

## **Intimate partner violence: Experiences of sexual minority women in Canada, 2018**

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# Intimate partner violence: Experiences of sexual minority women in Canada, 2018

by Brianna Jaffray, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics

Intimate partner violence (IPV) encompasses a broad range of behaviours, ranging from emotional and financial abuse to physical and sexual assault. Due to its widespread prevalence and its far-ranging immediate and long-term consequences for victims,<sup>1</sup> their families and for communities as a whole, IPV is considered a major public health problem (World Health Organization 2017). In addition to the direct impacts on victims, IPV also has broader economic consequences (Peterson et al. 2018) and has been linked to the perpetuation of a cycle of intergenerational violence, leading to additional trauma.

Previous studies using data from the Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces (SSPPS) have found that Canadians reporting a sexual minority identity—those whose sexual orientation is gay, lesbian, bisexual, or another sexual orientation that is not heterosexual—are more likely than heterosexual Canadians to experience violent victimization outside of intimate partner relationships (Jaffray 2020). Studies on Canadians' experiences of IPV have found that women in general are more likely to experience more severe forms of IPV, including sexual and physical assault, and at a higher frequency than men (Burczycka 2016), and existing research suggests that sexual minority women, in particular bisexual women, experience higher rates of IPV than their heterosexual peers (Whitton et al. 2016; Brown and Herman 2015). This fact sheet will build on this existing research and continue to explore the nature, prevalence and impacts of IPV on sexual minority women,<sup>2</sup> which provides important context and contributes to the depth and breadth of research on the experiences of this population.

This analysis focuses on the experiences of sexual minority women in Canada, which includes lesbian and bisexual women, as well as women whose sexual orientation was not heterosexual.<sup>3,4</sup> Notably, intimate partner violence experienced by sexual minority women could have been perpetrated by partners of the same gender or another gender—the gender of the perpetrator(s) for the lifetime measure of IPV are unknown,<sup>5</sup> and sexual minority people may have been in a heterosexual relationship at some point since age 15. In fact, previous research has found that both lesbian and bisexual women who have experienced IPV reported male and female perpetrators (Walters et al. 2013; McLaughlin and Rozee 2001).

In this article, the experiences of sexual minority women will be compared to those of heterosexual women. It is well-documented that women experience a higher prevalence of severe forms of IPV than men, such as being choked, being assaulted or threatened with a weapon, or being sexually assaulted (Cotter 2021a; Burczycka 2016; Brieding et al. 2014). As such, comparing sexual minority women to heterosexual women will facilitate the analysis of sexual orientation and its impacts on women's experiences of IPV.

This article, focusing on the experiences of sexual minority women in Canada, is one in a series of short reports examining experiences of intimate partner violence based on self-reported data from the 2018 SSPPS for various populations. It explores the prevalence, nature, and impact of IPV on sexual minority women. Experiences of IPV among the overall Canadian population (Cotter 2021a), sexual minority men (Jaffray 2021), Indigenous women (Heidinger 2021), women with disabilities (Savage 2021a), young women (Savage 2021b), and ethno-cultural minority women (Cotter 2021b) are examined in the other reports within this series.<sup>6</sup>

## Text box 1

### Measuring and defining intimate partner violence

The Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces (SSPPS) collected information on Canadians' experiences of intimate partner violence (IPV) since the age of 15 and in the 12 months that preceded the survey. The survey asked about a broad range of behaviours committed by intimate partners, including psychological, physical, and sexual violence. The definition of partner was also broad and included current and former legally married spouses, common-law partners, dating partners, and other intimate partner relationships.

In the SSPPS, intimate partner violence is defined as any act or behaviour committed by a current or former intimate partner, regardless of whether or not these partners lived together. In this article, intimate partner violence is broadly categorized into three types: psychological violence, physical violence, and sexual violence.

**Psychological violence** encompasses forms of abuse that target a person's emotional, mental, or financial well-being, or impede their personal freedom or sense of safety. This category includes 15 specific types of abuse, including jealousy, name-calling and other put-downs, stalking or harassing behaviours, manipulation, confinement, or property damage (for a complete list of items included in this category, see Table 1). It also includes being blamed for causing their partner's behaviour, which was measured among those respondents who experienced certain forms of IPV.

## Text box 1 — fin Measuring and defining intimate partner violence

**Physical violence** includes forms of abuse that involve physical assault or the threat of physical assault. In all, 9 types of abuse are included in this category, including items being thrown at the victim, being threatened with a weapon, being slapped, being beaten, and being choked (see Table 1).

**Sexual violence** includes sexual assault or threats of sexual assault and was measured using two questions: being made to perform sex acts that the victim did not want to perform, and forcing or attempting to force the victim to have sex.

The analysis presented in this article takes an inclusive approach to the broad range of behaviours that comprise IPV. For the purposes of this analysis, those with at least one response of 'yes' to any item on the survey measuring IPV are included as having experienced intimate partner violence, regardless of the type or the frequency.

For more information on the measures of IPV in the SSPPS and other sources of data on intimate partner violence in Canada, see Cotter (2021a).

## Two-thirds of sexual minority women have experienced IPV in their lifetime

Intimate partner violence (IPV) can occur as physical or sexual assault, however, it also includes less overtly violent types of abuse such as emotional, financial or psychological abuse. Although it may be perceived as less severe than physical or sexual assault due to the lower likelihood of physical injury, psychological abuse can also lead to emotional or physical consequences and contribute to long term deterioration of physical and mental well-being (Karakurt 2014). Physical, sexual and psychological IPV can also occur concurrently, or at different times throughout a relationship (Burke 1999).

According to the SSPPS, sexual minority women were much more likely to experience all forms of intimate partner violence than heterosexual women in Canada. Overall, two-thirds (67%) of sexual minority women who had ever been in an intimate partner relationship had experienced at least one type of IPV since the age of 15.<sup>7</sup> This was significantly higher than the more than four in ten (44%) heterosexual women who reported similar experiences of abuse (Table 1).

Overall IPV remained high when broken down by sexual orientation. Similar proportions of bisexual (68%) and lesbian or gay (61%) women indicated that they had experienced some form of IPV in their lifetime, though both were significantly more likely to experience IPV than heterosexual women.

## Almost half of sexual minority women experienced physical or sexual assault by an intimate partner

Almost half (49%) of sexual minority women indicated that they had been physically or sexually assaulted by an intimate partner since age 15, almost double what was indicated by heterosexual women (25%). The most common type of IPV experienced by both sexual minority (65%) and heterosexual (42%) women since age 15 was psychological abuse.

