

Abuse of older people – the data challenge



**“We are Hourglass – the only
UK-wide charity calling time on
the harm, abuse
and exploitation of older people.”**

Safer Ageing. Stopping Abuse.

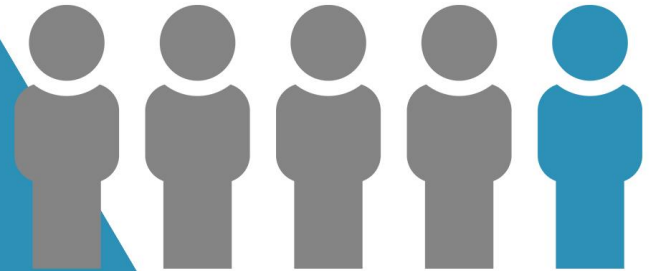
The abuse of older people

Older people are victims of the same types of abuse as victims of other ages. This includes economic, physical, sexual or psychological abuse. Many others suffer abuse due to neglect.

Prevalence of abuse

1 IN 5

At least 1 in 5 (20%) of adults aged 65 and over will experience some form of abuse in a given year with many victims experiencing more than one type of abuse.



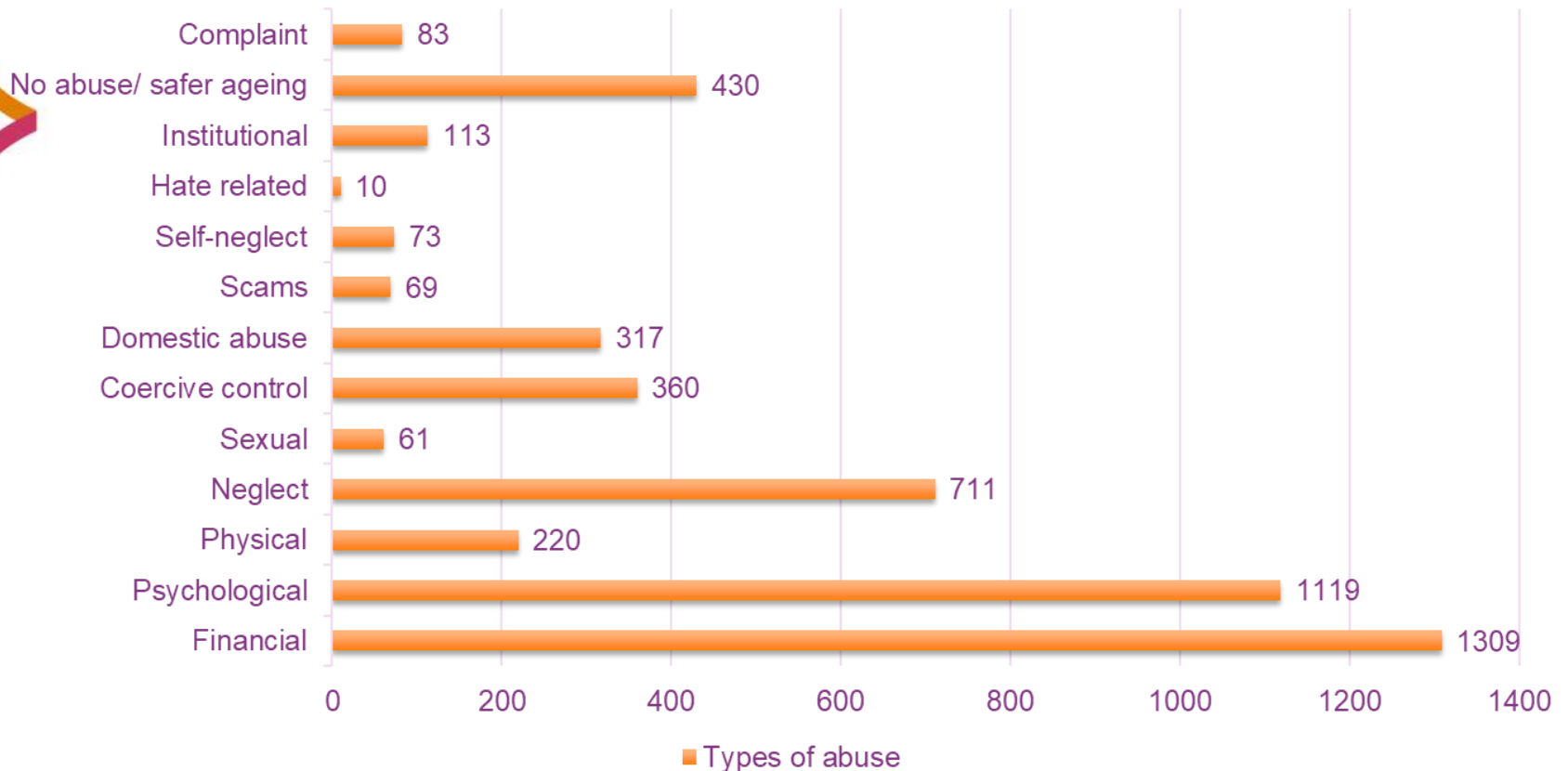
Source:

