## **ASSESSMENT 2 - EXPLORATORY DATA ANALYSIS**

### **TEAM FRUIT FLIES**

Thomas Brettell (tbre2522) Sumedha Dommatmari (sdom9253) Alannah Frankel (afra9213) Dylan Hensby (dhen2548)

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#### INTRODUCTION

Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) is the process of exploring and becoming familiar with a dataset before forming insights (Jiahao Weng, 2019). Using EDA can help avoid biases which may lead to misrepresentation of what the data truthfully reflects. The EDA in this report examines and explores domestic violence related assaults in New South Wales (NSW).

#### **DOMAIN**

Domestic violence is any 'violent, threatening or other behaviour by a person that coerces or controls a member of the person's family (the *family member*), or causes the family member to be fearful' (Family Law Act 1975, 4AB (1)). According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, domestic violence is an exceedingly prevalent issue that affects 13% of Australians above the age of 15 (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2019). Victims of domestic violence reap serious short term issues which often manifest into long-term psychological and emotional distress, making it one of the most serious issues facing the NSW population (NSW Government, 2019). For the purposes of this EDA, we will be focusing on domestic violence assaults (DVA) (i.e. a physical attack by a family member directed towards another family member, excluding sexual assault).

#### **HYPOTHESIS**

Research found that in NSW, the rate of DVAs spike during some months more than others - specifically the summer months - December, January and February (Bureau of Meteorology, 2020). Furthermore, due to the currently ongoing Coronavirus pandemic, we have been seeing an increase in domestic violence as families are forced to remain in a close proximity to each other because of social distancing and isolation. This led us to hypothesis that the summer months could have a higher rate of domestic violence incidents as holidays and family time is more common during this season.

Therefore, the hypothesis we have arrived at is that *domestic violence related assault in NSW will occur* more frequently in summer than in other seasons. As seasonal months differ depending on geographical location, for the purposes of this report, Summer consists of December, January and February; Autumn consists of March, April and May; Winter consists of June, July and August; Spring consists of September, October and November.

#### THE DATASET AND SOURCE

The dataset we decided to explore, *Recorded Crime by Offence*, is from the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) (Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, 2020). The Bureau itself is part of the Department of Communities and Justice, and was founded in 1969 (NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, 2019). Their main focus is on the collection and organisation of crime data, as well as conducting research and forecasting trends (Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research New South Wales, 1992). Widely consulted by numerous stakeholders including researchers, press, government and legal agencies for data, BOSCAR is a verifiable resource that provides access to large datasets through reports, interactive maps, as well as raw ".xml" and ".csv" formats (NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, 2019). The dataset chosen for this report represents each type of criminal offence that took place in NSW on a monthly scale ranging from January 1995 to December 2019. It consists of rows representing the type of crime, and columns representing the amount of times the crime occurred within each month of every year from 1995 - 2019.

#### **EXPLORATORY DATA ANALYSIS**

As our domain is domestic violence, this EDA process begins by extracting the domestic violence incidents from the BOSCAR dataset representing all crime. This came in the form of isolating all of row 6 of the dataset, "domestic violence related assaults".

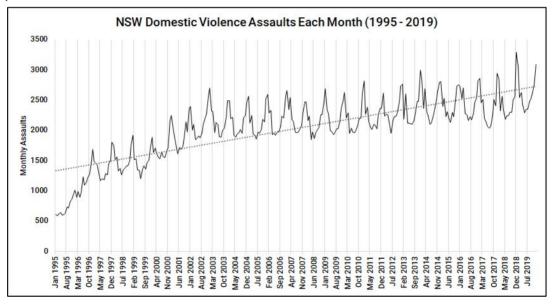


Figure 1.

Figure 1 represents the domestic violence statistics, from row 6 of the data set, as an initial line graph to observe the data in a completely raw form before performing any mathematical calculations or data wrangling. At first glance, we observe that DVAs have been steadily increasing since 1995, noticing a sharp increase around 2003 that then begins to plateau out with a moderate incline. This graph suggests there may be a consistent peak point each year which we will attempt to discover with further analysis. A possible theory is that changing social norms and trends promoted both reporting and increased awareness about domestic violence, as opposed to the likelihood of DVAs becoming more prevalent.

