



Femicides in Ontario  
September 2026

# WE COUNT FEMICIDE BECAUSE...

SEPTEMBER 1ST - SEPTEMBER 30TH 2026

#WeCountFemicideBecause

# MONTHLY FEMICIDE IN ONTARIO FACTSHEET



Ontario Femicides  
(since Nov. 26 2025)

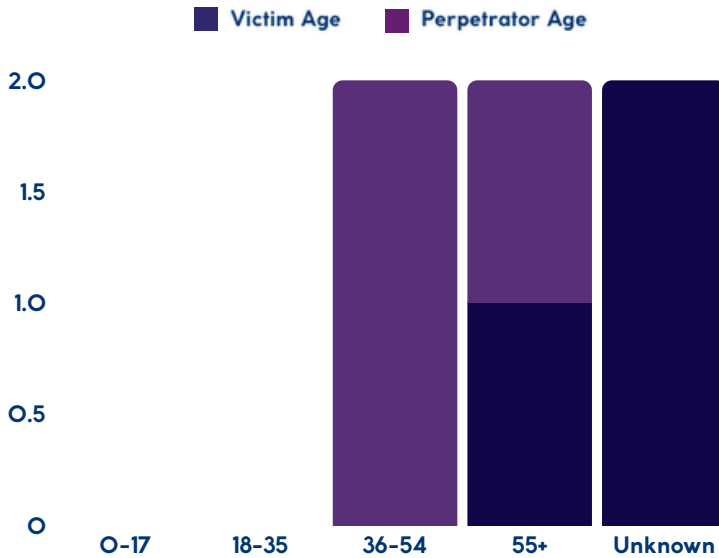
## Quick Facts

- 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

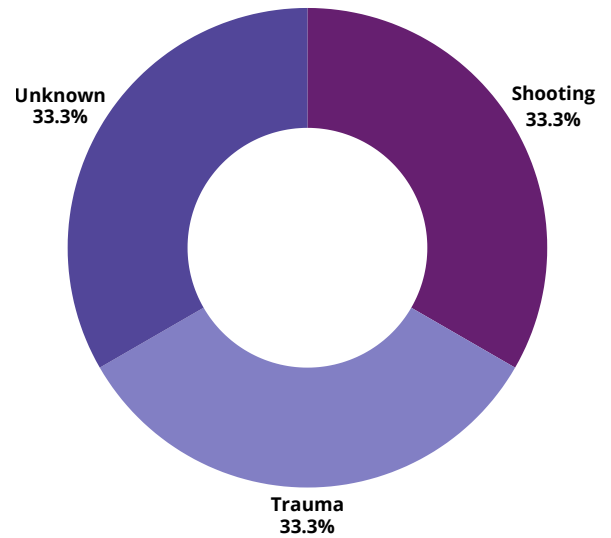
## OAITH Femicide Data- Femicide Type (Year to Date)

| Intimate Partner | Family | Known | Relationship Not Reported | No Prior Relationship | Total |
|------------------|--------|-------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------|
| 9                | 6      | 5     | 12                        | 2                     | 34    |

