

# EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

## European Survey On Gender-Based Violence 2022



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## EUROPEAN SURVEY ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

### INTRODUCTION

The European Survey on Gender-based Violence (hereinafter, EEVG) aims to **advance in the harmonisation of statistical data at European level on violence against women**, in compliance with the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence of 11 May 2011 (Istanbul Convention), ratified by Spain in 2014. Although the data is not comparable, it has as a **precedent the survey of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)**, which collected data from 2012 and whose results were published in 2014.

The EEVG is the **first survey on violence against women to be carried out within the framework of the European Statistical System**, which is composed of the European Statistical Office (Eurostat), the Statistical Institutes of the member states and other national authorities responsible in each state for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics. Among these national authorities is the Government Delegation against Gender-based Violence (DGVG) of the Ministry of Equality.

The EEVG, **coordinated by Eurostat, provides data on the prevalence of violence against women, as well as information on its frequency and severity**. It is important to note that the prevalence of violence refers only to **disclosed violence**, i.e. violence that the women surveyed were willing or able to share.

**The target population of women at European level is women between 18 and 74 years of age**. On the other hand, **in our country it has been extended to women resident in Spain between 16 and 74 years of age**, in order to obtain data on younger women, who are indeed target women in the Macro-survey. **A sample of 6,465 women aged 16-74 was surveyed**. Fieldwork and **data collection in Spain were carried out in 2022**.

Data collection was carried out by means of a **probability sample (two-stage stratified sampling)**. **The methodological support, design and extraction of the sample has been carried out by the National Statistics Institute (INE)**, thanks to a collaboration agreement signed between the INE and the DGVG.

**Twenty-seven EU countries** have participated, but in different ways:

- 17 countries have carried out the survey on a voluntary basis and have received European funding for its implementation: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain have participated following the Eurostat methodology and have received European funding.
- 1 country has conducted the survey using the same methodology, but without European funding: Belgium.
- 8 countries have followed the Eurostat methodology and questionnaire, but the data collection is carried out by the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) and the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights : Czech Republic, Germany, Ireland, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Hungary,

Romania and Sweden. It should be noted that the sample size in these countries is smaller than in the 18 countries mentioned above.

- 1 country will send Eurostat, for inclusion on its website, data that are as harmonised as possible, but based on its own national survey, with a different questionnaire and methodology to that used by Eurostat: Italy.

In addition, **other countries outside the European Union** are participating: Iceland, Montenegro, Serbia, North Macedonia and Kosovo. These countries receive other funding (IPA grants). Bosnia and Herzegovina <sup>1</sup>and Albania have also carried out some methodological work and pilot surveys.

## CONCEPTUAL AND METHODOLOGICAL CLARIFICATIONS

Before presenting the EEVG data for Spain, it is important to make a series of clarifications that help to construct a suitable framework for their interpretation.

The conceptual framework used in this study responds to the specifications included in the methodological manual of the European Gender-based Violence Survey developed by the Statistical Office of the European Union, Eurostat. In some cases, such as the use of the term 'domestic violence', they are not adapted to those used in Spain. These concepts can be found in Annex 1 of the publication on the DGVG website.

Below is a table with the basic characteristics of the violence analysed in the EEVG.

<b>Violence in the EEVG</b>	<b>Aggressor</b>	<b>Types of violence</b>	<b>Reference period</b>
Intimate partner violence against women	Partner, ex-partner or past partner	Psychological Physical (including threats) Sexual	Throughout life
Non-partner violence against women	Individual outside of the relationship	Physical (including threats) Sexual	From the age of 15
Domestic violence	Person in the domestic or family environment or partner or former partner	Physical (including threats) Sexual	Throughout life (for the couple)  From the age of 15 (outside of the relationship)
Repeated harassment of women	Any individual	Repeated harassment	Throughout life
Sexual harassment of women at work	Any individual	Sexual harassment	Throughout life
Sexual violence during childhood.	Any individual	Sexual	Before the age of 15

<sup>1</sup> [Methodological Manual for the EU Survey on gender-based violence against women](#)

It is also important to note that the data from the EEGV **are not comparable with those from the Violence against Women Macro-survey 2019**. Both surveys share the main objective of obtaining data on the prevalence of different forms of violence against women, but they are carried out with different methodologies and questionnaires, so **it is not appropriate to make comparisons of the results of the two surveys**. Their main methodological differences are shown below. For more detailed information, see Annex 3 of the publication.

	<b>Macro</b>	<b>EEVG</b>
<b>Sample design</b>	Multistage, stratified cluster sampling	Two-stage stratified sampling.
<b>Form of data collection</b>	CAPI (personal interview)	CAWI (first choice) (web interview) CAPI (personal interview)
<b>Population</b>	Women aged 16 and over	Women aged 16 to 74
<b>Final effective sample</b>	9,568 women resident in Spain aged 16 years and over	6,465 women residents in Spain aged between 16 and 74 years old
<b>Sample frame</b>	Second-stage quota sampling whereby all women in the selected dwellings are considered residents, whether or not they are registered there.	Georeferenced Address Framework, based on Census and Register.
<b>Order of questionnaire segments</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Intimate partner violence</li> <li>2. Non-partner violence (including childhood violence)</li> <li>3. Sexual harassment (not only in the workplace)</li> <li>4. Repeated harassment</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sexual harassment in the workplace.</li> <li>2. Violence by current partners or violence by ex-partners</li> <li>3. Non-partner violence</li> <li>4. Repeated harassment.</li> <li>5. Violence during childhood</li> </ol>
<b>Childhood violence</b>	It is obtained from Module 2, with the same screening questions as non-partner violence.	Separate module with different screening items.
<b>Harassment</b>	Sexual harassment (including but not limited to sexual harassment at work).	Sexual harassment in the workplace.