When it came to the specific types of IPV, there were some differences in the experiences of bisexual and lesbian or gay women. In particular, bisexual women (34%) were three times more likely to have been sexually assaulted by an intimate partner in their lifetime than heterosexual women (11%). Meanwhile, the prevalence was similar between lesbian or gay women (12%) and heterosexual women.

Almost half of bisexual women (48%) and more than one-third (35%) of lesbian or gay women had been physically assaulted, and two-thirds (67%) of bisexual women and three in five (59%) lesbian or gay women had been psychologically abused by an intimate partner since age 15. These proportions were significantly higher than what was experienced by heterosexual women, 23% of whom had been physically assaulted and 42% had been psychologically abused in their lifetime by an intimate partner (Table 2).

## Sexual minority women at least two times more likely than heterosexual women to experience most types of IPV behaviours in their lifetime

The most common behaviours indicated by sexual minority women who experienced IPV in their lifetime were being put down or called names (52%), their partner being jealous and preventing them from talking to others (50%), being told they were crazy, stupid, or not good enough (46%), their partner making comments about their sexual past or sexual performance (35%), or their partner demanding to know where they were and who they were with at all times (34%)—all types of psychological abuse (Table 1). In addition, almost one-third (31%) of sexual minority women had been shaken, pushed,

grabbed, or thrown by their partner, the most common type of physical or sexual abuse experienced by both sexual minority and heterosexual women in Canada.

The three most common IPV behaviours experienced by heterosexual women paralleled what was experienced by sexual minority women, however, the proportion of heterosexual women who reported experiencing these behaviours was much lower: being put down or called names (31%), their partner being jealous and preventing them from talking to others (29%), or being told they were crazy, stupid, or not good enough (27%). Overall, none of the IPV behaviours were experienced by more than one-third of heterosexual women.

Sexual minority women were more than two times more likely than heterosexual women to experience the majority of individual IPV behaviours measured through the SSPPS. However, sexual minority women were three times more likely to experience two behaviours in particular: a partner making them perform sex acts that they did not want to perform (24% for sexual minority women versus 8% for heterosexual women), and a partner confining or locking them in a room or other space (10% versus 3%), both among the more severe types of abuse measured.

### **Majority of sexual minority women who were victims of IPV experienced fear, anxiety or feelings of being controlled or trapped by a partner in their lifetime**

There is often a psychological component to abuse within intimate partner relationships. Feelings of fear, or of being controlled or trapped can indicate coercive or manipulative behaviours, even in the absence of physical or sexual violence. In addition, these feelings can indicate patterns of behaviour and repetitive abuse by a partner (Gill and Aspinall 2020).

Among sexual minority women who had experienced IPV in their lifetime, more than half (51%) indicated that they had ever been afraid of a partner, significantly higher than heterosexual women (36%). The high proportion of sexual minority women who had feared a partner can be largely attributed to the experiences of bisexual women, 61% of whom reported that they had been afraid of a partner. There was no significant difference between the proportions of lesbian or gay (32%) and heterosexual women who had ever feared a partner.

More than half of sexual minority women who had been victims of IPV in their lifetime indicated that they had feelings of anxiety (66%) or had felt controlled or trapped (53%) by an intimate partner at some point in their life. This was significantly higher than what was indicated by heterosexual women who were victims of lifetime IPV, 57% of whom had felt anxious and 42% of whom had felt controlled or trapped by a partner.

Notably, the differences between the experiences of sexual minority and heterosexual women with a history of IPV in their lifetime was primarily due to the experiences of bisexual women, 74% of whom indicated that they had been anxious or on edge and 60% who had said that they had felt controlled or trapped by an intimate partner in their lifetime. Meanwhile, less than half (48%) of lesbian or gay women said that they had felt anxious due to a partner and 38% had felt controlled or trapped, findings that were not statistically different from what was noted by heterosexual women.

### **One in five sexual minority women experienced some form of IPV in the past 12 months**

In addition to asking about people's experiences of IPV over the course of their lifetime, the SSPPS also collected detailed information on the frequency and specific behaviours experienced within the past 12 months. According to the SSPPS, women in general were more likely to have experienced the most severe forms of IPV and to experience IPV more frequently than men within the 12 months preceding the survey (Cotter 2021a).

Among sexual minority women in particular, one in five (20%) had indicated that they had experienced some form of IPV within the past year, almost twice what was said by heterosexual women (12%). As was the case for lifetime IPV, the prevalence of IPV in the past year, overall, was largely led by psychological abuse—experienced by 19% of sexual minority women and 11% of heterosexual women (Table 2).

The most common types of psychological abuse experienced in the past 12 months largely mirrored the lifetime prevalence data. The most common behaviours were the same for both sexual minority and heterosexual women, but were experienced by a much larger proportion of sexual minority women than heterosexual women. Three of the most common behaviours experienced in the past 12 months were being put down or called names (experienced by 17% of sexual minority women versus 8% of heterosexual women), jealousy (12% versus 5%), and their partner demanding to know where they were and who they were with at all times (9% versus 3%).

Sexual minority women were also significantly more likely to have experienced physical and sexual abuse in the past 12 months. In fact, they were three times more likely to have been physically assaulted (7% versus 2%) and four times more likely to have been sexually assaulted (4% versus 1%) by an intimate partner than their heterosexual peers.

## Sexual minority women more likely to experience more severe forms of IPV than heterosexual women

Research to date has indicated that overall, women experience more severe forms of IPV than men, and at a higher frequency (Cotter 2021a). In particular, sexual minority women were much more likely to experience some of the more severe types of physical and sexual assault than heterosexual women. For instance, sexual minority women were almost seven times more likely to have been made to perform sex acts that they did not want to perform (4.4% versus 0.7%) and to have been choked (2.6% versus 0.4%) in the past year than heterosexual women (Table 1).

