



AFP
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Analysis of Family Violence Incidents July 2003 – June 2004

Final Report

Prepared for ACT Policing, Australian Federal Police

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Executive Summary

- This report presents the results from the analysis of all incidents recorded in 2003-04 on the AFP Family Violence Intervention Program (FVIP) database, maintained by the Australian Federal Police in the ACT.
- The report's structure and the focus of the analysis is based on the previous analysis of 2002-03 data, conducted by the AIC.
- The FVIP uses a legislative definition of 'relevant person' for family violence incidents, including a domestic partner, relative, child of the domestic partner or someone who lives or has lived in the same household of the original person (other than a tenant).
- The AFP FVIP uses an incident based database, which places some limitations on the type of analysis that can be done and the utility of the data.
- Comparisons between 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 were affected by differences in data recorded and missing data.

Key findings

Characteristics of incidents

- During the 2003-04 financial year there were 2793 separate incidents of family violence recorded on the FVIP data base (compared with 3188 incidents in 2002-03 and 3618 incidents in 2001-02).
- Tuggeranong registered the highest proportion of incidents, followed by Woden.
- Eighty six per cent of incidents occurred at private homes.
- The most frequent confirmed incident type was "disturbance" accounting for 46 per cent of incidents.
- About two thirds of incidents were described as "verbal" and "verbal and physical".
- Family violence relationships were most prevalent between ex-spouses and spouses, accounting for 52 per cent of incident relationships.

Timing of incidents

- Overall, family violence incidents tended to occur more frequently on Saturdays and Sundays.
- Overall, incidents tended to peak between 6.00pm and 10.00pm.

Role of persons involved

- Of the 2793 incidents in 2003-04, 5891 people were involved who could be identified as an offender, a victim or a participant.
- Of persons involved, 33 per cent were victims and 30 per cent were offenders.
- Of all offenders 90 per cent were adults and 10 per cent were aged under 18.
- Of all victims 88 per cent were adults and 12 per cent were aged under 18.

Characteristics of persons involved

- Seventy nine per cent of offenders were male while 25 per cent of victims were male.
- Twenty three per cent of offenders were affected by alcohol (see glossary) while only five per cent of victims were affected by alcohol.
- Seven per cent of offenders were affected by drugs (see glossary) compared with one per cent of victims.
- Seven per cent of offenders used a weapon compared with one per cent of victims. Knives accounted for 50 per cent of all weapons used.
- Three per cent of offenders sustained an injury compared with 18 per cent of victims.
- Of all injuries sustained (N=542 persons) 72 per cent were minor injuries.

Outcomes of incidents

- Criminal action was taken in 16 per cent of all incidents.
- Arrest accounted for 82 per cent of all incidents in which criminal action was taken.
- Common assault was the most common charge laid (35 per cent of all charges laid), followed by property offences (14%) and breaches of DVOs (12%).

Involvement of children

- 1625 children (aged 17 or less) were recorded as being present in 44% of all family violence incidents.
- The majority of children present were aged between 11 and 17 while eleven per cent of children were aged under 2 years of age.
- Of all children present in family violence incidents, the vast majority were biological children of the offender and/or the victim.
- 231 children were recorded as victims in family violence incidents, while 181 children were recorded as offenders.
- Of child victims, 60 per cent were female and 40 per cent were male.
- Of child offenders, 61 per cent were male and 39 per cent were female.
- Approximately two thirds of incidents involving child victims were verbal and physical.
- Sexual offences accounted for 13 per cent of all charges laid where the victim was a child, compared with one per cent of all charges laid where the victim was an adult.

1. Introduction

The Family Violence Intervention Program (FVIP) commenced in May 1998. Phase two commenced in May 2000 and now covers the whole of the Australian Capital Territory (ACT). It aims to provide a best practice model for criminal justice intervention in family violence incidents. The AFP FV team reviews family violence incidents which have occurred in the ACT and maintains a data base of these incidents. This database provides information about trends in family violence incidents in the ACT in order to improve AFP responses to family violence incidents.

The first report from this database was compiled by the AFP for the 2001-02 financial year. The Australian Institute of Criminology was commissioned to analyse the data for the 2002-03 financial year and base the structure of the findings around that contained in the first report with additional analyses and recommendations where appropriate. This third report presents the findings for the 2003-04 financial year.

A family violence incident is defined by the AFP as an incident where a person uses violent and/or abusive behaviour to control someone with whom they have some type of 'family' relationship. The FVIP has used the definition of 'relevant person' as defined by the Protection Orders Act 2001 (ACT) R4. A 'relevant person' for the purposes of family violence incidents includes:

- a 'domestic partner' of the original person (including same sex couples)
- a 'relative' of the original person
- a 'child of the domestic partner' of the original person
- 'someone who lives or has lived in the same household' of the original person (other than a boarder or tenant)

Occasionally police do not specify the relationship dynamics between parties involved in an incident, and have used terms such as 'girlfriend' and 'boyfriend' in the write-off, thus making it difficult to establish if there was a relevant relationship as defined by Protection Orders Act 2001. In these cases the AFP FV team has examined the particulars of the write-off to determine if there is a domestic relationship, as defined by Section 169 part 2 of the Legislation Act 2001. Where there is still doubt but the relationship does not seem to be transient in nature, FVIP have erred on the side of caution and have included the incident as family violence. Therefore there may be a slight overrepresentation of family violence incidents.

This report focuses on all incidents which were recorded by the AFP on their data base for the financial year 2003-04. The incidents recorded in the AFP FV data base refer to each recorded incident of family violence in which police were either involved or notified. Each incident is identified by a unique incident identification number recorded in the PROMIS database. For the purposes of this report an 'incident' includes what happened immediately prior to police arrival and during police presence. Each incident was considered by the AFP to be statistically independent, even if the interval between incidents at the same address was relatively short.

For ease of comparison with the previous year the findings in this report are, in most cases, presented for 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04.

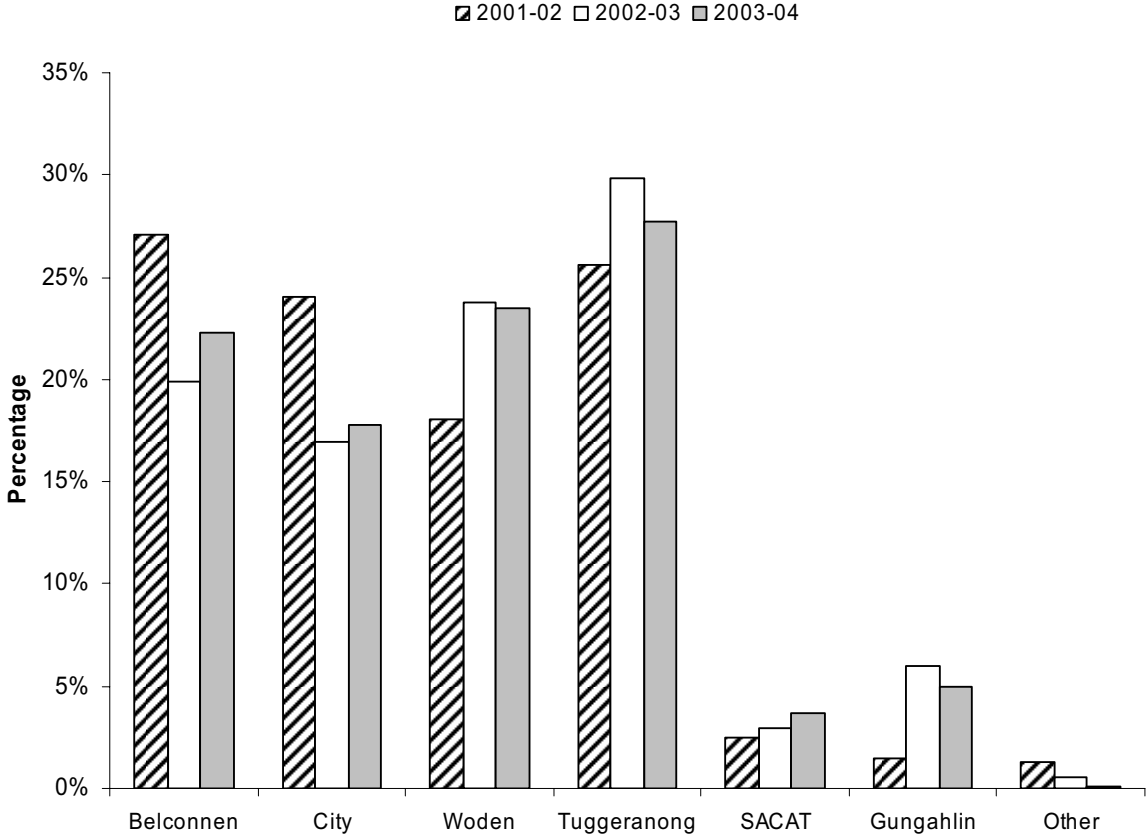
2. Results

2.1 Incidents of family violence in 2003-04

In 2003-04 there were 2793 incidents of family violence recorded, compared with 3188 incidents in 2002-03 and 3618 incidents in 2001-02. This represents a 12 per cent decrease in the number of recorded incidents of family violence from the previous year.

Tuggeranong registered the highest number of incidents in 2003-04 (N=774), accounting for 28 per cent of incidents, followed by Woden (N=656) which accounted for 23 per cent of incidents. This pattern is similar to that recorded in 2002-03 (see Figure 1).

Figure 1. Percentage of incidents per station

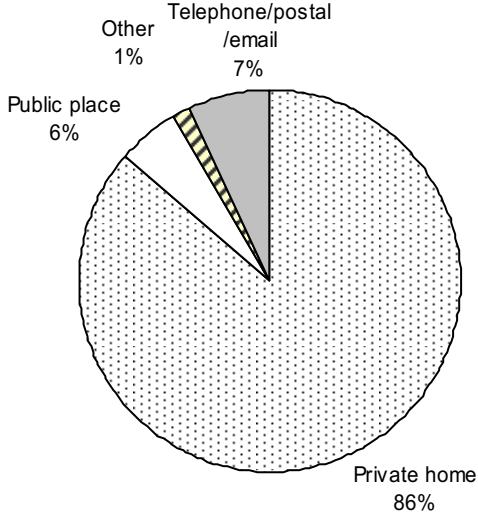


Note: For the category “Other” 2001-02 included Jervis Bay, Territory Investigations Group and Canberra Airport whereas 2002-03 and 2003-04 included only Jervis Bay. Gungahlin has limited hours of operation (between 7.00am and 11.00pm 7 days a week).

2.2 Characteristics of incidents

The vast majority of incidents in 2003-04 occurred at private homes (86%), see Figure 2. This is similar to 2002-03 where 85 per cent of incidents occurred at private homes.

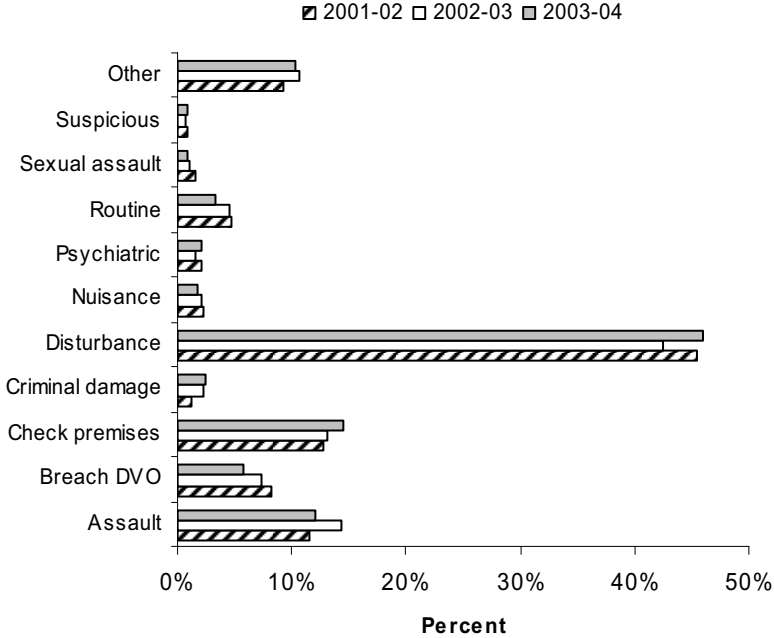
Figure 2. Location at which incidents occurred in 2003-04 (N=2793 incidents)



Note: Five incidents occurred at a hotel/motel – due to this small number these are included in the category “other”.

In 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 the most frequent confirmed incident type was “disturbance”, followed by “check welfare/premises” and “assault” (see Figure 3).

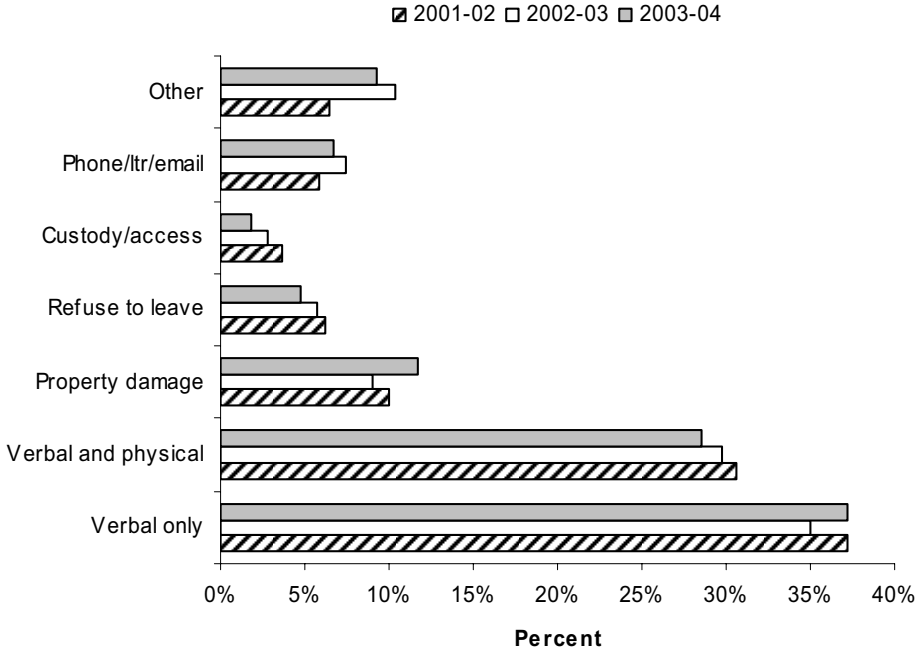
Figure 3. Confirmed incident type



Note: 4 incidents in 2001-02, 6 incidents in 2002-03 and 2 incidents in 2003-04 excluded due to missing data

To obtain a clearer picture of what occurred at the incident, records were further classified under an *incident description*. Following the coding procedure of the 2001-02 report, if two descriptions were relevant to a family violence incident, the most serious description was chosen. For example, if the incident began as a person ‘refusing to leave’ and then escalated to a physical altercation then ‘verbal & physical’ would be chosen as a physical altercation is more serious in nature than a person refusing to leave. Figure 4 shows that ‘verbal’ and ‘verbal and physical’ descriptions together accounted for about two thirds of incidents. About ten per cent of incidents involved property damage.

Figure 4. Incident description

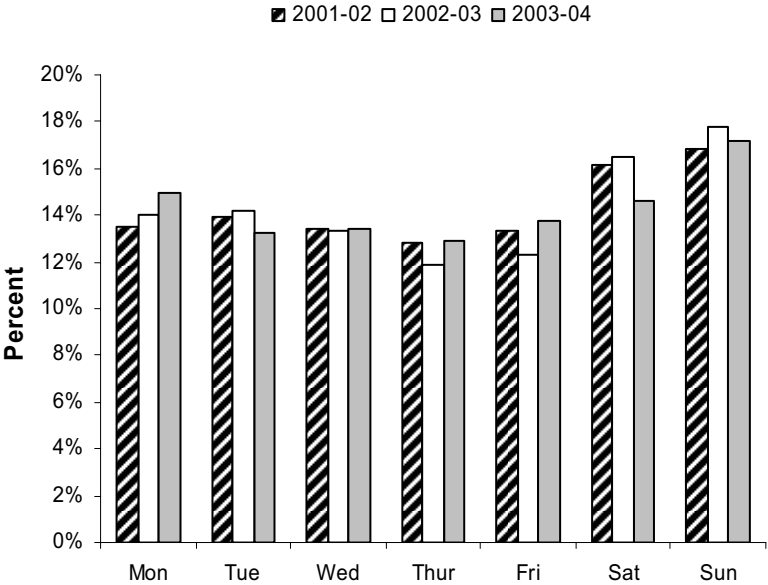


Note: 1 incident in 2001-02 excluded due to missing data

2.3 Day and time of incidents

Incidents of family violence tended to occur more frequently on weekends (see Figure 5).

Figure 5. Day of the week that incidents occurred in 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04



As a proportion of all family violence incidents there was very little fluctuation by month across all three years (see Figure 6). The only exception to this pattern was a drop in incidents in October 2002.

