

# What about the men?

## Men and Women accessing services due to domestic violence needs

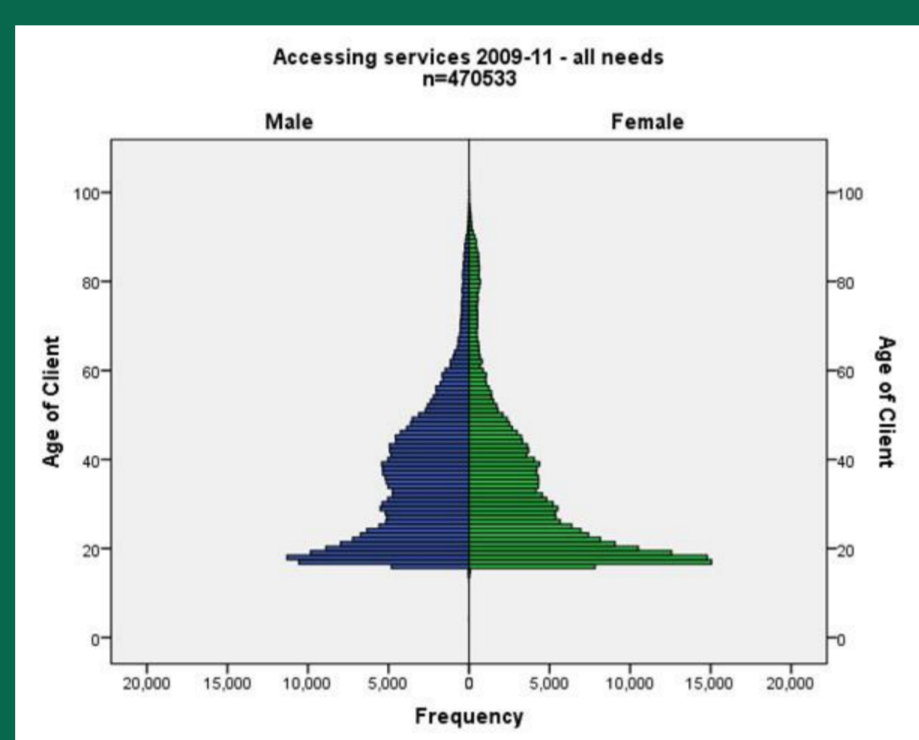
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Two years of data – over 60,000 cases of men and women at risk of domestic violence.

Men are a tiny minority of those at risk of domestic violence

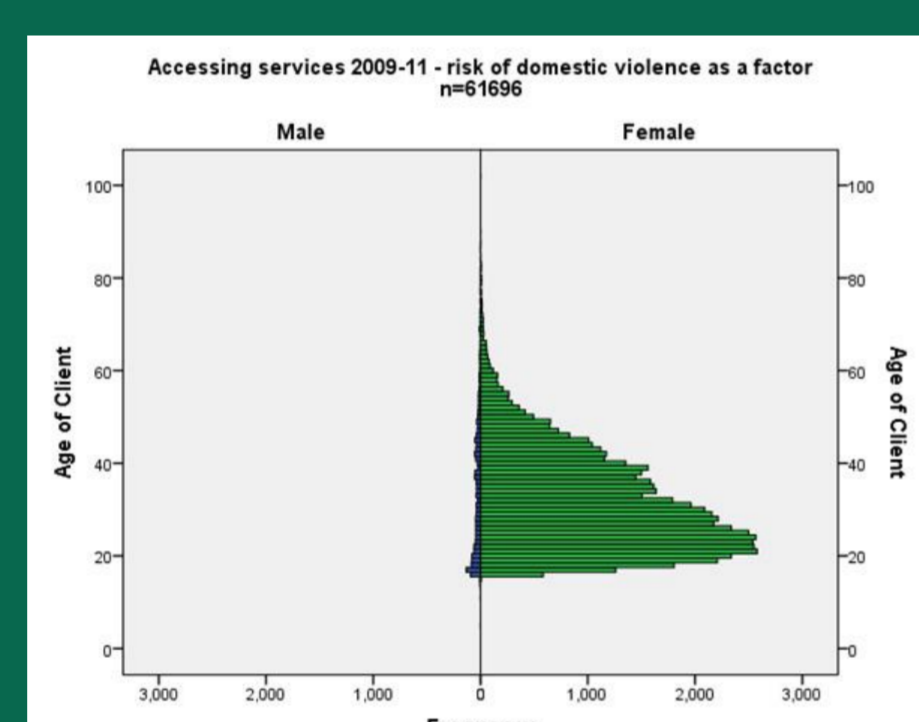
Men seek support on a wide range of issues at an equal rate to women

Accessing services 2009-2011: all needs n=470,533



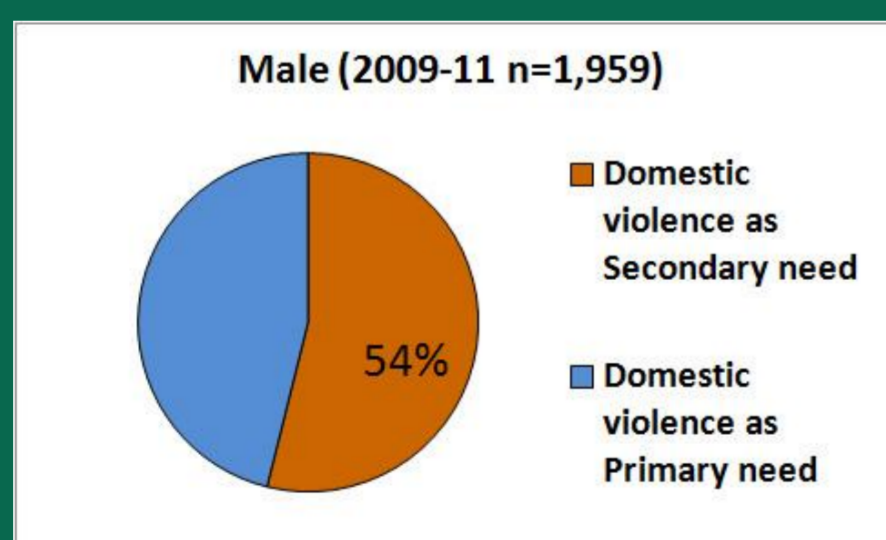
But men make up only 3.1% of those at risk of domestic violence

Accessing services 2009-2011: domestic violence n=61,696

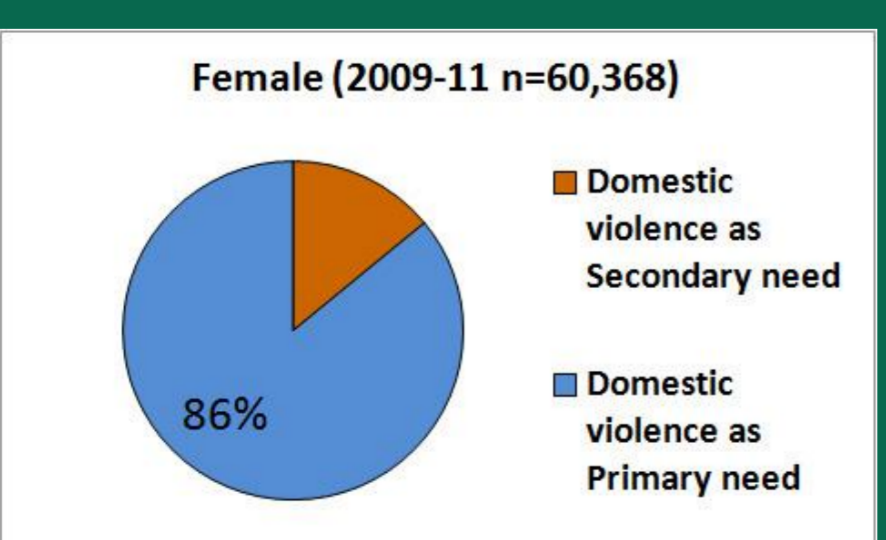


When men have domestic violence as an issue, it is more often secondary to other issues

Over half of men accessing services at risk of domestic violence have this as a secondary need to issues such as homelessness, offending or mental health problems



Most women accessing services at risk of domestic violence have this as their primary need



1. Cross tabulation. Domestic violence as a need 2009-11 n=62,327 Chi-Square = 489.301 (df=7) p<0.001 Cramer's V = 0.089  
2. Cross tabulation. Domestic violence as primary need 2009-11 n=52,529 Chi-Square = 269.731 (df=6) p<0.001 Cramer's V = 0.072  
3. Cross tabulation. Domestic violence as a need 2009-11 n=61,696 Chi-Square = 878.757 (df=10) p<0.001 Cramer's V = 0.119  
4. Cross tabulation. Domestic violence as a need 2009-11 n=62,327 Chi-Square = 943.008 (df=1) p<0.001 Phi = 0.123  
5. Cross tabulation. Domestic violence as a need 2009-11 n=62,327 Chi-Square = 23322.125 (df=1) p<0.001 Phi = 0.193

Data from Supporting People Programme of housing-related support services.  
Department for Communities and Local Government and University of St Andrews, Centre for Housing Research (2012) *Supporting People Client Records and Outcomes, 2003/04-2010/11: Special Licence Access [computer file]*. Colchester, Essex, UK Data Archive [distributor].  
Available from: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-2020-1>  
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### The context

- Local services for domestic violence in the UK are not a statutory requirement
- Funding varies locally, and faces ongoing cuts

