



An Garda Síochána

# DOMESTIC, SEXUAL AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

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A Report on Crime Levels and Garda Operational Responses

*Information contained in this report is based upon operational data from the PULSE system as was available at 01:00 on 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2022 (unless otherwise stated) and is liable to change.*

*The report has been compiled based on data and trend information from the Garda Síochána Analysis Service. Additional information on crime recording has been provided by the Garda Information Services Centre; information on operational responses has been provided by the Garda National Protective Services Bureau, Garda National Community Engagement Bureau and other operational sections.*

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## 1 Introduction

This thematic report has been produced to take a holistic view of different forms of Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence. The associated incidents can include a wide range of crime and non-crime types and there is often a close association or overlap between multiple elements, for example, sexual violence may occur within a broader pattern of domestic abuse. Therefore, the information included is as broad ranging as possible. The report examines the trends in these abusive and violent incidents which have been reported to the Garda Síochána in recent years. The primary focus is on 2019 to 2021 to reflect most recent figures; longer-term trends since 2013 are included to provide further context. It is also important to note that during the three-year period of focus, the Covid-19 pandemic and associated restrictions represent a unique set of circumstances. Their impact on crime trends has been significant, as has the organisation's response. Looking to 2022 and beyond, as all restrictions end, trends seen in this report may change again.

This report describes the evidence basis for Garda operational policies and is also intended to inform wider discussions and policy decisions on Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence. This report will support the various elements of the Government's recently published 'Zero Tolerance - Third National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence 2022-2026'<sup>1</sup> which has four pillars – prevention, protection, prosecution and policy co-ordination. The findings of this report are also being used to improve our supports to victims of crime and, ultimately, to contribute to our mission of Keeping People Safe.

The report examines relevant crime types and their associated victim and offender demographics, the relationship between these and other factors, such as, the location (residential or non-residential) where incidents occur. The data demonstrates that there is a strong interconnection between recorded crime trends on violence directed at females, sexual violence and domestic abuse.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.justice.ie/en/JELR/DOJ\\_DSGBV\\_Strategy\\_Web.pdf/Files/DOJ\\_DSGBV\\_Strategy\\_Web.pdf](https://www.justice.ie/en/JELR/DOJ_DSGBV_Strategy_Web.pdf/Files/DOJ_DSGBV_Strategy_Web.pdf)

## 2 Domestic Abuse Definition

There is no legal definition of Domestic Abuse in Ireland but An Garda Síochána defines it as the physical, sexual, financial, emotional or psychological abuse of one person against another who is a family member or is or has been an intimate partner, regardless of gender or sexuality. The term abuse, as opposed to violence, is used to ensure that all damaging behaviour is captured by the definition. An Garda Síochána has a pro-arrest policy when it comes to dealing with incidents relating to domestic abuse.

## 3 Gender Based Violence Definition

The European Commission defines Gender Based Violence as violence directed against a person because of that person's gender or affecting persons of a particular gender disproportionately. While it can take many forms, it mostly affects women and girls<sup>2</sup>.

A further definition and the one most used by law enforcement agencies is provided in The Istanbul Convention<sup>3</sup>; that definition specifies several forms of gender based violence against women that are to be criminalised (or, where applicable, otherwise sanctioned). These are:

- psychological violence;
- stalking;
- physical violence;
- sexual violence (including rape);
- forced marriage;
- female genital mutilation;
- forced abortion;
- forced sterilisation; and
- sexual harassment.

In addition, the Istanbul Convention sets out the obligation to ensure that culture, custom, religion, tradition or so-called “honour” are not regarded as justification for any of the acts of violence covered by its scope.

The Istanbul Convention also covers domestic violence, including all acts of physical, sexual, psychological or economic violence that occur within the family or domestic unit or between former or current spouses or partners, whether or not the perpetrator shares or has shared the same residence with the victim. Owing to the seriousness of such violence, it requires ensuring that the circumstances in which the offence was committed against a former or current spouse or partner, by a member of the family, a person cohabiting

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<sup>2</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/gender-equality/gender-based-violence/what-gender-based-violence\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/gender-equality/gender-based-violence/what-gender-based-violence_en)

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.coe.int/en/web/istanbul-convention/key-facts>

with the victim or a person having abused her or his authority, may entail a harsher sentence either as an aggravating circumstance or a constituent element of the offence. The Convention asks states to ensure the safety and support of victims of domestic violence perpetrated by family members, spouses or intimate partners, regardless of their marital or non-marital status. The Convention can, and must be applied irrespective of the legal definitions of “family” or “marriage” and recognition, or not, of same-sex relationships. These are matters for each state to decide since the legal recognition of same-sex unions or adoption by same-sex couple is outside the scope of the Istanbul Convention.

An Garda Síochána supports this broad view and is continually upgrading its recording and operational practices to monitor trends and investigate all forms of Domestic Abuse, Sexual and Gender Based Violence.

## **4 Gender Based Violence as a Hate Crime**

Gender Based Violence is directed against a person because of that person's gender or affecting persons of a particular gender disproportionately. However, in certain circumstances Gender Based Violence may also be a Hate Crime, where there is additional hostility or prejudice displayed, as a motivating factor, towards a person's gender.

An Garda Síochána defines Hate Crime as:

*Any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person to, in whole or in part, be motivated by hostility or prejudice, based on actual or perceived age, disability, race, colour, nationality, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or gender.*

In these situations, An Garda Síochána records a discriminatory motive that is perceived by the victim or any other person (e.g. witness, family member, carer, Garda etc.). Gender related Hate Crime may or may not include violence. For the purposes of Hate Crime recording, gender bias motivations cover gender identity and expression and are not limited to the binary genders of male/female – they also include transgender, intersex and other.

Details of hate crimes and non-crime hate related incidents reported in 2021 have been published separately<sup>4</sup>. In 2021, there were 17 incidents (crime and non-crime) which had a gender based discriminatory motive recorded. An Garda Síochána encourages all those who have experienced a hate related crime or non-crime incident to come forward and report it to us. We recognise, despite improvements, hate crime and hate

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.garda.ie/en/information-centre/statistics/hate-crime-statistics.html>

related incidents are still under-reported. We will work with partners to build confidence and trust to encourage reporting to An Garda Síochána.

For the purposes of this report, gender means the binary gender (male/female) of the victim or offender.

## 5 Methodology

PULSE data was examined where the incident was one of the listed ICCS groups:

- 01 - Homicide Offences;
- 02 - Sexual Offences;
- 03 - Attempts / Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences; and
- Of any incident type where a Domestic Abuse motive was recorded.

The focus is on incidents which were reported in the years 2019, 2020 and 2021. Longer-term trends look at incidents reported between 2013 and 2021. All crime statistics, including the types looked at in this report, have been affected by the impact of Covid-19 and related restrictions. Given the very serious nature of some of the incidents within the categories above, the total number of incidents recorded in a given year may be low compared to other crime types. Where underlying counts are below 20, throughout this report they are shown in *italic* font and highlighted with an asterisk (\*). Particular care should be taken when considering such figures and percentage changes in particular can be liable to very large variation. As some percentages have been rounded totals may not always equate to 100%.

Crime Counting Rules (CCR) are applied to all incidents. The CCR are a method of counting crime incidents for statistical purposes<sup>5</sup>. Criteria applied include the 'Primary Offence Rule'; where two or more criminal offences are disclosed in a single episode, it is the primary criminal offence that is counted, the primary offence being the offence that carries the greater penalty. One offence counts per victim involved; if two different persons are assaulted by the same offender, there are two victims of a crime and therefore two incidents are counted. A continuous series, involving the same victim and same offender, will count as one crime incident. While these rules mean some individual incidents may not be counted in aggregate official statistics published by the Central Statistics Office (CSO), each individual incident is recorded on PULSE and investigated. Other rules can particularly affect certain incident types. For example, an incident may be recorded as a murder but, if following conviction in court, a person is found guilty of manslaughter, the original PULSE incident is reclassified from murder to manslaughter.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://www.garda.ie/en/about-us/publications/policy-documents/guide-to-how-crime-is-counted-and-recorded.pdf>

## 6 Summary Findings

### Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence

Males and females experience violent and threatening crimes differently. For female victims, there is a close link between domestic abuse and sexual/other types of violence. A domestic abuse motive was recorded for 90%\* of all females who were victims of Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide and 43% of all females who were victims of Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences between 2019 and 2021. Male victims, whilst also experiencing domestic abuse, are more likely to be subject to violence by offenders unknown to them and/or in incidents not relating to domestic abuse. Between 2019 and 2021, a domestic abuse motive was recorded for 11% of all males who were victims of the three crime groups examined. Between 2013 and 2021, 2021 was the first and only year in which there were more Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide incidents relating to domestic abuse than for any other motive (13 and 12 incidents respectively).

Domestic abuse has shown increases since 2013, whilst some of the increase in recent years is attributable to Covid-19-related restrictions, the rate of recorded abuse has continued to rise post-lockdown. An Garda Síochána continues to work closely with our partners, including NGOs; there have also been significant efforts made to develop training, policy and awareness amongst members of the nuances of domestic abuse. Whilst efforts to improve data recording and to encourage reporting have contributed to some of the increases seen, it is acknowledged that there is still an element of under-reporting.

The introduction of the victim offender relationship field on PULSE in July 2021 has supported the identification of additional incidents where there was a domestic abuse element. This is particularly notable within the sexual offences group; there were 205 sexual offences incidents with a domestic abuse motive recorded in 2020 compared to 817 in 2021. More than half (53%) of these sexual offences reported in 2021 had a relationship type which activates additional validation checks for the domestic abuse motive. As the victim offender relationship was not available before July 2021, the effect is clearly demonstrated and is likely contributing to identifying incidents that have a domestic abuse component, which may not otherwise have been recorded as such.

At the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, recognising the potential for further increases in risk, An Garda Síochána launched Operation Faoiseamh to provide support to victims of domestic abuse. The number of callbacks made to victims of domestic abuse (at any time) went from just under 3,000 in January 2020 to over 4,000 in May 2020. Similarly, the proportion of callbacks made to victims within 7 days increased from 38% at the beginning of 2019 to over 70% in April 2020 and remained at that level or higher throughout 2020 and 2021.



Whether a crime is more likely to occur in a residential or non-residential location varies for different incident groups. Whilst the majority of Sexual Offences occur in residential locations (64% in 2021), most Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassment and Related Offences occur in non-residential locations (56% in 2021). For the Homicide Offences group overall (which includes dangerous driving causing death), the majority of incidents occur in non-residential locations (70% in 2021). When considering locations of the Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide sub-group of incidents only, the majority occur in residential locations (56% in 2021). Females are more likely than males to be victims in residential locations for the three crime groups. The largest variation between genders is in the Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassment and Related Offences group; for 59% of all female victims between 2019 and 2021 these incidents occurred in a residential location compared to 29% of male victims.

Offenders in incidents of violent and threatening behaviour are more likely to be males for incidents with female and male victims. Amongst incidents from 2019 to 2021, where at least one offender has been identified, when a female is the victim, a male is the suspected offender in 74% of incidents. This increases to 94% of incidents relating to domestic abuse of females. When a male is subjected to violent and threatening behaviour, another male is the suspected offender in 88% of incidents.

For the sub-set of incidents where the victim offender relationship is available<sup>6</sup>, female victims are also more likely than males to know the offender; 84% of females knew the offender compared to 61% of males. The most common relationship type for female victims is a current or former partner or spouse – 33% of all female victims. For males, where there was a known relationship, the largest proportion fall into the other offender known to the victim category at 22%.

Children (aged younger than 18 years) experience violent and threatening crimes in a sizable proportion and, on occasion majority, of reported incidents. Between 2019 and 2021, 11% of all homicide victims, 60% of all sexual offences victims (16% males and 44% females) and 14% of all attempts/threats to murder, assaults, harassment and related offences victims (9% males and 5% females), were children at the time the incident occurred. The high proportion of child victims of sexual offences is influenced by incidents reported many years after they occurred, that is, adults reporting experience of child sexual abuse.

Blackmail/Extortion incidents involving sexual exploitation have increased in volume in recent years, of incidents reported between 2019 and early 2022, 82% involved male victims, with young males aged between 18 and 24 years accounting for 29% of all victims.

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<sup>6</sup> The victim offender relationship was introduced on PULSE in July 2021.

### **Homicide Offences**

There were a total of 741 homicides (including dangerous driving causing death), recorded between 2013 and 2021, of which, 388 were Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide incidents. The number of recorded homicides in Ireland has been trending downwards, even before the Covid-19 pandemic; 2021 had the lowest number of homicides, with 47 incidents recorded, since 2013. Adult males are the primary victims of Homicide Offences – overall 71% of homicide victims were male and 46% were males aged 18 to 54 years between 2019 and 2021. Most victims of Murder/ Manslaughter/Infanticide in Ireland are also male; 78% of victims between 2019 and 2021. When a male is the victim in a domestic abuse Murder/Manslaughter/ Infanticide incident, they are more likely to be a child (aged under 18 years) at the time; 31% of male victims were children compared to 15%\* of female victims between 2013 and 2021.

### **Sexual Offences**

The number of recorded sexual offences in Ireland has been trending upwards and 2021 had the highest number of sexual offences incidents recorded since 2013. Between 2019 and 2021, 80% of victims of sexual offences are females and 69% are females aged 34 years old or younger. Sexual offences with a recorded domestic abuse motive increased substantially between 2020 and 2021; they accounted for 26% of all sexual offences in 2021. As noted, this is partially due to the introduction of the victim offender relationship on PULSE resulting in improved recording practices. For males and females, most sexual offences occur in residential locations, 62% and 52% respectively based on incidents between 2019 and 2021.

### **Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassment and Related Offences**

The number of Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassment and Related Offences has been trending upwards; the highest number of incidents between 2013 and 2021 was recorded in 2019 when there were 21,835 incidents. This group has also seen changes in the proportion of male and female victims, whilst the majority of victims are males in all years, the proportion of females has been trending upwards. Females made up 38% of victims of Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassment and Related Offences in 2013 compared to 44% in 2021.

Between 2019 and 2021, there are differing patterns within this overall group. Males are the victim in the majority of assaults (59%) and females are the most likely to be victims of harassment and related offences (67%). Whilst males are more likely to be subject to attempted murder incidents (80%), similar proportions of males and females were subject to murder threats (55% male, 45% female). Those within the 18-34 years old range account for the largest proportions of male and female victims of the overall group (22% and 19% respectively).

Minor Assaults and Assaults causing Harm, are the two highest volume incident types in this group; the decreases in the overall group in the last two years, particularly in 2020, are largely a reflection of the impact of the Covid-19-related restrictions on these incidents. Assaults in non-residential locations in particular declined and rose in response to the restrictions imposed on the night-time economy and licenced premises. Coinciding with the introduction of restrictions, between March and April 2020, there was a substantial reduction in the number of assaults occurring at non-residential locations (-30% month on month). At the same time, there was an increase in the number of assaults occurring in residential locations (+16% between March and April 2020).

The new offence of Coercive Control came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 with the commencement of the Domestic Violence Act 2018 and is included within the Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassment and Related Offences group. Between 2019 and 2021, 259 incidents of this type were reported with most, 146 incidents, being reported in 2021.

The number of Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences incidents with a domestic abuse motive have shown year-on-year increases every year since 2013; in 2021, 27% of these incidents related to domestic abuse.

## **7 Increased Reporting and Recording**

PULSE data shows that domestic abuse is primarily gender based and has shown increases over the last nine years. Some of this increase is due to improved data recording; some is due to increases in reporting. Whilst the increased incidents of domestic abuse and therefore gender based violence in the community can be partly attributed to Covid-19 and related restrictions, the rate of recorded abuse has continued to rise post-lockdown. In the first quarter of 2022, domestic abuse calls and incidents were 13% higher than the same time in 2021 (figures up to and including 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2022).

An Garda Síochána continues to work closely with other agencies, NGOs and directly with victims to support them in reporting gender based violence and domestic abuse. Reported incident volumes are likely to continue to increase based on recent trends – this is a positive development. Some of the increase is due to better recording practices and the improvement of services for victims and public awareness due to recent media coverage of Operation Faoiseamh, An Garda Síochána’s response to domestic abuse during the Covid-19 pandemic, and domestic abuse more generally. There is also an increased awareness within An Garda Síochána of the nuances of domestic abuse. A bespoke training programme has been developed and rolled out across the organisation. Furthermore, additional training is being provided as part of the phased rollout of the Domestic Abuse Risk Evaluation Tool, which is at an advanced stage. The Domestic Abuse Risk Evaluation Tool is a mechanism developed by An Garda Síochána to aid a decision-making process through which members of An Garda Síochána determine the best course of action by assessing, identifying, qualifying or quantifying risk to domestic abuse victims. A Domestic Abuse/Coercive Control module is included in the overarching face-to-face Divisional Protective Services Unit training, which is currently underway.

It is acknowledged that there is still an element of under-reporting of these incidents and efforts continue, in conjunction with all our partners to take all possible actions to encourage reporting to An Garda Síochána.

## **8 Quality Data Recording**

An Garda Síochána has over the last number of years enhanced its recording of domestic abuse incidents. In 2017, An Garda Síochána issued HQ Directive 23/2017. HQ Directive 23/2017 implemented changes for An Garda Síochána to enable the organisation to respond to changes in legalisation, developments from the Cosc National Strategies on the prevention of Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence and to comply with the Istanbul Convention and EU Victims Directive. HQ Directive 23/2017 replaced the previous directives issued in 2007 and 2006 while also implementing An Garda Síochána Policy on Domestic Abuse Intervention 2017.

The policy outlined the procedure for the recording of the 'Domestic Abuse' motive while outlining clear responsibilities for the recording of same. This instruction and subsequent training has enhanced the level of knowledge and understanding of domestic abuse and the importance of recording the motive on PULSE. An Garda Síochána is a key stakeholder in the Government's Third National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence.

In 2018, the Garda Information Services Centre (GISC) became responsible for the classification of incidents. HQ Directive 25/2018 gave GISC the responsibility to classify the incidents on PULSE. Since 2018, there has been a marked improvement in the classification of crime incidents on PULSE. GISC began publishing crime data quality metrics monthly in July 2022<sup>7</sup>.

There are three stages to the Garda data quality framework:

- Crime incidents are recorded on PULSE by specialist GISC agents working in consultation with the reporting Garda member to ensure consistency, quality and correct classification of incidents;
- All PULSE crime incidents are reviewed by the GISC data quality team and placed on review clarification in the case of discrepancies;
- PULSE incidents are reviewed by Garda supervisors as part of their regular (at least weekly) Performance Accountability Framework (PAF) meetings with any data quality issues reported back to the GISC data quality team.