Figure 6. Percentage of incidents by month in 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04

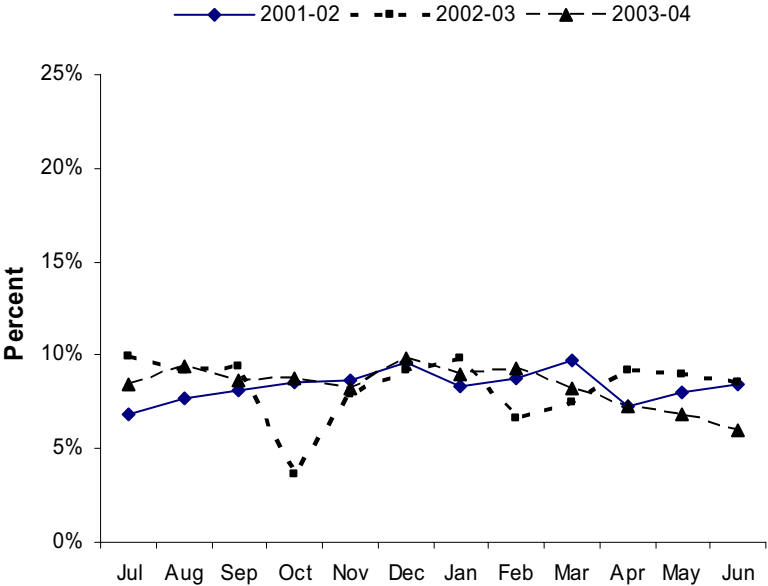
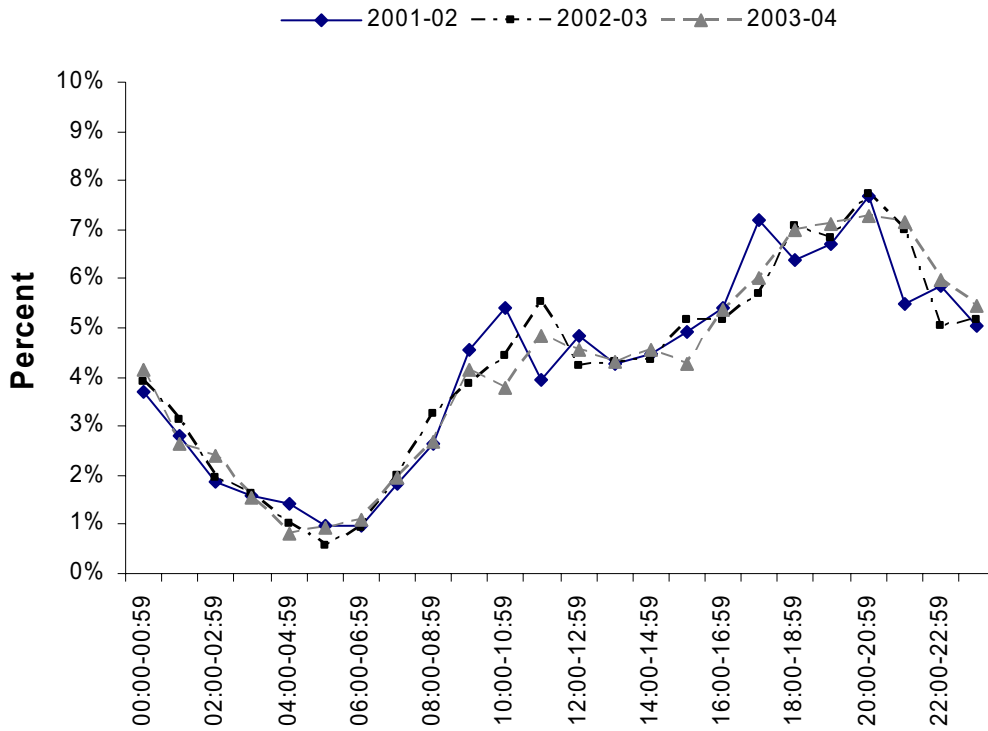


Figure 7 shows clearly that the number of incidents which occur begin to pick up from about 7.00am in the morning and then steadily increase until about 10.00pm, at which time incidents began to drop. Family violence incidents therefore tend to peak in the late afternoons and evenings. This pattern was almost identical across all three years of data collection.

Figure 7. Percentage of incidents by time of day in 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04



Note: Two incidents in 2001-02 excluded due to missing data

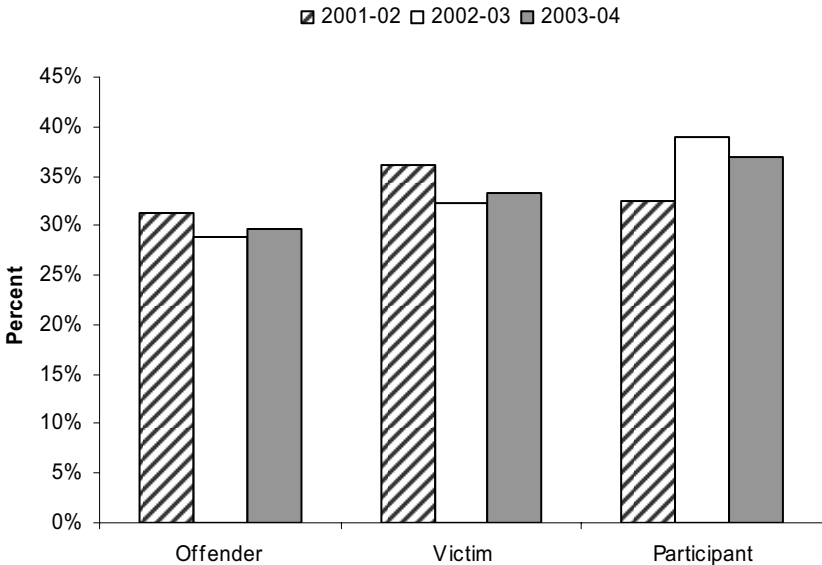
2.4 Roles of people involved in family violence incidents

Of the 2793 incidents reported to police in 2003-04 there were 5891 people involved who could be clearly identified as an offender, a victim, or a participant. For the purposes of this project a ‘participant’ was defined as a person who could not be clearly identified as a victim or an offender but was an active person in the incident. An additional 997 children were also present at incidents but were not classified into these three categories. The 5891 people include both adults and children who could be classified into the three main categories. In 2003-04 30 per cent of all persons involved (offender, victim or participant) were offenders and 33 per cent were victims (see Figure 8).

Of all offenders, 90% (n=1567) were adults and 10% (n=181) were children aged 17 and under.

Of all victims, 88% (n=1731) were adults and 12% (n=231) were children aged 17 and under.

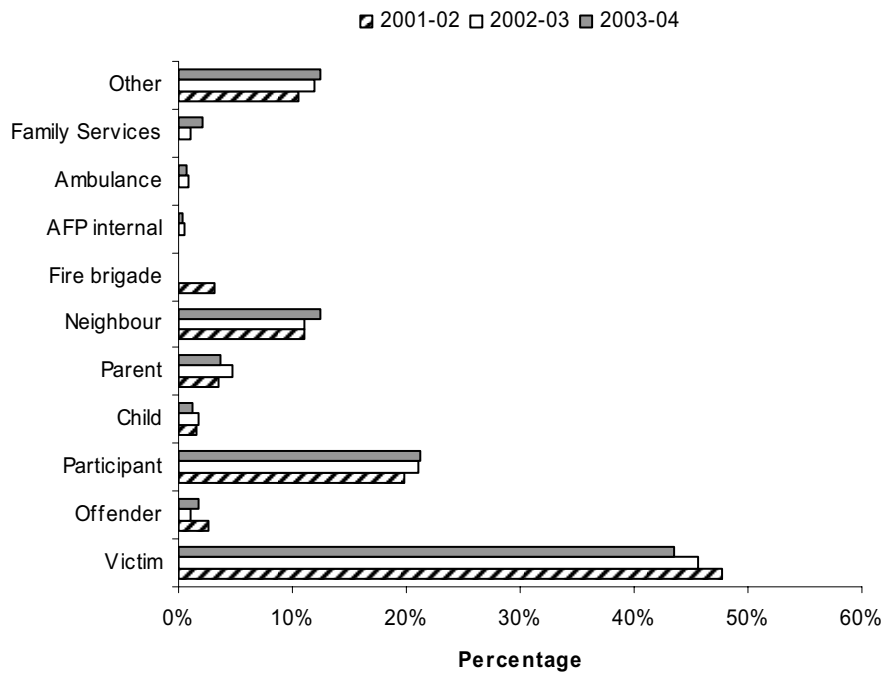
Figure 8. Percentage of persons involved in 2001-02 (N=8061 persons), 2002-03 (N=6887 persons) and 2003-04 (N=5891 persons) who were identified as offenders, victims and participants



Note: A maximum of four persons per incident were recorded in 2001-02 compared with a maximum of only three persons per incident in 2002-03 and 2003-04.

In 44 per cent of incidents the victim reported the incident to police while 13 per cent of incidents were reported by neighbours (see Figure 9).

Figure 9. Percentage of people who reported incident



Note: 2 incidents in 2001-02 and 1 incident in 2002-03 excluded due to missing data. In 2001-02 no statistics were available for those incidents which were separately reported by family services, ambulance or AFP internal.

2.5 Characteristics associated with people involved in family violence incidents

Table 1 shows the numbers and proportions of offenders, victims and participants who were male or female, affected by alcohol, affected by drugs, used weapons, sustained an injury or had a psychological problem in 2003-04. It can be seen that:

- 79 per cent of offenders were male while 21 per cent of offenders were female.
- 23 per cent of offenders were affected by alcohol (see footnote of Table 1).
- Seven per cent of offenders used a weapon during the incident.
- Three per cent of offenders sustained an injury during the incident while 18 per cent of victims sustained an injury
- Eight per cent of offenders were, in the opinion of AFP, suffering from a psychological episode at the time of the incident.
- 48 victims reported to police that they were pregnant.

Table 1. Summary information 2003-04 (column percentages)

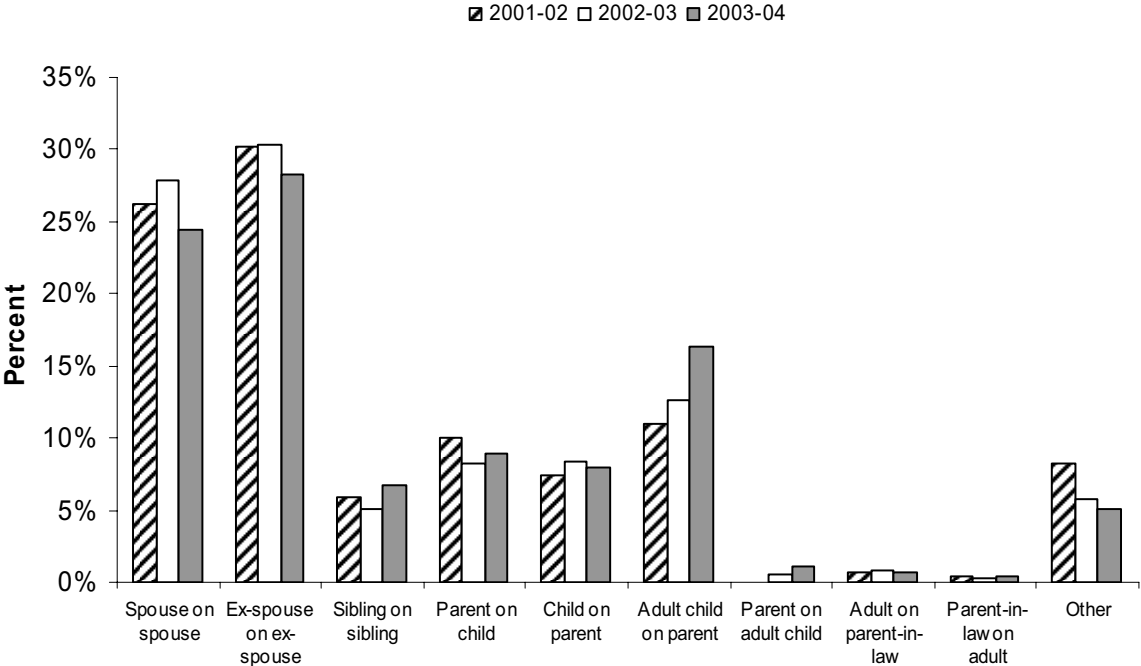
	Offenders		Victims		Participants		Total		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Sex									
Male	1384	79	497	25	1077	49	2958	50	Personal characteristics
Female	364	21	1464	75	1104	51	2932	50	
Total (where sex known)	1748	100	1961	100	2181	100	5890	100	
Alcohol use									
Yes	398	23	102	5	319	15	819	14	Substance use
No	1350	77	1860	95	1862	85	5072	86	
Total (where alcohol consumption known)	1748	100	1962	100	2181	100	5891	100	
Drug use									
Yes	124	7	15	1	54	2	193	3	Substance use
No	1624	93	1947	99	2127	98	5698	97	
Total (where drug use known)	1748	100	1962	100	2181	100	5891	100	
Use of weapon									
Yes	116	7	3	1	17	1	136	2	Aggravating circumstances
No	1632	93	1959	99	2164	99	5755	98	
Total (where use of weapon known)	1748	100	1962	100	2181	100	5891	100	
Injury sustained									
Yes	59	3	347	18	136	6	542	9	Aggravating circumstances
No	1689	97	1615	82	2045	94	5349	91	
Total (where injury known)	1748	100	1962	100	2181	100	5891	100	
Psychological incident									
Yes	144	8	1	1	38	2	183	3	Psychological incident
No	1604	92	1961	99	2142	98	5707	97	
Total (where known)	1748	100	1962	100	2180	100	5890	100	
Total persons involved	1748	100	1962	100	2181	100	5891	100	

Note: 'Alcohol use' refers to a person who was either affected or intoxicated by alcohol at the time of an incident or has a history of alcohol abuse. 'Drug use' refers to a person who affected by drugs at the time of an incident, has a history of drug abuse or committed an offence to obtain drugs.

2.6 Relationships between victims and offenders

Figure 10 shows the relationships between offenders and victims. This was determined through reference to only one offender in each incident and up to three victims. Family violence relationships were most prevalent between ex-spouses, followed by spouses across all three years. Together these categories accounted for 56 per cent of relationships between offenders and victims in 2001-02, 58 per cent of relationships in 2002-03 and 52 per cent of relationships in 2003-04. Spousal and ex-spousal violence includes married, de facto and same sex couples.

Figure 10. Relationships between offenders and victims (percentages) in 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04

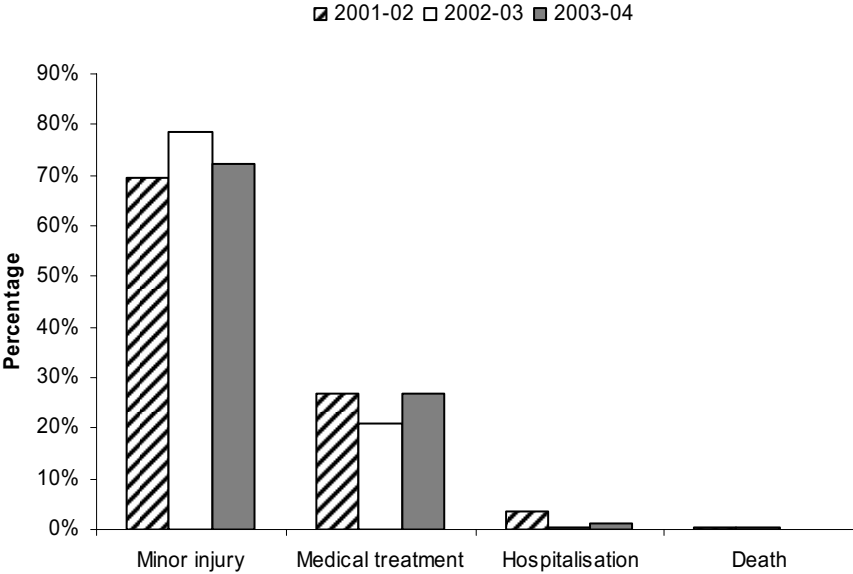


Note: Missing data excluded from the calculations in this table. No incidents were recorded in 2001-02 for parents offending against adult children.

2.7 Injury in family violence incidents

In 484 incidents of family violence in 2003-04, 542 persons sustained injury. Figure 11 shows that the majority of injuries sustained were minor across all three years (72 per cent of all injuries in 2003-04). About a quarter of injured persons required medical treatment.

