



**Palestinian National Authority
Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics**

Domestic Violence Survey, 2005/2006

User Guide

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Definitions and Explanations

- Domestic violence** Violence is any act or intended act of a household member against another member for the purpose of causing psychological or physical harm or any other types of pain and abuse. The study discussed different types of psychological, physical, and sexual violence practiced by the household members against each other. It is worth mentioning that other sources use terms like abuse, assault, and aggression and other terms and concepts to describe different types of violence and harm-causing. The concepts may slightly differ; however, they mean the same with respect to causing harm, psychological, and physical assaults. The study uses the term *violence* to illustrate all types of assaults and harm-causing.
- Psychological Violence** It is a type of violence reflected in a psychological behavior or bad treatment, disdain, and despise of people. It is done through the use of cursing and insults by the person who practiced violence., breaking things that belong to the person, shouting and yelling at, name-calling, mocking using demeaning names, forcing to do specific acts, throwing out of the house, locking up in the house, terrorization, continuous threatening, and forcing. Psychological violence is used to cause anxiety fear, psychological damage, degrading, making one feel negative, weaken physical and mental capacities, harming other people and destroy capabilities, shaking self-confidence, undermining self-respect,. Psychological violence destroys self-confidence, causes body harm, loss of self-confidence.
- Physical Violence** A behavior directed against the body. Physical violence is practiced through punching, hair-pulling, arm-twisting, pinching, slapping, kicking, strangling, scorching, pulling, dragging, killing, and beating. It is used to express physical power. The victim of physical violence is usually the weaker person.
- Sexual Violence** An act of using various aggressive Actions for the purpose of sexual abuse and causing harm. Sexual violence is done through sexual harassment, rape, husband's refusal to use contraceptives during sexual intercourse with his wife, using physical force to compel the wife to have sexual intercourse, threatening to use sharp tools and beating to force her to have sexual intercourse, and using violent and harmful means. The purpose of this type of violence is to abuse the victim and use force to control the victim who is usually the woman; it occurs because there aren't any strict rules taken against the perpetrators.
- Political Violence against human beings** Is a type of violent action against a household or a household member whether the wife or the husband, boys, girls, grandfather, grandmother, uncle, or aunt, used by the Israeli forces or settlers. It takes different forms including beating, insulting, cursing, wounding, killing, breaking into [places] and arresting for a period, pursuing and chasing, imprisoning for political reasons, and other similar practices.

Political Violence Against the Society	This is another type of violence a household may be exposed to; however, such violence is imposed on the society in general by Israeli forces. It takes one form in the domestic violence questionnaire represented in imposing curfews at the place where a household resides.
Political Violence against property and economy	This is a type of violence of the Israeli forces resulting in procedures affecting the economy of a household or a household member. Such violence is represented in a number of issues including husband's loss of job, damage of the economic situation of the household, complete or partial house demolition, and complete or partial land confiscation.
Emotional Abuse of the elderly	This is a type of abuse that elderly people (65 and over) are exposed to by a household member whom they reside or do not reside with. It takes different forms including making an elderly person feel unconfident, unwanted at home, and fearful. Also, being exposed to cursing or insulting or demeaning by individuals who do not live at the house [where elderly people live], forcing the elderly to stay in bed and pretend to be sick, being forced to do things the elderly person is not happy with, made them feel unwanted, isolating the elderly from people, and preventing the elderly from mixing with people.
Physical Abuse of the elderly	This is a type of abuse that elderly people (65 and over) are exposed to by a household member whom they reside or do not reside with. It takes different forms including causing bodily harm, arm twisting or pulling, causing joints pain or bruises or scratches and little wounds caused by attacks, loss of consciousness resulting from head-beating, beating with a built or stick and breaking a bone as a result of an attack.
Economic Abuse of the elderly	This is a type of abuse that elderly people (65 and over) are exposed to by a household member whom they reside or do not reside with. It takes different forms including taking things belonging to the elderly such as (money, property, and the like) without the elderly person's content; also, breaking things that belong to elderly people.
Decision-making at the household	It means the person who makes the decisions at the household so as to run its affairs. Mostly, it is either the husband or the wife or both decide for the household. Household decisions deal with a number of issues including buying a car, having children, determining the number of children to be had, the internal affairs of the household (such as kitchen remodeling, house remodeling, and the like) buying a home or building a new home, wife's work outside the house, spending money at the household, visiting relatives and friends, choosing a school for the children, running the economic affairs of the household, dealing with the wife's salary.
Marital Status	It means determining the marital status of an individual or the personal status of an individual aged 12 years and over at the time of the interview. Marital status deals with the rules and traditions of marriage in the country. It could be one of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Single: It is the status of an individual aged 12 and over who

has not been actually married in accordance with the prevalent tradition (has not had the first night of marriage yet) and has not had a marriage contract and has not been married before.

