

SIXTH REPORT ON STATISTICS ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN EL SALVADOR

Research Institute on Gender-Based Violence (IVG)

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I. Acronyms

EHPM: Multi-Purpose Household Survey

PGR: Attorney General's Office of the Republic

FGR: Prosecutor General's Office of the Republic

ISDEMU: Salvadoran Institute for the Development of Women

IML: Institute of Legal Medicine

LEIV: Special Comprehensive Law for a Life Free of Violence for Women

MJSP: Ministry of Justice and Public Security

MINSAL: Ministry of Health

MTPS: Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare

WHO: World Health Organization

PGR: Attorney General's Office

UNFPA: United Nations Population Fund

USAID: U.S. Agency for International Development

GBV: Gender-Based Violence

II. Glossary

The following definitions are taken according to the terminology used in: (a) Special Comprehensive Law for a Life of Violence for Women (LEIV) (Legislative Assembly of El Salvador, 2011a), (b) the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and (c) the World Health Organization (WHO).

Gender-Based Violence (GBV): is any threat or harmful act directed at a person or group based on actual or perceived sex, gender, gender identity or expression, sex characteristics, or sexual orientation, and/or lack of adherence to various socially constructed norms around masculinity and femininity. Although people of all gender identities may experience gender-based violence, women, girls, and LGBTQI+ people face a disproportionate risk of gender-based violence in all contexts due to their unequal status in society (USAID, 2023, p. 37).

Violence against women (LEIV, art. 8): It is any action based on their gender, which causes death, harm or physical, sexual or psychological suffering to women in both the public and private spheres.

Sexual violence ((LEIV, art. 9): is any conduct that threatens or violates a woman's right to voluntarily decide her sexual life, including not only the sexual act but also any form of sexual contact or access, genital or non-genital, regardless of whether or not the aggressor is in a conjugal relationship, a couple, or a sexual relationship, social, occupational, affective or kinship with the female victim.



Sexual violence (WHO) means any sexual act, attempt to consummate a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or actions to commercialize or otherwise use a person's sexuality through coercion by another person, regardless of the person's relationship to the victim, in any setting, including the home and workplace (WHO, 2013, p. 2).

Sexual freedom (FGR): it is the cognitive and evaluative capacity of the passive subject, referring to the meaning and transcendence of the sexual act, as well as the consent that, eventually, can be given to it. It follows that, where this capacity is lacking, sexual freedom will also be lacking, which therefore cannot be violated or impaired (FGR, n.d., p. 43).

1. Executive summary

This report has been prepared by the Research Institute on Gender-Based Violence (IVG) within the framework of the Project "LibrES: For an El Salvador without Gender-Based Violence", funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) El Salvador, with the aim of providing relevant statistical information about gender-based violence (GBV) in El Salvador.

This document focuses on statistical data provided by the Ministry of Justice and Public Security; These are disaggregated at the national, departmental, monthly, weekly, and age range (in some cases), during the years 2015 - 2022; in order to establish a detailed overview of the situation of gender-based violence in El Salvador. This report focuses on the specifics of sexual violence in El Salvador.

The statistical data presented in this document have been obtained through the Reports on Acts of Violence against Women (MJSP, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023). Below are the main results according to the sections that make up this report.

First, at the national level in the period from 2015 to 2017, and from 2019 to 2022, the total number of cases of victims of sexual violence was 57,980; Of these, 38,902 are women, 2,139 are men, and 16,939 are undetermined cases. Regarding women victims of sexual violence for crimes typified in the LEIV, in the period from 2018 to 2022, 520 cases of the crime of Dissemination of pornography (article 51 LEIV) and 50 cases of the crime of Induction, Promotion and Favoring of Sexual or Erotic Acts by Computer or Electronic Means (article 49 LEIV) were presented nationwide.

Second, the high rates of sexual violence against women by age group in the period from 2019 to 2022 can be visualized. It is important to note the accumulation of early-stage rates for age groups nationwide in cases per 100,000 women: 179.17 in childhood (i.e., 179.17 cases of girls who have been

victims of sexual violence per 100,000 women), (b) 945.25 in adolescence, (c) 122.23 in youth, (d) 51.30 in adults, and (e) 10.38 in older adults.

Thirdly, in the period of the years 2018-2022, the total number of cases of women victims of sexual violence according to crimes against sexual freedom (according to the Penal Code of the Republic of El Salvador), was: (a) 11,517 of rape, (b) 5,494 of sexual assault, (c) 4,495 of sexual harassment, (d) 4,854 of statutory rape, (e) 58 for prostitution, (f) 20 for pornography, (g) 1,060 for other sexual assaults, (h) 520 for dissemination of pornography and (i) 50 for Inducement, Promotion and Encouragement of Sexual or Erotic Acts by Computer or Electronic Means.

Fourthly, at the national level in the period of 2015-2022, the three age ranges with the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence in all its forms are: (a) 3,135 in 05-09 years, (b) 12,782 in 10-14 years and (c) 16,267 in 15-19 years. In this same period, the three months with the highest number of cases are: (a) 4,176 in March, (b) 4,267 in September and (c) 4,119 in October. Also, in that period at the national level, the three days with the highest number of cases are: (a) 8,058 on Tuesday, (b) 7,908 on Wednesday and (c) 7,645 on Thursday.

Fifth, at the national level in the period of the years 2016-2022, the three hours where the highest number of complaints of cases of women victims of sexual violence are presented, are: (a) 13,338 from 08:00 to 11:59, (b) 13,642 from 12:00 to 15:59 and (c) 6,308 from 16:00 to 19:59. Likewise, at the national level in the period of 2018-2022, the three places where the highest number of cases occur are: (a) 15,343 private homes, (b) 6,210 in open spaces and (c) 2,251 in undetermined places. In addition, at the national level in the period of 2015-2022, the three institutions where the highest number of cases are reported are: (a) 4,089 in the justice sector, (b) 1,741 in other public institutions and (c) 668 in the health sector. In turn, at the national level in the period of the years 2016-2022, the three time ranges for filing the complaint where the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence are presented, are: (a) 12,028 from 72 hours to less than 1 month, (b) 8,839 from less than 24 hours, and (c) 6,059 from 24 hours to less than 48 hours.

Sixth, at the national level in the period from 2015 to 2022, the total number of cases of perpetrators of sexual violence, by sex are: (a) women is 1,563, (b) undetermined is 5,033 and (c) men is 42,273. In addition, at the national level, the three age ranges with the highest number of perpetrators of sexual violence, in the period from 2015 to 2017, are: (a) 1,551 between 13-18 years old, (b) 3,725 between 19-29 years old, and (c) 3,934 between 30-55 years old. Now, at the national level, the three age ranges with the highest number of perpetrators of sexual violence, in the period from 2018 to 2022, are: (a) 3,336 from 15-19 years old, (b) 3,337 from 20-24 years old, and (c) 11,227 from undetermined. In the same vein, at the national level, the highest number of definitive results on cases and defendants of sexual violence, in the period from 2018 to 2022, is in: 4,228 cases and 4,341 defendants (convictions).



In seventh place, at the national level, the three criminal groups with the highest number of perpetrators of sexual violence, in the period from 2015 to 2020, are: (a) 1,012 from Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13), (b) 570 from the Barrio18, R and S gangs, (Revolucionarios and Sureños), and (c) 34,921 from undetermined. In addition to the above, at the national level, the three links between perpetrators and female victims with the highest number of sexual assault reports, in the period from 2016 to 2021, are: (a) 2,254 from relatives by consanguinity, (b) 2,968 from partners, and (c) 4,606 from acquaintances. Likewise, at the national level in the period from 2015 to 2022, the total number of recognitions made for suspected sexual abuse is: (a) women is 19,879 and (b) men is 1,836.