Figure 11. Percentage of persons sustaining injury by type of injury (N=733 in 2001-02, 622 in 2003-03 and 544 in 2003-04)

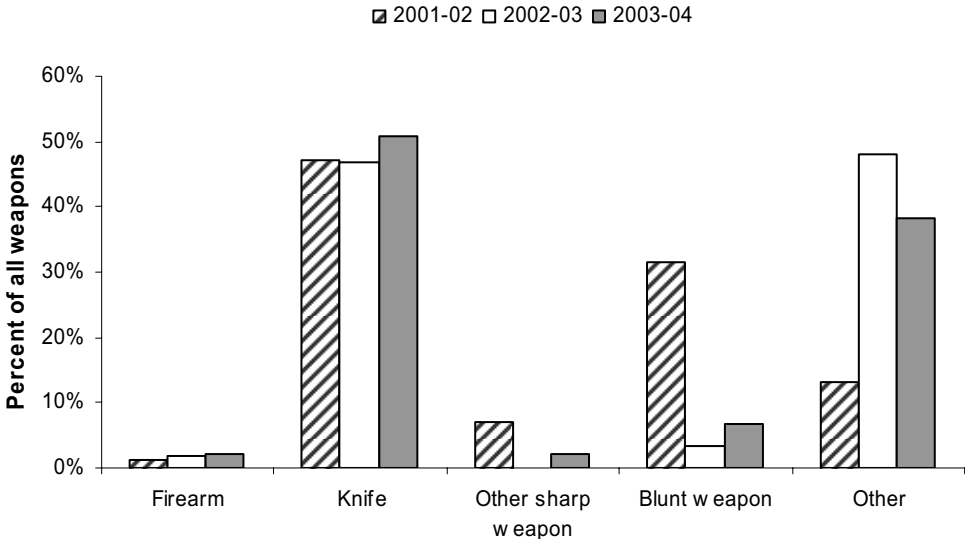


Note: Two deaths occurred in each of 2001-02 and 2002-03. One of the deaths in 2002-03 resulted from a suicide after the incident. No deaths were recorded in 2003-04.

2.8 Weapon use in family violence incidents

In total, 133 incidents of family violence in 2003-04 involved the use of 136 weapons (see Figure 12). Knives accounted for 50 per cent of all weapons used. The use of firearms was very low.

Figure 12. Weapons used in family violence incidents as a percentage of all weapons used

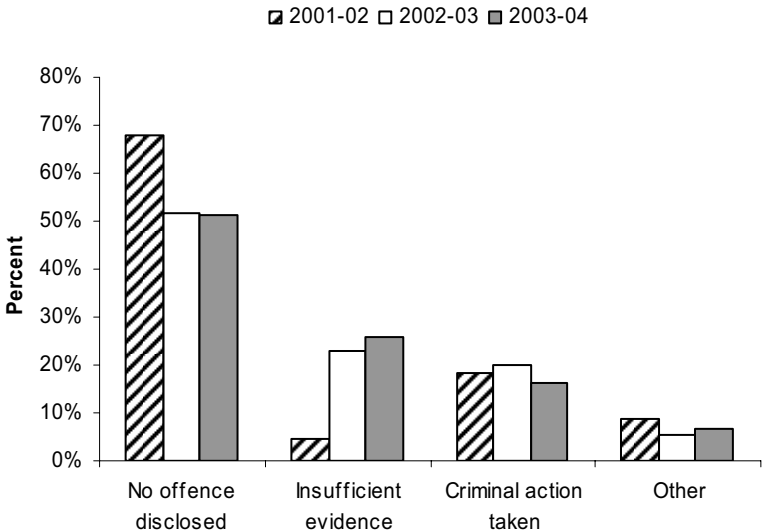


Note: Examples of ‘other sharp weapon’ include sword, screwdriver, glass. Examples of ‘blunt weapon’ include block of wood, baseball bat, steel pole, piping. Examples of ‘other’ include furniture, toys, stick, hammer, tools.

2.9 Outcomes of incidents

Family violence incidents can result in a variety of different formal and informal outcomes. This section provides a break down of the types of outcomes resulting from family violence incidents in 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04. Figure 13 shows that in 2003-04 criminal action was taken in 16 per cent of all incidents. No offence was disclosed in 51 per cent of incidents and there was insufficient evidence to proceed with further action in 26 per cent of incidents.

Figure 13. Percentage of incidents by type of outcome in 2001-02 (N=3589 incidents), 2002-03 (N=3187 incidents) and 2003-04 (N=2793 incidents)



Note: 29 incidents in 2001-02 and 1 incident in 2002-03 were excluded due to missing data. ‘No offence disclosed’ means that the victim / offender / participant did not disclose any offences during police attendance/ conversations with police. The category ‘Other’ refers to where it was not in the public interest to proceed or another referral was made rather than going through the court process, i.e. a diversionary conference etc.

Family violence incidents usually require police to use a variety of methods to remedy a dispute and, in many instances, police utilise more than one method to stop and prevent future family violence. These methods can be classified into two categories: formal action and informal action.

Formal action

Criminal action: Arrest, Summons, Voluntary agreement to attend court (VATAC)¹, Caution, First Instance Warrant (FIWT), Fresh Charge, etc.

Protect/Prevent/Other formal: Emergency Protection Order (EPO), Outstanding Warrants actioned, Intoxication, Emergency Mental Health Order (EMO) etc.

¹ VATACs are no longer in use.

Informal action

Domestic Violence Crisis Service (DVCS), Family Services, Supportlink, MHCT (Mental Health Crisis Team), Alcohol and Drug Service, Victim Liaison Officer referral, as well as 'other' referrals such as Trauma Teddy, Relationships Australia and local counselling and GP support.

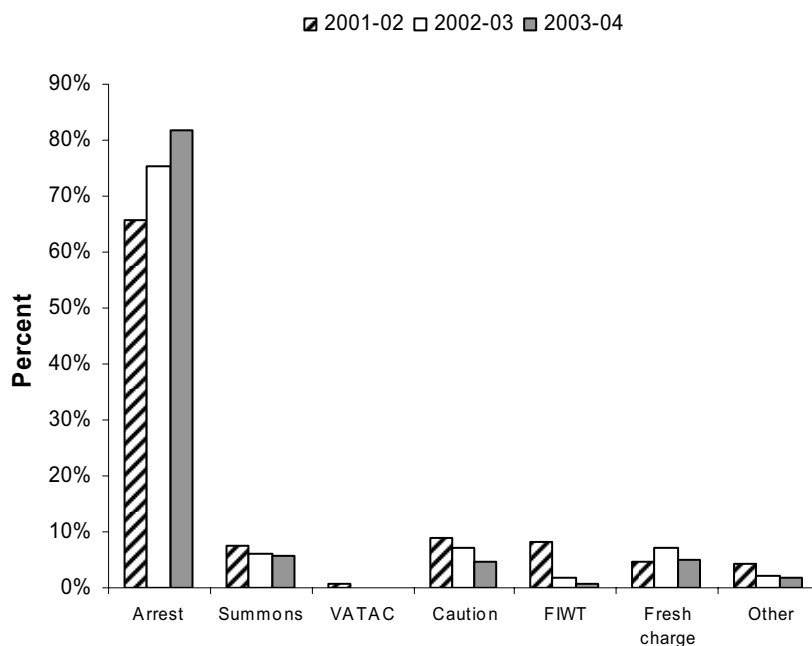
In 2003-04 584 types of criminal action were taken. The AFP has a pro-arrest policy on family violence offenders; this is because a pro-arrest policy has the benefits of:

- Victim safety
- Offender accountability
- Fast tracking through the courts (speeding up the court process).

Figure 14 shows the types of action which were taken by police in 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04. For all three years arrest accounted for the vast majority of actions taken (66 per cent in 2001-02, 75 per cent in 2002-03 and 82 per cent in 2003-04). Less than ten per cent of actions taken involved the offender being cautioned.

In 2003-04 the offender was present when police arrived at the incident in only 25 per cent of incidents. In such cases where the offender is unable to be located, a First Instance Warrant (FIWT) may be sworn.

Figure 14. Types of action taken in 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04

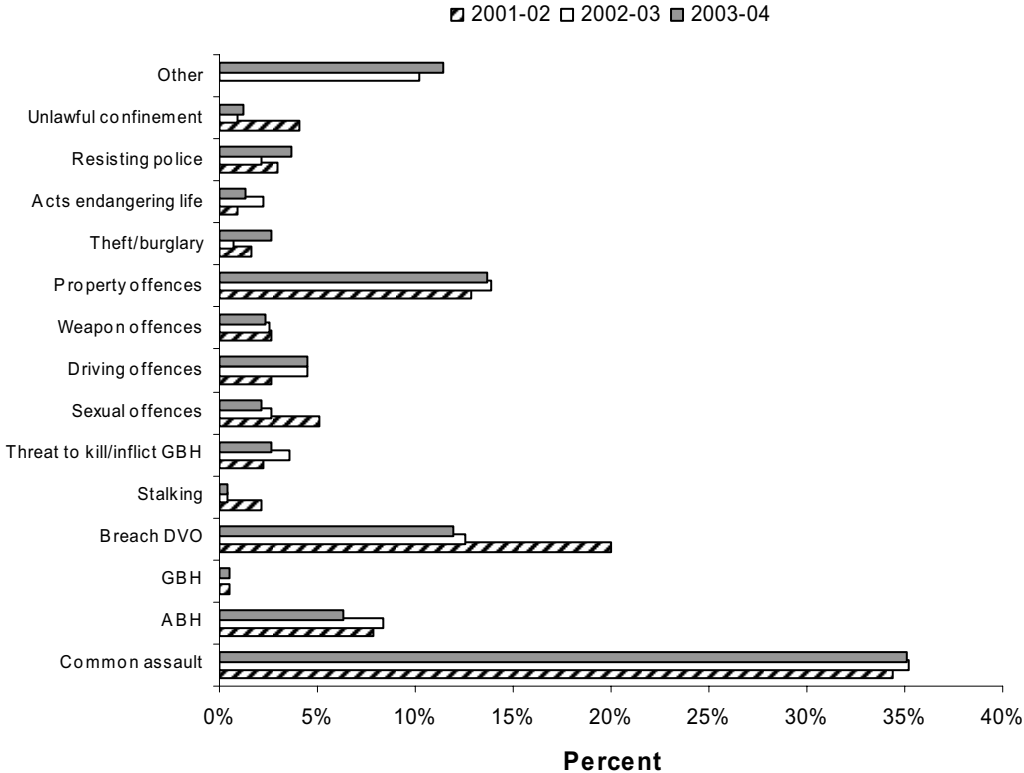


Note: 693 types of action were taken in 2001-02, 795 types of action were taken in 2002-03 and 584 types of action were taken in 2003-04. In 2002-03 and 2003-04 VATACs were not in use.

2.10 Criminal charges laid

In 2003-04 there were 450 incidents in which criminal action was taken, involving a total of 895 charges. Common assault was the most common charge laid, accounting for 35 per cent of all criminal charges laid (see Figure 15). This was followed by property offences (14%) and breaches of Domestic Violence Orders (12%). Across all three years GBH was the least common charge.

Figure 15. Percentage of criminal charges laid by type of charge

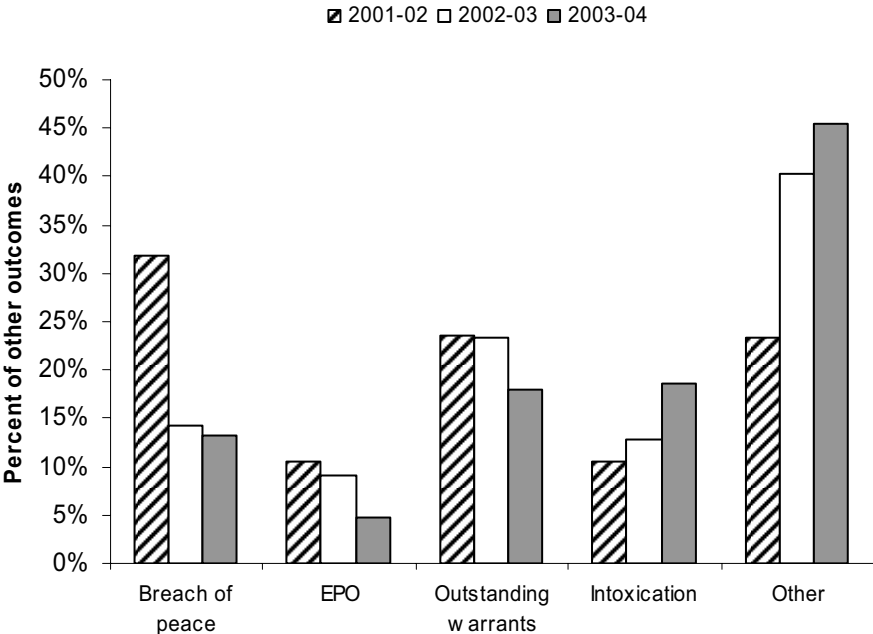


Note: A total of 1459 charges were laid in 2001-02, 1330 charges laid in 2002-03 and 895 charges laid in 2003-04. The drop in charges laid is most likely due to the more specific charging process implemented by the AFP. “Other” refers to charges such as arson, drugs, murder, manslaughter – these may not necessarily be Family Violence offences but have been laid at the time of the incident.

2.11 Other formal outcomes

Of all family violence incidents in 2003-04 there were 188 incidents which resulted in 167 formal outcomes, other than criminal action, against the offender. These other formal outcomes could be used in conjunction with any criminal action taken, or where no criminal action was taken. Figure 16 shows that in 2003-04 ‘breach of peace’ accounted for 13 per cent of other formal outcomes, ‘outstanding warrants’ accounted for 18 per cent of other formal outcomes and ‘intoxication’-related outcomes accounted for 19 per cent.

Figure 16. Percentage of other formal actions taken



Note: There were 348 instances of other formal action in 2001-02, 218 instances of other formal action in 2002-03 and 167 instances of other formal action in 2003-04. ‘Other’ includes incidents of mental health orders.

2.12 Time of day and day of week that incidents occurred by confirmed incident type

Knowing when particular types of incidents occur can assist police to prepare in terms of staffing levels, knowing when to expect certain types of incidents and what might be required in terms of resources to meet the demands of those incidents. Appendix A (Figures A1 to A6) show graphically the times of day and the days of the week that confirmed incidents of common assault, sexual assault and breaches of DVO occurred in 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04. Comparisons between the three years show that the patterns are remarkably similar, and point to the enormous value in building a time series of family violence incidents. Consistency in findings across years provide greater reliability in the results and mean that police responses to incidents can be planned with greater confidence that they will meet the needs involved in such incidents.

Key findings were that:

- Incidents involving common assault were most likely to occur between the hours of 4.00pm and midnight. This accounted for 51 per cent of all assaults in 2003-04 (see Figure A1).
- Assault was most likely to occur on Saturdays and Sundays (see Figure A2).
- Incidents involving sexual assault were most likely to occur between midday and mid afternoon (see Figure A3).
- The most common day for incidents of sexual assault to occur in 2003-04 and 2002-03 was Thursday, although in 2001-02 it was both Thursdays and Fridays (see Figure A4).
- Breaches of Domestic Violence Orders tended to peak between midday and 8.00pm and occurred more often on Mondays and Tuesdays in 2003-04 although the frequency was relatively evenly spread throughout the week in the previous two years (Figures A5 and A6).

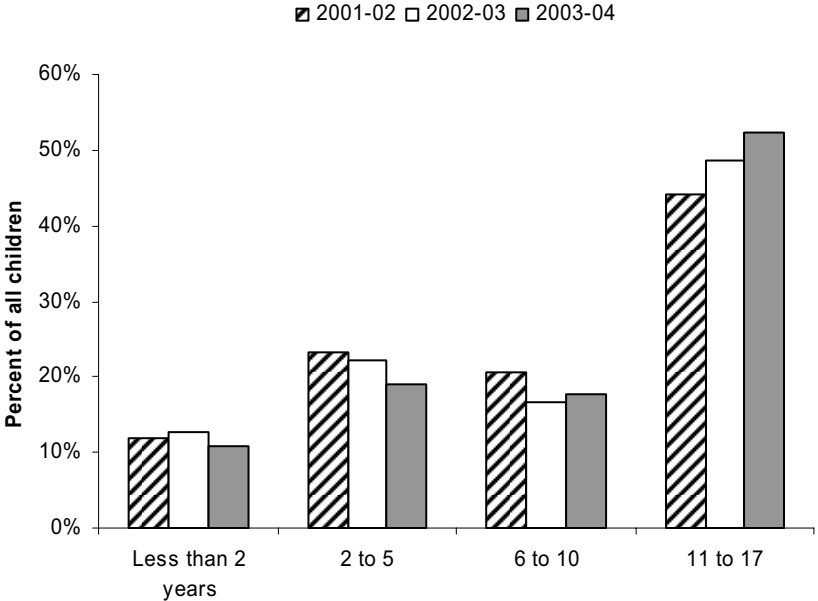
2.13 Children in Family Violence Incidents

Not all children who were present or involved in family violence incidents were systematically recorded in PROMIS in terms of age, gender etc. This is most likely to be so in less serious incidents where children were present only but had no active involvement. This means that the available data presented in this section may under-represent children in family violence incidents. Only children aged 17 years and under are described in this section.

In 2001-02, a total of 1726 children were recorded as being present in 1355 family violence incidents (38% of all incidents). In 2002-03, 1680 children were recorded as being present in 1347 family violence incidents (42% of all incidents). In 2003-04, a total of 1625 children were recorded as being present in 1231 family violence incidents (44% of all incidents).

Figure 17 shows the age breakdown (where known) of all children who were recorded as being present at family violence incidents. Age was known for about 80 per cent of all children present in each year. Approximately half of children present (where age was known) were aged between 11 and 17 years.

