



Elder Abuse Prevention Unit

Year in Review 2018-19

Key Findings

The Elder Abuse Prevention Unit received 1,780 abuse notifications in 2018-19. Of these, 1,408 related to abuse in close or intimate relationships and 372 involved abuse in consumer and social relationships.

Abuse in Close or Intimate Relationships

VICTIMS

- 80-84 years was the most common age group;.
- 69.4% of victims were female;
- 39.4% were widowed;
- 32.8% had a capacity impairment;
- 50.4% had care needs;
- 35% had formal decision making arrangements in place and decision makers were identified as perpetrators in 73.9% of these cases.

PERPETRATORS

- 50-54 years was the most common age group;
- 51.6% were female and 48.1% male;
- 37.9% had a history of controlling behaviour, 24.5% conflictual relationships and 22.7% aggression.

RELATIONSHIPS

- 72% of perpetrators were sons or daughters;
- increase in grandchildren perpetrators;
- 32.4% of perpetrators and victims lived together;
- 21.6% of victims were dependent on perpetrators.

ABUSE TYPES

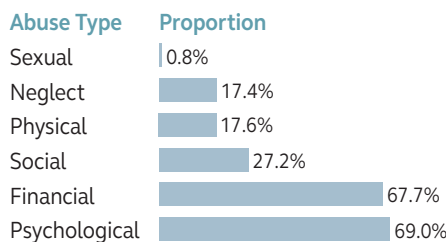
- Psychological and financial abuse were most common;
- 43% of cases involved daily abuse or neglect.

IMPACT ON VICTIMS

- 78.7% impacted psychologically;
- 45.6% experienced health impacts;
- 43.4% were financially impacted

BARRIERS TO CHANGE

- Most common barriers were a fear of further abuse, concerns about impacts on perpetrators if police were involved, and fear of losing relationships with perpetrators.



Abuse in Consumer and Social Relationships

Of the cases of abuse in consumer and social relationships, 28.2% related to aged care services, 21.9% concerned other consumer relationships and 49.9% involved abuse in social relationships. The types of abuse reported differed across relationship types.

