

ACHA UKATILI
WALINDE



Violence Against Children In Tanzania





1. Background

- Direct response to the United Nations Secretary-General's (UNSG) *World Report on Violence against Children* (VAC, 2006)
- World Report recommended national data collection and research
- Tanzania is the first country in Africa to undertake *A National Study on Violence against Children - giving national estimates* on the magnitude of sexual, physical and emotional violence affecting girls and boys



2. The Process

Planning process for the Tanzania Violence against Children Study started in mid 2008.

- Multisectoral Task Force (MSTF) was conceived in September 2008, which consists of representatives from government ministries and partners including the police and justice sectors, social welfare, education and health care sectors; the UN and CSOs.
- UNICEF Tanzania coordinated the process, while technical guidance and assistance provided by the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Division of Violence Prevention.

...the process...

- Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) was selected as the local research partner and main implementer of the study – placing all study activities within the country’s main school of medicine and public health.
- The MSTF - chaired by the Ministry of Community Development Gender and Children (MCDGC) and the Task Force - ensured national ownership and oversight in building support for a comprehensive National Prevention and Response Plan to address findings of the study

...the process

- October 2009 - survey field work
- July 2010 - Preliminary VAC results
- August 2011 - Official launch

3. Objectives of the study



- Describe the magnitude of the problem of violence against children with special emphasis on sexual violence
- Identify potential risk and protective factors for VAC
- Identify the health consequences of VAC
- Assess knowledge of and utilization of health services available for child victims of sexual violence and other forms of violence
- Use data to guide policies and programs to prevent and protect children from violence
- To identify further research needs



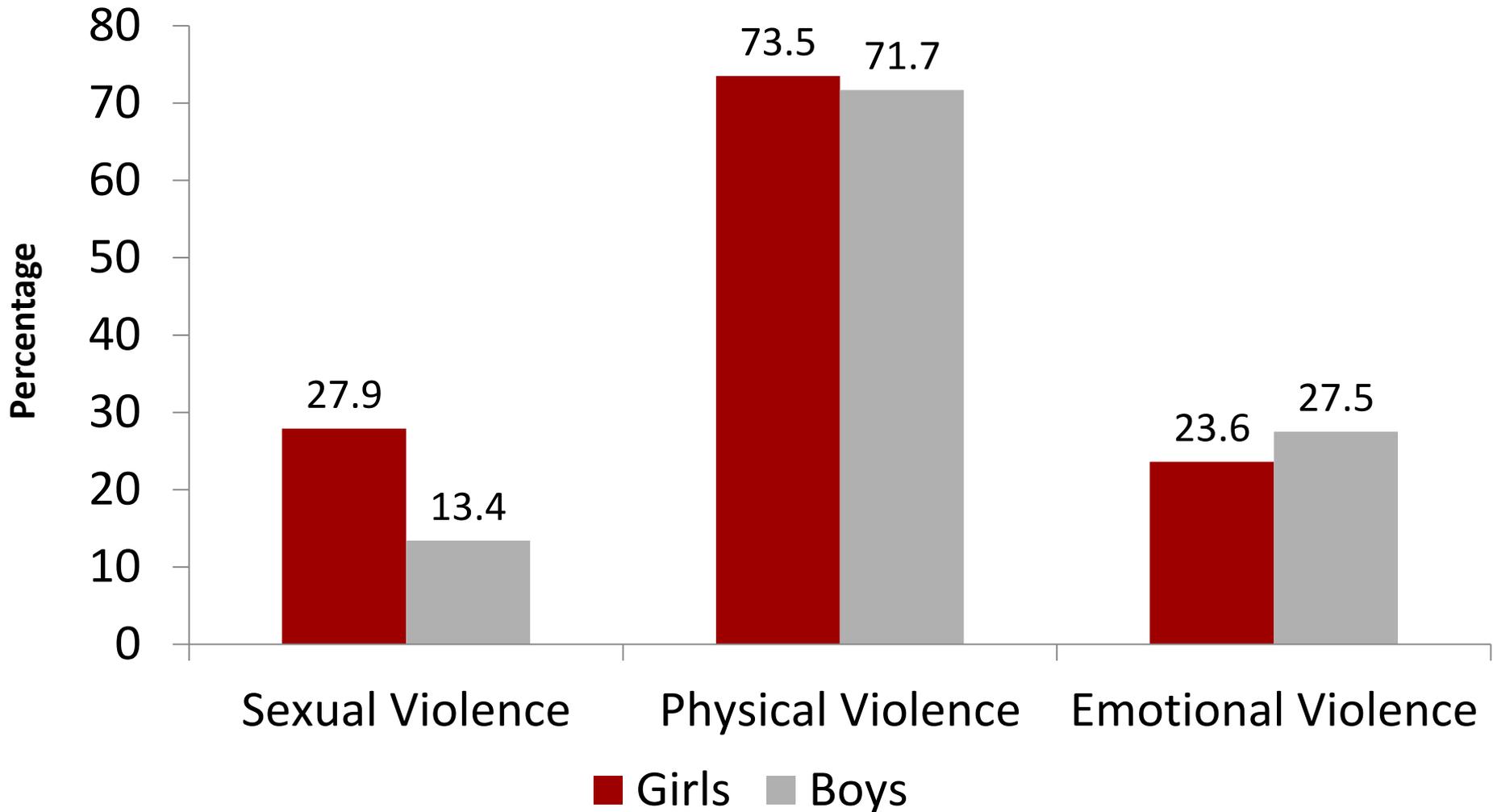
Violence Against Children in Tanzania

4. The Findings



Violence Against Children in Tanzania

Overview of Sexual, Physical and Emotional Violence in Childhood Reported by Females and Males aged 13 to 24 years





