

Reduce family violence

Family and domestic violence is any violent, threatening, coercive or controlling behaviour that occurs in current or past family, domestic or intimate relationships.

This includes not only physical injury but direct or indirect threats, sexual assault, emotional and psychological torment, economic control, damage to property, social isolation and any behaviour which causes a person to live in fear.

Key statistics



Reported family violence incidence rate **has increased** 7% between 2021 to 2024. (1)



46% of females and 39% of males agree family violence **is a serious problem.** (2)



1,437 'family incident reports' during the period September 2023 to September 2024, which equates to **28 a week or 3.9 per day.**



45% of females and 29% of males believe family violence was **extremely or very common.** (2)



1 in 2 incidents reported a child or children as witnesses. (1)



93% of residents can identify a range of **physical forms of violence.** (3) *Compared to 78% nationally*

Health considerations in priority populations

- Women are more likely to experience family violence than men.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women experience disproportionate rates of violence and violence that is often more severe.
- LGBTIQ+ people experience family violence at higher rates than those in heterosexual relationships.
- Females are more likely to understand what constitutes family violence, in particular non-physical forms of violence.

Impact of climate change on family violence

- The immediate and ongoing effects of extreme weather events create immense pressures, such as displacement, financial stress and trauma. This can strain household dynamics and increase the incidence of family violence, including households that have not previously experienced family violence.

References

1. Crime Statistics Agency. Family Violence Data Portal
2. Cardinia Shire Liveability Survey. 2023
3. Cardinia Equality and Respect Survey, 2020
4. Icons: Giorgi Gogitidze