

**GENERAL SECRETARIAT FOR
EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

**Executive Summary of the 6th
Annual Report on Violence Against
Women**

ATHENS, MARCH 2026

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INTRODUCTION

The 6th Report, like the previous ones, is the result of collaborative, collective, interdepartmental, and inter-agency work. It also introduces an important temporal innovation, as its **publication is shifted from November 25**, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to an equally significant milestone, **March 8, International Women’s Day**. This change was prompted by the need for the statistical analysis to cover full calendar years, thereby ensuring the highest possible accuracy and comparability of the data. Its central theme focuses on economic violence, outlining its forms, the ways in which the phenomenon manifests, and analyzing its consequences in terms of gender, social, and economic impact.

It is structured into five (5) distinct chapters that present the institutional developments, policies, and actions of the General Secretariat for Equality and Human Rights (GSEHR) in the field of gender-based and domestic violence. This constitutes an effort focused on the prevention and combating of violence against women at the institutional level. **Chapter A** presents recent **institutional, legislative, and policy developments** in the field of gender-based violence, with emphasis on:

- the **European and international regulatory framework**,
- **Greece’s compliance with international obligations** (EU – Council of Europe, **European Directive 1385 & Law 5172/2025**),
- and **international cooperation and exchanges of good practices**, particularly regarding sexual violence.

Chapter A is guided by a central axis: the **transition from formal legal recognition to the effective implementation of policies for protection, prevention, and support of victims**.

Chapter B, which is also the central theme of the report, focuses on **economic violence** and the economic consequences of violence against women. It analyzes economic abuse within the context of domestic violence, as well as the consequences of gender-based violence on women’s economic independence, employment, and social inclusion, highlighting the importance of targeted policies for the empowerment and support of victims.

In the following chapters, **Chapter C** presents the evaluation of the National Action Plan for Gender Equality (NAPGE 2021–2025) and the policies and actions for the prevention and combating of gender-based violence, with emphasis on

protection measures and social inclusion. **Chapter D** outlines the actions of the GSEHR, the Centre for Research on Equality Issues (KETHI), and cooperating bodies at national, regional, and local levels, while **Chapter E** presents the statistical data of the Network of Structures and the Observatory. Overall, the report provides a comprehensive overview of interventions and outcomes in the effort to eliminate violence against women and promote gender equality.

CHAPTER A: Recent Developments in the Institutional Framework on Gender-Based Violence – International and European Collaborations – Evaluations

A1. Legislation – Case Law

This chapter initially focuses on **European Directive 2024/1385 and Law 5172/2025**, which incorporates it into the Greek legal order, constituting an important step toward its gradual implementation. **Directive (EU) 2024/1385** represents the first comprehensive binding legal framework of the European Union for the prevention and combating of violence against women and domestic violence. The Directive aims to harmonize national legislation by ensuring common minimum standards for the protection of victims, the effective prosecution of perpetrators, and the development of prevention policies, with a deadline for full transposition by 14 June 2027.

With Law 5172/2025 (Government Gazette A' 10/29.01.2025), the criminal and procedural provisions of European Directive 2024/1385 were incorporated, and significant regulations were introduced for the prevention and combating of violence against women and domestic violence. Specifically, the Penal Code was amended and new criminal offenses were introduced, such as female genital mutilation, forced marriage, online harassment, and stalking through technological means. Furthermore, the protection of victims is strengthened through stricter penalties and new mechanisms for recording and prosecuting crimes of gender-based and domestic violence.

The case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) further reinforces this framework, emphasizing the state's positive obligation to intervene promptly and to conduct effective investigations in cases of violence.

A2. European Union – Roadmap for Women’s Rights

In the context of preparing the new Gender Equality Strategy beyond 2025, the European Commission published, on 6 March 2025, the Roadmap for Women’s Rights. This is a policy declaration setting out eight fundamental principles that will form the basis of the Gender Equality Strategy 2026–2030.

These principles include, among others, freedom from gender-based violence, health, equal pay and economic empowerment, work-life balance, education, political participation, and the strengthening of institutional equality mechanisms. Greece officially expressed its support for the Roadmap, reaffirming its commitment to integrating these principles into national gender equality policy planning. The country’s commitment to the Roadmap’s principles, such as freedom from violence and economic empowerment, confirms its intention to adopt a more holistic approach to addressing gender inequalities.

A3. Council of Europe – Implementation of the Istanbul Convention

During the reporting period, Greece actively participated in the work and monitoring mechanisms of the Istanbul Convention. Of particular importance was its participation in meetings of national monitoring mechanisms, as well as the organization of roundtable discussions in cooperation with the Council of Europe, focusing on the implementation of the recommendations of GREVIO and the Committee of the Parties.

Discussions focused on the role of the judiciary and law enforcement authorities, intersectoral cooperation, and the need to build victims’ trust in the justice system. At the same time, the progress that has been made, as well as the persistent challenges, were highlighted, particularly with regard to ensuring adequate shelter facilities and the effective implementation of holistic support policies.

The participation of the General Secretariat for Equality and Human Rights (GSEHR) in European networks and monitoring committees of the Istanbul Convention (GREVIO) ensures the continuous evaluation and improvement of national policies. Through these meetings, the importance of inter-agency coordination and the use of new technologies, such as artificial intelligence, for the prevention of violence is highlighted. This cooperation is crucial for creating an impenetrable safety net that protects every woman, regardless of her individual life circumstances.

A4. Actions on sexual violence in the context of european and international cooperation and exchange of good practices

International cooperation also extends to specialized areas, such as the establishment of support centers for victims of sexual violence (Rape Centers), drawing on good practices from other member states. Particular emphasis was placed on actions addressing sexual violence, through Greece's participation in european networks and international exchanges of good practices. In this context, issues examined included the concept of consent in criminal law, the training of frontline professionals, and the use of artificial intelligence for prevention and victim support.

Particular importance was given to the study and presentation of international models of comprehensive support for victims of sexual violence, such as the Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARC) model and rape crisis centres in Scotland. These models are based on a victim-centered and trauma-informed approach, providing "one-stop" services and reducing the risk of re-victimization.

At the same time, at the national level, initiatives such as the INSUPPORT program are being implemented, aiming to strengthen inter-agency cooperation, develop protocols and guidelines, and empower victims of sexual violence through awareness-raising and access to specialized services.

Finally, within the framework of exchanging expertise and best practices, an official visit to Glasgow was carried out by representatives of the Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Citizen Protection, and the Ministry of Health. The visit was organized by the British Embassy in Athens under the theme "Visit to Glasgow: Rape and Sexual Offences." The Greek delegation visited the following services: Police Scotland at the Osprey House facilities, the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) in Glasgow, the SARC "Archway," and the "Glasgow and Clyde Rape Crisis" center. The aim was to exchange good practices in supporting victims of sexual violence. A detailed presentation was also delivered on the legislative framework and criminal procedures applied in cases of sexual offences—particularly rape—within the Scottish legal system.

Overall, Chapter A demonstrates that Greece is in the process of strengthening and modernizing its institutional framework for addressing gender-based and sexual violence, in close alignment with European and international developments. Despite significant progress, full compliance with international obligations requires the continuation of reforms, the strengthening of policy coordination, and systematic investment in prevention and victim support, with the aim of ensuring the effective protection of women's rights.

CHAPTER B: CENTRAL THEME OF THE REPORT: ECONOMIC VIOLENCE AND THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

The 6th Annual Report on Violence against Women by the General Secretariat for Equality and Human Rights (GSEHR) focuses this year on the **economic dimension of gender-based violence**, both as a **distinct form of violence** involving exploitation, control, and the undermining of women’s autonomy—thereby reinforcing dependence on the abusive partner and substantially hindering the ability to leave abusive relationships—and as a **consequence** that significantly burdens the lives of women who experience it, while also affecting their children, family environment, communities, and society as a whole.

At the same time, the economic impacts of violence against women extend beyond the individual level and affect society as a whole, placing strain on healthcare, welfare, and justice systems, the labor market, and overall economic and social cohesion. Highlighting this economic dimension constitutes a crucial step toward the formulation of evidence-based and effective public policies.

The decision to highlight these two aspects of the economic dimension of gender-based violence forms part of the broader effort of the GSEHR to comprehensively capture the phenomenon, shed light on aspects that often remain invisible, and contribute in a documented manner to the formulation of public policies for its prevention and effective response. This approach demonstrates that the economy is not merely a “collateral consequence” of abuse, but **a central mechanism of control, subjugation, and reproduction of violence**, with serious implications at both individual and societal levels. Of particular importance is its **recognition by the Istanbul Convention (2011)** as a form of violence against women, thereby placing it within the framework of human rights.

B1. Economic Violence in the context of domestic violence against women

1. Concept and characteristics of Economic Violence

Economic violence is defined as any act or omission that causes financial harm to the victim, such as restricting or fully controlling access to financial resources, preventing participation in the labor market or education, as well as non-compliance with financial obligations, such as the payment of alimony/child support. It often manifests through practices of strict financial control, exploitation, or the undermining of women’s economic independence.

The Istanbul Convention was the first international legal instrument to explicitly recognize economic violence as a form of violence against women, placing it within the framework of human rights violations and gender discrimination.

2. Social and historical context

Economic violence remained invisible for decades, as women's economic dependence was socially accepted. Historically, the non-recognition of unpaid domestic and care work as productive activity, as well as institutional restrictions on the economic autonomy of married women, contributed to the consolidation of unequal economic roles.

Although in recent decades women have participated more actively in the labor market, stereotypes and gender inequalities continue to fuel practices of economic control and deprivation within abusive relationships.

3. Economic Violence as a mechanism of control and dependence

Economic violence functions as a key tool for the exertion of power by the abusive partner. By restricting women's access to financial resources and opportunities, it reinforces social isolation, psychological distress, and the inability to escape violence. It often coexists with other forms of abuse, such as psychological, physical, or sexual violence, reinforcing the vicious cycle of dependence and subjugation.

4. Forms of Economic Violence

According to international literature, economic violence is categorized into three main types:

- a) **Economic control:** Includes enforced accountability for every expense, removal of the ability to manage personal income, and complete dependence on the abusive partner's financial "approval."
- b) **Economic exploitation:** Refers to practices such as pressure to take out loans or act as guarantors, misuse of banking or tax information, transfer of property/assets, and refusal to contribute to household expenses.
- c) **Economic sabotage:** Includes obstruction or sabotage of the woman's professional activity, destruction of personal belongings, and non-payment of alimony/child support after the end of the relationship.

In some cases, economic violence takes extreme forms, such as providing money in exchange for sexual acts, which constitutes a combination of economic and sexual abuse.

5. Vulnerable groups and the need for economic empowerment

Economic violence affects all social groups; however, it has disproportionate

consequences for women belonging to vulnerable groups, such as migrants, refugees, Roma women, and women with disabilities. Economic empowerment and access to employment, banking services, and support mechanisms are critical factors for leaving abusive relationships.

6. Legal and policy challenges

Despite its severity, economic violence has not yet been explicitly recognized as a distinct form of domestic violence within the national legal framework. The need for formal institutional recognition, awareness-raising campaigns, and strengthening of victim protection mechanisms is considered urgent.

B2. Economic Consequences of Gender-Based Violence

1. The economic dimension of violence against women

Violence against women has deep and long-term economic consequences, affecting not only the victims themselves but also society as a whole. Social isolation, limited access to employment and education, as well as severe impacts on women's physical and mental health, translate into significant direct and indirect costs.

2. Estimation of economic cost

According to European studies, the annual cost of gender-based violence amounts to hundreds of billions of euros across the European Union. Similarly, in Greece, the cost of violence against women is estimated at several billion euros annually, with intimate partner violence constituting the most significant source of burden.

The quantification of this cost highlights the disproportionate burden borne by women, as well as the need to integrate the prevention and response to gender-based violence into core economic and social policy priorities.

According to the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE):

- The annual cost of gender-based violence in the EU amounts to **€366 billion**.
- The cost of violence against women in Greece reaches approximately **€7 billion annually**.
- Intimate partner violence accounts for the largest share of this cost.

These figures demonstrate the **disproportionate burden placed on women**.

3. Categories of cost

The total cost of gender-based violence includes:

1. Loss of economic productivity
2. Healthcare expenditures (short- and long-term)
3. Criminal and civil justice costs
4. Social welfare
5. Personal costs borne by victims
6. Specialized support services
7. Physical and emotional impacts (quality of life, DALYs, YLLs)

The largest share of the cost (55.6%) is borne by the women themselves, reflecting **the loss of quality of life**, particularly due to long-term physical and psychological consequences.

