



社會福利署

Social Welfare Department

Child Protection Registry Statistical Report 2016



<u>Index</u>	<u>Page</u>
Foreword	1
<u>Part 1 – Newly Registered Cases in 2016</u>	
1.1 <u>General Information</u>	
1.1.1 Types of Abuse	2
1.1.2 District Distribution	3 - 4
1.1.3 Multi-disciplinary Case Conference	5
1.1.4 Contributing Factors of Abuse	6 - 7
1.2 <u>Child Characteristics</u>	
1.2.1 Distribution of Children by Gender	7 - 9
1.2.2 Distribution of Children by Age	10
1.2.3 Distribution of Children by Age, by Gender and by Type of Abuse	11
1.2.4 Living Arrangement of Children	12
1.3 <u>Abuser Characteristics</u>	
1.3.1 Distribution of Abusers by Gender	13
1.3.2 Distribution of Abusers by Age	14
1.3.3 Distribution of Abusers by Gender, by Age and by Type of Abuse	15
1.3.4 Marital Status of Abusers	16
1.3.5 Educational Attainment of Abusers	16
1.3.6 Relationship of Abusers with Abused Children	17

Part 2 – Comparison of Newly Registered Cases from 2014 to 2016

2.1	<u>Types of Abuse</u>	18
2.2	<u>Child Characteristics</u>	
2.2.1	Distribution of Children by Age	18
2.2.2	Distribution of Children by Type of Abuse and by Gender	19
2.3	<u>Abuser Characteristics</u>	
2.3.1	Distribution of Abusers by Age	19
2.3.2	Distribution of Abusers by Gender	20
2.3.3	Marital Status of Abusers	20
2.3.4	Educational Attainment of Abusers	21
2.3.5	Relationship of Abusers with Abused Children	21
	<u>Appendix</u>	
	Glossary	22 - 24

Foreword

The Child Protection Registry (CPR) has been computerized and administered by the Family and Child Welfare Branch of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) since June 1994. Functions of the CPR include case registration, case checking and provision of statistical information on registered child abuse cases. Service units of both SWD and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) may register child abuse cases handled by them with the CPR. Following the review of the CPR and the revision of the data input forms adopted for reporting child abuse cases to the CPR, the CPR was enhanced in January 2003 to capture more information on child abuse cases.

Commencing in 1996, statistical reports on the CPR have been published on an annual basis to provide general information and demographic data on the child abuse cases known to the CPR in the year. This report, “Statistical Report 2016”, consists of two parts. Part 1 is on newly registered cases in 2016 and Part 2 is on comparison of newly registered cases from 2014 to 2016. In each Part, general information on the cases and descriptive data on the characteristics of the children and the abusers are presented.

Child Protection Registry
Family and Child Welfare Branch
Social Welfare Department
August 2017

Part 1

Newly Registered Cases in 2016

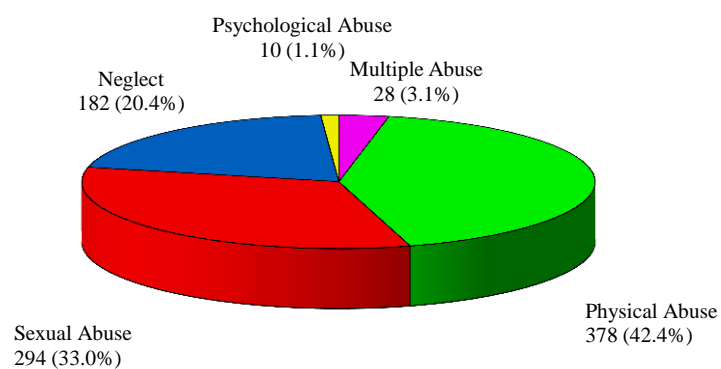
There were 892 newly registered cases.

1.1 General Information

1.1.1 Types of Abuse

42.4% of the newly registered cases were physical abuse cases and 33.0% were sexual abuse cases.