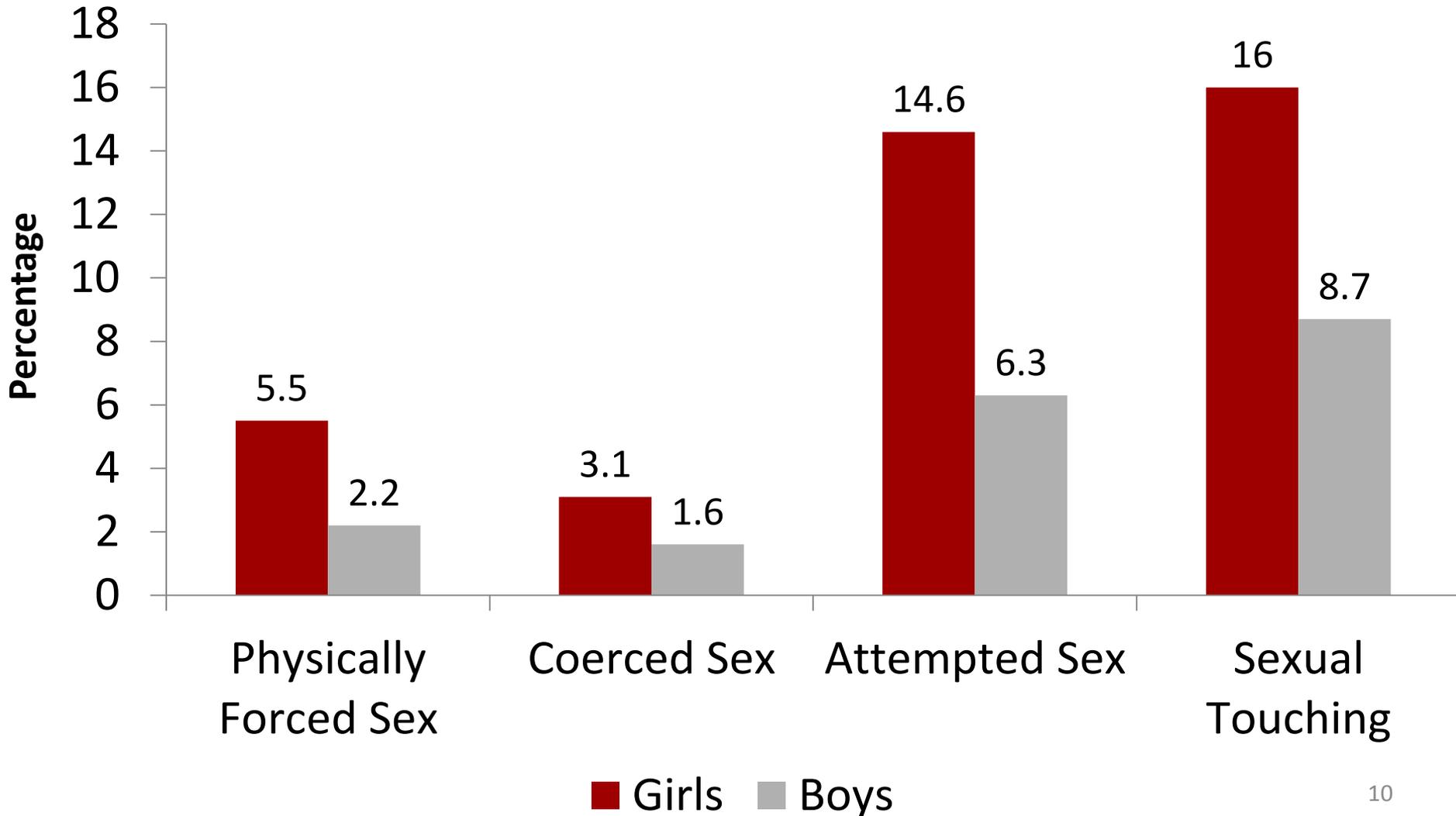
4.1 Sexual Violence

- Nearly 3 out of every 10 girls (27.9%) aged 13 to 24 years in TZ reported at least one experience of sexual violence prior to the age of 18.
- Among boys in the same age group, 1 out of every 7 boys (13.4%) reported experiencing at least one incident of sexual violence prior to the age of 18.
- Nearly 6% of girls have been physical forced to have sexual intercourse before the age 18.



...Sexual Violence

Type of Childhood Sexual Violence
Reported by Males and Females Aged 13 to 24 Years

