

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



2007/2008



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- .. not available for a specific reference period
- ... not applicable
- 0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
- 0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
- p preliminary
- r revised
- x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
- E use with caution
- F too unreliable to be published

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Introduction

All across Canada, shelters provide support for individuals in crisis. They are a 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 to help them to better their lives. In addition, shelters often engage in outreach activities, thereby extending their support to those residing outside the facility.

As part of the Federal 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 1992/1993, 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. Shelters that do not provide services **exclusively** to women escaping domestic violence, such as general emergency shelters, are also included in order to provide a more accurate picture of the facilities serving abused women. Information is collected on the characteristics of the facilities and the services provided during the previous 12 months (i.e., April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008). Additionally, a snapshot day (April 16, 2008) is used to profile the women and children residing in the shelter on the given day.

For the 2007/2008 Transition Home Survey, 569 shelters were contacted and 518 of these shelters (91%) responded to the survey. Figures presented in the 2007/2008 THS Fact Sheets, however, are representative of all 569 facilities, as an imputation procedure was used to replace missing data for non-respondents.²

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

National Fact Sheet

There were 101,019 admissions of women and their children to shelters across Canada between April 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008.³

A profile of shelter residents in Canada, April 16, 2008

In a snapshot taken on April 16, 2008, there were 7,634 residents in shelters across Canada: 56% (4,273) were women and 44% (3,361) were dependent children.

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

2. The imputed data were tested for statistically significant differences from the data collected from respondents. The results from the test show no statistically meaningful differences between the imputed and respondent data.

3. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the 12-month period ending March 31, 2008 or their own 12-month fiscal period.

Three-quarters of women (3,222) residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, were victims of abuse; for every 100,000 women⁴ in Canada there were approximately 28 women residing in shelters to escape abuse. The remaining one-quarter were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing-related problems.

Among the women admitted for abuse, 87% were fleeing psychological abuse, 73% physical abuse, 51% threats, 48% financial abuse, 38% harassment, and 24% sexual abuse.⁵

Nearly half of the women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 69% (1,999) of these children were under 10 years of age.

Women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from abusive situations such as witnessing the abuse of their mother (48%), psychological abuse (38%), physical abuse (23%), threats (19%), neglect (14%), and sexual abuse (8%).⁶

Sixty-four percent of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser; another 12% were abused by a former spouse or partner; 7% by someone from a current or ex-dating relationship and 6% were abused by a relative. For 8% of women, the relationship with their abuser was unknown.⁷

The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters in Canada on April 16, 2008, were: self-referral (34%), another transition house (15%), another community group (13%), and family or friends (8%).

Thirty-six percent of women residing in shelters on April 16, 2008 had been there before. Among these women who had already stayed in shelters, 32% had been there on one prior occasion within the last year, 23% had been there 2 to 4 times and 13% had been there 5 or more times in the last 12 months. For 27% of repeat residents, it had been more than 12 months since their last stay.

Among women leaving the shelter on snapshot day, 4% intended to return to their spouse or partner. Seventeen percent of women planned to leave for new accommodations without their spouse or partner, 13% planned to go to a second stage house or another emergency shelter and 9% planned to live with friends or relatives. Other women departed for some other type of housing.⁸ For 36% of women, it was unknown where they planned to reside upon departure.

Twenty-six percent of abused women reported that there was police intervention for the most recent violent incident, and in 60% of reported cases, charges were laid against the abuser.

A profile of Canada's shelters, 2007/2008

Ninety-two percent of shelters in Canada served urban/suburban populations, 36% served rural/village populations and 28% served reserve populations.⁹ A total of 30 shelters (5%) were located on a reserve, 25 shelters (4%) were owned by a band council and 23 (4%) were operated by a band council.

A wide range of services are offered by the shelters in Canada. Those services cover, amongst others, the needs of clients in terms of counselling, health services, personal and professional training and culturally sensitive services. The most common in-house services offered to women residents by the majority of shelters in Canada were transportation and accompaniment (90%), safety and protection planning (89%), individual short-term counselling (89%), advocacy (89%), and housing referral (85%).¹⁰

4. Rate of all women currently single, married, in a common-law relationship or who are separated.

5. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses (i.e., respondents could specify as many responses as applied).

6. 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.

7. The remaining 3% accounted for relationship of friend, authority figure, caregiver, or other.

8. Other types of housing include another shelter outside the province/territory, hospitals, residential services (e.g., group homes, addiction rehabilitations centers) and motels.

9. Urban/suburban areas have minimum population concentrations of 1,000 and a population density of at least 400 people per square kilometre. Rural areas include small towns, villages, and other populated places with less than 1,000 population. Reserves are defined by a tract of land set aside by the federal government for the use and benefit of a First Nations Band which is governed by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

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

Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included: crisis telephone lines (68%), safety and protection planning (67%), individual short-term counselling (63%), and advocacy (63%).¹¹

In-house services offered to resident children included: outdoor recreation space (74%), indoor recreation space (73%), individual counselling (67%), group counselling or support (53%), and programs for child witnesses or victims of abuse (52%).¹²

Three-quarters of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, 65% had accessible bathrooms and the same proportion (65%) had bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible. Twenty-two percent offered specialized services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired and 17% offered specialized services to people who are blind or visually impaired.

Combined, facilities reported providing a total of 28,770 outreach¹³ hours per week. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities and/or options as well as participating in drop-in centres.

Newfoundland and Labrador Fact Sheet

The 2007/2008 Transition Home Survey questionnaire was sent to 15 facilities known to be providing residential services for abused women in Newfoundland and Labrador. Responses were received from 14 shelters.

