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Transition Homes in Canada: National, Provincial and Territorial Fact Sheets 2003/04

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Transition Homes in Canada: National, Provincial and Territorial Fact Sheets 2003/04

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Introduction

All across Canada, shelters are a critical source of support for individuals in crisis. They are an essential component of the services and programs that respond to the needs of individuals fleeing domestic violence and those facing various other difficulties such as housing, mental health and addiction problems. More than just a safe place to stay, shelters offer residents access to a variety of services that will help them to better their lives. In addition, shelters often engage in outreach activities, thereby extending their much needed support to those residing outside the doors of the facility.

As part of the Family Violence Initiative, the Transition Home Survey (THS) was developed in order to address the need for improved information about services for victims of domestic violence. Historically, information about transition homes was collected by the Residential Care Facilities (RCF) Survey. However, since 1992/93, the Transition Home Survey has been conducted as an independent survey.

The Transition Home Survey (THS) is a biennial census of all residential facilities for female victims of domestic violence.¹ Questionnaires are mailed to all shelters or agencies (e.g., transition homes, second stage housing facilities, safe home networks, women's emergency centres, general emergency shelters, and family resource centres) known to provide residential services to abused women in every province and territory. However, shelters that do not provide services *exclusively* to women escaping domestic violence, such as general emergency shelters, are included in order to provide a more accurate picture of the facilities used by abused women. Information is collected on the characteristics of the facilities and the services provided during the previous 12 months (i.e. April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004). Additionally, a snapshot day (April 14, 2004) is used to profile the women and children residing in the shelter on the given day. For the 2003/04 Transition Home Survey, 543 shelters were contacted and responses were received from 473 or 87%.

This publication highlights findings from the Transition Home Survey at the national, provincial and territorial levels.

1. Shelters that do not provide residential accommodations are excluded.

Transition Homes in Canada, 2003/04

National Fact Sheet

The Transition Home Survey is conducted on a biennial basis as part of the federal government's Family Violence Initiative. The 2003/04 questionnaire was sent to 543 shelters in Canada known to be providing residential services for women victims of abuse and their children. Responses were received from 473 shelters (87%).

- There were 95,326 admissions of women and dependant children reported from April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004.¹

A profile of residents, April 14, 2004

- In a snapshot taken on April 14, 2004, there were 6,109 residents in shelters in Canada: 54% (3,274) were women and 46% (2,835) were dependant children.
- 76% (2,496) of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, were victims of abuse and the remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing problems. Of those admitted for abuse, 86% were fleeing psychological abuse, 68% physical abuse, 50% threats, 46% financial abuse, 31% harassment, and 27% sexual abuse.²
- Over half of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 67% (1,681) of these children were under 10 years of age.
- 47% of women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from witnessing abuse of their mother, 36% from psychological abuse, 24% from physical abuse, 18% from threats, 11% from neglect and 5% from sexual abuse.³
- Two thirds of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser. Another 13% were abused by a former spouse or partner, 6% by a relative, 5% by someone from a current or ex-dating relationship, 4% were abused by others, and for 5%, the relationship was unknown.⁴
- The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters on April 14th, 2004, were: self-referral (29%), another transition house (16%), other community agency (15%), and family or friends (8%).⁵
- Almost a third (31%) of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, had been there before. Of these repeat clients, 40% had been there once in the last year, 38% had been there 2 to 4 times and 9% had been there 5 or more times.⁶

1. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2004 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

2. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

3. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses. 'Women with parenting responsibilities' include women admitted to shelters with their children and women admitted without their children. However, it is not known if women admitted without their children had custody of those children at the time of admittance.

4. 'Others' includes friend or acquaintance, caregiver and authority figure.

5. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

6. For some repeat clients the number of times they had been to the shelter previously was unknown.

- Among women leaving the shelter on snapshot day, the majority did not return home to their spouse or partner. 18% left for new accommodations without their spouse or partner and 28% left for other housing, 11% went to stay with friends or relatives and 5% returned home without their spouse or partner. It was unknown for a quarter (27%) of women where they were going to reside. Only 11% returned to their spouse or partner.
- 31% of abused women had reported police intervention for the most recent violent incident and, in 62% of these reported cases charges were laid against the abuser.

A profile of shelters, 2003/04

- 91% of shelters served urban/suburban populations, 46% served rural/village populations and 31% served reserve populations.
- 31 shelters (7%) were located on a reserve. 24 shelters (5%) were owned by a band council and 26 were operated by a band council.
- The majority of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: advocacy (89%), individual short-term counselling (87%), and housing referral (84%).
- Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included: crisis telephone lines (72%), individual short-term counselling (64%), advocacy (62%), legal services (49%), and housing referral (45%).⁷
- In-house services offered to resident children included: outdoor recreation spaces (79%), indoor recreation spaces (76%), individual counselling (65%), and programs for child witnesses or victims of abuse (57%).⁸
- 72% of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, 63% reported having bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible and 59% reported having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible. 21% offered services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired and 17% offered services to people who are blind or visually impaired.
- 473 facilities reported providing a total of 19,454 outreach⁹ hours per week.

7. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

8. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

9. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the national average was 41 hours per week.

Transition Homes in Canada, 2003/04

Newfoundland and Labrador Fact Sheet

The Transition Home Survey is conducted on a biennial basis as part of the federal government's Family Violence Initiative. The 2003/04 questionnaire was sent to 543 shelters in Canada known to be providing residential services for women victims of abuse and their children. Responses were received from 473 shelters (87%).

