

OSCE-LED SURVEY ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

WELL-BEING AND SAFETY OF WOMEN



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
RESULTS REPORT

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina



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Background

The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the world's largest regional security organization, deals with a broad range of security-related challenges, including the protection of human rights and promotion of gender equality. Among the Organization's main areas of focus are fostering regional security co-operation, as well as conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict management. The OSCE comprises 57 participating States, covering a region that spans across all of Europe and includes the United States, Canada and Central Asia, as well as Mongolia. Through the work of the Secretariat, three specialized institutions and 16 field operations, the OSCE works to address numerous security challenges and assists participating States with the implementation of their comprehensive political commitments.

The OSCE recognizes violence against women and girls (VAWG)¹ as both a threat to individuals and a broader security concern, and it therefore sees preventing and combating VAWG as one of its priorities. VAWG is a persistent human rights violation that threatens the security and safety of countless women and girls all around the world. It affects not only their lives, hindering their full and equal participation in society, but also the lives of those who are close to them; it ultimately has a lasting impact on their health and well-being and on their children, communities and society at large.

Gender inequality lies at the root of gender-based violence against women and girls. The OSCE plays a key role in working with national stakeholders to build their capacity to prevent gender-based violence (GBV) and to protect survivors.² Under the slogan "Bringing Security Home", the OSCE has stressed that women and girls need to be safe both in public and at home, so that they can reach their full potential and contribute to political, economic and social development.

Violence against women and girls also occurs in times of conflict, and the OSCE commissioned this qualitative and quantitative study in order to shed light on the prevalence of different forms of VAWG in non-conflict and conflict-affected settings in selected OSCE participating States: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Moldova and Ukraine. Research was also conducted in Kosovo.³

This study, the first such representative survey conducted in South-Eastern Europe or Eastern Europe to provide comparable data across the region, encompasses gender attitudes and the experiences of women from minority groups.⁴ Its aim is to provide robust data in order to develop more comprehensive and evidence-based policies, strategies, programmes and activities to prevent and combat VAW. The ultimate goal of this research is to provide evidence for informed decision-making and advocacy at different levels and thereby contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and to a reduction of VAW in the target regions, improved services for survivors and greater security for women.

¹ The terms "violence against women" (VAW) and "violence against women and girls" (VAWG), which are used interchangeably in this report, include physical, sexual and psychological violence by intimate partners and non-partners, as well as stalking and sexual harassment.

² This report uses the terms "survivor" and "victim" interchangeably.

³ All references to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244

⁴ The questionnaire used in this study was based on, and is comparable to, the questionnaire used by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights in the 28 EU member states in 2012.



Executive summary

Introduction

This report presents the findings from the OSCE's qualitative and quantitative study in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) on violence against women (VAW). The study was implemented in spring/summer 2018 and involved:

- **Ten key expert interviews**, which provided an overview of issues relating to violence against women and conflict-related acts of violence;
- A survey of a representative sample of 2,321 women aged 18–74 living in BiH, including 1,163 in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH), 1,019 in Republika Srpska (RS) and 139 in the Brčko District, to establish the prevalence and consequences of violence using a multistage, stratified, random probability sample design;
- Nine focus groups (five in FBiH and four in RS) with women from Bosniak, Serb and Roma backgrounds on their attitudes towards VAW;
- Six in-depth interviews with women who had experienced violence, including women with a disability, to understand, in more detail, the impact the violence had on them.

Key findings

In general, findings from this research are similar in FBiH and RS, notwithstanding the fact that rather more women are conflict-affected in FBiH, though they are still presented separately, as the responsibility to prevent VAW and to support survivors lies at the entity level.

The issue of violence against women is a fairly widespread concern in BiH. Two-thirds of women (67%) think that violence against women is common and over a quarter (27%) think that it is very common.

Prevalence

Just under half (48%) of women in BiH have experienced some form of abuse, including intimate partner violence (IPV), non-partner violence, stalking and sexual harassment, since the age of 15. More specifically, nearly four in ten (38%) say they have experienced psychological, physical or sexual violence since the age of 15 at the hands of a partner or non-partner (FBiH: 36%; RS: 39%).

One in seven women (14%) say they have experienced physical or sexual violence since the age of 15 at the hands of a partner or non-partner. By perpetrator, reports are highest for previous partner violence, with 11% of women who have had a previous partner saying they have experienced one or more forms of such violence, compared to 6% of those with a current partner who say they have experienced current partner physical or sexual violence and 8% of all women who say they have experienced non-partner violence. These figures are the same in the two entities. Since the age of 15, 28% of women have experienced sexual harassment (RS:31%, FBiH:26%) and 10% were sexually harassed in the 12 months prior to the survey (RS: 14%; FBiH: 9%). Stalking has affected one in twenty (5% in both entities).

All of these figures are lower than the average reported across the EU, though cultural norms should be taken into account when considering this. Indeed, women in countries with a longer tradition of raising awareness of gender equality are more open to talking about violence. For example, the Scandinavian countries have higher rates of violence and a lower rate of acceptance of non-consensual sex or subservient attitudes on the part of women in relation to men. Additionally, the qualitative research shows that certain types of intimate partner violence are still seen as normal in BiH.

One in 12 (8%) women say they experienced a form of physical violence at the hands of an adult—mainly their parents—before they were 15 years old, from slapping to being hit very hard. Girls often experienced repeat incidents. When it comes to childhood violence, women in RS indicate a significantly higher prevalence than those in FBiH (13% versus 7% respectively across all forms of violence experienced as a child).

Just under half of women in BiH have experienced some form of abuse since the age of 15

Consequences of violence

The impact of violence can be severe and long-lasting. Survivors are often left with feelings of fear, shock, embarrassment or anger—each reported by between two-fifths and two-thirds of victims—and around three in ten also suffered from long-lasting psychological conditions such as feelings of vulnerability, depression, a loss of self-confidence and difficulty sleeping. Survivors of violence in FBiH are significantly more likely than those in RS to declare that they suffered physical injuries from the most serious incident of violence they experienced, especially in relation to non-partner violence (49% versus 16%, respectively). The pattern was less pronounced but still prevalent with intimate partners: 65% of women in FBiH and 44% in RS reported injuries inflicted by their intimate partners following their most serious incident of violence.

When it comes to childhood violence, women in RS indicate a higher prevalence than those in FBiH (13% versus 7%, respectively, across all forms of violence).

Attitudes and norms

Women feel that they live in a society that places high expectations on women to be good mothers, wives and homemakers, as well as employees. Patriarchal norms continue to exist, with a majority of women (59%) believing that most of their friends would agree that “a good wife should obey her husband even if she disagrees”. That said, such attitudes appear to be changing and differ among various groups of women. Younger women are much less likely to agree with this view, as are women who reached tertiary education or are in paid employment.

Indeed, on a range of attitudinal statements asked about in this research, the young, the better-educated and the better-off are distinctly less likely to agree with broad notions of women’s subservience to a male partner. On the other hand, women who are over 60, are conflict-affected, have children, completed only primary education, are economically inactive (fulfilling domestic responsibilities or are retired), are struggling to cope on their current income, live in rural areas or who are returnees or consider themselves refugees/displaced persons tend to be more likely to subscribe to beliefs about women’s subservience to their husbands. The view that violence against women is common is less prevalent among those who do not subscribe to patriarchal norms of female subservience.

Despite these differing attitudes towards the role of women in society, VAW affects women across all categories of age, income and geography.

Regarding norms and attitudes, some indicators are higher in one or the other entity but not in a way that indicates a consistent difference in perceptions. However, women in RS are more likely to agree that a woman who experienced violence at the hands of her partner would tell someone about it, even if the experience was not severe or did not happen on a regular basis. That being said, survivors of violence in RS are not more likely to report their experiences to the police than survivors in FBiH. This is mirrored in the qualitative research, where women from both entities expressed a lack of trust in the police and social welfare centres.

Overall, police involvement following the most serious incidents of violence is low, particularly in relation to current partner violence. Corresponding to the elevated severity of incidents reported by FBiH survivors (attested by a significantly higher prevalence of physical injuries), more cases reached the attention of the police in this entity compared to RS.

NGOs providing special services are not very well known, and the majority of survivors did not contact them for assistance. A lack of information on support services is just one of many barriers to women reporting their experiences. Other barriers discussed in the qualitative research include feelings of shame about being victimized, fear of the perpetrator, distrust of institutions, a desire to keep their family together and a lack of financial independence.

Conflict-affected women

Overall, 64% of women can be considered to be directly affected by conflict, which is defined as having lived through a period of conflict and having at least one of the conflict-related experiences discussed in Chapter 4. The great majority of women experienced the conflict between 1992 and 1995 in BiH.

These women are impacted in various ways, many of whom had male family members who fought in a conflict. The indicated prevalence of current partner violence is higher among those women whose current partner fought in a conflict than those whose partner did not. Furthermore, the impact of non-partner and previous partner violence is more pronounced among those who are directly affected by conflict—more of these women suffered various long-term psychological reactions and physical consequences following the most serious incident of violence they experienced.

Conclusions

The study points to the following conclusions and recommendations (see Chapter 8 for more details):

1. Social norms and attitudes are changing, but violence is underreported

Women in Bosnia and Herzegovina believe that violence against women is very common; however, significantly fewer women than in the EU shared that they had experienced violence. Beliefs in female subservience and that violence is a private matter still exist; however, few women hold victim-blaming views. Despite this, 84% of women do not report violence to the police. The qualitative research showed that there is distrust in institutions, and the interviewed experts stressed that more emphasis should be put on raising awareness of sexual violence in intimate partner relationships.

2. Laws are not properly implemented

The qualitative research indicated that, while the legal framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina is to large extent in place, laws on violence against women are not well implemented, especially when it comes to punishing perpetrators. There is a need for more cohesion and co-operation between different stakeholders. There is a lack of shared methodology in data collection and insufficient funding of services.

3. The majority of women are directly affected by conflict

Two-thirds of women in BiH can be defined as directly affected by conflict. Non-partner violence experienced during a conflict has not been sufficiently prosecuted, and an effective reparations scheme is still lacking. Conflict-affected women are more likely to have been injured by an intimate partner.

Recommendations

The study points to the following conclusions and recommendations (see Chapter 8 for more details):

The above survey findings point to further specific recommendations to address violence against women.

Education, information sharing and raising awareness

1. Institutional mechanisms for gender equality, relevant ministries and institutions of the FBiH, RS, and BD governments, non-governmental organisations, and the media should implement regular information and awareness-raising campaigns to challenge perceptions of traditional gender roles and stereotypes, raise awareness on the individual and societal consequences and costs of violence against women and girls, promote the victim support services available, and sensitize society on how to prevent violence, including through zero-tolerance practices and engaging men and boys to speak out against violence against women and girls.
2. Awareness-raising campaigns should be designed and implemented to target women of all ages and socio-economic backgrounds, utilizing widely used media platforms and modern technologies whenever possible. Women from disadvantaged groups should also be targeted, including women with disabilities, women from minority groups and those living in rural areas.
3. Awareness-raising activities should include information on psychological violence and its consequences, give concrete examples of what psychological violence is and reflect on how it is linked to other forms of violence.
4. The FBiH Ministry of Education and Science, the RS Ministry of Education and Culture, and cantonal ministries of education should ensure that prevention programs on gender stereotypes which address attitudes, beliefs and behaviours are included in primary and secondary schools, and that school staff are trained to identify and address this issue. Peer-to-peer educational programmes should also be part of regular activities to prevent violence against women and girls in schools.
5. Institutions at all levels should take appropriate measures to coordinate public messages.

Multisectoral approach, training and provision of support services

6. The FBiH, RS, BD and cantonal governments should allocate adequate funds to services supporting survivors of violence, provide appropriate funding for already existing safe houses and ensure that the conditions are made to meet the standards for support services in line with recommendations set out in the Istanbul Convention.
7. Competent institutions at the BiH, FBiH, RS, and BD levels, together with gender institutional mechanisms, should create systems for both reporting sexual harassment in all spheres of life and ensuring co-ordinated response. They should also ensure implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)1 adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 27 March 2019 on preventing and combating sexism.

8. Competent ministries and institutions of the FBiH, RS and BD governments involved in the system of victim protection, in co-operation with statistical institutions, should ensure that a shared methodology for data collection and reporting on violence against women and girls is developed, and that data collection is consolidated at the BiH level in order to ensure reliable, efficient and harmonized reporting
9. Competent ministries and institutions of the FBiH, RS, BD and cantonal governments, in co-operation with institutional mechanisms for gender equality and civil society organizations, should improve the referral system for survivors of violence against women and girls, and strengthen and standardize protocols at the local level. It is also essential to ensure that women from disadvantaged groups, including women with disabilities and from minority communities (in particular Roma) are able to access these services.
10. Competent ministries and institutions of the FBiH, RS, and BD governments, in co-operation with institutional mechanisms for gender equality and civil society organizations, should ensure the provision of specialised services for victims of sexual violence.
11. Competent ministries and institutions of the FBiH, RS, and BD governments should ensure consistent penalisation of perpetrators, with imposed treatment. Capacities of responsible stakeholders to implement and monitor the implementation of mandatory and voluntary psycho-social treatment of perpetrators of violence should be enhanced. Clear regulations for financing the psycho-social treatment of perpetrators should be adopted in FBiH, RS and BD.
12. Relevant professionals should be provided with more targeted guidance on their roles and responsibilities in victim protection, as well as receive continuous trainings on victim-centred approaches. All involved should have a clear understanding of the referral pathways necessary to provide support to women and girls from disadvantaged groups.
13. All the above-mentioned initiatives should be co-ordinated, in order to enable equal access to protection and justice for victims, regardless of their place of residence within BiH.

Justice and protection for women victims of conflict-related violence

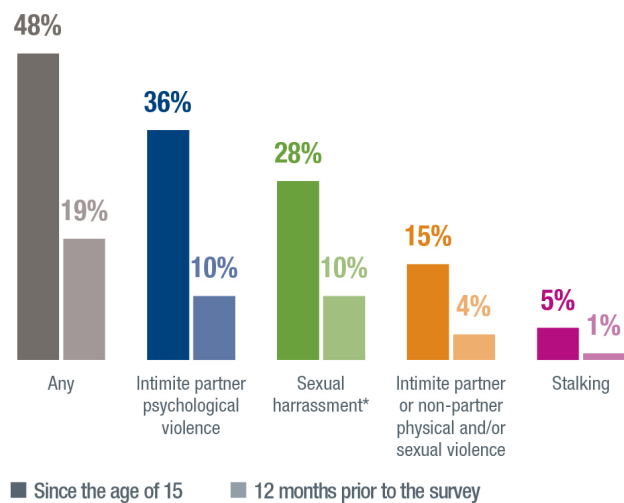
14. Legislative barriers should be removed in order to ensure that victims of wartime violence are treated equally, regardless of their place of residence.
15. NGOs Governmental and civil society witness support providers should continue to strengthen their co-operation and develop effective referral mechanisms for victims of conflict-related sexual violence. Prosecutor's Offices should develop a policy for the investigation and prosecution of conflict-related sexual violence cases and ensure there is dedicated capacity for its implementation. A summary of this policy should be made publicly available, in particular to survivors of conflict-related sexual violence.
16. The experiences of women during conflict should be recognized within the framework of transitional justice and awareness should be raised on how to address consequences of conflict and its ties to violence against women and girls.



A quantitative survey was conducted among a representative sample of women aged 18 to 74 living in Bosnia and Herzegovina. A total of 2,321 interviews were conducted face-to-face between April and August 2018 (1,163 in FBiH and 1,019 in RS). Data have been weighted to the known population profile. The results presented below are for BiH. For a breakdown by entity, please refer to the Overview Table on page XI.

HIGH PREVALENCE OF DIFFERENT FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

HIGH PREVALENCE OF DIFFERENT FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN



640,000*

women have experienced some form of sexual harassment, stalking, intimate partner violence, or non-partner violence (including psychological, physical or sexual violence) since the age of 15

134,000*

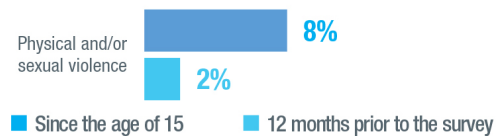
women have experienced intimate partner physical and/or sexual violence

106,000*

have experienced non-partner physical and/or sexual violence

*Approximate figures

ONE IN TEN WOMEN HAS EXPERIENCED NON-PARTNER PHYSICAL AND/OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE



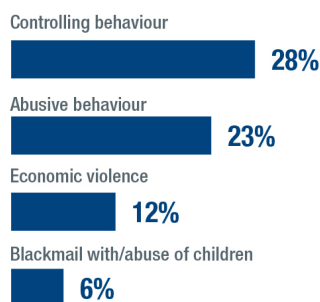
INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE



SDG 5.2.1: Intimate partner physical, sexual or psychological violence in the 12 months prior to the survey



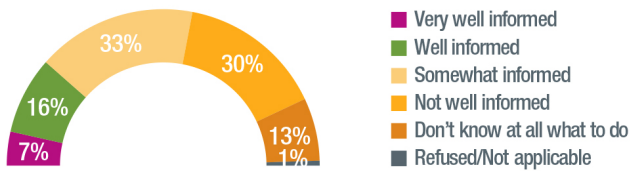
INTIMATE PARTNER PSYCHOLOGICAL VIOLENCE IS THE MOST WIDESPREAD FORM



Base: Prevalence of sexual harassment, stalking, and non-partner violence are based on all women aged 18-74 (2,321); intimate partner violence is based on all ever-partnered women (2,061)

LOW LEVELS OF REPORTING AND AWARENESS

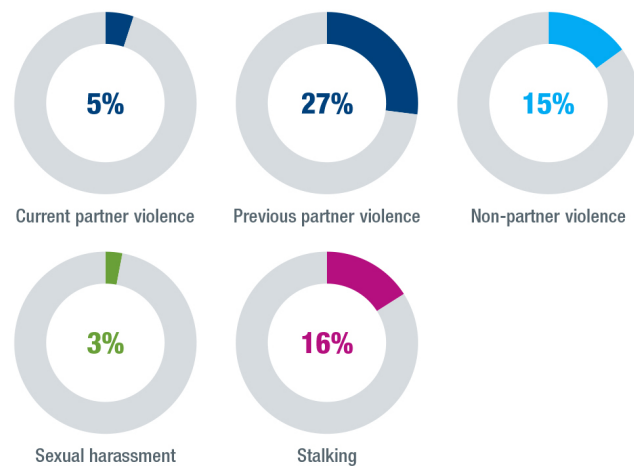
MANY WOMEN DO NOT FEEL INFORMED ABOUT WHAT TO DO IF THEY EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE



Base: All women aged 18-74 (2,321)

LOW LEVELS OF REPORTING TO POLICE

% who contacted the police directly following the most serious incident of violence



Base: All women aged 18-74 who identify a most serious incident of each form of violence - current partner (81), previous partner (121), non-partner (114), sexual harassment (437), stalking (83)

SILENCING AND VICTIM-BLAMING ATTITUDES

■ Totally/tend to agree ■ Totally/tend to disagree

Q: Would your friends generally agree or disagree with the following statements?

It is a wife's obligation to have sex with her husband even if she doesn't feel like it



It is important for a man to show his wife/partner who is the boss



Q: To what extent would you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Violence against women is often provoked by the victim



Domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family

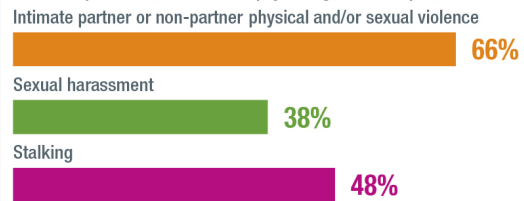


Base: All women aged 18-74 (2,321)

IMPACT OF THE MOST SERIOUS INCIDENTS

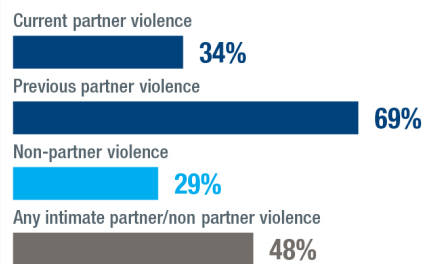
VIOLENCE CAUSES PSYCHOLOGICAL SUFFERING

% who experienced one or more psychological consequences due to...



VIOLENCE CAUSES PHYSICAL SUFFERING

% who suffered one or more physical consequences due to...



This translates into **76,500 women*** who were left with an injury or physical consequence, considering only the most severe cases they identified during their adult lifetime.

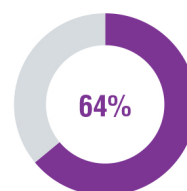
*Approximate figures

Base: All women aged 18-74 who identify a most serious incident of each form of violence - sexual harassment (437), stalking (83), current partner (81), previous partner (121) non-partner (114), any intimate partner/non partner violence (271)

The figures regarding physical suffering have been updated- figures in earlier versions of this report should be disregarded

VIOLENCE AND ARMED CONFLICT

TWO THIRDS OF WOMEN WERE DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY CONFLICT



WOMEN WHOSE PARTNER FOUGHT IN A CONFLICT ARE TWICE AS LIKELY TO EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE

Of those who currently have a partner, 35% say their partner has fought in an armed conflict.



■ Partner fought in conflict
■ Partner did not fight in conflict

Base: All women aged 18-74 (2,321) and those with a current partner (1,649)

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Prevalence of violence

		All (FBiH, RS and Brčko District)	FBiH	RS
Any non-partner or partner psychological, physical or sexual violence		38%	36%	39%
Any non-partner or partner physical / sexual violence	Since age of 15	14%	14%	15%
	Past 12 months	4%	4%	4%
Non-partner violence	Since age of 15	Physical: 7% Sexual: 1%	7% 1%	7% 2%
	Past 12 months	Physical: 1% Sexual: 0.4%	1% 1%	2% 0%
Intimate partner violence – any partner	Since age of 15	Physical: 10% Sexual: 4% Psychological: 35%	10% 4% 36%	11% 3% 36%
	Past 12 months	Physical: 3% Sexual: 1% Psychological: 10%	3% 2% 10%	3% 0% 9%
Sexual harassment	Since age of 15	Any: 28% Most severe forms: 15%	26% 14%	31% 18%
	Past 12 months	Any: 10% Most severe forms: 4%	9% 4%	14% 5%
Stalking	Since age of 15	5%	5%	5%
	Past 12 months	1%	1%	1%
Violence during childhood (physical, sexual, psychological)	Up to age of 15	Physical: 8% Sexual: 1% Psychological: 4%	5% 0% 4%	11% 1% 4%

Consequences of most serious incident of violence experienced

	All (FBiH, RS and Brčko District)	FBiH	RS
Non-partner violence	Emotional: 96%	94%	99%
	Psychological: 55%	62%	43%
	Physical: 29%	49%	16%
Intimate partner violence	Emotional: 95%	94%	95%
	Psychological: 71%	78%	62%
Sexual harassment	Physical: 56%	65%	44%
Stalking	Emotional: 97%	97%	97%
Non-partner violence	Psychological: 38%	47%	29%
Intimate partner violence	Emotional: 91%	89%	94%
	Psychological: 48%	49%	45%

Reporting of most serious incident

	% of women who reported it themselves to the police			% of women who do not contact police/other organization		
	All (FBiH, RS and Brčko District)	FBiH	RS	All (FBiH, RS and Brčko District)	FBiH	RS
Non-partner violence	15%	18%	12%	76%	77%	76%
Current partner	5%	10%	1%	84%	86%	81%
Previous partner	27%	33%	21%	53%	47%	60%
Sexual harassment	3%	3%	1%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Attitudes and norms

	All (FBiH, RS and Brčko District)	FBiH	RS
% who agree that a good wife obeys her husband even if she disagrees	59%	55%	60%
% who think that it is a wife's obligation to have sex with her husband even if she doesn't feel like it	11%	11%	11%
% who think violence against women by partners, acquaintances or strangers is common in BiH	67%	70%	61%
% who think domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family	25%	24%	23%
Proportion of conflict affected women in BiH	64%	68%	59%

Contents

Background.....	i
Executive summary	iii
Contents	2
1. How to read the data	5
2. Legal, institutional and policy context	10
3. Attitudes towards gender roles and violence against women	19
4. Violence against women in BiH.....	25
5. Conflict and violence.....	43
6. Impact of violence on women’s lives and barriers to seeking support	49
7. Experiences of violence among specific groups of women	65
8. Key conclusions and recommendations	73
ANNEXES	79



1. How to read the data

Introduction and main research goals

This OSCE-led survey captures the prevalence of violence against women in Bosnia and Herzegovina based on a representative sample of the adult population of women (2,321 women aged 18–74, including 1,163 in FBiH and 1,019 in RS). The key demographics used in the research were women's age, work status, whether they lived in a rural or urban area and whether they were affected by conflict or not. The main goals of the study are to provide evidence of the prevalence of VAWG and its consequences for women's health and well-being for the purposes of policy-making. The main research questions were:

- What is the extent of violence experienced by women in Bosnia and Herzegovina?
- Which forms of violence do women experience in Bosnia and Herzegovina?
- Who are the perpetrators of violence against women?
- What are the consequences of violence for women's health and well-being?
- Do women report their experiences to the police or other authorities or organizations? If not, why not?
- Are there differences between women's experiences of violence depending on their age, education, professional status, income or whether they are from a minority group or a rural area?

The study also aimed to achieve a better understanding of the above in light of whether women had experienced an armed conflict based on the definitions used in the study (see more in Chapter 5). The OSCE-led survey asked women to distinguish between incidents that have occurred since the age of 15 and incidents that occurred in the 12 months before the survey interview. This provides data that is of direct policy relevance with respect to current practice, such as reporting and responses to victims.

A total of 2,321 interviews were conducted face-to-face with women across BiH, including 1,163 in FBiH, 1,019 in RS and 139 in the Brčko District (more details on the methodology can be found in Annex 1). The overall BiH data presented in this report is weighted according to the overall population profile. Data is also presented for the individual entities of FBiH and RS and is weighted according to each of their population profiles. Therefore, simple averages from the FBiH and RS data will not match the overall BiH data due to the different weighting schemes applied and the inclusion of data for the Brčko District in the overall BiH data. In other words, because of the different population sizes of FBiH and RS, and the data for Brčko District being included in the overall BiH data, the average of the FBiH and RS data will not match the overall BiH data. The sample design and weights were based on the 2013 census and designed to provide a representative sample of women aged 18–74 living in BiH.

Comparability with EU data and with the area covered by the OSCE-led survey

This research is based on the methodology used by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) for its 2012 survey on violence against women in 28 European Union member states.⁵ This OSCE-led survey is therefore comparable to the FRA's survey. The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) uses the FRA's data in its current work and plans to use the findings of this study in the future. Finally, the OSCE-led study includes selected Eurobarometer⁶ questions on attitudes towards VAW. This report is based solely on the field research in BiH. The comparable data with the other territories can be found in the main results report and other thematic reports.

Reluctance to share

In order to better understand the prevalence of VAW, context is very important. The OSCE added to the survey several questions on norms, attitudes and behaviour of women and their family and friends (including men) in relation to violence and experiences of reporting abuse. In comparing the OSCE's data with the EU's data on gender attitudes and norms (Eurobarometer No. 449), this study suggests that where more women feel that domestic violence is a private issue, there is a tendency that fewer women report experiences of violence to the police and other organizations than in countries where there is a longer tradition of raising awareness of violence against women. The qualitative research confirms that the taboo and shame linked to sexual violence is particularly prevalent.

Prior research

The first prevalence survey in Bosnia and Herzegovina was conducted in 2013 on the initiative of the following gender-equality mechanisms: the Agency for Gender Equality of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Gender Centre of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Gender Centre of Republika Srpska. The survey was implemented by the Statistical Institute of the Federation of BiH and the Statistical Institute of Republika Srpska with support from the Statistical Agency of BiH.

The 2013 survey was conducted among a representative sample of women aged 18–75 for the whole of BiH and at the level of the two entities: Republika Srpska and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. A total of 3,300 women were interviewed (2,113 in FBiH and 1,187 in RS). The definitions of violence used for the survey were aligned with the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and the UNECE methodology for research on gender-based violence. Four forms of violence were covered by the survey: psychological, physical, sexual and economic. Violence against women was explored in three separate contextual or relational types: as domestic violence (which included violence by family members and partners in line with the Convention definition), intimate partner violence (by current and/or former partners) and violence in the community committed by individuals from the victim's social circles (friends, acquaintances) or by unknown assailants. The survey indicated that gender-based violence against women is highly prevalent in both entities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with no statistically significant difference in the prevalence between FBiH and RS. According to the survey findings, the most common was intimate partner violence, with a lifetime prevalence of 37.9% for BiH, 37.0% for FBiH and 39.6% for RS. Psychological violence (including emotional violence, such as insults, humiliation, etc., and controlling behaviour and stalking, including limiting freedoms, checking personal things such as phones, bags, etc.) was the most prevalent form of intimate partner violence, reported by more than one-quarter of women who ever had a partner, followed by physical, sexual and economic violence.

⁵ Violence against women: an EU-wide survey. Main results (Vienna: European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, 2015), accessed 20 May 2019, <http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2014/violence-against-women-eu-wide-survey-main-results-report>.

⁶ "Special Eurobarometer 449: Gender-based Violence", European Commission, Directorate-General on Justice and Consumers, November 2016, accessed 20 May 2019, https://data.europa.eu/euodp/data/dataset/S2115_85_3_449_ENG.

The prevalence was higher among women living in economically deprived households, among women who agree with patriarchal attitudes and among women with partners who abuse alcohol or drugs. The consequences of violence are numerous, and they can be both immediate, in the form of physical injuries, and long-term. Women who reported experiences of violence in the 12 months prior to the survey reported experiencing bad moods, sadness, anxiety and fear more frequently than women who did not experience violence in the 12 months before the survey.

Only a small number of women who experienced violence reported that experience to the authorities and asked for support from an institution or organization providing support in their communities.

The 2013 prevalence survey was used as one of the leading baseline documents in addressing the response to violence against women. The OSCE-led survey builds on the results of the 2013 prevalence survey, covering the prevalence of psychological violence (including economic violence), physical and sexual violence, with the additional perspective of conflict-related violence and measuring experiences of sexual harassment and stalking. As done in the 2013 survey, the OSCE-led survey results provide information on the BiH level, with separated results at the entity levels, in order to enable the appropriate follow-up in line with entity jurisdictions. Although the two surveys are difficult to compare due to the different methodologies used, they show similar patterns in terms of prevalence, consequences of violence and reporting. Where there is a difference in prevalence, this is mainly due to differences in methodology related to the use of paper- (2013) or computer-based interviews (OSCE-led survey), different sampling bases and some context-specific questions in the 2013 national survey that could not be included in the OSCE-led regional survey.

A guide to interpreting survey data

Where the percentages provided do not add up to or exceed 100, this may be due to rounding, the exclusion of “don’t know” responses or the fact that respondents were able to provide multiple answers to certain questions.

Privacy and anonymity

Interviews were conducted face-to-face by trained and experienced female interviewers. Interviews were conducted by using a tablet and in private on the basis of the principles of informed consent. The women interviewed were informed that all the data collected would be confidential and anonymized.

Forms of violence covered

The findings presented in this report are based on a set of questions asked in the OSCE-led survey concerning violence against women perpetrated at the hands of a non-partner or an intimate partner, as well as instances of sexual harassment, stalking, childhood violence and the impact of conflict on gender-based violence. The questionnaire was based on the definitions established in the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention).

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

To measure the (reported) prevalence of each type of violence, women were asked if they had experienced a range of different forms of violence in various reference periods as detailed in Chapters 4 and 5 of this report.

- Regarding **physical** and **sexual violence**, a list of questions that were asked in the research can be found on page 25 of Chapter 4.
- Regarding **psychological violence**, a list of questions that were asked in the research can be found on page 30 of Chapter 4.
- In terms of **sexual harassment**, women in the survey were asked the questions listed on page 33 of Chapter 4.
- For **stalking**, women in the survey were asked the questions listed on page 32 of Chapter 4.

In this research, childhood violence refers to violence before the age of 15. A list of questions that were asked about experiences of childhood violence can be found on page 40 of Chapter 4. The questions, methodology and the age of the respondents used in the OSCE-led survey differs from those used in the Adverse Childhood Experiences⁷ surveys as well as the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys⁸ and the prevalence rates of childhood violence are not comparable.

Regarding the chapter on conflict and gender-based violence (Chapter 5), **armed conflict** was defined for the purposes of this research as armed fighting between two or more organized groups, attacks on communities or general insecurity caused by conflict, while women considered directly affected by conflict are those who have lived in a situation where there was an active armed conflict for a period of at least one week and who answered “yes” to at least one of the questions listed on page 43 of Chapter 5.

Partners include individuals to whom the respondents were married, with whom they were cohabiting or with whom they were involved in a relationship without cohabiting. Non-partners include all perpetrators other than women’s current or previous partners.

The **most serious incident** is defined as the incident that had the biggest impact on the surveyed women, either physically or psychologically.

An overview of the qualitative research

The 15 key experts who shared their views on the current situation in terms of issues related to violence against women included representatives of international organizations, as well as governmental and non-governmental institutions. The first five of these interviews were used, along with a literature review, to create a background profile on the current situation regarding violence against women in BiH, which formed a basis for the rest of the research and of Chapter 1 of this report.

The remaining 10 key expert interviews were used to understand how the situation in BiH has changed since the initial interviews and the literature review were conducted and to focus on identifying recommendations (see Chapter 7).

⁷ World Health Organization, Adverse Childhood Experiences International Questionnaire (ACE-IQ) accessed 26 March 2019, https://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/activities/adverse_childhood_experiences/en/

⁸ UNICEF, Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) accessed 26 March, https://www.unicef.org/statistics/index_24302.html

1. How to read the data

Nine focus group discussions were conducted with women, including women from different age groups, women living in urban and rural BiH, women in RS and FBiH, women from different minority groups and women who have experienced conflict (find more details in Annex 1). The aims of these discussions were to:

- understand societal attitudes towards women generally, VAWG and perpetrators of such violence;
- explore how attitudes towards VAWG have changed over time, including in periods of conflict;
- explore awareness of, and views on, existing support/barriers to disclosure; and
- identify how prevention and support could be improved.

Six in-depth interviews with survivors of violence, including women with a disability. The aims of these interviews were to:

- explore the forms of violence that women have experienced throughout their lifetime and the impact of conflict;
- identify the barriers to disclosing experiences and seeking support;
- explore reasons why women chose not to disclose the fact that they had been subjected to violence;
- understand the support received, identify gaps in service provision and identify the barriers and unmet needs of women from specific minority groups (e.g., women from an ethnic minority or with a disability); and
- for women who have accessed support (formal or informal), to understand how they were able to do so and the impact that this had on them. This information may be used to help develop positive examples.

2. Legal, institutional and policy context

This chapter briefly reviews key national legislation relating to violence against women⁹ and to preventing violence and protecting women against violence, data collection and the impact of conflict on women. It draws on a literature review and the views of the 15 key experts who were interviewed. It also refers to the 2013 conclusions of the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women¹⁰ and the latest (2013) Concluding Observations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW Committee).¹¹

Introduction

Violence against women and girls impacts the lives of millions of women and girls and hampers progress towards comprehensive security for all. The OSCE, as the world's largest regional security organization, recognizes that VAWG not only affects women's personal safety and security but also prevents them from participating in society or from using their skills and knowledge to their full potential.

The OSCE-led survey focused on gender-based violence against women perpetrated by their partners, family members, friends, acquaintances and colleagues, as well as unknown perpetrators. Violence against women is a violation of the rights and fundamental freedoms of women and a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women.¹² As gender inequality lies at the root of gender-based violence, it is important to take into account the broader context of women's status in the OSCE region in order to assess their safety and well-being.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, like in many other countries in the region and across the globe, inequalities between women and men are visible in different areas.

Women are underrepresented in positions of political power, and they do not exercise the same influence that men do on policies, laws and reforms that shape socio-economic development. In the House of Representatives, one of the chambers of the parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina, nearly one-third (31.3%) of the representatives are women, while in the second chamber, the House of Peoples, women account for only 15.4% of seats. While women account for 25% of the Council of Ministers, only 4% of the country's mayors are women.¹³

9 Trafficking in human beings and, more specifically, trafficking in women and girls for purposes of sexual exploitation is a form of gender-based violence against women. It is a serious human rights issue and a security issue. This study did not include questions on this type of violence, as researching trafficking in human beings involves a very high risk for its victims, and a household survey is not the appropriate research method. The FRA survey on which the OSCE-led survey is based did not investigate trafficking in women and girls either.

10 United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, 'Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina – Report to the United Nations General Assembly' (2013), <http://evaw-global-database.unwomen.org/-/media/files/un%20women/vaw/country%20report/europe/bosnia%20and%20herzegovina/bosnia%20and%20herzegovina%20sravaw.pdf?vs=4614>

11 United Nations Human Rights, Office of the High Commissioner, 'Concluding Observations of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, in the combined fourth and fifth periodic reports of Bosnia and Herzegovina (2013)

12 United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, 1994.

13 Women and Men in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Sarajevo: Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2018).

