

Marac data – Key findings

October 2024 – September 2025

About the data

A Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (Marac) is a meeting where information is shared on the highest risk domestic abuse cases between representatives of local police, health, child protection, adult social care, housing practitioners, Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (Idvas - Idaas in Scotland), probation and other specialists from the statutory and voluntary sectors. Data is collected from all Maracs in England, Wales, Northern Ireland, and Scotland. It is collected at meeting level which means we have information about the cohort of cases discussed at each meeting but not data on individual cases.

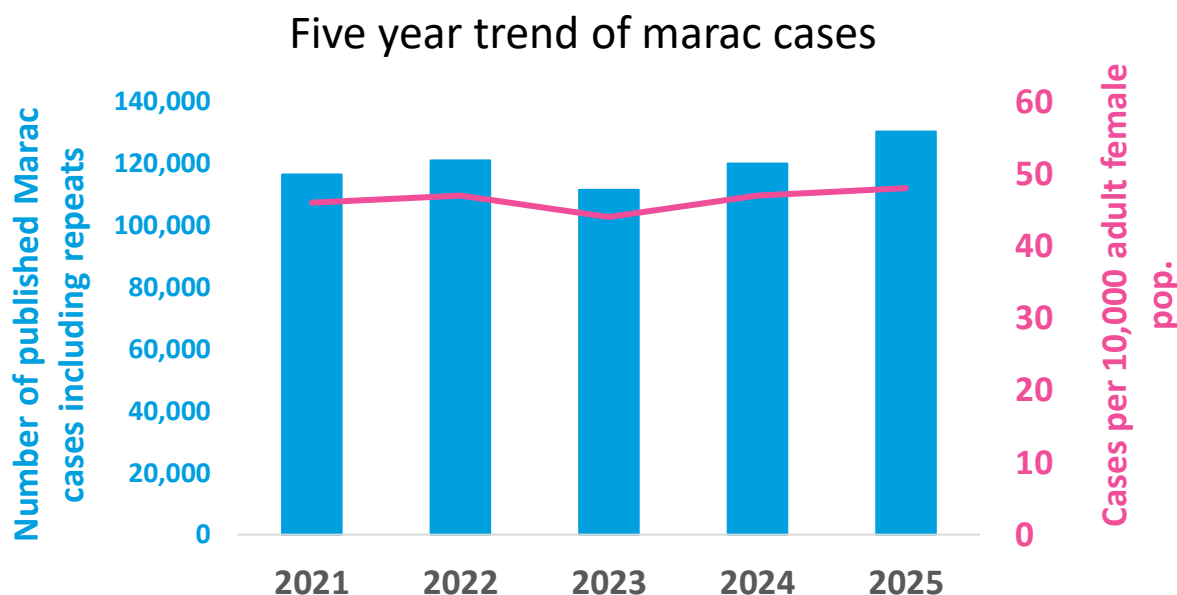
The data presented here represents cases heard at 284 Maracs between 1st October 2024 and 30th September 2025. An annual summary of Marac data by Police Force Area in England and Wales is available on our [website](#).

The 12-month figures below are based on the published data at the time. Sometimes Maracs fail to send us their data for a quarter, in which case we use their last quarter's data as a proxy. If a Marac does not send us data for two quarters in a row, then they are removed from the dataset. Occasionally, Maracs make corrections to the data after it is published; these corrections are not represented in this dataset.

One of the ways we publish the data is as an annual number of cases per 10,000 adult (16+) women, calculated by dividing the total number of cases (including repeats) by the adult female population covered by the Marac, using the 2021 census for England and Wales (updated in Q3 2023 - October 2022 to September 2023) and for Scotland and Northern Ireland (updated in Q1 2025 – April 2024 to March 2025). Prior to Q3 2023, all UK population data was sourced from the 2011 census, and for Scotland and Northern Ireland, the 2011 census data continued to be used from Q3 2023 through Q4 2024. There are sometimes differences in which Maracs are included in the dataset each year, for instance a Marac may not be able to send us their data one quarter. Therefore, when looking at trends in cases, it is sometimes more accurate to use the 'cases per 10,000' figure, instead of the number of cases, as it takes into account Maracs not included by removing their population figures from the calculation. When looking at trends in the 'cases per 10,000' figure over time, population changes between the 2011 census and the 2021 census in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland need to be considered. Some areas covered by Maracs have seen big increases in population since the 2011 census, while others have seen a decrease or little overall change in population size. As a result, some Scotland and Northern Ireland Maracs have seen changes to their 'cases per 10,000' figure this quarter and in the previous quarter that result from population change rather than a change in the number of cases discussed at that Marac.

