



Dashboard

Introduction

The Truth Project is part of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse. It offers people an opportunity to share their experiences of child sexual abuse without being questioned, judged or challenged.

Information from the Truth Project is collated by the Inquiry's Research Team. The information tells us who has come forward to the Truth Project and what people told us about the child sexual abuse they experienced. This includes who the abuse was perpetrated by and where it took place. We also learn about whether abuse was disclosed, and if so, the response to disclosure. Learning about institutional failure in cases of child sexual abuse feeds into the Inquiry's recommendations and helps to keep children safe.

We would like to thank all the victims and survivors who have taken part in the Truth Project for sharing their experiences.

To find out more about the Truth Project or the Inquiry's research please visit the website at: <https://www.iicsa.org.uk/>



This dashboard is based on

1,697

Truth Project
participants

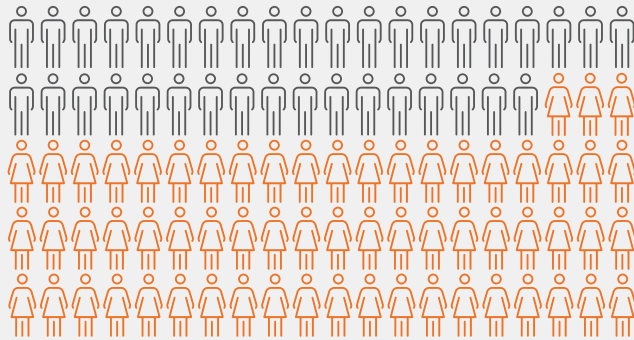


1. The information relates to Truth Project sessions that took place during the period June 2016 to November 2018.
2. We only included sessions:
 - where the victim and survivor shared their own account
 - and where the participant did not opt out of research.
3. Findings are not reflective of the general population of victims and survivors of child sexual abuse.
4. Truth Project participants share as much or as little information as they want about their experience and are not asked specific questions. Therefore we do not always have information from every participant for each of the variables reported here.

Participants' backgrounds

Gender of participants

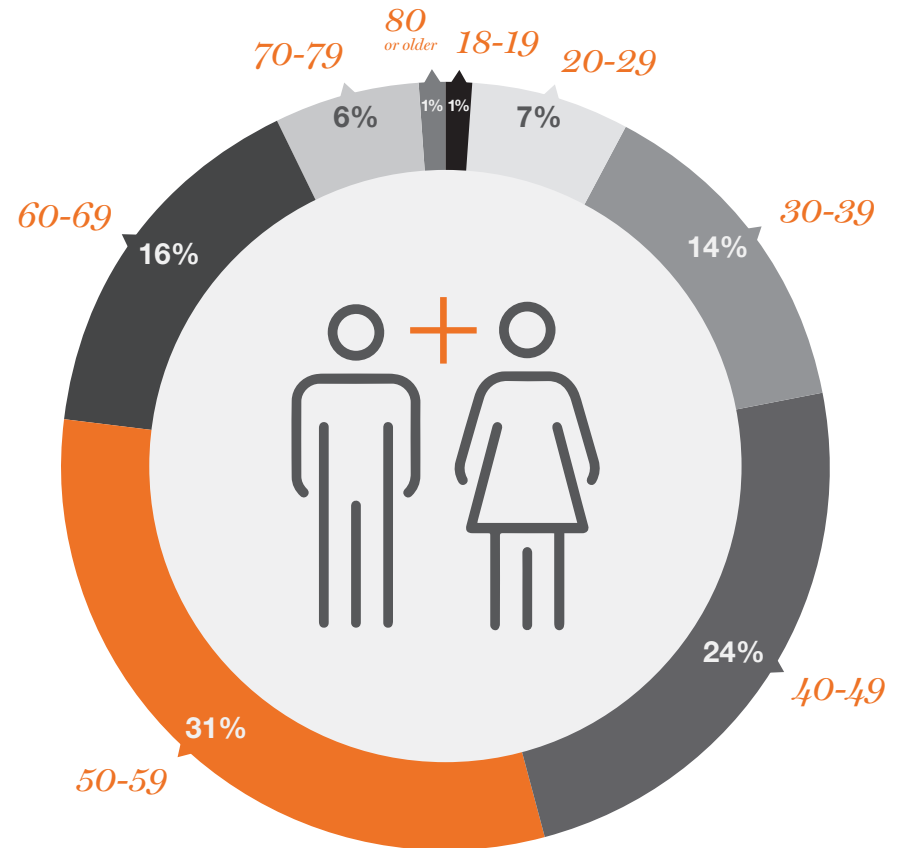
37%
Male
63%
Female



52%

of victims and survivors mentioned an illness or condition that affects their lives

