

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform



June 2023

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# WHERE DO THE OUTCOMES AND INDICATORS ON THE PREVENTION OF FAMILY VIOLENCE DATA PLATFORM COME FROM?

Outcomes and indicators on the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform are aligned with the Victorian Government's Free from Violence Outcomes Framework, which has been adopted in the prevention-focused domain of the Family Violence Outcomes Framework.

[Free from Violence](#) is Victoria's first primary prevention strategy to stop family violence and all forms of violence against women before it starts by changing the culture that allows this violence to happen. The Free from Violence Outcomes Framework and the prevention-focused domain of the Family Violence Outcomes Framework lay out a series of high-level outcomes (the changes we are working towards), and associated indicators designed to measure progress towards these outcomes.

# HOW IS THIS DIFFERENT TO THE CRIME STATISTICS AGENCY'S FAMILY VIOLENCE DATA PORTAL?

The Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform is a companion piece to the Crime Statistics Agency's [Family Violence Data Portal](#), which is focused on incidence, reporting, justice, and service response once violence has occurred. The main difference between the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform and the Family Violence Data Portal is that the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform's focus is on the prevention and prevalence of family violence and violence against women, whereas the Family Violence Data Portal is a repository of family violence incidence and service use data.

# WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE THEMATIC HEADINGS AND THE FREE FROM VIOLENCE OUTCOMES HEADINGS?

**Thematic pages** provide users another pathway to the data based on themes that they may be interested in. The thematic pages relate to two specific themes - **Data about equality and inequality** or **Data about safety and levels of violence** – and provides another pathway for users to access the data if they are not familiar with the Free from Violence Outcome Framework's four outcomes and 26 indicators.

# WHAT TYPE OF DATA SOURCES ARE INCLUDED AND WHERE DOES THE DATA COME FROM?

Data on the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform is drawn from a wide range of surveys, administrative data collections, longitudinal studies, and published research reports. The About the Data Report (which can be downloaded on the **About the data** page) provides details of each data source in the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform including the year(s) the data was collected/published,

data custodian (e.g., Australian Bureau of Statistics), frequency of data collection (e.g., every four years), sample size, and geography of the sample (i.e., Victoria or National).

## WHAT IS THE TIME-PERIOD FOR THE DATA?

The Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform contains data sources collected from 2009, with additional years of data expected to be added in future updates to the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform. As of June 2023, some data will have a time-period between 2009 and 2022.

## WHEN IS THE DATA UPDATED WITH NEW DATA SETS?

The Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform is updated annually in June. An **Updates log** of the most recent updates can be found on the **Introduction** page. While every attempt has been made to include the most recent data, there may be a delay between when new data is released and when it can be published.

## IS CHANGE OVER TIME MEASURED AND HOW?

Yes, change over time is measured where multiple years of data are available. Some indicators are more likely to demonstrate change sooner than others. This is because systemic attitudinal and behavioural change at a societal level can take many years to achieve. Significant and sustained reductions in the prevalence of this violence requires long-term, sustained policy investment and effective, evidence-based prevention efforts, as well as continued investment in intervention and response.

## IS THE DATA FROM VICTORIA ONLY?

Wherever possible, Victorian data is presented on the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform. In cases where Victorian data is unavailable, but research has been conducted at the national (Australia) level, and the data is deemed relevant, the national results have been included.

## WHEN WILL THE 2021 NCAS VICTORIAN DISAGGREGATED DATA BE INCLUDED?

It is expected that this data will be included in our June 2024 update. Disaggregated NCAS data was not available at the time of the June 2023 update. It is expected that this data will be included in our June 2024 update.

You can read the 2021 NCAS, findings for Australian states and territories [here](#). The Victorian chapter can be found on page 99 and provides the findings from Victoria (data is not disaggregated).

## ARE DATA FROM SURVEYS WITH SMALL SAMPLE SIZES INCLUDED?

Survey data is included on the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform where the sample size was large enough to generate a low degree of sampling error. Some sub-population group disaggregation (e.g., age or gender) have been excluded where they are subject to a high degree of sampling error.

Information about survey sample sizes can be found in the About the Data Report in the **About the data** page.

## CAN I SEARCH BY THE NAME OF THE SURVEY OR REPORT?

Currently, the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform design allows you to search by the acronym of the survey, but not the full name of the survey or publisher report.