<b>Form of wording and content</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Introductory texts</li> <li>· Formulation of some of the questions, by way of example: <i>"Tries or has tried to prevent"</i></li> <li>· Items of psychological violence. Type of responses: <i>"several times, often or never"</i></li> <li>· Questions of physical violence: <i>"in a way that could do her harm"</i>.</li> <li>· Item related to sexual violence: <i>"includes in the touching "breast and genitals""</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Introductory texts</li> <li>· Formulation of some of the questions, by way of example: <i>"He has forbidden her"</i></li> <li>· Items of psychological violence. Type of responses: <i>"yes/no"</i></li> <li>· Questions of physical violence: <i>"in a way that would hurt or frighten her"</i></li> <li>· Item related to sexual violence: <i>"includes the touching of "ass lips" as well as "breast and genitals"</i></li> </ul>
<b>Non-partner violence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Includes whole life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Violence since the age of 15</li> </ul>
<b>Threats</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Included in psychological intimate partner violence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Threats of physical harm, included in the indicator, "Physical violence (including threats)"</li> </ul>

The following is a brief summary of the **MAIN FINDINGS from the EEVG in Spain**. The study with the detailed results can be downloaded from the website of the Government Delegation against Gender Violence.

## 1. INTIMATE PARTNER OR EX-PARTNER VIOLENCE

This analyses the violence suffered by **women between 16 and 74 years of age, resident in Spain, who have ever had a partner in their lives**. It is considered intimate partner violence if the perpetrator is a current partner, a former partner or a deceased past partner.

**Three types of violence** are considered: 1) psychological violence, 2) physical violence (including threats) and 3) sexual violence. Following Eurostat's methodology, threats are included under physical violence, not psychological violence. To consider whether a woman is a victim, a battery of questions is used for each type of violence, according to the Eurostat methodology.

### ➤ Overall prevalence

Of the total number of women living in Spain **aged between 16 and 74 who have had a partner at some time**, it is estimated that **28.7% (4,806,054 women) have been victims of some type of violence (psychological, physical - including threats, sexual) from a partner or ex-partner**.

Data on the prevalence of intimate partner or ex-partner violence, according to when it last occurred, estimate that **11.2% (1,878,515) of women have suffered violence in the last 5 years**. If we look at a shorter and closer period, the **last 12 months, the estimated percentage is 4.4% (735,399)**.

➤ Types of violence

Of the total number of women living in Spain **aged between 16 and 74 who have had a partner at some time**, it is estimated that:

- **27.8% (4,646,050)** have suffered **psychological violence** in the context of an intimate partner, at some point in their lives. It is estimated that:
- ◆ **20.4% (3,405,667)** of women who have had a partner have been **humiliated or insulted**, alone or in front of other people, by their partner or ex-partner.
  - ◆ **17.2% (2,868,874)** of women who have had a partner **have been unfoundedly accused of infidelity or have been angry with her for seeing her talking to other people**.
  - ◆ **11.9% (1,984,604)** have **insisted on knowing where she was in a controlling way, locating her via GPS, telephone, social networks, etc.**
  - ◆ **11.2% (1,865,612)** have been **banned from seeing their friends or engaging in a hobby or activity**.
  - ◆ **11.0% (1,842,663)** have been **frightened or intimidated** on purpose by a partner, for example, by shouting at the woman or breaking things.
  - ◆ **6.9% (1,155,146)** have been **threatened with self-harm if they leave the relationship**.
  - ◆ **5.1% (853,785)** have been **forbidden to see their close family or other relatives** (grandmothers, grandfathers, uncles, aunts, uncles).
  - ◆ **4.4% (737,669)** of women who have had a partner have been **locked in by them or been made to ask for permission to leave the house**.
  - ◆ **3.1% (510,255)** have been **threatened with having their children taken away or have been denied custody**.
  - ◆ **3.0% (496,227)** have been **threatened with harm to their children or someone else they care about**.
  - ◆ **0.9% (151,940)** have had their **ID/passport kept or taken away with the intention of controlling them**.

Psychological violence includes **economic violence**. Of the total number of women aged 16-74 who have had a partner, it is estimated that **7.8% (1,306,791 women)** have suffered intimate partner economic violence at some point in their lives. It is estimated that:

- ◆ **6.5% (1,085,685) of women** have had their partner or ex-partner control their entire household finances or excessively control their spending.
  - ◆ **3.0% (498,185) have been forbidden to work**.
- **12.7% (2,120,513)** of women have suffered **physical violence (including threats)** in the context of an intimate partner at some point in their lives. It is estimated that:

- ◆ **9.0% (1,508,334)** of women who have had a partner **have ever been pushed or pulled by the hair on purpose in a way that hurt or frightened them.**
- ◆ **8.6% (1,439,428)** of women who have had a partner have been **threatened by their partner or ex-partner, who has threatened to harm them in a way that would make them afraid.**
- ◆ **7.1% (1,185,729)** of women who have had a partner have been **slapped or had something thrown at them that hurt or frightened them.**
- ◆ **4.6% (768,509)** of women who have had a partner, say that they have been **hit with a fist or an object or kicked.**
- ◆ **2.4% (403,037)** of women who have had a partner, **have been subject to attempts by a partner to drown or strangle them.**
- ◆ **2.3% (379,431)** of women who have had a partner, **have either had a knife, firearm, acid or similar used against them or been threatened with their use.**
- ◆ **0.5% (82,391)** of women who have had a partner, report that they have been **burned on purpose.**

→ **6.7% (1,125,849)** have experienced intimate partner sexual violence at some point in their lives. The Eurostat methodology does not explicitly consider touching within the battery of questions to identify intimate partner or ex-partner sexual violence. It is estimated that:

- ◆ **4.3% (725,839)** of women who have had a partner, have been **forced to have sex<sup>2</sup> for fear of what would happen if they refused** (item 3).
- ◆ **3.3% (550,192)** of women who have had a partner, have ever been **forced to have sex by threatening, restraining or otherwise harming them** (item 1).
- ◆ **2.6% (432,439)** of women who have ever had a partner, report having been **forced to do something sexually degrading or humiliating other than the acts cited in other questions** (item 6).
- ◆ **2.1% (343,965)** of women who have had a partner, have been made to **have sex when they could not refuse because they were under the influence of alcohol or drugs** (item 2).
- ◆ **1.8% (305,917)** of women who have had a partner, **claim that a partner has tried to force them to have sex by threatening them, holding them down or hurting them in some way, but in the end these attempts did not happen** (item 5).
- ◆ **0.6% (103,436)** of women who have had a partner, have been **forced to have sexual relations with a third party by force or through blackmail or threats** (item 4).

According to Eurostat's calculation methodology, the aggregation of items 1 to 4 is considered rape. In this case, and following this methodology, if the first 4 items are added, **it is estimated that the percentage of women who have been raped at some time in their lives by partners or ex-partners is 5.8% (968,201 women).**

→ **14.4% (2,399,404)** have suffered some kind of physical violence (including threats and/or physical violence (including threats) and/or sexual violence in their relationships with a partner or ex-partner.

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<sup>2</sup> In the EEVG, sexual intercourse is understood to mean vaginal or anal penetration, including with objects, and oral sex.

➤ Age groups

Estimated prevalence of **intimate partner violence (psychological, physical - including threats -sexual)** varies between:

- 38.4% (909,941) of women aged between 18 and 29 who have had a partner at some point in their lives<sup>3</sup>.
- 19.0% (468,062) of women aged between 65 and 74 who have had a partner at some point in their lives.

The estimated prevalence of intimate partner violence seems to decrease with age, but it should be remembered that generally the perception of intimate partner violence also decreases with increasing age. This may result in less disclosure of violence in older women. In interpreting these data, it should be borne in mind that other factors such as memory, or the education received could influence the disclosure of violence with increasing age.

Estimated prevalence of **physical - including threats - and/or sexual intimate partner violence** varies between:

- 18.3% of women (433,040) aged between 18 and 29 who have had a partner at some point in their lives.
- 8.9% of women (219,403) aged between 65 and 74 years old who have had a partner at some point in their lives.

In interpreting these data, it should be borne in mind that the perception of intimate partner violence decreases with age, and together with other factors such as memory, or the education received may lead to less disclosure of the actual violence suffered by older women.

➤ Socio-demographic characteristics of the women of victims who have suffered

The EEVG analyses each violence in terms of a series of women's variables: women's constraints, level of education attained, degree of urbanisation of the woman's municipality of residence and the woman's country of birth. <sup>4</sup> The results of **psychological, physical - including threats - and/or sexual intimate partner violence** are shown here.

Women who are **severely limited** in the performance of daily activities have experienced violence to a greater extent (50.6%) than those who are not limited or have a milder limitation (28.2%).

In relation to the **level of education attained** by women, the proportion of women who have suffered some type of intimate partner violence fluctuates between 32% of women with an intermediate level of education (non-compulsory secondary education), 30.7% of women with

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<sup>3</sup> The group of women aged 16-17 years has a higher estimated prevalence than the other groups, 40.8%, but this data is unreliable because the sample size is not very representative for this estimate.

<sup>4</sup> The **activity limitation** variable collects information on possible limitations that the woman currently (last 6 months) has in carrying out the usual activities of daily living, provided that they are due to health problems.

The **level of education**, obtained in a self-rating question, has been aggregated into three groups: compulsory secondary, primary or lower education; non-compulsory secondary education; higher education.

The **degree of urbanisation** is a variable that measures the population density of the municipalities in which women reside. The classification is the one commonly used in official statistics, and divides the degree of urbanisation into three categories: cities (densely populated areas), towns and suburbs (intermediate populated areas) and rural areas (sparsely populated areas).

higher education and 24.8% of women with compulsory secondary, primary or lower education.

According to the **degree of urbanisation** the estimated percentage is 30.7% (2,752,857) of women in densely populated areas (cities), 27.7% (1,522,186) of women in areas of intermediate population level (towns and suburbs) and 23.6% (531,011) of women who have suffered intimate partner violence and live in rural areas.

In relation to the **women's country of birth**, the estimated percentages show that the group of women with the lowest prevalence is that of women born in Spain, 27.6% (3,813,486) of whom have been victims of some type of intimate partner violence. The other two groups show higher and similar percentages: in the case of women born in another EU country, an estimated 34% (190,850) of women victims and in the case of women born abroad, outside the EU, an estimated 33.9% (801,717) of them are estimated to have suffered intimate partner violence.

➤ Some consequences

50.3% (1,097,942 women) of the victims of physical (including threats) and/or sexual intimate partner violence have suffered physical injuries as a consequence of such violence.

78.4% (1,504,928) of victims of physical (including threats) and/or sexual intimate partner violence have suffered psychological consequences due to such violence.

➤ Seeking support

Women who have suffered physical (including threats) and/or sexual intimate partner violence:

- ➔ 75.9% (1,820,792 women) of the victims talk to someone about the violence they suffered.
  - ◆ 68.7% (1,647,764 women) contact a person close to them.
  - ◆ 29.9% (716,246 women) contact health or social services.
  - ◆ 24.4% (585,013 women) of victims go to the police.
  - ◆ 16.3% (391,128 women) contact a victim support service.

