

Wexford Rape & Sexual Abuse Support Service



Annual Report 2014

Chairperson's Report 2014:

Tusla:

2014 began with the launch of the new Child and Family agency Tusla, under the department of Children and Youth Affairs. Funding for the Wexford Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Service (WR&SASS) was transferred from the HSE to Tusla who immediately initiated a review of Domestic and Sexual Violence Services throughout Ireland. The purpose of this review is to develop new ways of working with and supporting victims of sexual violence. At the time of writing this process is still in train. Wexford R&SASS is one of the frontline organisations which is a member of the reference group.

Tusla now has overall statutory responsibility for implementing the National Strategy for Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence, while Cosc is the national body with responsibility for developing the national strategy for the sector.

Operation of the Board:

Since the AGM held in September 2014 the board has met five times. Four new directors have joined the board: John Cuddihy, Christine Hore, Laura Lawlor and Mairead Sinnott. We now have in place a strong board of nine directors with a range of skills and experience.

Corporate Governance

A Charities Regulator was appointed last year. As a registered charity Wexford R&SASS is obliged to comply with the governance code for charities, which includes the publication of some basic information about the organisation on our website. This work is almost complete.

Local Research:

As a result of an inter-agency review of young people's needs in Wexford a steering group was formed to undertake research on '*The Sexual Attitudes and Behaviours of young people living in Co. Wexford aged between 12 and 18 years*'. The steering group comprises Tusla (funders), the HSE, Gorey Youth Needs (GYN), The Wexford Women's Refuge, the Wexford Support Network on Domestic, Sexual And Gender-based violence and Ferns Diocesan Youth Service (FDYS). The research was led by the WR&SASS and conducted by Dr. Kathy Walsh and Brian Harvey. When concluded, this research will be pivotal in highlighting and responding to young people's needs. It is hoped that the providers of services locally and possibly nationally can shape their services to support young people more effectively in developing healthy sexual relationships for young people.

RCNI (the Rape Crisis Network of Ireland):

As a member of the Rape Crisis Network of Ireland (RCNI) we were supported by the network in the collation of our statistics. They also provided training which helped us review survivor and supporter needs and ensured that we responded to those needs in an effective manner.

Centre Operation:

Clare Williams, our new manager, joined the organisation in November 2014. She immediately focused on continuing the networking which Mairead Sinnott had started earlier in the year to promote our services. This has resulted in a significant increase in the number of clients seeking counselling. She has also re-organised the management of the Centre with the support of the team of counsellors. The new approach to clinical supervision (all counsellors now attend the same supervisor who is also the group supervisor) has been introduced and is operating well. Overall the

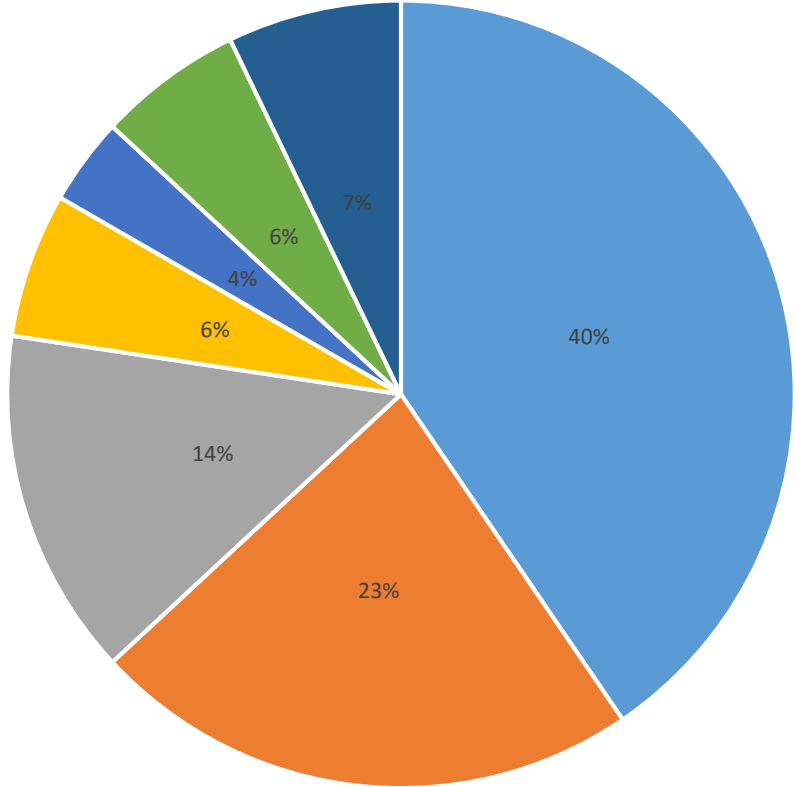
Centre is now operating more professionally and has re-established effective contact with the community in general and with organisations working in the same sector.