		Year																									Tot. by mon
		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
Month	Jan	613	1019	1488	1753	1921	1887	2246	2402	2707	2490	2569	2603	2659	2466	2696	2633	2821	2617	2767	2852	2809	2721	2866	2847	3066	59518
	Feb	591	897	1457	1526	1518	1633	2024	2009	2321	2199	2120	2287	2349	2164	2339	2205	2270	2237	2189	2368	2393	2523	2462	2328	2546	50955
	Mar	625	989	1435	1564	1532	1709	1901	2099	2310	2217	2247	2334	2546	2244	2276	2291	2387	2275	2606	2689	2534	2700	2516	2562	2631	53219
	Apr	640	900	1266	1329	1356	1627	1726	1852	1963	1925	1938	1928	2175	1848	1997	1950	2150	2258	2120	2300	2227	2285	2204	2335	2434	46733
	May	602	986	1171	1368	1345	1554	1611	1866	2129	1886	1919	1959	2156	1975	1986	2042	2045	2079	2119	2252	2312	2257	2133	2185	2293	46230
	Jun	608	1233	1209	1272	1203	1532	1722	1913	2105	1947	1860	1926	1971	1866	1937	1975	2014	1951	2111	2103	2182	2167	2070	2239	2347	45463
	Jul	639	1102	1186	1350	1367	1646	1694	1881	1896	1964	1978	1980	1969	1960	1967	1962	2105	2165	2101	2119	2136	2227	2037	2251	2355	46037
	Aug	741	1144	1286	1377	1413	1574	1735	1952	1895	2018	1952	1970	1979	2022	2029	2004	2088	2232	2170	2234	2300	2175	2072	2303	2484	47149
	Sep	714	1218	1271	1414	1365	1553	1872	2102	1991	1954	2012	2055	2012	2052	2030	2087	2030	2236	2286	2334	2225	2276	2249	2303	2522	48163
	Oct	830	1273	1451	1412	1469	1668	2148	2212	2037	2210	2189	2236	2085	2259	2156	2196	2261	2302	2484	2500	2508	2459	2509	2499	2655	52008
	Nov	851	1406	1506	1505	1508	1709	1977	2266	2215	2252	2146	2208	2277	2258	2361	2205	2367	2467	2483	2649	2731	2543	2405	2562	2758	53615
	Dec	948	1693	1806	1765	1692	2168	2363	2553	2497	2462	2520	2570	2474	2470	2491	2604	2369	2734	2995	2799	2756	2815	2947	3296	3096	60883
Tot. by	year	8402	13860	16532	17635	17689	20260	23019	25107	26066	25524	25450	26056	26652	25584	26265	26154	26907	27553	28431	29199	29113	29148	28470	29710	31187	100000000000000000000000000000000000000

Figure 2.

One of the first ways we analysed the data was by rearranging the raw numbers into a format that separated the categorical data into data points for each month in each year. This was vital as it allowed us to scrutinise and each data point efficiently and calculate subtotals, averages, and percentages. As Agrawala explains, 'One often needs to manipulate data prior to analysis...[including] re-formatting, cleaning, quality assessment, and...manual manipulation in spreadsheets.' (Agrawala, 2016, p.7). Figure 2 plots the value for each data point with its month on the y-axis and its year on the x-axis, thus unpacking the data as a matrix with the added bonus of a heat map to assist with initial visual observations. The matrix was made by copying all the data points for a year and transposing them into the correct column, using the Excel autosum function to get combined totals for the months and years. Based on the heat map, it's apparent that as per our hypothesis, the months of January and December demonstrate higher reported DVAs while May and July had the least.

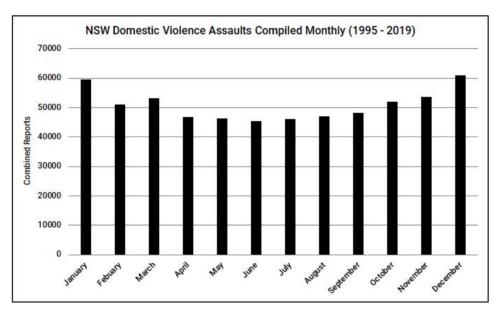


Figure 3.

