

FEMICIDE IN ONTARIO

**JANUARY 1ST - MARCH 1ST 2020 AND
JANUARY 1ST - MARCH 1ST 2021
COMPARISON**

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Background

The following report provides a comparison of femicide rates in Ontario from January 1st - March 1st 2020 and January 1st - March 1st 2021. It is important to note that the information pertaining to the 2021 femicide cases may be incomplete due to ongoing police investigations. This can be seen quite evidently through the examination of cause of death for femicide victims in 2021 where there is a high number of cases where cause of death has been coded as unknown. This is likely due to the lack of details that have been provided by police pertaining to cause of death. As investigations continue there will likely be further details released allowing for a more thorough analysis of trends related to cause of death. It is also important to note the total number of femicides may not be accurate for both 2020 and 2021. 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.

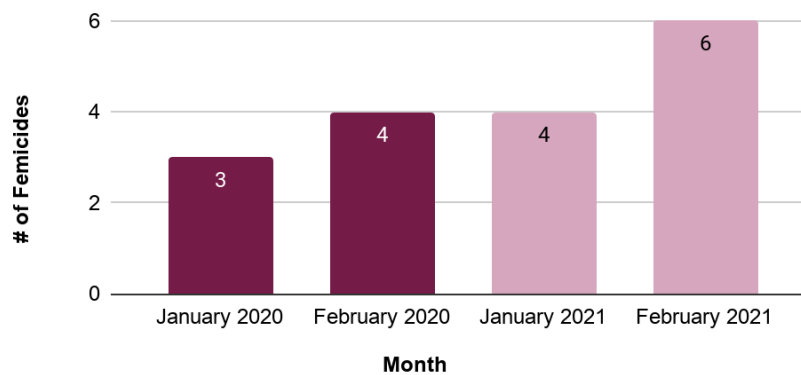
For the purpose of the following report, the suspects will be referred to as perpetrators, however, it is important to note that while charges may have been laid against a suspect, these charges have often not yet been proven in a court of law. While information may have been provided about the suspect 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.

Femicide Rates Comparison

When comparing the number of femicide cases between January 1st - March 1st of 2020 with the number of femicide cases this year, a significant increase can be seen. In the first two months of 2020 there were a total of 7 confirmed femicides. A total of 3 femicides occurred in January 2020 and another 4 femicides occurred in February 2020. In the first two months of 2021 there have been 10 confirmed femicides. It is also imperative to note that in addition to those 10 femicides, there are an additional 5 women who have been killed in this period of time, however, due to lack of available information and ongoing investigations they have not yet been confirmed as femicides. Those cases continued to be monitored for police announcements relating to suspects, criminal charges and additional information relating to victim/perpetrator relationships.

Femicide Rates Comparison

January 1st - March 1st 2020 & January 1st - March 1st 2021

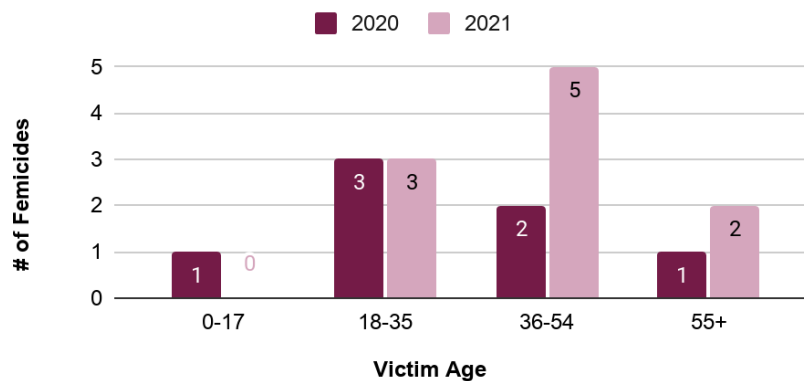


Victim and Perpetrator Age Comparison

When comparing the age of femicide victims from January-March 2020 and January-March 2021 it is evident that there has been an increase in age for femicide victims, with a total of 5 victims between the ages of 36-54 and a total of 2 ages 55 and over. The average age of femicide victims from January-March 2020 was 35.4 while the average age of femicide victims this year has increased to 43.7.

