

INTERSECT

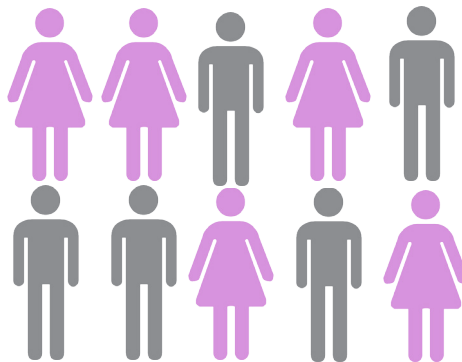
QUICK FACTS

WOMEN IN ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES

The *Magna Carta of Women*, Republic Act (RA) 9710, is a comprehensive law that seeks to eliminate discrimination against women by recognizing, protecting, fulfilling, and promoting their rights. Enacted in 2009, the law is a domestic translation of the Philippines' commitment to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) which it ratified in 1981.

In this issue of Intersect Quick Facts, we provide information on women who are victims and survivors of physical and sexual abuse and trafficking—who are among women in especially difficult circumstances (WEDC).

WOMEN COMPRISE HALF OF THE PHILIPPINE POPULATION.



In 2010, there were 92.1 million Filipinos, of whom **49.6% WERE FEMALE.**

The median age of the female population in 2010 was **23.9 YEARS** slightly higher than that of males (22.9 years).

Globally, the Philippines ranked 7th out of 145 countries in the Global Gender Gap Index (GGI). The GGI assesses “how well [a country] divides resources and opportunities between its male and female populations, regardless of the overall levels of these resources.”

SOURCES: 2010 CENSUS OF THE POPULATION / STATE OF FILIPINO WOMEN: 2015 HIGHLIGHTS

WHO ARE THE WOMEN IN ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES?

“ ‘WOMEN IN ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES’ (WEDC)

shall refer to victims and survivors of sexual and physical abuse, illegal recruitment, prostitution, trafficking, armed conflict, women in detention, victims and survivors of rape and incest, and such other related circumstances which have incapacitated them functionally.”

Section 30
Magna Carta of Women (RA 9710)

IN 2015,

253,091 WEDC

who were victims of violence physical and sexual abuse, exploitation, illegal recruitment, human trafficking, and armed conflict were given assistance by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

SOURCE: DSWD

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VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

“ VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (VAW) refers to any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion, or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.”

Section 4
Magna Carta of Women (RA 9710)

The 2013 National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) showed that among females ages 15-49 who reported having experienced violence since age 15...

19.6% EXPERIENCED PHYSICAL VIOLENCE **6.3%** EXPERIENCED SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Among females who reported having experienced violence during the 12 months preceding the same survey,

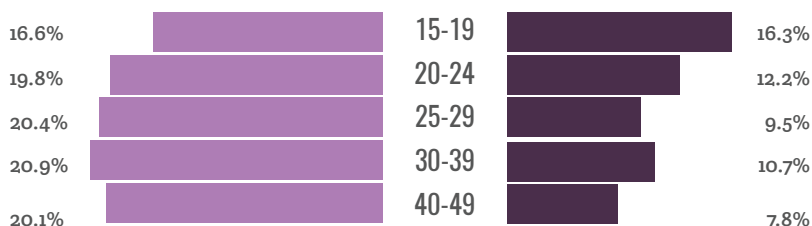
11.2% CONTINUE TO EXPERIENCE PHYSICAL VIOLENCE **2.7%** CONTINUE TO EXPERIENCE SEXUAL VIOLENCE

WHO ARE THE WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE?

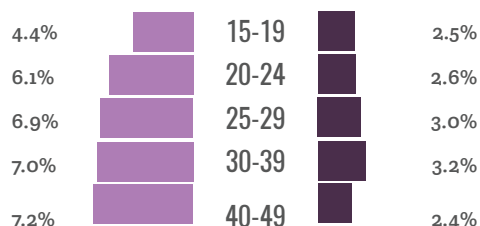


PHYSICAL VIOLENCE OCCURS MORE FREQUENTLY AMONG YOUNGER WOMEN WHILE SEXUAL VIOLENCE IS MORE EVENLY DISTRIBUTED ACROSS AGE GROUPS.

Females who **have experienced** and **continue to experience** **physical violence** by age group



Females who **have experienced** and **continue to experience** **sexual violence** by age group

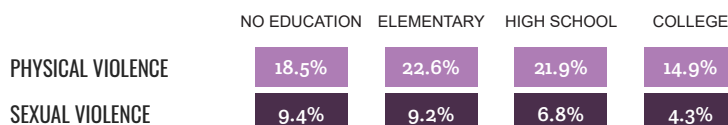


SOURCE: 2013 NDHS



A COLLEGE EDUCATION PROTECTS WOMEN FROM PHYSICAL AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE.

