

# TOGETHER AGAINST VIOLENCE

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The City of Reykjavik

Halldóra Gunnarsdóttir, Human Rights Office  
Email: [halldora.gunnarsdottir@reykjavik.is](mailto:halldora.gunnarsdottir@reykjavik.is)



# Violence

- ✓ 42% of Icelandic women have experienced violence, at some point, from the age of 18 to 66.
- ✓ 22% have experienced violence in close relationships.
- ✓ Violence has both short term and long term affects on individual health – both physically and mentally.
- ✓ Leads to women not being able to take active part in society.
- ✓ Number of people with disability benefits in Iceland:  
Women: 11.241/60%    Men: 7.546/40%

„Silence and the secrecy is the best friend of domestic violence“



## Together against violence

The City of Reykjavik started a project in January 2015 called ***Together Against Violence*** in cooperation with the Capital Area Police Department along with the Women's Shelter in Iceland and the Health Care Centers in the Capital Area.





# The project is run by a steering group





# The aim of the project

- ✓ To send a clear message that domestic violence will not be tolerated.
- ✓ To improve the city's services for both the victim and the perpetrator of domestic violence.
- ✓ To strengthen cooperation between
- ✓ the institutions that work on the issue.
- ✓ To collect data.





## How does it work?

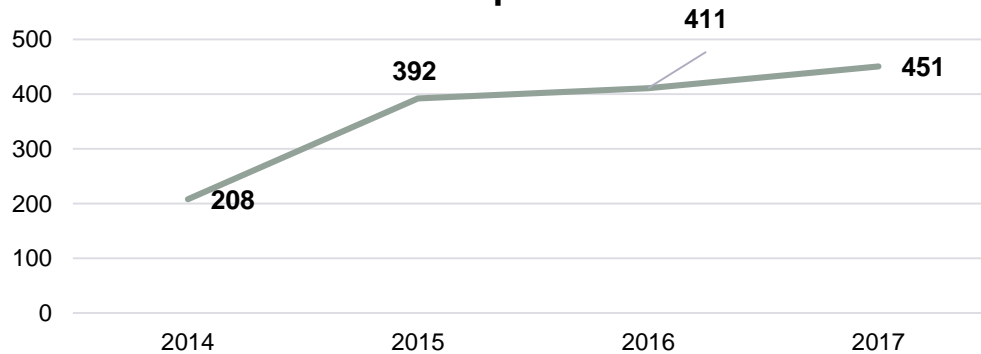
Someone calls 112. If it is due to domestic violence the people involved are offered the services of the Reykjavik's social services. It is however up to them if they want to accept it or not. If there is a child **there will be** two persons arriving, one from the social services and one from the child protection agency.

- ✓ A phone call to the victim next workday.
- ✓ Visit from the police and the social worker within a week.
- ✓ Counseling and support at the service centers.
- ✓ Counseling for the children by the children protection agency.
- ✓ The perpetrator is encouraged to seek therapy.

