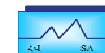


# NATIONWIDE SURVEY ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN ARMENIA 2008-2010



In 2008-2009, a Nationwide Survey on Domestic Violence against Women in Armenia was implemented by UNFPA/Armenia in cooperation with the National Statistical Service of Armenia (NSS).

It is the first nationally representative sample survey on violence against women and is unique of its scope, scale, methodology, and the status of the obtained results.

***“Gender-based violence” is violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately.***

*General Recommendation No. 19  
CEDAW Committee 11<sup>th</sup> session, 1992*

The objectives of the study were as follows:

- To collect accurate and reliable official and internationally comparable baseline data on prevalence and incidence of major forms of intimate partner and non-partner violence against women and thus to obtain valid estimates about the scale and scope of the phenomenon;
- To make recommendations with a view to helping relevant government agencies design more effective and better-targeted policies and interventions to address the problem of violence against women.

A representative probability sample of 4,720 households was selected for the survey sample.

***2,763 women in the age bracket of 15-59 were interviewed.***

According to the survey findings:

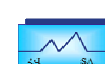
The majority of interviewed women (91.5%) agreed that ***“violence is any act that results in physical injury or forced sex.”***

**About 91.0% of interviewed urban residents  
and 82.7% of rural residents** consider that  
***“Forced sex is a form of violence.”***

**About 78.5% of interviewed women** find that  
***“Humiliation of a woman in public is a form of violence.”***

**About 68.0% of interviewed urban residents  
and about 51.2% of rural residents** recognize that  
***prohibiting woman from working and/or  
taking away money earned by her is a form of violence.***

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*“Physical violence involves intentionally using physical force, strength or a weapon to harm or injure the woman”.*

*(Ending violence against women. Study of the UN SG, p. 43.)*

## **8.9% of interviewed women were subjected to physical violence by their intimate partners.**

Women from this group indicated that the intimate partner (1) slapped her/ thrown something at her that could hurt her; (2) pushed or shoved her or pulled her hair; (3) hit her with fist or with something else that could hurt her; (4) kicked, dragged her or beaten her up; (5) choked or burnt her on purpose; and (6) threatened to use or actually used a gun, knife or other weapon against her.

*“Sexual violence is any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic, or otherwise directed, against a person’s sexuality using coercion, by any person ..., in any setting...”.*

*(World Report on Violence and Health. Geneva, WHO, 2002, p. 149.)*

**4 out of 5 sexually** abused women were also subjected to physical violence. Every 5<sup>th</sup> woman subjected to physical violence was also a victim of sexual abuse.

*“Economic disempowerment of women, including economic deprivation, is regarded as economic violence against women.”*

*(General Assembly Resolution 48/104, 20 December 1993)*

About **7,4% of interviewed women** were prohibited to work by their husband or partner and salary was taken away from 9% of the interviewed working women.

Psychological violence is the most commonly spread form of domestic violence.

*Psychological violence is a broad range of acts, which encompasses attitudes of denigration or contempt, emotional blackmail or verbal abuse including insults and threats, intimidation and aggressive yelling, slander, threats, humiliation and “psycho-terror”.*

**24.6% of interviewed women** were insulted by their partners, humiliated in public, intimidated by means of breaking down household objects or in some other way, and threatened that either them or one of their relatives will be hurt.

*Psychological violence also incorporates controlling behavior, including acts, efforts and measures to isolate the woman or to minimize her social contacts and interactions even with friends and family, to restrict her access to services and information and to monitor her movements and actions and to make her seek the intimate partner’s permission for any undertaking beyond household chores.*

**61.0% of interviewed women** indicated that they were exposed to controlling behaviour by their partners.

**The data reflected in the Report on the Nationwide Survey is precise to the extent, to which interviewed women were ready to speak up the problem.**

