

Violence in family and violence against women

Study

COST OF
VIOLENCE

PERCEPTIONS

MULTIDISCIPLINARY
RESPONSE

PREVALENCE



Project funded by the EU



Ministry for Human
and Minority Rights



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



This research has been conducted within the Programme „Support to antidiscrimination and gender equality policies“, financed by the Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro, and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme, in cooperation with the Ministry for Human and Minority Rights.

This is an independent research, conducted by Ipsos Strategic Marketing. Opinions, conclusions and attitudes presented here belong to the author and do not necessarily imply the attitudes of partners in the Programme.

Methodological notes

Quantitative survey on general population (18+) of Montenegro

Quantitative survey on female population aged from 15 to 65 years

Qualitative survey with female population – victims of domestic violence and representatives of official institutions included in work of the Protocol

Assessment of direct costs of partner violence in Montenegro

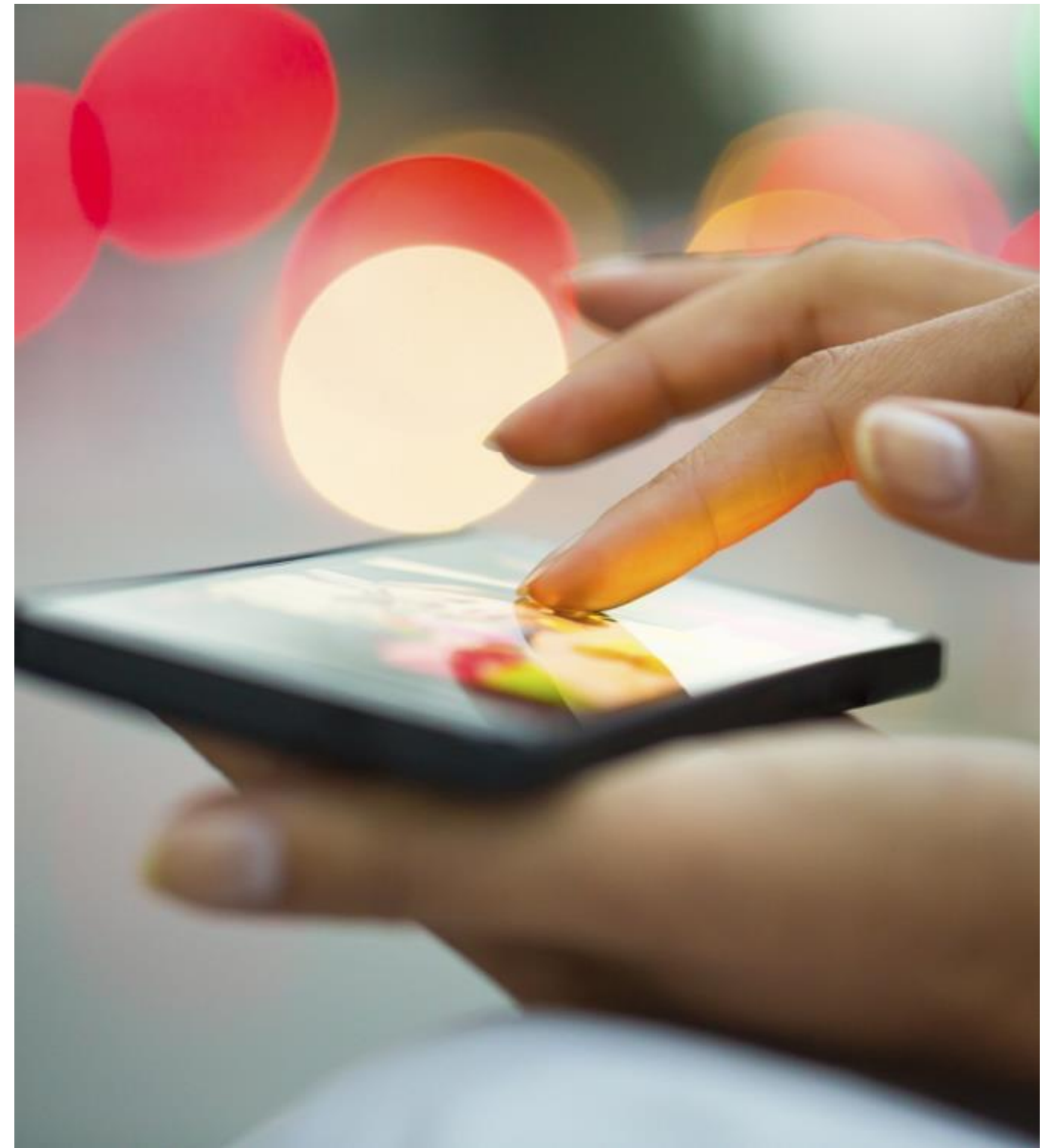
General public

About domestic violence

In order to understand the general context of Montenegrin society and the way in which preserving the family is valued even in unfavourable times for it, the meaning of family for Montenegrin citizens was explored.

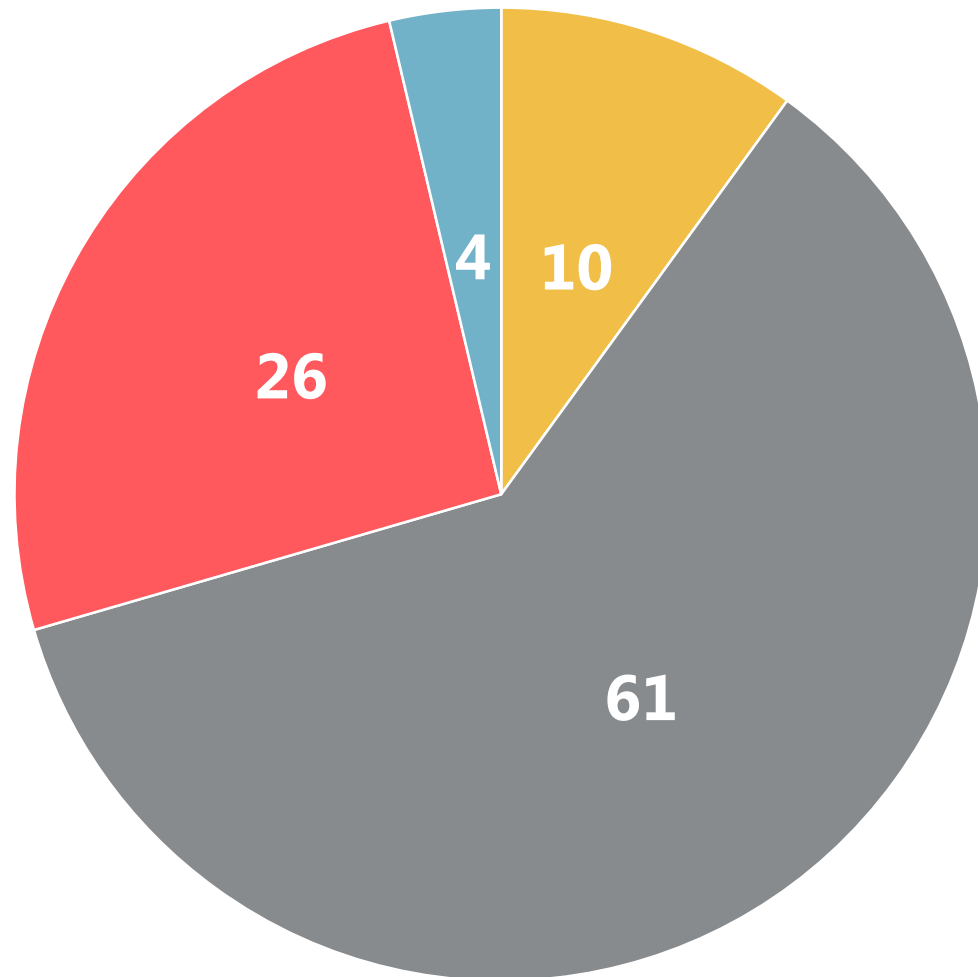


Ipsos Strategic Marketing



**For general public family has advantage
above individual needs and rights of
any family member**

Importance of domestic violence



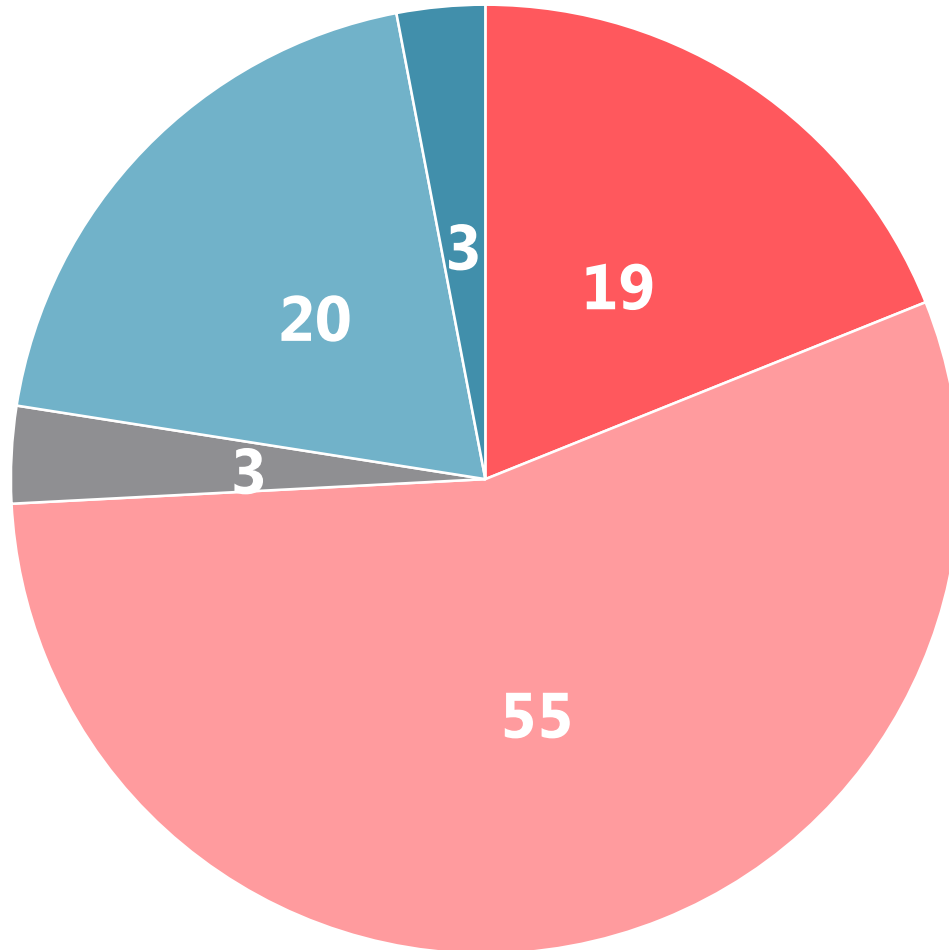
Thinking about the biggest problems that Montenegro is faced with, to what extent do you believe that domestic violence is a serious problem in today's Montenegro? Single response;

- Domestic violence is a relatively unimportant problem
- Domestic violence is among important problems, but it is not of top priority
- Domestic violence is one of the most important problems in Montenegro
- DK

Base: Total population , 18+

Importance of domestic violence

Thinking about the extent to which the problems of domestic violence are talked about these days, how much attention, in your opinion, is paid to this topic today in Montenegro? Single response;

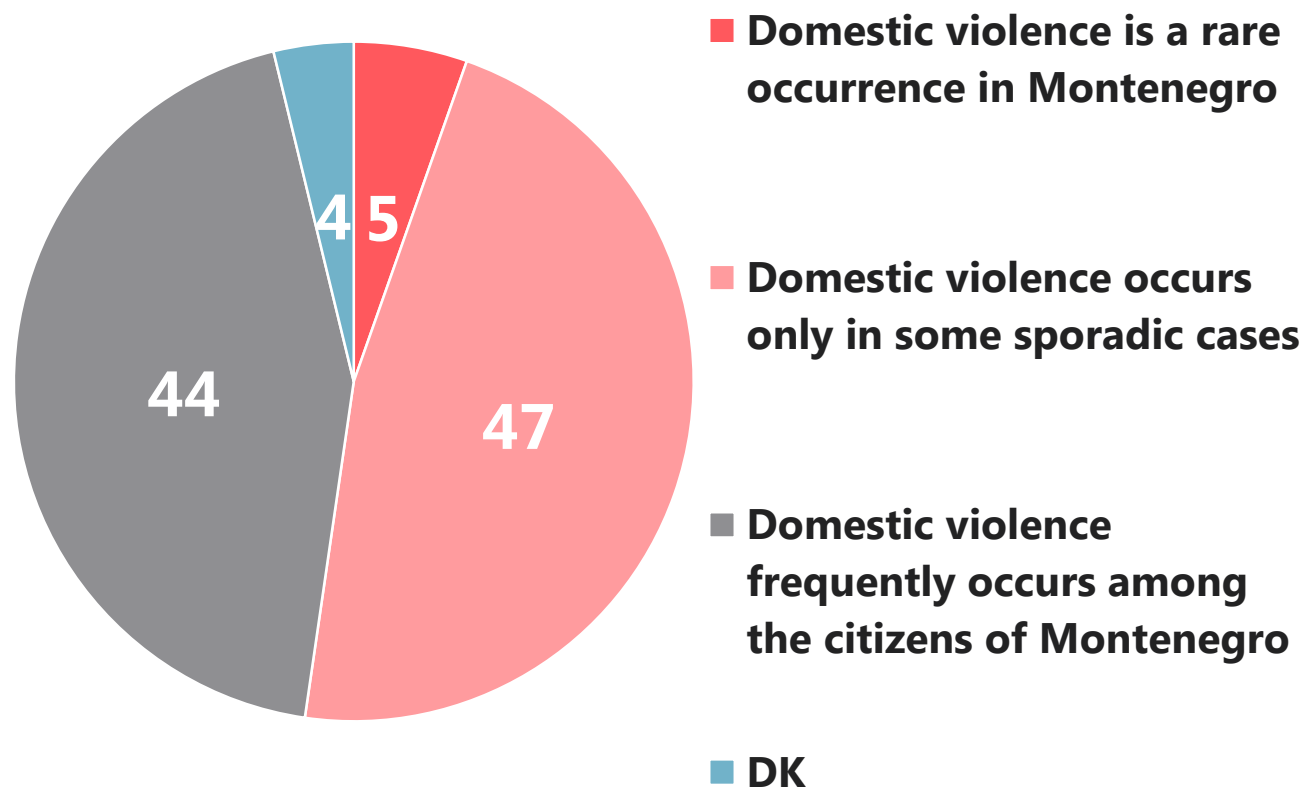


- Almost no attention is paid to the topic of domestic violence
- Very small attention is paid to the topic of domestic violence
- DK
- Just right amount of attention is paid to the topic of domestic violence
- More than necessary attention is paid to the topic of domestic violence

Base: Total population , 18+

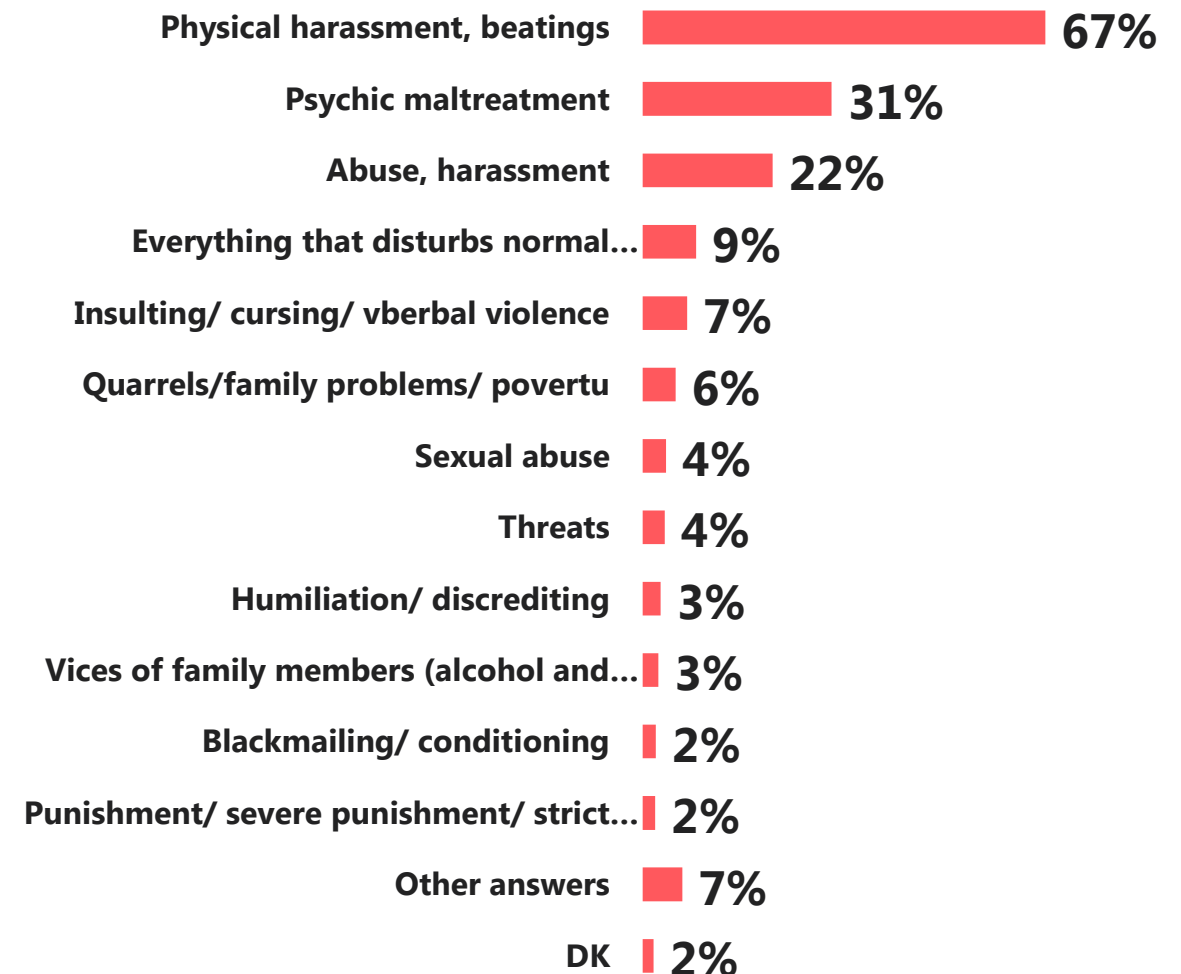
The extent and forms of domestic violence