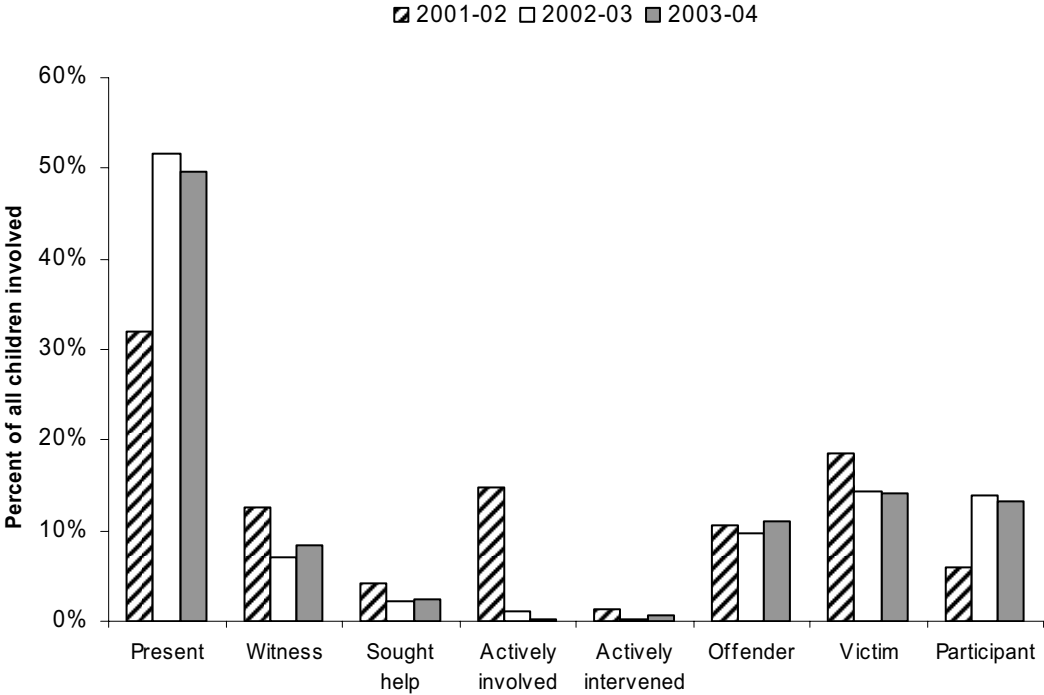
Figure 17. Age breakdown of children present in family violence incidents



Note: Information about age was available for 1376 children in 2001-02, 1333 children in 2002-03 and 1323 children in 2003-04.

Figure 18 shows the proportions of all children who were recorded as being present, witnessed the incident, sought help, actively involved, actively intervened, or were offenders, victims or participants. Fourteen per cent of all children were recorded as victims while 11 per cent were recorded as offenders.

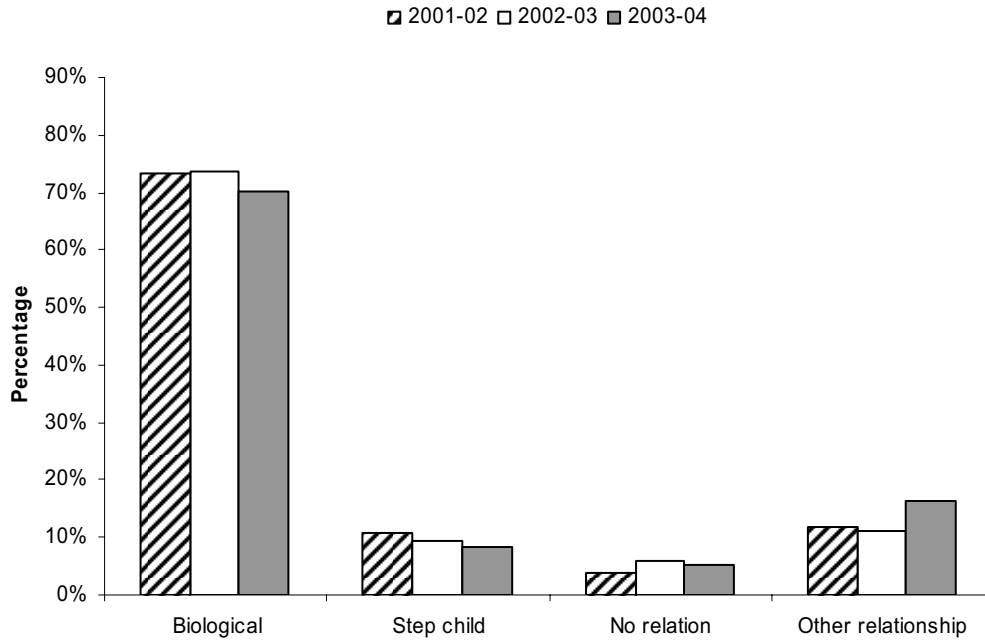
Figure 18. Percentage of children’s involvement in family violence incidents



Note: A child was categorised as being a ‘witness’ only if that child saw the incident and was old enough to provide a statement. If the child was not old enough to provide a statement then the child was listed as being ‘present’.

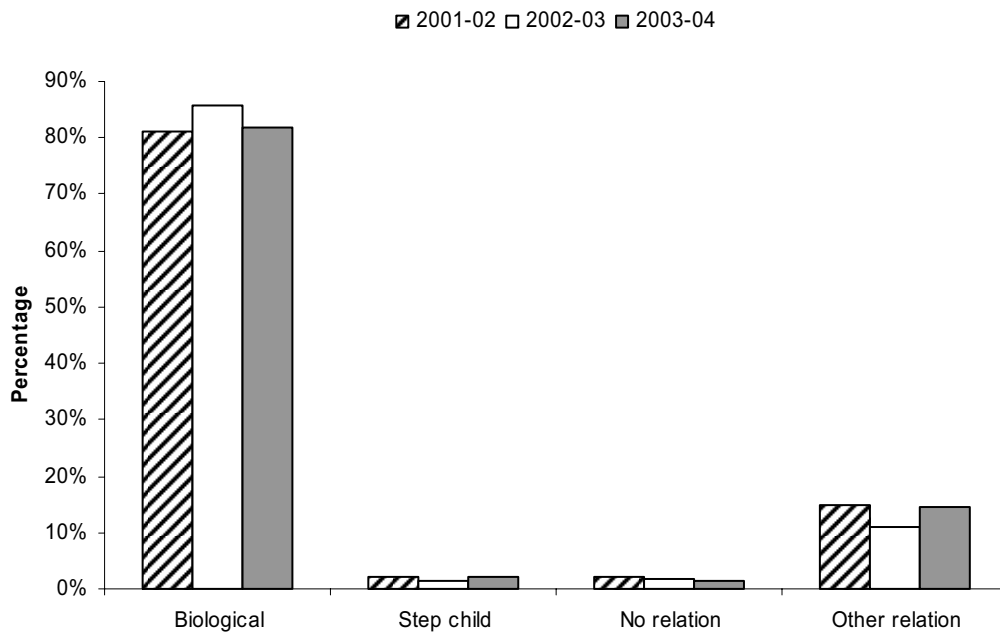
Figures 19 and 20 show the relationships between children in family violence incidents to victims and offenders. Across all three years the vast majority of children were biologically related to both the victim and offender.

Figure 19. Relationships of children to offenders by year



Note: This figure refers to relationships between up to three children and one offender only.

Figure 20. Relationships of children to victims by year



Note: This figure refers to relationships between up to three children and one victim only.

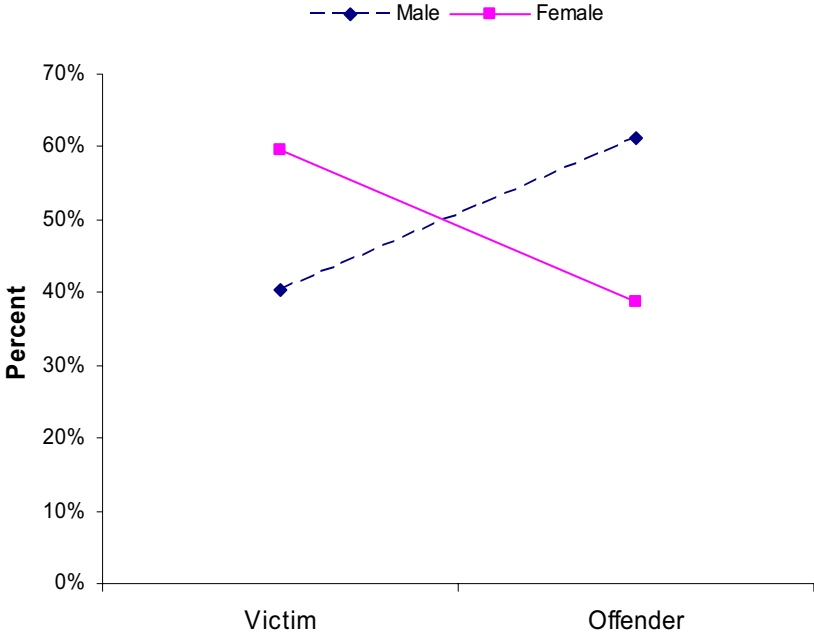
2.13.1 Children as Victims and Offenders in family violence incidents

This section analyses children who were victims or offenders of family violence. For the purposes of this section a child is classified as a ‘victim’ where the child was a target of the offender even if a criminal offence was not committed (e.g. verbal abuse). In 2003-04, out of a total of 2793 family violence incidents, there were:

- 215 incidents (8% of all family violence incidents) which involved 231 children as victims, and
- 181 incidents (6% of all family violence incidents) which involved 181 children as offenders.

In 2003-04 child victims were more likely to be female while child offenders were more likely to be male (see Figure 21).

Figure 21. Percentage of child victims (N=228) and offenders (N=181) by sex 2003-04



Note: Three child victims were excluded due to missing data on sex

Child offenders in general were older than child victims. Ninety two per cent of child offenders in 2003-04 were aged between 11 and 17 compared with 56 per cent of child victims (see Figure 22). Fourteen per cent of child victims were aged between two and five years, while four per cent were aged under 2 years.

Figure 22. Percentage of child victims (N=228) and offenders (N=180) by age 2003-04

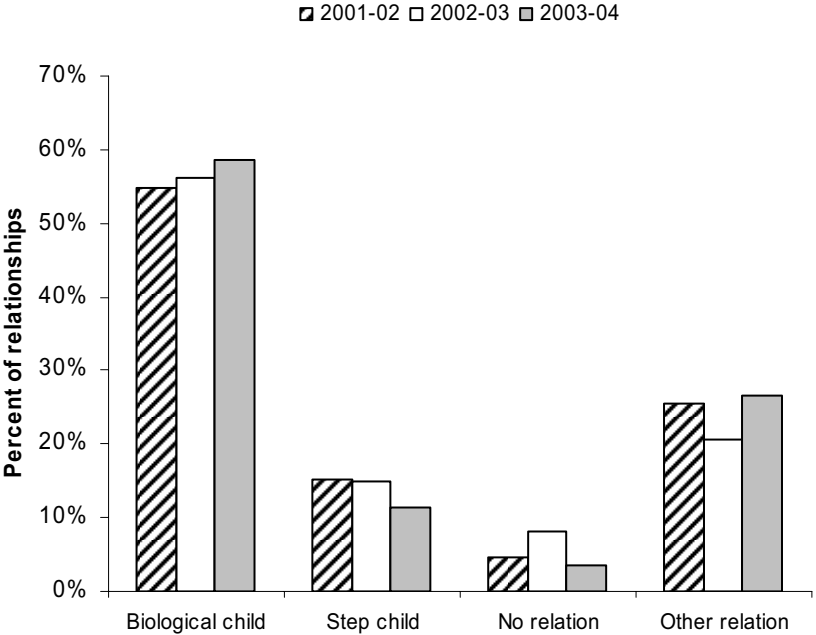


Note: Three child victims and one child offender excluded due to missing data on age.

2.13.2 Children as victims

Of the 231 children who were victims in 2003-04, information about their relationship to the offender was available for 229 children (see Figure 23). Child victims were most frequently biological children of the offender (58%), with 11 per cent of child victims being step children of the offender.

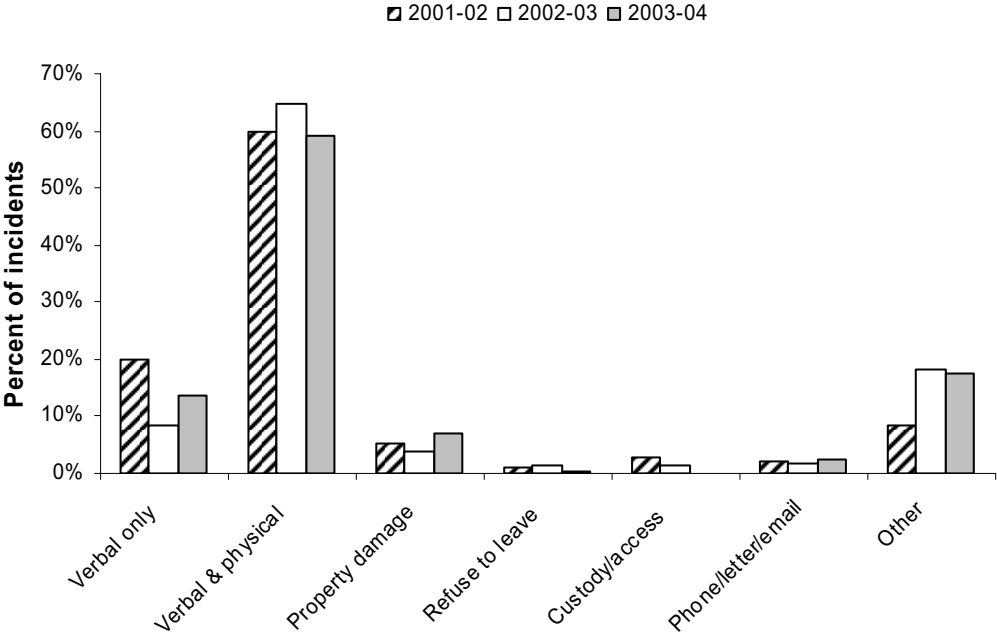
Figure 23. Percentage of child victim relationships to offender in 2001-02 (N=307 relationships), 2002-03 (N=233 relationships) and 2003-04 (229 relationships)



Note: Refers to relationships between child and one offender only. In 2001-02 eleven relationships between child victims and offenders were classified as N/A and 2 were missing. In 2002-03 information about relationships was missing for 8 child victims and in 2003-04 information about relationships was missing for 2 child victims.

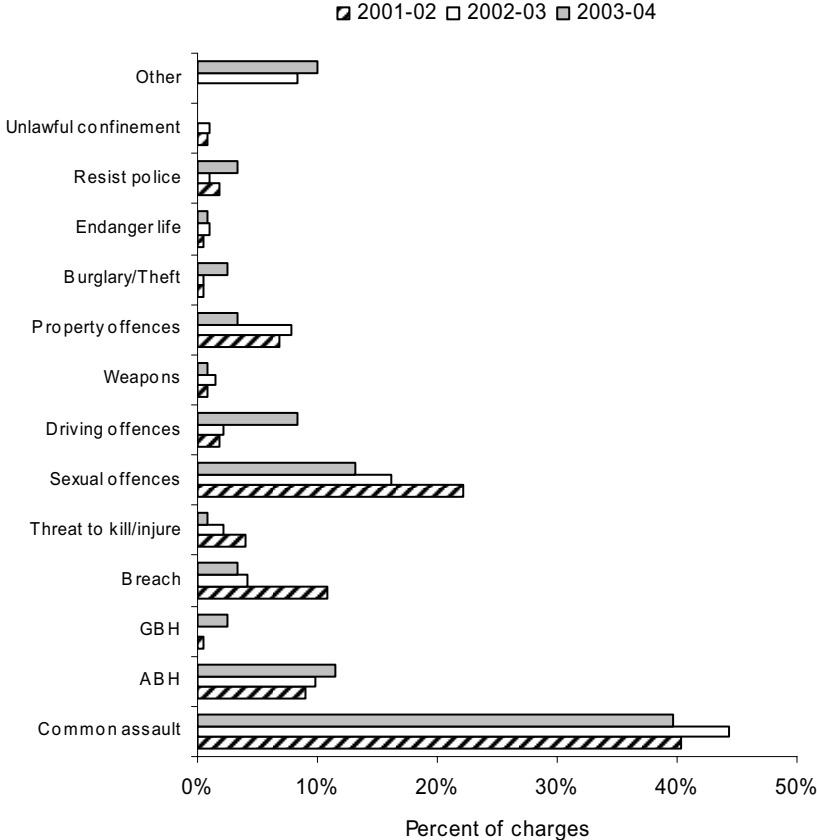
The majority of incidents involving child victims were verbal and physical, accounting for 59 per cent of these incidents in 2003-04 (Figure 24).

Figure 24. Description of incidents where the victim was a child in 2001-02 (N=280 incidents), 2002-03 (N=210 incidents) and 2003-04 (N=215 incidents)



In incidents where victims were children, a total of 121 charges were laid in 2003-04. Forty per cent of these charges related to common assault while 13 per cent of these charges related to sexual offences (Figure 25). In particular 16 sexual offence charges were laid in eight incidents in which children were victims. This is an average of two sexual offence charges per relevant incident.