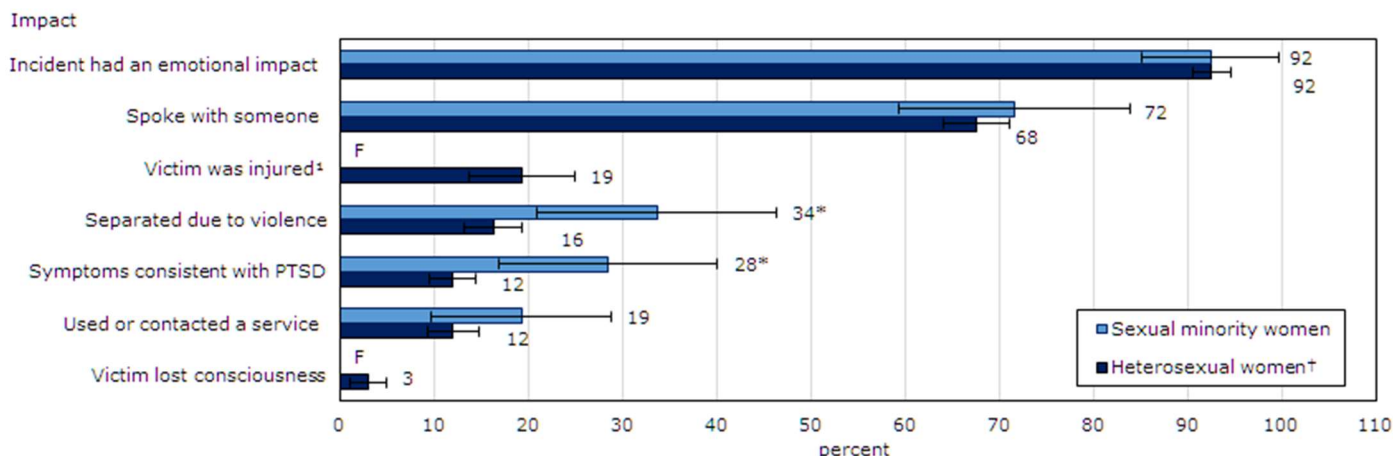
Sexual minority women also experienced IPV at a higher frequency than heterosexual women. In fact, sexual minority women were more likely than heterosexual women to say that IPV had occurred ‘monthly or more’ in the 12 months preceding the SSPPS (44% versus 29%).

## Vast majority of sexual minority women experience emotional impacts as a result of IPV

Intimate partner violence, whether it is physical, sexual or psychological, can have both short and long-term emotional impacts on victims, regardless of their sexual orientation. Previous research has noted that beyond physical injuries, victims of IPV may develop chronic physical health problems or mental health effects such as post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety, alcohol or drug abuse, or other types of emotional distress (Campbell 2002).

Overall, the vast majority (92%) of sexual minority women experienced at least one emotional impact as a result of their experiences of IPV in the past 12 months (Chart 1). Most commonly, sexual minority women reported that they were upset, confused or frustrated (64%), hurt or disappointed (59%), or angry (58%) as a result of the abuse. These were the same emotional impacts that were most commonly reported by heterosexual women (57%, 57% and 52%, respectively). Sexual minority women were more likely than heterosexual women to indicate that they had become more cautious or aware (50% versus 31%, respectively), had lowered self-esteem (48% versus 32%), felt ashamed or guilty (38% versus 21%), felt victimized (37% versus 24%), and had developed a lack of trust in others (37% versus 24%) as a result of the abuse that they had experienced.

**Chart 1**  
Impacts, consequences, and actions taken by victims of intimate partner violence in the past 12 months among sexual minority and heterosexual women, Canada, 2018



F too unreliable to be published

\* significantly different from reference category ( $p < 0.05$ )

† reference category

1. Percent calculations are based on those who experienced at least one form of physical or sexual violence (see Table 1 for a list of items in each category).

**Note:** Percent calculations are based on those who experienced some form of intimate partner violence (emotional, physical, or sexual violence) committed by a current or former intimate partner.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces.

## Sexual minority women more likely to report symptoms of PTSD as a result of IPV

More than one-quarter (28%) of sexual minority women who were victims of IPV in the past year indicated that they had experienced symptoms consistent with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in the past month, more than two times higher than what was reported by heterosexual women victims (12%).

Research has consistently found that experiences of sexual or physical assault can lead to the development of symptoms consistent with PTSD (Wathen et al. 2016; Wuest et al. 2009; Bennice 2003; Stein 2001). Since sexual minority women are more likely to experience more severe types of IPV, including sexual and physical abuse, the resulting trauma of these experiences could contribute to their increased likelihood of experiencing PTSD symptoms.

### **More than half of sexual minority women who were victims of IPV told friends or neighbours about their experiences**

About one in ten (9%) sexual minority women who had experienced IPV in the past year indicated that the police had found out about the incident, either because they, or someone else had informed the police—a proportion that was similar to heterosexual women. In addition, almost three-quarters (72%) of sexual minority women had spoken with someone other than the police about their experience of abuse. In general, they were more likely to speak to people with whom they had close relationships, with more than half (55%) of sexual minority women indicating that they had spoken about their experiences with a friend or neighbour, and 40% saying they had spoken with a family member. This was similar to what was reported by heterosexual women who were victims of IPV, almost half (46%) of whom had spoken with a friend or neighbour and 37% had spoken with a family member.

### **Sexual minority women victims of childhood abuse more likely to experience IPV than heterosexual women victims**

Research has shown that sexual minorities are more likely to have been victims of adverse childhood experiences (Andersen et al. 2015) and are also more likely to be violently victimized in adulthood (Jaffray 2020; Simpson 2018) than those who are heterosexual, findings that are supported by the SSPPS. On this survey, more than 6 in 10 (63%) sexual minority women said that they had been victims of sexual assault in childhood, significantly higher than what was indicated by heterosexual women (40%). Similarly, slightly less than 6 in 10 sexual minority women (58%) and almost 4 in 10 heterosexual women (37%) indicated that they had been physically assaulted in childhood.

Among sexual minority women who had been sexually or physically abused by an adult before the age of 15, the vast majority (81%) indicated that they had experienced psychological, physical or sexual IPV as an adult.<sup>8</sup> In contrast, about two-thirds (66%) of heterosexual women who had experienced childhood physical or sexual abuse said that they had experienced IPV as an adult (Table 3).

Sexual minority women with a history of childhood abuse were also much more likely to have experienced IPV in the past 12 months than heterosexual women. Among those who had been abused in childhood, more than a quarter (26%) of sexual minority women had been victims of IPV in the past year, compared with 17% of heterosexual women.

In addition to the association between childhood victimization and future experiences of violent victimization, emotional abuse in childhood has also been associated with an increased risk of violence (Richards et al. 2017). In particular, harsh parenting—that is having been slapped, spanked, made to feel unwanted or unloved, or been neglected or having basic needs go unmet by parents or caregivers—has been shown to increase the likelihood of experiencing IPV, regardless of gender (Cotter 2021a). Among sexual minority women, those who had experienced these types of behaviours in childhood were much more likely than heterosexual women with these experiences to be victims of IPV, both in their lifetime (72% versus 53%) and in the past 12 months (22% versus 14%) (Table 3).

Among sexual minority women who witnessed emotional abuse or physical violence between parents or caregivers in childhood, about 3 in 4 (75%) had also experienced IPV in their lifetime. The prevalence was lower among heterosexual women who had witnessed abuse, 64% whom had experienced IPV. Similarly, almost 1 in 5 (20%) sexual minority women who witnessed abuse in childhood had been victims of IPV in the past year, compared with 16% of heterosexual women.

