



Exploitation

The impact on child victims who are then deprived of their liberty



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Balance of fact and opinion

Research goals and identified
areas to explore

Discussion

Current statistics for exploitation.

Current statistics for children being deprived of their liberty.

Impact and wellbeing.

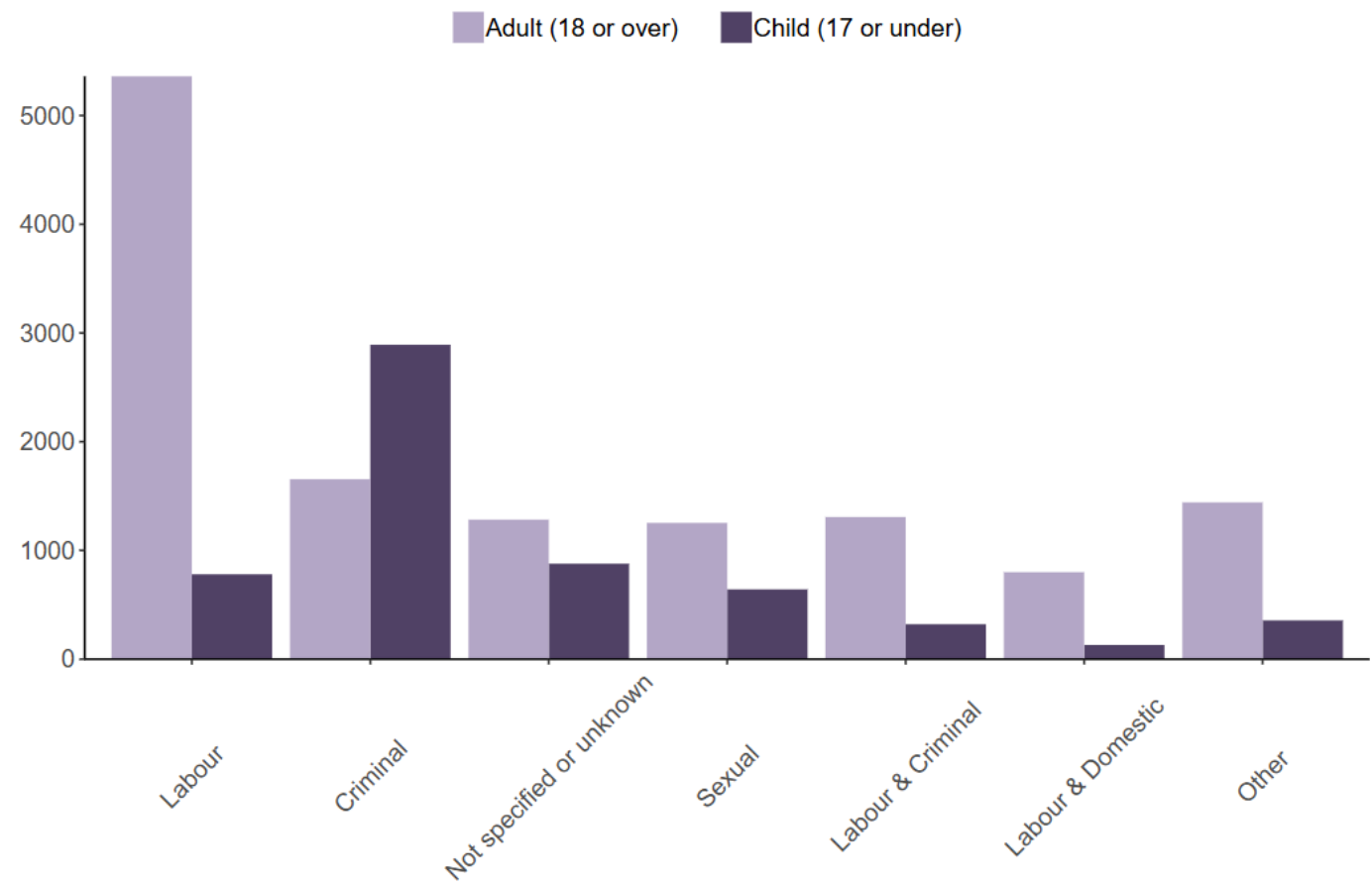
The child's voice.

Government statistics

- National referral mechanism – Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Act 2015.
- [Modern slavery: National Referral Mechanism and Duty to Notify statistics UK, end of year summary 2024 - GOV.UK](#)
- Key results – In 2024 the NRM received 19,125 referrals. 31% of these were children (5,999). 78% of the referrals were for males (4,677) and 22% (1,306) were for females. Children were most often referred for criminal exploitation – 48% (2,891).