Figure 25. Percent of criminal charges laid by type of charge where the victim was a child in 2001-02 (N=180 incidents), 2002-03 (N=210 incidents) and 2003-04 (215 incidents)



Note: 221 charges laid in 2001-02, 192 charges laid in 2002-03 and 121 charges laid in 2003-04

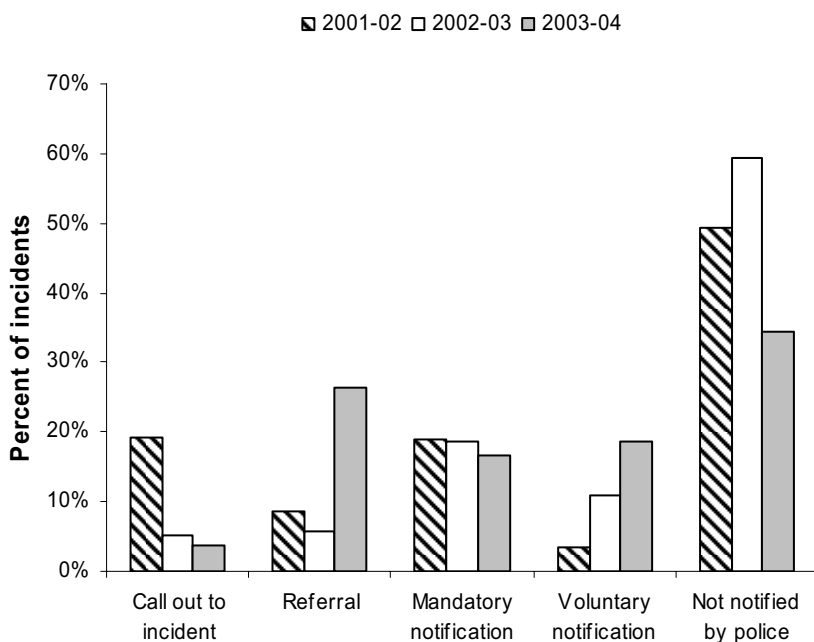
2.13.3 Referrals to other agencies where child victims involved

Under Section 159 of the Children and Young People Act 1999 it is mandatory for police to report sexual abuse or non-accidental injury that they reasonably suspect is occurring. Section 158 allows for voluntary reporting in circumstances where police believe or suspect that a child or young person is in need of care and protection. This includes exposure to domestic violence.

Figure 26 shows that in 2003-04 34 per cent of incidents in which children were recorded as being victims were not reported to Family Services directly by police. However Family Services may have been the complainant or they may have been notified of an incident by a school or hospital so this would not come up in the statistics. The percentage of incidents not reported to Family Services in 2003-04 was lower than the previous two years.

In 2003-04 twelve per cent of incidents involving child victims also involved the DVCS being called out and speaking to the victim. In 80 per cent of incidents the DVCS were not notified by police. Whilst this figure may be low, it may relate to the ages of the children involved and that they were offered other specialist support services through the AFP Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Team.

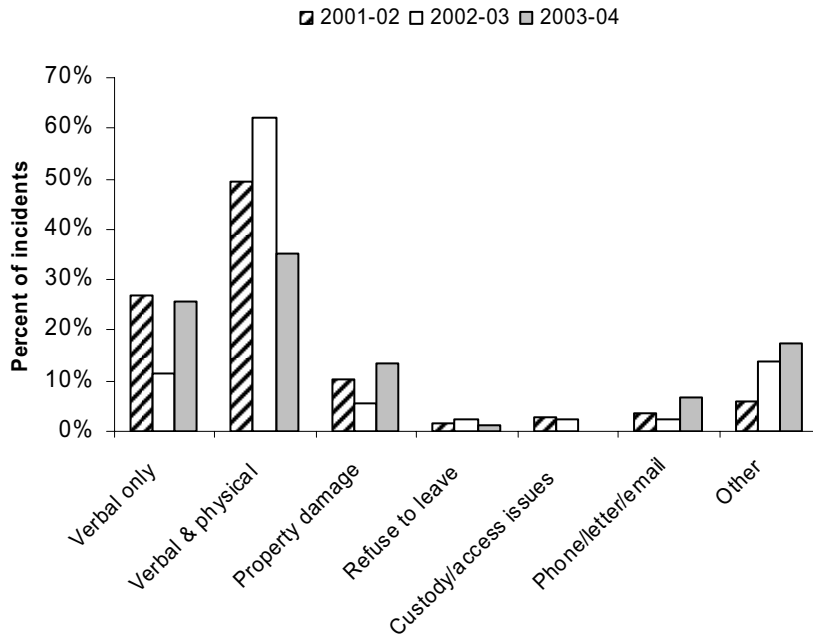
Figure 26. Percentage of child victim incidents in 2001-02 (N=279 incidents), 2002-03 (N=209 incidents) and 2003-04 (N=215 incidents) which involved Family Services



Note: One incident in each of 2001-02 and 2002-03 had missing data and are excluded from this graph.

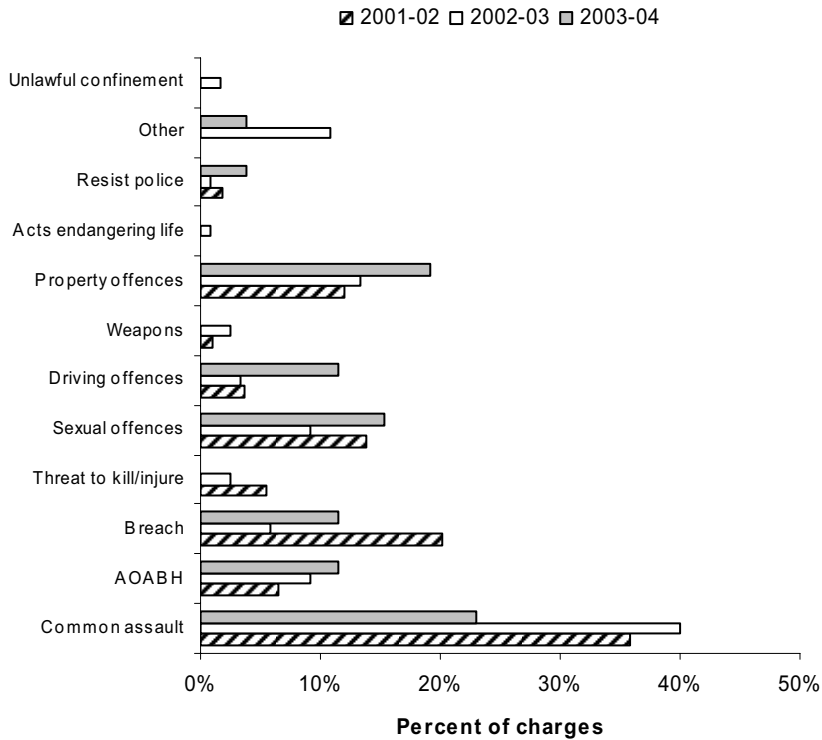
The majority of incidents in which Family Services were not notified by police were verbal and physical (see Figure 27).

Figure 27. Percentage of child victim incidents where Family Services were not notified by type of incident in 2001-02 (N=138 incidents), 2002-03 (N=124 incidents) and 2003-04 (N=74 incidents)



In 2001-02 there were 109 charges laid in 138 incidents where the victim was a child and Family Services were not informed directly by police. In 2002-03 there were 120 charges laid in 124 incidents where the victim was a child and Family Services were not informed. In 2003-04 there were 26 charges laid in 74 incidents where the victim was a child and Family Services were not informed. Figure 28 shows that these related primarily to common assault.

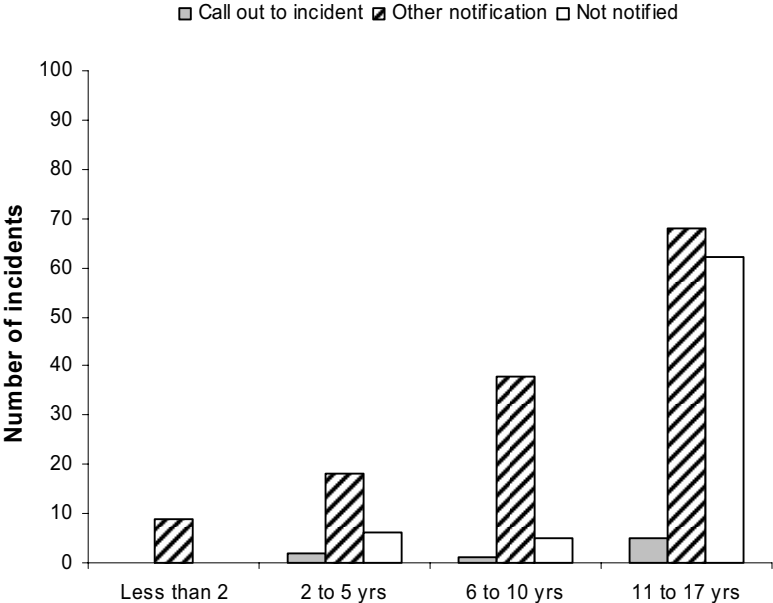
Figure 28. Percent of charges laid where victim was a child and Family Services not informed directly by police in 2001-02 (N=138 incidents), 2002-03 (N=124 incidents) and 2003-04 (N=74 incidents)



Note: In 2001-02 109 charges laid, in 2002-03 120 charges laid and in 2003-04 26 charges laid where victim was a child and Family Services not informed directly by police.

Incidents involving children as victims were more likely to be reported to Family Services by police when children were young (see Figure 29). Incidents involving older children were less likely to be reported to Family Services (46 per cent of those incidents involving children aged 11 to 17 were not reported).

Figure 29. Number of incidents involving Family Services by age of child victim in 2003-04 (N=215 incidents)

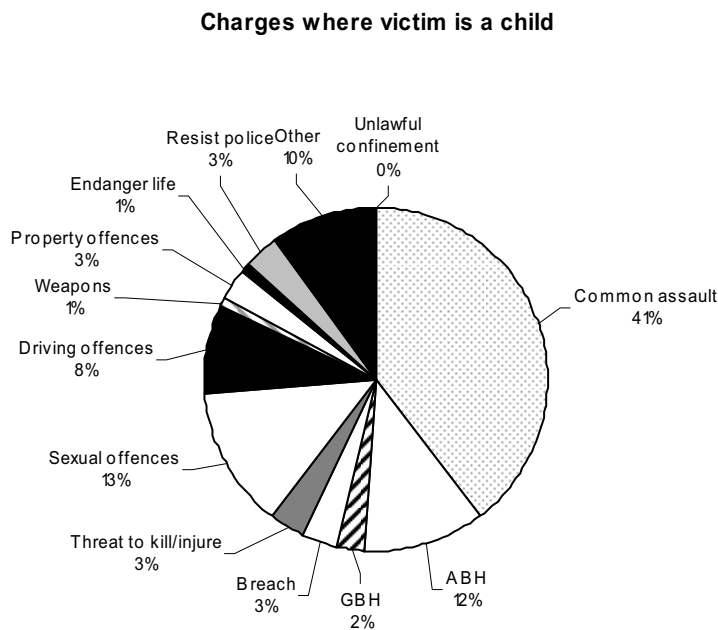


Note: One incident was excluded due to missing data on age.

2.13.4 Comparison of adult and child victims in 2003-04

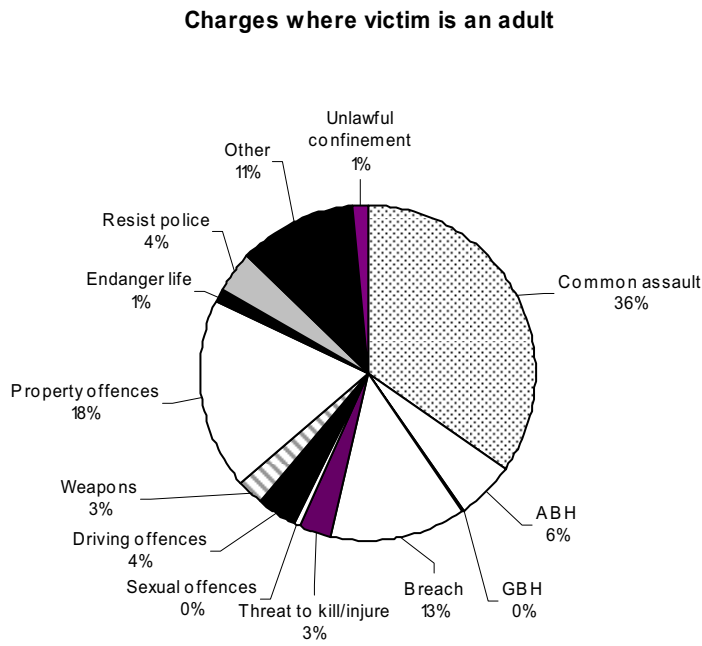
In 2003-03 there were 215 incidents in which 231 children were victims (involving 121 criminal charges being laid). There were 1525 incidents in which 1731 adults were victims (involving 766 criminal charges). It can be seen from Figures 30 and 31 that charges for common assault and sexual offences were more likely to occur where children were victims, while charges for breach of DVOs and property offences were more likely to occur where victims were adults. In particular, sexual offences accounted for less than one per cent of all charges laid where the victim was an adult (3 charges), compared with 13 per cent of all charges laid where the victim was a child (16 charges).

Figure 30. Percentage of charges laid by type of charge where victim was a child in 2003-04 (N=121 charges)



Note: Refers to 215 incidents in which a child victim was involved, totalling 121 charges laid.

Figure 31. Percentage of charges laid by type of charge where victim was an adult in 2003-04 (N=766 charges)

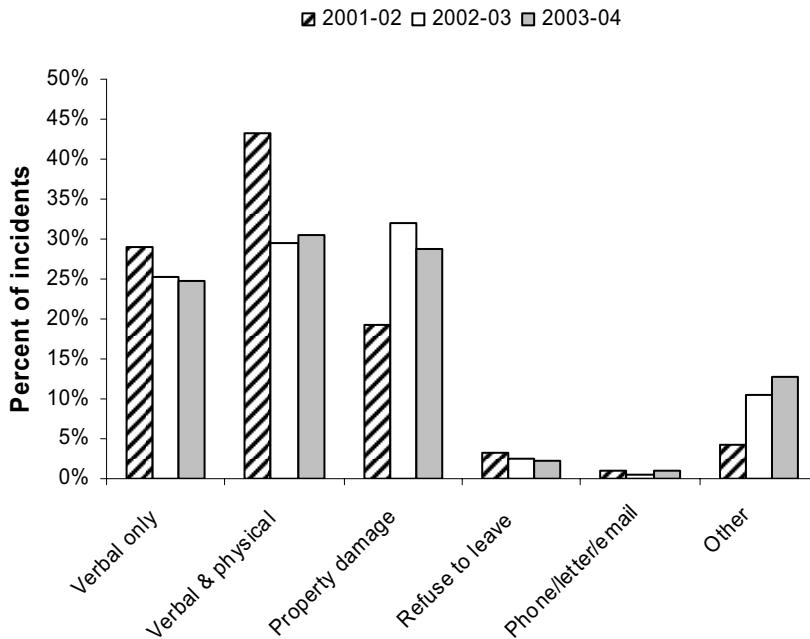


Note: Refers to 1525 incidents in which adult victims were involved, totalling 766 charges laid. Four charges of stalking/harassment not included in above graph.

2.13.5 Children as Offenders

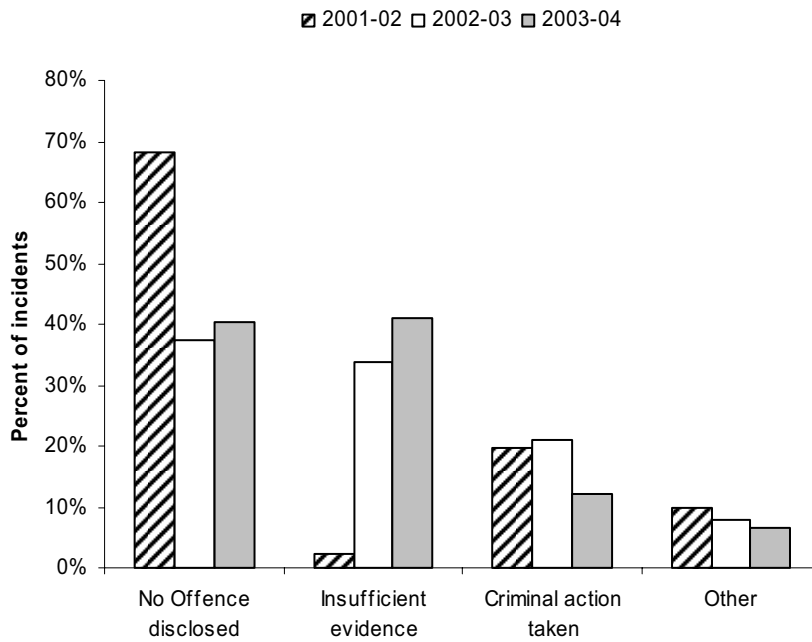
Of the 2793 family violence incidents in 2003-04 there were 181 incidents in which 181 children were offenders. Twenty nine per cent of these incidents related to property damage (Figure 32) while 55 per cent of incidents were verbal or verbal and physical.

