



Ending domestic abuse

Every quarter SafeLives collects data from Maracs across the UK. This data is published annually at Police Force level, with the latest annual release available on [our website](#). Key national figures are also reported quarterly on the [SafeLives website](#), and every quarter Maracs can access more detailed data for their own Marac, police force, region and Most Similar Force Group.

To help spread the word about what information is available, each quarter we will be producing a short brief focusing on one area of the data we collect.

Marac data Q1 2020: Cases per 10,000

What we collect and publish: We collect data on the number of cases discussed at each Marac. One of the ways in which we publish this data is as an annual number of cases per 10,000 adult (16+) females. We produce this figure by dividing the number of cases by the adult female population covered by the Marac, as based on the 2011 census, and multiplying that figure by 10,000.

Our estimated rate: We estimate that Maracs should be seeing around 40 cases per 10,000 adult females. This is based on a combination of internal and external research, using data from the British Crime Survey (now the Crime Survey for England and Wales), to estimate the number of domestic abuse victims at high risk of serious harm or murder. Although we report the estimate and rates relative to the number of adult women, we expect approximately 5% – 10% of victims to be male.

What the data tells us:

- The rate of cases per 10,000 for the UK as a whole has now reached 41, above our estimated rate. In light of this we hope to revisit our estimate soon, using more up to date data as well as applying it to more recent population figures.
- However, the rate of cases varies widely across the UK, with the lowest area reporting only 5 cases per 10,000 and the highest reporting 139. We know that these very high and very low rates are influenced by differences in the way that these Marac are run, for instance using triage systems, and whether cases are reported before or after the triage point.
- Based on a survey of 59% of all Maracs within the UK, conducted in September 2019, more than one in ten (12%) ran a Marac model which deviated from the traditional model. The most common form of deviation was that not all cases referred to Marac were heard at the Marac (e.g. being referred on to other forums instead). We need to understand more about these differences in the data Maracs submit to SafeLives in order to fully understand how the rate of Marac cases differs from our estimated rate.

Trends in the data: The rate of cases is rising consistently. In Q1 2018 the UK rate was 37, rising to 39 in 2019 and 41 in 2020. There has also been an increase in the number of Maracs seeing very high rates of cases. For instance in 2018, 55 Maracs were seeing more than 50 cases per 10,000, which has increased to 74 in 2020.

Please contact Marac@SafeLives.org.uk if you are a Marac Chair or Coordinator and would like help accessing your Marac data.