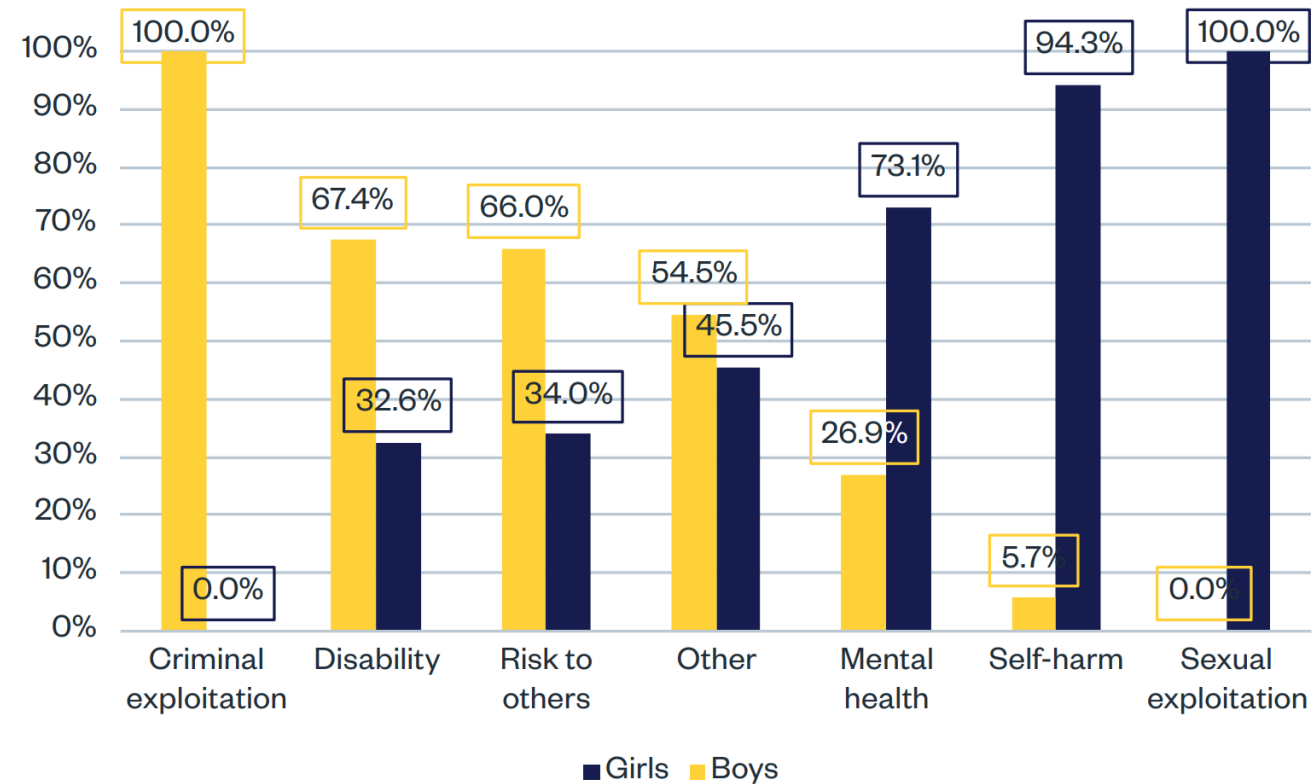
Types of exploitation

Figure 7: Number of NRM referrals, by exploitation type and age at referral



Contrast

Figure 8: Primary reason for DoL application by gender



Children being deprived of their liberty

January to March 2025 320 children were subject to deprivation of liberty orders.



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graph TD; A[January to March 2025 320 children were subject to deprivation of liberty orders.] --> B[53% female and 46% male.]; B --> C[90% over the age of 13.]; C --> D[55% aged between 13 and 15.];
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53% female and 46% male.

90% over the age of 13.

55% aged between 13 and 15.

Knowledge gaps?

What you look for you will see.

Improved responses

Court precedents – welfare case May 2025.

Independent inquiry into child sexual abuse.

Current momentum to raise further awareness.



The child's voice

- Feedback from children highlighted at the national summit for deprivation of liberty.
- Statistics show that children being deprived are victims of extra-familial harm.
- Combined approach required for an approach which ensures safety for children.
- Family courts improved responses to children.
- Local authority initiatives.

Questions and feedback

Thank you for your time