Thanks

On behalf of the board I would like to thank Clare Williams, our manager, who, in the seven months since her appointment, has established a professional, effective and supportive regime in the Centre. The counsellors (Catherine Murphy, Jessica du Bois, Imelda Duggan and Eleanor Doyle) worked for most of last year in difficult circumstances. I would like to thank them for sticking with us through that time and working closely with Mairead Sinnott, who served as our part-time administrative support.

On behalf of the board I would like to thank Orla Fortune, Billy Sweetman and Lisa Cliffe in PWC for their support and advice this year. I would also like to pay tribute to our volunteer Freda whose generous input has been invaluable.

LOCATION OF ABUSE

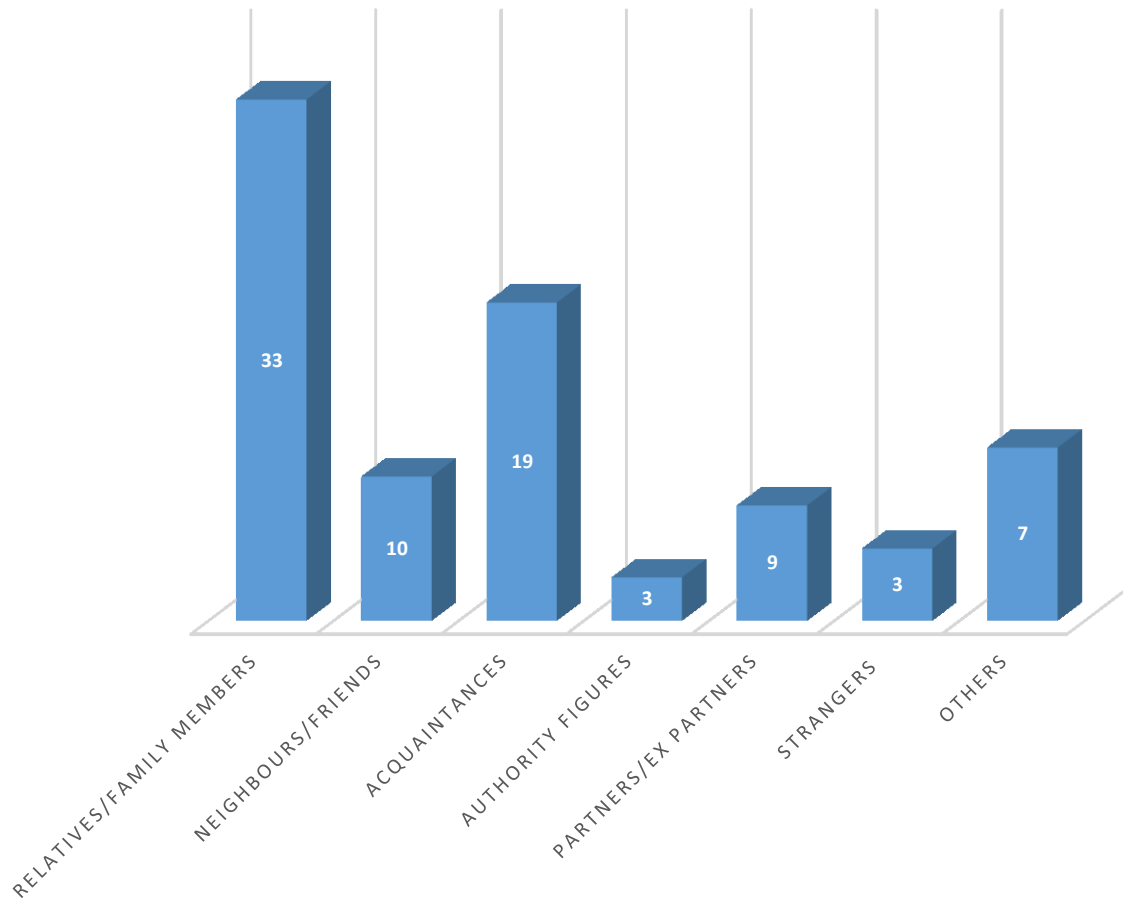


- Abuser's House
 - Outside
 - School
 - Other
- Survivor's House
 - Survivor/Abuser House & Other Locations
 - Pub/Nightclub/Car

Abuser's House	34
Survivor's House	19
Outside	12
Survivor/Abuser House & Other Locations	5
School	3
Pub/Nightclub/Car	5
Other	6

(above graph indicates Survivors only)

