MEDIA RELEASE

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**New COVID-19 Family Violence Data Portal shows COVID-19 impacts on family violence in Victoria**

The Crime Statistics Agency (CSA) today launched a COVID-19 Family Violence Data Portal, which presents more than 30 indicators of Victorian family violence incidence and service use trends from across 20 sources.

Data housed in the first edition of the portal examines trends from January through to June, with comparisons drawn between 2019 and 2020 figures.

Crime Statistics Agency Chief Statistician Fiona Dowsley said that the portal enables greater visibility of family violence trends during the COVID-19 restrictions and the impacts on service sectors, geographic locations and priority communities.

“The portal provides a unique opportunity to access Victorian specific family violence data showing how service providers, and specific groups of people have been affected during a period of time where the potential for violence within the home may have increased” she said.

In its first release, the portal highlights data about several priority groups, including people aged 55 and older. A key finding is that there was an increase in the number of victim survivors or clients aged 55 or older who accessed family violence services during the second quarter of 2020.

Victoria Police, Ambulance Victoria, Victims of Crime Helpline and specialist family violence and accommodation services through the homelessness data collection all recorded an increase in the number of victims or clients aged 55 years or older during the months where COVID-19 restrictions were in place.

Victoria Police family incidents data indicated that more than half of incidents concerning a victim survivor aged 55 and older involved an aggressor who was the child (including adult children) of the victim. The number of family incidents involving a victim survivor in this age group where their child was the aggressor increased 20.2% in the second quarter of 2020.

**Background**

The portal was funded as a component of the Victorian Family Violence Database, and was developed in collaboration with 20 Federal, State and private sector services.

The COVID-19 Family Violence Data Portal is available [**here**](https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiNzAyZjJlOWUtNzExMS00NjBjLTgzMzYtNjQ2ZDIxNTFjMDQ5IiwidCI6IjcyMmVhMGJlLTNlMWMtNGIxMS1hZDZmLTk0MDFkNjg1NmUyNCJ9).

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