## Text box 2 Lifetime violent victimization

While the analysis in this report focused on violence perpetrated by intimate partners, a fulsome analysis of experiences of gender-based violence also includes experiences of violence perpetrated by those other than intimate partners. This text box examines lifetime experiences of all violent victimization (physical and sexual assault) measured by the Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces (SSPPS), including both intimate partner violence and violence that happens in other contexts outside of intimate partner relationships.

### Two-thirds of sexual minority women have been physically or sexually assaulted in their lifetime

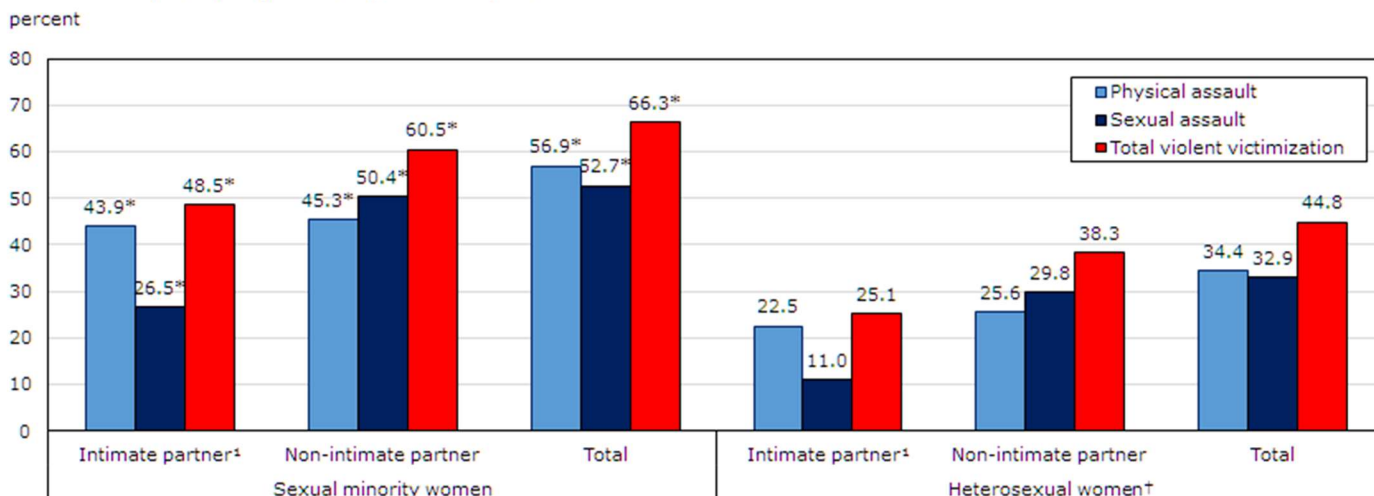
Including violence committed by intimate partners and violence committed by other perpetrators, two-thirds (66%) of sexual minority women in Canada stated that they have been physically or sexually assaulted at least once since the age of 15, compared with 45% of heterosexual women (Table 4).

Understanding experiences of violent victimization across the life course is important when it comes to understanding the population, developing services and programs, and predicting mental and physical health needs. As such, a measure of lifetime victimization was identified as a data gap to be addressed when developing the Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces (SSPPS).<sup>9</sup>

The difference in overall victimization between sexual minority and heterosexual women was driven by both experiences of physical and sexual assault. More than half (53%) of sexual minority women reported having been sexually assaulted since age 15, while the same was true for one-third (33%) of heterosexual women. The proportions of sexual minority and heterosexual women who had been physically assaulted since age 15 was similar to the data for sexual assault, with more than half (57%) of sexual minority women and slightly more than one-third (34%) of heterosexual women reporting that they had been physically assaulted at least once in their lifetime.

Even when broken down into experiences of intimate partner and non-intimate partner violence, sexual minority women were significantly more likely to have been physically and sexually assaulted in both cases. One notable difference between sexual minority and heterosexual women was in their experiences of sexual assault. More than one-quarter (27%) of sexual minority and one in ten (11%) heterosexual women in Canada reported that they had been sexually assaulted by an intimate partner in their lifetime—a difference of almost two and a half times (Chart 2).

**Chart 2**  
Physical and sexual assault since age 15 among sexual minority and heterosexual women, by relationship to perpetrator, Canada, 2018



\* significantly different from reference category ( $p < 0.05$ )

† reference category

1. Includes violence committed by a current or former spouse, common-law partner, dating partner, or someone with whom the victim was in another type of intimate relationship. Percent calculation excludes respondents who reported that they have never been in an intimate partner relationship.

Note: See Table 4 for confidence intervals for each estimate.

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces.



## Text box 2 — end

### Lifetime violent victimization

#### Sexual minority women almost three times more likely than heterosexual women to experience violence in the past year

When taking into account both intimate partner violence and non-intimate partner violence, sexual minority women were almost three times more likely than heterosexual women to have been victimized in the 12 months preceding the survey (17% versus 6%, respectively). This difference cannot be attributed to a high proportion of either physical or sexual assault, but rather the higher proportions of both physical and sexual assault among sexual minority women.

Sexual minority women (11%) were more than three times more likely to have been physically assaulted in the past 12 months than heterosexual women (3%). Mirroring the findings for physical assault, sexual minority women were also three times more likely to have been sexually assaulted than their heterosexual peers (11% versus 3%) (Table 5).

#### In most regions, sexual minority women are more likely to be victims of physical or sexual IPV

In almost all regions of Canada, sexual minority women were more likely than heterosexual women to have been sexually or physically assaulted by an intimate partner since age 15. In four of the eight regions<sup>10</sup>—the Atlantic provinces<sup>11</sup> (57%), Quebec (57%), Saskatchewan (58%) and the Territories<sup>12</sup> (64%)—more than half of sexual minority women had experienced IPV. In all regions of Canada, except Manitoba where the results was too unreliable to publish, sexual minority women were more likely to experience IPV than heterosexual women (Table 6).

When combining intimate partner violence and non-intimate partner violence, sexual minority women were significantly more likely to be victimized in every region except Manitoba, where the prevalence between sexual minority and heterosexual women was not statistically different. In four regions, more than two-thirds of sexual minority women reported that they had been victimized since age 15—the Territories (79%), Alberta (75%), Saskatchewan (71%) and the Atlantic provinces (69%).

## Survey description

In 2018, Statistics Canada conducted the first cycle of the Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces (SSPPS). The purpose of the survey is to collect information on Canadians' experiences in public, at work, online, and in their intimate partner relationships.