Through the matrix in *Figure 2*, we derived a subtotal for each month across the 25 years. We plotted this data onto a column graph seen in *Figure 3*. Each column represents a month (x-axis) and its height (y-axis) represents each month's combined total across all years. This shows December and January had the most number of DVAs while June and July had the least, telling us DVAs peak at the end of the year, fall thereafter, and begin to rise again as the year ends. This somewhat supports our hypothesis as two of the summer months, January and December, have the highest number of combined reports. However, it's also worth noting that the lack of reports in February makes it an outlier amongst the other summer months, a fact which could disprove our hypothesis.

	- 10	Year																								1	Tot. by mon
		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	-
Month	Jan	10.1	16.5	23.9	27.8	30.2	29.3	34.5	36.5	40.9	37.5	38.4	38.6	39.0	35.6	38.3	36.9	39.2	35.9	37.5	38.1	37.0	35.3	36.5	35.8	38.0	847.5
	Feb	9.7	14.6	23.4	24.2	23.9	25.4	31.1	30.6	35.1	33.1	31.7	34.0	34.5	31.3	33.3	30.9	31.5	30.7	29.6	31.6	31.5	32.7	31.4	29.3	31.5	726.4
	Mar	10.3	16.1	23.0	24.8	24.1	26.6	29.2	31.9	34.9	33.3	33.6	34.7	37.4	32.4	32.4	32.1	33.1	31.2	35.3	35.9	33.4	35.0	32.1	32.2	32.6	757.6
	Apr	10.5	14.6	20.3	21.1	21.3	25.3	26.5	28.2	29.7	29.0	29.0	28.6	31.9	26.7	28.4	27.4	29.8	31.0	28.7	30.7	29.3	29.6	28.1	29.3	30.2	665.3
	May	9.9	16.0	18.8	21.7	21.1	24.2	24.7	28.4	32.2	28.4	28.7	29.1	31.6	28.5	28.2	28.6	28.4	28.5	28.7	30.1	30.4	29.3	27.2	27.5	28.4	658.7
	Jun	10.0	20.0	19.4	20.2	18.9	23.8	26.4	29.1	31.8	29.3	27.8	28.6	28.9	27.0	27.5	27.7	28.0	26.8	28.6	28.1	28.7	28.1	26.4	28.1	29.1	648.4
1	Jul	10.5	17.9	19.0	21.4	21.5	25.6	26.0	28.6	28.7	29.5	29.6	29.4	28.9	28.3	28.0	27.5	29.2	29.7	28.5	28.3	28.1	28.9	26.0	28.3	29.2	656.6
	Aug	12.2	18.6	20.6	21.9	22.2	24.5	26.6	29.7	28.6	30.4	29.2	29.2	29.0	29.2	28.9	28.1	29.0	30.6	29.4	29.8	30.3	28.2	26.4	28.9	30.8	672.4
	Sep	11.7	19.8	20.4	22.5	21.5	24.1	28.7	32.0	30.1	29.4	30.1	30.5	29.5	29.7	28.9	29.3	28.2	30.7	31.0	31.2	29.3	29.5	28.7	28.9	31.2	686.8
	Oct	13.6	20.7	23.3	22.4	23.1	25.9	33.0	33.6	30.8	33.2	32.7	33.2	30.6	32.6	30.7	30.8	31.4	31.6	33.6	33.4	33.0	31.9	32.0	31.4	32.9	741.6
	Nov	14.0	22.8	24.2	23.9	23.7	26.6	30.4	34.5	33.5	33.9	32.1	32.8	33.4	32.6	33.6	30.9	32.9	33.9	33.6	35.4	36.0	33.0	30.7	32.2	34.2	764.4
	Dec	15.6	27.5	29.0	28.0	26.6	33.7	36.3	38.8	37.7	37.0	37.7	38.2	36.3	35.7	35.4	36.5	32.9	37.5	40.6	37.4	36.3	36.5	37.6	41.4	38.4	868.6
Tot. by	year	138.0	225.0	265.2	280.1	278.1	315.0	353.4	381.8	394.0	383.9	380.7	386.8	391.1	369.7	373.5	366.9	373.5	378.2	385.1	390.0	383.3	378.2	363.0	373.4	386.4	

Figure 4.