Figure 32. Percentage of child offender incidents by incident description in 2001-02 (N=183 incidents), 2002-03 (N=163 incidents) and 2003-04 (N=181 incidents)



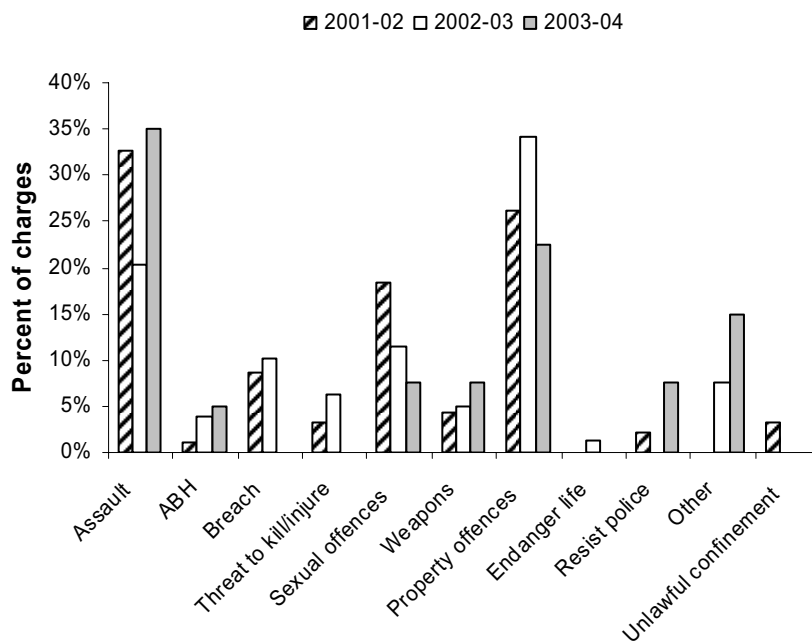
Criminal action was taken against child offenders in 12 per cent of child offender incidents in 2003-04, which is slightly lower than the proportion of incidents in which criminal action was taken in 2002-03 (see Figure 33). There was insufficient evidence to proceed in 41 per cent of child offender incidents. In 17 out of 22 incidents in which criminal action was taken the apprehension method was arrest.

Figure 33. Percentage of child offender incidents by outcome in 2001-02 (N=183 incidents), 2002-03 (N=163 incidents) and 2003-04 (N=181 incidents)



There were 40 charges laid against child offenders in 2003-04. Fourteen of these charges (35%) related to assault and nine related to property offences (see Figure 34).

Figure 34. Percentage of charges laid against child offenders in 2001-02 (N=92 charges), 2002-03 (N=79 charges) and 2003-04 (N=40 charges)



2.13.6 Comparisons between child and adult offenders

A comparison between child and adult offenders (Figures 35 through to 38) for 2003-04 reveals that incidents involving child offenders:

- Were more likely to involve property damage and less likely to be verbal and physical or relate to custody/access issues than incidents involving adult offenders
- Were more likely to involve charges relating to property offences and less likely to involve charges relating to driving offences.

Figure 35. Percentage of child offender incidents (N=181 incidents) by incident description for 2003-04

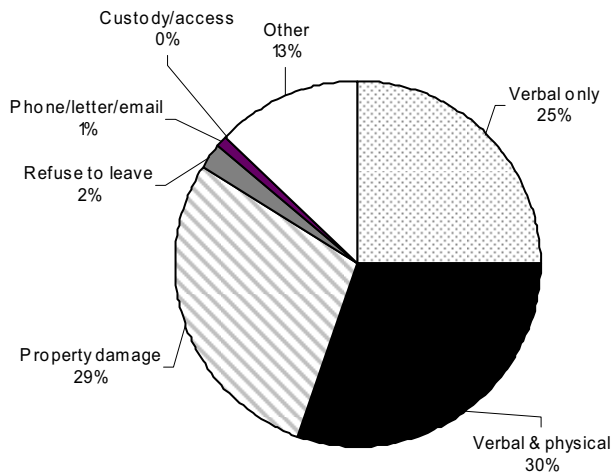


Figure 36. Percentage of adult offender incidents (N=1564 incidents) by incident description for 2003-04

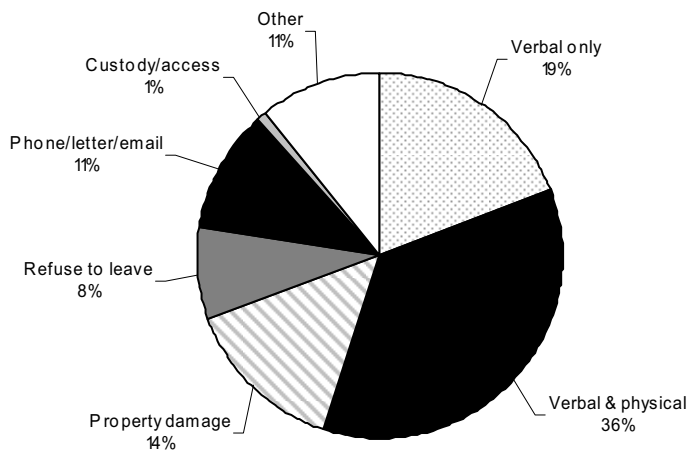


Figure 37. Percentage of charges laid against child offenders in 2003-04 (N=40 charges)

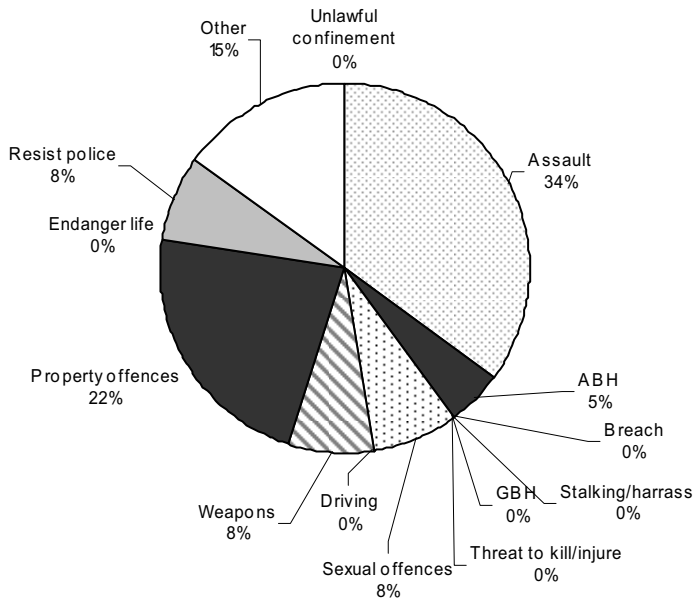
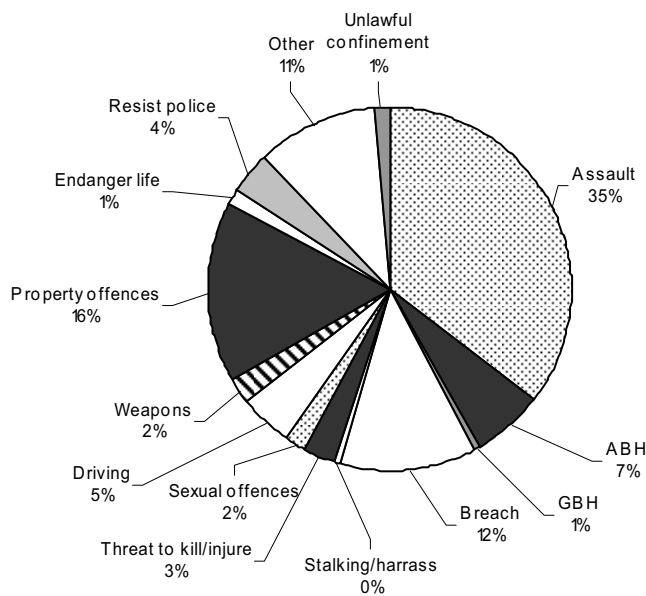


Figure 38. Percentage of charges laid against adult offenders in 2003-04 (N=844 charges)



2.14 Comparing male and female adult offenders in 2003-04

- In 2003-04 there were 1567 adult offenders (1272 adult male offenders and 295 adult female offenders).
- The most frequent type of incident for both male and female adult offenders in 2002-04 was verbal and physical, followed by verbal only (see Figure 39).
- Criminal action was more likely to be taken against male adult offenders (30% of incidents) than female adult offenders (14% of incidents), see Figure 40. This may be as a result of an unwillingness by males to disclose an offence to police and/or provide police with a statement.
- Where criminal action was taken, arrest accounted for 82 per cent of incidents in which offenders were male and 90 per cent of incidents in which offenders were female (Figure 41).
- Common assault was the most frequent charge laid against both adult male and female offenders (see Figure 42). Proportionally, the types of charges laid against both adult male and female offenders were similar.

Figure 39. Incident description for incidents in which adult offenders were male and female in 2003-04

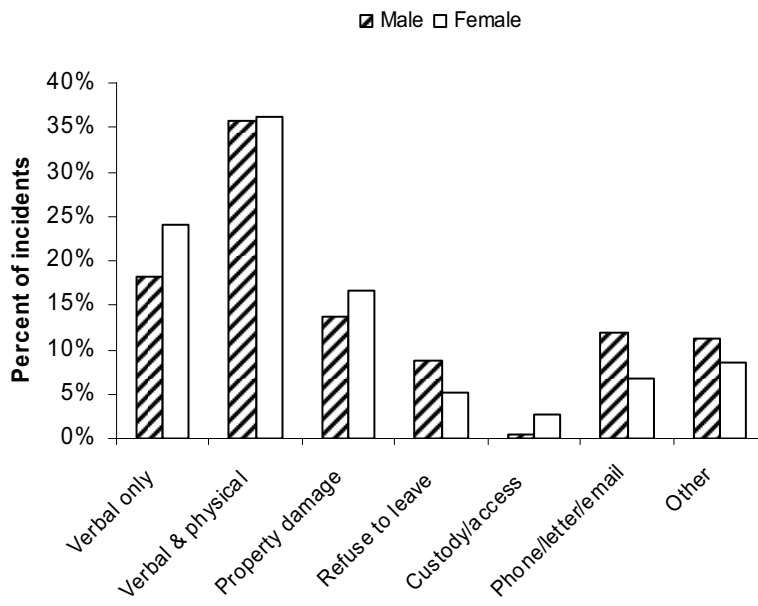


Figure 40. Outcome of incidents in which adult males and females were offenders in 2003-04

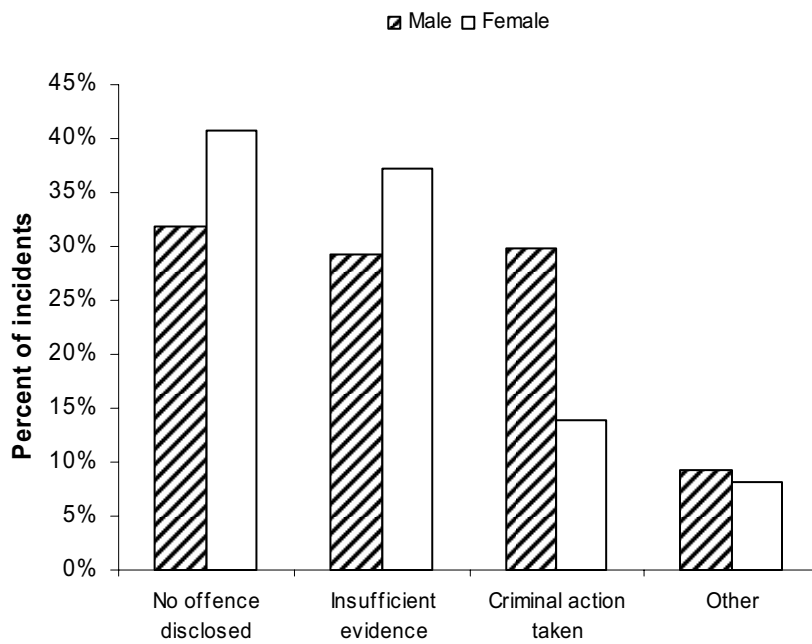
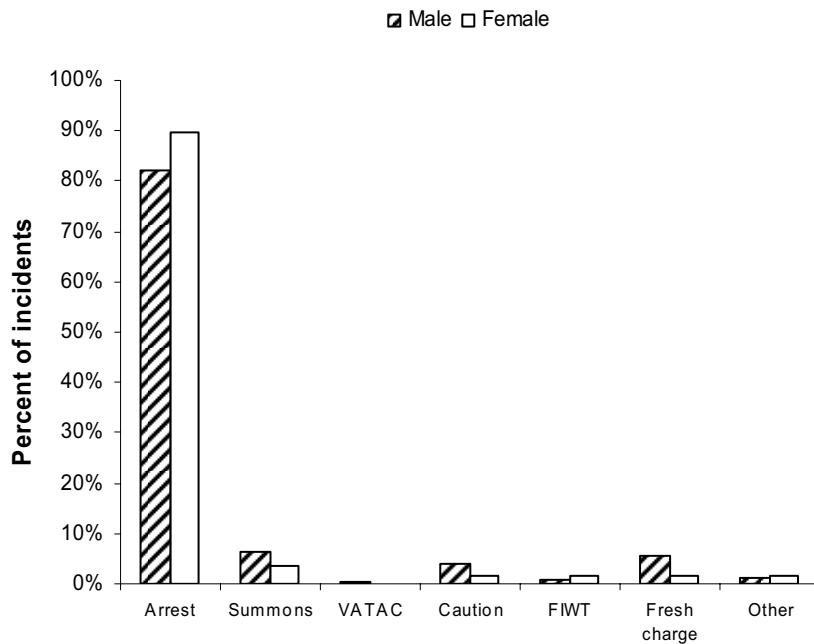
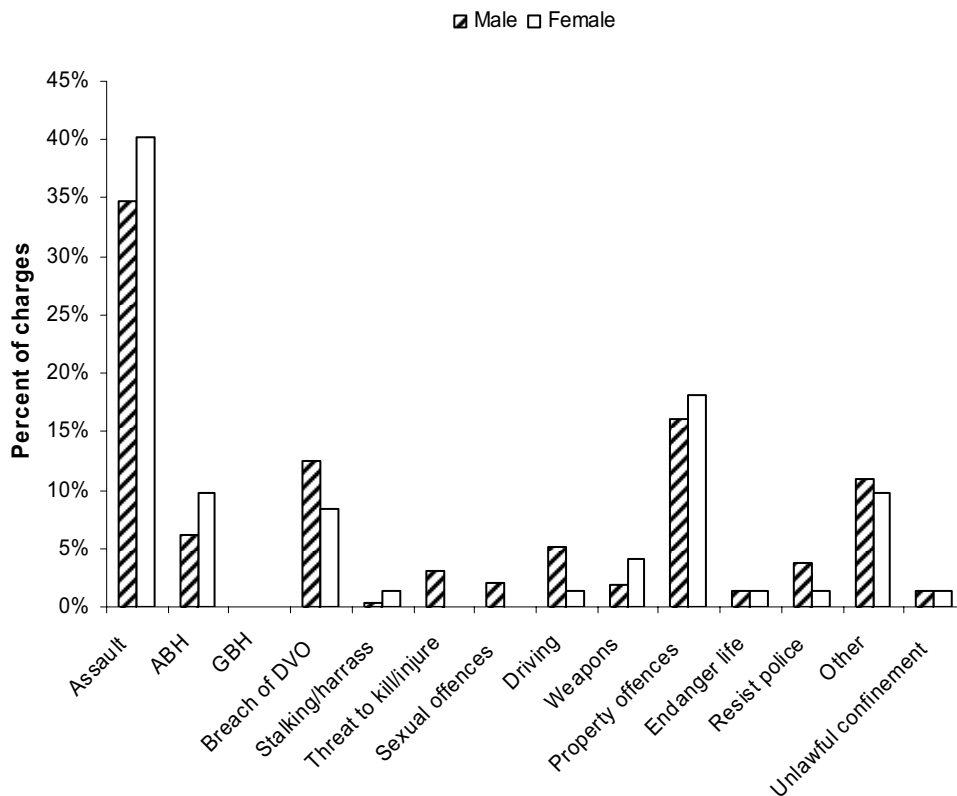


Figure 41. Percentage of incidents in which criminal action was taken when adult males and adult females were offenders



Note: Out of 1272 adult male offenders, there were a total of 467 formal actions taken. Out of 295 female adult offenders there were a total of 58 formal actions taken.

Figure 42. Percentage of charges laid in incidents where criminal action was taken for adult male (N=379 incidents) and adult female (N=41 incidents) offenders in 2003-04



Note: There were a total of 772 charges laid against adult male offenders and 72 charges laid against adult female offenders in 2003-04.

2.15. Child victims - operational issues

- In 34 per cent of incidents in which a child was a victim in 2003-04, Family Services was recorded as not being informed directly by the police. This could be because Family Services was the complainant or they may have been notified of an incident by a party other than the police and this would not be reflected in these statistics. It is noteworthy however that the proportion of incidents in which Family Services were not directly notified by the police was considerably lower in 2003-04 than in 2002-03 (59% of incidents in which a child was a victim). If any of these incidents were reported to Family Services by police but were not recorded correctly in the PROMIS database then this recording issue should be rectified.
- In 80 per cent of child victim incidents the DVCS was not notified of the incident. This is further explained within paragraph 3 of 2.13.3.
- Data relating to age and sex of children at incident needs to be recorded systematically.

