



The Man Box:

A study on being a young man in Australia

Fact sheet

Bullying, Violence and Sexual Harassment

Our survey shows a concerning prevalence of bullying, violence and sexual harassment of women in young men's lives.

Overall, a significant minority of young men reported perpetrating different forms of bullying and violence. Forty per cent of young men reported perpetrating verbal bullying in the past month, 28 per cent reported perpetrating online bullying in the past month, and 27 per cent reported perpetrating physical bullying in the past month.

Young men inside the Man Box are significantly more likely to be perpetrators of all forms of bullying and violence than those outside the Man Box.

Percentage of respondents who report perpetrating bullying in the last month

	Man Box	Perpetrating Bullying: Verbal	Perpetrating Bullying: Online	Perpetrating Bullying: Physical
Australia	In	56%*	47%*	47%*
	Out	24%*	10%*	7%*
US	In	63%*	54%*	52%*
	Out	26%*	9%*	7%*
UK	In	63%*	59%*	59%*
	Out	23%*	10%*	10%*
Mexico	In	55%*	26%*	28%*
	Out	40%*	10%*	9%*

*represent statistically significant relationships at $p < .05$

Looking at sexual harassment of women, **those inside the Man Box were over six times more likely to have made sexual comments to a women or girl they didn't know in a public place** - 45 per cent vs 7 per cent outside of the Man Box, a pattern consistent with findings from the US and UK.

"That also comes into being a man, you're expected to protect other people."

– Responses from focus group participants

Percentage of respondents who report in the last month

	Man Box	You made sexual comments to a woman or girl you didn't know, in a public place, like the street, your workplace, your school/university or online
Australia	In	46%*
	Out	7%*
US	In	54%*
	Out	9%*
UK	In	60%*
	Out	9%*
Mexico	In	32%*
	Out	10%*

* represent statistically significant relationships at $p < .05$

Young men also reported experiencing bullying and violence. Over half of all respondents reported having been the victim of verbal bullying in the past month, 40 per cent reported being the victim of online bullying, and one third reported having been the victim of physical bullying or violence.

Percentage of respondents who report experiencing bullying in the last month

	Man Box	Experienced Bullying: Verbal	Experienced Bullying: Online	Experienced Bullying: Physical
Australia	In	66%*	57%*	52%*
	Out	44%*	24%*	15%*
US	In	70%*	60%*	59%*
	Out	43%*	21%*	15%*
UK	In	76%*	69%*	65%*
	Out	43%*	23%*	19%*
Mexico	In	61%*	38%*	35%*
	Out	52%*	22%*	15%*

* represent statistically significant relationships at $p < .05$

