



# Shelters for victims of domestic violence 2022

## Shelter client numbers increasing

### MAIN FINDINGS

- In 2022, the number of clients in shelters increased by four per cent (199 clients) compared to the previous year.
- The number of both adult clients and children increased. The number of underage clients in the shelters went up by 121, and for adults the increase was 77.
- The combined number of days spent in the shelters was 89,394.
- The number of adult clients coming to the shelter alone increased by 432 from the previous year.

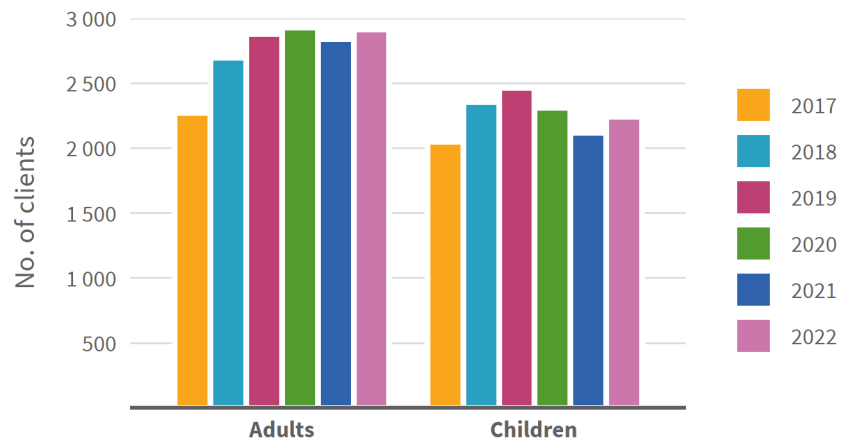
A total of 5,163 clients used the services of shelters for victims of domestic violence in 2022. Of these, 57 per cent were adults and 43 per cent were children. Of the adults, 91 per cent were female and 9 per cent were male.

In 2022, the number of clients increased by 4 percent compared to 2021. The number of both adult clients and underage clients increased. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of clients had grown each year since 2015, but the pandemic put a stop to this trend and the numbers went down in 2020 and 2021.

In 2022, a total of 89,394 days were spent in the shelters, which is 4,932 more than in 2021.

At the end of 2022, there were a total of 29 shelters in Finland providing a total of 228 places for clients coming as a family or alone. Shelter services are government-funded special services for persons who have experienced domestic violence or are under threat of it.

**Figure 1. Client numbers of shelters for victims of domestic violence 2017–2022.**



**Suvi Nipuli**

firstname.lastname@thl.fi

**Lasse Mielikäinen**

firstname.lastname@thl.fi

**To be considered in this year’s statistic:**

The amount of data missing in the 2022 statistics is higher than for previous years. In 2022, document structures requiring transitioning to the Client Data Archive for Social Welfare Services were introduced at several shelters. The introduction of the new document structures and changes in the client information systems used by the shelters influenced how some shelters were able to provide statistics by the deadline.

All shelters were able to provide key statistics, such as client numbers and days spent in the shelter. The amount of missing data can be found in Appendix 5 and Table 1. Question-specific remarks 2022.

Data are not comparable to previous years for items where the share of missing data is significantly higher than in previous years.

**Shelter clients and days spent in the shelter**

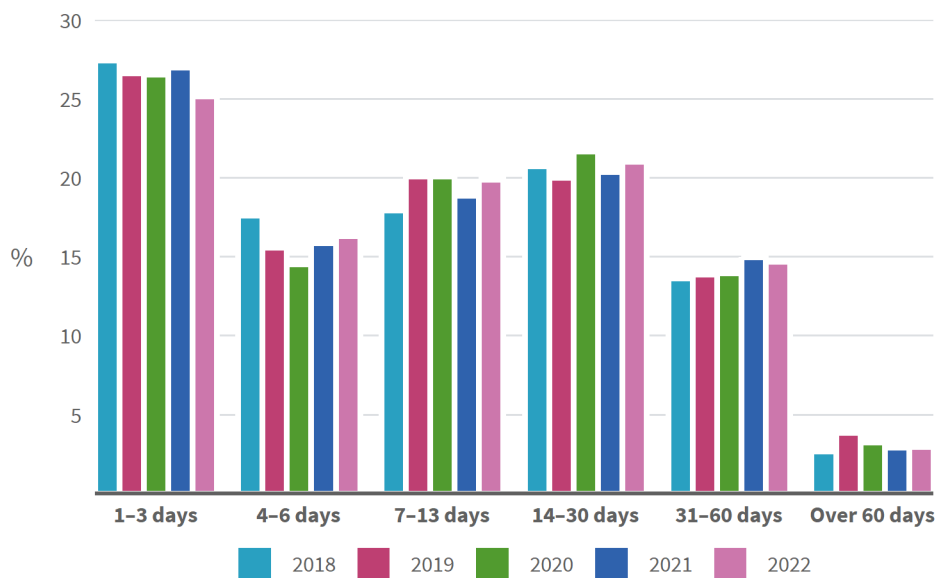
In 2022, shelters had a total of 5,163 client relationships. The same person may have been a client several times in the same year. At the national level, the number of clients in shelters for victims of domestic violence increased by four per cent compared to the previous year, by 199 clients. In 2022, the total number of adult clients was 2,915 (2,838 in 2021) The total number of child clients in 2022 was 2,241 (2,120 in 2021). (Appendix table 5)

In seventeen shelters, the number of clients increased, and in eleven shelters, the number of clients decreased compared to the previous year. The number of clients in one shelter remained the same. In 2022, the largest shelter had 18 places, and the smallest shelter was a two-place remote unit. (Appendix table 1)

In 2022, shelters totalled 89,394 housing days (84,462 in 2021), and the average stay per client was 17 days. The average duration of a client relationship has been calculated by dividing all housing days by the number of all clients. There is no difference in the average duration of a shelter period compared to 2020 and 2021 (Appendix tables 1 and 2).

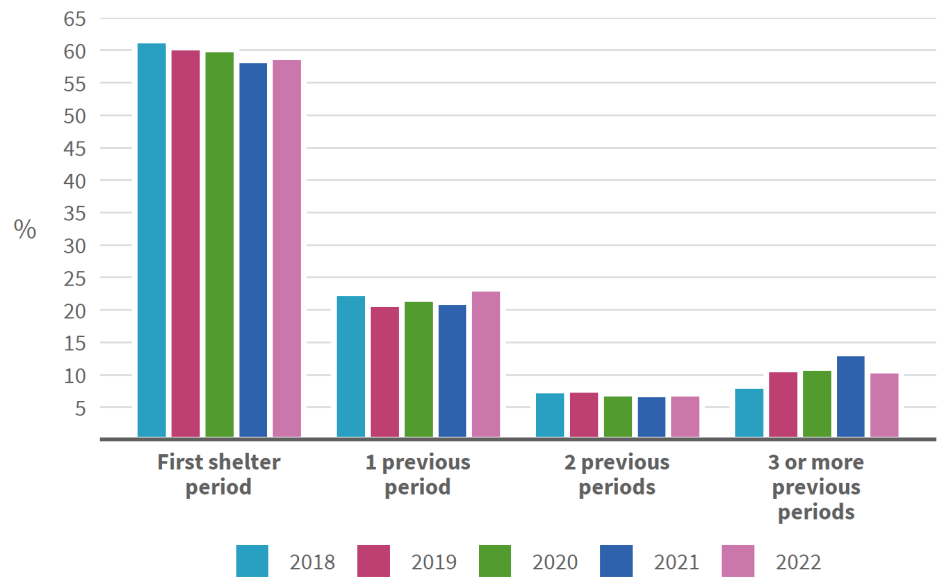
82% of shelter periods lasted less than 31 days. 18% of shelter periods lasted 31 days or more. The figures were the same for 2021. The length of shelter periods is only recorded for clients aged 15 or over. (Figure 2)

**Figure 2. Length of clients’ shelter periods 2018–2022 (2022, N = 2,900)**



Of the clients for whom information on the previous shelter period was available, 41% had previous shelter periods in the previous five years. This figure does not differ significantly from previous years. (Figure 3.) Information on previous shelter periods was collected for clients aged 15 or over.