Conclusions

Economic violence and the economic consequences of gender-based violence clearly demonstrate that the phenomenon is not merely an issue of individual abuse, but a complex social and economic problem. Addressing it constitutes a moral, legal, and economic necessity, intrinsically linked to sustainable development, social cohesion, and substantive gender equality.

The economic dimension of violence against women highlights that gender-based violence is not limited to physical or psychological abuse, but also extends to the control, deprivation, and undermining of women's economic autonomy. Economic violence functions as a mechanism of dependence and entrapment, restricting access to resources, employment, and financial decision-making, while often coexisting with other forms of abuse. The consequences are particularly severe for women belonging to vulnerable social groups, as economic dependence further hinders their ability to leave abusive relationships.

At the same time, gender-based violence has significant economic impacts at both individual and collective levels. Relevant estimates at European and national levels show that the economic footprint of violence against women amounts to billions of euros annually. Highlighting and quantifying this economic cost does not aim to assign a monetary value to human suffering, but rather to understand the scale of the phenomenon and to strengthen evidence-based public policies. Preventing and addressing gender-based violence is therefore not only a moral and legal obligation, but also a necessary condition for social cohesion and sustainable development.

CHAPTER C: NAPGE 2021–2025

Prevention and combating of gender-based and domestic violence within the framework of the National Action Plan for Gender Equality (NAPGE) 2021–2025

Chapter C outlines the progress achieved during the period 2021–2025 in the field of prevention and combating of gender-based and domestic violence, within the framework of the National Action Plan for Gender Equality (NAPGE). The assessment was based on a combination of institutional analysis, the use of administrative data, and alignment with the country's international and European commitments (CEDAW, Beijing Platform for Action, Istanbul Convention, EU Gender Equality Strategy 2020–2025).

The period was characterized by substantial institutional strengthening, the development of innovative policy tools, the expansion of social and welfare interventions, and the reinforcement of intersectoral cooperation. At the same time, challenges relating to the consistency of implementation, the need for stable resources, and the establishment of impact evaluation mechanisms, were identified.

Chapter C of the National Action Plan for Gender Equality (NAPGE) 2021–2025 addresses the full range of policies, institutional interventions, and operational actions implemented during the programming period, aiming at the prevention and combating of gender-based and domestic violence, as well as the strengthening of protection and empowerment of women facing multiple forms of discrimination.

Gender-based violence is approached not as an isolated criminal incident, but as a complex social and structural phenomenon linked to gender inequalities, stereotypes, and power relations. Under this perspective, a holistic approach is adopted, combining:

- institutional safeguarding and legislative interventions,
- development of specialized protection tools,
- strengthening of support and shelter structures,
- welfare and employment policies for empowerment,
- intersectoral cooperation and international accountability.

The Chapter reflects both the evaluation of the implementation of Priority Axis 1 of the NAPGE (Prevention and Combating of Violence against Women) and the operational specification of policies related to victim support, management of high-risk cases, economic and social reintegration, as well as monitoring of the country's compliance with its international obligations.

Particular emphasis is placed on:

1. Strengthening the legislative framework and institutional alignment with the Istanbul Convention and the recommendations of international monitoring mechanisms.
2. The development and implementation of innovative tools, such as the “Panic Button” emergency digital application, marking a transition toward more modern and technology-supported forms of protection. From January the **1st 2025 to December the 31st 2025**, out of the 44 Counseling Centers of the network, **1,318 women** were informed about the application’s operation and **359** of them installed it on their mobile phones.
3. Strengthening the services of the Network of Structures of the General Secretariat for Equality and Human Rights, including Counseling Centers, Shelters, and the SOS Helpline 15900.
4. The economic empowerment of women through cooperation with the Public Employment Service (DYPA), employment programs, and welfare benefits, recognizing that economic dependence is a critical factor in the perpetuation of violence.
5. Ensuring immediate and safe accommodation through partnerships with private sector entities, addressing operational gaps in emergency situations.
6. The provision of interpretation services and the development of policies and actions for women facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination (migrant women, refugees, women with disabilities, Roma women, etc.).

At the same time, the role of the General Secretariat as the national coordinating body for the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence is examined, highlighting the importance of inter-ministerial cooperation, the collection of administrative data, and the systematic evaluation of policies.

Furthermore, the Chapter extends to horizontal prevention actions, such as support to Higher Education Institutions in addressing sexual harassment, integrating the gender equality dimension into critical institutional settings.

Overall, Chapter C documents a period of strengthening and maturation of national policy against gender-based violence, with a clear shift from fragmented case management to a coherent, multi-level, and intersectoral strategic intervention. At the same time, it acknowledges the remaining challenges,

particularly regarding consistency of implementation, ensuring adequate resources, and establishing mechanisms for assessing social impact.

In this way, this section functions both as a review of the 2021–2025 period and as a foundation for the design of the next programming period, focusing on qualitative improvements in implementation, addressing emerging forms of violence, and ensuring the effective protection and empowerment of women.

CHAPTER D: ACTIONS OF BODIES (GSEHR, KETHI, RECs, MECs, GEADCs) FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THE PROMOTION OF EQUALITY

Chapter D – Actions of the Network of Structures and Bodies – records the work of the Counseling Centers, Shelters, and the SOS Helpline 15900, as well as the initiatives of Regions, Municipalities, and Universities. The activities of the General Secretariat for Equality and Human Rights (GSEHR) and its supervised bodies, such as the Centre for Research on Equality Issues (KETHI), extend across the entire country through a dense Network of Structures. Counseling Centers and Shelters serve as a refuge for every woman, providing psychosocial support, legal counseling, and safe accommodation. These actions are tailored at the regional level, taking into account local specificities and strengthening cooperation with local authorities.

Prevention through education and awareness-raising constitutes a central pillar of the activities of the Regional and Municipal Equality Committees (RECs–MECs). From theatrical performances and conferences to artistic interventions, these actions aim to deconstruct gender stereotypes and encourage women to break their silence. Local government thus emerges as a key partner in fostering a culture of respect and equality in everyday life.

At the same time, for the second consecutive year, the University Gender Equality and Anti-Discrimination Committees (GEADCs) responded to the GSEHR’s call to include their actions in this Report, with increased participation. University Equality Committees play a crucial role in combating discrimination within the academic community. Through research programs, scholarships, and the establishment of codes of conduct on sexual harassment, higher education institutions are becoming spaces of safety and equality promotion. The link between scientific research and social action ensures that policies are based on evidence and respond to contemporary needs.

Overall, Chapter D presents a **coherent, multi-level framework of actions** and training implemented by municipalities and regions across the country. Through the activities of local and regional bodies and their synergies, it covers a wide range of professionals, intervenes in school and university education, connects theory–legislation–practical implementation, strengthens intersectoral cooperation, and incorporates emerging forms of violence (including the digital dimension). The central philosophy of Chapter D focuses on prevention through education, institutional strengthening and professional empowerment, and the cultivation of a culture of equality.

More specifically, beyond the actions of municipalities and regions, the Chapter captures the full range of training activities and programs implemented in 2025, aiming at the prevention and response to gender-based and domestic violence, the strengthening of frontline professionals, and the promotion of a culture of equality in education and public administration. These interventions were developed through partnerships with institutional bodies, including the National Centre for Public Administration and Local Government and the Centre for Research on Equality Issues, and targeted a wide audience: social workers, educators, public administration officials, diplomatic staff, university students, and school pupils.

During the year, targeted training sessions were conducted for professionals in social services and education, focusing on the identification, assessment, and management of domestic violence cases, as well as on inter-agency cooperation. Specialized actions were implemented for municipal social service staff, early childhood educators, primary school teachers, and university students, covering topics such as forms of domestic violence, the dynamics of abusive relationships, and contemporary research findings. Particular importance was given to specialized training for frontline social workers on assessing and managing risk in gender-based domestic violence, as well as to the presentation of the “Panic Button” digital application as an immediate protection tool for victims.

In the field of institutional awareness, a hybrid informational event was held at the Hellenic Diplomatic Academy on violence and harassment in the workplace, addressed to Ministry of Foreign Affairs personnel in Greece and abroad. In parallel, a training program was implemented for newly recruited staff of the Counseling Centers of the Centre for Research on Equality Issues, focusing on employment counseling from a gender perspective and deepening the use of counseling tools.

In the field of education, an intervention program in secondary education was developed and implemented under the title “Guide for the Prevention of Intimate Partner Violence among Adolescents – School-Based Intervention.” The program

aims to help students recognize forms of violence in adolescent relationships, understand the dynamics of abusive relationships, and strengthen their ability to distinguish between acceptable and unacceptable behaviors. Its implementation included presentations in general and evening high schools, with the participation of a significant number of students.

At the same time, cooperation continued with the General Hospital – Maternity “Elena Venizelou” and the relevant Directorates of Secondary Education to deliver presentations on sexual education, sexually transmitted infections, and health education. During the 2024–2025 school year, dozens of sessions were conducted in schools, attended by more than 1,500 students in total.

The Centre for Research on Equality Issues continued the implementation of an educational program approved by the Ministry of Education for raising awareness among teachers and students on gender-based violence, discrimination, and gender equality. The program aims to strengthen teachers’ capacity to manage such incidents and to cultivate attitudes of respect and equality within the school environment. In parallel, an asynchronous online training program titled “Violence and Harassment in the World of Work” is offered through a digital platform, available to public and private sector bodies as well as individuals.

The programs implemented by the National Centre for Public Administration and Local Government under the thematic field “Human Rights and Social Policy” constituted a key pillar of training. In particular, a 35-hour program on the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence was delivered, aiming at aligning administrative practices and strengthening victim protection. Additionally, a 28-hour program on gender-based violence in the internet and new technologies was implemented, focusing on issues such as cyber harassment, gender discrimination in the digital sphere, and best practices for prevention and response.

Overall, Chapter D outlines a coherent and multi-level training framework that combines theoretical knowledge, practical tools, and intersectoral cooperation. Through these actions, professionals handling violence cases were strengthened, a culture of equality was fostered within the education system, and institutional structures within public administration were reinforced, contributing substantially to the development of a more comprehensive mechanism for prevention and protection against gender-based and domestic violence.

CHAPTER E: STATISTICAL DATA OF THE NETWORK OF STRUCTURES AND THE OBSERVATORY

Chapter E – Statistical Data includes the quantitative and qualitative analysis of incidents of violence for the years 2024–2025, based on data collected by the Observatory of the General Secretariat for Equality and Human Rights (GSEHR) and the Network of Structures. The collection and analysis of reliable statistical data are essential for monitoring the phenomenon and evaluating policies. The compilation of these data reflects the extent and forms of violence in Greece for the years 2024 and 2025. These data confirm that violence against women remains a painful reality, with reports of sexual violence showing a significant increase.

Statistical data from the SOS Helpline 15900 and the Counseling Centers reveal that the husband or partner remains the most common perpetrator, confirming the domestic nature of most incidents. The use of tools such as the “Panic Button” demonstrates an increasing need for immediate protection, while data on workplace violence highlight emerging challenges that must be addressed. This record is not merely a set of numbers, but the voices of women seeking help.

The analysis of the data also enables targeted interventions for vulnerable groups and highlights gaps in the support system. The consistent disparity between physical and psychological violence, as well as the completion rates of perpetrator treatment programs, provide valuable insights for the adjustment of interventions. Transparency and systematic documentation form the foundation upon which more effective prevention and protection mechanisms are built. At the same time, the collection, processing, and publication of data are part of the country’s national and European obligations for monitoring and evaluating policies to combat violence against women, in accordance with the Istanbul Convention and Directive 2024/1385 of the European Parliament and the Council.

A central role in data collection is played by the Hellenic Police, through its competent services for addressing domestic and gender-based violence. Police data allow for the mapping of trends in reported incidents, the characteristics of victims and perpetrators, the forms of violence (physical, psychological, sexual, economic), as well as the particularly critical dimension of femicides. At the same time, the documentation of online violence—such as cyberstalking and revenge pornography—highlights the shift of part of gender-based violence into the digital environment, reflecting contemporary social and technological developments.