There were 1,107 admissions of women and their children to shelters in Newfoundland and Labrador between April 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008.¹⁴

A profile of residents in Newfoundland and Labrador shelters, April 16, 2008¹⁵

In a snapshot taken on April 16, 2008, there were 124 residents in shelters in Newfoundland and Labrador: 53% (66) were women and 47% (58) were dependent children.

Eighty-two percent of women (54) residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, were victims of abuse; for every 100,000 women¹⁶ in Newfoundland and Labrador there were approximately 29 women residing in shelters to escape abuse. The remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing-related problems.

Among the women admitted for abuse, 94% were fleeing psychological abuse, 80% threats, 67% physical abuse, 57% harassment, and 52% financial abuse.¹⁷

More than half (56%) of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 59% of these children (32) were under 10 years of age.

Women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from abusive situations such as witnessing abuse of their mother (72%), psychological abuse (47%), physical abuse (33%), and threats (28%).¹⁸

Eighty-five percent of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser, 6% by a relative, 4% by someone from a current or ex-dating relationship and 4% by someone they did not know. About 6% were abused by someone else such as a dating partner.¹⁹

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

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

13. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the national average was 51 hours per week.

14. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the 12-month period ending March 31, 2008 or their own 12-month fiscal period.

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

16. Rate of all women currently single, married, in a common-law relationship or who are separated.

17. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses (i.e., respondents could specify as many responses as applied).

18. 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.

19. The remaining 1% accounted for relationship of friend, authority figure, caregiver, or other.

The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters in Newfoundland and Labrador on April 16, 2008, were: self-referral (33%), another transition house (21%), Ministry for Children and Families (20%), or another house resident (17%).

Twenty-four percent of women residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, had been there before. Among these women who had already stayed in shelters, 38% had been there on at least one prior occasion within the last year and 31% had been there 2 to 4 times. For 25% of women, it had been more than 12 months since their last stay.

One-fifth of abused women reported that there was police intervention for the most recent violent incident and in 45% of reported cases, charges were laid against the abuser.

A profile of shelters in Newfoundland and Labrador, 2007/2008

Ninety-three percent of shelters in Newfoundland and Labrador served urban/suburban populations, 27% served rural/village populations and 13% served reserve populations.²⁰

The majority of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: advocacy (87%), safety or protection planning (80%), housing referral (80%), life skills training (73%), individual short-term counselling (67%) and services for women with disabilities (67%).²¹

Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included safety or protection planning (60%), housing referral (53%), crisis telephone lines (47%), advocacy (47%) and lesbian sensitive services (47%).²²

In-house services offered to resident children included: outdoor recreation space (60%), and indoor recreation space (53%). Culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal children, programs for child witnesses or victims of abuse, group counselling and babysitting services, were each provided by about 27% of shelters.²³

Eighty-seven percent of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, 8 out of 10 had bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible and 73% had bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible. Twenty-seven percent offered specialized services to people who are blind or visually impaired and 27% offered specialized services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired.

Combined, 15 facilities reported providing a total of 289 outreach²⁴ hours per week. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres.

Prince Edward Island Fact Sheet

The 2007/2008 Transition Home Survey questionnaire was sent to 5 facilities known to be providing residential services for abused women in Prince Edward Island. Responses were received from all of the shelters.

There were 185 admissions of women and their children to shelters across Prince Edward Island between April 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008.²⁵

20. Urban/suburban areas have minimum population concentrations of 1,000 and a population density of at least 400 people per square kilometer. Rural areas include small towns, villages, and other populated places with less than 1,000 population. Reserves are defined by a tract of land set aside by the federal government for the use and benefit of a First Nations Band which is governed by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

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

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

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

24. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 19 hours per week.

25. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2008 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

A profile of shelter residents in Prince Edward Island, April 16, 2008²⁶

In a snapshot taken on April 16, 2008, there were 19 residents in shelters in Prince Edward Island: 79% (15) were women and 21% (4) were dependent children.

Eighty-seven percent of women residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, were victims of abuse; for every 100,000 women²⁷ in Prince Edward Island there were approximately 26 women residing in shelters to escape abuse. The remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing related problems.

Among the women admitted for abuse, 92% were fleeing psychological abuse and 92% were fleeing threats; 77% were fleeing physical abuse, 69% financial abuse, and 38% sexual abuse.²⁸

Women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from abusive situations such as psychological abuse (44%), witnessing abuse of their mother (33%), physical abuse (11%), and threats (11%).²⁹

Sixty-nine percent of abused women indicated that their current spouse or partner was the abuser, while 8% were abused by an ex-spouse or ex-common-law partner and 15% by someone they had previously dated. In 8% of cases, the abuser was unknown.

The most common known sources of referral for women residing in shelters in Prince Edward Island on April 16, 2008, were: self-referral (27%), and hospitals, doctors, nurses, other healthcare practitioners or hospital social workers (13%).

Twenty-seven percent of women residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, had been there before. All had been to the shelter on one prior occasion within the last year.

Thirty-eight percent of abused women reported that there was police intervention for the most recent violent incident and in one-fifth of reported cases, charges were laid against the abuser.

A profile of shelters in Prince Edward Island, 2007/2008

Four shelters in Prince Edward Island served urban/suburban populations, two shelters served rural/village populations, and one served reserve populations.³⁰

Three shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: housing referral, advocacy, life skills and culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal women.

With respect to in-house services to non-resident women, four shelters offered advocacy, three offered safety or protection planning and three offered housing referral. Two shelters offered outdoor recreation spaces for children.³¹

Two shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible as well as one wheelchair accessible bathroom.

Combined, the 5 facilities reported providing a total of 198 outreach³² hours per week. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres.