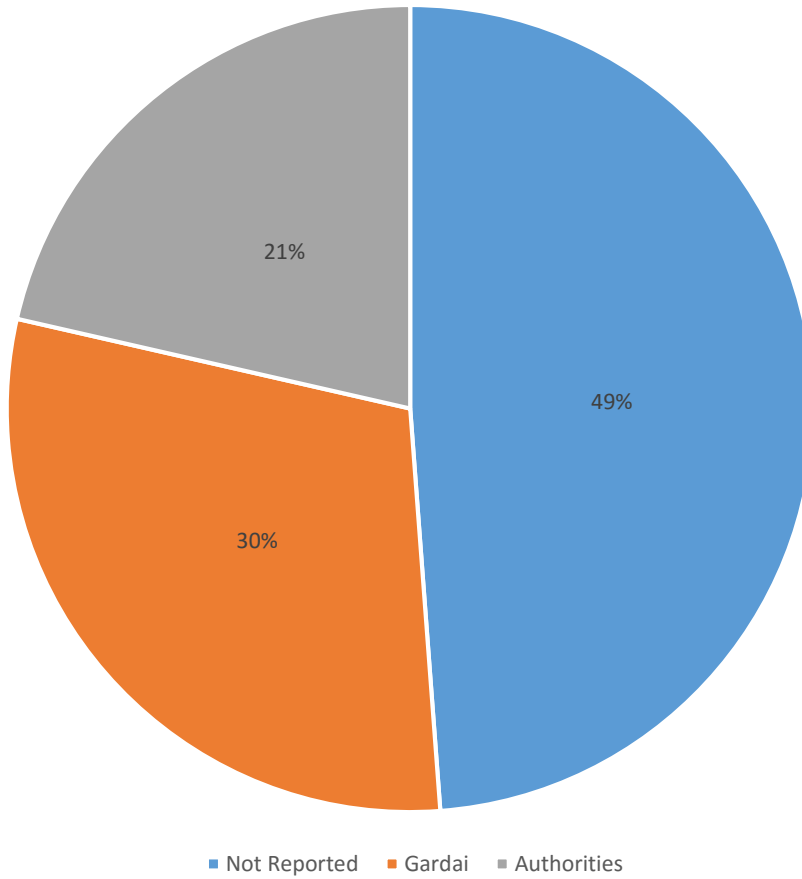
RELATIONSHIP OF PERPETRATOR TO SURVIVOR



Family/Relatives	33
Neighbours/Friends	10
Acquaintances	19
Authority Figures	3
Partners/ex Partners	9
Strangers	3
Others	7

(above figures based on 84 survivors)

