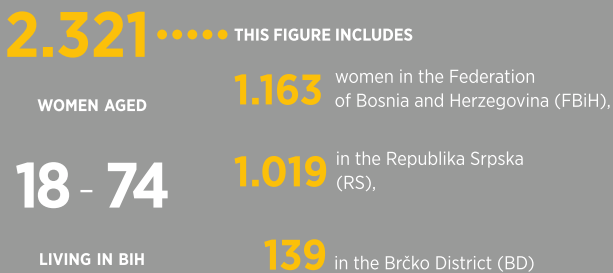


Sexual harassment of women in Bosnia and Herzegovina:

Analysis Based on Data from the OSCE-led Survey on Violence against Women



THE STUDY INVOLVED A SURVEY OF A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF



SEXUAL HARASSMENT IS “ANY FORM OF UNWANTED VERBAL, NON-VERBAL OR PHYSICAL CONDUCT OF A SEXUAL NATURE WITH THE PURPOSE OR EFFECT OF VIOLATING THE DIGNITY OF A PERSON, IN PARTICULAR WHEN CREATING AN INTIMIDATING, HOSTILE, DEGRADING, HUMILIATING OR OFFENSIVE ENVIRONMENT”.

Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) (Article 40)

Violence against women (Article 3a)

Violence against women is understood as a violation of human rights and a form of discrimination against women and shall mean all acts of gender-based violence that result in, or are likely to result in, physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.

Sexual violence (Article 36)

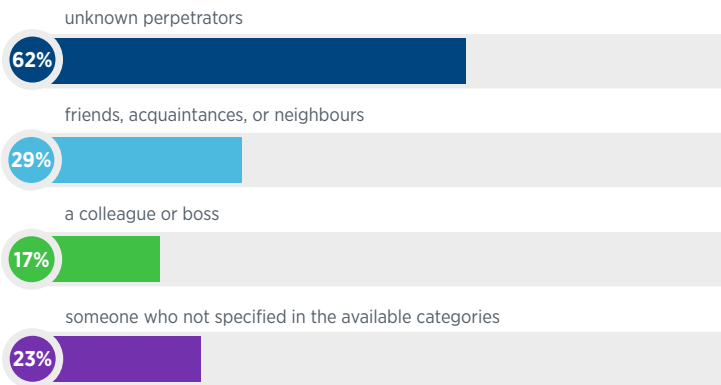
Engaging in non-consensual vaginal, anal or oral penetration of a sexual nature of the body of another person with any bodily part or object; engaging in other non-consensual acts of a sexual nature with a person; causing another person to engage in non-consensual acts of a sexual nature with a third person. Consent must be given voluntarily as the result of the person’s free will assessed in the context of the surrounding circumstances.

Sexual harassment (Article 40)

Any form of unwanted verbal, non-verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature with the purpose or effect of violating the dignity of a person, in particular when creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment, is subject to criminal or other legal sanction.