In your opinion, to what extent is domestic violence widespread in Montenegro? Single response;

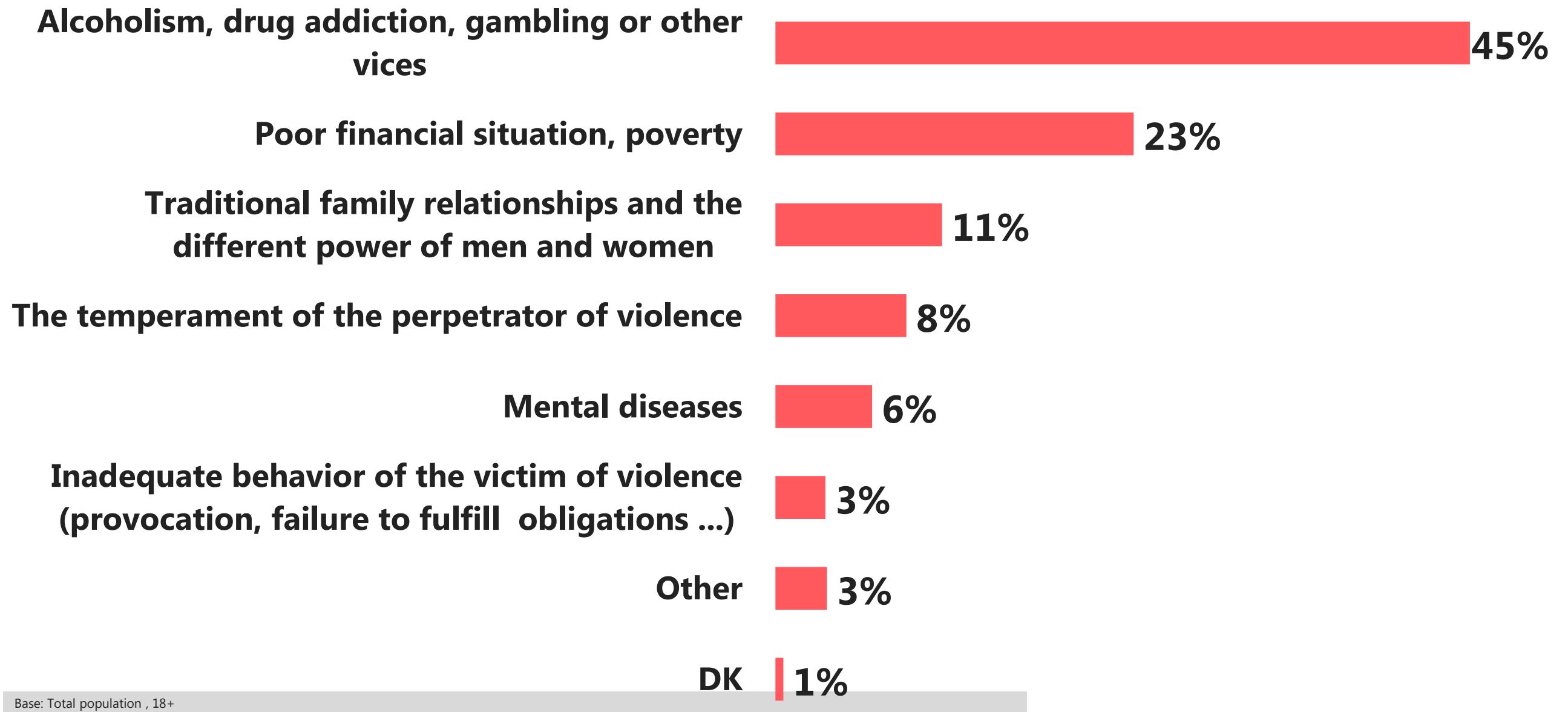


Base: Total population , 18+

In your opinion, which forms of violence constitute domestic violence? Multiple spontaneous responses;

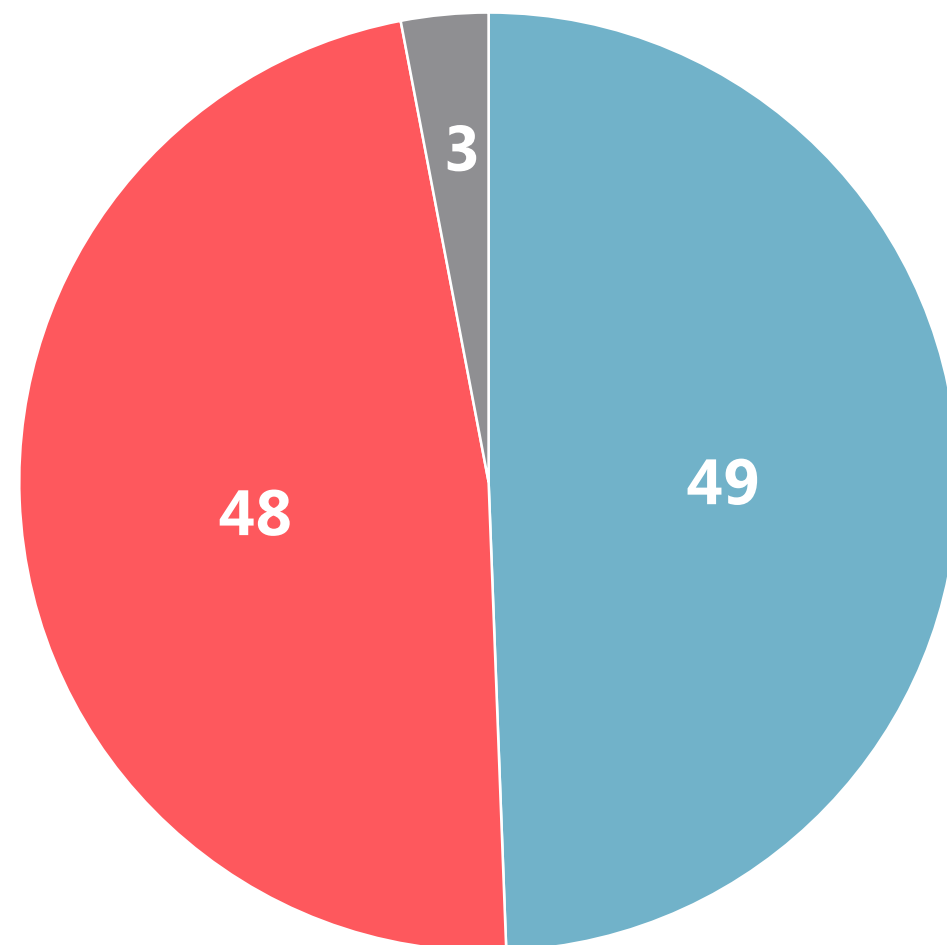


Causes of domestic violence



Reporting domestic violence to competent institutions

There are different opinions when it comes to reporting of domestic violence to competent institutions. While some people think that it is necessary to report every single form of violence, others think that only some forms of violence should be reported, while other forms can be solved within family, without involving the competent institutions. Which of these two attitudes is closer to your own? Single response;

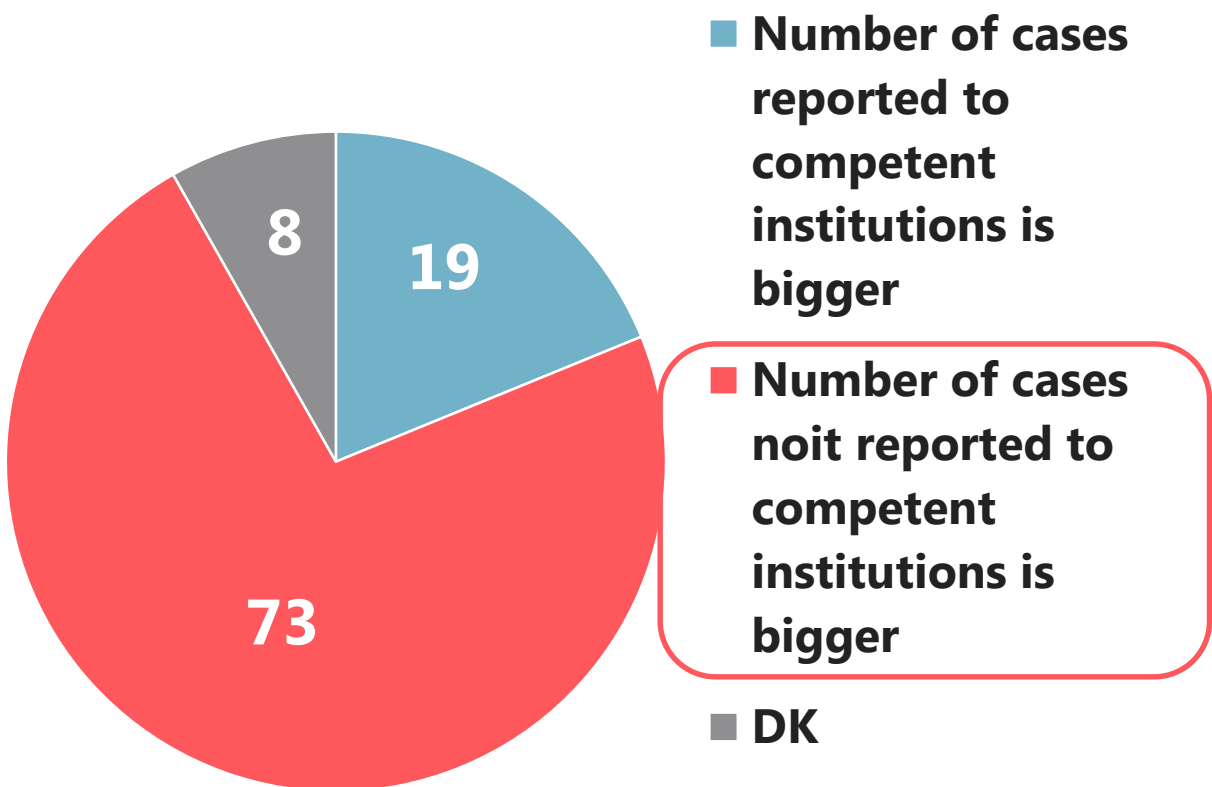


- Every form of domestic violence should be reported to competent institutions, there isn't a single case when it is justified not to report it because it is a family matter
- It is not necessary to report every case of domestic violence to competent institutions, there are exceptions which can be resolved within a family
- DK

Base: Total population , 18+

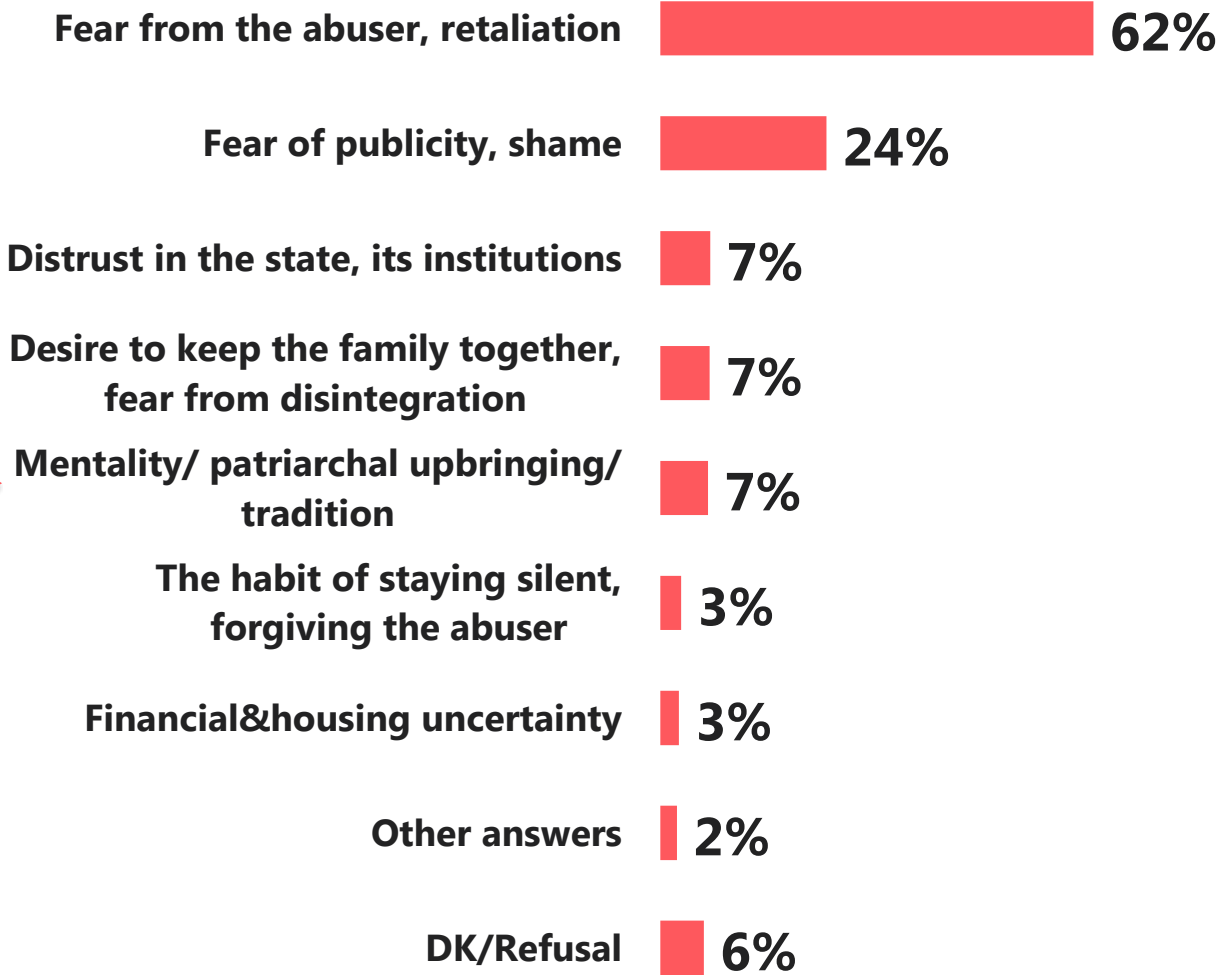
(Non)reporting of domestic violence to competent institutions

Do you think that number of cases of domestic violence reported to competent institutions or number of cases that are not reported to competent institutions is bigger? Single response;



Base: Total population , 18+

Why don't the victims of domestic violence report the cases and perpetrators to state authorities? Multiple responses;

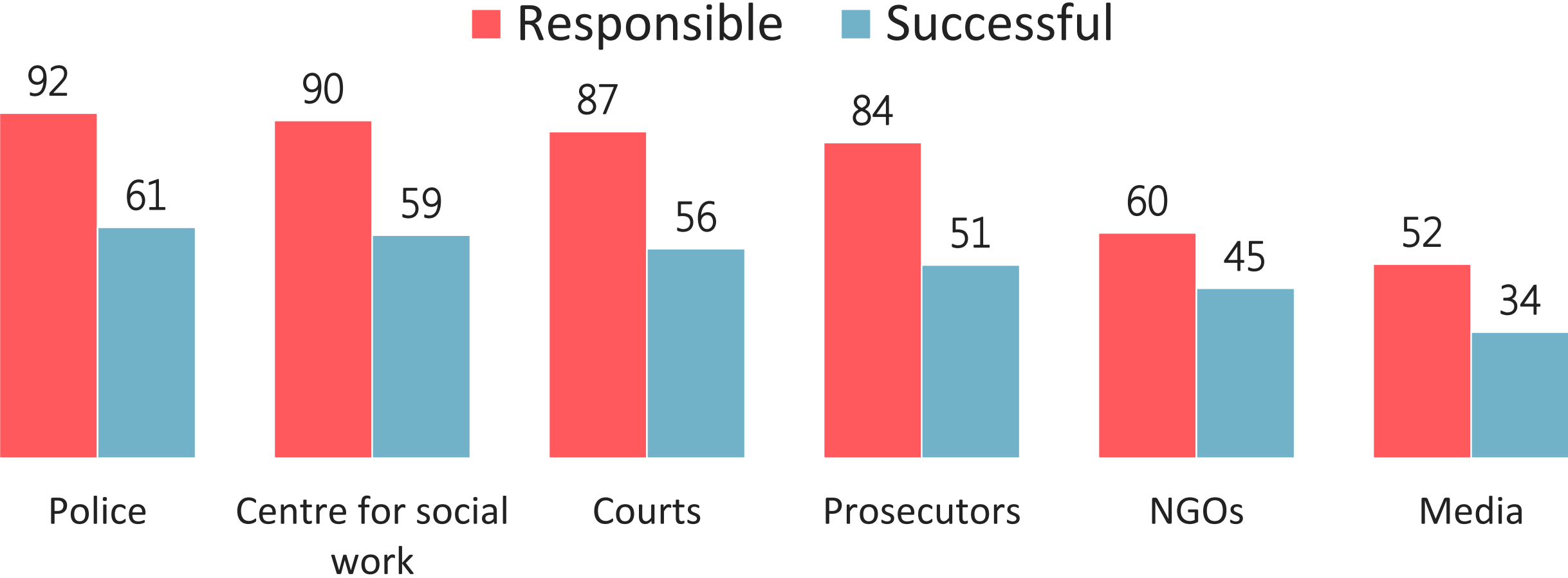


Base: those who think that number of non-reported cases is bigger (73% of target population)

Responsibility and success of institutions in resolving the problem of domestic violence

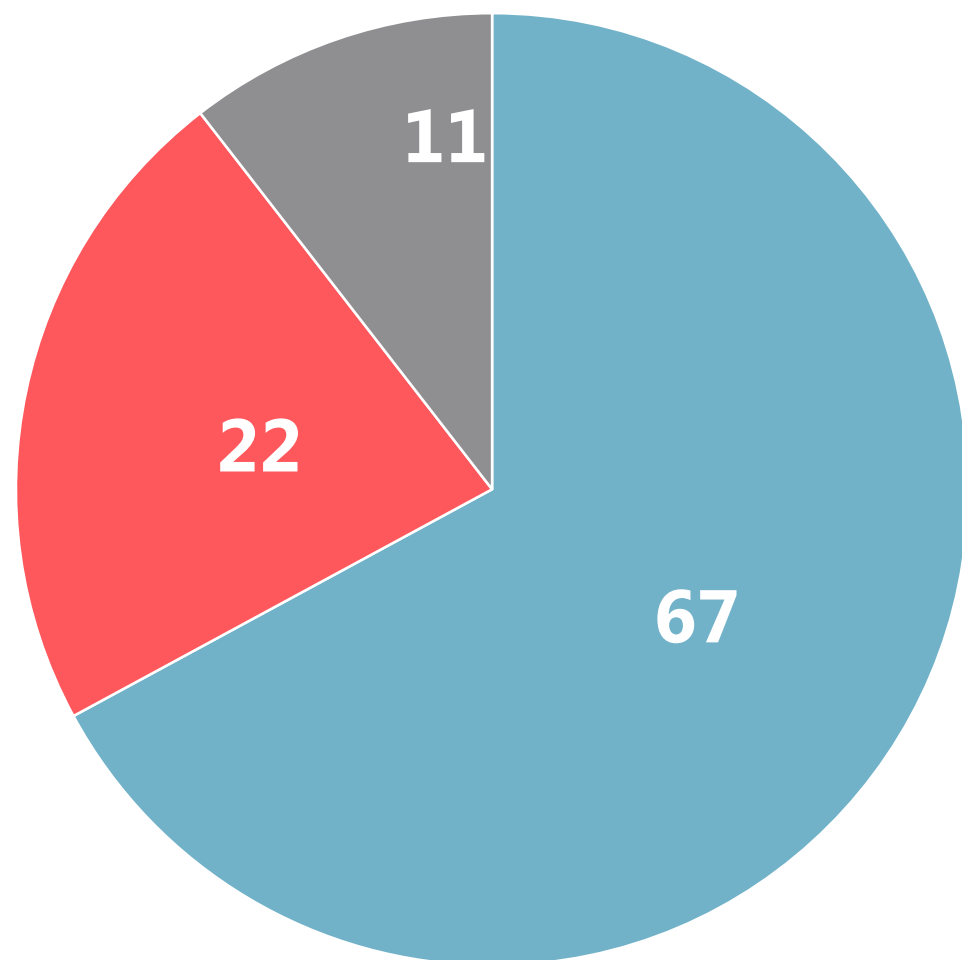
To what extent are the following organisations, institutions or groups **RESPONSIBLE** for solving the problem of domestic violence? Single response; 3+4 - **RESPONSIBLE**

To what extent are the following organisations, institutions or groups **SUCCESSFUL** for solving the problem of domestic violence? Single response; 3+4 - **SUCCESSFUL**



Base: Total population , 18+

Reporting the cases of domestic violence to competent institutions

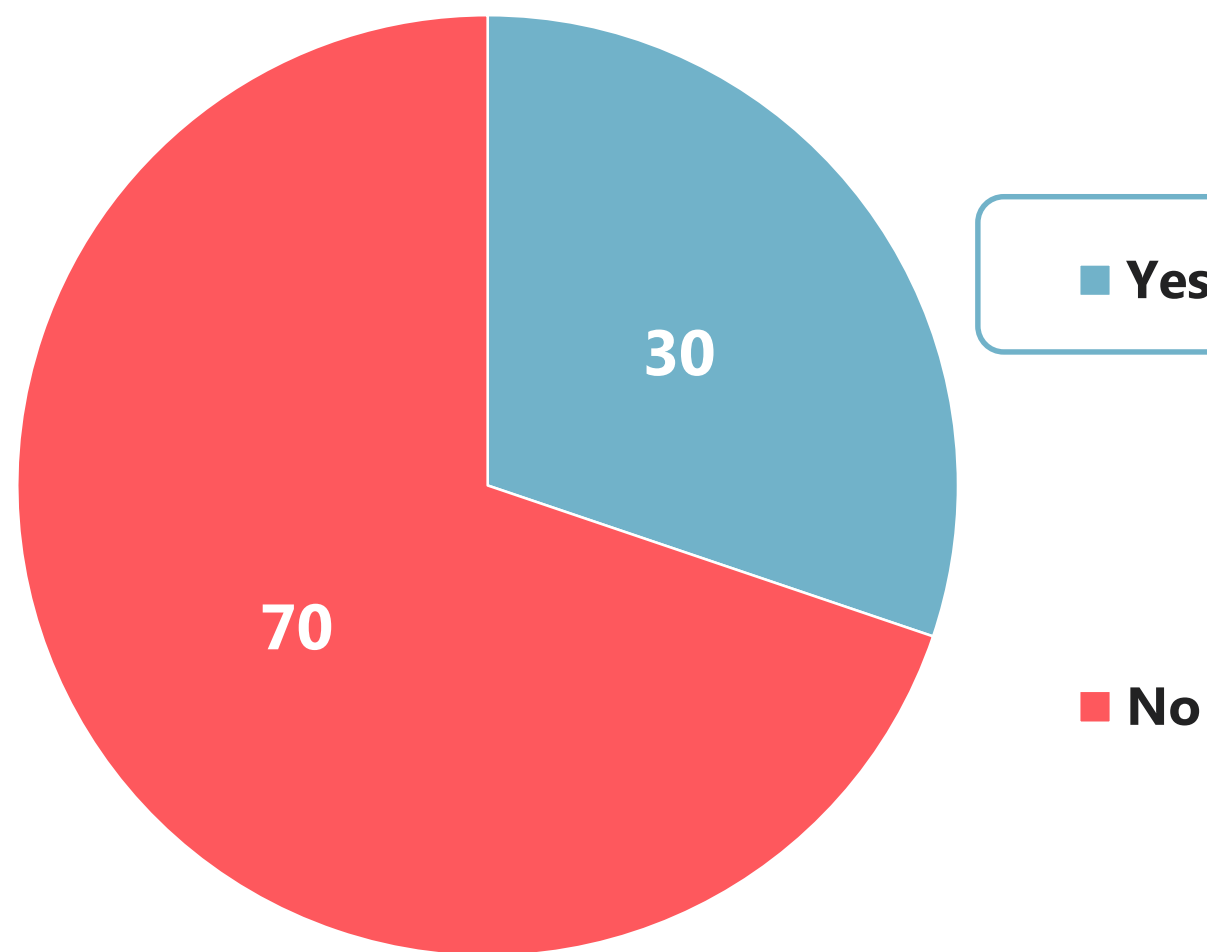


- Reporting the cases of domestic violence to competent institutions more frequently leads to divorce
- Reporting the cases of domestic violence to competent institutions more frequently leads to change of abuser's behaviour and preservation of marriage
- DK

Base: Total population , 18+

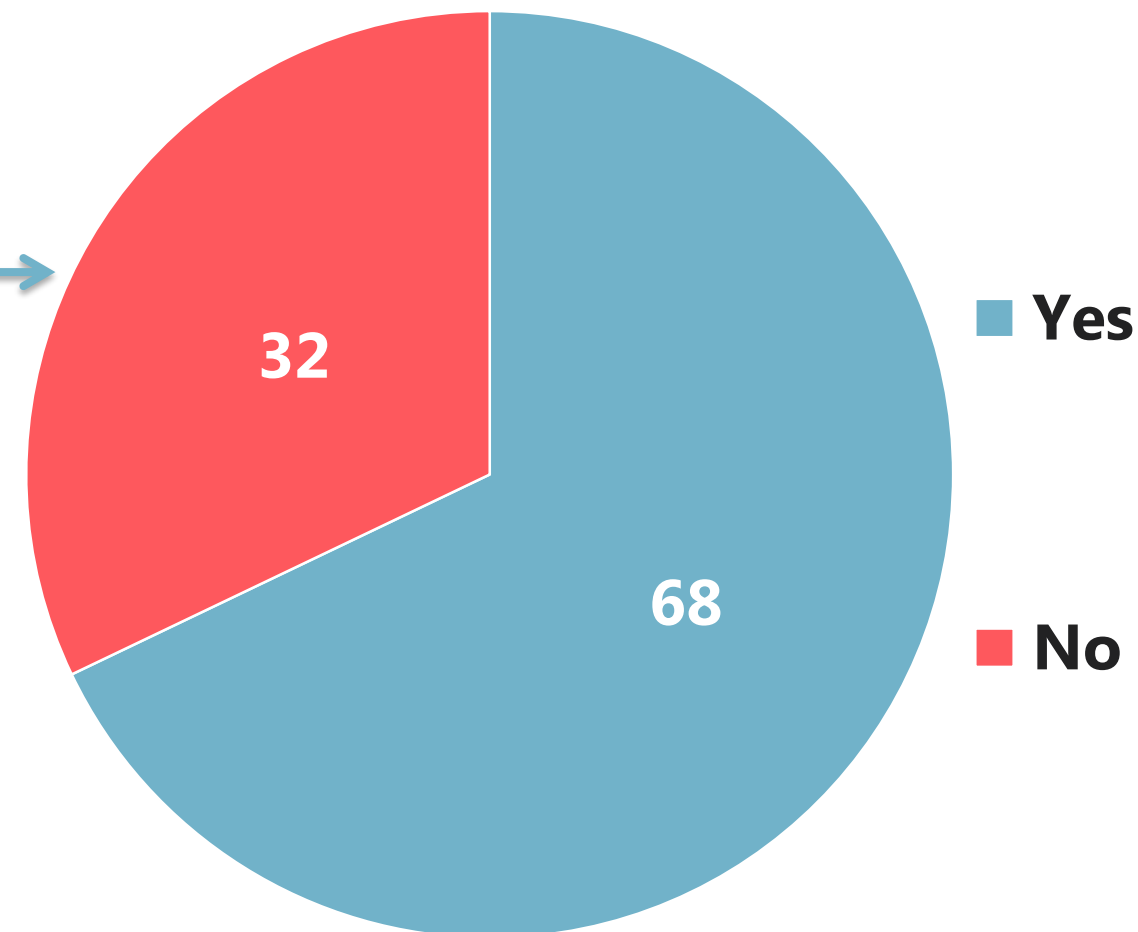
Domestic violence in close vicinity

Are you personally aware about any cases of domestic violence? Single response;



Base: Total population , 18+

Did you try to help the victim in any way? Single response;



Base: those who are aware of cases of domestic violence (30% of target population)

Reactions to domestic violence

What did you do concretely to help the victim of domestic violence solve the problem of domestic violence? Single response;

REACTED

I talked with the abuser or both sides in order to resolve the situation peacefully 47%

I advised the victim to divorce 17%

I myself reported the case or helped the victim to establish contact with some of the competent institutions 15%

I protected the victim directly - prevented violence 11%

I provided financial support/accommodation to victim 9%

DK/Refusal 2%

What is the most important reason why you didn't react? Single response;

DIDN'T REACT

Internal matter, I should not interfere 41%

Nothing can be achieved 16%

I am not aware of such cases 12%

Not in situation to help 9%

It would be worse for the victim 2%

DK/Refusal 22%

Base: those who are aware of cases of domestic violence and tried to help in some way (21% of target population)

Base: those who are aware of cases of domestic violence but didn't try to help the victim in any way (10% of target population)

Institutions

Perception of violence

Attitudes that underlie the institutional response to violence. Individual attitudes or attitudes of institutions?



Ipsos Strategic Marketing



What is domestic violence?

Various forms of domestic violence are recognised, but physical violence is mentioned most frequently.

Importance of emotional violence is recognised, but there is a visible pessimism regarding the possibility to prove it.

Financial and sexual violence are rarely mentioned as a part of practice.

Who are the victims and who are the perpetrators?

Women, usually those with lower economic status.

Victims themselves usually report violence.

There is a tendency to relativize the gender component of violence.

When is the violence reported?

After years of suffering – it usually starts with mental torture.

Increasingly reported to institutions due to good legal practice and frequent campaigns aimed at raising awareness.

The highest percentage of cases remain unreported, not due to distrust in institutions but due to traditional attitudes and financial dependence on the perpetrators.

They make professional decisions on the basis of private attitudes and the compliant perception of privacy and autonomy of family.



...How would I feel if someone were to come to my home, regardless of whether I wanted it...not to mention children, if I want to live in such situation...

You don't have the right to interfere except in case when life is at risk, and you know it, there are people who put up with some things... Yes, one is sometimes said because one cannot make a breakthrough, but little by little people are becoming aware, we are raising awareness...

Social worker

In practice family is positioned above individual.

Question of responsibility

- **Focus on narrow segment of work**
- **They act in a way that outcomes are the measures which they themselves consider less efficient**
- **Relativization of the gender component of violence**
- **A certain disapproval of victims is present**

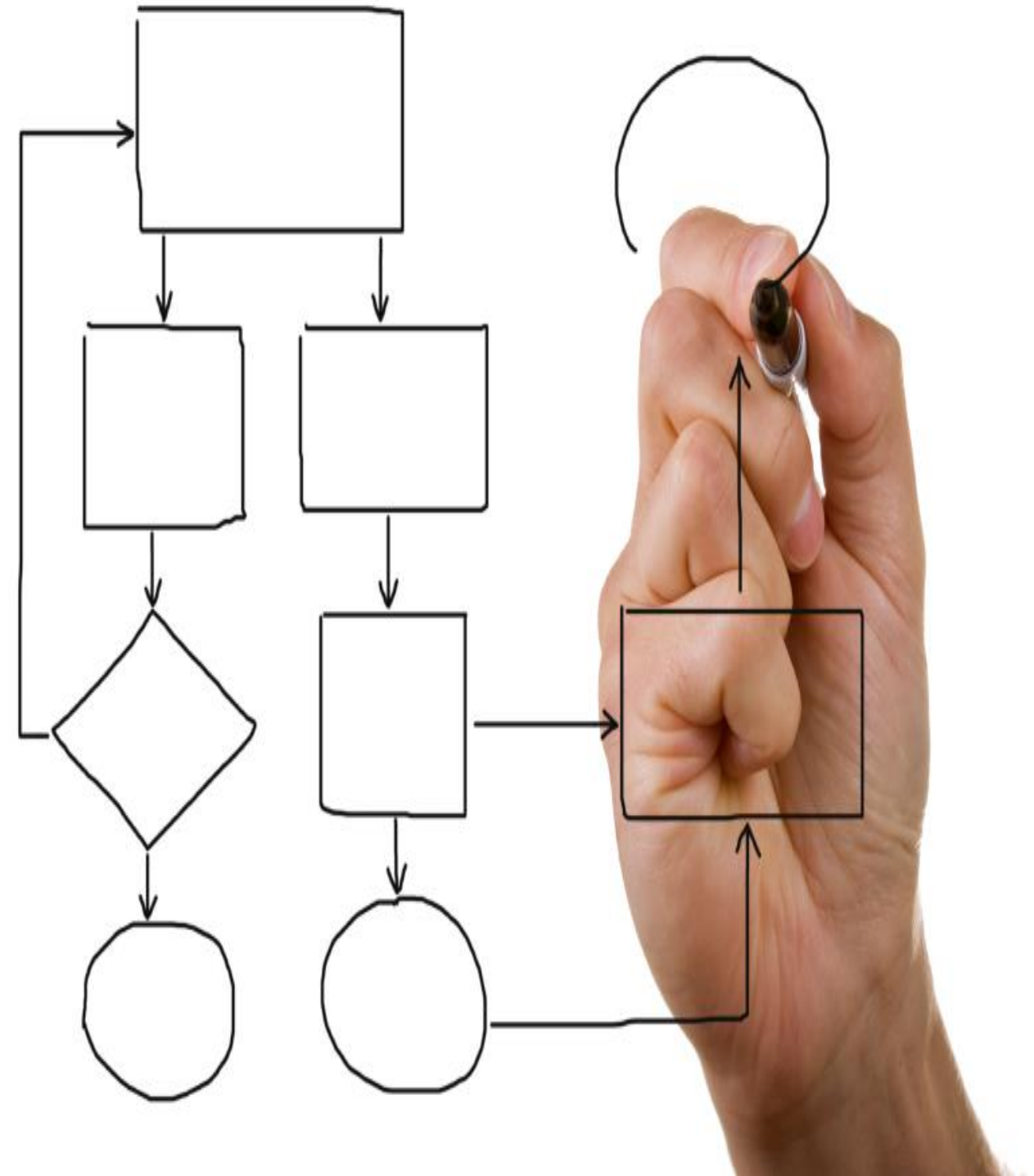
- **They shift responsibility for the care of victims to the NGO sector**
- **They avoid „psycho-social“ aspects of work**
- **They are not adequately trained for work with victims**

Institutions


Intersectoral cooperation and respect for the Protocol




Ipsos Strategic Marketing



Common to all institutions




They claim that they strictly respect the Protocol, although the experience of victims, representatives of the NGO sector and official statistics do not confirm such claims.



