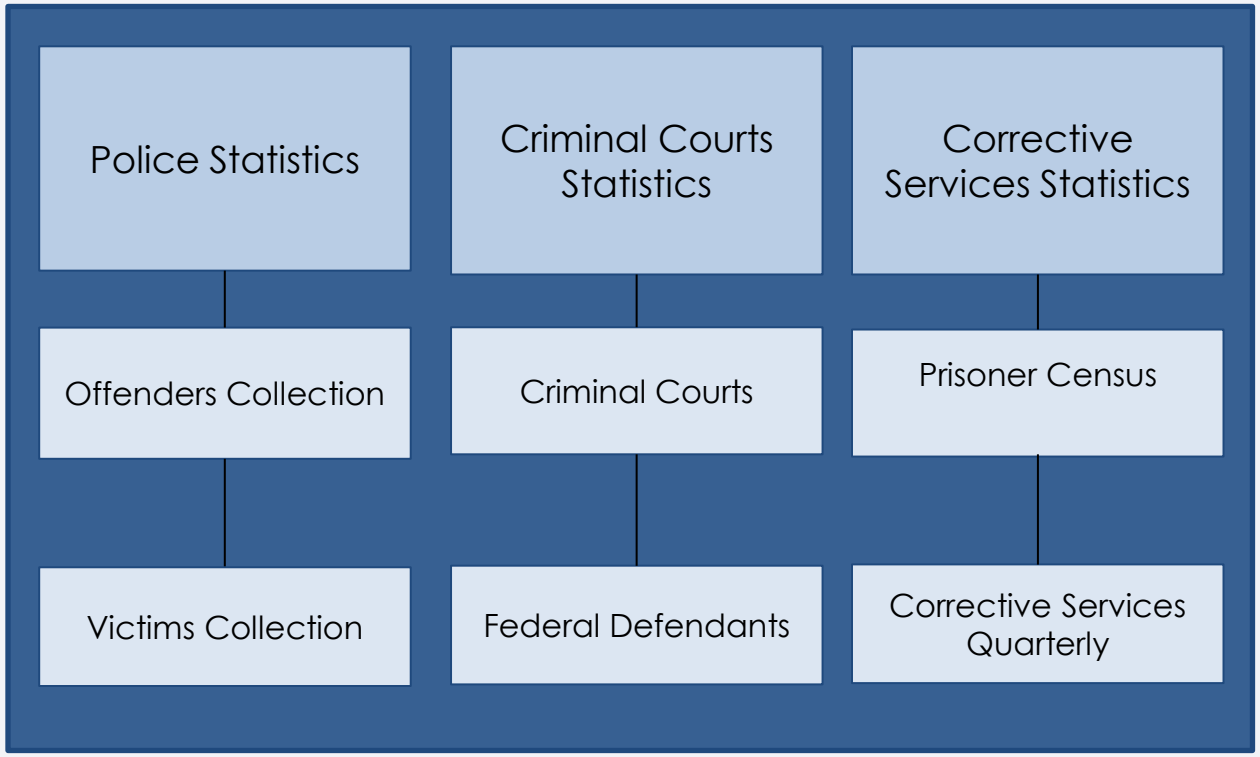
National Centre for Crime and Justice Statistics

