



# Violence against Women and Children: COVID 19

## A Telephone Survey

Survey period: June 2020

13<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Canada 

 Sweden  
Sverige

  
UKaid  
from the British people

## Survey background highlights

MJF continues systematic monitoring of Violence against women and girls during current Pandemic

COVID-19 has upended the lives of children and families across the globe

Globally Children at heightened risk of abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence amidst intensifying containment measures – UNICEF

In many countries affected by COVID-19, records indicate an increase in reported cases of domestic violence, in particular child maltreatment and intimate partner violence against women - WHO

The issue requires urgent action , policy and budgetary support



## Quick telephone survey



**Total respondent:  
63,968**



**Survey area: 53  
districts**



**Data collected by 111  
Partners of MJF**



**Discussion with 119  
Partners**

## Objective

- **To understand the extent of VAWG during this Pandemic**
- **Compare trends from last 4 months**
- **Provide support to victims**
- **Liaison with government for services**
- **Continue Advocacy at national level and raise awareness through media**

# Violence against Women and Children at a glance

**Total respondents: 63,968**

**Women: 44,875**

**Children: 19,093**

**Total Victims/survivors: 11,471**  
**(12,740 in June)**

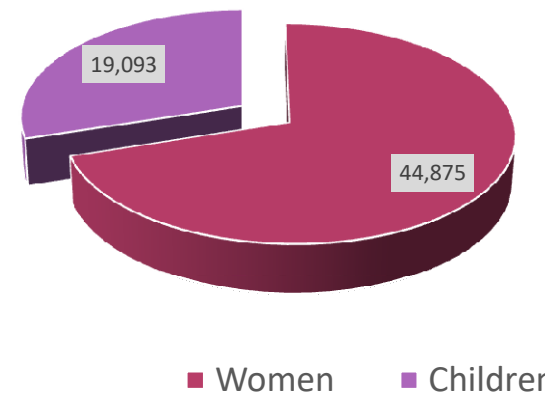
**Women: 8,492 (9,844 in June)**

**Children: 2,979 (2,896 in June)**

**New victims/survivors: 3,899**

**Women: 3,293 (39% of total female survivors)**

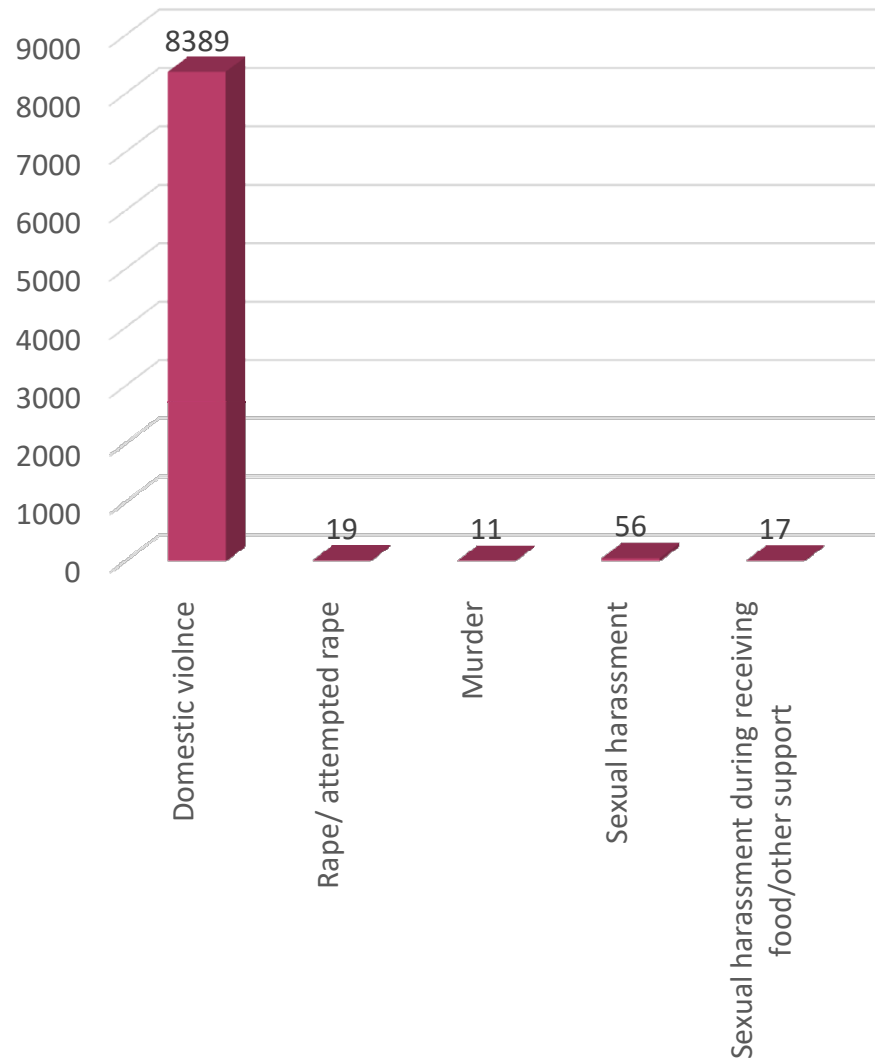
**Children: 606 (20% of total child survivors)**



