



KEY FINDINGS OF  
**VIOLENCE AGAINST  
WOMEN SURVEY**  
BANGLADESH 2024



BANGLADESH BUREAU OF STATISTICS (BBS)  
STATISTICS AND INFORMATICS DIVISION (SID)  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

**Published By**

Project Director  
Integrating Geospatial Information with  
Gender and Vital Statistics Project  
Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS)  
Statistics and Informatics Division (SID)  
Ministry of Planning  
[www.bbs.gov.bd](http://www.bbs.gov.bd)

Published 27 February 2025

**Design Concepts:** VAW 2024 Team, BBS and UNFPA

**Printing:** Integrating Geospatial Information with Gender and Vital Statistics Project, BBS

**Further Contact**

Director General, BBS  
E-mail: [dg@bbs.gov.bd](mailto:dg@bbs.gov.bd)

Project Director  
Integrating Geospatial Information with Gender and Vital Statistics Project  
Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics  
E-mail: [iftekharbbs@gmail.com](mailto:iftekharbbs@gmail.com)

Complimentary Copy

Copyright © Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS)

**ISBN:** 978-984-475-296-2

This publication or any portion thereof cannot be copied, microfilmed or reproduced for any commercial purpose. Data therein can, however, be used and published with proper acknowledgement of the source.



KEY FINDINGS OF  
**VIOLENCE AGAINST  
WOMEN SURVEY**  
BANGLADESH 2024

**27 February 2025**



BANGLADESH BUREAU OF STATISTICS (BBS)  
STATISTICS AND INFORMATICS DIVISION (SID)  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

# CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	3
ACRONYMS	5
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	6
<b>1 CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>2 TRENDS IN THE PREVALENCE OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>3 TRENDS IN NON-PARTNER VIOLENCE</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>4 INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>5 NON-PARTNER VIOLENCE</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>6 REPORTING, SEEKING HELP, KNOWLEDGE AND LEGAL ACTION</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>7 COST INCURRED DUE TO VIOLENCE</b>	<b>26</b>
ANNEXURES	28

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Safe, ethical, and robust household surveys for measuring Violence against Women (VAW) are a globally recognized and crucial strategy for understanding and addressing gender-based violence. In Bangladesh, it is a key endeavor of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), widely acknowledged by policymakers, researchers, and development partners. The first nationally representative survey was conducted in 2011, followed by 2015, both providing critical insights into the prevalence, forms, and consequences of violence against women, informing evidence-based policies and interventions.

The 2024 survey marks a significant milestone with key enhancements, including violence prevalence reporting under both Local and UN Acts, ensuring comparability with previous surveys while aligning with global standards. UN Acts provide data for SDG monitoring and international commitments, while Local Acts reflect country-specific contexts, enabling more targeted policy responses. The survey also incorporates economic cost estimation and recognizes the growing impact of technology-facilitated gender-based violence, particularly online harassment and abuse. Additionally, it offers disaggregated data across slum and non-slum areas, city corporation and noncity corporation areas, disaster-prone and non-disaster-prone regions, and persons with disabilities.

By measuring different forms of violence against women, the 2024 survey provides crucial data to inform policies, interventions, and resource allocation, strengthening Bangladesh's commitment to SDG 5, which aims to achieve gender equality and eliminate violence against women.

Our deepest gratitude goes to Hon'ble Adviser, Dr. Wahiduddin Mahmud, Ministry of Planning, for his support and guidance. We also extend appreciation to Dr. Md. Maynul Hoque Anshary, Secretary (Routine Duties), Statistics and Informatics Division (SID), for his invaluable support in ensuring high-quality data collection. We also acknowledge Mr. Mohammed Mizanur Rahman, Director General, BBS, for his administrative support and guidance throughout the process.

BBS sincerely appreciates all stakeholders, particularly the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, for their dedicated involvement, which was crucial to the survey's success. Special gratitude is extended to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), including its Bangladesh Country Office and Asia-Pacific Regional Office (APRO), for their technical and financial support. Their unwavering assistance has been instrumental to the survey's execution, and we deeply value their collaborative efforts in driving this initiative forward.

We are immensely grateful for the support from kNOwVAWdata, an initiative of UNFPA APRO and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), designed to support and strengthen regional and national capacity to measure violence against women in Asia and the Pacific. The expertise of the kNOwVAWdata team at UNFPA and the University of Melbourne has been crucial in building national capacity and providing technical guidance for the 2024 survey. This survey has greatly benefited from the guidance of Jessica Gardner (UNFPA APRO), as well as Associate Professor Kristin Diemer and Professor Cathy Vaughan (University of Melbourne).

We extend appreciation to members of the Project Steering Committee, Project Implementation Committee, and Working Committee for their valuable contributions in guiding the survey's implementation. UNFPA's ongoing technical cooperation with the VAW survey since 2011 has played a pivotal role in its success. A special note of gratitude goes to the VAW Survey Team for their dedicated engagement in VAW 2024.

Above all, we recognize the extraordinary efforts of the field enumerators, who, despite enormous challenges, were instrumental in capturing voices from the ground, ensuring the success of data collection. Most importantly, we are deeply grateful to the thousands of women who courageously shared their experiences, providing vital data to inform policies and programmes aimed at combating violence against women in Bangladesh.

We also extend appreciation to development partners and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), whose continuous support was essential throughout the process.

Finally, we hope that the ‘Key Findings: VAW 2024’ serves as a concise yet comprehensive overview of the latest prevalence and related data on violence against women in Bangladesh. We welcome comments and feedback to further enhance this report.

Dhaka, February 2025

**Iftekhairul Karim**  
Project Director  
Integrating Geospatial Information with  
Gender and Vital Statistics Project  
Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

# ACRONYMS

BBS	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
CAPI	Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing
CSO	Civil Society Organization
Deff.	Design Effect
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
HH	Household
IPV	Intimate Partner Violence
NPV	Non-Partner Violence
NGO	Non-Government Organization
PSU	Primary Sampling Unit
SID	Statistics and Informatics Division
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
VAW	Violence Against Women
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
ToT	Training of Trainers
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
WHO	World Health Organization
UN	United Nations

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Violence Against Women Survey is a nationally representative study, crucial for understanding and addressing violence against women in Bangladesh. The 2024 edition of this survey, following similar ones in 2011 and 2015, offers valuable insights into the prevalence of intimate partner violence (by husband) and violence committed by non-partners (NPV), showing how these patterns have evolved over time, employing both international and local standards for measurement. Seven in ten women have experienced one or more forms of intimate partner violence—physical, sexual, emotional, controlling behaviors, or economic violence—in their lifetime, with four in ten facing it in the last 12 months.

Nearly half of ever-married women still experience physical violence at some point in their lifetime. Moreover, in the last 12 months alone, one in every ten women has faced such violence.

While the prevalence of sexual violence during lifetime remains high, affecting nearly 30 percent of women, it has shown a decline over the past decade. Recent experiences have also decreased, nonetheless about one in ten women are facing such violence.

Emotional violence in lifetime has risen since 2015, affecting one in three women. Although recent cases have declined to some extent, still one in seven women are affected. Controlling behavior remains widespread, impacting one in two women both in their lifetime and the past year. These trends confirm psychological violence as the most dominant form of intimate partner violence (IPV) in Bangladesh.

Despite some decline in the past decade, economic violence is a significant concern, particularly for urban women.

Violence by husbands varies across regions and socioeconomic groups. Barishal and Khulna report the highest lifetime prevalence, whereas Rajshahi and Dhaka record the lowest rates.

Women living in disaster-prone areas face higher rates of most forms of violence compared to those in non-disaster-prone regions, highlighting the added vulnerability of these communities.

Adolescent girls are the most vulnerable to recent violence, reporting the highest prevalence in the last 12 months for most forms of violence.

Non-partner violence (NPV), which includes physical and sexual violence against women by individuals other than a current or former husband, has been experienced by 15 percent of women, a decline compared to 2015.

Like IPV, non-partner physical violence is most common among adolescents and declines with age. Women in disaster-prone areas experience a higher prevalence of non-partner violence compared to those in areas not prone to disasters.

The survey provides insight into how women who are experiencing violence seek help for their situation. Nearly two-thirds of IPV survivors had never told anyone about their experience of violence before the survey. Only half of the interviewed women are aware of where to report violence.

Less than half of women are aware of 999, while slightly over one in ten know about 109, highlighting a significant gap in awareness of the two helplines.

