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Police-reported mass casualty events in Canada, 2010 to 2024

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Police-reported mass casualty events in Canada, 2010 to 2024: Key findings

- Mass casualty events—intentional acts of violence where four or more victims sustained some level of physical injury or died as part of the same incident—accounted for a very small proportion (0.1%) of police-reported violent crime between 2010 and 2024. In all, there were 5,475 mass casualty events during this period.
- Nearly two-thirds (64%) of mass casualty events involved the presence of a weapon. This was much less common for violent crime in general (20%) where a victim record was provided by police.
- While men and boys accounted just under half (48%) of victims of violent crime reported by police between 2010 and 2024, they represented a larger proportion (62%) of the 26,634 victims in mass casualty events. Among the 256 victims in mass casualty events who died, the gender gap was smaller (54% men and boys, 46% women and girls).
- For half (50%) of victims involved in mass casualty events between 2010 and 2024, the accused person was a stranger. A further 13% of victims were family members of the accused, while 4.6% were intimate partners. Strangers were less common for victims of overall violent crime (25%), while family members (30%) and intimate partners were more common (27%).
- Between 2018 and 2024, 2.2% of mass casualty events involved (or were suspected by police to have involved) organized crime or street gang activity. This proportion was much higher than for violent crime overall (0.3%).
- Of the 7,402 persons accused in mass casualty events, nearly eight in ten (78%) were men and boys, which was similar for violent crime in general (77%). Among those accused in mass casualty events, the rate was highest for men aged 18 to 24 (7.8 accused persons per 100,000 population) and lowest for women aged 35 and older (0.2).
- Three-quarters (76%) of persons accused in mass casualty events between 2018 and 2024 had at least one prior contact with police as an accused since 2010. Notably, just over one-third (35%) of accused persons had ten or more prior contacts.
- Two-thirds (66%) of incidents of police-reported violent crime were cleared (i.e., solved) by police between 2010 and 2024, with nearly half (46%) cleared by the laying or recommendation of charges. Cleared incidents were more common for mass casualty events (77%) and most (69%) mass casualty events were cleared by charge.

Police-reported mass casualty events in Canada, 2010 to 2024

by Laura Savage and Shana Conroy

Violence often has devastating impacts for victims, families and communities. Ramifications may include shock and grief, and damage to perceptions of personal and public safety. This is especially true of mass casualty events where multiple people are injured or killed by intentional acts of violence. These incidents often have a far-reaching impact that extends well beyond the immediate victims and may garner a great deal of public attention, including national awareness, concern and demand for action (Norris, 2007; Schildkraut, 2022). It should be noted, however, that even when multiple victims are physically injured or killed, incidents of violence may not gain widespread media coverage or recognition. The media may focus on the most heinous of incidents, which shapes public awareness and reaction.

In April 2020, the deadliest intentional act of violence in Canadian history occurred in Nova Scotia, with 22 victims killed (one of whom was expecting a child) and 3 others injured. Following the incident, the province of Nova Scotia and the Government of Canada both issued an Order in Council.¹ From there, the Mass Casualty Commission was established, which aimed to learn about the context and root causes that led to the incident, and to make actionable recommendations to keep communities safer (Mass Casualty Commission, 2023). In March 2023, the Commission released its final report entitled, “Turning the tide together: Final report of the Mass Casualty Commission,” which included seven volumes: context and purpose, what happened, violence, community, policing, implementation (a shared responsibility to act) and process. In all, the Commission made 130 recommendations, the first of which centred on data collection, research and policy development.

For the first time, Statistics Canada is publishing detailed information about mass casualty events in Canada. This *Juristat* article presents an analysis of the nature and prevalence of mass casualty events using police-reported data from the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey, including incident, victim and accused person characteristics. Throughout this article, information about overall violent crime reported by police—where a victim record was provided—is also provided for comparison.

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Text box 1

Defining and measuring mass casualty events

The Mass Casualty Commission defined a mass casualty as “an intentional act of violence during which one or more perpetrator(s) physically injure(s) and/or kill(s) four or more victims, whether or not known to the perpetrator, during a discrete period of time” (Mass Casualty Commission, 2023). To align with this definition, this article focuses on incidents of police-reported violent crime where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died and, due to a required focus on intent, incidents of criminal negligence causing bodily harm or death are excluded.² Further, in this article, incidents are grouped according to the level of physical injury sustained by victims, as reported by police.³ The following categories are used to analyze mass casualty events:

- **Mass casualty events (total):** includes level 1, level 2 and level 3 mass casualty events
- **Level 1 mass casualty events:** incidents with four or more victims that sustained minor physical injury
- **Level 2 mass casualty events:** incidents with four or more victims that sustained physical injury and one to three victims sustained major physical injury or died
- **Level 3 mass casualty events:** incidents with four or more victims that sustained major physical injury or died

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey captures all criminal incidents that come to the attention of police in Canada.⁴ Where victim records are provided, information about the level of physical injury sustained during violent incidents is captured and categorized as:

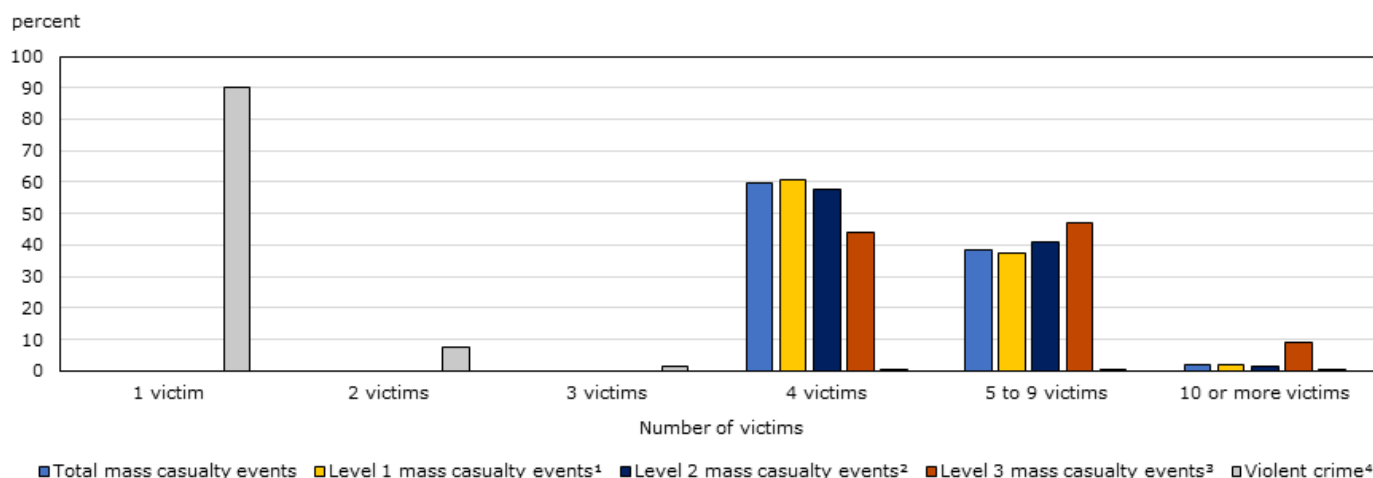
- Death: loss of life
- Major injury: physical injury that required professional medical attention at the scene or transportation to a medical facility
- Minor injury: physical injury that required no professional medical treatment or only some first aid (e.g., bandage, ice)
- No injury: no visible physical injury at the time of the incident

Details about the psychological impact of violence on victims are not captured by the UCR Survey. Still, it is important to acknowledge that psychological injury—such as post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety and depression—often results from violence and may have long-term, and possibly lifelong, consequences for victims (Norris, 2007; Shultz et al., 2014; Wang et al., 2023). According to the 2025 Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces, 55% of victims of violence said the most serious incident they experienced in the 12 months preceding the survey resulted in some type of negative emotional impact.⁵ When it came to longer-term emotional impacts, victims most often stated that they tried hard not to think about the incident or went out of their way to avoid situations that reminded them of it (33%) and that they felt constantly on guard, watchful or easily startled (31%). One-quarter (24%) of victims of violent crime reported experiencing three or more long-term psychological impacts consistent with post-traumatic stress disorder.⁶

Mass casualty events where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died average 365 incidents each year

Between 2010 and 2024, the vast majority (90%) of incidents of police-reported violent crime involved a single victim, whereas a small proportion (10%) of incidents involved multiple victims, including those who were and were not physically injured (Chart 1).⁷ More specifically, 7.7% of incidents involved two victims, 1.3% involved three victims, 0.4% involved four victims, 0.2% involved five to nine victims and 0.01% involved ten or more victims.⁸

Chart 1
Police-reported mass casualty events and violent crime, by number of victims per incident, Canada, 2010 to 2024



1. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained minor physical injury.

2. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury and one to three victims sustained major physical injury or died.

3. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained major physical injury or died.

4. Includes mass casualty events. To allow for comparison with mass casualty events, incidents of violent crime are limited to those with victim records.

Note: Mass casualty events refer to violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died. For information about level of injury, see Text box 1. Excludes criminal negligence causing bodily harm or death. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (Trend Database).

Mass casualty events—that is, violent incidents where four or more victims sustained some level of physical injury or died—accounted for a very small proportion of police-reported violent crime in Canada between 2010 and 2024.⁹ Of the nearly 5.2 million incidents of violent crime—where a victim record was provided by police—during this period, there were 5,475 mass casualty events where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died (0.1% of all incidents of violent crime) (Table 1). Of all mass casualty events, the large majority (84%) were level 1 events, and level 1 events accounted for 0.09% of all violent crime (see Text box 1 for definitions). Level 2 and level 3 mass casualty events were more rare: there were 686 level 2 events (0.01% of all violent crime) and there were 181 level 3 events (0.003% of all violent crime).¹⁰

