



Ending domestic abuse

# Insights Idva national dataset 2013–14

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 5,549 unique individual cases at intake and 4,321 matched cases at exit, drawn from 27 Idva services across England and Wales which used the SafeLives Insights outcome measurement service between April 2013 and March 2014. 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	5,549
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5,549 valid intake forms were submitted for the period April 2013 to March 2014. Analysis of the data gathered with these forms provides a description of the demographic and abuse characteristics of cases accessing Idva services.

Exit forms	4,321
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4,321 valid exit forms were submitted for the period April 2013 to March 2014. 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 2013 to March 2014.

Criminal & civil justice forms	1,997
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1,997 valid criminal and civil justice forms were submitted for the period April 2013 to March 2014. 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	<i>n</i> =5,549	%
New Referrals	4,520	81%
Repeats	1,007	18%
Missing	22	<1%

Cases are deemed repeats if the client returns after their case was previously closed (or made inactive). 18% of cases submitted at intake were repeat referrals.

Primary referral route	<i>n</i> =5,549	%
Police	2,765	50%
Marac	171	3%
Self	882	16%
Health	424	8%
DV and SV services	387	7%
Housing	121	2%
Children & Young People's Services (CYPS)	339	6%
Specialist services	56	1%
Other	233	4%
Missing	171	3%

The most frequent primary referral route is the police at 50%.

# Client profile

## Socio demographic description of the clients accessing Idva services (T1, *n*=5,549)

Demographic information at intake (T1)		
Age of client	<i>n</i> =5,549	%
<18	139	3%
18–20	438	8%
21–30	2,050	37%
31–40	1,485	27%
41–50	922	17%
51–60	300	5%
61+	137	2%
Missing	78	1%

  

Gender and gender identity		
	<i>n</i> =5,549	%
Female	5,188	93%
Male	175	3%
Missing	186	3%
Transgender clients	12	<1%

  

Sexual orientation		
	<i>n</i> =5,549	%
Heterosexual	5,299	95%
LGB	98	2%
Missing	152	3%

  

Ethnic composition		
	<i>n</i> =5,549	%
White British or Irish	4,418	80%
Other white background	237	4%
Asian	484	9%
Black	185	3%
Dual heritage	64	1%
Arab	6	<1%
Other	71	1%
Total B&ME	1,047	19%
Missing	84	2%

Immigration	<i>n</i> =5,549	%
Clients needing an interpreter	218	4%
Clients with no recourse to public funds	307	6%
Clients needing to apply for ILR	130	2%

Children	<i>n</i> =5,549	%
Clients with children	3,618	65%
Clients with no children	1,931	35%
Missing	0	0%
Clients who are pregnant	448	8%
Total number of children	6,943	
Average number of children per household with children	1.9	

Ages of children	<i>n</i> =6,943	%
<2	1,712	25%
3–4	1,004	14%
5–7	1,331	19%
8–11	1,220	18%
12–17	1,323	19%
Missing	353	5%

CYPS involvement	<i>n</i> =3,618	%
Clients with CYPS involvement with the family	1,402	39%
Clients with no CYPS involvement with the family	1,997	55%
Missing	219	6%

Type of CYPS involvement		
Section 31	60	2%
Section 47	606	17%
Section 17	472	13%
Common Assessment Framework (CAF)	174	5%

Vulnerability issues at intake (T1)						<i>n</i> =5,549	%
	Yes		No		Missing		
Drugs misuse	406	7%	4,952	89%	191	3%	
Alcohol misuse	623	11%	4,730	85%	196	4%	
Mental health problems	1,927	35%	3,397	61%	225	4%	
Threatened or attempted suicide	942	17%	4,202	76%	405	7%	
Self harm	841	15%	4,194	76%	514	9%	
Financial problems	1,302	23%	3,899	70%	348	6%	
<b>Additional vulnerabilities</b>							
Physical	363	7%	5,005	90%	181	3%	
Learning	219	4%					
Vision	75	1%					
Hearing	15	<1%					
Other	12	<1%					
	74	1%					

