



Femicides in Ontario
March 2025

WE COUNT FEMICIDE BECAUSE...

MARCH 1ST - MARCH 31ST 2025

#WeCountFemicideBecause

MONTHLY FEMICIDE IN ONTARIO FACTSHEET



Ontario Femicides
(since Nov. 26 2024)

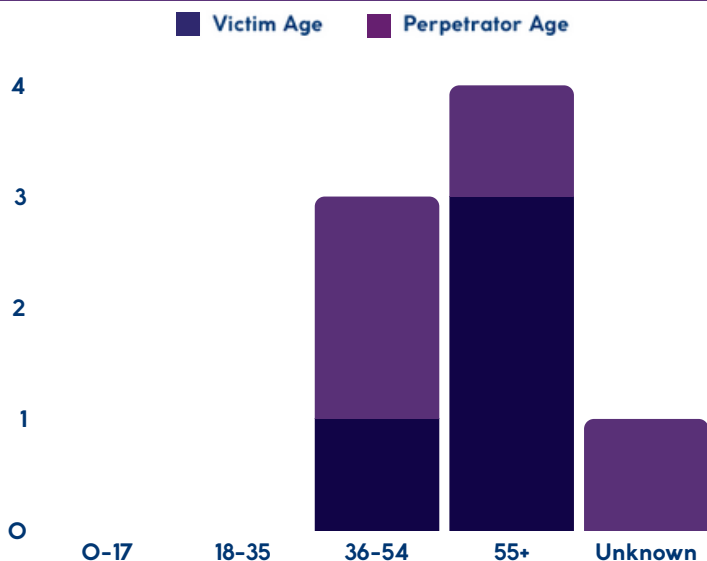
Quick Facts

- OAITH's femicide definition includes a gender-related killing of a woman, child, trans woman, 2-Spirited Person, or gender non-conforming individual where a man has been charged in relation to the death

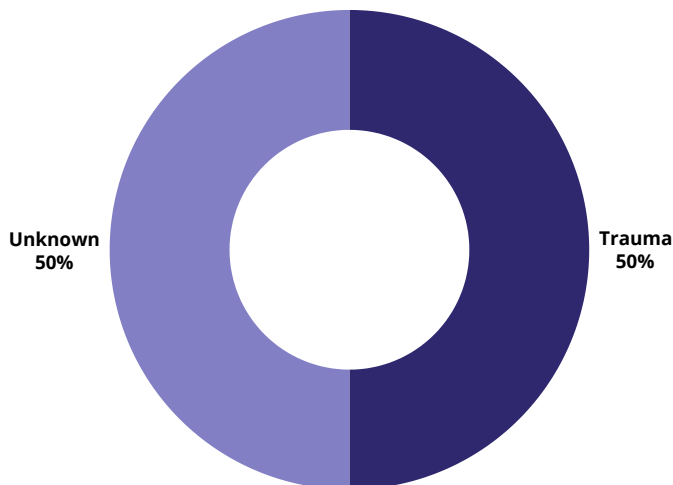
OAITH Femicide Data- Femicide Type (Year to Date)

Intimate Partner	Family	Known	Relationship Not Reported	No Prior Relationship	Total
2	5	1	1	0	9