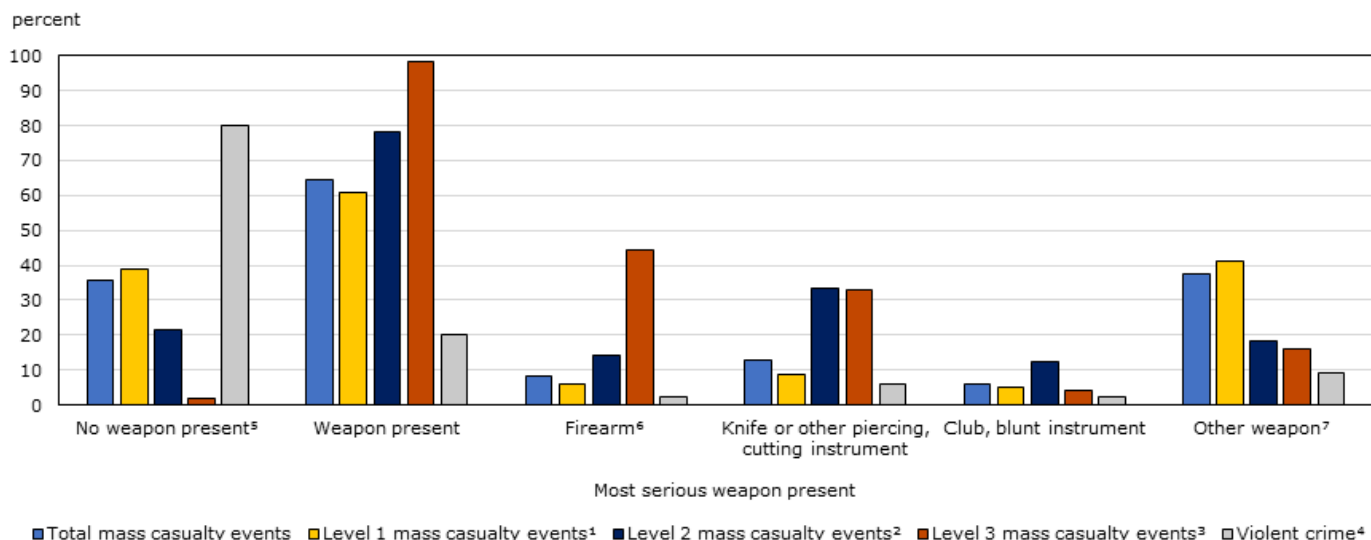
On average, there were 365 mass casualty events (307 level 1 events, 46 level 2 events and 12 level 3 events) per year between 2010 and 2024.¹¹ Of the 5,475 mass casualty events during this period, six in ten (60%) involved four victims, while nearly four in ten (38%) involved five to nine victims and a small proportion (2.1%) involved ten or more victims (Chart 1). The proportion of mass casualty events with four victims decreased, and the proportions with five to nine victims increased, for level 2 and level 3 events. Level 3 mass casualty events had the largest proportion of incidents with ten or more victims (8.8% versus 2.0% of level 1 events and 1.3% of level 2 events). Both level 1 and level 2 mass casualty events involved an average of five victims per incident, while level 3 events involved an average of six victims.

Between 2010 and 2024, the average annual rate for mass casualty events was 1.0 incidents per 100,000 population, while the rates for level 1 (0.8), level 2 (0.1) and level 3 (0.03) events were progressively smaller (Table 1).¹² Rates for mass casualty events between 2010 and 2024 were highest in the territories (4.4 incidents per 100,000 population), Saskatchewan (3.6) and Manitoba (3.4) (Table 2).¹³

Rural areas—that is, those outside of census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations—often face unique challenges related to crime, including fewer emergency resources and limited police presence.¹⁴ This can be extended to mass casualty events which, while relatively rare, can have a disproportionate impact on rural areas, particularly for more geographically isolated communities with delayed emergency response times and less specialized emergency teams (Ceccato, 2016; Donnermeyer et al., 2016; Souhami, 2022). Further, mass casualty events can challenge a community's sense of safety, especially in small communities where there is often a strong sense of interconnectedness (Mass Casualty Commission, 2023). Between 2010 and 2024, rural areas had a higher average annual rate for mass casualty events than urban areas (1.5 versus 0.9 incidents per 100,000 population), similar to violent crime. This held true for level 1 and level 2 events (1.3 versus 0.8 and 0.2 versus 0.1, respectively); however, the rate for level 3 events was lower in rural areas (0.026) than urban areas (0.033).

Much more common for mass casualty events to involve the presence of a weapon compared to violent crime overall

Nearly two-thirds (64%) of mass casualty events involved the presence of a weapon between 2010 and 2024, which was much more common than for violent crime overall (20%) (Chart 2; Table 3).¹⁵ As would be expected, larger proportions of mass casualty events involved the presence of a weapon where victims sustained major injury or died (78% of level 2 events and 98% of level 3 events).¹⁶

Chart 2**Police-reported mass casualty events and violent crime, by most serious weapon present, Canada, 2010 to 2024**

1. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained minor physical injury.

2. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury and one to three victims sustained major physical injury or died.

3. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained major physical injury or died.

4. Includes mass casualty events. To allow for comparison with mass casualty events, incidents of violent crime are limited to those with victim records.

5. Includes physical force and threats.

6. For detailed information about types of firearms, see Table 3.

7. Includes explosions, fires, motor vehicles, ropes or strangulation, burning liquids or caustic agents and other weapons.

Note: Mass casualty events refer to violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died. For information about level of injury, see Text box 1. Excludes criminal negligence causing bodily harm or death. Weapon present includes anything used or intended for use in causing or threatening death or injury to persons during the commission of a criminal offence. In Quebec, the information management system used by the majority of police services produces a relatively high proportion of unknown values for the variable "most serious weapon present." Although incidents of firearm-related crime are likely recorded correctly for the vast majority of cases, undercounting remains possible. Due to data quality concerns, weapon analysis excludes data from the province of Quebec unless the most serious weapon present was a firearm, and data from the Québec City Police Service are also excluded regardless of the most serious weapon present. Percent calculations exclude unknown. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (Trend Database).

Although firearm-related crime represents a small proportion (2.6%) of violent crime in Canada (Conroy, 2025; Perreault, 2026), the presence of a firearm was more common for mass casualty events. Of the level 3 events—that is, where four or more victims sustained major injury or died—that occurred between 2010 and 2024, more than four in ten (44%) involved the presence of a firearm. This compared to 14% of level 2 events, 5.9% of level 1 events and 8.3% of mass casualty events in general. Regardless of the level of mass casualty event, a handgun was the most common type of firearm present (of all incidents, 32% of level 3 events, 7.2% of level 2 events, 2.5% of level 1 events and 4.1% of mass casualty events in general).

In terms of geographic differences, the proportion of mass casualty events that involved the presence of a firearm was slightly higher in urban areas (8.4%) than rural areas (7.5%). The opposite emerged for level 1 events (5.7% in urban areas versus 6.4% in rural areas). The presence of a firearm was slightly more common in urban areas (14%) than rural areas (13%) for level 2 events, while it was much more common for level three events (48% in urban areas versus 19% in rural areas).¹⁷

Mass casualty events most commonly involved level 2 assault (assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm; 48%), assault level 1¹⁸ (21%) and robbery (8.9%).¹⁹ The most common violations for violent crime overall were assault level 1 (45%), assault level 2 (15%) and uttering threats (12%).

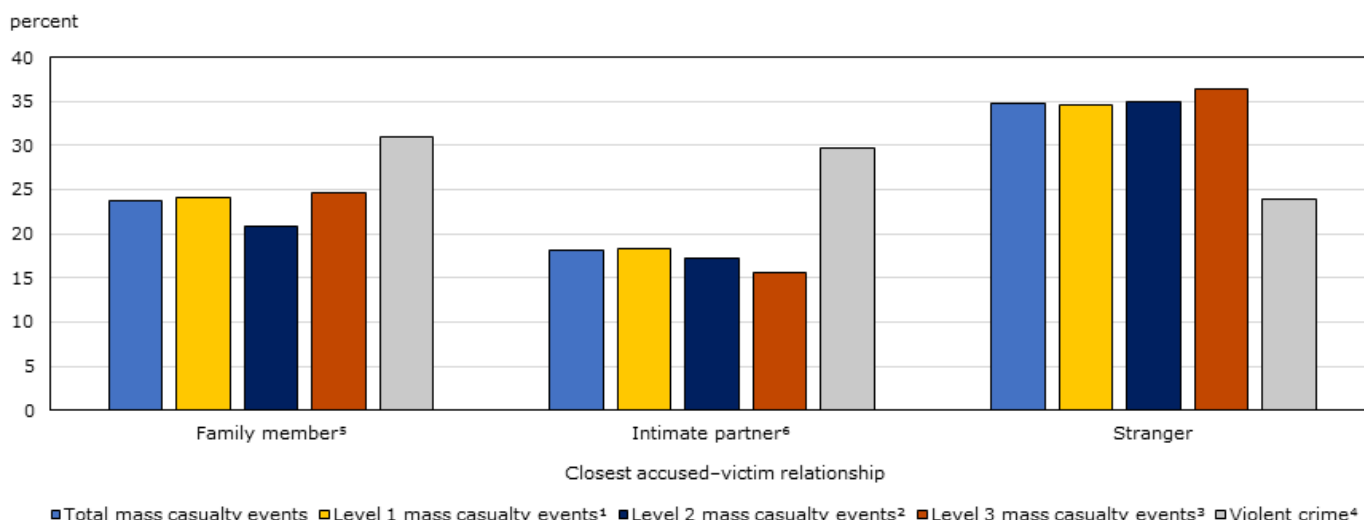
Compared to overall violent crime, mass casualty events more often involve stranger violence, less often involve family violence or intimate partner violence

The UCR Survey captures the relationship of the accused person to the victim on each victim record. As such, the accused–victim relationship is typically presented as a victim count. However, given the unique nature of mass casualty events, which may include a variety of relationships in a single incident, this section considers the accused–victim relationship in terms of incidents.²⁰

Between 2010 and 2024, one-quarter (24%) of mass casualty events involved family²¹ violence, meaning at least one victim in the incident was a family member of an accused person (Chart 3).²² Meanwhile, nearly one in five (18%) mass casualty events involved intimate partner²³ violence. Incidents of violent crime more commonly involved family violence and intimate partner violence (31% and 30%, respectively).²⁴

Chart 3

Police-reported mass casualty events and violent crime, by select closest accused–victim relationship in the incident, Canada, 2010 to 2024



1. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained minor physical injury.

2. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury and one to three victims sustained major physical injury or died.

3. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained major physical injury or died.

4. Includes mass casualty events. To allow for comparison with mass casualty events, incidents of violent crime are limited to those with victim records.

5. Includes current and former spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law), parents (biological, step, adoptive and foster), children (biological, step, adopted and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster) and extended family members (e.g., grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws).

6. Includes current and former legally married spouses, common-law partners and dating partners (i.e., boyfriends, girlfriends), and other intimate partners (e.g., one-night stands).

Note: Mass casualty events refer to violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died. For information about level of injury, see Text box 1. Excludes criminal negligence causing bodily harm or death. The categories of family member and intimate partner are not mutually exclusive as they both include spousal relationships. Percent calculations exclude unknown. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (Trend Database).

Inversely, 62% of mass casualty events involved stranger violence, meaning that at least one victim did not know the accused person.²⁵ More specifically, just over one-third (35%) of mass casualty events were stranger violence only—that is to say, the accused person was not known to any victims in the incident. Such violence was less common for violent crime (24%).

While 8.3% of mass casualty events had a firearm present, this was less common for such events involving family violence (5.2%) and intimate partner violence (6.3%).²⁶ Meanwhile, one in ten (9.4%) mass casualty events that were stranger violence only had a firearm present. Further, a very small proportion (1.7%) of mass casualty events involved the death of a victim. More specifically, a victim died in 2.7% of mass casualty events involving family violence and 2.2% involving intimate partner violence, which compared to 1.0% of mass casualty events that were stranger violence only.

