

Masibambisane Community-based survey findings on the incidences and drivers of Gender Based Violence & Femicide (GBVF) in 18 communities across 9 provinces

SUMMARY

November to
December 2022

The Foundation for Human Rights (FHR), Lawyers Against Abuse (LvA) and our eighteen GBVF Masibambisane Programme partners, conducted a first annual GBVF household survey, focused on adult women's experiences of gender-based violence in South Africa, in November to December 2022.



Masibambisane

Gender-based violence includes physical, sexual, emotional, verbal, psychological and financial violence. It is the use of some kind of force or, or the threat of force, against someone on the basis of that person's real or assumed gender identity.

FINDINGS



Half of the women surveyed had experienced at least some form of Gender Based Violence (GBV), whether physical, sexual or emotional/verbal, in the past twelve months. Of the women surveyed:



1 in 3
experienced
physical GBV



1 in 10
experienced
sexual GBV



5 in 10
experienced
emotional abuse

Almost **9/10** perpetrators were known to the women who experienced GBV, only **one in ten** women surveyed reported experiencing physical harm from a stranger.



Only **one-third** of women reported sexual or physical GBV to police.

The **more educated** a woman was, the **more likely** they were to report physical and sexual GBV to the police.



Younger women and those with **higher education** reported experiencing more physical and sexual GBV than older and less educated women in the survey.



Women's perception of their relative safety did not align with the actual figures of any form of physical or sexual GBV that women had reported experiencing.



Although all income levels experienced GBV, higher income resulted in less GBV of all types. Of the women surveyed:



33% of the **highest earners** experienced sexual and or physical GBV compared to **80%** of women who earned the least.

Women in urban areas were the least likely to have experienced any GBV (physical, sexual, verbal/psychological). From the women who experienced GBV from the survey:



33% were from urban areas



50% were from informal settlements/rural areas



75% were from semi-urban areas



Although the **police** opened a case two-thirds of the time, only **one in ten** cases of sexual GBV resulted in a conviction.



Socio-economic rights are guaranteed by the Constitution to all people living in South Africa, regardless of their nationality. The government is responsible for providing access to socio-economic rights, including access to water, sanitation, health care, education, social support (grants) and food. Socio-economic rights are a basic requirement for the fulfilment of all rights, including the right to equality and dignity.

FINDINGS

INCOME

FOOD SECURITY

The areas where the women who were surveyed lived



The number of women who **did not** earn enough to meet their basic needs

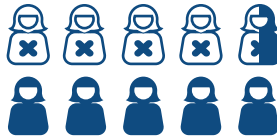


The number of women **who were** food secure

URBAN



Almost 5 out of 10



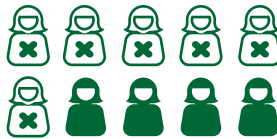
4 out of 10



SEMI-URBAN



6 out of 10



2.5 out of 10

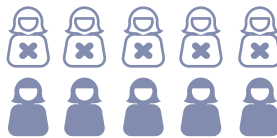


Least food secure

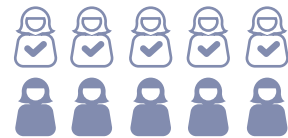
INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS



5 out of 10



5 out of 10



RURAL



6 out of 10



More than 5 out of 10



Most food secure

* Income was low in all areas.

* Almost everyone had access to electricity, and electricity was the primary source of energy for cooking and lighting.

About the Survey

The survey took place from the 1st of November 2022 until the 15th of December 2022 in 18 different partner sites in all nine provinces. 2048 women were surveyed and asked GBV related questions, as well as a variety of socio-economic questions. The survey was led by the FHR GBVF Masibambisane Programme which is a joint project between the FHR and Lawyers Against Abuse (LVA), with the 18 partnerships funded by the EU (European Union).

About the Masibambisane Programme


The Foundation for Human Rights works with civil society organisations to address GBVF in various sites through a programme called 'Masibambisane'. This programme recognises that GBVF requires community members to work together in order to address this scourge. Masibambisane means unite, holding hands, let's work together in isiZulu. The programme facilitates participation and strengthening of community stakeholders to take greater agency in dealing with GBVF through creating GBVF-Free Zones, and collaborating as civil society, government, statutory bodies and the private sector.


About the FHR

FHR partners with civil society organisations and public institutions that promote and facilitate increased awareness, respect, protection and fulfilment of the rights enshrined in South Africa's Constitution. Within this, the FHR prioritizes the rights of the most marginalized and vulnerable. FHR does this through a two-pronged approach as a funding intermediary (grant-maker) and through direct implementation of programmes. FHR prioritizes human rights awareness raising, advocacy and civil society mobilisation, capacity strengthening, research and policy development, and regional and international cooperation.




**Funded by
the European Union**


 +27 (0) 11-593 4000


 www.fhr.org.za

 info@fhr.org.za

 FHRRights

 FHRights

 [foundation_for_human_rights](https://www.instagram.com/foundation_for_human_rights)

 7th Floor Metalbox Building, 25 Owl Street cnr Stanley Ave,
Auckland Park, Johannesburg