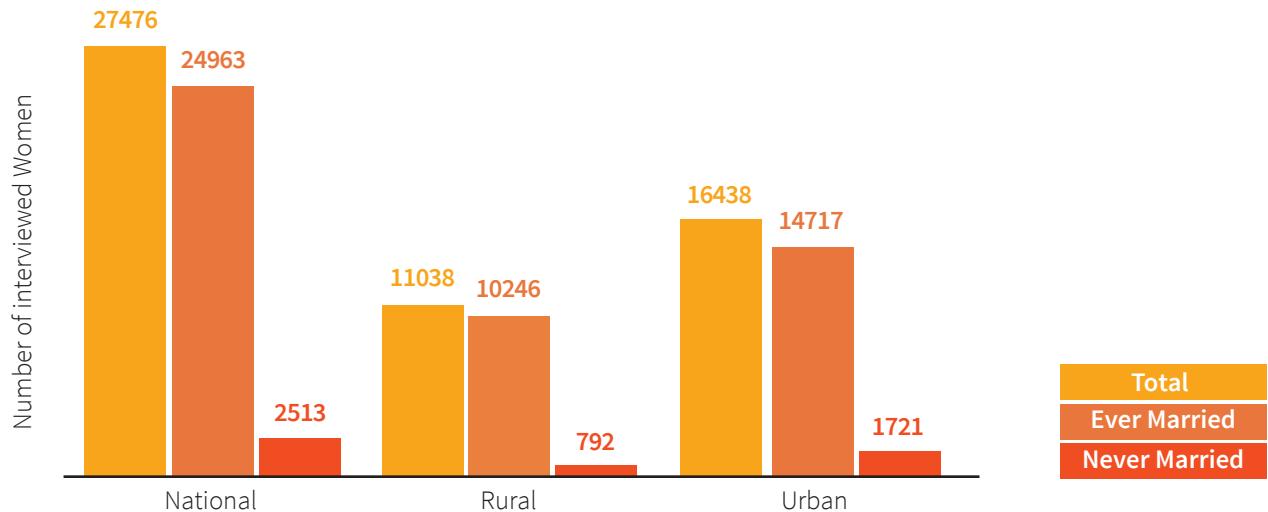
Only 15 percent of survivors sought medical treatment. Despite some progress, legal action remains low at Less than 8 percent. On average, survivors spent BDT 2,512 on medical treatment and BDT 4,104 on legal costs. Rural women incurred slightly higher medical expenses than women in urban areas, while urban women faced greater legal costs than rural women.



## **CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS**

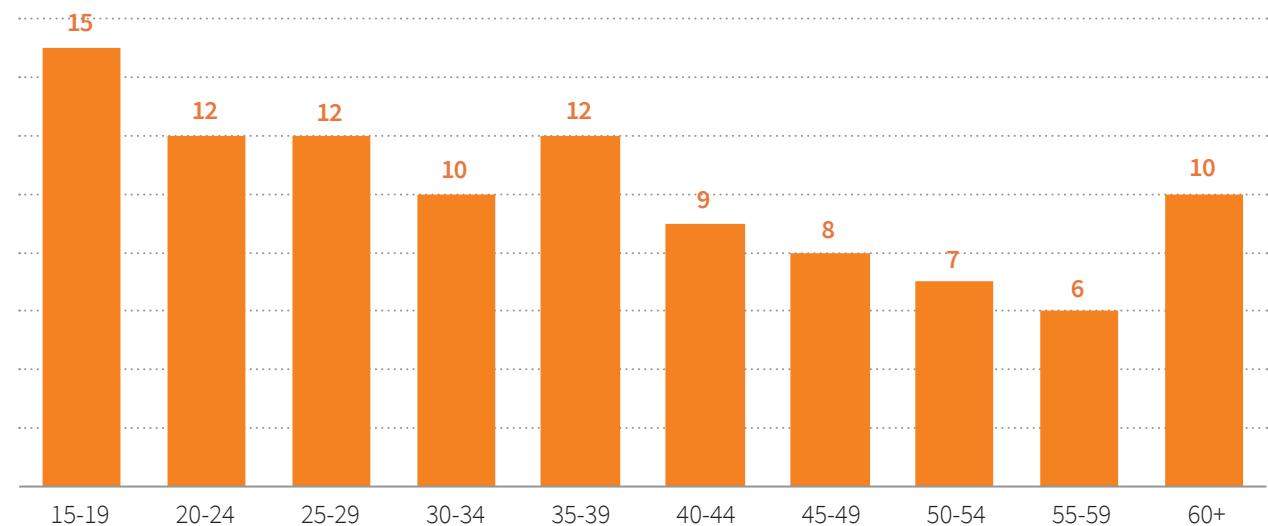
## 1 CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS

There were 27,476 women interviewed across the country, out of a total sample size of 28,800, with a 95.4% response rate. Ever-married women make up the majority of the sample (Figure 1).



**Figure 1:** Number of interviewed women by locality and marital status

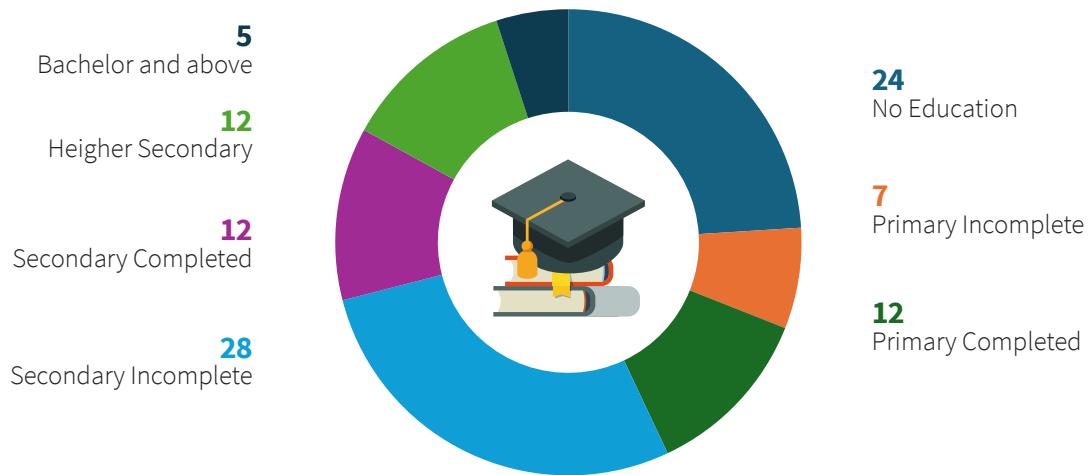
The largest segment of respondents (15%) falls within the 15-19 age group. A significant percentage (12%) belongs to the 20-24, 25-29, and 35-39 age groups. The 30-34 and 60+ age groups each account for 10%, followed by 9% in 40-44, 8% in 45-49, 7% in 50-54 and 6% in 55-59 (Figure 2).



**Figure 2:** Distribution of respondents by age group

Among the respondents, the largest share, 28%, did not complete secondary education. Additionally, 24% have never received formal education. At the primary level, 7% did not complete their education, while 12% finished it. For secondary and higher secondary education, 12% completed secondary school, and another 12% advanced to higher secondary

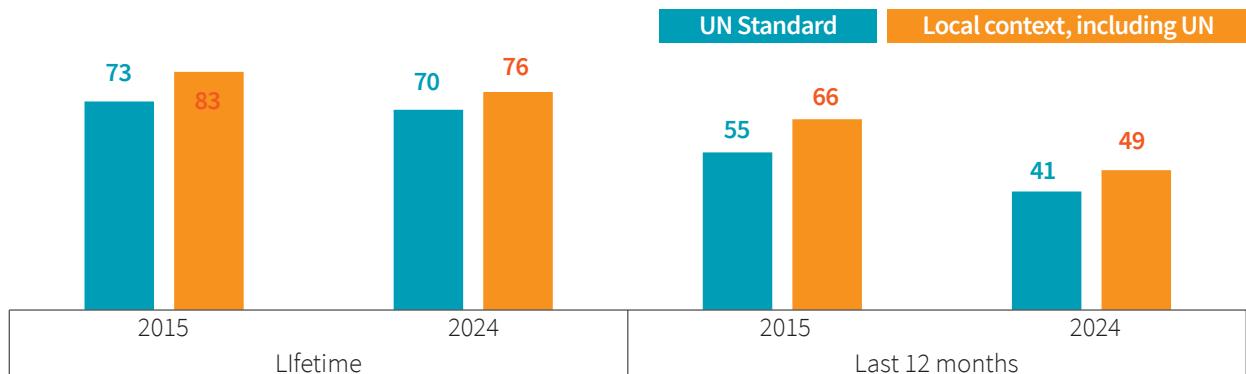
However, access to higher education remains limited, with only 5% attaining a bachelor's degree or higher, making it the smallest category. (Figure 3).



**Figure 3:** Percentage of respondents by education



## **2** TRENDS IN THE PREVALENCE OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE



**Figure 4:** Any form of violence: Lifetime and Last 12 Months prevalence (%) among ever-married women in 2015 and 2024

This graph compares the lifetime and last 12 months prevalence of any form of partner violence (physical, sexual, psychological, and economic) for ever-married women in 2015 and 2024, using UN Standard framework and Local Context classifications. Lifetime prevalence has declined, with prevalence based on UN Standard decreasing from 73% to 70% and Local Context from 83% to 76%. Similarly, last 12 months prevalence has dropped, with UN Standard falling from 55% to 41% and Local Context from 66% to 49% (Figure 4).

**Table 1:** Trends in the prevalence of intimate partner violence experienced at least once among ever-married women aged 15 and above

	Lifetime					Last 12 months				
	UN Standard			Local Context, including UN		UN Standard			Local Context, including UN	
Type of violence	2024	2015	2011	2024	2015	2024	2015	2011	2024	2015
Physical violence (%)	46.7	49.6	47.8	47.3	50.3	10.5	20.8	26.4	10.6	21.6
Sexual violence (%)	28.5	27.2	37.3	29.0	27.2	9.3	13.3	24.0	9.4	13.3
Psychological										
Emotional violence (%)	32.7	28.7	40.2	37.4	34.5	14.9	24.2	30.0	17.6	29.1
Controlling behavior (%)	50.1	55.4	67.8	67.6	70.9	33.0	38.8	56.2	44.0	56.7
Economic violence (%)	9.7	11.4	17.8	19.6	39.7	4.2	6.7	13.9	10.6	14.2
Physical and/or sexual violence (%)	54.1	54.2	57.8	54.4	54.6	16.0	26.9	37.0	16.1	27.5
Physical and/or sexual and/or emotional (%)	57.8	57.7	62.5	59.3	58.6	22.8	38.0	45.1	24.4	41.4
Any form of violence (%)	69.6	72.6	79.4	75.9	82.7	41.2	54.7	66.9	48.7	66.3

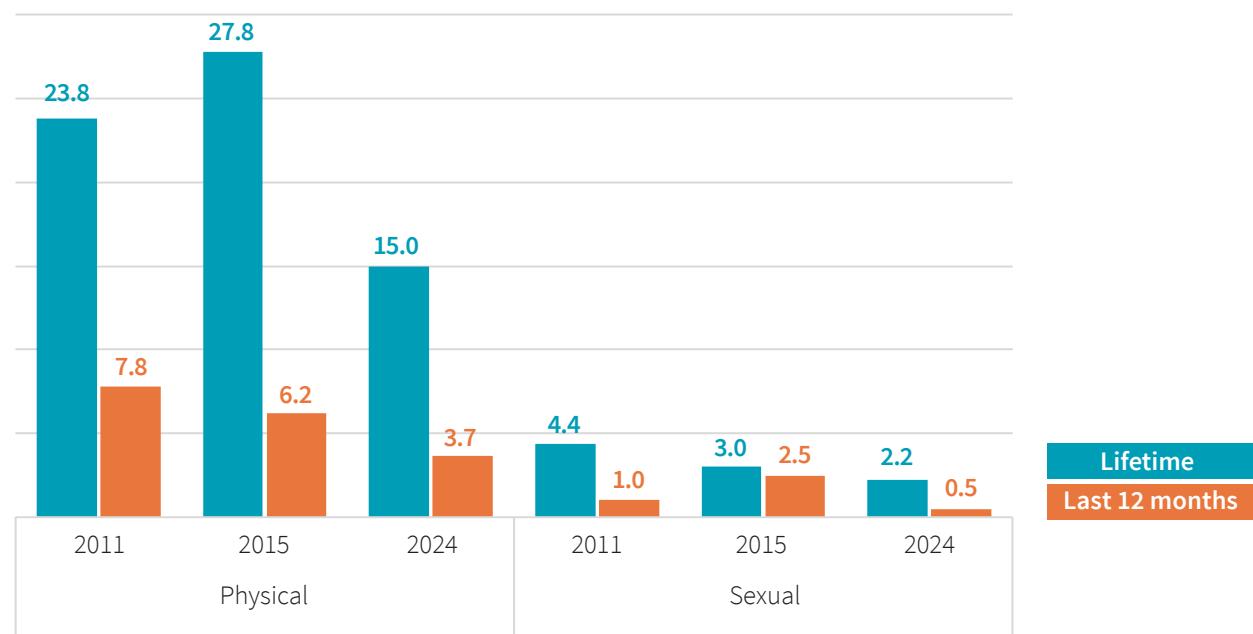
The Table presents trends in the prevalence of various forms of violence experienced at least once by ever-married women aged 15 and above. It distinguishes between lifetime prevalence and prevalence in the last 12 months, using both UN Standards and the Local Context (which includes UN Standards). The data spans three survey years: 2011, 2015, and 2024.

While most forms of violence have declined in the last 12 months category, sexual, physical, controlling behavior, and emotional violence remain notably high over a lifetime. As a result, the overall prevalence of any form of violence remains high at 70% in 2024, compared to 73% in 2015. Intimate partner violence (IPV) continues to be reported at higher rates under the Local Context framework than under UN Standards.

Note: The 2024 survey measured fewer acts of economic violence than in 2015, aligning with both international standards and the local context. (Table 1).

# 3 TRENDS IN **NON-PARTNER VIOLENCE**

Non-partner physical and sexual violence against women (both ever-married and never-married) has significantly declined over time. The lifetime prevalence of physical violence dropped from 28% in 2015 to 15% in 2024, while sexual violence decreased from 3% to 2% during the same period. The prevalence over the last 12 months has also shown a downward trend (Figure 5).



**Figure 5:** Trends in the prevalence (%) of non-partner physical and sexual violence since age 15 among all women aged 15 and above

