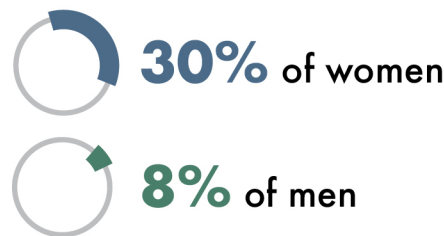


# Gender-based Violence (GBV) in Canada: A Snapshot

## Sexual Violence



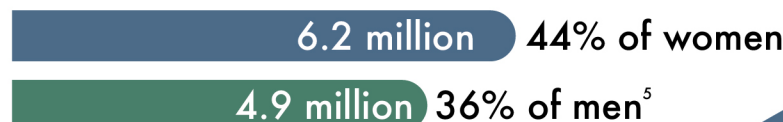
Almost four times as many women as men have been sexually assaulted since age 15.<sup>1</sup>



Transgender and gender-diverse people<sup>2,3</sup> are about **1.5 times more likely** than cisgender people to have been physically or sexually assaulted since age 15.

## Intimate Partner Violence

Women are more likely than men to have experienced intimate partner violence<sup>4</sup> since age 15.



Women account for **79%** of victims of intimate partner violence incidents reported to police.

Over recent years, women have made up the **vast majority (80%)** of all victims of intimate partner homicides.



## Gender-based Violence at Work



In 2018, almost 3 in 10 (29%) women said they had experienced inappropriate sexual behaviour<sup>6</sup> at work in the previous 12 months<sup>7</sup>



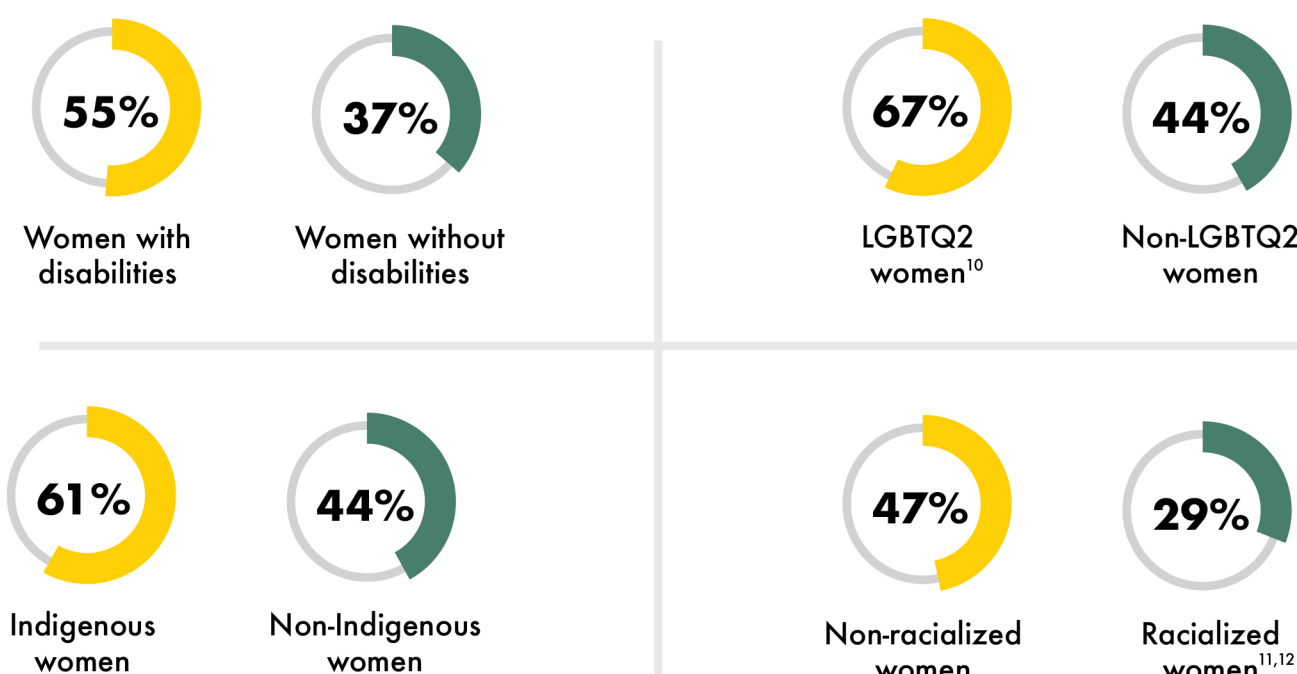
compared to almost 2 in 10 men (17%).