**20% new children as victim**

**39% new women as victim**

# Violence against Women



**Domestic violence: 8,389 (98.8%)**

**Sexual harassment: 56**

**Rape/attempted rape: 19**

**Murder: 11**

**Sexual harassment  
during receiving**

**food/other support: 17**

# Domestic Violence against Women

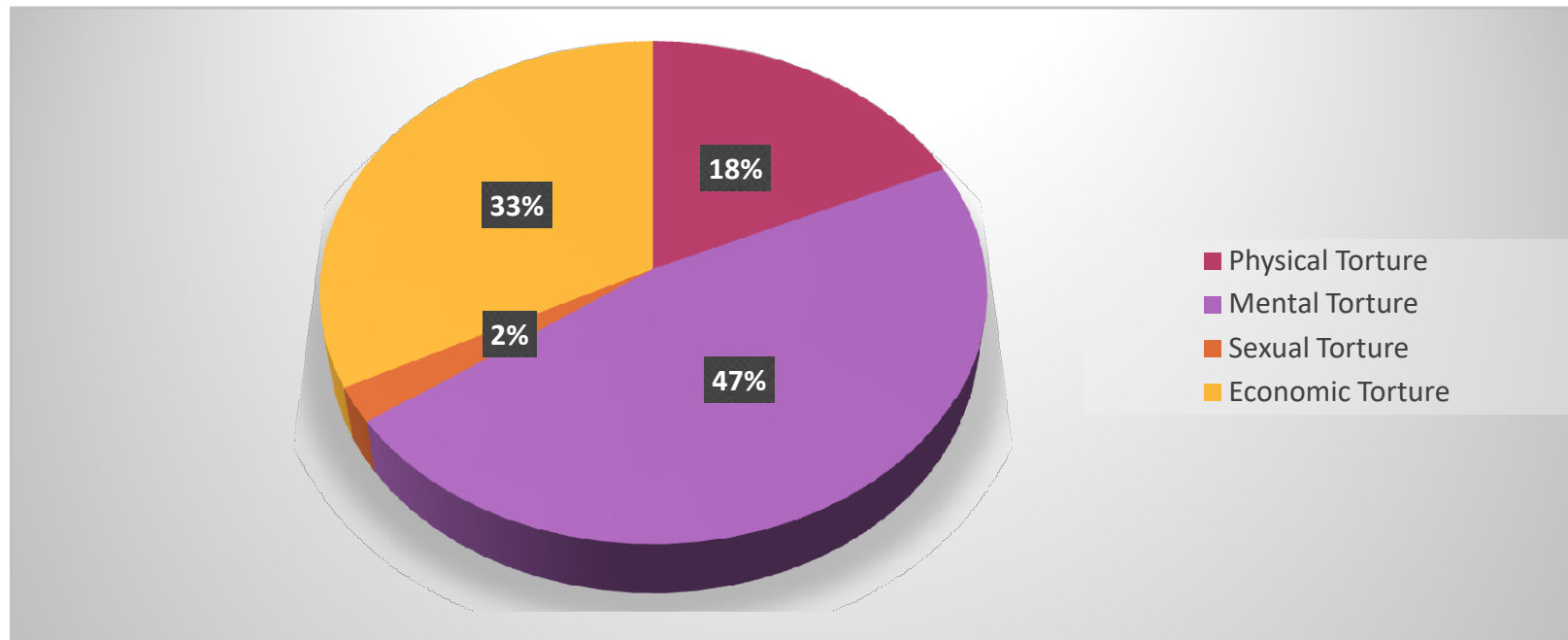
**Total Domestic violence: 8,389**

**Mental torture: 4,000**

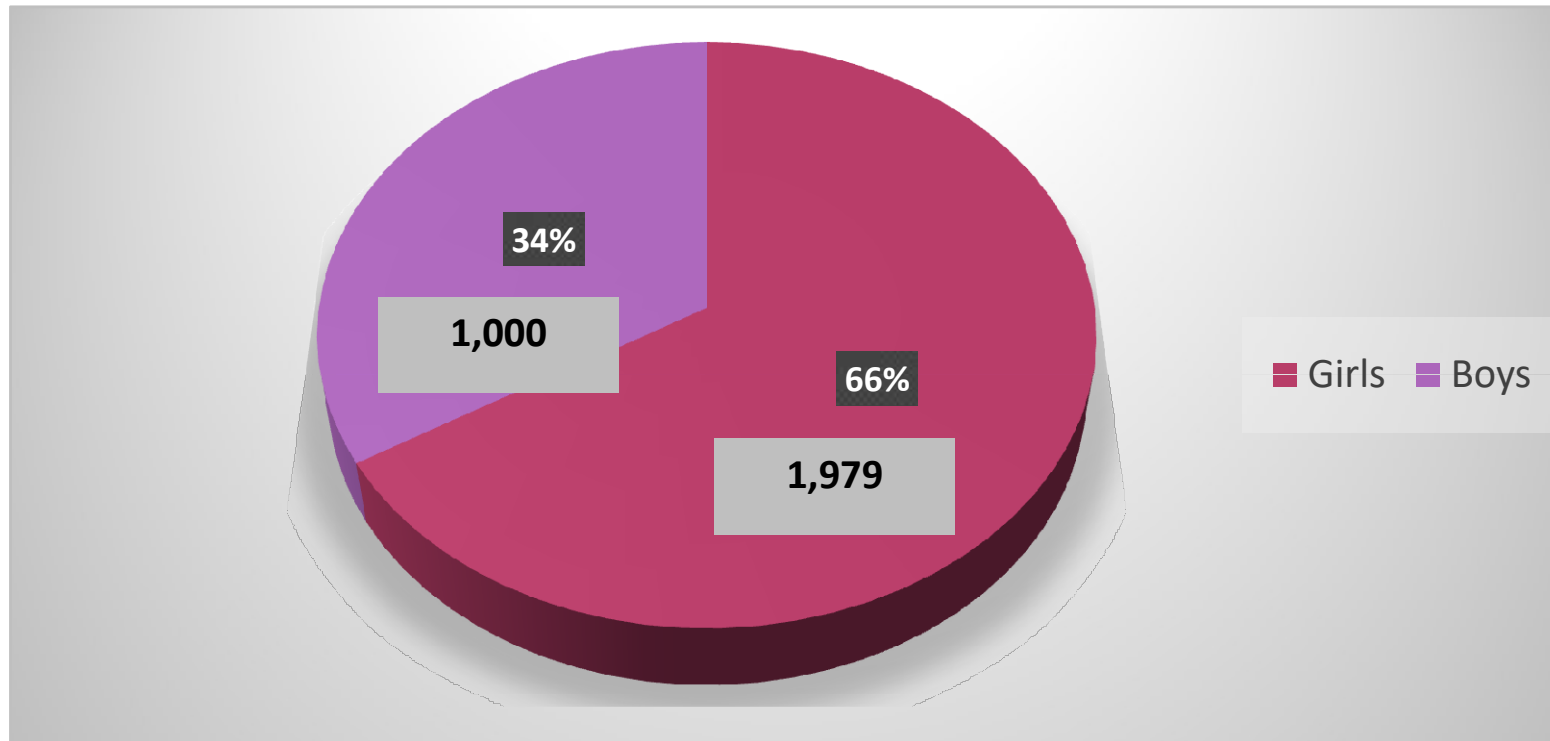
**Economic torture: 2,771**

**Physical torture: 1,546**

**Sexual torture: 200**

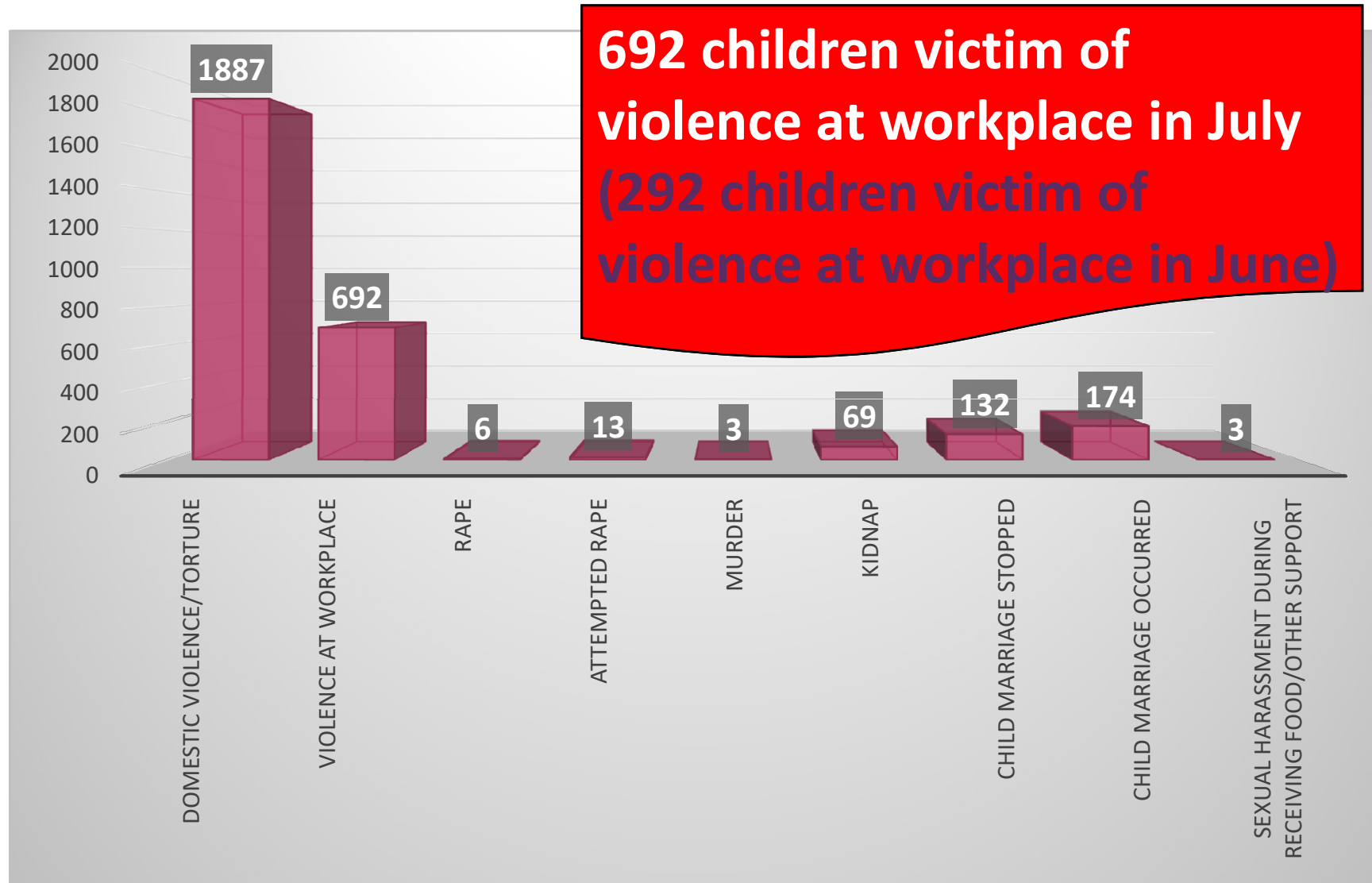


# Violence against Children



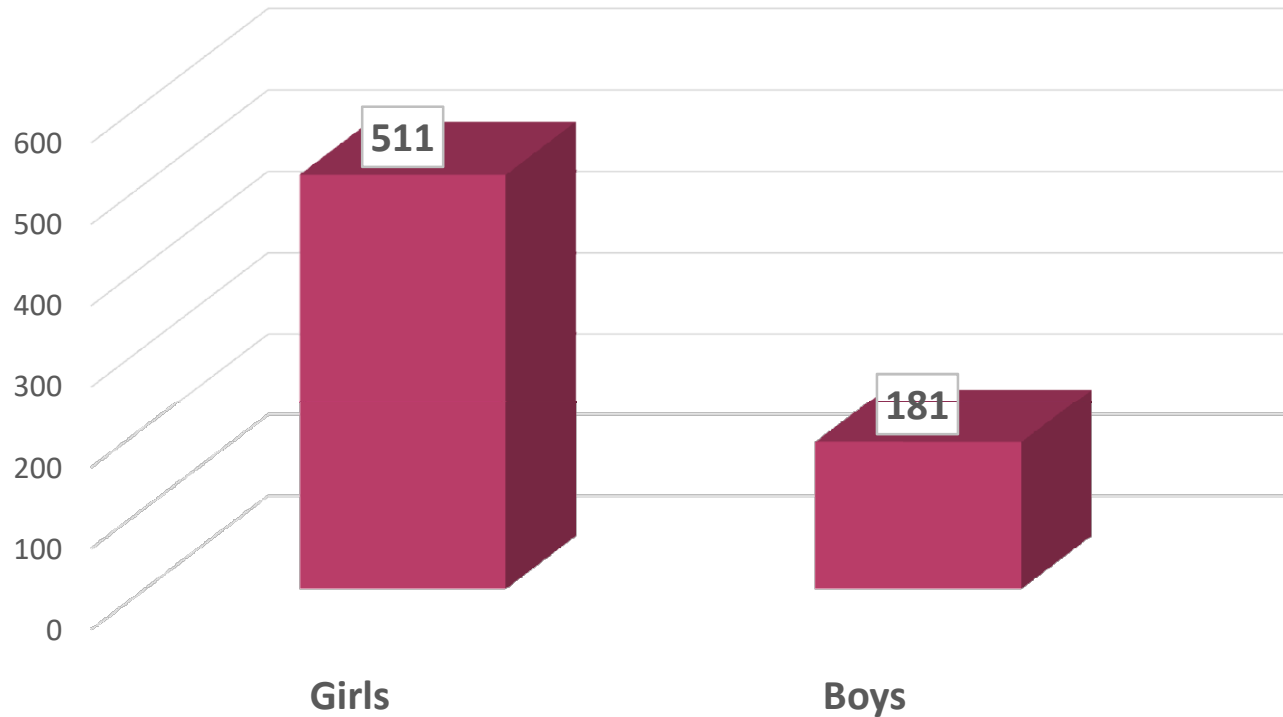
**Total child survivors/victims: 2,979**

