



Femicides in Ontario
May 2025

WE COUNT FEMICIDE BECAUSE...

MAY 1ST - MAY 31ST 2025

#WeCountFemicideBecause

MONTHLY FEMICIDE IN ONTARIO FACTSHEET



Ontario Femicides
(since Nov. 26 2024)

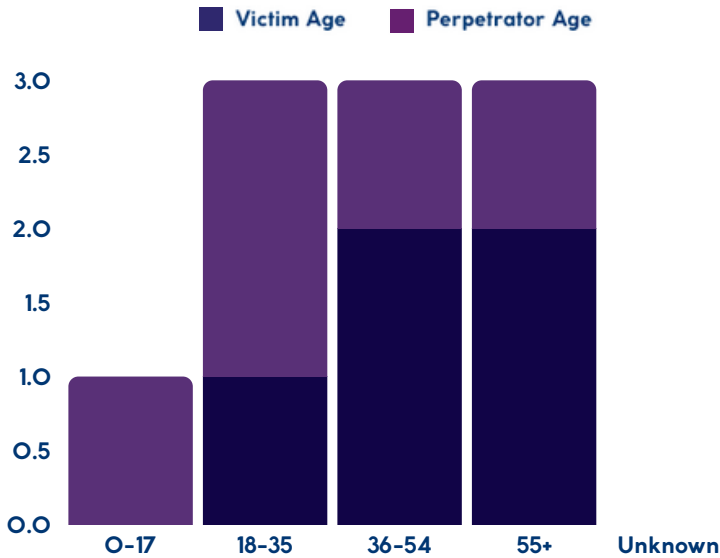
Quick Facts

- 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

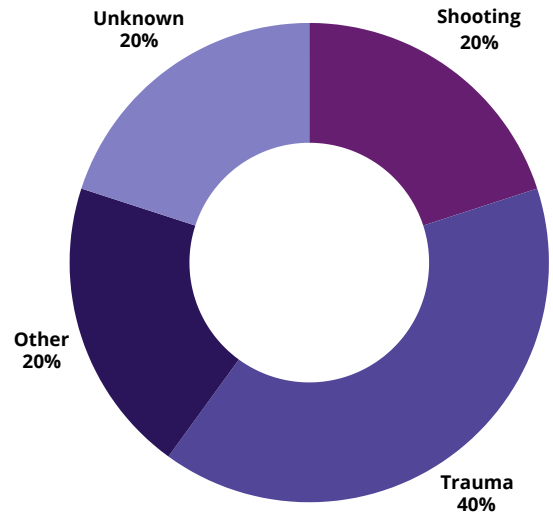
OAITH Femicide Data- Femicide Type (Year to Date)

Intimate Partner	Family	Known	Relationship Not Reported	No Prior Relationship	Total
6	5	1	2	2	16

