



Ending domestic abuse

Insights Idva national dataset 2012–13

Adult independent
domestic violence
advisor (Idva) services



February 2015

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About this dataset

This data report forms part of a series of publications from SafeLives' Adult Insights dataset. It contains 4,277 unique individual cases at intake and 3,242 matched cases at exit, drawn from 27 Idva services across England and Wales which used the SafeLives Insights outcome measurement service between April 2012 and March 2013. It follows on from Caada's first Insights National Dataset 2011–12, which contained data collected by Idva services in the 12 months to April 2012.

SafeLives runs the largest national database of domestic abuse cases in the UK. Our Insights database has records of more than 35,000 unique cases of adults experiencing domestic abuse from 2009 to date, and a further 1500 unique cases of children in domestic abuse households from 2011 to date. These datasets give us an unparalleled overview of the national picture of domestic abuse.

We hope that everyone working to stop domestic abuse will be able to use this data to improve their services so that victims and families get the right help sooner.

Service inputs

Cases used in the analysis

Intake forms	4,277
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4,277 valid intake forms were submitted for the period April 2012 to March 2013. Analysis of the data gathered with these forms provides a description of the demographic and abuse characteristics of cases accessing Idva services.

Exit forms	3,242
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3,242 valid exit forms were submitted for the period April 2012 to March 2013. These forms have been matched to their relevant intake form and data analysed to provide a description of client outcomes at the point of exit from the service (T2) compared to intake (T1). Intake dates may occur prior to the period April 2012 to March 2013.

Criminal & civil justice forms	1,681
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1,681 valid criminal and civil justice forms were submitted for the period April 2012 to March 2013. These forms have been matched to their relevant intake and exit forms and analysed to provide a description of the outcome of any criminal and civil justice intervention at exit (T2).

New referrals / repeats	n=4,277	%
New Referrals	3,592	84%
Repeats	655	15%
Missing	30	1%

Cases are deemed repeats if the client returns after their case was previously closed (or made inactive). 15% of cases submitted at intake were repeat referrals.

Primary referral route	n=4,277	%
Police	2,166	51%
Marac	210	5%
Self	679	16%
Health	279	7%
DV and SV services	212	5%
Housing	158	4%
Children & Young People's Services (CYPS)	187	4%
Specialist services	17	<1%
Other	211	5%
Missing	158	4%

The most frequent primary referral route is the police at 51%.

Client profile

Socio demographic description of the clients accessing Idva services (T1, n=4,277)

Demographic information at intake (T1)		
Age of client	n=4,277	%
<18	107	3%
18–20	304	7%
21–30	1,524	36%
31–40	1,142	27%
41–50	801	19%
51–60	218	5%
61+	133	3%
Missing	48	1%

Gender and gender identity		
	n=4,277	%
Female	3,997	93%
Male	158	4%
Missing	122	3%
Transgender clients	1	<1%

Sexual orientation		
	n=4,277	%
Heterosexual	4,094	96%
LGB	69	2%
Missing	114	3%

Ethnic composition		
	n=4,277	%
White British or Irish	3,307	77%
Other white background	188	4%
Asian	371	9%
Black	221	5%
Dual heritage	50	1%
Arab	0	0%
Other	65	2%
Total B&ME	895	21%
Missing	75	2%

Immigration	n=4,277	%
Clients needing an interpreter	158	4%
Clients with no recourse to public funds	134	3%
Clients needing to apply for ILR	86	2%

Children	n=4,277	%
Clients with children	2,727	64%
Clients with no children	1,550	36%
Missing	0	0%
Clients who are pregnant	331	8%
Total number of children	5,165	
Average number of children per household with children	1.9	

Ages of children	n=5,165	%
<2	1,224	24%
3–4	795	15%
5–7	978	19%
8–11	1,001	19%
12–17	989	19%
Missing	178	3%

CYPS involvement	n=2,727	%
Clients with CYPS involvement with the family	958	35%
Clients with no CYPS involvement with the family	1,565	57%
Missing	204	7%

Type of CYPS involvement		
Section 31	65	2%
Section 47	388	14%
Section 17	402	15%
Common Assessment Framework (CAF)	112	4%