# Violence against Children





# Violence against Children at work place



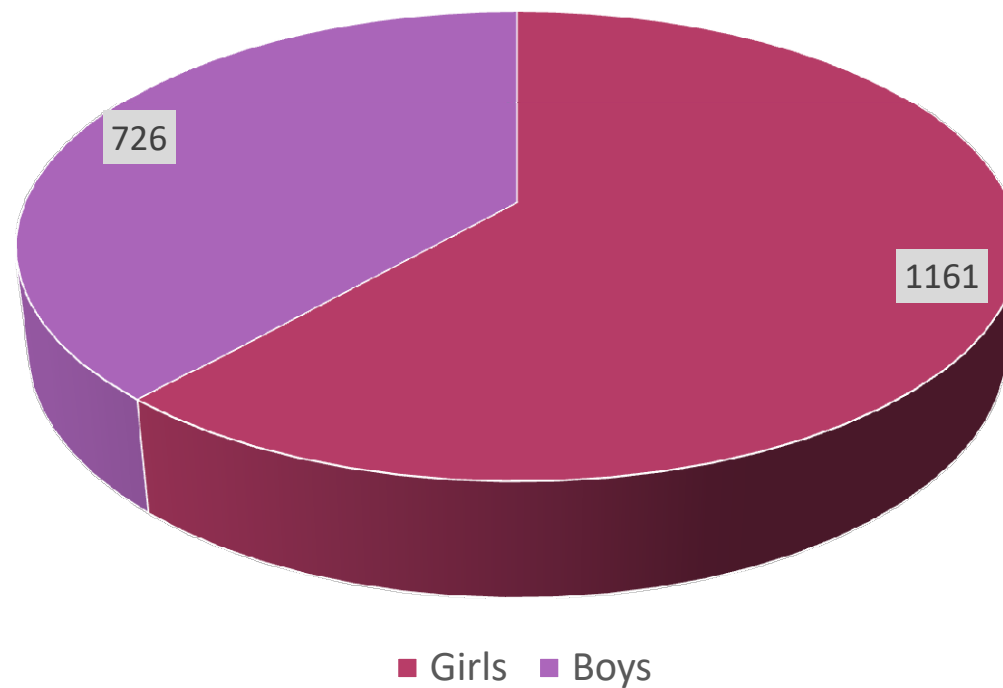
**137% increase in the number of child victims from violence at work place**

# Reasons of Violence against Children at Workplace

- Different economic activities have resumed since June and a number of children have joined their work places.
- People had been out of economic activities for such a long time which instigated them to send their sons and daughters to work.