2. Legal, institutional and policy context

Women are underrepresented in the labour market. The employment rate of women aged 15 and over is 24.9%, which is significantly lower than the employment rate of men (43.2%), indicating that women face certain obstacles in accessing employment.¹⁴

The consequences of inequality in the labour market are numerous, manifested in pension gaps (women receive an old-age pension less frequently than men do, and the average pension is lower for women) and higher poverty rates among older women than among older men (23.8% versus 15.3%, respectively). In a particularly unfavourable situation are women from disadvantaged groups, such as Roma, displaced women and refugees, rural women, single mothers and women with disabilities.¹⁵

Household work and family care are mainly performed by women. In more than 90% of households in BiH, it is mainly women who perform household duties such as cooking, cleaning, washing, etc. In more than 80% of households, it is mainly women who take care of young children, and in more than 70% of households, they are responsible for supervising children's school obligations and for caring for elderly, sick and disabled family members.¹⁶

Violence against women can only be fully understood and addressed within this context, as instruments that are available to eliminate it are limited or reinforced by actions in other areas in which women are not equal.

2.1: National legislative framework and implementation

Following the dissolution of the former Yugoslavia and a referendum in 1992, BiH declared independence in March of that same year. This declaration of independence was followed by a three-year conflict, lasting until 1995, which resulted in the establishment of a multi-tiered system of government under the Dayton peace agreement. Under this peace agreement, two "entities" were established: the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, populated predominantly by Bosniaks and Croats, and Republika Srpska, populated mostly by Serbs. Each entity has its own president, government, police, and other bodies. The BiH Parliament and BiH Council of Ministers remain at the state level, and presidency is ensured by three members: one Bosniak, one Serb, and one Croat, who collectively serve as head of state. The Brčko district was subsequently established as a separate, self-governing, neutral administrative unit.¹⁷ The above provides an important context concerning the existence of, and response to, violence against women.

BiH has ratified or inherited a number of international commitments on gender equality, including the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1980) and its Optional Protocol. This was reinforced by the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995), committing participating countries to take steps towards achieving gender equality. It ratified the Council of Europe's 2011 Istanbul Convention in 2013.

¹⁴ Women and Men in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Sarajevo: Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2018).

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ M. Babović, K. Ginić and O. Vuković, *Mapiranje porodičnog nasilja prema ženama u Centralnoj Srbiji* (Beograd: SeConS, 2010), accessed 20 May 2019, http://www.rs.undp.org/content/serbia/sr/home/library/womens_empowerment/mapiranje-porodicnog-nasilja-nad-zenama.html.

¹⁷ The Brčko District was placed under the joint authority of Serbs, Croats and Bosniaks with a strong presence of the international community.

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Legislation covers gender equality, domestic violence, sexual harassment, sexual and physical assault, mandatory reporting and sex-disaggregated data collection through laws on gender equality¹⁸ and prohibition of discrimination. The key laws relating to violence against women are the entity and district criminal codes¹⁹ and laws on protection from domestic violence. Brčko District, FBiH and RS laws on protection from domestic violence²⁰ contain long-term and emergency protection measures, including restraining and eviction orders, as well as orders against stalking and harassment.²¹

The CEDAW Committee's 2013 Concluding Observations welcomed the progress achieved since its previous (2006) report, which commended BiH for its improved institutional and policy framework aimed at accelerating the elimination of discrimination against women and promoting gender equality, and for the ratification of a number of international and regional instruments.

However, the Committee reiterated its serious concern about the high prevalence of domestic violence, the lack of monitoring and accountability mechanisms regarding the implementation of existing strategies at both the state and entity levels, inadequate data collection and insufficient support services. The Committee also expressed concern about the inconsistent application of legislation, which in turn undermines women's trust in the judicial system; the limited number of protective measures issued; lenient sentencing policy; and insufficient information on other forms of violence against women.

The UN Special Rapporteur concluded in 2013 that the Government recognized the importance of upholding and protecting the human rights of women through international instruments and enacting legislation. However, she expressed concern that: "The success of these initiatives is hampered by fragmentation and the fact that no state-level authority has the jurisdiction to ensure the adequate implementation of these initiatives. This often resulted in a lack of effective redress for women who have been victims/survivors of violence, both past and present. Furthermore, fewer victims/survivors are reporting cases of domestic violence, while the killing of women had increased. It is of concern that this drop in reporting rates may be due to the perceived ineffectiveness of the available services."²²

18 Law on Gender Equality in Bosnia and Herzegovina, revised version, Official Gazette of BiH, No. 32/10, accessed 20 May 2019, https://arsbih.gov.ba/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/GEL_32_10_E.pdf.

19 Criminal Code of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Official Gazette of FBiH, Nos. 36/03, 37/03, 21/04, 69/04, 18/05, 42/10 and 42/11; Criminal Code of Republika Srpska, Official Gazette of RS, Nos. 49/03, 108/04, 37/06, 70/06, 73/10 and 67/13; Criminal Code of the Brčko District (BD) of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Official Gazette of BD, No. 10/03. BiH criminal codes are available on the OSCE's Legislationline website at <https://www.legislationline.org/documents/section/criminal-codes/country/40/Bosnia%20and%20Herzegovina/show>.

20 FBiH Law on Protection from Domestic Violence; RS Law on Protection from Domestic Violence, accessed 20 May 2019, <http://evaw-global-database.unwomen.org/en/countries/europe/bosnia-and-herzegovina/2005/laws-on-protection-against-domestic-violence-in-both-entities--2005->.

21 FBiH Law on Protection from Domestic Violence, Official Gazette of FBiH, No. 28/13, 29 March 2005, accessed 20 May 2019, <http://evaw-global-database.unwomen.org/-/media/files/un%20women/vaw/full%20text/europe/laws%20on%20protection%20against%20domestic%20violence%20in%20both%20entities/federation%20of%20bih%20%20%20law%20on%20protection%20from%20domestic%20violence%202005.pdf?vs=2432>; RS Law on Protection from Domestic Violence, Official Gazette of RS, Nos. 102/12 and 108/13, 1 November 2012, accessed 20 May 2019, http://www.vladars.net/eng/vlada/ministries/MFYS/Documents/The%20Law%20On%20Protection%20From%20Domestic%20Violence_145307797.pdf.

22 "Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, Rashida Manjoo

The experts who were interviewed for this report said that much remains to be done, particularly when it comes to protection of survivors, their access to safe houses and their overall treatment by the responsible police and judiciary. They stated that domestic violence, while being legally defined as a criminal offence (in FBiH) or a criminal and minor offence (in RS and in the Brčko District), is in practice more often treated as a violation rather than a criminal offence, thus leading to a low number of criminal charges. According to the experts, the decision to aim for lesser charges is influenced by the personal attitudes of the police and prosecutors. Although BiH's 2018 report to the CEDAW Committee acknowledged that much remains to be done, it reported considerable progress in achieving the CEDAW Committee's 2013 recommendations.²³

2.2: Institutional mechanisms and co-operation

A number of strategies that address human rights protection and the prevention of discrimination are in place, including the Framework Strategy for the Implementation of the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence for the period 2015–2018,²⁴ which aims to secure effective implementation of the Istanbul Convention. In addition, both FBiH and RS have their entity-level strategies on combating domestic violence.²⁵

The 2013 CEDAW Committee recommended that effective institutional mechanisms should be introduced to co-ordinate strategies in order to secure the consistent application of the laws at all levels.

Currently, the remit of the BiH parliamentary Committee on Gender Equality includes the Beijing Declaration. Otherwise, arrangements for co-ordination reflect the country's administrative arrangements, with separate committees under FBiH and RS jurisdictions. In FBiH, cantons are obliged to adopt annual programmes of measures for preventing and combating violence against women, and most have done so. In RS, the Law on Protection from Domestic Violence sets out the obligations of competent institutions and the judiciary in municipalities for reporting violence against women (Article 12) and collecting data (Article 34), as well as providing protection to survivors (Article 9).²⁶

2.3: Availability of administrative and other data

Administrative data, disaggregated by sex, age, ethnicity, disability, geographical location and socio-economic background, is necessary for an accurate assessment of the situation of women, gender inequalities and the extent and nature of violence against women. Without data, it is not possible to take evidence-based corrective action.

The BiH Agency for Statistics²⁷ and the two entity statistical offices produce annual data on the position of women and men in BiH, FBiH and RS relating to education, employment, social protection, political and private life (marital status and children).

23 "Sixth periodic report submitted by Bosnia and Herzegovina under article 18 of the Convention, due in 2017", United Nations, Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 19 April 2018, advance unedited version on the United Nations Human Rights website, accessed 20 May 2019, https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CEDAW/Shared%20Documents/BIH/CEDAW_C_BIH_6_7313_E.pdf.

24 "Framework Strategy for the Implementation of the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina for the Period 2015 - 2018", Bosnia and Herzegovina Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees, accessed 20 May 2019, http://arsbih.gov.ba/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/CAHVIO_Strategy.pdf.

25 Strategy to Combat Domestic Violence of Republika Srpska 2014–2019; Strategy on Preventing and Combating Domestic Violence of FBiH 2018–2020.

26 Republika Srpska Law on Protection from Domestic Violence.

27 For the latest report on women and men in BiH for 2017, see Women and Men in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Sarajevo: Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2018), accessed 20 May 2019, http://www.bhas.ba/tematskibilteni/FAM_00_2017_TB_0_BS.pdf.

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Data provided by state- and entity-level institutions is mainly in the public domain, and it is usually integrated in the reports of the BiH Agency for Statistics and is also published by the Agency for Gender Equality, while entity-level data can be found on the FBiH Gender Centre website²⁸ and on the website of the RS Government.²⁹ NGOs assisting survivors keep records of client numbers. In FBiH, the Gender Centre co-operated with the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2014 to develop an electronic database of domestic violence cases that integrates data from police stations, social welfare centres, safe houses and SOS lines. The first of its kind in the region, it aims to protect survivors from the trauma of repeated testimony about violence as they seek help from responsible institutions. The database is operational, although it is not fully utilized due to a lack of technical equipment required for electronic data collection.

The 2013 CEDAW Committee expressed “serious concern” about insufficient data collection and a lack of monitoring of violence against women at both the state and entity levels. The experts who were interviewed for this report informed the authors that there is still no single methodology for gathering data on violence against women, that data is only comparable at the entity level, and that data collection still mostly relies on traditional methods of data processing using minimal information and communication technology, which is time-consuming and affects the accuracy of the data.

BiH reported progress in the collection and availability of data in its 2018 submission to the CEDAW Committee, but it acknowledged that, although institutions at all levels in BiH are obliged to regularly collect, record and analyse gender-disaggregated data and statistics, there is still no uniform methodology for collecting data on violence against women in the country: “There is still a lack of sectoral statistics classified by gender and an uneven methodology of data collection at entity level in individual areas, which complicates aggregation of state-wide statistics.”³⁰

2.4: Prevention, protection and support

Preventive interventions can help raise awareness, develop understanding and effectively address violence against women. There are a number of broad preventive activities relating to violence against women that are carried out in BiH:

A number of broad preventive activities are carried out in BiH:

- Developing the criminal justice system so that perpetrators are held accountable for the offenses they commit. The governments of both FBiH and RS have developed strategic plans for supporting institutional and non-institutional bodies in preventing domestic violence.
- Providing adequate social, medical, psychological and legal assistance to victims/survivors of violence against women. Gender centres in both FBiH and RS have action plans to implement their prevention strategies. In nine of the ten cantons in FBiH, co-ordinating bodies have been formed and co-operation protocols signed. Laws in both entities allow for courts to impose psycho-social treatment for perpetrators and other protective measures
- Organizing and implementing information and education campaigns, in particular to deal with gender stereotypes. Campaigns have taken place over the past 10 years within the framework of the global campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence”, including conferences, lectures, workshops and training organized by NGOs and international organizations. “Life without Violence” and “White Ribbon” campaigns were aimed at government institutions, as well as the general public. Other campaigns are also organized by women's NGOs.

²⁸ See the Gender Centre Federation website at <http://www.gcfbih.gov.ba/baza-podataka-o-nasilju-u-porodici/>.

²⁹ See the RS Government website at <http://www.vladars.net>.

³⁰ “Sixth periodic report submitted by Bosnia and Herzegovina under article 18 of the Convention, due in 2017”.

Some of the experts interviewed for this report said that real progress had been made. They pointed out, for example, that there is now more discussion on violence against women within educational institutions and greater awareness among the general public. However, they also criticized the lack of a uniform strategy between the entities, inadequate funding, insufficient involvement of NGOs and the lack of consistent approaches to campaigning.

A range of training has been put in place for justice practitioners, law enforcement officers and for staff working in social protection, health, education or the non-statutory sector. However, doubts were expressed by some experts about the competence and experience of the trainers, including concerns expressed by one NGO expert about the fact that experienced NGOs, which are certified to carry out training in this field, were not sufficiently involved.

Women survivors of violence and those at risk need access to protection and basic services. Specialized support services for survivors of violence against women include safe houses, medical assistance, collection of forensic medical evidence in cases of rape and sexual abuse, short-term and long-term psychological counselling, legal counselling, advocacy and additional services, and SOS telephone lines. There are currently eight safe houses (three in RS and five in FBiH) managed by NGOs and two SOS lines (1265 for FBiH and 1264 for RS) available for survivors of violence. The SOS lines in both entities are managed by safe houses, while the maintenance of the lines is provided by entity-level gender centres. The financing of safe houses is regulated by the entity-level laws on protection from domestic violence. In FBiH, however, the financing of safe houses still needs to be further regulated by specific bylaws in order to ensure full implementation of the law.

One expert explained that specialized services for victims of sexual violence are lacking, in particular, crisis centres and counselling centres for victims of rape, the establishment of which is mandatory under the Istanbul Convention.

BiH's 2018 submission to the CEDAW Committee further stated that there is a need to harmonize standards set in the entity laws on protection from domestic violence with the Istanbul Convention, especially in terms of ensuring a sufficient number of safe houses, the safety standards of these facilities and the standards for services and the quality of services for victims of violence.³¹

2.5: Consequences of conflicts for women

The 1992–1995 conflict left over 100,000 dead and missing in BiH.³² Of a pre-war population of 4.3 million, 900,000 became refugees, and a further 1.3 million were internally displaced.³³ Rape and other forms of conflict-related sexual violence were an integral part of the illegal conduct of the conflict, including widespread and systematic attacks on the civilian population (crimes against humanity), war crimes and genocide.³⁴ According to Christine Chinkin, a professor of international law at the London School of Economics: "The consequences of rape continue beyond the actual attack or attacks, often lasting for the rest of the women's lives. As well as the degradation, pain and terror caused at the time, the fear engendered remains long after. This fear is also experienced by other women who were not themselves attacked but are aware that they might have been, or might be in the future. Rape centred within a community undermines the well-being and secure existence of the community."³⁵

31 "Sixth periodic report submitted by Bosnia and Herzegovina under article 18 of the Convention, due in 2017".

32 "The Bosnian Book of the Dead", Humanitarian Law Center, 25 January 2013, accessed 20 May 2019, <http://www.hlc-rcd.org/?p=22376&lang=de>. The International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia estimated a similar number. See "The Conflicts", International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, accessed 20 May 2019, <http://www.icty.org/en/about/what-former-yugoslavia/conflicts>.

33 Mark Cutts, "The humanitarian operation in Bosnia, 1992-95: dilemmas of negotiating humanitarian access", New Issues in Refugee Research Working Paper No. 8, May 1999, accessed 20 May 2019, <http://www.unhcr.org/3ae6a0c58.pdf>.

34 Judgements in the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia cases against Delalić, Đorđević, Nikolić, Karadžić, Kunarac, Lukić and Lukić, Dragomir Milošević, Milutinović, Mladić, Tadić, Zelenović included findings related to conflict-related sexual violence.

35 Christine Chinkin, "Rape and Sexual Abuse of Women in International Law", *European Journal of International Law* 5, (1994): 329, accessed 20 May 2019, <http://www.ejil.org/pdfs/5/1/1246.pdf>.

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Many women and men, particularly those who returned from the front lines or who were sexually abused during the conflict, still suffer the consequences. This can be exacerbated by economic and personal insecurity, exposure to poverty, unemployment, crime and violence and generally an absence of structural solutions. Twenty years after the war, the authorities in BiH have failed to establish a unified and efficient reparations system. The experts interviewed for this report expressed concern about the number of victims who had still had not obtained the status of civilian victims of war or access to social benefits, free legal aid or medical and psychological support.

Concerning women survivors of conflict-related sexual violence, some steps regarding prosecutions and reparations have been undertaken. While the first prosecutions for wartime rape were undertaken at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, the task of prosecuting wartime cases was transferred to national prosecutors and national courts between 2005 and 2006. From 2004 through 2016, the respective national courts prosecuted 116 cases that included conflict-related charges of sexual violence.³⁶ Also, the Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a domestic court that includes international judges and prosecutors, started applying, in 2015, Article 193 of the Criminal procedure Code of Bosnia and Herzegovina and awarding compensation to some victims of rape within war crimes proceedings.³⁷ However, the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina also noted several challenges: the courts are still reluctant to grant such claims, referring victims to civil proceedings instead; prosecutors frequently fail to collect the necessary evidence to substantiate compensation claims; and verdicts are not always properly enforced.³⁸ Improvements have been made in the provision of support to survivors and witnesses before and during court proceedings by means of additional witness protection measures and with the improved capacity of courts and prosecutors' offices across the country to provide psychological support to vulnerable witnesses. Out-of-court support is, in the majority of cases, provided by NGOs.³⁹

Bosnia and Herzegovina's 2018 submission to the CEDAW Committee outlines improvements that have been made, e.g., in terms of the number and quality of prosecutions of cases of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV), strengthened witness protection and in-court support, as well as improvements in the capacity of service providers working with survivors.⁴⁰ In a report on progress before the courts in CRSV cases from 2014 to 2016, the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina "observed marked advancements on several frontiers in the handling of CRSV cases". It particularly commended BiH for strengthening the technical aspects of investigation and prosecution, developing a more sensitive approach to CRSV survivors, introducing witness support officers in institutions and awarding compensation claims for non-material damages. The OSCE report also noted concerns regarding "some officers' and courts' limited understanding of legal elements of sexual violence crimes and of proper qualification of these crimes". It further noted challenges in sentencing, particularly in the use of aggravating and mitigating circumstances, and passing sentences that could be converted into fines.

In 2017, however, Amnesty International⁴¹ remained concerned that the pace of prosecutions remained slow, that not enough had been done to ensure that survivors could access compensation and that the provision of special allowances and support for survivors remained fragmented and inconsistent.

36 "Towards Justice for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Progress before Courts in BiH 2014–2016", OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, accessed 20 May 2019, <https://www.osce.org/mission-to-bosnia-and-herzegovina/324131?download=true>, pp. 7–8.

37 Kyle Delbyck, "Compensating Survivors in Criminal Proceedings: Perspectives from the Field", Trial International, accessed 20 May 2019, https://trialinternational.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/TRIAL-International_compensation-publication_EN_web.pdf.

38 "Towards Justice for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Progress before Courts in BiH 2014–2016."

39 *Ibid.*, p. 74.

40 "Sixth periodic report submitted by Bosnia and Herzegovina under article 18 of the Convention, due in 2017".

41 "Bosnia and Herzegovina submission to the United Nations Committee against Torture", Amnesty International, October 2017, accessed 20 May 2019, <https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/EUR6372192017ENGLISH.PDF>.

2. Legal, institutional and policy context

Concerning state-level obligations for reparations, a draft strategy for transitional justice that was envisaged to address injustices and ensure effective access to reparations and other forms of support for all victims, including survivors of conflict-related sexual violence, was not adopted. The “Programme for Improvement of the Status of Women Victims of Wartime Rape” developed by the United Nations Population Fund and the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees in 2012, with the aim of creating an overall programme that would deal with the consequences of the sexual violence that occurred during the 1992–1995 war in BiH and also to ensure access to reparations for all survivors⁴² was also not adopted.

The state has, to date, played a relatively limited role in supporting survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. Support has mainly been provided by NGOs and has mostly been funded by international organizations and bilateral donors.

The status of civilian victims of war has been granted to some categories of victims at the entity level. The status was previously exclusively tied to the percentage of physical and psychological disability suffered but has been modified to be more responsive to survivors of wartime rape. Thus, survivors of wartime rape have been granted the status of civilian victims of war without the requirement of 60% disability since 2006 in FBiH and since 2012 in the Brčko District. In Republika Srpska, the status of survivors of wartime rape was recognized in 2018 but is still to be implemented.

In RS, the Law on Protection of Civilian Victims of War specified a deadline for the submission of claims (31 December 2007), which limited the number of survivors who could gain the status of civilian victims of war and access social benefits, such as a monthly pension and healthcare. In FBiH and the Brčko District, there is no legally stipulated deadline for filing a claim. The Law on Protection of Wartime Victims of Torture was passed by the RS National Assembly in July 2018.

Furthermore, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom notes the worrisome trend in all the laws in BiH recognizing the status of civilian victims of war whereby the rights that can be exercised by victims are linked to their place of residence, which results in the fact that victims living outside BiH, such as a victim who fled the country cannot claim any rights.⁴³

⁴² “Between a rock and a hard place: wartime victim still denied reparation”, Trial International, November 2017, accessed 20 May 2019, <https://trialinternational.org/latest-post/between-a-rock-and-a-hard-place-wartime-victim-still-denied-reparation/>

⁴³ “Concept and framework for the development of a gender-sensitive reparations program for civilian victims of war in Bosnia and Herzegovina”, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, accessed 20 May 2019, <https://wilpf.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Gender-Sensitive-Reparations-Program.pdf>, p. 14.



11%

More than one in ten women aged 18–74 say their friends would agree that “it is a woman’s obligation to have sex with her husband even if she doesn’t feel like it” (FBiH: 11%; RS: 11%).



25%

A quarter of women agree that domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family (FBiH: 24%; RS: 23%).



67%

Two-thirds of women aged 18–74 say they think that, in general, violence against women at the hands of partners, acquaintances or strangers is very or fairly common (FBiH: 70%; RS: 61%).

3. Attitudes towards gender roles and violence against women

Women's perceptions of gender roles and relations in BiH are multifaceted. Age, education, income, location and the presence of children in the household are all linked to different views.

Women in the qualitative research expressed the belief that society places high expectations on women, who are expected to take care of their home, raise their children and also have a job. They explained that a woman is perceived as accomplished if she is married, has a child and is employed by the age of 30.

“Too much is expected of women today. They are expected to be good mothers, [good] wives, good housewives, to have a job and even to be involved in social activities, to be spread out all over the place, and at the same time nobody can see how they feel about all that and how much that suits them.”

Female, aged 38–55, conflict-affected, urban, RS

“I think that a woman has to be everything, a pillar in the home and at work.”

Female, aged 18–37, rural, FBiH

However, some women said that gender norms were slowly changing. Older women said that they were raised to always be in the house, to constantly be in a good mood, to be a good mother, wife and housewife but they said that, these days, younger men were increasingly playing a role in childrearing and household chores.

Society places high expectations on women, who are expected to take care of their home, raise their children, and also have a job

“Look at my son and daughter-in-law. He is getting much more involved in taking care of the baby and everything else.”

Female, aged 38–55, conflict-affected, urban, RS

Some women who took part in the qualitative research also expressed the belief that women today are more independent and are challenging patriarchal norms. They pointed out that divorce rates seem higher today than in the pre-war era, because women are more likely to take the initiative to get out of an unhealthy relationship.

“It is good to be a woman [today], because they have independence. They have a right to make the decision to work or to be a housewife. They can participate in decisions with their partners. I think that this is a positive thing, and it is much more common [today] than it was in the past.”

Female, aged 56+, conflict-affected, urban, FBiH

The quantitative data shows that views are split on what is acceptable behaviour for men and women in the home. Just over half feel that their friends would agree, for example, that women “should be able to choose their own friends even if their husband disapproves” (FBiH: 55%; RS: 60%) and that “if a man mistreats his wife, others outside the family should intervene” (FBiH: 50%; RS: 56%), while two-fifths disagree with both statements (Figure 3.1).

Attitudes are most clear-cut on whether it is a woman’s obligation to have sex with her husband even if she does not feel like it, with 84% saying their friends would disagree with this, while 11% think their friends would agree (in BiH, FBiH and RS). Around a quarter agree that a friend would think it is important for a man to show his wife “who the boss is” (FBiH: 26%; RS: 20%), while three-quarters disagree.

In the qualitative research, women explained that, despite these changing norms, there was a sense that society expects women to have sex with their husbands even when they do not want to. Women explained that having sex is seen as a marital duty and that refusing to do so would lead the husband to assume that his wife was cheating on him.

“I think that many women in BiH have a problem with their husbands, because women suffer a lot at work and at home. In the end, they are accused [of cheating] because they don’t want to make love to [their husbands], and [their husbands] immediately think that they have found some other man.”

Female, aged 18–37, rural, FBiH

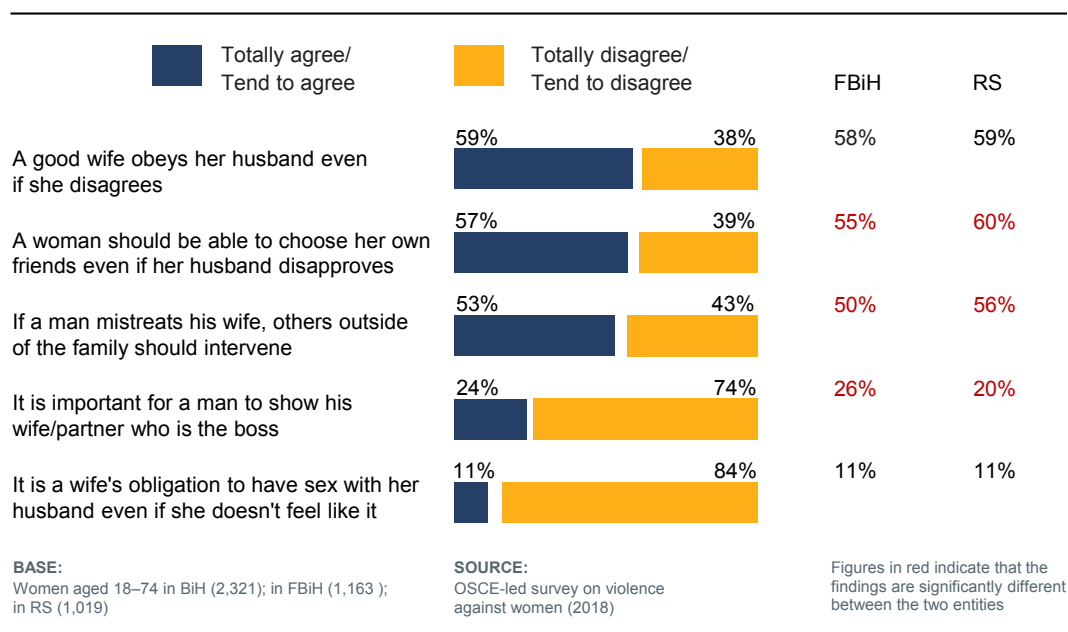
“Yes, it is [a woman’s] obligation and duty to sleep with her husband whenever he feels like it.”

Female, aged 38+, IDP, RS

Views differ across demographic groups. Women who are 18–29, with tertiary education, those in paid employment or who are students, those who are comfortable on their present income or who live in urban areas are all more likely to say their friends would be in favour of freedom of self-expression within a relationship. On the other hand, women who are over 60, are conflict-affected, those who have (or have had) children, those with only primary education, those fulfilling domestic responsibilities or who are retired, those finding it difficult or very difficult to cope on their current income, those who live in rural areas or who are returnees or refugees/displaced persons tend to be more likely to subscribe to beliefs about women’s subservience to their husbands.

3. Attitudes towards gender roles and violence against women

Figure 3.1. Perceptions of social norms and acceptable behaviours



Respondents were given a range of scenarios and asked if sexual intercourse without consent could be justified in any of them, such as sex within a marriage or partnership if either the woman or the assailant had been drinking, or if the woman was wearing provocative clothing. At least seven in ten women disagree *strongly* that sexual intercourse is justified in any of the presented scenarios. Nevertheless, these views are not unanimous. A small minority believe that sexual intercourse without consent is justified in a marriage or between partners who live together (7%), and around one in twenty consider it justifiable in a situation where a woman does not clearly say no (6%) or where there is flirting beforehand (5%).

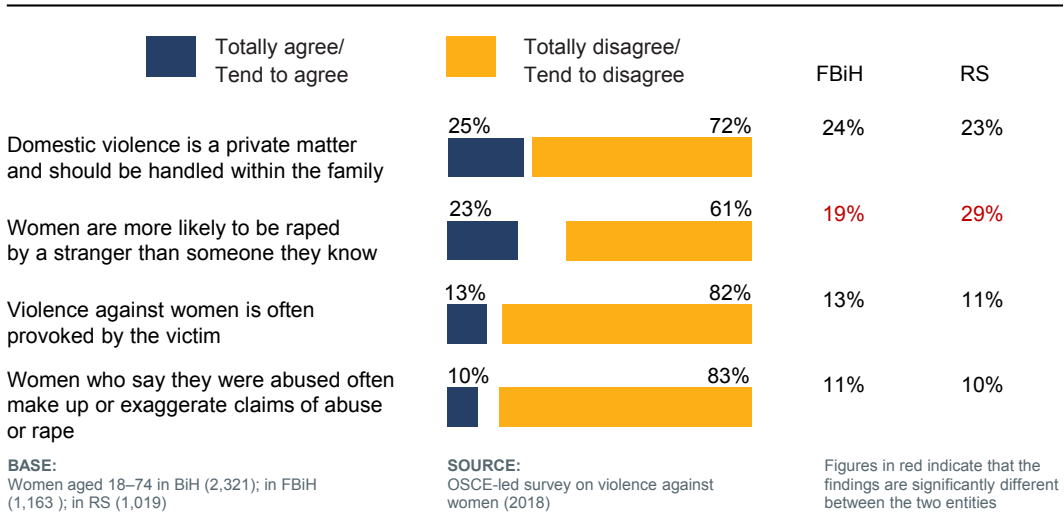
Views are fairly consistently dismissive across different demographic groups. Women aged 18–29 are, however, less likely than women aged 60 or over to agree that sexual intercourse in a relationship without consent is justified (4% versus 9%, respectively), while women aged 30–39 are somewhat more likely to agree that wearing revealing clothing (6%) and being drunk or using drugs (6%) can justify sexual intercourse without consent, but these differences are small compared to the overwhelming agreement that there should be consent regardless of the circumstances. Women from ethnic minorities are markedly more likely to say non-consensual sex is justified in a relationship (17%) or if the woman is wearing revealing clothing (8%), is drunk or has used drugs (12%) or flirts beforehand (9%).

The majority of women in BiH do not hold victim-blaming views when it comes to violence against women. As Figure 3.2 illustrates, around one in eight women feel that violence against women is often provoked by the woman (13% overall; FBiH: 13%; RS: 11%) and one in ten believe that women who say they were abused often make up or exaggerate claims of abuse or rape (10% overall; FBiH: 11%; RS: 10%). This is lower than the average of 15% of women in the EU who think that violence is often provoked by the victim (ranging from 6% in the Netherlands to 58% in Latvia) and 19% of women in the EU (ranging from 7% in Sweden to 43% in Malta) who think that women exaggerate claims of abuse or rape, according to the European Commission’s Special Barometer 449 on gender-based violence.⁴⁴

44 “Special Eurobarometer 449: Gender-based Violence”.

Figure 3.2: Underlying attitudes to violence against women

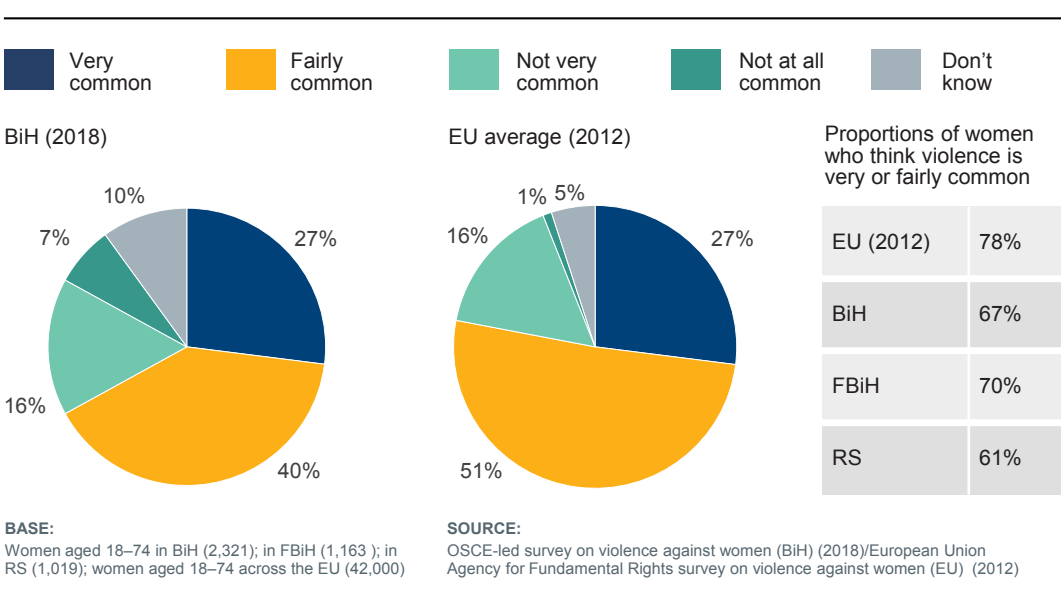
Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements.



A quarter of women believe that domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family (25% overall; F BiH: 24%; RS: 23%). This is almost twice as many as say the same across the EU (14% on average).⁴⁵ It is, however, comparable to neighbouring Croatia, where around a quarter of women believe the same. The EU range on this issue is from 2% in Sweden to 31% in Romania, suggesting that countries with a longer tradition of raising awareness of gender equality are also more open to talking about violence. In fact, most women in BiH believe that, if domestic violence does occur (even if not very regularly), someone would be told: mostly a member of the family (F BiH: 77%; RS: 84%), a healthcare worker (F BiH: 71%; RS: 75%) or a police officer (F BiH: 68%; RS: 74%). Around two-fifths believe that a religious leader would be told (F BiH: 39%; RS: 45%). This belief proves to be overly optimistic when we look at how many survivors of violence keep their experiences private and how few report their experiences to the authorities or law enforcement (see Chapter 6).

Figure 3.3: Perceptions of the pervasiveness of violence against women

How common do you think violence against women by partners, acquaintances or strangers is in Montenegro?



⁴⁵ “Special Eurobarometer 449: Gender-based Violence”.

3. Attitudes towards gender roles and violence against women

The quantitative research found that most women feel that violence against women is common in BiH (Figure 3.3). Two-thirds overall say it is common (67%), with more women agreeing in FBiH (70%) than in RS (61%).

The proportion of women who feel that violence against women is common is lower in BiH than in the EU, where, on average, 78% (ranging from 54% to 93%) feel this way. Women all over Europe, for the most part, believe that violence against women is common.


The socio-demographic differences reported earlier in this chapter are also seen here. Analyses suggest that the view that violence against women is common is less likely to be found among women who believe women should be subservient to their husbands and among those who hold victim-blaming views.

Just over half of women (57%) feel at least somewhat informed about what to do if they experience violence (Figure 6.1). One in eight women (13%) in BiH say they “don’t not know at all what to do”. Women aged 18–29, with tertiary education, in paid work, who are students, those who are comfortable on their current income or are from urban areas are more likely to say they feel informed, while women who are over 60, with primary education, those who are fulfilling domestic responsibilities or are retired, those who are finding it difficult or very difficult to cope on their present income or from rural areas are less likely. Overall, there is little difference between the two entities (58% feel at least somewhat informed in FBiH and 56% in RS).


Two-thirds of women feel that violence against women is common in BiH

Nearly one-third of women (32%) recall recently seeing or hearing campaigns addressing violence against women, which is also lower than EU average of 50%. There is little difference between the two entities (31% recall such campaigns in FBiH and 33% in RS), but there are differences between regions within the entities: women from the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton are less likely to recall seeing or hearing advertising (19%), along with women from the Zenica-Doboj Canton (20%) and the Central Bosnia Canton (4%), while women living in the Tuzla Canton (40%), Sarajevo Canton (also 40%), Canton 10 (85%)⁴⁶ and East RS (42%) are more likely to say they can recall such a campaign.

⁴⁶ Caution should be applied here because of the low base size (n=31).




11% One in ten women aged 18–74 who have ever had a partner say they have experienced physical and/or sexual violence at the hands of an intimate partner since the age of 15 (FBiH: 10%; RS: 12%).




36% Psychological violence at the hands of a partner has affected more than one-third of women who have ever had a partner at some point in their lifetime (the same in both FBiH and RS).



28% Just over a quarter of women aged 18–74 say they have experienced sexual harassment since the age of 15 (FBiH: 26%; RS: 31%).



8% One in twelve women aged 18–74 indicate having experienced physical and/or sexual violence at the hands of a non-partner since the age of 15 (the same in both FBiH and RS).



15% Fifteen per cent of women aged 18–74 say they have experienced physical or sexual violence at the hands of an intimate partner or non-partner since the age of 15 (FBiH: 14%; RS: 16%).

