

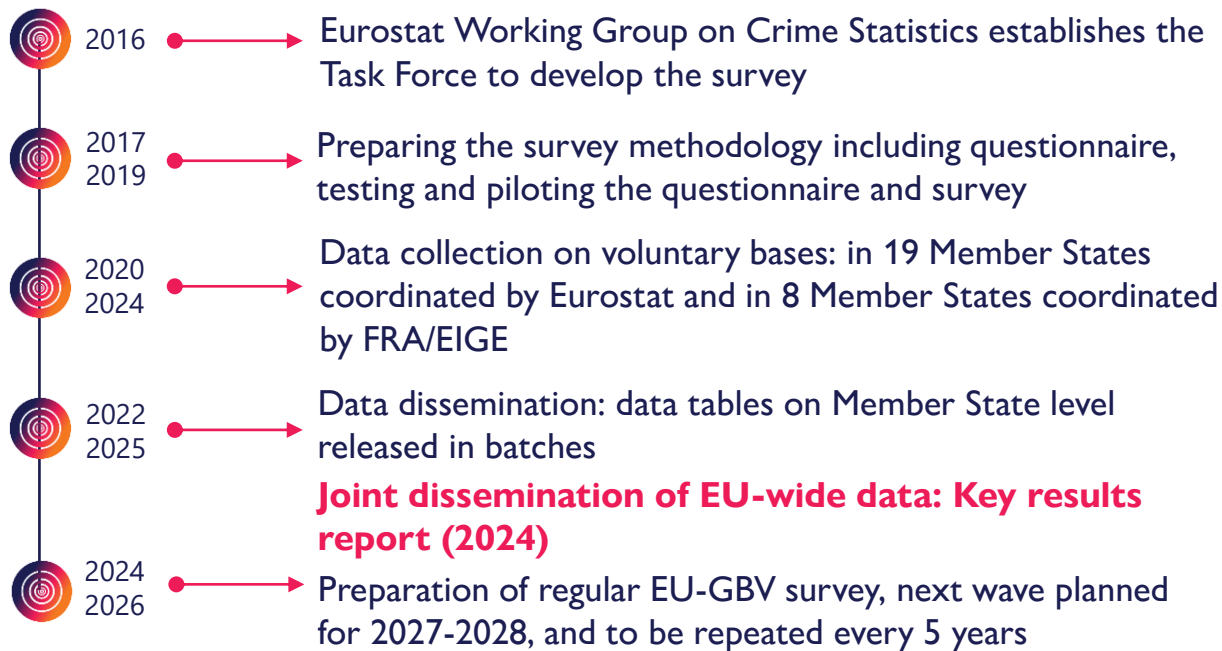
EU GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE SURVEY

eurostat 



European Institute for
Gender Equality

EU-GBV survey timeline



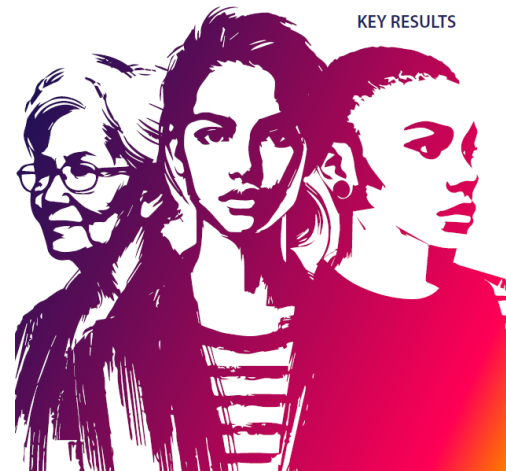
eurostat

FRA
EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY
FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

European Institute for
Gender Equality

EU
GENDER-BASED
VIOLENCE
SURVEY

KEY RESULTS



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Why was the survey conducted?

- To estimate the **prevalence of gender-based violence** across the European Union based on a population survey – for prevention, protection, prosecution, policies.
- The **EU gender equality strategy 2020-2025**
- Need for regular data collection highlighted in:
 - Istanbul Convention of the Council of Europe (EU joined in 2023)
 - Directive 2024/1385 on combating violence against women and domestic violence
 - Member States have until 14 June 2027 to comply with the directive



Directive 2024/1385

- **Article 38** – Member States to have national coordinating bodies that will, among other tasks, coordinate the collection of data and analyse and disseminate the results
- **Article 44** – Member States to have a system for the collection, development, production and dissemination of statistics on violence against women or domestic violence
 - Includes as a minimum the number of reported offences and convictions from administrative sources; number of victims killed; number and capacity of shelters; number of calls to national helplines.
 - Disaggregated by sex, age group of the victim and the offender, and – where possible – relationship between the victim and the offender, and type of violence
 - Member States ‘shall endeavour’ to collect administrative data on the basis of common disaggregations
 - Member States ‘shall endeavour’ to conduct population-based surveys



Eurostat methodology – EU-GBV wave 1

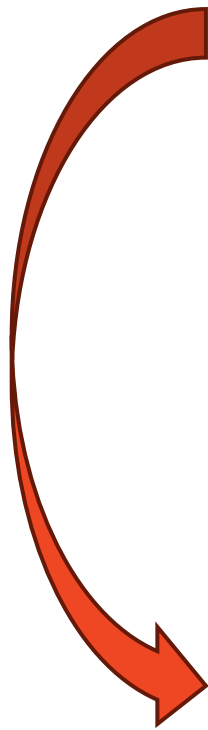
National statistical authorities

- 18 countries conducted the survey
- Italy calculated the main EU-GBV indicators based on national surveys

FRA and EIGE

- EU-GBV data collection conducted in 8 countries: CY, CZ, DE, IE, HU, LU, RO, SE.

Common data set



From the interview to the results



Methodological manual for the
EU survey on gender-based
violence against women and
other forms of inter-personal
violence (EU-GBV) 2021 edition



MANUALS
AND GUIDELINES | eurostat



Depends on:

- Implementation in the country-specific questionnaire (e.g. splitting a question into two or more questions)
- Translation
- Outcome (e.g. problems in data entry or retrieval)



Database

Overview

Database

Publications

Information on data



Methodology

Legislation

[-]  Gender based violence against women (gbv) 

[+]  Violence by intimate partner during lifetime (gbv_ipv)

[+]  Violence by non-partner since the age of 15 (gbv_npv)

[+]  Violence by domestic perpetrator during adulthood (gbv_dv)

[+]  Violence by any perpetrator during adulthood (gbv_any)

[+]  Sexual harassment at work during lifetime (gbv_shw)

[+]  Experiences on stalking (gbv_st)

[+]  Violence experienced in childhood (gbv_ch)

[+]  Awareness of support services (gbv_awr)

[+]  Violence experienced by total population (gbv_vtp) 

Data collection

- Representative sample in each country
- Focus on women aged 18-74; in 11 Member States the survey also interviewed men
- Data collection methods: with interviewer (CAPI or CATI) or online (CAWI). For most sensitive sections self-completion recommended.
- Support to interviewers and respondents (depending data collection method)



TOPICS AND INDICATORS



Proportion of women in the last 12 months/5 years/lifetime...



Type of violence

Act-based questions:

Physical (including threats)

Sexual (including rape)

Psychological (*economic)

Other: sexual harassment at
work, childhood
experiences, stalking.