In July 2021, An Garda Síochána introduced a mechanism to record the relationship between the Victim and the Offender. Implementing the recording of this data has enabled An Garda Síochána to begin coherency checks on the recording of the relationship and improve the recording of the domestic abuse motive attached to PULSE incidents.

The Garda National Protective Services Bureau (GNPSB) has worked closely with GISC and the Garda Síochána Analysis Service (GSAS) in the following areas:

- Provision of training to GISC staff and PAF Administrators;
- Improving data collection;
- Improving data quality in respect of the recording of domestic abuse motives;
- Improving the categorisation of both crime and non-crime domestic abuse incidents; and
- Utilising the Victim Offender Relationship field to ensure all incidents of domestic abuse have that motive recorded on PULSE.

The improvements in recording and provision of services noted above have had an effect on the recorded incidents of domestic abuse. This is demonstrated by the increased level of reported incidents during the Covid-19 pandemic and the continued high levels of incidents since related restrictions have been eased.

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.garda.ie/en/information-centre/statistics/ags-crime-incident-data-quality-metrics-to-end-june-2022.pdf>

As domestic abuse is a key driver of Gender Based Violence, higher levels (than previous years) of recorded Gender Based Violence would be expected and will likely continue for the foreseeable future before any reductions may be seen.

In line with the 2022 Policing Plan, An Garda Síochána is piloting the use of incident outcomes within the Galway Division to enhance our PULSE data and provide greater clarity about the outcome of incidents recorded on the PULSE system. The core objective of the pilot is to define the list of possible outcomes and enable learnings from the pilot in order to inform updates to policy, training and procedures. It is expected the rollout of incident outcomes process, rather than focusing on binary detection rates for crime incidents, will provide An Garda Síochána and stakeholders with rich data on the outcome of crime incidents.

## 9 Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence Incident

### Types and Categories

There is no specific crime type into which all domestic, sexual and gender based violence could be categorised. In this report, the focus is upon using the overall Irish Crime Classification System (ICCS) groups of most relevance – namely Homicide Offences, Sexual Offences and Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassment and Related Offences – as well as any incident type where the domestic abuse motive has been recorded.

Using PULSE data, it can be shown which crimes tend to disproportionately affect one gender over another. Isolating specific instances where the incident was gender based, that is, the incident specifically targeted one gender, is more difficult. New hate related discriminatory motives, including anti-gender, were introduced on PULSE in October 2020 and are published in a separate release. As noted previously, for the purposes of this report, gender means the binary gender (male/female) of the victim or offender.

The Harassment, Harmful Communications and Related Offences Act 2020, came into effect on the 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021. The Act provides for three offences:

- s2 Distributing, publishing or threatening to distribute or publish intimate image without consent with intent to cause harm or being reckless as to whether harm is caused;
- s3 Recording, distributing or publishing an intimate image without consent; and
- s4 Distributing, publishing or sending threatening or grossly offensive communication.

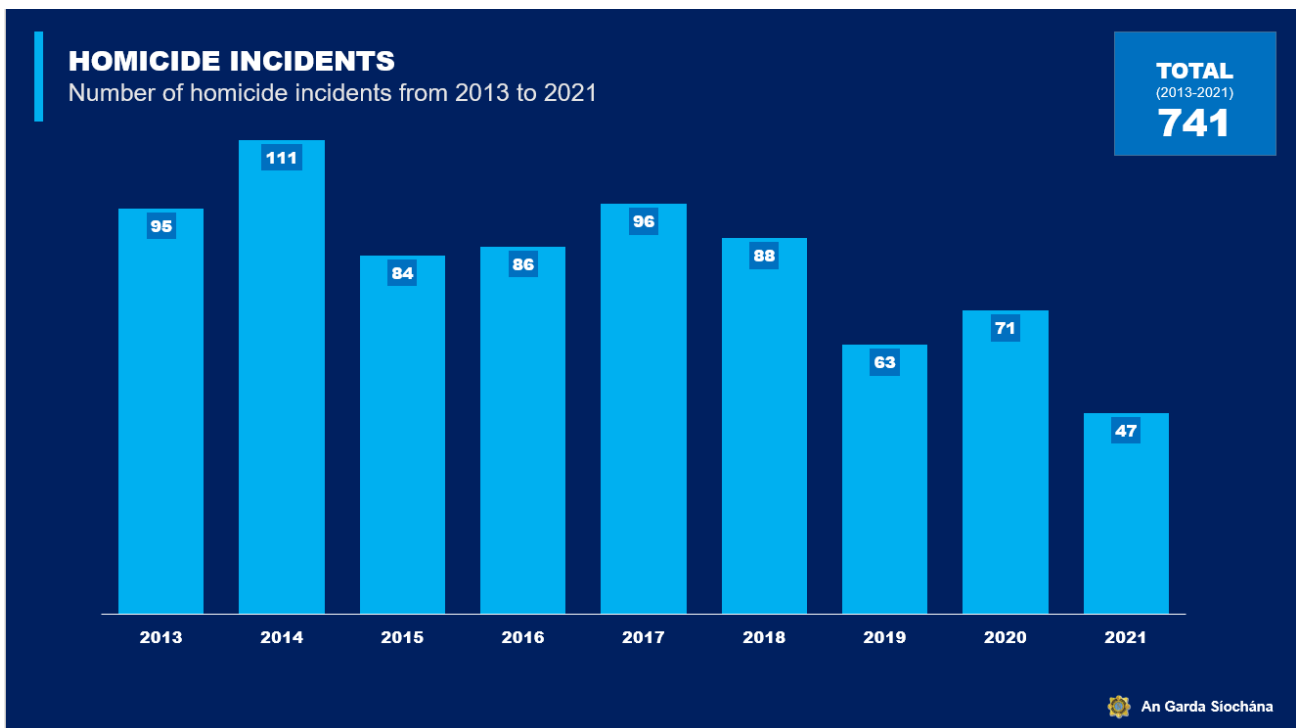
Work is ongoing to update PULSE to include specific new incident types to record these incidents, which may be gender based. Any such incidents are currently recorded on PULSE under other existing incident types, including but not limited to, Blackmail/Extortion and Harassment. This report contains a specific section with details of Blackmail/Extortion incidents with sexual exploitation. All incidents of Harassment are contained within ICCS Group 3, which is included in this report. It is possible to identify charges/ summonses issued which reference this legislation. As of March, 2022, there had been 35 charges/summonses under the Harassment, Harmful Communications and Related Offences Act 2020, relating to 22 unique incidents.

## 10 Trends in Violent and Threatening Crime Incidents

The following sections examine trends in three ICCS Groups – Homicide Offences, Sexual Offences and Attempts / Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences – all of which contain violent and/or threatening behaviour.

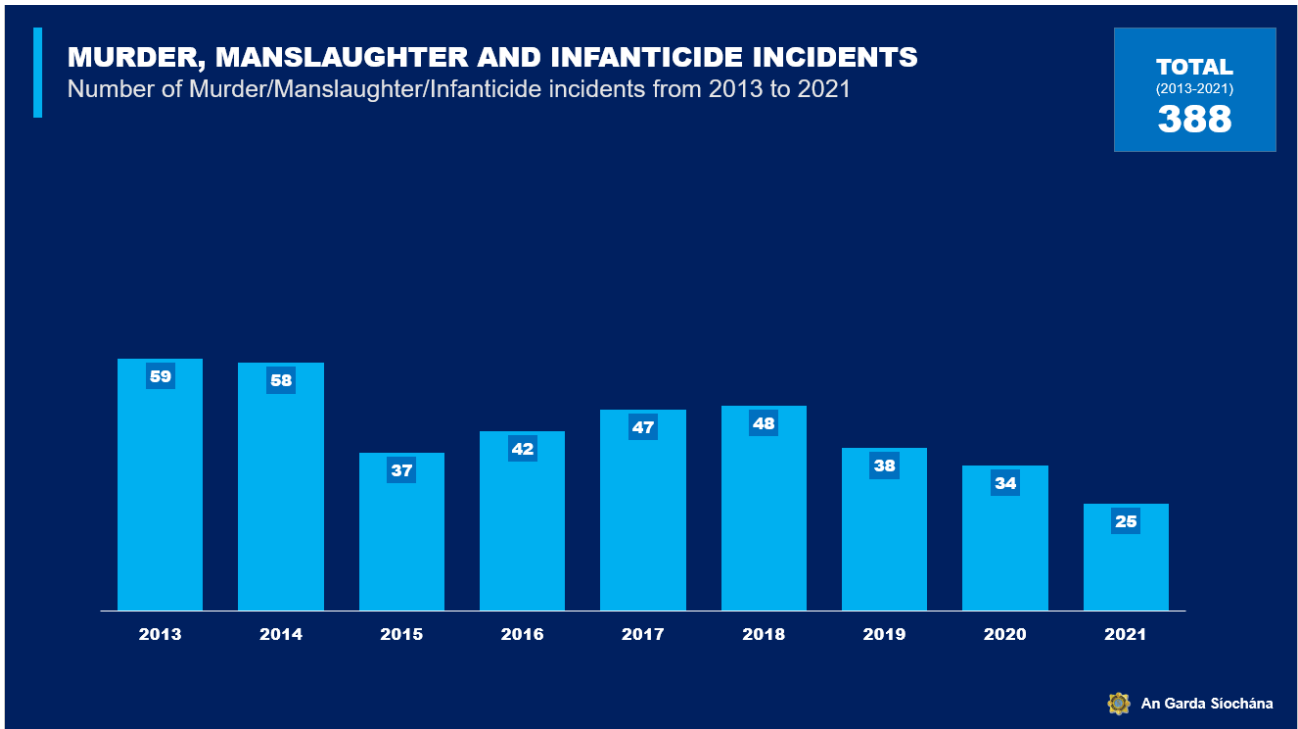
### 10.1 Homicide Offences

Homicide Offences include murder, manslaughter and dangerous driving causing death and are the lowest volume crime group examined. Overall, this group has been trending downwards, even before the Covid-19 pandemic; 2021 had the lowest number of incidents recorded since 2013.

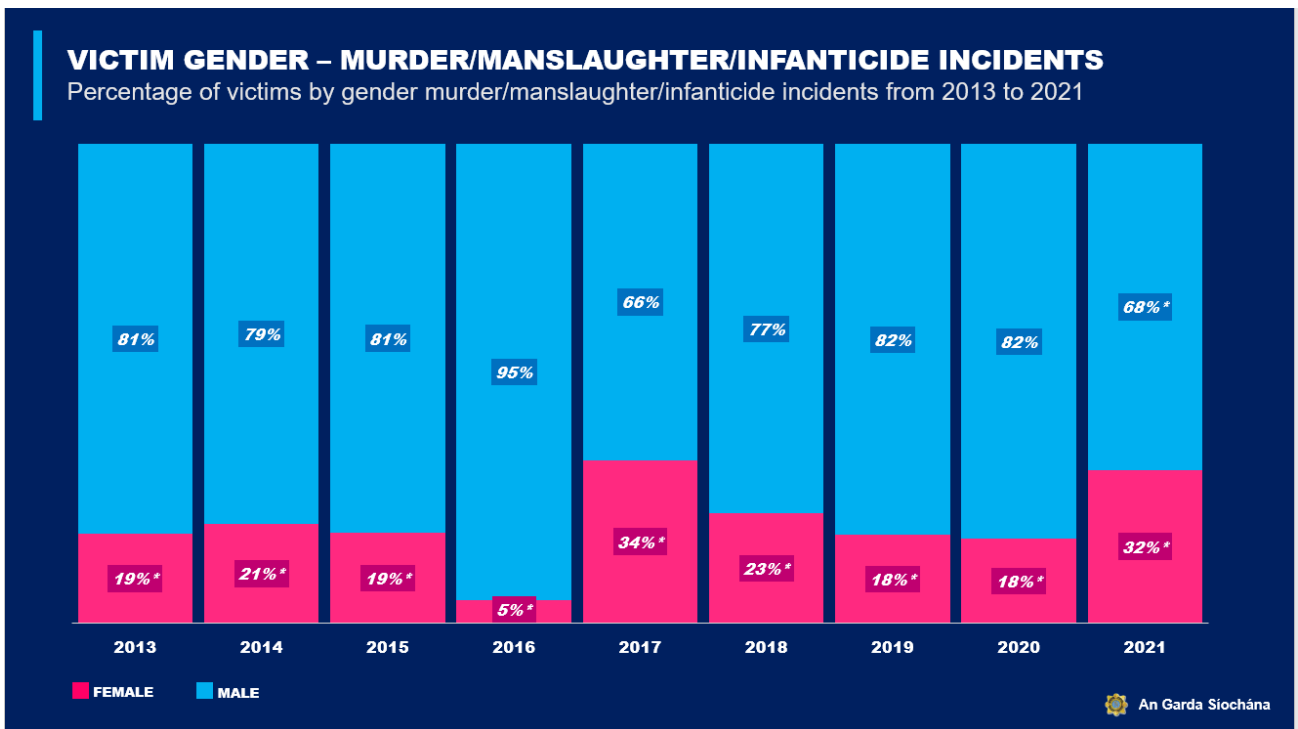


Examining only the Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide sub-group (which removes 'Dangerous Driving Leading to Death' incidents), it can be seen that incidents overall have decreased substantially over the years examined.





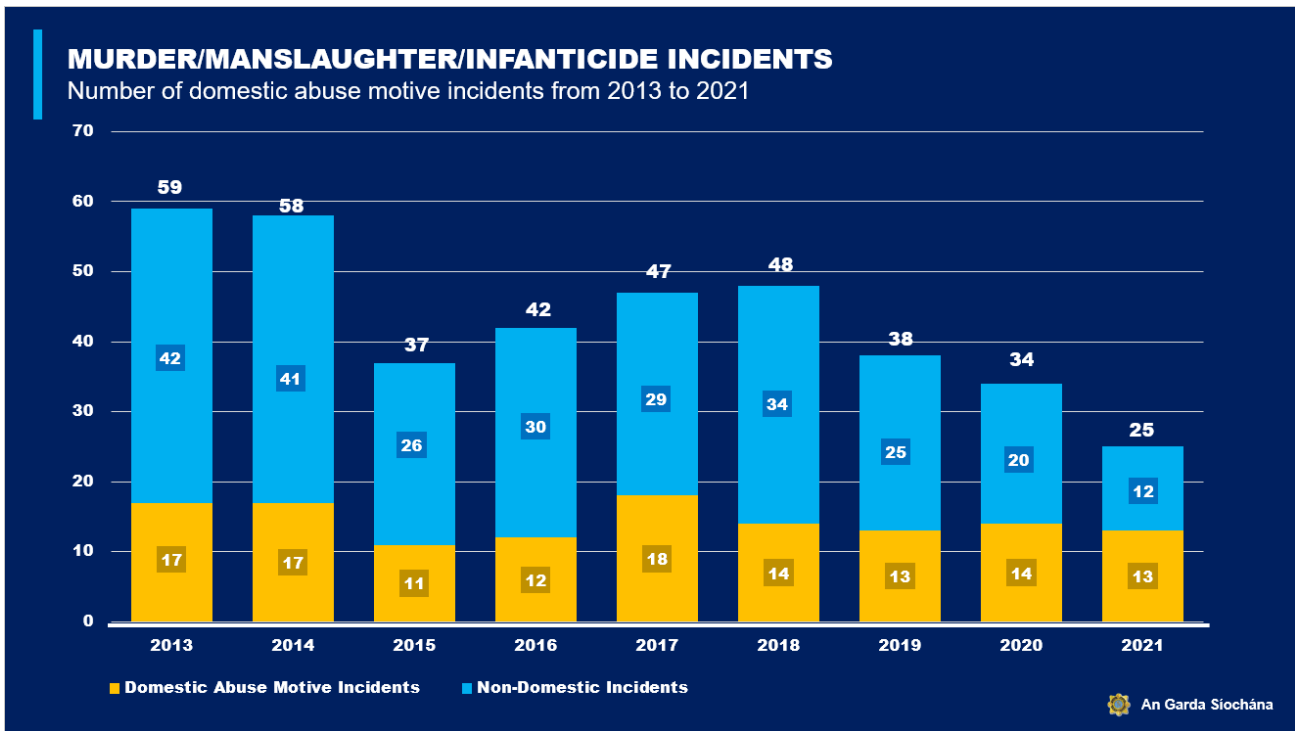
The proportion of male/female victims has varied over the years examined. There was an increase in the proportion of female victims between 2020 and 2021, however, these are based on very low volumes. On average, since 2013, 21% of Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide victims have been female and 79% male.



*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents.*

## 10.2 Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide with a Domestic Abuse Motive

Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide incidents with a domestic abuse element have ranged between 11 and 18 incidents per year since 2013. Proportionally, they have increased in recent years, although the numbers are too low to demonstrate a trend. This will continue to be monitored closely to evaluate the effectiveness of early intervention measures. There have been between 12 and 42 Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide incidents per year which did not have a domestic abuse motive; these non-domestic abuse incidents have generally decreased in number in recent years.



The proportion of all Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide incidents with a domestic abuse motive recorded is shown in the table below. Whilst the underlying counts for incidents in a given year is low, figures show that, on average over the last five years, 38% of all Murder/Manslaughter/ Infanticide incidents were associated with domestic abuse. For the first time in 2021, more than half of Murder/Manslaughter/ Infanticide incidents had a domestic abuse motive.

Proportion of Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide Incidents with a Domestic Abuse Motive								
2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
29%*	29%*	30%*	29%*	38%*	29%*	34%*	41%*	52%*

*\*Percentage based on underlying incident count of less than 20 incidents.*

When we examine the trends by gender a different pattern is evident. The table below shows the proportion of all Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticides relating to domestic abuse each year for female and male victims. Where a female is the victim, the incident itself was more likely to be a domestic abuse related incident. On average over the last five years, where a female has been the victim of a Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide incident, 79% were the victim in a domestic abuse related incident. Males are more likely to be victims in other types of incidents; on average 24% of males were the victim in a domestic abuse related incident.

**% MURDER/MANSLAUGHTER/INFANTICIDE VICTIMS –  
DOMESTIC ABUSE**

YEAR	% FEMALE VICTIMS	% MALE VICTIMS
2013	82%*	17%
2014	58%*	22%
2015	86%*	17%
2016	100%*	25%
2017	75%*	19%
2018	64%*	19%
2019	100%*	19%
2020	83%*	32%
2021	88%*	35%*

*\*Percentage based on underlying incident count of less than 20 incidents.*

Additionally, when a male is the victim in a domestic abuse Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide incident, they are more likely to be a child (aged under 18 years) at the time; 31% of male victims were children compared to 15%\* of female victims between 2013 and 2021.