The target population for the SSPPS is the Canadian population aged 15 and older, living in the provinces and territories. Canadians residing in institutions are not included. This means that the survey results may not reflect the experiences of intimate partner violence among those living in shelters, institutions, or other collective dwellings. Once a household was contacted, an individual 15 years or older was randomly selected to respond to the survey.

In the provinces, data collection took place from April to December 2018 inclusively. Responses were obtained by self-administered online questionnaire or by interviewer-administered telephone questionnaire. Respondents were able to respond in the official language of their choice. The sample size for the 10 provinces was 43,296 respondents. The response rate in the provinces was 43.1%.

In the territories, data collection took place from July to December 2018 inclusively. Responses were obtained by self-administered online questionnaire or by interviewer-administered in-person questionnaire. Respondents were able to respond in the official language of their choice. The sample size for the 3 territories was 2,597 respondents. The response rate in the territories was 73.2%.

Non-respondents included people who refused to participate, could not be reached, or could not speak English or French. Respondents in the sample were weighted so that their responses represent the non-institutionalized Canadian population aged 15 and older.

### Data limitations

As with any household survey, there are some data limitations. The results are based on a sample and are therefore subject to sampling errors. Somewhat different results might have been obtained if the entire population had been surveyed.

For the quality of estimates, the lower and upper bounds of the confidence intervals are presented. Confidence intervals should be interpreted as follows: If the survey were repeated many times, then 95% of the time (or 19 times out of 20), the confidence interval would cover the true population value.

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## Notes

1. Though other terms, such as survivor, could be used to refer to those who have experienced intimate partner violence, the term 'victim' is used to stay consistent with the terminology used in other Statistics Canada reports.
2. Experiences of IPV among sexual minority men are examined in Jaffray 2021.
3. In this analysis, those who indicated their gender was female, including transgender women, were counted as women. However those who indicated their gender was non-binary, or a gender other than female, were excluded from the analysis.
4. Estimates for women whose sexual orientation is not elsewhere classified are not presented independently in this report due to sample size, however, their experiences are included in the overall measures for sexual minority women in Canada.
5. The gender of the perpetrator(s) for lifetime incidents of IPV were not collected on the SSPPS.
6. For other data from the Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces, see "Gender-based violence: Unwanted sexual behaviours in Canada's territories, 2018" (Perreault 2020a), "Gender-based violence: Sexual and physical assault in Canada's territories, 2018" (Perreault 2020b), "Experiences of violent victimization and unwanted sexual behaviours among gay, lesbian, bisexual and other sexual minority people, and the transgender population, in Canada, 2018" (Jaffray 2020), "Gender-based violence and unwanted sexual behaviour in Canada, 2018: Initial findings from the Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces" (Cotter and Savage 2019).
7. Throughout this report, the terms "lifetime" and "since age 15" are used interchangeably.
8. Since the age of 15.
9. Prior to the SSPPS, data on lifetime victimization was most recently published based on the 1993 Violence Against Women Survey (VAWS). The VAWS surveyed women 18 years of age and older and was limited to asking about experiences of violence committed by men. It also did not collect data on sexual orientation.
10. The eight regions provided in Table 6 are a combination of geographic regions, and provinces or territories. Some provinces and territories were combined to facilitate reporting due to small sample size, in particular the Atlantic provinces and the Territories.
11. The Atlantic provinces include Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. They were combined in this fact sheet to facilitate the analysis of small samples that would otherwise be too unreliable to publish independently.
12. The Territories include Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. They were combined in this fact sheet to facilitate the analysis of small samples that would otherwise be too unreliable to publish independently.

Detailed data tables

**Table 1**  
**Intimate partner violence since age 15 and in the past 12 months, by type of intimate partner violence and sexual orientation, Canada, 2018**

Type of intimate partner violence	Sexual minority women						Heterosexual women†					
	Experienced since age 15 <sup>1</sup>			Experienced in the past 12 months <sup>2</sup>			Experienced since age 15 <sup>1</sup>			Experienced in the past 12 months <sup>2</sup>		
	95% confidence interval			95% confidence interval			95% confidence interval			95% confidence interval		
	%	from	to	%	from	to	%	from	to	%	from	to
<b>Emotional, financial, or psychological abuse</b>												
Been jealous and didn't want you to talk to other men or women	49.7*	43.3	56.1	12.2*	8.5	17.2	28.9	27.9	29.9	5.2	4.5	5.9
Harmed, or threatened to harm your pets	8.6*	5.8	12.5	F	F	F	4.2	3.8	4.6	0.4	0.3	0.6
Demanded to know who you were with and where you were at all times	33.6*	28.1	39.6	9.0*	5.8	13.8	18.7	17.9	19.6	3.1	2.6	3.7
Put you down or called you names to make you feel bad	51.5*	45.0	58.0	16.9*	12.5	22.5	30.8	29.8	31.8	8.2	7.5	9.0
Forced you to give them money or possessions	17.1*	13.1	22.0	2.9	1.1	7.1	6.0	5.5	6.5	0.5	0.4	0.7
Told you you were crazy, stupid, or not good enough <sup>3</sup>	45.7*	39.4	52.1	10.6	7.2	15.4	26.5	25.6	27.4	6.9	6.2	7.6
Tried to convince your family, children, or friends that you are crazy or tried to turn them against you <sup>3</sup>	18.9*	14.9	23.7	4.3	2.2	8.1	9.6	9.0	10.3	1.8	1.4	2.2
Followed you or hung around outside your home or work <sup>3</sup>	21.0*	16.7	26.1	3.5	1.5	7.9	11.8	11.1	12.5	0.8	0.6	1.1
Kept you from seeing or talking to your family or friends <sup>3</sup>	21.6*	17.2	26.8	4.9*	2.6	9.2	10.2	9.6	10.9	1.0	0.8	1.3
Harassed you by phone, text, email, or using social media <sup>3</sup>	28.6*	23.5	34.4	8.9*	5.7	13.6	13.1	12.3	13.8	2.5	2.0	3.0
Kept you from having access to a job, money, or financial resources <sup>3</sup>	10.3*	7.2	14.4	F	F	F	5.0	4.6	5.4	0.4	0.3	0.6
Confined or locked you in a room or other space <sup>3</sup>	9.5*	6.5	13.8	F	F	F	3.3	2.9	3.7	0.3	0.1	0.6
Damaged or destroyed your possessions or property	24.3*	19.4	29.8	2.1	1.1	4.1	11.7	11.0	12.4	1.2	0.9	1.4
Made comments about your sexual past or your sexual performance that made you feel ashamed, inadequate, or humiliated	35.4*	29.8	41.4	8.6*	5.6	12.9	13.8	13.1	14.6	2.9	2.4	3.5
Revealed, or threatened to reveal, your sexual orientation or your relationship to anyone who you did not want to know about your sexuality or sexual orientation <sup>4</sup>	10.8	7.8	14.9	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F
Blamed you for causing their abusive or violent behaviour <sup>3, 5</sup>	58.5*	51.1	65.4	9.9	6.2	15.5	46.1	44.2	47.9	9.0	7.8	10.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>65.1*</b>	<b>58.1</b>	<b>71.5</b>	<b>19.4*</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>41.3</b>	<b>43.4</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>12.6</b>
<b>Physical abuse</b>												
Shook, pushed, grabbed, or threw you <sup>3</sup>	30.8*	25.6	36.6	4.1*	2.3	7.1	16.8	16.1	17.6	1.5	1.2	1.8
Hit you with a fist or object, kicked or bit you <sup>3</sup>	22.3*	17.9	27.4	2.3	1.1	4.9	10.9	10.3	11.6	0.7	0.5	1.0
Threatened to harm or kill you or someone close to you <sup>3</sup>	16.5*	12.5	21.3	F	F	F	6.9	6.4	7.5	0.5	0.3	0.8
Choked you <sup>3</sup>	16.5*	12.5	21.6	2.6*	1.1	6.0	6.2	5.7	6.7	0.4	0.3	0.6
Used or threatened to use a knife or gun or other weapon to harm you <sup>3</sup>	8.1*	5.4	12.0	F	F	F	3.8	3.5	4.2	0.2	0.1	0.3
Threatened to hit you with their fist or anything that could hurt you	22.8*	18.3	28.0	2.5	1.2	5.2	11.5	10.9	12.2	1.0	0.8	1.3
Thrown anything at you that could have hurt you	24.6*	19.8	30.1	2.3	1.1	4.9	10.4	9.7	11.0	0.8	0.6	1.1
Slapped you	24.7*	19.8	30.5	3.1*	1.5	6.5	11.0	10.3	11.7	0.7	0.5	1.0
Beaten you	11.7*	8.3	16.2	F	F	F	5.8	5.3	6.3	0.2	0.1	0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>43.9*</b>	<b>37.7</b>	<b>50.4</b>	<b>6.7*</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>23.4</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.7</b>