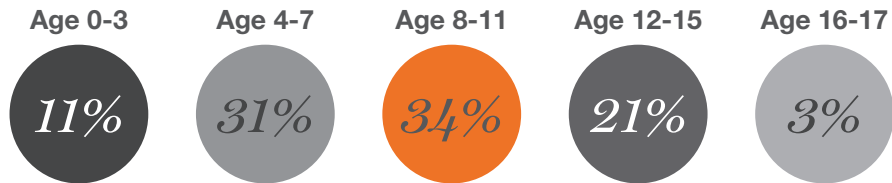
Age of participants attending the Truth Project



Nature of sexual abuse experienced

Other forms of abuse experienced

Age abuse started

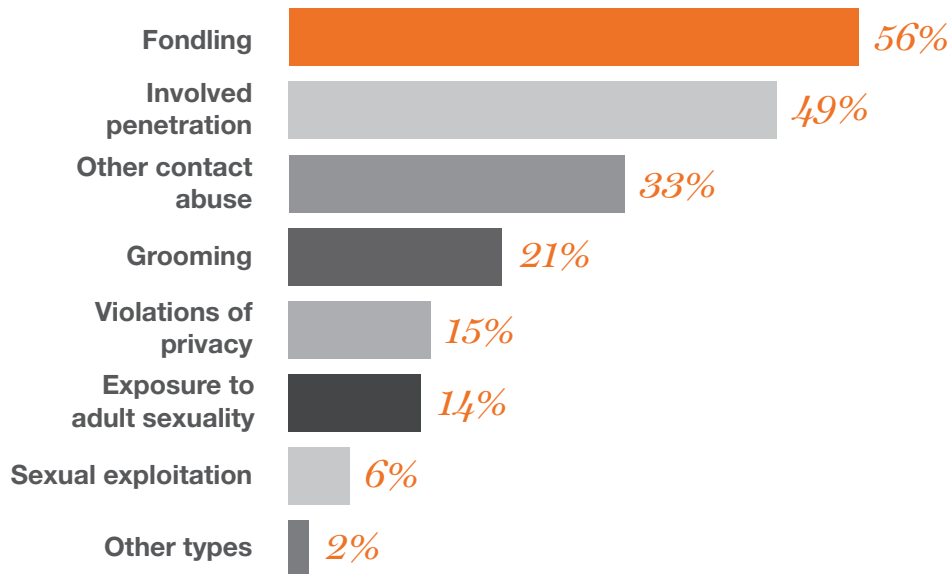


52%

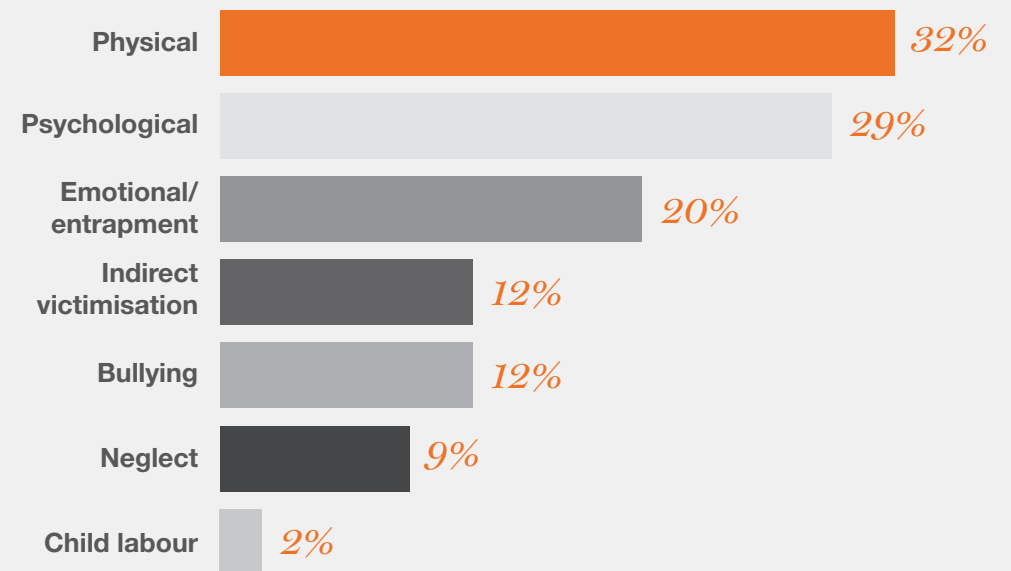
of victims and survivors reported experiencing other forms of abuse in addition to sexual abuse