Although they positively assess cooperation with other institutions, victims and civil sector have the experience of being poorly internetworked and that there is no rapid and efficient flow of information between them



Responsibility for solving the problem of domestic violence is always, directly or indirectly, transferred to another institution within the chain of victim protection



They generally think that there are bigger and more dangerous problems for society that have priority in solving (except CSW).



Centres for social work are perceived as the most important institution in the chain.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- **They claim that in practice they rarely encounter domestic violence (in contrast to peer violence)**
- **Unevenly familiar with the Protocol (generally known to members of multidisciplinary teams)**
- **They are aware that children are considered victims even when they only witness the violence**
- **They think that most of their colleagues do not report violence because, in that way, they would hurt the trust of the child, but also because of the complexity of family dynamics in which they would not want to interfere**
- **They feel that this is not their primary field of action and that the responsibility lies primarily on CSW**
- **They think that class masters are in much better position to notice changes in children than psychological and pedagogical service.**

- **One of the most important links in the chain does not function**
- **They have the opportunity to notice domestic violence very early, but they rarely react**

HEALTHCARE

- **They claim that they rarely encounter violence in practice (except surgeon and psychiatrist)**
- **They mainly aren't familiar with the Protocol**
- **Majority of them have not undergone training for this topic**
- **Divided opinions on whether violence should be reported (legal obligation, ethics or fear)**
- **They rarely contact other institutions (rather CSW than Police)**
- **They advocate a "consultative" approach - collective responsibility**

- **Not included in cooperation regarding domestic violence**
- **They do not refer recognised cases to other institutions as they use ethics as an excuse**
- **They write very scant reports which are not informative and which are very difficult to use in proceedings against the abuser**

JUDICIARY

- **Significant differences between misdemeanor and criminal courts**
- **Prosecutors have a more practical approach, being more focused on an individual than judges who take into account family context to a greater extent.**
- **Partly familiar with the Protocol – they prioritise the law**
- **They have rarely participated in training regarding work with victims – the task of other experts**
- **They claim that they do not use mediation and confrontation, protective measures are much less pronounced in criminal proceedings than in misdemeanor procedures, most often pronounced are suspended and pecuniary sanctions.**
- **They think that psycho-social work is key to reducing and preventing domestic violence – CSW**
- **Their impression that the victims are very poorly protected during the trial itself - from the moment when police intervened until the verdicts come into effect.**
- **The victims often use the right of privileged witnesses and withdraw statements**

JUDICIARY

- **Misdemeanor courts do not have adequate conditions for separating the victim from the perpetrators**
- **They approximately decide which cases are sent to misdemeanour court and which to criminal court**
- **Article 109 of the law is confusing**
- **Prosecutors never go to the field to ascertain the situation**
- **They are not trained for work with the victims and they are not specialised for this field**
- **Uninterested to process the cases**
- **They shift responsibility for violence to victim**

CENTRES FOR SOCIAL WORK

- **Basically completely familiar with the protocol**
- **Although the Protocol stipulates that even the suspicion of violence should be reported, sometimes in practice there are dilemmas as to whether the suspicion that exists is sufficiently warranted to report violence**
- **They have an extremely ambivalent attitude towards NGO engagement on this issue**
- **They think that fines affect the family more than the perpetrators and that the criminal policy is too mild**
- **They criticize the time which elapses from submission of misdemeanour sentence till initiation of court proceedings, during which the victim is unprotected**
- **They accentuate the problem of payment of alimony as crucial to encouraging victims to report violence**

CENTRES FOR SOCIAL WORK

- **They are hiding behind the systemic-family approach to the victim, which is directly opposite to the Protocol**
- **They insist on rules to fence from contact with the victim**
- **Not so rarely they are not present when father sees the child in controlled conditions in the premises of CSW, and they do not inform the victims that they can't provide the conditions where the abuser cannot take the child with him.**
- **They treat the victims from position of power, implicitly or explicitly striving to preserve the family using the well-being of children as an argument**
- **They avoid personal responsibility when defining the official opinion – consultative approach**
- **Victims are forwarded to the Safe Houses, expecting that these organizations will continue to take care of their reintegration into society, protection, legal and psychosocial assistance**
- **Multidisciplinary teams – a great idea, but they rarely meet, they are mostly formal and they rarely make some long-term recommendations or conclusions about the cases.**

POLICE

- **They claim that they consistently comply with the Protocol:**
 - With the exception of conditioned resources**
 - With the exception of victims' request to stop the procedure**
 - With the exception of security plans (they don't know whose responsibility this is)**
 - With the exception of removal from the flat**
- **They reluctantly perform tasks that require sensitivity in contact with victims - they consider it a job for other experts (psychologists)**
- **They mainly aren't trained for work in this area – they are trained for formal aspects of domestic violence, but not for work with victims of violence**
- **They think, especially in coastal area, that the lack of Shelter is a huge problem**
- **They consider cooperation with other institutions as excellent, but official statistics doesn't support this attitude**
- **Stricter penalties + psychosocial work = reduced level of domestic violence**

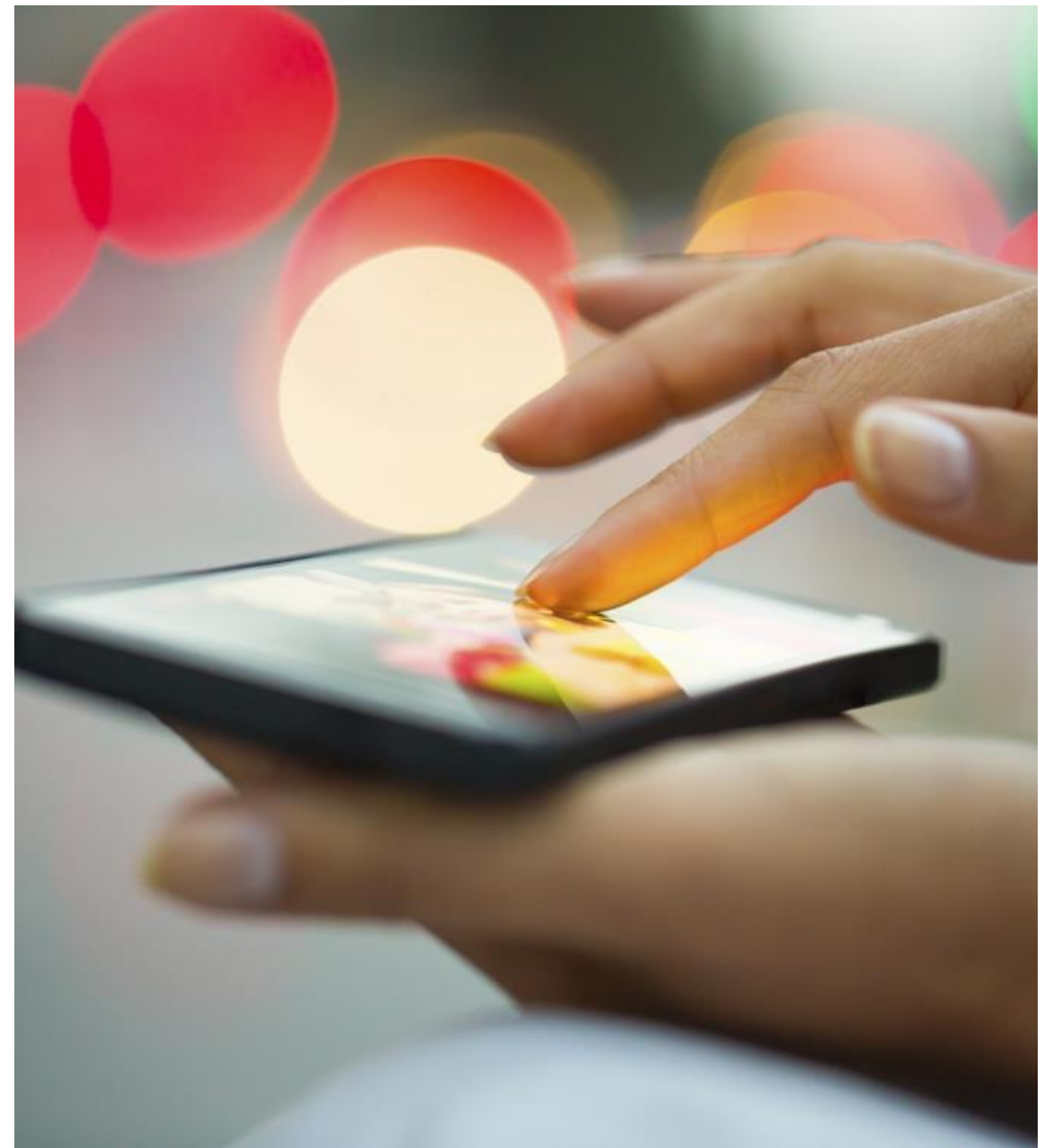
THE POLICE

- **Lack of sensitivity**
- **Victims have a whole range of experiences with the police – will of an individual**
- **They are not sensitive, they treat victims of violence same as any other client**
- **They keep short and not informative enough notes that harm victim in court (especially in cases of psychological violence)**
- **During initial conversations, they try to persuade victims (implicitly or explicitly) to drop charges and solve the problem with perpetrator on their own.**
- **Usually NGOs start urgent proceedings and not the police**
- **They don't share information about the course of the process awaiting victims**
- **They don't consider these cases high priority – police jurists don't appear in the misdemeanor court**
- **They inform prosecution about the case verbally, which leaves room for subjective interpretation**

The prevalence of domestic violence



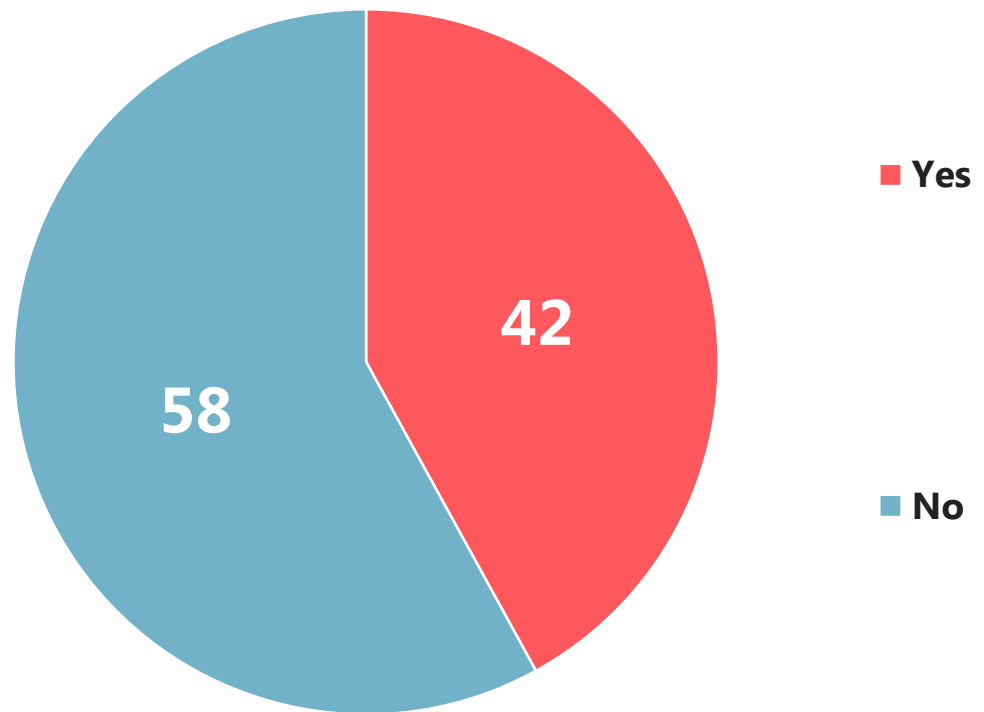
Ipsos Strategic Marketing



Total prevalence of domestic violence

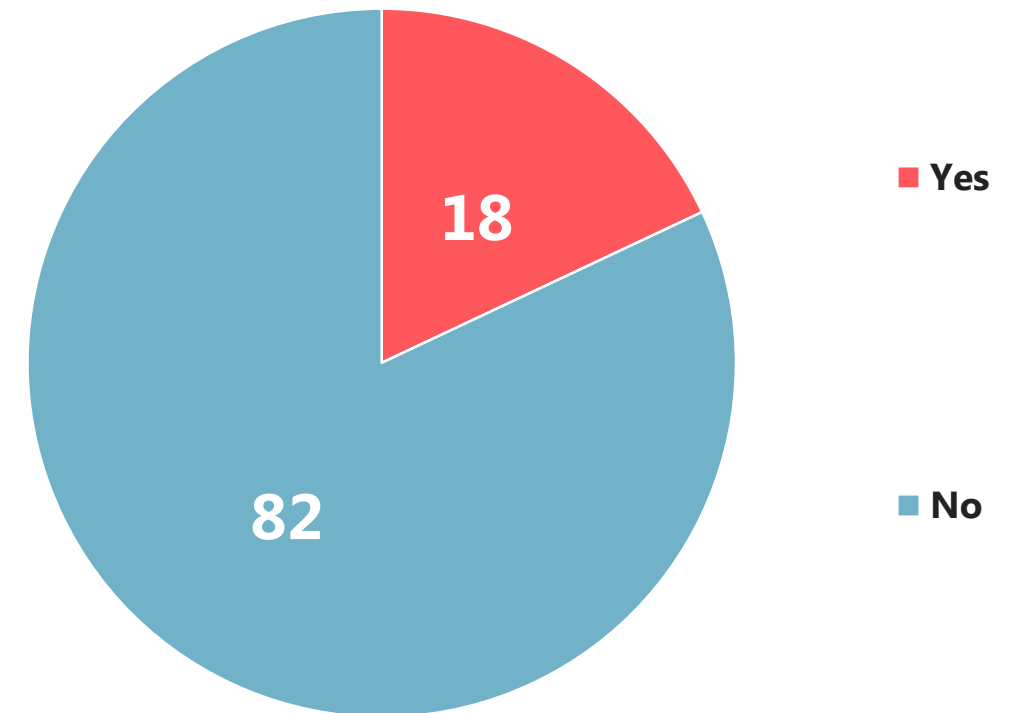
Has it EVER happened to you that your current boyfriend/husband or any ex-boyfriend/husband...; Single response by type of violence;

Lifelong total prevalence – At least one experience with one of the four types of partner violence (psychological, economic, physical and sexual)



Has it EVER happened to you that your current boyfriend/husband or any ex-boyfriend/husband...; Single response by type of violence;

Total prevalence over the past 12 months - At least one experience with one of the four types of partner violence (psychological, economic, physical and sexual) over the past 12 months