Most victims in mass casualty events are men and boys

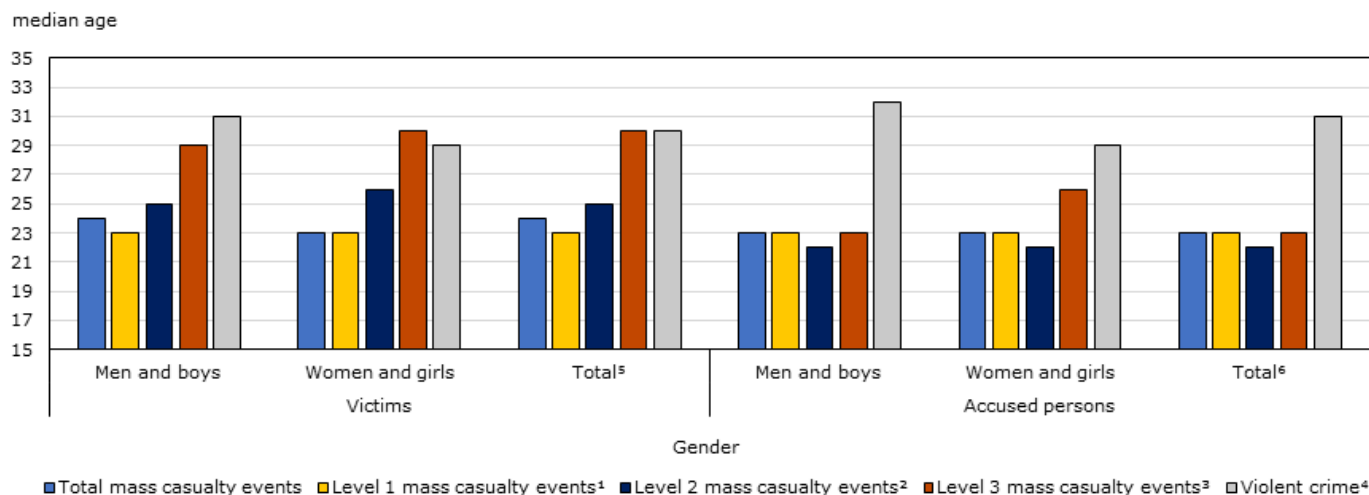
Between 2010 and 2024, there were 26,634 victims involved in mass casualty events (Table 4).²⁷ This represented an annual average of 1,776 victims. During this period, most (62%) victims in mass casualty events were men and boys, while the remaining victims were women and girls (38%).²⁸ While six in ten (60%) victims of level 1 mass casualty events were men and boys, they accounted for larger proportions of victims of level 2 and level 3 events (71% and 65%, respectively). Meanwhile, men and boys accounted for 48% of victims of violent crime.

The average annual rate for mass casualty events was higher for men and boys (6.0 victims per 100,000 population) than women and girls (3.7). In contrast, the rate of violent crime was 1,105 victims per 100,000 population for women and girls, and 1,016 for men and boys.

For mass casualty events, rates were highest for victims aged 12 to 17 (12.6), followed by those aged 18 to 44 (8.1). The median age of victims in mass casualty events was lower than for victims of violent crime (24 years versus 30 years) (Chart 4).²⁹

Chart 4

Victims and accused persons in police-reported mass casualty events and violent crime, by gender and median age, Canada, 2010 to 2024



1. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained minor physical injury.

2. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury and one to three victims sustained major physical injury or died.

3. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained major physical injury or died.

4. Includes mass casualty events. To allow for comparison with mass casualty events, incidents of violent crime are limited to those with victim records.

5. Includes victims whose gender was coded as unknown.

6. Includes accused persons whose gender was coded as unknown.

Note: Mass casualty events refer to violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died. For information about level of injury, see Text box 1. Excludes criminal negligence causing bodily harm or death. The option for police to code victims and accused persons as non-binary in the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey was implemented in 2018. Given that small counts of victims and accused persons identified as "non-binary" may exist, the UCR Survey aggregate data available to the public have been recoded to assign these counts to either "men and boys" or "women and girls," in order to ensure the protection of confidentiality and privacy. Victims and accused persons identified as non-binary have been assigned to either men and boys or women and girls based on the regional distribution of victims' and accused persons' gender. Victims older than 110 years were coded as unknown due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category, as were certain victims whose age was reported as 80 and older, but were identified as possible instances of miscoding. Excludes a small number of victims in Quebec whose age was unknown but was miscoded as 0. Includes accused persons aged 12 and older as those younger than 12 years cannot be held criminally responsible. Accused persons older than 110 years were coded as unknown due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes victims and accused persons whose age was coded as unknown. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (Trend Database).

Half of victims in mass casualty events are strangers to the accused person

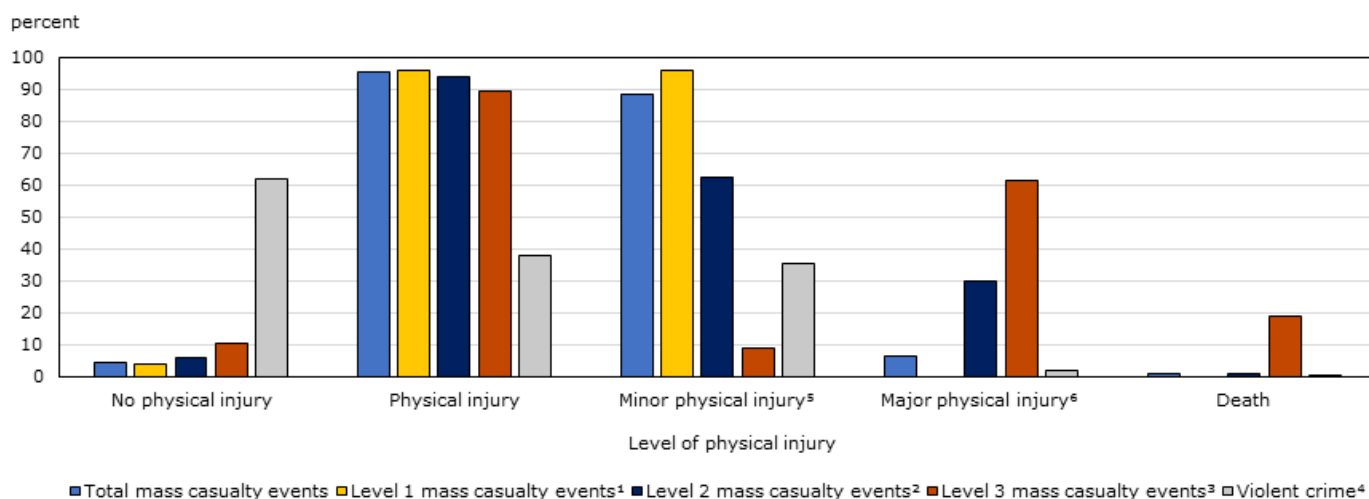
For half (50%) of victims involved in mass casualty events between 2010 and 2024, the accused person was a stranger (Table 5).³⁰ This proportion rose for victims in level 2 (54%) and level 3 (58%) mass casualty events, and a larger proportion of accused were strangers when victims of mass casualty events were men and boys (56%) than women and girls (41%). Meanwhile, accused persons were strangers for one-quarter (25%) of victims of overall violent crime.

Accused persons were acquaintances for one in five (21%) victims of mass casualty events. These were followed by family members³¹ (13%), authority figures³² (5.7%) and intimate partners³³ (4.6%). A larger proportion of accused were family members or intimate partners when victims of mass casualty events were women and girls (19% and 9.5%, respectively) than men and boys (9.4% and 1.6%, respectively). Compared to victims of mass casualty events, larger proportions of victims of overall violent crime were victimized by a family member (30%) or an intimate partner (27%).

Nearly half of victims who died in mass casualty events are women and girls

Nearly all (96%) victims involved in mass casualty events were physically injured between 2010 and 2024 (Chart 5).³⁴ This proportion was slightly lower for victims involved in level 2 (94%) and level 3 (89%) mass casualty events. The large majority (88%) of victims in mass casualty events sustained minor injury,³⁵ while major injury³⁶ (6.4%) and death (1.0%) were relatively rare.

Chart 5
Victims of police-reported mass casualty events and violent crime, by level of physical injury, Canada, 2010 to 2024



1. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained minor physical injury.

2. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury and one to three victims sustained major physical injury or died.

3. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained major physical injury or died.

4. Includes mass casualty events. To allow for comparison with mass casualty events, incidents of violent crime are limited to those with victim records.

5. Includes physical injury that required no professional medical treatment or only some first aid (e.g., bandage, ice).

6. Includes physical injury that required professional medical attention at the scene or transportation to a medical facility.

Note: Mass casualty events refer to violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died. Excludes criminal negligence causing bodily harm or death. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (Trend Database).

There were 256 victims who died in mass casualty events between 2010 and 2024. Women and girls accounted for 38% of victims of mass casualty events overall, but 46% of victims who died. In all, among victims of mass casualty events, 1.2% of women and girls died, and 0.8% of men and boys died. The median age of victims who died was comparable across genders (39 years among men and boys, and 38 years among women and girls).

Among victims of mass casualty events who died, the accused–victim relationship was most often a stranger (33%) or a family member (21%) for men and boys, and a family member (38%) or a stranger (30%) for women and girls.³⁷

Text box 2**Mass casualty events involving organized crime and street gang activity, and hate crime**

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey, in alignment with the *Criminal Code*, defines a criminal organization as a group of three or more individuals who conspire in an ongoing collective or network—as one of its main purposes or activities—to profit from illicit activities. In contrast, a street gang is defined as a group of individuals who use intimidation and violence to commit criminal acts on a regular basis to obtain power and recognition, and control over specific areas of criminal activity. According to police-reported data, 2.2% of mass casualty events involved (or were suspected to have involved) organized crime or street gang activity between 2018 and 2024. This proportion was much higher than for violent crime overall (0.3%).³⁸

The UCR Survey also collects information about hate crime, which it defines as a criminal offence committed against a person or property that was motivated in whole or in part by bias, prejudice or hate based on race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or on any other similar factor. A very small proportion (0.7%) of mass casualty events between 2018 and 2024 involved (or were suspected to have involved) hate crime; however, it was higher for mass casualty events than violent crime overall (0.3%).³⁹

It is important to note that police data on organized crime and hate crime reflect only incidents that come to the attention of police and are classified as such. These counts may fluctuate significantly from year to year due to the challenges involved in determining whether an incident is related to organized crime or hate crime. Coding practices may vary depending on the specific details of an incident. Like other types of crime, counts may be impacted by the willingness of the public to report incidents to police, policing initiatives and awareness campaigns. As a result, the data presented in this text box should be interpreted with caution.

Persons accused in mass casualty events are most often men aged 18 to 24

There were 7,402 persons accused in mass casualty events between 2010 and 2024 (Table 7).⁴⁰ On average, there were 493 persons accused each year. Nearly eight in ten (78%) of those accused in mass casualty events were men and boys.⁴¹ This proportion was slightly lower for level 1 events (75%), but it rose for level 2 (87%) and level 3 (88%) events. In comparison, men and boys accounted for just over three-quarters (77%) of persons accused of violent crime during this period. Just over one-third (36%) of mass casualty events involved more than one accused. This was far less common for violent crime overall (7.0%).

