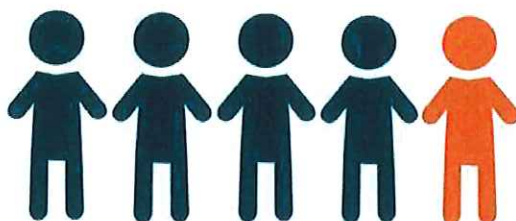


NSPCC Domestic abuse Facts and statistics (Download January 2016)

There are no official statistics on the number of children who live with domestic abuse. But there are a lot of research studies that tell us about children's experience of living with violence.



Around 1 in 5 children have been exposed to domestic abuse.

Source: Radford, L. et al (2011) [Child abuse and neglect in the UK today](#).

Explanation: Figures based on findings from 11-17 year olds. 17.5% said they had been exposed to domestic abuse between adults in their home (see p. 47).



Domestic abuse is a factor in 60% of serious case reviews.

Source: Brandon, M. et al (2012) [New learning from serious case reviews: a two year report for 2009-2011](#). London: Department for Education.

Explanation: Based on analysis of 139 serious case reviews undertaken in England from 2009-2011. Domestic abuse was a risk factor in 63% of cases. Serious case reviews are commissioned when a child dies, or is seriously injured, as a result of abuse or neglect.

A study of 56 significant case reviews in Scotland since 2007 found that domestic abuse was a risk factor in 54% of cases. Vincent, S. and Petch, A (2012) [Audit and analysis of initial and significant case reviews \(PDF\)](#). Edinburgh: The Scottish Government.

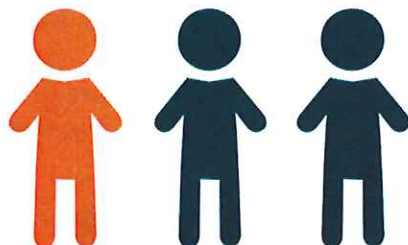
A study of 24 case management reviews in Northern Ireland from 2003 to 2008 found that domestic abuse was a factor in 58% of cases and in 29% of cases, there had been an incident of domestic abuse in the last year. See Devaney, J. et al. (2013) [Translating learning into action: an overview of learning arising from Case Management Reviews in Northern Ireland 2003-2008 \(PDF\)](#). [Belfast]: Department for Health, Social Services and Public Safety, Northern Ireland.



The definition of domestic violence in England and Wales was expanded in March 2013 to include victims aged 16 and 17 years old. It also now includes controlling behaviour and coercive behaviour.

Source: [Home Office circular 003/2013](#)

Explanation: Coercive behaviour is: an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim. It includes 'honour' based violence, female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage, and is clear that victims are not confined to one gender or ethnic group.

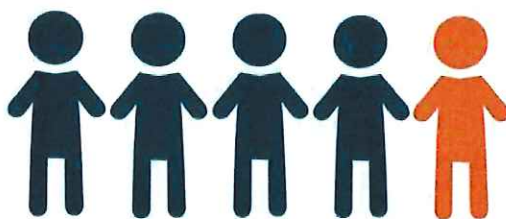


A third of children witnessing domestic violence also experienced another form of abuse.

Source: Radford, L. et al. (2011) [Child abuse and neglect in the UK](#). NSPCC.

As cited by Radford, L.; Aitken, R.; Miller, P.; Ellis, J.; Roberts, J. and Firkic, A. (2011) [Meeting the needs of children living with domestic violence in London](#). London: NSPCC/Refuge.

Explanation: NSPCC research on child maltreatment (Radford, L et al. 2011) showed that more than 34 per cent of under 18s who had lived with domestic violence had themselves been abused or neglected by a parent or guardian. This figure isn't in the published report but is based on additional analysis of the data.



1 in 5 teenagers have been physically abused by their boyfriends or girlfriends.

Source: Barter et al (2009) [Partner exploitation and violence in teenage intimate relationships](#). NSPCC and Bristol University.

Explanation: Survey of 1,353 young people aged 13-17 in England, Scotland and Wales. 21% of young people (25% of girls and 18% of boys) said they had been physically abused by their partners. See Barter et al (2009) Table 3 p44. The study found that both boys and girls experienced physical abuse, emotional abuse and sexual abuse at the hands of their boyfriends or girlfriends.



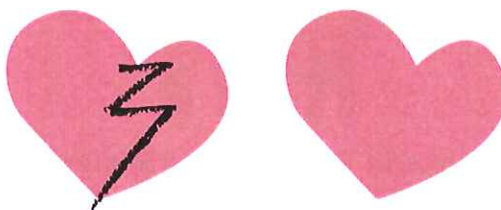
130,000 children live in households with high-risk domestic abuse.

Source: CAADA (2012) [A place of greater safety: insights into domestic abuse \(PDF\)](#).

Explanation: No hard data is available on the number of children who are living with high risk domestic abuse.

Co-ordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse (CAADA) estimate there are 100,000 victims living with high risk domestic abuse (where there is a significant risk of harm or death).

CAADA figures show that 66% of these victims have children. The average number of children each victim has is 2. This results in a total estimated figure of 132,000 children living with high risk domestic abuse.



Children exposed to domestic violence are more likely to have behavioural and emotional problems.

Source: Humphreys, C. (2006) Relevant evidence for practice (chapter 1 in C. Humphreys and N. Stanley (eds.) Domestic violence and child protection: directions for good practice.)