

# Child Protection Registry

## Statistical Report

2011

<b><u>Index</u></b>	<b><u>Page</u></b>
<b>Foreword</b>	1
<b><u>Part 1 – New Cases 2011</u></b>	
1.1 <u>General Information</u>	
1.1.1 Type 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 Age by Gender 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 the Abused Children	17

## **Part 2 – Comparison of New Cases from 2009 to 2011**

2.1	<u>Type 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 Types of Abuse 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 the Abused Children	22
	<b><u>Appendix</u></b>	
	Glossary	23 - 25

## **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. Both the service units of SWD and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) can 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 the 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 2011”, consists of two parts. Part 1 is on cases newly registered in 2011 [new cases 2011] and Part 2 comprises comparison tables on cases newly registered from 2009 to 2011 [comparison of new cases from 2009 to 2011]. 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 2012

**Part 1**  
**New Cases 2011**

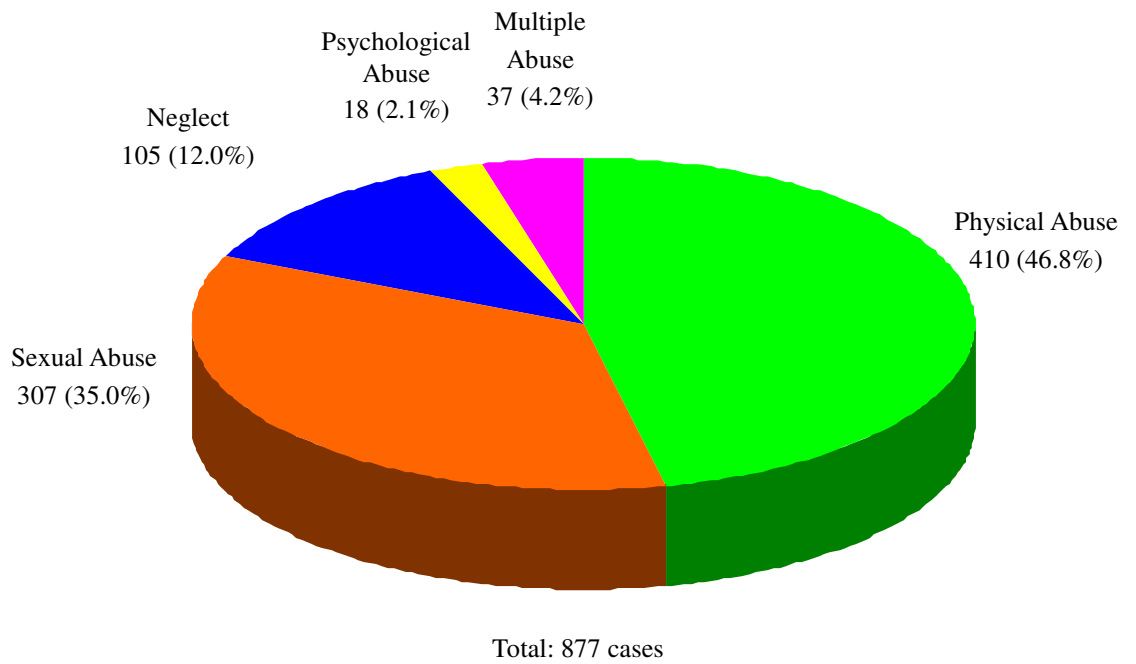
There were 877 newly registered cases.

**1.1 General Information**

**1.1.1 Type of Abuse**

46.8% of the newly registered cases were physical abuse cases and 35.0% were sexual abuse cases.

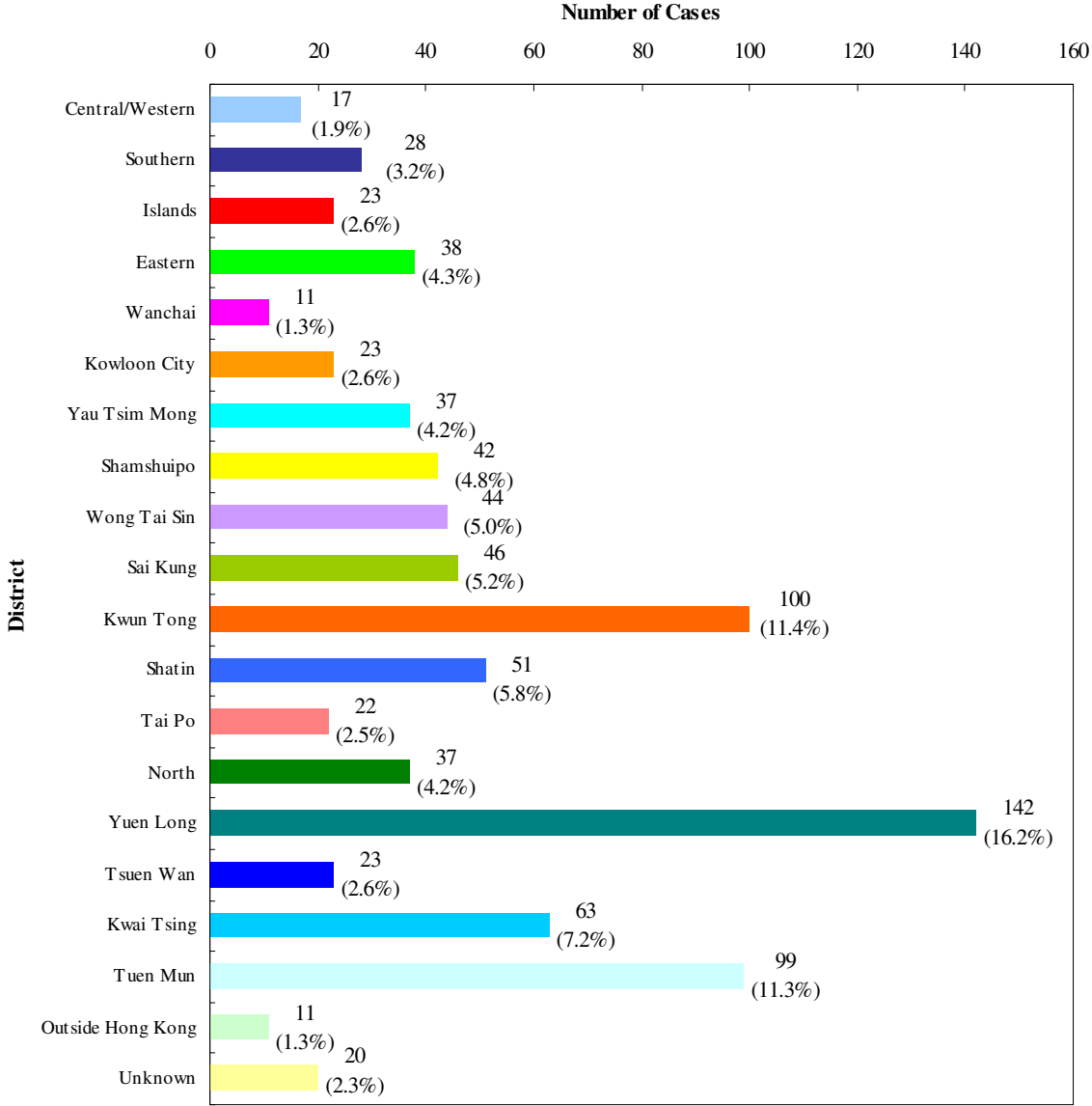
**Graph 1 - Distribution of Newly Registered Cases by Type of Abuse**