Vulnerability issues at intake (T1)					n=4,277	%
	Yes		No		Missing	
Drugs misuse	243	6%	3,849	90%	185	4%
Alcohol misuse	480	11%	3,612	84%	185	4%
Mental health problems	1,189	28%	2,894	68%	194	5%
Threatened or attempted suicide	691	16%	3,231	76%	355	8%
Self harm	567	13%	3,274	77%	436	10%
Financial problems	1,054	25%	2,974	70%	249	6%
Additional vulnerabilities						
Physical	250	6%	3,789	89%	238	6%
Learning	158	4%				
Vision	28	1%				
Hearing	6	<1%				
Other	10	<1%				
	64	1%				

Profile and history of abuse at intake (T1, n=4,277)

Clients' circumstances at intake (T1)		
Relationship to perpetrator	n=4,277	%
Intimate partner	1,360	32%
Ex intimate partner	2,402	56%
Intermittent intimate partner	119	3%
Family member minor	29	1%
Family member adult	323	8%
Other	25	1%
Missing data	19	<1%
Additional risks		
Multiple perpetrators	311	7%
Risk of forced marriage	39	1%
Risk of honour based violence	154	4%
Living arrangements		
Living together	1,034	24%
Not living together	3,069	72%
Living together intermittently	157	4%
Missing data	17	<1%

Risk profile at intake (T1)	n=4,277	%
High risk	2,500	58%
Non-high risk	1,765	41%
Marac threshold	2,134	50%

58% of clients were assessed as high risk at intake and 50% of clients reached the threshold for referral to a multi-agency risk assessment conference (Marac).

History of abuse at intake (T1)	n=4,277	%
Average number of years of abuse		2.3 years
Missing	132	3%

Clients' attempts to leave and the use of public services in the 12 months prior to intake								
	Attempts to leave the perpetrator		Reports to police		A&E attendances		GP attendances	
Clients reporting	2,644	62%	3,171	74%	708	17%	1,793	42%
Clients reporting never/none	1,053	25%	872	20%	2,970	69%	1,079	25%
Data not available/applicable/missing	580	14%	234	5%	599	14%	1,405	33%
*Average number of times	2.3		2.4		1.3		5.1	

*The average figures excludes data not available, applicable, or missing.

The average length of abuse is around 2.3 years. In the last 12 months 74% of clients reported the abuse to the police and 17% attended A&E as a result of the abuse. The average number of visits to the GP was 5.1; the average number of visits to the GP for the general population is 3.6 per year.

Profile of abuse at intake (T1)					n=4,277
Type of abuse	Yes		No		
	n	%	n	%	
Physical abuse	2,881	67%	1,371	32%	
Sexual abuse	821	19%	3,324	78%	
Harassment/stalking	2,359	55%	1,844	43%	
Jealous and controlling behaviours	3,362	79%	861	20%	

Level of abuse			
	High	Moderate	Standard
Physical abuse	40%	21%	7%
Sexual abuse	9%	6%	4%
Harassment/stalking	32%	18%	5%
Jealous and controlling behaviours	43%	26%	10%

Escalation in severity			
	Worse	Unchanged	Reduced
Physical abuse	47%	12%	5%
Sexual abuse	9%	7%	3%
Harassment/stalking	37%	13%	3%
Jealous and controlling behaviours	48%	23%	5%

Escalation in frequency			
	Worse	Unchanged	Reduced
Physical abuse	45%	13%	6%
Sexual abuse	9%	7%	3%
Harassment/stalking	36%	13%	3%
Jealous and controlling behaviours	47%	23%	5%

Multiple types of abuse and escalation		n=4,277	%
Multiple types of abuse reported		3,199	75%
Multiple types of abuse that are high		1,735	41%
At least one form of abuse that is high		2,629	61%
At least one form of abuse that is high and escalating in frequency or severity		2,234	52%
Any escalation in severity of abuse		3,047	71%
Any escalation in frequency of abuse		2,914	68%
Any escalation in frequency or severity of abuse		3,143	73%

Client outcomes

Outcomes and profile of abuse at exit (T2, n = 3,242)

The following is an analysis of cases where an exit form was completed during the reporting period. Cases have been matched with their corresponding intake forms, and T1 data here relates only to the cases with exit data.

92% of the cases with exit data were closed by the case worker according to the service's case closure policy. 7% were made inactive due to a prolonged period of no contact.