Please note that 'number of cases' includes repeats, therefore **cases do not represent the total number of individuals** as a person may be referred into Marac more than once and would be counted as more than one case.

What trends are we seeing in Maracs across the UK?



The average number of cases is greatly above our expected rate:

In the 12 months to September 2025, 284 Maracs discussed 130,316 cases (includes repeats), **which is a 1.2% increase from the same time period the previous year and a 12% increase compared to the same time period five years ago (2021)**¹. The total number of cases discussed per 10,000 adult women is 48, up from 47 a year ago and higher than five years ago (46). This is above the rate of cases SafeLives expect to see (40 cases per 10,000) based on our estimate of the prevalence of high-risk domestic abuse. However, this figure is an average, with some Maracs seeing much lower and some much higher rates.

The rate of repeat cases is lower than this time last year:

Domestic abuse is a pattern of behaviour, and as such cases are often referred to Marac more than once. For an established Marac the expected percentage of repeat cases would be in the range of 28-40%. The UK-wide repeat rate is currently 29%, down from 31% this time last year.

The rate of police referrals is same as this time last year:

In the 12 months to September 2025, 64% of Marac referrals were made by the police, which is same as the last year (64%). Expected figures are between 60-75%. A full breakdown of the changes in the last 12 months for all referral agencies can be found below in Table 3.

There is an increase in the percentage of victims recorded as having a disability:

The proportion of cases involving victims with a disability in the 12 months to September 2025 was 10.8%, compared to 10.1% in the year previously. However, this remains lower than the estimated population of 23%, based on the Family Resources Survey 2021-2022, which identifies that around 1 in 4 of the working age population (16-64 years) is disabled. More information about the need to improve the response to disabled survivors of abuse can be found in our 'Spotlight' on disabled victims in 2016² or through Stay Safe East and SignHealth.

The percentage of cases where the victim is Black, Asian or racially minoritised has increased:

The proportion of cases where the victim is Black, Asian or racially minoritised in the 12 months to September 2025 was 19.9% compared to 14.1% in September 2024. This remains lower than the national population rate of 23.6%.

¹ Since 2019, the number of Maracs in Scotland submitting data has increased by more than 50% and we now have data for all of Scotland.

² <https://safelives.org.uk/knowledge-hub/spotlights/spotlight-2-disabled-people-and-domestic-abuse>

Table 1: Changes in the last 12 months: volume of cases

Table 1 below shows changes in key indicators in the last 12 months, comparing the time periods October 2024 to September 2025 and October 2023 to September 2024. All percentage changes are displayed as a change in percentage points (pp). The cases per 10,000 figure has increased in part due to the change to using census 2021 data for Maracs in Scotland and Northern Ireland in the calculation.








	Number of Maracs	No. of Cases	No. of Repeats	No. of Children	Cases per 10,000	% Repeats	% Police Referrals
Oct 2024 to Sep 2025	284	130,316	37,542	158,160	48	29%	64%
Change in last 12 months							
	8	10,331	246	9,890	1	-2 pp	0 pp
Recommendation	-	-	-	-	40	28-40%	60-75%

Table 2: Changes in the last 12 months: 'hidden' victims or those with unmet need

Table 2 below shows changes in key indicators in the last 12 months, comparing the time periods October 2024 to September 2025 and October 2023 to September 2024. All percentage changes are displayed as a change in percentage points (pp).






















	% Black, Asian and racially minoritised people	% LGBT+	% Disability	% Males	Victims aged 16-17	% Victims aged 16-17	Number harming others aged 17 or below
Oct 2024 to Sep 2025	19.9%	1.8%	10.8%	6.8%	1961	1.5%	1549
Change in last 12 months							
	5.8 pp	0.2 pp	0.7 pp	0.4 pp	393	0.2 pp	124
Recommendation	22.4%	2.5%-5.8%	23%	5-10%	-	28-40%	-

Table 3: Changes in the last 12 months: referral agencies

Referral agency	Oct 2024 to Sep 2025	Oct 2023 to Sep 2024	Change in last 12 months	Direction of change
Police %	63.80%	63.90%	-0.1 pp	
IDVA %	12.40%	12.50%	0.1 pp	
Children's social care %	3.00%	2.80%	0.2 pp	
Primary care %	2.50%	2.60%	-0.1 pp	

Secondary care acute trust %	2.80%	2.70%	0.1 pp	
Education %	0.20%	0.10%	0.1 pp	
Housing %	1.90%	1.90%	0.0 pp	
Mental health %	1.80%	1.60%	0.2 pp	
Probation %	2.30%	2.60%	- 0.3 pp	
Voluntary sector %	2.70%	2.70%	0.0 pp	
Substance %	0.80%	0.70%	0.1 pp	
Adult social care %	1.10%	1.00%	0.1 pp	
MASH %	0.40%	0.50%	- 0.1 pp	
Other %	4.40%	4.30%	0.1 pp	

How do these trends vary across regions and countries?