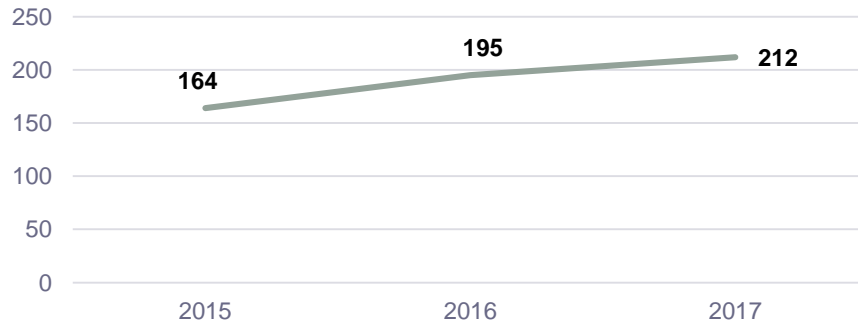


# Number of call outs and women staying in the Women's Shelter

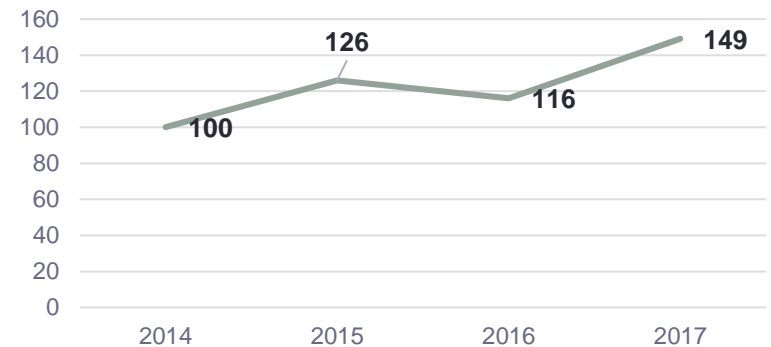
**Number of call outs in Reykjavík 2014 -2017  
The police**