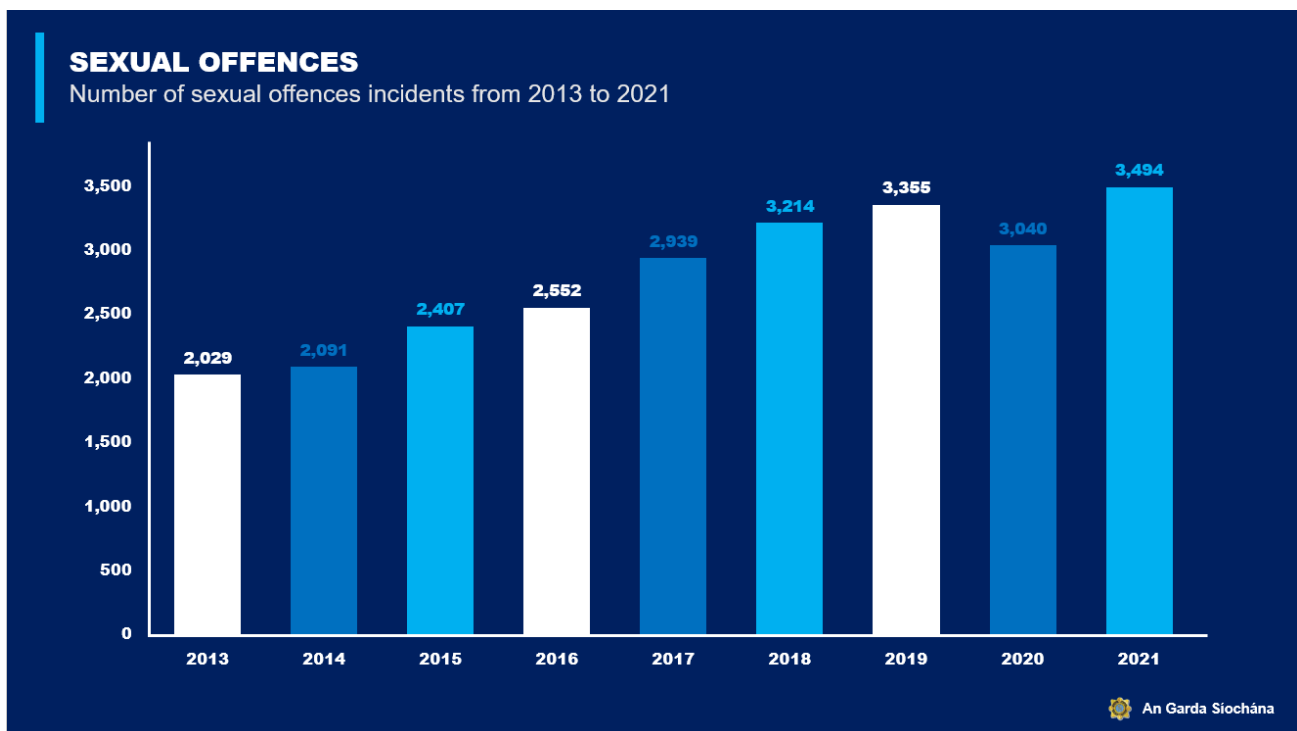
An Garda Síochána continues to refine its victim engagement strategies as one of the key agencies that can help identify and intervene to prevent any pattern of escalation. Encouraging reporting is essential so domestic abuse can be correctly recorded and intervention and support measures initiated and tracked.

Homicide and suspicious death classifications can be highly complex due to the number of variables, nature of the investigations and determinations made during the stages of the justice process (including the Pathologist, Coroner and Courts). They can and do change over time and are therefore subject to ongoing review, including by the Homicide Review Investigation Team (HIRT). This particularly applies to more recent cases (2019-2021). An Garda Síochána, working in collaboration with the Office of the State Pathologist, introduced additional data coherency checks in 2022 to further ensure the timely and accurate recording of suspicious death investigations.

In order to enhance our operational understanding of Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide incidents and as part of the work on this report, significant work was undertaken. Specifically, the Victim Offender Relationship was retrospectively recorded on all such incidents reported between 2013 and 2021. This work allowed for further validation of the domestic abuse motives recorded on all of these incidents.

### 10.3 Sexual Offences

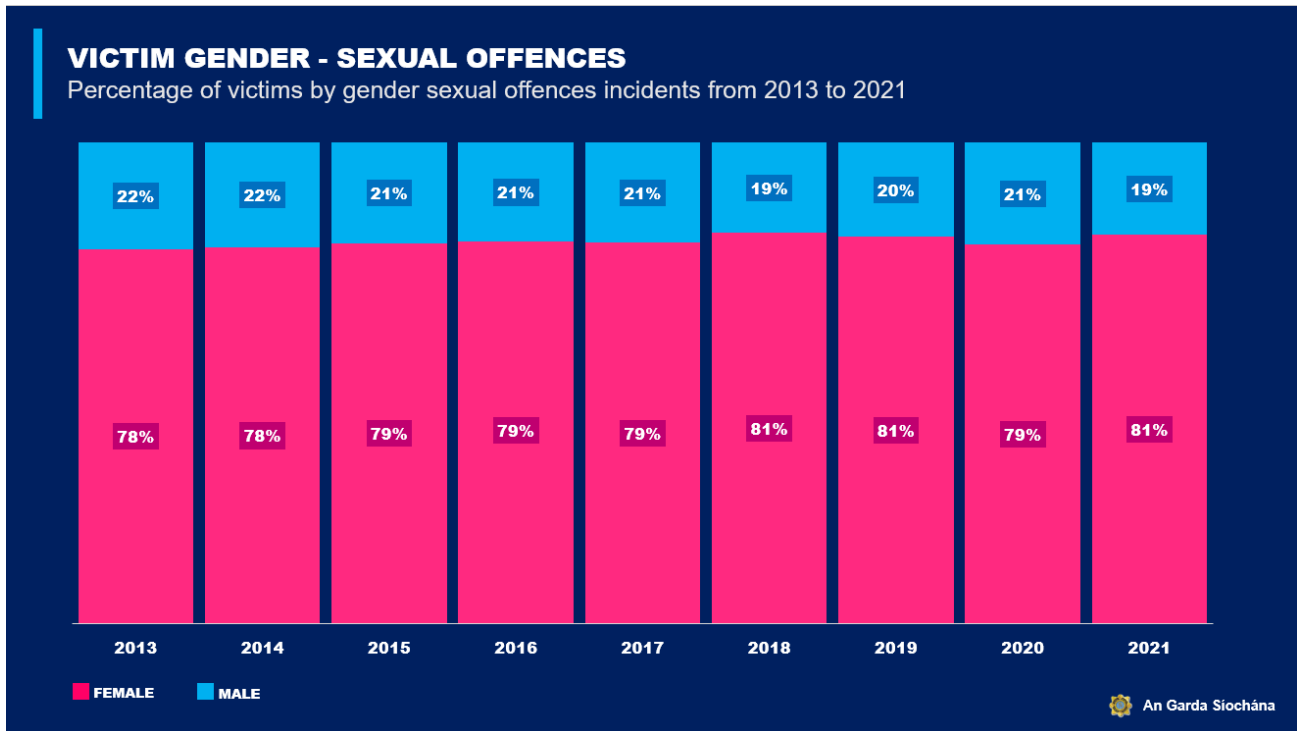
Sexual Offences include Rape, Sexual Assaults, Child Pornography and Gross Indecency<sup>8</sup> incidents. Incidents of Sexual Offences have increased by a large amount considering the 2013 baseline. While declining slightly between 2019 and 2020 (-9% partially due to the impact of Covid-19-related restrictions), the number of reported incidents increased (+15%) between 2020 and 2021. The higher volumes shown may be an indicator of increased reporting of incidents of this type, which may be a positive outcome considering past under-reporting.



The overall victim gender breakdown for this group has remained stable over the years examined. There was a slight increase in the proportion of female victims between 2020 and 2021, which may be attributable to the possible higher incidence of these that are related to domestic abuse and the greater representation of

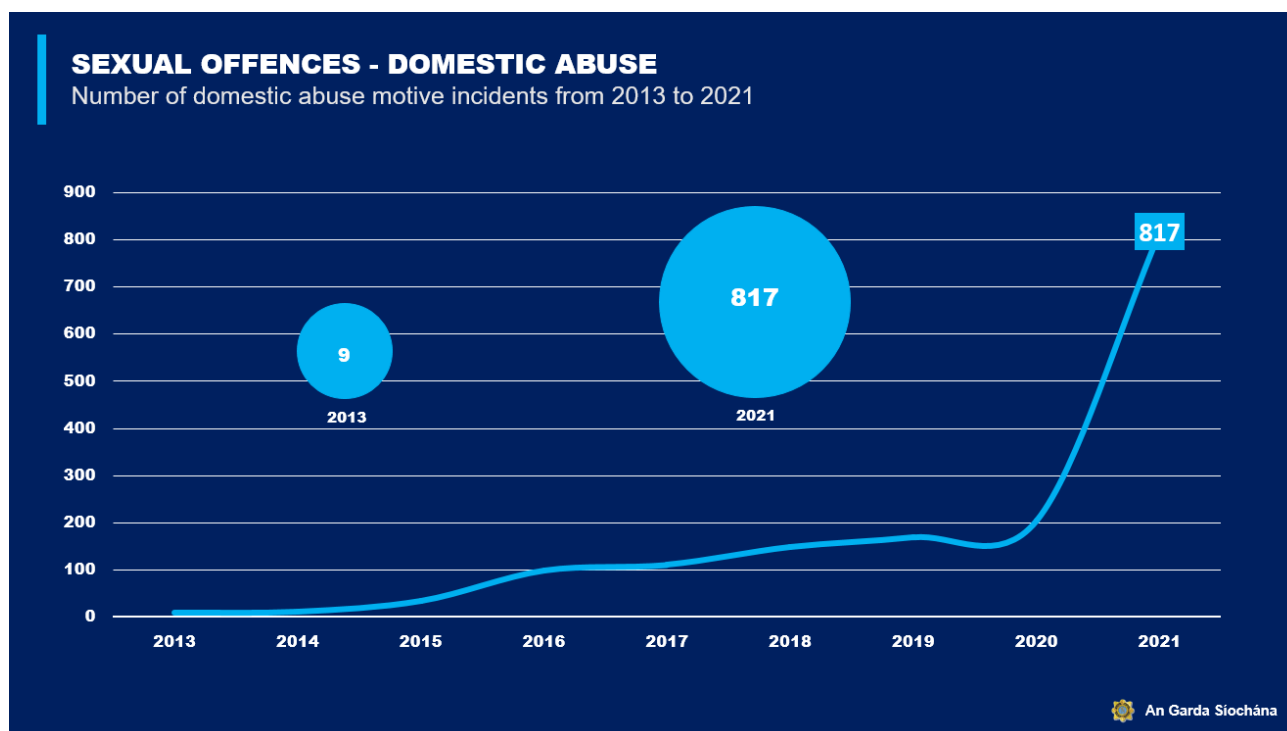
<sup>8</sup> Gross Indecency relates to sexual offences between males at least one of whom is under 17 years of age.

females as victims of those incidents. On average over the last 5 years, 80% of Sexual Offences victims have been female.



#### 10.4 Sexual Offences with a Domestic Abuse Motive

Sexual Offences with a recorded domestic abuse motive have increased substantially between 2020 and 2021, making up 26% of all Sexual Offences in 2021 and 27% of Rape and Sexual Assault incidents within the Sexual Offences grouping. The high growth seen in 2021 is not necessarily indicative of a higher number of domestic abuse related sexual offences occurring in 2021 but rather changing data quality practices along with an increase in the confidence of victims to come forward and report these crimes.



While the displayed increase is striking, it does show the immediate effect of improved recording practices, and how incidents of this nature can be better identified in the future. Contributing to this apparent increase is the effect of 'Victim Offender Relationship' on improving the determination of a domestic abuse incident<sup>9</sup>. Of the 817 Sexual Offences incidents with a domestic abuse motive reported in 2021, 429 (53%) had the recorded relationship between the victim and the offender as either 'Inter-familial'<sup>10</sup>, 'Current intimate partner/spouse' or 'Former intimate partner/spouse'. All incidents with these relationship types are subject to additional review to see whether the domestic abuse motive should be recorded. As this facility was not available before July 2021, the effect is clearly demonstrated and is likely contributing to identifying incidents that have a domestic abuse component, which may not otherwise have been recorded as such. With the domestic abuse Sexual Offences data as it is, the data would not be suitable to allow commentary on longer-term trends. However, given the data quality framework and data coherency checks in place, the figures provide a new baseline for measuring trends.

The current data for 2021 indicates that where a Sexual Offence is domestic abuse related, it is primarily in the 'Rape and Sexual Assault' sub-group and, of the offences within that sub-group, 85% of these incidents

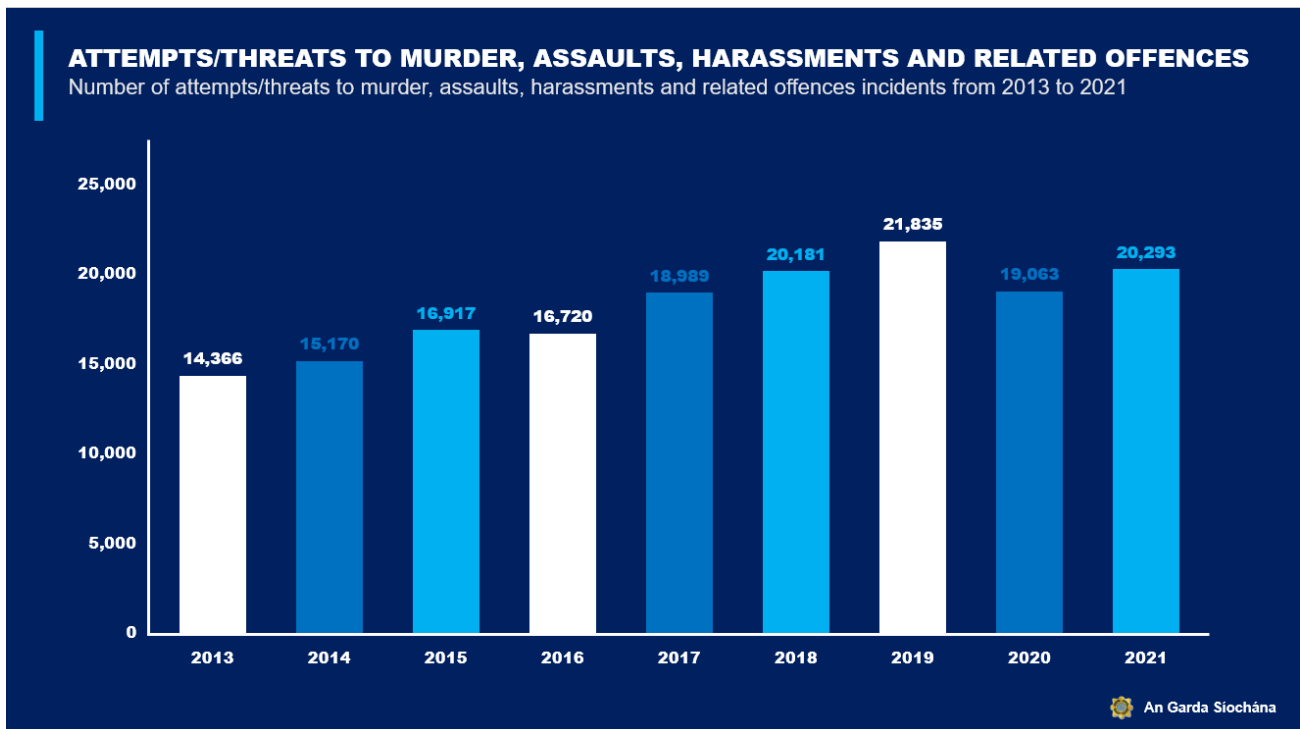
<sup>9</sup> See later section on domestic abuse for further details.

<sup>10</sup> The list of victim offender relationships introduced on PULSE followed consultation with the CSO and were based on examples from other jurisdictions. The benefits of this information are significant for the organisation and all users of crime statistics. The list is currently being reviewed to capture further and more nuanced relationship types. The term 'inter-familial' is used in this report as an alternative to the existing 'blood relative' which is to be changed on PULSE to more accurately capture relationships within a family unit and to reflect modern society. In particular, family relationships such as fostered/adopted/ surrogate/step children and parents.

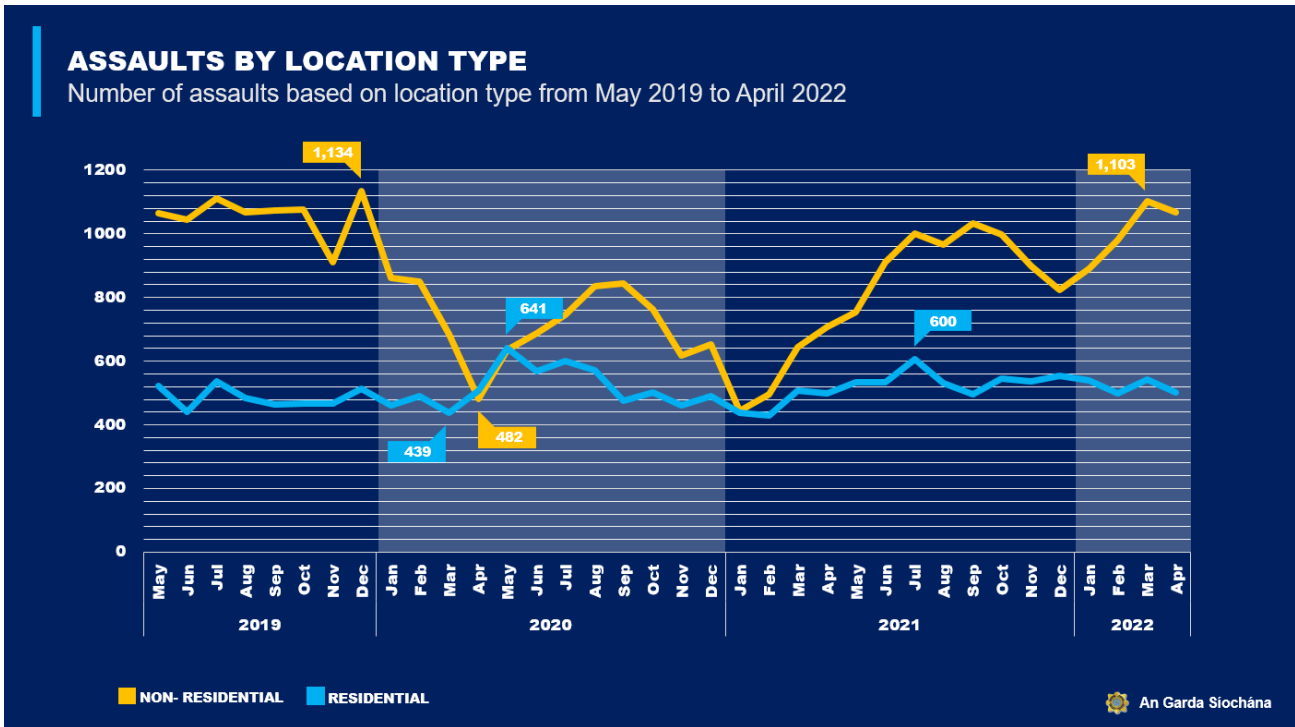
had a female victim. These Sexual Offences that are domestic abuse related accounted for 28% of all female victims of ‘Rape and Sexual Assault’ in 2021.