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

27. Rate of all women currently single, married, in a common-law relationship or who are separated.

28. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses (i.e., respondents could specify as many responses as applied).

29. 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.

30. Urban/suburban areas have minimum population concentrations of 1,000 and a population density of at least 400 people per square kilometer. Rural areas include small towns, villages, and other populated places with less than 1,000 population. Reserves are defined by a tract of land set aside by the federal government for the use and benefit of a First Nations Band which is governed by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

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

32. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 40 hours per week.

Nova Scotia Fact Sheet

The 2007/2008 Transition Home Survey questionnaire was sent to 16 facilities known to be providing residential services for abused women in Nova Scotia. Responses were received from 14 shelters.

There were 1,269 admissions of women and their children to shelters across Nova Scotia between April 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008.³³

A profile of shelter residents in Nova Scotia, April 16, 2008

In a snapshot taken on April 16, 2008, there were 141 residents in shelters in Nova Scotia: 55% (78) were women and 45% (63) were dependent children.

Eighty-five percent of women (66) residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, were victims of abuse; for every 100,000 women³⁴ in Nova Scotia there were approximately 20 women residing in shelters to escape abuse. The remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing related problems.

Among the women admitted for abuse, 85% were fleeing physical abuse, 74% psychological abuse, 62% threats, 35% harassment, 33% financial abuse, and 21% sexual abuse.³⁵

Thirty-nine percent of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 73% (36) of these children were under 10 years of age.

Women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from abusive situations such as psychological abuse (83%), witnessing the abuse of their mother (63%), physical abuse (63%), neglect (54%), threats (46%), and sexual abuse (43%).³⁶

Fifty-six percent of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser, 12% were abused by a former spouse or partner, 5% by a relative and for 26% the abuser was unknown.³⁷

The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters in Nova Scotia on April 16, 2008, were: self-referral (60%), another transition house (13%) and family or friends (13%).

About one-quarter of women residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, had been there before. Among these women who had already stayed in shelters, 15% had been there on one prior occasion within the last year and another 10% had been there 2 to 4 times. For 55% of repeat residents, it had been more than 12 months since their last stay.

Three in ten abused women reported that there was police intervention for the most recent violent incident and in 55% of these reported cases, charges were laid against the abuser.

A profile of shelters in Nova Scotia, 2007/2008

Three-quarters of shelters in Nova Scotia served urban/suburban populations, 44% served rural/village populations and 44% served reserve populations.³⁸

All shelters offered advocacy and the majority provided the following in-house services to women residents: safety or protection planning (94%), housing referral (94%), individual short-term counselling (88%), parenting skills training (88%), transportation and accompaniment (88%) and group counselling (81%).³⁹

33. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2008 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

34. Rate of all women currently single, married, in a common-law relationship or who are separated.

35. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses (i.e., respondents could specify as many responses as applied).

36. 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.

37. The remaining 1% accounted for relationship of friend, authority figure, caregiver, or other.

38. Urban/suburban areas have minimum population concentrations of 1,000 and a population density of at least 400 people per square kilometer. Rural areas include small towns, villages, and other populated places with less than 1,000 population. Reserves are defined by a tract of land set aside by the federal government for the use and benefit of a First Nations Band which is governed by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

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

Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. Approximately 8 in 10 facilities offered advocacy and another 8 in 10 offered safety or protection planning. Three quarters of facilities provided crisis telephone lines while 69% offered housing referral, individual long-term and short-term counselling, group counselling and transportation and accompaniment.⁴⁰

In-house services offered to resident children included: individual short-term counselling (81%), group counselling (81%), culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal children (69%), and indoor and outdoor recreation spaces (69%).⁴¹

Eighty-eight percent of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, 75% reported having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible and 69% reported having bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible. Nineteen percent of shelters offered specialized services to people who are blind or visually impaired and 19% offered specialized services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired.

Combined, 16 facilities reported providing a total of 802 outreach⁴² hours per week. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres.

New Brunswick Fact Sheet

The 2007/2008 Transition Home Survey questionnaire was sent to 22 facilities known to be providing residential services for abused women in New Brunswick. Responses were received from 21 shelters.

There were 2,078 admissions of women and their children to shelters across New Brunswick between April 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008.⁴³

A profile of shelter residents in New Brunswick, April 16, 2008⁴⁴

In a snapshot taken on April 16, 2008, there were 193 residents in shelters in New Brunswick: 56% (109) were women and 44% (84) were dependent children.

Seventy-six percent of women (83) residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, were victims of abuse; for every 100,000 women⁴⁵ in New Brunswick there were approximately 31 women residing in shelters to escape abuse. The remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing related problems.

Among the women admitted for abuse, almost all (99%) were fleeing psychological abuse, 76% physical abuse, 65% threats, 64% financial abuse, 54% harassment, and 36% sexual abuse.⁴⁶

About half of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 67% of these children (55) were under 10 years of age.

Women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from abusive situations such as witnessing the abuse of their mother (91%), psychological abuse (60%), physical abuse (37%), threats (35%), neglect (21%), and sexual abuse (7%).⁴⁷

Eighty-seven percent of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser, 2% were abused by a former spouse or partner, 5% by a friend or acquaintance, 4% by a relative, and another 2% were abused by someone from a current or ex-dating relationship.

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

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

42. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 50 hours per week.

43. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2008 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

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

45. Rate of all women currently single, married, in a common-law relationship or who are separated.

46. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple (i.e., respondents could specify as many responses as applied).

47. 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.

The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters in New Brunswick on April 16, 2008, were: self-referral (25%), another transition house (20%), family or friends (12%), police (9%), and another house resident (8%).