Femicide Victim Age Comparison:

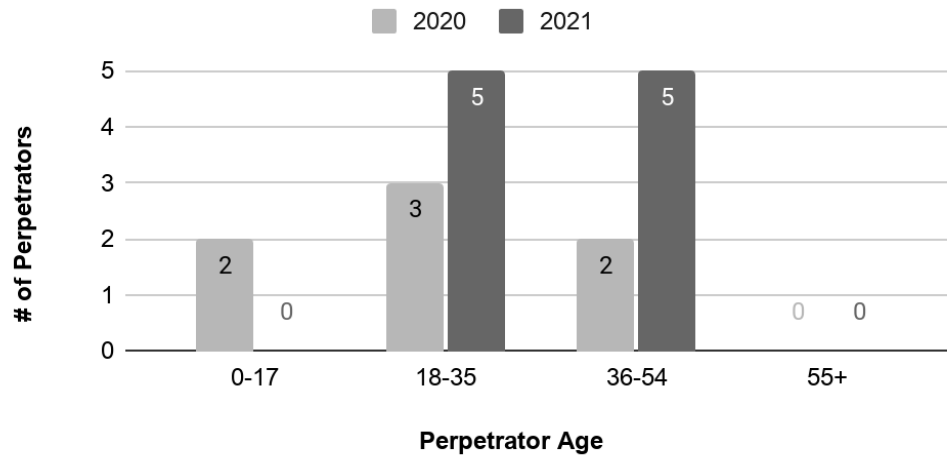
January 1st - March 1st 2020 & January 1st - March 1st 2021



These increases can also be seen when examining the perpetrators age. The number of perpetrators under the age of 18 (ages 0-17) has decreased this year from 2 to 0. 5 or 50% of all perpetrators have been between the ages of 18-35 and 36-54.

Perpetrator Age Comparison

January 1st - March 1st 2020 & January 1st - March 1st 2021

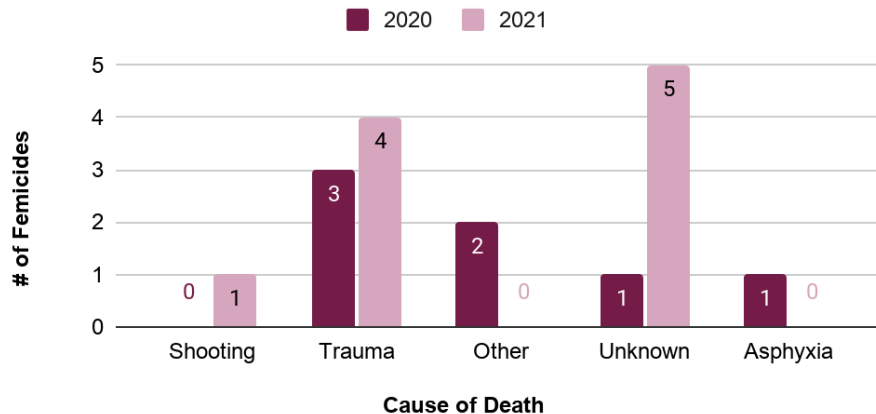


Cause of Death

When examining the cause of death, it is important to note once again that the high number of femicides that have been coded as cause of death unknown, may be in part due to the lack of available police details or ongoing police investigations. As highlighted in the chart below, a total of 5 femicides have been coded as cause of death unknown. While this is a stark increase from last year, this may change pending further police and media disclosure. Additionally, a total of 4 victims have died this year as a result of trauma - which includes assault and stabbing. There has also been one femicide where the cause of death was shooting - an increase of 1 from this time last year.