## 2. NON-PARTNER VIOLENCE

This analyses the **violence suffered by women between 16 and 74 years of age, resident in Spain, by aggressors with whom they have never had a partner relationship, since the age of 15**. The incidence of this violence is studied over a lifetime, in the last 5 years, and in the last 12 months.

Two types of non-partner violence are analysed: physical violence (including threats) and sexual violence. Psychological is not included.

➤ Overall prevalence

Of the total number of women living in Spain aged between 16 and 74, it is estimated that **20.2% (3,614,235 women) have been victims of some type of non-partner violence (physical - including threats - and/or sexual) at some time since the age of 15**.

Analysing the violence by a non-partner suffered by women (physical (including threats) and/or sexual) according to the time when this violence last occurred, it can be seen that **20.2% (3,614,235) of women have suffered it at some point in their lives, 4.8% (864,172) in the last 5 years** and the percentage drops to **1.5% (263,296) in the last 12 months**.

➤ Types of violence

Of the total number of women living in Spain aged between 16 and 74 years, it is estimated that:

- **12.4% (2,213,167 women)** have experienced physical violence (including threats) by a non-partner since the age of 15.
- ◆ 8.6% (1,528,756 women) have been victims of physical violence per se by a non-partner since the age of 15.
  - ◆ 3.8% (684,410 women) received threats without physical violence associated with the threats by non-partner since the age of 15.

It is estimated that:

- ◆ **8.9% (1,582,390)** of women aged 16-74 **have been threatened, since the age of 15**, by a person with whom they have never been in a relationship, who has threatened to harm them in a way that frightens them.
  - ◆ **6.0% (1,067,248)** of women aged 16-74 **have been pushed or pulled by their hair on purpose in a way that hurt or frightened them** by a non-partner, since the age of 15.
  - ◆ **4.4% (776,631)** of women aged 16-74 **have been slapped or had something thrown at them that hurt or frightened them** by a non-partner, since the age of 15.
  - ◆ **2.3% (407,723)** of women between 16 and 74 years say that they **have been hit with a fist or an object or kicked** by a non-partner since the age of 15.
  - ◆ **1.2% (211,299)** of women aged 16-74 have been threatened with or used a knife, firearm, acid or something similar against her by a non-partner since the age of 15.
  - ◆ **0.8% (137,979)** of women aged 16-74 who have had a non-partner, **have been subject to attempts to drown or strangle them on purpose** since the age of 15.
  - ◆ **0.3% (47,483)** of women between 16 and 74 years of age said they **have been burned on purpose** by a non-partner since the age of 15.
- **13.7% (2,452,771 women)** have experienced sexual violence since the age of 15 by a non-partner at some point in their lives.
- ◆ **12.3% (2,195,769 women)** have been victims of **touching of genitals, breasts, buttocks, or lips** since the age of 15 by non-partner.
  - ◆ **1.7% (300,883 women)** have had attempts to **force them to have sex by threatening her, holding her down or hurting her in any way, but then sexual intercourse did not occur**, since the age of 15 by a non-partner.
  - ◆ **1.5% (269,792 women)** have been forced to **have sexual intercourse by threatening her, holding her down or hurting her in any other way**, since the age of 15 by a non-partner.

- ◆ **1.5% (260,204 women)<sup>5</sup>** have been **victims of other sexual violence** since the age of 15 by a non-partner.
- ◆ **1.4% (247,251)** have been made to **engage in unwanted sex because they were afraid of what would happen if they refused**, since the age of 15.
- ◆ **1.2% (217,457)** have been made to have **sex when they could not refuse because they were under the influence of alcohol or drugs**.
- ◆ **0.4% (67,931)** have been made to have **sex with someone else by force, threat or blackmail (including exchange for money, goods or favours)**.
- ◆ **2.8% (494,948 women)** have been **victims of what the methodology of Eurostat considers rape**, from the age of 15 and by a non-partner.

➤ Offender

**89.2%** of women **victims of physical violence (including threats) and/or sexual violence** by a non-partner **have been victims of a male aggressor**. **94.2%** of women **victims of non-partner sexual violence have been victims of a male aggressor**. As far as **physical violence (including threats)** by a non-partner is concerned that **66.4% have been assaulted by men**.

**77.5%** of women estimated to **have been raped by a non-partner**, according to Eurostat's methodology, **have been victims of a known male perpetrator**.

➤ Age groups

In terms of non-partner violence by age group and type of violence, it is estimated:

- **Physical violence (including threats) by a non-partner since the age of 15:**
  - ◆ Prevalence is highest in the 16-17 age group: 18.7% (91,206 women), followed by 18.2% (524,404) for the 18-29 age group.
  - ◆ The lowest prevalence is in the 65-74 age group: 4.4% (111,899 women).
- **Sexual violence (including threats) by a non-partner since the age of 15:**
  - ◆ Highest prevalence in the 18-29 age group: 22.7% (654,113 women), followed by 22.5% (109,551) for the 18-17 age group.
  - ◆ Minimum in the 65-74 age group: 3.9% (99,345 women).
- **Physical violence (including threats) and/or non-partner sexual violence since the age of 15:**
  - ◆ Highest prevalence in the 16-17 age group, 30.5% (148,314 women), followed by 30.3% (875,134) for the 18-29 age group.
  - ◆ Lowest prevalence in the 65-74 age group, 6.8% (171,334 women).

It should not be forgotten when analysing these data that factors such as memory effect, or the education received, may lead to less disclosure of the actual violence suffered by older women.

➤ Socio-demographic characteristics of women

Women who are **severely limited** in carrying out daily activities have experienced violence by a non-partner since the age of 15 to a greater extent (30.0%) than those who are not limited or are more limited (19.9%).

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<sup>5</sup> It should be noted that when showing estimated percentages to one decimal place it is possible that the estimated absolute number of women may be different when two percentages are different to more decimal places, but coincide when rounded to one decimal place.