4. Violence against women in Bosnia and Herzegovina

4.1: Physical and sexual intimate partner violence

In the qualitative research, intimate partner violence was seen as widespread and as the most common form of violence against women in BiH. In terms of physical violence,⁴⁷ women cited slapping, hair pulling, throwing objects and hitting as forms of violence that might be experienced at the hands of an intimate partner. They explained that some forms of physical violence were seen as a normal part of relationships, such as slapping, which is considered so minor that it is not necessarily seen as violence. In turn, the women said that severe forms of physical violence such as beatings were considered unacceptable by society.

“When a husband slaps his wife, it is not considered important. He slapped her, he didn’t do anything horrible, he didn’t beat her up.”

Female, aged 18–37, rural, FBiH

“If I’m married and I don’t feel like having sex, it doesn’t matter. If he wants it, that’s it.”

Female, aged 38–55, conflict-affected, urban, RS

More than a third of women who have, or have had, a partner say they have experienced some form of partner violence (35% overall; FBiH: 36%; RS: 37%) (Figure 4.1). For the most part, this violence has been psychological (reported by 35% of women, regardless of the entity, which is lower than the EU average of 43%). One in ten women share that they have experienced physical violence at the hands of a current or previous partner (10%), and 4% say that they have experienced sexual violence⁴⁸ (with similar proportions in each entity in both cases). This is lower than in the EU, where an average of 20% of women (ranging from 12% to 31%) reported experiencing intimate partner physical violence and 7% intimate partner sexual violence (ranging from 3% to 11%).

47 With regard to physical violence, women in the survey were asked the following questions: has someone/a current partner/previous partner ever 1) pushed you or shoved you? 2) slapped you? 3) thrown a hard object at you? 4) grabbed you or pulled your hair? 5) punched you or beaten you with a hard object or kicked you? 6) burned you? 7) tried to suffocate or strangle you? 8) cut or stabbed you or shot at you? 9) beat your head against something? In this report, the prevalence of physical violence is based on respondents who report having experienced at least one of these forms of violence on at least one occasion. The prevalence of physical violence is provided for current partners, previous partners, any intimate partner (either current or previous) and non-partners. The reference period for non-partner violence was since the age of 15/in the 12 months prior to the survey, and for partner violence it was whether this had ever happened during their relationship or in the 12 months prior to the survey.

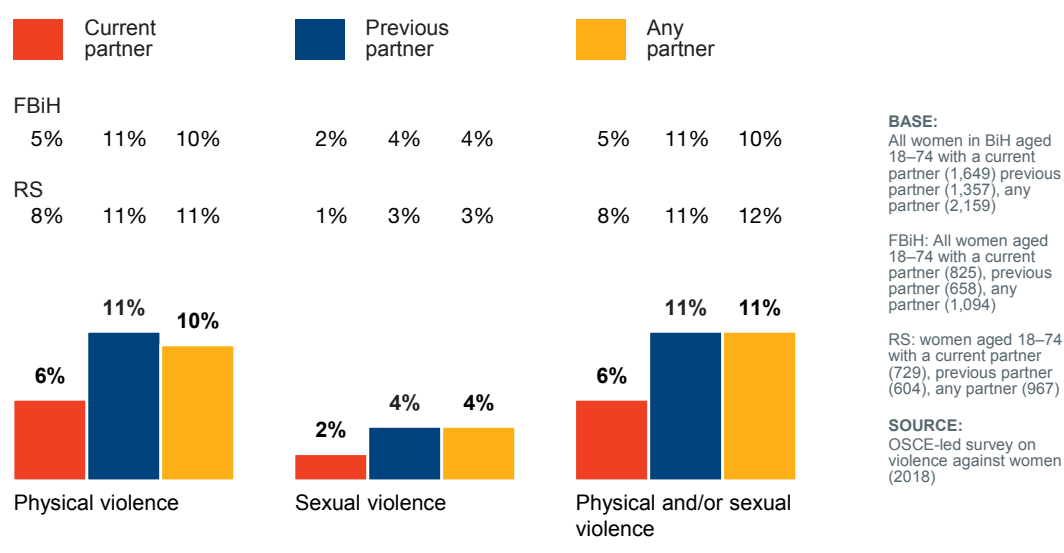
48 Concerning sexual violence, women were asked: Since you were 15 years old and in the past 12 months, how often has someone 1) forced you to have sexual intercourse by holding you down or hurting you in some way? 2) Apart from this, how often has someone attempted to force you to have sexual intercourse by holding you down or hurting you in some way? 3) Apart from this, how often has someone made you take part in any form of sexual activity when you did not want to or were unable to refuse? 4) Or have you consented to sexual activity because you were afraid of what might happen if you refused? The prevalence of sexual violence is based on respondents who reported having experienced at least one of these forms of violence on at least one occasion. The prevalence of sexual violence is provided for current partners, previous partners, any intimate partners (either current or previous) and non-partners. The reference periods are as above.

Differences in the indicated prevalence rates across countries:

It is important to note that countries with longer traditions of gender-equality policies and awareness-raising campaigns (the Nordic countries and Western Europe) also have higher rates of women reporting experiences of violence.

According to the FRA survey across the EU, for example, the three countries where women were most likely to say they had experienced physical and/or sexual violence at the hands of a partner or a non-partner since the age of 15 are Denmark (52%), Finland (47%) and Sweden (36%). The indicated prevalence is lowest in Croatia (21%), Austria (20%) and Poland (19%).

Figure 4.1: Prevalence of intimate partner physical and/or sexual



The most common forms of physical violence reported by women at the hands of both current and previous partners are: slapping and pushing or shoving (Table 4.1), with a comparable prevalence in both FBiH and RS. This is comparable to the EU results, where, on average, these types of physical violence are the most prevalent as well (albeit reported more often).

Generally, women living in households that are finding it difficult (14%) or very difficult (29%) to cope on their income are more likely to say they have had such experiences of physical violence at the hands of an intimate partner.

More than a third of women who have, or have had, a partner say they have experienced some form of intimate partner violence

4. Violence against women in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Table 4.1: Forms of intimate partner physical violence

	Current partner % ever happened	Previous partner % ever happened
Slapped you?	4	9
Pushed you or shoved you?	4	9
Grabbed you or pulled your hair?	2	5
Beat you with a fist or a hard object, or kicked you?	1	5
Thrown a hard object at you?	1	2
Beat your head against something?	1	2
Tried to suffocate you or strangle you?	1	2
Burned you?	0.2	0.3
Cut or stabbed you, or shot at you?	0.1	0.4

BASE: All women in BiH aged 18–74 with current partner (1,649) or previous partner (1,357)

SOURCE: OSCE-led survey on violence against women (2018)

The sexual violence reported by 4% of women who have ever had a partner (2% at the hands of a current partner and 4% at the hands of a previous partner) took a number of forms (Table 4.2).

Table 4.2: Forms of intimate partner sexual violence

How often has your current or previous partner done any of the following to you?

	Current partner % ever happened	Previous partner % ever happened
Have you consented to sexual activity because you were afraid of what might happen if you refused?	2	3
Apart from this, made you take part in any form of sexual activity when you did not want to or you were unable to refuse?	2	2
Forced you into sexual intercourse by holding you down or hurting you in some way?	1	2
Apart from this, attempted to force you into sexual intercourse by holding you down or hurting you in some way?	1	2

BASE: All women in BiH aged 18–74 with current partner (1,649) or previous partner (1,357)

SOURCE: OSCE-led survey on violence against women (2018)

Patterns in intimate partner violence⁴⁹

The data suggests that violence against women in intimate partner relationships happens on a continuum. Rather than being an isolated incident, it tends to happen repeatedly over a long period of time. For example, of those women who say they experienced their first incident of current partner physical and/or sexual violence five or more years before the survey, 21% experienced their most recent incident in the 12 months prior to the survey and a further 9% said their most recent incident took place between one and four years before the survey.

Almost nine in ten current partners (88%, compared to 82% in the EU) and nearly three-quarters of previous partners (72%, compared to 62% in the EU) were living with the women concerned at the time of the first incident of violence (or threat thereof).

Among the respondents who were pregnant during their relationship with their current partner and who experienced physical or sexual violence (or threats thereof) during the relationship, nearly one in five (19%) indicated experiences of such violence during their pregnancy (20% on average in the EU), while 36% reported the same at the hands of a previous partner (42% on average in the EU). A significant proportion of women survivors of violence who have children indicate that their children are aware of the violence committed by a current partner (33%) or a previous partner (43%).

Of the women who have experienced intimate partner violence, the forms of violence suffered are broadly similar, regardless of whether perpetrated at the hands of a current or previous partner. In nearly all cases, however, the indicated prevalence of each type of violence is higher where previous partners are the perpetrators, both in relation to all incidents experienced and in terms of the forms of violence involved in the most serious incident and including those that could be considered more extreme or brutal.

The most common form of violence involved in respect of the most serious incidents identified by women is being slapped (which is also the most frequently mentioned in the EU), a form of violence that respondents in the qualitative research said was not even always acknowledged as violence. In a number of cases, however, the most serious incident was sexual, with, for example, 13% of the most serious incidents perpetrated by a previous partner involving forced sexual intercourse (10% in the EU).

In around half of cases, the current partner (51% overall; FBiH: 61%; RS: 37%⁵⁰) or previous partner (53% overall FBiH: 53%; RS: 51%⁵¹) were reported as being drunk at the time of the most serious incident.

⁴⁹ While the reporting rates/prevalence of physical and sexual violence discussed above do not include threats of such violence, other questions related to when such violence occurred and the details of the most serious incidents do include threats of violence.

⁵⁰ Caution: very small base size: n=34 in FBiH and n=45 in RS.

⁵¹ Small base size: n=60 in FBiH and n=57 in RS.

4. Violence against women in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Table 4.3: Most serious incident of intimate partner violence

I would like you to think about the most serious incident by your current/previous partner. Which of the things on this card happened at that time? By "most serious", we mean an incident that had the biggest impact on you.

	Current partner %	Previous partner %
Slapped you	34	43
Threatened to hurt you physically	21	40
Pushed you or shoved you	18	27
Beat you with a fist or a hard object, or kicked you	13	25
Grabbed you or pulled your hair	10	18
Made you take part in any form of sexual activity when you did not want to or you were unable to refuse	8	4
Forced you into sexual intercourse by holding you down or hurting you in some way	7	13
You have consented to sexual activity because you were afraid of what might happen if you refused?	6	4
Attempted to force you into sexual intercourse by holding you down or hurting you in some way	4	6
Threw a hard object at you	4	9
Tried to suffocate you or strangle you	2	5
Threatened you with violent sexual acts (like rape, forced pregnancy, etc.) in a way that really frightened you?	1	2
Beat your head against something	1	7
Cut or stabbed you, or shot at you	0.4	1
Burned you	0	1

BASE: All women in BiH aged 18–74 who have ever experienced violence from a current partner (113) or previous partner (153)
 SOURCE: OSCE-led survey on violence against women (2018)

Physical and sexual violence in the 12 months prior to the survey

Overall, 3% of women who have ever had a partner say they experienced intimate partner physical and/or sexual violence in the 12 months prior to the survey (the prevalence is the same in both entities). The types of intimate partner violence that women encountered in the 12 months prior to the survey are similar to those experienced over their lifetime, with being pushed or shoved or being slapped mentioned most often in relation to both current and previous partner violence.

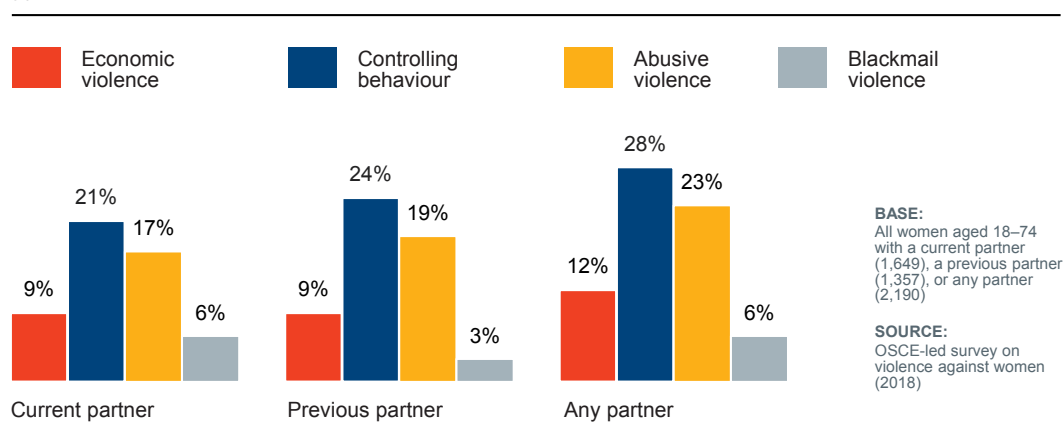
4.1.1: Intimate partner psychological violence

In the qualitative research, women said that psychological violence was very common within relationships in BiH. Belittling, jealousy and controlling behaviours were all discussed as common forms of psychological violence experienced by women in BiH.

The quantitative survey findings indicate that around a third of women who have ever had a partner have encountered psychological violence at the hands of their current or a previous partner (36% in both entities). This is lower than the average reported in the EU (43%, ranging from 31% in Ireland to 60% in Denmark and Latvia).

Figure 4.2: Prevalence of the different forms of intimate partner psychological violence

The various forms of psychological violence asked about were categorized into four broad types as follows.⁵²



Economic violence, which includes being prevented from making decisions about family finances and from shopping independently and being forbidden to work outside the home.

Controlling behaviours, which include situations where a woman’s partner tries to keep her from seeing her friends, *restricts her use of social media sites (such as Facebook, Twitter, etc.)*, tries to restrict contact with her birth family or relatives, insists on knowing where she is in a way that goes beyond general concern, gets angry if she speaks with another man, suspects that she has been unfaithful, *forbids the use of contraception or otherwise restricts decisions on family planning*, prevents her from completing school or starting a new educational course, *wants to decide what clothes she can wear or expects to be asked for permission so she can see a doctor*.

Abusive behaviours, which includes situations where a woman’s partner forbids her to leave the house at all or *forbids her to leave the house without being accompanied by a relative*, takes away her car keys or locks her up, belittles or humiliates her in front of other people or in private, purposefully scares or intimidates her (e.g., by yelling or smashing things), makes her watch or look at pornographic material against her wishes, threatens to hurt or kill someone she cares about (other than her children), threatens to hurt her physically, *threatens her with violent sexual acts (like rape, forced pregnancy, etc.)* and *hurts or threatens to hurt her when visiting, picking up or bringing back her children (previous partner only)*.

Using a woman’s children to blackmail her or abusing her children, which includes threatening to take her children away, threatening to hurt her children, hurting her children or making threats concerning the custody of her children (previous partner only).

⁵² The forms of psychological violence in italics were not asked about in the FRA survey.

The most common forms of psychological violence are partners getting angry if the woman speaks to another man and being belittled in private

Women who were in a relationship were asked if any of these things had happened sometimes, often or all of the time or had never happened, while women who had been in previous relationships were asked if any of their previous partners had ever done any of these things to them.⁵³

Overall, 28% of women who have ever had a partner have experienced controlling behaviours (FBiH: 28%; RS: 27%). Around a quarter of women who have ever had a partner have experienced abusive behaviours (23% overall; FBiH: 22%; RS: 27%), and 12% have experienced economic violence (FBiH: 13%; RS: 11%). Among those women who have ever had a partner and who have children, 6% say their children have been used to blackmail them or their children have been abused at the hands of a partner (FBiH: 6%; RS: 6%).

In terms of the specific types of psychological violence, the two most commonly mentioned forms are partners getting angry if the woman speaks to another man and being belittled in private.

Survivors of violence said that the violence they experienced had begun with psychological violence but that they had either not recognized this or had ignored it until the violence started to become physical. At that point, they began to re-evaluate their previous experiences and realized that the violence had started much earlier.

“The most difficult [thing] is to recognize psychological violence. I had been married for 15 years, and I didn’t recognize psychological violence until there was physical [violence]. In the last seven or eight years of our marriage, I was exposed to psychological torture all the time. I could not have friends because of that. I could not have any contact with my relatives except for my parents.”

Female, aged 18–37, IDP, FBiH

They also discussed economic violence as a common form of psychological violence, e.g., a man prohibiting his wife from working outside the home or not providing her with enough money for basic needs while also expecting her to take care of the home. One woman described an experience where her husband threatened her with an axe after asking her to give him the salary she had earned from her work.

⁵³ In relation to being threatened with physical or sexual violence, women were asked how many times their current and/or previous partner had ever done this and how often they had done it in the 12 months prior to the survey.

Survivors of violence said it had begun with psychological violence but they had either not recognized it or ignored it until it became physical

“A woman lives in a house. She doesn’t work. He makes money or gets a salary, spends it somewhere, and gives you 20 [convertible marks] for seven days and wants to have lunch on the table every day. That is economic violence.”

Female, aged 56+, conflict-affected, RS

4.2: Stalking

One in twenty women (5%) in each entity say that they have been stalked⁵⁴ at some point since they were 15 years old. This is significantly lower than the EU average of 18% and is below the lowest EU rates recorded in Romania and Lithuania (both at 8%, the highest being 33% in Sweden). In BiH, younger women are more likely to say they have been stalked since the age of 15 (8% of those aged 18–39), as are those who have tertiary education (9%). The indicated prevalence of stalking in the 12 months prior to the survey is 1%, again the same in both entities.

The most common forms of stalking involve receiving offensive, threatening or silent calls (2%) and receiving emails, text messages or instant messages that are offensive or threatening (2%).

Women who have experienced stalking are most likely to say that they did know the perpetrator (39% overall; FBiH: 37%; RS: 39%) or a previous partner (34% overall; FBiH: 37%; RS: 28%).

In 37% of the most serious cases, stalking ended after a few days and in 52% of cases in less than three months. Sometimes stalking continues for a very long time. In 15% of cases, it lasted over two years and in 12% over five years. This compares to the EU average, where stalking lasted two to five years in 10% of cases and over five years in 11% of cases.

Women’s most serious experience of stalking mainly made them feel angry (43%) or annoyed (40%), but in over a third of cases (34%), it frightened them, while 20% of women felt shame. Longer-term psychological consequences include difficulty sleeping (for 25% of women in the most serious case) and feelings of vulnerability (23%).

⁵⁴ Stalking behaviours include: “sending you emails, text messages (SMS) or instant messages that were offensive or threatening”, “sending you letters or cards that were offensive or threatening”, “making offensive, threatening or silent phone calls to you”, “posting offensive comments about you on the Internet”, “sharing intimate photos or videos of you on the Internet or by mobile phone”, “loitering or waiting for you outside your home, workplace or school without a legitimate reason”, “deliberately following you around”, “deliberately interfering with or damaging your property”.

4. Violence against women in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The police came to know about 22% of the most serious incidents, with women reporting it themselves in 16% of cases (similar in both entities). The main reason for not contacting the police was because the victim dealt with it themselves or involved a friend or family member (40%) or felt that it was not serious enough to report (29%).

Nearly three-fifths of victims (59%) talked about the incidents with friends or family. In the EU, most women also talked with friends (77%). More than two-fifths (42%) of victims of stalking in BiH confronted the perpetrator, 30% threatened to contact the police, and another 30% threatened legal action or changed their phone number/e-mail address. In the EU, 43% of victims of stalking confronted the perpetrator and 32% threatened the perpetrator with police or court action.

4.3: Sexual harassment

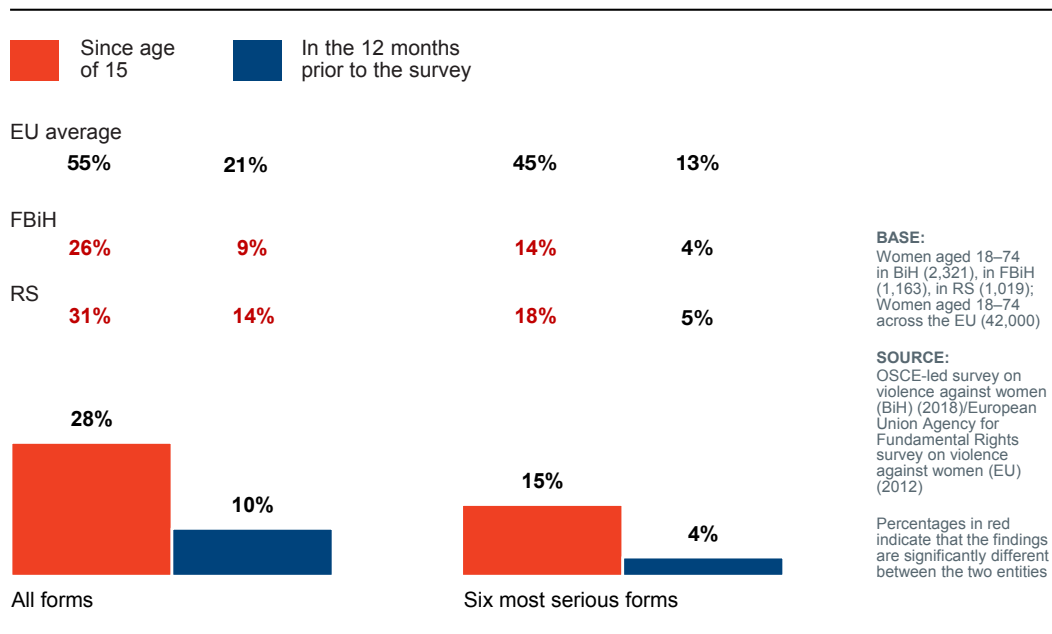
Almost three in ten women (28%) say they have experienced at least one form of sexual harassment⁵⁵ (as listed in Table 4.4) since they were 15 years old (Figure 4.3), with somewhat more women having had such an experience in RS (31%) than in FBiH (26%). One in ten women say they experienced sexual harassment in the 12 months prior to the survey (10%), again with higher figures in RS (14%) than in FBiH (9%).

More than one in seven women (15%) disclose having experienced more serious sexual harassment (4% in the 12 months prior to the survey).⁵⁶ The proportion of women who said they experienced sexual harassment in the EU is almost double (55%), ranging from 24% in Bulgaria to 81% in Sweden, with neighbouring Croatia at 41%. Interestingly, the countries with longer traditions of gender-equality policies and awareness-raising campaigns (the Nordic countries and Western Europe) also have higher rates of women openly sharing their experiences of sexual harassment.

⁵⁵ In terms of sexual harassment, women in the survey were asked: How often since you were 15 years old/in the past 12 months, have you experienced any of the following: 1) unwelcome touching, hugging or kissing? 2) sexually suggestive comments or jokes that offended you? 3) inappropriate invitations to go out on dates? 4) intrusive questions about your private life that offended you? 5) intrusive comments about your appearance that offended you? 6) inappropriate staring or leering that you found intimidating? 7) somebody sending or showing you sexually explicit pictures, photos or gifts that offended you? 8) somebody indecently exposing themselves to you? 9) somebody making you watch or look at pornographic material against your wishes? 10) unwanted sexually explicit emails or SMS messages that offended you? 11) inappropriate advances that offended you on social networking websites such as Facebook or in Internet chat rooms? With regard to each form of sexual harassment, women could indicate whether they had experienced it never, once, two to five times or six times or more. The prevalence of sexual harassment is based on respondents who reported having experienced one of the listed items at least once. Six forms of sexual harassment were selected for their severity, and they are referred to in this report as “the most severe forms” of sexual harassment.

⁵⁶ The most serious forms of sexual harassment are reported as “unwelcome touching, hugging or kissing”, “sexually suggestive comments or jokes that offended you”, “somebody sending or showing you sexually explicit pictures, photos or gifts that offended you”, “somebody indecently exposing themselves to you”, “somebody making you watch or look at pornographic material against your wishes” and “unwanted sexually explicit emails or SMS messages that offended you”. The prevalence of the most severe forms of sexual harassment is based on respondents who report having experienced at least one of these six forms of sexual harassment on at least one occasion.

Figure 4.3: Prevalence of sexual harassment



In BiH, sexual harassment since the age of 15 is most often indicated by women aged 18–29 (37%) and 30–39 (36%), by those who do not have children (38%), those who have tertiary education (41%), those who are in paid employment (38%) and students (40%, all of whom are aged 18–29) and those who live in urban areas (34%).

Sexual harassment covers a wide range of experiences. The most common form reported by women since they were 15 years old is intimidation through staring or leering, mentioned by 17% of women, followed by offensive questions about their private life (12%). In the EU, the most common type of sexual harassment was also inappropriate staring and leering (30%), followed by unwelcome touching, hugging or kissing, mentioned by 29% on average in the EU compared to a much lower rate, 7%, in BiH.

Almost three in ten women say they have experienced at least one form of sexual harassment since the age of 15

4. Violence against women in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Table 4.4: Prevalence of sexual harassment

At times you may have experienced people acting towards you in a way that you felt was unwanted and offensive. How often since you were 15 years old, until now, have you experienced any of the following?

	Never %	Once %	2-5 times %	6+ times %
Unwelcome touching, hugging or kissing?	91	2	3	2
Inappropriate staring or leering that made you feel intimidated	81	4	8	5
Sexually suggestive comments or jokes that made you feel offended?	89	3	4	2
Somebody sending or showing you sexually explicit pictures, photos or gifts that made you feel offended?	98	1	1	0.4
Inappropriate invitations to go out on dates?	92	3	3	2
Intrusive questions about your private life that made you feel offended?	86	2	6	4
Intrusive comments about your physical appearance that made you feel offended?	90	2	5	2
Unwanted sexually explicit emails or SMS messages that offended you?	88	1	1	1
Inappropriate advances that offended you on social networking websites such as Facebook, or in internet chat rooms?	78	2	3	2
Somebody indecently exposing themselves to you?	97	1	0.4	1
Somebody made you watch or look at pornographic material against your wishes?	98	0.3	0.1	0.1

BASE: Women aged 18–74 in BiH (2,321)

SOURCE: OSCE-led survey on violence against women (2018)

Women who say they have experienced sexual harassment are most likely to say that the perpetrator was unknown to them (62%). Perpetrators known to the victim were often friends or acquaintances⁵⁷ (29%) or someone else known but not specified from the available categories⁵⁸ (23%). In the EU, 68% of victims of sexual harassment say the perpetrator was unknown to them, while 31% identify a friend, acquaintance or neighbour and 35% another acquaintance. Somebody from a work context is also mentioned more frequently in the EU, -by 32% compared to 17% in BiH, which can be explained by the higher proportion of women in paid employment across the EU (49% versus 24% in BiH).

⁵⁷ The FRA survey included the category of “friend/acquaintance” but not “neighbour”.

⁵⁸ Excluding the categories of current partner, previous partner, boss/supervisor, colleague/co-worker, client/customer/patient, teacher/trainer/coach, fellow student, doctor/healthcare worker, relative/family member (other than partner), partner’s relative/family member, a date/someone you just met—each of these were mentioned in smaller proportions.

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

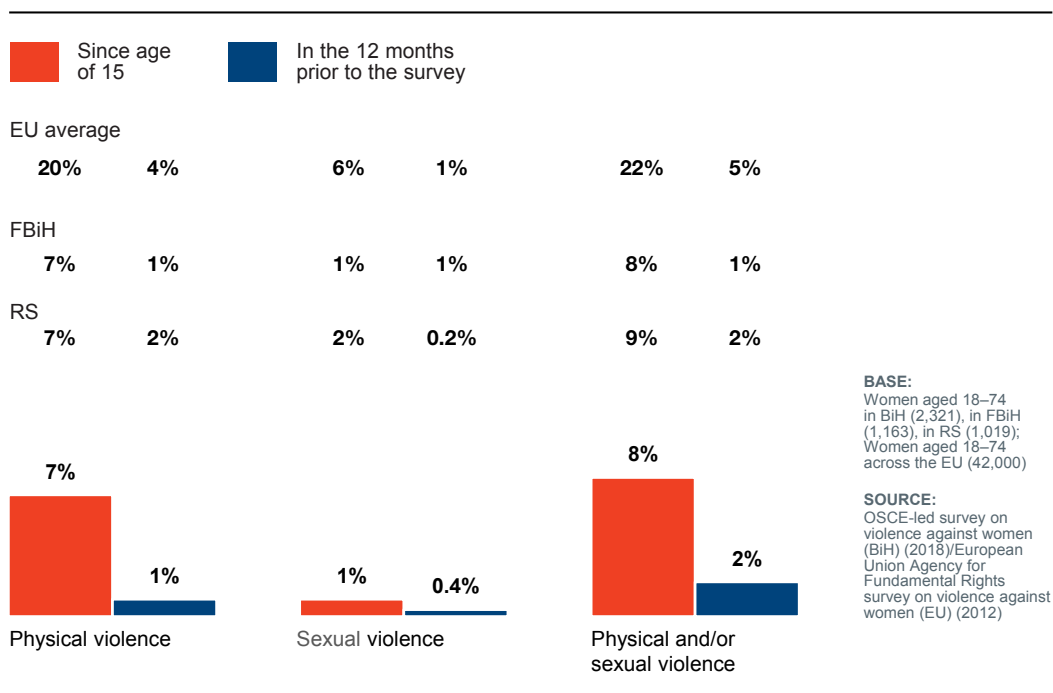
While perpetrators of sexual harassment tend to be men, this is not always the case. Men are identified as the perpetrators by 53% of women who say they have experienced sexual harassment. Women only are mentioned by 4% of respondents, while 34% say that both men and women were involved.

In around a fifth of the most serious cases, more than one person was involved (18%).

4.4: Physical and sexual violence at the hands of non-partners

In the survey, 7% of women (the same in both entities) say they have experienced one or more forms of physical violence⁵⁹ at the hands of a non-partner since they were 15 years old (1% in the 12 months prior to the survey), while 1% of women (similar in both entities) say they have been subjected to one or more forms of sexual violence by non-partners⁶⁰ (0.4% in the 12 months prior to the survey) (Figure 4.4). These results are much lower than the EU, where on average 20% said they had experienced physical violence at the hands of a non-partner (ranging from 10% in Austria, Greece, Poland and Portugal to 36% in Denmark, with Croatia at 11%). Non-partner sexual violence was indicated by 6% of women in the EU, ranging from 1% in Greece and Portugal to 12% in the Netherlands and Sweden, with Croatia at 3%.

Figure 4.4: Prevalence of non-partner physical and/or sexual violence



⁵⁹ The prevalence of physical violence is calculated on the basis of the number of women who say they have experienced at least one of the following forms of violence since the age of 15 or in the 12 months prior to the survey: being pushed or shoved, being slapped, having a hard object thrown at them, being grabbed or pulled by the hair, being punched or beaten with a hard object or being kicked, being burned, being suffocated or strangled, being cut or stabbed or shot at, having their head beaten against something.

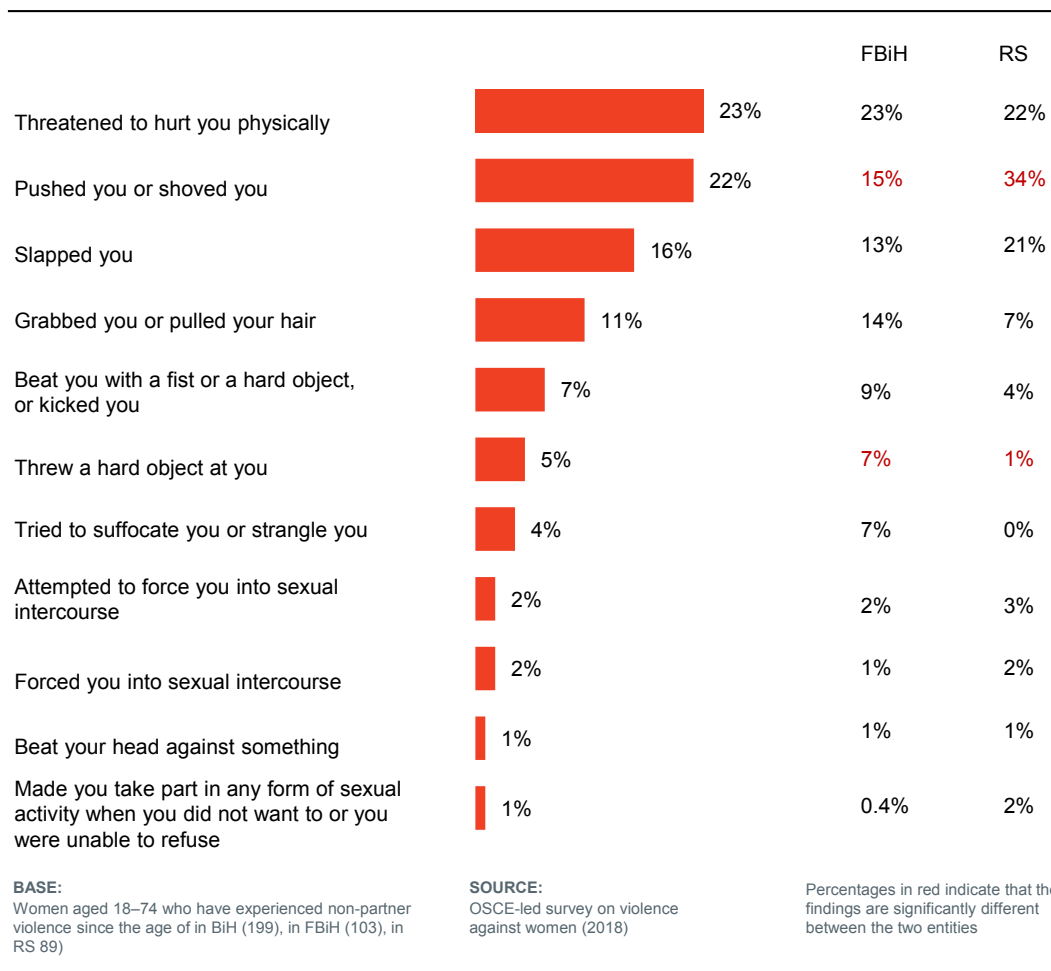
⁶⁰ The prevalence of sexual violence is calculated on the basis of the number of women who say they have experienced at least one of the following forms of violence since the age of 15 or in the 12 months prior to the survey: being forced to have sexual intercourse by being held down or injured in some way, an attempt to force them to have sexual intercourse by holding them down or hurting them in some way, being forced to take part in any form of sexual activity when they did not want to or were unable to refuse, consenting to sexual activity because they were afraid of what might happen if they refused.

4. Violence against women in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The most prevalent form of physical violence women share being subjected to at the hands of a non-partner since the age of 15 is being pushed or shoved, mentioned by 4% of women (similar in both entities), followed by being slapped (3%). Being pushed or shoved was also the most common form of non-partner physical violence reported in the EU. As mentioned above, women in countries with a longer tradition of raising awareness of gender equality and zero tolerance towards violence against women have a higher prevalence, as women are more open to talking about their experiences. The lower rates in BiH point to less recognition of physical and sexual violence and/or higher barriers to disclosing such experiences with a female interviewer.

A woman's most serious incident, i.e., the one that survivors felt had the most impact on them (including threats of violence), tends to be physical rather than sexual (Figure 4.5). Being threatened with physical harm (23%, similar in both entities) and being pushed or shoved (22% overall; FBiH: 15%; RS: 34%)⁶¹ are the most commonly mentioned as having occurred during the most serious incident. The other forms of violence most frequently identified as being involved in the most serious incident are being slapped and being grabbed or having their hair pulled.

Figure 4.5: Women's most serious incidents of non-partner violence



61 Low bases: n=111 in FBiH and n=99 in RS.

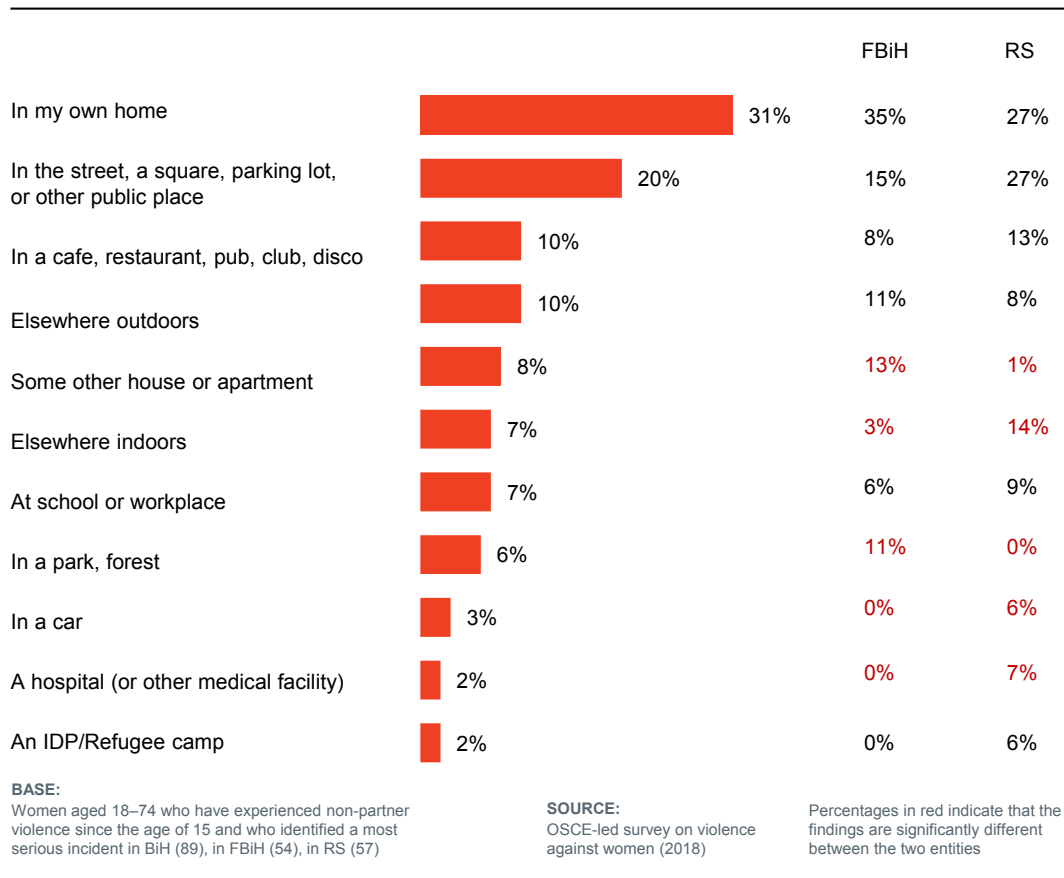
OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

I would like you to think about the most serious incident of violence you experienced at the hands of a non-partner. Which of the things on this card happened at that time? By “most serious”, we mean the incident that had the biggest impact on you.