**1.1.2 District Distribution\***

The three districts with the highest percentage of the newly registered cases were Yuen Long District (16.2%), Kwun Tong District (11.4%) and Tuen Mun District (11.3%). 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**



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

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

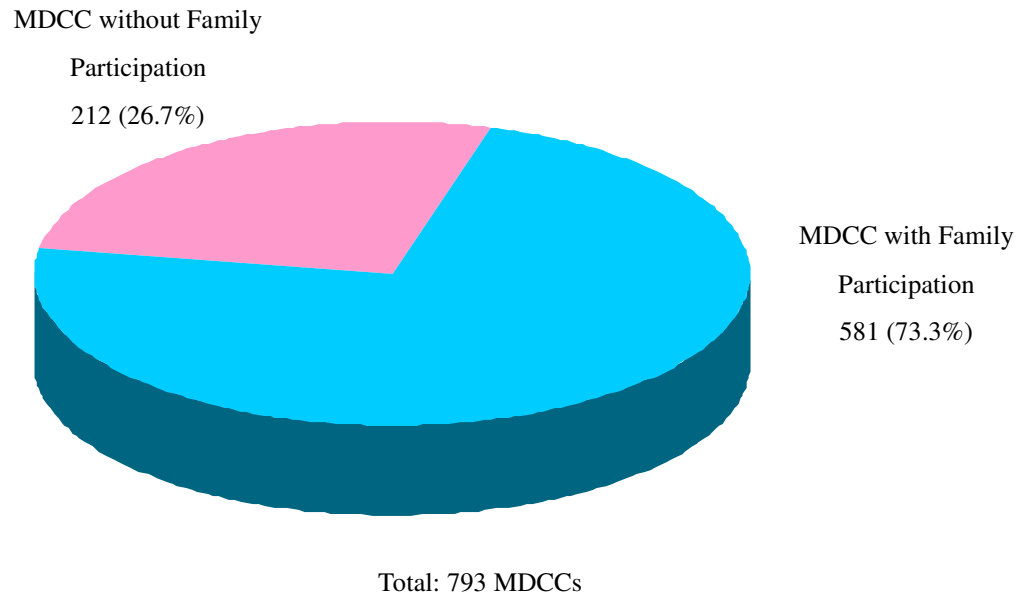
<b>District</b>	<b>No. of Cases</b>	<b>Incidence Rate* Per 1,000 Children Aged 0 – 17 in the District</b>
Central/Western	17	0.49
Southern	28	0.67
Islands	23	0.87
Eastern	38	0.47
Wanchai	11	0.59
Kowloon City	23	0.41
Yau Tsim Mong	37	0.79
Shamshuipo	42	0.72
Wong Tai Sin	44	0.75
Sai Kung	46	0.64
Kwun Tong	<b>100</b>	<b>1.04</b>
Shatin	51	0.56
Tai Po	22	0.54
North	37	0.75
Yuen Long	<b>142</b>	<b>1.36</b>
Tsuen Wan	23	0.46
Kwai Tsing	63	0.83
Tuen Mun	<b>99</b>	<b>1.35</b>
Outside Hong Kong	11	N.A.
Unknown	20	N.A.
<b>Total</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>0.82</b>

\* Statistics are compiled using the land-based non-institutional population figures obtained from the General Household Survey in 2011 conducted by Census and Statistics Department.

### 1.1.3 Multi-disciplinary Case Conference

Out of the 877 newly registered child abuse cases, multi-disciplinary case conferences (MDCCs) had been conducted for 775 cases (88.4%). A total of 793 MDCCs were held for discussion about the nature of the incidents, risk level and welfare plans of these 775 cases. 73.3% of the 793 MDCCs were held with the participation of the victims' family members.

**Graph 3 – Family Participation in Multi-disciplinary Case Conference**





#### 1.1.4 Contributing Factors of Abuse

Child abuse cases were associated with a number of contributing factors. These contributing factors were categorized 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. 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
  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**

<b>Contributing Factors</b>	<b>No. of Newly Registered Cases Associated with the Contributing Factors (Note)</b>
Factors relating to abused child/child-at-risk	494 (56.3%)
Factors relating to abuser/suspected abuser	628 (71.6%)
Factors relating to environmental or social circumstances	389 (44.4%)
Factors relating to parent(s)/carer(s) where parent(s)/carer(s) is/are not abuser	442 (50.4%)

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 the total 877 cases.

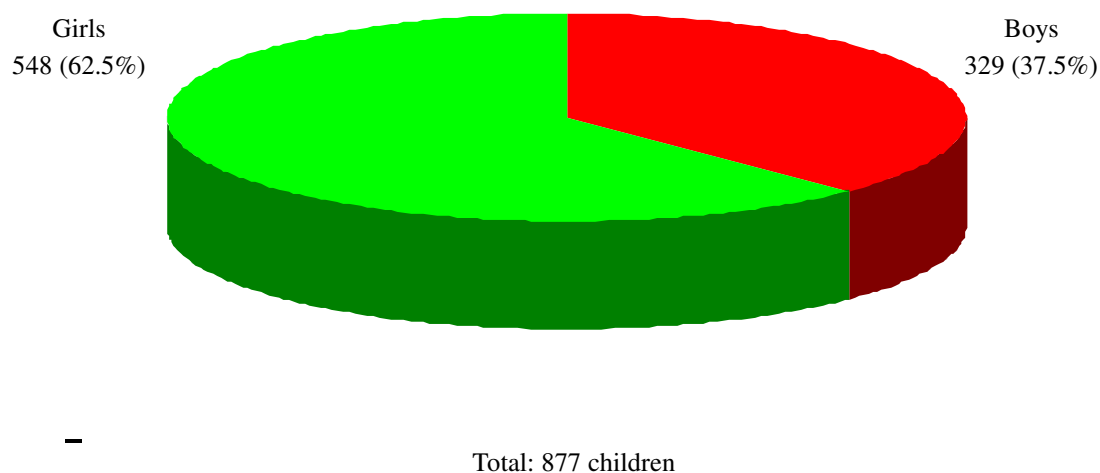
A larger proportion of the child abuse cases was associated with contributing factors relating to the abuser/suspected abuser. Among the ten factors relating to the abuser/suspected abuser, incompetence in child rearing/lack of parenting skills was the most usual contributing factor (39.1% of the total 877 cases), followed by emotional/psychological problem (24.9%) and marital problem (16.8%). Among the seven factors relating to the abused child/child-at-risk, behaviour problem was the most frequent contributing factor (37.3% of the total 877 cases), followed by school performance problem (16.1%) and emotional/psychological problem (10.0%).