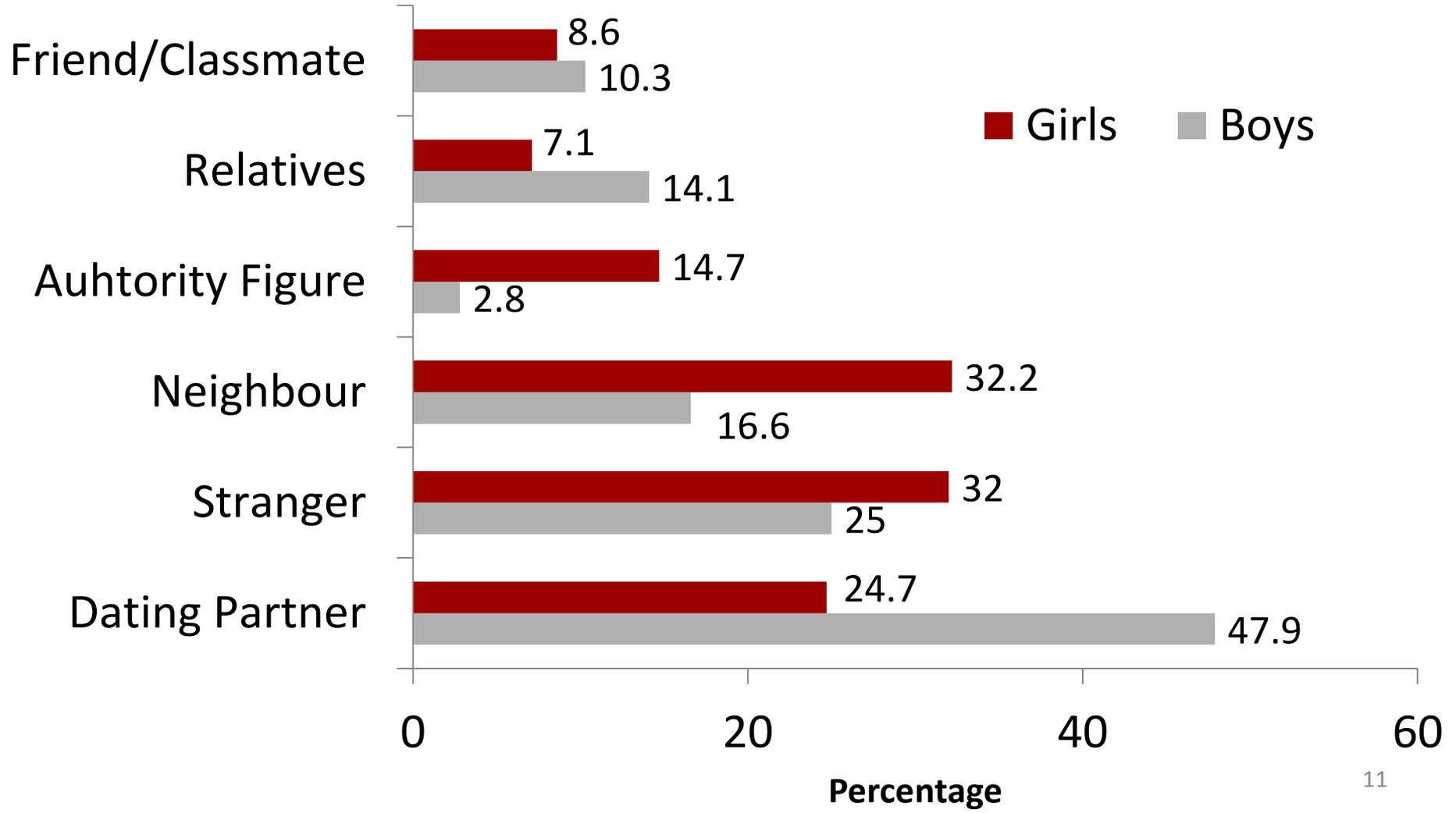




....Sexual Violence

Perpetrators of Childhood Sexual Violence

Reported by Males and Females Aged 13 to 24 years

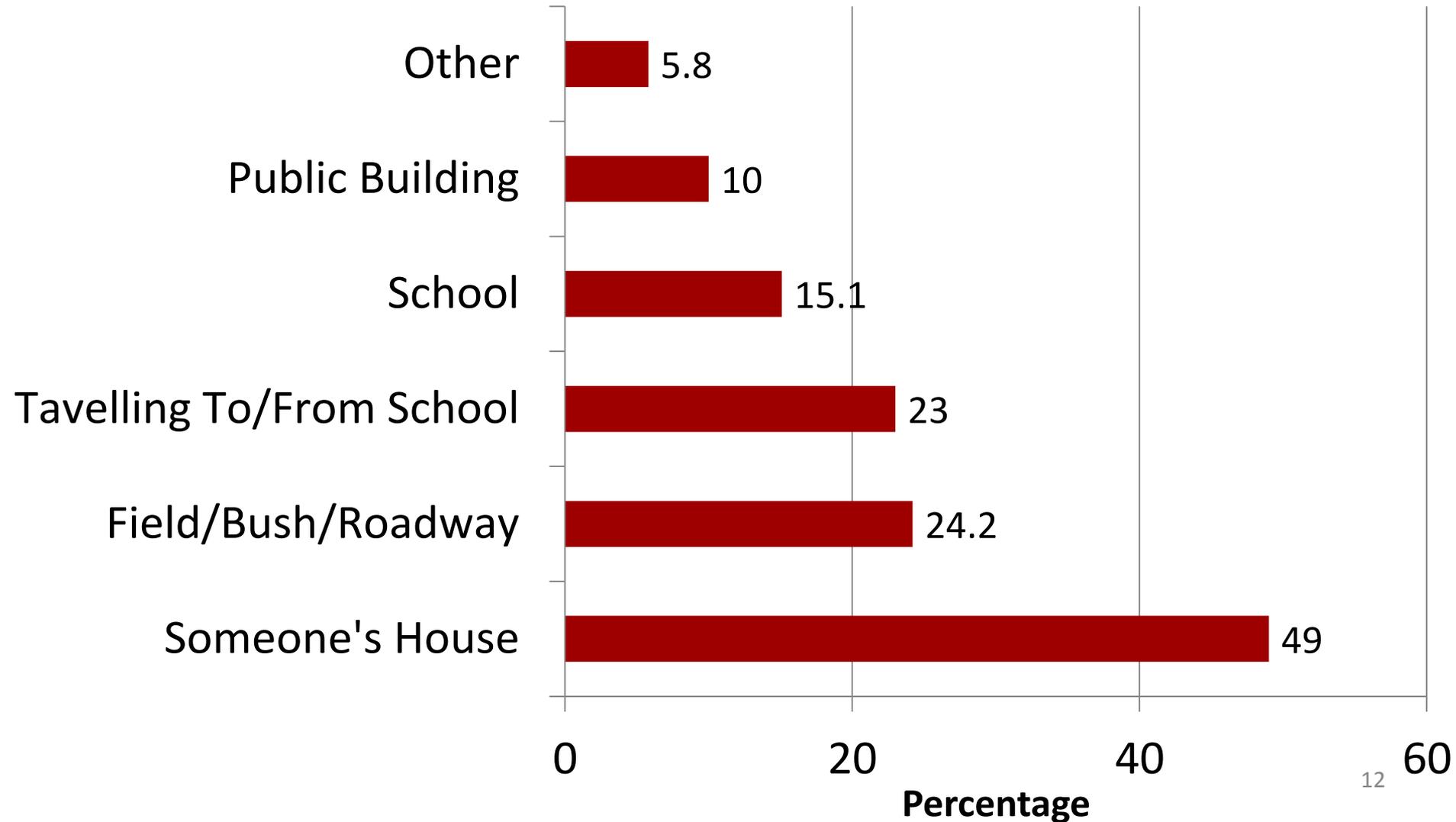




....Sexual Violence

Location of Childhood Sexual Violence Against Girls