Cause of Death Comparison:

January 1st - March 1st 2020 & January 1st - March 1st 2021



Victim-Perpetrator Relationship

Victim-perpetrator relationships are coded as follows:

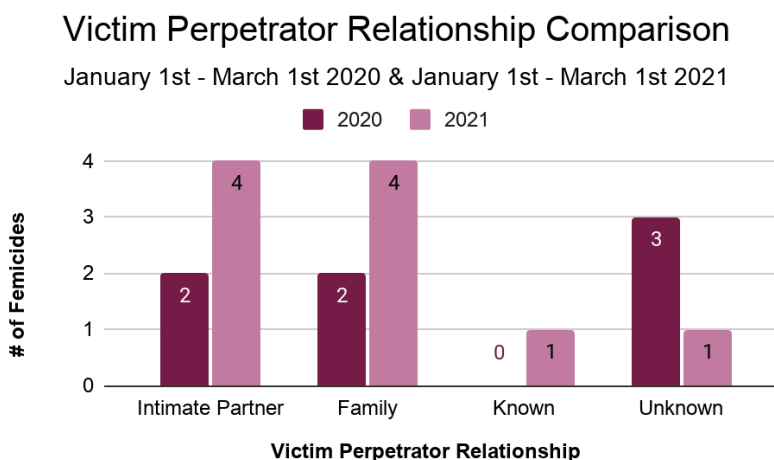
Intimate Partner: current or former intimate partner

Family: Father, son, nephew

Known: Acquaintance, neighbour

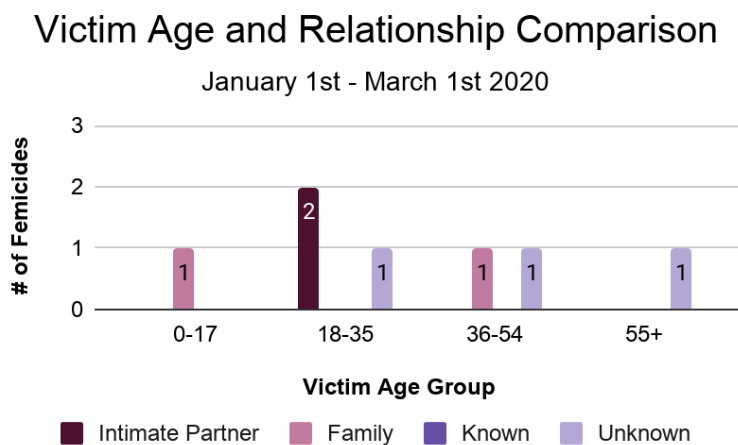
Unknown: Was a targeted attack/ at-risk due to gender and details about the nature of the relationship are unknown or unreleased

When comparing the victim-perpetrator relationship trends of last year and this year, there is a large increase in the number of victims who were killed by their intimate partners - both current and former partners (a total of 4 victims). This increase can also be seen in the number of femicides that were committed by family members which has also increased from 2 to 4. In all 4 femicides that were allegedly committed by a family member involved the victim's son. There has also been one femicide involving a known relationship where the victim and suspect have been confirmed to have been roommates. Additionally, one femicide has been coded as relationship unknown, however, this will likely be coded as a known relationship or intimate partner relationship pending further police disclosure. The number of unknown relationships has decreased from last year and it is important to highlight that 2 of those cases were committed by men that were not known to the victim, however, media reporting confirmed these were targeted attacks. Both of these cases have resulted in terror charges being laid, with one case being linked to the Involuntary Celibate Movement (INCEL).