- Click on Search data by keyword and type your keyword of interest (e.g., 'AHRC,' the acronym for the Australian Human Rights Commission or 'PSS', the acronym for the Personal Safety Survey) into the search bar. Hit 'Enter' or click the Search icon.
- Relevant indicators, measures, years, and values (e.g., percentages) will be displayed.

Download the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform User Guide for more guidance on how to search for data.

*Note: If you would like to see the graph and read more about the data you have selected, you must navigate back to the specific indicator by returning to Indicators and data page along the top menu bar. You can determine the indicator number by looking at the Indicator ID.*

## CAN I SEARCH BY POPULATION GROUPS (E.G., ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE, PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY)?

Yes, it is possible to search by population group.

- Click on Search the data from the home page or Search at the top of each page.
- Select Search data by keyword and type your population group of interest (e.g., 'disability') into the search bar. Hit 'Enter' or click the Search icon.
- Relevant indicators, measures, years, and values (e.g., percentages) will be displayed.

Download the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform User Guide for more guidance on how to search for data.

*Note: If you would like to see the graph and read more about the data you have selected, you must navigate back to the specific indicator by returning to Indicators and data page along the top menu bar. You can determine the indicator number by looking at the Indicator ID.*

## HOW IS THE DATA COLLECTED AND PROCESSED?

Data on the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform is drawn from a wide range of surveys, administrative data collections, longitudinal studies, and published research reports from a range of research institutions and government organisations. Each organisation collects, processes, and analyses their data according to their own research protocols. Respect Victoria and the Crime Statistics Agency obtain this data by requesting it from the relevant organisation or extracting it from the relevant publicly accessible database or published report.

## CAN I DOWNLOAD THE RAW DATA FILE TO UNDERTAKE MY OWN ANALYSIS?

No. the raw data files are not kept on the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform and therefore cannot be downloaded for analysis. Raw data files are instead kept by the original data custodians. Many of the data custodians have published their data which is available publicly. In some instances, data that has not been published was made available for publication on the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform.

Where data files are available publicly, they can be downloaded from the data custodians' websites e.g., Australian Bureau of Statistics publishes downloadable data cubes. In instances where the data is not publicly available, the data custodians for each survey/report would need to be contacted. Links to the sources of all data are provided on the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform under the **Links and resources** tab of each data page.

However, you can export the data of each chart as a CSV file. Download the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform User Guide for more guidance on how this can be done.

## DOES THE PREVENTION OF FAMILY VIOLENCE DATA PLATFORM ENABLE SELF-SERVICE DATA ANALYSIS E.G., SIMPLE CROSS TABULATIONS? HOW DO I REQUEST SPECIFIC DATA ANALYSIS?

No. The Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform does not enable self-service data analysis. To request specific data services, please contact the respective data custodian of the survey or report you are interested in.

To enable us to identify research needs and gaps in data analysis, please contact [practice@respectvictoria.vic.gov.au](mailto:practice@respectvictoria.vic.gov.au) to indicate the type of data analysis you are looking for.

## IS THE DATA DEIDENTIFIED?

Yes, all data has been deidentified by the original data custodians (e.g., the Australian Bureau of Statistics) and published in aggregate form.

# CAN THE PREVENTION OF FAMILY VIOLENCE DATA PLATFORM HELP INFORM PRIMARY PREVENTION PRACTICE?

**Yes**, the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform can be used as one of many tools used to inform primary prevention practice. The Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform highlights where further work needs to occur, for example, the proportion of the Victorian population who hold problematic attitudes relating to the drivers of violence against women. This knowledge may help guide practitioners when tailoring program or project focus areas.

# WHO CAN USE THE PREVENTION OF FAMILY VIOLENCE DATA PLATFORM?

The Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform can be used by:

- Victorian Government decision-makers – for primary prevention monitoring, reporting, policy and program planning, strategic investment planning, and data investment planning.
- The primary prevention sector – to help inform primary prevention program development.
- Researchers and data custodians – to help identify and address gaps in the primary prevention evidence base.
- The public, the media, and others – to explore data on the prevention of family violence and violence against women in Victoria.

# WHO DO I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

For enquiries about the Prevention of Family Violence Data Platform please contact [practice@respectvictoria.vic.gov.au](mailto:practice@respectvictoria.vic.gov.au)