The questionnaire was sent to 14 facilities in Newfoundland and Labrador and responses were received from 86% of the shelters.

- There were 1,084 admissions of women and dependant children reported from April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004.¹

A profile of residents, April 14, 2004²

- In a snapshot taken on April 14, 2004, there were 62 residents in shelters in Newfoundland and Labrador: 61% (38) were women and 39% (24) were dependant children.
- 79% (30) of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, were victims of abuse and the remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing problems. Of those admitted for abuse, 100% were fleeing psychological abuse, 67% physical abuse, 60% threats, 33% harassment, 20% financial abuse, and 13% sexual abuse.³
- 43% of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 75% (18) of these children were under 10 years of age.
- 43% of women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from witnessing abuse of their mother, 29% from psychological abuse, 5% from physical abuse, and 5% from threats.⁴
- 83% of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser. Another 10% were abused by a relative, 3% by someone from an ex-dating relationship, and 3% were abused by a friend or acquaintance.
- The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters on April 14th, 2004, were: self-referral (40%), another transition house (26%), and family or friends (10%).⁵
- 29% of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, had been there before. More than a quarter (27%) of repeat clients had been there once in the last year, and another 27% had been there 2 to 4 times.⁶
- 37% of abused women had reported police intervention for the most recent violent incident and, in 45% of these reported cases charges were laid against the abuser.

1. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2004 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

2. No women departed on snapshot day.

3. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

4. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses. 'Women with parenting responsibilities' include women admitted to shelters with their children and women admitted without their children. However, it is not known if women admitted without their children had custody of those children at the time of admittance.

5. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

6. For some repeat clients the number of times they had been to the shelter previously was unknown.

A profile of shelters, 2003/04

- All reporting shelters served urban/suburban populations, 50% served rural/village populations and 8% served reserve populations.
- The majority of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: advocacy (92%), housing referral (83%), and life skills (83%).
- Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included crisis telephone lines (58%), as well as individual short-term counselling, legal services, financial assistance and welfare, services for women with disabilities, and advocacy, each of these services were provided by about half of all agencies.
- In-house services offered to resident children included: outdoor recreation spaces (58%), indoor recreation spaces (58%), babysitting services (42%), and group counselling (33%).
- Three-quarters of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, another 75% had bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible and the same proportion had bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible. 25% offered services to people who are blind or visually impaired and a third offered services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired.
- 12 facilities reported providing a total of 29 outreach⁷ hours per week.

7. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 28.5 hours per week.

Transition Homes in Canada, 2003/04

Prince Edward Island Fact Sheet

The Transition Home Survey is conducted on a biennial basis as part of the federal government's Family Violence Initiative. The 2003/04 questionnaire was sent to 543 shelters in Canada known to be providing residential services for women victims of abuse and their children. Responses were received from 473 shelters (87%).

The questionnaire was sent to 4 facilities in Prince Edward Island and responses were received from all of the shelters.

- There were 174 admissions of women and dependant children reported from April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004.¹

A profile of residents, April, 14, 2004²

- In a snapshot taken on April 14, 2004, there were 33 residents in shelters in Prince Edward Island: 42% (14) were women and 58% (19) were dependant children.
- All women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, were victims of abuse. 86% were fleeing psychological abuse, 64% physical abuse, 64% harassment, 57% threats, 43% financial abuse, and 36% sexual abuse.³
- 71% of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 37% (7) of these children were under 10 years of age.
- 58% of women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from witnessing abuse of their mother, 42% from psychological abuse, 25% from physical abuse, 25% from threats, and 17% from neglect.⁴
- The majority (93%) of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser. The remainder of the women were being abused by a relative.
- The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters on April 14th, 2004, were: self-referral (26%), another house resident (26%), and the police or RCMP (11%).⁵
- 14% of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, had been there before.⁶
- Half of abused women had reported police intervention for the most recent violent incident and, in 36% of these reported cases charges were laid against the abuser.

1. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2004 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

2. For reasons of confidentiality, information on departures could not be presented for this province.

3. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

4. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses. 'Women with parenting responsibilities' include women admitted to shelters with their children and women admitted without their children. However, it is not known if women admitted without their children had custody of those children at the time of admittance.

5. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

6. The number of times they had been to the shelter previously was unknown.

A profile of shelters, 2003/04

- Three out of four shelters served urban/suburban populations, all shelters served rural/village populations, and a quarter served reserve populations.
- With respect to in-house services to women residents, all agencies offered advocacy, three quarters offered housing referral. Individual short-term counselling, group counselling, lesbian sensitive services and services for women with disabilities, were each provided by half of the agencies.
- Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included group counselling, housing referral, and advocacy, each provided by three out of four of agencies.
- In-house services offered to resident children included outdoor recreation spaces (75%) and indoor recreation spaces (50%).
- Three out of four shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, two shelters reported having bedrooms and bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible. One offered services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired.
- 4 facilities reported providing a total of 126 outreach⁷ hours per week.

7. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 31.5 hours per week.

Transition Homes in Canada, 2003/04

Nova Scotia Fact Sheet

The Transition Home Survey is conducted on a biennial basis as part of the federal government's Family Violence Initiative. The 2003/04 questionnaire was sent to 543 shelters in Canada known to be providing residential services for women victims of abuse and their children. Responses were received from 473 shelters (87%).

The questionnaire was sent to 19 facilities in Nova Scotia and responses were received from all of the shelters.

