Background

The following report provides an overview of femicide in Ontario from April 1st - April 30th 2021. It is important to note that the information pertaining to these femicide cases may be incomplete due to ongoing police investigations. As investigations continue there will likely be further details released, allowing for a more thorough analysis of femicide trends in Ontario. It is also important to note the total number of confirmed femicides may not be accurate. The OAITH femicide list relies on media reporting to track femicide cases and as a result these totals may not capture all of the femicide victims who may have been omitted from media coverage.

For the purpose of the following report, the suspects will be referred to as perpetrators, however, it is important to note that while charges may have been laid against a suspect, these charges have often not yet been proven in a court of law. While information may have been provided about the suspect through police and media reports, it is important to note that the accused has not been found guilty in many cases and there is the potential for this information to change depending on further police investigations and court verdicts.

If you are aware of a media report between April 1st and April 30th that isn't captured in this report you can send your inquiry to Lauren Hancock via email: lauren@oaith.ca.

Femicide Rates Comparison

A total of four confirmed femicide cases occurred between April 1st and April 30th, 2021, an increase of one from the previous month. In addition, there is one case that is being investigated by police, however it has not yet been confirmed a femicide due to the lack of available information regarding criminal charges or victim-perpetrator relationships. Unconfirmed femicides and other suspicious deaths continue to be monitored for police announcements relating to suspects, criminal charges and additional information relating to victim/perpetrator relationships.
Victim and Perpetrator Age Comparison

As illustrated in the chart below 50% (2/4) of femicide victims for the month of April were between the ages of 18-35 and 50% (2/4) of femicide victims were ages 55 and over. Past research has highlighted an emerging trend of older women, ages 55 and over, at an increased risk for femicides. While the data set is too small to effectively compare with findings of past years, a significant percentage of femicides (50%) from April involved a victim ages 55 and over. These findings support the need for specialized prevention measures and initiatives targeted at older women to prevent further violence from occurring.
As can be seen in the chart below, all perpetrators that have been accused of femicide in the month of April are under the age 55. Half, (50% or 2/4) of the perpetrators are between the ages of 18-35 and the other half (50% or 2/4) are between the ages of 36 and 54. This continues to be a particularly important indicator to track as it highlights specific age groups of men that may require additional education and intervention to prevent further violence from occurring.

**Perpetrator Age**
April 1st - April 30th 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th># of Femicides</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-17</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-35</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-54</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55+</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cause of Death**

When examining the cause of death for femicide victims killed during the month of April, the cause of death in 50% (2/4) of femicides was trauma. Trauma can be defined as any death resulting from a stabbing, an assault or any other blunt force trauma that results in death. The remaining 50% (2/4) of femicide cases have been coded as an unknown cause of death due to ongoing investigations. These femicide cases both involved arson, however, the official cause of death has not yet been released to the public.
Victim-Perpetrator Relationship

Victim-perpetrator relationships are coded as follows:

- **Intimate Partner**: current or former intimate partner
- **Family**: Father, son, nephew
- **Known**: Acquaintance, neighbour
- **Unknown**: Was a targeted attack/ at-risk due to gender and details about the nature of the relationship are unknown or unreleased

As can be seen in the chart below femicide victims are experiencing violence from multiple sources. In the month of April, 25% (1/4) of femicide victims were killed by an intimate partner and 25% (1/4) of femicide victims were killed by a family member in this case by a son. Due to pending investigations 50% (2/4) of femicide victims have been coded as having an unknown relationship with the perpetrator. As further details emerge about the victim-perpetrator relationship through police disclosure and media reporting this information is likely to change. While no distinct trends have emerged for the month of April due to the limited data set and need for additional police disclosure, it is clear that femicide victims continue to experience fatal violence perpetrated by those closest to them, such as an intimate partner or a son. This data has highlighted the need for further research into femicides that are perpetrated by sons against their mothers to determine risk factors and implement preventative measures as this femicide type continues to impact women, namely mothers, in Ontario.
Victim Age and Relationship Type

The chart below provides a comparison of femicide victims’ ages and their relationship with the perpetrator. This type of analysis can identify the various sources of violence that are being experienced by a specific age cohort. As illustrated in the chart below, femicide victims belonging to the age cohort of victims ages 55 and over were killed by both an intimate partner and a family member, notably a son. Due to the small data set and limited police disclosure there are limitations to using this type of analysis. As can be seen in the chart below, both victims belonging to the 18-35 age group have been coded as an unknown relationship type or femicide type due to limited police disclosure about the nature of the relationship between the victims and the perpetrators. This creates challenges when analyzing femicide data for potential trends, as there is no way to determine the various sources of violence that victims belonging to a specific age group may be experiencing.
Confirmed Femicides
April 1st - 30th 2021
Total - 4

Toronto Region
Cynthia Coffey - Toronto
National Media:
Local Media:
Television Media:

West Region:
Moui Khuu - Hamilton
National Media:
Local Media:
Television Media:
**North Region**
Jasmine Mary-Claire Somers - Sudbury
National Media: 
Local Media: 
Television Media: 

Jamie-Lynn Lori-Lee Rose - Sudbury
National Media:
Local Media: 
Television Media: 
https://northernontario.ctvnews.ca/major-residential-fire-on-bruce-avenue-in-sudbury-multiple-fatals-1.5382954

**Unconfirmed Femicides**
**April 1st - April 30th 2021**
**Total - 1**

**West Region:**
Jane Doe - Simcoe
National Media:
Local Media:
Television Media: 
https://london.ctvnews.ca/death-investigation-underway-after-two-bodies-found-in-simcoe-ont-home-1.540092