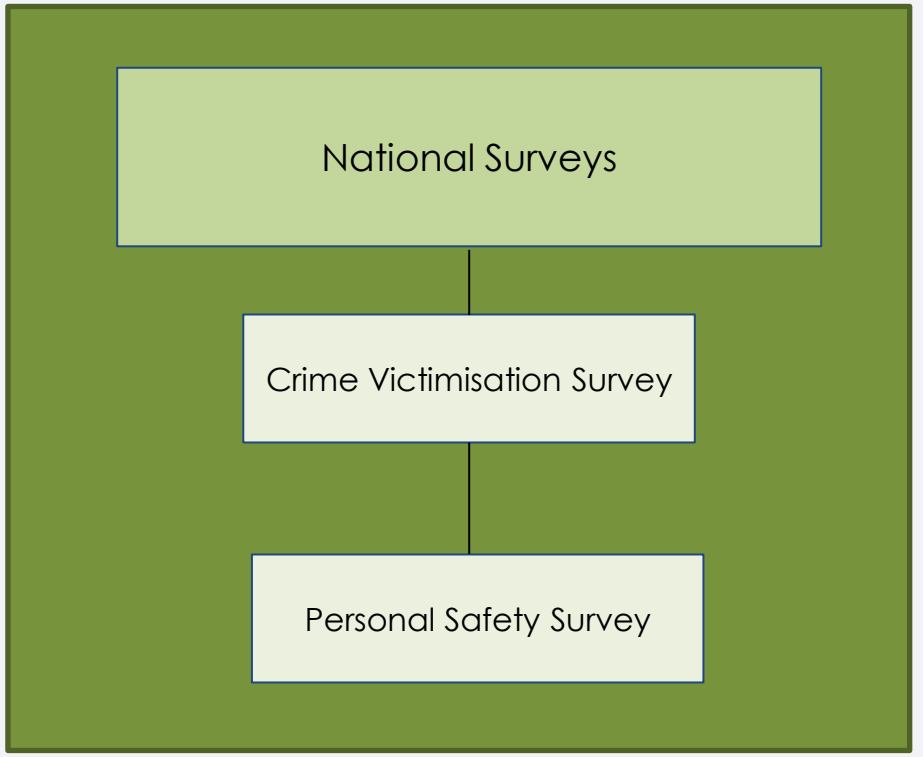
26 April 2023

Australian Bureau of Statistics
Informing Australia's important decisions

Australian Bureau of Statistics

ABS National Centre Crime Justice Statistics, Structure 2021-22





Crime Victimisation Survey

Outputs

- Personal crimes – victimisation rates for physical assault/threat, robbery, sexual assault
- Household crimes – victimisation rates for break-in, theft of a motor vehicle, theft from a motor vehicle, malicious property damage
- Time series – comparing crime victimisation rates to previous years
- Characteristics of the most recent incident – whether drugs/alcohol used, relationship to perpetrator (for personal crimes) and whether reported to police
- Profile of victims of personal crime: age, sex, employment/ education, income etc

Data collection

- Measures a selected range of personal and household crime types
- Frequency – collected annually since 2008
- Scope – persons aged 15 years and over living in private households in Australia
- Sample and mode – 28,000 people interviewed by Telephone (CATI)
- Questionnaire – Two minute topic on the Multi Purpose Household Survey, which is a supplement to the Australian Labour Force Survey (LFS)
- Enumeration period – 12 month data collection activity, from July to June each year

Personal Safety Survey

Data collection

- Detailed information about people's experiences of violence, including family, domestic and sexual violence
- Frequency – approximately every 4 years, previously collected in 2021-22, 2016, 2012, 2005, 1996
- Scope/coverage – Persons aged 18 years and over living in private households in Australia, 24,000 sample size
- Safety of respondents and interviewers is critical – interviewers undertake comprehensive sensitivity and awareness training
- Mode/questionnaire – 30 minute survey, interviews conducted in a private setting at home (Computer Assisted Self Interview (CASI) or Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI))