See notes at the end of the table.

**Table 1 — end**  
**Intimate partner violence since age 15 and in the past 12 months, by type of intimate partner violence and sexual orientation, Canada, 2018**

Type of intimate partner violence	Sexual minority women						Heterosexual women†					
	Experienced since age 15 <sup>1</sup>			Experienced in the past 12 months <sup>2</sup>			Experienced since age 15 <sup>1</sup>			Experienced in the past 12 months <sup>2</sup>		
	95% confidence interval			95% confidence interval			95% confidence interval			95% confidence interval		
	%	from	to	%	from	to	%	from	to	%	from	to
<b>Sexual abuse</b>												
Made you perform sex acts that you did not want to perform <sup>3</sup>	23.5*	19.0	28.8	4.4*	2.6	7.5	7.9	7.4	8.5	0.7	0.5	0.9
Forced or tried to force you to have sex <sup>3</sup>	21.4*	17.0	26.5	2.6*	1.4	4.8	9.4	8.8	10.1	0.9	0.7	1.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.5*</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>4.1*</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.4</b>
<b>Total intimate partner violence</b>	<b>66.8*</b>	<b>59.9</b>	<b>73.1</b>	<b>19.6*</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>43.8</b>	<b>42.7</b>	<b>44.8</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>12.8</b>

F too unreliable to be published

\* significantly different from reference category (p < 0.05)

† reference category

1. Represents the percentage of all respondents, excluding those who reported that they have never been in an intimate partner relationship.

2. Represents the percentage of all respondents, excluding those who reported that they have never been in an intimate partner relationship and those who stated that they had not had contact with any current or former intimate partner in the past 12 months.

3. This is an item taken from the Composite Abuse Scale - revised short form (CASr-SF).

4. This item was only asked of respondents who did not identify as heterosexual.

5. This item was only asked of respondents who indicated yes to at least one item from the CASr-SF. The percent calculation therefore does not include all respondents.

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces.

**Table 2**  
**Intimate partner violence since age 15 and in the past 12 months, by sexual orientation, Canada, 2018**

Intimate partner violence <sup>1</sup>	Sexual minority women			Lesbian or gay women			Bisexual women			Heterosexual women <sup>†</sup>		
	%	95% confidence interval		%	95% confidence interval		%	95% confidence interval		%	95% confidence interval	
		from	to		from	to		from	to		from	to
<b>Since age 15</b>												
Emotional, financial, or psychological	65.1*	58.1	71.5	58.4*	49.3	67.0	67.1*	56.8	76.0	42.4	41.3	43.4
Physical	43.9*	37.7	50.4	34.5*	26.2	43.9	47.8*	39.2	56.6	22.5	21.6	23.4
Sexual	26.5*	21.7	32.0	12.5	8.3	18.4	33.9*	26.7	42.0	11.0	10.4	11.7
Total, physical or sexual	48.5*	42.1	55.1	36.9*	28.5	46.1	53.3*	44.0	62.3	25.1	24.2	26.1
<b>Total, any type</b>	<b>66.8*</b>	<b>59.9</b>	<b>73.1</b>	<b>61.1*</b>	<b>52.2</b>	<b>69.4</b>	<b>68.4*</b>	<b>58.1</b>	<b>77.3</b>	<b>43.8</b>	<b>42.7</b>	<b>44.8</b>
<b>Past 12 months</b>												
Emotional, financial, or psychological	19.4*	15.0	24.7	13.9	8.2	22.7	20.9*	15.3	27.9	11.7	10.9	12.6
Physical	6.7*	4.2	10.4	F	F	F	6.0*	3.4	10.2	2.3	1.9	2.7
Sexual	4.1*	2.4	6.8	F	F	F	6.3*	3.7	10.5	1.0	0.8	1.4
Total, physical or sexual	8.6*	5.8	12.6	F	F	F	9.0*	5.7	14.0	2.9	2.5	3.4
<b>Total, any type</b>	<b>19.6*</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>22.7</b>	<b>21.3*</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>28.3</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>12.8</b>

F too unreliable to be published

\* significantly different from reference category (p < 0.05)

† reference category

1. Includes violence committed by a current or former spouse, common-law partner, dating partner, or someone with whom the victim was in another type of intimate relationship. Percent calculation excludes respondents who reported that they have never been in an intimate partner relationship and, for the past 12 months, those who stated that they had not had contact with any current or former intimate partner in the past 12 months. See Table 1 for a list of items included in each category.