Type of perpetrator

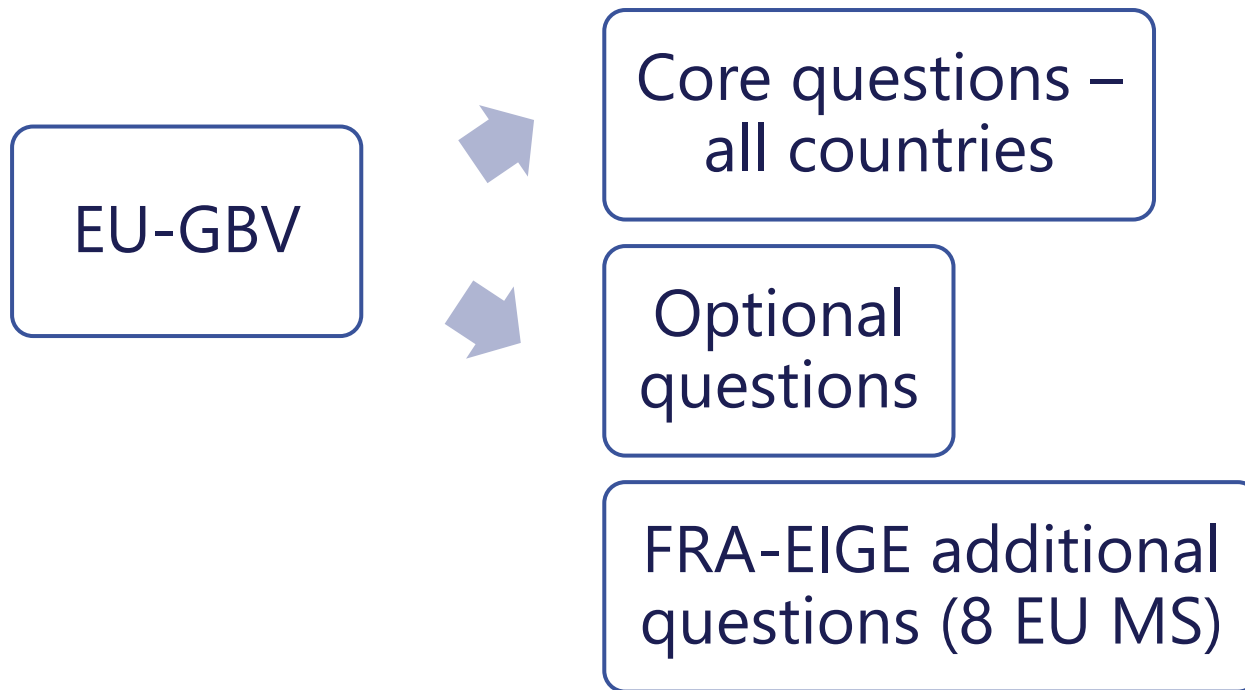
- **Intimate Partner Violence**
- **Domestic perpetrator violence** (intimate partner, relative; or any other person living in the same household at the time of violence)
- **Non-partner violence**



Context of violence

- **Reporting**
- **Awareness** of support services
- **Impact and consequences** of violence
- Characteristics of women (level of education, disability, age, etc.)

Question categories





Evidence for Policy
and Practice

EU Gender-based violence survey

(EU-GBV survey - Eurostat-FRA-EIGE)

In-depth results from the new report by FRA and EIGE

TODAY'S PRESENTATION

- **Selection of findings** and their translation into opinions (recommendations) for policy
- Latest report published on 3 March 2026, builds on the first EU-GBV survey results published in November 2024.
- Results in the FRA-EIGE report have been produced with the support of Eurostat



KEY RESULTS



FRA-EIGE additions to EU-GBV survey

Additional questions in the eight countries where FRA and EIGE carried out the survey, to address further data needs:

- Sexual harassment outside work
- Economic violence
- Cyberviolence – separate questions as well as clarifying the context of acts already included in the survey
- Additional socio-demographic characteristics



PHYSICAL AND SEXUAL **VIOLENCE**, AND **SEXUAL** **HARASSMENT**



WOMEN ACROSS THE EU EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE **IN ALL AREAS OF LIFE**



1 in 3 women in the EU experience **physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetime.**



1 in 5 women face **physical and/or sexual violence** from their partner, a relative or another member of their household.



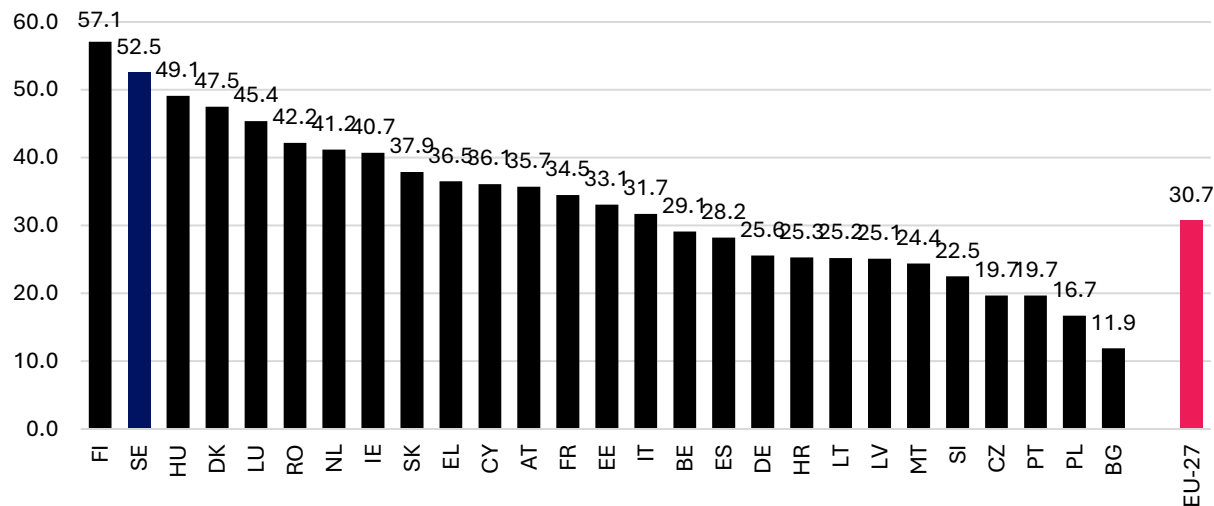
1 in 8 women face **sexual violence including rape**, by someone other than their partner.



1 in 3 women had experienced **physical and/ or psychological violence from their parents**, and **1 in 15** have experienced **sexual violence** during childhood

STILL ONE IN THREE

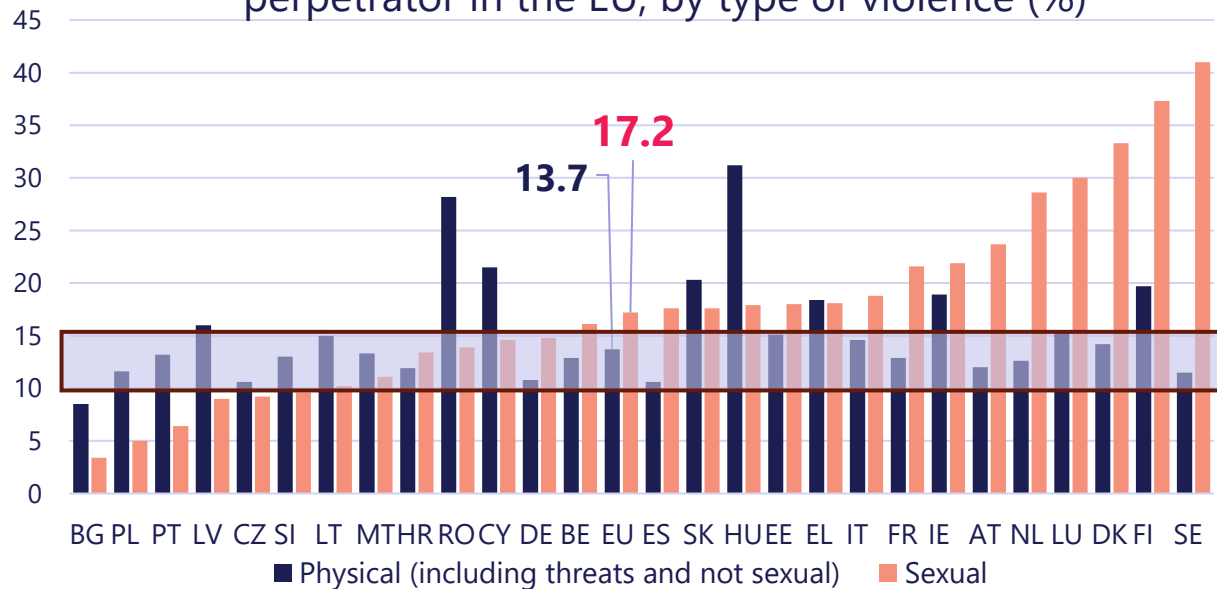
Women experiencing physical violence or threats, and/or sexual violence by **any perpetrator**, adulthood (%)



1 in 3 women in EU-27 have experienced physical violence or threats, and/or sexual violence in their lifetime – similar rate as in FRA's EU-wide survey in 2012.