# **4** INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

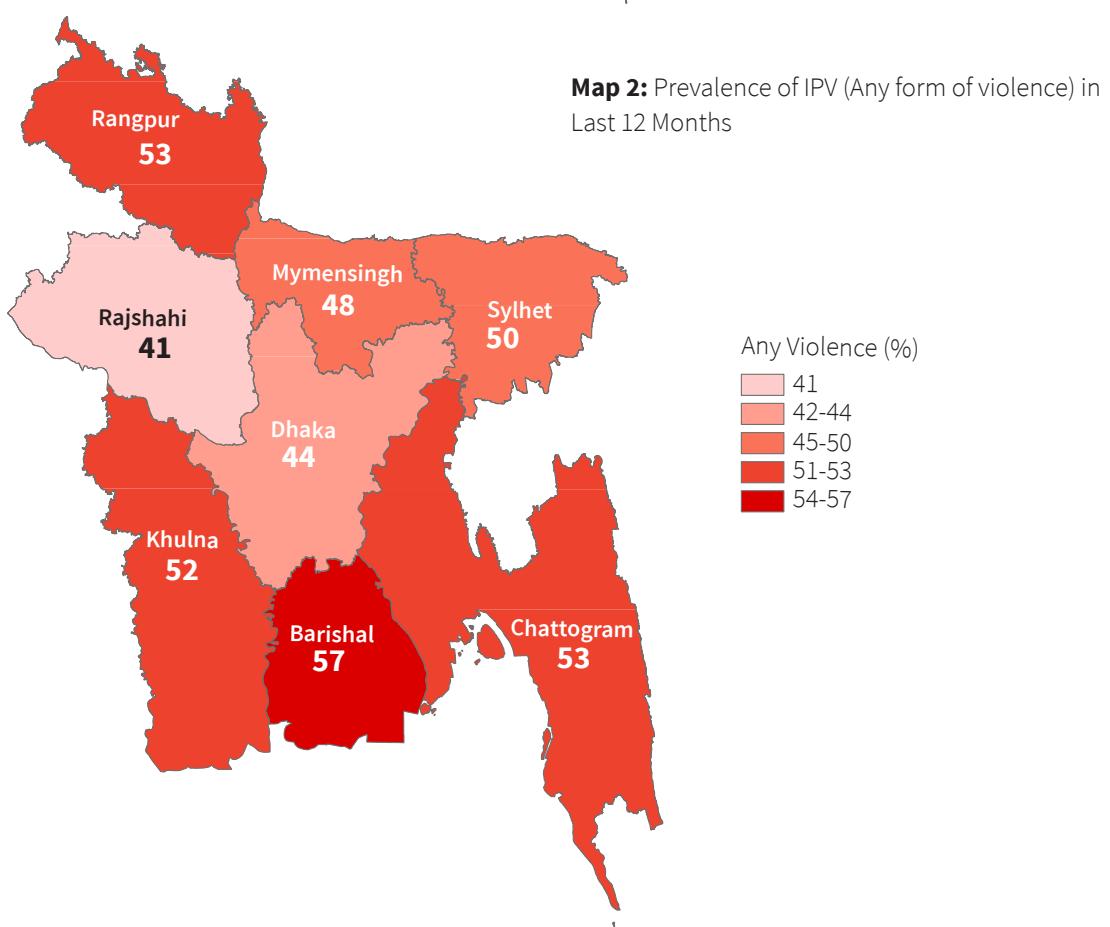
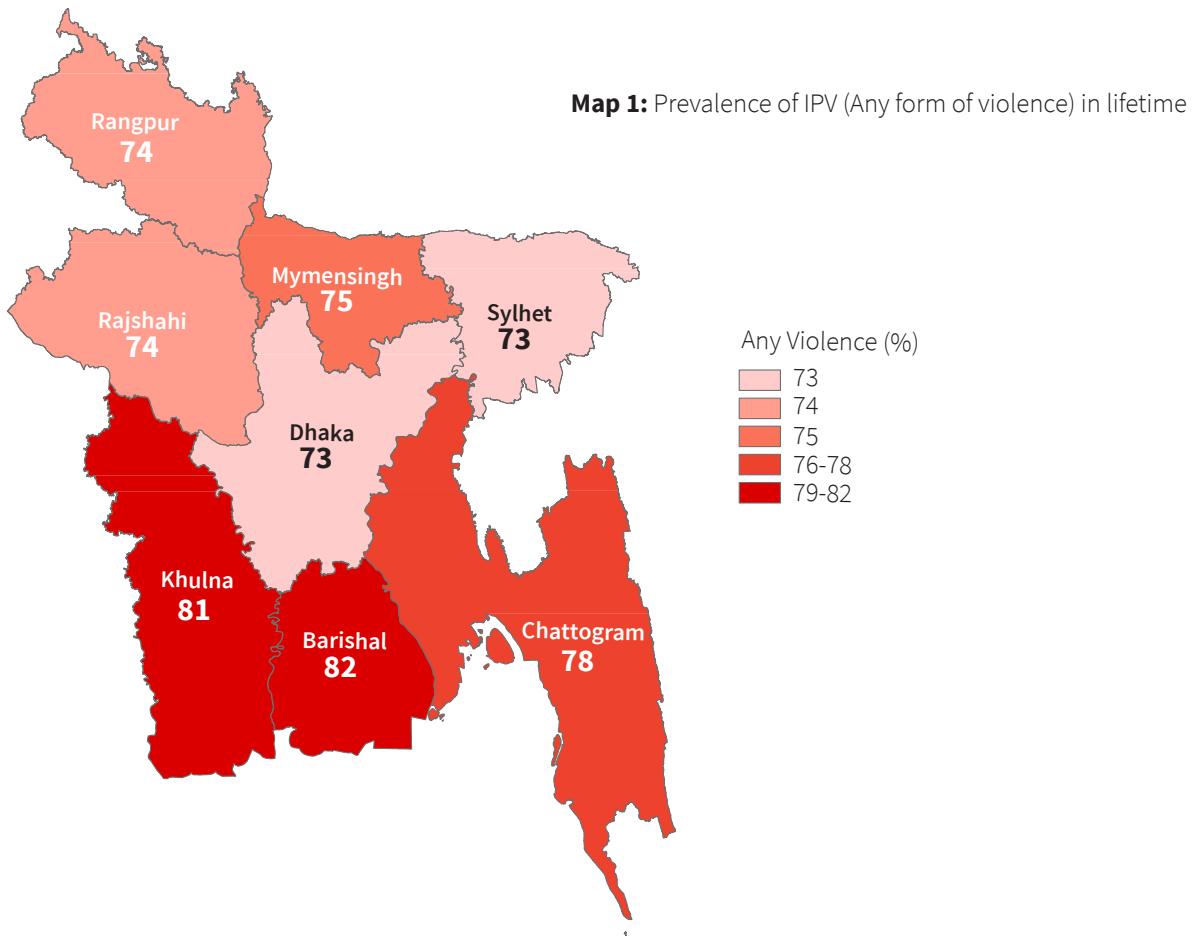
Based on the Local Context, the Table presents the prevalence of intimate partner violence (IPV) among ever-married women aged 15 and above, disaggregated by different forms of violence across lifetime and the last 12 months in the 2024 survey round. It provides both a national overview and a detailed breakdown by residence, administrative divisions, and disaster-prone regions.

The data reveals that while the rate of physical violence in the last 12 months is relatively low, lifetime experience remains high at 47%. Sexual violence affects 29% of women over their lifetime, with 9% experiencing it in the last 12 months. Emotional violence is reported by 37% of women in their lifetime and 18% in the last 12 months.

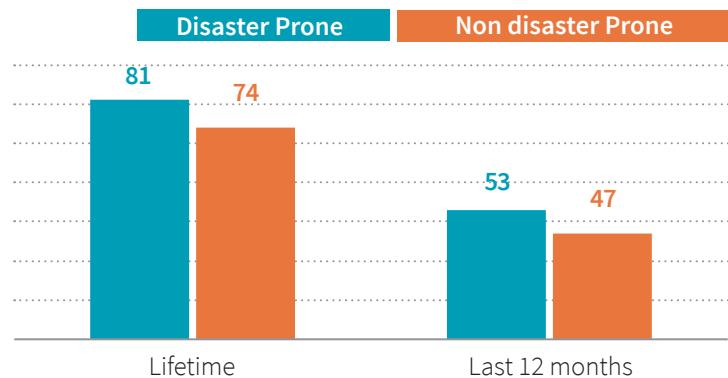
Controlling behavior emerges as the most prevalent form of IPV, affecting 68% of women over their lifetime and 44% in the last 12 months. Economic violence is experienced by 20% of women in their lifetime and 11% in the last 12 months (Table 2).