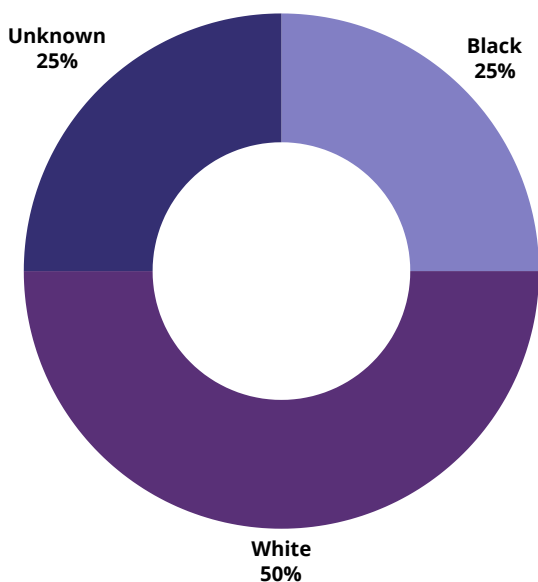
Victim & Perpetrator Age Comparison



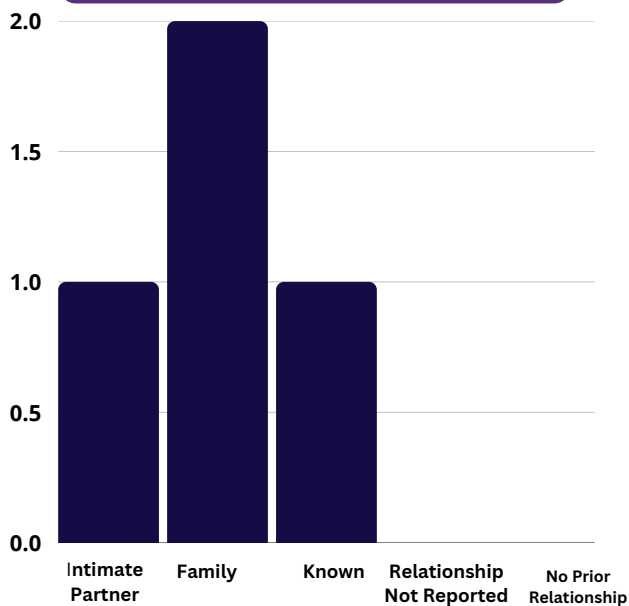
Cause of Death



Victim Race



Victim & Perpetrator Relationship Comparison





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Femicide Victims

Confirmed Total: 4

Central Region

Jane Doe, 42 - Brampton, ON

National Media: <https://bit.ly/JaneDoeBrampton>

Local Media: <https://bit.ly/BramptonGuardianJaneDoe>

Television: <https://bit.ly/JaneDoeBramptonCBCNews>



East Region

Karen Ferguson, 65 - Cobourg, ON

National Media: No report available

Local Media: <https://bit.ly/KarenFergusonTodaysNorthumberland>

Television: <https://bit.ly/KarenFergusonCTVNews>



West Region

Anita Goodings, 83, Leamington, ON

National Media: No report available

Local Media: <https://bit.ly/AnitaGoodingsTheWindsorStar>

Television: <https://bit.ly/AnitaGoodingsCTVNews>



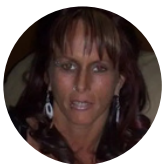
North Region

Paula Mallette, 57, Timmins, ON

National Media: No report available

Local Media: <https://bit.ly/PaulaMalletteTimminsToday>

Television: <https://bit.ly/PaulaMalletteCTVNews>



Unconfirmed Femicides

Total: 1

Central Region

Nilakshi Raguthas, 20 - Markham, ON

National Media: <https://bit.ly/NilakshiRaguthasTorontoStar>

Local Media: <https://bit.ly/NilakshiRaguthasYorkRegionNews>

Television: <https://bit.ly/NilakshiRaguthasCBCNews>



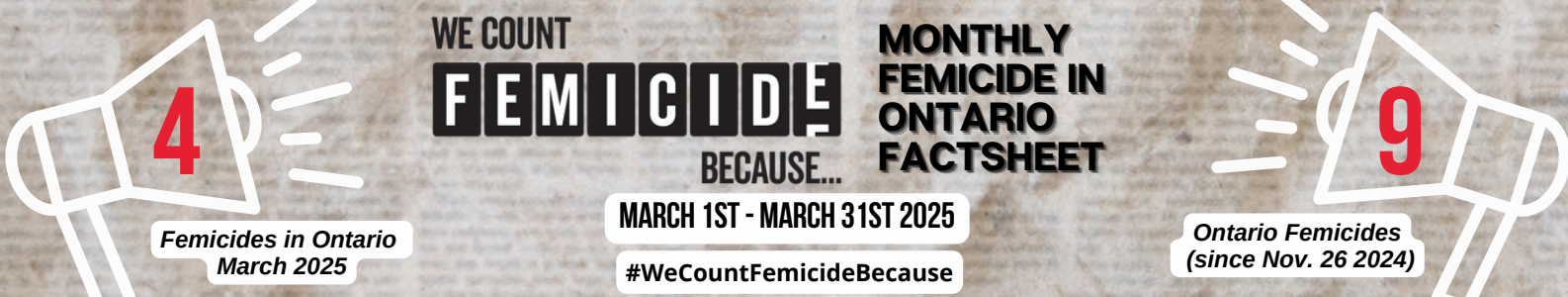
Suggested Citation:

Ontario Association of Interval and
Transition Houses (OAITH), 2025. March
Monthly Femicide in Ontario Factsheet.