Among persons accused in mass casualty events, the average annual rate was more than three times higher among men and boys than among women and girls (2.1 versus 0.6 accused persons per 100,000 population), similar to violent crime (1,064 versus 306). This difference remained for those accused in level 1 (1.6 among men and boys versus 0.5 among women and girls), level 2 (0.4 versus 0.1) and level 3 (0.1 versus 0.01) mass casualty events, though it was more pronounced for level 2 and level 3 events.

In all, of those accused in mass casualty events, rates were highest for those aged 18 to 24, similar to persons accused of violent crime. For mass casualty events, the highest rate was among men aged 18 to 24 (7.8 accused persons per 100,000 population) and the lowest for women aged 35 and older (0.2). Like victims, the median age of persons accused in mass casualty events was lower than for persons accused of violent crime (23 years versus 31 years) (Chart 4).⁴²

Text box 3

Prior contact with police among persons accused in mass casualty events

Recontact data provide valuable insight into the number, or volume, of criminal offences—that come to the attention of police—committed by the same person within a specific reference period and can reveal patterns of criminal behaviour, as well as a potential escalation of violence. One of the recommendations outlined in the Mass Casualty Commission's final report, "Turning the tide together: Final report of the Mass Casualty Commission," called for research and policy development aimed at collecting data on the criminal histories of individuals accused in mass casualty events. This text box uses police-reported data from the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey to examine prior contact with police among persons accused in mass casualty events between 2018 and 2024.⁴³

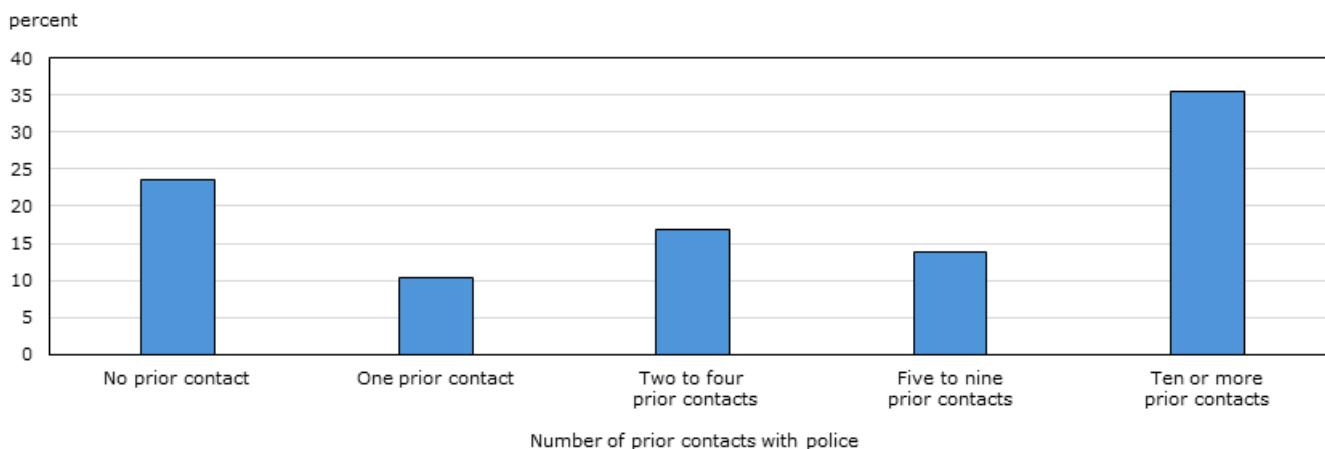
A prior contact refers to any previous contact with police for a *Criminal Code* (including traffic) offence, violation under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* or *Cannabis Act*, or other federal statute offence (e.g., *Customs Act*, *Youth Criminal Justice Act*) between 2010 and the date of the first mass casualty event.⁴⁴ It is important to note that accused persons may have had additional contacts with police prior to 2010 or may have come into contact with police for other reasons (e.g., as a victim or witness of crime).

Three-quarters of persons accused in mass casualty events had at least one prior contact with police, large majority had prior contact for a violent offence

Of the 3,342 unique persons accused in mass casualty events between 2018 and 2024, three-quarters (76%) had at least one prior contact with police during the reference period (Chart 6; Table 8). Among those accused in mass casualty events, prior contact was higher for men and boys (78%) than women and girls (70%). In all, just over one-third (35%) of accused persons had ten or more prior contacts with police. Notably, these 1,182 accused persons accounted for 33,708 contacts with police during the reference period and had a median of 22 contacts. A small proportion (1.3%) of persons accused in mass casualty events between 2018 and 2024 were accused in more than one mass casualty event during the reference period.

Chart 6

Prior contact with police among persons accused in mass casualty events from 2018 to 2024, by number of prior contacts with police, Canada, 2010 to 2024



Note: Mass casualty events refer to violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died. Excludes criminal negligence causing bodily harm or death. Reflects unique persons accused in mass casualty events between 2018 and 2024 and the number of times they came into contact with police as an accused person for a criminal offence between January 1, 2010, and the date of the first mass casualty event. Accused persons may have had additional contacts with police before 2010, or may have come into contact with police for other reasons (e.g., as a victim or witness of crime). Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (Trend Database).

Among persons accused in mass casualty events who had at least one prior contact with police, the large majority (85%) had at least one prior contact for a violent offence. The most common violations were assault level 1 (42%), assault level 2 (21%) and uttering threats (11%). Notably, charges were laid or recommended for two-thirds (67%) of these incidents, and nearly nine in ten (88%) accused persons had charges laid or recommended against them for at least one violent offence.

Most mass casualty events were more severe than the first prior contact with police

The Crime Severity Index (CSI) was developed as a complementary measure to the conventional crime rate and measures both the volume and relative severity of crime. Each crime is assigned a weight based on court sentencing outcomes over the previous five years, with higher weights being assigned to more serious crimes.⁴⁵ The CSI can be used to measure the escalation of violence over time by comparing the weight assigned to the most recent offence with the weight assigned to a prior offence.⁴⁶ In the context of mass casualty events, the weight assigned to the mass casualty event can be compared with an accused person's prior contact with police (from January 1, 2010, to the date of the mass casualty event) to determine the relative severity. CSI values are based on the most serious violation in the incident. If a person was accused in more than one mass casualty event between 2018 and 2024, the event with the highest CSI weight was selected.

Compared to the first contact⁴⁷ with police during the reference period, mass casualty events were more severe for 67% of accused persons, less severe for 23% of accused persons and the same severity for 9.4% of accused persons (Table 8). Notably, compared to the most serious prior police contact, mass casualty events were more severe for 34% of accused persons, less severe for 54% of accused persons and the same severity for 13% of accused persons.

Private residences most common location for mass casualty events

In the UCR Survey, one location can be reported per incident. If an incident included multiple locations, the initial location is reported by police.

Mass casualty events between 2010 and 2024 most often occurred or began at residential locations⁴⁸ (46%), followed by open areas⁴⁹ (30%) (Table 6).⁵⁰ These two location types were also the most common for violent crime, although compared to mass casualty events, a larger proportion involved residential locations, while a smaller proportion involved open areas (58% and 21%, respectively).

During this period, there were 178 mass casualty events that occurred or began at schools,⁵¹ representing 3.3% of all such events. A slightly larger proportion of violent crime involved schools (3.6%).

Mass casualty events more often cleared, and cleared by charge, than incidents of violent crime overall

Just over three-quarters (77%) of all mass casualty events were cleared (i.e., solved) by police between 2010 and 2024, either by the laying or recommendation of charges, or cleared otherwise (Table 6).⁵² More specifically, 75% of level 1, 83% of level 2 and 82% of level 3 events were cleared. A relatively smaller proportion (66%) of violent crime was cleared by police. Higher clearance rates for mass casualty events, particularly for level 2 and level 3 events, may be partially attributable to the circumstances of these events, including increased visibility, more witnesses and the allocation of investigative resources. In addition, while most mass casualty events were cleared by charge (69% overall, and 67% of level 1, 80% of level 2 and 73% of level 3 events), 46% of violent crime was cleared in this way.

Mass casualty events that were cleared by police but did not result in the laying or recommendation of charges (7.7%) were most often cleared otherwise because victims requested that no further action be taken where an accused person was identified (47%) or due to departmental discretion (28%). A small proportion (4.0%) of mass casualty events were cleared otherwise because the accused died (including by suicide) prior to police laying or recommending charges. Notably, this reason accounted for 1.0% of level 1 events cleared otherwise, 4.2% of level 2 events cleared otherwise, and 80% of level 3 events cleared otherwise.

In all, 23% of mass casualty events—25% of level 1 events, 17% of level 2 events and 18% of level 3 events—were not cleared, meaning that they were still under investigation, there was insufficient evidence to proceed with criminal charges, or the victim or complainant declined to proceed (no accused person identified). This compared to 34% of incidents of violent crime.

Summary

Mass casualty events—that is, intentional acts of violence where four or more victims sustained some level of physical injury or died—accounted for a very small proportion of police-reported violent crime reported by police between 2010 and 2024. Of the nearly 5.2 million incidents of violent crime—where a victim record was provided by police—between 2010 and 2024, there were 5,475 mass casualty events where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died (0.1% of all violent crime), with an average annual rate of 1.0 incidents per 100,000 population. While these incidents are rare, they may have a profound impact on individuals and communities, and they are more likely to require a coordinated response from police, healthcare services and government.

One in five (20%) incidents of police-reported violent crime involved the presence of a weapon. As would be expected, this was much more common for mass casualty events (64%), especially where victims sustained major injury or died (78% of level 2 events and 98% of level 3 events).

Between 2010 and 2024, there were 26,634 victims involved in mass casualty events, most (62%) of whom were men and boys. Mass casualty events involved an average of five victims. The vast majority of victims in mass casualty events sustained minor injury (88%), while major injury (6.4%) and death (1.0%) were relatively rare. While women and girls accounted for 38% of victims of mass casualty events, this proportion rose to 46% where victims died.

For half (50%) of victims involved in mass casualty events between 2010 and 2024, the accused person was a stranger. A further 13% of victims were family members of the accused, while 4.6% were intimate partners. Strangers were less common for victims of overall violent crime (25%), while family members (30%) and intimate partners were more common (27%). Between 2018 and 2024, a small proportion (2.2%) of mass casualty events involved (or were suspected to have involved) organized crime or gang activity.

There were 7,402 persons accused in mass casualty events between 2010 and 2024. Nearly eight in ten (78%) of those accused in mass casualty events were men and boys. This proportion rose for level 2 (87%) and level 3 (88%) events. Just over one-third (36%) of mass casualty events involved more than one accused. Of those accused in mass casualty events between 2018 and 2024, three-quarters (76%) had at least one prior contact with police during the reference period and, in all, just over one-third (35%) of accused persons had ten or more prior contacts with police. A small proportion (1.3%) of accused persons who had a prior contact with police were accused in another mass casualty event during the reference period.