Before conducting any further EDA, it was important to convert the numbers for each year into a rate based on the population of NSW. This provided a clearer image of each month's frequency in proportion to the population at the time. To calculate the rate, the matrix was refined to include the NSW population for each year, using data from *Estimated Resident Population, States and Territories*, to account for population growth over the years (see Appendix a) (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2019). We decided that a rate per 100,000 people would achieve this; by dividing the population by 100k and then dividing each data point by its year's rate to obtain a rate per 100k persons for each month. The method of using rates over absolute numbers proved beneficial as it resulted in values more relative to the population at the time - providing a number that was more comprehensible by working around the large difference in the number of incidents and the population (i.e. 613 DVAs/60.8791 = 10.069137 as opposed to 613 DVAs/6087910 = 0.00010069).

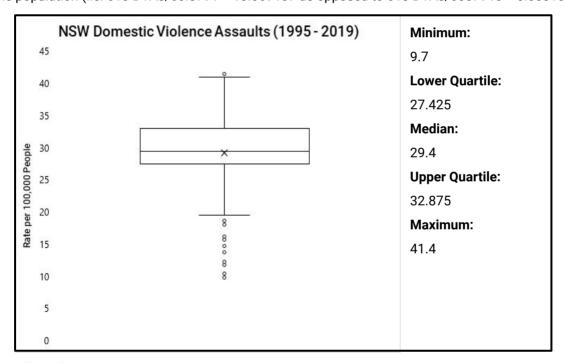


Figure 5.

The next step in our EDA was creating box and whisker plots with the addition of Tukey's five number summaries, to show the distribution of the data. In this graph, the rates per 100k people were used as the data points to be plotted. *Figure 5* made it immediately apparent that the highest outlier of 41.4 assaults per 100k people, which occurred in December of 2018, fell in line with our hypothesis. Additionally, while most of the data falls within the 27 - 32 range, 10 outliers were also found below the lower extreme quartile. This graph led to the unearthing of these lower outliers, in an attempt to identify where each outlier was located within the dataset as a whole. Using Excel, it was then found that these outliers pointed to the years 1995 and 1996.

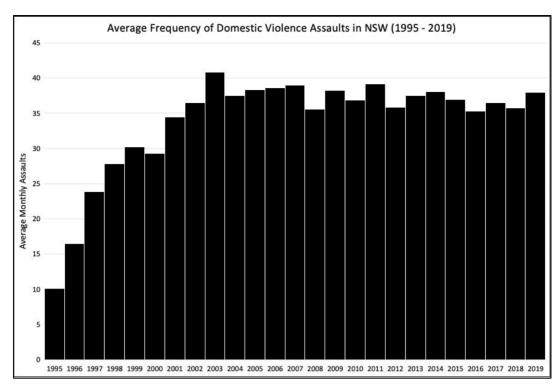


Figure 6.

Figure 6 was made to visualise the outliers discovered in Figure 5, which were caused by a large disparity in the amount of DVAs reported across the years. Figure 6 is a histogram that plots the average rate for each year on the y-axis. This graph shows that the earlier years of 1995 - 2000 had a much smaller frequency of cases compared to the rest of the spectrum as it balances out from 2001 - 2019. While it's possible that an increase in social awareness and the promotion of reporting assaults led to this disparity, it is also possible that a large number of incidents were taking place in those early years.

Although determining the underlying cause of these outliers is beyond the scope of this analysis, further research revealed that they coincide with certain historical events. For example, the first 'Women's Safety Report' was released in 1996, which could have led to a rise in awareness of domestic violence (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 1996). The next year, John Howard organised a summit where a combined effort between the federal and state governments was organised to help stop domestic violence in Australia (Australian Women Against Violence Alliance, 1997). 1997 was also the year of the Port Arthur Massacre - a mass shooting by Martin Bryant who committed domestic violence as his family members were victims of the tragedy. The shooting led to both a radical change in gun laws in Australia, as well as the founding of the Alannah and Madeline foundation, a program dedicated to helping children facing abuse live in a safe environment (Alannah and Madeline Foundation, n.d.).

To reinstate, we do not postulate that these events are reasons for the outliers in the data. However, it is important to note that these events in 1996 - 1997 might have lead to a shift in attitude and awareness.

