

WOMEN'S SAFETY AUSTRALIA 1996

**W. McLennan
Australian Statistician**

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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P R E F A C E

This publication presents results from the national Women's Safety Survey conducted in February to April 1996. The survey provides information on women's safety at home and in the community and, in particular, on the nature and extent of violence against women in Australia.

Information is presented about the prevalence of physical and sexual violence experienced by women and the nature of this violence, including: relationship to the perpetrator (male and female), where the violence occurred, and whether or not injuries were sustained. Additional information is reported about the actions taken in response to occurrences of violence, women's fears of violence and incidents of stalking and other forms of harassment.

The survey was funded by the Office of the Status of Women (OSW) and the Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services, both of which have responsibility for developing and implementing policies relating to women.

A Survey Reference Group, comprising experts in the field of crime and violence against women, provided the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) with advice on the information to be collected and on some aspects of survey methodology. Members of the group included representatives from State and Commonwealth health departments, crime research agencies, women's services providers, women's health research organisations, academics and OSW.

The ABS was solely responsible for the development and conduct of the survey. As for all ABS surveys, extensive testing was carried out to ensure that the survey would collect objective and high quality data.

The ABS would like to thank the 6,300 women who completed the survey. Their participation has ensured the production of results which will be valuable for informing public debate about violence against women and the further development of policies and programs aimed at prevention.

W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

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POLICY CONTEXT

Violence in society takes many forms. Men, women and children can all be victims as well as perpetrators of violence. Also, the nature and prevalence of violence experienced by different groups is known to differ, depending on age, gender, the closeness of the relationship between perpetrator and victim, and whether it occurs in private or public domains. However, governments, at Commonwealth and State levels, and community service groups have in recent years given increasing attention to the development of laws, policies and programs designed to assist women subjected to physical and sexual violence and to minimise the level of violence against women, with violence between partners a major area of concern.

Actions taken over the last two decades include:

- the establishment of various support services such as rape crisis centres and, for women escaping domestic violence, temporary housing and other support services;
- the formation of specialised police and medical service units with expertise in investigating complaints, collecting evidence and treating women who are victims of violence; and
- the reform of laws enabling women to obtain protection from domestic violence through the police and courts.

The provision of such services has been complemented by community awareness programs aimed at reducing levels of violence against women.

There have been many calls from national bodies, policy makers, researchers and service providers for comprehensive national data on the extent of violence against women. The National Committee on Violence Against Women, in its National Strategy on Violence Against Women,¹ recommended that an appropriate tool be developed to measure the levels and types of violence against women and to measure changes over time. The Council of Australian Governments Working Party on the National Strategy on Violence Against Women² reaffirmed the need for national data on violence against women. As a result, the Women's Safety Survey was designed to provide information which will assist in the development and evaluation of policies and programs related to women's experience of violence and to the prevention of violence against women.

THE SURVEY

The Women's Safety Survey's primary focus is the measurement of physical and sexual violence. While limited in focus to women's experience of violence, as opposed to that of children and men or other specific groups known to be at risk of violence, the survey collected information about experiences of violence, perpetrated by both men and women. As well as examining incidents of violence against women, the survey also collected information on abuse, harassment, and on women's feelings of safety within the home and the community.

¹ National Committee on Violence Against Women (1992) *The National Strategy on Violence Against Women*

² Report of the Council of Australian Government Working Group on the National Strategy on Violence Against Women (1994) unpublished report

Before proceeding with the survey, the ABS considered three points of critical concern:

- whether violence against women was an issue of significant government and community interest;
- whether objective and high quality data could be collected; and
- whether the information collected would inform public debate and discussion.

The ABS was satisfied on all these counts.

MEASURING VIOLENCE

For purposes of this survey, violence is defined as any incident involving the occurrence, attempt or threat of either physical or sexual assault. Measuring violence in the community through household surveys is a complex task. It tests people's memories by asking about events that occurred in the past, which may have been traumatic and which may have involved people closely related to them. Collecting accurate statistics can be affected if respondents feel threatened by the act of providing information or if they are concerned that the information might be used against the perpetrator.

There are no generally agreed or accepted standards for defining what constitutes violence. In developing the concepts and definitions used in the survey, the ABS was assisted by a survey reference group, which included members with legal and crime research backgrounds. The definitions used were based on actions which would be considered as offences under State and Territory criminal law. For example, physical violence included the occurrence, attempt or threat of physical assault, where physical assault was the use of physical force with the intent to harm or frighten. The definitions of violence are set out in more detail in the Glossary (p. 77). While, inevitably, the incidents of violence reported by women reflected their perceptions of the concepts and definitions used, the incidents reported were judged as significant by the respondent.

Through extensive consultation with experts in the field and rigorous testing, the ABS gave careful attention to the type of information collected and the manner in which it was collected. Special steps were taken to improve the quality of the survey results including detailed and precise questioning and the use of personal interviews, as opposed to a self completion mail back questionnaire. Women were informed that the survey was not compulsory and a specific requirement was that interviews were conducted with women in private, thus ensuring confidentiality of any information disclosed. The use of specially trained interviewers ensured that rapport could be established with respondents and that the relevant concepts and definitions could be explained as necessary.

SCOPE AND COVERAGE LIMITATIONS

The Women's Safety Survey was designed to provide national estimates of the nature and extent of violence experienced by women. Approximately 6,300 women completed the survey, representing a response rate of 78%. In general, the survey does not support reliable estimates for the States and Territories. Nor does it allow for detailed disaggregation of the data. Estimates of interest presented in the publication may be small numbers and in such cases should be used with caution.

The size and scope of the survey also affects estimates relating to small population groups. For example, there have been particular concerns about levels of violence experienced by Indigenous women. The Women's Safety Survey cannot provide any

insights into this issue because women living in rural and remote areas had a reduced chance of selection and because the number of Indigenous women in the survey was small. Similarly, the survey collected information about the country in which a woman was born and some estimates can be provided for women according to whether they were born in English and non-English speaking countries. However, it is not possible to analyse experiences of women born in particular countries. Details of the survey design and the number of people required to provide reliable estimates, are given in the Technical Notes (p. 74).

COMPARISON OF RESULTS

The survey greatly extends the limited information available from crime victim surveys periodically undertaken by the ABS, administrative sources such as police and court statistics, and smaller less representative studies undertaken by researchers in the field. Results from this survey differ from those obtained in the last ABS Crime and Safety Survey, although both surveys reveal low occurrences of physical and sexual assault. The Women's Safety Survey found that 5.9% of women had experienced physical violence in the last 12 month period and 1.5% had been sexually assaulted. Corresponding figures from the 1993 Crime and Safety Survey are 1.8% and 0.6%. The Crime and Safety Survey is a general crime victimisation survey where personal assault is just one component of the whole survey. On the other hand the Women's Safety Survey is a detailed survey with a specific focus on physical and sexual violence against women. Therefore, the Women's Safety Survey would be expected to provide better estimates of violence against women than the more general survey on crime and safety. For the same reason, great care should be taken in comparing figures from the two surveys.

CHAPTER 2

OVERVIEW

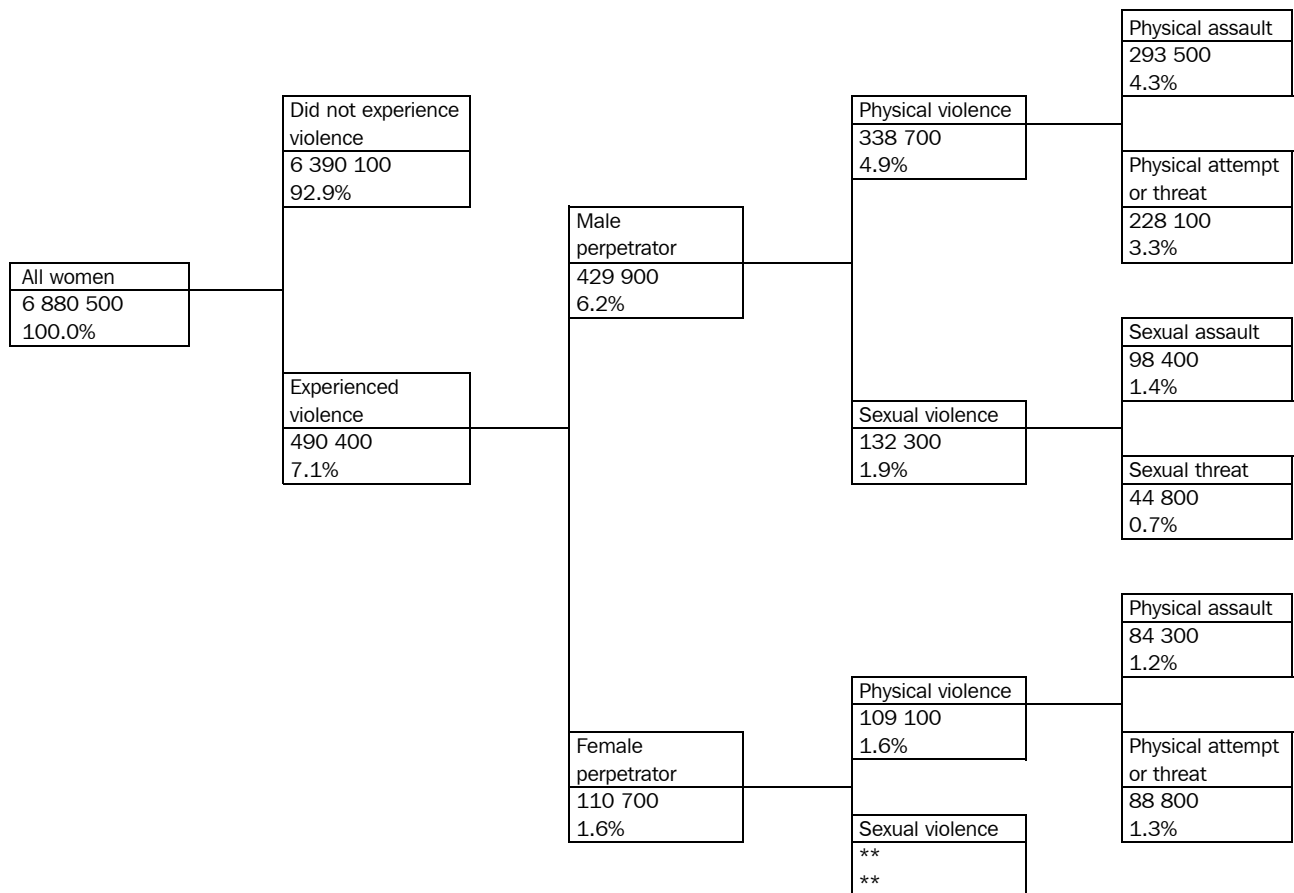
DEFINITION OF VIOLENCE

Violence is any incident involving the occurrence, attempt or threat of either physical or sexual assault. Physical assault involves the use of physical force with the intent to harm or frighten a woman. An attempt or threat to inflict physical harm is included only if a woman believes it is able and likely to be carried out. Sexual assault includes acts of a sexual nature carried out against a woman's will through the use of physical force, intimidation or coercion, or any attempts to do this. Unwanted sexual touching is excluded from sexual assault. Sexual threat involves the threat of an act of a sexual nature which the woman believes is able and likely to be carried out. Refer to the Glossary (p. 77) for more detailed descriptions of the definitions.

EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE

During the 12 months prior to the survey 490,400 women aged 18 and over (7.1%) experienced an incident of violence. Women were nearly four times more likely to experience violence by a man than by a woman. 22% of women who experienced violence (109,100) reported incidents by more than one perpetrator (see table 3.8).

2.1 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE(a)—during the last 12 months

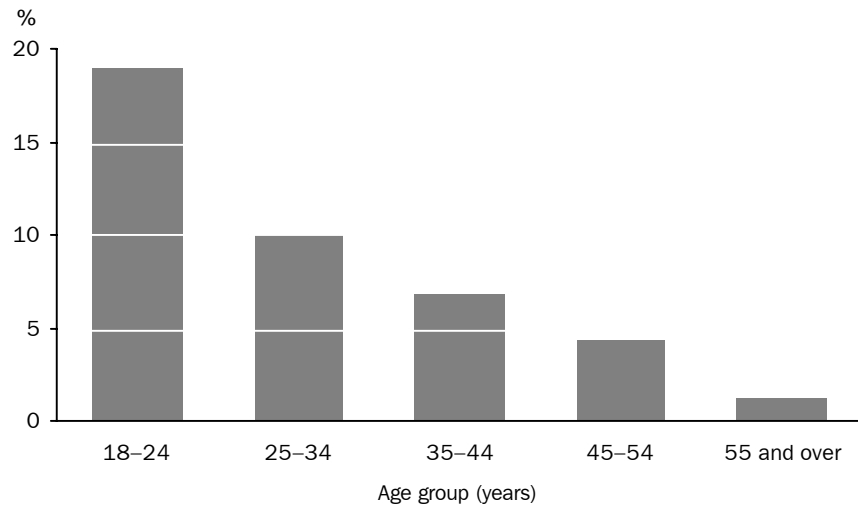


(a) A woman could have experienced both physical and sexual violence, as well as both assault and threat. A woman could have experienced violence by both a male and female perpetrator. The components when added may therefore be larger than the total.

A larger proportion of women experienced physical violence than sexual violence. 4.9% of women (338,700) experienced physical violence by a man, compared to 1.9% (132,300) who experienced sexual violence by a man.

Younger women were more at risk of violence than older women. 19% of women aged 18–24 had experienced an incident of violence in the previous 12 month period, compared to 6.8% of women aged 35–44 and 1.2% of women aged 55 and over.

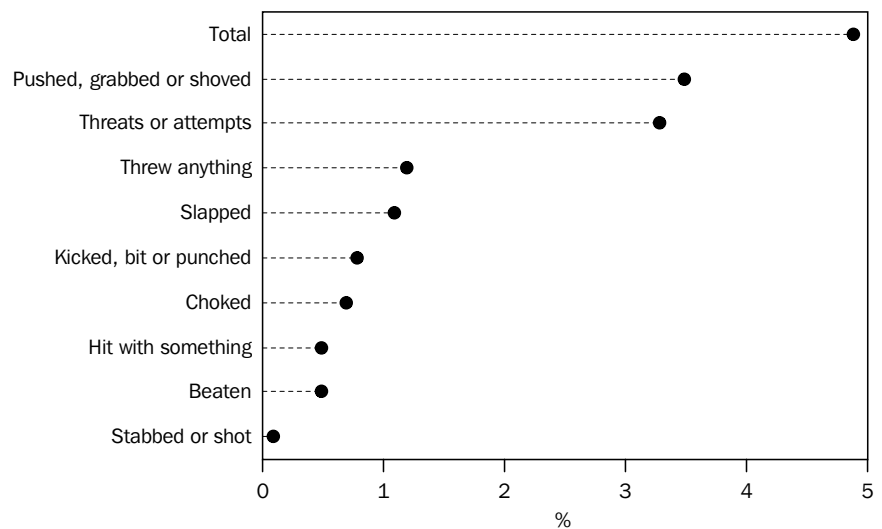
2.2 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE—during the last 12 months



Physical violence

Incidents of physical violence may involve one or more actions on the part of the perpetrator. The survey classified the nature of physical violence on the basis of these actions in the last incident. When physical violence occurred, women were more likely to be pushed, grabbed, shoved or threatened than they were to be slapped, choked or beaten. Of the 4.9% of women (338,700) who experienced physical violence by a man

2.3 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF PHYSICAL VIOLENCE BY A MAN DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS, Type of Physical Violence in the Last Incident

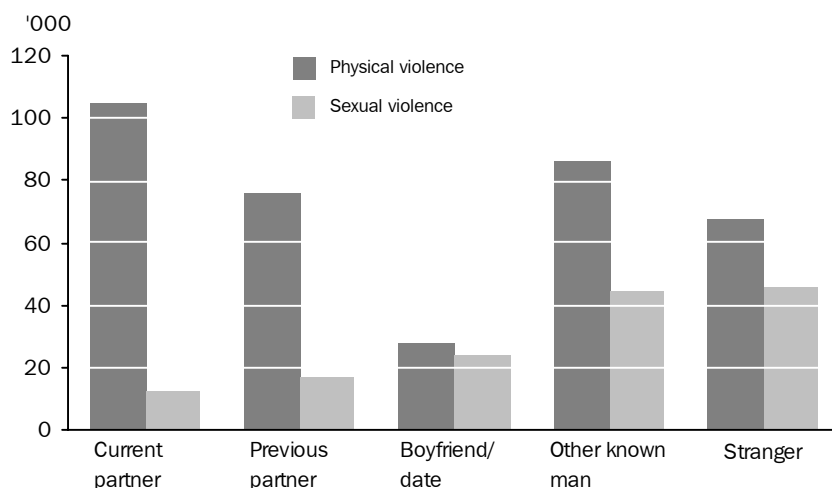


in the previous 12 month period, 13% experienced a threat or attempt only and a further 31% were pushed, grabbed or shoved either alone, or in conjunction with threats or attempts (see table 3.9).

48% of women who were physically assaulted by a man in the previous 12 month period (140,900) sustained physical injuries in the last incident. The most common injuries were bruises, cuts and scratches (see table 3.14).

More women experienced physical violence from a current or previous partner than from a stranger or another man known to them (such as a relative, friend, work colleague or professional). In the previous 12 month period, 104,600 women experienced physical violence by their current partner, 75,800 by a previous partner and 67,300 by a stranger.

2.4 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY A MAN DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS, relationship to perpetrator



Sexual violence

During the 12 months prior to the survey 133,100 women (1.9%) experienced an incident of sexual violence. This includes sexual assault, involving acts of a sexual nature carried out against a woman's will, as well as threats of sexual assault which a woman believed were likely to be carried out. Sexual violence was almost exclusively perpetrated by men (99%). Three-quarters of women who experienced sexual violence (100,000), reported an incident of sexual assault in the previous 12 month period and 44,800 women reported a threat of sexual assault (see table 3.7).

In contrast to physical violence, more women experienced sexual violence from someone other than their partner. 45,800 women had experienced sexual violence by a stranger, 23,800 by a boyfriend or date and 12,400 by their current partner in the previous 12 month period.

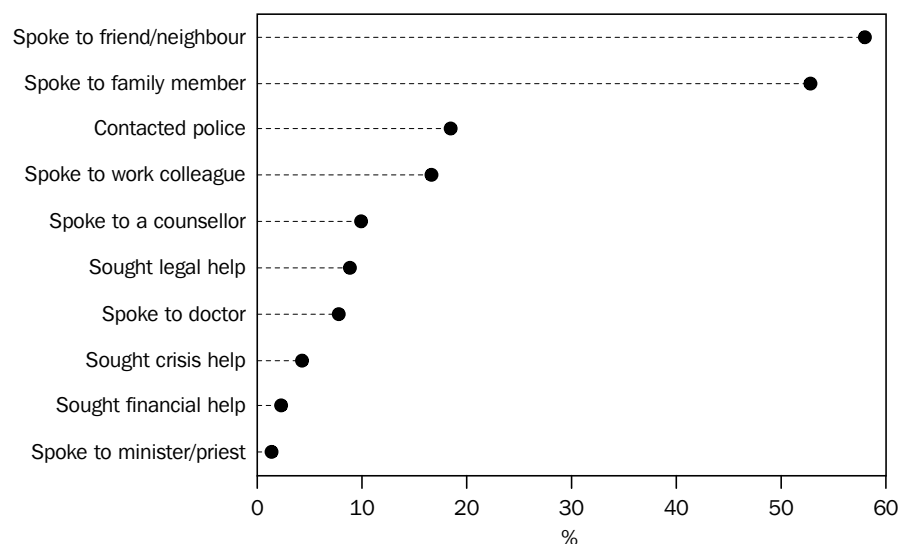
22% of women who were sexually assaulted by a man in the previous 12 month period (22,000) were physically injured in the last incident with bruises the most common injury (see table 3.14).

ACTIONS TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO VIOLENCE

There are a range of actions that a woman can take as a result of an incident of violence including: contacting the police, seeking advice or support from a professional, such as a doctor, counsellor or religious minister, contacting a service provider, for crisis, legal or financial assistance, or speaking to other people, such as family and friends.

Overwhelmingly, the main action taken after experiencing an assault by a man was talking to other people, particularly family and friends. 58% of women who were physically assaulted in the previous 12 month period (170,500) discussed their experience with a friend or neighbour and 53% spoke to a family member (155,600). Of those women who were sexually assaulted, 59% (58,000) spoke to a friend or neighbour and 32% (31,300) spoke to a family member. 4.5% of women who were physically assaulted (13,200) contacted a crisis service organisation, as did 8.1% of women who were sexually assaulted (8,000).

2.5 WOMEN WHO WERE PHYSICALLY ASSAULTED BY A MAN DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS, Actions taken After the Last Incident



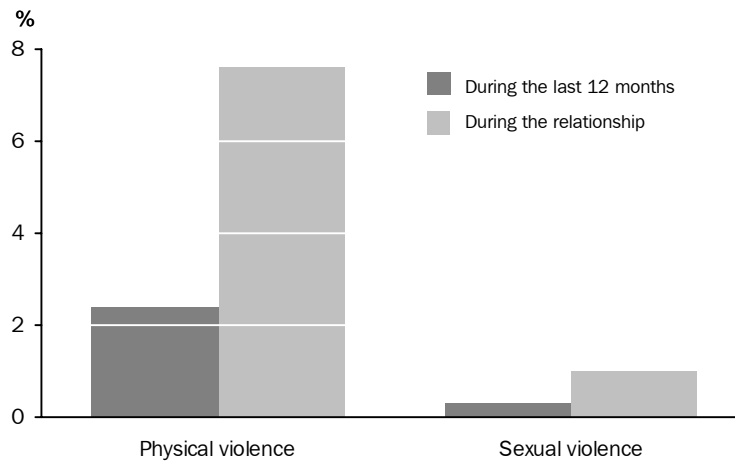
19% of women who were physically assaulted and 15% of women who were sexually assaulted in the previous 12 month period reported the incident to the police (see table 4.8). The main reason given for not contacting the police after the last incident of physical assault was that women wished to deal with the incident themselves (42%). A further 27% said they did not regard the incident as serious (see table 4.6).