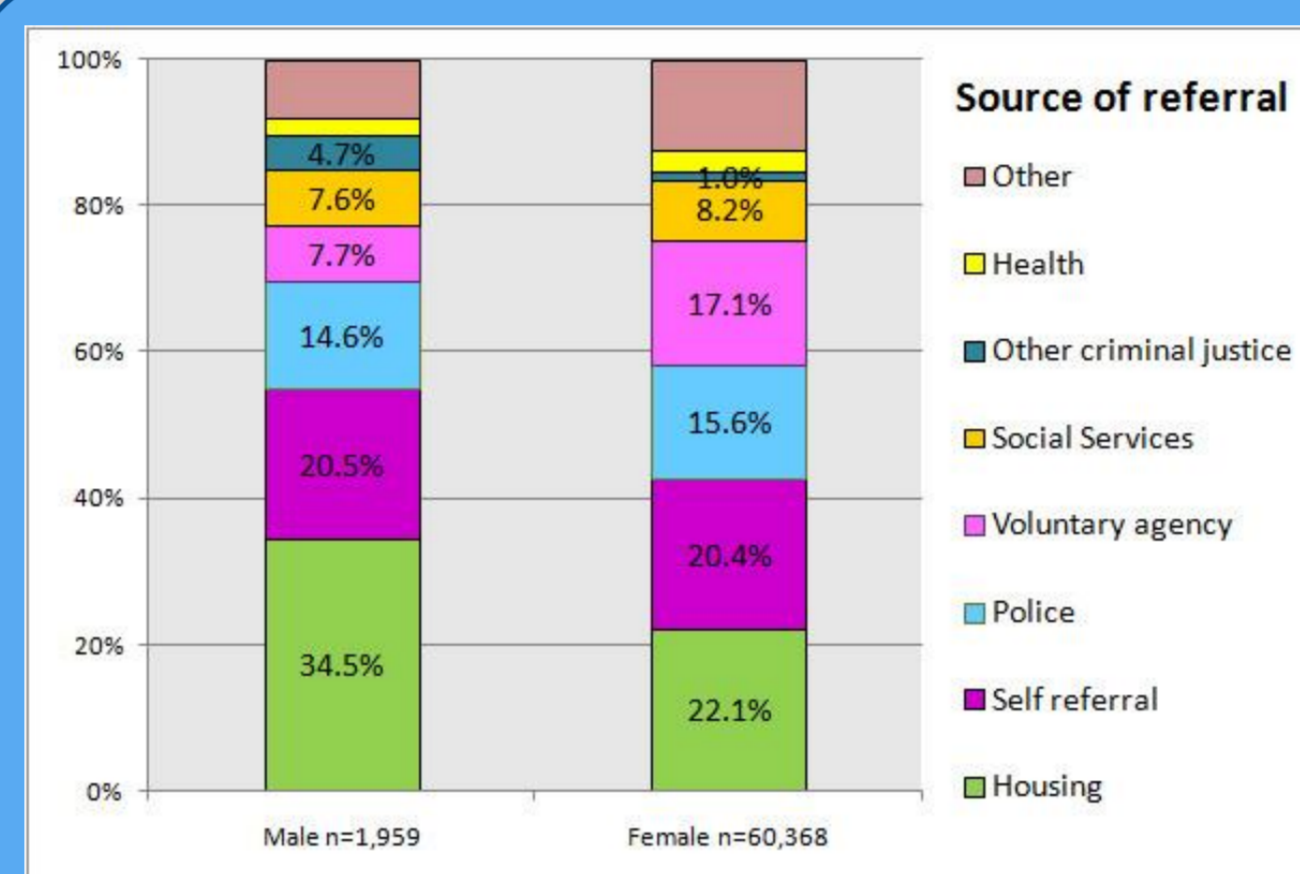
### The problem

- The hidden nature of domestic violence often means a lack of evidence of service needs
- Services developed for women and children are increasingly being asked "What about the men?"

### The evidence

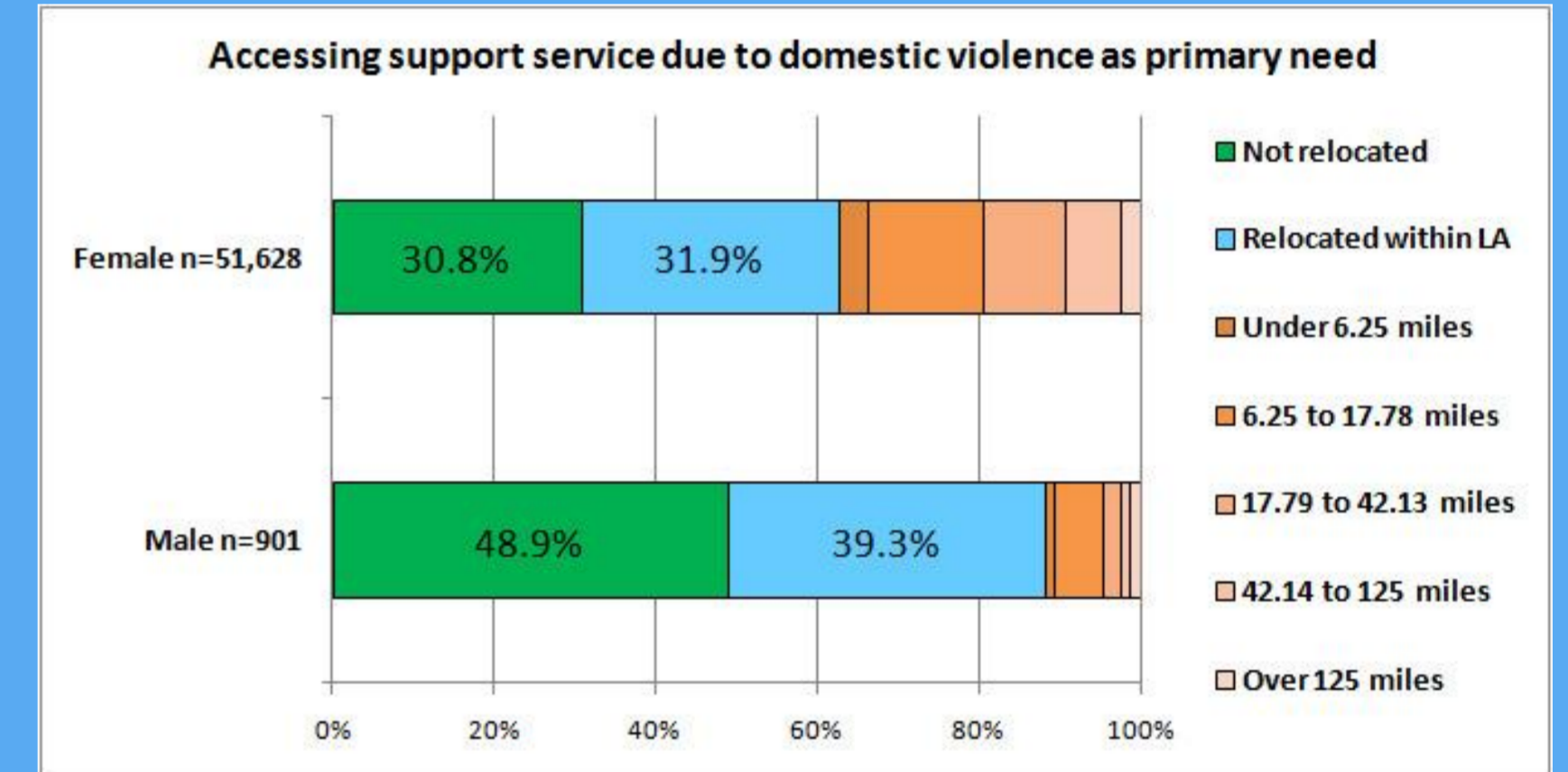
- Until 2011, administrative data recorded access to housing-related support services (Supporting People services) in England
- This provides evidence of men's and women's different needs and help-seeking when they experience domestic violence