		Year																									Tot. by mon
		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
Month	Jan	7.3%	7.4%	9.0%	9.9%	10.9%	9.3%	9.8%	9.6%	10.4%	9.8%	10.1%	10.0%	10.0%	9.6%	10.3%	10.1%	10.5%	9.5%	9.7%	9.8%	9.6%	9.3%	10.1%	9.6%	9.8%	2.4
	Feb	7.0%	6.5%	8.8%	8.7%	8.6%	8.1%	8.8%	8.0%	8.9%	8.6%	8.3%	8.8%	8.8%	8.5%	8.9%	8.4%	8.4%	8.1%	7.7%	8.1%	8.2%	8.7%	8.6%	7.8%	8.2%	2.1
	Mar	7.4%	7.1%	8.7%	8.9%	8.7%	8.4%	8.3%	8.4%	8.9%	8.7%	8.8%	9.0%	9.6%	8.8%	8.7%	8.8%	8.9%	8.3%	9.2%	9.2%	8.7%	9.3%	8.8%	8.6%	8.4%	2.2
	Apr	7.6%	6.5%	7.7%	7.5%	7.7%	8.0%	7.5%	7.4%	7.5%	7.5%	7.6%	7.4%	8.2%	7.2%	7.6%	7.5%	8.0%	8.2%	7.5%	7.9%	7.6%	7.8%	7.7%	7.9%	7.8%	1.9
	May	7.2%	7.1%	7.1%	7.8%	7.6%	7.7%	7.0%	7.4%	8.2%	7.4%	7.5%	7.5%	8.1%	7.7%	7.6%	7.8%	7.6%	7.5%	7.5%	7.7%	7.9%	7.7%	7.5%	7.4%	7.4%	1.9
	Jun	7.2%	8.9%	7.3%	7.2%	6.8%	7.6%	7.5%	7.6%	8.1%	7.6%	7.3%	7.4%	7.4%	7.3%	7.4%	7.6%	7.5%	7.1%	7.4%	7.2%	7.5%	7.4%	7.3%	7.5%	7.5%	1.9
	Jul	7.6%	8.0%	7.2%	7.7%	7.7%	8.1%	7.4%	7.5%	7.3%	7.7%	7.8%	7.6%	7.4%	7.7%	7.5%	7.5%	7.8%	7.9%	7.4%	7.3%	7.3%	7.6%	7.2%	7.6%	7.6%	1.9
	Aug	8.8%	8.3%	7.8%	7.8%	8.0%	7.8%	7.5%	7.8%	7.3%	7.9%	7.7%	7.6%	7.4%	7.9%	7.7%	7.7%	7.8%	8.1%	7.6%	7.7%	7.9%	7.5%	7.3%	7.8%	8.0%	1.9
	Sep	8.5%	8.8%	7.7%	8.0%	7.7%	7.7%	8.1%	8.4%	7.6%	7.7%	7.9%	7.9%	7.5%	8.0%	7.7%	8.0%	7.5%	8.1%	8.0%	8.0%	7.6%	7.8%	7.9%	7.8%	8.1%	2.0
	Oct	9.9%	9.2%	8.8%	8.0%	8.3%	8.2%	9.3%	8.8%	7.8%	8.7%	8.6%	8.6%	7.8%	8.8%	8.2%	8.4%	8.4%	8.4%	8.7%	8.6%	8.6%	8.4%	8.8%	8.4%	8.5%	2.1
	Nov	10.1%	10.1%	9.1%	8.5%	8.5%	8.4%	8.6%	9.0%	8.5%	8.8%	8.4%	8.5%	8.5%	8.8%	9.0%	8.4%	8.8%	9.0%	8.7%	9.1%	9.4%	8.7%	8.4%	8.6%	8.8%	2.2
	Dec	11.3%	12.2%	10.9%	10.0%	9.6%	10.7%	10.3%	10.2%	9.6%	9.6%	9.9%	9.9%	9.3%	9.7%	9.5%	10.0%	8.8%	9.9%	10.5%	9.6%	9.5%	9.7%	10.4%	11.1%	9.9%	2.5
Tot. by	year	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	cool GE

Figure 7.

