



New Zealand
Crime and Victims **survey**

HELP CREATE SAFER COMMUNITIES

Patterns of victimisation by family members and help-seeking by victims

February 2022

Results drawn from Cycle 1 (2018) and Cycle 3 (2019/20) of
the New Zealand Crime and Victims Survey (NZCVS)

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1. This report contains only information about people aged 15 years and above. The survey does not cover children younger than 15 years of age.
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We would like to thank the 15,455 New Zealanders who gave their time to take part in the survey and share their stories.

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Contributors

All writing and analysis for the report was performed by Kimberley Turrell. Kimberley was employed by the Ministry of Justice Research and Evaluation team at the time publication.

Peer reviewers

To produce this report, we consulted with several agencies and subject matter experts in areas related to family and sexual violence, crime and victimisation, Kaupapa Māori and indigenous research, criminology, statistics and the intersection of these subjects. These consultations helped form the structure of the report which was then drafted and sent back to agencies and subject matter experts for peer-review. We are grateful for the support, guidance and advice of all the experts who provided consultation and peer-review for this report.

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Executive summary

In order to effectively respond to family violence, it is important to understand who is at risk of experiencing offending by family members and controlling behaviours by intimate partners and understanding the help-seeking behaviours of these people. If we know who is and who is not seeking help and why, there is an opportunity to target interventions and support services to people who experience violence and remove the barriers to help-seeking.

This report takes an in-depth look into two areas: 1. criminal offending by family members and 2. select controlling behaviours by intimate partners. The report also looks into how often people with these lived experiences seek help and from what sources. Victims are asked about what help they received and if no help was sought, we ask what the reasons were. We hope this will inform initiatives to improve family violence interventions and support services, as well as provide further information on the current state of family violence in Aotearoa New Zealand and who in the population is most at risk of violence.

The survey respondents in this report, adults who are 15 years and older, have indicated that they have experienced either offending by family members and/or controlling behaviours by intimate partners. The respondents are then asked questions regarding their help-seeking behaviour and experiences. Some of the main groupings that are looked at include:

1. adults who experienced offending by family members (including intimate partners)
2. adults who experienced offending and controlling behaviours by intimate partners
3. adults who experienced controlling behaviours only.

These main break downs were useful to determine if different demographics within the groups were at risk of different experiences and if help-seeking was influenced by the type of offending or controlling behaviours that a person had experienced.

Analysis key findings

Offending by family members

- Of all adults who experienced offending by family members, **43%** were offended against by a **partner**, **27%** were offended against by an **ex-partner** and **38%** were offended against by **other family member(s)**.
- The groups that most often experienced offending by family members were **Māori (4.7%)** and **females (3.2%)**.
- For offending by family members, **13.1%** of **separated** people and **4.1%** of **non-partnered** people experienced offending by family members compared to the NZ average of 2.2%.
- **49%** of adults who experienced offending by family members **knew someone else** experiencing family/whānau incidents and **80%** of those people were further involved, such as talking with or supporting the victim.

Controlling behaviours by intimate partners

- Of all adults who had a partner in the previous 12 months and had indicated an experience of offending or at least one controlling behaviour, **56%** experienced **only** controlling behaviours by intimate partners.

- Of all adults who experienced any controlling behaviours by intimate partners, around **45%** experienced **two or more behaviour types sometimes and at least one behaviour type frequently**.
- People who were **separated** at the time of the survey were significantly more likely to experience controlling behaviours (two or more behaviour types sometimes and at least one behaviour type frequently) (**16.3%**) compared with the NZ average (1.9%). **Non-partnered** people (at time of survey) (**11.6%**) were also over-represented in the controlling behaviours group.

Help-seeking

- Adults who experienced controlling behaviours by intimate partners only were less likely to seek help than adults who experienced both controlling behaviours and offences by intimate partners, **37%** compared to **79%** respectively.
- In most groups surveyed, help from **family was sought more** than help from services¹.
- Of adults who experienced any offending by family members or controlling behaviours by intimate partners, **47% did not seek any help**. **69%** of males did not seek help.

Conclusion

Our findings indicate that people's experiences of offending by family members and controlling behaviours by intimate partners, as well as their help-seeking behaviours, vary considerably. This reinforces the need for a variety of available interventions and support for victims. These findings could inform the future design and development of family violence interventions.

It is important to acknowledge that every victims experience of violence and of help-seeking is unique. Individual reporting and help-seeking behaviours will depend on the context of violence in which they are living. These findings will contribute to our understanding of victims and how they seek help so that improvements to the system response can continue.

There is an obvious discrepancy between people experiencing offending and/or controlling behaviours, and those who are seeking help. We need to understand what is required to increase support uptake. There are various reasons a person may not seek help; for example, they may be living in a context where certain actions and behaviours are normalised, or they may have low trust in the system.

There could be an opportunity for community education on specific forms of violence and healthy relationships. If others can recognise the signs of violence or other abnormal behaviours, they can act as a lifeline to the victim and support them or assist them with getting formal help.

The need for diverse and culturally appropriate responses is also key to providing a successful targeted response. Our results show that Māori adults are often at higher risk of offending by family members and therefore existing support services should be culturally responsive, individualised and relevant.

¹ Victims may seek help from more than one source

Males were also shown to seek help less frequently than females; future research could identify ways to improve the system response for males who are victims of offending by family members and/or controlling behaviours.

We recommend repeating this analysis in the future to obtain a more representative sample. There is also a need for more qualitative studies investigating perspectives of victims, specifically, how they found various processes (such as going to court, non-violence programmes, support services), understanding the unmet needs of victims and what practical support is really important when it comes to leaving violent people behind. This will allow for deep dives into the detail about what help victims have received or did not receive, what was useful and what else victims of violence by family members need from both informal (family, whānau and friends) and formal support (victim support services).

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1 Introduction

The Ministry of Justice is involved in several initiatives to respond to family violence (FV) in Aotearoa New Zealand and is a partner agency of the Joint Venture for Eliminating Family Violence and Sexual Violence. Understanding victimisation and the behaviour of victims through the New Zealand Crime and Victims Survey (NZCVS) is one of the ways we are contributing to the government's response to FV.

In the Family Violence Act 2018, FV is defined as any behaviour within a family relationship² that is coercive, controlling or that causes cumulative harm. This includes a vast range of behaviours, some of which are criminal offences and some not. This report refers to “offences by family members” specifically, which describes offending where the victim has a family relationship with the offender rather than all aspects of family violence as described by the Family Violence Act 2018.

The NZCVS collects data on criminal offences by family members that represents some types of FV, and information on select controlling behaviours by intimate partners. Adults who are surveyed and experience either offences by family members or controlling behaviours by intimate partners are asked further questions to provide insight into their formal or informal help-seeking behaviours in relation to family incidents.

This report seeks to identify who is most at risk of offending by family members and controlling behaviours by intimate partners. In addition, it examines patterns of offending and controlling behaviours adults are experiencing and how that may influence their behaviours when seeking help. Importantly, findings include, who is not getting the help they need and why. Further to this, we want to determine if there are opportunities in the community to educate family, whānau and friends as informal help sources.

The survey asks about formal and informal sources of help. Formal help refers to professional services, including victim support, medical help or reporting to Police. Informal sources include family, whānau and friends. Medical help and reporting to police are only asked if the person experienced criminal offending.

Understanding patterns of FV can inform interventions and responses (Kelly and Johnson 2008). Furthermore, understanding help-seeking experiences can highlight unmet needs and barriers to appropriate support that victims face. Negative experiences of both formal and informal help-seeking can discourage victims from further help-seeking and engaging with safety services and Police (Wilson et al. 2019).

The analysis in this report uses pooled data from the 2018 (Cycle 1) NZCVS sample which was collected from March to September 2018 and the 2019/20 (Cycle 3) NZCVS sample which was collected from October 2019 to November 2020³. The combined sample covers

² The Family Violence Act 2018 defines family relationships as a spouse, partner, family member or someone who shares a household with the victim. The definition also includes people with close personal relationships to the victim.

³ Cycle 2 (2019) did not contain the offending by family members in-depth module.

15,455 adult respondents (15 years old and over). For more information on pooled datasets, please refer to the section [Interpreting Results](#).

Results from the NZCVS differ from administrative data because victimisation is measured according to experiences of crime, regardless of whether the crime was reported to Police. This is important given that 75% of crime is not reported to Police (Ministry of Justice NZCVS Cycle 3, 2021). Therefore, the analysis in this report of victims' perceptions includes victims who have not encountered the Police or justice services.

A representative sample of Aotearoa New Zealand adults was achieved in both Cycle 1 and Cycle 3, with response rates of 81% and 80% respectively.

The findings in this report complement those reported in the NZCVS Cycle 1 and Cycle 3 core reports and focus on the results of the Offences by Family Members in-depth modules which look at help-seeking.

1.1 Key terms and definitions



Use of the term “victim”

We acknowledge that some people who have been harmed by crime do not like being referred to as a “victim” (Chief Victims Advisor to Government 2019c; Te Uepū Hāpai i te Ora – Safe and Effective Justice Advisory Group 2019b). While some feel the term accurately describes their experience, some prefer to be referred to as “survivors”, and some wish for no label at all.

We use the term “victim” in this report because it is consistent with legislation and recognisable for our audiences, including criminal justice agency personnel. We hope that through future consultation with those who have been harmed by crime, we can find a better solution to recognise and respect their needs.

Our analysis focuses mainly on experiences of **offences by family members**. This is because our data is from the NZCVS and is designed to capture experiences of crime (reported or unreported to Police). The definition of offences by family members in this report aligns with the offence coding used by Police. The following offence types are included (where the offender is a family member):

- Physical assault
- Sexual assault, and related offences
- Harassment and threatening behaviour
- Other offences (damage to personal or household property and damage to motor vehicles and robbery).

Certain offences such as theft, burglary, fraud and deception, cybercrime and trespassing were not counted as offences by family members as these were not included in the NZCVS definition of offences by family members.

The offences by family members group includes **offences by intimate partners**. Intimate partner is anyone you are in a relationship with or have previously been in a relationship with.

We also explore experiences of **controlling behaviours by intimate partners**.

Respondents were asked six questions about certain behaviours by any partner in the last 12 months, these six questions described ways that a partner could have control over you, such as stopping you from doing something or pressuring you into something you did not want to do and how often it may have occurred. The questions were only asked to respondents who had a partner in the 12 months prior to the interview and did not cover the effect or harm the behaviour(s) may have had on the victim⁴.

We asked about the following behaviours by a partner or ex-partner:

- Stopping them from seeing or contacting friends, family or whānau
- Following or keeping track of their whereabouts in a way that felt controlling or frightening
- Stopping or controlling their access to things like their mobile, the internet, or transport
- Stopping them from getting healthcare when they needed it
- Pressuring them into paid work they did not want to do
- Stopping them from doing paid work they wanted to do

Coercive control is any ongoing pattern of behaviour that is coercive and controlling and impacts self-determination, which is a person's ability to make decisions and manage their life. **Controlling behaviours are not equivalent to coercive control**. The measure of *controlling behaviours* from the NZCVS reflects some ways in which coercive control can be expressed in intimate partner relationships. However, coercive control is much broader than this measure.

Tactics of coercion and control differ across relationships, as perpetrators use their knowledge of the victim's vulnerabilities to abuse them (Hamberger et al, 2017). Some expressions of coercive control may only be recognisable to the victim (Tolmie et al, 2018).

The term NZ average refers to people aged 15 years or over (adults) and is used for comparison when looking at subgroups of the population based on demographics and socio-economic factors.

Scope of report

The NZCVS offences by family members module looks at adults who experienced at least one offence by a family member/intimate partner and/or at least one controlling behaviour by an intimate partner. Controlling behaviours by non-partner family members and examining

⁴ The subsequent cycles will ask about behaviours and how the victim felt

the extent to which offending, or behaviours are coercive are both outside the scope of this report.

Respondents who did not have a partner in the previous 12 months or did not screen for at least one offence by a family member were not asked to respond to this module.

Respondents were only asked about reporting to Police or medical help if they experienced offending, not if they experienced controlling behaviours only.

We do not look at the detail for offending by intimate partners for respondents who have not had a partner in the past 12 months, but this does not indicate its absence. We are cognisant of the fact that intimate partner violence does not just stop when a relationship does and may continue after the separation.

How groups were defined for the analysis

The sample was analysed for help-seeking using the following sub-groupings:

- Adults who had a partner in the previous 12 months
 - Adults who experienced either offending by family members or controlling behaviours by intimate partners
 - Offending by family members (inclusive of intimate partners)
 - Offending and controlling behaviours by intimate partners (this group is a subset of the offending by family members group)
 - Controlling behaviours by intimate partners only
- Adults who did not have a partner in the previous 12 months
 - Offending by family members only

Figure 1 illustrates the groupings and this diagram will be referred to throughout the results section. Each group is further broken down into demographics, including socio-economic status for each analysis. Note that the groups on the lower hierarchical level are **not** mutually exclusive.

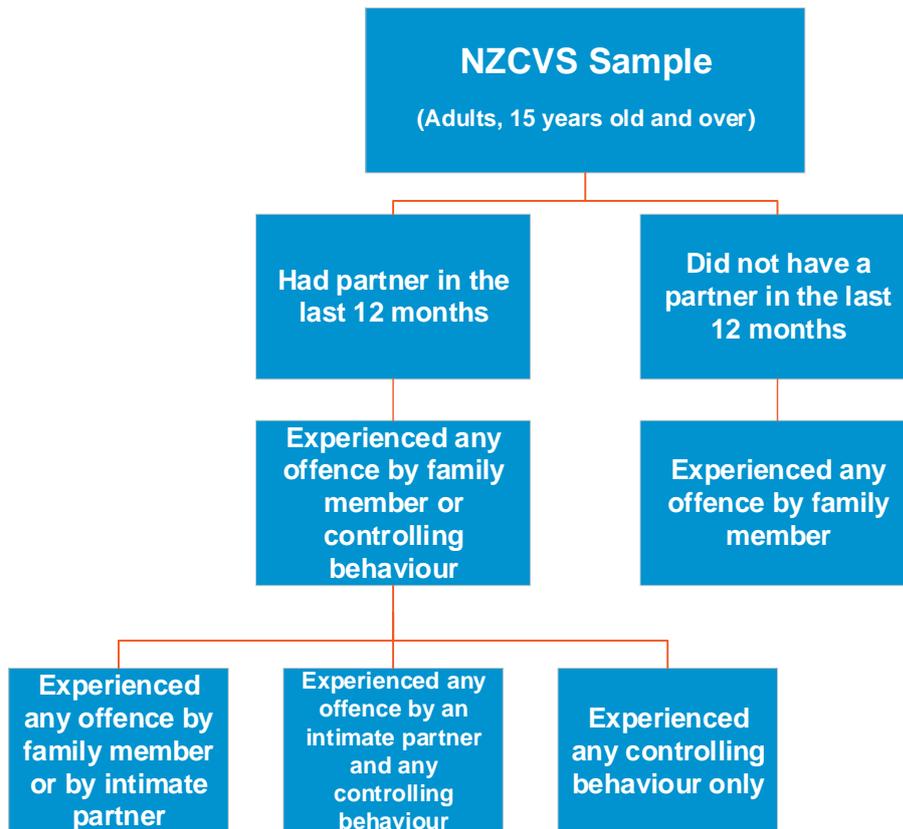


Figure 1: Groupings of adults used for analysis of offending by family members and controlling behaviours by intimate partners

A note on modelling used in this report

In addition to descriptive analysis, this report contains some results from multivariate modelling⁵. We look at the relationship between help-seeking and various demographic indicators, and experiences of offending by family members and/or controlling behaviours by intimate partners to determine what may influence help-seeking. The relationship between experiences of offending by family members or controlling behaviours by intimate partners and demographics were also modelled to determine the factors associated with offending and controlling behaviours. Details of the modelling can be found in [Appendix B](#).

1.2 Prior research

The findings from NZCVS that are presented in this report will contribute to the current knowledge base about who is impacted by FV in Aotearoa New Zealand. There is literature from all around the world about the different elements of FV and this research spans various fields. As FV is culturally mediated, this report will reference contributions to the literature from Aotearoa New Zealand.

⁵ Modelling that uses multiple variables or observations and how they relate to a response variable

Patterns of offending

We are interested in patterns of offending because single incidents of offending cannot be looked at in isolation, the abusive person's entire pattern of behaviour needs to be assessed, this includes any acts of a controlling and violent nature (Family Violence Death Review Committee 2016). Controlling behaviours diminish a victim's self-determination and makes it harder for them to leave an abusive relationship. Tactics to control a person varies significantly between relationships but could include isolation, pressure to do or not do something and physical violence. Furthermore, incidents that may appear isolated could be part of an escalating spiral of offending and violence and should be identified and addressed urgently. If we understand who is exhibiting patterns of offending, what those patterns are and if the victim seeks help or not, we could apply this knowledge and develop a system that appropriately helps every victim.

The Backbone Collective (2020) carried out a web-based survey to hear the experiences of female victims of FV in Aotearoa New Zealand. 95% of these women experienced emotional abuse/coercive control, 70% experienced physical violence and 51% experienced sexual assault or abuse. The context in which the abuse happened lead to different patterns of abuse, for example, women who experienced intimate partner violence were much more likely to experience stalking compared to women who experienced violence by other family members. Women who experienced controlling behaviours by intimate partners described these as 'crippling' and would escalate to physical assault later and even once they decided to leave. The experiences of these women were not one-off events, 42% had experienced violence for ten years or more.

Wilson et al. (2019) interviewed wāhine Māori who had lived in an 'unsafe' relationship and are now living violence free. The wāhine recounted ongoing effects of physical violence and said when the severity and frequency of abuse increased it made it even more difficult to change their situation. Often, the wāhine lived without the necessary healthcare and managed their lives as best they could. In order to keep themselves and their tamariki safe from violence, compliance was a strategy used by these wāhine in response to their partners increasing control; survival was the main goal.

Help-seeking by victims of family violence in Aotearoa New Zealand

Reporting of help-seeking behaviours in Aotearoa New Zealand research varies. A New Zealand FV literature review (Carswell et al, 2020) found that most people do not access services when experiencing violence because they may not know about them or they are not accessible. Where support services are accessible, they often lack specialist FV knowledge. When it comes to seeking help, wāhine Māori report also experiencing institutional racism and unconscious bias (Wilson et al. 2019). The literature review by Carswell et al., (2020) notes that many wāhine Māori find the system culturally inaccessible and re-traumatising.