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces.

**Table 3**  
**Intimate partner violence since age 15 and in the past 12 months, by selected characteristics of victim and sexual orientation, Canada, 2018**

Selected characteristic	Intimate partner violence since age 15						Intimate partner violence in the past 12 months					
	Sexual minority women			Heterosexual women			Sexual minority women			Heterosexual women		
	95% confidence interval			95% confidence interval			95% confidence interval			95% confidence interval		
	% <sup>1</sup>	from	to	% <sup>1</sup>	from	to	% <sup>1</sup>	from	to	% <sup>1</sup>	from	to
<b>Age group (years)</b>												
15 to 24 <sup>†</sup>	61	47	74	55	49	62	26	17	38	30	24	36
25 to 34	72**	56	84	53	50	56	16	9	26	14*	12	16
35 to 44	79**	63	89	48*	46	51	28**	17	43	12*	11	14
45 to 54	73**	59	83	48	46	51	F	F	F	10*	9	12
55 to 64	56**	42	70	41*	39	43	F	F	F	9*	7	10
65 and older	F	F	F	29	27	31	F	F	F	5*	4	6
<b>First Nations, Métis, or Inuit identity</b>												
Indigenous person	F	F	F	59*	54	64	F	F	F	16	12	21
Non-Indigenous person <sup>†</sup>	66**	58	72	43	42	44	19**	14	24	12	11	13
<b>Ethnocultural group</b>												
Designated as visible minority	F	F	F	29*	27	32	F	F	F	9*	7	11
Not designated as visible minority <sup>2,†</sup>	69**	63	76	47	46	48	20**	15	25	13	12	14
<b>Immigrant status</b>												
Immigrant <sup>†</sup>	56**	37	74	30	28	32	F	F	F	9	8	11
Non-immigrant	69**	62	75	48*	47	49	18**	14	24	13*	12	14
<b>Disability</b>												
Person with disability <sup>†</sup>	71**	60	79	54	53	56	18	13	25	16	15	18
Person without disability	60**	52	69	37*	36	38	21**	14	31	9*	8	10
<b>Physical or sexual abuse before age 15</b>												
Never <sup>†</sup>	55**	45	64	35	34	36	14	9	21	10	9	11
At least once	81***	72	88	66*	64	68	26***	19	34	17*	16	19
<b>Harsh parenting</b>												
Never <sup>†</sup>	45**	31	60	25	24	27	8	4	15	8	7	9
At least once	72***	64	79	53*	52	55	22***	17	28	14*	13	15
<b>Employed in past 12 months</b>												
Yes <sup>†</sup>	67**	59	74	49	47	50	21**	16	27	14	13	15
No	64**	54	74	35*	33	36	14	8	24	8*	7	9
<b>Highest degree earned</b>												
Less than high school <sup>†</sup>	F	F	F	34	31	37	F	F	F	12	8	16
High school	64**	50	75	43*	41	45	24**	15	36	13	11	16
College or trade school	78**	70	85	47*	45	49	22**	13	34	11	10	13
University	61**	48	72	44*	42	46	13	8	20	12	11	13
<b>Household income group<sup>3</sup></b>												
Less than \$20,000 <sup>†</sup>	F	F	F	57	52	62	F	F	F	14	11	19
\$20,000 to \$59,999	65**	54	75	43*	41	45	20	13	29	12	10	14
\$60,000 to \$99,999	72**	59	82	43*	41	45	27**	16	43	10	9	12
\$100,000 to \$149,999	60**	46	73	43*	40	45	12	7	22	12	11	14
\$150,000 or more	F	F	F	43*	41	46	F	F	F	13	11	15
<b>Location of residence</b>												
Rural <sup>†</sup>	F	F	F	45	42	47	F	F	F	12	10	14
Urban	68**	61	74	43	42	45	22**	16	28	12	11	13

See notes at the end of the table.

**Table 3 — end**  
**Intimate partner violence since age 15 and in the past 12 months, by selected characteristics of victim and sexual orientation, Canada, 2018**

Selected characteristic	Intimate partner violence since age 15						Intimate partner violence in the past 12 months					
	Sexual minority women			Heterosexual women			Sexual minority women			Heterosexual women		
	95% confidence interval			95% confidence interval			95% confidence interval			95% confidence interval		
	% <sup>1</sup>	from	to	% <sup>1</sup>	from	to	% <sup>1</sup>	from	to	% <sup>1</sup>	from	to
<b>Marital status</b>												
Married or common-law†	67**	58	74	38	36	39	14	9	21	10	9	11
Separated or divorced	F	F	F	68*	65	70	F	F	F	19*	16	23
Widowed	F	F	F	27*	24	29	F	F	F	7	3	15
Single, never married	65	53	76	62*	59	65	22	15	31	19*	16	22

F too unreliable to be published

\* significantly different from reference category only (p < 0.05)

\*\* significantly different from estimate for heterosexual women only (p < 0.05)

\*\*\* significantly different from reference category (p < 0.05) and estimate for heterosexual women (p < 0.05)

† reference category

1. Percent calculation excludes respondents who reported that they have never been in an intimate partner relationship and, for the past 12 months, those who stated that they had not had contact with any current or former intimate partner in the past 12 months.

2. The non-visible minority population includes single origin White, single origin Indigenous persons, and multiple origin White/Latin American and White/Arab-West Asian, as per Census definition.

3. Represents before-tax household income and comes from multiple sources. For 84% of respondents, income data was obtained from successful linkage to tax records. For 15% of respondents, linkage to tax records was not successful or respondents did not consent to linkage with other sources; income data for these respondents is imputed. In the territories (less than 1% of the total sample), respondents were asked to self-report their personal and household income or provide a range in which their before-tax income fell.

**Note:** Intimate partner violence includes psychological violence, physical violence, and sexual violence. See Table 1 for a full list of behaviours included.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces.