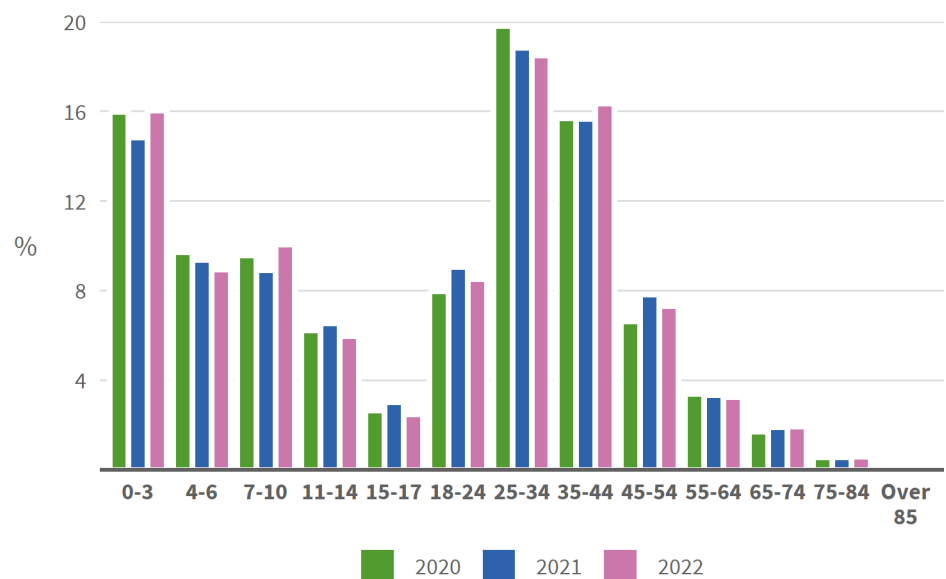
**Figure 3. Shelter periods during the previous five years 2018–2022 (2022, N = 2,185)**



In 2022, for adult clients whose first language was recorded, this was Finnish or Swedish for 69 per cent. The most common one out of the other languages was Arabic, which was the first language for six per cent and the second most common was Russian at four per cent. The figures do not differ significantly from the previous year. In 2022, information on first language was available for 2,624 adult clients. (Appendix table 5)

35 per cent of shelter clients were between the ages of 25 and 44. Many of the clients with dependent children come to the shelter with small children. In 2022, one out of four clients at shelters was under the age of seven. Of the shelter clients, the number of children aged 15–17 is considerably lower than that of younger children. (Figure 4) When statistics are compiled on minor children of adult clients who are not with the client in the shelter, the number of children aged 11–17 is significantly higher than that of younger children. In 2022, 835 children of shelter clients were recorded, who were not with the client in the shelter. Eleven underage clients sought shelter alone. (Appendix table 5)

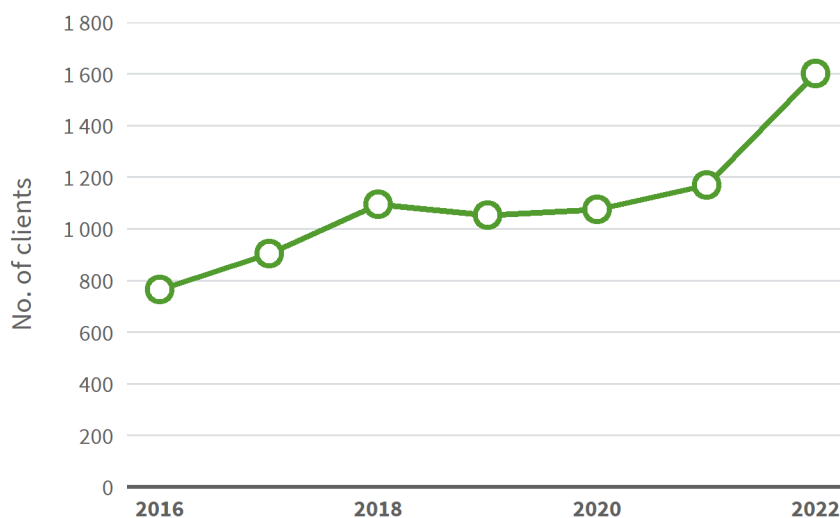
**Figure 4. Age distribution of shelter clients 2020–2022 (2022, N = 5,156)**



In addition to adult clients coming to the shelter with young children, clients are increasingly coming to the shelter without children. In 2022, the number of adult clients coming to the shelter without children continued to increase compared to previous years. (Figure 5) For the first time, more than half of adult clients in shelters for victims of domestic

violence (55%), were adult clients without children (41% in 2021 and 36% in 2020). Statistics do not indicate how much of this group is childless and, on the other hand, how many have dependent children, but the children did not come with the adult client to the shelter.

**Figure 5. Adult clients who arrived at the shelter without children in 2018–2022 (2022, N = 1,600)**



### Shelters for victims of domestic violence in Finland

At the end of 2022, there were a total of 29 shelters in Finland offering a total of 228 places for clients coming as a family or alone (Figure 6). Shelter services are government-funded special services for persons who have experienced domestic violence or are under threat of it.

A person who has experienced domestic violence or threat of it may seek refuge in any shelter in Finland. If the shelter cannot accommodate more clients, the client will be referred to another shelter for victims of domestic violence. As of 2022, each region in Finland has at least one shelter. Uusimaa, Pirkanmaa, Central Finland and Northern Ostrobothnia had more than one shelter. In 2023, all wellbeing services counties, with the exception of Central Uusimaa, will have at least one shelter.

**Figure 6. Shelter municipalities at the end of 2022**



## Coming to the shelter and places at the shelters

Clients can come to the shelter either on their own initiative or under guidance. The client does not need a referral or payment commitment to come to the shelter. In 2022, of clients aged 15 and older, 43 percent came to the shelter at their own initiative. 29% of clients, meanwhile, had been directed to the shelter through social services. Clients were also directed to shelters under the guidance of police (7%), health care professionals (5%) and parents, other relatives or friends (8%). (Appendix table 5.) The percentages have been calculated for the clients for whom the information was available. There are no significant differences compared to previous years.

There were vacancies in the network of shelters for every day of 2022. In 2022, the average number of available places in shelters was 80 on a daily basis. In 2021, the corresponding figure was 78 per cent. (Figure 7). A total of 813 clients were referred from one shelter to another one due to lack of space (898 in 2021). Most of the cases of a client being referred to another shelter occurred in Uusimaa, a total of 421 clients. In 2021, the corresponding figure was 340 clients, 362 in 2020 and 1,174 in 2019. The figures of clients referred to another shelter include placement enquiries made by a client, an authority or another party. (Appendix table 3.)