VIOLENCE BY CURRENT PARTNERS

2.6% of women who were married or in a de facto relationship (111,000) experienced an incident of violence by their partner in the previous 12 month period, while 8.0% (345,400) reported an incident of violence at some time during their current relationship. Women were more at risk of physical violence than sexual violence by their partner. 7.6% of married women (329,700) reported an incident of physical violence by their partner at some time during the relationship and 1.0% (43,900) an incident of sexual violence (see table 6.4).

Half of the women who had experienced violence by their current partner said there had been more than one incident, 7.4% said it occurred often, while 26% said it occurred only rarely (see table 6.7).

2.6 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE BY THEIR CURRENT MALE PARTNER



VIOLENCE BY PREVIOUS PARTNERS

3.3% of women experienced violence from a previous partner during the previous 12 month period. Many of these will no longer be in contact with this partner. When violence over the whole relationship is considered, women were much more likely to have experienced violence from a partner they no longer live with than from a current partner. 42% of women (1.1 million) who had been in a previous relationship reported an incident of violence by a previous partner compared to 8.0% of women who reported violence from a current partner during the relationship. Women were more at risk of physical violence than sexual violence. 42% of women who had been in a previous relationship had experienced physical violence and 10% had experienced sexual violence (see table 6.4).

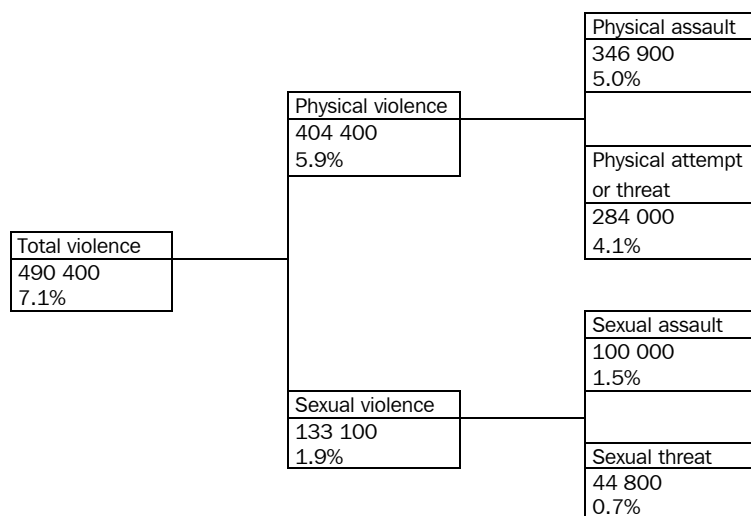
Approximately 700,000 women who experienced violence by a partner in a previous relationship were pregnant at some time during the relationship. 42% of these women (292,100) reported that violence occurred during a pregnancy and 20% experienced violence for the first time when they were pregnant (see table 6.13).

Violence which occurs between partners in a home may affect the children who also live in the home. 68% of women who experienced violence by a previous partner reported that they had children in their care at some time during the relationship (682,200) and 46% (461,200) said that these children had witnessed the violence (see table 6.3).

VIOLENCE DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS

93% of women aged 18 and over in Australia (6.4 million) did not experience an incident of violence in the 12 months before the survey, while 7.1% (490,400) did. 404,400 women (5.9%) experienced physical violence and 133,100 women (1.9%) experienced sexual violence. 47,100 women had experienced both physical and sexual violence on separate occasions.

3.1 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE(a)—during the last 12 months



(a) A woman could have experienced both physical and sexual violence, as well as both assault and threat. The components when added may therefore be larger than the total.

Women were nearly four times more likely to experience violence by a man than by a woman. 429,900 women experienced one or more incidents of violence by a man in the previous 12 month period, compared to 110,700 who experienced violence by a woman. Sexual violence by a woman was an uncommon occurrence (see table 3.7).

PHYSICAL VIOLENCE DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS

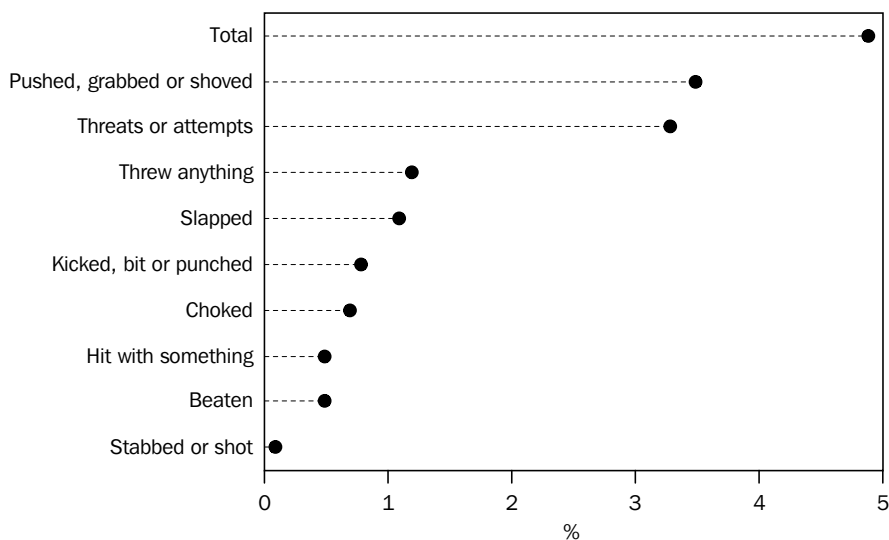
338,700 women (4.9%) experienced physical violence by a man in the previous 12 month period. 293,500 (4.3%) had actually been assaulted, while 3.3% of women experienced attempted or threatened physical assault (see table 3.7). 15% of women (61,800) who experienced physical violence in the previous 12 month period reported incidents by more than one perpetrator (see table 3.8).

Incidents of violence may involve one or more actions on the part of the perpetrator. When physical violence by a man occurred, women were more likely to be pushed, grabbed, shoved or threatened than they were to be choked or beaten. 3.5% of women had been pushed, grabbed or shoved in the previous 12 month period and 3.3% reported violence involving an attempt or threat, while 0.7% had been choked and 0.5% had been beaten. Furthermore, 13% of incidents of physical violence by a man involved a

threat or attempt only with a further 31% involving pushing, grabbing or shoving either alone, or in conjunction with a threat or attempt (see table 3.9).

Women were less likely to experience physical violence by a woman than a man (1.6% compared to 4.9%). Furthermore, 23% of incidents of female physical violence involved threats and attempts only compared to 13% of incidents of male physical violence (see tables 3.9 and 3.10).

3.2 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF PHYSICAL VIOLENCE BY A MAN DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS, Type of Physical Violence in the Last Incident



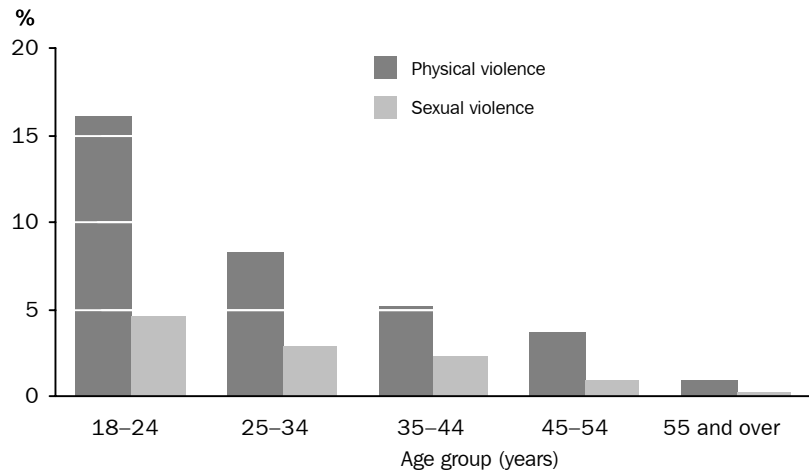
SEXUAL VIOLENCE DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS

In the previous 12 month period 133,100 women (1.9%) experienced sexual violence by either a man or a woman. Of these, three-quarters had been sexually assaulted and one-third had been threatened. The majority of women had experienced sexual assault or threat by a man (98% of sexual assaults and 100% of sexual threats) (see table 3.7). 13% of women who experienced sexual violence in the previous 12 month period (17,100) reported incidents by more than one perpetrator (see table 3.8).

AGE

Younger women are more at risk of violence than older women. 19% of women aged 18–24 had experienced one or more incidents of violence in the previous 12 month period compared to 6.8% of women aged 35–44 and 1.2% of women aged 55 and over. The same pattern is evident for both physical and sexual violence (see table 3.11).

3.3 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE—during the last 12 months

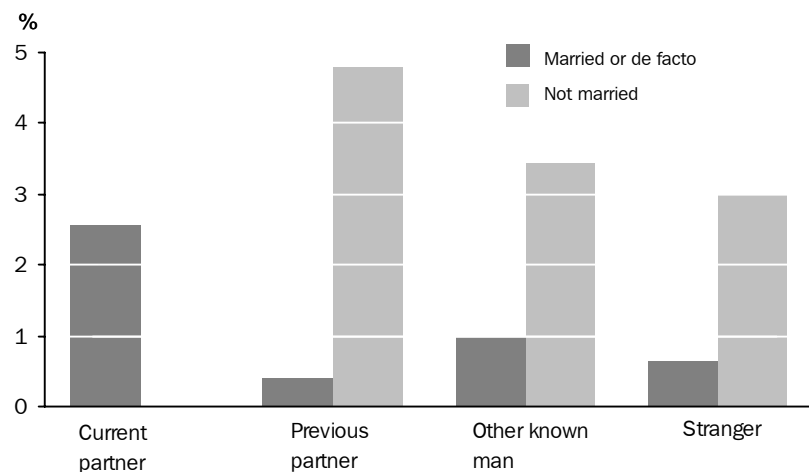


RELATIONSHIP TO PERPETRATOR

Women who were married or in a de facto relationship were less likely to experience violence by a man than those who were not married. 4.0% of women with a current partner experienced violence by either their partner or another man in the previous 12 month period, compared to 10% of women who were not married. This pattern was observed for both physical and sexual violence (see table 3.13).

The likelihood of a woman experiencing violence, by someone she knows or a stranger, differed according to whether she had a partner or not. Women who were married or in a de facto relationship were more likely to have experienced violence by their partner than another man known to them or a stranger (2.6%, 1.0% and 0.7% respectively). Among women who were not married, those most at risk of violence were women who had a previous partner. 4.8% of these women experienced violence from their previous partner in the previous 12 month period. Women who were not married also had at least three times the chance of experiencing physical or sexual violence from strangers and other known men, than women with a current partner (see table 3.13).

3.4 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY A MAN DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS, Relationship to Perpetrator

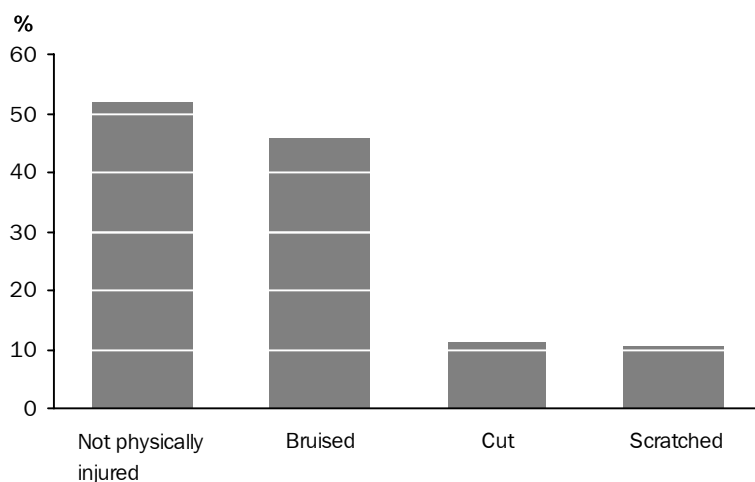


PHYSICAL INJURIES SUSTAINED

48% of women who were physically assaulted by a man in the previous 12 month period were physically injured in the last incident. The most common injuries sustained were bruises, cuts and scratches (see table 3.14). Those women who were not physically injured reflect the different types of physical assault experienced, particularly the proportion who were pushed, grabbed, shoved or threatened only.

22% of women who experienced sexual assault by a man in the previous 12 month period were injured in the last incident, with bruises being the most common injury. While a sexual assault had to involve force, this may have been physical force, or coercion, including the threat of physical harm to the woman or her children.

3.5 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED PHYSICAL ASSAULT BY A MAN DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS, Whether Physically Injured in the Last Incident



LOCATION OF INCIDENT

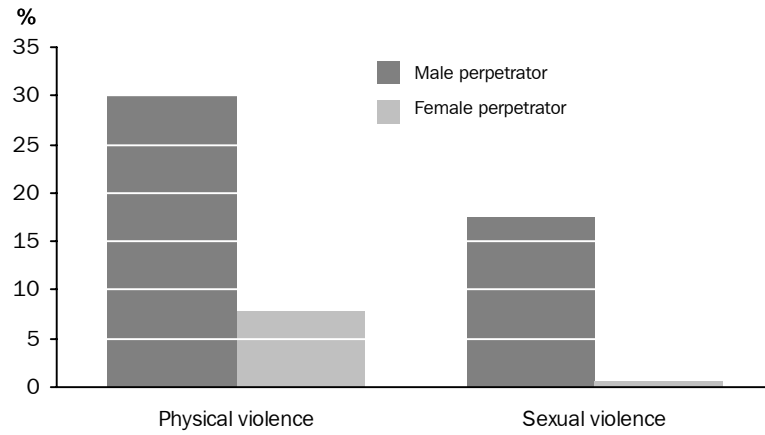
Women experiencing violence by a man other than a partner were more at risk of violence in a home than in any other location. In the previous 12 month period, 35% of incidents of physical assault by a man other than a partner occurred in a home, as did 55% of sexual assaults (see table 3.15). A significant proportion of incidents of physical assault also occurred in the open (19%). Location of violence which was perpetrated by partners was not collected. If this was included, the proportion of incidents which occurred in a home would be likely to increase considerably. The largest proportion of incidents of physical assault by a woman occurred in licensed premises, such as hotels and bars (37%).

VIOLENCE DURING A LIFETIME

The survey also collected information about women's experience of violence since the age of 15. 2.6 million women (38%) had experienced one or more incidents of violence since the age of 15. 2.2 million (33%) had experienced physical violence and 1.2 million (18%) had experienced sexual violence (see table 3.7). 2.5 million women (36%) had experienced violence by a man during their lifetime and 563,000 (8%) had experienced violence by a woman.

Of those women who experienced physical violence since the age of 15, one-third (735,500) experienced more than one incident, while 45% of women who experienced sexual violence (547,000) experienced more than one incident (see table 3.17).

3.6 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE—since the age of 15



3.7 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE

<i>Experience of violence</i>	<i>Male perpetrator....</i>		<i>Female perpetrator...</i>		<i>Total(a).....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS						
Not experienced	6 450.6	93.8	6 769.8	98.4	6 390.1	92.9
Experienced						
Physical violence						
Physical assault	293.5	4.3	84.3	1.2	346.9	5.0
Attempt or threat	228.1	3.3	88.8	1.3	284.0	4.1
<i>Total(b)</i>	338.7	4.9	109.1	1.6	404.4	5.9
Sexual violence						
Sexual assault	98.4	1.4	**	**	100.0	1.5
Threat	44.8	0.7	**	**	44.8	0.7
<i>Total(b)</i>	132.3	1.9	**	**	133.1	1.9
<i>Total(c)</i>	429.9	6.2	110.7	1.6	490.4	7.1
Total women	6 880.5	100.0	6 880.5	100.0	6 880.5	100.0
SINCE THE AGE OF 15						
Not experienced	4 374.5	63.6	6 317.5	91.8	4 240.9	61.6
Experienced						
Physical violence						
Physical assault	1 856.8	27.0	455.6	6.6	2 014.7	29.3
Attempt or threat	1 518.5	22.1	412.5	6.0	1 688.1	24.5
<i>Total(b)</i>	2 069.8	30.1	538.3	7.8	2 239.9	32.6
Sexual violence						
Sexual assault	1 046.6	15.2	36.1	0.5	1 064.9	15.5
Threat	334.2	4.9	*6.1	*0.1	338.6	4.9
<i>Total(b)</i>	1 209.2	17.6	41.4	0.6	1 228.4	17.9
<i>Total(c)</i>	2 506.0	36.4	563.0	8.2	2 639.7	38.4
Total women	6 880.5	100.0	6 880.5	100.0	6 880.5	100.0

(a) If a woman experienced violence by both a male and a female perpetrator she was only counted once in the total.

(b) If a woman experienced more than one type of violence she was only counted once in the total.

(c) If a woman experienced both physical and sexual violence she was only counted once in the total.

3.8 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE(a) DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS, Number of Perpetrators

Number of perpetrators	Physical violence..		Sexual violence....		Total(b).....	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
One perpetrator	342.6	84.7	116.0	87.1	381.4	77.8
More than one perpetrator	61.8	15.3	*17.1	*12.9	109.1	22.2
Total	404.4	100.0	133.1	100.0	490.4	100.0

(a) Includes violence by a male and/or female perpetrator.

(b) If a woman experienced physical violence by one perpetrator and sexual violence by one perpetrator she was counted as more than one perpetrator in the total.

3.9 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED PHYSICAL VIOLENCE DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS, Type of Physical Violence in the Last Incident

Type of physical violence	Male perpetrator.....		Female perpetrator		Total(a).....	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Threatened or attempted assault only	45.2	13.3	24.8	22.7	57.5	14.2
Pushed, grabbed or shoved only	57.9	17.1	*8.3	*7.6	59.5	14.7
Both threatened or attempted assault and pushed, grabbed or shoved(b)	46.2	13.6	*9.1	*8.3	52.9	13.1
Other physical assault	189.4	55.9	66.9	61.4	234.6	58.0
Total	338.7	100.0	109.1	100.0	404.4	100.0

(a) If a woman experienced violence by a male and a female perpetrator she was only counted once in the total.

(b) Not in association with other types of physical assault.

3.10 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF PHYSICAL VIOLENCE DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS, Type of Physical Violence in the Last Incident

Type of physical violence	Male perpetrator.....		Female perpetrator.....	
	'000	rate(a)	'000	rate(a)
Threatened or attempted to				
Hit with a fist or anything else	177.1	2.6	73.7	1.1
Stab/shoot	*18.7	*0.3	**3.6	**0.1
Other	87.4	1.3	31.8	0.5
Total(b)	228.1	3.3	88.8	1.3
Pushed, grabbed or shoved	241.6	3.5	45.0	0.7
Threw anything that could hurt	82.8	1.2	22.5	0.3
Slapped	74.6	1.1	24.2	0.4
Kicked, bit or punched	57.5	0.8	28.0	0.4
Hit with something else	36.5	0.5	*5.6	*0.1
Beaten	32.0	0.5	*7.6	*0.1
Choked	46.3	0.7	**	**
Stabbed /shot	*4.3	*0.1	**	**
Other	42.0	0.6	*16.4	*0.2
Total(b)	338.7	4.9	109.1	1.6

(a) Rate per 100 women (6.9 million women).

(b) If a woman experienced more than one type of physical violence she was only counted once in the total.

3.11 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE(a) DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS, Socio-demographic Characteristics of Women

Socio-demographic characteristics of women	Physical violence..		Sexual violence...		Total(b).....		Total women in each group(c)
	'000	rate(d)	'000	rate(d)	'000	rate(d)	
AGE GROUP (YEARS)							
18–24	152.5	16.1	43.6	4.6	178.5	18.9	945.2
25–34	119.6	8.3	42.1	2.9	144.2	10.0	1 440.2
35–44	71.9	5.2	31.5	2.3	94.2	6.8	1 376.3
45–54	42.5	3.6	*10.4	*0.9	50.1	4.3	1 166.6
55 and over	*18.0	*0.9	*5.5	*0.3	23.4	1.2	1 952.2
All age groups	404.4	5.9	133.1	1.9	490.4	7.1	6 880.5
BIRTHPLACE							
Born in Australia	330.0	6.5	113.5	2.2	399.3	7.9	5 083.1
Born outside Australia							
Main English speaking country	37.8	4.9	*9.5	*1.2	45.1	5.8	778.8
Other country	36.6	3.6	*10.1	*1.0	46.0	4.5	1 018.7
Total	74.4	4.1	*19.6	*1.1	91.1	5.1	1 797.4
Total	404.4	5.9	133.1	1.9	490.4	7.1	6 880.5
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT							
Without post-school qualifications	215.3	5.3	60.3	1.5	255.7	6.3	4 076.6
With post-school qualifications							
Degree or higher	37.5	4.9	*17.0	*2.2	53.8	7.0	771.8
Diploma	52.9	8.2	*19.6	*3.0	64.6	10.0	649.1
Vocational qualification	89.5	6.8	35.4	2.7	106.4	8.1	1 320.5
Total(e)	189.1	6.7	72.8	2.6	234.7	8.4	2 803.9
Total	404.4	5.9	133.1	1.9	490.4	7.1	6 880.5
LABOUR FORCE STATUS							
Employed							
Working full-time	125.6	6.5	39.8	2.1	152.5	7.9	1,936.1
Working part-time	122.8	7.2	42.1	2.5	150.8	8.8	1,706.4
Total	248.4	6.8	81.9	2.2	303.3	8.3	3,642.5
Unemployed	31.3	11.5	*18.1	*6.6	43.7	16.1	272.5
Not in the labour force	124.8	4.2	33.1	1.1	143.4	4.8	2,965.6
Total	404.4	5.9	133.1	1.9	490.4	7.1	6,880.5

(a) Includes violence by a male and/or female perpetrator.

(b) If a woman experienced both physical and sexual violence she was only counted once in the total.

(c) Includes women who did not experience violence.

(d) Rate per 100 women in the relevant population. See last column for the numbers of women in each group.

(e) Includes secondary qualifications.

