



**Quarterly Newsletter Report #6: Policies and Actions of the GSDFPGE  
for the Prevention and Response to Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence  
Analysis of Gender-Based Violence Data from the Network of Structures  
and the SOS Helpline 15900 (October 2021- December 2021)**

The current newsletter was drafted within the framework of cooperation between the General Secretariat for Demography and Family Policy and Gender Equality (GSDFPGE)<sup>1</sup> and UNICEF Country Office in Greece and is the sixth official newsletter report that presents the overall prevention and response to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Multiple Discrimination Against Women, from the National Network of Structures (Counselling Centres, Safe Shelters and the SOS Helpline 15900)<sup>2</sup>. The situation described in the newsletter is based on the GBV data recorded in the database operated by E.E.T.A.A.<sup>3</sup> and the 24/7 SOS Helpline 15900, covering a three month period – October 2021-December 2021<sup>4</sup>.

**Message from the Deputy Minister on the aim of the information-awareness campaign of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs regarding violence against women**



On the occasion of 25th of November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs and the GSDFPGE, created a social media campaign to inform and raise awareness. The message of the campaign is "Words made out of knives", words that women often hear either from their partner/husband or from their family / friends, trapped them in a toxic and abusive environment. The message of the campaign urges them to "listen" to the actions of the abusers and not their words because after a point some words become knives. We must point this out to any woman who doubts or believes that violent behavior is accidental, fragmented, and unrepeatable. This is what we must say to ourselves when we find out or suspect that a woman or a

girl is trying to survive in violence, fear, and threats. The goal of GSDFPGE is women to recognize the signs behind the words and request support for the Network of Structure. The GSDFPGE goal is all citizens to be aware of the SOS Helpline 15900 and the Network of Structure, and the campaigns that carried out achieved their purpose and the messages "Words made out of Knives", "Break the Silence", "You are not alone, you are not the only one", "We stay home but we do not remain silent", they were transferred all over Greece.

<sup>1</sup> Official website of the General Secretariat for Demography and Family Policy and Gender Equality: <https://www.isotita.gr/en/home/>

<sup>2</sup> Official Website of Violence Against Women: <http://womensos.gr/en/about-us/>

<sup>3</sup> The Hellenic Agency for Local Development and Local Government (E.E.T.A.A.) S.A, has been the institutionalized operational partner of the G.S.F.P.G.E. that supports the creation and maintenance of a Database of the Network (counseling centers and safe shelters)

<sup>4</sup> **Note:** There is a possibility of a unique beneficiary to receive services from all three Support Structures of GSDFPGE (Counseling Centers, Safe Shelters, and SOS Helpline 15900). For example, a beneficiary can call the SOS Line 15900, visit at a Counseling Center and finally be accommodated in one of the available Safe Shelters of the Network.



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**Initiatives and Actions of the GSDFPG, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs during the reference period  
October -December 2021**

Indicatively, the following actions were undertaken:

- In view of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, the Ministry of Labor & Social Affairs launched a new informational and awareness raising campaign on media. The message " **Words made out of knives**" is addressed to women survivors of GBV, but also to their broader social environment<sup>5</sup>.
- On 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of October, 2021 at the Seraphio Athletic and Community Complex of the Municipality of Athens, 21 organizations under the auspices of the GSDFPGE, the Municipality of Athens and the Central Union of Municipalities of Greece (KEDE), joined forces in a Festival to prevent and combat GBV under the feminist movement **Strong-me**<sup>6</sup>.
- In addition, on November 25<sup>th</sup>, the Ministry of Labor & Social Affairs for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women organized a concert of symbolic significance with the singer Ms. Rena Morfi at the Seraphic Center of the Municipality of Athens.
- As part of this campaign, the Deputy Minister of Labor & Social Affairs, Ms. Maria Syregela, from the floor of the Parliament sent a message for "zero tolerance towards incidents of GBV and the need building a strong network for the protection for all survivors."



<sup>5</sup> " **Words made out of knives** " - Campaign for violence against women, You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PAKSVptMPu4>

<sup>6</sup> "**Strong-me**", movement to prevent and combat GBV, web post: <https://strong-me.com/>



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- On 10<sup>th</sup> of December, 2021 World Human Rights Day, and as part of the 16 Days of Activism Against GBV, with the support of the UNHCR, the GSDFPGE premises were lit in orange the color of the campaign.
- On the occasion of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence, INGOs and NGOs participating in the GBV-Working Group created posters with messages against GBV. The messages included messages from refugee women survivors of GBV as well<sup>7</sup>.
- On December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the new **“National Action Plan for Gender Equality 2021-2025” (NAPGE) was presented by** the Ministry of Labor & Social Affairs, in the presence of the President of the Republic and the Prime Minister, . The **NAPGE** is a continuation of the efforts for a society of substantive Equality, free from violence, stereotypes and discrimination <sup>8</sup>.



<sup>7</sup> (\*) Footnote: the initiative was supported by: UNHCR, GSDFPGE, UNICEF, ACCMR- Municipality of Athens, Keratsini - Drapetsona Counseling Center, POLYCENTR), DRC (Danish Council for Refugees), Diotima, Melissa Network, Action Aid, Center for Social Action and Innovation - KMOP

<sup>8</sup>Presentation of the National Action Plan for Gender Equality 2021-202, YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jd95OJNrnVs>




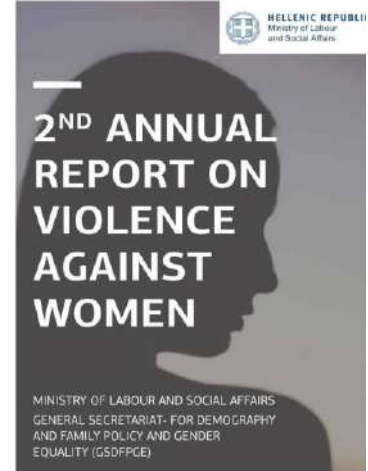
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- For the second consecutive year, GSDFPGE published the Annual Report on Violence against Women.

The report includes:

- The institutional framework to tackle Gender-Based Violence at European and National level,
- Special chapter on femicide,
- Actions of the GSDFPGE and the Network of Structures, and
- Data on violence against women.

You can find the report here  <https://isotita.gr/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/ENG-EKTHESH-SITE.pdf>



ATHENS, NOVEMBER 2021

- On October 12, 2021 the President of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus, Ms. Annita Dimitriou and the Deputy Minister of Labor & Social Affairs, Ms. Maria Syregela visited Athens's Counseling Center in the framework of cooperation between the two countries to tackle GBV, women's empowerment and the implementation of women's equality policies<sup>9</sup>.
- The Deputy Minister of Labor & Social Affairs, Ms. Maria Syregela informed students of the Hellenic French School "St 'Joseph" Pefki about the Istanbul Convention. It was encouraging that the young children showed particular interest in the Convention and in general in responding to incidents of GBV



<sup>9</sup> Website of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs: <https://ypergasias.gov.gr/i-proedros-tis-voulis-ton-antiprosopon-tis-kypriakis-dimokratias-annita-dimitriou-sto-symvouleftiko-kentro-athinas-me-tin-yfypourgo-ergasias-kai-koinonikon-ypotheseon-maria-syregela/>



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- During the GSDFPGE at the anniversary web conference of the National Centre for Public Administration and Local Government (EKDDA): on "Gender Equality in the European and National Environment - Challenges and Perspectives", Mr. Dimosthenis Tremos, Director for Planning, Standardization and Policy Monitoring on Gender Equality at the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, presented the "EU Gender Equality Policy: New Goals, New Approaches", and Ms. Angeliki Papazoglou, Deputy Head of the Directorate of Social Protection and Counseling Services, presented the thematic: "The Istanbul Convention: A Decade of Actions for the Prevention and Responds of Violence against Women"<sup>10</sup>.



**Initiatives and Actions of the GSDFPGE Network of Structures, reference period October -December 2021**

**Indicatively, the following actions were undertaken:**

- Between October 2021 and December 2021, the actions that stand out were the ones for the 25<sup>th</sup> November **International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women**. Several of them were attended by the Municipalities across Greece, the Municipal and Regional Equality Committees but also the Police Directorates and other public bodies as well as NGOs/CSOs.

**ATTICA REGION**

- The Counseling Centers of Piraeus, Salamina and Keratsini-Drapetsona participated in an online informational action organized by the Greek Police and in particular by the Office for Combating Domestic Violence of the Piraeus Police Directorate<sup>11</sup>.



<sup>10</sup> Posted at EKDA website: <https://www.ekdd.gr/%CE%B7%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B1-%CE%B9%CE%BD%CE%B5%CF%80-%CE%B5%CE%BA%CE%B4%CE%B4%CE%B1-%CE%B7-%CE%B9%CF%83%CF%8C%CF%84%CE%B7%CF%84%CE%B1-%CF%84%CF%89%CE%BD-%CF%86%CF%8D%CE%BB%CF%89/>

<sup>11</sup>Press release: <https://keratsini-drapetsona.gr/index.php/keratsini-drapetsona-news-gr/keratsini-drapetsona-announcements-gr/11413-25th-%CE%9D%CE%BF%CE%B5%CE%BC%CE%B2%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%BF%CF%85-day-of-elimination-of-violence-against-women>



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- On November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, an online dialogue was organized on "GBV and Femicide", jointly by Municipal Equality Committee and Women's Counseling Center of the Municipality of Halandri<sup>12</sup>.