## **1.2 Child Characteristics**

### **1.2.1 Distribution of Children by Gender**

There were more girl victims (62.5%) than boy victims (37.5%) among the newly registered cases. A breakdown of the gender of the children by type of abuse indicated that 35.4% of the girl victims were involved in physical abuse cases and 49.5% were involved in sexual abuse cases while 65.7% of the boy victims were involved in physical abuse cases.

**Graph 4 – Distribution of Children by Gender**

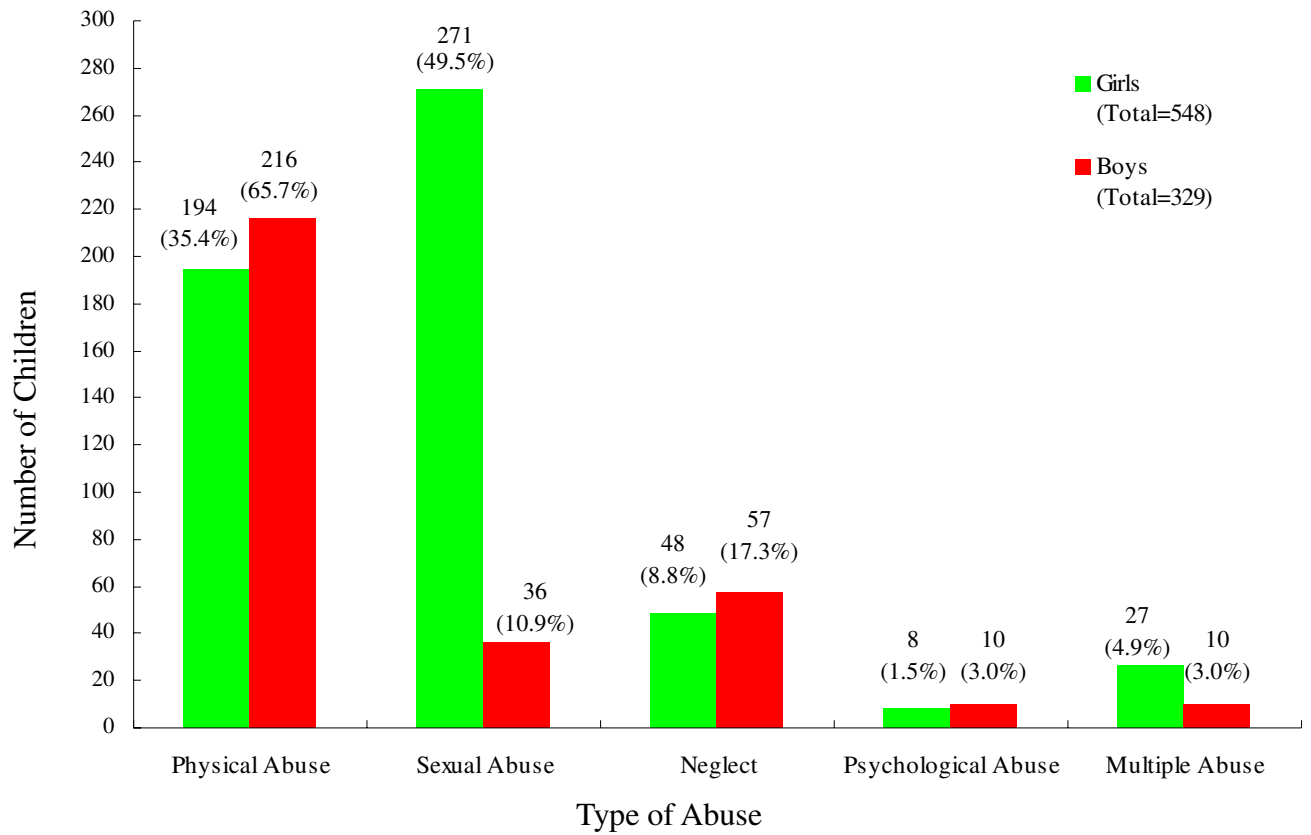


**Table 3 - Distribution of Newly Registered Cases and Incidence Rate by Gender**

<b>Gender</b>	<b>No. of Cases</b>	<b>Incidence Rate* Per 1,000 Children Aged 0 – 17 in the Population</b>
Boys	329	0.60
Girls	548	<b>1.05</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>0.82</b>

\* Statistics are compiled using the land-based non-institutional population figures obtained from the General Household Survey in 2011 conducted by Census and Statistics Department.