Victim Age and Relationship Type

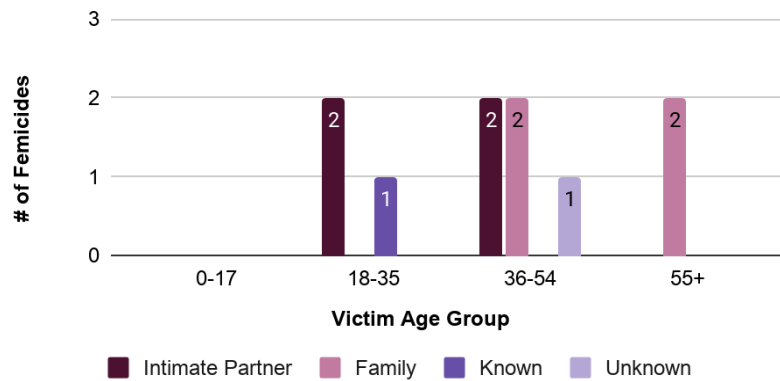
The following graphs examine the victims age and the type of femicide or victim-perpetrator relationship. This chart highlights which type of femicides women may be most at risk for, depending on their age group. As will be noted below in further detail, women between the ages of 18-35 and 36-54 have been mostly likely to be killed by their intimate partners, both current and former, as well as their family. Victims who are ages 55 and older, however, have been killed only by family members. When comparing the age and relationship type of femicide victims from last year to this year there is a decrease seen in the number of victims between the ages of 0-17 with 0 femicides reported this year involving a young victim under the age of 18. When examining victims between the ages of 18-35 there has been no change in the number of femicides involving an intimate partner (a total of 2 for 2020 and a total of 2 for 2021). However, there has been an increase of 1 in the number of victims who were killed by someone known to them.



When examining victims belonging to the age group of 36-54 from 2020 and 2021 there are a few noticeable differences. There have been increases in the number of femicides involving intimate partners (total of 2) and involving family (total of 2), however there were no femicides within this age group involving an intimate partner the previous year and only 1 femicide involving a family member. There is also a noticeable difference in the relationship type for victims ages 55 and older. In January - March 2020 there was a total of one femicide involving an older woman and while the attack was targeted, the perpetrator was not known to the victim. From January - March 2021 there have been a total of two victims ages 55 and older, both of which were killed by family members, most notably their sons.

Victim Age and Relationship Comparison

January 1st - March 1st 2021



Confirmed Femicides

January 1st - March 1st 2021

Total - 10

West Region:

Natalie Bartlett - Sarnia

National Media: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/windsor/sarnia-police-woman-murder-1.5872790>

Local Media: <https://www.theobserver.ca/news/local-news/investigation-into-sarnia-homicide-continues>

Television Media: <https://london.ctvnews.ca/we-called-her-natalie-family-remembers-murdered-sarnia-woman-1.5270503>

Central Region:

Claudia Anna Ricci - Tottenham

National Media:

Local Media: https://www.barrietoday.com/police-beat/opp-investigating-tottenham-homicide-after-womans-body-found-inside-home-3296468?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=facebook&fbclid=IwAR13S2aj3IMm-dGpuUSTRJZ4jXqhxNzWTYqMWHccTsl2lYBkGEkl-yHgMI0

Television Media: <https://globalnews.ca/news/7601373/opp-investigate-tottenham-homicide/>

Imebet Foster - Brampton

National Media: <https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2021/02/02/despite-sons-arrest-brampton-murder-victims-body-has-not-yet-been-found-peel-police-say.html>

Local Media: <https://www.insauga.com/brampton-man-charged-with-first-degree-murder-of-his-mother>

Television Media: <https://globalnews.ca/news/7613281/body-murdered-brampton-woman-still-missing-peel-police-say/>

Jane Doe - East Gwillimbury Mount Albert

National Media: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/two-dead-significant-incident-town-east-gwillimbury-1.5904366>

Local Media: <https://www.orilliamatters.com/police-beat/a-woman-is-dead-and-2-children-another-woman-injured-in-east-gwillimbury-stabbing-4-photos-video-3360626>

Television Media: <https://www.cp24.com/news/woman-dead-three-people-including-two-children-in-hospital-after-stabbing-in-east-gwillimbury-suspect-killed-1.5298691>

Wendy Lahay - Ramara

National Media:

Local Media: <https://www.orilliamatters.com/police-beat/orillia-opp-say-woman-was-victim-in-monck-road-homicide-3427864>

Television Media: <https://barrie.ctvnews.ca/woman-dead-man-charged-with-first-degree-murder-in-ramara-twp-1.5308546>

Jane Doe (Richmond Hill) - Richmond Hill

National Media: <https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2021/02/24/woman-dead-man-arrested-after-incident-at-richmond-hill-home.html>