**Figure 7. Number of vacancies in shelters for victims of domestic violence 2020–2022**



The capacity of shelters to accept clients can be examined on the basis of the average number of vacancies in the shelter on a daily basis and the number of days per year when the shelter is full as well as the utilisation rate of the shelter.

The utilisation rate of the shelter is calculated on the basis of the percentage of family places in use in the shelter. If there are five vacancies in a ten-place shelter, the utilisation rate is 50%. In 2022, the utilisation rate of shelters varied between 91% and 21% by shelter. The daily average of vacancies varied between 5.5 and 0.5 by shelter. (Appendix table 4.)

The number of days when the shelter is full can be examined by region or shelter. At the regional level, the only shelter in the area was full in North Savo on 260 days (172 days in 2021 and 88 days in 2020). In Kainuu, the shelter was full on 100 days in 2022 (165 days in 2021 and 118 days in 2020). (Appendix table 4)

In regions with several shelters, it is reasonable to focus on the region instead of an individual shelter. Pirkanmaa had 66 days when both shelters were full at the same time (108 days in 2021). In Central Finland, the corresponding figure was 21 days (three days in 2021)

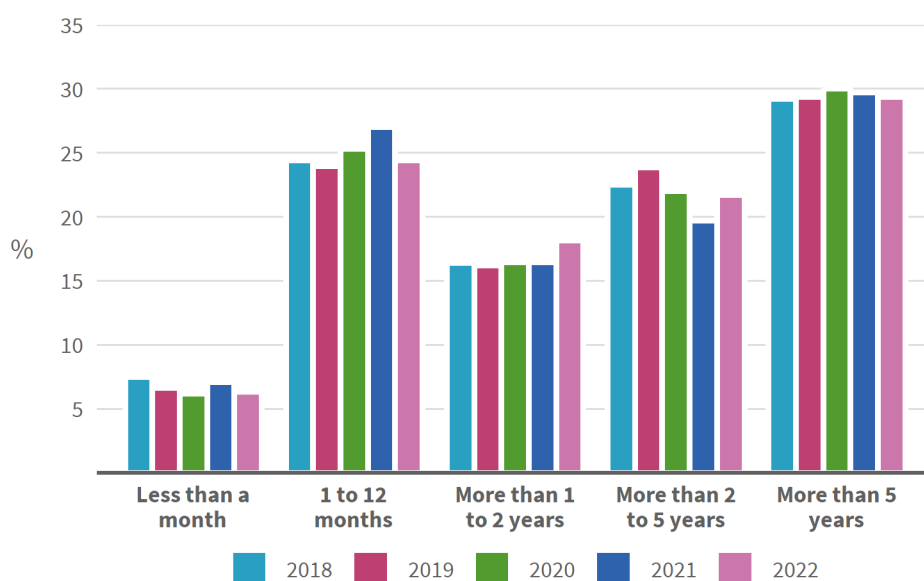
and 14 in Northern Ostrobothnia (seven days in 2021). The situation in Central Finland was affected by the fact that the Äänekoski shelter had to reduce the number of family places from seven to five between 19 April and 21 June 2022 and between 25 July and 31 October 2022, and had to close down completely between 22 June and 24 July 2022. During 2022, there were no days in Uusimaa when all shelters in the region were full at the same time.

## Violence experienced by and living arrangements of shelter clients

Shelter clients experience various forms of violence. Mental violence, the threat of violence and physical violence are the ones most commonly reported. A fifth of adult clients said they had reported violence to the police in 2022. Among adult clients, the perpetrator of violence is usually the spouse or former spouse of the client. In 2022, 90 per cent of the perpetrators of violence were men and 9 per cent women. (Appendix table 5)

The violence experienced by shelter clients had lasted for one year or less in 31 per cent of the clients in 2022. 40 per cent of the clients had experienced violence from one to five years, and 29 per cent of the clients had experienced violence for over five years. (Figure 8) The duration of violence is recorded for clients aged over 15. The number of cases where information is missing was 363, which is significantly higher than in previous years. The missing information is not taken into account in the sections and Figure 8.

**Figure 8. Duration of violence experienced by shelter clients 2018–2022 (2022, N = 1,899)**



Information on the living situation of shelter clients is collected before the shelter period and at the end of the shelter period. Questions about the client's living arrangements apply to clients aged 18 or over. In 2022, 55 per cent of the clients who came to the shelter lived together with the perpetrator of violence. After the shelter period, 27 per cent lived together with the perpetrator of the violence. The share of missing information is higher than in previous years (Appendix table 5).

In 2022, 25 per cent of clients moved to a new residence after the shelter period. 14 per cent of clients moved to live with friends or relatives. Eight per cent used the help of other social welfare housing arrangements after the shelter period. There are no significant changes from previous years. (Appendix table 5.)

---

## Terms and definitions

**Chemical violence:** Violence manifested as deliberate damage to a person's physical or psychological well-being by medicines, intoxicants, chemicals, solvents or other similar substances.

**Client age:** Child refers to a client under 18 years of age. Adult refers to a client 18 years of age or over. The age is recorded on the basis of the start date of the shelter period.

**Days spent in a shelter:** The number of days includes the clients' dates of arrival, stay and departure.

**Digital violence:** Violence in which another person is insulted, controlled, monitored or harmed using information and communication technology.

**Exposure to violence:** A situation in which a person or group of persons has to live in a violent environment or experience fear or consequences of violence in close relationships. Typically, the term is used in situations where a child has to witness violence between close adults or live in an atmosphere of threat.

**Family place:** The size of shelters is described by the number of family places. The size of a family place varies, and different shelters have different amounts of family places. If one client arrives at the shelter, one family place is reserved for them. Similarly, if a client and children come to the shelter, one family place is reserved for them, but a larger family may need several family places. The number of clients that can be in one family place varies and is not defined in a binding manner.

**Financial violence:** Violence manifested as a deliberate violation or restriction of self-determination related to a person's financial affairs. Economic violence includes, for example, preventing independent spending, preventing participation in financial decision-making, or forcing one's own money to be used by someone else.

**First language:** In addition to Finnish, Swedish and Sámi, the most common languages have been selected for the classification of the first language of clients of shelters. If the client's language was not included, shelters were instructed to select Other and supplement the answer with an open answer.

**Honour-based violence:** Cultural violence manifested as psychological pressure or use of physical force by a person or group of persons in a situation where a person or group of persons is suspected of violating the chastity principles of a community. Honour-related violence relates to a way of thinking that honour is a shared concern of the whole immediate or extended family. Honour-related violence can manifest itself in various forms of violence, such as restriction, isolation, threats, coercion or physical violence.

**Neglect:** Violence in which a person or group of persons is left without treatment, help, care or other satisfying of basic needs in situations where they are dependent on these. Neglect includes the failure to help with the basic needs of a child, a person with a disability or an elderly person, such as nutrition, medication or supervision.

**Other violence:** Violence against a person in a form other than those mentioned in this classification.

**Persecution:** Psychological violence in which fear or anxiety is repeatedly and intentionally caused in a person or group of persons by threatening, following, observing or other comparable actions.

**Physical violence:** Violence that occurs as a deliberate violation of a person's physical integrity. Physical violence includes pushing, hitting, kicking, pulling the hair, beating the head, scratching, tearing, shaking, or using a firearm or an edged weapon.

