

2024 SECOND QUARTER GENDER BASED VIOLENCE DATA ANALYSIS

July 25, 2024-The Zambia Police Service recorded 9,318 cases of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in the second quarter of 2024 countrywide, compared to 9,988 cases recorded in the second quarter of 2023, reflecting a decrease of 670 cases, or 6.7%. Out of the 9,318 cases, 6,352 were criminal (68.2%) and 2,966 were non-criminal (31.8%). A total of 36 murder cases were recorded during this period, with Lusaka Province reporting the highest number of GBV criminal cases at 1,383.

Disaggregated Data

The 2024 GBV Second Quarter data shows that 2,505 child victims were abused, representing 26.9% of all GBV victims. Of these, 2,114 (84.4%) were involved in criminal cases, including 552 boys (26%) and 1,562 girls (74%). Additionally, 391 children (15.6%) were involved in non-criminal cases, comprising 153 boys (39.1%) and 238 girls (60.9%).

Adult Victims

A total of 6,813 adults were abused, accounting for 73.1% of all GBV victims. Of these, 5,426 were women (79.6%) and 1,387 were men (20.4%). In the criminal case category, 4,238 adults were abused, while 2,575 were involved in non-criminal cases. Among the abused men, 719 (52%) were involved in criminal cases and 668 (48%) in non-criminal cases.

Gender Vulnerability

A total of 7,226 females (77.5%) and 2,092 males (22.5%) were abused during this period.

Counseling Services

The Zambia Police Act No. 14 of 1999 mandates Victim Support Unit (VSU) officers to provide professional counseling to victims and offenders. The 2024 second quarter report indicates that 7,432 individuals were counseled by VSU officers, with 4,611 (62%) under the criminal case category and 2,821 (38%) under the non-criminal case category. Out of those counseled under criminal cases, 2,813 (61%) victims, comprising: 1,761 women (62.6%), 511 girls (18.2%), 321 men (11.4%), and 220 boys (7.8%). Additionally, 1,798 offenders (38.9%) were counseled, comprising 973 women (54.1%), 262 men (14.6%), 183 boys (10.2%), and 380 girls (21.1%).

In the non-criminal case category, 2,236 (79.2%) were victims and 585 (20.7%) were offenders. The victims included 673 men (23.8%), 1,775 women (63%), 141 boys (5%), and 232 girls (8.2%). Furthermore, 310 victims were referred to other institutions for further support.

Forms of Abuse

The highest number of reports filed is for physical abuse, totaling 3,429 cases (36.8% of all GBV reports). Within the criminal case category (6,352 cases), 3,429 were physical abuse cases (54%), showing a decrease of 528 cases (13.3%) from the second quarter of 2023.

- Economic Abuse: 1,990 reports (21.4% of total GBV reports) were recorded. Within the criminal case category, 1,653 were economic abuse cases (26%), a decrease of 54 cases (3.2%) from the previous year.
- Sexual Abuse: 901 reports (9.7% of total GBV reports) were recorded. Within the criminal case category, 901 were sexual abuse cases (14.2%), showing a decrease of 112 cases (11.1%) from the previous year.
- Emotional Abuse: 513 reports (5.5% of total GBV reports) were recorded. Within the criminal case category, 363 were emotional abuse cases (5.7%), showing a decrease of 278 cases (43.4%) from the previous year.

Provincial Data

- Lusaka Province: 1,383 cases (21.8%)
- Copperbelt Province: 1,040 cases (16.4%)
- Western Province: 869 cases (13.7%)
- Central Province: 638 cases (10%)
- Luapula Province: 630 cases (10%)
- Eastern Province: 535 cases (8.4%)
- North-Western Province: 364 cases (5.7%)
- Southern Province: 358 cases (5.6%)
- Muchinga Province: 281 cases (4.4%)
- Northern Province: 170 cases (2.7%)
- Airport Division: 66 cases (1%)
- Tazara Division: 18 cases (0.3%)

Summary of Physical Abuse Cases

A total of 3,429 physical abuse cases were recorded, accounting for 54% of all criminal offenses. This is a decrease of 528 cases (13.3%) from the second quarter of 2023. Out of these 2,793 cases of Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm (OABH), 2,375 were women translating to 85% while 418 translating to 15% were men. 43 cases of Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH) were recorded involving 36 female and 9 victims. 36 were murder cases were recorded, an increase of 7 cases (24.1%) from the previous year.

Sexual Offenses

- Child Defilement: 642 cases (71.3% of all sexual offenses), with 641 girls and 1 boy.
- Rape: 100 cases (11.1% of all sexual offenses).
- Attempted Rape: 39 cases (4.3% of all sexual offenses).
- Indecent Assault: 59 cases (6.5% of all sexual offenses).
- Incest: 15 cases (1.7% of all sexual offenses).

Emotional or Psychological Abuse

A total of 363 cases (5.7% of all GBV reports) were recorded. This included 142 cases of insulting language and 88 cases of threatening violence.

The Zambia Police service remains committed to addressing GBV issues and providing support to victims and offenders. We continue to work with various stakeholders to reduce GBV cases and provide holistic support to victims.