**Number of call outs, domestic violence - the city's Welfare Department 2014-2017**

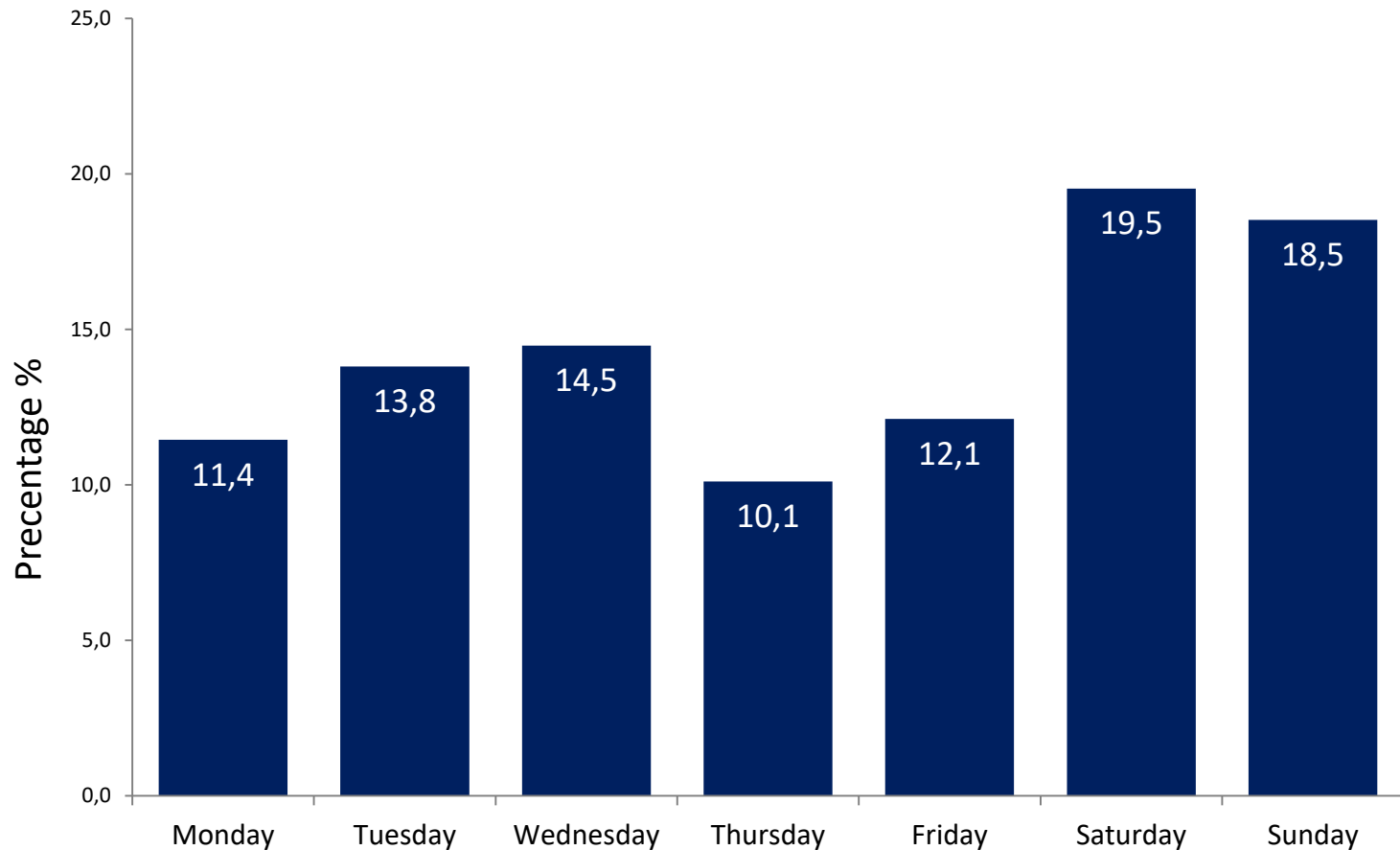


**Number of women in the