**Table 4**  
**Physical and sexual assault committed by intimate partners and non-intimate partners since age 15, by sexual orientation, Canada, 2018**

Type of victimization by perpetrator since age of 15	Sexual minority women			Lesbian or gay women			Bisexual women			Heterosexual women†		
	%	95% confidence interval		%	95% confidence interval		%	95% confidence interval		%	95% confidence interval	
		from	to		from	to		from	to		from	to
<b>Intimate partner violence since age 15<sup>1</sup></b>												
Physical assault	43.9*	37.7	50.4	34.5*	26.2	43.9	47.8*	39.2	56.6	22.5	21.6	23.4
Sexual assault	26.5*	21.7	32.0	12.5	8.3	18.4	33.9*	26.7	42.0	11.0	10.4	11.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>48.5*</b>	<b>42.1</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>36.9*</b>	<b>28.5</b>	<b>46.1</b>	<b>53.3*</b>	<b>44.0</b>	<b>62.3</b>	<b>25.1</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>26.1</b>
<b>Non-intimate partner violence since age 15</b>												
Physical assault	45.3*	39.5	51.2	46.3*	37.6	55.3	46.2*	38.4	54.3	25.6	24.6	26.6
Sexual assault	50.4*	44.4	56.4	39.4*	31.2	48.2	55.4*	47.0	63.5	29.8	28.8	30.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>60.5*</b>	<b>54.3</b>	<b>66.3</b>	<b>55.6*</b>	<b>46.8</b>	<b>64.1</b>	<b>63.1*</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>71.0</b>	<b>38.3</b>	<b>37.2</b>	<b>39.3</b>
<b>Total intimate and non-intimate partner violence since age 15</b>												
Physical assault	56.9*	50.7	63.0	54.4*	45.5	63.0	59.0*	50.2	67.3	34.4	33.4	35.5
Sexual assault	52.7*	46.6	58.7	40.3	32.1	49.1	58.6*	50.0	66.7	32.9	31.9	33.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>66.3*</b>	<b>59.9</b>	<b>72.2</b>	<b>61.4*</b>	<b>52.4</b>	<b>69.7</b>	<b>69.7*</b>	<b>60.5</b>	<b>77.6</b>	<b>44.8</b>	<b>43.8</b>	<b>45.9</b>

\* significantly different from reference category (p < 0.05)

† reference category

1. Includes violence committed by a current or former spouse, common-law partner, dating partner, or someone with whom the victim was in another type of intimate relationship. Percent calculation excludes respondents who reported that they have never been in an intimate partner relationship.

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces.

**Table 5**  
**Physical and sexual assault committed by intimate partners and non-intimate partners in the past 12 months, by sexual orientation, Canada, 2018**

Type of victimization by perpetrator in past 12 months	Sexual minority women			Heterosexual women†		
	percent	95% confidence interval		percent	95% confidence interval	
		from	to		from	to
<b>Intimate partner violence in the past 12 months<sup>1</sup></b>						
Physical assault	6.7*	4.2	10.4	2.3	1.9	2.7
Sexual assault	4.1*	2.4	6.8	1.0	0.8	1.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.6*</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>3.4</b>
<b>Non-intimate partner violence in the past 12 months</b>						
Physical assault	6.7*	4.2	10.4	1.9	1.5	2.3
Sexual assault	8.8*	6.0	12.5	2.7	2.3	3.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.4*</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>4.7</b>
<b>Total intimate partner and non-intimate partner violence in the past 12 months</b>						
Physical assault	11.1*	7.9	15.3	3.3	2.9	3.8
Sexual assault	10.7*	7.7	14.7	3.3	2.9	3.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>16.6*</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>6.5</b>

\* significantly different from reference category (p < 0.05)

† reference category

1. Includes violence committed by a current or former spouse, common-law partner, dating partner, or someone with whom the victim was in another type of intimate relationship. Percent calculation excludes respondents who reported that they have never been in an intimate partner relationship and those who stated that they had not had contact with any current or former intimate partner in the past 12 months.

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces.

**Table 6**  
**Physical and sexual assault committed by intimate partners and non-intimate partners since age 15, by sexual orientation and province and territory, 2018**

Region, province or territory	Physical and sexual assault committed by intimate partners <sup>1</sup>						Physical and sexual assault committed by non-intimate partners						Total physical and sexual assault					
	Sexual minority women			Heterosexual women <sup>†</sup>			Sexual minority women			Heterosexual women <sup>†</sup>			Sexual minority women			Heterosexual women <sup>†</sup>		
	95% confidence interval			95% confidence interval			95% confidence interval			95% confidence interval			95% confidence interval			95% confidence interval		
	%	from	to	%	from	to	%	from	to	%	from	to	%	from	to	%	from	to
Atlantic <sup>2</sup>	57.4*	46.6	67.6	27.3	25.6	29.0	63.2*	52.6	72.7	38.0	36.2	39.8	69.0*	58.4	77.9	45.2	43.3	47.1
Quebec	56.9*	43.6	69.3	20.7	19.1	22.4	51.5*	38.4	64.3	31.5	29.6	33.4	61.3*	47.0	73.8	38.5	36.5	40.5
Ontario	43.8*	31.9	56.5	24.0	22.2	25.8	59.0*	46.1	70.8	38.6	36.5	40.7	66.3*	52.7	77.7	44.9	42.8	47.0
Manitoba	F	F	F	28.3	25.7	31.2	58.4*	41.8	73.2	40.9	38.1	43.7	61.7	44.7	76.2	46.8	43.9	49.7
Saskatchewan	57.6*	40.4	73.1	29.0	26.8	31.2	65.7*	48.1	79.8	37.6	35.4	40.0	70.8*	52.6	84.2	45.6	43.2	48.0
Alberta	45.4*	31.8	59.6	29.8	27.3	32.3	71.3*	58.0	81.7	43.4	40.8	46.1	75.1*	61.5	85.1	49.9	47.2	52.6
British Columbia	48.0*	35.3	61.1	29.3	27.0	31.6	62.4*	49.0	74.1	44.0	41.7	46.4	63.3*	49.9	75.0	50.0	47.6	52.5
Territories <sup>3</sup>	64.4*	48.9	77.4	42.2	38.9	45.5	70.3*	55.2	81.9	52.0	48.4	55.7	79.0*	65.5	88.2	61.2	57.7	64.7
<b>Canada</b>	<b>48.5*</b>	<b>42.1</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>25.1</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>26.1</b>	<b>60.5*</b>	<b>54.3</b>	<b>66.3</b>	<b>38.3</b>	<b>37.2</b>	<b>39.3</b>	<b>66.3*</b>	<b>59.9</b>	<b>72.2</b>	<b>44.8</b>	<b>43.8</b>	<b>45.9</b>

F too unreliable to be published

\* significantly different from reference category (p < 0.05)

† reference category

1. Includes violence committed by a current or former spouse, common-law partner, dating partner, or someone with whom the victim was in another type of intimate relationship. Percent calculation excludes respondents who reported that they have never been in an intimate partner relationship.

2. Includes Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

3. Includes Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

**Note:** Province or territory refers to the respondent's province or territory of residence at the time of the survey, and does not necessarily correspond to where the victimization occurred.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces.