



DATA SLICE #44

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Elder Mistreatment is Pervasive in New York State

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Elder mistreatment is a pervasive problem that has major health and psychosocial consequences for older adults. In New York State, approximately one-tenth of older adults (ages 60 and older), or 360,000 people, experienced elder mistreatment between 2009 and 2019. The most common type of mistreatment is financial (8.5%), followed by emotional abuse (4.1%), physical abuse (2.3%), neglect (1.0%), and sexual abuse (Figure 1). Age increases the risk of experiencing neglect. Poor self-rated health increases the risk of experiencing emotional, physical, and financial abuse. Black older adults are at increased risk of financial abuse compared to Whites. Health care visits may provide an important opportunity to detect mistreatment. Health care practitioners can play a key role in screening, providing education and awareness, and making appropriate referrals for older adults at risk of mistreatment.

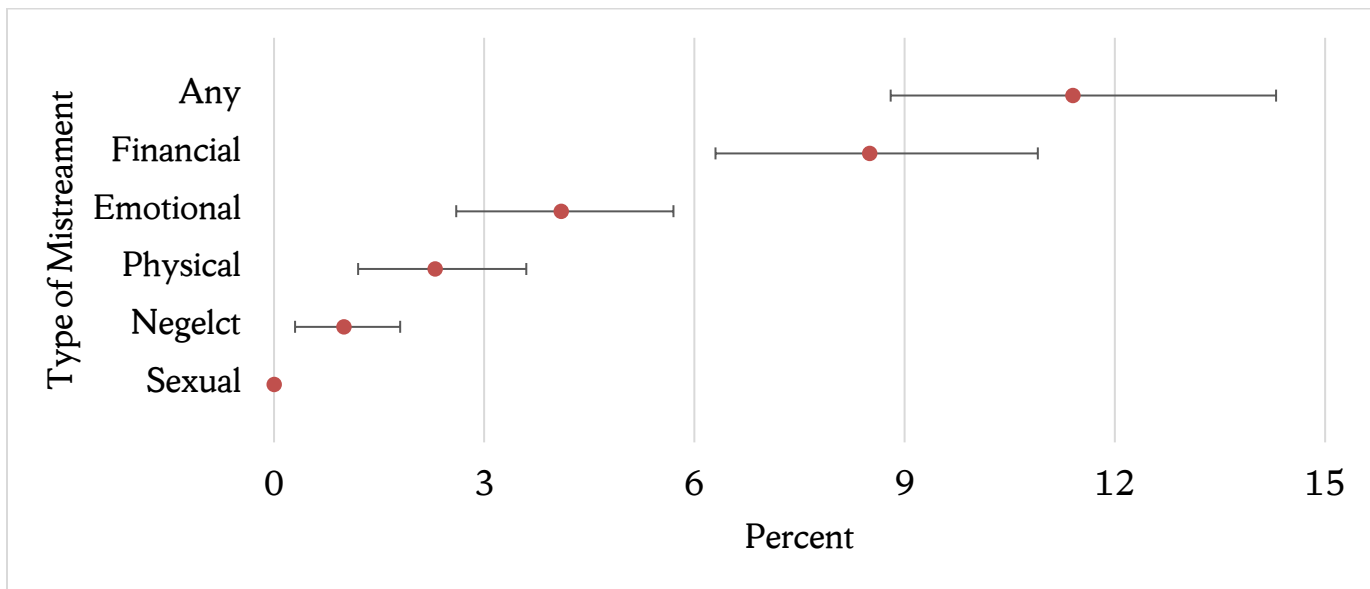


Figure 1: Percentage of Older Adults (ages 60 and older) Reporting Mistreatment, 2009-2019

Data Source: New York State Elder Mistreatment Prevalence Study: 2009 (wave 1)-2019 (wave 2), N=628 older adults ages 60 and older. Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals. For additional information see: [Burnes, D., Hancock, D.W., Eckenrode, J., Lachs, M.S., and Pillemer, K. \(2021\). Estimated Incidence and Factors Associated With Risk of Elder Mistreatment in New York State. JAMA Network Open.](#)

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