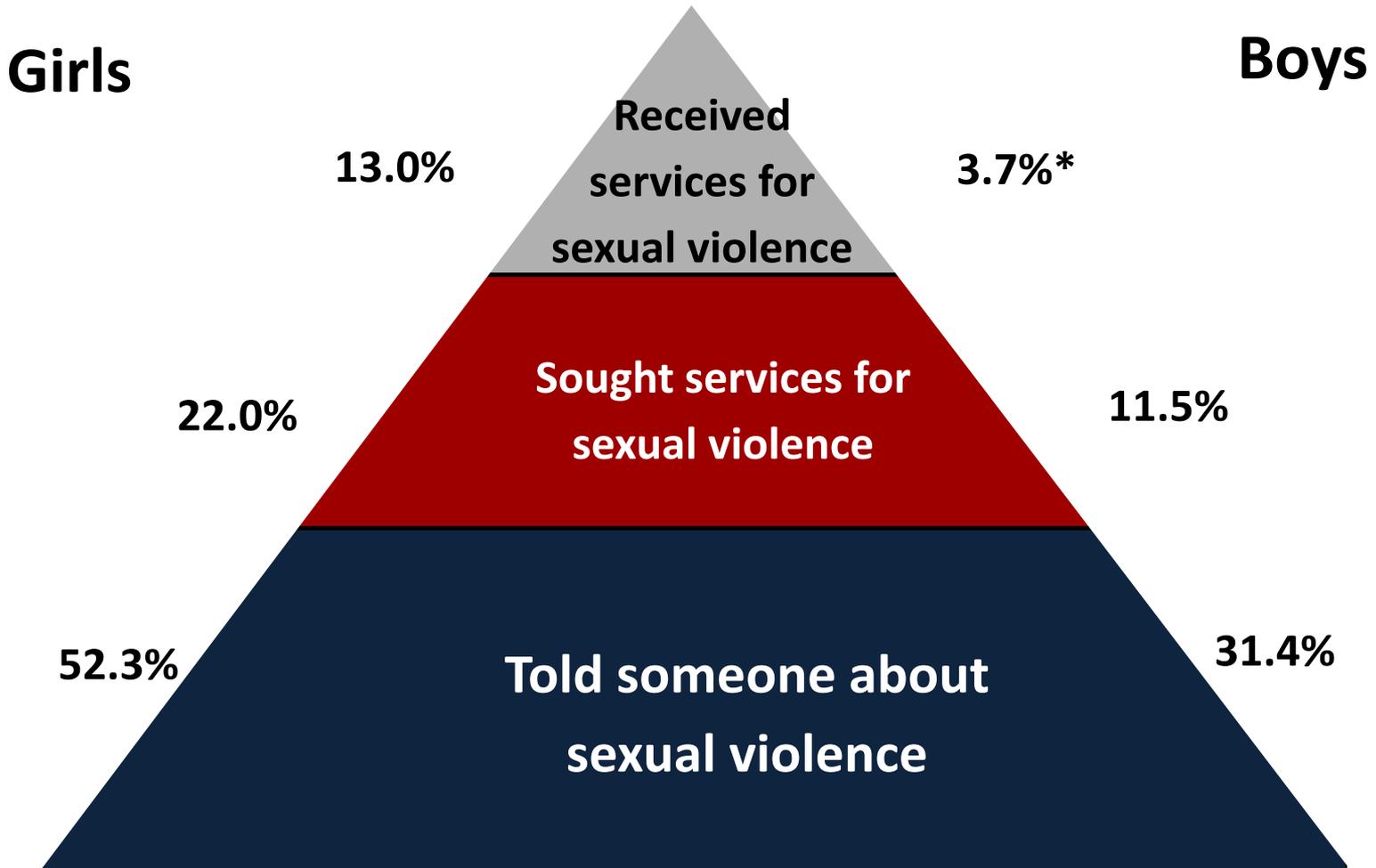
Reported by Females Aged 13 to 24 Years





...Sexual Violence , Help Seeking Behaviours

Victims of Childhood Sexual Violence Who Told Someone, Sought Services and Obtained Them Reported by Males and Females Aged 13 to 24 Years