**Table 2:** Prevalence (%) of intimate partner violence among ever-married women aged 15 and above

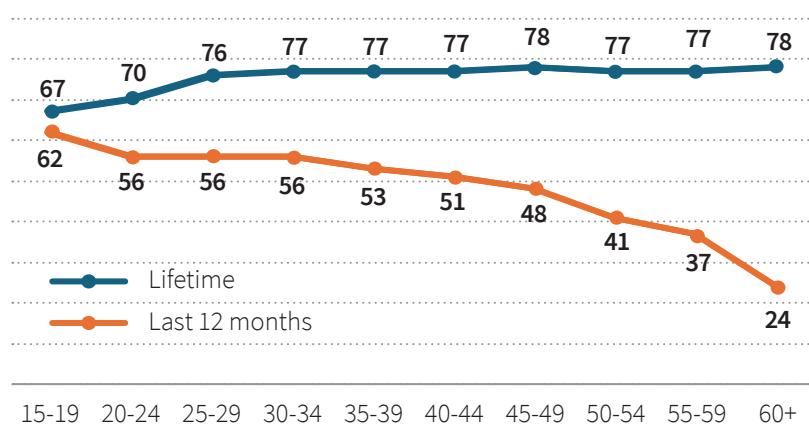
Locality	Physical violence		Sexual violence		Emotional violence		Controlling Behavior		Economic violence		Any form of violence	
	Lifetime	Last 12 months	Lifetime	Last 12 months	Lifetime	Last 12 months	Lifetime	Last 12 months	Lifetime	Last 12 months	Lifetime	Last 12 months
National	47.3	10.6	29.0	9.4	37.4	17.6	67.6	44.0	19.6	10.6	75.9	48.7
<b>Residence</b>												
Rural	48.0	10.5	28.0	8.9	36.6	17.7	67.6	44.7	19.2	10.5	76.0	49.3
Urban	45.6	10.9	31.3	10.5	39.5	17.2	67.4	42.5	20.6	10.7	75.6	47.2
<b>Division</b>												
Barisal	50.9	13.0	35.7	13.2	48.4	25.3	73.1	52.9	27.3	16.1	81.5	57.3
Chittogram	45.5	10.9	34.1	11.2	36.9	17.3	70.8	48.2	23.5	12.5	78.5	53.2
Dhaka	44.2	9.3	27.8	8.7	35.9	15.5	63.2	39.4	16.5	8.9	72.9	44.5
Khulna	57.2	11.1	29.5	9.1	40.8	18.7	73.4	48.4	19.3	10.7	81.3	51.9
Mymensingh	43.6	9.0	23.0	7.6	35.1	18.3	67.7	43.2	18.8	9.5	75.1	48.1
Rajshahi	49.9	9.5	27.2	7.8	35.1	14.9	65.4	37.4	16.6	7.4	74.5	41.1
Rangpur	50.2	14.1	26.6	9.1	38.6	20.8	67.6	47.3	23.9	14.6	74.1	52.7
Sylhet	33.5	10.7	28.2	10.7	35.8	18.1	66.2	46.4	13.5	7.3	72.7	50.0
<b>Disaster prone region</b>												
Disaster prone	51.2	10.7	32.4	10.8	41.7	18.0	73.2	48.8	23.1	12.3	80.6	53.2
Non disaster prone	45.7	10.6	27.6	8.8	35.8	17.4	65.3	42.2	18.2	9.9	74.0	46.9



Ever-married women in disaster-prone areas experience higher violence prevalence, compared to non-disaster-prone locations with lifetime rates reaching 81%. In the last 12 months, violence remains higher in disaster-prone areas at 53% compared to non-disaster-prone areas (Figure 6).



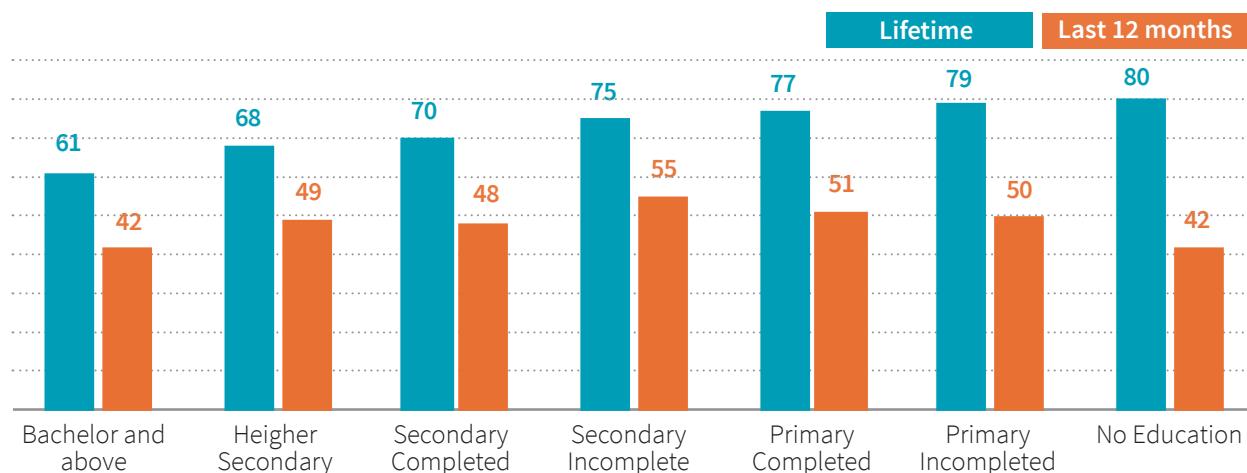
**Figure 6:** Prevalence (%) of Any form of violence among ever-married women in disaster vs. non-disaster prone areas



**Figure 7:** Prevalence (%) of Any form of violence among ever-married women by age groups

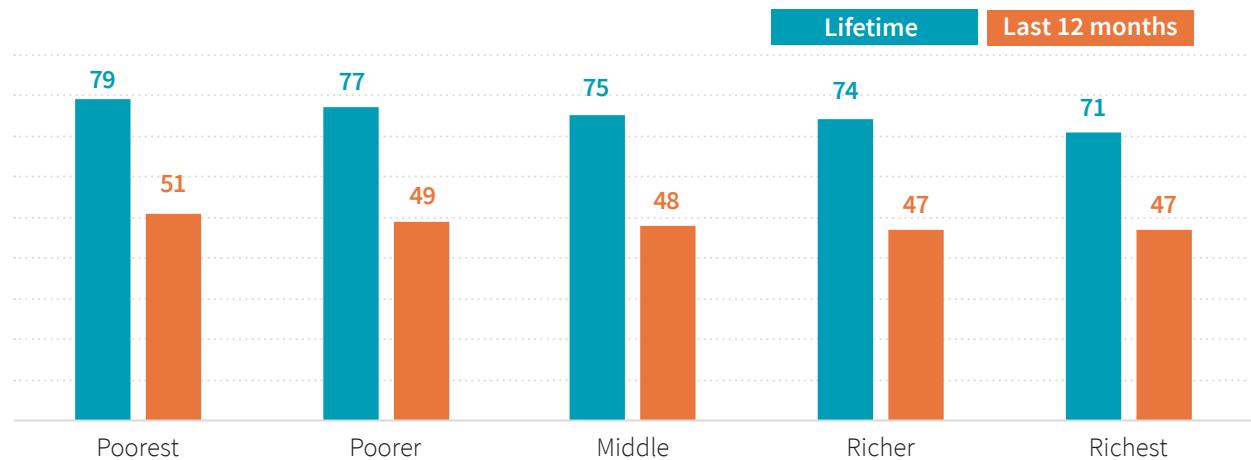
Lifetime prevalence of any form of violence among ever-married women remains high across all age groups, peaking at 78%, while last 12 months prevalence declines with age. Adolescents (15-19) are the group most vulnerable to recent violence, with a prevalence of 62% in the last 12 months (Figure 7).

Lifetime prevalence of intimate partner violence is higher among women with lower education, with the highest rates among women with no education (80% lifetime, 42% in the last 12 months) and the lowest among those with a bachelor's degree or above (61% lifetime, 42% in the last 12 months) (Figure 8).



**Figure 8:** Prevalence (%) of Any form of violence among ever-married women by educational attainment

There is no significant difference in violence prevalence between the wealth quintiles. Lifetime and last 12 months prevalence of any form of violence among ever-married women is slightly higher among the poorest, with 79% experiencing it in their lifetime and 51% in the last 12 months. The prevalence slowly declines with increasing wealth, reaching 71% lifetime and 47% in the last 12 months among the richest (Figure 9).



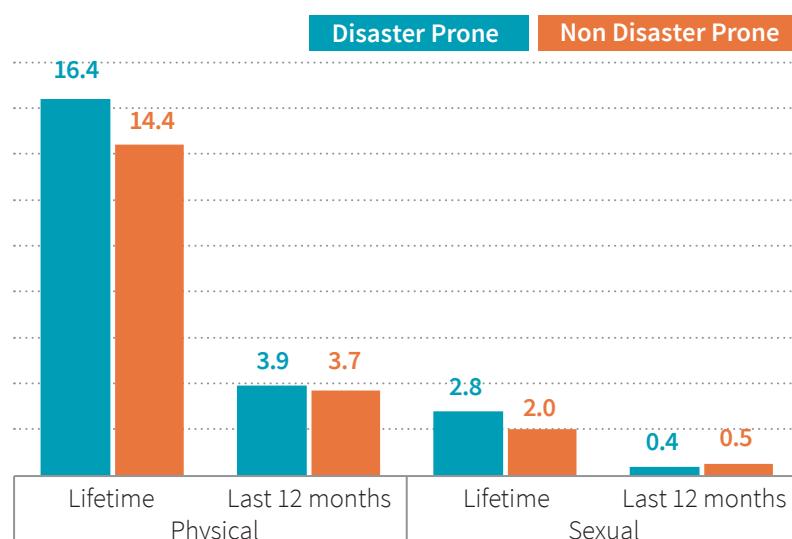
**Figure 9:** Prevalence (%) of Any form of violence among ever-married women by wealth quintile

