For this study, partner violence against women is defined as the violence experienced by a woman, perpetrated by a current or former intimate partner, whether cohabiting or not, that includes acts of physical, sexual, emotional, and economic abuse. Non-partner violence against women is defined as the violence experienced by a woman that is perpetrated by anyone other than a partner that includes acts of physical and sexual abuse.
IMPACT OF PARTNER VIOLENCE ON HEALTH
- 47% of women who reported experiencing physical and/or sexual partner violence were ever injured as a result of such violence.
- 11% of ever injured women lost consciousness at least once and 19% needed health care because of the injuries.
- The most common injuries were scratches, abrasions, or bruises (89%), cuts, punctures, or bites (38%), and broken eardrums or eye injuries (28%).
- Women who experienced partner violence were more likely to report fair or poorer health (29%) than women who never experienced partner violence (17%).
- Women who ever experienced partner violence were more likely to think about suicide (20%) than women who never experienced partner violence (8%).
- Women who experienced partner violence were more likely to report a miscarriage (8%) than women who never experienced partner violence (4%).

RISK FACTORS FOR PARTNER VIOLENCE
Most risk factors associated with lifetime and current partner violence were related to the characteristics of the woman and her partner:
- **Age.** Women aged 45-49 were 77% less likely to experience physical or sexual partner violence in their lifetime and 94% less likely to experience current partner violence than women aged 15-24.
- **Religion.** Women who reported their religion as ‘Other Christian’—which included denominations such as Jehovah’s Witness, Christian, Mormon, Baptist, Apostolic, and Assembly of God—were nearly 3 times more likely to experience partner violence both in lifetime and in the 12 months prior to the interview than Roman Catholics.
- **Nature of first sexual intercourse.** Women whose first sexual experience was coerced were over 2 times more likely to experience partner violence in their lifetime and over 3 times more likely to experience current partner violence than women whose first sex was wanted.
- **Partner’s alcohol consumption.** Women whose partners consumed alcohol on a weekly or daily basis were over 2 times more likely to experience partner violence in their lifetime and nearly 3 times more likely to experience current partner violence than women whose partners did not drink or drank less frequently.
- **Partner fights with other men.** Women whose partners had a history of fighting with other men were over 3 times more likely to experience partner violence in lifetime and 4.5 times more likely to experience current partner violence than women whose partners did not fight with other men.
- **Not knowing whether partner had parallel relationships with other women.** Women who said they did not know whether their partners had parallel relationships with other women were 3 times more likely to experience partner violence in their lifetime and 4 times more likely to experience current partner violence than women who were certain that their partner did not have parallel relationships with other women.

VIOLENCE BY NON-PARTNERS
- 15% of women in Palau have ever experienced sexual violence by a person other than a partner since the age of 15.
- The most common act of sexual non-partner violence since age 15 was an attempted rape or other unwanted sexual acts (14%).
- Roughly 12% of women have experienced sexual abuse before the age of 15.
- The most common perpetrators for non-partner sexual abuse before and after the age of 15 were male relatives and male friends/acquaintances.

OTHER IMPORTANT FACTS
- 37% of ever-abused women had not told anyone about the violence. Those who did tell someone mostly confided in friends (30%) and parents (29%).
- 61% of women who experienced physical and/or sexual violence by a partner left home at least once because of the severity of violence.
- 67% of women who experienced partner violence did not seek help from formal services or authorities.
- The most common reasons for not seeking help were: believing that partner violence is normal (45%) and being embarrassed or afraid of not being believed (25%).

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