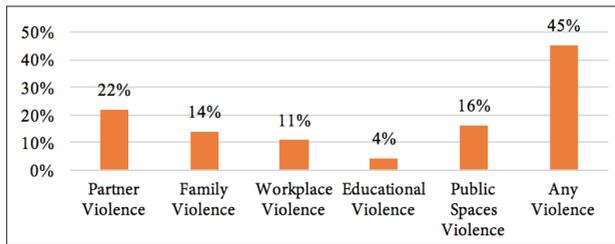


ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COSTS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IN GHANA

This flyer presents key findings of research undertaken by ISSER in collaboration with National University of Ireland, Galway, International Center for Research on Women, and Ipsos MORI with funding from UK Department for International Development. The research design includes nationally representative survey of 2002 women aged 18-60 across the 10 regions of Ghana, qualitative research including focus group discussions, in-depth interviews, and key informant interviews, and survey of 805 employees (391 female and 414 male employees) across 100 businesses in Accra and Kumasi.

Violence is ubiquitous in Ghana

Ghanaian women experience high levels of violence in the family and outside the family. 45% of women aged 18-60 experienced violence by partners, family members, work colleagues, school administrators/peers, or strangers in public places at least once in the past 12 months.



Source: Women's Survey, 2016

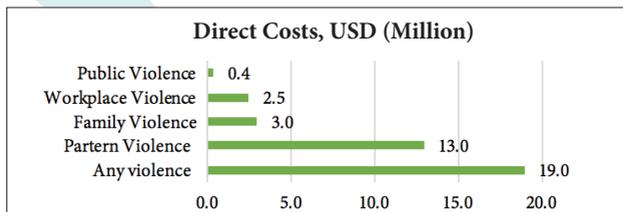
a. N= 442 women for Partner Violence, 282 for Family violence, 220 for workplace violence, 89 for educational violence, 325 for public spaces and 910 for any violence out of 2002 women surveyed.

Few Seek Formal Help, however Financial Expense is High

Violence experienced remains invisible as many women do not disclose the violence to anyone. Only 11% of women experiencing partner violence sought help from any formal services.

For those who sought help, violence results in significant financial expenditure. Among women who reported out of pocket expenditures, an average expenditure of US\$53 was incurred in the past 12 months for seeking medical care, police and legal help, leaving home and replacing property. This is equivalent to 10% of the annual per capita expenditure on non-food consumption in Ghana¹.

At a national level the household loss due to these financial expenses comes to nearly 19 million USD for any violence.



Source: Women's Survey, 2016

¹In 2014, the per capita expenditure on non-food consumption was GH¢1964. See Ghana Statistical Service 2014. Ghana Living Standards Survey, 2014 Main Report

VAWG Results in Lost Productivity

The most important impact of the violence experienced is the impact on women's ability to work. We have estimated the productivity loss of working women due to violence. This lost productivity is measured in two ways:

- Absenteeism – number of days a woman missed work due to experience of violence.
- Presenteeism – number of days a woman was less productive at work because of the experience of violence.

For women who experience Partner Violence, the lost productivity is equal to **11.59 working days**, nearly 2/3rd of this loss is due to being less productive at work. For a woman experiencing any violence (i.e., partner violence, family violence, workplace violence or violence in the public space) **the total days of lost productivity is 26.41 days**. This translates into nearly 64.8 million days at the national level for all survivors of violence or equivalent to 216,000 employed women not working, assuming women work 300 days in the year. Overall the economy loses working days equivalent to 4.5% of its female workforce annually due to VAWG.

Table 1: Days of Lost Productivity Due to Violence, in Past 12 months

Category	Due to Partner Violence		Due to Any Violence	
	Mean Days Lost	Total Days Lost	Mean Days Lost	Total Days Lost
Absenteeism	4.1	4,714,811	15.14	37,042,551
Presenteeism	7.49	8,601,655	11.27	27,789,032
Total	11.59	13,316,465	26.41	64,831,583

Source: Women's Survey, 2016

*Weighted IPV prevalence rate among working women=24.13%; *Weighted Any violence prevalence rate among working women=51.74%

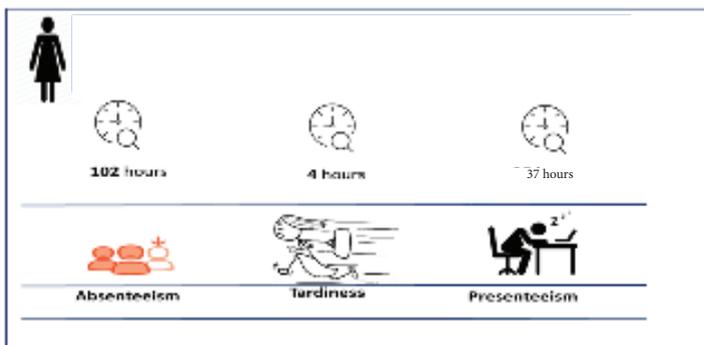
*Estimated number of women aged 18-60 in Ghana as at 2016 = 7,377,183 (Ghana Statistical Service-GSS)

*Employment rate of women 15+, 2016=64.6% (Ghana Labour Force Survey).

Businesses Incur Costs because of VAWG

A survey of 391 women in businesses highlighted that because of violence by partners, almost 14 days of work was lost in the past 12 months by each woman who experienced intimate partner violence and reported being late, missing work or being less productive at work (See Figure 1). In businesses, 75% of lost productivity because of violence was through absenteeism and 23% via presenteeism. Overall across 100 businesses, **4901 person days were lost** - equivalent to 20 women employees not working or **about 1.01 percent of the female labour force** among these companies.

FIGURE 1: RATE OF ABSENTEEISM, TARDINESS, PRESENTISM AMONG FEMALE EMPLOYEES BECAUSE OF VIOLENCE (BUSINESS SURVEY)



Source: Business Survey, 2016