Seventeen percent of women residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, had been there before. Among these women who had already stayed in shelters, 39% had been there on one prior occasion in the last year, another 17% had been there 2 to 4 times, and 6% had been there 5 or more times in the last 12 months. For 39% of repeat residents, it had been more than 12 months since their last stay.

Approximately three in ten abused women reported that there was police intervention for the most recent violent incident, and in about two-thirds (67%) of these reported cases, charges were laid against the abuser.

A profile of shelters in New Brunswick, 2007/2008

Ninety-five percent of shelters in New Brunswick served urban/suburban populations, 45% served rural/village populations and 27% served reserve populations.⁴⁸

The majority of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: individual short-term counselling (91%), transportation or accompaniment (77%), safety or protection planning (77%), housing referral (68%), and crisis telephone lines (59%).⁴⁹

Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included: safety or protection planning (59%), crisis telephone lines (55%), individual short-term counselling (50%), advocacy (32%), and transportation and accompaniment (32%).⁵⁰

In-house services offered to resident children included: outdoor recreation space (68%), indoor recreation space (64%) as well as individual short-term counselling and programs for child witness or victim abuse, each representing 55%.

Half of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, 36% reported having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible and 32% had bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible. About 9% offered specialized services to people who are blind or visually impaired and 9% offered specialized services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired.⁵¹

Combined, 22 facilities reported providing a total of 604 outreach⁵² hours per week. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres.

Quebec Fact Sheet

The 2007/2008 Transition Home Survey questionnaire was sent to 126 facilities known to be providing residential services for abused women in Quebec. Responses were received from 115 shelters.

There were 19,226 admissions of women and their children to shelters across Quebec between April 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008.⁵³

48. Urban/suburban areas have minimum population concentrations of 1,000 and a population density of at least 400 people per square kilometer. Rural areas include small towns, villages, and other populated places with less than 1,000 population. Reserves are defined by a tract of land set aside by the federal government for the use and benefit of a First Nations Band which is governed by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

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

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

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

52. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 27 hours per week.

53. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2008 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

A profile of shelter residents in Quebec, April 16, 2008

In a snapshot taken on April 16, 2008, there were 1,262 residents in shelters in Quebec: 65% (822) were women and 35% (440) were dependent children.

Seventy-two percent of women (592) residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, were victims of abuse; for every 100,000 women⁵⁴ in Quebec there were approximately 22 women residing in shelters to escape abuse. The remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing-related problems.

Among the women admitted for abuse, 87% were fleeing psychological abuse, 66% physical abuse, 48% financial abuse, 42% threats, 36% sexual abuse, and 34% harassment.⁵⁵

Forty-one percent of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; more than three-quarters (76%) of these children (314) were under 10 years of age.

Women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from abusive situations such as witnessing the abuse of their mother (41%), psychological abuse (37%), physical abuse (24%), threats (16%), neglect (12%), and sexual abuse (9%).⁵⁶

Sixty-eight percent of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser, 13% were abused by a former spouse or partner, 4% by someone from a current or ex-dating relationship, and another 4% by a relative. For 7% of women the relationship to the abuser was unknown.⁵⁷

The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters in Quebec on April 16, 2008, were: self-referral (22%), another transition house (18%), and hospitals, doctors, nurses, other healthcare practitioners or hospital social workers (10%).⁵⁸

Twenty-four percent of women residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, had been there before. Among these women who had already stayed in shelters, 32% had been there on one prior occasion in the last year, 23% had been there 2 to 4 times and 8% had been there 5 or more times in the last 12 months. For nearly a third (31%) of repeat residents, it had been more than 12 months since their last stay.

Twenty-nine percent of abused women reported that there was police intervention for the most recent violent incident and in two-thirds (67%) of these reported cases, charges were laid against the abuser.

A profile of shelters in Quebec, 2007/2008

Ninety-three percent of shelters in Quebec served urban/suburban populations, 46% served rural/village populations and 29% served reserve populations.⁵⁹

The majority of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: individual short-term counselling (98%), transportation and accompaniment (96%), safety or protection planning (90%), parenting skills training (85%), advocacy (84%), group counselling (77%), and legal services (75%).⁶⁰

Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included: crisis telephone lines (76%), individual short-term counselling (71%), and safety or protection planning (68%), advocacy (60%), and legal services (52%).⁶¹

54. Rate of all women currently single, married, in a common-law relationship or who are separated.

55. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses (i.e., respondents could specify as many responses as applied).

56. 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.

57. The remaining 4% accounted for relationship of friend, authority figure, caregiver, or other.

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

59. Urban/suburban areas have minimum population concentrations of 1,000 and a population density of at least 400 people per square kilometer. Rural areas include small towns, villages, and other populated places with less than 1,000 population. Reserves are defined by a tract of land set aside by the federal government for the use and benefit of a First Nations Band which is governed by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

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

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

In-house services offered to resident children included: individual short-term counselling (83%), outdoor recreation space (80%), indoor recreation space (79%), programs for child witnesses or victims of abuse (67%), and babysitting services (57%).⁶²

Fifty-four percent of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, 41% reported having bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible and 39% reported having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible. About one-tenth of shelters (9%) offered specialized services to people who are blind or visually impaired and 19% offered specialized services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired.

Combined, 126 facilities reported providing a total of 11,624 outreach⁶³ hours per week. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres.

Ontario Fact Sheet

The 2007/2008 Transition Home Survey questionnaire was sent to 160 facilities known to be providing residential services for abused women in Ontario. Response were received from 145 shelters.

There were 30,671 admissions of women and their children to shelters across Ontario between April 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008.⁶⁴

A profile of shelter residents in Ontario, April 16, 2008

In a snapshot taken on April 16, 2008, there were 3,179 residents in shelters in Ontario: 51% (1,634) were women and 49% (1,545) were dependent children.

