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Australian Institute of
Health and Welfare



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Australian Institute of Health and Welfare:

Response to Written Questions on Notice from the Senate Standing
References Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs regarding the
Inquiry into Missing and Murdered First Nations Women and Children.

Thursday 29 September 2022

Question 1: Murdered women and children

1. Please provide the committee with:

- a) information on the *number* of Australian women and children who have been murdered, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).
- b) information on the *number* of First Nations women and children who have been murdered, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).
- c) information on the *number* of non-First Nations women and children who have been murdered, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).
- d) information on the *rate* of:
 - i) First Nations women and children,
 - ii) non-First Nations women and children,
 - iii) Australian (both First Nations and non-First Nations) women and children, and
 - iv) all Australians

who have been murdered by state/territory and by year (1980 – present if available).

e) If you are unable to provide this information, please explain the reasons for not being able to do so (e.g. certain data isn't collected in a particular state or territory, or isn't captured by your agency etc.). Are there other sources that may reliably record this information? If so, what are they?

Response

General information

The AIHW National Mortality Database (NMD) includes data on homicide.

- The NMD holds records for deaths in Australia from 1964. It comprises information about causes of death and other characteristics of the person, such as sex, age at death, area of usual residence and Indigenous status.
- The data are provided to the AIHW by the Registrars of Births, Deaths and Marriages in each state and territory, with additional information about coroner-certified deaths sourced from the National Coronial Information System. The cause of death information in the data is coded by the ABS, using the International Classification of Diseases (ICD).
- Deaths data is subject to a revisions process. In responses to these questions, in general, deaths registered in 2018 and earlier are based on the final version of cause of death data; deaths registered in 2019 are based on the revised version; deaths registered in 2020 are based on the preliminary version¹. Revised and preliminary versions are subject to further revision.
- Homicide deaths are defined in the data presented here as a cause of death in the following ICD-10 codes X85–Y09.

See Box A1 for some key data caveats and limitations.

¹ The one exception is table A4, which is based on slightly older data. In that table, 2015-2017 data are based on the final version of cause of death data, 2018 is based on the revised version, and 2019 on the preliminary.

Box A1: Data caveats and limitations

Due to concerns around data quality of the Indigenous status information, the AIHW publishes mortality rates by Indigenous status for 5 jurisdictions (excluding Tas, ACT and Vic) from 1998 onwards

Changes in data quality and in the identification of Indigenous status in deaths data, as well as the census-based population estimates (used as denominators for calculating mortality rates) have a major bearing on the interpretation of the findings. Due to changes in Indigenous identification over time, trends over longer time periods need to be interpreted with caution.

The NMD provides counts of deaths – to calculate rates, ABS population estimates must be used for the denominator. The most recent population estimates available for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population are those based on the 2016 Census². Backcast population estimates based on the 2016 Census are available from 2001, but the ABS advises that the backcast population estimates prior to 2016 should be used with caution, especially for years prior to 2006. Backcasting introduces uncertainty to the historical population estimates, with that uncertainty increasing with time from base year (which in this case is 2016).

As a consequence of the availability and reliability of population denominators, rates of homicide by Indigenous status are presently only possible from 2001, and should be interpreted with caution prior to 2006.

Other sources of homicide data include:

- Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) [National Homicide Monitoring Program](#): a national data collection on homicide incidents, victims and offenders, available from 1989–90. The program uses two key sources of data: offence records obtained from each Australian state and territory police service and state coronial records from the National Coronial Information System.
- ABS [Recorded Crime—Victims](#): presents statistics relating to victims of crime for a selected range of offences as recorded by police agencies within each state and territory. Offences are classified using the Australian and New Zealand Standard Offence Classification (ANZSOC) and as such 'homicide and related offences' includes murder, attempted murder and manslaughter but excludes driving causing death (from 2008 onwards). Data was first published in 1993 and has since been released annually.

The scope, collections methods and criteria for identifying homicide differs between data sources. These collections are not directly comparable but complement each other as statistical sources.

Data based on the AIHW NMD are provided in the pages that follow. The data presented are based on published tables, with some of the analysis re-run using a more recent extract of the data. New analysis was not possible in the timeframes but could be provided at a later date if required (see response to question 1e).

The AIHW recommends that the questions are referred to the ABS and the AIC for responses based on their data holdings.

² The ABS has published preliminary estimates for the Indigenous population based on the 2021 Census. However, these estimates are for 30 June 2021 only, with time series data not expected to be available until 2024. As such, 2016 Census-based estimates and projections are used for the rate calculations in these responses.

Question 1a)

a) information on the *number* of Australian women and children who have been murdered, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).

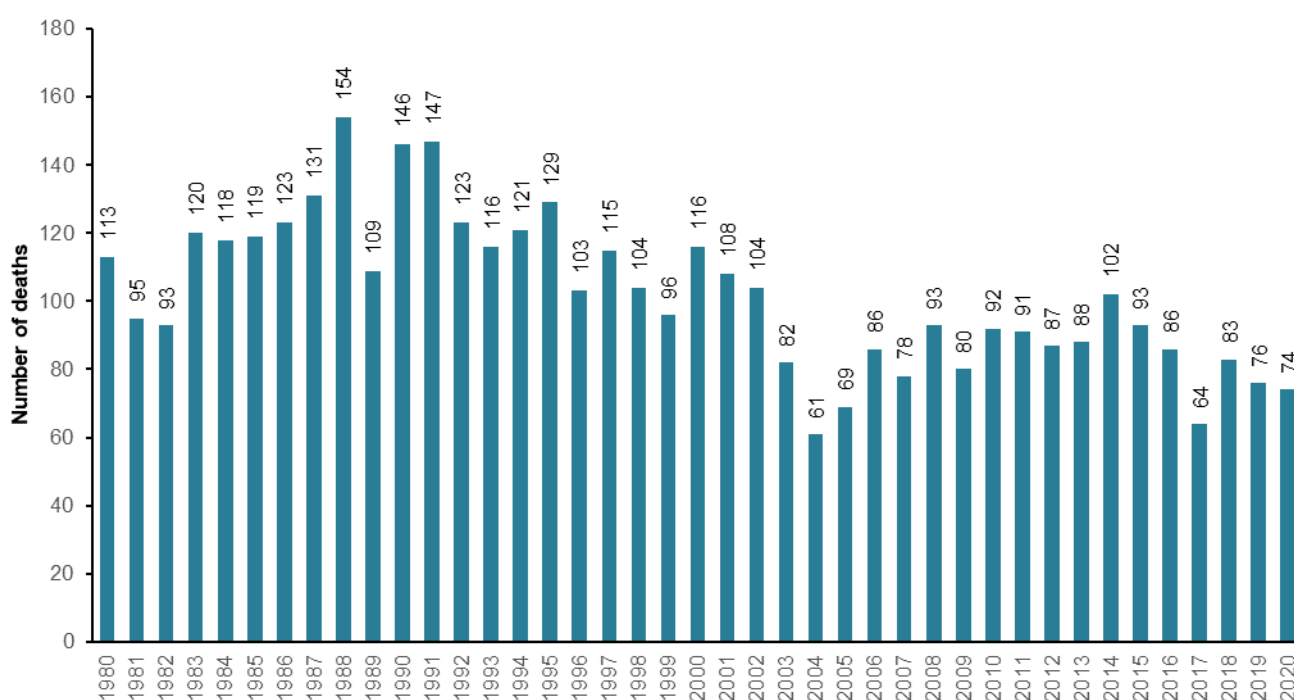
Data for this question are based on tables published in the AIHW [General Record of Incidence of Mortality \(GRIM\) books](#), but using a more recent extract of the data (due to database revisions, numbers shown here may differ to what is published).

Nationally, in 2020, based on the NMD, there were 74 homicide deaths of females in Australia (that is, where the cause of death was recorded as assault; ICD-10 codes X85-Y09) – consisting of 67 deaths of females aged 15 and over, and 7 deaths of girls aged under 15. There were also 9 homicide deaths of boys aged under 15, bringing the total number of children aged under 15 who were victims of homicide in 2020 to 16.

Looking over a longer period, between January 1980 and December 2020, analysis of the NMD shows there were 4,188 homicide deaths of Australian females (of all ages) (Table A1). Over the 41-year period, this equates to an average of 102 deaths per year.

Nationally, over the period 1980–2020, there were 1,015 homicide deaths of Australian children aged under 15, equating to an average of 25 deaths per year. Children aged between 0–4 accounted for almost two-thirds (626 or 62%) of these homicide deaths (Table A2).

Figure A1: Number of female homicide victims based on the NMD, 1980 to 2020



Source: AIHW National Mortality Database – see Table A1.

Question 1b) and 1c)

b) information on the *number* of First Nations women and children who have been murdered, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).

c) information on the *number* of non-First Nations women and children who have been murdered, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).

Data for this question are based on tables published in the [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Framework](#) website, [Community Safety measure](#), but updated to include data for 2020, and using a more recent extract of the data (due to database revisions, numbers shown here may differ to what is published).

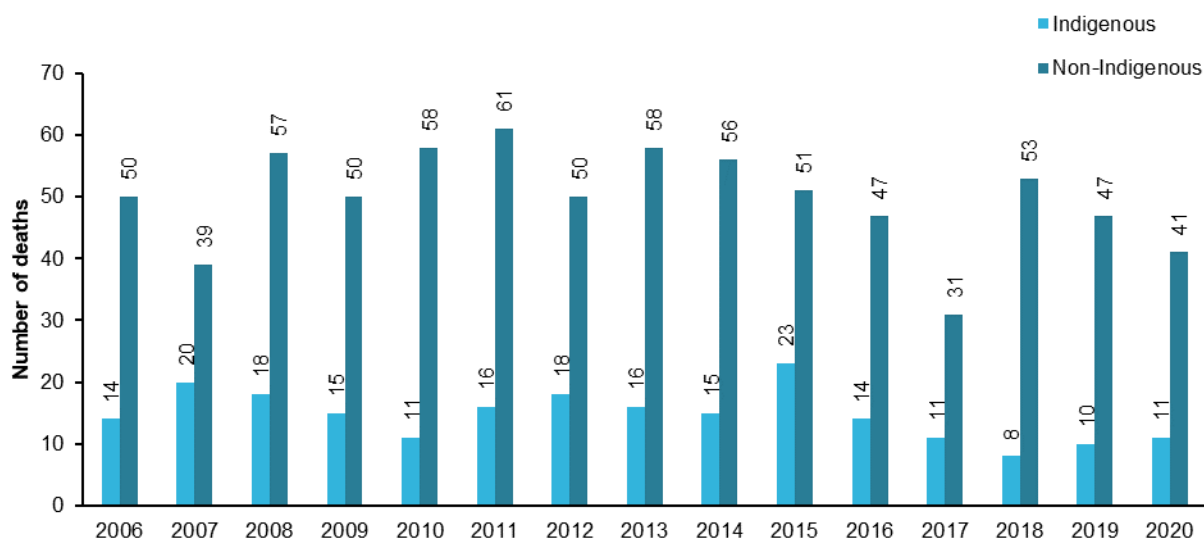
Although the NMD is a national collection, reporting by Indigenous status is usually limited to 5 jurisdictions: New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and the Northern Territory. Indigenous status data for the other jurisdictions is not considered of sufficient quality for national reporting.

In 2020, based on NMD data, in NSW, Qld, WA, SA and the NT combined:

- there were 11 homicide deaths among Indigenous females (that is, deaths where the cause of death was assault).
- there were 41 homicide deaths among non-Indigenous females
- Indigenous females accounted for 21% of total female homicide deaths (after excluding homicide deaths where Indigenous status was 'not stated') (see Table A3).

Over the period 2006 to 2020, there were a total of 220 homicide deaths among Indigenous females in these 5 jurisdictions, or an average of about 15 per year. Indigenous females represented 23% of all female homicide deaths in this period (excluding deaths where Indigenous status was not stated³).

Figure A2: Number of female homicide deaths based on the NMD, by Indigenous status, NSW, Qld, WA, SA and NT combined, 2006 to 2020



Source: AIHW National Mortality Database – see Table A3.

³ In the period 2006 to 2020, 1.9% of all homicide deaths recorded in the NMD had a 'not stated' Indigenous status (54 out of 2,879 deaths).

Question 1d)

d) information on the *rate* of:

- i) First Nations women and children,
- ii) non-First Nations women and children,
- iii) Australian (both First Nations and non-First Nations) women and children, and
- iv) all Australians

who have been murdered by state/territory and by year (1980 – present if available).

Data for this question are based on tables published in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Framework website, [Community Safety measure](#), and the [General Record of Incidence of Mortality \(GRIM\) books](#). Where possible, tables were updated to include 2020 data, and to use a more recent extract of the data (due to database revisions, numbers shown here may differ to what is published).

Based on the NMD, in 2020, there were 2.9 deaths per 100,000 population among Indigenous females based on crude rates. In comparison, among non-Indigenous females, there were 0.5 homicide deaths per 100,000 population (Table A3).

Crude rates for Indigenous females over time are shown in Figure A3, from 2006 to 2020. Linear regression analysis indicates a 52% decline in the homicide rate among Indigenous females between 2006 and 2020 (Table A3). For non-Indigenous females, there was a 38% decline in the crude rate over this period, based on linear regression analysis.

Age-standardised rates for Indigenous females could not be published in all years due to small numbers and associated concerns about the reliability of the rate. Aggregation of data for multiple years allows comparison of age-standardised rates – see Box A2.