Local Media: <https://www.yorkregion.com/news-story/10338305-update-children-home-during-richmond-hill-domestic-1st-degree-murder-police/>

Television Media: <https://globalnews.ca/video/7663990/41-year-old-woman-fatally-stabbed-in-richmond-hill-identified>

Toronto Region:

Leah St-Jean - Toronto

National Media: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/police-id-victim-found-dead-near-york-university-1.5885320>

Local Media: <https://www.baytoday.ca/local-news/former-north-bay-woman-murdered-in-toronto-3292088>

Television Media: <https://globalnews.ca/news/7595522/man-charged-murder-leah-st-jean/>

Amanda Killeen - Toronto

National Media: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/police-id-victim-in-george-st-homicide-amanda-killeen-1.5938856>

Local Media: <https://torontosun.com/news/local-news/warmington-more-charges-in-murder-of-woman-family-say-is-amanda-killeen>

Television Media: <https://globalnews.ca/news/7680003/toronto-police-murder-investigation-amanda-killeen/>

Kathleen Hatcher - Toronto

National Media: <https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2021/02/27/toronto-police-identify-woman-slain-in-etobicoke-homicide.html>

Local Media: <https://torontosun.com/news/crime/so-tragic-son-arrested-in-woman-death-in-kings-mill-park>

Television Media: <https://globalnews.ca/news/7667170/toronto-homicide-kathleen-hatcher/>

East Region:

Cileana Taylor - Curve Lake First Nation

National Media: <https://www.thestar.com/local-peterborough/news/2021/02/27/young-curve-lake-first-nation-woman-cileana-taylor-dies-in-hospital-after-suffering-head-injury.html>

Local Media: <https://www.thepeterboroughexaminer.com/news/peterborough-region/2021/03/06/congress-of-aboriginal-peoples-issues-a-call-for-justice-for-cileana-taylor.html>

Television Media: <https://globalnews.ca/news/7673921/curve-lake-first-nation-woman-cileana-taylor-dies-assault/>

Unconfirmed Femicides**January 1st - March 1st 2021****Total - 5****West Region:**

Juliana Pannunzio - Fort Erie

National Media: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/hamilton/fort-erie-homicide-victims-identified-1.5881800>

Local Media: <https://windsorstar.com/news/local-news/windsor-woman-killed-in-fort-erie-double-homicide>

Television Media: <https://windsor.ctvnews.ca/super-bubbly-personality-windsor-area-woman-remembered-after-fort-erie-ont-homicide-1.5278302>

Christina Crooks - Fort Erie

National Media: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/hamilton/fort-erie-homicide-victims-identified-1.5881800>

Local Media: <https://windsorstar.com/news/local-news/windsor-woman-killed-in-fort-erie-double-homicide>

Television Media: <https://windsor.ctvnews.ca/super-bubbly-personality-windsor-area-woman-remembered-after-fort-erie-ont-homicide-1.5278302>

Sue Elin Lumsden - Sarnia

National Media: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/windsor/sarnia-police-third-homicide-january-1.5885839>

Local Media: <https://blackburnnews.com/sarnia/sarnia-news/2021/01/24/sarnia-police-investigating-third-homicide-month/>

Television Media: <https://london.ctvnews.ca/sarnia-police-plead-for-information-in-essex-street-homicide-1.5294020>

North Region:

Stephanie Allen - Sudbury

National Media:

Local Media: <https://www.thesudburystar.com/news/local-news/missing-sudbury-woman-dies>

Television Media: <https://northernontario.ctvnews.ca/missing-sudbury-woman-dies-in-hospital-following-medical-distress-call-1.5308631>

Central Region:

Krystyna Rerak - Georgetown

National Media: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/ont-fatal-fire-1.5921130>

Local Media: <https://torontosun.com/news/local-news/id-of-couple-in-suspicious-georgetown-fire-confirmed-as-cops-look-for-vehicle>

Television Media: <https://globalnews.ca/news/7651077/georgetown-fatal-house-fire-suspicious/>