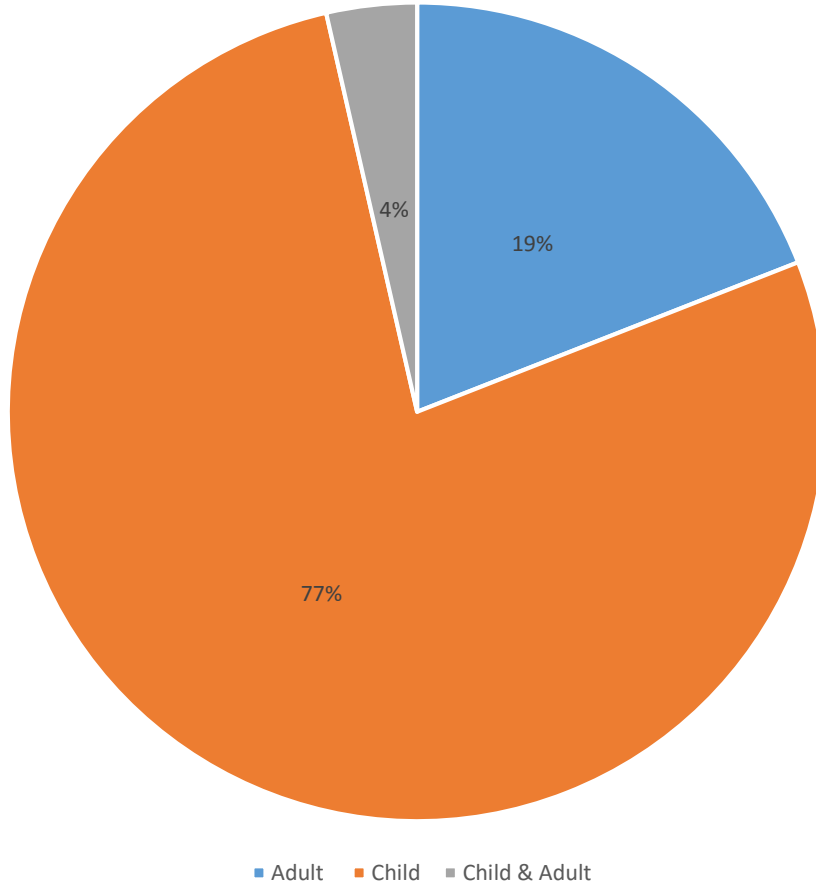
COMPLAINTS FILED BY SURVIVORS



Not reported	41
Gardai	25
Authorities	18

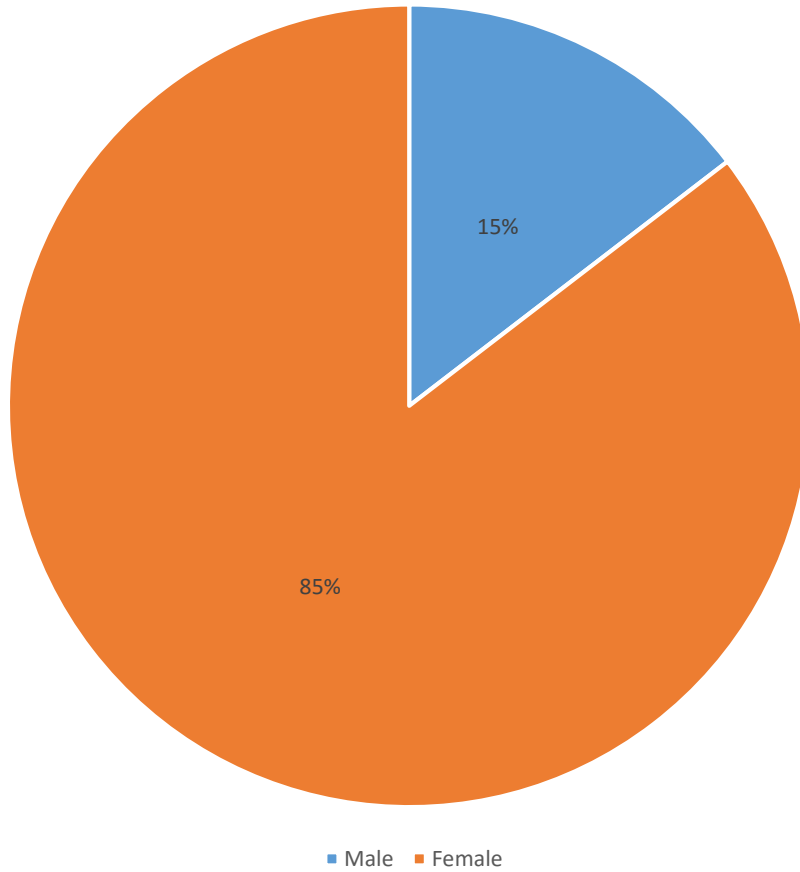
(Authorities include Education Authority, Tusla, Redress Board)

WHEN SEXUAL ABUSE WAS PERPETRATED



Adult	16
Child	65
Child & Adult	3

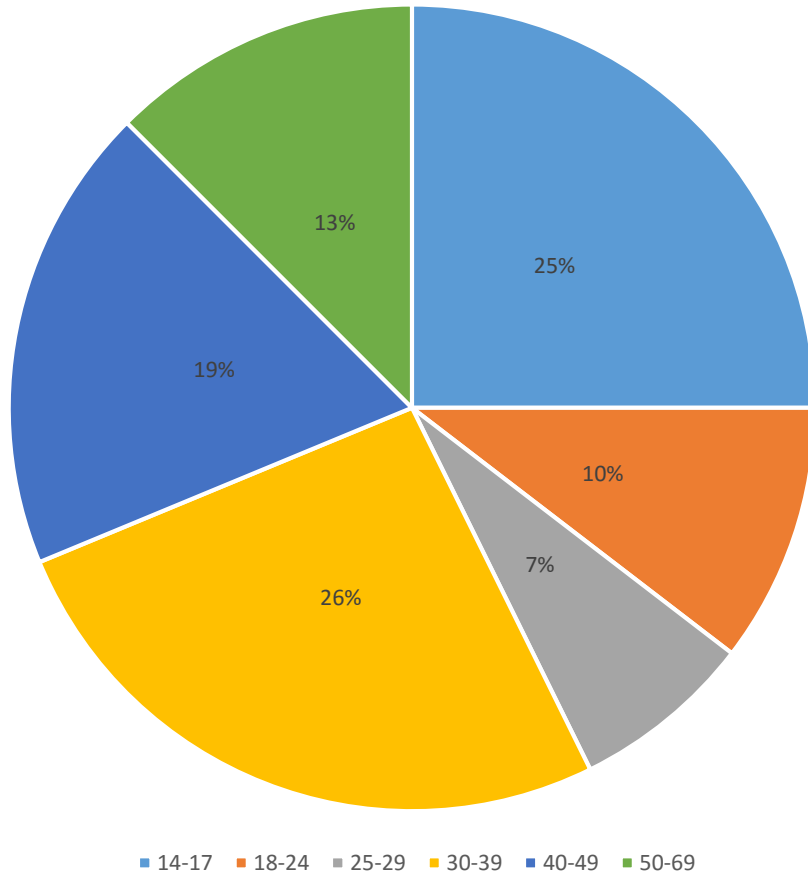
GENDER OF CLIENT



Male	14
Female	82

(this includes survivors and supporters)