Females who have experienced physical violence and sexual violence by educational attainment

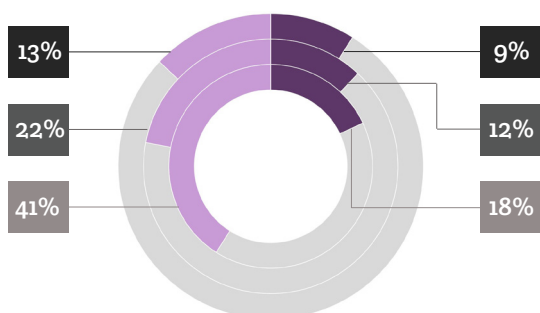


SOURCE: 2013 NDHS

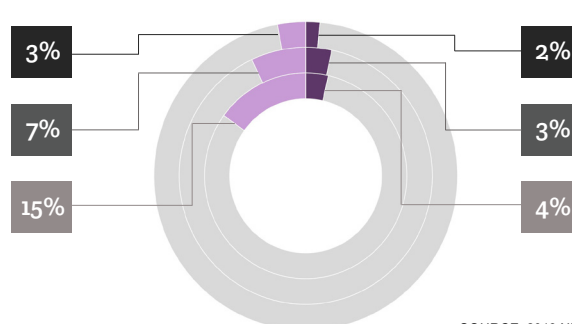


DIVORCED, SEPARATED, AND WIDOWED WOMEN ARE MOST LIKELY TO HAVE EXPERIENCED AND CONTINUE TO EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE.

Females who **have experienced** and **continue to experience** **physical violence**



Females who **have experienced** and **continue to experience** **sexual violence**

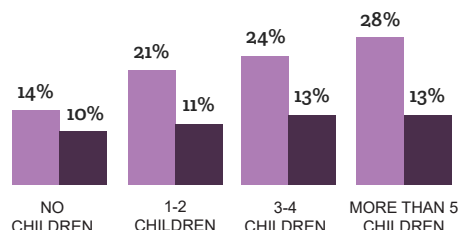


SOURCE: 2013 NDHS

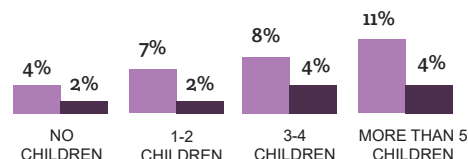


THE MORE CHILDREN A WOMAN HAS, THE GREATER THE LIKELIHOOD THAT SHE HAS EXPERIENCED AND CONTINUES TO EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE.

Percent of females who have experienced and continue to experience physical violence by number of living children



Percent of females who have experienced and continue to experience sexual violence by number of living children



SOURCE: 2013 NDHS

WHERE ARE THE WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE?



PLACE OF RESIDENCE SHOWS LITTLE DIFFERENCE IN THE PROPORTION OF WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE SINCE AGE 15, BUT FOR WOMEN WHO CONTINUE TO EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE, THERE ARE SOME DIFFERENCES.

FEMALES LIVING IN URBAN AREAS

20% experienced physical violence
10.4% continue to experience physical violence



6.1% experienced sexual violence
6.6% continue to experience sexual violence

There is a little difference between the proportion of women living in urban and rural areas who reported to have experienced violence since age 15. However, slightly more women who live in rural areas experienced physical violence during the 12 months preceding the 2013 NDHS, while more women living in urban areas experienced sexual violence in the same time frame.

FEMALES LIVING IN RURAL AREAS

19.2% experienced physical violence
12.2% continue to experience physical violence



6.6% experienced sexual violence
2.9% continue to experience sexual violence

SOURCE: 2013 NDHS

WHO ARE THEIR ABUSERS?



44%

of ever-married women* who have experienced physical violence reported their current husband or partner as their abuser



42%

of never-married women who have experienced physical violence reported their mother or step-mother as their abuser



55%

of ever-married women* who have experienced sexual violence reported their current husband or partner as their abuser



42%

of never-married women who have experienced sexual violence reported their current or former boyfriend as their abuser

*WOMEN WHO ARE MARRIED, IN LIVE-IN ARRANGEMENTS, WIDOWED, SEPARATED, AND DIVORCED.
SOURCE: 2013 NDHS

TRAFFICKING

“ Trafficking in persons refers to the recruitment, obtaining, hiring, providing, offering, transportation, transfer, maintaining, harboring, or receipt of persons with or without the victim's consent or knowledge, within or across national borders by means of threat, or use of force, or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or of position, taking advantage of the vulnerability of the person, or the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person for the purpose of exploitation which includes at a minimum, the exploitation or the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery, servitude or the removal or sale of organs.”