Women's Shelter  
2014 to 2017**





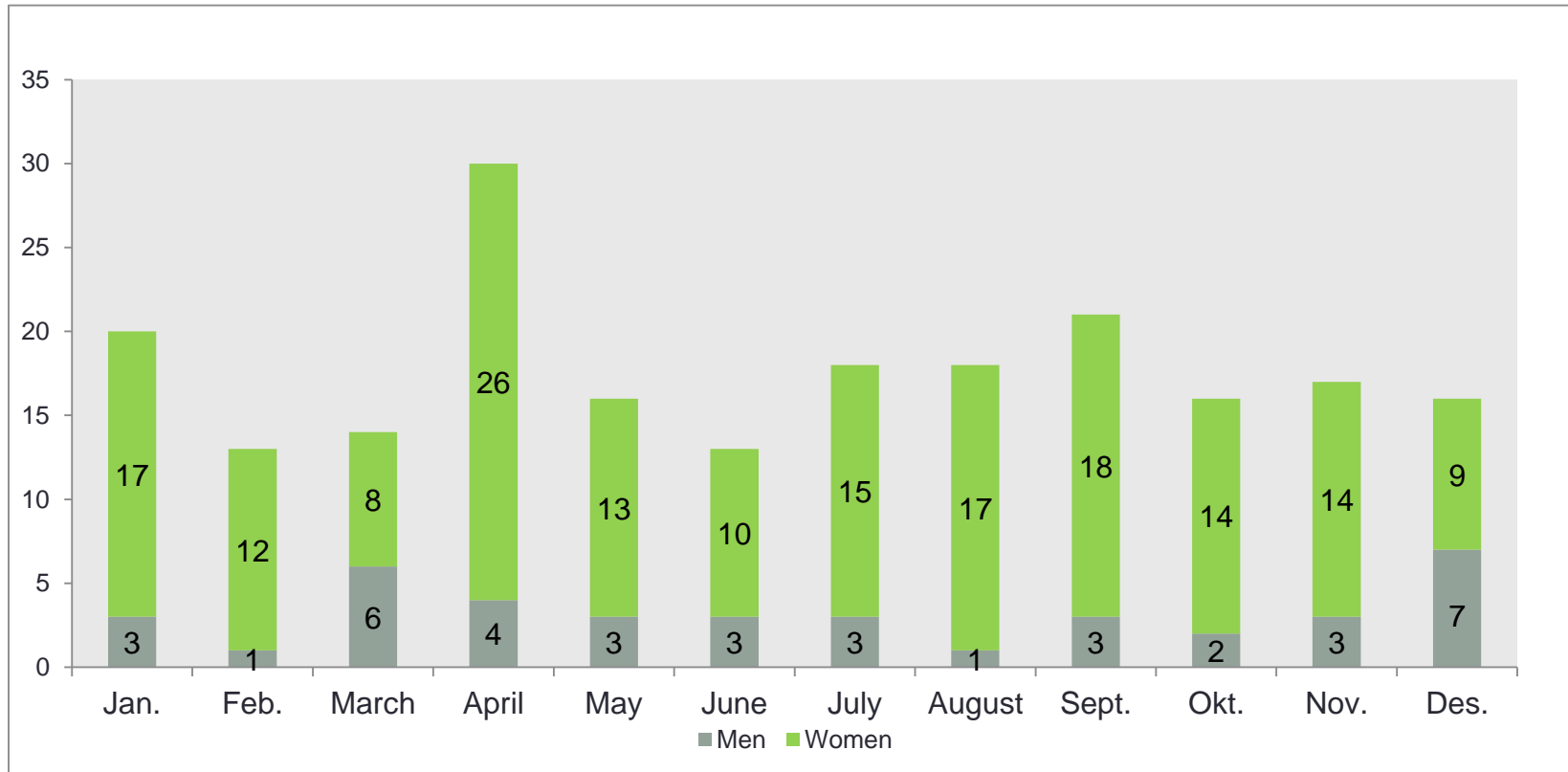
# Callouts, the Police, according to weekdays Jan.- Aug. 2018, percent.