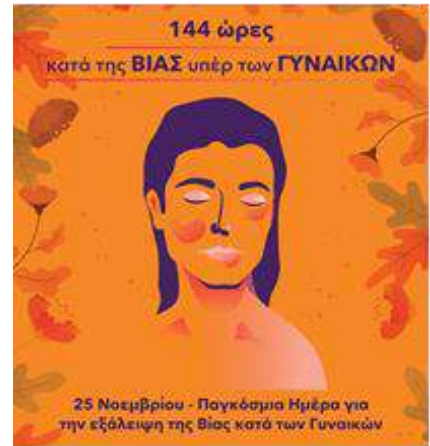


**EAST MACEDONIA THRACE REGION**

- Komotini Counseling Center participated in the online event on: "Working women and sexism" held by the Center for Youth and Voluntary work of Komotini - "Hexagon"<sup>13</sup>.
- A Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between Kavala's Municipality, the local Police Directorate, and Kavala's Counseling Center with the aim to respond to gender and domestic violence survivors needs.

**WESTERN MACEDONIA REGION**

- The executives of Kozani Safe Shelter jointly with the Department of Psychology of the University of Western Macedonia organized an open online event on "Sexual violence as a phenomenon on today's reality"<sup>14</sup>.
- On the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women the executives of Kozani Counseling Center and Shelter jointly with the local Police Office for Combating Domestic Violence, distributed informational and communication materials at a special stand in the central square of the city<sup>15</sup>.



<sup>12</sup> Press release: <https://www.chalandri.gr/category17/78051/>

<sup>13</sup> Press release: <https://www.paratiritis-news.gr/event/ergazomenes-gynaikes-kai-fainomena-sexismou/>

<sup>14</sup> Press release: <https://psy.uowm.gr/imerida-i-emfili-via-os-fenomeno-sti-simerini-pragmatikotita/>

<sup>15</sup> Press release: <https://e-ptolemeos.gr/enimerotiki-drasi-apo-to-symvoulftiko-kentro-kozanis-gia-tin-eksalepsi-tis-vias-kata-ton-gynaikon/>



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**EPIRUS REGION**

- Ioannina Safe Shelter and the Art Meeting Amities-Friendships co-organized an Exhibition of Paintings and Photography on the "Voices and Silences of Women" at the Cultural Center of Ioannina<sup>16</sup>.
- The Arta Counseling Center distributed leaflets and new year calendars in the central square of the Municipality, with the GBV data of the Center, hoping to pass the message for every woman "speak to us! Find the power that you hide inside you".



**THESSALY REGION**

- A Silent protest for the femicides was held in the center of Trikala with the participation of the volunteer group Act4V V for Volunteers and the Municipal Conservatory of Trikala. A parallel action was held with the presentation of a Theatrical Event, entitled "Break the Silence" based on the well-known continental song " Menousis", which narrates a femicide<sup>17</sup>.
- Larissa Safe Shelter organized an experiential workshop on "GBV: Breaking down Myths and Prejudices", at the "Iliachtida" Multipurpose Center for Art and Culture<sup>18</sup>.



**IONIAN ISLANDS REGION**

- Kefalonia Counseling Center organized an informational and communication campaign with the message "You are not the only one, You are not alone" by a) daily Broadcast to the local radio station on a call to all women who suffer any form of violence and / or multiple discrimination and b) with the creation of posters / banners, which displayed messages related to the phenomenon of violence against women in central parts of the city of Argostoli<sup>19</sup>.



<sup>16</sup> Press release: EPIRUS TV NEWS, [https://www.epirus-tv-news.gr/2021/11/blog-post\\_625.html](https://www.epirus-tv-news.gr/2021/11/blog-post_625.html)

<sup>17</sup> Press release: <https://trikalain.gr/ichiro-minyma-kata-tis-vias-ton-gynaikon-apo-ta-trikala/>

<sup>18</sup> Press Release: <https://www.241.gr/news/3/1201-xenonas-filoksenias-gynaikon>

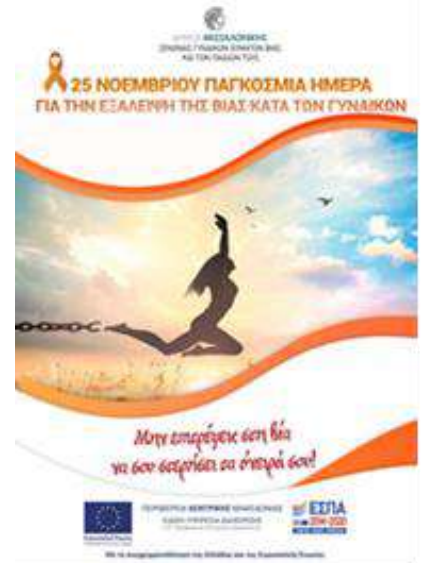
<sup>19</sup> Press release: <https://www.inkefalonia.gr/koinonia/102393-to-symvouleftiko-kentro-gynaikon-kefalonias-tima-tin-25i-noemvriou-pagkosmia-imeras-eksaleipsis-tis-vias-kata-ton-gynaikon>



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**CENTRAL MACEDONIA REGION**

- A workshop was organized by the GEA Action (GENDER EQUALITY ASSEMBLY) in collaboration with Thessaloniki Municipality under the auspices of the Ministry of Labor, were executives of Thessaloniki Counseling Center and the Shelter jointly presented the Network of Structures for women survivors of GBV, additionally the executives hold a session on equality issues<sup>20</sup>.
- A handmade Bazaar with reusable items that were made by students of the Department of Philosophy and Pedagogy in collaboration with Thessaloniki the Safe Shelter, raised money to cover some of the Shelter’s operational needs.



**CRETE REGION**

- On November 25<sup>th</sup> in a central cinema of Chania the executives of the Shelter in collaboration with Drama Short Film Festival, screened a series of films on GBV. Prior to the films, audience received information, as well as leaflets related to Chania Safe Shelter.
- Additionally, on the occasion of for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, the executives of Chania Shelter participated jointly with the local representative of the Police Department in an even at the Cultural Center of the Municipality which was organized by the Milame Women's Cultural Association<sup>21</sup>.
- Rethymno Counseling Center jointly with the women's football team ASTERAS published in the local press photographs with the team players wearing T-shirts with anti-violence messages. At the same time, banners were hanged inside the stadium with messages against GBV and with information about the Counseling Center (the banner remained in the team, to be hanged in every football match).



<sup>20</sup> Press release: <https://thessaloniki.gr/%CE%B7%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%B9%CE%B4%CE%B1-%CF%84%CE%B1-%CF%80%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%83%CF%89%CF%80%CE%B1-%CF%84%CE%B7%CF%83-%CE%B2%CE%B9%CE%B1%CF%83-26-11-2021/>

<sup>21</sup> Press release: <https://ecopress.gr/dimos-platania-ekdilosi-gia-tin-exale/>





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**SOUTH AEGEAN REGION**

- On November 25<sup>th</sup> under the auspices of the GSDFPGE, at the hall of the Rhodes Bar Association, women's circle "Lean in" Rhodes, in collaboration with KETHI, Rhodes Counseling Center, the executives of the Shelter and the Rhodes Bar Association organized a seminar "on learning to recognize offending behaviors". The main message of the event was "Bad time is not one". The aim was to educate the family environment, as well as the social environment, so that they can recognize the signs of abusive behavior.



**PELOPONNESE REGION**

- On November 25<sup>th</sup>, Kalamata Counseling Center opened its doors to the public, in order to inform on GBV issues and raise public awareness<sup>22</sup>.
- The executives of Corinth Counseling Center participated with an information kiosk and distribution of leaflets and ribbons in a women's volleyball match (ASP Corinth) in honor of the victim of femicide in Folegandros, named Garifalia.



**CENTRAL GREECE REGION**

- On the 25<sup>th</sup> of November Municipality of Lamia in collaboration with Lamia's Children's Creative Center and the local Police Department organized a Walk to raise awareness against Domestic Violence.
- Thebes Counseling Center in collaboration with Ephorate of Antiquities of Viotia (EFA of Viotia) organized a photo exhibition entitled "Violence. It's not just what you see... »at the Archaeological Museum of Thebes (St. Omer tower) - 17 women were photographed to sensitize the public about GBV. Women in the domestic work, women in positions of responsibility, women caring for people with disabilities or special needs, women who have come to serve the rights of other women... and through them all the other women<sup>23</sup>.



