

THE PREVALENCE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

Kyiv-2014

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1. ABOUT THE SURVEY

1.1 SURVEY BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVE

FE “GfK Ukraine” (hereinafter referred to as GfK Ukraine) conducted a nationally representative survey on prevalence of violence against women and girls upon request of the United Nations Population Fund (hereinafter referred to as UNFPA). The survey was based on the questionnaire section “Family relations” from Ukraine Demographic and Health Survey (UDHS) conducted in 2007 by the Ukrainian Centre for Social Reforms together with the State Statistical Committee and Ministry of Healthcare with support from USAID.

The focus of this survey is put on measuring the rate of domestic violence using statistical indicators recommended by the UN Statistical Commission which weren't measured in Ukraine before 2007. Official statistics suggests only records on violence and the number of registered individuals who committed violence, which is not enough for the comprehensive analysis of the current situation and for tracking trends.

Lack of up-to-date information about the rate and characteristics of violence against women and girls is one of the most significant factors hindering the development and implementation of target programs for violence prevention. Therefore, the survey objective is to obtain evidences and specific data on the rate of violence against women and girls, about the context of violence and risk factors for individuals and households. Survey results are comparable with UDHS-2007 results.

1.2 METHODOLOGY AND SAMPLE DESIGN

The survey was conducted using a method of face-to-face interviews at respondent's home (or place of respondent's residence at the moment of survey) in August-September 2014. The sample covered 1,606 female respondents aged 15-49.

Sample design of 2007 survey was not possible to replicate. GfK Ukraine requested but did not receive the description of instruction units of All-Ukrainian Population Census 2001 used for selecting clusters in 2007 survey sample. Moreover, the population size and the structure changed significantly since the Census was conducted (according to All-Ukrainian Population Census 2001 data, there were 12,582,673 women aged 15-49, while the State Statistical Service of Ukraine reported about 11,105,927 women of this age in 1 January 2014. The age structure of this group also significantly changed in 2014 comparing to 2001).

Therefore, the multi-stage sample with a route method of respondent selection was used in 2014. Sample design was based on data of the State Statistical Service of Ukraine on the population composition as of 1 January 2014 (data on population distribution by sex/age/settlement as of 1 January 2014, was not available at the time of surveying) and data of the Central Election Commission on the number of voters in voting districts.

Sample of 2014 survey was constructed as follows:

- Interviews were distributed among 26 administrative units (24 regions, AR Crimea and Kyiv city) proportionally to the number of population in each unit;
- Within the administrative unit interviews were distributed among the following settlement types: villages, towns with less than 50,000 residents, towns with 50,000 - 200,000 residents, towns with 200,001 - 500,000 residents, and cities with more than 500,000 residents.
- Within each settlement with more than 200,000 residents voting districts were selected randomly (from the list on the Central Election Commission website), and their descriptions were used as routes for selecting households, taking around 10 interviews per each voting district. The same scheme was used for selecting voting districts for conducting the survey in villages and towns with less than 200,000 residents.
- Interviewers received a starting route point and instructions for random selection of households for the survey within each route.
- If there was nobody present in the household at the moment of the first visit, another 2 visits were made to this household.
- Like in 2007, interviews were conducted with women aged 15-49 residing in a household or spending at least a night there as a guest. If there were several women aged 15-49 in the household, the interviewer selected a respondent for interview randomly using the last digit in the questionnaire number and the table from 2007 survey:

Table 1.2.1. Table for the selection of respondents

Last digit in questionnaire number	Number of women aged 15-49 in household, Total							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	1	2	2	4	3	6	5	4
1	1	1	3	1	4	1	6	5
2	1	2	1	2	5	2	7	6
3	1	1	2	3	1	3	1	7
4	1	2	3	4	2	4	2	8
5	1	1	1	1	3	5	3	1
6	1	2	2	2	4	6	4	2
7	1	1	3	3	5	1	5	3
8	1	2	1	4	1	2	6	4
9	1	1	2	1	2	3	7	5

As for the territories of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, which were not under control of the Ukrainian authorities, the survey was conducted in Luhansk and Donetsk cities only. Preliminary sample design also included the town of Starobelsk in Luhansk region, but this settlement was excluded from the sample due to inability to conduct fieldwork there.

The survey did not cover internally displaced people (IDPs), residing in camps, and refugees who migrated to the other countries, and the survey did not keep records about IDPs living in Ukraine.

Table 1.2.2 presents the comparison between 2014 and 2007 survey samples.

Table 1.2.2 Comparison between 2014 and 2007 samples

	2014	2007
Period of survey fieldwork	August-September 2014	July-November 2007
Geographical coverage	Ukraine	Ukraine
Sample size	1,606 women aged 15-49	2,903 women aged 15-49
Base for the sample design	Data from the State Statistical Service of Ukraine as of 1 January 2013	2001 Population Census
Method of respondents selection	Random route	Random address

Limitations of 2014 survey	<p>1) The survey in Luhansk region was conducted in the settlements controlled by the Ukrainian authorities, and in Luhansk city. The town of Starobelsk was excluded from the sample due to the inability to conduct fieldwork there</p> <p>2) The survey did not cover displaced people, residing in camps, and refugees who migrated to the other countries, and did not register displaced people on the territory of Ukraine</p>	
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1.3 QUESTIONNAIRE DESIGN

Questionnaire of 2014 survey corresponds with the section “Family relationships and domestic violence problem” of the Ukrainian version of the 2007 questionnaire¹. Questions about socio-demographic characteristics of respondents were also taken from the Ukrainian version of the 2007 questionnaire. Questions about respondents’ occupation were added to the section of socio-demographic characteristics. Moreover, some new questions regarding violence experience were added to the 2014 questionnaire (for details, see the introduction to Chapter 3).

A Russian version of the questionnaire was prepared by GfK Ukraine based on the Ukrainian version as GfK Ukraine did not receive the Russian version of 2007 survey questionnaire upon request.

1.4 TRAINING FOR INTERVIEWERS

GfK Ukraine organized trainings for supervisors and interviewers in all the regions on conducting interviews with women and girls on domestic violence, also a special instruction for interviewers was prepared.

Interviewers had to ensure absolute privacy before the interview start. If it was not possible at the time of the first visit, but respondent agreed to participate in the survey, the interview was postponed to the other time/ day. If any person entered a room during filling-in the questionnaire, the interviewer had to stop and change the topic, if necessary. The interview could be continued only after the third person had left the room.

When needed, interviewers could provide the information to domestic violence victims on where they can find help.

¹ Discrepancy of the wording of one question in 2014 and 2007 questionnaires is described in the notes to Table 3.7.1 (see, Chapter 3.7)

1.5 DATA WEIGHTING

Statistical weights were used for statistical correction of data providing a 100% match of the sample with socio-demographic structure of female population aged 15-49 by age, region, and settlement size, according to the State Statistical Service of Ukraine as of 1 January 2013.

2. SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF WOMEN

2.1 MAIN SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS

Distribution of respondents by socio-demographic characteristics changed in 2014 (comparing to 2007), in particular, the size of age groups 20-29 and 40-49 increased.

Additionally, women are better educated according to the results of this year survey comparing to 2007 (significantly more women have higher education and, consequently, significantly less women are with secondary education). About 2% of women have elementary education, according to 2014 survey (it is higher than in 2007 – 0.2%).

Other characteristics, including settlement type and region, do not differ significantly in 2014 comparing to 2007².

Table 2.1.1 Main socio-demographic characteristics of women

Percentage distribution of women aged 15-49 by characteristics, Ukraine		
	2014	2007
Age group		
15-19 years old	10.3%	8.6%
20-29 years old	30.8%*	27.2%
30-39 years old	30.1%	31.7%
40-49 years old	28.8%*	32.6%
Settlement type		
Urban	71.3%	70.9%
Rural	28.7%	29.1%
Region		
North	18.0%	19.9%
Center	11.6%	11.9%
East	31.5%	29.4%
South	15.3%	15.9%
West	23.7%	22.9%
Education		
No education	0.0%	0.1%

² Differences in 2014 and 2007 survey data are described only if they are statistically significant with 95% probability.

Elementary	1.6%*	0.2%
Secondary/Vocational	27.8%*	37.4%
Higher (University/Technical college)	70.4%*	62.4%
No answer	0.2%	0.0%
Total	160.6	290.3
* Statistically significant difference with 95% probability		

2.2 OCCUPATION AND PROFESSION

Around a half of surveyed women aged 15-49 (52%) are employed at the moment. 17% are unemployed due to maternity leave. One in ten surveyed women is house-keeper and therefore is unemployed and not seeking for a job. Another 10% are students or pupils. 7% of the surveyed women are temporarily unemployed and are in a job search.

Among all women who participated in the survey 55% are currently employed (either employed by employer or self-employed at the time of survey), and 45% are unemployed.

Table 2.2.1. Distribution of women by occupation type

Percentage distribution of women aged 15-49 by occupation type, Ukraine 2014	
Employed (at the enterprise, institution, military service)	51.6%
Self-employed (work for myself, entrepreneur)	2.9%
Temporarily unemployed due to maternity leave	17.3%
Temporarily unemployed, in job search	7.2%
Retired	0.7%
Unemployed and do not seek for a job, house-keeper, etc.	10.2%
Student / Pupil	10.1%
Total 2014	1.606

Among employed women almost one in three (32%) works in trade, while 30% are professionals/specialists with higher education without supervision functions. Around 14% are technical staff.

Table 2.2.2. Distribution of women by profession

Percentage distribution of employed women aged 15-49 by profession at the time of survey, share of employed women, Ukraine 2014	
Trade or services worker	32.1%
Professional/ specialist with higher education, without supervision functions	29.7%
Technical staff	13.5%
Unqualified worker, general labourer	6.4%

Director, manager with supervision functions	6.0%
Skilled worker with tools (in mining, construction, production of various goods)	3.3%
Skilled worker in maintenance, operation and control of technical equipment, equipment and machine assembly	3.0%
Skilled worker in agriculture and forestry, fish-breeding and fishery	2.7%
Legislator, top-rank civil servant	1.5%
Other	0.6%
No answer	1.3%
Total	878

Over a half (65%) of women were employed during the last 12 months before the survey. This share is significantly lower than in 2007 (in 2007, there were 76% of women who were employed during the last 12 months before the survey). It means that more women unemployed for more than a year took part in 2014 survey.

Table 2.2.3. Employment of women during the last 12 months

Percentage distribution of women by employment during the last 12 months before the survey, Ukraine		
	2014	2007
Employed during the last 12 months	64.5%*	75.5%
Unemployed during the last 12 months	36.5%*	24.5%
Total	1606	290.3
* Statistically significant difference with 95% probability		

2.3 HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

The overwhelming majority of women (62%) who participated in the survey are married. Another 7% live with a partner. Therefore, 69% of surveyed women are in either registered or unregistered marriage and live with a partner/husband at the time of survey. The share of these women is significantly higher comparing to the share of those who participated in 2007 survey and were in registered or unregistered marriage at the time (63%).

Accordingly, the share of women not living with a partner (but had been married or lived with a partner before) decreased comparing with 2007, as well as the share of those who had never been in registered or unregistered marriage and the share of widows.