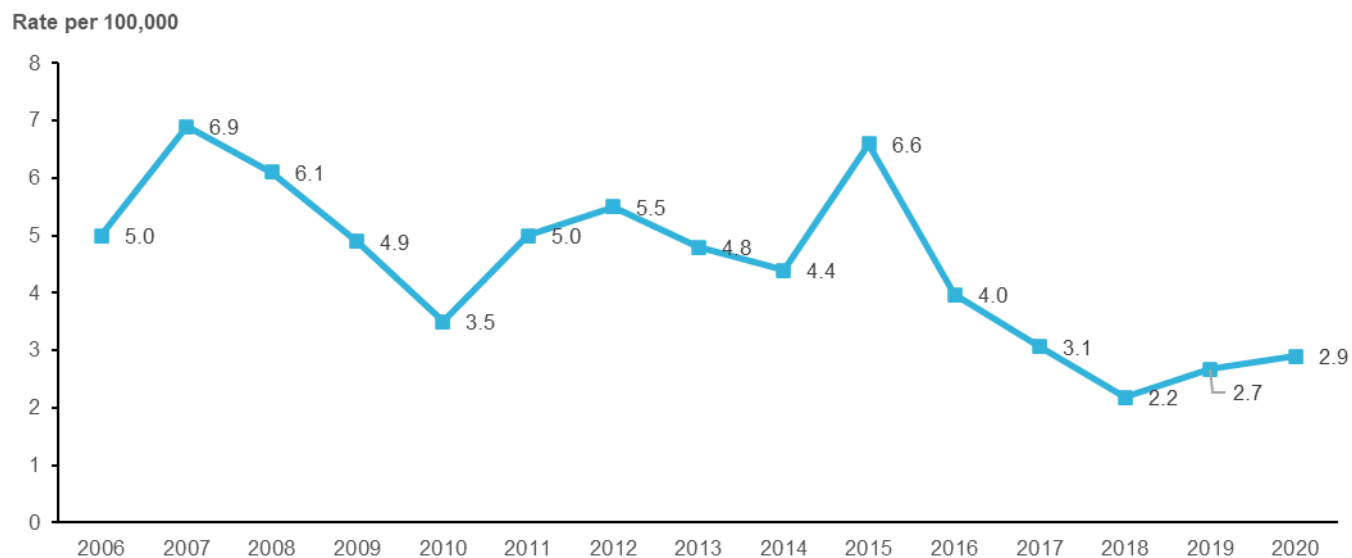
Box A2: Comparison of homicide rates for Indigenous and non-Indigenous females using data aggregated for a 5-year period

Figures A1 and A3 shows that there is year-to-year variability in the number and rate of homicide deaths. The AIHW commonly combines 5 years of mortality data when reporting on mortality of Indigenous Australians.

Based on aggregated data for the period 2015 to 2019, there were 3.6 assault deaths per 100,000 among Indigenous females, compared with 0.5 assault deaths per 100,000 among non-Indigenous females (crude rates, Table A4).

Combining the data over this longer period means that numbers are large enough to support age-standardisation. Based on age-standardised rates, which adjust for differences in the age structure of the 2 populations, Indigenous females were about 8 times as likely to die from assault as non-Indigenous females (3.60 compared with 0.5 per 100,000).

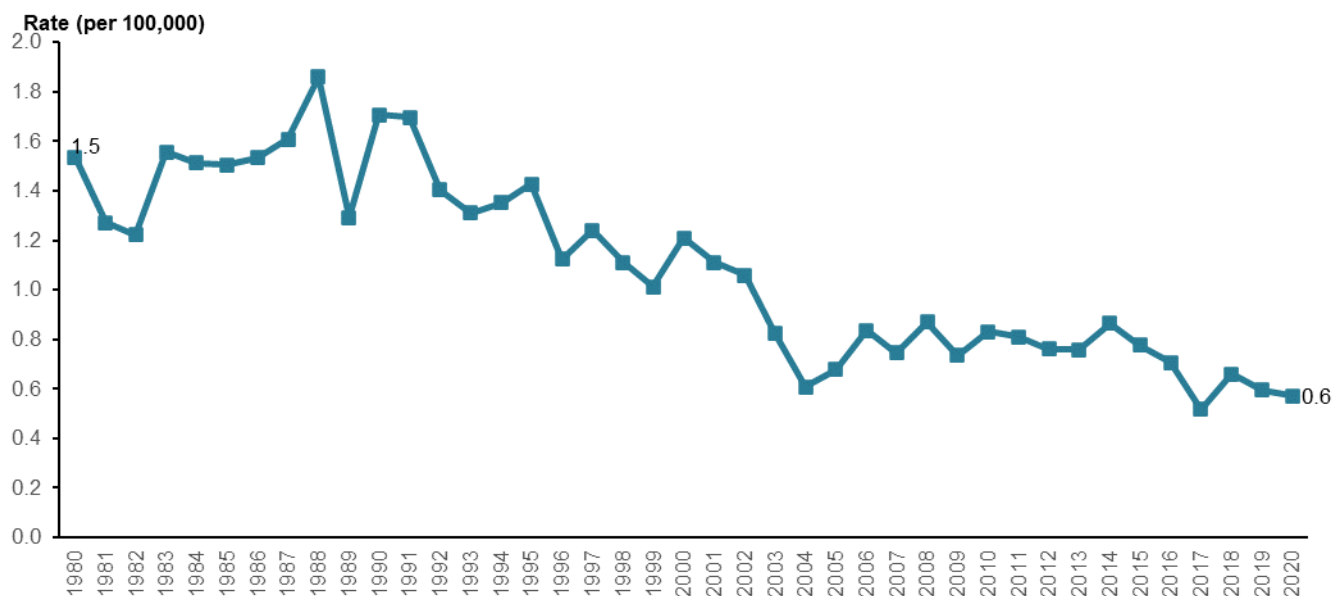
Figure A3: Homicide rate among Indigenous females (crude rates), 2006 to 2020



Source: AIHW National Mortality Database – see Table A3.

Rates of homicide for all Australian females are available over a longer time period – see Figure A4. Between 1980 and 2020, the crude homicide rate among females has trended downwards. Age-standardised rates show a similar trend (see Table A1 for the age-standardised data).

Figure A4: Homicide rate among all Australian females (crude rates), 1980 to 2020



Source: AIHW National Mortality Database – see Table A1.

Question 1e)

e) If you are unable to provide this information, please explain the reasons for not being able to do so (e.g. certain data isn't collected in a particular state or territory, or isn't captured by your agency etc.). Are there other sources that may reliably record this information? If so, what are they?

The AIHW notes that for this inquiry children are defined as under 18. In the responses provided, children have been defined as under 15 – this is because it's based on previously published data, where 5-year age groups have been used. Also, data on homicide for females not been published by both Indigenous status and age (reflecting relatively small numbers).

Single year of age is available in the NMD, and so data for children aged under 18 by Indigenous status could potentially be extracted, as could additional time trend and jurisdictional data (noting the caveats in Box A1). However, this would be subject to considerations around reliability and confidentiality of the data, and clearance by the data custodian.

Question 2: Hospitalised women and children due to assault

2. Please provide the committee with:

- a) information on the *number* of Australian women and children who have been hospitalised due to assault, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).
- b) information on the number of First Nations women and children who have been hospitalised due to assault, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).
- c) information on the number of non-First Nations women and children who have been hospitalised due to assault, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).
- d) information on the rate of:
 - i) First Nations women and children,
 - ii) non-First Nations women and children,
 - iii) Australian (both First Nations and non-First Nations) women and children, and who have been hospitalised due to assault by state/territory and by year (1980 – present if available).who have been hospitalised due to assault by state/territory and by year (1980 – present if available).
- e) If you are unable to provide this information, please explain the reasons for not being able to do so (e.g. certain data isn't collected in a particular state or territory, or isn't captured by your agency etc.). Are there other sources that may reliably record this information? If so, what are they?

Response

General information

Data on hospitalisations due to assault are available from the National Hospital Morbidity Database. The data presented are from published sources. New analysis was not possible in the timeframes but could be provided at a later date if required (see response to question 1e).

See Box A1 for caveats associated with these data.

Box A1: Data caveats and limitations

- Changes in reporting practices over time impact the comparability of data across years. Data from 2017–18 should not be compared to previous years, as a change in admission policy in New South Wales in 2017–18 resulted in an artificial change in assault and other injury cases
- Changes in data quality and in the identification of Indigenous status in hospitals data, as well as the census-based population estimates (used as denominators for calculating hospitalisation rates) have a major bearing on the interpretation of the findings.
- Based on an assessment of the data quality of the Indigenous status item in the hospitals collection, the AIHW usually only publishes data by Indigenous status from 2004–05 for 6 jurisdictions (excluding Tas and ACT), with national data published from only 2010–11.
- The most recent population estimates available for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population are those based on the 2016 Census. Backcast population estimates based on the 2016 Census are available from 2001, but the ABS advises that the backcast population estimates prior to 2016 should be used with caution, especially for years prior to 2006. Backcasting introduces uncertainty in the historical population estimates, with that uncertainty increasing with time from base year (which in this case is 2016).
- As a consequence of the availability and reliability of population denominators, rates of hospitalisations by Indigenous status are only possible from 2001, and should be interpreted with caution prior to 2006.

Question 2a)

a) information on the *number* of Australian women and children who have been hospitalised due to assault, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).

The response to this question is based on tables published in the AIHW [Injury in Australia](#) web report.

In 2019–20, there were:

- 8,512 hospitalisations for assault injuries among Australian females, including 8,273 for females aged 15 and over, and 239 for girls aged under 15
- 699 hospitalisations for assault injuries among Australian children aged under 15, of which, 239 were for females and 460 for males (see Table B1).

Question 2b)

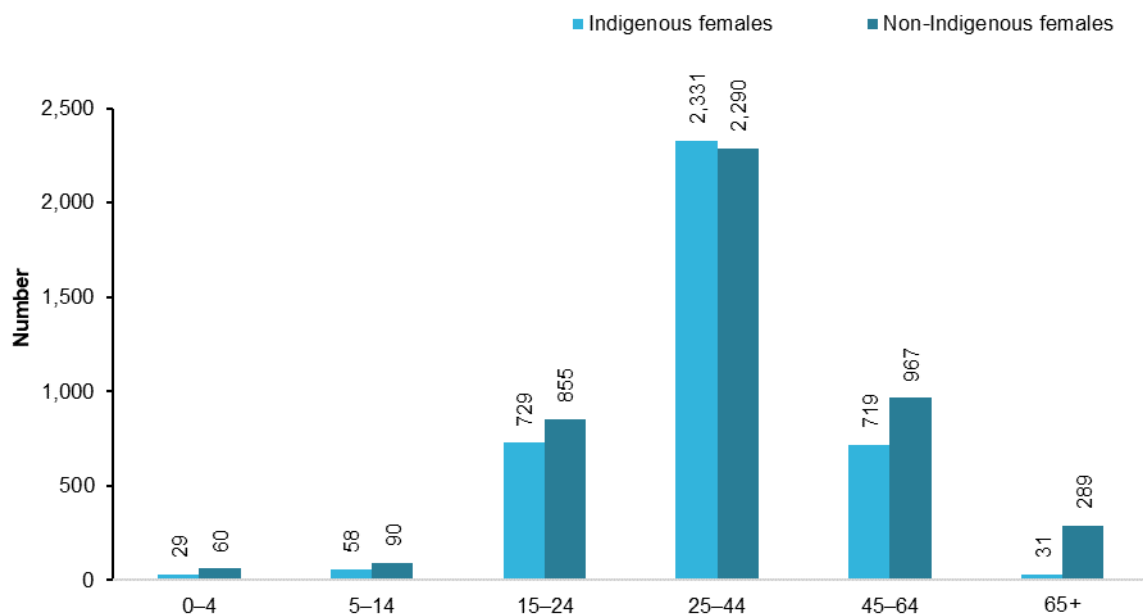
b) information on the number of First Nations women and children who have been hospitalised due to assault, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).

The response to this question is based on tables published in the AIHW [Injury in Australia](#) web report.

In 2019–20, there were:

- 3,897 hospitalisations for assault injuries among Indigenous females, including 3,810 for females aged 15 and over (Figure B1; Table B2)
- 208 hospitalisations for assault injuries among Indigenous children aged under 15, of which 87 were females and 121 for males (see Table B2).

Figure B1: Number of hospitalised assault injuries among Indigenous and non-Indigenous females, by age group, 2019–20



Source: National Hospital Morbidity Database – see Table B2.

Question 2c)

c) information on the number of non-First Nations women and children who have been hospitalised due to assault, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).

The response to this question is based on tables published in the AIHW [Injury in Australia](#) web report.

In 2019–20, there were:

- 4,401 hospitalisations for assault injuries among non-Indigenous females aged 15 and over (Figure B1)
- 483 hospitalisations for assault injuries among non-Indigenous children aged under 15, of which 333 were males and 150 for females (see Table B2).

Question 2d)

d) information on the rate of:

- i) First Nations women and children,
- ii) non-First Nations women and children,
- iii) Australian (both First Nations and non-First Nations) women and children, and who have been hospitalised due to assault by state/territory and by year (1980 – present if available).

The response to this question is based on tables published in the AIHW [Injury in Australia](#) web report, and in the [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Framework](#) website, [Community Safety measure](#).

For Indigenous Australians, in 2019–20:

- the crude rate of hospitalised assault injuries among Indigenous females (of all ages) was 912 hospitalisations per 100,000 population. Across age groups, females aged 25–44 had a higher rate of hospitalised assault injuries (2,132 per 100,000) than other age groups.
- Indigenous children (males and females) aged 0–4 and 5–14 were hospitalised for assault injuries at rates of 86 and 67 per 100,000 population, respectively (see Table B3).

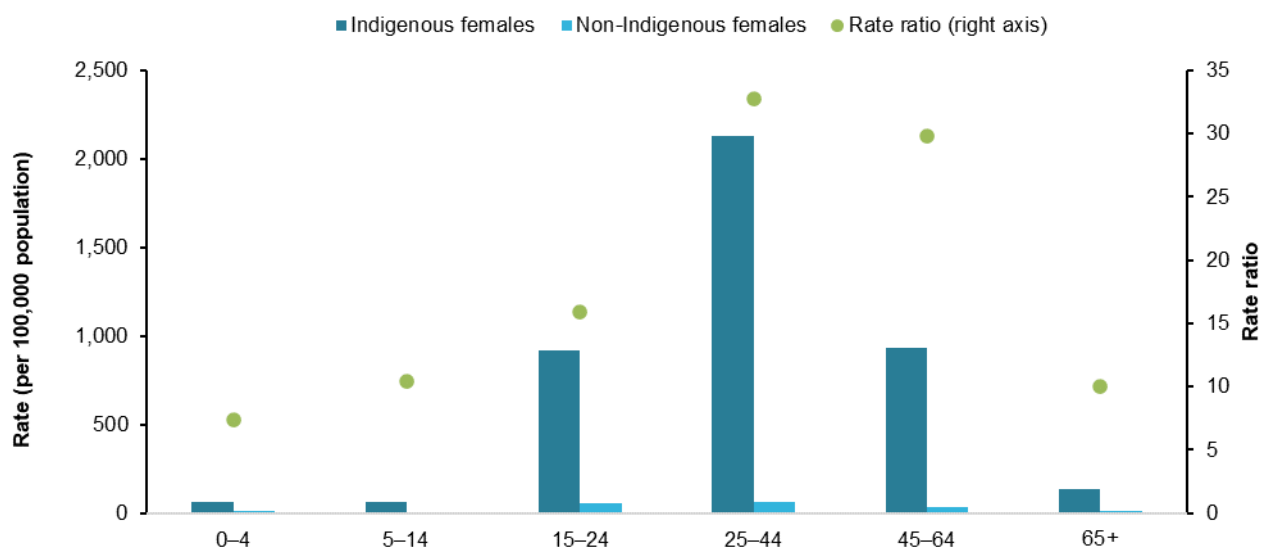
For non-Indigenous Australians, in 2019–20:

- the crude rate of hospitalised assault injuries among non-Indigenous females (of all ages) was 37 hospitalisations per 100,000 population. Across age groups, females aged 25–44 had a higher rate of rate of hospitalised assault injuries (65 per 100,000) than other age groups.
- non-Indigenous children (males and females) aged 0–4 and 5–14 were hospitalised for assault injuries at rates of 10 and 11 hospitalisations per 100,000 population respectively (Table B3).