The contribution of data from the justice system and correctional facilities is also significant, as they reflect the number of individuals convicted for domestic violence offenses and the nature of crimes leading to custodial sentences. This recording allows for the evaluation of the state's criminal justice response and the understanding of trends regarding the severity and recurrence of offenses.

At the same time, the section examines the operation of therapeutic and counseling programs for perpetrators, which are implemented, among others, by the National Centre for Social Solidarity, within the framework of criminal mediation. The recording of referrals, applications for participation, and program completion rates provides critical information on the effectiveness of interventions aimed at behavioral change and the prevention of reoffending.

Particular emphasis is also placed on the intersection of gender-based violence with other dimensions of vulnerability, such as migration status and international protection procedures. Data on residence permits granted for humanitarian reasons and asylum decisions based on violence or human trafficking highlight how gender-based violence intersects with issues of rights, international protection, and social integration.

Finally, the recording of incidents of violence and harassment in the workplace by the Labour Inspectorate integrates the discussion of gender-based violence into the field of employment, confirming that the phenomenon is not confined to the private or family sphere but extends to all areas of social and economic life.

Overall, the data for the years 2024 and 2025—on which this report places particular emphasis—demonstrate significant changes both in absolute numbers and in the structure of recorded incidents.

This section, therefore, does not merely present numerical data but aims to function as an evidence-based tool for the design of public policies, the strengthening of intersectoral cooperation, and the more effective protection of victims, with a focus on safeguarding fundamental rights and gender equality.

The 2024–2025 data indicate:

1. A sharp increase in reports of domestic violence.
2. A persistent gender dimension: women as primary victims, men as primary perpetrators.
3. A shift of some incidents toward broader family relationships.
4. A high proportion of femicides among all female homicides (69.6% in 2025).
5. A rapid increase in the recognition of vulnerability in asylum cases.

6. A significant rise in incidents of online and workplace gender-based violence.

The overall picture suggests both an increase in reporting/recording and a possible actual escalation of the phenomenon, particularly in the period after 2021.

What follows is a concise statistical presentation of the Observatory and of the operation and services provided by the Network of Structures for the prevention and response to violence against women.

E1. OBSERVATORY: INDICATORS ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

This chapter presents the available administrative data on domestic and gender-based violence in Greece. This year's report covers two reference years, 2024 and 2025, with greater emphasis on 2025 in order to highlight the most recent developments.

The Observatory for Gender Equality of the General Secretariat for Equality and Human Rights (GSEHR) publishes, for the seventh consecutive year, indicators monitoring the implementation of the Istanbul Convention¹, in line with the obligations arising from Article 11 (para. 8 of Article 4 of Law 4531/2018), while also adopting the indicators proposed by the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)² and the GREVIO questionnaire³.

Data from the Hellenic Police were obtained from the competent departments of the Social Policing Directorate (Department for Combating Domestic Violence & Department for Combating Gender-Based Violence) and concern domestic violence and cyber violence, which includes cyberstalking and revenge pornography, in accordance with Articles 333 and 346 of the Penal Code. The available information is presented disaggregated by the sex of the perpetrator and

¹ For data covering the years **2016–2018**, see the [23rd Observatory E-bulletin](#). For data relating to **2019**, see the [27th Observatory E-bulletin](#), as well as the [1st Annual Report on Violence Against Women](#) of the General Secretariat for Family Policy and Gender Equality (GSFPGGE). For data relating to **2020**, see the [2nd Annual Report on Violence Against Women](#) of the General Secretariat for Demographic and Family Policy and Gender Equality (GSDFPGE). For data relating to **2021**, see the [3rd Annual Report on Violence Against Women](#) of the GSDFPGE. For data relating to **2022**, see the [4th Annual Report on Violence Against Women](#) of the General Secretariat for Equality and Human Rights (GSEHR). For data relating to **2023**, see the [5th Annual Report on Violence Against Women](#) of the GSEHR.

² More detailed information on the indicators and data availability can be found [here](#).

³ The complete questionnaire used by the expert group (GREVIO) to assess the implementation of the Istanbul Convention can be found [here](#). The report submitted by Greece in March 2022 can be found [here](#), and the assessment report of the GREVIO Committee can be found [here](#).

the victim, the victim–perpetrator relationship, and modus operandi of the offense, while the possibility of combining multiple variables remains limited.

With regard to the justice system, no data are presented this year due to the ongoing development phase of the integrated information system of the Ministry of Justice, which is expected to enable more accurate and timely extraction of relevant data in the future. Regarding correctional facilities, data are presented only for 2024, as provided by the Department of Strategic Planning and Evaluation of Anti-Crime Policy of the General Secretariat for Anti-Crime Policy of the Ministry of Citizen Protection.

Data on perpetrator programs were obtained from the competent Directorates of the National Centre for Social Solidarity (EKKA), which implements specialized counseling and therapeutic programs for perpetrators of domestic violence who have been referred to the criminal mediation process (Chapter D of Law 3500/2006). For the first time, data from the Union of Women Associations of Heraklion & Heraklion Prefecture were also included.

The chapter also presents data on migrant and refugee women who have applied for and been granted residence permits or asylum on grounds related to gender-based violence, provided by the General Secretariat for Migration Policy and the Asylum Service of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum. Finally, it includes data from the Independent Department for Monitoring Violence and Harassment at Work of the Labour Inspectorate (SEPE) of the Ministry of Labour and Social Security.

1. POLICE

Table 1: Indicators related to violence against women (2012–2025, Hellenic Police)⁴

Indicators	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
1. Female victims	1.630	1.818	2.302	2.321	2.696	3.196	3.815	4.171	4.264	7.375	10.131	9.886	18.640	19.167
2. Reported offences	2.455	2.896	3.512	3.572	3.839	3.134	4.722	5.221	5.669	8.776	11.534	11.589	22.080	22.876
3. Male perpetrators	1.620	1.886	2.351	2.428	2.891	2.395	4.202	4.619	4.436	7.571	10.166	9.937	18.387	18.548
4. Victims of physical violence									3.609	6.166	7.430	7.213	14.217	11.884
5. Victims of psychological violence (threats)⁵									2.906	6.057	7.754	7.712	21.428	16.729
6. Victims of sexual violence (offence against sexual dignity)⁶									69	192	630	590	1.130	1.407
7. Victims of economic violence (violation of maintenance payment obligations)⁷									-	-	1.626	2.879	2.854	3.231
8. Women victims of rape	234	222	194	183	217	223	142	148	126	226	303	254	314	332
9. Victims of femicide	6	13	12	11	13	7	13	8	8	23	24	11	17	16

Annual number of women victims of domestic violence

The number of women reporting domestic violence to the police in 2024 was nearly twice as high as in 2023, as 18,640 female victims of domestic violence were recorded (an increase of 88.5% compared to 2023). The upward trend in the number of women turning to the police regarding incidents of domestic violence continued in 2025 as well (an increase of nearly 3% compared to 2024).

Annual number of femicides

According to police data, in 2024 and 2025 the number of femicides increased again compared to the levels recorded before the sharp increase observed in 2021 and 2022 (see Chart 1). At the same time, due to the decrease in the total number

⁴ As the available administrative data in Greece do not meet the comparability criteria established by the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), the left-hand column of the table indicates the corresponding indicators to which the available data relate. Furthermore, as the database of the Hellenic Police is currently under revision, the available data for Indicators 4–7 are presented in aggregate form for the individual offences; therefore, they do not include variables relating to the sex of the victim or the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator.

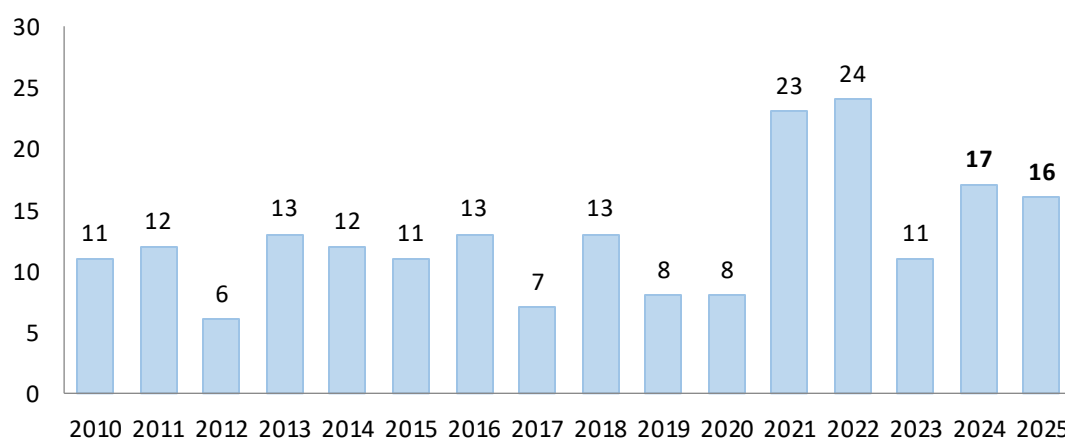
⁵ This indicator records offences under Articles 7 and 8 of Law 3500/2006.

⁶ This indicator records offences under Article 9 of Law 3500/2006, as well as offences under Article 336 of the Penal Code in conjunction with Law 3500/2006. However, offences under Article 336 have not been included in the 2025 data, as the relevant data were not available at the time of drafting this Report.

⁷ This indicator records offences under Article 358 of the Penal Code in conjunction with Law 3500/2006.

of female homicide victims — regardless of their relationship to the perpetrator — the proportion of femicides has increased.

Chart 1: *Number of femicides in the context of domestic violence per year (2010–2025, Hellenic Police)*



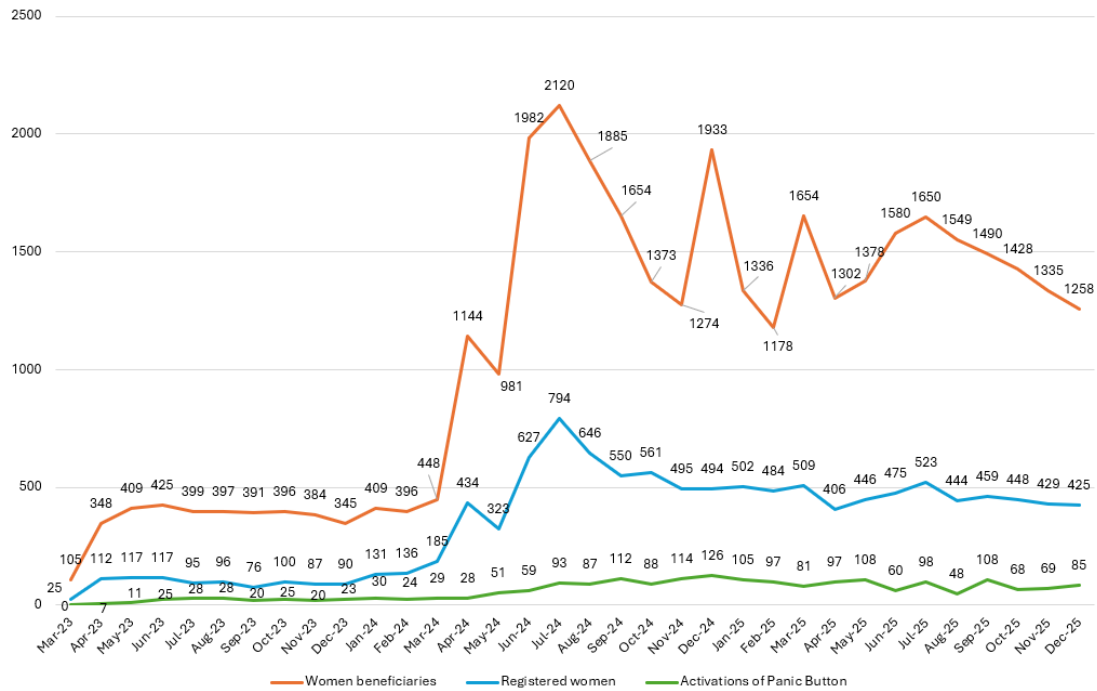
In 2025, sixteen (16) femicides were recorded in Greece, perpetrated by a male family member of the victim. Femicides committed in the context of domestic violence accounted for 69.6% of all homicides with female victims, the highest proportion recorded during the last 16 years for which relevant data are available.

Use of the Panic Button application

Since March 2023, the Panic Button application was launched on a pilot basis in the areas falling under the jurisdiction of the General Police Directorates of the Attica Region and the Regional Unit of Thessaloniki.

