

*Children need stable, nurturing families to ensure they can develop to their full potential.*

*The vast majority of children enjoy nurturing families but a significant minority are experiencing violence, abuse and neglect.*

*Many children experience accidental injuries and deaths each year.*

## FAQS

**Q: How many children were killed by family violence last year?**

A: This is difficult to answer as coroners' cause of death findings can take up to 3-years. Data for the most recent years available show that, on average, about 10 children a year are killed through violence.

**Q: Is child abuse increasing?**

A: Child, Youth and Family data show a drop in substantiated abuse findings in the past two years but the rate of hospitalisations due to assault, neglect or maltreatment has not reduced significantly.

**Q: How many children die from accidents?**

A. On average, 84 children (0 - 14yrs) die as a result of an accident each year.

## Children experiencing family violence



*Notifications are made to Child, Youth and Family when Police, other organisations or members of the public have concerns about the safety and treatment of children.*

### Notifications

Notifications - financial year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Care and protection reports of concern	93,956	90,729	90,893	88,768	83,871
Police family violence referrals	57,153	62,678	57,766	57,889	67,034
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>151,109</b>	<b>153,407</b>	<b>148,659</b>	<b>146,657</b>	<b>150,905</b>

Not all notifications to Child, Youth and Family result in a substantiated finding of abuse

Substantiated abuse findings are categorised into:

- emotional abuse
- physical abuse
- sexual abuse
- neglect

### Substantiated abuse

Type of abuse finding - financial year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<i>Emotional abuse</i>	12,711	12,454	12,777	10,406	8,318
<i>Physical abuse</i>	3,253	3,330	3,343	3,305	3,235
<i>Sexual abuse</i>	1,514	1,418	1,459	1,329	1,275
<i>Neglect</i>	4,813	4,970	5,405	4,583	3,644
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,291</b>	<b>22,172</b>	<b>22,294</b>	<b>19,623</b>	<b>16,472</b>

Source: Child, Youth and Family

## Deaths from accidents



The leading cause of death in children aged 0 - 14 are medical conditions (56%) and suffocation (about 20% - mostly in the first year of life).

Accidents account for 18% of child deaths, making it the third leading cause of death.

Accident type	Deaths (average per year)
Traffic (on or off road)	30
Drowning	8
Fall	2
Poisoning	2

Source: Safekids Aotearoa