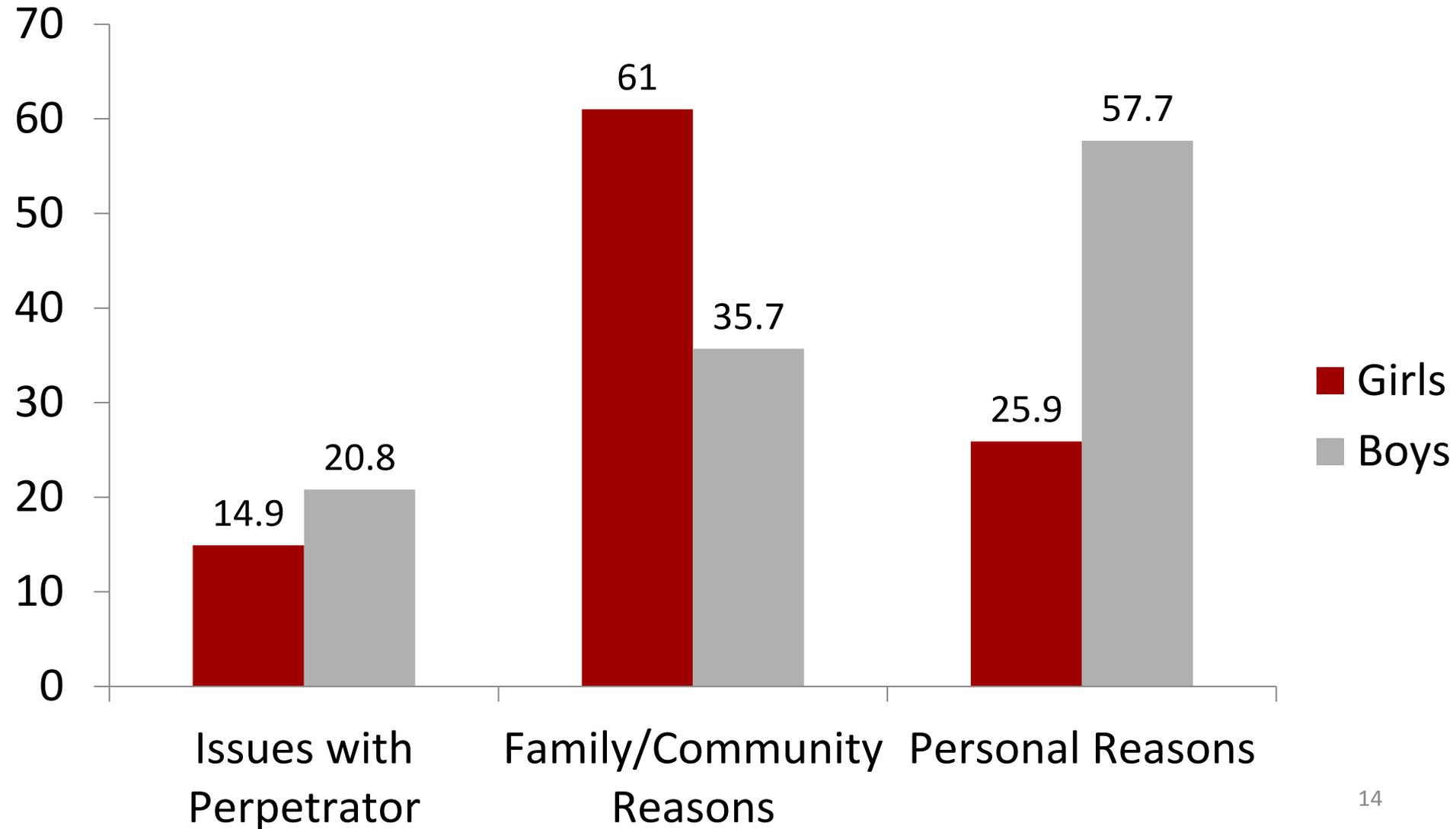


*Estimate is unstable



....Sexual Violence

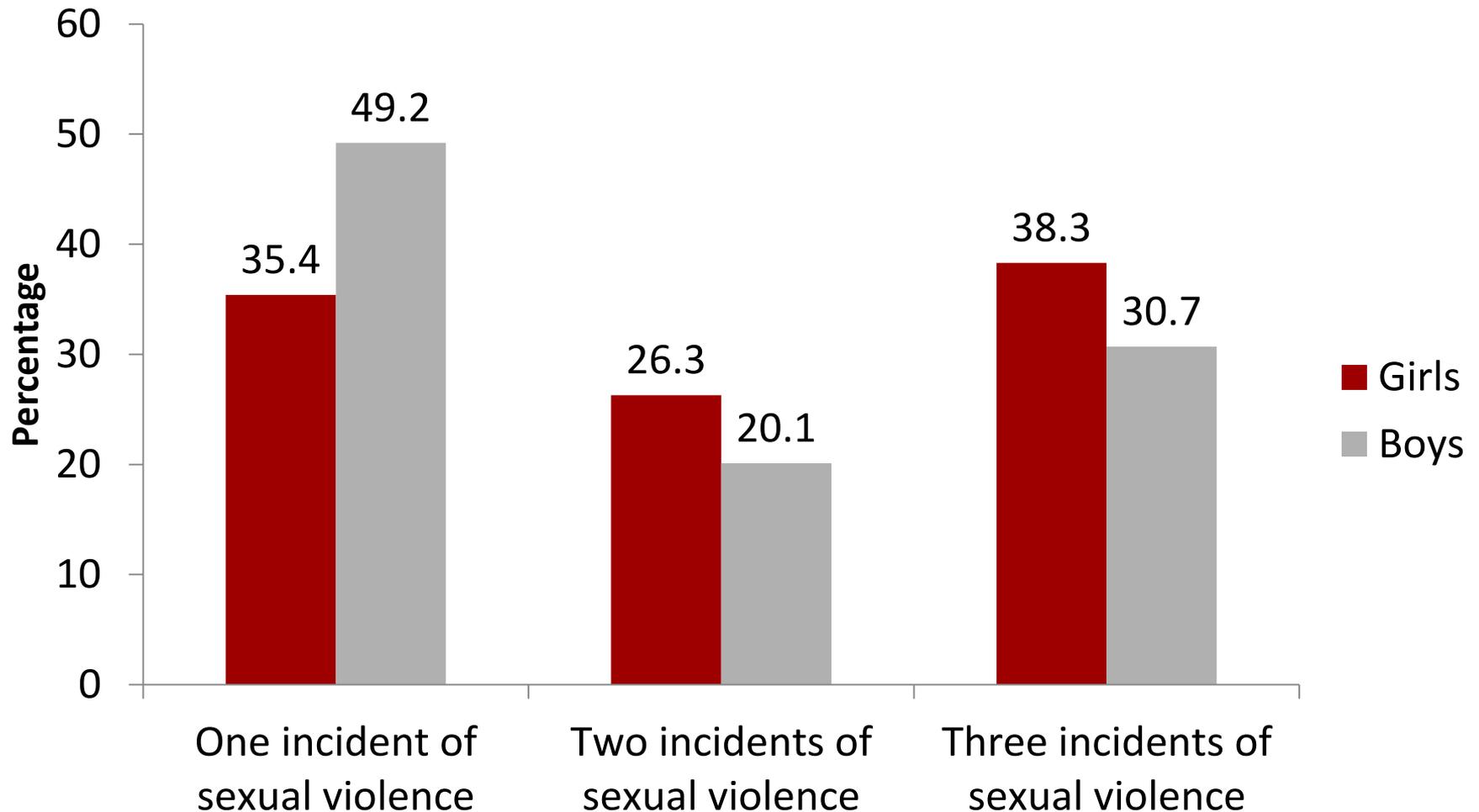
Reasons Victims Gave for Not Telling Anyone Reported by Males and Females Aged 13 to 24 Years





