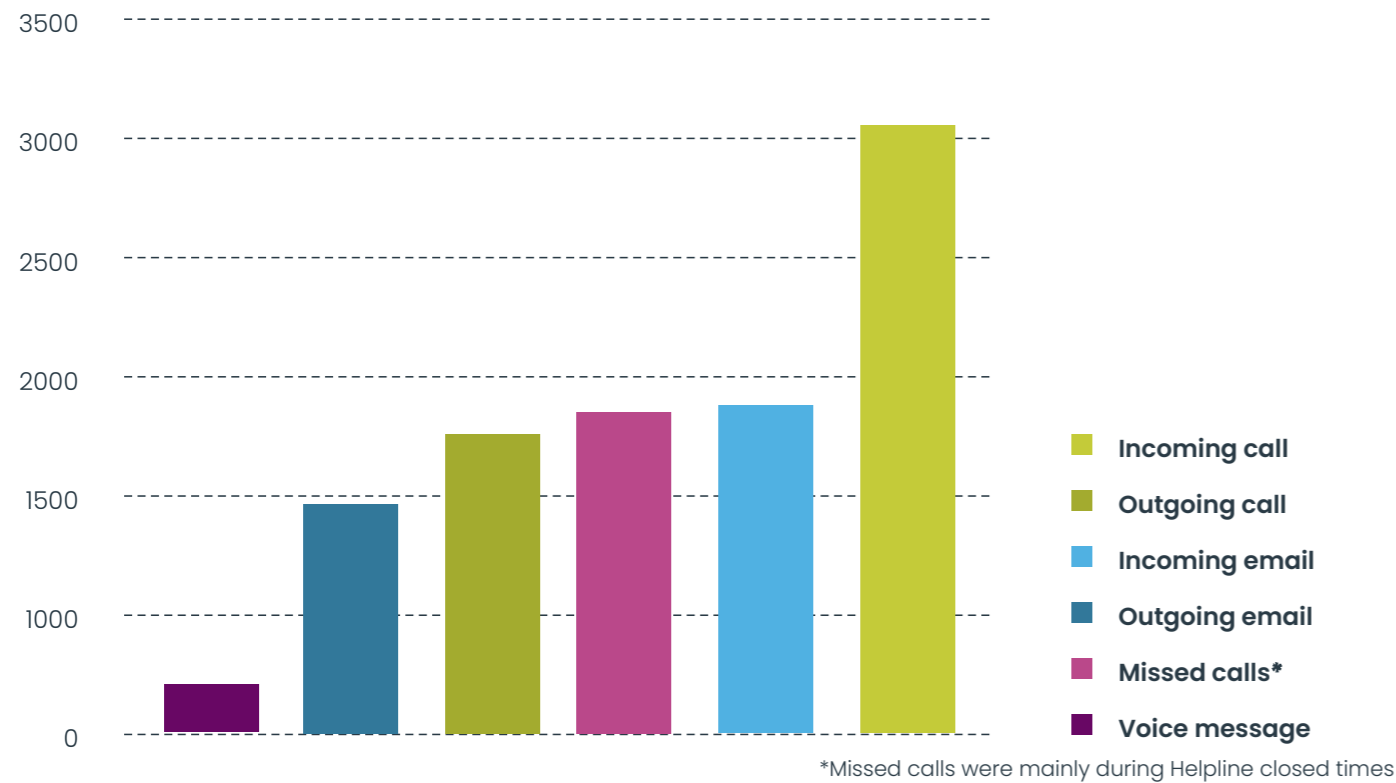


Helpline Activity

2022/23

Helpline Activity



In the 2022-23 period, the helpline received a significant count of contacts and cases related to honour based abuse. January 2023 was the busiest month with 1,008 contacts. Following increased media attention, due to the criminalisation of Child Marriage, March saw a remarkable surge of 392 incoming calls, the highest in any month.

The helpline provided vital support to 417 individuals facing forced marriage and 210 children aged 12 months to 17 years.

Notably, 192 of the children were girls, with 82 of them at risk of child marriage. These numbers highlight the helpline's crucial role in combating honour based abuse and the urgent need for action.

