

NSW Ageing and Disability Commission

We respond to reports of abuse, neglect and exploitation of older people and adults with disability in their family, home and community

2020-2022 Data Report*



38,216

calls to the Ageing and Disability Abuse Helpline, a 14% increase over three years



10,963 reports

a 40% increase over three years



77%

involved older people



23%

involved adults with disability



Most reports were about **women**



Adult children (29%) and paid workers (28%) were the main reporters about **older people**.

Paid workers (61%) were the main reporters about **adults with disability**. Reports by the adult themselves increased by **12.5%** ↑



Most reports were about alleged abuse by **relatives** (mainly adult children and parents) for both **older people (62%)** and **adults with disability (50%)**

178



community engagements across NSW supporting workers and the community to better detect and respond to abuse

40%



of alleged abuse of **older people** was psychological (verbal abuse and preventing/restricting access to family and friends)

28%



of alleged abuse of **older people** was financial (financial exploitation, misuse of Power of Attorney/Enduring Power of Attorney, theft)

34%



of alleged abuse of **adults with disability** was psychological (verbal abuse and preventing/restricting access to necessary supports)

26%



of alleged abuse of **adults with disability** was neglect (failure to meet support needs and medical neglect)

7%



of reports identified people from culturally diverse backgrounds. **Greek** and **Italian** the most common for older people and **Arabic** and **Vietnamese** for adults with disability

3%



of reports identified the older person or adult with disability as **Aboriginal**



Regional NSW accounted for **53%** of reports, with the Hunter, Illawarra Shoalhaven the most common areas.

Central Coast, Blacktown and Canterbury-Bankstown LGAs featured most commonly.

Key outcomes: the views and wishes of the adult were sought and upheld; actions taken by police and justice bodies; assisted to receive supports and moved to safer accommodation.



*Data collected 1 January 2020 - 31 December 2022

Where the location of the person was known

For more information and data visit adc.nsw.gov.au