SEXUAL MORE THAN PHYSICAL

Women who have experienced violence by any perpetrator in the EU, by type of violence (%)

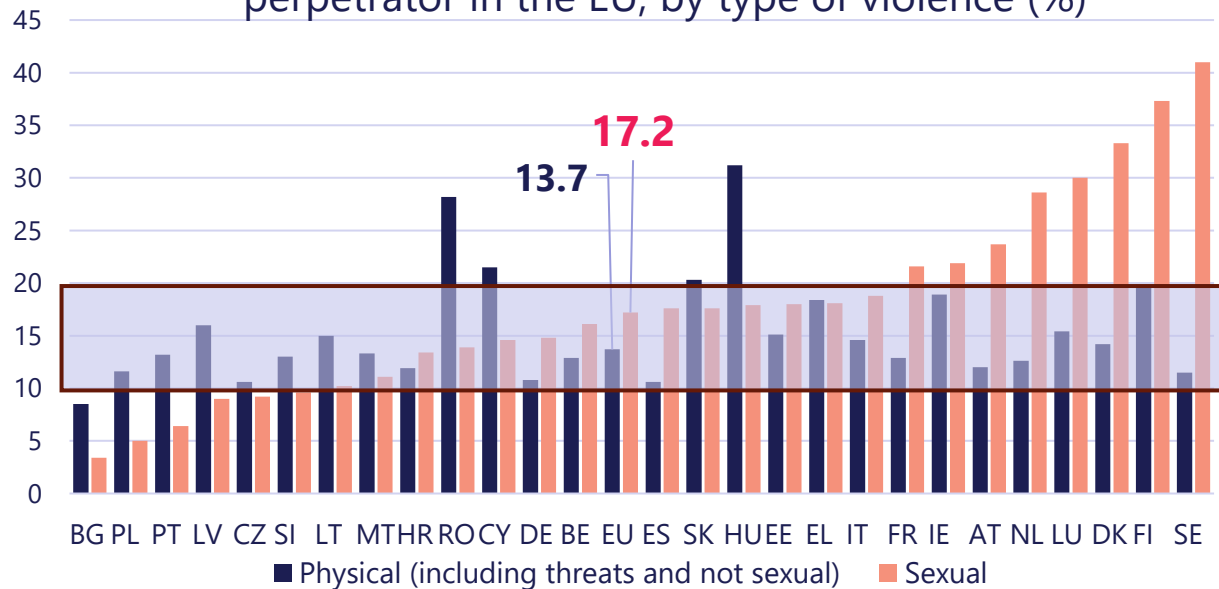


- Examples of factors that can have an impact on country differences, e.g.
- Legislation – what and when
 - Trust that enables disclosure
 - Awareness and how it has changed over time

SEXUAL MORE THAN PHYSICAL



Women who have experienced violence by any perpetrator in the EU, by type of violence (%)



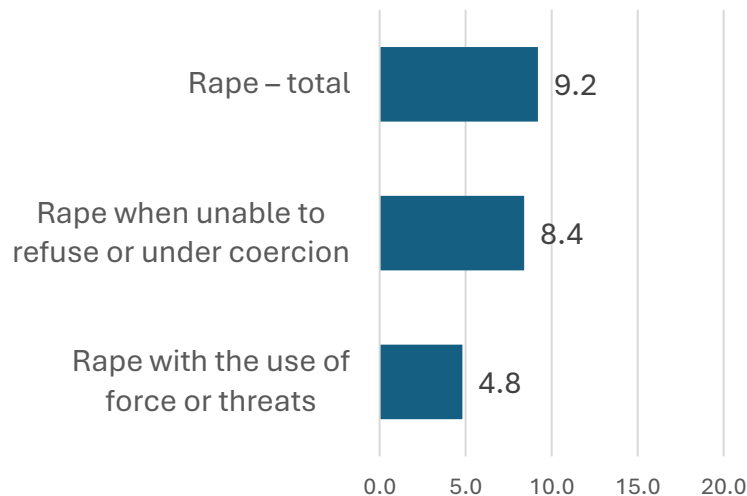
- Examples of factors that can have an impact on country differences, e.g.
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Sexual violence should be criminalised based on consent-based definitions of rape and other sexual violence

Respond effectively to physical and sexual violence against women, including women affected by intersectional discrimination

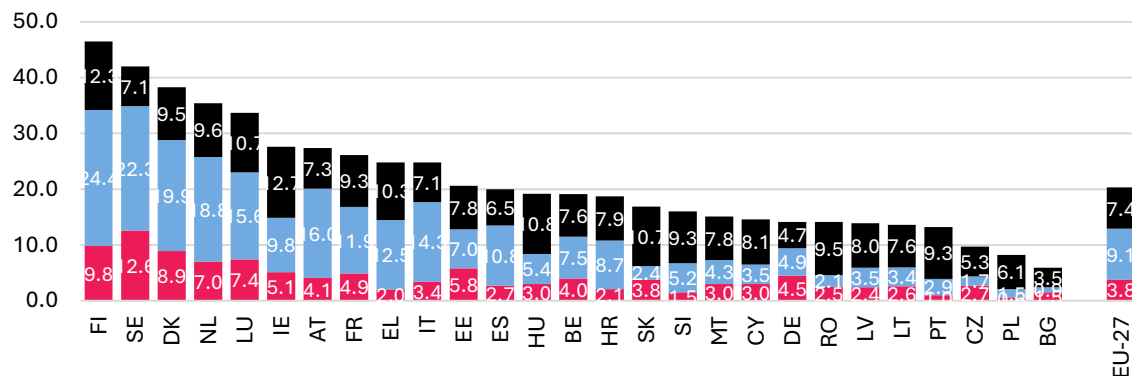


Rape by any perpetrator, lifetime rates (EU-27, %)



Violence by a non-partner

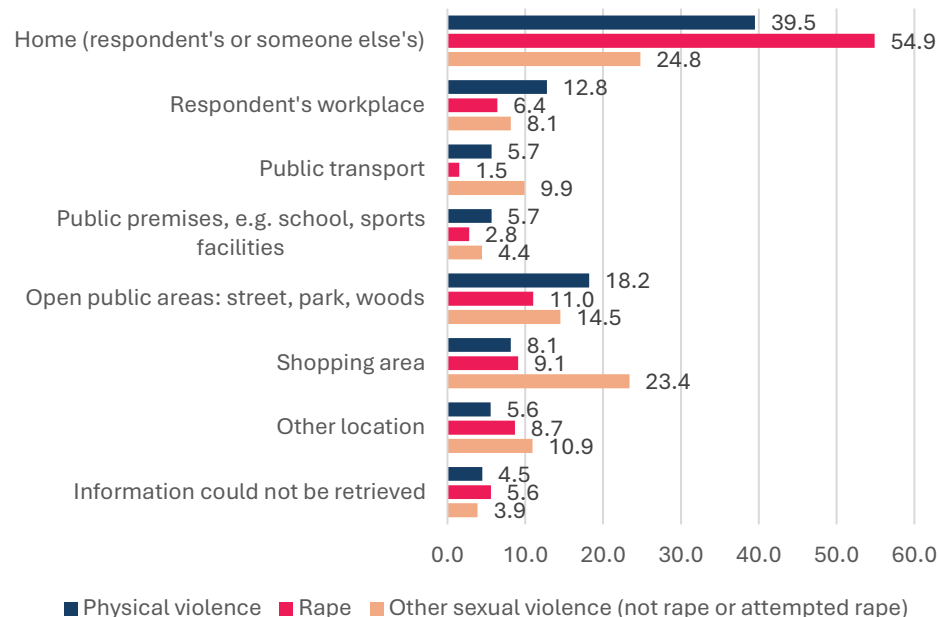
Experiences of physical violence or threats, and/or sexual violence by non-partners, lifetime rate (%)