The Family Violence Death Review Committee 5th report (FVDRC, 2016) found that women who experienced intimate partner violence made attempts to disclose the violence but was not often met with support as the people they speak to do not realise these women are

disclosing FV. Fanslow and Robinson (2010) surveyed women who experienced intimate partner violence and found that family and friends provided significant help and about half the women surveyed sought help from formal services, with more than half finding the response from the service useful. However, over 40% of women reported that they were not helped. Similarly, the FVDRC said help-seekers were not getting the assistance they need. For many, help-seeking can be logistically challenging, as well as socially isolating if they attempt to seek help and encounter culturally inappropriate responses, or non-specialist services that are not equipped to support their unique situation. Negative experiences of help-seeking compound, and deter future help-seeking, whereas a positive experience may lead to quicker recovery for the victim (FVDRC, 2016).

Fanslow et al (2021) used two cross-sectional studies from New Zealand to determine if help-seeking behaviours for women changed between 2003 and 2019. The results showed that 77% of women had told someone about the violence in 2003 but this dropped to 70% in 2019. There was a significant decrease in the proportion of women who sought help from informal sources, so this appears to be the driving factor for this reduction. Fanslow et al (2021) also found a reduction in the past 12 month physical and lifetime sexual intimate partner violence prevalence rates.

In the Wilson et al. (2019) report wāhine described their experiences of entrapment. Wāhine expressed fears of losing tamariki, having to navigate their partners controlling behaviour, little access to resources and that there was a lack of support from services that focused on what they were doing wrong. In addition to these factors, wāhine had to consider whakapapa and contact with their partner when tamariki were involved.

Support for victims of family violence in the New Zealand Justice Sector

Both New Zealand Police and the District Court have mechanisms to support victims of FV and their families. Police can issue a Police Safety Order (PSO) which puts in place protections from the offender (or bound person) and gives the victim the space necessary to get support and the ability to access FV services or organisations (NZ Police 2021). Protection Orders can be applied for at the Family Court. A temporary Protection Order will run for three months, if the respondent does not defend the order it will become permanent. The respondent is given non-violence, non-contact conditions and in most cases will need to attend a court appointed 'Stopping Violence' programme (NZ Police 2021). The Police also run the Family Violence Information Disclosure Scheme (FVIDS) which allows concerned parties (a potential victim or their friends/whānau) to request information on the violence history of a new partner (NZ Police 2021).

The Ministry of Justice has funded non-violence programmes and safety programmes, including programmes delivered by Kaupapa Māori providers since the end of 2014, for example Barnardos NZ, Hoani Waititi Marae Trust in Auckland and Ngāti Ranginui Iwi Society in Tauranga (Ministry of Justice FV Public Register, Nov 2021). Evaluations of some of these programmes found that participants found the skilled facilitators with shared experiences and a conversational, interactive delivery style effective (Paulin et al 2018).

Talking about tikanga Māori in the mainstream programmes allowed participants to think about their own value and understand how violence violates tikanga (Paulin et al 2018).

The Joint Venture Business Unit for Eliminating Family Violence and Sexual Violence (JV), comprising ten government agencies with responsibilities in the Government's response to family violence, has launched a National Strategy to eliminate family violence and sexual violence, Te Aorerekura. Te Aorerekura sets a collective pathway for tangata whenua, community specialist sectors and government to work together to eliminate family violence and sexual violence. While there is significant work underway already, Te Aorerekura provides a framework to prioritise and accelerate this work, while identifying where more and different actions are needed. It sets the vision: All people in Aotearoa are thriving; their wellbeing is enhanced and sustained because they are safe and supported to live their lives free from family violence and sexual violence. Learning and monitoring underpins all six shifts described in Te Aorerekura, and we hope these findings make a valuable contribution to that.

1.3 Limitations

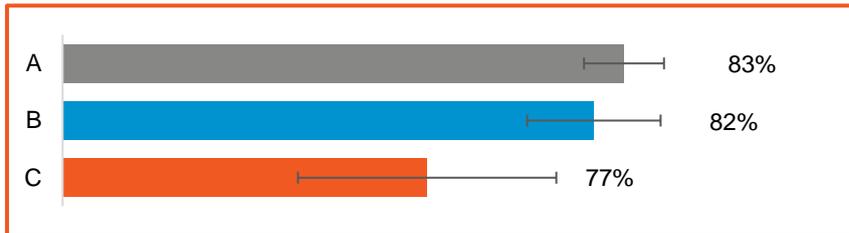
- The NZSVS data only covers a snapshot in time (12 months). Because family violence is a pattern of behaviour, there may be some people in the survey experiencing FV, but not in the 12 month period, victims can be impacted by experiences that happened more than 12 months prior to the interview.
- Currently, the NZCVS controlling behaviour questions are behaviour focused and do not ask about the harm the behaviour(s) caused to the victim, for example the impact that controlling behaviour can have on self-esteem and self-determination.
- The NZCVS does not collect responses from children 14 years and under. Individuals over 15 years are selected for the sample. Throughout the report they will be referred to as 'adults', recognising that 15 is not adult in most context.
- Reporting of results can be limited or suppressed for some demographic subgroups due to small sample sizes resulting in large margins of error.
- For questions about awareness and contact of victim support services, a select group of services were asked about. This list will be expanded in future surveys (cycle 5 onwards).
- FV is often under-reported and results in this report may reflect this

1.4 Interpreting Results

The NZCVS is a sampling survey and therefore subject to sampling error.

Confidence intervals are used to show how reliable estimates are. They indicate the range of values above and below the estimate, between which the actual value is likely to fall.⁶ This range that estimates are likely to fall within is called the **margin of error**.

Confidence intervals are displayed as bars around estimates in **graphs** in this report. For example, in the graph below, the confidence intervals around each of the estimates illustrate the range in which the true values are likely to fall. While the estimate for Group A is 83%, the confidence interval reflects that it is likely to fall between 82% and 85%. The estimate for Group C has a wider confidence interval than Group A, which means there is more uncertainty around it (it is likely to fall between 73% and 81%).



Statistical significance describes whether differences in estimates for different population groups are meaningful. One estimate is described as statistically significantly different from another when their confidence intervals do not overlap. When the confidence intervals of two estimates do overlap, the difference between the estimates is described as not statistically significant. This is a more conservative approach than a formal statistical test.⁷

Colour coding used to indicate statistical significance in graphs is described below. See Appendix A for more information on data and methods.

In the graph above, the estimates for Group A and Group B have confidence intervals that are overlapping. This means that the estimates are described as not statistically significant. The confidence intervals around estimates for Group A and Group C are not overlapping, so the difference between them is statistically significant.

⁶ Ninety-five percent confidence intervals are used, which means that we can be 95% confident that the true figure lies within the confidence interval provided.

⁷ Using a formal statistical test, when confidence intervals for two estimates overlap, it is likely (but not definite) that the difference between the estimates is not statistically significant.

Colour coding in graphs

The following colour scheme is used to highlight statistical significance of differences of estimates for groups from the total population.

	All New Zealand adults (victims and non-victims)
	No statistically significant difference from the New Zealand average (at 95% confidence level)
	Statistically significant difference from the New Zealand average (at 95% confidence level)

Note: Statistical testing is based on overlapping confidence intervals and not formal tests.

A note on pooled data

Sometimes when the NZCVS sample is too small to provide sufficiently accurate estimates, the usefulness of the survey can be improved by combining cycles of survey data in a new dataset called pooled data. The pooled dataset uses its own set of weights to make analytical results consistent with outcomes for individual cycles. Estimates based on this dataset are weighted so that they represent victimisation in a 12- month period, equivalent to data from an individual cycle. The estimates from pooled data often have less statistical uncertainty than those from an individual cycle because they are based on a larger sample size. This is particularly useful for looking at small population groups, or offence types that are experienced by a relatively small part of the population.

2 Results⁸

2.1 How many adults experience offences by family members?

Overall, 87,000 (2.2%) adults annually in Aotearoa New Zealand experienced offending by family members in the previous 12 months⁹. Figure 2 shows the number and percent of Aotearoa New Zealand adults who experienced offences by family members in the previous 12 months, by offender relationship.

Of those adults, 57,000 (1.4%) experienced offending by an intimate partner and 33,000 (0.8%) experienced offending by other family members¹⁰.

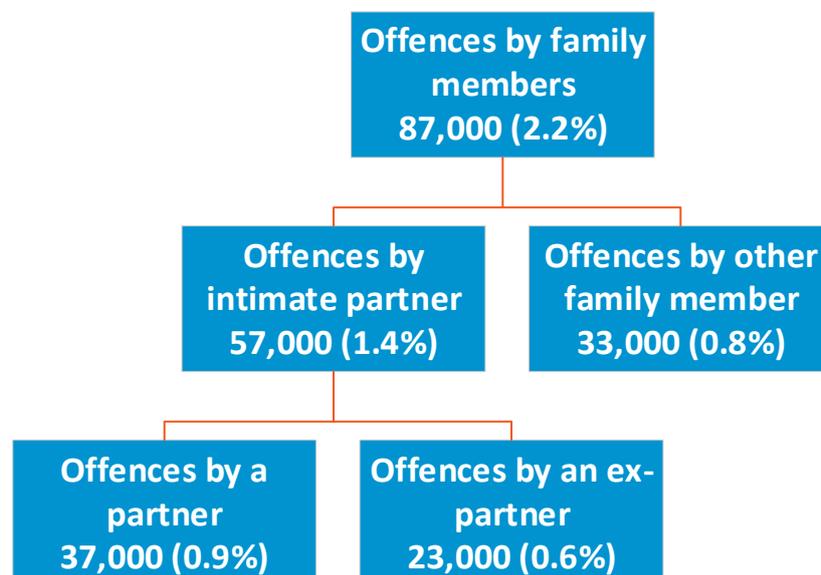


Figure 2: Number (percent) of Aotearoa New Zealand adults who experienced offences by family members in the previous 12 months, by offender relationship

⁸ These estimates are subject to sampling error which is summarised in Sheet 1 of the data tables provided. Some individuals experienced more than one of these offences within the period, and some incidents involved more than one offender, with different relationships to the victim. Therefore, results cannot be added across groups in the following figures. Relationships might also be double-counted in some instances.

⁹ Data is taken from Cycle 1 and Cycle 3 of the NZCVS; Cycle 2 did not include the FV module and therefore is not included when counts are estimated.

¹⁰ One person may be victimised by more than one offender.

2.2 How many adults experience either offences by family members or controlling behaviours by intimate partners?

77% of adults had a partner in the previous 12 months. Of those adults, 146,000 (4.7%) experienced offending by a family member/intimate partner or at least one controlling behaviour by an intimate partner.

Of adults experiencing offending by family members or controlling behaviours by intimate partners, 17% experienced both offending by an intimate partner and at least one type of controlling behaviour in the previous 12 months.

Of this group, 56% of adults experienced at least one type of controlling behaviour but no offending by an intimate partner. Figure 3 shows the number and percent of Aotearoa New Zealand adults who experienced any offending by a family member or at least one type of controlling behaviour by an intimate partner.

Figures 4 and 5 show the breakdown for females and males. Generally, fewer males experienced offending than females. Of those males experiencing offences by family members and/or controlling behaviour, three quarters experienced controlling behaviour only. This is a higher proportion than for females (44%).

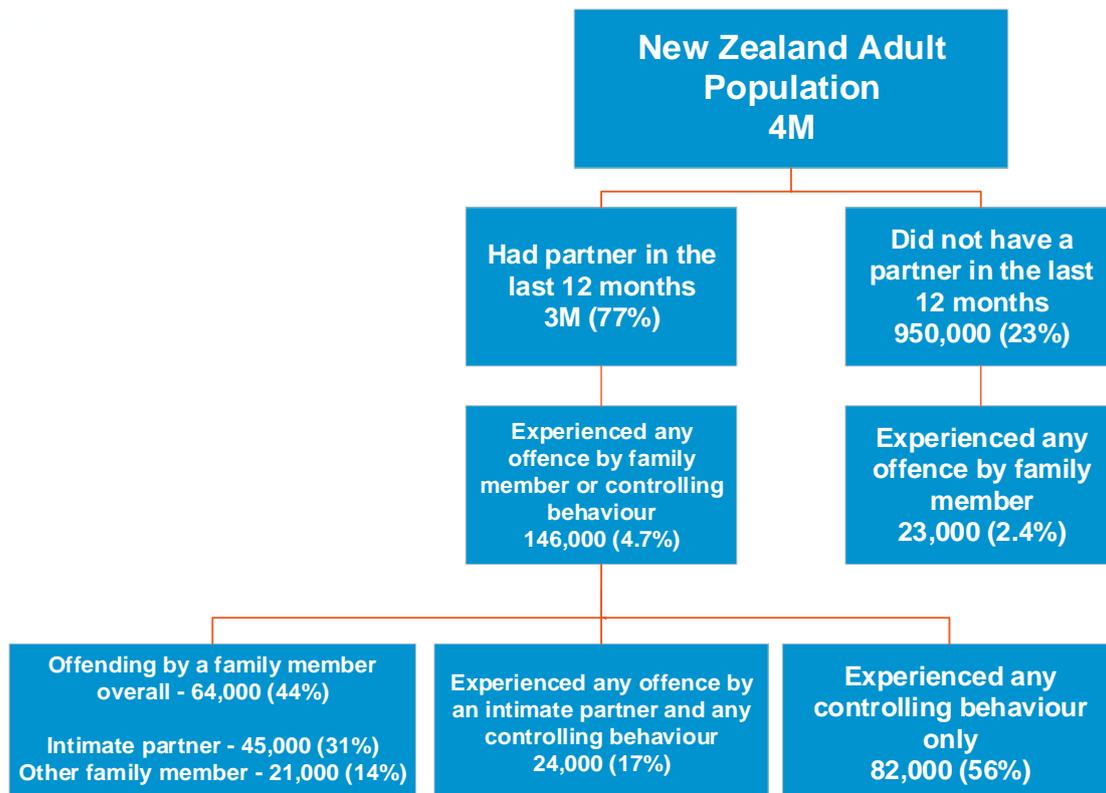


Figure 3: Number (percent) of Aotearoa New Zealand adults who experienced offences by family members or at least one controlling behaviour in the previous 12 months¹¹

¹¹ Percentages are calculated from the total in the group that precedes the current group.

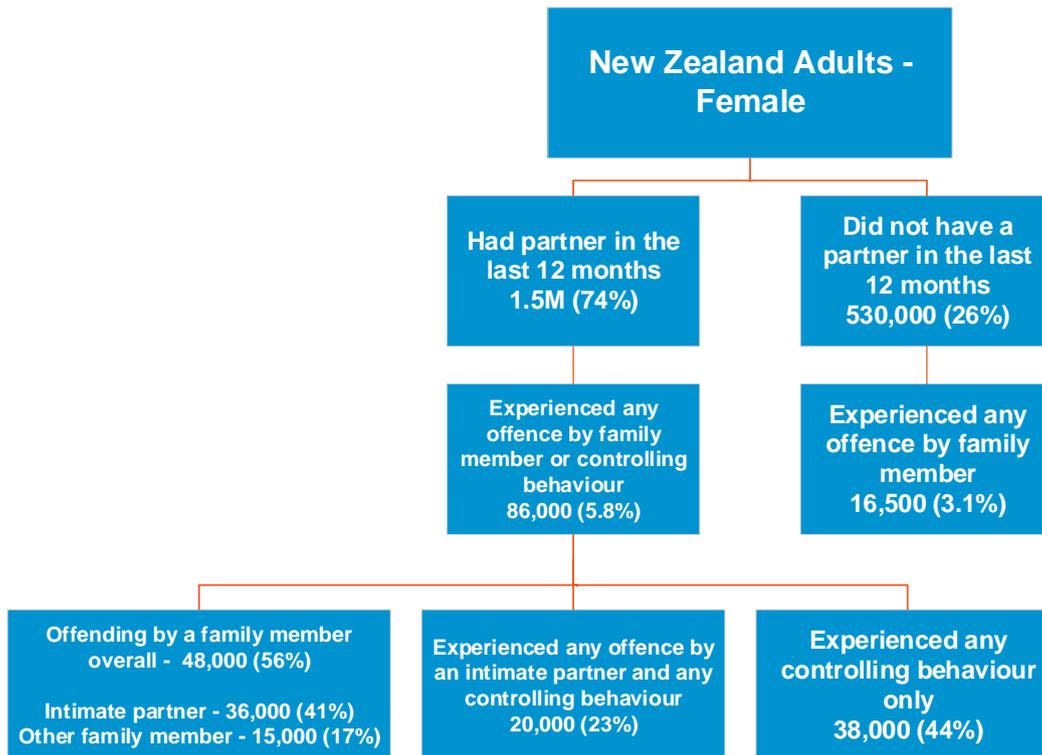


Figure 4: Number (percent) of Aotearoa New Zealand Females who experienced offences by family members or at least one controlling behaviour in the previous 12 months

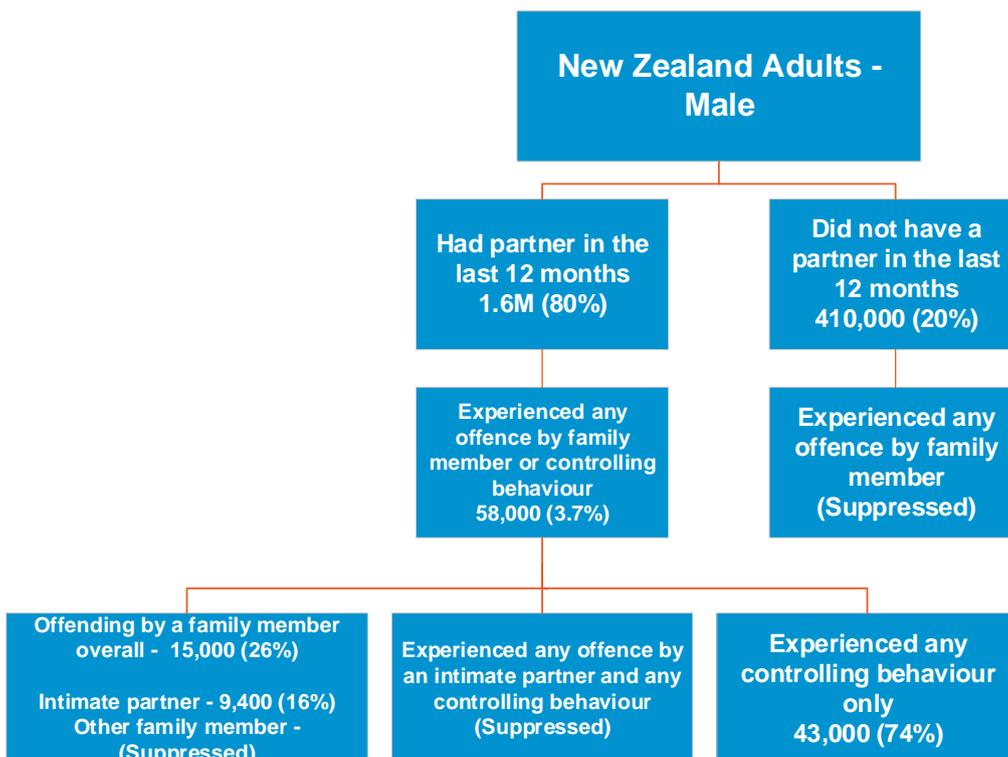


Figure 5: Number (percent) of Aotearoa New Zealand Males who experienced offences by family members or at least one controlling behaviour in the previous 12 months

2.3 What are common patterns of offending and controlling behaviours?^{12 13}

The NZCVS asks about six different types of controlling behaviour and how often each type was experienced (never, sometimes, frequently) in the previous 12 months. To measure intensity of controlling behaviours we introduced a scale that accounts for the number of different types of controlling behaviour and their frequency. A score of 0 was given for those who never experienced controlling behaviours, one behaviour occurring sometimes was scored a 1 and one behaviour occurring frequently was scored a 2. A score of 12 was the maximum intensity possible for the six behaviours we asked respondents about. Figure 6 shows that more than half (55%) of victims experienced only one type of controlling behaviour sometimes. 45% experienced at least one type of controlling behaviour frequently or more than one type of controlling behaviour either sometimes or frequently.