<sup>22</sup> Press release: <https://www.messinialive.gr/symvouleftiko-kentro-gynaikon-thymaton-vias-tou-dimou-kalamatas-open-day-tin-pempti-25-noemvriou/>  
<sup>23</sup> Press release: <https://e-scorpion.gr/?p=22059>



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**Operations of the National Gender-Based Violence Sub-Working Group (GBV - SWG), reference period  
October -December 2021**

## GBV Sub-Working Group

The Working Group, chaired by UNHCR and co-chaired by the GSDFPGE, continued the monthly meetings with the participation of NGOs, state actors and International Organizations. The agenda of the referring period's meeting included the presentation of specialized programs such as the program of "Enhancing Accessibility to Services for GBV Survivors in Greece through Interpretation" implemented by METAdrasi and reports such as "The discrimination Epidemic" conducted by LGBTQI+ Samos project, as well as tools such as the Survival Guide for refugees and asylum-seekers by refugee Info. UNHCR presented the findings of the Participatory Assessment reflecting the needs of refugees and asylum-seekers residing in the RICs and in urban Athens. Finally, the participants organized and participated together in activities that took place in the context of the 16 days of activism against gender- based violence campaign (25 November- 10 December).

*The current newsletter is covering the period October-December 2021 at the Network of Structures of the GSDFPGE. Therefore, this report cannot be used for further generalization and / or analysis of the situation of GBV in Greece.*



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**Counseling Centers (reference period October 2021 – December 2021)<sup>24,25</sup>**

The Equality Research Center (KETHI) operates 14 Counseling Centers (CCs) in the capitals of the country's Regional administrative districts for all women survivors of GBV and/ or multiple discrimination. These 14 CCs, together with the remaining 27 that belong to the Municipalities across Greece, are part of the Network of Structures of the GSDFPGE. The CCs provide FREE of charge services to women by specialized staff (counsellor receptionist, psychologist, social worker, lawyer, and other staff).

It is indicative that, during the reference period, the Counseling Centers throughout Greece provided support to **1.455** women survivors of GBV and multiple discrimination (**1353**), as well as to third parties (**102**, i.e. mother, adult daughter of the survivor etc.) who mostly received useful information. For the reporting period violence against women<sup>26</sup> prevails with **88,7%** (1291) compared to the cases of multiple discrimination against women which amounted to **11,3%** (164)<sup>27</sup>. During the reference period, the main source of information for the support structures of the network for women beneficiaries were: 30% through other entities, 20% through the 15900 SOS Helpline, with the same percentage 10% obtained their information by a friend/acquaintance and online. Additionally, with the same percentage 6% from another beneficiary and from an "other" source. Moreover, 4% received information through the press, while 14% did not provide this information. **Table 1: Women supported at the Counseling Centers in Greece (01-10-2021-31-12-2021)** Specifically, during the reference period, 38,6% of women received support in 8 Counseling Centers in Attica<sup>28</sup>. A smaller percentage of 7,4% were supported by the Counseling Center in Thessaloniki, Crete at 6,5%,

Women and Third Parties Supported at the Counseling Centres	Total	%
Attica (Counseling Centers: Athens Nikis & Multicenter, Piraeus, Keratsini-Drapetsonas, Peristeri, Filis, Chalandri, Elefsina Station)	561	38,6%
Thessaloniki	108	7,4%
Crete (Counseling Centers: Rethymno & Heraklion)	95	6,5%
Kavala	69	4,7%
Ioannina	39	2,7%
Patra	36	2,5%
Larisa	40	2,8%
Tripoli	37	2,6%
Serres	28	1,9%
Lamia	26	1,8%
Corfu	26	1,8%
Chios	21	1,4%
Lesvos	19	1,3%
Syros-Ermoupolis	18	1,2%
Veria	28	1,9%
Kalamata	21	1,4%
Alexandroupolis	24	1,7%
Komotini	44	3,0%
Other (Counseling Centers: Kozani, Arta, Zakynthos, Thebes, Kastoria, Katerini, Argostoli, Corinth, Kos, Preveza, Pyrgos, Rhodes, Trikala, Florina, Chalkida, Karditsa, Salamina)	215	14,8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1455</b>	<b>100,0%</b>

<sup>24</sup> **Note:** This newsletter **does not** analyze the characteristics of the "Third Persons" who received mainly useful information from the Counseling Centers of the Network of Structure.

<sup>25</sup> The Statistical data in the graphs and tables, throughout the Newsletter, are depicted by rounding to the nearest main unit, this explains any small deviations in the total (100%).

<sup>26</sup> Refugee/migrant women, women with disabilities, drug addict women, the long-term unemployed women, single parent women, etc.

<sup>27</sup> **Note:** unique beneficiaries supported at the Counselling Centres may report both an incident of GBV and an incident of discrimination(s)

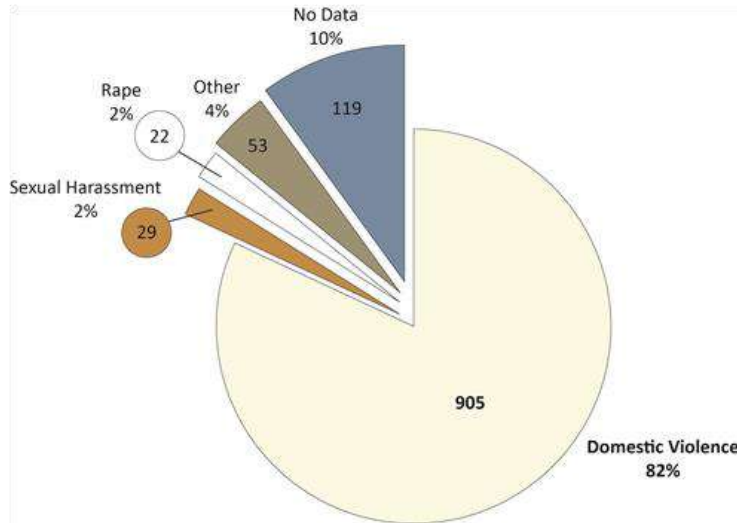
<sup>28</sup> **Note:** C.C of Athens (Nikis), C.C Athens (Polykentro), C.C Piraeus, C.C D. Keratsiniou-Drapetsonas, C.C.D. Peristeriou, C.C D. Fili, C.C D. Chalandri, C.C Elefsina Station



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Kavala with 4,7%, while 42,8% received support in the remaining Counseling Centers of the Network<sup>29</sup>.

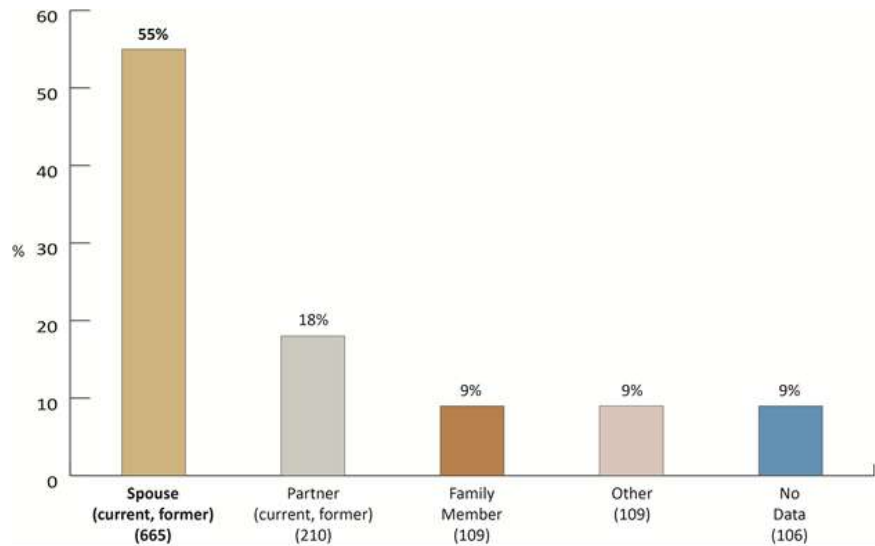
**Figure 1: Forms of GBV reported by supported women (01-10-2021-31-12-2021).** The most common form of violence for the reference period is domestic violence, amounting to **82%** of all the GBV reported cases by the beneficiaries to the Counseling Centers throughout Greece. Sexual harassment and rape follows with 2%, while 4% from total incidents refers to “other” forms of violence.



Sexual harassment and rape follows with 2%, while 4% from total incidents refers to “other” forms of violence.

**Figure 2: Survivor-Perpetrator Relationship (01-10-2021-31-12-2021).** The data show that, during the reporting period, the relationship between the survivor and the perpetrator was mostly spousal amounting to **55%**, 18% of women suffered violence by their partner, while with the same percentage 9% of the women-survivors of GBV who received support by the Counseling Centers under GSDFPGE Network of Structures, reported that the perpetrator was

another family member (i.e. brother, father, or other close relative), and “other”. Regarding the marital status of the survivors, 42% are married, 20% of the total stated that they are single, with a percentage of 14% being divorced and respectively at a rate of 11% being separated, while with almost the same percentage 2,5% are in a state of cohabitation and in widowhood status. Finally, 9% of women beneficiaries did not provide this information. In addition, out of total women beneficiaries 71% stated that they have a child / children while 29% stated that they do not have children.