# **5** NON-PARTNER **VIOLENCE**

**Table 3:** Prevalence (%) of non-partner violence experienced since age 15 among all women aged 15 and above

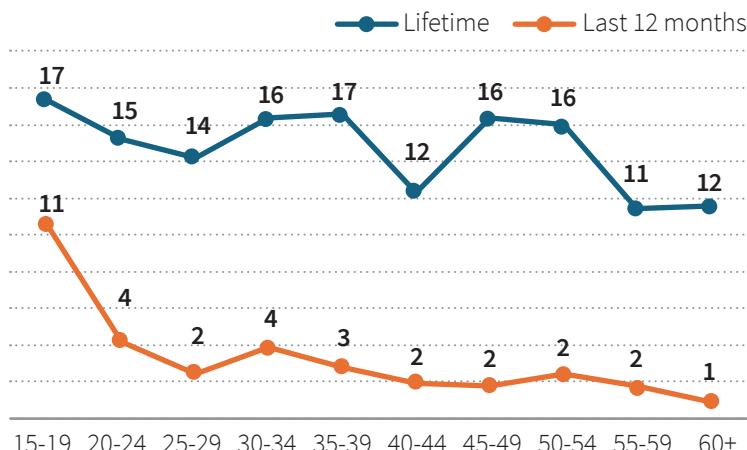
Locality	Physical		Sexual		Physical and/or Sexual	
	Lifetime	Last 12 months	Lifetime	Last 12 months	Lifetime	Last 12 months
	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Area of Residence</b>						
National	15.0	3.7	2.2	0.5	15.8	3.9
Rural	14.3	3.4	2.1	0.5	15.2	3.6
Urban	16.5	4.5	2.5	0.5	17.3	4.7
<b>Division</b>						
Barishal	15.0	3.7	2.2	0.5	15.8	3.9
Chattogram	17.1	4.3	3.3	0.4	18.6	4.5
Dhaka	17.9	4.5	2.7	0.5	18.9	4.8
Khulna	15.1	3.8	2.0	0.5	15.7	4.0
Mymensingh	13.6	3.1	3.3	0.4	15.9	3.2
Rajshahi	9.2	2.7	0.8	0.1	9.6	2.8
Rangpur	14.5	3.4	2.5	0.5	14.8	3.6
Sylhet	17.1	4.0	1.7	0.5	17.5	4.4

Nationally, a significant proportion of women experience non-partner violence, with physical violence being the most common, followed by sexual violence. Urban women report higher prevalence across all forms of violence compared to rural women. Chattogram, Dhaka, and Sylhet show relatively higher rates, particularly for physical violence, while Rajshahi reports lower prevalence (Table 3).



Prevalence of non-partner physical and sexual violence, is higher in disaster-prone areas compared to non-disaster-prone (Figure 10).

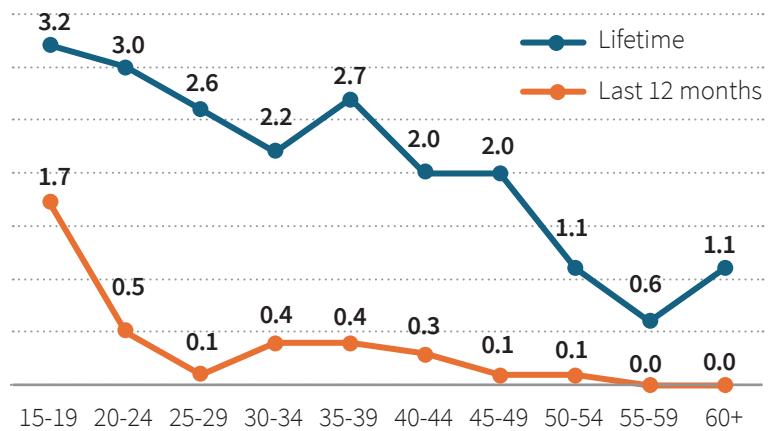
**Figure 10:** Prevalence (%) of non-partner violence experienced since age 15 among all women aged 15 and above: Disaster-prone vs non-disaster-prone regions



**Figure 11:** Prevalence (%) of non-partner physical violence experienced since age 15 among all women aged 15 and above

Younger women, particularly adolescents (aged 15-19), report a higher prevalence of non-partner physical violence in both lifetime and last 12 months (Figure 11).

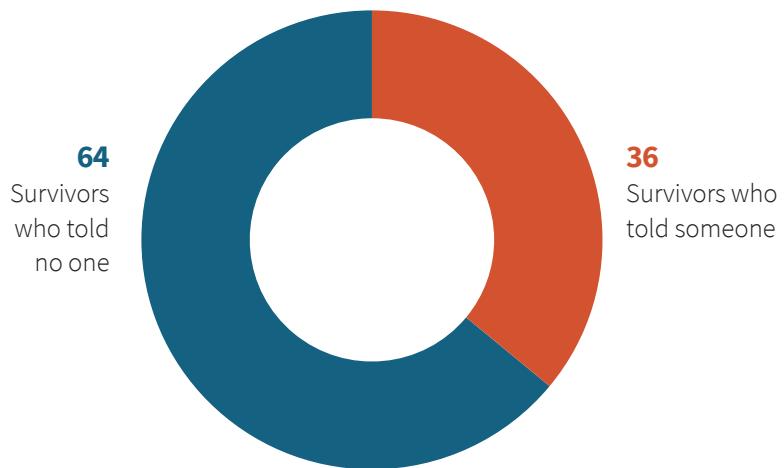
Non-partner sexual violence is highest among adolescents (aged 15-19) and declines significantly with age, with minimal recent experiences reported in older groups (Figure 12).



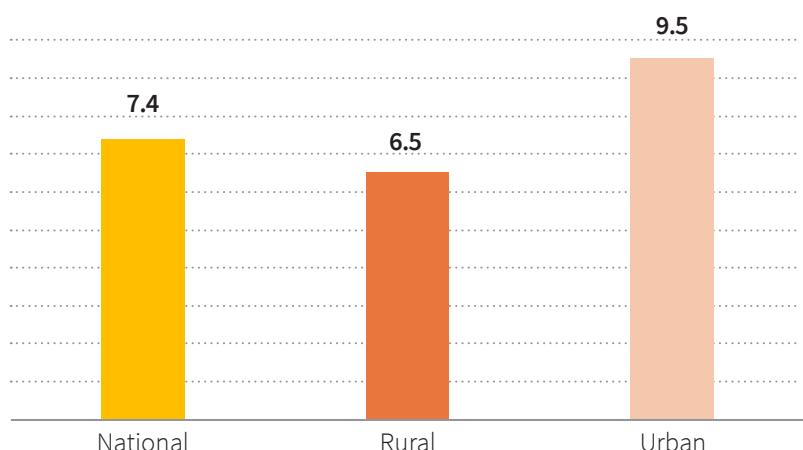
**Figure 12:** Prevalence (%) of non-partner sexual violence experienced since age 15 among all women aged 15 and above

# **6 REPORTING, SEEKING HELP, KNOWLEDGE AND LEGAL ACTION**

Most survivors among ever-married women (64%) did not tell anyone about their experiences of violence, while only 36% came forward to share them (Figure 13).