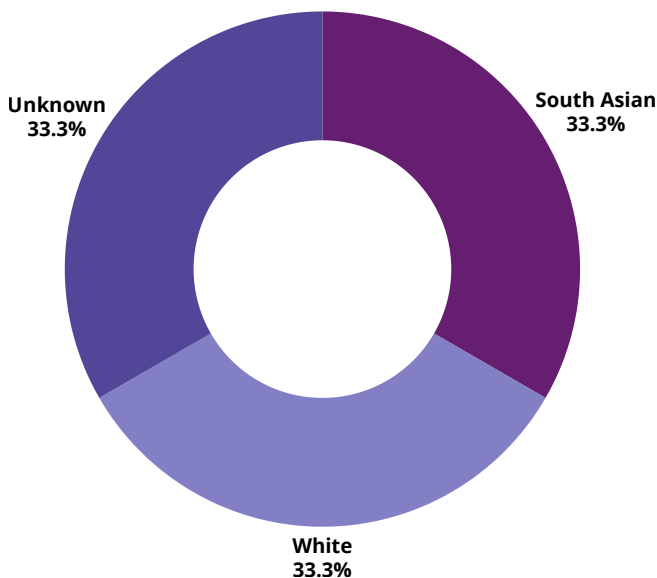
## Victim & Perpetrator Age Comparision



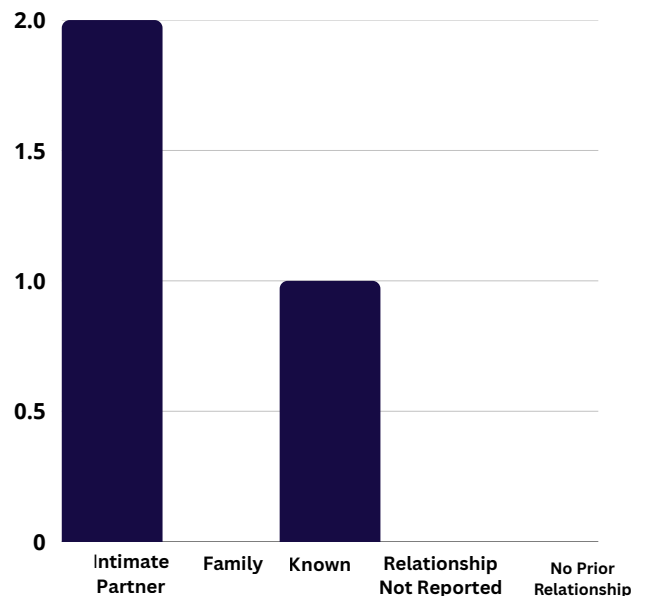
## Cause of Death



## Victim Race



## Victim & Perpetrator Relationship Comparison





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## Femicide Victims

Confirmed Total: 3

### Central Region



**Jane Doe (Burlington), Unknown Age - Burlington, ON**

National Media: No report available at time of publication

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

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

### West Region



**Raman Devi, Unknown Age - London, ON**

National Media: No report available at time of publication

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

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

### Toronto Region



**Karen Swatogor, 72 - Toronto, ON**

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

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

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



## Newly Confirmed Femicide Victims

Total: 1



**Donna Lowry, 79 - Augusta, ON**

National Media: No report available at time of publication

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

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

## Unconfirmed

Total: 1



**Jane Doe (Whitby), Unknown Age - Whitby, ON**

National Media: No report available at time of publication

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

Television Media: No report available at time of publication



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## From Legislation to Enforcement: Addressing Femicide

Three femicides have been confirmed across Ontario in September. Following additional police investigation and the laying of criminal charges, one case initially reported in July has been newly confirmed. One case from this month also remains unconfirmed pending ongoing criminal investigations. Since November 26, 2025, 34 femicides have been confirmed in Ontario. Women and their children continue to experience violence from men who are closely related or known to them. To date, in 26% of femicide cases, intimate partners have been charged/deemed responsible whereas a family member has been charged/deemed responsible in 18% of cases. Men known to the victim have been charged in 15% of cases. The relationship between the victim and accused has not been disclosed within 35% of cases reported to date and in 6% of cases the victim and accused perpetrator had no prior relationship.

In July, new federal criminal legislation came into effect that recognizes femicide and other forms of GBV within the Criminal Code of Canada. Among these amendments, the killing of an intimate partner and other gender-based killings would constitute 1st degree murder (Criminal Code of Canada, 1985). Since the legislation was passed, 11 femicides have been reported in Ontario, with two cases reported to be murder-femicides and nine cases resulting in criminal charges. Among the cases in which charges have been laid, the accused has been charged with first-degree murder in three cases. Accused individuals in six cases have been charged with lesser offences, including second-degree murder and manslaughter. Cases in which the accused was charged with a lesser offence span multiple relationship categories, including intimate partner, known relationships, no prior relationship and in cases where the relationship has not been publicly disclosed.

Learn More:

[bit.ly/WeCountFemicideBecause](https://bit.ly/WeCountFemicideBecause)

[mulberryfinder.ca](https://mulberryfinder.ca)

Join the We Count Femicide  
Because...Newsletter:

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[training.oaith.ca](https://training.oaith.ca)



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It is unclear how these legislative amendments may improve protections for those experiencing violence or improve accountability measures among those who use violence. The small proportion of cases being legally classified as femicide cases raises concerns. Currently, the legislation is only being applied in a small proportion of cases, which may unintentionally create a hierarchy and stratify victims, in which some femicides are determined to warrant greater punishment than others. In order to ensure this legal mechanism functions as intended it must be implemented by local law enforcement and crown attorneys. It is unclear whether specific training opportunities have been provided to support the implementation of this legislation, however the current rate of 1st degree charges being applied to femicide cases remains low. This month, following the death of a young mother in London, police laid 2nd degree murder charges against the victim's husband. Despite police acknowledgement of the intimate relationship between the victim and accused and the gendered nature of the killing, 1st degree murder charges had not been laid at the time of this report's publication ([London Police, 2026](#)).

OAITH has confirmed 34 femicides in the province this year to date and several cases remain unconfirmed pending further criminal investigations. While the legislation has only recently come into effect, little improvement in femicide rates have been seen this year, as last September OAITH had confirmed 35 femicides to date ([OAITH, 2025](#)). Although the amendments have brought federal recognition and condemnation of gender-based killings, without adequate enforcement, criminal justice responses will fail to recognize the gendered nature of femicide killings and the legislation risks becoming merely a symbolic gesture that does little to protect women, children and gender-diverse individuals from gender-based violence.

#### References

Criminal Code, RSC 1985, c C-46, s 231 (5.1).

London Police Service, 2026. Femicide Investigation: London man in custody. News Release.

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

Learn More:

[bit.ly/WeCountFemicideBecause](https://bit.ly/WeCountFemicideBecause)

Suggested Citation:

Ontario Association of Interval and Transition Houses (OAITH), 2026. September Monthly Femicide in Ontario Factsheet.

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Because...Newsletter:

[bit.ly/FemicideMailList](https://bit.ly/FemicideMailList)



BUILDING A  
**BIGGER WAVE**

Ontario Network for VAW  
Coordinating Committees

Questions, Errors or Omissions: [info@oath.ca](mailto:info@oath.ca)



Ontario Association of Interval & Transition Houses