Graph 1 - Distribution of Newly registered Cases by Types of Abuse for 2016

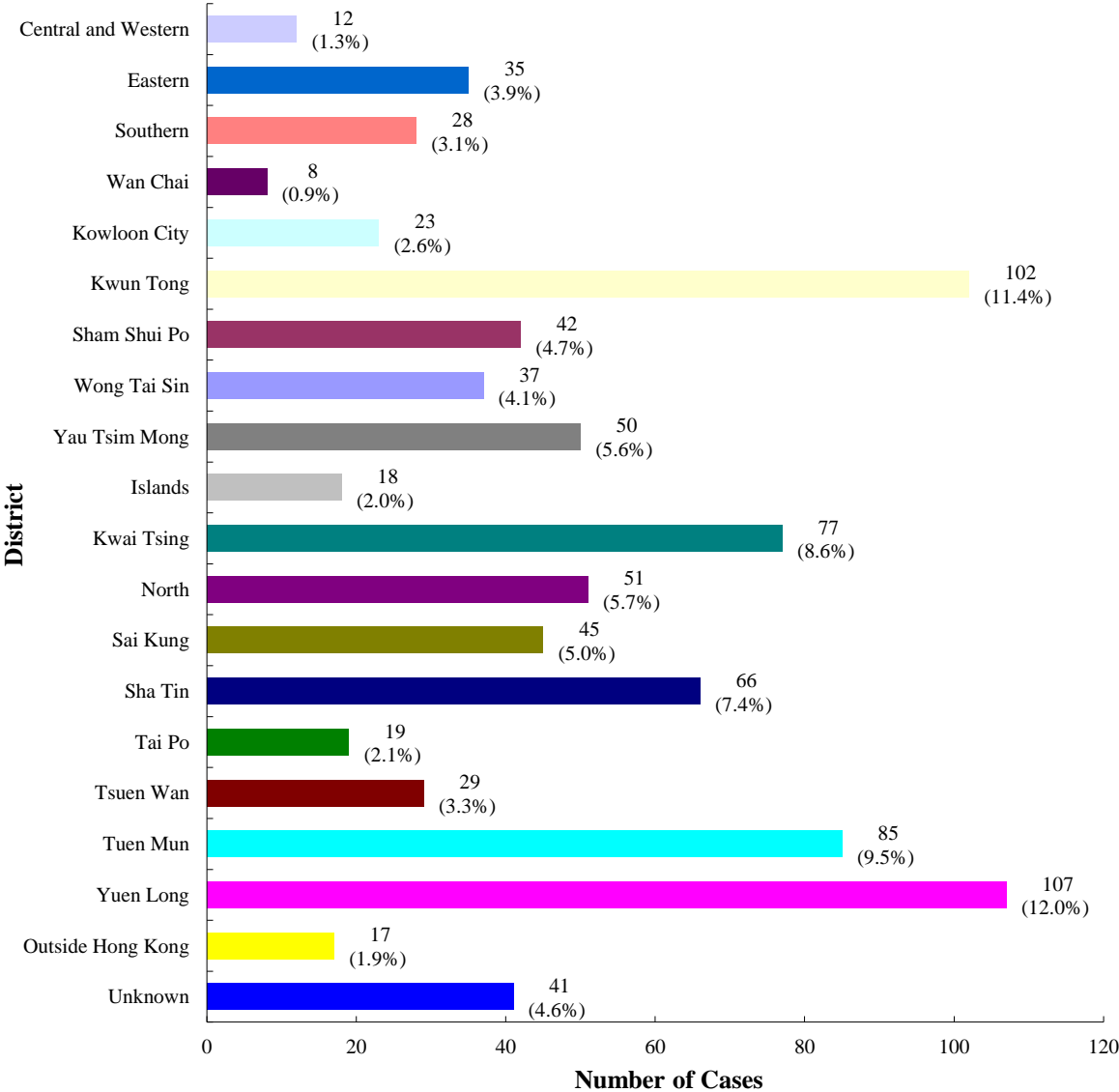


Total: 892 cases

1.1.2 District Distribution*

The three districts with the highest percentage of newly registered cases were Yuen Long District (12.0%), Kwun Tong District (11.4%) and Tuen Mun District (9.5%). Table 1 shows the incidence rate by children (aged 0–17) population in different districts with the three districts having the highest number/ incidence rate highlighted.

Graph 2 - Distribution of Newly Registered Cases by District for 2016



* District distribution refers to cases captured according to the district where the abuse incidents took place.

Owing to rounding, percentages may not add up to 100 as shown in the table.

Table 1 - Distribution of Newly Registered Cases and Incidence Rate by District

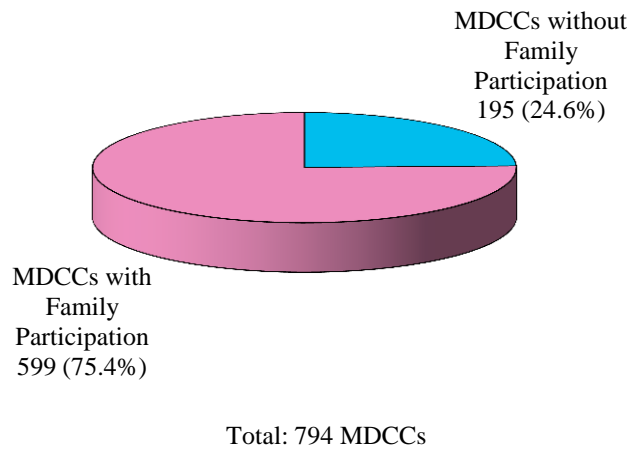
District	No. of Cases	Incidence Rate* Per 1,000 Children Aged 0 – 17 in the District
Central/Western	12	0.41
Eastern	35	0.48
Southern	28	0.75
Wan Chai	8	0.37
Kowloon City	23	0.39
Kwun Tong	102	1.09
Sham Shui Po	42	0.74
Wong Tai Sin	37	0.67
Yau Tsim Mong	50	1.13
Islands	18	0.80
Kwai Tsing	77	1.04
North	51	1.06
Sai Kung	45	0.70
Sha Tin	66	0.72
Tai Po	19	0.44
Tsuen Wan	29	0.66
Tuen Mun	85	1.27
Yuen Long	107	1.20
Outside Hong Kong	17	NA
Unknown	41	NA
Total	892	0.88

* Statistics are compiled using the land-based non-institutional population figures obtained from the General Household Survey in 2016 conducted by the Census and Statistics Department.

1.1.3 Multi-disciplinary Case Conference

Out of the 892 newly registered child abuse cases, multi-disciplinary case conferences (MDCCs) were conducted for 786 cases (88.1%). A total of 794 MDCCs were held for discussion about the nature of the incidents, risk level and welfare plans of these 786 cases. 75.4% of the 794 MDCCs were held with the participation of the victims' family members.

Graph 3 - Family Participation in Multi-disciplinary Case Conferences for 2016



1.1.4 Contributing Factors of Abuse

Child abuse cases were associated with a number of contributing factors. These contributing factors were categorised into four subgroups, i.e. (a) Factors relating to abused child/child-at-risk; (b) Factors relating to abuser/suspected abuser; (c) Factors relating to environmental or social circumstances; and (d) Factors relating to parent(s)/carer(s) where parent(s)/carer(s) is/are not abuser(s). The list of contributing factors under each subgroup is appended below :

- a) Factors relating to the abused child/child-at-risk
 1. School performance problem
 2. Behaviour problem
 3. Emotional/psychological problem
 4. Mental illness/retardation including slow learning or developmental delay
 5. Illness/physical disability
 6. Unwanted child/pregnancy
 7. Long period of separation from parents in early infancy

- b) Factors relating to abuser/suspected abuser
 1. Superstitious belief
 2. Marital problem
 3. In-law relationship problem
 4. Emotional/psychological problem
 5. Mental illness/retardation including slow learning or developmental delay
 6. Illness/physical disability
 7. Immaturity/extreme self-centredness
 8. Incompetence in child rearing/lack of parenting skills
 9. High expectation on child-in-question
 10. Undesirable hobbies

- c) Factors relating to environmental or social circumstances
 1. Financial difficulty/unemployment
 2. Housing problem
 3. Family crisis/stresses not coped with by abuser/suspected abuser/potential abuser
 4. Lack of support system
 5. Lack of community resources

- d) Factors relating to parent(s)/carer(s) where parent(s)/carer(s) is/are not abuser(s)
 1. Superstitious belief
 2. Marital problem
 3. In-law relationship problem
 4. Emotional/psychological problem
 5. Mental illness/retardation including slow learning or developmental delay
 6. Illness/physical disability
 7. Immaturity/extreme self-centredness
 8. Incompetence in child rearing/lack of parenting skills
 9. High expectation on child-in-question
 10. Undesirable hobbies

Table 2 shows the number of cases associated with the major contributing factors of child abuse under each subgroup.

Table 2 – Major Contributing Factors of Child Abuse

Contributing Factors	No. of Newly Registered Cases Associated with the Contributing Factors (Note)
Factors relating to abused child/child-at-risk	438 (49.1%)
Factors relating to abuser/suspected abuser	637 (71.4%)
Factors relating to environmental or social circumstances	400 (44.8%)
Factors relating to parent(s)/carer(s) where parent(s)/carer(s) is/are not abuser(s)	489 (54.8%)

Note : One case may have more than one contributing factor. Figures in the brackets are the percentage of cases associated with the contributing factors in respect of a total of 892 cases.

A larger proportion of the child abuse cases was associated with contributing factors relating to the abuser/suspected abuser. Among the ten factors relating to the abuser/suspected abuser, incompetence in child rearing/lack of parenting skills was the most usual contributing factor (308 cases, 48.4% of the total 637 cases), followed by emotional/psychological problem (214 cases, 33.6%) and undesirable hobbies (151 cases, 23.7%). Among the seven factors relating to the abused child/child-at-risk, behaviour problem was the most frequent contributing factor (264 cases, 60.3% of the total 438 cases), followed by school performance problem (134 cases, 30.6%) and emotional/psychological problem (78 cases, 17.8%).