Circumstances at exit (T2)		
Living arrangements at exit	n=3,242	%
Living together	445	14%
Not living together	2,578	80%
Living together intermittently	60	2%
Missing	159	5%
Where not living together; do any of the following apply?		
Where not living together; do any of the following apply?	n=2,578	%
Client in refuge	172	7%
Perpetrator in jail	225	9%
Serious illness or death of perpetrator	7	<1%
Other (perpetrator abroad, military duty, etc)	702	27%
None of the above	1,383	54%
Ongoing contact, if not living together		
Ongoing contact, if not living together	n=2,578	%
Clients reporting ongoing contact	906	35%
Clients reporting no ongoing contact	1,425	55%
Missing	247	10%
Reasons for ongoing contact		
Reasons for ongoing contact	n=906	%
Children	611	67%
Family and social network	145	16%
Legal proceedings	114	13%
Financial arrangements	41	5%
Ongoing abuse by the perpetrator	130	14%
Other	130	14%
Missing	7	1%

Around 35% of clients, not living with the perpetrator, reported ongoing contact with the perpetrator, 67% of which was due to the presence of children.

Profile of abuse at exit (T2) compared to intake (T1)		n=3,242	%
Clients reporting no abuse experienced in the past month/since intake		2,203	68%

Type of abuse at exit compared to intake (for cases with T2 data only)		n=3,242		%
	Any level (at intake, T1)		Any level (at exit, T2)	
Physical abuse	2,171	67%	391	12%
Sexual abuse	584	18%	89	3%
Harassment/stalking	1,776	55%	524	16%
Jealous and controlling behaviours	2,538	78%	725	22%

Level of abuse at exit compared to intake (for cases with T2 data only)		n=3,242		%		
	High		Moderate		Standard	
	T1	T2	T1	T2	T1	T2
Physical abuse	39%	5%	21%	4%	7%	3%
Sexual abuse	8%	1%	6%	1%	4%	1%
Harassment/stalking	32%	5%	17%	6%	6%	4%
Jealous and controlling behaviours	42%	7%	25%	9%	11%	7%

Multiple types of abuse and escalation at exit compared to intake		n=3,242		%
	T1	T2		
Multiple types of abuse reported	74%	16%		
Multiple types of abuse that are high	40%	6%		
At least one form of abuse that is high	61%	10%		
At least one form of abuse that is high and escalating in frequency or severity	52%	4%		
Any escalation in severity of abuse	71%	7%		
Any escalation in frequency of abuse	68%	6%		
Any escalation in frequency or severity of abuse	73%	7%		

Case worker perceptions of risk and safety at exit (T2)		n=3,242		%
Risk reduction				
Significant	911	28%		
Moderate	1,396	43%		
Moderate/significant	2,307	71%		
Limited	599	18%		
Increased risk	20	1%		
Missing	316	10%		

Sustainability of any reduction in risk	n=2,307	%
Very short term	15	1%
Short term	345	15%
Medium term	1,054	46%
Long term	587	25%
Risk permanently eliminated	103	4%
Missing	203	9%

Client reported outcomes at exit (T2)	n=3,242	%
Feelings of safety		
Much safer	1,194	37%
Somewhat safer	1,119	35%
Somewhat/much safer	2,313	71%
No change	259	8%
Less safe	1	<1%
Missing	669	21%

Quality of life		
Improved a lot	1,252	39%
Improved a little	988	30%
Much/a little improved	2,240	69%
Not changed	285	9%
Become worse	13	<1%
Missing	704	22%

Confidence in accessing support		
Very confident	1,281	40%
Confident	1,247	38%
Not confident	27	1%
Missing	687	21%

Case workers perceived that risk was reduced in 71% of cases (28% significantly).

The clients themselves concurred. 71% felt somewhat or much safer.

Service outputs

Interventions

(T2, n = 3,242)

Case Status (T2)	n=3,242	%
Case closed	2,987	92%
Case inactive	213	7%
Status missing	42	1%

Intensity of support (T2)	n=3,242	%
Less than 5 contacts	1,033	32%
Between 5 and up to 10 contacts	1,032	32%
More than 10 contacts	1,137	35%
Missing data	40	1%
Average case length		2.2 months

Number of interventions (T2)	n=3,242	%
0-1	206	6%
2-3	1,040	32%
4-5	1,215	37%
6+	781	24%
Average number of interventions per client	4.2	

The table above shows the number of interventions or services the case worker helped clients to access.