- Physical violence or threats (no sexual violence)
- Sexual violence other than rape
- Rape

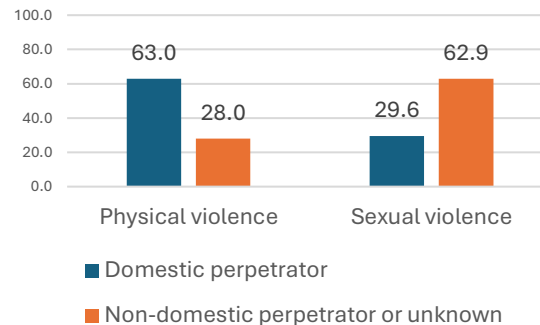
- 3.8 % of women in EU-27 have been **raped** during their life by someone other than their intimate partner.

Location where the last episode of violence by a non-partner took place, by type of violence (EU-27, %)



The **most common location** mentioned by women where violence by non-partners occurs is either **the woman's home or the perpetrator's or someone else's private residence**

Episodes of violence, by type of perpetrator and type of violence (EU-27, %)



SEXUAL HARASSMENT



At work – in EU-27:

- 30.8 % experienced sexual harassment, including 7.0 % online sexual harassment

Outside work – in 8 EU Member States

- 45.4 % experienced sexual harassment, with 11.7 % experiencing online sexual harassment
- 4.6 % experienced other abusive online behaviour, such as non-consensual sharing of intimate photos or videos (real or manipulated), false or misogynistic comments



INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE



Victims, perpetrators, and their relationship

Higher rates of intimate partner violence for:

- Women with disabilities
- Lower educational attainment
- Non-EU citizens
- Urban residents

Characteristics of the women, their current partners and the relationship		
Respondent dependent on current partner for money, food or something else	Yes	10.4
	No	3.4
Respondent's and her partner's employment status	Both unemployed	5.7
	Only respondent employed	5.9
	Only partner employed	6.6
	Both employed	4.0
Respondent's and her partner's educational attainment	Both with same educational attainment	4.9
	Current partner has lower educational attainment	5.1
	Respondent has lower educational attainment	4.6

Economic dependence and control

Member States should adopt specific risk assessment tools to better recognise the vulnerability of victims impacted by economic dependence and control.



Psychological violence, including economic violence

Psychological violence, including economic control and abusive behaviour should be addressed as a pattern of behaviour, not isolated incidents.

Undertake targeted actions against economic and psychological violence by intimate partners

TABLE 10 – OTHER FORMS OF ECONOMIC VIOLENCE BY ANY PARTNER (EIGHT MEMBER STATES, %)

Type of economic violence	Prevalence
Hidden or withheld money from you, lied about shared property and assets, or kept financial information from you	10.2
Built up debt without your knowledge, when you would be fully or partly responsible for it – for example by leaving bills unpaid	9.0
Stolen money from you or forced you to give them money or access to your debit or credit card, or convinced you to lend them money but not paid it back	6.9
Discouraged or actively interfered with your employment or education	6.4
Taken your wages, pension, financial aid, disability payment or other support payments from you	5.1
Prevented you from having access to a bank account	4.6
Any of the above	17.7



Overall, in the EU-27, **8.3 % of women have experienced one or two acts of economic violence** (i.e. being forbidden to work, the partner withholding access to household finances, or building up debt that the woman would be responsible for).



When **more comprehensive scales are used, the prevalence increases.**

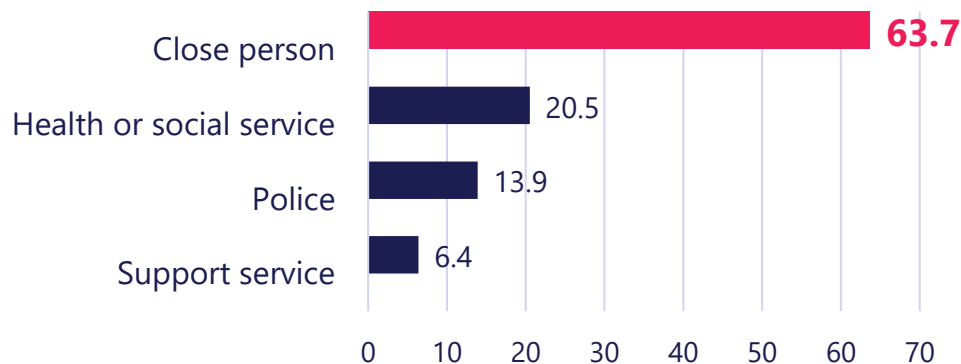
WOMEN REPORTING VIOLENCE



AWARENESS IS NOT ENOUGH, SAFE SPACES NEEDED



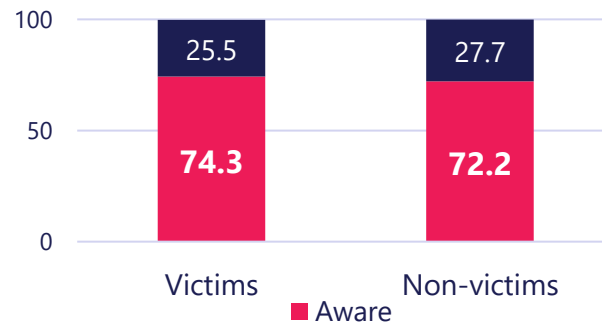
Women who have experienced violence by any perpetrator, by person/support service to whom violence was reported in the EU (%)