Table 2.3.1. Distribution of women by marital status

Marital status at the time of survey, Ukraine		
	2014	2007
Married	62.0%*	58.3%
Live together with a partner	6.7%*	4.7%
Was married / lived together with a partner	11.8%*	14.5%
Never been married/ never lived together with a partner	17.9%	18.9%
Widow	1.7%*	3.6%
Total	160.6	290.3
* Statistically significant difference with 95% probability		

The overwhelming majority of surveyed women (69%) have children living together with them. Most women live with one child (59%) or two children (35%). The largest number of children living in one household with surveyed women is six (0.1%).

Table 2.3.2. Children living together with women

Children living in a household, Ukraine 2014		
	2014	2007
Share of women living with children	68.5%	67.4%
Number of children living with a woman:		
1	59.1%	61.1%
2	35.4%	32.8%
3	3.2%	4.3%
4	0.9%	1.3%
5	0.2%	0.2%
6	0.1%	0.2%
8	0.0%	0.1%
No answer	1.3%	0.0%
Total	160.6	290.3

2.4 WEALTH QUINTILES

The index which was tested in many countries is a tool for assessing inequalities in household income (Rustein 2004, Rutstein et al., 2000). The wealth index is constructed by assessing a weight or factor score to each asset in a household where surveyed women live through principal component analysis. These scores are summed and ranked by every respondent. Then the sample is divided into quintiles – five group with an equal number of individuals in each group. 20% of sample is in each wealth quintile.

In 2014, the same methodology as in 2007 was applied for calculating wealth quintiles. However, quintiles of 2014 and 2007 surveys are not comparable because in 2007 wealth quintiles were calculated for the total sample of households (so, quintiles for subsample of women aged 15-49 do not constitute 20%), while in 2014 this indicator was calculated for the sample of households with women aged 15-49 (therefore each quintile constitutes 20% of the sample).

3. VIOLENCE

The survey included questions for women who were ever married, information about their experience of any form of emotional, physical or sexual violence from their current (last) husband / partner anytime³. **Emotional spousal violence** was assessed by asking woman whether or not her husband / partner had ever said or done something to humiliate her in front of the others, threatened to hurt or harm her or someone close to her, or insulted her or made her feel bad about herself. To assess the extent of **physical spousal violence**, a woman was asked if her husband / partner had ever done any of the following: (1) pushed her, shaken her, thrown something at her, twisted her arm, or pulled her hair; (2) slapped her; (3) punched her with his fist or with something that could hurt her, kicked her, dragged her, or beaten her up; (4) tried to choke her or burn her; or (5) threatened or attacked her with a knife, gun, or other weapon. The extent of **sexual spousal violence** was assessed by asking the woman whether her husband / partner had ever physically forced her to have sexual intercourse or forced her to any other sexual activity. Women who reported that they had ever experienced any type of violence were asked about the frequency with which each of the specific actions had occurred during the last 12 months preceding the survey.

Additionally, the information on any physical violence experienced by the woman since her fifteenth birthday was obtained from all respondents. Information about women's first sexual experience was obtained from all women who had ever had sexual intercourse, specifically whether their first sexual intercourse was voluntary or not (against their will) and whether they had experienced sexual violence at any other time. When a woman reported about her experience of physical or sexual violence, she was asked about help she may have sought after the most recent episode of violence had occurred.

Distributions of answers to all questions are presented in comparison with UDHS-2007 data. The exceptions are new questions included into the questionnaire in 2014, specifically regarding the following issues: (1) the presence of children during physical violence done by a man against a woman; (2) situations leading to violence done by a man against a woman; (3) requests for medical help after physical violence; (4) reasons for not seeking help among women experienced physical or sexual violence; (5) experience of appeals to militia among women who suffered from physical or sexual violence; (6) the way physical and sexual violence might affect job and income earning activities.

3 For the rest of this chapter the term «husband» refers both to the current or most recent husband for currently married or formerly married women, and to the current or most recent partner for women who currently live or formerly lived together with their partner in unregistered marriage.

3.1 WOMEN EXPERIENCING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Table 3.1.1 shows percentage of all women who reported physical violence they experienced since the age of 15, and during the last 12 months preceding the survey. The data provides the evidence that one in five women aged 15-49 years (19%) experienced physical violence since she turned 15 years old. This figure is significantly higher than in 2007 (17%).

In order to find some explanation for the increased share of victims of physical violence, the share of victims of domestic violence was calculated separately from the share of victims of non-family violence. Increase in the share of women who reported about experiencing physical violence from husbands or other relatives is not statistically significant (16% in 2014 comparing with 14% in 2007), while the share of women who experienced physical violence from perpetrators who were not their relatives has shown a statistically significant growth (5% in 2014 in comparison with 3% in 2007). The detailed information on the perpetrators is in Chapter 3.2.

Survey data cannot be compared with the official crime statistics because, first of all, not all victims appeal to militia, and secondly, because crime statistics does not reflect sex and age of victims or type of violence. However, the tendency of the increasing share of victims of non-family physical violence is consistent with the general trend of crime prevalence increase in Ukraine during 2007-2014. Thus, 401,293 crimes were registered in Ukraine in 2007⁴, and 563,560 in 2013⁵.

Around a half of physical violence victims – 9% - experienced physical violence at least once during the last 12 months preceding the survey (the same rate as in 2007). During a year preceding the survey 0.6% of women experienced physical violence often enough (this figure is significantly lower than in 2007 – 1.3%), and 8% experienced it sometimes (the same rate as 7 years ago). Therefore, the increase in the overall number of women who experienced physical violence in the age of 15-49 occurred not in 2014, but during the earlier years.

Women aged 15-19 experienced physical violence at least often comparing to the other age groups – either in total or during the last 12 months (8% and 1%, respectively), while women aged 40-49 experienced violence most often (27% and 13%, respectively). Employed women faced physical violence more often than unemployed – both since the age of 15 and during the last year.

Table 3.1.1 shows that a woman's experience in domestic violence correlates with the woman's marital status: 46% of divorced or separated women reported about physical violence since the age of 15. There are 9% of such women among unmarried respondents and 17% among married. And more children the woman has, more often she experienced physical violence.

Rural women experienced violence during the last 12 months preceding the survey slightly more often than urban residents (10% comparing to 8%). The highest rate

4 According to the data of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine:

<http://mvs.gov.ua/mvs/control/main/uk/publish/article/170319>

5 Since 2012 statistics is managed by the General Prosecution Office of Ukraine:

http://www.gp.gov.ua/ua/stst2011.html?dir_id=110381&libid=100820&c=edit&c=fo

of physical violence against women since the age of 15 is observed in Northern and Central regions (26% and 24% respectively). These regions are leading by the violence rate during the last 12 months (11% in each region). The lowest level of violence experience rates since the age of 15 and during the last 12 months is observed in the Southern region (16% and 5%, respectively).

The prevalence of violence experience among educated women is lower than among those who have completed on unfinished secondary education. Specifically, 23% of women with secondary or lower level of education experienced physical violence since the age of 15, while this indicator is 19% among women with higher education.

There is no direct correlation between violence experience and wealth.

Table 3.1.1. Physical violence experience among women

Percentage of women aged 15-49 who experienced physical violence since the age of 15 and percentage of women experienced physical violence during the 12 months preceding the survey, by background characteristics, Ukraine					
Background characteristic	Percentage of women experienced physical violence since the age of 15	Percentage of women experienced physical violence in last 12 months			Number of women
	Ever ¹	Often	Sometimes	At least once	
Age group					
15-19	8.0%	0.0%	0.8%	0.8%	133
20-24	12.1%	0.4%	5.6%	6.0%	203
25-29	16.7%	0.6%	7.5%	8.1%	301
30-39	21.1%	0.2%	9.2%	9.4%	560
40-49	26.8%	1.5%	11.2%	12.7%	409
Employment (past 12 months)					
Unemployed	15.5%	0.2%	6.3%	6.5%	728
Employed	22.7%	1.0%	9.7%	10.7%	878
Marital status					
Never married	9.3%	0.0%	1.0%	1.0%	270
Married or living with a partner	17.0%	0.3%	7.9%	8.2%	111,5
Divorced or separated	45.6%	3.2%	18.9%	22.1%	221
Number of living children					
0	13.8%	0.7%	3.9%	4.7%	393
1-2	20.9%	0.6%	9.3%	9.9%	113,6

3+	28.3%	0.9%	14.5%	15.5%	77
Settlement type					
Urban	19.2%	0.4%	7.8%	8.3%	111,5
Rural	20.0%	1.1%	9.0%	10.1%	491
Region					
North	25.7%	1.2%	9.9%	11.0%	276
Center	24.3%	0.9%	10.4%	11.3%	190
East	17.0%	1.0%	6.5%	7.5%	521
South	15.6%	0.0%	5.2%	5.2%	247
West	18.1%	0.0%	9.9%	9.9%	372
Education					
Secondary or lower	22.5%	0.8%	12.1%	12.9%	267
Higher than secondary	18.9%	0.6%	7.4%	8.0%	133,4
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	20.6%	1.1%	11.4%	12.5%	321
Second	17.7%	1.1%	5.6%	6.7%	321
Middle	17.5%	0.5%	6.1%	6.6%	322
Fourth	23.0%	0.3%	9.5%	9.8%	321
Highest	18.3%	0.2%	8.3%	8.6%	321
Total in 2014	19.4%*	0.6%*	8.2%	8.8%	160,6
Total in 2007	16.9%	1.3%	7.5%	8.8%	290,3
* Statistically significant difference with 95% probability					
' Includes last 12 months					

3.2 PERPETRATORS OF PHYSICAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Table 3.2.1 contains percentage distribution of women who ever experienced physical violence from person or persons with regard to their marital status. The data shows that perpetrators of physical violence are mostly husbands.

36% of women who have ever been married and experienced physical violence named their current husband or partner as a perpetrator, while 44% indicated ex-husband or ex-partner.

Violence is also common to be initiated by fathers or step-fathers. 11% of women who ever experienced physical violence since the age of 15, and ever been married and 48% of never-married women indicated that father or step-father was a perpetrator in case of violence. 5% of ever-married women and 17% of never-married women experienced violence from ex-boyfriend, from mother / step-mother – 9% and 8%, respectively (among those who experienced violence at least once since the age of 15).

Respondents significantly more often comparing with 2007 experienced violence from mother or step-mother (9% vs 5% in 2007), from employer (2% vs 0.2%) and from others who are not relatives (19% vs 0.5% - among perpetrators who are not relatives there were mostly male acquaintances or strangers in 2014).