Around one-third of the most serious incidents took place in the survivor’s own home (31%), which is somewhat higher than the EU average (27%). Similar proportions in BiH (20%) and in the EU (18%) say the most serious incident of violence took place in the street, a square or other public place.

Figure 4.6: Location of the most serious incident of non-partner violence

Thinking about your most serious incident of non-partner violence, where did it take place?



4.4.1: Perpetrators

Most women survivors of non-partner physical violence identified their perpetrators as someone they knew. Among those who say they have had such an experience, the perpetrators identified most often are one of the victim’s relatives (18% overall; FBiH: 23%; RS: 7%) or a friend, acquaintance or neighbour (18% overall; FBiH: 19%; RS: 16%). A fellow student is identified by 8% of survivors (FBiH: 8%; RS: 8%), and 7% mention one of their partner’s relatives (FBiH: 8%; RS: 5%), and another 7% mention a date or someone they just met (FBiH: 10%; RS: 4%). Around one in six (17% overall; FBiH: 17%; RS: 17%) say it was another acquaintance but without specifying this any further. Sixteen per cent say that the perpetrator was not known to them, but attacks perpetrated by complete strangers were more frequent in RS (FBiH: 10%; RS: 29%). In the EU, women who have experienced non-partner physical violence are most likely to identify a relative as the perpetrator (31%) or say that it was someone they did not know before (31%).

4. Violence against women in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Our analysis of perpetrators of sexual violence is limited due to the small number of women who said they had such experiences (n=32), but 21% of these survivors say the perpetrator was a friend, acquaintance or neighbour, and 13% say that it was someone else they knew but whom they did not specify. More than one in five (22%) refused to say who the perpetrator was, and a further 16% said they did not know who it was.

Men are identified as the perpetrators of non-partner physical violence by 64% of those women who have experienced non-partner physical violence, with 50% of survivors mentioning a man only, while 15% say that both men and women were involved. Women are identified by 27% (with 13% mentioning women only). The remainder (23%) did not know or preferred not to specify the gender of the perpetrator. Six in ten survivors of sexual violence say the perpetrator was a man (60%), and 3% say that it was a woman, while the remainder did not know or preferred not to say.⁶²

In four out of five of the most serious incidents, the perpetrators acted alone (79% overall; FBiH: 77%; RS: 81%). A fifth of the most serious incidents were perpetrated by someone who was drunk (20% overall; FBiH: 14%; RS: 27%)⁶³ and/or under the influence of drugs (4% overall; FBiH: 5%; RS: 1%).⁶⁴

In the qualitative research, women who had experienced non-partner violence all gave examples of violence perpetrated by their husband's family. One woman recalled an incident in which her husband, who was psychologically violent towards her, brought his mother to their house. After inviting her inside, the woman was pushed to the floor and repeatedly kicked by her mother-in-law. Another woman explained that she was often insulted or humiliated by members of her husband's family.

4.5: Experience of violence during childhood

One in twelve women (8% overall; FBiH: 5%; RS: 11%) indicate having experienced a form of physical violence⁶⁵ (as listed in Figure 4.7) at the hands of an adult before they were 15 years old, which is much lower than the EU average of 27%.

One in twenty women (5% overall; FBiH: 4%; RS: 9%) were slapped or had their hair pulled so that it hurt (lower than the EU average of 22%), and a similar proportion (4% overall; FBiH: 3%; RS: 5%) were hit very hard with a stick, cane or belt (Figure 4.11). The primary perpetrators of this childhood violence were the victim's parents.

⁶² Given the small base (n=30), caution should be applied when interpreting these findings.

⁶³ Low bases: n=55 in FBiH and n=63 in RS.

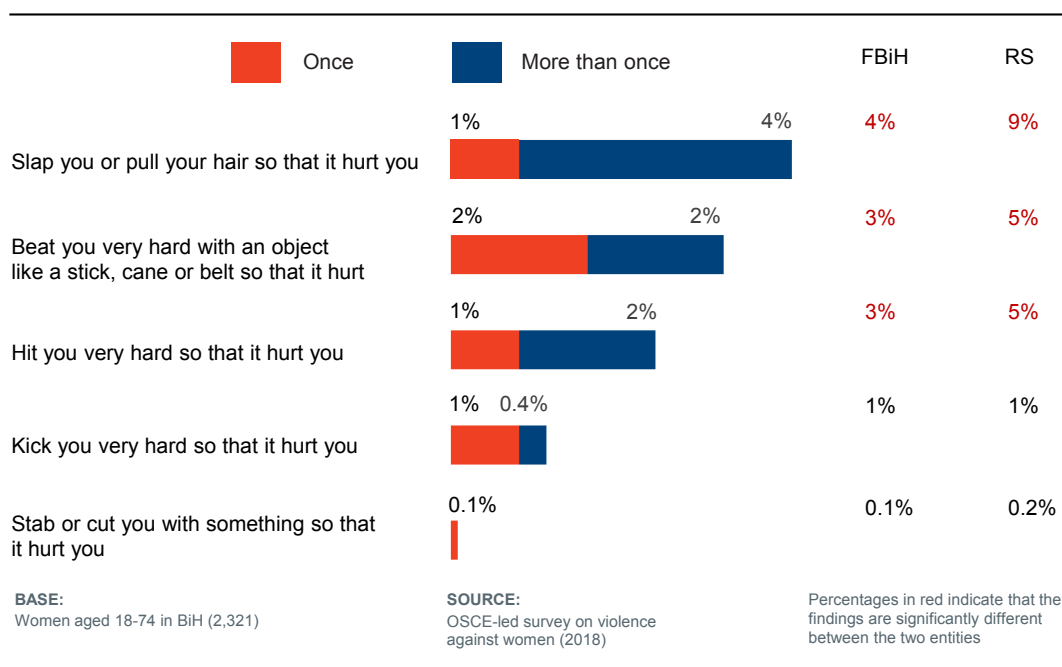
⁶⁴ Ibid

⁶⁵ Childhood violence refers to violence before the age of 15. In terms of physical violence before the age of 15, women were asked the following questions: Before the age of 15, how often did an adult who was 18 years of age or older do the following to you: 1) slap you or pull your hair so that it hurt? 2) hit you very hard so that it hurt? 3) kick you very hard so that it hurt? 4) beat you very hard with an object like a stick, cane or belt? 5) Stab or cut you with something? In terms of sexual violence before the age of 15, women were asked the following questions: Before the age of 15, how often did an adult who was 18 years of age or older do the following to you when you did not want them to: 1) expose their genitals to you? 2) make you pose naked in front of any person or in photographs, video or on an Internet webcam? 3) touch your genitals or breasts against your will? 4) force you to have sexual intercourse? In terms of psychological violence before the age of 15, women were asked the following questions: Before the age of 15, how often did an adult family member do the following to you: 1) say that you were not loved? 2) say that they wished you had never been born? 3) threaten to abandon you or throw you out of the family home? Before the age of 15, how often did an adult who was 18 years of age or older do the following to you: threaten to hurt you badly or kill you? The prevalence of childhood violence is based on respondents who report having experienced at least one of the items listed above for either physical, sexual or psychological violence or any of the three.

Thirty-five per cent of those who experienced childhood violence experienced violence at the hands of an intimate partner as an adult

Figure 4.7: Experiences of physical violence before the age of 15

Before you were 15 years old, how often did any adult, do any of the following to you



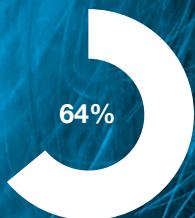
Some 4% of women indicate having experienced psychological violence in their childhood, and even fewer (1%) say they experienced sexual violence⁶⁶ (the prevalence is consistent across both entities).

⁶⁶ The prevalence of childhood sexual violence is calculated on the basis of the number of women who say they experienced at least one of the following forms of violence before the age of 15: someone “exposing their genitals to them when they did not want them to”, “making them pose naked in front of any other person or in photographs, video or on an Internet webcam when they did not want to”, “touching their genitals or breasts when you did not want them to”, “making them touch their genitals or breasts when they did not want to”, “making them have sexual intercourse with them when they did not want to”.

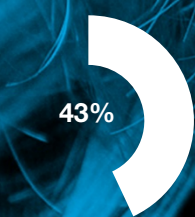
4. Violence against women in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Regarding sexual violence, one may expect that some of these experiences are not shared with interviewees, i.e., we must assume a certain level of latency in issues related to such forms of violence, in childhood as well as later. In the EU, where in several countries sexual abuse of women has become part of the public discourse in a way that perpetrators rather than victims tend to be stigmatized, 12% of women reported sexual violence in childhood, ranging from 1% in Romania to 20% in France and the Netherlands. Croatia has a declared rate of 2%.

Women who experienced violence in their childhood are much more likely to have experienced violence as an adult. Indeed, 35% of those who experienced violence as a child experienced physical and/or sexual violence at the hands of an intimate partner as an adult, compared with 8% of those who did not experience violence in their childhood. A similar pattern is seen in relation to non-partner violence: 47% of those who experienced childhood violence have experienced non-partner physical and/or sexual violence compared with 12% of those who did not experience childhood violence.



Almost two thirds of women could be defined as directly conflict-affected in BiH (FBiH: 67%; RS: 59%).



More than two out of five women who have lived through conflict were forced to flee their homes, two-thirds of whom did not return to their home town (FBiH: 44%; RS: 40%).

5. Conflict and violence

5.1: Conflict-related experiences

This section looks at how conflict has been experienced by women in Bosnia and Herzegovina and how this has affected the levels of violence they have experienced.

Almost two-thirds of women could be defined as conflict-affected in BiH (FBiH: 67%; RS: 59%).⁶⁷, which is defined as having lived through a period of conflict and having at least one of the conflict-related experiences discussed below.

The survey presents the tested experiences of violence during conflict on the basis of current residential status, while the experiences of violence could have happened in other areas of BiH or elsewhere.

Nearly seven in ten women from BiH (69%) have lived in a situation where there was an active armed conflict for a period of at least one week, nearly all of whom say the conflict experienced was the 1992–1995 armed conflict in BiH. Women living today in F BiH (71%) are more likely than women in RS (62%) to indicate in the survey that they have lived through an armed conflict.

Among those who have lived through a period of conflict for at least one week, the majority have had at least one conflict-related experience from the list presented in the survey to confirm whether or not the respondent was directly affected by conflict. Almost nine out of ten of these women heard gunshots, the sound of bombing or shelling in the local area where they lived (86% overall; F BiH: 87%; RS: 82%), and two-thirds of them lived where armed personnel (regular military or other armed groups) were stationed or were moving in larger numbers and for at least a week (65% of women currently living today in BiH; F BiH: 62%; RS: 71%). Around two-fifths of women saw fighting first-hand where they were living at the time (43% in BiH; 48% of women currently living in F BiH, 33% in RS and 47% in the Brčko District).

This had an impact on many aspects of their lives. More than two in five women who experienced conflict had property seriously damaged or destroyed (BiH: 46%; F BiH: 49%; RS: 39%) and a third (in both entities) had property taken by armed personnel. Nearly two-thirds (64%) of women had a spouse or family member who took part in the fighting (similar in both entities). For almost half (48%), it was not possible to find work (F BiH: 49%; RS: 44%). More than two in five had to flee their home (43% overall- 44% in F BiH and 40% in RS). While the majority later returned home, 24% of those fleeing conflict in BiH were unable to do so. Of those women who said they lived through conflict, 18% of them are permanently displaced in F BiH, and 35% are permanently displaced in RS.

⁶⁷ The definition of “conflict-affected” is having lived in a situation where there was an active armed conflict for a period of at least one week and answering “yes” to at least one of the following questions: “Did you hear gunshots, the sound of bombing or shelling in the local area where you were living at the time of the conflict?” “Did you live for at least a week in a location where armed personnel (regular military or other armed groups) were stationed or moving in larger numbers? This may include local residents participating in the conflict.” “Did you witness fighting in the local area where you were living at the time of the conflict?” “Was the property (e.g., your home, car, livestock) of your immediate family destroyed or seriously damaged due to the conflict?” “Was the property (e.g., your home, car, livestock) of your immediate family taken by an armed group?” “Was it impossible to find work in the local area due to the conflict (office/factories were closed or destroyed, it was too dangerous)?” “Did an immediate family member or your spouse or partner take part in the conflict or participate in fighting as a member of an armed group?” “Did you play an active part in fighting during the conflict?” “Were civilians from the local area where you were living detained or imprisoned?” “Did civilians in the local area where you were living die due to the conflict?” “Were you personally physically attacked or injured due to the conflict?” “Did you have to flee your home during (any of) the conflict(s) you experienced?”

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Overall, 64% of women (FBiH: 68%; RS: 59%) can be considered directly affected by conflict, which is defined as having lived through a period of conflict and having at least one of the conflict-related experiences discussed above.

Those women defined as directly affected by conflict were also asked about other consequences of having lived through a conflict, from the availability of public services through to the loss of family members and experiences of violence. Nearly three in four (74%) had at least one of the experiences listed in Table 5.1. Women who are returnees (93%) or refugees/displaced persons (87%) are more likely to indicate having had any of these experiences.

Table 5.1: Experiences of women directly affected by conflict

Please tell me whether you experienced any of the following during the armed conflict(s) that you have experienced.

	Yes %
Men in your family (husbands, fathers, brothers) were away from home and the family, (because they had to flee, fought in the conflict, were detained, went missing)	63
Health services (including women's health services) that you previously used were unavailable or inaccessible for a longer period of time.	36
No law enforcement (police or other organisation to keep law and order) present in your local area, for a prolonged time.	30
An immediate family member or your spouse or partner was injured or died due to fighting/violence?	30
Women in your family had to go into potentially dangerous places (i.e. through frontline/boundary line or close to explosives like mines) for work or to fetch essentials for the household (firewood, food, drinking water, fuel, etc.)	28
Armed groups deliberately used threats, rumours or actual violence against women to terrify the local population in the area where you lived.	15
Members of armed groups harassed local women in the area where you lived.	14
Members of armed groups employed deeply humiliating practices against local women in the area where you lived, such as forcing women to strip naked in public, mutilating their bodies, having them undergo internal body cavity searches for no reason, etc.)	9
Circumstances caused women to offer sexual services in exchange for essential goods or for ensuring the safety of their family in the area where you lived.	6

BASE: Women aged 18–74 in BiH who had been affected by armed conflict in BiH (1,499), in FBiH (811), in RS (604)
SOURCE: OSCE-led survey on violence against women (2018)

In the qualitative research, women across all regions of BiH agreed that the 1992–1995 conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina had a significant impact on violence against women, both during and after the conflict. They believed physical and sexual violence to have been common during the conflict—especially in military camps—and expressed the belief that rape in particular was used as part of the warring factions’ military strategies. The perpetrators of violence during the conflict were said to be soldiers and other armed personnel.

“I believe that during ... the war, there was a completely different form of violence. There was no violence in the family, but yes, [there was violence] outside the home: rape in camps, physical violence by armed individuals, breaking into houses, beating, intimidation ...”

Female, aged 38–55, conflict-affected, urban, RS

“I think the violence was sexual during the war. Not by spouses but by the aggressor’s army against women in camps, and it took place often.”

Female, aged 18–37, rural, FBiH

The women who took part in the qualitative research expressed the belief that violence against women remained common after the conflict but at the hands of intimate partners rather than soldiers and paramilitary forces. They explained that one of the reasons for this was the psychological trauma experienced by men during the conflict. Indeed, according to the survey results, nearly one-third of women whose current partner fought in an armed conflict think it had a long-term psychological impact on their partner (32%). Another reason cited by the women in the focus group discussions for this rise in intimate partner violence was the political and economic breakdown the country faced. Unemployment rates were very high, and the women who took part in the research said that this led to tension within families. One of the consequences of war that the women mentioned was that it made them less financially independent, as many were unable to find a job following the war or were not entitled to their pension because they had not worked enough years as a result of the conflict.

“We were all employed [before the war]. We all had jobs, and life was different, people were happier in general. I also think ... there was less violence. Then the war happened, and everything fell apart ... now, after the war, although many years have elapsed, we still haven’t reached the level we had before the war: [there are] no jobs, people are getting poor, [there is no] economic stability, and this leads to violence.”

Female, aged 38+, IDP, RS

5.2: Conflict and violence against women

Women identified as conflict-affected were asked whether any of their experiences of violence were connected to an armed conflict. Among those women directly affected by conflict who say they experienced non-partner physical and or sexual violence⁶⁸, 25% said that this was the case, rising to 40%⁶⁹ when asked about the most serious incident of non-partner violence they experienced (which includes threats of physical and sexual violence). Thirty-four per cent of conflict-affected women who experienced physical and/or sexual violence at the hands of their current partner connected their experience of violence with an armed conflict. Again, this figure rises to 54%⁷⁰ when asked about their most serious incident. One in five women directly affected by conflict who have experienced previous partner physical and/or sexual violence connect these experiences of violence to the conflict, increasing to 35% in relation to their most serious incident.

68 The base size for sexual violence is too low to report on.

69 Caution should be applied here because of the low base size (n=50).

70 Caution should be applied here because of the low base size (n=43).

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

For stalking, the equivalent figures are 9% and 20%, respectively.⁷¹ The figure is much lower for sexual harassment, with 10% connecting their most serious incident to an armed conflict. No women attribute any of their experiences of childhood violence to an armed conflict.

Following their most serious incident of non-partner violence, more conflict-affected women say they had a long-term psychological response (67% compared with 37% of those not conflict-affected). Each of the psychological impacts asked about are mentioned more often by the those directly affected by conflict.

Conflict-affected women are also more likely to have been injured: 37% say their most serious incident of non-partner violence resulted in bruises or scratches, compared with 7% of those not affected by conflict.

Likewise, following their most serious incident of previous partner violence, those who are conflict-affected are more likely to say their most serious incident resulted in a number of psychological impacts, including feelings of vulnerability (51% versus 15% of those not conflict-affected), loss of self-confidence (50% versus 28%, respectively), difficulty in sleeping (45% versus 18%, respectively), anxiety (36% versus 9%, respectively), difficulties in relationships (24% versus 8%, respectively) and difficulties concentrating (20% versus 1%, respectively). Conflict-affected women are also more likely to have suffered bruises and scratches following their most serious incident of previous partner violence.

These differences are not observed in relation to current partner violence.

Among those women who experienced armed conflict and who suffer from a long-term illness or disability, almost one in five (18%) attribute this to the conflict. The figures are higher among women with only primary education (27%), retired women (26%), women finding it very difficult to manage on their current income (30%), refugees/displaced persons (42%) and returnees (33%). However, there is no significant difference across regions or between the two entities.

Two per cent of interviewed women say they have been threatened or assaulted with a firearm since they were 15 years old. This totalled 55 respondents, the majority of whom (68%) say the perpetrator was someone other than a partner. Among those who have experienced partner or non-partner violence, this figure rises to 6% of women who say they have been assaulted or threatened with a firearm (totalling 19 respondents).

⁷¹ Caution should be applied here because of the low base sizes (n=60 and n=46).



6. Impact of violence on women's lives and barriers to seeking support

This chapter provides an overview of the impact of violence on women's health. Throughout these questions, women were asked about the impact of their most serious incident of physical or sexual violence, which could have included threats of both. The most serious incident was identified by the survivor as the one that had the most impact on her, either psychologically or physically.

6.1 Psychological responses and physical injuries

Almost all of the women who shared experiences of physical or sexual violence experienced at least one of the emotions mentioned in Figure 6.1 following their most serious incident of violence. Regardless of the relationship with the perpetrator, the most common emotional response was fear, experienced by around half of survivors of current partner violence (55%), nearly two-thirds of survivors of non-partner violence (64%) and seven in ten survivors of previous partner violence (70%). Anger, shock and embarrassment are other common reactions, and, as with fear, these were experienced by a higher proportion of victims of previous partners. In the EU, anger and fear were the most common emotional responses.

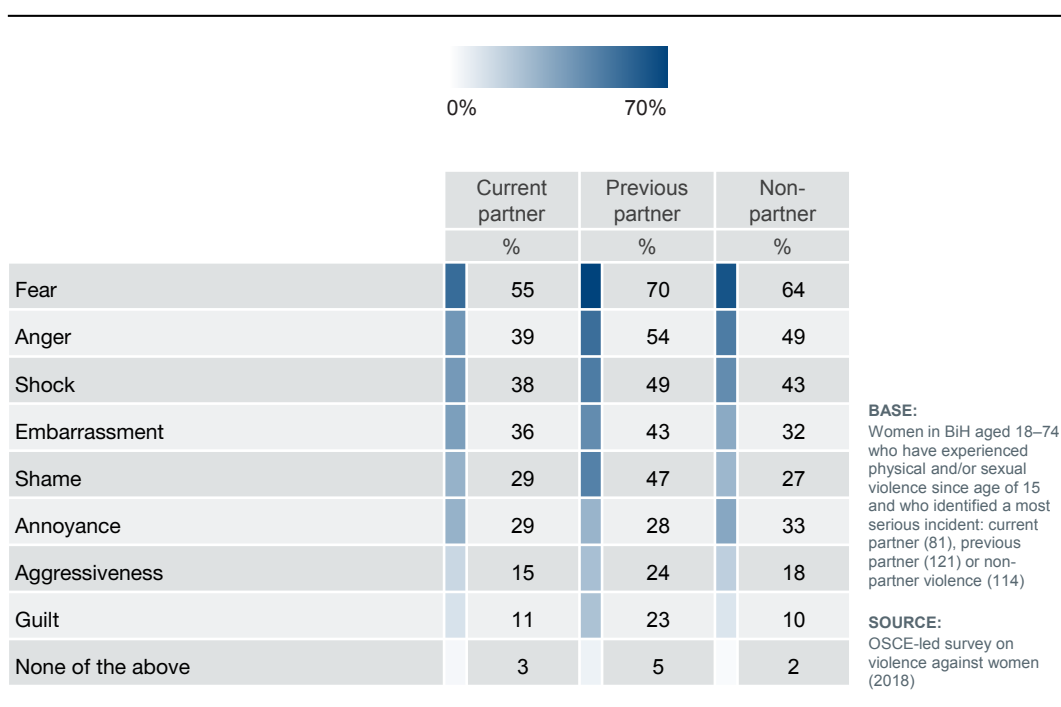
In the qualitative research, one woman who experienced recurring physical violence at the hands of her partner explained that, although they are no longer together, she has lost trust in people and would not be able to be in a relationship. She said she prefers being alone and would be afraid of being with someone else.

“I am still not ready [to be in a relationship]. After everything I experienced, I don't trust anyone. That's it, I lost trust in people. Somehow, I like to be alone.”

Female, aged 38–55, IDP, RS

Table 6.1: Emotional reactions to physical and/or sexual violence (most serious incident)

Thinking about your most serious incident, did you feel any of the following as a result?



Again, almost all women who experienced sexual harassment felt at least one of the emotions in Figure 6.1 in relation to their most serious incident. While fear was less often evoked in response to the most serious incident (28%), the most common reaction was embarrassment, which was felt by around half of the women who identified a most serious incident of sexual harassment (46%) and may be due to a sense that the responsibility for sexual harassment or abuse lies with the victim.

The majority of survivors of physical and/or sexual violence at the hands of current or previous partners also felt the impact of at least one of the longer-term psychological reactions listed in Figure 5.2 as a result of their most serious incident. Survivors of previous partner violence are more likely to have suffered from any of the reactions asked about, with a loss of self-confidence (44%), feelings of vulnerability (41% compared to 24% in the EU) and depression (40% compared to 27% in the EU) noted most often.

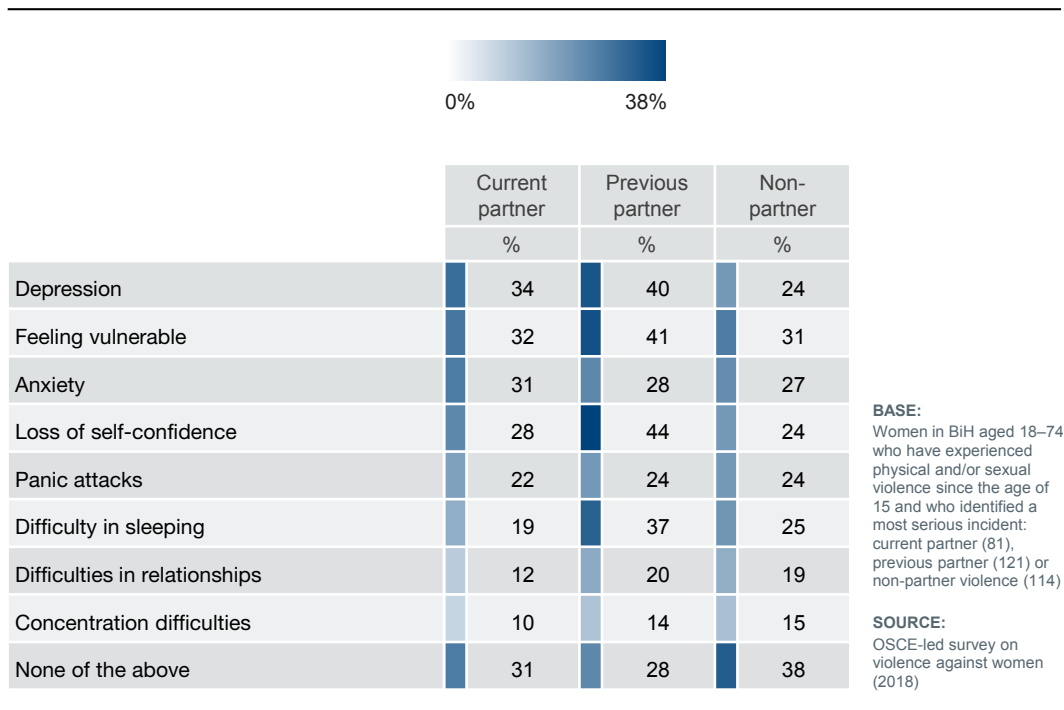
Following a woman’s most serious incident, depression was the most common reaction among survivors of current partner violence (34%), while survivors of non-partner violence were most likely left feeling vulnerable (31%). Around three in ten survivors of current partner violence also felt vulnerable or suffered from anxiety and a loss of self-confidence, while a quarter of survivors of non-partner violence experienced anxiety, difficulty sleeping, depression, a loss of self-confidence and panic attacks. Women living in RS tend to indicate psychological consequences less often than those living in FBiH when it comes to all forms of violence (this is most pronounced for non-partner violence, with 43% of women in RS indicating psychological consequences compared to 62% in FBiH, but it is also visible for intimate partner violence, indicated by 62% of women in RS and 78% in FBiH). Anxiety, depression and vulnerability were the most commonly described reactions in the EU.

6. Impact of violence on women's lives and barriers to seeking support

As mentioned in Chapter 4, psychological reactions to non-partner violence and previous partner violence were more pronounced among women who had experienced armed conflict.

Table 6.2: Psychological consequences of physical and/or sexual violence (most serious incident)

Thinking about the most serious incident, did you suffer from any of the following as a result?

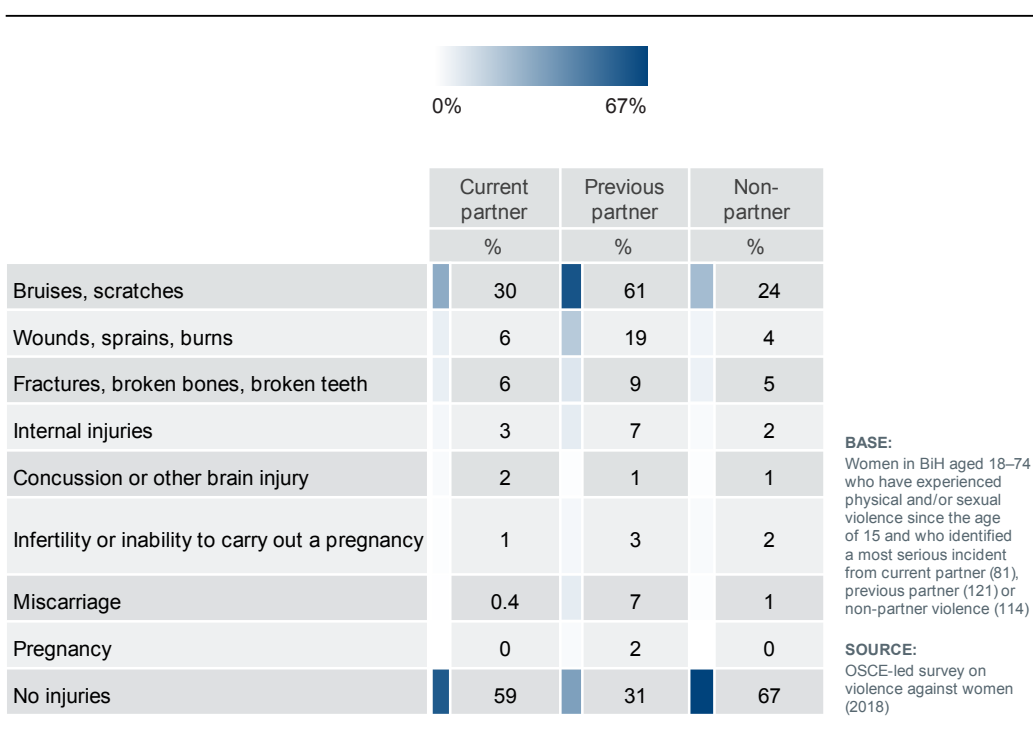


While around four in ten of those who experienced sexual harassment (38%) say their most serious incident had no longer-term psychological impact, one in six were left feeling vulnerable (16%), while just over one in ten felt anxious (13%), experienced a loss of self-confidence (also 13%), had difficulty sleeping (12%) or suffered from depression (11%). In the EU, one in six suffered from anxiety (14%), and one in five felt vulnerable (20%) following their most serious incident sexual harassment.

While fewer women say they suffered from a physical injury or other physical consequence compared to an emotional or psychological impact following their most serious incident of violence, many are still affected in this way. More than six in ten survivors of previous partner violence (61%), 30% of survivors of current partner violence and 24% of survivors of non-partner violence had bruises or scratches as a result of their most serious incident. Wounds, sprains or burns are indicated by 19% of those who experienced previous partner violence (in relation to their most serious incident) and broken bones or broken teeth are indicated by 9%. Seven per cent of survivors of previous partner violence had a miscarriage as a result of their experience. In the EU, the most common forms of physical injury are also bruises, scratches (for 42% of those identifying a most serious incident of IPV and 33% of those identifying a most serious incident of non-partner violence) and wounds, sprains, burns (11% in relation to partner violence and 8% in relation to non-partner violence).

Table 6.3: Physical injuries arising from physical and/or sexual violence (most serious incident)

Thinking about the most serious incident did it result in any of the following?



A third of women who identified a most serious incident at the hands of their current partner suffered from depression as a result

Victims of previous partner violence are more likely to say that they experienced more severe forms of violence at the hands of this perpetrator in comparison with current partners or non-partners. For instance, they are more likely to have been kicked, punched, or have had a hard object thrown at them (Figure 3.2). This is also confirmed by the greater number of survivors who develop long-term psychological symptoms after attacks by their previous partners compared to other perpetrators (Figure 6.2).

As with the psychological consequences, women living in RS tend to indicate having experienced physical consequences less often than those living in FBiH (36% say they suffered from a physical injury in RS versus 55% in FBiH).

6. Impact of violence on women's lives and barriers to seeking support

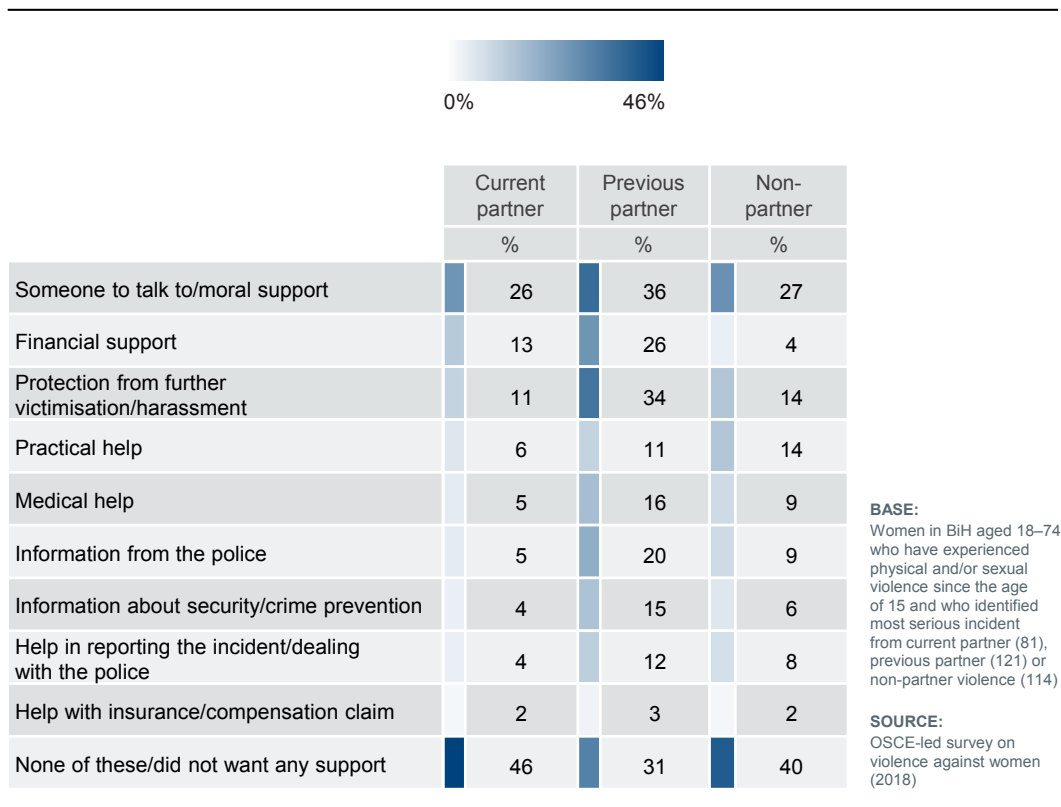
6.2: Support that survivors of violence want

All respondents who had experienced physical or sexual violence were asked if they needed some type of assistance following the most serious incident that they had experienced.

Survivors of violence were asked what types of information, advice or support they wanted after the most serious incident of violence they suffered. The most-mentioned source of information, advice or support women say they wanted after their most serious incident of partner physical and/or sexual violence, both in BiH and the EU, was someone to talk to who could provide moral support. Thirty-four per cent of survivors of previous partner violence wanted protection from further victimization, which was mentioned almost as frequently as someone to talk to and significantly more often than by survivors of current partner or non-partner violence. A number of other forms of support were also mentioned more often by survivors of previous partner violence, including financial support and information from the police (Table 6.4).

Table 6.4: Types of information, advice and support wanted after a woman's most serious incident

What types of information, advice or support would you say you wanted following the most serious incident you experienced?



In the qualitative research, the lack of communication and co-operation between different support services was mentioned. One survivor of violence from RS explained that she had found it regretful that, after discussing an incident of violence with the police (in 2015), they did not suggest any NGOs she could contact as sources of support, nor did they inform the social welfare centre about her experience. This was also brought up by Roma women in FBiH.

"The police only write down [your report], but they don't recommend anything to those women [like] a safe house or something."

Female, aged 18–36, Roma, urban, FBiH

Another unmet need that women mentioned in the qualitative research was that of financial support. They explained that victims of domestic violence are often financially dependent on their partner (sometimes because they are prevented from working) and as such would be unable to live independently. They said that there was a lack of state-funded financial support or support in becoming economically independent to help women get away from such abusive relationships.