In relation to **educational level**, the highest reported prevalence of violence is among women with higher education (27.2%). Elsewhere: 20.6% among women with non-compulsory secondary education and 12.8% among women with compulsory secondary, primary or lower secondary education.

By **degree of urbanisation**, it is estimated that most disclosed violence exists in densely populated areas (cities), with 22.2%, followed by sparsely populated areas (19.2%) and, finally, intermediate level areas, with 17.5%.

By **country of birth**, there is a higher prevalence of this type of violence among women born in Spain (21.0%) than among those born abroad: 17.9% among non-EU foreign women and 12.4% among EU foreign women.

➤ Some consequences

**34.8% (689,554)** of women victims of physical violence and/or what the Eurostat methodology considers as non-partner rape, have suffered **physical injuries as a consequence** of such violence. These physical consequences range from bruises, body aches, cuts, scratches, to fractures, head or brain injuries, broken bones, etc.

➤ Seeking support

**70.3% (2,539,825)** of women aged 16 to 74 living in Spain, victims of non-partner violence since the age of 15, **talk to someone** about the violence suffered or go to an institution.

- **69.1% (2,497,237 women)** contact a **person close to them**.
- **10.7% (388,505 women)** contact **health or social services**.
- **8.9% (320,933 women)** of victims go to the **police**.
- **3.8% (138,157 women)** contact a **victim support service**.

### 3. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

**According to Eurostat's methodology**, domestic violence is defined as all acts of sexual and/or physical violence (including threats) that have occurred within the "**domestic or family unit**" or **in the context of an intimate partner**. The "domestic or family unit" in the EEVG is constituted by family members (regardless of whether or not they were living with the woman) and other persons who live or have lived in the same household as the victim at the time the violence occurred. It also includes couples, which **differs from the concept used in Spain, where violence by a man towards a woman in their affective relationships is not considered "domestic violence", but "gender-based violence"**. According to the theoretical frameworks of international human rights law and the feminist theoretical framework, since 2004 in Spain this type of violence has been called "gender-based violence" because it is considered a specific structural historical violence against women, beyond the private or domestic sphere (Organic Law 1/2004, of 28 December, on Comprehensive Protection Measures against Gender Violence).

The time period of the data collected on "domestic violence" in the EEVG is different depending on the type of perpetrator: **violence since the age of 15 is included for aggressors that are non-partners; for violence suffered from a partner or ex-partner, the whole life is collected**.

**Physical (including threats) and/or sexual violence is analysed**, but not psychological violence.

➤ Overall prevalence

Of the total number of women living in Spain aged between 16 and 74 years, it is estimated that **15.7% (2,807,148) have been** victims of domestic violence (physical - including threats - and/or sexual).

**4.7% (843,310)** have been victims **in the last 5 years** and **1.4% (257,556)** have been victims for the last time in **the last 12 months**.

➤ Types of violence

Within what the EEVG considers domestic violence, it is estimated that of **women between 16 and 74 years of age, resident in Spain**:

→ **13.7% (2,439,515)** have suffered **physical violence (including threats)**.

→ **7.5 per cent (1,330,067)** have suffered **sexual violence**.

➤ Age groups

If we look at **physical violence (including threats) and/or sexual violence in domestic violence**, it is estimated that:

→ Prevalence is **highest in the 30-44 age** group: 19.3% (915,138 women).

→ The **lowest** prevalence is in the **16-17 age** group: 8.8% (42,708 women).

On **physical violence (including threats) in domestic violence**, it is estimated that:

→ Prevalence is **highest in the 30-44 age** group: 16.9% (801,848 women).

→ The **lowest** prevalence is in the **65-74 age** group<sup>6</sup>: 9.4% (237,276 women).

On **sexual violence**, it is estimated that:

→ The **highest** prevalence is in the **18-29 age** group: 10.3% (296,281 women).

→ The **lowest** prevalence is in the **65-74 age** group: 4.0% (101,441 women).

➤ Socio-demographic characteristics of women

It is estimated that women who currently have severe **limitations** in carrying out daily activities have suffered this type of violence to a greater extent than other women: 33.0% (141,195) are victims, which is more than double the percentage of women victims estimated in the case of women who only have slight limitations or no limitations at all, 15.2% (2,591,907).

When studying the prevalence according to the **level of education** attained by women, it can be seen that the proportion of women who have suffered this type of violence varies between 13.4% (903,355), for women with a level of education equal to or lower than compulsory secondary education, and 18.4% (710,132), for women who have obtained a level of education comparable to non-compulsory secondary education. Women with higher education are estimated at 16.5% (1,178,849).

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<sup>6</sup> The group of females aged 16-17 years has an even lower prevalence of 7.4% (35,931), but this is unreliable because the sample size is unrepresentative.

As for the estimated prevalence according to the **degree of urbanisation** of the municipality of residence of the women, the results obtained do not indicate significant differences for this variable.

Finally, when analysing the prevalence according to the women's **country of birth**, it is estimated that the highest percentage of victims, 21.7% (555,269), is found in the group of women born abroad, specifically in non-European Union (EU) countries, followed by foreign women born in EU countries: 16.4%, (96,186). The lowest proportion of female victims corresponds to the group of women born in Spain: 14.7%, (2,155,692).

#### 4. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE INTIMATE PARTNER SPHERE

This chapter deals with the joint analysis of **violence against women both in the context of an intimate partner throughout their lives, as well as those who have suffered violence by a non-partner since the age of 15**. As this chapter combines two forms of violence that consider potentially different populations of women victims (women who have ever had a partner in the case of intimate partner violence, and the general population of women in the case of non-partner violence), the larger population of women has been taken as the reference, and therefore the general population of women between 16 and 74 years of age is considered throughout the analysis as the general population. The estimated percentages of female victims are therefore calculated on this population.