- There were 8,162 admissions of women and dependant children reported from April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004.¹

A profile of residents, April, 14, 2004

- In a snapshot taken on April 14, 2004, there were 209 residents in shelters in Nova Scotia: 53% (110) were women and 47% (99) were dependant children.
- 85% (94) of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, were victims of abuse and the remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing problems. Of those admitted for abuse, 90% were fleeing psychological abuse, 74% physical abuse, 52% threats, 38% sexual abuse, 34% financial abuse, and 32% harassment.²
- 59% of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 61% (60) of these children were under 10 years of age.
- 33% of women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from witnessing abuse of their mother, 23% from psychological abuse, 13% from physical abuse, and 6% from threats.³
- 77% of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser, 11% were abused by a former spouse or partner, 9% by a current or ex-boyfriend, 3% by a relative, for 5% the relationship was unknown and 4% were abused by others.⁴
- The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters on April 14th, 2004, were: self-referral (32%), another transition house (20%), and another community agency (18%).⁵
- 31% of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, had been there before. 59% of repeat clients had been there once in the last year, 38% had been there 2 to 4 times and 3% had been there 5 or more times.
- Among women leaving the shelter on snapshot day 17% left for new accommodations without their spouse or partner and half left for other forms of housing. A third of women returned to their spouse or partner.

1. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2004 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

2. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

3. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses. 'Women with parenting responsibilities' include women admitted to shelters with their children and women admitted without their children. However, it is not known if women admitted without their children had custody of those children at the time of admittance.

4. 'Others' includes friend or acquaintance, caregiver and authority figure.

5. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

- 34% of abused women had reported police intervention for the most recent violent incident and, in two thirds of these reported cases charges were laid against the abuser.

A profile of shelters, 2003/04

- 84% of shelters served urban/suburban populations, 63% served rural/village populations and 47% served reserve populations.
- 2 shelters (11%) were located on a reserve.
- The majority of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: advocacy (95%), parenting skills (79%), individual short-term counselling (79%), life skills (74%), and housing referral (74%).
- Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included individual short term counselling (63%), advocacy (63%), crisis telephone line (58%), and group counselling (53%).
- In-house services offered to resident children included outdoor and indoor recreation spaces, each provided by 68% of shelters, individual counselling (63%), and culturally sensitive services for aboriginal children (58%).
- More than two thirds of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, 42% reported having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible and 58% reported having bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible. 11% offered services to people who are blind or visually impaired and 21% offered services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired.
- 19 facilities reported providing a total of 845 outreach⁶ hours per week.

6. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 44 hours per week.

Transition Homes in Canada, 2003/04

New Brunswick Fact Sheet

The Transition Home Survey is conducted on a biennial basis as part of the federal government's Family Violence Initiative. The 2003/04 questionnaire was sent to 543 shelters in Canada known to be providing residential services for women victims of abuse and their children. Responses were received from 473 shelters (87%).

The questionnaire was sent to 17 facilities in New Brunswick and responses were received from 94% of the shelters.

- There were 1756 admissions of women and dependant children reported from April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004.¹

A profile of residents, April 14, 2004²

- In a snapshot taken on April 14, 2004, there were 125 residents in shelters in New Brunswick: 47% (59) were women and 53% (66) were dependant children.
- 93% (55) of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, were victims of abuse and the remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing problems. Of those admitted for abuse, 96% were fleeing psychological abuse, 76% physical abuse, 76% threats, 69% financial abuse, 69% harassment, and 58% sexual abuse.³
- Two-thirds of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 63% (40) of these children were under 10 years of age.
- 71% of women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from psychological abuse, 67% from witnessing the abuse of their mother, 35% from threats, 29% from neglect, and 24% from physical abuse.⁴
- 84% of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser, 7% were abused by a former spouse or partner, 5% by a relative, 2% by someone from a current dating relationship, and 2% were abused by an authority figure.
- The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters on April 14th, 2004, were: another transition house (33%), self-referral (24%), and family or friends (16%).⁵
- 27% of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, had been there before. 69% of repeat clients had been there once in the last year, 19% had been there 2 to 4 times and 6% had been there 5 or more times.⁶
- 45% of abused women had reported police intervention for the most recent violent incident and, in nearly half (48%) of these reported cases charges were laid against the abuser.

1. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2004 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

2. No women departed on snapshot day.

3. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

4. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses. 'Women with parenting responsibilities' include women admitted to shelters with their children and women admitted without their children. However, it is not known if women admitted without their children had custody of those children at the time of admittance.

5. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

6. For some repeat clients the number of times they had been to the shelter previously was unknown.

A profile of shelters, 2003/04

- 94% of shelters served urban/suburban populations, 63% served rural/village populations and 31% served reserve populations.
- The majority of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: individual short-term counselling (88%), housing referral (81%), advocacy (75%), parenting skills (69%), and life skills (63%).
- Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included crisis telephone lines (69%), individual short-term counselling (63%), advocacy (63), and housing referral (38%).
- In-house services offered to resident children included outdoor (94%) and indoor (94%) recreation spaces, programs for child witnesses or victims of abuse (69%), and individual counselling (63%).
- 56% of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, 38% reported having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible and the same proportion had bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible. 13% offered services to people who are blind or visually impaired and 6% offered services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired
- 16 facilities reported providing a total of 730 outreach⁷ hours per week.

7. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 46 hours per week.

Transition Homes in Canada, 2003/04

Quebec Fact Sheet

The Transition Home Survey is conducted on a biennial basis as part of the federal government's Family Violence Initiative. The 2003/04 questionnaire was sent to 543 shelters in Canada known to be providing residential services for women victims of abuse and their children. Responses were received from 473 shelters (87%).

