Prevalence of lifetime sexual harassment

72% of Australians have been sexually harassed at some point in their lives.

85% of Australian women and 57% of Australian men over the age of 15 have been sexually harassed at some point in their lives.

Prevalence of workplace sexual harassment

In the last 12 months, 23% of women and 16% of men have experienced sexual harassment at work.

In the last five years, 39% of women and 26% of men have experienced sexual harassment at work.

Age of people experiencing workplace sexual harassment

People aged 18-29 (45%) are more likely than those in other age groups to have experienced sexual harassment at work.

1 in 5 (20%) of 15-17 year olds have been sexually harassed at work.

Fourth national survey on sexual harassment in Australian workplaces, AHRC 2018
Witnesses to workplace sexual harassment

40% of workplace sexual harassment incidents were witnessed by at least one other person.

In the majority of cases (69%), the witness did not intervene.

Reporting of workplace sexual harassment

Fewer than one in five people (17%) made a formal report or complaint about workplace sexual harassment.

Almost one in five people who did report, were labelled a troublemaker (19%), were ostracised, victimised or ignored by colleagues (18%) or resigned (17%).

Industries where sexual harassment occurs

In the last five years:

- 81% of employees in the information, media and telecommunications industry
- 42% of people in retail and 40% of people in mining have been sexually harassed at work.