



Explanatory notes – Ambulance Victoria

Data source

In June 2016 Ambulance Victoria began capturing information about family, domestic or sexual violence as part of the administrative data collected by paramedics who have attended an event. The data received from Ambulance Victoria for use in the FVDB concerns all records where family, domestic or sexual violence was identified and recorded by attending paramedics.

Reference period

The family, domestic or sexual violence flag was initiated by Ambulance Victoria in June 2016, and the reference period for this data source runs from the inception of the flag until June 2020.

Calculating rates per 100,000 population

The rate of patients per 100,000 population is calculated using the count of events occurring within a Local Government Area and the Estimated Resident Population (ERP) of that LGA. The rate is calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Rate per 100,000} = (\text{Number of events/ERP count}) \times 100,000$$

ERP figures for the Local Government Areas are based on populations provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The data is extracted from the release titled Regional Population Group (3218.0). For more information about the ABS estimated resident population, please refer to the [ABS website](#).

ABS population data concerning the most recent financial year is not available. To calculate these numbers, the CSA uses estimates created by the Victorian Government's 'Victoria in future' report.

Using the Ambulance Victoria data for analysis

Victims and perpetrators

At present victims and perpetrators of family, domestic and sexual violence cannot be easily distinguished in Ambulance Victoria records. As such, data pertaining to patients (including demographic information) should not be used to form analysis concerning victims of family, domestic and sexual violence, as patients may also include perpetrators.

Family, domestic and sexual violence

During data collection, paramedics have an option to flag a record as 'family, domestic or sexual violence' if this has been identified. At present, family, domestic and sexual violence cannot be easily disaggregated, and it should therefore be noted that Ambulance Victoria data used in the FVDB includes records of sexual violence perpetrated by individuals who do not meet the definition of a family member as it is defined under the *Family Violence Protection Act*.