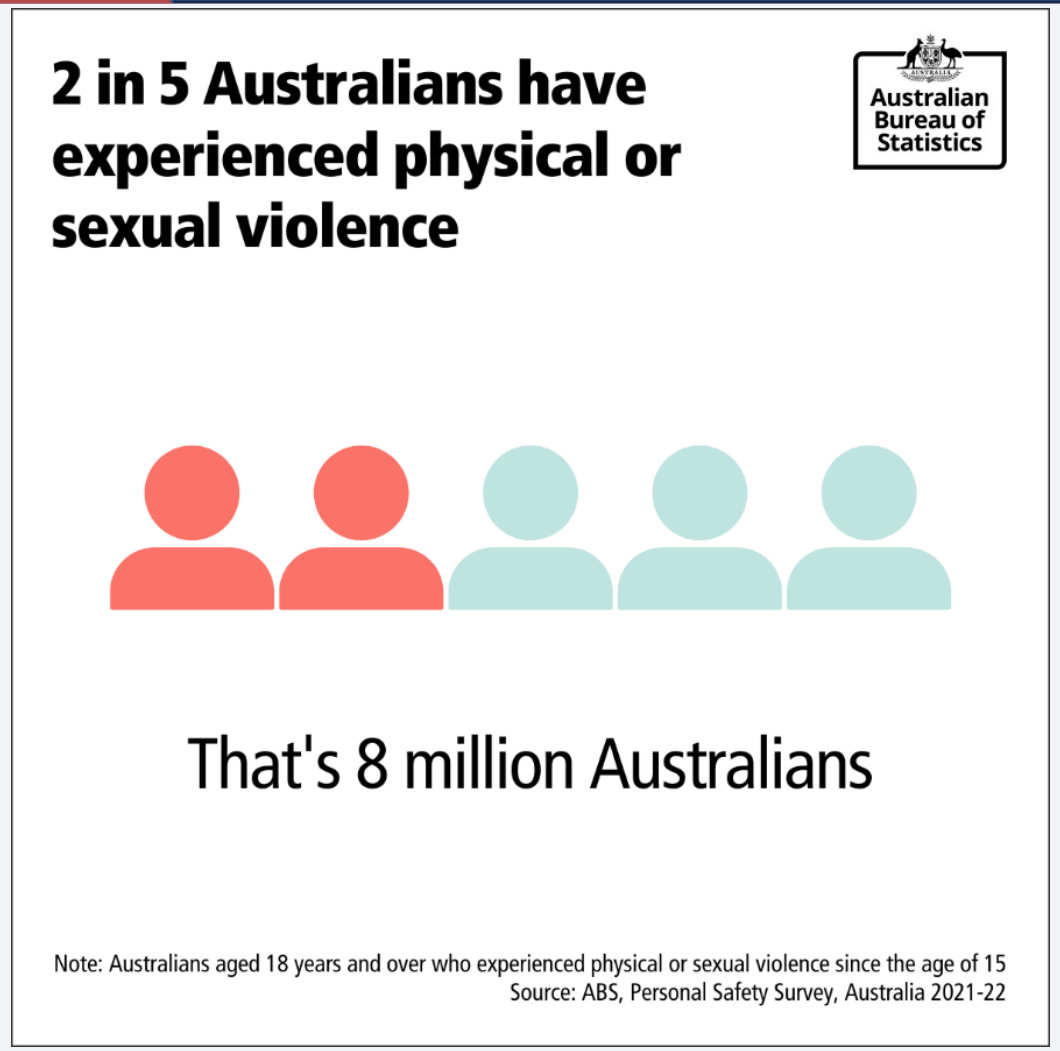
2021-22 Personal Safety Survey - content

1. **Violence rates since age 15 / last 12 months:**
   - Sexual & physical violence by key perpetrator types
   - Cohabiting partner violence
   - Cohabiting partner emotional and economic abuse
   - Sexual harassment
   - Stalking and general feelings of safety
   - Childhood sexual/physical abuse & witnessing parental violence as a child – (asked of adults experiences)

2. **Characteristic and outcome information required for understanding violence and service needs:**
   - Most recent incident characteristics of physical and sexual violence (police told, services used, injuries and time off work)
   - Experiences, frequency/severity and outcomes of partner violence over the course of a relationship