Table 3.2.1 Perpetrators of physical violence

Percentage of women who experienced physical violence from the following perpetrators, among women aged 15-49 who experienced physical violence since the age of 15, Ukraine				
	Marital status			
	Has spousal experience (with husband or partner)	Has no spousal experience	Total 2014	Total 2007
Former husband/partner	43.6%	N/A	39.9%	46.5%
Current husband/partner	35.9%	N/A	32.8%	29.2%
Father/step-father	10.7%	(47.5%)	13.8%	15.6%
Mother/step-mother	9.1%	(8.2%)	9.1%*	5.2%
Former boyfriend	4.9%	(16.6%)	5.9%	6.6%
Sister/brother	3.2%	(3.0%)	3.1%	5.0%
Current boyfriend	2.3%	(0.0%)	2.1%	1.1%
Employer/colleague	1.9%	(3.1%)	2.0%*	0.2%
Other relative	1.3%	(0.0%)	1.2%	0.4%
Daughter/son	1.0%	(0.0%)	1.0%	0.1%
Mother-in-law	1.1%	N/A	1.0%	0.5%
Other relatives of husband	0.7%	N/A	0.7%	0.3%
Father-in-law	0.5%	N/A	0.5%	0.3%
Male militia officer	0.5%	(0.0%)	0.5%	0.3%
Male teacher	0.3%	(0.0%)	0.2%	0.1%
Other people, not relatives	16.7%'	(43.1%)''	19.0%*''	0.5%
Total	288	24	312	491
* Statistically significant difference with 95% probability				
' Including male acquaintance - 9.4%, male stranger - 4.9%, female acquaintance - 1.7%, female stranger - 1.5%, others (response options with 1% each) - 3%				
'' Including male acquaintance - 8.1%, male stranger - 12.1%, female acquaintance - 7.1%, female stranger - 8.6%, female teacher - 7.1%, others (response options with 1%) - 3.8%				
''' Including male acquaintance - 9.3%, male stranger - 5.5%, female acquaintance - 2.1%, female stranger - 2.1%, others (response options with 1%) - 3.7%				
N/A = not applicable				

3.3 FORCE AT SEXUAL INITIATION

Table 3.3.1 shows percentage of sexual violence victims at sexual initiation. 2% of women who had ever had sexual intercourse indicated that their first experience of sexual intercourse was forced against their will. This rate is similar to 2007 data.

Sexual violence victims at sexual initiation indicated that they experienced violence act when they were at the age from 13 to 24.

Table 3.3.1 Force at sexual initiation

Percentage of women aged 15-49 who had ever had sexual intercourse and who indicated that their first experience of sexual intercourse was forced against their will, by age at first sexual intercourse, Ukraine		
Background characteristic	Percentage of women who were forced to the first sexual intercourse against their will	Number of women who had ever had sexual intercourse
Age at first sexual intercourse		
13-19	2.9%	103,4
20-24	1.3%	322
25-49	**	10
Total in 2014	2.0%	150,3*
Total in 2007	1.8%	259,6
* Among them 137 of respondents refused to indicate their age at the time of first sexual intercourse		
**No-one indicated violence during first sexual intercourse in this age.		

3.4 EXPERIENCE OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND PERPETRATORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Information about cases of sexual violence not only at sexual initiation but during women's lifetime was collected in the survey. Overall, 8% of Ukrainian women have ever experienced sexual violence, which is significantly more than in 2007 (5%) (Table 3.4.1).

Percentage of women who indicated sexual violence experience from husband or other relatives is similar in 2007 and 2014 survey data (3%), while percentage of women who experienced non-family sexual violence increased significantly in 2014 (4% in 2014 comparing to 2% in 2007). The detailed information about perpetrators is shown in Table 3.4.2

So, in 2014 women more often experienced both physical (see Chapter 3.1.) and sexual non-family violence. As mentioned in Chapter 3.1., the tendency for the growing number of victims of non-family physical and sexual violence revealed by the survey data, is consistent with the overall trend of crime prevalence increase in Ukraine in 2007-2014.

Older women indicated experience of sexual violence more often.

Women living in urban area indicated experience of sexual violence less often (7%) than rural women (10%). As for the regions, the highest rate of sexual violence is observed in the Central region (14%) and the lowest – in the Eastern region (5%).

Other characteristics did not reveal significant differences in the number of sexual violence victims.

Table 3.4.1 Sexual violence victims

Percentage of women aged 15-49 who have ever experienced sexual violence, by background characteristics, Ukraine		
Background characteristic	Percentage of women who have ever experienced sexual violence ¹	Number of women
Age group		
15-19	2.1%	133
20-24	4.5%	203
25-29	6.5%	301
30-39	9.9%	560
40-49	10.2%	409
Employment (past 12 months)		
Unemployed	6.7%	728
Employed	8.8%	878
Marital status		
Never married	3.1%	270
Married or living with a partner	8.5%	111,5
Divorced or separated	11.2%	221
Number of living children		
0	3.8%	393
1-2	9.3%	113,6
3+	9.6%	77
Settlement type		
Urban	7.1%	111,5
Rural	9.8%	491
Region		
North	9.5%	276
Center	13.6%	190
East	4.9%	521
South	8.0%	247
West	7.6%	372
Education²		
Secondary or lower	8.6%	267

Higher than secondary	7.7%	133,4
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	9.9%	321
Second	7.5%	321
Middle	10.2%	322
Fourth	5.5%	321
Highest	6.4%	321
Total in 2014	7.9%*	160,6
Total in 2007	5.4%	290,3
¹ Including women who were forced to first sexual intercourse against their will ² Excluding 5 women who did not indicate education level		
* Statistically significant difference with 95% probability		

2% of women experienced sexual violence in the last 12 months – the same result was received in 2007. So, an increase in the number of women experiencing sexual violence occurred not in 2014, but during earlier years.

Table 3.4.2 shows the distribution of sexual violence perpetrators as reported by respondents. The data proves that most of those who committed violence are current husbands (24%) or partners and acquaintances (22%), who were indicated by the majority of women experiencing sexual violence after the age of 15, respectively. 15% of women who experienced sexual violence, indicated that it was committed by their former husband or partner.

Comparing with 2007 survey data, respondents mentioned current/former boyfriends and former husbands/partners as perpetrators of sexual violence less often, while male acquaintances or male strangers were indicated more often.

Table 3.4.2. Persons committing sexual violence

Percentage of women who experienced sexual violence from the mentioned perpetrators, among women aged 15-49 who experienced sexual violence since the age of 15, Ukraine		
Person committing violence	Percentage of women in 2014	Percentage of women in 2007
Current husband/partner	26.6%*	16.1%
Male acquaintance	24.5%*	9.7%
Male stranger	16.4%*	0.0%
Former husband/partner	16.1%*	35.0%
Other relative	2.9%	0.8%
Step-father	2.6%	0.9%
Current/former boyfriend	1.3%*	6.8%
Militia officer/soldier	0.0%	0.3%
Priest/religious leader	0.0%	0.4%

Other	8.9%*	0.4%
Not indicated	0.6%	11.3%
Number of women	117	158
* Statistically significant difference with 95% probability		

3.5 EXPERIENCE OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF VIOLENCE

Table 3.5.1 shows percentage of women aged 15-49 who experienced various types of physical violence, sexual violence or both. Overall, 22.4% of women indicated that they had experienced any type of physical or sexual violence (physical, sexual or both). This indicator is significantly higher than in 2007 (18.3%).

Experience of physical and sexual violence is growing with the age: from 8% of women aged 15-19 to 30% of women aged 40-49. 5% of women indicated that they experienced both physical and sexual violence during their lifetime.

Table 3.5.1 Experience of different types of violence

Percentage of women aged 15-49 who experienced various types of violence, by the current age, Ukraine					
Age group	Physical violence only	Sexual violence only ¹	Physical and sexual violence ¹	Physical or sexual violence ¹	Number of women
15-17	5.6%	1.5%	0.6%	7.7%	74
18-19	10.3%	2.1%	0.0%	12.4%	59
20-24	10.0%	2.4%	2.1%	14.4%	203
25-29	12.9%	2.7%	3.8%	19.4%	301
30-39	14.8%	3.6%	6.3%	24.7%	560
40-49	19.6%	3.0%	7.2%	29.8%	409
Total in 2014	14.5%	2.9%	5%	22.4%*	160,6
Total in 2007	12.9%	1.4%	4.0%	18.3%	290,3

¹ Including women forced to first sexual intercourse against their will

3.6 VIOLENCE DURING PREGNANCY

Women can experience violence at any stage of their lifetime. In the survey, women who had ever had a pregnancy were asked whether they had experienced any type of physical violence during their pregnancy. Table 3.6.1 presents the survey results by socio-demographic characteristics of respondents.

Overall, 4% of ever-pregnant women reported violence during pregnancy. Percentage of women who experienced physical violence during pregnancy increased with the age – from 3% in the younger age groups (15-29 years old) to 5% in the older ones (30-49 years old).

Divorced or separated women experienced violence during pregnancy more often (11%) than married women (3%).

Rural and urban women experienced physical violence during pregnancy with a similar frequency (5% and 4%, respectively). Women in the Central region reported on experiencing physical violence during pregnancy most often (12%), while women in the Eastern, Western and Southern regions – least often (3% in each).

There are no significant differences in the number of victims of violence during pregnancy by other characteristics.

Table 3.6.1. Violence during pregnancy, as reported by women

Among women aged 15-49 who had ever been pregnant, percentage of women who ever experienced physical violence during pregnancy, by background characteristics. Ukraine 2014		
Background characteristic	Percentage of women who ever experienced physical violence during pregnancy	Number of women who had ever been pregnant
Age group		
15-24	2.5%	111
25-29	2.9%	212
30-39	5.0%	474
40-49	5.2%	358
Marital status		
Never married	0.0%	26
Married or living with a partner	3.2%	940
Divorced or separated	10.7%	189
Widow		
Number of living children		
0	5.1%	53
1-2	4.1%	102,7
3+	7.9%	75
Settlement type		
Urban	4.2%	765
Rural	4.8%	390
Region		
North	6.5%	176
Center	11.6%	128
East	2.9%	372
South	2.8%	185

West	2.9%	294
Education		
Secondary or lower	7.1%	167
Higher than secondary	4.0%	987
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	5.6%	257
Second	5.0%	238
Middle	3.1%	236
Fourth	5.3%	208
Highest	3.0%	216
Total in 2014	4.4%	115,5
Total in 2007	3.7%	217,2
Note: numbers in parentheses are calculated based on 25-49 unweighted cases.		

3.7 MARITAL CONTROL OVER WOMAN BY HUSBAND OR PARTNER

Marital/spousal violence against woman refers to violence committed by a husband or a partner, with whom a woman lives together and runs a common household, irrespective of whether the marriage is officially registered or not. This chapter will show different types of marital control behaviour committed by husband/partner against his wife/partner. Controlling behaviour attempts to “appropriation” of a woman, her isolation from external environment, limitation of her movements, with different types of violence committed by husbands against wives as outlined in Chapter 3.8.

To measure the rate of spousal control by husbands/partners of their wives, ever-married women were asked whether their husband/partner showed any of the following types of controlling behaviour: (1) becoming jealous or getting angry if she talks to other men; (2) accusing her of being unfaithful without any reasons; (3) not permitting meetings with female friends; (4) trying to limit woman’s contact with her family; (5) insisting on knowing where she is at any time; (6) not allowing a woman to have any money; (7) threatening to kick a woman out of the house, leaving her without a penny, not paying alimony.

According to the survey data (Table 3.7.1), around one third of married respondents (either registered or unregistered marriage) experienced jealousy or angry behaviour of their husband/partner when they talked to other men (32%) or constant insisting on knowing where a woman is at any time (30%). These two types of control behaviour of the husband/partner are the most common. Overall, 46% of married women experienced as least one type of controlling behaviour of their husband or partner – this is a considerable decline comparing to 2007 when this indicator was 66%.

Cases of controlling behaviour (when a husband shows three or more types of controlling behaviour) are more common among younger women, employed women,

women whose marriage is not the first one, and women with lower education level and in lower wealth quintile group. In general, one in ten women experienced three or more types of controlling behaviour of husband/partner. Women residing in the Northern and Western regions indicated experiencing three or more types of controlling behaviour of their husbands most often (14% in each region).