## Profile and history of abuse at intake (T1, *n*=5,549)

Clients' circumstances at intake (T1)		
	<i>n</i> =5,549	%
Relationship to perpetrator		
Intimate partner	1,533	28%
Ex intimate partner	3,347	60%
Intermittent intimate partner	172	3%
Family member minor	30	1%
Family member adult	420	8%
Other	30	1%
Missing data	17	<1%
<b>Additional risks</b>		
Multiple perpetrators	481	9%
Risk of forced marriage	65	1%
Risk of honour based violence	198	4%
<b>Living arrangements</b>		
	<i>n</i> =5,549	%
Living together	1,160	21%
Not living together	4,181	75%
Living together intermittently	183	3%
Missing data	25	<1%

Risk profile at intake (T1)	<i>n</i> =5,549	%
High risk	3,434	62%
Non-high risk	2,102	38%
Marac threshold	2,984	54%

62% of clients were assessed as high risk at intake and 54% of clients reached the threshold for referral to a multi-agency risk assessment conference (Marac).

History of abuse at intake (T1)	<i>n</i> =5,549	%
Average number of years of abuse		2.3 years
Missing	126	2%

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	3,463	62%	4,055	73%	991	18%	2,437	44%
Clients reporting never/none	1,212	22%	1,170	21%	3,806	69%	1,500	27%
Data not available/applicable/missing	874	16%	324	6%	752	14%	1,612	29%
*Average number of times	2.5		2.5		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 73% of clients reported the abuse to the police and 18% 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)	<i>n</i> =5,549			
Type of abuse	Yes		No	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Physical abuse	3,711	67%	1,795	32%
Sexual abuse	1,042	19%	4,279	77%
Harassment/stalking	3,369	61%	2,079	37%
Jealous and controlling behaviours	4,492	81%	1,004	18%

Level of abuse	High	Moderate	Standard
Physical abuse	42%	18%	7%
Sexual abuse	9%	6%	4%
Harassment/stalking	37%	18%	5%
Jealous and controlling behaviours	49%	23%	9%

Escalation in severity			
	Worse	Unchanged	Reduced
Physical abuse	45%	13%	7%
Sexual abuse	8%	7%	3%
Harassment/stalking	40%	15%	4%
Jealous and controlling behaviours	49%	24%	6%

Escalation in frequency			
	Worse	Unchanged	Reduced
Physical abuse	42%	15%	8%
Sexual abuse	8%	7%	3%
Harassment/stalking	39%	15%	5%
Jealous and controlling behaviours	47%	25%	7%

Multiple types of abuse and escalation	<i>n</i> =5,549	%
Multiple types of abuse reported	4,229	76%
Multiple types of abuse that are high	2,518	45%
At least one form of abuse that is high	3,649	66%
At least one form of abuse that is high and escalating in frequency or severity	3,001	54%
Any escalation in severity of abuse	3,803	69%
Any escalation in frequency of abuse	3,650	66%
Any escalation in frequency or severity of abuse	3,913	71%



# Client outcomes

## Outcomes and profile of abuse at exit (T2, *n*=4,321)

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.

91% of the cases with exit data were closed by the case worker according to the service's case closure policy. 8% were made inactive due to a prolonged period of no contact.

Circumstances at exit (T2)		
Living arrangements at exit	<i>n</i> =4,321	%
Living together	589	14%
Not living together	3,492	81%
Living together intermittently	78	2%
Missing	162	4%
Where not living together; do any of the following apply?		
	<i>n</i> =3,492	%
Client in refuge	197	6%
Perpetrator in jail	298	9%
Serious illness or death of perpetrator	9	<1%
Other (perpetrator abroad, military duty, etc)	882	25%
None of the above	1,938	55%
Ongoing contact, if not living together		
	<i>n</i> =3,492	%
Clients reporting ongoing contact	1,230	35%
Clients reporting no ongoing contact	1,987	57%
Missing	275	8%
Reasons for ongoing contact:		
	<i>n</i> =1,230	%
Children	779	63%
Family and social network	210	17%
Legal proceedings	170	14%
Financial arrangements	61	5%
Ongoing abuse by the perpetrator	205	17%
Other	188	15%
Missing	11	1%

Around 35% of clients, not living with the perpetrator, reported ongoing contact with the perpetrator, 63% of which was due to the presence of children.

