INCIDENCE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST GIRLS AND WOMEN
Prepared by GfK Ukraine for the United Nations Population Fund
Introduction

Having commissioned by UNFPA, GfK Ukraine conducted a nationwide survey on the experience of violence among women and girls from August through September 2014. The survey was conducted on the basis of the questionnaire field “family relations” of the Medical and Demographic Household Survey (UDHS), held in 2007 by the Ukrainian Center for Social Reforms and the State Statistics Service of Ukraine and the Ministry of Health of Ukraine and supported by USAID.

In 2014, 1606 women aged 15-49 were surveyed, with the sample consisting of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, government controlled areas in Donetsk and Luhansk regions and Donetsk and Luhansk cities. In 2007, 2903 women aged 15-49 years were surveyed in Ukraine. The main conclusions derived from the survey are presented in this infographics.
Physical and Sexual Violence against Women
Since 2007, the incidence of physical and sexual violence against women has increased.

**Physical violence**

The proportion of women aged 15-49 who have experienced physical violence from the time they turned 15 years old.

- **2007**: 17%
- **2014**: 19%

**Sexual violence**

The proportion of women aged 15-49 who have ever experienced sexual violence.

- **2007**: 5%
- **2014**: 8%

**Physical and/or sexual violence**

The proportion of women aged 15-49 who have experienced at least one form of violence (physical or sexual).

- **2007**: 18%
- **2014**: 22%

**Source:** Surveys of the female population of Ukraine aged 15-49 years in 2014 and 2007.
The incidence of physical and sexual violence against women has increased mainly due to violence by persons who are not relatives.

### Physical violence

#### In family
The proportion of women who reported experience of physical violence by their husband or other relatives.

- **2007:** 14%
- **2014:** 16%

#### Outside the family
The proportion of women who reported experience of physical violence by persons who are not relatives.

- **2007:** 3%
- **2014:** 5%

### Sexual violence

#### In family
The proportion of women who reported experience of sexual violence by their husband or other relatives.

- **2007:** 3%
- **2014:** 3%

#### Outside the family
The proportion of women who reported experience of sexual violence by persons who are not relatives.

- **2007:** 2%
- **2014:** 4%

Only 32% of victims of physical and/or sexual violence have sought for relief. In 2007, relief seekers totalled 38%.

**Sources of relief**
The proportion of women aged 15-49 who have experienced cases of physical or sexual violence and sought relief from various sources (woman could simultaneously apply to several persons/organisations)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Own family</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policeman</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Husband's/partner's family</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friend/contact</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attorney</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbor</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social service/institution</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctor/medical staff</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Surveys of the female population of Ukraine aged 15-49 years in 2014 and 2007
Non-recourse reasons for victims: confidence in their own ability to cope with the situation as well as shame, fear or despair

The reasons why women have not appealed for relief *

- I believed me to be able to cope with the situation on my own: 40%
- I did not believe somebody would be able to help me: 14%
- I was ashamed: 11%
- I was afraid if I appealed for relief it would turn worse: 7%
- I did not know who I could contact / no where to appeal: 5%
- I believed what happened with me was normal: 5%

* 34% chose the answer “hard to say” or refused to answer this question.

Source: Surveys of the female population of Ukraine aged 15-49 years in 2014 and 2007
Victims of physical and/or sexual violence, who sought for relief, have not received it in a third of cases

In particular, the proportion of futile recourse to …:

- To familiar people (family, partner or boyfriend, friends, neighbours, colleagues) - 33%
- To professionals (policemen, attorneys, psychologists, civic society organisations) - 32%

Out of 50 women who contacted the police, 19 report they have not received relief they needed.

Source: Surveys of the female population of Ukraine aged 15-49 years in 2014 and 2007
Physical and sexual violence are frequently exerted by a man / partner living with a woman

### Those who have caused physical violence*

- Former husband/ partner: 40%
- Current husband/ partner: 33%
- Father/ stepfather: 14%
- Mother/ stepmother: 9%
- Former boyfriend: 6%
- Sister/ brother: 3%
- Current boyfriend: 2%
- Employer/ colleague: 2%
- Other persons, who are not relatives**: 19%

### Those who have caused sexual violence **

- Current husband/ partner: 27%
- Contact: 25%
- Stranger: 16%
- Former husband/ partner: 16%
- Other relative: 3%
- Stepfather: 3%
- Current/ former boyfriend: 1%
- Other: 9%

* The proportion of women who denominated particular persons who had caused the violence among women aged 15-49 years who have experienced physical violence from the time they turned 15 years old

** The proportion of women who denominated particular persons who had caused the violence among women aged 15-49 years who have experienced sexual violence

*** Predominantly familiar or unfamiliar men

Source: Surveys of the female population of Ukraine aged 15-49 years in 2014 and 2007
Violence within marriage by her husband
Every fifth woman, who was married, have suffered violence within marriage by her husband

The proportion of women aged 15-49, who were married and experienced:

- **Psychological violence within marriage**
  - 2007: 13% (Source: UNFPA)
  - 2014: 18% (Source: UNFPA)

- **Physical violence within marriage**
  - 2007: 3% (Source: UNFPA)
  - 2014: 5% (Source: UNFPA)

- **Sexual violence within marriage**
  - 2007: 3% (Source: UNFPA)
  - 2014: 3% (Source: UNFPA)

**At least one form of violence within marriage** (psychological or physical, or sexual)

- 2007: 22% (Source: Surveys of the female population of Ukraine aged 15-49 years in 2007)
- 2014: 24% (Source: Surveys of the female population of Ukraine aged 15-49 years in 2014 and 2007)
Most women having experience of physical and/or sexual violence within marriage have suffered from pain and injury

The proportion of women having experience of physical and/or sexual violence within marriage who incurred in the violence...

- Cuts, bruises or pain: 68%
- Eye injuries, strains, twists or burns: 13%
- Deep wounds, broken bones, broken teeth or other serious injuries: 7%
- Injuries from firearms: 1%

Source: Surveys of the female population of Ukraine aged 15-49 years in 2014 and 2007
That woman has suffered most from violence within marriage, whose husband has abused alcohol; the woman whose father has beaten her mother; the woman who recognises that a husband can afford beating his wife under certain circumstances.

The violence within marriages where the husband has often abused alcohol

- The proportion of women who have suffered from violence within marriage among those, whose husband has often abused alcohol: 76% vs. 9%.

The violence within marriage against the woman whose father has beaten her mother

- The proportion of women who have suffered from violence within marriage among those, whose father has beaten her mother: 37% vs. 17%.

The violence within marriage against the woman who recognises that a husband has the right to beat a wife

- The proportion of women who have suffered from violence within marriage among those, who recognise the husband’s right to beat a wife under certain circumstances: 36% vs. 21%.

Social-demographic characteristics of women who incurred violence within marriage more frequently than others

- Women aged 40-49 years
- Women having children
- Women having a secondary education or below the secondary level and/or men having a secondary education or below the secondary level
- Women having a higher or lower education than men
- Women with the lowest welfare level
- Women older than their husbands
- Women who work (as opposed to unemployed)
- Residents of Northern, Central and Western regions
- Women being married for over 5 years and women who have been married more than once
- Women living in rural areas (they suffer psychological violence more frequently than women in urban areas)

Source: Surveys of the female population of Ukraine aged 15-49 years in 2014 and 2007