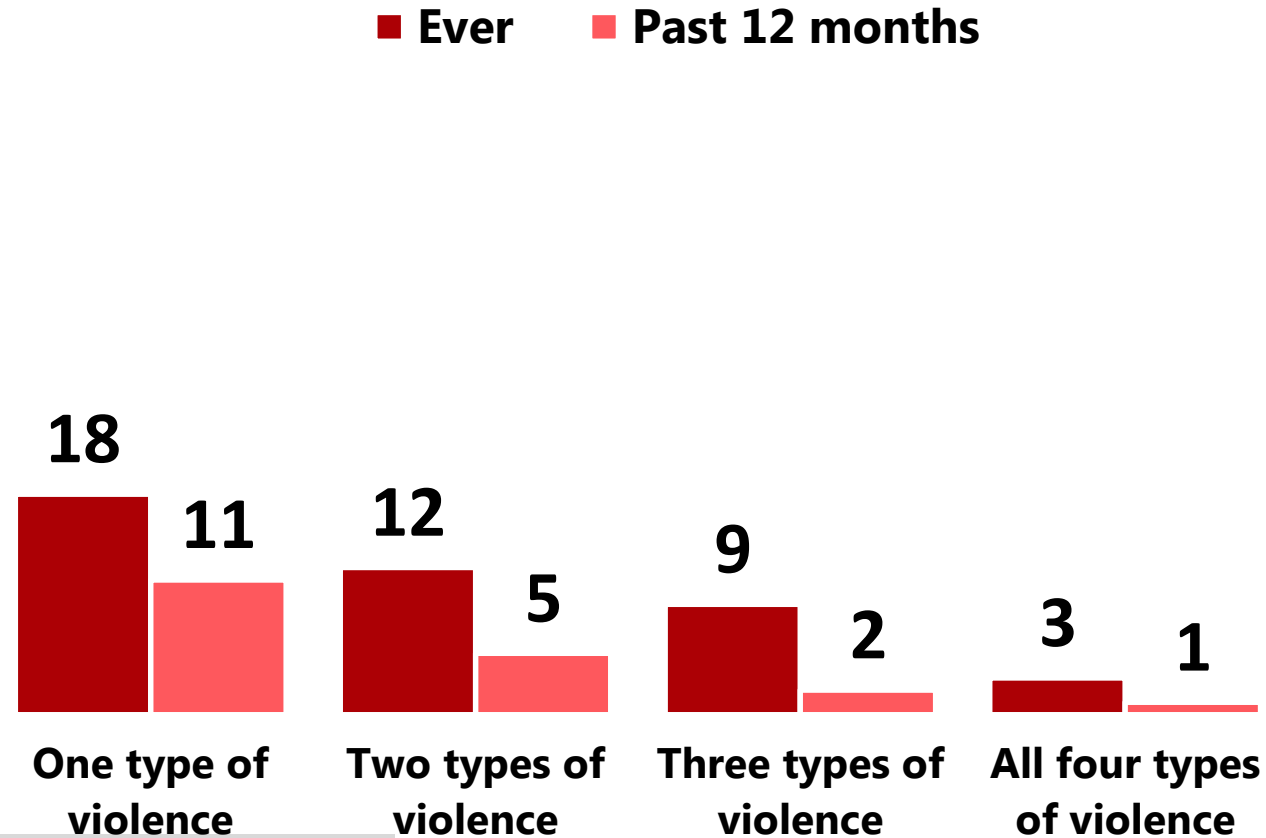
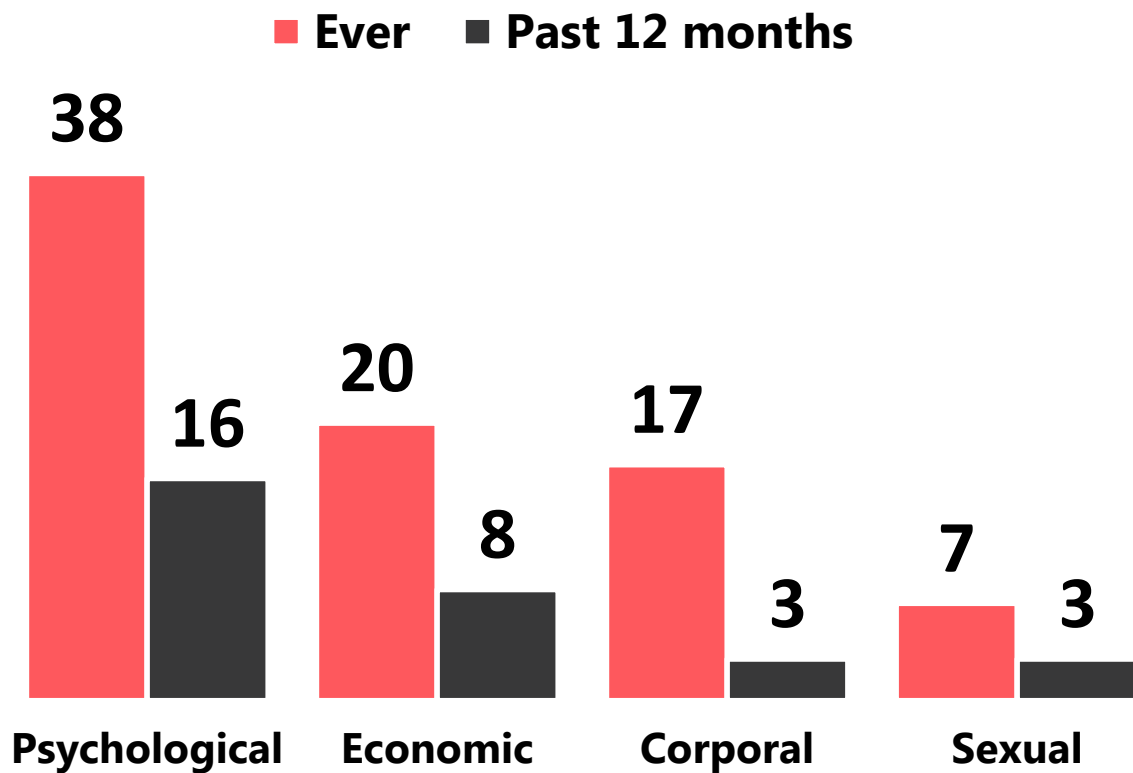
Base: women who have or have ever had a partner (87% of target population)

Prevalence of different types of violence

Has it **EVER** happened to you that your current boyfriend/husband or any ex-boyfriend/husband...; Single response by type of violence;

Prevalence of partner violence: the percentage of women who have experienced at least one form of violence within the given type of violence

Prevalence of the number of different types of partner violence: the percentage of women by the number of different types of partner violence in life (experienced at least one form of violence within the given type of violence)

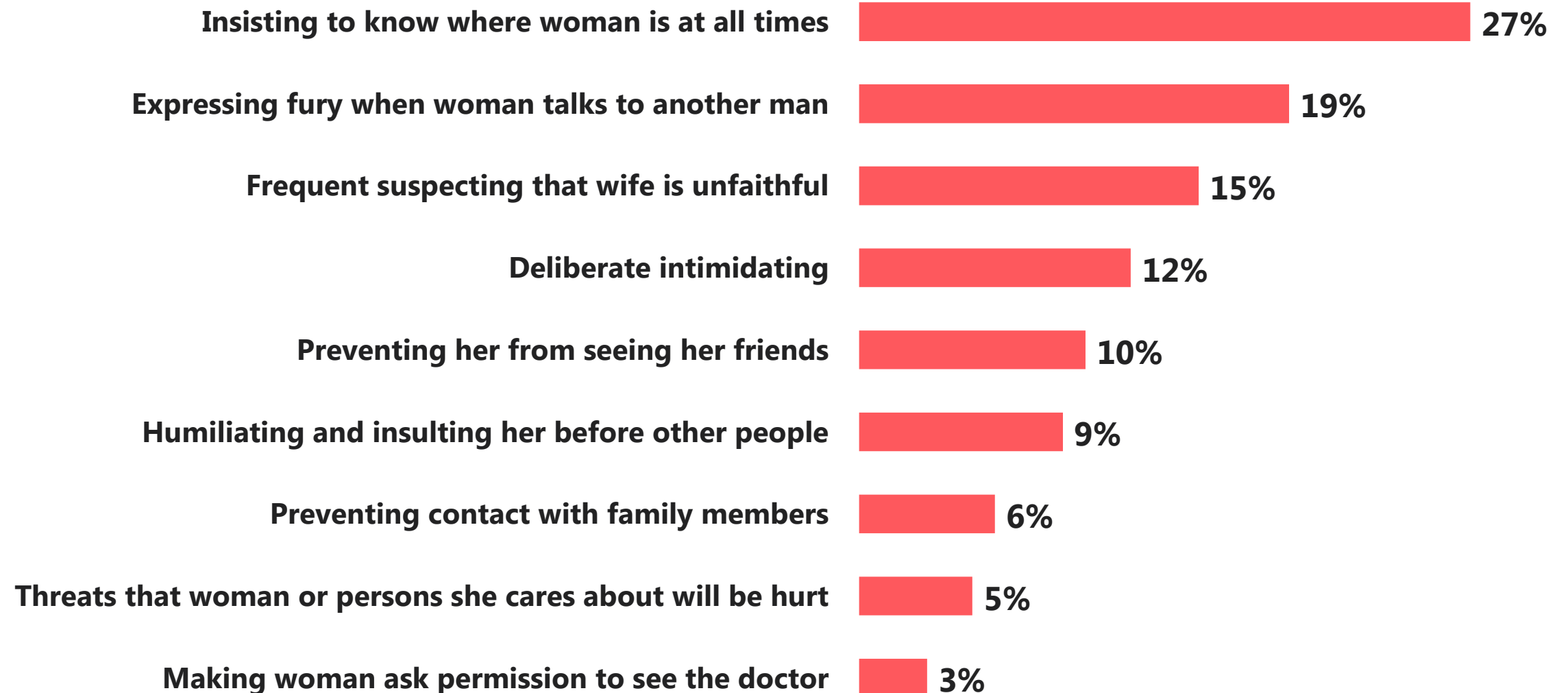


Base: women who have or have ever had a partner (87% of target population)

Prevalence of physical violence

Women who have been exposed to different forms of psychological violence by partner – individual forms

Has it EVER happened to you that your current boyfriend/husband or any ex-boyfriend/husband...; Single response by type of psychological violence;



Base: women who have or have ever had a partner (87% of target population)

Prevalence of economic violence

Women who have been exposed to different forms of economic violence by partner– individual forms

Has it EVER happened to you that your current boyfriend/husband or any ex-boyfriend/husband...; Single response by type of economic violence;

Telling her how much money she can spend



Forbidding her to find a job/ forcing her to quit work/school



Taking the money she earned from her



Buying things/taking a loan on her behalf without her knowing

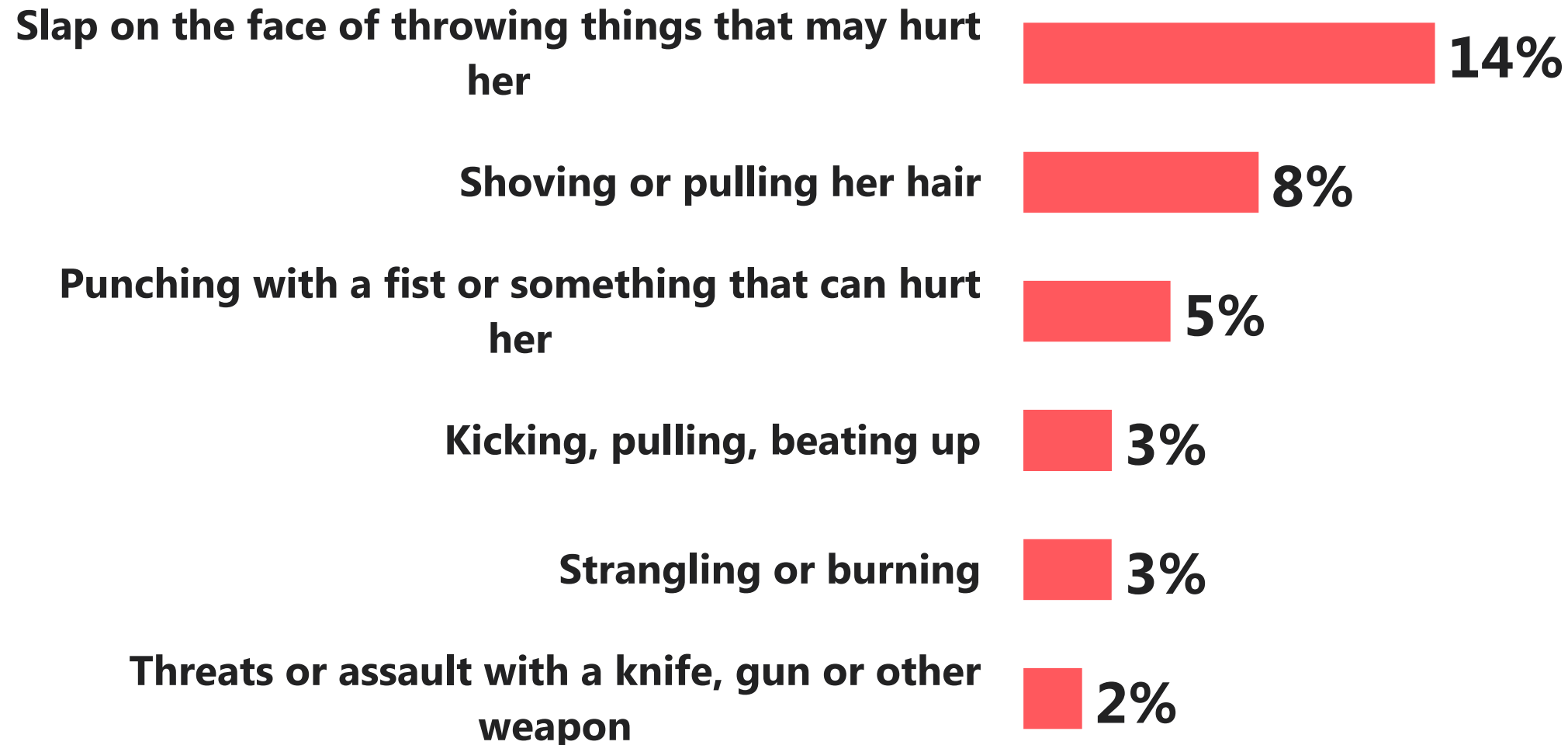


Base: women who have or have ever had a partner (87% of target population)

Prevalence of corporal violence

Women who have been exposed to different forms of corporal violence by partner– individual forms

Has it EVER happened to you that your current boyfriend/husband or any ex-boyfriend/husband...; Single response by type of corporal violence;

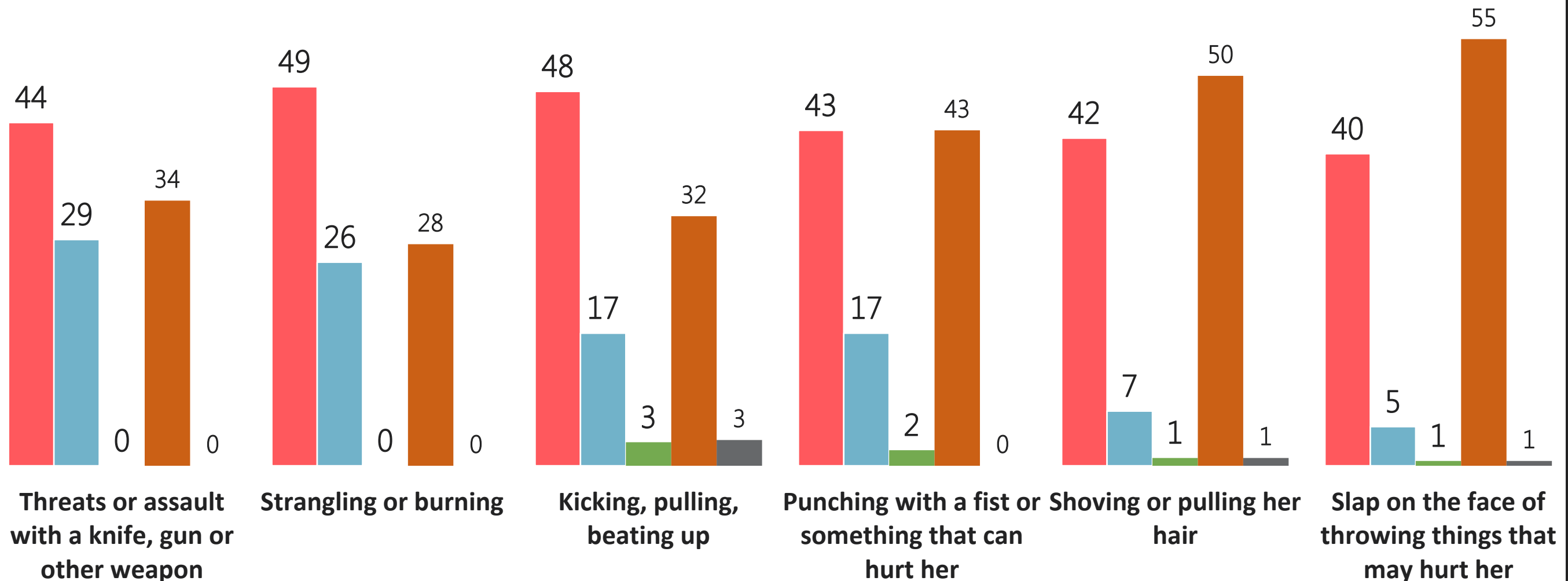


Base: women who have or have ever had a partner (87% of target population)

How women react to physical violence

Have you turned to anyone for help? Single response per form of corporal violence; Multiple

■ Friends and family
 ■ Formal institutions
 ■ NGO
 ■ No one
 ■ Refusal



Base: 17% of the population, women who have experienced corporal violence

Prevalence of sexual violence

Women who have been exposed to different forms of sexual violence by partner– individual forms

Has it EVER happened to you that your current boyfriend/husband or any ex-boyfriend/husband...; Single response by type of sexual violence;

