

Fact Sheet- National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women

December 6 marks the anniversary of the Montreal Massacre, a tragic act of gender-based violence that left 14 young women dead on the campus of l'Ecole Polytechnique Montreal. In 1991, the Parliament of Canada established December 6 as the **National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women in Canada**. December 6 presents an opportunity for members of the Humber community to acknowledge and reflect on the issues of violence against women as it remains a serious problem in Canada. Acts of violence can range from overt acts of hatred, such as the Montréal Massacre, to sexually based offences for example sexual harassment

Provided below are a list of statistics derived from the Women and Gender Equality Canada¹ website that demonstrate the gravity of the problem:

- While violence affects people of all genders, ages, religions, cultures, ethnicities, geographic locations, and socio-economic backgrounds, populations more at risk of gender based violence (GBV) include women, young women and girls, Indigenous Peoples, 2SLGBTQ+ and gender diverse people, women living in Northern, rural, and remote communities, and women living with disabilities.
- Women in Canada are more likely than men to experience intimate partner violence (IPV). Self-reported data collected in 2018 shows that 44% of women reported experiencing some form of IPV in their lifetime (since the age of 15).
- Three in ten (29%) women 15 to 24 years of age reported having experienced at least one incident of IPV in the 12 months preceding the survey, more than double the proportion found among women between the ages of 25 to 34 or 35 to 44, and close to six times higher than that among women 65 years of age or older.
- Self-reported data collected in 2018 shows that Indigenous women (61%) were more likely to experience some form of IPV in their lifetime (since the age of 15) compared with non-Indigenous women (44%).
- Transgender and gender diverse people in Canada were significantly more likely than cisgender people to having been physically or sexually assaulted at least once since age 15 (59% versus 37%, respectively).
- Among people who had ever been in an intimate partner relationship, more than half (55%) of women with disabilities reported experiencing some form of IPV in their lifetime (since the age of 15), compared to 37% of women without disabilities.
- Among students attending a postsecondary institution located in the provinces of Canada, almost one in seven (15%) women students were sexually assaulted in the postsecondary setting at least once since they started their studies – three times the proportion of men students who experienced the same (5%).
- Among people who had ever been in an intimate partner relationship, 29% of women belonging to an ethno-cultural group designated as a visible minority reported experiencing some kind of psychological, physical, or sexual violence committed by an intimate partner in their lifetime (since the age of 15), significantly less than among non-visible minority women (47%).

¹ <https://women-gender-equality.canada.ca/en/gender-based-violence/about-gender-based-violence.html>

Humber College is committed to promoting a living, learning and working environment of zero tolerance of all forms of violence. We take into account the uniqueness of an individual's historical, social and political context, and recognize that violence affects all individuals differently.