3.12 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE(a) BY A MAN DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS, Marital Status

Experience of violence	AGE GROUP (YEARS).....					
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	15 and over	All age groups
.....						
MARRIED/DE FACTO (%)						
Not experienced	90.0	94.1	96.0	96.3	98.8	96.0
Experienced	10.0	5.9	4.0	3.7	*1.2	4.0
<i>Total</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
.....						
MARRIED/DE FACTO ('000)						
<i>Total women</i>	239.1	1,023.2	1,069.5	922.8	1,063.7	4,318.3
.....						
NOT MARRIED (%)						
Not experienced	81.4	84.9	87.2	94.7	99.0	90.0
Experienced	18.6	15.1	12.8	*5.3	*1.0	10.0
<i>Total</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
.....						
NOT MARRIED ('000)						
<i>Total women</i>	706.2	417.0	306.7	243.8	888.5	2,562.3
.....						
TOTAL WOMEN (%)						
Not experienced	83.5	91.4	94.1	96.0	98.9	93.8
Experienced	16.5	8.6	5.9	4.0	*1.1	6.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
.....						
TOTAL WOMEN ('000)						
Total women	945.2	1,440.2	1,376.3	1,166.6	1,952.2	6,880.5

(a) Includes physical and sexual violence.

3.13 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE BY A MAN DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS, Relationship to Perpetrator

Relationship to perpetrator	Physical violence....		Sexual violence....		Total(a).....		Total women in each group(b)
	'000	rate(c)	'000	rate(c)	'000	rate(c)	
MARRIED/DE FACTO							
Current partner	104.6	2.4	*12.4	*0.3	111.0	2.6	4 318.3
Previous partner	**4.0	**0.4	**	**	**4.0	**0.4	900.8
Other known man	31.2	0.7	*11.4	*0.3	42.6	1.0	4 318.3
Stranger	*19.8	*0.5	*13.3	*0.3	28.4	0.7	4 318.3
Total(d)	151.0	3.5	37.4	0.9	173.8	4.0	4 318.3
NOT MARRIED							
Current partner	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Previous partner	71.8	4.4	*16.5	*1.0	79.8	4.8	1 645.9
Boyfriend/date	27.3	..	*22.0	..	48.5	..	..
Other known man	55.0	2.1	32.9	1.3	88.0	3.4	2 562.3
Stranger	47.5	1.9	32.4	1.3	77.0	3.0	2 562.3
Total(d)	187.7	7.3	94.9	3.7	256.1	10.0	2 562.3
TOTAL WOMEN							
Current partner	104.6	2.4	*12.4	*0.3	111.0	2.6	4 318.3
Previous partner	75.8	3.0	*16.5	*0.6	83.8	3.3	2 546.7
Boyfriend/date	27.3	..	23.8	..	50.3	..	..
Other known man	86.3	1.3	44.4	0.6	130.6	1.9	6 880.5
Stranger	67.3	1.0	45.8	0.7	105.4	1.5	6 880.5
Total(d)	338.7	4.9	132.3	1.9	429.9	6.2	6 880.5

(a) If a woman experienced both physical and sexual violence she was only counted once in the total.

(b) Includes women who did not experience violence.

(c) Rate per 100 women in the relevant population. See last column for the numbers of women in each group.

(d) If a woman experienced violence by more than one perpetrator she was only counted once in the total.

3.14 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED ASSAULT, Whether Physically Injured in the Last Incident

<i>Whether physically injured</i>	MALE PERPETRATOR.....				FEMALE PERPETRATOR....	
	<i>Physical assault.....</i>		<i>Sexual assault</i>		<i>Physical assault.....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
.....						
DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS						
Not physically injured	152.6	52.0	76.4	77.6	45.6	54.1
Physically injured						
Bruised	134.3	45.8	*21.4	*21.7	35.7	42.4
Cut	32.8	11.2	**	**	*5.6	*6.6
Scratched	31.0	10.6	**3.5	**3.5	*6.3	*7.5
Other(a)	27.5	9.4	*5.6	*5.7	*6.4	*7.6
Total(b)	140.9	48.0	*22.0	*22.4	38.7	45.9
Total	293.5	100.0	98.4	100.0	84.3	100.0
.....						
SINCE THE AGE OF 15						
Not physically injured	695.3	46.5	572.7	74.0	180.0	47.0
Physically injured						
Bruised	748.0	50.0	184.7	23.9	168.0	43.8
Cut	169.2	11.3	30.0	3.9	52.1	13.6
Scratched	142.1	9.5	36.3	4.7	65.5	17.1
Other(a)	194.0	13.0	50.3	6.5	41.4	10.8
Total(b)	800.5	53.5	201.5	26.0	203.1	53.0
Total(c)	1 495.8	100.0	774.2	100.0	383.1	100.0

(a) Includes fractured or broken bones or teeth, penetrative injuries, stab or gun shot wounds, miscarriage and other injuries.

(b) If a woman reported more than one type of injury she was only counted once in the total.

(c) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

3.15 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED ASSAULT BY A PERPETRATOR OTHER THAN A PARTNER(a), Location of the Last Incident

Location	MALE PERPETRATOR.....				FEMALE PERPETRATOR.....	
	Physical assault.....		Sexual assault.....		Physical assault.....	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS						
In a home	46.9	35.4	40.8	55.5	*19.1	*22.6
In the open	24.6	18.6	**3.9	**5.4	*8.4	*10.0
At woman's workplace	*22.0	*16.6	*6.0	*8.2	*19.2	*22.7
At licensed premises	30.3	22.8	*15.6	*21.3	31.3	37.1
Other(b)	*8.8	*6.6	*7.1	*9.7	*6.3	*7.5
Total	132.6	100.0	73.5	100.0	84.3	100.0
SINCE THE AGE OF 15						
In a home	252.6	44.6	340.0	60.7	127.7	34.0
In the open	118.6	20.9	53.4	9.5	75.0	20.0
At woman's workplace	65.5	11.5	28.7	5.1	41.2	11.0
At licensed premises	65.0	11.5	43.1	7.7	89.1	23.7
In a private vehicle	*11.9	*2.1	55.6	9.9	*6.0	*1.6
Using public transport	*12.6	*2.2	*7.5	*1.3	*6.3	*1.7
Other(c)	40.7	7.2	32.0	5.7	30.3	8.1
Total(d)	566.9	100.0	560.3	100.0	375.7	100.0

(a) Location was not collected for incidents by partners.

(b) Includes in a private vehicle, using public transport and other.

(c) Includes institutions for female perpetrators only.

(d) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

3.16 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY A MAN, Whether Alcohol was Involved in the Last Incident

<i>Involvement of alcohol</i>	<i>Physical assault</i>		<i>Physical attempt or threat only.....</i>		<i>Total physical violence.....</i>		<i>Sexual assault....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS								
Alcohol was not involved	157.8	53.8	24.8	54.9	182.6	53.9	59.3	60.2
Alcohol was involved	124.3	42.4	*14.8	*32.7	139.1	41.1	37.5	38.1
Total(a)	293.5	100.0	45.2	100.0	338.7	100.0	98.4	100.0
SINCE THE AGE OF 15(b)								
Alcohol was not involved	760.3	50.8	120.6	48.2	880.8	50.4	385.8	49.8
Alcohol was involved	674.0	45.1	94.6	37.8	768.6	44.0	347.6	44.9
Total(a)	1 495.8	100.0	250.2	100.0	1 746.0	100.0	774.2	100.0

(a) Includes incidents where the woman did not know if alcohol was involved.

(b) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

3.17 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE(a) SINCE THE AGE OF 15, Number of Incidents

<i>Number of incidents</i>	<i>Physical violence....</i>		<i>Sexual violence.....</i>		<i>Total(b).....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
One incident	1 504.3	67.2	681.3	55.5	1 278.6	48.4
More than one incident	735.5	32.8	547.0	44.5	1 361.1	51.6
Total	2 239.9	100.0	1 228.4	100.0	2 639.7	100.0

(a) Includes violence by a male and/or female perpetrator.

(b) If a woman experienced one incident of physical violence and one incident of sexual violence she was counted as more than one incident in the total.

3.18 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE SINCE THE AGE OF 15, Relationship to Perpetrator

Relationship to perpetrator	MALE PERPETRATOR.....				TOTAL(a).....			
	Physical violence.....		Sexual violence.....		Physical violence.....		Sexual violence.....	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Current partner	329.7	15.9	43.9	3.6	329.7	14.7	43.9	3.6
Previous partner	1 060.3	51.2	260.1	21.5	1 065.4	47.6	260.1	21.2
Boyfriend/girlfriend/date	222.8	10.8	412.6	34.1	227.9	10.2	412.6	33.6
Other known man/woman								
Family member	222.4	10.7	100.8	8.3	305.3	13.6	101.6	8.3
Friend	169.3	8.2	320.0	26.5	322.7	14.4	339.7	27.7
Boss/co-worker	40.2	1.9	89.3	7.4	68.7	3.1	94.0	7.7
Other(b)	78.1	3.8	60.1	5.0	130.4	5.8	65.2	5.3
Total(c)	485.7	23.5	517.2	42.8	756.5	33.8	539.0	43.9
Stranger	320.5	15.5	269.8	22.3	450.0	20.1	278.6	22.7
Total(d)	2 069.8	100.0	1 209.2	100.0	2 239.9	100.0	1 228.4	100.0

(a) Includes violence by female perpetrators. If a woman experienced violence by both a male and female perpetrator she was only counted once in the total.

(b) Includes professionals and other.

(c) If a woman experienced violence by more than one other known man/woman she was only counted once in the total.

(d) If a woman experienced violence by more than one perpetrator she was only counted once in the total.

3.19 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE(a) SINCE THE AGE OF 15, Experience of Abuse When a Child

Experience of violence	EXPERIENCED ABUSE WHEN A CHILD.....									
	No child abuse experienced.....		Physical abuse...		Sexual abuse.....		Total(b).....		Total.....	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Not experienced	3 958.9	93.4	139.3	3.3	199.8	4.7	281.9	6.6	4 240.9	100.0
Experienced										
Physical violence	1 575.6	70.3	398.4	17.8	462.9	20.7	664.3	29.7	2 239.9	100.0
Sexual violence	803.9	65.4	239.9	19.5	329.0	26.8	424.5	34.6	1 228.4	100.0
Total(c)	1 879.9	71.2	439.1	16.6	538.6	20.4	759.8	28.8	2 639.7	100.0
Total	5 838.8	84.9	578.3	8.4	738.3	10.7	1 041.7	15.1	6 880.5	100.0

(a) Includes violence by a male and/or female perpetrator.

(b) If a woman experienced both physical and sexual abuse she was only counted once in the total.

(c) If a woman experienced both physical and sexual violence she was only counted once in the total.

3.20 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY A MAN, When the Incident Occurred

When incident occurred	AGE GROUP (YEARS).....					All age groups
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	
PHYSICAL VIOLENCE (%)						
During the last 12 months	35.8	18.3	12.1	10.4	*5.3	16.4
1 year to less than 5 years	57.6	35.2	31.4	14.5	7.2	30.1
5 years to less than 10 years	15.3	38.4	22.8	16.1	9.7	22.4
10 years to less than 20 years	..	21.7	32.5	38.9	23.8	24.0
20 years or more	..	..	15.3	31.1	58.9	18.2
Total(a)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHYSICAL VIOLENCE ('000)						
Total	347.6	543.3	487.6	377.7	313.6	2 069.8
SEXUAL VIOLENCE (%)						
During the last 12 months	25.9	12.5	11.3	*4.3	*2.9	10.9
1 year to less than 5 years	53.3	29.5	16.7	11.4	*7.8	22.8
5 years to less than 10 years	29.9	35.9	15.2	11.5	*8.2	21.0
10 years to less than 20 years	..	41.2	42.8	33.6	15.5	30.2
20 years or more	..	..	33.0	51.2	78.9	30.3
Total(a)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
SEXUAL VIOLENCE ('000)						
Total	168.6	330.0	278.1	241.5	191.0	1 209.2
TOTAL(b) (%)						
During the last 12 months	37.5	18.8	14.2	10.3	5.5	17.2
1 year to less than 5 years	57.8	38.1	29.9	16.2	8.9	30.8
5 years to less than 10 years	23.0	43.3	23.4	17.8	9.5	25.3
10 years to less than 20 years	..	34.2	41.0	42.2	21.9	29.6
20 years or more	..	..	25.4	44.3	70.9	25.3
Total(a)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
TOTAL(b) ('000)						
Total	414.5	657.4	576.0	455.7	402.3	2 506.0

(a) If a woman experienced violence in more than one time period she was only counted once in the total.

(b) If a woman experienced both physical and sexual violence she was only counted once in the total.

3.21 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY A MAN SINCE THE AGE OF 15, Relationship to Perpetrator in the Last Incident

Relationship to perpetrator	Physical assault		Physical attempt or threat only.....		Total physical violence.....		Sexual assault.....		Sexual threat.....	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Current partner	251.9	16.8	*21.7	*8.7	273.6	15.7	37.3	4.8	*7.5	*3.1
Previous partner										
Living with at the time	559.2	37.4	41.8	16.7	601.0	34.4	145.6	18.8	36.6	15.1
Not living with at the time	117.8	7.9	*14.2	*5.7	132.0	7.6	31.0	4.0	*11.0	*4.5
Total	677.0	45.3	56.1	22.4	733.0	42.0	176.5	22.8	47.6	19.7
Boyfriend date	155.2	10.4	*8.6	*3.5	163.8	9.4	215.5	27.8	31.8	13.1
Other known man										
Family member	92.4	6.2	*20.6	*8.2	113.0	6.5	30.6	3.9	*10.2	*4.2
Friend	79.8	5.3	38.9	15.5	118.7	6.8	173.2	22.4	34.8	14.4
Boss/co-worker	*17.5	*1.2	*8.1	*3.2	25.6	1.5	32.6	4.2	*13.2	*5.5
Other(a)	49.9	3.3	*18.0	*7.2	67.9	3.9	23.0	3.0	*10.9	*4.5
Total	239.7	16.0	85.6	34.2	325.3	18.6	259.4	33.5	69.2	28.6
Stranger	172.0	11.5	78.3	31.3	250.3	14.3	85.4	11.0	86.1	35.5
Total(b)	1 495.8	100.0	250.2	100.0	1 746.0	100.0	774.2	100.0	242.1	100.0

(a) Includes professionals and other.

(b) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

3.22 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED PHYSICAL VIOLENCE BY A WOMAN SINCE THE AGE OF 15, Relationship to Perpetrator in the Last Incident

Relationship to perpetrator	Physical assault.....		Physical attempt or threat only.....		Total physical violence.....	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Previous partner	*7.4	*1.9	**	**	*8.1	*1.8
Other known woman						
Family member	68.1	17.8	*5.0	*6.2	73.1	15.8
Friend	120.5	31.5	*20.6	*25.7	141.2	30.5
Boss/co-worker	*18.1	*4.7	**4.1	**5.1	22.2	4.8
Other(a)	37.3	9.7	*16.9	*21.1	54.2	11.7
Total	243.9	63.7	46.7	58.1	290.6	62.7
Stranger	131.7	34.4	33.0	41.1	164.8	35.5
Total(b)	383.1	100.0	80.4	100.0	463.5	100.0

(a) Includes girlfriend/date, professionals, prison wardens and other known women.

(b) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

3.23 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED PHYSICAL VIOLENCE, Type of Physical Violence in the Last Incident

Type of physical violence	Only one type of physical violence..		More than one type of physical violence(a).....		Total(a).....	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
MALE PERPETRATOR						
Threatened or attempted to						
Hit with a fist or anything else	121.7	19.2	774.6	69.7	896.4	51.3
Stab with a knife	*13.6	*2.1	60.5	5.4	74.1	4.2
Shoot with a gun	32.2	5.1	77.9	7.0	110.1	6.3
Other	59.6	9.4	386.4	34.8	445.9	25.5
Total(a)	227.0	35.8	953.7	85.8	1 180.7	67.6
Pushed, grabbed or shoved	249.4	39.3	849.1	76.4	1 098.4	62.9
Slapped	44.8	7.1	398.2	35.8	443.0	25.4
Kicked, bit or punched	33.0	5.2	339.6	30.6	372.6	21.3
Threw anything that could hurt	42.9	6.8	322.1	29.0	364.9	20.9
Beaten	*5.0	*0.8	274.6	24.7	279.5	16.0
Hit with something	*12.7	*2.0	174.8	15.7	187.6	10.7
Choked	**3.0	**0.5	181.9	16.4	184.8	10.6
Stabbed/shot	**3.0	**0.5	*19.9	*1.8	22.9	1.3
Other	*14.0	*2.2	246.5	22.2	260.5	14.9
Total(b)	634.7	100.0	1 111.3	100.0	1 746.0	100.0
FEMALE PERPETRATOR						
Threatened or attempted to						
Hit with a fist or anything else	44.9	29.3	231.0	74.5	275.9	59.5
Stabbed/shot	**4.1	**2.7	*17.2	*5.5	*21.3	*4.6
Other	*21.8	*14.2	118.7	38.3	140.4	30.3
Total(a)	70.8	46.2	270.9	87.3	341.7	73.7
Pushed, grabbed or shoved	39.3	25.6	201.4	64.9	240.7	51.9
Slapped	*20.0	*13.0	134.7	43.4	154.7	33.4
Kicked, bit or punched	*8.2	*5.4	138.4	44.6	146.7	31.6
Threw anything that could hurt	**3.7	**2.4	76.5	24.7	80.2	17.3
Beaten	**	**	57.0	18.4	57.7	12.5
Hit with something else	**	**	50.3	16.2	53.1	11.5
Choked	**	**	26.5	8.6	26.5	5.7
Stabbed/shot	**3.9	**2.6	*6.3	*2.0	*10.3	*2.2
Other	**3.9	**2.5	66.7	21.5	70.6	15.2
Total(b)	153.4	100.0	310.1	100.0	463.5	100.0

(a) If a woman reported more than one type of physical violence she was only counted once in the total.

(b) Excludes women whose last incident of physical violence occurred more than 20 years ago.

3.24 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED ASSAULT BY A MAN SINCE THE AGE OF 15, Relationship to Perpetrator in the Last Incident

<i>Whether physically injured</i>	<i>Current partner..</i>		<i>Previous partner</i>		<i>Boyfriend/date....</i>		<i>Other known man</i>		<i>Stranger.....</i>		<i>Total.....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
PHYSICAL ASSAULT												
Not physically injured	173.0	68.7	239.6	35.4	68.0	43.8	115.6	48.2	99.2	57.6	695.3	46.5
Physically injured												
Bruised	74.1	29.4	417.0	61.6	75.7	48.8	114.5	47.8	66.7	38.8	748.0	50.0
Cut	*18.3	*7.3	97.7	14.4	*16.7	*10.8	24.0	10.0	*12.4	*7.2	169.2	11.3
Scratched	*12.7	*5.0	72.9	10.8	*15.0	*9.6	*19.0	*7.9	22.5	13.1	142.1	9.5
Other(a)	*15.0	*6.0	115.9	17.1	*15.2	*9.8	25.6	10.7	22.2	12.9	194.0	13.0
Total(b)	78.9	31.3	437.4	64.6	87.2	56.2	124.1	51.8	72.9	42.4	800.5	53.5
Total(c)	251.9	100.0	677.0	100.0	155.2	100.0	239.7	100.0	172.0	100.0	1 495.8	100.0
SEXUAL ASSAULT												
Not physically injured	34.5	92.4	89.8	50.9	177.5	82.4	211.0	81.4	59.9	70.1	572.7	74.0
Physically injured												
Bruised	**2.1	**5.7	84.7	48.0	33.4	15.5	42.7	16.5	21.8	25.5	184.7	23.9
Cut	**	**	*11.1	*6.3	*4.9	*2.3	*8.1	*3.1	*5.8	*6.8	30.0	3.9
Scratched	**	**	*11.4	*6.4	*10.9	*5.0	*8.0	*3.1	*6.1	*7.1	36.3	4.7
Other(a)	**	**	26.4	15.0	*7.6	*3.5	*6.7	*2.6	*8.8	*10.3	50.3	6.5
Total(b)	**2.8	**7.6	86.7	49.1	38.0	17.6	48.4	18.6	25.6	29.9	201.5	26.0
Total(c)	37.3	100.0	176.5	100.0	215.5	100.0	259.4	100.0	85.4	100.0	774.2	100.0

(a) Includes fractured or broken bones or teeth, penetrative injuries, stab or gun shot wounds, miscarriage and other injuries.

(b) If a woman experienced more than one type of injury she was only counted once in the total.

(c) Excludes women whose last incident of physical violence occurred more than 20 years ago.

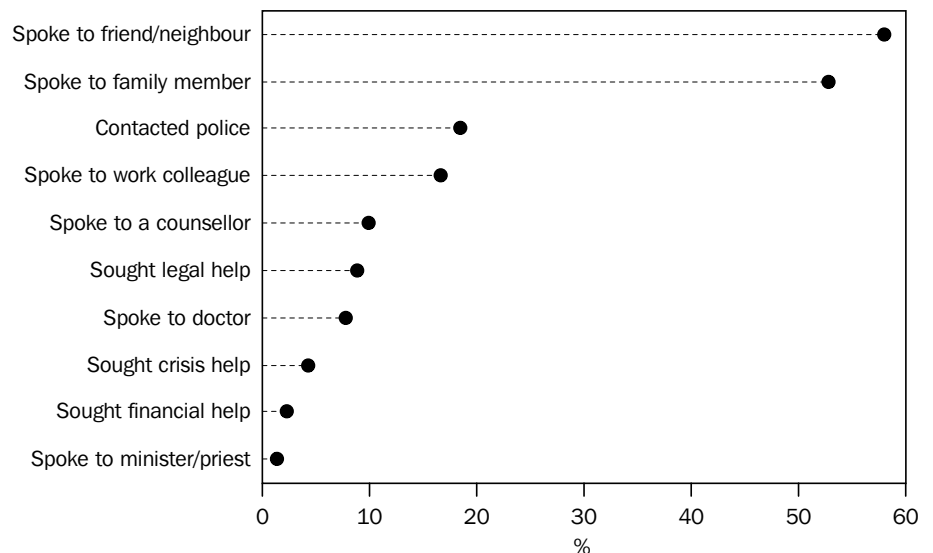
ASSAULT DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS

There are a range of actions that a woman can take as a result of an incident of violence including: contacting the police, seeking advice or support from a professional, such as a doctor, counsellor or religious minister, contacting a service provider, for crisis, legal or financial assistance, or speaking to other people, such as family and friends.