**Psychological violence:** Violence that manifests itself as deliberate harm to a person's psychological well-being. Psychological violence may manifest itself, for example, as the subjugation, isolation or control of another person. Psychological violence also includes criticism, name-calling, belittling, invalidation, disregard, contempt, restriction of social interaction, strong jealousy or threat of suicide.

**Remote shelter:** A remote shelter is one or several individual client places located in connection with an active, 24-hour social or health care service. The remote shelter and its central shelter jointly provide the shelter service of the remote shelter, making use of remote connection services, among other things. For example, remote shelters can be found in sparsely populated areas.

**Sexual violence:** Violence manifested as a deliberate violation of a person's sexual integrity or right to self-determination. Sexual violence includes, for example, rape, attempted rape, coercion into various forms of sexual intercourse, sexual defamation, coercion to pornography, prohibition of the use of contraception, coercion to abortion, restriction of the right to sexual self-determination, or exposure to age-inappropriate sexual activity, content or sexualised atmosphere.

**Shelters for victims of domestic violence:** A shelter for victims of domestic violence is a 24-hour crisis work unit that is free of charge for the client. A person experiencing domestic violence or the threat of domestic violence can go to the unit on their own initiative or under the guidance of an authority or another party, also anonymously if necessary.

**Shelter service:** Shelters for victims of domestic violence provide immediate help in a crisis, round-the-clock secure accommodation as well as psychosocial support, advice and guidance related to an acute situation for those who have experienced domestic violence or live under the threat of such.

**Threat of violence:** A situation in which a person is threatened, intimidated or extorted with the prospect of violence. The threat of violence is, for example, threatening, intimidating or extorting with the prospect of physical or sexual violence.

**Violence in close relationships:** When a person is violent against their current or previous partner, child or partner's child, parent, other close relative or other close person. Violence refers to acts which cause or may cause physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to the object of such acts, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty.

**Violence related to culture or religion:** Violence in which harmful practices connected to culture or religion intentionally violate or restrict the autonomy or integrity of a person or group of persons. Female genital mutilation, forced marriage and exclusion are examples of cultural violence.

---

## Symbols used in the tables

– no observations

---

[www.thl.fi/tilastot/turvakotipalvelut](http://www.thl.fi/tilastot/turvakotipalvelut)



Finnish institute for health and welfare

ISSN 1798-0887



## Quality description (OSF)

### Shelters for victims of domestic violence

#### Relevance of statistical data

Shelters for victims of domestic violence provide immediate help in a crisis, round-the-clock secure accommodation as well as psychosocial support, advice and guidance related to an acute situation for those who have experienced domestic violence or live under the threat of such. The shelter service is primarily offered to persons who have experienced domestic violence or live under threat of it and to underage children accompanying them. Shelter services may also be provided to help persons in need of assistance for reasons comparable to violence in close relationships, if the assistance corresponds to the victim's need for assistance and the provision of assistance does not cause harm or danger to others in the shelter.

The shelter service statistics collected by the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) contain information on, for example, the number of clients in shelters, the duration of client relationships, the underage children of clients, the forms of violence they experience, and the clients' background information. Regular data collection on shelter services began in 2015 when the Act on Compensation from State Funds to Shelter Service Providers (1354/2014) took effect. Reforms to the Act took effect in 2019, and the reforms do not affect the statistics on shelters. General management and direction of shelter service operations is the responsibility of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health. THL is responsible for the control, assessment, development and national harmonisation of shelter service operations. Shelter service operations are supervised by the National Supervisory Authority for Welfare and Health and the Regional Administrative Offices in their respective operating area.

In 2015, THL selected 19 shelters to provide shelter services. Since 2015, the number of shelters and their family places has increased as funding has increased. In 2015–2016, there were 19 shelters in Finland. In 2017, three new seven-place shelters and one single-place remote shelter opened in Finland. In 2017, the total number of shelters was 23 and the number of family places was 143. In 2018, funding for shelter services increased and four new shelters were opened, increasing the number of family places to 179 places. The new shelters were opened in Seinäjoki, Tampere, Hämeenlinna and Espoo. A total of six family places were added to shelters already in operation, of which three were added in Turku, two in Porvoo and one in Vaasa. In 2019, the number of shelters increased to 28 and the number of family places to 202. A new shelter which can hold seven families was opened in Äänekoski. A total of 16 additional places were added to shelters already in operation: Vantaa Shelter Association, six places, Kymnote (Kotka) shelter, four places, Shelter Mona (Capital Region) four places, Central Finland shelter (Jyväskylä), two places. From the beginning of 2019, the service provider of the shelter in Kotka changed from the City of Kotka to the Kymenlaakso Joint Authority for Social and Health Services. In 2020, a new seven-place shelter was opened in Kerava, Uusimaa, and two new family places were added to the shelter located in Oulu, Northern Ostrobothnia. In 2022, new shelters' family places were opened in Finland. In Helsinki, the 11-place Haaga shelter moved to Herttoniemi on 1 January 2022 (currently the Hertta Shelter) and now had 14 places. In February 2022, the Lahti shelter expanded from a five-place shelter into a seven-place one. In Tampere, the 8-place Mutkakatu shelter moved to Kaukajärvi (currently the Kaukajärvi shelter) and on 14 April 2022, expanded into an 18-place shelter. The Kainuu shelter renovated the shelter facilities so that, from 1 June 2022, the shelter has had two family places instead of the previous one place. At the end of 2022, there were 29 shelters in Finland and they had a total of 228 family places. However, not all family places may be available at all times. The most common reason for the temporary decommissioning of family places is restoration work carried out in the shelter. In 2022, the Äänekoski shelter also had to be closed exceptionally for the period 22 June to 24 July 2022 due to labour availability problems. The number of places also had to be temporarily reduced from seven family places to five family places between 19 April and 21 June 2022 and between 25 July and 31 October 2022.

Service providers include private and public ones. Service providers are obliged to compile statistics on the operation of the shelters and to submit the previous year's statistics to THL by 1 March each year. Some shelters had difficulties in submitting the statistics for 2022 in time due to changes made to the client information system used by these shelters. Additional time until 15 March 2023 was granted for submitting the data, but there an exceptionally large amount of data was left missing for 2022.

Under the Istanbul Convention, Finland is obliged to regularly collect statistical data on the occurrence of the forms of violence covered by that convention. In addition, the data collection is based on the Act on the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (668/2008), under which THL's duties include studying and monitoring the population's welfare and health as well as studying, monitoring, assessing, developing and guiding social welfare and health care operations (section 2). The data is collected for THL at sum level and no personal information on the shelters' clients is collected in the statistical report.

The statistical report is intended especially for administrative authorities, shelter service providers and NGOs.

### **Description of methods**

The information is collected annually from all service providers producing the shelter services. The statistics are collected using an electronic data collection form, which each service provider fills in regarding the clients of their own shelter. If the same client is in a shelter several times, data for each time is compiled as a separate client relationship.

Since 2017, THL has had access to up-to-date information on the number of vacancies in the shelters. This information is obtained from the Nollalinja application produced for Nollalinja, which is the responsibility of THL. Each shelter updates the up-to-date place situation every day. The daily place data is displayed in the statistics according to the last situation of each day. The number of vacancies and the utilisation rate of the shelter are calculated from the data in the Nollalinja application.

### **Correctness and accuracy of data**

THL started producing shelter statistics in 2015. Before the Act on Shelter Services took effect in 2015, shelters documented their activities independently or together with the umbrella organisation. Information on the number of clients and days spent in shelters has previously been collected nationally in the Sotkanet online service.

