



Statistics on Sexual Violence and Healthcare

Complaint before the Constitutional Court of Colombia to guaranty victims of sexual violence access to healthcare

Between 2012 and 2014, more than forty-eight thousand (48,000) women came to the national forensic agency for evidence collection as victims of sexual violence. Of those 48,000 attended to by the forensic agency reporting sexual violence, nearly 40% did not receive medical care. We are facing a major problem that must be urgently addressed by the State.

Year	Number of tests to women for alleged sexual crime - INMLCF (1)	Number of women assisted as victims of sexual violence within the national health system	% of women assisted within the national health system
2012	18,100	8,303	46%
2013	15,512	9,352	60%
2014	14,930	12,640	85% (2)
Total	48,542	30,295	62%

Source: Preparation by Women's Link Worldwide based on the National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences – INMLCF-'s Forensis 2012 and 2013, and its monthly statistical bulletin dated November 2014P; and SIVIGILA- National Institute of Health database

- (1) While numbers of sexual crime tests performed by the INMLCF are the official source from where sexual violence figures can be deducted, they do not necessarily reflect the extent of the problem, because many victims are not able to report violence to public institutions. With respect to sexual violence in the armed conflict, the First Survey on Prevalence of Sexual Violence, promoted by OXFAM and performed by Casa de la Mujer found that 82.1% of surveyed women did not reported it.
- (2) Though the number of female victims of violence attended to by the health system increases in the chart above over time, this increase does not necessarily reflect an actual increase in assistance. Implementation of the Protocol on Health Care to Victims of Sexual Violence in 2012 requiring these individuals be registered may explain the increase in the numbers.

Context of Sexual Violence

Colombian cities with the highest number of sexual violence against women in recent years include:



women's **L I N K** worldwide



Cities with the highest numbers	2012	2013	2014
Bogota D.C.	3.245	3.554	3.659
Medellin	983	1.020	944
Santiago de Cali	766	953	843
Barranquilla	371	459	533
Cartagena	416	461	453
Villavicencio	422	502	375
Santa Marta	194	207	200
Total	6.397	7.156	7.007

Source: Preparation by Women's Link Worldwide based on the National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences – INMLCF-'s Forensis 2012 and 2013, and its monthly statistical bulletin dated November 2014P

Primary aggressors include family members, friends, or acquaintances, and members of legal and illegal armed groups. This information demonstrates that **sexual violence occurs in a variety of contexts, including both in and outside the home, and, of course, during armed conflict.** The following table contains the principle categories of aggressors who committed acts of sexual violence in the last 3 years, and the percentage each type of aggressor makes up in relation to the total.

Aggressors	2012		2013		2014	
Family member	6,560	36.2%	6,069	40.1%	5,659	37.9%
Acquaintance	5,650	31.2%	5,413	35.8%	4,705	31.5%
Unknown aggressor	3,370	18.6%	1,343	8.9%	1,065	7.1%
Spouse or ex - spouse	1,590	8.8%	1,317	8.7%	1,441	9.7%
Caregiver	45	0.2%	104	0.7%	43	0.3%
Common crime	73	0.4%	75	0.5%	99	0.7%
Members of an organized crime group	16	0.1%	35	0.2%	33	0.2%
Members of the armed forces, police, judicial police, and intelligence services	40	0.2%	30	0.2%	31	0.2%
Members of rebel groups	10	0.1%	19	0.1%	78	0.5%
Members of private security	7	0.0%	13	0.1%	23	0.2%
Members of an urban tribe	0	0.0%	7	0.0%	0	0.0%
Prison guards	6	0.0%	2	0.0%	2	0.0%
Other	733	4.0%	706	4.7%	1,751	11.7%
TOTAL	18,100	100.0%	15,133	100.0%	14,930	100.0%

Source: Preparation by Women's Link Worldwide based on the National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences – INMLCF-'s Forensis 2012 and 2013, and its monthly statistical bulletin dated November 2014P

Ages of the Victims

In the last 3 years, **girls and adolescents between 10 and 14 years old have been the population most affected by sexual violence in Colombia.** Between 2012 and 2014, an annual average of 6,813 girls and adolescents within this age range were victims.



Ages	2012	2013	2014
00 to 04 years	1,909	1,801	1,498
05 to 09 years	4,059	3,852	3,246
10 to 14 years	7,172	7,116	6,152
15 to 17 years	2,146	2,151	1,760
Total	15,286	14,920	12,656

Source: Preparation by Women's Link Worldwide based on the National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences – INMLCF's Forensis 2012 and 2013, and its monthly statistical bulletin dated November 2014P

Sexual Violence in the Armed Conflict

According to the National Registry of Victims as of June 1st, 2015 a total of 10,137 victims have reported crimes of sexual violence in the armed conflict, between 1985 and 2015. Out of these, 9,082 were women (90%), 823 were men, and 198 did not report any gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex identity. Thirty-four (34) of the individuals identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and/or intersex (LGBTI) (National Information Network - RNI, 2015)

In contrast, the First Survey on Prevalence of Sexual Violence in the Conflict, performed by Casa de la Mujer, with the support of international organization Oxfam Intermón and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, found that **approximately 489,687 women were direct victims of sexual violence between 2000 and 2009** in the armed conflict within the provinces of Antioquia, Nariño, Caldas, Valle, Putumayo, Huila, Caqueta, Cordoba, Magdalena, Meta, and Cundinamarca.

The fact that the health system registry has never kept records of whether incidents of sexual violence occurred in the context of the armed conflict combined with the fact that the protocol mandating these events be recorded has only been in effect since the 2012, has rendered **it impossible to know how many female victims of sexual violence in the armed conflict received assistance by the health care system.**