Types of interventions and outcomes	n=3,242	%
Clients accessing services		
Safety planning	3,015	93%
Marac	1,753	54%
Liaison/support with police	1,652	51%
Support with criminal court process	1,151	36%
Liaison/support with probation	158	5%
Support with civil orders	549	17%
Support with housing	1,461	45%
Financial benefits; advice and support	489	15%
Support with immigration	46	1%
Health/well being; advice and support	2,514	78%
Support with children	968	30%

The table on the previous page shows the frequency with which an intervention or service was accessed, and whether any of the outcomes listed below were achieved as a percentage of clients accessing the interventions or services.

Outcomes and impact ratings (T2)		
	Clients accessing services	Outcomes (as % service accessed)
Safety planning 3,015		
Safety plan in place		2,974 99%
Liaison/support with police 1,652		
Protective measures in place		1,076 65%
Arrest (including for breach of orders)		0 0%
Other		574 35%
Support with criminal court process 1,151		
Criminal justice process ongoing or pending		241 21%
Criminal conviction and sentence		680 59%
Effective bail conditions imposed		400 35%
Other		314 27%
Liaison/support with probation 158		
IDAP or other perpetrator program		41 26%
Other		123 78%
Support with civil orders 549		
Civil orders granted and enforced		202 37%
Other		336 61%
Support with housing 1,461		
Sanctuary scheme		326 22%
Client re-housed in area		237 16%
Client moved out of area		225 15%
Perpetrator evicted		57 4%
Refuge		150 10%
Other		655 45%
Financial benefits; advice and support 489		
Benefits or other monetary support accessed		392 80%
Debt being addressed		175 36%

Support with immigration	46	
Leave to remain not dependent on perpetrator	18	39%
Recourse to public funds	20	43%
Health/well being; advice and support	2,514	
Improved access to help and support	2,111	84%
Improved coping strategies	1,489	59%
Clients' engagement with mental health	187	7%
Clients' engagement with other health services	203	8%
Clients' engagement with drug services	71	3%
Clients' engagement with alcohol services	91	4%
Referral to specialist DV services (not refuge)	424	17%
Client in counselling	207	8%
Pattern changing course (or similar)	230	9%
Positive change in clients' support networks	705	28%
Other	231	9%
Support with children	968	
Child contact arrangements in place	259	27%
Safeguarding initiated/issued/addressed	592	61%
Civil orders in relation to children granted and enforced	79	8%
Special needs of children addressed	82	8%
Other	192	20%

Criminal and civil justice outcomes

Criminal justice system outcomes

(T2, n = 1,659)

Due to the recent developments made to the Criminal & Civil Justice form, some data may appear to be missing for criminal and civil justice interventions.

Criminal justice system outcomes (T2)		
	n=3,242	%
Cases where a report to police was made (as % of cases reviewed at exit)	1,485	46%
Cases where no report to police was made (as % of cases reviewed at exit)	174	5%
Action taken against the perpetrator (as % of cases reviewed at exit)		
Cautioned		
Fixed penalty notice		
Charged	988	30%
No further action		
Action taken by the CPS (as % of cases reviewed at exit)		
Authorised charge	1	<1%
Further enquiries		
No further action		
Cases where CPS proceeded with the case (as % cases charged)		
	n=988	%
With support of victim	849	86%
Reasons why cases did not proceed to court (as % cases charged)		
Insufficient evidence	127	13%
Missing	12	1%
Cases where victim withdrew	3	<1%

Cases proceeding to court	n=849	%
Cases heard at Specialist DV Court (SDVC)	722	85%
Cases where special measures were granted	161	19%

Attendance at court (% cases)		
Victim	307	36%
Perpetrator	685	80%
Witness service	166	19%
Idva	509	60%
Other	75	9%

Outcome of cases proceeding to court		
Cases resulting in a guilty verdict	683	80%
Perpetrator plead guilty	1	<1%
Perpetrator found guilty	682	80%
Acquitted		

