

Homicide Statistics, 2020

Released by Statistics Canada – November 25, 2021

In 2020, Yukon had no homicides compared to 1 in 2019. Yukon was the only Canadian jurisdiction with a zero (0) homicide rate (per 100,000 population) in 2020. The Northwest Territories (13.29) had the highest homicide rate in Canada, followed by Nunavut (7.62) and Saskatchewan (5.09).

Historically, the territories have had higher and more variable annual homicide rates due to smaller numbers of reported homicides and smaller population bases compared to the provinces. Over the past five years, Yukon had a total of 16 homicides, the Northwest Territories had 19 and Nunavut had 25.

Homicides by Province and Territory, 2019 and 2020

	2019 ^r		2020		2019 to 2020	
	Number of victims	Rate ¹	Number of victims	Rate ¹	difference in number	% change in rate
Canada	687	1.83	743	1.95	56	7.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	5	0.96	4	0.77	-1	-19.8
Prince Edward Island	2	1.27	1	0.63	-1	-50.7
Nova Scotia	6	0.62	35	3.57	29	477.6
New Brunswick	17	2.19	14	1.79	-3	-18.1
Quebec	77	0.91	87	1.01	10	12.0
Ontario	253	1.74	234	1.59	-19	-8.7
Manitoba	72	5.26	62	4.50	-10	-14.5
Saskatchewan	55	4.69	60	5.09	5	8.5
Alberta	100	2.29	139	3.14	39	37.1
British Columbia	90	1.77	98	1.90	8	7.7
Yukon	1	2.41	0	0.00	-1	-100.0
Northwest Territories	2	4.44	6	13.29	4	199.1
Nunavut	7	18.13	3	7.62	-4	-58.0

^r = revised

¹ Rates are calculated per 100,000 population based on July 1 population estimates of Statistics Canada.

Notes: Homicide includes *Criminal Code* offences of murder, manslaughter and infanticide.

The term 'homicide' is used to refer to each single victim of homicide. For instance, a single incident can have more than one victim and each victim would be counted as a homicide.

The total count of a given year's number of homicides could include incidents that occurred in previous years. Homicides are allotted to the year in which they become known to or are deemed homicides by police, according to the report date submitted to Statistics Canada.