Of women who experienced a physical assault by a man in the previous 12 month period, 54,400 (19%) said they reported the last incident to the police, as did 14,700 (15%) of women who were sexually assaulted (see table 4.7).

The main action taken after experiencing an assault by a man was talking to other people, particularly family and friends. 58% of women who were physically assaulted (170,500) discussed their experience with a friend or neighbour and 53% spoke to a family member (155,600). Of those who were sexually assaulted 59% spoke to a friend or neighbour (58,000) and 32% spoke to a family member (31,300). 4.5% of women who were physically assaulted (13,200) contacted a crisis service organisation, as did 8.1% of women who were sexually assaulted (8,000).

4.1 WOMEN WHO WERE PHYSICALLY ASSAULTED BY A MAN DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS, Actions taken After the Last Incident



Many estimates relating to actions taken after an incident of assault in the previous 12 month period involve relatively small numbers which are subject to high relative standard errors. Therefore, the discussion in this chapter focuses on incidents which occurred since the age of 15. However, information about actions taken after incidents which occurred in the previous 12 month period are included in the tables for comparison.

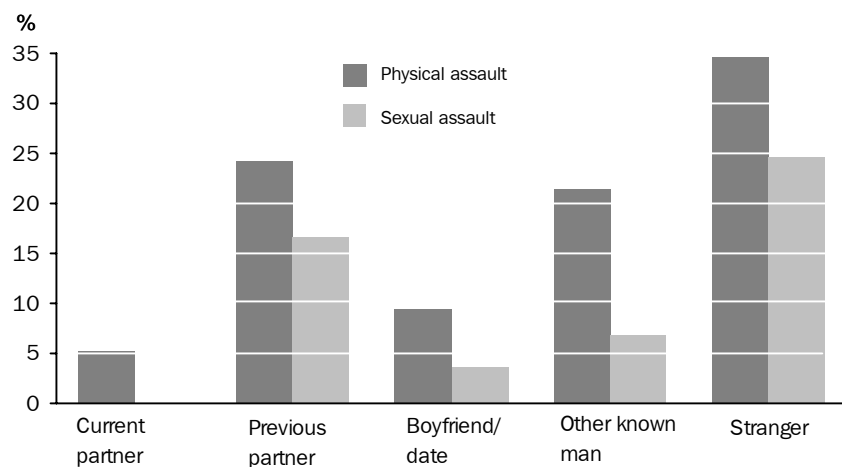
POLICE CONTACT

One-fifth of women who had ever experienced an incident of physical assault by a man had reported the last incident to the police (302,300). One-tenth of women who were sexually assaulted reported the last incident to the police (75,500). A small proportion of incidents were reported to the police by somebody else (see table 4.5).

The main reasons that women gave for not telling the police were because they dealt with the incident themselves or they did not regard it as serious. For women who did not report the offence to the police, about 40% of those who were physically or sexually assaulted said they did not contact the police because they dealt with it themselves. 24% of those who were physically assaulted and 14% of those sexually assaulted did not report the offence because they did not consider it a serious offence. 12% of those who were sexually assaulted said they did not report the last incident to the police because they were ashamed or embarrassed (see table 4.6).

Women were more likely to report incidents that were perpetrated by a stranger, than by somebody they knew. 35% of women who were physically assaulted by a stranger and 25% who were sexually assaulted by a stranger reported the incident. Women who experienced violence by a current partner were least likely to have reported the incident to the police.

4.2 WOMEN WHO REPORTED THE LAST INCIDENT OF ASSAULT BY A MAN TO THE POLICE, Relationship to Perpetrator



Women were more likely to report more serious incidents. 29% of women who were injured in the last incident of physical assault reported the incident to the police, compared to 10% who were not injured. The pattern was similar for incidents of sexual assault (see table 4.8).

Once an incident is reported to the police there is the possibility that the perpetrator will be charged and consequently appear in court. 28% of incidents of physical assault reported to the police and about 22% of incidents of sexual assault resulted in the perpetrator being charged (see table 4.11).

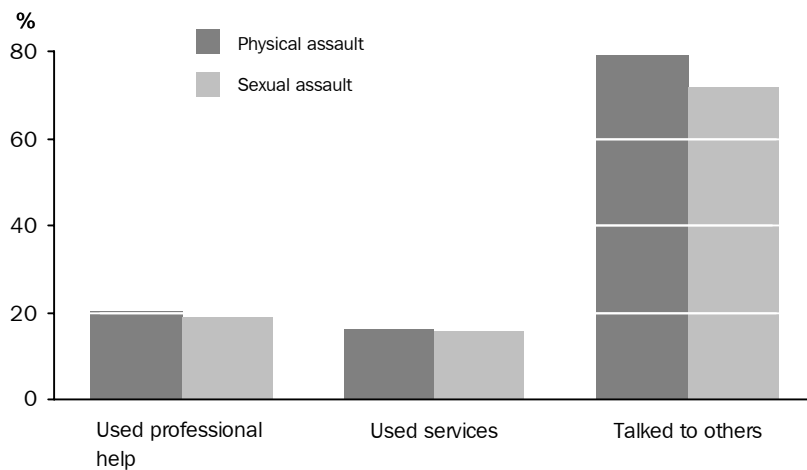
OTHER ACTION TAKEN

The main action taken after an incident of assault by a man was talking to other people, particularly family and friends. 79% of women who were physically assaulted and 71% who were sexually assaulted in the last 20 years discussed their last experience with family, friends or others (see table 4.13).

12% of women who experienced physical assault sought help from a doctor and the same proportion sought help from a counsellor. Among women who had experienced sexual assault, 8.5% sought help from a doctor and 13% sought help from a counsellor.

16% of women who were physically or sexually assaulted had contacted or visited a service provider for crisis, legal or financial assistance, as a result of the incident (see table 4.13). The most common reasons given for not using a service were that they dealt with the incident themselves or they did not think the incident was serious enough to seek help. In keeping with the fact that many women spoke to their family and friends about the incident, 12% who experienced physical assault said they received help from these people and did not need to contact a service provider (see table 4.15).

4.3 WOMEN WHO TOOK OTHER ACTIONS AS A RESULT OF THE LAST INCIDENT OF ASSAULT BY A MAN



ALL ACTION TAKEN

18% of women (267,100) who reported in the survey that they had experienced an incident of physical assault by a man and 22% who were sexually assaulted by a man (170,800) had never told anybody else about the incident, that is, they had taken no action. The proportion of women who experienced threatened or attempted physical assault who had not told anybody was slightly lower (12%) (see table 4.17). Women who experienced assault by their current partner were least likely to have told anybody about the incident (41% who experienced physical assault). In contrast, 5.3% of women who experienced physical assault by a stranger had not told anybody (see table 4.19).

4.4 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED ASSAULT BY A MAN SINCE THE AGE OF 15, When the Last Incident Occurred

<i>Whether police told</i>	<i>During the last 12 months.....</i>		<i>1 year to less than 5 years.....</i>		<i>5 years to less than 10 years.....</i>		<i>10 years to less than 20 years.....</i>		<i>Total(a).....</i>	
	<i>'000</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>'000</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>'000</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>'000</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>'000</i>	<i>%</i>
PHYSICAL ASSAULT										
Police not told	230.8	78.7	349.6	71.3	279.2	79.2	283.8	79.0	1 143.5	76.4
Police told(b)	62.7	21.3	140.5	28.7	73.5	20.8	75.6	21.0	352.3	23.6
Total	293.5	100.0	490.1	100.0	352.7	100.0	359.5	100.0	1 495.8	100.0
SEXUAL ASSAULT										
Police not told	83.8	85.1	187.7	86.8	183.7	91.9	231.1	89.0	686.3	88.6
Police told(b)	*14.7	*14.9	28.5	13.2	*16.3	*8.1	28.5	11.0	87.9	11.4
Total	98.4	100.0	216.2	100.0	200.0	100.0	259.6	100.0	774.2	100.0

(a) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

(b) Includes police told by woman or someone else.

4.5 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY A MAN SINCE THE AGE OF 15, Whether Police Told About the Last Incident

<i>Whether police told</i>	<i>Physical assault.....</i>		<i>Physical attempt or threat only.....</i>		<i>Total physical violence.....</i>		<i>Sexual assault.....</i>	
	<i>'000</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>'000</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>'000</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>'000</i>	<i>%</i>
Police not told	1 143.5	76.4	182.1	72.8	1 325.6	75.9	686.3	88.6
Police told								
By woman	302.3	20.2	60.1	24.0	362.4	20.8	75.5	9.8
By someone else	50.0	3.3	*8.0	*3.2	58.0	3.3	*12.3	*1.6
Total	352.3	23.6	68.1	27.2	420.4	24.1	87.9	11.4
Total(a)	1 495.8	100.0	250.2	100.0	1 746.0	100.0	774.2	100.0

(a) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

4.6 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED ASSAULT BY A MAN, Main Reason Police Not Told About the Last Incident

<i>Main reason police not told</i>	DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS.....				SINCE THE AGE OF 15(a).....			
	<i>Physical assault...</i>		<i>Sexual assault....</i>		<i>Physical assault.....</i>		<i>Sexual assault.....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Dealt with it herself	97.9	42.4	46.0	54.9	471.1	41.2	268.5	39.1
Did not regard it as a serious offence	61.3	26.5	*13.5	*16.1	277.5	24.3	98.7	14.4
Did not think they could do anything	*20.4	*8.8	*6.9	*8.2	112.6	9.8	65.1	9.5
Fear of perpetrator	*6.0	*2.6	**1.9	**2.3	68.7	6.0	42.2	6.1
Shame/embarrassment	*5.2	*2.2	*4.7	*5.7	53.9	4.7	85.5	12.5
Did not want perpetrator arrested	*10.8	*4.7	**	**	34.9	3.0	*13.5	*2.0
Would not be believed	*6.4	*2.8	**	**	22.8	2.0	44.5	6.5
Other(b)	23.0	10.0	9.8	11.7	97.9	8.6	64.6	9.4
Total(c)	230.8	100.0	83.8	100.0	1 143.5	100.0	686.3	100.0

(a) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

(b) Includes fear of legal processes, cultural/language reasons and other.

(c) Includes do not know.

4.7 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED ASSAULT BY A MAN, Whether the Woman Told Police About the Last Incident

<i>Relationship to perpetrator</i>	DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS.....			SINCE THE AGE OF 15(a).....		
	<i>Police told(b).....</i>		<i>Total(c)</i>	<i>Police told(b).....</i>		<i>Total(c)</i>
	'000	rate(d)	'000	'000	rate(d)	'000
PHYSICAL ASSAULT						
Current partner	*5.6	*6.3	89.6	*12.9	*5.1	251.9
Previous partner	24.6	34.6	71.3	163.9	24.2	677.0
Boyfriend/date	**	**	22.8	*14.7	*9.5	155.2
Other known man	*11.3	*17.4	65.1	51.1	21.3	239.7
Stranger	*9.8	*21.9	44.6	59.7	34.7	172.0
Total	54.4	18.6	293.5	302.3	20.2	1 495.8
SEXUAL ASSAULT						
Current partner	**	**	*9.9	**	**	37.3
Previous partner	**3.8	**25.1	*15.0	29.4	16.6	176.5
Boyfriend/date	**	**	*21.6	*7.7	*3.6	215.5
Other known man	*4.3	*12.2	34.9	*17.5	*6.7	259.4
Stranger	**4.0	**23.3	*17.0	*20.9	*24.5	85.4
Total	14.7	14.9	98.4	75.5	9.8	774.2

(a) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

(b) Includes only women who told the police themselves.

(c) Includes women who did not tell the police.

(d) Rate per 100 women who experienced assault by each perpetrator group.

4.8 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED ASSAULT BY A MAN, Whether the Woman Told Police About the Last Incident

Whether physically injured	DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS.....			SINCE THE AGE OF 15(a).....		
	Police told(b).....		Total(c)	Police told(b).....		Total(c)
	'000	rate(d)	'000	'000	rate(d)	'000
PHYSICAL ASSAULT						
Not physically injured	*12.4	*8.1	152.6	73.0	10.5	695.3
Physically injured						
One injury only	*18.9	*23.6	80.2	99.0	20.5	483.2
More than one injury	23.2	38.2	60.7	130.3	41.1	317.3
Total	42.1	29.9	140.9	229.3	28.6	800.5
Total	54.4	18.6	293.5	302.3	20.2	1 495.8
SEXUAL ASSAULT						
Not physically injured	*5.9	*7.7	76.4	*19.9	*3.5	572.7
Physically injured						
One injury only	*5.5	*43.7	*12.5	28.1	23.4	120.4
More than one injury	**3.3	**35.1	*9.5	27.5	33.9	81.1
Total	*8.8	*40.0	*22.0	55.6	27.6	201.5
Total	*14.7	*14.9	98.4	75.5	9.8	774.2

(a) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

(b) Includes only women who told the police themselves.

(c) Includes women who did not tell the police.

(d) Rate per 100 women in the relevant population.

4.9 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED ASSAULT BY A MAN DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS, Whether the Woman Told Police About the Last Incidence

Socio-demographic characteristics of women	PHYSICAL ASSAULT.....				SEXUAL ASSAULT.....			
	Police not told	Police told(a)	Total.....	'000	Police not told	Police told(a)	Total.....	'000
	%	%	%		%	%	%	
AGE GROUP (YEARS)								
18–24	84.8	*15.3	100.0	113.2	89.2	**10.8	100.0	33.9
25–34	74.9	25.1	100.0	88.8	*80.7	*19.3	100.0	27.0
35–44	81.8	*18.2	100.0	48.2	88.5	**11.5	100.0	27.6
45–54	85.9	**14.1	100.0	28.5	*73.6	**	100.0	*5.9
55 and over	*85.6	**	100.0	*14.8	**	**	100.0	**4.0
All age groups	81.4	18.6	100.0	293.5	85.1	*14.9	100.0	98.4
BIRTHPLACE								
Born in Australia	82.3	17.7	100.0	241.7	83.2	*16.8	100.0	83.3
Born outside Australia								
Main English speaking country	*77.6	*22.4	100.0	24.3	*89.5	**	100.0	*6.4
Other country	*77.4	*22.6	100.0	27.5	*100.0	**	100.0	*8.6
Total	77.5	*22.5	100.0	51.8	95.5	**	100.0	*15.1
Total	81.4	18.6	100.0	293.5	85.1	*14.9	100.0	98.4
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT								
Without post-school qualifications	77.9	22.1	100.0	151.6	78.8	*21.2	100.0	45.8
With post-school qualifications								
Degree or higher	97.3	**	100.0	27.3	*100.0	**	100.0	*14.1
Diploma	78.3	*21.7	100.0	40.9	*95.0	**	100.0	*14.9
Vocational qualification	83.9	*16.1	100.0	65.4	*82.1	*17.9	100.0	23.6
Total(b)	85.2	*14.8	100.0	141.9	90.5	*9.4	100.0	52.7
Total	81.4	18.6	100.0	293.5	85.1	*14.9	100.0	98.4
LABOUR FORCE STATUS								
Employed								
Working full-time	82.7	*17.3	100.0	81.0	*92.9	**	100.0	*21.8
Working part-time	87.1	*12.9	100.0	91.2	87.1	*12.9	100.0	39.5
Total	85.0	15.0	100.0	172.3	89.2	*10.8	100.0	61.3
Unemployed	*78.3	*21.7	100.0	22.5	*85.5	**	100.0	*15.8
Not in the labour force	75.9	24.1	100.0	98.8	*73.2	*26.8	100.0	*21.3
Total	81.4	18.6	100.0	293.5	85.1	*14.9	100.0	98.4

(a) Includes only women who told the police themselves.

(b) Includes secondary qualifications.

4.10 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED PHYSICAL VIOLENCE BY A MAN SINCE THE AGE OF 15, Whether the Woman Told Police About the Last Incidence

Type of physical violence	Police not told.....		Police told(a).....		Total.....	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Threatened or attempted assault only	190.1	76.0	60.1	24.0	250.2	100.0
Pushed, grabbed or shoved only	231.1	92.7	*18.3	*7.3	249.4	100.0
Both threatened or attempted assault and pushed, grabbed or shoved(b)	186.2	87.2	27.2	12.8	213.5	100.0
Other physical assault	776.2	75.1	256.8	24.9	1 033.0	100.0
Total(c)	1 383.6	79.2	362.4	20.8	1 746.0	100.0

- (a) Includes only women who told the police themself.
- (b) Not in association with other types of physical assault.
- (c) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

4.11 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED ASSAULT BY A MAN, Police Action Taken After the Last Incident

Police action taken	PHYSICAL ASSAULT.....				SEXUAL ASSAULT.....			
	During the last 12 months.....		Since the age of 15(a).....		During the last 12 months.....		Since the age of 15(a).....	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Perpetrator not charged	41.7	66.5	252.3	71.6	*10.5	*71.7	68.6	78.0
Perpetrator charged	*21.0	*33.5	100.0	28.4	**4.1	**28.3	*19.3	*22.0
Total(b)	62.7	100.0	352.3	100.0	*14.7	100.0	87.9	100.0

- (a) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.
- (b) Includes only incidents reported to the police.

4.12 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED ASSAULT BY A MAN DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS, Type of Action Taken After the Last Incident

Type of action taken	Physical assault...		Sexual assault....	
	'000	%	'000	%
.....				
WHETHER PROFESSIONAL HELP SOUGHT				
Professional help not sought	241.9	82.4	80.9	82.2
Professional help sought				
Doctor	23.3	7.9	*9.7	*9.8
Counsellor	29.5	10.0	*7.5	*7.6
Minister/priest	*4.3	*1.5	**3.6	**3.6
Total(a)	51.6	17.6	*17.5	*17.8
Total	293.5	100.0	98.4	100.0
.....				
WHETHER SERVICES USED				
Services not used	251.5	85.7	89.9	91.3
Services used				
Crisis	*13.2	*4.5	*8.0	*8.1
Legal	26.5	9.0	**3.3	**3.3
Financial	*7.4	*2.5	**2.7	**2.7
Total(a)	42.0	14.3	*8.6	*8.7
Total	293.5	100.0	98.4	100.0
.....				
WHETHER TALKED TO OTHERS				
Did not talk to others	56.3	19.2	27.6	28.0
Talked to others				
Family	155.6	53.0	31.3	31.8
Friend/neighbour	170.5	58.1	58.0	59.0
Work colleague	49.4	16.8	*8.8	*9.0
Other	*17.1	*5.8	*8.2	*8.4
Total(a)	237.3	80.8	70.8	72.0
Total	293.5	100.0	98.4	100.0

(a) If a woman sought professional help from more than one source; used more than one service; or talked to more than one person she was only counted once in the total.

4.13 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY A MAN SINCE THE AGE OF 15, Type of Action Taken After the Last Incident

Type of action taken	Physical assault.....		Physical attempt or threat only.....		Total physical violence.....		Sexual assault.....	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
.....								
WHETHER PROFESSIONAL HELP SOUGHT								
Professional help not sought	1 194.6	79.9	215.1	86.0	1 409.7	80.7	628.4	81.2
Professional help sought								
Doctor	173.1	11.6	*16.4	*6.6	189.5	10.9	65.4	8.5
Counsellor	171.4	11.5	*21.8	*8.7	193.1	11.1	102.2	13.2
Minister/priest	35.6	2.4	*4.6	*1.8	40.1	2.3	*14.1	*1.8
Total(a)	301.2	20.1	35.1	14.0	336.3	19.3	145.8	18.8
Total(b)	1 495.8	100.0	250.2	100.0	1 746.0	100.0	774.2	100.0
.....								
WHETHER SERVICES USED								
Services not used	1 256.2	84.0	218.5	87.3	1 474.8	84.5	654.4	84.5
Services used								
Crisis	90.8	6.1	*7.6	*3.1	98.4	5.6	83.9	10.8
Legal	163.8	11.0	23.3	9.3	187.1	10.7	52.9	6.8
Financial	48.0	3.2	*4.6	*1.8	52.6	3.0	*17.2	*2.2
Total(a)	239.6	16.0	31.7	12.7	271.2	15.5	119.8	15.5
Total(b)	1 495.8	100.0	250.2	100.0	1 746.0	100.0	774.2	100.0
.....								
WHETHER TALKED TO OTHERS								
Did not talk to others	311.8	20.8	32.5	13.0	344.3	19.7	220.7	28.5
Talked to others								
Family	781.8	52.3	158.2	63.2	939.9	53.8	262.4	33.9
Friend/neighbour	828.9	55.4	140.1	56.0	968.9	55.5	409.2	52.9
Work colleague	233.4	15.6	79.7	31.8	313.1	17.9	60.9	7.9
Anyone else	92.6	6.2	*20.3	*8.1	112.9	6.5	59.4	7.7
Total(a)	1 184.0	79.2	217.7	87.0	1 401.7	80.3	553.5	71.5
Total(b)	1 495.8	100.0	250.2	100.0	1 746.0	100.0	774.2	100.0

(a) If a woman sought professional help from more than one source; used more than one service; or talked to more than one person she was only counted once in the total.

(b) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

4.14 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED ASSAULT BY A MAN DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS WHO DID NOT USE SERVICES(a) AFTER THE LAST INCIDENT, Reason(s) For Not Using Services

Reason(s) services not used	Physical assault..		Sexual assault...	
	'000	%	'000	%
Dealt with it herself	137.7	54.8	54.6	60.8
Not serious enough to seek help	55.9	22.2	25.5	28.3
Received help from family/friends	31.0	12.3	*4.3	*4.8
Did not know of any services	*6.5	*2.6	**	**
Other(b)	47.1	18.7	*14.9	*16.6
Total(c)	251.5	100.0	89.9	100.0

(a) Includes crisis, legal and financial services.

(b) Includes shame/embarrassment, did not think they could help, would not be believed, fear of perpetrator, cultural/language reasons and other.

(c) Includes do not know. If a woman reported more than one reason she was only counted once in the total.