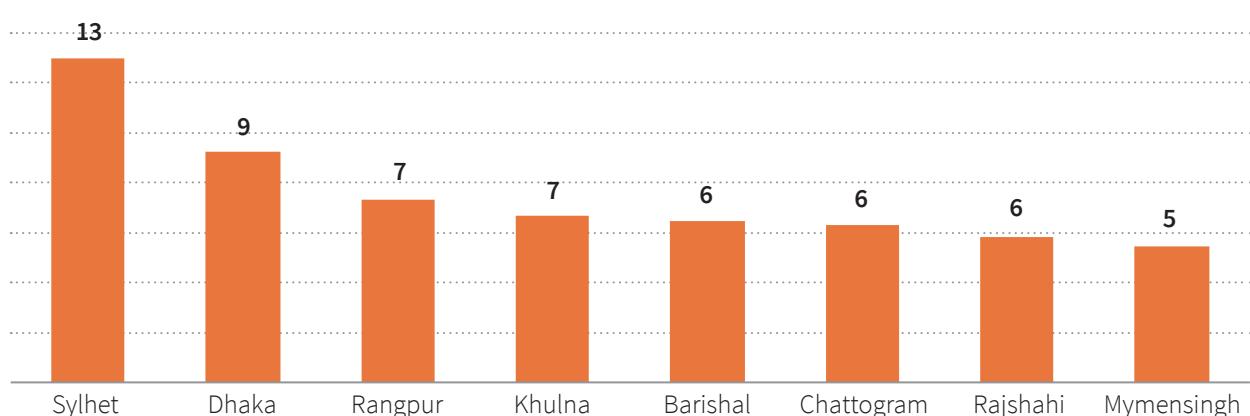
**Figure 13:** Percentage of survivors who told someone about the experience of physical or sexual violence by husband



**Figure 14:** Percentage of survivors of physical and/or sexual IPV who took legal action

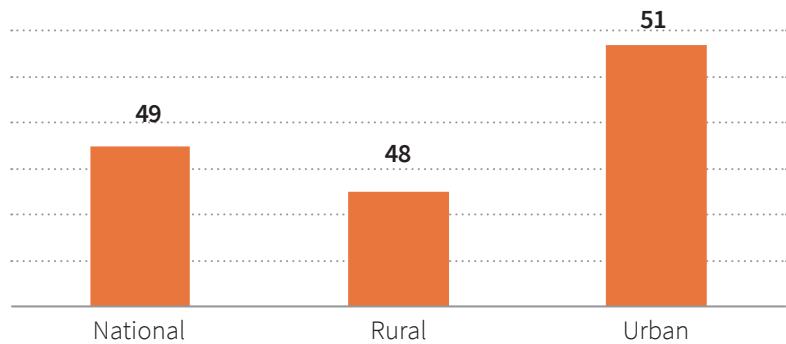
Among survivors (ever-married women) who took legal action for physical or sexual violence committed by their husbands, urban women report the highest legal action rate at 9.5%, compared to 6.5% of rural women (Figure 14).

Significant variation in legal action taken across different divisions, with Sylhet (13%) having the highest percentage of survivors seeking legal recourse, while Mymensingh has the lowest (5%) (Figure 15).



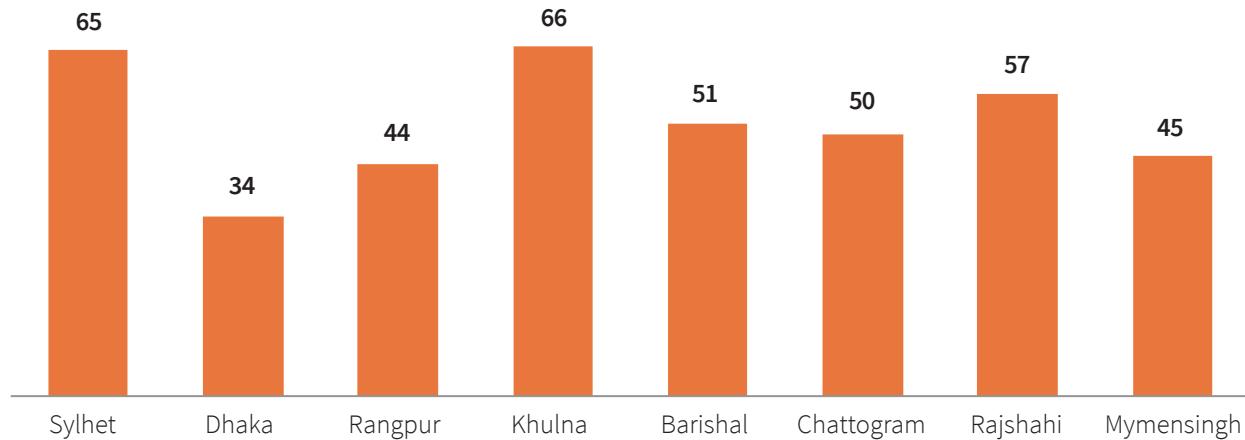
**Figure 15:** Percentage of survivors took legal action by division

Awareness Gap: 51% of urban women know where to report violence, compared to 48% in rural areas (Figure 16).



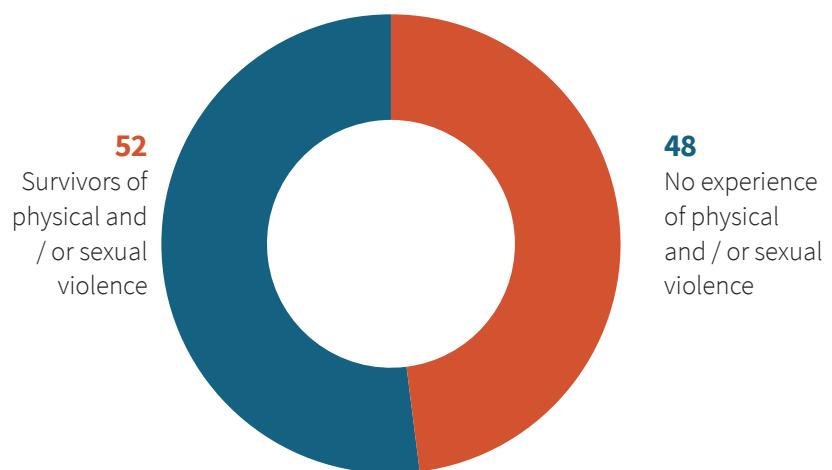
**Figure 16:** Percentage of all women aged 15 and above who know where to report violence incidents

Awareness varies: 66% of women in Khulna knew where to report violence, compared to 34% in Dhaka (Figure 17).



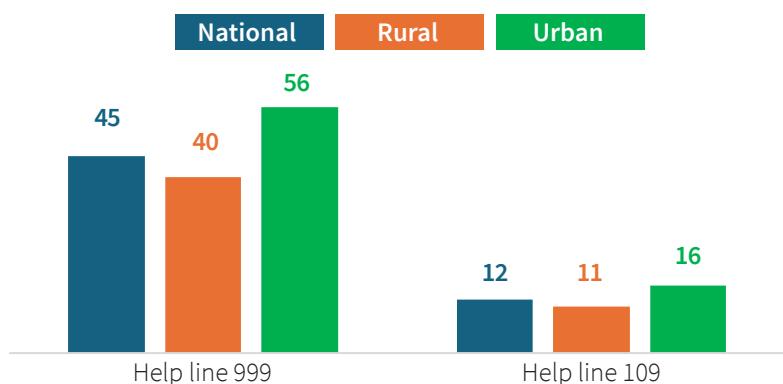
**Figure 17:** Percentage of all women aged 15 and above who know where to report violence incidents, by division

Survivors of physical and/or sexual violence (52%) have slightly higher awareness of where to report violence compared to others (48%) (Figure 18).



**Figure 18:** Percentage of all women aged 15 and above who know the place where to complain/report

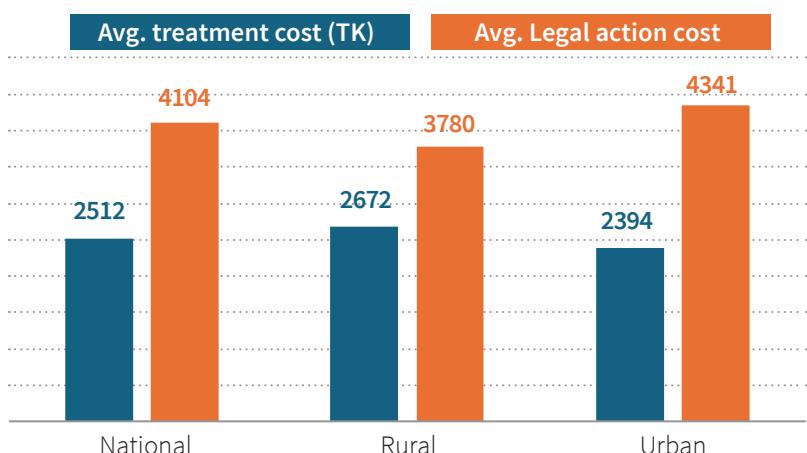
Awareness of the 999 helpline is significantly higher than 109, with urban women having the highest knowledge (56%) of 999, while awareness of 109 remains low across all areas (Figure 19).



**Figure 19:** Percentage of all women aged 15 and above who have knowledge about the government helpline

# **7** COST INCURRED DUE TO VIOLENCE

Incurred costs in the last 12 months (IPV or Non-IPV): survivors in rural areas faced slightly higher medical costs than those in urban areas, while urban survivors had higher legal expenses than rural (Figure 20).