The first data collected in 2015 differed greatly in what had been recorded and how. Differences appeared as incomplete information and illogical contrasts between different questions. For 2016–2021, service providers submitted the data more precisely, but for 2022, there is a lot of missing information again. Deficiencies are presented in Table 1 (question-specific remarks) in the section Special considerations in the statistical report on shelters for victims of domestic violence 2022.

The accuracy of the statistics depends on the accuracy of the information provided by the shelters. If illogical aspects or other errors are detected in the data, their background is checked with the shelter and corrected if necessary. Thus, annual time series data also changes and updates with the corrections. Deficiencies in data collection are corrected when they are detected.

Information describing the vacancy situation of shelters obtained from the Nollalinja service is not available annually before 2017. Information on the number of vacancies and the utilisation rate can thus not be compared to previous years.

### **Timeliness and promptness of published data**

The shelter statistics are statistics produced by the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) once a year. Annual statistics are published approximately six months after the data collection.

## Availability and transparency/clarity of data

The statistical report will be published on the [website of the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare \(THL\)](#). Information is also published in the [Sotkanet online service](#). The statistical report describes the key results and explains the terms and definitions used.

## Comparability of data

Comprehensive statistics on shelter activities began in 2015 and the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare published information on it in 2016. The statistics currently being published for 2022 are not fully comparable with the 2015–2021 data, as there is more missing data than before.

Irregularities in the statistics can be seen, for example, in the differing figures when calculating the number of shelter clients based on the age of the clients or the municipality of residence of the clients. This is because not all shelters have compiled statistics on the municipality of residence. For this reason, information about the age of clients is used in reporting when talking about the total number of clients.

The figures of clients referred to another shelter include placement enquiries made by the client, an authority or another party. It is possible that more than one party enquires about the place for the same client, in which case the same client is recorded more than once. The figure also includes situations in which persons who have asked for a place have been recorded as one person, even if more than one person was coming to the shelter with them. Information on whether the client went to the shelter when referred is not available. Since 2020, statistics have been compiled on how many clients have been referred to the receiving shelter from another shelter.

When comparing the variables, it should be noted that although the coverage of the statistics is 100 per cent, i.e. all shelters operating in Finland have submitted statistical data to THL, the different question-specific coverages are different.

No changes were made to the data collection form completed by the service providers between 2015 and 2019. Since 2020, changes were made to the variables to be compiled for statistics, which have an impact on a question-by-question basis when comparing figures with previous years.

Changes since 2020:

Question (2b): How many clients have been referred to the receiving shelter from another shelter. Recorded by reason for referral. Reasons for referral: Primary shelter full, Security (client's or others'), Client's own wishes, Other. Previously, only the referring shelter has recorded this information.

Question (2c): The number of referrals and guidance in which the client is identified with a personal identity code, but a shelter period is not started. Anonymous enquiry still does not generate a client document.

Question (12b): Number of unaccompanied underage clients by gender

Changes in previously recorded information:

Question (2a): How many clients were referred to another shelter and why. Previously, the reason for referral was limited to a lack of space. The new reasons for referral are: First shelter full, Security (client's or others'), Client's own wishes, Other.

Client background information:

Question 4: Age. In the future, this is recorded on the basis of the start date of the shelter period.

Question 5: Marital status. "No information" changed to "Unknown".

Violence-related information:

Question 13: What kind of violence has the client experienced. The term 'cruel treatment and neglect' has been changed to 'neglect'. In addition, the new variables 'Honour-based

violence' and 'Chemical violence' have been added to the classification. 'Digital violence' has been added as a form of violence from 2023.

Question 15: Who has been violent towards the client. New variable "The perpetrator of violence is someone other than a person mentioned above" added to the classification.

Question 16: Gender of the perpetrator of violence. The variable 'Other' added to the classification.

Question 18: At whose initiative did the client come to the shelter? The variable 'Training and education provider' added to the classification.

Question 21: Notifications made on the child's situation The classification has been changed: 'Contact under the Social Welfare Act' has been divided into the parts 'Contacting the authority responsible for social welfare' and 'Notification of the need for social welfare services'. New: 'Preventive child welfare notification'. Corrected variable 'Criminal report' to 'Notification to the police'. In addition to these, the following old variables also remain: 'Child welfare notification', 'No need' and 'No information'.

### Clarity and consistency/cohesion

The statistical report contains nationwide information on shelter clients and information on clients referred to another shelter due to lack of space. Since 2017, the statistics include information on the number of vacancies in the shelters.

### Special considerations in the statistical report on shelters for victims of domestic violence 2022

The amount of data missing in the 2022 statistics is higher than for previous years. In 2022, document structures requiring transitioning to the Client Data Archive for Social Welfare Services were introduced at several shelters. The introduction of the new document structures and changes in the client information systems used by the shelters influenced how some shelters were able to provide statistics by the deadline. Service providers are obliged to compile statistics on the operation of the shelters and to submit the previous year's statistics to THL by 1 March each year. Additional time until 15 March 2023 was granted for submitting the data, but there an exceptionally large amount of data was left missing for 2022.

All shelters were able to provide key statistics, such as client numbers and days spent in the shelter. The amount of missing data by question can be found in Appendix 5 and Table 1. Question-specific remarks 2022. Data are not comparable to previous years for items where the share of missing data is significantly higher than in previous years.

In the table of appendices to the statistics, "no information" means that the service provider has stated that they have not compiled statistics on the matter in question. The mention "missing information" means that the service providers have not compiled statistics on the matter in question, nor have they reported this.

**Table 1. Question-specific remarks 2022.**

Question	Population	Population size 2022	Coverage 2022	Other remarks
<b>Age of shelter clients</b>	All clients	5,163	100 %	The total number of clients is calculated on the basis of age data. For 7 clients, no age data was available.
<b>Underage children accompanying a client in the shelter.</b>	All clients aged under 18	2,241	80% (1,786)	The total number of children in the shelters was 2,241. The number of underage children accompanying a client in the shelter was 1,786. The number of children who arrived at the shelter without an adult was 11. The statistics do not indicate why the figure for underage children who were accompanied by a client in the shelter plus the number of unaccompanied underage clients is 444 less than the total number of children.
<b>Marital status</b>	All clients aged 18 or over	2,915	97% (2827)	
<b>Level of education</b>	All clients aged 18 or over	2,915	63% (1,824)	No data reported for 745 clients.

<b>Inclusion in labour force</b>	All clients aged 18 or over	2,915	87% (2,540)	No data reported for 676 clients.
<b>First language</b>	All clients aged 18 or over	2,915	90% (2,624)	There have been contradictions in THL's guidelines on whether information on first language is collected for all clients or only adult clients. Only the first language of adult clients is reported in this statistical report.
<b>Duration of violence experienced by the client</b>	All clients aged 15 or over	3,042	88% (2,679)	No data reported for 780 clients.
<b>Living with the perpetrator of violence</b>	All clients aged 18 or over	2,915	90% (2,610)	No data reported for 497 clients.
<b>Referral to a shelter</b>	All clients aged 15 or over	3,042	97% (2,944)	No data reported for 488 clients.
<b>Previous shelter visits</b>	All clients aged 15 or over	3,042	92% (2,811)	No data reported for 626 clients.
<b>Length of shelter periods for shelter clients</b>	All clients aged 15 or over	3,042	95% (2,900)	
<b>Client's living arrangements after the shelter period</b>	All clients aged 18 or over	2,915	81% (2,347)	No data reported for 580 clients.
<b>Living with the perpetrator of violence after the shelter period</b>	All clients aged 18 or over	2,915	86% (2,516)	No data reported for 525 clients.