### 10.5 Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences

The Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences group has been trending upwards in recent years. While, similarly to Sexual Offences, there was a decline between 2019 and 2020 (-13%), levels typically rose year on year, with an increase (+6%) observed between 2020 and 2021.



The highest volume incidents within this group are Minor Assaults and Assaults causing Harm. The decrease seen in 2020 (and to a lesser extent in 2021) is a reflection of a reduction in assaults linked to non-residential locations associated with the various Covid-19-related restrictions on the night-time economy in particular. The chart below shows the number of incidents of Minor Assaults and Assaults causing Harm, with an associated injured party, broken down by the type of location where the incident occurred.



The impact of the varying levels of Covid-19-related restrictions<sup>11</sup> on the number of assaults occurring at residential<sup>12</sup> and non-residential locations is clearly shown in the chart above. Assaults in non-residential locations in particular declined and rose in response to the restrictions imposed on licenced premises. Between March and April 2020, there was a substantial reduction in the number of assaults occurring at non-residential locations; at the same time, there was an increase in the number of assaults occurring in residential locations. The pattern in non-residential assaults has generally risen and fallen according to the level of restrictions in place since then and, at the time of writing with all restrictions eased, is similar to levels seen prior to the Covid-19 pandemic.

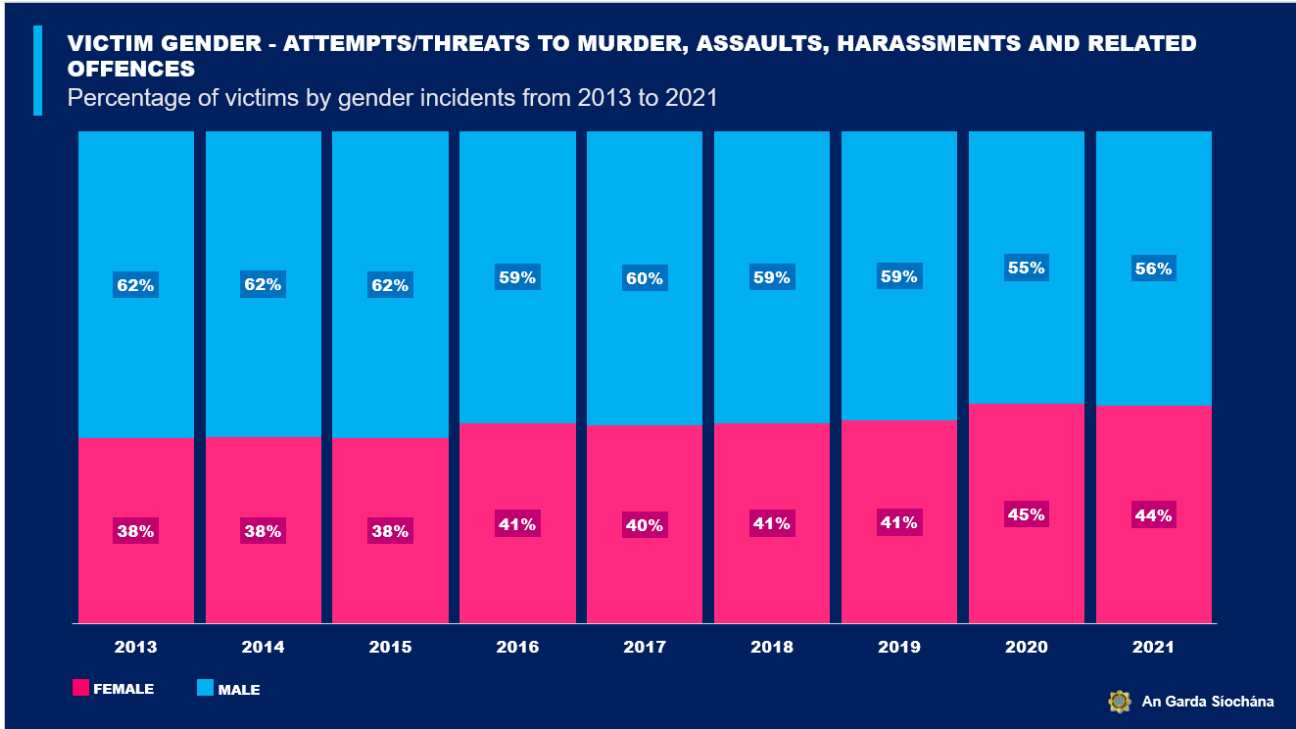
The victim breakdown for the Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences group has changed over the years examined with the proportion of female victims trending upwards. Females

<sup>11</sup> Schools in Ireland were closed on 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2020, on the 16<sup>th</sup> March licenced premises closed and on the 27<sup>th</sup> March the country went into 'lockdown' with 'stay-at-home' restrictions in effect and only essential shops/services remaining open. These restrictions were gradually eased from May 2020 onwards. Licenced premises were permitted to re-open, with conditions, from 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2020. On 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020, nationwide restrictions, including on licenced premises (take-away only) were reintroduced, these were eased in November and further restrictions came into effect for licenced premises from 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2020. From the 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 outdoor hospitality resumed, full re-opening of pubs and restaurants was permitted from 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2021. Nightclubs and other late night venues re-opened on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2021. Some restrictions were subsequently re-introduced on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021 including the closure of nightclubs; an 8pm closing time for bars and restaurants came into effect on 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2021. On the 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2022 almost all Covid-19 related restrictions were ended.

<sup>12</sup> Residential locations include house, apartment/flat complex, cottages, gardens, sheds, domestic garages, holiday homes and other types of dwellings. All other locations are considered non-residential.



made up 38% of victims in 2013 compared to 44% in 2021. On average over the last 5 years, 42% of Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassment and Related Offences victims have been female. The lower proportions of male victims in 2020 and 2021 is partially reflective of the reductions in assaults in non-residential locations during the various periods of Covid-19 related restrictions referenced above. The higher proportion of female victims in both these years has arisen as a result.



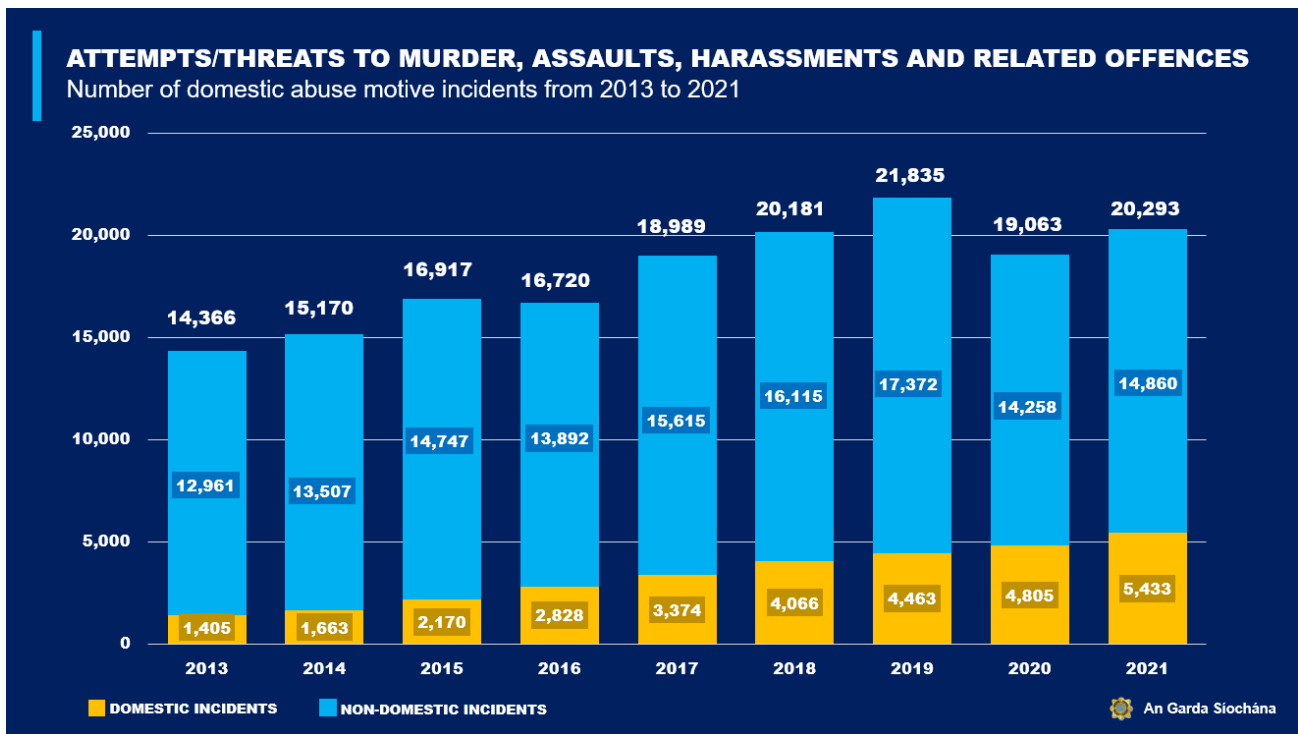
## 10.6 Coercive Control

Included in the ICCS crime of '0332 – Coercion' are the incidents types 'Coercion' and 'Coercive Control'. Coercive Control became an offence on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 with the commencement of the Domestic Violence Act 2018. Between 2019 and 2021, 259 incidents of Coercive Control were reported with 146 of those being reported in 2021 (a 62% increase on the 90 incidents reported in 2020). This high increase could be attributed to the restrictions during Covid-19, but also to possible growing awareness of the offence since it was enacted. The well-publicised first conviction in late 2020 may be another possible contributor<sup>13</sup>. It remains to be seen if the comparatively high 2021 figure sets a baseline or if incidents will continue to rise.

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.irishtimes.com/news/crime-and-law/courts/circuit-court/man-convicted-of-coercive-control-and-multiple-assaults-on-ex-partner-1.4406638>

## 10.7 Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences with a Domestic Abuse Motive

Whereas, overall, the number of incidents of Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences reported per year has fluctuated, incidents with a domestic abuse component have shown year-on-year increases every year since 2013. The rate of recorded domestic abuse is again a key driver in the rates overall. The proportion of incidents within this group that have a recorded domestic abuse element has risen in recent years with 27% of incidents within this group being a domestic abuse incident in 2021.



When the victim gender breakdown for incidents with a domestic abuse motive is considered, it can be seen that females are the victim in the vast majority of incidents. As recorded domestic incidents increase, this would likely explain some of the higher representation of females as victims seen in recent years when all incidents are considered.

**INCIDENT SUB-GROUP – VICTIM GENDER DOMESTIC ABUSE INCIDENTS**

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>ATTEMPTS/THREATS TO MURDER</b>									
Female	85%	83%*	77%	80%	78%	85%	80%	79%	77%
Male	15%*	17%*	23%*	20%*	22%	15%	20%	21%	23%
<b>ASSAULTS</b>									
Female	78%	78%	77%	76%	75%	74%	74%	74%	72%
Male	22%	22%	23%	24%	25%	26%	26%	26%	28%
<b>HARASSMENT AND RELATED OFFENCES</b>									
Female	92%	81%	93%	87%	93%	85%	86%	88%	88%
Male	8%*	19%*	7%*	13%*	7%*	15%	14%	12%	12%

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents.*

### 10.8 Focus on Assaults with a Domestic Abuse Motive

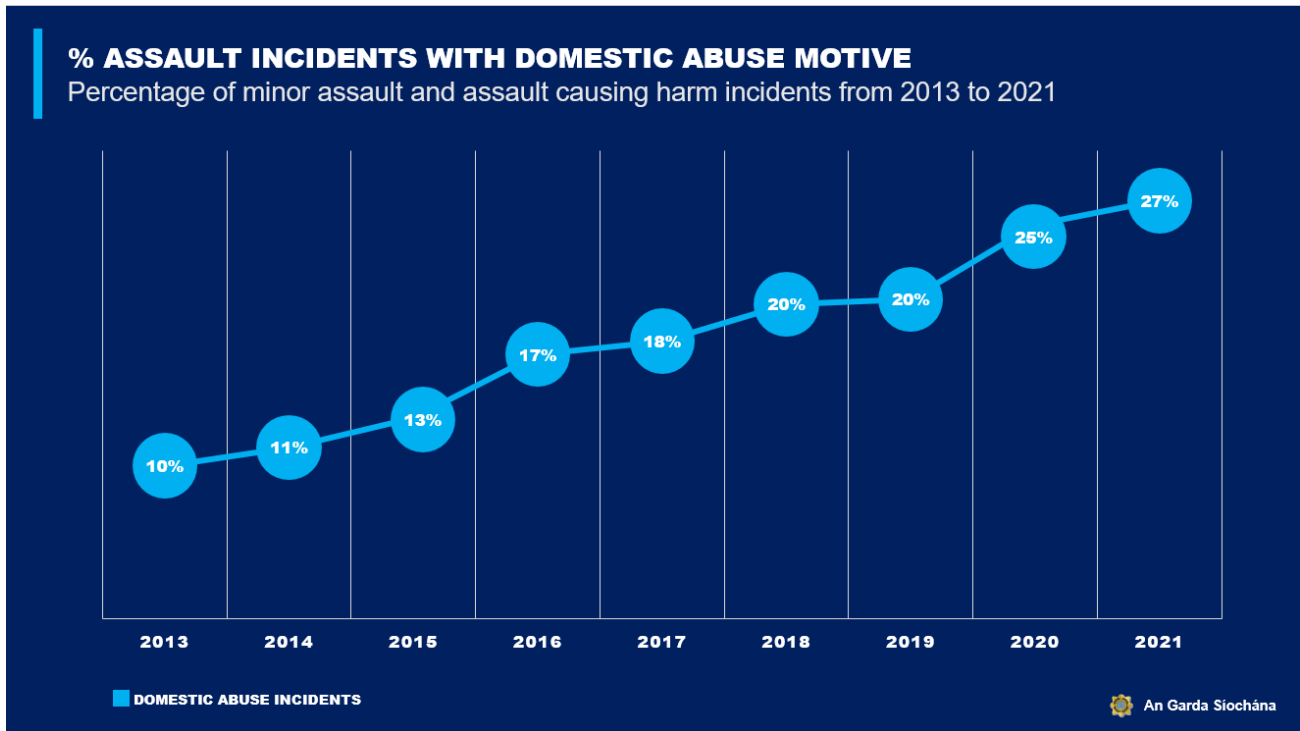
Driving the increases seen in the Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences group are the high volume crime types, Minor Assault and Assault Causing Harm, although other incidents within the group have also seen high representation of domestic abuse. With this higher representation, domestic abuse related assault incidents can be seen to be having influence on the overall assault figures, including the recent increases observed between 2020 and 2021.

The table below shows the proportion of incidents, within the given sub-group, which related to domestic abuse based on figures from 2021.

YEAR	SUB GROUP	% DA
2021	031 - Attempts/Threats to Murder	26%
	032 - Assaults	27%
	033 - Harassment and Related Offences	22%

The trend in the proportion of assault incidents with a domestic abuse motive since 2013 is shown in the chart below. The proportion has risen steadily from 10% of assaults incidents in 2013 to 27% in 2021. Some of this increase is attributed to the various improvements in recording and reporting mentioned earlier. The more marked increase between 2019 and 2020, is partially attributable to the increases in domestic abuse incidents arising during the restrictions associated with the Covid-19 pandemic. The further increase between 2020

and 2021 is part of the overall trend seen in increasing levels of domestic abuse and is also partially influenced by the introduction of the victim offender relationship leading to recording improvements.



Incidents with a domestic abuse motive and trends over the last three years are examined in more detail in a subsequent section of this report.

## 11 Victim Profiles

This section of the report looks at the gender and age groups of victims of the three crime groupings (Homicide Offences, Sexual Offences and Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences) reported between 2019 and 2021. Taken together, the victims of the three incident groups examined are roughly evenly split by gender (52% male, 48% female). Differences are more pronounced depending on the incident group or type, showing that male and females experience violence very differently.

- Males are the victim in the majority (71%) of Homicide Offences.
- Females are the victim in the majority (80%) of Sexual Offences.
- Within the Attempts / Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences grouping, males are the victim in the majority (59%) of Assault incidents, while females are the majority (67%) in Harassment and Related Offences.

The table below provides an overview for higher volume incidents and those more closely related to gender based violence; a full table showing all individual incident types is included in the appendix.

INCIDENT GROUP/SUB-GROUP/TYPE	% MALE VICTIMS	% FEMALE VICTIMS
<b>01 - HOMICIDE OFFENCES</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>29%</b>
011 - Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide	78%	22%
0111 - Murder	77%	23%
012 - Dangerous Driving Leading to Death	63%	37%
<b>02 - SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>80%</b>
021 - Rape and Sexual Assault	20%	80%
0211 - Rape of a male or female	10%	90%
0212 - Defilement of a boy or girl less than 17 years old	19%	81%
0213 - Sexual offence involving mentally impaired person	40%*	60%
0214 - Aggravated sexual assault	15%*	85%*
0215 - Sexual assault (not aggravated)	25%	75%
022 - Other Sexual Offences	22%	78%
<b>03 - ATTEMPTS/THREATS TO MURDER, ASSAULTS, HARASSMENTS AND RELATED OFFENCES</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>43%</b>
031 - Attempts/Threats to Murder	55%	45%
0311 - Murder-attempt	80%	20%*
0312 - Murder-threat	55%	45%
032 - Assaults	59%	41%
0321 - Assault causing harm	66%	34%
0324 - Minor assault	56%	44%
033 - Harassment and Related Offences	33%	67%
0331 - Harassment, stalking, threats	29%	71%
0332 - Coercion	10%	90%
0333 - Menacing phone calls	37%	63%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>48%</b>

\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents over the 3-year period examined.