Living in rural or urban area does not influence controlling behaviour of husband/partner towards a woman.

2014 survey revealed the following differences in controlling behaviour of husband/partner comparing with 2007 results:

- Percentage of women who indicated a case of any type of controlling behaviour declined comparing with 2007, especially with regard to jealousy when a woman talks to other men; insisting on knowing where a woman is at any time; not allowing a woman to have money; threatening of kicking a woman out of the house and leaving her without money, not paying alimony;
- The only type of controlling behaviour reported more often in 2014 than in 2007 is trying to limit woman's contacts with her family. This type of controlling behaviour of a husband/partner was mentioned in 2014 by almost twice more women (4% in 2014, comparing to 2% in 2007). Although, the percentage of women who experience such controlling behaviour of a husband is not high.

Table 3.7.1. Degree of spousal control by husband towards a woman

Percentage of women aged 15-49 whose current husband/partner has ever shown any type of controlling behaviour, by background characteristics, Ukraine ¹										
Background characteristics	Becoming jealous or getting angry if she talks to other men	Often accusing her of being unfaithful without any reasons	Not permitting meetings with female friends	Trying to limit woman's contact with her family	insisting on knowing where she is at any time	Not allowing a woman to have any money	Threatening to kick a woman out of the house, leave her without a penny, not pay alimony	Shows 3 or more types of behaviour	Does not demonstrate any of listed types of behaviour	Number of women
Age										
15-19	46.2%	2.8%	13.5%	7.7%	46.2%	4.6%	0.0%	20.9%	39.7%	21
20-24	25.1%	4.7%	3.7%	1.2%	32.3%	3.2%	.8%	6.4%	58.2%	110
25-29	32.2%	8.4%	5.6%	2.2%	32.2%	8.1%	2.1%	9.7%	52.6%	228
30-39	29.6%	8.1%	6.2%	3.1%	28.3%	5.0%	2.9%	10.5%	57.2%	460
40-49	34.6%	11.2%	8.3%	6.1%	27.4%	9.7%	4.7%	12.7%	51.7%	296
Employment (past 12 months)										
Unemployed	28.8%	7.3%	5.9%	3.2%	27.1%	6.2%	2.5%	9.6%	57.8%	518
Employed	34.1%	9.8%	7.3%	4.3%	31.9%	7.5%	3.5%	12.0%	51.1%	597

Marital status										
Married or living with a partner	31.7%	8.7%	6.7%	3.8%	29.7%	6.9%	3.0%	10.9%	54.2%	111,5
Married for the 1st time	28.9%	7.6%	5.5%	3.4%	27.5%	5.7%	1.7%	9.1%	56.9%	942
Married for more than once	47.1%	15.3%	12.8%	6.6%	43.7%	14.7%	11.1%	21.9%	38.2%	157
Number of living children										
0	36.2%	11.4%	7.1%	6.1%	38.0%	6.6%	2.6%	15.8%	48.7%	113
1-2	31.0%	8.5%	6.6%	3.3%	28.8%	6.9%	3.0%	10.4%	55.1%	938
3+	33.3%	6.5%	7.6%	7.4%	27.2%	8.5%	4.0%	9.6%	51.0%	64
Settlement type										
Urban	30.8%	8.0%	6.7%	3.1%	31.2%	6.0%	2.3%	10.4%	54.5%	746
Rural	33.8%	10.2%	6.7%	5.5%	26.1%	9.2%	4.8%	12.0%	53.5%	369
Region										
North	32.9%	9.0%	7.9%	3.3%	36.8%	9.1%	5.4%	13.9%	47.2%	195
Center	39.2%	7.7%	6.6%	3.3%	29.3%	14.4%	3.4%	10.6%	44.0%	125
East	27.2%	7.3%	6.1%	1.6%	32.4%	2.4%	1.3%	7.8%	58.2%	334
South	32.5%	5.8%	4.9%	1.7%	24.8%	3.1%	3.2%	9.0%	55.9%	189
West	32.3%	12.5%	7.7%	8.4%	24.5%	10.1%	3.0%	13.8%	58.0%	272
Education										
Secondary or lower	42.1%	14.1%	13.4%	6.3%	33.5%	11.6%	5.6%	19.6%	47.6%	173
Higher than secondary	29.9%	7.7%	5.5%	3.4%	29.1%	6.1%	2.6%	9.3%	55.3%	939
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	34.2%	14.1%	9.4%	6.2%	30.7%	9.2%	5.0%	14.1%	51.0%	246
Second	31.2%	6.4%	5.2%	3.4%	29.6%	11.1%	3.3%	10.4%	51.8%	229
Middle	29.3%	6.5%	5.5%	4.4%	31.0%	3.2%	0.5%	7.6%	54.1%	231
Fourth	37.3%	5.5%	5.4%	1.2%	28.1%	7.4%	2.8%	10.7%	52.7%	201
Highest	26.6%	10.7%	7.8%	3.7%	28.8%	3.8%	3.5%	11.8%	61.6%	208
Total in 2014	31.7%*	8.7%	6.7%	3.8%*	29.7%*	6.9%*	3.0%*	10.9%*	54.2%*	111,5
Total in 2007	49.1%	9.6%	6.6%	2.2%	48.4%	12.6%	4.6%	15.2%	33.8%	193,2

* Statistically significant difference with 95% probability

3.8 TYPES OF SPOUSAL VIOLENCE

3.8.1 Types of violence committed by a husband/partner

Women who experience spousal violence often face not only one type of violence – physical, sexual or emotional, but several types of violence at once.

Table 3.8.1.1 shows the rates of experiencing different types of spousal violence, meaning physical, sexual and emotional, and detailed information on various forms of violence faced by women in marriage (registered or unregistered). Moreover, the table shows aggregated indicators of the percentage of women who experienced several types of violence.

Overall, around 15% of ever married women indicated that they had ever experienced physical violence committed by their husband/partner; moreover, 10% experienced physical violence at least once during the last 12 months. The most common form of physical violence committed by a husband/partner is pushing her, shaking her or throwing something at her (13% of women have ever experienced it, and 10% experienced this form of physical violence at least once during the last 12 months), slapping her (9% of women have ever experienced it and 6% - at least once in the last 12 months). There are no significant differences with 2007 figures.

As for sexual violence, 3% of ever married women indicated that their husband/partner committed this type of violence ever, and 2% experienced it during the last year. The most common form is forcing to sexual intercourse against a woman's will (3%). There are no statistically significant differences with 2007 figures.

Emotional violence is the most common type of violence against women committed by a husband/partner. 18% of ever-married women reported that they had ever experienced emotional violence committed by a husband/partner. 14% of them told that this violence occurred at least once during the last year. Percentage of women who experienced emotional violence from their husband/partner is significantly lower comparing to 2007. Percentage of women who experienced emotional violence during the last 12 months also declined. Due to stressful political events in 2014 (mass murders on Maidan Nezalezhnosti, or Independence Square, military actions in AR Crimea and in the East of Ukraine) we assume that family conflicts, which might cause emotional violence against women, became less important for the respondents in 2014 comparing to more stressful situations. In other words, frequency of such conflicts might decline, and if compared with other stressful events, their importance for women might diminish. That is why such situations are less reported in 2014 than in 2007. At the same time, as mentioned above, crisis events between 2007 and 2014 did not affect the frequency of physical and sexual spousal violence, as these types of violence are less easy to "forget" than emotional violence.

The most common form of emotional violence against women committed by her husband/partner is insulting her and making her feel bad about herself (15% of women experienced this form of violence ever in lifetime and 12% during the last 12 months), as well as humiliating a woman in front of the others (13% of women experienced this form of emotional violence ever in lifetime and 10% - in the last 12 months). 8% of women indicated that the husband/partner had ever threatened to hurt them or someone close to them.

22% of ever married women experienced at least one form of violence (physical, sexual or emotional) committed by husband/partner ever, and 17% of them experienced any form of violence in the last 12 months. Percentage of those who experienced at least one form of violence during the last year declined significantly comparing with 2007, due to the decline of emotional violence rate.

All of the three forms of violence were experienced by 3% of women, while 1% of women experienced them during the last year.

Table 3.8.1.1. Forms of spousal violence as reported by women

Percentage of women 15-49 who had been ever married and who experienced various forms of spousal violence committed by a current or last husband/partner ever or during the last 12 months preceding the survey, Ukraine					
	Ever	In last 12 months			
		Often	Sometimes	At least once	
Physical violence					
Any of the following					
2014	14.5%	0.9%	9.0%	9.9%	
2007	12.7%	1.6%	8.4%	9.6%	
Pushing a woman, shaking her, or throwing something at her	12.8%	1.8%	7.4%	9.2%	
Slapping a woman	8.5%	1.3%	4.5%	5.8%	
Punching a woman with a fist or with something that can hurt her	5.8%	0.8%	3.2%	4.0%	
Kicking a woman, dragging her, or beating her up	5.6%	0.8%	3.4%	4.3%	
Twisting woman's arm or pulling her hair	4.4%	0.9%	2.2%	3.0%	
Trying to choke her or burn her on purpose	1.5%	0.2%	0.9%	1.2%	
Threatening a woman or attacking her with a knife, gun, or any other weapon	1.1%	0.0%	0.8%	0.8%	
Sexual violence					
Any of the following					
2014	3.2%	0.3%	2.0%	2.3%	
2007	3.3%	0.4%	1.8%	2.2%	
Physically forcing a woman to have sexual intercourse with him even when she does not want to	2.6%	0.4%	1.4%	1.8%	
Forcing a woman to perform any sexual acts she does not want to	2.3%	0.3%	1.4%	1.8%	
Emotional violence					
Any of the following					
2014	18.3%*	2.5%*	11.8%*	14.3%*	
2007	22.4%	4.6%	15.6%	20.2%	
Insulting a woman or making her feel bad about herself	15.1%	3.0%	8.6%	11.6%	
Saying or doing something to humiliate a woman in front of others	12.7%	2.9%	6.7%	9.6%	
Threatening to hurt or harm a woman or someone close to her	7.7%	1.7%	3.8%	5.6%	
Summary					
Any form of physical and/or sexual violence (at least one type of violence)					

	2014	15.0%	0.9%	9.5%	10.4%
	2007	13.2%	1.7%	9.0%	10.6%
Any form of physical and sexual violence (both types of violence)					
	2014	2.7%	0.1%	1.5%	1.6%
	2007	2.7%	0.3%	1.6%	1.9%
Any form of emotional, or physical, or sexual violence (at least one type of violence)					
	2014	21.6%	1.2%*	15.4%	16.7%*
	2007	24.4%	4.9%	17.0%	21.9%
Any form of emotional, physical, and sexual violence (all three types of violence)					
	2014	2.6%	0.1%	1.2%	1.3%
	2007	2.4%	0.3%	1.1%	1.5%
Number of women who had been ever married, 2014		131,2	131,2	131,2	131,2
Number of women who had been ever married, 2007		235,5	225,1	225,1	225,1

55% of women who experienced physical spousal violence indicated that children were present when husband/partner was beating them. Among them, 28% reported that children were present and saw physical violence expression for 1 or 2 times, 43% - several times, 27% - many times (2% refused to answer)⁶.

