in Canada, 2019,
10. Sexual Violence in Saskatchewan: A Survey Report. Sexual Assault Services of Saskatchewan, Community-University Institute for Social Research University of Saskatchewan, 2019.
11. Statistics Canada. (2024). Recent trends in police-reported clearance status of sexual assault and other violent crime in Canada, 2017 to 2022,
12. Department of Justice Canada. (2021). An estimation of the economic impact of violent victimization in Canada, 2009.