Examining the age groups of victims, it can be seen that adult males are the primary victims of Homicide Offences, whereas young females are the majority of victims in Sexual Offences. Between 2019 and 2021, 46% of all Homicide Offences victims are males aged between 18 and 54 years old; 69% of all Sexual Offences victims are females aged 34 years or younger.

<b>INCIDENT GROUP/SUB-GROUP</b>	<b>% MALE VICTIMS</b>	<b>% FEMALE VICTIMS</b>
<b>01 - HOMICIDE OFFENCES</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>29%</b>
Under 18 years old	6%*	5%*
18-34 years old	20%	7%*
35-54 years old	26%	8%*
55+ years old	19%	9%*
<b>02 - SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>80%</b>
Under 18 years old	16%	44%
18-34 years old	3%	25%
35-54 years old	1%	9%
55+ years old	0%	2%
<b>03 - ATTEMPTS/THREATS TO MURDER, ASSAULTS, HARASSMENTS AND RELATED OFFENCES</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>43%</b>
Under 18 years old	9%	5%
18-34 years old	22%	19%
35-54 years old	19%	15%
55+ years old	6%	3%

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents over the 3-year period examined.*

If the proportion of age groups per gender are examined, it can be seen that for both male and female victims of Sexual Offences, younger age groups are the most represented while assaults and related incidents tend to have more representation from older age groups.

<b>INCIDENT GROUP/SUB-GROUP</b>	<b>% MALE VICTIMS</b>	<b>% FEMALE VICTIMS</b>
<b>01 - HOMICIDE OFFENCES</b>		
Under 18 years old	8%*	17%*
18-34 years old	29%	23%*
35-54 years old	37%	29%*
55+ years old	27%	31%*
<b>02 - SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>		
Under 18 years old	81%	55%
18-34 years old	13%	31%
35-54 years old	4%	11%
55+ years old	2%	2%
<b>03 - ATTEMPTS / THREATS TO MURDER, ASSAULTS, HARASSMENTS AND RELATED OFFENCES</b>		
Under 18 years old	16%	12%
18-34 years old	38%	45%
35-54 years old	34%	35%
55+ years old	11%	7%

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents over the 3-year period examined.*

In total, 81% of all male victims of recorded Sexual Offences were aged under 18 at the time of the offence compared to 55% of female victims. There are higher proportions of older male and female victims within the Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences group; 45% of male victims and 42% of female victims were aged 35 years or older.

Affecting the age groups of victims of Sexual Offences is the high level of historic incidents within this grouping, meaning many incidents are reported long after they have occurred. For Sexual Offences, this can be many years, as demonstrated by the average difference between the reported and occurred dates for these incidents:

<b>02 - SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>AVERAGE TIME TO REPORT (YEARS)</b>	<b>MEDIAN TIME TO REPORT (YEARS)</b>
All Incidents	8	0
Female Victim	6	0
Male Victim	19	13

While the average time to report is long, this is affected by some incidents having an extended period of time between occurrence and reporting. Most Sexual Offences incidents are reported within a year of the offence occurring. There is a notable time difference in reporting of incidents, especially so for male victims with over half (58%) of male victims reporting the offence over 5 years after the offence occurred. This is likely due to males showing a higher rate of reporting for child sexual abuse as adults. This is suggested by the information provided below, but does warrant further examination and will be examined through further analysis.

<b>02 - SEXUAL OFFENCES – TIME TO REPORT (YEARS)</b>	<b>% MALE VICTIMS</b>	<b>% FEMALE VICTIMS</b>
Less than one year	34%	65%
1-2	3%	5%
3-5	4%	6%
5+	58%	23%

If incidents that occurred (rather than were reported) between 2019 and 2021 only are examined, the representation of the age groups changes. The table below shows the age groups by victims' gender according to incidents which occurred between 2019 and 2021.

<b>02 - SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>% MALE VICTIMS</b>	<b>% FEMALE VICTIMS</b>
Under 18 years old	59%	44%
18-34 years old	27%	39%
35-54 years old	10%	14%
55+ years old	4%	3%

While male victims are under 18 years old in 59% of incidents that occurred between 2019 and 2021, this is not as high as the 81% under 18 of all Sexual Offences that were reported between 2019 and 2021. Female victims are more evenly shared between the two younger age groups (under 18 years and 18-34 years old), with those groups combined making up the majority (83%). Here, 44% of females were aged under 18 for Sexual Offences which occurred between 2019 and 2021, compared to 55% in that age group for all incidents reported between 2019 and 2021.

While female victims in the under 18 and 18-34 age groups see similar representation, male victims in the under 18 age group are in the majority with the next highest seeing less than half that representation. This could possibly be due to under-reporting in older male age groups.

### 11.1 Blackmail/Extortion Incidents involving Sexual Exploitation

As referenced earlier, Blackmail/Extortion does not sit within the three ICCS groups considered in this report. Within this incident type, a notable and growing proportion of incidents over recent years is linked with some form of sexual exploitation. This sub-set were examined early in 2022 for internal purposes, work focused on incidents reported between 2019 and the end of January 2022. Given the sexual and gender based elements to these incidents, an overview is presented here.

<b>BLACKMAIL WITH SEXUAL EXPLOITATION INCIDENTS</b>	<b>% MALE VICTIMS</b>	<b>% FEMALE VICTIMS</b>
Under 18 years old	8%	3%*
18-24 years old	29%	4%
25-34 years old	17%	3%*
35-44 years old	10%	4%
45-54 years old	6%	2%*
55-64 years old	6%	1%*
65+ year old	5%	0%*
<b>TOTAL (ALL AGES)</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>18%</b>

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents over the period examined. Percentages have been rounded.*

There were 471 incidents identified within the 'Blackmail/Extortion' incident type<sup>14</sup> where compromising material featuring the injured party has been used in a blackmail situation; 82% of these involved male victims. While incidents of this type would be considered 'harmful communication', many are sexual in nature and, in these figures, they have been accompanied by a demand for money/payment from the victim. The demographics of injured parties in incidents of this nature are young males in the majority, with most (29%) being in the 18-24 age group.

<sup>14</sup> Blackmail/Extortion is part of ICCS Group 06 and so is not included elsewhere in this report.

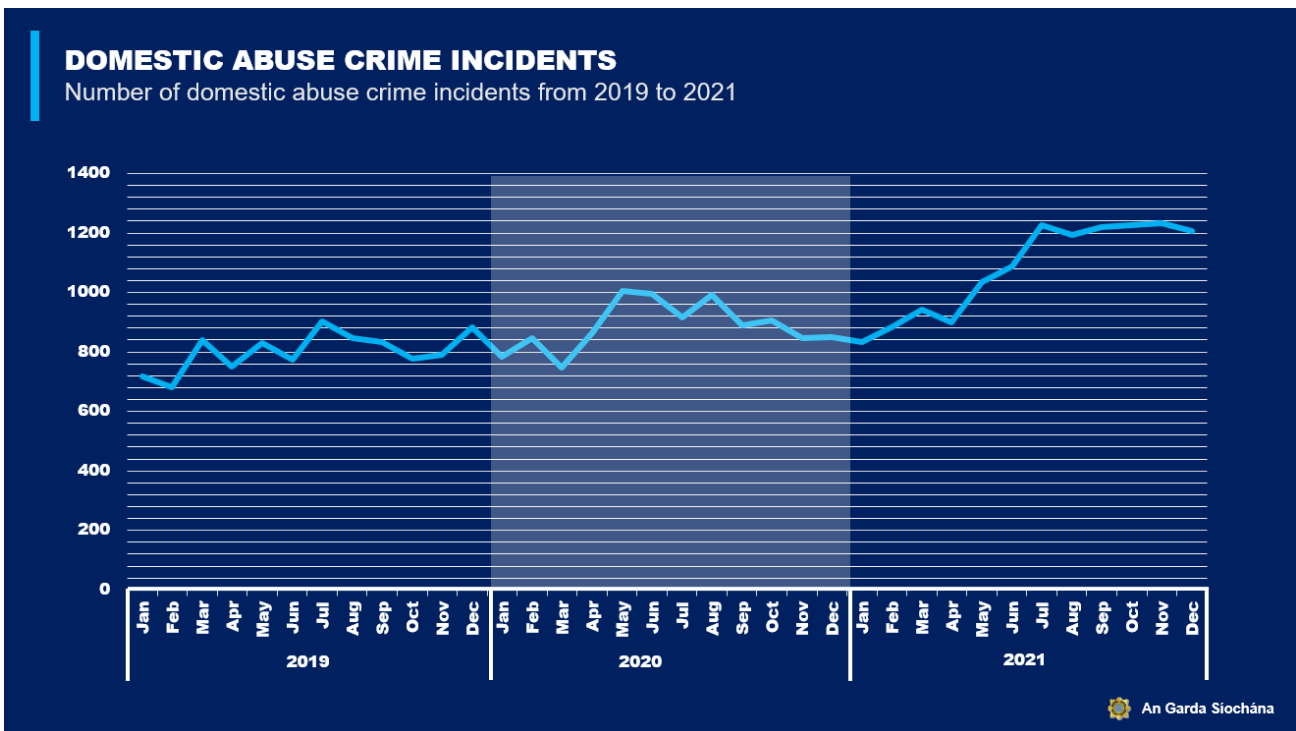


## 12 Domestic Abuse

The figures in this section report on any incident type which has a domestic abuse motive recorded; some of these will have already been covered in the three ICCS groups above but are included again here to provide a complete overview of all domestic abuse related incidents.

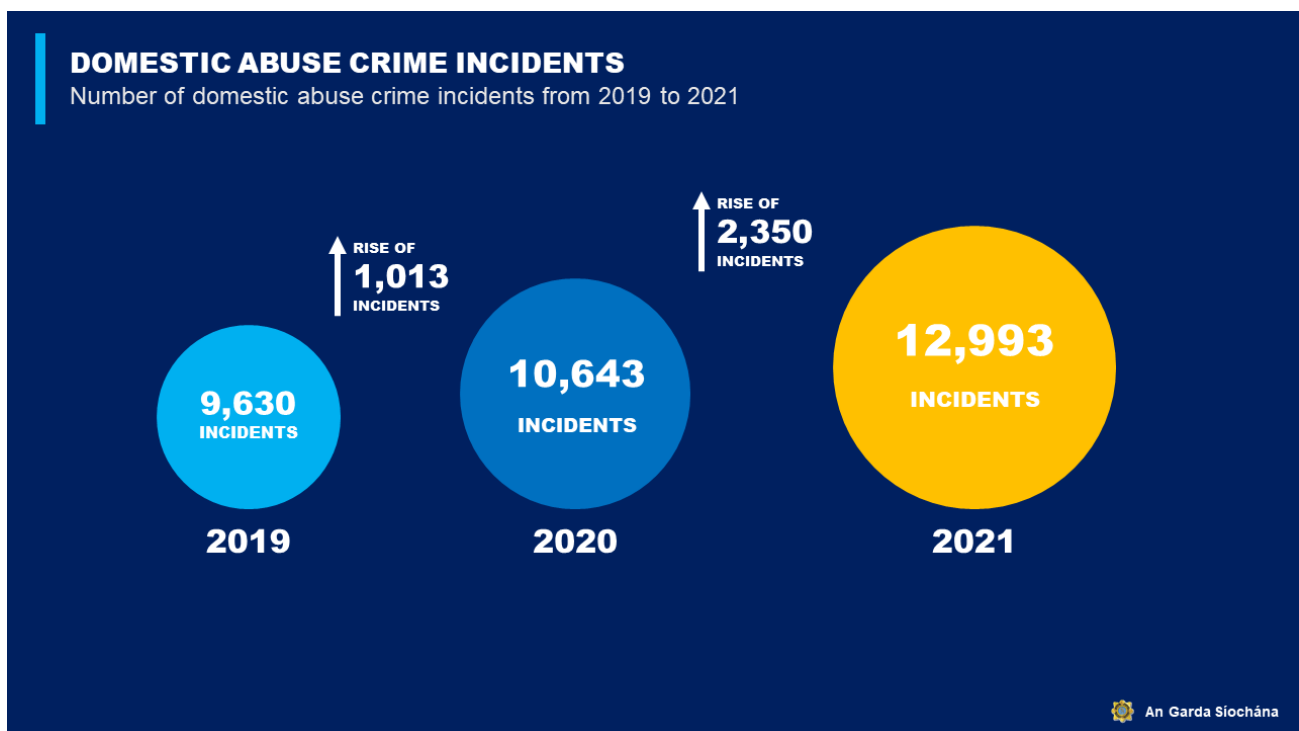
### 12.1 Domestic Abuse – Crime Incidents

Domestic abuse has been a prominent feature of the Covid-19 pandemic with sharp increases observed soon after restrictions were introduced. The upward trend continued and remains higher than pre-pandemic levels. The chart below shows the number of crime incidents (all crime types, including all breaches of Domestic Violence Act Orders) with a recorded ‘Domestic Abuse’ motive. Non-crime incidents of ‘Domestic Abuse – No Offence Disclosed’ are not included in this chart. It is important to highlight that, despite these non-crime incidents not meeting the threshold of a criminal offence, they are still recorded as domestic abuse incidents and all the protective and supportive measures activated in respect of domestic abuse crime incidents are also provided under this categorisation (e.g. callbacks within 7 days, further engagement via Operation Faoiseamh etc.).



While the pandemic and associated restrictions had an obvious effect, increases in recent years were also likely affected by improved recording practices as a result of guidance issued in 2017. The improved provision of services, which may have resulted in greater confidence of victims to come forward to report abuse may be a factor here.

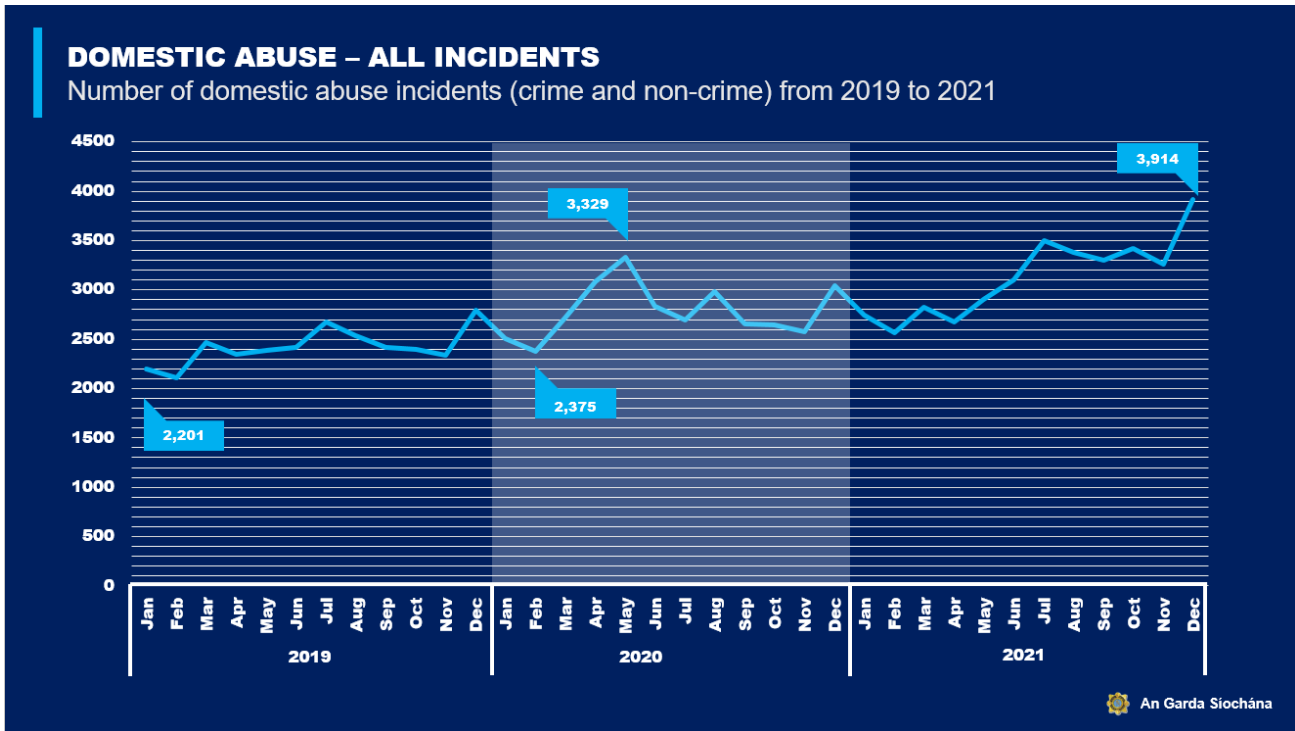
Another potential contributor to the increase is the recent addition to PULSE that allows for recording of the ‘Victim/Offender Relationship’. Incidents with either ‘Current/Former intimate partner’ or ‘Inter-familial’<sup>15</sup> markers are subject to further review of the recording of the domestic abuse motive which would contribute to the overall domestic abuse incident count, as these incidents may not have been included otherwise.