The following chart presents the monthly number of female beneficiaries and registered users of the application. In the data regarding the monthly activations of the application — namely the cases in which the police were called to intervene — the gender of the victim is not recorded; therefore, up to May 2024 the number of activations refers to women. For the remaining months shown in the chart, the gender of the victim requesting police intervention is unknown. During the months of its nationwide operation, male beneficiaries consistently accounted for one quarter (¼) of the total number of beneficiaries and only 10% of the total number of victims who installed the application.

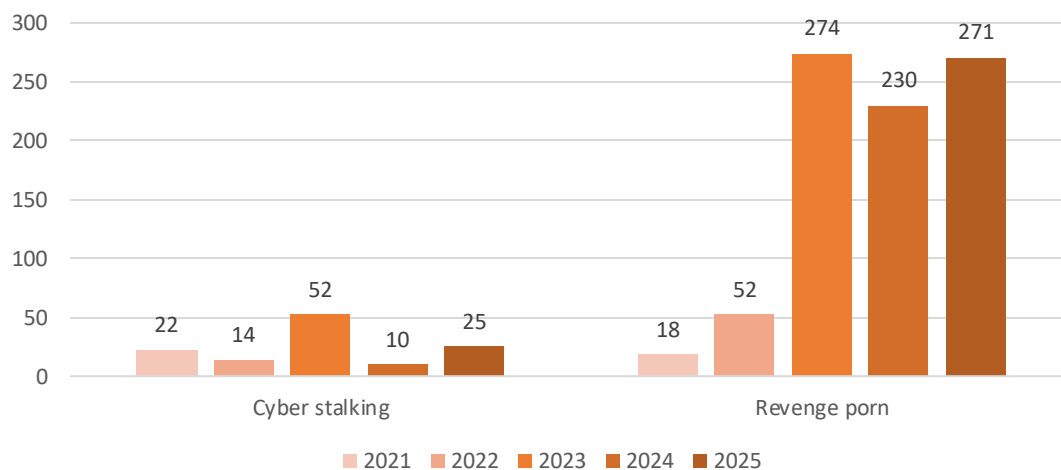
Chart 2: Number of women beneficiaries and registered users of the Panic Button application, and number of activations per month (2023–2025, Hellenic Police)



Online violence

Cyber stalking⁸ is criminalised under Article 333 of the Penal Code, while revenge pornography⁹ falls under Article 346 of the Penal Code.

Chart 3: Number of victims of cyber stalking and revenge pornography per year (Hellenic Police, 2021–2025)



⁸ For the extraction of these data, the **Gender-Based Violence Unit** of the **Social Policing Division of the Hellenic Police** makes use of reports submitted by the **General Police Directorates/General Regional Police Directorates (GPD/GRPD)**.

⁹ For the extraction of these data, the **Gender-Based Violence Unit** of the **Social Policing Division of the Hellenic Police** utilizes the **Hellenic Police Information System (pol)**.

With regard to **cyber stalking**, 10 cases were reported in 2024 and 25 cases in 2025. In the overwhelming majority of cases, the victims were women (7 women in 2024 and 22 in 2025) and the perpetrators were men (9 men in 2024 and 22 in 2025). In 6 out of the 10 cases recorded in 2024, the victim-perpetrator relationship was intimate or domestic, in 2 cases the individuals knew each other in a social context, and in 2 cases the relationship was not recorded. Of the 25 cyber stalking cases reported to the Hellenic Police in 2025, the victim-perpetrator relationship was recorded in 10 cases, all of which fell within the context of intimate partner or domestic violence. In 2024, 3 cases involved minor victims and perpetrators, while in 2025 both victims and perpetrators were minors in 10 out of the total 25 cases of cyber stalking.

In 2024 and 2025, the total number of revenge pornography cases handled by the police remained at high levels, similar to those recorded in 2023, with 205 cases in 2024 and 299 in 2025. The number of victims amounted to 230 and 314 respectively, while the number of perpetrators reached 205 and 325. The gendered dimension of the phenomenon, with the overwhelming majority of victims being women and perpetrators being men, is recorded in both reporting years covered by the present Report.

Chart 4: Sex distribution of revenge porn victims (2024, Hellenic Police)

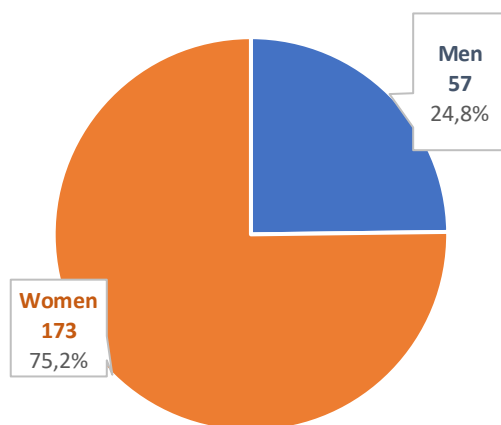
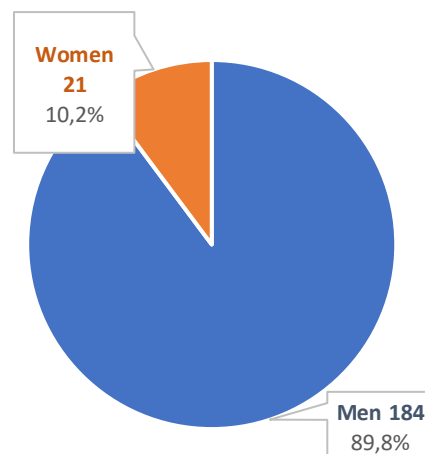


Chart 5: Sex distribution of perpetrators of revenge porn (2024, Hellenic Police)



2. JUSTICE

The sole indicator (see Table 2) regarding justice-related data presented in this report focuses on the annual number of newly admitted inmates serving sentences in a correctional facility for committing domestic violence against a member of their family. The data concern all correctional facilities in the country for the years 2016 and 2025, with a focus on 2025.

Table 2: *Number of men and women (aged 18 years and over) serving custodial sentences in correctional facilities for committing a criminal offense against a member of their family, by year (2016–2025, Articles 6, 7, 8, and 9 of Law 3500/2006)*

	Men	Women
2016	104	4
2017	104	6
2018	81	3
2019	79	2
2020	90	0
2021	126	0
2022	111	2
2023	124	13
2024	476	11
2025	948	8

In 2025, perpetrators of domestic violence who were sentenced to custodial penalties and are serving sentences in correctional facilities amounted to 948 men and 8 women. The victim–perpetrator relationship in cases involving male perpetrators is unknown in 51.1% of cases. In 61% of the remaining 461 cases for which information is available, the victim–perpetrator relationship was intimate-partner related (in 31.2% of cases the perpetrator was the victim’s spouse, in 20.2% a partner or former partner, and in 9.3% a former spouse). In 10.2% of cases, the perpetrator was the victim’s parent, while in 9.8% the perpetrator was the victim’s son. The sex of the victim is known in 82.6% of cases, with adult women accounting the vast majority (85.2%) of the victims of men sentenced to imprisonment, minor girls accounting for 6.2%, minor boys for 4.7%, and adult men for 3.9%.

3. PERPETRATOR PROGRAMMES

The provision of free mental health services to perpetrators of domestic violence in Greece is stipulated in the law on combating domestic violence (Article 11 of Law 3500/2006, as in force). These specific legal provisions are inspired by the principles of restorative justice and aim to prevent the recurrence of violence.

The principal public body responsible for implementing these therapeutic programmes for perpetrators of domestic violence (point b, paragraph 2, Article 11 of Law 3500/2006) is the National Centre for Social Solidarity, which provides these services in Athens and Thessaloniki. This year, for the first time, the analysed data also include information collected from the Union of Women Associations of Heraklion, which implements therapeutic programmes in Heraklion, Crete. Table 3 presents the completion rates by victim-perpetrator relationship and year.

Table 3: Number of perpetrators who applied for enrolment in and completed the therapeutic programmes of the National Centre for Social Solidarity (EKKA) and the Union of Women Associations of Heraklion, by victim-perpetrator relationship and year (2022–2025)

Victim-Perpetrator Relationship	Intimate Partners	Parents-Children	Relatives	Intimate Partners	Parents-Children	Relatives	Intimate Partners	Parents-Children	Relatives	Intimate Partners	Parents-Children	Relatives
Application for enrolment	218	38	27	91	24	8	332	70	33	384	43	37
Completion	102	8	3	76	19	7	97	14	8	102	13	7
Completion rate	46,8%	21%	11,1%	83,5%	79,2%	87,5	29,2%	20%	24,2 %	26,6%	30,2%	18,9 %

In the therapeutic programmes implemented by the National Centre for Social Solidarity (EKKA) and the Union of Women Associations of Heraklion, most applications concern perpetrators who are current or former partners or spouses of the victims. In 2025, applications concerning intimate-partner relationships increased to 384, while the number of participants who completed the programme remained stable at around 102, resulting in a lower completion rate relative to applications (26.6%). It is worth noting that the number of perpetrators referred to EKKA by the Public Prosecutors' Offices of First Instance throughout the country is significantly higher than the number of those who ultimately apply for enrolment. Indicatively, in 2025, 874 perpetrators were referred to EKKA.

Therefore, the steady increase in referrals and applications, without a corresponding increase in the staff implementing these programmes, may explain the decline in the completion rate recorded.

4. MIGRATION

The data collected by the Gender Equality Observatory regarding victims of domestic violence who have been granted residence permits in Greece are now compiled in accordance with the revised legislative framework, as provided for in Article 134(1) of Law 5038/2023. Under this provision, a residence permit for humanitarian reasons (residence permit type “A.1” – ad hoc) may be granted, by decision of the Minister for Migration and Asylum, to third-country nationals in the context of protecting persons who are in a situation of particular vulnerability.

Table 4: *Number of residence permits granted to third-country nationals for humanitarian reasons as victims of domestic violence, by sex and by year (2018–2025, General Secretariat for Migration Policy)*

	Residence permit issuance		Residence permit renewal	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
2018	2	9	0	1
2019	1	4	2	1
2020	0	0	1	1
2021	0	0	2	15
2022	0	0	8	27
2023	0	0	3	16
2024	6	12	0	2
2025	6	15	1	3

Over the past two years, the number of residence permits granted has increased, with the number issued to women being twice that of men. This increase is also linked to the accumulation of relevant applications, as it is worth noting that as of the end of 2025, 75 residence permit applications were still pending decision (39 for women and 36 for men), as well as the renewal of 6 permits (5 for women and 1 for a man).

5. ASYLUM

The vulnerability categories recorded in the data of the Asylum Service continue to exclude gender-based or domestic violence as a distinct category, although it

constitutes grounds for the granting of international protection. In an effort to approach this phenomenon, vulnerability related to torture, rape, or other forms of psychological, physical, or sexual violence or exploitation has been selected, as well as vulnerability related to human trafficking.

However, the Asylum Service notes that the statistical data presented below may be incomplete, either due to improper registration in the database or because applicants disclosed potential vulnerabilities at a later stage (i.e., during the interview and not at the initial registration). At the same time, the vulnerabilities listed below may not constitute the primary reason for the granting of refugee status or subsidiary protection.

Table 5: *Number of grants of refugee status and subsidiary protection to third-country nationals due to vulnerability related to torture, rape, or other forms of psychological, physical, or sexual violence or exploitation, by sex, year, and status granted (asylum and subsidiary protection) (2018–2025, Asylum Service)*

	Refugee status granted		Subsidiary protection granted	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
2018	106	46	17	8
2019	82	36	3	1
2020	67	41	2	10
2021	19	44	2	4
2022	29	50	2	2
2023	63	293	0	4
2024	558	797	9	9
2025	905	1030	122	22

Table 6: Percentage of women granted asylum on grounds of vulnerability related to torture, rape, or other forms of psychological, physical, or sexual violence or exploitation, in relation to the total number of women who have applied for asylum in Greece (2018–2025, Asylum Service)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Refugee status granted	46	36	41	44	50	293	797	1030
Subsidiary protection granted	8	1	10	4	2	4	9	22
Total number of female asylum applicants	21.727	25.513	12.725	6.707	8.301	16.805	19.309	13.629
Percentage of women who received asylum or subsidiary protection out of the total number of female asylum applicants	0,2%	0,1%	0,4%	0,7%	0,6%	1,8%	4,2%	7,7%

Taking into account the limitations inherent in the data of the Asylum Service, the table above shows a markedly upward trend in the recognition of vulnerable status among female asylum applicants in recent years, particularly after 2022. The percentage rises to 1.8% in 2023, more than doubles to 4.2% in 2024, and reaches 7.7% in 2025. This increase does not appear to be linked solely to changes in the total number of female asylum applicants—which shows fluctuations—but is mainly associated with a significant rise in the granting of refugee status on grounds of vulnerability.