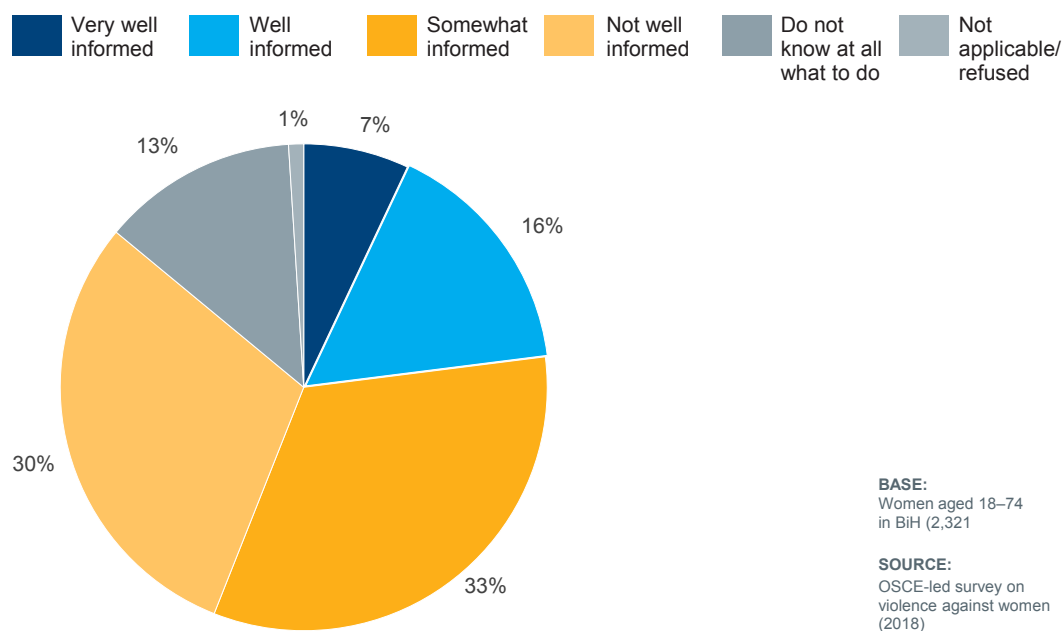
“I just wanted a job. I don’t need anybody to give me money. I only asked them to find me a job. The social welfare centre said that it is not their [responsibility].”

Female, in-depth interview, aged 38–55, RS

Women in the survey were asked how well informed they felt about what to do if they experienced violence. Around one-quarter (24%) indicate feeling either very well informed or well informed, while one-third (33%) indicate feeling somewhat informed. A similar proportion (30%) say that they are not well informed, and a further 13% indicate not knowing at all what to do should they experience violence (Figure 6.1).

Figure 6.1: Awareness of what to do after experiencing violence

How well informed do you feel about what to do if you experience violence?



Elderly women are substantially less likely to feel informed about what to do in case of violence. Indeed, more than half of women aged 60 or older (58%) say that they either do not feel well informed or do not know at all what to do, compared with nearly one-third of women aged 15–29 (31%). This is also true of women with primary education (80%, compared with 26% of women with tertiary education) and of women struggling on their income (71% of those finding it very difficult to cope on their income, compared with 31% of those living comfortably).

Women were also asked whether they had ever heard of local specialist organizations (three each in FBiH and RS). Overall, nearly two-thirds of women (64%) have heard of at least one of the organizations they were asked about, and the degree of awareness of these organizations is comparable between the two entities.

6. Impact of violence on women’s lives and barriers to seeking support

In FBiH, the majority of women (56%) have heard of the SOS line for victims of domestic violence. Nearly one-third (32%) have heard of Medica Zenica, and 16% have heard of the Foundation of Local Democracy (Sarajevo).

In RS, slightly fewer women are aware of the SOS helpline (49%), while just over a third (35%) indicate having heard of United Women, Banja Luka, and around a quarter have heard of Lara Bijeljina (26%).

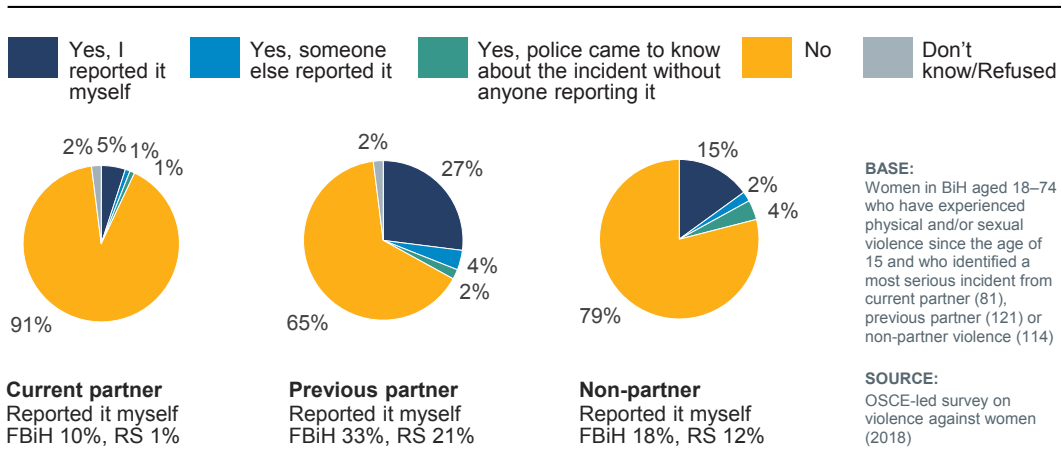
6.3: Reporting experiences of violence and harassment

In the survey, women were asked whether the police or other organizations came to know about their most serious incident of physical or sexual violence.

Even following the most serious incidents of physical and/or sexual violence, the police did not come to know about it in the majority of cases (Figure 6.2). However, the proportions of women who reported their most serious incident to the police varies widely depending on who the perpetrator was. Survivors are much more likely to have reported their most serious incident if the perpetrator was a previous partner (whom they eventually separated from) or non-partner than if it was their current partner.

Figure 6.2: Contact with the police following a woman’s most serious incident of physical and/or sexual violence

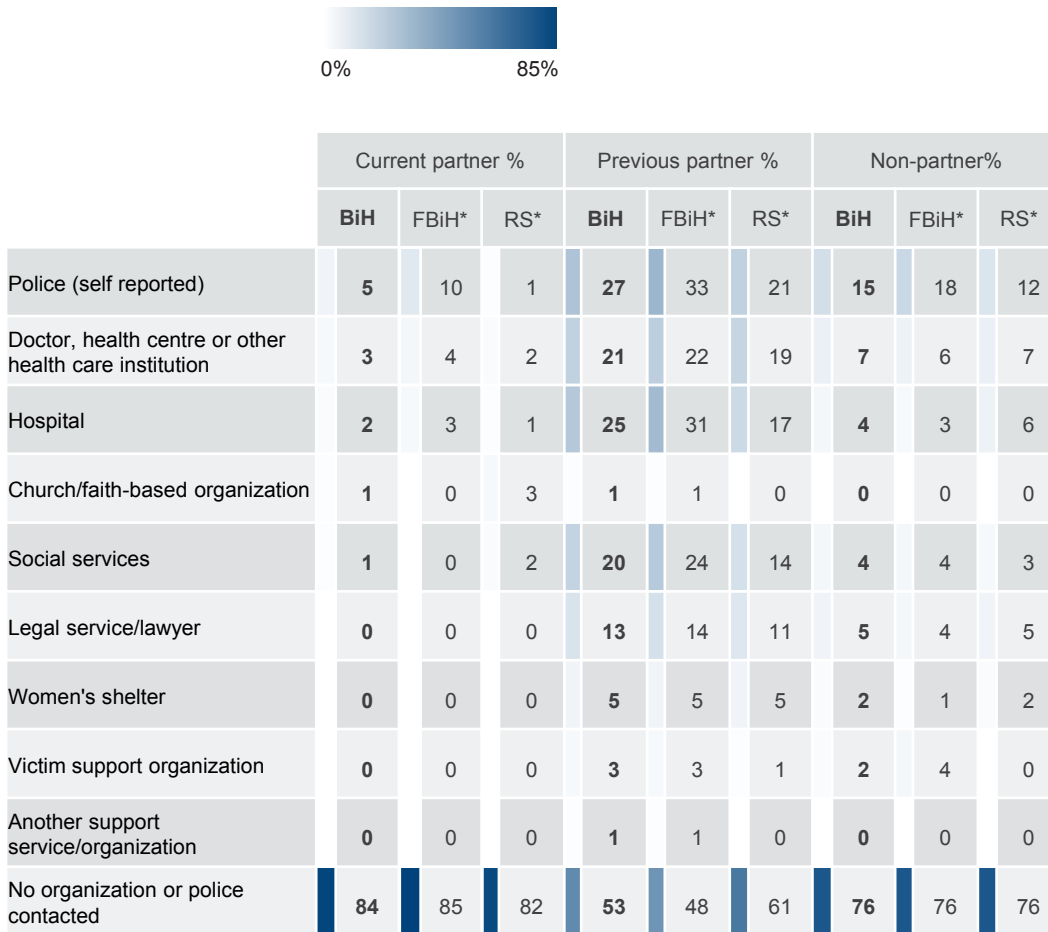
Did the police come to know about the [most serious] incident?



Women who identified a most serious incident were unlikely to report the incident to services other than the police (Figure 6.5). This is particularly true in relation to current partner violence, with a clear majority of women (84%) contacting neither the police nor another organization.

Table 6.5: Contacts after the most serious incident of physical and/or sexual violence

Did you contact any of the following services as a result of the most serious incident?



BASE:
 Women in BiH aged 18–74 who experienced physical and/or sexual violence since the age of 15 and who identified a most serious incident: current partner (BiH:81; FBiH: 34; RS: 45), previous partner (BiH:121; FBiH: 60; RS: 57) or non-partner (BiH:114; FBiH: 54; RS: 57)
 *Caution: low base sizes

SOURCE:
 OSCE-led survey on violence against women (2018)


The reason cited most often for why survivors of non-partner or previous partner violence did not report their most serious incident to the police is that they preferred to deal with it themselves, perhaps involving a friend or family member (28% and 26%, respectively). Survivors of current partner violence are most likely to say they did not report the incident because they considered it too minor (38%) or because they considered it to be a family matter (33%). Fear of one’s partner or the offender is mentioned in relation to all three types of perpetrator but is especially common in cases of intimate partner violence (27% and 20% for current and previous partners, respectively). Wanting to keep the incident private and shame are also key reasons why survivors of current or previous partner violence did not go to the police.

Similar reasons are given for not contacting other support organizations, although women are more likely to say here that they preferred to deal with it themselves across all three perpetrator types.

6. Impact of violence on women's lives and barriers to seeking support

Table 6.6: Reasons women did not contact the police

Why did you not contact the police?



	Current partner %			Previous partner %			Non-partner%		
	BiH	FBiH*	RS*	BiH	FBiH*	RS*	BiH	FBiH*	RS*
Too minor/not serious enough/never occurred to me	38	17	57	17	10	27	23	11	42
Dealt with it myself/involved a friend/family member	33	31	35	26	27	25	28	29	29
Fear of partner/offender	27	36	17	20	18	25	11	15	5
Shame, embarrassment	18	27	9	14	12	16	4	4	5
Didn't want anyone to know/kept it private	16	13	20	19	17	21	9	7	9
Did not think they would do anything	11	20	2	11	10	12	4	0	4
Would not be believed	8	15	0	1	0	2	4	4	2
My partner did not let me	7	15	0	4	5	2	-	-	-
Did not think they could do anything	5	9	0	9	7	12	2	8	0
Afraid I would lose the children	5	7	1	4	0	8	-	-	-
Didn't want my partner/the offender arrested or to get in trouble with police	5	6	2	3	0	7	3	4	1
Too emotionally upset to contact the police	4	9	0	2	2	3	2	3	1
Did not want the relationship to end	4	8	0	0	0	0	-	-	-
Thought it was my fault	3	6	0	2	1	3	2	1	3
Fear of reprisal from someone other than partner	1	0	1	0	0	0	4	5	3
Went someplace else for help	0	0	0	4	0	10	0	0	0
Somebody else stopped me or discouraged me	0	0	0	3	4	0	2	0	4
Could not contact police because of conflict	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	5
Somebody else had reported it, or police came to know about it on their own	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	0
Went directly to a magistrate or judge to report the incident	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0

BASE:

All women in BiH aged 18–74 who identified a most serious incident and who did not report it to the police – current partner: BiH:76, FBiH: 30, RS: 44- previous partner: BiH: 91, FBiH: 42, RS: 45 - non-partner: BiH: 96; FBiH: 45; RS: 48

SOURCE:

OSCE-led survey on violence against women (2018)

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

In FBiH, of the three special support organizations and services that women were asked about in this research, the most recognized was the BiH SOS line for victims of domestic violence 1265, which 56% of respondents have heard of. Awareness of this organization is especially high among those living in the Sarajevo Canton (80%). Awareness of the NGO Medica Zenica and the NGO Foundation of Local Democracy (Sarajevo) are lower, at 32% and 16%, respectively. Women living in the Zenica-Doboj Canton (66%) and the Central Bosnia Canton (45%) have the highest awareness of the NGO Medica Zenica, while those living in the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton (36%) and the Sarajevo Canton (26%) are most likely to be aware of the NGO Foundation of Local Democracy (Sarajevo).

In RS, awareness of the RS SOS line 1264 for victims of domestic violence is highest at 49%, and awareness is consistent across regions. Over one-third of women have heard of the NGO United Women, Banja Luka (35%) and more than a quarter (26%) have heard of the NGO Lara Bijeljina. When it comes to the NGO United Women, Banja Luka, awareness is highest among women living in North RS (42%). In turn, regarding the NGO Lara Bijeljina, awareness is highest among those living in East RS (36%) and lowest among those in North RS (19%).

Across both entities, there tends to be less awareness among women who are over 60, those with only primary education and those living in rural areas.

However, very few women contacted such support organizations after experiencing incidents of violence or sexual harassment, regardless of the perpetrator (Figure 6.2).

In the qualitative research, survivors of violence were most likely to share their experiences with a friend or family member (e.g., a sister). Some also explained that they needed professional support, e.g., a psychiatrist, in order to share their story and be heard. One woman who received such support from an NGO explained that having access to confidential support helped her cope with her experiences.

“After I left home, I simply had a need to share [my experience] with someone. I [spoke] with a psychologist. I was able to tell someone everything, without thinking that the story would get around. I could tell [her] everything, knowing that it would all stay within four walls. I trusted her somehow. She showed me that I had a right to live, to think. She opened my eyes and really encouraged me.”

Female, aged 38–55, RS

Across BiH, women were aware of the social welfare centre and knew they could call the police; however, they generally expressed great distrust in both of these institutions and perceived them as unhelpful. The general perception among women was that these institutions would react as though the victim was guilty and would side with the perpetrator. There was also a feeling that the police would only detain the perpetrator for a short period of time, meaning that the woman would not be provided with much protection.

“When [a woman] goes to the police, they first ask her for ID card and ask questions: how, why, what ...?”

“At the very beginning, they react like she is responsible for what happened to her.”

Female, aged 38–55, conflict-affected, urban, RS

⁷² Women in the Brčko District can contact RS and FBiH SOS numbers. Likewise, in case of the need to move to a shelter, they can contact shelters in both entities.

6. Impact of violence on women's lives and barriers to seeking support

“The police will come only in cases of physical violence. They will provide physical protection, first a warning, and if it happens again, they will detain [the perpetrator] ... The social welfare centre, at least the one here, does nothing. They are terrible. They should be helping, to be on the woman's side, to provide her with some assistance, find her a job, get a restraining order. They can do that. But they are of no use, they are just mediators when it comes to divorce.”

Female, aged 38+, refugee/returnee, rural, FBiH

Women in the qualitative research said they were less familiar with the SOS helpline and they believed that women generally were not aware of NGOs that could provide support. However, some believed that NGOs, when accessed, were the best source of support. They explained, however, that the degree of awareness of NGOs, the SOS helpline and safe houses was low. Furthermore, some women explained that they did not know whether these services were free, which put them off contacting them. Women in rural areas were seen as least likely to be aware of support organizations, and Roma women, migrants and those from an ethnic minority were said to be at risk of discriminatory treatment.

“I think NGOs are very important, but people do not know a lot about them, which means they are not very well advertised.”

Female, aged 18–37, rural, FBiH

The experiences of survivors of violence are in line with these perceptions. One survivor explained that after reporting to the police and to the social welfare centre that she had experienced repeated physical abuse at the hands of her partner, she was told that she could stay in a women's shelter for a week, but they recommended that she return to her husband and attempt to resolve the problem directly with him.

“[People from the social welfare centre and the police] told me I could spend seven days at a safe house, but that was not a solution. ‘The best would be to go home and talk.’ That's what they advised me to do.”

Female, aged in-depth interview, aged 38–55, RS

Another survivor of violence, who has a disability, described her experience of reporting to the police and the social welfare centre after her husband subjected her to severe psychological violence and aggressive behaviour, e.g., yelling and throwing objects across the house. She explained that the social welfare centre told her they could not do anything until she filed for divorce. In turn, the police only reprimanded her husband verbally, telling him not to behave that way. This woman also felt that the social welfare centre treated her with disrespect because of her disability.

“Whenever I called the police and told them what he was doing, the police only warned him verbally, saying, ‘Don’t do it again’. He would answer: ‘It wasn’t me. God knows who was kicking the door last night.’

“I was in an intense conflict with the same employee of the social welfare centre. It lasted for the entire year and a half of the divorce proceedings. I can’t believe that she disparaged me because I’m blind and asked me to give up my children because I don’t have money.”

Female, in-depth interview, aged 18–37, RS

Case study: Experience of reporting violence

- G was born in 1957 and had a peaceful childhood near Sarajevo. She got married in 1992, the year the war broke out. During the war, her husband was in the army, while she worked at a medical centre.
- After losing his job in the army, G’s husband started to subject her to psychological violence.
- They got a divorce but ended up getting back together, and the psychological violence continued.
- One day, G’s husband kicked her so hard that she suffered from a severe head injury and had to be operated on urgently, after which she spent a month recovering in the hospital.
- When she returned home, G sought help from an NGO but was told that she had to report the incident to the police in order for the NGO to provide legal services.
- When G went to the police to report the incident, she was told that it was too late and that she should have come immediately after it occurred.

“I went to the police. The police inspector told me that, according to the law, nothing could be accepted, because I had to come at the time the violence occurred. How could I report the violence when my life was in jeopardy? I insisted, but nothing happened.”

Female, in-depth interview, aged 56+, IDP

- G made another report to the police following an incident of violence but later realized that this second report had never been filed, because her husband had bribed the police officer. G went to the police station multiple times and was repeatedly told that the police officer was out on duty, though G believes the police officer was avoiding her.
- G also went to the social welfare centre, but they told her they could not do anything.

6. Impact of violence on women's lives and barriers to seeking support

As discussed below, barriers to the reporting of violence were explored in some more detail in the qualitative research.

Box 6.1: Barriers to reporting identified in the qualitative research included:

1. Shame
2. Fear of repercussions from the perpetrator
3. Distrust in institutions
4. Wanting to keep the family together
5. Economic dependence
6. Lack of information

The women who took part in the qualitative research said that shame was an important barrier to reporting, with victims concerned about what their community would think of them, and in some cases, what their family might think of them. In addition to this reason, the women expressed the belief that victims of IPV would be afraid of repercussions from their partner, which was amplified by the perception that the punishment for perpetrators of domestic violence is very light and is not seen as providing safety. As a result of the perception that the police do not ensure women's safety, there is distrust in the police as an institution. However, some women also distrust the social welfare centre, which they do not see as providing effective support. After one woman refused to give her salary to her husband, he threatened her with an axe. She then sought help from the police but was very disappointed by their response. She realized that her husband was friends with all of the police officers and suspected that he had purposefully befriended them so as to avoid any trouble caused by mistreating his wife.

“When I made the decision [to call the police], I understood that nothing would have happened even if I had reported him earlier. I did not find any understanding on their part. The first thing that the inspector did was to phone my husband and say, ‘Hello, my old friend, what have you done again?’”

Female, in-depth interview, aged 38–55, RS

Another important barrier to reporting is that women want to keep their family together, particularly when they have young children. The women who took part in the qualitative research expressed the belief that most victims would prefer to keep quiet about the violence rather than separate from an abusive partner and thus make their children grow up without a father and without the financial security he can provide.

“[The friend of a woman who had experienced IPV] would maybe say to take care, to think about the children. I think [a woman experiencing IPV] would first try to make things better by discussing them. [Some women] will retract their statement [to the police], because there is nobody to feed their children.”

Female, aged 38–55, urban, FBiH

Finally, economic dependence was seen as an important barrier to reporting, because women are often unable to support themselves financially and would have nowhere to go should they separate from their partner. In an in-depth interview, one survivor explained that she knew that her birth family would not take her back should she leave her husband, and that if she left him, she would have nowhere to go and no savings to live off. This barrier goes hand in hand with the lack of information, which many women felt was a problem, notably with regard to where to seek support.

“I had such examples where women do not know what to do with [their children], where to go and live with them if they leave [their husband], and they will stay quiet until a certain point, until they grow up or I don’t know. I think that is the problem here. If a woman is working, if she has her own apartment, if she is in a situation where she can pay for kindergarten on her own or [she can pay] someone to look after her child, I believe nobody would put up with [domestic violence].”

Female, aged 18–37, rural, FBiH

Nearly third of women (32%) recall recently seeing or hearing campaigns addressing violence against women, which is lower than the EU average of 50%. There is little difference between the two entities (31% of women recall such a campaign in FBiH and 33% in RS), but there are differences between regions within the entities: women from the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton are less likely to recall seeing or hearing advertising (19%), along with women from the Zenica-Doboj Canton (20%) and the Central Bosnia Canton (4%), while women living in the Tuzla Canton (40%), the Sarajevo Canton (also 40%), Canton 10 (85%)⁷³ and East RS (42%) are more likely to say they have seen or heard such advertising.

Just over half of women (57%) feel at least somewhat informed about what to do if they experience violence. One in eight women (13%) in BiH say they “don’t know at all what to do”.

Overall, there is little difference between entities (58% of women feel somewhat informed in FBiH and 56% in RS), but there are differences between regions: women from the Central Bosnia Canton (36%) are less likely to say they feel informed, while women from the West Herzegovina Canton (83%) and the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton (70%) are more likely to feel informed.

Women aged 18–29, with tertiary education, in paid work, who are students, those who are comfortable on their current income or are from urban areas are more likely to say they feel informed, while women who are over 60, with primary education, are fulfilling domestic responsibilities or are retired, who are finding it difficult or very difficult to cope on their present income or who are from rural areas are less likely to do so.

Reporting sexual harassment

Half of women talked to no one about the sexual harassment they experienced (51%). Those who did not share their experience with anyone said that they were able to deal with it themselves (61%) or that it was too minor an occurrence and that it might never have occurred to them to report it (36%). For a minority of them, however, other factors came into play: some wanted to keep it private (5%), some cited embarrassment or shame (5%) or did not think reporting it would help (8%).

For those who *did* talk about sexual harassment, the most common people to talk to were a friend (27%), a relative or family member (25%) and to a lesser extent a boyfriend or partner (13%). Women’s first thoughts were not about reporting their experience to various services, the police or special support organizations.

⁷³ Caution should be applied here because of the low base size (n=50).

6. Impact of violence on women's lives and barriers to seeking support

6.4: Satisfaction with services

While small numbers of women reported contacting the police or other organizations and institutions in relation to their most serious incident, they are, on balance, mostly satisfied with the response they received.

In the qualitative research, women who were able to access a safe house consistently reported being satisfied with the services provided there. One survivor explained that she was provided with support from a psychologist who visited every week. She explained that being able to share her experience with a psychologist was a huge help in getting her through a difficult time. She also explained that she made a lot of friends while living in the safe house.

“The first and the most important [help I got from the safe house] was a roof over my head. I wanted to leave so many times, but I couldn’t because I didn’t have anywhere to go. [I had] no job or roof over my head. [To put it] simply, [I had no money]. The second good thing is the psychological support [I received there]. A psychologist visited us every week, and it meant a lot. At the time, I would say to myself that I was not capable of this or that, [that I had] no friends, nothing, [that] I was stupid. But, if you talk with someone and get certain answers, you realize that you are not the way you thought [you were].”

Female, in-depth interview, aged 38–55, RS

Another woman who sought help from an NGO said that their support was what enabled her to break free of the cycle of violence she had been stuck in. She explained that the NGO provided her with shelter in a safe house, legal support during the divorce proceedings and in obtaining part of the house she lived in and later helping her find accommodation.



7. Experiences of violence among specific groups of women

The survey collected a range of details from respondents in order to provide a more in-depth analysis of the extent to which violence is experienced by different groups of women. The purpose of this is to identify the prevalence and risk of experiencing violence among specific groups. Differences are reported at both the national level and the entity level. However, some of the significant differences that are noted at the national level are not reflected at the entity level due to smaller sample sizes.

Age

As discussed in Chapter 2, age is a significant discriminator of attitudes towards women and violence. There are also **variations in the prevalence of reported violence across different age groups.**

The reported prevalence of sexual harassment splits very clearly across age lines, with **18–29-year-olds** (37%) and **30–39-year-olds** (36%) most likely to say that they have been sexually harassed since the age of 15, compared to 18% of **women over 60**. Younger women are also more likely to share experiences of sexual harassment in the 12 months prior to the survey (17% of 18–29-year-olds and 14% of 30–39-year-olds compared to 7% of 50–59-year-olds and 5% of women over 60). The same patterns are seen in terms of the most severe forms of sexual harassment and across both FBiH and RS. Furthermore, the youngest age group is also more likely to indicate having experiences of cyberharassment. Indeed, they are more than twice as likely (8%) as the overall average (3%) to say they have received unwanted sexually explicit emails or SMS messages and inappropriate advances that offended them on social networking websites (17% versus 7%, respectively).

The picture is similar with stalking, with 8% of both **18–29-year-olds** and **30–39-year-olds** saying they have experienced this since the age of 15, compared to 2% of both **40–49-year-olds** and **50–59-year-olds**. Again, this is consistent across both entities of BiH.

Across BiH, **18–29-year-olds** who have ever had a partner are less likely to indicate having been subjected to physical violence at the hands of a current partner either ever (3% compared to an average of 6%) or in the 12 months prior to the survey (1% versus 3%, respectively). This number is largely influenced by data from RS, where 1% of 18–29-year-olds say they have experienced current partner violence at some point in their lives, compared with 8% overall, and less than 0.5% say the same about the 12 months prior to the survey, compared with 3% on average. In FBiH, younger women are no less likely to say they have experienced current partner violence than on average. There are no reports of sexual violence at the hands of a current partner from the 18–29 age group, and this is consistent across both entities.

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Across BiH, **40–49-year-olds** are less likely to indicate physical violence at the hands of a non-partner at some point in their lives (4% versus 7% overall), which is influenced by the results from FBiH (3% versus 7% overall). The same difference is not observed in RS.

In terms of childhood violence, **women aged 30–39** are more likely to say that they have experienced physical violence (11% versus 8% overall).

Relationship status

The data has been analysed by whether the respondent has a current partner (currently married, living together without being married, or involved in a relationship without living together), has had a previous partner or not (same definition as for current partners) or has never had a partner. Women with a previous partner are more likely to say they have experienced a number of forms of violence, and this is consistent across both FBiH and RS.

More women who have had a previous partner (35%) say they have experienced sexual harassment since the age of 15 than those who have not had a previous partner (19%). The same is also true with regard to sexual harassment in the 12 months prior to the survey (13% versus 6%, respectively) and for experiences of stalking since the age of 15 (6% versus 4%, respectively).

Women with a previous partner are more likely to say they have experienced both non-partner violence physical (9% versus 4% of women without a previous partner) and sexual violence (2% versus 1% of women without a previous partner) since the age of 15. This group is also more likely to have experienced physical violence in childhood (10% compared to 5% of women without a previous partner). This is the case in both entities.

Employment status and occupation

There are some differences in reported experiences of violence according to employment and occupation.

Women fulfilling domestic responsibilities are more likely to share that they experienced physical violence at the hands of a current partner in the 12 months prior to the survey (6% compared to women overall (3%) and compared to those in paid work (1%). They are also twice as likely to say that they have ever experienced sexual violence at the hands of a current partner than overall (4% versus 2%, respectively). However, they are less likely to say they have been stalked since the age of 15 (3% compared to 5% overall) or sexually harassed in the 12 months prior to the survey (6% versus 10% overall). This is consistent across both entities.

The indicated rates of sexual harassment are higher than average among **women in paid employment** (38% ever and 17% in the 12 months prior to the survey) and **students** (40% ever and 20% in the 12 months prior to the survey), which will in part be related to their age, with younger women more likely to say they have experienced sexual harassment. Women in paid employment are also more likely to indicate ever having experienced physical violence at the hands of a non-partner (10% compared to 7% overall), though this is only observed in FBiH.

There are several differences in terms of **occupation**, although, overall in BiH, women who are clerical support workers are also more likely to say they have ever experienced physical violence at the hands of a non-partner (17% versus 7% overall). Specifically in RS, women in elementary occupations⁷⁴ are less likely than average to indicate having experienced such forms of violence (1% versus 7% overall in RS).

⁷⁴ Elementary occupations consist of simple and routine tasks that mainly require the use of handheld tools and often some physical effort.

7. Experiences of violence among specific groups of women

Education

The survey asked women about the highest level of education that they had completed: primary, secondary or tertiary. There is some variation in the types of violence encountered according to educational attainment, with women educated to primary and tertiary level being more likely to say they have experienced different forms of violence.

Women with only **primary education** are more likely to say they have ever experienced current partner physical violence (13% compared to 6% overall) or sexual violence (6% versus 2% overall). This group is also more likely to indicate experiences of sexual violence at the hands of a current partner in the 12 months prior to the survey (6% versus 1%, respectively). This is observed across both entities.

Women with tertiary education (41%) are more likely than women with secondary (29%) or only primary (15%) education to say that they have experienced sexual harassment since the age of 15 and in the 12 months prior to the survey (20%, 10% and 3%, respectively). The same patterns are seen in terms of the most severe forms of sexual harassment. Women with the highest levels of education are younger, which will in part explain the higher indicated prevalence (with young women more likely to experience sexual harassment), but it could also point to those with higher levels of education being better able to identify such behaviours and changing attitudes. The picture is similar with stalking, which 9% of women with tertiary education indicated having experienced compared to 5% of women who completed secondary education and 1% of those who completed only primary education. This is observed across both entities.

Women with tertiary education are also more likely to say they experienced physical (12% versus 8% overall) and psychological violence (6% versus 4% overall) in childhood, though this is more pronounced in FBiH than in RS. This group is also more likely to disclose having ever experienced physical violence at the hands of a non-partner (15% compared to 7% overall), and this is consistent across both entities.

Income

The responses of the women who took part in the survey were analysed according to four income groups: those living comfortably on their present income, those coping on their present income, those finding it difficult on their present income and those finding it very difficult on their present income. Women finding it difficult or very difficult to cope are more likely to say they have experienced violence. This is particularly the case for women who are finding it very difficult to cope. This is consistent across both FBiH and RS.

The indicated prevalence of ever experiencing physical or sexual violence at the hands of a current partner is higher among women finding it difficult (10%) and very difficult (20%) to get by on their current income compared to women who are living comfortably (3%). The same pattern is seen for physical violence by a current partner in the 12 months prior to the survey, which is indicated by 5% and 13% of women finding it difficult and very difficult to cope, respectively, compared to 1% of women who are comfortable. Women finding it difficult to cope are more likely to say they suffered from psychological violence at the hands of a current partner (40%) compared to women who are living comfortably on their income (25%).

Non-partner physical or sexual violence since the age of 15 is also indicated more often by those finding it very difficult to cope on their present income (13%) than overall (8%). In the 12 months prior to the survey, this group of women (5%) are also more likely to say they experienced non-partner physical or sexual violence than those who are comfortable on their current income (1%).

Both physical (18% versus 8% overall) and psychological violence (10% versus 4% overall) in childhood are indicated more often by those who are finding it very difficult to get by on their current income.

Minority groups

Women were asked if they considered themselves to be a part of an ethnic minority, an immigrant minority, a religious minority, a sexual minority, a minority in terms of disability, a refugee/displaced person or a returnee (former IDP/refugee) in the place where they lived. Within the total sample of 2,321 women, there were 438 who identified as belonging to one of these minority groups. Specifically, 113 identify as being part of an ethnic minority, 142 as refugees or displaced persons, 134 as returnees (former IDPs/refugees) and 39 as a religious minority.

Women from an ethnic minority (47%) or who are or were **refugees/displaced persons** (both at 47%) are more likely than average (BiH 35%) to share that they have experienced psychological violence at the hands of any intimate partner. **Women who have returned** are more likely to say they have experienced physical violence at the hands of a non-partner since the age of 15 (13% versus 7% overall). The low base sizes do not allow for comparison within entities.

Women with children

The indicated prevalence of various types of violence differs according to whether or not women have or have had children.

Women who have or have had children are more likely to indicate that they have ever experienced physical violence at the hands of a current partner (7% compared to 3% of women without children). This is more pronounced among women living in RS. Likewise, women who have or have had with children are more likely to say they have experienced physical violence at the hands of a previous partner (12% versus 8% of those without children).

In contrast, **women without children** are twice as likely to say they have been stalked both since the age of 15 (8% versus 4%) and in the 12 months prior to the survey (2% versus 1%). They are also more likely to share having experienced sexual harassment at some point in their lives (38% compared to 25% of women with children) and in the 12 months prior to the survey (18% versus 8%, respectively), as well as its most serious forms. This is consistent across both entities and may be age-related, given the higher reported prevalence of sexual harassment and stalking among younger women, who are also less likely to have children. Women without children are also more likely to indicate that they have experienced physical violence at the hands of a non-partner since the age of 15 (9% compared with 7% of those who have children) and in the 12 months prior to the survey (2% versus 1%, respectively), though this is more pronounced in FBiH.

7. Experiences of violence among specific groups of women

Current-partner characteristics

Background information on the age, education, employment and certain experiences and behaviours of the respondent's partner were collected.

Women whose current partner is currently unemployed rather than in **paid work** are more likely to indicate having experienced physical violence at the hands of their current partner both at some point in their lifetime (13% versus 4%, respectively) and in the 12 months prior to the survey (11% versus 2%, respectively). The same pattern is seen with sexual violence, with 4% of women whose partner is unemployed saying that this has occurred both at some point in their lifetime and in the 12 months prior to the survey, compared to 1% of women with a partner in paid work in both instances. These differences can be observed across both entities, though they are more pronounced in FBiH.

The indicated lifetime prevalence of physical violence at the hands of a current partner is higher among women **whose current partner has fought in an armed conflict** (8% compared to 5% of women whose current partner did not fight in an armed conflict).

Women with a current partner aged 18–29 are less likely than average to say they have experienced physical violence at some point in their lifetime (1% versus 6% overall), mirroring the lower prevalence of this form of violence among this age group for women.

The findings suggest that **having a partner who drinks at least once a week** leads to a higher risk of violence. Almost half of women with such a partner indicate ever having experienced psychological violence at the hands of that partner (45% compared with 29% of women whose current partner drinks less frequently or never drinks). The indicated prevalence of lifetime physical violence is also higher among those whose partner drinks at least once a week (29%) than among those whose partner drinks less than once a month or never drinks (5%). Similarly, sexual violence at the hands of a current partner who drinks regularly is also significantly more prevalent than at the hands of a partner who drinks less often or never, both at some point in the woman's lifetime and in the 12 months prior to the survey (13% versus 1%, respectively, in both time periods).

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Location

Overall, there are relatively few differences in the indicated prevalence of violence against women between the two entities. On some indicators, women living in RS are more likely to say they have experienced some forms of violence than women in FBiH:

- Current partner physical violence is indicated more often by those living in RS (8%) than FBiH (5%) over their lifetime, but not in the 12 months prior to the survey.
- Sexual harassment: 31% of women say they have encountered it at some time since they were 15 in RS compared with 26% in FBiH, while 18% have suffered more severe forms of harassment in RS compared with 14% in FBiH. The indicated prevalence of sexual harassment is also higher for the 12 months prior to the survey in RS (14% versus 9% in FBiH).
- Physical violence in childhood was experienced by 11% of women in RS compared with 5% in FBiH.

When it comes to previous partner physical and/or sexual violence in the 12 months prior to the survey, however, the prevalence is higher in FBiH (3%) than in RS (1%). Partner or previous partner sexual violence is also higher in FBiH than in RS, both since the age of 15 (4% versus 3%, respectively) and in the 12 months prior to the survey (2% versus 0%, respectively).