Three quarters of women (1,230) residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, were victims of abuse; for every 100,000 women⁶⁵ in Ontario there were approximately 27 women residing in shelters to escape abuse. The remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing problems.

Among the women admitted for abuse, 85% were fleeing psychological abuse, 70% physical abuse, 51% threats, 47% financial abuse, 36% harassment and 26% sexual abuse.⁶⁶

Fifty-four percent of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 65% of these children (784) were under 10 years of age.

Women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from abusive situations such as witnessing the abuse of their mother (46%), psychological abuse (32%), physical abuse (19%), threats (17%), neglect (13%), and sexual abuse (5%).

Sixty-four percent of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser, 10% were abused by a former spouse or partner, 10% by someone from a current or ex-dating relationship, 8% by a relative, 2% by someone else, such as a friend or acquaintance, or an authority figure and for 5% the relationship was unknown.⁶⁷

The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters in Ontario on April 16, 2008, were: self-referral (39%) another community group (14%), another transition house (14%), and family or friends (10%).

Twenty-three percent of women residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, had been there before. Among these women who had already stayed in shelters, 4 out of 10 had been there once in the last year, 22% had been there 2 to 4 times

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

63. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 92 hours per week.

64. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2008 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

65. Rate of all women currently single, married, in a common-law relationship or who are separated.

66. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses (i.e., respondents could specify as many responses as applied).

67. The remaining 1% accounted for relationship of friend, authority figure, caregiver, or other.

and 7% had been there 5 or more times in the last 12 months. For 29% of repeat residents, it had been more than 12 months since their last stay.

One quarter of abused women reported that there was 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 in Ontario, 2007/2008

Ninety-two percent of shelters in Ontario served urban/suburban populations, 46% served rural/village populations and 29% served reserve populations.⁶⁸ A total of 13 shelters (8%) were located on a reserve, 6% were owned by a band council and 6% were operated by a band council.

The majority of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: housing referral (95%), individual short-term counselling (94%), advocacy (93%), safety or protection planning (91%), transportation and accompaniment (91%), life skills training (85%), parenting skills training (85%), and services for women with disabilities (78%).⁶⁹

Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included: advocacy (74%), safety or protection planning (73%), individual short-term counselling (72%), crisis telephone lines (71%), housing referral (70%), and lesbian sensitive services (57%).⁷⁰

In-house services offered to resident children included: outdoor recreation space (86%), indoor recreation space (85%), individual short-term counselling (67%), and group counselling (61%).⁷¹

Eighty-seven percent of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, and 78% reported having bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible and 81% reported having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible. Half (51%) offered specialized services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired and 31% offered specialized services to people who are blind or visually impaired.

Combined, 160 facilities reported providing a total of 8,719 outreach⁷² hours per week. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centre.

Manitoba Fact Sheet

The 2007/2008 Transition Home Survey questionnaire was sent to 29 facilities known to be providing residential services for abused women in Manitoba. Responses were received from 24 shelters.

There were 8,565 admissions of women and their children to shelters across Manitoba between April 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008.⁷³

A profile of shelter residents in Manitoba, April 16, 2008

In a snapshot taken on April 16, 2008, there were 297 residents in shelters in Manitoba: 54% (159) were women and 46% (138) were dependent children.

68. Urban/suburban areas have minimum population concentrations of 1,000 and a population density of at least 400 people per square kilometer. Rural areas include small towns, villages, and other populated places with less than 1,000 population. Reserves are defined by a tract of land set aside by the federal government for the use and benefit of a First Nations Band which is governed by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

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

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

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

72. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 54 hours per week.

73. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2008 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

Seventy-two percent of women (115) residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, were victims of abuse; for every 100,000 women⁷⁴ in Manitoba there were approximately 28 women residing in shelters to escape abuse. The remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing problems.

Among the women admitted for abuse, 84% were fleeing physical abuse, 78% were fleeing psychological abuse, 53% threats, 47% sexual abuse, 44% financial abuse, and 38% harassment.⁷⁵

Fifty-three percent of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 75% of these children (99) were under 10 years of age.

Women with parental responsibilities, who were admitted for abuse, indicated that they were also protecting their children from abusive situations such as witnessing the abuse of their mother (66%), psychological abuse (56%), physical abuse (28%), threats (28%), and neglect (26%).⁷⁶

Forty-six percent of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser, 23% were abused by a former spouse or partner, 9% by someone from a current or ex-dating relationship and for 19%, the relationship was unknown.⁷⁷

The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters in Manitoba on April 16, 2008, were: another community group (36%), self-referral (24%), hospitals, doctors, nurses, other healthcare practitioners or hospital social workers (11%), and family or friends (10%).

Four women in ten residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, had been there before. Among these women who had already stayed in shelters, 32% had been there once in the last year, 14% had been there 2 to 4 times and one third had been in shelters 5 times or more in the last 12 months. For 16% of repeat residents, it had been more than 12 months since their last stay.

Seventeen percent of abused women reported that there was police intervention for the most recent violent incident, and in 58% of these reported cases, charges were laid against the abuser.

A profile of shelters in Manitoba, 2007/2008

Ninety-three percent of shelters in Manitoba served urban/suburban populations, 45% served rural/village populations and 52% served reserve populations.⁷⁸ Seven percent of shelters were located on a reserve, 3% were owned by a band council and 3% were operated by a band council.