Profile of abuse at exit (T2) compared to intake (T1)		<i>n</i> =4,321	%
Clients reporting no abuse experienced in the past month/since intake		2,798	65%

Type of abuse at exit compared to intake (for cases with T2 data only)		<i>n</i> =4,321		%
	Any level (at intake, T1)		Any level (at exit, T2)	
Physical abuse	2,872	66%	570	13%
Sexual abuse	768	18%	136	3%
Harassment/stalking	2,487	58%	880	20%
Jealous and controlling behaviours	3,469	80%	1,013	23%

Level of abuse at exit compared to intake (for cases with T2 data only)		<i>n</i> =4,321		%		
	High		Moderate		Standard	
	T1	T2	T1	T2	T1	T2
Physical abuse	42%	6%	18%	4%	6%	3%
Sexual abuse	8%	1%	6%	1%	4%	1%
Harassment/stalking	35%	7%	18%	7%	5%	6%
Jealous and controlling behaviours	46%	9%	25%	8%	9%	7%

Multiple types of abuse and escalation at exit compared to intake		<i>n</i> =4,321	%
		T1	T2
Multiple types of abuse reported		75%	18%
Multiple types of abuse that are high		43%	8%
At least one form of abuse that is high		64%	12%
At least one form of abuse that is high and escalating in frequency or severity		53%	4%
Any escalation in severity of abuse		69%	5%
Any escalation in frequency of abuse		66%	5%
Any escalation in frequency or severity of abuse		71%	6%

Case worker perceptions of risk and safety at exit (T2)		<i>n</i> =4,321	%
Risk reduction			
Significant		1,328	31%
Moderate		1,850	43%
Moderate/significant		3,178	74%
Limited		851	20%
Increased risk		40	1%
Missing		252	6%

Sustainability of any reduction in risk	<i>n</i> =3,178	%
Very short term	35	1%
Short term	411	13%
Medium term	1,354	43%
Long term	867	27%
Risk permanently eliminated	124	4%
Missing	387	12%

Client reported outcomes at exit (T2)	<i>n</i> =4,321	%
Feelings of safety		
Much safer	1,784	41%
Somewhat safer	1,534	36%
Somewhat/much safer	3,318	77%
No change	315	7%
Less safe	3	<1%
Missing	685	16%

Quality of life		
Improved a lot	1,831	42%
Improved a little	1,439	33%
Much/a little improved	3,270	76%
Not changed	328	8%
Become worse	11	<1%
Missing	712	16%

Confidence in accessing support		
Very confident	2,038	47%
Confident	1,547	36%
Not confident	37	1%
Missing	699	16%

Case workers perceived that risk was reduced in 74% of cases (31% significantly).

The clients themselves concurred. 77% felt somewhat or much safer.

# Service outputs

## Interventions

(T2, *n*=4,321)

Case Status (T2)	<i>n</i> =4,321	%
Case closed	3,919	91%
Case inactive	362	8%
Status missing	40	1%

Intensity of support (T2)	<i>n</i> =4,321	%
Less than 5 contacts	1,465	34%
Between 5 and up to 10 contacts	1,190	28%
More than 10 contacts	1,634	38%
Missing data	32	1%
Average case length		2.1 months

Number of interventions (T2)	<i>n</i> =4,321	%
0-1	245	6%
2-3	1,335	31%
4-5	1,695	39%
6+	1,046	24%
Average number of interventions per client	4.4	

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

Types of interventions and outcomes (T2)	<i>n</i> =4,321	
	Clients accessing services	%
Safety planning	4,104	95%
Marac	2,456	57%
Liaison/support with police	2,311	53%
Support with criminal court process	1,436	33%
Liaison/support with probation	237	5%
Support with civil orders	711	16%
Support with housing	1,929	45%
Financial benefits; advice and support	714	17%
Support with Immigration	72	2%
Health/well being; advice and support	3,423	79%
Support with children	1,418	33%