3.8.2 Differences in various types of spousal violence by background characteristics

Table 3.8.2.1 presents data about the percentage of ever married women who reported about experiencing violence committed by husband/partner, taking into account their socio-demographic characteristics. List of the most significant differences in the experience of any type of violence (at least one type) among women of difference social background is given below:

- Older women more often mentioned that their husband/partner committed any type of violence.
- Employed women reported about various forms of violence expression committed by their husbands/partners more often than unemployed women.
- Women with more children tend to experience violence more often
- Women who are divorced or separated reported about violence experience most often. We can assume that a considerable percentage of women got divorced due to violence committed by their husband. Duration of marriage also affects violence expression by husband: the longer marriage, the higher percentage of women reported about violence by a husband or a partner. Furthermore, women who are married more than once

⁶ This question was not asked in 2007.

experienced violence committed by a husband more often than women married for the first time.

- Women in the Northern, Central and Western regions reported about spousal violence experience more often than women in the Eastern and Southern regions.
- Women with secondary and lower education level report about experiencing all types of violence more often. Therefore, we can conclude that a higher level of education decreases a risk of spousal violence.
- Women in the lowest wealth quintile group reported about violence experience most often.

Table 3.8.2.1 Forms of spousal violence as reported by women, by background characteristics

Percentage of women aged 15-49 who had ever been married, distributed by experiencing emotional, physical or sexual violence committed by their current or last husband/partner ever, by background characteristics, Ukraine								
Background characteristic	Emotional violence	Physical violence	Sexual violence	Physical and/ or sexual violence	Physical and sexual violence	Emotional, or physical, or sexual violence	Emotional, physical and sexual violence	Number of women
Age								
15-24	8.2%	7.8%	0.9%	7.8%	0.9%	11.3%	0.9%	150
25-29	14.6%	10.4%	1.9%	10.9%	1.4%	18.8%	1.0%	253
30-39	19.9%	14.1%	4.3%	15.1%	3.2%	22.6%	3.2%	524
40-49	22.5%	19.7%	3.6%	19.7%	3.6%	25.9%	3.5%	385
Employment (past 12 months)								
Unemployed	14.5%	10.3%	2.0%	10.5%	1.7%	16.5%	1.7%	564
Employed	21.2%	17.6%	4.1%	18.2%	3.5%	25.4%	3.2%	748
Number of living children								
0	13.9%	13.7%	2.4%	14.6%	1.5%	19.3%	1.5%	144
1-2	18.2%	14.0%	3.3%	14.4%	2.9%	21.2%	2.8%	109,2
3+	28.1%	23.1%	2.4%	23.1%	2.4%	31.6%	2.4%	76
Marital status								
Currently married	12.5%	9.3%	2.4%	9.8%	2.0%	15.5%	1.9%	111,5
Married for 1 time	16.4%	12.2%	2.7%	12.6%	2.4%	18.8%	2.3%	109,8
Marriage duration								
0-4 years	4.8%	4.2%	0.9%	4.2%	0.9%	6.1%	0.9%	143
5-9 years	13.5%	9.2%	1.2%	9.2%	1.2%	15.7%	1.2%	273
10+ years	19.8%	15.4%	3.7%	16.0%	3.1%	22.6%	3.0%	634

Married for more than 1 time	28.6%	25.9%	6.1%	27.0%	5.0%	35.9%	4.6%	193
Divorced or separated	52.6%	44.8%	7.5%	45.2%	7.0%	57.1%	6.6%	197
Settlement type								
Urban	16.8%	13.7%	2.9%	14.1%	2.4%	20.7%	2.3%	892
Rural	22.0%	16.5%	3.8%	16.9%	3.4%	24.0%	3.2%	420
Region								
North	22.0%	18.0%	5.2%	18.9%	4.4%	24.5%	4.4%	228
Center	26.3%	17.8%	3.1%	17.8%	3.1%	28.0%	3.1%	152
East	13.5%	12.8%	2.5%	12.8%	2.5%	17.4%	2.4%	414
South	10.5%	9.4%	2.4%	10.5%	1.4%	14.7%	1.4%	211
West	23.4%	15.8%	2.9%	16.4%	2.4%	26.5%	2.1%	307
Education								
Secondary or lower	24.0%	21.4%	4.2%	21.4%	4.2%	28.4%	3.7%	198
Higher than secondary	17.4%	13.3%	3.0%	13.9%	2.5%	20.5%	2.4%	111,1
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	26.4%	18.4%	3.0%	18.6%	2.7%	28.3%	2.4%	276
Second	13.7%	12.3%	4.6%	12.6%	4.3%	16.3%	4.3%	267
Middle	15.9%	10.6%	3.0%	11.7%	1.9%	19.2%	1.9%	272
Fourth	19.0%	17.7%	0.9%	17.7%	0.9%	23.7%	0.9%	249
Highest	16.9%	13.9%	4.4%	14.4%	3.9%	20.8%	3.6%	248
Total in 2014	18.3%*	14.5%	3.2%	15.0%	2.7%	21.6%	2.6%	131,2
Total in 2007	22.4%	12.7%	3.3%	13.2%	2.7%	24.4%	2.4%	235,5
* Statistically significant difference with 95% probability								

Experience of spousal violence is also affected by experience of observing violence committed by father against mother in the respondent's childhood. 37% of women whose father had beaten their mother (19% of all ever-married women) experienced any type of violence (emotional, physical or sexual) committed by a husband/partner, while 17% of women whose father had not beaten their mother experienced spousal violence.

3.8.3 Specific situations causing spousal violence

Husband's alcohol abuse is the most common situation causing violence committed by a husband/partner against a woman. Almost two thirds of women who ever experienced any type of violence (61%) reported that husband committed violence being drunk.

Around a quarter of women (28%) reported that husband can commit violence

against them if a woman disagrees with him or refuses something. A similar percentage (26%) experienced violence due to husband's jealousy.

One in five women (21%) who experienced violence committed by husband mentioned that there was no specific reason for committing violence by husband.

Table 3.8.3.1 Specific situations causing violence

Among women aged 15-49 who experienced physical and/or sexual violence committed by their current or last husband/partner, Ukraine	
When husband is drunk	60.8%
When a woman disagrees or refuses to do something	27.8%
Jealousy	26.0%
No specific reason	21.3%
Financial problems	16.6%
Problems at his workplace	12.3%
Refusal from sexual intercourse	9.8%
Problems in his/her family	9.0%
When a husband is tired	7.6%
There is no cooked meals at home	5.3%
He thinks I do not look good enough	4.4%
House is not clean at all or not clean enough	3.5%
Undesirable pregnancy	1.3%
No reason	5.5%
No answer	3.1%
Total	197
*This question was not asked in 2007	

3.9 SPOUSAL VIOLENCE BY SPOUSAL CHARACTERISTICS

Table 3.9.1 presents data about the correlation of violence experience and spousal characteristics. The list of significant differences in experiencing any type of violence (at least one out of three) among women with husbands of various social backgrounds is as follows:

- Husbands with the education level higher than secondary tend to commit any type of violence against their wife/partner less often.
- 9% of women whose husbands do not drink alcohol experienced any type of violence, comparing to 76% of those women whose husbands get drunk often.
- The lowest percentage of women who experienced spousal violence is observed among women who have the same level of education as their husbands: 20% of women who have the same level of education as their husbands experience any type of violence, comparing to 27% of women

Difference in education level in a couple								
Husband's education is higher than husband's	24.4%	20.7%	3.0%	20.7%	3.0%	29.7%	3.0%	118
Wife's education is higher than wife's	25.3%	19.8%	4.4%	20.6%	3.5%	27.3%	3.5%	102
Both have the same level of education	16.6%	12.7%	3.2%	13.2%	2.7%	19.6%	2.6%	105
No answer								42
Number of reasons reported by women for refusing sexual intercourse with husband								
0	24.1%	18.6%	9.3%	18.6%	9.3%	24.1%	9.3%	26
1-2	18.5%	13.7%	4.6%	14.2%	4.1%	21.9%	3.6%	173
3	18.2%	14.5%	2.8%	15.0%	2.4%	21.5%	2.3%	111,3
Number of reasons that excuse husband's beating his wife								
0	17.7%	13.7%	2.8%	14.2%	2.3%	20.6%	2.2%	122,7
1+	27.5%	26.3%	8.0%	26.3%	8.0%	36.4%	8.0%	85
Total in 2014	18.3%*	14.5%	3.2%	15.0%	2.7%	21.6%*	2.6%	131,2
Total in 2007	22.4%	12.7%	3.3%	13.2%	2.7%	24.4%	2.4%	235,5
* Statistically significant difference with 95% probability								

3.10 FREQUENCY OF SPOUSAL VIOLENCE COMMITTED BY HUSBAND

To track the number of women who continue experiencing violence, respondents were asked about the frequency of every act of violence committed by their husband during the last 12 months preceding the survey. Table 3.10.1 shows that among all women who reported about ever experienced spousal violence, around eight in ten women had experienced emotional spousal violence in the 12 months preceding the survey, moreover one in seven women experienced this type of violence often during the last year.

Besides, 69% of women who had ever experienced physical or sexual spousal violence reported about physical and sexual violence during the last 12 months. Particularly, for 6% of them such types of violence happened often during the last year.

Comparing to 2007, the 2014 survey revealed a considerable progress in the situation of women experiencing emotional and physical/sexual spousal violence. Thus, in 2007, 90% of emotional violence victims experienced it during the last year as well, but in 2014 this indicator declined to 78%; as for the victims of physical or sexual violence, the respective indicators are 85% and 69%. It means than during the 7 years the number of violence victims who managed to stop the violence (and, consequently, did not suffer from it in the last 12 months) increased – the authors believe this positive shift was driven by campaigns on violence prevention and gender equality.

As indicated in Chapter 3.8.1., stressful events of 2014 could cause the decline in

emotional violence frequency, but they did not affect the frequency of physical and sexual violence. Therefore, even if positive changes in emotional violence prevention can be explained with particularities of 2014 (frequency of family conflicts causing emotional violence reduced because of external threats, and/or women began to perceive family insults as less important), a positive shift of physical and sexual spousal violence prevention is an evidence that percentage of women ready to suffer from spousal violence declined comparing to 2007.