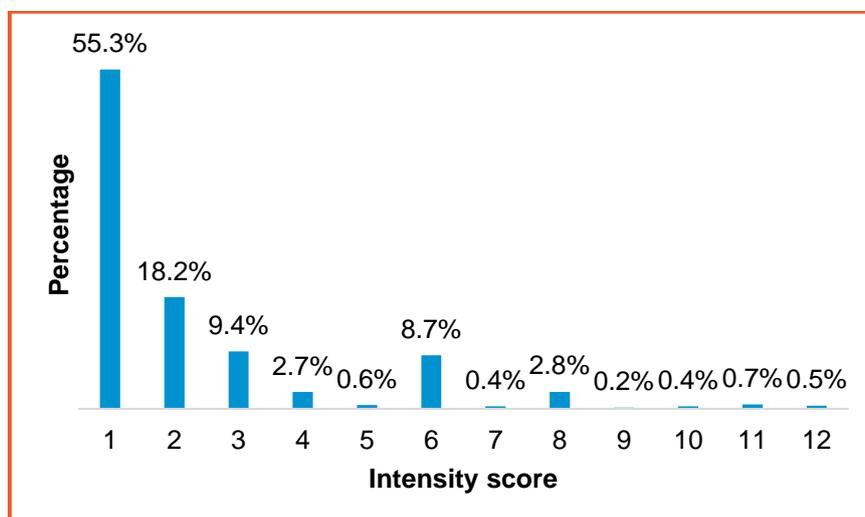


Figure 6: Percentage of adults who experienced controlling behaviours by intimate partners and their intensity scores

The most commonly occurring pattern for adults who experienced controlling behaviours only at an intensity of 2 or more was “a partner stopping you seeing or contacting friends or family/whānau” and “a partner followed or kept track of your whereabouts”. These behaviours occurred sometimes. The second most commonly occurring pattern was all behaviours occurring sometimes.

¹² Intimate partner violence was sometimes indicated for adults who did not have a partner in the previous 12 months. We assume that this incident(s) involved ex-partners rather than current partners and that possibly they considered the relationship to have ended but the ex-partner did not.

¹³ For tables 1, 2 and 3, controlling behaviours have been abbreviated as full questions don't fit in the tables. For full questions see the [key terms and definitions](#) section.

Table 1: Top 3 most common patterns for adults experiencing controlling behaviours by intimate partners only, at intensity 2 or above

Pattern	Stopped you contacting friends	Followed or tracked you	Stopped or controlled access	Stopped you getting you getting healthcare	Pressured you into work	Stopped you from working	Weighted Frequency
1	Sometimes	Sometimes	Never	Never	Never	Never	5,700
2	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	4,700
3	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Never	Never	Never	3,300

If an adult experienced at least one type of controlling behaviour (intensity 1 or more) and also experienced offending by an intimate partner, the most commonly occurring patterns were “a partner followed or kept track of your whereabouts” and either physical assault or harassment and threatening behaviour. These patterns were followed by “a partner stopping you seeing or contacting friends or family/whānau” sometimes occurring and physical assault.

Table 2: Top 3 most common patterns for adults experiencing at least one type of controlling behaviour and offending by an intimate partner

Pattern	Controlling behaviours	Offending	Weighted Frequency
1	Followed or tracked you “sometimes”	Physical assault	1,200
2	Followed or tracked you “sometimes”	Harassment and threatening behaviour	1,100
3	Stopped you contacting friends “sometimes”	Physical assault	1,000

Among those who experienced controlling behaviours with an intensity of 2 or more in combination with offending by intimate partners, the most commonly occurring pattern was three different controlling behaviours frequently occurring (stop you seeing friends/family, follow or track you, access to technology/transport), one controlling behaviour sometimes occurring (pressuring work) and being a victim of physical assault. This was followed by a group who experienced three controlling behaviours sometimes occurring (stop you seeing friends/family, follow or track you, stop paid work) and both physical assault and harassment and threatening behaviour. The third most commonly occurring pattern was following or tracking behaviour sometimes occurring, pressured work sometimes occurring and sexual assault.

Table 3: Top 3 most common patterns for adults experiencing controlling behaviour at intensity 2 or more and offending by an intimate partner

Pattern	Controlling behaviours	Offending	Weighted frequency
1	Stopped you contacting friends “frequently” Followed or tracked you “frequently” Stopped or controlled access “frequently” Pressured you into work “sometimes”	Physical assault	820
2	Stopped you contacting friends “sometimes” Followed or tracked you “sometimes” Stopped you from working “sometimes”	Physical assault Harassment and threatening behaviour	790
3	Followed or tracked you “sometimes” Pressured you into work “sometimes”	Sexual assault	720

Of adults who had a partner in the previous 12 months and experienced offending by a family member, 88% experienced one type of offence¹⁴. The most common offence by a family member was physical assault (38%). The weighted frequencies¹⁵ of patterns can be seen in table 4. The most common pattern (two offence types or more) exhibited by adults was “Physical assault” and “Harassment and threatening behaviour”.

Table 4: All patterns of adults who had a partner in the previous 12 months and experienced offending by family members

Pattern	Sexual assault	Physical assault	Harassment and threatening behaviour	Other	Weighted frequency
1	Not victim	Victim	Not victim	Not victim	24,100
2	Not victim	Not victim	Victim	Not victim	15,900
3	Victim	Not victim	Not victim	Not victim	9,000
4	Not victim	Not victim	Not victim	Victim	7,400
5	Not victim	Victim	Not victim	Victim	1,800
6	Not victim	Victim	Victim	Not victim	1,500
7	Victim	Victim	Not victim	Not victim	1,300
8	Victim	Not victim	Not victim	Victim	1,000
9	Victim	Not victim	Victim	Not victim	740
10	Not victim	Not victim	Victim	Victim	580
11	Victim	Victim	Not victim	Victim	170
12	Not victim	Victim	Victim	Victim	120

Of adults who did not have a partner in the previous 12 months and experienced offending by a family member, 95% experienced one type of offence. Similarly, to those with partners, the most common offence by a family member was physical assault (39%). The weighted frequencies of patterns can be seen in table 5. The most common pattern (two offence types or more) exhibited by adults was “Physical assault” and “Harassment and threatening behaviour”.

¹⁴ When referring to offences in table 2,3,4 and 5, there may be one or more incidents of that offence type, but we only look at the prevalence of the offence type

¹⁵ Weighted frequencies use the calculated person weights and actually survey frequencies to estimate total of the population.

Table 5: All patterns of adults who did not have a partner in the previous 12 months and experienced offending by family members

Pattern	Sexual assault	Physical assault	Harassment and threatening behaviour	Other	Weighted frequency
1	Not victim	Victim	Not victim	Not victim	9,000
2	Not victim	Not victim	Not victim	Victim	4,900
3	Not victim	Not victim	Victim	Not victim	4,000
4	Victim	Not victim	Not victim	Not victim	3,900
5	Not victim	Victim	Victim	Not victim	380
6	Victim	Victim	Not victim	Not victim	310
7	Not victim	Victim	Not victim	Victim	290
8	Not victim	Not victim	Victim	Victim	50
9	Not victim	Victim	Victim	Victim	40

2.4 Who experiences offending by family members and controlling behaviours?¹⁶

Subgroups in this analysis are often compared to the NZ average – this refers to people aged 15 years or over (adults)

This section looks at the demographics that are significantly different from the NZ average for each grouping of offending/controlling behaviours.

Controlling behaviours (Intensity scale 2 or more)

Of adults who had a partner within the previous 12 months, females are twice as likely to experience controlling behaviours at a higher intensity (2 or more on our scale referenced in section 2.3 and in Figure 6) than males. Results for non-binary adults and of other genders were suppressed due to a large margin of error.

¹⁶ Results may be suppressed as the estimate is considered too unreliable to use

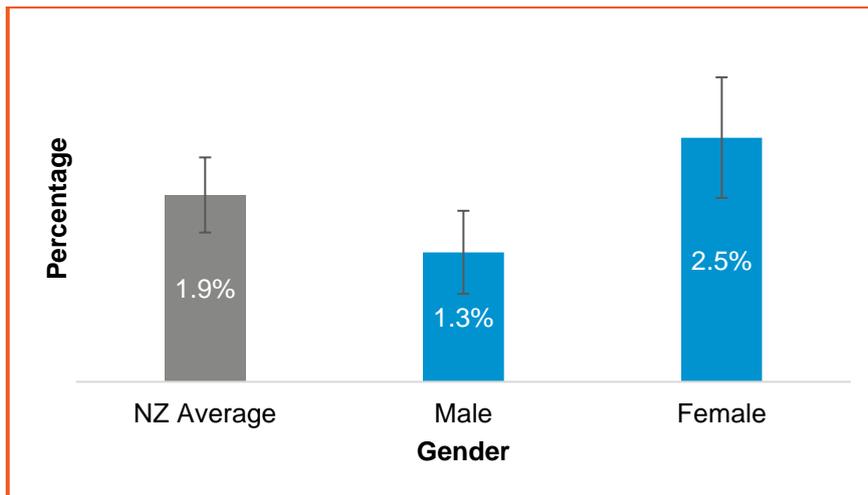


Figure 7: Percentage of adults who experienced controlling behaviours with an intensity of 2 or more, by gender

Adults who were separated and never married/in a civil union at the time of survey were significantly more likely to experience controlling behaviours at a higher intensity (16.3%, and 5.1%, respectively, see Figure 8) than adults in other marital/relationship statuses. Results were suppressed for adults who were divorced or widowed due to a large margin of error.

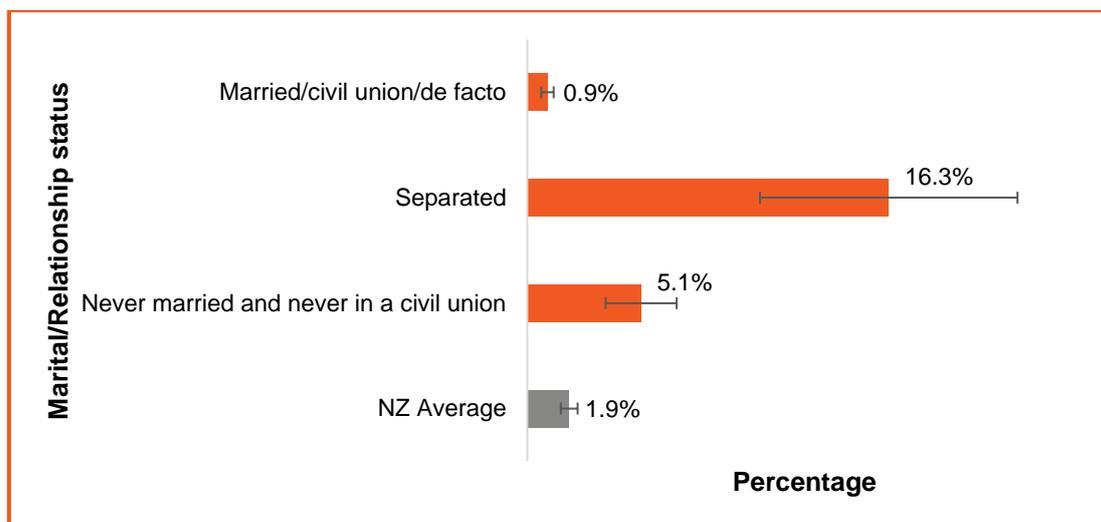


Figure 8: Percentage of adults who experienced controlling behaviours with an intensity of 2 or more, by marital/relationship status

Non-partnered people at the time of survey were significantly more likely to experience controlling behaviours at a higher intensity than partnered people (legally and not legally registered).

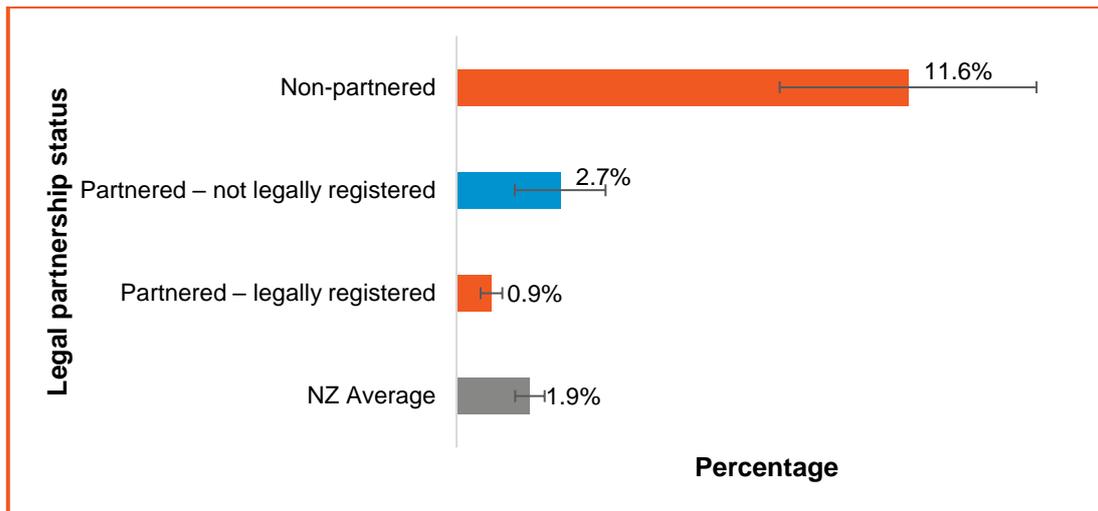


Figure 9: Percentage of adults who experienced controlling behaviours with an intensity of 2 or more, by legal partnership status

Māori adults were twice as likely to experience controlling behaviours at a higher intensity than NZ Europeans and the NZ average overall. The results for other ethnicities were suppressed due to a large margin of error.

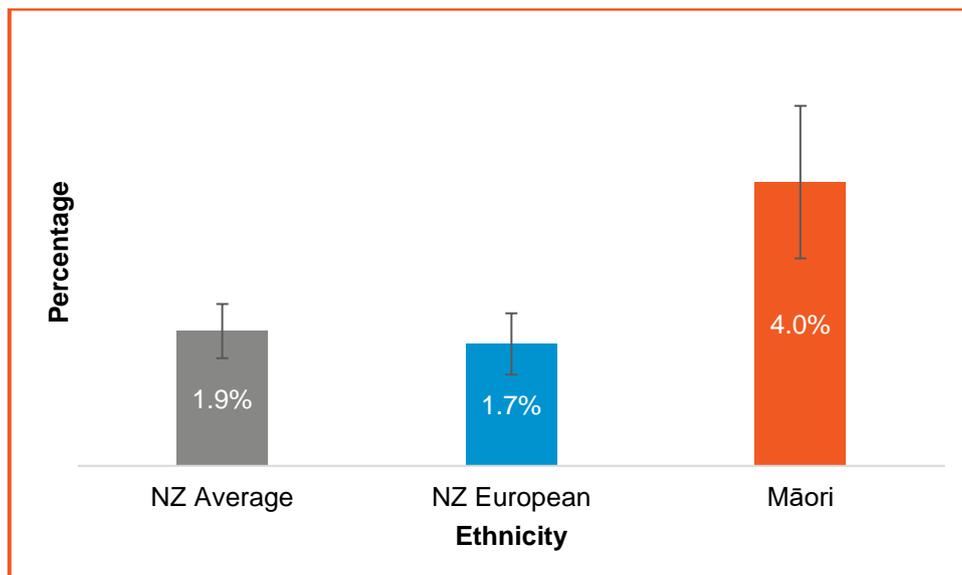


Figure 10: Percentage of adults who experienced controlling behaviours with an intensity of 2 or more, by ethnicity

Adults in the 15-29-year age group were significantly more likely to experience controlling behaviours at a higher intensity than adults in the 30-64-year age group, 4.5% and 1.6% respectively. Their experience was also significantly different to the NZ average (1.9%). The results for the 65 years and over age group were suppressed due to a large margin of error.