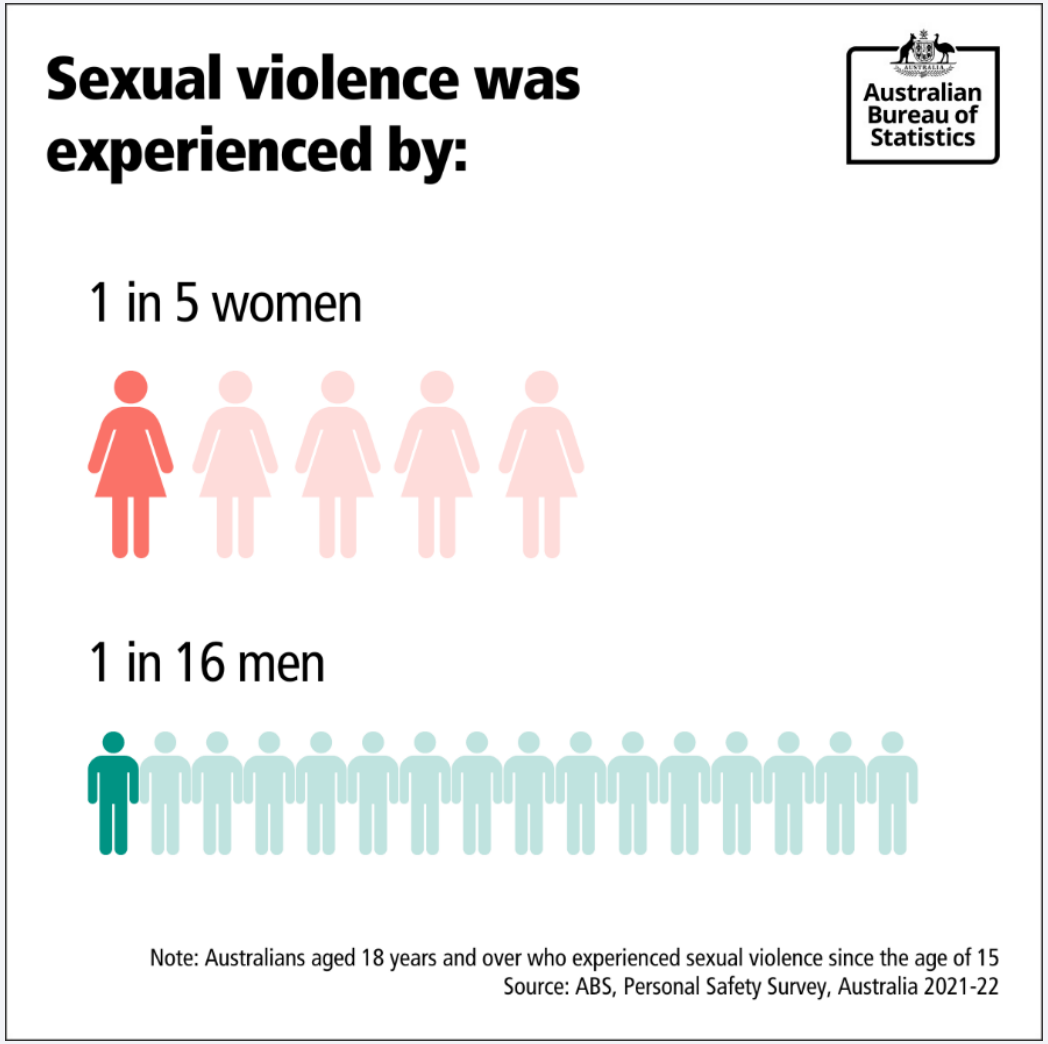
3. **Characteristics about the respondent:**
   - Sex, age, disability status, country of birth, sexual orientation, income, education, employment/occupation

Key findings: Physical and Sexual Violence



- 43% of Men
- 39% of Women

Key findings: Sexual violence since age 15



Key findings: Physical violence since age 15

Partner violence

Cohabiting partner violence was experienced by:

1 in 6 women

1 in 18 men

Note: Australians aged 18 years and over who experienced physical or sexual violence by a partner they live or lived with since the age of 15. Source: ABS, Personal Safety Survey, Australia 2021-22

Results: Changes since 2016
What does the women's data tell us?

Women – 12 month prevalence rates

Similar since 2016: Physical violence, sexual violence, and stalking

Decreases since 2016: cohabiting partner violence, cohabiting partner emotional abuse, sexual harassment.

- Cohabiting partner violence – 1.7% to 0.9%
- Cohabiting partner emotional abuse – 4.8% to 3.9%
- Sexual harassment – 17.3% to 12.6%

Results: changes since 2016
What does the men's data tell us?

Men – 12 month prevalence rates

Similar to 2016: Physical violence

Decreases since 2016:

- Cohabiting partner emotional abuse – 4.2% to 2.5%
- Sexual harassment – 9.3% to 4.5%

Thank you

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NCCJS Products/Publications

Crime and Justice home page

Crime and justice | Australian Bureau of Statistics (abs.gov.au)

Annual collections

Crime Victimisation, Australia

Recorded Crime - Victims, Australia

Recorded Crime - Offenders, Australia

Criminal Courts, Australia

Prisoners in Australia (and Federal Offenders)

Quarterly collection

Corrective Services, Australia

Ad hoc/Irregular collections

Personal Safety Survey, Australia

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey

Analytical Articles

Sexual violence: victimisation

Sexual Harassment

Sexual Assault - Perpetrators

Victims of sexual assault: time to report and age at incident

Partner violence – In Focus: Crime and Justice Statistics

Characteristics and outcomes of childhood abuse

Disability and Violence - In Focus: Crime and Justice Statistics

NCCJS Products/Frameworks

Frameworks and Information Papers

4533.0 - Directory of Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Statistics, 2018

4529.0.00.003 - National Data Collection and Reporting Framework for Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence 2014

4529.0.00.002 - Bridging the Data Gaps for Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence, 2013

4529.0 - Defining the Data Challenge for Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence, 2013

4500.0.55.001 - Measuring Victims of Crime: a guide to using administrative and survey data, 2011

4540.0.00.001 - Corrective Services Family and Domestic Violence Data Project: Discussion of Findings, 2018