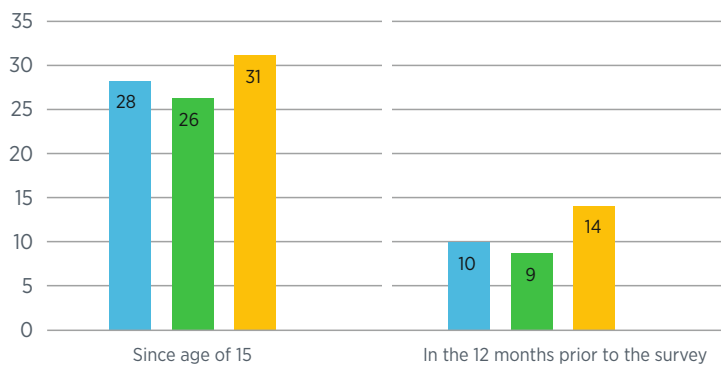


PERPETRATORS

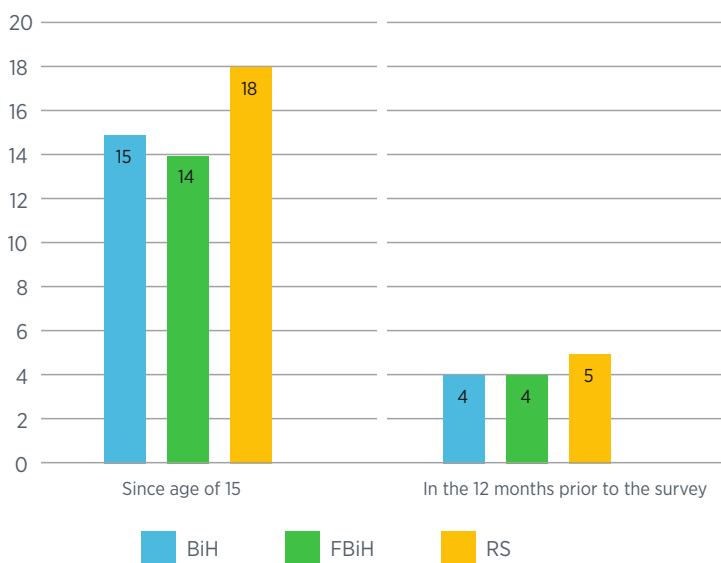


ALMOST THREE IN TEN WOMEN IN BIH REPORT HAVING EXPERIENCED AT LEAST ONE FORM OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT SINCE THE AGE OF 15, AND 15 PER CENT OF WOMEN REPORTED BEING VICTIMS OF SEVERE FORMS OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT.

Prevalence of sexual harassment in BiH, 2018:



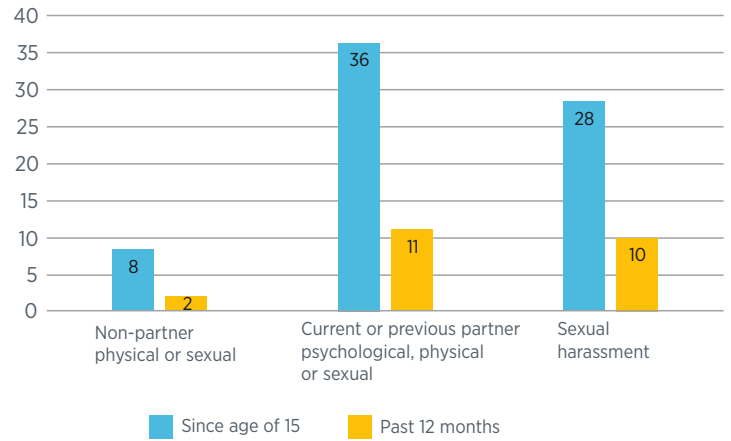
Prevalence of the most severe forms of sexual harassment in BiH, 2018:



Base: Women aged 18-74 in BiH (2,255); in FBiH (1,163); in RS (1,019).
Source: OSCE-led Survey on Violence against Women, 2019

SEXUAL HARASSMENT IS ONE OF THE MOST PREVALENT FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.

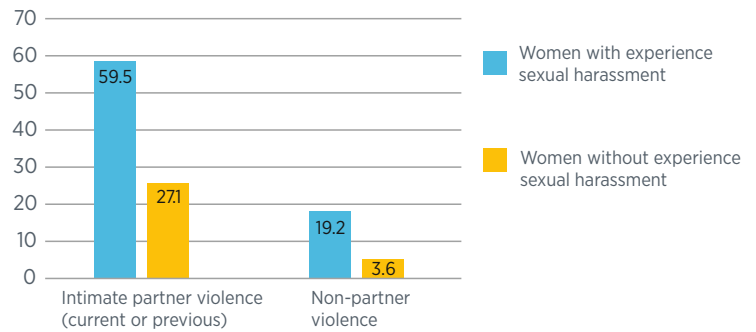
Prevalence of different forms of gender-based violence against women in BiH, 2018:



Base: Women aged 18-74 in BiH (2,255), in FBiH (1,163), in RS (1,019)
Source: OSCE-led Survey on Violence against Women, 2019.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT IS PART OF THE COMPLEX ISSUE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN. WOMEN WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED SEXUAL HARASSMENT ARE ALSO MORE OFTEN VICTIMS OF OTHER FORMS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE.

