

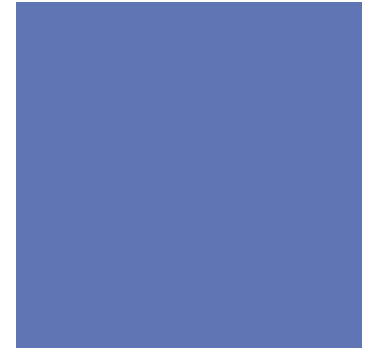


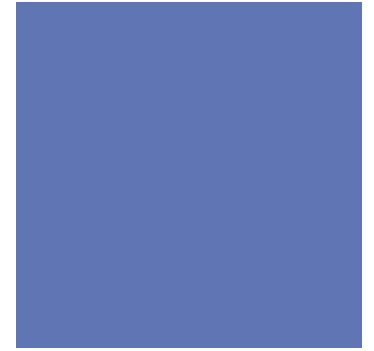
# **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day**

Dublin Ireland April 22, 2015  
Lynn McDonald University of Toronto

# Why a Prevalence Study Matters

- A national prevalence study of Canada and each province provides estimates as to who is at risk for maltreatment and the size of the problem in Canada.
- Accurate data about abuse and neglect ensures accuracy in screening, classification, and appropriate treatment, and prevention (McDonald, Dergal & Collins 2012).





# What Prevalence Data Tells

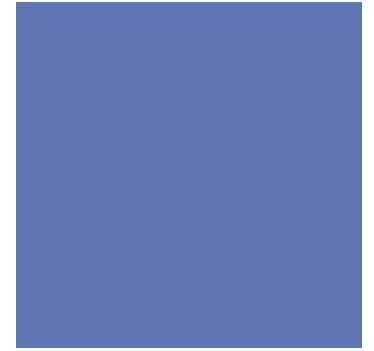
- **Prevalence studies tell us:**

- ✓ The magnitude of abuse & neglect in Canada;
- ✓ The distribution of the issue in Canada;
- ✓ Trends over time of abuse and neglect;
- ✓ The factors correlated with abuse and neglect;
- ✓ The factors that predict abuse and neglect
- ✓ Targets for intervention

# With Numbers in Hand:

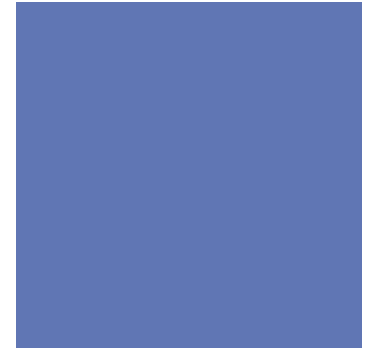
The data will help federal and provincial policy makers:

- 1. Develop evidence-based policies,
- 2. Provide baseline data for future policy and program evaluations to assess if things improve,
- 3. Will make possible international comparisons,
- 4. Provide data that will accurately estimate how many human and financial resources are required to prevent and solve the problem.
- 5. All Canadians benefit directly and indirectly from the protection of older adults through awareness and the savings of human and economic costs as reflected in taxes.



# Objectives and Methods

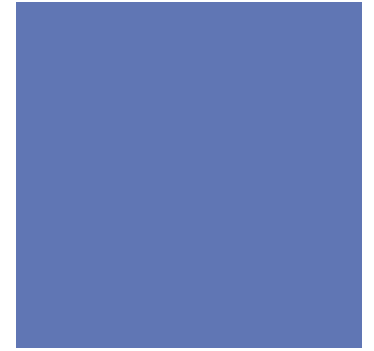
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- The survey is being conducted by telephone interviews that will draw a representative sample using random digital dialing.
- The types of abuse to be captured by the data are physical, sexual, psychological, and financial abuse and neglect perpetrated by informal caregivers in the last 12 months.



# Provincial Oversampling

- Those provinces that wished to do further analyses over-sampled cases for their provinces and will be able to examine regional difference by using postal codes.
- Quebec
- Ontario
- New Brunswick
- Alberta
- British Columbia

