

What to Know

About Tech-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence in Canada



Tech-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV) is when someone uses technology to harm or control you.

In 2023, Women's Shelters Canada surveyed frontline workers in shelters, transition houses, and safe homes across Canada about their work supporting survivors of gender-based violence.

TFGBV IS COMMON IN CANADA:

95%

of frontline workers reported working with a survivor who disclosed experiencing TFGBV.

Harassment, threats, and tracking are the most common forms of violence.

TFGBV impacts survivors' access to services, safety, and connection.

This includes interrupted access to:



Social connection & support



Domestic & sexual violence support



Housing



Employment

Survivors face many barriers in addressing TFGBV:

-  Financial barriers
-  Tech literacy
-  Unresponsive police & justice system
-  Feelings of hopelessness & futility

Some communities experience TFGBV disproportionately.

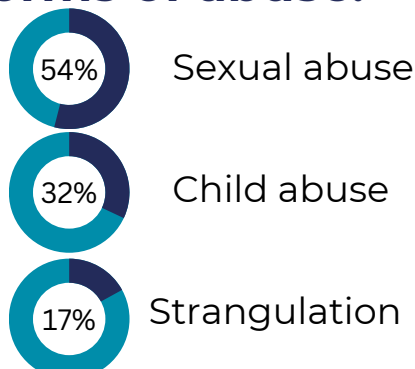


Immigrant, refugee, & non-status women

Young women

Women living in rural, remote, and isolated communities

TFGBV commonly co-occurs with other forms of abuse.



4 Key steps to addressing TFGBV:

- 1) Greater response from police and justice systems
- 2) Trauma-informed & accessible policies in telecommunications and social media companies
- 3) Training for frontline workers
- 4) Sustained funding for tech safety work in the anti-violence sector