Comparing rates for Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians:

- Based on crude rates, Indigenous females were 25 times as likely to be hospitalised for assault as non-Indigenous females (Table B3).
- When using age-standardised rates, which adjust for differences in the age-structures of the two populations, Indigenous Australians were 27 times as likely as non-Indigenous Australians to be hospitalised for assault (Table B3).
- Across age groups, the rate of hospitalised injuries for Indigenous females ranged between 7 and 33 times higher than for non-Indigenous females (Figure B2). The rate of hospitalised assault was 7 times as high for Indigenous children as for non-Indigenous children among those aged 0–4, and 10 times as high for those aged 5–14.

Figure B2: Rate of hospitalised assault injuries among Indigenous and non-Indigenous females, by age group, 2019–20 (per 100,000 population)

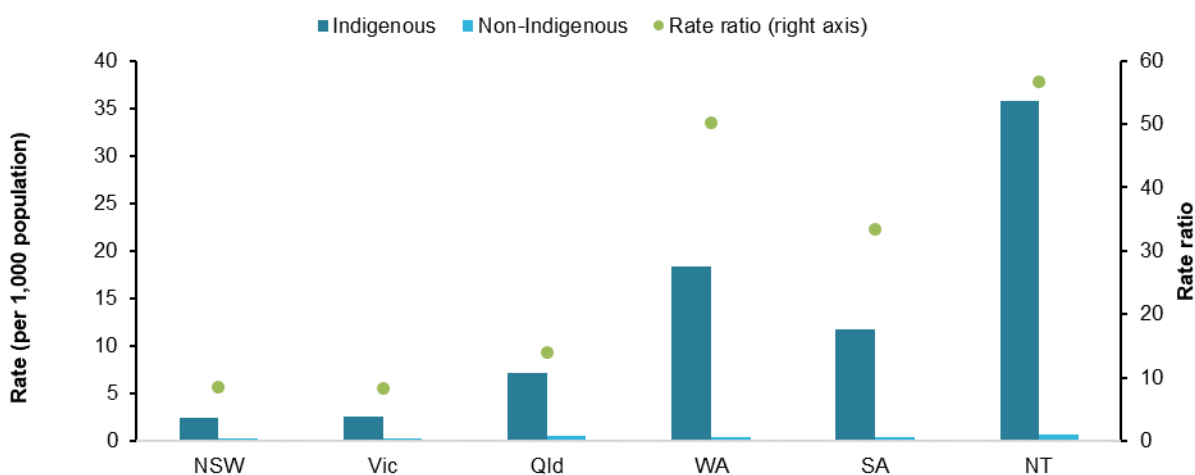


Source: National Hospital Morbidity Database – see Table B3.

Data for the 2-year period July 2015 to June 2017 shows that among Indigenous females, the age-standardised rate of hospitalisation for assault was at least twice as high among females living in the Northern Territory than in the other 5 jurisdictions for which data could be published (36 per 1,000 population – compared with between 2 and 18 per 1,000 population) (Figure B3). The rate of assault hospitalisations was higher for Indigenous Australians than non-Indigenous Australians in all 6 jurisdictions. (Rates for Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory were not published for confidentiality and/or reliability reasons).

Over the period 2004–05 to 2016–17, the rate of hospitalisations due to assault for Indigenous females increased by 16% (based on age-standardised rates), while the rate for non-Indigenous females increased by 11% (Table B5). Data for more recent years by state and Indigenous status have not yet been published (update planned for publication in November 2022).

Figure B3: Age-standardised rate of hospitalised assault injuries among Indigenous and non-Indigenous females, by state/territory of usual residence, 2015–17 (per 1,000 population)



Notes: Rates are directly age-standardised using the Australian 2001 standard population, and expressed per 1,000 population (rather than per 100,000 as in other figures). Slightly different specifications are used for this analysis than those in Figures B1 and B2. See attachment table footnotes for relevant specifications.

Source: National Hospital Morbidity Database – see Table B4.

Considering data for all Australians (question iii), in 2019–20, the rate of hospitalised injuries for females was 66 per 100,000 population. Children (males and females combined) aged 0–4, 5–9, and 10–14 were hospitalised for assault injuries at rates of 15, 6 and 23 per 100,000 population respectively (Table B7).

There was a gradual upward trend in hospitalised assaults between 2009–10 and 2016–17 for all females (54.3 to 64.6 per 100,000 population, based on age-standardised rates) (Table B6). There is a break in the time series between 2016–17 and 2017–18 due to a change in data collection methods, so data from 2017–18 onwards cannot be compared with data from earlier periods. From 2017–18 to 2019–20, the rate for females increased from 66.5 to 69.4 per 100,000, based on age-standardised rates (Table B7).

Question 2e)

e) If you are unable to provide this information, please explain the reasons for not being able to do so (e.g. certain data isn't collected in a particular state or territory, or isn't captured by your agency etc.). Are there other sources that may reliably record this information? If so, what are they?

The AIHW notes that for this inquiry children are defined as under 18. In the responses provided, children have been defined as under 15 – this is because it's based on published data, where 5-year age groups have been used.

Single year of age is available in the NHMD, and so data for children aged under 18 by Indigenous status could potentially be extracted, as could additional time trend and jurisdictional data (noting the caveats in Box A1). However, this would be subject to considerations around reliability and confidentiality of the data, and clearance by custodians.

Question 3: Assaulted women and children

3. Please provide the committee with:

a) information on the *number* of Australian women and children who have been assaulted, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).

b) information on the *number* of First Nations women and children who have been assaulted, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).

c) information on the *number* of non-First Nations women and children who have been assaulted, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).

d) information on the *rate* of:

i) First Nations women and children,

ii) non-First Nations women and children,

iii) Australian (both First Nations and non-First Nations) women and children, and

iv) all Australians

who have been assaulted by state/territory and by year (1980 – present if available).

e) If you are unable to provide this information, please explain the reasons for not being able to do so (e.g. certain data isn't collected in a particular state or territory, or isn't captured by your agency etc.). Are there other sources that may reliably record this information? If so, what are they?

Response

General

The AIHW does not hold any collections that capture total assault in Australia. However, the AIHW's Child Protection National Minimum Data Set (CP NMDS) captures information on substantiated cases of child abuse or neglect among children aged 0-17 who received child protection services.

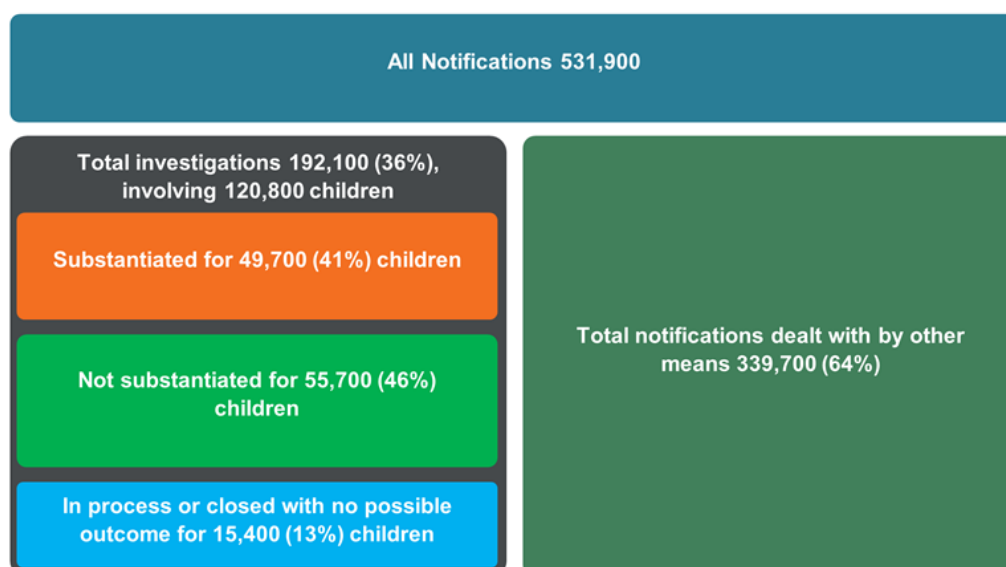
The CP NMDS is an annual collection of information on child protection in Australia. It contains data on children who come into contact with State and Territory departments responsible for child protection. The CP NMDS collection was implemented in 2012–13. Prior to that a national aggregate child protection data collection was used for national child protection reporting – data for this collection began in 1990–91.

This document provides relevant published data based on the CP NMDS. In addition, general information is also provided about ABS data sources that provide data on assault more broadly. The AIHW suggest these questions are referred to the ABS for more detailed information.

Data on substantiations in child protection services

Notifications, investigations and substantiations are the entry point for children into the child protection system. These components are sequential, with an initial notification of child maltreatment made to a child protection department, followed by an investigation of the alleged maltreatment (if required), and concluding with a substantiation decision (Figure C1)

Figure C1: Overview of notifications, investigations and substantiations, 2020–21



In 2020–21, there were 49,700 children who were the subjects of substantiations – a rate of 8.8 substantiations per 1,000 children. The rate of children who were the subjects of substantiations remained stable over the period 2016–17 to 2020–21 at around 9 per 1,000 children.

The primary type of abuse or neglect reported for a substantiation is the one considered most likely to place the child at risk or be more severe in the short term. In 2020–21, nearly 49,700 children were subject to substantiated abuse or neglect. Emotional abuse was the most common primary type of abuse or neglect substantiated for all children (55% of children subject to substantiated abuse or neglect) (Figure C2, Table C1 – see also Tables C2–C6 for equivalent data from 2016–17 to 2019–20).

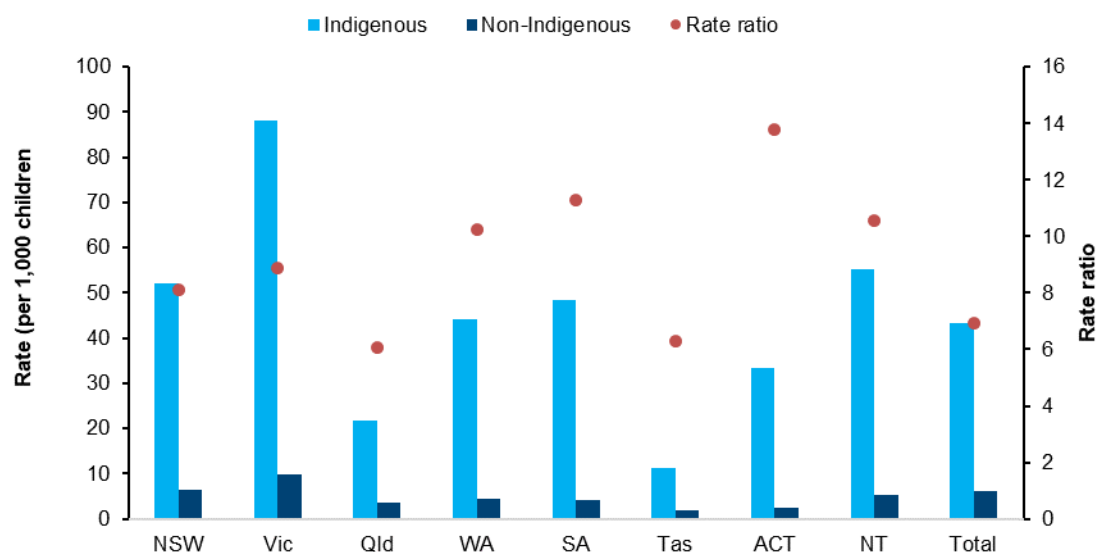
In 2020–21, children in younger age groups were more likely to be the subjects of substantiations than those in older age groups (Table C7).

Infants (children aged under one) were most likely (17 per 1,000 children) to be the subjects of substantiations, and those aged 15–17 least likely (5 per 1,000). This pattern was consistent across jurisdictions (Table C7).

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who were the subject of substantiations

In 2020–21, 14,600 Indigenous children were the subject of a substantiation. This is a rate of 43 per 1,000 compared with 6 per 1,000 for non-Indigenous children (Figure C2).

Figure C2: Children who were the subjects of substantiations of notifications received during 2020–21, by Indigenous status and state or territory (rate)



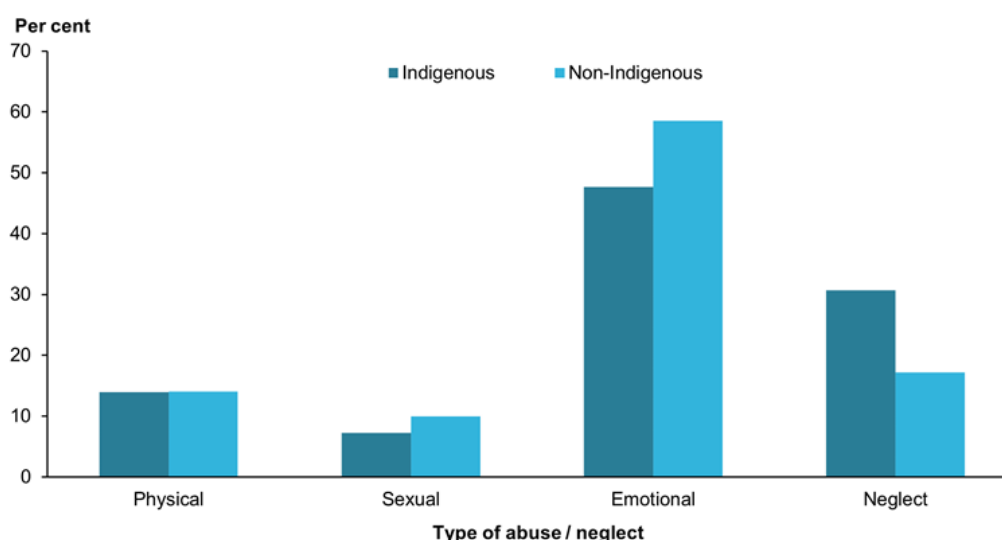
Notes

1. Data presented in this figure are not comparable across jurisdictions due to differences in the way jurisdictions collect and report data on notifications, investigations and substantiations. See [Appendix A](#) of [Child Protection in Australia](#) for more information.
2. In Tasmania, the reliability of these data is affected by the proportion of children with an unknown Indigenous status at investigation.
3. See [Technical notes](#) of [Child Protection in Australia](#) for the method used to calculate rates.

