



WE COUNT

FEMICIDE

BECAUSE...

ONTARIO 2025 ELECTION EDITION

MAY 1 2022 - FEBRUARY 1 2025



Ontario Femicides
(since May 1, 2022)

INVESTMENTS IN AFFORDABILITY

Making Ontario more affordable for survivors is an investment in ending gender-based violence and the systems that cause it.

This needs to include:

- Decent work opportunities
- Improving food security
- Greater access to legal services
- GBV services require access to mental health and addiction investment
- Increased ODSP & OW rates
- Increased investment into employment and training programs for survivors of GBV

INVESTMENTS IN HOUSING

Deeply affordable and safe housing is an investment in the future of survivors and alleviates the pressure on shelters and transitional housing programs by shortening the lengths of stay and the number of those turned away.

This needs to include:

- Increased access to housing with supports (childcare, income, employment and training programs)
- Operational funding for transitional housing
- Get Ready to Build Fund for non profits to be application ready to build housing in their communities

INVESTMENTS IN CORE FUNDING

New and sustainable funding of 60 million dollars across the sector is an investment in safer communities.

This needs to include:

- Improved quality of service for survivors
- Adequate funding into health and trauma services
- Retaining overburden staff
- Development of culturally specific support programs
- Investment into IT infrastructure and cybersecurity for non-profits

More services, more beds, funding unfunded beds, more staff and more movement within the shelter system

INVESTMENTS IN PREVENTION

Addressing gender-based violence is an investment in the future of all Ontarians

This needs to include:

- Addressing racism, hatred and oppression across the province
- Community-based prevention programming (i.e. Caring Dads)
- Engaging men and boys within awareness/advocacy/prevention
- Comprehensive curriculum focusing on GBV and healthy relationships
- Strengthening community-based relationships within the education system to deliver prevention programs
- Addressing unique barriers in rural, remote and northern communities
- Increasing access to transportation, cellular coverage and affordable high-speed internet across the province



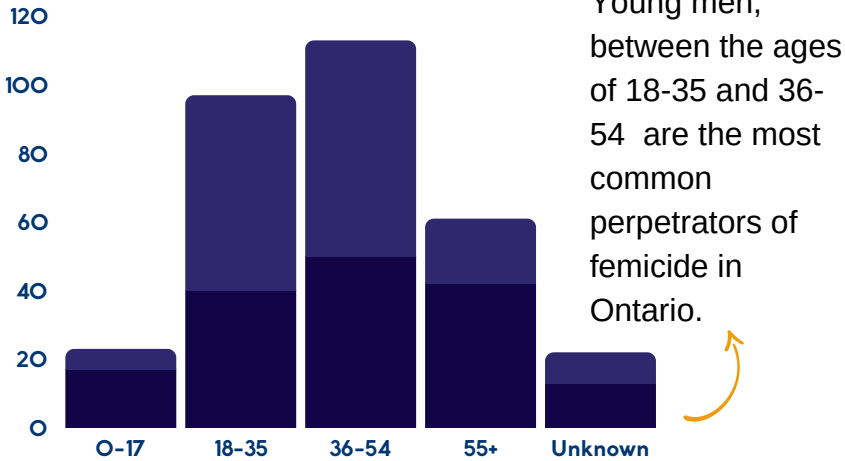
**BUILDING A
BIGGER WAVE**
Ontario Network for VAW
Coordinating Committees

Suggested citation: Ontario Association of Interval and Transition Houses
(OAITH), 2025, Ontario 2025 Election Edition Femicide Factsheet



