

**Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Australian Bureau of Statistics**

**Division:** Social Statistics Division  
**Question No:** 3  
**Topic:** Assaulted women and children  
**Senator:** Paul Scarr

**Question:**

3. Please provide the committee with:

- a) information on the number of Australian women and children who have been assaulted, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).
- b) information on the number of First Nations women and children who have been assaulted, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).
- c) information on the number of non-First Nations women and children who have been assaulted, disaggregated by state/territory and by year (1980 - present if available).
- d) information on the rate of:
  - i) First Nations women and children,
  - ii) non-First Nations women and children,
  - iii) Australian (both First Nations and non-First Nations) women and children, and
  - iv) all Australians who have been assaulted by state/territory and by year (1980 – present if available).
- e) If you are unable to provide this information, please explain the reasons for not being able to do so (e.g. certain data isn't collected in a particular state or territory, or isn't captured by your agency etc.). Are there other sources that may reliably record this information? If so, what are they?

**Answer:**

- a) The following link provides access to the most recent publicly available data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) on the topic of assaults reported to police from [Recorded Crime - Victims, 2021 | Australian Bureau of Statistics](#). Previous years' data is available in previous publications.

Data notes in relation to *Recorded Crime – Victims*:

- Data is available from 2010 split by sex and age at report. Data between 1993 and 2010 is available as victim counts by offence type.

- Data is currently not available from Victoria and Queensland for assault offences. For further details please see the state/territory component of the methodology - [Recorded Crime - Victims methodology, 2021 | Australian Bureau of Statistics](#).

- b) Table 23 of *Recorded Crime* – presents police recorded victims of assault for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for New South Wales, South Australia and Northern Territory. This data is presented from 2010 to 2021.

Table 24 of *Recorded Crime* – Victims presents police recorded victims of assault for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by age at report and sex for New South Wales, South Australia and Northern Territory. This data is presented for 2021 (previous years' data available in previous publications).

Data notes in relation to *Recorded Crime – Victims*:

- Data is available for NSW, SA and NT. For further detail please refer to the Recorded Crime – Victims methodology - [Recorded Crime - Victims methodology, 2021 | Australian Bureau of Statistics](#).
- c) Data is published for non-First Nations people from *Recorded Crime – Victims*.
- d) i) ii) iii) iv) Regarding data available in *Recorded Crime – Victims*, please see data notes described in part (a), (b) and (c).

The following link provides access to the Personal Safety Survey (PSS) - [Personal Safety, Australia, 2016 | Australian Bureau of Statistics](#). The PSS includes rates for women aged 18 years and over who have experienced assault (including incidents that were not reported to police) by state and territory. See tab 2 of each of the state and territory tables in the data downloads.

Data notes in relation to the PSS:

- The PSS publishes national aggregates and cannot be disaggregated by First Nations people and non First Nations people.
  - The PSS does not survey children.
  - Men's experiences of assault by state and territory are available for selected jurisdiction (also see tab 2).
- e) The responses to this question are contained in the 'Data notes' sections for responses a,b,c and d.