Section 3
The Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act (RA 9208)



SOURCE: 2015 TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS REPORT
PHILIPPINE COUNTRY NARRATIVE

HOW ARE VAW AND TRAFFICKING BEING ADDRESSED?

Below are some of the responses by the government, the Catholic Church, and civil society.

BY GOVERNMENT

INTER-AGENCY COUNCIL ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN (IACVAWC)

IACVAWC was created by the "Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004" (RA 9262) as the national mechanism for monitoring and reduction of gender-based violence. The Council's core functions include the promotion of the Anti-VAWC Act, capacity-building of stakeholders, and development of comprehensive programs for victim-survivors. It is composed of 12 agencies: DSWD, Philippine Commission on Women (PCW), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Philippine National Police (PNP), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), and Civil Service Commission (CSC), Commission on Human Rights (CHR), and Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC).

In 2006, the PCW provided assistance in organizing **Men Opposed VAW Everywhere (MOVE)**. With different chapters nationwide (e.g., MOVE Aklan and PNP Move), the organization is a group of men committed to be active advocates for ending violence against women and children.

INTER-AGENCY COUNCIL AGAINST TRAFFICKING (IACAT)

IACAT was created by the "Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003" (RA 9208). The Council's core functions include the formulation of a program to prevent and suppress trafficking in persons and monitoring the implementation of RA 9208, coordination of the programs and projects of its members agencies, and assistance in the filing of cases against individuals, agencies, institutions, or establishments that violate RA 9208. IACAT is headed by the DOJ Secretary, with the DSWD Secretary as Co-Chairperson. Other agencies in the council are DOLE, Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA), PCW, etc. The Council has three members whose constituencies are women, OFWs, and children.

To address the needs of the victims, DSWD is implementing the **Recovery Reintegration Program for Trafficked Persons (RRTP)**. As of November 2015, DSWD and its partner organizations had helped 1,870 victims through the RRTP.



VAW HOTLINES DSWD 931-8101 TO 07 PNP-WOMEN AND CHILDREN PROTECTION CENTER (WCPC) 410-3213 NBI-VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN DESK (VAWCD) 523-8231 TO 38 /525-6028

SOURCES: DSWD / PCW

BY THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF THE PHILIPPINES OFFICE ON WOMEN (CBCP-OW)

The **CBCP-OW** is the arm of the Catholic Church in dealing with women's issues. It works with different Church-based organizations, such as the Catholic Women's League (CWL) and Women and Gender Commission of Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines (WGC-AMRSP), to empower women through the lens of Catholic teaching. CBCP-OW conducts training and seminars on handling gender issues.

BAHAY PANGARAP WOMEN'S CENTER

Bahay Pangarap Women's Center started in 2006 in the Diocese of Malolos in Guiguinto, Bulacan. It is a 24-hour residential facility providing shelter, care, and protection for females ages 10-45, who are victims of battery, sexual abuse, and trafficking.

PHILIPPINE INTERFAITH MOVEMENT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING (PIMAHT)

PIMAHT, launched in 2003, links the CBCP, the National Council of Churches in the Philippines and the Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches in an effort to eradicate human trafficking in the country through campaigns against human trafficking, awareness raising activities, and Anti-Trafficking in Persons (ATIP) orientation seminars.

SOURCES: UCANEWS.COM / WORLD UNION OF CATHOLIC ORGANIZATIONS (WUCWO.ORG) / PIMAHT VS TRAFFICKING FACEBOOK PAGE

BY CIVIL SOCIETY



WOMEN'S CRISIS CENTER (WCC)

In 1997, **WCC** launched the National Family Violence Prevention Program in 18 cities and municipalities around the Philippines to campaign against violence within the family. It also offers a counseling program and a temporary shelter for victims of VAW.



SENTRO NG ALTERNATIBONG LINGAP PANLIGAL (SALIGAN)

The **SALIGAN Women's Program** is a group of legal experts focusing on cases of violence against women. They work with three other organizations: WCC, *Kababaihan Laban sa Karahasan*, and Coalition Against Trafficking in Women-Asia Pacific (CATW-AP).



COALITION AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN—ASIA PACIFIC (CATW-AP)

CATW-AP works to promote awareness on women's rights and launch action against prostitution and trafficking. CATW-AP also lobbies against sexual exploitation at the international level and the Asia-Pacific region, particularly for the "Optional Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, supplementing the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime". It conducts training for government officials, communities, and students ("*Bantay Bugaw: Trafficker Watch*") and Interviews female victims of violence, trafficking, and prostitution.

SOURCES: PCW / SALIGAN.ORG / CATW-AP.ORG.PH



JOHN J. CARROLL INSTITUTE ON CHURCH AND SOCIAL ISSUES

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