- Due to the down fall of economy, the factory owners especially, of the informal sector took the opportunity of employing children in low wage (comparing to the wages of adult workers)

# Domestic Violence against Children

**Domestic violence/torture: 63%  
of total child survivors/victims**

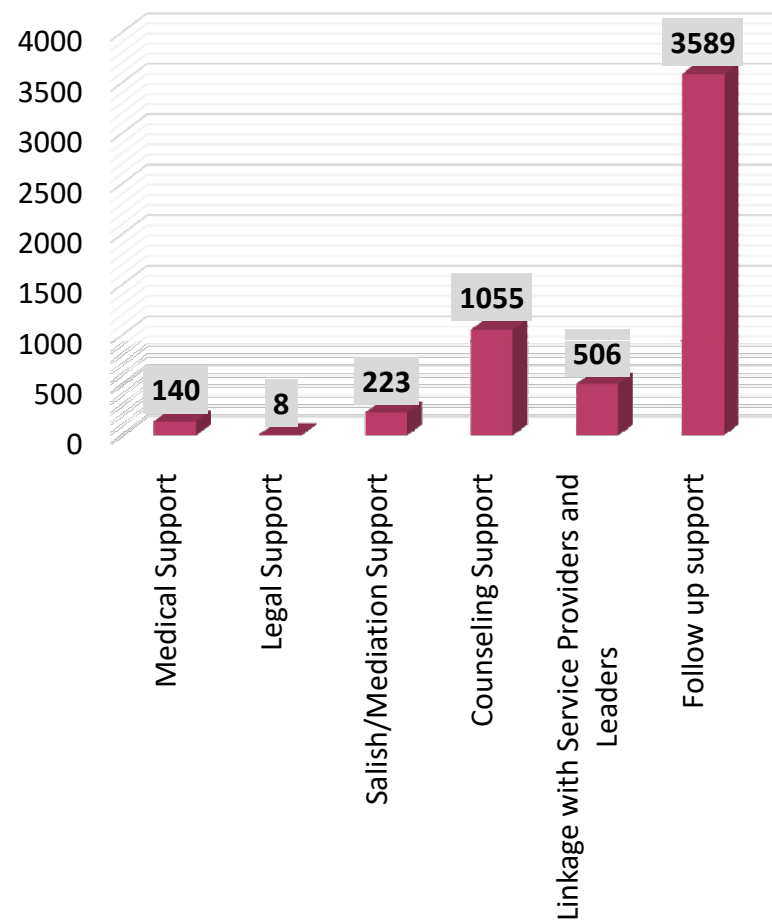
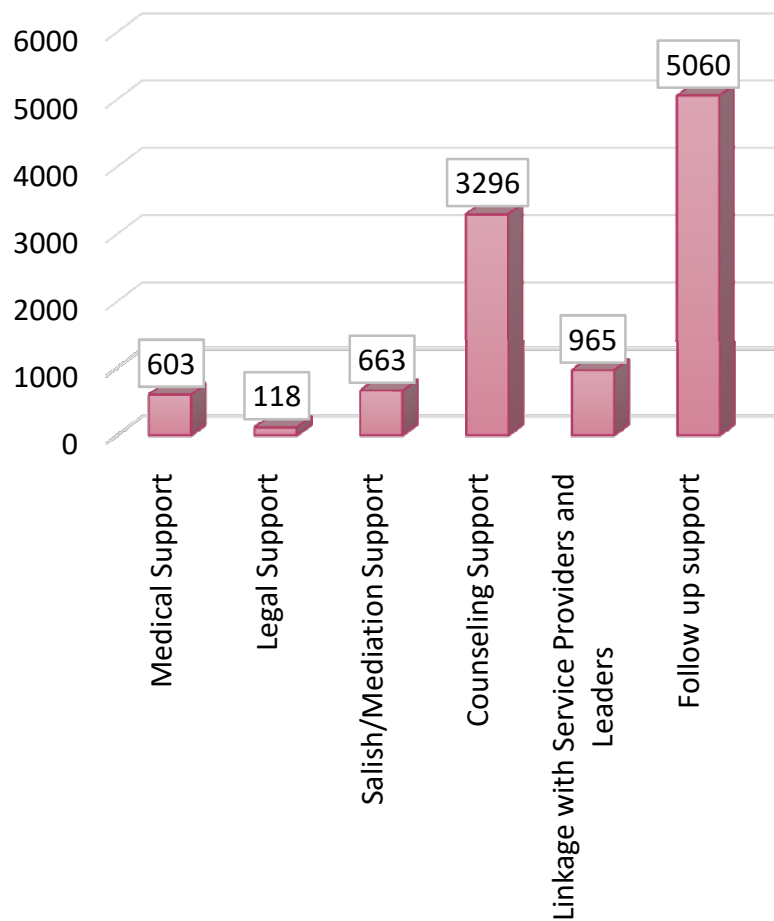