2. Has a marriage certificate for the first time but has not had the first night of marriage yet: This is the kind of individuals aged 12 years and over who have a registered formal marriage certificate by a court but have not actually gotten married in accordance with the prevalent tradition (have not had the first night of marriage); this does not include divorced or widowed people or a male who is currently married and has a second marriage certificate; such person is considered married.

3. Married: This is a person aged 12 and over who is actually married in accordance with the prevalent tradition whether such person lived or not with the spouse at the time of the interview; previous status is disregarded.

4. Divorced: A person aged 12 and over who has been married before and then had a divorce, which is legally registered, and has not remarried.

5. Widow/ widower: An individual aged 12 and over who has actually been married before but the marriage ended by the death of the spouse and such individual has not remarried.

Separated: An individual aged 12 and over who has actually been married before and has, for one reason or another, been separated from the last spouse without any official and legal registered evidence and has not remarried

Elderly People

The individuals who have reached the age of 65 and over.

Survey Questionnaire

The questionnaire of the Domestic Violence Survey consists of five main sections; they are:

Section one: Contains introductory data, quality control items, and a list of the household members including data about demographic, social, and economic characteristics such as age, sex, education, employment status, marital status, and refugee status.

Section two: Deals with ever-married women aged 15-64. This section measures types and forms of physical, psychological, and sexual violence a husband subjects his wife to and the types and forms of physical, psychological, and sexual violence a wife subjects her husband to. The section also deals with the political violence of the Israeli forces and settlers.

Section three: Deals with children aged 5-17 and measures the psychological and physical abuse a child is exposed to according to mother's perspective.

Section four: This section deals with unmarried women aged 18 and over and measures the physical and psychological violence females are exposed to by household member.

Section five: This section deals with elderly people aged 65 and over and measures the psychological and physical abuse they are exposed to by household member whom they reside or do not reside with, and the diseases and disabilities they suffer from.

Data Set Linkage

The data set to users consists of sex primary files that are related by identification variables (keys). A description of the files is below.

File Name	Content	Identification Variable
Roster. sav	Family Roster	ID00: Master Record Identification HR01: Unique Person Number
Women 1. sav	Data for Ever married women (15-64) years	ID00: Master Record Identification HR01 : Unique Person Number
Women 2. sav	(Cont) Data for Ever married women (15-64) years	ID00: Master Record Identification HR01 : Unique Person Number
Child. sav	Data for children (5-17) years	ID00: Master Record Identification HR01 : Unique Person Number
Un married. sav	Data for Never married women aged (18 years and over) who lived with house hold	ID00: Master Record Identification HR01: Unique Person Number
Elderly. sav	Data for Elderly people (65 years and over)	ID00: Master Record Identification HR01 : Unique Person Number

Target Population

The target community of the Domestic Violence Survey consists of the following:

- Ever-married women aged (15-64) Years
- Children aged (5-17) Years
- Unmarried women aged (18 years and over)
- Elderly 65 years and Over

Sample and Frame

The number of households in the sample was 4,212 households: 2,772 in the West Bank and 1,440 in the Gaza Strip.

The sampling frame consists of a comprehensive sample selected from the Population, Housing, and Establishment Census 1997. The comprehensive sample consists of geographic areas of close size (with an average of 150 households); these are the enumeration areas used in the Census. These areas were used as PSUs at the first stage of sample selection.

The sample is cluster, random, and systematic of two stages:

First stage: Selecting cluster, random, and systematic sample of 234 enumeration areas.

Second stage: Selecting random sample of households from the selected enumeration areas of the first stage; 18 households were selected from each enumeration area selected during the first stage.

Weighting

A weight is "A coefficient assigned to elements of a frequency distribution in order to *represent their relative importance.*" The weights were calculated taking into consideration making up for the incomplete cases occurring during data compilation stage; in addition to population distribution by region, sex, and age structure according to the population estimations of the end of the 4th quarter of 2005. It is necessary, when calculating the estimations of the survey indicators to calculate the weights where each analysis unit has a weight that is appropriate to the probability of selecting such unit.

