# COERCIVE CONTROL MONITORING REPORT

**Quarterly Report:** March 2025

A new offence of coercive control commenced in NSW on 1 July 2024 (*s54D, Crimes Act 1900*)

The offence relates to abusive behaviours directed towards a current or former intimate partner with the intention to coerce or control them. The offence captures repeated patterns of physical or non-physical abuse used to hurt, scare, intimidate, threaten or control someone. The law applies to behaviour from 1 July 2024. This report shows the operation of the new offence.

## Coercive control incidents recorded by NSW Police

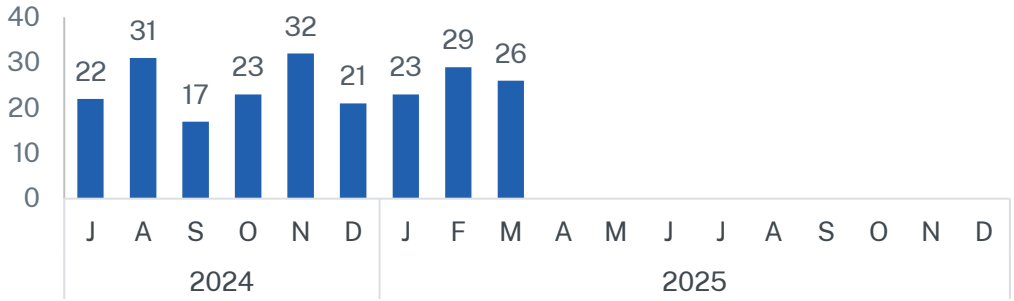
Jul 2024-Mar 2025

### 1.1 Number of recorded incidents of coercive control

**224**

Coercive control incidents

July 2024 – March 2025




### 1.2 Nature of controlling behaviours

| Controlling behaviours identified | 2024Q3 | 2024Q4 | 2025Q1 | Total behaviours Jul 2024-Mar 2025 | % of coercive control incidents |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Harassment, monitoring or tracking | 39 | 45 | 50 | **134** | 60% |
| Threats or intimidation | 33 | 39 | 41 | **113** | 50% |
| Financial abuse | 30 | 35 | 37 | **102** | 46% |
| Shaming, degrading or humiliating | 32 | 35 | 31 | **98** | 44% |
| Social isolation or cultural abuse | 29 | 33 | 32 | **94** | 42% |
| Physical violence | 20 | 22 | 20 | **62** | 28% |
| Deprive liberty or otherwise control | 17 | 20 | 15 | **52** | 23% |
| Damage or destruction of property | 9 | 20 | 9 | **38** | 17% |
| Other coercive behaviour | 15 | 7 | 8 | **30** | 13% |
| Sexual violence | 7 | 10 | 12 | **29** | 13% |
| Animal abuse | 3 | 5 | 4 | **12** | 5% |
| Harm to a child | 3 | 2 | 4 | **9** | 4% |
| **Total coercive control incidents** | **70** | **76** | **78** | **224** | ***100%*** |



A single incident of coercive control recorded by NSW Police involves a course of conduct of abusive behaviour rather than a specific instance.
Each coercive control incident can include more than one type of controlling behaviour.
Source: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, 2025. Coercive_control_30April2025