Source: Supplementary data table S3.9 of [Child Protection in Australia](#), AIHW Child Protection Collection 2020–21.

In 2020–21, emotional abuse was the most common primary type of substantiated abuse for Indigenous children (48%, 6,963 children) followed by neglect (31%, 4,486 children), physical abuse (14%, 2,043 children) and sexual abuse (7%, 1,065 children) (Figure C3, Table C1).

Figure C3: Children who were the subject of substantiations of notifications, by Indigenous status and primary type of abuse or neglect, 2020–21 (per cent)



Note: For each child, the type of abuse/neglect reported is the type identified for their first substantiation in the reporting period. Where multiple types of abuse were reported in the same substantiation, the data reflect the primary type of abuse, that is, the one most likely to place the child at risk or be most severe in the short term.

Source: Supplementary data table S3.10 of [Child Protection in Australia](#), AIHW Child Protection Collection 2020–21.

Broader information about assault in Australia

There are 2 key national data sources for which the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is data custodian, which provide time-series data on assault in Australia:

1. The **ABS Personal Safety Survey (PSS)** provides data on the prevalence of different types of violence experienced by women and men aged 18 and over. Prevalence is either lifetime (ever since age of 15) or during the last 12 months.
 - Data are available for physical assault, sexual assault and total assault for both men and women (assault here excludes threat). Data on violence (physical, sexual and total) including assault and threat is also available.
 - For 12 month prevalence, data can also be disaggregated by respondents demographics (at time of survey), including age and state and territory.
 - Data are available for 2005, 2012 and 2016.
 - Data is not available by Indigenous status from existing surveys, but an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander personal safety statistics study is under development by the ABS. This is currently a feasibility study.
 - Published data can be found [here](#) on the ABS website.
2. The **ABS Recorded Crime – Victims collection** includes data on crimes that were recorded by police during a 12-month reference period.
 - This data does not reflect a unique count of people assaulted, but the number of assault incidents recorded by police within the annual reference period.
 - Both assault (physical) and sexual assault, as classified by the Australian and New Zealand Standard Offence Classification (ANZSOC) are included in this collection.
 - Data are able to be disaggregated by sex, age and state and territory.
 - Assault and sexual assault data for Indigenous Australians are presented for New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and the Northern Territory. Based on an ABS data quality assessment, Indigenous status data for other jurisdictions is not of sufficient quality for national reporting within the Recorded Crime – Victims collection.
 - See table below for proportion of victims of assault and sexual assault with ‘not stated’ Indigenous status in 2021

Proportion of victims with an Indigenous status of ‘not stated’, Selected states and territories, 2021

Offence	NSW	Qld	SA	NT
Assault	28.8	np	3.2	7.4
Sexual assault	27.8	4.0	6.6	11.5

np = not published

Source: [Recorded Crime - Victims methodology, 2021](#)

- Extended time series data are available from 1993. However, due to data availability and changes in offence scope, offence classification, and recording and reporting rules, time-series data are often restricted to 2010 onwards. Time series data by Indigenous status for assault and sexual assault is available from 2010 to 2021 [here](#) (Table 23).
- Published data can be found [here](#) on the ABS website.
- Care should be taken when interpreting these results over time, as a change may reflect a change in reporting behaviour.

In addition, both the [National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey](#) (NATSISS) and [National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey](#) (NATSIHS) conducted by the ABS collect data on experiences of physical violence (including assault and threat).

The NATSISS was last conducted in 2014-15 and is considered the current leading data source for monitoring violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people over time. The survey population is 15 years and over.

The [ABS Crime Victimisation Survey](#) (CVS), a topic on the Multipurpose Household Survey (MPHS) conducted by the ABS may also collect relevant information (e.g. see some published results [here](#)); however these data are not available by Indigenous status.

The AIHW reports some data on violence in the context of family and domestic relationships, and sexual violence regardless of the perpetrator based on the ABS data. For example:

- AIHW has published measures related to violence prevalence drawing on ABS PSS data:
 - [Physical and/or sexual family and domestic violence](#)
 - [Sexual violence](#)
- AIHW has published measures related to police recorded assault drawing on ABS Recorded Crime-Victims:
 - [Family and domestic assault reported to police](#)
 - [Sexual assault reported to police](#)
 - Some additional data are available in [Family, domestic and sexual violence in Australia: continuing the national story 2019](#)

Attachment tables: Question 1

Table A1: Deaths of Australian females due to assault, Australia, 1980 to 2020

Year	Deaths	Crude rate (per 100,000)	Age-standardised rate (per 100,000)	Comparability factor adjusted ASR (per 100,000)
1980	113	1.5	1.5	1.6
1981	95	1.3	1.3	1.3
1982	93	1.2	1.3	1.3
1983	120	1.6	1.6	1.6
1984	118	1.5	1.5	1.6
1985	119	1.5	1.5	1.5
1986	123	1.5	1.5	1.6
1987	131	1.6	1.6	1.6
1988	154	1.9	1.8	1.9
1989	109	1.3	1.3	1.3
1990	146	1.7	1.7	1.7
1991	147	1.7	1.6	1.7
1992	123	1.4	1.4	1.4
1993	116	1.3	1.3	1.3
1994	121	1.4	1.3	1.4
1995	129	1.4	1.4	1.4
1996	103	1.1	1.1	1.1
1997	115	1.2	1.3	1.3
1998	104	1.1	1.1	1.1
1999	96	1.0	1.0	1.0
2000	116	1.2	1.2	1.2
2001	108	1.1	1.1	1.1
2002	104	1.1	1.1	1.1
2003	82	0.8	0.8	0.8
2004	61	0.6	0.6	0.6
2005	69	0.7	0.7	0.7
2006	86	0.8	0.8	0.8
2007	78	0.7	0.8	0.8
2008	93	0.9	0.9	0.9
2009	80	0.7	0.7	0.7
2010	92	0.8	0.8	0.8
2011	91	0.8	0.8	0.8
2012	87	0.8	0.8	0.8
2013	88	0.8	0.7	0.7
2014	102	0.9	0.9	0.9
2015	93	0.8	0.8	0.8
2016	86	0.7	0.7	0.7
2017	64	0.5	0.5	0.5
2018	83	0.7	0.6	0.6
2019	76	0.6	0.6	0.6
2020	74	0.6	0.6	0.6

Notes

1. Australian deaths data for 1979–1996 are coded to the ICD-9 and deaths from 1997 onward are coded to the ICD-10. To adjust for this break in time series, a comparability factor can be applied to the ICD-9 coded data. The factor, when applied to ICD-9 coded deaths, adjusts the distribution of causes to reflect that which would have arisen if ICD-10 was used.

2. Categories are based on the ICD-10 10th Revision (World Health Organization). Includes ICD-10 codes X85–Y09.

Source: AIHW National Mortality Database

Table A2: Deaths of Australian children due to assault, by sex and age group, Australia, 1980 to 2020

Year	Australian male deaths				Australian female deaths				Australian persons deaths			
	0–4	5–9	10–14	Subtotal <15	0–4	5–9	10–14	Subtotal <15	0–4	5–9	10–14	Subtotal <15
1980	14	4	3	21	7	1	2	10	21	5	5	31
1981	13	3	0	16	6	2	3	11	19	5	3	27
1982	11	7	7	25	9	2	1	12	20	9	8	37
1983	9	0	7	16	3	5	3	11	12	5	10	27
1984	15	1	1	17	8	2	5	15	23	3	6	32
1985	9	1	6	16	6	4	3	13	15	5	9	29
1986	10	3	2	15	5	7	6	18	15	10	8	33
1987	11	1	3	15	7	3	4	14	18	4	7	29
1988	8	3	4	15	14	2	6	22	22	5	10	37
1989	3	3	2	8	14	4	4	22	17	7	6	30
1990	13	3	3	19	8	7	3	18	21	10	6	37
1991	5	4	2	11	12	2	4	18	17	6	6	29
1992	2	1	0	3	7	4	2	13	9	5	2	16
1993	18	5	3	26	10	4	3	17	28	9	6	43
1994	9	4	2	15	14	3	1	18	23	7	3	33
1995	10	2	5	17	6	5	5	16	16	7	10	33
1996	9	2	1	12	7	4	2	13	16	6	3	25
1997	9	6	3	18	5	2	4	11	14	8	7	29
1998	10	5	3	18	10	0	1	11	20	5	4	29
1999	11	4	2	17	9	2	0	11	20	6	2	28
2000	8	4	3	15	5	4	2	11	13	8	5	26
2001	10	4	2	16	6	3	2	11	16	7	4	27
2002	8	3	0	11	7	0	2	9	15	3	2	20
2003	8	3	0	11	11	3	2	16	19	6	2	27
2004	3	0	1	4	2	0	1	3	5	0	2	7
2005	6	3	1	10	5	2	0	7	11	5	1	17
2006	14	2	1	17	4	2	1	7	18	4	2	24
2007	9	2	1	12	3	1	1	5	12	3	2	17
2008	8	1	1	10	1	2	2	5	9	3	3	15
2009	7	2	1	10	8	1	1	10	15	3	2	20
2010	4	1	2	7	3	2	1	6	7	3	3	13
2011	3	0	0	3	4	3	1	8	7	3	1	11
2012	9	2	3	14	5	1	3	9	14	3	6	23
2013	9	1	1	11	2	0	1	3	11	1	2	14
2014	8	0	3	11	6	3	1	10	14	3	4	21
2015	6	6	1	13	7	1	6	14	13	7	7	27
2016	10	2	3	15	7	2	3	12	17	4	6	27
2017	3	4	0	7	7	0	1	8	10	4	1	15
2018	2	6	2	10	9	1	2	12	11	7	4	22
2019	5	0	0	5	5	1	1	7	10	1	1	12
2020	8	0	1	9	5	1	1	7	13	1	2	16

Notes

1. Australian deaths data for 1979–1996 are coded to the ICD-9 and deaths from 1997 onward are coded to the ICD-10.

2. Categories are based on the ICD-10 10th Revision (World Health Organization). Includes ICD-10 codes X85–Y09.

Source: AIHW National Mortality Database.

Table A3: Mortality rates due to assault (homicide), by Indigenous status and sex, NSW, Qld, WA, SA and NT, 2006 to 2020

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 ^(a)	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 ^(b)	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2006–2020		2011–2020	
																Annual change ^(c)	% change over period ^(d)	Annual change ^(c)	% change over period ^(d)
Indigenous deaths																			
Males	25	14	22	15	29	23	26	24	25	29	21	21	18	20	17	-0.1	-6.4	-0.9*	-30.2*
Females	14	20	18	15	11	16	18	16	15	23	14	11	8	10	11	-0.5	-35.6	-1.0*	-47.5*
Persons	39	34	40	30	40	39	44	40	40	52	35	32	26	30	28	-0.6	-19.3	-1.9*	-37.3*
Non-Indigenous deaths																			
Males	103	91	96	123	94	97	124	105	101	108	99	86	105	110	96	-0.1	-1.2	-1	-8.2
Females	50	39	57	50	58	61	50	58	56	51	47	31	53	47	41	-0.6	-14.7	-1.8*	-28.8*
Persons	153	130	153	173	152	158	174	163	157	159	146	117	158	157	137	-0.7	-5.8	-2.8	-15.4
Indigenous crude rate (per 100,000)																			
Males	8.9	4.9	7.5	5.0	9.4	7.3	8.1	7.3	7.4	8.4	6.0	5.9	4.9	5.4	4.5	-0.2	-29.3	-0.4*	-41.7*
Females	5.0	6.9	6.1	4.9	3.5	5.0	5.5	4.8	4.4	6.6	4.0	3.1	2.2	2.7	2.9	-0.2*	-51.8	-0.4*	56.1*
Persons	6.9	5.9	6.8	5.0	6.5	6.1	6.8	6.0	5.9	7.5	5.0	4.5	3.6	4.0	3.7	-0.2*	-39.1*	-0.4*	47.6*
Non-Indigenous crude rate (per 100,000)																			
Males	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.7	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.3	1.1	-0.02*	-18.9*	-0.03	-18.1
Females	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.5	-0.02*	-30.2*	-0.03*	-37.6*
Persons	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.8	-0.02*	-22.9*	-0.03*	-25.1*
Indigenous age-standardised rate (per 100,000)^(e)																			
Males	13.8	nap	10.3	n.p.	10.2	8.5	9.2	7.7	8.6	8.6	6.2	7.9	n.p.	7.0	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
Females	n.p.	6.7	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	7.2	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
Persons	8.9	6.0	8.6	5.7	7.1	6.9	7.4	6.1	6.8	7.9	5.3	5.6	4.3	4.8	4.2	-0.2*	-40.9*	-0.3*	-41.7*
Non-Indigenous age-standardised rate (per 100,000)^(e)																			
Males	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.1	-0.02*	-19.0*	-0.03	-18.1
Females	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.5	-0.02*	-32.7*	-0.03*	-38.0*
Persons	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.8	-0.02*	-22.4*	-0.03*	-23.6*
Rate ratio^(f)																			
Males	9.4	n.p.	7.9	n.p.	8.1	6.7	5.8	5.8	6.9	6.5	5.1	7.4	n.p.	5.5	n.p.	..	..	..	..
Females	n.p.	12.2	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	11.1	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	..	..	..	..
Persons	8.1	6.6	8.2	4.9	7.1	6.7	6.6	5.9	7.0	8.0	6.0	8.0	4.6	5.3	5.3	..	..	..	..
Rate difference^(g)																			
Males	12.3	n.p.	9.0	n.p.	8.9	7.3	7.6	6.4	7.4	7.3	5.0	6.8	n.p.	5.7	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
Females	n.p.	6.1	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	6.5	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
Persons	7.8	5.1	7.5	4.5	6.1	5.9	6.3	5.1	5.8	6.9	4.4	4.9	3.4	3.9	3.4	-0.2*	-43.6*	-0.3*	-44.6*

(a) Data for 2010 have been adjusted for the additional deaths arising from outstanding registrations of deaths in Queensland in 2010. For further information see the methodology notes in ABS Causes of Deaths, Australia, 2019 reference period (<https://www.abs.gov.au/methodologies/causes-death-australia-methodology/2019>).