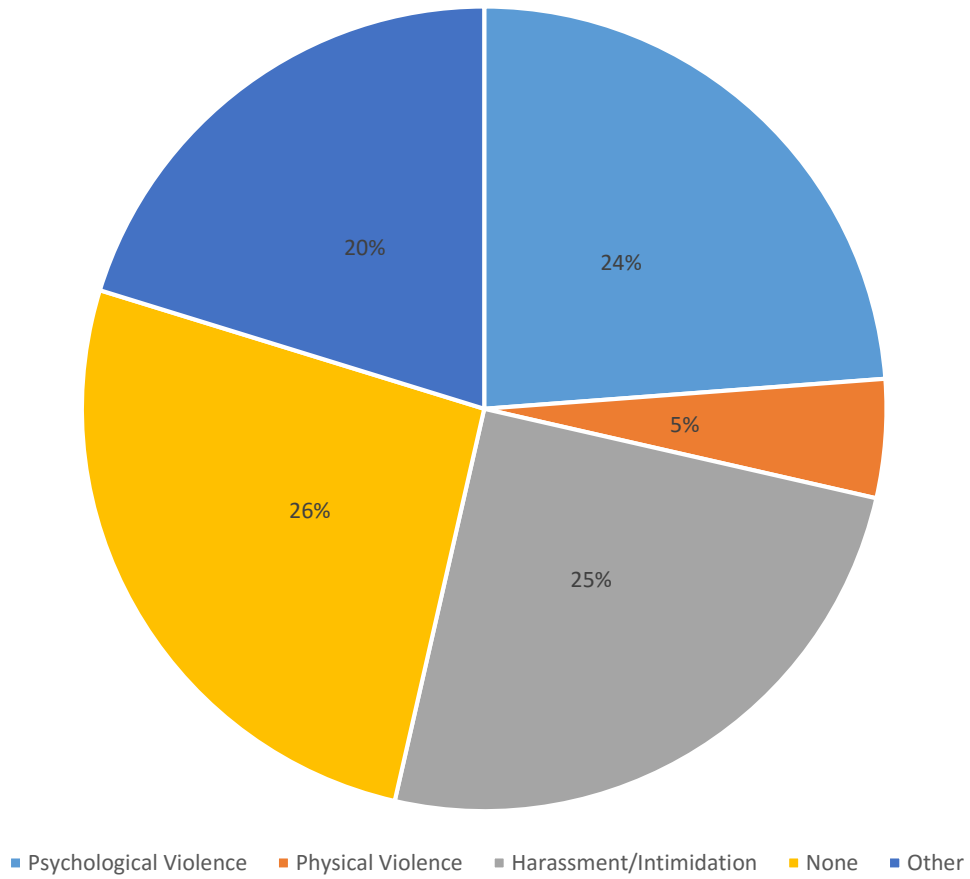
AGE CONTACTING SERVICE



14-17	24
18-24	10
25-29	7
30-39	25
40-49	18
50-69	12

(this includes survivors (84)&supporters (12))

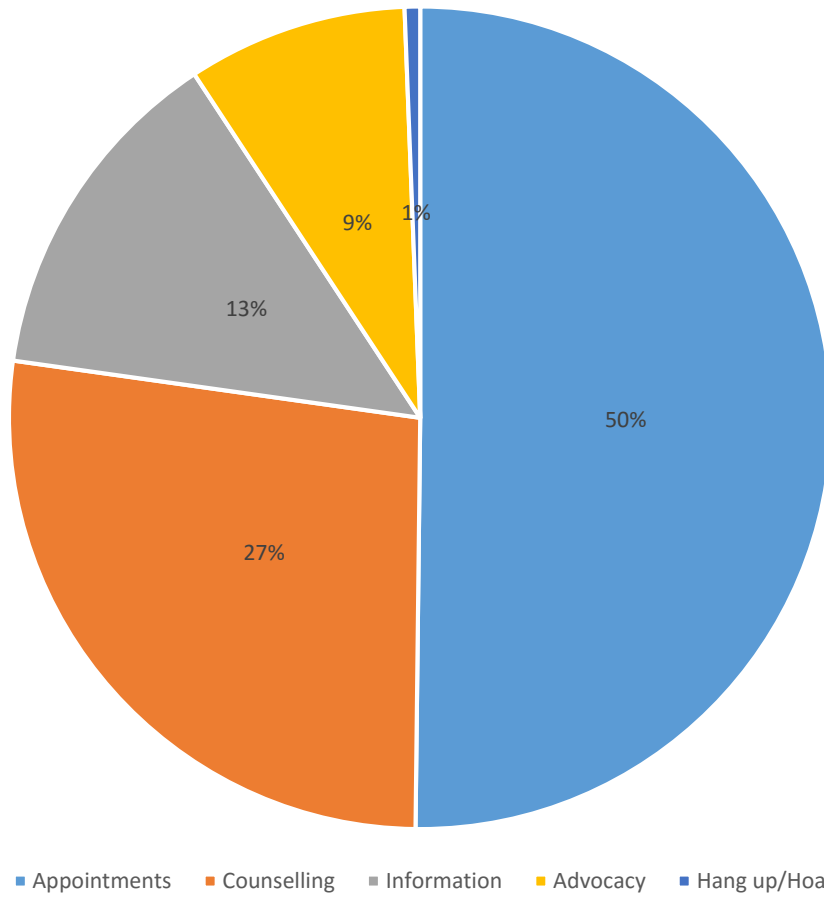
TYPES OF OTHER VIOLENCE



Psychological Violence	20
Physical Violence	4
Harassment/Intimidation	21
None	22
Other (Neglect/Stalking)	17