## Men and women have different service needs

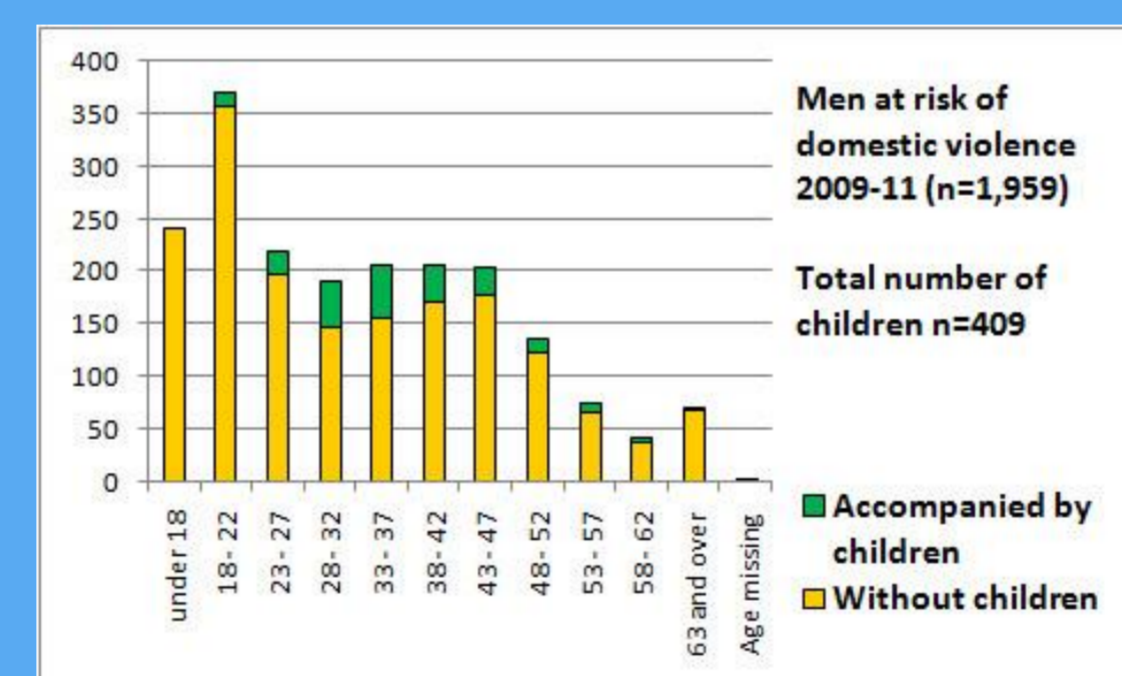


- Men are more likely to be referred by statutory agencies<sup>1</sup>
- Women and men are equally likely to self-refer
- Men are more likely to be referred by Housing and non-Police Criminal Justice
- Women are more likely to be referred by voluntary agencies