2.16 Incidents by statistical subdivision in the ACT

Using the statistical subdivisions for the ACT provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Table 2 provides a breakdown of the number of incidents which occurred in each of these subdivisions for 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04, as well as the number of incidents which occurred per 1000 population within each subdivision. Population estimates are based on estimated resident population at 30 June for 2002, 2003 and 2004 (ABS Regional Population Growth, Australia – companion data, Cat No. 3218.0.55.001).

Table 2. Number and rate (per 1000 population) of incidents by statistical subdivision for 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04

Subdivision	Number of incidents			Rate per 1000 population at 30 June		
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
North Canberra	581	438	401	14.8	10.9	9.8
Belconnen	985	737	728	11.4	8.6	8.5
Woden Valley	287	280	219	8.8	8.7	6.9
Weston Creek-Stromlo	215	212	184	9.1	9.3	8.2
Tuggeranong	985	1006	816	10.9	11.1	9.1
South Canberra	302	281	250	12.9	11.9	10.6
Gungahlin-Hall	185	180	159	7.2	6.5	5.4
Total Canberra*	3618	3188	2793	11.3	9.8	8.6

*: Includes 78 incidents for 2001-02, 46 incidents for 2002-03 and 26 incidents for 2003-04 which were listed as “other” in the AFP FV dataset or which were not included in the ABS subdivision breakdowns. Also includes 8 incidents missing data on suburb in 2002-03 and 10 incidents missing data on suburb in 2003-04.

3. Data issues

- (1) Data for 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 were provided to the AIC by the AFP in SPSS format and amalgamated into one statistical SPSS file for purposes of analysis. During the data cleaning process conducted by the AIC it became apparent that there were a number of data quality issues to be addressed and dealt with. Some of these related to missing data, some related to inconsistency in data recorded, others related to PROMIS incidents being mistakenly duplicated in the data set or the data being inaccurately entered into the AFP database.

Examples of the latter are where the year of the incident was recorded as being outside the scope of the relevant financial years or where the coding for a particular variable was clearly incorrect – instances where this occurred were identified and referred back to the AFP for rectification and clarification. In some cases the data were corrected, in others the AFP were unable to rectify the problem. Other problems were found where reanalyses done for 2001-02 using the 2001-02 data provided did not exactly correspond with some of the analyses presented in the 2001-02 report. It is unclear why this might be (for example, whether the 2001-02 data set provided to the AIC is the same data set which was used in the previous report). In addition to facilitating easier comparison between the three years at a glance (rather than constantly having to refer to the previous report for comparison), this is one reason why the 2002-03 and 2003-04 reports provides analyses for all three years (with 2001-02 data re-analysed based on the data provided). Those data problems that could be fixed through manual cross-checking with the original AFP data base were rectified. Those that could not be rectified were left as they were – where appropriate these are noted in the body of the report.

- (2) A comparison of variables provided in the data sets for the three years also revealed that while the majority of variables collected was the same for all three years, there were some data items which had been collected in 2001-02 but not collected in 2002-03 or 2003-04, and vice versa. Further, it was found that while information in 2001-02 had been collected on up to four persons per incident, information in 2002-03 and 2003-04 had been collected on up to three persons per incident. This means that a direct comparison between years on persons involved in family violence incidents is not strictly valid, since the maximum possible in 2001-02 was four and the maximum possible in the following years was three. Consistency in data recording is strongly recommended, particular if the AFP wishes to build the family violence data base over a long period and wishes to compare incidents over years.
- (3) Incidents recorded in the FVIP data base are treated as independent of all other incidents. This means that if two incidents occurred at the same location with the same incident description with the same victim and offender within a short period of time this would be treated as two separate (and independent) incidents rather than one. While the AIC queried the independence of such incidents, the AFP indicated that the data base is not intended to track individuals and that treating all incidents as independent from each other is appropriate from the perspective of the AFP.

Glossary

AOABH	Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm
actively intervened (child)	A child who intervenes between parties who are either verbally or physically fighting
actively involved (child)	A child who cannot be identified as an offender, victim or participant but conveys information between parties
alcohol	Includes those persons affected by alcohol at the time of the incident or with a history of alcohol abuse
arrest	Quickest form of apprehension to go through the court; the aggressor is taken to the watch house and remains there until the next court sitting, if bail is refused
breach	Breach of Domestic Violence Order
caution	The aggressor is taken to a police station and is formally cautioned about their actions
check premises	Check that premises are secure or check welfare of the occupants of the premises
child	Person under 18 years of age
disturbance	A verbal argument causing disturbance to others either in a public place or from a private residence; a physical and verbal dispute involving one or more persons either in public or from a private residence; a person(s) disturbing the peace of others
drugs/substances	Includes those persons who are affected by the drug/substance at the time of the incident, suffering withdrawals at time of incident or attempting to gain money to purchase drug/substance at time of incident
DVCS	Domestic Violence Crisis Service
DVO	Domestic Violence Order
EMO	Emergency Mental Health Order; when a person is deemed no longer competent and is placed in a psychiatric unit to be assessed
EPO	Emergency Protection Order; similar to a DVO/RO but police are the applicant. Issued by a magistrate outside court hours.
ex-spouse	Includes divorced couples, ex-de facto couples, ex-same sex-couples
Family violence incident	Incident in which a person uses violent and/or abusive behaviour to control someone with whom they have some type of 'family' relationship
FIWT	First Instance Warrant; used when aggressor is not able to be located for arrest at the time of the incident
formal action	where police invoke police powers to apprehend an aggressor, or prevent a crime from being committed by an aggressor
fresh charges	when an aggressor is already attending court on other matters and the new charges are attached to save court time
FVIP	Family Violence Intervention Program
GBH	Grievous Bodily Harm
informal action	where police refer to external agencies and initiate attendance of external agencies to attend incident
MHCT	Mental Health Crisis Team
nuisance	A person being of nuisance to others through unwanted or unsolicited behaviour; nuisance telephone calls; unwanted behaviour (e.g. window washers, begging in public, anti-social activities)
offender	A person who attacks without provocation, either verbally and/or physically

participant	A person who is not clearly identified as a victim or as an offender but was actively involved in an incident verbally and/or physically
present (child)	Child is nearby, eg in another room. If the child saw the incident, the child becomes a witness for the purposes of the report if the child is old enough to give a statement. If the child is not old enough to give a statement the child is classified as 'present'
PROMIS	Police Realtime Online Management Information System (police database)
routine	Routine assistance, i.e. stand by premises whilst a partner removes property, routine in relation to the priority given to response (no lights and sirens operating), or something that is conducted on a regular basis
SACAT	Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Team
sought help (child)	Child sought help from another person, eg called police, went to neighbour's house
spouse	Includes married couples, de facto couples, same-sex couples
summons	The aggressor is issued a written direction to attend court, is much slower through the court than 'arrest'
suspicious	Person or activities of a person. Examples include suspicious looking vehicle (could be stolen) either occupied or unoccupied; a suspicious package etc.
VATAC	Voluntary Agreement To Attend Court. Document signed by the defendant.
victim	A person who is the target of an aggressor, even where no offence has been committed (eg verbal abuse)
witness (child)	Child witnessed the incident, but did not actively do anything during the incident, nor was any action taken against the child. Infants in a cot etc. were shifted to present

APPENDIX A

Raw numbers and supplementary graphs

Appendix A

Table A1. Numbers of incidents per station (raw data, refer Figure 1)

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Belconnen	980	634	622
City	869	541	497
Woden	652	758	656
Tuggeranong	928	951	774
SACAT	90	94	103
Gungahlin	53	191	138
Other	46	19	3
Total	3618	3188	2793

Table A1a. Location of incidents in 2003-04 (raw data, refer Figure 2)

Private home	2409
Public place	154
Other	38
Telephone/postal/email	192
Total	2793

Table A2. Confirmed incident type (raw data, refer Figure 3)

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Assault	419	455	337
Breach DVO	300	232	162
Check premises	463	416	404
Criminal damage	44	73	66
Disturbance	1641	1351	1283
Nuisance	83	65	51
Psychiatric	75	48	57
Routine	168	147	94
Sexual assault	54	34	26
Suspicious	34	24	22
Other	333	337	289
Total	3614	3182	2791
	4 missing	6 missing	2 missing

Table A3. Incident description (raw data, refer Figure 4)

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Verbal only	1345	1117	1039
Verbal and physical	1108	947	796
Property damage	362	286	327
Refuse to leave	225	183	133
Custody/access	132	89	51
Phone/ltr/email	212	237	188
Other	233	329	259
Total	3617	3188	2793
	1 missing		

Table A4. Day of week incidents occurred (raw data, refer Figure 5)

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Mon	489	447	417
Tue	504	451	371
Wed	487	426	374
Thur	465	378	360
Fri	482	393	384
Sat	583	526	408
Sun	608	567	479
Total	3618	3188	2793

Table A5. Month in which incidents occurred (raw data, refer Figure 6).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Jul	247	318	236
Aug	279	293	262
Sep	295	299	243
Oct	311	117	245
Nov	313	252	231
Dec	347	294	274
Jan	300	313	252
Feb	317	212	261
Mar	353	237	229
Apr	261	294	202
May	291	287	191
Jun	304	272	167
Total	3618	3188	2793

Table A6. Time of day incidents occurred (raw data, refer Figure 7).

Time	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
00:00-00:59	134	125	116
01:00-01:59	102	100	74
02:00-02:59	68	62	67
03:00-03:59	58	52	43
04:00-04:59	51	33	23
05:00-05:59	35	18	26
06:00-06:59	35	30	31
07:00-07:59	66	63	54
08:00-08:59	96	104	75
09:00-09:59	165	123	116
10:00-10:59	195	141	106
11:00-11:59	143	176	135
12:00-12:59	175	135	127
13:00-13:59	154	138	120
14:00-14:59	161	139	127
15:00-15:59	178	164	119
16:00-16:59	195	165	150
17:00-17:59	260	182	168
18:00-18:59	231	225	195
19:00-19:59	243	218	199
20:00-20:59	278	246	203
21:00-21:59	199	223	200
22:00-22:59	212	161	167
23:00-23:59	182	165	152
Total	3616	3188	2793
	2 missing		

Table A7. Number of persons identified as offenders, victims and participants (raw data, see Figure 8).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Offender	2529	1986	1748
Victim	2905	2224	1962
Participant	2627	2677	2181
Total	8061	6887	5891

Table A8. Persons reporting incident (raw data, see Figure 9).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Victim	1724	1452	1215
Offender	92	35	51
Participant	716	673	594
Child	55	58	36
Parent	127	149	102
Neighbour	401	350	350
Fire brigade	117	3	5
AFP internal	0	19	12
Ambulance	0	30	20
Family Services	0	36	61
Other	383	382	347
Total	3615	3187	2793
	3 missing	1 missing	

Table A9. Relationships between offenders and victims (raw data, see Figure 10).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Spouse on spouse	752	655	488
Ex-spouse on ex-spouse	867	715	563
Sibling on sibling	170	120	135
Parent on child	289	194	179
Child on parent	211	197	159
Adult child on parent	315	298	327
Parent on adult child	0	13	23
Adult on parent-in-law	19	18	14
Parent-in-law on adult	12	8	8
Other	236	136	100
Total	2871	2354	1996

Table A10 . Number of injuries in 2002-03 (raw data, see Figure 11).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Minor injury	508	488	391
Medical treatment	196	130	145
Hospitalisation	27	2	6
Death	2	2	0
Total	733	622	542

Table A11. Number of weapons used in 2002-03 (raw data, see Figure 12).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Firearm	4	3	3
Knife	157	71	69
Other sharp weapon	23	0	3
Blunt weapon	105	5	9
Other	44	73	52
Total	333	152	136

Table A12. Outcomes of incidents (raw data, see Figure 13).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
No offence disclosed	2438	1653	1437
Insufficient evidence	165	730	718
Criminal action taken	665	637	450
Other	321	167	188
Total	3589	3187	2793
	29 missing	1 missing	

Table A13. Types of action taken (raw data, see Figure 14).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Arrest	455	600	478
Summons	51	47	33
VATAC	5	1	1
Caution	63	57	27
FIWT	56	15	5
Fresh charge	33	57	30
Other	30	18	10
Total	693	795	584

Table A14. Criminal charges laid (raw data, see Figure 15).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Common assault	501	468	314
ABH	115	111	57
GBH	7	2	5
Breach DVO	292	167	107
Stalking	32	5	4
Threat to kill/inflict GBH	33	48	24
Sexual offences	75	35	19
Driving offences	38	60	40
Weapon offences	38	34	21
Property offences	188	185	122
Theft/burglary	24	9	24
Acts endangering life	14	30	12
Resisting police	43	28	33
Unlawful confinement	59	12	11
Other	0	136	102
Total charges laid	1459	1330	895

Table A15. Other formal outcomes (raw data, see Figure 16).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Breach of peace	111	31	22
EPO	37	20	8
Outstanding warrants	82	51	30
Intoxication	37	28	31
Other	81	88	76
Total	348	218	167

Figures A1-A6. Time of day and day of week particular incidents occurred (see Section 2.12).

Figure A1. Percentage of assault incidents by time of day for 2001-02 (N=419 incidents), 2002-03 (N=455 incidents) and 2003-04 (N=337 incidents)

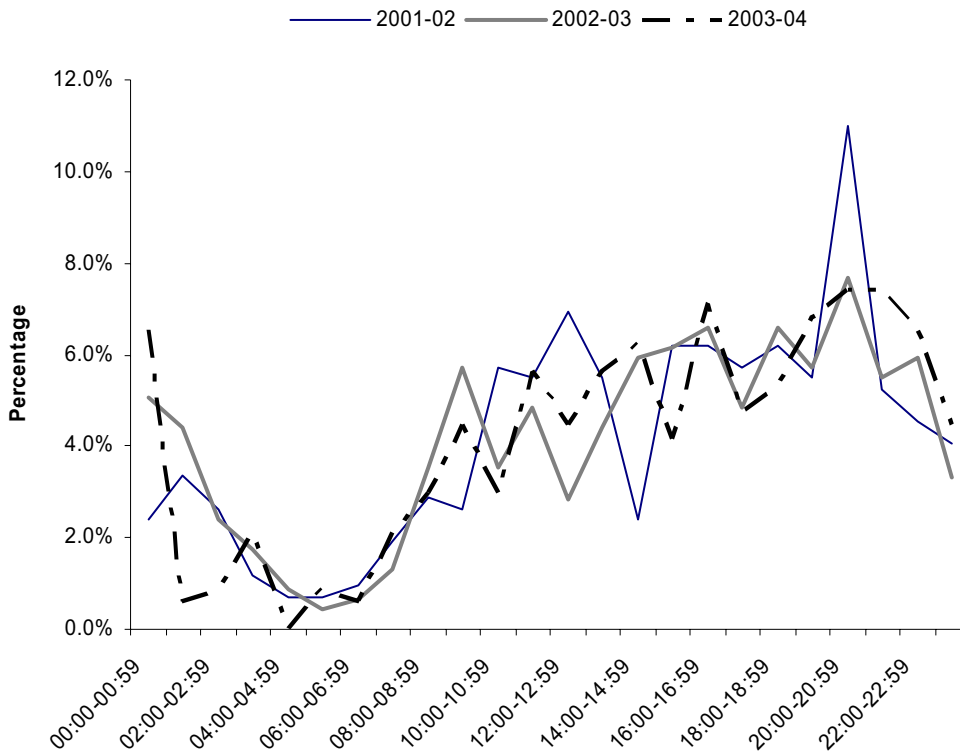


Figure A2. Percentage of assault incidents by day of week

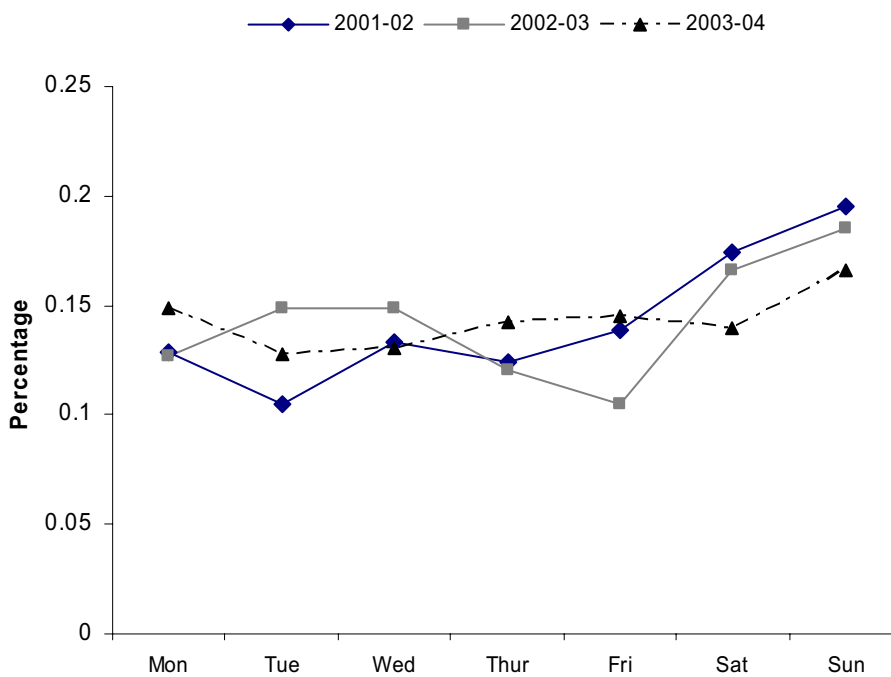


Figure A3. Percentage of sexual assault incidents by time of day for 2001-02 (N=54 incidents), 2002-03 (N=34 incidents) and 2003-04 (N=26 incidents)