Based on the discovery made in *Figure 6*, we decided it was imperative to further transform the data so each data point represented the amount of cases for that month as a percentage of the total cases that year. By measuring each value as a percentage, we aimed to eliminate the possibility of disparity of values between years from skewing the overall data. This would then ensure that data across all years was balanced. This version of the matrix can be seen in *Figure 7*. Now, instead of each data point representing the absolute number of incidents for that month, or the amount of cases as a rate per 100k persons, it represents the percentage of cases that occured that month out of the total for its year. This version of the heat map shows that the peak months for each year resided at the beginning and end of the year, except for the years 1995 and 1996 as they appear to be following a different pattern.

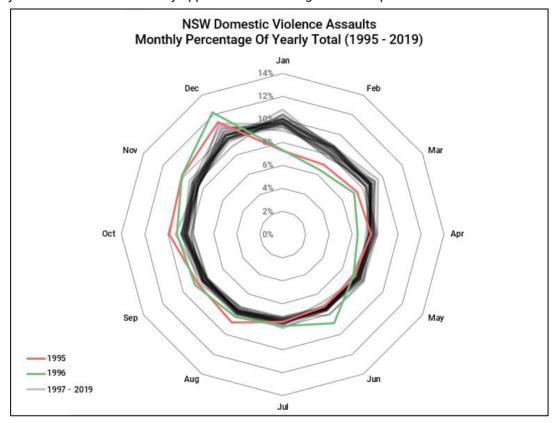


Figure 8.

We created *Figure 8* as a way to visualise and find the pattern that we noticed in *Figure 7*. Through this radial graph, we observed the majority of years cluster (in grey), while two outliers, made salient in red (1995) and green (1996), follow a different pattern altogether. Although each year makes a consistent circular shape, 1995 and 1996 deviate by having lower percentages in the beginning of the year and higher percentages at the end. We choose a radial graph to visualise this data as it not only demonstrates this consistent pattern, but also clearly highlights any deviations that emerge from it - upholding the design

principle of comparison, and making it more efficient than other graph types (Lidwell, Holden, Butler & Elam, 2003).

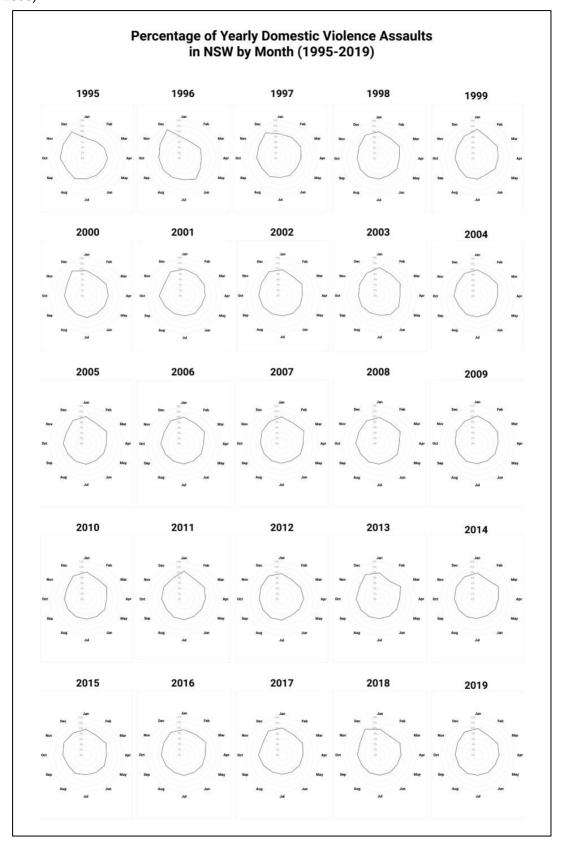


Figure 9.

Figure 9 portrays Figure 8 broken down into small multiples to allow closer analysis of each individual year in isolation from one another. Arranging the data in this format allowed us to quickly perceive any major differences between the years that could be explored further. In this case, it was reiterated that 1995 and 1995 were indeed outliers.