1.2 Child Characteristics

1.2.1 Distribution of Children by Gender

There were more girl victims (57.1%) than boy victims (42.9%) among the newly registered cases. A breakdown of the gender of the children by type of abuse indicated that 30.8% of the girl victims were involved in physical abuse cases and 47.5% were involved in sexual abuse cases, while 57.7% and 24.3% of the boy victims were involved in physical abuse cases and neglect cases respectively.

Graph 4 - Distribution of Children by Gender for 2016

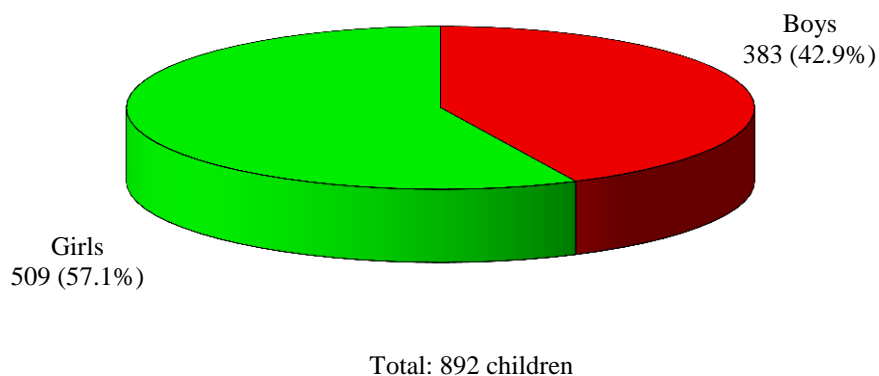
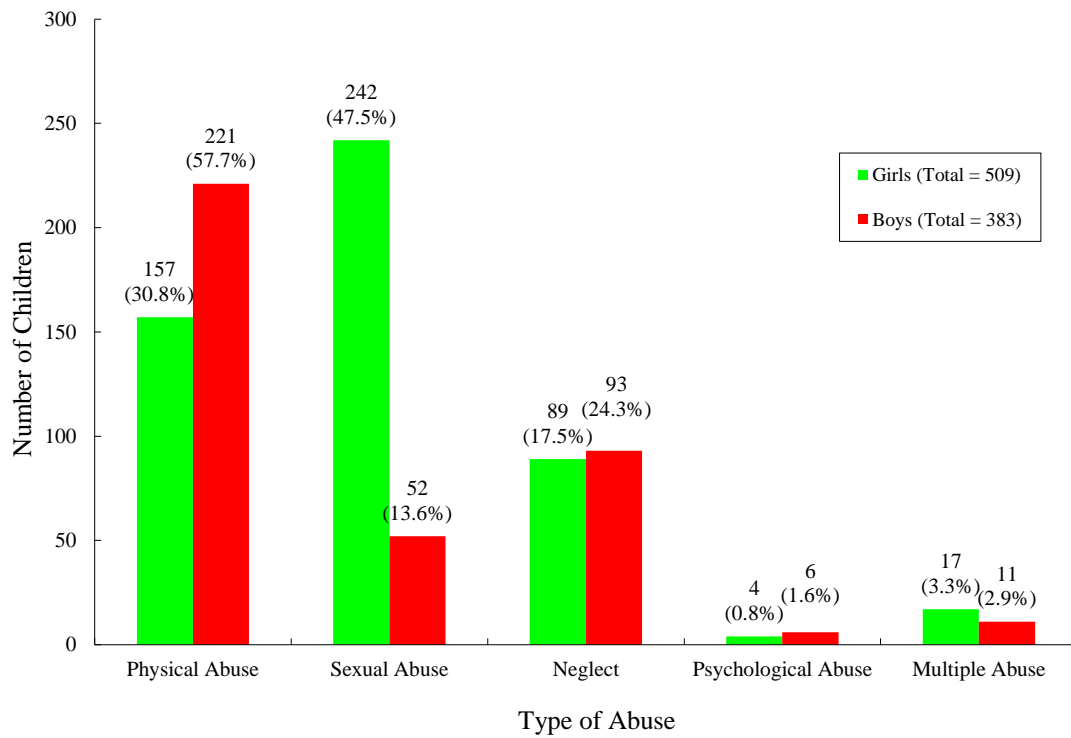


Table 3 - Distribution of Newly Registered Cases and Incidence Rate by Gender

Gender	No. of Cases	Incidence Rate* Per 1,000 Children Aged 0 – 17 in the Population
Boys	383	0.73
Girls	509	1.04
Total	892	0.88

* Statistics are compiled using the land-based non-institutional population figures obtained from the General Household Survey in 2016 conducted by the Census and Statistics Department.

Graph 5 – Distribution of Children by Gender and by Type of Abuse for 2016



Note: Figures in brackets represent percentages in respect of the corresponding gender groups.
 # Owing to rounding, percentages may not add up to 100 as shown in the table.

1.2.2 Distribution of Children by Age

The highest percentage (21.7%) of the newly registered cases was found among children within the age group of 12 to 14 years old. Table 4 shows the distribution of children of different age groups by type of abuse with the highest numbers highlighted.

Graph 6 - Distribution of Children by Age for 2016

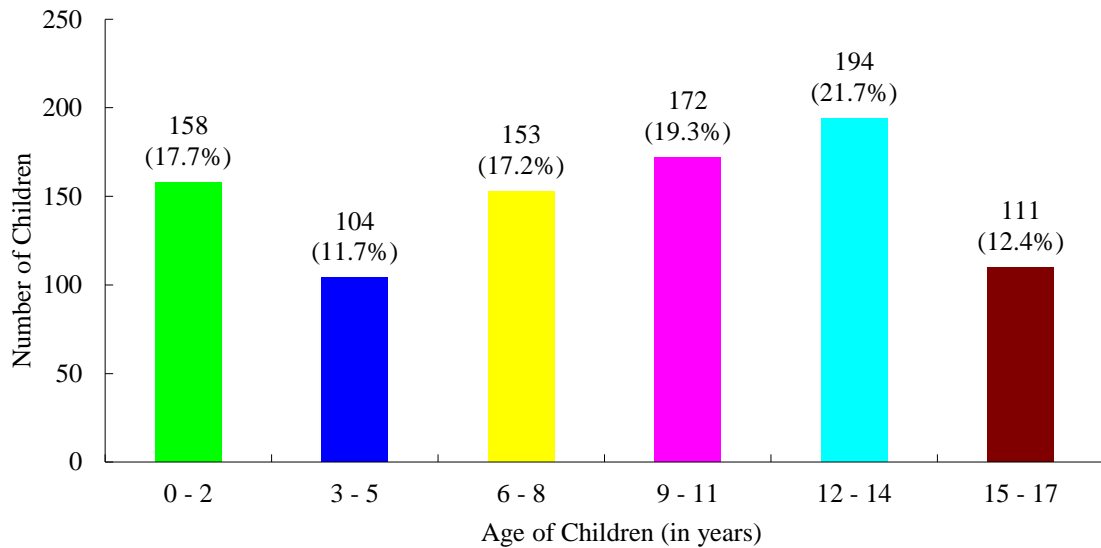


Table 4 – Distribution of Children by Age and by Type of Abuse

Age	Type of Abuse					Total
	Physical	Sexual	Neglect	Psychological	Multiple	
0 – 2	42	1	109	1	5	158
3 – 5	62	16	20	1	5	104
6 – 8	94	30	22	1	6	153
9 – 11	93	42	26	5	6	172
12 – 14	61	124	4	1	4	194
15 – 17	26	81	1	1	2	111
Total	378	294	182	10	28	892