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)	
<b>Safety planning</b>			
	4,104		
Safety plan in place		3,989	97%
<b>Liaison/support with police</b>			
	2,311		
Protective measures in place		1,555	67%
Arrest (including for breach of orders)		93	4%
Other		838	36%
<b>Support with criminal court process</b>			
	1,436		
Criminal justice process ongoing or pending		328	23%
Criminal conviction and sentence		814	57%
Effective bail conditions imposed		572	40%
Other		434	30%
<b>Liaison/support with probation</b>			
	237		
IDAP or other perpetrator program		85	36%
Other		158	67%
<b>Support with civil orders</b>			
	711		
Civil orders granted and enforced		300	42%
Other		387	54%
<b>Support with housing</b>			
	1,929		
Sanctuary scheme		480	25%
Client re-housed in area		359	19%
Client moved out of area		273	14%
Perpetrator evicted		62	3%
Refuge		253	13%
Other		802	42%

Financial benefits; advice and support	714	
Benefits or other monetary support accessed	574	80%
Debt being addressed	186	26%
Support with Immigration	72	
Leave to remain not dependent on perpetrator	30	42%
Recourse to public funds	44	61%
Health/well being; advice and support	3,423	
Improved access to help and support	2,877	84%
Improved coping strategies	1,929	56%
Clients' engagement with mental health	304	9%
Clients' engagement with other health services	307	9%
Clients' engagement with drug services	94	3%
Clients' engagement with alcohol services	119	3%
Referral to specialist DV services (not refuge)	531	16%
Client in counselling	297	9%
Pattern changing course (or similar)	426	12%
Positive change in clients' support networks	1,081	32%
Other	401	12%
Support with children	1,418	
Child contact arrangements in place	379	27%
Safeguarding initiated/ issued/ addressed	961	68%
Civil orders in relation to children granted and enforced	85	6%
Special needs of children addressed	88	6%
Other	291	21%

# Criminal and civil justice outcomes

## Criminal justice system outcomes

(T2, *n*=1,971)

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)	<i>n</i> =4,321	%
Cases where a report to police was made (as % of cases reviewed at exit)	1,767	41%
Cases where no report to police was made (as % of cases reviewed at exit)	204	5%
Action taken against the perpetrator (as % of cases reviewed at exit)		
Cautioned	3	<1%
Fixed penalty notice	2	<1%
Charged	1,154	27%
No further action	64	1%
Action taken by the CPS (as % of cases reviewed at exit)		
Authorised charge	101	2%
Further enquiries	9	<1%
No further action	48	1%
Cases where CPS proceeded with the case (as % cases charged)		
With support of victim	1,004	87%
Reasons why cases did not proceed to court (as % cases charged)		
Insufficient evidence	125	11%
Missing	25	2%
Cases where victim withdrew	15	1%

Cases proceeding to court	<i>n</i> =1,004	%
Cases heard at Specialist DV Court (SDVC)	779	78%
Cases where special measures were granted	230	23%

  

Attendance at court (% cases)		
Victim	382	38%
Perpetrator	836	83%
Witness service	226	23%
Idva	491	49%
Other	83	8%

  

Outcome of cases proceeding to court		
Cases resulting in a guilty verdict	792	79%
Perpetrator plead guilty	62	6%
Perpetrator found guilty	730	73%
Acquitted	8	1%