4.15 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY A MAN SINCE THE AGE OF 15 WHO DID NOT USE SERVICES(a) AFTER THE LAST INCIDENT, Reason(s) For Not Using Services

Reason(s) services not used	Physical assault.....		Physical attempt or threat only.....		Total physical violence.....		Sexual assault.	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Dealt with it herself	633.0	50.4	90.3	41.3	723.3	49.0	349.7	53.4
Not serious enough to seek help	287.5	22.9	71.9	32.9	359.5	24.4	143.9	22.0
Received help from family/friends	157.0	12.5	29.4	13.5	186.4	12.6	46.1	7.0
Shame/embarrassment	75.3	6.0	**	**	77.4	5.2	59.0	9.0
Did not think they could help	74.5	5.9	*9.5	*4.3	84.0	5.7	57.1	8.7
Did not know of any services	69.1	5.5	*20.1	*9.2	89.2	6.0	35.8	5.5
Fear of perpetrator	56.6	4.5	*5.0	*2.3	61.7	4.2	30.4	4.7
Would not be believed	*15.5	*1.2	**	**	*15.5	*1.1	35.0	5.4
Cultural/language reasons	*11.1	*0.9	**3.3	**1.5	*14.4	*1.0	**	**
Other	110.6	8.8	*16.2	*7.4	126.9	8.6	56.2	8.6
Total(b)	1 256.2	100.0	218.5	100.0	1 474.8	100.0	654.4	100.0

(a) Includes crisis, legal and financial services.

(b) Includes do not know. If a woman reported more than one reason she was only counted once in the total. Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

4.16 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED ASSAULT BY A MAN DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS, Whether Services(a) Used After the Last Incident

	PHYSICAL ASSAULT.....				SEXUAL ASSAULT.....			
	Services not used	Services used	Total.....	'000	Services not used	Services used	Total.....	'000
<i>Socio-demographic characteristics of women</i>	%	%	%	'000	%	%	%	'000
AGE GROUP (YEARS)								
18-24	89.0	*11.0	100.0	113.2	91.5	**8.5	100.0	33.9
25-34	85.5	*14.5	100.0	88.8	93.2	**	100.0	27.0
35-44	83.1	*16.9	100.0	48.2	88.2	**11.8	100.0	27.6
45-54	*74.9	*25.1	100.0	28.5	*90.0	**	100.0	*5.9
55 and over	*89.9	**	100.0	*14.8	**100.0	**	100.0	**4.0
All age groups	85.7	14.3	100.0	293.5	91.3	*8.7	100.0	98.4
BIRTHPLACE								
Born in Australia	86.8	13.2	100.0	241.7	90.4	*9.6	100.0	83.3
Born outside Australia								
Main English speaking country	*78.0	*22.0	100.0	24.3	*100.0	**	100.0	*6.4
Other country	82.3	*17.7	100.0	27.5	*93.2	**	100.0	*8.6
Total	80.3	19.7	100.0	51.8	*96.1	**	100.0	*15.1
Total	85.7	14.3	100.0	293.5	91.3	*8.7	100.0	98.4
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT								
Without post-school qualifications	84.8	15.2	100.0	151.6	84.2	*15.8	100.0	45.8
With post-school qualifications								
Degree or higher	97.4	**	100.0	27.3	*100.0	**	100.0	*14.1
Diploma	86.1	*13.9	100.0	40.9	*95.1	**	100.0	*14.9
Vocational qualification	87.3	*12.7	100.0	65.4	97.5	**	100.0	23.6
Total(b)	86.6	13.4	100.0	141.9	97.5	**2.5	100.0	52.7
Total	85.7	14.3	100.0	293.5	91.3	*8.7	100.0	98.4
LABOUR FORCE STATUS								
Employed								
Working full-time	81.8	*18.2	100.0	81.0	*100.0	**	100.0	*21.8
Working part-time	90.6	*9.4	100.0	91.2	94.6	**5.4	100.0	39.5
Total	86.4	13.6	100.0	172.3	96.5	**3.5	100.0	61.3
Unemployed	*73.4	*26.6	100.0	22.5	*100.0	**	100.0	*15.8
Not in the labour force	87.2	*12.8	100.0	98.8	*69.9	*30.1	100.0	*21.3
Total	85.7	14.3	100.0	293.5	91.3	*8.7	100.0	98.4

(a) Includes crisis, legal and financial services.

(b) Includes secondary qualifications.

4.17 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY A MAN SINCE THE AGE OF 15, Whether the Woman Took Action Herself After the Last Incident

<i>Whether action taken</i>	<i>Physical assault.....</i>		<i>Physical attempt or threat only.....</i>		<i>Total physical violence.....</i>		<i>Sexual assault.....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
No action taken	267.1	17.9	29.8	11.9	296.9	17.0	170.8	22.1
One type of action taken								
Talked to others	685.7	45.8	133.7	53.4	819.4	46.9	360.6	46.6
Other(a)	29.5	2.0	**	**	30.8	1.8	46.5	6.0
<i>Total</i>	715.2	47.8	135.0	53.9	850.2	48.7	407.1	52.6
More than one type of action taken	513.5	34.3	85.5	34.2	598.9	34.3	196.3	25.3
Total(b)	1 495.8	100.0	250.2	100.0	1 746.0	100.0	774.2	100.0

(a) Includes told the police, sought professional help and used services.

(b) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

4.18 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED ASSAULT BY A MAN SINCE THE AGE OF 15, Whether the Woman Took Action Herself After the Last Incident

<i>Whether action taken</i>	<i>DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS.....</i>				<i>SINCE THE AGE OF 15(a).....</i>			
	<i>Physical assault....</i>		<i>Sexual assault....</i>		<i>Physical assault....</i>		<i>Sexual assault....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
No action taken	50.8	17.3	*20.9	*21.2	267.1	17.9	170.8	22.1
One type of action taken								
Talked to others	135.2	46.1	49.7	50.5	685.7	45.8	360.6	46.6
Other(b)	*4.8	*1.6	*6.7	*6.8	29.5	2.0	46.5	6.0
<i>Total</i>	140.0	47.7	56.4	57.3	715.2	47.8	407.1	52.6
More than one type								
Total	293.5	100.0	98.4	100.0	1 495.8	100.0	774.2	100.0

(a) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

(b) Includes told the police, sought professional help and used services.

4.19 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED ASSAULT BY A MAN SINCE THE AGE OF 15, Relationship to the Perpetrator in the Last Incident

<i>Whether action taken</i>	<i>Current partner</i>	<i>Previous partner</i>	<i>Boyfriend/ date</i>	<i>Other known man</i>	<i>Stranger</i>	<i>Total</i>
PHYSICAL ASSAULT (%)						
No action taken	40.5	18.2	14.3	*4.4	*5.3	17.9
One type of action taken						
Talked to others	36.3	38.3	67.6	56.7	54.8	45.8
Other(a)	*1.8	*2.9	**	**0.9	**	2.0
<i>Total</i>	38.2	41.2	68.6	57.6	55.8	47.8
More than one type of action taken	21.4	40.6	17.1	38.1	38.9	34.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHYSICAL ASSAULT ('000)						
Total(b)	251.9	677.0	155.2	239.7	172.0	1 495.8
SEXUAL ASSAULT (%)						
No action taken	*55.3	19.7	33.0	13.0	*12.6	22.1
One type of action taken						
Talked to others	*23.9	26.5	49.7	58.3	54.7	46.6
Other(a)	**	13.0	*4.5	*2.5	**4.2	6.0
<i>Total</i>	*34.5	39.5	54.2	60.7	58.8	52.6
More than one type of action taken	**10.2	40.9	12.8	26.3	28.6	25.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
SEXUAL ASSAULT ('000)						
Total(b)	37.3	176.5	215.5	259.4	85.4	774.2

(a) Includes told police, sought professional help and used services.

(b) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

Incidents of violence can have a range of consequences which may have either short or long-term effects, such as physical injuries and feelings of fear. These effects may influence other aspects of women's lives, such as the ability to undertake their work or daily activities.

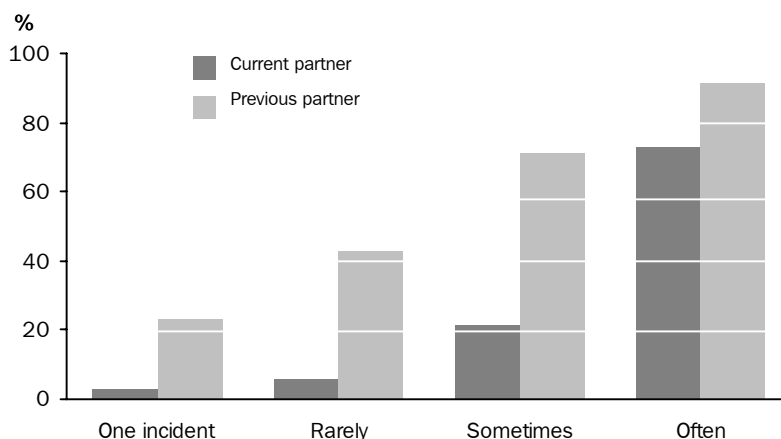
LIVING IN FEAR

Women who experienced violence by a current or previous male partner were asked if they live in fear as a result of the violence. As well as fear for personal safety, this incorporates the fear that a woman may experience as a result of living with the perpetrator of the violence. 41,700 women who reported violence by their current male partner at some stage during their relationship (12%) said that they currently live in fear. The likelihood of living in fear was greater if an incident of violence occurred more recently. 24% of women (26,500) who experienced violence by their current partner in the previous 12 month period said they currently live in fear (see table 5.5).

Of the 1 million women who experienced violence during the relationship with a previous male partner, 60% said that they lived in fear while in the relationship (see table 5.6). As many of these women will no longer be in contact with these partners, a much smaller proportion of women reported that they currently live in fear because of the violence (11%) (see table 5.5).

As the frequency of violence increases, so does the likelihood of a woman living in fear. Less than 10% of women who experienced violence once, or on rare occasions, by a current male partner live in fear, compared to 73% who experienced violence often. A corresponding increase occurs for women who experienced violence by a previous male partner, with 92% of women who often experienced violence reporting that they lived in fear while in the relationship.

5.1 WOMEN WHO LIVE/LIVED IN FEAR AS A RESULT OF VIOLENCE BY A MALE PARTNER DURING THE RELATIONSHIP, Frequency of Violence

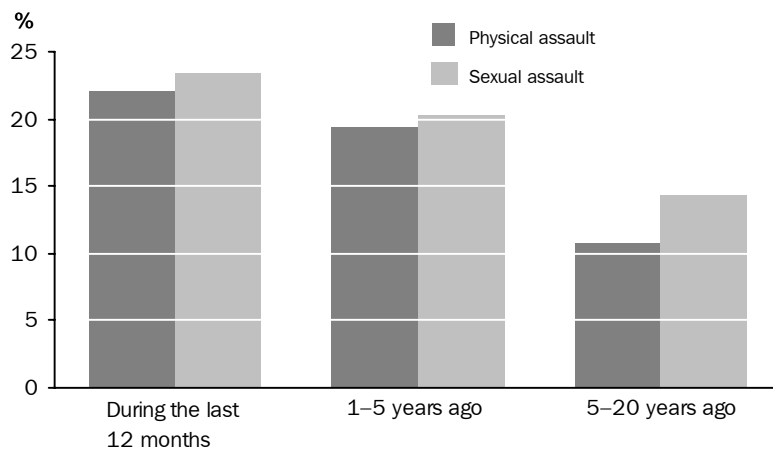


FEAR FOR PERSONAL SAFETY

501,900 women stated whether they feared for their personal safety as a result of the last incident of physical assault by a man other than a partner. 16% of these women (81,700) said that they fear for their personal safety as a result of the incident. That is, they fear a similar incident may occur by either the perpetrator or another person. 17% of women who experienced sexual assault by a man other than a partner in the last incident also fear for their safety (95,500) (see table 5.7).

Women who experienced assault were more likely to fear for their personal safety if the incident happened recently. This was the case for both physical and sexual assault. Among women who stated their feeling of fear, 22% said they feared for their personal safety as a consequence of an incident of physical assault that occurred in the previous 12 month period, compared to 11% who experienced an incident 5 to 20 years ago.

5.2 WOMEN WHO FEAR FOR THEIR PERSONAL SAFETY AS A RESULT OF THE LAST INCIDENT OF ASSAULT BY A MAN OTHER THAN A PARTNER, When the Incident Occurred



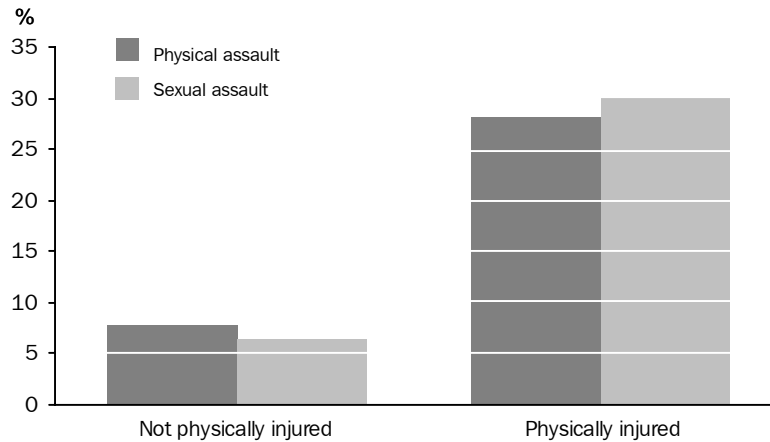
21% of women who experienced physical violence by a woman in the previous 12 month period fear for their personal safety as a result of the last incident (see table 5.8).

TIME OFF WORK

Two-thirds of women who experienced assault by a man during the last 20 years, were employed in the 12 months after the incident. Of those women, 18% (181,500) said they had taken time off from work in the 12 months after the last incident as a consequence of physical assault and 12% (62,900) had taken time off due to a sexual assault (see table 5.9). The time taken off could have been because of injuries or emotional distress or to attend to matters associated with the incident, such as obtaining legal advice.

Women who were physically injured in the last incident of physical assault were more likely than those who were not injured to take time off from their job during the year after the incident (28% compared to 8%). The same pattern was evident for women who experienced an incident of sexual assault.

5.3 WOMEN WHO TOOK TIME OFF WORK DURING THE 12 MONTHS AFTER THE LAST INCIDENT OF ASSAULT BY A MAN, Whether Physically Injured

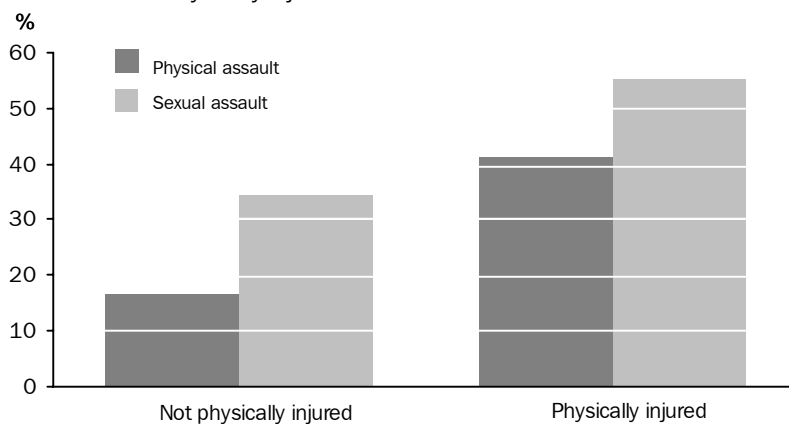


Two-thirds of the 383,100 women whose last incident of violence by a woman involved physical assault, worked during the 12 months after the incident. 12% reported that they had taken time off from their job as a result of the incident (see table 5.10).

CHANGE IN DAY-TO-DAY ACTIVITIES

Women who were sexually assaulted by a man were more likely than women who experienced physical assault by a man to change their day-to-day activities during the 12 months after the incident (40% and 30% respectively) (see table 5.9). A change in day-to-day activities could involve a woman changing one or more than one of the following activities: shopping, housework, child care, voluntary or community work and social activities. Being injured increased the likelihood of a woman changing her activities. 35% of women who were not physically injured in the last incident of sexual assault reported a change, compared to 55% who were injured.

5.4 WOMEN WHO CHANGED THEIR DAY-TO-DAY ACTIVITIES DURING THE 12 MONTHS AFTER THE LAST INCIDENT OF ASSAULT BY A MAN, Whether Physically Injured



The activities most affected by the occurrence of an assault were social activities. During the 12 months after the last incident of physical assault, 25% of women changed their social activities, as did 37% of women who were sexually assaulted. 10% of women

reported that they had changed their shopping activities after the last incident of physical assault and 8.4% after sexual assault (see table 5.9).

A similar pattern was found for women who were physically assaulted by another woman. 27% of these women (104,000) said they had changed their daily activities and social activities were most affected (see table 5.10).

5.5 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE(a) BY A MALE PARTNER, Whether Lives in Fear

<i>Whether lives in fear</i>	CURRENT PARTNER.....				PREVIOUS PARTNER(b).....	
	<i>During the last 12 months.....</i>		<i>During the relationship.....</i>		<i>Total.....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Does not currently live in fear	84.5	76.1	303.6	87.9	903.5	83.6
Currently lives in fear	26.5	23.9	41.7	12.1	118.1	10.9
Total	111.0	100.0	345.	100.0	1 080.8	100.0

(a) Includes physical and sexual violence.

(b) Includes previous partners who were violent during and the after the relationship.

Total includes women whose previous partner has died.

5.6 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE(a) BY A MALE PARTNER, Frequency of Violence

<i>Whether lives in fear</i>	<i>One incident.....</i>		<i>Rarely.....</i>		<i>Sometimes.....</i>		<i>Often.....</i>		<i>Total.....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
CURRENT PARTNER										
Does not currently live in fear	166.8	96.9	85.1	94.0	44.9	78.6	*6.9	*27.0	303.6	87.9
Currently lives in fear	*5.4	*3.1	*5.4	*6.0	*12.2	*21.4	*18.7	*73.0	41.7	12.1
Total	172.2	100.0	90.5	100.0	57.1	100.0	25.6	100.0	345.4	100.0
PREVIOUS PARTNER(b)										
Did not live in fear while in the relationship	200.2	77.1	94.1	57.3	87.5	29.0	23.6	8.4	405.5	40.3
Lived in fear while in the relationship	59.4	22.9	70.3	42.7	214.4	71.0	256.6	91.6	600.7	59.7
Total	259.7	100.0	164.4	100.0	301.8	100.0	280.	100.0	1 006.2	100.0

(a) Includes physical and sexual violence.

(b) Excludes women whose previous partner was violent only after the relationship ended.

5.7 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED ASSAULT SINCE THE AGE OF 15, When the Last Incident Occurred by a Man Other than a Partner(a)

<i>Fear for personal safety</i>	<i>During the last 12 months.....</i>		<i>1 year to less than 5 years.....</i>		<i>5 years to less than 20 years.....</i>		<i>Total(b).....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
PHYSICAL ASSAULT								
Does not live in fear for personal safety	83.1	62.7	151.2	71.3	185.9	83.6	420.2	74.1
Lives in fear for personal safety	23.4	17.7	36.1	17.0	22.2	10.0	81.7	14.4
Not stated	26.1	19.7	24.8	11.7	*14.2	*6.4	65.0	11.5
Total	132.6	100.0	212.1	100.0	222.3	100.0	566.9	100.0
SEXUAL ASSAULT								
Does not live in fear for personal safety	56.3	76.6	120.0	79.8	288.5	85.7	464.8	83.0
Lives in fear for personal safety	*17.2	*23.4	30.3	20.2	48.0	14.3	95.5	17.0
Total	73.5	100.0	150.3	100.0	336.5	100.0	560.3	100.0

(a) Fear for personal safety as a result of the last incident was not collected if the last incident of assault was by a partner.

(b) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

5.8 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED PHYSICAL VIOLENCE BY A WOMAN, Fear for Personal Safety as a Result of the Last Incident

<i>Fear for personal safety</i>	<i>During the last 12 months.....</i>		<i>Since the age of 15(a).....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%
Does not live in fear for personal safety	85.9	78.7	411.2	88.7
Lives in fear for personal safety	23.2	21.3	52.3	11.3
Total	109.1	100.0	463.5	100.0

(a) Excludes women whose last incident of violence occurred more than 20 years ago.

5.9 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED ASSAULT BY A MAN SINCE THE AGE OF 15, Effects on Life During the 12 Months After the Last Incident

Effects on life	Not physically injured.....		Physically injured..		Total.....	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
PHYSICAL ASSAULT						
Whether took time off work						
No time off	445.8	64.1	366.4	45.8	812.3	54.3
Time off	38.4	5.5	143.2	17.9	181.5	12.1
Did not work	211.1	30.4	290.9	36.3	502.0	33.6
<i>Total(a)</i>	695.3	100.0	800.5	100.0	1 495.8	100.0
Change in day-to-day activities						
No change	579.4	83.3	469.1	58.6	1 048.5	70.1
Change						
Housework	*20.1	*2.9	94.3	11.8	114.4	7.6
Shopping	23.4	3.4	129.2	16.1	152.6	10.2
Child care	*14.5	*2.1	68.8	8.6	83.3	5.6
Voluntary or community work	*5.1	*0.7	26.3	3.3	31.4	2.1
Social activities	98.3	14.1	280.1	35.0	378.4	25.3
<i>Total(b)</i>	115.9	16.7	331.4	41.4	447.3	29.9
<i>Total(a)</i>	695.3	100.0	800.5	100.0	1 495.8	100.0
SEXUAL ASSAULT						
Whether took time off work						
No time off	373.7	65.2	86.4	42.9	460.0	59.4
Time off	25.6	4.5	37.3	18.5	62.9	8.1
Did not work	173.5	30.3	77.8	38.6	251.3	32.5
<i>Total(a)</i>	572.7	100.0	201.5	100.0	774.2	100.0
Change in day-to-day activities						
No change	374.6	65.4	89.9	44.6	464.5	60.0
Change						
Housework	*18.1	*3.2	32.9	16.3	51.1	6.6
Shopping	27.1	4.7	38.2	19.0	65.3	8.4
Child care	*6.4	*1.1	*15.3	*7.6	*21.8	*2.8
Voluntary or community work	*13.1	*2.3	**3.7	**1.8	*16.8	*2.2
Social activities	187.3	32.7	100.2	49.7	287.4	37.1
<i>Total(b)</i>	198.1	34.6	111.6	55.4	309.7	40.0
<i>Total(a)</i>	572.7	100.0	201.5	100.0	774.2	100.0

(a) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

(b) If a woman changed more than one of her day-to-day activities she was only counted once in the total.