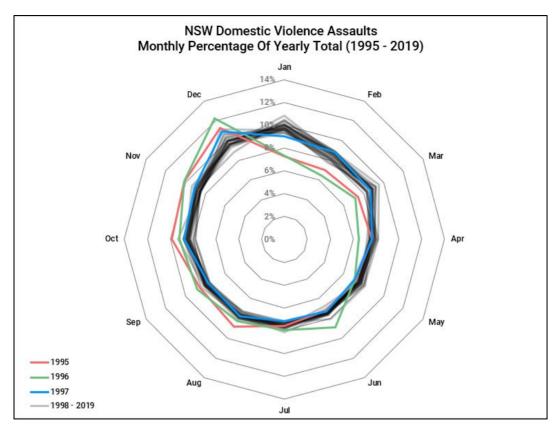


Figure 10.

After visualising the patterns in *Figure 8*, we felt it necessary to ensure that 1996 and 1995 were the only deviations. This lead us to develop *Figure 10*, bringing 1997 (the next chronological year) into the forefront with 1996 and 1995 to examine any changes. The inclusion of 1997 (highlighted in blue) indicates that it falls in line with the clustered pattern, thereby proving that this trend of the beginning and end months of the year (January and December) being the highest points while the middle months of the year (June and July) being the lowest points started in 1997 and has continued this way to the present day.

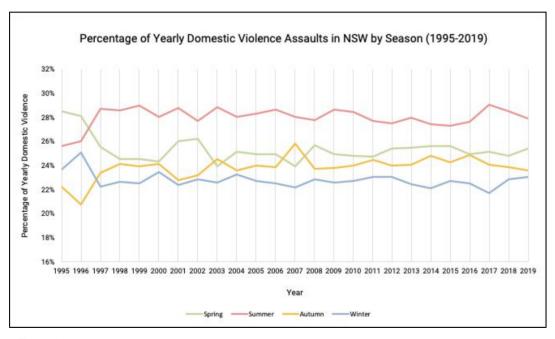


Figure 11.

Figure 11 follows up on Figure 3, where data for February was unusually low compared to other summer months. This presented a contradiction to our hypothesis, leading us to investigate whether the summer months as a whole (December, January, and February) contained the highest rates of DVA (as seen in Figure 7) despite February not holding as much weight. To look into this, we grouped the months into their respective seasons.

Evidently, summer remains consistently high from 1997 onwards, despite February's proportionally less weighting. Additionally, *Figure 11* once again brings our attention to the years 1995 and 1996, which are the only years to deviate from summer being the most prevalent season for DVAs. In fact, all seasons jump around 1997, indicating 1995 and 1996 stand out from the rest not only due to a lack of incidents, shown in *Figure 6*, but due to a difference in distribution shown in *Figure 11*. The deviation of 1995 and 1996 from our hypothesis continues to remain unanswered, needing further research to pinpoint the cause.

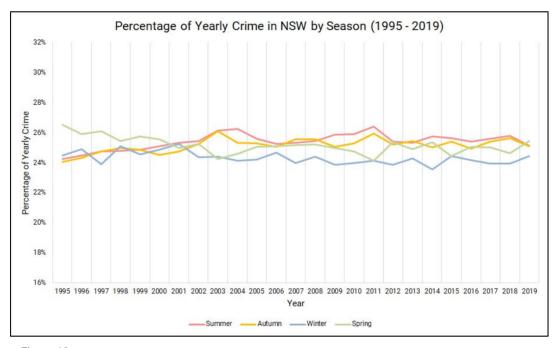
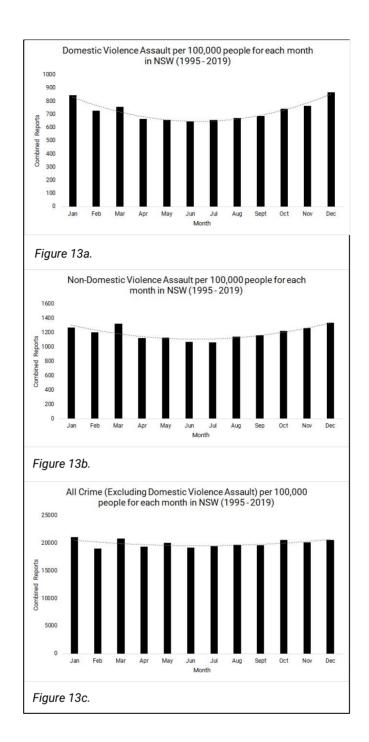


Figure 12.