**Graph 5 – Distribution of Children by Gender and by Type of Abuse**

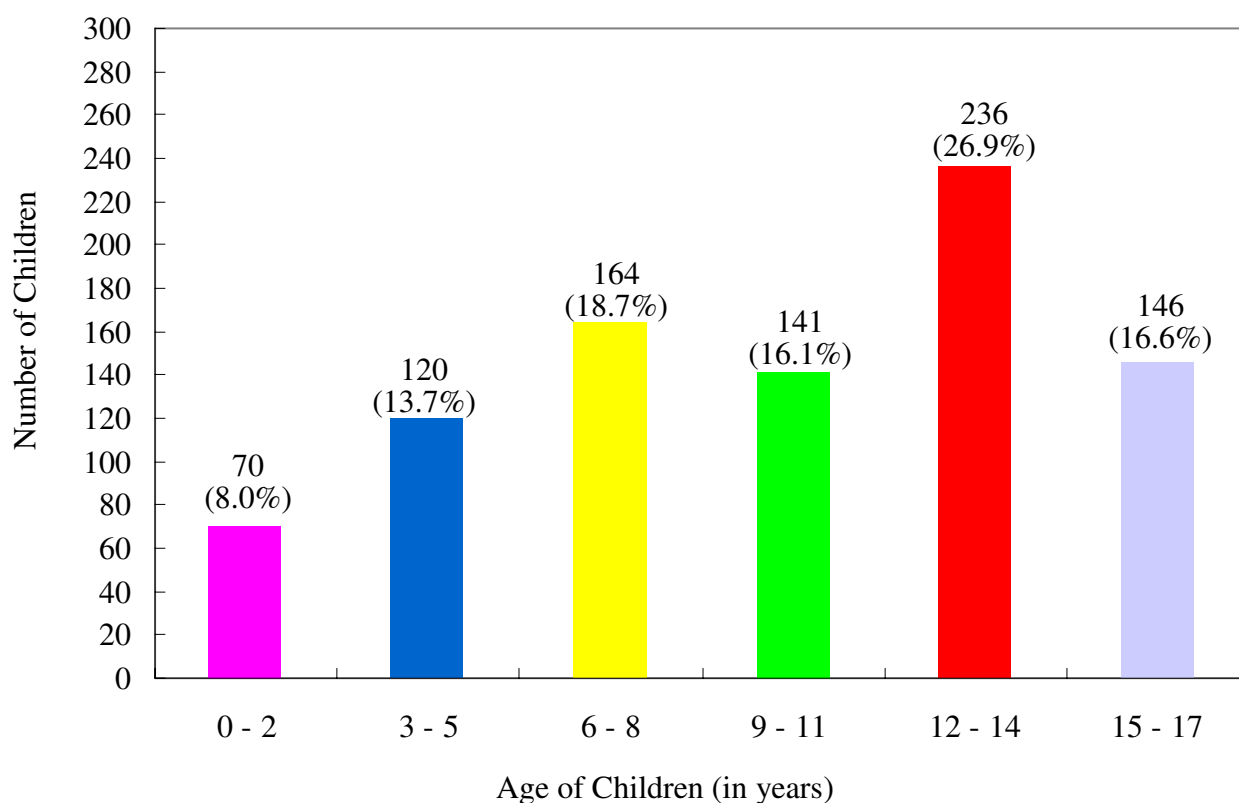


Note: Figures in brackets represent percentages in respect of the corresponding gender groups.

## 1.2.2 Distribution of Children by Age

The highest percentage (26.9%) 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**



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

Age	Type of Abuse					Total
	Physical	Sexual	Neglect	Psychological	Multiple	
0 – 2	43	1	24	0	2	70
3 – 5	56	27	28	1	8	120
6 – 8	98	32	23	5	6	164
9 – 11	82	31	19	4	5	141
12 – 14	88	128	8	3	9	236
15 – 17	43	88	3	5	7	146
<b>Total</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>877</b>

### 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					Total
	Physical	Sexual	Neglect	Psychological	Multiple	
0 – 2	16	1	14	0	0	31
3 – 5	26	25	14	1	7	73
6 – 8	39	27	9	1	5	81
9 – 11	33	27	6	1	3	70
12 – 14	52	111	3	3	6	175
15 – 17	28	80	2	2	6	118
<b>Total</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>548</b>

#### *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**

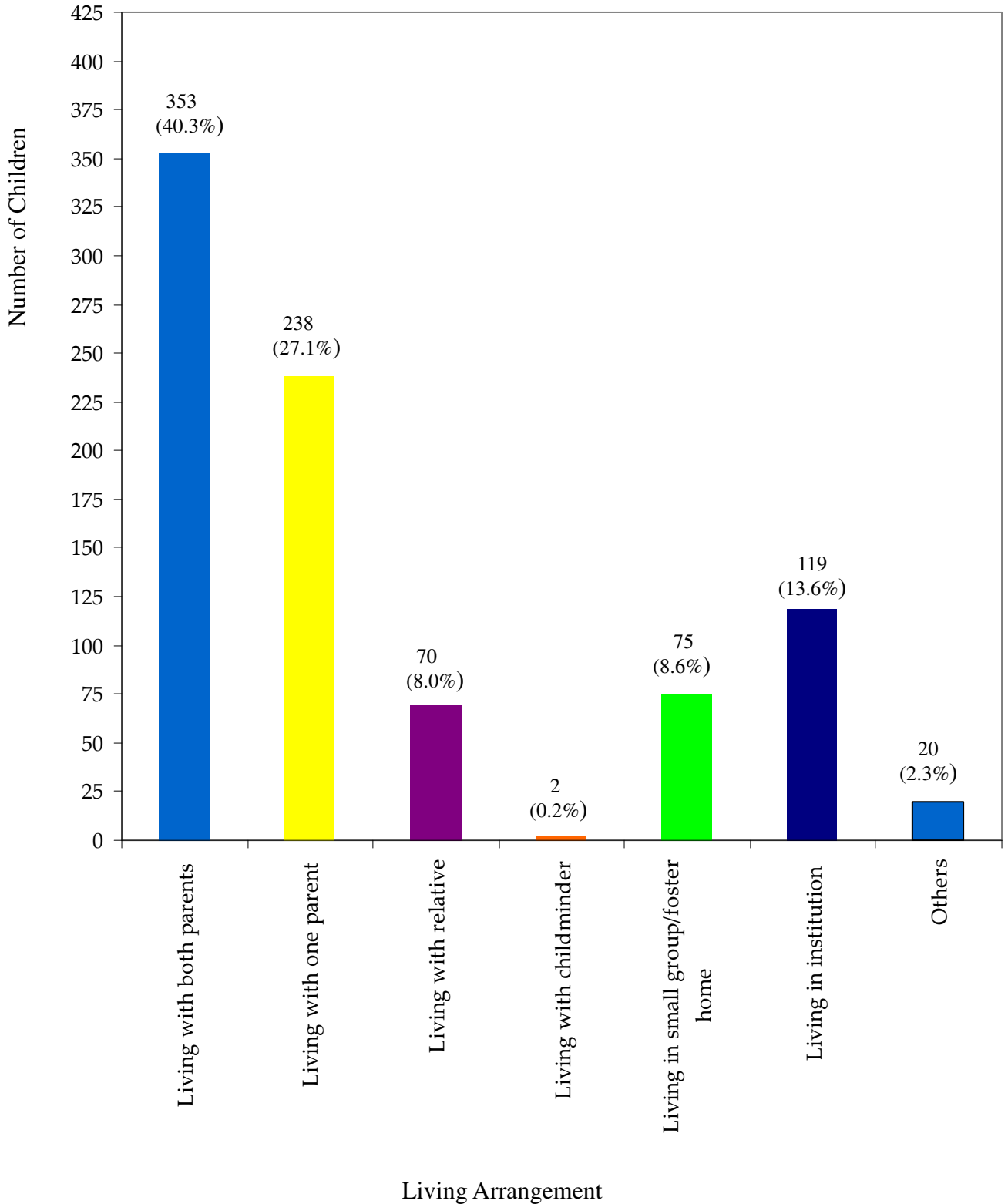
Age	Type of Abuse					Total
	Physical	Sexual	Neglect	Psychological	Multiple	
0 – 2	27	0	10	0	2	39
3 – 5	30	2	14	0	1	47
6 – 8	59	5	14	4	1	83
9 – 11	49	4	13	3	2	71
12 – 14	36	17	5	0	3	61
15 – 17	15	8	1	3	1	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>329</b>

### 1.2.4 Living Arrangement of Children

Among the 877 newly registered cases, 40.3% of the abused children were living with both parents ~~at time of abuse.~~

\*at the time of reporting to CPR

**Graph 7 – Distribution of Children by Living Arrangement**



\* There was an error during the process of revamping of the computer system.