## Appendix tables

**Appendix table 1: Days spent in shelters and the number of family places in shelters 2020–2022**

**Appendix table 2: Shelter clients 2020–2022**

**Appendix table 3: Clients referred to another shelter due to lack of space 2020–2022**

**Appendix table 4: Average number of vacant family places, number of days full and utilisation rate 2022**

**Appendix table 5: Shelter services nationally 2021–2022**

Appendix table 1. Days spent in the shelter and number of family places 2020–2022

Shelter	2020	2020	2021	2021	2022	2022
	days spent in the shelter	familyplaces	days spent in the shelter	familyplaces	days spent in the shelter	familyplaces
Etelä–Karjalan hyvinvointialueen turvakoti, Imatra	1 038	4	494	4	965	4
Etelä–Pohjanmaan turvakoti, Seinäjoki	2 462	7	2 451	7	3 014	7
Hämeenkadun turvakoti, Tampere	4 099	9	4 572	9	3 497	9
Hämeenlinnan turvakoti	2 388	7	3 384	7	2 829	7
Joensuun turvakoti	2 189	7	1 718	7	2 968	7
Jyväskylän turvakoti	3 898	7	4 023	7	4 043	7
Kainuun turvakoti / Oulun turvakodin etäyksikkö	207	1	282	1	364	2
Kaukajärven turvakoti (ent. Mutkakatu), Tampere	4 446	8	4 220	8	5 398	18
Keski–Uudenmaan turvakoti, Kerava	2 375	7	2 472	7	3 325	7
Kuopion turvakoti	2 240	5	3 130	5	2 544	5
Kymenlaakson turvakoti Villa Jensen, Kotka	2 862	7	1 949	7	2 207	7
Lahden turvakoti	2 130	5	2 025	5	2 429	7
Lapin turvakoti, Rovaniemi	1 873	7	1 993	7	1 516	7
Mikkelin turvakoti	1 077	7	1 536	7	911	7
Oulun turvakoti	4 299	10	4 278	10	4 543	10
Pohjanmaan turvakoti	1 165	6	905	6	1 660	6
Porin Esikon turvakoti	2 831	7	1 911	7	2 332	7
Porvoon turvakoti	2 906	9	3 907	9	2 846	9
Raahen turvakoti	1 065	5	846	5	757	5
Sophie Mannerheimin turvakoti, Helsinki	3 586	7	3 371	7	2 665	7
Turun turvakoti	6 093	10	4 670	10	4 981	10
Turvakoti Aina, Kokkola	936	5	1 465	5	1 738	5
Turvakoti Hertta (ent. Haaga), Helsinki	6 665	11	5 737	11	7 151	14
Turvakoti Mona, pääkaupunkiseutu	7 892	14	7 040	14	7 927	14
Turvakoti Pellas, Espoo	4 290	7	4 011	7	3 677	7
Turvakoti Toukola, Helsinki	3 354	7	2 849	7	3 225	7
Vantaan turvakoti	6 490	14	6 333	14	6 183	14
Villa Familia turvakoti, Raasepori	1 750	4	1 288	4	1 778	5
Äänekosken turvakoti	2 540	7	1 602	7	1 921	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>89 146</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>84 462</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>89 394</b>	<b>228</b>

Appendix table 2. Clients in shelter 2020–2022

Shelter	2020	2021	2022
Etelä–Karjalan hyvinvointialueen turvakoti, Imatra	84	58	60
Etelä–Pohjanmaan turvakoti, Seinäjoki	189	141	199
Hämeenkadun turvakoti, Tampere	230	240	235
Hämeenlinnan turvakoti	189	175	175
Joensuun turvakoti	128	126	155
Jyväskylän turvakoti	192	200	168
Kainuun turvakoti / Oulun turvakodin etäyksikkö	26	23	30
Kaukajärven turvakoti (ent. Mutkakatu), Tampere	252	260	270
Keski–Uudenmaan turvakoti, Kerava	183	195	210
Kuopion turvakoti	144	165	139
Kymenlaakson turvakoti Villa Jensen, Kotka	142	110	124
Lahden turvakoti	170	120	124
Lapin turvakoti, Rovaniemi	107	123	90
Mikkelin turvakoti	123	101	94
Oulun turvakoti	296	281	284
Pohjanmaan turvakoti	124	78	111
Porin Esikon turvakoti	179	175	178
Porvoon turvakoti	139	143	126
Raahen turvakoti	99	86	79
Sophie Mannerheimin turvakoti, Helsinki	200	188	187
Turun turvakoti	344	256	292
Turvakoti Aina, Kokkola	85	131	153
Turvakoti Hertta (ent. Haaga), Helsinki	275	279	360
Turvakoti Mona, pääkaupunkiseutu	335	266	299
Turvakoti Pellas, Espoo	172	199	211
Turvakoti Toukola, Helsinki	206	157	144
Vantaan turvakoti	393	471	452
Villa Familia turvakoti, Raasepori	110	84	96
Äänekosken turvakoti	128	132	118
<b>Total</b>	<b>5 244</b>	<b>4 963</b>	<b>5 163</b>

Appendix table 3. Clients referred to another shelter due to lack of space 2020–2022

Shelter	2020	2021	2022
Etelä–Karjalan hyvinvointialueen turvakoti, Imatra	4	0	6
Etelä–Pohjanmaan turvakoti, Seinäjoki	1	13	13
Hämeenkadun turvakoti, Tampere	37	76	43
Hämeenlinnan turvakoti	7	44	9
Joensuun turvakoti	6	1	10
Jyväskylän turvakoti	59	30	48
Kainuun turvakoti / Oulun turvakodin etäyksikkö	8	23	12
Kaukajärven turvakoti (ent. Mutkakatu), Tampere	88	199	54
Keski–Uudenmaan turvakoti, Kerava	9	11	24
Kuopion turvakoti	42	84	49
Kymenlaakson turvakoti Villa Jensen, Kotka	2	0	0
Lahden turvakoti	55	12	16
Lapin turvakoti, Rovaniemi	0	0	0
Mikkelin turvakoti	0	0	2
Oulun turvakoti	65	36	46
Pohjanmaan turvakoti	5	0	6
Porin Esikon turvakoti	0	4	0
Porvoon turvakoti	12	0	3
Raahen turvakoti	0	1	0
Sophie Mannerheimin turvakoti, Helsinki	47	66	50
Turun turvakoti	51	28	51
Turvakoti Aina, Kokkola	4	3	26
Turvakoti Hertta (ent. Haaga), Helsinki	55	5	32
Turvakoti Mona, pääkaupunkiseutu	64	100	122
Turvakoti Pellas, Espoo	93	115	136
Turvakoti Toukola, Helsinki	40	17	18
Vantaan turvakoti	17	2	17
Villa Familia turvakoti, Raasepori	25	24	19
Äänekosken turvakoti	14	4	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>813</b>



Appendix table 4. Available family places, no. of days when the shelter is full and occupancy rate 2022