2. Introduction

The Gender Violence Research Institute (IVG) presents this report within the framework of the Project "LibrES - For an El Salvador without Gender Violence". The objective is to provide data and analysis on sexual violence, as part of the situation of gender-based violence (GBV) in the country, in the period 2015 - 2022.

This sixth report addresses three levels of analysis: national, monthly, and weekly. The information comes from the reports on Acts of Violence against Women, published by the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) of the Government of El Salvador. The data include: (a) figures on sexual violence at the national and departmental levels, and by age range (2015-2022), (b) expert reports carried out by the Institute of Legal Medicine, in cases of sexual violence, and (c) State care for victims of sexual violence.

The data contained in these reports come from the National System of Data, Statistics and Information on Violence against Women, coordinated by the MJSP. The main institutions that generate information on violence against women and are part of this system are: the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic (FGR), the National Civil Police (PNC), the Ministry of Health (MINSAL), the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MTPS), the Salvadoran Institute for the Development of Women (ISDEMU), the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic (PGR) and the Institute of Legal Medicine (IML).

This report highlights the acts of sexual violence that still persist against women in the country, and presents the actions taken by the State to guarantee specialized care for women in the face of this violence, and to comply with national and international regulations that guarantee a life free of violence for women. This document visualizes detailed statistics over time, in order to provide data and an overview of the behavior, evolution, and characterization of sexual violence in El Salvador.



3. Method

For this report, a quantitative analysis of data on sexual violence was carried out, at the national, departmental, municipal, monthly, and age range levels (from the available data and as the case may be). The study was based on statistical data from secondary sources, presented in the Annual Reports on Acts of Violence against Women published by the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023). This data covers the period of the years 2015 - 2022; it is annual, monthly, weekly.

4. Results

4.1 Sexual violence data at the national level

In El Salvador, sexual violence is a chronic and endemic problem that affects society, and every stage of people's lives. This type of violence occurs in all social sectors and their places of development of usual activities such as: the streets, homes, workplaces, study centers, public transportation, health centers, among others (United Nations Population Fund [UNFPA], 2019)

According to article 9, letter f of the Special Comprehensive Law for a Life Free of Violence for Women (LEIV), sexual violence is:

any conduct that threatens or violates a woman's right to voluntarily decide her sexual life, including not only the sexual act but also any form of sexual contact or access, genital or non-genital, regardless of whether or not the aggressor has a conjugal, partner, social, work, affective or kinship relationship with the woman victim (Legislative Assembly of El Salvador, 2011a, p. 6).

Likewise, from a public health perspective, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), sexual violence is:

any sexual act, attempt to consummate a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or actions to commercialize or otherwise use a person's sexuality through coercion by another person, regardless of the relationship of the person to the victim, in any setting, including the home and workplace (WHO, 2013, p. 2)

Sexual violence against women is one of the clearest manifestations of the patriarchal domination system that permeates social relations, establishing a dominator and a dominated, where genders are related through men's power and control over women's bodies and sexuality (Contreras et al., 2010; Eisler, 2007). This report addresses sexual violence against women and men (Table 1).



Table 1. Victims of sexual violence by sex, in the period from 2015 to 2017, and from 2019 to 2022

Sex	2015	2016	2017	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Women	5,019	5,394	5,963	6,268	5,052	5,995	5,211	38,902
Man	219	---	---	525	435	485	475	2,139
Undetermined	5,238	5,394	5,963	86	78	74	106	16,939
Total	10,476	10,788	11,926	6,879	5,565	6,554	5,792	57,980

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).

Note: there is no data available for the years 2016 and 2017, referring to male victims of sexual violence; and for 2018 there is no disaggregated data for women and men.

In Table 1, it can be seen that at the national level in the period from 2015 to 2017, and from 2019 to 2022, the total number of cases of victims of sexual violence in: (a) women is 38,902, (b) undetermined is 16,939 and (c) men is 2,139. Along the same lines, the three years with the highest number of cases were: (a) in women, 5,963 in 2017, 6,268 in 2019 and 5,995 in 2021; these years represent 15%, 16% and 15% of the total cases respectively in the period, for 46%; in turn, these years showed an increase compared to their previous year of 11%, 5% and 19%, respectively; (b) in men, 525 in 2019, 485 in 2021 and 475 in 2022; these years represent 25%, 23% and 22% of the total cases respectively in the period, for 70%. On the other hand, these years showed an increase of 11% compared to their previous year for 2021 and a decrease of 2% for 2022, and (c) in undetermined, 5,238 in 2015, 5,394 in 2016 and 5,963 in 2017; these years represent 31%, 32% and 35% of the total cases respectively in the period, to form 98%; at the same time, these years showed an increase over their previous year of 3% for 2016 and 11% for 2017.

These data represent an overview of the current situation regarding the number of cases of victims of sexual violence at the national level, since in the period from 2015 to 2017, and from 2019 to 2022, the victims of sexual violence in: (a) women, increased by 192 cases (5,211-5,019=256), (b) men, increased by 256 cases (4,75-219=256) and (c) undetermined, decreased by 5132 cases (5,238-106=5,132).

Table 2 shows the number of women victims of sexual violence due to a crime defined in the LEIV in the period from 2018 to 2022. LEIV offences are covered by Title II (Offences and Penalties) and Chapter I. Article 49 deals with the offence of Inducing, Promoting and Favoring Sexual or Erotic Acts by Computer or Electronic Means, which establishes that:

Anyone who, individually, collectively or organized, publishes, distributes, sends, promotes, facilitates, administers, finances or organizes, in any way, the use of women, over eighteen years of age, without their consent in sexual or erotic acts, using computer or electronic means, shall be punished with imprisonment of five to ten years (Legislative Assembly of El Salvador, 2011a, p 18).



Article 51 of the LEIV also provides for the offence of dissemination of pornography, which states that "anyone who publishes, shares, sends or distributes pornographic material by any computer or electronic means in which the image or identity of the woman is used without her consent shall be punished with a sentence of three to five years" (Legislative Assembly of El Salvador, 2011a). In this sense, the total number of cases of victims of sexual violence for crimes typified in the LEIV between 2018 and 2022 is: (a) 520 of Dissemination of Pornography (art. 51) and (b) 50 of Induction, Promotion and Favoring of Sexual or Erotic Acts by Computer or Electronic Means (Art. 49).

Likewise, the three years with the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence for crimes defined in the LEIV were: (a) Art. 51, 131 in 2018, 143 in 2019 and 97 in 2021; These years represent 25%, 28% and 19% of the total cases respectively in the period, for 72%; In turn, these years showed an increase compared to their previous year of 9% for 2019 and 8% for 2021; and (b) Art. 49, 23 in 2018, 10 in 2019 and 7 in 2022; These years represent 46%, 20% and 14% of the total cases respectively in the period, for 77%. On the other hand, in 2019 there was a decrease of 57% compared to the previous year and for 2022 an increase of 40%. During this period, the number of women victims of sexual violence due to crimes defined in the LEIV decreased by 72 cases under article 51 ($131-56=72$) and 16 cases under article 49 ($23-7=16$).

Table 2. Women victims of sexual violence for crimes defined in the LEIV, 2018-2022

LEIV Offences	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Dissemination of Pornography (51 LEIV)	131	143	90	97	59	520
Inducing, Promoting, and Favoring Sexual or Erotic Acts by Computer or Electronic Means (49 LEIV)	23	10	5	5	7	50
Total	154	153	95	102	66	570

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).

