

Statistics on financial and economic abuse

Economic abuse limits women's choices and ability to access safety

Financial abuse: refers to restriction, exploitation and/or sabotage of money and finances

Economic abuse: refers to restriction, exploitation or sabotage of money, finances and economic resources (such as food, transportation, accommodation) more broadly.

Economic abuse occurs alongside other forms of abuse and is commonly part of a pattern of coercive and controlling behaviour through which abusers seek to control their victims.

National prevalence

One in five British women have experienced financial abuse in a current or former relationship¹



Since the age of 16, **one in six women** have experienced non-physical (emotional, financial) domestic abuse from a partner²

In the past year (ending March 2019) an estimated **1.6 million women** (3.8 per cent) experienced non-physical (emotional, financial) domestic abuse from a partner²

Women who can't find £100 at short notice are **3.5x more likely to experience domestic abuse**³

Of those who experience domestic abuse

95% of women who experience domestic abuse report experiencing economic abuse⁴



Six in ten successful prosecutions of the offence of coercive or controlling behaviour involve at least one form of economic abuse⁵

Six in ten victim-survivors of coercive control have been coerced into taking out debt which can take many years to repay and impacts credit ratings⁶

Economic abuse is linked to physical safety. Women who experience economic abuse are **five times more likely to experience physical abuse**⁷

Women who report experiencing financial abuse are more likely to **also report experiencing physical, sexual and psychological abuse**¹

Women experiencing coercive control who also experience economic **abuse** are at **increased risk of being killed**⁸

Of those who experience domestic abuse

More than half of women experiencing domestic abuse said they had no money so could not leave⁹



Abusers continue to control victim-survivors' ability to acquire, use and maintain economic resources post-separation. **One in four women reports experiencing economic abuse** after leaving the abuser¹

Eight in ten women said their mental health has been affected by financial abuse⁹

Just under half of survivors of abuse who have children said they did not have enough money to pay for essentials for the children¹⁰

Four in ten survivors of abuse felt their long-term employment prospects/earnings were worse because of the abuse they had experienced¹⁰

One in three survivors of abuse said they had to give up their home because of the abuse they had experienced¹⁰

Eight in ten women said this form of abuse spanned more than five years (compared to two in ten men)¹

Help-seeking

A third of victim-survivors do not tell anyone about financial abuse: those that do are most likely to tell a friend or family member¹



Only **two in five** of those who experience financial abuse recognise this from the outset of the relationship¹