**Total= 8000   Reported here= 4,534**



Characteristic		Sample # <sup>1</sup>	Sample % <sup>2</sup>	Population Estimate <sup>3</sup>
Gender	Male	1,775	46.6	4,339,530
	Female	2,759	53.4	4,981,270
	Total	4,534	100.0	9,320,800
Age	55 to 59	821	21.3	1,978,233
	60 to 64	975	25.6	2,375,429
	65 to 69	880	18.0	1,667,532
	70 to 74	714	14.5	1,344,115
	75 to 79	496	9.8	906,093
	80 and older	627	10.8	996,994
	Total	4,513	100.0	9,268,395
Education	Less than high school	692	16.3	1,514,736
	Completed high school	1,015	22.0	2,038,927
	Post high school but no degree	1,451	32.5	3,010,538
	University degree(s)	1,347	29.2	2,705,016
	Total	4,505	100.0	9,269,216
Marital Status	Married / living with a partner	2,703	63.2	5,856,861
	Divorced or separated	607	13.6	1,262,742
	Widowed/partner deceased	935	16.8	1,562,448
	Never married	268	6.4	597,720
	Total	4,513	100.0	9,279,770
Living Situation	Lives Alone	1,511	30.6	2,835,702
	Lives with others	2,998	69.4	6,444,425
	Total	4,509	100.0	9,280,126
Household Size	One (lives alone)	1,511	30.6	2,835,702
	Two	2,314	52.5	4,881,066
	Three	414	10.2	943,057
	Four or more	270	6.7	620,302
	Total	4,509	100.0	9,280,126
Ethnicity ( <i>self identified</i> )	Canadian	1,964	46.2	4,237,557
	Irish or British	1,309	22.7	2,084,959

## Clinical Characteristics of the Respondents



Characteristic	Values / Definition	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
Social isolation	Yes (socialize with friends or relatives a few times a month, once or month or less, or never)	694	16.5	1,535,602
	No (socialize with friends or relatives more often)	3,821	83.5	7,749,705
	Total	4,515	100.0	9,285,307
Social isolation feelings	Yes (feels does <i>not</i> spend enough time with friends or relatives)	1,179	25.6	2,351,723
	No (feels spends enough time with friends or relatives)	3,296	74.4	6,848,544
	Total	4,475	100.0	9,200,266
Activities of daily living (ADL) & instrumental activities of living (IADL) needs scores <sup>4</sup>	Zero	3,417	75.0	6,987,098
	One	674	14.6	1,366,163
	Two	235	5.0	464,763
	Three or more	207	5.4	501,353
	Total	4,533	100.0	9,319,377
Centre for Epidemiological Studies Depression Scale Score	Zero	1,185	29.4	2,739,837
	Greater than zero to three	1,734	37.7	3,505,391
	Greater than three to nine	1,123	23.0	2,138,188
	10 or more	483	9.9	924,484
	Total	4,525	100.0	9,307,900





# Summary Measures



## Abuse Summary Measures

Prevalence abuse over the past 12 months, by type of abuse

Type of abuse		Sample # yes	Sample % yes	Pop. Es
Psychological abuse reported	Yes	1,580	33.0	3,071,75
	No	2,954	67.0	6,249,04
	Total	4,534	100.0	9,320,80
Physical abuse reported	Yes	109	2.3	213,97
	No	4,425	97.7	9,106,82
	Total	4,534	100.0	9,320,80
Sexual abuse reported	Yes	80	1.5	144,89
	No	4,454	98.5	9,175,90
	Total	4,534	100.0	9,320,80
Financial abuse reported	Yes	128	2.4	229,75
	No	4,406	97.6	9,091,05
	Total	4,534	100.0	9,320,80

## Psychological Abuse

Psychological abuse reported over past 12 months

Someone you trust has done the following to you:	Sample #_yes <sup>5</sup>	Sample % yes	Pop. Est.
criticized you	1,049	22.4	2,088,781
yelled or shouted at you	664	13.1	1,223,243
insulted you	413	8.6	800,793
called you names or obscenities	196	3.8	356,880
threatened or intimidated you	132	2.7	252,129
forced you to do something against your will	50	1.0	93,847
excluded or ignored you	358	7.6	711,438
any other emotional distress	547	10.9	1,016,756

Number of types of psychological abuse reported over last 12 months

Number	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
None	2,954	67.0	6,249,044
One or two	1,115	23.8	2,211,374
Three or four	301	5.7	534,485
Five to eight	164	3.5	325,896
Total	4,534	100.0	9,320,800

Felt psychological abused in last 12 months

Response	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
Yes	297	6.1	564,918
No	4,216	93.6	8,725,482
Not sure or refused to answer	21	0.3	30,400
Total	4,534	100.0	9,320,800

Lifetime psychological abuse: experienced emotional harm or psychological abuse

Stage of Life / Age	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
As a child (before 18 years of age)	1,015	22.4	2,088,136
As a young adult	508	11.2	1,00,4311
As a middle aged adult	809	17.8	1,745,098
Since your turned 55 (but excluding last 12 months)	311	6.9	65,816

## Physical Abuse

Physical abuse reported over past 12 months

Someone you trust has done the following to you:	Sample # yes	Sample % yes	Population Estimate
<u>restrained</u> you or held you down	12	0.2	23,251
<u>handled</u> you roughly enough to cause a fall or bruises	10	0.3	23,449
<u>pushed</u> , shoved or grabbed you	45	0.8	77,152
<u>thrown</u> something you	27	0.6	55,405
<u>hit</u> or slapped you	29	0.6	52,478
<u>burned</u> or scalded you	1	0.0	1,170
<u>pinched</u> , scratched or pulled your hair	19	0.5	42,993
<u>tried</u> to choke you	2	0.0	2,652
<u>kicked</u> , bit or punched you	10	0.2	18,841
<u>tried</u> to hit you with something	11	0.2	20,342
<u>threatened</u> you with a weapon	2	0.1	4,830
<u>administered</u> drugs that were not necessary	7	0.2	21,997
<u>do you feel</u> you experienced any other physical abuse	10	0.2	16,262