Shelter	Available family places	Number of days when the shelter is full	Occupancy rate
Etelä-Karjalan hyvinvointialueen turvakoti, Imatra	2.6	33	34 %
Etelä-Pohjanmaan turvakoti, Seinäjoki	2.6	50	63 %
Hämeenkadun turvakoti, Tampere	2.3	88	75 %
Hämeenlinnan turvakoti	3.0	58	57 %
Joensuun turvakoti	2.3	77	67 %
Jyväskylän turvakoti	1.8	109	74 %
Kainuun turvakoti / Oulun turvakodin etäyksikkö	1.1	100	36 %
Kaukajärven turvakoti (ent. Mutkakatu), Tampere	3.7	125	77 %
Keski-Uudenmaan turvakoti, Kerava	2.2	55	68 %
Kuopion turvakoti	0.5	260	91 %
Kymenlaakson turvakoti Villa Jensen, Kotka	3.8	19	46 %
Lahden turvakoti	2.7	57	61 %
Lapin turvakoti, Rovaniemi	5.0	0	29 %
Mikkelin turvakoti	5.5	0	21 %
Oulun turvakoti	2.6	92	74 %
Pohjanmaan turvakoti	3.8	13	37 %
Porin Esikon turvakoti	3.0	33	57 %
Porvoon turvakoti	5.1	23	44 %
Raahen turvakoti	3.5	25	30 %
Sophie Mannerheimin turvakoti, Helsinki	1.5	110	77 %
Turun turvakoti	2.1	91	79 %
Turvakoti Aina, Kokkola	2.3	45	54 %
Turvakoti Hertta (ent. Haaga), Helsinki	2.9	48	79 %
Turvakoti Mona, pääkaupunkiseutu	1.6	111	89 %
Turvakoti Pellas, Espoo	1.2	157	83 %
Turvakoti Toukola, Helsinki	1.2	145	83 %
Vantaan turvakoti	4.7	29	66 %
Villa Familia turvakoti, Raasepori	2.4	39	49 %
Äänekosken turvakoti	2.9	64	48 %
<b>All shelters, average</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>60 %</b>

Appendix Table 5. Shelters for victims of domestic violence in 2021–2022 whole country

Questions and response options	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	
	women	women	men	men	gender other	gender other	gender not known	gender not known	children	children	total	total	
<b>Number of guiding and steering, where shelter service is not initiated</b>	279	463	31	90					2	94	80	404	635
<b>Number of days spent in a shelter</b>	42 786	43 715	3 459	4 053	56	28	106	294	37 986	41 304	84 462	89 394	
<b>How many clients were referred to another shelter and for what reason?</b>													
Client's own wish	23	24		1					16	11	39	36	
Primary shelter was full*	503	415	32	43			33	26	330	329	898	813	
Safety (client's or other people)	28	46	1	1				3	13	16	42	66	
Other	35	39	9	6			2		55	33	101	78	
<b>How many clients have been referred to the receiving shelter from another shelter?</b>													
Client's own wish	73	45	5	7					44	26	122	78	
Primary shelter was full	112	68	8	8	1				42	46	163	122	
Safety (client's or other people)	81	54	9	4					50	61	140	119	
Other	81	50	4	3					71	37	156	90	
<b>Age at the start date of the shelter period</b>													
0–3 years									738	827	738	827	
4–6 years									465	461	465	461	
7–10 years									442	518	442	518	
11–14 years									325	308	325	308	
15–17 years									150	127	150	127	
18–24 years	404	387	45	51	2			1			451	439	
25–34 years	856	887	76	66	1	1					933	954	
35–44 years	725	787	51	55				1			776	843	
45–54 years	350	345	39	32							389	377	
55–64 years	147	145	15	22							162	167	
65–74 years	83	83	11	16							94	99	
75–84 years	23	25	5	6							28	31	
85 years and over	5	5									5	5	
No data	3	6	2	1				1			6	7	
Total	2 596	2 670	244	249	3	1	1	2	2 120	2 241	4 964	5 163	
<b>Marital status</b>													
Unmarried	567	735	64	101			1	1			631	838	
Married	1 007	988	80	77	1						1 088	1 065	
Cohabitation	551	262	73	27	2						626	289	
Separated	53	43	2	1							55	45	
Divorced	329	363	9	15				1			338	379	
Registered partnership		2										2	
Widow(er)	23	32		1							23	33	
No data*	66	161	11	15	1						78	176	
Missing data													88

Questions and response options	2021 women	2022 women	2021 men	2022 men	2021 gender other	2022 gender other	2021 gender not known	2022 gender not known	2021 total	2022 total
<b>Educational level</b>										
Lower basic level or less	122	97	12	8					134	105
Upper basic level	453	236	35	24	1	1			489	261
Upper secondary level	679	369	56	30	1				736	399
Lowest level tertiary	92	50	5	5					97	55
Lower-degree level tertiary	161	151	14	5					175	156
Higher-degree level tertiary	114	94	7	5					121	99
Doctorate or equivalent level	9	4							9	4
No data	961	694	112	50				1	1 073	745
Missing data									4	1091
<b>Labour force participation</b>										
At work	574	476	58	46					632	522
Unemployed	667	442	60	39	2				729	481
Self-employed	29	30	3	13					32	43
Student	315	214	32	18	1				348	232
Retired	290	193	39	26					329	219
Family leave	276	248		1					276	249
Other	105	110	12	8					117	118
No data	339	619	37	55				2	376	676
Missing data										375
<b>First language</b>										
Finnish	1 818	1 626	160	153	2	1		1	1 980	1 781
Swedish	39	38	10	2					49	40
Sami										
English	24	32	5	7					29	39
Russian	77	100	4	4					81	104
Estonian	30	42	3	1					33	43
Somali	9	18	2	2					11	20
Arabian	148	136	11	10					159	146
Kurdish	27	26	1	3					28	29
Thai	36	43		1					36	44
Other	308	342	32	36					340	378
Missing data									92	291
<b>How many adults arrived in the shelter alone?</b>	<b>1 038</b>	<b>1 414</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>1 168</b>	<b>1 600</b>
<b>Earlier stays in shelters</b>										
First time in a shelter	1 402	1 141	177	147	3				1 582	1 288
1 previous stay	519	479	53	29	1			1	573	509
2 previous stays	174	143	16	12					190	155
3 or more previous stays	343	217	17	16					360	233
No data	238	570	26	56				1	265	626
Missing data									18	231