The questionnaire was sent to 117 facilities in Quebec and responses were received from 87% of the shelters.

- There were 14,980 admissions of women and dependant children reported from April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004.¹

A profile of residents, April 14, 2004

- In a snapshot taken on April 14, 2004, there were 1,050 residents in shelters in Quebec: 58% (611) were women and 42% (439) were dependant children.
- 74% (452) of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, were victims of abuse and the remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing problems. Of those admitted for abuse, 84% were fleeing psychological abuse, 59% physical abuse, 37% threats, 34% financial abuse, 23% harassment, and 21% sexual abuse.²
- Almost half (49%) of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 70% (295) of these children were under 10 years of age.
- A third of women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from witnessing abuse of their mother, 25% from psychological abuse, 19% from physical abuse, 13% from threats, and 8% from neglect.³
- 78% of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser, 11% were abused by a former spouse or partner, 4% by a relative, 4% by someone from a current or ex-dating relationship, and 3% by others.⁴
- The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters on April 14th, 2004, were: self-referral (19%), another transition house (18%), and other community agency (14%).⁵
- 53% of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, had been there before. 55% of repeat clients had been there once in the last year, 36% had been there 2 to 4 times and 8% had been there 5 or more times.⁶

1. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2004 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

2. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

3. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses. 'Women with parenting responsibilities' include women admitted to shelters with their children and women admitted without their children. However, it is not known if women admitted without their children had custody of those children at the time of admittance.

4. 'Others' includes friend or acquaintance, caregiver and authority figure.

5. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

6. For some repeat clients the number of times they had been to the shelter previously was unknown.

- Among women leaving the shelter on snapshot day 13% left for new accommodations without their spouse or partner and the same proportion went to stay with friends or relatives. Another 4% each returned home without their spouse or partner; went to another agency; left for other housing. It was unknown where 54% were going to reside. Only 8% returned to their spouse or partner.
- 26% of abused women had reported police intervention for the most recent violent incident, and in three quarters of these reported cases charges were laid against the abuser.

A profile of shelters, 2003/04

- 91% of shelters served urban/suburban populations, 42% served rural/village populations and 18% served reserve populations.
- 2% of shelters were located on a reserve, 2% were owned by a band council and 5% were operated by a band council.
- The majority of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: individual short-term counselling (95%), legal services (82%), parenting skills and advocacy, each provided by three quarters of shelters.
- Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included crisis telephone line (80%), individual short-term counselling (75%), legal services (65%), and advocacy (57%).
- In-house services offered to resident children included outdoor recreation spaces (84%), indoor recreation spaces (81%), individual counselling (81%), and programs for child witnesses or victims of abuse (70%).
- 47% of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, 34% reported having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible and 39% reported having bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible. 14% offered services to people who are blind or visually impaired and 22% offered services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired.
- 102 facilities reported providing a total of 6,037 outreach⁷ hours per week.

7. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 59 hours per week.

Transition Homes in Canada, 2003/04

Ontario Fact Sheet

The Transition Home Survey is conducted on a biennial basis as part of the federal government's Family Violence Initiative. The 2003/04 questionnaire was sent to 543 shelters in Canada known to be providing residential services for women victims of abuse and their children. Responses were received from 473 shelters (87%).

The questionnaire was sent to 155 facilities in Ontario and responses were received from 85% of the shelters.

- There were 28,791 admissions of women and dependant children reported from April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004.¹

A profile of residents, April 14, 2004

- In a snapshot taken on April 14, 2004, there were 2,527 residents in shelters in Ontario: 53% (1,329) were women and 47% (1,198) were dependant children.
- 74% (981) of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, were victims of abuse and the remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing problems. Of those admitted for abuse, 85% were fleeing psychological abuse, 67% physical abuse, 48% threats, 44% financial abuse, 29% harassment, and 24% sexual abuse.²
- 53% of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 65% (638) of these children were under 10 years of age.
- 53% of women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from witnessing the abuse of their mother, 37% from psychological abuse, 26% from physical abuse, 15% from threats, and 9% from neglect.³
- 59% of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser, 15% were abused by a former spouse or partner, 8% by a relative, 7% by someone from a current or ex-dating relationship, 4% by others, and for 7%, the relationship was unknown.⁴
- The most common sources or referral for women residing in shelters on April 14th, 2004, were: self-referral (31%), another community agency (17%), another transition house (15%), and family or friends (8%).⁵
- 22% of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, had been there before. 38% of repeat clients had been there once in the last year, 24% had been there 2 to 4 times and 15% had been there 5 or more times.⁶

1. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2004 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

2. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

3. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses. 'Women with parenting responsibilities' include women admitted to shelters with their children and women admitted without their children. However, it is not known if women admitted without their children had custody of those children at the time of admittance.

4. 'Others' includes friend or acquaintance, caregiver and authority figure.

5. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

6. For some repeat clients the number of times they had been to the shelter previously was unknown.

- Among women leaving the shelter on snapshot day 31% went to another agency, 21% left for new accommodations without their spouse or partner. 14% went to stay with friends or relatives, and 7% returned home without their spouse or partner. It was unknown where 21% were going to reside. Only 7% returned to their spouse or partner.
- 30% of abused women had reported police intervention for the most recent violent incident and, in 63% of these reported cases charges were laid against the abuser.