Types of sexual abuse experienced

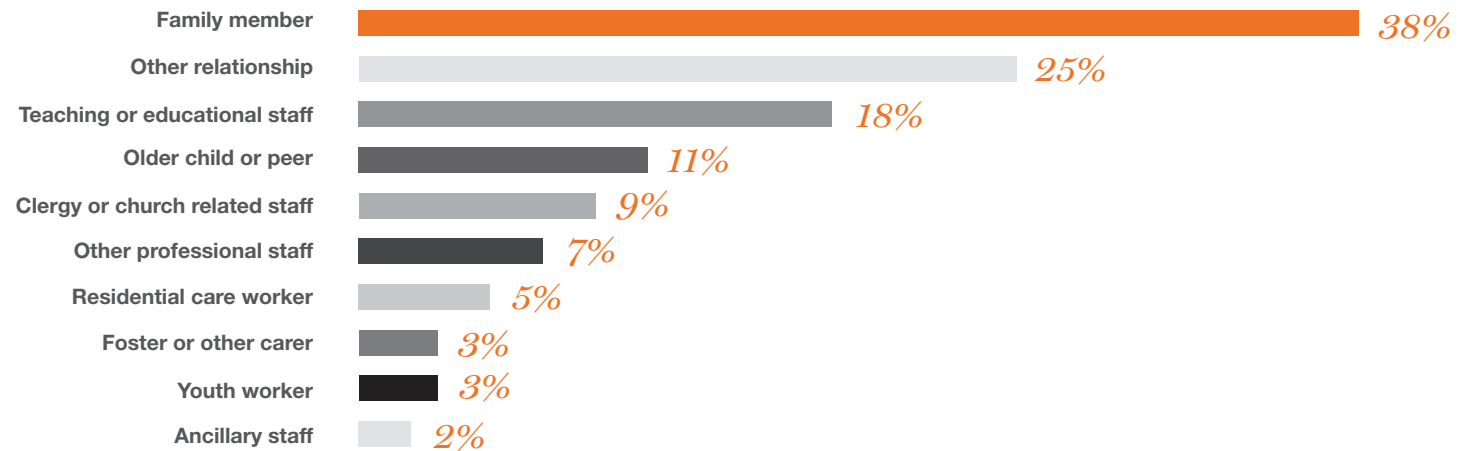


Experiences of other forms of abuse



Perpetrators

Relationship of perpetrator(s) to victims and survivors

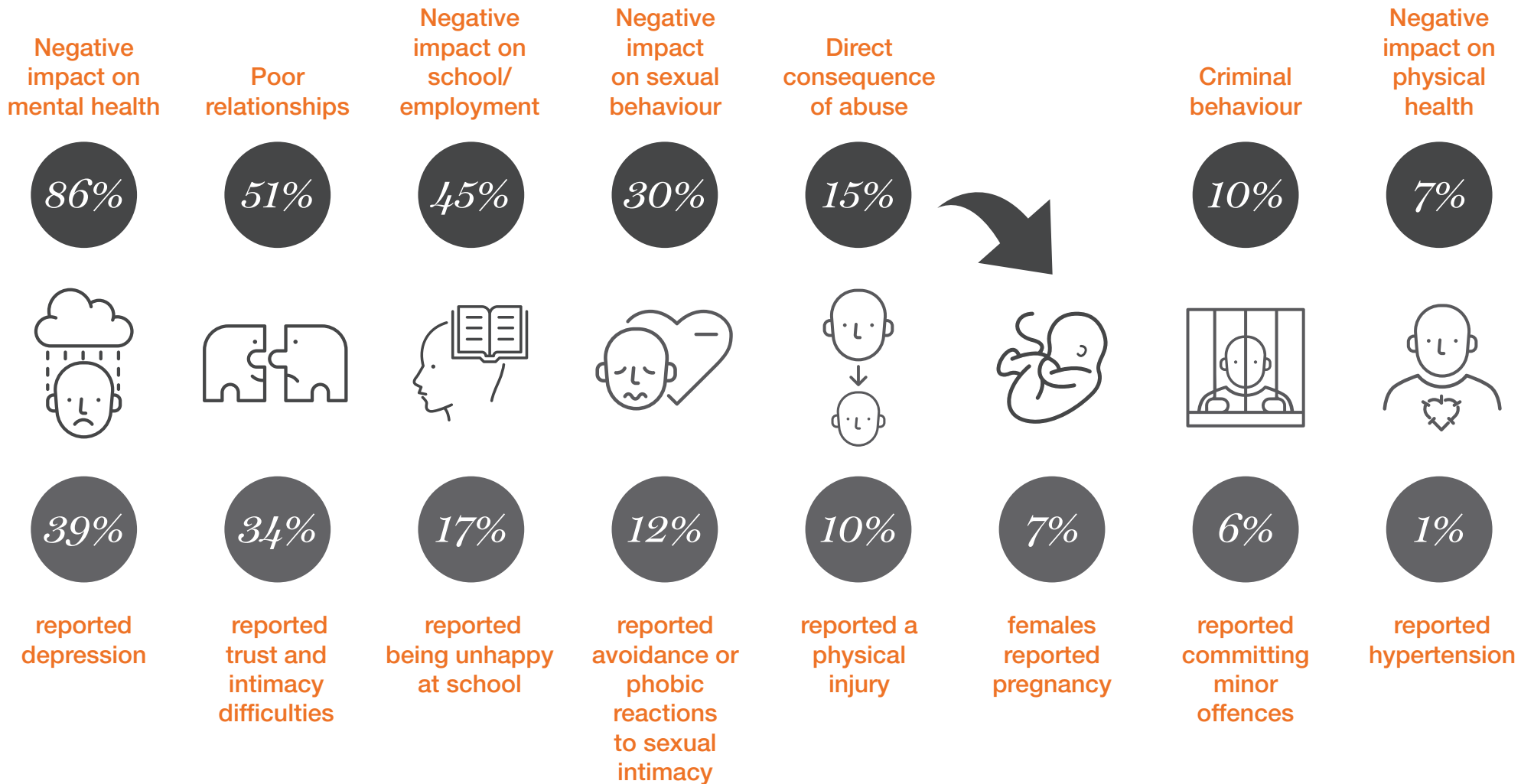


Institutions where sexual abuse took place



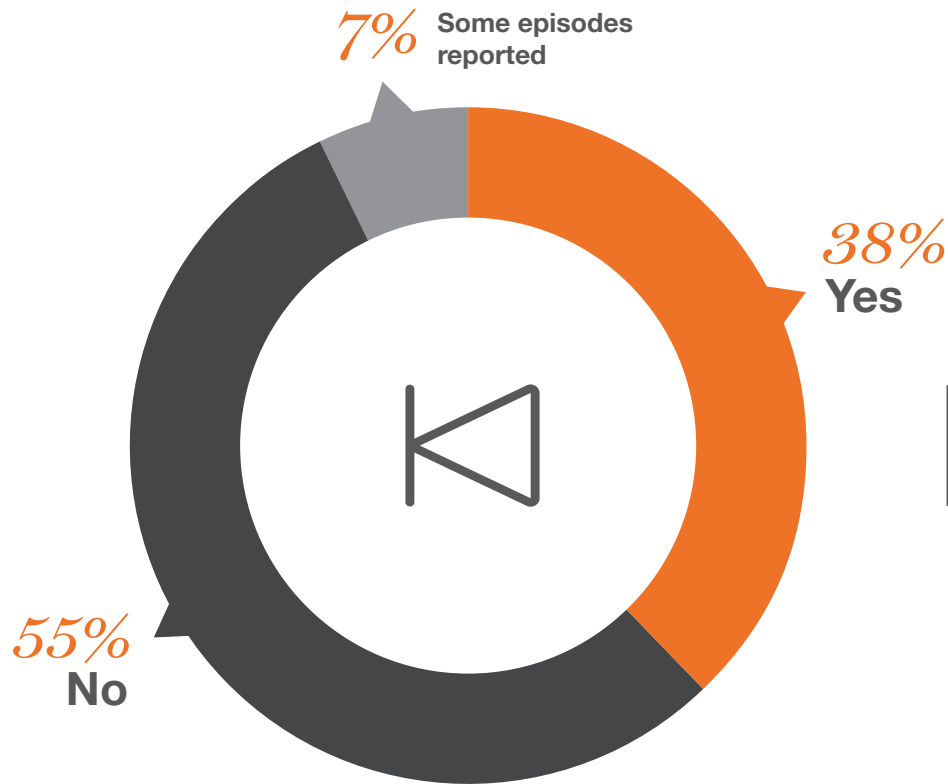
Impacts

Impacts of child sexual abuse reported by victims and survivors

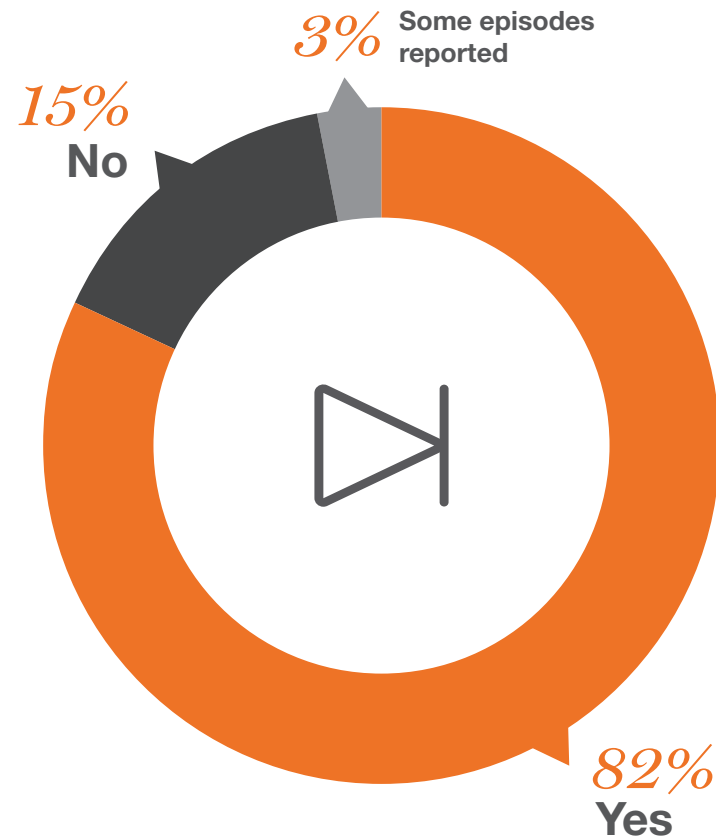


Disclosure

Victims and survivors told someone about the sexual abuse at the time it was happening



Victims and survivors told someone about the sexual abuse after it had ended



8% Of victims and survivors were disclosing an experience of abuse for the first time through the Truth Project

Notes

Nature of sexual abuse experienced

Definitions of the different types of sexual abuse reported by victims and survivors:

Fondling relates to touching, masturbating or kissing a child's genitals, making a child fondle an adult's genitals; Involved penetration relates to vaginal, anal or digital penetration, cunnilingus, fellatio; Other contact abuse relates to sexual behaviour that involved contact but not penetration such as prolonged kissing, cuddling, french kissing, excessive touching; Grooming includes both online and physical world grooming for the purposes of sexual contact; Violations of privacy relates to forcing a child to undress, spying on a child in the bathroom or bedroom; Exposure to adult sexuality includes exposure to adult sexuality online or in the physical world. Online relates to images, voice, text, gaming. In the physical world relates to performing sexual acts in front of a child, exposing genitals, child to be nude for the sexual gratification of the adult, videotaping, or filming of children with the intent to create sexual stimulation; Sexual exploitation includes sexual exploitation occurring online or in the physical world. The physical world here relates to selling a child's services as a prostitute; having a child perform in pornography; exchanging or purchasing child pornography.