(b) Since 2015, the Queensland Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages used both medical certificate information and death registration form information to derive Indigenous status. This approach has been used in South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory since 2007. If either source indicates that the deceased was an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person, they are recorded as such. In New South Wales and Victoria, only information from the death registration form is used. For further information see the methodology notes in ABS Causes of Deaths, Australia, 2019 reference period (<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/health/causes-death/causes-death-australia/latest-release>).

(c) Annual change is determined using linear regression analysis.

(d) Per cent change is based on the annual change over the period.

(e) Directly age-standardised using the 2001 Australian standard population, by 5-year age group up to 75+.

(f) Rate ratio is the age-standardised rate for Indigenous Australians divided by the age-standardised rate for non-Indigenous Australians.

(g) Rate difference is the age-standardised rate for Indigenous Australians minus the age-standardised rate for non-Indigenous Australians.

Source: AIHW National Mortality Database.

Table A4: Deaths from assault (homicide), by Indigenous status and sex, NSW, Qld, WA, SA and NT, 2015–2019

	Indigenous			Non-Indigenous			Rate ratio ^(b)	Rate difference ^(c)
	Deaths	Crude (per 100,000)	Age-standardised rate (per 100,000) ^(a)	Deaths	Crude (per 100,000)	Age-standardised rate (per 100,000) ^(a)		
Males	109	6.1	7.1	507	1.2	1.2	5.8*	5.9*
Females	65	3.6	4.0	224	0.5	0.5	7.6*	3.4*
Persons	174	4.8	5.5	731	0.9	0.9	6.3*	4.6*

* Represents results with statistically significant differences in the Indigenous/non-Indigenous comparisons at the $p < 0.05$ level.

(a) Directly age-standardised using the 2001 Australian standard population, by 5-year age group up to 75+.

(b) Rate ratio is the age-standardised rate for Indigenous Australians divided by the age-standardised rate for non-Indigenous Australians.

(c) Rate difference is the age-standardised rate for Indigenous Australians minus the age-standardised rate for non-Indigenous Australians.

Notes

1. Categories are based on the ICD-10 10th Revision (World Health Organization). Includes ICD-10 codes X85–Y09 and Y87.1.

2. A number of deaths occur each year for which the Indigenous status is not stated on the death registration form—0.8% of all deaths registered in 2019. Thus, there is some degree of under-identification of Indigenous people in mortality data. For further information see the methodology notes in ABS Causes of Deaths, Australia, 2019 (<https://www.abs.gov.au/methodologies/causes-death-australia-methodology/2019>).

3. All causes of death data from 2006 onward are subject to a revisions process. Once data for a reference year are 'final', they are no longer revised. Affected data in this table are: 2015–2017 (final), 2018 (revised), 2019 (preliminary). For further information, see the methodology notes in ABS Causes of Deaths, Australia, 2019 reference period (<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/health/causes-death/causes-death-australia/latest-release>) and ABS Deaths, Australia, 2019 reference period (<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/deaths-australia/latest-release>).

4. Data by causes of death have been adjusted for Victorian additional death registrations in 2019. A time series adjustment has been applied to causes of death to enable a more accurate comparison of mortality over time. When the time series adjustment is applied, deaths are presented in the year in which they were registered (i.e. removed from 2019 and added to 2017 or 2018). For further information see the methodology notes in ABS Causes of Deaths, Australia, 2019 reference period (<https://www.abs.gov.au/methodologies/causes-death-australia-methodology/2019>).

5. Population estimates for non-Indigenous Australians were derived by subtracting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backcast population estimates and projections (series B) based on the 2016 Census from the total Australian Estimated Resident Population.

6. Data are reported for 5 jurisdictions combined—New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and the Northern Territory. These jurisdictions are considered to have adequate levels of Indigenous identification in mortality data.

7. These data exclude 16 registered deaths where the Indigenous status was not stated over the period 2015–2019.

8. Data are grouped for 2015–2019 because of small numbers each year. For rate calculations, the numerator is the total number of deaths and the denominator is the combined population over the time period.

9. Deaths for which the age at death was not recorded were excluded from the calculation of age-standardised rates.

10. Deaths are counted according to year of registration of death, and state or territory of usual residence.

Source: AIHW National Mortality Database as published in Table D2.10.8 at <https://www.indigenoushpf.gov.au/measures/2-10-community-safety>.

Attachment tables: Question 2

Table B1: Number of hospitalised injury cases with an external cause of assault, all Australians, by age group and sex, Australia, 2019–20

Sex	0–4	5–14	15–24	25–44	45–64	65+	All ages
Males	145	315	3,111	6,610	2,994	564	13,739
Females	89	150	1,595	4,658	1,696	324	8,512
Persons	234	465	4,706	11,269	4,690	888	22,252

Notes

1. Assault injury cases defined as follows:

- A principal diagnosis ICD-10-AM code between S00 - T76, or T79, and an external cause of X85–Y09. In the case where multiple external causes are recorded for a single case, the first recorded external cause is used.
- Limiting to standard separations (excludes records where care type is newborn with unqualified days only (7.3), organ procurement - posthumous (9), or hospital boarder (10))
- Excluding records where the admission mode is admitted patient transferred from another hospital (1)
- Excluding records where the admission mode is statistical admission (2) and care type is not acute
- Excluding records where 'care involving use of rehabilitation procedures' (ICD-10-AM code Z50) appears as an additional diagnosis and care type is not acute (1)
- Excluding records where the external cause of injury is Complications of medical and surgical care (Y40-Y84), sequelae of external causes of morbidity and mortality (Y85–Y89), or contact with allergens, except contact with animals (Y37.0-Y37.5 and Y37.7-Y37.9)

2. Rates are calculated using ABS backcast population estimates and projections based on the 2016 Census

Source: AIHW National Hospital Morbidity Database (as published in Table A4 at <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/injury/injury-in-australia/data>)

Table B2: Number of hospitalised injury cases with an external cause of assault, by Indigenous status, age group and sex, Australia, 2019–20

Indigenous status	Sex	0–4	5–14	15–24	25–44	45–64	65+	All ages
Indigenous	Males	54	67	629	1,647	669	38	3,104
	Females	29	58	729	2,331	719	31	3,897
	Persons	83	125	1,358	3,978	1,388	69	7,001
Non-Indigenous	Males	88	245	2,415	4,843	2,292	513	10,396
	Females	60	90	855	2,290	967	289	4,551
	Persons	148	335	3,270	7,134	3,259	802	14,948

Notes

1. Assault injury cases defined as follows:

- A principal diagnosis ICD-10-AM code between S00 - T76, or T79, and an external cause of X85–Y09. In the case where multiple external causes are recorded for a single case, the first recorded external cause is used.
- Limiting to standard separations (excludes records where care type is newborn with unqualified days only (7.3), organ procurement - posthumous (9), or hospital boarder (10))
- Excluding records where the admission mode is admitted patient transferred from another hospital (1)
- Excluding records where the admission mode is statistical admission (2) and care type is not acute
- Excluding records where 'care involving use of rehabilitation procedures' (ICD-10-AM code Z50) appears as an additional diagnosis and care type is not acute (1)
- Excluding records where the external cause of injury is Complications of medical and surgical care (Y40-Y84), sequelae of external causes of morbidity and mortality (Y85–Y89), or contact with allergens, except contact with animals (Y37.0-Y37.5 and Y37.7-Y37.9)

2. Rates are calculated using ABS backcast population estimates and projections based on the 2016 Census

Source: AIHW National Hospital Morbidity Database (as published in Table A4 at <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/injury/injury-in-australia/data>).

Table B3: Rate of hospitalised injury cases with an external cause of assault, by Indigenous status, age group and sex, Australia, 2019–20 (per 100,000 population)

Indigenous status	Sex	0–4	5–14	15–24	25–44	45–64	65+	All ages: crude	All ages: age- standardis ed ^(a)
Indigenous	Males	109.4	70.5	751.1	1,498.6	967.3	195.7	727.5	830.2
	Females	62.1	63.7	914.8	2,132.4	931.5	133.3	912.2	1021.3
	Persons	86.4	67.2	831.0	1,814.7	948.4	161.7	819.9	924.8
Non-Indigenous	Males	11.7	15.8	153.4	138.9	77.4	26.9	85.0	87.3
	Females	8.4	6.1	57.5	65.0	31.3	13.3	36.6	38.1
	Persons	10.1	11.1	106.8	101.7	53.9	19.7	60.6	62.7

(a) Age-standardised to the 30 June 2001 Australian population, using the direct method with 5-year age group from 0–4 to 65+

Notes:

1. Injury cases defined as follows:

- A principal diagnosis ICD-10-AM code between S00 - T76, or T79, and an external cause of X85–Y09. In the case where multiple external causes are recorded for a single case, the first recorded external cause is used.
- Limiting to standard separations (excludes records where care type is newborn with unqualified days only (7.3), organ procurement - posthumous (9), or hospital boarder (10))
- Excluding records where the admission mode is admitted patient transferred from another hospital (1)
- Excluding records where the admission mode is statistical admission (2) and care type is not acute
- Excluding records where 'care involving use of rehabilitation procedures' (ICD-10-AM code Z50) appears as an additional diagnosis and care type is not acute (1)
- Excluding records where the external cause of injury is Complications of medical and surgical care (Y40–Y84), sequelae of external causes of morbidity and mortality (Y85–Y89), or contact with allergens, except contact with animals (Y37.0–Y37.5 and Y37.7–Y37.9)

2. Rates are calculated using ABS backcast population estimates and projections based on the 2016 Census

Source: AIHW National Hospital Morbidity Database (as published in Table A4 at <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/injury/injury-in-australia/data>).

Table B4: Hospitalisations for a principal diagnosis of injury and poisoning and the first reported external cause of assault, by sex, Indigenous status and jurisdiction, Australia, July 2015 to June 2017^{(a)(b)(c)(d)}

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous		Rate ratio ^(f)	Rate difference ^(g)
	Number	Number per 1,000 ^(e)	Number	Number per 1,000 ^(e)		
NSW						
Males	948	4.1	6,689	0.9	4.4	3.1
Females	565	2.4	2,059	0.3	8.4	2.1
Persons ^(h)	1,513	3.2	8,748	0.6	5.3	2.6
Vic						
Males	199	3.8	5,566	0.9	4.1	2.8
Females	129	2.5	1,835	0.3	8.2	2.2
Persons ^(h)	328	3.1	7,404	0.6	5.1	2.5
Qld						
Males	1,538	8.0	5,548	1.2	6.4	6.8
Females	1,467	7.2	2,297	0.5	13.9	6.7
Persons ^(h)	3,005	7.6	7,845	0.9	8.6	6.7
WA						
Males	1,176	12.8	2,380	1.0	13.2	11.8
Females	1,677	18.3	872	0.4	50.2	17.9
Persons ^(h)	2,853	15.5	3,252	0.7	23.2	14.8
SA						
Males	334	9.6	1,454	0.9	10.4	8.7
Females	439	11.7	548	0.4	33.4	11.4
Persons ^(h)	773	10.7	2,002	0.6	16.7	10.0
Tas						
Males	n.p.	1.3	n.p.	0.9	1.5	0.4
Females	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	0.3	n.p.	n.p.
Persons ^(h)	n.p.	0.9	n.p.	0.6	1.5	0.3
ACT						
Males	n.p.	3.2	n.p.	0.8	4.3	2.5
Females	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	0.2	n.p.	n.p.
Persons ^(h)	n.p.	3.2	n.p.	0.5	6.5	2.7
NT						
Males	n.p.	21.5	n.p.	2.2	9.9	19.3
Females	n.p.	35.8	n.p.	0.6	56.7	35.2
Persons ^(h)	n.p.	28.5	n.p.	1.4	19.7	27.0
Australia						
Males	5,864	8.4	23,381	1.0	8.2	7.4
Females	7,003	9.8	8,130	0.4	27.4	9.4
Persons^(h)	12,867	9.1	31,515	0.7	13.2	8.4

(a) Data includes public and private hospitals in all jurisdictions. The number of hospitalisations in the Northern Territory, the Australian Capital Territory and Tasmania are not published for privacy reasons.

(b) Categories are based on the ICD-10-AM 9th edition (Australian Consortium for Classification Development 2015). Causes of injury are based on the first reported external cause as 'Assault' ICD-10-AM codes X85–Y09, where the principal diagnosis was 'Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes' (S00–T98).

(c) Data are reported by state/territory of usual residence of the patient hospitalised.

(d) Age-standardised rates for New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia, the Northern Territory and Australia have been calculated using the direct method, age-standardised by 5-year age groups to 75+. Age-standardised rates for Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory have been calculated using the direct method, age-standardised by 5-year age groups to 65+. As different age groupings were used, rates for Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory cannot be compared with the rates for New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia, the Northern Territory and Australia.

(e) Directly age-standardised using the Australian 2001 standard population.

(f) Rate ratio is the age-standardised rate for Indigenous Australians divided by the age-standardised rate for non-Indigenous Australians.

(g) Rate difference is the age-standardised rate for Indigenous Australians minus the age-standardised rate for non-Indigenous Australians.

(h) Persons data includes sex not stated and indeterminate.

Notes

1. Rates are calculated using ABS backcast population estimates and projections based on the 2016 Census.

2. Data exclude separations for Newborns without qualified days, Hospital boarders and Posthumous organ procurement.

Source: AIHW analysis of National Hospital Morbidity Database (as published in Table D2.10.5 at <https://www.indigenoushpf.gov.au/measures/2-10-community-safety>).

Table B5: Age-standardised hospitalisation rates among females for a principal diagnosis of injury and poisoning and a first reported external cause of assault, by Indigenous status, NSW, Vic, Qld, WA, SA and NT, 2004–05 to 2016–17^{(a)(b)} (per 1,000 population)

	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	% change over period ^(e)
Indigenous females	8.7	8.8	9.1	8.4	8.6	8.6	9.3	9.7	9.9	9.3	8.8	9.9	10.4	16.0
Non-Indigenous females	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	10.7
Rate ratio ^(c)	28.7	28.3	30.1	27.6	26.4	28.0	29.8	30.2	33.1	30.8	28.5	29.5	28.2	..
Rate difference ^(d)	8.4	8.5	8.8	8.1	8.2	8.3	9.0	9.4	9.6	9.0	8.5	9.5	10.0	..

(a) Data are from public and private hospitals. Data are reported by place of residence of the patient.

(b) Categories are based on the ICD-10-AM 9th edition (Australian Consortium for Classification Development 2015). Causes of injury are based on the first reported external cause as 'Assault' ICD-10-AM codes X85–Y09, where the principal diagnosis was 'Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes' (S00–T98).

(c) Rate ratio is the age-standardised rate for Indigenous Australians divided by the age-standardised rate for non-Indigenous Australians.

(d) Rate difference is the age-standardised rate for Indigenous Australians minus the age-standardised rate for non-Indigenous Australians.