Finally, Table 7 illustrates a substantial increase in the recognition of international protection on grounds of vulnerability related to human trafficking after 2022, with a clear gender dimension.

Table 7: Number of asylum grants to third-country nationals due to vulnerability related to human trafficking, by sex, year, and status granted (asylum and subsidiary protection) (2018–2025, Asylum Service)

	Refugee status granted		Subsidiary protection granted	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
2018	0	0	0	1
2019	0	2	0	0
2020	0	1	0	0
2021	0	1	0	0
2022	1	0	0	0
2023	5	14	0	0
2024	11	59	1	0
2025	20	113	2	0

During the period 2018–2021, the relevant grants appear extremely limited and sporadic, with single-digit figures and almost exclusively female beneficiaries. From 2023 onwards, a sharp increase is recorded, peaking in 2025, when the granting of refugee status reaches 133 cases in total, the overwhelming majority of which concern women.

6.VIOLENCE AND HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE

The Independent Department for monitoring violence and harassment in the workplace of the Labour Inspectorate annually collects and publishes statistical data on its activities during the year¹⁰, following the ratification of the International Labour Organization’s Convention No. 190 on the elimination of violence and harassment in the world of work (Article 16 (1) of Law 4808/2021).

According to the 4th Annual Report, covering the period from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024, the volume of complaints handled by the Labour Relations Inspection Services across the country increased by more than 38% compared to the previous year, with 318 cases filed involving 354 complainants.

Chart 6: *Individuals filing complaints regarding workplace violence and harassment, by sex (2024)*

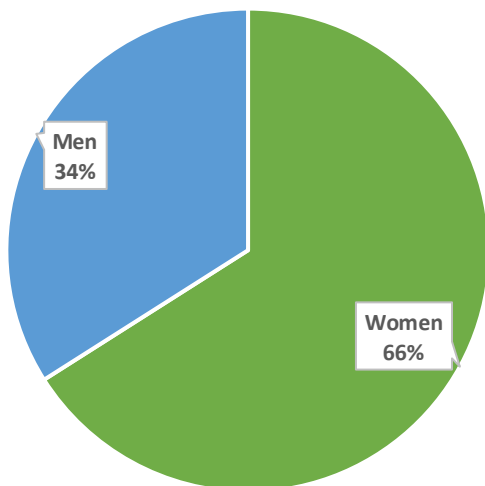
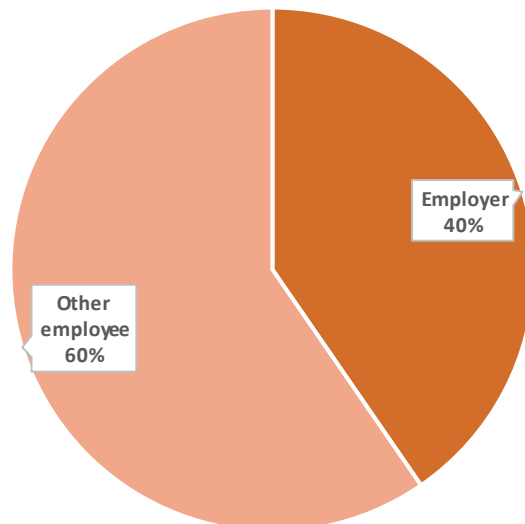


Chart 7: *Position of reported individuals in workplace violence and harassment cases (2024)*



The majority of victims were women (66% women – 233 individuals – compared to 120 men, while, for the first time, a transgender person filed a complaint of sexual harassment). The majority of perpetrators were men (70%, representing 280 of the 401 individuals reported).

¹⁰ <https://www.sepe.gov.gr/organismos/ekthesis-pepragmenon/ekthesis-pepragmenon-parakolouthisis-tis-vias-kai-tis-parenochlisis-stin-ergasia/>

Incidents involving violence, including verbal, physical, and psychological harassment, accounted for 88% of all reported cases (280 cases), of which 46 involved physical violence. Cases of sexual harassment more than doubled in 2024 compared to 2023, increasing from 12 to 38 and accounting for 12% of all reported cases. In all 38 of these cases, the perpetrators were men, while 89% of the victims were women.

Regarding the position of the reported individual, in 40% of cases the reported person was the employer or the legal representative of the company (162 individuals), while in 60% of cases the reported person was the victim's supervisor, manager, or colleague (239 individuals) (see Chart 7). The sectors of activity of the companies involved, in descending order, were: wholesale and retail trade, hotels, food service and catering, healthcare, the food manufacturing industry, security services, outdoor cleaning services, and others.

Finally, regarding the outcome of the complaints, the Report records the following findings¹¹: in the majority of cases, a recommendation was made to pursue legal action through the courts (39%, 124 cases); 99 cases were resolved through out-of-court settlement (31.1%); administrative sanctions were imposed in 31 cases (9.8%), with the total amount of fines reaching €57,600; and 21 cases were discontinued (6.6%).

E2. STATISTICAL DATA OF THE NETWORK OF STRUCTURES

The data presented in this **6th Annual Report** are based on the analysis of statistical information extracted from the database maintained by the General Secretariat for Equality and Human Rights (GSEHR). The database includes records relating to the 24-hour SOS Helpline 15900, the Counselling Centres, and the Shelters of the GSEHR Network of Structures.

In November 2025, the Counselling Centre for the Support of Women Victims of Violence of the Municipality of Xanthi, “Zoi Dalaklidou,” was officially inaugurated. The Centre forms part of the nationwide network of structures operated by the General Secretariat for Equality and Human Rights (GSEHR) for the prevention and combating of all forms of violence against women. The Centre bears the name of Zoi Dalaklidou in tribute to her memory, serving as a lasting legacy and a continuous message of awareness against violence towards women.

¹¹ At the time the 4th Annual Report of the Independent Department was published (March 2025), 43 cases—representing 13.5% of the total—were still pending completion.

Counselling Centres¹²

In 2025, a total of **4,420** women survivors of violence and multiple discrimination received counselling support through the 45 Counselling Centres (CCs) of the GSEHR Network across Greece. In addition, 335 individuals received information and guidance services. The overwhelming majority of service users (89%) sought assistance for issues related to gender-based violence, while 11% sought support in relation to cases of multiple discrimination.

Table 1: BENEFICIARIES and THIRD PARTIES at COUNCELLING CENTERS (1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025)

	In Person	Third Parties	Total
Intake Forms	4.420	335	4.755

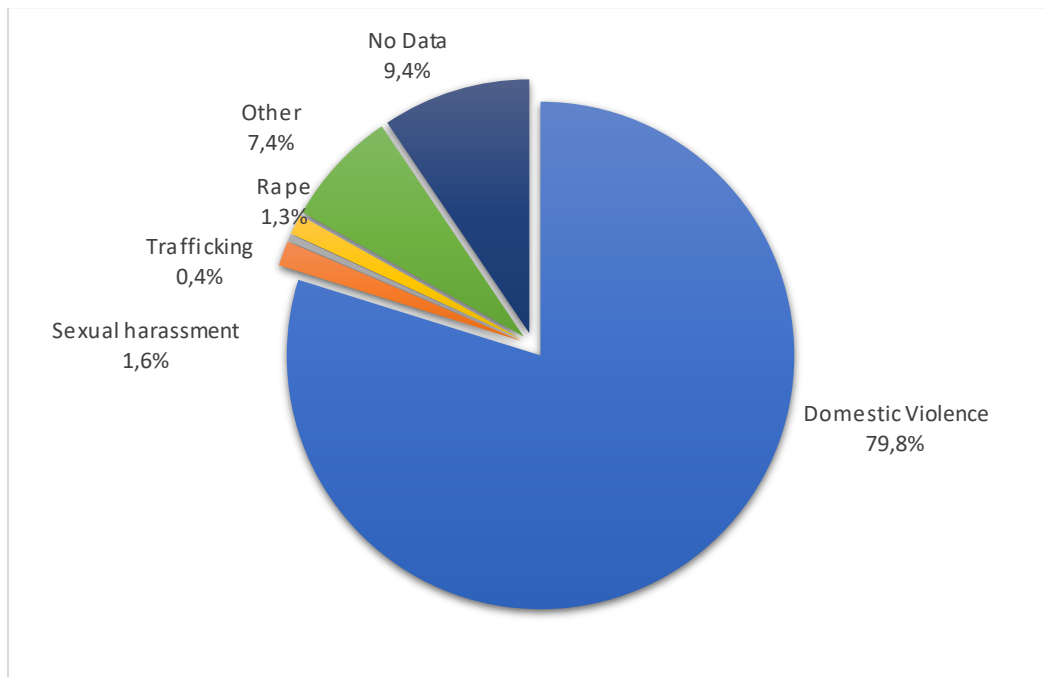
Table 2: BENEFICIARIES and THIRD PARTIES at COUNCELLING CENTERS (1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025)

	Gender-Based Violence	Multiple Discrimination	Total
Intake Forms	4.242	513	4.755

The primary sources through which women beneficiaries learned about the specialized services offered by the Network’s Counselling Centres were **other organizations or institutions (41%)** and the **SOS 15900 Helpline (18%)**. A further 13% were informed by friends or acquaintances, 12% through the internet, and 7% through another service user. The geographical distribution of new service users across Greece showed that the highest proportion (6.2%) sought support from the **Thessaloniki Counselling Centre**. This was followed by the **Counselling Centres in Attica** (Athens, Piraeus, Keratsini-Drapetsona, and Chalandri), as well as the **Centres in Heraklion (3.4%), Patras (3.2%), and Larissa (3.1%)**.

Chart 1: Type of Violence Reported by Women Service Users (1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025)

¹² The Annual Report does not analyse the characteristics of the “Third Parties” who mainly received information from the Counselling Centres of the Network of Structures of the General Secretariat for Equality and Human Rights (GSEHR).



The most prevalent form of gender-based violence¹³ reported was **domestic violence (79.8%)**. Significantly fewer women reported **sexual harassment (1.6%)** or **rape (1.3%)**, while **21 cases of trafficking (0.4%)** were recorded. Additionally, 7.4% of women service users reported another form of violence, while 9% did not provide this information (see Chart 1).

Regarding the **marital status of beneficiary women**, **42.1% reported being married**, **16.5% single**, and **4.8% single mothers**. Furthermore, **14.8% reported being divorced**, **10% separated**, **2.9% cohabiting with a partner**, and **3.4% widowed**, while 5.1% did not provide relevant information. In addition, 70% of beneficiary women stated that they had one or more children, 7.8% reported having no children, while 22.3% did not provide this information.

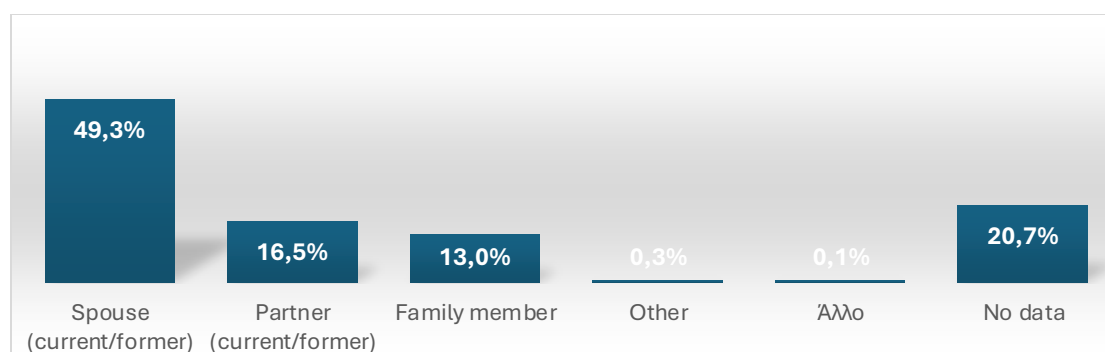
With regard to **age groups**, the largest proportion of beneficiary women (**31.4%**) were aged **36–45 years**. This was followed by women aged **46–55 years (22.2%)** and **26–35 years (17.8%)**. Young women and girls aged up to 25 years accounted for **7.5% of beneficiaries**, **10.2% were women aged over 60 years**, and **6% were aged 56–60 years**. Finally, 4.9% did not provide information regarding their age.