Number of types of physical abuse reported over last 12 months



Number	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
None	4,425	97.7	9,106,824
One or two	93	2.0	186,999
Three or four	11	0.2	17,748
Five to eight	5	0.1	9,228
Total	4,534	100.00	9,320,800



Felt physically abused in last 12 months

	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
Yes	17	0.3	28,712
No	4,514	99.6	9,285,720
Not sure or refused to answer	3	0.1	6,368
Total	4,534	100.1	9,320,800

Life time physical abuse: experienced physical abuse

Stage of Life / Age	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
As a child (before 18 years of age)	671	15.2	1,419,966
As a young adult	231	5.1	429,393
As a middle aged adult	265	5.8	518,862
Since your turned 55 (but excluding last 12 months)	37	0.8	63,223

## Sexual Abuse

Abuse reported over past 12 months

Someone you trust has done the following to you:	Sample #_yes	Sample % yes	Pop. Est.
<del>talked</del> to you in a sexual way when you did not want them to	62	1.3	116,885
<del>tried</del> to touch you in a sexual way when you did not want them to	25	0.5	42,182
<del>touch</del> ed you in a sexual way when you did not want them to	17	0.3	30,161
<del>tried</del> to make you watch pornography against your will	3	0.1	13,814
<del>made</del> you watch pornography against your will	1	0.1	9,589
<del>tried</del> to make you have sexual intercourse against your will	9	0.2	14,867
<del>had</del> sexual intercourse with you against your will	2	0.0	4,642
<del>had</del> any other unwanted sexual experiences	7	0.1	11,365

Number of types of sexual abuse reported over last 12 months

Number	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
None	4,454	98.5	9,175,905
One or two	65	1.2	110,777
Three or four	14	0.3	31,397
Five to eight	1	0.0	2,721
Total	4,534	100.0	9,320,800

Felt sexually abused in last 12 months

Response	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
Yes	9	0.2	14,734
No	4,512	99.5	9,278,596
Not sure or refused to answer	13	0.3	27,470
Total	4,534	100.0	9,320,800

Life time sexual abuse: experienced sexual abuse

Stage of Life / Age	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
As a child (before 18 years of age)	535	11.4	1,058,183
As a young adult	271	6.0	536,072
As a middle aged adult	182	4.0	376,566
Since your turned 55 (but excluding last 12 months)	15	0.3	33,977

## Financial Abuse

Financial abuse reported over past 12 months

Someone you trust has done the following to you:	Sample # # yes	Sample % % yes	Population Estimate
tried to make you give them your money, possessions or property	37	0.8	73,546
made you give them your money, possessions or property	14	0.2	22,434
attempted to take your money, possessions or property	39	0.7	66,555
taken your money, possessions or property	32	0.6	51,963
tried to take or keep power of attorney	14	0.2	20,919
taken or kept power of attorney	15	0.2	22,447
deliberately prevented your access to your money, possessions, or property	11	0.2	20,448
forced, or misled you to change your will or any other financial document	2	0.0	3,329
any other financial harm by taking your money or property	40	0.8	75,210

Number of types of financial abuse reported over last 12 months

Number	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
None	4,406	97.6	9,091,050
One or two	108	2.1	195,834
Three or four	18	0.3	31,395
Five to eight	2	0.0	2,521
Total	4,534	100.0	9,320,800

Felt financially abused in last 12 months

Response	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
Yes	35	0.7	62,529
No	4,490	99.0	9,225,716
Not sure or refused to answer	9	0.3	22,555
Total	4,534	100.0	9,320,800

⊕ Life time financial abuse: experienced financial abuse

Stage of Life / Age	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
As a young adult	74	1.8	166,496
As a middle aged adult	213	4.7	445,686
Since your turned 55 (but excluding last 12 months)	91	2.0	180,612

# Reported and Felt Abuse

Type of abuse	Status	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
Psychological abuse	Reported	1,580	33.0	3,071,756
	Felt	297	6.1	564,910
Physical abuse	Reported	109	2.3	213,976
	Felt	17	0.3	28,712
Sexual abuse	Reported	80	1.5	144,895
	Felt	9	0.2	14,734
Financial abuse	Reported	128	2.4	229,750
	Felt	35	0.7	62,429

# What is New

- People are less likely to feel abuse even when they report they are abused using standardized scales.
- Being abused before 18 years of age appears to be a risk for abuse in later life (except financial abuse where the risk is in middle age).