As contextualized at the beginning of the results, sexual violence is a problem that affects the whole of society, without distinction of age groups, affecting women to a greater extent. Table 3 shows the rates of sexual violence against women by age group for the period from 2019 to 2022. In this regard, the average total rate of sexual violence against women by age group at the national level is: (a) 179.17 in childhood, (b) 945.25 in adolescence, (c) 122.23 in young people, (d) 51.30 in adults and (e) 10.38 in older adults.

Similarly, the year with the highest rate of sexual violence against women by age group in the period from 2019 to 2022, at the national level is: (a) childhood, 204.4 in 2022, this represents an increase of 17% compared to the previous year and an increase of 49.2 in the period ($204.4-155.2=49.2$); (b) adolescence, 1082.82 in 2021, this represents an increase of 29% compared to the previous year and



a decrease of 244.03 in the period (1050.6-806.57=244.03); (c) young people, 129.84 in 2021, this represents an increase of 20% compared to the previous year and a decrease of 21.73 in the period (136.2-114.47=21.73); (d) adults, 54.8 in 2019, this represents a decrease of 4.41 in the period (54.8-50.39=4.41); and (e) older adult, 13.84 in 2022, this represents an increase of 50% compared to the previous year and an increase of 3.64 in the period (13.84-10.2=3.64).

This approach represents the reality of the Salvadoran context, because it tells us that in the case of the years where the rates were higher: (a) in 2022, there were a total of 204.4 girls victims of sexual violence per 100,000 people; and 13.84 women in the older adult age group, (b) in 2021, there were 1082.82 female victims of sexual violence per 100,000 people in the adolescent age group (i.e., this is the highest rate in the period analyzed, as it demonstrates the vulnerability of adolescent girls to sexual violence); and 12.84 women in the youth age group, and (c) in the year 2019, there were 54.8 female victims of sexual violence per 100,000 people in the adult age group.

Table 3. Rate of sexual violence against women per 100,000 women, by age group, 2019-2022

Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total Average
Childhood (0-12 years)	155.2	182.3	174.78	204.4	179.17
Adolescence (13-17 years)	1,050.6	841.02	1,082.82	806.57	945.25
Youth (18-19 years old)	136.2	108.4	129.84	114.47	122.23
Adults (30-60 years)	54.8	45.5	54.5	50.39	51.30
Older adult (61 years or older)	10.2	8.23	9.23	13.84	10.38
Total Average	1,407	1,185.45	1,451	1,190	1,308.33

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).

Title IV of the Penal Code of the Republic of El Salvador defines crimes against sexual freedom, which include: (a) rape, (b) sexual assault, (c) statutory rape, (d) sexual harassment, (e) prostitution and (f) pornography; as well as other aggravated crimes, including cases in which the victims are children and adolescents (Legislative Assembly of El Salvador, 1997). Sexual freedom "is related to the exercise of the general right to freedom, but in a particular area, that of one's own sexuality or current or future sexual self-determination" (Attorney General's Office [FGR], n.d., p. 42).

Sexual freedom, then, is made up of several aspects: (a) the possibility of choosing and practicing one's preferred sexual option, (b) using and making use of one's own body without any limitations other than respect for the freedom and morality of others when it is integrated into another protected legal right, as may occur with the crime of obscene exhibitions established in Article 171 of the Penal Code, (c) the possibility of choosing a partner and (d) the possibility of rejecting unwanted proposals and repelling possible attacks (FGR, n.d.).

In other words, sexual freedom:

It is the cognitive and evaluative capacity of the passive subject, referring to the meaning and transcendence of the sexual act, as well as the consent that, eventually, he or she may give to it. It follows that, where this capacity is lacking, sexual freedom will also be lacking, which therefore cannot be violated or impaired (FGR, n.d., p. 43).

In relation to this, Table 4 presents the cases of women victims of sexual violence for crimes against sexual freedom, in the period of the years 2018-2022.

Table 4. Women victims of sexual violence for crimes against sexual freedom, 2018-2022

Offences against sexual freedom	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Rape	2,600	2,518	1,938	2,354	2,107	11,517
Sexual Assault	820	952	902	1,431	1,389	5,494
Sexual harassment	864	1,012	749	921	949	4,495
Rape	1,233	1,173	847	1,047	554	4,854
Determination to prostitution	0	0	0	0	58	58
Pornography	0	0	0	0	20	20
Other Sexual Assaults	373	386	301	0	0	1,060
Other	252	227	220	242	134	1,075
Dissemination of Pornography (51 LEIV)	131	143	90	97	59	520
Inducing, Promoting, and Favoring Sexual or Erotic Acts by Computer or Electronic Means (49 LEIV)	23	10	5	5	7	50
Total	6,296	64,21	5,052	6,097	5,277	29,143

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).

In relation to the data in Table 4, it can be seen that at the national level in the period of the years 2018-2022, the total cases of women victims of sexual violence for crimes against sexual freedom are: (a) rape is 11,517, (b) sexual assault is 5,494, (c) sexual harassment is 4,495, (d) statutory rape is 4,854, (e) determination to prostitution is 58, (f) pornography is 20, (g) other sexual assaults is 1060, (h) 51 LEIV is 520 and (i) 49 LEIV is 50.

Similarly, the year with the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence for each crime against sexual freedom, in the period from 2018 to 2022, at the national level is: (a) rape, 2,600 in 2018, this represents 23% in the period and a decrease of 493 in 2022 (2,600-2,107=493), (b) sexual assault, 1,431 in 2021, this represents an increase of 59% over the previous year and 26% of the total cases in the period; in this time interval there is an increase of 569 cases (1,389-820=569), (c) sexual harassment, 1,012 in 2019, this represents an increase of 17% compared to the previous year and 23% of the total cases in the period; in this time interval there is an increase of 85 cases (949-864=85), (d) statutory rape, 1,233 cases in 2018, this represents 23% of the total cases in the period; in this time



interval there is a decrease of 679 cases ($1,233-554=679$), (e) determination to prostitution, 58 in 2022, (f) pornography, 20 in 2022, (g) other sexual assaults, 386 in 2019, this represents an increase of 3% compared to the previous year and 36% of the total cases in the period; in this time interval there is a 100% decrease in cases for 2022, (h) others, 252 in 2018, this represents 23% of the total cases in the period; in this time interval there is a decrease of 118 cases ($252-134=118$), (i) 51 LEIV, 143 in 2019, this represents an increase of 9% compared to the previous year and 28% of the total cases in the period; in this time interval there is a decrease of 72 cases ($131-59=72$), and (j) 49 LEIV, 23 in 2018, representing 46% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there was a decrease of 16 cases ($23-7=16$).

Table 5 presents the cases of women victims of sexual violence in all its forms (including all crimes against sexual freedom) by age range, in the period from 2015 to 2022. First of all, at the national level, the three age ranges with the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence in all its forms are: (a) 3,135 in 05-09 years, (b) 12,782 in 10-14 years and (c) 16,267 in 15-19 years.

Secondly, with respect to the age ranges with the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence in all its forms at the national level, it can be seen that they were in the years: (a) 451 in 05-09 years (2019), this represents an increase of 3% compared to the previous year and 14% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there is an increase of 37 cases ($324-287=37$), (b) 1,762 in 10-14 years (2021), this represents an increase of 27% compared to the previous year and 14% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there is an increase of 296 cases ($1,731-1,435=296$), (c) 2,344 in 15-19 years (2018), this represents an increase of 1% compared to the previous year and 14% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there was a decrease of 242 cases ($1,751-1,509=242$).