The **relationship between survivor and perpetrator**, as reported by beneficiaries, was predominantly **spousal (49.3%)**, followed by intimate partner

¹³ The analysis concerns cases of gender-based violence and not multiple discrimination.

relationships (16.5%), while 13.0% of cases involved abuse perpetrated by another family member (see Chart 2).

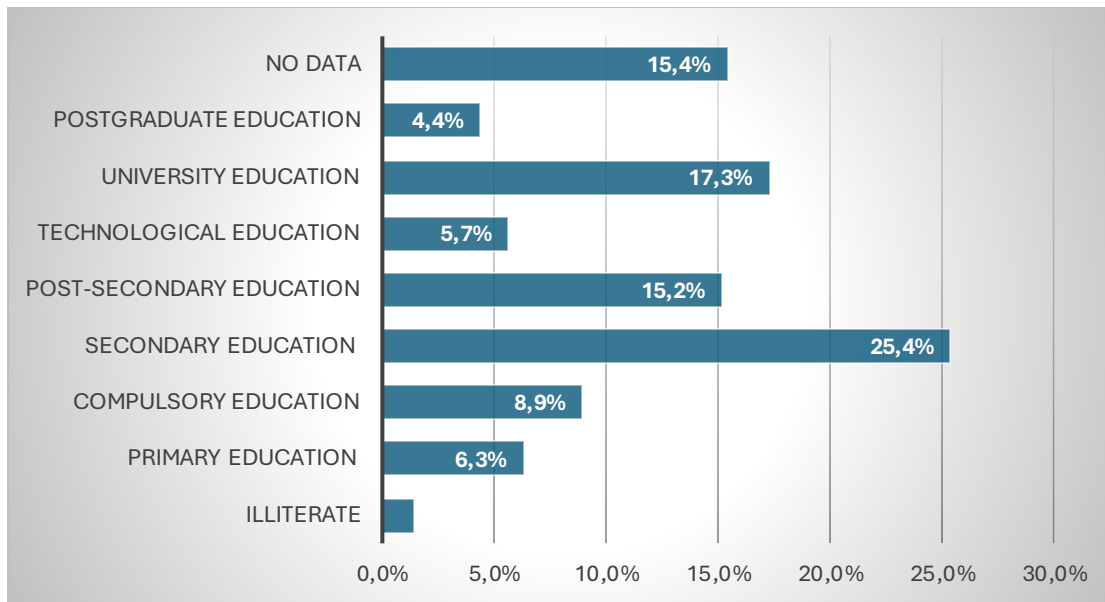
Chart 2: Relationship Between Survivor and Perpetrator (1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025)



In 2025, **86.5% of beneficiary women reported that they were Greek nationals**, while **11.9%** were refugee and migrant women living in Greece. The remaining **1.6%** did not provide relevant information.

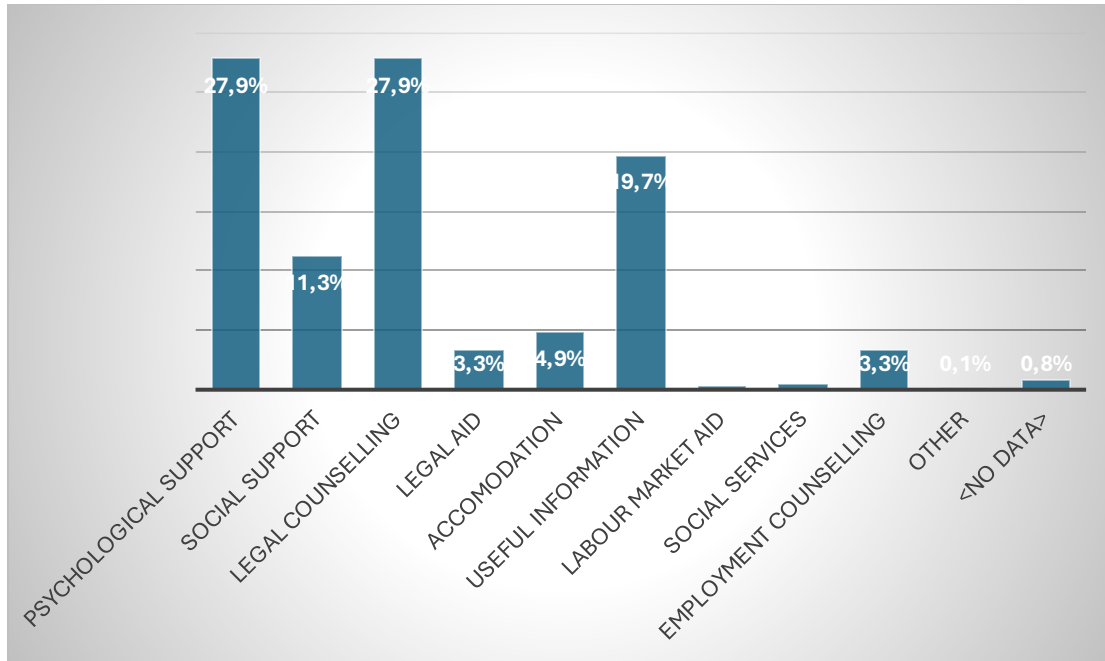
With regard to **educational attainment** during the reporting period, **the largest proportion of beneficiary women (25.4%) reported having completed secondary education**. This was followed by women with a **university degree (17.3%)** and **post-secondary education (15.2%)**. Smaller proportions were recorded for women with **compulsory education (8.9%)**, **technological education (5.7%)**, and **primary school completion (6.3%)**. In addition, **4.4%** reported holding a postgraduate degree, while **1.4%** had received no formal basic education. Finally, **15.4%** did not provide information regarding their educational level (see Chart 3).

Chart 3: Educational Level of Beneficiary Women (1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025)



Regarding discrimination experienced by beneficiary women, nearly **four in ten (38.5%) reported discrimination related to unemployment**. Considerably smaller proportions reported discrimination due to **single parenthood (3.1%)**, **migrant status (2.2%)**, **refugee status (1.5%)**, or **disability (1.5%)**, while **0.5%** reported discrimination as **Roma women**. A further **4.1%** reported another form of discrimination. Nearly half (**48.6%**) reported no experience of discrimination. During the reporting period, women beneficiaries attending the Counselling Centres of the GSEHR Network across Greece sought **legal support/advice (27.9%)** and **psychological support/counselling (27.9%)** in equal proportions. These were followed by requests for **information and guidance (19.7%)** and **social support (11.3%)**. Requests for accommodation in the GSEHR Network Shelters accounted for **4.9%** of all requests, while **3.3%** concerned **employment counselling** and an equal proportion (**3.3%**) concerned the provision of **legal aid** (see Chart 4).

Chart 4: Requests Submitted by Beneficiary Women (1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025)



Shelters

During the reporting period, a total of **531 individuals were accommodated in the Network's Shelters: 293 women and 238 children**. Based on admission dates within the reporting period, **246 new admissions** were recorded. During the same period, **161 women and 167 children** left the Shelters and moved to safe destinations of their choice. With regard to accommodation requests, **gender-based violence against women** was the primary reason for admission, accounting for **78.5% (193)** of requests, compared with **21.5% (53)** related to cases of **multiple discrimination**.

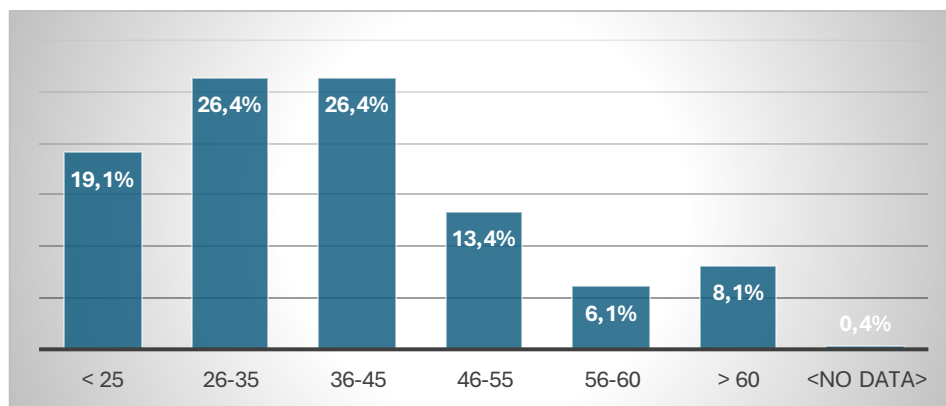
The Shelters recording the highest proportion of new admissions during the reporting period were those in **Chania (15.6%)** and **Patras (10.9%)**. These were followed by the **EKKA Shelter in Thessaloniki (8.5%)**, as well as the Shelters in **Volos and Heraklion, Crete (8.1% each)**. A proportion of **7.6%** was recorded both for the **Municipality of Athens Shelter** and the **EKKA Shelter in Attica**, while the **Komotini Shelter** accounted for **7.1%** of all new admissions. The distribution of admissions indicates a higher concentration of cases in major urban centres and regional units with broader population and geographical coverage. At the same time, the significant contribution of shelters located in regional areas highlights the crucial role of the Network in providing accommodation and responding promptly to local protection and support needs for beneficiary women and their children.

Among women accommodated in the Shelters during the reporting period, **70.7% reported having children**, while **14.6%** stated that they did not. Of the total **238**

children accommodated during the reporting period, **52.6%** were girls under the age of 18 and **47.4%** were boys under the age of 12.

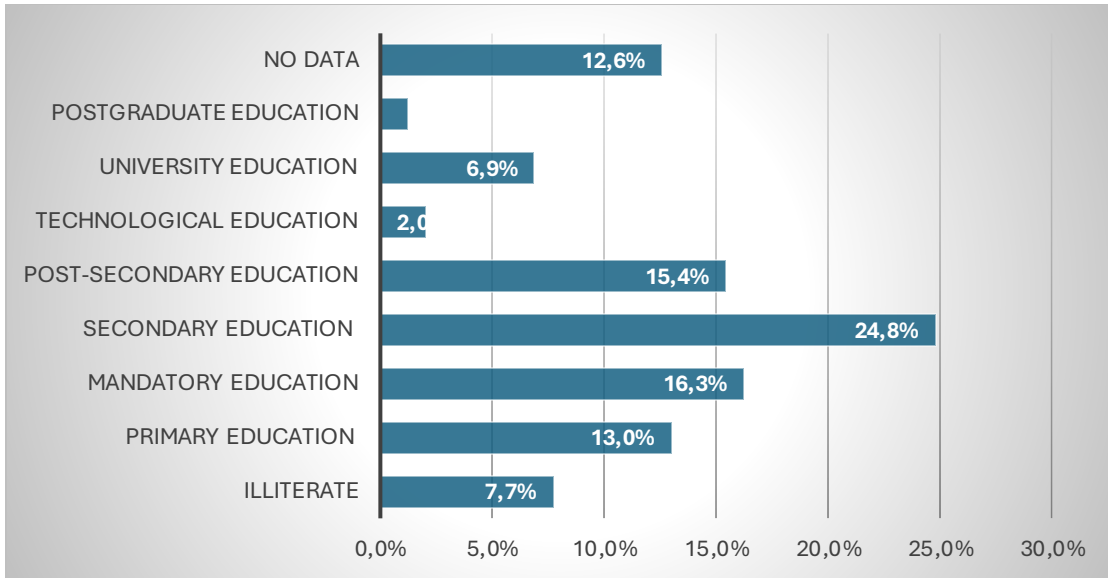
With regard to the age groups of the women accommodated during the reporting period, almost **one in two (52.8%)** were between **26 and 45 years old**. More specifically, **26.4%** were aged **26–35 years** and an equal proportion (**26.4%**) were aged **36–45 years**. **19.1%** of accommodated women—almost **one in five**—were young women aged **up to 25 years**, **13.4%** belonged to the **46–55 years** age group, **8.1%** were women aged **over 60 years**, and **6.1%** were women aged **56–60 years**.