....Sexual Violence

Percentage of 13 to 17 year olds who experienced sexual violence multiple times

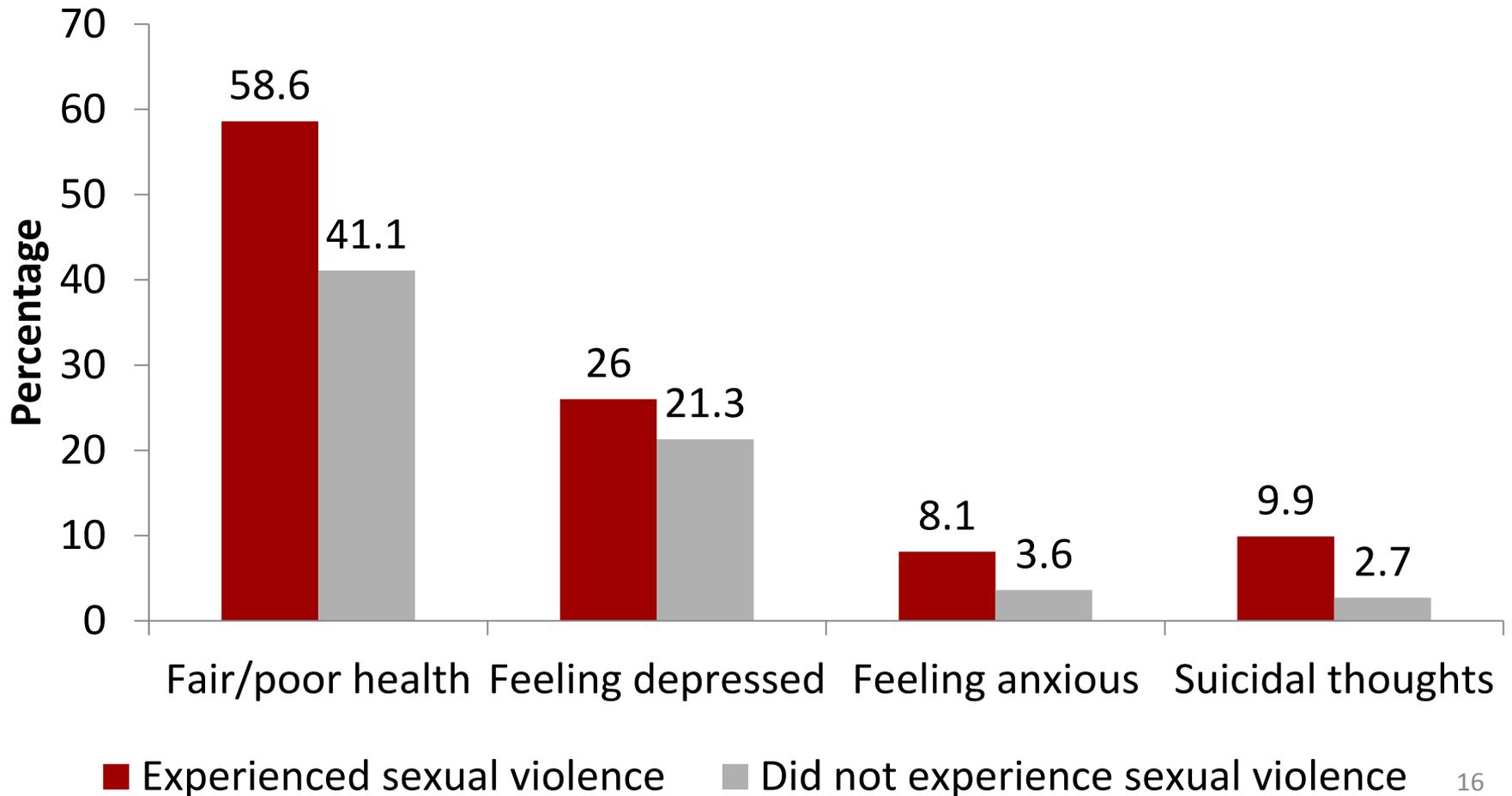




...Sexual Violence

Current health status of females who experienced childhood sexual violence

Reported by females aged 13-24 years





Outcomes

- Trading sex for money or goods more prevalent among young girls with a history of childhood sexual violence.
- Infrequent or no condom use, in the previous 12 months, more prevalent among young males with a history of childhood sexual violence than those without.
- The prevalence of engaging in sex with 2 or more partners, in the previous 12 months was higher among young girls with a history of childhood sexual violence, than those without a history of childhood sexual violence.
- Experiences of childhood sexual violence were unrelated to knowledge of HIV testing places and having had an HIV for both girls and boys