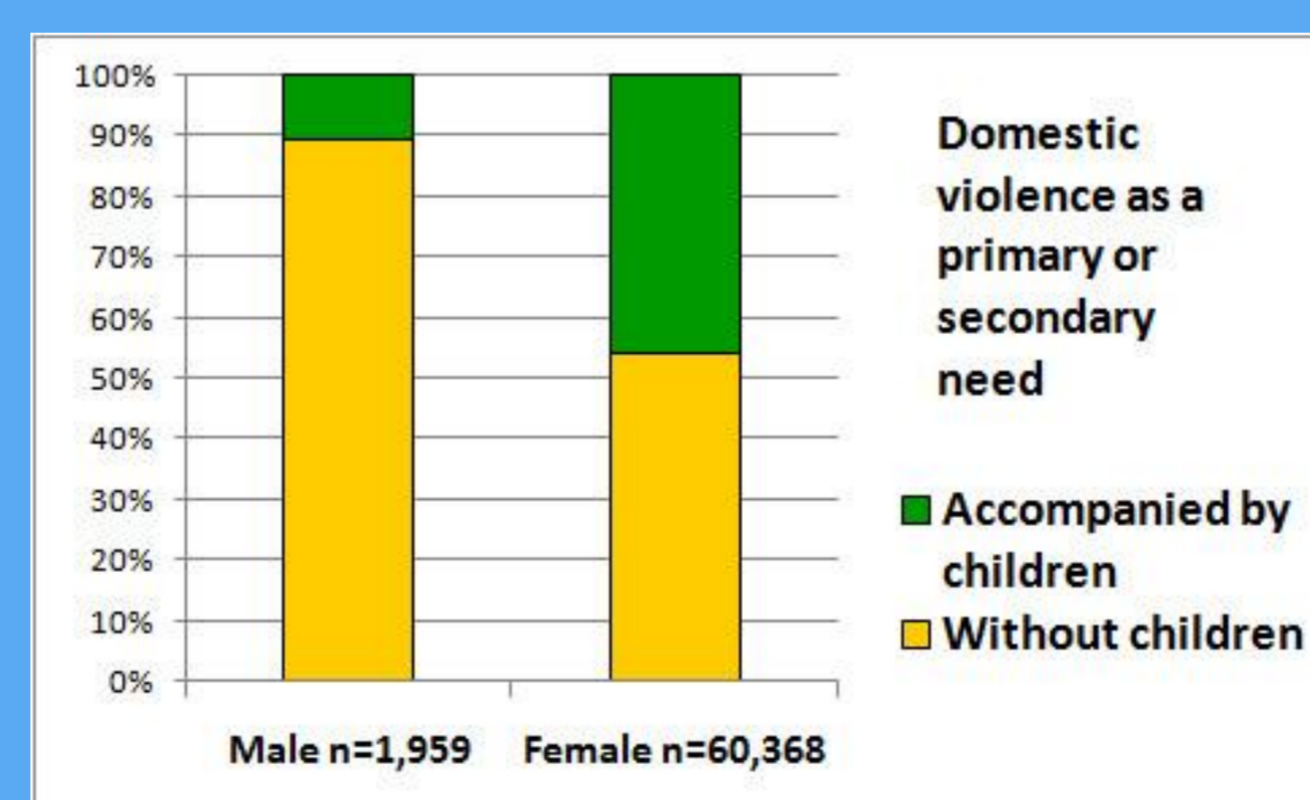
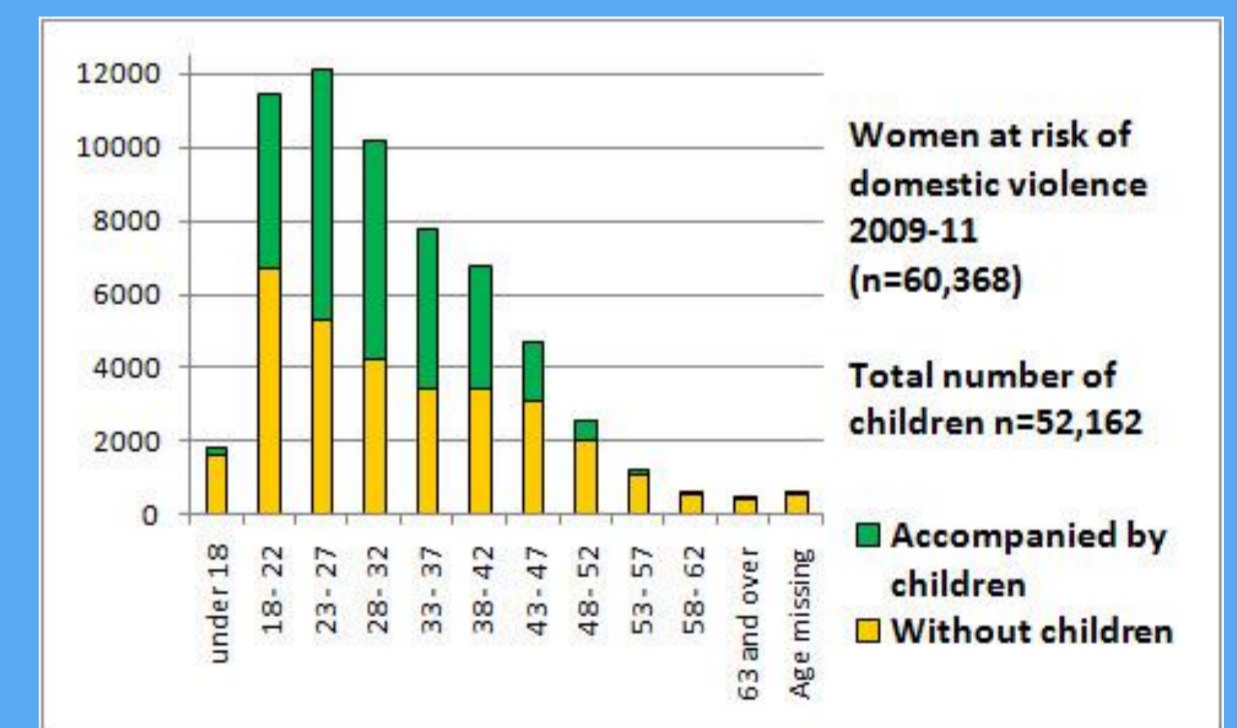
- Men are more likely to stay put or remain local<sup>2</sup>
- Nearly half the men access services due to domestic violence without relocating, and a further 40% remain within their local authority
- Women are more likely to relocate and to travel further when they do



- Men are more likely to be younger – under 18 – or older (43+)<sup>3</sup>



- Women are more likely to be 18-42, and especially 23-32.



- Men are less likely to be accompanied by children<sup>4</sup>
- Only 10% of men accessing services where domestic violence is an issue have children with them
- Just under half of women where domestic violence is an issue have children with them

Administrative data can be used to inform policy decisions and service planning, but the lack of national monitoring data since 2011 has reduced the evidence base

- Such data must be collected in systematic and comparable formats and de-identified and archived for research (not treated as commercially-sensitive and secret)
- The vast majority of domestic violence services should be provided for women – often accompanied by children
- Men's service needs are significantly different because:
  - They are less likely to relocate, and when they do they tend to stay local
  - They are more likely to be under 18, or over 42
  - They are less likely to have children with them
  - They are more likely to have additional support needs

### References:

[https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-47178-1\\_30](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-47178-1_30)

<https://doi.org/10.1332/230868019115538575140704>

### For further details:

[www.womensjourneyscapes.net](http://www.womensjourneyscapes.net)

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