

YWCA Toronto Statement on [Bloomberg report](#) finding shootings in Canada rose 869% in 2022

A new report by Bloomberg provides some shocking data on the impacts of the Canadian gun lobby, including that in 2022, shootings in Canada rose 869%. The alarming rise in gun violence sparks concern for everyone, particularly for rural women, families and children in poverty, and victims of gender-based violence and intimate partner violence, who suffer disproportionately from gun violence.¹

The report details how expansive gun lobbying efforts in Canada have become including how NRA-style politics have been at the forefront of Canada's gun lobby efforts for years and how the gun lobby in Canada has disproportionate influence over policy. Canada is ranked fifth in guns per capita worldwide. Greater awareness is needed about the influence of gun lobby efforts in Canada.

Gun control is a feminist issue. In the past two years, Canadians have been unfortunately informed about how gun violence has disproportionate impacts on women, findings supported by both the [Mass Casualty Commission's](#) final report published this year and the [Culleton, Kuzyk and Warmerdam Inquest](#) published in 2022. The recommendations of both reports confirm that greater support is needed to address gender-based violence and intimate partner violence as a result of firearms.

According to the [data](#) reported by Bloomberg, Canada has seen the number of semiautomatic rifles and pistols annually imported from the US increase tenfold in twenty years – "from just 6,205 in 2003 to more than 66,000 in 2022." This data is alarming but should importantly be considered a call for action; a call to increase awareness about the influence of the gun lobby in Canada and take steps to prioritize public safety and public health. Victims and survivors of gun violence deserve our utmost attention to these issues. Therefore, we call upon the Prime Minister to:

- Recognize the influence of the gun lobby in Canada
- Prioritize public safety and fully implement the [Mass Casualty Commission's recommendations](#)
- Recognize the intersection between gun violence and intimate partner violence and implement the [86 recommendations from the Culleton, Kuzyk and Warmerdam Inquest](#)

Further, we join the [Canadian Coalition for Gun Control](#) in urging the Senate to review Bill-C-21 with consideration for prioritizing public safety and the public health evidence to support measures to reduce the risk of firearm misuse. With an 869% increase in shootings across

¹ PolySeSouvient, [Main takeaways from the latest Statistics Canada report](#). Data also supported by YWCA Toronto's report [The Forgotten Victims of Gun Violence: A YWCA Toronto Report Examining the Gendered Impacts of Gun Violence](#), published 2019.

Canada in 2022, action to end gun violence is needed now more than ever to ensure a safe world for all families, women, girls, and gender diverse peoples.

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