

Ageing and Disability Commission

Illawarra Shoalhaven

Kiama, Shellharbour, Shoalhaven and Wollongong

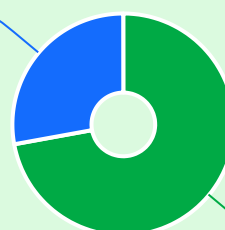


The Ageing and Disability Commission (ADC) received 1077 reports of alleged abuse, neglect or exploitation of an older person or adult with disability from the **Illawarra Shoalhaven** region in 2019-2024*.

72%

of reports received in this region related to an older person*

300 reports



777 reports

● Older person ● Adult with disability

Of reports relating to adults with disability*

50%

were female



Of reports relating to older people*

67%

were female



64% of reports about adults with disability were made by a **paid worker**^



32% of reports about older people came from a **paid worker**^

29% of reports came from the **child** of the older person



10% of reports came from the **older person** experiencing abuse

39 reports were about an adult who identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander~



90 reports involved an adult who spoke a language other than English at home with Italian being the most common language reported

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* Information taken from the Ageing and Disability Commission data on reports received between 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2024 where the location of the adult identified in the report was known.

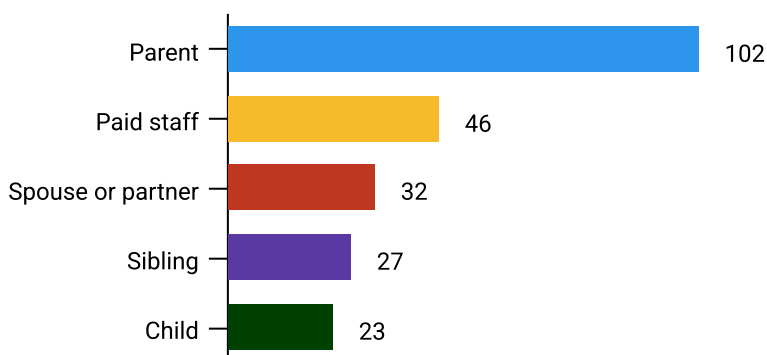
^ Paid workers include people acting in a professional capacity, for example direct care staff, service workers and health providers.

~ People who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and who are over 18 with disability, or an older person 50+.

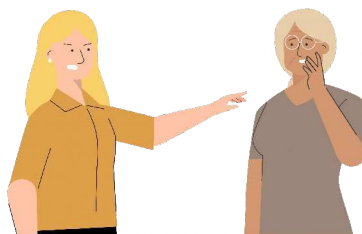
The ADC is currently working on improving our data collection to support reporting on gender identity

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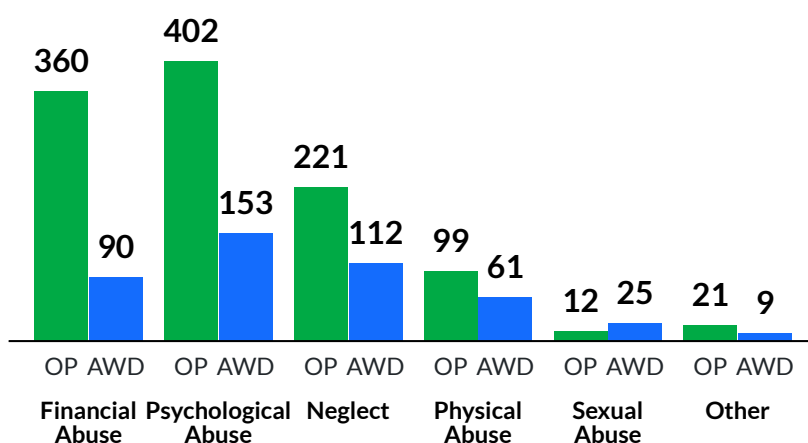
Reports about adults with disability **most commonly involved a parent*** as the subject of allegation



63% of reports about older people involved family members, **mainly adult children** followed by the adult's spouse or partner,* as the subject of allegation



The most commonly reported types of abuse towards **older people (OP)** was **verbal abuse, financial exploitation** and **failure to meet support needs**



The most commonly reported types of abuse towards **adults with disability (AWD)** was **failure to meet support needs, verbal abuse, and financial exploitation**

What else do we know about the Illawarra Shoalhaven community?

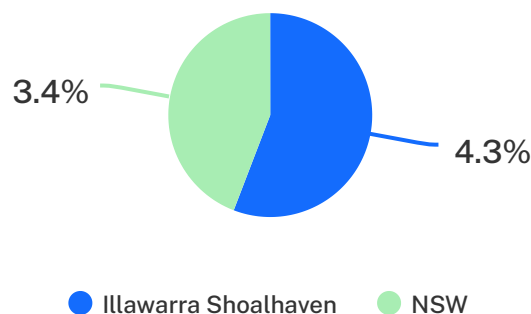
21%

of the population are over the age of 65₁



4.3%

of the population identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander₁



71%

of all households are family households
26% are single person households and **3%** are group households₂

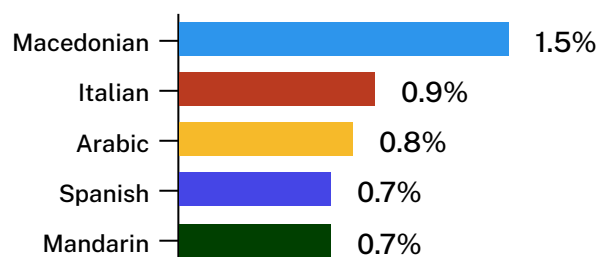


14%

of households speak a language other than English₂



Macedonian is the most common language other than English₂



¹ The ADC classifies abuse into 5 broad categories, with a list of signs to indicate the type of alleged abuse reported.

² 2021 Census data by LGA (QuickStats). Data is a total of LGAs within this region.

² 2021 Census QuickStats, where group household refers to unrelated flatmate or co-tenancy arrangements. Data is a total of LGAs within this region.