

SAFE FROM FEAR
SAFE FROM
VIOLENCE



**OVERVIEW OF STUDIES ON THE COSTS
OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

Equality Division

Directorate General of Democracy

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INTRODUCTION

Violence against women and domestic violence continue to be one of the most pervasive human rights violations, both in Europe and beyond. Despite significant progress in legislation and policies, many gaps remain when it comes to effectively protecting its victims and bringing perpetrators to justice. In some cases, budgetary concerns take precedence over the fact that prevalence rates for the different forms of violence against women continue to be alarmingly high, conviction rates remain low, and public response to the problem is often inadequate.

The Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) contains a catalogue of standard-setting measures aimed at preventing violence, protecting its victims and prosecuting the perpetrators. By accepting the Convention, governments have the obligation to create or improve a wide range of support and protection services for victims and witnesses, and ensure that all relevant actors work in a co-ordinated way. Following the entry into force of the treaty on 1 August 2014, States Parties need to ensure that their political will is accompanied by a financial commitment.¹

The issue of “costs” frequently arises when devising policies or action plans to combat violence against women and domestic violence. Awareness of the financial impact of violence against women is helpful when trying to understand the magnitude of the problem and how it affects society as a whole. This overview updates and completes the list of costing studies included in the 2006 Council of Europe Stocktaking study on measures in member states¹. It presents a brief description of research pieces that have been undertaken in both Council of Europe member states and non-member states. Although human dignity has no price, it is sometimes useful to refer to concrete budget lines to show the savings governments would make if they decided to invest in measures likely to reduce gender-based violence. Consequently, this document is a useful source of information for making the case for investing in measures and services destined to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence.

Although there is no right way to measure the economic impact of violence, studies usually examine costs in terms of prevention, response and opportunity costs (Somach and AbouZeid, 2009), and may for example cover costs linked to: increased burdens on law enforcement structures, costs linked to the judiciary (civil, criminal and administrative), legal costs incurred by an individual party, health care costs, housing and shelters, lost wages and/or decrease in taxes paid to the state due to reduced employment and productivity, social services for women and their children, income support and other support services. In addition, many studies distinguish between direct and indirect costs of violence against women. Direct costs cover the amount that public authorities actually spend on services and measures linked to preventing and combating violence against women. Indirect costs are costs that result from the physical and psychological trauma and life-long effects that such violence has on victims. A decrease in the quality of life of the victim and those close to them may also be considered as an indirect cost.

¹ The treaty entered into force after Albania, Andorra, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Italy, Montenegro, Portugal, Serbia, Spain and Turkey expressed their consent to be bound by the Convention in accordance with the provisions of Article 75 of the Convention.

However, it is important to point out that there are few costing studies that have been conducted in Europe, or internationally, for that matter. Of the few studies that do exist, most focus on domestic violence or intimate partner violence, and have a tendency not to address the different forms of violence against women separately. Thus, it is difficult to understand what costs are attributed to which type of violence. In addition, existing studies have different research questions, use different categories of costs, focus on different meanings and forms of violence, and use different data samples and resources. Due to the above-mentioned reasons, it is difficult to compare research results and gain a global picture of the cost of violence against women.

One of the reasons that such studies are rare is that there are few examples of systematically collected administrative or population-based data in Council of Europe member states. For this reason, the Istanbul Convention creates the obligation for States Parties to ensure that all relevant actors working in this field collect disaggregated statistical data at regular intervals on all forms of violence against women (Article 11). States Parties also need to support research in this field and conduct population-based surveys. Data collection and research are an essential component of effective policy-making, allowing governments to design and implement measures based on evidence and to evaluate whether these measures meet the needs of those exposed to violence.

One element that existing studies on the costs of violence against women do however have in common is that all of the studies represent underestimates. Research on the costs of violence cannot take into account non-reported cases as well as the long-term effects on victims or children (both as victims and witnesses), and it is extremely difficult to take into account all of the costs linked to violence against women. And while costing studies are estimates that allow us to capture the complexity of the problem, it should be borne in mind that cost figures are in fact larger. Consequently, these studies help to show that violence against women and domestic violence are not cost-free, and help make the case for investing in measures and services to prevent and combat such violence. Creating a Europe free from violence against women certainly requires an investment, but it is an investment that pays off in the long run. As Day et al. (2005) point out, “all the economic costing literature indicates that the whole of society pays for the costs of not addressing this pressing social concern”.