BOCSAR website: https://bocsar.nsw.gov.au/

# COERCIVE CONTROL MONITORING REPORT

**Quarterly Report:** March 2025

## 1.3 Incidents of coercive control recorded by NSW Police by region

| Region of incident | 2024Q3 | 2024Q4 | 2025Q1 | Jul 2024 to Mar 2025 Total number | Rate per 100,000 | Ratio to NSW* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **NSW total** | **70** | **76** | **78** | **224** | **2.7** | **1.0** |
| **Greater Sydney** | 36 | 34 | 26 | **96** | **1.8** | **0.7** |
| Baulkham Hills and Hawkesbury | 2 | 1 | 0 | **3** | **1.1** | **0.4** |
| Blacktown | 4 | 1 | 0 | **5** | **1.2** | **0.4** |
| Central Coast | 6 | 4 | 6 | **16** | **4.5** | **1.7** |
| City and Inner South | 4 | 3 | 1 | **8** | **2.2** | **0.8** |
| Eastern Suburbs | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| Inner South West | 6 | 3 | 5 | **14** | **2.2** | **0.8** |
| Inner West | 2 | 4 | 3 | **9** | **2.9** | **1.1** |
| North Sydney and Hornsby | 0 | 1 | 1 | **2** | **0.5** | **0.2** |
| Northern Beaches | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| Outer South West | 1 | 1 | 2 | **4** | **1.3** | **0.5** |
| Outer West and Blue Mountains | 4 | 5 | 4 | **13** | **3.8** | **1.4** |
| Parramatta | 4 | 7 | 1 | **12** | **2.3** | **0.9** |
| Ryde | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| South West | 3 | 1 | 3 | **7** | **1.4** | **0.5** |
| Sutherland | 0 | 3 | 0 | **3** | **1.3** | **0.5** |
| **Regional NSW** | 34 | 42 | 52 | **128** | **4.4** | **1.6** |
| Capital Region | 2 | 3 | 4 | **9** | **3.7** | **1.4** |
| Central West | 7 | 7 | 3 | **17** | **7.9** | **2.9** |
| Coffs Harbour - Grafton | 0 | 2 | 1 | **3** | **2.0** | **0.7** |
| Far West and Orana | 2 | 5 | 6 | **13** | **11.0** | **4.1** |
| Hunter Valley exc Newcastle | 3 | 2 | 10 | **15** | **4.9** | **1.8** |
| Illawarra | 5 | 3 | 3 | **11** | **3.4** | **1.3** |
| Mid North Coast | 3 | 4 | 4 | **11** | **4.7** | **1.7** |
| Murray | 2 | 0 | 5 | **7** | **5.6** | **2.1** |
| New England and North West | 3 | 6 | 3 | **12** | **6.3** | **2.4** |
| Newcastle and Lake Macquarie | 3 | 3 | 6 | **12** | **3.0** | **1.1** |
| Richmond - Tweed | 3 | 4 | 4 | **11** | **4.2** | **1.6** |
| Riverina | 1 | 2 | 2 | **5** | **3.0** | **1.1** |
| Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven | 0 | 1 | 1 | **2** | **1.2** | **0.5** |

*A ratio of one indicates parity with the NSW rate. Red indicates the rate is double (or more) the NSW rate, while ratios half the NSW rate (or less) are highlighted in green.

## 1.4 Factors associated with coercive control incidents

Of the 224 coercive control incidents :

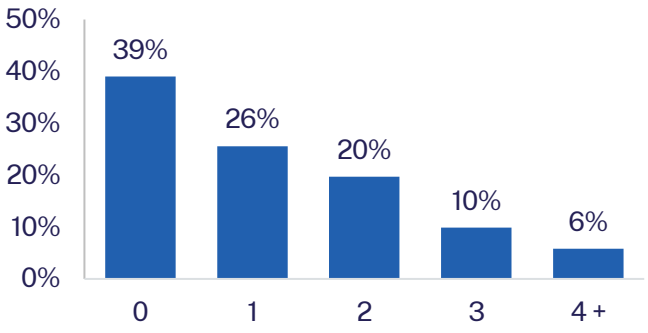
**8 (4%)** incidents were flagged as mental health related by NSW Police

**15 (7%)** incidents were flagged as alcohol related by NSW Police

# COERCIVE CONTROL MONITORING REPORT

**Quarterly Report:** March 2025

## 1.5 Offences co-occurring with coercive control




**39%** or 87 events: coercive control was the only recorded offence

**61%** or 136 events: multiple offences were recorded in the event. The most common co-occurring offences were:

- Intimidation/stalking – recorded in 38% of events
- DV assault – recorded in 35% of events
- Malicious damage – recorded in 12% of events

*one event included two coercive control incidents

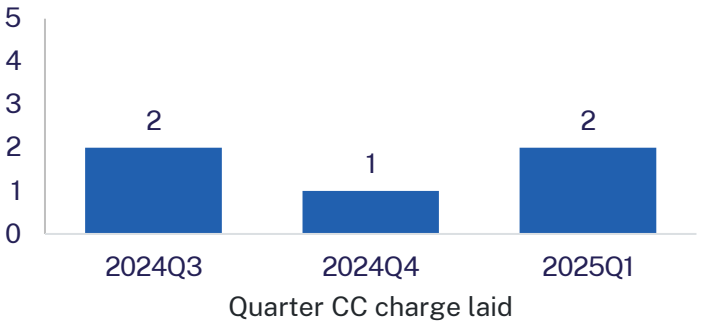
## Legal action taken by NSW Police

Jul 2024-Mar 2025

## 1.6 Legal actions commenced for coercive control

**5** coercive control charges have been laid. Of these:

- **2** were withdrawn by the prosecution
- **1** was proven and received an Intensive Correction Order
- **2** remain pending before the court (as at 30 April 2025)




## 1.7 Nature of charges laid on the criminal event

| Type of charge laid | Count | % of all coercive control events |
|---|---|---|
| No charge of any type | 127 | **57%** |
| Coercive Control charge only | 1 | **0.4%** |
| Coercive Control charge plus other charge/s | 4 | **2%** |
| No coercive Control charge but other charge/s | 91 | **41%** |
| Total coercive control events | ***223*** | ***100%*** |

Of the four criminal events with coercive control charges plus other charges, all included charges for intimidation/stalking. Other additional offence types with a legal proceeding on these four events included Breach AVO (3 events), DV assault (2 events), property damage (2 events) and possess/use illicit drug (1 event).