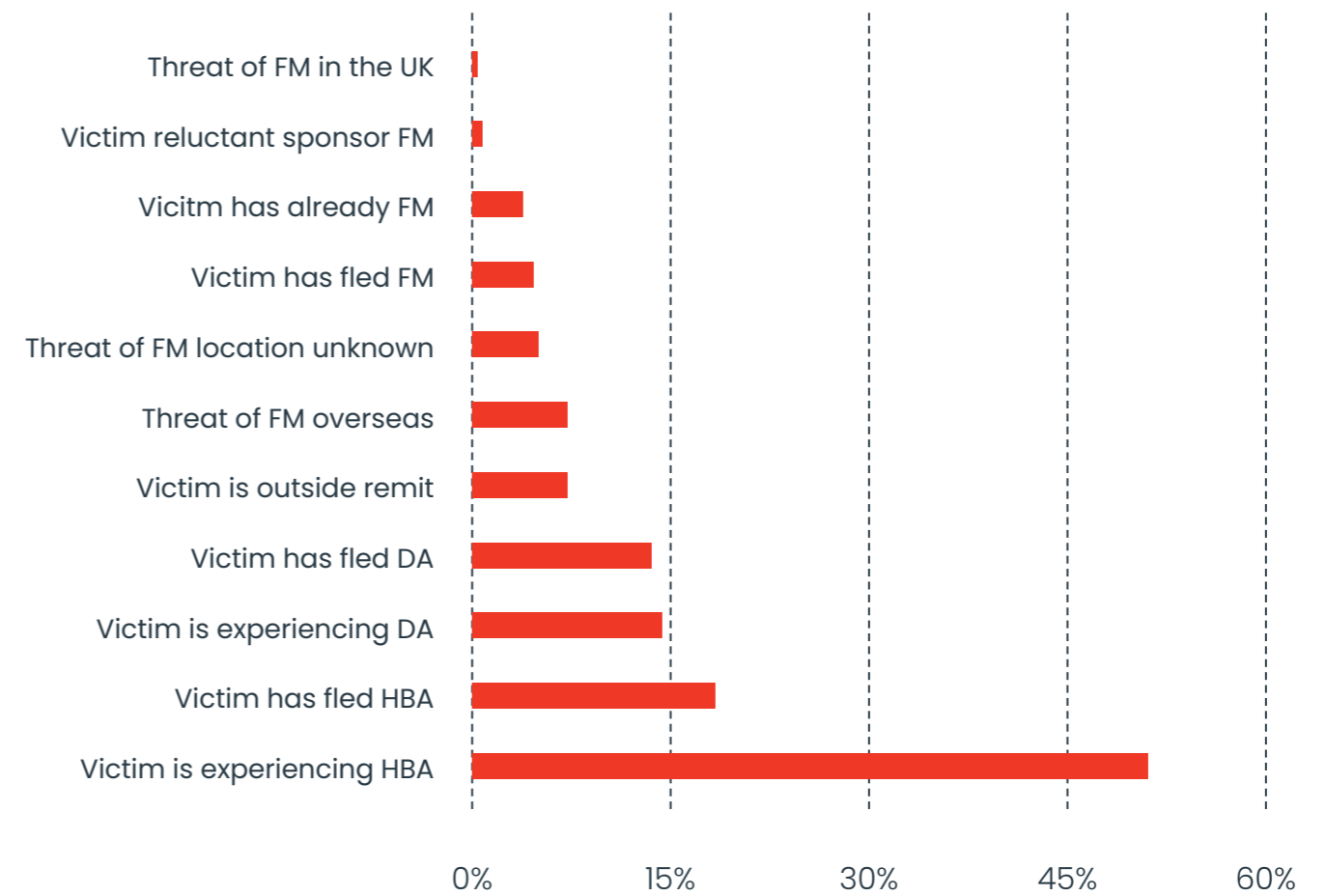
9,616 total contacts in the 2022-23 period

2,346 total cases in the 2022-23 period

417 individuals facing forced marriage

192 of the children were girls

What prompted contact?



Out of the 2,162 cases, a significant portion (50%) were experiencing honour based abuse, forced marriage, or child marriage at the time of their initial contact.

Additionally, 14% of the cases were facing the immediate risk of a forced marriage. Courageously, 39% of the cases had already fled from honour based abuse, domestic abuse, forced marriage, or child marriage.