## 12.2 Domestic Abuse – Crime and Non-Crime Incidents

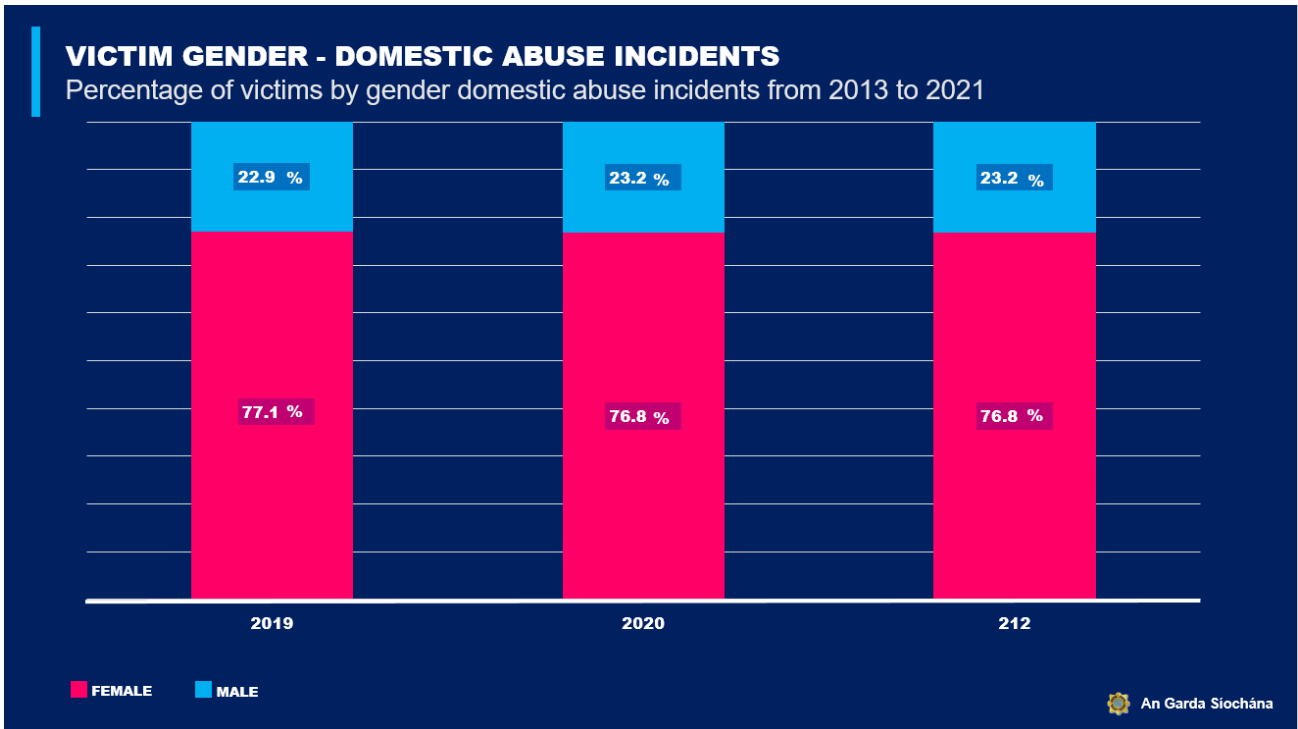
When all incidents with a domestic abuse element are considered (including all crime types and the non-crime ‘Domestic Abuse – No Offence Disclosed’), the data shows a similar picture with steadily rising incidents over the years examined.

<sup>15</sup> The list of victim offender relationships introduced on PULSE followed consultation with the CSO and were based on examples from other jurisdictions. The benefits of this information are significant for the organisation and all users of crime statistics. The list is currently being reviewed to capture further and more nuanced relationship types. The term ‘inter-familial’ is used in this report as an alternative to the existing ‘blood relative’ which is to be changed on PULSE to more accurately capture relationships within a family unit and to reflect modern society. In particular, family relationships such as fostered/adopted/ surrogate/step children and parents.



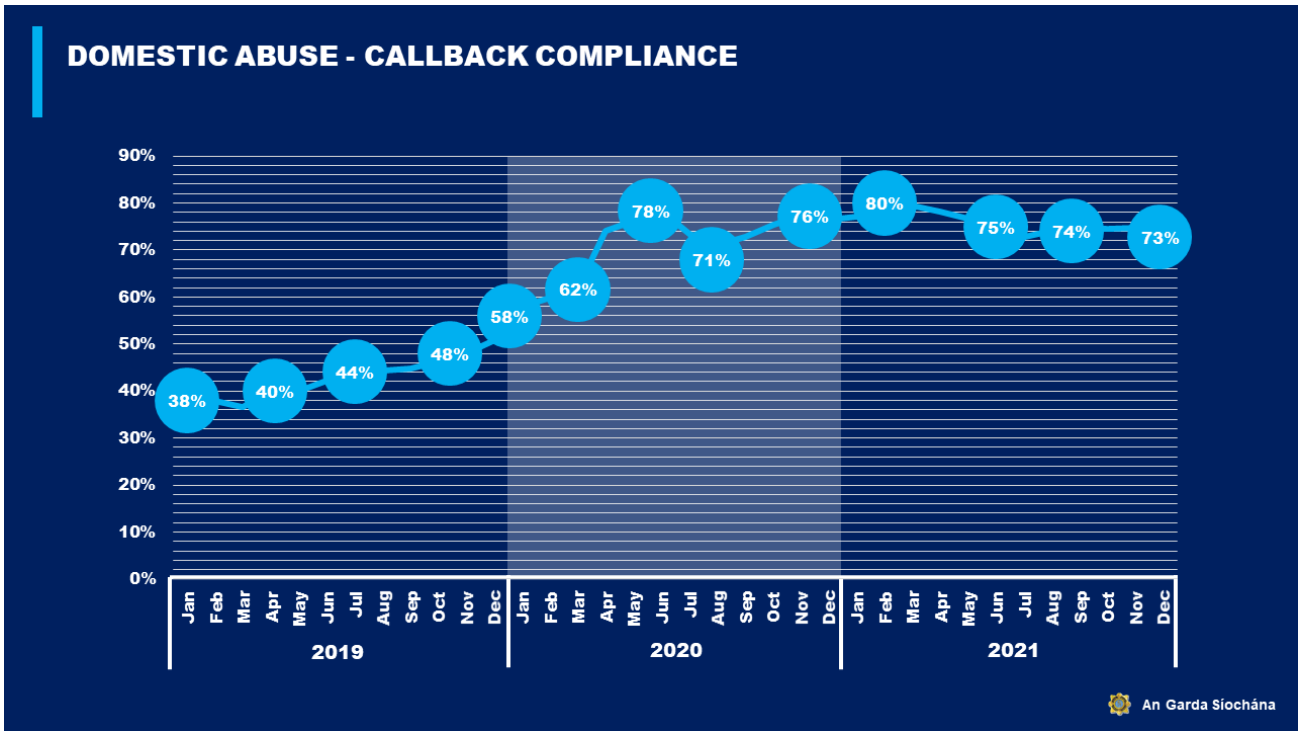
The improvements made around recording of these incidents together with increased reporting will likely see these trends continue and potentially show increases before reductions over time may be seen.

The breakdown of victim gender of the same period is mainly female with the trends being mostly static; 77% females and 23% males in each of the three years 2019 to 2021. Compared to the rising trend of reported incidents, the character of these incidents appears to remain the same that being that females are the victim in the majority of domestic abuse incidents.

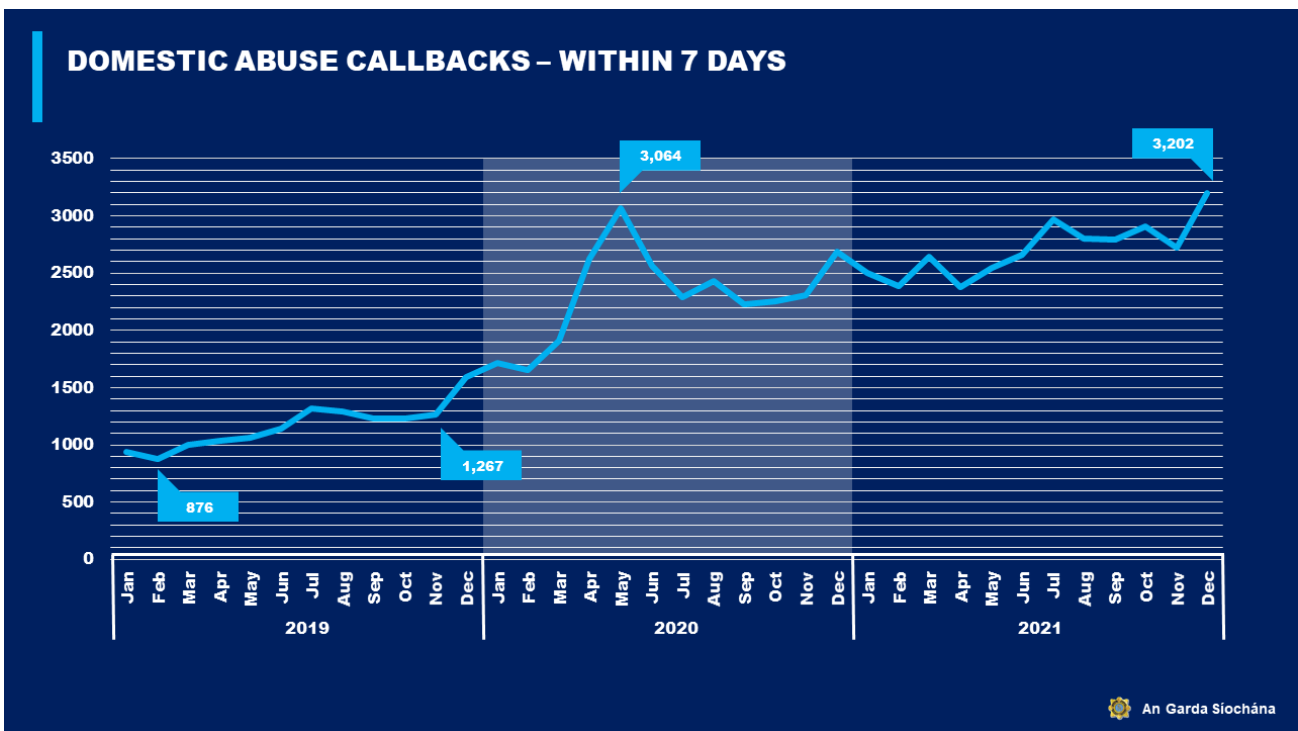


The above chart includes all domestic incidents including the non-crime incident type ‘Domestic Dispute – No Offence Disclosed’. While incidents of this type do not have an explicit ‘Injured Party’, persons associated with these incidents will still have a completed ‘victim assessment’ and will be provided with victim services such as follow-up contact.

The broad categorisation of the incidents as defined above can also be used to demonstrate the improved engagement with victims over the same period, as any incident with a domestic abuse motive (including non-crime), has a requirement for contact to be made with the victim within 7 days of the reported date of the incident. The chart below shows how the rate of compliance with the 7-day callback policy has increased, then remained stable, during the pandemic going from a monthly average of 43% in 2019 to an average of 76% in 2021.



While compliance has fallen slightly during the end of 2021, the number of callbacks to victims of domestic abuse within 7 days of the incident being reported has been increasing during recent months. The graph below demonstrates this trend with the early pandemic response clearly visible.

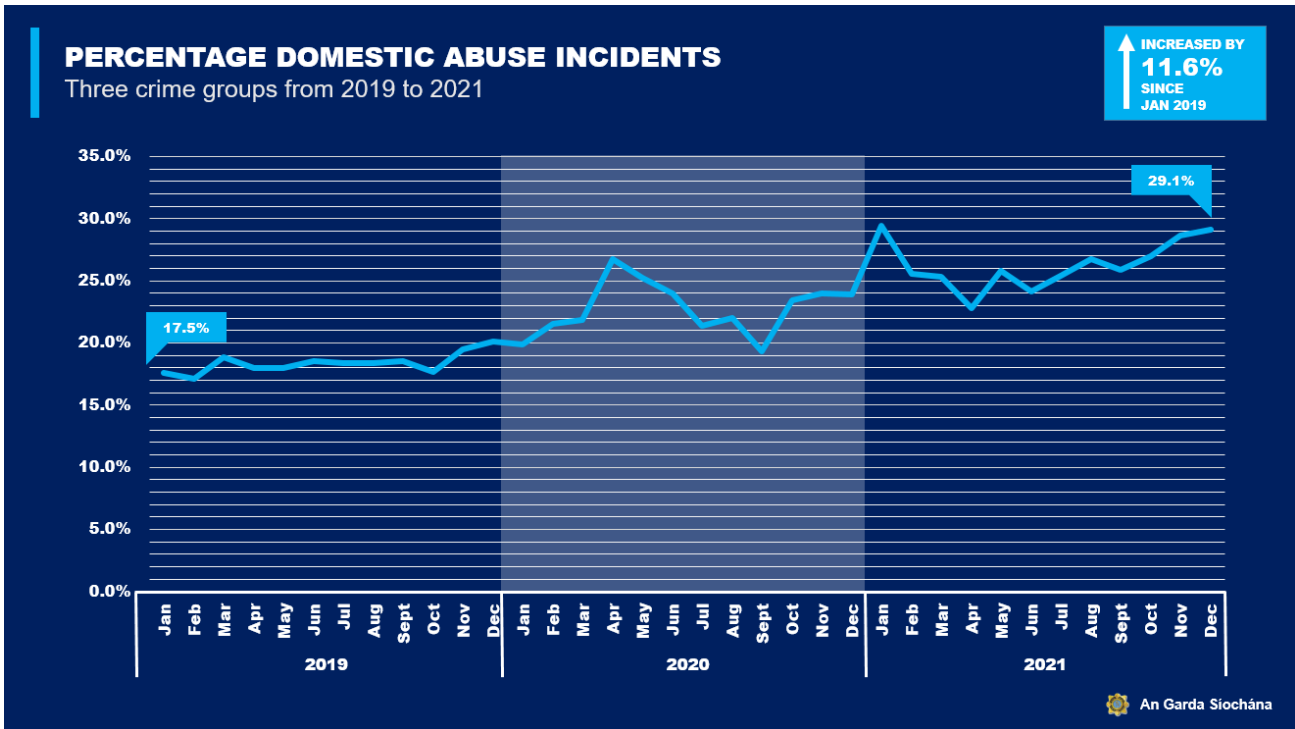


A factor also relevant during the pandemic was the adoption of proactive measures under Operation Faoiseamh, which commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020. The Operation aims to proactively contact victims of domestic abuse to offer support services and identify any potential issues of concern. For incidents reported between 2020 and 2021, a total of 51,533 (as of 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022) contacts/attempted contacts made under the operation was recorded. In tandem with the increase in incidents at the beginning of the Covid-related restrictions, the number of callbacks being made to victims of domestic abuse (at any time) went from just under 3,000 in January 2020 to over 4,000 in May 2020.

There is no doubt that the media and awareness strategy developed as part of Operation Faoiseamh and media coverage relating to domestic abuse in general empowered victims to come forward and contributed to higher levels of reporting. Operation Faoiseamh was complemented by the *Still Here* TV, radio and social media campaign with the goal of tackling domestic abuse in the context of Covid-19. This campaign was developed by the Department of Justice in collaboration with the following advocacies; Women's Aid, Safe Ireland, Dublin Rape Crisis Centre, Rape Crisis Network Ireland, National Women's Council of Ireland and Men's Development Network. Furthermore, domestic abuse cases were prioritised by our criminal justice partners, such as the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and Court Services.

While the number of reported incidents of the examined crime groups decreased between 2019 and 2020, the percentage of these incidents with a domestic abuse element has been rising over the same period.

<b>INCIDENT GROUP – ALL INCIDENTS</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
01 - Homicide Offences	63	71	47
02 - Sexual Offences	3,355	3,040	3,496
03 - Attempts / Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Rel. Off.	21,836	19,062	20,294
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25,254</b>	<b>22,173</b>	<b>23,837</b>



The table below shows incidents of the specified groups where the incident had a domestic abuse motive; these show year on year increases.

<b>INCIDENT GROUP – DOMESTIC ABUSE MOTIVE</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>INCIDENTS ONLY</b>			
01 - Homicide Offences	13	14	13
02 - Sexual Offences	169	205	817
03 - Attempts / Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Rel. Off.	4,463	4,805	5,434
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>4,645</b>	<b>5,024</b>	<b>6,264</b>

There was a 399% increase in the number of Sexual Offences with a recorded domestic abuse motive between 2020 and 2021. A contributor to this marked increase is the ongoing review of incidents that have a recorded victim offender relationship relevant to domestic abuse e.g. ‘Current/Former Intimate Partner’. This new mandatory requirement to record the victim/offender relationship was introduced as part of a PULSE update on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2021. As the victim offender relationship was not available before July 2021, the effect is clearly demonstrated and is likely contributing to identifying incidents that have a domestic abuse component, which may not otherwise have been recorded as such.

<b>INCIDENT GROUP – DOMESTIC ABUSE MOTIVE INCIDENTS - 2021 ONLY</b>	<b>INCIDENTS</b>	<b>INCIDENTS WITH RELEVANT RELATIONSHIP</b>
01 - Homicide Offences	13	13
02 - Sexual Offences	817	429
03 - Attempts / Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Rel. Off.	5,434	2,874
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>6,264</b>	<b>3,316</b>

When incidents of the above type reported in 2021 are examined it can be seen that the majority of these have a relevant relationship (either of 'Inter-familial', 'Current intimate partner/spouse' or 'Former intimate partner/spouse') recorded between the victim and offender. This relationship field assists in the determination of whether the domestic abuse motive should be applied to the incident. This has likely contributed (along with other factors) to increases seen in 2021 as this field was unavailable in prior years.

In general, the percentage of male/female victims varies depending on the incident types involved. However, there is less variance when the incidents examined have a recorded motive of domestic abuse. For crimes of the types examined reported between 2019 and 2021, where there is a domestic abuse motive, females make up the majority of victims in two of the three groups. A slightly higher proportion of males (53%) were victims in domestic abuse related homicides between 2019 and 2021. Females make up 75% of all domestic abuse victims when the incident groups are combined. The table below shows the male/female breakdown of injured parties for the incidents examined.

<b>INCIDENT GROUP/SUB-GROUP – DOMESTIC ABUSE MOTIVE INCIDENTS ONLY</b>	<b>% MALE</b>	<b>% FEMALE</b>
<b>01 - HOMICIDE OFFENCES</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>48%*</b>
011 - Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide	53%	48%*
<b>02 - SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>87%</b>
021 - Rape and Sexual Assault	13%	87%
022 - Other Sexual Offences	18%*	82%*
<b>03 - ATTEMPTS/THREATS TO MURDER, ASSAULTS, HARASSMENTS AND RELATED OFFENCES</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>74%</b>
031 - Attempts/Threats to Murder	22%	78%
032 – Assaults	27%	73%
033 - Harassment and Related Offences	12%	88%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>75%</b>

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents over the 3-year period examined.*

The table below shows the percentage of identified victims of the various incident types where the incident had a motive of domestic abuse. This differs from the view given by the preceding table, which shows the male/female breakdown per incident group/sub-group for incidents with a domestic abuse motive.