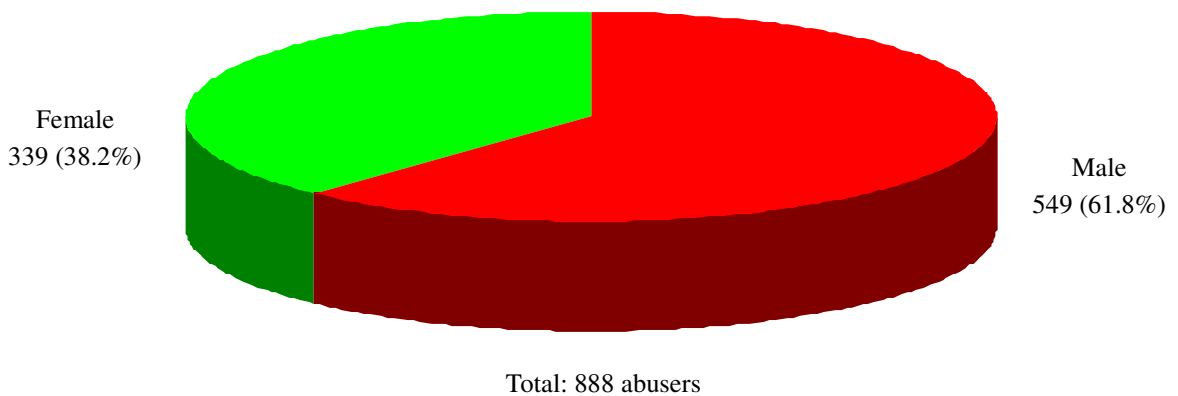
### 1.3 Abuser Characteristics

There were 877 children and 888 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.

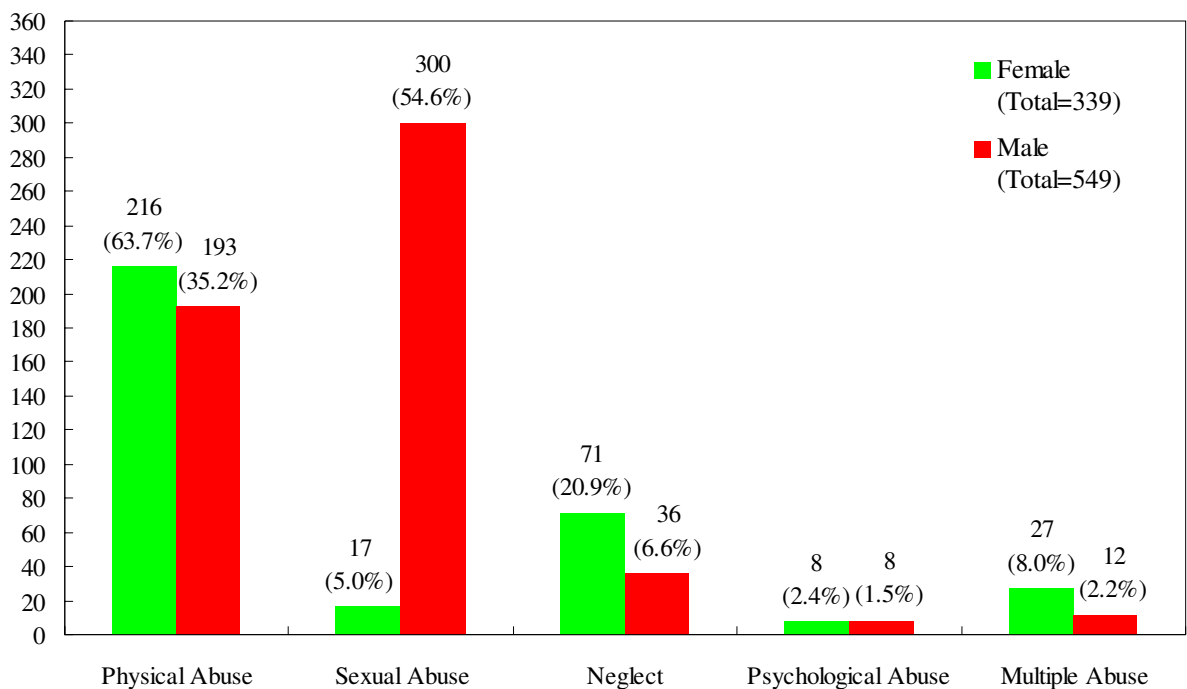
#### 1.3.1 Distribution of Abusers by Gender

There were more male abusers (61.8%) than female abusers (38.2%) involved in the newly registered cases because the number of male abusers involved in sexual abuse case was far greater than that of female abusers. However, apart from sexual abuse cases and psychological abuse cases, there were more female abusers than male abusers involved in other types of abuse.