Finally, it should be noted that this overview is to be viewed as an open-ended document. Additional information on studies or research initiatives in this field is welcomed and should be sent to: conventionviolence@coe.int

For more information on the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, please visit: www.coe.int/conventionviolence

Overview of studies on the costs of violence against women and domestic violence

COUNCIL OF EUROPE MEMBER STATES			
Author Date of publication Region/Country	Costs per year & Conclusions	Data used (including sample sizes)	Cost Categories
<p>Korf et al.; 1997; Netherlands</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Type of violence:</p> <p>Domestic violence against women by a partner: threatened or actual acts of physical and psychological violence.</p> </div>	<p>- €151 million.</p> <p>- €9.2 per capita.</p> <p>- Social security expenditures of €62 million and the costs of psychosocial care at €35.6 million yielding the highest cost categories. The cost to the criminal justice sector was estimated at €31; €13 million are due to sick leave from paid and unpaid employment, €7 million can be attributed to the medical care sector, and another €2 million accrue to police activities.</p>	<p>- Based on 1996-97 data from different agencies and service providers.</p> <p>- The estimates are very likely underestimates, as only women who suffered domestic violence as reported by shelters and registered institutions were included in the database.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Medical care (GP and hospitals). - Psychosocial care. - Law enforcement (criminal justice sector and police). - Employment (sick leave). - Social security (benefit payments/rent rebate).

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<p>Yodanis and Godenzi; 1999; Switzerland</p> <div data-bbox="197 412 436 691" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Type of violence: Domestic violence: physical, psychological and sexual violence by a man against his female partner.</p> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - €260 million and €35 per capita because of domestic violence. - The most expensive categories were the criminal justice sector (including police, prison and courts) with almost €122 million and the health sector (including hospital care, physician care and medication) with €52 million. - The social sector included telephone help—lines, counselling and shelters, and amounted to costs of €5.8 million. - The lowest costs were victim assistance, shelters, crisis support and research. Thus, direct support for victims is the most economical kind of intervention, and if effective, carries a high potential for reducing the social costs in the more expensive areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National survey and official statistical data from various sources. - Used a 12-month prevalence rate of 11.3 per cent for an approximation of the number of incidents per year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Medical care. - Support and counselling. - Victim-orientated financial support. - Criminal justice sector. - Research.
Author Date of publication	Costs per year & Conclusions	Data used (including sample sizes)	Cost Categories

Region/Country			
<p>M. Heiskanen and M. Piispa; 2001; Finland</p> <p>Type of violence: Violence against women, focus on partner violence.</p>	<p>- For 1998: €101 million, €19.3 per capita.</p> <p>Direct costs: €50 million: - Health sector: €7 million. - Social sector: €15 million. - Justice sector: €27 million.</p> <p>Indirect costs: €56 million.</p>	<p>- Refers to survey of 7,000 women undertaken for earlier study “Faith, Hope and Battering” by same authors.²</p> <p>-Statistics from government databases and agency budgets, activity reports, etc. -Interviews with experts to obtain percentage of service use attributable to violence against women.</p> <p>-Includes 2 case studies.</p>	<p>- Direct: Health including physician visits, hospital care and medication. Shelters, crisis services, social work, therapy, Police, trial, prison.</p> <p>- Indirect: deaths, using human capital approach.</p>
<p>M. Heiskanen and M. Piispa; 2002; Finland</p> <p>Type of violence: Violence against women, focus on partner violence.</p>	<p>- €1.2 million (for Hämeenlinna city) or €27 per capita.</p> <p>- The social sector producing the highest costs: €660,000. - The health-care sector: €240,000. - The criminal justice sector €340,000.</p> <p>- €91 million (national level).</p>	<p>- “The unit of data collection and analysis was the client contact; thus one and the same client might have more than one contact in the course of one month.”</p>	<p>- Social sector: shelters, home service, services of child welfare, school authority, crisis aid, social work of church, family counselling clinic.</p> <p>- Health-care sector: including hospital and ambulance, patient transport and psychiatric and psychological treatment in health-care centres.</p> <p>- Criminal justice sector: police, legal aid office, prosecution, courts, prison, mediation.</p>

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<p>E. Envall and A. Eriksson; 2006; Sweden</p> <div data-bbox="197 415 428 613" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Type of violence: Intimate partner violence against women.</p> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The information applies to the year 2004. - The socio-economic costs of intimate partner violence are estimated at between SEK 2 695 million and SEK 3 300 million a year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Official criminal statistics maintained by the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention (Brå). - Victim of crime surveys. - Annual reports from central government agencies or for activities financed or co-financed by local governments. - National Board of Health and Welfare's own register within the Centre of Epidemiology with regard to the number of treatments and information from the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions' database on Cost per patient, CPP, with regard to the costs of the identified treatments. - Questionnaires for women's refuges and crisis centres and local authorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "Society's costs for health and medical care, police, public prosecutors, courts, prison services and social services as well as costs to the civil society (women's refuges and other volunteer organisations) and costs to the business sector/employers". - "Costs to central government agencies for reducing the effects of the violence and trying to counteract it, as well as all preventive measures". - "The individual woman herself, her children and all those close to her are affected by costs in connection with the violence and in the future". However, they have not been able to calculate these costs to the same extent as other costs. - Indirect costs due to a decrease in productivity. - Transfers, i.e. flows of resources: sickness benefit insurance, social assistance and crime victim compensation that the violence induces. - Costs for dental services, medicines, mental health care, damage to children, pain and suffering were not calculated for this study.