The majority of the facilities provided the following in-house services to women residents: advocacy (97%), transportation and accompaniment (93%), safety or protection planning (90%), culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal women (90%), individual short-term counselling (90%), housing referral (90%), parenting skills (90%), life skills training (86%), and group counselling (86%).⁷⁹

Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included: individual short-term counselling (79%), group counselling (76%), services for Aboriginal women (76%), advocacy (76%), safety or protection planning (72%), life skills training (72%), parenting skills (72%) and transportation and accompaniment (69%).⁸⁰

74. Rate of all women currently single, married, in a common law relationship or who are separated.

75. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses (i.e., respondents could specify as many responses as applied).

76. 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.

77. The remaining 3% accounted for relationship of friend, authority figure, caregiver, or other.

78. Urban/suburban areas have minimum population concentrations of 1,000 and a population density of at least 400 people per square kilometer. Rural areas include small towns, villages, and other populated places with less than 1,000 population. Reserves are defined by a tract of land set aside by the federal government for the use and benefit of a First Nations Band which is governed by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

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

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

In-house services offered to resident children included: individual counselling (93%), group counselling or support (90%), culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal children (86%), programs for child witnesses or victims of abuse (79%) as well as outdoor and indoor recreation space: each representing 66%.⁸¹

Close to three-quarters (72%) of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, 66% reported having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible and another 66% reported having bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible. Almost one-quarter (24%) offered specialized services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired and 14% offered specialized services to people who are blind or visually impaired.

Combined, 29 facilities reported providing a total of 1,077 outreach⁸² hours per week. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres.

Saskatchewan Fact Sheet

The 2007/2008 Transition Home Survey questionnaire was sent to 24 facilities known to be providing residential services for abused women in Saskatchewan. Responses were received from 20 shelters.

There were 4,015 admissions of women and their children to shelters across Saskatchewan between April 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008.⁸³

A profile of shelter residents in Saskatchewan, April 16, 2008⁸⁴

In a snapshot taken on April 16, 2008, there were 295 residents in shelters in Saskatchewan: 45% (133) were women and 55% (162) were dependent children.

Seventy-seven percent of women (103) residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, were victims of abuse; for every 100,000 women⁸⁵ in Saskatchewan there were approximately 30 women residing in shelters to escape abuse. The remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing problems.

Among the women admitted for abuse, 85% were fleeing psychological abuse, 83% physical abuse, 61% threats, 52% harassment, 44% financial abuse, and 41% sexual abuse.⁸⁶

Fifty-nine percent of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 76% of these children (114) were under 10 years of age.

Women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from abusive situations such as witnessing the abuse of their mother (66%), psychological abuse (61%), threats (46%), physical abuse (41%), neglect (27%), and sexual abuse (18%).⁸⁷

Seventy-one percent of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser and 13% were abused by a former spouse or partner. For another 11%, the relationship between the woman and the abuser was unknown.⁸⁸

The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters in Saskatchewan on April 16, 2008, were: self-referral (34%), another transition house (19%), another community group (15%), and hospitals, doctors, nurses, other healthcare practitioners or hospital social workers (14%).

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

82. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 37 hours per week.

83. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2008 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

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

85. Rate of all women currently single, married, in a common-law relationship or who are separated.

86. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses (i.e., respondents could specify as many responses as applied).

87. 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.

88. The remaining 5% accounted for relationship of friend, authority figure, caregiver, or other.

Twenty-nine percent of women residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, had been there before. Among these women who had already stayed in shelters, 21% had been there once in the last year and 41% had been there 2 to 4 times. For 38% of repeat residents, it had been more than 12 months since their last stay.

Twenty-six percent of abused women had reported police intervention for the most recent violent incident, and in 74% of these reported cases charges were laid against the abuser.

A profile of shelters in Saskatchewan, 2007/2008⁸⁹

Ninety-two percent of shelters in Saskatchewan served urban/suburban populations, 54% served rural/village populations and 62% served reserve populations.⁹⁰ Thirteen percent of shelters were located on a reserve, 7% were owned by a band council and 7% were operated by a band council.

All of the shelters offered advocacy to in-house women residents. The majority of shelters also offered the following in-house services to women residents: housing referral (92%), safety or protection planning (92%) individual short-term counselling (92%), parenting skills (83%), and transportation and accompaniment (83%), and specialized services for Aboriginal women (79%).⁹¹

Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included: crisis telephone lines (63%), safety or protection planning (63%), individual short-term counselling (58%) and advocacy (58%).⁹²

In-house services offered to resident children included: outdoor recreation space (71%), indoor recreation space (67%), individual short-term counselling (67%) and group counselling or support (63%).⁹³

Seventy-one percent of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible while 63% of shelters reported having bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible and equal proportions reported having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible. About 17% of shelters offered specialized services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired and 13% offered specialized services to people who are blind or visually impaired.

Combined, 24 facilities reported providing a total of 555 outreach⁹⁴ hours per week. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres.

Alberta Fact Sheet

The 2007/2008 Transition Home Survey questionnaire was sent to 50 facilities known to be providing residential services for abused women in Alberta. Responses were received from 44 shelters.

There were 14,582 admissions of women and their children to shelters across Alberta between April 1, 2007 and March 31 2008.⁹⁵

A profile of shelter residents in Alberta, April 16, 2008

In a snapshot taken on April 16, 2008, there were 792 residents in shelters in Alberta: 57% (450) were women and 43% (342) were dependent children.

89. For reasons of confidentiality, information on the number of shelters on reserves owned by a band council and operated by a band council could not be presented for this province.

90. Urban/suburban areas have minimum population concentrations of 1,000 and a population density of at least 400 people per square kilometer. Rural areas include small towns, villages, and other populated places with less than 1,000 population. Reserves are defined by a tract of land set aside by the federal government for the use and benefit of a First Nations Band which is governed by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

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

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

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

94. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 23 hours per week.

95. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2008 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

Three quarters of women (338) residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, were victims of abuse; for every 100,000 women⁹⁶ in Alberta there were approximately 28 women residing in shelters to escape abuse. The remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing problems.

Among the women admitted for abuse, 92% were fleeing emotional and psychological abuse, 84% physical abuse, 60% threats, 59% financial abuse, 37% sexual abuse, and 36% harassment.⁹⁷

Forty-eight percent of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 77% of these children (256) were under 10 years of age.

Women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from abusive situations such as witnessing the abuse of their mother (53%), psychological abuse (53%), physical abuse (34%), threats (26%), neglect (16%), and sexual abuse (13%).⁹⁸

Sixty-seven percent of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser, 14% were abused by a former spouse or partner, 9% by a relative and 6% by a current or ex-dating relationship. For another 2%, the relationship between the woman and the abuser was unknown.

The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters in Alberta on April 16, 2008, were: self-referral (36%), another transition house (16%) and another community group (10%).

Twenty-eight percent of women residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, had been there before. Among these women who had already stayed in shelters, 13% had been there once in the last year, 14% had been there 2 to 4 times and 48% had been there 5 or more times in the last 12 months. For 25% of repeat residents, it had been more than 12 months since their last stay.

Twenty-eight percent of abused women reported that there was police intervention for the most recent violent incident and in 53% of these reported cases, charges were laid against the abuser.

A profile of shelters in Alberta, 2007/2008

Eighty-eight percent of shelters in Alberta served urban/suburban populations, 34% served rural/village populations and 40% served reserve populations.⁹⁹ One in ten (5) shelters were located on a reserve and 12% were operated by a band council and the same proportion were owned by a band council.

The majority of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: safety or protection planning (96%), advocacy (96%), transportation and accompaniment (96%) housing referral (86%), individual short-term counselling (84%), parenting skills training (78%), and life skills training (78%).¹⁰⁰

Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included: crisis telephone lines (72%), advocacy (62%), safety or protection planning (60%), individual short-term counselling (60%), housing referral (54%), life skills training (36%), and group counselling (36%).¹⁰¹

In-house services offered to resident children included: outdoor recreation space (76%), indoor recreation space (74%), individual counselling (68%), group counselling (56%), culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal children (54%), and babysitting services (48%).¹⁰²

Eighty-eight percent of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, 80% reported having both bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible and equal proportions reporting having bedrooms that were

96. Rate of all women currently single, married, in a common-law relationship or who are separated.

97. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses (i.e., respondents could specify as many responses as applied).

98. 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.

99. Urban/suburban areas have minimum population concentrations of 1,000 and a population density of at least 400 people per square kilometer. Rural areas include small towns, villages, and other populated places with less than 1,000 population. Reserves are defined by a tract of land set aside by the federal government for the use and benefit of a First Nations Band which is governed by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

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

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

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

wheelchair accessible. About 12% offered services to people who are blind or visually impaired and 12% offered services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired.

Combined, 50 facilities reported providing a total of 2,275 outreach¹⁰³ hours per week. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres.

British Columbia Fact Sheet

The 2007/2008 Transition Home Survey questionnaire was sent to 110 facilities known to be providing residential services for abused women in British Columbia. Responses were received from 105 shelters.

There were 17,297 admissions of women and their children to shelters across British Columbia between April, 1 2007 and March 31 2008.¹⁰⁴

A profile of shelter residents in British Columbia, April 16, 2008

In a snapshot taken on April 16, 2008, there were 1,220 residents in shelters in British Columbia: 61% (746) were women and 39% (474) were dependent children.

Seventy-seven percent of women (577) residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, were victims of abuse; for every 100,000 women¹⁰⁵ in British Columbia there were approximately 37 women residing in shelters to escape abuse. The remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing problems.

Among the women admitted for abuse, 90% were fleeing emotional and psychological abuse, 75% physical abuse, 49% threats, 45% financial abuse, 39% harassment, and 34% sexual abuse.¹⁰⁶

Forty-two percent of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 67% of these children (284) were under 10 years of age.

Women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from abusive situations such as witnessing the abuse of their mother (38%), psychological abuse (29%), physical abuse (16%), threats (13%), neglect (9%), and sexual abuse (5%).¹⁰⁷

Fifty-six percent of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser, 14% were abused by a former spouse or partner, 5% by a relative and 4% by a current or ex-dating relationship. For 16%, the relationship was unknown.¹⁰⁸

The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters in British Columbia on April 16, 2008, were: self-referral (36%), another community agency (15%), another transition house (13%), and the Ministry for Children and Families (7%).

One-quarter of women residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, had been there before. Among these women who had already stayed in shelters, 30% had been there on 1 prior occasion in the last year, 25% had been there 2 to 4 times and 6% had been there 5 or more times. For 21% of repeat residents, it had been more than 12 months since their last stay.

Twenty-nine percent of abused women reported that there was police intervention for the most recent violent incident, and in 52% of these reported cases, charges were laid against the abuser.

103. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 46 hours per week.

104. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2008 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

105. Rate of all women currently single, married, in a common-law relationship or who are separated.

106. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses (i.e., respondents could specify as many responses as applied).

107. 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.