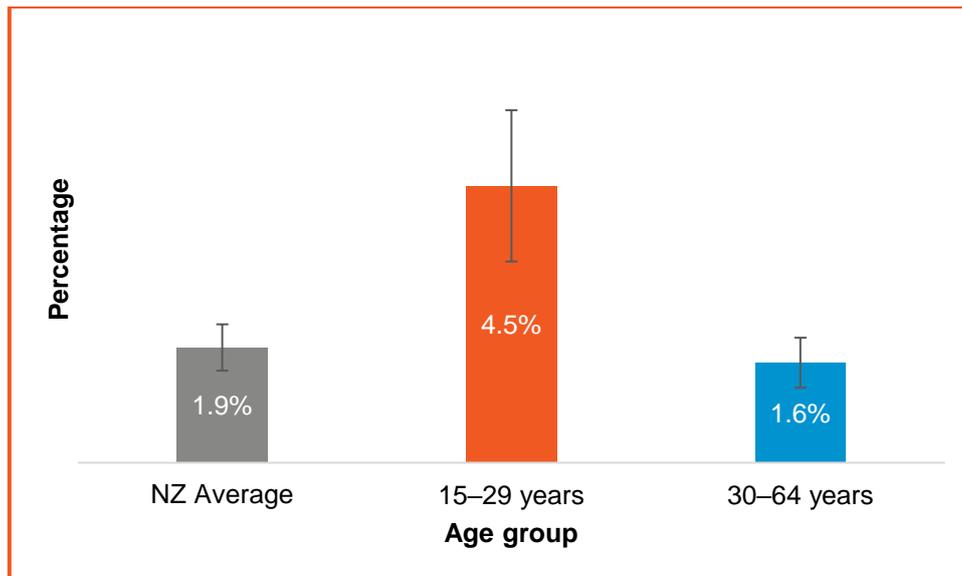


Figure 11: Percentage of adults who experienced controlling behaviours with an intensity of 2 or more, by age group

Adults living in multi person households or in a one parent with child(ren) household were significantly more likely to experience controlling behaviours at a higher intensity than the NZ average.

Controlling behaviours and offending by intimate partners

Of adults who had a partner within the previous 12 months and experienced both offending by an intimate partner and at least one controlling behaviour, females were significantly more likely to experience both offending by intimate partners and at least one controlling behaviour than the NZ average. The results for males were suppressed due to a large margin of error.

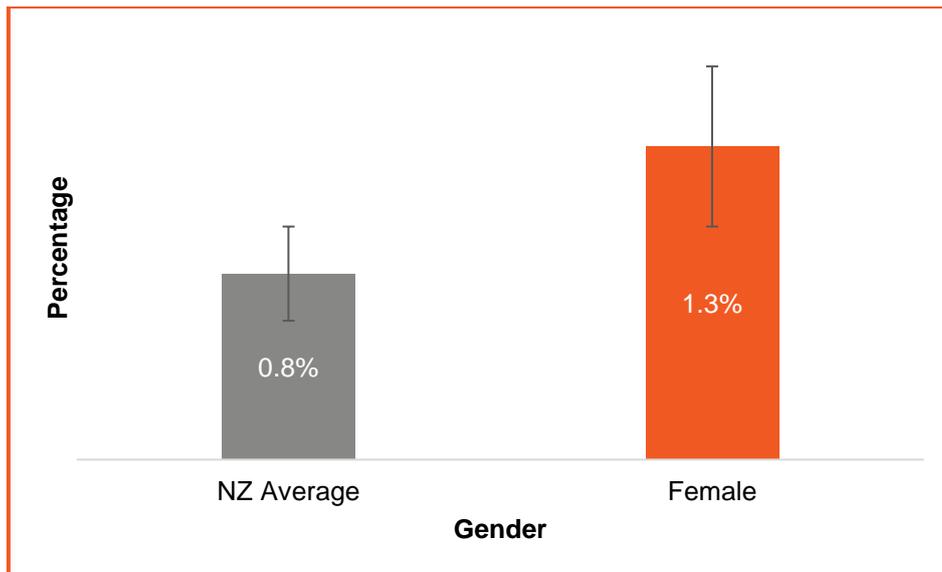


Figure 12: Percentage of adults who experienced controlling behaviours and offending by an intimate partner, by gender

Māori adults were significantly more likely to experience both offending by intimate partners and controlling behaviour than NZ European adults or any adult with a partner in the last 12 months. The results for other ethnicities were suppressed due to a large margin of error.

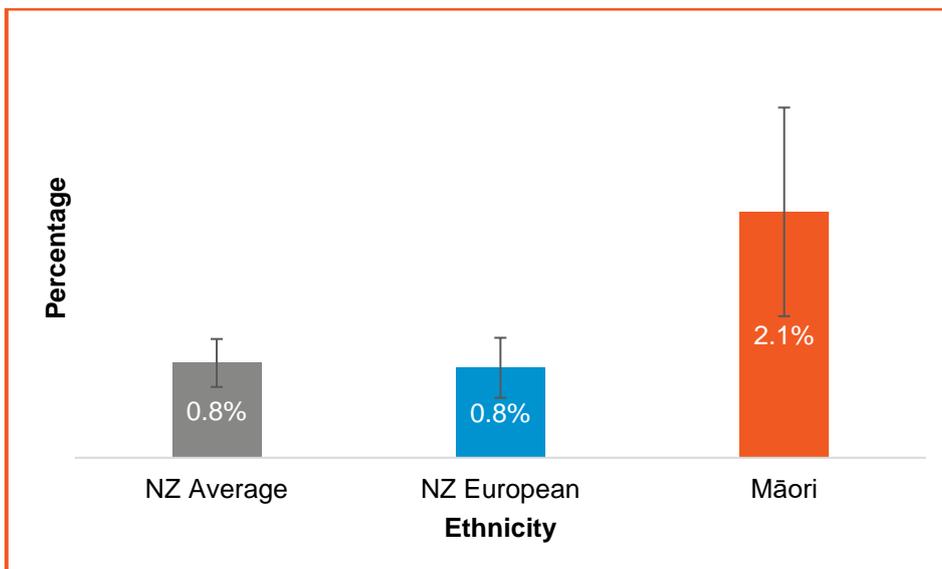


Figure 13: Percentage of adults who experienced controlling behaviours and offending by an intimate partner, by ethnicity

Adults in the 15-29-year age group were more likely to experience offending by an intimate partner and controlling behaviour than adults in the 30-64-year age group, 2.1% and 0.7% respectively. They were also significantly more likely to experience this behaviour and offending than the NZ average. The 65 years and over age group was suppressed²².

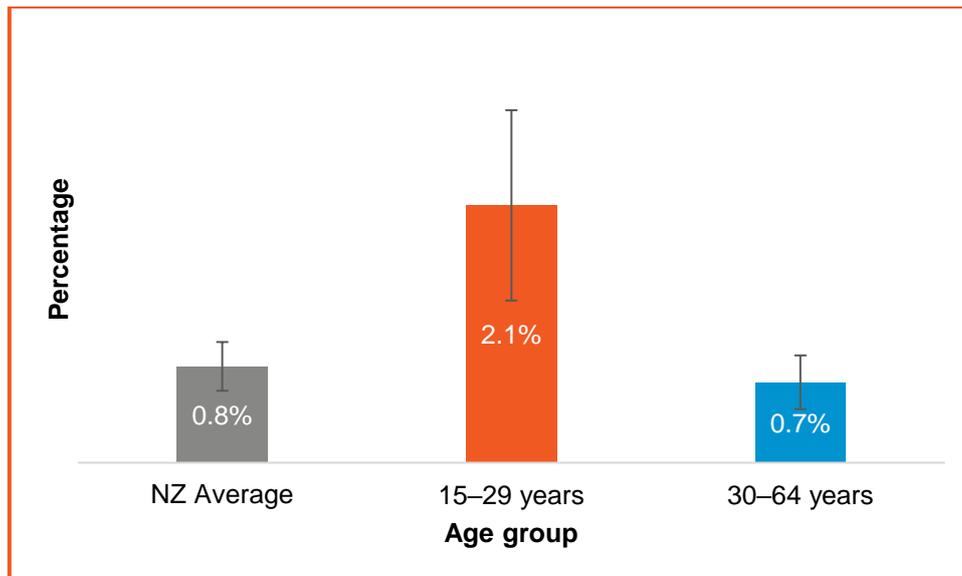


Figure 14: Percentage of adults who experienced controlling behaviours and offending by an intimate partner, by age group

Adults who were separated, never married/in civil union or non-partnered at the time of survey were significantly more likely to experience offending and controlling behaviours by intimate partners than the NZ average overall. Results for most other relationship statuses were suppressed due to a large margin of error.

Offending by family members (inclusive of intimate partners)

The following section looks at adults who experienced at least one offence by a family member and includes offences by intimate partners. In the next section, we look at offending by intimate partners separately.

Of adults who experienced any offending by family members, Females were three times as likely as males to experience offending, 3.2% and 1.1% respectively. Males were significantly less likely to experience offending by family members than the NZ average and females were significantly more likely to experience offending than the NZ average.

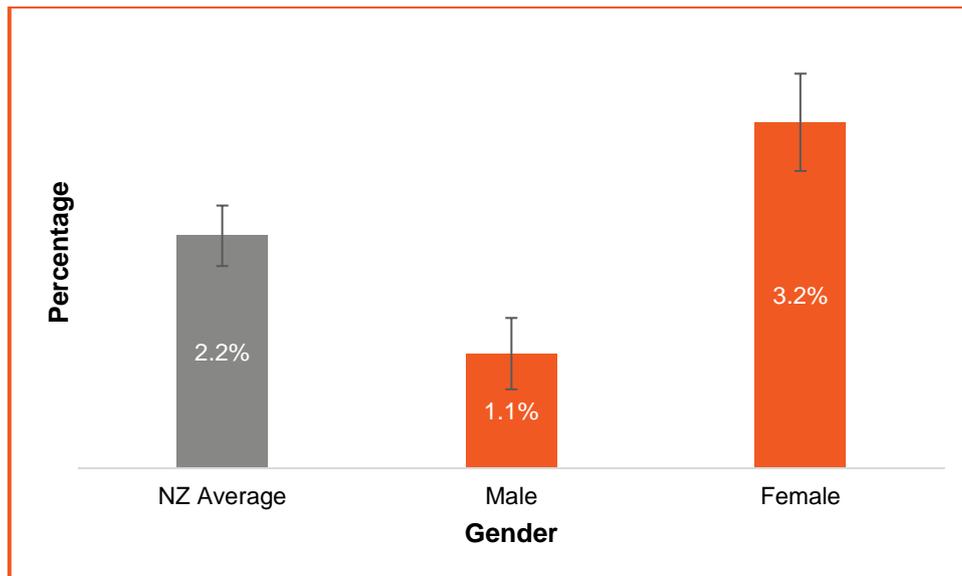


Figure 15: Percentage of adults who experienced offending by family members, by gender

NZ European adults and Pacific Peoples experience a similar rate of offending (2.3% and 2.7%, respectively). Māori adults were twice as likely to experience offending by family members than both NZ Europeans and Pacific Peoples. The results for other ethnicities were suppressed due to a large margin of error.

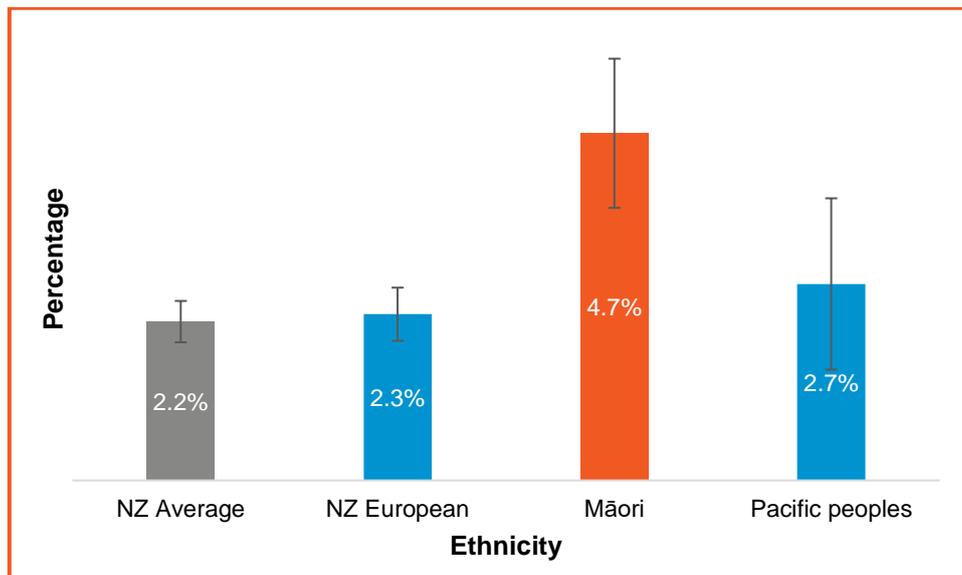


Figure 16: Percentage of adults who experienced offending by family members, by ethnicity

Separated adults at the time of survey were significantly more likely to experience offending by family members (13.1%) than any other marital/relationship status. Once again, if an adult was in a legally registered marital/relationship/partnership, they were less likely than the NZ average to experience offending by family members.

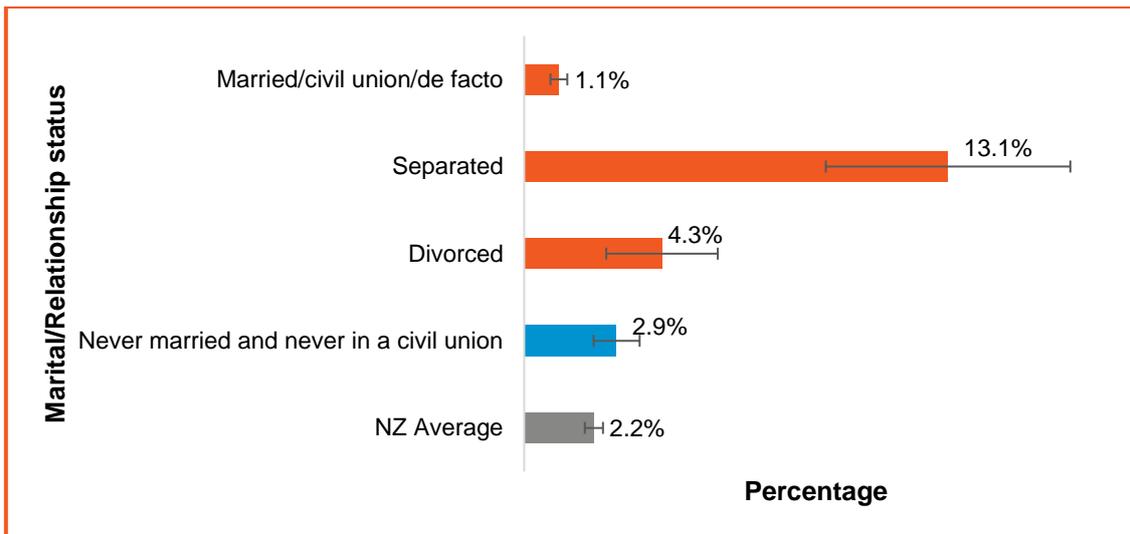


Figure 17: Percentage of adults who experienced offending by family members, by marital/relationship status

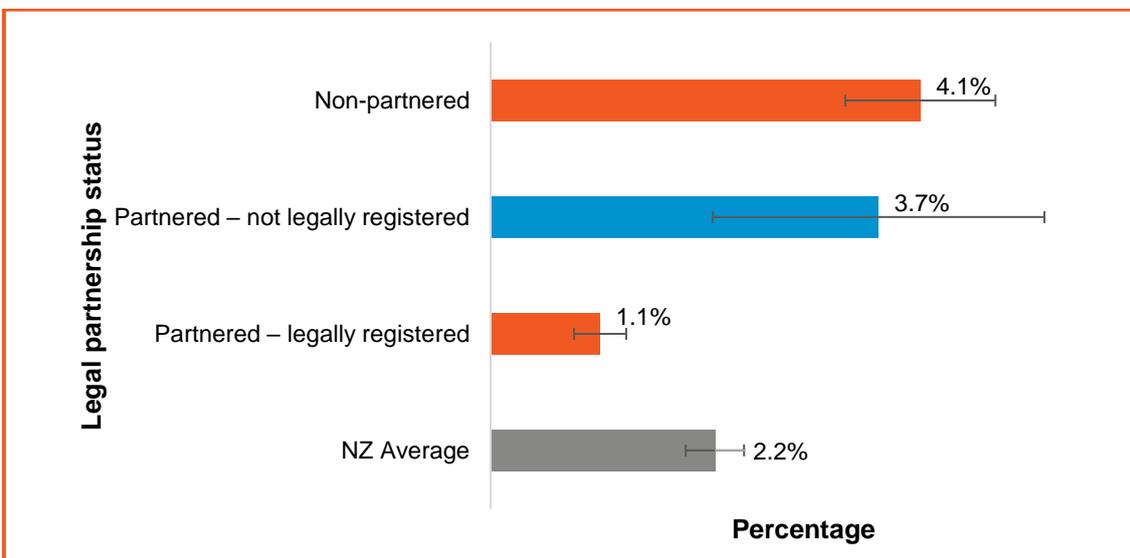


Figure 18: Percentage of adults who experienced offending by family members, by partnership status

Adults living in one-or-more-children households were twice as likely to experience offending by family members than adults living in no-children households (3.2% and 1.5% respectively).

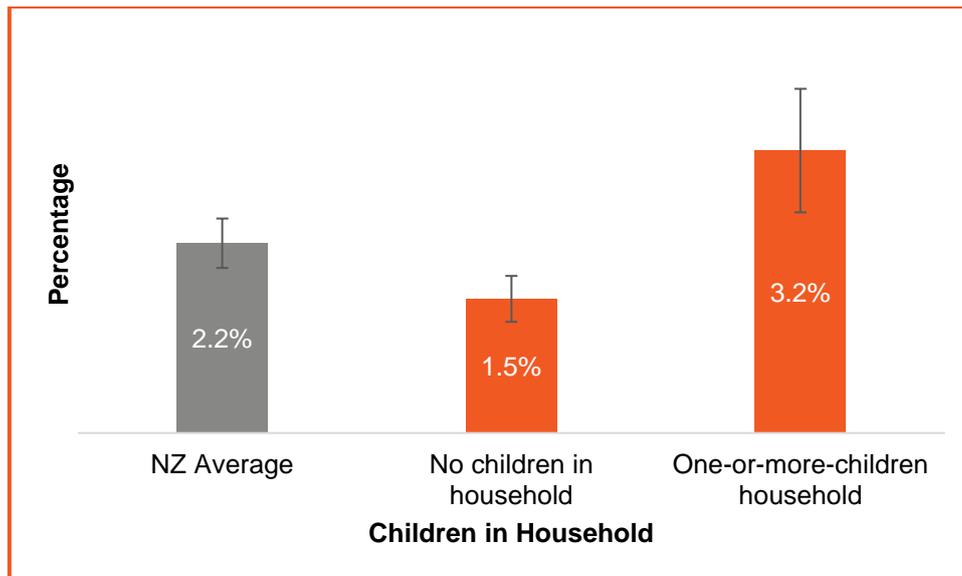


Figure 19: Percentage of adults who experienced offending by family members, by children in household status

Adults living in a one parent with child(ren) household were significantly more likely to experience offending by family members, almost five times more than a one-person household or other multi-person household and almost 10 times more likely than a couple with child(ren) household.