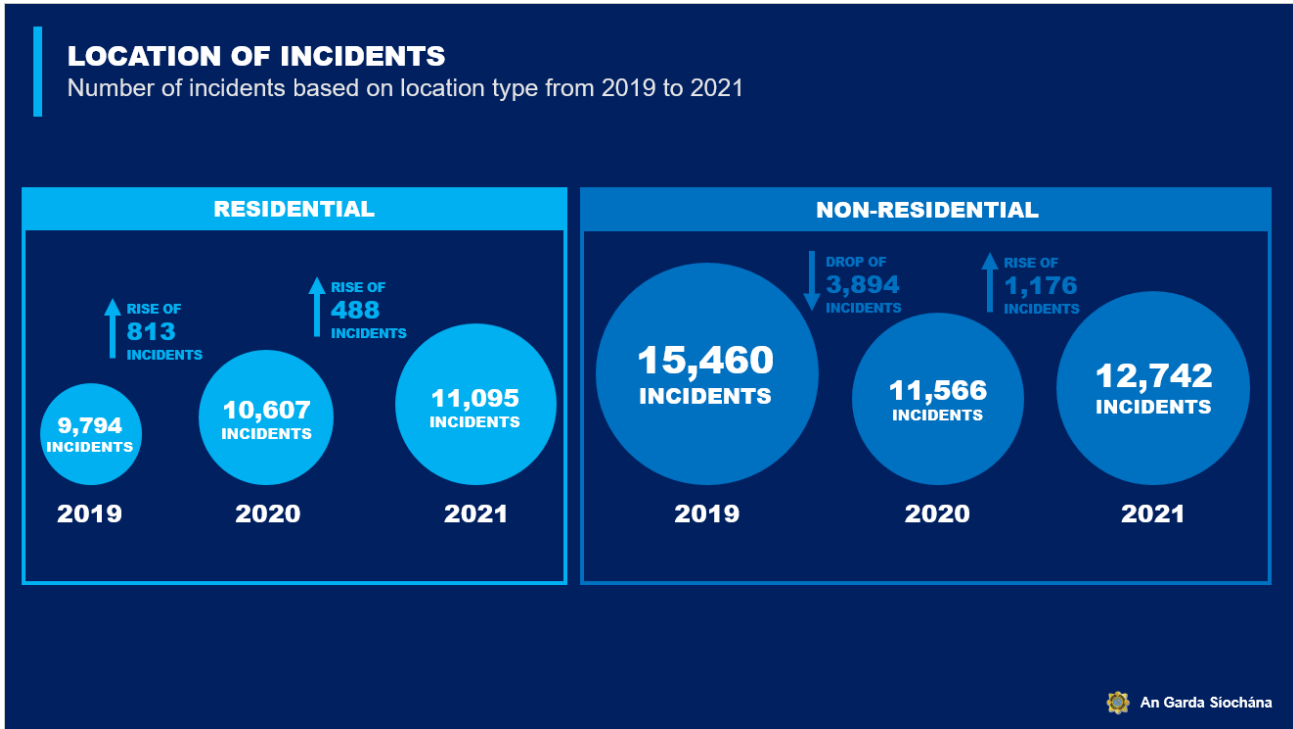
Between 2019 and 2021, 37% of all female victims within these three crime groups, are victims of domestic abuse compared to 11% of all male victims. The majority of female victims of Assault Causing Harm incidents were assaulted as the result of a domestic abuse incident (57%) compared with 9% of male victims. Another example is that where a male is a victim of a Sexual Offence, 9% were associated with an incident that had a domestic abuse motive compared to 15% of female victims. The table below provides an overview; a full table showing all individual incident types is included in the appendix.

<b>INCIDENT GROUP/SUB-GROUP – PERCENTAGE</b>	<b>% MALE</b>	<b>% FEMALE</b>
<b>DOMESTIC ABUSE VICTIMS</b>	<b>DA</b>	<b>DA</b>
<b>01 – HOMICIDE OFFENCES</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>37%*</b>
011 – Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide	28%	90%*
0111 – Murder	27%*	90%*
<b>02 – SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>15%</b>
021 – Rape and Sexual Assault	9%	15%
0211 – Rape of a male or female	13%	20%
0212 – Defilement of a boy or girl less than 17 years old	6%*	6%
0214 – Aggravated sexual assault	0%*	24%*
0215 – Sexual assault (not aggravated)	9%	13%
022 – Other Sexual Offences	3%*	4%*
<b>03 – ATTEMPTS / THREATS TO MURDER, ASSAULTS, HARASSMENTS AND RELATED OFFENCES</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>43%</b>
031 – Attempts/Threats to Murder	9%	40%
0311 – Murder-attempt	4%*	58%*
0312 – Murder-threat	9%	40%
032 – Assaults	12%	46%
0321 – Assault causing harm	9%	57%
0324 – Minor assault	14%	44%
033 – Harassment and Related Offences	6%	23%
0331 – Harassment, stalking, threats	7%	22%
0332 – Coercion	55%*	94%
0333 – Menacing phone calls	5%	13%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>37%</b>

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents over the 3-year period examined.*

## 13 Location of Incidents

Along with many other crime incidents, reported incidents of the types examined fell during 2020. While at the same time, the number of incidents occurring at residential locations increased between 2019 and 2020 and again in 2021.



For all three incident groups, the highest proportion of incidents recorded at residential locations was seen in 2020. Between 2020 and 2021, the proportion of incidents occurring at residential locations decreased slightly, however, remained above pre-Covid levels (2019) for Sexual Offences and Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences.

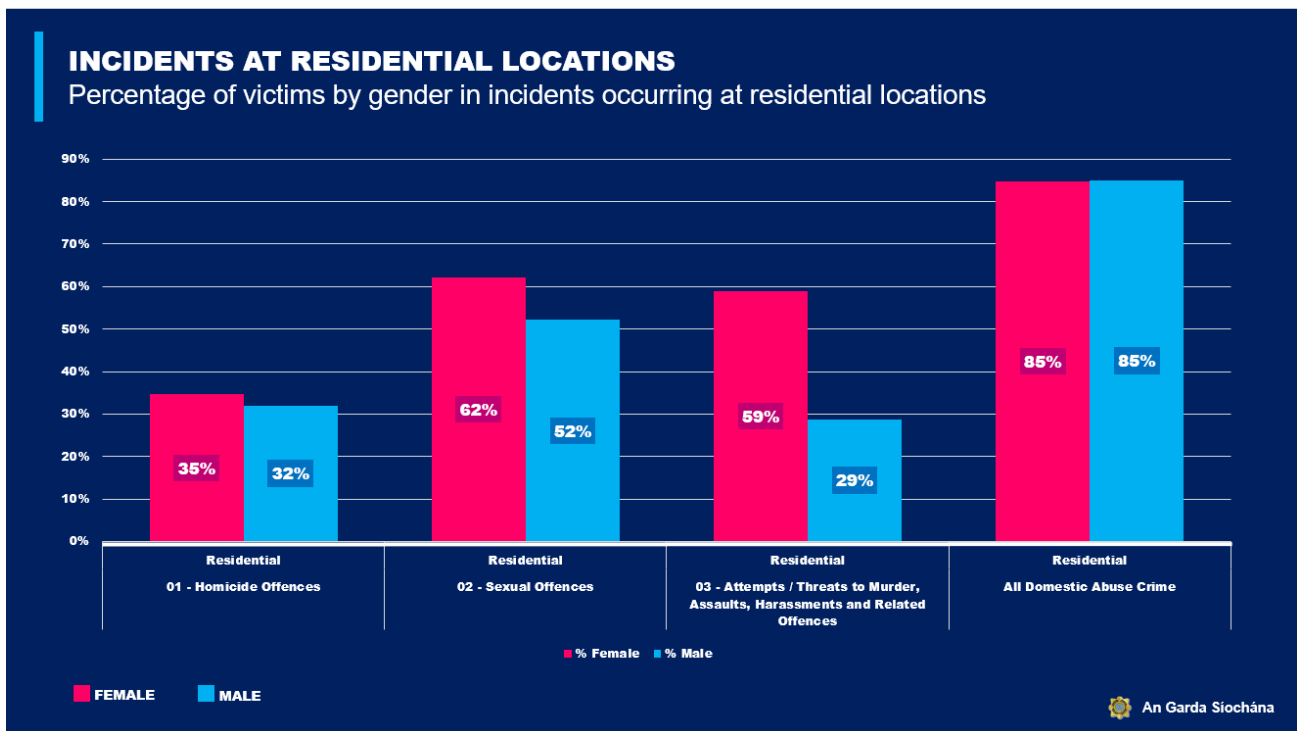
INCIDENT GROUP	2019	2020	2021
<b>01 - Homicide Offences<sup>16</sup></b>	63	71	47
% Residential	30%	37%	30%*
<b>02 - Sexual Offences</b>	3,355	3,040	3,496
% Residential	61%	65%	64%
<b>03 - Attempts / Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences</b>	21,836	19,062	20,294
% Residential	35%	45%	44%

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents.*

<sup>16</sup> Includes dangerous driving causing death.

Whilst for the Homicide Offences group overall (which includes dangerous driving causing death), the majority of incidents occur in non-residential locations (70% in 2021). When considering locations of the Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide sub-group of incidents only, the majority occur in residential locations (56% in 2021).

Locations of incidents differ between male and female victims with 59% of female victims of the Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences grouping occurring at a residential location compared to 29% of male victims of these incidents. Domestic abuse crime incidents primarily occur in residential location regardless of victim gender (85%).



## 14 Offender Profiles and Victim Offender Relationships

This section examines the gender of suspected offenders for each victim gender and also the type of relationship between the victim and the offender. These findings are based on a sub-set of all reported incidents, as at least one offender must have been identified. There may be more than one suspected offender in certain incidents, the columns titled 'Both' show the proportion of incidents where both male and female offenders have been identified, if applicable. The number of incidents where an offender has been identified will be proportionately lower for more recent years as investigations are still in progress. For female injured parties there is further examination of the gender of suspected offenders when considering domestic abuse incidents only and all other incidents which are not associated with domestic abuse. The number of male injured parties is lower and so it is not possible to provide a further breakdown for males beyond all incidents. The Victim Offender Relationship was introduced on PULSE in July, 2021 and so is only available for incidents recorded since that time for Sexual Offences and Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences.

### 14.1 Female Injured Parties

When a female is the victim, the perpetrator is male in the majority for each of the incident types examined. Overall, in 74% of the incidents examined where a female is the injured party, a male is the suspected offender. Incidents where at least one male and one female have been identified as the suspected offender, account for 1% of all incidents examined with a female injured party. The table below provides an overview; a full table showing further individual incident types is included in the appendix.

INJURED PARTY GENDER FEMALE	SUSPECTED OFFENDER GENDERS		
	FEMALE (S)	MALE (S)	BOTH
<b>All Types with a Female Injured Party</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>01 – HOMICIDE OFFENCES</b>	<b>13%*</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>0%*</b>
0111 – Murder	11%*	89%*	0%*
<b>02 – SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>0%*</b>
0211 – Rape of a male or female	0%*	100%	0%*
0212 – Defilement of a boy or girl less than 17 years old	3%*	97%	0%*
0214 – Aggravated sexual assault	0%*	100%*	0%*
0215 – Sexual assault (not aggravated)	2%*	98%	0%*
<b>03 – ATTEMPTS/THREATS TO MURDER, ASSAULTS, HARASSMENT AND RELATED OFFENCES</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>2%</b>
0312 – Murder-threat	12%	88%	1%*
0321 – Assault causing harm	18%	80%	2%
0324 – Minor assault	36%	63%	1%
0331 – Harassment, stalking, threats	13%	84%	3%*
0333 – Menacing phone calls	25%	75%	0%*

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents over the 3-year period examined.*

Where the victim is female and the incident has a domestic abuse motive, an identified suspected offender is almost exclusively male with 94% of identified suspected offenders being male across the three crime groups examined. The table below provides an overview; a full table showing further individual incident types is included in the appendix.

INJURED PARTY GENDER FEMALE DOMESTIC ABUSE INCIDENTS	SUSPECTED OFFENDER GENDERS		
	FEMALE(S)	MALE(S)	BOTH
<b>All Types with a Female Injured Party</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>01 - HOMICIDE OFFENCES</b>	<b>13%*</b>	<b>88%*</b>	<b>0%*</b>
0111 - Murder	13%*	88%*	0%*
<b>02 - SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>0%*</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%*</b>
0211 - Rape of a male or female	0%*	100%	0%*
0212 - Defilement of a boy or girl less than 17 years old	0%*	100%*	0%*
0215 - Sexual assault (not aggravated)	0%*	100%	0%*
<b>03 - ATTEMPTS/THREATS TO MURDER, ASSAULTS, HARASSMENT AND RELATED OFFENCES</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>1%</b>
0312 - Murder-threat	2%*	98%	0%*
0321 - Assault causing harm	2%	97%	1%*
0324 - Minor assault	9%	90%	1%*
0331 - Harassment, stalking, threats	0%*	98%	2%*
0333 - Menacing phone calls	0%*	100%*	0%*

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents over the 3-year period examined.*

When incidents in the three groups with no domestic abuse motive are examined for female victims, males are still the majority of offenders with little change observed for most incidents except those within the Attempts/Threats to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences grouping. Within this group, it can be seen that, in incidents which are not related to domestic abuse, another female is the suspected offender in 45% of Assaults causing Harm against females. The table below provides an overview; a full table showing further individual incident types is included in the appendix.

INJURED PARTY GENDER FEMALE NON-DOMESTIC INCIDENTS	SUSPECTED OFFENDER GENDERS		
	FEMALE(S)	MALE(S)	BOTH
<b>All Types with a Female Injured Party</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>01 - HOMICIDE OFFENCES</b>	<b>13%*</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>0%*</b>
0111 - Murder	0%*	100%*	0%*
<b>02 - SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>0%*</b>
0211 - Rape of a male or female	0%*	100%	0%*
0212 - Defilement of a boy or girl less than 17 years old	3%*	97%	0%*
0215 - Sexual assault (not aggravated)	2%*	98%	0%*
<b>03 - ATTEMPTS/THREATS TO MURDER, ASSAULTS, HARASSMENT AND RELATED OFFENCES</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>2%</b>
0312 - Murder-threat	20%	79%	1%*
0321 - Assault causing harm	45%	51%	5%
0324 - Minor assault	52%	47%	2%
0331 - Harassment, stalking, threats	16%	81%	3%*
0333 - Menacing phone calls	27%	73%	0%*

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents over the 3-year period examined.*

## 14.2 Male Injured Parties

Where the victim is male, the perpetrator is also usually male. From the table below, it can be seen that among the crime types examined, there are no instances where there is a male injured party and where a female is the suspected offender in the majority of incidents. Overall, in 88% of the incidents examined where a male is the injured party, a male is also the suspected offender. Incidents where at least one male and one female have been identified as the suspected offender, account for 1% of all incidents examined with a male injured party – the same as per female victims. Of incident types with more than 20 incidents over the last three years against males, where at least one suspected offender has been identified, figures show the largest proportion of female offenders are involved in Minor Assaults against males – 13% of incidents. The table below provides an overview; a full table showing further individual incident types is included in the appendix.

INJURED PARTY GENDER MALE	SUSPECTED OFFENDER GENDERS		
	FEMALE(S)	MALE(S)	BOTH
<b>All Types with a Male Injured Party</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>01 – HOMICIDE OFFENCES</b>	<b>15%*</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>1%*</b>
0111 – Murder	10%*	88%	2%*
0122 – Dangerous driving causing death	22%*	78%	0%*
<b>02 – SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>1%*</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>0%*</b>
0211 – Rape of a male or female	0%*	98%	2%*
0212 – Defilement of a boy or girl less than 17 years old	0%*	100%	0%*
0215 – Sexual assault (not aggravated)	1%*	99%	0%*
<b>03 – ATTEMPTS/THREATS TO MURDER, ASSAULTS, HARASSMENT AND RELATED OFFENCES</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>2%</b>
0312 – Murder-threat	3%	96%	1%*
0321 – Assault causing harm	6%	92%	2%
0324 – Minor assault	13%	85%	1%
0331 – Harassment, stalking, threats	19%*	79%	2%*
0333 – Menacing phone calls	14%*	83%	3%*

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents over the 3-year period examined.*

## 14.3 Victim Offender Relationship

The ability to record the relationship between the victim and the offender is a recent addition to PULSE being added in the release on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2021 (although older incidents can be updated to record this information). Using this information, where there is an offender identified (either known or unknown to the victim), it can be shown that where a female is the victim, the offender is more likely to be known, in 84% of incidents the offender had a known relationship to a female victim. Males are less likely to be the victim of a known offender but a known relationship is evident in 61% of incidents with a male injured party. For female victims, the largest representation of persons known to the victim is a current or former partner or spouse – 33% of

incidents. For male victims, the most common relationship to the offender falls within the offender unknown to the victim or the relationship not known grouping – 39% of incidents.

<b>VICTIM OFFENDER RELATIONSHIPS</b>	<b>% FEMALE VICTIMS</b>	<b>% MALE VICTIMS</b>
<b>Unknown</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>39%</b>
Offender unknown to victim/Relationship not known	16%	39%
<b>Known</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>61%</b>
Current/Former intimate partner/spouse	33%	22%
Other offender known to victim	16%	15%
Inter-familial	14%	11%
Acquaintance/Friend	14%	5%
Authority/care relationship (doctor, nurse, police, etc.)	3%	4%
Other household member	3%	2%
Colleague/work relationship	2%	2%

Examining the age groups of identified relationships shows that for most relationship types, the 18-34 and 35-54 year old age groups make up the majority, but the ‘Inter-familial’ and ‘Other Household Member’ categorisations see a higher representation amongst victims aged under 18 years. Amongst incidents where there is an unknown relationship to the victim, the proportions of different victim age groups are similar for males and females. Slightly higher proportions of older male victims (35 years and older) have an unknown relationship to the offender (44%) and, conversely, slightly higher proportions of younger female victims (34 years and younger) have an unknown relationship to the offender (69%).

<b>UNKNOWN VICTIM OFFENDER RELATIONSHIP</b>	<b>% FEMALE VICTIM</b>	<b>% MALE VICTIM</b>
<b>VICTIM AGE GROUPS</b>		
<b>Offender unknown to victim/Relationship not known</b>		
Under 18 years old	19%	12%
18-34 years old	50%	44%
35-54 years old	25%	34%
55+ years old	6%	10%

Where the offender(s) has some type of known relationship to the victim, more variation is evident for female and male victims in the different age groups. A higher proportion of female victims where the offender was a current or former intimate partner or spouse are younger relative to male victims – 55% of female victims are aged 34 years or younger; 68% of male victims by a current or former intimate partner or spouse offender are aged 35 years and older. Where a colleague/work relationship is recorded, female victims also tend to be younger and male victims are more likely to be older.