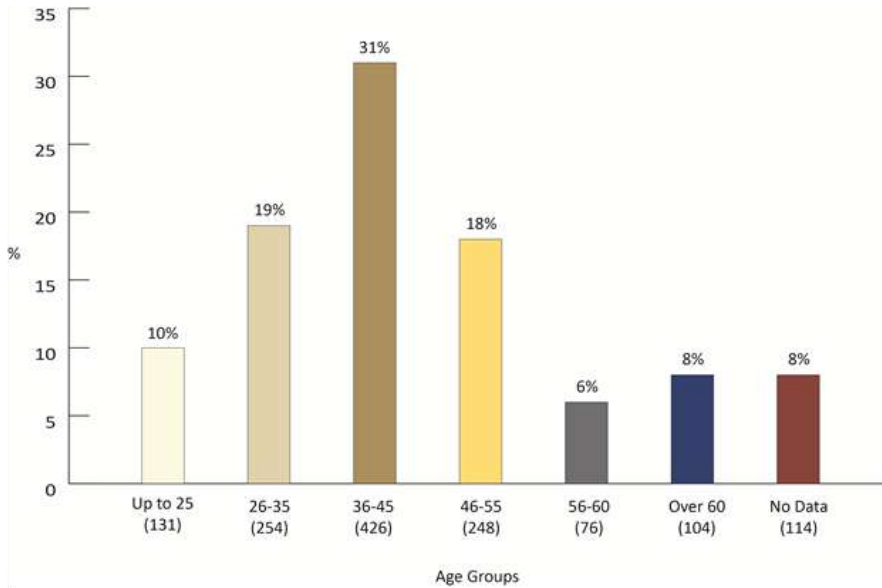


<sup>29</sup> Note: Multiple factors such as awareness-raising activities, in combination with higher needs of women, due to the concentration of population in these areas. Therefore, presented results should not be taken as an outcome from which specific conclusions can be drawn



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**Figure 3: Age groups of supported women ((01-10-2021-31-12-2021).** As for the age groups of women-

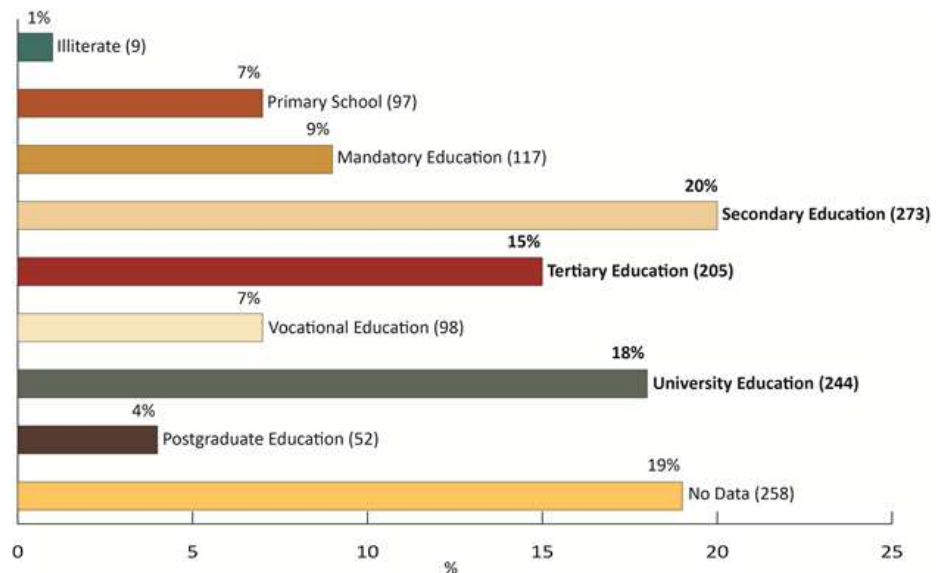


survivors of GBV who received specialized services at the Counseling Centers of the Network during said period, the highest percentage, amounting to **31%**, were women between 36 and 45 years old. 19% belonged to the age group of beneficiaries between 26 and 35 years old, and a 18% belonged to the age group between 46 and 35 years old, while 10% were young women up to 25 years old. Additionally, at 8% reported being over 60, while 6% of the beneficiaries belonged to the age group between 56 to 60 years old. Finally, 8% from total women did not provide information regarding

their age.

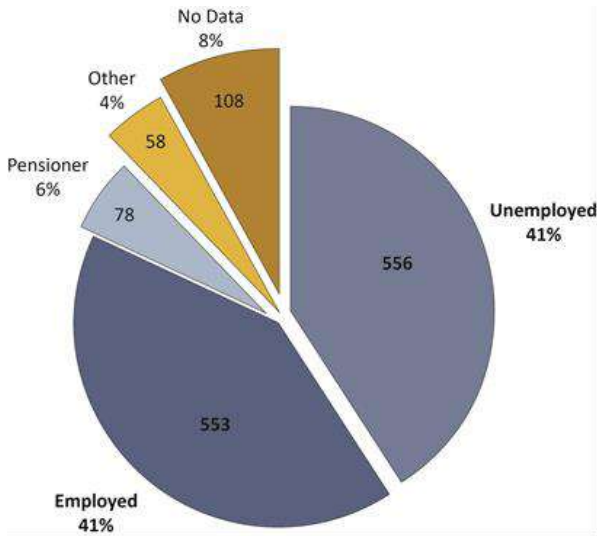
**Figure 4: Education level of supported women (01-10-2021-31-12-2021).** Among the recorded characteristics

of women- survivors of GBV who received supportive services is their educational level. During the reporting period, the highest percentage of beneficiaries **20%** reported having completed secondary education, while **18%** have university education and **15%** tertiary education. 9% have completed mandatory education and equally beneficiaries having completed vocational education and primary education amount to 7%, and 4% of the beneficiaries has completed postgraduate education. 1% from total women beneficiaries reported being illiterate and lastly, 19% of said population did not provide this information.





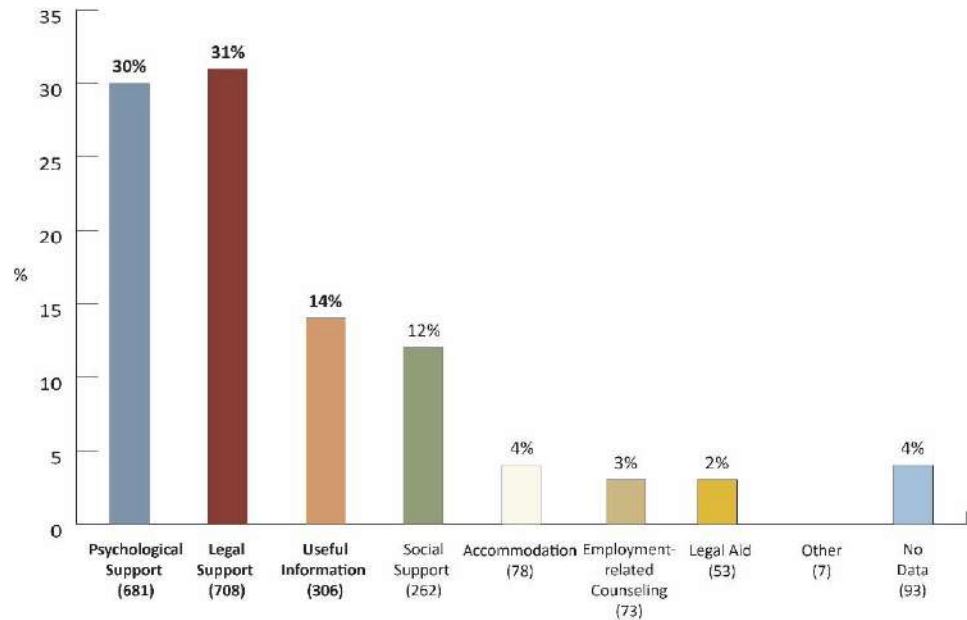
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**Figure 5: Employment status of supported women (01-10-2021-31-12-2021).** Regarding the employment status of women who received supportive services from the Counseling Centers throughout Greece during the reporting period, **41%** appear to be employed and unemployed, respectively. 6% pensioners, while 8% did not provide this information. The women seeking specialized support at the Counseling Centers of the Network during the reference period, stated being Greek in a percentage of **78%**, 12% were refugee and migrant women living in Greece, while 10% of the women did not provide this information.

**Figure 6: Requests by supported women (01-10-2021-31-12-2021).** Women survivors of violence and multiple discrimination requested specialized support from GSDFPGE Network of Structures, during the reporting period, as

follows: 31% received legal support, 30% psychological support, while 14% requested useful information regarding legal rights, specialized services etc. Furthermore, 12% of all women received social support and with 4% requested safe accommodation at the Women’s Shelters and 3% employment related counseling.



Moreover, regarding the interpretation services provided at the Network of Structures of the GSDFPGE,

KETHI continues to provide services in the main spoken languages of refugee women in Arabic and Farsi. In addition, recognizing the usefulness of access for all women survivors of to specialized services, KETHI undertook the funding of the action in a pool of interpreters by the NGO METAdrasi in more than 22 languages and dialects. During the reporting period, a total of **200 sessions** were held with the help of interpretation in the Counseling Centers and Shelters throughout Greece. The main sessions were about the useful information of women beneficiaries as well as session related to their psychosocial support.