1.2.3 Distribution of Children by Age, by Gender and by Type of Abuse

On Girls

The distribution of girl victims of different age groups by type of abuse, with the highest numbers highlighted, is as follows:

Table 5 – Distribution of Girl Victims by Age and by Type of Abuse

Age	Type of Abuse					
	Physical	Sexual	Neglect	Psychological	Multiple	Total
0 – 2	23	1	56	1	4	85
3 – 5	26	15	7	0	1	49
6 – 8	34	20	9	0	4	67
9 – 11	29	31	14	2	4	80
12 – 14	30	103	3	0	2	138
15 – 17	15	72	0	1	2	90
Total	157	242	89	4	17	509

On Boys

The distribution of boy victims of different age groups by type of abuse, with the highest numbers highlighted, is as follows:

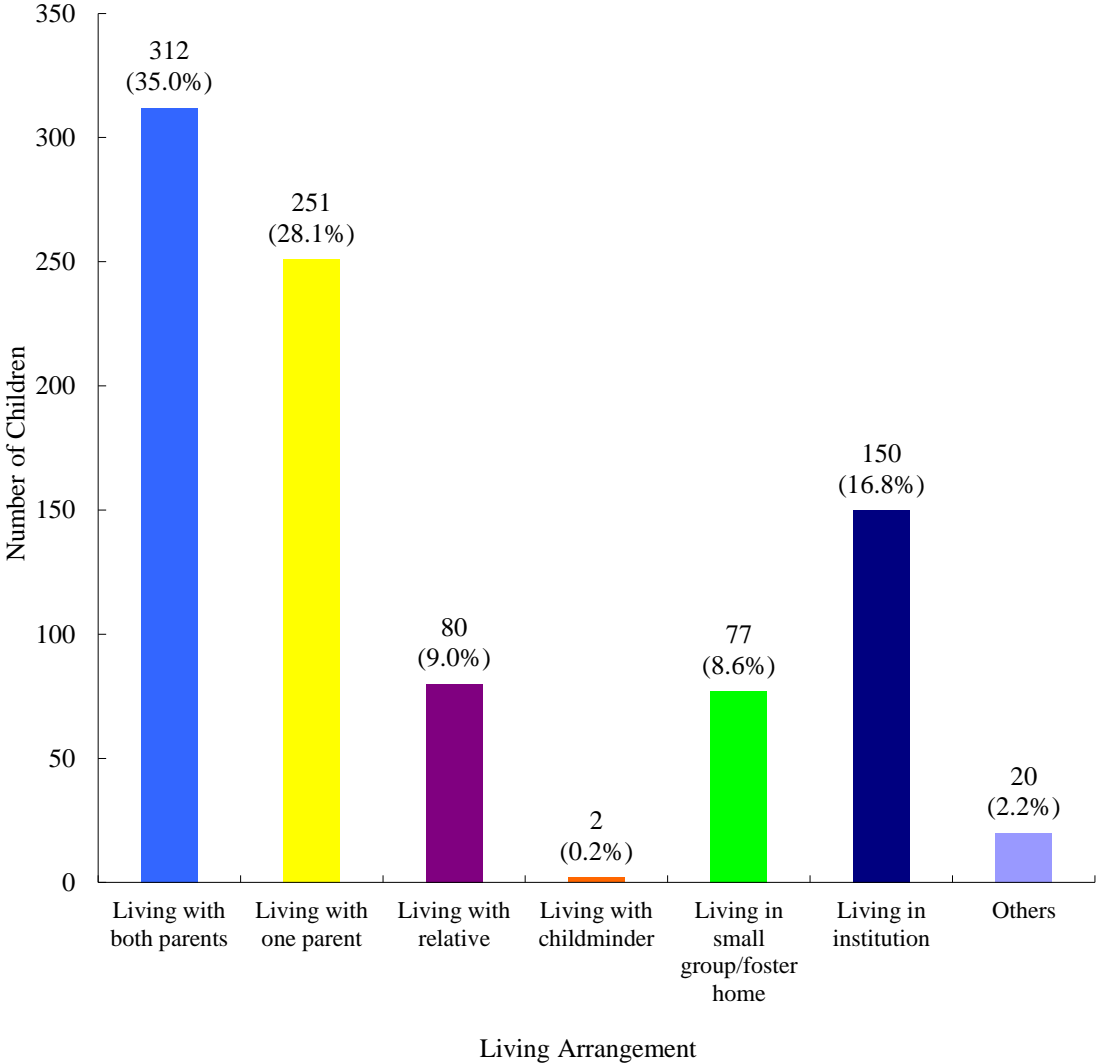
Table 6 – Distribution of Boy Victims by Age and by Type of Abuse

Age	Type of Abuse					
	Physical	Sexual	Neglect	Psychological	Multiple	Total
0 – 2	19	0	53	0	1	73
3 – 5	36	1	13	1	4	55
6 – 8	60	10	13	1	2	86
9 – 11	64	11	12	3	2	92
12 – 14	31	21	1	1	2	56
15 – 17	11	9	1	0	0	21
Total	221	52	93	6	11	383

1.2.4 Living Arrangement of Children

Among the 892 newly registered cases, 63.1% of the abused children were living with either both parents or one of them.

Graph 7 - Distribution of Children by Living Arrangement for 2016



Owing to rounding, percentages may not add up to 100 as shown in the table.

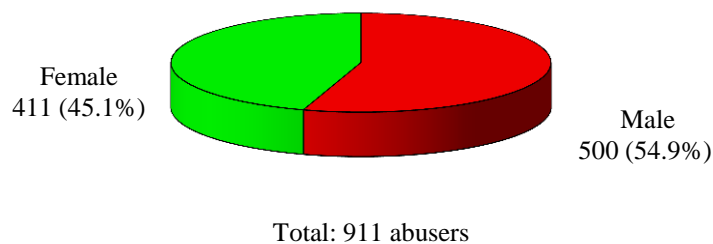
1.3 Abuser Characteristics

There were 892 children and 911 abusers involved in the newly registered cases. The number of abusers did not tally with the number of children because an abuser might abuse more than one child and a child might be abused by more than one abuser.