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<p>Psytyl; 2006; EU25</p> <div data-bbox="197 386 428 618" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Type of violence:</p> <p>Intimate partner violence: physical, psychological and sexual violence.</p> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Domestic violence costs in EU25 - a total of €16 billion for 2006 or €33 per capita in 25 member states of the European Union and €1 million every 1/2 hours. - The study shows that by increasing the budget of intimate partner prevention policies by €1 we can save €87 in total costs, out of which €30 in direct costs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Critical analysis of national studies estimating the cost of domestic violence in different member states. - Expert interviews. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct medical costs resulting from direct harm to physical and mental health, visits to emergency facilities, hospital stays, care in general medicine and psychiatry wards, medicine. - Non-medical direct costs corresponding to non-medical goods and services directly related to domestic violence: civil justice, criminal justice, prison administration, judicial protection of youth, law enforcement activities. - Costs of direct social consequences related to collateral damage: emergency shelter, housing, various allowances, and sick leave payments. - Costs of indirect effects (economic costs + human costs) that correspond to lost productivity caused by illness and premature mortality due to violence: production losses due to deaths, work stoppages, absenteeism and incarceration, and finally, the costs of rape and serious injuries.

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<p>Y. Gancheva et al.; 2006; “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”</p> <div data-bbox="197 444 428 748" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Type of violence:</p> <p>Domestic violence against women by former or current partner: physical, psychological and sexual violence.</p> </div>	<p>For 2006: between 26,360,181 MKD (€425,183) and 34,424,994 MKD (€553,711).</p> <p>- NGO sector: 10,986,487 MKD.</p> <p>- Social system: 8,105,439 - 11,681,212 MKD.</p> <p>- Police: 4,852,335 - 7,699,225 MKD.</p> <p>- Courts: 2,182,190 – 3,575,670 MKD.</p> <p>- Prosecution: 253,730 - 482,400 MKD.</p> <p>The costs of a “full institutional response, which would be incurred if <i>all</i> women who suffered from domestic violence sought and received help, would be between 15,309,619,744 MKD and 18,489,835,645 MKD depending on the time spent per case. This amount again does not include the healthcare costs per victim and is between 581 and 537 times higher than the estimated current budget spending for tackling the problem. The silent suffering of the victims and not reporting the violence “saved” the government and NGO sector budgets between 15,283,259,563 MKD and 18,455,410,651 MKD, but this saving occurred at the expense of the health, well-being and safety of large numbers of women.”</p>	<p>- Official statistical and budget information sources.</p> <p>- Questionnaires sent to institutions in charge of tackling domestic violence issues as well as to NGOs and donor organisations working on the problem, for gathering general information such as budgets, services, number of victims that had been registered, etc.</p> <p>- In-depth interviews with public servants (social workers, police officers, prosecutors, judges), physicians (psychologists, dentists, gynaecologists, etc.) and NGO representatives.</p> <p>- Interviews with 50 victims.</p>	<p>- “The estimation for the criminal justice and social system covers staff costs, the costs for vehicle fuel and depreciation as well as some basic administrative costs such as communications, printing, copying, etc.”</p> <p>- “The estimation for the non-governmental sector covers the costs for direct services provided to victims, awareness campaigns, training and policy making.”</p> <p>“The study tried to measure a set of direct costs, at the same time taking into account who is the cost bearer - the state budget, the victim and her household/family or other society player (for example NGOs). <i>Direct costs</i> comprise the costs for”:</p> <p>- Social services - Social Work Centres and NGOs’ services, including sheltering counselling, legal advice, etc.; help lines for victim of domestic violence, awareness campaigns.</p> <p>- Criminal and justice sector - police time for dealing with cases of domestic violence - accepting complaints, responding to calls, making arrests, paper-work while proceeding the case, etc.; prosecution; criminal court; civil court, etc.</p> <p>“Analysis doesn’t include the costs arising within the healthcare sector, the costs to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs for monitoring and policy making, the costs borne by the victims themselves as well as a wide range of costs that were not measurable.”</p>

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<p>S. Walby; 2009; United Kingdom</p> <div data-bbox="197 415 428 756" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Type of violence:</p> <p>Domestic violence (physical, psychological and sexual violence) between current or former partners in an intimate relationship.</p> </div>	<p>For 2001: £22,869 million in services, economic output and human and emotional costs.</p> <p>For 2008: £15,730 million in services, economic output and human and emotional costs.</p> <p>Conclusions: “Reduction of costs since 2001 due to a decrease in domestic violence rate due to increased utilisation of services ex: higher rates of reporting. The investment in public services to reduce DV has been cost effective for the country as a whole; even if costs linked to services increased, overall there was a decrease in total domestic violence costs. The report concentrates on domestic violence but if other forms of violence were included costs would rise.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Amount of domestic violence: National Crime Survey including intimate partner violence (BCS IPV): 40,000 sample. – Department of Transport reports on accidents and injuries. – Service-providing agency reports that include information on the extent of use of services by those who suffer domestic violence as well as the cost (per unit) of these services. – Prior research findings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Services: criminal justice (police, prosecution services, courts, probation and prisons), health care (physical and mental health), social services (costs linked to children), housing and refuges (cost of emergency local authority housing and refuges), and civil legal costs (costs of solicitors, and of injunctions). – Loss of productivity and earnings to employers and employees: e.g. time off work due to injuries linked to domestic violence. – Pain and suffering: based on the notion that people would pay something in order not to suffer human and emotional costs of being injured. <p>Does not take into account additional losses to productivity as a result of stress and reduced performance and the long term effects on children.</p>

