

The impacts of workplace sexual harassment

Among people who said they had been sexually harassed at work in the last five years



19% experienced negative impacts to their health and general-wellbeing.



The health effects of sexual harassment are also a risk factor for various chronic diseases.



36% reported negative impacts on mental health.



For women, sexual harassment can be one of the most damaging barriers to career success and job satisfaction.



One in four experienced negative impacts to their employment, career or work.

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10% suffered negative financial consequences.

\$523.6 million

Workplace sexual harassment is estimated to have cost people who had been harassed \$523.6 million in 2018. 'The outcome of all of this for me was catastrophic. My health was destroyed; I lost my job and my income and everything I had ever studied and worked for; my family was greatly affected; and my life has never recovered from the betrayal and injustice.'

------- Individual, Submission 180, Respect at Work: National Inquiry into Sexual Harassment in Australian workplaces

References: Australian Human Rights Commission, Everyone's Business: Fourth National Survey on Sexual Harassment in Australian Workplaces (2018). Australian Human Rights Commission, Respect at Work: National Inquiry into Sexual Harassment in Australian workplaces (2020). Deloitte Access Economics, The Economic Costs of Sexual Harassment in the Workplace (Final Report, February 2019).