Two-thirds (66%) of incidents of police-reported violent crime were cleared (i.e., solved) by police between 2010 and 2024, with nearly half (46%) cleared by the laying or recommendation of charges. Cleared incidents were much more common for mass casualty events (77%) and most (69%) mass casualty events were cleared by charge.

Future analysis of mass casualty events could use court data to explore whether persons accused in mass casualty events were out on bail at the time of the incident, and homicide data to explore the primary apparent motive where victims of mass casualty events were killed. Further, linked data files could be used to explore characteristics of persons accused in such incidents, and their pathways through the criminal justice system. Such information could assist public safety authorities and health care providers in preventing and addressing mass casualty events in Canada.

Data sources and concepts

Uniform Crime Reporting Survey

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey was established in 1962 with the co-operation and assistance of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police. The UCR Survey is a compilation of police-reported crimes that have been reported to federal, provincial and municipal police services in Canada.

One incident can involve multiple offences. To ensure comparability, data presented in this article are based on the most serious violation in the incident. Police determine the most serious violation according to standardized classification rules in the UCR Survey that consider, for instance, whether the offence is violent as well as the maximum penalty imposed by the *Criminal Code*.

Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database

The Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR2) Survey, Trend Database, is a microdata survey that captures detailed information on crimes reported to police, including the characteristics of incidents, victims and accused persons. UCR2 coverage between 2009 and 2024 is estimated at 99% of the population of Canada. UCR2 includes only the police services that have consistently responded to allow for comparisons over time.

To analyze mass casualty events, a dataset was created to capture all police-reported violent incidents (excluding criminal negligence causing bodily harm or death) from 2010 to 2024 where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died. Information about the level of physical injury is recorded for each victim and categorized as: death, major injury, minor injury, no injury and unknown injury. Victims whose level of injury was coded as unknown (0.7% of victims) were counted as uninjured. The number of victims in an incident includes those who sustained physical injury or died, those who did not sustain physical injury and those whose level of injury was coded as unknown. To be included in the mass casualty events file, all incidents must have had at least four victims that sustained physical injury or died. Some mass casualty events occurred over multiple days. After regrouping incidents considered one mass casualty event, dates were adjusted to reflect the earliest and latest incident dates. Only events that spanned three days or fewer were retained in the file.

A small proportion of police-reported incidents were determined to be part of the same mass casualty event based on multiple matching values (e.g., police service, incident date and time, violations) and were linked as one incident for analysis. Violent crime data include all incident file numbers, including mass casualty events which may have multiple incident file numbers. As such, a small proportion of mass casualty events may be counted more than once in violent crime data. Further, some mass casualty events included multiple values for weapon present, incident location and incident clearance status, and some victims of mass casualty events had multiple values for accused–victim relationship. For these variables, a ranking methodology was applied and a single value was selected for the affected variables in each mass casualty event or victim.

The UCR Survey requires police to provide a victim record for some types of violent crime, while it is optional for others. To allow for comparison with mass casualty events, incidents of violent crime are limited to those with victim records.

In Quebec, the information management system used by most police services produces a relatively high proportion of unknown values for the variable “most serious weapon present.” Although incidents of firearm-related crime are likely recorded correctly for the vast majority of cases, undercounting remains possible. Due to data quality concerns, weapon analysis excludes data from the province of Quebec unless the most serious weapon present was a firearm, and data from the Québec City Police Service are also excluded regardless of the most serious weapon present.

Data for the Saint John Police Service (SJPS) are also excluded. The Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, in communication with the SJPS, decided to remove SJPS data from the 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2023 and 2024 research files due to concerns with data quality in these years. As a result, SJPS data have also been removed from the trend file, which includes only those police services who have consistently reported data every year between 2009 and 2024.

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Notes

1. An Order in Council (OIC) is an official document detailing a specific mandate. In the context of the 2020 Nova Scotia mass casualty event, the OIC provided the guidelines and boundaries for the Mass Casualty Commission to proceed with its work in (1) determining what happened, the responses of front-line agencies, and the steps taken to inform, support and engage those most affected; (2) to examine related issues including, for example, the role of gender-based and intimate partner violence; and (3) to produce a report that sets out lessons learned as well as recommendations that could help prevent and respond to similar incidents in the future.
2. In the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, a violent violation in the *Criminal Code* generally involves the use of aggressive action (with the intent to do harm) or the credible threat of such action. Police do not report or flag mass casualty events as such when responding to the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey; rather, “mass casualty events” is a derived concept based on the injury variable and the number of injured victims in each incident. Not all victims involved in mass casualty events sustained physical injury or died; however, for incidents to be considered mass casualty events, they must have had, at minimum, four victims who were injured or died. One in eight (12%) mass casualty events involved at least one victim who did not sustain physical injury.
3. Level of injury reflects injury at the time of the incident or determined through investigation. It is possible that non-visible injuries may not have been detected by police. Binary categories of injured and uninjured were required to analyze mass casualty events. As such, victims whose level of injury was coded as unknown were counted as uninjured. For consistency and comparison, the same approach was applied to incidents of violent crime. For reference, the level of injury was unknown for 0.7% of victims of mass casualty events and 6.1% of victims of violent crime between 2010 and 2024.
4. To allow for comparisons over time, the analysis in this article is based on data from the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey’s trend database, which—as of 2009—includes data for 99% of the population in Canada.
5. In the Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces, violence includes physical and sexual assault (including intimate partner violence), and respondents include individuals aged 15 and older. To align with analysis of police-reported data, includes victims of physical and sexual intimate partner violence.
6. Based on responses to the Primary Care PTSD Screen (PC-PTSD) tool, a front-line assessment tool used to identify individuals who should be referred to further psychological and psychiatric treatment for the disorder. The tool is designed to assess whether an individual demonstrates key effects related to the core PTSD symptoms of re-experiencing, numbing, avoidance and hyperarousal. If an individual answers ‘yes’ to any three of the four questions, the presence of PTSD is suspected. The PC-PTSD is not a diagnostic tool, and a suspicion of PTSD is not the same as a diagnosis. In a clinical setting, a positive score on the PC-PTSD would indicate that the patient should be referred for more in-depth assessment and possible diagnosis. Women were significantly more likely than men to report experiencing three or more longer-term psychological impacts consistent with post-traumatic stress disorder (30% versus 18%).
7. Based on the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey, Trend Database. In the UCR Survey, a victim is a person who is the target of a violent or aggressive action (or threat). Excludes incidents of violent crime with no associated victim record. The UCR Survey requires police to provide a victim record for some types of violent crime, while it is optional for others. To align with analysis of mass casualty events, excludes incidents of criminal negligence causing death and criminal negligence causing bodily harm.
8. These proportions were similar in 2010 to 2014, 2015 to 2019 and 2020 to 2024.
9. A small proportion of police-reported incidents were determined to be part of the same mass casualty event based on multiple matching values (e.g., police service, incident date and time, violations) and were linked as one incident for analysis. Violent crime data include all incident file numbers, including mass casualty events which may have multiple incident file numbers. As such, a small proportion of mass casualty events may be counted more than once in violent crime data.
10. Between 2010 and 2024, there were 109,215 violent incidents involving two victims, and 14,027 violent incidents involving three victims, who sustained physical injury or died. For the purposes of analysis, and to align with the definition established by the Mass Casualty Commission, these incidents are not considered mass casualty events.

11. Between 2010 and 2024, the number of mass casualty events fluctuated year over year, as did the rate for such incidents. Over the 15-year period, the highest number of mass casualty events occurred in 2023 (443 incidents, or 1.1 incidents per 100,000 population) and the lowest occurred in 2013 (302 incidents, or 0.9 incidents per 100,000 population). In 2020, at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic when many public health measures were encouraged (e.g., social distancing), there were 353 mass casualty events (0.9 incidents per 100,000 population).

12. These rates were similar in 2010 to 2014, 2015 to 2019 and 2020 to 2024.

13. Due to exceptionally small counts, such as those in the territories, geographic differences should be interpreted with caution.

14. Urban police services serve an area where the majority of the population lives within a census metropolitan area (CMA) or census agglomeration (CA). A CMA consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000, of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CA must have a core population of at least 10,000. A CMA or CA may be served by more than one police service. Rural areas are all areas outside of CMAs and CAs.

15. Weapon present includes anything used or intended for use in causing or threatening death or injury to persons during the commission of a criminal offence. In Quebec, the information management system used by the majority of police services produces a relatively high proportion of unknown values for the variable “most serious weapon present.” Although incidents of firearm-related crime are likely recorded correctly for the vast majority of cases, undercounting remains possible. Due to data quality concerns, weapon analysis excludes data from the province of Quebec unless the most serious weapon present was a firearm, and data from the Québec City Police Service are also excluded regardless of the most serious weapon present. A small proportion of police-reported incidents were determined to be part of the same mass casualty event based on multiple matching values (e.g., police service, incident date and time, violations) and were linked as one incident for analysis. As such, some mass casualty events included multiple values for weapon present. A ranking methodology was applied and a single value was selected for each mass casualty event.

16. In the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, “other weapon” refers to weapons (e.g., tasers, cannons, harpoons) that do not fit elsewhere. The category of “other weapon” accounted for 17% of mass casualty events and 7.0% of incidents of violent crime overall (both excluding the province of Quebec; see note 15). No further detail can be provided for this category.

17. Due to exceptionally small counts, especially for level 3 events in rural areas, geographic differences should be interpreted with caution.

18. In the *Criminal Code*, physical assault is classified into three categories depending on the nature and severity of the assault. Assault level 1 (s. 265(1)), commonly referred to as common assault, is when an individual intentionally applies force or threatens to apply force to another person without consent.

19. The Uniform Crime Reporting Survey allows for—but does not require—police to record up to four violations per incident. To ensure comparability, analysis is based on the most serious violation in the incident.

20. An analysis of the accused–victim relationship among victims is included in the victim sections that follow. A small proportion of police-reported incidents were determined to be part of the same mass casualty event based on multiple matching values (e.g., police service, incident date and time, violations) and were linked as one incident for analysis. As such, some victims of mass casualty events had multiple values for accused–victim relationship. A ranking methodology was applied and a single value was selected for each victim.

21. Includes current and former spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law), parents (biological, step, adoptive and foster), children (biological, step, adopted and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster) and extended family members (e.g., grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws).

22. Percent calculation excludes victims where the accused–victim relationship was unknown.

23. Includes current and former legally married spouses, common-law partners and dating partners (i.e., boyfriends, girlfriends), and other intimate partners (e.g., one-night stands).

24. The categories of family member and intimate partner are not mutually exclusive as they both include spousal relationships.

25. Data not shown.

26. See note 15.

27. In the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, the only demographic information currently available for victims is gender and age. The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and Statistics Canada have committed to working together to enable police to report statistics on the Indigenous and racialized identity of victims and accused persons in police-reported crime statistics (Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, 2025).