Amending weights is important in reduce bias caused by non-response cases. Amending weight took into consideration the change in the number of the population since the Population, Housing, and Establishment Census 1997 was conducted until the Domestic Violence Survey was conducted.

Also, when weights and estimates were calculated, the number of the population of the Palestinian Territory was considered as well as their distribution by age group at the end of the 4th quarter of 2005. Therefore, the results and estimates and percentages drawn from the survey represent the reality of the Palestinian Territory at that period. The design of the sample was also considered when weights were calculated; however, it was assumed that households were chosen directly from the layers in order to reduce complications.

Variance Calculations

Standard errors of the estimates of the main survey must be calculated in order to enable the user to recognize the accuracy of the estimates and survey reliability.

The total error of the survey can be categorized into two types: Statistical errors and non-statistical errors. Non-statistical errors are related to the procedures of statistical operation at the different stages such as failure to interpret the questions of the questionnaire, not wanting or failure to give the correct answer, and bad statistical coverage...etc. These errors depend on the type of work, training, supervision, efficiency of design, implementation, and related activities.

The work team made best efforts to reduce non-statistical errors; however, it is difficult to estimate this type of errors because of absence of technical methods for measuring based on theoretical basis to solve such errors. Project's administration focused during training, in order to avoid non-statistical errors, on not taking the full name of household members in the event that a respondent was unwilling to do so and to be satisfied with just the given name; in addition to focusing on individual interviews to obtain credible and high quality data.

Statistical errors can be assessed and often measured by the standard error, which is the positive square root of the variance of the sampling distribution of a statistic. The calculation of the variance in this survey was done using CENVAR programs using Ultimate Cluster method.

Reference Date

The survey included three reference dates; During 2005, the period preceding 2005; and the reference date for calculating ages represented in the date of the visit.

Data Collection

1. Recruitment

The interviewer's training booklet was prepared to include all topics relevant to fieldwork and completion of questionnaire. The booklet included the tasks of each member of the fieldwork team, the mechanism to access households, interviewing, and completing the questionnaire. Training booklets for supervisors and editors were also produced in order to train the team on all skills necessary to the success of the project. The training program was made to include all topics of the training manual.

The training course of the interviewers went on for 6 days during period (December 10-15, 2005). Videoconferencing was used in training between the West Bank team and the Gaza Strip team. A one-day training course was held for the supervisors and editors and an additional 4% of reserve interviewers from each governorate were selected.

2. Fieldwork of the Main Survey

The Surveys and Fieldwork Directorate set up a plan for conducting the fieldwork of the main survey in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. This stage included preparation of the research team; the tools (questionnaires, maps, and sample statements). The structure of the team was determined according to requirements and nature of tasks and function of the survey. People were recruited at each governorate

The training materials consisted of the following basic survey documents: questionnaires and interviewer and supervisor's instructions manual.

The principles of interviewing were addressed by the demonstration of an interview through role-playing and practice interviews.

3. Editing Data in the Field

The field teams started compiling data in the West Bank and Gaza Strip on December 18th, 2005 and finished on January 18th, 2006. The project administration set up clear mechanism to edit data and the team of editors were trained on such mechanism, which was as follows:

- Receiving completed questionnaires from interviewers every day;
- Checking of each questionnaire to make sure that all women and children were selected through using Kish random tables and that all sections and questions were answered and that all responses were accurately recorded;
- Returning incomplete questionnaires to the field; and
- Carry out quick test of the ages to ensure the accuracy of the data obtained by the interviewer.

4. Supervision and Follow-up Mechanism

Special patterns were designed to follow-up receiving and handing in questionnaires at all levels and the daily follow up of interviewers work. The supervisor handed out work on the team using a map and sample. Daily and weekly reports were submitted to the coordinator of the fieldwork and the project administration. The reports explain the number of complete interviews and non-response. In addition to conducting field visits by the technicians and coordinators in order to oversee work and ensure data quality and assisting in solving any problems facing the field team.