Thirdly, it should be noted that in the data in Table 5, the age ranges where women are most vulnerable are 05-09, 10-14 and 15-19, therefore, these data represent the complex social reality of girls, adolescents and young women in the face of sexual violence in El Salvador. In addition, this is an accumulation of young ages with respect to women victims of sexual violence in all its forms, since, according to the Household and Multiple Purpose Survey (EHPM) for the year 2022, this population group represented 22% of people in El Salvador (EHPM, 2022).

Table 5. Women victims of sexual violence in all its forms by age range, 2015-2022

Age Range	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
00-04	117	162	197	144	146	130	157	131	1,184
05-09	287	372	409	438	451	416	438	324	3,135
10-14	1,435	1,488	1,652	1,684	1,648	1,382	1,762	1,731	12,782
15-19	1,751	2,270	2,323	2,344	2,339	1,700	2,031	1,509	16,267
20-24	354	322	401	368	473	350	447	329	3,044
25-29	199	222	244	293	372	271	312	255	2,168
30-34	158	165	207	207	218	186	231	197	1,569



Age Range	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
35-39	110	130	161	147	183	130	153	158	1,172
40-44	79	104	101	114	130	117	139	118	902
45-49	41	65	66	81	90	58	79	66	546
50-54	33	30	44	48	44	41	48	45	333
55-59	10	15	20	27	29	24	27	22	174
60-64	9	12	14	11	19	13	7	13	98
65-69	8	9	14	7	9	7	11	19	84
70-74	9	4	3	8	8	7	9	12	60
75-79	4	3	6	4	4	6	11	2	40
80+	12	0	5	9	8	4	7	12	57
In the given	403	229	241	208	250	210	228	334	2,103
Total	5,019	5,602	6,108	6,142	6,421	5,052	6,097	5,277	45,718

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).

Table 6 shows the cases of women victims of sexual violence in all its forms by month of the complaint, in the period from 2015 to 2022. First, at the national level, the three months with the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence in all its forms are: (a) 4,176 in March, (b) 4,267 in September, and (c) 4,119 in October.

Second, with respect to the months with the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence in all its forms at the national level, it can be seen that they were in the years: (a) 568 in March (2020), this represents an increase of 27% compared to the previous year and 11% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there is a decrease of 194 cases ($527-333=194$), (b) 614 in September (2020), this represents an increase of 62% compared to the previous year and 12% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there is a decrease of 128 cases ($484-356=128$), (c) 580 in October (2019 and 2020), this represents a decrease of 5% and 6% compared to previous years, 9% and 11% of the total cases in the period, respectively; In these time intervals, there is a decrease of 60 ($480-420=60$) and 129 cases ($541-412=129$), respectively.

Third, it should be noted that in the data in Table 6, the three months with the greatest vulnerabilities for women are March, September and October 2020, and October 2019 (the same number of cases were reported in October 2019 and 2020). Similarly, it highlights that the year with the highest number of cases is 2019 with 6,421.

Table 6. Women victims of sexual violence in all its forms by month of complaint, 2015-2022

Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
2015	527	430	490	392	431	382	449	391	392	424	378	333	5,019
2016	484	448	461	442	527	545	494	526	423	453	443	356	5,602
2017	550	523	565	400	585	431	495	471	595	504	558	431	6,108



Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
2018	426	443	501	458	563	624	641	581	576	498	444	387	6,142
2019	480	498	554	439	556	533	600	569	611	580	581	420	6,421
2020	541	446	568	195	263	278	300	380	614	580	475	412	5,052
2021	377	409	545	465	537	563	623	496	543	570	498	471	6,097
2022	356	333	492	371	462	421	469	495	513	510	477	378	5,277
Total	3,741	3,530	4,176	3,162	3,924	3,777	4,071	3,909	4,267	4,119	3,854	3,188	45,718

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).

Table 7 shows the cases of women victims of sexual violence in all its forms according to the day of the complaint, in the period from 2015 to 2022. First, at the national level, the three days with the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence in all its forms are: (a) 8,058 on Tuesdays, (b) 7,908 on Wednesdays and (c) 7,645 on Thursdays.

Second, with respect to the days with the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence in all its forms at the national level, it can be seen that they were in the years: (a) 1,205 on Tuesday (2019), this represents an increase of 22% compared to the previous year and 19% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there is an increase of 164 cases (510-346=164), (b) 1,176 on Wednesday (2021), this represents an increase of 10% compared to the previous year and 19% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there is an increase of 131 cases (447-316=131), (c) 1,174 in Thursday (2018), this represents an increase of 1% compared to the previous year and 19% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there was an increase of 97 cases (395-298=97). Thirdly, it should be noted that in the data in Table 7, the days on which the highest number of violations were committed against women are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Similarly, it highlights that the year and day with the highest number of cases is Tuesday in 2019 with 1,205.

Table 7. Women victims of sexual violence in all its forms according to the day of the complaint, 2015-2022

Type of Crime	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Total
2015	858	795	829	742	769	497	529	5,019
2016	586	1,006	933	865	865	844	503	5,602
2017	645	972	1,051	1,007	954	895	584	6,108
2018	298	963	1,091	1,159	1,174	1,062	395	6,142
2019	346	986	1,205	1,124	1,126	1,124	510	6,421
2020	293	898	876	923	840	894	328	5,052
2021	316	998	1,073	1,176	1,043	1,044	447	6,097
2022	272	900	1,000	912	874	957	362	5,277
Total	3,614	7,518	8,058	7,908	7,645	7,317	3,658	45,718

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).

Table 8 shows the cases of women victims of sexual violence according to the time of the complaint, in the period from 2016 to 2022. On the one hand, at the national level, the three hours with the highest number of complaints of cases of women victims of sexual violence are: (a) 13,338 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:59 a.m., (b) 13,642 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:59 p.m. and (c) 6,308 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:59 p.m.

On the other hand, with respect to the hours with the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence at the national level, it can be seen that they were in the years: (a) 2,289 from 12:00 to 15:59 (2018), this represents an increase of 19% compared to the previous year and 17% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there is a decrease of 5 cases (1,775-1,770=5), (b) 2,302 from 08:00 to 11:59 (2019), this represents an increase of 5% compared to the previous year and 17% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there is a decrease of 199 cases (1,868-1,669=199), (c) 1,009 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:59 p.m. (2021), this represents an increase of 20% compared to the previous year and 16% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there was a decrease of 46 cases (926-880=46).

Therefore, the hours with the highest number of violations for women are from 08:00 to 11:59, 12:00 to 15:59 and 16:00 to 19:59. Similarly, it highlights that the year and time where the highest number of cases of complaints were filed is from 08:00 to 11:59 in 2019 with 2,302.

Table 8. Women victims of sexual violence, by time of complaint, 2016-2022

Reporting Time	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
00:00 to 03:59	323	346	143	144	181	161	131	1,429
04:00 to 07:59	313	316	264	346	297	320	276	2,132
08:00 to 11:59	1,868	1,996	2,186	2,302	1,519	1,798	1,669	13,338
12:00 p.m. to 3:59 p.m.	1,775	1,921	2,289	2,102	1,589	2,196	1,770	13,642
16:00 to 19:59	926	987	732	935	839	1,009	880	6,308
8:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.	397	542	528	592	627	613	551	3,850
Total	5,602	6,108	6,142	6,421	5,052	6,097	5,277	40,699

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).