28. Percent calculation excludes victims whose gender was coded as unknown. The option for police to code victims as non-binary in the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey was implemented in 2018. Given that small counts of victims identified as “non-binary” may exist, the UCR Survey aggregate data available to the public have been recoded to assign these counts to either “men and boys” or “women and girls,” in order to ensure the protection of confidentiality and privacy. Victims identified as non-binary have been assigned to either men and boys or women and girls based on the regional distribution of victims’ gender. For information about gender-based violence and mass casualty events, see McCulloch & Maher, 2022.

29. Excludes victims whose age was coded as unknown.

30. See note 20.

31. See note 21.

32. Includes persons in a position of trust or authority and reverse authority figures (e.g., student-to-teacher and patient-to-doctor).

33. See note 23.

34. See note 2.

35. Includes physical injury that required no professional medical treatment or only some first aid (e.g., bandage, ice).

36. Includes physical injury that required professional medical attention at the scene or transportation to a medical facility.

37. For more information about homicide in Canada, see Statistics Canada, 2025b, and for information about gender-based violence and mass casualty events, see McCulloch & Maher, 2022.

38. The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey, Trend Database, does not include the organized crime flag. As such, the organized crime flag from the UCR Survey’s microdata files was merged with the trend file for this analysis. Analysis on police-reported incidents involving confirmed or suspected organized crime and street gang activity is limited to 2018 onward, as 2018 marked the first year for which comparable data were available in the UCR Survey. Percent calculation excludes incidents where organized crime or street gang activity was unknown.

39. The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey, Trend Database, does not include the hate crime flag. As such, the hate crime flag from the UCR Survey’s microdata files was merged with the trend file for this analysis. Analysis on hate crime is limited to 2018 onward, as 2018 marked the first year for which comparable hate crime data were available in the UCR Survey. Percent calculation excludes incidents where hate crime information was unknown. For more information about hate crime, see Statistics Canada, 2025a.

40. In the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, the only demographic information currently available for accused persons is gender and age. The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and Statistics Canada have committed to working together to enable police to report statistics on the Indigenous and racialized identity of victims and accused persons in police-reported crime statistics (Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, 2025).

41. Percent calculation excludes accused persons whose gender was coded as unknown. The option for police to code accused persons as non-binary in the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey was implemented in 2018. Given that small counts of accused persons identified as “non-binary” may exist, the UCR Survey aggregate data available to the public have been recoded to assign these counts to either “men and boys” or “women and girls,” in order to ensure the protection of confidentiality and privacy. Accused persons identified as non-binary have been assigned to either men and boys or women and girls based on the regional distribution of accused persons’ gender.

42. Excludes accused persons whose age was coded as unknown.

43. A unique identifier was assigned to each accused person, and all prior contacts reported to the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey from January 1, 2010, up until the date of the first mass casualty event were included in the data file to assess the extent of individuals' prior contacts with the police (as an accused person).

44. The data file includes information on police contacts for all cleared (i.e., solved) incidents—that is, those where charges were either laid or recommended, and those that were cleared by other means (see note 52). However, the data file does not include information on criminal justice outcomes, such as court decisions and sentencing outcomes. As such, not every person in the recontact cohort was charged in connection with their prior police contact, and among those who were, not all went to court and were found guilty.

45. For more information about how the Crime Severity Index is calculated, see Moreau, 2025 and Statistics Canada, 2024.

46. The Crime Severity Index (CSI) weights are updated periodically because new crime legislation may generate a new violation for which a weight must be calculated. Additionally, changes in court sentencing practices over time may change the ranking of the severity of crimes. Given that the same violation committed in an earlier year may have been assigned a different CSI value than in a later year, CSI values in this file have been calculated using the most recent weight index.

47. The first prior contact with police is based on the earliest contact with police (date of the incident) for a *Criminal* (including traffic) offence, violation under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* or *Cannabis Act*, or other federal statute offence (e.g., *Customs Act*, *Youth Criminal Justice Act*) from 2010 to 2024. If a person had contact with police for more than one incident on this date, the incident with the highest Crime Severity Index weight was selected.

48. Residential locations include single homes, dwelling units (e.g., apartment units, condo units), commercial dwelling units (e.g., hotel rooms), nursing homes, retirement homes, community group homes and private property structures (e.g., garden sheds, detached garages).

49. Open areas include parking lots, streets, roads, highways and other open areas (e.g., playgrounds, parks, fields), transit buses and bus shelters, subways and subway stations, and other forms of public transportation and connected facilities.

50. A small proportion of police-reported incidents were determined to be part of the same mass casualty event based on multiple matching values (e.g., police service, incident date and time, violations) and were linked as one incident for analysis. As such, some mass casualty events included multiple values for incident location. A ranking methodology was applied and a single value was selected for each mass casualty event.

51. Includes schools during supervised (i.e., occurring during or just outside of regular school hours or during a school sanctioned extracurricular activity) and unsupervised (i.e., outside of regular school hours and outside of a school sanctioned extracurricular activity) activity, as well as universities and colleges (excluding residence buildings, public roadways and parking lots).

52. Cleared otherwise includes, for example, incidents where the victim or complainant requesting that no further action be taken where an accused person was identified and those cleared due to departmental discretion. A small proportion of police-reported incidents were determined to be part of the same mass casualty event based on multiple matching values (e.g., police service, incident date and time, violations) and were linked as one incident for analysis. As such, some mass casualty events included multiple values for incident clearance status. A ranking methodology was applied and a single value was selected for each mass casualty event.

Detailed data tables

Table 1
Police-reported mass casualty events and violent crime, by year, Canada, 2010 to 2024

Year	Mass casualty events								Violent crime ⁴	
	Total		Level 1 ¹		Level 2 ²		Level 3 ³			
	number	rate ⁵	number	rate ⁵	number	rate ⁵	number	rate ⁵	number	rate ⁵
2010 to 2014 ⁵	1,750	1.0	1,449	0.8	254	0.15	47	0.03	1,600,605	933
2010	409	1.2	339	1.0	58	0.17	12	0.04	354,224	1,052
2011	344	1.0	296	0.9	42	0.12	6	0.02	333,737	982
2012	387	1.1	315	0.9	63	0.18	9	0.03	323,832	942
2013	302	0.9	252	0.7	44	0.13	6	0.02	300,800	866
2014	308	0.9	247	0.7	47	0.13	14	0.04	288,012	821
2015 to 2019 ⁵	1,738	1.0	1,450	0.8	233	0.13	55	0.03	1,590,009	877
2015	339	1.0	276	0.8	49	0.14	14	0.04	294,754	834
2016	339	0.9	284	0.8	44	0.12	11	0.03	299,054	836
2017	356	1.0	303	0.8	45	0.12	8	0.02	312,191	863
2018	342	0.9	288	0.8	44	0.12	10	0.03	325,687	887
2019	362	1.0	299	0.8	51	0.14	12	0.03	358,323	962
2020 to 2024 ⁵	1,987	1.0	1,709	0.9	199	0.10	79	0.04	2,004,251	1,029
2020	353	0.9	293	0.8	45	0.12	15	0.04	353,828	940
2021	395	1.0	343	0.9	40	0.11	12	0.03	377,765	998
2022	426	1.1	368	1.0	43	0.11	15	0.04	400,441	1,039
2023	443	1.1	378	1.0	47	0.12	18	0.05	432,298	1,089
2024	370	0.9	327	0.8	24	0.06	19	0.05	439,919	1,076
Total ⁵	5,475	1.0	4,608	0.8	686	0.13	181	0.03	5,194,865	946

1. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained minor physical injury.

2. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury and one to three victims sustained major physical injury or died.

3. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained major physical injury or died.

4. Includes mass casualty events. To allow for comparison with mass casualty events, incidents of violent crime are limited to those with victim records.

5. The rates for 2010 to 2014, 2015 to 2019 and 2020 to 2024 reflect average annual rates for each respective period, while the total rate reflects the average annual rate for the 2010 to 2024 period.

Note: Mass casualty events refer to violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died. For information about level of injury, see Text box 1. Excludes criminal negligence causing bodily harm or death. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. Populations are based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (Trend Database).

Table 2
Police-reported mass casualty events and violent crime, by region, Canada, 2010 to 2024

Region	Mass casualty events								Violent crime ⁴	
	Total		Level 1 ¹		Level 2 ²		Level 3 ³			
	number	average annual rate ⁵	number	average annual rate ⁵	number	average annual rate ⁵	number	average annual rate ⁵	number	average annual rate ⁵
Provinces	5,395	1.0	4,540	0.8	x	x	x	x	5,076,294	927
Atlantic	226	0.6	202	0.6	x	x	x	x	373,424	1,051
Newfoundland and Labrador	57	0.7	52	0.7	5	0.06	0	0.000	89,572	1,127
Prince Edward Island	12	0.5	9	0.4	3	0.13	0	0.000	19,042	821
Nova Scotia	93	0.6	83	0.6	7	0.05	3	0.019	145,242	997
New Brunswick	64	0.6	58	0.5	x	x	x	x	119,568	1,119
Quebec	638	0.5	530	0.4	81	0.07	27	0.022	1,131,599	904
Ontario	1,624	0.8	1,343	0.6	204	0.10	77	0.036	1,528,859	721
Manitoba	667	3.4	553	2.8	93	0.48	21	0.108	321,326	1,646
Saskatchewan	599	3.6	519	3.1	73	0.44	7	0.042	299,455	1,790
Alberta	877	1.4	739	1.2	111	0.18	27	0.043	693,026	1,086
British Columbia	764	1.0	654	0.9	94	0.13	16	0.021	728,605	978
Territories	80	4.4	68	3.7	x	x	x	x	118,571	6,457
Canada ⁶	5,475	1.0	4,608	0.8	686	0.13	181	0.033	5,194,865	946
Urban areas ⁷	4,186	0.9	3,502	0.8	529	0.12	155	0.033	4,037,140	868
Rural areas ⁷	1,267	1.5	1,094	1.3	151	0.18	22	0.026	1,157,724	1,373

0 true zero or a value rounded to zero

x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*

1. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained minor physical injury.

2. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury and one to three victims sustained major physical injury or died.

3. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained major physical injury or died.

4. Includes mass casualty events. To allow for comparison with mass casualty events, incidents of violent crime are limited to those with victim records.

5. This rate is the average of the annual rates from 2010 to 2024.

6. Excludes a small proportion (0.4%) of mass casualty events that occurred in both urban and rural areas. As such, the total for Canada does not equal the sum of urban and rural areas.

7. Urban police services serve an area where the majority of the population lives within a census metropolitan area (CMA) or census agglomeration (CA). A CMA consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000, of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CA must have a core population of at least 10,000. A CMA or CA may be served by more than one police service. Rural areas are all areas outside of CMAs and CAs.

Note: Mass casualty events refer to violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died. For information about level of injury, see Text box 1. Excludes criminal negligence causing bodily harm or death. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. Populations are based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (Trend Database).

Table 3
Police-reported mass casualty events and violent crime, by most serious weapon present, Canada, 2010 to 2024

Most serious weapon present	Mass casualty events								Violent crime ⁴	
	Total		Level 1 ¹		Level 2 ²		Level 3 ³			
	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
No weapon present ⁵	1,711	35.6	1,576	39.0	132	21.7	3	1.9	3,154,283	79.9
Weapon present	3,101	64.4	2,468	61.0	476	78.3	157	98.1	793,004	20.1
Firearm	397	8.3	240	5.9	86	14.1	71	44.4	100,352	2.5
Fully automatic firearm	10	0.2	x	x	5	0.8	x	x	1,944	0.0
Sawed-off rifle or shotgun	25	0.5	x	x	11	1.8	x	x	3,810	0.1
Handgun	195	4.1	100	2.5	44	7.2	51	31.9	56,148	1.4
Rifle or shotgun	68	1.4	43	1.1	16	2.6	9	5.6	15,705	0.4
Firearm-like weapon or firearm type unknown	99	2.1	84	2.1	10	1.6	5	3.1	22,745	0.6
Knife or other piercing, cutting instrument	616	12.8	360	8.9	203	33.4	53	33.1	244,412	6.2
Club, blunt instrument	286	5.9	203	5.0	76	12.5	7	4.4	93,457	2.4
Explosive or fire	46	1.0	26	0.6	10	1.6	10	6.3	4,237	0.1
Motor vehicle	52	1.1	34	0.8	13	2.1	5	3.1	13,441	0.3
Other weapon ⁶	1,704	35.4	1,605	39.7	88	14.5	11	6.9	337,105	8.5
Unknown	57	...	54	...	3	...	0	...	134,846	...
Total	4,869	100.0	4,098	100.0	611	100.0	160	100.0	4,082,133	100.0

... not applicable

0 true zero or a value rounded to zero

x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*

1. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained minor physical injury.

2. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury and one to three victims sustained major physical injury or died.

3. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained major physical injury or died.

4. Includes mass casualty events. To allow for comparison with mass casualty events, incidents of violent crime are limited to those with victim records.

5. Includes physical force and threats.

6. Includes ropes or strangulation, burning liquids or caustic agents and other weapons.

Note: Mass casualty events refer to violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died. For information about level of injury, see Text box 1. Excludes criminal negligence causing bodily harm or death. Weapon present includes anything used or intended for use in causing or threatening death or injury to persons during the commission of a criminal offence. In Quebec, the information management system used by the majority of police services produces a relatively high proportion of unknown values for the variable "most serious weapon present." Although incidents of firearm-related crime are likely recorded correctly for the vast majority of cases, undercounting remains possible. Due to data quality concerns, weapon analysis excludes data from the province of Quebec unless the most serious weapon present was a firearm, and data from the Québec City Police Service are also excluded regardless of the most serious weapon present. Percent calculations exclude unknown. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (Trend Database).

Table 4
Victims of police-reported mass casualty events and violent crime, by gender and age group, Canada, 2010 to 2024

Gender and age group	Mass casualty events								Violent crime ⁴	
	Total		Level 1 ¹		Level 2 ²		Level 3 ³			
	number	average annual rate ⁵	number	average annual rate ⁵	number	average annual rate ⁵	number	average annual rate ⁵	number	average annual rate ⁵
Men and boys										
17 years and younger	3,697	6.8	3,290	6.0	320	0.6	87	0.2	447,280	821
11 years and younger	1,006	2.8	945	2.6	26	0.1	35	0.1	130,895	366
12 to 17 years	2,691	14.3	2,345	12.4	294	1.6	52	0.3	316,385	1,682
18 to 44 years	10,395	10.3	8,220	8.2	1,690	1.7	485	0.5	1,572,806	1,549
45 years and older	2,039	1.7	1,552	1.3	334	0.3	153	0.1	707,713	605
Total ⁶	16,405	6.0	13,301	4.9	2,372	0.9	732	0.3	2,770,407	1,016
Women and girls										
17 years and younger	2,887	5.6	2,659	5.1	162	0.3	66	0.1	548,596	1,057
11 years and younger	951	2.8	868	2.5	50	0.1	33	0.1	140,990	413
12 to 17 years	1,936	10.9	1,791	10.0	112	0.6	33	0.2	407,606	2,289
18 to 44 years	5,751	5.8	4,906	5.0	625	0.6	220	0.2	1,885,545	1,912
45 years and older	1,385	1.1	1,114	0.9	171	0.1	100	0.1	600,959	477
Total ⁶	10,106	3.7	8,753	3.2	967	0.4	386	0.1	3,054,061	1,105
Total ⁷										
17 years and younger	6,605	6.2	5,969	5.6	483	0.5	153	0.1	1,002,051	942
11 years and younger	1,968	2.8	1,824	2.6	76	0.1	68	0.1	276,601	396
12 to 17 years	4,637	12.6	4,145	11.3	407	1.1	85	0.2	725,450	1,981
18 to 44 years	16,191	8.1	13,167	6.6	2,319	1.2	705	0.3	3,466,373	1,732
45 years and older	3,425	1.4	2,667	1.1	505	0.2	253	0.1	1,310,783	539
Total ⁶	26,634	4.9	22,167	4.0	3,347	0.6	1,120	0.2	5,851,093	1,066

1. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained minor physical injury.

2. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury and one to three victims sustained major physical injury or died.

3. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained major physical injury or died.

4. Includes mass casualty events. To allow for comparison with mass casualty events, incidents of violent crime are limited to those with victim records.

5. This rate is the average of the annual rates from 2010 to 2024.

6. Includes victims whose age was coded as unknown.

7. Includes victims whose gender was coded as unknown.

Note: Mass casualty events refer to violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died. For information about level of injury, see Text box 1. Excludes criminal negligence causing bodily harm or death. The option for police to code victims as non-binary in the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey was implemented in 2018. Given that small counts of victims identified as "non-binary" may exist, the UCR Survey aggregate data available to the public have been recoded to assign these counts to either "men and boys" or "women and girls," in order to ensure the protection of confidentiality and privacy. Victims identified as non-binary have been assigned to either men and boys or women and girls based on the regional distribution of victims' gender. Victims older than 110 years were coded as unknown due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category, as were certain victims whose age was reported as 80 and older, but were identified as possible instances of miscoding. Excludes a small number of victims in Quebec whose age was unknown but was miscoded as 0. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. Populations are based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (Trend Database).

Table 5**Victims of police-reported mass casualty events and violent crime, by gender and accused–victim relationship, Canada, 2010 to 2024**

Victim gender and accused–victim relationship	Mass casualty events								Violent crime ⁴	
	Total		Level 1 ¹		Level 2 ²		Level 3 ³			
	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
Men and boys										
Family member ⁵	1,542	9.4	1,326	10.0	155	6.5	61	8.4	539,953	19.5
Intimate partner ⁶	261	1.6	218	1.6	x	x	x	x	328,352	11.9
Friend	495	3.0	401	3.0	x	x	x	x	110,079	4.0
Neighbour or roommate	324	2.0	258	1.9	41	1.7	25	3.5	125,547	4.5
Authority figure ⁷	999	6.1	911	6.8	71	3.0	17	2.4	132,297	4.8
Business or criminal relationship ⁸	400	2.4	301	2.3	74	3.1	25	3.5	148,292	5.4
Casual acquaintance	3,330	20.3	2,658	20.0	545	23.0	127	17.6	580,491	21.0
Stranger	9,150	55.8	7,318	55.0	1,381	58.2	451	62.5	1,003,425	36.3
Unknown	12	...	1	...	1	...	10	...	2,849	...
Total ⁹	16,405	100.0	13,301	100.0	2,372	100.0	732	100.0	2,770,407	100.0
Women and girls										
Family member ⁵	1,955	19.4	1,706	19.5	176	18.2	73	19.5	1,197,232	39.2
Intimate partner ⁶	961	9.5	824	9.4	107	11.1	30	8.0	1,230,348	40.3
Friend	331	3.3	291	3.3	34	3.5	6	1.6	124,967	4.1
Neighbour or roommate	226	2.2	189	2.2	19	2.0	18	4.8	89,589	2.9
Authority figure ⁷	491	4.9	450	5.1	36	3.7	5	1.3	81,345	2.7
Business or criminal relationship ⁸	193	1.9	159	1.8	18	1.9	16	4.3	93,914	3.1
Casual acquaintance	2,240	22.2	1,978	22.6	203	21.0	59	15.8	486,532	15.9
Stranger	4,092	40.6	3,490	39.9	418	43.2	184	49.2	474,568	15.5
Unknown	17	...	5	...	0	...	12	...	1,414	...
Total ⁹	10,106	100.0	8,753	100.0	967	100.0	386	100.0	3,054,061	100.0
Total ¹⁰										
Family member ⁵	3,499	13.2	3,034	13.7	331	9.9	134	12.2	1,741,433	29.8
Intimate partner ⁶	1,224	4.6	1,044	4.7	x	x	x	x	1,560,872	26.7
Friend	826	3.1	692	3.1	x	x	x	x	235,802	4.0
Neighbour or roommate	550	2.1	447	2.0	60	1.8	43	3.9	215,603	3.7
Authority figure ⁷	1,521	5.7	1,387	6.3	111	3.3	23	2.1	217,741	3.7
Business or criminal relationship ⁸	593	2.2	460	2.1	92	2.7	41	3.7	243,036	4.2
Casual acquaintance	5,579	21.0	4,644	21.0	749	22.4	186	16.9	1,070,483	18.3

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 5**Victims of police-reported mass casualty events and violent crime, by gender and accused–victim relationship, Canada, 2010 to 2024**

Victim gender and accused–victim relationship	Mass casualty events								Violent crime ⁴	
	Total		Level 1 ¹		Level 2 ²		Level 3 ³			
	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
Stranger	13,321	50.1	10,883	49.1	1,802	53.9	636	57.9	1,489,451	25.5
Unknown	29	...	6	...	1	...	22	...	4,340	...
Total⁹	26,634	100.0	22,167	100.0	3,347	100.0	1,120	100.0	5,851,093	100.0

... not applicable

0 true zero or a value rounded to zero

x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*

1. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained minor physical injury.

2. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury and one to three victims sustained major physical injury or died.

3. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained major physical injury or died.

4. Includes mass casualty events. To allow for comparison with mass casualty events, incidents of violent crime are limited to those with victim records.

5. Includes current and former spouses (legally married, separated, divorced and common-law), parents (biological, step, adoptive and foster), children (biological, step, adopted and foster), siblings (biological, step, half, adopted and foster) and extended family members (e.g., grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and in-laws).

6. Includes current and former legally married spouses, common-law partners and dating partners (i.e., boyfriends, girlfriends), and other intimate partners (e.g., one-night stands).

7. Includes persons in a position of trust or authority and reverse authority figures (e.g., student-to-teacher and patient-to-doctor).

8. Includes relationships where the workplace or business is the primary source of contact, and relationships based on illegal activity.

9. The categories of family member and intimate partner are not mutually exclusive as they both include spousal relationships. As such, the total for accused–victim relationship does not equal the sum of relationship categories.