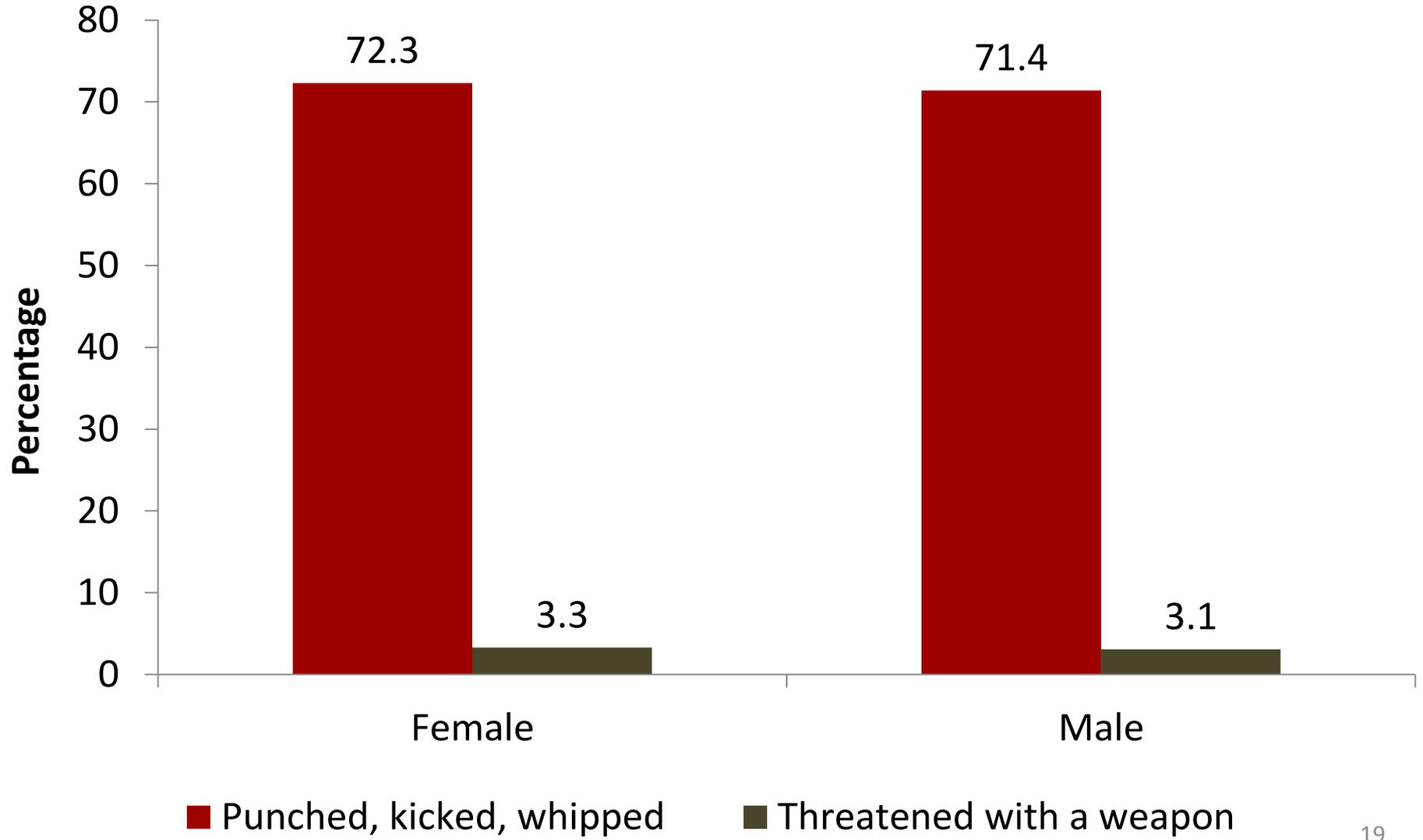
4.2 Physical Violence

- Physical violence rates are higher than sexual violence rates.
- Almost three-quarters of Tanzanian girls and boys have experienced physical violence prior to age 18.
- Types of physical violence experienced: punched, kicked, whipped or threatened with a weapon.



...Physical Violence: Types

Type of physical violence experienced during childhood





...Physical Violence: the Perpetrators

Children are physical abused mostly by parents and teachers.

- 60% of girls and boys who report physical abuse name a relative as the source, fathers and mothers were the most common perpetrators.
- The level of physical abuse by teachers is alarmingly high- 52.6% of girls and 50.8% of boys; all before turning 18 years of age.
- Nearly 1 out of every 2 girls and boys aged 13 to 17 years who was punched, kicked or whipped by a relative reported that it had occurred more than 5 times.
- About 8 out of 10 girls and 7 out of 10 boys who had been punched, kicked, or whipped by a teacher reported that it had occurred more than five times

4.3 Emotional Violence Experienced during Childhood



- One quarter of Tanzanian children, both girls and boys experienced emotional violence by an adult prior to age 18.
- Between 4% and 5% of girls and boys aged 13 to 24 years reported that they were threatened with abandonment by an adult prior to turning 18 years of age.
- Almost 80% of girls and 65% of boys who experience emotional violence report a related as their primary abuser.



4.4 Overlapping of Sexual, Physical and Emotional Violence

- Girls and boys who experienced sexual violence also tended to report exposure to physical and emotional violence.
- More than 8 in 10 girls and boys aged 13 to 24 years who experienced sexual violence prior to the age 18, also experienced physical violence prior to the age 18.
- More than 4 in 10 girls and 1 in 2 boys who experienced childhood sexual violence also experienced emotional violence prior to age 18.
- The overlaps and linkage between the three forms of violence highlight the multiple risks faced by Tanzanian children.



4.5 Childhood violence and current Health status

- Females who reported childhood sexual, physical or emotional violence tended to report poorer mental health and sometimes poorer physical health than other females.
- Males who experiences childhood emotional violence tended to report poorer mental and physical health than other males. In contract, the mental and physical health of males who reported childhood sexual or physical violence was similar to other males.

4.6 Other Findings

- Approx. 60% of girls and more than 50% of boys aged 13 to 24 years believed that it is acceptable for a husband to beat his wife under certain circumstances.
- 5.2% of 13 to 17 year old girls reported being circumcised and 9.6% of 18 to 24 year old girls reported being circumcised
- 1 in 25 girls have received money or goods in exchange for sex at least once in their lifetime.
- Over 6 percent of girls who were ever pregnant reported that at least one pregnancy was caused by sexual violence
- About 20% of girls reported having their first experience with some form of sexual violence when they are younger than 14



5. The Multi-Sector Task Force on VAC:

- Led by the Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children with UNICEF support, include participants from Police, Justice, Health, Education, Social Welfare, Local Government, and civil society organizations
- The Multi-Sector Task Force guided the development of the survey, contributed to analysis of results, developed the response plan and will be guiding implementation.

Objectives of the MSTF:

- To prevent violence and abuse of children
- To enable children to recognize and report violence and abuse
- To ensure appropriate responses to violence and abuse by adults including parents and professionals.