5.10 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED PHYSICAL ASSAULT BY A WOMAN SINCE THE AGE OF 15, Effects on Life During the 12 Months After the Last Incident

<i>Effects on life</i>	<i>Known woman(a).</i>		<i>Stranger.....</i>		<i>Total.....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
.....						
WHETHER TOOK TIME OFF WORK						
No time off	134.6	53.5	90.3	68.5	224.9	58.7
Time off	*21.8	*8.7	*10.2	*7.8	32.0	8.4
Did not work	95.0	37.8	31.2	23.7	126.2	32.9
Total(b)	251.3	100.0	131.7	100.0	383.1	100.0
.....						
CHANGE IN DAY-TO-DAY ACTIVITIES						
No change	181.3	72.1	97.8	74.2	279.0	72.8
Change						
Housework	*18.5	*7.3	**3.2	**2.4	*21.6	*5.6
Shopping	*21.3	*8.5	*8.6	*6.5	29.9	7.8
Child care	*6.5	*2.6	**	**	*6.5	*1.7
Voluntary or community work	**	**	**3.0	**	**4.1	**1.1
Social activities	59.2	23.6	27.9	21.2	87.1	22.7
Total(c)	70.1	27.9	34.0	25.8	104.0	27.2
Total(b)	251.3	100.0	131.7	100.0	383.1	100.0

(a) Includes previous partners and other known women.

(b) Excludes women whose last incident occurred more than 20 years ago.

(c) If a woman changed more than one of her day-to-day activities she was only counted once in the total.

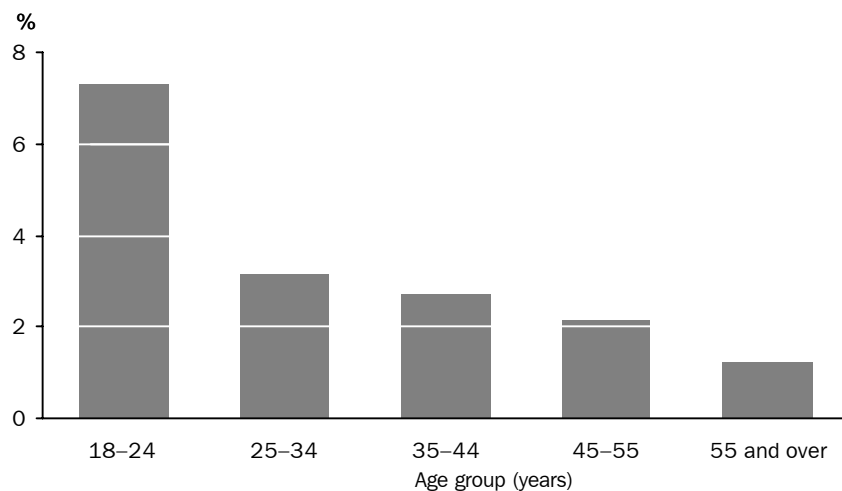
This chapter focuses on women's experience of violence by a current or previous male partner. 4.3 million women reported that they were in a current relationship, while 2.5 million women reported that they had been in a previous marriage or de facto relationship. A woman may have had more than one previous partner and some will also be in a current relationship.

23% of women who have ever been married or in a de facto relationship experienced violence by a partner at some time during the relationship. The proportion of women who experienced violence during a previous relationship was substantially higher than the proportion of women who experienced violence in a current relationship (42% compared to 8%).

CURRENT PARTNER

2.6% of women who were married or in a de facto relationship (111,000) experienced an incident of violence by their partner in the previous 12 month period. Women were more at risk of physical violence than sexual violence by their partner. 2.4% experienced physical violence and 0.3% experienced sexual violence in the previous 12 month period (see table 6.4). Although based on small numbers which have high standard error rates associated with them, a pattern does emerge when age is considered. That is, younger women with a current partner are more at risk of violence by their partner than older women. 7.3% of women aged 18–24 years who were in a current relationship experienced violence by their partner, compared to 2.1% of women aged 45–54 years and 1.2% of women aged 55 and over.

**6.1 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY A CURRENT PARTNER—
during the last 12 months**

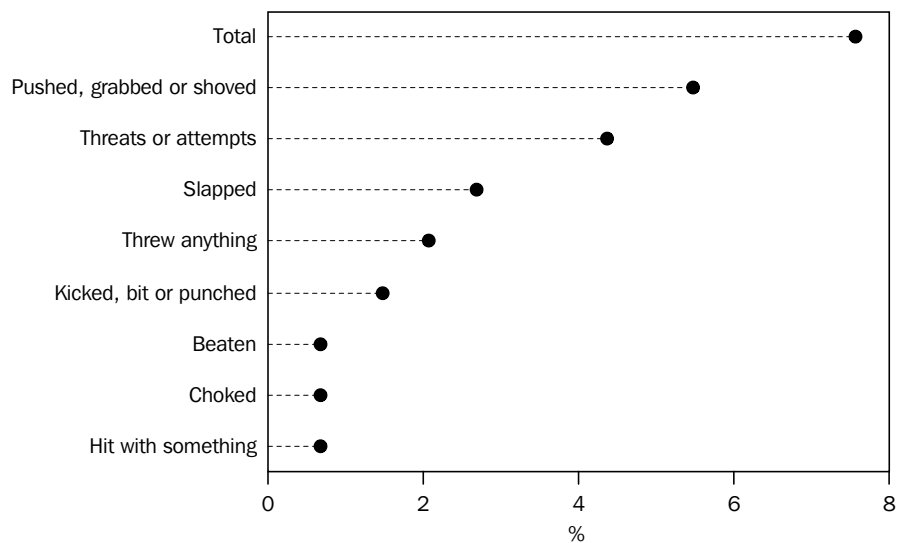


8.0% of women with a current partner (345,400) reported an incident of violence at some time during their current relationship. 7.6% of women experienced physical violence by their partner (329,700), while 1.0% (43,900) experienced sexual violence (see table 6.4).

Half of the women who experienced violence by their partner reported that more than one incident had occurred (173,200). 7.4% said that the violence occurred often while 26% said it occurred only rarely (see table 6.7).

When all women with a current partner are considered, 5.5% reported being pushed, grabbed or shoved and 4.4% had experienced threatened or attempted assault. Equal proportions (0.7%) had been either beaten, choked or hit at some time during the relationship (see table 6.9).

6.2 WOMEN WHO HAVE EVER EXPERIENCED PHYSICAL VIOLENCE BY THEIR CURRENT PARTNER DURING THEIR RELATIONSHIP



In addition to information about the occurrence of violence, the survey also collected information about emotional abuse a woman may have experienced by her partner. 8.8% of all women in a current relationship experienced some form of emotional abuse, which was defined as manipulation, isolation or intimidation. Women who experienced violence during the relationship with their partner were significantly more likely than those who had not experienced violence, to experience emotional abuse (59% compared to 4%). For those women who had experienced violence one-quarter had had a partner damage or destroy their property and one-eighth had difficulties with their partner over family finances (see table 6.10).

12% of women who experienced violence by their current male partner (41,700) said they currently lived in fear because of the violence (see table 5.5).

PREVIOUS PARTNER

1.1 million women experienced violence by a previous partner (see table 6.5). This includes violence that occurred both during and after the relationship. However, for 74,700 women, violence occurred only after the relationship had ended.

For women who had been in a previous relationship, 42% reported an incident of violence by a previous partner. 42% experienced physical assault and 10% experienced sexual assault (see table 6.5). 74% said the violence occurred more than once (see table 6.7).

19% of incidents of physical violence by a previous partner involved pushing, grabbing or shoving either alone, or in conjunction with a threat or attempt, while a further 73% involved other types of physical assault (see table 6.8).

701,200 women were pregnant at some time during their relationship with a previous partner who had been violent. 42% of these women experienced violence during the pregnancy (292,100) and 20% experienced violence for the first time while they were pregnant (see table 6.13).

483,700 women separated from their previous partner and then returned, before finally separating. During the time that they were separated from their partner, 35% experienced violence (see table 6.13). Half of the women who experienced violence by a previous partner finally ended their relationship because of the violence they experienced or because of threats against their children (see table 6.14).

CHILDREN WITNESSING VIOLENCE

Violence which occurs between partners in a home may affect the children who also live in the home. 61% of women who experienced violence by a current partner (211,600) reported that they had children in their care at some time during the relationship and 38% said that their children had witnessed the violence (132,400). 46% of women who experienced violence by a previous partner said their children had witnessed the violence.

6.3 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY A PARTNER DURING THE RELATIONSHIP(a), Whether Children Witnessed Violence

<i>Whether children witnessed violence</i>	<i>Current partner.....</i>		<i>Previous partner(b)....</i>	
	<i>'000</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>'000</i>	<i>%</i>
No children in their care during the relationship	133.8	38.7	324.0	32.2
Children in their care during the relationship				
Violence not witnessed by children	69.6	20.2	193.6	19.2
Violence witnessed by children	132.4	38.3	461.2	45.8
Do not know if witnessed by children	*9.6	*2.8	27.4	2.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>211.6</i>	<i>61.3</i>	<i>682.2</i>	<i>67.8</i>
Total	345.4	100.0	1 006.2	100.0

(a) A woman could have experienced violence by both a current and a previous partner.

(b) Excludes 74 700 women whose partner was violent only after the relationship ended.

If a woman experienced violence by more than one previous partner, this relates to the last partner who was violent.

6.4 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE BY A PARTNER(a), When the Last Incident Occurred

<i>Experience of violence</i>	<i>Physical violence....</i>		<i>Sexual violence.....</i>		<i>Total(b).....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
CURRENT PARTNER						
Not experienced	3 988.5	92.4	4 274.4	99.0	3 972.9	92.0
Experienced						
During the last 12 months	104.6	2.4	*12.4	*0.3	111.0	2.6
More than 12 months ago	225.2	5.2	31.4	0.7	234.4	5.4
<i>Total</i>	329.7	7.6	43.9	1.0	345.4	8.0
Total women with a current partner	4 318.3	100.0	4 318.3	100.0	4 318.3	100.0
PREVIOUS PARTNER						
Not experienced	1 486.5	58.4	2 286.6	89.8	1 465.9	57.6
Experienced						
During the last 12 months	75.8	3.0	*16.5	*0.6	83.8	3.3
More than 12 months ago	984.5	38.7	243.6	9.6	997.0	39.1
<i>Total</i>	1 060.3	41.6	260.1	10.2	1 080.8	42.4
Total women with a previous partner	2 546.7	100.0	2 546.7	100.0	2 546.7	100.0

(a) A woman could be in a current relationship and have had a previous partner.

(b) If a woman experienced both physical and sexual violence she was only counted once in the total.

6.5 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE BY A PARTNER DURING THE RELATIONSHIP

<i>Experience of violence</i>	<i>Current partner.....</i>		<i>Previous partner(a).....</i>		<i>Total(b).....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Not experienced	3 972.9	92.0	1 465.9	57.6	4 590.8	77.0
Experienced						
Physical violence						
Physical assault	313.0	7.2	1 004.0	39.4	1 278.1	21.4
Attempt or threat	190.5	4.4	823.6	32.3	982.0	16.5
<i>Total(c)</i>	329.7	7.6	1 060.3	41.6	1 342.1	22.5
Sexual violence						
Sexual assault	39.5	0.9	228.8	9.0	262.7	4.4
Threat	*7.5	*0.2	68.3	2.7	75.9	1.3
<i>Total(c)</i>	43.9	1.0	260.1	10.2	297.7	5.0
<i>Total(c)</i>	345.4	8.0	1 080.8	42.4	1 373.4	23.0
Total	4 318.3	100.0	2 546.7	100.0	5 964.2	100.0

(a) Includes partners who were violent during and/or after the relationship. A woman could have more than one previous partner and may have experienced violence by more than one of these previous partners.

(b) Includes all women who have ever had a partner. If a woman experienced violence by both a current and previous partner she was only counted once in the total.

(c) If a woman experienced more than one type of violence she was only counted once in the total.

6.6 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY THEIR CURRENT PARTNER DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS, Age

Age group (years)	Physical violence.		Total(a).....	
	'000	rate(b)	'000	rate(b)
18-24	*17.5	*7.3	*17.5	*7.3
25-34	30.8	3.0	32.1	3.1
35-44	26.8	2.5	29.0	2.7
45-54	*18.9	*2.0	*19.6	*2.1
55 and over	*10.7	*1.0	*12.8	*1.2
All age groups	104.6	2.4	111.0	2.6

(a) Includes sexual violence. If a woman experienced both physical and sexual violence she was only counted once in the total.

(b) Rate per 100 women in each age group (see table 3.12).

6.7 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY A PARTNER(a) DURING THE RELATIONSHIP, Frequency of Violence

Frequency of violence	Current partner....		Previous partner(b)...	
	'000	%	'000	%
One incident of violence	172.2	49.8	259.7	25.8
More than one incident of violence				
Often	25.6	7.4	280.2	27.8
Sometimes	57.1	16.5	301.8	30.0
Rarely	90.5	26.2	164.4	16.3
Total	173.2	50.2	746.5	74.2
Total	345.4	100.0	1 006.2	100.0

(a) A woman could be in a current relationship and have had a previous partner.

(b) Excludes 74 700 women whose partner was violent only after the relationship ended. If a woman experienced violence by more than one previous partner, this relates to the last partner who was violent.

6.8 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF PHYSICAL VIOLENCE BY A PARTNER(a)

Type of physical violence	Current partner(b)....		Previous partner(c)....	
	'000	%	'000	%
Threatened or attempted assault only	*16.8	*5.1	56.1	7.6
Pushed, grabbed or shoved only	58.5	17.7	71.4	9.7
Both threatened or attempted assault and pushed, grabbed or shoved(d)	43.9	13.3	67.9	9.3
Other physical assault	210.5	63.8	537.6	73.3
Total	329.7	100.0	733.0	100.0

- (a) A woman could be in a current relationship and have had a previous partner.
 (b) Physical violence experienced at any time during the relationship.
 (c) Physical violence experienced in the last incident when this was by a previous partner.
 (d) Not in association with other types of physical assault.

6.9 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF PHYSICAL VIOLENCE BY THEIR CURRENT PARTNER DURING THE RELATIONSHIP, Type of Physical Violence

Type of physical violence	'000	rate(a)
Threatened or attempted to		
Hit with a fist or anything	173.9	4.0
Stab/shoot	*16.1	*0.4
Other	72.7	1.7
Total(b)	190.5	4.4
Pushed, grabbed or shoved	236.9	5.5
Slapped	118.7	2.7
Threw anything that could hurt	89.0	2.1
Kicked, bit or punched	65.3	1.5
Beaten	31.1	0.7
Hit with something else	28.9	0.7
Choked	30.1	0.7
Stabbed/shot	**	**
Other	29.0	0.7
Total(b)	329.7	7.6

- (a) Rate per 100 women with a current partner (4.3 million).
 (b) If a woman reported more than one type of physical violence she was only counted once in the total.

6.10 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF EMOTIONAL ABUSE BY THEIR CURRENT PARTNER DURING THE RELATIONSHIP

<i>Experience of emotional abuse</i>	EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE					
	<i>Not experienced.....</i>		<i>Experienced.....</i>		<i>Total.....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
No emotional abuse	3 797.1	95.6	142.1	41.1	3 939.1	91.2
Emotional abuse						
Insulted with the intent to shame, belittle or humiliate	134.0	3.4	159.8	46.3	293.8	6.8
Damaged or destroyed property	32.7	0.8	85.2	24.7	117.9	2.7
Tried to prevent knowledge about or access to family money	*21.4	*0.5	41.7	12.1	63.1	1.5
Tried to prevent use of the telephone or car	*17.6	*0.4	43.4	12.6	61.0	1.4
Tried to prevent contact with family or friends	*12.3	*0.3	37.9	11.0	50.2	1.2
Threatened to harm children	*7.7	*0.2	30.3	8.8	38.0	0.9
Threatened to harm or harmed pets	*9.0	*0.2	*13.2	*3.8	22.2	0.5
<i>Total(a)</i>	175.8	4.4	203.3	58.9	379.2	8.8
Total	3 972.9	100.0	345.4	100.0	4 318.3	100.0

(a) If a woman experienced more than one type of emotional abuse she was only counted once in the total.

6.11 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE BY THEIR CURRENT PARTNER DURING THE RELATIONSHIP, Birthplace of the Woman

<i>Birthplace of the woman</i>	EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE.....			
	<i>Not experienced</i>	<i>Experienced</i>	<i>Total.....</i>	
	%	%	%	'000
Born in Australia	91.7	8.3	100.0	3 099.4
Born outside Australia				
Main English speaking country	93.1	6.9	100.0	494.8
Other country	92.5	7.5	100.0	724.1
<i>Total</i>	92.8	7.2	100.0	1 218.9
Total	92.0	8.0	100.0	4 318.3

6.12 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY THEIR CURRENT PARTNER DURING THE RELATIONSHIP, Whether They Have Separated(a)

<i>Whether separated</i>	'000	%
Have separated	101.8	29.5
Have not separated		
Did not want to separate	105.6	30.6
Wanted to separate	137.9	39.9
<i>Total</i>	243.6	70.5
Total	345.4	100.0

(a) Separation refers to those occasions when a woman left her partner and then returned.

6.13 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY A PREVIOUS PARTNER DURING THE RELATIONSHIP, Experience of Violence During Pregnancy and Separation

<i>Experience of violence</i>	'000	%
DURING PREGNANCY		
Violence did not occur during pregnancy	409.1	58.3
Violence occurred during pregnancy		
Violence did not occur for the first time during pregnancy	147.2	21.0
Violence occurred for the first time during pregnancy	140.3	20.0
<i>Total(a)</i>	292.1	41.7
Total women who were pregnant during relationship	701.2	100.0
DURING SEPARATION(b)		
Violence did not occur while separated	314.0	64.9
Violence occurred while separated	169.7	35.1
Total women who separated	483.7	48.1

(a) Includes women who did not know if violence occurred for the first time during pregnancy.

(b) Separation refers to those occasions when a woman left her partner and then returned. It does not refer to the final separation.

6.14 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY A PREVIOUS PARTNER DURING THE RELATIONSHIP, Main Reason for Ending the Relationship

Main reason for ending relationship	'000	%
Due to partner's violence to the woman or threats to children	516.8	51.4
Better life for children	48.6	4.8
Court ordered him away	*6.0	*0.6
Partner initiated separation	87.8	8.7
Found someone else	30.1	3.0
Partner died	59.3	5.9
Other	257.5	25.6
Total	1 006.2	100.0

6.15 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY THEIR CURRENT PARTNER, When the Last Incident Occurred

When last incident occurred	AGE GROUP (YEARS)					All age groups
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	
PHYSICAL VIOLENCE (%)						
During the last 12 months	*59.6	41.6	25.9	*25.3	*22.0	31.7
1 year to less than 5 years	*36.1	35.5	32.2	*17.5	*10.5	26.8
5 years to less than 10 years	**	*20.1	*19.5	30.9	**8.2	19.2
10 years or more	..	**2.8	22.4	*26.3	59.3	22.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHYSICAL VIOLENCE ('000)						
Total	29.4	73.9	103.6	74.6	48.3	329.7
TOTAL(a) (%)						
During the last 12 months	*59.6	42.7	26.3	*24.8	*24.9	32.1
1 year to less than 5 years	*36.1	34.8	31.4	*17.5	*11.6	26.4
5 years to less than 10 years	**	*19.7	21.2	31.4	**7.7	19.8
10 years or more	..	**2.8	21.0	*26.3	55.8	21.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
TOTAL(a) ('000)						
Total	29.4	75.2	110.4	79.1	51.4	345.4

(a) Includes women who experienced sexual violence. If a woman experienced both physical and sexual violence she was only counted once in the total.

6.16 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY A PREVIOUS PARTNER, When the Last Incident Occurred

When last incident occurred	AGE GROUP (YEARS).....					
	18-24	24-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	All age groups
PHYSICAL VIOLENCE (%)						
During the last 12 months	24.2	11.7	*4.6	**1.7	**1.2	7.1
1 year to less than 5 years	62.5	33.2	28.4	*8.6	*2.9	24.1
5 years to less than 10 years	*13.2	40.4	23.6	15.4	*8.6	22.2
10 years or more	..	14.7	43.4	74.4	87.3	46.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHYSICAL VIOLENCE ('000)						
Total	109.3	266.9	259.7	226.8	197.5	1 060.3
TOTAL(a) (%)						
During the last 12 months	25.8	11.6	*6.3	*1.9	**1.2	7.8
1 year to less than 5 years	63.0	34.0	27.4	*9.2	*2.9	24.3
5 years to less than 10 years	*11.3	39.9	23.4	16.3	*8.8	22.2
10 years or more	..	14.5	42.9	72.6	87.1	45.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
TOTAL(a) ('000)						
Total	110.6	276.4	262.7	230.9	200.3	1 080.8

(a) Includes women who experienced sexual violence. If a woman experienced both physical and sexual violence she was only counted once in the total.

6.17 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE BY A PARTNER(a), Experience of Abuse When a Child

<i>Experience of abuse when a child</i>	EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE(b).....					
	<i>Not experienced.....</i>		<i>Experienced.....</i>		<i>Total.....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
CURRENT PARTNER						
No child abuse experienced	3 448.7	86.8	234.3	67.8	3 682.9	85.3
Experienced child abuse	524.2	13.2	111.1	32.2	635.3	14.7
Total	3 972.9	100.0	345.4	100.0	4 318.3	100.0
PREVIOUS PARTNER						
No child abuse experienced	1 289.4	88.0	748.0	69.2	2 037.4	80.0
Experienced child abuse	176.5	12.0	332.8	30.8	509.3	20.0
Total	1 465.9	100.0	1 080.8	100.0	2 546.7	100.0

(a) A woman could be in a current relationship and have had a previous partner.