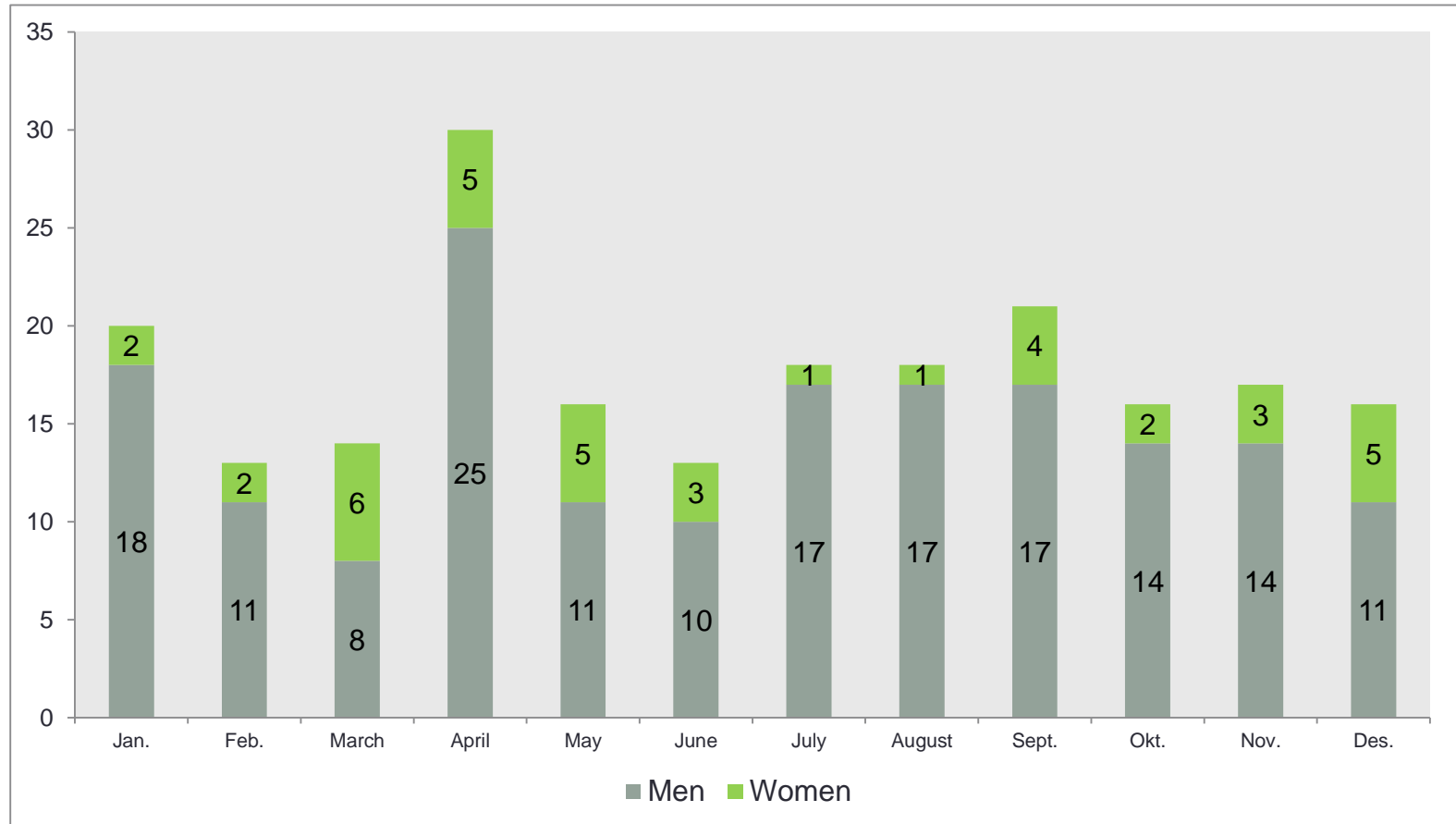


# Number of call-outs, city social workers and the City child protection services, according to the victim's gender 2017



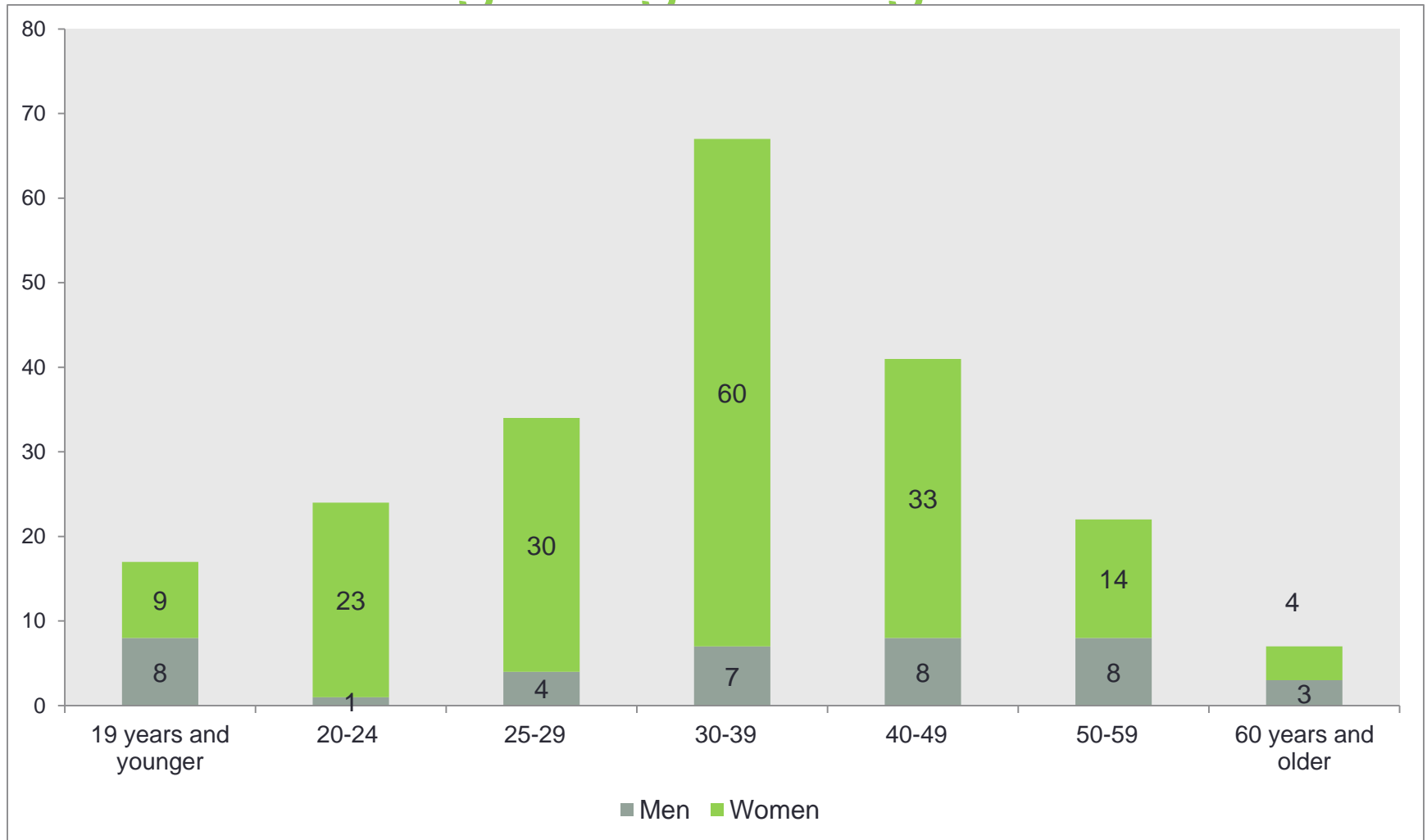


# Number of call-outs, the city, according the perpetrators gender 2017





# Number of callouts 2017, the city, according to age