**Graph 8 – Distribution of Abusers by Gender**



**Graph 9 – Distribution of Abusers by Gender and by Type of Abuse**



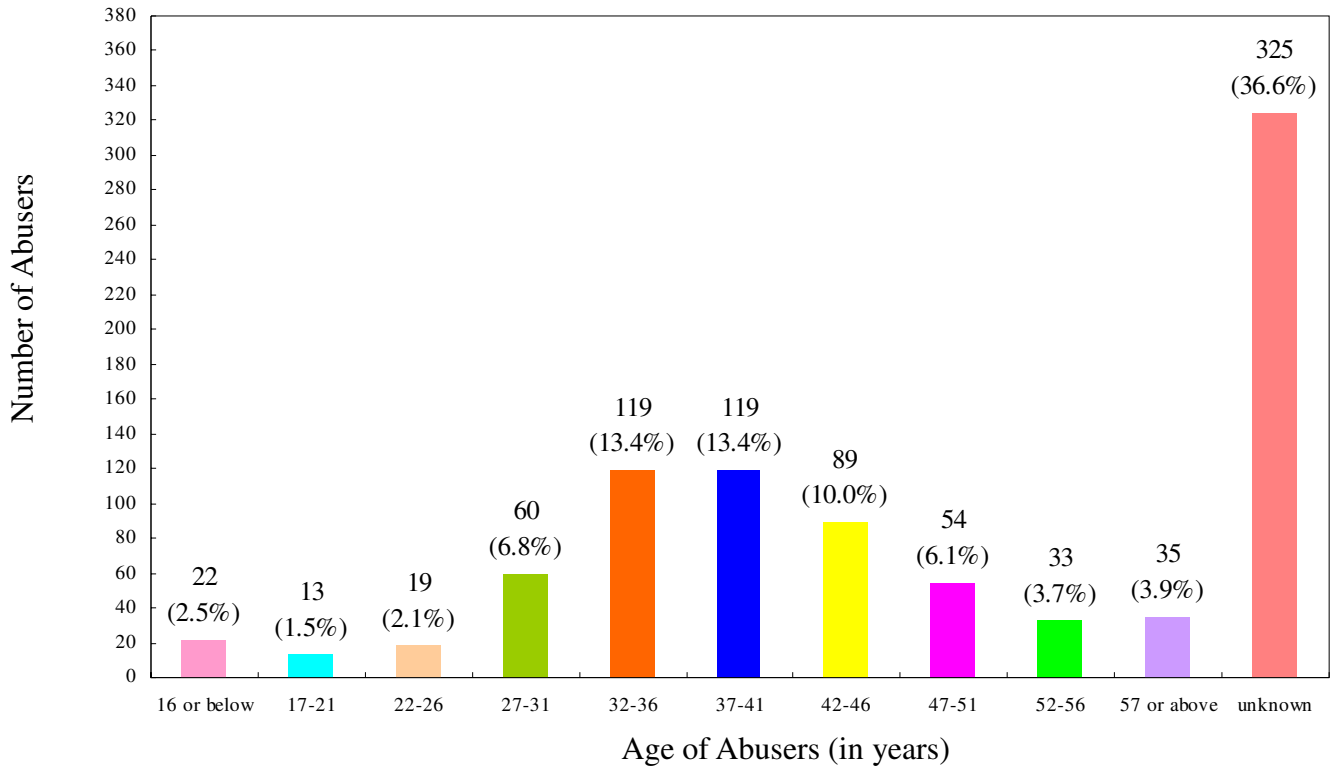
Note: Figures in brackets represent percentages in respect of the corresponding gender groups.



### 1.3.2 Distribution of Abusers by Age

36.8% 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**



**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	20	0	0	1	22
17 – 21	4	3	6	0	0	13
22 – 26	11	5	2	0	1	19
27 – 31	39	1	18	0	2	60
32 – 36	76	6	27	3	7	119
37 – 41	80	4	23	5	7	119
42 – 46	59	7	12	3	8	89
47 – 51	34	7	5	4	4	54
52 – 56	21	3	5	1	3	33
57 or above	17	11	6	0	1	35
Unknown	67	250	3	0	5	325
<b>Total</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>888</b>

### 1.3.3 Distribution of Abusers by Age by Gender 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	1	3
17 – 21	2	0	6	0	0	8
22 – 26	7	1	1	0	1	10
27 – 31	28	0	16	0	0	44
32 – 36	47	0	17	3	5	72
37 – 41	46	0	18	2	6	72
42 – 46	28	0	7	1	6	42
47 – 51	5	0	0	2	3	10
52 – 56	1	0	2	0	1	4
57 or above	4	0	3	0	1	8
Unknown	47	15	1	0	3	66
<b>Total</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>339</b>

#### *On Male Abusers*

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

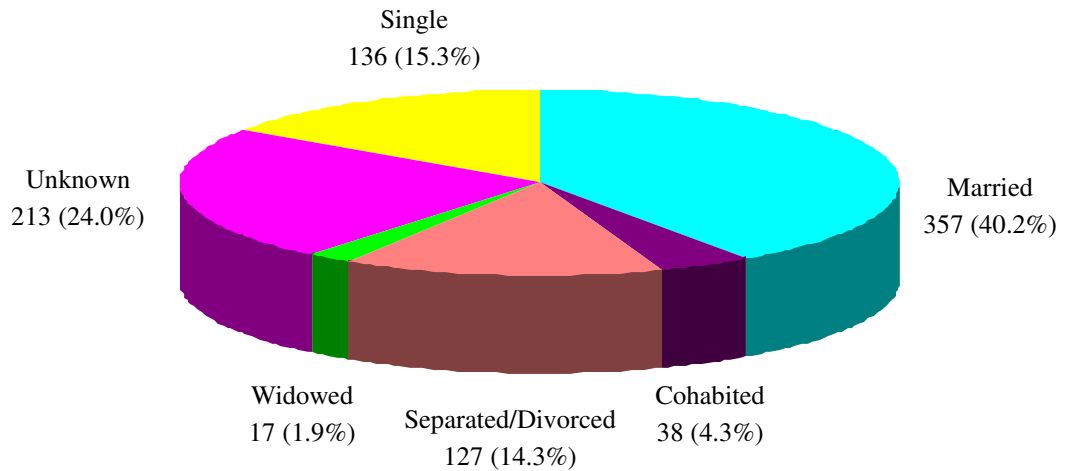
**Table 9 – Distribution of Male Abusers by Age and by Type of Abuse**

Age	Type of Abuse					
	Physical	Sexual	Neglect	Psychological	Multiple	Total
16 or below	0	19	0	0	0	19
17 – 21	2	3	0	0	0	5
22 – 26	4	4	1	0	0	9
27 – 31	11	1	2	0	2	16
32 – 36	29	6	10	0	2	47
37 – 41	34	4	5	3	1	47
42 – 46	31	7	5	2	2	47
47 – 51	29	7	5	2	1	44
52 – 56	20	3	3	1	2	29
57 or above	13	11	3	0	0	27
Unknown	20	235	2	0	2	259
<b>Total</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>549</b>

### 1.3.4 Marital Status of Abusers

40.2% of the abusers of the 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.