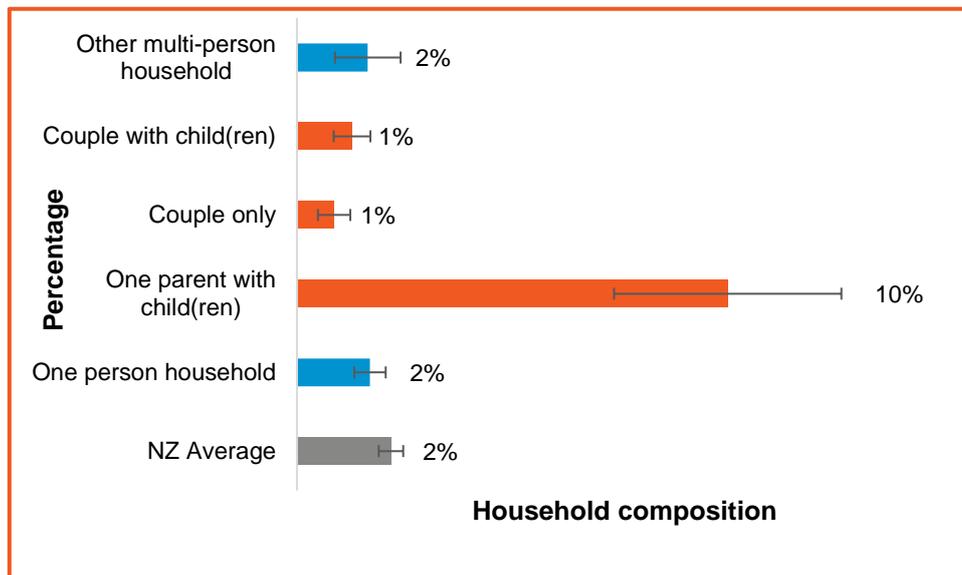


Figure 20: Percentage of adults who experienced offending by family members, by household composition

Adults were more likely to be offended against by a male than a female. Victims were significantly more likely to be female than male when the perpetrator is male.

Of all adults who experienced offending by family members, 43% were offended against by a partner, 27% were offended against by an ex-partner and 38% were offended against by other family member(s).

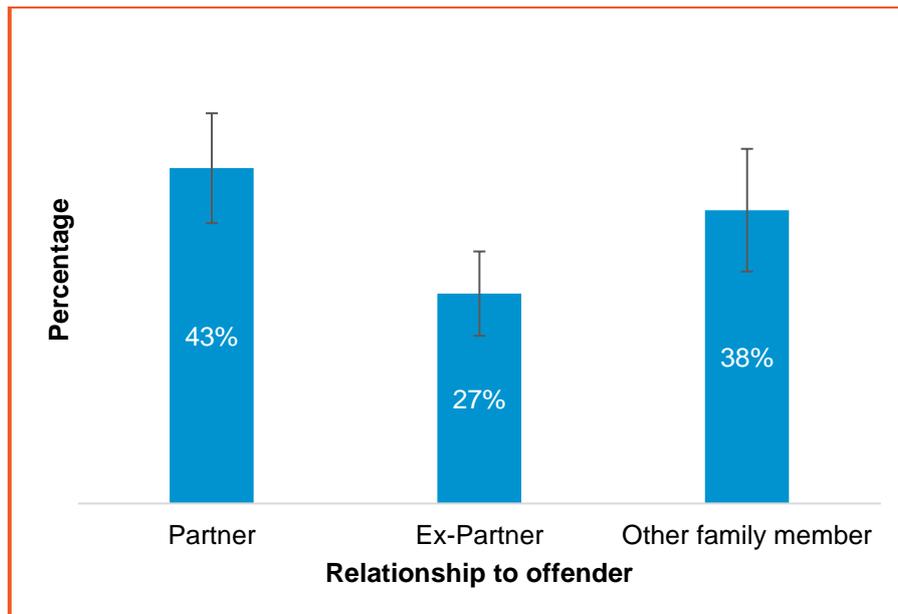


Figure 21: Percentage of adults who experienced offending by family members, by relationship to offender

Offending by intimate partners

Females are nearly four times more likely to have experienced intimate partner violence than males (2.3% and 0.6% respectively). Other genders were suppressed due to large margin of error. Females were victims significantly more when compared to the NZ average.

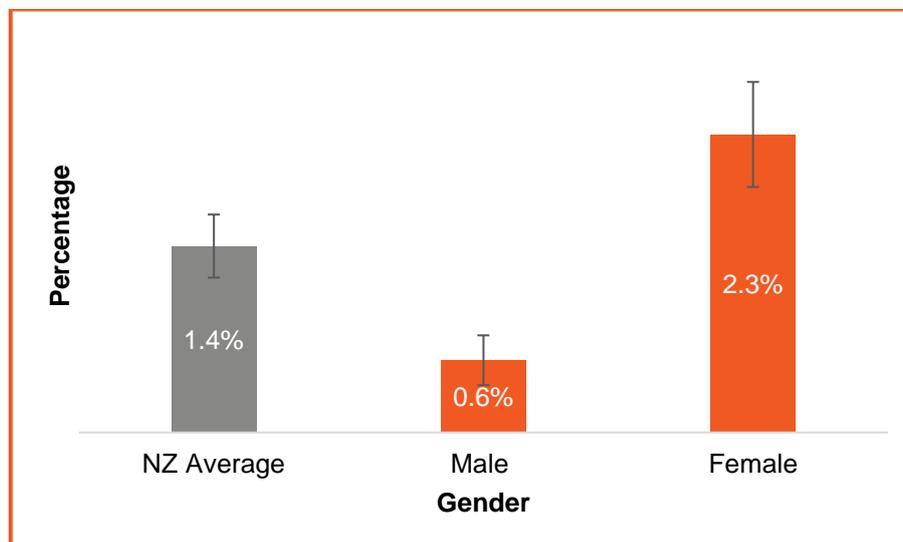


Figure 22: Percentage of adults who experienced offending by intimate partners, by gender

Māori adults are nearly twice as likely to experience offending than NZ European adults (2.9% and 1.5% respectively).

If an adult lived in a household with one-or-more children, then they were twice as likely to experience offending than an adult living in a household with no children. Similarly, to family violence, separated adults were more likely to experience intimate partner violence. With this

data, we are unable to analyse whether the separation came before or after the offending, however it is known that in relationships where there is already controlling behaviours and/or offences, separation is a point of heightened risk.

Factors associated with offending by family members and controlling behaviours by intimate partners

Multivariate modelling was used to explore relationships between various demographic characteristics and experiences of offending by family members and controlling behaviours by intimate partners. These relationships were also modelled to determine the most significant factors associated with offending by family members or controlling behaviours by intimate partners. More detail about the modelling can be found in [Appendix B](#).

Controlling behaviour only

Age came through strongly as being associated with controlling behaviours at intensity 2 or more (scale referenced in section 2.3 and in Figure 6) when offending was not present, with people aged 15–19 being the most likely to experience controlling behaviours (without offending).

Māori were disproportionately likely to experience controlling behaviours at intensity 2 or more (without offending present).

Those who are not actively seeking work or are unemployed were associated with experiencing controlling behaviours at intensity 2 or more (without offending present). One type of controlling behaviour we ask about was a partner stopping the victim from doing paid work.

Controlling behaviours and offending by intimate partners

People aged 20-59, who are not actively seeking work and who identify as bisexual were associated with experiences of controlling behaviours and offending by intimate partners. In our descriptive analysis, sexual orientation (for example identifying as gay, lesbian or bisexual) was often suppressed due to small sample size so this gives an indication of how sexual orientation can be a factor for these behaviours and offending.

Offending by family members

People who are Māori, identify as bisexual and are aged 15-49 years were all more likely to experience offending by family members. Females and people not seeking work also had high odds of experiencing offending by family members.

Offending by intimate partners

Demographic characteristics associated with offending by intimate partners include, gender; women and people identifying as non-binary or other genders are more likely to be impacted by intimate partner violence. People identifying as bisexual, and those not seeking work were also disproportionately impacted by intimate partner violence.

All age groups from 15 to 59 were associated with offending by intimate partners but being age 20-49 years increased the likelihood of experiencing this considerably.

2.5 Patterns of help-seeking behaviour

The following section describes help-seeking behaviour of victims. The NZCVS asked if victims were seeking help from family or whānau, friends or neighbours (informal help), as well as help from victim support services, police and medical organisations (formal help). We will report the findings for all help, as well as help from family or whānau, friends or neighbours, formal help, and help from victim support services (subset of formal help) each specifically. Victims will be grouped similarly to the grouping from previous sections (see Figure 21).

Any respondents who indicated that they had experienced any controlling behaviours by intimate partners or at least one offence by a family member (defined in [section 1.1](#)) were directed to an offending by family members module. In this module, respondents were asked about some victim support services (government and non-government) that they were aware of and then if they had contacted or approached any of the services that were outlined in the questionnaire.

If the respondent had contact with a victim support service¹⁷, there were follow up questions asking about the type of help received and how helpful that service was. If a respondent didn't seek help from a victim support service, they were asked about their reasons for not seeking help. Respondents were also asked if they sought help from family, whānau, friends or neighbours, what help they received and how helpful it was, and if they didn't seek help, what their reasons were.

Due to small sample sizes, individual victim support services cannot be reported on. However, the types of help received from these services have been grouped and these results appear in this section where the margin of error is acceptable.

Of all adults who had partners in the previous 12 months and experienced an offence by a family member or controlling behaviour by an intimate partner, 53% were reported to have sought help from formal and/or informal sources. Of all adults who did not have a partner in the previous 12 months and experienced offending by a family member, 77% sought help from formal and/or informal sources.

Awareness of support services is generally high for all groups that we looked at, but in most groups, the rate of seeking help from support services was often the lowest (though not significantly different) compared with all formal help and informal help.

¹⁷ The services or types of services asked about include Victim Support, Women's Refuge, Rape Crisis, Citizens Advice Bureau, Lifeline Aotearoa, Family Violence website/helpline, Victims of Crime Info line, Religious organisations, Whānau Ora or other Māori organisations, Work-based support, Court Services for Victims and other government agencies (excluding Police). As the list of services is not exhaustive, type of help received will be related to the specific services offered by each of the above.

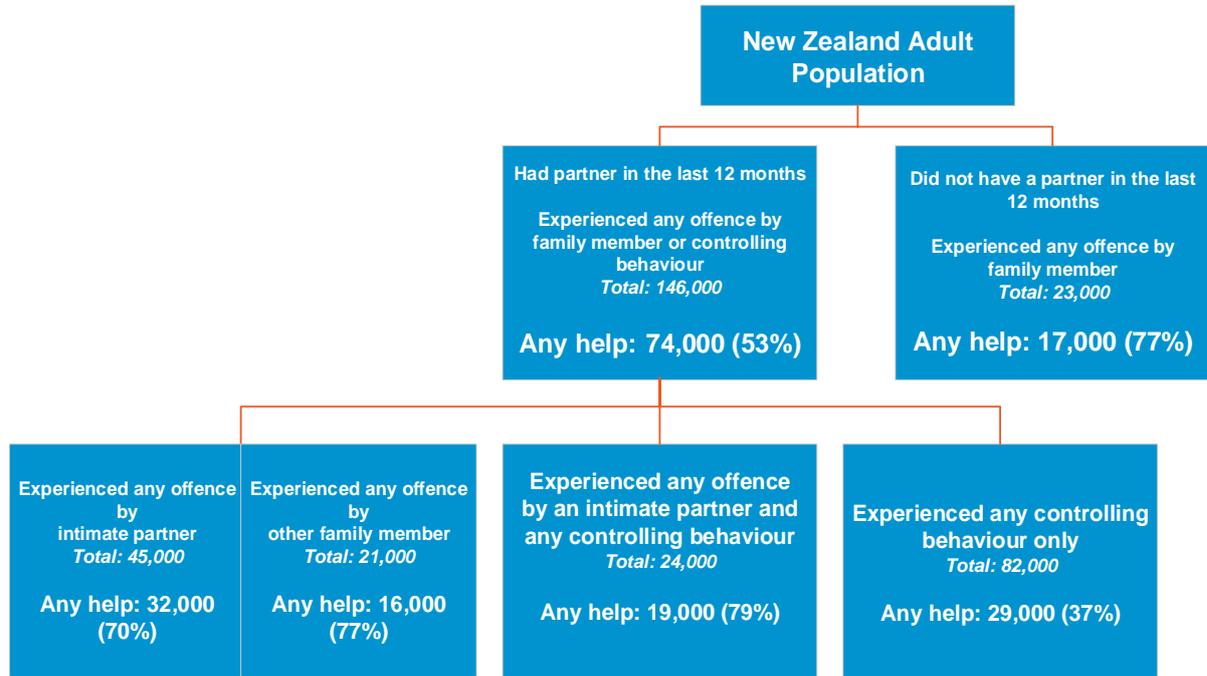


Figure 23: Number (percent) of Aotearoa New Zealand adults who sought help from formal and/or informal sources. Adults who did not respond to help-seeking questions are excluded. Totals are taken from Figure 3.¹⁸

Controlling behaviours only

Adults who experienced controlling behaviours only were less likely to seek help than adults who experienced both controlling behaviours and offences by intimate partners, 37% compared to 79% respectively. This was the case across all help-seeking behaviours – see Figure 24 and Figure 25.

¹⁸ People who experienced only controlling behaviours were not asked about medical help or reporting to Police as these behaviours were not coded as offences

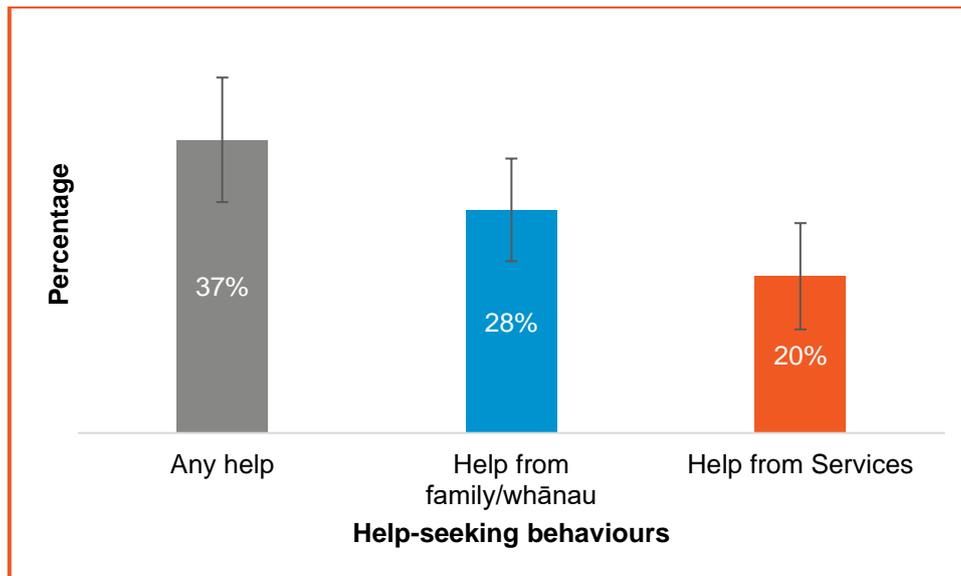


Figure 24: Percentage of adults who experience controlling behaviours by intimate partners only and their help-seeking behaviours

The reasons for not seeking help from victim support services were related to the respondent's perception of whether help was needed (they thought it was a "normal" behaviour or believed that they could handle it themselves) (63%), or were uncertain how to access help (15%). 29% of respondents said that they had "other reasons" for not seeking help or that they did not have a reason for not seeking help at all.

The main reason for not seeking help from family/whānau or friends was related to the respondent's perception of whether help was needed (67%).

The type of help received for those who approached victim support services was usually related to information and advice (66%) or the opportunity to talk to someone or have counselling (58%). On average, victim support services were scored a 7 on a helpfulness scale of 0 (not helpful) to 10 (very helpful).

94% of adults received help from family when they asked, and help was usually in the form of information and advice (96%) or practical ways of helping such as providing shelter, financial help or transport (57%). On average, respondents rated help from family as an 8 on a helpfulness scale of 0 (not helpful) to 10 (very helpful).

Controlling behaviours and offending by intimate partners

79% of adults who experienced both controlling behaviours and offences by intimate partners sought help from formal and/or informal sources. The proportion of victims seeking help appears to increase considerably when offending by an intimate partner has occurred, compared to experiencing controlling behaviours only. (Respondents may have experienced other offences that were not in our definition of offending by family members/intimate partners).

We were able to directly compare this group with those experiencing controlling behaviours only as both samples were taken from respondents who have had a partner in the previous

12 months and were offended against by an intimate partner rather than by other family members.

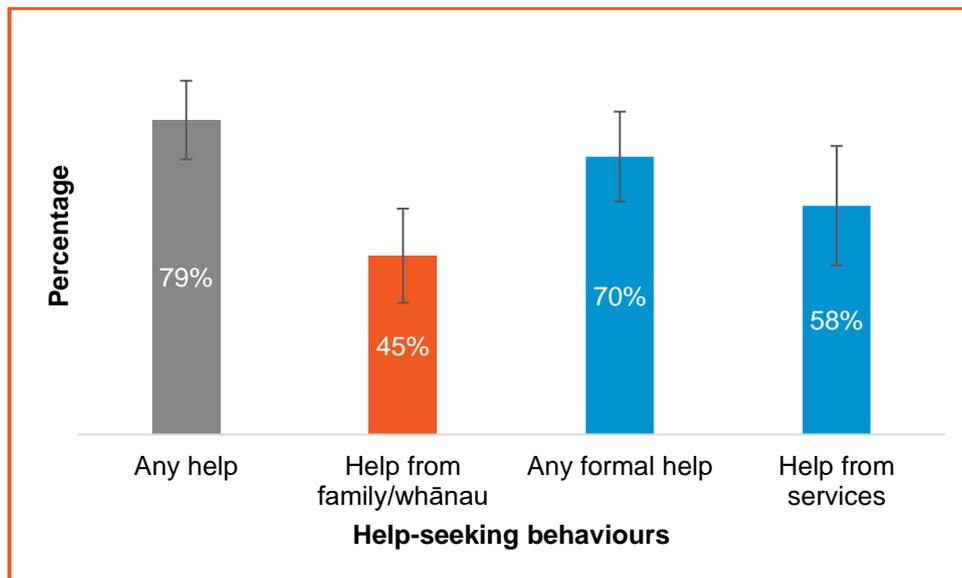


Figure 25: Percentage of adults who experience controlling behaviours by intimate partners and offending by intimate partners and their help-seeking behaviours

The types of help received for those who did approach victim support services were usually related to information and advice (77%) or the opportunity to talk to someone or have counselling (70%), practical help was also offered (47%). Support services scored an average of 7 out of 10 on the scale of helpfulness. Respondents who received help (90% of adults who asked) from family/whānau or friends were provided with information and advice (98%) or practical help (82%).

