 

# GET THE FACTSABOUT VIOLENCEAGAINST WOMEN

**Framework**

* UNConvention on theEliminationofAllFormsof DiscriminationagainstWomen, CEDAW,1979,<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CEDAW.aspx>
* UNDeclaration ontheEliminationofViolenceagainstWomen,1993[un.org/documents/ga/res/48/a48r104.htm](http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/48/a48r104.htm)
* CoE Convention on preventing and combatingviolenceagainstwomenanddomesticviolence,IstanbulConvention,2011 [coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/convention-violence/brief\_en.asp](http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/convention-violence/brief_en.asp)

# Facts

* Recent global prevalencefiguresindicate that**35percent**ofwomenworldwidehaveexperiencedeitherintimatepartnerviolence ornon-partner sexualviolence in theirlifetime.<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs239/en/>
* On average, **30percent**ofwomenwhohave been in a relationshipreportthat theyhaveexperienced someformofphysical or sexualviolence bytheir partner.<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs239/en/>
* Anestimated**36percent**ofallU.S. womenreport everhavingexperiencedintimatepartnerviolenceincludingrape, physicalviolence,and/or stalking.<http://kff.org/hivaids/issue-brief/hiv-intimate-partner-violence-and-women-new-opportunities-under-the-affordable-care-act/>
* Globally,as manyas**38percent**of murders ofwomenarecommittedbyan intimatepartner.<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs239/en/>
* Worldwide,up to**50 percent**ofsexualassaultsarecommittedagainstgirlsunder 16.<http://www.endvawnow.org/en/articles/299-fast-facts-statistics-on-violence-against-women-and-girls-.html>
* Thefirst sexualexperienceofsome**30percent**ofwomenwas forced.Thepercentage is evenhigheramongthosewhowereunder15 at thetime of theirsexualinitiation,with upto**45percent** reportingthat theexperiencewasforced.<http://www.endvawnow.org/en/articles/299-fast-facts-statistics-on-violence-against-women-and-girls-.html>
* Violence can result inphysical,mental, sexual,reproductivehealth andotherhealthproblems,and mayincreasevulnerabilityto HIV.<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs239/en/>
* A 2014studybased on interviewswith**42,000women** acrossthe28 Member StatesoftheEuropeanUnionrevealedthatonly**14 percent**of womenreportedtheir mostseriousincidentofintimatepartner violence tothepolice,and**13percent** reportedtheir mostseriousincidentofnon-partner violence to thepolice.
* Worldwide,morethan**700million**womenalive todayweremarriedaschildren(below18yearsofage). Morethanone inthree—or some**250million**—weremarriedbefore15.Childbrides areoftenunabletoeffectivelynegotiatesafer sex,leavingthemselvesvulnerable tosexuallytransmittedinfections, includingHIV, alongwithearlypregnancy. Thefact thatgirlsarenotphysicallymatureenoughtogivebirth,places bothmothersandtheirbabiesat risk.Poor girlsarealso2.5timesmorelikelytomarryinchildhood thanthoselivinginthewealthiest quintile.



* Amongever-marriedgirls,currentand/orformer intimatepartnersarethemost commonlyreportedperpetratorsof physicalviolence in all thecountrieswithavailabledata.
* Around**120million**girlsworldwide(slightlymorethan 1in 10) haveexperiencedforcedintercourseorotherforcedsexual actsatsomepointintheirlives.
* Morethan**133million**girlsandwomenhaveexperiencedsomeformof femalegenitalmutilation(FGM)inthe 29countries in Africaandthe Middle Eastwheretheharmful practiceismostcommon. Beyondextremephysical andpsychological pain, girlswhoundergoFGMareatriskofprolongedbleeding,infection(includingHIV),infertility,complicationsduringpregnancyanddeath.
* Traffickingensnaresmillionsofwomenandgirlsin modern-dayslavery.Women andgirlsrepresentnearly **55 percent**ofthe estimated**21million**victims offorcedlaborworldwide.
* Womeninurbanareasare twice aslikelyasmento experienceviolence,particularlyindevelopingcountries.
* Researchconductedindifferentcountrieshasdocumentedassociationsbetween HIV andphysical and/orsexualviolence,bothasa riskfactorforHIVinfectionandas apotentialconsequenceofbeingidentified as livingwith HIV.A decadeofcross-sectional researchfromAfricancountries,includingRwanda,Tanzania,SouthAfrica andmorerecently,India, hasconsistentlyfoundwomenwhohaveexperiencedpartnerviolence to bemorelikelytobeinfectedwithHIV.
* Womenandgirlsare **80percent**oftheestimated **800,000**peopletraffickedacrossnationalbordersannually,with the majority(**79percent**) traffickedfor sexualexploitation.Withincountries, manymorewomenandgirlsaretrafficked,oftenforpurposes ofsexualexploitationordomesticservitude.<http://www.endvawnow.org/en/articles/299-fast-facts-statistics-on-violence-against-women-and-girls-.html>
* Inthe UnitedStates,**55percent**ofwomenlivingwith HIVreportintimatepartnerviolence.<http://kff.org/hivaids/issue-brief/hiv-intimate-partner-violence-and-women-new-opportunities-under-the-affordable-care-act/>
* One studyin Europefoundthat60percent oftraffickedwomenhadexperiencedphysicaland/or sexualviolence beforebeingtrafficked, pointing togender-basedviolence asapushfactorinthetraffickingofwomen.<http://www.endvawnow.org/en/articles/299-fast-facts-statistics-on-violence-against-women-and-girls-.html>
* Sexualviolence,particularlyduringchildhood,canlead toincreasedsmoking, drug andalcohol misuse, andriskysexualbehaviorsinlaterlife.<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs239/en/>
* A studyfoundthatwomenwhohad been physicallyorsexuallyabusedwere**1.5times** morelikelyto have asexuallytransmittedinfectionand, insomeregions,HIV, comparedtowomenwhohad notexperiencedpartner violence.<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs239/en/>
* Childrenwho growup infamilieswherethere isviolence maysuffer arangeofbehaviouralandemotional disturbances. These canalso beassociatedwithperpetrating or experiencingviolencelaterinlife.<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs239/en/>

Seemoreat:

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/facts-and-figures><http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs239/en/>