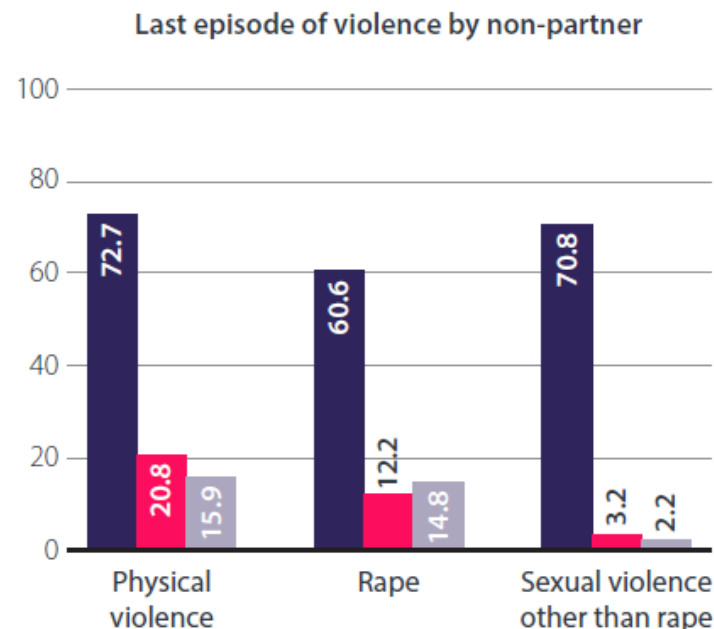
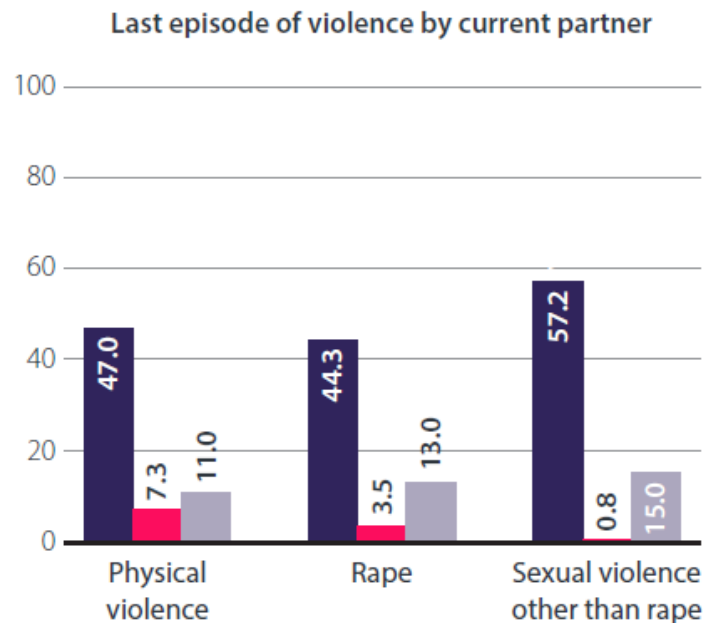
Overall, **68.2% of women** reported the violence experienced to **a close person or a service**. Only 26.7% of women reported it to health, social or support services or the police. A third of women (31.8%) still had not shared their experiences with **anyone** – **before the survey**.

Awareness of official support services varies from country to country. Overall, **74.3% of victims** in the EU are **aware of the existence of support services**. Nevertheless, the rate of contacting these services remains lower than what might be expected.

Women victims/non-victims of violence, by awareness of the existence of support services (%)



Reporting and sharing the last episode of violence (%)



- Talked to a close person
- Reported to the police
- Sought medical attention

Women should have access to alternative options to report crime, and they should be met with trained professionals and a holistic support.

Facilitate reporting of physical and/or sexual violence incidents



Rape is often not reported due to women feeling embarrassed and blaming themselves for what happened (49.9 %).



Even **severe incidents** (crime, danger to life, injury, psychological harm) often go unreported.

TABLE 23 – REASONS FOR NOT REPORTING THE LAST EPISODE OF VIOLENCE BY A NON-PARTNER, BY TYPE OF VIOLENCE (EU-27, %)

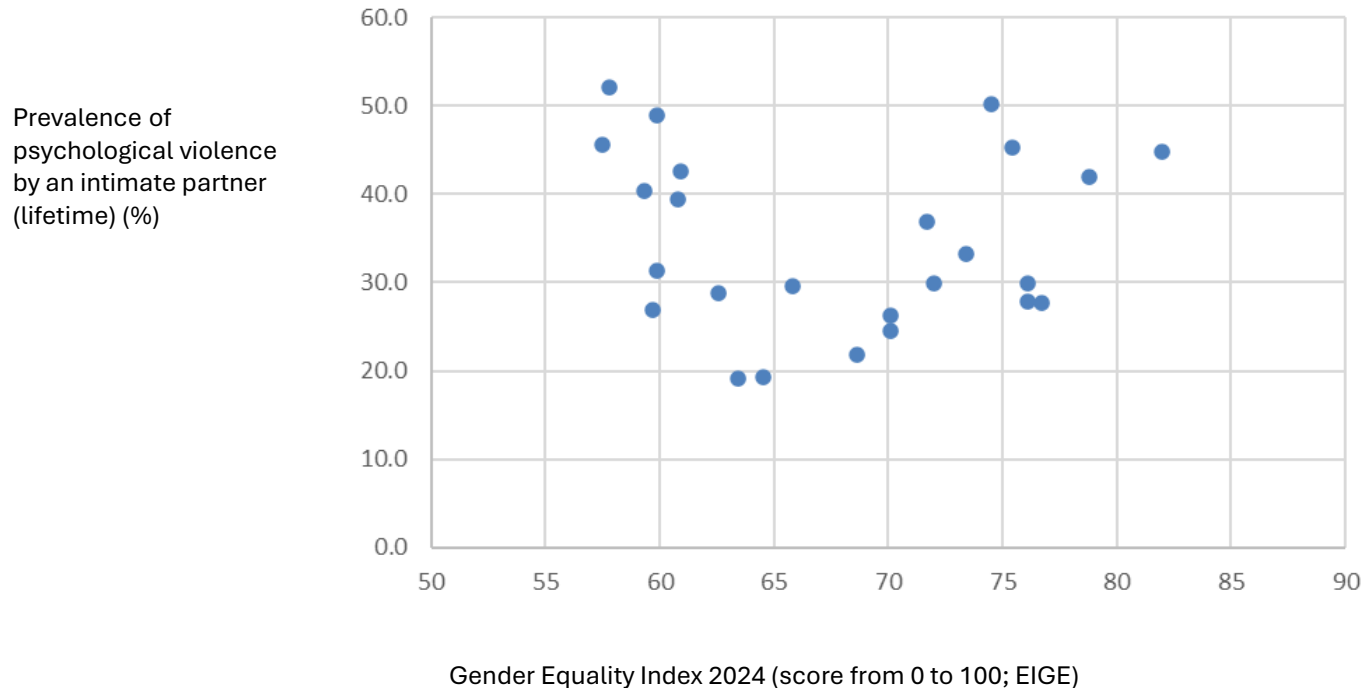
Reason	Last episode of violence perpetrated by a non-partner		
	Physical violence	Rape	Sexual violence other than rape
Reported to other authorities instead of police	3.3	—	(0.9)
Police would not be able to help	12.4	23.7	16.3
Belief that police would not do anything or would not believe the victim; dislike of the police	20.1	29.3	20.0
Discouraged from reporting by someone	6.9	—	2.9
Fear of the perpetrator or the consequences (for oneself or for the perpetrator)	16.3	23.8	5.5
Embarrassment/self-blame	17.6	49.9	18.1
Not serious enough, not something to report to the police, not necessary to report	49.0	37.9	71.5
It was a private/family matter, resolved it oneself	20.9	17.7	15.2
Other reasons	7.5	6.2	3.4

Country differences

- ‘Nordic paradox’ – countries with high prevalence of violence also score high on measures of gender equality, such as ELGE’s Gender Equality Index.
- Identified based on the results of FRA’s 2012 survey on violence against women in the EU.
- Pattern confirmed by the latest data – however, this changes if results are examined in more detail.