Offences by family members or intimate partners

Figure 26 shows the help-seeking behaviour of all adults who experienced offending by family members, regardless of partnership status in the previous 12 months. Of all the adults in this group, 73% sought help from formal and/or informal sources.

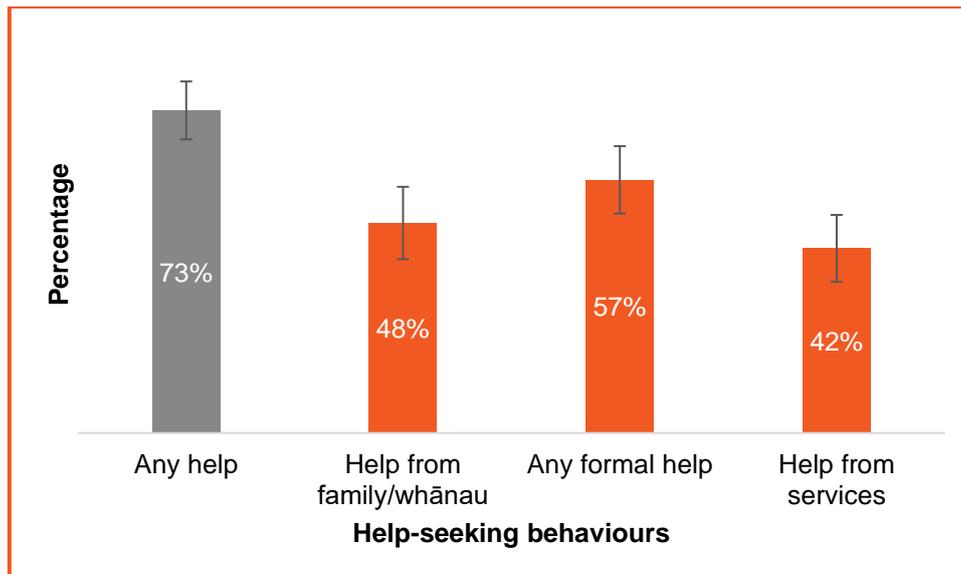


Figure 26: Percentage of adults who experienced offending by family members and their help-seeking behaviours, includes respondents who had a partner in the previous 12 months and respondents who have not had a partner in the previous 12 months

Of adults who sought help from support services, 67% received information or advice, 71% were able to talk to someone or receive counselling and 39% received practical help. Help from services scored an average of 7 out of 10 on the scale of helpfulness.

Of adults who sought help from family/whānau or friends (94% of adults who asked), 94% received information or advice and 65% received practical help. This help was considered useful and scored an average of 8 out of 10 on the helpfulness scale.

61% of adults who did not ask for help from support services decided not to do it because they did not need help, could handle it themselves or thought the behaviour was normal. In addition, 35% of victims thought the matter was private. For adults who did not ask family for help, the reasons were similar; 56% did not think help was necessary and 38% thought the matter was private.

61% of victims would have liked to access counselling or someone they can talk to but did not receive this help when they sought it.

42% of the total victims in this group said the police found out about the incident and 32% of the total victims in this group said they reported this themselves. 15% of victims saw a medical professional following the incident.

Those who had a partner in the previous 12 months

Of adults who had a partner in the previous 12 months and experienced offending by family members, 72% sought any sort of help, 44% sought help from family and whānau and 42% sought help from victim support services.

Of adults who sought help from family, 94% received it. The proportion of those seeking formal help is slightly higher than those seeking help from family and whānau, but the difference is not statistically significant.

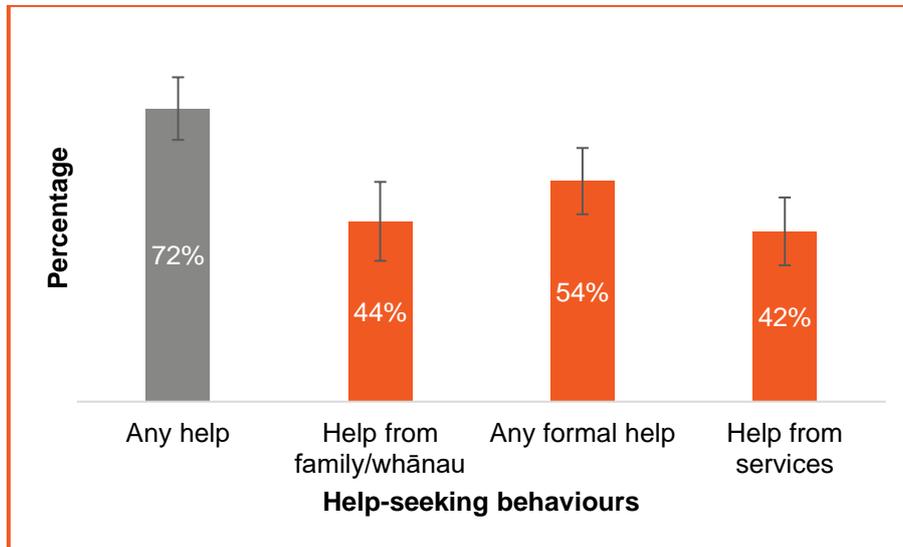


Figure 27: Percentage of adults who experienced offending by family members and had a partner in the previous 12 months and their help-seeking behaviours

The proportion of help-seeking for adults who have had a partner in the previous 12 months appears to be slightly lower than for adults who have not had a partner (see Figure 27 and Figure 28 for comparison). However, these differences are not significant.

Those who had no partner in the previous 12 months

Of adults who did not have a partner in the previous 12 months and experienced offending by family members, 77% were found to seek any sort of help, 57% sought help from family and whānau and 42% sought help from victim support services.

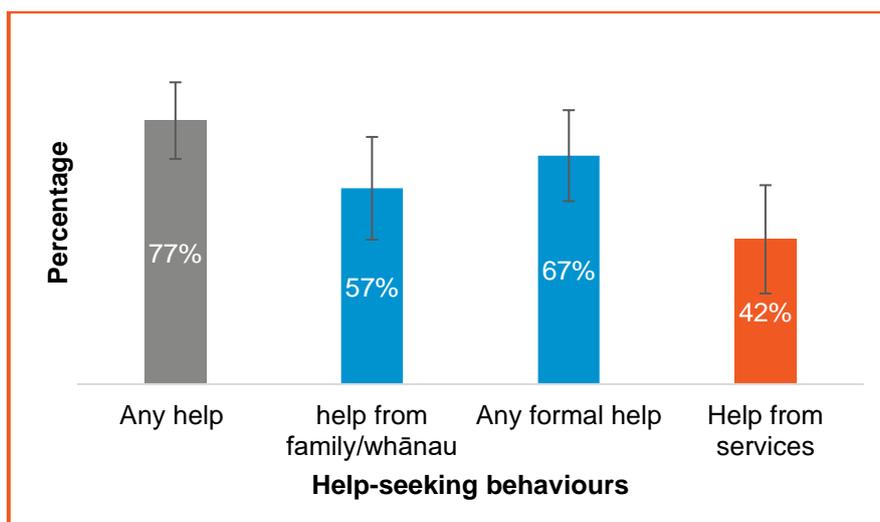


Figure 28: Percentage of adults who experienced offending by family members and had no partner in the previous 12 months and their help-seeking behaviours

Of adults who sought help from family, 94% received it. Having a higher sample of adults who did not have a partner in the previous 12 months and experienced offending by family members would be useful for more in-depth analysis of differences between this group and those with partners over last 12 months in their help-seeking behaviours.

Who is not seeking help for offending by family members and controlling behaviours?

Of adults who experienced any offending by family members or controlling behaviours by intimate partners, 47% did not seek any help. Males were significantly less likely to seek help compared to the average adult in Aotearoa New Zealand. Females were significantly more likely to seek help than the average adult in Aotearoa New Zealand. Adults with a personal income over \$60,000 were significantly less likely to seek help than the NZ average.

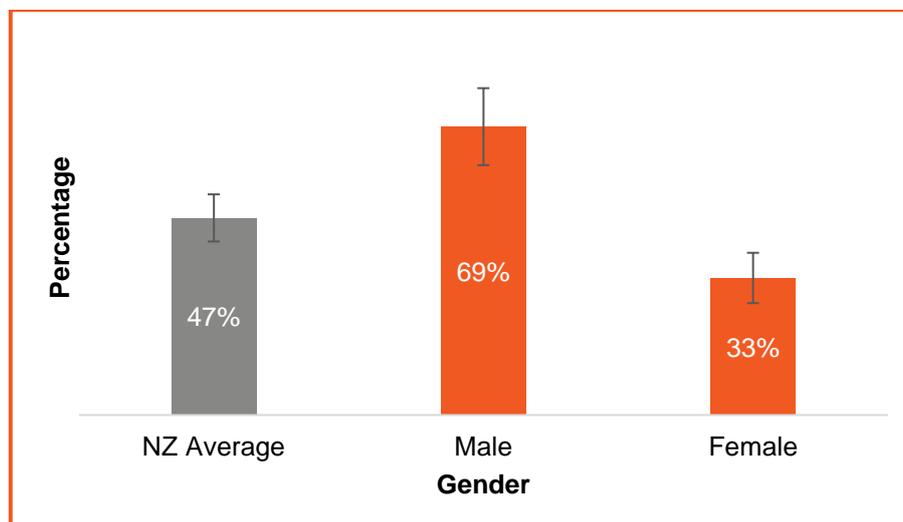


Figure 29: Percentage of adults who experienced either offending by family members or controlling behaviours but did not seek any help, by gender

To understand who is not seeking help and why, we have separated the analysis by gender (male and female; results from adults of other genders are suppressed).

A significant proportion of both male (68%) and female (61%) victims did not seek help from victim support services because they did not believe it was needed. The same reason prevailed for not seeking help from family (males – 71% and females 50%). Additionally, some female victims did not ask family for help because they believed that the matter was private (27%).

Of adults who only experienced controlling behaviours and no offending by intimate partners, 63% did not seek any help. Males were once again significantly less likely to seek any help than females, but neither were significantly different from the NZ average. For both males and females, they did not ask for help from services because it was not needed (65% and 61%, respectively). Males who did not seek help from family said it was because they did not

need help (77%) and this was similar for females (47%). There were other groups who did not seek help, but these differences were not significant, and the sampling size means many demographic results for not seeking help are suppressed.

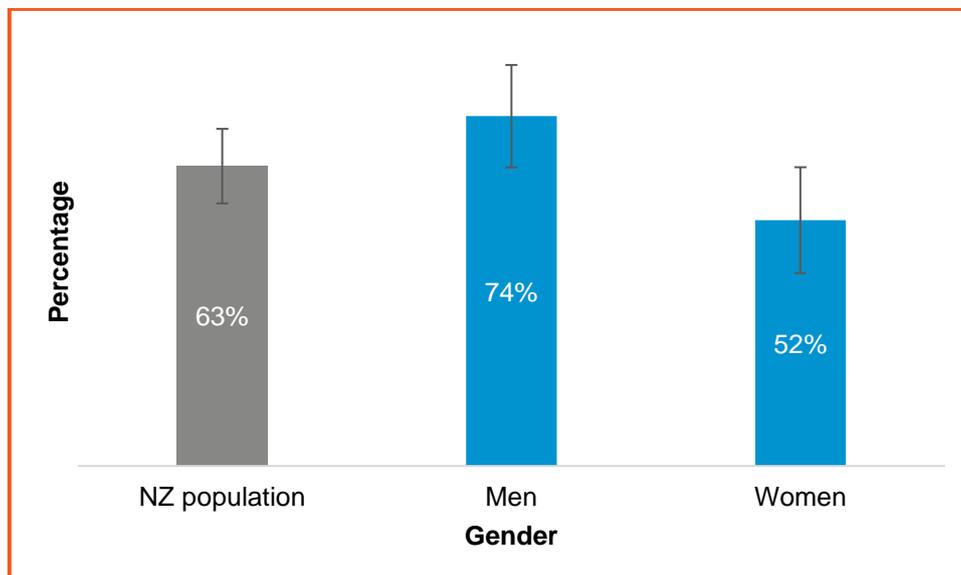


Figure 30: Percentage of adults who experienced controlling behaviours only but did not seek any help, by gender

Key factors associated with help-seeking

Any help: The presence of physical assault increases the likelihood of any help-seeking. Other factors associated with any help-seeking are gender; female victims were associated with seeking any help and having experienced both offending and controlling behaviours by intimate partners. The likelihood of seeking any help was similar for all offender relationships (partner, ex-partner and other family), although offending ex-partners and other family members had slightly higher odds than offending partners.

No help: Experiencing sexual assault was increased the likelihood of not seeking help and being retired was also highly associated with no help-seeking.

Help from family: female victims were associated with seeking help from family and experiencing harassment and threatening behaviour, physical assault and being separated were also factors that increased the likelihood of someone seeking help from family.

Formal help: There were quite a few factors associated with seeking formal help these included, being divorced, experiencing offending by non-intimate partner family members, experiencing physical assault and people between the ages of 30 and 49.

Help from victim support services: People who identified as gay or lesbian were considerably more likely to seek help from support services. People aged 20-59 years were also associated with seeking help from victim support services.

Refer to [Appendix B](#) for full modelling details.

2.6 Knowing someone experiencing offending by family members and further involvement

All respondents were asked about knowing someone who had experienced family/whānau incidents in the past 12 months and if they had any further involvement with the person (for example, talking to the victim, contacting police or victim support services). Respondents who had experienced family/whānau incidents were asked this question following the help-seeking questions.

Of all adults who responded to the question, 16% knew someone else experiencing family violence. Additionally, adults who experienced offending by family members themselves were asked if they knew anyone who had experienced family/whānau incidents in the past 12 months, and 49% of respondents said they did know someone. Of those adults who knew someone experiencing family/whānau incidents, 80% had further involvement in the matter. Most often they talked to the victim (86%) or offered the victim support (71%). Results for reasons for not having further involvement were suppressed due to a high margin of error.

2.7 Safety with family and whānau

NZCVS (Cycle 3) results found that 5% of adults felt unsafe with their family/whānau at some point within previous 12 months. This proportion increased to 43% for adults who experienced offending by family members, regardless of partnership in the previous 12 months. Respondents were also asked to rate how safe they feel with family and whānau, where 0 means you feel not at all safe and 10 means you feel completely safe. 64% of adults who experienced offending by family members answered with a score of 1 to 9 indicating they did not feel completely safe compared with 18% of all respondents who answered with a score of 1 to 9.

3 Discussion

The purpose of this report is to provide insights into the common patterns of offending by family members and controlling behaviour by intimate partners in Aotearoa New Zealand. It will also provide a greater understanding of help-seeking behaviour of victims who experience offending by family members and controlling behaviours by intimate partners. It is important to note that it is likely the survey has not captured people experiencing very high levels of coercive control.

From our analysis of those who experienced controlling behaviours only (at an intensity of 2 or more) by intimate partners, the most common behaviours occurring together were “stopping you seeing or contacting friends, family or whānau” and “following or keeping track of your whereabouts”. The frequency was “sometimes” for both behaviours. The second most common pattern experienced was all the behaviours we asked about occurring “sometimes”.

The most commonly occurring pattern of harm for adults who experienced both offending and controlling behaviours by intimate partners (at an intensity of 2 or more) involves 3 of the behaviours “frequently”, one behaviour “sometimes” and “physical assault”. This aligns with what we know from other literature; that physical violence is one tactic among many deployed by people who use violence to control their victim and is usually coupled with other means of control.

Analysis of NZCVS data shows the demographic factors most likely to be associated with controlling behaviours and offending by family members. In particular, females are more likely to experience offending by family members and intimate partners. Females are also more likely to experience controlling behaviours at a higher intensity score although the difference is not statistically significant. Again, this aligns with the many studies describing the gendered nature of family violence.

Māori and young people (15-29 years old) are more likely than the NZ average to experience offending and controlling behaviours by intimate partners.

Adults who were separated or non-partnered at the time of the survey were more likely to experience offending by family members and controlling behaviours at a higher intensity. This could indicate that the victim has left an abusive relationship.

Unfortunately, early cycles of the NZCVS did not collect information about the impacts of controlling behaviour. These questions have been added to the survey from Cycle 4 and will allow future additional analysis of the impacts of controlling behaviour on different demographic groups.

The above patterns impact help-seeking behaviours and have important implications for FV prevention interventions. Our results show that adults who experienced only controlling behaviours by intimate partners were less likely to seek help than adults experiencing both controlling behaviours and offending by intimate partners. This finding is in line with Boxall and Morgan (2021) who found that women were less likely to seek help if the controlling

behaviours were not accompanied by physical or sexual violence. Often the reason for this group not seeking help was because they did not feel they needed help, or they did not believe intervention would be helpful. It is also possible that the behaviours were less harmful in the context of their relationship.

Context is key in understanding cases of family violence, including help-seeking behaviours. Who the abuser is, who else is present in the victim's life, where are they living, and the accessibility of formal help services all impact patterns of help-seeking. Understanding the quality of response from previous help-seeking also needs to be a consideration, have cumulative negative experiences with services or other support systems discouraged further help-seeking?

Comparative analysis of the different groups of victims, though not directly comparable, shows differences in help-seeking behaviours. If an adult experienced controlling behaviour only, they were less likely to seek help from victim support services. If an adult experienced offending and controlling behaviours by intimate partners, then they were less likely to seek help from family/whānau than formal help or help from victim support services.