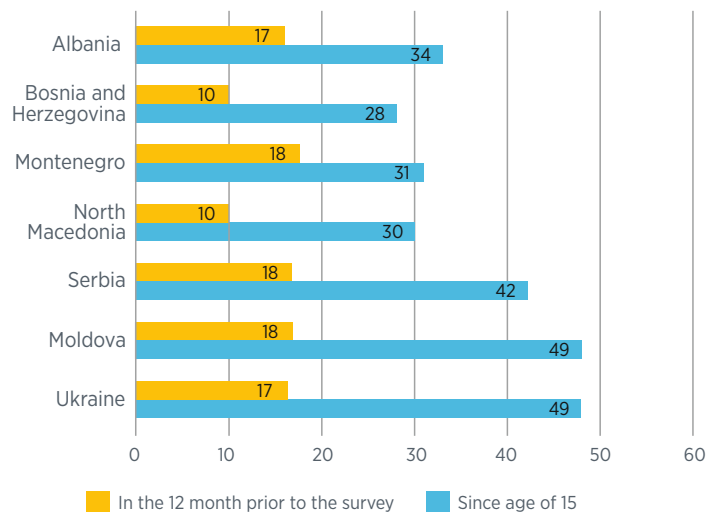
Prevalence of intimate partner violence (current and previous) and non-partner physical and sexual violence among women with and without experience of sexual harassment, per cent:



Base: Women aged 18-74 in BiH (2,255).
Source: OSCE-led Survey on Violence against Women, 2019

THE PREVALENCE OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN BIH IS LOWER THAN IN THE EU AND IN OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE REGION, BUT THIS COULD BE DUE TO LOWER AWARENESS OR REDUCED READINESS TO DISCLOSE IT IN THE SURVEY.

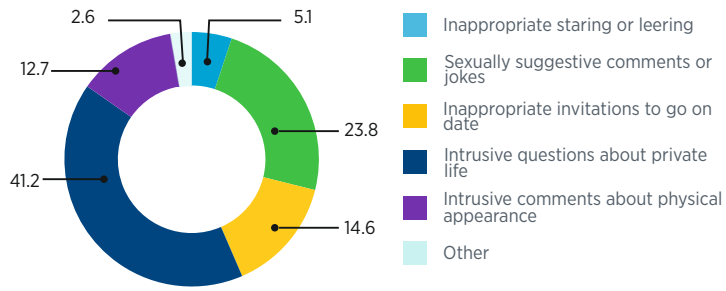
Prevalence of sexual harassment by country, 2018, %



Base: All participants in the OSCE-wide survey (women aged 18-74 (15,179)).
Source: OSCE-led Survey on Violence against Women, 2019

MEN ARE USUALLY THE PERPETRATORS OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT. PERPETRATORS INCLUDE PARTNERS, FRIENDS, ACQUAINTANCES, CO-WORKERS, AND STRANGERS.

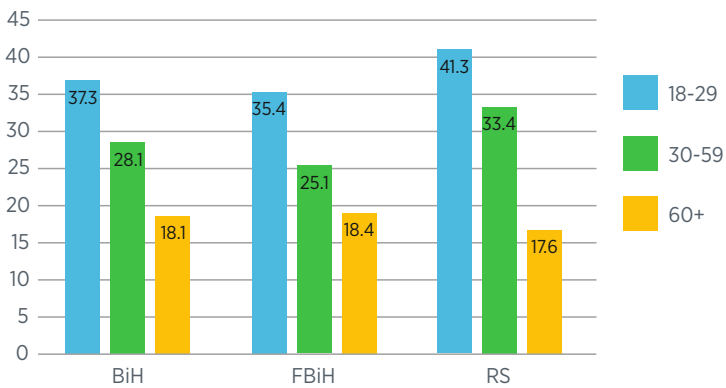
Sexual harassment in the workplace, by type, per cent:



Women who experienced at least one form of sexual harassment by co-workers (boss or colleague) in BiH (67).
Source: OSCE-led Survey on Violence against Women, 2019