(e) The per cent change between 2004–05 and 2016–17 was based on the annual change over the period (calculated on unrounded data), using linear regression analysis.

Notes

1. Directly age-standardised using the 2001 Australian standard population.
2. Rates are calculated using ABS backcast population estimates and projections based on the 2016 Census.
3. Data exclude separations for Newborns without qualified days, Hospital boarders and Posthumous organ procurement.
4. Caution should be used in comparing injury and poisoning diagnosis, and external cause data over time, as the admission practices and the classifications and coding standards for those data can change over time.
5. NHMD and ABS population data in the time series have been updated, and may vary from previously published tables.

Source: AIHW analysis of National Hospital Morbidity Database (as published in Table D2.10.11 at <https://www.indigenoushpf.gov.au/measures/2-10-community-safety>).

Table B6: Rates of hospitalised assault injury cases per 100,000, by age group and sex, Australia, 2009–10 to 2016–17

Year	0–4	5–9	10–14 ^b	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40–44	45–49	50–54	55–59	60–64	65–69	70–74	75–79	80–84	85–89	90–94	95+	Total	ASR
Males																						
2009–10	14.5	7.8	38.8	358.9	445.4	335.7	262.9	225.3	190.2	143.9	96.7	54.7	34.5	31.5	20.5	16.2	15.2	14.9	14.3	67.3	159.4	158.7
2010–11	14.4	5.7	34.6	328.1	407.5	303.9	251.6	206.7	181.9	143.7	99.9	59.8	39.6	30.7	21.1	16.8	17.0	17.2	n.p.	63.9	149.1	149.1
2011–12	14.4	4.6	28.1	277.6	370.6	296.5	241.8	214.2	179.7	137.8	90.3	62.0	37.2	26.5	21.7	15.6	20.4	25.2	n.p.	45.6	139.9	140.6
2012–13	14.7	3.8	26.3	238.3	323.8	262.9	232.8	194.4	175.2	141.9	99.1	67.1	40.2	25.1	18.6	15.5	18.1	17.6	11.0	14.4	129.4	130.5
2013–14	15.2	7.4	25.8	202.3	293.1	247.4	194.9	187.9	162.0	133.5	98.4	69.3	40.6	26.2	22.8	19.9	17.9	23.1	10.1	54.0	119.3	120.6
2014–15	13.5	5.5	23.4	179.8	238.0	218.5	178.0	173.1	164.6	134.4	92.5	65.5	46.9	30.7	16.0	23.9	18.8	29.0	n.p.	12.1	108.7	110.4
2015–16	12.3	6.0	28.1	171.2	247.8	216.7	194.2	189.8	160.3	135.4	114.2	73.1	42.5	27.4	21.6	18.8	15.5	21.5	n.p.	42.7	112.0	114.4
2016–17	14.0	5.2	30.4	178.4	250.0	227.4	211.6	197.7	185.9	147.2	119.8	74.3	51.1	33.3	26.0	26.7	23.8	25.9	n.p.	18.9	119.4	122.3
Females																						
2009–10	13.1	2.0	19.7	91.2	113.0	111.0	111.3	97.4	71.4	53.4	32.0	17.3	11.9	9.4	7.0	10.8	11.2	16.5	21.4	n.p.	52.9	54.3
2010–11	14.1	4.8	17.8	89.9	115.2	118.8	112.7	102.6	83.2	56.7	33.1	18.3	17.2	6.2	7.9	9.1	6.7	15.4	n.p.	14.2	55.1	56.8
2011–12	13.9	3.7	16.7	86.8	122.6	117.4	112.3	102.6	84.1	71.1	37.3	18.3	12.3	7.6	8.7	11.2	11.9	15.6	n.p.	18.4	56.3	58.1
2012–13	11.8	4.0	20.2	79.9	114.1	110.1	119.4	100.4	84.5	68.8	37.5	24.5	10.9	8.7	10.7	8.8	13.5	13.1	n.p.	4.5	55.2	57.2
2013–14	12.2	2.8	18.6	72.0	108.5	111.2	113.1	96.7	89.3	64.8	41.2	23.5	13.6	8.1	8.1	6.3	11.9	14.0	n.p.	4.3	53.7	55.6
2014–15	13.3	4.7	13.2	70.3	97.6	106.6	106.9	102.4	89.1	64.5	45.2	23.5	13.7	8.6	9.6	8.3	12.0	19.9	n.p.	16.6	52.6	54.6
2015–16	12.4	4.1	15.8	76.0	108.2	119.6	116.2	112.3	105.5	73.5	49.9	24.9	13.9	10.4	9.0	10.1	10.7	19.2	17.4	n.p.	58.2	60.6
2016–17	11.5	3.1	16.7	74.6	117.5	119.3	124.4	114.6	116.3	86.5	53.1	28.9	21.6	11.2	10.2	15.5	15.6	19.1	n.p.	14.1	62.1	64.6
Persons																						
2009–10	13.8	5.0	29.5	228.6	283.8	225.1	187.1	160.9	130.3	98.3	64.1	35.8	23.2	20.4	13.6	13.3	12.9	15.9	19.3	49.5	105.9	107.1
2010–11	14.3	5.2	26.4	212.3	264.9	212.8	182.3	154.3	132.1	99.9	66.2	38.9	28.3	18.4	14.4	12.6	11.1	16.1	19.0	n.p.	101.9	103.4
2011–12	14.2	4.1	22.5	184.8	249.2	208.2	177.2	158.2	131.4	104.2	63.5	39.9	24.7	17.0	15.1	13.3	15.5	19.2	15.8	n.p.	97.9	99.7
2012–13	13.3	3.9	23.3	161.2	221.1	187.4	176.3	147.3	129.3	105.0	68.0	45.6	25.4	16.8	14.6	11.9	15.5	14.8	n.p.	6.8	92.2	94.1
2013–14	13.8	5.1	22.3	138.8	202.7	179.8	154.1	142.2	125.3	98.7	69.5	46.0	26.9	17.1	15.3	12.7	14.6	17.5	16.1	n.p.	86.3	88.3
2014–15	13.4	5.1	18.4	126.4	169.3	162.8	142.5	137.7	126.4	98.9	68.6	44.1	30.0	19.5	12.7	15.7	15.0	23.5	10.7	n.p.	80.5	82.6
2015–16	12.3	5.1	22.1	124.8	179.5	168.3	155.1	151.0	132.7	103.9	81.6	48.5	27.9	18.8	15.2	14.2	12.8	20.1	15.3	n.p.	84.9	87.5
2016–17	12.8	4.2	23.8	127.9	185.2	173.4	167.7	156.0	150.9	116.2	85.9	51.2	36.2	22.1	18.0	20.8	19.3	21.9	23.9	n.p.	90.5	93.5

Notes

1. Assault injury cases defined as follows:

- A principal diagnosis ICD-10-AM code between S00 - T76, or T79, and an external cause of X85–Y09. In the case where multiple external causes are recorded for a single case, the first recorded external cause is used.
- Limiting to standard separations (excludes records where care type is newborn with unqualified days only (7.3), organ procurement - posthumous (9), or hospital boarder (10)
- Excluding records where the admission mode is admitted patient transferred from another hospital (1)
- Excluding records where the admission mode is statistical admission (2) and care type is not acute
- Excluding records where 'care involving use of rehabilitation procedures' (ICD-10-AM code Z50) appears as an additional diagnosis and care type is not acute (1)
- Excluding records where the external cause of injury is Complications of medical and surgical care (Y40-Y84), Sequelae of external causes of morbidity and mortality (Y85–Y89), or contact with allergens, except contact with animals (Y37.0-Y37.5 and Y37.7-Y37.9)

2. Rates are calculated estimated resident population (ERP) as at 30 June to create a 31 December population for the year of interest

3. Data from 2017–18 should not be compared to previous years, as a change in admission policy in New South Wales in 2017–18 resulted in an artificial change in injury cases

ASR=age-standardised rate. Directly age-standardised to the 2001 Australian Standard Population using 5-year age group from 0–4 to 85+.

Source: AIHW National Hospital Morbidity Database (as published in Tables C6 and C7 at <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/injury/injury-in-australia/data>).

Table B7: Rates of hospitalised assault injury cases per 100,000, by age group and sex, Australia, 2017–18 to 2019–20

	0–4	5–9	10–14 ^a	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40–44	45–49	50–54	55–59	60–64	65–69	70–74	75–79	80–84	85–89	90–94	95+	Total	ASR
Males																						
2017–18	15.1	6.4	26.9	174.0	237.8	222.0	198.5	183.3	180.9	147.3	113.0	76.9	46.4	31.1	22.5	25.6	23.8	23.1	21.8	n.p.	114.5	117.4
2018–19	18.5	6.0	26.5	168.5	230.6	217.9	190.2	184.5	175.8	147.9	114.1	71.8	43.9	32.5	25.3	19.9	25.5	24.3	n.p.	n.p.	112.1	115.3
2019–20	18.1	8.5	30.2	168.3	204.3	208.9	188.7	177.9	154.4	145.4	114.7	77.7	48.7	36.0	26.4	24.7	23.5	30.6	30.6	n.p.	108.6	111.8
Females																						
2017–18	11.4	3.9	17.9	82.4	117.9	116.5	129.6	123.1	116.7	84.9	56.9	31.7	17.5	14.9	11.5	13.3	19.7	20.2	29.0	n.p.	63.7	66.5
2018–19	11.1	4.7	13.1	81.7	119.7	129.7	127.7	114.3	114.3	88.5	62.8	30.6	19.5	12.2	14.2	12.5	19.8	16.8	n.p.	n.p.	64.1	66.9
2019–20	11.7	3.8	15.7	84.3	116.8	135.2	131.5	129.5	114.4	97.6	61.0	32.8	16.5	17.2	12.3	14.2	15.6	14.6	12.0	n.p.	66.1	69.4
Persons																						
2017–18	13.3	5.1	22.5	129.5	179.2	169.3	163.7	153.1	148.7	115.5	84.4	53.8	31.6	22.8	16.9	19.2	21.6	21.4	26.6	23.6	88.9	92.0
2018–19	14.9	5.4	20.0	126.3	176.5	173.9	158.6	149.3	144.9	117.7	87.9	50.8	31.4	22.1	19.7	16.0	22.4	19.9	23.8	21.7	87.9	91.1
2019–20	15.0	6.2	23.1	127.5	161.8	172.3	159.7	153.5	134.3	121.1	87.2	54.8	32.2	26.3	19.2	19.2	19.2	21.2	18.6	26.0	87.2	90.6

Notes

1. Assault injury cases defined as follows:

- A principal diagnosis ICD-10-AM code between S00 - T76, or T79, and an external cause of X85–Y09. In the case where multiple external causes are recorded for a single case, the first recorded external cause is used.
- Limiting to standard separations (excludes records where care type is newborn with unqualified days only (7.3), organ procurement - posthumous (9), or hospital boarder (10))
- Excluding records where the admission mode is admitted patient transferred from another hospital (1)
- Excluding records where the admission mode is statistical admission (2) and care type is not acute
- Excluding records where 'care involving use of rehabilitation procedures' (ICD-10-AM code Z50) appears as an additional diagnosis and care type is not acute (1)
- Excluding records where the external cause of injury is Complications of medical and surgical care (Y40–Y84), sequelae of external causes of morbidity and mortality of external causes of morbidity and mortality (Y85–Y89), or contact with allergens, except contact with animals (Y37.0–Y37.5 and Y37.7–Y37.9)

2. Rates are calculated estimated resident population (ERP) as at 30 June to create a 31 December population for the year of interest

3. Data from 2017–18 should not be compared to previous years, as a change in admission policy in New South Wales in 2017–18 resulted in an artificial change in injury cases

ASR=age-standardised rate. Directly age-standardised to the 2001 Australian Standard Population using 5-year age group from 0–4 to 85+.

Source: AIHW National Hospital Morbidity Database (as published in Table A4 at <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/injury/injury-in-australia/data>)

Attachment tables: Question 3

Table C1: Children who were the subject of a substantiation of a notification received during 2020–21, by primary type of abuse or neglect, Indigenous status and state or territory

Primary type of abuse or neglect	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas ^(a)	ACT ^(b)	NT ^(c)	Total
Number									
Indigenous children									
Physical abuse	842	242	394	129	90	13	13	320	2,043
Sexual abuse	639	67	103	118	53	6	0	79	1,065
Emotional abuse	1,980	1,774	912	1,108	481	55	62	591	6,963
Neglect	2,467	101	740	452	225	55	24	422	4,486
Not stated	10	0	0	3	24	2	0	0	39
Total	5,938	2,184	2,149	1,810	873	131	99	1,412	14,596
Non-Indigenous children									
Physical abuse	1,642	1,764	612	330	216	29	40	30	4,663
Sexual abuse	1,784	812	279	249	163	11	12	7	3,317
Emotional abuse	4,011	10,966	2,015	1,381	737	70	122	117	19,419
Neglect	3,278	404	1,030	492	361	62	52	34	5,713
Not stated	26	0	0	12	25	8	0	0	71
Total	10,741	13,946	3,936	2,464	1,502	180	226	188	33,183
Unknown Indigenous Status									
Physical abuse	140	0	53	0	9	5	3	0	210
Sexual abuse	410	0	25	0	13	13	0	0	461
Emotional abuse	552	0	169	0	31	45	8	0	805
Neglect	311	0	63	0	15	25	1	0	415
Not stated	12	0	0	0	1	7	0	0	20
Total	1,425	0	310	0	69	95	12	0	1,911
All children									
Physical abuse	2,624	2,006	1,059	459	315	47	56	350	6,916
Sexual abuse	2,833	879	407	367	229	30	12	86	4,843
Emotional abuse	6,543	12,740	3,096	2,489	1,249	170	192	708	27,187
Neglect	6,056	505	1,833	944	601	142	77	456	10,614
Not stated	48	0	0	15	50	17	0	0	130
Total	18,104	16,130	6,395	4,274	2,444	406	337	1,600	49,690
Per cent									
Indigenous children									
Physical abuse	14.2	11.1	18.3	7.1	10.3	9.9	13.1	22.7	14.0
Sexual abuse	10.8	3.1	4.8	6.5	6.1	4.6	0.0	5.6	7.3
Emotional abuse	33.3	81.2	42.4	61.2	55.1	42.0	62.6	41.9	47.7
Neglect	41.5	4.6	34.4	25.0	25.8	42.0	24.2	29.9	30.7
Not stated	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	2.7	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Non-Indigenous children									
Physical abuse	15.3	12.6	15.5	13.4	14.4	16.1	17.7	16.0	14.1
Sexual abuse	16.6	5.8	7.1	10.1	10.9	6.1	5.3	3.7	10.0
Emotional abuse	37.3	78.6	51.2	56.0	49.1	38.9	54.0	62.2	58.5

Table C1 continued

Primary type of abuse or neglect	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas ^(a)	ACT ^(b)	NT ^(c)	Total
Per cent									
Non-Indigenous children									
Neglect	30.5	2.9	26.2	20.0	24.0	34.4	23.0	18.1	17.2
Not stated	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.5	1.7	4.4	0.0	0.0	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All children									
Physical abuse	14.5	12.4	16.6	10.7	12.9	11.6	16.6	21.9	13.9
Sexual abuse	15.6	5.4	6.4	8.6	9.4	7.4	3.6	5.4	9.7
Emotional abuse	36.1	79.0	48.4	58.2	51.1	41.9	57.0	44.3	54.7
Neglect	33.5	3.1	28.7	22.1	24.6	35.0	22.8	28.5	21.4
Not stated	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.4	2.0	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) In Tasmania, the reliability of these data is affected by the proportion of children with an unknown Indigenous status at investigation.