The prevalence of **physical (including threats) and/or sexual violence is analysed**. Psychological violence is not covered.

##### > Prevalence

Of the total number of women living in Spain aged between 16 and 74, it is estimated that **28.3% (5,052,521) have been victims of some type of physical violence (including threats) and/or sexual violence within the couple (throughout their lives) or by a non-partner (from the age of 15)**.

**8.4% (1,493,054 women) have been victims for the last time in the last 5 years** and **2.7% (477,158 women) have been victims for the last time in the last year**.

##### > Offenders

**94.1%** of women victims of **physical violence (including threats) and/or sexual violence** in a couple (throughout life) or by a non-partner (since the age of 15), have been victims of a **male aggressor**.

##### > Types of violence

Of the total number of women living in Spain aged between 16 and 74 years, it is estimated that

→ **21.0% (3,749,019) have suffered physical violence (including threats)** at some point in their life within the couple (throughout life) or by a non-partner (since the age of 15).

It is estimated, within the couple and in cases of non-partners, that:

- ◆ **15.2% (2,710,141)** of women out of the general population of women have been **threatened** by a partner or ex-partner (in their lifetime) or by any non-partner (since the age of 15).
  - ◆ **12.9% (2,309,833)** of women have experienced **pushing and pulling of hair**.
  - ◆ **10.1% (1,795,746)** of women have been **slapped or had objects thrown at them** that have hurt them or caused them fear.
  - ◆ **6.1% (1,087,655)** of women have been **hit with a fist, an object or kicked** in a way that hurt or frightened them.
  - ◆ **3.2% (571,523)** have either had a **knife, firearm, acid or similar used against them or been threatened with their use**.
  - ◆ **2.8% (508,621)** have been **subject to attempts to drown or strangle them on purpose**.
  - ◆ **0.7% (125,684)** have been **burnt on purpose**.
- **17.9% (3,189,218)** have experienced **sexual violence** at some point in their life within the couple (throughout their life) or by a non-partner (since the age of 15).

It is estimated, within the couple and in cases of non-partners, that:

- ◆ **12.3% (2,195,769)** have been victims of **touching of genitals, breasts, buttocks, or lips** since the age of 15 by a non-partner. This question is not asked in relation to partners or ex-partners.
- ◆ **7.3% (1,299,372)** have been victims of **what Eurostat considers to be rape in their methodology**, throughout their life as a couple or since the age of 15 years in cases of non-partners.
- ◆ **5.1% (907,434)** have had **sex because they were afraid of what would happen if they refused**.
- ◆ **4.2% (742,824)** have been **forced to have sex by being threatened, held down or hurt**.
- ◆ **3.5% (618,871)** have been victims of **sexual violence other** than those mentioned above during their life as a couple or since the age of 15 in the case of non-partners.
- ◆ **3.2% (569,666)** responded that someone had tried to **force her to have sex by threatening her, holding her down or hurting her in some way, but in the end it did not happen**.
- ◆ **2.8% (504,423)** have been made to have **sex when they could not refuse because they were under the influence of alcohol or drugs**.
- ◆ **1.0% (171,367)** have been made to have **sex with someone else by force, threat or blackmail (including exchange for money, goods or favours)**.

➤ Age groups

If we look at **physical violence (including threats) within or outside the intimate partner sphere**:

- The highest prevalence is in the 30-44 age group: 26.1%, (1,232,731).
- The lowest prevalence is in the 65-74 age group: 12.1%, (306,703).

With regard to **sexual violence within or outside the context of an intimate partner**:

- The highest prevalence is in the 18-29 age group: 28.2%, (813,256).
- The lowest prevalence is in the 65-74 age group: 7.0%, (177,142).

In relation to **physical (including threats) and/or sexual violence within and outside the intimate partner environment**:

- The highest prevalence is estimated in the 18-29 age group: 38.1%, (1,100,491).
- The lowest prevalence is in the 65-74 age group: 14.1%, (357,040).

➤ Socio-demographic characteristics of women

Women who are severely **limited** in carrying out daily activities have experienced intimate partner violence in their lifetime or by a non-partner since the age of 15 to a greater extent than those who are not limited or who have a milder limitation. Of these, 49.8% (213,106 women) have been victims as in-partner or non-partner victims compared to 27.7% (4,709,806 women) of victims in the group of women without limitations or with some non-severe limitation.

In terms of **educational level**, it is estimated that the highest incidence of violence occurs among women with higher education (34.5%), followed by the group of women with non-compulsory secondary education (30.0%) and, lastly, women with compulsory secondary, primary or lower secondary education (20.9%).

In relation to the **degree of urbanisation**, the highest prevalence is estimated to be in densely populated areas (30.6%), followed by intermediate level areas (25.8%) and sparsely populated areas (25.3%).

With regard to **country of birth**, the results obtained do not indicate significant differences.

➤ Consequences of intimate partner and non-partner sexual violence

It is estimated that **9.2% (1,647,533)** of the population of women aged 16-74 have suffered or are suffering from physical injury as a result of physical and/or sexual violence suffered in a partner and/or non-partner relationship.

➤ Seeking help

It is estimated that women victims of physical (including threats) and/or sexual intimate partner and/or non-partner violence mostly turn to **someone close to them: 73.7% (3,723,024) of women victims**. In second place, help-seeking is found among **health and social services (21.1%)**, followed by the **police (17.1%)** and **victim support services (10.1%)**.