Table 9 shows the cases of women victims of sexual violence by place of the event, in the period from 2018 to 2022. By the way, at the national level, the three places with the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence are: (a) 15,343 private homes, (b) 6,210 in open spaces and (c) 2,251 in undetermined places.

With respect to the places with the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence at the national level, it can be seen that in the years: (a) 601 in undetermined places (2018), this represents 27% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there is a decrease of 103 cases



(601-498=103), (b) 2,208 in open spaces (2019), this represents 36% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there is an increase of 100% in cases (1,223-0=1,223), (c) 3,364 in private homes (2021), this represents 22% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there was a decrease of 171 cases (2,992-2,821=171).

Therefore, the three places where the highest number of violations occurred for women are in their private homes, open spaces and in undetermined places. Similarly, it highlights that the year and place where the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence occurred was in the private home, in 2021 with 3,364.

Table 9. Women victims of sexual violence, by place of occurrence, 2018-2022

Place of occurrence	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Home address	2,992	3,265	2,901	3,364	2,821	15,343
Open space	0	2,208	1,267	1,512	1,223	6,210
Open space and public transportation	2,032	0	0	0	0	2,032
Other non-residential commercial establishments	206	32	235	339	335	1,147
School or other educational instances	104	139	38	50	174	505
Institutional care settings	195	174	132	177	134	812
Public transport and its surroundings	0	28	34	37	40	139
Bartolinas, penitentiaries or detention centers	12	20	6	5	6	49
Undetermined	601	555	30	567	498	2,251
Other	0	0	409	46	46	501
Total	6,142	6,421	5,052	6,097	5,277	28,989

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).

Tables 10 and 11 present the cases of women victims of sexual violence by institution of origin, in the period from 2015 to 2022. Mainly, at the national level, the three institutions with the highest number of complaints of cases of women victims of sexual violence are: (a) 4,089 in the justice sector, (b) 1,741 in other public institutions and (c) 668 in the health sector.

As for the institutions with the highest number of cases from women victims of sexual violence at the national level, it can be seen that in the years: (a) 4,089 from the justice sector (2019), this represents an increase of 12% compared to the previous year and 14% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there is an increase of 356 cases (3,682-3,326=356), (b) 1,741 from other public institutions (2017), this represents an increase of 3% compared to the previous year and 16% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there is a decrease of 333 cases (1,207-874=333), (c) 668 in the health sector (2019), this represents a decrease of 6% compared to the previous year and 13% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there was a decrease of 251 cases (745-494=251).

Therefore, the institutions of origin of the largest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence are the justice sector, the health sector and other public institutions. Likewise, it highlights that the year and the three institutions from which the highest number of cases come are: (a) the National Civil Police in 2019 with 2,856, (b) national hospitals in 2019 with 620, and (c) the National Council for Early Childhood, Childhood and Adolescence, in 2019 with 1,437.

Table 10. Women victims of sexual violence, by institutions of origin, 2015-2022 (1 of 2)

Institution of origin of the case	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Justice sector								
National Civil Police	2,209	2,197	2,392		2,856	2,433	2,653	2,550
Attorney General's Office	971	804	967		998	760	1,011	906
CSJ/Courts/Tribunals	130	134	185		195	176	208	192
National Council of the Judiciary	0	0	0		0	1	1	1
Office of the Attorney General of the Republic	13	28	37	3,655	36	21	25	31
Penal Center	2	2	6		1	1	0	1
Office of the Ombudsman for the Defense of Human Rights	0	4	0		3	3	1	1
Institute of Forensic Medicine	1	0	0			0	0	0
Total	3,326	3,169	3,587	3,655	4,089	3,395	3,899	3,682
Health Sector								
National Hospitals	687	602	590		620	513	612	410
Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare	49	53	27	711	39		41	82
Salvadoran Social Security Institute	8	3	3		7		7	2
Higher Council for Health	1	3	0		2		6	0
Total	745	661	620	711	668	513	666	494
Other Public Institutions								
National Council for Early Childhood, Childhood and Adolescence	783	1,237	1,437		1,345	856	1,206	767
Women's City	305	284	219		104	74	76	19
Salvadoran Institute for Women's Development	67	69	52		33	22	40	37
Public institution	29	73	21		11	23	18	24
Salvadoran Institute for the Integral Development of Children and Adolescents	12	5	5		5	5	5	8
Ministry of Education	6	11	3		14	0	9	12
Ministry of Governance	0	0	0		0	0	1	0
Municipal Mayor's Office	1	2	2	1,641	0	1	0	4
Teaching Career Qualification Board	0	0	0		0	3	1	1
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	3	1	1		8	2	0	0
Ministry of Economy	0	0	0		0	0	0	1
Special Education Center	0	0	1		0	0	0	0
Ministry of Labour and Social Prevention	1	0	0		0	0	0	0
Directorate-General for Migration	0	1	0		0	0	0	0
Ministry of Finance	0	1	0		0	0	0	0
National Registration Centre	0	0	0		1	0	0	1
Superintendency of Pensions	0	0	0		0	0	0	0
Total	1,207	1,684	1,741	1,641	1,521	986	1,356	874

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).



Table 11. Women victims of sexual violence, by institutions of origin, 2015-2022 (2 of 2)

Institution of origin of the case	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Civil society								
Private Person	33	62	135		120	152	172	211
Legal Office	0	4	11		9		1	4
Legal person	0	0	0		0		0	1
Private Institution	0	0	3	101	1		2	2
Notary	0	0	1		0		0	0
Children's Villages/S.O.S	1	2	1		1		0	0
Organization. Non-Governmental	1	4	1		0		0	0
Complaint	0	1	0		0		0	0
Total	35	73	152	101	131	152	175	218
Other	3	10	8	30	7	0	0	0
In the given	9	5	0	4	5	0	1	0
Total general	5,325	5,602	6,108	6,142	6,421	5,046	6,097	5,268

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).

Table 12 shows the cases of women victims of sexual violence by time range of time for filing the complaint, in the period of years from 2016 to 2022. In this regard, at the national level, the three time ranges for filing a complaint where the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence are presented are: (a) 12,028 from 72 hours to less than 1 month, (b) 8,839 from less than 24 hours, and (c) 6,059 from 24 hours to less than 48 hours.

With respect to the reporting times with the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence at the national level, it can be seen that in the years: (a) 1,516 in less than 24 hours (2016), this represents 17% of the total number of cases in the period; In this time interval there is a decrease of 340 cases ($1,516 - 1,176 = 340$), (b) 1,147 from 24 hours to less than 48 hours (2018), this represents an increase of 36% compared to the previous year and 19% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there is an increase of 234 cases ($914 - 680 = 234$), (c) 2,123 from 72 hours to less than 1 month (2018), this represents an increase of 17% compared to the previous year and 18% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there was a decrease of 25 cases ($1,453 - 1,428 = 25$).

Therefore, the three time ranges for filing the complaint where the greatest violations occurred for women are less than 24 hours, from 24 hours to less than 48 hours and from 72 hours to less than 1 month. Similarly, it highlights that the year and time of filing the complaint with the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual violence is from 72 hours to less than 1 month in 2018 with 2,123.