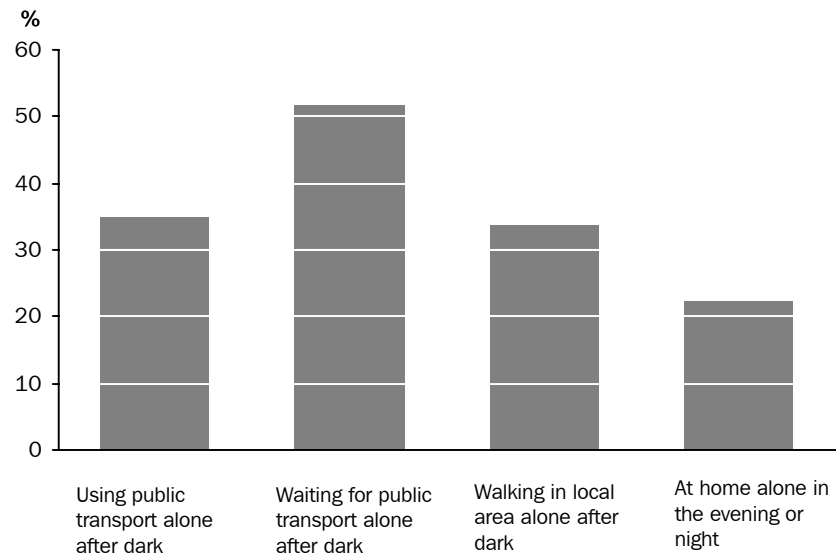
(b) Includes physical and sexual violence.

GENERAL SAFETY

Information was collected about women's feelings of safety when using public transport alone after dark, walking alone in their local area and while at home alone. Women who had not been alone in these situations were asked if this was because of concerns for their safety.

Of the 6.9 million women in Australia aged 18 and over, 1.1 million (16%) reported they had used public transport alone after dark at some time in the previous year. 35% (384,800) felt unsafe while doing this and 52% (570,400) felt unsafe while waiting for public transport. Of the 2.3 million women who walked alone in their local area after dark, 34% (777,600) felt unsafe. 6.6 million women reported being at home alone in the evening or night and 22% of them said they felt unsafe at some time.

**7.1 WOMEN WHO FELT UNSAFE IN SELECTED SITUATIONS—
during the last 12 months**



Of the 5.8 million women who did not use public transport, 30% said it was because they did not feel safe, while 58% of women (2.6 million) who did not walk alone at night said it was because they felt unsafe (see table 7.4).

Younger women were more likely than older women to feel unsafe in the various situations. For example, 40% of women aged 18–24 years who used public transport felt unsafe, compared to 12% aged 60 years and over. However, older women were much less likely to be in that particular situation. 93% of women aged 60 and over did not use public transport alone after dark, compared to 63% of women aged 18–24. The proportion of younger and older women who had stayed home alone in the evening or

night was similar but younger women were still more likely to feel unsafe, 30% and 17% respectively (see table 7.4).

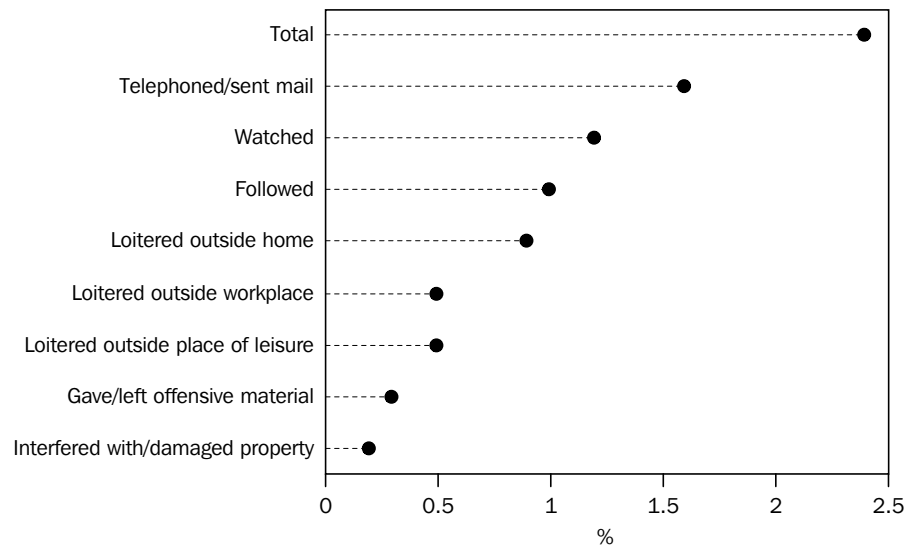
Women's experience of violence during the previous 12 month period appears to affect their feelings of general safety. For example, 72,000 (almost half) of the women who experienced violence and used public transport alone after dark felt unsafe, compared to one-third of women (312,700) who did not experience violence. A similar pattern occurred for women who did not use public transport alone after dark (see table 7.5).

STALKING

In recent years, States and Territories have introduced legislation making stalking a crime. Stalking can involve various activities, such as loitering and following, which the woman believed were undertaken with the intent to harm or frighten her. To be classified as stalking, more than one type of activity had to occur, or the same type of activity had to occur on more than one occasion. 2.4% of women aged 18 and over in Australia (165,700) had been stalked by a man in the previous 12 month period and 15% (1.0 million) reported being stalked at some time during their life (see table 7.6). 7.5% of women who had been stalked (78,100) were still being stalked at the time of the survey (see table 7.7).

The most common forms of stalking were receiving telephone calls or mail and being watched. 1.6% and 1.2% of women, respectively, had experienced this type of activity in the previous 12 month period. 0.5% of women had experienced somebody loitering outside their workplace or place of leisure.

7.2 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF STALKING—during the last 12 months



Younger women were more likely to be stalked than older women. 6.6% of women aged 18–24 years had been stalked in the previous 12 month period, compared to 2.1% of women aged 35–44 and less than 1% of women aged 55 and over (see table 7.6).

In the previous 12 month period women were more likely to be stalked by strangers than by men they knew. 96,700 women were stalked by a stranger, compared to 69,100 who were stalked by someone they knew. In this time period, less than 1% of women who

had been in a previous relationship had been stalked by their previous partner. However, if all incidents of stalking are considered, 6.1% of women who had been in a previous relationship reported that their partner had stalked them at some time (see table 7.9).

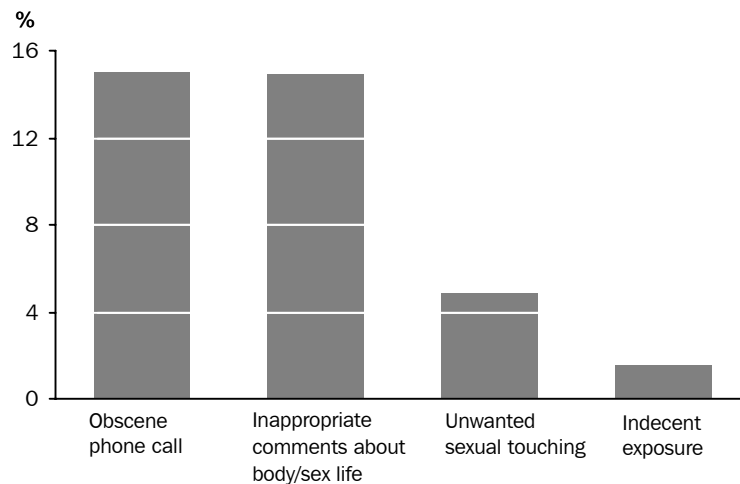
Women were more likely to have been stalked for longer periods by men they knew. 27% of women who were stalked by a previous partner reported that the stalking lasted 2 years or more, compared to 6.6% who had been stalked by a stranger.

HARASSMENT

The survey also collected information about a range of disturbing incidents which a woman may have experienced. In the previous 12 month period, 15% of women (1.0 million) received an obscene phone call and 5% (338,700) experienced unwanted sexual touching. Younger women were more likely to have experienced any of these types of harassment (see table 7.14).

During their lifetime, nearly half of all women had received an obscene phone call and one-quarter had experienced unwanted sexual touching (see table 7.15).

7.3 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED SELECTED TYPES OF HARASSMENT—during the last 12 months



7.4 WOMEN'S FEELINGS OF SAFETY IN SELECTED SITUATIONS—during the last 12 months

Selected situations	AGE GROUP (YEARS)						
	18–24	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–59	60 and over	All age groups
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
Using public transport alone after dark							
Used alone							
Felt safe	213.7	167.9	116.9	99.1	29.1	94.8	721.6
Felt unsafe	140.2	104.9	63.2	58.5	*5.3	*12.7	384.8
Total	353.9	272.8	180.2	157.6	34.4	107.5	1 106.4
Did not use alone							
Because felt unsafe	206.6	361.6	353.1	261.4	82.4	472.4	1 737.5
For other reasons	384.7	805.8	843.0	747.6	247.3	1 008.2	4 036.7
Total	591.3	1 167.4	1 196.1	1 009.0	329.7	1 480.6	5 774.2
Total	945.2	1 440.2	1 376.3	1 166.6	364.1	1 588.1	6 880.5
Waiting for public transport alone after dark							
Waited alone							
Felt safe	145.6	122.7	83.4	88.4	22.2	73.5	535.9
Felt unsafe	208.3	150.1	96.7	69.2	*12.1	34.0	570.4
Total	353.9	272.8	180.2	157.6	34.4	107.5	1,106.4
Did not wait alone							
Because felt unsafe	206.6	361.6	353.1	261.4	82.4	472.4	1,737.5
For other reasons	384.7	805.8	843.0	747.6	247.3	1,008.2	4,036.7
Total	591.3	1 167.4	1 196.1	1 009.0	329.7	1 480.6	5 774.2
Total	945.2	1 440.2	1 376.3	1 166.6	364.1	1 588.1	6 880.5
Walking in local area alone after dark							
Walked alone							
Felt safe	298.9	325.4	336.7	293.6	89.5	188.8	1 532.9
Felt unsafe	210.1	237.6	150.5	119.0	22.6	37.8	777.6
Total	509.0	563.1	487.1	412.6	112.0	226.6	2 310.5
Did not walk alone							
Did not walk because felt unsafe	262.3	525.9	515.3	433.9	129.6	761.6	2 628.4
Did not walk for other reasons	174.0	351.2	373.9	320.1	122.5	600.0	1 941.6
Total	436.2	877.1	889.1	754.0	252.0	1 361.5	4 570.0
Total	945.2	1 440.2	1 376.3	1 166.6	364.1	1 588.1	6 880.5
At home alone in the evening or night							
At home alone							
Felt safe	645.2	1 024.0	1,041.4	917.4	285.4	1,212.0	5,125.4
Felt unsafe	276.1	398.8	287.4	208.7	57.7	242.8	1,471.5
Total	921.3	1 422.7	1 328.8	1 126.1	343.1	1 454.8	6 596.9
Not at home alone							
Not home because felt unsafe	*6.9	**2.0	**2.3	*5.5	**	*13.8	30.5
Not home for other reasons	*17.0	*15.4	45.2	35.0	*21.0	119.5	253.1
Total	23.9	*17.4	47.5	40.5	*21.0	133.3	283.6
Total	945.2	1 440.2	1 376.3	1 166.6	364.1	1 588.1	6 880.5

7.5 WOMEN'S FEELINGS OF SAFETY IN SELECTED SITUATIONS, Experience of Violence(a)

Selected situations	DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS.....			SINCE THE AGE OF 15.....		
	Not experienced '000	Experienced '000	Total '000	Not experienced '000	Experienced '000	Total '000
Using public transport alone after dark						
Used alone						
Felt safe	647.5	74.1	721.6	401.4	320.2	721.6
Felt unsafe	312.7	72.0	384.8	165.7	219.1	384.8
Total	960.2	146.1	1 106.4	567.1	539.3	1 106.4
Did not use alone						
Because felt unsafe	1 599.0	138.4	1 737.5	988.9	748.6	1 737.5
For other reasons	3 830.8	205.9	4 036.7	2 685.0	1 351.8	4 036.7
Total	5 429.8	344.3	5 774.2	3 673.8	2 100.4	5 774.2
Total	6 390.1	490.4	6 880.5	4 240.9	2 639.7	6 880.5
Waiting for public transport alone after dark						
Waited alone						
Felt safe	482.5	53.4	535.9	305.3	230.6	535.9
Felt unsafe	477.7	92.7	570.4	261.8	308.7	570.4
Total	960.2	146.1	1 106.4	567.1	539.3	1 106.4
Did not wait alone						
Because felt unsafe	1 599.0	138.4	1 737.5	988.9	748.6	1 737.5
For other reasons	3 830.8	205.9	4 036.7	2 685.0	1 351.8	4 036.7
Total	5 429.8	344.3	5 774.2	3 673.8	2 100.4	5 774.2
Total	6 390.1	490.4	6 880.5	4 240.9	2 639.7	6 880.5
Walking alone in local area after dark						
Walked alone						
Felt safe	1 387.1	145.7	1 532.9	833.2	699.7	1 532.9
Felt unsafe	643.3	134.3	777.6	314.2	463.4	777.6
Total	2 030.4	280.1	2 310.5	1 147.4	1 163.1	2 310.5
Did not walk alone						
Did not walk because felt unsafe	2 477.1	151.3	2 628.4	1 628.8	999.7	2 628.4
Did not walk for other reasons	1 882.5	59.0	1 941.6	1 464.7	476.8	1 941.6
Total	4 359.6	210.4	4 570.0	3 093.5	1 476.5	4 570.0
Total	6 390.1	490.4	6 880.5	4 240.9	2 639.7	6 880.5
At home alone in the evening or night						
At home alone						
Felt safe	4 850.6	274.8	5 125.4	3 364.2	1 761.2	5 125.4
Felt unsafe	1 259.5	212.0	1 471.5	661.9	809.6	1 471.5
Total	6 110.1	486.8	6 596.9	4 026.1	2 570.8	6 596.9
Not at home alone						
Not home because felt unsafe	29.1	**	30.5	23.1	*7.4	30.5
Not home for other reasons	250.9	**2.2	253.1	191.6	61.5	253.1
Total	280.0	**3.6	283.6	214.8	68.9	283.6
Total	6 390.1	490.4	6 880.5	4 240.9	2 639.7	6 880.5

(a) Includes physical and sexual violence by a male and/or female perpetrator.

7.6 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF STALKING BY A MAN, Age

When stalking began	AGE GROUP (YEARS)					
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	All age groups
.....						
PROPORTION (%)						
Not stalked	79.2	79.8	83.0	84.5	93.0	84.9
Stalked						
During the last 12 months	6.6	3.0	2.1	*1.7	*0.6	2.4
More than 12 months ago	14.1	17.2	14.9	13.8	6.5	12.7
Total	20.8	20.2	17.0	15.5	7.0	15.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
.....						
NUMBER ('000)						
Total	945.2	1 440.2	1 376.3	1 166.6	1 952.2	6 880.5
.....						

7.7 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED STALKING BY A MAN, Whether Stalking Has Stopped

Whether stalking has stopped	During the last 12 months.....		During their lifetime.....	
	'000	%	'000	%
.....				
Stalking has stopped	112.2	67.7	920.5	88.7
Stalking has not stopped	38.3	23.1	78.1	7.5
Do not know if stalking has stopped	*15.2	*9.2	39.5	3.8
Total	165.7	100.0	1 038.1	100.0
.....				

7.8 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED STALKING BY A MAN, Type of Stalking

Type of stalking	During the last 12 months.....		During their lifetime.....	
	'000	rate(a)	'000	rate(a)
Watched	81.6	1.2	639.3	9.3
Telephoned, sent mail or contacted electronically	108.9	1.6	534.0	7.8
Followed	65.5	1.0	523.4	7.6
Loitered outside home	61.1	0.9	523.7	7.6
Loitered outside workplace	33.2	0.5	271.3	3.9
Loitered outside place of leisure/social activities	36.9	0.5	215.5	3.1
Interfered with or damaged property	*16.3	*0.2	191.3	2.8
Gave or left offensive/disturbing material where it could be found	22.5	0.3	138.3	2.0
Total(b)	165.7	2.4	1 038.1	15.1

(a) Rate per 100 women (6.9 million).

(b) If a woman reported more than one type of stalking activity she was only counted once in the total.

7.9 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF STALKING BY A MAN, Relationship to Perpetrator

Relationship to perpetrator	During the last 12 months.....		During their lifetime.....		Total women in each group(a)
	'000	rate(b)	'000	rate(b)	
Previous partner	*16.5	*0.6	154.1	6.1	2 546.7
Boyfriend/date	*11.2	..	85.2	..	..
Other known man	41.4	0.6	304.6	4.4	6 880.5
Stranger	96.7	1.4	493.1	7.2	6 880.5
Total(c)	165.7	2.4	1 038.1	15.1	6 880.5

(a) Includes women who were not stalked.

(b) Rate per 100 women in the relevant population. See last column for the numbers of women in each group.

(c) Includes women who were stalked by a current partner.

7.10 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED STALKING BY A MAN WHICH HAS STOPPED, Relationship to Perpetrator

<i>Length of time stalked</i>	<i>Previous partner.....</i>		<i>Boyfriend/ date.....</i>		<i>Other known man.....</i>		<i>Stranger.....</i>		<i>Total(a).....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Less than 1 month	*11.9	*9.2	*14.9	*19.6	51.6	18.6	201.3	45.9	279.6	30.4
1 month to less than 6 months	30.1	23.4	31.8	41.9	106.3	38.3	130.9	29.8	298.9	32.5
6 months to less than 2 years	52.5	40.8	*19.0	*25.1	64.7	23.3	77.4	17.6	213.5	23.2
2 years or more	34.3	26.6	*10.2	*13.5	54.8	19.8	29.1	6.6	128.4	14.0
Total	128.7	100.0	75.8	100.0	277.3	100.0	438.6	100.0	920.5	100.0

(a) Includes women who were stalked by a current partner.

7.11 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED STALKING BY A MAN, Whether Police Told

<i>Whether police told</i>	<i>During the last 12 months</i>		<i>During their lifetime.....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%
Police not told	95.8	57.8	594.7	57.3
Police told				
By woman	60.5	36.5	394.9	38.0
By someone else	*9.5	*5.7	48.6	4.7
<i>Total</i>	70.0	42.2	443.4	42.7
Total	165.7	100.0	1 038.1	100.0

7.12 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED STALKING BY A MAN, Whether Fear for Personal Safety

<i>Fear for personal safety</i>	<i>Stalking has stopped.....</i>		<i>Stalking has not stopped(a).....</i>		<i>Total.....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS						
Does not live in fear for personal safety	67.7	60.4	31.0	57.9	98.8	59.6
Lives in fear for personal safety	44.4	39.6	22.5	42.1	67.0	40.4
Total	112.2	100.0	53.6	100.0	165.7	100.0
DURING THEIR LIFETIME						
Does not live in fear for personal safety	638.9	69.4	68.4	58.2	707.2	68.1
Lives in fear for personal safety	281.7	30.6	49.2	41.8	330.9	31.9
Total	920.5	100.0	117.6	100.0	1 038.1	100.0

(a) Includes women who do not know if the stalking has stopped.

7.13 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED STALKING BY A MAN, Effects on Life During the 12 Months After the Incident

<i>Effects on life</i>	<i>Stalking has stopped.....</i>		<i>Stalking has not stopped(a).....</i>		<i>Total.....</i>	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
WHETHER TOOK TIME OFF WORK						
No time off	538.3	58.5	62.2	52.9	600.5	57.8
Time off	92.4	10.0	*11.9	*10.1	104.3	10.0
Not in paid work	289.8	31.5	43.5	37.0	333.3	32.1
Total	920.5	100.0	117.6	100.0	1 038.1	100.0
CHANGE IN DAY-TO-DAY ACTIVITIES						
No change	547.7	59.5	77.3	65.7	625.0	60.2
Change						
Housework	69.1	7.5	*10.0	*8.5	79.1	7.6
Shopping	147.2	16.0	*19.4	*16.5	166.6	16.0
Child care	63.6	6.9	*6.9	*5.9	70.5	6.8
Voluntary or community work	27.4	3.0	*4.5	*3.8	31.9	3.1
Social activities	317.1	34.5	30.4	25.9	347.6	33.5
<i>Total(b)</i>	372.8	40.5	40.3	34.3	413.1	39.8
Total	920.5	100.0	117.6	100.0	1 038.1	100.0

(a) Includes women who do not know if the stalking has stopped.

(b) If a woman changed more than one of her day-to-day activities she was only counted once in the total.

7.14 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF SELECTED TYPES OF HARASSMENT—during the last 12 months

Selected types of harassment	AGE GROUP (YEARS)					
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	All age groups
OBSCENE PHONE CALL (%)						
Not received	75.8	82.1	85.3	86.8	90.2	85.0
Received	24.2	17.9	14.7	13.2	9.8	15.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
INDECENT EXPOSURE BY A MAN (%)						
Did not experience	96.2	98.0	98.3	98.6	99.7	98.4
Experienced	3.8	2.0	1.7	*1.3	*0.3	1.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
INAPPROPRIATE COMMENTS ABOUT BODY/SEX LIFE BY A MAN (%)						
Not received	64.3	78.0	84.0	89.7	98.4	85.1
Received	35.7	22.0	16.0	10.3	1.6	14.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
UNWANTED SEXUAL TOUCHING BY A MAN (%)						
Not experienced	86.6	94.7	94.7	96.6	98.9	95.1
Experienced	13.4	5.3	5.3	3.4	*1.1	4.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
TOTAL WOMEN ('000)						
Total	945.2	1 440.2	1 376.3	1 166.6	1 952.2	6 880.5

7.15 WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF SELECTED TYPES OF HARASSMENT—during their lifetime

Selected types of harassment	Not experienced.....		Experienced.....		Total women.....	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Obscene phone call	3 581.6	52.1	3 299.0	47.9	6 880.5	100.0
Indecent exposure by a man	5 341.0	77.6	1 539.5	22.4	6 880.5	100.0
Inappropriate comments about body/sex life	4 647.8	67.5	2 232.7	32.5	6 880.5	100.0
Unwanted sexual touching	5 107.4	74.2	1 773.1	25.8	6 880.5	100.0

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication presents the results of the 1996 Women's Safety Survey which was conducted throughout Australia during February to April 1996.