Cases per 10,000 range from 21 to 83; with the lowest of 21 in Northern Ireland, and the highest of 83 in Wales. Scotland has 34 cases per 10,000 adult women.

There was a decrease in cases in six regions: The biggest decrease was seen in the Channel Islands and Wales, at -13% and -12% respectively, compared to the same time period the year before. The highest increase in cases was in South West with a 20% increase in cases, followed by the Eastern with an 9% increase and Scotland with an 7% increase.

London and East Midlands are the only region with more than half of referrals coming from non-police agencies: London had, by far, the lowest rate of police referrals at 29.4%. This is slightly higher than the previous year (28%), and we know this reflects different referral practise in London than in other parts of the UK. The next lowest rate of police referrals was East Midlands at 46.6% and South East at 52.2%. North East had the highest percentage of police referrals at 77.9%, followed by North West at 76.9%.

The percentage of repeat cases ranges from 15% to 34.2%: The lowest repeat rate is in West Midlands at 15%, followed by London at 23%, then North East at 26%. The highest rate is in Northern Ireland at 34.2%, followed by the North West at 34% and Yorkshire & Humber at 33%. The repeat rate in Scotland is 32.8%. Our recommended range for repeat cases is between 28% and 40%.

The proportion of referrals for male victims varies across regions/countries: The lowest rate is in Scotland at 3.7%. The highest is in the Wales at 10.0%, followed by the Channel Islands at 8.0% and the North West at 7.3%. SafeLives recommended rate is between 5% - 10%.

The rate of cases where the victim is Black, Asian or racially minoritised widely varies across regions/countries: The lowest rate is in Wales at 3.3%, followed by 5.8% in Channel Islands. The highest rate is in London 51.1%, followed by West Midlands at 23.2%.

The table below shows a summary of key data by region:

Country or Region	No. of Maracs	Number of cases	Cases per 10,000 population	Year on year change (%)	% Repeat cases	% Police referrals
Channel Islands	2	226	32	-13%	26.5%	68.6%
East Midlands	14	8,767	43	-3%	33%	46.6%
Eastern	19	7,307	33	9%	28%	67.1%
London	30	16,261	49	2%	23%	29.4%
North East	12	5,820	52	-3%	26%	77.9%
North West	33	22,149	72	4%	34%	76.9%
Northern Ireland	11	1,488	21	1%	34.2%	55.1%
Scotland	35	8,018	34	7%	32.8%	63.0%
South East	42	13,951	36	-2%	27%	52.2%
South West	22	8,137	33	20%	30%	69.4%
Wales	22	10,962	83	-12%	32%	74.9%
West Midlands	24	12,363	51	1%	15%	76.1%
Yorkshire & Humber	18	14,867	65	-1%	33%	75.7%

How do these trends vary across Police Force Areas?

Cases per 10,000 varies from 16 to 111: with the lowest in Thames Valley and the highest in Humberside

More Police Force Areas are seeing an increase in cases than a decrease: 20 out of the 46 areas in the dataset saw a decrease in cases since the previous year, while 26 saw an increase and zero remained the same. The highest increase was by 154% in Gloucestershire. The next largest increase was in West Mercia at 35%. The largest decrease was in City of London at -42%.

In more than a third of areas (33%) the proportion of police referrals is higher than our expected range: Of the 46 Police Force areas in our dataset, 17 saw more than 75% of their referrals coming from the police, the highest being in Lancashire at 90.8%. For 15 areas the police referral rate was within our expected range of 60% to 75%. There were 14 areas below the expected range, the lowest being Northamptonshire at 3.8%.

The percentage of repeat cases ranges from 10% to 52 % with the lowest rate being in the West Midlands and highest repeat rate in Humberside. Our expected rate is 28% - 40%.

The percentage of cases for male victims varies across areas: the lowest being 0.0% in City of London, and highest being Jersey Police at 15.9%.