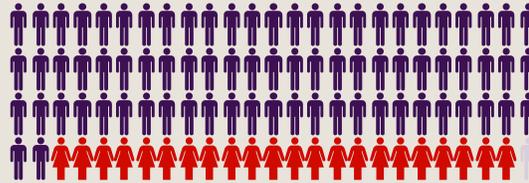


SAFEGUARDING CAPABILITIES SURVEY

2018 - 2019 RESULTS

Who participated in the survey?

633 adults participated

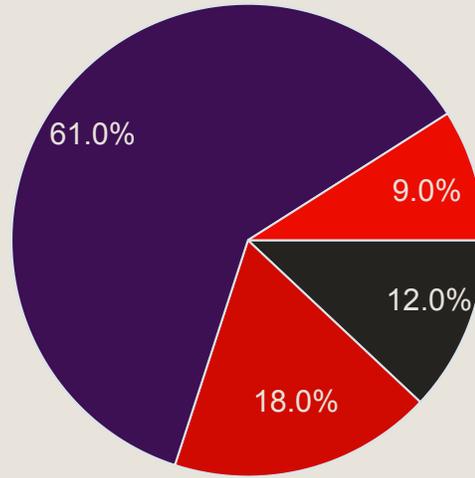


77% Males
22% Females
1% Gender diverse

Who were the participants?



61% Practitioners/Volunteers
e.g. Teacher, Social Worker
or Therapist



9% Administrators
e.g. not a
frontline staff
member



12% Leaders
e.g. CEO, Director,
Principal



18% Middle Managers
e.g. Team Leader,
Coordinator 18%

What sector were the participants from?



Youth
Development
43%



Education
27%



Sport
12%



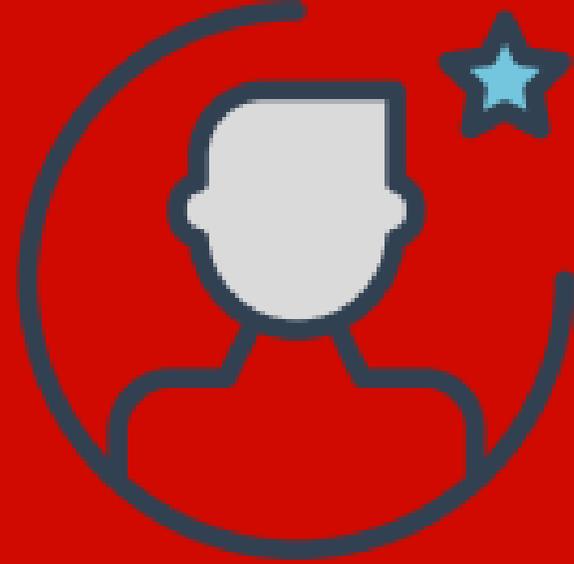
Community
Services
10%



Faith-based
6%



After
School
Care
2%



What were the findings of the study?



Organisational Culture

Participants were asked about their level of awareness of policies and procedures and their perception of the culture of child safety within the organisation.

85% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that they were aware of policies and procedures and that the organisation had a culture of child safety.

Positives

Participants had greater awareness in relation to:

- existing codes of conduct that define how adults should interact with children and young people.
- leaders in their organisation who understand the importance of safeguarding.

Negatives

Participants had less awareness of:

- how they could be building the sexual safety skills of young people by staff and volunteers.
- whether their organisation was providing staff training about sexual abuse.



Confidence to Act

Participants were asked about their level of confidence to take action to prevent abuse or respond to young people's concerns.

78% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that they were confident to take action to prevent abuse or respond to young people's concerns.

Positives

Participants were most confident in:

- being able to fulfil their mandatory reporting obligations.
- helping young people to have respectful relationships with each other.

Negatives

Participants were least confident in:

- providing appropriate support to young people who have experienced sexual abuse.
- knowing how to include the perspectives of young people when addressing sexual abuse risks.

Attitudes to prevention

Participants were asked about their attitudes that relate to the prevention of abuse and the agency of children and young people.

95% of participants agreed or strongly agreed to having attitudes that support the prevention and appropriate response to child sexual abuse.

Positives

Participants' attitudes most supportive in preventing abuse:

- not believing young people who get sexually abused have usually acted promiscuously or somehow 'asked' for it.
- believing a young person's wellbeing is more important than protecting the organisation's reputation if abuse were to occur.

Negative

Participants' attitude that may get in the way of good sexual abuse prevention:

- believing that screening staff and volunteers with working with children checks is the only real way to prevent abuse.



Prevention knowledge

Participants were asked about their knowledge related to situational prevention and the role of educating staff and children about abuse.

87% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that they possess knowledge of situational prevention and the role of educating staff and children and young people.

Positive

Participants' knowledge was highest regarding the fact that:

- many people, not just the child or young person who was abused themselves, can be affected by sexual abuse.

Negatives

Participants' knowledge was poorest in relation to areas such as:

- the negative impact that high staff turnover can have in making children and young people less comfortable to speak up about their sexual safety concerns.
- child sexual abuse is more likely to occur when there are opportunities for adults to spend time interacting with children out of sight of other adults.

INSTITUTE OF CHILD PROTECTION STUDIES

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Safeguarding Capabilities Survey

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