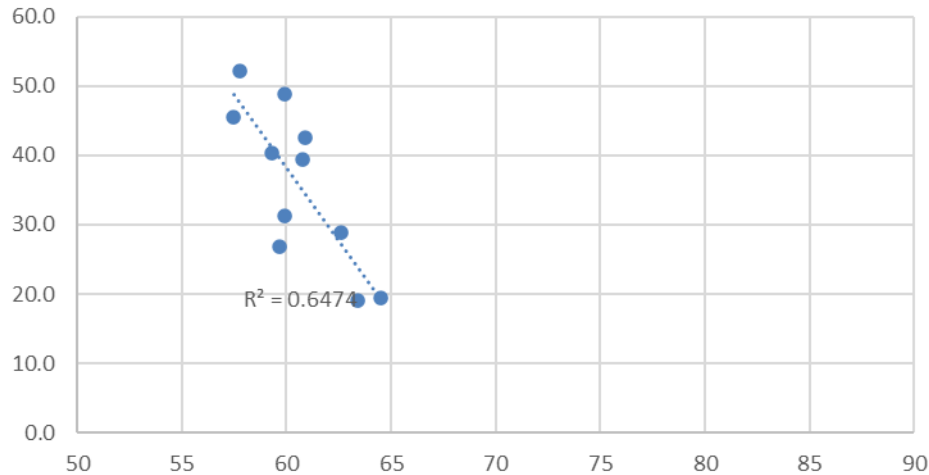


Gender equality and the prevalence of psychological violence – EU Member States



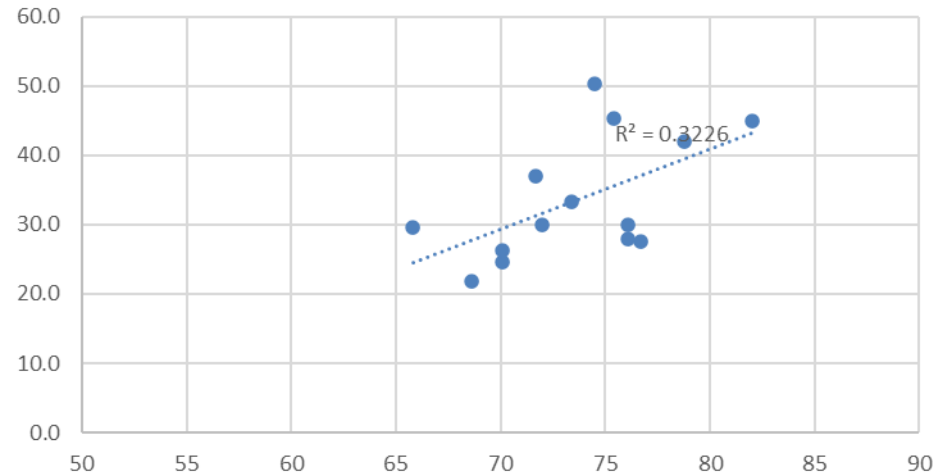
Gender equality index (GEI) and the prevalence of psychological violence

GEI low (< 65) vs psv



11 countries: BG, HR, CY, CZ, EE, EL, HU, LV, PL, RO, SK

GEI > 65 vs psv



14 countries: AT, BE, DK, FI, FR, DE, IE, LT, LU, MT, PT, SI, ES, SE

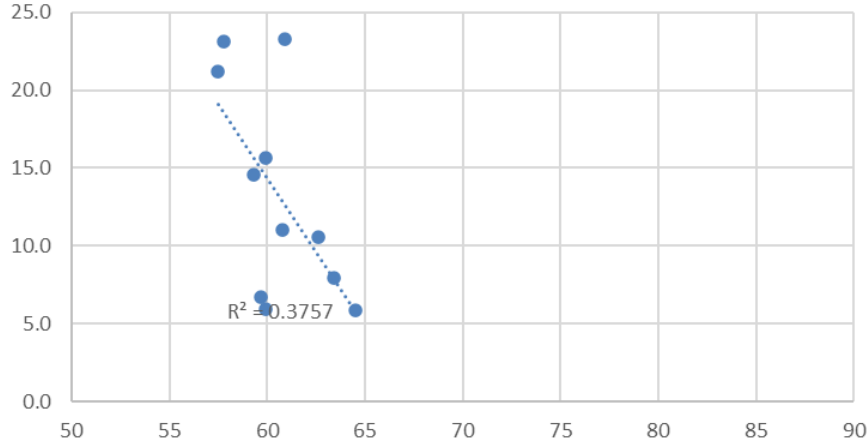
Missing: IT, NL

- Countries with low vs high scores on gender equality differ in terms of the relationship between gender equality and prevalence of psychological violence
- Possibly different dynamics in terms of gender equality and rates of victimisation, as measured in a survey.
- Differences could be related to, for example:
 - Identifying experiences
 - Recall of experiences
 - Articulating experiences
 - Nature of experiences
 - Mode(s) of data collection



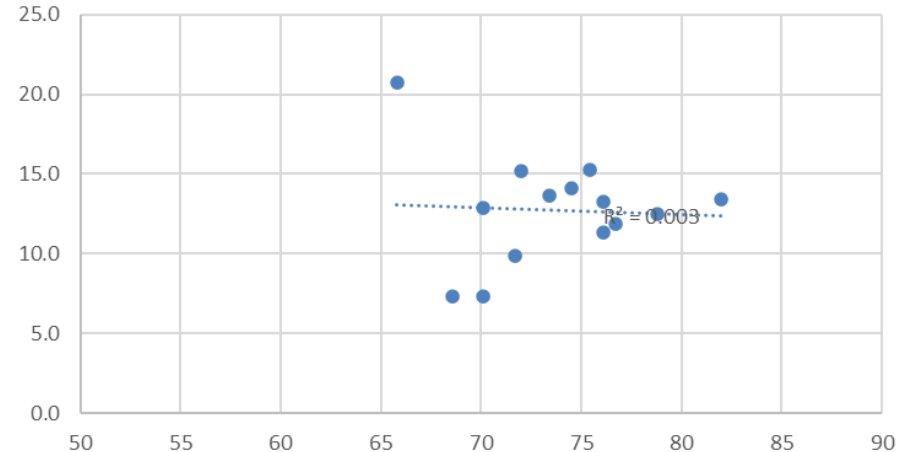
Gender equality and the prevalence of frequent psychological violence

GEI low (< 65) vs frequent psv



11 countries: BG, HR, CY, CZ, EE, EL, HU, LV, PL, RO, SK

GEI > 65 vs frequent psv



14 countries: AT, BE, DK, FI, FR, DE, IE, LT, LU, MT, PT, SI, ES, SE

Results and data

- Microdata available from Eurostat. Data collected by FRA and EIGE in 8 EU Member States to be added.
- Key results published in November 2024 jointly by Eurostat, FRA and EIGE.
- Further analysis report to be published by FRA and EIGE in the first quarter of 2026.



Using survey data – examples

- Embedding fundamental rights indicators in national strategies and action plans
 - ”Experiences of violence at population level, disaggregated by population group” – one of the indicators included in the Finnish national action plan on fundamental and human rights (2020-2023)
- Using data to support legislative proposals
 - “More than 1 in 5 women have suffered domestic violence” – European Commission’s proposal for a directive on combating violence against women and domestic violence
- Allocating funding
 - “1 in 3 (30,7% of) women experienced physical violence or threats and/or sexual violence over their lifetime” – DG JUST call for grant proposals 2025
- Reporting obligations
 - “14 % [of respondents in Slovenia] were victims of [at least] one form of stalking” – Report submitted by Slovenia to the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO)
- Briefings

IT
SHOULD
BE
ZERO



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[fundamental.rights](https://www.instagram.com/fundamental.rights)