Offences charged and convicted as % of charges brought		<i>n</i> =1,154				%		
	Charged		Pleaded guilty (as a % of charges)		Convicted (as a % of charges)		Acquitted (as a % of charges)	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Offences against the person								
ABH (s47)	101	9%	9	1%	65	6%	1	<1%
Affray								
Assault by penetration								
Attempted murder	3	<1%						
Breach of restraining order	7	1%	5	<1%	4	<1%		
Breach of non-molestation order	103	9%	6	1%	84	7%		
Breach of the peace	1	<1%						
Common assault	648	56%	39	3%	436	38%	7	1%
Communications act offenses								
Drunk and disorderly								
Female genital mutilation								
Forced marriage								
GBH (S18)	29	3%	3	<1%	24	2%		
GBH (S20)	16	1%			9	1%		
Harassment (S2)	163	14%	6	1%	130	11%		
Harassment (S4)	2	<1%					1	<1%
Indecent assault	3	<1%			1	<1%		
Murder								
Public order act offences	19	2%	1	<1%	16	1%		
Rape	21	2%			4	<1%	1	<1%
Stalking (S2A)								
Stalking (S4A)								
Sexual assault	9	1%			3	<1%		
Threats to kill	31	3%			17	1%		
Witness intimidation	7	1%			6	1%		
Other offences against the person	4	<1%	2	<1%	1	<1%		
Don't know	2	<1%	1	<1%				

Offences against Property								
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Arson	5	<1%			3	<1%		
Burglary/attempted	14	1%			11	1%		
Criminal trespassing								
Criminal damage	165	14%	11	1%	128	11%	2	<1%
Theft	19	2%	1	<1%	12	1%		
Threat to damage								
Other offences against the property	74	6%			54	5%		
Don't know	9	1%			4	<1%		

Penalty as % of guilty verdicts (convictions)	<i>n</i> =792	%
Community order – DV-related specified activity order	128	16%
Community order – other specified activity order	12	2%
Community order – exclusion order		
Community order – other	270	34%
Suspended sentence – DV-related specified activity order	42	5%
Suspended sentence – other specified activity order	2	<1%
Suspended sentence – exclusion order		
Suspended sentence – other	95	12%
Custodial sentence under 12 months	161	20%
Custodial sentence over 12 months	66	8%
Indeterminate sentence	2	<1%
Restraining order – up to 1 year	430	54%
Restraining order – 1 to 5 years	13	2%
Restraining order – 5 or more years	4	1%
Restraining order – indefinite	15	2%
Bindover	14	2%
Fine	160	20%
Caution	16	2%
Compensation	13	2%
Other	153	19%
Don't know	70	9%

## Civil justice outcomes

(T2, n=292)

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=4,321	%
Clients supported by the case worker with any civil orders (as % of cases reviewed at exit)			292	7%
Legal aid (% of those supported)			n=292	%
Clients qualifying for legal aid			209	72%
Clients NOT qualifying for legal aid			36	12%
Clients not applying for legal aid			11	4%
Provision of legal support (% of those supported)				
Solicitor			255	87%
Idva (DIY order)			18	6%
McKenzie friend			3	1%
No legal support			1	<1%
Other			13	4%
Don't know			3	1%

Civil orders applied for/granted/breached (T2)										n=292	%
	% of clients supported	% of orders applied for		% of orders granted				% of orders breached			
		Applied for	Granted	Under-taking	Interim	Final	Indefinite	Breached	Reported to police	Reported to court	
Non-molestation order	72%	88%	1%	1%	8%		18%	82%	24%		
Occupation order with POA											
Occupation order	7%	76%			6%		13%	100%	50%		
Order under Protection from Harassment Act	2%	60%									
Injunction under Forced Marriage Act											
Contact order	3%	40%			25%						
Prohibited steps order	1%	100%									
Specific issue order											
Residence order	3%	63%		20%	40%						
Other orders under the Children Act	1%	100%			50%						

**Outcomes of breached orders***n*=36

Criminal Charge in respect of breach of non-molestation order	4	11%
Found in contempt of court (fined/imprisoned)	2	6%
Application for warrant of arrest		
Adjourned	1	3%
Dismissed at civil court		
Other	1	3%
No further action	6	17%
Don't know	1	3%

**Applications made by the perpetrator***n*=292**Cross applications made by the perpetrator**

Contact order	77	26%
Other orders under the Children Act	7	2%
Other cross applications	1	<1%
Don't know	8	3%

**Other applications**

Cases where the perpetrator applied for any other orders	6	2%
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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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