The proportion of help-seeking for adults who experienced offending by family members and had a partner in the previous 12 months appears to be lower than for adults who did not have a partner in the previous 12 months (though this difference is not statistically significant). From these results, the importance of targeted support services that meet the varied needs of victims is evident.

The results found that males are less likely to seek help for offending by family members. They were significantly less likely to seek help than the NZ average and females. Similarly, if males experienced controlling behaviours they were less likely to seek help (though these differences were not statistically significant).

The most common reason for both males and females not seeking help included thinking the violence was normal or that help was not needed. These findings suggest that violence is normalised to an extent in Aotearoa New Zealand, and there are social barriers to help-seeking.

Nearly 50% of victims knew someone else experiencing family/whānau violence in the past 12 months; this rate is much higher than the New Zealand average, and most of these adults had further involvement. This is an important finding as it identifies a channel for sharing knowledge and informal help. Fanslow and Robinson (2010) suggest that support from family, whānau and friends could be improved with broader community outreach programs, especially since most women in their study told family, whānau or friends about their partners violence, or sought their help when preparing to leave.

The multivariate modelling in this study broadly aligned with the descriptive analysis. However, modelling additionally showed that it is important to better understand victimisation of people of diverse sexual orientations. For example, people who identify as bisexual are disproportionately impacted by offending by family members and controlling behaviours by intimate partners. Often the NZCVS sample size doesn't allow for in-depth analysis of the LGBTQIA+ population but modelling results indicate this is a priority for future research, as well as policymaking and the design of interventions.

The following table summarises the findings from this report that may have policy implications.

Table 6. Report findings with potential policy implications

Findings	Implications
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rates of help-seeking for adults with controlling behaviours only were lower than those who experienced IPV and controlling behaviours • Males who experienced either offending by family members or controlling behaviours by intimate partners are less likely to seek help as they often do not believe help is required • The 15-29-year-old age group experienced offending and controlling behaviours more often • Victims were significantly more likely to be female than male when the perpetrator was male. • Generally, help from victim support services was sought out less often than other sources of help 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention including education/promotion of healthy relationships (including for young people) and changing the sociocultural attitudes about violence in Aotearoa New Zealand (Lambie, 2018) • Improving collective understanding of family violence as a pattern of behaviour broader than just physical violence. • Need to address barriers to help-seeking such as accessibility, cultural safety, negative past experiences of help-seeking and understanding other factors and social inequities that shape a victim's response to violence. • More early interventions that are trauma focused and informed may reduce future offenders (Lambie, 2018). • Prevention and response programmes need to be designed to support people of all genders. However, these need to recognise that the majority of victims are likely to be women.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Māori adults are disproportionately victimised. Please note that we are aware of the circumstances that have disadvantaged Māori and contributed to the over representation of Māori in crime statistics, this should be kept in mind when interpreting our findings. • Help-seeking behaviours differ depending on the harm incurred and the demographic profile of the people seeking help 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services should be culturally responsive, individualised and relevant. Services should be employing people who understand the victim's broader context and the impact that has on help-seeking (Wilson et al 2019). • Need diverse responses including responses that can support people experiencing multiple forms of abuse (especially if, as international research suggests, these victims are the most

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adults who are separated or non-partnered at the time of survey tend to experience offending and controlling behaviours more often. 	<p>likely to interact with the family violence system and seek help).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lambie (2018) outlines the importance of building workforce capability so that evidence-based and culturally appropriate interventions can take place. Trauma-informed care cannot be “one size fits all” and the context in which a person lives need to be recognised. Response services need to be designed to support victims to safely exit from a relationship with a person who uses violence if that is what they want. Support for the person who has been using violence to change their behaviour is also crucial at this time.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many victims themselves knew others experiencing violence and many had further involvement Family help was useful for many groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community education around the signs of family violence and how friends and family can provide support to the victims of family violence. Even though on its own it may not be enough to help someone safely leave a relationship, having a supportive community and wider whānau may help when it comes to requiring timely professional help-seeking (Lambie, 2018).

4. Suggested further research :

- IDI¹⁹ research could explore how different experiences (including different types of controlling behaviours) predict future outcomes (e.g. victimisation) to highlight the extent to which they are ‘red flags’.

¹⁹ The Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) is a large research database that holds microdata about people and households. Read more [here](#).

- IDI research could explore the extent to which the NZCVS is representative of people who contact the family violence or justice system.
- Future surveys will add to sample size so that we can look at results that are currently suppressed, especially for groups who are likely at risk such as people of diverse sexual orientations.

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Appendix A: Data and methods

A.1 About the NZCVS

The NZCVS is a nationwide, face-to-face, annual, random-sample survey asking Aotearoa New Zealand adults living in private dwellings and aged 15 and over about incidents of crime they experienced in Aotearoa New Zealand over the previous 12 months. This includes both incidents reported to the Police and unreported incidents.

While the NZCVS delivers the best estimate available about a wide range of personal and household offences that are not captured elsewhere, it still does not report the total amount of crime in Aotearoa New Zealand. This is because the NZCVS is a sample survey²⁰ subject to sample errors; also, it does not cover every type of crime that someone might experience (see Table A.1).

The NZCVS is a new survey with some significant improvements in design compared with its predecessors such as the New Zealand Crime and Safety Survey (NZCASS). In particular, the NZCVS:

- has a larger annual sample
- uses a different approach to coding offences that is more consistent with the Police approach
- applies a much lower level of data imputations
- covers additional offence types (such as fraud, cybercrime and trespass)
- employs a different approach for collecting data from highly victimised people (allowing similar incidents to be reported as a group).²¹

These differences mean that direct comparison of NZCVS results with its predecessor NZCASS is potentially misleading, even within similar offence types. More detail about how the NZCVS was conducted in 2019/20 can be found in the NZCVS Cycle 3 methodology report (Ministry of Justice 2019/20).

Table A.1 Scope of crimes/offences covered in the NZCVS

Scope	Description
Covered in the NZCVS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • personal offences, either reported to the Police or not, where the respondent was the victim of the crime

²⁰ A sample survey means that not every New Zealander gives information about their experiences; it is not a census of the population. Also, not all respondents may want to talk about their experiences, remember the incidents that they have experienced, and/or provide accurate information about incidents (deliberately or due to imperfect recall).

²¹ Partial list.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• household offences, either reported to the Police or not, where the respondent's household was offended
Not covered in the NZCVS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• manslaughter and murder• abduction• crimes against children (14 years old and under)• "victimless crime" (such as drug offences)• commercial crime/white-collar crime/crimes against businesses or public-sector agencies• crimes against people who do not live in permanent private dwellings• crimes against people living in institutions*

* Those living in care facilities, prisons, army barracks, boarding schools and other similar institutions or non-private dwellings are excluded from the NZCVS sampling and interviewing process.

A.2 Weighting

All estimates are calculated using person weights to adjust for differences between the survey sample and the Aotearoa New Zealand adult population.²² The weighting methodology is described in the NZCVS Cycle 3 methodology report (Ministry of Justice 2019/20).

A.3 Uncertainty of estimates

Because the NZCVS is a sample survey, it is subject to sampling error. Calculation of standard errors of the estimates is described in the NZCVS Cycle 3 methodology report (Ministry of Justice 2019/20). Confidence intervals are constructed from the standard errors at the 95% level. Confidence intervals are provided as lines on graphs where suitable.

All observations and graphs in the report are based on data tables available from the separate Excel document located on the Ministry of Justice website (see <https://www.justice.govt.nz/justice-sector-policy/research-data/nzcvcs/resources-and-results>). The margins of error around estimates are provided in those tables.

Some estimates should be used with caution due to high margin of error. This is clearly stated in relevant spreadsheets. As a rule, caution is advised with all percentage estimates with the margin of error between 10 and 20 percentage points. All estimates with a margin of error higher than 20 percentage points are either suppressed or aggregated. They are also suppressed or aggregated if their underlying numerators or denominators have a relative sample error of more than 50%.

Percentage has a margin of error between 10 and 20 percentage points or the estimate/mean has a relative standard error between 20% and 50% and should be used with caution.

‡ The numerator and/or denominator of the ratio estimate has a relative standard error between 20% and 50%, and so this estimate should be used with caution.

A.4 Rounding

Percentage estimates are rounded to the nearest integer, unless percentages are less than 10% in which case they are rounded to 1 decimal place and all numbers in the same figure will follow this rounding. Percentages have been calculated from the unrounded figures, so calculations using rounded figures may differ from those published.

For the weighted frequencies in section 2.3, Graduated Random Rounding has been used. Cells of different sizes are rounded to different bases; the rounding base increases as the

²² Person weights are used even for analysis of individuals who experienced a household offence (eg, burglary), rather than household weights. This is because all outcome variables in this report are at the person level (eg, how much they trust the criminal justice system).

cell size does. For more information, please refer to page 33 of [Stats NZ microdata output guide](#).

A.5 Comparison of estimates by victim groups

No formal statistical tests are used to compare estimates across groups in this report. The margins of error for all responses are provided in the data tables that accompany this report. Where appropriate, confidence intervals (at the 95% level) are provided in graphs. When confidence intervals of two estimates are not overlapping, it can be concluded that there is a statistically significant difference. However, when the intervals do overlap, the difference is unlikely to be statistically significant.

These patterns are highlighted using the colour scheme summarised in the interpreting results (2.2) section. The colour scheme is used to indicate differences between groups of victims specified from Aotearoa New Zealand adults overall. When looking at help-seeking, the colour scheme is used to indicate difference between “any help was requested” and the specific help types. In tables, statistically significant differences are indicated in bold and italicised.

Appendix B: Logistic regression modelling

Logistic regression modelling can help us understand what factors are related to our response variable (Help-seeking and prevalence of different offences/behaviours in this case) while accounting for all other factors. This is especially useful for victimisation as many factors may be interconnected and logistic regression can help us understand what factors are most associated with our response variable.

We used backward elimination stepwise logistic regression procedures to model which variables were highly associated with five help-seeking behaviours and which factors were associated with experiencing offending by family members or controlling behaviours by intimate partners.

Logistic regression assumes that predictor variables are not highly correlated. We checked for multicollinearity between variables and removed those variables that had a high variance inflation factor or a very low tolerance value.

Help-seeking – Summary of findings

We want to understand the relationship between multiple different factors on whether any help is sought out. All models were specified and along with demographics, included selected variables relating to offending and some relating to the controlling behaviour questions.

Variables specified for help-seeking model

- Sexual Assault by family members prevalence
- Physical Assault by family members prevalence
- Harassment and Threatening behaviour by family members prevalence
- Other offending by family members prevalence
- Relationship to offender
- Intensity score of controlling behaviours
- Prevalence of offending and controlling behaviours by intimate partners
- Gender
- Age group
- Relationship/marital status
- Sexual Orientation
- Ethnicity
- Employment status
- Annual Personal Income

Results for seeking any help

Of the variables specified, the factors most closely associated with any help-seeking are related to type of offending, gender and offender relationship. Specifically, adults who sought any type of help were those who had experienced physical assault by family members and

those who were female. Relationship to offender was associated with any help-seeking, ex-partner relationships have the highest odds ratio estimate, following by other family member relationships. The odds ratio for Physical assault by a family member coefficient is 2.6 with 95% confidence interval of 1.5 - 4.6. This suggests that those who experience physical assault by family members are 2.6 times more likely to seek any type of help than those who did not experience physical assault. The odds ratio for females is also 2.6 and has a 95% confidence interval of 1.8 - 3.7.

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates					
Parameter	DF	Estimate	Standard Error	Wald Chi-Square	Pr > ChiSq
Intercept	1	-0.672	0.2031	10.9416	0.0009
Sexual assault	1	-0.8707	0.3256	7.1488	0.0075
Physical assault	1	0.9588	0.2842	11.3797	0.0007
Offence by partner	1	0.7008	0.3103	5.0993	0.0239
Offence by ex-partner	1	0.8916	0.3151	8.0074	0.0047
Offence by other family	1	0.8601	0.2517	11.6804	0.0006
Female	1	0.9434	0.185	26.0143	<.0001
Separated	1	0.5792	0.2596	4.9778	0.0257
IPV and Controlling behaviour	1	0.8687	0.3455	6.3207	0.0119
Employed	1	-0.403	0.188	4.5957	0.0321
Retired	1	-0.9561	0.3977	5.7807	0.0162

Odds Ratio Estimates			
Effect	Point Estimate	95% Wald Confidence Limits	
Sexual assault 1 vs 0	0.419	0.221	0.793
Physical assault 1 vs 0	2.609	1.494	4.554
Offence by partner 1 vs 0	2.015	1.097	3.703
Offence by ex-partner 1 vs 0	2.439	1.315	4.523
Offence by other family 1 vs 0	2.363	1.443	3.87
Female 1 vs 0	2.569	1.788	3.691
Separated 1 vs 0	1.785	1.073	2.969
IPV and Controlling behaviour 1 vs 0	2.384	1.211	4.692
Employed 1 vs 0	0.668	0.462	0.966
Retired 1 vs 0	0.384	0.176	0.838

C-statistic 0.771

Results for not seeking help

Of the variables specified, the factors most closely associated with no help-seeking are related to type of offending and employment status. Specifically, adults who did not seek help were those who had experienced sexual assault by family members and those who were retired. The odds ratio for the retired coefficient is 2.8 with a 95% confidence interval of 1.3 - 6. This suggests that those who were retired at the time of survey are 2.8 times more likely to not seek help than those who were not retired at time of survey. The odds ratio for sexual assault by family members coefficient is 2.2 with a 95% confidence interval of 1.2 - 4.2. This suggests that those who experience sexual assault are 2.2 times more likely to not seek help than those who did not.

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates					
Parameter	DF	Estimate	Standard Error	Wald Chi-Square	Pr > ChiSq
Intercept	1	1.1771	0.1988	35.0608	<.0001
Sexual assault	1	0.7865	0.3257	5.8316	0.0157
Physical assault	1	-1.1518	0.2936	15.3849	<.0001
Offence by partner	1	-0.993	0.3034	10.7137	0.0011
Offence by ex-partner	1	-1.2523	0.308	16.5368	<.0001
Offence by other family	1	-1.1371	0.2742	17.1958	<.0001
Female	1	-0.811	0.1854	19.1453	<.0001
Controlling behaviours Intensity score	1	-0.1273	0.0426	8.9139	0.0028
Retired	1	1.0358	0.3858	7.2097	0.0073
Annual personal income 01	1	-0.5748	0.2406	5.7064	0.0169
Annual personal income 03	1	-0.4984	0.2509	3.9468	0.047
Annual personal income 06	1	-0.5954	0.3006	3.9238	0.0476

Odds Ratio Estimates			
Effect	Point Estimate	95% Wald Confidence Limits	
Sexual assault 1 vs 0	2.196	1.16	4.157
Physical assault 1 vs 0	0.316	0.178	0.562
Offence by partner 1 vs 0	0.37	0.204	0.671
Offence by ex-partner 1 vs 0	0.286	0.156	0.523
Offence by other family 1 vs 0	0.321	0.187	0.549
Female 1 vs 0	0.444	0.309	0.639
Controlling behaviours Intensity score	0.88	0.81	0.957
Retired 1 vs 0	2.817	1.323	6.001
Annual personal income 01 1 vs 0	0.563	0.351	0.902
Annual personal income 03 1 vs 0	0.607	0.372	0.993
Annual personal income 06 1 vs 0	0.551	0.306	0.994

C-statistic 0.761

Results for seeking help from family or whānau

Of the variables specified, the factors most closely associated with asking family or whānau for help are related to gender, type of offending and marital status. Specifically, adults who sought help from family or whānau were female, experienced physical assault or harassment and threatening behaviour by family members or were separated. The odds ratio for the

female coefficient is 2.0 with a 95% confidence interval of 1.4 - 3.0. This suggests that females are 2 times more likely to seek help from family than those who are not female.

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates					
Parameter	DF	Estimate	Standard Error	Wald Chi-Square	Pr > ChiSq
Intercept	1	-1.3565	0.1623	69.8892	<.0001
Physical assault	1	0.5262	0.1833	8.2382	0.0041
Harassment/threatening behaviour	1	0.619	0.2156	8.2397	0.0041
Female	1	0.7167	0.1808	15.7081	<.0001
Separated	1	0.5226	0.2039	6.5719	0.0104

Odds Ratio Estimates			
Effect	Point Estimate	95% Wald Confidence Limits	
Physical assault 1 vs 0	1.692	1.182	2.424
Harassment/threatening behaviour 1 vs 0	1.857	1.217	2.834
Female 1 vs 0	2.048	1.437	2.919
Separated 1 vs 0	1.686	1.131	2.515

C-statistic 0.651

Results for seeking formal help

Of the variables specified, the factors most closely associated with formal help-seeking are related to marital status, relationship to offender and type of offending. Specifically, adults who sought formal help are divorced, experiencing offender by other family members and experienced physical assault by family members. The odds ratio for the divorced (at time of survey) coefficient is 3.5 with 95% confidence interval of 1.6 - 7.5. This suggests that those who were divorced when they took the survey are 3.5 times more likely to seek formal help than those who were not divorced. The odds ratio of the offence by other family coefficient is 3.3 with a 95% confidence interval of 1.9 - 5.5. This suggests that those experiencing offences by other family members are 3.3 times more likely to seek formal help than those who did not experience offending by other family members.