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<p>E. Villagómez; 2010; Spain (Andalucia)</p> <div data-bbox="197 380 428 613" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Type of violence:</p> <p>Domestic violence against women by an intimate partner or ex-partner.</p> </div>	<p>Domestic violence against women by partners or ex-partners has an annual cost of €2.356,8 million in Andalucia.</p> <p>Annual labour market costs: 30% of the total cost (€707 million).</p> <p>Costs associated to physical and mental health of women: €371 million per year (16% of the total).</p> <p>Judicial costs: €60.7 million (3% of the total costs).</p> <p>The distribution of cost by type of actors shows that “the victims themselves carry the major part of the costs (€1,000 million, 43% of the cost). Family and friends carry an estimated cost of €18.4 million (1% of the total cost). The costs carried by firms and employers are estimated at €385.3 annually (16% of the total cost).”</p> <p>“The estimated cost to the public sector is approximately €947 million annually (40% of the total cost)”. “The costs borne by the third sector (NGOs) is estimated at €0.6 million (0.02% of the total cost).”</p> <p>“The direct annual costs per victim (women and their children) is estimated at €835. The direct cost per household is €2,764 per year.”</p>	<p>- Survey carried out on 300 women victims of violence by their partner or ex-partner.</p>	<p>- Develops a system of indicators on domestic violence which covers over 100 indicators, structured around six blocks: severity and prevalence, impact on victims, risk factors, institutional and social response, access and use of victim-oriented services, and perception and social attitudes.</p> <p>- Annual costs: direct costs (resources used by victims) as well as part of the indirect costs (the value of goods and services that are foregone due to violence, the loss of well-being by the victim and society as a whole).</p>

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<p>K. Helweg-Larsen et al.; 2010; Denmark</p> <div data-bbox="197 412 428 646" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Type of violence:</p> <p>Violence against women, including domestic violence against women.</p> </div>	<p>- Violence against women costs the Danish society approximately DKK ½ billion (about €70 million) each year.</p> <p>“This corresponds to an annual cost to society of approximately DKK 65,000 per violence-stricken women, who has either reported the violence to the police or contacted an emergency department because of violence. The annual costs are nearly DKK 280 (€40) per woman in the age group 16-64 years in the Danish population.”</p> <p>“A national expenditure of approximately DKK 21 million per year covering public compensation to victims of violence is not included. This expenditure is a transfer of money to violence victims that does not result in any costs to society.”</p>	<p>The study includes two different population samples of violence-exposed women:</p> <p>1) “From register-based data a population of 20,482 different women aged 16-64 years is identified, who in the period 2002-2005 reported violence to the police, died as a result of violence, and/or contacted an emergency department following an assault. This also includes women that stay in shelters, report to the police or contacted an emergency department.”</p> <p>2) “The nationwide Danish Health and Morbidity Surveys 2000 and 2005 included questions about violence exposure within the last 12 months.” A total of 323 women self-reported violence exposure and are included in the study.</p> <p>- Data on the socioeconomic conditions, contacts with the healthcare and selected labour market consequences of the two samples.</p> <p>- Data registered by central social services.</p>	<p>- Judicial system costs of police reported violence against women: time consumption within the police, the prosecution and courts combined with specific salary and court imposts, as well as costs of imprisonment and court fees.</p> <p>- Costs of crisis centres: shelter rates and number of stays per year.</p> <p>- Costs to society: include the national budget for a number of initiatives started under the Danish national action plans to fight violence against women, 2002-2009.</p> <p>- Estimates of personal costs are included, but they depend greatly on a number of known and unknown psychosocial factors.</p> <p>- Estimates of average impact on women’s health-related quality of life, years of healthy life lost and mortality.</p> <p>“Long-term costs to society as a result of premature death and loss of health-related quality of life are not included in the total costs of violence.” “The total costs do not include the substantial funding support granted to research on violence against women in recent years, nor do they include the costs of government departments and local administration of transfers to shelters and other disbursements, which can be related to violence against women.”</p>