**BUILDING A
BIGGER WAVE**
Ontario Network for VAW
Coordinating Committees

Questions, Errors or Omissions: info@oath.ca



Housing Shortages, System Gaps and Missed Opportunities

Four new femicides were confirmed in March through Ontario media reports. This month femicides were reported to be perpetrated by the victim's intimate partner (25% or 1 case), a man known to the victim (25% or 1 case) and the victims' adult sons (50% or 2 cases). Since November 26, 2024 a total of nine femicides have been confirmed. A number of unconfirmed femicide cases continue to be monitored pending further police investigation and updates. In 55.6% of femicides reported to date, the victim's son or son-in-law has been charged in relation to their death. The victim's intimate partner has been charged in 22.2% of cases and 11.1% of cases have been reported to be perpetrated by a man known to the victim. In 11.1% of cases the relationship between the victim and accused has not been publicly disclosed.

Given the lack of affordable housing within the private market, many survivors are required to access rent-geared-to-income housing and transitional/supportive housing. There are also significant shortages within community housing options, leading to extensive wait times for survivors looking to access safe and affordable housing. Despite specific measures designed to provide survivors, in urgent need of housing, with a more expedited process to access this type of housing, the current shortages result in lengthy waitlists surpassing a year or several years (Buckmaster, 2024; Dubinski, 2024). This month, 100% of femicides reportedly occurred inside a residence. While it is unclear if the accused perpetrators were residing with their mothers when the femicides occurred, more generally in response to the housing crisis and changing societal norms there has been a growing shift towards longer familial cohabitation and multi-generational housing (Duench, 2025). The lack of safe and affordable housing in the province has been noted as a significant barrier for those experiencing intimate partner violence, however, it may also be a significant barrier for those experiencing family perpetrated violence within their homes. Within Ontario's Gender-Based Violence (GBV) framework addressing housing shortages and expanding supports that allow women who are experiencing violence to remain safe in their homes must also be prioritized in order to improve safety outcomes for those experiencing violence within their homes.

In addition to addressing the housing shortage, more can be done to prevent family-perpetrated femicides from occurring. Unlike femicides perpetrated by the victim's current or former intimate partner, there is no formal mechanism to review cases of femicides reported to be perpetrated by a family member such as the victim's adult son. The current rates of femicides perpetrated by adult sons in the province, however, suggests that greater intervention is required to address other types of GBV, such as family perpetrated violence. Death Review Committees through the Coroner's Office can provide valuable insights and recommendations related to death's that occur in Ontario. Given the rates of femicides reported to be perpetrated by the victims' sons, we would recommend that the Coroner's Office consider establishing a committee to review family related homicides that don't fit the scope for the Domestic Violence Death Review Committee. This will allow an examination of possible histories of violence within the family and previous system interactions so that recommendations can address system gaps or possible missed opportunities. The recommendations that emerge from this type of formal review can help to inform provincial and national strategies to address GBV and inform policies and programs that work to prevent these femicides from occurring.

References:
 Buckmaster, I. (2024). County wants to speed up housing process for domestic violence, human trafficking survivors. Guelph Today. <https://www.guelphtoday.com/local-news/county-wants-to-speed-up-housing-process-for-domestic-violence-human-trafficking-survivors-9637668>.
 Dubinski, K. (2024). Changes could be coming to who gets priority for social housing in london. CBC News. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/london/changes-could-be-coming-to-who-gets-priority-for-social-housing-in-london-1.7316125>.
 Duench, J. (2024). Why multigenerational households have increased by 50% in 20 years. Broadview. <https://broadview.org/why-multigenerational-households-have-increased/#:~:text=According%20to%20Statistics%20Canada%2C%20as,50%20percent%20increase%20since%202001.>