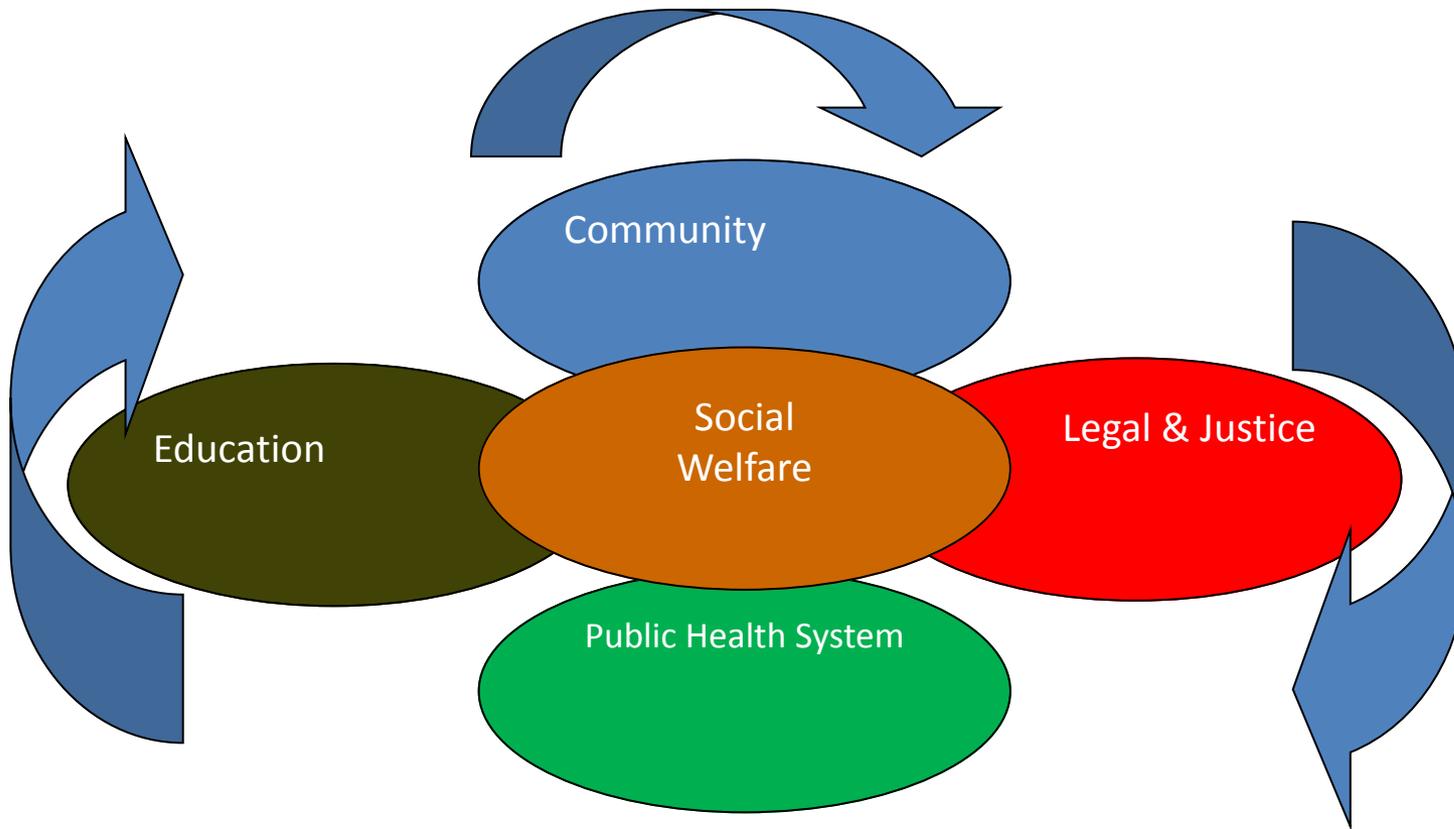


The Multi-Sector Task Force:

active members comprise of:

- Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MOHSW)
- Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MOEVT)
- Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs (MoCLA)
- Ministry of Home Affairs- The Tanzania Police Force
- Local Government - Prime Minister's Office : Regional Administration and Local Government (PMO-RALG)
- National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)
- Tanzania Commission for HIV and AIDS (TACAIDS)
- Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC)
- Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG)
- Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS)
- **UN:** WHO, UNFPA, UNWOMEN, UNAIDS, UNICEF, IOM
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC Tanzania)
- PACT (Civil Society representative)

Comprehensive Child Protection Response





6. Moving Research into Action:

- MSTF agreed Priority Responses across 7 key sectors: the Police, Justice, Education, Health and Social Welfare, HIV and AIDS, Local Government, Community Development (Gender and Children)
- The Task Force has developed a three year *National Plan of Action to Prevent and Respond to Violence against Children (2012 – 2015)* that builds on the Government's Priority Responses across the above key sectors.
- Civil Society priority interventions will be coordinated through the Tanzania Child Rights Forum

National Plan of Action to Prevent and Respond to Violence against Children : Priority Responses

- Ensure lawyers, judges, police, social workers and other professionals are trained and understand their obligations to protect children, under the Law of the Child Act
- Set up Gender and Children's Desks in all police stations staffed by trained police officers sensitive to children and families affected by violence
- Ensure all health care providers and Social Welfare Officers receive capacity building and skills training on case management
- Expand adoption of safe school and teaching practices
- Strengthening community response mechanisms, including operationalizing a national Child Helpline
- Scale up establishment of Child Protection Systems in all Districts to provide essential services for prevention, recovery and reintegration
- Ensure all HIV and AIDS Prevention, Care & Treatment Programmes address sexual abuse and violence
- Addressing and challenging social norms through behavioral change and communication campaigns



7. Concluding remarks:

- Translating the social dynamics and risks factors that underpin the problem of VAC into effective messages linked to prevention and services to protect children will be a key focus in years to come.
- The Government of URTZ will ensure that violence prevention and child protection are best addressed through a systematic and effective engagement of all relevant sectors and levels of public administration from health, education and sports to social affairs, from justice and home affairs to planning and finance.

...concluding remarks

- GoT is committed to the implementation of the 4 years NAP to prevent and respond to VAC by creating an enabling policy and legislative environ. To establish sustainable interventions to prevent and respond to violence.
- We will count on the commitment of our national and international partners to achieve this goal.

**Let's work Together to Stop Violence Against
Children**

“Asante sana”

Thank-you for your Attention