(b) In the Australian Capital Territory, the proportion of Indigenous children who were the subjects of substantiations should be interpreted with caution due to small numbers.

(c) In the Northern Territory, due to recording issues, sexual exploitation is under-reported. This has been addressed and it is expected that numbers in this area will be similar to those of other jurisdictions in future years.

Notes

1. Data presented in this table are not comparable across jurisdictions due to differences in the way jurisdictions collect and report data on notifications, investigations and substantiations. See [Appendix A](#) of Child Protection in Australia for more information.

2. Finalised investigations, and thus substantiations, refer only to cases that were notified during the year, not to the total number of investigations finalised by 31 August 2021.

3. If a child was the subject of more than one type of abuse or neglect as part of the same notification, the abuse and/or neglect reported is the one considered by the child protection workers to cause the most harm to the child. Where a child is the subject of more than one substantiation during the year, the type of abuse reported in this table is the type of abuse and/or neglect associated with the substantiation decision relating to the earliest notification during the year.

4. Percentages in the table may not add to 100 due to rounding.

5. Percentages for all children include children whose Indigenous status was unknown.

Source: AIHW Child Protection Collection 2020–21

Table C2: Children who were the subject of a substantiation of a notification received during 2019–20, by type of abuse or neglect, Indigenous status and state or territory

Type of abuse or neglect	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas ^{(a)(b)}	ACT ^(c)	NT ^(d)	Total
Number									
Indigenous children									
Physical abuse	786	294	475	150	95	n.p.	2	216	2,018
Sexual abuse	605	97	72	99	44	n.p.	0	52	969
Emotional abuse	1,765	1,816	992	1,219	427	n.p.	24	447	6,690
Neglect	2,444	134	876	589	202	n.p.	16	270	4,531
Not stated	22	0	0	10	10	n.p.	0	0	42
Total	5,622	2,341	2,415	2,067	778	73	42	985	14,323
Non-Indigenous children									
Physical abuse	1,604	1,892	566	342	208	n.p.	42	33	4,687
Sexual abuse	1,758	929	263	254	131	n.p.	3	8	3,346
Emotional abuse	3,700	11,056	1,908	1,440	689	n.p.	121	85	18,999
Neglect	3,344	495	1,126	615	350	n.p.	46	39	6,015
Not stated	20	1	0	7	41	n.p.	1	0	70
Total	10,426	14,373	3,863	2,658	1,419	122	213	165	33,239
Unknown Indigenous Status									
Physical abuse	102	0	44	0	3	n.p.	6	0	155
Sexual abuse	130	0	34	0	3	n.p.	0	0	167
Emotional abuse	345	0	123	0	10	n.p.	12	0	490
Neglect	228	0	58	1	2	n.p.	7	0	296
Not stated	3	0	0	0	2	n.p.	0	0	5
Total	808	0	259	1	20	211	25	0	1,324
All children									
Physical abuse	2,492	2,186	1,085	492	306	34	50	249	6,894
Sexual abuse	2,493	1,026	369	353	178	29	3	60	4,511
Emotional abuse	5,810	12,872	3,023	2,659	1,126	171	157	532	26,350
Neglect	6,016	629	2,060	1,205	554	141	69	309	10,983
Not stated	45	1	0	17	53	31	1	0	148
Total	16,856	16,714	6,537	4,726	2,217	406	280	1,150	48,886
Per cent									
Indigenous children									
Physical abuse	14.0	12.6	19.7	7.3	12.2	n.p.	4.8	21.9	14.2
Sexual abuse	10.8	4.1	3.0	4.8	5.7	n.p.	0.0	5.3	6.8
Emotional abuse	31.4	77.6	41.1	59.0	54.9	n.p.	57.1	45.4	46.9
Neglect	43.5	5.7	36.3	28.5	26.0	n.p.	38.1	27.4	31.8
Not stated	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.5	1.3	n.p.	0.0	0.0	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Non-Indigenous children									
Physical abuse	15.4	13.2	14.7	12.9	14.7	n.p.	19.7	20.0	14.2
Sexual abuse	16.9	6.5	6.8	9.6	9.2	n.p.	1.4	4.8	10.1
Emotional abuse	35.5	76.9	49.4	54.2	48.6	n.p.	56.8	51.5	57.4

Table C2 continued

Type of abuse or neglect	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas ^{(a)(b)}	ACT ^(c)	NT ^(d)	Total
Per cent									
Non-Indigenous children									
Neglect	32.1	3.4	29.1	23.1	24.7	n.p.	21.6	23.6	18.2
Not stated	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.3	2.9	n.p.	0.5	0.0	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All children									
Physical abuse	14.8	13.1	16.6	10.4	13.8	8.4	17.9	21.7	14.1
Sexual abuse	14.8	6.1	5.6	7.5	8.0	7.1	1.1	5.2	9.2
Emotional abuse	34.5	77.0	46.2	56.3	50.8	42.1	56.1	46.3	53.9
Neglect	35.7	3.8	31.5	25.5	25.0	34.7	24.6	26.9	22.5
Not stated	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.4	2.4	7.6	0.4	0.0	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Tasmania has adopted a policy to suppress numbers below 5 and AIHW has applied additional suppression.

(b) In Tasmania, the reliability of these data is affected by the proportion of children with an unknown Indigenous status at investigation.

(c) In the Australian Capital Territory, the proportion of Indigenous children who were the subjects of substantiations should be interpreted with caution due to small numbers.

(d) In the Northern Territory, due to recording issues, sexual exploitation is under-reported. This has been addressed and it is expected that numbers in this area will be similar to those of other jurisdictions in future years.

Notes

1. Data presented in this table are not comparable across jurisdictions due to differences in the way jurisdictions collect and report data on notifications, investigations and substantiations. See [Appendix A of Child Protection in Australia](#) for more information.

2. Finalised investigations, and thus substantiations, refer only to cases that were notified during the year, not to the total number of investigations finalised by 31 August 2020.

3. If a child was the subject of more than one type of abuse or neglect as part of the same notification, the abuse and/or neglect reported is the one considered by the child protection workers to cause the most harm to the child. Where a child is the subject of more than one substantiation during the year, the type of abuse reported in this table is the type of abuse and/or neglect associated with the substantiation decision relating to the earliest notification during the year.

4. Percentages in the table may not add to 100 due to rounding.

5. Percentages for all children include children whose Indigenous status was unknown.

Source: AIHW Child Protection Collection 2019–20.

Table C3: Children who were the subject of a substantiation of a notification received during 2018–19, by type of abuse or neglect, Indigenous status and state or territory

Type of abuse or neglect	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas ^(a)	ACT ^(b)	NT ^(c)	Total
Number									
Indigenous children									
Physical abuse	564	276	414	178	76	18	9	194	1,729
Sexual abuse	507	116	76	125	49	9	1	28	911
Emotional abuse	1,225	1,772	974	1,211	276	42	20	424	5,944
Neglect	1,741	114	851	590	229	47	27	359	3,958
Not stated	10	11	0	7	5	5	0	0	38
Total	4,047	2,289	2,315	2,111	635	121	57	1,005	12,580
Non-Indigenous children									
Physical abuse	1,272	2,283	583	325	187	34	31	47	4,762
Sexual abuse	1,270	1,328	258	287	112	9	6	4	3,274
Emotional abuse	2,584	12,400	1,589	1,297	419	92	113	81	18,575
Neglect	2,543	511	1,034	681	326	55	41	25	5,216
Not stated	11	72	0	16	28	6	0	0	133
Total	7,680	16,594	3,464	2,606	1,072	196	191	157	31,960
Unknown Indigenous Status									
Physical abuse	403	0	56	0	3	32	0	1	495
Sexual abuse	485	0	16	0	10	18	0	0	529
Emotional abuse	936	0	134	0	14	129	0	4	1,217
Neglect	571	0	62	0	9	67	0	0	709
Not stated	9	0	0	0	2	15	0	0	26
Total	2,404	0	268	0	38	261	0	5	2,976
All children									
Physical abuse	2,239	2,559	1,053	503	266	84	40	242	6,986
Sexual abuse	2,262	1,444	350	412	171	36	7	32	4,714
Emotional abuse	4,745	14,172	2,697	2,508	709	263	133	509	25,736
Neglect	4,855	625	1,947	1,271	564	169	68	384	9,883
Not stated	30	83	0	23	35	26	0	0	197
Total	14,131	18,883	6,047	4,717	1,745	578	248	1,167	47,516
Per cent									
Indigenous children									
Physical abuse	13.9	12.1	17.9	8.4	12.0	14.9	15.8	19.3	13.7
Sexual abuse	12.5	5.1	3.3	5.9	7.7	7.4	1.8	2.8	7.2
Emotional abuse	30.3	77.4	42.1	57.4	43.5	34.7	35.1	42.2	47.2
Neglect	43.0	5.0	36.8	27.9	36.1	38.8	47.4	35.7	31.5
Not stated	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.3	0.8	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Non-Indigenous children									
Physical abuse	16.6	13.8	16.8	12.5	17.4	17.3	16.2	29.9	14.9
Sexual abuse	16.5	8.0	7.4	11.0	10.4	4.6	3.1	2.5	10.2
Emotional abuse	33.6	74.7	45.9	49.8	39.1	46.9	59.2	51.6	58.1

Table C3 continued

Type of abuse or neglect	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas ^(a)	ACT ^(b)	NT ^(c)	Total
Per cent									
Non-Indigenous children									
Neglect	33.1	3.1	29.8	26.1	30.4	28.1	21.5	15.9	16.3
Not stated	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.6	2.6	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All children									
Physical abuse	15.8	13.6	17.4	10.7	15.2	14.5	16.1	20.7	14.7
Sexual abuse	16.0	7.6	5.8	8.7	9.8	6.2	2.8	2.7	9.9
Emotional abuse	33.6	75.1	44.6	53.2	40.6	45.5	53.6	43.6	54.2
Neglect	34.4	3.3	32.2	26.9	32.3	29.2	27.4	32.9	20.8
Not stated	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.5	2.0	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) In Tasmania, the proportion of children whose Indigenous status is unknown impacts the reliability of these data.

(b) In the Australian Capital Territory, the proportion of Indigenous children who were the subjects of substantiations should be interpreted with caution due to small numbers.

(c) In the Northern Territory, due to recording issues, sexual exploitation is under-reported. This has been addressed and it is expected that numbers in this area will be similar to those of other jurisdictions in future years.

Notes

1. Data presented in this table are not comparable across jurisdictions due to differences in the way jurisdictions collect and report data on notifications, investigations and substantiations. See [Appendix A](#) of *Child Protection in Australia* for more information.

2. Finalised investigations, and thus substantiations, refer only to cases that were notified during the year, not to the total number of investigations finalised by 31 August 2019.

3. If a child was the subject of more than one type of abuse or neglect as part of the same notification, the abuse and/or neglect reported is the one considered by the child protection workers to cause the most harm to the child. Where a child is the subject of more than one substantiation during the year, the type of abuse reported in this table is the type of abuse and/or neglect associated with the substantiation decision relating to the earliest notification during the year.

4. Percentages in the table may not add to 100 due to rounding.

5. Percentages for all children include children whose Indigenous status was unknown.

Source: AIHW Child Protection Collection 2019.

Table C4: Children aged 0–17 who were the subjects of substantiations of notifications received during 2017–18, by type of abuse or neglect and Indigenous status, states and territories

Type of abuse or neglect	NSW ^(a)	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas ^{(b)(c)(d)}	ACT ^(e)	NT ^(f)	Total
Number									
Indigenous children									
Physical	n.a.	207	416	227	111	15	2	217	1,195
Sexual	n.a.	118	84	183	36	5	4	21	451
Emotional	n.a.	1,561	816	1,038	178	38	24	524	4,179
Neglect	n.a.	107	866	574	185	27	27	742	2,528
Not stated	n.a.	11	0	15	0	6	0	0	32
Total	n.a.	2,004	2,182	2,037	510	91	57	1,504	8,385
Non-Indigenous children									
Physical	n.a.	2,101	574	313	272	36	35	42	3,373
Sexual	n.a.	1,523	214	427	147	5	4	14	2,334
Emotional	n.a.	11,026	1,564	1,202	237	69	105	122	14,325
Neglect	n.a.	503	1,040	532	390	61	76	59	2,661
Not stated	n.a.	63	0	15	2	8	0	0	88
Total	n.a.	15,216	3,392	2,489	1,048	179	220	237	22,781
Unknown Indigenous status									
Physical	n.a.	4	61	0	33	70	0	0	168
Sexual	n.a.	3	23	1	7	24	0	0	58
Emotional	n.a.	13	141	2	12	170	0	3	341
Neglect	n.a.	5	85	1	39	149	0	0	279
Not stated	n.a.	0	0	0	0	19	0	0	19
Total	n.a.	25	310	4	91	432	0	3	865
All children									
Physical	n.a.	2,312	1,051	540	416	121	37	259	4,736
Sexual	n.a.	1,644	321	611	190	34	8	35	2,843
Emotional	n.a.	12,600	2,521	2,242	427	277	129	649	18,845
Neglect	n.a.	615	1,991	1,107	614	237	103	801	5,468
Not stated	n.a.	74	0	30	2	33	0	0	139
Total	n.a.	17,245	5,884	4,530	1,649	702	277	1,744	32,031
%									
Indigenous children									
Physical	..	10.3	19.1	11.1	21.8	n.p.	3.5	14.4	14.2
Sexual	..	5.9	3.8	9.0	7.1	n.p.	7.0	1.4	5.4
Emotional	..	77.9	37.4	51.0	34.9	n.p.	42.1	34.8	49.9
Neglect	..	5.3	39.7	28.2	36.3	n.p.	47.4	49.3	30.2
Not stated	..	0.5	0.0	0.7	0.0	n.p.	0.0	0.0	0.3
Total	..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	n.p.	100.0	100.0	100.0
Non-Indigenous children									
Physical	..	13.8	16.9	12.6	26.0	n.p.	15.9	17.7	14.8
Sexual	..	10.0	6.3	17.2	14.0	n.p.	1.8	5.9	10.3
Emotional	..	72.5	46.1	48.3	22.6	n.p.	47.7	51.5	63.1

Table C4 continued

Type of abuse or neglect	NSW ^(a)	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas ^{(b)(c)(d)}	ACT ^(e)	NT ^(f)	Total
%									
Non-Indigenous children									
Neglect	..	3.3	30.7	21.4	37.2	n.p.	34.5	24.9	11.5
Not stated	..	0.4	0.0	0.6	0.2	n.p.	0.0	0.0	0.4
Total	..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	n.p.	100.0	100.0	100.0
All children									
Physical	..	13.4	17.9	11.9	25.2	17.2	13.4	14.9	14.8
Sexual	..	9.5	5.5	13.5	11.5	4.8	2.9	2.0	8.9
Emotional	..	73.1	42.8	49.5	25.9	39.5	46.6	37.2	58.8
Neglect	..	3.6	33.8	24.4	37.2	33.8	37.2	45.9	17.1
Not stated	..	0.4	0.0	0.7	0.1	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.4
Total	..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) New South Wales (NSW) substantiation data unavailable for 2017–18. Substantiation data therefore should not be compared to previous iterations of Child protection Australia. NSW has implemented a new client management system in 2017-18 and has provided limited data. With the new system, NSW is making efforts to improve quality and completeness of data to have a comprehensive set of data for future reporting.