2 Information was collected from women aged 18 years and over about their safety at home and in the community. In particular, information was collected about women's experiences of physical and sexual violence, the nature of the violence, the actions women took after experiencing violence and the effect on their life. Additional information was collected about incidents of stalking and other forms of harassment.

SURVEY DESIGN

3 A representative sample of women in private dwellings was selected. Both urban and rural areas were included in the sample. Due to the need for specific training and support for interviewers enumerating the survey, the size of the sample selected in rural and remote areas was reduced, while ensuring that the sample was fully representative of the Australian population. Approximately 6,300 women completed the survey, representing a response rate of 78%.

4 While the survey was conducted under the authority of the Census and Statistics Act, women selected in the survey were advised that they were not under any obligation to respond.

5 The following table shows the age distribution of women who completed the questionnaire compared to the estimated age distribution of all women in Australia.

AGE OF WOMEN

<i>Age group (years)</i>	<i>Distribution in the sample</i>	<i>Distribution in the population</i>
18-19	2.2	3.6
20-24	8.7	10.1
25-34	23.3	20.7
35-44	23.2	20.2
45-54	17.0	16.4
55-64	10.3	11.0
65 and over	15.3	18.0
All age groups	100.0	100.0

SCOPE

6 Factors or weights were inserted into the record of each respondent to enable the data provided to be expanded to obtain estimates relating to all women aged 18 years and over. The person level weights are broadly the ratio of the sample numbers in an age-sex-area group to the benchmark population for the corresponding area. The estimation procedure is designed to adjust estimates in such a way as to reduce any bias that may occur as a result of under-enumeration among a particular population sub-group. The estimates for this survey were weighted to account for the different

response rates by women from different countries of birth, household types and marital status.

7 Interviews were conducted with one women aged 18 years or over who was a usual resident of the selected household. Women excluded from the survey were:

- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and surveys;
- overseas residents in Australia;
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia; and
- resident of non-private dwellings, such as hospitals, retirement villages, refuges etc.).

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

8 Information was obtained from selected respondents by a personal or telephone interview, or a combination of these. Interviewers from the ABS household survey panel worked on the survey. The interviewers received standard ABS training in the content and procedures for the survey. In addition, they received sensitivity and awareness training to increase their understanding, and ability to deal with issues related to violence against women.

9 A specific requirement of the survey was that all interviews had to be conducted alone. This ensured the complete confidentiality of any information collected.

10 More detailed information about the methods used to conduct the survey are found in *Women's Safety, Australia: User Guide* (4129.0).

DEFINITIONS

11 Definitions of the data items presented in this publication are included in the Glossary (p. 77).

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

12 The estimates provided in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors.

13 Sampling error is the difference which would be expected between the estimate and the corresponding figure that would have been obtained from a collection based on the whole population, using the same questionnaires and procedures. A measure of the sampling error for a given estimate is provided by the standard error expressed as a percentage of the estimate (relative standard error). The Technical Notes (p. 74) discuss sampling error, as well as explaining how to calculate the relative standard error for selected estimates in this publication.

14 Non-sampling errors can occur whether the estimates are derived from a sample or from a census. Three major sources of non-sampling error are:

- inability to obtain comprehensive data from some women in the sample. These errors arise because of differences which exist between the characteristics of respondents and non-respondents;
- errors in reporting by either the respondent or the interviewer, arising from inappropriate wording of questions, misunderstanding of the information required,

inability or unwillingness to provide accurate information and mistakes in answers to questions; and

- errors arising during processing of the survey data, such as mistakes in coding and data recording.

15 Non-sampling errors are difficult to measure in any collection. However, every effort was made to minimise these errors. In particular, the effect of the reporting and processing errors described above was minimised by careful questionnaire design, extensive training of interviewers and extensive editing and quality control checking at all stages of data processing.

16 More detailed information about issues to consider when interpreting the survey results are contained in *Women's Safety, Australia: User Guide* (4129.0).

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

17 Other ABS publications on related topics which may be of interest include:

Crime and Safety, Australia, 1993 (4509.0)

National Crime Statistics, 1995 (4510.0)

18 All current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

19 A non-ABS sources which may be of interest is:

Statistics Canada, *Violence Against Women Survey, Survey Highlights 1993*

UNPUBLISHED STATISTICS

20 This publication does not include all the information available from the survey. Additional tables, providing more detail, or data items not included in this publication, are available on request. *Women's Safety, Australia: User Guide* (4129.0) provides a comprehensive list of data items available from the survey. Users should be aware that as the level of disaggregation increases, the number of respondents contributing to data cells decreases, and so sample error increases. For further information please contact the Women's Statistics Unit on (06) 252 6174.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

21 Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between the sum of the component items and totals.

22 The following symbols, where shown in columns of figures or elsewhere in tables, mean:

- * estimates have a relative standard error of 25% to 50%
- ** where appears with an estimate, the estimate is subject to a relative standard error of 50% or more. Where ** appears alone, it indicates that less than three or no observations reflecting those characteristics were recorded in the survey
- .. not applicable

TECHNICAL NOTES

ESTIMATION PROCEDURES

1 Estimates obtained from the survey were derived using a complex ratio estimation procedure. This procedure ensures that survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the total female population by age and area (rather than to the age-area distribution within the sample itself). The survey was conducted over a 12 week period (5 February to 26 April 1996) and estimates were made to conform to the population distribution during that period.

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

2 As estimates are based on a sample they are subject to sampling variability. In this publication only estimates with relative standard errors of 25% or less are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. Estimates with a relative standard error greater than 25% have been included and are preceded by a single asterisk (*). Estimates with a relative standard error of over 50% are preceded by a double asterisk (**) to indicate they are subject to high standard errors and should be used with caution.

3 In addition to sampling errors, estimates are subject to non-sampling errors. These may include errors in reporting (e.g. incorrect interpretation of questions or difficulty recalling exactly when an incident occurred) and errors arising during processing (e.g. incorrect coding or data recording). Non-sampling errors are not specific to sample surveys and can occur in a census enumeration. A number of procedures are undertaken to ensure this type of error is reduced to a minimum such as careful design and testing of questionnaires, intensive interviewer training and efficient operating procedures.

4 Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this publication. A table of standard errors and relative standard errors for estimates of the number of women are provided in table A. These figures will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate but they will provide an indication of its magnitude. An example of the calculation and use follows.

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERRORS

5 From table 3.13 the estimate of the number of women who were married or in a de facto relationship who experienced physical violence by a man during the last 12 months is 151,000. Since the estimate is between 100,000 and 200,000 the standard error for Australia will be between 11,800 and 16,200 (taken from the standard error column of table A) and can be approximated to 14,000 (rounded to the nearest 100). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall in the range of 137,000 to 165,000 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will fall within the range of 123,000 to 179,000.

6 The smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses.

RATES AND PERCENTAGES

7 Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. A formula to approximate the relative standard error (RSE) of a proportion is given below.

$$\text{Standard error } (x/y) = \sqrt{[\text{RSE } (x)]^2 - [\text{RSE } (y)]^2}$$

8 Referring back to table 3.13, the 151,000 women who were married or in a de facto relationship who experienced physical violence by a man during the last 12 months represented 3.5% of all women with a partner (4,318,300). The standard error of 4,318,300 is approximately 47,300, so the relative standard error is 1.1%. The relative standard error for 151,000 is 9.3%. Applying the above formula, the relative standard error of the proportion is $\sqrt{(9.3)^2 - (1.1)^2}$ or 9.2%, giving a standard error for the proportion (3.5%) of 0.3 percentage points. Therefore, there are about two chances in three that women who had a partner and experienced physical violence by a man during the last 12 months as a proportion of all women with a partner is between 3.2% and 3.8% and nineteen chances in twenty the proportion is within the range 2.9% to 4.1%.

9 The standard error of an estimated percentage or rate computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the numerator and the size of the denominator. However, the relative standard error of the estimated percentage or rate will generally be lower than the relative standard error of the estimate of the numerator.

10 Approximate standard errors of the rates or percentages may be derived by first obtaining the number of persons corresponding to the numerator of the rate or percentage and then applying this figure to the estimated rate or percentage.

11 The difference between two survey estimates is itself an estimate and is therefore subject to sampling variability. The standard error of the difference of two survey estimates depends on the standard errors of the original estimates and on the relationship (correlation) between the two original estimates. An approximate standard error (SE) of the difference between two estimates ($x - y$) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$\text{Standard error } (x - y) = \sqrt{[\text{SE } (x)]^2 - [\text{SE } (y)]^2}$$

12 While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated (unrelated) characteristics or sub-populations, it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest.

A STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

<i>SIZE OF ESTIMATES</i>	<i>Standard error</i>	<i>Relative standard error</i>
<i>Number of women</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>%</i>
1 500	1 070	71.3
1 600	1 120	70.0
1 800	1 210	67.2
1 900	1 250	65.8
2 000	1 300	65.0
2 500	1 500	60.0
3 000	1 690	56.3
4 000	2 030	50.8
5 000	2 340	46.8
6 000	2 610	43.5
7 000	2 860	40.9
8 000	3 100	38.8
9 000	3 320	36.9
10 000	3 540	35.4
20 000	5 240	26.2
30 000	6 510	21.7
40 000	7 560	18.9
50 000	8 450	16.9
100 000	11 800	11.8
200 000	16 200	8.1
300 000	19 200	6.4
400 000	21 600	5.4
500 000	23 500	4.7
1,000 000	30 000	3.0
2 000 000	38 000	1.9
5 000 000	50 000	1.0

GLOSSARY

- Abuse when a child** Abuse experienced by a woman before the age of 15 from any adult (male or female), including the woman's parents. Emotional abuse is excluded.
- Physical abuse.* Any deliberate physical injury (including bruises) inflicted by an adult. Discipline that accidentally resulted in an injury is excluded.
- Sexual abuse.* Involving a child in sexual processes beyond their understanding or contrary to currently accepted community standards.
- Age** Of the woman at the time of the survey.
- Assault** See *Physical assault* and *Sexual assault*.
- Birthplace** Classified according to the *Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics* (1269.0). Main English speaking countries include the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, United States of America, South Africa and New Zealand.
- Children witnessed violence** Women who had children in their long-term care reported whether or not these children saw or heard the violence by a current and/or previous partner. The children may have been the woman's or her partner's, step-children, adopted or foster children. Children of relatives, friends or neighbours who were visiting and saw or heard the violence were excluded.
- Doctor consulted** Includes qualified medical practitioners working in private practice, health centres, hospitals, emergency services who the woman visited to treat the injuries sustained in the last incident of either physical assault and/or sexual assault by a man.
- During the relationship** Refers to the time that a woman lived with her current or previous partner.
- Educational attainment** The highest level of qualification completed.
- Effects on life** The effects on a woman's life as a result of the last incident of physical violence and/or sexual assault during the 12 months after the incident.
- Whether took time off work.* Time off from paid work or work without pay in a family business. This includes time off work to: appear in court; meet with the police or a lawyer; to visit the doctor or a counsellor; or because she was unable to work because of either physical injuries or emotional distress.
- Change in day-to-day activities.* Includes a change in the usual way of carrying out unpaid work such as shopping, housework, child care, voluntary or community work and social activities. The change may have been either a reduction or an increase in the amount that the woman did or a change in the way activities were carried out because of injuries or her emotional condition, for example, she was unable to complete any of her normal household duties and arranged for a relative to do them or she was unable to attend her regular leisure activities because the perpetrator would be there.

- Emotional abuse** Manipulation, isolation or intimidation by a current male partner.
- Tried to prevent contact with family or friends.* Long-term prevention of contact with family, relatives or friends, including those overseas.
- Tried to prevent knowledge about or access to family money.* The partner controls the household income or assets and does not let the woman know about them. For example, the woman is only given a certain amount of money each week and does not know how much money comes into the family.
- Tried to prevent use of the telephone or family car.* Includes persistent behaviour that seeks to control the woman's activities or contact with others. It excludes the occasional situation where a woman has not been able to use the car because her partner needs it or not being able to use the telephone because the last bill was too large.
- Insulted with the intent to shame, belittle or humiliate.* Intentional putting down of the woman. Insults that are said in jest or fun were excluded.
- Employed** Women who worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm. Includes women who were employees, employers or self employed. Women who usually worked 35 hours or more in their main job were classified as working full time.
- Fear** If a woman had experienced any incident of violence by a current or previous partner she was asked if she lived in fear. If the last incident of physical violence or sexual violence was perpetrated by a person other than a partner, the woman was asked if she feared for her personal safety as a result of the incident. Fear for personal safety was also collected in relation to the last incident of stalking.
- Fear for personal safety.* Includes fear of reprisals or the recurrence of a similar incident by either the perpetrator or another person. It excludes fear for her children.
- Lived in fear.* A broader concept than fear for personal safety, incorporating the generalised fear which a woman may have experienced as a result of living with the perpetrator of the violence. Includes fear of leaving the house, fear of men in general and fear for her children's safety.
- Frequency of violence** Relates to violence by a current and/or previous partner. If the frequency of violence changed, for example, depending on the time of the year, then the woman was asked to determine how often the assaults occurred overall. If a woman reported violence by more than one previous partner this relates to the partner who was violent to her in the last incident.
- General safety** Relates to women's feelings of safety in various situations when they are alone. If a woman had only a young child with her she was treated as being alone.
- Using and waiting for public transport alone after dark.* Includes using and waiting for buses, trains, trams, taxis and ferries.
- Walking alone in the local area after dark.* Includes the woman's neighbourhood or suburb.

- Harassment** Relates to a range of disturbing situations that a woman may have experienced.
- Obscene phone call.* Refers to a telephone call that the woman felt was indecent or improper due to the sexual content of the message. Includes phone calls in which profanity was used or any other type of obscene message.
- Indecent exposure by a man.* The act of exposing genitals, where the woman believed the purpose was to distress, shock, humiliate and/or generate fear.
- Inappropriate comments about body/sex life by a man.* Includes inappropriate comments in a group situation or when alone with a man.
- Unwanted sexual touching by a man.* Any intentional touching, grabbing, kissing or fondling which is carried out without a woman's consent. It is momentary or brief touching which did not lead to sexual assault. It includes groping, brushing against or grabbing a woman's bottom.
- Injured** As a result of the last incident of physical assault or sexual assault.
- Other injuries.* Includes burns, bites, loss of fingers, toes, limbs, eyes or hearing, internal injuries, sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV and hepatitis.
- Involvement of alcohol** In the last incident of physical violence and/or sexual assault. Alcohol was involved if the woman, the perpetrator or anyone else had been drinking alcohol at the time of the incident or if the woman believed alcohol contributed to the incident, for example, when the perpetrator was recovering from a hangover.
- Last incident of violence** If the incident occurred 20 years ago or more, information was only collected about relationship to perpetrator.
- Location** Where the most recent incident of either physical violence and/or sexual assault occurred. This information was not collected if a current or previous partner was the perpetrator in the most recent incident.
- In a home.* Includes the woman's or another person's home. Includes the yard.
- At licensed premises.* Includes hotels, bars, taverns and licensed restaurants and the areas surrounding these premises such as on the footpath, in a beer garden or carpark of a hotel.
- Using public transport.* Includes waiting for, or using any vehicle where a fare is charged such as, buses, trains, trams, coaches, taxis, ships and aircraft.
- In the open.* Includes streets, sidewalks/footpaths, parks, sporting fields, forests or bushland etc.

Main reason police not told	<p>If the woman did not tell police about the last incident of physical violence and/or sexual assault by a man she was asked why not.</p> <p><i>Shame/embarrassment.</i> Includes reasons such as did not want to make trouble, that the woman considered it to be a family problem, that she was asked not to by someone in the family or that she did not want anybody to know about the incident.</p> <p><i>Cultural/language reasons.</i> Includes fear of police because of experiences in her country of origin; could not communicate well enough in English to make complaint known; thinks that police believe violence against women is accepted as part of other cultures; or belief that the police are racist.</p>
Marital status	<p>As reported by the woman at the time of the survey.</p> <p><i>Married.</i> Includes women who are married or in a de facto relationship.</p>
Number of incidents	<p>Refers to the number of incidents of violence a woman experienced by male and female perpetrators since the age of 15. Excludes repeat victimisation by a boyfriend/date or man who the women knew other than a partner.</p>
Number of perpetrators	<p>Refers to the type of perpetrators (as defined in relationship to perpetrator) who were violent toward a woman in the previous 12 month period. Includes violence by male and female perpetrators.</p>
Partner violence	<p>Any incident of physical or sexual violence by a current and/or previous partner.</p>
Physical assault	<p>The use of physical force with the intent to harm or frighten a woman. The assault may have occurred in conjunction with a robbery. It excludes incidents of sexual assault which also involved physical assault and incidents which occurred before the age of 15. If a physical assault was preceded by a threat of the same type in the same incident, only the physical assault was recorded. Various types of physical assault were identified, including:</p> <p><i>Push, grab or shove.</i> Includes being pushed off a balcony, down stairs, or across the room.</p> <p><i>Slapped.</i> Includes a hit with an open hand. Excludes slaps with a belt or bat, etc.</p> <p><i>Hit with something.</i> Includes being hit with a bat, hammer, belt, pot, ruler, etc. Excludes being punched.</p> <p><i>Choked.</i> Includes being choked by hands, a rope, a scarf, a tie or any other item.</p> <p><i>Beaten.</i> Includes punching, hitting or slapping in a repetitive manner.</p> <p><i>Stabbed.</i> With a knife.</p> <p><i>Shot.</i> With a gun.</p> <p><i>Other.</i> Includes burns, scalds, being dragged by the hair.</p>

- Physical attempt or threat** Verbal and/or physical intent to inflict physical harm which the woman believed was able and likely to be carried out. It excludes incidents which occurred before the age of 15. Various types of physical attempt or threat were identified, including:
- Threaten or attempt to hit with a fist or anything else that could hurt.*
Includes threats or attempts to slap, punch or hit in any way with a fist or weapon such as a bat, hammer or pot.
- Threaten or attempt to shoot with a gun.* The gun may or may not have been aimed at the woman. Includes situations where a gun was left in an obvious place or if the woman knew that the perpetrator had access to a gun. Includes toy guns, starter pistols etc.
- Physical violence** Any incident of physical assault, attempt or threat (as defined above). Incidents so defined would be an offence under State and Territory criminal law.
- Police action taken** The outcomes for the perpetrator as a result of an incident being reported to police, that is, whether he was charged and went to court.
- Professional help** Advice or support sought from a doctor, counsellor or priest after the last incident of physical violence and/or sexual assault by a man. The support may have been in the form of listening to the problem, making suggestions, giving information about other appropriate services, and offering further help.
- Doctor.* Includes qualified medical practitioners in private practice, health centres, hospitals, emergency services who the woman visited for advice or support. Doctors who were visited for the sole purpose of treatment of an injury were excluded.
- Minister or priest.* Includes any member of the clergy such as Christian brothers, monks, elders, deacons or rabbi who the woman sought advice or support from.
- Reasons services not used** Women who did not use any crisis, legal or financial help recorded all the reasons why they did not use them.
- Cultural/language reasons.* Includes the inability to communicate well enough in English to use services and cultural and religious reasons, such as not being able to talk to anyone other than her husband.
- Relationship to perpetrator** The woman's relationship to the perpetrator at the time of the incident, with the exception of previous partner.
- Current partner.* Includes both married and de facto relationships. If the incident occurred while the woman was dating a man who she later married, the perpetrator of the incident would have been described as boyfriend/date.
- Previous partner.* Includes both married and de facto relationships. Includes partners at the time of the incident from whom a woman is now separated and partners a woman was no longer living with at the time of the incident.

Boyfriend/date. This relationship may have different levels of commitment and involvement, for example, one date only, regular dating with no sexual involvement, or a serious sexual or emotional relationship. Excludes de facto relationships.

Other known man/woman. Any man/woman who does not fit into any of the above categories, for example, family members, doctors or teachers.

Stranger. Someone the woman did not know, or someone she only knew by hearsay.

- Services used** Includes services contacted or visited after the last incident of physical violence and/or sexual assault by a man. If a woman used more than one source of help offered by an individual service then each relevant category was answered.
- Crisis help.* Includes shelters, refuges providing accommodation, telephone crisis lines, rape crisis services, etc.
- Legal help.* Includes legal aid commissions, community legal centres, Clerks of Court, private solicitors or legal centres which provide special services for Indigenous people, women or migrants.
- Financial help.* Includes the Department of Social Security and church or community groups that offer financial help, or financial counselling such as The Smith Family.
- Sexual assault** Acts of a sexual nature carried out against a woman's will through the use of physical force, intimidation or coercion. It includes attempts to force a woman into sexual activity. However, attempts are not separately identified. It includes rape, attempted rape, aggravated sexual assault (assault with a weapon), indecent assault, penetration by objects and forced sexual activity that did not end in penetration. It excludes unwanted sexual touching and incidents which occurred before the age of 15. Incidents so defined would be an offence under State and Territory criminal law.
- Sexual threat** The threat of acts of a sexual nature which a woman believed were able and likely to be carried out. It includes verbal threats, threats with a weapon and threats to harm children. It excludes incidents that occurred before the age of 15.
- Sexual violence** Any incident of sexual assault or threat (as defined above).
- Stalking by a man** The definition of stalking is based on State and Territory legislation. It is defined by a range of activities which the woman believed were undertaken with the intent to harm or frighten. Activities include: loitering outside a women's home, workplace or place of leisure activities; following or watching her; interfering with her property; giving or leaving offensive material and telephoning; and sending mail or contacting electronically. In order to be classified as stalking more than one type of stalking behaviour had to occur, or the same type of behaviour had to occur on more than one occasion. Women who had been stalked by more than one man during their lifetime provided details about the most recent incident of stalking.
- Talked to others** Includes family members, friends or neighbours, work colleagues or anybody else. Excludes talking to professionals or contacting services.

Unemployed	A woman who was not employed during the reference week who had actively looked for work during the previous four weeks and who was available to start work.
Unwanted sexual touching	See <i>Harassment</i> .
Violence	Includes physical and sexual violence (as defined above).
Whether police told	Whether the police were contacted about the last incident of physical violence and/or sexual assault. The contact with police may have been by the woman or another person.