Response Rates

The Number of Households, Eligible Women, Eligible Children, and Elderly People and Non-Response Rates by Region, 2005

Sample and Non -Response Rates	Region		
	Palestinian Territory	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Number of households in the sample	4,212	2,772	1,440
Number of interviewed households	4,156	2,732	1,424
Non-response rate	1.3	1.4	1.1
Ever married women aged 15-64 who were interviewed	3,815	2,488	1,327
Non-response rate	0.7	0.8	0.6
Number of children aged 5-17 whose mothers were interviewed	2,676	1,743	933
Non-response rate	0.1	0.1	...
Number of unmarried women aged 18 and over who were interviewed	944	654	290
Non-response rate	7.7	10.4	1.7
Elderly people aged 65 and over who were interviewed	840	589	251
Non-response rate	7.8	9.9	3.2

Data Processing

1. Preparing Data Entry Program:

ACCESS was used to prepare the entry program. The entry program contained a number of monitors. Control rules and tests on the entry program were set up in a manner that guaranteed high accuracy of entry of questionnaires as well as cleaning grammar connecting questions together and checking odd values, the marks check variables on the questionnaire level.

2. Data Entry

When the entry programs were designed and tested, work started on data entry after the data entry operators had been trained to use the entry programs. Actual survey data entry started on December 27th, 2005; work was completed on January 26th, 2006. Data entry was done during morning and evening shifts. Data entry was conducted centrally at PCBS headquarter in Al Bireh in the West Bank and PCBS Gaza office; 20 data entry operators worked on data entry.

Data Quality

Introduction:

The data of the survey were compiled using the sample method and not the complete enumeration; it is therefore subjected to two main errors: Sampling errors (statistical errors) and non-statistical-errors. Sampling errors are those resulting from the design of the sample.

Non-statistical errors may occur at any stage of the project; during compiling or entry of data. The errors can be summarized in non-response errors, response errors (respondent), interview errors (interviewer), and data entry errors. Interviewers received intensive training in order to avoid such errors. Interviewers were trained on the mechanism of dealing with the households, how to deal with respondents, and entering the household and introducing the survey. The interviewers were newly trained and worked for the first time for PCBS; they received extensive training on conducting interviews, the issues that need to be followed during an interview, and the issues that must be avoided.

Data entry operators were also trained on the entry programs and the programs were tested on the questionnaires completed during the compilation of the data of the pilot survey. Constant contacts were held with the supervisors and editors through field visits to branch offices and regular meetings. Moreover, a number of circulars were produced about several issues and reminders for the interviewers, editors, and supervisors and were circulated among them on regular basis.

A number of mechanisms were followed during conducting the survey, which contributed to compiling high quality and reliable data. These procedures accompanied the entire stages of the survey:

1. Training the Fieldwork Team:

The team of interviewers took model training taking into consideration that such survey was conducted for the first time in the Palestinian Territory. The first part of the training focused on introducing trainees to the significance of the survey, the concepts, and the mechanisms of dealing with households in order to obtain accurate data.

The second part of the training focused on the interview and how to have an access to the household since the questions were sensitive and private. Trainees were trained on how to deal with the respondents in the event that an emotional reaction took place due to the nature of questions. Interviewers received a list of names of centers treating people who were exposed to violence in case they needed it.

The third part of the training focused on conducting the interview. A number of mock interviews were held before the trainees to introduce them to how to enter a household and introduce themselves. Trainees were also tested during the training. This process helped the trainees understand potential mistakes they may make during a real interview.

The training also dealt with the method of sample selection through finding households using geographic maps. Trainees then took a test; the trainees who scored best were chosen.

2. Data Collection:

The technical administration of the survey held constant communication with the interviewers and the field supervisors through visits to branch offices and accompanying interviewers during data compilation in order to be in contact with the fieldwork and follow it up. This

allowed actual follow up of the work of the interviewers. A number of memos about the field remarks during data compilation were prepared and circulated among interviewers and supervisors.

3. Data Checks:

Data were checked at two levels: Field data checks and data checks during data entry. Field data checks was done in two stages; the supervisor would edit the completed questionnaire in the field before it was sent to an editor who would send the questionnaire back to the field for correcting mistakes if any mistakes were found.

The second level of data checks was assessing data during data entry in addition to checking entered data at a later stage in order to uncover any illogical data and the questionnaire would be checked for the reason for the error.

Evaluation of the Data:

The advisor of the Domestic Violence Survey reviewed the data for the purpose of evaluating its quality and logic. Some specialist on violence also reviewed the data; they affirmed the data quality. Also, the data evaluation was done through reviewing some regional and international studies and comparison with their results. In general, the entire stages of checks proved the accuracy and high quality of the data.

Derived Variables

Name Variable	Description Variable	Values Variable
Region	Region	1. West Bank 2. Gaza Strip
loctype	Locality Type	1. Urban 2. Rural 3. Camps