Thank You

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Age	55 to 59	821	21.3	1,978,233
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	Total	4,509	100.0	9,280,126
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# Summary Measures

## Abuse Summary Measures

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Physical abuse reported	Yes	109	2.3	213,97
	No	4,425	97.7	9,106,82
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Sexual abuse reported	Yes	80	1.5	144,89
	No	4,454	98.5	9,175,90
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any other emotional distress	547	10.9	1,016,756

Number of types of psychological abuse reported over last 12 months

Number	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
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One or two	1,115	23.8	2,211,374
Three or four	301	5.7	534,485
Five to eight	164	3.5	325,896
Total	4,534	100.0	9,320,800

Felt psychological abused in last 12 months

Response	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
Yes	297	6.1	564,918
No	4,216	93.6	8,725,482
Not sure or refused to answer	21	0.3	30,400
Total	4,534	100.0	9,320,800

Lifetime psychological abuse: experienced emotional harm or psychological abuse

Stage of Life / Age	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
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<u>thrown</u> something you	27	0.6	55,405
<u>hit</u> or slapped you	29	0.6	52,478
<u>burned</u> or scalded you	1	0.0	1,170
<u>pinched</u> , scratched or pulled your hair	19	0.5	42,993
<u>tried</u> to choke you	2	0.0	2,652
<u>kicked</u> , bit or punched you	10	0.2	18,841
<u>tried</u> to hit you with something	11	0.2	20,342
<u>threatened</u> you with a weapon	2	0.1	4,830
<u>administered</u> drugs that were not necessary	7	0.2	21,997
<u>do you feel</u> you experienced any other physical abuse	10	0.2	16,262

Number of types of physical abuse reported over last 12 months



Number	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
None	4,425	97.7	9,106,824
One or two	93	2.0	186,999
Three or four	11	0.2	17,748
Five to eight	5	0.1	9,228
Total	4,534	100.00	9,320,800

Felt physically abused in last 12 months

	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
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No	4,514	99.6	9,285,720
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Five to eight	1	0.0	2,721
Total	4,534	100.0	9,320,800

Felt sexually abused in last 12 months

Response	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
Yes	9	0.2	14,734
No	4,512	99.5	9,278,596
Not sure or refused to answer	13	0.3	27,470
Total	4,534	100.0	9,320,800

Life time sexual abuse: experienced sexual abuse

Stage of Life / Age	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
As a child (before 18 years of age)	535	11.4	1,058,183
As a young adult	271	6.0	536,072
As a middle aged adult	182	4.0	376,566
Since your turned 55 (but excluding last 12 months)	15	0.3	33,977

## Financial Abuse

Financial abuse reported over past 12 months

Someone you trust has done the following to you:	Sample # yes	Sample % yes	Population Estimate
tried to make you give them your money, possessions or property	37	0.8	73,546
made you give them your money, possessions or property	14	0.2	22,434
attempted to take your money, possessions or property	39	0.7	66,555
taken your money, possessions or property	32	0.6	51,963
tried to take or keep power of attorney	14	0.2	20,919
taken or kept power of attorney	15	0.2	22,447
deliberately prevented your access to your money, possessions, or property	11	0.2	20,448
forced, or misled you to change your will or any other financial document	2	0.0	3,329
any other financial harm by taking your money or property	40	0.8	75,210

Number of types of financial abuse reported over last 12 months

Number	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
None	4,406	97.6	9,091,050
One or two	108	2.1	195,834
Three or four	18	0.3	31,395
Five to eight	2	0.0	2,521
Total	4,534	100.0	9,320,800

Felt financially abused in last 12 months

Response	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
Yes	35	0.7	62,529
No	4,490	99.0	9,225,716
Not sure or refused to answer	9	0.3	22,555
Total	4,534	100.0	9,320,800

⊕ Life time financial abuse: experienced financial abuse

Stage of Life / Age	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
As a young adult	74	1.8	166,496
As a middle aged adult	213	4.7	445,686
Since your turned 55 (but excluding last 12 months)	91	2.0	180,612

# Reported and Felt Abuse

Type of abuse	Status	Sample #	Sample %	Pop. Est.
Psychological abuse	Reported	1,580	33.0	3,071,756
	Felt	297	6.1	564,910
Physical abuse	Reported	109	2.3	213,976
	Felt	17	0.3	28,712
Sexual abuse	Reported	80	1.5	144,895
	Felt	9	0.2	14,734
Financial abuse	Reported	128	2.4	229,750
	Felt	35	0.7	62,429



# What is New

- People are less likely to feel abuse even when they report they are abused using standardized scales.
- Being abused before 18 years of age appears to be a risk for abuse in later life (except financial abuse where the risk is in middle age).

Thank You