Results from Growing old in the UK 2020 survey (Hourglass, 2020) of 1,245 respondents UK-wide.
www.wearehourglassni.org/nipoll

As many as 2.7 million people in the UK are affected by the abuse of older people.

Abuse Prevalence (November 2020 – 2021)

Types of abuse



* In 998 cases more than one form of abuse was recorded

Abuse Location

A victim's own home remains the predominant location for abuse to occur.



Enquirer location

During this reporting period we received enquiries from Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Canada, France, Germany, Greece, Iran, Republic of Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, Portugal, the United States, Spain and South Africa from family members concerned about relatives living in the UK.

Understanding of Prevalence and Data Collection

While much work has been done towards collecting data and providing support for older victim survivors already, so much more could be done from an age bracketed data collection perspective. We know the numbers presented are far lower than their true nature. A focused understanding of the prevalence of abuse towards older people in the area, would allow targeted interventions and focused support

Lack of Data and Research

- The links between poverty and abuse have been researched to a certain extent for female victim survivors,
- But there has been a lack of research or attention paid to the links between poverty and interpersonal violence for male victim-survivors, and for older victim-survivors in general.
- Much more research and attention must be paid to the links between poverty and violence for older victim-survivors, as well as support and assistance given to those over 65 who are suffering from poverty.

Hourglass Manifesto 2024

- Implement a consistent and accessible data collection system and commit to publishing all relevant data pertaining to the abuse and neglect of older people. This must include police, courts, NHS, social care providers and other government agencies.

The first step towards ending abuse of older people is collecting data.

We need accurate data so we can monitor and respond accordingly.



“I felt it was a family matter, I thought no-one wanted to hear about it and I found it hard to talk about. Hourglass were there for me.”

**1 in 5 older people
are abused in the
UK every year.**



Hourglass is the only charity in the UK dedicated to calling time on the harm and abuse of older people and we are here to help.

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH



Call our 24/7 helpline
0808 808 8141



Text message our helpline
07860 052906



Email us

helpline@wearehourglass.org



Talk to us live on our **INSTANT MESSENGER** at
www.wearehourglass.org



Get information from our **CHATBOT** at
www.wearehourglass.org



Get information from our **KNOWLEDGE BANK**
knowledgebank.wearehourglass.org

Our Helpline is entirely confidential and free to call from a landline or mobile. The number will not appear on your phone bill. Our lines are open 24/7 – including weekends and bank holidays. Texts from outside the UK will be charged at their standard international rate which will differ depending on location and service charges of your phone provider. The number will appear on your bill and in your phone records but will not be identified as Hourglass

Hourglass is the working name of Hourglass (Safer Ageing), a charity registered in England and Wales (reg. no: 1140543), and also in Scotland (reg. no: SC046278). Hourglass (Safer Ageing) is registered as a company in England and Wales under number 07290092.



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