Table 7.1. Indicated prevalence of violence since the age of 15, by entity

	FBiH %	RS %
Sexual harassment	26	31
Non-partner physical violence	7	7
Non-partner sexual violence	1	2
Stalking	5	5
Current partner psychological violence	29	31
Current partner physical violence	5	8
Current partner sexual violence	2	1
Previous partner psychological violence	31	27
Previous partner physical violence	11	11
Previous partner sexual violence	4	3

Before you were 15 years old, how often did any adult do any of the following to you? (% ever)

Childhood violence	5	11
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BASE: All women aged 18-74 (FBiH:1163; RS:1019) with current partner (FBiH:825;RS:729) or previous partner (FBiH:658;RS:604)

SOURCE: OSCE-led survey on violence against women (2018)

Percentages in red indicate that the findings are significantly different between the two entities

7. Experiences of violence among specific groups of women

Women living in **urban areas** are more likely than women from **rural areas** to say they have experienced several forms of violence:

- physical violence at the hands of a previous partner in the 12 months prior to the survey (3% compared to 1% of women living in rural areas);
- physical violence at the hands of a non-partner since the age of 15 (9% versus 6% of rural women);
- being stalked since the age of 15 (6% versus 3%, respectively);
- being sexually harassed both since the age of 15 (34% versus 23%, respectively) and in the 12 months prior to the survey (13% versus 8%, respectively). The same pattern is seen for the most serious forms of sexual assault;
- both physical (11% versus 5%, respectively) and psychological (5% versus 3%, respectively) forms of childhood violence.

The pattern is reversed for the indicated prevalence of sexual violence at the hands of a current partner both ever (reported by 3% of rural women compared to 1% of urban women) and in the 12 months prior to the survey (2% versus 0%, respectively).



8. Conclusions and recommendations

The survey and the qualitative research point to three key conclusions on violence against women in Bosnia and Herzegovina:

1) Social norms and attitudes are changing, but violence is underreported

Women in Bosnia and Herzegovina believe that violence against women is a serious issue, with two-thirds of women believing it is common (67%). However, significantly fewer women said they experienced violence compared to women in the EU, with 35% experiencing psychological (43% in the EU), 10% physical (20% in the EU) and 4% sexual violence (7% in the EU) at the hands of a partner. Women's perceptions of gender roles and relations in BiH are multifaceted. While some views are changing, others remain traditional. A quarter of women believe that domestic violence is a private matter, and three in five agree that a good wife should obey her husband. However, women in BiH seldom hold victim-blaming views, where only one in eight women (13%) believe that violence is often provoked by the victim (compared to 15% in the EU), and one in ten (10%) believe that women exaggerate claims of abuse or rape (19% in the EU).

A more in-depth look, provided by the qualitative research, indicates that, while norms may be slowly changing, some forms of violence are still widely accepted and regarded as normal. For example, a large majority of women (84%) feel that their friends would disagree that it is a woman's obligation to have sex with her husband even if she does not feel like it, but in the qualitative research, women shared that there is a sense that society expects women to have sex with their husbands because it is their marital duty.

Slapping is one of the most common forms of physical violence experienced by women in BiH, but it is also seen as something normal. This is again contrasted by the finding that the most common psychological consequence of VAW is fear, reported by 55% of women survivors of current partner violence and 70% of survivors of previous partner violence. Despite this, 84% of women do not report violence to the police. When asked why, 27% of survivors of previous partner violence and 20% of victims of current partner violence indicated fear, but more said that it was too minor (38%) and that they considered it to be a family matter (33%). These numbers point towards the finding that VAW is still not taken seriously and that at least some forms of it are tolerated and seen as a private matter. Furthermore, some women indicated that there was distrust towards institutions, particularly the police and the social welfare centres, which they said would blame them or side with the perpetrator.

In terms of specific forms of violence that require special attention, the experts interviewed for this report expressed the belief that **emphasis should be placed on domestic violence and specifically on intimate partner sexual violence**, because this form of violence is often not recognized as such and is largely ignored. One expert explained that specialized services for victims of sexual violence are lacking, noting in particular crisis centres and counselling centres for women victims of rape, the establishment of which are mandatory under the Istanbul Convention. Moreover, the experts explained that women from minority groups (including Roma women), those with disabilities and those living in rural areas should be provided with greater support, as they often lack information regarding services available and are the most marginalized. This is in line with the findings from the survey.

In its Concluding Observations from 2013, the CEDAW Committee recommended that BiH encourage women to report domestic violence by destigmatizing victims and raising awareness about the criminal nature of such acts. It also recommended that BiH ensure that these cases are investigated and the perpetrators punished. In order to change the gender norms contributing to VAW and discrimination against women, the CEDAW Committee recommended a wide-ranging strategy to overcome patriarchal and gender-based stereotypical attitudes about the roles and responsibilities of women and men in the family and in society. The government should further remove all gender stereotypes from educational textbooks, the Committee said. The survey findings point to several more specific recommendations.

2) Laws are improperly implemented

The experts interviewed for this report and the women in the qualitative research said that, while the legal framework is to a large extent in place (and not fully standardized as there are differences in the entity law: in RS domestic violence is treated as a violation and as a criminal offense, depending on the gravity of the offense in the particular case; in FBiH it is treated as a criminal offense), laws are not well implemented at the moment, particularly when it comes to punishing perpetrators. The experts said that in both entities⁷⁵, domestic violence is, in practice, treated more often as a violation than as a crime, thus indicating the perception among police officers, prosecutors and the courts that VAW is not a serious problem. This needs to be countered by continually training professionals. The experts pointed out that the treatment of perpetrators is one area in particular where laws need to be more strictly implemented. Currently, they said, little emphasis is placed on punishment and rehabilitation of perpetrators of VAW. They expressed the belief that **perpetrators should face more severe penalties**, which would notably have the knock-on effect of raising awareness about VAW and sending clear signals to society that such behaviour is not tolerated. One expert explained that judges in BiH consistently give perpetrators of domestic violence and VAW the lightest-possible sentence for their actions, because they know that the man is responsible for providing for his family financially. In addition to stricter legal penalties, several experts recommended that perpetrators should also undergo compulsory psychosocial treatment and be granted access to support groups.

The experts expressed the belief that one of the reasons for the inefficient implementation of laws is the lack of **cohesion and co-operation among different stakeholders**, e.g., among civil society, social welfare centres, the police and the courts. The experts explained that a large number of actors are involved in this field but that there is not enough co-operation among these actors, which impacts the efficiency with which VAW can be eliminated. One element of cohesion that is lacking is in having a co-ordinated methodology in administrative data collection and reporting concerning gender-based violence, which is based on international standards, as well as using consolidated data collection across all of Bosnia and Herzegovina and among all relevant stakeholders. Another issue noted by the experts was that, although there is a legal framework to support victims of VAW in RS (the Law on Social Welfare and the Law on Free Legal Aid), the laws are not applied adequately by the competent institutions (social welfare centres and free legal aid centres).

⁷⁵ The experts claimed that in FBiH charges are not brought according to the domestic violence law, but rather that such cases are treated as minor offences, like public disorder for example.

8. Conclusions and recommendations

Finally, the experts pointed to the **issue of funding**, explaining that government funding was currently insufficient when it comes to providing women with adequate support, e.g., through financing existing safe houses, which very often lack sufficient funding, and establishing safe houses or shelters in locations where such support is needed. In FBiH, safe houses are still waiting for financing and/or additional support through legislative changes. Women in the qualitative research said that, when accessed, the help from women's NGOs was useful and effective. However, only 32% of women (compared to 50% in the EU) have recently seen or heard about campaigns addressing violence against women.

To address these issues, the CEDAW Committee recommended the establishment of effective institutional mechanisms to co-ordinate, monitor and assess the effectiveness of strategies and to ensure the application of laws. Furthermore, BiH should collect disaggregated data; provide mandatory training for judges, lawyers and law enforcement on domestic violence and gender stereotypes; and provide adequate assistance, protection and rehabilitation to women victims of all forms of violence, including by strengthening the capacity of existing shelters and by enhancing co-operation with, and funding for, NGOs.

3) The majority of women are directly affected by conflict

Two-thirds of women in BiH (64%) can be defined as directly affected by conflict. Non-partner violence that women survived during the 1992–1995 war, especially cases of wartime sexual violence, have still not been prosecuted, and an efficient reparations scheme has not been established. Furthermore, women who are directly affected by conflict are more likely to have been injured by an intimate partner (37% compared to 7% of those not affected by conflict). Thirty-two per cent of women directly affected by conflict indicate that war has affected their partner psychologically. Conflict has also impacted women's opportunity to find jobs and ensure their economic independence, which would allow them to leave an abusive partner. One expert made note of women who suffered from sexual violence during the war, saying that these women are particularly vulnerable to experiencing sexual violence again.

The CEDAW Committee recommended amending all relevant criminal codes to include a definition of wartime sexual violence in line with international standards, including a specific definition of rape as a war crime and a crime against humanity.

Recommendations

The above survey findings point to further specific recommendations to address violence against women.

Education, information sharing and raising awareness

1. Institutional mechanisms for gender equality, relevant ministries and institutions of the FBiH, RS, and BD governments, non-governmental organisations, and the media should implement regular information and awareness-raising campaigns to challenge perceptions of traditional gender roles and stereotypes, raise awareness of the individual and societal consequences and costs of violence against women and girls, promote the victim support services available, and sensitize society on how to prevent violence, including through zero-tolerance practices and engaging men and boys to speak out against violence against women and girls.
2. Awareness-raising campaigns should be designed and implemented to target women of all ages and socio-economic backgrounds, utilizing widely used media platforms and modern technologies whenever possible. Women from disadvantaged groups should also be targeted, including women with disabilities, women from minority groups and those living in rural areas.
3. Awareness-raising activities should include information on psychological violence and its consequences, give concrete examples of what psychological violence is and reflect on how it is linked to other forms of violence.
4. The FBiH Ministry of Education and Science, the RS Ministry of Education and Culture, and cantonal ministries of education should ensure that prevention programs on gender stereotypes which address attitudes, beliefs and behaviours are included in primary and secondary schools, and that school staff are trained to identify and address this issue. Peer-to-peer educational programmes should also be part of regular activities to prevent violence against women and girls in schools.
5. Institutions at all levels should take appropriate measures to coordinate public messages

Multisectoral approach, training and provision of support services

6. The FBiH, RS, BD and cantonal governments should allocate adequate funds to services supporting survivors of violence, provide appropriate funding for already existing safe houses and ensure that the conditions are made to meet the standards for support services in line with recommendations set out in the Istanbul Convention.
7. Competent institutions at the BiH, FBiH, RS, and BD levels, together with gender institutional mechanisms, should create systems for both reporting sexual harassment in all spheres of life and ensuring co-ordinated response. They should also ensure implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)1 adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 27 March 2019 on preventing and combating sexism.
8. Competent ministries and institutions of the FBiH, RS and BD governments involved in the system of victim protection, in co-operation with statistical institutions, should ensure that a shared methodology for data collection and reporting on violence against women and girls is developed, and that data collection is consolidated at the BiH level in order to ensure reliable, efficient and harmonized reporting.

8. Conclusions and recommendations

9. Competent ministries and institutions of the FBiH, RS, BD and cantonal governments, in co-operation with institutional mechanisms for gender equality and civil society organizations, should improve the referral system for survivors of violence against women and girls, and strengthen and standardize protocols at the local level. It is also essential to ensure that women from disadvantaged groups, including women with disabilities and from minority communities (in particular Roma) are able to access these services.
10. Competent ministries and institutions of the FBiH, RS, and BD governments, in co-operation with institutional mechanisms for gender equality and civil society organizations, should ensure the provision of specialised services for victims of sexual violence.
11. Competent ministries and institutions of the FBiH, RS, and BD governments should ensure consistent penalisation of perpetrators, with imposed treatment. Capacities of responsible stakeholders to implement and monitor the implementation of mandatory and voluntary psycho-social treatment of perpetrators of violence should be enhanced. Clear regulations for financing the psycho-social treatment of perpetrators should be adopted in FBiH, RS and BD.
12. Relevant professionals should be provided with more targeted guidance on their roles and responsibilities in victim protection, as well as receive continuous trainings on victim-centred approaches. All involved should have a clear understanding of the referral pathways necessary to provide support to women and girls from disadvantaged groups.
13. All the above-mentioned initiatives should be co-ordinated, in order to enable equal access to protection and justice for victims, regardless of their place of residence within BiH.

Justice and protection for women victims of conflict-related violence

14. Legislative barriers should be removed in order to ensure that victims of wartime violence are treated equally, regardless of their place of residence.
15. Governmental and civil society witness support providers should continue to strengthen their co-operation and develop effective referral mechanisms for victims of conflict-related sexual violence. Prosecutor's Offices should develop a policy for the investigation and prosecution of conflict-related sexual violence cases and ensure there is dedicated capacity for its implementation. A summary of this policy should be made publicly available, in particular to survivors of conflict-related sexual violence.
16. The experiences of women during conflict should be recognized within the framework of transitional justice and awareness should be raised on how to address consequences of conflict and its ties to violence against women and girls.



ANNEXES

Annex 1: Survey and qualitative fieldwork

The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) commissioned Ipsos to undertake a qualitative and quantitative study into violence against women. The research was done in seven OSCE participating States. The study was also conducted in Kosovo. This is the first comparative study of its kind, and it is intended to be used to improve policy-making in future by both national and international stakeholders working on policy and programme implementation in the region. This report presents the findings for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The study comprises the following elements:

- A quantitative survey among a representative sample of 2,321 women aged 18–74 was conducted between 4 June and 31 August 2018.
- A multistage, stratified, random probability sample was used. The sample frame, a list of census enumeration areas (CEAs), along with population sizes registered in the 2013 census, was obtained from the Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the relevant entity institutions. The CEAs are often quite small and do not allow enough addresses to be selected so that the target number of interviews per primary sampling unit (PSU) can be achieved. Hence, alternative units needed to be created by merging, where necessary, two or more neighbouring CEAs into one new unit. These newly created territorial units, with a minimum size of 40 households, were then used as PSUs.
- The sample frame covers all territories in Bosnia and Herzegovina, but due to fieldwork practicalities, all settlements with fewer than 40 households were excluded, as these are considered remote and secluded. Three per cent of the population live in these settlements. This provided an overall coverage of 97%.
- A combination of region and residential area was used as a stratification variable for this survey. At the outset, a decision on the sample sizes across different entities in Bosnia and Herzegovina was made. Namely, the sample design aimed to obtain 1,000 interviews in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, 1,000 interviews in Republika Srpska and 70 interviews in the Brčko District. Within each entity, PSUs were then distributed across strata following the proportions in the survey population in these strata. The number of women aged 20–74 was used as an approximation of the survey population in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Some 214 PSUs were selected for the main stage in Bosnia and Herzegovina, according to the PSU allocation provided in the tables below.
- Within each stratum, PSUs were selected randomly, with probability proportional to size. The total population in a PSU was used as the indicator of size in this selection.

Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Region	Residential Area		
	Urban	Rural	Total
Una-Sana Canton	4	8	12
Tuzla Canton	7	13	20
Zenica-Doboj Canton	6	10	16
Central Bosnia Canton	4	7	11
Herzegovina-Neretva Canton	4	5	9
West Herzegovina Canton	1	3	4
Sarajevo Canton	17	3	20
Canton 10	1	3	4
Posavina Canton	1	1	2
Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Goražde	1	1	2
Total	46	54	100

Republika Srpska

Region	Residential Area		
	Urban	Rural	Total
North Republika Srpska	27	36	63
East Republika Srpska	16	21	37
Total	43	57	100

Brčko District

Region	Residential Area		
	Urban	Rural	Total
Brčko District	8	6	14
Total	8	6	14

- A set number of addresses was selected within each sampled PSU with the aim of achieving 10 interviews within each PSU in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska, and five interviews per PSU on average in the Brčko District. The addresses were selected at the same time as interviews were conducted via a random walk approach. When more than one household was identified at a selected address, one household was randomly selected by the electronic contact sheet. In each sampled household, one woman was selected for the interview. The respondent was selected randomly from a list of all eligible women in the selected household. Namely, all women aged 18–74 within the household were listed by age in descending order on the electronic contact sheet. Then the contact sheet randomly selected one of them, using a random-number generator.
- Interviews were conducted face-to-face by specifically trained female staff (see Annex 2 below for more details on training and protocols).
- The response rate achieved was 45%, and the average eligibility was 83%.

- Three separate weights were calculated for Bosnia and Herzegovina: one to allow analysis at the level of the entire country (country-level weight) and the other two to allow separate reporting for the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska (entity-level weights).
- All three weights were calculated in two stages: a) sampling design weights and b) post-stratification weights. The design weights reflected probabilities of selection at each sampling stage: selection of PSUs, selection of addresses, then households within addresses (if applicable) and selection of respondents. The post-stratification weights were calculated to compensate for the non-response. Region, residential area and age categories were used for post-stratification in BiH. The age profile of women aged 18–74 in the whole of Bosnia and Herzegovina was used to create the country-level weight, while the age distributions within each of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska were used for the entity-level weights.
- Nine focus group discussions (FGDs), including groups with women from minority groups and women with experience of conflict, which took place in July–August 2018. The focus group composition is as follows:

Table A1.1: Composition of focus groups

FGD	Location	Entity	Number of participants	Age group	Number conflict -affected	Number with children	Number in work
1	Urban	FBiH	7	56+	7	5	1
2	Rural	FBiH	7	18–37	3	2	3
3	Mixed	RS	7	38+	7	6	1
4	Urban	RS	8	38–55	8	4	7
5	Mixed	RS	8	56+	8	8	1
6	Rural	RS	8	18–37	5	2	3
7	Urban	FBiH	8	18–37	6	6	0
8	Rural	FBiH	7	38+	7	7	2
9	Urban	FBiH	7	56+	7	5	1

- Six in-depth interviews (IDIs) with survivors of violence, including women with a disability, with a pilot taking place in March 2018 and the remaining five interviews in September 2018.

Table A1.2: Profile of in-depth interviews

IDI	Age group	Work status	Has children	Medical condition/disability
1	35–55	Unemployed	Yes	Yes
2	35–55	Unemployed	Yes	No
3	55+	Retired	Yes	No
4	35–55	Employed	Yes	No
5	35–55	Unemployed	Yes	No
6	55+	Unemployed	Yes	No

- Five key expert interviews that were designed to provide an overview of issues relating to VAW and of conflict-related acts of violence that took place in June–August 2017 and a further round of 10 key expert interviews that took place in July–August 2018 to explore changes since the first round and to gather recommendations for the OSCE.

The survey was designed to be representative of women between 18 and 74 years of age at the BiH level. A breakdown by demographics is shown in Table A1.3 below:

Table A1.3: Weighted and unweighted sample profile

Age	Weighted %	Unweighted %	Unweighted <i>n</i>
18–29	21	18	413
30–39	18	19	436
40–49	19	17	385
50–59	20	19	436
60+	21	28	651
Economic activity			
In paid work	24	25	583
Self-employed	2	2	54
Helping in a family business (unpaid)	1	1	26
Unemployed	30	28	660
Pupil, student, in training	7	5	123
Not working due to illness or disability	0	0.4	10
Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities	17	16	380
Retired	15	18	425
Compulsory military/community service/other	0	0	0
Education			
No formal education	2	2	50
Primary education	8	9	201
Secondary education	76	75	1,695
Tertiary education	14	14	312
Location			
Urban	45	50	1,149
Rural	55	50	1,172
Directly affected by conflict			
Yes	64	65	1,498
No	36	35	823

Sampling tolerances

As the data is based on a sample rather than the entire population, and the percentage results (or estimates) are subject to sampling tolerance, not all differences between results are statistically significant at the 95% confidence level. When calculating the confidence intervals, the effective sample size must be taken into consideration.

The effective sample size (or the design effect, a related concept) is linked to individual estimates, and so it will vary across estimates. To calculate the design effects for the total sample size, a formula based on the following ratio was used:

$$\text{Design effect} = (\text{unweighted sample size}) * (\text{sum of the squared weights}) / (\text{square of the sum of weights}).^{76}$$

This approach to design effect estimation is related to disproportional sampling (in the case of the OSCE survey, the women in each household were selected with unequal probability, depending on the number of eligible women in the household), as well as unequal non-response across population segments, which were corrected with post-stratification weights (as described above).

The table below summarizes the design effect for the total sample size and conflict-affected sample size and provides confidence intervals based on the effective sample size for a survey estimate of 50%.

Table A1.4: Effective sample sizes and confidence intervals

	<i>N</i>	Design effect	Effective sample size	95% confidence interval for a survey estimates of 50% based on a weighted sample	
				Lower	Upper
All women aged 18–74	2,321	1.367	1,698	47.6%	52.4%
Women directly affected by conflict	1,498	1.366	1,097	47.0%	53.0%

76 Leslie Kish, "Weighting for unequal Pi", Journal of Official Statistics, 8 (1992): 183–200.

Annex 2: Ethical and safety considerations

Given the sensitivity of the survey, a number of steps were taken to protect both respondents and interviewers from potential harm and to provide sources of support in the event of distress:

- All interviewers and moderators were women who had experience conducting surveys on sensitive issues and who were native speakers of the language used for the interviews. All interviewers were required to attend a two-day briefing.
- For the protection of both respondents and interviewers, interviewers were instructed not to disclose in advance that the survey was about violence and to conduct the survey in private.
- At the end of the survey, focus group discussions and in-depth interviews, all respondents were offered information on support organizations that they could contact should they wish to discuss any issues arising as a result of taking part in the survey.
- The project co-ordinator was available for interviewers and moderators to speak with at any time during fieldwork, and individual meetings with counsellors could be arranged if needed.
- Adherence to ethical principles is a cornerstone of the research methodology used for the OSCE-led survey, and the procedures used by the World Health Organization⁷⁷ and the United Nations *Guidelines for Producing Statistics on Violence against Women*⁷⁸ were taken into account.

Annex 3: Sustainable Development Goal indicators

SDG Indicator 5.2.2: Proportion of women and girls aged 18–74 sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the 12 months prior to the survey, by age, area and education.

	BiH	FBiH	RS
All women 18–74 (BiH: 2,321/FBiH: 1,163/RS: 1,019)	0.4%	0.5%	0.2%
18–29 years old (413/212/178)	0.2%	0%	1%
30–39 years old (436/192/215)	1%	1%	0%
40–49 years old (385/196/164)	1%	1%	0%
50–59 years old (436/231/181)	0.1%	0%	0%
60+ years old (646/329/279)	0.4%	1%	0%
Residents of urban areas (1,149/589/467)	0.4%	0.4%	0.2%
Residents of rural areas (1,172/574/375)	0.4%	1%	0.2%
No education/primary education (251/158/89)	0%	0%	0%
Secondary education (1,695/813/760)	1%	1%	0.3%
Tertiary education (312/130/169)	0%	0%	0%

77 Ethical and safety recommendations for intervention research on violence against women. Building on lessons from the WHO publication *Putting women first: ethical and safety recommendations for research on domestic violence against women* (Geneva: World Health Organization, 2016), accessed 20 May 2019, <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/251759/9789241510189-eng.pdf;jsessionid=8E35B9DA678667DD989016A395720263?sequence=1>.

78 *Guidelines for Producing Statistics on Violence against Women: Statistical Surveys* (New York: United Nations, 2014), accessed 20 May 2019, https://unstats.un.org/unsd/gender/docs/guidelines_statistics_vaw.pdf.

SDG Indicator 5.2.1: Proportion of women aged 18–74 who have ever had a partner and who were subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the 12 months prior to the survey, by age, area and education.

	BiH	FBiH	RS
All women 18–74 who have ever had a partner (BiH: 2,159/FBiH: 1,094/RS: 967)	10%	11%	9%
18–29 years old (341/171/149)	10%	12%	6%
30–39 years old (426/188/211)	11%	12%	10%
40–49 years old (374/190/161)	14%	16%	10%
50–59 years old (424/225/176)	9%	8%	12%
60+ years old (620/317/268)	9%	9%	9%
Residents of urban areas (1,079/551/443)	10%	11%	10%
Residents of rural areas (1,111/543/524)	10%	12%	9%
No education/primary education (240/150/86)	10%	12%	5%
Secondary education (1,603/770/721)	11%	12%	11%
Tertiary education (294/122/159)	6%	8%	4%

Women were asked how often they had experienced different forms of psychological violence at the hands of their current partner: never, sometimes, often or all of the time.

For previous partner violence, women were asked if they had ever experienced various forms of psychological violence. Threats of physical or sexual violence, as part of psychological violence, are the only forms of psychological violence recorded in the 12 months prior to the survey.

As such, a proxy has to be used to calculate SDG indicator 5.2.1, as follows:

- women who experienced threats of physical or sexual violence at the hands of their current or previous partner in the 12 months prior to the survey
- women who have experienced any of the other forms of psychological violence **often** or **all the time** at the hands of their current partner
- women who experienced any of the forms of physical or sexual violence at the hands of their current or previous partners in the 12 months prior to the survey

Annex 4: More detailed tables

Respondent characteristics- BIH (weighted)

		All women		Women who have ever had a partner	
		%	Number	%	Number
Residential area	Urban	45	1039	44	959
	Rural	55	1282	56	1200
Age category	18-19	3	71	1	29
	20-24	9	199	7	155
	25-29	9	216	9	204
	30-34	9	216	10	211
	35-39	9	213	10	207
	40-49	19	433	19	419
	50-59	20	474	21	457
	60-69	15	348	16	334
	70-74	6	137	6	129
	75-79	0	10	1	10
	Refused	0	4	0	4
Education	None	2	41	2	34
	Primary	9	198	9	191
	Secondary	76	1689	76	1581
	Tertiary	14	306	14	284
Do you have any children?	Yes, own children	73	1694	77	1672
	Yes, taking care of step- or foster children	0	7	0	4
	Yes, both	1	12	1	12
	No	25	576	21	448
	Refused to say	1	32	1	22
Employment	In paid work	25	563	25	530
	Self-employed	2	45	2	44
	Helping in a family business (unpaid)	1	31	1	26
	Unemployed	31	693	32	664
	Pupil, student, in training	7	159	5	103
	Not working due to illness or disability	0	9	0	8
	Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities	18	401	19	400
	Retired	15	339	15	321

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

		All women		Women who have ever had a partner	
		%	Number	%	Number
Current job/ occupation	Elementary occupations	25	162	26	153
	Plant and machine operator and assembler	3	19	3	19
	Building, crafts or a related tradesperson	5	32	5	31
	Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery worker	6	35	5	30
	Sales, customer or personal service worker	26	164	25	150
	Clerical support	13	83	14	82
	Technician or associate professional	7	45	8	45
	Professional	12	77	12	73
	Manager	0	1	0	1
	Employed in a military capacity by the armed forces	0	2	0	2
	Refused to say	3	20	2	14
	Household income	Living comfortably on present income	32	750	32
Coping on present income		42	985	42	915
Finding it difficult on present income		18	413	18	391
Finding it very difficult on present income		5	124	6	119
Don't know		0	8	0	4
Refused to say		2	41	2	39
Bank account	Yes	44	1015	44	953
	No	51	1190	52	1111
	Don't know	0	8	0	8
	Not applicable	1	12	1	11
	Refused to say	4	96	4	77
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	64	1492	67	1442
	No	36	829	33	718

Attitudes - BiH

		A good wife obeys her husband even if she disagrees		Women who say they were abused often make up or exaggerate claims of abuse or rape		Violence against women is often provoked by the victim		Domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family		Women are more likely to be raped by a stranger than someone they know		
		Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	
Total	%	59	38	10	83	13	82	25	72	23	61	
	Number	1373	871	240	1918	290	1907	568	1668	539	1418	
Age category	15-29	%	50	46	7	86	7	88	16	80	24	62
		Number	242	221	34	417	35	425	79	391	114	302
	30-39	%	55	41	8	84	13	82	23	73	23	64
		Number	235	175	35	362	57	353	99	312	99	275
	40-49	%	60	38	10	83	11	83	22	74	22	62
		Number	261	163	44	360	48	361	96	318	95	270
	50-59	%	60	38	11	81	15	79	29	69	21	61
		Number	286	180	53	385	70	375	139	326	100	291
	60+	%	70	26	15	79	16	79	31	64	26	56
		Number	347	131	74	390	80	389	155	317	128	277
Residential area	Urban	%	53	44	10	83	11	84	23	72	22	65
		Number	546	457	108	860	116	873	240	752	226	672
	Rural	%	65	32	10	83	14	81	26	72	24	58
		Number	826	414	132	1058	173	1034	329	916	313	745
Education	None	%	78	22	18	72	34	60	51	49	38	52
		Number	32	9	7	30	14	25	21	20	15	21
	Primary	%	80	16	18	72	21	68	35	59	25	51
		Number	158	32	35	143	41	135	70	116	50	101
	Secondary	%	60	37	10	83	12	82	25	72	24	60
		Number	1013	630	169	1394	209	1393	420	1211	409	1006
	Tertiary	%	52	45	8	89	8	88	16	81	20	70
		Number	159	137	25	272	25	268	49	248	60	214
Ever had a partner	Yes	%	61	36	11	82	13	81	25	72	24	60
		Number	1315	777	228	1772	283	1758	530	1549	516	1293
Children	Yes	%	64	33	11	81	14	80	27	69	24	59
		Number	1097	567	195	1389	244	1367	469	1188	415	1015
	No	%	47	48	8	87	8	88	16	79	21	65
		Number	270	277	45	498	46	509	94	453	122	373

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Employment		A good wife obeys her husband even if she disagrees		Women who say they were abused often make up or exaggerate claims of abuse or rape		Violence against women is often provoked by the victim		Domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family		Women are more likely to be raped by a stranger than someone they know	
		Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
In paid work	%	50	47	9	86	8	89	19	78	27	62
	Number	280	266	52	483	43	500	107	436	150	351
Self-employed	%	62	35	17	79	19	76	27	72	21	55
	Number	28	16	8	36	9	34	12	33	10	25
Helping in a family business (unpaid)	%	67	30	10	90	20	76	24	75	32	43
	Number	21	9	3	28	6	24	7	24	10	13
Unemployed	%	62	35	10	81	16	79	27	69	21	61
	Number	427	244	71	558	109	544	184	479	148	424
Pupil, student, in training	%	42	53	5	92	7	92	14	86	21	64
	Number	67	84	7	146	11	146	22	136	34	102
Not working due to illness or disability	%	39	61	0	71	29	71	0	100	6	58
	Number	3	5	0	6	3	6	0	9	1	5
Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities	%	76	23	10	83	13	79	28	67	26	57
	Number	305	91	39	332	53	315	113	270	103	228
Retired	%	69	28	17	75	17	76	33	63	25	58
	Number	233	93	58	252	57	256	112	213	83	196

Occupation		A good wife obeys her husband even if she disagrees		Women who say they were abused often make up or exaggerate claims of abuse or rape		Violence against women is often provoked by the victim		Domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family		Women are more likely to be raped by a stranger than someone they know	
		Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
Elementary occupations	%	60	40	9	85	9	88	23	72	30	55
	Number	96	64	15	138	14	143	37	116	49	90
Plant and Machine Operator and Assembler	%	55	34	9	80	16	78	42	52	37	44
	Number	10	6	2	15	3	14	8	10	7	8
Building, Crafts or a Related Trade Person	%	68	32	6	92	0	97	30	70	28	61
	Number	22	10	2	30	0	31	10	23	9	20
A Skilled Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Worker	%	50	44	26	73	32	69	23	72	32	56
	Number	18	15	9	25	11	24	8	25	11	20
A Sales, Customer or Personal Service Worker	%	52	44	9	83	6	89	21	74	26	64
	Number	86	73	15	136	10	145	35	121	42	104
Clerical support	%	53	44	9	85	12	84	19	80	34	55
	Number	43	37	7	70	10	69	16	66	28	45
Technician or Associate Professional	%	33	65	3	97	3	91	13	87	7	72
	Number	15	29	1	43	1	41	6	39	3	32
Professional	%	42	56	10	90	9	89	8	92	21	70
	Number	32	43	8	69	7	69	6	71	17	54
Manager	%	0	100	0	100	62	38	0	100	62	38
	Number	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0
Military	%	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100
	Number	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	2

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

			A good wife obeys her husband even if she disagrees		Women who say they were abused often make up or exaggerate claims of abuse or rape		Violence against women is often provoked by the victim		Domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family		Women are more likely to be raped by a stranger than someone they know	
			Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
Household income	Living comfortably on present income	%	50	47	10	83	11	83	19	78	20	67
		Number	377	350	78	620	79	624	141	581	152	499
	Coping on present income	%	63	34	10	83	13	82	27	70	25	57
		Number	624	333	102	817	124	812	263	686	244	561
	Finding it difficult on present income	%	66	31	11	82	16	79	30	68	26	61
		Number	273	126	43	338	66	327	123	279	109	252
Finding it very difficult on present income	%	60	36	13	81	15	80	30	67	25	57	
	Number	75	45	16	101	18	99	38	84	31	71	
Region	Una-Sana Canton	%	74	20	23	67	13	77	39	54	21	39
		Number	128	35	39	116	23	132	67	92	36	67
	Tuzla Canton	%	73	26	13	77	17	77	27	72	20	52
		Number	221	79	39	232	52	231	81	217	60	156
	Zenica-Doboj Canton	%	54	42	3	86	13	77	20	74	24	67
		Number	129	100	8	206	31	185	48	178	58	161
	Central Bosnia Canton	%	70	22	3	96	3	93	26	69	20	78
		Number	113	36	4	154	4	150	41	110	31	126
	Herzegovina-Neretva Canton	%	20	75	5	91	1	91	8	88	13	81
		Number	26	100	6	122	2	121	11	118	17	108
	West Herzegovina Canton	%	23	66	8	85	8	88	24	73	8	90
		Number	12	36	4	46	4	47	13	39	4	49
	Sarajevo Canton	%	56	43	16	75	21	75	30	66	19	59
		Number	162	124	46	215	60	215	85	190	55	171
	Canton 10	%	63	37	0	89	4	92	6	83	21	61
		Number	33	20	0	47	2	49	3	44	11	33
	Posavina Canton	%	50	49	0	100	23	77	5	95	11	89
		Number	13	13	0	27	6	21	1	26	3	24
	Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Goražde	%	63	37	66	29	47	53	27	68	47	53
		Number	10	6	11	5	8	9	4	11	8	9
North RS	%	64	34	10	86	11	86	27	71	33	56	
	Number	331	175	51	447	55	448	142	371	170	293	
East RS	%	50	47	9	84	12	84	15	82	23	66	
	Number	149	140	27	253	34	251	44	246	69	199	
Brčko District	%	81	16	10	87	13	86	48	47	29	43	
	Number	46	9	6	49	7	48	27	27	16	24	

			A good wife obeys her husband even if she disagrees		Women who say they were abused often make up or exaggerate claims of abuse or rape		Violence against women is often provoked by the victim		Domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family		Women are more likely to be raped by a stranger than someone they know	
			Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
Bank Account Owner	Yes	%	55	41	14	81	13	82	23	73	27	59
		Number	559	420	137	819	131	832	237	741	275	600
	No	%	66	32	8	84	13	81	27	70	21	61
		Number	779	381	97	1001	152	969	318	831	254	730
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	%	65	33	12	82	14	80	27	69	23	60
		Number	964	489	181	1216	213	1198	409	1034	349	891
	No	%	49	46	7	85	9	86	19	77	23	64
		Number	409	382	60	702	77	709	159	634	190	526

Prevalence of intimate partner violence- BiH

			Partner or previous partner psychological violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical or sexual violence - Ever	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Total		%	64	36	90	10	96	4	64	36	89	11
		Number	1380	779	1934	225	2081	78	1373	786	1927	232
Age category	15-29	%	64	36	91	9	97	3	64	37	91	9
		Number	247	140	353	35	376	11	246	141	352	35
	30-39	%	62	38	89	11	97	3	62	38	89	11
		Number	260	159	374	44	404	14	258	160	373	46
	40-49	%	63	37	90	10	96	4	62	38	90	10
		Number	263	156	379	41	402	17	261	158	376	43
	50-59	%	65	35	90	10	97	3	65	35	90	11
		Number	298	159	410	46	443	14	297	160	409	48
60+	%	65	35	88	12	95	5	65	35	88	13	
	Number	310	163	415	58	451	22	309	164	414	59	
Residential area	Urban	%	64	36	89	11	97	4	63	37	89	11
		Number	609	349	856	102	925	34	605	354	853	105
	Rural	%	64	36	90	10	96	4	64	36	89	11
		Number	770	430	1078	123	1156	44	768	432	1073	127

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

		Partner or previous partner psychological violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical or sexual violence - Ever		
		No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	
Education	None	%	74	26	88	12	95	5	74	26	88	12
		Number	25	9	30	4	32	2	25	9	30	4
	Primary	%	65	35	86	14	95	5	64	36	86	14
		Number	125	66	164	27	182	9	123	68	164	27
	Secondary	%	62	38	90	10	96	4	62	38	89	11
		Number	984	598	1420	161	1522	60	981	601	1414	167
Tertiary	%	64	36	89	11	97	3	63	37	89	11	
	Number	182	102	253	31	277	7	180	104	252	32	
Children	Yes	%	63	37	89	11	96	4	63	37	88	12
		Number	1066	623	1496	193	1620	69	1060	629	1489	200
	No	%	66	34	93	7	98	2	66	34	93	7
		Number	295	153	416	32	440	8	295	154	416	33
Employment	In paid work	%	60	40	89	11	98	3	60	40	89	12
		Number	319	211	472	57	517	13	316	214	469	61
	Self-employed	%	64	36	82	18	96	4	64	36	82	18
		Number	28	16	36	8	42	2	28	16	36	8
	Helping in the family business (unpaid)	%	51	49	93	7	97	3	51	49	93	7
		Number	13	12	24	2	25	1	13	12	24	2
	Unemployed	%	63	37	89	11	96	4	63	37	89	11
		Number	420	244	593	70	637	27	417	246	593	71
	Pupil, student, in training	%	72	28	93	7	98	3	71	29	93	7
		Number	74	29	96	7	101	3	74	30	96	7
	Not working due to illness or disability	%	59	41	100	0	100	0	59	41	100	0
		Number	5	3	8	0	8	0	5	3	8	0
	Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities	%	60	40	88	12	94	6	60	40	88	12
		Number	239	161	354	46	378	23	239	161	352	48
Retired	%	70	30	90	10	97	3	70	30	90	10	
	Number	224	96	289	32	312	9	223	97	289	32	