(b) In Tasmania, Indigenous status is no longer being cross-checked with data from other databases. As a result, the proportion of clients with an 'unknown' Indigenous status is larger than in previous years. Therefore data from 2017–18 are not comparable with data for previous years and any comparisons should be made with extreme caution.

(c) For Tasmania, Indigenous and non-Indigenous proportions are not calculated due to the high proportion of clients with an 'unknown' Indigenous status which affects the reliability of data disaggregated by Indigenous status.

(d) Due to changes in the way in which notifications have been defined in Tasmania, the number of notifications reported for 2015–16 onwards is not comparable with data for earlier years. Tasmania has moved from a caller to an agency defined approach to the counting of notifications.

(e) In the Australian Capital Territory, the proportion of Indigenous children who were the subjects of substantiations should be interpreted with caution due to small numbers.

(f) In the Northern Territory, due to recording issues, sexual exploitation is under-reported. This has been addressed and it is expected numbers in this area will be similar to those of other jurisdictions in future years.

Notes

1. Finalised investigations, and thus substantiations, refer only to cases that were notified during the year, not to the total number of investigations finalised by 31 August 2018.
2. If a child was the subject of more than one type of abuse or neglect as part of the same notification, the abuse and/or neglect reported is the one considered by the child protection workers to cause the most harm to the child. Where a child is the subject of more than one substantiation during the year, the type of abuse reported in this table is the type of abuse and/or neglect associated with the substantiation decision relating to the earliest notification during the year.
3. Due to the high proportion of Tasmanian clients with an 'unknown' Indigenous status in 2017–18, Indigenous and Non-Indigenous proportions for the total have been recalculated excluding Tasmania. Therefore, Indigenous and Non-Indigenous proportions for the total should not be compared to previous iterations of Child protection Australia.
4. Percentages for all children include children whose Indigenous status was unknown.
5. Percentages in the table may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Source: AIHW Child Protection Collection 2018.

Table C5: Children aged 0–17 who were the subjects of substantiations of notifications received during 2016–17, by type of abuse or neglect and Indigenous status, states and territories

Type of abuse or neglect	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA ^(a)	SA	Tas ^{(a)(b)}	ACT ^(b)	NT ^(c)	Total
Number									
Indigenous children									
Physical	754	251	364	221	129	16	11	271	2,017
Sexual	746	96	76	180	22	3	6	12	1,141
Emotional	1,809	1,393	773	1,026	116	76	40	632	5,865
Neglect	2,180	107	821	569	200	33	29	756	4,695
Not stated	0	11	0	12	2	6	0	0	31
Total	5,489	1,858	2,034	2,008	469	134	86	1,671	13,749
Non-Indigenous children									
Physical	2,327	2,142	573	399	243	82	33	51	5,850
Sexual	2,420	1,516	171	440	87	27	6	12	4,679
Emotional	4,689	9,462	1,570	1,031	219	184	107	112	17,374
Neglect	3,925	438	1,132	730	398	133	85	64	6,905
Not stated	0	67	0	23	0	17	0	0	107
Total	13,361	13,625	3,446	2,623	947	443	231	239	34,915
Unknown Indigenous status									
Physical	4	1	51	0	31	35	0	0	122
Sexual	1	1	18	0	14	7	0	0	41
Emotional	27	3	113	2	24	66	0	0	235
Neglect	37	0	105	0	41	58	0	0	241
Not stated	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	12
Total	69	5	287	2	110	178	0	0	651
All children									
Physical	3,085	2,394	988	620	403	133	44	322	7,989
Sexual	3,167	1,613	265	620	123	37	12	24	5,861
Emotional	6,525	10,858	2,456	2,059	359	326	147	744	23,474
Neglect	6,142	545	2,058	1,299	639	224	114	820	11,841
Not stated	0	78	0	35	2	35	–	0	150
Total	18,919	15,488	5,767	4,633	1,526	755	317	1,910	49,315
%									
Indigenous children									
Physical	13.7	13.5	17.9	11.0	27.5	11.9	12.8	16.2	14.7
Sexual	13.6	5.2	3.7	9.0	4.7	2.2	7.0	0.7	8.3
Emotional	33.0	75.0	38.0	51.1	24.7	56.7	46.5	37.8	42.7
Neglect	39.7	5.8	40.4	28.3	42.6	24.6	33.7	45.2	34.1
Not stated	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.4	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Non-Indigenous children									
Physical	17.4	15.7	16.6	15.2	25.7	18.5	14.3	21.3	16.8
Sexual	18.1	11.1	5.0	16.8	9.2	6.1	2.6	5.0	13.4
Emotional	35.1	69.4	45.6	39.3	23.1	41.5	46.3	46.9	49.8

Table C5 continued

Type of abuse or neglect	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA ^(a)	SA	Tas ^{(a)(b)}	ACT ^(b)	NT ^(c)	Total
%									
Non-Indigenous children									
Neglect	29.4	3.2	32.8	27.8	42.0	30.0	36.8	26.8	19.8
Not stated	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.9	0.0	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All children									
Physical	16.3	15.5	17.1	13.4	26.4	17.6	13.9	16.9	16.2
Sexual	16.7	10.4	4.6	13.4	8.1	4.9	3.8	1.3	11.9
Emotional	34.5	70.1	42.6	44.4	23.5	43.2	46.4	39.0	47.6
Neglect	32.5	3.5	35.7	28.0	41.9	29.7	36.0	42.9	24.0
Not stated	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.8	0.1	4.6	0.0	0.0	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) In Tasmania, the proportion of substantiations for children with an unknown Indigenous status affects the reliability of these data.

(b) In Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory, the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who were the subjects of substantiations should be interpreted with caution due to small numbers.

(c) In the Northern Territory, due to recording issues, sexual exploitation is under-reported. This has been addressed and it is expected numbers in this area will be similar to those of other jurisdictions in future years.

Notes

1. Finalised investigations, and thus substantiations, refer only to cases that were notified during the year, not to the total number of investigations finalised by 31 August 2017.

2. If a child was the subject of more than one type of abuse or neglect as part of the same notification, the abuse and/or neglect reported is the one considered by the child protection workers to cause the most harm to the child. Where a child is the subject of more than one substantiation during the year, the type of abuse reported in this table is the type of abuse and/or neglect associated with the substantiation decision relating to the earliest notification during the year.

3. Percentages for all children include children whose Indigenous status was unknown.

4. Percentages in the table may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Source: AIHW Child Protection Collection 2017.

Table C6: Children aged 0–17 who were the subjects of substantiations of notifications received during 2015–16, by type of abuse or neglect and Indigenous status, states and territories

Type of abuse or neglect	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA ^(a)	SA	Tas ^{(b)(c)}	ACT ^{(b)(c)}	NT ^(d)	Total
Number									
Indigenous children									
Physical	729	292	377	300	111	11	11	239	2,070
Sexual	634	132	78	167	31	4	3	39	1,088
Emotional	1,786	1,180	618	768	157	78	47	427	5,061
Neglect	2,138	104	851	556	283	59	51	620	4,662
Not stated	0	0	0	17	0	5	0	0	22
Total	5,287	1,708	1,924	1,808	582	157	112	1,325	12,903
Non-Indigenous children									
Physical	2,044	2,681	575	447	237	80	44	56	6,164
Sexual	2,225	1,331	171	527	114	27	20	15	4,430
Emotional	4,149	7,951	1,419	784	238	243	151	122	15,057
Neglect	3,505	479	1,279	611	381	161	79	56	6,551
Not stated	0	0	0	9	1	15	0	0	25
Total	11,923	12,442	3,444	2,378	971	526	294	249	32,227
Unknown Indigenous status									
Physical	3	2	62	3	35	13	9	0	127
Sexual	9	0	18	2	7	4	1	0	41
Emotional	26	2	86	6	19	55	27	0	221
Neglect	34	0	87	1	27	35	6	0	190
Not stated	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	5
Total	72	4	253	12	88	112	43	0	584
All children									
Physical	2,776	2,975	1,014	750	383	104	64	295	8,361
Sexual	2,868	1,463	267	696	152	35	24	54	5,559
Emotional	5,961	9,133	2,123	1,558	414	376	225	549	20,339
Neglect	5,677	583	2,217	1,168	691	255	136	676	11,403
Not stated	0	0	0	26	1	25	0	0	52
Total	17,282	14,154	5,621	4,198	1,641	795	449	1,574	45,714
%									
Indigenous children									
Physical	13.8	17.1	19.6	16.6	19.1	7.0	9.8	18.0	16.0
Sexual	12.0	7.7	4.1	9.2	5.3	2.5	2.7	2.9	8.4
Emotional	33.8	69.1	32.1	42.5	27.0	49.7	42.0	32.2	39.2
Neglect	40.4	6.1	44.2	30.8	48.6	37.6	45.5	46.8	36.1
Not stated	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Non-Indigenous children									
Physical	17.1	21.5	16.7	18.8	24.4	15.2	15.0	22.5	19.1
Sexual	18.7	10.7	5.0	22.2	11.7	5.1	6.8	6.0	13.7
Emotional	34.8	63.9	41.2	33.0	24.5	46.2	51.4	49.0	46.7

Table C6 continued

Type of abuse or neglect	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA ^(a)	SA	Tas ^{(b)(c)}	ACT ^{(b)(c)}	NT ^(d)	Total
%									
Non-Indigenous children									
Neglect	29.4	3.8	37.1	25.7	39.2	30.6	26.9	22.5	20.3
Not stated	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All children									
Physical	16.1	21.0	18.0	17.9	23.3	13.1	14.3	18.7	18.3
Sexual	16.6	10.3	4.8	16.6	9.3	4.4	5.3	3.4	12.2
Emotional	34.5	64.5	37.8	37.1	25.2	47.3	50.1	34.9	44.5
Neglect	32.8	4.1	39.4	27.8	42.1	32.1	30.3	42.9	24.9
Not stated	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.1	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) The definition of emotional abuse in Western Australia has been broadened to include children witnessing family and domestic violence from 2015–16. WA has substantially improved reporting on Indigenous identification, reducing the number of children reported as having unknown Indigenous status compared to years prior to 2015–16.

(b) In Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory, the proportion of substantiations for children with an unknown Indigenous status affects the reliability of these data.

(c) In Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory, the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who were the subjects of substantiations should be interpreted with caution due to small numbers.

(d) In the Northern Territory, due to recording issues, sexual exploitation is under-reported. This has been addressed and it is expected numbers in this area will be similar to those of other jurisdictions in future years.

Notes

1. Finalised investigations, and thus substantiations, refer only to cases that were notified during the year, not to the total number of investigations finalised by 31 August 2016.

2. If a child was the subject of more than one type of abuse or neglect as part of the same notification, the abuse and/or neglect reported is the one considered by the child protection workers to cause the most harm to the child. Where a child is the subject of more than one substantiation during the year, the type of abuse reported in this table is the type of abuse and/or neglect associated with the substantiation decision relating to the earliest notification during the year.

3. Percentages for all children include children whose Indigenous status was unknown.

4. Percentages in the table may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Source: AIHW Child Protection Collection 2016.

Table C7: Children who were the subjects of substantiations of notifications, by age group and state or territory, 2020–21 (rate)

State or territory	Less than one (number per 1,000)	1 to 4 (number per 1,000)	5 to 9 (number per 1,000)	10 to 14 (number per 1,000)	15 to 17 (number per 1,000)	0 to 17 (number per 1,000)	All children (number per 1,000)
NSW	14.4	10.0	9.0	10.1	7.2	9.6	10.1
Vic	26.4	12.2	10.8	11.0	6.5	11.3	11.3
Qld	7.6	5.1	5.0	5.3	3.0	4.9	5.4
WA	11.3	8.2	7.2	5.9	3.1	6.6	7.0
SA	24.3	8.2	6.3	5.0	2.5	6.6	6.6
Tas	5.5	3.6	3.4	2.8	2.4	3.2	3.6
ACT	5.5	3.6	3.4	2.8	2.3	3.5	3.5
NT	63.8	26.6	22.7	25.9	17.2	26.0	26.0
Total	16.6	9.2	8.2	8.4	5.3	8.5	8.8

Notes

1. Data presented in this table are not comparable across jurisdictions due to differences in the way jurisdictions collect and report data on notifications, investigations and substantiations. See [Appendix A](#) of *Child Protection in Australia* for more information.
2. Unborn children might be covered under child protection legislation, so are included in this table. But they are excluded in rate calculations for the 'less than one' and '0–17' categories. Unborn children are included in the 'All children' rates.
3. 'All children' includes children of unknown age.
4. Finalised investigations, and thus substantiations, refer only to cases that were notified during the reporting period, and finalised by 31 August. This excluded finalised investigations that were notified in a previous reporting period.
5. See [Technical notes](#) of *Child Protection in Australia* for the method used to calculate rates.

Source: AIHW Child Protection Collection 2020–21.