<b>KNOWN VICTIM OFFENDER RELATIONSHIP VICTIM AGE GROUPS</b>	<b>% FEMALE VICTIM</b>	<b>% MALE VICTIM</b>
<b>CURRENT/FORMER INTIMATE PARTNER/SPOUSE</b>		
Under 18 years old	4%	1%*
18-34 years old	51%	31%
35-54 years old	41%	55%
55+ years old	5%	13%
<b>OTHER OFFENDER KNOWN TO VICTIM</b>		
Under 18 years old	25%	18%
18-34 years old	35%	35%
35-54 years old	31%	34%
55+ years old	9%	12%
<b>INTER-FAMILIAL</b>		
Under 18 years old	44%	44%
18-34 years old	19%	19%
35-54 years old	27%	22%
55+ years old	10%	16%
<b>ACQUAINTANCE/FRIEND</b>		
Under 18 years old	26%	18%
18-34 years old	41%	39%
35-54 years old	26%	30%
55+ years old	7%	13%
<b>AUTHORITY/CARE RELATIONSHIP (DOCTOR, NURSE, POLICE, ETC.)</b>		
Under 18 years old	7%*	18%
18-34 years old	48%	31%
35-54 years old	35%	44%
55+ years old	9%*	7%*
<b>OTHER HOUSEHOLD MEMBER</b>		
Under 18 years old	42%	30%
18-34 years old	29%	29%
35-54 years old	18%	30%
55+ years old	11%*	11%*
<b>COLLEAGUE/WORK RELATIONSHIP</b>		
Under 18 years old	13%*	1%*
18-34 years old	59%	34%
35-54 years old	19%*	52%
55+ years old	9%*	14%*

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 records.*

The tables below show the age-group breakdown of the victims for the various relationships. For female victims where the relationship is known/recorded, the highest representation is in the 18-34 and 35-54 age-groups where the offender is a 'Current/Former intimate partner/spouse'. Similarly, for male victims the highest representation is in the 18-34 and 35-54 age-groups but the offender is a person of unknown relationship to the victim.



<b>VICTIM OFFENDER RELATIONSHIP</b>	<b>&lt; 18</b>	<b>18-34</b>	<b>35-54</b>	<b>55+</b>	<b>TOTAL %</b>
<b>FEMALE VICTIM AGE GROUPS</b>					
<b>Unknown</b>					
Offender unknown to victim/Relationship not known	3%	8%	4%	1%	16%
<b>Known</b>					
Current/Former intimate partner/spouse	1%	17%	14%	2%	33%
Other offender known to victim	4%	6%	5%	1%	16%
Inter-familial	6%	3%	4%	2%	14%
Acquaintance/Friend	3%	6%	4%	1%	14%
Authority/care relationship (doctor, nurse, police, etc.)	0%*	1%	1%	0%*	3%
Other household member	1%	1%	0%	0%*	3%
Colleague/work relationship	0%*	1%	0%*	0%*	2%

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 records.*

<b>VICTIM OFFENDER RELATIONSHIP</b>	<b>&lt; 18</b>	<b>18-34</b>	<b>35-54</b>	<b>55+</b>	<b>Total %</b>
<b>MALE VICTIM AGE GROUPS</b>					
<b>Unknown</b>					
Offender unknown to victim/Relationship not known	5%	17%	13%	4%	39%
<b>Known</b>					
Other offender known to victim	4%	8%	8%	3%	22%
Acquaintance/Friend	3%	6%	4%	2%	15%
Inter-familial	5%	2%	2%	2%	11%
Current/Former intimate partner/spouse	0%*	2%	3%	1%	5%
Authority/care relationship (doctor, nurse, police, etc.)	1%	1%	2%	0%*	4%
Other household member	1%	1%	1%	0%*	2%
Colleague/work relationship	0%*	1%	1%	0%*	2%

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 records.*

When a suspected offender has been identified in an incident with a female victim and the 'Victim Offender Relationship' has been recorded, the suspected offender is male and a current or former intimate partner or spouse in 34% of incidents. For males, the suspected offender is another male unknown to the victim in a slightly higher proportion of incidents (39%).

<b>VICTIM OFFENDER RELATIONSHIP</b>	<b>SUSPECTED OFFENDER GENDERS</b>		
	<b>FEMALE(S)</b>	<b>MALE(S)</b>	<b>MIXED</b>
<b>Female Victim</b>			
Acquaintance/Friend	6%	6%	0%*
Authority/care relationship (doctor, nurse, police, etc.)	2%	2%	0%*
Inter-familial	1%*	1%*	0%*
Colleague/work relationship	0%*	34%	0%*
Current/Former intimate partner/spouse	2%	8%	0%*
Offender unknown to victim/Relationship not known	5%	12%	1%*
Other household member	1%*	1%	0%*
Other offender known to victim	8%	9%	0%*

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 records.*

VICTIM OFFENDER RELATIONSHIP	SUSPECTED OFFENDER GENDERS		
	FEMALE(S)	MALE(S)	MIXED
<b>Male Victim</b>			
Acquaintance/Friend	1%*	12%	0%*
Authority/care relationship (doctor, nurse, police, etc.)	1%*	3%	0%*
Inter-familial	0%*	2%	0%*
Colleague/work relationship	3%	0%*	0%*
Current/Former intimate partner/spouse	1%*	7%	0%*
Offender unknown to victim/Relationship not known	4%	39%	1%*
Other household member	0%*	1%	0%*
Other offender known to victim	2%	21%	0%*

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 records.*

#### 14.4 Victim Offender Relationship – Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide

As referenced earlier in the report, as part of our commitment to improving data quality and to add further insight to this report, additional work was undertaken to retrospectively record the Victim Offender Relationship on all Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide incidents between 2013 and 2021. The table below shows the breakdown for males and females.

VICTIM OFFENDER RELATIONSHIP	% FEMALE VICTIMS	% MALE VICTIMS
<b>Unknown</b>	<b>16%*</b>	<b>32%</b>
Offender unknown to victim/Relationship not known	16%*	32%
<b>Known</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>68%</b>
Current/Former intimate partner/spouse	55%	4%*
Inter-familial	20%*	16%
Other offender known to victim	5%*	18%
Other household member	3%*	4%*
Acquaintance/Friend	1%*	26%
Colleague/Work relationship	0%*	0%*

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 records.*

From the breakdown, it can be seen that between 2013 and 2021, it is more likely that female victims knew the offender than is the case for males (84% and 68% respectively); though for both genders some sort of known relationship existed for the majority of victims. For the largest proportion of females (55%) who were victims in a Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide incident, the offender was a current or former partner or spouse. The largest proportion of male victims (32%) had an offender who was unknown to them or the relationship was not known.

## 15 Appendices – Detailed Tables

### Proportion of Male and Female Victims for all ICCS Groups 1, 2 and 3 by Incident Type:

<b>INCIDENT GROUP/SUB-GROUP/TYPE</b>	<b>% MALE VICTIMS</b>	<b>% FEMALE VICTIMS</b>
<b>01 - HOMICIDE OFFENCES</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>29%</b>
<b>011 - Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide</b>	78%	22%
0111 - Murder	77%	23%
0112 – Manslaughter	90%*	10%*
0113 - Infanticide	100%*	0%*
<b>012 - Dangerous Driving Leading to Death</b>	63%	37%
0121 - Manslaughter (traffic fatality)	50%*	50%*
0122 - Dangerous driving causing death	63%	37%
<b>02 - SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>021 - Rape and Sexual Assault</b>	20%	80%
0211 - Rape of a male or female	10%	90%
0212 - Defilement of a boy or girl less than 17 years old	19%	81%
0213 - Sexual offence involving mentally impaired person	40%*	60%
0214 - Aggravated sexual assault	15%*	85%*
0215 - Sexual assault (not aggravated)	25%	75%
<b>022 - Other Sexual Offences</b>	22%	78%
0221 – Incest	0%*	100%*
0222 - Child pornography offences	21%	79%
0224 - Gross indecency	58%*	42%*
<b>03 - ATTEMPTS/THREATS TO MURDER, ASSAULTS, HARASSMENTS AND RELATED OFFENCES</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>43%</b>
<b>031 - Attempts/Threats to Murder</b>	55%	45%
0311 - Murder-attempt	80%	20%*
0312 - Murder-threat	55%	45%
<b>032 - Assaults</b>	59%	41%
0321 - Assault causing harm	66%	34%
0322 - Poisoning	29%*	71%*
0323 - Assault or obstruction of Garda/official, resisting arrest	77%	23%
0324 - Minor assault	56%	44%
<b>033 - Harassment and Related Offences</b>	33%	67%
0331 - Harassment, stalking, threats	29%	71%
0332 - Coercion	10%	90%
0333 - Menacing phone calls	37%	63%
0334 - Incitement to hatred offences	65%	35%*
0335 - Demanding payment of debt causing alarm	57%	43%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>48%</b>

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents over the 3-year period examined.*

**Proportion of Male and Female Victims for all ICCS Groups 1, 2 and 3 where there is a Domestic Abuse Motive by Incident Type:**

<b>INCIDENT GROUP/SUB-GROUP – PERCENTAGE DOMESTIC ABUSE VICTIMS</b>	<b>% MALE DA</b>	<b>% FEMALE DA</b>
<b>01 – HOMICIDE OFFENCES</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>37%*</b>
011 – Murder/Manslaughter/Infanticide	28%	90%*
0111 – Murder	27%*	90%*
0112 – Manslaughter	22%*	100%*
0113 – Infanticide	100%*	--
012 – Dangerous Driving Leading to Death	0%*	0%*
0121 – Manslaughter (traffic fatality)	0%*	0%*
0122 – Dangerous driving causing death	0%*	0%*
<b>02 – SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>15%</b>
021 – Rape and Sexual Assault	9%	15%
0211 – Rape of a male or female	13%	20%
0212 – Defilement of a boy or girl less than 17 years old	6%*	6%
0213 – Sexual offence involving mentally impaired person	0%*	7%*
0214 – Aggravated sexual assault	0%*	24%*
0215 – Sexual assault (not aggravated)	9%	13%
022 – Other Sexual Offences	3%*	4%*
0221 – Incest	--	17%*
0222 – Child pornography offences	3%*	4%*
0224 – Gross indecency	0%*	0%*
<b>03 – ATTEMPTS/THREATS TO MURDER, ASSAULTS, HARASSMENTS AND RELATED OFFENCES</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>43%</b>
031 – Attempts/Threats to Murder	9%	40%
0311 – Murder-attempt	4%*	58%*
0312 – Murder-threat	9%	40%
032 – Assaults	12%	46%
0321 – Assault causing harm	9%	57%
0322 – Poisoning	17%*	20%*
0323 – Assault or obstruction of Garda/official, resisting arrest	0%*	2%*
0324 – Minor assault	14%	44%
033 – Harassment and Related Offences	6%	23%
0331 – Harassment, stalking, threats	7%	22%
0332 – Coercion	55%*	94%
0333 – Menacing phone calls	5%	13%
0334 – Incitement to hatred offences	0%*	0%*
0335 – Demanding payment of debt causing alarm	0%*	0%*
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>37%</b>

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents over the 3-year period examined.*

**Gender of Suspected Offenders when the Injured Party is a Female**

(Figures relate to the sub-set of incidents where at least one offender has been identified)

INJURED PARTY GENDER – FEMALE	SUSPECTED OFFENDER GENDERS		
	FEMALE(S)	MALE(S)	BOTH
<b>FEMALE</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>01 – HOMICIDE OFFENCES</b>	<b>13%*</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>0%*</b>
0111 – Murder	11%*	89%*	0%*
0121 – Manslaughter (traffic fatality)	0%*	100%*	0%*
0122 – Dangerous driving causing death	14%*	86%	0%*
<b>02 – SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>0%*</b>
0211 – Rape of a male or female	0%*	100%	0%*
0212 – Defilement of a boy or girl less than 17 years old	3%*	97%	0%*
0213 – Sexual offence involving mentally impaired person	0%*	100%*	0%*
0214 – Aggravated sexual assault	0%*	100%*	0%*
0215 – Sexual assault (not aggravated)	2%*	98%	0%*
0221 – Incest	0%*	100%*	0%*
0222 – Child pornography offences	10%*	90%	0%*
<b>03 – ATTEMPTS/THREATS TO MURDER, ASSAULTS, HARASSMENTS &amp; RELATED OFFENCES</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>2%</b>
0311 – Murder-attempt	0%*	100%*	0%*
0312 – Murder-threat	12%	88%	1%*
0321 – Assault causing harm	18%	80%	2%
0323 – Assault or obs. of Garda/official, resisting arrest	48%	50%	3%*
0324 – Minor assault	36%	63%	1%
0331 – Harassment, stalking, threats	13%	84%	3%*
0332 – Coercion	0%*	100%	0%*
0333 – Menacing phone calls	25%	75%	0%*
0334 – Incitement to hatred offences	0%*	100%*	0%*
0335 – Demanding payment of debt causing alarm	0%*	100%*	0%*

\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents over the 3-year period examined.

**Domestic Abuse Incidents - Gender of Suspected Offenders when the Injured Party is a Female**  
(Figures relate to the sub-set of incidents where at least one offender has been identified)

<b>INJURED PARTY GENDER – DOMESTIC ABUSE INCIDENTS</b>	<b>SUSPECTED OFFENDER GENDERS</b>		
	<b>FEMALE(S)</b>	<b>MALE(S)</b>	<b>BOTH</b>
<b>FEMALE</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>01 - HOMICIDE OFFENCES</b>	<b>13%*</b>	<b>88%*</b>	<b>0%*</b>
0111 - Murder	13%*	88%*	0%*
<b>02 - SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>0%*</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%*</b>
0211 - Rape of a male or female	0%*	100%	0%*
0212 - Defilement of a boy or girl less than 17 years old	0%*	100%*	0%*
0215 - Sexual assault (not aggravated)	0%*	100%	0%*
0222 - Child pornography offences	0%*	100%*	0%*
<b>03 – ATTEMPTS/THREATS TO MURDER, ASSAULTS, HARASSMENTS AND RELATED OFFENCES</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>1%</b>
0311 - Murder-attempt	0%*	100%*	0%*
0312 - Murder-threat	2%*	98%	0%*
0321 - Assault causing harm	2%	97%	1%*
0323 - Assault or obstruction of Garda/official, resisting arrest	0%*	50%*	50%*
0324 - Minor assault	9%	90%	1%*
0331 - Harassment, stalking, threats	0%*	98%	2%*
0332 - Coercion	0%*	100%	0%*
0333 - Menacing phone calls	0%*	100%*	0%*

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents over the 3-year period examined.*

**Other Non-Domestic Abuse Incidents - Gender of Suspected Offenders when the Injured Party is a Female**  
(Figures relate to the sub-set of incidents where at least one offender has been identified)

INJURED PARTY GENDER – NON-DOMESTIC INCIDENTS	SUSPECTED OFFENDER GENDERS		
	FEMALE(S)	MALE(S)	BOTH
<b>FEMALE</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>01 - HOMICIDE OFFENCES</b>	<b>13%*</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>0%*</b>
0111 - Murder	0%*	100%*	0%*
0121 - Manslaughter (traffic fatality)	0%*	100%*	0%*
0122 - Dangerous driving causing death	14%*	86%	0%*
<b>02 - SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>0%*</b>
0211 - Rape of a male or female	0%*	100%	0%*
0212 - Defilement of a boy or girl less than 17 years old	3%*	97%	0%*
0213 - Sexual offence involving mentally impaired person	0%*	100%*	0%*
0214 - Aggravated sexual assault	0%*	100%*	0%*
0215 - Sexual assault (not aggravated)	2%*	98%	0%*
0221 - Incest	0%*	100%*	0%*
0222 - Child pornography offences	10%*	90%	0%*
<b>03 – ATTEMPTS/THREATS TO MURDER, ASSAULTS, HARASSMENTS AND RELATED OFFENCES</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>2%</b>
0311 - Murder-attempt	0%*	100%*	0%*
0312 - Murder-threat	20%	79%	1%*
0321 - Assault causing harm	45%	51%	5%
0323 - Assault or obstruction of Garda/official, resisting arrest	48%	50%	2%*
0324 - Minor assault	52%	47%	2%
0331 - Harassment, stalking, threats	16%	81%	3%*
0332 - Coercion	0%*	100%*	0%*
0333 - Menacing phone calls	27%	73%	0%*
0334 - Incitement to hatred offences	0%*	100%*	0%*
0335 - Demanding payment of debt causing alarm	0%*	100%*	0%*

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents over the 3-year period examined.*

**Gender of Suspected Offenders when the Injured Party is a Male**

(Figures relate to the sub-set of incidents where at least one offender has been identified)

<b>INJURED PARTY GENDER – MALE</b>	<b>SUSPECTED OFFENDER GENDERS</b>		
	<b>FEMALE(S)</b>	<b>MALE(S)</b>	<b>BOTH</b>
<b>MALE</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>01 – HOMICIDE OFFENCES</b>	<b>15%*</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>1%*</b>
0111 – Murder	10%*	88%	2%*
0112 – Manslaughter	0%*	100%*	0%*
0122 – Dangerous driving causing death	22%*	78%	0%*
<b>02 – SEXUAL OFFENCES</b>	<b>1%*</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>0%*</b>
0211 – Rape of a male or female	0%*	98%	2%*
0212 – Defilement of a boy or girl less than 17 years old	0%*	100%	0%*
0213 – Sexual offence involving mentally impaired person	0%*	100%*	0%*
0214 – Aggravated sexual assault	0%*	100%*	0%*
0215 – Sexual assault (not aggravated)	1%*	99%	0%*
0222 – Child pornography offences	21%*	79%*	0%*
0224 – Gross indecency	0%*	100%*	0%*
<b>03 – ATTEMPTS/THREATS TO MURDER, ASSAULTS, HARASSMENTS AND RELATED OFFENCES</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>2%</b>
0311 – Murder-attempt	5%*	95%*	0%*
0312 – Murder-threat	3%	96%	1%*
0321 – Assault causing harm	6%	92%	2%
0322 – Poisoning	0%*	100%*	0%*
0323 – Assault or obstruction of Garda/official, resisting arrest	16%	83%	1%*
0324 – Minor assault	13%	85%	1%
0331 – Harassment, stalking, threats	19%*	79%	2%*
0332 – Coercion	0%*	100%*	0%*
0333 – Menacing phone calls	14%*	83%	3%*
0334 – Incitement to hatred offences	17%*	83%*	0%*
0335 – Demanding payment of debt causing alarm	0%*	100%*	0%*

*\*Note very low volumes, less than 20 incidents over the 3-year period examined.*