Questions and response options	2021 women	2022 women	2021 men	2022 men	2021 gender other	2022 gender other	2021 gender not known	2022 gender not known	2021 children	2022 children	2021 total	2022 total	
<b>What kind of violence has the client experienced?</b>													
Physical violence	1 778	1 388	140	116	2	1			1	216	178	2 136	1 684
Psychological violence	2 302	1 777	186	156	1	1			1	415	378	2 904	2 313
Sexual violence	491	317	8	7	2	1			1	16	21	517	347
Threat of violence	1 927	1 236	165	108	1					382	572	2 475	1 916
Economic abuse	872	622	54	42	1	1				31	17	958	682
Negligence*	320	104	14	12						151	85	485	201
Cultural or religious violence	357	182	30	13						41	29	428	224
Persecution	574	343	47	12						77	51	698	406
Exposed to violence	650	227	40	19						861	1 339	1 551	1 585
Chemical violence*	79	28		6			1			3	1	82	36
Honour-based violence*	142	86	8	2						12	13	162	101
Other form of violence	174	133	8	8						19	15	201	156
No data	32	70	2	2						141	38	175	110
<b>How long has the violence continued?</b>													
Less than one month	153	104	23	16								176	120
1–12 months	593	419	74	44	2	1						669	464
1–2 years	380	319	28	26								408	345
2–5 years	437	370	51	42								488	412
More than 5 years	678	506	56	52	2							736	558
No data	449	716	71	62			1	1	1			521	780
Missing data													363
<b>Who has/have been violent towards the client?</b>													
Spouse or cohabiting partner	1 607	1 274	129	112	2	1				2	23	1 740	1 410
Former spouse or cohabiting partner	451	319	12	6						4	2	467	327
Dating partner	181	142	3	2						3	3	187	147
Former dating partner	121	63	2	2	1					7	2	131	67
Parent (mother, father, step-mother, step-father)	112	57	27	22	1					1 755	1 403	1 895	1 482
Child or step-child	58	55	13	17						9	1	80	73
Other family member or relative	145	63	26	21						80	48	251	132
Other (e.g. In situations comparable to domestic violence)	92	66	27	17						58	33	177	116
Perpetrator is someone else than aforementioned*	53	7	9	1						18	4	80	12
No data	13	54	2	2						29	1	44	57
<b>Gender of the perpetrator</b>													
Female	143	126	162	132						109	76	414	334
Male	2 575	1 896	71	60	3	1			1	1 854	1 456	4 503	3 414
No data	27	72	12	14				1		23	16	63	102
<b>Are the client and the perpetrator living together?</b>													
Yes	1 528	1 279	143	137	3	10			9			1 674	1 435
No	928	634	80	43					1			1 008	678
No data	140	471	14	26								154	497
Missing data												2	305

Questions and response options	2021 women	2022 women	2021 men	2022 men	2021 gender other	2022 gender other	2021 gender not known	2022 gender not known	2021 total	2022 total
<b>Are the client and the perpetrator living together after the client's stay in the shelter?</b>										
Yes	534	444	58	46					592	490
No	1 573	1 226	129	105	1	1			1 703	1 332
No data	488	488	53	37	2				543	525
Missing data										568
<b>Has a police report been made on the violence experienced by the client?</b>										
Yes	742	545	40	25	1				783	570
No	1 599	1 119	165	129	2				1 766	1 248
No data	255	337	22	33		1		1	277	372
<b>Client's residence after leaving the shelter</b>										
The same residence as before	1 043	820	94	82					1 137	902
New residence	573	453	51	33					624	486
Friends' or relatives' residence	250	233	17	29	2				269	262
Another shelter	98	74	6	2					104	76
Other residential arrangement within social welfare	148	142	11	5					159	147
Other	47	55	5	8					52	63
No data	442	547	56	33	1				499	580
Missing data										399
<b>How long did the client stay in the shelter? The question applies to clients who have left the shelter.</b>										
1–3 days	700	654	75	74			1	1	776	729
4–6 days	399	430	56	43	1				456	473
7–13 days	496	520	47	57					543	577
14–30 days	530	546	54	61	2	1		1	586	609
31–60 days	388	391	43	35					431	426
More than 60 days	79	82	5	4					84	86
Missing data									112	142
<b>On whose initiative did the client seek shelter services?</b>										
Own initiative	1 173	950	126	101	3				1 302	1 051
Parent	64	37	22	16					86	53
Other relative or friend	129	129	14	14					143	143
Social welfare	775	649	74	60					849	709
Health care	121	106	13	8		1			134	115
Police	155	153	10	14					165	167
Emergency response centre	5	2		1					5	3
Helpline	15	17	2	1					17	18
Organizer of teaching and education*	17	12	2	2					19	14
Other	119	168	14	15					133	183
No data	114	450	17	38				1	132	488
Missing data									3	98

Questions and response options	2021 girls	2022 girls	2021 boys	2022 boys	2021 child, gender other	2022 child, gender other	2021 child, gender not known	2022 child, gender not known	2021 children total	2022 children total
<b>Age at the start date of the shelter period</b>										
0–3 years	361	375	377	448				4	738	827
4–6 years	227	235	238	225				1	465	461
7–10 years	225	266	217	251				1	442	518
11–14 years	183	169	142	139					325	308
15–17 years	89	82	59	45	1		1		150	127
Total	1 085	1 127	1 033	1 108	1		1	6	2 120	2 241
<b>Underage children accompanying the client in the shelter</b>										
0–3 years	344	302	357	362			1	1	702	665
4–6 years	233	179	232	184					465	363
7–10 years	227	226	206	194					433	420
11–14 years	161	130	133	107					294	237
15–17 years	74	58	58	39		2	1	2	133	101
Total	1 039	895	986	886		2	2	3	2 027	1 786
<b>Underage children not accompanying the client in the shelter</b>										
0–3 years	130	61	102	60			17	2	249	123
4–6 years	73	51	94	48			7	5	174	104
7–10 years	114	67	99	93			4	3	217	163
11–14 years	104	94	89	140			11	5	204	239
15–17 years	75	103	65	100			4	3	144	206
Total	496	376	449	441			43	18	988	835
<b>Under aged clients that have come alone to the shelter</b>										
	4	8	7	2	1	1			12	11
<b>What kind of violence has the client experienced?</b>										
Physical violence	99	84	116	94	1				216	178
Psychological violence	209	186	205	191	1			1	415	378
Sexual violence	10	14	5	7	1				16	21
Threat of violence	206	290	175	281	1			1	382	572
Economic abuse	17	9	13	8	1				31	17
Negligence*	79	48	72	37					151	85
Cultural or religious violence	24	21	16	8	1				41	29
Persecution	34	29	43	22					77	51
Exposed to violence	434	674	409	665	15		3		861	1 339
Chemical violence*			3	1					3	1
Honour-based violence*	7	10	4	3	1				12	13
Other form of violence	10	12	9	3					19	15
No data	73	23	67	13	1			2	141	38

Questions and response options	2021 girls	2022 girls	2021 boys	2022 boys	2021 child, gender other	2022 child, gender other	2021 child, gender not known	2022 child, gender not known	2021 children total	2022 children total
<b>Who has/have been violent towards the client?</b>										
Spouse or cohabiting partner	1	8	1	15					2	23
Former spouse or cohabiting partner	2	2	2						4	2
Dating partner	1	2	2	1					3	3
Former dating partner	5	1	2	1					7	2
Parent (mother, father, step-mother, step-father)	881	716	873	687	1				1 755	1 403
Child or step-child	3		6	1					9	1
Other family member or relative	44	23	36	24				1	80	48
Other (e.g. In situations comparable to domestic violence)	28	20	30	13					58	33
Perpetrator is someone else than aforementioned*	11		7	4					18	4
No data	18	1	11						29	1
<b>Gender of the perpetrator</b>										
Female	48	39	60	36	1			1	109	76
Male	921	745	904	711	29				1 854	1 456
No data	14	7	9	9					23	16
<b>Reports on the child's situation</b>										
No need	135	71	117	79				1	252	151
Child welfare notification	690	689	687	636				1	1 377	1 326
Police report*	48	36	44	30			2		94	66
Preliminary child welfare notification*				1			11	13	11	14
Notification of need of social services*	96	5	88	5					184	10
Contact to the social service authorities*	111	51	110	46					221	97
No data	14	34	11	43					25	77

\* There are changes in the question or the answering options. Numbers aren't fully comparable with previous years. Changes made are explained in the quality description of the statistical report (in Finnish).