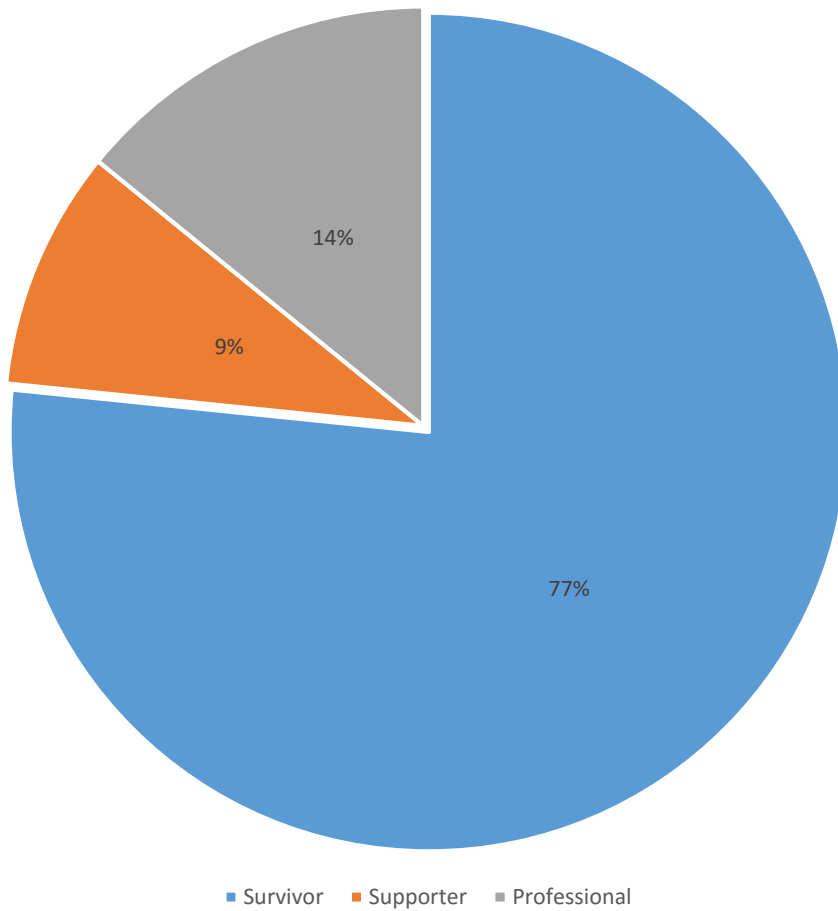
(Above graph is based on 84 survivors)