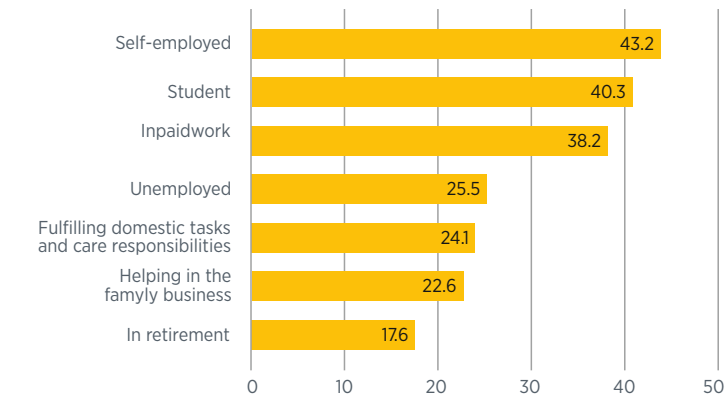
WOMEN AT HIGHER RISK OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT ARE USUALLY YOUNGER AND ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE, OFTEN IN PRECARIOUS EMPLOYMENT, AS WELL AS STUDENTS, WOMEN IN URBAN AREAS, AND THOSE IN A VULNERABLE SITUATION.

Prevalence of sexual harassment since the age of 15, by age and Entity, per cent:

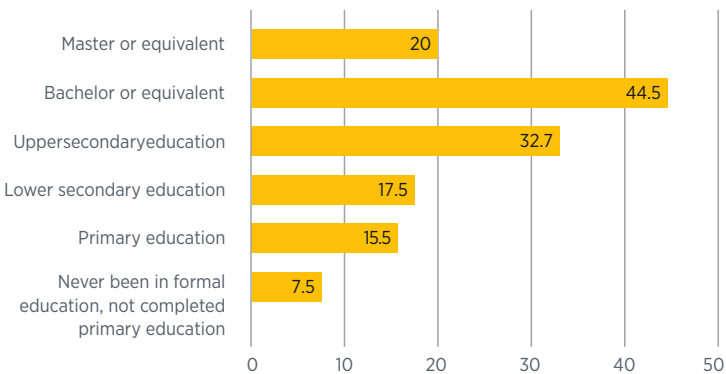


Base: Women aged 18-74 in BiH (BiH:2,255; FBiH:1,163; RS:1,019).
Source: OSCE-led Survey on Violence against Women, 2019

Prevalence of sexual harassment by activity status, per cent:



Prevalence of sexual harassment by the level of education, per cent:



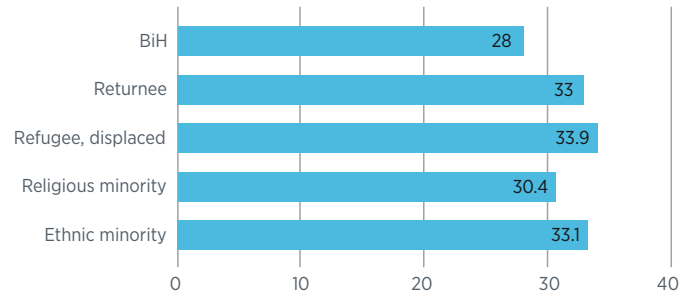
Base: Women aged 18-74 in BiH (2,255).
Source: OSCE-led Survey on Violence against Women, 2019

Percentage of women who disagree and strongly disagree with attitudes among women who disclosed and women who did not disclose the experience of sexual harassment:



Base: Women aged 18-74 in BiH (2,255).
Source: OSCE-led Survey on Violence against Women, 2019