## 5. REPEATED HARASSMENT (STALKING) OF WOMEN

It analyses the repeated harassment suffered by women by people with whom they have been in a relationship as well as by non-partners. Bullying is repeated behaviour that involves stalking someone, causing them to fear or worry for their own safety. The time period used is a lifetime. The incidence of repeated harassment of women is studied over a lifetime, in the last 5 years, and in the last 12 months.

➤ Prevalence

It is estimated that of the total number of women living in Spain aged between 16 and 74, **19.5% (3,478,008) have suffered repeated harassment at some point in their lives**.

In the **last 5 years**, the estimated percentage of female victims is **8.3% (1,477,221)**. If the period analysed is restricted to the **last 12 months**, the incidence of harassment is reduced to **3.4% (614,399)** of women victims.

➤ Types of violence

According to the data obtained, it is estimated that:

- **11.0% (1,970,362)** of women have **repeatedly** received **unwanted messages, emails, letters, gifts**.
- **8.6% (1,542,103)** of women have been subjected to **obscene, threatening, nuisance** or silent phone calls.
- **8.5% (1,524,905)** of women say that the same person **has insistently tried to contact them, waited for them or loitered outside their** home, school or place of work.
- **6.7% (1,194,303)** of women state that they **have been followed or spied on by someone**.
- Also **6.7% of women (1,196,050)**<sup>7</sup> have been subjected to publicly offensive or embarrassing comments.
- **2.5% (453,476)** say that **things they own** (such as car, motorbike, letterbox, etc.), **or property of people they care about, or their animals have been intentionally damaged or harmed**.
- **0.9% (163,967)** of women say that very personal **photos, videos or information have been posted on the internet**.

➤ Age groups

Analysing the prevalence by age group, it can be seen that the **highest** estimated percentages of women victims of repeated harassment are **found among young women**: 30.6% (148,956) for women aged 16-17 and 33.0% (951,843) for women aged 18-29. Next, the estimated percentages are 24.0% (1,135,580) for women aged 30-44, 14.4% (1,037,493) for women aged 45-64, and 8.1% (204,137) for women aged 65-74.

➤ Offender

**85.8% of female victims of repeated harassment have been victims of a man**, compared to 12.4% who have been victims of **repeated harassment** by a woman.

➤ Socio-demographic characteristics of women

In terms of **activity limitation**, the highest prevalence of repeated harassment occurs in the group of severely limited women (35.4%) over the rest of women (19.0%).

In terms of **educational level**, the highest prevalence is estimated at 23.3% for women with higher education, 21.6% for women with non-compulsory secondary education, and 14.2% with compulsory secondary, primary or lower secondary education.

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<sup>7</sup> It should be noted that when showing estimated percentages to one decimal place it is possible that the estimated absolute number of women may be different when two percentages are different to more decimal places, but coincide when rounded to one decimal place.

Looking at the **degree of urbanisation**, the highest prevalence is found in densely populated areas (21.0%), followed by intermediate level areas (18.3%) and sparsely populated areas (16.5%).

According to **country of birth**, the results obtained show no significant differences for this variable: 20.1% is the prevalence among Spanish-born women, 16.9% for foreign-born women from the EU and 16.8% for foreign-born women from the rest of the world.

➤ Seeking help

It is estimated that **13.9% of cases of victims of repeated harassment have reported it to the police or have been reported to the police**. This includes contacts with the police both from the victim herself and from third parties. For their part, **10% of the victims have turned to lawyers or have sought support from victim support centres**.

## 6. SEXUAL HARASSMENT AT WORK AGAINST WOMEN

In the EEVG, sexual harassment at work is defined as **unwanted behaviour of a sexual nature of which women may be victims in the work environment**. The survey collected information from all the **women interviewed who were working at the time of the interview or who had worked at some point in their lives**.

➤ Prevalence

It is estimated that of the total number of **women living in Spain aged between 16 and 74 who have worked at some time in their lives, 28.4% (4,489,219) have suffered sexual harassment at work at some point in their lives**.

**In the last 5 years, the estimated percentage of victims is 12.1% (1,913,470), with 4.6% (723,958) women if the period analysed is restricted to the last 12 months**.

The battery of questions used to measure sexual harassment is shown below.

Have you ever experienced any of the following undesirable behaviours during your work life, such as...	% of women who have ever worked	Number of women
1... insistent or leering looks that have made you feel uncomfortable?	20.6	3,258,837
2... Exposure to sexually explicit images or videos that have made you feel offended, humiliated or intimidated?	3.0	470,758
3...indecent jokes or offensive comments about your body or your private life?	18.0	2,853,602
4... Inappropriate suggestions to have a date that have made you feel offended, humiliated or intimidated?	10.9	1,719,113
5... Inappropriate suggestions to do any activity of a sexual nature?	7.4	1,168,106
6... undesired physical contact like, for example: unnecessary closeness, groping of your body parts, kisses/hugs or any other thing you didn't want?	10.4	1,649,373
7... Inappropriate suggestions on social media?	5.4	855,659
8... Inappropriate e-mails or text messages of a sexually explicit nature?	3.3	516,069
9... Threats of unpleasant consequences by someone if you refused their proposals or sexual advances?	1.6	257,817

Of the sexual harassment behaviours measured in the EEVG, it is estimated that the 5 most frequent are:

- Insistent or leering looks: 20.6% (3,258,837).
- Indecent or offensive jokes about their body or private life: 18.0%, (2,853,602).
- An estimated 10.9% (1,719,113) of women have received inappropriate dating suggestions.
- An estimated 10.4 per cent (1,649,373) of women have had unwanted physical contact.
- 7.4% (1,168,106) of women have received inappropriate suggestions of a sexual nature.

➤ Offenders

In **88.5% of the cases, the aggressor was a man**, which is 8 times higher than in the case of the aggressor being a woman (10.8%). The same pattern is found in all categories of perpetrator type. It is estimated that:

- 91.6% of the victims with perpetrators in the category of "co-workers" are victims of a male.
- 93.2% of the victims of aggressors in the boss category are victims of a male boss.
- In 98.5% of cases where the offender was a client, the client was male.