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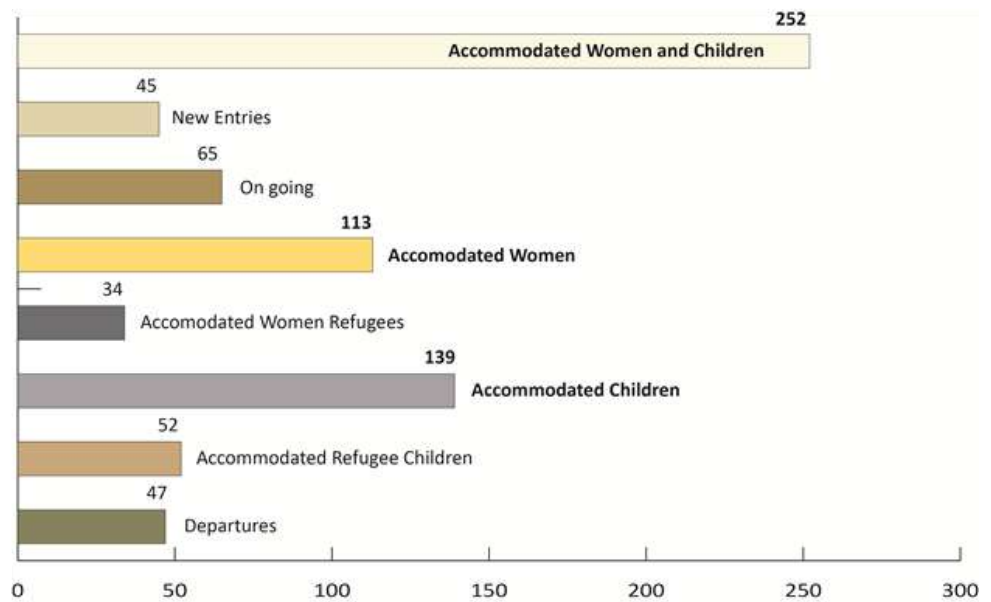
**Women’s Safe Shelters (reference period October 2021– December 2021)**



Safe Shelters of the Network of Structures play a crucial role, due to the need to remove women and their children from the source of violence and especially, in times of crisis, protecting them from the perpetrator. Shelters provide security to women and their children, while maintaining the confidentiality of the Shelter address and other details such as the telephone number, and the anonymity of accommodated women. Additionally, within the Shelters women receive psychological and social support from the specialized scientific staff (Psychologists, Child Psychologists, Social Workers, Support Staff, Security staff etc.), while their legal assistance/support is facilitated by the lawyers of the Counseling Centers or by other external bodies, located near to each Shelter.

**Figure 1: Accommodated women and children (01-10-2021-31-12-2021).** During the three months period, the

Safe Shelters accommodated in total **113** women and **139** children, a total of **252** persons, covering about 66.3% of the total occupancy of the Network’s Shelters<sup>30</sup>. Out of all women and children, **34** are refugee women and **52** are refugee children. Based on the entry date of women at the Shelters there were **45** new admissions, while a total of **47** women and children during the reporting period departed towards their own safe destination.



<sup>30</sup> Note: 19 Shelter Structures across Greece, about 380 beds for women and their children



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**Table 1: Occupancy of Safe Shelters throughout Greece (01-10-2021-31-12-2021).** The Safe Shelters with the highest percentage of occupancy 24% were the ones located in Attica, (Municipality of Athens, Piraeus and

EKKA Ilion), Thessaloniki with 9%, Ioannina with 8,4%, Patra and Volos equally amounted to 7,1% and with 5% occupancy to Kozani Shelter. Out of all the women and children accommodated in the Safe Shelters the percentage of refugee women and children is 22% in Attica, , and 18,6% in Ioannina, 10,3% in Mytilene, 9,3% in Thessaloniki and Kozani, respectively.

Occupancy of Shelters throughout Greece	Total of Accommodated Women and Children	%	Total of Accommodated Refugee Women and Refugee Children	%
<b>Attica</b> (Shelters: Municipality of Athens, Municipality of Kordelio-Evosmos, Municipality of Piraeus and National Center of Social Solidarity (EKKA Illo))	60	24,0%	19	22,0%
Thessaloniki	22	9,0%	5	6,0%
Larissa	16	6,3%	6	7,0%
Patra	18	7,1%	8	9,3%
Volos	18	7,1%	5	6,0%
Ioannina	21	8,4%	16	18,6%
Agrinio	12	5,0%	1	1,0%
Rhodes	8	3,1%	0	0,0%
Tripoli	8	3,1%	0	0,0%
Kozani	11	4,4%	8	9,3%
Komotini	9	3,5%	3	3,5%
Mytilene	16	6,0%	9	10,3%
Lamia	20	8,0%	6	7,0%
Heraklion, Crete	5	2,0%	0	0,0%
Chania	8	3,0%	0	0,0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>100,0%</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>100,0%</b>

**Table 2: Accommodated children (01-10-2021-31-12-2021).** Out of all children (139) accommodated at the Safe Shelters, 37,4% are refugee children. Specifically, during the reporting period

all girls up to 12 years old were 57% and all boys reached 43%. The mothers have the full responsibility for the care of their children, while at the same time the staff of the Shelters through the social support, help women to enroll their children in school, to book appointments with health care services and make arrangements for the referral of children to specialized centers etc.

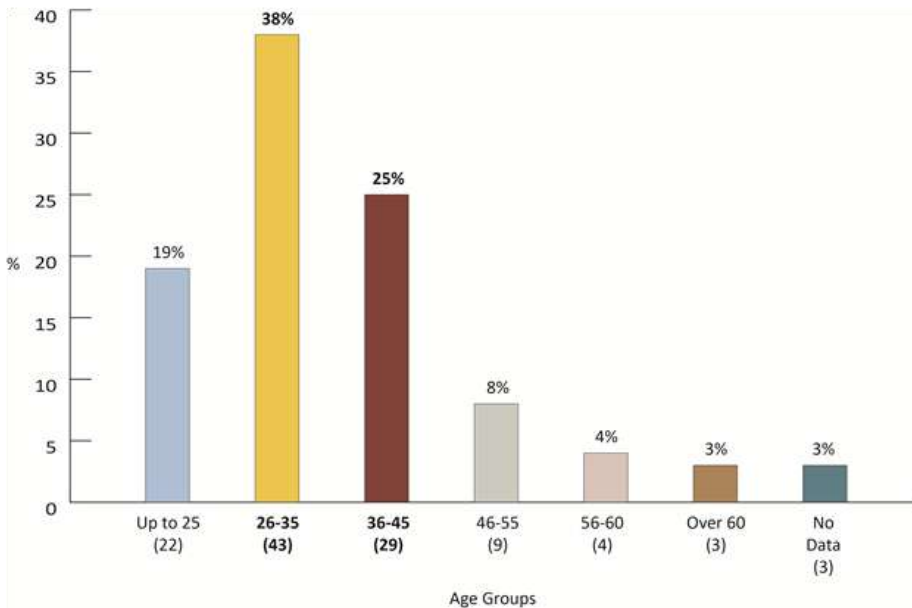
Accommodated Children in Shelters	Girls	Boys
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>59</b>





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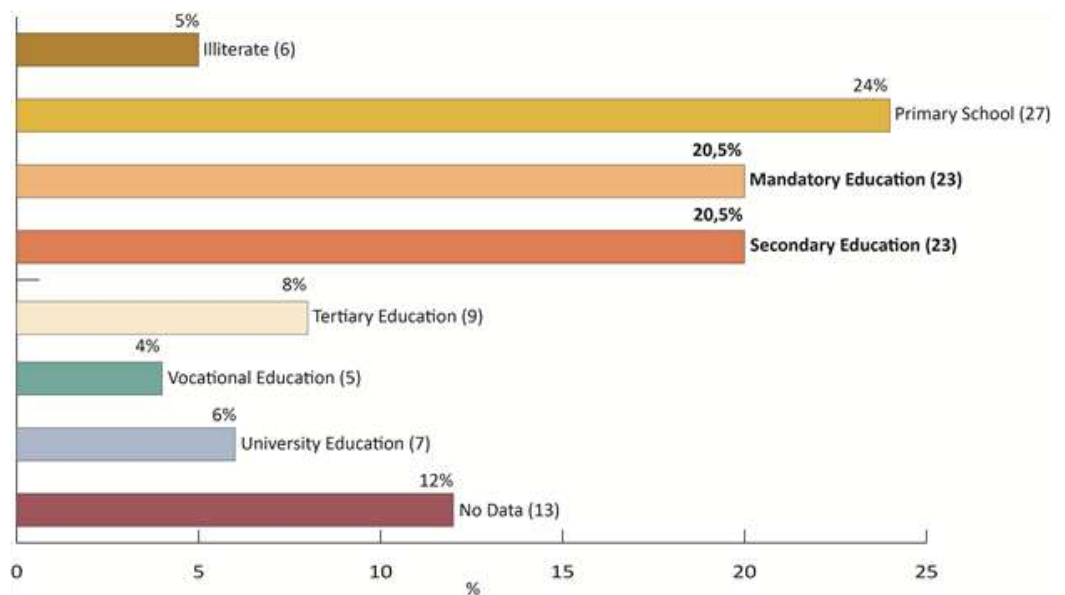
**Figure 2: Age groups of accommodated women (01-10-2021-31-12-2021)** Regarding the age groups of women accommodated at the Safe Shelters, during the three month period, **38%** of all women aged between 26 and 35 and 25% between 36 and 45 years old, followed by 19% of young girls aged up to 25. Moreover, 8% corresponds equally to women between 46 to 55 years old and with almost the same percentage 3,5% are women between 56 to 6 years old and over 60 years old. Lastly, 3% of total accommodated women did not provide this information.