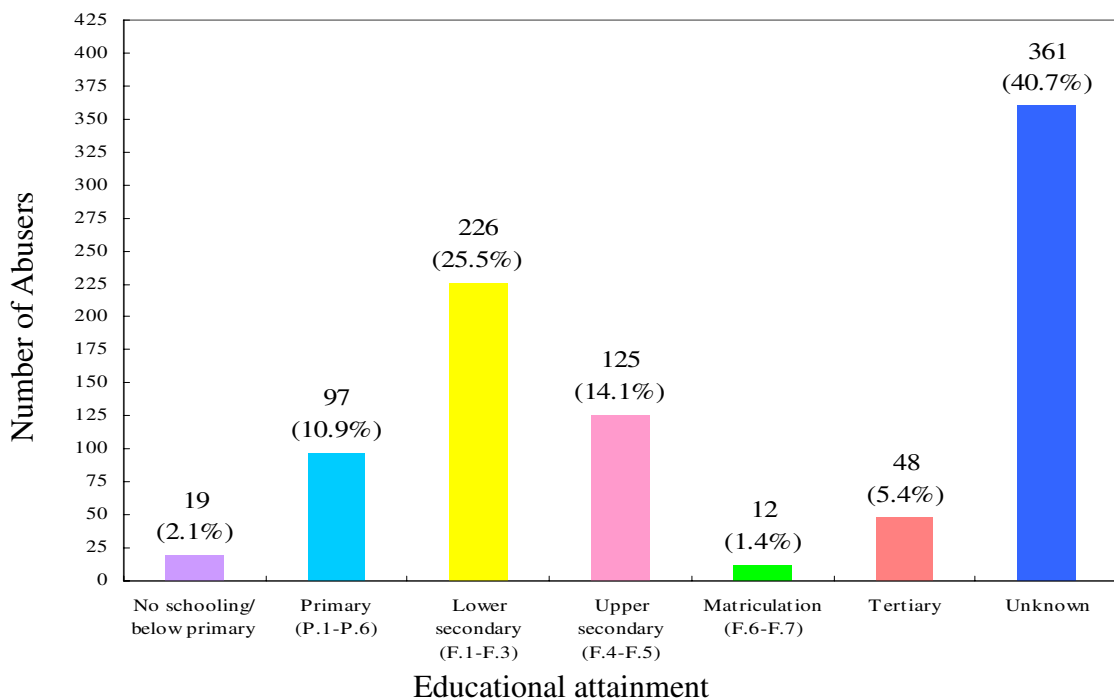
**Graph 11 – Distribution of Abusers by Marital Status**



### 1.3.5 Educational Attainment of Abusers

25.5% of the abusers of the newly registered cases were of lower secondary education standard. 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.

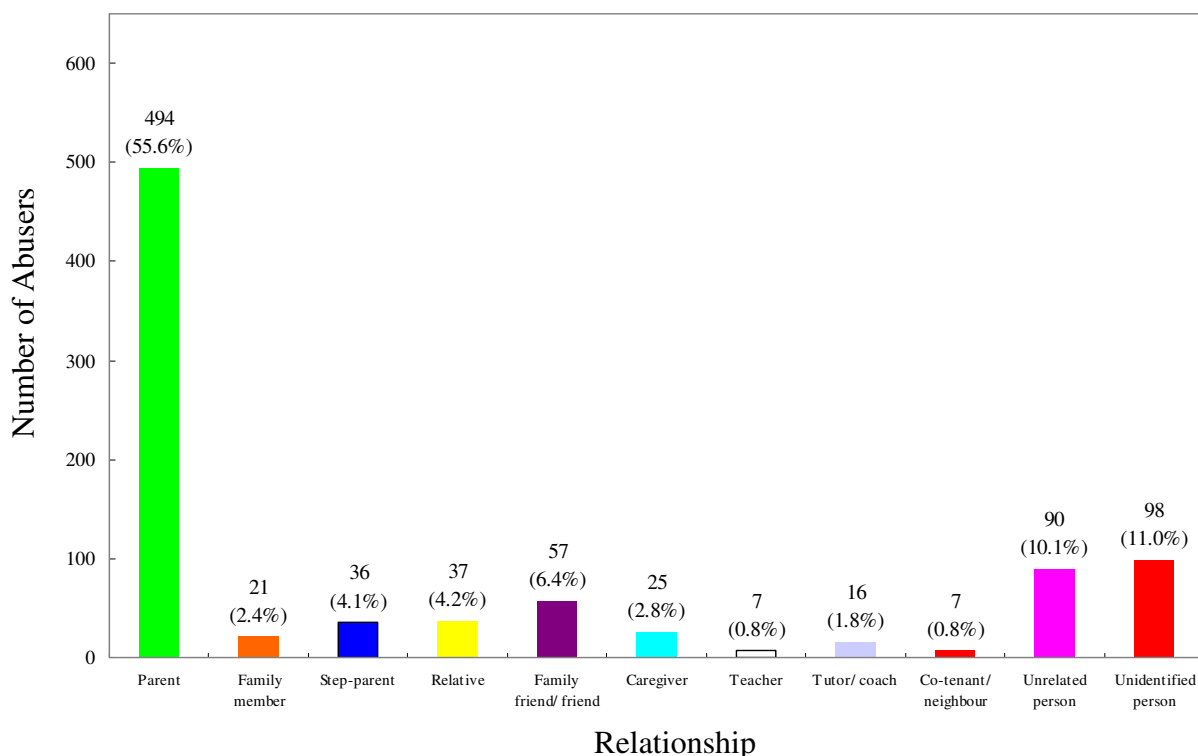
**Graph 12 – Distribution of Abusers by Educational Attainment**



### 1.3.6 Relationship of Abusers with the Abused Children

55.6% 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, 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 of each type of abuse are highlighted.