and gender



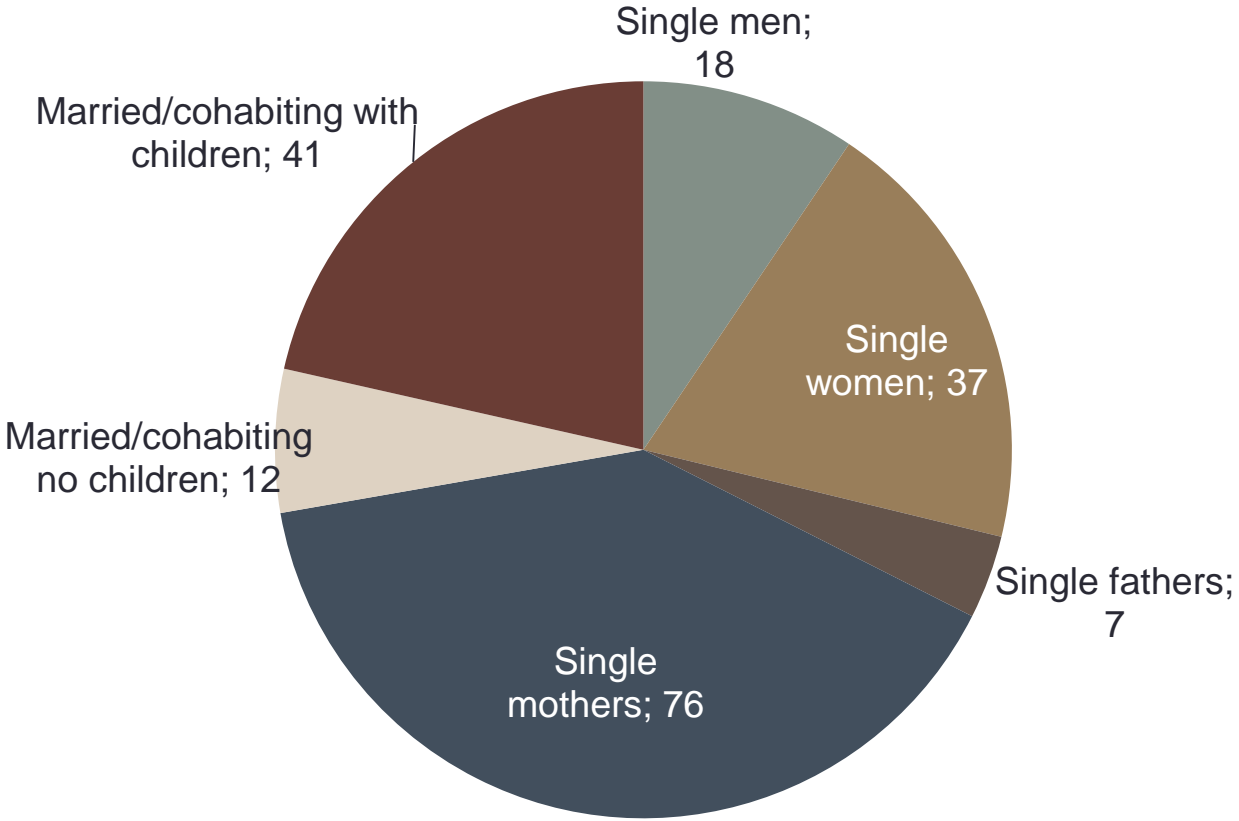


# The relationship between the victim/survivor and the perpetrator





# Number of victims/survivors according to their type of family 2017 (City statistics)





## Services for immigrants

Social isolation and cultural differences are variables that have to be taken into account.