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates					
Parameter	DF	Estimate	Standard Error	Wald Chi-Square	Pr > ChiSq
Intercept	1	-2.3675	0.3592	43.4352	<.0001
Physical assault	1	1.0631	0.2374	20.0618	<.0001
Offence by partner	1	0.9115	0.2537	12.9076	0.0003
Offence by ex-partner	1	0.8413	0.2767	9.2458	0.0024
Offence by other family	1	1.1869	0.2669	19.7792	<.0001
Female	1	0.527	0.1971	7.1513	0.0075
Age 20-29	1	0.6082	0.3023	4.0486	0.0442
Age 30-39	1	0.9579	0.3075	9.7069	0.0018
Age 40-49	1	0.9285	0.3111	8.909	0.0028

Age 50-59	1	0.7371	0.3479	4.4895	0.0341
Not Married	1	0.6948	0.2214	9.8453	0.0017
Divorced	1	1.2416	0.392	10.0312	0.0015
Separated	1	0.8565	0.2601	10.8415	0.001
Ethnicity – NZ European	1	-0.4616	0.1865	6.1257	0.0133
Controlling behaviours Intensity score	1	0.1246	0.0414	9.0752	0.0026
Employed	1	-0.3837	0.184	4.3488	0.037

Odds Ratio Estimates			
Effect	Point Estimate	95% Wald Confidence Limits	
Physical assault 1 vs 0	2.895	1.818	4.61
Offence by partner 1 vs 0	2.488	1.513	4.091
Offence by ex-partner 1 vs 0	2.319	1.349	3.989
Offence by other family 1 vs 0	3.277	1.942	5.529
Female 1 vs 0	1.694	1.151	2.492
Age 20-29 1 vs 0	1.837	1.016	3.323
Age 30-39 1 vs 0	2.606	1.427	4.761
Age 40-49 1 vs 0	2.531	1.375	4.656
Age 50-59 1 vs 0	2.09	1.057	4.133
Not Married 1 vs 0	2.003	1.298	3.092
Divorced 1 vs 0	3.461	1.605	7.463
Separated 1 vs 0	2.355	1.414	3.921
Ethnicity – NZ European 1 vs 0	0.63	0.437	0.908
Controlling behaviours Intensity score	1.133	1.045	1.228
Employed 1 vs 0	0.681	0.475	0.977

C-statistic 0.789

Results for seeking help from victim support services

Of the variables specified, the factors most closely associated with seeking help from victim support services are related to sexual orientation, age and marital status. Specifically, adults who sought help from victim support services identified as gay or lesbian and were 20–59 years old. The odds ratio for the gay or lesbian coefficient is 6.0 with a 95% confidence interval of 1.4 - 26.0. This suggests that adults who are gay or lesbian are 6 times more likely to seek help from services than those who do not identify as gay or lesbian. This is a wide confidence interval which is likely due to small sample of gay or lesbian adults participating in the survey. The odds ratio for the age group 30 - 39 coefficient is 3.8 with a 95% confidence interval of 1.9 - 7.3. This suggests that adults who are aged 30 -39 are almost 4 times more likely to seek help from services than those who are not in that age group.

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates					
Parameter	DF	Estimate	Standard Error	Wald Chi-Square	Pr > ChiSq
Intercept	1	-3.1187	0.3687	71.5381	<.0001
Physical assault	1	0.8745	0.1983	19.4447	<.0001

female	1	0.8528	0.2031	17.6277	<.0001
Age 20-29	1	1.2949	0.3399	14.5118	0.0001
Age 30-39	1	1.3218	0.3404	15.0769	0.0001
Age 40-49	1	1.2519	0.351	12.7215	0.0004
Age 50-59	1	1.231	0.3849	10.2314	0.0014
Not Married	1	0.5216	0.2202	5.6113	0.0178
Divorced	1	0.9495	0.3787	6.2872	0.0122
Separated	1	0.8087	0.24	11.3539	0.0008
Gay or Lesbian	1	1.7871	0.7587	5.5477	0.0185
Controlling behaviours Intensity score	1	0.125	0.0361	11.9595	0.0005
Employed	1	-0.4932	0.1821	7.3398	0.0067

Odds Ratio Estimates			
Effect	Point Estimate	95% Wald Confidence Limits	
Physical Assault 1 vs 0	2.398	1.626	3.537
Female 1 vs 0	2.346	1.576	3.493
Age 20-29 1 vs 0	3.651	1.875	7.108
Age 30-39 1 vs 0	3.75	1.924	7.309
Age 40-49 1 vs 0	3.497	1.758	6.958
Age 50-59 1 vs 0	3.425	1.611	7.281
Not Married 1 vs 0	1.685	1.094	2.594
Divorced 1 vs 0	2.584	1.23	5.429
Separated 1 vs 0	2.245	1.403	3.593
Gay or Lesbian 1 vs 0	5.972	1.35	26.421
Controlling behaviours Intensity score	1.133	1.056	1.216
Employed 1 vs 0	0.611	0.427	0.872

C-statistic 0.737

Risk factors for offending by family members and control behaviours by intimate partners – Summary of findings

We want to understand the relationship between different demographics and socio-economic factors and the prevalence of offending by family members or controlling behaviours by intimate partners. All models were specified with demographics that were coming through in the descriptive analysis as well as some additional socio-economic factors.

Variables specified for risk factor model

- Gender
- Age group
- Sexual Orientation
- Ethnicity
- Employment status

- Annual Personal Income

Results for offending by Intimate partners

Of the variables specified, the factors most closely associated with experiencing any offending by intimate partners were related to gender, age, sexual orientation and employment status. Specifically, adults who experienced offending by intimate partners was anyone aged 15-59 years, anyone who identified as bi-sexual, is female or another gender and those not actively seeking work. The odds ratio for the age group 20 - 29 coefficient is 9.8 with a 95% confidence interval of 5.8 - 16.5. This suggests that adults who are aged 20 - 29 are almost ten times more likely to experience offending by an intimate partner.

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates					
Parameter	DF	Estimate	Standard Error	Wald Chi-Square	Pr > ChiSq
Intercept	1	-7.1005	0.3092	527.4191	<.0001
Female	1	1.033	0.1644	39.4782	<.0001
Other gender	1	1.3424	0.4935	7.3974	0.0065
Age 15-19	1	1.0998	0.4813	5.2213	0.0223
Age 20-29	1	2.2775	0.2688	71.763	<.0001
Age 30-39	1	2.1722	0.2677	65.8318	<.0001
Age 40-49	1	1.8398	0.2768	44.1745	<.0001
Age 50-59	1	0.9443	0.3133	9.0828	0.0026
Ethnicity – NZ European	1	0.3594	0.1395	6.6352	0.01
Ethnicity – Māori	1	0.5697	0.1335	18.2107	<.0001
Bi-sexual	1	0.8871	0.2782	10.1696	0.0014
Home care	1	0.4118	0.1894	4.7277	0.0297
Not seeking work	1	0.7352	0.2643	7.7353	0.0054
Annual personal income 02	1	0.4855	0.1978	6.0246	0.0141
Annual personal income 03	1	0.5639	0.1763	10.2308	0.0014
Annual personal income 04	1	0.4609	0.1916	5.7852	0.0162

Odds Ratio Estimates			
Effect	Point Estimate	95% Wald Confidence Limits	
Female 1 vs 0	2.809	2.035	3.877
Other gender 1 vs 0	3.828	1.455	10.071
Age 15-19 1 vs 0	3.004	1.169	7.715
Age 20-29 1 vs 0	9.752	5.758	16.517
Age 30-39 1 vs 0	8.778	5.194	14.834
Age 40-49 1 vs 0	6.295	3.659	10.83
Age 50-59 1 vs 0	2.571	1.391	4.751
Ethnicity – NZ European 1 vs 0	1.432	1.09	1.883
Ethnicity – Māori 1 vs 0	1.768	1.361	2.296
Bi-sexual 1 vs 0	2.428	1.408	4.189
Home care 1 vs 0	1.51	1.041	2.188
Not seeking work 1 vs 0	2.086	1.242	3.502
Annual personal income 02 1 vs 0	1.625	1.103	2.395
Annual personal income 03 1 vs 0	1.758	1.244	2.483
Annual personal income 04 1 vs 0	1.586	1.089	2.308

C-statistic 0.773

Results for offending by Family Members

Of the variables specified, the factors most closely associated with experiencing any offending by family members were related to gender, age, sexual orientation, employment and ethnicity. Specifically, adults who experienced offending by family members was anyone aged 15-49 years, who identified as bi-sexual, is female, is not actively seeking work and who is Māori. The odds ratio for the age group 20 - 29 coefficient is 4.8 with a 95% confidence interval of 3.3 - 7.1. This suggests that adults who are aged 20 -29 are almost 5 times more likely to experience offending by family members than those not in that age group. The odds ratio of the not seeking work coefficient is 2.6 with a 95% confidence interval of 1.7 - 3.9. This suggests that adults not actively seeking work are 2.6 times more likely to experience offending by family members than those who are not in this category. The odds ratio of the bi-sexual coefficient is 2.1 with a 95% confidence interval of 1.3 - 3.5. This suggests that adults who are bi-sexual are 2.1 times more likely to experience offending by family members than those who are not.

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates					
Parameter	DF	Estimate	Standard Error	Wald Chi-Square	Pr > ChiSq
Intercept	1	-5.7793	0.2114	747.5369	<.0001
Female	1	0.8437	0.1239	46.4029	<.0001
Age 15-19	1	1.201	0.2775	18.732	<.0001
Age 20-29	1	1.5765	0.1929	66.772	<.0001
Age 30-39	1	1.3744	0.192	51.2661	<.0001
Age 40-49	1	1.2927	0.1943	44.258	<.0001
Age 50-59	1	0.5777	0.2203	6.8748	0.0087
Ethnicity – NZ European	1	0.3032	0.1145	7.0131	0.0081
Ethnicity – Māori	1	0.7317	0.1093	44.8212	<.0001
Bi-sexual	1	0.7636	0.2482	9.4665	0.0021
Unemployed	1	0.4417	0.1915	5.3218	0.0211
Home care	1	0.4245	0.1679	6.3943	0.0114
Not seeking work	1	0.9619	0.2069	21.6244	<.0001
Annual personal income 08	1	-0.5658	0.222	6.4975	0.0108

Odds Ratio Estimates			
Effect	Point Estimate	95% Wald Confidence Limits	
Female 1 vs 0	2.325	1.824	2.964
Age 15-19 1 vs 0	3.324	1.929	5.726
Age 20-29 1 vs 0	4.838	3.315	7.062
Age 30-39 1 vs 0	3.953	2.713	5.758
Age 40-49 1 vs 0	3.643	2.489	5.331
Age 50-59 1 vs 0	1.782	1.157	2.744
Ethnicity – NZ European 1 vs 0	1.354	1.082	1.695

Ethnicity – Māori 1 vs 0	2.079	1.678	2.575
Bi-sexual 1 vs 0	2.146	1.319	3.491
Unemployed 1 vs 0	1.555	1.069	2.264
Home care 1 vs 0	1.529	1.1	2.124
Not seeking work 1 vs 0	2.617	1.745	3.925
Annual personal income 08 1 vs 0	0.568	0.368	0.877

C-statistic 0.74

Results for offending and controlling behaviours by Intimate Partners

Of the variables specified, the factors most closely associated with experiencing any offending and controlling behaviours by intimate partners were related to age, sexual orientation and employment. Specifically, adults who experienced offending and controlling behaviours by intimate partners was anyone who was aged 20-59 years, who identified as bi-sexual and who was not actively seeking work or was involved in home caring duties. The odds ratio for the age group 20 - 29 coefficient is 18.8 with a 95% confidence interval of 7.4 - 47.7. This suggests that adults who are aged 20 -29 are almost nineteen times more likely to experience offending and controlling behaviours by intimate partners than those not in that age group. The odds ratio of the bi-sexual coefficient is 2.8 with a 95% confidence interval of 1.3 - 5.8. This suggests that adults who are bi-sexual are nearly 3 times more likely to experience offending and controlling behaviours by intimate partners than those not in that group.

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates

Parameter	DF	Estimate	Standard Error	Wald Chi-Square	Pr > ChiSq
Intercept	1	-7.7931	0.4834	259.8927	<.0001
Female	1	0.8585	0.2297	13.9633	0.0002
Age 20-29	1	2.9332	0.4754	38.0635	<.0001
Age 30-39	1	2.4003	0.4819	24.806	<.0001
Age 40-49	1	2.0655	0.4976	17.2331	<.0001
Age 50-59	1	1.4787	0.5292	7.8067	0.0052
Ethnicity – Māori	1	0.5164	0.1875	7.5879	0.0059
Bi-sexual	1	1.0157	0.3802	7.1369	0.0076
Home care	1	0.9426	0.2378	15.7082	<.0001
Not seeking work	1	1.1821	0.3448	11.7572	0.0006

Odds Ratio Estimates

Effect	Point Estimate	95% Wald Confidence Limits	
Female 1 vs 0	2.36	1.504	3.702
Age 20-29 1 vs 0	18.788	7.399	47.706
Age 30-39 1 vs 0	11.027	4.288	28.358
Age 40-49 1 vs 0	7.889	2.975	20.92
Age 50-59 1 vs 0	4.387	1.555	12.378
Ethnicity – Māori 1 vs 0	1.676	1.161	2.42
Bi-sexual 1 vs 0	2.761	1.311	5.818

Home care 1 vs 0	2.567	1.61	4.091
Not seeking work 1 vs 0	3.261	1.659	6.41

C-statistic 0.798

Results for controlling behaviours only (Intensity 2 or more)

Of the variables specified, the factors most closely associated with experiencing controlling behaviours by intimate partners only (at an intensity of 2 or more) were related to age, employment status and ethnicity. Specifically, adults who experienced controlling behaviours only (intensity 2 or more) were aged 15-49 years, were not actively seeking work or unemployed or were Māori. The odds ratio for the age group 15 - 19 coefficient is 4.3 with a 95% confidence interval of 2.3 - 8.1. This suggests that adults who are aged 15 - 19 are 4.3 times more likely to experience controlling behaviours at an intensity of 2 or more (without offending) than those not in that age group.

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates					
Parameter	DF	Estimate	Standard Error	Wald Chi-Square	Pr > ChiSq
Intercept	1	-5.7506	0.1894	922.0291	<.0001
Age 15-19	1	1.4692	0.3199	21.0967	<.0001
Age 20-29	1	1.2902	0.2416	28.5152	<.0001
Age 30-39	1	1.1604	0.2374	23.8985	<.0001
Age 40-49	1	1.1247	0.2401	21.9399	<.0001
Ethnicity – Māori	1	0.7305	0.1591	21.0717	<.0001
Unemployed	1	0.8447	0.2428	12.1011	0.0005
Not seeking work	1	1.0702	0.2983	12.8693	0.0003

Odds Ratio Estimates			
Effect	Point Estimate	95% Wald Confidence Limits	
Age 15-19 1 vs 0	4.346	2.322	8.134
Age 20-29 1 vs 0	3.634	2.263	5.835
Age 30-39 1 vs 0	3.191	2.004	5.082
Age 40-49 1 vs 0	3.079	1.923	4.93
Ethnicity – Māori 1 vs 0	2.076	1.52	2.836
Unemployed 1 vs 0	2.327	1.446	3.746
Not seeking work 1 vs 0	2.916	1.625	5.233

C-statistic 0.713

Results for controlling behaviours only (all intensities)

Of the variables specified, the factors most closely associated with experiencing controlling behaviours by intimate partners only (all intensities) were related to age, employment status and sexual orientation. Specifically, adults who experienced controlling behaviours only (all intensities) were aged 15-59 years, were not actively seeking work or were bi-sexual. The odds ratio for the age group 20 - 29 coefficient is 7.7 with a 95% confidence interval of 4.8 -

12.3. This suggests that adults who are aged 20 -29 are almost 8 times more likely to experience controlling behaviours (without offending) than those not in that age group.

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates					
Parameter	D F	Estimate	Standard Error	Wald Chi-Square	Pr > ChiSq
Intercept	1	-5.4834	0.2123	667.2159	<.0001
Age 1519	1	1.8035	0.3024	35.5791	<.0001
Age 20-29	1	2.0414	0.2375	73.8532	<.0001
Age 30-39	1	1.7872	0.2372	56.7709	<.0001
Age 40-49	1	1.4505	0.2487	34.0191	<.0001
Age 50-59	1	1.1191	0.2599	18.5412	<.0001
Ethnicity – Māori	1	0.4462	0.1166	14.6348	0.0001
Bi-sexual	1	0.8467	0.2703	9.8077	0.0017
Unemployed	1	0.4884	0.1976	6.1076	0.0135
Not seeking work	1	0.9119	0.2268	16.1686	<.0001

Odds Ratio Estimates			
Effect	Point Estimate	95% Wald Confidence Limits	
Age 15-19 1 vs 0	6.071	3.356	10.98
Age 20-29 1 vs 0	7.701	4.835	12.267
Age 30-39 1 vs 0	5.973	3.752	9.508
Age 40-49 1 vs 0	4.265	2.62	6.944
Age 50-59 1 vs 0	3.062	1.84	5.096
Ethnicity – Māori 1 vs 0	1.562	1.243	1.964
Bi-sexual 1 vs 0	2.332	1.373	3.961
Unemployed 1 vs 0	1.63	1.106	2.401
Not seeking work 1 vs 0	2.489	1.596	3.882

C-statistic 0.712

Appendix C: Other NZCVS reports and future reporting

A number of resources are already available on the Ministry of Justice website to help access the results from the NZCVS, interpret findings, and understand the research.

The technical aspects of the research are discussed in detail in the methodology report available from <https://www.justice.govt.nz/justice-sector-policy/research-data/nzcvs/resources-and-results/>

The NZCVS Cycle 3 (2019/20) core report (the most comprehensive, full size report) is available from <https://www.justice.govt.nz/justice-sector-policy/research-data/nzcvs/resources-and-results/>.

Other products from NZCVS Cycle 1 (2018) and Cycle 2 (2018/19) are available from the same page, including topline reports, key findings, infographics and data tables.

NZCVS data (only those records obtaining respondents' consent) is now incorporated in the Stats NZ Integrated Data Infrastructure (<https://www.stats.govt.nz/integrated-data/integrated-data-infrastructure/>).

An in-depth module report on social wellbeing and perceptions of the criminal justice system from Cycle 2 (2018/19) is available at <https://www.justice.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Publications/Social-Wellbeing-and-Perceptions-of-the-Criminal-Justice-System-Report.pdf>.

An overview of important findings from the NZCVS Cycle 1 (2018) is available at <https://www.justice.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Publications/NZCVS-topical-report-Important-findings-Cycle-1-2018-v1.1-fin.pdf>

A topical report focused on highly victimised people from Cycle 1 (2018) is available at <https://www.justice.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Publications/HZTYUY-NZCVS-topical-report-2018-Highly-Victimised.pdf>.

A topical report focused on offences against adults by family members from Cycle 1 (2018) is available at <https://www.justice.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Publications/9ZU3Q-NZCVS-topical-report-Offences-by-family-members-Cycle-1-2018.pdf>.

A topical report on Māori victimisation in Aotearoa New Zealand using Cycle 1–2 (2018–2018/19) is available at <https://www.justice.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Publications/Maori-victimisation-report-v2.01-20210329-fin.pdf>.

Additional documents are also available from <https://www.justice.govt.nz/justice-sector-policy/research-data/nzcvs/resources-and-results/>.

If you have any feedback or questions about NZCVS results, please email us on nzcvs@justice.govt.nz.

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