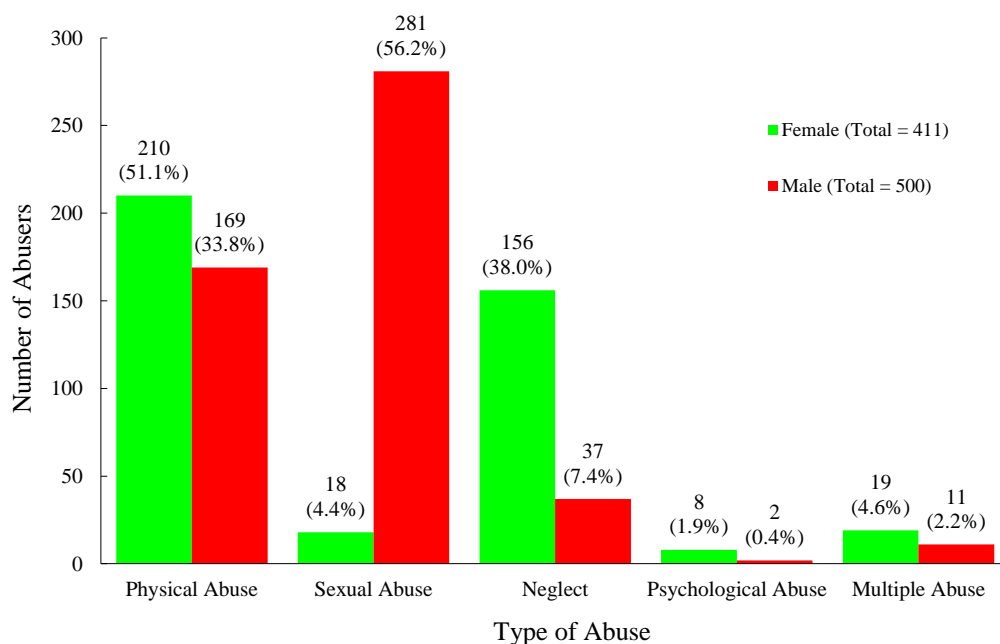
1.3.1 **Distribution of Abusers by Gender**

There were more male abusers (500, 54.9%) than female abusers (411, 45.1%) involved in the newly registered cases. The number of male abusers involved in sexual abuse case was far greater than that of female abusers. However, apart from sexual abuse cases, there were more female abusers than male abusers involved in other types of abuse.

Graph 8 - Distribution of Abusers by Gender for 2016



Graph 9 - Distribution of Abusers by Gender and by Type of Abuse for 2016



Note: Figures in brackets represent percentages in respect of the corresponding gender groups.

1.3.2 Distribution of Abusers by Age

36.1% of the abusers involved in the newly registered cases were aged between 32 and 46. Table 7 shows the distribution of abusers of different age groups by type of abuse with the highest numbers highlighted. As some of the abusers, particularly for sexual abuse cases, could not be identified or were unrelated persons, the age of a certain proportion of the abusers was unknown.

Graph 10 - Distribution of Abusers by Age for 2016

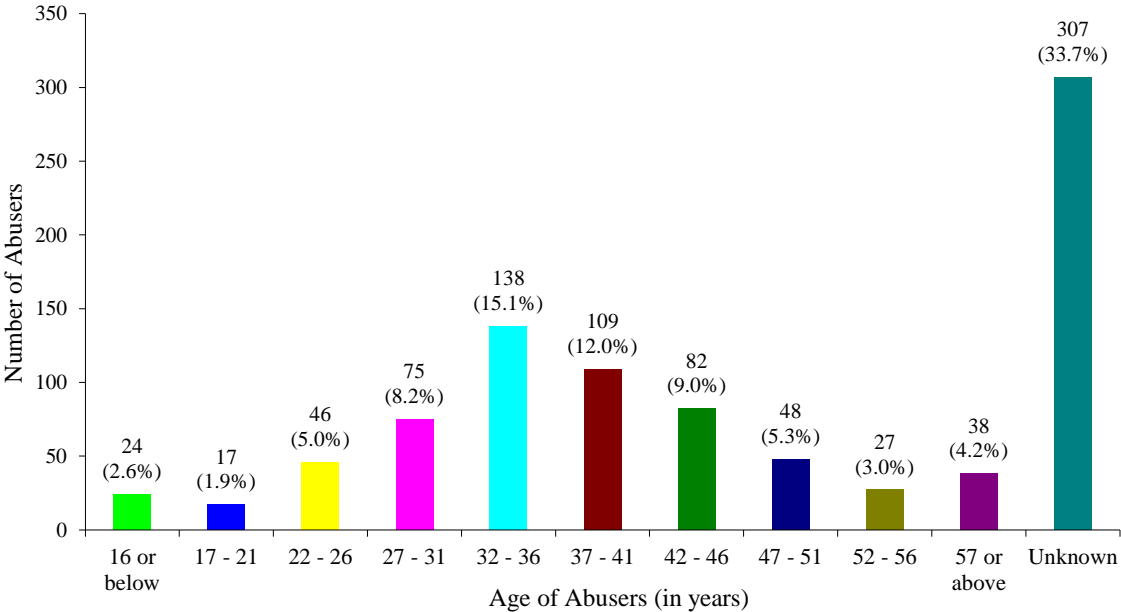


Table 7 – Distribution of Abusers by Age and by Type of Abuse

Age	Type of Abuse					Total
	Physical	Sexual	Neglect	Psychological	Multiple	
16 or below	1	23	0	0	0	24
17 – 21	5	9	3	0	0	17
22 – 26	17	5	21	0	3	46
27 – 31	32	4	34	0	5	75
32 – 36	74	5	47	1	11	138
37 – 41	67	7	29	2	4	109
42 – 46	50	2	27	3	0	82
47 – 51	33	3	10	2	0	48
52 – 56	15	4	6	0	2	27
57 or above	22	5	9	1	1	38
Unknown	63	232	7	1	4	307
Total	379	299	193	10	30	911

1.3.3 Distribution of Abusers by Gender, by Age and by Type of Abuse

On Female Abusers

The distribution of female abusers of different age groups by type of abuse, with the highest numbers highlighted, is as follows:

Table 8 – Distribution of Female Abusers by Age and by Type of Abuse

Age	Type of Abuse					
	Physical	Sexual	Neglect	Psychological	Multiple	Total
16 or below	1	1	0	0	0	2
17 – 21	2	0	3	0	0	5
22 – 26	10	0	20	0	3	33
27 – 31	25	0	30	0	5	60
32 – 36	50	0	43	1	7	101
37 – 41	45	0	25	1	3	74
42 – 46	25	0	22	3	0	50
47 – 51	12	0	4	2	0	18
52 – 56	3	0	1	0	0	4
57 or above	5	0	3	0	1	9
Unknown	32	17	5	1	0	55
Total	210	18	156	8	19	411

On Male Abusers

The distribution of male abusers of different age groups by type of abuse, with the highest numbers highlighted, is as follows:

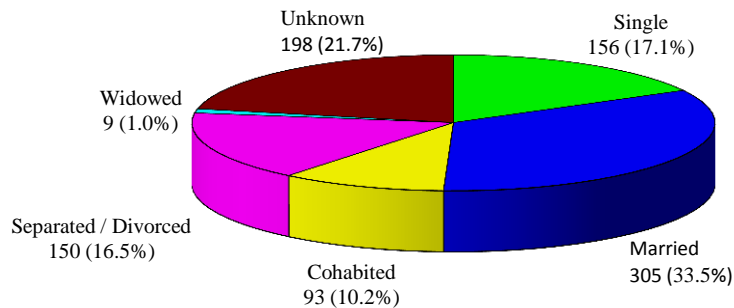
Table 9 – Distribution of Male Abusers by Age and by Type of Abuse

Age	Type of Abuse					
	Physical	Sexual	Neglect	Psychological	Multiple	Total
16 or below	0	22	0	0	0	22
17 – 21	3	9	0	0	0	12
22 – 26	7	5	1	0	0	13
27 – 31	7	4	4	0	0	15
32 – 36	24	5	4	0	4	37
37 – 41	22	7	4	1	1	35
42 – 46	25	2	5	0	0	32
47 – 51	21	3	6	0	0	30
52 – 56	12	4	5	0	2	23
57 or above	17	5	6	1	0	29
Unknown	31	215	2	0	4	252
Total	169	281	37	2	11	500

1.3.4 Marital Status of Abusers

33.5% of the 911 abusers of newly registered cases were married. As some of the abusers, particularly for sexual abuse cases, could not be identified or were unrelated persons, the marital status of a certain proportion of the abusers was unknown.

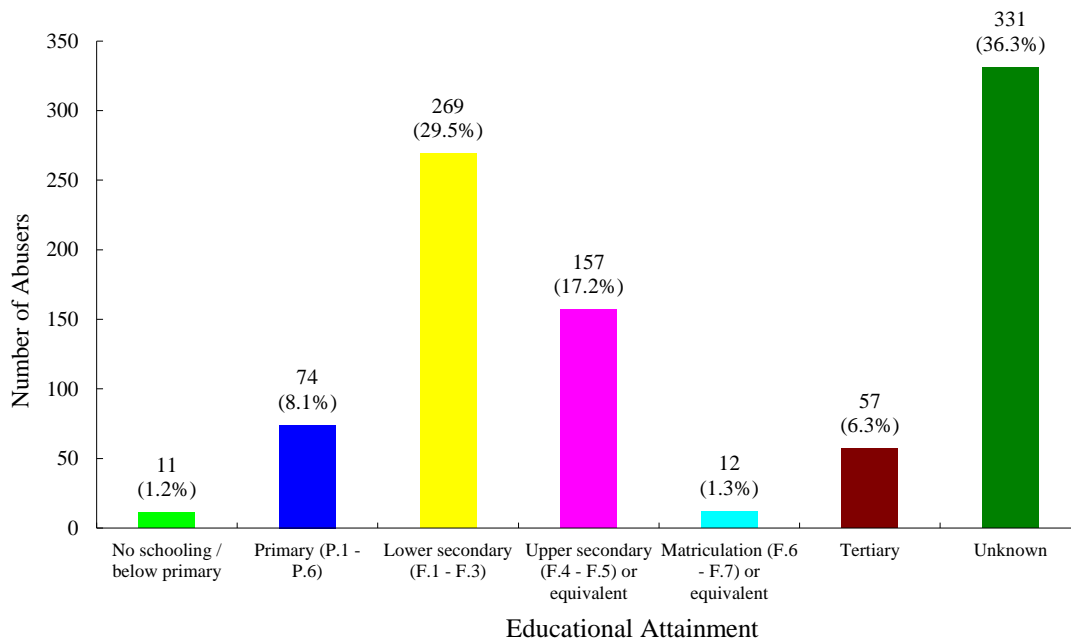
Graph 11 - Distribution of Abusers by Marital Status for 2016



1.3.5 Educational Attainment of Abusers

38.8% of the abusers of the newly registered cases were of lower secondary education standard or below. As some of the abusers, particularly for sexual abuse cases, could not be identified or were unrelated persons, the educational attainment of a certain proportion of the abusers was unknown.

Graph 12 - Distribution of Abusers by Educational Attainment for 2016

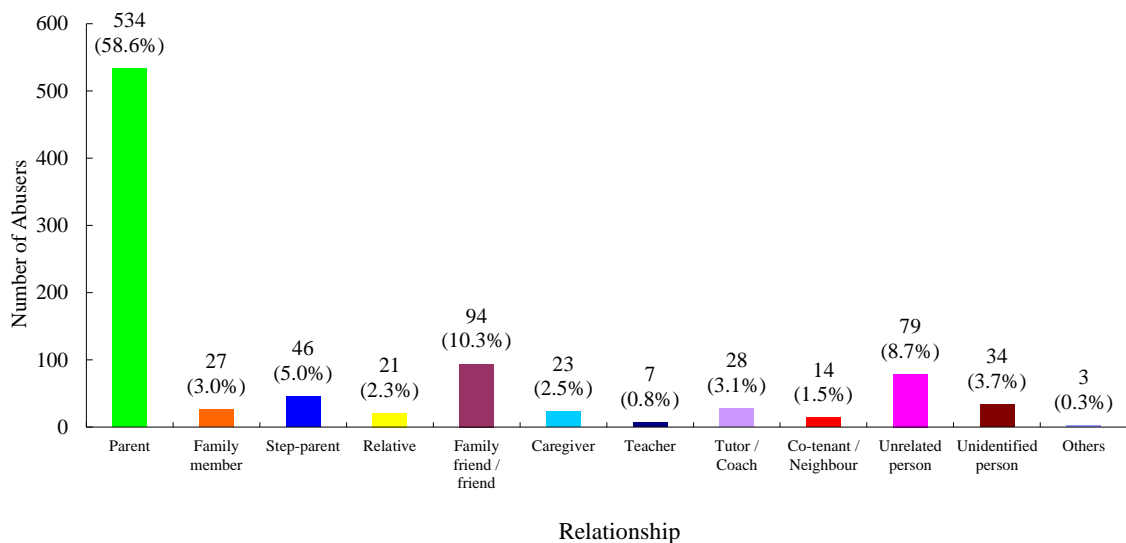


Owing to rounding, percentages may not add up to 100 as shown in the table.

1.3.6 Relationship of Abusers with Abused Children

58.6% of the abusers involved in the newly registered cases were parents of the victims. The breakdown by type of abuse, in Table 10, indicated that quite a large number of abusers in sexual abuse cases were unrelated persons, friends or family's friends, while the majority of abusers were parents of the victims in the other four types of child abuse cases. The types of abusers with the highest numbers of cases for each type of abuse are highlighted.