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<p>M. Nectoux et al.; 2010; France</p> <div data-bbox="197 412 428 610" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Type of violence: Intimate partner violence against women.</p> </div>	<p>Results apply to 2009.</p> <p>“The total cost of intimate partner violence in France is estimated at €2.5 billion per year (between €1.7 and €3.5 billion). The total cost of intimate partner violence includes healthcare costs (€483 million), social and justice services (€355 million), production losses as a result of deaths, imprisonments and absenteeism (€1099 million), and the human costs of rape and prejudice (€535 million).”</p>	<p>Analysis of direct costs at three levels³:</p> <p>“The micro-level analysis was based on expert interviews (responsible for childcare and accommodation, telephone helplines, departmental observatory to fight intimate partner violence) allowing to understand the individual life course of victims.”</p> <p>“The meso-level used data from national medical facilities, social, administrative and legal records (institutional reports, national registers) and allowed the realisation of a national estimate of costs.”</p> <p>The macro level exploited national and international economic databases (public expenditure budgets by function, health, justice and police, social services, economic cost and GDP, taken from EUROSTAT).”</p> <p>“Cost estimates of life loss are based on the value attributed to life but also on the link between longevity and wealth. Benefits of survival are estimated by the willingness to pay individuals for every additional year of life.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of social utility generated by violence. - Costs to the health care system: The direct medical costs (drug consumption, consultations, etc.). - “Costs for the medico-legal and social sector: use of police and justice (budget of the prison administration, the police, and criminal proceedings related to convictions); use of social services (costs related to shelters when a couple separates, the housing aids, benefits for single parents, costs linked to work stoppages directly attributable to intimate partner violence).” - “Loss of productivity: production losses due to deaths, incarcerations and absenteeism.” - “Loss of quality of life: psychological and human costs, human costs of rape and injury (the phenomenon of impaired daily quality of life of women victims who experience mood disorders, intense fatigue, sleeping problems, costs of indirect effects through a decrease in future revenues due to declining productivity (disability, death), costs related to the decline in living standards resulting from the separation and intangible costs).”

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<p>I. Rasmussen et al.; (2012); Norway</p> <div data-bbox="197 412 436 1305" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Type of violence:</p> <p>Domestic violence (<i>vold i nære relasjoner</i>, ‘violence in close relationships’) including physical and sexual violence, genital mutilation, psychological violence, threats of violence, social violence (isolation) as well as economic violence (control of resources) against women, men, boys and girls, by a current or former partner in an intimate relationship, by a parent or other family member, close relative or carer.</p> </div>	<p>Costs for the public sector (police, justice, health, victim support) are estimated at NOK 2 – 2.4 billion (€ 237 – 284 million) in 2010. This is equal to an estimated cost of NOK 15 000 – 30 000 (€ 1 780 – 3 560) per individual per year.</p> <p>The biggest cost generator is the Child Protection Service at NOK 900 million (€107 million per year). Support services for victims and families are estimated to NOK 450 million (€53 million). The police and justice together count for NOK 300 million (€36 million).</p> <p>Socioeconomic costs to society are estimated to NOK 4.5 – 6 billion (€534 – 712 million) for 2010. The biggest part of the cost is borne by the victims in the form of lost capacity to work.</p> <p>Women’s loss of capacity to work is estimated to NOK 1.1 – 1.4 billion (€130 – 166 million). Lost work capacity due to violence against children is estimated to NOK 0.7 – 1.9 billion (€83 – 225 million).</p> <p>The cost of lost lives is estimated to NOK 500 million (€59 million).</p>	<p>The estimations are based on official statistical and budget information sources from 2010. The study uses data from the legal sector (police, justice, penal system, legal aid), the health sector (urgent care, long-term care) as well as the social sector (support services and social benefits).</p> <p>The report also aims to estimate the costs generated to other parts of the public sector, as well as the private sector when it comes to support services relating to domestic violence, such as the Service for Victims of Crime, the Children’s Advocacy Centres and NGOs.</p> <p>The calculations are most likely underestimates due to the underreporting of domestic violence and the difficulty in estimating some areas of socioeconomic costs.</p>	<p>Costs per sector:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Police. - Justice (Prosecution, Children’s Advocacy Centres, Courts, Correctional Services, Mediation). - Health care services (Medical Care, Psychological Care) - Support services (Crisis Centres, Family Therapy Centres, Child Protection Service, Treatment Centres, Telephone Helpline). - Education and training (Norwegian Centre for Violence and Traumatic Stress, Regional Centre for Violence, Traumatic Stress and Suicide Prevention, Research Funding). - Other Ministries and State Institutions (Ministry of Health and Care Services, Directorate of Health, Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion, Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs, Ministry of Justice). - Taxes (marginal cost of public funds). - Loss of work productivity (incapacity to work). - Lost lives.