Table 12. Women victims of sexual violence, by time range of filing the complaint, 2016-2022

Time to file a complaint	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Less than 24 hours	1,516	1,370	744	1,394	1,222	1,417	1,176	8,839
From 24 hours to less than 48 hours	680	843	1,147	841	737	897	914	6,059
From 48 hours to less than 72 hours	287	328	436	375	293	351	319	2,389
From 72 hours to less than 1 month	1,453	1,815	2,123	2,065	1,465	1,679	1,428	12,028
From 1 month to less than 3 months	570	619	0	634	397	596	475	3,291
From 3 months to less than 6 months	334	334	0	359	240	321	289	1,877
From 6 months to less than 9 months	182	204	0	240	192	181	152	1,151
Aged 9 months or older	580	595	1,692	513	506	655	524	5,065
Total	5,602	6,108	6,142	6,421	5,052	6,097	5,277	40,699

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).

Note: The number of women victims of sexual violence, by time of filing a complaint for 2015, is divided into: (a) 3869 less than 1 month, (b) 358 less than 3 months, (c) 264 less than 6 months and (d) 9 months or more.

4.2 Perpetrators of sexual violence against women

The perpetrators of sexual violence against women are presented in Table 13, it can be seen that at the national level in the period from 2015 to 2022, the total number of cases of perpetrators of sexual violence, by sex are: (a) women is 1,563, (b) undetermined is 5,033 and (c) men is 42,273. Along these lines, the three years with the highest number of cases were: (a) in women, 227 in 2018, 230 in 2019 and 229 in 2021; These years represent 15%, 15% and 15% of the total number of cases respectively in the period, for 45%; In turn, these years showed an increase compared to their previous year of 20%, 1% and 21%, respectively, (b) in men, 5,942 in 2018, 6,076 in 2019 and 5,645 in 2021; These years represent 14%, 14% and 13% of the total cases respectively in the period, for 41%; On the other hand, these years showed an increase compared to their previous year of 12%, 2% and 15%, respectively, and (c) in undetermined, 647 in 2017, 667 in 2021 and 878 in 2022; These years represent 13%, 13% and 17% of the total cases respectively in the period, to form 44%; At the same time, these years showed an increase over their previous year of 3%, 52% and 32%, respectively.

These data represent an overview of the current situation regarding the number of cases of perpetrators of sexual violence at the national level, in the period from 2015 to 2022, since the results in the period are: (a) women, increase by 40 cases (204-164=40), (b) men, decreased by 71 cases (4,803-4,732=71) and (c) undetermined, increase in 234 cases (878-644=234).



Table 13. Perpetrators of sexual violence, by sex, 2015-2022

Sex of the perpetrator	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Women	164	130	189	227	230	190	229	204	1,563
Men	4,803	4,860	5,286	5,942	6,076	4,929	5,645	4,732	42,273
Undetermined	644	626	647	600	533	438	667	878	5,033
Total	5,447	5,486	5,933	6,769	6,839	5,557	6,541	5,814	48,386

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).

Table 14 shows that at the national level, the three age ranges with the highest number of perpetrators of sexual violence, in the period from 2015 to 2017, are: (a) 1,551 between 13-18 years old, (b) 3,725 between 19-29 years old, and (c) 3,934 between 30-55 years old. Regarding these, the cases of perpetrators of sexual violence at the national level occurred to a greater extent in 2017: (a) 589 in 13-18 years, this represents an increase of 15% compared to the previous year and 38% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there is an increase of 140 cases (589-449=140), (b) 1,323 in 19-29 years, this represents a decrease of 50% compared to the previous year and 36% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there is an increase of 103 cases (1,323-1,220=103), (c) 1,495 in 30-55 years, this represents a decrease of 49% compared to the previous year and 38% of the total cases in the period; In this time interval there was an increase of 216 cases (1,495-1,279=216).

Therefore, the three age ranges of perpetrators of sexual violence against women who represent the greatest risk for women are: 13-18 years old, 19-29 years old and 30-55 years old. Similarly, it highlights that the year and age range with the highest number of cases is 30-55 years old in 2017 with 1,495.

Table 14. Perpetrators of sexual violence against women, by age range, 2015-2017

Age range	2015	2016	2017	Total
00-12	11	10	10	31
13-18	449	513	589	1,551
19-29	1,220	1,182	1,323	3,725
30-55	1,279	1,160	1,495	3,934
56 or more	216	202	271	689
Undetermined	2,436	2,549	2,434	7,419
Total	5,611	5,616	6,122	17,349

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2016, 2018).

In Table 15, it can be seen that at the national level, the three age ranges with the highest number of perpetrators of sexual violence, in the period from 2018 to 2022, are: (a) 3,336 aged 15-19 years, (b) 3,337 aged 20-24 years, and (c) 11,227 undetermined. In this regard, the cases of perpetrators of sexual violence at the national level occurred mostly in the following years: (a) 833 in 15-19 years (2018), 25% of the total cases; decrease of 224 cases in the time interval (833-609=224), (b) 3,337 in 20-24 years (2018), 24% of the total; decrease of 305 cases in the time interval (815-510=305), (c) 2,653 in undetermined, an increase of 36% compared to the previous year and 24% of the total; increase of 77 cases in the time interval (2,032-1,955=77).

Therefore, the three age ranges of perpetrators of sexual violence against women who represent the greatest risk for women are: 15-19 years old, 20-24 years old and the undetermined perpetrators. Similarly, it highlights that the year and age range with the highest number of cases is the undetermined one in 2019 with 2,653.

Table 15. Perpetrators of sexual violence against women, by age range, 2018-2022

Age range	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
00-04	0	0	0	0	0	0
05-09	0	0	0	4	10	14
10-14	98	90	93	110	92	483
15-19	833	735	503	656	609	3,336
20-24	815	785	551	676	510	3,337
25-29	474	488	426	485	436	2,309
30-34	392	417	355	397	374	1,935
35-39	417	375	327	369	352	1,840
40-44	348	361	337	367	398	1,811
45-49	251	294	281	321	289	1,436
50-54	222	221	214	225	265	1,147
55-59	141	161	146	166	169	783
60-64	102	109	116	121	142	590
65-69	49	65	57	76	70	317
70-74	35	49	38	37	36	195
75-79	17	19	12	18	12	78
80+	20	11	13	14	18	76
ND	1,955	2,653	2,088	2,499	2,032	11,227
Total	6,169	6,833	5,557	6,541	5,814	30,914

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).

In Table 16, it can be seen that at the national level the highest number of definitive results on cases and defendants of sexual violence, in the period from 2018 to 2022, is: 4,228 cases and 4,341 defendants (convictions). In relation to this, the highest number of cases and defendants with



convictions was in 2022 with 1,146 cases and 1,172 defendants, this represents 27% and 26% of the total, respectively; 12% and 11% increase in time interval, respectively; increase of 408 cases (1,146-738=408) and 421 (1,172-751=421) charged, in the time interval.

Therefore, convictions are the largest number of cases and defendants as definitive results of sexual violence in the period from 2018 to 2022. In addition to this, it is relevant to mention the importance of the efforts made by government entities in the final results and in the work of the courts to combat the perpetrators of sexual violence in El Salvador.

Table 16. Cases and defendants with definitive results for sexual violence, 2018-2022

Final results	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		Total	
	Cases	Imp*	Cases	Imp*	Cases	Imp*	Cases	Imp*	Cases	Imp*	Cases	Imp*
Convictions	738	751	780	803	541	562	1,023	1,053	1,146	1,172	4,228	4,341
Acquittals	340	353	268	290	169	181	294	302	284	289	1,355	1,415
Dismissal	547	562	583	610	405	415	621	637	650	673	2,806	2,897
Alternate Outputs	30	30	61	64	38	38	51	51	70	70	250	253
Total	1,655	1,696	1,692	1,767	1,153	1,196	1,989	2,043	2,150	2,204	8,639	8,906

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).