A profile of shelters, 2003/04

- 92% of shelters served urban/suburban populations, 41% served rural/village populations and 27% served reserve populations.
- 12 (9%) shelters were located on a reserve. 8% of shelters were owned by a band council and the same proportion were operated by a band council.
- The majority of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: housing referral (96%), advocacy (96%), individual short-term counselling (93%) and, parenting skills (86%).
- Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included crisis telephone lines (73%), advocacy (71%), housing referral and individual short-term counselling, each provided by two-thirds of agencies.
- In-house services offered to resident children included indoor recreation spaces (80%), outdoor recreation spaces (80%), individual counselling (72%), and programs for child witnesses or victims of abuse (70%).
- 85% of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, 77% reported having bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible and 75% reported having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible. 42% offered services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired and one-quarter offered services to people who are blind or visually impaired.
- 132 facilities reported providing a total of 6,092 outreach⁷ hours per week.

7. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 46 hours per week.

Transition Homes in Canada, 2003/04

Manitoba Fact Sheet

The Transition Home Survey is conducted on a biennial basis as part of the federal government's Family Violence Initiative. The 2003/04 questionnaire was sent to 543 shelters in Canada known to be providing residential services for women victims of abuse and their children. Responses were received from 473 shelters (87%).

The questionnaire was sent to 27 facilities in Manitoba and responses were received from 85% of the shelters.

- There were 4,952 admissions of women and dependant children reported from April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004.¹

A profile of residents, April 14, 2004

- In a snapshot taken on April 14, 2004, there were 201 residents in shelters in Manitoba: 47% (95) were women and 53% (106) were dependant children.
- 95% (90) of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, were victims of abuse and the remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing problems. Of those admitted for abuse,² 100% were fleeing physical abuse 90% psychological abuse, 62% financial abuse, 59% threats, 41% sexual abuse, and 38% harassment.
- 59% of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 72% (71) of these children were under 10 years of age.
- 57% of women with parental responsibilities, who were admitted for abuse, indicated that they were also protecting their children from witnessing the abuse of their mother, 24% from psychological abuse, 45% from physical abuse, 40% from threats, and 13% from neglect.³
- 61% of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser, 19% were abused by a former spouse or partner, 4% by someone from a current or ex-dating relationship, 2% by a relative, 1% by a friend or acquaintance and for 12%, the relationship was unknown.
- The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters on April 14th, 2004, were: self-referral (35%), police or RCMP (15%), and another community agency (11%).⁴
- 37% of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, had been there before. 60% of repeat clients had been there once in the last year, 31% had been there 2 to 4 times.⁵
- Among women leaving the shelter on snapshot day 38% left for another agency, 10% left for new accommodations without their spouse or partner and another 5% returned home without their spouse or partner. It was unknown where a third of women were going to reside. 14% returned to their spouse or partner.

1. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2004 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

2. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

3. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses. 'Women with parenting responsibilities' include women admitted to shelters with their children and women admitted without their children. However, it is not known if women admitted without their children had custody of those children at the time of admittance.

4. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

5. For some repeat clients the number of times they had been to the shelter previously was unknown.

- 38% of abused women had reported police intervention for the most recent violent incident and, in nearly three-quarters (74%) of these reported cases charges were laid against the abuser.

A profile of shelters, 2003/04

- 87% of shelters served urban/suburban populations, 70% served rural/village populations and 74% served reserve populations.
- 2 shelters (9%) were located on a reserve, 2 were operated by a band council and 1 was owned by a band council.
- All agencies provided advocacy and the majority of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: group counselling (96%), individual short-term counselling (91%), and housing referral (91%).
- Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included individual short-term counselling (83%), advocacy (74%), services for aboriginal women (70%), crisis telephone lines (65%), and housing referral (65%).
- In-house services offered to resident children included individual counselling (87%), programs for child witnesses or victims of abuse (83%), outdoor recreation spaces (83%), group counselling (78%), and culturally sensitive programs for aboriginal children (74%).
- Almost three-quarters (74%) of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, 61% reported having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible and 57% reported having bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible. 22% offered services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired and 17% offered services to people who are blind or visually impaired.
- 23 facilities reported providing a total of 747 outreach⁶ hours per week.

6. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 32 hours per week.

Transition Homes in Canada, 2003/04

Saskatchewan Fact Sheet

The Transition Home Survey is conducted on a biennial basis as part of the federal government's Family Violence Initiative. The 2003/04 questionnaire was sent to 543 shelters in Canada known to be providing residential services for women victims of abuse and their children. Responses were received from 473 shelters (87%).

The questionnaire was sent to 23 facilities in Saskatchewan and responses were received from 78% of the shelters.

- There were 3,986 admissions of women and dependant children reported from April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004.¹

A profile of residents, April 14, 2004²

- In a snapshot taken on April 14, 2004, there were 270 residents in shelters in Saskatchewan: 46% (124) were women and 54% (146) were dependant children.
- 77% (96) of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, were victims of abuse and the remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing problems. Of those admitted for abuse,³ 89% were fleeing psychological abuse, 80% physical abuse, 61% threats, 56% harassment, 49% financial abuse, and 26% sexual abuse.
- 82% of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 61% (83) of these children were under 10 years of age.
- 82% of women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from psychological abuse, 74% from witnessing the abuse of their mother, 42% from physical abuse, 35% from threats, and 28% from neglect.⁴
- 64% of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser, 9% were abused by a former spouse or partner, 4% by a relative, 1% by someone from a current dating relationship and 2% were abused by others.⁵ For 20% the relationship was unknown.
- The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters on April 14th, 2004, were: self-referral (29%), another community agency (20%), another transition house (14%), and Aboriginal or First Nations organization or reserve (7%).⁶

1. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2004 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

2. No women departed on snapshot day.

3. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

4. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses. 'Women with parenting responsibilities' include women admitted to shelters with their children and women admitted without their children. However, it is not known if women admitted without their children had custody of those children at the time of admittance.