Of the 91 criminal events where only a charge other than coercive control was laid, the most common criminal charges were: intimidation/stalking (56 events or 62%), DV assault (54 events or 59%), property damage (17 events or 19%) and Breach AVO (17 events or 19%).



Note: A criminal event relates to one or more criminal incidents reported to Police at the one time involving the same alleged offender. A criminal event can include different offence types.

# COERCIVE CONTROL MONITORING REPORT

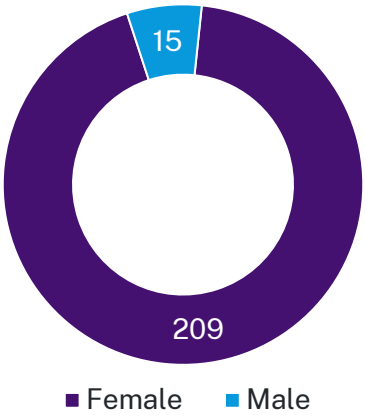
**Quarterly Report:** March 2025

## Victims of coercive control (n=224)

Jul 2024-Mar 2025

### 2.1 Victims by gender

**93%** of victims of coercive control were female




### 2.2 Victims by gender of the alleged offender

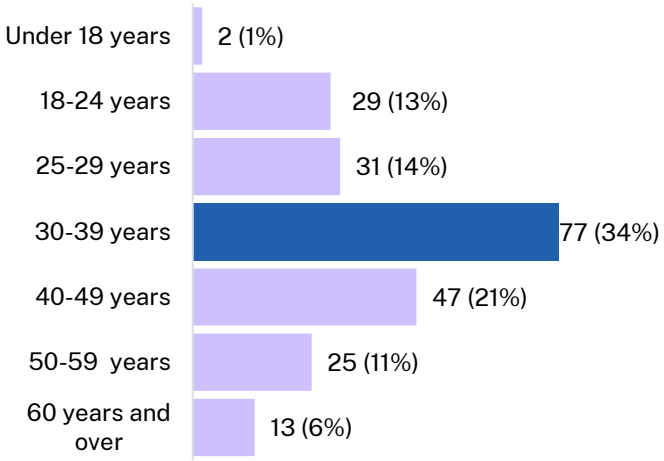
**92%** of coercive control incidents involved a female victim and a male alleged offender

### 2.3 Aboriginality of victims and alleged offender

**10%** of victims of coercive control were Aboriginal

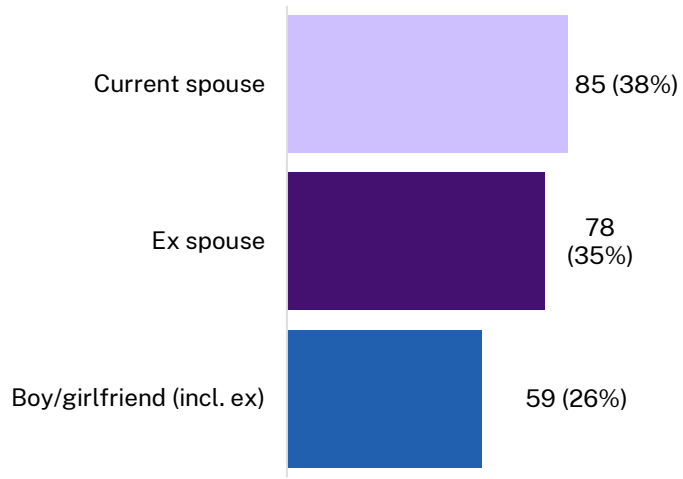
### 2.4 Victims by age

**34%** of victims of coercive control were aged 30 to 39 years




### 2.5 Relationship type of coercive control

**73%** of victims of coercive control were the current spouse or ex spouse of the alleged offender






Note: Alleged offender refers to persons of interests in the coercive control event regardless of whether they were legally proceeded against by police.