Note: *imp = imputed.

In Table 17, at the national level, the three criminal groups with the highest number of perpetrators of sexual violence, in the period from 2015 to 2020, are: (a) 1,012 from Mara Salvatrucha (MS), (b) 570 from Barrio18, R and S, (Revolucionarios and Sureños), and (c) 34,921 from undetermined. The years in which the highest number of perpetrators were reported were: (a) 222 of Mara Salvatrucha (MS) (2018), 22% of the total cases, an increase of 54% compared to the previous year; increase of 10 cases in the time interval (167-157=10), (b) 142 in the Barrio18, R and S, (Revolucionarios y Sureños) gang (2018), 25% of the total; 82% increase over the previous year, 23 cases decrease in the time interval (85-62=23), (c) 6,537 in undetermined (2019), 19% of the total, 2% increase over the previous year; increase of 41 cases in the time interval (5,367-5326=41).

Table 17. Perpetrators of sexual violence against women, by criminal group, 2015-2020

Criminal gang	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Mara Salvatrucha (MS)	157	140	144	222	182	167	1012
Barrio 18, R & S, (Revolutionaries & Southerners)	85	84	78	142	119	62	570
Removed	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
The Machine	2	1	0	0	0	2	5
Mao Mao	0	2	0	1	0	0	3
ND	5,367	5,389	5,900	6,402	6,537	5,326	34,921
Total	5,611	5,616	6,122	6,769	6,838	5,557	36,513

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021).

In Table 18, at the national level, the three links between perpetrators and female victims with the highest number of sexual assault reports, in the period from 2016 to 2021, are: (a) 2,254 from relatives by consanguinity, (b) 2,968 from partners, and (c) 4,606 from acquaintances. In these cases, the highest number of expert reports was carried out in the following years: (a) 444 in 2021, 20% of the total number of cases, an increase of 8% compared to the previous year; increase of 95 cases in the time interval (444-349=95), (b) 455 in 2020, 15% of the total; decrease of 14% compared to the previous year, increase of 87 cases in the time interval (527-440=87), (c) 1,109 in 2018, 15% of the total, increase of 66% compared to the previous year; increase of 25 cases in the time interval (716-691=25).

Table 18. Link between perpetrators and female victims, by sexual assault expert reports, 2016-2021

Relationship with aggressor	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
Acquaintances	691	668	1,109	769	653	716	4,606
Couple	440	536	483	527	455	527	2,968
Blood relatives	349	331	346	373	411	444	2,254
Relatives by affinity	208	185	171	198	250	305	1,317
Unknown people	375	414	79	319	199	235	1,621
Ex-partner	32	67	67	71	62	85	384
Healthcare Personnel	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Public Authority	7	13	5	7	1	2	35
Known Person and Unknown Person	9	12	0	0	0	0	21
Family members and acquaintances	10	10	0	0	0	0	20
ND	173	154	93	321	279	432	1,452
Total	2,294	2,390	2,353	2,585	2,310	2,749	14,681

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022).

4.3 Expert reports on sexual violence at the Institute of Forensic Medicine

The Institute of Forensic Medicine (IML) conducts expert examinations of people suspected of sexual abuse to verify that the act has been committed. Table 19 shows that at the national level in the period from 2015 to 2022, the total number of recognitions carried out is: (a) women is 19,879 and (b) men is 1,836. The three years with the highest number of recognitions are: (a) in women, 2,858 in 2019, 2,748 in 2021 and 3,151 in 2022; These years represent 13%, 14% and 16% of the total cases respectively in the period, for 43%; In turn, these years showed an increase compared to their previous year of 10%, 19% and 15%, respectively, (b) in men, 296 in 2016, 357 in 2019 and 365 in 2022; These years represent 16%, 19% and 20% of the total number of cases respectively in the period, for 55%; On the other hand, these years showed an increase compared to their previous year of 28% for 2019 and 49% for 2022.



These data show the panorama of the current situation regarding the number of examinations made to women for suspicions of sexual abuse at the national level, since these increased by 1,103 cases in this period of time (3,151-2,048=1,103).

Table 19. Examinations of women and men for suspected sexual abuse, 2015-2022

Sex	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Women	2,048	2,294	2,390	2,353	2,585	2,310	2,748	3,151	19,879
Men	---	296	---	279	357	294	245	365	1,836
Total	2,048	2,590	2,390	2,632	2,942	2,604	2,993	3,516	21,715

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).

Table 20 shows the data related to the examinations made to women and men for suspicions of sexual abuse at the national level, according to departments in the period of years from 2018 to 2022. First of all, these figures show that at the national level in this period, 14,688 recognitions were carried out. The three years with the highest number of recognitions are: 2,942 in 2019, 2,994 in 2021 and 3,516 in 2022. Thus, the number of recognitions made to women and men for suspected sexual abuse at the national level increased compared to the previous year by: 12% in 2019, 15% in 2021 and 17% in 2022.

Second, in the departments of LibrES at the national level, a number of recognitions were made to women and men for suspicions of sexual abuse (in the years from 2018 to 2022): 1738 in La Libertad, 1,174 in San Miguel, 1,477 in Santa Ana and 3,644 in San Salvador; In turn, these venues presented an increase or decrease compared to their previous year of: (a) La Libertad, increase of 14% in 2019, decrease of 11% in 2020 and increase of 28% in 2021, (b) San Miguel, increase of 7% in 2019, decrease of 24% in 2020 and increase of 43% in 2021, (c) Santa Ana, 7% decrease in 2019, 14% decrease in 2020 and 51% increase in 2021, (d) San Salvador, 26% increase in 2019, 7% decrease in 2020 and 25% increase in 2021.

Table 20. Examinations carried out on women and men for suspected sexual abuse, according to department, 2018-2022

Department	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		Total	
	M	H	M	H	M	H	M	H	M	H	M	H
Ahuachapán	149	12	145	16	122	11	179	10	192		787	49
Cabañas	59	15	78	10	68	10	10	0	60		275	35
Chalatenango	61	17	72	18	81	11	101	11	83		398	57
Cuscatlán	110	11	135	14	132	13	42	1	161		580	39
La Libertad	273	34	286	65	271	41	373	26	369	365	1,572	166
La Paz	101	12	132	18	134	6	54	5	165		586	41
La Unión	153	9	158	20	150	11	157	18	148		766	58
Morazán	66	4	81	8	56	9	101	7	103		407	28

Department	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		Total	
	M	H	M	H	M	H	M	H	M	H	M	H
Santa Ana	263	33	240	34	218	17	328	26	318		1,367	110
San Miguel	213	17	214	31	171	14	238	26	250		1,086	88
San Salvador	503	67	636	85	568	101	749	86	849		3,305	339
San Vicente	121	14	128	15	99	12	36	3	103		487	44
Sonsonate*	198	25	177	16	161	25	273	16	256		1,065	82
Usulután	83	9	103	7	79	13	108	10	94		467	39
Total	2,353	279	2,585	357	2,310	294	2,749	245	3,151	365	13,148	1,540

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023).

Note: *Nondetermined=1.

In Table 21, at the national level, the three places of the event with the highest number of cases of women victims of sexual assault, with respect to the expert reports carried out in the period from 2015 to 2021, are: (a) 2,164 of undetermined, (b) 2,389 of others, and (c) 12,555 of private domicile. In these cases, the highest number of expert reports was carried out in the following years: (a) 506 in 2019, 23% of the total number of cases, an increase of 9% compared to the previous year; increase of 418 cases in the time interval (480-62=418), (b) 554 in 2015, 23% of the total, decrease of 471 cases in the time interval (554-83=471), (c) 3,108 in 2017, 25% of the total, increase of 97% over the previous year; increase of 288 cases in the time interval (1,820-1,532=288).