**Graph 13 – Distribution of Abusers’ Relationship with the Abused Children**



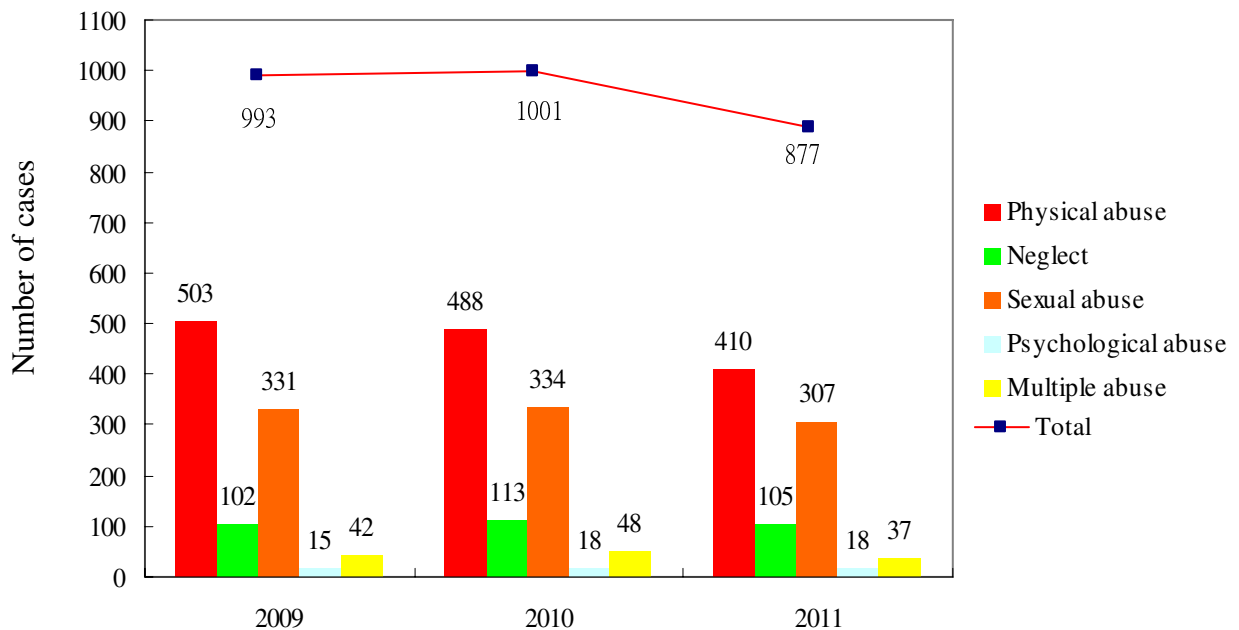
**Table 10 – Distribution of Abusers’ Relationship with the Abused Children by Type of Abuse**

Relationship	Type of Abuse					Total
	Physical	Sexual	Neglect	Psychological	Multiple	
Parent	322	26	101	16	29	494
Family member	7	10	3	0	1	21
Step-parent	24	11	0	0	1	36
Relative	10	21	2	0	4	37
Family friend/friend	2	55	0	0	0	57
Caregiver	18	6	1	0	0	25
Teacher	4	3	0	0	0	7
Tutor/coach	2	14	0	0	0	16
Co-tenant/neighbour	0	7	0	0	0	7
Unrelated person	1	88	0	0	1	90
Unidentified person	19	76	0	0	3	98
<b>Total</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>888</b>

**Part 2**  
**Comparison of Newly Registered Cases from 2009 to 2011**

**2.1 Type of Abuse**

**Graph 14 - Distribution of Newly Registered Cases by Types of Abuse**



**2.2 Child Characteristics**

**2.2.1 Distribution of Children by Age**

**Table 11 – Age Distribution of Children**

Year \ Age	2009	2010	2011
0 - 2	67 (6.7%)	62 (6.2%)	70 (8.0%)
3 - 5	111 (11.2%)	116 (11.6%)	120 (13.7%)
6 - 8	171 (17.2%)	158 (15.8%)	164 (18.7%)
9 - 11	180 (18.1%)	216 (21.6%)	141 (16.1%)
12 - 14	<b>291 (29.3%)</b>	<b>278 (27.8%)</b>	<b>236 (26.9%)</b>
15 - 17	173 (17.4%)	171 (17.1%)	146 (16.6%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>993 (100%)</b>	<b>1001 (100%)</b>	<b>877 (100%)</b>



### 2.3.2 Distribution of Abusers by Gender

**Table 14 - Gender of Abusers**

<b>Year</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
<b>Gender</b>			
Male	<b>592 (62.9%)</b>	<b>599 (60.0%)</b>	<b>549 (61.8%)</b>
Female	349 (37.1%)	399 (40.0%)	339 (38.2%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>941 (100%)</b>	<b>998 (100%)</b>	<b>888 (100%)</b>

### 2.3.3 Marital Status of Abusers

**Table 15 - Marital Status of Abusers**

<b>Year</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
<b>Marital Status</b>			
Single	163 (17.3%)	135 (13.5%)	136 (15.3%)
Married	<b>391 (41.6%)</b>	<b>436 (43.7%)</b>	<b>357 (40.2%)</b>
Cohabited	40 (4.3%)	48 (4.8%)	38 (4.3%)
Separated/divorced	160 (17.0%)	151 (15.1%)	127 (14.3%)
Widowed	12 (1.3%)	20 (2.0%)	17 (1.9%)
Unknown	175 (18.6%)	208 (20.8%)	213 (24.0%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>941 (100%)</b>	<b>998 (100%)</b>	<b>888 (100%)</b>

### 2.3.4 Educational Attainment of Abusers

**Table 16 - Educational Attainment of Abusers**

<b>Educational Attainment</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
No schooling/below primary		14 (1.5%)	24 (2.4%)	19 (2.1%)
Primary (P.1 - P.6)		145 (15.4%)	143 (14.3%)	97 (10.9%)
Lower secondary (F.1 - F.3)		<b>237</b> <b>(25.2%)</b>	<b>241</b> <b>(24.1%)</b>	<b>226</b> <b>(25.5%)</b>
Upper secondary (F.4 - F.5)		155 (16.5%)	140 (14.0%)	125 (14.1%)
Matriculation (F.6 - F.7)		22 (2.3%)	6 (0.6%)	12 (1.4%)
Tertiary		45 (4.8%)	51 (5.1%)	48 (5.4%)
Unknown		323 (34.3%)	393 (39.4%)	361 (40.7%)
<b>Total</b>		<b>941</b> <b>(100%)</b>	<b>998</b> <b>(100%)</b>	<b>888</b> <b>(100%)</b>



### 2.3.5 Relationship of Abusers with the Abused Children

**Table 17 - Abusers' Relationship with the Abused Children**

<b>Relationship \ Year</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Parent	<b>569 (60.5%)</b>	<b>580 (58.1%)</b>	<b>494 (55.6%)</b>
Family member	39 (4.2%)	28 (2.8%)	21 (2.4%)
Step-parent	34 (3.6%)	43 (4.3%)	36 (4.1%)
Relative	23 (2.4%)	28 (2.8%)	37 (4.2%)
Family friend/Friend	79 (8.4%)	66 (6.6%)	57 (6.4%)
Caregiver	28 (3.0%)	25 (2.5%)	25 (2.8%)
Teacher/Tutor/Coach	28 (3.0%)	24 (2.4%)	23 (2.6%)
Co-tenant/Neighbour	9 (1.0%)	8 (0.8%)	7 (0.8%)
Unrelated person	103 (10.9%)	101 (10.1%)	90 (10.1%)
Unidentified person	29 (3.1%)	95 (9.5%)	98 (11.0%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>941 (100%)</b>	<b>998 (100%)</b>	<b>888 (100%)</b>

## 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 strangers 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 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.

**New Cases 2011** Child abuse and at-risk of abuse cases newly registered with the Child Protection Registry in 2011.