Four times as many women as men have been sexually assaulted in a work-related context (13% vs. 3%).<sup>8</sup>



**Due to intersecting forms of discrimination and inequality, some groups of women<sup>9</sup> are more vulnerable to GBV.**

### Intimate partner violence since age 15



### Intimate partner violence, police-reported

Incident rates per 100,000 population

**789**

Rural women

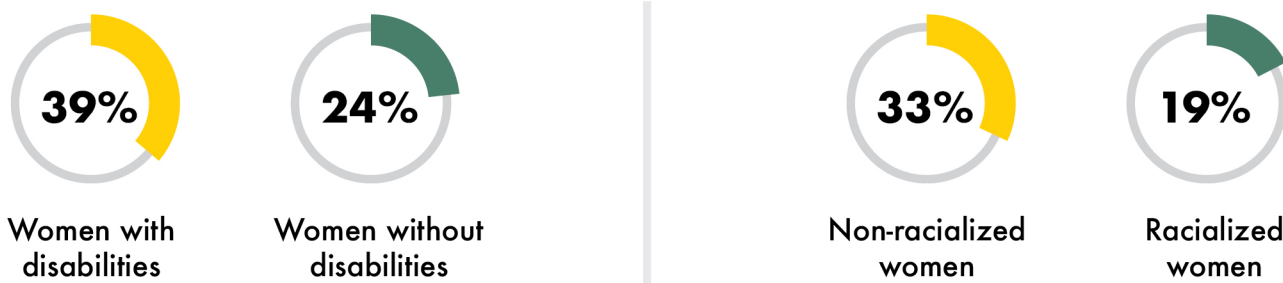
**447**

Urban women



In 2018, **12%** of women aged 15-24 said they had been sexually assaulted in the previous 12 months, significantly more than among any other age group.

### Sexual assault since age 15



**Sources:** All data are from the following Statistics Canada surveys: [Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces, 2018](#); [Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile, 2019](#); [Survey on Sexual Misconduct at Work, 2020](#); and [Homicide Survey](#). Some data are from custom tabulations that are not available online.

**Note:** Provincial and territorial data on various forms of GBV are available in the tables accompanying the following Statistics Canada reports: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2019001/article/00017-eng.htm> and <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2020001/article/00012-eng.htm>.

<sup>1</sup> All experiences of violence presented on this infographic are self-reported, with the exception of data on incidents reported to police and homicides.

<sup>2</sup> People who indicated that their assigned sex at birth was different from their current gender, or that their current gender was other than man or woman.

<sup>3</sup> LGBTQ2 (both gender-diverse and sexual minority) individuals were identified in the Survey on Safety in Public and Private Spaces (SSPPS). Due to sample size considerations, only certain data were released on their experiences of violence. See <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2020001/article/00009-eng.htm>.

<sup>4</sup> Intimate partner violence includes emotional, psychological, physical, sexual or financial abuse.

<sup>5</sup> The frequency, severity and patterns of violence differ significantly between genders. It is important to examine these characteristics to understand the gendered and unequal nature of IPV. See <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2021001/article/00003-eng.htm>.

<sup>6</sup> For purposes of the survey, this included inappropriate verbal or non-verbal communications, sexually explicit materials, and/or physical contact or suggested sexual relations.

<sup>7</sup> All references to the previous 12 months refer to the 12 months preceding the respondent's completion of the Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces. Data was collected between April and December, 2018.

<sup>8</sup> Data are for the provinces only.

<sup>9</sup> All respondents included in the following statistics identified their gender as female.

<sup>10</sup> This is the Statistics Canada term used for analysis and presentation of SSPPS data. It includes those whose sexual orientation was lesbian, gay, bisexual, or another sexual orientation that was not heterosexual. It also includes respondents whose sex at birth did not align with their gender (i.e., they are transgender).

<sup>11</sup> In the SSPPS, respondents who identified as belonging to particular groups were designated as [visible minorities](#) based on the definition in the *Employment Equity Act*. Indigenous individuals are in the "Not a visible minority" category.

<sup>12</sup> While data show that some populations may not be at increased risk of experiencing certain forms of GBV, this does not mean that GBV is not a serious issue among these populations. Some populations face unique barriers and challenges in reporting violence or accessing services, making them more vulnerable to the impacts of GBV.

This infographic was prepared by Women and Gender Equality Canada as part of the Workplan of the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Task Team on Gender-Based Violence and Access to Justice 2021-2023. It was shared with the federal, provincial, and territorial ministers responsible for the status of women in December 2021.