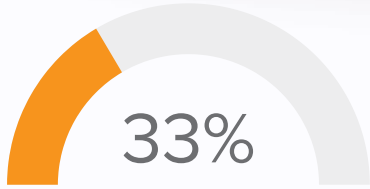


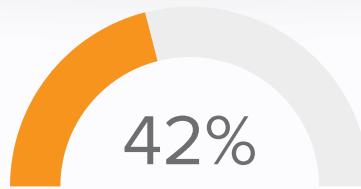
Reducing Stigma and Improving Access for Women with Experiences of Criminalization and Trauma

The Correlation Between Trauma and Criminalization

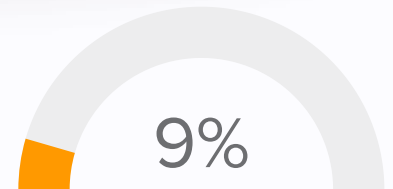
Women in Canadian Prisons



The incarceration rate of women has risen by 33% in the last 10 years.

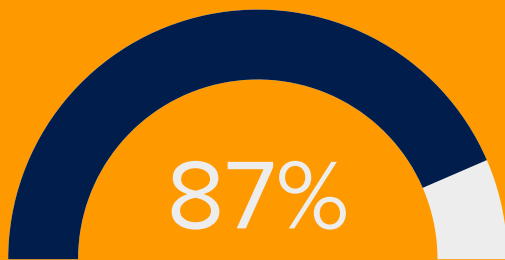


Indigenous women account for 4.3% of the adult female population, yet 42% of women in prisons.



Black women make up 3% of the adult female population, yet 9% of women in prisons.

Trauma and Criminalization



87% of women in federal prisons have experienced physical or sexual abuse.

Intimate Partner Violence and Criminalization



- ▶ When women use violence in self-defence, they are increasingly vulnerable to criminalization.
- ▶ The majority of women in prison have experienced intimate partner violence.
- ▶ Women experiencing intimate partner violence can be driven to criminalized activities to meet their basic needs.
- ▶ Racialized women who have experienced trauma are more likely to be criminalized than non-racialized women.

References:

- Zinger, I. (2019). Office of the Correctional Investigator Annual Report 2018-2019, Government of Canada.
- Sapers, H. (2013). Office of the Correctional Investigator Annual Report 2012-2013, Government of Canada.
- CRIAW/ICREF (2018). Rising Incarceration Rates of Racialized Women. Available at <https://www.criaw-icref.ca/publications/rising-incarceration-rates-of-racialized-women/>
- Gilfus, M. (December 2002). Women's experiences of abuse as a risk factor for incarceration. VAWnet Applied Research Forum.
- Kopels, S., & Sheridan, M. C. (2002). Adding legal insult to injury: Battered women, their children and the failure to protect. *Affilia*, 17, 9-29.