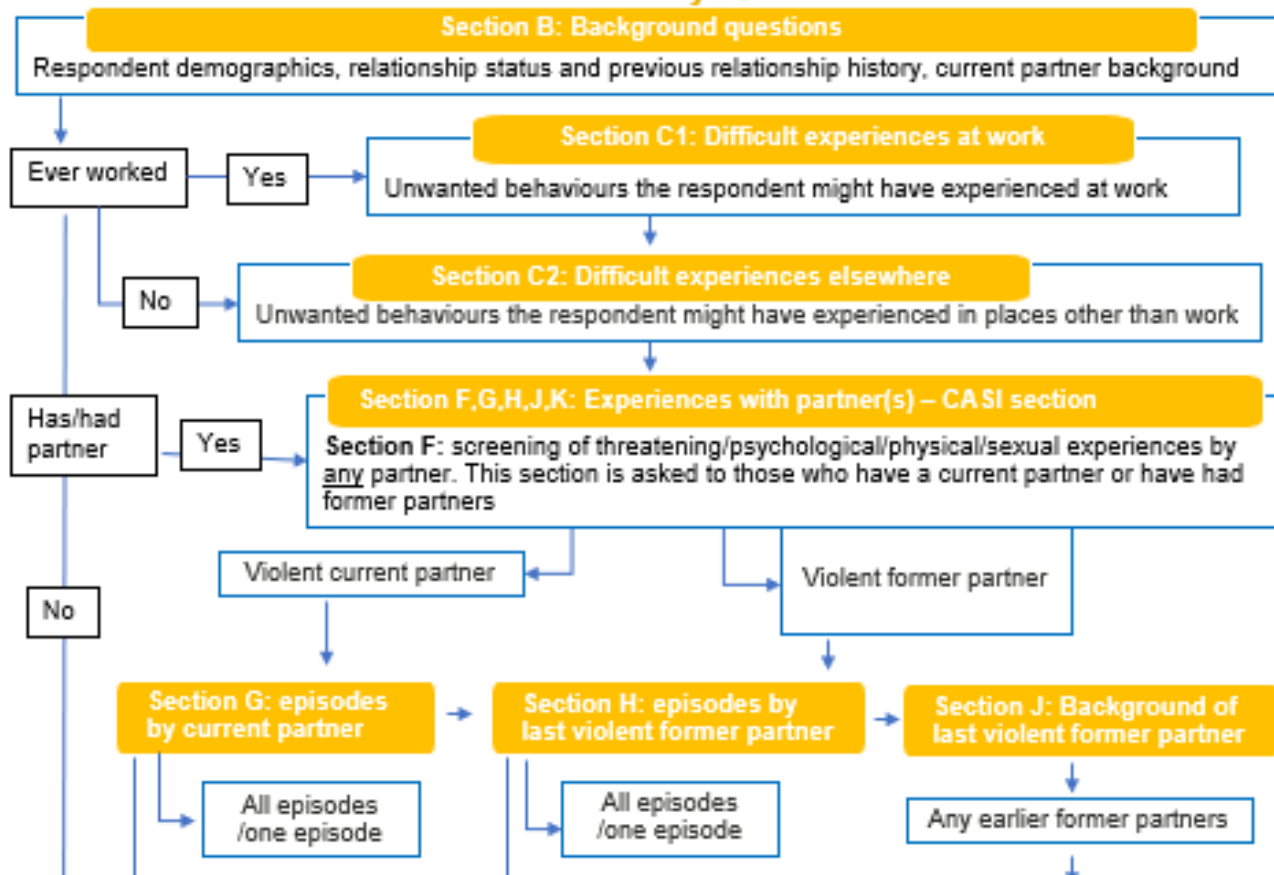
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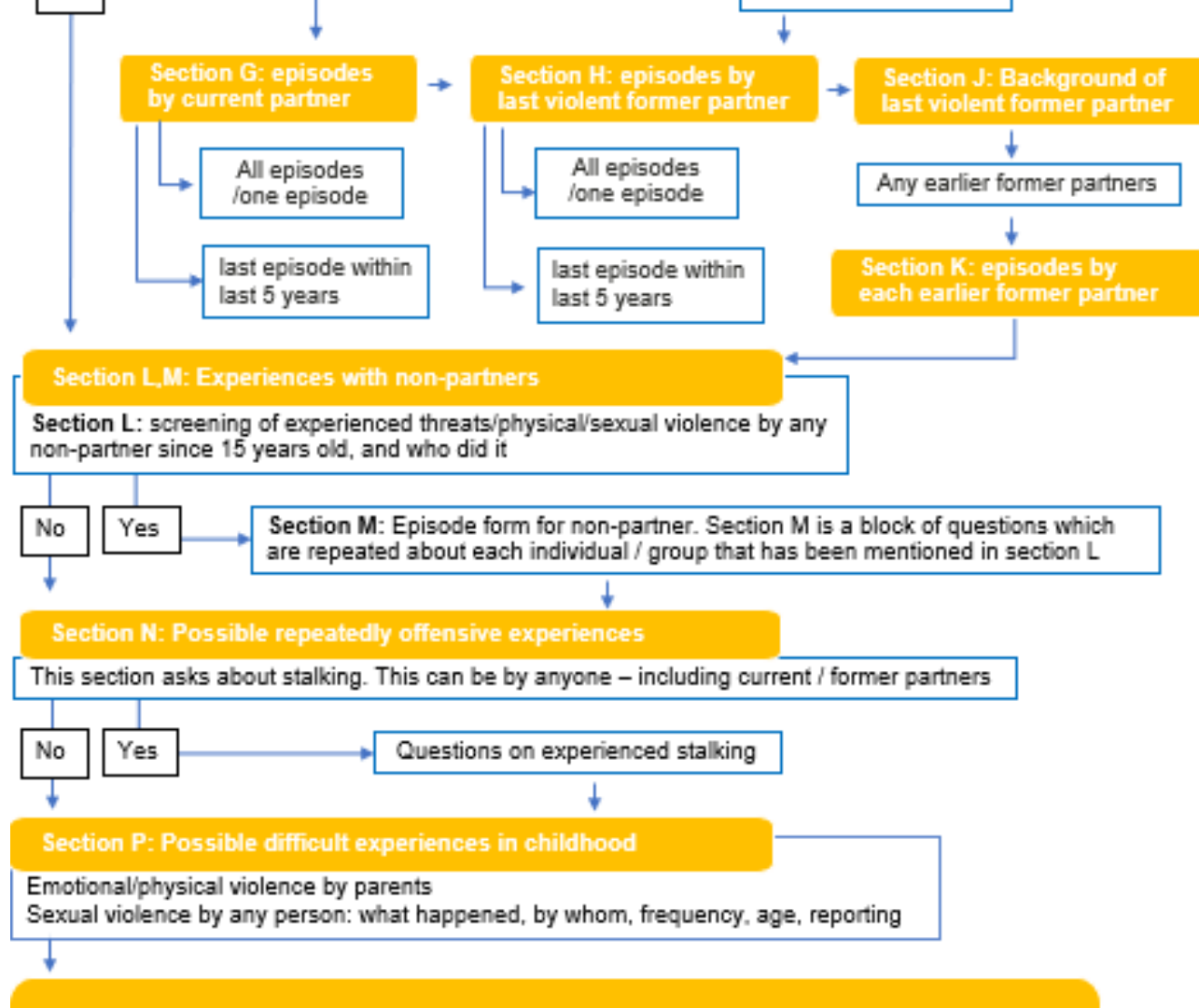