10. Includes victims whose gender was coded as unknown.

Note: Mass casualty events refer to violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died. For information about level of injury, see Text box 1. Excludes criminal negligence causing bodily harm or death. The option for police to code victims as non-binary in the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey was implemented in 2018. Given that small counts of victims identified as “non-binary” may exist, the UCR Survey aggregate data available to the public have been recoded to assign these counts to either “men and boys” or “women and girls,” in order to ensure the protection of confidentiality and privacy. Victims identified as non-binary have been assigned to either men and boys or women and girls based on the regional distribution of victims’ gender. Percent calculations exclude unknown. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (Trend Database).

Table 6
Police-reported mass casualty events and violent crime, by location and clearance status, Canada, 2010 to 2024

Location and clearance status	Mass casualty events								Violent crime ⁴	
	Total		Level 1 ¹		Level 2 ²		Level 3 ³			
	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
Location										
Residential location ⁵	2,483	45.6	2,087	45.6	318	46.8	78	43.6	2,992,179	58.4
Open area ⁶	1,630	30.0	1,341	29.3	230	33.8	59	33.0	1,095,685	21.4
Commercial location	798	14.7	668	14.6	96	14.1	34	19.0	571,660	11.2
Restaurant or bar	337	6.2	269	5.9	56	8.2	12	6.7	146,650	2.9
Other commercial location ⁷	461	8.5	399	8.7	40	5.9	22	12.3	425,010	8.3
School ⁸	178	3.3	168	3.7	x	x	x	x	183,064	3.6
Other location ⁹	351	6.5	317	6.9	x	x	x	x	279,852	5.5
Unknown	35	...	27	...	6	...	2	...	72,425	...
Total	5,475	100.0	4,608	100.0	686	100.0	181	100.0	5,194,865	100.0
Clearance status										
Not cleared	1,286	23.5	1,138	24.7	115	16.8	33	18.2	1,743,279	33.6
Cleared	4,189	76.5	3,470	75.3	571	83.2	148	81.8	3,451,586	66.4
Cleared by charge ¹⁰	3,767	68.8	3,087	67.0	547	79.7	133	73.5	2,391,779	46.0
Cleared otherwise ¹¹	422	7.7	383	8.3	24	3.5	15	8.3	1,059,807	20.4
Total	5,475	100.0	4,608	100.0	686	100.0	181	100.0	5,194,865	100.0

... not applicable

x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*

1. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained minor physical injury.

2. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury and one to three victims sustained major physical injury or died.

3. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained major physical injury or died.

4. Includes mass casualty events. To allow for comparison with mass casualty events, incidents of violent crime are limited to those with victim records.

5. Includes single homes, dwelling units (e.g., apartment units, condo units), commercial dwelling units (e.g., hotel rooms), nursing homes, retirement homes, community group homes and private property structures (e.g., garden sheds, detached garages).

6. Includes parking lots, streets, roads, highways and other open areas (e.g., playgrounds, parks, fields), transit buses and bus shelters, subways and subway stations, and other forms of public transportation and connected facilities.

7. Includes car dealerships, banks and other financial institutions, convenience stores, gas stations and other commercial locations.

8. Includes schools during supervised (i.e., occurring during or just outside of regular school hours or during a school sanctioned extracurricular activity) and unsupervised (i.e., outside of regular school hours and outside of a school sanctioned extracurricular activity) activity, as well as universities and colleges (excluding residence buildings, public roadways and parking lots).

9. Includes construction sites, religious institutions, hospitals, pharmacies, correctional institutions, homeless shelters and missions, halfway houses and young offender group homes, and other non-commercial or corporate places.

10. Includes the laying or recommendation of charges.

11. Includes, for example, the victim or complainant requesting that no further action be taken where an accused person was identified, reasons beyond departmental control and departmental discretion.

Note: Mass casualty events refer to violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died. For information about level of injury, see Text box 1. Excludes criminal negligence causing bodily harm or death. Percent calculations exclude unknown. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (Trend Database).

Table 7**Persons accused of police-reported mass casualty events and violent crime, by gender and age group, Canada, 2010 to 2024**

Gender and age group	Mass casualty events								Violent crime ⁴	
	Total		Level 1 ¹		Level 2 ²		Level 3 ³			
	number	average annual rate ⁵	number	average annual rate ⁵	number	average annual rate ⁵	number	average annual rate ⁵	number	average annual rate ⁵
Men and boys										
12 to 17 years	1,236	6.6	968	5.2	224	1.2	44	0.23	344,634	1,839
18 to 24 years	1,972	7.8	1,429	5.6	443	1.7	100	0.39	538,464	2,110
25 to 34 years	1,508	3.9	1,132	2.9	301	0.8	75	0.19	779,572	2,009
35 years and older	1,021	0.7	839	0.5	135	0.1	47	0.03	1,224,912	800
Total	5,737	2.1	4,368	1.6	1,103	0.4	266	0.10	2,887,582	1,064
Women and girls										
12 to 17 years	396	2.2	348	2.0	38	0.2	10	0.05	133,221	750
18 to 24 years	510	2.1	445	1.9	59	0.2	6	0.02	170,634	713
25 to 34 years	436	1.1	382	1.0	41	0.1	13	0.04	230,078	610
35 years and older	319	0.2	288	0.2	25	0.0	6	0.00	309,190	190
Total	1,661	0.6	1,463	0.5	163	0.1	35	0.01	843,123	306
Total ⁶										
12 to 17 years	1,632	4.5	1,316	3.6	262	0.7	54	0.15	478,858	1,312
18 to 24 years	2,485	5.0	1,877	3.8	502	1.0	106	0.21	710,201	1,436
25 to 34 years	1,944	2.5	1,514	2.0	342	0.4	88	0.11	1,010,965	1,322
35 years and older	1,341	0.4	1,128	0.4	160	0.1	53	0.02	1,536,375	487
Total	7,402	1.4	5,835	1.1	1,266	0.2	301	0.06	3,736,399	684

1. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained minor physical injury.

2. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury and one to three victims sustained major physical injury or died.

3. Includes violent incidents where four or more victims sustained major physical injury or died.

4. Includes mass casualty events. To allow for comparison with mass casualty events, incidents of violent crime are limited to those with victim records.

5. This rate is the average of the annual rates from 2010 to 2024.

6. Includes accused persons whose gender was coded as unknown.

Note: Mass casualty events refer to violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died. For information about level of injury, see Text box 1. Excludes criminal negligence causing bodily harm or death. The option for police to code accused persons as non-binary in the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey was implemented in 2018. Given that small counts of accused persons identified as "non-binary" may exist, the UCR Survey aggregate data available to the public have been recoded to assign these counts to either "men and boys" or "women and girls," in order to ensure the protection of confidentiality and privacy. Accused persons identified as non-binary have been assigned to either men and boys or women and girls based on the regional distribution of accused persons' gender. Includes accused persons aged 12 and older as those younger than 12 years cannot be held criminally responsible. Accused persons older than 110 years were coded as unknown due to possible instances of miscoding of unknown age within this age category. Excludes accused persons whose age was coded as unknown. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. Populations are based on July 1 estimates from Statistics Canada, Centre for Demography. Based on the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Trend Database, which, as of 2009, includes data for 99% of the population in Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (Trend Database).

Table 8**Prior police contact for persons accused in mass casualty events between 2018 and 2024, Canada, 2010 to 2024**

Selected characteristic	Number	Percent
Number of prior contacts with police		
No prior contact ¹	786	23.5
One prior contact	348	10.4
Two to five prior contacts	675	20.2
Six or more prior contacts	1,533	45.9
Charges laid or recommended for a prior violent offence²		
Yes	1,923	88.1
No	259	11.9
Charges laid or recommended for a prior property offence³		
Yes	1,290	71.6
No	512	28.4
Charges laid or recommended for another prior offence⁴		
Yes	1,696	86.9
No	256	13.1
Escalation of violence⁵		
First prior contact with police⁶		
Same severity ⁷	239	9.4
Less severe ⁸	599	23.4
More severe ⁹	1,718	67.2
Violent offence		
Same severity ⁷	239	21.5
Less severe ⁸	232	20.9
More severe ⁹	640	57.6
Property offence		
Same severity ⁷	0	0.0
Less severe ⁸	244	30.0
More severe ⁹	570	70.0
Other offence		
Same severity ⁷	0	0.0
Less severe ⁸	123	19.5
More severe ⁹	508	80.5

See notes at the end of the table.

Table 8

Prior police contact for persons accused in mass casualty events between 2018 and 2024, Canada, 2010 to 2024

Selected characteristic	Number	Percent
Most serious prior contact with police¹⁰		
Same severity ¹¹	320	12.5
Less severe ¹²	1,373	53.7
More severe ¹³	863	33.8

0 true zero or a value rounded to zero

1. Refers to individuals who did not have prior contact with the police for a *Criminal Code* (including traffic) offence, a violation under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* or *Cannabis Act*, or other federal statute offence (e.g., *Customs Act*, *Youth Criminal Justice Act*) from 2010 to 2024.

2. Charges were laid or recommended by police for a violent offence from 2010 to 2024. Violent offences involve violations against the person, including criminal harassment, uttering threats, assault, sexual assault, other sexual offences and offences in relation to sexual services, robbery, attempted murder and homicide.

3. Charges were laid or recommended by police for a property offence from 2010 to 2024. Property offences are defined as violations against property, which include, for example, break and enter, theft over \$5,000, theft under \$5,000, fraud and mischief.

4. Charges were laid or recommended by police for another *Criminal Code* (including traffic) offence, violation under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* or *Cannabis Act*, or other federal statute offence (e.g., *Customs Act*, *Youth Criminal Justice Act*) from 2010 to 2024.

5. Escalation of violence is measured by the Crime Severity Index (CSI), which measures the relative severity of a crime. Since CSI weights are updated periodically, all CSI values in this analysis have been calculated using the most recent weight index. CSI values are based on the most serious violation in the incident.

6. Refers to the earliest contact with police (based on the date of the incident) for persons accused of a *Criminal Code* (including traffic) offence, a violation under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* or *Cannabis Act*, or other federal statute offence (e.g., *Customs Act*, *Youth Criminal Justice Act*) between 2010 and 2024. If there was more than one contact with police on the same date, the incident with the highest CSI weight was selected.

7. The mass casualty event had the same CSI weight as the earliest contact with police.

8. The mass casualty event had a lower CSI weight than the earliest contact with police.

9. The mass casualty event had a higher CSI weight than the earliest contact with police.

10. Based on the most serious prior contact with police (as measured by the CSI) from 2010 to 2024.

11. The mass casualty event had the same CSI weight as the most serious prior contact with police.

12. The mass casualty event had a lower CSI weight than the most serious prior contact with police.

13. The mass casualty event had a higher CSI weight than the most serious prior contact with police.

Note: Mass casualty events refer to violent incidents where four or more victims sustained physical injury or died. Excludes criminal negligence causing bodily harm or death. Includes individuals who were accused of committing a mass casualty event between 2018 and 2024. If an individual was accused of more than one mass casualty event, the mass casualty event with the highest CSI was used. Accused persons may have had additional contacts with police before 2010, or may have come into contact with police for other reasons (e.g., as a victim or witness of crime). Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (Trend Database).