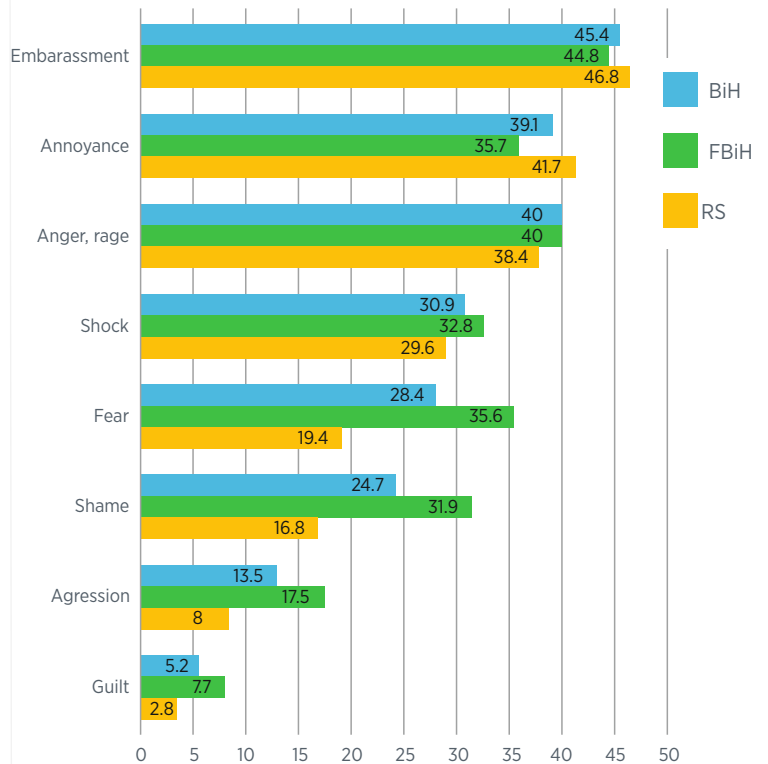
Prevalence of sexual harassment by minority and forced migration status, per cent:



Base: Women aged 18-74 in BiH (2,255); ethnic minority (130); religious minority (46); refugee, displaced (118); returnees (109).
Source: OSCE-led Survey on Violence against Women, 2019

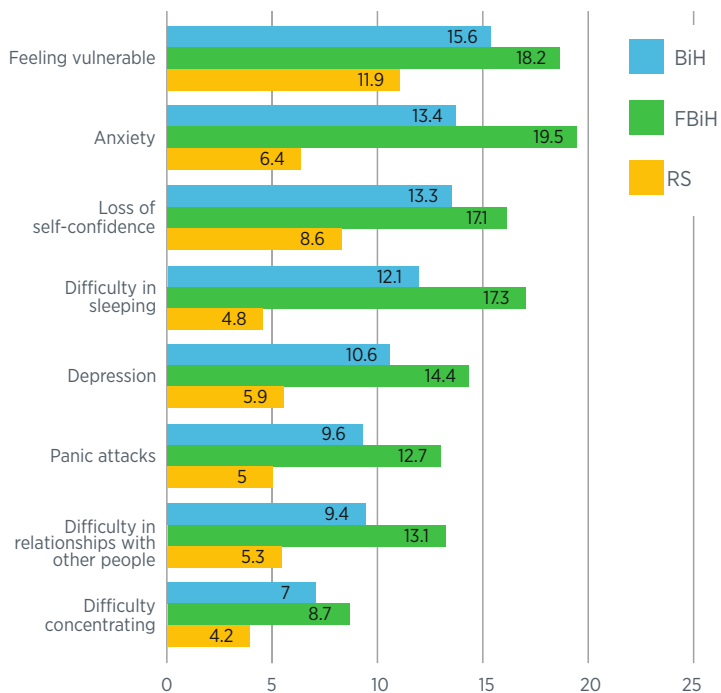
SEXUAL HARASSMENT TRIGGERS PSYCHOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES.

Women's emotional responses to the most serious incident of sexual harassment, by entity, per cent:



Base: Women aged 18-74 who reported a most serious incident of sexual harassment, (BiH:450; FBiH:241; RS:199).
Source: OSCE-led Survey on Violence against Women, 2019.