TELEPHONE LOG STATISTICS



Appointments	412
Counselling	222
Information	111
Advocacy	71
Hang up/Hoax	5

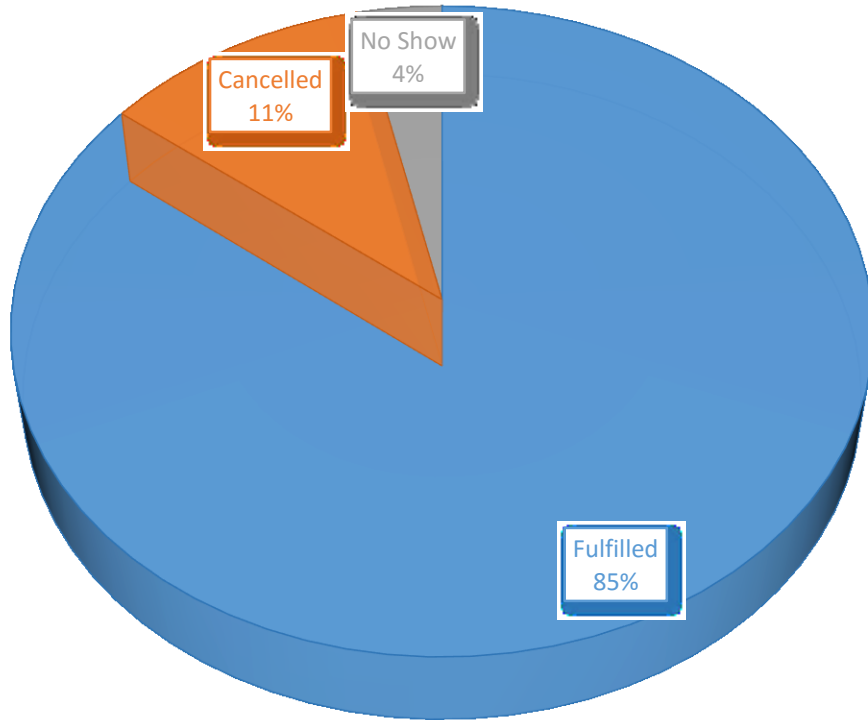
HELPLINE CALLER TYPE



Survivor	629
Supporter	76
Professional	116*

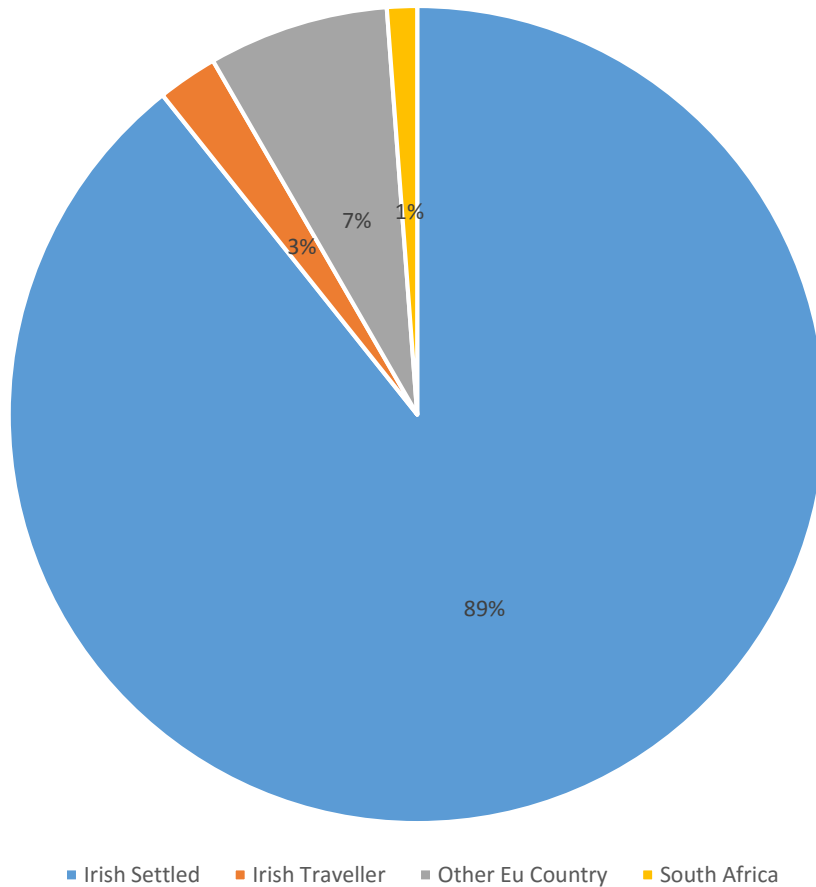
*(includes Social Workers, GPs, Gardai, and Schools)

NO. OF APPOINTMENTS



Fulfilled	935
Cancelled	121
No Show	38

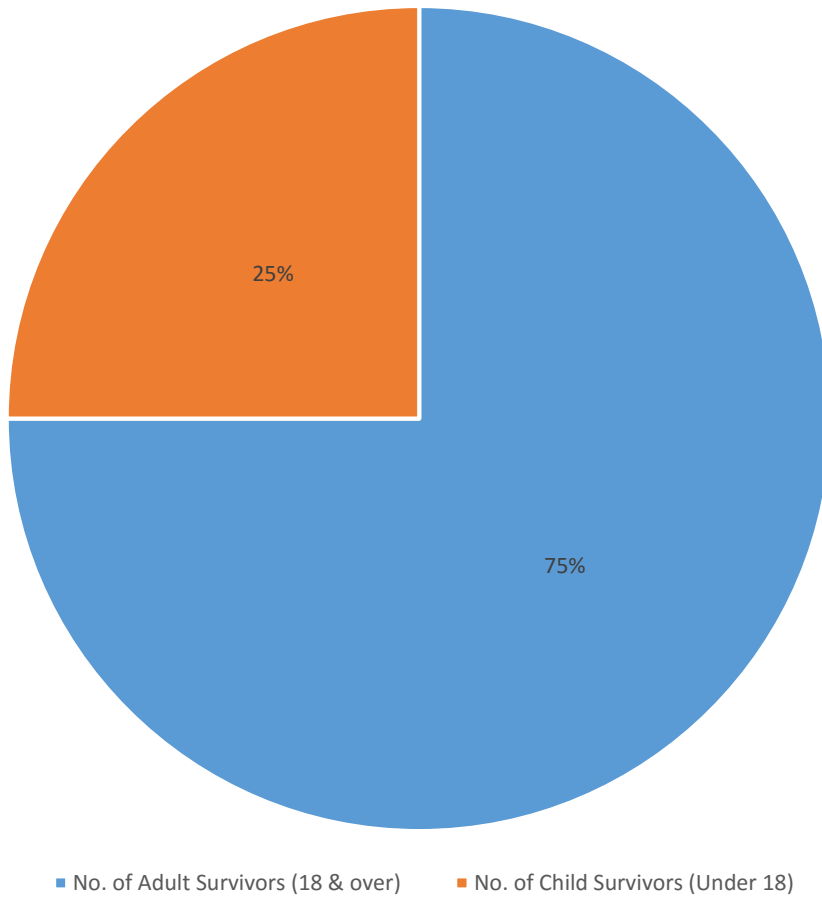
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN



Irish Settled	75
Irish Traveller	2
Other Eu Country	6
South Africa	1

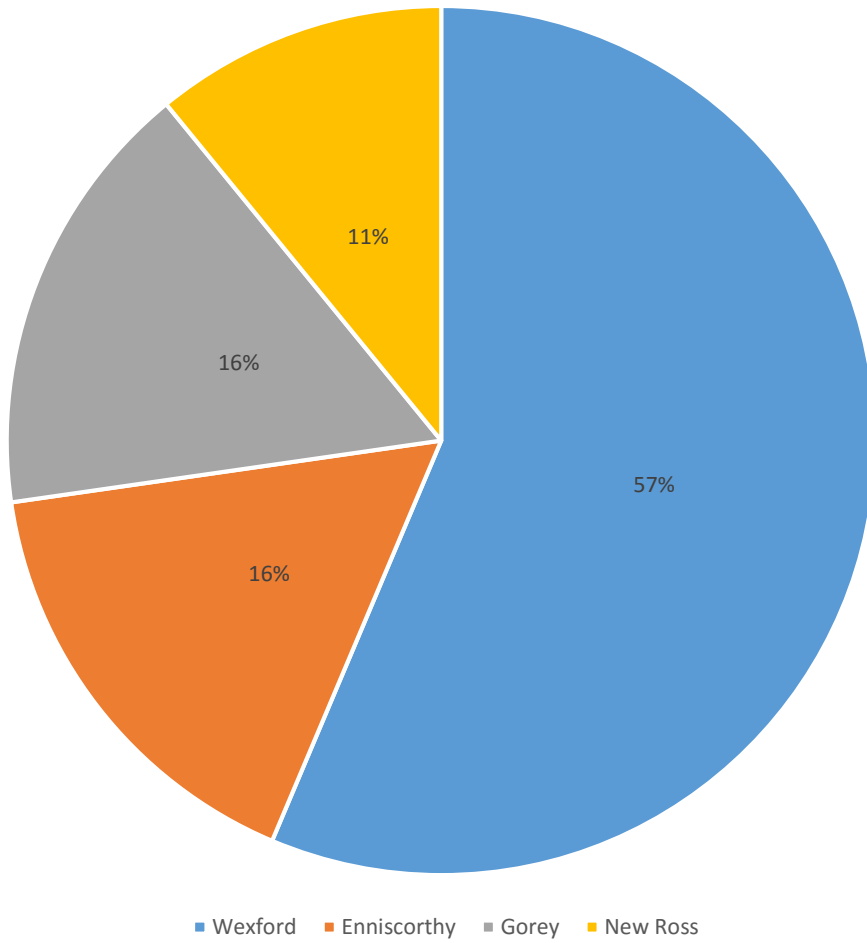
(Above figures are based on survivors only)

AGE OF SURVIVORS ACCESSING SERVICE



No. of Adult Survivors (18 &over)	63
No. of Child Survivors (Under 18)	21

NEW CLIENTS



Wexford	31
Enniscorthy	9
Gorey	9
New Ross	6

2014 Annual service level data for clients attending Wexford Rape Crisis Centre

Counselling/support service activity

Survivor/Supporter

Number of survivors	84
Number of supporters	9
Number of persons indirectly affected by sv requiring RCC support - not survivor or supporter	3
Total	96

Gender of survivors

Female	73
Male	11
Transsexual/Transgender	0
Total	84

Child/Adult survivors

Number of adult survivors accessing services (Age 18 and over)	63
Number of child survivors accessing services (Under 18)	21
Total	84

Legal status

Irish citizen	76
Other EU country	7
Asylum seeker/ Refugee/ Leave to remain	1
Work permit/Green card/Study visa	0
Other	0

Country of origin

Irish settled	75
Irish Traveller	2
Other European country (excluding Ireland)	6
Africa	1
Other	0

Reported to a formal authority

Not reported	41
Gardaí	25
Gardaí and other	2
HSE/Tusla	2
HSE/Tusla and Gardaí	10
HSE/Tusla, Gardaí and other	0
HSE/Tusla and other	1
Other	3
Total reported	43

Appointments

Number of Fulfilled	776
Number of Cancelled	121
Number of No show	38

Helpline contacts

Total number of helpline contacts	821
Total time spent on voice call contacts in minutes	2840.5
Total number of telephone (voice calls) contacts	780
Total number of text contacts	41
Total number of email contacts	0
Total number of letter contacts	0
Total number of social media contacts	0

Accompaniment service

Total time spent on accompaniment in days	14
Total number of accompaniments	1
Number of Court accompaniments	0
Number of Gardaí accompaniments	1
Number of PSNI accompaniments	0
Number of Other Medical accompaniments	0
Number of Other Forensic accompaniments	0
Number of Refugee Hearing accompaniments	0
Number of SATU accompaniments	0
Number of Other accompaniments (please also give details of what these accompaniments were)	0