Regarding the age groups of women accommodated at the Safe Shelters, during the three month period, **38%** of all women aged between 26 and 35 and 25% between 36 and 45 years old, followed by 19% of young girls aged up to 25. Moreover, 8% corresponds equally to women between 46 to 55 years old and with almost the same percentage 3,5% are women between 56 to 6 years old and over 60 years old. Lastly, 3% of total accommodated women did not provide this information.

**Figure 3: Education level of accommodated women (01-10-2021-31-12-2021)** It is indicative that, during the reference period, the highest percentage of accommodated women, **24%**, have completed primary school, with the same percentage 20,5% said they have completed mandatory and secondary education, respectively. 8% of total accommodated women have completed tertiary education, 6% have a vocational education, while 5% said they are illiterate. Lastly, 12% of them did not provide this information.

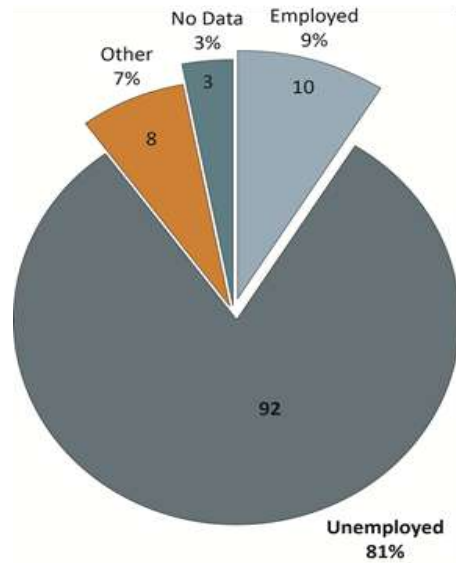
the highest percentage of accommodated women, **24%**, have completed primary school, with the same percentage 20,5% said they have completed mandatory and secondary education, respectively. 8% of total accommodated women have completed tertiary education, 6% have a vocational education, while 5% said they are illiterate. Lastly, 12% of them did not provide this information.





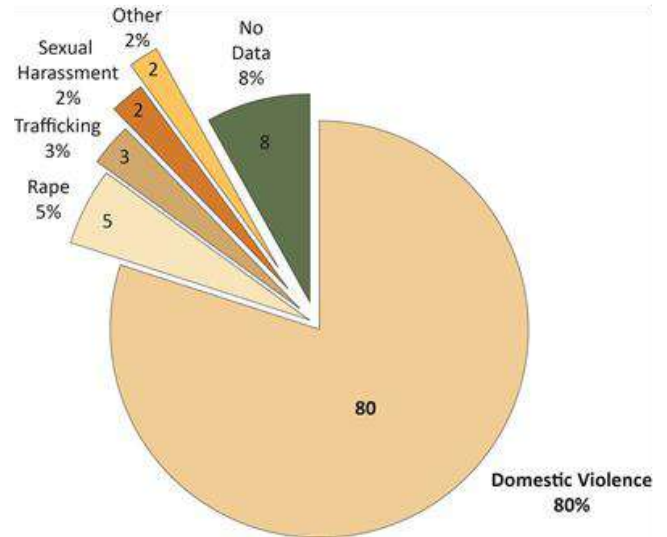
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**Figure 4: Employment status of accommodated women (01-10-2021-31-12-2021).** Regarding the employment status of the accommodated women, the highest percentage of **81%** reported being unemployed, while only 9% reported being employed. Women accommodated can receive employment counseling at the Shelter and be referred to relevant services.



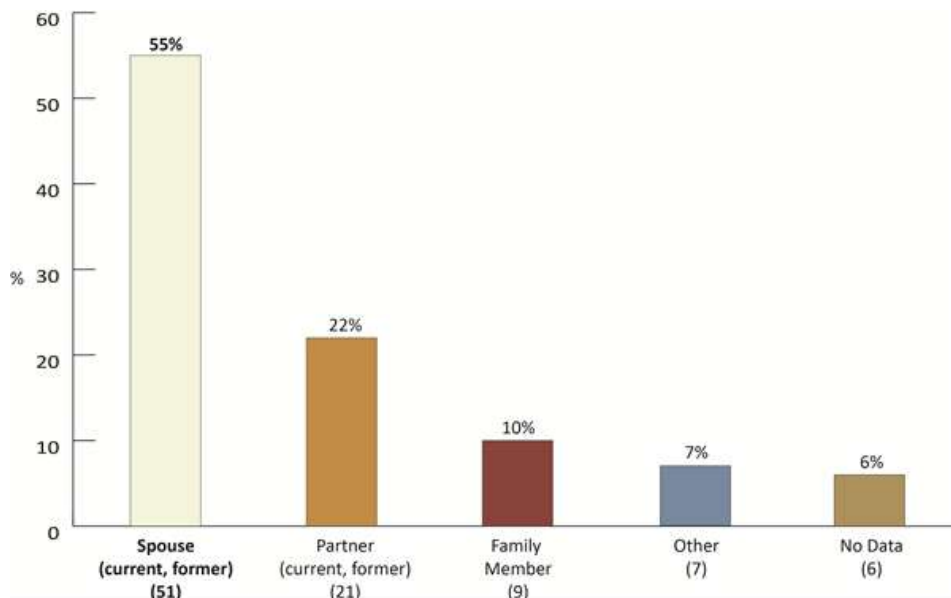
**Figure 5: Forms of GBV reported by accommodated women (01-10-2021-31-12-2021)**

The most prevalent form of GBV during the reporting period is domestic violence, with **70%** of all recorded forms of violence at



the Network’s Shelters throughout Greece. Incidents of rape follow with 8%, sexual harassment with 4% and trafficking with 2%.

**Figure 6: Survivor-Perpetrator relationship (01-10-2021-31-12-2021).** The three months data provided by the Network Shelters highlight the fact that, the relationship between woman survivor and perpetrator is at **55%** spousal (current or former spouse), 22% coming from the partner (current or former) and 10% reported that the perpetrator was another family member (i.e. brother, father, or other relative).

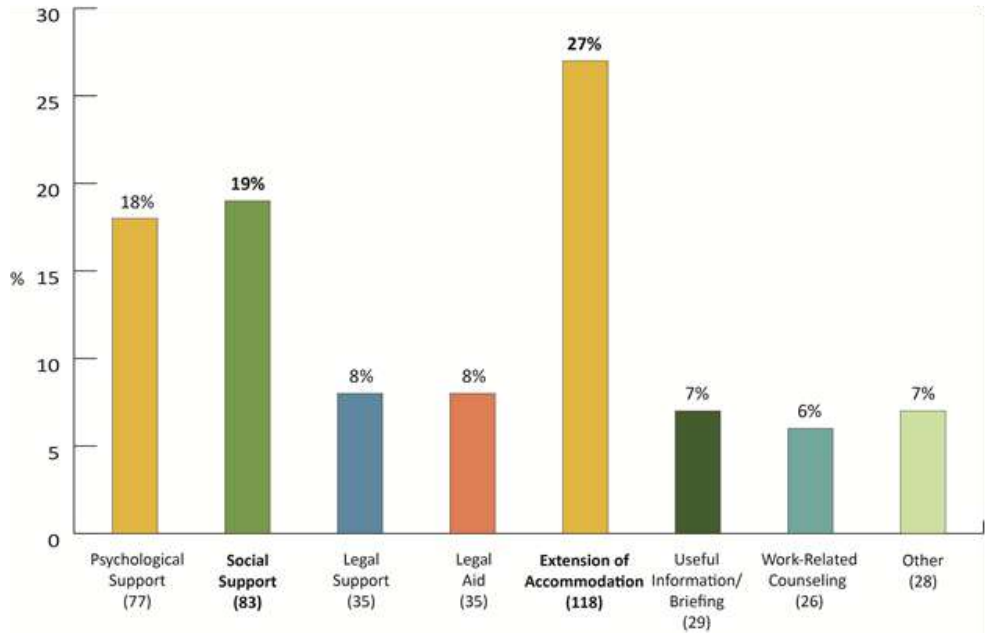




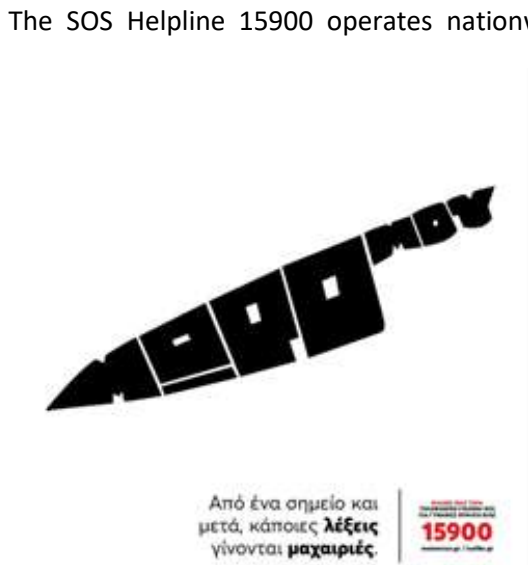
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**Figure 7: Requests by accommodated women (01-10-2021-31-12-2021).** The main requests of women (with their children)

accommodated at the Networks Shelters in Greece during the three-month period was the continuation of their accommodation amounting at **27%** of all requests. While a 19% refers to the need for social support and 18% to psychological support. Requests for legal support and legal aid corresponds to 8%, respectively and equally 7% of all women requested useful information and “other” services. Finally, 6% from total accommodated women received work-related counseling.