108. The remaining 5% accounted for relationship of friend, authority figure, caregiver, or other.

A profile of shelters in British Columbia, 2007/2008

Ninety-three percent of shelters in British Columbia served urban/suburban populations, 22% served rural/village populations and 26% served reserve populations.¹⁰⁹

The majority of shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: transportation and accompaniment (89%), advocacy (89%), housing referral (86%), safety or protection planning (85%), and individual short-term counselling (84%).¹¹⁰

Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included: crisis telephone lines (64%), safety or protection planning (61%), advocacy (55%) and individual short-term counselling (48%).¹¹¹

In-house services offered to resident children included: indoor recreation space (61%), outdoor recreation space (59%) and individual counselling (52%).¹¹²

Eighty-one percent of shelters reported at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, 69% reported having bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible and an equal proportions reported having bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible. About one shelter in eight (17%) offered services to people who are blind or visually impaired and a similar proportion (15%) offered services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired.

Combined, 110 facilities reported providing a total of 2,340 outreach¹¹³ hours per week. Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres.

Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut Fact Sheet¹¹⁴

The 2007/2008 Transition Home Survey questionnaire was sent to 12 facilities (5 in Yukon, 4 in Northwest Territories and 3 in Nunavut) known to be providing residential services for abused women in Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. Responses were received from 11 shelters.

There were 2,024 admissions (1,122 in Yukon, 453 in Northwest Territories, and 449 in Nunavut) of women and their children to shelters across the Territories between April 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008.¹¹⁵

A profile of shelter residents in Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut, April 16, 2008

In a snapshot taken on April 16, 2008, there were 112 residents in shelters in Nunavut, Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories: 54% (61) were women and 46% (51) were dependent children.

Eighty-four percent (51) of women residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, were victims of abuse. The remainder were admitted for reasons other than abuse, such as housing problems.

Among the women admitted for abuse, 63% were fleeing emotional and psychological abuse, 63% physical abuse, 43% threats, 37% sexual abuse, 27% financial abuse, and 25% harassment.¹¹⁶

¹⁰⁹. Urban/suburban areas have minimum population concentrations of 1,000 and a population density of at least 400 people per square kilometer. Rural areas include small towns, villages, and other populated places with less than 1,000 population. Reserves are defined by a tract of land set aside by the federal government for the use and benefit of a First Nations Band which is governed by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

¹¹⁰. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

¹¹¹. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

¹¹². Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses.

¹¹³. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 21 hours per week.

¹¹⁴. In 2008 there were just 12 residential facilities for abused women known to be in operation across Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut; in total, 92% of these shelters responded to the Transition Home Survey (THS). Due to the limited number of facilities in these jurisdictions, information for shelters in Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut has been combined (unless otherwise specified) for reasons of confidentiality and data quality.

¹¹⁵. The precise reporting period may vary. Shelters were asked to provide information for the twelve-month period ending March 31, 2008 or their own twelve month fiscal period.

¹¹⁶. Totals do not add to 100% due to multiple responses (i.e., respondents could specify as many responses as applied).

Forty-seven percent of women escaping abusive situations were admitted with their children; 59% of these children were under 10 years of age.

Women with parental responsibilities who were admitted for abuse indicated that they were also protecting their children from abusive situations such as witnessing the abuse of their mother (31%), physical abuse (25%), sexual abuse (13%), psychological abuse (6%), threats (9%), neglect (3%).¹¹⁷

Eighty-two percent of abused women indicated that their spouse or partner was the abuser; another 8% were abused by a relative and 6% by a former spouse or partner.¹¹⁸

The most common sources of referral for women residing in shelters in the three Territories on April 16, 2008, were: self-referral (41%), family or friends (15%), police or RCMP (15%), hospitals, doctors, nurses, other healthcare practitioners or hospital social workers (13%).

One-third of women (20) residing in shelters on April 16, 2008, had been there before. Over half of repeat clients had been there at 2 to 4 times in the last year, 20% had been there at least once, and 10% had been there 5 or more times in the last year. For 10% of repeat clients, it had been more than 12 months since their last shelter stay. Eighteen percent of abused women reported that there was police intervention for the most recent violent incident; charges against the abuser were laid in 89% of these reported cases.

A profile of shelters in Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut, 2007/2008

Three-quarters of shelters in Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut served urban/suburban populations, 33% served rural/village populations and 25% served reserve populations.¹¹⁹

All of the shelters offered the following in-house services to women residents: safety or protection planning and advocacy. Other services also included: culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal women (92%), transportation and accompaniment (83%), crisis telephone line (75%), housing referral (75%), services for women with disabilities (75%), culturally sensitive services for ethno-cultural and visible minority women (67%), life skills (67%) and parenting skills (67%).¹²⁰

Facilities also provided in-house services to non-resident women in need of assistance. These services included: crisis telephone lines (67%), safety or protection planning (67%), advocacy (58%) and culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal women (50%).¹²¹

In-house services offered to resident children included: outdoor recreation space (69%), indoor recreation space (69%), culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal children (69%) and culturally sensitive services for ethno-cultural and visible minority children (50%).¹²²

Sixty-seven percent of shelters reported having at least one building entrance that was wheelchair accessible, bedrooms that were wheelchair accessible and bathrooms that were wheelchair accessible. Seventeen percent of shelters offered specialized services to people who are deaf or hearing impaired.

Combined, 12 facilities reported providing a total 287 outreach hours per week.¹²³ Outreach work included supplying information, accompanying victims to court, meeting with clients to discuss possibilities/options, and participating in drop-in centres.

117. 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.

118. The remaining 4% accounted for relationship of friend, authority figure, caregiver, or other.

119. Urban/suburban areas have minimum population concentrations of 1,000 and a population density of at least 400 people per square kilometer. Rural areas include small towns, villages, and other populated places with less than 1,000 population. Reserves are defined by a tract of land set aside by the federal government for the use and benefit of a First Nations Band which is governed by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

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

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

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

123. While shelters varied in the number of hours of outreach provided, the provincial average was 24 hours per week.