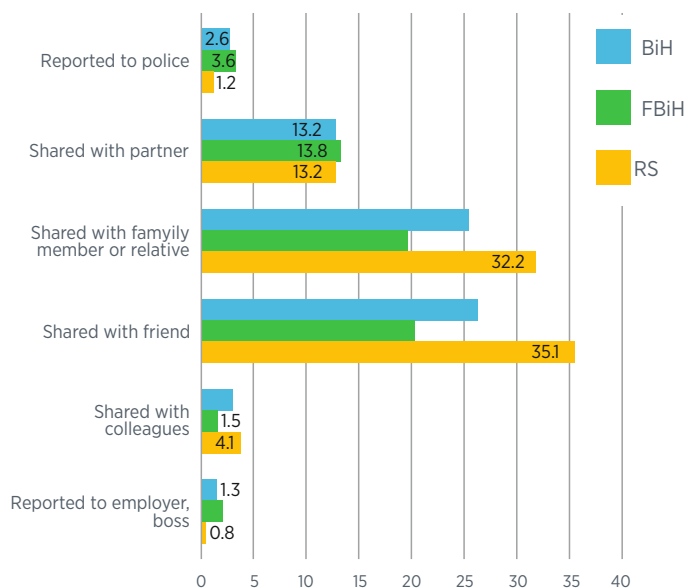
Psychological consequences of the most serious incident of sexual harassment, by entity, per cent:



Base: Women aged 18-74 who reported a most serious incident of sexual harassment, (BiH:450; FBiH:241; RS:199). Source: OSCE-led Survey on Violence against Women, 2019.

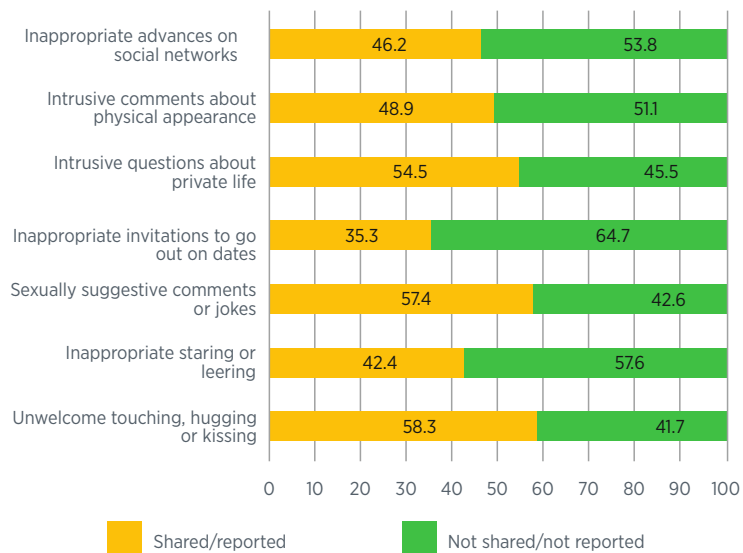
A MAJORITY OF WOMEN DO NOT REPORT SEXUAL HARASSMENT TO THE AUTHORITIES. ONLY 12 WOMEN (2.6 PER CENT) REPORTED INCIDENTS TO THE POLICE. IN CASES WHERE WOMEN SPEAK OUT ABOUT BEING SEXUALLY HARASSED, THIS IS PRIMARILY WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

Women with experience of sexual harassment who shared their experience with others, by entity, per cent:



Base: Women aged 18-74 who reported a most serious incident of sexual harassment, (BiH:450; FBiH:241; RS:199). Source: OSCE-led Survey on Violence against Women, 2019.

Percentage of women who pointed to different forms of sexual harassment as the most serious incident they experienced and sharing/reporting that incident to others, per cent:



Base: Women aged 18-74 who reported a most serious incident of sexual harassment, (BiH:450; FBiH:241; RS:199). Source: OSCE-led Survey on Violence against Women, 2019.

Percentage of women who experienced the most serious incident of sexual harassment by listed perpetrators who shared/reported that incident, per cent:



Base: Women aged 18-74 who reported a most serious incident of sexual harassment, (BiH:450; FBiH:241; RS:199). Source: OSCE-led Survey on Violence against Women, 2019.



RECOMMENDATION

1. Continuous work on increasing awareness of sexual harassment as a form of gender-based violence among both women and men.
2. Improving protection mechanisms at all levels of governance and in all relevant settings.

Gender equality mechanisms at State and Entity levels should take the lead in the establishment and promotion of such protection mechanisms.