Forced sexual intercourse



Forced sexual activity humiliating for woman



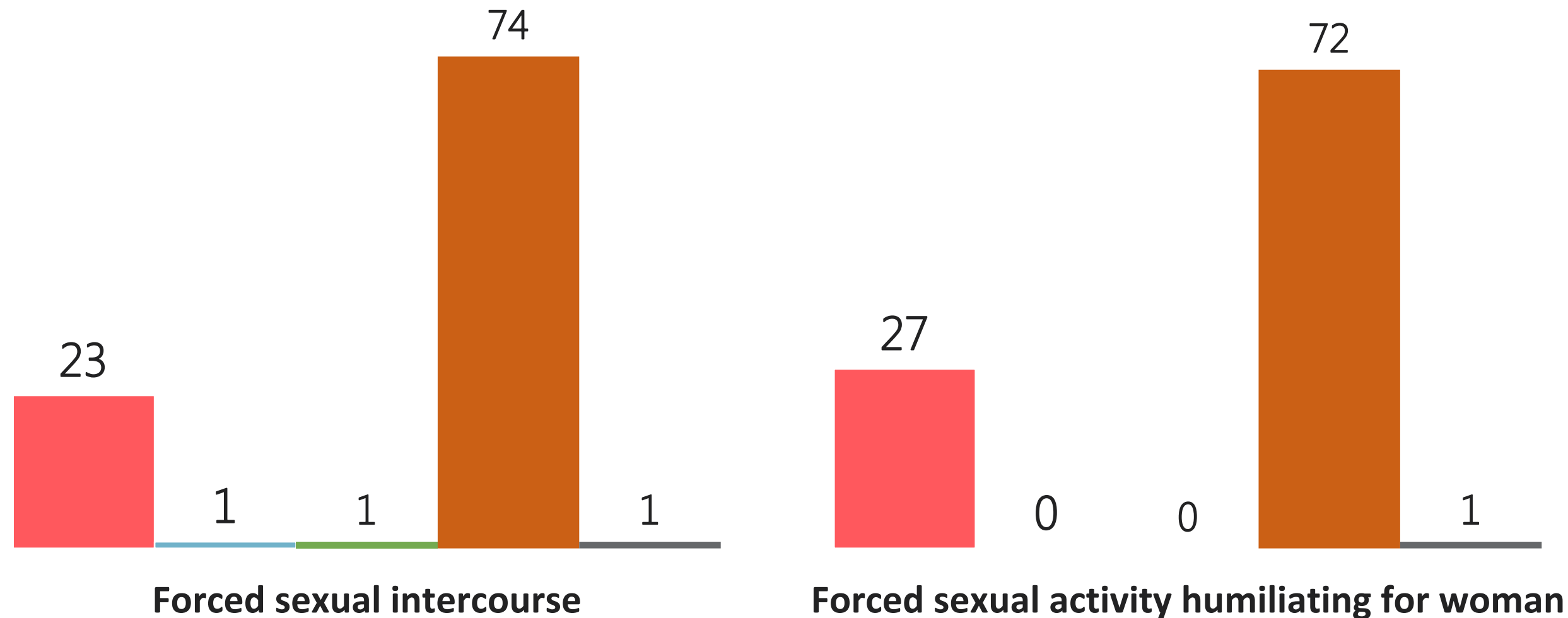
Base: women who have or have ever had a partner (87% of target population)

Base: 7% of the population, women who have experienced sexual violence

How women react to sexual violence

Have you turned to anyone for help? Single response per form of sexual violence; Multiple

Friends and family Formal institutions NGO No one Refusal



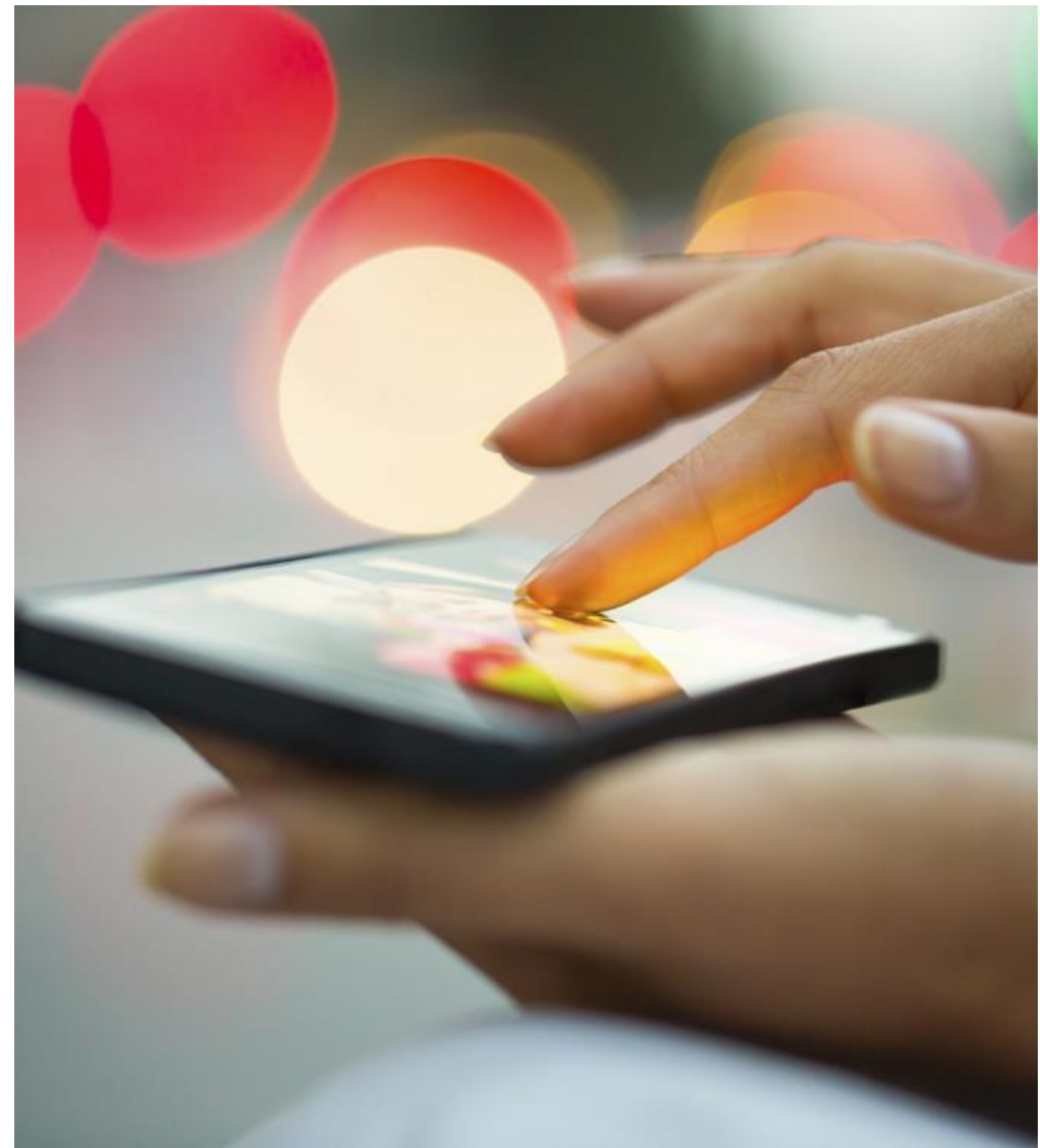
Base: 7% of the population, women who have experienced sexual violence

The link between prevalence

and demographic
characteristic



Ipsos Strategic Marketing

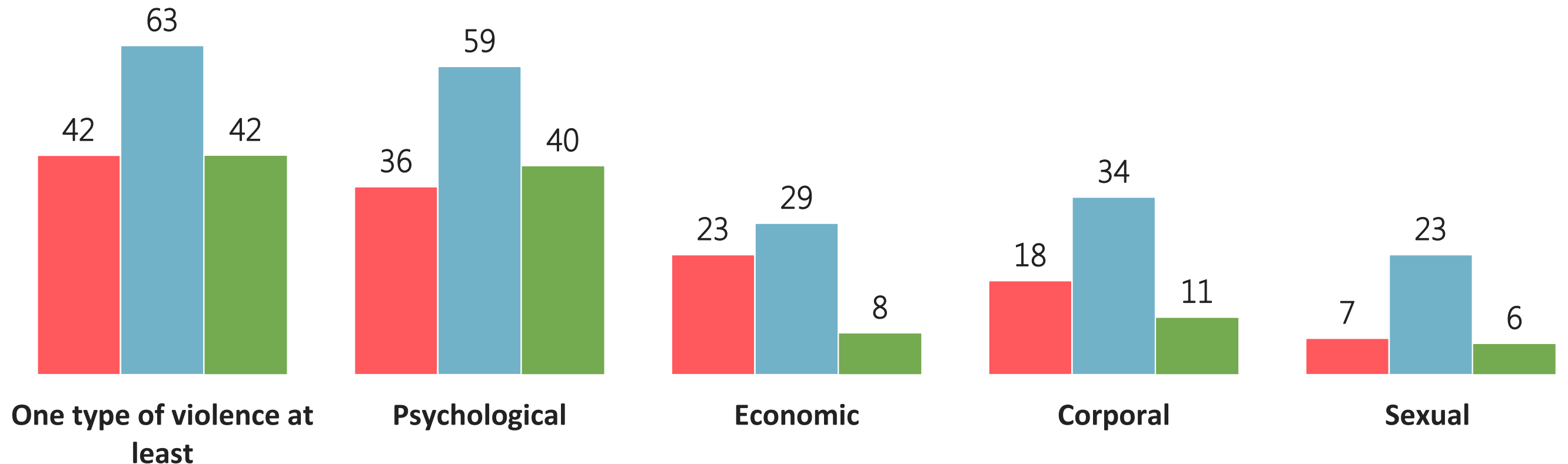


The prevalence of violence by partner status

Has it EVER happened to you that your current boyfriend/husband or any ex-boyfriend/husband...; Single response by type of violence;

Lifelong partner violence prevalence (at least one form of violence within type) by type of partner status

■ Married or was married ■ Defacto married or was defacto married ■ Has a partner, but they don't/didn't live together

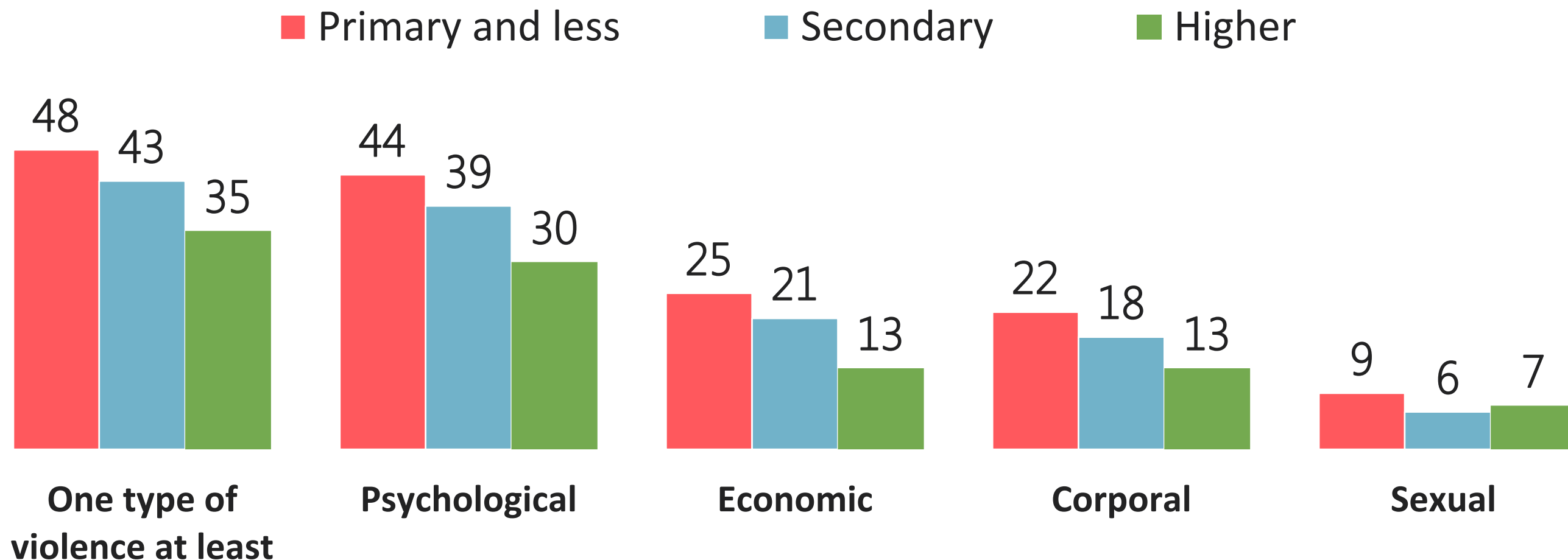


Base: 87% of the population, women who had or have a partner

The prevalence of violence by education

Has it EVER happened to you that your current boyfriend/husband or any ex-boyfriend/husband...; Single response by type of violence;

Lifelong partner violence prevalence (at least one form of violence within type) by education

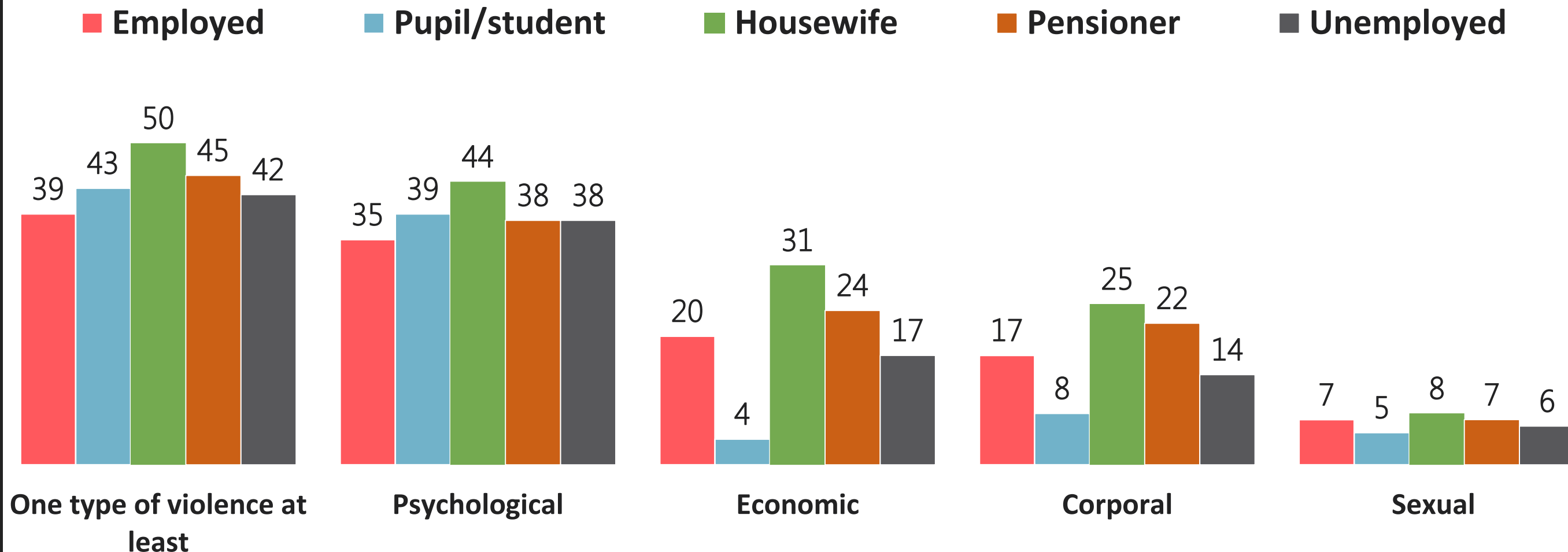


Base: 87% of the population, women who had or have a partner

The prevalence of violence by work status

Has it EVER happened to you that your current boyfriend/husband or any ex-boyfriend/husband...; Single response by type of violence;

Lifelong partner violence prevalence (at least one form of violence within type) by work status during the survey fieldwork

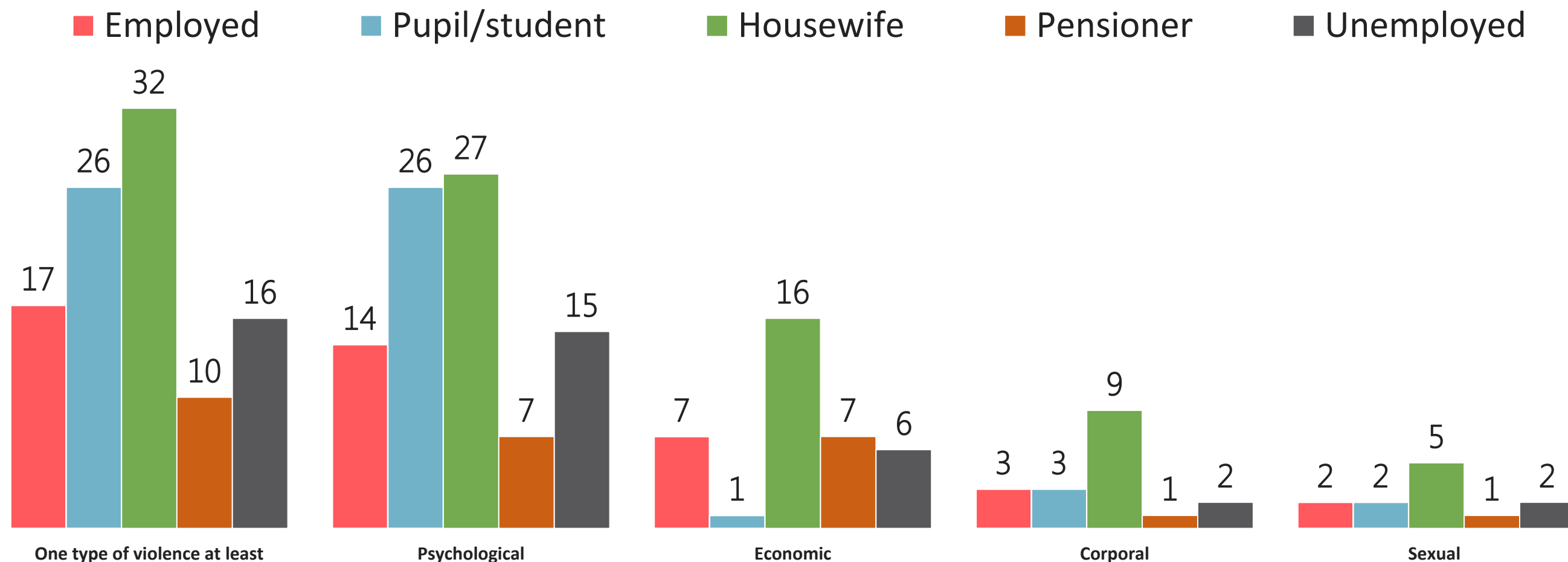


Base: 87% of the population, women who had or have a partner

The prevalence of violence by work status

Has it EVER happened to you that your current boyfriend/husband or any ex-boyfriend/husband...; Single response by type of violence;