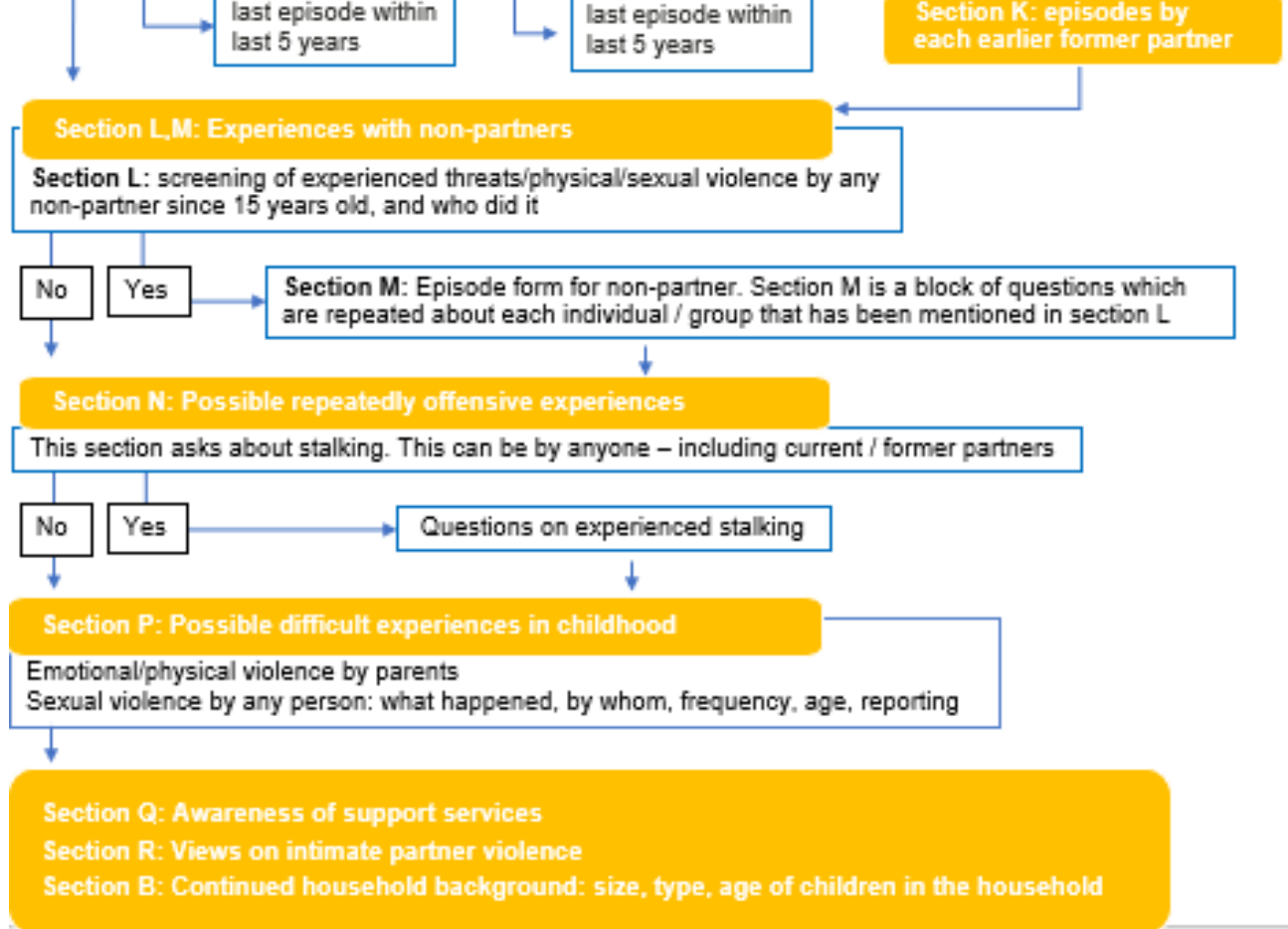
THANK YOU



Flowchart VAW II Survey Questionnaire







Alcohol & drugs



- How often the current / former partner drinks to the point of getting drunk (optional)
- How often the current partner takes illicit drugs that impact negatively on their behaviour (8 EU MS)
- Current / former partner / non-partner made respondent to have sexual intercourse when she was unable to refuse due to the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Whether current / former partner / non-partner was drunk or on drugs when physically and/or sexually violent
- Respondent used alcohol or drugs to cope with physical and/or sexual violence by current / former partner / non-partner

Health



- Health status, long-standing illness, limitations in usual activities
 - Limitations in usual activities as a result of physical and/or sexual violence
- Psychological problems resulting from psychological violence by the current partner (8 EU MS)
- Psychological problems resulting from economic abuse (8 EU MS)
- Injuries resulting from physical and/or sexual violence – type, frequency, timing, permanent physical damage
- Psychological problems resulting from physical and/or sexual violence, or stalking
- Seeking help from health care service provider, professionals providing psychological support after experiencing physical and/or sexual
- Stayed in a hospital or used other health care services following physical and/or sexual violence (following a specific episode of violence)
- Action taken by medical personnel
- Change in the frequency of violence during the COVID-19 pandemic

Policing & security



- Current partner ever in trouble with the police because of violent behaviour
- Does the current partner / former partner or anyone else living with you have a gun, rifle or other firearm or have access to those weapons? (optional)
- Whether non-partner had a knife, a stick, a gun or a weapon of any kind when the episode of physical and/or sexual violence took place
- Reporting physical and/or sexual violence or stalking to the police
- Feeling that one's life was in danger as a result of physical and/or sexual violence.
- Whether considered physical and/or sexual violence was a crime
- Reason for not reporting physical and/or sexual violence or stalking to the police
- Satisfaction with the way police handled the matter after reporting violence
- Change in perpetrator's behaviour after victim reporting to the police (stalking increased, decreased, stopped or continued unchanged)

Work & income



- Respondent's current employment status & current partner's employment status
- Ever in paid employment or worked in family business
- Work full-time / part-time (optional)
- Type of contract: fixed-term / permanent / other
- Occupation
- Main source of income
- Ability to cover an unexpected expense
- Dependency on current partner for money or other basic needs
- How financial decisions are made between the respondent and her current partner
- Problems with work or other activities due to emotional problems – having to cut down time spent on work or other activities, able to accomplish less than you would like, didn't do work or other activities as carefully as usual

Work & income



- Current partner has...
 - Discouraged or interfered with respondent's work or education
 - Hidden or withheld money or assets
 - Prevented respondent from having access to bank account
 - Taken away respondent's wages, financial benefits
 - Stolen money from the respondent, or borrowed money but did not pay it back
 - Built up debt without respondent's knowledge when she would be responsible for it

Work & income



- Sexual harassment at work
 - Acts, perpetrators, frequency, timing
 - Whether spoke about it with anyone, such as counsellor, employer, police,...
 - Availability of training at work to explain what a person experiencing sexual harassment should do
 - Availability of a contact person at work for reporting sexual harassment or receiving support
 - Awareness of where to seek help
 - Perception of sexual violence as common or not at one's current workplace

Work & income



- Physical and/or sexual violence by a non-partner
 - Type of perpetrator – incl. supervisor/boss, teacher/professor, friend / colleague / school mate / friend of the family, authority figure e.g. police officer / priest / doctor
 - Place where the episode of violence occurred – incl. respondent's workplace, educational institution, premises of a public agency such as hospital, police station or government office
- Physical and/or sexual violence by current / former partner or non-partner
 - Needing time off work or education because of what happened
 - Ability to do housework or take care of children after what happened
- Stalking
 - Type of perpetrator

Socio-demographic



- Citizen of the survey country / other EU MS / non-EU country
- Mother/father born in survey country / other EU MS/ non-EU country
- Current partner's citizenship
- Added by FRA and ELGE – respondent's...
 - Religion
 - Selected ethnic categories
 - Sexual orientation
 - Gender identity

Related FRA activities – selected examples

Violence and rights abuses against women from Ukraine

- Interviews in Czechia, Germany and Poland – 1,200 women displaced by the Russian war of aggression
- Abuse by Russian forces: 10% of the women FRA interviewed were interrogated by Russian forces. Of these, 51% were physically humiliated and 29% sexually humiliated
- Risk of exploitation: 24% of women encountered potentially exploitative offers of transport, housing or work
- 25% of women from Ukraine have experienced physical or sexual violence since the beginning of the war
- FRA opinions refer to issues related to the expected end of temporary protection



Harmful online content

- FRA's 2023 on online content moderation based on 344,132 posts collected from selected online platforms – of which 1,573 assessed in-depth
- Among the posts directed at the groups analysed in the study, the most common forms of hateful content involved posts denigrating and otherwise negatively stereotyping women
- Related FRA activities in 2026:
 - Law enforcement access to digital data for criminal investigations
 - Research on the impact of illegal and other harmful online content on children and young adults, including from a gender perspective
 - FRA – Council of Europe handbook on cybercrime and fundamental rights
 - Legal overview on online content moderation and freedom of expression under the Digital Services Act



Thank you!

FRA – EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR FUNDAMENTAL
RIGHTS

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