Graph 13 - Distribution of Abusers' Relationship with Abused Children for 2016



Owing to rounding, percentages may not add up to 100 as shown in the table.

Table 10 – Distribution of Abusers' Relationship with Abused Children by Type of Abuse

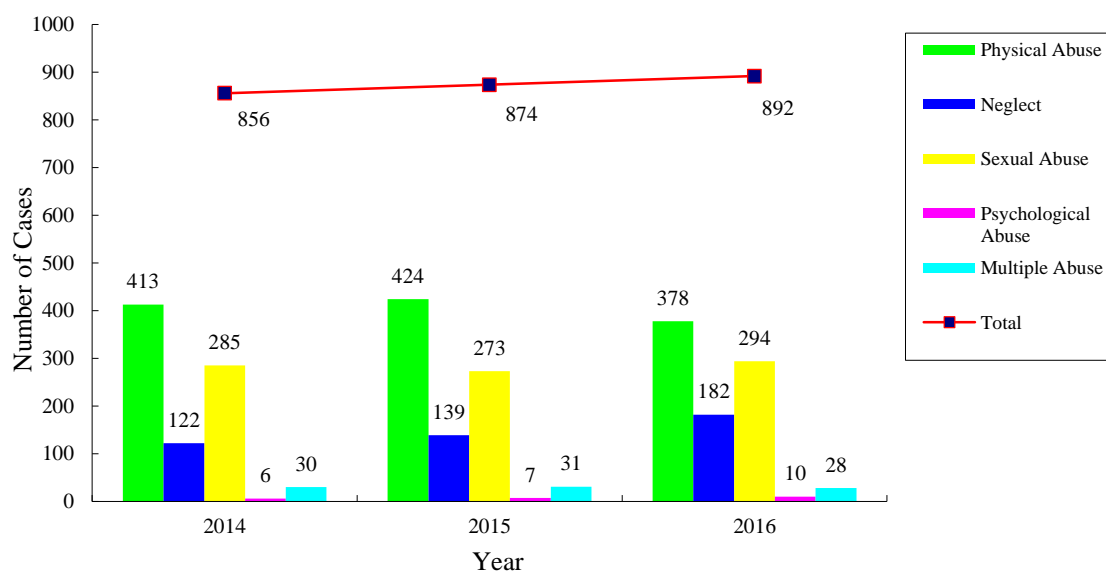
Relationship	Type of Abuse					Total
	Physical	Sexual	Neglect	Psychological	Multiple	
Parent	310	13	178	9	24	534
Family member	12	6	8	1	0	27
Step-parent	19	23	3	0	1	46
Relative	8	13	0	0	0	21
Family's friend/friend	1	91	1	0	1	94
Caregiver	16	4	1	0	2	23
Teacher	1	6	0	0	0	7
Tutor/coach	3	25	0	0	0	28
Co-tenant/neighbour	0	14	0	0	0	14
Unrelated person	1	76	0	0	2	79
Unidentified person	8	25	2	0	0	35
Others	0	3	0	0	0	3
Total	379	299	193	10	30	911

Part 2

Comparison of Newly Registered Cases from 2014 to 2016

2.1 Types of Abuse

Graph 14 - Distribution of Newly Registered Cases by Type of Abuse



2.2 Child Characteristics

2.2.1 Distribution of Children by Age

Table 11 – Age Distribution of Children

Year Age	2014	2015	2016
0 - 2	81 (9.5%)	92 (10.5%)	158 (17.7%)
3 - 5	113 (13.2%)	100 (11.4%)	104 (11.7%)
6 - 8	178 (20.8%)	179 (20.5%)	153 (17.2%)
9 - 11	161 (18.8%)	174 (19.9%)	172 (19.3%)
12 - 14	217 (25.4%)	209 (23.9%)	194 (21.7%)
15 - 17	106 (12.4%)	120 (13.7%)	111 (12.4%)
Total	856 (100.0%)	874 (100.0%)	892 (100.0%)

Owing to rounding, percentages may not add up to 100 as shown in the table.

2.2.2 Distribution of Children by Type of Abuse and by Gender

Table 12 – Distribution of Children by Type of Abuse and by Gender

Type of Abuse	2014		2015		2016	
	No. of Boys	No. of Girls	No. of Boys	No. of Girls	No. of Boys	No. of Girls
Physical abuse	242 (28.3%)	171 (20.0%)	250 (28.6%)	174 (19.9%)	221 (24.8%)	157 (17.6%)
Neglect	61 (7.1%)	61 (7.1%)	73 (8.4%)	66 (7.6%)	93 (10.4%)	89 (10.0%)
Sexual abuse	58 (6.8%)	227 (26.5%)	34 (3.9%)	239 (27.3%)	52 (5.8%)	242 (27.1%)
Psychological abuse	3 (0.4%)	3 (0.4%)	3 (0.3%)	4 (0.5%)	6 (0.7%)	4 (0.4%)
Multiple abuse	15 (1.8%)	15 (1.8%)	12 (1.4%)	19 (2.2%)	11 (1.2%)	17 (1.9%)
Sub-total	379 (44.3%)	477 (55.7%)	372 (42.6%)	502 (57.4%)	383 (42.9%)	509 (57.1%)
Total	856 (100.0%)		874 (100.0%)		892 (100.0%)	

Owing to rounding, percentages may not add up to 100 as shown in the table.

2.3 Abuser Characteristics

2.3.1 Distribution of Abusers by Age

Table 13 - Age Distribution of Abusers

Age \ Year	2014	2015	2016
16 or below	16 (1.8%)	25 (2.8%)	24 (2.6%)
17 - 21	16 (1.8%)	15 (1.7%)	17 (1.9%)
22 - 26	32 (3.7%)	38 (4.2%)	46 (5.0%)
27 - 31	62 (7.1%)	62 (6.9%)	75 (8.2%)
32 - 36	109 (12.5%)	127 (14.1%)	138 (15.1%)
37 - 41	122 (14.0%)	129 (14.3%)	109 (12.0%)
42 - 46	85 (9.7%)	95 (10.6%)	82 (9.0%)
47 - 51	41 (4.7%)	61 (6.8%)	48 (5.3%)
52 - 56	30 (3.4%)	25 (2.8%)	27 (3.0%)
57 or above	52 (6.0%)	41 (4.6%)	38 (4.2%)
Unknown	307 (35.2%)	282 (31.3%)	307 (33.7%)
Total	872 (100.0%)	900 (100.0%)	911 (100.0%)

Owing to rounding, percentages may not add up to 100 as shown in the table.