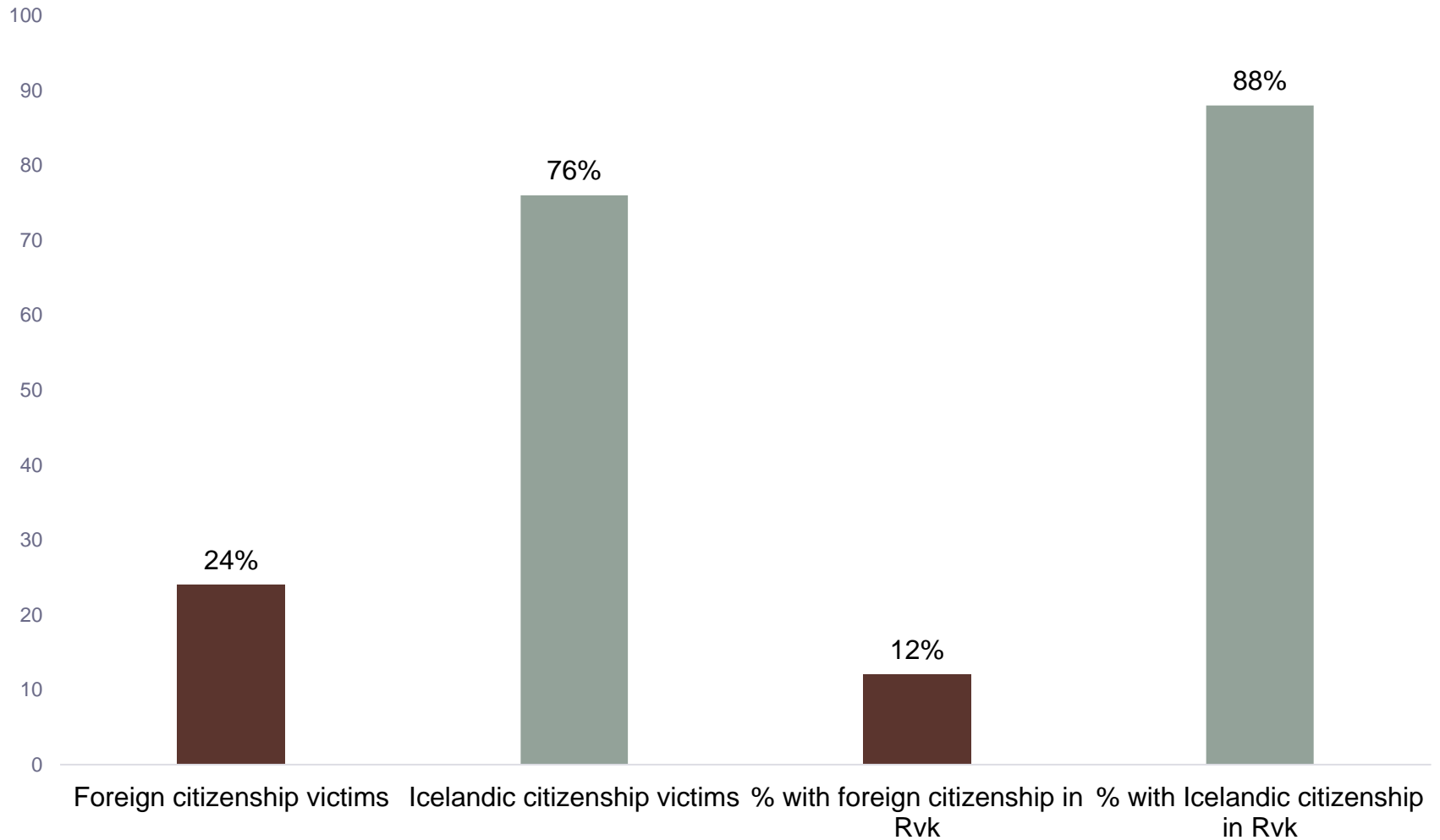
Actions:

- ✓ Education for the staff going with the police on call outs.
- ✓ Interpretation deal with a foreign company - telephone
- ✓ Rewriting a booklet *We and our Children*. Practical information.
- ✓ Rewriting a booklet *Your rights in cooperation with others*.

Foreign people do not know to whom to turn to, they don't have network, do not know where to seek help and do even endure lies and oppression for years which is difficult to put right“



# % of victims/survivors according to foreign and Icelandic citizenship 2017





## People with disability and violence

- ✓ People with disability is 1.5 times more likely to be victims of violence than people without disabilities. (WHO, 2012)
- ✓ Children with disabilities are 3.7 times more likely to be victims of violence than children without disabilities. (WHO, 2012)
- ✓ Women with disabilities are more likely to be victims of violence than any other group in society.

Violence against disabled people is more hidden than domestic violence in general.

Thus we have to keep disabled people in mind.







# Violence and people with disabilities

## What has been done:

- ✓ Education for staff working with people with disabilities. Lectures and online (online ready but has not yet been set up) (66 workplaces).
- ✓ The booklet „What happened?“ A tool for staff to ask people with intellectual disabilities about violence.
- ✓ Improving work procedures when violence against people with disabilities is suspected. Is in the handbook for staff and on the website.



## LBGTQ and violence

Work group was established to make suggestions for actions. Only LBGTQ people in the work group.

### **What has been done:**

- Education – for service providers and the LBGTQ people.
- Mentioning that LBGTQ people are welcome
  - ✓ On the website
  - ✓ In booklets
  - ✓ In open meetings
- Securing an open approach in interviews.
- Look into what info we are collecting.
- Building bridges between those offering the services and the LBGTQ people/Samtökin '78.



# Publications

**SAMAN  
GEGN  
OFBELDI**



**SAMAN GEGN OFBELDI  
RAZEM PRZECIW PRZEMOCY  
TOGETHER AGAINST VIOLENCE**

**VIÐ OG BÖRNIN OKKAR**

Hagnýtar upplýsingar fyrir fjölskyldur á Íslandi



**SAMAN  
GEGN OFBELDI**

**GETUM VIÐ AÐSTOÐAÐ?**

Í tengslum við verkefnið Saman gegn ofbeldi skima þjónustumiðstöðvar borgarinnar eftir ofbeldi.

Markmiðið er að veita þolendum og gerendum aðstoð.

Ef þú hefur orðið fyrir ofbeldi eða þeytt ofbeldi getum við aðstoðað þig eða leiðbeint þér um hvar aðstoð er að fá.

Við vinnum gegn ofbeldi með umræðu.

**„Besti vinur heimilisofbeldis er þögnin og leyndarmálið“**

Starfsmaður Heimilisofbeldis/Karlar til atvika





## RIKK Institute for Gender, Equality and Difference, University of Iceland evaluated the project

- ✓ The „victims“ of violence were in general content with the services provided.
- ✓ Those who could compare the services of the police before and after the project started were much more content.
- ✓ The victims found it a good addition to have a social worker/psychologist on the scene.
- ✓ The cooperation of the police, the service centers and that children's protection agency was good.
- ✓ Children on the scene are especially well treated.

„This was all very normal... and then she arrived from the social services...she talked to you as you were just a person, she understood this all and everything was very simple“



# What is important?

- Cooperation – a good one.
- Politicians with a vision and understanding.
- Brave people who step forward and tell their story.
- Working with the grassroots.
- Working with the academia.

## What we have to put emphasis on:

- Work closer/better with immigrants
- Underline different „forms“ of domestic violence.
- Work closer with the Health system.