**Figure 20:** Average cost (Bangladesh Taka) incurred by survivors and their companions for medical treatment and legal action



## ANNEX 1: KEY TERMINOLOGY

**Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)** involves assaultive and coercive behaviors, including physical attacks, sexual violence, psychological abuse, and economic coercion, which harm autonomy and well-being. In Bangladesh, a partner refers exclusively to a spouse within marriage in the context of IPV.

**Non-Partner Violence (NPV)** refers to physical and sexual violence perpetrated by someone other than a current or former husband. Economic violence, emotional violence, and controlling behavior are measured only within marriage under intimate partner violence (IPV).

**Ever-married women** are those who have entered into marriage at least once in their lifetime, regardless of their current marital status. This category encompasses women who are presently married, as well as those who have experienced divorce, separation, or widowhood.

**Never married women** are those who never been married. It is more usual to say that someone who is not married is single.

**Types of Violence measured:** The 2024 VAW Survey categorizes intimate partner violence into four major types: physical, sexual, economic, and psychological violence.

**Physical violence** refers to the intentional use of physical force with the potential to cause harm.

**Sexual violence** refers to any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, or unwanted sexual comments or acts that involve coercion.

**Economic violence** refers to financial control, restriction, or deprivation imposed by a partner.

**Psychological violence** encompasses emotional abuse and controlling behaviors, which limit autonomy and create fear or distress.

**Prevalence** refers to the proportion of women who have experienced violence as part of the population of women ‘at risk.’ Prevalence rates are thus based on counting people rather than events or incidents. Prevalence rates usually give the proportions of women who have been subjected to violence since age 15.

**Lifetime and last 12 months reference period of violence:** The lifetime prevalence rate reflects the proportion of women who have ever experienced violence, offering a long-term perspective. In contrast, the 12-month prevalence rate highlights more recent experiences, providing insight into ongoing or recent trends in violence.

**Cost of Violence** captures out-of-pocket costs over the past 12 months, including healthcare, legal fees, transportation, accommodation, lost wages, and property damage. It excludes costs borne by governments, NGOs, or lifetime individual expenses.

## ANNEX 2: VAW SURVEY 2024 METHODOLOGY

### Overview of Study Design

This study adopted a quantitative approach, aligning with the gold standard for measuring violence against women as established in the World Health Organization (WHO) Multi-Country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence Against Women. This landmark study set international benchmarks for survey methodologies, ethical considerations, and data collection techniques to ensure accurate and sensitive measurement of violence against women.

### Sampling Design for Quantitative Survey

The Violence Against Women 2024 survey collected reliable, disaggregated data across rural, urban, and city corporation areas within Bangladesh's eight administrative divisions. Each division was further categorized into 28 independent study domains, allowing for separate prevalence estimates. Using a stratified two-stage cluster sampling design, Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) were first selected proportionally to size based on the 2022 Population and Housing Census. In the second stage, a household listing identified those with at least one eligible woman aged 15 and above, from which 20 households were systematically selected per PSU.

To ensure separate estimates for each domain, the sample size was calculated independently for each domain using the following formula:

$$n = \frac{z_{\alpha/2}^2 p(1-p)}{d^2} \times deff,$$

where,  $p$  = expected true proportion = 49.6% (from VAW 2015)

$z_{\alpha/2}$  = is the value of the standard normal distribution allowing

$\alpha$  = 5% level of significance = 1.96

$d$  = margin of error = 0.05

$deff$  = design effect = 2.1 (from VAW 2015, which leads to 5% intra-cluster correlation with cluster size 20).

The target parameter of interest was the prevalence of different forms of violence, including physical, sexual, emotional, controlling behavior, and economic violence. Estimates from the 2015 survey ranged from 30% to 70%. To ensure the minimum allowable sample size for all parameters, the estimate of physical violence (50%) from the 2015 survey was used as the expected proportion in the formula.

Based on the formula, the minimum required sample size was 860 households per domain, including a 7% allowance for non-response. To minimize the number of households required in each domain, no adjustments for population size were made, as the number of households in each stratum typically exceeded 8,000. In the second stage of sampling, 20 households were systematically selected from each chosen PSU, resulting in a requirement of 43 PSUs per domain (860/20).

The total number of PSUs across all domains was 1,440, and the total number of households was 28,800. Following table provides the detailed distribution of PSUs and households across the domains (Table 4).

**Table 4:** Distribution of Sample PSUs and Households (HHs) by Domain Using Kish Allocation

Administrative Division	Sub-divisions/Domains							
	Rural		Urban		City Corporation		Total	
	PSUs	HHs	PSUs	HHs	PSUs	HHs	PSUs	HHs
Barishal	43	860	43	860	43	860	129	2,580
Chattogram	97	1,940	43	860	43	860	183	3,660
Dhaka North City Corp.	--	--	--	--	43	860	43	860
Dhaka South City Corp.	--	--	--	--	43	860	43	860
Dhaka	117	2,340	43	983	--	--	160	3,323
Khulna	70	1,400	43	860	43	860	156	3,120
Mymensingh	53	1,060	43	860	43	860	139	2,780
Rajshahi	83	1,660	43	860	43	860	169	3,380
Rangpur	73	1,460	43	860	43	860	159	3,180
Sylhet	44	880	43	860	43	860	130	2,600
Narayanganj City Corp.	--	--	--	--	43	860	43	860
Gazipur City Corp.	--	--	--	--	43	860	43	860
Cumilla City Corp.	--	--	--	--	43	860	43	860
<b>Total</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>11,600</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>6880</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>10,320</b>	<b>1,440</b>	<b>28,800</b>

### Inclusion of Marginalized Populations

Beyond the 28 administrative domains, the study included slum dwellers and disaster-prone areas to assess violence among marginalized groups. Post-stratification determined sample sizes, with estimates derived by comparing slum vs. non-slum and disaster-prone vs. non-disaster-prone households, highlighting their unique vulnerabilities.

### Survey Tools:

1. Questionnaire Development: A standard UNECE questionnaire, aligned with UNSD Guidelines, was adapted for the national context. It included:
  - Household Questionnaire: Captured household and individual characteristics.
  - Women's Questionnaire: Addressed partner/non-partner violence, help-seeking behavior, technology-facilitated violence, and costs of violence.
2. Questionnaire Pre-testing: The questionnaire was converted to a CAPI format and pre-tested in urban, rural, and city corporation areas. Feedback refined the final version.

### Field Implementation:

1. Recruitment: 120 experienced female enumerators and 24 supervisors (BBS officials) were recruited, forming 24 teams.
2. Training: A five-day ToT session and a 21-day training program were conducted, followed by pre-testing to validate the methodology.

### Quality control:

Followed a multi-tiered approach ensuring accuracy and reliability. Supervisors reviewed data daily, data managers checked for consistency, and experts monitored key indicators using field check tables.

### **ANNEX 3: PERSONS ENGAGED IN PREPARATION OF VAW 2024 KEY FINDINGS REPORT**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation/Office</b>
<b>Mr. Iftekhairul Karim</b>	Project Director, Integrating Geospatial Information with Gender and Vital Statistics Project, BBS
<b>M. Shahidul Islam, PhD</b>	Chief, Demographic Data and Intelligence Unit, UNFPA Bangladesh
<b>Shamima Pervin</b>	Programme Specialist and Chief-Gender, UNFPA Bangladesh
<b>Jessica Gardner</b>	Technical Lead, Violence against Women (VAW) Data and Research, UNFPA Asia-Pacific Regional Office
<b>M. Shafiqur Rahman, PhD</b>	Professor, Institute of Statistical Research and Training (ISRT), University of Dhaka
<b>Mr. A. K. M. Tahidul Islam</b>	Consultant, Integrating Geospatial Information with Gender and Vital Statistics Project, BBS
<b>Nisath Salsabil Rob</b>	National Consultant, UNFPA Bangladesh
<b>Mr. Md. Abubakar Siddique</b>	Cartographer, Computer Wing, BBS
<b>Mr. S. M. Amimul Ehsan</b>	Statistical Officer (Ex), Demography and Health Wing, BBS
<b>Mr. Md. Faisal Ahmed</b>	Cartographer, Integrating Geospatial Information with Gender and Vital Statistics Project, BBS





**BANGLADESH BUREAU OF STATISTICS (BBS)  
STATISTICS AND INFORMATICS DIVISION (SID)  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING**