Offences charged and convicted as % of charges brought		n=988				%		
	Charged		Pleaded guilty		Convicted		Acquitted	
Offences against the person								
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
ABH (s47)	88	9%			61	6%		
Affray								
Assault by penetration								
Attempted murder	3	<1%			1	<1%		
Breach of restraining order								
Breach of non-molestation order	67	7%			54	5%		
Breach of the peace								
Common assault	563	57%	1	<1%	382	39%		
Communications act offenses								
Drunk and disorderly								
Female genital mutilation								
Forced marriage								
GBH (S18)	19	2%			14	1%		
GBH (S20)	11	1%			6	1%		
Harassment (S2)	139	14%			115	12%		
Harassment (S4)								
Indecent assault								
Murder								
Public order act offences	30	3%			24	2%		
Rape	11	1%			2	<1%		
Stalking (S2A)								
Stalking (S4A)								
Sexual assault	6	1%			2	<1%		
Threats to kill	32	3%			15	2%		
Witness intimidation	11	1%			10	1%		
Other offences against the person								
Don't know								
Offences against Property								

	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Arson	6	1%			5	1%		
Burglary/attempted	8	1%			5	1%		
Criminal trespassing								
Criminal damage	147	15%			111	11%		
Theft	17	2%			8	1%		
Threat to damage								
Other offences against the property	81	8%			61	6%		
Don't know	7	1%			4	<1%		

Penalty as % of guilty verdicts (convictions)	n=683	%
Community order – DV-related specified activity order	85	12%
Community order – other specified activity order		
Community order – exclusion order		
Community order – other	276	40%
Suspended sentence – DV-related specified activity order	23	3%
Suspended sentence – other specified activity order		
Suspended sentence – exclusion order		
Suspended sentence – other	87	13%
Custodial sentence under 12 months	137	20%
Custodial sentence over 12 months	54	8%
Indeterminate sentence		
Restraining order – up to 1 year	378	55%
Restraining order – 1 to 5 years		
Restraining order – 5 or more years		
Restraining order – indefinite	1	<1%
Bindover	7	1%
Fine	129	19%
Caution	21	3%
Compensation		
Other	127	19%
Don't know	45	7%

Civil justice outcomes

(T2, n = 264)

Due to the recent developments made to the Criminal & Civil Justice form, some data may appear to be missing for criminal and civil justice interventions.

Civil justice outcomes (T2)			n=3,242	%
Clients supported by the case worker with any civil orders (as % of cases reviewed at exit)			264	8%
Legal aid (% of those supported)			n=264	%
Clients qualifying for legal aid			171	65%
Clients NOT qualifying for legal aid			32	12%
Clients not applying for legal aid			24	9%
Provision of legal support (% of those supported)				
Solicitor			220	83%
Idva (DIY order)			41	16%
McKenzie friend			1	<1%
No legal support				
Other			8	3%
Don't know			4	2%

Civil orders applied for / granted / breached (T2)						n=264	%
	% of clients supported	% of orders applied for	% of orders granted	% of orders breached			
	Applied for	Granted	Breached	Reported to police	Reported to court		
Non-molestation order	55%	84%	20%	100%	31%		
Occupation order with POA							
Occupation order	11%	89%	8%	100%	50%		
Order under Protection from Harassment Act	3%	57%					
Injunction under Forced Marriage Act							
Contact order							
Prohibited steps order							
Specific issue order							
Residence order							
Other orders under the Children Act							

Outcomes of breached orders

n=28

Criminal Charge in respect of breach of non-molestation order

Found in contempt of court (fined/imprisoned)

Application for warrant of arrest

Adjourned

Dismissed at civil court

Other

No further action

Don't know

Applications made by the perpetrator

n=264

Cross applications made by the perpetrator

Contact order

Other orders under the Children Act

Other cross applications

Don't know

Other applications

Cases where the perpetrator applied for any other orders

We are SafeLives, a national charity dedicated to ending domestic abuse. Previously called Co-ordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse (Caada), we chose our new name because we're here for one simple reason: to make sure all families are safe.

Our experts find out what works to stop domestic abuse. Then we do everything we can to make sure families everywhere benefit. It works; after getting the right help, more than 60% of victims tell us that the abuse stops.

SafeLives runs the largest national database of domestic abuse cases in the UK. Our Insights database has records of more than 35,000 unique cases of adults experiencing domestic abuse from 2009 to date, and a further 1500 unique cases of children in domestic abuse households from 2011 to date. These datasets give us an unparalleled overview of the national picture of domestic abuse.

We hope that everyone working to stop domestic abuse will be able to use this data to improve their services so that victims and families get the right help sooner.

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