In an attempt to cover all aspects of our hypothesis, we decided to explore whether the high rates in summer were unique to DVAs or if they were universal amongst all crime. *Figure 12* displays the percentage of all criminal cases in each year by season. Contrary to *Figure 11*, the summer months are not substantially or consistently higher than the others. Instead, the seasons are intermingled, showing no pattern between them with consistent weighting across the board. This infers that the trend of summer having the highest frequency is exclusive to DVAs.



As we delved deeper into our EDA, we found certain patterns that were seemingly unexplainable but could have an effect on our hypothesis. As you can see in *Figure 3* and throughout the small multiples in *Figure 9*, March seems to spike, with this increase lying just outside of summer. This was a commonly occuring trend, despite the fact that summer was overwhelmingly the most prevalent month for DVAs, shown in *Figure 11*.

In order to explore this further and come up with a possible explanation, *Figure 13a, b, and c* were created. Here we can see the cumulative absolute numbers for DVAs (a), normal assault (b) and all crime (c) all contain spikes in March relative to the pattern found in *Figure 8*. March was also the most prevalent month for non-domestic violence assault, shown in *Figure 13b*. This is an anomaly still yet to be interpreted.

#### CONCLUSION

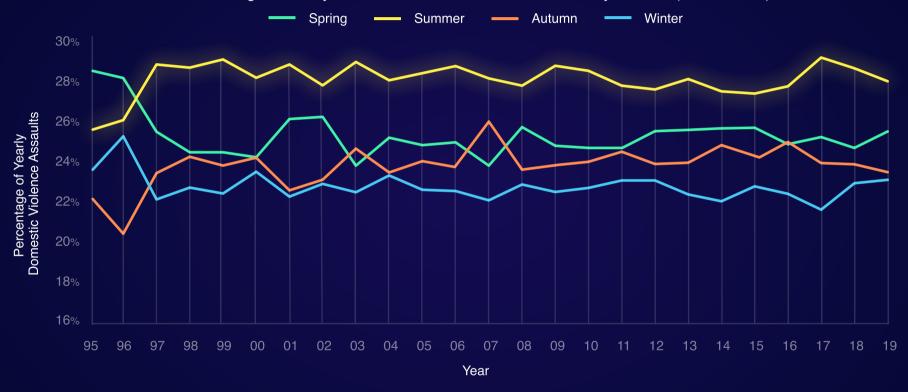
By conducting EDA on our chosen dataset, we discovered that our hypothesis was essentially correct. Our EDA has shown that there is a correlation between the season and the occurrence of DVAs in NSW. We arrived at this conclusion by representing the data in different values and visualizing them appropriately on a series of column graphs, line graphs, radial graphs, box and whisker plots and Tukey's five number summary.

Ultimately, our EDA shows that the percentage of DVAs in NSW occured to a higher degree in summer than other seasons from 1997 onwards. Although currently out of our scope, with future analysis, we would like cross-reference our data with geographical locations in NSW to determine if the trend we have identified is or isn't exclusive to specific areas. This could also provide clarity on why March performs differently from the conclusive trend we have found.

# Is Summer the Season for Domestic Violence?

A look into how domestic violence assaults peak in summer.





23/25

years reported the highest number of domestic violence assaults in summer.

'97

onwards, summer is the highest season for reported assaults.

average increase in domestic violence assaults in summer compared to other seasons.

#### **RATIONALE**

Our hypothesis stated that DVAs in NSW would occur more frequently during summer than in other seasons. Our visualization confirms this to a considerable extent through the use of a line graph displaying the percentage of DVAs in each year by season. Excluding the outlier years of 1995 and 1996, it is clear in the graph that summer consistently contains the highest frequency. This is true despite February holding a relatively low percentage of DVAs, since December and January consistently hold the largest.

Although no conclusive causation can be stated, similar developments have also been found in the United States, with rates of intimate partner violence being higher in the summer than during the winter, spring, or autumn (Lauritsen & White, 2014). Such information is compelling due to the fact that the U.S. is located in the Northern Hemisphere, making its summer season the months of June, July, and August (National Geographic, 2020). This further supports our hypothesis as it acts as evidence in favour of the seasons' influence on DVAs and not the universal time of the year.

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#### **APPENDIX**