5. 'Others' includes friend or acquaintance.

6. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

- More than one-quarter (26%) of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, had been there before. 44% of repeat clients had been there once in the last year, 34% had been there 2 to 4 times and 9% had been there 5 or more times.⁷
- 29% of abused women had reported police intervention for the most recent violent incident and in two thirds of these reported cases charges were laid against the abuser.

A profile of shelters, 2003/04

- 89% of shelters served urban/suburban populations, 78% served rural/village populations and 67% served reserve populations.
- 1 shelter was located on a reserve, 1 shelter was owned by a band council and 2 were operated by a band council.
- The majority of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: advocacy (83%), individual short-term counselling (78%), housing referral (78%), and group counselling, offered by two-thirds of shelters.
- Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included: crisis telephone lines (67%), individual short-term counselling (56%), housing referral and advocacy, each offered by half of the shelters.
- In-house services offered to resident children included: outdoor recreation spaces (78%), indoor recreation spaces (67%), and group counselling (44%). Individual counselling, culturally sensitive services for aboriginal and ethno-cultural and visible minority children and babysitting services were each offered by 39% of shelters.
- 72% of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, two-thirds reported having bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible and 61% reported having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible. 28% offered services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired and 22% offered services to people who are blind or visually impaired.
- 18 facilities reported providing a total of 650 outreach⁸ hours per week.

7. For some repeat clients the number of times they had been to the shelter previously was unknown.

8. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 36 hours per week.

Transition Homes in Canada, 2003/04

Alberta Fact Sheet

The Transition Home Survey is conducted on a biennial basis as part of the federal government's Family Violence Initiative. The 2003/04 questionnaire was sent to 543 shelters in Canada known to be providing residential services for women victims of abuse and their children. Responses were received from 473 shelters (87%).

The questionnaire was sent to 43 facilities in Alberta and responses were received from 98% of the shelters.

- There were 13,707 admissions of women and dependant children reported from April 1, 2003 to March 31 2004.¹

A profile of residents, April 14, 2004

- In a snapshot taken on April 14, 2004, there were 728 residents in shelters in Alberta: 54% (395) were women and 46% (333) were dependant children.
- 76% (299) of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, were victims of abuse and the remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing problems. Of those admitted for abuse,² 90% were fleeing psychological abuse, 68% physical abuse, 62% financial abuse, 54% threats, 37% sexual abuse, and 27% harassment.
- 55% of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 73% (233) of these children were under 10 years of age.
- 37% of women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from psychological abuse, 36% from witnessing the abuse of their mother, 20% from threats, 17% from physical abuse, and 11% from neglect.³
- 57% of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser, 18% were abused by a former spouse or partner, 9% by a relative, 2% by someone from a current or ex-dating relationship, 7% were abused by others and for 7%, the relationship was unknown.⁴
- The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters on April 14th, 2004, were: self-referral (29%), another transition house (17%), another community agency (13%), and family or friends (5%).⁵
- Half of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, had been there before. 17% of repeat clients had been there once in the last year, 68% had been there 2 to 4 times and 6% had been there 5 or more times.⁶

1. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2004 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

2. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

3. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses. 'Women with parenting responsibilities' include women admitted to shelters with their children and women admitted without their children. However, it is not known if women admitted without their children had custody of those children at the time of admittance.

4. 'Others' includes friend or acquaintance and authority figure.

5. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

6. For some repeat clients the number of times they had been to the shelter previously was unknown.

- Among women leaving the shelter on snapshot day 27% each left for new accommodations without their spouse or partner, went to another agency, or went to reside with friends or relatives. Another 9% returned home without their spouse or partner. Only 9% returned to their spouse or partner.
- 27% of abused women had reported police intervention for the most recent violent incident to police and, in 54% of these reported cases charges were laid against the abuser.

A profile of shelters, 2003/04

- 95% of shelters served urban/suburban populations, 48% served rural/village populations and 50% served reserve populations.
- 6 (14%) of shelters were located on a reserve, 14% of shelters were owned by a band council and 10% were operated by a band council.
- The majority of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: advocacy (95%), individual short-term counselling (90%), services for aboriginal women (86%), housing referral (83%) and services for ethno-cultural or visible minority women (83%).
- Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women who in need of assistance. These services included: crisis telephone lines (74%), advocacy (71%), individual short-term counselling (64%), and culturally sensitive services for aboriginal women (57%).
- In-house services offered to resident children included: programs for child witnesses or victims of abuse (83%), outdoor and indoor recreation spaces, each provided by 81% of shelters, culturally sensitive services for aboriginal children (69%), and individual counselling (62%).
- 83% of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, 76% reported having bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible and 69% reported having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible. 24% offered services to people who are blind or visually impaired and 19% offered services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired.
- 42 facilities reported providing a total of 1,906 outreach⁷ hours per week.

7. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 45 hours per week.

Transition Homes in Canada, 2003/04

British Columbia Fact Sheet

The Transition Home Survey is conducted on a biennial basis as part of the federal government's Family Violence Initiative. The 2003/04 questionnaire was sent to 543 shelters in Canada known to be providing residential services for women victims of abuse and their children. Responses were received from 473 shelters (87%).