# Support services for the survivors



**Support to women survivors: 10,839**

**Support to child survivors: 2,473**



# Challenges of collecting information



- As most of the survivors were poor, they expected different types of supports like food, livelihood, loan, relief etc. instead of other services and supports
- Survivor were not eager to disclose their identity
- Most women did not have access to cellular phone
- Husband and other family members interrupted while communicating with women
- A lot of transgender people lost their houses, job, asset and business due to Pressure of local influential, family member, Police, community people, doctors, community leaders etc.
- Victims are not complaining against their husbands worrying about their security
- Women became so frustrated with the battle of life because of Covid - 2019 so that they became very silent about their personal life
- Woman did not feel comfortable to give information over phone
- In most cases, the respondents do not usually consider domestic violence as abuse unless they reach extreme level
- In some areas (like the hilly areas) respondents are not habituated in communicating through mobile phone
- Lack of awareness of the respondents regarding different forms of domestic violence especially, mental and economic torture
- Attending mediation/*salish* sessions by the staff members or group members of the partners was difficult in most cases

# Recommendations

- Need to revisit the National plan of Action to end Child Marriage and need re-plan immediately considering present COVID crisis including making required budgetary provisions
- Strong coordinated effort should start without any delay, MOWCA must call meeting with all level of stakeholders both at nation and local level
- Government should give priority of women violence victims and survivors at their cash transfer and other support program
- MoWCA can create an option to test corona of violence victims who seek shelter and other support from OCC and other shelter home
- Adapting life skills and girl empowerment programmes through distance learning, using radio or online platforms should start without delay
- Government should issue special circular to the local govt. and local administration to take immediate measures to address DVAW and any attempt of arranging child marriage
- Government should make the list of existing DVAW Enforcement Officers and District Legal Aid Officers public so that female survivors and vulnerable girls may seek prompt support including legal counseling from them
- Steps for on line schooling for all children
- Take measures to stop school drop out of adolescent girls



# Thank you

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