Chart 1: Age Groups of Women Accommodated in Shelters (01/01/2025–31/12/2025)



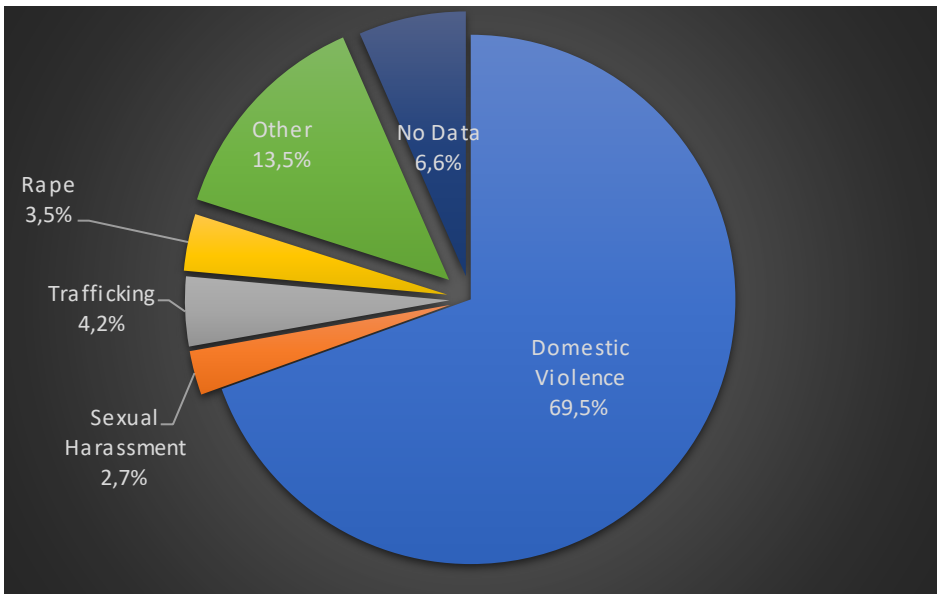
Regarding educational attainment, the largest proportion of women accommodated had completed **secondary education (24.8%)**, while **16.3%** had completed **compulsory education**. A further **15.4%** had **post-secondary education**, and **13%** had completed **primary education**. **University graduates accounted for 6.9%**, while **2%** had completed **technological education**. A total of **7.7%** reported being **illiterate**, whereas **12.6%** did not provide this information (see Chart 2).

Chart 2: Educational Level of Women Accommodated in Shelters (01/01/2025–31/12/2025)



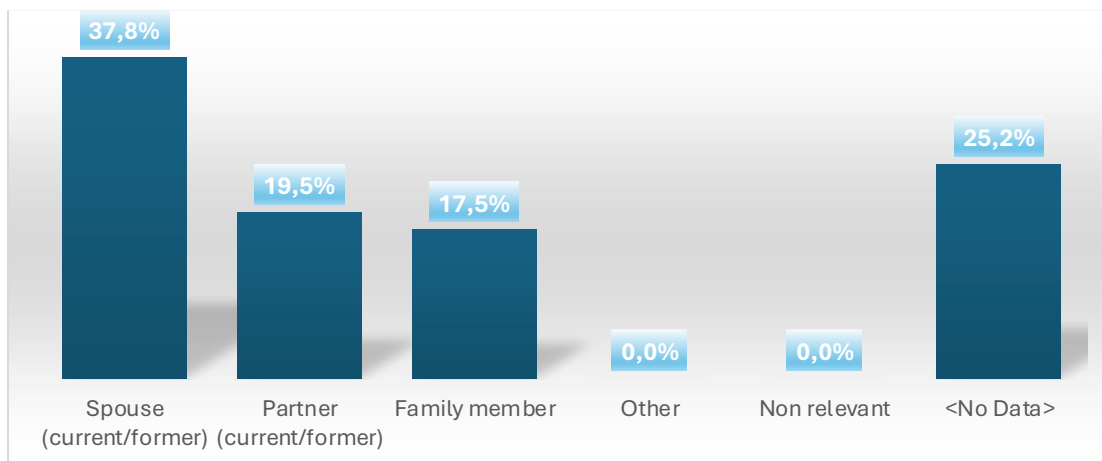
The most prevalent form of violence reported in Shelters during 2025 was **domestic violence (69.5%)**. This was followed, at considerably lower rates, by cases involving victims of trafficking (4.2%), rape (3.5%), and sexual harassment.

Chart 3: Types of Violence Reported by Women Accommodated in Shelters



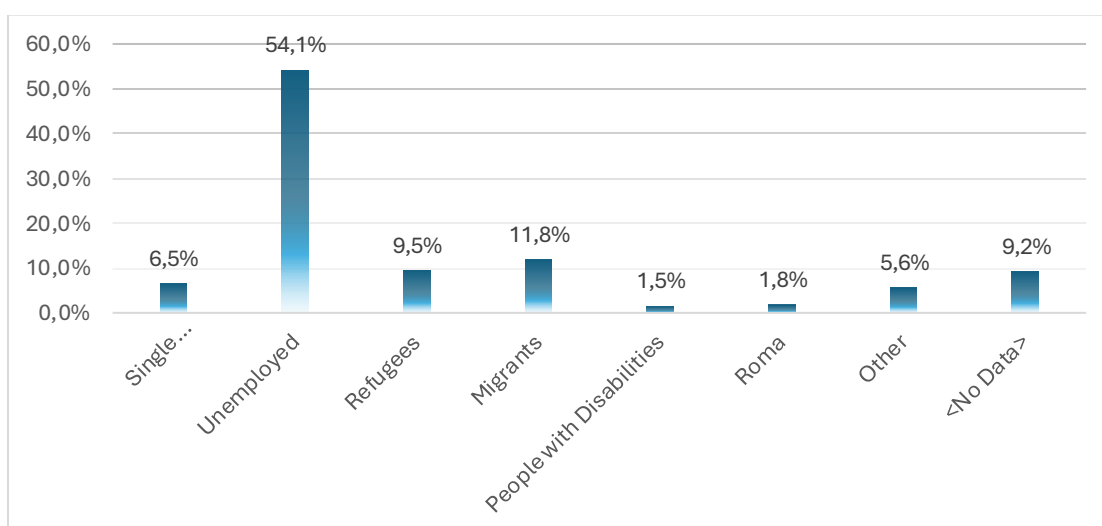
Regarding **the relationship between survivors and perpetrators**, nearly **four in ten women accommodated identified their current or former husband as the perpetrator (37.8%)**, while almost one in five (19.5%) identified their current or former intimate partner. A further 17.5% stated that the perpetrator was another family member (see Chart 4).

Chart 4: Survivor-Perpetrator Relationship (01/01/2025–31/12/2025)



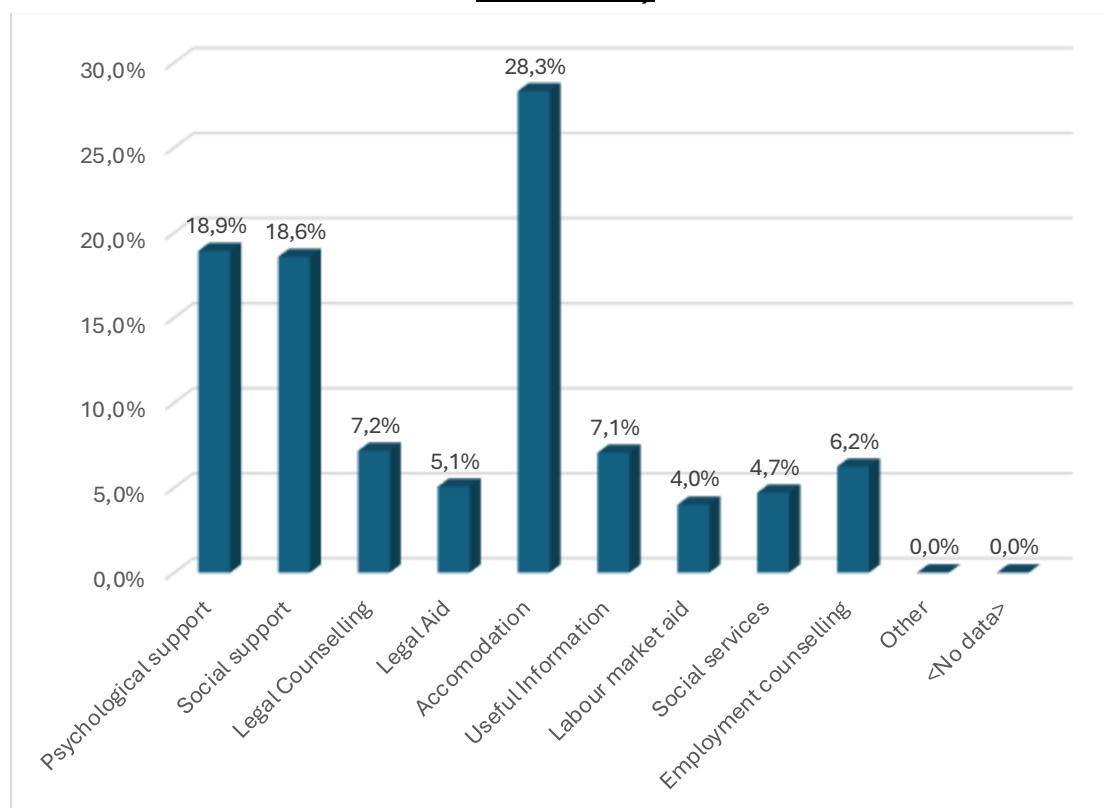
Concerning the **multiple forms of discrimination reported by women accommodated** during the reporting period, **slightly more than half (54.1%)** identified their employment status—specifically **unemployment**—as a source of discrimination. **A total of 11.8% cited their migrant status, while 9.5% referred to their refugee status.** Additionally, 6.5% reported discrimination due to single parenthood, 1.8% because they were Roma, and 1.5% due to disability. Finally, 9.2% reported experiencing another form of discrimination (see Chart 5).

Chart 5: Multiple Forms of Discrimination Against Women Accommodated in Shelters (01/01/2025–31/12/2025)



In 2025, the **requests** made by women accommodated in the Shelters concerned **the continuation of accommodation** for themselves and their children (**28.3%**), **psychological support** (**18.9%**), **social support** (**18.6%**), and **legal counseling/support** (**7.2%**). Requests for **useful information** accounted for **7.1%**, **employment counseling** for **6.2%**, **job placement assistance** for **4.0%**, **legal aid** for **5.0%**, and **access to social benefits** for **4.7%** (Chart 6).

Chart 6: Requests from Women Accommodated in Shelters (01/01/2025–31/12/2025)

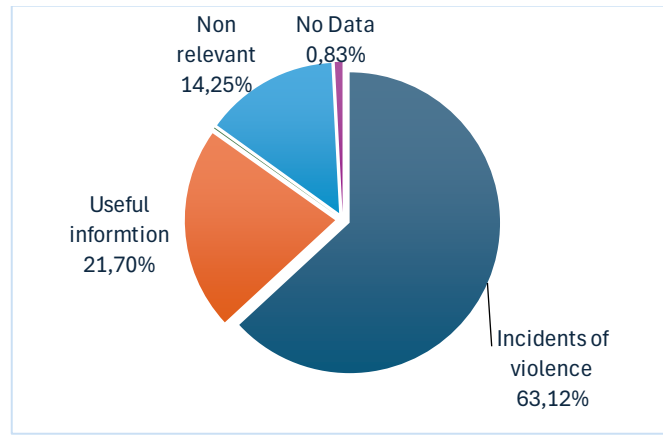


SOS Helpline 15900

In 2025, a total of **6.773**¹⁴ calls were recorded, of which **4.275** concerned «**incidents of violence**» and **1.470** related to the provision of useful information (see Chart 1). Of all calls concerning incidents of violence, **63.1%** were made by **women beneficiaries themselves**, while **21.7%** were made by **third parties**.