Prevalence of partner violence over the past 12 months (at least one form of violence within type) by work status during the survey fieldwork

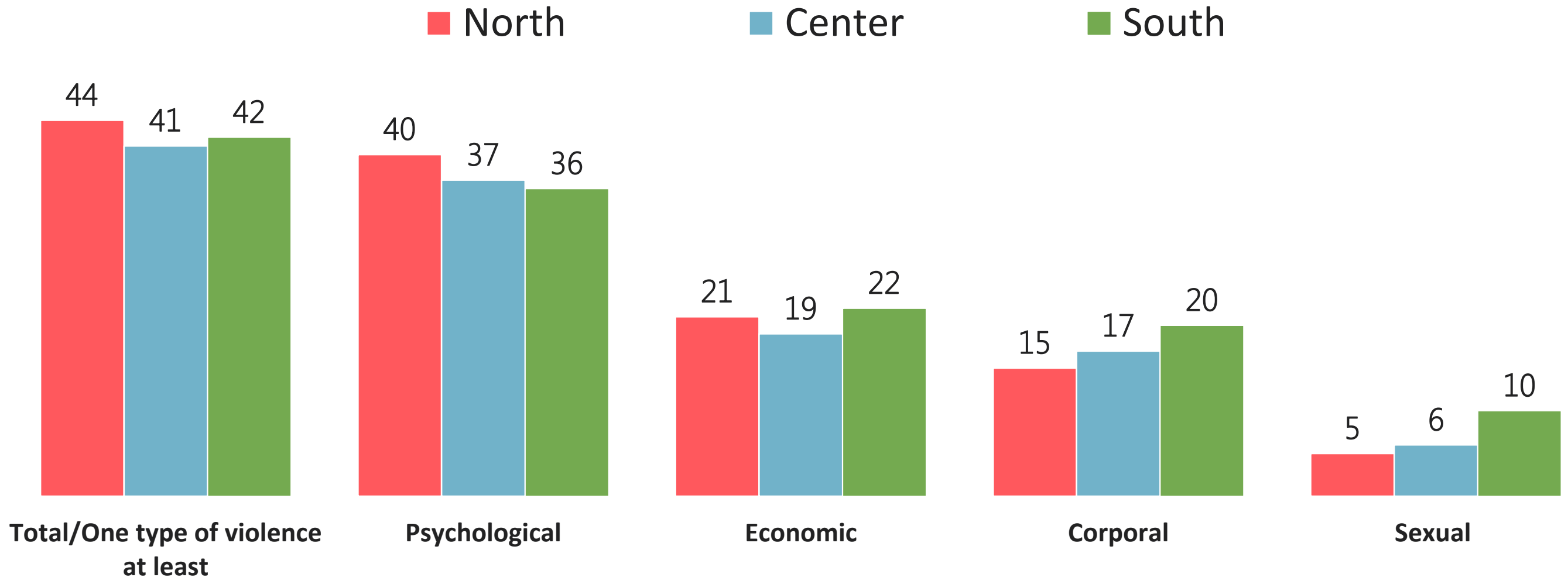


Base: 87% of the population, women who had or have a partner

The prevalence of violence by region

Has it EVER happened to you that your current boyfriend/husband or any ex-boyfriend/husband...; Single response by type of violence;

Lifelong partner violence prevalence (at least one form of violence within type) by region

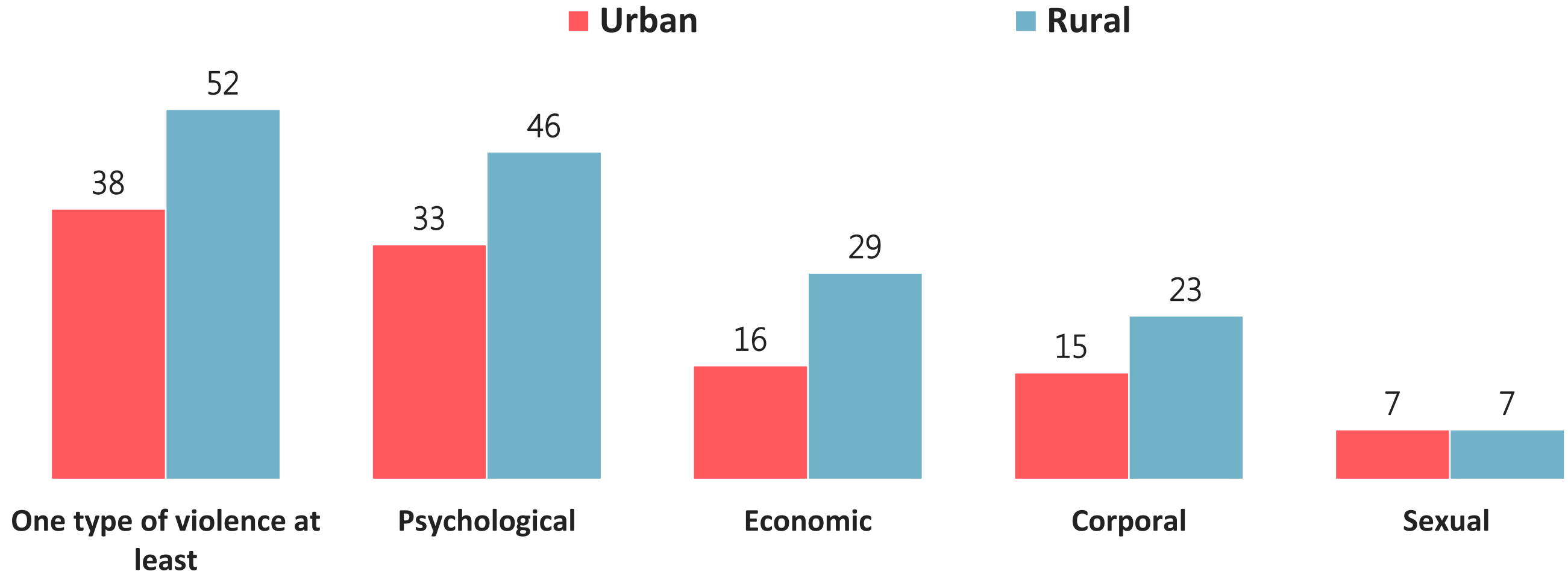


Base: 87% of the population, women who had or have a partner

The prevalence of violence by type of settlement

Has it EVER happened to you that your current boyfriend/husband or any ex-boyfriend/husband...; Single response by type of violence;

Lifelong partner violence prevalence (at least one form of violence within type) by type of settlement

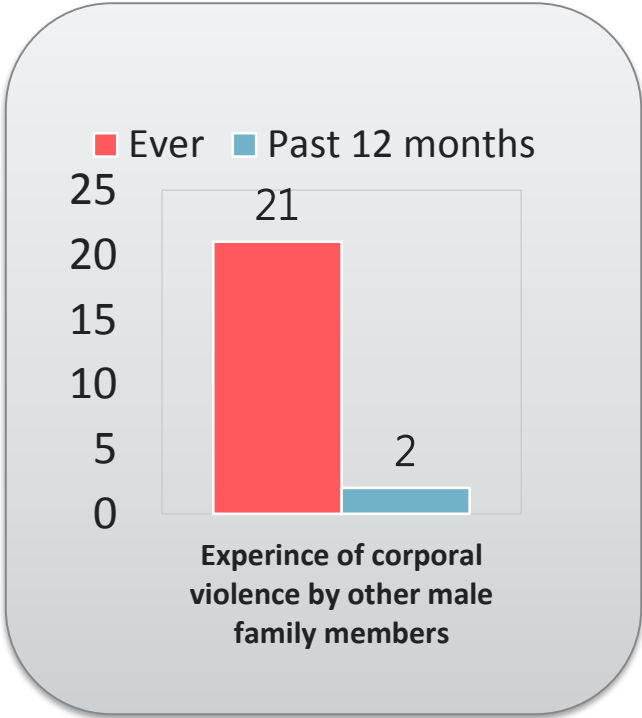
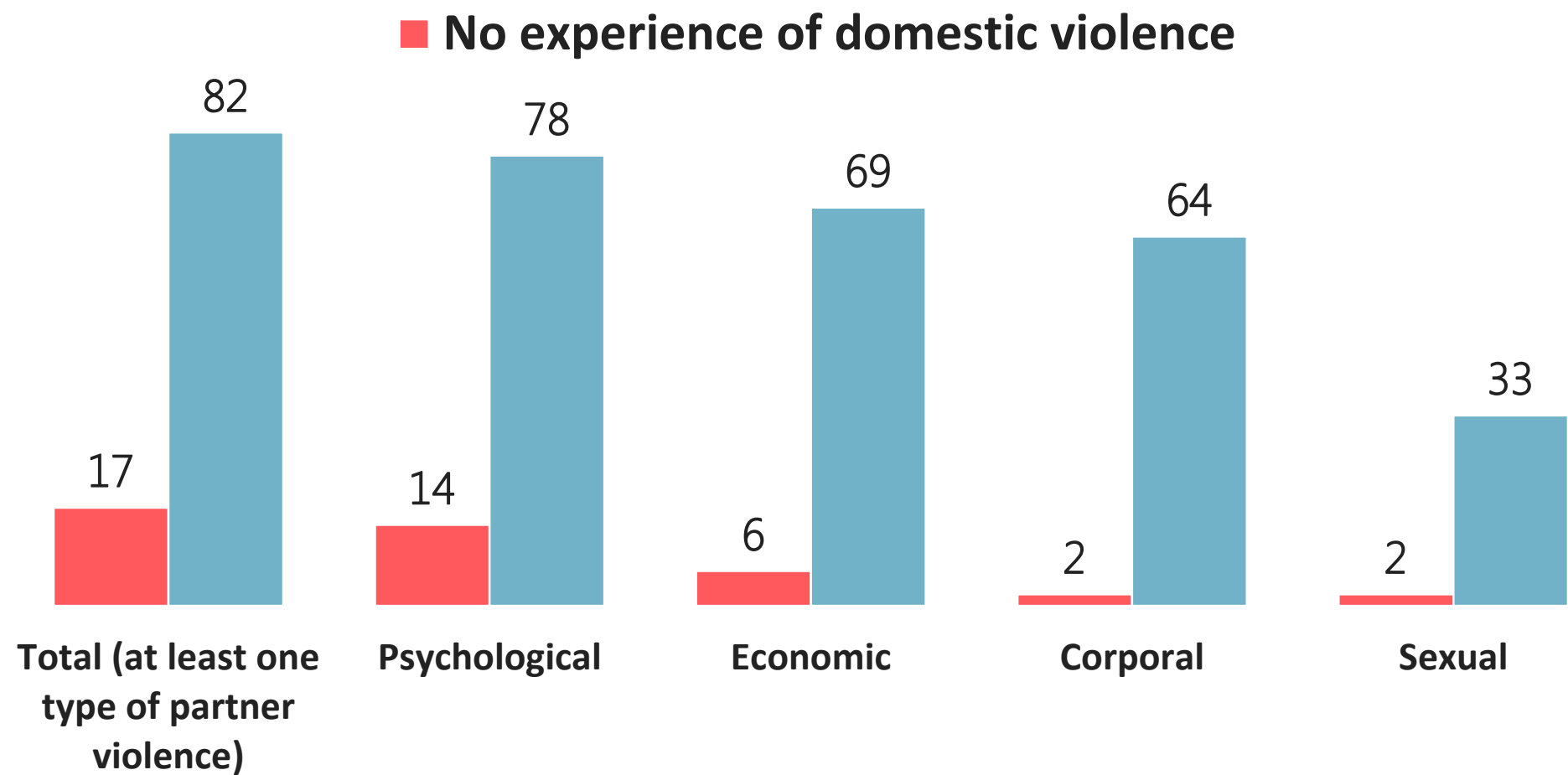


Base: 87% of the population, women who had or have a partner

The prevalence of violence by the experience of corporal violence by other male household members

Has it EVER happened to you that your current boyfriend/husband or any ex-boyfriend/husband...; Single response by type of violence;

Lifelong partner violence prevalence (at least one form of violence within type) by the experience of corporal violence by other male household members (not partner)



Base: 87% of the population, women who had or have a partner

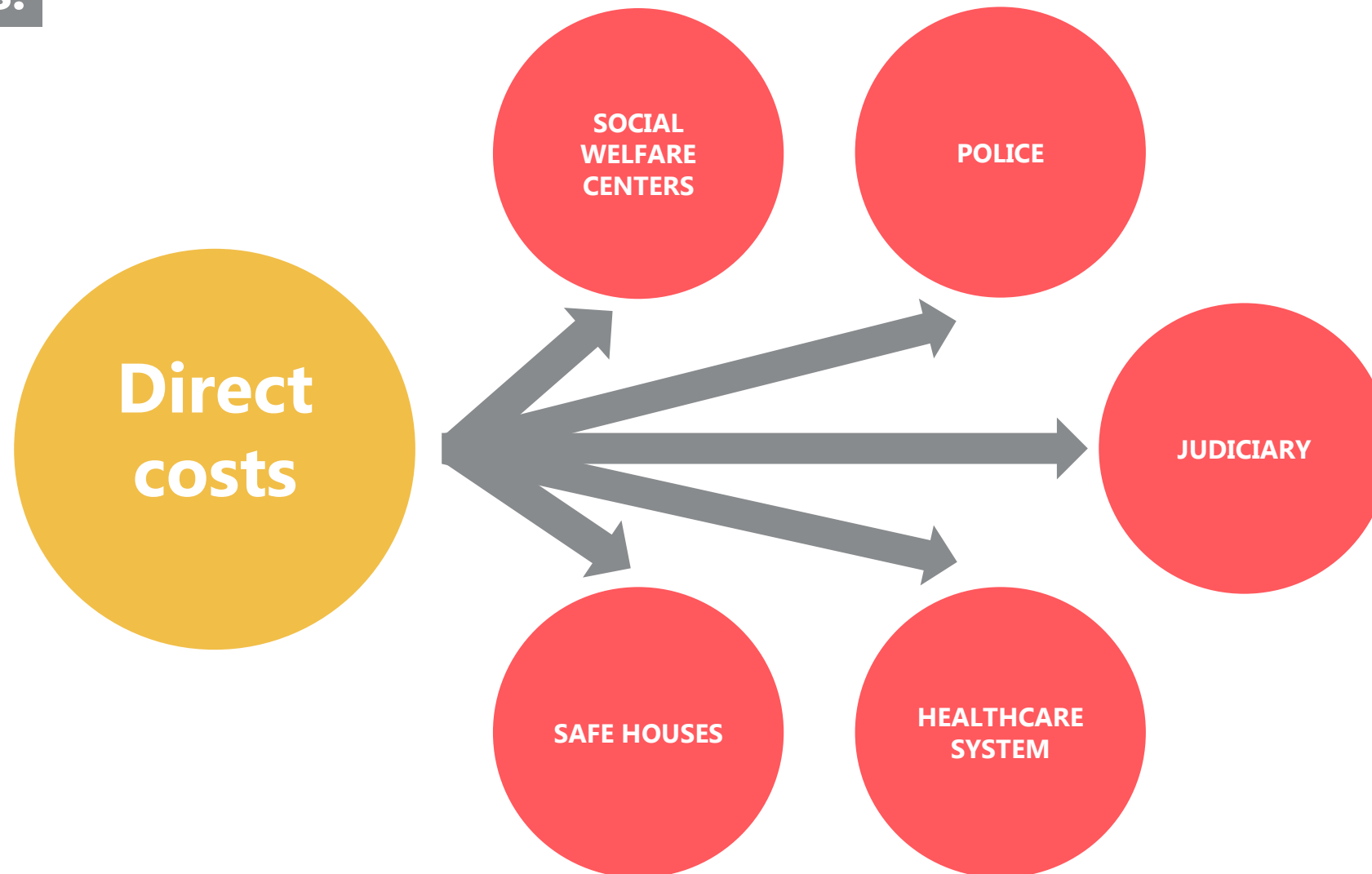


Direct costs of partner violence

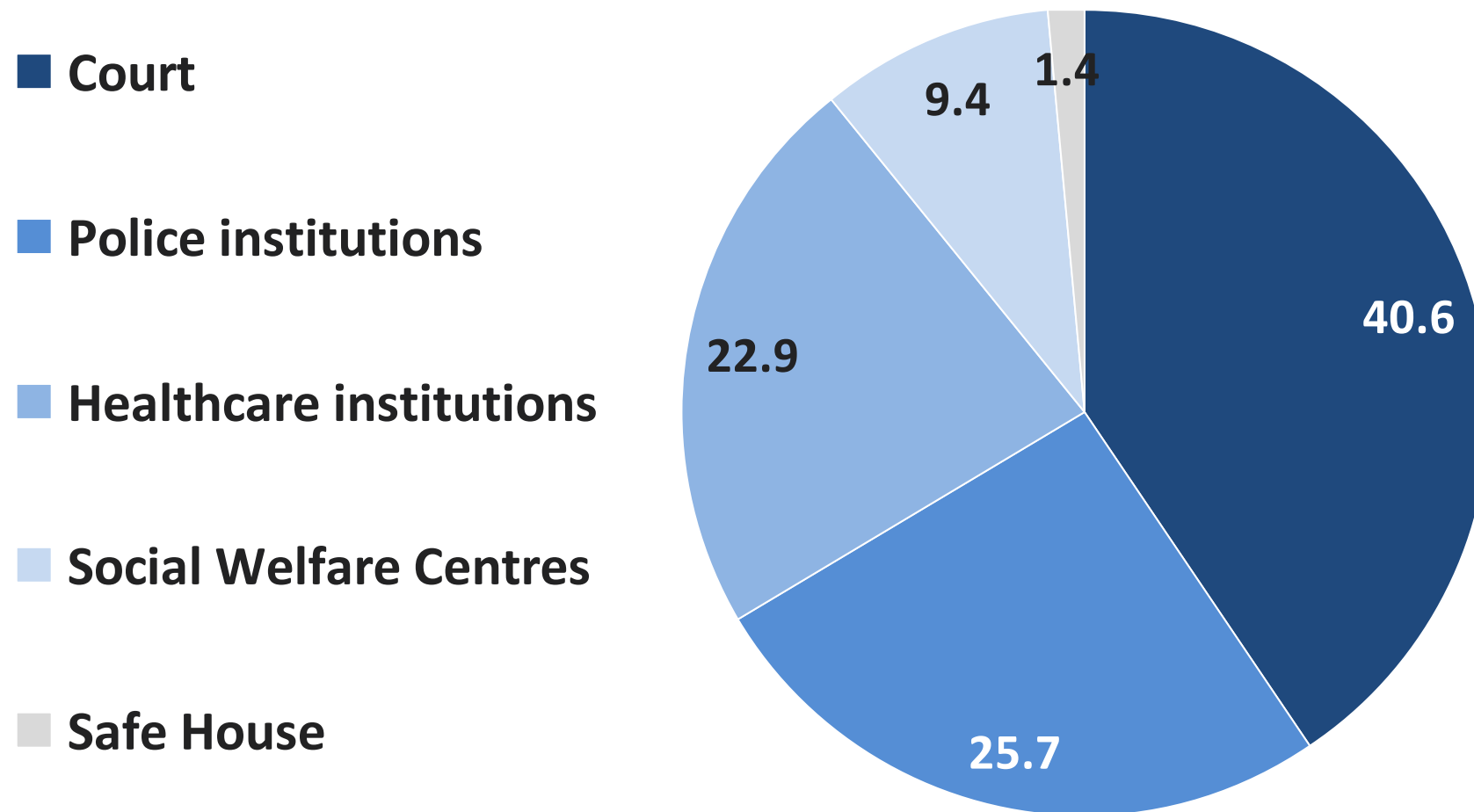
Direct costs of partner violence are measurable costs paid in money (or in kind, but expressed in monetary units): income of the employed in the institutions responsible for processing of victims (social and medical workers, judges, police), fieldwork costs, medical material, forensic costs etc. Although these costs can be measured directly, the shortage of data is very likely to prevent it.