Table 3.10.1. Frequency of spousal violence among those who reported about violence

Percentage distribution of ever-married women aged 15-49 who ever experienced emotional violence committed by current or last husband/partner, by the frequency of such cases in last 12 months preceding the survey, and percentage distribution of ever-married women aged 15-49 who ever experienced physical or sexual violence committed by current or last husband/partner, by the frequency of such cases in last 12 months preceding the survey, by background characteristics, Ukraine										
Background characteristic	Frequency of emotional violence in the last 12 months					Frequency of physical or sexual violence in the last 12 months				
	Often	Sometimes	None	Total	Number of women	Often	Sometimes	None	Total	Number of women
Age group										
15-24	15.2%	77.9%	6.9%	100%	13	6.8%	86.0%	7.2%	100%	13
25-29	15.0%	63.1%	21.8%	100%	37	6.3%	77.5%	16.2%	100%	28
30-39	9.8%	72.6%	17.6%	100%	106	3.5%	60.8%	35.7%	100%	79
40-49	15.8%	55.5%	28.7%	100%	86	8.1%	57.7%	34.1%	100%	77
Marital status										
Married currently	12.2%	76.0%	11.8%	100%	141	3.9%	77.6%	18.5%	100%	108
Divorced or separated	15.0%	48.3%	36.7%	100%	101	9.0%	45.5%	45.4%	100%	89
Settlement type										
Urban	10.9%	64.5%	24.6%	100%	149	6.0%	62.6%	31.4%	100%	126
Rural	17.9%	64.1%	18.0%	100%	93	6.6%	64.9%	28.6%	100%	71
Region										
North	16.5%	54.3%	29.2%	100%	53	5.6%	65.0%	29.4%	100%	44
Center	13.6%	72.4%	14.0%	100%	41	6.2%	71.8%	22.0%	100%	28
East	20.4%	62.2%	17.4%	100%	53	13.7%	54.1%	32.2%	100%	52
South	4.4%	52.6%	43.0%	100%	22	0.0%	56.7%	43.3%	100%	21
West	8.5%	72.3%	19.2%	100%	73	1.7%	69.7%	28.6%	100%	52
Education										
Secondary or lower	14.1%	69.7%	16.2%	100%	49	7.1%	73.5%	19.5%	100%	42
Higher than secondary	13.2%	63.1%	23.7%	100%	193	5.9%	60.6%	33.5%	100%	155
Wealth quintile										

Lowest	14.7%	76.4%	8.9%	100%	73	7.0%	72.3%	20.7%	100%	51
Second	29.1%	37.2%	33.7%	100%	35	8.4%	56.5%	35.1%	100%	34
Middle	1.7%	59.9%	38.3%	100%	46	7.4%	60.4%	32.2%	100%	33
Fourth	16.1%	60.6%	23.3%	100%	46	6.1%	57.1%	36.7%	100%	43
Highest	7.1%	76.6%	16.4%	100%	42	2.0%	68.1%	29.9%	100%	36
Total in 2014	13.4%*	64.3%	22.3%*	100%	242	6.2%*	63.4%*	30.5%*	100%	197
Total in 2007	20.4%	69.7%	9.9%	100%	504	13.4%	71.9%	14.6%	100%	280

* Statistically significant difference with 95% probability

3.11 ONSET OF SPOUSAL VIOLENCE

About a quarter of women who had experienced violence (4% of all women) reported that a husband started committing violence at the first year of spousal life. The same percentage said that the first case of violence committed by a husband occurred when they were married for 1-2 years. And around one in five women who experienced violence (3% of all women) became a victim of violence committed by a husband being married for 3-5 years. Therefore, the vast majority of women became violence victims during the first years of marriage (up to 5 years).

Table 3.11.1. Onset of spousal violence

Percentage distribution of ever-married women aged 15-49, by the number of years between the start of marriage and first case of physical or sexual spousal violence committed by the current or last husband/partner if ever happened, with regard to marital status and marriage duration, Ukraine										
Number of years between the start of marriage * and first case of violence										
Period from the start of marriage	No cases of violence	Before marriage ¹	<1 year	1-2 years	3-5 years	6-9 years	10+ years	Do not know/ No answer	Total	Number of women
Married currently	90.2%	0.9%	2.1%	2.6%	2.1%	0.4%	1.1%	0.6%	100%	111,5
Married once	92.3%	0.7%	1.5%	1.7%	1.7%	0.4%	1.3%	0.4%	100%	942
Married more than once	79.3%	1.8%	5.8%	6.8%	4.2%	0.0%	0.4%	1.7%	100%	157
Number of marriages is not indicated	82.3%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	0.0%	9.4%	0.0%	0.0%	100%	16
Divorced or separated/ Widow	82.3%	0.8%	13.0%	11.3%	9.6%	1.3%	4.9%	4.4%	100%	221
Total in 2014	85.0%	0.9%	3.7%	3.8%	3.2%	0.6%	1.7%	1.2%	100%	131,2

Total in 2007	86.8%	0.3%	2.5%	3.1%	4.9%	1.1%	1.3%	0.1%	100%	235,5
*For couples who are not married but live together as like they are married, start of marriage is the start of woman's first time of living together with her partner.										

3.12 TYPES OF INJURIES TO WOMEN RESULTING FROM SPOUSAL VIOLENCE

Table 3.12.1 contains information about types of injuries women had as a result of spousal violence. Around seven in ten women among those who had ever experienced physical spousal violence had cuts, bruises or aches; 13% got eye injuries, sprains, dislocations, or burns; and 7% had deep wounds, broken bones, broken teeth, or any other serious injury. Overall, 71% of women have got any of these injuries as a result of physical spousal violence. 74% of women who experienced physical spousal violence during the last 12 months have got any other injuries.

Frequency of getting injuries by women who have ever experienced sexual violence differs insignificantly from the frequency of getting injuries after physical violence.

Overall, 71% of women who experienced physical or sexual violence in the last 12 months have got any injuries listed. Frequency of getting deep wounds, broken bones, broken teeth or any other serious injury increased in 2014 comparing to 2007, and frequency of getting eye injuries, sprains, dislocations or burns decreased.

Table 3.12.1. Types of injuries to women resulting from spousal violence

Percentage of ever-married women aged 15-49 who experienced any type of spousal violence, by the type of injury committed by current of last husband/partner, by the type of violence and with regard to whether they experienced violence ever and in last 12 months preceding the survey, Ukraine							
		Percentage of women who had:					Number of women , who experienced spousal violence
		Cuts, bruises or aches	Eye injuries, sprains, dislocations, or burns	Deep wounds, broken bones broken teeth, or any other serious injury	Gunshot wounds	Any of these injuries	
Experienced physical violence							
2014	Ever	70.3%	13.4%	7.2%*	0.8%	70.9%	191
	In the last 12 months	73.0%	16.0%	6.0%	1.2%	73.9%	129
2007	Ever	71.0%	20.0%	3.1%	—**	71.5%	298
	In the last 12 months	70.3%	21.2%	3.5%	—	70.7%	235
Experienced sexual violence							
2014	Ever	(64.3%)	(15.5%)	(11.2%)	(2.1%)	(64.3%)	44
	In the last 12 months	(65.4%)	(19.0%)	(15.7%)	(3.0%)	(65.4%)	31

2007	Ever	82.1%	33.9%	7.0%	–	82.1%	68
	In the last 12 months	88.8%	39.1%	7.1%	–	88.8%	50
Experienced physical or sexual violence							
2014	Ever	68.2%	13.0%*	7.0%*	0.8%	68.8%	197
	In the last 12 months	70.6%	15.9%	6.3%	1.2%	71.4%	135
2007	Ever	70.3%	19.7%	3.1%	–	70.7%	303
	In the last 12 months	69.5%	20.8%	3.4%	–	69.9%	239
Note: numbers in parentheses are calculated based on 25-49 unweighted cases							
* Statistically significant difference with 95% probability							

3.13 WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE AND SOUGHT FOR HELP

In 2014, 8% of women who had ever experienced **physical violence** committed by anyone since the age of 15 reported that they got serious injuries and needed medical help. The majority of them (13 out of 23 women) mentioned that these cases happened more than once⁷. 20 out of 23 women visited a doctor in those cases, and 17 women informed a doctor about the real reason of injury.

Comparing to 2007, the percentage of women who sought for help among victims of **physical or sexual violence**: 38% of such women sought for help in 2007 and 32% in 2014 (see Table 3.13.1). The possible explanation of this can be found in Table 3.13.2: significantly fewer women sought for help from relatives in 2014. The authors of this report suppose that it can be explained with the increased number of violence victims who suffered from non-family violence (see Chapters 3.1. and 3.4.): if a woman experienced violence committed by a family member, other relatives can affect the perpetrator, but in case of non-family violence relatives usually can do a little (if they are not present at the moment of violence), so there is no sense in seeking help from them. In case of non-family violence the barriers to address militia should be lower than in case of family violence, but the number of requests to militia grew insignificantly. That might be explained with a lower level of confidence in militia: according to the data of the nationally representative survey conducted by GfK Ukraine based on Omnibus, 55% of the adult population in Ukraine did not trust militia in March 2009 with 16% of those who trusted it, but in September 2014 these indicators were 47% and 10%, respectively.

Therefore, the authors believe that the reason for declined readiness of violence victims to seek for help is in increased frequency of non-family violence and decreased confidence in militia, which led to the decrease in the frequency of requests for help from relatives without a proportional growth of the number of requests to militia.

Women who experienced both physical and sexual violence sought for help most often (43%). Among the victims of only one type of violence, only about a quarter sought for help (28% of women who experienced physical or sexual violence, for each type of violence).

Women aged 25-29 sought for help most often (44%), while only one in four women aged 40-49 sought for help (26%). In general, 41% of women aged 15-29 requested for a help.

Women with children sought for help more often (32-33%) than those without children (26%). There are no statistically significant differences by other characteristics.

Table 3.13.1. Seeking for help to stop violence

Percentage distribution of women aged 15-49 who have ever experienced physical or sexual violence, with regard to the source of help, by the type of violence and background characteristics, Ukraine		
Type of violence/ Background characteristics	Percentage of women who sought for help from any of sources	Number of women
Type of violence		
Only physical	28.3%	232
Only sexual	27.9%	19
Physical and sexual	42.6%	84
Age		
15-24	36.3%	34
25-29	43.6%	56
30-39	30.5%	131
40-49	26.2%	114
Number of living children		
0	24.4%	59
1-2	33.3%	253
3+	32.1%	23
Marital status		
Married currently	30.6%	206
Married for one time	30.3%	133
Married more than once	29.3%	68
Divorced or separated	34.1%	105
Settlement type		
Urban	32.1%	225
Rural	30.5%	110
Region		
North	32.5%	73

Center	38.4%	52
East	29.7%	91
South	32.1%	40
West	28.2%	79
Education		
Secondary or lower	35.8%	64
Higher than secondary	30.7%	271
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	36.1%	75
Second	21.6%	59
Middle	30.6%	65
Fourth	30.8%	75
Highest	38.0%	61
Total in 2014	31.6%*	335
Total in 2007	38.1%	533
* Statistically significant difference with 95% probability		

Table 3.13.2 shows the sources used by women when seeking for help in case of physical or sexual violence. These women sought for help from own family (19%) and militia (16%) most often. Only 1% of violence victims addressed a psychologist and another 1% appealed to social services or non-governmental organizations.

Comparing to 2007, the percentage of women who sought for help from own family declined (from 28% in 2007 to 19% in 2014) as well as from the family of a husband/partner (from 18% to 7%). As indicated above, the authors' explanation of this fact is in the increased number of victims of non-family violence (see Chapters 3.1. and 3.4.).