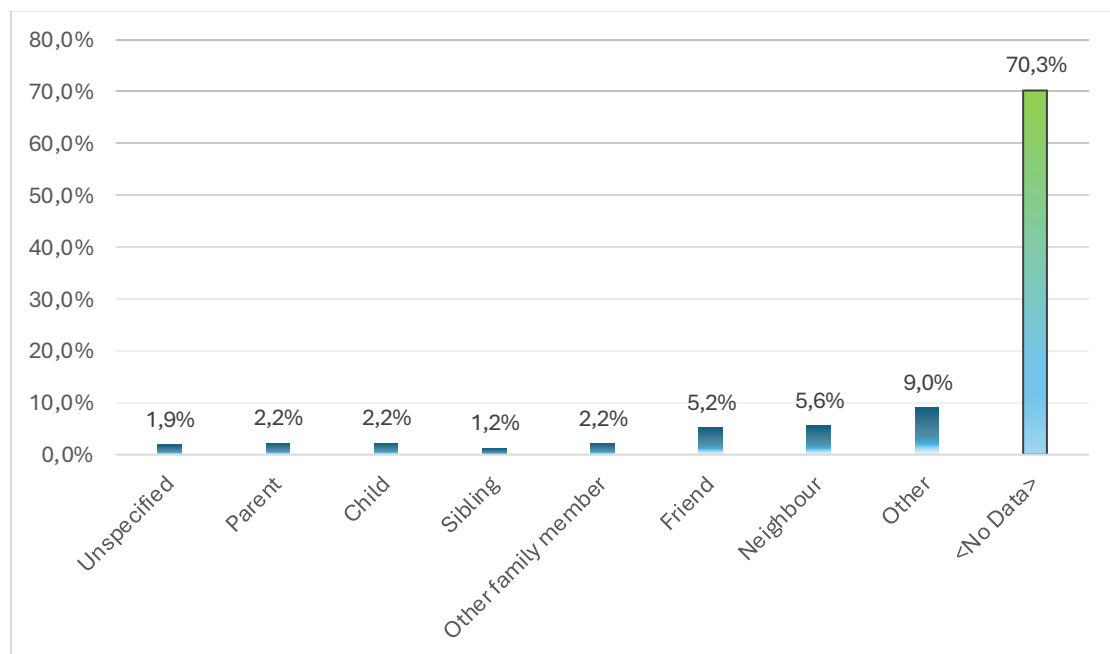
¹⁴ It is noted that the present statistical data do not reflect the total number of calls to the 15900 Helpline, as, due to the cyberattack that affected the EETAA database in March 2025, the data for February were destroyed. The technical issue was addressed and resolved through the creation of a new database; however, it was not possible to recover the aforementioned data.

Chart 1: Type of Call (01/01/2025–31/12/2025)



Third parties who contacted the 24-hour SOS Helpline 15900 during the reporting period included neighbors (5.6%), friends (5.2%), parents (2.2%), children (2.2%), and other relatives (2.2%). Calls from the survivor’s brother or sister accounted for 1.2%. A further 9.0% of calls were made by “other” individuals, while no relevant information was provided for 70.3% of calls made by third parties (see Chart 2).

Chart 2: Third Parties Calling Helpline 15900 (01/01/2025–31/12/2025)



Of all calls recorded during the reporting period, nearly three out of four callers **(71.3%) contacted the Helpline for the first time, 6.3% called for the second**

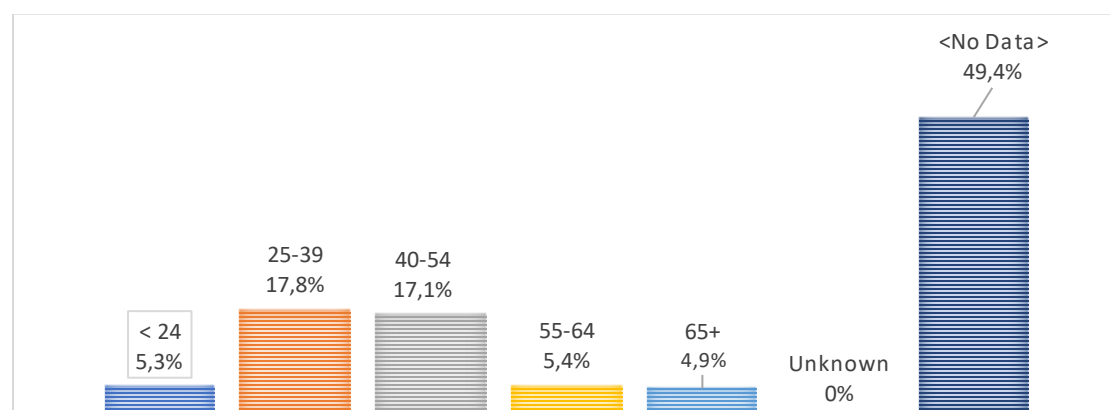
time, and 1.7% called for the third or fourth time, while 20.7% did not provide information regarding previous calls. Women beneficiaries who contacted the Helpline for the first time reported that they had mainly learned about the service through the internet (9.1%). Other reported sources of information included another organization or agency (2.9%), television (2.6%), and acquaintances (2.1%). However, **a particularly high percentage (82.9%) did not disclose how they had learned about the Helpline during the call.**

The regions in Greece from which the highest numbers of calls by women beneficiaries were recorded in 2025 were **Attica (13.3%) and Central Macedonia (3%)**, while lower percentages were recorded across the remaining regions of the country. In addition, **a significant proportion of women beneficiaries (76.1%) chose not to disclose the area from which they were calling.**

During 2025, **45.5%** of the women beneficiaries who contacted the 24-hour SOS Helpline 15900 reported that they were **Greek nationals**. In addition, 11.3% stated that they were refugee or migrant women residing in Greece.

Regarding the **age groups of women beneficiaries** who contacted Helpline 15900, **17.8% of calls were made by women aged 25–39 years**. A slightly lower percentage of calls (**17.1%**) came from women aged **40–54 years**. Considerably lower percentages were recorded among women aged **55–64 years (5.4%)**, **women up to 24 years old (5.3%)**, and **women aged 65 years and over (4.9%)**. It should be noted that almost half of the women beneficiaries (49.4%) did not disclose information regarding their age during the call (see Chart 3).

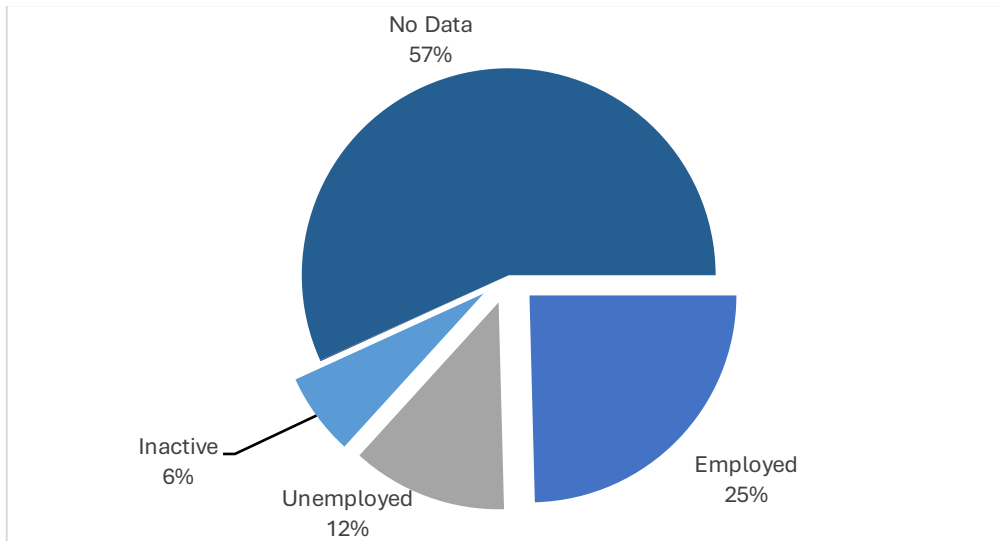
Chart 3: Age Groups of Women Beneficiaries (01/01/2025–31/12/2025)



Regarding the employment status of women beneficiaries, 24.6% reported being employed, 12.2% stated that they were unemployed, and 6.4% indicated that they were outside the labour market. It should be noted that the majority of

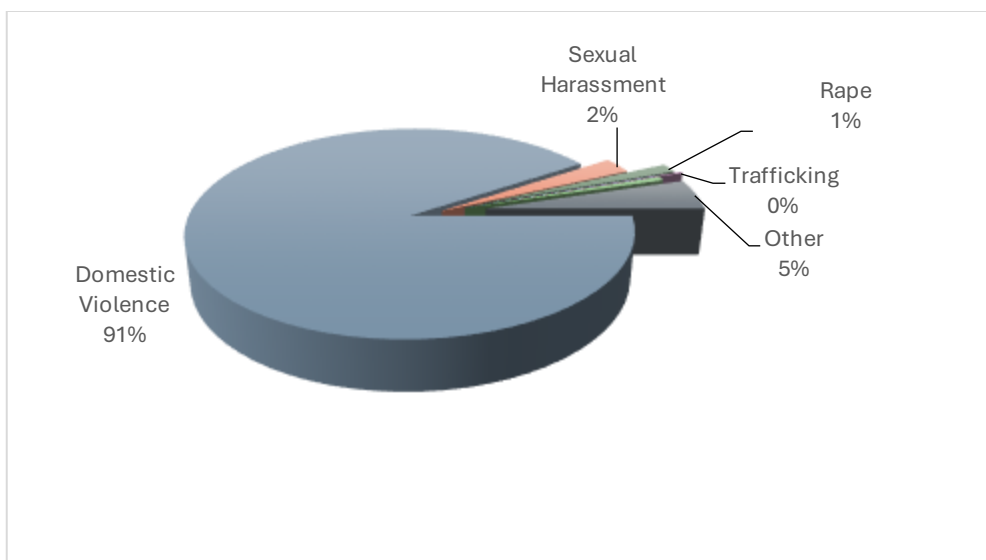
beneficiaries (56.7%) did not disclose information regarding their employment status during the call (Chart 4).

Chart 4: Employment Status of Women Beneficiaries (01/01/2025–31/12/2025)



Domestic violence continued to be the most frequently reported form of gender-based violence, accounting for **90.6%** of all calls to the 24-hour SOS Helpline 15900 in 2025. Smaller proportions of calls concerned sexual harassment (2.5%) and incidents of rape (1.4%) (see Chart 5).

Chart 5: Type of Violence Reported (01/01/2025–31/12/2025)



Of all women who reported domestic violence during the reporting period, 59.1% stated that they did not have children, while 40.9% reported that they did.

With regard to **educational attainment, the overwhelming majority of beneficiaries who contacted the 24-hour Helpline 15900 (93.5%)** did not provide this information. A total of 4.4% reported having completed university education, 0.8% stated that they had completed secondary education, and 0.7% reported holding a postgraduate or doctoral degree.

Of the **4.275** women beneficiaries, **70.2% reported experiencing psychological violence, 50.3% verbal violence,** and 42.1% physical violence. Lower percentages were recorded for economic violence (7.1%) and sexual violence (4.2%). In addition, a small proportion (4.5%) reported cohabiting with the perpetrator (see Table 1)¹⁵.

Table 1: Forms of Gender-Based Violence within the Context of Domestic Violence (01/01/2025–31/12/2025)

Relationship to Perpetrator	Total	Physical	Psychological	Sexual	Verbal	Economic	Unspecified	Cohabitation
Husband	1975	907	1477	29	1132	178	38	118
Former Husband	526	82	188	5	115	15	9	2
Partner	915	367	521	21	352	24	10	33

¹⁵ It is noted that more than one form of gender-based violence (psychological, physical, sexual, etc.) often coexists. Similarly, there may be more than one perpetrator involved.

Former Partner	584	92	272	19	133	19	3	1
Father	425	62	96	6	61	6	0	4
Mother	406	38	56	0	41	3	0	4
Sibling	410	58	65	3	81	9	0	4
Child	504	114	150	1	137	38	2	12
Other Family Member	358	13	28	9	19	3	0	1
Known Third Person	523	48	130	76	65	6	3	0
Unknown Person	334	9	13	8	4	1	0	0
Unspecified	330	9	7	3	9	0	13	0
No Data	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	7290	1799	3003	180	2149	302	78	179

Finally, regarding the survivor–perpetrator relationship during the reporting period, women beneficiaries who contacted Helpline 15900 most frequently identified **their current or former husband as the perpetrator (34.3%)**, followed by their current or former partner (20.6%). Lower percentages identified a known third person (7.2%), a child (6.9%), a father (5.8%), and, at equal rates (5.6%), a sibling or mother as the perpetrator (see Chart 6).

Chart 6: Survivor–Perpetrator Relationship as recorded in calls from Women Beneficiaries (01/01/2025–31/12/2025)

SURVIVOR-PERPETRATOR RELATIONSHIP