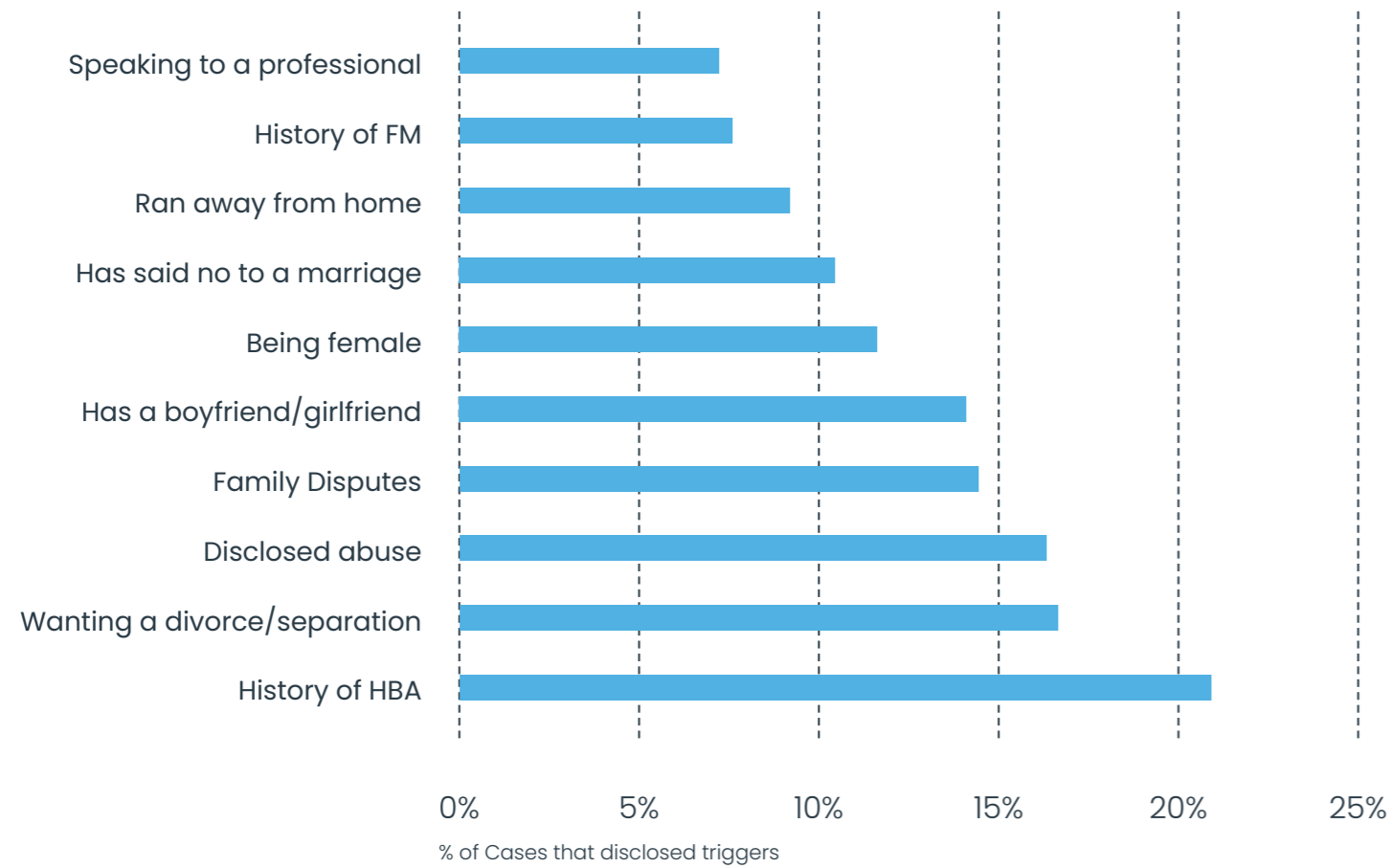
It is worth noting that many callers mentioned multiple factors that prompted them to reach out to the Helpline, emphasising the complexity and gravity of their situations. These statistics underscore the pressing need for comprehensive support and intervention to address honour based abuse and its related issues.

14% of cases were facing immediate risk of FM

39% of cases had already fled from HBA

50% of cases were experiencing HBA

What Triggered the Abuse?



Out of the 1,343 cases**, most of them identified a history of honour based abuse in their family as the primary trigger for the abuse they were experiencing.

Furthermore, 17% of the cases mentioned wanting to end a marriage as a significant trigger, while 16% disclosed experiencing abuse.