Author Date of publication Region/Country	Costs per year & Conclusions	Data used (including sample sizes)	Cost Categories
<p>J. Fliedner et al., Federal Office for Gender Equality; 2013; Switzerland</p> <div data-bbox="197 412 436 1247" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Type of violence:</p> <p>The study includes physical, sexual and psychological intimate partner violence in heterosexual and homosexual relations, as well as violence directly or indirectly affecting children. Relationships include marriage and partner relationships, whether cohabiting or not and whether the couple is still together, in the process of separation or has already separated.</p> </div>	<p>The total costs as a consequence of intimate partner violence are estimated at CHF 164 – 287 million (€135 – 236 million) per year.</p> <p>The lower limit of the total estimated tangible cost (CHF 164 million) is composed of the following cost areas.</p> <p>Tangible costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Police and justice system (30%, CHF 49 million, €40 million). - Support services (23%, CHF 37 million, €30 million). - Health care (21%, CHF 35 million, €29 million). - Specialist and coordination agencies (2%, CHF 3 million, €2.5 million). <p>Intangible costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lost productivity (24%, CHF 40 million, €33 million). <p>The lifelong intangible costs because of lost quality of life due to violence are estimated to almost CHF 2 billion (€1.6 billion).</p>	<p>The report is based on official statistical data from various sources. The calculation of annual costs are made on the basis of the newest data available (in most cases from 2011) or based on a year average.</p> <p>Reliable data were obtained for police interventions, advice centres and shelters as well as for the coordination services provided by the federal government and the cantons.</p> <p>There are gaps in the data available concerning criminal proceedings, healthcare and social transfers, as well as for the calculation of lost productivity.</p> <p>In some cost areas, the collected data relate to domestic violence in general, rather than to intimate partner violence. In such cases, it is estimated that intimate partner violence represents 70% of all domestic violence.</p> <p>The calculations are very likely underestimates, as they do not include all cost areas due to the lack of data in the field of civil proceeding, child and adult protection services, support services for affected children as well as healthcare costs for affected children and for men's mental health.</p>	<p>Costs per sector:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Police and Justice (Police, Public Prosecutor Service, Courts, Penal System). - Support services for victims and perpetrators (Advice Centres for Victims and Perpetrators, Emergency Aid, Compensation, Shelters). - Specialist and Coordination Agencies (Federal level, Cantonal level). - Health care services (Physical consequences, Psychological consequences). - Lost productivity (Illness (paid/unpaid), Invalidity (paid/unpaid), Death (unpaid)). <p>Types of costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct tangible costs (e.g. police interventions). - Indirect tangible costs (e.g. loss of earnings, profit and economic value). - Intangible costs (e.g. loss of quality of life).

NON - COUNCIL OF EUROPE MEMBER STATES

<i>Author Date of publication Region/Country</i>	<i>Costs per year & Conclusions</i>	<i>Data used (including sample sizes)</i>	<i>Cost Categories</i>
<p>National Centre for Injury Prevention and Control; 2003; United States of America</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Type of violence:</p> <p>Intimate partner violence, rape, physical assault and stalking.</p> </div>	<p>“The costs of intimate partner rape, physical assault, and stalking exceed \$5.8 billion each year, nearly \$4.1 billion of which is for direct medical and mental health care services.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – National Violence Against Women Survey, sample size 8,000 (only women who were injured were considered). – Medical Expenditure Panel — Survey. – Medicare file. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Medical costs from injuries only. – Lost time at paid and unpaid work. – Death.

Author Date of publication Region/Country	Costs per year & Conclusions	Data used (including sample sizes)	Cost Categories
<p>The National Council to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children; 2009; Australia</p> <div data-bbox="197 472 428 737" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Type of violence:</p> <p>Violence against women and their children, domestic violence against women.</p> </div>	<p>AUS\$13.6 billion in 2009 for violence against women and their children.</p> <p>“Without appropriate action to address violence against women and their children, an estimated three-quarters of a million Australian women will experience and report violence in the period of 2021-22, costing the Australian economy an estimated \$15.6 billion.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Personal Safety Survey (PSS) data. - Unreported violence is not included. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pain, suffering and premature mortality costs associated with the victims/survivors experience of violence - Health costs include public and private health system costs associated with treating the effects of violence against women - Production-related costs, including the cost of being absent from work, and employer administrative costs (for example, employee replacement) - Consumption-related costs, including replacing damaged property, defaulting on bad debts, and the costs of moving - Second generation costs are the costs of children witnessing and living with violence, including child protection services and increased juvenile and adult crime - Administrative and other costs, including police, incarceration, court system costs, counselling, and violence prevention programs - Transfer costs, which are the inefficiencies associated with the payment of government benefits. <p>“The costs are allocated across eight groups within society which bear the costs of violence. These are: victims/survivors; perpetrators; children; friends and family; employers; federal, state/territory and local government; and the rest of the community/society (non-government).”</p>

Author Date of publication Region/Country	Costs per year & Conclusions	Data used (including sample sizes)	Cost Categories
<p>International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); 2009; Bangladesh, Morocco and Uganda</p> <div data-bbox="197 565 428 730" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Type of violence: Intimate partner violence.</p> </div>	<p>“Three-country study in Bangladesh, Morocco and Uganda to estimate the economic costs of intimate partner violence at the household and community levels, where its impact is most direct and immediate.”</p> <p>Several results: Please refer to page 9-10 of the study.</p>	<p>- Survey on one eligible woman per household. “The eligibility criteria for women was age (15+ in Morocco and Uganda; 15-49 in Bangladesh) and having been in a co-habiting relationship at the time or during the 12 months prior to the study. The sample size was 2,003 in Bangladesh, 2,122 in Morocco and 1,272 in Uganda.”</p> <p>- Questionnaires and expert interviews with service providers in health, criminal justice social and legal sectors.</p> <p>“Women were asked whether they experienced physical, emotional or sexual intimate partner violence in the 12 months prior to the study, what the outcomes of each incident were, what services, if any, they used, and the amount of money they spent to access these services. This information was used to calculate the average total out-of-pocket cost of using any of these services due to intimate partner violence.”</p>	<p>- Direct costs of intimate partner violence for households and communities (actual expenditures and the value of services used in responding to intimate partner violence). E.g.: medical and social services as well as services provided by the police and the criminal justice system; at the household level, the expenditures on goods and fees for services, transportation costs; at the community level provider costs linked to human resources, supplies/infrastructure used during service provision.</p> <p>- Indirect costs of intimate partner violence on households (lost earnings and productivity because of injury).</p>