Occupation			Partner or previous partner psychological violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical or sexual violence - Ever	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
			%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number
Elementary occupations	%	60	40	89	11	98	2	60	41	88	12	
	Number	92	61	136	17	150	3	91	62	134	18	
Plant and machine operator and assembler	%	67	33	93	7	100	0	67	33	93	7	
	Number	12	6	17	1	19	0	12	6	17	1	
Building, crafts or a related Tradesperson	%	74	26	95	6	100	0	74	26	95	6	
	Number	23	8	30	2	31	0	23	8	30	2	
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery worker	%	47	53	97	3	97	3	47	53	97	3	
	Number	14	16	29	1	29	1	14	16	29	1	
Sales, customer or personal service worker	%	56	44	87	13	97	3	56	44	87	13	
	Number	83	67	131	19	145	5	83	67	130	20	
Clerical support	%	65	35	88	12	96	4	65	35	86	14	
	Number	53	28	72	10	79	3	53	28	70	11	
Technician or associate professional	%	55	45	83	17	99	1	54	46	83	17	
	Number	25	20	37	7	44	1	24	21	37	7	
Professional	%	67	33	92	8	96	4	66	35	91	9	
	Number	49	24	67	6	70	3	48	25	66	7	
Manager	%	100		100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	
	Number	1		1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	
Military	%	0	100	100	0	100	0	0	100	100	0	
	Number	0	2	2	0	2	0	0	2	2	0	
Household income	Living comfortably on present income	%	69	31	93	7	97	3	69	31	93	8
		Number	475	217	641	50	669	23	475	217	640	52
Coping on present income	%	66	34	92	8	97	3	66	34	91	9	
	Number	604	310	838	77	886	29	600	314	834	81	
Finding it difficult on present income	%	53	47	86	14	98	2	52	48	86	14	
	Number	206	185	335	56	382	9	205	186	335	56	
Finding it very difficult on present income	%	54	46	71	29	86	14	53	47	70	30	
	Number	64	55	84	35	102	17	63	56	83	36	

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Region		Partner or previous partner psychological violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical or sexual violence - Ever		
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
		%										
Una-Sana Canton	%	64	36	76	24	89	11	64	36	76	24	
	Number	104	59	124	39	146	18	104	59	124	39	
Tuzla Canton	%	68	32	92	8	97	4	68	32	92	8	
	Number	196	91	263	23	277	10	195	92	263	23	
Zenica-Doboj Canton	%	58	42	89	11	96	4	58	42	89	11	
	Number	136	97	208	25	224	9	136	97	206	27	
Central Bosnia Canton	%	58	43	90	10	95	6	57	43	90	10	
	Number	81	60	127	14	133	8	80	61	126	15	
Herzegovina-Neretva Canton	%	69	32	97	3	99	1	69	32	97	3	
	Number	77	35	108	4	111	1	77	35	108	4	
West Herzegovina Canton	%	67	33	89	11	94	6	67	33	89	11	
	Number	29	14	38	5	41	3	29	14	38	5	
Sarajevo Canton	%	67	33	92	8	98	2	67	33	92	8	
	Number	184	90	253	21	268	6	184	90	253	21	
Canton 10	%	67	33	100	0	100	0	67	33	100	0	
	Number	31	16	47	0	47	0	31	16	47	0	
Posavina Canton	%	71	29	100	0	100	0	71	29	100	0	
	Number	13	5	18	0	18	0	13	5	18	0	
Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Goražde	%	57	43	88	12	88	12	57	43	88	12	
	Number	9	7	13	2	13	2	9	7	13	2	
North RS	%	62	38	88	12	97	3	62	38	87	13	
	Number	306	185	431	61	479	13	303	189	427	64	
East RS	%	66	34	91	9	98	3	66	34	91	10	
	Number	186	98	258	26	277	7	186	98	257	27	
Brčko District	%	57	43	90	10	96	5	55	45	88	12	
	Number	29	22	46	5	49	2	28	23	45	6	
Bank Account Owner	Yes	%	61	39	87	13	95	5	60	40	86	14
	Number	578	375	825	127	909	44	575	377	821	132	
	No	%	65	35	91	9	97	3	65	36	91	9
	Number	721	390	1014	97	1077	34	717	394	1011	100	
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	%	63	37	90	10	96	4	63	37	89	11
		Number	910	531	1292	149	1386	56	907	535	1286	155
	No	%	65	35	89	11	97	3	65	35	89	11
		Number	469	248	642	76	696	22	466	251	641	77

Current partner violence by current partner characteristics- BiH

			Partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever		
			No	Yes	
Total		%	70	30	
		Number	1158	494	
Current partner's age category	15–29	%	72	28	
		Number	125	48	
	30–39	%	70	30	
		Number	249	109	
	40–49	%	72	29	
		Number	249	99	
	50–59	%	73	28	
		Number	262	99	
	60+	%	66	34	
		Number	251	127	
	Current partner's occupation	Not working due to illness or disability	%	46	54
			Number	5	6
Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities		%	61	39	
		Number	16	10	
Retired		%	71	29	
		Number	230	95	
Elementary occupations		%	67	33	
		Number	125	63	
Plant and Machine Operator and Assembler		%	65	35	
		Number	67	36	
A Technician or Associate Professional		%	84	16	
		Number	101	20	
Professional		%	72	28	
		Number	46	18	
Manager		%	100	0	
		Number	4	0	
Military		%	80	21	
		Number	10	3	
Education	None	%	79	21	
		Number	5	1	
	Primary	%	73	27	
		Number	33	13	
	Secondary	%	70	31	
		Number	936	410	
	Tertiary	%	69	31	
		Number	136	62	

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

			Partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever	
			No	Yes
Earnings	Partner earns less	%	65	35
		Number	22	12
	Both earn roughly the same amount	%	74	26
		Number	137	48
	Partner earns more	%	66	34
		Number	46	18
Current partner's alcohol consumption	Never, less than once a month	%	110	58
		Number	1060	443
	Weekly	%	54	46
		Number	35	31
	Most days/every day	%	0	100
		Number	0	2
Current partner's drug use	Never, less than once a month	%	70	30
		Number	1137	487
	Weekly	%	50	50
		Number	1	1
Partner ever fought in an armed conflicts	Yes	%	69	31
		Number	398	180
	No	%	71	29
		Number	670	275

Prevalence of non-partner violence since age of 15 - BiH

		Non-partner physical violence - since the age of 15		Non-partner sexual violence - since the age of 15		Non-partner physical or sexual violence - since the age of 15			
		No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes		
Total	%	93	7	99	1	92	8		
	Number	2156	165	2289	32	2137	184		
Age category	15-29	%	91	9	99	2	90	10	
		Number	443	43	479	7	437	49	
	30-39	%	91	9	98	2	90	10	
		Number	390	39	420	9	385	44	
	40-49	%	96	4	98	2	95	6	
		Number	414	19	424	9	409	24	
	50-59	%	93	7	100	0	92	8	
		Number	439	35	472	2	438	36	
	60+	%	94	6	99	1	94	6	
		Number	466	29	490	5	464	31	
	Residential area	Urban	%	91	9	98	2	90	10
			Number	946	93	1022	18	935	104
Rural		%	94	6	99	1	94	6	
		Number	1209	72	1267	15	1202	80	
Education	None	%	88	12	99	1	87	13	
		Number	36	5	41	0	36	5	
	Primary	%	96	4	100	0	96	4	
		Number	190	8	198	0	190	8	
	Secondary	%	94	6	98	2	93	7	
		Number	1584	106	1662	28	1569	120	
	Tertiary	%	85	15	99	1	84	16	
		Number	261	46	302	4	257	50	
Ever had a partner	Yes	%	93	7	99	1	92	8	
		Number	2003	156	2129	30	1986	173	
Children	Yes	%	93	7	99	1	93	7	
		Number	1600	113	1693	20	1588	125	
	No	%	91	9	98	2	90	10	
		Number	524	52	564	12	517	60	

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Employment			Non-partner physical violence – since the age of 15		Non-partner sexual violence - since the age of 15		Non-partner physical or sexual violence - since the age of 15	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
In paid work	%		90	10	98	2	89	12
	Number		505	57	553	10	498	65
Self-employed	%		89	11	97	3	89	11
	Number		40	5	44	1	40	5
Helping in a family business (unpaid)	%		98	2	100	0	98	2
	Number		31	1	31	0	31	1
Unemployed	%		93	7	98	2	92	8
	Number		643	50	678	15	635	58
Pupil, student, in training	%		94	6	99	1	93	7
	Number		149	10	157	2	148	11
Not working due to illness or disability	%		94	6	100	0	94	6
	Number		8	1	9	0	8	1
Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities	%		95	5	99	1	94	6
	Number		380	21	397	4	379	22
Retired	%		94	6	100	0	94	6
	Number		318	21	337	1	317	21
In paid work	%		90	10	98	2	89	12
	Number		505	57	553	10	498	65

Occupation		Non-partner physical violence – since the age of 15		Non-partner sexual violence - since the age of 15		Non-partner physical or sexual violence - since the age of 15	
		No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Elementary occupations	%	94	6	99	1	93	7
	Number	152	10	159	2	151	11
Plant and machine operator and assembler	%	92	8	100	0	92	8
	Number	17	1	19	0	17	1
Building, crafts or a related tradesperson	%	95	6	100	0	95	6
	Number	31	2	32	0	31	2
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery worker	%	100		100	0	100	0
	Number	35		35	0	35	0
Sales, customer or personal service worker	%	92	8	98	2	90	10
	Number	150	14	160	3	148	16
Clerical support	%	83	17	98	2	81	19
	Number	68	14	81	2	67	16
Technician or associate professional	%	89	11	95	5	85	15
		40	5	43	2	38	7
Professional	%	84	16	98	2	82	18
	Number	65	12	76	1	64	14
Manager	%	100	0	100	0	100	0
	Number	1	0	1	0	1	0
Military	%	100	0	100	0	100	0
	Number	2	0	2	0	2	0

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

			Non-partner physical violence – since the age of 15		Non-partner sexual violence – since the age of 15		Non-partner physical or sexual violence – since the age of 15	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Household income	Living comfortably on present income	%	94	6	99	2	93	7
		Number	706	44	739	12	697	53
	Coping on present income	%	93	7	99	1	93	7
		Number	916	69	976	9	913	72
	Finding it difficult on present income	%	91	9	99	1	90	10
		Number	377	36	408	5	373	40
	Finding it very difficult on present income	%	89	11	95	5	87	13
		Number	110	14	118	6	107	16
Regions	Una-Sana Canton	%	89	11	97	3	89	11
		Number	153	19	166	6	153	19
	Tuzla Canton	%	89	11	98	2	88	12
		Number	269	32	296	5	265	36
	Zenica-Doboj Canton	%	99	1	100	0	99	1
		Number	236	3	239	0	236	3
	Central Bosnia Canton	%	88	13	99	1	87	13
		Number	140	20	159	1	139	21
	Herzegovina-Neretva Canton	%	100	0	100	0	100	0
		Number	133	0	133	0	133	0
	West Herzegovina Canton	%	100	0	100	0	100	0
		Number	54	0	54	0	54	0
	Sarajevo Canton	%	90	10	99	1	90	10
		Number	260	27	284	4	258	30
	Canton 10	%	100	0	100	0	100	0
		Number	53	0	53	0	53	0
	Posavina Canton	%	100	0	100	0	100	0
		Number	27	0	27	0	27	0
	Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Goražde	%	89	11	89	11	89	11
		Number	14	2	14	2	14	2
North RS	%	92	8	98	2	91	9	
	Number	479	42	512	9	472	48	
East RS	%	94	6	98	2	93	7	
	Number	283	18	295	6	278	22	
Brčko District	%	95	5	99	1	95	5	
	Number	53	3	56	0	53	3	

			Non-partner physical violence – since the age of 15		Non-partner sexual violence – since the age of 15		Non-partner physical or sexual violence – since the age of 15	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
			Directly affected by conflict	Yes	%	94	6	99
		Number	1399	93	1478	14	1389	103
	No	%	91	9	98	2	90	10
		Number	757	72	811	18	748	81
Bank account owner	Yes	%	91	9	98	2	90	10
		Number	926	89	994	21	909	106
	No	%	94	6	99	1	94	6
		Number	1118	72	1179	12	1116	74

Prevalence of sexual harassment and stalking - BiH

			Sexual harassment – since the age of 15		The most severe forms of sexual harassment – since the age of 15		Repeated incidents – Since age 15	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
			Total		%	72	28	85
		Number	1673	648	1970	351	2209	112
Residential area	Urban	%	66	34	81	19	94	7
		Number	690	349	840	199	972	68
	Rural	%	77	23	88	12	97	4
		Number	982	299	1129	152	1237	45
Age category	15–29	%	63	37	81	19	92	8
		Number	305	182	394	92	447	39
	30–39	%	64	36	78	22	92	8
		Number	276	153	335	94	395	34
	40–49	%	75	25	87	13	98	2
		Number	323	109	376	57	422	11
	50–59	%	76	24	88	12	98	2
		Number	361	113	415	59	465	10
	60+	%	82	18	90	10	96	4
		Number	405	90	448	47	477	18

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

			Sexual harassment - since the age of 15		The most severe forms of sexual harassment - since the age of 15		Repeated incidents – Since age 15	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Education	None	%	91	9	95	5	98	2
		Number	38	4	39	2	40	1
	Primary	%	85	16	93	7	99	1
		Number	167	31	184	14	196	2
	Secondary	%	71	29	86	15	95	5
		Number	1202	487	1445	245	1609	80
Tertiary	%	59	41	71	29	91	9	
	Number	182	125	218	88	278	28	
Ever had a partner	Yes	%	71	29	84	16	95	5
		Number	1539	620	1815	344	2055	104
Children	Yes	%	75	25	87	14	96	4
		Number	1283	430	1482	231	1646	67
	No	%	62	38	79	21	92	8
		Number	360	216	457	119	531	45
Employment	In paid work	%	62	38	80	20	94	6
		Number	348	215	448	114	531	32
	Self-employed	%	57	43	70	30	96	4
		Number	26	19	32	14	43	2
	Helping in the family business (unpaid)	%	78	22	84	16	98	2
		Number	25	7	26	5	31	1
	Unemployed	%	75	26	86	14	94	6
		Number	516	177	597	96	652	41
	Pupil, student, in training	%	60	40	82	18	92	8
		Number	95	64	130	29	146	13
	Not working due to illness or disability	%	31	69	59	41	71	29
		Number	3	6	5	4	6	3
	Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities	%	76	24	88	12	97	3
		Number	304	97	354	47	390	11
Retired	%	82	18	88	12	97	3	
	Number	278	60	296	42	329	10	

Occupation		Sexual harassment - since the age of 15		The most severe forms of sexual harassment - since the age of 15		Repeated incidents - Since age 15	
		No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
		%	Number	%	Number	%	Number
Elementary occupations	%	66	34	85	15	96	5
	Number	107	55	137	25	155	7
Plant and machine operator and assembler	%	66	34	93	7	92	8
	Number	12	6	17	1	17	1
Building, crafts or a related tradesperson	%	71	29	81	19	100	0
	Number	23	9	26	6	32	0
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery worker	%	48	52	77	23	100	0
	Number	17	18	27	8	35	0
Sales, customer or personal service worker	%	63	37	80	20	93	7
	Number	104	60	131	33	152	12
Clerical support	%	62	39	72	28	93	7
	Number	51	32	60	23	77	6
Technician or associate professional	%	59	41	70	30	99	1
	Number	26	19	32	13	44	1
Professional	%	59	41	76	24	95	5
	Number	45	32	58	19	73	4
Manager	%	100	0	100	0	100	0
	Number	1	0	1	0	1	0
Military	%	0	100	0	100	100	0
	Number	0	2	0	2	2	0
Household income	%	74	27	85	15	96	4
	Number	551	199	635	115	718	32
Coping on present income	%	73	28	84	16	95	5
	Number	714	271	829	156	938	47
Finding it difficult on present income	%	70	30	88	12	96	4
	Number	289	124	362	51	396	17
Finding it very difficult on present income	%	68	33	82	18	93	8
	Number	84	40	102	22	115	9

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Region		Sexual harassment - since the age of 15		The most severe forms of sexual harassment - since the age of 15		Repeated incidents - Since age 15		
		No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	
		%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	
Una-Sana Canton	%	75	25	81	19	96	5	
	Number	130	42	140	32	164	8	
Tuzla Canton	%	76	24	88	12	92	8	
	Number	230	71	264	37	278	23	
Zenica-Doboj Canton	%	77	23	92	8	98	2	
	Number	184	55	221	18	234	5	
Central Bosnia Canton	%	67	33	85	15	95	5	
	Number	107	53	136	24	152	9	
Herzegovina-Neretva Canton	%	91	9	98	2	100	0	
	Number	121	12	131	3	133	0	
West Herzegovina Canton	%	85	15	93	7	95	5	
	Number	46	8	50	4	51	3	
Sarajevo Canton	%	62	38	75	25	93	7	
	Number	178	110	217	71	267	20	
Canton 10	%	63	37	87	13	100	0	
	Number	33	20	46	7	53	0	
Posavina Canton	%	100	0	100	0	100	0	
	Number	27	0	27	0	27	0	
Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Gorazde	%	80	20	80	20	75	26	
	Number	13	3	13	3	12	4	
North RS	%	68	32	81	19	96	4	
	Number	353	167	420	101	498	23	
East RS	%	69	31	85	16	95	5	
	Number	208	92	254	46	285	15	
Brčko District	%	75	25	91	9	96	4	
	Number	42	14	51	5	54	2	
Bank Account Owner	Yes	%	65	35	80	20	94	6
	Number	661	354	812	203	959	57	
	No	%	77	23	88	12	96	4
	Number	913	277	1052	139	1138	52	
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	%	74	26	86	15	96	4
	Number	1098	394	1276	216	1426	66	
	No	%	69	31	84	16	94	6
	Number	575	254	694	135	783	46	

Respondent characteristics- FBiH

		All women		Women who have ever had a partner	
		%	Number	%	Number
Residential area	Urban	46	530	45	481
	Rural	55	633	55	590
Age category	18-19	4	44	2	19
	20-24	9	109	8	82
	25-29	9	104	9	96
	30-34	10	113	10	110
	35-39	9	106	10	102
	40-49	19	225	20	217
	50-59	20	234	21	227
	60-69	14	160	14	154
	70-74	5	62	5	57
	75-79	0	5	1	5
	Refused	0	1	0	1
	Education	None	2	20	2
Primary		10	114	11	109
Secondary		76	828	76	772
Tertiary		12	132	12	120
Do you have any children?	Yes, own children	73	845	78	833
	Yes, taking care of step- or foster children	0	2	0	1
	Yes, both	0	5	1	5
	No	24	284	20	213
	Refused to say	2	26	2	18
Employment	In paid work	22	237	22	221
	Self-employed	1	9	1	9
	Helping in a family business (unpaid)	2	19	1	15
	Unemployed	30	327	31	313
	Pupil, student, in training	8	86	5	53
	Not working due to illness or disability	0	3	0	3
	Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities	23	252	25	252
	Retired	15	164	15	155

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

		All women		Women who have ever had a partner	
		%	Number	%	Number
Current job/ occupation	Elementary occupations	24	64	23	57
	Plant and Machine Operator and Assembler	4	10	4	10
	Building, Crafts or a Related Trade Person	6	17	7	17
	A Skilled Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Worker	7	18	7	16
	A Sales, Customer or Personal Service Worker	24	63	23	56
	Clerical support	13	34	14	34
	A Technician or Associate Professional	5	14	6	14
	A Professional	13	35	14	33
	Employed in a military capacity by the Armed Forces	1	2	1	2
	Refused to say	4	10	2	5
	Household income	Living comfortably on present income	39	448	39
Coping on present income		38	445	38	408
Finding it difficult on present income		16	189	17	176
Finding it very difficult on present income		4	49	4	45
Don't know		1	6	0	3
Refused to say		2	27	2	25
Bank account owner	Yes	39	454	39	417
	No	54	624	55	584
	Don't know	0	4	0	4
	Not applicable	1	9	1	9
	Refused to say	6	72	5	57
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	67	783	71	756
	No	33	380	30	315

Attitudes - FBiH

			A good wife obeys her husband even if she disagrees		Women who say they were abused often make up or exaggerate claims of abuse or rape		Violence against women is often provoked by the victim		Domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family		Women are more likely to be raped by a stranger than someone they know	
			Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
Total	%		58	39	11	81	13	81	24	71	19	63
	Number		674	448	125	943	151	938	283	828	225	733
Residential area	Urban	%	54	42	12	80	12	83	23	71	16	67
		Number	286	224	61	423	62	438	119	377	85	352
	Rural	%	61	35	10	82	14	79	26	71	22	60
		Number	389	224	64	520	89	500	164	451	140	380
Age category	15–29	%	49	46	6	86	6	87	15	81	17	70
		Number	126	118	16	222	16	225	39	208	43	181
	30–39	%	56	39	10	81	14	81	26	67	22	63
		Number	121	86	22	177	32	177	56	147	49	137
	40–49	%	58	40	11	81	12	81	21	75	17	65
		Number	130	89	25	181	26	182	46	167	38	146
	50–59	%	60	39	11	79	16	77	31	67	17	61
		Number	140	91	26	185	37	179	72	157	39	143
60+	%	68	28	16	78	18	76	31	65	24	55	
	Number	155	64	36	177	41	174	70	147	55	125	
Education	None	%	69	31	13	77	36	56	50	51	35	57
		Number	14	6	3	16	7	11	10	10	7	11
	Primary	%	84	13	18	69	23	65	40	55	25	47
		Number	96	15	21	78	26	74	45	62	28	54
	Secondary	%	59	38	11	81	13	81	24	71	20	62
		Number	489	313	89	668	110	666	202	591	165	510
Tertiary	%	51	47	8	88	6	89	15	80	16	72	
	Number	68	62	11	116	8	118	20	105	21	96	
Children	Yes	%	64	33	12	78	15	78	29	68	21	60
		Number	544	281	106	668	128	663	245	576	178	511
	No	%	45	51	7	87	8	88	13	81	16	69
		Number	127	144	19	248	23	250	35	229	46	196

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Employment			A good wife obeys her husband even if she disagrees		Women who say they were abused often make up or exaggerate claims of abuse or rape		Violence against women is often provoked by the victim		Domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family		Women are more likely to be raped by a stranger than someone they know	
			Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
In paid work	%		48	49	8	86	8	88	16	78	20	69
	Number		114	117	20	204	18	210	38	186	47	163
Self-employed	%		84	16	25	75	36	56	56	44	44	10
	Number		8	2	2	7	3	5	5	4	4	1
Helping in a family business (unpaid)	%		57	38	13	87	28	66	28	72	31	48
	Number		11	7	2	17	5	13	5	14	6	9
Unemployed	%		62	35	13	74	19	73	29	65	19	60
	Number		201	114	43	243	61	240	94	214	61	197
Pupil, student, in training	%		44	50	3	94	2	97	11	89	11	75
	Number		37	43	3	81	2	84	9	77	9	64
Not working due to illness or disability	%		37	63	0	37	63	37	0	100	0	22
	Number		1	2	0	1	2	1	0	3	0	1
Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities	%		73	26	9	83	12	78	26	70	23	57
	Number		183	66	24	210	31	198	64	176	59	144
Retired	%		69	29	18	72	17	76	36	61	23	59
	Number		114	47	29	119	28	124	59	100	37	97

Occupation		A good wife obeys her husband even if she disagrees		Women who say they were abused often make up or exaggerate claims of abuse or rape		Violence against women is often provoked by the victim		Domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family		Women are more likely to be raped by a stranger than someone they know	
		Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
Elementary occupations	%	60	40	12	88	8	89	23	68	33	57
	Number	39	25	8	56	5	57	15	43	21	36
Plant and Machine Operator and Assembler	%	62	22	4	80	14	77	32	59	32	46
	Number	6	2	0	8	1	8	3	6	3	5
Building, Crafts or a Related Trade Person	%	74	26	8	92	0	100	31	69	22	65
	Number	13	4	1	16	0	17	5	12	4	11
A Skilled Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Worker	%	38	52	14	86	43	57	19	74	15	67
	Number	7	9	3	15	8	10	3	13	3	12
A Sales, Customer or Personal Service Worker	%	47	53	9	78	5	88	20	73	21	67
	Number	29	33	6	49	3	55	12	46	13	42
Clerical support	%	57	40	6	83	18	75	21	79	23	61
	Number	19	13	2	28	6	25	7	27	8	21
Technician or Associate Professional	%	22	75	3	97	3	90	6	94	3	74
	Number	3	10	0	13	0	13	1	13	0	10
Professional	%	38	62	12	88	6	92	4	96	15	73
	Number	13	21	4	30	2	32	1	33	5	25
Military	%	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100
	Number	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	2

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

			A good wife obeys her husband even if she disagrees		Women who say they were abused often make up or exaggerate claims of abuse or rape		Violence against women is often provoked by the victim		Domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family		Women are more likely to be raped by a stranger than someone they know	
			Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
Household income	Living comfortably on present income	%	48	49	9	83	10	83	19	77	18	68
		Number	215	218	40	371	45	371	83	345	81	303
	Coping on present income	%	63	34	13	80	15	80	26	69	19	60
		Number	281	151	55	354	65	354	116	306	83	267
	Finding it difficult on present income	%	70	27	12	80	17	77	34	64	24	59
		Number	132	51	23	150	31	145	64	121	46	112
Finding it very difficult on present income	%	66	31	12	82	16	76	36	64	27	57	
	Number	32	15	6	40	8	37	17	31	13	28	
Region	Una-Sana Canton	%	74	21	22	68	13	78	38	55	20	41
		Number	103	29	31	95	18	110	53	77	28	57
	Tuzla Canton	%	73	27	13	77	17	77	27	72	20	52
		Number	174	64	31	185	41	184	64	173	47	125
	Zenica-Doboj Canton	%	53	42	3	86	13	77	20	74	24	67
		Number	101	80	6	162	25	146	38	141	45	128
	Central Bosnia Canton	%	71	22	3	96	3	94	27	67	20	78
		Number	92	28	4	124	4	122	35	87	26	101
	Herzegovina-Neretva Canton	%	19	77	5	91	1	90	8	89	13	81
		Number	21	86	6	102	1	101	8	99	15	91
	West Herzegovina Canton	%	24	65	8	85	9	88	25	73	8	90
		Number	11	29	4	38	4	39	11	33	4	41
	Sarajevo Canton	%	55	44	15	75	20	75	29	67	19	60
		Number	127	100	35	173	46	173	66	153	43	137
	Canton 10	%	63	38	0	89	4	92	7	83	21	62
		Number	26	16	0	37	2	39	3	35	9	26
	Posavina Canton	%	49	50	0	100	22	78	5	95	10	90
		Number	11	11	0	23	5	18	1	22	2	20
	Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Goražde	%	63	37	65	30	46	54	26	70	46	54
		Number	8	5	8	4	6	7	3	9	6	7

		A good wife obeys her husband even if she disagrees		omen who say they were abused often make up or exaggerate claims of abuse or rape		Violence against women is often provoked by the victim		Domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family		Women are more likely to be raped by a stranger than someone they know		
		Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	
Bank Account Owner	Yes	%	55	42	15	78	15	79	25	71	22	63
		Number	249	191	66	353	68	358	112	321	99	285
	No	%	65	33	9	82	13	80	26	70	19	62
		Number	403	204	54	514	81	499	163	435	118	384
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	%	64	34	13	79	15	79	27	69	21	60
		Number	505	262	101	622	115	619	209	544	163	471
	No	%	45	49	6	85	9	84	19	75	17	69
		Number	170	186	24	321	36	319	74	284	63	262

Prevalence of intimate partner violence- FBIH)

		Partner or previous partner psychological violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical or sexual violence - Ever		
		No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	
Total	%	64	36	90	10	96	4	64	36	90	10	
	Number	689	382	965	106	1026	45	688	383	964	108	
Residential area	Urban	%	65	35	90	10	96	4	64	36	90	10
		Number	311	170	432	49	462	19	310	171	432	49
	Rural	%	64	36	90	10	96	4	64	36	90	10
		Number	378	212	533	57	564	26	378	212	532	58
Age category	15–29	%	62	38	91	9	97	3	62	38	91	9
		Number	123	75	180	18	191	7	123	75	180	18
	30–39	%	62	38	91	9	97	3	62	38	90	10
		Number	132	81	193	20	206	7	132	81	192	20
	40–49	%	63	37	90	10	95	6	63	37	90	10
		Number	137	80	195	21	205	12	137	80	194	22
	50–59	%	70	30	92	8	97	3	70	30	92	8
		Number	159	68	209	18	220	7	158	69	209	18
60+	%	64	36	87	14	94	6	64	36	87	14	
	Number	138	77	187	29	203	13	138	78	187	29	

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

			Partner or previous partner psychological violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical or sexual violence - Ever	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Education	None	%	73	27	88	12	92	8	73	27	88	12
		Number	11	4	13	2	14	1	11	4	13	2
	Primary	%	61	39	85	15	95	5	61	39	85	15
		Number	67	42	93	17	104	6	66	43	93	17
	Secondary	%	63	38	90	10	95	5	62	38	90	10
		Number	482	290	694	78	736	35	482	290	692	79
Tertiary	%	65	35	94	6	98	2	64	36	93	7	
	Number	78	42	112	7	117	3	77	43	112	8	
Children	Yes	%	64	36	89	11	95	5	64	36	89	11
		Number	538	301	749	90	801	39	537	302	747	92
	No	%	63	37	93	7	97	3	63	37	93	7
		Number	135	79	198	15	207	6	135	79	198	15
Employment	In paid work	%	62	38	91	10	98	2	62	38	90	10
		Number	138	83	200	21	216	5	137	84	199	22
	Self-employed	%	71	29	78	22	100		71	29	78	22
		Number	6	2	7	2	9		6	2	7	2
	Helping in a family business (unpaid)	%	59	41	91	9	96	4	59	41	91	9
		Number	9	6	13	1	14	1	9	6	13	1
	Unemployed	%	64	36	90	10	95	5	64	36	90	10
		Number	202	111	283	30	298	15	202	111	283	30
	Pupil, student, in training	%	66	34	93	7	96	4	66	34	93	7
		Number	35	18	50	4	51	2	35	18	50	4
	Not working due to illness or disability	%	16	85	100	0	100	0	16	85	100	0
		Number	0	3	3	0	3	0	0	3	3	0
	Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities	%	58	42	89	11	93	7	58	42	89	11
		Number	146	107	225	27	236	17	146	107	224	28
Retired	%	69	31	88	12	96	4	69	31	88	12	
	Number	107	48	136	18	149	6	106	48	136	18	

Occupation		Partner or previous partner psychological violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner psychological, physical or sexual		Partner or previous partner physical or sexual violence - Ever		
		No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	
		%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	
Elementary occupations	%	64	36	90	10	100	0	64	36	90	10	
	Number	36	20	51	6	57	0	36	20	51	6	
Plant and machine operator and assembler	%	75	25	90	10	100	0	75	25	90	10	
	Number	8	3	9	1	10	0	8	3	9	1	
Building, crafts or a related Tradesperson	%	76	24	95	5	100	0	76	24	95	5	
	Number	13	4	16	1	17	0	13	4	16	1	
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery worker	%	56	44	96	4	96	4	56	44	96	4	
	Number	9	7	15	1	15	1	9	7	15	1	
Sales, customer or personal service worker	%	53	47	87	14	97	4	53	47	87	14	
	Number	30	26	49	8	54	2	30	26	49	8	
Clerical support	%	61	39	87	13	99	1	61	39	87	13	
	Number	21	13	29	5	33	0	21	13	29	5	
Technician or associate professional	%	75	25	94	6	97	3	72	28	94	6	
	Number	10	3	13	1	13	0	10	4	13	1	
Professional	%	65	35	92	9	94	6	63	37	90	10	
	Number	22	12	31	3	31	2	21	12	30	3	
Military	%	0	100	100	0	100	0	0	100	100	0	
	Number	0	2	2	0	2	0	0	2	2	0	
Household income	Living comfortably on present income	%	67	33	93	7	96	4	67	33	93	7
	Number	278	135	384	29	397	16	278	135	383	30	
Coping on present income	%	68	32	91	9	96	4	67	33	91	9	
	Number	276	132	372	36	391	17	275	133	371	37	
Finding it difficult on present income	%	52	48	87	13	97	3	52	48	87	13	
	Number	92	85	154	23	172	5	91	85	154	23	
Finding it very difficult on present income	%	49	51	67	33	83	17	49	51	67	33	
	Number	22	23	30	15	38	8	22	23	30	15	

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Region		Partner or previous partner psychological violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical or sexual violence - Ever		
		No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	
		%		%		%		%		%		
Una-Sana Canton	%	64	36	76	24	89	11	64	36	76	24	
	Number	86	48	102	32	119	15	86	48	102	32	
Tuzla Canton	%	68	32	92	8	97	3	68	32	92	8	
	Number	154	73	209	18	219	8	154	73	209	18	
Zenica-Doboj Canton	%	58	42	89	11	96	4	58	42	88	12	
	Number	107	78	165	20	178	8	107	78	164	21	
Central Bosnia Canton	%	57	43	90	10	95	5	56	44	90	10	
	Number	64	49	102	11	107	6	64	49	101	11	
Herzegovina-Neretva Canton	%	70	30	97	3	99	1	70	30	97	3	
	Number	65	28	91	3	93	1	65	28	91	3	
West Herzegovina Canton	%	67	33	89	11	94	6	67	33	89	11	
	Number	25	12	32	4	34	2	25	12	32	4	
Sarajevo Canton	%	67	33	92	8	98	2	67	33	92	8	
	Number	146	72	202	17	214	5	146	73	202	17	
Canton 10	%	67	33	100	0	100	0	67	33	100	0	
	Number	25	12	37	0	37	0	25	12	37	0	
Posavina Canton	%	71	29	100	0	100	0	71	29	100	0	
	Number	10	4	15	0	15	0	10	4	15	0	
Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Goražde	%	57	43	90	10	90	10	57	43	90	10	
	Number	7	5	11	1	11	1	7	5	11	1	
Bank Account Owner	Yes	%	60	40	86	14	95	6	59	41	86	14
	Number	249	169	359	59	394	23	247	170	358	59	
	No	%	65	35	92	8	96	4	65	35	92	8
	Number	382	202	537	47	562	22	382	202	536	48	
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	%	63	37	90	10	96	5	63	37	90	10
	Number	479	276	681	75	722	34	478	277	680	76	
	No	%	67	33	90	10	96	4	66	34	90	10
	Number	210	105	284	31	304	11	210	106	284	32	

Current partner violence by current partner characteristics- FBiH

			Partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever		
			No	Yes	
Current partner's age category	15-29	%	11	12	
		Number	60	29	
	30-39	%	22	22	
		Number	126	51	
	40-49	%	23	22	
		Number	134	51	
	50-59	%	23	17	
		Number	132	39	
	60+	%	21	27	
		Number	121	62	
	Current partner's employment	In paid work	%	58	55
			Number	308	128
Self-employed		%	5	6	
		Number	28	14	
Helping in a family business (unpaid)		%	0	0	
		Number	1	0	
Unemployed		%	10	14	
		Number	53	34	
Pupil, student, in training		%	2	1	
		Number	11	3	
Not working due to illness or disability		%	1	2	
		Number	3	4	
Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities		%	2	3	
		Number	10	8	
Retired		%	22	19	
		Number	120	43	

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

			Partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever	
			No	Yes
Current partner's occupation	Elementary occupations	%	17	23
		Number	55	31
	Plant and Machine Operator and Assembler	%	11	15
		Number	35	20
	Building, Crafts or a Related Trade Person	%	26	24
		Number	85	32
	A Skilled Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Worker	%	11	14
		Number	34	19
	A Sales, Customer or Personal Service Worker	%	9	6
		Number	29	7
	Clerical support	%	5	11
		Number	15	14
	A Technician or Associate Professional	%	16	2
		Number	51	3
A Professional	%	5	5	
	Number	17	7	
Education	Military	%	2	0
		Number	5	0
	None	%	100	0
		Number	2	0
	Primary	%	3	3
		Number	17	7
	Secondary	%	88	85
		Number	484	197
	Tertiary	%	9	12
		Number	51	28

			Partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever	
			No	Yes
Earnings	Partner earns less	%	10	18
		Number	11	7
	Both earn roughly the same amount	%	47	36
		Number	53	15
	Partner earns more	%	43	46
		Number	48	19
Current partner's alcohol consumption	Never, less than once a month	%	97	93
		Number	528	211
	Weekly	%	3	7
		Number	17	16
	Most/every day	%	0	0
		Number	0	1
Current partner's drug use	Never, less than once a month	%	100	100
		Number	575	236
	Weekly	%	0	0
		Number	1	0
Partner ever fought in an armed conflicts	Yes	%	38	38
		Number	201	83
	No	%	62	62
		Number	328	134