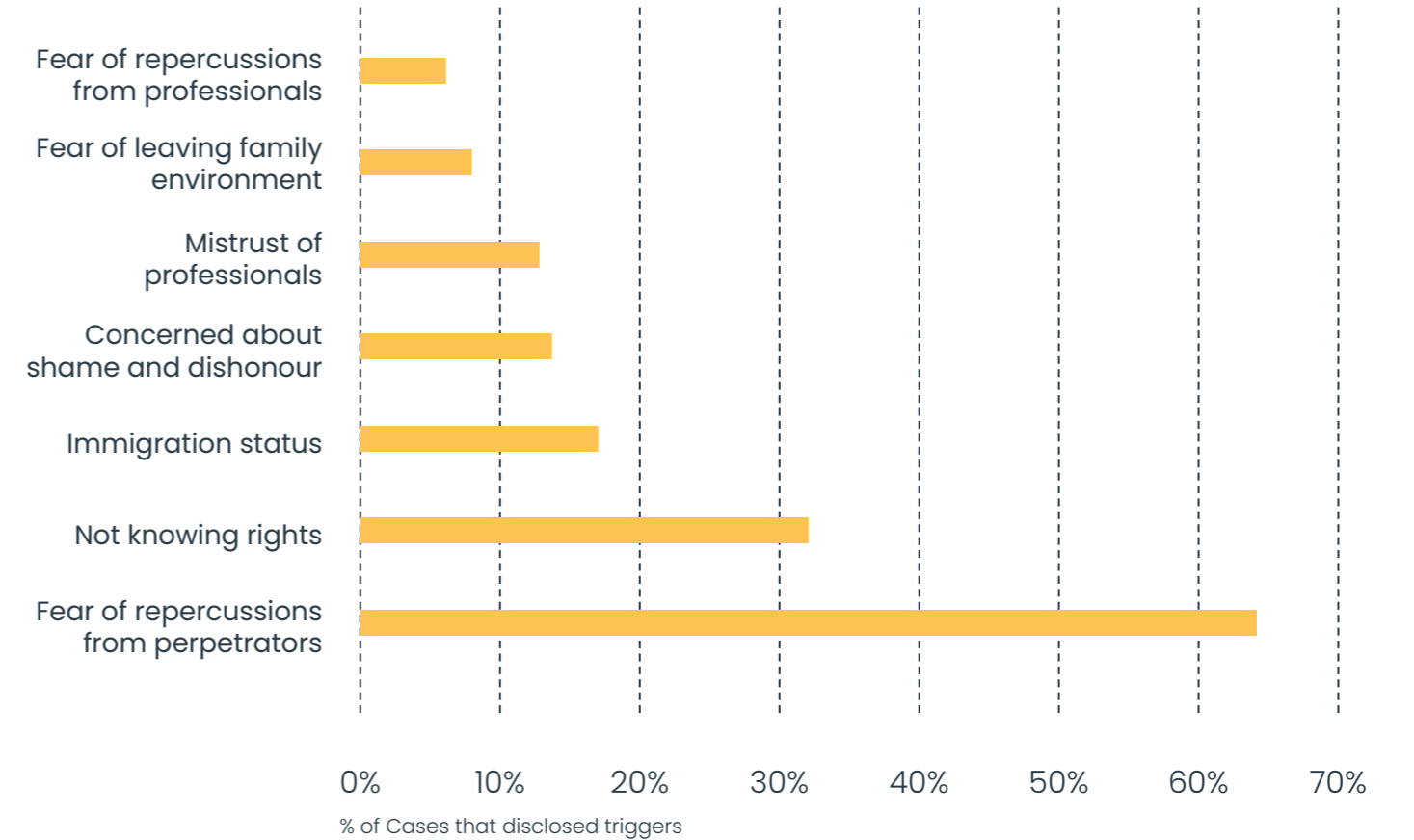
It is important to note that many callers cited multiple triggers, highlighting the complex nature of their situations. Additionally, it is distressing to learn that 83 LGBTQ+ cases were subjected to honour based abuse specifically due to their sexuality and/or gender identity.

17% of cases wanted to end a marriage

16% of cases disclosed experiencing abuse

83 LGBTQ+ cases were subjected to HBA

What Barriers Have Prevented Disclosing Abuse?



Out of the 888 cases, a significant number (64%) expressed fear of repercussions from their abusers as a major barrier preventing them from reporting the abuse.

This fear is a distressing reality that often keeps victims silent and trapped in abusive situations.