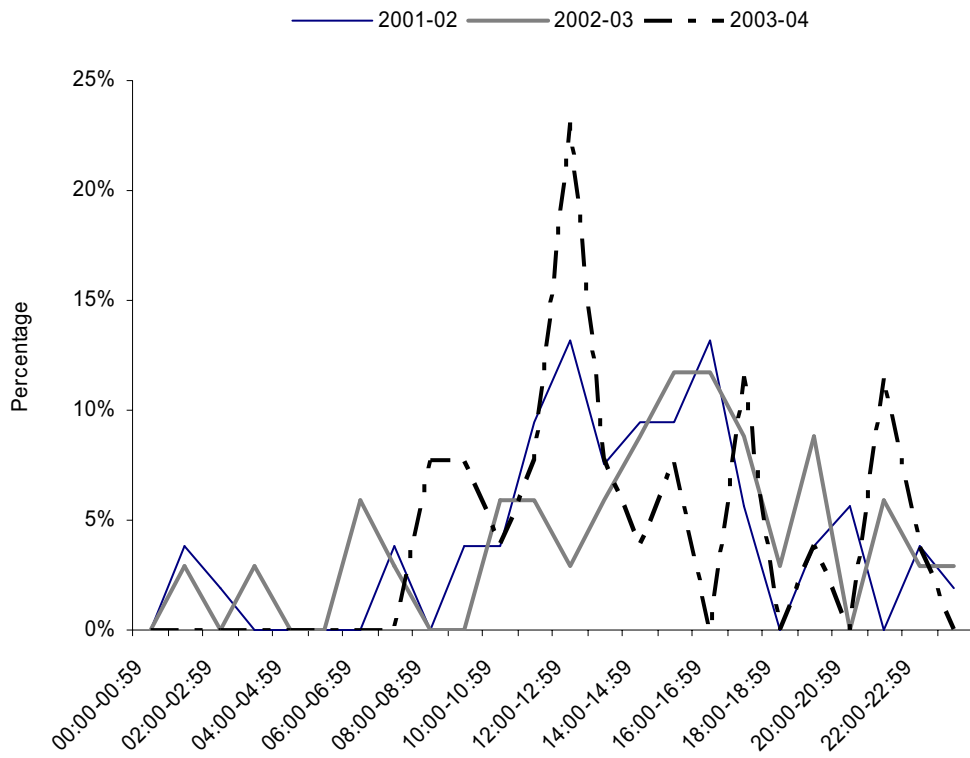


Figure A4. Percentage of sexual assault incidents by day of week

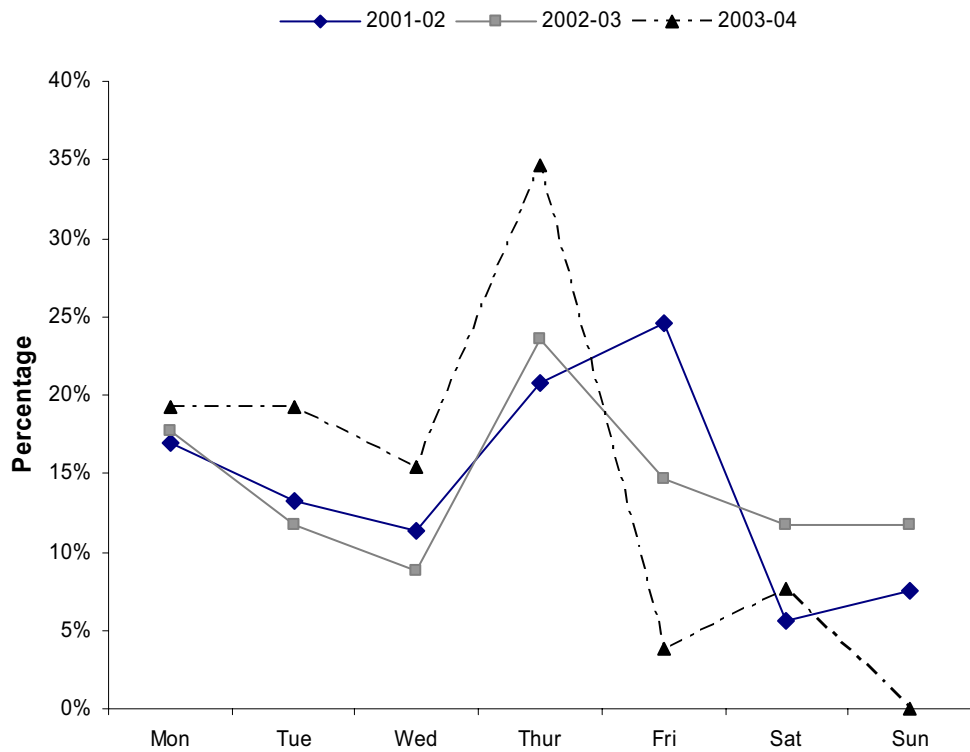


Figure A5. Percentage of breaches of DVO by time of day for 2001-02 (N=300 incidents), 2002-03 (N=232 incidents) and 2003-04 (N=162 incidents)

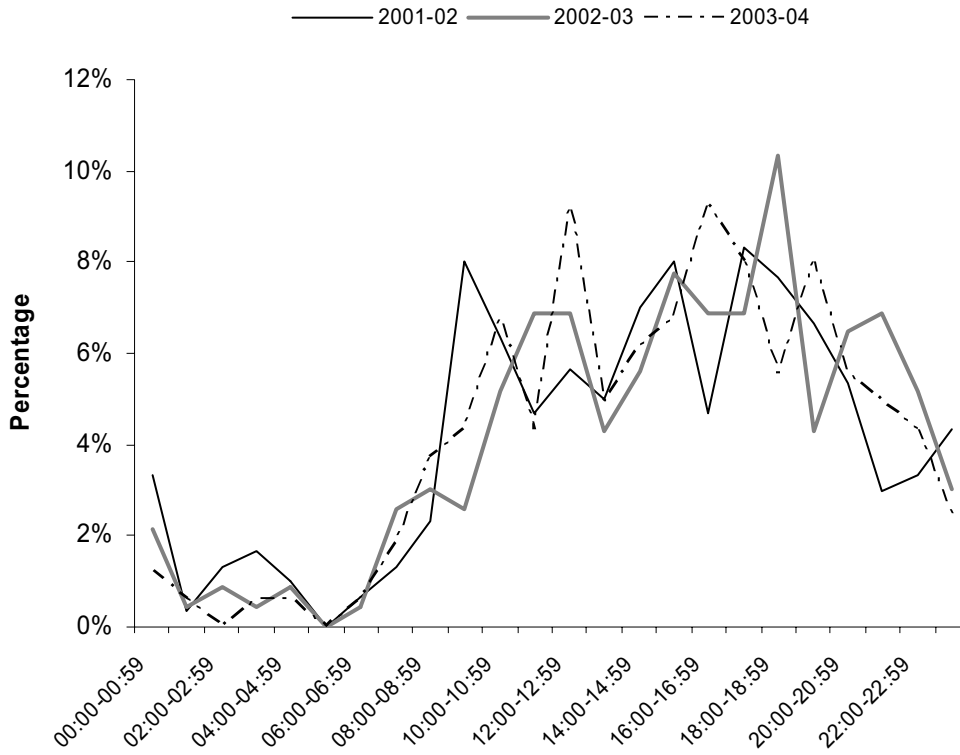


Figure A6. Percentage of breaches of DVO by day of week

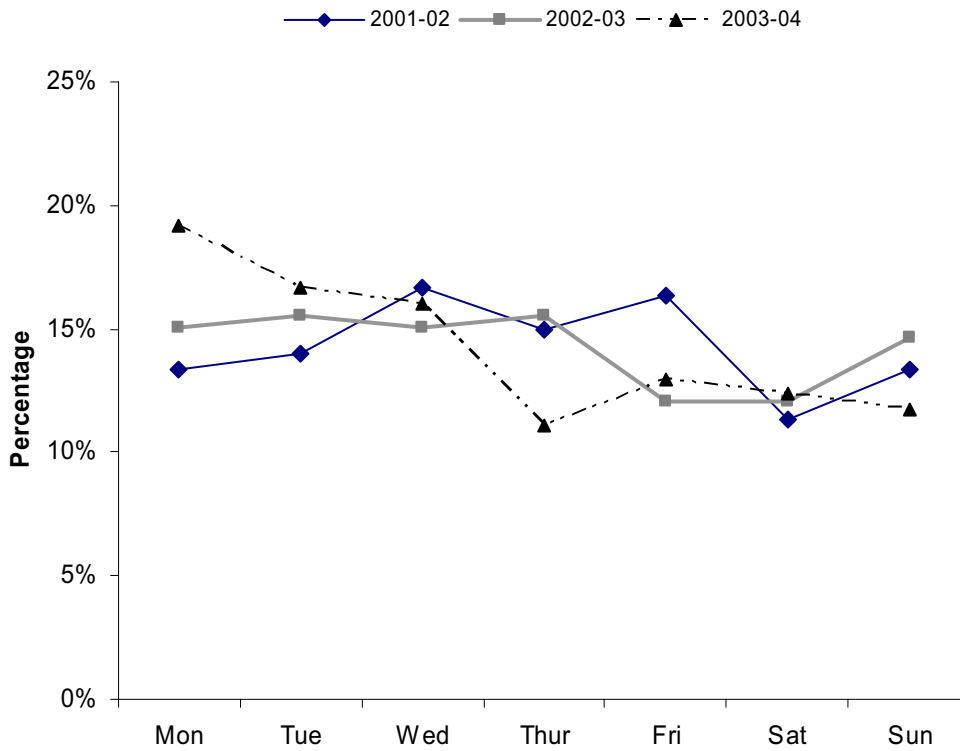


Table A16. Age breakdown of children in incidents (raw data, refer Figure 17).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Less than 2 years	165	168	143
2 to 5	321	295	251
6 to 10	283	223	236
11 to 17	607	647	693
Total	1376	1333	1323

Table A17. Level of involvement of children (raw data, refer Figure 18).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Present	553	867	805
Witness	217	120	137
Sought help	71	36	39
Actively involved	254	18	5
Actively intervened	23	3	11
Offender	184	163	181
Victim	320	241	231
Participant	104	232	216
Total	1726	1680	1625

Table A18a. Relationship of child to offender (raw data, refer Figure 19).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Biological	752	598	549
Step child	112	75	64
No relation	40	49	40
Other relationship	123	90	129
Total	1027	812	782

Table A18b. Relationship of child to victim (raw data, refer Figure 20).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Biological	867	724	670
Step child	21	12	18
No relation	21	16	13
Other relation	159	93	119
Total	1068	845	820

Table A19. Ages of child victims and child offenders 2003-04 (raw data, refer Figure 22).

	Victim	Offender
Younger than 2 yrs	10	0
2 to 5 yrs	32	0
6 to 10 yrs	57	14
11 to 17 yrs	129	166
Total	228	180
	3 missing	1 missing

Table A20. Child victim relationships to offender (raw data, refer Figure 23).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Biological child	168	131	134
Step child	47	35	26
No relation	14	19	8
Other relation	78	48	61
Total	307	233	229
	11 classified as N/A and 2 missing	8 cases missing data	2 cases missing data

Table A21. Incident description where child a victim (raw data, refer Figure 24).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Verbal only	56	18	29
Verbal & physical	168	136	127
Property damage	15	8	15
Refuse to leave	3	3	1
Custody/access	8	3	0
Phone/letter/email	6	4	5
Other	24	38	38
Total	280	210	215

Table A22. Criminal charges laid where child a victim (raw data, refer Figure 25).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Common assault	89	85	48
ABH	20	19	14
GBH	1	0	3
Breach	24	8	4
Threat to kill/injure	9	4	1
Sexual offences	49	31	16
Driving offences	4	4	10
Weapons	2	3	1
Property offences	15	15	4
Burglary/Theft	1	1	3
Endanger life	1	2	1
Resist police	4	2	4
Unlawful confinement	2	2	0
Other	0	16	12
Total	221	192	121

Table A23. Involvement of Family Services (raw data, refer Figure 26).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Call out to incident	54	11	8
Referral	24	12	57
Mandatory notification	53	39	36
Voluntary notification	10	23	40
Not notified by police	138	124	74
Total	279	209	215
	1 missing	1 missing	

Table A24. Incidents where Family Services not notified (raw data, refer Figure 27).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Verbal only	37	14	19
Verbal & physical	68	77	26
Property damage	14	7	10
Refuse to leave Custody/access issues	4	3	0
Phone/letter/email	5	3	5
Other	8	17	13
Total	138	124	74

Table A25. Charges laid where Family Services not notified (raw data, refer Figure 28).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Common assault	39	48	6
ABH	7	11	3
Breach	22	7	3
Threat to kill/injure	6	3	0
Sexual offences	15	11	4
Driving offences	4	4	3
Weapons	1	3	0
Property offences	13	16	5
Acts endangering life	0	1	0
Resist police	2	1	1
Other	0	13	1
Unlawful confinement	0	2	0
Total	109	120	26

Table A26. Involvement of Family Services by age of child 2003-04 (raw data, refer Figure 29).

	Call out to incident	Other notification	Not notified
Less than 2	0	9	0
2 to 5 yrs	2	18	6
6 to 10 yrs	1	38	5
11 to 17 yrs	5	68	62
Total	8	133	73

Missing age data in 1 incidents

Table A27. Charges laid when victim a child or an adult 2003-04 (refer Figures 30 & 31)

	Child	Adult
Common assault	48	264
ABH	14	43
GBH	3	2
Breach	4	100
Threat to kill/injure	4	23
Sexual offences	16	3
Driving offences	10	30
Weapons	1	20
Property offences	4	139
Endanger life	1	11
Resist police	4	29
Other	12	87
Unlawful confinement	0	11
Total charges	121	762
		Excludes 4 charges stalking/harassment

Table A28. Incident description for child offenders (refer Figure 32).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Verbal only	53	41	45
Verbal & physical	79	48	55
Property damage	35	52	52
Refuse to leave	6	4	4
Phone/letter/email	2	1	2
Other	8	17	23
Total	183	163	181

Table A29. Incident outcomes for child offenders (refer Figure 33).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
No Offence disclosed	124	61	73
Insufficient evidence	4	55	74
Criminal action taken	36	34	22
Other	18	13	12
Total	182	163	181
	1 missing		

Table A30. Charges laid against child offenders (refer Figure 34).

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Assault	30	16	14
ABH	1	3	2
Breach	8	8	0
Threat to kill/injure	3	5	0
Sexual offences	17	9	3
Weapons	4	4	3
Property offences	24	27	9
Endanger life	0	1	0
Resist police	2	0	3
Other	0	6	6
Unlawful confinement	3	0	0
Total	92	79	40

Table A31. Incident description for adult and child offenders 2003-04 (refer Figures 35 & 36).

	Child	Adult
Verbal only	45	301
Verbal & physical	55	560
Property damage	52	223
Refuse to leave	4	126
Phone/letter/email	2	172
Custody/access	0	14
Other	23	168
Total	181	1564

Table A32. Charges laid against adult and child offenders 2003-04 (refer Figures 37 & 38).

	Child	Adult
Assault	14	297
ABH	2	55
GBH	0	5
Breach	0	103
Stalking/harrass	0	4
Threat to kill/injure	0	24
Sexual offences	3	16
Driving	0	40
Weapons	3	18
Property offences	9	137
Endanger life	0	12
Resist police	3	30
Other	6	92
Unlawful confinement	0	11
Total	40	844

Table A33. Incident description for adult male and female offenders 2004-04 (refer Figure 39).

	Male	Female
Verbal only	231	71
Verbal & physical	454	107
Property damage	174	49
Refuse to leave	111	15
Custody/access	6	8
Phone/letter/email	152	20
Other	143	25
Total	1271	295
	1 missing	

Table A34. Outcome of incidents for adult male and female offenders 2003-04 (refer Figure 40).

	Male	Female
No offence disclosed	404	120
Insufficient evidence	371	110
Criminal action taken	379	41
Other	117	24
Total	1271	295
	1 missing	

Table A35. Criminal action taken for adult male and female offenders 2003-04 (refer Figure 41).

	Male	Female
Arrest	384	52
Summons	29	2
VATAC	1	0
Caution	18	1
FIWT	4	1
Fresh charge	26	1
Other	5	1
Total	467	58

Table A36. Charges laid against adult male and female offenders 2003-04 (refer Figure 42).

	Male	Female
Assault	268	29
ABH	48	7
GBH	3	2
Breach of DVO	97	6
Stalking/harrass	3	1
Threat to kill/injure	24	0
Sexual offences	16	0
Driving	39	1
Weapons	15	3
Property offences	124	13
Endanger life	11	1
Resist police	29	1
Other	85	7
Unlawful confinement	10	1
Total	772	72