➤ Age groups

Analysing firstly the prevalence by age group throughout working life, it can be seen that the incidence of sexual harassment at work decreases with age group. It is estimated that:

- 43.1% (880,761) of women aged 18-29 who have ever worked have suffered sexual harassment at work.
- 34.7% (1,597,917) of women aged 30-44 who have ever worked have suffered sexual harassment at work.
- 24.5% (1,700,956) of women aged 45-64 who have ever worked have suffered sexual harassment at work.
- Finally, in the group of women aged 65-74 who have ever worked, it is estimated that 12.4% (269,214) of them have experienced sexual harassment.

➤ Socio-demographic characteristics of women

In the case of **activity limitation**, it is estimated that sexual harassment at work occurs to a greater extent in the group of women whose daily activity is severely limited (41.8%) than in the rest of women (28.0%).

In terms of **educational level**, women with higher education are estimated to be most affected (35.2%), followed by women with non-compulsory secondary education (30.6%) and women with compulsory secondary, primary or lower secondary education (18.7%).

According to the **degree of urbanisation** of the municipality where women live, the highest prevalence is found in densely populated areas (30.3%), followed by intermediate areas (26.8%) and sparsely populated areas (24.7%).

As for the **country of birth of women**, the results obtained do not indicate significant differences for this variable (28.8% for women born in Spain; 26.8% for women born abroad within the EU; 26.5% for women born abroad in the rest of the world).

➤ Seeking formal help in the last 12 months

An estimated **84.7% (612,898) of women who have been sexually harassed at work in the last 12 months have spoken to someone and/or reported it**. It is estimated that 66.2% (479,011) have discussed it with someone close to them and 61.3% (443,993) with someone at work. An estimated 4.3% (31,483) of victims have turned to health or social services and 3.2% (22,862) have reported the harassment to the police.

## 7. SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN CHILDHOOD

The data corresponding to **sexual violence suffered before the age of 15 by women between 16 and 74 years old living in Spain is analysed**. A retrospective analysis has been carried out.

➤ Prevalence

It is estimated that of the total number of women living in Spain aged between 16 and 74, **6.8% (1,222,407 women) have been victims of sexual violence in their childhood**.

➤ Types of sexual violence

According to Eurostat methodology, it is estimated that **1.3% (233,901) of women living in Spain aged 16 to 74 years old were raped when they were under 15 years old**, by answering affirmatively that someone forced them to have sex when they did not want to.

It is estimated that **6.4 per cent (1,151,197) of women** may have been victims of other sexual violence before the age of 15. Specifically, the following violence is considered and estimated:

- ➔ **5.9% (1,049,076) of women have had their private parts (genitals or breasts) touched before the age of fifteen, when they did not want it.**
- ➔ **2.5% (445,251) of women were made to touch the private parts (genitals or breasts) of another person before the age of fifteen, when they didn't want to.**
- ➔ **0.6% (109,910) of women were made to pose nude in front of anyone or in photographs, videos or a webcam before the age of fifteen, when she did not want to.**

➤ Offender

In terms of the sex of the **perpetrators, female victims of male perpetrators account for 95.0% of the total**, while female victims of female perpetrators account for only 3.3%.

It is estimated that most assaults are **perpetrated by persons known to the victim: 91.7 per cent for victims of rape in childhood and 82.5 per cent for other sexual violence** in childhood.

➤ Age of first experience of sexual violence

Among women who have been victims of sexual violence before the age of 15, it is estimated that:

- ➔ **9.1% (111,699) were under 6 years old.**
- ➔ **43.9% (536,769) were between the ages of 6 and 10.**
- ➔ **42.1% (514,162) were between the ages of 11 and 15.**
- ➔ **Unknown in 4.9% of cases (59,777).**

➤ Seeking help

It is estimated that **39.9% (488,109) have discussed the incident with someone**. Women victims of sexual violence in childhood mainly turn to their close environment to talk about it:

- **28.8% (352,286 women)** have talked about the incident with a **family member or relative**.
- **18.5% (226,378 women)** have spoken to **friends, classmates or neighbours**.
- To a much lesser extent women spoke to **school or college staff (3.6%)**, the **police (2.3%)**, **health or social services (1.4%)** or **helplines or victim support organisations (0.9%)**.

## 8. KNOWLEDGE OF RESOURCES SPECIALISED IN VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

It is estimated that **96.5% (17,231,967) of women aged 16 to 74 living in Spain are aware of some type of resource**. This percentage is somewhat higher, **97.4% (7,540,050)**, in the case of **women who have suffered violence**.

- Of these, **86.5% (15,443,703)** are aware of the **016 telephone service** for information, legal advice and immediate psychosocial care, provided by the DGVG (Ministry of Equality), which is the **most widely known resource**.
- **80.1% (14,290,483)** of women are familiar with the **courts for violence against women**.
- **80.0% of women (14,284,274)** are aware of **housing resources**: emergency shelters, shelters and/or supervised housing or transit housing.
- **75.5% (13,479,639)** are aware of the **specialised units of the National Police and Guardia Civil**.
- **75.2% (13,414,792)** are aware of the DGVG's (Ministry of Equality) **telematic control devices** for restraining measures and sentences.
- **58.8% (9,941,978)** are aware of a **regional telephone number** for victim assistance.
- **48.8 per cent (8,714,700)** of women are aware of **comprehensive care centres**.
- **10.7% (1,913,267)** are aware of the **ATENPRO** service (Telephone Service of Attention and Protection for victims of gender-based violence), of the DGVG (Ministry of Equality).