Table 21. Expert reports carried out on women victims of sexual assault by place of occurrence, 2015-2021

Place of occurrence	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
Home address	1,532	1,576	3,108	1,447	1,518	1,554	1,820	12,555
Open space	0	0	0	334	262	296	218	1,110
Open space and public transportation	271	257	528	0	0	0	0	1,056
Other non-residential commercial establishments	153	150	303	103	132	48	124	1,013
School or other educational instances	0	0	0	0	33	0	13	46
Institutional care settings	5	1	6	1	4	7	5	29
Public transport and its surroundings	0	0	0	0	7	1	1	9
Religious entity	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Bartolinas, penitentiaries or detention centers	13	25	38	1	1	1	2	81
ND	62	135	197	465	506	319	480	2,164
Other	554	495	1049	2	122	84	83	2,389
Total	2,590	2,639	5,229	2,353	2,585	2,310	2,749	20,455

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022).

4.4 State services for sexual violence

Services provided by the PGR to sexual violence is presented in Table 22. At the national level, the three types of sexual violence dealt with in services of the Attorney General's Office (PGR) with the highest



number of cases in the period from 2020 to 2022 are: (a) 470 of forced touching, (b) 499 of rape, and (c) 806 of obscene words. In these cases, the highest number of visits took place in the following years: (a) 186 in 2020, 40% of the total cases, decrease of 63 cases in the time interval (186-123=63), (b) 192 in 2020, 38% of the total, decrease of 59 cases in the time interval (192-133=59), (c) 291 in 2021, 36% of the total, an increase of 21% over the previous year; increase of 35 cases in the time interval (275-240=35).

Table 22. Services provided by PGR for sexual violence, 2020-2022

Sexual violence	2020	2021	2022	Total
Profanity	240	291	275	806
Rape	192	174	133	499
Forces touching	186	161	123	470
Sexual adventures	60	60	77	197
Forces you to have sex while you're sick	92	79	67	238
Forces you to witness sex	6	11	20	37
Forces you to enter objects	3	7	18	28
Forces you to have sex with others	4	11	14	29
Forces you to watch pornography	17	12	13	42
Total	800	806	740	2,346

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP (MJSP, 2021, 2022, 2023).

In Table 23, at the national level, the three months in which the Salvadoran Institute for the Development of Women (ISDEMU) provided the highest number of services to victims of sexual violence in the period from 2020 to 2022 (according to the total sum of cases in the period) are: (a) 149 in November, (b) 158 in September, and (c) 181 in October. Regarding the above, the highest number of visits took place in the following years: (a) November: 61 in 2021, 41% of the total cases, an increase of 53% compared to the previous year and an increase of 8 cases in the time interval (48-40=8), (b) September: 56 in 2021, 35% of the total, an increase of 8% compared to the previous year and a decrease of 2 cases in the time interval (52-50=2), (c) October: 69 in 2022, 38% of the total, an increase of 8% over the previous year; increase of 21 cases in the time interval (69-48=21).

Table 23. Services provided by ISDEMU for sexual violence, 2020-2022

Month	2020	2021	2022	Total
January	36	49	51	136
February	46	40	51	137
March	24	48	73	145
April	15	53	51	119
May	14	50	70	134
June	18	54	70	142

Month	2020	2021	2022	Total
July	24	57	66	147
August	25	51	60	136
September	52	56	50	158
October	48	64	69	181
November	40	61	48	149
December	40	35	45	120
Total	382	618	704	1,704

Source: Authors' own elaboration with data provided in the Annual Reports on *Acts of Violence against Women El Salvador* of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP) (MJSP, 2021, 2022, 2023).

5. Final thoughts

First of all, at the national level, when talking about a profile of victims of sexual violence in El Salvador [(2015-2017), (2019 to 2022)], we can start by mentioning that sexual violence is centered on women as evidenced in the data in this report, where 67% of the victims are women (38,902).

Secondly, at the national level, it can be seen that women (2018-2022) are victims of different crimes, for example, those typified in the LEIV, such as: (a) Dissemination of Pornography, 520 victims (b) Induction, Promotion and Favoring of Sexual or Erotic Acts by Computer or Electronic Means, 50 victims. These numbers demonstrate that immediate and urgent action needs to be taken at the national level to reduce and phase out the high rates of sexual violence against women.

The high rates of violence against women are concentrated at an early age, specifically in three ranges: girls between the ages of 0 and 12 years (179.17), adolescents between the ages of 13 and 17 (945.25) and young people between the ages of 18 and 29 (122.23). In other words, these results present an alarming indicator of the vulnerability of girls, adolescents and young women in El Salvador.

Likewise, in El Salvador (2018-2022), women were more frequently victims of three crimes against sexual freedom: rape (11,517), sexual assaults (5,494) and statutory rape crimes (4,854). There are greater vulnerabilities towards women in the following age ranges (2015-2022) (i.e., prevention must be addressed at these stages of life): 05-09 years (3,135), 10-14 years (12,782) and (c) 15-19 years (16,267).

Thirdly, a profile can be made based on the variable time of occurrence of the crime and filing of the complaint. On the one hand, sexual violence against women (2015-2022), occurred with the highest number of cases in three months, which are: March (4,176), September (4,267) and October (4,119), and in three days, which are: Tuesday (8,058), Wednesday (7,908) and Thursday (7,645). The cases were mostly reported in three schedules (2016-2022) from: 08:00 to 11:59 (13,338), 12:00 to 15:59 (13,642) and 16:00 to 19:59 (6,308). However, something important to mention is the concentration in three long periods of filing of victims' complaints (2016-2022), which were: from



72 hours to less than 1 month (12,028), from less than 24 hours (8,839), and from 24 hours to less than 48 hours (6,059).

On the other hand, the time-based profile tends to show that the cases were mostly reported in a time slot from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., which is working hours. Likewise, these cases occurred between Tuesday and Thursday (mid-week); and in the months of March, September and October.

The places where the highest number of cases of sexual violence occurred (2018-2022) are: private home (15,343), (b) open spaces (6,210) and undetermined places (2,251). Thus, these data are consistent with the previous ones in evidencing the vulnerability of girls, adolescents and young women (due to the high rates of sexual violence) in the private home. Likewise, the facts are attended to and come from three sectors generally, (2015-2022), which are: the justice sector (4,089), other public institutions (1,741) and the health sector (668).

Fourthly, in terms of the profile of perpetrators of sexual violence (2015-2022), it can be said that the highest number of cases are men (42,273). These are mainly concentrated in three ages (2015-2017): 13-18 years old (1,551), 19-29 years old (3,725), and 30-55 years old (3,934); and in (2018-2022): 15-19 years old (3,336), 20-24 years old (3,337), and undetermined (11,227). The three most frequent types of relationships with the aggressor were: blood relatives (2,254), partners (2,968) and acquaintances (4,606). In other words, the profile of the perpetrator can be summarized as follows: these are mostly men between the ages of 19 and 24; with a relationship with the victim of a relative with consanguinity, partner and to a greater extent they are known people.

To conclude, based on the above data, it is recommended to focus on the prevention of sexual violence against women, specifically girls, adolescents and young women, taking the necessary measures such as the promotion of comprehensive sexuality education to disseminate knowledge of sexual and reproductive rights in order to detect forms of violence. as well as other prevention actions.

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