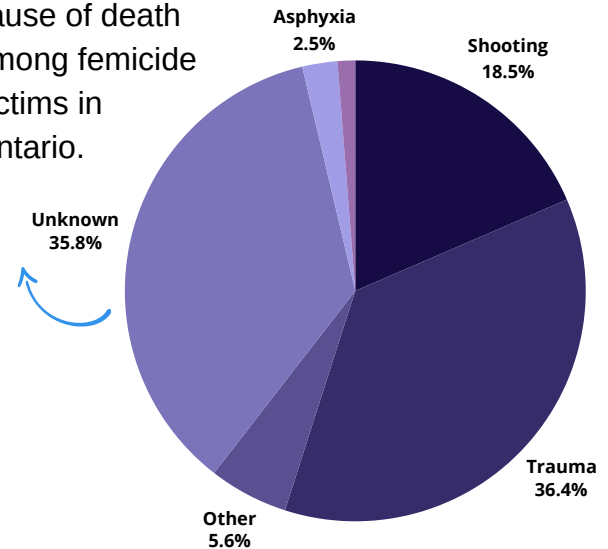


Victim & Perpetrator Age Comparision



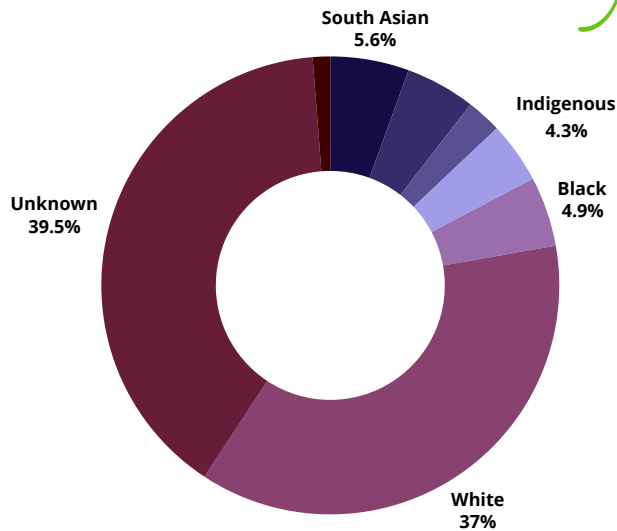
Trauma is the most common cause of death among femicide victims in Ontario.

Cause of Death



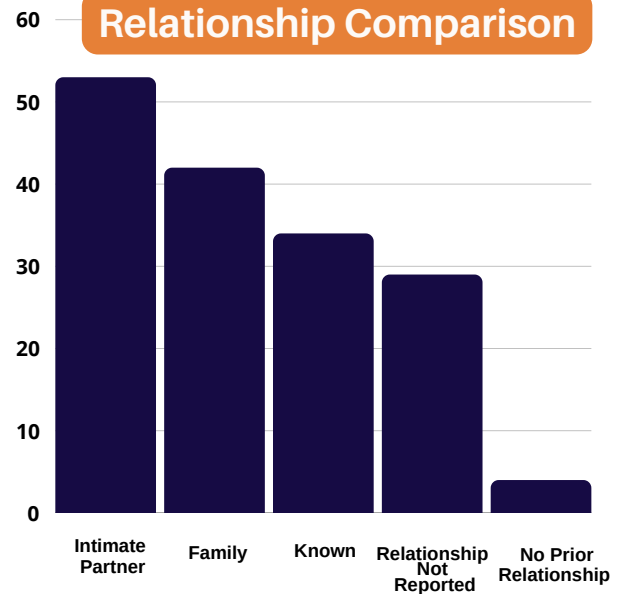
Femicide continues to disproportionately effect racialized women, children and gender-diverse individuals.

Victim Race



Femicides in Ontario are most commonly perpetrated by a current or former intimate partner.

Victim & Perpetrator Relationship Comparison



Quick Facts

- 162 femicides* have been reported by the media in Ontario since May 1, 2022 (compared to the 166 femicides in the 4 years prior showing a rise in femicides)
- 53 femicides have been perpetrated by male intimate partners
- 42 femicides have been perpetrated by male family members
- 34 femicides have been perpetrated by men who were known to the victim
- 29 femicides in which the relationship has not been reported in the media

*OAITH includes boy children who have been killed with their mothers in cases of IP femicides.



WORKFORCE IMPACTS

To provide the best services possible, investments in the GBV workforce need to be made!

OAITH's Provincial Budget Survey, 2025 (n=39)

- Survivors deserve quality service through increased staffing (70% of shelters cannot double staff due to lack of funding)
- Workers are leaving due to wages, shift work and burnout (87.5% of shelters have vacant positions)
- Greater support is needed to bring on new workers (59% of shelters have a shortage of relief staff)
- From 2021 to 2024 there has been a 54% increase in the average length of time survivors and children must live in a shelter due to no housing
- From 2021 to 2023 there has been a 36% increase in the number of women and children turned away from shelters indicating an evidence-based trend that we need more capacity to respond to the growing number of those needing our services

(bit.ly/FinancialAccountabilityOffice 2024)

ELECTION 2025 RESOURCES

2SLGBTQ+ Priorities - 519 Campaign:

whywewote.ca

**Meet the Women & Gender-diverse
People Running**

balancingtheballot.ca

**Ontario Coalition for Better
Child Care Campaign:**

childcareontario.org/vote_2025

Elections Ontario:

elections.on.ca

**Ontario Nonprofit Network
Campaign:**

bit.ly/ONNElection2025

CFUW 2025 Election Toolkit:

cfuwontcouncil.org/take-action

Distribution of Legislative Powers

bit.ly/DistributionofLegislativePowers

OAITH RESOURCES

OAITH Promise Tracker:

bit.ly/OAITHelections2025Chart

**Join the We Count Femicide
Because Mailing List:**

bit.ly/WCFBNewsletter

Learn More:

bit.ly/WeCountFemicideBecause



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QUESTIONS TO ASK CANDIDATES

1. Will your party invest the 60+ Million required to take gender-based violence shelters from surviving to thriving?
2. Will your party move forward with declaring Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic in Ontario with a plan and investment that will create change?
3. How will your party make Ontario more affordable for survivors of GBV as they rebuild their lives?
4. Will your party invest in operational funding for transitional and supportive housing?
5. What will your party do to support non profit organizations to build, maintain and sustain housing programs?
6. Will your party put an end to fundraising for essential services and fund the unfunded shelter beds, half of which are sheltering infants, children and youth?
7. Will your party do more to ensure we have enough beds so those living with violence and at risk of being killed have a place to go?