Direct costs

5 key segments:



THE SHARE IN DIRECT COSTS



The expenditures for partner violence per capita are 15 EUR a year.

The average annual cost by victim whose case is being processed is about 11500 EUR – 9.2 mil

Macroeconomic effects

The effects on GDP:

- Economic model, McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) .
- In the model, the gross domestic product is observed as a function of labor force productivity (GDP by employee) and the number of employees.

$$\text{GDP} = \text{working population} \times \text{employment rate} \times \text{labor force productivity by employee}$$

- The loss of social wealth (measured by the reduction of GDP) caused by the reduced productivity of women due to partner violence.

Macroeconomic effects

The effects on GDP:

- If we combine the data about the GDP by employee and the assumption of the number of women victims of partner violence, their participation in the labor market and productivity, we get the following result:

The GDP of Montenegro in 2015. was for **17.9 million EUR smaller** due to the consequences of partner violence, which reflects negatively on the productivity of employed women, so the annual loss is about **0.5% of the GDP.**

Considering also the assumption of annual growth, the cumulated loss in the next **ten years** will be about **241 million EUR .**

Demographic effects

Fertility and social cost of violence:

- The objective of this part of the analysis is to identify the loss, or annual reduction of the number of newborns due to partner violence. This number will enable quantification of the social cost, or potential decrease of social wealth measured by the scope of GDP.

$$X = \frac{Nt * \frac{fv}{100} (\frac{Ft * rv}{100})}{Ft - \frac{fv}{100} (\frac{Ft * rv}{100})}$$

X – the number of children who would be born by women who suffer violence, and who gave no birth in the year t

fv – fertility reduction in percentages (30%)

rv – the percentage of women in fertile period who are exposed to partner violence (20%)

Ft – the number of women in fertile period in the year t

Nt – the number of newborns in the year t

Demographic effects

Fertility and social cost of violence:

In 2015, with the given assumptions (20% of women in fertile period exposed to violence and 30% with reduced fertility), as a consequence of partner violence, **471 less children were born** in Montenegro. In other words, every year, Montenegro loses about 500 newborns due to reduced fertility caused by partner violence.

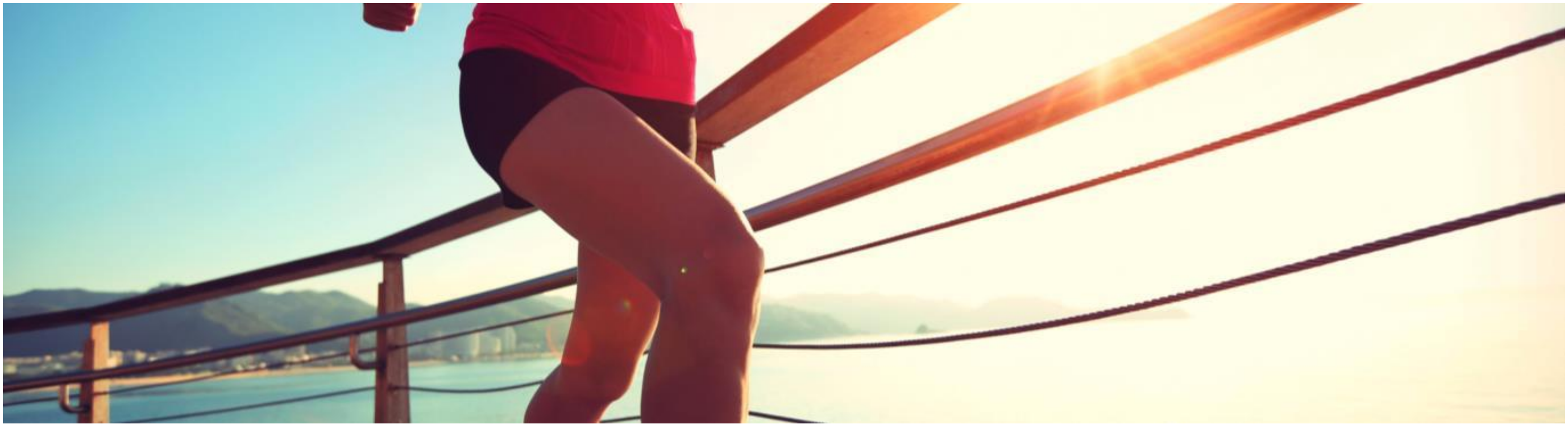
Demographic effects

Fertility and social cost of violence:

- If we assume unchanged annual population loss due to partner violence (500 newborns less), that working population has cumulatively been reduced for 25000 in 2015. (50 years of age x 500 population loss), with the given employment rate of 51.4%, the result is cumulative loss of about 12850 potentially employed persons in 2015. In other words, due to the consequences of partner violence, potential employment, or the number of the employed who create GDP, is smaller for about 13000 employees in 2015.
- If this loss due to reduced fertility (215 million euros) is increased by the loss due to reduced productivity (17.9 million euros), the total loss is about **233 million euros a year or 6% of GDP.**

Direct costs

If we merge this sum with the number of about 9000 fertile women who haven't had children because of partner violence (20% of women age 15-49, according to the survey data, including majority of women with reduced fertility), **the annual cost or loss by victim is about 26.000 EUR.**



CONCLUSIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

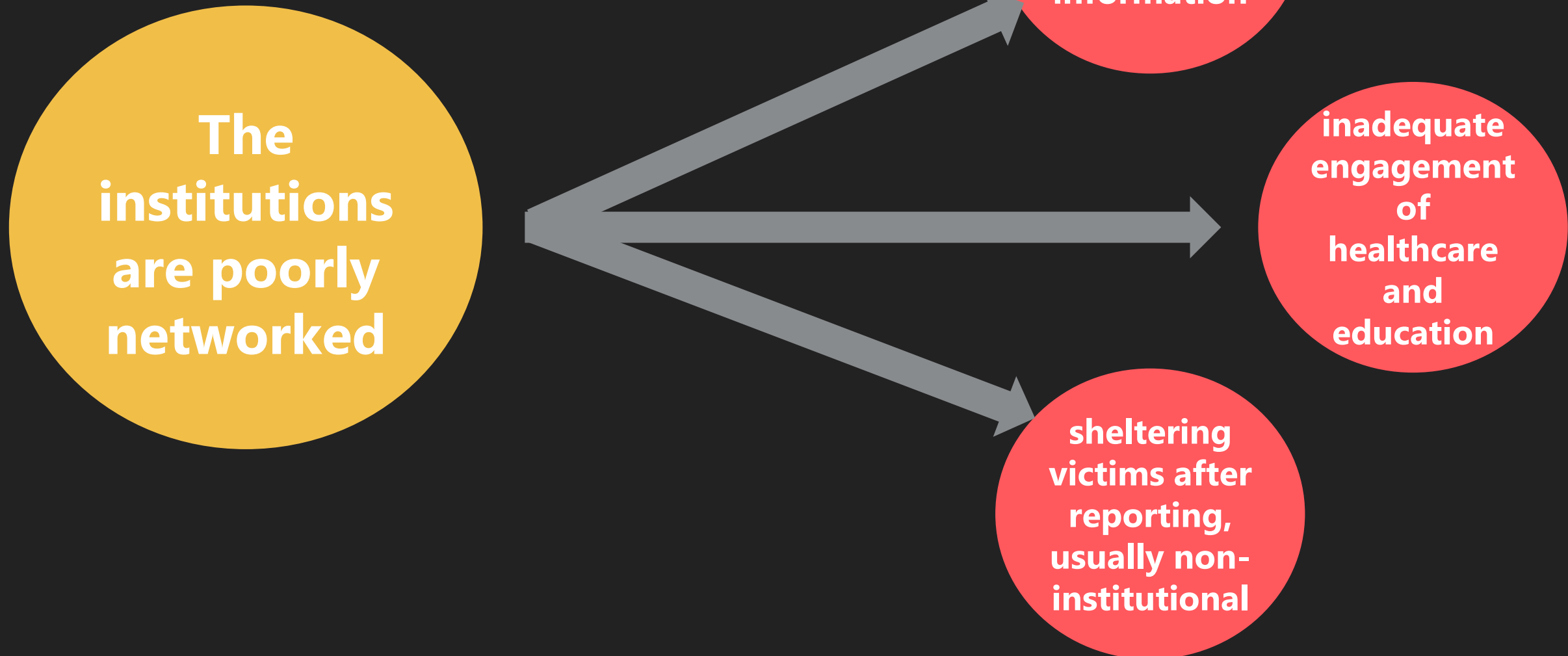
Is domestic violence perceived as a public or as a private matter in Montenegro?

MULTIPLE VIOLENCE

**among women who have experienced violence in
their primary family**

The fact that implementation of the Protocol is not mandatory, but just recommended, reduces the strength of this document.

This system doesn't seem able to survive in the long run, transferring the essential struggle against violence and transferring the responsibility for dealing with this problem away from the state institutions



Education

Protocol

Direct contact with victims – **special training for the institution representatives who listen to victims' testimonials** (police, judiciary, prosecution, CSO), so that they would not be **victimized and re-traumatized while talking about sometimes traumatic violent experiences**. The **Istanbul Convention „due attention“, „forbidden mediation“... must be implemented to the full.**

Professional education about recognizing and reporting violence, the influence of violence on health and adequate and timely reaction to the signs of violence should be organized for medical workers.

Training focused on recognizing the signs of violence against children and reacting to them should be organized for the educational institutions of all levels.

Implementation of campaigns intended for general population about the problem of domestic violence and the significance of reacting to it, as well as campaigns focused on **empowering women to report violence**.



Networking and empowering

of teams

- Work on developing confidence between members of multidisciplinary teams, through more frequent meetings, more intensive cooperation and stimulation of dialogue and exchange between representatives of different institutions. Particular attention needs to be paid to including of educational and healthcare institutions into the victim protection network.
- It would be good to define more clearly the supervisions of these teams, to envisage quickening of communication and intervention, as well as the roles and responsibilities of all members.
- Transparency, continuous monitoring and evaluation of the work of multidisciplinary teams.

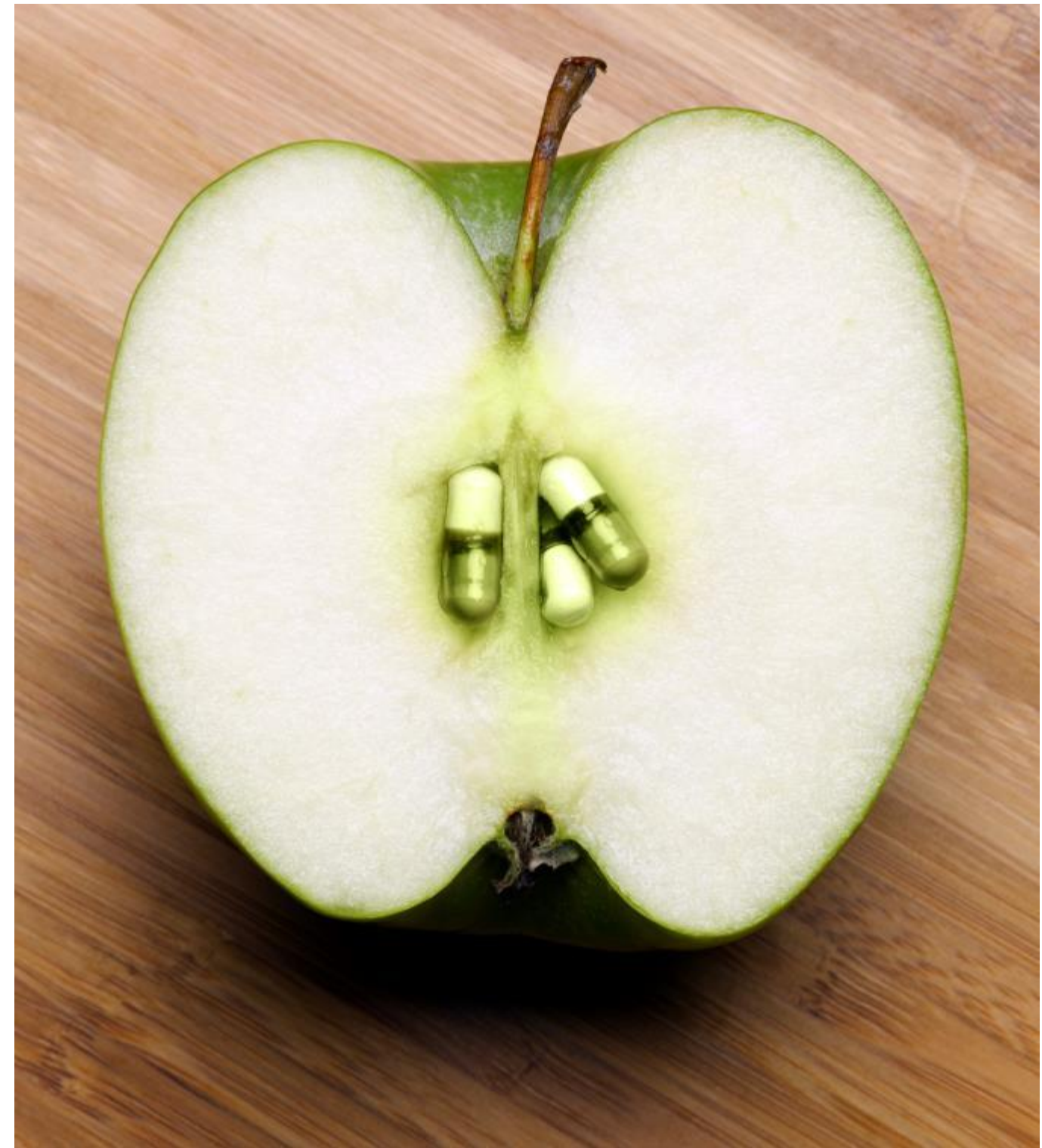


The initial sheltering of victims is the most challenging segment

- **The crisis team for instantaneous action – assessment of victim's condition and needs, as well as the potential risks, making plans thereof**
- **There is no shelter in the coastal area – the Fund, the state?**
- **The protective measure of banishment from the apartment – exchange of experiences of police officers from different towns**

Amendments of the Protocol and regulations

- The Protocol – legally binding for all institutions whose activity it stipulates
- "Suspicion of violence" and "urgent action" – clearer and more precise definition of these terms
- free of charge legal assistance – sensitization of lawyers in regard to domestic violence
- reviewing penal policy for perpetrators





Psycho-social work

- Free of charge therapeutic work – the victims of violence need to be enabled to talk about their experiences in a safe and supportive atmosphere to experts, psychologists first of all
- Work with perpetrators - psycho-social treatment of perpetrators – communicate information about the newly formed teams for psycho-social treatment
- Specialized psycho-social programs for children – witnesses or victims of violence – design of special prevention programs for this vulnerable group

The annual cost or loss by victim is about 26.000 EUR. If this sum is compared with the costs of institutional protocol of cca 11500 EUR by victim, it is clear that social cost of violence is more than double the institutional cost of remediation and prevention of violence through institutional protocol.



Projekat finansira EU



Ministarstvo za ljudska
i manjinska prava



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