# COERCIVE CONTROL MONITORING REPORT

**Quarterly Report:** March 2025

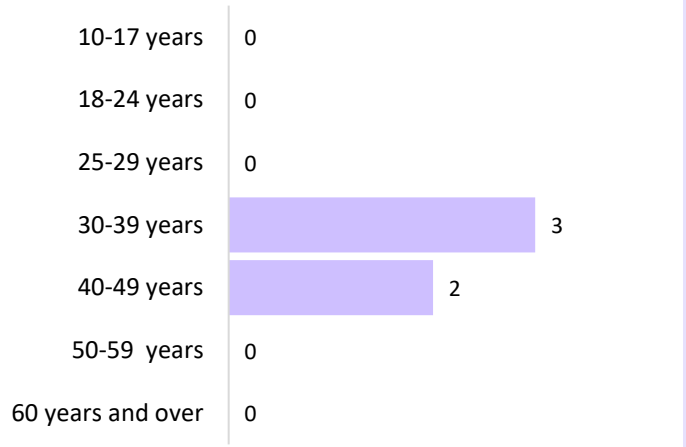
## Persons legally proceeded against for a coercive control charge (n=5)

Jul 2024-Mar 2025

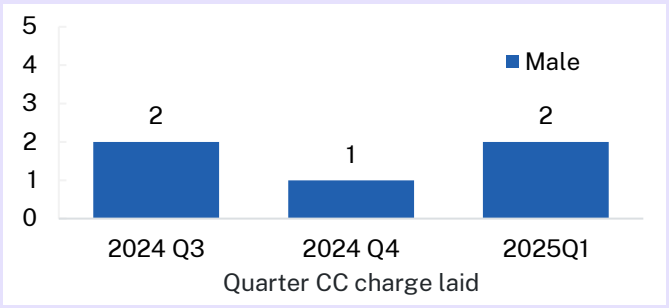
**5** persons were legally proceeded against in the nine months to March 2025.

All five were male, non-Aboriginal and aged between 30 and 49 years.

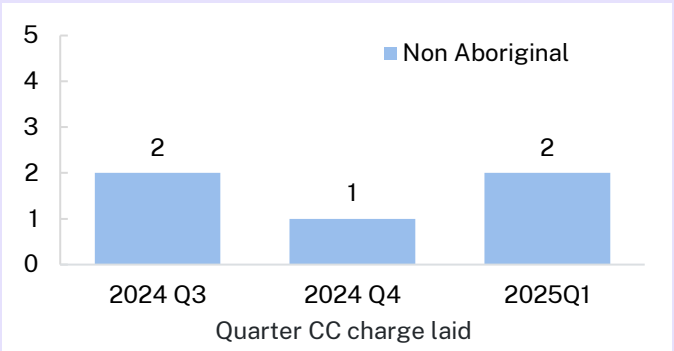
### 3.1 Persons legally proceeded against for coercive control charge by age




### 3.2 Persons legally proceeded against for coercive control charge by gender




### 3.3 Persons legally proceeded against for coercive control charge by Aboriginality

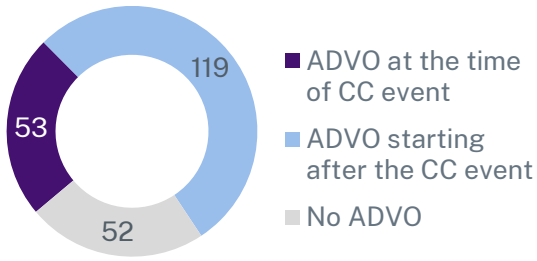



## Apprehended domestic violence orders (ADVOs) & coercive control

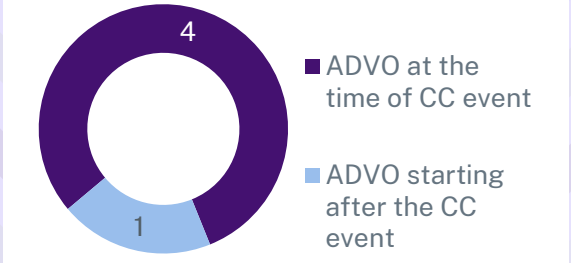
Jul 2024-Mar 2025

**24%** of coercive control victims had an ADVO in force against the POI at the time of the event. An additional **53%** had an ADVO commence after the coercive control event.

### 4.1 Whether coercive control victims had an ADVO against the POI




### 4.2 Whether coercive control victims had an ADVO where a CC charge was laid






Note: There can be a delay between the date the criminal event is recorded by police and the date that a legal proceeding against a person commences.