**SOS 15900 24/7 Helpline (reference period October 2021 – December 2021)**



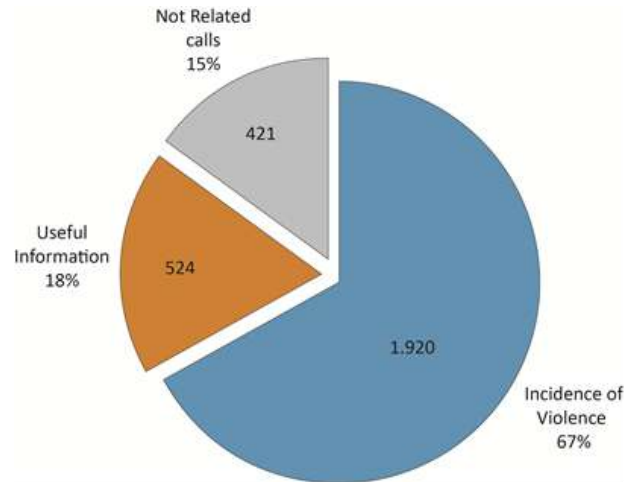
The SOS Helpline 15900 operates nationwide, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and provides immediate assistance to all women that finds themselves in emergency situation. The counselors of the Helpline provide immediate psychosocial support to women survivors of GBV. Additionally they provide useful information on issues related to prevention and institutional response to violence against women to all citizens and actors. Information can also be obtained by those who wish to send it by e-mail to [sos15900@isotita.gr](mailto:sos15900@isotita.gr), as well as through the website [metoogreece.gr](http://metoogreece.gr). According to the data, most people who communicate with the executives of the Helpline via email are women beneficiaries. Specifically, during the reporting period, the SOS 15900 Helpline received a total of **219 emails**, most of which concerned useful information about response services such as psychological and legal support/aid and safe accommodation for women and their children. Additionally, women that speaks Arabic can find an interpreter at the Helpline 15900 every Monday and Tuesday from 9:00-11:00 and women that speak Farsi language can find an interpreter every Tuesday and Friday between 9:00-11:00. Both Arabic



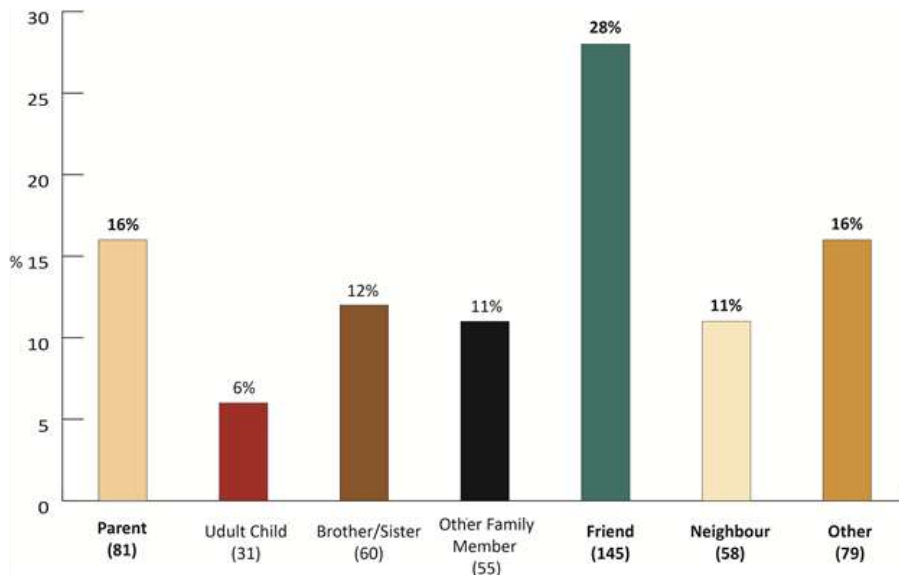
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and Farsi speaking women can additionally book those days an appointment with the counselor of the Helpline and the interpreter in order to receive support or useful information.

**Figure 1: Type of call (01-10-2021-31-12-2021)** During the three-month period, a total of **2.329** calls were recorded, **1.920** of which referred to “incidents of violence” and **524** to “Useful Information”<sup>31</sup>. Out of all the calls regarding incidents of violence and useful information recorded by the SOS 15900 Helpline, **73%** were calls by women survivors seeking support and 27% by third parties seeking mostly useful information.



**Figure 2: Person who is calling (01-10-2021-31-12-2021).** Third parties who called the SOS 15900 Helpline were disaggregated as follows: friend of the survivor at 28%, 16% the parent of the survivor, 12 the brother/sister, with almost same percentage 11.5%, other family member and the neighbour. Lastly, recorded calls by the adult child of the survivor amounted to 6%. Moreover, **91%** of calls were made by women calling the SOS 15900 Helpline for the first time, 7% called for the second time,



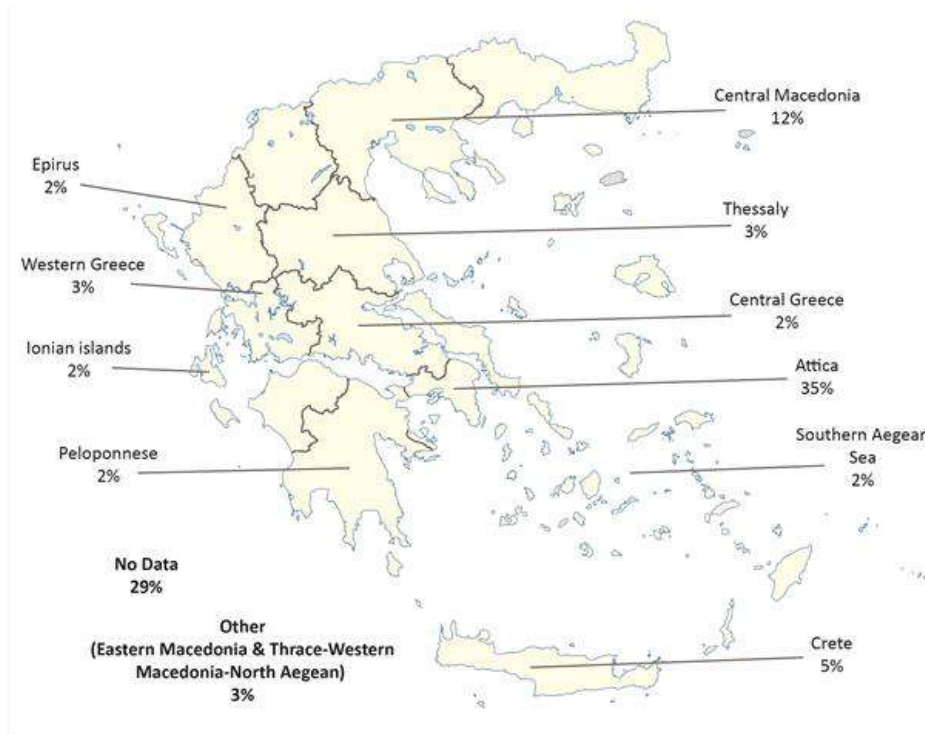
and 1% for the third and fourth time. Women who called the SOS 15900 Helpline for the first time, had been informed about it via the internet at a rate of 9%, by another entity at 6%, equally by TV and by someone they know at 5%, while **75%** did not provide this information during the call.

<sup>31</sup> Note: Irrelevant calls, such as pranks, etc. are not analyzed in this newsletter



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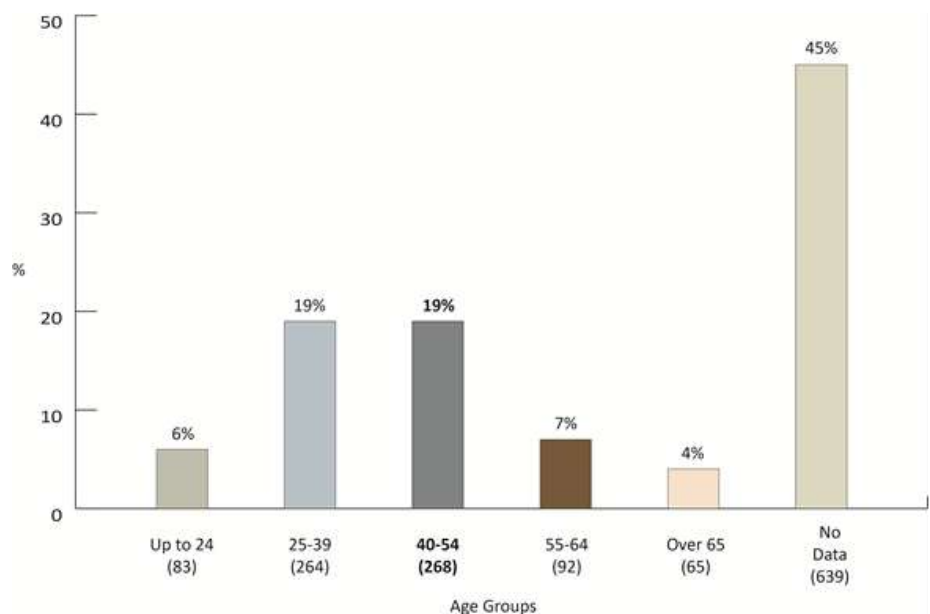
**Map 1: Regions from which women beneficiaries calls were recorded (01-10-2021-31-12-2021)** During the



reporting period the Regions of Greece with the highest percentage of recorded calls is Attica with **35%**, Central Macedonia with 12% while the rest of the recorded calls is equally divided among the rest of the Regions of the Greek territory. Lastly, 29% of total calls did not disclose the place of the call. Out of all women survivors who called the 15900 Help Line, 94% are Greek, 6% are immigrants, while no call from refugee women was recorded and this can be attributed to the fact that refugee women survivors of GBV or multiple discrimination are usually referred to the Counseling Centers of the Network by Civil Society

Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations which are exclusively active in the refugee and immigrant sector in Greece. Finally, 32% did not reveal the details concerning their citizenship.