2.3.2 Distribution of Abusers by Gender

Table 14 - Gender of Abusers

Gender \ Year	2014	2015	2016
Male	475 (54.5%)	499 (55.4%)	500 (54.9%)
Female	397 (45.5%)	401 (44.6%)	411 (45.1%)
Total	872 (100%)	900 (100%)	911 (100%)

2.3.3 Marital Status of Abusers

Table 15 - Marital Status of Abusers

Marital Status \ Year	2014	2015	2016
Single	150 (17.2%)	139 (15.4%)	156 (17.1%)
Married	295 (33.8%)	368 (40.9%)	305 (33.5%)
Cohabited	64 (7.3%)	58 (6.4%)	93 (10.2%)
Separated/divorced	175 (20.1%)	142 (15.8%)	150 (16.5%)
Widowed	17 (1.9%)	16 (1.8%)	9 (1.0%)
Unknown	171 (19.6%)	177 (19.7%)	198 (21.7%)
Total	872 (100.0%)	900 (100.0%)	911 (100.0%)

Note : As some of the abusers, particularly for sexual abuse cases, could not be identified or were unrelated persons, the marital status of a certain proportion of the abusers was unknown.

Owing to rounding, percentages may not add up to 100 as shown in the table.

2.3.4 Educational Attainment of Abusers

Table 16 - Educational Attainment of Abusers

Educational Attainment	Year		
	2014	2015	2016
No schooling/below primary	19 (2.2%)	12 (1.3%)	11 (1.2%)
Primary (P.1 - P.6)	82 (9.4%)	77 (8.6%)	74 (8.1%)
Lower secondary (F.1 - F.3)	198 (22.7%)	247 (27.4%)	269 (29.5%)
Upper secondary (F.4 - F.5)	146 (16.7%)	145 (16.1%)	157 (17.2%)
Matriculation (F.6 - F.7)	26 (3.0%)	29 (3.2%)	12 (1.3%)
Tertiary	51 (5.8%)	58 (6.4%)	57 (6.3%)
Unknown	350 (40.1%)	332 (36.9%)	331 (36.3%)
Total	872 (100.0%)	900 (100.0%)	911 (100.0%)

Owing to rounding, percentages may not add up to 100 as shown in the table.

2.3.5 Relationship of Abusers with Abused Children

Table 17 - Abusers' Relationship with Abused Children

Relationship	Year		
	2014	2015	2016
Parent	507 (58.1%)	548 (60.9%)	534 (58.6%)
Family member	22 (2.5%)	9 (1.0%)	28 (3.1%)
Step-parent	41 (4.7%)	41 (4.6%)	46 (5.0%)
Relative	24 (2.8%)	26 (2.9%)	21 (2.3%)
Family's friend/Friend	80 (9.2%)	85 (9.4%)	94 (10.3%)
Caregiver	34 (3.9%)	25 (2.8%)	23 (2.5%)
Teacher/Tutor/Coach	35 (4.0%)	31 (3.4%)	35 (3.8%)
Co-tenant/Neighbour	14 (1.6%)	8 (0.9%)	14 (1.5%)
Unrelated person	74 (8.5%)	103 (11.4%)	79 (8.7%)
Unidentified person/ Others	41 (4.7%)	24 (2.7%)	37 (4.1%)
Total	872 (100%)	900 (100.0%)	911 (100.0%)

Owing to rounding, percentages may not add up to 100 as shown in the table.

Glossary

Child Abuse (definition)

As a general guide, child abuse is defined as any act of commission or omission that endangers or impairs a child's physical/psychological health and development. Such an act is judged on the basis of a combination of community standards and professional expertise to be damaging. It is committed by individuals, singly or collectively, who by their characteristics (e.g. age, status, knowledge, organisational form) are in a position of differential power that renders a child vulnerable. Child abuse is not limited to a child-parent/guardian situation but includes anyone who is entrusted with the care and control of a child e.g. child-minders, relatives, teachers, etc. For child sexual abuse, the acts may also be committed by strangers to the child.

Child abuse includes:

- **Physical Abuse**

It is a physical injury or physical suffering to a child, (including non-accidental use of force, deliberate poisoning, suffocation, burning, Munchausen's Syndrome by Proxy, etc.), where there is a definite knowledge, or a reasonable suspicion that the injury has been inflicted non-accidentally;

[* Munchausen's Syndrome by Proxy occurs when a parent or guardian falsifies a child's medical history or alters a child's laboratory test or actually causes an illness or injury to a child in order to gain medical attention for the child which may result in innumerable harmful hospital procedures. (Ref.: Zumwalt R.E. & Kirsch C.S., "Pathology of Fatal Child Abuse and Neglect" in R.E. Helfer & R.S. Kempe (Eds.), The Battered Child (4th ed.), pp.247-285, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1987.)]

- **Sexual Abuse**

It is an involvement of a child in a sexual activity (e.g. rape, oral sex) which is unlawful, or to which a child is unable to give informed consent*. This includes direct or indirect sexual exploitation and abuse of a child (e.g. production of pornographic material). It may be committed by individuals whether inside the home or outside. It may be committed by parents, or carers or other adults singly or acting in an organised way, or children. It includes acts which may be rewarded or apparently attractive to the child. It may be committed by individuals either known or strange to the child; (Child sexual abuse differentiates from casual sexual relationship that does not include any sexual exploitation e.g. between a boy and a girl, though the boy can be liable for offences like indecent assault or unlawful sexual intercourse with an under aged girl.)

[* Any dependent, developmentally immature children and adolescents involved in sexual activities that they do not fully comprehend are considered unable to give “informed consent”. For instance, when a child is involved in a sexual act for snacks or money, though the child may say “yes” to the perpetrator, this should not be regarded as an “informed consent” by the child.]

- **Neglect**

It is severe or a repeated pattern of lacking of attention to a child’s basic needs that endangers or impairs the child’s health or development. Neglect may be :

- ❖ Physical (e.g. failure to provide necessary food, clothing or shelter, failure to prevent physical injury or suffering, lack of appropriate supervision or being left unattended)
- ❖ Medical (e.g. failure to provide necessary medical or mental health treatment)
- ❖ Educational (e.g. failure to provide education or ignoring educational needs arising from a child's disability*)
- ❖ Emotional (e.g. ignoring a child’s emotional needs, failure to provide psychological care);

[*According to the Disability Discrimination Ordinance Code of Practice on Education, the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Ordinance apply to a wide range of persons, including those usually referred to as persons with intellectual disability or mental handicap, autism, specific learning disabilities, hearing impairment, visual impairment, physical disability or handicap, mental illness and various other chronic illnesses, and persons who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (commonly known as “HIV-positive”) or who have acquired immune deficiency syndrome (commonly known as “AIDS”)]

- **Psychological Abuse**

It is the repeated pattern of behaviour and attitudes towards a child or extreme incident that endangers or impairs the child’s emotional or intellectual development. Examples include acts of spurning, terrorizing, isolating, exploiting/corrupting, denying emotional responsiveness, conveying to a child that he/she is worthless, flawed, unwanted or unloved. Such act damages immediately or ultimately the behavioural, cognitive, affective, or physical functioning of the child.

- **Multiple Abuse**

Combination of more than one of the above four types of abuse.

Case One case refers to one child.

Newly Registered Cases in 2016 Child abuse and at-risk of abuse cases newly registered with the Child Protection Registry in 2016.