Author Date of publication Region/Country	Costs per year & Conclusions	Data used (including sample sizes)	Cost Categories
<p>C. Varcoe et al.; 2011; Canada</p> <div data-bbox="197 410 428 607" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Type of violence: Intimate partner violence against women.</p> </div>	<p>“Total annual estimated costs of selected public- and private-sector expenditures attributable to violence were \$13,162.39 per woman. This translates to a national annual cost of \$6.9 billion for women aged 19–65 who have left abusive partners; \$3.1 billion for those experiencing violence within the past three years. Results indicate that costs continue long after leaving, and call for recognition in policy that leaving does not coincide with ending violence.”</p> <p>Conclusions: ““Leaving” may decrease, but does not end, the costs of violence to the system. Results indicate that costs continue long after leaving, and call for recognition in policy that leaving does not coincide with ending violence.”</p>	<p>- “Costs estimated for a community sample of 309 Canadian women who left abusive male partners on average 20 months previously.”</p> <p>- “Data used in this analysis were collected in 2004–2005 using structured interviews. The women were asked only about services they had used in the previous month.”</p>	<p>“Inclusion of a comprehensive range of cost categories to calculate both public and private costs of violence, with emphasis on health-related costs. Obtained women’s self-reports of health, legal and social service use, and costs related to violence in terms of lost wages and days of school because of health problems, and transportation and day care required to access services. Health service use included both publicly funded services such as physician and hospital visits, and privately paid services (e.g., physiotherapy).” (For a detailed list of categories refer to Table 3 of the article, page 367).</p> <p>“Costs include costs directly attributable to violence (abuse/help lines, sexual assault/rape crisis services, shelters, second stage housing, advocacy/counselling for violence, and victims’ services) and costs partially attributable to violence (legal aid, social assistance, unemployment insurance, addiction counselling, and visits to a child protection worker, calls to the police).”</p>

Author Date of publication Region/Country	Costs per year & Conclusions	Data used (including sample sizes)	Cost Categories
<p>T. K. Logan et al.; 2012; United States of America</p> <div data-bbox="197 412 428 613" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Type of violence:</p> <p>Partner violence against women by men.</p> </div>	<p>“Overall, including changes in quality of life, protective orders were estimated to have saved taxpayers in one small state US\$85 million in a 1-year period (2006-2007)”.</p>	<p>- Interviews with 213 women having obtained a protective order against a male abusive partner.</p>	<p>“Most estimates of the costs of partner violence are made at the aggregate level rather than the individual level. Estimating costs at the individual level allows for a wider range of costs of partner violence to be considered. This study is one of the first to examine a wide range of economic costs of partner violence and to examine the economic costs and cost-benefits of civil protective orders.”</p> <p>Costs included:</p> <p>- “health service utilization for doctor visits, dental visits, emergency room visits, urgent treatment care, hospital use, ambulance, physical therapy visits each month, visits to mental health counselors, psychiatrists, marriage counselors, ministerial counselors, and participation in group therapy for mental health or substance abuse and residential substance-abuse treatment, use of victim advocate, crisis line, in-person crisis counselor, and nights in a domestic violence shelter or a homeless shelter, use of legal services including private attorneys and legal aid attorneys”.</p> <p>“The overall goal of this article was to examine the economic impact of POs after accounting for the costs associated with protection orders (POs). Specifically, this article describes, (a) a wide range of costs associated with partner violence 6 months before and 6 months after the PO was obtained; (b) the average differences in costs associated with partner violence before and after the PO; (c) avoided costs of partner violence relative to PO intervention costs (i.e., benefits or cost savings of POs); and, (d) estimates of the statewide impact of avoided costs relative to the costs of a PO.”</p>