**Figure 3: Age groups of women receiving support from the SOS Helpline 15900 (01-10-2021-31-12-2021)** As for the age group of women who called the SOS 15900 Helpline during the reporting period, the highest percentage **19%** are women aged between 40 and 54 years old and women between 25–39 years old, respectively, 7% are women 55–64 years old, 6% women aged up to 24 years old and 4% women over 65 years old. Lastly, 45% of all women who received

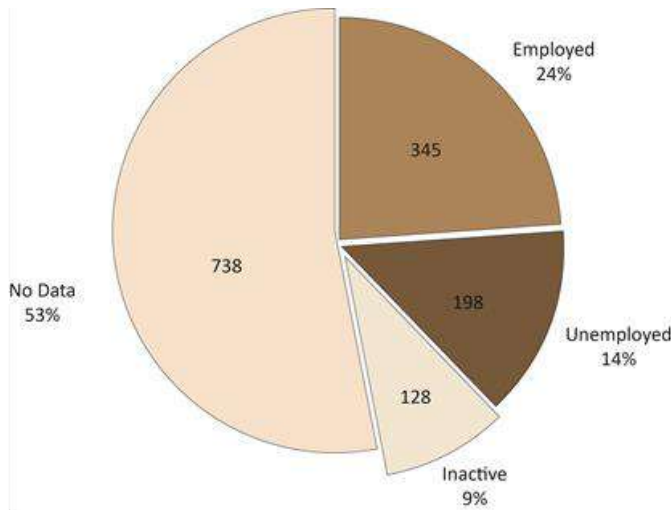




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support from the SOS 15900 did not provide this information.

**Figure 4: Employment status of women receiving support from the SOS Helpline 15900 (01-10-2021-31-12-2021)**

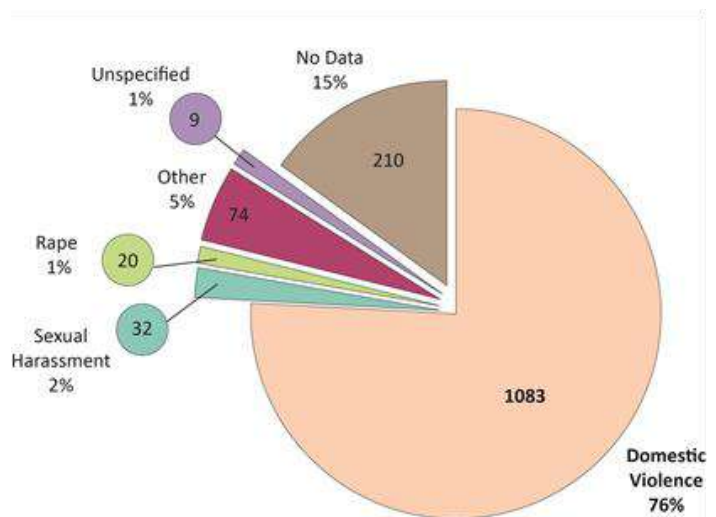


Regarding the employment status of the women who called the SOS 15900 Helpline for the first time during the 3 month period, the majority of 24% were employed, while 14% unemployed, 9% reported being inactive and 53% out of all women did not provide this information. Regarding the education level of women who called the SOS Helpline, during the reference period, the highest rate of 90% did not provide this information. This can be explained by the fact that during the call beneficiaries are emotionally charged and counsellors focus on their support. Moreover, 7% have completed university education, equally with 1% have completed primary, upper secondary education, upper higher education and a

postgraduate degree, respectively.

**Figure 5: Forms of violence reported by women beneficiaries at the SOS Helpline 15900 (01-10-2021-31-12-2021)**

During the reporting period, domestic violence made up to 76% of the total forms of violence recorded at the SOS Helpline 15900, followed by sexual harassment at 2% and incidents of rape at 1%. The main forms of violence in the context of domestic violence were psychological violence at 35%, verbal violence at 31%, physical violence at 27%, economic violence against women was recorded at 5%, while sexual violence within intimate partner violence at 3%. Regarding the family status of women who reported incidents of domestic violence: 56% have children, 15% reported not having children, 28% did not provide this information. Moreover, equally 1% from totals reported being pregnant, single mothers with minor child (<16 years old) and women with disabilities, while 10% reported having health issue problems.



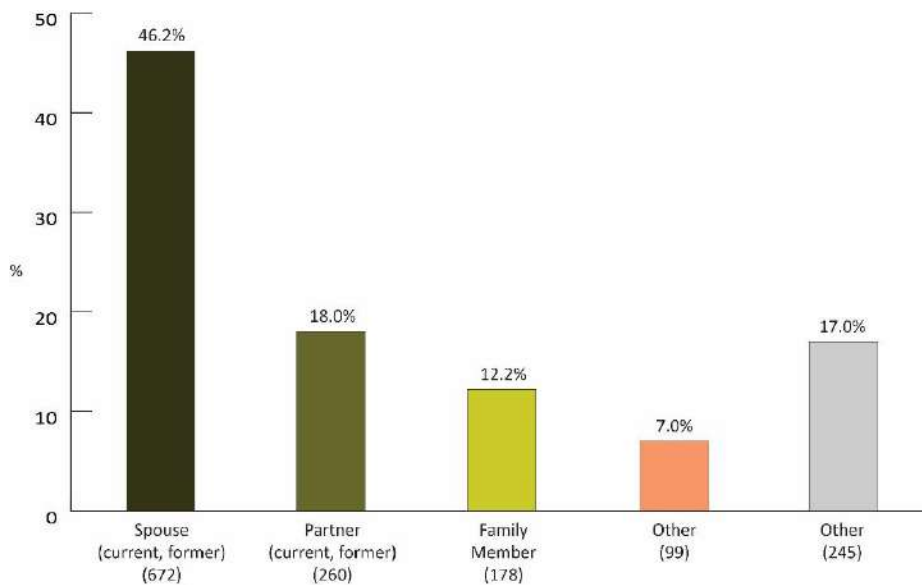


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**Table 1: Forms of Violence within Domestic Violence (01-10-2021-31-12-2021).**

Forms of Violence Reported by Beneficiaries within Domestic Violence								
SURVIVOR-PERPETRATOR RELATIONSHIP : 01-10-2021 to 31-12-2021	PHYSICAL VIOLENCE	PSYCHOLOGICAL VIOLENCE	SEXUAL VIOLENCE	VERBAL VIOLENCE	ECONOMIC VIOLENCE	UNDEFINED	TOTAL	COHABITATION
Spouse (current, former)	420	484	14	423	70	12	1423	494
Partner (current, former)	149	206	20	159	14	3	551	108
Father	24	24	3	18	3	1	73	21
Brother/Sister	21	24	1	19	1	0	67	10
Udult Child	38	38	2	36	5	0	119	35
Other Member of the Family	26	36	3	23	3	2	91	24
UNDEFINED	3	2	0	0	0	1	6	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>681 (29,2%)</b>	<b>814(35%)</b>	<b>43(2%)</b>	<b>678(29%)</b>	<b>96(4%)</b>	<b>18(0,8%)</b>	<b>2330</b>	<b>693</b>

**Figure 6: Survivor-Perpetrator relationship (01-10-2021-31-12-2021) as reported by women who called the SOS helpline.** Regarding the relationship between the survivors of GBV and the perpetrator it seems that at a



rate of 46,2% the perpetrator was the husband (current and former). The partner (current and former) follows at 18% and with the rate of 12,2% a family member and at a rate of 7% the perpetrator was reported to be “other”, while 17% from total women beneficiaries did not provide this information during the call.



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**Figure 7: Women Beneficiaries requests (01-10-2021-31-12-2021).** The majority of women’s individual requests

recorded by the SOS 15900 Helpline during the reference months was for psychological support at **37%**, followed by 35% for legal advice and support while a significant number corresponds to the requests for legal aid and safe accommodation of women survivors and their children.

