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Sexual violence occurs with great frequency:

- More than one third of Canadian women report having had a least one experience of sexual assault since the age of 16.^{1 2}
- 51% of all Canadian women have experienced at least one incident of sexual or physical violence.³
- About 20% of women experiencing spousal violence reported at least one incident of sexual assault.⁴
- Women living with disabilities are four times more likely to have experienced sexual assault than women without disabilities.⁵
- Studies suggest 15% to 25% of university and college students will experience some form of sexual assault during their academic career.^{6 7}
- In 1997 Health Canada found that 57% of Aboriginal women had been sexually abused.⁸ Studies also suggest that assaults against Indigenous women are not only more frequent, they are also often particularly brutal.⁹
- Recent Ontario research shows that 20% of trans Ontarians have been the targets of physical or sexual assaults because they are trans, and another 34% have experienced verbal harassment or threats.¹⁰
- A new U.S. study shows that on average, 43 percent of lesbian and bisexual women and 30 percent of gay and bisexual men reported having experienced at least one form of sexual assault during their lifetimes.¹¹
- In a 1993 national survey, 23% of Canadian women reported that they had encountered work-related sexual harassment in their lifetime.¹²
- In a 2007 report on homelessness by Street Health Toronto, 21% of women experienced sexual assault in the past year and 36% experienced sexual harassment. 100% of trans-identified people experienced sexual harassment. Women living on inadequate welfare benefits live in unsafe housing, such as squats and shelters, and are more vulnerable to rape and sexual harassment¹³.
- According to the Canadian Mental Health Association (2006), 49% of homeless women are survivors of childhood sexual abuse.¹⁴

¹ Statistics Canada. (2006). *Measuring Violence Against Women: Statistical Trends 2006*. Ottawa, ON: Minister of Industry.

² Johnson, H., (1996) *Dangerous Domains: Violence Against Women in Canada*. Nelson

³ Toronto Police Sex Crimes Unit (2014), retrieved May, 2014 at: <http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/sexcrimes/sas/statistics.php>

⁴ Kong, R., Johnson, H., Beattie, S. & Cardillo, A. (2003). *Sexual offences in Canada*. Ottawa, ON: Statistics Canada. Retrieved June 30, 2014 from: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/85-002-x2003006-eng.pdf>

⁵ Martin S et.al, Physical and Sexual Assault of Women With Disabilities in DAWN, Factsheet: Women with Disabilities, Retrieved June 25, 2014 from: <http://www.dawncanada.net/main/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/English-Violence-January-2014.pdf>

⁶ Newton-Taylor, B., D. DeWit, and L.Gliksman. 1998. "Prevalence and Factors Associated with Physical and Sexual Assault of Female University Students in Ontario." *Health Care for Women International* 19: 155–164. Found in Government of Ontario. (2011), in *Changing Attitudes, Changing Lives: Ontario's Sexual Violence Action Plan*. Toronto, ON: Ontario Women's Directorate. Retrieved March 20, 2014 from: www.women.gov.on.ca/english/resources/publications/svap2011.pdf

⁷ Government of Ontario, *Developing a Response to Sexual Violence: A Resource Guide For Ontario's Colleges and Universities 2013*, retrieved July 20, 2014 at: http://www.citizenship.gov.on.ca/owd_new/english/resources/publications/campus_guide/campus_guide.pdf

⁸ A Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women: http://www.oaith.ca/assets/files/Publications/Strategic_Framework_Aboriginal_Women.pdf

⁹ Jodi-Anne Brzozowski, Andrea Taylor-Butts and Sara Johnson, (2006) "Victimization and offending among the Aboriginal population in Canada", *Juristat*. Vol. 26, no. 3, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. Retrieved March 20, 2014 from: <http://caid.ca/Juristat2006v26n3.pdf>

¹⁰ TransPulseProject (2012) Egale, retrieved July 20, 2014 at: <http://transpulseproject.ca/>

¹¹ Rothman, E. Exner, D., Baughman, A, *The Prevalence of Sexual Assault Against People Who Identify as Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual in the United States: A Systematic Review in Trauma Violence Abuse in Journal of Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, Sage Publishing, April 2011 12: 55-66

¹² Johnson, H. (1994). Work-related sexual harassment. *Perspectives on labour and income*, 6(4). June 25, 2014 from: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/studies-etudes/75-001/archive/e-pdf/1561-eng.pdf>.

¹³ 16 Canada's progress report: No Action No Progress FAFIA, (2010) pg 10

http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CEDAW/Shared%20Documents/CAN/INT_CEDAW_NGS_CAN_13431_E.pdf

¹⁴ <http://www.orcc.net/sites/all/files/pdf/Sexual-Assault-Statistics-FS.pdf>

- In 2010, police-reported data showed that males accounted for 12% of sexual assault victims.¹⁵ In 2003 this was 8%¹⁶
- In 2005, 6 out of 10 victims who reported being sexually assaulted were under 17.¹⁷
- In Canada up to three quarters of Aboriginal girls under the age of 18 have been sexually assaulted.¹⁸
- Globally, young people—both girls and boys—experience significant levels of sexual coercion. An overview of studies in 21 countries (mostly developed) found that up to 36 per cent of women and up to 29 per cent of men reported sexual victimization during childhood.¹⁹
- About 600 women and children are trafficked into Canada each year for the purposes of sexual exploitation.²⁰

¹⁵ Brennan, S. 2012. Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2011. Statistics Canada: Ottawa retrieved June 20 2014 at: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/2012001/article/11692-eng.pdf>

¹⁶ Toronto Police Sex Crimes Unit (2014), retrieved May, 2014 at: <http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/sexcrimes/sas/statistics.php>

¹⁷ AuCoin, K. (2005b). Children and youth as victims of violent crime. *Juristat*. Vol. 25, no. 1. Catalogue 85-002-XIE. Ottawa: Statistics Canada. Retrieved July 20, 2014 at: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/85-002-x2005001-eng.pdf>

¹⁸ A Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women: http://www.oaith.ca/assets/files/Publications/Strategic_Framework_Aboriginal_Women.pdf

¹⁹ Pinheiro, P (2006) United Nations Report of the independent expert for the United Nations study on violence against children, accessed March 20, 2014 at http://www.unicef.org/violencestudy/reports/SG_violencestudy_en.pdf

²⁰ Oxman-Martinez, J., Lacroix, M., & Hanley, J. (2005). *Victims of trafficking in persons: Perspectives from the Canadian community sector*. Ottawa, ON: Department of Justice Canada.