Additionally, 31% of cases

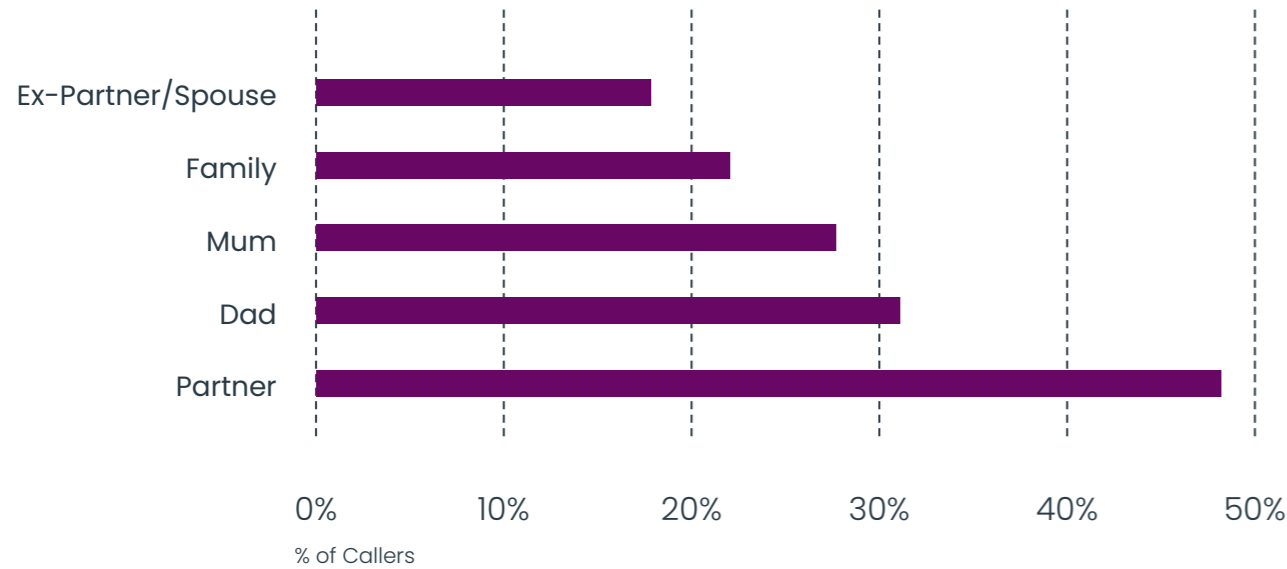
admitted to not knowing their rights if they were to disclose the abuse, indicating a lack of awareness and information about available support and legal protections.

Another significant barrier reported by 16% of cases was the fear of compromising their immigration status if they were to disclose the abuse.

This highlights the vulnerability of individuals who may be in abusive situations while facing immigration challenges.

Furthermore, 13% of cases expressed concerns about bringing shame and dishonour upon their family, showcasing the cultural and societal pressures that can further discourage victims from seeking help.

Who was Perpetrating the Abuse?



1883 callers reported who their perpetrators are, and a significant portion (49%) identified their partner as the perpetrator of the abuse.

This highlights the prevalence of intimate partner violence within the context of honour based abuse.

When it comes to familial perpetrators, both 'mum' and 'dad' were cited in 60% of the cases. There is an increased likelihood of parents are together rather than solely. However, it is

important to note that within this category, 10% of callers specifically mentioned 'dad' as the sole perpetrator, while 6% mentioned 'mum' as the sole perpetrator. This indicates that gender dynamics play a role in the perpetration of honour-based abuse, with both male and female family members involved in different capacities.

In addition to family members, other perpetrators mentioned by callers included in-laws, siblings,

grandparents, and community members.

This highlights the wide range of individuals within the victim's social circle who may contribute to the perpetration of abuse.

Understanding the different perpetrators involved is crucial for developing targeted interventions and support systems that address the specific dynamics of honour based abuse.

Key Takeaways

1. The helpline demonstrated its commitment by effectively managing many contacts, - from victims, survivors, professionals, and concerned individuals. The helpline's vital assistance to vulnerable victims, including children facing the threat of forced marriage, emphasises its critical role in offering a lifeline to those in distress. The statistics underscore the urgent need for comprehensive support and intervention to protect individuals from honour-based abuse, forced marriage, and child marriage.
2. The statistics reveal a high percentage of callers experiencing honour based abuse, - forced marriage, or child marriage at the time of contact. The presence of multiple triggers and the prevalence of abuse within families underscore the pressing need for comprehensive support and intervention to address this complex issue. 90% of callers are experiencing HBA or facing forced/child marriage during initial contact. Moreover, 39% had already fled from abusive situations.
3. The barriers identified by callers, such as fear of repercussions, lack of knowledge about rights, immigration concerns, and cultural pressures, highlight the complex dynamics that prevent victims from reporting abuse. These barriers underscore the necessity for targeted interventions, awareness campaigns, and culturally sensitive support systems to empower victims, ensure their safety, and break the cycle of honour-based abuse.

Overall, the report highlights the indispensable role of the helpline in combating honour-based abuse, but also underscores the urgent need for increased awareness, targeted

**Call volumes differ based on information provided by callers

This report is based on the information shared by helpline callers and may not reflect the complete national picture of Honour Based Abuse. It provides a snapshot of the challenges faced by victims.



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