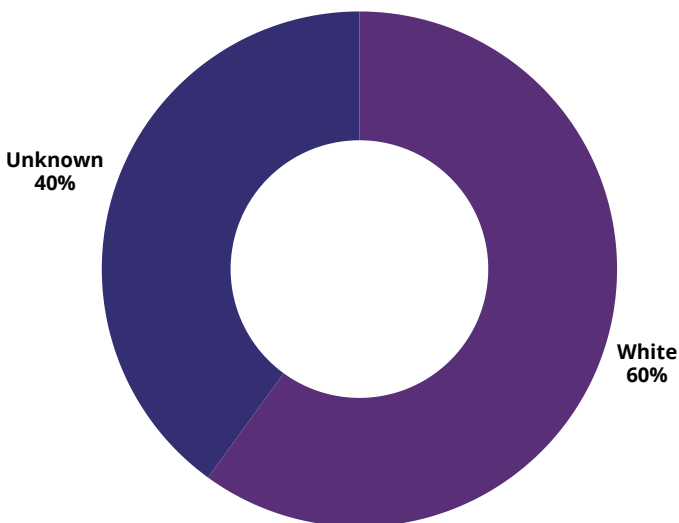
Victim & Perpetrator Age Comparision



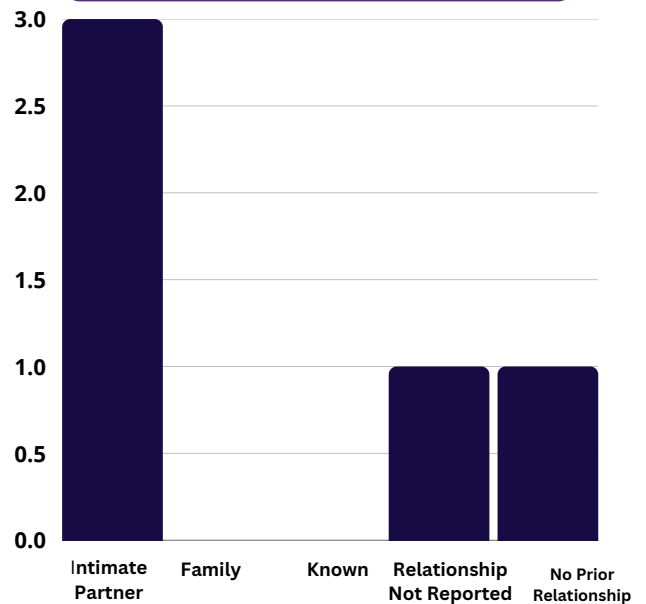
Cause of Death



Victim Race



Victim & Perpetrator Relationship Comparison





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Femicide Victims

Confirmed Total: 5

East Region



Jane Doe (Kingston), 25 - Kingston, ON

National Media: No report available at time of publication

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

Television Media: <https://bit.ly/JaneDoeKingstonCBCNews>



Rachelle Desrochers, 54 - Ottawa, ON

National Media: No report available at time of publication

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

Television Media: <https://bit.ly/RachelleDesrochersCBCNews>



Virginia Theoret, 82 - Ottawa, ON

National Media: No report available at time of publication

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

Television Media: <https://bit.ly/VirginiaTheoretCTVNews>



Eleanor Doney, 83 - Pickering, ON

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

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

Television Media: <https://bit.ly/EleanorDoneyGlobalNews>

West Region



Charlene Shellard, 49 - Brantford, ON

National Media: No report available at time of publication

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

Television Media: <https://bit.ly/CharleneShellardCTVNews>

Unconfirmed Femicides

Total: 1



Myrna Mason, 40 - Red Lake, ON

National Media: No report available at time of publication

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

Television Media: No report available at time of publication



Suggested Citation:

Ontario Association of Interval and
Transition Houses (OAITH), 2025. April
[Monthly Femicide in Ontario Factsheet.](#)

Questions, Errors or Omissions: info@oaih.ca



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Six Months and Sixteen Lives Lost to Gender-Based Violence

Five femicides were confirmed in Ontario in May and an additional one case continues to be monitored pending further police updates. Among femicides reported in May, those charged and/or deemed responsible in these cases were most commonly reported to be a current or former intimate partner of the victim (60% or 3/5). In one case (20%) police have indicated that there was no prior relationship between the victim and the accused and no relationship details have been provided through media reports in one case (20%).

Over the past six months, sixteen femicides have been confirmed throughout Ontario. While this is a decrease compared to the same time last year, femicides continue to occur in the province with an average of over two femicides per month. Nearly three quarters of femicide cases (68.75%) reported this year have been reported to be perpetrated by the victim's current or former intimate partner (37.5% or 6/16) or a family member (31.25% or 5/16). Other men known to the victim (6.25% or 1/16) and men with no prior relationship to the victim (12.5% or 2/16) have been charged and/or deemed responsible in femicide deaths. In 12.5% of femicides within this reporting year the relationship between the accused and victim have not been made public, however evidence suggests that the victim was targeted.

While those charged and/or deemed responsible for these deaths are most commonly reported to be between the ages of 18 and 35 (37.5% or 6/16), femicides have been reported to be perpetrated by boys and men across all age groups. Men between the ages of 36 and 54 (31.25% or 5/16) and men over the age of 55 (18.75% or 3/16) were also charged and/or deemed responsible in femicide deaths. In two cases (12.5%) the accused has been reported to be under the age of 18. While the majority of accused are adult men, femicide cases continue to be perpetrated by younger men and boys.

Given the current trends in family-perpetrated femicides and high rates of young men charged in relation to femicide deaths there is a continued need for prevention initiatives engaging young men and boys to address harmful behaviours and promote healthy relationships and gender-equality. As gender-based violence (GBV) continues to be behaviour that is prevalent among younger boys and men, these initiatives must be designed and accessible for them and seek to intervene earlier within the life-span prior to highschool or postsecondary enrollment. Punitive based approaches to addressing gendered violence only respond after violence or harm has occurred and do not change violent behaviours. It is imperative that policy solutions are not only responsive but also seek to hold those causing harm accountable and work to address harmful behaviours with the goal of preventing future violence from occurring. Prevention initiatives and supports for those experiencing harm and those causing harm must also be broad, addressing the root causes of gender-violence, ensuring all women and girls can live a life free of violence and preventing future lives from being lost in preventable femicide deaths.

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

Questions, Errors or Omissions: info@oaith.ca