Table 3.13.2. Sources women addressed seeking for help in case of violence

Percentage of women 15-49 who ever experienced physical or sexual violence and sought for help from any source, by the type of help source, Ukraine		
Source of help	Percentage of women who sought for help among all women who experienced violence, 2014	Percentage of women who sought for help among all women who experienced violence, 2007**
Own family	19.0%*	27.9%
Militia officer	15.9%	13.0%
Family of husband / partner	7.0%*	17.7%
Friend / acquaintance	3.8%*	6.9%
Lawyer	2.5%	1.2%
Neighbour	1.6%*	6.3%
Psychologist	1.3%	-

Social service / organization***	1.3%	1.2%
Doctor/hospital staff	1.2%	1.1%
Colleagues at workplace	1.0%	-
Husband / partner	0.9%	0.4%
Boyfriend	0.4%	0.2%
Priest	0.0%	0.1%
Other	0.2%	0.7%
Total	335	533
* Statistically significant difference with 95% probability		
**Data obtained from UDHS-2007 dataset		
***This wording was used in 2007, while in 2014 there were answer options from Centre of Social Services for Family, Children and Youth (chosen by 2% of women seeking for help), non-governmental organization and 'hot line' phone (1% each), which were aggregated into one category for the comparability with 2007 data. «-» This answer option was absent in 2007		

Women who sought for help from various sources indicated that in case of 33% of requests they failed to get a proper assistance, in case of 61% of requests help was provided, and the situation is still unclear with the rest of requests⁸. This proportion with regard to seeking help from familiar people (relatives, partner or boyfriend, friends, acquaintances, neighbours, colleagues at workplace) respective figures are 33% and 62%, and in case of requests for help from professionals (militia officer, lawyers, psychologists, or non-governmental organizations) – 32% and 58%.

There were 19 women who sought for help from militia, but did not get it out of all 50 women who addressed militia, among them 13 respondents indicated that their request was registered and 6 respondents indicated that their request was not accepted. Reason for not accepting a request from 4 women was a statement of militia officer that violence is a family business between husband and wife. Other reasons for refusing to register a request were unwillingness of militia to manage such case and corruption in militia (militia screened the perpetrator).

Among the women whose request was registered, but they did not get help, the main reason for not getting help was inactivity of militia (6 out of 13 women named this reason). Furthermore, women mentioned that they did not get a proper help from militia because even though the perpetrator was punished (for instance, by paying a fine), but he returned and continued committing violence (4 women). Additionally, domestic violence did not stop because a militia officer made a verbal warning only (according to 3 women out of 13).

3.14 REASONS OF NOT SEEKING FOR HELP

Table 3.14.1 shows explanations of victims of physical or sexual violence why they sought for help from any sources, except militia. The most popular reasons were that they supposed that they could manage the situation on their own (37% among those who sought for help from any sources except militia). 23% of women who

experienced violence and did not address militia felt ashamed. For 19% of women refusal of seeking for help for militia was based on fear that the situation could get worse, and 18% did not believe that militia could help them. 10% believe that militia should not manage such cases.

Table 3.14.1. Reasons for not seeking help from militia

Reasons for not seeking help from militia among women aged 15-49 who ever experienced physical or sexual violence and sought for help from any source except militia, Ukraine 2014	
I think (thought) that I can handle the situation myself	36.8%
Felt ashamed	22.6%
I am (was) afraid that if I would ask for help, it will get worse	18.5%
I do not (did not) believe that they can help me	18.0%
I think (thought) that militia should not manage such cases	10.2%
Militia does not want to do anything	6.2%
I do not (did not) believe that they would treat me with understanding	5.1%
No answer	15.7%
Total*	53
*This question was not asked in 2007	

We also asked respondents about reasons of not seeking for help at all in case of sexual or physical violence.

The relative majority of respondents justified their refusal from seeking for help from anyone by the confidence that they could handle the situation on their own (39%). Around one third could not or did not want to answer this question, while one in four women mentioned such reasons as shame, fear, or lack of trust. Thus, 14% of women who experienced violence, did not seek for help because of the lack of confidence that anyone could help them, 11% indicated shame, and 7% mentioned fear. Besides, 5% indicated that they did not know whom they could ask for help, another 5% consider violence to be normal.

Table 3.14.2. Reasons of not seeking for help from anyone

Reasons of not seeking for help among women aged 15-49 who ever experienced physical or sexual violence, but did not seek for help from any source, Ukraine 2014	
I think (thought) that I can handle the situation myself	39.4%
do not (did not) believe that anyone can help me	14.0%
Felt ashamed	10.5%
I am (was) afraid that if I would ask for help, it will get worse	7.3%
I do not (did not) know whom to address when seeking for help / there is no one whom I can ask for help	5.1%
I think (thought) that this is (was) a normal situation	4.7%
Other	0.4%

Difficult to answer/refuse to answer	33.7%
Total*	232
* This question was not asked in 2007	

3.15 INFLUENCE OF VIOLENCE ON WOMAN'S PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Around one third of women who experienced physical or sexual violence believe that violence did not affect their work or other income-related activity in any way, and 25% could not define or did not answer. 44% indicated a negative influence of violence on work.

Thus, about one in five women who experienced violence indicated that it didn't allow her to focus on work (22%) or that she lost confidence in her own strength (22%). Nearly 7% of women who experienced violence replied that they had to interrupt their work activity because physical or psychological injuries did not allow them to work. 3% of women indicated that they lost their job because of physical or psychological injuries.

Table 3.15.1 The way violence (physical, sexual or other) interferes with work or other income-related activity

Among women aged 15-49 who experienced various types of violence committed by current or last husband/partner, and/or other people ever and during 12 months preceding the survey, Ukraine 2014	
Could not focus on work	21.9%
Lost confidence in own strength	21.6%
Did not work/did not earn money for some time due to physical or psychological injuries	6.6%
Do not work/do not earn money, lost job due to physical or psychological injuries	3.2%
Do not work/do not earn money because my husband/partner forbidden that	0.8%
Other	0.9%
It did not interfere my job	33.6%
Difficult to answer/refuse to answer	25.6%
Total*	335
* This question was not asked in 2007	

4. MAIN OUTCOMES, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 EXPERIENCE OF PHYSICAL AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

According to the survey data, 19% of women aged 15-49 experienced physical violence since they had turned 15 years old, and 8% experienced sexual violence. These figures increased significantly in 2014 comparing with 2007 when they reached 17% and 5%, respectively. In general, 22% of women aged 15-49 reported about experiencing physical or sexual violence in 2014 survey, while in 2007 this figure was 18%.

Growth in the number of violence victims occurred not in 2014: 9% of women experienced physical violence during the last 12 months preceding the survey (a similar figure was obtained in 2007) and 2,5% of women experienced sexual violence (this indicator was 2,1% in 2007 – the difference is not statistically significant⁹).

An increase in the number of violence victims was rather caused by non-family than by domestic violence.

Thus, the number of women who experienced physical violence from their husbands/partners or other relatives has shown a statistically insignificant growth (16% in 2014 comparing to 14% in 2007), while a statistically significant increase is observed in the number of women who experienced physical violence from perpetrators who are not their relatives (5% in 2014 comparing to 3% in 2007). The share of women who experienced sexual violence from husbands/partners or other relatives is similar in 2007 and 2014 survey data (3%), while the share of women facing sexual violence from perpetrators, who are not their relatives, grew significantly in 2014 (4% in 2014 compared to 2% in 2007).

In 2014, 4% of ever-pregnant women indicated the experience of physical violence during pregnancy, and 2% of women who ever had sexual intercourse indicated that they were forced to the first sexual intercourse against their will (similar rates were obtained in 2007).

Men living with their victims in registered or unregistered marriage are perpetrators of both physical and sexual violence most often: 40% of physical violence victims indicated that their ex-husband or partner was perpetrator, and 33% named a current husband or partner in this role. These figures for sexual violence victims are 24% and 15%, respectively. Husband as main perpetrators of physical violence is followed by father or step-father (according to the evidences from 14% of physical

9 Differences in 2014 and 2007 survey data are displayed only if they are statistically significant with 95% probability.

violence victims); while main perpetrators in sexual violence are acquaintances or strangers (indicated by 22% and 15% of sexual violence victims).

4.2 EXPERIENCE OF EMOTIONAL, PHYSICAL AND SEXUAL SPOUSAL VIOLENCE

The rate of spousal violence was measured among women who have been ever married or lived with a partner. In general, 22% of these women experienced any kind of spousal violence (emotional, physical or sexual – in 2007 this figure constituted 24%). In 2014, 17% of women experienced at least one type of violence during the last 12 months preceding the survey, comparing with 22% in 2007 – a decrease in the number of spousal violence victims was caused by the declined share of emotional violence victims.

The share of women who have ever faced **emotional** spousal violence declined significantly among women with a marriage experience – from 22% in 2007 to 18% in 2014. Moreover, the share of women experiencing any type of control behaviour by a husband / partner in the current marriage¹⁰ declined from 64% in 2007 to 46% in 2014.

And the prevalence of emotional violence during the last 12 months also decreased significantly – from 20% in 2007 to 14% in 2014. Women indicated the following types of emotional violence during the last year: when the husband or partner "insult her or make her feel bad about herself" (12%), "says or does something to humiliate her in front of others" (10%), "threaten to hurt or harm her or someone close to her" (7%).

The share of women who experienced **physical** spousal violence reached 15%, which differs insignificantly from 2007 data (13%). 10% experienced physical spousal violence during the last 12 months (the same rate was observed in 2007). Among various types of physical violence mentioned by women, the most typical behaviour during the last year was: «pushing, shaking, or throwing something at a woman» (9%), «slapping her» (6%), «punching her with his fist or with something that could hurt her», «kicking her, dragging her or beating her up (4% each), «twisting her arm or pulling her hair» (3%), «trying to choke her or burning her on purpose», and «threatening or attacking her with a knife, gun, or any other weapon» (1% each).

70% of women who experienced physical violence in the last 12 months stated that they had cuts, bruises or aches, 21% had eye injuries, sprains, dislocations or burns, 4% had deep wounds, broken bones, broken teeth, or any other serious injury.

3% of women experienced **sexual** spousal violence (the same rate was observed in 2007). 2% experienced sexual spousal violence during the last 12 months (the same share in 2007).

¹⁰ Within this survey, controlling behaviour was defined as: ((1) becoming jealous or getting angry if she talks to other men; (2) accusing her of being unfaithful without any reasons; (3) not permitting meetings with female friends; (4) trying to limit woman's contact with her family; (5) insisting on knowing where she is at any time; (6) not allowing a woman to have any money; (7) threatening to kick a woman out of the house, leave her without a penny, not pay alimony.

The following categories of women reported about spousal violence most often:

- Women whose husband or partner often abuses alcohol (76% of them experienced at least 1 of 3 types of violence committed by a husband/partner versus 9% of women whose husband/partner does not drink alcohol or drinks it without abuse);
- Women whose father has beaten mother (37% of them experienced any type of violence committed by a husband/partner versus 17% of women whose father did not beat mother). Experiencing domestic violence in childhood might be a reason for women to choose a husband/partner similar to their father, a man with propensity to violence; it also might lead to sincerity during a survey because such women «got used» to domestic violence;
- Women aged 40-49 (in general, the older women reported about any type of violence from husband/partner more often than the younger ones);
- Women with children;
- Women with incomplete or complete secondary education and/or whose husbands have incomplete or complete secondary education;
- Women with a higher or lower education level comparing to the education level of their husbands;
- Women in the lowest wealth quintile group;
- Women who are older than their husbands;
- Women who are employed (unlike unemployed);
- Residents of the Northern, Central and Western regions;
- Women who have been married for more than 5 years and women who have been married more than once;
- Women living in a rural area (they experience emotional violence more often than women in urban area; however, no significant differences are observed between women in rural and urban areas in terms of other types of violence);
- Women who suppose that a husband can beat a wife under certain circumstances.