A note on numbers:

For type of sexual abuse experienced, the total percentage is greater than 100% as some victims and survivors reported experiencing more than one type of sexual abuse.

Other forms of abuse experienced

Definitions of other forms of abuse reported by victims and survivors:

Physical abuse relates to experiencing being punched, slapped, pushed, shoved, pinned, choked, kicked, dragged by hair; Psychological abuse relates to experiencing general fear, fear of abuse continuing, humiliation, strip searches, solitary confinement, lack of intellectual stimulation; Emotional abuse/entrapment emotional abuse relates to the ongoing emotional maltreatment or emotional neglect of a child. Entrapment covers all those factors which make it impossible to end the relationship, it may also relate to experiencing exchanging privileges for sexual favours; Indirect victimisation includes witnessing the abuse of others, or the victimisation of child sexual abuse victims and survivors as a result of an insensitive, unhelpful or negative societal response to the disclosure or identification of the abuse. Such a response could come from the victim's close network (e.g. family and friends) and/or from the wider system (e.g. the criminal justice system or health services); Bullying is defined as repeated behaviour which is intended to hurt someone either emotionally or physically, and is often aimed at certain people because of their race, religion, gender or sexual orientation or any other aspect such as appearance or disability. Bullying can take many forms including physical assault, teasing, making threats, name calling, cyber bullying; Neglect includes experiencing deprivation of basic necessities, failing to protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger, failing to ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment; Child labour relates to children working before they have reached the lawful minimum age (16 years of age in UK).

A note on numbers:

For other forms of abuse experienced, the total percentage is greater than 100% as some victims and survivors reported more than one other form of abuse. Percentages here relate to the overall sample e.g. 32% of all participants reported physical abuse, not 32% of the 52% who reported experiencing other forms of abuse.

Perpetrators

This is how we have defined certain groups of perpetrators:

Other relationship refers to, for example: friends of the family; known (or trusted) members of the community; media personalities; and MPs; Teaching or educational staff refers to teachers, dormitory or house masters, and tutors; Other professional refers to professionals coming into contact with children, not captured in other categories. This includes: medical practitioners; corrective service personnel; social workers; and police; Foster or other carer refers to people with caring responsibilities towards the child, predominantly foster carer, also pre-school and after-school carer; Youth worker includes scout master/guide leader, sports coach and youth worker; Ancillary staff relates to staff working in an institution/organisation but with a role that provides support necessary for the operation of the institution, for example gardener, cleaner, bus driver, caretaker.

This is how we have defined Other institution where abuse took place:

Other relates to any type of institution not captured by the other overarching categories.

A note on numbers:

For relationship of perpetrator to participant, the total percentage is greater than 100% as some victims and survivors reported being abused by more than one perpetrator. Percentages given for institutions where sexual abuse took place type relate to the overall sample e.g. 21% of all participants reported being abused in schools, not 21% of those who reported being abused in an institution. The total percentage here is also less than 100% as some victims and survivors were not abused in an institution or did not specify the institution.

Impacts

This is how we have grouped impacts reported by victims and survivors:

We have gleaned detailed information from participants about the impacts of child sexual abuse on their lives. We have grouped these impacts into the 7 overarching categories shown. For example, Other direct consequence of abuse is made up of 4 sub-categories: Pregnancy, Physical Injury, Sexually transmitted disease, and Other. Likewise, Mental health is made up of 23 sub-categories; School/employment is made up of 9 sub-categories; Sexual behaviour is made up of 7 sub-categories; Criminal behaviour and Relationships are each made up of 4 sub-categories; and Physical health is made up of 2 sub-categories: Hypertension and Other.

A note on numbers:

The total percentage of impacts across the 7 categories is greater than 100% as some victims and survivors reported more than one type of impact. The bottom percentages in each box relate to the overall sample e.g. 38% of all participants reported depression, not 38% of the 86% reporting a negative impact on mental health.

Disclosure

Categories of disclosure:

Some victims and survivors reported that they either disclosed their experience of child sexual abuse or that they did not. These responses make up the two predominant categories shown of Yes or No. The third, smaller, category relates to those victims and survivors who reported that they disclosed some incidents of child sexual abuse, but not others.