Author Date of publication Region/Country	Costs per year & Conclusions	Data used (including sample sizes)	Cost Categories
<p>K. McInturff, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives; 2013; Canada</p> <p>Type of violence:</p> <p>Intimate partner violence and sexual assaults directed against women. Intimate partner violence is defined by Statistics Canada, as “violence committed by legally married, separated, divorced, common-law partners, dating partners (current and previous) and other intimate partners. The intimate partner category is based on victims aged 15-89.” Sexual assault is defined in the Criminal Code as an assault committed in circumstances of a sexual nature. The definition contains three different</p>	<p>The 2012 <i>Justice Canada report</i> estimates that the total cost of intimate partner violence is at CAD 7.4 billion (€5.1 billion) per year. This figure includes estimates for pain and suffering as well as direct costs. The direct costs are estimated to CAD 1.9 billion (€1.3 billion) per year.</p> <p>The direct costs of adult sexual assault are estimated to be more than CAD 546 million (€376 million) per year. If the costs of pain and suffering are included at the same rates as in the 2012 <i>Justice Canada report</i>, the number rises to CAD 1.9 billion (€1.3 billion)</p> <p>The combined costs of adult sexual assault and intimate partner violence are estimated to CAD 334 (€230) per person in Canada.</p> <p>In the fiscal year 2011 – 2012, the federal government spent CAD 79.9 million (€55 million) relating to intimate partner violence and sexual assault, which is equal to CAD 2.77 (€1.90) per person.</p>	<p>The estimations are based on official statistical and budget information sources from different actors in the public sector.</p> <p>Due to the lack of available data in some cost areas as well as due to the underreporting of sexual violence, the estimates are very likely underestimates. Significant costs are missing from the calculations, such as the number of suicides and suicide attempts, and are therefore assigned a cost of zero.</p>	<p>The cost of sexual assault has been calculated by using the same method as developed in the 2012 <i>Justice Canada report: An Estimation of the Economic Impact on Spousal Violence in Canada</i> on the costs of intimate partner violence.</p> <p>Cost categories used in the calculation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Justice system costs (Police, Courts, Prosecution, Legal Aid, Incarceration, Conditional Sentences, Probation, Civil Protection Orders). - Victim costs (Health Care, Mental Health Service, Suicide Attempts, Productivity Losses, Other Personal Costs). - Third-party costs (Social Services Costs, Losses to Employers).

<p>levels of sexual assault.</p>			
<p>Author Date of publication Region/Country</p>	<p>Costs per year & Conclusions</p>	<p>Data used (including sample sizes)</p>	<p>Cost Categories</p>
<p>N. Duvvury et al.; 2013; Global</p> <p>Type of violence:</p> <p>Intimate partner violence, including physical, psychological and sexual violence within intimate relationships. Economic and financial abuse is not included due to little systematic data on its prevalence.</p>	<p>The report reviews studies on the costs of violence against women and elaborates on the link between violence against women and economic growth.</p> <p>The cost of intimate partner violence is analysed in relation to national GDP. The data collected indicate that the costs of violence against women are substantial, ranging from approximately 1-2% of GDP.</p> <p>A sectoral approach to estimating the costs of intimate partner violence is also presented, by using Vietnam as an example. Intimate partner violence is analysed in four sectors accounting for 60% of the GDP in Vietnam. According to the calculations, the proportion of output loss due to intimate partner violence in these four sectors represents 0.5% of GDP. For the whole Vietnamese economy, absenteeism relating to intimate partner violence is estimated to 1.5% of GDP. However, it is pointed out that caution is to be applied when generalizing sectoral</p>	<p>The data estimations are based on previous studies conducted on the economic costs of violence against women.</p> <p>Data from studies in nine countries (USA, Australia, UK, Nicaragua, Chile, Uganda, Morocco, Vietnam and Bangladesh) were collected and compared.</p> <p>All the studies are not directly comparable because of the differences in criteria and methodologies used. The estimates vary due to the different ranges of costs included in the estimations.</p> <p>The report also reviews different costing methodologies and their data requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct accounting methodology. - Present value of lifetime earnings approach. - Propensity score matching (PSM). - Willingness-to-pay or -accept/contingent value methodology. 	<p>In the report, different types of costs that potentially can be estimated are identified. In practice, the cost areas analysed will depend on data availability.</p> <p>The different areas of costs identified in the report range from direct costs (expenditures relating to services and measures for preventing and responding to violence against women) to indirect costs (costs resulting from trauma and life-long effects of violence as well as decreased quality of life). A distinction is also made between individual micro level costs (absenteeism, impact on children, health and income loss) and societal macro level costs (human capital, productivity, health and household utility).</p> <p>Types of costs identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Justice system (civil, criminal and administrative structures). - Health system (care and treatment). - Social services (shelters, income support, support services). - Costs borne by the individual woman (health care, housing, shelter, legal costs). - Forgone income for households and the overall economy (lost wages, decreased productivity, decrease in tax revenues). - Second generation costs (effects on children, impact on human capital formation).

level output loss estimates to the economy as a whole.	- Disability adjusted life years (DALYs).
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On-going initiatives/studies:

- **Poland: The Council of Europe, responding to the request from the Office of the Plenipotentiary for Equal Treatment of the Government of Poland has commissioned the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI) to conduct a study on the costs of domestic and sexual violence against women in Poland, over 2013 and 2014.**

- **European Union: At the request of the European Parliament, the European Institute for Gender Equality is conducting a review of methodologies to estimate the costs of violence against women and a series of case studies with a view to proposing a common framework for the European Union. The study is led by Professor Sylvia Walby, Lancaster University, UK.**

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¹ Council of Europe, 2006.

² Day et al., 2005.

³ French to English translation.