According to victims of physical and/or sexual violence, the following situations lead to violence most often: husband is drunk (61% of physical or sexual violence victims), woman disagrees with a husband (28%), jealousy (26%), violence with no specific reason (21%), money problems (17%), hard times at work (12%), or sexual intercourse refusal (10%).

55% of physical and/or sexual violence victims with children mentioned that children were present and observed the situation when their husband/partner was beating them.

According to 2007 survey, 90% of emotional violence victims experienced it during the last 12 months before the survey, while in 2014 this indicator declined to 78%. For physical and sexual violence similar indicators reached 85% and 69% in 2014.

4.3 SEEKING FOR HELP

In 2007, 38% of physical or sexual violence victims asked for help from particular person or organization, but this share declined to 32% in 2014 (difference is statistically significant). The overall decline in the number of help requests was conditioned by decreasing number of appeals to relatives/acquaintances/neighbours

Victims of physical or sexual violence sought for help from their families and militia most often (19% and 16%, respectively). Only 1% of violence victims saw a psychologist and another 1% appealed to social services or non-governmental organizations.

Women aged 15-29 asked for help most often (41%), women aged 40-49 sought for help least often (26%). Therefore, there is an intergenerational progress in being ready to seek for help.

Women who sought for help in different sources mentioned that they did not get a proper help in 33% of requests, help was provided in 61% of requests, and the situation is unclear yet about the rest of requests. Among help requests to acquaintances (relatives, partner or boyfriend, friends, acquaintances, neighbours, colleagues at workplace) the ratio is 33% and 62%, while in case of requests for help from professionals (militia, lawyers, psychologists, non-governmental organizations) it is 32% and 58%. Specifically, 19 women among 50 who stated seeking for help from militia did not receive a proper help.

8% of women who experienced physical violence by anyone after they got 15 years old indicated that their injuries were hard enough to seek for medical help. The majority of them (13 among 23) mentioned that such situations happened more than once. 20 among 23 in this group sought for a doctor's help, and 17 women informed a doctor about the real reason for injuries.

Women who did not seek for help after physical or sexual violence explained this decision with the ability to solve the situation by their own (39%). Around one third could not or did not want to answer the question, 14% do not believe that anyone could help them, 11% felt ashamed, 7% were afraid that situations would get worse after seeking for help, 5% indicated that they did not know whom to ask for help, and another 5% consider violence to be normal.

4.4 CONCLUSIONS

During seven years since the Ukrainian Demographic and Health Survey was conducted (UDHS-2007) the rate of physical and sexual domestic violence did not change significantly: 16% of women aged 15-49 experienced physical domestic violence, and 3% faced sexual domestic violence. At the same time, the share of victims of non-family violence (the perpetrators mostly are male acquaintances or strangers) increased significantly: 5% of such women experienced physical violence (comparing to 3% in 2007), and 4% experienced sexual violence (compared to 2% in 2007).

The overall share of women who experienced physical and/or sexual violence increased from 18% in 2007 to 22% in 2014, this increase occurred mostly due to the growing number of victims of non-family violence.

Only 32% of physical and/or sexual violence victims sought for help in 2007 versus 38% in 2007 – a decline in the frequency of requests for help was driven mainly by a lower frequency of requests to relatives. The authors believe that the reason for decline in the readiness of violence victims to seek for help is in the increased frequency of non-family violence and decreased confidence in militia¹¹ which led to the decrease in the frequency of requests for help from relatives without proportional growth of the number of requests to militia. If a woman experienced violence committed by a family member, other relatives can affect the perpetrator, but in case of non-family violence relatives usually can do little (if they are not present at the moment of violence). In case of non-family violence the barriers to address militia should be lower than in case of family violence, but the number of requests to militia in 2014 grew insignificantly.

Like in 2007, relatives and militia remained main sources of help for the victims of violence, less than 5% of victims addressed other persons or organizations. Lack of confidence in militia is not groundless: according to 2014 survey, around one third of physical and/or sexual violence victims (19 out of 50 women) who sought for help from militia reported about not receiving a proper assistance. These results give the evidence for the necessity of increasing effectiveness of militia's response on violence and population awareness of the activity of social services or non-governmental organizations.

Spousal violence committed by a husband or partner remains the most common type of violence against women: 15% of ever-married women aged 15-49 experienced physical violence committed by a husband/partner, and 3% experienced sexual violence – there is no statistically significant difference with 2007 data.

There is a positive tendency in the decreased number of women who experienced emotional spousal violence, from 22% in 2007 to 18% in 2014. But as far as this decline mostly occurred in 2014, the authors of this report believe that this tendency has temporary character and can be explained with stressful events of 2014 (external threats led to a lower frequency of family conflicts which might cause emotional violence, and/or less importance of family insults as seen by women).

Another positive tendency revealed in the 2014 survey is lower readiness of women to handle with spousal violence: in 2007, 90% of emotional violence victims experienced it during the last year, but in 2014 this indicator was 78%; respective figures regarding physical or sexual violence victims are 85% and 69%. It means that the percentage of violence victims who managed to stop violence (and, consequently, did not experience it in the last 12 months) increased during 7 years – the authors believe this positive tendency is a result of campaigns against violence and gender inequality. Though a positive trend in emotional violence prevention

11 According to the data of nationally representative survey conducted by GfK Ukraine based on Omnibus, 55% of the adult population in Ukraine did not trust militia in March 2009 with 16% of those who trusted it, but in September 2014 these indicators were 47% and 10%, respectively.

can be explained with stressful events of 2014, a positive change in the prevention of physical and sexual spousal violence provides an evidence that the percentage of women who are ready to handle violence has declined since 2007.

Like in 2007, alcohol abuse is among major drivers of spousal violence: 76% of women whose husbands have alcohol abuse experienced at least 1 of 3 types of violence committed by a husband, while the number of those who experienced violence among women whose husbands do not drink alcohol or drink it without getting drunk is 9%.

The portrait of the women at risk of violence is also the same as in 2007: women aged 40-49 reported about violence experience most often as well as rural women, women with complete and incomplete secondary education, women in the lowest wealth quintile, women whose father had beaten their mother, and women who believe that husband can beat a wife under particular circumstances.

4.5 RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations were developed on the basis of research findings together with an external consultant, and they can be divided into 5 categories:

- Recommendations on the target groups of women who need special attention when designing and implementing domestic violence prevention programs;
- Recommendations on fighting gender stereotypes stating a wife's duty to obey a husband, specifically the stereotype about acceptance of domestic violence;
- Recommendations on prevention and fighting alcohol abuse as one of the major drivers of violence against women and spousal violence, in particular;
- Recommendations on raising awareness of women about where to seek for help in case of violence and how this help is provided;
- Recommendations on raising the efficiency of the system of reacting to domestic violence.

4.5.1 Recommendations on the target groups of women who need special attention when designing and implementing domestic violence prevention programs

To the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine and to non-governmental organizations

At the stage of planning violence prevention activities in families, a special attention should be paid to the families with an alcohol abused husband, with women aged 40-49, to rural residents, to people with complete or incomplete secondary education and on low income, as according to the survey findings these women are the most vulnerable to violence.

4.5.2 Recommendations on fighting gender stereotypes stating a wife's duty to obey husband, and stereotypes about acceptance of domestic violence in particular

According to the survey findings, 26% of women who believe that a husband has a right to beat a wife under certain circumstances have also indicated experience of physical and/or sexual spousal violence, while this figure is 14% among women who do not believe in that right of a husband. Activities on fighting gender stereotypes stating a wife's duty to obey husband would assist in preventing domestic violence, as well as might raise the readiness of women to seek for help in respective situations.

TO THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCES OF UKRAINE

To implement a special course on human rights into school curricula with a specific topic on gender equality and domestic violence prevention;

To implement a mandatory course on «Gender and media» into a study program in journalism; for law enforcement study program – a course on «Gender equality and domestic violence prevention»; for civil servants – a course on «Gender and politics»;

To arrange a constant gender expertise of study programs and textbooks for education institutions.

TO THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL POLICY OF UKRAINE AND TO NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

To conduct educational activities aimed at elimination of gender stereotypes about traditional gender roles, specifically stereotype that a wife should obey a husband.

To conduct educational activities aimed at domestic violence prevention initiating more active involvement of men into the fight against domestic violence and into the promotion of gender equality ideas

To establish active connections with mass media for more efficient coverage of the Ministry's outcomes in the area of domestic violence prevention.

TO MASS MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION AGENCIES

To design internal ethical principles regarding the outline of domestic violence, gender stereotypes, gender equality and other related issues

To pay more attention to gender (in)equality issues and to the prevention of domestic violence.

To become more active in promoting the annual campaign «16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence» (November 25 – December 10).

TO UNIVERSITIES

To establish a mandatory or selective course on gender equality and domestic violence prevention issues into the university curricular for particular disciplines; if

necessary (in case of the last of competent faculty who could teach such a course), to send potential candidates for teaching such a course to get proper training or to invite a qualified tutor for teaching this course.

4.5.3 Recommendations on prevention and fighting alcohol abuse as one of the major drivers of violence against women and spousal violence in particular

TO THE MINISTRY OF HEALTHCARE OF UKRAINE AND TO NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

To implement programs on preventing and fighting alcohol abuse which is one of the main drivers of violence against women and domestic violence in particular.

4.5.4 Recommendations on raising awareness of women about where to seek for help in case of violence and how this help is provided

According to the survey findings, only one third of victims of physical and/or sexual violence seek for help – therefore, it is necessary to raise awareness of women about the ways militia, social services and non-governmental organizations help violence victims.

TO THE OMBUDSMAN OF VERKHOVNA RADA OF UKRAINE ON HUMAN RIGHTS, TO THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL POLICY OF UKRAINE AND TO NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

To pay more attention to informing a wide public about the ways of protecting women from violence.

TO THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF UKRAINE

To design instructions for district militia officers about informing the members of families with the real threat of domestic violence or where violence has occurred about the rights, measures and services that they can use.

TO THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL POLICY OF UKRAINE AND TO NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

To run educational activities on the issues of protecting women from violence, to pay more attention to raising public awareness of positive examples of providing help to women in different situations, to inform about the hotline on violence prevention and about the steps to make in case of violence.

TO EXECUTIVE AUTHORITIES AND LOCAL SELF-GOVERNANCE AUTHORITIES

To run educational activities on protection from gender-based violence.

4.5.5 Recommendations on raising the efficiency of the system of reacting to domestic violence

Women who sought for help from various sources indicated that in 33% of requests they did not get a proper help, in 61% of cases the help was provided, and the

situation is still unclear with the rest of requests. In case of seeking for help from familiar people (relatives, partner or boyfriend, friends, acquaintances, neighbours, colleagues) this proportion is 33% and 62%, and in case of addressing to specialists (mostly militia, but also lawyers, psychologists, non-governmental organizations) it is 32% and 58%. Therefore, it is necessary to improve the system of reacting to domestic violence.

TO THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF UKRAINE

To implement ongoing training (both as higher education study programs and as qualification improvement courses) in reacting to domestic violence for law enforcement officers.

TO THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL POLICY OF UKRAINE AND NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

When working with violence victims, it is necessary to clarify whether children were witnesses of violence and if they were, to recommend visiting a child psychologist, because the survey revealed that women whose father had beaten their mother tend to experience spousal violence in adult age much more often than women who did not observe violence against their mother in childhood.