Prevalence of non-partner violence since age of 15 - FBiH

			Non-partner physical violence - since the age of 15		Non-partner sexual violence - since the age of 15		Non-partner physical or sexual violence - since the age of 15	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Total		%	93	7	99	1	92	8
		Number	1080	83	1149	14	1074	89
Residential area	Urban	%	91	9	99	1	90	10
		Number	482	48	522	7	478	52
	Rural	%	95	6	99	1	94	6
		Number	598	35	627	7	596	38
Age category	15–29	%	91	9	99	1	90	10
		Number	234	24	254	3	231	27
	30–39	%	90	10	99	1	90	10
		Number	196	22	216	3	196	22
	40–49	%	97	4	98	2	96	4
		Number	217	8	220	5	215	10
	50–59	%	94	6	100	0	94	6
		Number	220	14	233	0	220	14
60+	%	93	7	99	1	93	7	
	Number	212	15	224	3	211	16	
Education	None	%	84	16	100	0	84	16
		Number	17	3	20	0	17	3
	Primary	%	95	5	100	0	95	5
		Number	108	5	114	0	108	5
	Secondary	%	94	7	99	2	93	7
		Number	774	54	815	12	769	58
Tertiary	%	85	15	99	1	84	16	
	Number	113	20	131	2	111	21	
Ever had a partner	Yes	%	93	7	99	1	92	8
		Number	996	75	1058	13	990	81
Children	Yes	%	94	6	99	1	93	7
		Number	799	54	844	8	795	57
	No	%	90	10	98	2	89	11
		Number	255	29	278	6	252	32

Employment			Non-partner physical violence – since the age of 15		Non-partner sexual violence - since the age of 15		Non-partner physical or sexual violence - since the age of 15	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
In paid work	%		87	13	99	1	87	13
	Number		207	30	235	2	206	31
Self-employed	%		100	0	100	0	100	0
	Number		9	0	9	0	9	0
Helping in a family business (unpaid)	%		97	3	100	0	97	3
	Number		19	1	19	0	19	1
Unemployed	%		92	8	98	2	92	8
	Number		303	25	321	7	300	27
Pupil, student, in training	%		95	5	99	1	94	6
	Number		81	5	85	1	81	5
Not working due to illness or disability	%		100	0	100	0	100	0
	Number		3	0	3	0	3	0
Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities	%		96	5	99	1	95	5
	Number		241	11	249	4	240	12
Retired	%		93	7	100	1	92	8
	Number		152	12	163	1	152	13

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Occupation			Non-partner physical violence – since the age of 15		Non-partner sexual violence - since the age of 15		Non-partner physical or sexual violence - since the age of 15	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Elementary occupations	%		88	12	99	1	88	12
	Number		56	7	63	1	56	7
Plant and machine operator and assembler	%		89	11	100		89	11
	Number		9	1	10	0	9	1
Building, crafts or a related tradesperson	%		97	3	100	0	97	3
	Number		16	1	17	0	16	1
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery worker	%		100	0	100	0	100	0
	Number		18	0	18	0	18	0
Sales, customer or personal service worker	%		94	6	100	0	94	6
	Number		59	4	63	0	59	4
Clerical support	%		78	22	99	1	76	24
	Number		26	8	33	0	26	8
Technician or associate professional	%		100	0	100	0	100	0
			14	0	14	0	14	0
Professional	%		72	28	97	3	69	31
	Number		25	10	34	1	24	11
Military	%		100	0	100	0	100	0
	Number		2	0	2	0	2	0

			Non-partner physical violence – since the age of 15		Non-partner sexual violence - since the age of 15		Non-partner physical or sexual violence - since the age of 15	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Household income	Living comfortably on present income	%	95	5	99	1	94	6
		Number	424	24	443	5	420	28
	Coping on present income	%	92	8	99	1	92	9
		Number	407	37	439	5	407	38
	Finding it difficult on present income	%	92	8	100	0	92	8
		Number	174	15	188	1	174	15
Finding it very difficult on present income	%	90	10	93	7	88	12	
	Number	44	5	46	3	43	6	
Regions	Una-Sana Canton	%	89	11	96	4	89	11
		Number	125	15	135	5	125	15
	Tuzla Canton	%	90	11	98	2	88	12
		Number	214	25	235	4	211	28
	Zenica-Doboj Canton	%	99	1	100	0	99	1
		Number	187	3	190	0	187	3
	Central Bosnia Canton	%	87	13	99	1	87	13
		Number	113	17	129	1	113	17
	Herzegovina-Neretva Canton	%	100	0	100	0	100	0
		Number	112	0	112	0	112	0
	West Herzegovina Canton	%	100	0	100	0	100	0
		Number	45	0	45	0	45	0
	Sarajevo Canton	%	90	10	99	1	89	11
		Number	207	23	227	3	205	24
	Canton 10	%	100	0	100	0	100	0
		Number	42	0	42	0	42	0
Posavina Canton	%	100	0	100	0	100	0	
	Number	23	0	23	0	23	0	
Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Goražde	%	90	10	90	10	90	10	
	Number	11	1	11	1	11	1	
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	%	93	7	99	1	93	7
		Number	731	53	776	7	726	58
	No	%	92	8	98	2	92	8
		Number	349	30	373	7	348	32
Bank account owner	Yes	%	90	10	98	2	89	11
		Number	408	46	446	7	403	51
	No	%	95	6	99	1	94	6
		Number	590	34	617	7	589	35

Prevalence of sexual harassment and stalking - FBiH

			Sexual harassment - since the age of 15		The most severe forms of sexual harassment - since the age of 15		Repeated incidents - Since age 15	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
			%	Number	%	Number	%	Number
Total		%	72	28	85	15	95	5
		Number	1673	648	1970	351	2209	112
Residential area	Urban	%	68	33	83	18	93	7
		Number	357	172	437	93	492	38
	Rural	%	77	23	88	12	97	4
		Number	982	299	1129	152	1237	45
Age category	15–29	%	63	37	81	19	92	8
		Number	305	182	394	92	447	39
	30–39	%	64	36	78	22	92	8
		Number	276	153	335	94	395	34
	40–49	%	75	25	87	13	98	2
		Number	323	109	376	57	422	11
	50–59	%	76	24	88	12	98	2
		Number	361	113	415	59	465	10
60+	%	82	18	90	10	96	4	
	Number	405	90	448	47	477	18	
Education	None	%	87	13	93	7	100	0
		Number	18	3	19	1	20	0
	Primary	%	82	18	92	8	100	1
		Number	93	20	105	9	113	1
	Secondary	%	73	27	86	14	94	6
		Number	602	226	714	113	782	46
	Tertiary	%	60	40	72	28	90	10
		Number	79	53	95	37	119	13
Ever had a partner	Yes	%	73	27	85	15	95	5
	Number	782	289	912	159	1014	57	
Children	Yes	%	77	24	88	13	96	4
		Number	652	200	746	107	817	36
	No	%	64	36	81	19	92	9
		Number	181	103	230	54	260	24

Employment			Sexual harassment - since the age of 15		The most severe forms of sexual harassment - since the age of 15		Repeated incidents - Since age 15	
In paid work	%	61	39	81	19	93	7	
	Number	145	92	192	45	221	16	
Self-employed	%	62	38	71	29	100	0	
	Number	6	4	7	3	9	0	
Helping in a family business (unpaid)	%	85	15	93	7	100	0	
	Number	16	3	18	1	19	0	
Unemployed	%	77	23	88	12	92	8	
	Number	251	76	287	40	302	25	
Pupil, student, in training	%	65	35	83	17	95	6	
	Number	56	30	71	14	81	5	
Not working due to illness or disability	%	22	79	37	63	37	63	
	Number	1	2	1	2	1	2	
Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities	%	75	25	88	12	97	3	
	Number	190	63	223	30	245	7	
Retired	%	81	19	85	16	97	3	
	Number	132	32	139	25	160	4	

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Occupation			Sexual harassment - since the age of 15		The most severe forms of sexual harassment - since the age of 15		Repeated incidents - Since age 15	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Elementary occupations	%	60	40	85	15	93	7	
	Number	38	26	55	9	60	4	
Plant and machine operator and assembler	%	56	44	90	10	89	11	
	Number	6	5	9	1	9	1	
Building, crafts or a related tradesperson	%	77	23	87	13	100	0	
	Number	13	4	15	2	17	0	
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery worker	%	63	37	86	14	100	0	
	Number	11	7	16	3	18	0	
Sales, customer or personal service worker	%	65	35	82	18	93	7	
	Number	41	22	52	11	58	4	
Clerical support	%	60	40	72	28	91	9	
	Number	20	13	24	10	31	3	
Technician or associate professional	%	72	28	82	18	97	3	
	Number	10	4	11	2	13	0	
Professional	%	55	45	72	28	92	8	
	Number	19	15	25	10	32	3	
Military	%	0	100	0	100	100	0	
	Number	0	2	0	2	2	0	
Household income	Living comfortably on present income	73	27	83	17	96	4	73
		325	123	373	75	430	18	325
Coping on present income		74	26	85	15	94	6	74
		331	114	378	66	417	28	331
Finding it difficult on present income		77	23	95	5	96	5	77
		146	43	180	9	180	8	146
Finding it very difficult on present income		66	34	82	18	91	9	66
		32	17	40	9	44	4	32

Region		Sexual harassment - since the age of 15		The most severe forms of sexual harassment - since the age of 15		Stalking - since the age of 15		
		No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	
Una-Sana Canton	%	74	26	80	20	95	5	
	Number	104	36	113	28	133	7	
Tuzla Canton	%	77	23	88	12	92	8	
	Number	183	56	210	29	221	18	
Zenica-Doboj Canton	%	77	24	92	8	98	2	
	Number	145	45	175	15	185	5	
Central Bosnia Canton	%	66	34	85	15	94	6	
	Number	86	44	111	19	122	8	
Herzegovina-Neretva Canton	%	91	9	98	2	100	0	
	Number	102	10	110	2	112	0	
West Herzegovina Canton	%	85	15	93	8	95	5	
	Number	38	7	42	3	43	2	
Sarajevo Canton	%	62	38	75	25	93	7	
	Number	141	88	173	57	213	17	
Canton 10	%	63	37	87	14	100	0	
	Number	26	15	36	6	42	0	
Posavina Canton	%	100	0	100	0	100	0	
	Number	23	0	23	0	23	0	
Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Gorazde	%	79	21	79	21	75	26	
	Number	10	3	10	3	9	3	
Bank Account Owner	Yes	%	67	33	81	19	94	6
	Number	302	151	366	88	427	27	
No	%	78	22	89	11	95	5	
	Number	485	139	557	67	593	31	
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	%	73	27	85	15	94	6
	Number	575	209	666	117	739	44	
No	%	75	25	88	12	96	4	
	Number	285	95	335	44	364	16	

Respondent characteristics- RS

		All women		Women who have ever had a partner	
		%	Number	%	Number
Residential area	Urban	43	435	43	411
	Rural	57	584	57	550
Age category	18-19	2	17	1	5
	20-24	7	73	6	58
	25-29	10	105	10	100
	30-34	9	90	9	89
	35-39	9	92	9	90
	40-49	18	180	18	177
	50-59	21	212	21	201
	60-69	17	173	17	167
	70-74	7	70	7	67
	75-79	0	4	0	4
	Refused	0	3	0	3
	Education	None	2	19	2
Primary		6	61	6	60
Secondary		75	766	75	720
Tertiary		17	172	17	162
Do you have any children?	Yes, own children	72	738	76	732
	Yes, taking care of step- or foster children	1	5	0	3
	Yes, both	1	8	1	8
	No	26	268	23	217
	Refused to say	0	1	0	1
Employment	In paid work	31	313	31	298
	Self-employed	4	36	4	36
	Helping in a family business (unpaid)	1	7	1	7
	Unemployed	33	330	33	316
	Pupil, student, in training	7	66	5	44
	Not working due to illness or disability	1	6	1	5
	Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities	10	104	11	102
	Retired	15	154	15	148

		All women		Women who have ever had a partner	
		%	Number	%	Number
Current job/ occupation	Elementary occupations	27	95	28	94
	Plant and Machine Operator and Assembler	2	7	2	7
	Building, Crafts or a Related Trade Person	4	13	4	12
	A Skilled Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Worker	5	16	4	13
	A Sales, Customer or Personal Service Worker	27	96	27	91
	Clerical support	13	47	14	46
	A Technician or Associate Professional	9	32	9	32
	A Professional	11	40	11	37
	A Manager	0	1	0	1
	Refused to say	3	10	3	9
	Household income	Living comfortably on present income	23	238	23
Coping on present income		48	493	48	464
Finding it difficult on present income		21	211	21	204
Finding it very difficult on present income		7	68	7	67
Don't know		0	1	0	0
Refused to say		1	7	1	7
Bank account	Yes	53	544	54	520
	No	45	463	45	430
	Don't know	0	3	0	3
	Not applicable	0	1	0	1
	Refused to say	1	8	1	8
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	59	605	61	585
	No	41	414	39	376

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Attitudes - RS

			A good wife obeys her husband even if she disagrees		Women who say they were abused often make up or exaggerate claims of abuse or rape		Violence against women is often provoked by the victim		Domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family		Women are more likely to be raped by a stranger than someone they know	
			Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
Total	%		59	38	10	85	11	85	23	75	29	60
	Number		603	384	99	867	112	868	234	762	297	610
Residential area	Urban	%	49	48	8	88	8	88	22	77	32	63
		Number	212	210	36	380	36	382	94	334	140	272
	Rural	%	67	30	11	83	13	83	24	73	27	58
		Number	391	174	64	486	76	486	140	428	157	338
Age category	15–29	%	49	47	8	86	9	88	17	82	35	50
		Number	95	92	16	168	17	172	32	159	68	98
	30–39	%	51	46	5	89	11	85	17	82	24	67
		Number	92	83	9	162	20	155	32	150	43	123
	40–49	%	64	34	10	85	10	87	23	74	30	59
		Number	115	62	18	154	18	156	42	134	55	106
	50–59	%	59	39	12	84	13	84	26	73	29	63
		Number	124	82	25	179	27	177	55	154	62	134
60+	%	71	26	13	82	12	83	30	65	28	60	
	Number	175	63	31	201	30	205	73	161	69	147	
Education	None	%	96	4	28	64	33	67	52	48	43	43
		Number	19	1	5	12	6	13	10	9	8	8
	Primary	%	66	29	15	82	15	78	22	71	24	65
		Number	40	18	9	50	9	48	14	43	14	40
	Secondary	%	59	38	9	85	11	86	24	74	31	58
		Number	454	292	71	647	81	656	183	565	234	445
Tertiary	%	52	43	8	91	9	87	16	84	23	68	
	Number	90	74	14	156	16	150	27	143	40	117	
Ever had a partner	Yes	%	61	36	10	85	12	85	23	75	30	59
	Number	584	350	93	815	110	813	221	717	286	567	
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	%	63	33	11	85	13	83	27	70	29	60
		Number	382	202	65	517	76	505	166	425	173	364
	No	%	53	44	8	85	9	88	17	81	30	60
		Number	221	182	34	350	37	363	68	337	124	246
Children	Yes	%	63	35	10	85	12	84	24	74	30	59
		Number	474	259	77	636	93	626	181	552	222	446
	No	%	48	47	9	86	7	90	19	78	27	62
		Number	128	125	23	231	19	240	52	209	73	165

Employment		A good wife obeys her husband even if she disagrees		omen who say they were abused often make up or exaggerate claims of abuse or rape		Violence against women is often provoked by the victim		Domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family		Women are more likely to be raped by a stranger than someone they know	
		Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
In paid work	%	50	47	10	85	7	90	20	78	34	56
	Number	155	148	32	265	21	282	63	245	106	176
Self-employed	%	60	36	16	78	14	82	17	83	16	73
	Number	22	13	6	28	5	29	6	30	6	26
Helping in a family business (unpaid)	%	100	0	0	100	0	100	0	100	47	30
	Number	7	0	0	7	0	7	0	7	3	2
Unemployed	%	60	38	6	89	11	86	23	75	24	66
	Number	198	124	21	294	38	283	77	247	79	216
Pupil, student, in training	%	38	59	8	89	17	82	20	80	39	47
	Number	25	38	5	58	11	54	13	52	26	31
Not working due to illness or disability	%	42	58	0	100	0	100	0	100	11	89
	Number	2	3	0	6	0	6	0	6	1	5
Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities	%	86	12	13	78	16	80	35	63	34	59
	Number	89	13	13	81	16	83	36	65	35	61
Retired	%	66	28	15	80	14	78	25	69	27	57
	Number	101	43	22	122	21	119	39	106	42	88

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Occupation		A good wife obeys her husband even if she disagrees		omen who say they were abused often make up or exaggerate claims of abuse or rape		Violence against women is often provoked by the victim		Domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family		Women are more likely to be raped by a stranger than someone they know	
		Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
Elementary occupations	%	58	41	5	83	8	88	21	78	29	57
	Number	55	39	5	79	8	84	19	74	27	54
Plant and Machine Operator and Assembler	%	36	64	21	79	21	79	64	37	48	41
	Number	2	4	1	5	1	5	4	2	3	3
Building, Crafts or a Related Trade Person	%	55	45	5	90	0	92	28	72	38	57
	Number	7	6	1	12	0	12	4	10	5	7
A Skilled Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Worker	%	72	28	48	49	14	86	32	68	58	42
	Number	12	4	8	8	2	14	5	11	9	7
A Sales, Customer or Personal Service Worker	%	56	38	11	85	7	89	20	77	30	61
	Number	53	36	10	81	7	85	19	74	29	59
Clerical support	%	48	50	13	85	5	92	15	84	50	46
	Number	22	23	6	40	3	43	7	39	23	21
Technician or Associate Professional	%	38	60	3	97	3	92	17	83	11	69
	Number	12	19	1	31	1	29	5	26	3	22
Professional	%	42	55	6	94	10	90	11	89	28	69
	Number	17	22	3	37	4	36	5	35	11	27
Manager	%	0	100	0	100	58	43	0	100	58	43
	Number	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1

			A good wife obeys her husband even if she disagrees		Women who say they were abused often make up or exaggerate claims of abuse or rape		Violence against women is often provoked by the victim		Domestic violence is a private matter and should be handled within the family		Women are more likely to be raped by a stranger than someone they know	
			Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
Household's income	Living comfortably on present income	%	54	44	14	82	11	85	17	82	24	65
		Number	128	105	33	195	25	202	41	194	58	154
	Coping on present income	%	62	35	8	87	10	87	25	73	33	55
		Number	306	172	37	431	48	427	124	359	161	271
	Finding it difficult on present income	%	60	36	9	85	14	83	25	72	30	64
		Number	127	76	19	179	30	175	52	152	62	136
Finding it very difficult on present income	%	52	44	16	79	14	82	25	72	21	62	
	Number	36	30	11	53	10	55	17	49	14	42	
Region	North RS	%	64	33	10	86	11	86	28	71	33	56
		Number	414	210	65	551	69	554	177	456	210	361
	East RS	%	50	46	9	84	12	84	15	81	23	66
		Number	188	174	35	316	44	314	57	306	87	249
Bank Account Owner	Yes	%	55	41	12	84	10	86	21	76	34	55
		Number	301	222	67	456	53	470	116	414	183	300
	No	%	64	34	7	87	12	85	25	73	24	65
		Number	296	156	32	404	55	391	115	339	113	300
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	%	63	33	11	85	13	83	27	70	29	60
		Number	382	202	65	517	76	505	166	425	173	364
	No	%	53	44	8	85	9	88	17	81	30	60
		Number	221	182	34	350	37	363	68	337	124	246

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Prevalence of intimate partner violence- RS

		Partner or previous partner psychological violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical or sexual violence - Ever		
		No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	
Total	%	64	37	89	11	98	3	63	37	88	12	
	Number	611	351	854	107	937	24	606	355	849	113	
Residential area	Urban	%	60	40	88	12	97	3	59	41	87	13
		Number	245	166	362	49	400	12	243	169	359	52
	Rural	%	66	34	90	11	98	2	66	34	89	11
		Number	365	185	492	58	538	12	364	186	490	60
Age category	15-29	%	66	34	91	9	98	2	66	35	91	10
		Number	108	55	148	15	159	3	107	56	147	15
	30-39	%	63	37	88	12	97	4	63	37	88	12
		Number	113	66	157	22	173	6	112	67	157	22
	40-49	%	62	38	91	9	98	2	62	38	90	10
		Number	111	67	161	16	174	3	109	68	160	18
	50-59	%	57	43	86	14	97	3	56	44	85	15
		Number	114	87	172	29	195	6	113	88	170	31
60+	%	69	31	90	10	98	2	69	31	89	11	
	Number	164	74	215	24	233	5	164	74	213	25	

			Partner or previous partner psychological violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical or sexual violence - Ever	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Education	None	%	76	25	89	11	100	0	76	25	89	11
		Number	14	5	17	2	19	0	14	5	17	2
	Primary	%	79	21	90	10	96	4	77	23	90	10
		Number	47	13	54	6	57	2	46	14	54	6
	Secondary	%	62	38	90	10	98	2	62	38	89	11
		Number	446	274	647	73	703	17	444	276	642	78
Tertiary	%	63	37	84	16	97	3	62	38	84	16	
	Number	102	59	136	26	157	5	101	61	135	26	
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	%	63	37	89	11	98	3	63	37	89	12
		Number	369	216	523	62	570	15	367	218	518	67
	No	%	64	36	88	12	98	2	64	37	88	12
		Number	242	135	332	45	367	9	239	137	331	45
Children	Yes	%	62	38	88	12	97	3	61	39	87	13
		Number	459	284	650	92	719	23	455	287	645	97
	No	%	70	30	93	7	100	0	70	31	93	7
		Number	152	66	202	15	217	1	151	66	202	16
Employment	In paid work	%	58	42	87	13	98	3	57	43	86	14
		Number	173	125	260	38	291	7	171	127	258	40
	Self-employed	%	63	37	89	11	97	3	63	37	89	11
		Number	23	13	32	4	35	1	23	13	32	4
	Helping in a family business (unpaid)	%	21	79	100	0	100	0	21	79	100	0
		Number	2	6	7	0	7	0	2	6	7	0
	Unemployed	%	62	38	88	12	97	3	62	38	88	12
		Number	197	119	280	37	308	9	196	121	279	37
	Pupil, student, in training	%	83	18	95	6	100	0	81	19	95	6
		Number	36	8	42	2	44	0	35	9	42	2
	Not working due to illness or disability	%	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0
		Number	5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0
	Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities	%	66	34	85	15	97	3	66	34	84	16
		Number	68	34	87	16	99	3	68	34	86	17
	Retired	%	71	29	93	7	98	2	71	29	93	7
		Number	105	42	137	11	145	3	105	42	137	11

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Occupation			Partner or previous partner psychological violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical or sexual violence - Ever	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
			%		%		%		%		%	
Elementary occupations	%	58	42	89	11	98	2	57	43	89	11	
	Number	55	39	84	10	92	2	54	41	84	11	
Plant and machine operator and assembler	%	49	51	100	0	100	0	49	51	100	0	
	Number	3	3	7	0	7	0	3	3	7	0	
Building, crafts or a related Tradesperson	%	73	27	95	5	100	0	73	27	95	5	
	Number	9	3	12	1	12	0	9	3	12	1	
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery worker	%	25	75	100	0	100	0	25	75	100	0	
	Number	3	9	13	0	13	0	3	9	13	0	
Sales, customer or personal service worker	%	57	43	88	13	97	3	57	43	87	13	
	Number	52	39	80	11	88	3	52	39	79	12	
Clerical support	%	70	30	88	12	94	6	70	30	85	15	
	Number	32	14	41	6	43	3	32	14	39	7	
Technician or associate professional	%	43	57	78	22	100	0	43	57	78	22	
	Number	14	18	25	7	32	0	14	18	25	7	
Professional	%	70	30	91	9	98	2	69	32	91	9	
	Number	26	11	34	3	36	1	25	12	34	3	
Manager	%	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	
	Number	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	
Household income	Living comfortably on present income	%	73	27	92	8	98	2	73	27	91	9
	Number	160	59	201	18	214	5	160	59	200	19	
Coping on present income	%	63	37	92	8	98	2	62	38	91	9	
	Number	292	173	426	39	455	10	288	176	422	43	
Finding it difficult on present income	%	55	45	84	16	99	1	55	45	84	16	
	Number	112	92	172	32	201	3	112	92	172	32	
Finding it very difficult on present income	%	65	35	79	22	90	10	64	36	76	24	
	Number	44	23	53	14	60	7	43	24	51	16	

			Partner or previous partner psychological violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever		Partner or previous partner physical or sexual violence - Ever	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Region	North RS	%	62	38	88	12	97	3	62	39	87	13
		Number	378	229	533	74	591	16	373	233	528	79
	East RS	%	66	34	91	9	98	2	66	34	90	10
		Number	233	122	321	33	346	8	233	122	320	34
Bank Account Owner	Yes	%	62	38	88	12	97	3	62	38	87	13
		Number	322	198	457	63	503	17	321	199	452	68
	No	%	65	35	90	10	98	2	64	36	90	11
		Number	278	152	386	44	423	7	274	155	385	45
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	%	63	37	89	11	98	3	63	37	89	12
		Number	369	216	523	62	570	15	367	218	518	67
	No	%	64	36	88	12	98	2	64	37	88	12
		Number	242	135	332	45	367	9	239	137	331	45

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

			Partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever	
			No	Yes
Current partner's age category	15-29	%	12	6
		Number	59	13
	30-39	%	22	22
		Number	107	50
	40-49	%	20	18
		Number	98	40
	50-59	%	23	27
		Number	113	60
60+	%	24	27	
	Number	119	59	
Current partner's employment	In paid work	%	56	59
		Number	278	132
	Self-employed	%	7	7
		Number	32	16
	Helping in a family business (unpaid)	%	1	0
		Number	5	0
	Unemployed	%	14	12
		Number	71	26
	Pupil, student, in training	%	2	1
		Number	10	2
	Not working due to illness or disability	%	0	0
		Number	1	1
	Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities	%	1	1
		Number	3	1
Retired	%	20	21	
	Number	97	46	

		Partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever		
		No	Yes	
Current partner's occupation	Elementary occupations	Number	21	17
		%	65	24
	Plant and Machine Operator and Assembler	Number	8	10
		%	25	14
	Building, Crafts or a Related Trade Person	Number	16	16
		%	47	22
	A Skilled Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Worker	Number	9	9
		%	26	12
	A Sales, Customer or Personal Service Worker	Number	11	19
		%	34	27
	Clerical support	Number	7	8
		%	21	11
	A Technician or Associate Professional	Number	15	14
		%	46	20
	A Professional	Number	10	7
		%	30	10
	A Manager	Number	2	0
		%	5	0
Military	Number	2	2	
	%	5	2	
Education	None	%	1	1
		Number	3	1
	Primary	%	3	2
		Number	15	4
	Secondary	%	79	84
		Number	392	189
	Tertiary	%	17	14
		Number	86	32

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

			Partner psychological, physical or sexual violence - Ever	
			No	Yes
Earnings	Partner earns less	%	7	5
		Number	10	4
	Both earn roughly the same amount	%	55	44
		Number	83	34
	Partner earns more	%	38	51
		Number	58	40
Current partner's alcohol consumption	Never, less than once a month	%	97	95
		Number	474	208
	Weekly	%	3	5
		Number	17	11
	Most days/every day	%	0	1
		Number	0	1
Current partner's drug use	Never, less than once a month	%	100	100
		Number	496	223
	Weekly	%	0	1
		Number	0	1
Partner ever fought in an armed conflicts	Yes	%	36	42
		Number	171	89
	No	%	64	58
		Number	310	124

Prevalence of non-partner violence since age of 15 - RS

			Non-partner physical violence - since the age of 15		Non-partner sexual violence - since the age of 15		Non-partner physical or sexual violence - since the age of 15	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Total		%	93	7	98	2	92	9
		Number	946	73	1002	17	933	86
Residential area	Urban	%	90	10	98	2	89	12
		Number	392	43	425	9	385	50
	Rural	%	95	5	99	1	94	6
		Number	554	30	577	8	548	36
Age category	15–29	%	92	9	98	2	90	10
		Number	179	17	191	4	176	19
	30–39	%	92	8	96	4	89	11
		Number	167	15	175	7	162	20
	40–49	%	94	6	98	2	92	8
		Number	169	11	176	4	166	15
	50–59	%	91	9	99	1	91	10
		Number	193	19	210	2	192	20
60+	%	95	5	100	0	95	5	
	Number	235	11	246	1	234	12	
Education	None	%	95	5	97	3	92	8
		Number	19	1	19	1	18	2
	Primary	%	99	1	100	0	99	1
		Number	60	1	61	0	60	1
	Secondary	%	94	6	98	2	93	7
		Number	722	44	752	14	711	55
Tertiary	%	84	16	99	1	83	17	
	Number	144	28	169	2	142	29	
Ever had a partner	Yes	%	93	8	98	2	91	9
		Number	889	72	946	16	877	84
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	%	95	5	99	1	94	6
		Number	573	32	599	6	568	37
	No	%	90	10	97	3	88	12
		Number	372	41	403	11	364	50
Children	Yes	%	93	7	99	2	92	8
		Number	698	52	739	12	688	62
	No	%	92	8	98	2	91	9
		Number	247	21	262	6	243	25

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Employment			Non-partner physical violence – since the age of 15		Non-partner sexual violence - since the age of 15		Non-partner physical or sexual violence - since the age of 15	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
In paid work	%		92	8	98	3	90	10
	Number		287	26	305	8	281	32
Self-employed	%		88	12	96	4	88	12
	Number		32	4	35	1	32	4
Helping in a family business (unpaid)	%		100	0	100	0	100	0
	Number		7	0	7	0	7	0
Unemployed	%		93	7	98	2	91	9
	Number		307	23	323	7	301	29
Pupil, student, in training	%		92	8	99	1	91	9
	Number		61	5	65	1	60	6
Not working due to illness or disability	%		89	12	100	0	89	12
	Number		5	1	6	0	5	1
Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities	%		92	8	100	0	92	8
	Number		96	8	104	0	96	8
Retired	%		97	3	100	0	97	3
	Number		149	5	154	0	149	5

Occupation		Non-partner physical violence – since the age of 15		Non-partner sexual violence - since the age of 15		Non-partner physical or sexual violence - since the age of 15	
		No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Elementary occupations	%	99	1	98	2	98	2
	Number	94	1	93	2	93	2
Plant and machine operator and assembler	%	100	0	100	0	100	0
	Number	7	0	7	0	7	0
Building, crafts or a related tradesperson	%	89	11	100	0	89	11
	Number	12	1	13	0	12	1
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery worker	%	100	0	100	0	100	0
	Number	16	0	16	0	16	0
Sales, customer or personal service worker	%	89	11	96	4	87	13
	Number	85	10	92	4	83	13
Clerical support	%	88	12	97	3	85	15
	Number	41	6	45	2	39	7
Technician or associate professional	%	81	19	93	7	76	24
		26	6	29	2	24	8
Professional	%	98	2	100	0	98	2
	Number	39	1	40	0	39	1
Manager	%	100	0	100	0	100	0
	Number	1	0	1	0	1	0

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

			Non-partner physical violence – since the age of 15		Non-partner sexual violence - since the age of 15		Non-partner physical or sexual violence - since the age of 15	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Household income	Living comfortably on present income	%	93	7	98	3	91	9
		Number	222	16	232	6	217	21
	Coping on present income	%	94	6	99	1	93	7
		Number	462	31	490	3	460	34
	Finding it difficult on present income	%	91	9	97	3	89	11
		Number	192	20	206	6	187	24
	Finding it very difficult on present income	%	91	9	97	3	88	12
		Number	62	6	66	2	60	8
Regions	North RS	%	92	8	98	2	91	9
		Number	591	52	633	10	583	60
	East RS	%	94	6	98	2	93	7
		Number	355	21	369	7	349	27
Bank Account Owner	Yes	%	93	8	98	3	91	10
		Number	504	41	531	14	493	52
	No	%	93	7	99	1	93	8
		Number	431	32	460	4	428	35
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	%	95	5	99	1	94	6
		Number	573	32	599	6	568	37
	No	%	90	10	97	3	88	12
		Number	372	41	403	11	364	50

Prevalence of sexual harassment and stalking - RS

			Sexual harassment - since the age of 15		The most severe forms of sexual harassment - since the age of 15		Repeated incidents - Since age 15	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Total		%	69	31	83	18	96	5
		Number	703	316	840	179	973	46
Residential area	Urban	%	62	38	77	23	94	6
		Number	269	166	333	102	409	26
	Rural	%	74	26	87	13	97	4
		Number	434	150	507	77	564	21
Age category	15–29	%	59	41	77	23	89	11
		Number	115	81	150	45	174	21
	30–39	%	57	43	72	28	93	7
		Number	104	78	131	51	169	13
	40–49	%	72	28	87	13	100	1
		Number	130	50	157	23	179	1
	50–59	%	70	30	83	17	99	1
		Number	148	64	177	35	210	2
60+	%	83	17	91	9	97	3	
	Number	204	42	224	23	238	8	
Education	None	%	100	0	100	0	95	5
		Number	19	0	19	0	19	1
	Primary	%	92	8	93	7	97	3
		Number	56	5	57	4	59	2
	Secondary	%	69	31	84	16	97	4
		Number	527	238	644	122	739	27
	Tertiary	%	58	42	70	30	91	9
		Number	100	72	120	52	156	16
Ever had a partner	Yes	%	69	31	82	18	96	4
		Number	660	301	787	174	920	41
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	%	74	26	86	14	97	3
		Number	449	156	521	85	589	16
	No	%	61	39	77	23	93	7
		Number	254	160	320	94	384	30
Children	Yes	%	72	28	85	15	96	4
		Number	543	207	635	116	723	27
	No	%	60	40	77	23	93	7
		Number	160	108	206	62	248	19

OSCE-led survey on violence against women: Bosnia and Herzegovina

		Sexual harassment - since the age of 15		The most severe forms of sexual harassment - since the age of 15		Repeated incidents – Since age 15		
		No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	
		%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	
Employment	In paid work	%	62	38	78	22	95	5
		Number	194	119	243	69	297	15
	Self-employed	%	59	42	70	31	96	4
		Number	21	15	25	11	35	1
	Helping in a family business (unpaid)	%	45	55	45	55	91	9
		Number	3	4	3	4	7	1
	Unemployed	%	72	28	84	16	97	4
		Number	238	92	277	53	318	12
	Pupil, student, in training	%	47	53	79	21	87	13
		Number	31	35	52	14	57	9
	Not working due to illness or disability	%	42	58	77	23	100	0
		Number	2	3	5	1	6	0
Fulfilling domestic duties and care responsibilities	%	77	23	87	14	97	3	
	Number	80	23	90	14	100	3	
Retired	%	85	15	92	8	97	3	
	Number	130	24	142	12	149	5	
Occupation	Elementary occupations	%	71	29	84	16	97	3
		Number	67	28	80	15	92	3
	Plant and machine operator and assembler	%	90	10	100	0	100	0
		Number	6	1	7	0	7	0
	Building, crafts or a related tradesperson	%	62	38	72	28	100	0
		Number	8	5	10	4	13	0
	Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery worker	%	19	81	56	44	100	0
		Number	3	13	9	7	16	0
	Sales, customer or personal service worker	%	60	40	76	24	93	7
		Number	58	38	73	23	89	7
	Clerical support	%	64	36	73	27	95	5
		Number	30	17	34	13	44	3
	Technician or associate professional	%	50	50	65	35	100	0
		Number	16	16	21	11	32	0
	Professional	%	63	37	79	21	97	3
		Number	25	15	32	8	39	1
	Manager	%	100	0	100	0	100	0
		Number	1	0	1	0	1	0

			Sexual harassment - since the age of 15		The most severe forms of sexual harassment - since the age of 15		Repeated incidents - Since age 15	
			No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
			Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Household income	Living comfortably on present income	Number	78	22	89	11	94	6
		%	185	53	211	27	224	14
	Coping on present income	Number	68	32	82	18	97	3
		%	336	158	403	90	478	15
	Finding it difficult on present income	Number	61	39	78	22	96	4
		%	129	82	164	47	202	9
Finding it very difficult on present income	Number	74	26	84	16	96	4	
	%	50	18	57	11	65	3	
Region	North RS	%	69	32	81	19	96	4
		Number	440	203	521	122	615	28
	East RS	%	70	30	85	15	95	5
		Number	262	114	319	57	357	19
Bank Account Owner	Yes	%	64	36	79	21	95	5
		Number	346	198	431	114	517	28
	No	%	75	25	86	14	96	4
		Number	346	117	399	64	445	18
Directly affected by conflict	Yes	%	74	26	86	14	97	3
		Number	449	156	521	85	589	16
	No	%	61	39	77	23	93	7
		Number	254	160	320	94	384	30

Annex 5: Acknowledgements

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