The questionnaire was sent to 105 facilities in British Columbia and responses were received from 90% of the shelters.

- There were 15,499 admissions of women and dependant children reported from April, 1 2003 to March 31 2004.¹

A profile of residents, April 14, 2004

- In a snapshot taken on April 14, 2004, there were 845 residents in shelters in British Columbia: 55% (465) were women and 45% (380) were dependant children.
- 76% (352) of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, were victims of abuse and the remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing problems. Of those admitted for abuse,² 84% were fleeing psychological abuse, 69% physical abuse, 61% threats, 49% financial abuse, 38% harassment, and 26% sexual abuse.
- 49% of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 73% (225) of these children were under 10 years of age.
- 54% of women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from witnessing the abuse of their mother, 39% from psychological abuse, 30% from physical abuse, 24% from threats, and 14% from neglect.³
- 70% of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser, 9% were abused by a former spouse or partner, 3% by a relative, 3% by someone from a current or ex-dating relationship, and 8% were abused by others.⁴ For 7%, the relationship was unknown.
- The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters on April 14th, 2004, were: self-referral (33%), another transition house (17%), and another community agency (13%).⁵
- 31% of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, had been there before. 41% of repeat clients had been there once in the last year, 37% had been there 2 to 4 times and 9% had been there 5 or more times.⁶

1. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2004 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

2. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

3. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses. 'Women with parenting responsibilities' include women admitted to shelters with their children and women admitted without their children. However, it is not known if women admitted without their children had custody of those children at the time of admittance.

4. 'Others' includes friend or acquaintance, caregiver or authority figure.

5. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

6. For some repeat clients the number of times they had been to the shelter previously was unknown.

- Among women leaving the shelter on snapshot day 29% left for new accommodations without their spouse or partner and the same proportion went to another agency, while another 14% went to other forms of housing. It was unknown where and additional 14% were going to reside. Only 14% of women returned to their spouse or partner.
- A third of abused women had reported police intervention for the most recent violent incident to police and, in 55% of these reported cases charges were laid against the abuser.

A profile of shelters, 2003/04

- 88% of shelters served urban/suburban populations, 35% served rural/village populations and 30% served reserve populations.
- 6 (6%) of shelters were located on a reserve, 3% of shelters were owned by a band council and 3% were operated by a band council.
- The majority of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: housing referral (91%), advocacy (90%), individual short-term counselling (79%), and culturally sensitive services for aboriginal women (78%).
- Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included: crisis telephone lines (69%), individual short-term counselling (50%), advocacy (49%), mental health services (47%), and culturally sensitive services for aboriginal women (46%).
- In-house services offered to resident children included: outdoor recreation spaces (74%), indoor recreation spaces (69%), individual counselling (51%), and culturally sensitive programs for aboriginal children (50%).
- 81% of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, 72% reported having bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible and 63% reported having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible. 18% offered services to people who are blind or visually impaired and 14% offered services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired.
- 94 facilities reported providing a total of 1,680 outreach⁷ hours per week.

7. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 18 hours per week.

Transition Homes in Canada, 2003/04

The Yukon Territory Fact Sheet

The Transition Home Survey is conducted on a biennial basis as part of the federal government's Family Violence Initiative. The 2003/04 questionnaire was sent to 543 shelters in Canada known to be providing residential services for women victims of abuse and their children. Responses were received from 473 shelters (87%).

The questionnaire was sent to 6 facilities in Yukon Territory and responses were received from 3 (50%) of the shelters.

- There were 607 admissions of women and dependant children reported from April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004.¹

A profile of residents, April 14, 2004

- In a snapshot taken on April 14, 2004, there were 17 residents in shelters in Yukon Territory: 59% (10) were women and 41% (7) were dependant children.
- All of the women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, were victims of abuse: 7 were fleeing psychological abuse, 5 physical abuse, 2 threats, 2 financial abuse and 1 was fleeing harassment.²
- Half (5) of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; all (7) of these children were under 10 years of age.
- 57% (4) of women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from witnessing abuse of their mother and 43% (3) from psychological abuse.³
- 50% of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser, 30% were abused by a former spouse or partner and 20% by an ex-boyfriend.
- For women residing in shelters on April 14th, 2004, self-referrals (70%) were the most common sources of referral.
- 4 of the women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, had been there before.⁴
- Half (5) of the abused women had reported police intervention for the most recent violent incident to police and in the majority of these reported cases charges were not laid against the abuser.

1. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2004 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

2. Figures do not add to the total number of women in shelters for abuse due to multiple responses.

3. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses. 'Women with parenting responsibilities' include women admitted to shelters with their children and women admitted without their children. However, it is not known if women admitted without their children had custody of those children at the time of admittance.

4. The number of times that repeat clients had been to the shelter in the previous year was unknown.

A profile of shelters, 2003/04

- 2 of the shelters served urban/suburban populations and all 3 served rural/village populations.
- Two-thirds of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal women, culturally sensitive services for ethno-cultural and visible minority women, lesbian sensitive services and services for women with disabilities.
- Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. The following services were provided by two-thirds of shelters: individual short-term counselling, crisis telephone lines, housing referral, culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal women, culturally sensitive services for ethno-cultural and visible minority women, lesbian sensitive services, services for women with disabilities and advocacy.
- In-house services offered to resident children by a third of shelters included: individual counselling, culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal children, culturally sensitive services for ethno-cultural and visible minority children, school classes or tutoring, babysitting as well as indoor and outdoor recreation spaces.
- All shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, all reported having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible and all reported having bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible. Two-thirds offered services to people who are blind or visually impaired.
- 3 facilities reported providing a total 118 outreach⁵ hours per week.

5. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the territorial average was 39 hours per week.

Transition Homes in Canada, 2003/04

Northwest Territories Fact Sheet

The Transition Home Survey is conducted on a biennial basis as part of the federal government's Family Violence Initiative. The 2003/04 questionnaire was sent to 543 shelters in Canada known to be providing residential services for women victims of abuse and their children. Responses were received from 473 shelters (87%).

The questionnaire was sent to 7 facilities in the Northwest Territories and responses were received from 5 (71%) of the shelters.

- There were 722 admissions of women and dependant children reported from April 1 2003 to March 31, 2004.¹

A profile of residents, April 14, 2004²

- In a snapshot taken on April 14, 2004, there were 17 residents in shelters in the Northwest Territories: 59% (10) were women and 41% (7) were dependant children.
- 90% (9) of women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, were victims of abuse and the remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing problems. Of those admitted for abuse, 8 were fleeing psychological abuse, 7 physical abuse, 6 financial abuse, 5 threats and 3 were fleeing harassment.³
- 56% (5) of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 57% (4) of these children were under 10 years of age.
- 67% (6) of women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from psychological abuse and 56% (5) from witnessing the abuse of their mother.⁴
- 78% (7) of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser. The remaining women were abused by a former spouse or partner, or by a friend or acquaintance.
- For women residing in shelters on April 14th, 2004, self-referrals (42%) were the most common type of referral. Referrals also came from other house residents, the police, community agencies and government ministries.⁵
- 3 of the women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, had been there before. All of these repeat clients had been to the shelter at least once in the previous year.
- A third (3) of the abused women had reported police intervention for the most recent violent incident to police and in 2 of these reported cases charges were laid against the abuser.

1. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2004 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

2. No women departed on snapshot day.

3. Figures do not add to the total number of women in shelters for abuse due to multiple responses.

4. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses. 'Women with parenting responsibilities' include women admitted to shelters with their children and women admitted without their children. However, it is not known if women admitted without their children had custody of those children at the time of admittance.

5. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

A profile of shelters, 2003/04

- All of the shelters served urban/suburban populations and 1 served rural/village populations and 1 served reserve populations.
- All shelters offered the following in-house service to women residents: housing referral, advocacy and culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal women.
- Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. The following services were provided by the majority of shelters: crisis telephone line (90%), advocacy (90%), culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal women, culturally sensitive services for ethno-cultural and visible minority women and lesbian sensitive services, each offered by 60% of shelters.
- In-house services offered to resident children by 90% of shelters included indoor and outdoor recreation spaces. Individual counselling, culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal children and culturally sensitive services for ethno-cultural and visible minority children, were offered by 60% of shelters.
- 40% of shelters each reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible and bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible. 40% offered services to people who are blind or visually impaired and 20% offered services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired.
- 5 facilities reported providing a total of 131 outreach⁶ hours per week.

6. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the territorial average was 26 hours per week.

Transition Homes in Canada, 2003/04

Nunavut Fact Sheet

The Transition Home Survey is conducted on a biennial basis as part of the federal government's Family Violence Initiative. The 2003/04 questionnaire was sent to 543 shelters in Canada known to be providing residential services for women victims of abuse and their children. Responses were received from 473 shelters (87%).

The questionnaire was sent to 6 facilities in Nunavut and responses were received from 3 (50%) of the shelters.

- There were 906 admissions of women and dependant children reported from April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004.¹

A profile of residents, April 14, 2004²

- In a snapshot taken on April 14, 2004, there were 25 residents in shelters in Nunavut: 56% (14) were women and 44% (11) were dependant children.
- All of the women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, were victims of abuse: 12 were fleeing psychological abuse, 9 physical abuse, 4 sexual abuse and 1 was fleeing financial abuse.³
- Half (7) of the women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children.⁴
- 86% (12) of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser. The remaining women were abused by a former spouse or partner, or by a relative.
- For women residing in shelters on April 14th, 2004, self-referrals (64%) were the most common sources of referral. 29% of referrals came from other unspecified sources.⁵
- 12 of the women residing in shelters on April 14, 2004, had been there before.⁶
- 43% (6) of abused women had reported police intervention for the most recent violent incident to police and in 67% (4) of these reported cases charges were laid against the abuser.

1. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2004 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

2. No women departed on snapshot day.

3. Figures do not add to the total number of women in shelters for abuse due to multiple responses.

4. The age of the 11 children in Nunavut shelters on snapshot day was unknown.

5. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

6. The number of times a repeat client had been to the shelter previously was unknown for the majority (92%) of clients.

A profile of shelters, 2003/04

- All of the shelters served urban/suburban populations.
- Two-thirds of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: individual short-term counselling, housing referral, advocacy, culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal women, culturally sensitive services for ethno-cultural and visible minority women and services for women with disabilities.
- Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. The following services were provided by two-thirds of shelters: individual long-term counselling, addiction counselling and crisis telephone lines.
- In-house services offered to resident children included child protection or family services (67%), as well as the following provided by one-in-three shelters: culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal children, babysitting, indoor and outdoor recreation spaces.
- Two-thirds of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible and having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible. One-third reported having bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible. One-third offered services to people who are blind or visually impaired.
- 3 facilities reported providing a total of 50 outreach⁷ hours per week.

7. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the territorial average was 17 hours per week.